PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Cinderella* finishes her merry reign at His Majesty's this week, and local playgoers part with the dainty show regretfully.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Vasco, the mad musician, contributes the star turn this week, and his marvellous manipulation of multitudinous instruments arouses the enthusiasm and wonderment of the audience; Mdlle. Alexandra and Mons. Bertie give a very clever and daring gymnastic display on the trapeze; Lottie Bellman and Bay Russell are well received in an American vaudeville act; and the Misses Kirk and Saraski are seen in an interesting aquatic display. Others on the programme are Miss Elsie Ellis (comedienne), Charles Woodward (comedian), Gertrude Moore (dancer), and Dainty Dolly Clyfe (child comedienne).

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company are occupying the boards here this week with the new play, *Her Path of Sorrow*. A full account will be found in another column.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—The Great Olympian team of cyclists, in their speciality "Football on Wheels," top the bill here, and are favourably received; Gus Harris, in his latest scena, "Palestine," is proving extremely popular; Abel and Welch are two old favourites who are repeatedly recalled; Kendrick and Laura submit a capital dancing turn; Carlos Menard is responsible for a refined musical act; Bessie Lind is a most charming comedienne; Damerell and Rutland are good comedians; the Vays, in their pathetic scena, "Life in the Slums," are applauded; and the Bioscope pictures conclude.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Curtis Leo and his educated bantam, assisted by Little Noblesse, top the bill, and appear with success; the Three Orros, in their original acrobatic act on the silver chains, are well received; Bert Powell, a military illusionist, gives a performance worthy of mention; Edith Chantler is a juvenile vocalist who wins applause; Les Frascettis, violin and harp soloists, are clever; Hope Trevelyan sings with ability, as does also Millie Howell; and several capital pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould.—The pantomime season commenced here on Monday night, when Mr. Gus Levaine's company, in *The Babes in the Wood*, opened to a large house. Miss Marion Collins, an old favourite, makes a capital principal boy, her singing being highly appreciated; as Maid Marion Miss Lizzie Levaine makes a winsome principal girl; Miss Edie Levaine as Allan A'Dale is particularly smart and charming; as Phillis Miss Vera Levaine does creditably; Miss Fanny Collins is a capital Will Scarlet; Miss Nellie Harvey as Roy and Miss Violet Harvey as Dorothy undertake the rôles of the Babes very sweetly; Miss Ida Conway makes an ideal Fairy; Mr. Victor Silvernie as Demon Darkness is well suited; Mr. Arthur Collins is very good as the Baron; Mr. Bert Leona as Dame Durden and Mr. Will Freda as Chirrup, the page, both do good work; Mr. Charlie Towers as Snatcher and Mr. Jimmy Goode as Sneaker, the ruffians, cause much merriment; and Mr. Fred Folloy and Mr. Bert Elmore as the Robbers take their parts as if to the manner born.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—For Christmas week the Empire numbers in its list of artists the Six Brothers Luck, who appear in a comic pantomime sketch entitled *Lift-Ems, Limited*. It is most diverting as a laughter-providing medium. Leslie Race is a popular vocal comedian; the Three Drabbles are clever juveniles who have made a reputation in a refined musical speciality; Lieut. Chard's Dog Circus is very good; the Derrington Family are expert wonders on wheels; Scholey and Scholey (George and Tom) are decidedly clever in their new sketch, *Winning a Wager*. The star artist is Harriett Vernon, who introduces her latest London successes, including the scena "Emblems; or, Why Britannia Rules the Sea," with great effect. The scenic dressing is very fine. The Bioscope shows Sirens of the Hypso.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Day.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company this week presented *Miss Hook of Holland* to Ayr playgoers. Miss Kathleen Starling played the part of Miss Hook most daintily; Mina was cleverly played by Miss M. Carewe; Miss Hazel Alexander was Freda; Miss Phyllis Smith Clara; Miss Molly Trevor Gretchen; and Miss Ethel Stone the old market woman. Mr. Charles Sims filled the part of Mr. Hook successfully; and Messrs. Sam Lockridge, Alex. Johnstone, Charles Berkeley, and Mr. Reginald Hunter were all very good in their respective parts.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—For the holiday attraction Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company appeared in *Maritana*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, *Lily of Killarney*, and *Bohemian Girl*. Mr. Turner appeared twice during the week, singing in quite his old style.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Business has been great. Topping the bill is the Japanese Riogoku Family, who give an extraordinary performance; Tom Hayton's Six Manchester Lads are clever in a song and dancing scena; Ted Karno and company appear in a screaming comedy sketch; Lennard and Vereker are picture melody experts; Cyrus Dare is a mimic of ability; L. B. Athol is possessed of a very fine voice; the Cheers Performing Cats are clever; the Three Permans give a good gymnastic show; and the Palascope throws out some good pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Kimberly, Green, and Hinton's company is here with *Was She to Blame*. Miss Maude Hastings is a great success as Lillian Norman; Miss Cissie St. Elme demonstrates her powers in a striking degree as Mrs. Kate Roselle; Mr. George Keene is very fine in the part of George Courtenay; Mr. George Langdon in his portrayal of the villainous Frank Roselle is very clever; Mr. Henry Rutland plays the Vicar with becoming grace and dignity; and all the other parts are in capable hands.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert-Routledge.—Mr. James Welsh's company in *When Knights Were Bold* is the holiday attraction. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Sir Guy proves himself a comedian of rare skill; Miss Brnita Lascelles is admirable as Lady Rowena; Mr. Gerald Venning does well as Sir Bryanz Ballymote; Mr. Charles Lloyd is most capable as the Jew financier; Miss Isla Glynne is very pleasing in the part of Sarah; and the remainder of the caste leave nothing to be desired.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor Pipe; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Dave Samuels, the premier turn, receives a great ovation; Baker and De Sales create much laughter with a comical sketch; the Two Burkes are expert and amusing gymnasts; Belasco renders some capital music; Vera Hind is a pleasing comedienne; Jack Rae is a skilful comedy gymnast; and Gaydon and Garth give a clever vocal scena.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Owners and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert-Routledge.—The chief attraction here is John Warren, the illusionist, who is ably assisted by Miss Mollie Wynter, Mr. Herbert Jackson, Mr. F. G. Fenn, Mr. Frank Morton, and Donald McDougall.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. George Edwardes, for a second season, is associated with Mr. Lewis in providing the Yuletide attraction, which commenced on Boxing Day, when two crowded houses assembled to greet *The Dollar Princess* on her southern tour. Mr. Edward Royce, the stage producer, has yet another triumph to his record. The fine company contains many well-established favourites, including Mr. W. H. Rawline and Mr. Leslie Holland, who as Mr. Bulger and Harry Conder in dissimilar ways are the cause of endless laughter by their capital impersonations; to Miss Norah Barry (whom Bathonians claim as their own "Merry Widow") must be accorded unstinted praise for her triumph as a vocalist and actress in the difficult rôle of Alice Conder, and no less a success was scored by Mr. Alec Worcester as Freddy Fairfax, another young artist who is bound to make a name for himself, possessing as he does a fine light baritone voice and an excellent stage presence; a prepossessing Olga is Miss Madeleine Seymour, who also sings with most pleasing results the numbers that fall to her share; good support is accorded to the more prominent characters by Mr. J. Cranston Neville as Dick, Mr. Sydney Lyndon as Earl of Quorn, who, with Miss Peggy Primrose, a dainty Daisy, sang and danced themselves into much favour; and Mr. Willie Warde, jun., made the most of his chances as Sir James the Footman, and in his dance with Miss Primrose gave one a reminder of his capabilities in this line. The chorus and largely-augmented orchestra, under the experienced direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, are always doing good work, and added to the general excellence of this delightful play. Mr. J. Garrett Todd is the general-manager for the tour; and Mr. Lewis A. Long, the local manager, has had his hands full in finding room for the crowds that nightly pack the house.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—No more suitable selection than Corman's Juveniles, in their popular scena *The Waif*, could have been chosen as the leading attraction here; comic to a degree are the contributions of Dan Whitley; another comedian who makes much laughter is Dan Conroy, in his Irish songs and patter; the fine elocution and tragic intensity of Miss May Fairclough in several long speeches from well-known plays are duly appreciated; as a lady ventriloquist Florence Raymond is quite successful; the chorus songs of Rose D'Aulby, who is assisted by a juvenile seated in the circle, are loudly applauded; Wyze and Adna, in a vocal domestic squabble, are well received; and the pictures continue to give infinite pleasure.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*Under the Iron Heel* is presented by Mr. Wilson Howard and company. In the rôle of Rene De Maupassant Mr. Howard achieves a notable success; and Miss Carlotta Anson furnishes a decidedly clever interpretation of the curate's niece, Germaine Mirbeau. The iniquitous Otto Marx is powerfully depicted by Mr. W. J. Richards; and Mr. John Talford's impersonation of Father Mirbeau would be difficult to excel. Mr. Charles Digby is an admirable Major Schronberg; and Miss J. Douglas Hicks is all that could be desired as Maman Gouffe. Miss Jessie Yatman plays Andre with undoubted skill; and Mr. R. Merrings's impersonation of Col. Muller leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Austin H. Longford is an excellent Sergt. Bleucher; and other rôles are adequately presented by Messrs. Fred M. Best, A. E. Rose, T. H. Winter, and W. H. Crookall.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction for the holidays is supplied by Richard Cebhardt's troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers, who achieved much success on Monday. Mr. Owen McGiveney furnishes some realistic impersonations of characters from Dickens; the feats of Leroux's monkeys are really remarkable; Bijou Russell is an exceedingly smart sand dancer; Mr. J. G. Graham and Zerlina Harrington produce with great eclat their powerful sketch *A Life of Pleasure*; the Coloured Meisters delight all with their harmony and songs; and Mr. Charlie Bignell, an old Belfast favourite, gains an immense reception for his comic songs. Also here are the Oakes Duo, the Falcons, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Joe Peterman and company top the bill here with the farcical phantasy *Slaterstein, Ltd.*; Mr. Arthur Kenny's cycling feats are remarkable; Eadie and Ramsden gain great favour in *Charley's Visit*; the Brothers Corcoran give a capital musical act; Miss Lena Leslie is a dainty and fascinating comedienne; Mr. Bert Marsden's speciality takes well; and also in the bill are Miss Flo D'Orville, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope.

ULSTER HALL.—Proprietors, Belfast Corporation.—Mrs. Whale's Children's Opera Company is appearing here in *H.M.S Pinafore*, and the performance reflects much credit on the performers.

BILSTON.—NEW ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Seasonable fare is provided here. The Leonas submit an interesting electric musical act; Baby Parkinson is a clever child dancer; and others who contribute are Chirrup, the boy mimic and whistler; Capner and Steele, character duettists; and Harry Delmore, comedian.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—A clever and spirited performance of the musical comedy *Miss Hook of Holland*, by Mr. George Dance's company, forms admirable holiday fare here. Miss Gertrude Melville gives a finished rendering of the title-rôle and invests the part with great charm and acceptance, both vocally and histrionically; Mr. Edmond Russell acquits himself with irresistible humour as Mr. Hook; Mr. Wood Mansey is a capital Captain Adrian Paap; Lieut. de Coop is well represented by Mr. C. F. Hewlitt; and Mr. Arthur Ballance is well to the front as the Bandmaster; Simon Slinks is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Fred Dark; Mr. George Mudie, jun., scores as Ludwig Schnapps; and the important rôle of Mina is cleverly and artistically filled by Miss Cissie Sephton. The full chorus and augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. H. A. Dyer, and the staging of the comedy is all that can be desired. The present visit fully maintains its previous excellent reputation here.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—An excellent entertainment is supported by Miss Willette Whitaker, refined vocalist, who, assisted by Mr. T. Wilbur Hill, appears in an acceptable musical mélange with distinction; Harry A. Meynott and company, in an up-to-date comedy sketch, *The Bride Elect*; Mr. Harry Freeman, the popular comedian; Little Jack Marks, Hebrew comedian; Kelly and Agnes, a clever Australian duo; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in *The Dancing Master*; Miss Daisy Harcourt, American comedienne; Tim O'Connor, the boy with the obedient feet; Godfrey James, the Welsh singing collier; Charles Hatch, chorus singer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. The present is the anniversary week of this popular hall, which was opened on December 21, 1868, and has so far established an honourable record of forty-one years of uninterrupted success—remarkable in these degenerate days.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—A. V. Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters Comedy Quartette, in the vocal extravaganza *Ancestral Spirits*, form an attractive item here. Virto, in his instrumental act with his daughter Venita, is a prominent success; Carl Reevo, the padlock expert, is an interesting feature; and other turns include Miss Radie Stuart, comedienne; Harry Angers, comedian; Tessan and Chapman, vocalist and harpist; Reid and Power, comedians; Harry Tomlin, comedian; Ondra, juggling gymnast; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.—METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The continued popularity of *The Worst Woman in London* is evidenced by the crowded state of the houses here this week. Miss Rose Ralph appears in the title-rôle, and handles in masterly style the network of plots and schemes upon which the drama is based; Mr. Archie W. Chappell is a warm favourite as Jack Felton; and Mr. John B. Shinton portrays the heavy character with commendable skill. Miss Ada M. Ryder as Ruth Milford wins sympathy; and the humorous side is cleverly sustained, Mr. Andrew Emm being particularly good; Miss Susie Beaven makes a capital maidservant.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is presenting *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* to appreciative audiences. Miss Doris Brook undertakes the title-rôle with a great meed of success; and Mr. Edward Grange gives a fine representation as the Rev. Robert Everton. Mr. Cecil Mannering is a dashing character as Jack England, and he has a charming partner in Miss Maggie Hobart. Miss Lydia Mannington and Mr. Richard Ferris make a clever pair of adventurers; and Mr. J. W. Stonelelgh is also good as James Sutton, the forger. Mr. George H. Asquin and Miss Mamie Thorpe are exceptionally good in low comedy.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Miss Lydia Yeamans is proving a big draw here, and is especially popular in her impersonations; Ted E. Box is a comedian who pleases with topical songs and whistling selections; and the Four Black Diamonds are singers and dancers of much ability. Rome and Romani present a high-class musical performance; and Hubert Harbent and May Gerald are clever comedy duologists. Fred Earle is as popular as ever; Clark and Glenny appear in a weird sketch; and Frank Maura, Phillips and Merrit, Edna Lyall, and Griffin and Ardel are other good turns.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Mlle. Liane D'Eve provides a dainty Parisian entertainment consisting of chansons and transformations, that is a leading feature of this week's programme; the Will o' the Wisps are a company of original and bright entertainers, who appear in new and tuneful songs and dances; the Great Roland is popular in a number of smart illusions, concluding with "The Bachelor's Dream; a cheerful comedian is Frank Fort; and the Osnatos, gymnasts, are in the front rank. Grace Merton, vocalist; Massons, eccentric juggler; Tiny Arnold, juvenile comedian; and Harry Cooke, comedian, complete a strong programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Hayman and Franklin interpret Hebrew humour in a style that pleases audiences immensely, and they cause continuous laughter; Satani is an illusionist who mystifies everyone with new tricks; the Six Franklins sing delightful chorus songs, and have a great reception; Les Andres are protean dancers of merit; Gladys Re Vell sings in a taking style; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley are popular in a duologue, "When Master and Mrs. Are Out"; Carl Muller is a smart speciality dancer; and the Four Panamas are notable contributors with a pantomime act.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—Barnold's dogs and monkey actors are a strong feature of this week's programme, and they delight all with their wonderful intelligence; Mephisto proves himself a master of magic in several smart illusions; the Krags trio contribute a good gymnastic performance; and pleasing vocal items are rendered by the Primrose Quartette. Dan Filmer is a popular comedian; Blake and Amber display great versatility in an acceptable turn; and Diana Hope and Co., in *The Altar of Duty*; Gwennie Morgan, comedienne and dancer; Will E. Stopit, comedian; and May Fayre are also well received.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The Six Brothers Luck are an attraction par excellence in their new burlesque, *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Miss Emmie Ames, after singing good songs, distributes gifts from a Christmas tree, causing much amusement; a clever vocal and dancing turn is furnished by the Soho trio; Henri and Tyler are smart comedy trick cyclists; Alis and Cassetti provoke amusement; Harry Bancroft, actor vocalist, makes a great hit in a couple of good songs; Howe and Ardie are amusing acrobats; and Edith Coalville sings pleasingly.

CURZON HALL.—Crowded houses are enjoying the performances of the American and Continental Circus. There are a number of clever equestrian performers, including Miss Rosa Transfield, Miss Cora Stuart, H. Stephenson, T. Fossett, and the Bros. Scott, who go through daring performances; Captain Permane's troupe of bears are also notable; a smart wire act is furnished by Miss Trojer; and Aerian and Ostara are daring trapeze artists. A clever troupe of clowns is headed by Mr. Dan Gregory.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A beautiful pantomime picture in colours, entitled The Talisman, is a strong feature in a splendid programme of animated subjects. The Adventures of Nick Carter, Detective, also arouse much interest, and other notable subjects are The Bandit's Daughter; In Love with a Picture Girl, and His Daughter's Choice. A revival of the old harlequinade provides an acceptable vaudeville turn, and good contributions are also forthcoming from Brown's Banjo Boys and Edie Vernie.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—This hall reopened this week with a new series of animated pictures, and there is every indication that the entertainments will prove as popular as last year. A powerful dramatic subject, The Justifier, is one of the best of the bunch, and good variety turns are contributed by Lila Vesta, the Coolies, and Shillox.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—This week Mr. Chas. Elderton produces his pantomime, *Aladdin*, and opened to a packed house on Monday night. A sprightly chorus, charming scenery, effective exponents of the leading rôles, and specialities make up a pantomime which could hardly be excelled. The title-rôle, Aladdin, is exquisitely portrayed by Miss Maudie Vincent, and her songs were most successful; Miss May Gibson, a charming principal girl, has a fine voice; Mr. Will Beanland is a rousing Widow Twankey, and he is without doubt the right man in the right place; the Sisters Terry proved to be successful and entertaining duettists; the policemen, Tip Pit and Wot Toe, keep the house screaming with laughter by their drolleries as presented by Messrs. James and Alexander; Mr. Harry Harrop is an Abanazar deserving of every praise, being an arduous worker and very funny and amusing; Mr. Billy Melia meets with approval as Wishy Washie, his dancing being a feature of the performance; Mr. James Matchett, a pleasing Emperor, is a refined singer; and the specialities include the Cameron Quartette, Morrisey in his musical turn, the Lottie Stone Dancing Quartette, Stean and Melia (comedy artists), Claremont and Victor (acrobats), Li-Ching-Hi, and the Mimosa Troupe of Juveniles. The chorus is very strong.

THE HIPPODROME (BISHOP AUCKLAND), LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Curry.—Harry Tate's company, in the laughable sketch *Fishing*, tops the bill, and creates great hilarity; Ernest Montefiore and company do very well in *The Little Colonel*; Gillin excels as a ventriloquist; Mr Dan Robans sings his songs in excellent voice; the Sisters Brooklands are capital vocalists; Yetta is expert on the wire; Zetta Gray and company take well in *The Lancashire Lass*; and the Hipposcope concludes.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying another very welcome visit with *Brewster's Millions*, and drawing crowded houses. The part of Monty Brewster is in the clever hands of Mr. Charles Esdale, who scores a complete success; Mr. Gordon Ash does well as Charlie Harrison; Mr. Robert Forsyth is well suited to the part of Mr. Grant; a very charming Margaret Grey is Miss Cicely Stuckey; whilst Miss Lillias Earle embodies exactly the rôle of Mrs. Dan de Mille. Other parts are in efficient hands, and the great yacht scene awakens the utmost enthusiasm.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop.—Messrs. Tilbury and Friedman's company is in possession. The programme consists of two comic burlettas, entitled *Happy Holland* and *Princess Lolah*, the principal parts being entrusted to Messrs. Walter Tilbury, Jake Friedman, Clifford Morgan, Lionel Braham, and Misses Margaret Radcliffe and Florence Hunton.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Frances Letty is a chorus singer of unquestionable ability, and is ably assisted in her work by Imre Sutton, pianist, and Tiger Letty, a clever boy buck dancer; Sandy McNab is here again with his sketch *The Mummy*, and causes great hilarity; the Selbinis contribute cycle tricks; Ray and Calden appear in a comedy act; the Original Cestria is a marvellous juggler; Maude Clifton is a taking comedienne; Alix Lukos excels as a protean actor; and Charles Mildare appears with great success in a whistling scena, entitled *A Day in Birdland*.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—*The Dashing Little Duke*, which opened here on Boxing Day, is having excellent receptions from large audiences. The scenery, music, and dresses are delightful, and the members of the company, led by Miss Zena Dare, present the piece admirably. As the dashing Duc de Richelieu Miss Zena Dare is bright and vivacious; Miss Dolly Castles, in the difficult rôle of Diane de Noailles, is an undoubted success, her singing eliciting warm admiration; Mr. Johnny Danvers as the Baron de Bellechasse is responsible for much broad humour; and Mr. J. Kelso Henderson, the Chevalier de Matignon, acts with spirit and sings effectively. Mr. Alec Johnstone makes a sympathetic Abbé de la Touche; Miss Kate Graham-Beck is a commanding Duchess de Noailles; and Miss Eileen Gordon as the Duchess de Bourgogne and Miss Doris Dickins as Césarine are adequate in their respective parts.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An excellent Christmas holiday programme here has drawn crowded houses, the great attraction being Fred Karno's comedians, in the sketches *O.P.O.* and *The Bailiff*. Other turns are J. H. Bray, descriptive vocalist; Radena Dey, speciality dancer; Bell and Butt, in a novelty act, *Fun in the Garden*; Spangles and Sawdust, comedy gymnasts; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, sketch artists; May B. Excellent as the Girton girl, in song and dance; Tod Lowen, comedian; Florence Phillips, the girl with the baritone voice; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Large holiday audiences have appreciated the excellent programme submitted here, comprising the King's College Boys, an accomplished sextette, in the vocal scena *The Students' Concert*; Ailsa Douglas, vocal comedienne; Lenton and Lane, in *Unconsidered Trifles*; Mlle. Sylvesto, contortionist; the Moxon Trio, comedy acrobats; the Venetians, in a vocal scena, introducing living statuary; Phil Herman, comedian (an old Bolton favourite); Gladys and Alber, in a comedy act; Layton and Douglas, in a clever quick-change musical act; *The Last of the Desmonds*, performed by three gentlemen and a lady, who play with much ability; and the Empire Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mr. J. Smith; Manager, Mr. George Barry.—The Plattis Child Trio of clever juvenile musicians meet with a rousing reception; Mr. Teddy L. Benn is a clever light comedian; Alfonzo gives a wonderful exhibition of foot-balancing; and an interesting sketch is presented by Evelyn and Norris, entitled *Set a Thief*. Miss Gertie Sandiford, contralto, pleases with her charming singing, and the programme includes a series of animated pictures.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROMES, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moutillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—An excellent bill is headed by De Biere, the Mysterious, whose performance is greatly appreciated; the Five Vernons, operatic xylophone quintette, are a complete success; the Flying Hanlon Troupe are expert gymnasts; Dalvero and Wallace, comedians, create roars of laughter; the Three Dixons are successful as vocalists, dancers, and banjoists; Trixo, the chimpanzee, is highly amusing in his unique rope speciality; Beatrice Allen, comedienne, deserves mention; and up-to-date Hippopictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—There is a strong holiday attraction here this week, consisting of Clarice Mayne, a clever comedienne and mimetic entertainer; Alice Raymond and her Players, in a bright and artistic entertainment with musical instruments, viz., *A Night in Egypt*; Annie Purcell, comedienne; Hubert Connorton, the "tired one," and his Valet, in an amusing turn; Carl Lynn, a clever imitator of animals; Lester Carey, with well-illustrated songs; Clark and Hayden, musical comedy artists; Haines and Borthwick, in a rollicking sketch, *Half a Dollar*; and some excellent pictures shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. B. Harrison.—An excellent company consists of the Five X Rays, mad athletes, in quaint and clever tumbling; Alexander Lofton, coloured comedian; Harrigan and Holt, comedians, with funny patter; Sim Moree, clever contortionist; Barnes and West, agile dancers; Mamie Morris, a remarkably smart comedienne; the Five Tritons, in a striking musical scena; and an amusing show of Palace Perfection pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth commenced his tour here on Monday with *Under the Greenwood Tree*. The part of May Hamilton was most charmingly played by Miss Ida Chapman, and she was [illegible]. Betty Fairfax was effectively [illegible] Ingledow, and worked up the [illegible] cleverly, ably seconded by Mr. Ellis the Manager in the part of Sir Kenneth Graham. A success Hylton of Mr. Kenneth was a fine manly performance; Mr. Lionel West made an excellent Griggs; Miss Letitia Rushforth and Mr. Clive Russell as Mrs. and Mr. Knapton Bowles were very good, as were also Mr. Walter Dane and Mr. Harold Darle as the Gypsies.

THE GRAND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Walter George's *The Smart Set* has been the holiday attraction at this theatre, and the audiences have been highly entertained. Mr. George is a versatile performer, his singing and acting being fine; Miss Georgie Martin, both in song and dance, receives quite an ovation, her coon songs and dances being specially encored; Miss Lena Hutchins, Miss Julie Doloro, and Miss Mabel Silvester score with their songs, and so does Mr. Arthur Russell with some clever imitations of singers; Mr. Fred Marshall in recitations and Mr. Edward Elliott in his clever ventriloquial patter with *Sunshine James*; and Mr. Edgar Rutland is a talented piano soloist and accompanist.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. H. N. Phillips; Manager, Mr. George W. Coe.—On Monday, after a vacation of two weeks, this popular theatre opened its doors to Mr. Morton Powell's *How Girls Are Brought to Ruin* company. Mr. Harry Scott gives an excellent impersonation of Harry Hailing; Mr. Edward Heanley as Philip Dare and Philip Edge acts with power; Mr. A. Burton as Solomon Sleep is quaint; the comedy is in the hands of Mr. Sydney Byrant and Miss J. Risley, who keep the audience convulsed; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is a sincere and convincing Jessie; Miss Katherine Eckart is excellent as the stepmother; and Mrs. Powell, the authoress, as Winnie Waters is the life and soul of the piece.

BRIGHTON.—ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—The Villions win hearty applause for their excellent turn, which includes daring and clever cycling feats and a comic acrobatic whirlwind dance; Farley, Rennie, and Farley contribute an entertainment comprising fun at a railway station and smart acrobatic business; the Sisters Belmont are popular dancers; the Six Boys of England are very effective in barrack-room ballads; R. J. Sheldon, "the comedian in the white evening dress," is entertaining with racy anecdotes; Fred Arthur, the mimetic dialect comedian, is enthusiastically received; Lillian Farrar achieves great success in a charming song-scena entitled *Bubbles*; Clarke and Mostol are diverting patter comedians and good dancers; the Baynhams are amusing in the comedy musical act, *The Potman and the Page*; Kerr and Koe are pleasing comedians and dancers; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Constantino Bernardi, protean actor, effects some marvellous quick changes which evoke enthusiastic applause; Foot-gers, a versatile French comedian, submits a turn which is warmly appreciated; Walter Stanley, comedian, achieves great success; the Carina Sisters appear in an artistic and refined musical act; Dave Carter, Irish tenor, sings in good style; Leoni de Lausanne presents a clever shooting act; Robbie Roy is a pleasing comedian; and Radie Stuart is a dainty comedienne.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. de Hague Body.—A large Bank Holiday crowd welcomed Mr. Joe Peterman's company with the most amusing sketch *The Pawnbroker*; Mr. Ben Jackson gives a clever banjo performance; an amusing turn is that of Mr. Chas. Slaman, comedian and dancer; some clever sleight-of-hand work is introduced by Lazern; Mr. Peter Shannon is to the front as a sand dancer and coon vocalist; and Miss Dorma Morgan in her two songs achieves remarkable success. The Operascope has some up-to-date pictures.

Season's Greetings.

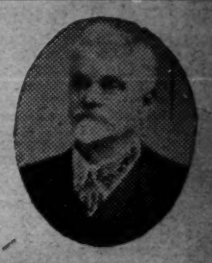

T. Harris (C. C. & D. Co.)

Wishes You Every Prosperity in the Coming Year.

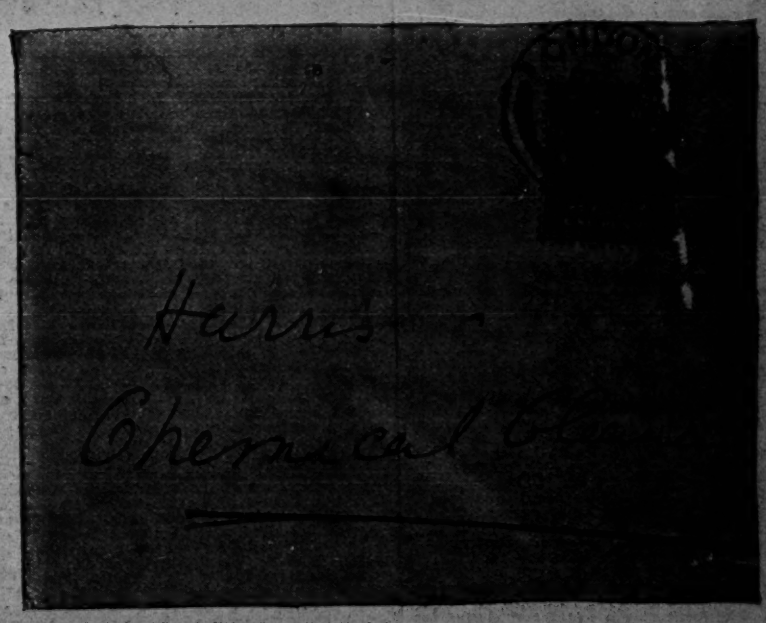

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

There could not be found more convincing evidence of the Wide-Spread Popularity of the CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING Co., than the fact that this Letter was delivered by the Post Office without hesitation.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 Lines).

Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY 803814 A ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS R 1935 L

...—ROYAL.—Proprietors, The ...res Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, ... Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, ... H. Potter.—The holiday attraction is pro...ced here in *The Woman Pays*, presented in admirable fashion by Frank M. Thorne's company. Mr. Phil Harper is particularly clever as Sid Armstrong; the villainies of Roger Marchant are fittingly portrayed by Mr. Clavering Craig; and Mr. Beresford Innes gives a good performance as Cyrus Treadgold. Miss Kate Blair is prominent as Nell Morland; and Miss Alice Greenwood appears to distinct advantage as Madge Armstrong. Others who do good work are Mr. Joseph Magrath, Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. Claremont Gaskell, Miss Lily Beverley, and Miss F. Thorne.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Pictures continue to prove a big attraction. Rex Fox gives an exceptionally clever display on the slack wire; and Alice Winsome is also in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Merrions, a popular trio, are clever and original; an exhibition of sand and trick dancing by the Three Langfords meets with well merited applause; the Brothers Miranos appear in a novel balancing act; and Tom Franks, ventriloquist; Wal Owen, comedian; Delmar and Demany, in comedy sketch; George F. Hall; Elliot and Lane; and Hillett and Hallett meet with success.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For the holidays Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company presented *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Walter Howard as the hero, Olaf, gives a capital representation of the part; as the Princess Monica Miss Annie Saker made herself a decided favourite; Miss Mona Hungerford played Viola naturally; Mr. Major Cooke was also entirely satisfactory as Prince Hildred; as was Mr. Lionel Gadsden as Prince Michael; Mr. Robert Noble was good as Captain Hedor. Other small parts were adequately filled by Messrs. Stanley B. Farbridge, Richard Lane, W. Beazley, Ernest Gray, J. Chamberlain, Arnold Cameron, Fred Upton, and Miss Ethel Patrick.

CARDIFF. — EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—The programme here is headed by Alec Hurley, supported by his company, in his musical comedy, *Cockneys in Japan*; Mr. Tom Clare, the celebrated entertainer at the piano, secures second position; while others who appear are Lil O'Gorman, comedienne and dancer; the Great Vincent, acrobatic table expert; Tom Lloyd, the eccentric comedian; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams; Farr and Farland, the inimitable duo; and Nellie Farrwell, the gifted singer of Irish songs; with the Bioscope to complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson. —A decidedly fine holiday programme is in evidence at the besieged Palace this week. *Prince of the Dandies*, a musical comedy by Flo Stanley's company, takes a large share of the evening, in which Arthur Watson as Sprouts and Miss Stanley herself as Daisy Highclass appear with enviable distinction. Second position is accorded Arayama, foot-equilibrist. Others on the bill are Zenora, the little upside-down wonder, Reg. Beauchamp, comedian, George Young, blind musician. Marie Kay, a clever dancer, Montes Bros., motor comedians, and the usual Bioscope pictures.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim and Mr. Thos. Courtice; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—A big attraction is provided for the holiday week in Walter Howard's interesting drama, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Messrs. Paumier and Howard, who are responsible for the production, have brought an excellent company, and a house packed to the door gave them an enthusiastic welcome on the opening night. Miss Ethel Branwell's many clever performances here had evidently not been forgotten, as she received quite an ovation on her first appearance as Monica, a part which afforded her opportunities of displaying her exceptional histrionic gifts; as Prince Olaf Mr. Ernest N. G. Cox contributed a fine performance, which met with well-deserved appreciation; a strong robust rendering of Prince Hildred was given by Mr. Alfred Goddard; and Mr. Victor Rae was no less successful as Prince Michael. In personal appearance and breezy style Mr. H. Burton exactly filled the bill as Captain Hector; and Mr. H. Nelson did good work as the Bishop. Miss Stella Campbell made an interesting and pathetic figure as Camiola, and some excellent comedy scenes were done full justice to by Mr. J. H. Vyvyan and Miss Mona Hall. The minor characters would be difficult to improve on, and the dressing, staging, and general excellence of the whole performance afforded the utmost satisfaction.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Company; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—During the holidays Messrs Alfred Burrows and Co.'s company appeared in the popular pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and were well patronised. The part of Jack was very creditably taken by Miss Edith Jacobs; Jill was captivatingly performed by Miss Lillie Swallow; Johnny Horner was in the capable hands of Miss Mary Geary; Little Bo-Peep was capitally impersonated by Miss Molly Richardson; Mr. Peircy Watson was amusing as Sir Peter Pippin; Mr. Albert Browning was very good as the Giant Grim; Mr. Fred Dewar was splendid as Tommy Tucker; the same may be said of Mr. Percy Dewar as Billy Piper; and Mr. Arthur Jarvis was excellent as Barney the Bull; as was also Mr. Harry Harcourt as Mother Hubbard and Miss May Douglas as Selina. The songs and dances were well done, and the staging and dresses were very attractive.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and ...nsee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager ...ouncillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's latest drama, *A Girl's Temptation*, is seen for the first time, and is being played by a capable company to crowded audiences. The prodigals, Kate Stirling and Guy Warren, are impersonated in a clever manner by Miss Gertrude Gilbert and Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Tom Handley is an amusing Hon. Charles; the villainous Mark Klaw is typically acted by Mr. Clifton Earle; Mr. Dan Hardie as Sammy Sniggles and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima are entertaining; Mr. C. E. Lambert gives a good performance of Basile Warren; Lady Constance is cleverly presented by Miss Maud M. Powell; Miss Louie Walton makes a capital Mrs. Stirling; and Miss Blanche Lee plays admirably as Annie Brown. Geoffrey Stirling finds a careful exponent in Mr. Gerald Nolan; and Mr. Fred J. Mace does justice as Jim Judd.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The Dayton Family again head the bill here, and receive quite an ovation; Cedar and Elgar present a clever and interesting turn; Floria Ormonde, who sings with considerable taste, is accorded warm applause; an admirable display of dancing is given by Louise Dott and Jack Williams; Walter Aubrey is an amusing comedian; the Three Milfords give a smart and skilful performance on the tight rope; Jerome Ward and Elsie Wallace in a comedietta, *Taming a Wife*, cause roars of laughter; Bert Crosbie wins loud applause for patter, songs, and dancing; Les Trippelos are responsible for a clever manipulation of musical instruments; and the Loyal Dominion Co.'s animated pictures are enjoyed.

CHATHAM.—GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—The chief attraction here is the Abdullah Troupe of Arabs, whose exciting acrobatic display is vociferously applauded; Dorothy Sephton, the white girl, sings to everyone's satisfaction; Graham's Lilliputian Entertainment, including *Past and Present Comedians*, is one of the best-liked items; the Six White Boys, in song and dance, afford much pleasure; and others appearing are Claude Gardner, vocal comedian; Camilla Feo, in song and dance; and Syd Crossley, the long comic.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard. —Excellent audiences assembled during the holidays to welcome *Dear Little Denmark* on its first appearance here. The company is sent out by Mr. Frank Curzon, who has staged and dressed the production in lavish style. Miss Netta Lynde as Christine is immensely popular; Mr. Conway Dixon assumes the rôle of Conrad Petersen with distinction, his vocal numbers being greatly enjoyed; Miss Mabel Sealby makes a quaint Ophelia; Mr. Henry Kitts' Duke Ernst Von Ramussen is quite a popular performance; Mr. Tom Redmond makes a capital Simon; and Mr. Arthur Staples scores throughout as Hans Hansen.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Messrs. C. St. John Denton and Peter Davey's pantomime *Blue Beard* met with an enthusiastic reception when presented to a crowded house on Monday afternoon. The pantomime is produced under the direction of Mr. Buckstone Clair, who is to be congratulated upon such a well-balanced and artistic production. Mr. Tom Seymour, in the title-rôle, is quaintly amusing, and proves himself a most capable comedian; the Dame of Mr. Arthur Royce is a droll and witty portrayal of the amusing character Sister Ann; Mr. Percy Galino as Blue Beard's valet, Swank, is grotesquely smart, and fully deserved the plaudits accorded him; and the clever characterisation of Mr. Max Copland as the old man Mustapha greatly delights the audience. The principal boy, Selim, falls to the lot of Miss Ernestine Desborough, who acquits herself admirably, her graceful figure and pleasing presence winning the hearts of the audience; Miss Christine Roy as principal girl gives distinction to the part of Fatima, enhanced, moreover, by the charm of a sweet voice; Miss May Hart makes a pert and dashing Shacabac; and Miss M. Sadie as Lieut. Pride is a saucy and winsome leader of a gallant band of Jack Tars. Miss Thelma Geary, a pretty, graceful girl, scores a success as Miss Silvery Thames; and her triumph is also shared by the Six Flapper Girls, impersonated with vivacity and charm by the Misses D. Hart, Mavis, Dagmar, Boyd, Curti, and Townsend. The chorus ladies and dancers are excellent, and, under the able bâton of Mr. Claude B. Yearsley, render full justice to the tuneful and well-arranged music. The scenery, effects, and dresses are superb.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Geo. T. Santé, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank Santé.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and his capital repertoire company presented *Lady Godiva* on Monday, before a capital house. In the title-rôle Miss Edith Lorraine gave a talented and sympathetic rendering; and Miss Maud Lillian capitally portrayed Lady Aldyth. Miss Mabel Spencer vivaciously presented Elfrida; as Tom of Coventry Mr. F. B. Woulfe gave a skilful interpretation; Mr. F. Cheevers portrayed Edgar with considerable success; Mr. Charles M. Julian was a powerful Algar; and Mr. Alfred G. Raymond was conspicuous as Robert Skakelton. *Nell Gwynne*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Jane Shore*, and *The Three Musketeers* are also in the bill.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—*The Flower Girl*, greatly improved since its last visit, is presented here by Mr. T. N. Walter's company. It is altogether brighter; witticisms of an up-to-date nature are introduced, and the effects are very smart. Mr. John T. McCallum extracts the maximum of drollery from the character of Joe Wheeler; whilst Mr. Henry Adnes is great as the volatile Frenchman Alphonse; Mr. G. Brailsford as Bertie, Mr. J. Burlington Rigg as Hon. Billy, and Mr. John A. Latham as Johnny Wheeler are all good; Miss Lena Brickwell is a dainty Lily; and Miss Eva Brickwell makes a capital Suffragette. Miss Elsa Brettingham works assiduously as Lizette; and the minor parts are capably depicted.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—A well-written dramatic episode entitled *Before the Dawn* is the top of the bill here this week, and is admirably sustained by Mr. F. Rawson Buckley as Major Stetson and Master Reggie Connor as Dick; Raymond Trio in a musical and dancing act are effective and highly cultured; Victoria Dagmar on bar and rope provides a taking turn; Maurice Lee scores; the Sisters Harcourt, comediennes and dancers, are a graceful, pretty duo; Eva Le Clare, comedienne and dancer, works with excellent result; Nevan Tossan, lightning painter, is well received; and the film by the Lubin Company is a good one.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. George Edwardes' company, with *The Merry Widow*, opened a fortnight's engagement here on Monday, when the play was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience. Miss Sylvia May in the part of the Merry Widow gave a pleasing and graceful performance, her singing and dancing winning the warmest applause; Mr. Edward D'Arcy impersonated Baron Popoff with irresistible breeziness, and his mannerisms evoked continual merriment; Mr. Fred Fowler was a capital Nisch; Mr. Fred Leslie as Prince Danilo sang and acted with taste and refinement; Mr. Ripley Evans as Vicomte de Jolidon used a sweet and well-trained voice with excellent effect; Miss Ada Thomas in the part of the Ambassador's wife proved herself a capable actress, and sang beautifully; Mr. Clifford Seyler as General Novikovitch was also very good; and Miss Winnie Baillie as Olga acted the rôle with considerable skill and naturalness. Mr. William Allison as the Marquis de Cascada, Mr. H. Gordon Sherry as M. De St. Brioche, and Mr. Ernest Clempsur as Khadja also deserve credit.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—The excellent all-round entertainment includes a comedy, entitled *Toplitsky, or the End of the World*, in which Frank Bernard, Frank H. Dale, and Miss Edith Martyn take part effectively; Lewis Hardt, the "Sandow Boy," proves himself a well-developed strong man; Harry Lamore, comedy entertainer, proves a decided success; Daisy Hicks, Belle Brocade, and Rosie Bartett possess good voices, and are most entertaining; Rappo and Ella are clever gymnasts; Charles E. Robinson, an Irish baritone, renders some capital songs; and the Palascope continues to please.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Cinderella* is being produced for the first time at the above house by Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, and will run here for two weeks. Miss Elma Wilmer, who possesses a pleasing voice, makes a charming Cinderella; Miss Flo Wilton is a handsome and dashing Prince Charming; Miss Ida Dorrie appears successfully as Dandini; Mr. George Prince makes a big hit as Pimple, the page; Mr. Herbert Colley and Mr. Fred Hutchings are a clever pair of Ugly Sisters; Messrs. Sandy and Carl as the brokers' men give a clever burlesque boxing act; and Miss Ethel Rainforth and Mr. Henry Maynard score heavily as Immortals. The musical numbers and the scenic effects are all that could be desired.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director Mr. S. T. Newsome; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The great attraction this week is that of Henriette de Serris's celebrated living art masterpieces and bas reliefs; a very good turn is that of the Jackson Family, who skilfully manipulate many and various instruments; Falco and Eita do some original dancing; the Vanderbilts, duettists, give an acceptable turn; Signor and Madame Borelli are entertaining comedy artists; Tom E. Finglass arouses much enthusiasm with his comical songs; and a capital set of Bioscope pictures concludes.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—A capital attraction here is the tuneful and amusing *Our Miss Gibbs*, whose visit will last a fortnight. Mr. Tom Shelford makes a big hit as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Ernest Darrell scores as the Earl of St. Ives; Mr. Reg. Sheldrick is quite at home in the part of Slithers; Mr. R. M. Strachan is admirable as Mr. Toplady; Mr. Harry Fairfax makes an effective Lord Eynsford; Mr. Henry De Solla contributes his full quota as Mr. Beavis; and Messrs. H. Player and Murray Stephen are adequate as a taxi cabby and Mr. Amalfy. Miss Kathleen Courtney hits off to a nicety the rôle of Miss Gibbs, and sings her numbers sweetly; Miss May Marshall is a charming Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Winifred Kinekby makes an agreeable Duchess of Minster; Miss Nancy Mervyn does well as Mme. Jeanne; and Miss Lilian Birtles is a pretty Lady Elizabeth Thanet. Mr. Theodore Leonard is very funny in the character of Timothy Gibbs. There is a full chorus and augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns. The scenery and dresses are of the best.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Walter Gibbons and Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—On Boxing Day and during the week the patrons of this comfortable house have been thoroughly enjoying the pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, produced under the supervision of Mr. J. Collins. It is a merry and bright show, embellished with pretty dresses and elaborate scenery. Mr. Fred E. Terry is exceedingly quaint as the Baron Stoney de Broke; Mr. Charles Paton is well to the fore in the rôle of Llorgie Georgie; Mr. Fred Webb gives a whimsical rendering of Mrs. Pankake; Mr. E. Lyle contributes clever burlesque acting as Sammy Nothing; Mr. J. Graydon is smart and invigorating in the rôle of Tommy Less; and Mr. Bert Goodwin makes an energetic Mischief, the Teddy-bear. Miss Ethel Lyle is entrancing as Maid Helen; Miss Mildred Bryan makes a handsome Robin Hood; Miss Mabel Mignon is a great favourite as Maid Marion; Miss Connie Hasledon is very nice as Herbert; Miss Lulu Clayton is a pretty little Minnie; and the chorus girls are well dressed and bewitching. Mr. Eustace Jay may be congratulated upon the excellent business which is being done.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime *Cinderella*—a bright and sparkling show—opened here on Monday to packed houses afternoon and night. Miss Vera Marine, a pretty Prince Charming, is loudly applauded for her singing; Miss Molly Doon is a sweet Cinderella, her singing and dancing going well; Messrs. Crosley and Walker are responsible for much of the merriment as the Ugly Sisters; the Carlsons are also funny as the Court Bailiffs; Miss Jenny Clare is good as Dandini; Mr. Will Penn is clever as the Baron; the performance of the Musical Keiths meets with a great reception; Miss Jessie Jukes as Dorothy dances well; and Mr. Leo Field as Buttons proves himself a clever artist.

HIPPODROME THEATRES, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—The Christmas bill is headed by Mr. Will H. Fox, in his piano monology; Albert Wyndham's company, in the Shakespearean sketch *Prince Arthur*, evokes great applause; the Northern Troupe are fine in their speciality dances; and other turns are Ryan and Hall, funny acrobats; Monie Mine, singer and dancer; the Jockey Trio; Gus Barra, musician; Marice and Maurice, soprano and baritone; and the Hipposcope pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—The pantomime *Cinderella*, written and invented by Captain Cecil Clayton, was produced here on Monday by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton before a packed house. Miss Leila Zillwood is entrusted with the part of Prince Charming, which she fills with great success; Miss Dela Fredricks is a charming Cinderella; Dandini is smartly played by Miss Lottie Mellor; and Miss Gertie Russell shines as Fairy Sunshine, her electric transformation dancing being a feature of the performance. Much fun is introduced by Messrs. Frank Shepherd and Gus Granville as the Broker's Men, Mr. Wilfred Dane as Pimples, Messrs. Will Webbs and Tod Squires as the Sisters, and Mr. Carl Fredricks as the Baron. Specialities are supplied by P. J. Durney, rolling-globe walker; Wyman, comic and trick roller skater; La Belle Mascot, on the slack wire; Len Lyvette, novelty instrumentalist; and the May Quartette of Dancers.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime *Puss in Boots* made an excellent opening here on Boxing Day, when both afternoon and evening the house was packed from floor to ceiling. As Colin Miss Victoria Carmen figures very agreeably, and sings a number of excellent songs, including "Kelly." She has a pleasing and cultured voice, and is a clever dancer. Miss Ruby Emmerson plays the Princess Iris in a charming manner; dainty and pleasing, she sings several pretty songs very successfully. An amusing character is that of Pompey, a negro, which is played by Miss Nancy Renshaw, who is very popular with her songs and dances; Miss Queenie King and Miss Clarice Osmond are very pleasing as Phyllis and Lubin; Miss Louie Love, who plays the Fairy Felina, is possessed of a pleasing voice; Mr. Harry Gilmore's performance of the Cat is a really wonderful one; Mr. Fred Lyndo, as well as stage-managing the production, plays the King; Mr. Wm. Dempsey, who impersonates the Ogre, has a remarkably fine voice and sings with the greatest success; and the Brothers Hannaway play Rufus and Uriah, and their singing, patter, and dancing prove extremely funny. Another clever comedian is Mr. E. D. Nicholls, who plays the Baron, his make-up being original; Mr. Michael Madden is very funny as the Queen; and Mr. H. A. Griffiths as Freddie and Mr. M. Foster as the Donkey also do good work. Clever specialities are introduced in the second act by the chief comedians, as well as by Seeley West and Rhodesia, the Fantasia troupe of dancers, &c. The scenery, designed by Messrs. H. C. Bontor, Henry Emdon, Francis H. Bull, Geo. Collier, and Harry Griffiths, is effective, and the costumes are most elaborate. The ballets are all cleverly executed, the performers having been instructed by Madame Phasey. The composer of the incidental music, Mr. Leslie Lewis conducts the performance; and the whole is produced by Mr. Fred Lyndo, under the personal direction of Mr. Arthur Carlton, for whom Mr. A. Hamilton Warden is acting as general manager.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—A capital holiday programme is headed by Lickson's Canine Wonders, whose clever and amusing tricks reflect great credit upon their trainer; Harry Russell and company, in a neatly-acted sketch entitled *Binks' Blunder*, prove excellent fun-makers; Captain Ellis and son are accomplished musicians, and introduce some novel selections; Tom Kelso and company, in a side-splitting absurdity, *The Singing Slavies*, score a distinct success; Bert and Dora, song and patter artists are refined and entertaining; Mark Leslie is a swell coon whose songs are rendered in faultless style; Sam Williams, comedian, has some tuneful chorus ditties; the Sisters Barnes, duettists and dancers, meet with deserved appreciation; and the Bioscope adds to the general enjoyment.

DEVONPORT. — HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr Herbert Taylor.—Packed houses at both performances on Monday were rewarded with a really first-class programme to which Tschin-Maa and his wonderful band of Chunchuse entertainers are principal contributors with clever musical numbers, conjuring tricks, and juggling; the Three Pydoras have an excruciatingly funny musical act; Willie Atom and Co. bring down the house with a farcical absurdity entitled *Wriggles*; Joe Belmont provides some first-rate singing, whistling, and other imitations; Alby Portsmouth, described as the premier naval entertainer, justifies his description; Terry and Tate are accomplished vocalists and dancers; Hampton and Bauman supply the remaining number as Darktown entertainers.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Fred Granville's company in *The Better Land* is appearing here to very good houses. Miss Marguerite Trevosper as Doris is responsible for a piece of well-studied acting; Mr. Edward E. Ashby is to be complimented on his perfect portrayal of Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Hubert Radcliffe is very effective; Miss Ada Hender gives a forcible rendition of Mercedes; Mr. Arthur Traill submits a pleasing character study of George Grant; much laughter is caused by the comedy introduced by Mr. Bert Dench as Tom Tadpole and Miss Bessie Frank as Pollie Perkins; Aunt Jemima is in the capable hands of Miss Bella Moody; the Misses Gerty Moody and Emilie Entwistle well sustain the parts of Harry and Tessa, and introduce interesting vocal items; and Messrs. Carl Beechy and J. F. Hughes do well as William White and Bill Jones respectively. The piece is well staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Miss Alice Hollander's fine contralto voice is heard to great advantage; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists perform really marvellous feats; one of the most interesting items in the bill is James Willard's dramatic sketch *Ace of Hearts*, the characters being very ably sustained by Messrs. Jas. Willard and Jackson Willcox and Miss Maisie Everette; the Four Markies are a troupe of tuneful musicians; James Brady, the vocal joker, causes much merriment; Leo and Roland in an equilibristic act are deservedly applauded; Lilian Travellie submits interesting vocal items; and also appearing are Varden (ventriloquist) and Sam Dalton (comedian). The latest subjects are introduced on the Palascope.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—The Three Sisters Urma occupy premier position, and prove themselves to be very clever artists on the trapeze; Carlo and Maie Trio in a comedy acrobatic and wire act, *Fun on the Lawn*, cause much merriment, and at the same time perform very clever feats; the Jackaway Trio keep the audience in a jovial mood in their laughing act *The White Statue*; Vesta Nixon is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Rowlands and Ford, Welsh and Scotch patterers, amuse greatly; Tom Reed is a quaint comedian; and the Sisters Dudley, operatic vocalists, sing very sweetly. The pictures are popular.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., are having their annual Christmas season here, and on Boxing Day, before a very large and crowded audience, *Maritana* was played. Mr. John Child was warmly greeted for his excellent performance of Don Cæsar; Miss Kate Anderson gave a very artistic rendition of Maritana, and her numbers "The harp in the air," "Oh, fairy wand," and "Scenes that are brightest" were excellently sung. The Don José of Mr. Charles Mborhouse was a very finished and capital representation. Mr. Charles Magrath sang finely in the part of the King of Spain; and Miss Bessie Weir made an admirable Lazarillo. The orchestra is under the able conductorship of Mr. Harrison Frewin. *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *The Master Singers*, *La Tosca*, and *Faust* are to be played during the week.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The holiday programme submitted here is a strong one, the chief item being Ye Colonial Septette in *An Old Tyme Hallow E'en*, which delighted a crowded house on Monday night. The gymnastic performance of Lord, Murray, and Lord was loudly applauded, and Lily Palmer acquitted herself well as a comedienne and dancer. The McConnell Trio in an amusing sketch, *McTavish and His Airship*, provoke much laughter, and Billy Hubbard scores successfully as an eccentric comedian. Barnard's Mannikins are cleverly manipulated, and create much merriment, and Elly Adair has some taking songs and knows how to sing them. Mart and Pep, in a smart acrobatic and balancing act, make a decided hit, and the pictures are up to the usual standard.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Haley's Juveniles head an excellent bill of fare here this week, supported by the Creo Brothers, acrobatic entertainers; Gertie Rex, comedienne; W. F. Reno, in a daring cycle act; Polo and Florence, equilibrists; Florrie Conolly, Irish songstress; J. W. Gilbey, comedian; Marjorie Russell, queen of magic; Charles Grantley, comedian; and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme here this week includes:—Professor Green's Punch and Judy Show; Junn Kook, vocalist; Syd Hope, comedian; Alberto and Ale, comedy artists; E. L. Knowles, comedian; and the cinematograph.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels; Manager, Mr. P. Mac.—The following artists are appearing here this week:—Alf Rosco, eccentric comedian; Jenny Humber, serio and dancer; Musical De Relis; and the cinematograph.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*The Flag Lieutenant* was accorded a most enthusiastic welcome on Monday evening here. The play is magnificently mounted, the scenery and appointments being most excellent, while the acting of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's talented company leaves nothing to be desired. In the title-rôle Mr. Edgar Kent plays in spirited fashion, his acting throughout being perfect; Mr. Montagu Love is also worthy of praise for his Major Thesiger; Mr. George Mallett shows to advantage as the Vice-Admiral; Mr. George Percy acquits himself creditably as the Surgeon; Messrs. Hugh Wakefield and Olaf Hytten submit diverting and highly popular studies of the two Middies, Hood and Dormer-Lee; Mr. John Belton as Ordinary Seaman James Sloggett provides a good portion of fun; the General Gough-Bogle of Mr. Lionel Isted is a clever study; Mr. Edward Christopher makes an excellent Colonel McLeod; Mr. John Wheatman as Michael Palliser is capital, his brogue being delicious; Miss Stella Leigh depicts the character of Mrs. Cameron in talented fashion; and Miss Dorothy Ripley adds materially to the success as Lady Hermione. Miss Winifred Vallant is a bright and interesting Viola Hood; Mrs. Gough-Bogle is smartly hit off by Miss Margaret Stuart; and Miss Ada Clarke is an effective Lady Dugdale.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—The leading features here are Fred Karno's comedians in *Early Birds* and *Mumming Birds*; Mark Hanbury is applauded for his fine singing; Lily Belle is a success in her barefoot dancing; the Real Mackays, a pair of clever juvenile performers, work well together; Ray Raymond interests the audience with several delightful numbers; and the Kingscope shows the latest pictures.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 Company in *A Woman Worth Winning*, under the personal direction of Mr. A. B. MacKay, has proved a good draw here. Miss Margaret Noble makes a charming Roma Pauloff; Mr. A. B. MacKay handles the rôle of the villainous General Borinski with tact and judgment; Mr. Sydney Barton is a capital Czar; Mr. Gilbert Standing presents a good portrayal of Amos Pauloff; Mr. Carl Kirzo gives a finished performance as Fergus; Mr. Jack Corlass is a typical Colonel Mashemoff; Mr. Wynne Davies undertakes the part of Fedor Petronvitch in powerful style; Mr. Graham Hamlyn as Ivan Bardoff is deserving of warm praise; Mr. C. W. Black as Bertie Scribbles and Mr. Ernest Hendrick as Peter Popples act with much humour; Miss Trixie Leighton enacts Lola Kalnovsky in a very capable manner; and Miss Ida MacKay is clever and funny as Katherine Kless.

KINNAIRD HALL.—William Hamilton's Excursions inaugurated their annual winter season here on Monday, when a packed and delighted house gave a rousing welcome to an entertainment which, as worked on the Hamilton lines, will never grow stale or uninteresting. The pictures, each a masterpiece of the panoramic artist's craft, are quite up to the high standard of excellence associated with the name of Hamilton, while, in addition, a variety programme of a diversified and entertaining order is also presented. Clara Coverdale and Horace Huxley's Bijou Juvenile Troupe appear in a pretty musical scena entitled *Pansy's Birthday*, which contains many attractive features; Lilian Savardo is warmly applauded for her artistic and daring trapeze act; the Dunlops create much laughter with their comedy cycling act; Captain Devereux introduces his wonderful troupe of performing dogs; and a fine display of the latest films is given by the Engraph. Mr. Claude Howell again appears in his long-established rôle of guide, his various "yarns" being related with much unctuous humour. Mr. Victor Hamilton is the courteous and energetic business manager of the Excursions.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C Rawes.—Kioto and Esa, Japanese equilibrists, head the bill, and are warmly applauded for their clever act; Billy Ross and Co. in *Mr. Maloney's Troubles* introduce some smart ball punching and boxing; Chummie La Mars, comedienne, had an enthusiastic reception, her impersonation of Harrigan being capital; in a singing and dancing act Cliff and Kean are favourites; the step-dancing on roller skates of J. H. McCann proves popular; the Three Cyclins, comedy cyclists, and Will Sergeant, comedian, create amusement; and the Cathedoscope shows Race for a Monkey.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Rushworth.—Mr. Geo. Munro and company, including Miss Doris Horricks, are presenting during the week *The Sleigh Bells*, *David Garrick*, *The Robbery of the Lyons Mail*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Murray King and Clark.—An enormous success has been scored by Murray King and Clark in their first pantomime production, which has been written by William Morgan on the immortal subject of Dick Whittington. Additional interest is derived from the fact that Mr. Murray King himself undertakes the rôle of Jack, his inimitable humour evoking shouts of laughter from the delighted audiences. Excellent comedy work of a broader type is provided by Mr. Tom Walls as Phyllis Pushwinkie; while Messrs. Herbert C. Walton and Jamie Dallas, smart pantomimists and expert dancers, speedily become favourites as Captain Poll and Peter Pann. Mr. Ardene Linden's Fitzwarren is responsible for a by no means inconsiderable addition to the practically continuous merriment, and Mr. Theo Pinaud, jun., is very popular with the juvenile visitors as Tobias Ticklepitcher Topport. Miss Gertrude Gilliam is a perfect principal boy as Dick Whittington, acting and singing with artistic effect; Miss Norah Dwyer's Alice is the very personification of daintiness and charm; Miss Adele Levey makes an imposing Emperor of Morocco; and the immortals are admirably impersonated by Miss Edith Jefferies (Felina) and Mr. Douglas Cox (Rat-at-at). Mr. Cox being also responsible for the stage management. Miss Lily Craig and Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers are admired in a series of smart dances. The scenery and dresses are of a costly and elaborate description. Mr. Maxwell Stewart, who must be congratulated on his successful "production," is the general manager, and Mr. Michael Dwyer admirably controls the musical arrangements.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—Unita and Paul open an attractive holiday programme with a clever and novel gymnastic display; Hardie Palm's songs and patter are enjoyed to the full; Le Prince Kuroki's smart conjuring display is received with enthusiastic applause; Barn and Bardell amuse with their duets and cross patter; Bradley and Barns are vocalists of exceptional merit, and also get off a number of original wheezes; the Carlyles are particularly clever in their terpsichorean display; Lilian Violet is a juvenile comedienne of quite exceptional merit; Breton's Troupe head the bill with the screamingly funny pantomimic sketch *A Sleepless Night*; and a clever Urbanora film called Dissolving the Government concludes.

EDINBURGH. — KING'S THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*, so successfully produced at this house last week, now runs with the greatest smoothness, and crowds of holiday-makers testify to their appreciation of the feast of fun and excellent music which the management has prepared. The delightful acting and singing of those two charming children Baby Bowden and Miss Vi Wilson, in the name parts, appeal not only to the younger members of the audience, but are heartily applauded by the grown-ups. Miss Dolly Elsworthy, Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme, and the admirable comedians Mr. Will Tony, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Geo. Brooks, and Mr. Johnnie Osborne keep the fun going with unflagging spirit, and the remaining members of the cast loyally support the principals in their laudable efforts to banish the spirit of melancholy.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Odette Valery provides the leading item in this week's bill with her famous dance creations *Salome* and *Cleopatra*, the latter scena concluding with the Egyptian queen's death from the sting of an asp, the realism of which is heightened by the employment of a genuine snake; Lockhart's Elephants are a great attraction, winning champion honours; and the Eight Lancashire L

favourite; Nina Gordon is a clever mimic; Leolin manipulates clubs with almost incredible dexterity; Royburn and Dix, in the comedy act, *Skits on the 'Phone;* and the Kingscote complete a good bill.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—"House full" is the order of the day here, and Mr. George Edwardes' company, in *The Dollar Princess*, looks like making a record during the holiday season. The brightness and attraction of the play itself, and the excellent company engaged in it, make it undoubtedly quite the best thing Mr. Edwardes has yet sent us. Miss Clara Evelyn as Alice, Miss Norma Whalley as the Lion Queen, and Miss Mabel Russell as Daisy, whose songs and dances are a special feature, make a strong trio of lady principals. Mr. Louis Bradfield is seen in something of a new rôle as the American millionaire; Mr. Leonard Russell is well suited as Freddy Fairfax; and the public never tire of Mr. Eric Thorne in his quaint comedy creations. Mr. Howard Cridland as Dick and Mr. Paul Plunket as the Earl of Quorn complete a strong quintette, and the work of the chorus and the staging of the play are magnificent in the extreme.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fred. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—The pantomime of *Aladdin* continues to fill this theatre to overflowing at every performance.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—The D'Oyly Carte Repertory Company continues here, and will form the holiday attraction.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* continues with undiminished popularity.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* goes with great spirit to the accompaniment of not only a splendid orchestra, but also roars of laughter from delighted houses.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is here this week, presenting *The Eve of Her Wedding* to well-filled houses. Mr. Fred Lloyd gives a vigorous rendering of the hero, George Tremain, known as Nemo, the helper of the poor; Squire Leverton has a dignified representative in Mr. Chas. Osborne; Mavis is touchingly played by Miss Pauline Nanton; and Dick is well portrayed by Mr. Henry Danson. Miss Annie Hylton gives a strong rendering of Renie de Telle, an adventuress, whose accomplice is ably played by Mr. Harry Leyton as Dean Clifton. Amusing parts are those of Hiram P. Younger and his lively daughter, the father being rendered in American style by Mr. Chas. W. Dockwray (who also doubles the part of Paul Cairshaw) and Gwendoline by Miss Ella Thornton; Mr. Arthur Keand makes a picturesque Giovanni.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The patrons of the popular Govan house have this week a favourable opportunity of seeing the world-famous play *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. C. H. Knight's company is headed by Mr. Fred Powell, whose powerful acting as Jagon has helped the piece wonderfully; adequate support is given by Mr. Henry Deane as Blanchard and Mr. A. G. Polson Turner as Ribas; the detectives are effectively represented by Mr. Fred Bentley (Coucou) and Mr. John Brittain (Dodot); Mr. W. Graham Arthurs is good as the young lawyer, Belfort; and the parts of Beaudin and Loustalot are cleverly doubled by Mr. David Phillips. Miss Laurie Turner's Marie Guerin proves a bright and attractive girl; the Sophie Blanchard of Miss Florence Trevoir is a telling performance; and as Jagon's daughter Miss Alice N. Livesey looks and acts well.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, in her picturesque poses and dances, in which she is assisted by Marjah and Mlle. Leony, provides an excellent star turn here; the Four Amati Sisters give a most enjoyable musical turn, with classical piano quartettes and songs; in a different frame of mind, Phil Percival causes roars of laughter by his most amusing piano selections and burlesque drama; O'Malley and Brown are a comedy couple whose merits are well known here, and their new business is heartily enjoyed; Freda Spry and H. S. Monti give a most amusing and clever comedy and burlesque turn; Jessie Albine sings her chorus songs with lots of vim and go; John Macauley contributes a clever character sketch of an old pensioner; the Empire Comedy Four again cause hearty laughter at their amusing business; and the Prince Milner Trio display much ability as jugglers, wire walkers, and hoop manipulators.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—A powerful dramatic sketch, entitled *Gentlemen, the King*, heads the bill here, and keeps the audience enthralled for fully half an hour. In the part of an old soldier Mr. Henry Bedford acts with notable power and pathos. The Great Four give an enjoyable comedy singing act; Jack Hayworth as a Scotch comedian makes a first-rate appearance, and is well received; Alice Golding once more gets a good reception for her chorus songs; Ross and Grayson provide lots of amusement in their comedy turn, introducing songs dances, and instrumental work; Cicardo is a juggler of special ability, his neatness and dexterity being exceptional; the Camille Lavis Trio give an American vaudeville turn, with some very smart dancing introduced; the Maningos are equilibrists of more than average ability; Margaret Ashton comedienne, in several catchy songs; and Sibb and Sibb, acrobats, complete a first-rate bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A most attractive programme is submitted this week, and with the Ten Loonies at the head of affairs much enjoyment may be had; the Bros. Huxter are also extremely popular; an operatic scena is presented by Dora Barrington, who has the able assistance of Netta Gray, both ladies being in good voice. Valvero, with his Naval Bombardment, pays a return visit; Willie Gardner's skate dancing is appreciated thoroughly; Derenda and Green are makers of mirth; Edie Veno is a vivacious artist with good swinging choruses; Stuart and Morris appear with success in their dancing turn; Harris Coome, vocalist and dancer, meets with appreciation; and the Palascope films conclude.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Harry Roxbury and company occupy the leading position here with *Sergeant Longfellow;* Ruth Davenport, who is very popular, sings selections from *Dorothy* in fine style; Miss Edie Gray has the assistance of two clever youthful dancers; and an item of exceeding interest is Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre. The other turns include Harry Anderson vocal comedian; Hugh Barclay, basso; O'Malley and Brown, comedians (who are deputising for Charles Matteson and company—unable to appear); and "The Book of Life," a living tableau.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E Pickard.—A capable lot of variety artists here include Perrugal, a clever and amusing ventriloquist; the Three Sisters Volka, comedy artists; Rosie Dawn, comedienne and dancer; Bob Merry, Scotch character comedian; and James Toner, newsboy mimic. The films are interesting.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—After being closed for a short season, this theatre reopened on Friday, the 24th ult., with Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Spenser's own company in the romantic comedy *Peggy; or, Masks and Faces*. As Sir Charles Pomander, Mr. S. Spenser ably portrayed the character of the man about town; Mr. W. Heilbronn was very good as the young country squire; Mr. Fred C. Imbert gave a good interpretation of the eccentricities of Lycimachus Triplet; Miss Elsie Heap and Miss Fanny Wallace were very fine in the parts of Mrs. Triplet and Mabel Vane; and Miss Lizzie Hall made a charming and vivacious Peg Woffington.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Owners, Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—The Christmas attractions here comprise the Brothers Gaudsmidt, celebrated clown acrobats, with performing dogs; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists; Amy Anderson and Co. in new sketch, *Troubles On and Off the Stage*; Thora, clever ventriloquist; Tee and Tee in a pot-pourri musical act; Rorke Rooke and Co. in the farcical burietta *The Prince"s Love Affair*; T. W. Lennar, comedian; Marget and Lener, with *Wet Paint*; and Irve Hayman and Co. in *Christmas Eve*. The Palascope concludes.

KING'S HALL.—Messrs. Poole, Ltd.—Animated pictures, the Cinephone, and special vocalists contribute a good entertainment here.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRES (1908), LTD., have obtained a long lease on the hall in Northgate-street, Gloucester, known as Goddard's Rooms. About £1000 has been spent on improving the entrance, making new and improving old exits, and general decoration, from plans by Mr. May, architect, of Plymouth. It is proposed to give a continuous performance from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Animated pictures form the chief item, with Mr. Theodore Arthur, entertainer and pianist. Mr. G. Boultwood is the courteous manager.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Shakespearean plays are being presented here by Miss Glossop-Harris's talented company, which opened on Monday with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris portrayed with great effect the rôle of Katherine, being ably supported by Mr. Frank Cellier as Petruchio; Mr. James Mason provides a capable interpretation of Hortensio; and Miss Mary Goulden deserves high compliments for her portrayal of Bianca; Mr. Arthur Seaton as Baptista, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree as Gremio, and Mr. Murray Skinnell as Lucentio were all successful. *The Merchant of Venice, Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Twelfth Night*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* are also in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. L Skivington.—Alfred Graham's Juveniles occupy the premier position on the bill, and are accorded a hearty reception; Cummin and Seaham are clever comedy acrobats; as duettists, Florence and Rose Showell earn loud applause, a most amusing sketch, entitled *There's No Place Like Home*, is presented by Mueller and Coyne; Allan Hanbury, in song and story, takes well; and Ada Gatley submits a graceful performance on the slack-wire. Pictures on the Dromoscope are good.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—After being closed for a week the theatre reopened on Monday with the romantic drama, *From Convent to Throne*. Miss Mary Fulton sustains her reputation admirably as Queen Maritza; Mr. Graham Woods gives a vigorous representation of Lieutenant Hapsburg; Mr. William J. Miller portrays the plotter, Baron Strelsau, in inimitable fashion; Mr. Arthur Estcourt acts with dignity as General von Hapsburg; Mr. A. F. Stuart is equally good as Prince Maurice; and others taking prominent parts are Miss Lissa Young as Caspar, Miss Maudie Grayson as Rosella, and Mr. T. G. Vane as Lieutenant Otto Felson.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The burlesque, *Astronomy*, presented by W. Fullbrook and company is full of amusing business, and is a great laughter provoker; Harry Taft repeats his former success as a comedian, and his clever whistling and good stories are equally appreciated; Texas Hattie is a coloured performer on the tight-rope, who accomplishes new and daring feats; Mike Cray combines clever jugglery with good comedy; the Tiger Lily gives a smart acrobatic dancing turn; Bert Weston is a comedian with original patter; and Miss Dorothy Dundas is a pleasing vocalist.

GUERNSEY. — ST. JULIAN'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—On Boxing Night Mr. A. Clifton Alderson and his company opened with *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Alderson handled the part of Stephen Armitage with skill; a really good embodiment is the David Armitage of Mr. Frank Dalton; Mr. A. W. Norman effectively portrays the Duke, whose offspring is cleverly and humorously enacted by Mr. Sam Roberts; Mr. Leslie Vyner successfully represents Dick; and Mr. R. Faulconer gives the necessary colouring to the scheming Lucas Lyle. Miss Winifred Love's delineation of Joan is highly praiseworthy; Miss Effie D. Crawford very effectively handles the rôle of Sybil Fay; and Miss Violet Lets is successful as Sal Keary. *The Coal King* and *East Lynne* fill in the week.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. F. Mouillot's company is here with *A Message from Mars*. Mr. A. Lovett is very good as Horace Parker; Mr. G. P. Polson plays with distinction as the Messenger from Mars; Mr. N. Clark gives a good rendering of the Tramp; Mr. A. Lugg is well placed as Arthur Dicey; Mr. D. Greene is exceptionally good as the Policeman; and Mr. A. C. Roife (Dr. Chapman), Mr. E. French (Sir E. Vivian), Mr. J. Mavis (Mr. Fergusson), Miss. E. Twitchen (Bella), are all good. Miss A. Ashton is splendid as Miss Parker; Miss R. Helene's Minnie Templar is a good portrayal; and the numerous small parts are all well played.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. T. H. Lambert.—Will Van Allen, the tramp musician, gives selections on various instruments in a clever manner, and has some humorous patter; Fritz Kornaw, the human flute, is a clever artist, and is well received; J. P. Carroll, soldier tambourinist, is an undoubted success; Sisters Henderson are two youthful and clever musicians; Dale and Vale give a smart dancing act, and meet with warm approval; the Francoli Troupe of pantomimists, and the Palace pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Pictures form the principal attraction here. The singing and dancing of the Baltimore Quartette gave great satisfaction; as a coon singer and dancer J. J. Mannis is excellent; and Mlle. Ameda is a clever, daring, and graceful gymnast.

VICTORIA HALL.—The Carl Rosa Opera company is here this week in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The singing and acting of Mr. A. Winckworth as Sir John Falstaff is excellent; and Miss D. Woodell (Mrs. Page), Miss Ina Hill (Anne Page), and Miss B. Miranda (Mrs. Ford) were splendid, and all in magnificent voice. Mr. E. Davies is heard to great advantage as Fenton; Mr. C. Victor's singing and acting (Mr. Ford) are of a high order; Mr. F. Clendon ably takes the part of Mr. Page; and Mr. W. O'Connor (Master Slender) and Mr. A. Richard (Dr. Caius) showed undoubted ability. The other parts were finely played by Mr. T. Hamilton, Mr. A. Felton, Mr. B. Coe, Mr. F. Rowe, Mr. E. Hopwood, and Mr. C. Brearley. Miss Annie Elliott contributes some excellent dances. In *Destiny*, Miss Gertrude Vania is splendid as Leonora, using her magnificent voice with rare effect; Miss Woodall and Miss Wilson ably sustain the parts of Preziosilla and Curra; Mr. Davies scored another success as Don Alvaro; as Don Carlos Mr. Alan Turner, who is the possessor of a baritone voice of full range, sang exceedingly well, and received a tremendous ovation; Mr. A. Richard as the Marquis shows strong powers; Mr. A. Winckworth is eminently suited to the part of Father Guardiano; Mr. F. Clendon is equally well placed as Father Melitone; and Mr. W. O'Connor (Trabuco) and Mr. Frank Rowe (a Surgeon and the Alcade) were also very good. The hall was packed from floor to ceiling for *Destiny*, and good houses have been the rule. The other operas produced have been *Faust, Carmen, The Marriage of Figaro, Tristan and Isolda, Tannhäuser*, and *Il Trovatore*.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—*Sports in a Jungle*, by the Donaldson company, with excellent scenery and effects, is proving a popular top-liner here this week. Nora Emerald, a dainty little lady, is a favourite in song and dance; Austen Temple is something unusual as a conjurer; The Martelloni lady acrobats are exceedingly clever and effective; L. W. Harris, light comedian, is an assured success; Ted Johnson and Belle de Vere are clever and amusing in a trick cycling act; and Musical Silvo, soloist on the musical glasses, and the bioscope conclude.

HANLEY.—GRAND.—Proprietor and Managing-Diretor, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A fine programme is headed by the Mackweys, who in an eccentric comedy wire act cause quite a furore. Bob Hamilton, comedian, is "special Scotch"; Raymond's Biograph depicts A Christmas Story with wonderful success; Leoni Clarke, with his inimitable animal show, is received with great favour; Miss Rose Atherton's company in *Murphy's Affinity* are excellent; Bowden and Stoll in *Jumps* are loudly applauded; Harry Zetter is a huge success; the Denaro Bros. are wonderfully smart; and the Dean Bros. are delightful dancers.

HARROGATE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—Mr. Mark Blow and company presented for the first three nights of the week *The Prisoner of Zenda*. Mr. Blow as the redoubtable Rudolph Rassendyll secured the enthusiastic reception that his fine and thoroughly talented rendering of the part deserved; Mr. Julian Cross as Colonel Sapt gave a virile interpretation of that determined soldier; Mr. W. J. Stack played with telling strenuousness as Fritz von Tarlenheim; Mr. G. A. Brandram as the Duke of Streslau distinguished himself by his tragic intensity; Miss Agnes Verity's impersonation of Antoinette de Mauban was full of interest, her elocution being particularly commendable; Miss Ida Molesworth as the Princess Flavia invested her performance with dignity, dramatic force, and genuine charm; and the minor parts were all in good hands, and the romantic interest of the play was maintained throughout. For the remaining three nights of the week the same company are presenting *The Little Damozel*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albert Maxsted.—The special item in this week's programme is provided by Paul Cavalli, an acrobatic athlete, equilibrist, musical virtuoso, and balancer, whose exhibition and splendid physique are much admired. The remainder of the entertainment is an excellent series of films by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Co. Noel is a charming picture illustrative of a waif's Christmas.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Scutt.—On Monday a crowded house gave enthusiastic welcome to Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids*. An excellent chorus did full justice to the concerted numbers; and the increased orchestra, directed by Mr. Albert Vernon, rendered the music in irreproachable style. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff as Peggy sang very pleasantly Miss May Casson made a winsome Winifred, and her singing was also much appreciated; Mr. William Spray was an irrepressible Lieut. Sam Brudenell, whose merriment was infectious and his agility surprising; Mr. Herbert Lugg as Lieut. Frank Meredith, and Mr. Bernard Vaughan as Dr. O'Bryne gave excellent assistance; Mr. Edwin Dodds as Joe Mivens worked hard and with success in his humorous impersonation; Miss Edie Martin submitted a clever and amusing impersonation of Eliza; Miss Mabel Medrow was distingué as Lady Brudenell; and Miss Edna Russell was pleasing as Helen.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's thirtieth Christmas pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* is a bright and entertaining production. Jack (the hero) is charmingly represented by Miss Lallah Melrose; Miss Vera Dudley with a coquettish figure and winsome face, makes an ideal Jill. These two talented comediennes dance with grace and sing some pleasing songs; the Sisters Edwards in the parts of Boy Blue and Bo-Peep give a captivating performance; Miss Rene Ashley is very gentle and attractive as the Man in the Moon; in the part of Dame Trott Mr. J. D. Hunter has a mirth-provoking rôle and creates infinite amusement. Messrs. Mat Melrose, Phil Inglis, and Ford Beck cleverly contribute to the fun. The ladies of the ballet look attractive in their pretty dresses; and Mr. Surtees Corne, the musical director, has been exceedingly happy in his selections. Mr. R. Berré, the scenic artist, has provided some picturesque and lovely settings. A more joyous and mirthful entertainment it would be difficult to find.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. H. B. Boyd; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing.—The principal part of the evening is taken up with bioscopic pictures, interspersed by contributions from Miss Gena Manon, vocalist and soubrette; and the popular comedian, Johnny Dwyer.

HOYLAND. — HIPPODROME.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Ferry.—Mr. Scott Alexander's company give a complete change of programme this week. The tabloid pantomime *Babes in the Wood* is all that can be desired, the gags and songs being quite up-to-date and the scenic effects very pretty. In the sketch *The Word of a Judge* Mr. Scott Alexander does justice to the character of Bill Wasp, and is ably supported by the company.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, M. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—During the three weeks this house has been closed a complete transformation has been effected in the interior. The new colour-scheme of decoration is a charming combination of an electric blue and gold. The stalls have been re-seated and carpeted, and screened by a new covered corridor past the pit. Two boxes have been added at about the stage level, and there is a new drop curtain by the company's principal scenic artist, Mr. F. Venimore, who has done a good impressionistic view of Kirkstall Abbey. The bill presented is a good one, and includes the Staley combination, in their ingeniously worked transformation act; Jules Kiaro, an expert hand balancer; Metz and Metz, a pair of merry comedians and graceful dancers; Miss Elsie Malpass, a precocious child mimic; H. C. Lovell and company, in a one-act burlesque, entitled *Mam-selle Pom-pom;* Chas. Russell, actor-vocalist; and Miss Agnes Molteno, in her well-known scena, *Dolly and a Coach*. Some interesting pictures fill up the bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The artists appearing are Miss Renee Graham, comedienne; the Maro Duo, a pair of skilled gymnastic comedians; Chas. Prelle, with his troupe of trained dogs, who perform original tricks; Thomas and Taylor, two comedians in a crisply worked quick-change turn, *Fun on the Midland;* Miss Josephine Crooke, with well illustrated songs; Miss Cissy Lupino, speciality dancer; Signor Arvi, presenting his mysterious Metablescope, a puzzling series of living pictures; and Harry Brown, coloured comedian; the Palace pictures are well chosen.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. W. F. Morton, Manager.—Hull's only pantomime is being presented at this house by Mr. Elliston, who has hit the mark so far as the present taste in pantomime is concerned. The production is breezy and bright, and a corps of clever comedians keep the fun rolling merrily. The subject selected is the time-honoured story of *Mother Goose*, and both the old lady and her bird are treated with much skill by Mr. Harry Rich and Mr. Douglas Campbell. Mr. Rich invests the rôle with an originality that makes it highly acceptable; he runs clear of the stereotype vulgar old women of pantomime. He remembers that pantomimes have attraction for children, and so steers clear of what with many so-called comedians is thought humorous. The Jack of Mr. Chas. Rich will be one of the outstanding features of the pantomime. The work of Miss Violet Romaine, the singing fairy, is so much above the average that it can be written without disparagement to the other ladies that she stands foremost amongst them; she has been gifted with a sweet voice, finely under control and sings her allotted numbers with consummate ability and skill. Her reading of "Somewhere" is one of the pantomime hits. The Dutch Girl of Miss Lola Patey will no doubt attract a host of admirers. Miss Ethel Hall finds plenty of work in the rôle of principal boy. Mr Fred Barnes sings with much verve; the Dude is conceived on conventional lines by Mr. Henri Dori; the Alhambra Girls are to be credited with pleasing dances, and one of the best musical numbers in a "swing song." The pantomime should keep the business brisk until the 22nd inst., when it starts on its journey.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, Manager.—The Christmas attraction at this house is melodrama. The play selected is *Her Secret Lover*. It is the right sort to tempt a holiday audience, who received the play and the performers with much enthusiasm on Boxing Night. The House Full boards were very early put out, and those present made manifest their pleasure in no unstinted fashion. The authoress, Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, has given the play the proper amount of thrills, and Miss Lilian Herries plays the part of Ivy Seymour with fine force; while the husband finds a capable representative in Mr. Harry F. Wood. Mr. Walter Clarke carries the house with him as Capt. Darrell Rose; whilst the heavy rôle is well sustained by Mr. Douglas B. Watson, who finds a counterpart in the excellent work put in by Miss Amy Ellam. The play this week is truly the thing, judging by the support accorded.

HYDE. — EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—*Sherlock Holmes*, capitally represented by H. Hamilton Stewart's company, is proving a strong holiday attraction. Mr. Stewart imparts dramatic dignity to the title-rôle, and holds the interest of the audience throughout; the subtle cunning of old Moriarty is excellently delineated by Mr. Charles Brandon; Mr. Arnold O. Raper accentuates the villainy of James Larabee; Mr. Eric Mordon is a gentlemanly Dr. Watson; as Alice Faulkner Miss Grace Pearl is soon in sympathetic touch with the house; Miss Edith Vogue as Madge Larabee plays a thankless part very well; and Miss Maisie Richardson is delightfully vivacious as Therese.

STANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—A popular programme includes Sidney Clifford, Alec Kendal, Mary Preston, Jacke Truman, and Jim Topping.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A Rogers.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and company are here playing *The Way Women Love* and *Camille*. *The Way Women Love* was put on on Monday evening, when, in the rôle of Verene Alabra, Mrs. Bateman proved her cleverness. Miss Camille Treherne gave a pleasing performance of Violet Tremaine; Mr. Fred W. Goddard's excellent representation of Captain Howard Tremaine won much applause; Mr George Herbert as John Barryford and Miss Dolly Clarke as Frank had suitable parts; Miss Mattie Everett (Lottie Gray) and Mr. Will White (Ben Barcombe) worked well in their respective spheres; and Mr. Percy Shaw was smart as Dick Palmer, his whistling solos being encored. Mr. George Harvey was seen as Leslie Lamont, the evil genius.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Mr. James Stephen's company opened here on Monday with *Our Boys*. The part of Sir Geoffrey Champneys was well played by Mr. J. C Miller, and Mr. James Hart was good as Talboy. Mr. James Stephen was very successful as Perkyn Middlewick. Miss Lillian Beaumont as Violet Melrose, Miss Lucie Victor as Mary Melrose, Miss Louise Cooper as Clarissa Champneys, and Miss Viviane Douglas as Belinda all acted their parts well. The rest of the rôles were in good hands.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company in the *Flag Lieutenant* is playing to crowded houses. Vice-Admiral the Hon. Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B., in the hands of Mr. Mark Paton, is an admirable piece of acting; the Richard Lascelles of Mr. Hastings Lynn is an excellent study, as also is the part of John Penrose by Mr. Stanley Groome and the Thesiger of Mr. Frederick Leister; Christopher Neate is played by Mr. Stephen Gatling and Crutchley by Mr. Edward Mervyn; Messrs. Geoffrey Wilkinson and Guy Lanham are an amusing pair of midshipmen; the difficult part of Mrs. Cameron is well portrayed by Miss Mabel Rees; and as Lady Hermione Wynn Miss Rita Johnson made a good impression. The minor parts are well filled and the staging and dresses excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—An excellent bill this week is drawing crowded houses. Secner and Fridkin's clever troupe of Russian singers and dancers are great favourites; the Four Mexicans, lariat wonders and lasso manipulators, give a really marvellous performance; Phil Parsons is a light comedian in the best sense and sings delightfully; Chas. F. Best as McBunker, the mountebank, has a very amusing turn; the Bouncing Pips are an agile troupe of comedy gymnasts, their horizontal bar and invisible net performance exciting great wonder; Miss Nellie Coleman is very pleasing in her impersonation of male characters; Dome is a clever and amusing clay modeller and a versatile actor; and Billy French, the wooden shoe dancer, is very popular. The Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. C. Watson Mills' company is here, with *For Love and the King*. Mr. Alfred Maurice gives a striking rendering of Michael Obrenovic; Mr. F. J. Webb is a powerful Valdimir; and King Hara Dragomir is carefully handled by Mr. Frank Lindon. Mr. F. K. Wickstead does full justice to the part of Prince Uros; and Mr. G. Chate is well placed as Duke Fernand. Mr. C. Watson-Mill is a manly Gerald Meredith; Miss R. Tate, a most effective Edith Meredith; Miss Ellis a capable Natilia; and to the rôle of Grazia Obrenovic full justice is done by Miss Marie D. Smith. Mr. Oscar Power revels in the part of Carl Oppenneim.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company is presenting *Pete*. Miss V Malcolm Barnett as Kate Cregeen shows herself an actress of ability; Mr. Austin Milroy is most convincing in the name part; Mr. Alfred Gray plays conscientiously as Philip Christian; Mr. Frank Stone does well as Cæsar Cregeen; Miss Lucy Murray brings down the house as Nancy; Mr. J. Edward Fletcher appears as Ross Christian; and the numerous other characters are capably undertaken.

KILMARNOCK. — KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Wilson's Electric Empires; Manager, Mr. Wilfred M. Lawson.—The principal item on this week's bill is the stirring sketch *The Corsican Brothers*, presented by the Francis-Harold company. Mr. J. P. Dryden gives a talented rendering of the dual part, Fabian and Luis de Franchi, and Mr. F. Carlile is good as M. de Chateau Renaud. Miss Callagan (a local amateur) plays the parts of Mme. de Franchi and Emilie de L'Esparre with feeling. Miss Annie Estelle is a dainty comedienne and dancer. On the Bioscope the principal pictures are Death of the Duke D'Enghien and The Poachers. Business is good.

LANCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—A remarkably clever company, under the management of Mr. Louis Calvert, is presenting *Sunday*. Miss Janet Lind gives a delightful rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. William Gifford is a capable exponent of Colonel Brinthorpe and Mr. Boyce Wellams of Arthur Brinthorpe. Mr. Richard Trieve as Tom Oxley gives an effective portrayal; and the contrasting characters of the four "boys" are well sustained by Mr. Richard F. Symons as Towzer. Mr. Launcelot St. G. Lowther as Davy, Mr. James Hussy as Lively, and Mr. George Marriott, jun., as Jacky. Miss H. Graham Edwine is a pleasing Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Gladys Hewitt makes a charmingly natural Nun. The play is well staged, and has proved a big attraction.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—A very fine holiday attraction is provided here by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, which is appearing to appreciative audiences in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Keith Fraser gives a forceful performance of Napoleon, bringing out the various characteristics attributed to the great Emperor with striking effectiveness; Miss Violet Ellicott's Josephine is a very queenly figure, played with great taste; whilst the Marie Louise of Miss Winnie Tempest is also a successful performance. Mr. Percy H. Vernon is an excellent Talleyrand, and the leaders of Napoleon's army find clever exponents in Mr. Edwin J. Collins as Angereau, Mr. Harold S. Standing as Marshal Murat, Mr. Edward Longford as Brigadier Antoine, and Mr. Lawton Orme as Brigadier Pierre. Other performances worthy of special mention are the Stephanie of Miss Dorothy Garth, the Marquis De Beaumont of Mr. C. Stirling, the little King of Rome of Miss Dorothy Hudson; whilst Mr. J. J. Gordon, Mr. C. Jackson, and Mr. J. O'Brien also fulfil commendable parts. The tableaux of the battle of Waterloo and of the conqueror overthrown are most realistic settings. On Friday evening Miss Violet Ellicott was accorded a benefit performance.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—*Cinderella* was produced on Boxing Night with much success, and owing to the crowded state of the theatre and standing room being at a premium we hold the notice over till next week.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Prominent in a strong holiday bill are the Russian Singers (eleven in number), who render some Russian folk-songs; Herbert Darnley's company supply some uproarious fun in *The Barnstormers*; Miss Gladys Hooley renders some violin solos in fine style; and Marshall and Parr, The Kramers, Braata's Dogs, Richard Taylor, Lizzie Glenroy, and Alf Maynell also successfully contribute.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Mr. James Kiddie presents *Dick Whittington* here, and packed houses are the result. Miss Lena Page makes a capital Dick and Alice is daintily taken by Miss Florrie Warner. Messrs. Dennis McCarthy, Burt Hudson, Charley Chard, Tom Gott, and Clifton and Gibson are comedians of merit, who work well together; and Miss Flo Hilton possesses much vivacity in a principal character.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Booking-Manager, Mr. Johnny Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Appearing here are Albertus and Millar, Jack Hartley, Helen Martin, W. H. Downs, the Forsyths, and the Three Miltons.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—The Cattaneo Troupe, Hall Rees' Stable Lads, Randolph King, and the Delvaines are appearing here.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Enormous audiences here on Bank Holiday were enthusiastic in their praise of the excellent programme submitted, at the head of which was Victoria Monks, the popular comedienne, whose songs were most successful. A big hit was made by Giovanni Wals, the Spanish Caruso, his powerful and dramatic singing being quite a feature; the Dandies are prominent with a thoroughly delightful and versatile turn; Larry Lewis is a first-rate comedian, who evokes much laughter; the Crisps are very smart in their dancing act; the Three Delaries give a clean, clever, and novel performance on the triple trapeze; Harry Hemsley is good in his caricatures, sketches, and impersonations; Violet Stockelle is a capital comedienne; James Curwell, described as a Liverpool newsboy, proved himself to be a pianist of ability; and the pictures are of the usual entertaining nature.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A very hearty reception is being accorded to Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' excellent company in the sensational domestic drama *Her Marriage Vow*. The various parts are done full justice to, Miss May Richardson as Kate Walker being especially good. The effects are well worked and the staging of the drama leaves nothing to be desired.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company is paying a return visit with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Augustine Knight gives a powerful portrayal of Lucio Delgado; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe plays with excellent judgment and artistic finish as Paul Gouffet; Mr. Charles H. Phelps gives a clever rendition of Lucien Courtier; in the somewhat trying part of Marie de Brisson Miss Clare O'Sullivan is successful; while the Petit Pottlebury is Mr. John A Stimson and the Babette of Miss Francis Day are amusing.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr.

...horace, Marjorie, and Princess Zorilda. Rodent the Rat and Thomas the Cat are made effective by the singing of Mr. Clifton Hall and the antics of Mr. James Stratton. The comedians are in strength, including, besides Mr. Russell, Mr. Bert Maddison as Alderman Fitzwarren, Mr. Jack McKenzie as Sarah the cook, and Mr. Bert Edwards, with Little Tichbourne, as Toby Fore and Bob Aft. Songs, wheezes, and dances go off with éclat, and bring repeated encores. Mr. G. Kinnaird is a good Emperor of Morocco; the Eight Esmeralda Girls put in a series of gratifying appearances as dancers; and a pretty fairy scena, entitled "The Enchanted Tree," by Mr. John Darlison, in which the author, assisted by Miss Jean Brodie and twenty little lasses of Leith take part, forms a very bright interlude.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is doing good business. The production is an excellent one, having artistic scenery and a good all-round company with plenty of spirit. Miss Maud Beaumont holds the title-rôle, which she handles with charm; Mr. Fred Ward as Idle Jack proves a great laughter-maker; Miss Ena Compton is a sprightly Alice, and looks pretty; the fun is greatly helped by Messrs. William Miller (Fitzwarren), Justin and Mantell (Captain and Mate), Bob Stephenson (Cook), and Willie Vanda (Cat). Mr. Pete Vote is an imposing Emperor; and specialities are introduced by the Vandas, wire performers, Pearce and Ward, with a comedy act, Salida and Vone, creole performers, and Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, child vocalists and dancers.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The old-time drama *Alone in London* is having a capital presentation here this week by Mr. Charles Gibbon's company, which comprises a number of artists of merit. Miss Nelly Clyde deservedly earns the sympathies of her audience by her pathetic portrayal of Nan; another touching part is that of Little Paul, agreeably interpreted by Miss Hetty Hornsby; Mr. Russell Norrie makes a strong John Biddlecombe; the Richard Radcliffe of Mr. Gerald Jordon is a good piece of work; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson acts well as old Jenkinson; and the minor parts are also ably held.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Here we have *A Country Girl*, which has come for a fortnight's stay. Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company give a most acceptable rendering of the popular musical comedy, and large audiences are thoroughly enjoying it. Miss Anna Hikisch makes a delightful Nan, and her excellent voice is heard with pleasure in several songs; Miss Dorothy Arliss plays Marjorie Joy with a quiet grace that is agreeable to witness; Mr. Coningsby Brierley causes his audience to roar with laughter by reason of his busy Barry; Mr. Nelson Hancock well fits the rôle of Geoffrey Challoner; Miss Addie Lennard proves a lively Sophie, and adds to the fun; and Mr. J. W. Bruce does everything necessary with Mr. Raikes, the Rajah. The chorus is a full and accomplished one, and the dresses are very pretty.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The big line here this week is a fine musical performance given by Olga Petronowa and her English military band. The selections played are received with manifestations of delight. La Bert gives some exceedingly pretty transformation dances, that in the flames being particularly effective; a merry farce, *Dolly's Deception*, comes from John Scott and company; Harry Grey has a hearty reception for his funny impersonations; Nina Wood provides a delightful musical turn at the piano; Ugo Nap causes continuous laughter with his burlesque scena *Home Without a Mother*; as comedy acrobats Goggin and Davis score largely; the Cumberlands go through some remarkable acrobatic work on cycles; and Olive Armidale, soubrette, also appears.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold. — A neat little pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, is here this week, included in Mr. Jack Haddon's company being Miss Alma Obrey, a smart principal boy; Miss Ida Brophy (Dora); Mr. Bob Baxter, a very funny Silly Billy; Mr. Gordon Brookes, who, as Dame, is exceedingly diverting; Mr. Hal Forde, sen. (Squire); the Tintos (Dip and Dap); Mr. Tom Packard (Giant); and Miss Marie Rayner (Wicked Fairy). The engagement is for a fortnight.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—*Aladdin* is the title of the pantomime which Miss Edith St. Clare has brought here this week. It is bright and compact, just the sort of entertainment to suit a two-hours' audience. Miss Edith St. Clare is Aladdin, a captivating, dashing rôle which finds general favour, that artist's vocal numbers being received with satisfaction; a delightful Princess is submitted by Miss Nan Farren, whose song and step dance earn loud applause; Mr. Bob King proves an exceedingly droll Widow Twankey; the Emperor is ably presented by Mr. Frank Wood; and others who help with the fun are Mr. Harry Shaw (China's G.O.M), and Messrs. Fremel and Fremel (Chinese Policemen). The Sisters Volbecque look well as the young Princess; Miss Marian Bradshaw acts effectively as the Genie of the Cave; Mr. Fred Russell ably impersonates Abanazar; and Mr. Robert Gilmore has some funny antics.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Fun on the Bristol*, given here by the stock company, is receiving big public patronage. The principal parts are in the good keeping of Messrs. E. D. Allen, Tom H. Solly, Leo Montgomery, Sydney Grant, Harry Tresham, R. Seath Innes, and Cecil Ravenswood; Misses Lillian Radbourne, Gertrude Entwistle, and Gertrude Gilman. Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope has the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Top of the bill here this week we have Mr. F. Stuart-Whyte and company in the dramatta *1643*, which is watched with pleasurable interest; the Wizard and Irene Stone go through a daring motor cycle feat in the "Globe of Life"; the Barowskys have a sensational acrobatic act; Miss Alexandra Dagmar earns a flattering reception for her popular and catchy songs; Mme. Elizabeth Burgess renders some soprano songs in true artistic manner; Mona Garrick shows high powers as an impersonator of characters from famous plays; Jack Smiles is as funny as ever; Harry Drew sings some fine bass songs; Taree, the Australian bushman, has an accomplished musical turn; and Carney and Armstrong excel in song, dance, and patter.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Tiller's *Jack and Jill* pantomime is here again. Twelve months ago its week's stay was witnessed by some 50,000 people, there being three daily performances, and now that this really admirable show has returned, the vast theatre is being crowded nightly. New songs are introduced, as well as a deal of fresh business. Included in the excellent cast are the Misses Lilian Doris (Fairy), Francis Delane (Wicked Genius), Harriett Fawn (Prince), Nellie Rodney (Princess), Alice Maude and Gladys Satchwell (Jack and Jill); and Messrs. Harry Cotton (the Baron), Bruce Green (Dame), Horace Jones (Ginger), and the Le Crens (General and Private). A number of capital specialities are introduced, the "Gathering of the Clans" ballet being loudly cheered.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—This week we have the first presentment locally of the drama *From Shop Girl to Duchess*, which is carefully interpreted by Mr. Geo. Kirk's company. Miss Mary Neil is seen to great advantage as Sylvia Grey, the shop girl, and other characters are creditably filled. The scenery and effects are good.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The holiday bill includes Lilian, a clever lady cyclist; Gladys Wells, contralto; Stelling and his educated dog Kiswaski; Harry Keeble, ventriloquist; and Fields and Mansell, lightning painters and jugglers. Some highly interesting subjects are shown on the Biograph.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn and company opened on Monday to a crowded house in *For Honour and Revenge*. Mr. Beaudyn is excellent as James Galston; Harry Travers is well depicted by Mr. Edward Dunston; Mr. C. D. Pitt as Sir Gilbert Redville and Mr. A. Cresswell as Arthur Redville are capital; Joe Reckitts has a capable exponent in Mr. A. A. Tomlin; Miss Irene Munroe gives a charming rendering of Maud Deamond; Miss Irene Stanhope presents a pleasing Mary Galston; and as Nancy O'Brien Miss Phyllis Rae deserves much praise.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Dr. Seaton's Animated Photograph and Concert company came here for the first half of the week. Very interesting and amusing pictures were shown, and relief was provided by Miss Amy Wooderson, a pleasing vocalist, and Mr. Albert Trillo, an accomplished ventriloquist.

MANCHESTER.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—"Until further notice" Mr. George Edwardes's company is established here in *Our Miss Gibbs*, the latest London success in musical comedy. The presence of Miss Gertie Millar in the cast is alone sufficient to draw large crowds, and on Monday afternoon, as well as evening, the house was packed to its utmost limits. Needless to say, the title-rôle was charmingly filled by Miss Millar, who carried off the prime honours, though the whole cast is one of extraordinary merit. An especial favourite is Mr. George Gregory, who adds to previous successes a distinctly comic rendering of Timothy Gibbs, Mary's country cousin. Mr. Lionel Mackinder as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, the amateur criminal, and Mr. Robert Nainby as the professional crook, Slithers, are strong features; and in quiet but effective style Mr. Ernest Mahar makes all that is possible of Mr. Toplady, the manager at Garrod's. Mr. H. V. Cropton as Lord Eynsford plays in accomplished style; Mr. W. E. Richardson is quite satisfactory as the Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. Campbell Bishop does all that is necessary as Mr. Beavis, the solicitor. As Lady Elizabeth Thanet Miss Marie Wilson displays real talent and humour; and good work is done also by Miss Dora Sevening as Mme. Jeanne, Miss Grace Wixon as the Duchess of Minster, and Miss May Marton as the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar. The dresses and staging are beautiful, and there can be no doubt that the piece will have a successful run.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason. — The attraction here is the well-known drama, *The Midnight Wedding*, played by Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company. On this occasion, one of many recent appearances, Mr. Alfred Paumier is seen once more in the part of Paul Valmar, while Miss Margaret Brodie plays with success as Princess Astrea, the other parts being filled with good effect.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Messrs. Sutton and Raynor's company, here this week, have added to their programme a performance of *The Young Mrs. Winthorpe*, the répertoire for the week consisting of four plays.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A well-arranged holiday programme here is headed by *Change*, the Jewels' successful protean sketch; which is agreeably supplemented by the famous Lyons Trio, the Normans, in their military song scena, Talbot Rhodes, comedian, the Carmody Trio of jugglers and acrobats, Frances Hanlon, comedienne and dancer, and Milton and Horton, the grotesque Chinese.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—A capital programme is provided here, with George Mozart as the big turn and a decided attraction. Atlas and Vulcana are marvellous weight-lifters; Leslie's Comedy Cadets are successful in their naval scena; and Harry Blake, comedian, is very amusing with his patter. Pleasing items are contributed also by Sydney Brandon in scenes from Dickens; Ted Waite, comedian; Frank E. Ford, coloured comedian and dancer; Will Willis, comedian; and the Three Clarks, Canadian club throwers.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top turn here this week is Taylor Granville's sketch, *The Hold-Up*, which, besides being interesting and dramatic, is well described as presenting the most realistic railway effects ever seen upon the stage; a funny burlesque, "Dr. Awful Bogie, M.D." is provided by "One Who Knows"; the Four Eugenes are seen in a very fine aerial gymnastic performance; Mendel, the blind pianist, is well received, as usual; the Sisters Storm give a nice turn in song and dance; France and Stewart play well in their bright comedy, *The Hundred to One Chance*; the De Breans, fancy Japanese entertainers, are much enjoyed; and other good turns are Frank Cass, the popular vocalist, and Maud and Sydney Wood, duettists and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Excellent fare is provided here, the principal item being the production of *The Motor Chase*, the sensation from the London Hippodrome. This is well put on, well acted, and highly appreciated. An extraordinarily good turn also is that of the Okabe family of Japanese acrobats; the Durant Brothers give a fine comic speciality; Leipzig, the Royal conjurer, shows wonderful expertness with cards; and other enjoyable items are Les Marsumas, comedians on wheels; Wal Croft (and Kathleen Naughton), in "The Last Roll-Call"; John Bardsley, the well-known tenor vocalist; and Odeyne Spark, in song and dance.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—In addition to "Skating," produced last week, we have here Al Fields and Dave Lewis, American comedians, in some lively and novel business; Dorothy Toye, a lady with a phenomenal voice; Arthur Stacey, comedian; the Two Lillys, in a smart equilibristic act; and Milner and Storey, comedy duo.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—An interesting programme here comprises Ernest Legh and company in the drunken scene from *David Garrick*; Marie Pera and company in "Two Doors in a Passage"; the Luzellas, in a refined gymnastic mélange; Gladys Witton, contralto and comedienne; George Porter, comedian; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in "Coming Home"; Mary Law, a charming and clever violinist; Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers; and May Newall, soprano vocalist.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—The principal attraction here this week is Billy Williams, the man in the velvet suit, whose comedy is much enjoyed. A capital turn also is that of the Elton Foy company, in their gymnastic act; and the Ten Dixie Girls score in a vocal and dancing scena. Other good turns are Stanley and Vandyke, comedy duo; Ernest Tilbury, tenor vocalist; Goodall and Knox, comedians; the Max Troubillion troupe; and George Robinson, character comedian.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; Manager, Mr. Arthur Preston.—Pantomime has held sway here this week, and has proved a huge success. *The Sleeping Beauty* is well written on traditional lines, and proves a wholesome entertainment of beauty and fun, the scenery being delightful, while the comedians cause roars of laughter. Mr. Tubby Edlin as the Demon's Son makes himself a favourite, his funny mannerisms and gags being really clever; Miss Lilian Elliott is a charming principal boy; Miss Ivy Moore is also delightful in the principal girl part; Mr. H. Davis, Mr. Tom Shenton, and Mr. Willie Black also prove acceptable in their respective parts, while specialities are presented by the Three Martinettes; Tom Shenton and Chicks; the Eight Oowana Girls; John S. Leick, cornettist; and Mabel Keith. The pantomime as presented at Openshaw should have a huge run of success.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Managing Director, Capt. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Clayton.—Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry E. Joseph's company in the pantomime *Dick Whittington* opened on Boxing Night to a record house. Miss Lena Stanton, already a great favourite here, gains fresh laurels as Dick; Mdlle. Le Mair, a winsome Alice, sings and dances daintily; and the Sisters Holman repeat their success of last year in their duet and dance. Little Keeno, the boy comedian, as Sexton Blake is making a hit; although youthful, Keeno is rapidly developing into a comedian, and accomplishes some effective step-dancing. Mr. G. Grogie as Margarina is an extremely funny dame; Mr. F. Owen Hunter a good Fitzwarren; and Mr. J. Harrington as Idle Jack introduces some smart patter. Mr. Hector Strange as the Cat imitates in lifelike manner many characteristic mannerisms of the feline tribe. Specialities are introduced by Little Keeno; the Sisters Holman, vocalists and dancers; the Pagoda troupe of dancers; Vic Verney, American whistler; the Brothers Hinson, patter comedians; and the Zola troupe of acrobats, who give a most able performance.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—The holiday programme has attracted large audiences. Jean and Josie are remarkable lady contortionists; Florence Leonard, in her melody of Scotch songs, is good, and Phil Kaufmann, descriptive vocalist, sings with success; Captain Kettle, comedy coin and card manipulator, evokes laughter and applause; the Hamiltons, comediennes and dancers, are thoroughly deserving of the recognition they secure; and Elsie Kerry, comedienne, and A. W. Scott, coon delineator and dancer, also have a favourable reception.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; General Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company has been presenting the powerful military drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*. The title-rôles are taken with excellent effect by Miss Nellie Morris and Miss Marjory Armstrong, as Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith respectively. Mr. Alec Forbes as Captain Carsdale gives a very creditable performance. The rôle of the heroine, Alma Kingsley, is undertaken with complete success by Miss Beatrice Shirley, and Mr. James Howard gives due weight and dignity to the part of General Kingsley. The villainy of Captain George Darrell is depicted with telling emphasis by Mr. Gerald Kennedy, and two amusing "Tommies" are found in Mr. Alfred Holt as Private O'Quirke and Mr. Chris Ainslie as Private Timothy Trimmer. The erring young lieutenant, Allen Kingsley, is ably portrayed by Mr. J. G. Campling, and Miss Nellie Murray's Margaret Rivers is a touching portrayal. As the servant, Molly Meadows, Miss Alice Fane is bright and pleasing.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is the attraction here with *Send Him Victorious*. Mr. G. M. Montanini ably depicts the villainous Colonel Kaufman; no less successful is Miss Sidney Crowe's portrayal of Countess Kara von Mechlinberg; Mr. Herbert Skardon is a manly Captain Frank Allison; Mr. Charles Russell is exceedingly well placed as Sergeant Max. Comedy relief is supplied by Mr. Bert Woodin as Geordie Walker and Miss Madge Palmer as Gretchen Holtz; Miss Netta Mitchell is effective as Ethel Harding. Elaborate dresses, uniforms, and staging aid success of the drama.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Messrs. J. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is fulfilling a welcome engagement with *The Silver King*. Miss Mildred Surrey ably sustains the trying character of Nelly Denver; in the title-rôle Mr. Fred D. Daviss is most successful; Mr. Edward J. George plays the popular part of Jaikes competently; the "Spider" is capably delineated by Mr. Arthur H. Rooke; and Elijah Coombe is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Wright. The play is well staged.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Percy Honri and his colossal combine in *Concordia* meets with well-deserved success; Dusty Rhodes, the favourite comedian, does well; the Bouncing Dillons are a popular turn; and the Venola Bros., comedy gymnasts, Johnny Walker, in song and story, Will Newton, baritone, and the Empire pictures, all go well. Good houses rule.

HIPPODROME.—Estrella provides an entertaining speciality act, and a number of capital pictures are drawing at the "Hip."

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager. Mr. Chisholm Taylor. — Fred Karno's company is paying a return visit in *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr. George Heston as Sergeant Lightning keeps the house in perpetual laughter; Mr. E. O. Freshwater admirably sustains the rôle of Lord Easem, and Miss Jessie Crammonde is equally good as Lady Maud; Mr. Chas. Ushen is excellent as the bumptious Mr. Miffins, Mr. G. Gordon does well as Minks, Fritz, the doorkeeper, being admirably rendered by Mr. S. Bolton; Dolly Miffin is played by Miss Edith Ager, and Miss Manley is suitably represented by Miss Annie Wright.

MUSSELBURGH.—GAIETY.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Ritchie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Walla.—During Christmas week we had a short visit from Mr. A. W. B. Kingston and company with *Jeanie Deans*, *Maria Martin*, and *Old Edinburgh*. This week Mr. E. H. Knight's company is in occupation with *The Lighthouse Robbery*. The principal parts are in the hands of Miss Hilda Baynton, Mr. Percy Beresford, and Baby Freda.

NEATH.—GWYN HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. W. Robinson.—Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, presented *Pete* to a crowded house on Boxing night. Mr. Geo. R. J. Austin as Pete is all that can be desired; Mr. Guy P. Ellis proves himself an actor of ability as Philip Christian; Mr. William J. Rae gives a meritorious rendering of Ross Christian; and Mr. Clem Horlock gives a good reading of Cæsar Cregeen. A talented actress is Miss Margaret Savill, and as Kate she is a great success; a vivacious Nancy is Miss Katie Flood; and Miss Maud Randford as Grannie is capable. The scenic effects are excellent.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Mr. Horner, proprietor of the Burnley Victoria Opera House and the Empire, has taken over the Grand, which was re-opened on Christmas Eve, when the stirring drama, *With Edged Tools*, was played.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Shaw.—The bill of fare this week is excellent. The programme includes Callahan and St. George, American sketch artists; Hinton and Wooton, with a football match on bicycles; Bostock's educated baboons; Martin Henderson, a blind musician; Vera Brunton, impersonator; and the Faludy troupe of Hungarian acrobats.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Great success has attended the holiday programme presented at this favourite resort. The Five Olracs have received loud laughter and applause for their clever turn; Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsiors have made a hit in their refined entertainment; and the Creedons, in a sporting act; Mr. Harry Morris, in song and stories; Mr. John Wilkinson and Miss N. Layton, in sketch; Master Wallace Lupino, dancer; Vaudinoff, lightning oil-painter; and Mr. W. Walton, in song, all give complete satisfaction. The animated pictures are excellent, and in the best possible taste. Business is big.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Pantomime for one week has been put before Tower patrons, and *The Sleeping Beauty*, produced by Mr. A. E. Smith's company, is the attraction.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. F. W. Sutcliffe.—In lieu of pantomime at this popular house, the management have secured Miss Marie Studholme and a specially-selected company in *Miss Hook of Holland*. The innovation is proving an immense success, as the crowded houses testify. Miss Studholme in the principal rôle is extremely bright and vivacious, her sweet voice and piquant style being most attractive. Miss Maud Kenny is agreeably conspicuous as Mina, and has some captivating songs. Mr. Hook has in Mr. Alfred Wellesley an excellent exponent, who makes the most of an amusing character; another clever study is that of Mr. Fred Lyne as Simon Slinks; Mr. Frank Crisp as the bandmaster and Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Captain Paaf are responsible for clever personations.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. Clarke. — Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in one of his popular hits, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, is the holiday attraction. The principal rôle of Bess Moore is strongly played by that accomplished actress Miss Violet Crossley. Miss Daisy Cook, Mr. Richard A. Greene, Mr. Geo. Mountford, and Mr. Luke Forster all fill prominent rôles in a creditable manner.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Packed houses are the rule, a most attractive holiday bill being presented. At the head of affairs is La Tortajada, who presents a wonderfully pretty operetta, full of good singing and graceful dancing, Tortajada herself appearing in many different parts with equal success; Noran and Wiser, in quite a novel act, that of boomerang hat throwers, are marvellous; the Casey Army turn is full of humour and quite successful as a laughter-producer; Harry Leybourne, the well-known comedian and mimic, does a smart turn; and Tom Bryce, in *A Dude's Wooing*, is as good as ever; Miss Millie Engler and company in sketch; Edie Reynolds, musical interlude; Charles Vincent, comedian; Leonie Dixon, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope complete an entertaining programme.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman. —The following well-known artists are appearing here: Minola Hurst, Everhart, Dale and O'Malley, Charlies, Arthur Reece, Maude Courtney, Alma, the Gascoignes, Alec Chentrens, Leigh Leicester, and Elroy.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Wild.—A capital holiday bill is provided here. Foremost in the programme are the Craggs, who present a grotesque comedy sketch, *Territorials*, a clever and neat turn; O'Gust (the original Gown) has lost none of his popularity; the Gems (two ladies and three gentlemen) afforded a musical treat; and Bert Errol, a lady with a remarkable voice, proved popular. The Brennans (May and Will) appeared in a clever dancing act; Jennie Alexander wins applause by her performance; and Staig's Steeplejacks, in *Cycling the Chimney*, present a sensational and unique performance.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*The Cingalee* provides the holiday bill of fare here. Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram is mainly responsible for the fun; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as the Hon. Harry Vereker plays with dash and sings well; and Mr. F. W. Ford makes a realistic Sir Peter; Miss Pauline Hague acts with grace and charm as Lady Patricia Vane; Miss Mercy Lane is a winsome Synouna; and Mr. Douglas Munro is well suited to the part of Boobhamba; Mr. Scott Cullin gives plenty of life to the character of Bobby Warren; Miss Florence Watson is a romantic Nanoya; and Miss Sadie Thompson dances admirably.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Bulmer's company, with *The Girl Who Went Astray*, is drawing large audiences here. As Madge Harvey Miss Lydia Donovan meets with warm approval; Miss Lalla Stanhope makes an excellent Violet Harvey; as Captain Frank Julian Mr. Louis Lingard is heartily applauded; Rupert Murdoch finds an admirable exponent in Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; Mr. Evan Roland is a good Adolphus Boomer; Mr. Charles Coventry is well placed as Sergeant John Harvey, V.C.; Mr. R. Ashton is a commendable Doctor George Wilson; and Mr. Tom Beasley as James Yellowsocks and Miss Roma Pendrous as Molly Smart are highly successful.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—An excellent holiday bill of fare has attracted large audiences here. The Zeenas, in their speciality act, are heartily applauded; Smith and Johnson, the Coloured Singing Duo, are as popular as ever; and John Ridley, a local blind musician and vocalist, who is making his first appearance on the music-hall stage, has had a cordial reception. Nellie Neil is a smart comedienne and dancer; the Two Gentrys in *Bits and Pieces* are very amusing; and Frank Boyne, vocal comedian, Van and Lil Gelder, entertainers and magicians, and the pictures contribute successfully to the programme.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Mr. G. M. Copping's company in *Love Rules the World* is proving a success here. Mr. Will Hee plays Harold Kingston in convincing style; Mr. George Gaisford is a powerful Stephen Blight; Mr. S. Walbank does well as Paul Carruthers; Mr. J. Campbell is a capital representative of Jim Dixey; and Farmer Carruthers is safe in the hands of Mr. Fred Astley. Miss Helen Cameron as the adventuress, Flo Merton, is good; and Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes gives due prominence to the rôle of Maud Carruthers, playing with artistic restraint. The comedy parts of Billy Blinks and Kitty Snowdrop are played with marked success by Mr. Mat Russell and Miss Florence Gomer respectively.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Jack Haddon's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood* (*and out Again*), is proving greatly to the public taste. Miss Marie Brayman as Robin Hood is charming and is much appreciated; the Four Foresters are ably filled by the John Lloyd Quartette, who give evidence of their ability by some pleasing selections; Mr. Victor Wallace as Baron Skeemalot is most successful; the Babes, Eric and Rosa, are pleasingly represented by the Misses Marie and Elsie May; Miss Mabel Osborne deserves every praise as Maid Marian; Miss Dorothy Bruce as Little John and Miss Maude St. John as Margery May are very good; August and September as Nobby Tike and Soppy Sam, the ruffians, create endless fun; and some very pretty dances are given by Madame Teresa's Eight Little Pinkies. The chorus and ballet deserve every praise; and the whole goes well under Mr. Arthur W. Parry, the composer and conductor. Mr. Harry Elleston deserves mention for his able staging of the piece.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan. —Signor Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company opened here on Bank Holiday. In the afternoon a matinée was held, and a magnificent rendering of Verdi's *Il Trovatore* was given. In the evening *La Traviata* was rendered with equal success to the delight of a crowded house. *Cavalleria Rusticana*, followed by *Il Pagliacci*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen*, and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, is also in the week's bill.

CENTRAL HALL (Upper Market).—Messrs. Goodman continue their cinematograph and variety entertainment here, and receive good patronage.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE. — Managing - Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Frank and Jen Latona present their comedy musical items with greater success than ever here; the singing of L'Incognita arouses the highest pitch of enthusiasm; an interesting vocal scena is capitally given by Leonard Charburn's young stars; and still another musical turn calls for praise in Edward Crossland's Melody Makers. Clever impersonations by Rhoda Paul, Daras' quick-change and conjuring entertainment, dancing by the Lester Bros., Walker and May, negro dancers, and Fred Edwards and company in a farcical sketch all add to the pleasure of the evening.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Under the new management a capital bill is presented this week, headed by Harry P. Selwyn's company in a sporting sketch of great merit; a gymnastic display by the Ten Bedouin Arabs is thoroughly enjoyable; Clare and Pastor give excellent musical and instrumental items; the equilibrist display of the Maximilian Trio is accorded high praise; and the Indian club exercises of Star and Leslie are a never-failing source of pleasure. The Three Orleans sing and dance in spirited fashion; the musical monologue of J. Milton Hayes is well received; Wyllie, as a tramp musician, uses quaint instruments; and Lilly Eyton sings a taking song.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad opened here, after an absence of about seven years, with the ever-popular *Swiss Express*, and packed houses greeted them. Messrs. Renad again demonstrate their clever pantomimic acting as the two servants John and James; Miss Dorothy Deakin as Virginia Squeeze is a dainty bride, her songs and dances being very good; Mr. Wilford Bailey as Dr. Gull is clever, and his tormentors are smartly played by Messrs. Victor T. Raymond, very smart as Dudely Green; J. Hawkes as Bob Rollingstone, and Harwood Cooper as Jack Gadabout. Mr. George Power makes a capital landlord; and the antics of Mr. W. Rigby and Mr. C. Barrett as the gendarmes are highly amusing. The fun is fast and furious.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—The holiday programme is Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. Cardwell's pantomime *Hop o'-My Thumb*, played by a clever company of juveniles. Miss Kitty Trewhitt as Prince Uno is a prime favourite; Miss Kitty Rafferty as Princess Meadowsweet is dainty and charming. In the duet "Somewhere," the two mentioned were heartily recalled. Miss Evelyn Major is a smart Rupert; and Miss Gladys Wyse in the part of Jeannie Macgregor is decidedly clever, her dancing fairly bringing down the house. Miss Olive Purcell, a capital vocalist, does full justice to the part of Moonshine; a clever artist is little Georgie Harris, who plays the title-rôle Hop, his acting and singing being highly delightful; Masters Stanley Annison and Sandy Simpson as Sandy and Pete are worthy of mention for smart work; Mr. Vivian Wakeman as Georgina is a clever and versatile artist; Mr. E. W. Selman makes good use of his opportunities in the part of Jerry; Messrs. Cowley and Rick as Silversheen and Goldstein, a pair of villainous Jews, are exceedingly good, their dancing being smart; the part of Tom Thumb, the youngest of the family, is well taken by Harold Pyott, the smallest man in the world, who has created quite a sensation.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—O Hana San is the star here, with her company, in a beautiful Japanese scena, and it is well received; the Bros. Doran, in their smart bar act, are smart; Bertha De Pas shines as a low comedy artist; and Neville and Moss are a clever operatic duo. Walter Buxton sings well; Sam Redfern is as funny as ever; Blanche Leslie sings her songs smartly, with illustrations; Celeste is clever in a novelty wire act; and the Bioscope concludes.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—The Four Holloways are on the top, and their cycle act is proving a big draw; *The Spy* is a well-acted dramatic episode by Pord and Webb's company; and the Bros. St. Clair, in their cycle football act, are clever. Ted Curtis and company sing and dance smartly in a speciality act; Jack Barker is a capital vocal comedian; the musical Bentleys are clever musicians; Master May also sings well; and the Palace pictures conclude.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—On Boxing Day Mr. George Brydon-Phillips's company opened to crowded houses with the pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor*. Miss Hettie Lee makes a fascinating Sinbad; and Miss Constance Lait is vivacious as Badorna. Miss Dorothy Tempest is a charming Crystal, and sings very effectively; Miss Amy Maple is full of life as Zoe; and Miss Clare Farron is well to the fore as Princess Naggles. Mr. Harry Rose is highly successful as Mrs. Sinbad; and Mr. Fred Maple is good as Hindbad. Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff are accorded a very enthusiastic reception as Jack Bobstay and Ben Bunk; Mr. Geo. Snow as King Tibbles works well; and Mr. Eldretta Gulson is seen to advantage as Captain Scuttle. Mr. Harry Ewins is very clever as Agrippa. Specialities are contributed by Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff, Snow and Farron, and the Maples, all of whom attain indubitable distinction and success. Miss Nella Dene is the principal dancer.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Miss Maude Western's company, including Mr. Joe Ellis, opened here on Boxing Night to an overflowing house with *Folly's Fortunes*. The brunt of the acting falls on Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd, who accompl

1910. READY EARLY IN JANUARY. 1910.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.

Forty-Third Year of Publication.

THE ERA ANNUAL

WILL BE THE MOST COMPLETE

Dramatic Dictionary of Dates and Theatrical Treasury of Knowledge

EVER BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

It will also be found to be the most interesting Annual of the Year, containing as it does MANY STORIES told by Members of the DRAMATIC and MUSICAL PROFESSIONS.

ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOGRAPHS AND AUTOGRAPHS.

READY SHORTLY.

CHARITY AND THE PROFESSION.
By F. H. PEDGRIFT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

RHYMES OF SHOWLAND.
By Rev. T. HORNE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"OUT OF EVIL."
By HELENA MILLAIS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JOLLY JACK TAR."
By VESTA TILLEY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AWAY TO THE WEST.
By J. H. BARNES.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE "DANDY" PANTOMIME.
By HENRY NEVILLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOOTLIGHTS.
By Rev. DONALD HOLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

SOME THOUGHTS.
By LOUIE FREEAR.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

I ATTEMPT A STRAIGHT PART.
By DAN ROLYAT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN IRISH EXPLANATION.
By FRED TERRY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE FAILURES.
By RUTLAND BARRINGTON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A PUNCH AND JUDY FIASCO.
By JOHN LE HAY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

LEFT BEHIND.
By S. A. COOKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A MOVIN' ON.
By MAY E. LUCAS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"SOMETHING NEW."
By JOHN LAWSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN AERIAL ADVENTURE.
By H. J. HITCHINS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE PRICE OF A CHRISTMAS DINNER.
By KITTY LOFTING.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

PRICE ONE SHILLING

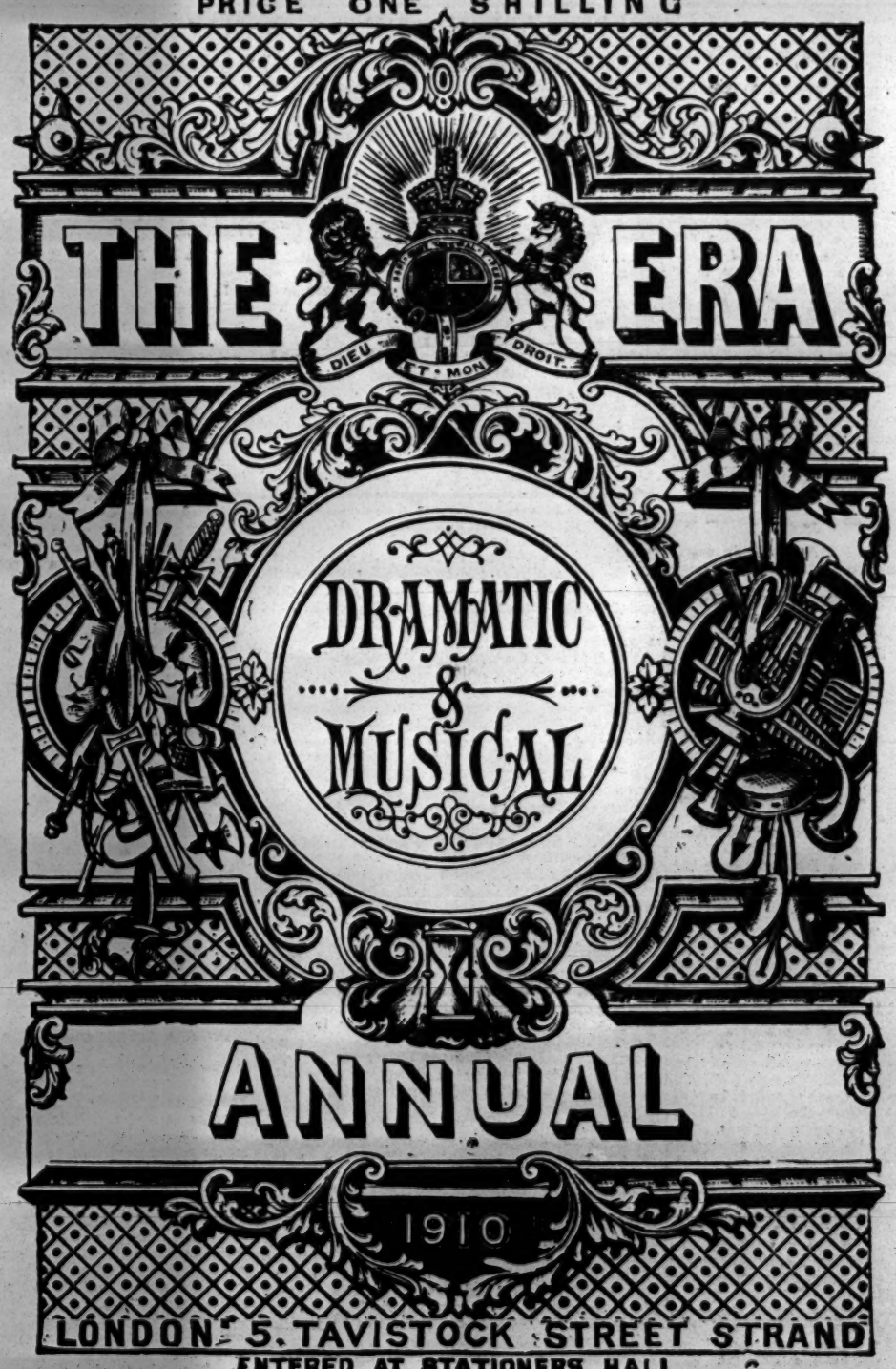

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL

PRICE,

ONE SHILLING.

BY POST, TWELVE STAMPS.

READY SHORTLY.

IN SEARCH OF PEACE.
By WILLY CLARKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ODDS AND ENDS.
By ARTHUR WILLIAMS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MINSTREL BOY.
By FRED GROVE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE HAT THAT FAILED.
By ALFRED LESTER.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MENAGERIE.
By CHARLES COLLETTE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE LONG ARM OF COINCIDENCE.
By FRED TRUSSELL.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JUST ONE OF THEM"
By EDITH COLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
ALPHABETICAL LIST OF
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
ALPHABETICAL LIST OF
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE BERLIN THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE NEW YORK THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW PLAYS AND IMPORTANT REVIVALS.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL SKETCHES.
PRODUCED AT LONDON AND PROVINCIAL VARIETY HOUSES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW SKETCHES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

Address, THE PUBLISHER,

5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone Nos.: FOUR—SEVEN—FOUR—SEVEN CENTRAL. ONE—FOUR—THREE—THREE CENTRAL.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Boxing Day the pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, was performed at the Theatre Royal. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell have produced the Christmas annual for Mr. Revill, and a very pretty and entertaining extravaganza it is. It is a brisk and diverting version of the familiar story of the Babes and their cruel uncle, Baron Strangeways, constructed on lines customary in pantomime. The action is divided into ten scenes, which are a mixture of song and dance, and all sorts of extravagant fun. A thread of the main theme, however, strings all the varied events together, and the spectator finds that Leslie and Marjory, the Babes, after being persecuted by the Baron and his ruffians, emerge by the help of the bold Robin Hood and his men of Sherwood, in the end into comparatively easy and pleasant circumstances in the Home of Good Luck. The alleys and by-ways of the plot are many and various, beginning in the Village on May Day, to the Baronial Hall, the Nursery, the Edge of the Wood, the Woodland Glade, the Dream, the Friar's Retreat, the Castle Ramparts, the Corridor, and finally the Home of Good Luck. For a first performance on Monday afternoon the production was worthy of warm praise. There were a few defects, of course, which are all easy of amendment, and by the next performance or so the entertainment will be one of sterling and diversified merit.

With regard to the excellent company, Messrs. Levey and Cardwell have got together, it may be stated that little Peggy McDonnell and Cissie Wyse are two sprightly and intelligent juveniles, and become favourites as the Babes, Leslie and Marjory, at once. Miss Marie Lumberg as Robin Hood, the rightful heir of Chester, enacts the bold forrester in a spirited manner, and sings and dances well. Miss Winifred Norman as Maid Marion portrays the part with winsome grace. She vocalises and trips it lightly, insinuating herself into the good opinion of the audience. Lucinda, the nurse to the babes, finds in Mr. Jimmie Watson a masculine old woman who is funny without vulgarity. Baron Strangeways, his many "strange ways" and his peculiar idiosyncracies are capitally hit off by Mr. Neil Hardy. The two ruffians, Willing and Weary, are very low comedy. Their burlesque, especially of the combat, when they have the two Babes in charge, has some elements of rough and tumble fun, which create laughter. The cast also includes the friends of Maid Marion, Phyllis and Dolly Warden (Misses M. Rafferty and Annie Brumby), and Little John and Allan-a-Dale, Robin's friends (Misses Flo Taylor and Eva Hope), Grinda, the Miller (Mr. Harry Tullett), Friar Tuck (Mr. A. Hutchison), and a chorus of pretty maidens who pose as villagers, corn-flower girls, bluebells, archers, soldiers, fairies, &c. There are some grand ballets introduced: The Birds' Ballet, the Grand Fairy Ballet, the Grand Statue Ballet. There is a grand chorus of fifty and an augmented orchestra. Specialities are introduced by Miss Winifred Norman, Jimmie Watson, Graham and Barron, Levey's and Cardwell's Troupe of National Dancers, Mr. Harry Tullett, Mr. Neil Hardy, and Little Peggy McDonnell, and the Marguerite Quartette of Dancers.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT ASTON.

Mr. Alexander Leighton is producing an engrossing pantomime at the Aston Theatre Royal, the piece being a replica of that staged at the Pavilion Theatre, London. The story of *The Babes in the Wood* has been combined in happy style with the adventures of Robin Hood, and the piece must be described as a very successful production. The first performance was given before a packed house on Christmas Eve, and on subsequent evenings the pantomime has met with receptions which leave no doubt that it will enjoy a brilliant fortnight's run. Afterwards the production will go on tour.

A bright and vivacious presence are qualities which contribute to the popularity of the principal boy, Miss Jennie Lynwood, in the part of Robin Hood. She makes a great hit in two songs, "The girl in the clogs and shawl" and "Charlie Brown." Miss Lilian Jeffries as the principal girl is a valuable acquisition. Of the comedians, Messrs. Fyne and Hurley play a very prominent part as I. Killem and U. Eatem, their business being of the active, humorous order. Their gags at once catch on, and they keep the ball rolling merrily right to the end of the piece. Mr. J. W. Hooper as the Baron, too, is always good for a hearty laugh. As the Schoolmistress Mr. Alec Godfrey is one of the leading spirits in the merrymaking, and Mr. W. B. Frecar is a lively and amusing Page. The Misses Lillie and Violet English have been well chosen as the second principals, and Mr. Harold Godwin and Miss Madge Bell sustain the two immortal characters with every success. The Babes are represented by the Misses Elsie Videau and Phyllis Hughes, a pair of talented children, who are becoming very popular. Miss Millie Gordon is a dainty dancer who is well received in two pleasing items, and the Asturias Troupe of National Dancers are also an acceptable feature. In addition to the songs already mentioned other popular numbers are "Little girl from nowhere," sung by the Babes; "If anyone should see a little soldier," by Miss Emerald and Mr. Frecar; and a burlesque on "Harrigan," by Messrs. Fyne and Hurley. The spectacular side of the pantomime has been carefully attended to. The scenery is on an elaborate scale and the dresses produce a brilliant effect, especially in the concluding scene. The ballets have been arranged by Miss Ina Olston, and the chorus and company, numbering over fifty, has been well trained under Mr. S. Clarke-Richardson. Mr. Rudolph Kloss is the acting-manager for Mr. Alexander Leighton, and Mr. George Daw is the musical director.

"ALADDIN" AT BELFAST.

The subject of Mr. Fred W. Warden's annual is *Aladdin*, and it must be included among the long list of successes produced under his régime. From a spectacular point of view this year's pantomime at the Opera House has never been surpassed, while the dialogue is both witty and sparkling, the story being told in an ingenious and interesting manner. Messrs. R. Courtneidge and A. M. Thompson are responsible for the libretto, and the local allusions by "S. A. P." are amusing and quite up to date. The music, which has been composed, selected, and arranged by the talented chef d'orchestre, Mr. Samuel P. Swanton, is of the most tuneful nature. The scenery, always an important feature of Mr. Warden's pantomimes, is really magnificent, and the artists, Messrs. George Jackson, Conrad Tritschler, and J. Barry Parker, are highly to be commended. The costumes, designed by Wilhelm, have been executed by Agnes Scott and assistants, and are of striking beauty. The ballets and incidental dances have been arranged by clever Miss Fanny Boulton, assisted by Miss Lily Cleveland, and they form a decided attraction. The scenes presented are The Tombs, Egypt, Street in Chang Li Hang, Exterior and Interior of the Palace, Outside the Cave, The Cave, Shop of Widow Twankey, Gardens of Aladdin's Palace, Emperor's Palace, Court of Justice, and the Chrysanthemum Fête. Mr. Warden has spared no expense in the mounting, and at the conclusion of the sixth scene, which is extremely pretty, was heartily called.

A capital cast is headed by Carlton, who impersonates Abanazar with the utmost drollery. He also introduces his own speciality, in which his ingenious tricks with cards were greatly enjoyed. Dainty and graceful Miss Thelma Raye has the rôle of principal girl. Possessed of a handsome stage presence, Miss Raye speedily made herself a favourite with the crowded house on Christmas Eve with her clever impersonation of the Princess En-Chan-Ting, her success being enhanced by her delightful violin solos. She also sang "They never do that in old Ireland" with topical verses, and other songs with much charm and vivacity, being frequently encored. A dashing principal boy has been found in Miss Georgie Corlass, who achieved a positive triumph with the popular number "Somewhere," with which she created a perfect furore, and the song was loudly redemanded. Miss Corlass also sang "I've been out with Charlie Brown" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," the choruses of which were instantly taken up by the house. A more graceful and accomplished *danseuse* than Miss Topsy Sinden surely does not exist. Miss Sinden appears as Y-Bu-Tee, and during the course of the pantomime furnished a display of the terpsichorean art which is undoubtedly a feature of the pantomime. She also rendered "The pretty little girl from Nowhere," which gained repeated recall, as did also her clever dances. A very funny impersonation of Widow Twankey was furnished by Mr. W. H. Powell, who scored in every scene with his spontaneous humour. Mr. Colin Coop was admirable as the Emperor of China. A character sketch of much merit was furnished by Miss Gwennie Harcourt, who appeared as Our Mary Ann. Her songs, "Now I have to call him father" and "You splash me and I'll splash you," were rendered with great spirit. Mr. Neville Delmar must be congratulated on his capital impersonation of Pekoe, who made one of the biggest hits with his rendering of "The whistling dandy." His whistling was remarkably good and his dancing was smart. Miss Florence Foster appeared to advantage as Ah Sing, and was loudly applauded for her song, "Send them along to me." Among the immortals Mr. Jocelyn Hope as the Genie of the Ring gained high honours. He is possessed of a resonant voice, which just suits the rôle, and he delivered his lines with much effect. Miss Connie Glenabyn appears as the Slave of the Lamp, and the fine cast is completed by Miss Muriel Lennox and Mr. Walter Fairbrother in their respective parts of Love and Amenophia. Mr. Harry A. Turner deserves much praise for his stage management, and Mr. Fred W. Warden, under whose personal supervision the pantomime was produced, received the congratulations, and deservedly so, of his patrons, on the gigantic success his efforts had achieved. *Aladdin*, which is certain to draw crowded houses here, will run for four weeks, and afterwards go to the Theatre Royal, Dublin.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Round upon round of applause followed the production of *Babes in the Wood* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, on Thursday night, Dec. 23, the first of half a dozen pantomimes staged in Birmingham and district last week end. The enthusiasm was well deserved, for there can be no question that this is one of the most sumptuous and artistic pantomimes that has been produced at this popular theatre. Mr. Fred Wyndham, his assistants, and his company are to be warmly congratulated. Mr. J. Hickory Wood is responsible for the book, whilst Mr. W. Jackson Houlston supplies the additional lyrics. Messrs. T. F. Dunn, T. Holmes, Stanley Schuter, and George Sutherland are responsible for the scenery, which is picturesque and beautiful, and the costumes are not only gorgeous, but tasteful. It is not as a spectacle alone that the *Babes in the Wood* scores, for the songs are catchier than usual, in every instance delightfully sung, and much of the business is novel and agreeably topical. There is a large chorus, the members of which can really sing as well as adorn the scene. The music, partly arranged by Mr. Wm. Southworth, is merry, and there is an abundance of dancing and several fine spectacles.

The first scene is a wonderfully realistic representation of a Village Fair. Mr. John Tiller's Eight Alhambra Girls, the Twelve Little Forget-me-nots, and the Eight Sunshine Girls are responsible for some pretty, novel, and clever dances. In the midst of revelry there enters the Earl of Chester (afterwards Robin Hood) (Miss Dorothy Ward, a handsome Birmingham young lady). In vigorous style she sings "One of the girls," concluding by carrying off one of the children on her back. Enter the Baron (Mark Sheridan), and this old favourite straightway proceeds to manufacture laughter with his clever patter. He is followed by Maid Marian (Miss Daisy Dormer) the Babes, the Robbers (the Brothers Egbert), and Maria Slapp (Harry Conlin), and the real business of the show is on the way in quick time. The bold Baron comes into conflict with the Earl of Chester through his attentions to Maid Marian. Now we come to the Village Inn, and here the inimitable Sheridan is seen at his best in company with the Brothers Egbert. The Baron's political gags are greatly appreciated, as is also the demonstration of "table-knocking." Maid Marian establishes herself a favourite by her rendering of the song "I wish I lived next door to you," followed by a clever dance. Then comes a scene which, from the children's point of view, makes the success of the pantomime, Maria's Shoe occupying a huge portion of the stage. The Twelve Little Forget-me-nots, pretty, dainty, and vivacious, having sung a washing-tub song, Miss Dorothy Ward here sings, in dashing style, "Ship ahoy!" Genuine fun is then provided by the Baron, the Robbers, and Maria, the Egberts being especially good in their tumbling business. The Stilt-walkers, or Giants, also provide an attractive novelty. Next comes a beautiful Alpine picture entitled "Somewhere," introduced to allow Miss Linda D'Amato, a charming young lady, to sing the catchy song "Somewhere." Then we have The Nursery and the abduction of the children, and some exceedingly funny work by the Robbers. Sheridan (dressed as Napoleon) enters by the stage "trap," and once more makes the audience roll with laughter. Maid Marian, with a delightful character song, "The girl in the clogs and shawl," wins vociferous applause, and the Babes prettily sing "Over the garden wall" before they are carried off by the Robbers. The Baron's Library is the next scene. The act is brought to a close with a brilliant spectacle in the Earl of Chester's conservatory, when the Earl is outlawed by King John in quite grand opera vein. At this stage on the opening night Miss Ward was the recipient of numerous handsome floral tributes.

The second half is opened with a Forest scene in which a most natural effect is obtained. Miss Daisy Dormer scores another success in a coon song and dance. The Baron discourses on the lion and the antelope, later creating quite a furore with "Don't take me home," which he brings to a close with his exceedingly quaint burlesque of a quadrille. The Robbers follow with their version of the famous fight, and the children, thanks to the Fairy Mavis (Miss Violet Darling), are covered over with leaves by the Robins. There is a brilliant scene as Miss Ward sings a fascinating song, "Pride of the Prairie," a most popular number. The Baron's Courtyard comes next, and with it one of the best bits of comedy, for as the Baron leads his musical quartette, composed of himself the Robbers, and Maria, down comes a huge ball, and clears them off. Clad in military costume, and supported by eight children similarly attired, Robin sings "If you should see a little soldier." In the following scene Sheridan and his coadjutors revel. It is called Crook's International Bureau, and is conceived in the genuine spirit of burlesque. Suffragists in sacks are carried out of Winson Green gaol in the next scene. The grand ballet is a brilliant spectacle of surpassing splendour.

Through all the scenes Mr. Mark Sheirdan moves with his quaint and irresistible drollery, and is the life and soul of the piece. He has invaluable coadjutors in the Brothers Egbert, who take a prominent part in the success of the production. An agreeable surprise to Birmingham people is Miss Dorothy Ward, who had a hearty reception. Her costumes are varied and beautiful, and her vivacity is remarkable. Miss Daisy Dormer fully deserves the repeated encores for her songs and dances. She is a pretty, vivacious performer, and is a great favourite. Harry Conlin is excellent as Maria. The Babes are played in delightful fashion by Little Miss Beatrice Hewitt (Reggie) and Miss Clarice Handel (Cissie). Miss Linda D'Amato has not a great deal to do, but she shows she is an artist of no mean ability. Miss Violet Darling is a charming Fairy; and the subsidiary parts are in capable hands. A special word of praise must be given to the hard-working ballet and dancing girls, and congratulations to Mr. W. Southworth, who arranged the music, and Mr. John J. Lloyd, the stage-manager, who has the assistance of Mr. Leslie Ward. We predict for the pantomime a long and successful run.

"ALADDIN" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Never has there been such a production as *Aladdin* at the Alexandra, and Mr. Lester Collingwood, the popular proprietor, is to be warmly congratulated. On Monday night the theatre was packed with an enthusiastic audience. The story is told in a simple, straightforward manner, but it is suffused also with genuine fun, fast and furious, and at intervals there are scenes unequalled in the most successful musical comedies. The tableaux are magnificent, and the dresses beautiful, artistic, and varied. The book has been written by Mr. Frank Ayrton, whose topical allusions are witty and impartial. The curtain rises upon a scene of great artistic charm—The Square at Pekin. The Brothers Brooks, as the Policemen, commence the fun, and get the audience in merry mood, and there is great enthusiasm when Miss Florence Dudley (Pekoe) sings "Somewhere" delightfully. Abanazar (Mr. Cull Pitt) descends upon the scene in an extraordinary aeroplane; and then we get a novelty—a female as Widow Twankey. Miss Millie Doris is the gallant young lady to fill this rôle, and her success was assured the moment she entered. She sings "Kelly" in unconventional style, and the chorus goes with a great swing. Her eccentric dances also cause roars of laughter. Another round of applause greets a charming Aladdin (Miss Ethel Beech), a "lidy" brimful of vivacity, and her song "Yipp-i-addy-i-a-ay" is one of the best items of the show. The Policemen follow with a humorous monologue about a football match, and another match, and the prettiest and daintiest Princess (Miss Molly Wynne) ever beheld makes her appearance and sings "A pretty little girl from nowhere," a fascinating chorus song, which arouses considerable enthusiasm—a delightful finish to an admirable opening scene.

On the Road to the Cave the Grand Vizier (Mr. Bertram Gunnell) is cheered to the echo for a clever dance, and Nigh See (Miss Ray Ford) creates quite a furore with her picture postcard song. Miss Ford establishes herself a great favourite, and at this stage and later the audience show hearty appreciation of her work. The Policemen, Wishee Washee (Mr. Frank Wier), and Abanazar are responsible for more boisterous fun before Aladdin is admitted to the magic cave. In the arrangement of The Magic Cave one notable and much admired departure is made. Instead of weird-looking genii, the Slaves of the Lamp—and there are many of them—are a bevy of fairies, who sing melodious choruses. Miss Nellie Taylor (Slave of the Lamp) is a sweet little lady, who sings charmingly; and an artistic and graceful toe dance is contributed by Miss Lilla Wheelwright (Geni of the Ring). The spirited Aladdin is again on the scene, and scores with her song "I let the world go by." Mr. J. Brewster's Six Ontarios are a troupe of pretty girls who deserve the loud plaudits of the audience for their artistic and graceful dancing. The comedy merchants, including the popular Widow Twankey, continue to supply exceedingly funny gags and stories, and a song, "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," sung in the next scene—The Princess's Boudoir—by the Princess, proves a pleasing number. The Sisters Oswald next appear to advantage in Scene 5—The Geni's Realm of Riches. They are tall, attractive ladies, and their song and dance are cleverly done. In the next scene—The Royal Batteries—the comedians are in their element, and after Widow Twankey has caused the audience to roll with laughter with her song, "Pull yourselves together, boys," Aladdin and Wishee Washee figure prominently in the picture. There are many pretty incidents during the next scene, The Emperor's Study, Pekoe, Nigh See, and the Grand Vizier showing themselves to be pantomimists of a high class. Special praise is due to Miss Dudley for her song "Clogs and shawls," in which she is assisted by the Ontarios. A most gorgeous scene is called The Willow Pattern Plate. The scenic effects are brilliant, and one could not wish for a finer spectacle as the Ontarios give their Spanish dance. The audience also have another opportunity of singing loud and long, for Aladdin sends "Charley Brown" along in dashing style. This proved to be one of the most popular numbers. In the Charmed Palace the Emperor and the Widow indulge in humorous cross-talk; Abanazar as a Jewish pedlar and amateur photographer is highly amusing; Wishee Washee makes a hit with his song, "Welcoming him in"; and round on round of applause marks the end of each verse of a Budget song by the Policemen to the tune of "Who Killed Cock Robin?" This scene is brimful of excellent material, and we reluctantly leave it for Aladdin's Palatial Gondola. But recompense comes in a brilliant spectacle, never surpassed on this stage. The Oswald Sisters introduce a novel dance, and the Six Ontarios again dance cleverly. Aladdin sings, in fact, everybody, audience included, sings, and a night of successes and enthusiasm is closed by the appearance of Mr. Collingwood, who has to acknowledge the calls of his patrons.

Miss Ethel Beech is an ideal Aladdin, an attractive figure, charming voice, and in every sense a natural "boy." Miss Millie Doris is an undoubted success as Widow Twankey, and should herself prove a big drawing card. As Abanazar Mr. Cull Pitt is excellent, he displaying great versatility in a humorous vein. A more charming Princess than Miss Molly Wynne one could not desire to see. She is a pretty and dainty young lady, with a delightfully sweet voice. Miss Ray Ford as Nigh See is sure to prove a big favourite, for she is always charming, always vivacious, always magnetic. Miss Florence Dudley is an attractive figure as Pekoe; she has some of the best songs and she knows how to sing them. As the humorous Policemen the Brothers Brooks are responsible for a good deal of fun, and this will prove a "red-letter" engagement for them. Mr. Frank Weir is quite at home as Wishee Washee, and is one of the funniest pantomimists ever seen in this city. Warm praise is also due to Mr. Bertram Gunnell (Ching Chang), Mr. F. Durning Fraser (Emperor), the Oswald Sisters, Miss Lilla Wheelwright, Miss Nellie Taylor, the Ontario Dancing Girls, and members of the chorus, who sing prettily and show off their gorgeous costumes to advantage. Mr. Herbert Barnes has "composed, selected, and arranged" a remarkably successful series of numbers, and the scenery has been painted by Mr. Edward A. Hall. In the management of the theatre Mr. Collingwood is ably assisted by Mr. Fred Barnardo (business-manager), Mr. W. T. Guest (acting-manager), and Miss H. E. Powell (secretary).

"THE FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS" AT BIRMINGHAM.

For the first time in the history of the Bordesley Palace there will be a month of pantomime, and there is every indication that the venture will prove a successful one. In Mr. W. Goodwin Goodward, Moss' Empires, Ltd., have an excellent manager with a wide experience of pantomimes, and the innovation is a welcome one to him. *The Fair One with the Golden Locks* is written by Stanley Rogers, and is produced for Moss' Empires, Ltd., by Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan. The familiar story is faithfully adhered to, and one finds the virtuous and beautiful princess wooed by the brave and handsome foundling who is really a prince, though he doesn't know it. The scenery throughout is magnificent, and the costumes throughout are varied, picturesque, and beautiful. But the chief features are a budget of bright, catchy songs, admirably rendered, and a good feast of wholesome fun. Children will be in their element, and there is an abundance of material to please the grown-ups. Miss Madge Brownie is a very charming Princess Allfair, the lady with the golden tresses. She sings sweetly and dances skilfully and cleverly. One of her most successful numbers is "How do you do, my baby?" a coon song with a delightful melody. Later, assisted by a chorus of ladies, she is loudly applauded for her rendering of a slumber song. A handsome principal boy with an attractive stage presence is Miss Esme Gordon, who sings in vigorous style several of the popular chorus songs, including "Charlie Brown," "In her clogs and shawl," and "Ship ahoy!" and she figures successfully in vocal numbers with the Princess. A pretty, vivacious little actress of great promise is Miss Lily Allchurch (Water Lily, the good fairy); she sings "Somewhere" beautifully, and fully deserves the encore. That versatile comedian, Mr. James Chippendale, figures as the Queen, and in song and comedy business he is always prominent. Mr. Will Letters is Prince Pippin, and it would be difficult to find a more suitable person for the part. The pity is that Mr. Letters has not more work to do in the pantomime. He is always welcome, and there is hearty laughter to reward him. His "Kelly" is a treat, and there is great enthusiasm when he sings a verse to the tune of "The Lost Chord." He gives another catchy chorus song, "I must go home to-night." Quite expert fun makers are Mr. Charles Calvert and Mr. George Hudson, who are respectively General Slopoff and Admiral Bunker. They are a quaint couple, and just the men to make a pantomime go. A comedian who seems to be always on the stage is Mr. Victor H. Crawford, but he sustains the comedy element admirably. His songs are real laughter-makers and his antics highly amusing and entertaining. Miss Irene Vere (Lord Chamberlain to the Princess) is a lady of fine presence, and she sweetly sings "One of the girls." A pleasing feature of the pantomime are the dances by the Mayfair Girls, and others who deserve special mention are Mr. Johnny Leoni and Miss Stella Dell. The music is composed, selected, and arranged by Mr. H. Henderson, Mus.Bac.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT BIRMINGHAM.

In *Jack and the Beanstalk*, produced at the Birmingham Theatre Royal on Boxing Day, fun and splendour are admirably blended, and the enterprise deserves the success it is assured. From a spectacular point of view *Jack and the Beanstalk* is a brilliant production. It has a series of gorgeous scenes with wonderfully artistic effects of light and shade, harmonised colours, novel and elaborate costumes, worn by pretty girls of more than average grace and comeliness. The entertainment, which is so varied and well sustained, is full of bubbling mirth and sparkling wit, and there is not a dull moment from beginning to end. There is fun, good honest pantomime fun, and an abundance of it. Mr. J. J. Hewson, the author, has adhered to the familiar story, and the artists keeping to the lines, there is ample material for the children. It is the old tale of how Jack, sent by his mother to sell a cow, parts with the animal for a bag of beans. The enraged mother throws the beans away, and one of them grows up during the night. Our hero climbs the stalk, aided by a fairy, reaches a giant's castle and enriches himself. In the last chapter have pantomime authors been compelled to depart from the story. Mr. Hewson has arranged that a giant shall be killed by means of the sword, instead of being killed by a fall from the beanstalk. In other respects the nursery version of the tragedy is followed. The curtain rises to disclose a view of the village, a scene of great artistic charm. The people who dwell there are having an uncommonly fine time of it under the guise of living a simple life. A beauty competition is being held, and there are roars of laughter. An old Dame Trot (Mr. George Robey) on the look-out for a fourth husband, enters. There never was a better Dame Trot than Mr. George Robey, and he is cheered to the echo. He proceeds to relate his troubles with Jessie, the cow, and when "she" attempts to milk the animal (admirably represented by the Brothers Griffiths), the audience are in merry mood. "Jessie" goes through quite a circus performance, and then loud applause greets Jack (Miss Ada Reeve), and Jack and the Dame keep up the fun with the cow. Jack is joined by the Princess (Miss Angela Hope), and the two provide a delightful love scene. Prince Hal (Mr. Mark Daley) and Dulcie (Miss Jessie Lonnen) are another pair of sweethearts, and there is a merry scene when King Stoneybrokish (Mr. Tom Shale) enters and makes love to the Dame. In the next scene, the King's Ante-room, Miss Ethel Haydon as the beautiful fairy, Erethia, pleasingly sings "Won't you come to Madeira with me?" Then Barry Lupino as Miffins makes an acrobatic entrance which quite delights the youngsters, and there is more laughter when the Dame sings an exceedingly funny song, called "Archibald, certainly not!" and Jack is responsible for a topical song, "He's a naughty boy," with some amusing references to well-known Cabinet Ministers. The third scene is very effective. It is the fairground. There are side shows, roundabouts, &c. The colours of the dresses of the chorus are skilfully blended, and Tiller's troupe of dancing girls trip lightly through a pretty dance; quite a fantastical, but a more amazing dance, is to follow by Mr. Lupino, after his song, "Father was calm and collected." The Griffiths Brothers indulge in their famous wrestling match, which creates screams of laughter, and more merriment is caused by the Dame as she is thrown out of the show, and hurls spiteful words at a friend named Mrs. Moggeridge, whom she has recognised as a mermaid behind the front cloth. The Dame's subsequent song about "Don't tinker about in the dark," is one of the tit-bits of the production. Then follows the scene of the sale of the cow, during which the antics of "Jessie" are splendidly done. Prince Hal sings a song about the girls, and finally the cup, as the beauty prize, is presented to the Princess. The fourth scene, the Dame's Backyard, is one of the prettiest. It is a sunlit landscape with rose-clad cottages, and is quite charming. Here Jack explains to his mother how he came to sell the cow for beans, and he gives Miffins a lesson in the art of love-making. The Dame has some excellent patter to follow an amusing ditty, entitled "What a blessing you never miss the things you never had," and then Miss Reeve sings that delightful song, "Somewhere," during which the scenic effects are prettily arranged. A fine spectacular scene follows, showing "where the beans were thrown." It is quite a kaleidoscope of vivid colours, as the dancers, beautifully clad, enter, and when Jack, dressed in a suit of shimmering silver, with sword unsheathed, mounts the steps to the gateway of the Giant's Castle, the enthusiasm of the audience is intense. The effect is brilliant in the extreme, just before the curtain falls to terminate the first act.

The second part is opened with a scene of the Giant's Library, and the Princess prettily sings "If there's a girl there." The Brothers Griffiths introduce more comedy business, and Miss Reeve again scores with topical verses to the tune of "When Richard I. sat on the throne." The popular Dame enters through a stage-trap, and greatly delights with ditties about certain M.P.'s. There is very little wait before Jack is again singing, this time a song about Norah and the North Pole, and the children and the audience vigorously applaud, and the elders are full of admiration during the closing incidents of the scene, when Jack, with his magic wand, touches a volume of books, and from each there emerges charming young ladies, prettily and picturesquely dressed to represent different characters in nursery stories. The Terrace scene follows, and the King sings "Kelly" in vigorous style. After more funny business the Prince, Miffins, the Dame, and the King please with a quartette about "Charlie D. P." In the Giant's Kitchen scene Mr. Sam Elton introduces his juggling speciality, and is loudly applauded for a highly amusing entertainment. After another pretty dance by the Tiller Troupe dressed as kitchenmaids, and the Dame, aided by a chorus of ladies and policemen, sings a splendidly-worked number, with a "goey" chorus, entitled "We all want something to cuddle." There is more love-making, then the "thrilling" fight between Jack and the Giant, and Jack proves the conqueror. In the next scene—The Halt by the Way—we are treated to a potted version of *Hamlet*, and an amusing little donkey-cart episode, in which the Dame and the King cause roars of laughter. Finally, Jack's Wedding provides a magnificent tableau. All the girls come on the stage dressed in costumes to represent presents to Jack.

Mr. George Robey as the Dame is excellent throughout. He works like a Trojan, and when he is on the stage laughter reigns. He had previously established himself a big favourite in Birmingham, but he can confidently put this down as his greatest success. Miss Ada Reeve, a gifted and charming performer, is a typical Jack. She had a tremendous reception; she has a great deal to do, and she does it perfectly. In brief, she fills the picture to perfection. The Brothers Griffiths as Jessie, the cow, in the early stages give a highly amusing representation, and their subsequent burlesque items are cleverly contributed. A pretty and dainty Princess, with a sweet, effective voice, is Miss Angela Hope. Miss Ethel Haydon fully deserves the enthusiastic applause accorded her for her charming singing of delightful songs. Mr. Mark Daly makes a splendid Prince; Mr. Tom Shale is a humorous and imposing King, and is an excellent foil for the Dame; Miss Jessie Lonnen as Dulcie fills the rôle adequately; and as the Giant Mr. E. Story-Gofton performs with considerable judgment. Too much praise cannot be accorded to Mr. Barry Lupino, whose humour is natural and whose acrobatic dances are one of the leading features of the pantomime. Mr. Elton also shows himself to be a juggler and acrobat of exceptional ability. The music is merry and bright, and credit is due to Mr. Guy Jones, the musical director.

The pantomime is produced by Mr. E. T. Steyne, and Mr. Reginald Weidhall is a capable stage-manager. Mr. Phillip Rodway (the acting-manager) and his directors should feel satisfied they have a pantomime second to none in the provinces.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT BRADFORD.

Mr. Arthur W. Field in his book of the pantomime which marks Mr. Laidler's eighth annual production, has contrived so to deal with the story that it is not only told coherently, but there is a distinct originality in its construction, and he has supplied an abundance of genuine humour and some novel incidents, and on Christmas Eve at the Prince's Theatre a large audience unhesitatingly pronounced the production an unqualified success. The pretty and effective scenery is the work of Mr. E. Egerton, Mr. Harry Rushworth has composed and arranged the music, and Mr. Arthur Gibbons has admirably stage managed the pantomime, which is in ten scenes, the first being the Market Place of Bagdad, where all is alarm at the ravages of the Forty Thieves. The Captain Abdallah is planning a raid on the city, where he is posing as a millionaire and distributing his money lavishly. Ali Baba, a poor woodcutter, on his way home, meets his son Ganem, who tells the Father that Cassim Baba (his brother) is demanding payment of the money Ali owes him. Ali can't pay as he has spent the money in purchasing a slave named Morgiana. Ganem falls in love with Morgiana, who is seized by Cassim for his debt. Ali and Ganem are next seen on their way home on the Persian Mountains (Scene 3), and they see the Forty Thieves approaching. They take refuge in a tree, the band come to a halt, and Abdallah reveals the magic cave by pronouncing the magic words "Open Sesame." The scene is very effective and cleverly managed. Morgiana has escaped from Cassim, and she, having learned the secret of the cave, joins Ali and Ganem in entering. Lots of jewels are secured, the donkey Horace being heavily loaded. The next scene is the exterior of Ali Baba's home, and it is decided to measure the wealth as it will take too long to count it. Morgiana returns, having borrowed a measure from Cassim, whose suspicions are aroused. The measure is returned to Cassim, who finds gold sticking to the bottom of it, and he refuses to give up Morgiana unless Ali reveals the secret of the treasure. Scene 5 is the Interior of the Cave—a blaze of colour and splendour—Cassim and Morgiana enter, and the latter urges flight ere it be too late. Morgiana flies from the cave just in time, and she leaves Cassim behind, and he is caught by Abdallah and his men, and he is condemned to die within the hour. Scene 6 in the second part is the Seraglio, Ali Baba's mansion, where there is a chorus of Ali's wives. Morgiana enters and tells the story of Cassim's capture. Cogia (his widow) now wants to marry Ali, and there is love-making btween Ganem and Morgiana, who is now free. Abdallah and his men, who are still losing their treasures, arrange the usual plot of hiding the band in jars in Ali's yard. Morgiana discovers a thief instead of oil in each jar, and in the orthodox way the band is disposed of. Cassim minus his wits is freed from the cave, Abdallah and his officers are secured, Ganem and Morgiana are united, and all ends happily in the palace, a very magnificent scene, where knights and retainers clad in gorgeous dresses of gold and silver hold their revels in a blaze of light. The fun is fast and furious all through the performance, Mr. Chris Le Brun, who impersonates the wonderful donkey Horace, being responsible for a lot of it. The children are very entertaining in their Boy Scouts act in the mountain pass, and their soldiers and nursemaids scena, and the clever dancing by John Tiller's Eight Cherry Girls is a feature of the pantomime. Mr. Dick Tubb, who plays Ali Baba, with his "Coke" song, gigantic stature, and his quaint style and irresistible humour, is a source of hearty laughter, and in striking contrast is Mr. Alf. Corri, who is very diminutive, and who accentuates the fun as Hassarac. Mr. Arthur Gibbons acts exceedingly well and invests the part of Ali Baba with humour; Mr. Fred Spencer makes up well, and he is quaint as Cogia, with

DOROTHY WARD,

THE MOST STRIKING SUCCESS OF THE PANTOMIME SEASON.

THE VERDICT OF THE PRESS.

THE BIRMINGHAM "DAILY POST" SAYS:

"Miss Dorothy Ward seems to be the holder of a special patent in the matter of stealing the hearts of her audience. She has several good songs—notably the soldier one in which she is aided by a chorus of tiny performers—and **she sings them all with success.** She is an actress who, lavishly gifted by nature, seems to have improved in her art every time we see her. And as to her popularity—well, everyone in Birmingham will discover for himself that **she is little less than an idol,** for everyone in Birmingham will visit 'The Babes in the Wood.'"

THE BIRMINGHAM "DAILY MAIL" SAYS:

"**First and foremost** comes Miss Dorothy Ward, who promises to win one of the biggest successes of any principal boy seen in Birmingham. To be sure, she has everything in her favour. She is a local girl, and her rapid advance in her profession should delight her many friends and admirers. To her personal charms and splendid figure she brings hard-working enthusiasm and a refined manner, which carry the piece along most pleasantly, without the adventitious aids which some principal boys depend upon. Her voice improves as it goes on; she has an abundance of good songs, and wears as many very striking and picturesque costumes. At the end of the first act last night her bouquets took up half the stage, and **the night was certainly a memorable one for her.**"

THE BIRMINGHAM "EVENING DISPATCH" SAYS:

"The 'principal boy' is handsome Miss Dorothy Ward, who cuts a striking figure in her numerous and costly costumes. She may truthfully be described as 'dashing,' which we believe to be the proper word to use in this connection. She has a budget of good songs, which cause her to appear in the costume of a naval officer, a soldier, and as an idealised cowboy, to all of which she did full justice. She had a very cordial reception, and she was the recipient of a large number of elaborate floral tributes."

"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME,

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.

a good song "I want a husband"; Miss Mabel Mannering has a good stage presence, her Abdallah is a capital effort, and she sings "The silvery moon" well. Miss Patricia Weldon and Miss Ruth Wingrove, in the respective parts of the Robber Chief's first and second lieutenants, are very smart, and as Seizem Pasha and Sergeant Searchem respectively, Messrs. W. E. Williams and Frank Robinson contribute to the fun. Miss Lesley Gibson is a dainty Morgiana, and her song "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing" is capitally rendered, and Miss Ada Fawn as the hero Ganem acts with spirit and dash, and sings with much success "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" "I should like to meet you in the evening, little girl," "I must go home to-night," and "Somewhere."

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT BRADFORD.

Mr. John Hart has chosen for this year's pantomime a story which was selected by the late Charles Rice, and successfully produced by him at this theatre in 1880. The present production, or, rather, the book, is the work of Mr. J. Hickory Wood, who has not only treated the subject coherently, but he has furnished an abundance of humour, and the audience on Christmas Eve simply roared with laughter at the funny dialogue and situations. For the local allusions and additional lyrics Mr. T. F. Doyle is responsible; the very beautiful scenery is the work of the resident artist, Mr. D. G. Hall; and Mr. C. W. Chambers has selected and arranged some charming songs and music, with extra numbers composed by Mr. Henrie Jaxon. Mr. John Hart's exquisite taste is again noticeable in the lovely dresses, a leading feature of the pantomime, which is already stamped with the hall-mark of success. The first scene, The Widow's Laundry, is a realistic bit of scenic art, and here there is a chorus of sprightly laundry maids. Squire Giles enters, and Mother Muggles (the Widow) threatens him with breach of promise. He vows he won't marry her, when Billy Ladle enters and declares his love for the Widow. Billy is promised fifty pounds by the Squire if he will marry the Widow, and he gets five on account. The Widow owes two years' rent to Giant Blunderfuss, whose agent Gobble calls and declares that if the rent is not paid he will seize the Widow's three acres and her cow Gertrude. Margery, the Widow's daughter, pleads to Gobble in vain; she is seized, when her brother Jack arrives and rescues her. Gobble offers to wipe out the Widow's debt if Jack will hand Margery to the Giant. The offer is rejected, and Gobble is ejected. He returns with assistance, but is again overthrown. Scene 2 is The Exterior of the Widow's Home, where the cow is put through a funny performance and Billy does some love-making, but the Widow refuses him. Jack here suggests selling the cow, and amidst lamentations she is taken to The Market Place (scene 3), a charming and quaint bit of work of the Tudor period, with rustic and picturesque surroundings. Here Gobble in disguise meets Rumbo, the village sweep, who wants to be a "coon." Gobble promises to make him a high official in the coon lands of the Giant if he (Rumbo) will buy the cow. This he promises to do, and Gobble gives him a bag of gold for the purpose. The Squire acts as auctioneer, and he furnishes Billy with money to buy the cow, hoping thereby to enable Billy to persuade the Widow to accept him (Billy) as a husband; but Billy is outbid, Rumbo is the purchaser, and Gertrude is led off. Scene 4 is the Widow's pretty back garden, where Jack returns with the bag of gold. The Widow is full of glee at the prospect of being rich, and she proceeds to count the gold, which, to Jack's consternation and the Widow's amazement, has been transformed into beans. Jack is soundly rated, and the Widow throws the beans over the garden wall. The Widow is furious, when Margery enters as peace-maker. She sings Jack to sleep, and Gobble and the Giant's men enter and carry her off. Gleam, the fairy, enters, and she commands the Beanstalk to grow, and then she awakens Jack and bids him climb the stalk, which will take him to Giantland and to Margery. He ascends, and the next scene is The Top of the Beanstalk, a pretty cloth, which changes to The Land of Peasblossom, a gorgeous picture, in which there is a beautiful ballet of roses, lilies, elves, sprites, and butterflies, The Gates of Giantland seen in the distance being illuminated with hundreds of scintillating lights, dazzling in the extreme.

Scene 1 in the second act is The Court of Coonland, in black and white. It is wonderfully effective, and there is a charming ballet of coons, pierrots, and pierrettes, in black and white satin and silver. Rumbo is an official high in position here, and as everybody has climbed the beanstalk out of curiosity he meets with his deserts, for his supposed share in the bean fraud. Scene 2, The Giant's Dining Hall, is a clever and boldly-executed piece of work. Everybody is taken prisoner, and there is much fooling in the fattening process for feeding the giant, a marvel in point of height and bulk. The next scenes of interest are The Battlements of the Giant's Castle and The Seashore. Jack has met Margery, and the Fairy gives him a magic sword to destroy the Giant, and also a helmet to render him invisible. The Widow and Billy are seen in the fourth scene escaping in a diving bell, and at the bottom of the sea Gobble's men attack them, and some very funny business is the result. Jack and the Giant meet and fight, the Giant is slain in an impressive tableau, and the last scene, where all ends happily, is The Ogre's Palace. Here the assembling knights, retainers, and amazons present a dazzling picture in gold and silver armour, the general effect and beauty of the climax not having been surpassed in any of Mr. Hart's previous successful efforts in the way of pantomime. In the second scene of the second part Radford and Valentine provide a clever and screamingly funny juggling entertainment, which elicits roars of laughter; the Lyric Quartette with fine part-singing win approval; and Mr. Kit Keen's "coon" speciality is another valuable contribution to the variety element introduced. The Mother Muggles of Mr. Rowland Hill is a quaint performance of real merit in its line, and he has two capital songs, viz., "Is anybody looking for a widow?" and "I can't reach that top note"; Mr. Harry Ed. Ray is very funny as Ebenezer Giles, the Squire, and his song, "Merry widows of all nations," is excellent; Mr. Marriott Edgar as Billy Ladle is particularly quaint, and his "patter" is as funny as his song, "For months, and months, and months"; Mr. Kit Keen as Sam Rumbo is an ideal "coon" delineator and clever dancer; the Valdo Bros. work well together as Gertrude, the cow, and do some funny things; in a whole-hearted and convincing manner Miss Nell Emerald plays the hero Jack, winning applause for her sprightly dancing and her songs, "The Bandbox Girl," "Just someone," and "How do ma baby?"; as Margery Miss José Collins is very charming, and she renders the song, "A Corsican Maid," prettily; Miss Lily Black with natural grace fills the part of the Squire's dandy brother Percy; Mr. Harry Courtin acts with vigour and bears himself bravely in his huge "get-up" as the Giant Blunderfuss; Mr. Cyril Thompson's Gobble is a fine effort, both vocally and histrionically; as the Princess Zoe Miss Minnie Muir is graceful and pretty; as the Fairy Gleam Miss Annie Schuberth has scored an instantaneous success, and with a charming stage presence and a voice of exceptional power and sweetness she wins unstinted applause with her songs, "To the end of the world with you" and "Spagnola"; as King and Queen of Coonland Master Archie McCaig and Miss Dorothy Francis respectively are very smart and interesting; and the chorus and ballets are of exceptional power and quality.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT [illegible]GHTON.

There was a large audience in the Brighton Grand Theatre on Christmas Eve, when *Robinson Crusoe* was produced, with complete success, under the supervision of Mr. Ben Court (general-manager of the theatre), and Mr Fred A. Marston, the writer and inventor of the pantomime. The "book" is marked by literary excellence; the author's version of Defoe's romantic masterpiece is delightfully interesting; and the pantomime possesses all those essentials that command success. The dresses are superbly rich and handsome, the staging and mounting are on a liberal scale, and the new and elaborate scenery, painted by Messrs. W. D. Hobbs and A. Wyatt, is charmingly picturesque. The music, composed and arranged by Signor De La Camera, the conductor of the orchestra, is tuneful and sparkling, and the songs introduced by the leading artists are of a popular and attractive character. The pantomime is undoubtedly one of the best of the many productions of a kindred character submitted to Brighton audiences during a long series of years, and it may confidently be assumed it will enjoy a highly prosperous career. The story is presented in ten scenes. The Port of Hull, from which Robinson starts on his long voyage, is a very picturesque set; while At the Bottom of the Sea which closes the first part of the pantomime, is a splendid stage picture, the effects of the rich and gorgeous colouring being considerably enhanced by the introduction of an electrically illuminated submarine, which the fairies provide to enable Crusoe to get "back to the earth, to glory and to fame." Warm praise must be accorded The Land of the Koker Nuts, a beautiful scene, which opens the second part; while the concluding set, with its processions, rich array of handsome dresses, and artistic groupings of the entire company, presents a brilliant and dazzling display of harmonious colouring. For an initial representation, the performance ran with remarkable smoothness, and closed to the accompaniment of prolonged and enthusiastic applause. While the surroundings of the pantomime are worthy of the warmest commendation, it is gratifying to note that the various characters were sustained in admirable style. Several of the artists were well-tried favourites who had appeared in pantomime during recent years on the same boards, and very cordial receptions were extended to them. Miss May Mars merits unstinted praise for her captivating enactment of Robinson Crusoe. Her commanding stage presence, clever acting, and artistic vocalisation enabled her to achieve conspicuous success. Though no encores were allowed during the evening, she was heartily recalled for all her songs. She was bright and winsome in her treatment of "All the nice girls love a sailor" and "I've been out with Charlie Brown," while she invested "Somewhere the sun is shining" with finished vocalisation, her tone and expression being admirable and gave "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly" with tenderness and touching pathos. Miss Violet Orme as Crusoe's sweetheart, Polly Perkins, was cordially applauded for her singing and dancing. She was very successful in her songs "If you should see a little soldier," "Red Bonnet," and "A sailor on a liner"; and also joined Miss May Mars in several graceful duets. Mr. Dave O'Toole, renewing his acquaintance with a Grand Theatre audience, submitted a good and characteristic embodiment of Mrs. Crusoe, and added considerably to the fun of the pantomime. Supported by a chorus, he scored one of the hits of the evening with his grotesque burlesque of an Italian operatic air, and he lent valuable assistance in several of the concerted numbers. Messrs. Sandford and Lyons, very popular and resourceful comedians, appeared as Captain Kettle and Corkscrew Bill respectively, and kept the audience in the merriest of moods with their amusing patter, gags, and humorous songs, and were enthusiastically applauded for their clever dancing. They were droll and mirthful in their renderings of "Ain't it a lovely day?" "Why do we do the things we do?" and "Don't take me home." Mr. Joe Redfern was well placed as the bold, bad pirate, Will Atkins; and Mr. George Campbell made a quaint and diverting Billy Crusoe. Miss Irene Rose was a dainty Princess Tauk-a-Lot, and gave a pretty rendering of her "Little Cingalee" song. Mr. Fred A. Marston (author of the pantomime) was a highly-picturesque Rajah of Ranji Put-Nee, and contributed a drinking song in spirited style; Mr. Edgar Budden as Friday made the most of his opportunities, and danced himself into favour; while Miss Edie Tennis (Daisy Buttercup) and Miss Gertie Laune (Jack Mainbrace) were pleasing in duets and dances. Miss Vera Ray, a graceful Fairy Goodenough, gave her lines with artistic emphasis and point. The choruses were well sung, and the finales of the various acts were marked by spirited vocalisation. Mr. Ernest Gates, the managing-director, may be deservedly congratulated upon the brilliant success of the pantomime.

"QUEEN OF THE FAIRIES" AT BRIGHTON.

The attraction provided at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, for the Christmas holiday season is the three-act musical fantasy, *The Queen of the Fairies*, which was first performed on Friday afternoon last week by Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company. Written by Sidney Blow and Douglas Hoare, with lyrics by the latter and music by Edward Jones, the piece was originally produced at the London Coliseum as a one-act fantasy, and its reception under its enlarged form was of a very hearty character. The fantasy is distinctly pretty, the dresses are charming; the music is bright and melodious, the dances are graceful, and there is an abundance of sentimental and humorous songs. Under the stage management of Mr. Edward Boddy, assisted by Mr. Cyril Hardingham, the bright and merry piece ran with smoothness from start to finish, and should enjoy a long and profitable career.

The first act opens in the Park of Stroud Castle, the seat of the Duke of Stroud, and here a novel idea presents itself. Each of the household, from the Duke to his lowest servants, has an attendant fairy, whose object is to exercise discreet and healthy influence over the one entrusted to her care. The mortals are, however, not easily ruled, and soon find themselves the victims of real or imaginary troubles. The Duke's daughter Violet refuses her hand to Reginald Wane, who, contrary to the rules of the household, had been indulging in speculation. The Duke throws his gardener's daughter Jemima and a police-constable into the river, and as they are missing for some time, the Duke is accused of wilful murder. The park scene is distinctly picturesque, and the opening of the second act reveals a charming set descriptive of the Land of Castles in the Air, where there are castles inhabited by Mr. Lloyd George, Mrs. Pankhurst, and Mr. North-Pole Cook. Political and topical allusions introduced here prove very diverting. In the second scene of the act a return is made to the park, the Duke disguises himself as a policeman, but is identified and marched off to prison, but eventually escapes. In the third act, the Entrance Hall, Stroud Castle, matters end happily. Reginald's telegram with its intended message of speculation went astray; he had not really gambled, and Violet forgives him; and the Duke's supposed victims by drowning put in an appearance, and the sway of the fairies proves triumphant. Miss Nora Roylance made a delightfully graceful Queen of the Fairies, and not only sang with much taste, but contributed several refined and elegant dances, which secured her enthusiastic applause. Mr. H. E. Garden was admirably suited as the Duke, and proved amusing with his songs; while Miss Florence Lynn achieved great success as the Duchess. Miss Kathleen Storr as Lady Violet displayed easy acting and artistic vocalisation; and Mr. Eric J. Langham was well placed as the ardent young lover. Mr. Edward Boddy, as the gardener, Samuel Appleyard, presented a clever character sketch; and able impersonations were given by Nellie Craddock (Jemima), Mr. Creighton P. Hale (butler), Miss Clare Jones (Hannah), Miss Rosie Clare (cook), and Mr. Cyril Hardingham (P.C. Holder). Of the fairies, praise is due to Miss Blanche Kinross (Lady Mushroom), Miss Molly Heyward (Reginald's fairy), Miss Marie Montague (Duke's fairy), and Susie Elliott (Lady Wind). Miss Roylance's dances were arranged by Miss Aimée Phipps, and the others by Mr. Harry C. Gribben. The costumes were by Mme. Cloag and Messrs. Hyman, the wigs and effects by Gustave, and the properties by Messrs. J. Sheppard and C. Robbins.

"MOTHER HUBBARD" AT BRISTOL.

Mr. J. Hickory Wood has weaved quite an interesting story from the old nursery rhyme relating to Mother Hubbard, the pantomime being produced to a crowded house on Thursday, Dec. 23. The lyrics are by Mr. J. Dudley Smith. The argument, put shortly, is as follows:—Timothy Jacks, the village cobbler, spends too much of his time and money in the alehouse, much to the annoyance of Tric and Antic, twin fairies of mischief, who resolve to make him their slave. One moonlight night Jacks is thrown out of the alehouse; he is unable to stand. Tric, Antic, and their attendant imps surround him, and prod him with their pitchforks. Jacks is not really a bad sort, so Tric resolves to work out his redemption by making him work more regularly and imposes the condition that he must give away all the shoes he made as bad luck would attend the owners (and himself) of all shoes sold, but good luck every pair given away. Tric, Antic, and the Imps drive Jacks home with their pitchforks, and he commences to work at his bench. Early next morning Reuben, a young villager, calls in for a pair of shoes, for which Jacks charges him five shillings. But Reuben slips on the step outside Jacks' shop and breaks his ankle. Jacks runs out and helps Reuben home, and in his absence Fido, Mother Hubbard's dog, breaks Jacks' shop window by jumping through it. Mother Hubbard now calls, followed by Jacks. The dame requires a pair of shoes for her daughter Goody. Jacks finds a pair to suit, but refuses to take payment, being now convinced that the sentence of Tric will be enforced. The villagers think Jacks has gone mad, and swarm into his shop to get shoes for nothing. Mother Hubbard is in straitened circumstances, and she owes the Squire (who is described as "a sportsman") rent for her cottage. Dorothy, the Squire's ward, arrives from India, accompanied by her servant, Chocolate. Dorothy mistakes Jack, the Squire's huntsman, for Reggie, the Squire's son, who is a Naval cadet. Dorothy falls in love with Jack, and Reggie does likewise with Goody. Mary, Dame Hubbard's maid-of-all-work, tries to pal on with Chocolate, but is not very successful. The Squire wishes Reggie to marry Dorothy, who has forty thousand pounds, but he prefers Goody. In Mother Hubbard's absence to buy some dog biscuits the Squire enters her cottage to inspect the furniture, with the intention of distraining for rent. Fido attacks the Squire, who hits him on the head with a heavy silver candlestick and leaves him for dead. The dame returns with the biscuits, is much grieved at the death of Fido, and leaves the room to get a coffin. Then poor Fido recovers, shakes himself, and is none the worse. The dame returns and is overjoyed Jacks now enters, and informs the dame that the Squire is coming to distrain. Jacks agrees to pose as the dame's husband. The Squire comes with men to take away the furniture, when Goody, Reggie, Fido, Mary, and villagers all rush on them, and Goody hands her mother a letter

from a lawyer, addressed to "Mrs. Mary Hubbard," to the effect that the dame's second cousin's aunt was dead, and had left her one hundred thousand pounds. The Squire congratulates Mother Hubbard, kisses Goody, and expresses his willingness for her to marry Reggie. Mother Hubbard and Goody now live in excellent style; part of the estate is called the Fairy Dell. Here Goody paddles in a running stream, and tells Fido to mind her shoes and stockings. Tric and Antic make Fido go to sleep. Mary enters, and seeing the shoes, puts them on, and throws her own away. Mother Hubbard and most of the other characters come on, when a letter is received from the lawyer by Mother Hubbard. In this letter he explains that a mistake has been made in consequence of his original informant dropping his h's and that therefore the property belongs to one "Mary Ubbard." The dame then remembers that her servant Mary's name is Ubbard, so the estate and money belong to her. The Squire now congratulates Mary, and tells Reggie that he must marry her instead of Goody; but Reggie declines to do so. Mary now lives in grand style at a Scottish castle. Mother Hubbard is her housekeeper, Goody her maid, Jacks her butler, and Jack her huntsman. The Squire, Reggie, Dorothy, Chocolate, and Fido are also there, together with a lot of impecunious aristocrats. Mary turns out to be a really good sort, kind and generous to her old friends, and Jacks has become very industrious in his new rôle of butler. Tric and Antic have a consultation, and resolve that Goody shall now have the estate and money, so Tric and Antic take an opportunity when Goody and Mary are asleep on a lonely moor to again change the shoes. Shortly after this, another letter comes from the lawyer, who has now ascertained that the fortune belongs to Goody Hubbard. Mary is very fond of Goody, and is quite willing for her to be the heiress. The Squire consents to Reggie marrying Goody, and Jack and Dorothy are also married.

Mr. Horace Mills, made up as a highly-respectable elderly woman, makes a fine part of Mother Hubbard. He acts the dame remarkably well, does not try to make her too funny, and his songs all go satisfactorily. Miss Alice Pollard is dainty, refined, and clever as Goody, and she sings pleasingly. Mr. Fred Conquest presents a marvellously clever animal study of Fido. Every movement tells almost as expressively as words, and the make-up dress is very fine including an intelligent-looking head and fine tail, which wags quite naturally. Mr. Charley Harvey does good work as the Squire, and amuses with some burlesque roller skating. Miss Lulu Valli acts with much refinement as Reggie, and with sufficient dash for the part. She also sings and dances in pleasing style. Miss Emmie Gardner plays in an expressive manner as Dorothy. Mr. G. H. Elliott has not a lot to do in the actual part of Chocolate, but he fully makes up for this with his speciality songs and dances, all these going remarkably well, and some of his scenes with children dressed precisely the same as himself are exceptionally attractive. Miss Betty Rutherford acts effectively and in good "manly" style as Jack, the huntsman. Miss Sydney Fairbrother presents a very fine character study of Mary, the Maid-of-all-work. She is always most amusing, and never makes the part too comic. Mr. Adolf Landolf acts realistically as a Wild Deer. The make-up is decidedly natural, and he has a fine fight with Fido. Miss Leah Hanman speaks the numerous lines allotted to Tric with fine elocution, and her dances are exceptionally clever and graceful. Miss Norah Walker ably seconds Miss Hanman as Antic, the other twin fairy of mischief. Mr. George Barrett makes an excellent part of Timothy Jacks. He acts very naturally in a certain quaint style, and never strains for effect. The ballet, chorus, and a large corps of extra ladies and gentlemen do their work efficiently, and they are all appropriately costumed.

The synopsis of scenery include Exterior of Village Alehouse, The Cobbler's Shop, The Village Green, Mother Hubbard's Front Door, Mother Hubbard's Cottage, The Chestnut Grove, The Fairy Dell, Grand Hall in Cronmartie Castle, In the Basement, On the Scotch Moors, Lost on the Mountains, The Shepherd's Shanty, Exterior of Cronmartie Castle, and Good Luck. All these are fine examples of the scene-painter's art by Mr. George Jackson, with the exception of The Chestnut Grove and Exterior of the Castle, which are finely painted by Mr. E. H. Ryan and Mr. Julian Hicks respectively. Some fine electric ballets have been introduced, and the final scene, Good Luck, is one blaze of electric lights. Very appropriate music has been composed and arranged by Mr. George Chapman; the costumes, all very fine, designed by Comelli and executed in the theatre by Miss Shapcott, Mrs. Bristowe, and assistants, Simmonds and Co., London, and Alias, London and Paris; machinery and mechanical effects by Mr. H. Wilson; properties, &c., by Mr. H. Momber and Mr. F. Labhart, London; electric lighting and dioramic effects by Mr. Arthur Bowen; and the wigs by Gustave, London, and Mr. H. J. Webb, Bristol. Miss Leah Hanman has displayed both taste and skill in the arrangement of the ballets and incidental dances; and much credit is due to Mr. Henry Turner for the admirable way in which he has produced the pantomime, which is also stage-managed by him with the assistance of Mr. David Fisher, jun. The entire production has been under the personal supervision of Mr. James Macready Chute.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT BRISTOL.

This pantomime was produced on Dec. 27 to a crowded house. The "book" is written and arranged by Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, the new and elaborate scenery is by Mr. W. J. Cox, the appropriate music selected and composed by Mr. Edwin Jacobs, costumes designed by Miss Clarence, mechanical effects by Mr. Harry Blake, properties by Mr. S. Miller, electrical effects by Mr. George Brummell, and the entire pantomime was produced under the personal supervision of the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter. Much credit is also due to Mr. Charles Lake for his able stage-management. The plot follows much on the accepted lines of *Robinson Crusoe* pantomimes, and it is worked out with a synopsis of scenery representing Davy Jones' Locker, Portsmouth Hard, The Parlour of the Hair of the Dog, The Deck of the Bristol Queen, The Raft, Under the Sea, The Realms of Aphrodite, The Island, The Sea Shore, Crusoe's Hut, Another Part of the Island, and The Palace of the Princess. The scenery is all very fine, and special mention should be made of The Realms of Aphrodite, in which a pretty ballet of sea nymphs is introduced, and Crusoe ascends in a brilliantly illuminated diving-bell. The concluding scene, The Palace of the Princess, is elaborate in a stately style, and the dresses of the principals, chorus, ballet, and extra ladies are rich, tasteful, and imposing.

The first performance went remarkably well, the large audience being most enthusiastic with their applause. Miss Kitty Upton acts cleverly as Robinson Crusoe, and infuses plenty of "dash" into the part; Miss Blanche Marion is pleasing and refined as Polly Hopkins, and she both sings and dances well; Miss Jeannette Albert and Miss Rosie Albert both do excellently in their respective parts of Captain Lanyard and Sally, and they also score with speciality songs and dances; Mr. Charles F. Martell and Mr. John R. Bennett are really amusing as the Bo'sun and Mate, their comic skits and dances all obtaining appreciation; Mr. Edwin Garth is entertaining in a quaint, dry style as Mrs. Crusoe; Miss Judith Espinosa makes up capitally as Friday, her dancing is exceptionally fine, her dumb show is expressive, and it is only to be regretted that she has not more to do; Mr. Frank Dunlop gives a good, sound performance of Will Atkins on accepted pantomime lines; Mr. Dave Jenkins is imposing as Davey Jones, and sings "The Storm King" and "Revenge" acceptably; Miss Aida Knibbs acts effectively as the Princess Arawanha; Miss Rita Emson and Miss Kitty Emson do well as Bob Mainstay and Susie, their song and dance specialities obtaining appreciation; Miss Violet Maude speaks clearly the lines allotted to Aphrodite; and Miss Minnie Lake is an effective exponent of Tom Bowline. Some excellent dancing is introduced by the Four Sunrays, the Misses Kitty Victoria, Lily Knight, Belle Hanson, and May Desmond.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT CARDIFF.

Dick Whittington is the story around which Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford have built up the wonderful production which on Boxing Day was presented to crammed and enthusiastic houses at the New Theatre. The book has been once again specially written for this theatre by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and the music, which is undoubtedly one of the prettiest features of the performance, is by Messrs. Henry W. May and Knight Pearce, and the whole presentation has been produced by Mr. George Rowlands, under the personal supervision of Mr. Milton Bode. The outstanding sets are Highgate Hill by Mr. J. Markwell Davis, and the Empress Palace, by Mr. Fred Storey, but every scene is refreshingly sweet and softly coloured. In the latter scene and Dick's Dream the costumes beggar description, but not one dress offends the artistic eye by too rich a colouring, but the entire representation at the conclusion of these two settings is a feast of beautifully blended and charmingly toned colours. Miss Isabelle Dillon, the Dick Whittington, is a handsome, delightful, and captivating principal boy, and proves quite irresistible. In her first song Miss Dillon makes a hit at once, and during the whole evening she holds the admiration of the audience. Miss Gladys Guy is a worthy supporter as principal girl, and as Alice she is positively bewitching. Her charmingly-rendered number in Scene 3, entitled "Pretty little girl from nowhere" quite fascinates the house. Miss Blanche Astley as Second Boy is an immense success, with far more work than is usually allotted to this position. She carries off high honours by her impersonation of the character of Tommy Trot. Miss Elsa McIntosh is the second girl as May, her chief attraction for such a position being a skilful and talented step-dance, which might be prolonged. Mr. Mark Lester as Idle Jack is most versatile, his amusing impersonation being simply delightful from start to finish. Mr. Phil Smith is another huge success, this genial comedian making the audience simply shriek at his humorous portrayal of Matilda. Mr. Arthur E. Godfrey is a great fun maker as Captain Scupper, and does remarkably well; Mr. Arthur Leslie as Bill Oakum is most quaint and droll, his impersonation being of the Wilkie Bard type, and consequently very laughable. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Fitzwarren completes the corps of merry men, who will certainly earn enviable reputations long before the final performance. Mr. Johnny Fuller is very skilfully made up as Mouser, the cat, his antics being a great delight to both young and old. Miss Minnie Duncan as Fatima deserves great praise for her rendition, and Miss Betty Herbert does well as the good fairy.

"MOTHER GOOSE" AT CARDIFF.

The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd., presented their first Christmas pantomime before a packed audience on Monday afternoon. The subject chosen is *Mother Goose*, and the management are entitled to congratulations on the result attained. The magnificent scenery is deserving of special commendation. The most stirring set is Primrose Dell, harmonious in colour, and creating a particularly pretty effect. The Abode of Avarice is mounted in realistic style. The company is a well-chosen one. The principal fun-makers are comedians of the first water, their unlimited patter and numerous funny songs contributing greatly to the success of the production. Miss Lillie Soutter is the principal boy, Lubin, and it is safe to predict for her wide popularity. She acts and sings well, and displays the amount of "go" necessary to the part. Her best songs are "I've been out with Charlie Brown" and "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly," both rendered in fine, dashing style. In Miss Marie Wall we have an ideal principal girl, her charming personality and vivacious manner endearing her to the audence. As Daisy, the belle of the village, Miss Wall gives a winsome rendition, her song "The pretty little girl from nowhere" being sweetly rendered. To Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Mother Goose must be accorded first honours among the comedians. He is the life and soul of every scene, and at an early stage sets everyone in a good humour, his droll sayings being irresistibly diverting. Mr. Harry Karr as Squre Close contributes largely to the fun of the evening, and, in conjunction with Mr. Walter Kooney as the rascally Lawyer Parchment, this comical pair contrive many funny situations and sing positively side-splitting ditties. Another comedian who can claim distinction is Mr. Mark Heaton, who makes a great hit as Mother Goose's nephew, Billy. He is full of quaint mannerisms, and is excruciatingly funny throughout. Three members of the Force—Robert, Timothy, and Clarence—respectively Mr. Dan Lawley, Mr. Hugh Brady, and Mr. Bert Allen—all keep the fun going fast and furious. As the Squire's daughter Annabel Miss Marie Elsie appears to advantage, and does exceedingly well in her one song "I'm so particular." A more graceful Fairy Queen than Miss Roberta Svendsen could scarcely be found, her difficult song in Part 2 being rendered in a melodious voice which called forth loud approbation. The large chorus discharge their duties with marked ability, and the two special dances, "Ballet of Flowers" and "Ballet of Jewels," are ample evidence of the excellent services of Sylvester Stewart, by whom the dances have been arranged. The music throughout is tastefully rendered, and, under the baton of Hugo Frantz, the augmented orchestra add their share to the general success. *Mother Goose* is full of sparkle and fun from rise to fall of the curtain.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT CHELTENHAM.

To place the production of this year's local pantomime in the experienced hands of Mr. and Mrs. John Walters certainly promised success, but the flattering reception accorded to *Robinson Crusoe* on Monday must have startled Mr. Redford's most sanguine anticipations. The "book," by Mr. Albert Ruttley, has been brought slap bang up to date by Mr. Walters, and the result is a pleasing story of Crusoe, Polly Perkins, and Bold Will Atkins, on rather novel lines, always brightness itself, artistic, and distinctly refined. The staging and mounting are excellent, realistic scenery and effects, charming dresses and charming ladies to display them to advantage. The principals are proof of Mr. and Mrs. Walters' discerning power of selection, genuine ability being apparent in all parts. Miss Florence Carlile is a dashing young Crusoe, and her rendering of "Let the world go by" and "The dearest land of all" appealed to one and all. Miss Kittie Liske sings and dances brightly in the rôle of Polly Perkins, her rendering of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" catching on with the audience, who are encouraged to take up the refrain with the assistance of a giant sheet of music on the stage, pretty faces popping through in the place of notes—a very novel effect. The second boy and girl are Miss Rena Rees, who sings "The very first girl I see" with plenty of aplomb, and Miss Elsie Naish, a very dainty little dancer. Two other clever young artists are Miss Violet Thorne, who puts a great deal of go into the part of Jack Harkaway, and Miss Florence Parkinson, who is charmingly natural in an Irish song and dance. Mr. Ally M. Benson as the redoubtable Mrs. Crusoe again proves himself to be one of the best pantomime dames; and Mr. Tom Lewis does yeoman service as the bold, bad Atkins. Mr. W. Bland puts some really clever business into the part of Billy Crusoe; and Mr. Dan Belmore as Julius Cutpurse and Mr. J. Randolph Sutton as Ebenezer Jongeye, complete the quintet of excellent comedians, the latter gentleman's rendering of "Down the Strand" and "The girl in the clogs and shawl" being among the best things. The dusky King of the Cannibal Islands is fearfully and wonderfully impersonated by Mr. T. Daniels; Mr. Jack Green does well as that monarch's Generalissimo; while the amorous Princess Piccalilli is ably represented by Miss Eugene, a lady possessing an almost pure baritone voice. Two smart knockabout acrobats, Messrs. Dytum and Dale, appear as Pongo and Bumbo, animals remarkable and grotesque; Mr. Harry Daniels quaintly impersonates Man Friday, introducing an amusing "shovel" dance in the Hut scene, a cute little canine comedian assisting in this as also in an earlier scene, causing roars of laughter. The Spirit of the Ocean and the Fairy Liberty are represented by Miss Hilda Hemus and Miss Kitty Chester, both of whom have really good voices, Miss Hemus in particular. Smart speciality dances are given by the Tivoli Trio and Walters' ballet troupe of eighteen dancers do capital work. The grand ballet and transformation scene, The Gardens of the Sea, is wisely placed in the middle of the production, a very charming and effective piece of stage-management and mounting, and the usual interval is utilised for a short harlequinade, a commendable arrangement. Mr. Albert Rigby directs the music.

"CINDERELLA" AT CREWE.

Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime *Cinderella* commenced its career on Monday night at the Opera House, and judging from the reception it received will be a huge success. The libretto is by Mr. J. L. Barry and the music by Mr. George Burton. The pantomime comprises eleven scenes, and the gorgeous dresses and pretty electrical effects make up a brilliant spectacle. Good wholesome fun and catchy songs are provided in plenty, and the Snow Ballet is a prominent feature. The cast is an excellent one in every respect. Miss Edie May makes a dashing principal boy, and her vocal powers are displayed in several good songs. Miss Kitty Avey is a charming "Cinders," her graceful acting gaining much admiration and her song "Post cards" being a big hit. Miss Lily Ennis infuses plenty of "go" into the part of Dandini, and sings with success "Seaside" and "I've been out with Charlie Brown." Miss Fanny Douglas, who possesses a cultured voice, is a pleasing Fairy Sunbeam; Miss Ada Tyrrell as Lord Stiff proves to be an expert dancer; Miss Annie Casey is suitably placed as the Marquis de Cadie; and Miss Pollie Kiddie is a commendable Viscount Nappe. As the Baron Mr. Leslie Hawkins' quaint humour appeals to all; Mr. W. G. Wesley, whose drollery establishes him a favourite at once, and Mr. Harry Bliss, who is also very amusing, play the Ugly Sisters. Mr. Harry Huttin is a host in himself as Pimples, and tickles the audience with his original and witty sayings. Mr. Bert Melrose is good as Malicio. Specialities by the Lisando Brothers, the Sylphide Troupe of Continental dancers, and Little Violet conclude a most enjoyable performance. Great credit is due to Mr. George Burton and Mr. Leslie Hawkins for the smoothness with which the production went, to Miss Ada Tyrrell, who is responsible for the ballets, and to Mr. Machine, who wields the bâton.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT DUBLIN.

The new management of the Gaiety Theatre are to be congratulated on their pantomime, successfully produced by Mr. William Clark, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Mouillot. Mr. F. Leslie Moreton's book brings out in a clever and interesting manner the story of Dick Whittington. The opening scene is Aldgate in ye Olden Time, where we meet all the principals and the market folk. The choruses are particularly good, the opening number, "Oh, haste to the market!" being exceptionally fine. In a Room in Fitzwarren's House and the Alderman's Kitchen we have plenty of amusing incidents, and the first part concludes with a capital scene, On the Hill at Highgate.

The second part opens with scenes, Down by ye Olde London Docks, A View of Morocco, The Palace at Morocco, Exterior of the Guildhall, and the final, Dick's Triumphal Entry into London, is a most elaborate spectacle, the effect of the gorgeous dresses providing a coup d'œil of art and beauty. Miss Kathleen Gray, who scored such a tremendous success here last year, makes a dashing Dick Whittington. She has a prepossessing and attractive appearance, and her singing of "Just Some One" and "One of the Girls" is excellent. She captivated every one on the opening night by her alluring performance. Miss Adela Crispin, in the part of Alice, acted and sang artistically. Miss Gwen Francis was admirably suited as Lord Slightall, and her singing of "The Kiltie Boys" was warmly encored. Miss Daisy Stratton gave an effective portrayal of the Princess Almida, and as sunshine Miss Ethel Mann was exceedingly good, and acted the good fairy very well. Miss Ethel Burns was most successful as Mary (Georgie's Nurse). Master Wee Georgie appeared as Alice's Brother, and his imitations of music hall artists proved to be extremely clever, his burlesque Salome dance bringing down the house. Mr. Jack Cosgrove made a capital Emperor of Morocco, and Mr. Herbert Matthews as his Vizier did very well. Alderman Fitzwarren was in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. J. Cameron, while Messrs. Naughton and Gold did capital work in their respective parts as Captain Starboard and Ben Bobstay. Mr. Julian Mack was very popular and caused much amusement as Selina, and Mr. Percy Cahill was capital as Idle Jack. Last, but not least, there is the exceedingly clever and amusing cat of Mr. Ernest Selig.

In the ballet Mr. Mouillot has brought over specially from Paris M. Louis Sans and Signorita Delirio, who execute several clever and graceful dances, including a castanet dance (the Gitana), and Apache dance, which was heartily encored. A word of praise is due to Mr. John Moody, who has composed and arranged the music and ballets and dances, and to Mr. M. P. Byrne for the local and topical allusions. Miss Kate Brandon arranged the dances.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT DUBLIN.

For the first time after twelve years, we have again pantomime appearing at this popular theatre. Mr. Theodore Adge has specially written *Babes in the Wood*, which was successfully produced on Boxing Day. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy, with their great and comic pantomime, are responsible for all, for which they deserve the highest credit, and, judging from the crowded houses, it has proved to be one of the funniest and amusing played here. The story is familiar, and well carried out, the scenery is artistic and effective, the music is tuneful, the selection of songs is most popular, and the dresses are pretty.

The company is a very strong one, and the specialities are well above the average. Miss Bessie Cohen is splendid as Robin Hood, and her songs are rendered in a fine and dashing manner, which are warmly encored. As the two robbers Messrs. Cullen and Carthy are the mainstay of the whole production; they do some excellent work, and bring down the house with their clever singing of "Has anybody seen Kelly?" Little Cluley has a style of his own, and he plays the part of Bantam capitally. He sings "Down the Strand" exceedingly well. Maid Marion was charmingly portrayed by Miss Maudie Ford; and as the two babes Miss Dollie Cullen and Miss Elsie Jordison are both particularly good, and their duets and dances are clever and warmly appreciated. Miss Kitty Kearns is pleasing and effective as Phyllisa, and her singing is greatly admired. Mr. Tom Drew has plenty of scope to display his abilities as Dame Peggy, which he does right well, and causes no end of laughter. Mr. Arthur Stratton makes a good Baron. Miss Violet Ray as Marjorie, Miss Una Ellis as Dorcas, Miss Marie Fern as Venus (Fairy Queen), and Mr. Tom Waters as Hearne the Hunter, all do their best in their respective parts.

The Granda Quartette of Lady Dancers is a feature of the whole pantomime; they execute some really fine and graceful dancing, and they deserve great praise for the Apache Dance, which was excellent.

The whole pantomime finished with a grand Shadow Pantomime, which was heartily enjoyed.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT EXETER.

The twenty-first pantomime is this week produced at this theatre, which was opened in 1888. The appearance of *Red Riding Hood* was anticipated with much enthusiasm, and the production proved very enjoyable. The story is told by Mr. Frank Ayrton, the music composed, arranged, and orchestra conducted by Mr. Geo. D. Fox, and the pantomime is produced and stage-managed by Mr. Chas. R. Stone, an old Exonian. The story has been excellently treated by Mr. Ayrton, and reflects much credit upon local talent and ingenuity, the scenery is effective, the dresses extremely pretty, and the music and singing very captivating. Miss Mabel Lamont, a youthful artist, portrays the title-character charmingly, both in her acting and singing, and is an accomplished juvenile actress; her sister, Miss Lily Lamont, is a child of about fourteen, who establishes herself a favourite as the Fairy Glowworm. Miss Gertrude Branscombe, a clever young actress, who comes of an Exeter family, makes a dainty Miss Muffett; and Miss Marie Dowsing a lively and enticing Marjorie Daw, the latter with Mr. Dan Seymour, who is so comical as Simple Simon, being responsible for an exceptionally clever rendering of the Apache dance. Miss Lilian Rutherford makes a dashing Boy Blue, and in the scene with the fully equipped boy scouts—a most attractive feature—she renders, amidst much enthusiasm, the swinging song, "B.P. Scouts"; whilst Miss Branssombe gives very tastefully "Dolly Dear." Miss Madge Campbell makes a noble Prince Charming, and her songs also meet with success. Mr. E. W. Amery, another old Exeter favourite, is as good as ever as Dame Trott, and throughout keeps the house in a jolly mood, his songs, "Is anybody looking for a widow?" and "An up-to-date slavey" being very popular. Mr. J. Templar Ellis, who portrays Baron Badlot, is a comedian full of eccentricity and wit. Some smart trap-door work is done by Mr. Steve Asher as Lupus, the wicked wolf, and Mr. McClusky as the Poodle and the Donkey; whilst Messrs. Frank Strathan as Johnny Green and Mr. Joe Clark as Jimmy Stout, do exceedingly well their part of the comic business. The ballets and dances by Miss Emily London's troupe of eight child vocalists and dancers, are very pleasing. The reappearance again of the old-fashioned harlequinade, invented and arranged by Mr. Steve Asher, a lively Clown, is very popular. He is assisted by Mr. Joe Clark as Harlequin, Miss Letine as Columbine, Mr. Frank Strathan as Pantaloon, and Mr. Mike McClusky as Policeman.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT GATESHEAD.

One of the best pantomimes ever presented to Gateshead audiences was produced at the Metropole Theatre on Christmas Eve by Mr. Charles Barnard, and it is safe to assert that the ever-courteous Messrs. Elder and Dixon will have their "hands full" of patronage during the fourteen days' run. On the opening night a full house witnessed the production, and the final "curtain" fell amidst prolonged whole-hearted cheering, which must have been very gratifying to artists and management alike. When it is remembered that the pantomime is for touring purposes, one marvels at the all-round excellence of the scenery, that of The Fairy Bower being particularly pleasing. The songs include a number of the latest successes, sung by permission of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Feldman and Sons, Witmark and Co., Star Publishing Co., &c.

Mr. Barnard has been fortunate in the selection of his company. First in point of popularity comes Miss Gracie Grahame (Robin Hood), whose reputation for vivacity and charm is well sustained. Miss Grahame's presence is pleasing, and she won much applause for a clever rendering of the song "Let's all go down the Strand." Another popular item well exploited by Miss Grahame is "I can picture Polly," whilst "Ship Ahoy" is easily the best-liked song in the cheaper parts of the house. "I do like to be beside the seaside" also gives Robin Hood an opportunity to shine. A charming Maid Marion is presented by Miss Violet Nunn. Her song "Good-night, Mr. Knight" goes with a rare swing, and is highly praised. The Sisters Du Cane as Will Scarlett and Daisy Buttercup act with sprightliness, and their duet "Alpine dress" earns them much applause. Will Scarlett is also to the fore with "I used to sigh." The Fairy Content receives excellent treatment at the hands of Miss Ethel Payne. In comedians the production is exceptionally rich. That clever pair Nash and Noel are ever in the van working hard for success which they certainly achieve. They have two excruciatingly funny duets named "We don't care a button if it snows" and "We're carrying on the good work." In the duel scene they make one of the hits of the pantomime. The wicked Baron, Sir Rupert, boasts a most creditable exponent in Mr. Dan Daley. He sings with good effect a parody on 'Asleep in the deep." Mr. Charles Lilburn as Wilhelmina Wilkins has only a small part, to which he does infinite credit. Sally Slop and Percy Perkins are an entertaining pair as played by Cadwell and Verne. Mr. Dan Weldon makes a praiseworthy Demon. Misses Ena Corelli and Mabel Reeve present a charming and intelligent pair of Babes. Their sweet simplicity appeals to everyone, and Miss Reeve's rendering of the beautiful song "Somewhere" was heartily applauded. Miss Corelli, too, made a success in the song "I wonder," and danced on the sand with much grace. The Twelve Damozels present some pretty dances, and the ballets are a pleasing memory. The effects and general staging are of the best, and success will surely be the verdict along the touring line. Mr. W. Stevenson is the musical director and Mr. Frank Eden the company manager.

"CINDERELLA" AT GREAT YARMOUTH.

This year's pantomime at the Aquarium is *Cinderella*, produced under the direction of Mr. Graham Falcon, and the enthusiasm which greeted the first performance on Boxing Day augurs well for its future success. The book, by C. S. Oswald, is both witty and topical, and the scenic artists have scored a triumph, the Fairies' Bower being one of the finest sets that have been placed on the Aquarium stage. The costumes are gorgeous and harmonise with the delightful settings. Chief honours fall to Cinderella, captivatingly pourtrayed by Miss Cecilia Gold. Her dainty acting, charming singing, and graceful dancing has established her a big favourite. Miss Maude Nichols is a dashing principal boy, and her song "Let's all go down the Strand" goes with a delightful swing. Miss Lilian Drake is a vivacious Dandini, and her song "Molly and her organ" secures well-merited encores. The Ugly Sisters are humorously played by Mr. Albert Lawrance and Mr. Wal Lesby, who keep the audience in a continual ripple of laughter. Mr. Jack Waller is excellent as the Baron, and his cat duet with Cinderella is one of the hits of the evening. Miss Rene Willoughby is a big success as the Fairy Queen, her fine presence, coupled with a charming voice, making her a big favourite. Messrs. Jack Harley and Joe Hardon as Slip and Slop are a couple of excellent knockabout comedians. The amusing antics of the Cat (Mr. Will Telford) delight the juvenile patrons. Mr. Glen Alva is very funny as Billy Buttons, and does well with his song "I don't care." Miss Beatrix Maude is a pleasing Margery, and executes some capital dances. The smoothness of the first performance reflects great credit on Mr. Arthur Evremond, the stage manager, and Mr. Arthur Meredyth ably directs the orchestra.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT HANLEY.

Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone has made arrangements with Messrs. Dottridge and Longden to produce this season's pantomime at the Royal, and a magnificent start was made on Boxing Day, when two gigantic houses went in raptures over Mr. H. Flockett-Foster's version of *Robinson Crusoe*. Artistic scenery has been painted by Mr. H. O. Richardson, the best being The Coral Cave, a perfect picture. The plot is run on traditional lines, but the libretto is really smart. The singing and dancing are of high excellence, and the numerous specialities are clever and well placed. Miss Maude Mortimer is a vivacious and sprightly principal boy, and her welcome is tremendous. Her songs are charmingly rendered, including "Charlie Brown," "Ship Ahoy," "Sea, sea, sea," and a duet, with Miss Yolande Noble (Polly Perkins), entitled "Kiss, kiss, kiss." The latter lady is very dainty and pleasing. She sings "Swank" and "Polly and the holly" with great favour. "Kelly," sung by the dame, Mr. C. J. Fixott, was a big hit, and his rendering of the part was particularly good. For wholesome rollicking fun, Mr. Arnold Richardson, who plays Billy, could not be beaten. He instantly installed himself first favourite, his "Football" song coming in for special commendation. Will Atkins (Mr. Charles Heslop) is capitally played; and as the cannibal king Mr. Charles North succeeds, singing "The Mighty Deep" well. Miss Rita Vincent, a sweet daughter of Neptune, is heard in "Somewhere," rendered charmingly, and her whole impersonation is an artistic effort. Mr. H. Flockett-Foster as Captain Cuttle works hard and with excellent results. Messrs. Elton and Elma have much to do towards the success of the panto., for besides playing Bill Starboard and Tom Mainbrace, they introduce a clever speciality on the bars. One of the greatest treats in the pantomime is provided by Mlle. Pauline Rivers, whose grand children's ballet, entitled "In the Merry Winter Time," is clever and original. The Pauline Sextette and Bert Rolfe's Quartette also supply capital special numbers. Mr. George Ess controls the orchestra, and is also responsible for the arrangement of the panto. Mr. Fred G. Evison is acting-manager, Mr. H. Flockett-Foster admirably manages the stage, and Mr. J. Kelsall is successful as his assistant. The pantomime runs for five weeks.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT LEEDS.

Mr. Francis Laidler, the new proprietor of the Theatre Royal, produced on Boxing night his first pantomime in Leeds, which bids fair to become most popular. The "book" has been specially written by Mr. Arthur Field, and the music composed, selected, and arranged by the capable conductor, Mr. Harry Rushforth. An ideal pantomime favourite has been secured in the engagement of Miss Florrie Forde as the bold Robin Hood. From her first entrance she acts with great vivacity, and the manner in which she renders her various songs and her clear enunciation of same, which requires no effort to hear every word uttered, is highly appreciated by the audience, judging by the applause accorded her. Miss Forde seems very lucky in her choice of songs, which eventually are sung throughout the land. In latter years we have had "Bull and Bush" and "Antonio," and this year's song, "Has anyone seen Kelly?" will prove equally popular. Although we have heard a lot about Kelly during the last few months, fortunately the song has not been sung before in Leeds, so that it comes with a freshness that will last during the reign of the pantomime. Another favourite song sung by Miss Forde is "I do like to be beside the seaside," which will prove equally as popular. Other songs rendered by her include: "If you should see a little soldier," "I can picture Polly," and "One of the girls." Miss Susie Belmore as Maid Marion acts delightfully, and her prettiness and youth make her a big favourite. We are sorry that she does not occupy the stage so much as we should like her to. She renders one song, "It is the Alpine dress I'm wearing," in a bewitching manner, and we hope that she will quickly have one or two more songs allotted her. In Mother Hubbard we have the favourite comedian, Mr. Bert Byrne, whose make-up is really funny, and whilst he occupies the stage the audience is kept fully amused. He sings two very good songs, viz., "Brown looking for a widow" and "Choose her in the morning early." Will Lindsay as Sammy runs Mr. Byrne very close in popularity, his broad Yorkshire talk standing him in good stead, and he sings "I wish you a merry Christmas" in a funny manner. Burley and Burley extract plenty of fun as the robbers. The Baron is in the capable hands of Jimmie Pullin, and Marie West is good as the Baroness. The Florodoras sustain their rôles with satisfaction, and the low comedy of Miss Victoria Cross is fully appreciated. Mr. J. W. Hughes ably plays Simon the Cellarer, and his fine voice gains him much applause. The Babes are represented by Tiny and Mite, who excel in a step-dancing act. The new scenery is particularly pretty, and there is a good corps de ballet. The Queen of the Fairies is capitally played by Miss Issa Steel.

"SINBAD" AT LEICESTER.

A packed house on Boxing night greeted the production of Messrs. Thos. McKenzie and C. St. John Denton's pantomime, *Sinbad the Sailor*, at the Opera House. The dresses are costly and pretty, and several scenes, notably the Orange Grove, the Diamond Valley, and the Palace, are beautiful examples of the scenic artist's craft. The pantomime is written by William Wade, and there is sufficient plot to give a connective story throughout. The company prove themselves capable and give a bright and merry entertainment. The principal boy is Miss Jessie Wilton, who will no doubt become a great favourite. She has a good voice, and goes well with her songs, "Such beautiful eyes" and "Let's wander down the Strand," which are given with much vivacity and vim. Miss Cindy Asche makes an attractive principal girl, and scores a well-deserved hit with her song, "Somewhere." Miss Madeline Rossiter as Princess Zorilda dances exceedingly well, and her song, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," is enthusiastically received. Miss Marie Leigh sings and plays the part of Adventure, the Fairy, in a most acceptable manner, and Miss Cissie Brand is capital as Heesaloph. Mr. Will Johnson gives a mirth-provoking impersonation of Mrs. Sinbad, and scores with his songs "Is anybody looking for a widow?" and "Oh, for the days when I was young." Mr Sydney James, a favourite with Leicester people, in the part of Binbad displays his well-known versatility to the greatest advantage. Messrs. Walton and Lester get every ounce of comedy out of the parts of the First and Second Mates, and create endless amusement. Mr. G. W. Desmond is also deserving of praise as Captain Bowling. Specialities are introduced by Messrs. Walton and Lester (the world's worst wizards), Miss Madeline Rossiter, Mr. Sydney James, and Mr. G. W. Desmond. The pantomime has been produced for Messrs. McKenzie and Denton by Mr. J. A. Howitt, to whom praise should be meted for the manner in which he has carried out his work. The augmented orchestra and chorus are under the direction of Mr. Ernest

Irving. Mr. F. J. Richardson is the general manager for Mr. Denton's pantomimes.

"CINDERELLA" AT LEICESTER.

"A rattling good show" was the verdict of the packed house at the Pavilion Theatre on Monday afternoon, when Mr. H. Leslie Bell's fairy operatic pantomime *Cinderella* was presented for the first time. It literally teems with funny business, and there runs throughout a great number of pretty melodies and the very latest song-hits, which caught on immensely with the audience, who were so enthusiastic at the termination of the "show" that Mr. Joseph Lawrence, the manager of the theatre, had to appear before the curtain and thank them on behalf of the artists. The pantomime is in seven scenes, and is to be run on the two-shows-a-night system, which is quite an innovation in Leicester. Miss Daisy Silcock makes a dashing and smart Prince Charming, and has already won great popularity with Leicester audiences. She has some good songs, which she renders in a captivating manner, her most successful number being "Polly hanging up the holly," which was vociferously encored. Another favourite with Leicester audiences is Miss Lily Pearl, who makes a dainty and charming Cinderella, her big song, "My Little Teddy Bear," in which she is assisted by a number of auxiliaries, meeting with a well-deserved encore. Dandini is played in a spirited and clever style by Miss Annie Craig, whose melodious voice is heard to great advantage in the hunting song "Yorick, away." Miss Daisy Rhyl is good as the Fairy Sunshine, who sings well a pretty song, "The Golden West." Miss Iris Ray makes a capital Phyllis. To the comedians of the show we must offer special praise on the way they work together, and the vast amount of merriment they get out of their parts, these being Mr. Barry Bond as Baron Shiftalot, Mr. Tom Veronique as Billy Buttons, and Yost and Yost as the Ugly Sisters. Mr. Barry Bond, in his song "Don't take me home," in which he has some really funny by-play with a lady in the audience, who eventually fetches him off the stage, creates endless laughter. Yost and Yost also have some mirth-compelling numbers, the one in which the local Fosse football team is introduced being especially popular. Mr. F. Donaldson both sings and acts well as Talicio; and Mr. Lew Towers does well as Filario. The concerted numbers of the comedians are all good, and are well rendered, "Let's all go down the Strand" being especially noteworthy. The duet and dance of Miss Daisy Silcot and Miss Lily Pearl, "Mr. Man in the Moon," is done in a captivating manner, and earns hearty applause. The Kitina Dancing Girls introduce a number of well-executed dances, and specialities are also given by Yost and Yost and Lew Towers. There is an increased orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Whittington, who is to be complimented on the way in which he handles them.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT LIVERPOOL.

Mr. Robert Arthur's fourteenth pantomime at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, bearing the title *Red Riding Hood*, was produced on Monday afternoon, and promises to prove a decided success. At all events, it contains all the elements necessary to make it such. Mr. Frank Dix has written a smart book; the music, composed by Mr. Jullien H. Wilson, and the well-known conductor of the orchestra, Mr. J. O. Shepherd, is tuneful and light, well befitting the theme; from the point of prettiness it would be hard to excel the dresses; while the exquisite brushwork by Mr. Stafford Hall and Mr. G. E. W. McKie, particularly the former, is as fine as any of previous years, which is saying a great deal. Mr. George Corney was well to the front with some excellent properties. The pantomime was produced by Mr. Alexander Keith, and Miss Madge Martin is to be complimented upon having had the ballets in a thoroughly trained condition. The book is remarkable for two special feautres—first, that it contains a deal of the spirit of the nursery, beloved by the little ones; and, secondly, the up-to-date allusions, political and otherwise, are such as to be appreciated by the grown-up members of an audience. Those who were responsible for the rehearsals are deserving of credit for the surprisingly smooth manner in which everything was gone through at the initial performance, a fact which was particularly noted by the crowded and delighted house. Briefly, the story is that the Squire of Dingle (a local spot) desires to gain the lands and fortune of Red Riding Hood, who is in charge of Mother Hubbard at Liverpool, "a peaceful village close to Warrington," and in order to do so makes a compact with the King of the Wolves to destroy her. At the village we find that Boy Blue, while out hunting, has captured King Wolf, and placed him in a cage for the amusement of the holiday-makers. The creature, however, is secretly released by order of the Squire, who sends him to Mother Hubbard's cottage, which is about to be visited by Red Riding Hood. The old trick of the wolf simulating the grandmother in bed and attacking the child is repeated, but Boy Blue comes on the scene and rescues her. After further adventures the Squire is condemned to marry Mother Hubbard, and Red Riding Hood comes into her own. As before mentioned, some excellent brushwork is shown on the stage. The Village of Liverpool, The Glade (a delightful woodland scene), The Ice Palace, The Squire's Garden, and The Marble Palace are wonderful examples of the painter's skill, and Mr. Stafford Hall well maintains his position as one of the finest artists of the present day. The naturalness shown in each and all of them met with general admiration. Mr. McKie is also to be complimented upon his several interiors, and Wolf's Lair. Then there are many pretty dances introduced, notably one amid falling snow by children dressed to represent cobwebs, and another by a company of pretty girls clad in winter attire. Regarding the artists engaged, the Court this year has been fortunate in securing Miss Violet Lloyd, who, as principal boy, at once jumped into favour. Possessed of a pleasing, musical voice, winning manner, and graceful movement, she is an ideal Boy Blue, and received flattering recognition for her efforts. Her songs, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" and "The sea, sea, sea," called forth great applause, and she was compelled to accede to frequent encores. Miss Maud Thorne made a charming principal girl, and pleased very much with her several numbers, which included a catchy one dealing with nursery rhymes, and having a swinging chorus, and a pretty duet, "Homeland," in which she was assisted by Miss Lloyd. Miss Lily Hill, a young lady of fourteen summers, was the Red Riding Hood, and, although her labours were not onerous, she acquitted herself to everyone's satisfaction. Miss Florence Ray looked lovely as the Fairy Queen; Miss Josie Farrington and Miss Anita Edis were Jack and Jill, the latter having a cordial reception for her dancing and her song "I'm looking for Mr. Wright"; Mr. Horace Lane, an actor of ability, handled the part of the scheming Squire with tact, his ditty, "Don't take me home," causing much laughter; the Sisters Jerome filled the minor rôles of Magnolia and Virginie; Mr. George Cockburn as King Wolf was a striking figure, and spoke his lines well; and Mr. Frank Zeitz made a lively dog, full of amusing pranks. The Poluski Brothers (Johnny Stout and Willie Green) were undoubtedly the main strength of the pantomime so far as comedy was concerned, and their antics constantly kept the audience in a merry mood. Nothing could be funnier than the duel in the wood, a familiar idea worked on fresh lines, and there were moments when the dialogue could not be heard for the shouts of laughter which the comedians provoked. Of course, a Budget song, concerning taxes, must be introduced; as Dr. Cook and Lieut. Peary they provided a capital little front cloth turn; while other equally humorous items were an alleged duet, "Yes, we have," "Oh! what a happy land," and "The Alphabet." Mr. Phil Ray was well to the fore as Mother Hubbard, one of his best efforts being the Dame's School, which also contained new matter, while among his several songs was that of "The tramcar." Throughout the pantomime he kept the ball rolling in merry style. Mr. Peter Bermingham extracted a deal of humour out of his Sandy McPhun; some charming dances were given by the Eight Mascottes; and "The Babies' Park Parade" chorus, in which a number of nursemaids, with perambulators and soldier followers, participated, was highly appreciated. In conclusion, Mr. Arthur Lawrence, the acting-manager of the theatre, is to be thanked for his superintendence of the whole production, which, as before stated, was at the initial performance given with such completeness and smoothness.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT LIVERPOOL.

The Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre is this year welcoming *Dick Whittington and His Cat* from the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, and, judging by the manner in which it was presented on Monday afternoon last, Mr. Wentworth Croke is to be congratulated upon having got hold of what looks like a winner. Bright, clean, artistic, and crammed with amusement, there is every prospect that this popular theatre will add still another to its long list of pantomime successes. Messrs. Philip Rodway and Douglas Buchanan are responsible for the clever book; Mr. Guy Jones has composed the harmonious music; and the producer is Mr. Herbert Cottesmore, whose handiwork reflects great credit upon him. The beautiful costumes have been supplied by the well-known firm of John Harman and Co. All the scenery is particularly fine. Mr. R. C. McCleery submits a charming forest glade at Highgate Hill, a picturesque view of Old London Docks, with vast merchantmen alongside ready for departure, and another showing Ratcliffe Highway, all of which do him honour. Mr. W. R. Young has also achieved wonders with his belfry of Bow Church, Fitzwarren's Stores, Palace of the Emperor, and the Guildhall Interior. Scene 1 shows us the belfry where "King Rat plots against Dick Whittington because a party bearing the same Christian name has dared to kill a rat." Consequently, at the stores, where he is employed, Dick is accused of theft and discharged. He journeys to Highgate Hill, attracted by the sound of Bow Bells, and, on arriving at the docks, is induced to make a voyage to Morocco, where he secures the Emperor's goodwill through his cat ridding the palace of vermin. The sailing of the vessel, and the rapid change showing the disconsolate Alice standing alone on the quay as the craft gradually disappears in the moonlight is as fine a stage picture as could be imagined. Eventually he returns to London, where he is proclaimed Lord Mayor, and also wins the hand of Alice, Fitzwarren's daughter. The happy termination of his adventures is celebrated by a grand procession of Guilds, which make an exceedingly attractive finale. Miss Carrie Moore, who five years ago occupied a similar position in one of the Shakespeare's huge successes, was the principal boy, and afforded the utmost delight by her charming manner, vivacity, and melodious voice. The artistic abilities of Miss Moore since her former appearance at this theatre have ripened, and she appeared to be as great a favourite as ever. It was especially a treat to hear her rendering of several songs, among which were "The girl in the clogs and shawl," "Bow Bells," "It's no use taking a girl there," "All the nice girls love a sailor," "Come over the garden wall," and "Poor old John," the last-mentioned containing references to many current topics, such as the Budget and Suffragettes. Miss Ethel Negretti is another popular artist, who looks the part of the loving Princess Rosydawn, her rich voice being heard to advantage in the touching ballad "Somewhere the sun is shining." Miss Violet Hollom as Alice acquitted herself admirably, danced nicely, and pleased with the chorus song "Sun-bonnet"; Miss Frances Earle made the most of Tommy Tapes, a dandy; Mr. St. John Hamund infused a deal of spirit into the rôle of the Alderman; Mr. Fred Whittaker played the Cat in most natural manner, and provided the younger portion of the audience with plenty of reasons for laughter; Mr. Eric Campbell, being very tall, was an imposing Emperor, a character which he presented in most finished style; Ted and John Foy held the small parts of Hymn and Mee; and Mr. Lupino Lane did everything required as Bottles the office boy, his acrobatic dancing being a feature. The principal comedians were always at it, and certainly worked hard. Mr. Harry Randall was the female cook, bent on love-making, and displayed great versatility. His skit on the feminine Spanish dancer was one of the happiest things of the evening, and called forth shouts of laughter; the song "Beside the sea" received much favour, and his Suffragette stump oration with the interfering small boy was delivered in true Randallian fashion. Among those who shared a large portion of the honours was Mr. Tom Foy, a Lancashire comedian, whose dry drollery caused the audience to almost explode with mirth. Included in the several songs he rendered was "My girl's promised to marry me." One of his finest hits was the introduction of a live donkey, whose movements under his guidance were screamingly amusing, especially the efforts to get it on board ship. It was certainly a capital piece of fooling. A couple who provided a vast amount of fun were Drew and Alders (Captain Barnacle and his Mate), whose every appearance was welcomed. They indulged in a continuous round of amusing antics, their resources for provoking laughter being inexhaustible. Mr. Edward Delfosse acted ably as King Rat, and Miss Violet Baynton looked pretty as the Spirit of the Chimes. Prominent among other dances were those by the Marigny Troupe of ladies.

"CINDERELLA" AT MANCHESTER.

The traditions of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, are worthily upheld by the latest pantomime production, which retells the story of *Cinderella*. The very authorship of the book, which is by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, is an assurance of something a little higher in quality than the usual exposition of a pantomime theme; and though the same book was exploited several years ago before Manchester audiences, touches here and there that bring it up to date, combined with new scenery, dresses, and cast, produce a sufficiently agreeable effect of freshness. The scenery is absolutely beautiful. Nothing more charming could be imagined than Mr Conrad Tritschler's first scene depicting the heart of the forest, where verdurous beauty meets the eye at every point and in every nook and cranny, where stage artifice is cunningly exhibited in a change from winter to spring, and realism is prettily touched by the appearance of live rabbits from their burrows in cool shadow, with sunlit distances beyond. Again, in the Toilet scene—a subject lending itself to different and more fanciful treatment—the same artist scores a great success in delicacy of tinting and device. There are other magnificent sets, contributed by Messrs. W. R. Coleman and R. McCleery, the latter's final scene, however—the Fairy Wedding—being omitted on the opening night. Equal praise may be bestowed upon the dresses, which have been designed with extraordinary taste and neatness by Wilhelm; and made under the direction of Mrs. Browne; while the electrical effects, ballets, incidental music, and other appurtenances, are all on the scale of first-class pantomime, and contribute appreciably to the success. Miss Ouida Macdermott appears as Prince Rudolph of Sylvania, and leaves nothing to be desired on the score of refinement and ability. Her singing of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," a popular number, is dainty and enjoyable. In conjunction with her, the Cinderella of Miss Phyllis Monkmann is pretty and engaging throughout, though vocally not very strong; while the secondary parts are in the capable hands of Miss Dora Langham and Miss Louie Beckmann as Princess Roxana and Gaston respectively. Humour, however, is the leading element, and the opportunities are well distributed over a competent cast of comedians. Mr. Lionel Victor plays the diminutive Archibald, Baron Lacklands with commendable spirit, in physical contrast to the commanding figure of Daisy, the Baroness, whose peculiarities are exploited with excellent effect by Mr. John Humphries, a comedian of amusing personality. The humour of Mr. Jay Laurier is well suited to the rôle of Choddles, the baronial retainer, who is indefatigable in his endeavours to make the part (as indeed it is) a marked success. The possibilities in Dandini, a straight rôle, are not great, though the part is naturally handicapped by the conditions of pantomime; but Mr. Chas. Macnaughton's efforts in the delineation of this comedy character are attended with tolerable success. Added to these are the daughters of the Baroness, Mopsa and Arethusa—the former sparkling and vivacious, the latter in tragic vein. Miss Esta Stella makes capital play with her chances as Mopsa. She is chic and sprightly, and she is well equipped with songs that she can sing, notably "The girl in the clogs and shawl, a big favourite with the audience; while Miss Marie Rignold adequately fulfils the burlesque requirements as Arethusa. The smaller parts are all in good hands, and a song worth noting among others is "I do like to be beside the seaside." Incidentally, some delightful dancing is done by Miss Vivienne Tailleur, and the full London chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Theo Wendt.

"LITTLE HANS ANDERSEN" AT MANCHESTER.

Fairy Play, by Basil Hood and Walter Slaughter, Produced at a Matinée on Monday, Dec. 27.

One of the most charming ideas in Mr. William Greet's stage precentment of the fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen is the prevision of them by little Hans himself, the future romantic, typical of quiet, wondering children who dream fantasies. The notion, set as it is in the home of Hans' father, the poor shoemaker, is calculated to stimulate the imagination of the children, and even of the adults, who see it by way of illustration of the well-known stories. Always in a state of wonder, little Hans is there, watching the things occur that some day he will write about for the entertainment of other children, thanks to the magic of Ole-luk-oie. Nothing more delightful could be conceived for children young and old than these cleverly amalgamated tales of fairy adventure. The story, divided into two acts and seven scenes, depicts the coming of Ole-luk-oie with his wonderful umbrella for Hans to see; shows how Karen, the selfish, was condemned to dance all over the world in her red shoes until she found the Christmas rose; how Hans was taken by the Dream Fairy to the Palace of the Emperor who loved new clothes; how the Princess loved the Prince who pretended to be a swineherd; and so on to the pathetic little story of the Mermaid who loved a Prince in vain, and became a beacon light for mariners whom the Sea Witch would have lured to destruction. Then in a strange country Hans sees the Copper Castel in which the Princess was kept shut up, and the two wooden soldiers who guarded her; then the Enchanted Forest, where the real soldier is persuaded by the Witch to go down the hollow tree, with the sequel of the tinder box, the big dogs, and the averted beheading of the soldier. The return of Hans to his home, the finding of the rose by Karen, and the departure of Ole-luk-oie, precedes the happy ending of it all. Lenton Murray fills the rôle of Little Hans in quite an engaging fashion, and A. T. Gullifer is well suited by the part of Ole-luk-oie, while a very good rendering of Hans' father is given by Mr. Arthur Bravo, who has a pleasing vocal gift. Karen has a very graceful representative in Enid Meek, whose dancing is a pleasing feature, and also an unexpected accomplishment in the eyes of those who know her as a member of Miss Horniman's company, among whom dancing would surely be a novelty. In the part of the Emperor, and afterwards as Mayor, Huntly Gifford shows an adequate sense of humour; George Ruff is very properly consequential as the Lord Chamberlain; and an impressive Royal Butler is seen in Percy West. In the dual rôle of the Prince and the Real Soldier brisk and tuneful work is done by Percy Carr; while Rudolph Lewis, clever at first as the Royal Footman, makes a much bigger success as the Witch, one of the most effective characters in the piece. Capital fun is forthcoming from Will Hindson and Christmas Grose, who are amusing enough as the Professors, but whose work as the mechanical soldiers is really smart and laughable. Many others assist to make the performance enjoyable, chiefly Florrie Bond as the Princess and Rosa Wynford as the mother of little Hans. But beside all these the performance of Ellaline Mills (who appeared on Monday for the first time on any stage) must be singled out. She is ten years of age, and appears as the Doll; she is a pupil of Alexandra Genée, and her dancing is something to be seen. It is not precocious, it is simply charming, and never anything but beautifully childish, and as delightful as her tiny personality. The scenery is by Mr. Harford Raphael and others, and the piece has been produced under the personal direction of Captain Basil Hood. Mr. Walter Slaughter's music is dainty and suitable, and the augmented orchestra is under the capable direction of Mr. Percy E. Fletcher. A successful run is assured.

"JACK AND JILL" AT MIDDLESBROUGH.

Messrs. J. Chas. Imeson and John Tiller's pantomime of *Jack and Jill; or, The Hill, the Well, and the Crown*, by Messrs. John Tiller and Chas. Fletcher, has been launched at the Opera House on what promises to be a most sucessful run. The first performance at a matinée on Boxing Day must have been most gratifying and encouraging to all responsible for the production, for from start to finish the pantomime went with a swing and smoothness hardly credible in an initial effort. A large and appreciative audience welcomed *Jack and Jill*, and the general opinion expressed was that the fare provided for the festive season and some weeks afterwards was bound to meet with unqualified approval. The principal boy is Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, who as the dashing Prince Fearnought at once commanded commendation. Possessing a fine stage appearance, and her singing and acting being equally pleasing, her success was most pronounced. Miss Ethel Edwards was a pleasing Fairy Queen, and the part of the Wicked Genius was ably portrayed by Mr. Sidney Rennef. Dainty and effective were the Misses Cissy Iris and Nelly Grimshaw as Jack and Jill; and the Princess found a competent exponent in Miss Moyna Hill. Any amount of innocent rollicking fun was provided by Mr. Ernest Rees as the widow, Mr. Fred Walmsley as the Baron, Mr. Will Lytton as Ginger, the Page, and Messrs. Stanley Aubrey and Barney Dixon in the respective parts of General Biff and Private Baff. Additional enjoyment was derived from the capital speciality turns of the Twelve Manchester Mites, dainty, neat, and pretty; the Eight New Cocktails, a clever troupe of girl dancers; and the Eight Superba Serenaders. Two fine ballets are beautifully arranged, the chorus is numerous, powerful, and tuneful; the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Peter Flitcroft, is worthy of much praise; the dresses are elegant and elaborate; and the scenery, by several eminent artists, is of a high order. When the curtain fell on the first performance the verdict was that *Jack and Jill* was stamped with the hall marks of merit and success.

"CINDERELLA" AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Mr. Robert Arthur and all concerned are to be heartily congratulated on the brilliantly successful opening performance of the thirteenth pantomime under the Arthurian regime, which took place on Monday last. The book, by Frank Dix, and the music by Julien H. Wilson, are sufficient guarantees for the all-round excellence of the panto, and the production has been under the personal supervision of Mr. Robert Arthur. Whilst keeping to the lines of the charming and ever fresh nursery tale *Cinderella*, there are, of course, ample opportunities for the numerous specialities incidental to the up-to-date pantomime. The curtain rises on a scene in the Baron's Garden, in which the Fairy Godmother (Miss Jessie Jones) sings sweetly amidst a bevy of pretty maidens. The demon Aconite (Mr. Frank Melville) then appears, his splendid voice being heard to advantage, and after several fine choruses Dandini (Miss Meg Hamilton) makes her début. This sprightly lady at once instals herself a prime favourite, with a tuneful number which is followed by the appearance of the prince (Miss Cressie Leonard), who, in spirited manner, sings "Let's all go down the Strand." The rest of the principals are quickly introduced, and the pantomime is in full swing. Mr. Harry Brayne and Miss May Lilian Levey as the ugly sisters Anona and Bedelia are well contrasted, and make an exceedingly funny couple, their first song "Sweet seventeen" being rendered in unison, in a most diverting style. The Baron (Mr. George Hughes), Pickles, his page (Mr. J. Alexander), and the Baroness (Mr. Johnnie Schofield) keep the fun going fast and furious, the former couple (the Baron and Pickles) in the second scene (The Armoury) introducing a mandoline duet to the accompaniment of most amusing cross-talk and banter. The advent of Cinderella (Miss Iris Hoey) was responsible for quite an ovation, and this dainty little lady at once becomes a favourite, her singing and acting being alike charming and natural. Bedelia (Miss Levey) works in a few good topical allusions, and sings "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" in capital style. In the third scene (the Kitchen) the Baron and Pickles entertain very cleverly on the concertinas, working in, at the same time, any amount of good, wholesome comedy. Following this Pickles and Cinderella provide an amusing scene, whilst the duets between the Prince and Cinderella are rendered in a taking fashion, the Prince (Miss Leonard) also singing "Love makes the whole world June" admirably. The dressing of the Ugly Sisters and the Baroness for the ball is very laughable, and Johnnie Schofield's (the Baroness) lesson in ballet dancing is one of the funniest items in the pantomime. The Fairy Courtyard, which brings the first part to an end, is a wonderfully pretty stage picture, being alike artistic in design, most beautiful in colouring and effect. The second half is, perhaps, not so full of fun as the first, but still there is abundance, especially outside the palace gates, and in addition there are many strikingly beautiful ballets, accompanied by well-rendered choruses and graceful dancing, the solos of Miss Jessie Jones and Miss Hoey being especially fine. The ballroom is a beautiful picture, and the wedding card, which is ingeniously converted into the wedding cake, provide the two closing scenes leading up to the grand finale. Johnnie Schofield sings Wilkie Bard's song, "I cannot get that top note," with quaint humour, and the Prince and Dandini each render tuneful melodies. There is no particular outstanding feature in the production, opportunities for personal successes are equally distributed, and the result is that the entire company work harmoniously together, which at once makes for the entire success of the pantomime. The scenery, with its beautiful colouring and dazzling electrical effects, is by Stafford Hall and G. E. W. M'Kie, and the ballets have been arranged by Miss Madge Martin. Whilst the pantomime has been in course of preparation, extensive alterations have been carried out at the rear of the dress circle, a cosy tea-room and elegantly furnished lounge have been constructed, and further additions to the existing cloak-rooms have been made, the whole being a most decided improvement.

"LITTLE BO-PEEP" AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

This production, which has been in the able hands of Mr. John Tiller, a name well known in pantomime in Newcastle and elsewhere, was presented on Monday last to a crowded and enthusiastic house. The pantomime has been built upon a medley of juvenile rhyme and story—"Little Bo-Peep, Who Lost Her Sheep," "Little Boy Blue, Whose Love was True," and "Old Mother Hubbard and the Empty Cupboard." The constructors have done their work admirably, and the spirited efforts of a capital company provide enjoyment and humour incessantly from beginning to end.

Much, of course, depends upon the company, and in this case the company is excellent. One would have to travel very far to find a better principal boy than Miss Nancy Hearne makes in her impersonation of Boy Blue. Miss Hearne is quite young, and plays with an unaffected vivacity that is quite delightful. With a charming manner and a good voice, winsome and dainty, she is the very ideal of a principal boy, and captures all straight away. Miss Lizzie Hay, the Bo-Peep of the pantomime, too, is happily vivacious; with a sweet voice she sings two or three songs admirably, and is a wonderfully skilful dancer. Mr. Fred Danvers is exceedingly entertaining in the character of Mother Hubbard, and has one trick of speech which never fails to provoke laughter. The landlord and his wife are capitally impersonated by Mr. Fred Warwick and Miss Gertrude Harrison. The three principal comedians are Mr. Harry Kirk (the Baron), Mr. Edgar Driver (Peter Piper), and Witty Watty Walton (Jack Horner). They have much entertaining business, well suited to the audiences that assemble in the Grand Theatre. Mr. Gaston Morel is the Dog; and Miss Cissy Gilbert, Miss Mary Guthrie, Miss Marjorie Barrie, and Miss Frances Allen all add to the success of the entertainment.

The special features are all good. The music, which is, of course, an integral part of the pantomime, is under the direction of Mr. William Denham, L.R.A.M., and is very bright and catchy, embodying all the liveliest tunes. The Continental comedy act of Hooc and Pauly provokes boisterous merriment; and the Imperial Quartette is one of the musical features of the pantomime. Yesterday the Quartette got one of the genuine encores, and they deserved it. One of the most attractive and popular features at suburban pantomime has always been the dancing; and, having full regard to Mr. Tiller's reputation in this respect, it may be said that the dancing was never better than it is in *Bo-Peep*.

"MOTHER GOOSE" AT NOTTINGHAM.

The conventional story of *Mother Goose* is more or less adhered to at the Grand Theatre by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and some bright and attractive music composed and arranged by Mr. Aubrey Kennett helps in a large measure to make the pantomime attractive. The general management and stage direction are in the experienced hands of Mr. Guyton Heath, and the success on the first night is doubtless largely due to his indefatigable work, and the work of his able assistants, Messrs. Harry Renolds and Richard Hamilton, must not be forgotten. The genial manager of the house, Mr. Harry Upton, must feel highly elated at the generous measure of applause which a house packed to the fullest extent meted out on Boxing night, and the interpretation of the music by an enlarged orchestra under Mr. H. Harrington was evidently highly appreciated. The scenery is worthy of special commendation, the two scenes The Land of the Fairy Geese and The Palace of Feast and Song being especially notable. The dresses used for the pantomime are exceedingly pretty, and have been evidently selected with great care. The dressing of the large chorus and ballet is on a most gorgeous scale, and the *tous ensemble* when the stage is fully occupied is very pleasing to the eye. The speciality turns are very good ones, the dancing by the Berlin Belles being of the highest order, and the aerial electric dances of Miss Maude May Murray are novel and pleasing; whilst great fun is caused in the comic efforts of the funny men to progress in an opposite direction to that in which a moving stage is revolving at the rate of twenty miles per hour, the electric motor and service for this novelty being supplied by Messrs. W. J. Furse and Co., the well known local electricity contractors. After all, however, the real and permanent success of a pantomime, may it be never so well written, staged, and dressed, depends upon the artists who have to present it, and in the selection of their cast the management are to be congratulated. At the head of the laugh-producing department is Mr. J. T. Macmillan, an old favourite here, and it is not saying too much to assert that the smoothness and success of the first night were in a large measure due to the skill, experience, and resource of this well-known comedian. Very dainty and altogether delightful is Minnie Love, and she wins the hearts of all her audience very early; whilst Miss Elsie James, no less charming in herself, acts up to Miss Love in a helpful and skilful manner. Miss Laura Wright is entrusted with the Dutch character, and manages her sabots in a delightfully charming way. Misses Ethel Monks and May Davis do very good work as Lord Scattercash and Lady Wideawake respectively. The usual comic acrobatic work is undertaken by Stevens and Brett, and their antics are so thoroughly comical that their very appearance is sufficient to cause a ripple of laughter, and their every movement to produce roars of merriment. Mr. Jack Lennot as Jack is very quaint, and the characterisation of the impecunious dude by Mr. Fred Seymour is extremely laughable; Mr. Harry Reynolds demonstrates the possession of an exceptionally good voice in the rôle of the Demon Discontent, and Miss Claire Pierse sings very satisfactorily as the Fairy Serena. Mr. Richard Hamilton materialises as the King Goose, and two very clever studies are those of Messrs. Laurence Sheridan and W. A. Harvie as the Goose and the Horse respectively. There are some catchy songs, amongst which may be mentioned "Can't you hear the bagpies calling?" "She's a pretty little girl from nowhere," "Back to the land," and the universal "Has anybody here seen Kelly?"

"JACK AND JILL" AT NOTTINGHAM.

Mr. Robert Arthur's thirteenth pantomime, produced at the Theatre Royal on Boxing Night, had success writ largely upon it from the start, judging by the enthusiastic manner in which the crowded audience applauded most of the items. Mr. Arthur's penchant for operatic pantomimes has given excellent scope to Mr. Jullien H. Wilson and Mr. John Armstrong, the musical-director of the theatre, and between them they have evolved some musical conceptions of a distinctly high order. The scoring of Mr. Armstrong is amongst his best work, and the "Spring Song" and "Bee's Wedding," in the Butterflies' Ballet, were given a warm reception. We cannot speak too highly of the scenic artists' work, especially the Village of Rhymeland, a delightfully painted piece from the brush of Mr. G. E. W. McKie, in which is depicted the poultry farm of Mother Goose, the house of the Crooked Man, the house that Jack built, and the garden of Mary, Mary, quite contrary. Mr. McKie also contributes a fine interior of the Palace of Old King Cole and the Palace of the Goose, the latter being a magnificent piece of stage-craft, while Mr. Stafford Hall is represented by a charming and picturesque setting of The Magic Well and Fairy Glade. The costumes, too, are on a most elaborate scale.

In devising the story of *Jack and Jill*, Mr. Frank Dix has utilised a couple of waifs, who are conducted by Father Christmas and the Fairy on a trip through Rhymeland. Mr. Dix introduces us to most of the familiar figures in the nursery rhymes. Jack and Jill are in love with each other, but the course of their love does not run smoothly, owing to the antagonism of the schoolmaster, the cantankerous father of Jill. Jack has been adopted by Mother Goose, who is unable to pay her rent, and is about to be turned out of her cottage. Simple Simon comes to the rescue with a golden egg, laid by the goose he has purchased from the Wise Woman. Old King Cole—a really merry old soul—arrives on the scene, accompanied by his fiddlers, and hearing of the wonderful capacity of the bird for laying golden eggs, promptly decides to marry Mother Goose, and is as promptly accepted. One of the golden eggs contains a parchment scroll, which can only be deciphered by washing it in the Magic Well. The Wise Woman gives directions as to where the well is to be found, but, in the meantime, the parchment has been stolen by the wicked old Schoolmaster. One of the waifs, however, has been spying on the Schoolmaster, and it is discovered that Jack is the long-lost son of King Cole. In the part of the principal boy Miss Constance Hyem is certain to become popular. She has a fine appearance, dances neatly, sings acceptably, and makes the most of her lines. A scouting song is given with spirit, and a delightful rendering of the duet "In the silvery moon" with Jill arouses great enthusiasm. Miss Queenie Essex makes a dainty figure as Jill. She dispenses her smiles all around, and acts with untiring vivacity. Miss Essex possesses a melodious voice, which she uses with skill in several numbers, notably in "Fairy Land," a sweet little morceau, and one more exacting entitled "No, no, no." Miss Florence Hersee makes a most engaging Bo-Peep, and her song "Waiting at the gate" is sweetly given. Miss Nathalie Ralph proves a capable vocalist as heard in Behrend's song "The Gift." The comedians are a strong combination, headed by that versatile artist Mr. Willie Garvey, whose Mother Goose is sure to be remembered for a very long time. He is invaluable in the comic business, and having a capital voice, he reels off his songs "Eggs," "Kelly," and "I can't reach that top note" with excellent effect. Mr. Kenna Lawson is thoroughly entertaining as Old King Cole, and gives valuable assistance both in song and patter. With so talented an impersonator of the Goose as Mr. Albert Felino, it goes without saying that this wonderful bird will have heaps of admirers. It is a marvellous make-up, and Mr. Felino scores throughout. Mr. Wylie Watson provides plenty of fun as Simple Simon, and is duly rewarded, while Mr. Harry Benson displays all the necessary comic pepperyness in the part of the Schoolmaster. Quite a feature of the pantomime is the skilful dancing of the Fiddlers, Messrs. Moon and Morris, which is received with rounds of applause; but their other work is as quaint and humorous as could be desired. The "Apache" dance of Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. Wylie Watson is a capital performance, and fully deserves its rousing reception. Specialities by Mrs. Victor's Comedy Twelve, including Miss Butler and Master French, who play the two Waifs, and their imitations of famous music hall artists, are cleverly given. A most efficient chorus of good-looking girls give the concerted music due effect. The Martini Sextette dance gracefully, and a "pas seul" by Miss Gwen Zalska is an attractive item. The Butterfly Ballet is an exquisite spectacle, and hearty praise is due to Miss Madge Martin for her arrangement of the dances. Mr. George Franklin is the responsible stage-manager, and deserves credit for the smoothness of the first night's performance. The popular acting-manager of the Royal, Mr. Howard Finney, is to be congratulated on his successful superintendance of so charming a pantomime.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT PLYMOUTH.

Encouraged by the brilliant success which attended last year's pantomime, constituting, as it did, a record for Plymouth, the executive of the

Theatre Royal have again entrusted the Christmas attraction entirely to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, and the latter has spared no time or expense in rehearsals, engagement of artists, mounting and scenic effects to satisfy the multifarious tastes of pantomime patrons, and to maintain his well-established reputation in the theatrical world. The choice has this year fallen on *Robinson Crusoe*, and whilst the original story is carefully adhered to, some very smart side effects dealing with current events, social and political, are judiciously interwoven, thereby making the performance really interesting to both young and old alike. The first scene (there are fourteen altogether) opens with Davy Jones' Locker, the part of the wicked Old Man of the Sea being skilfully interpreted by Mr. Scott Russell, and after some commendably short introductory business the curtain promptly rises on Scene 2, depicting The Ancient Port of Hull. A very pretty stage picture is here produced. Mr. E. Harvey White as Mrs. Crusoe is in this scene honoured by obtaining the first encore for his rendering of "Does anyone want a widow?" which has a most catchy refrain, and will in a short time prove one of the most popular numbers of the show. Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells, last year's favourites, make their initial bow as the Captain and Mate, and score heavily with a song dealing with matters observed on Plymouth Hoe, whilst their amusing by-play is rewarded with roars of unrestrained laughter. Scene 3 depicts the lower decks of the Saucy Sally, and opportunity is afforded Mr. Daley Cooper in the rôle of Will Atkins of proving his ability as a comedian, and this capable artist makes full use of the opportunity afforded; indeed, it would be difficult to conceive a more humorous bit of work than is here portrayed by Mr. Cooper's depiction of a sea-sick land lubber, his facial contortions and general demeanour being irresistible. Miss Mabel Lait (Robinson Crusoe) and Miss Lucy Coventry (Polly Hopkins) are also given a very tasteful little duet which goes very well, the former, moreover, is admirably suited for the part, her fine presence, vivacious manner and clear enunciation making her an ideal exponent of the rôle. Scene 4 portrays the Deck of the Saucy Sally, in which a sailor's hornpipe—always popular in a naval port—is excellently performed by Miss C. Zalmarino, accompanied by eight juniors. After a short scene dealing with the open sea and some very laughable business introduced by the four comedians on the raft and in subterranean ports, the curtain rises on a veritable stage picture, The Nymphs' Garden Beneath the Sea. In this number some finished ballets, arranged by Miss Ettie Sismondi and led by Miss Zalmarino, are performed by the chorus, whilst the reflections in the background of live fish provided by a cleverly-arranged contrivance are a source of great speculation as to "how it is done." The second part opens with The Island of Golden Palms, and opportunity is here given to Mr. Scott Russell, in his second part of the Sultan, of providing the audience with a rich vocal treat, his rendering of "The silvery moon" being superb and deservedly encored. In Scene 10 a very funny ballet sketch is introduced, the principals having life-like disguises as well-known politicians, and the roars of laughter heard on all sides is striking testimony to the success of the venture. In Scene 11—Crusoe's Hut—some very clever evolutions are performed by Mr. Leon Dubois as Jack the Monkey on a vertical rope, whilst some amusing business is again introduced by the comedians in Scene 12. The last scene, The Sultan's Palace, is quite a blaze of colour, and makes a very fitting termination to a splendid production. In addition to the artists to whom reference has already been made, particular mention must be made of the excellent dancing of Topsy, which in the second part is an entertainment in itself. Before the curtain Mr. Geo. H. Hall works hard as the musical conductor, and has brought his musicians to a high pitch of excellence, whilst the arrangements made by Mr. J. M. East, who is deputising for Mr. Bannister Howard locally, give universal satisfaction.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT SHEFFIELD.

The Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, has added another success to the long record of spectacles that have graced its spacious stage. For ten months in the year the patrons of famous "Tommy's" stand loyally under the flag of melodrama, but at midwinter they love the glitter, the fun, and the lively music of pantomime, and the genial and energetic Mr. W. D. Forsdike, like the thorough man of business he is, gives them what they want. For the artistic side of the business the valuable services of Messrs Dottridge and Longden have again been enlisted, and judging from the enthusiasm that pervaded the crowded auditorium on Boxing Day *Dick Whittington* will be as big a success as the same firm's fine productions of *The Forty Thieves* and *Robinson Crusoe* at this theatre. The present version of the grand old Whittington legend has been done into rhyme and burlesque form by the expert librettist, J. J. Hewson. The story is faithfully followed with plenty of witty dialogue, and a highly commendable absence of political allusions and "patriotic" fustian. There are ten scenes, all remarkable for cleverness of design and artistic colouring. Olde Chepeside is a very pleasing and effective depiction of what that famous thoroughfare might have looked in the good old times. A delightful picture is presented when the foreground is crowded with citizens, 'prentices, serving-wenches, and nobles and their ladies, all gaily apparelled. The illusion is rudely dispelled, however, when a party of very modern nursemaids appear with babies, followed by a dozen smart young "bobbies." They all join in a lively song and chorus, and dance off amid hearty applause. In this scene the principal characters are all introduced, and the action gets well under weigh. Fitzwarren's Shop is a big set scene, full of careful drawing and minute treatment of architectural features. After a beautiful front-cloth representing a fine view from Highgate Hill, the most charming scene of the annual is revealed. This is the old road on Highgate, with the famous milestone. The traditional scene of Whittington's vision of his future greatness has been treated under many aspects on the Alexander stage, but never with more artistic care than in the present instance. The general conception of the scene, the natural building up of the middle distance, the wonderful gladelike vistas seen between the tree trunks, combined with splendid brushwork and effective lighting put Mr. H. O. Richardson's scenic creation on a high plane of excellence. A pretty ballet and a spirited concerted finale bring down the act-drop on a lovely and animated tableau. In the second part of the annual there is a complete change in the character of the scenic surroundings, for all the characters have now voyaged to Morocco, and here amid the gorgeous verdure of sunny Africa and the picturesque sunlit Mauresque palaces and minarets Dick finds the royal road to fame and fortune; and after a succession of glittering spectacular pictures, the culminating point of magnificence is reached in The Emperor's Palace, a set filling up the whole of the big stage, and glowing with Oriental colour and refulgent glory. There is an inspiriting march of the Emperor's Amazon guards, graceful dances by Mr. Herbert Harwood's troupe of dancers, and finally all ends with a lively Offenbachian chorus and dance.

Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's knowledge of Alexandra audiences has served them in good stead, for they have secured some local favourites to fill important parts, and others who are not so well known locally will soon be highly popular here to judge from the encouragement given to them at the opening performance. Of course, as principal boy Miss Florrie Gallimore comes first. It is some years since Miss Gallimore captured the affection and regard of Sheffielders as "the pretty little Tyrolean vocalist and dancer." The promise of those early days has been amply fulfilled, and the columns of *The Era* have repeatedly recorded pantomime and variety successes of a lady who is as estimable as she is talented, as kindly as she is earnest in her vocal contributions. Miss Gallimore acts with distinction as Dick, and her songs, "The girl in the clogs and shawl," "Kelly from the Isle of Man," "Nora, Nora, come to the Pole," were loudly applauded. Miss Vera Vere ,a pretty brunette, acted with much vivacity as Alice, and she sang and danced her way quite into the affections of the audience. Miss Rose Tilley made a tall and handsome representative of Viscount Piccadilly, and her catchy chorus song, "Ruby from Palestine," was taken up by the house and cheered to the echo. Miss Edith Dottridge was a sweet and melodious representative of the fairy queen, and her songs were enthusiastically received. Miss Dolly Crown made a piquant little Mollie; Miss Gertie Warwick was a shapely and pleasing Ralph, and Miss Florence Ellis was a lively Polly. As the irrepressible Idle Jack Mr. H. O. Wills was full of fun and agility, and in song, gag, and comic business generally he was evidently the right man in the right place. A roar of welcoming applause greeted the familiar voice of Mr. Will Lorenzi, one of Sheffield's old and firm pantomime favourites. Mr. Lorenzi as Captain Tarpaulin was as full of natural drollery as an egg is full of meat, and there was not a dull moment when he was on the stage. Mr. J. H. Ellis acted the part of Alderman-Fitzwarren on approved burlesque lines. Mr. Fred Lloyd was a firm success as Sarah the Cook, and his comic ditty, "Boiled beef and carrots," was received with hearty plaudits. Mr. John Doran appeared successfully as the Emperor; Mr. James Rallis was in great favour as Tommy the Cat; Mr. Sam Rallis was a vigorous and active Captain Maintop; Mr. Jack Chester acted dramatically as King of the Rats, and Miss Hettie Hertz as the Princess was delightfully naïve and graceful. The chorus and ballet were good, and several specialities were done by Harwood's talented juvenile troupe of vocalists and dancers. All the scenery has been specially designed and painted by Mr. H. O. Richardson. The music has been selected and arranged by Mr. Fred Eplett, and the electric effects are by Mr. Hough. The annual has been produced by Mr. Herbert Harwood, stage-manager, and there is every sign that prosperity awaits the career of Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's latest pantomimic venture.

"JACK AND JILL" AT SHEFFIELD.

The Theatre Royal, Sheffield, for many years was noted for its excellent pantomimes. Messrs. Chas. Pitt, William Gomersal, "Joe" Eldred, L. J. Sefton, dear old Richard Younge (the famous Eccles in *Caste*), Romaine Callender, and latterly F. W. Purcell and J. F. Elliston, are a few of the notable producers here of veritable feasts of fun and fancy. These worthy managers, some, alas! departed from the world's stage, have a splendid successor in Mr. John Hart, whose refined and artistic taste in all matters pertaining to theatric effect was demonstrated to the local public by his series of beautiful and humorous annuals at the Lyceum Theatre. Mr. Hart also deserves some credit for having, with the help and connivance of the inventive literary chef, Mr. J. Hickory Wood, concocted a Christmas dish which is decidedly novel in title and plot to Sheffield's younger pantomime-goers, for it was on these historic boards that *Jack and Jill* was last seen in a local theatre, when it formed the subject of Joseph Eldred's 1872-3 annual, with Annie Howard, a sweet singer; Angelina Claude, the popular Strand opera-bouffe actress; and the celebrated Mme. Ramsden, principal dancer, in the cast. Mr. Hickory Wood has kept close to a definite story, and again shows his judgment and sympathy with the juvenile section of the audience by his apt treatment of a subject that is brimful of the spirit of fairydom. Every opportunity has been given for spectacular display, funny interludes, songs, concerted finales, gags, &c. There is plenty of "variety" business, but everything is nicely kneaded into the story, and there is no irritating suggestion of lugged-in "specialities." The ballets are always a big feature in Mr. Hart's annuals, and there are some scenes replete with quaint humour and catchy songs, many of the latter (notably the popular ballad "Somewhere") being enthusiastically encored by the crowded audience on Christmas Eve. The story follows the usual lines of all fairy tales. There is the gallant, but poor youth, Jack, the son of Dame Horner, who is beloved by the lovely little Jill, who has been spirited away when an infant from the castle of His Royal Nibs, King Thomas the Twoth. There is a delightfully wicked Demon—one Gloom—whose scheming is constantly being checkmated by the charming Fairy Sungleam. The comical episode of "fetching a pail o' water" is treated in the typical Wood style, for the well at the top of the hill is a Magic Well, situated in Poppy Land, and the affecting incident is quite dramatically treated. Of course, all ends happily for all, even the discomfited Demon King being forgiven, for pantomime audiences must have out-and-out happy endings at the season of universal goodwill. The scenery is all effective, and reflects credit on Messrs. D. G. Hall and R. G. Oldham, the talented artists. The King's Kitchen is a fine built-up set of the baronial sort, with admirably painted details, suggestive of Gargantuan repasts and mighty carousals. A Sylvan Glade describes itself, though the title does not do justice to the breadth and fidelity with which the artist has treated a bit of Nature in its most delightful aspect. The Village Emporium is a set scene specially suited to the tastes of the youngsters, and well adapted for the introduction of any amount of good, honest, practical fun. The culminating scenic triumph of the first act, however, is Poppy Land, which is really an edition de luxe of the old transformation scene, minus the suspended fairies and red fire. The first change is to the Fairy Well. By a clever change this exquisite conception dissolves into the Lily Dell, a lovely study in white flowers and cool greens. After an exquisite dance of animated lilies, the scene changes to the Sunflower Glade, in the Realms of Fairy Sungleam. For poetic conception, technical skill, and richness of colouring, this beautiful picture is quite up to Royal traditions, and the beautiful Sunflower ballet, which ends the act, proved a triumph for Mr. Hart, Mme. Louie (the talented ballet mistress), M. Comelli (the designer of the coryphée's exquisite dresses), and Mr. Finn Doyle (the stage-manager). The principal scenes in Act II. are The King's Palace, a brilliantly painted set; and The Forest, a beautiful depiction of autumnal foliage, tree-trunks, and bosky undergrowth, realistically built-up and treated with loving fidelity. The bright costumes worn here stand out well against the verdant background, and a most charming Watteau-like effect is realised. The final scene is The Hall of the Knights, a grand interior, extending the entire depth of the stage. This is a fine example of Messrs. Hall and Oldham's cleverness in design and executive skill, and when the hall is filled with the Royal guests, magnificently attired for the wedding festivities of Jack and Jill, the *ensemble* is a picture of glittering jewels, sartorial display, and artistic colour, that will live long in the memory.

Mr. Hart has secured a company of artists all "good in their business." Individually and collectively they know what to do, and they do it, and the result is merriment and general harmony. Miss Ella Retford's pretty face and bright, attractive personality, soon made her Jack a popular personage with all sections of the Royal audience. She looked the ideal fairy-tale hero in her becoming costumes, and her singing, dancing, and acting were marked by her accustomed and well-known earnestness, grace, and vivacity. Her songs were encored, and she made a big hit with "My dear little girl up North" and its concluding clog dance. A more dainty and piquant Jill than Miss Josie Delaine could not be desired, and her spirited vocalism and elegant dancing were enthusiastically applauded. Miss Connie Haydon looked handsome as the stalwart Prince Horty, and bore herself right royally. Miss Nellie Bindon as the Fairy pleased all the children as the ideal good spirit of the play, and she made one of the big successes of the opening night by her sympathetic rendering of the charming ballad "Somewhere," the chorus being lustily taken up by the entire house. Mr. Albert Le Fre acts with characteristic humour as Walker. He is full of quiet drollery and up to every little trick for causing laughter. He made a hit vocally with "I've struck a chorus" and other comic songs, and, on the whole, reflected credit on the family prestige. Mr. Jack Cromo made a portly Dame Horner, and without any vulgarity caused hearty laughter by legitimate low-comedy methods. The Haytors are experienced pantomime drolls, and they worked hard and with their usual success as Snap and Shott. The management did well in securing that great Empire favourite, Mr. Charles Norton, for the part of the King. Mr. Norton acted on light comedy lines, and in a racecourse scene he worked in his well-known mimetic sketch, *Pros at the Races*. Mr. Fred Hudson gave quite a dramatic distinction to the character of the demon Gloom; and Miss Winnie Haytor made a smart little Patty. Mr. Henry Dean, who has done the music for many noted annuals here, was loudly applauded on taking his old seat at the conductor's desk. Mme. Louie has cleverly trained the graceful ladies of the *corps de ballet;* Mr. Finn Doyle has stage-managed in a thorough manner, the result being a credit to himself, to Mr. John Hart, to the good old Arundel-street playhouse, and its active and courteous manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont, and his trusty henchman, Mr. Henfrey Aldred.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT SOUTHPORT.

The Yuletide fare at Mr. Percy Hutchison's Opera House is capitally provided by Mr. J. F. Elliston, whose pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, was produced on Boxing Day to a crowded and appreciative audience by Mr. Walter McEwan. The varying phases of the well-known fairy story are unfolded amidst brilliant spectacular displays, excellent songs, and dainty dances. The principal artists depicted their various rôles in a highly creditable manner, prominent amongst them being Mr. Fred Roma as the Baron Tweedledee, who submits a highly humorous and grotesque impersonation; the principal boy has a charming and talented representative in Miss Mabelle Morgane; Richard the Ruthless and William the Soapless have whimsical and mirth-provoking exponents in Mr. John Sims-Woolley and Mr. Willie Le Brum respectively; Slippy, the Baron's page, has a smart and clever delineator in Ruhart; mine host of the Purple Pig is played with becoming levity by Mr. Charles Harvard; Mr. W. H. Howarth is highly amusing and humorous as Friar Tuck, the merry monk; Miss Donna Rita is to be credited with a clever and quaint impersonation of the Baroness; Miss Edith Cornish is a dashing and piquant Little John; Miss Dolly Ross is smart in every way as Phyllis; the Babes, Reggie and Cissie, are admirably represented by the Sisters Herbert; Miss Lilian Pollard essays the rôle of Maid Marian with marked success; Marjorie Daw and Will Scarlet have effective representatives in the Sisters Darnton; the Fairy Queen is played in a praiseworthy manner by Miss Maud De Velin; and other good characters are ably represented by Miss Dot Herbert, Miss Mamie Stuart, Miss Madge Phillips, and Mr. George Belrose. The specialities include the Harvard Sextette, Lecardo Brothers, and the Coreen Girls.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT ST. HELENS.

Robinson Crusoe is an old but ever-welcome subject for pantomime, and Mr. Elderton's production is by no means behind its predecessors in interest and beauty. The book is written by T. E. Worth, and the dialogue is bright and racy. Robinson, always ready for adventure and fortune-seeking, is accompanied by pretty Pollie Perkins as a cabin boy; Mrs. Crusoe, his frolicsome mother; Billy, his naughty little brother; Will Atkins and his two merry assistants, Dick Dogknot and Peter Porthole, the villain of the piece. Misfortune falls upon the Crusoe family in the usual way, and the act ends with a magnificent scene Under the Sea, haunting in its weird beauty of multicoloured shells and corals and glittering mermaids with golden harps and the gorgeous display of costly dresses worn by pretty attendants in a burst of effective brilliancy.

Act 2 depicts the fortunes of Robinson on the desert island, accompanied by his man Friday and the tropical scenery is finely painted. His friends are captured by King Ki Koko, whose daughter Princess Popsy Prettything does a lot of capturing too. They are rescued by Robinson, and now having made his fortune still under the guidance of the good fairy, Crusoe's career is brought to a close in another glorious display of scenic splendour. The company, to which this delightful pantomime is entrusted, is well chosen and worthy of all praise for the way all work to make it a success. Miss Nita Clavering is a fine Robinson Crusoe, and acts with brightness and dash. She has a sweet voice and renders her songs in a most acceptable manner. As Polly Perkins, Miss Isa Gibson bids fair to become a favourite, her singing is excellent, and her dance as the little Dutch girl deserves the hearty applause which it wins. The duet with Robinson in the first act is most pleasing. Miss Nellie Stuart as the Princess is captivating and clever, and Miss Maud Hastings is a beautiful fairy queen and sings delightfully. Miss Nina St. Elmo makes a charming Captain Kettle, and Miss Ivy Boulton a sweet Dolly Dimple. Of the comic element everything that is good can be said. Roars of laughter greet the efforts of Mrs. Crusoe (Mr. J. H. Booth) and her little boy Billy (Mr. Teddy Worth), and their work is of the best, and the same may be said of Mr. Fred Boulton (Will Atkins), and Messrs. Will and Harry Elton (Dick Dogknot and Peter Porthole), whose success is assured. Mr. Carson Hicks is capital as Friday, his coon dancing and singing being greatly admired. Mr. Theodore Jones (King Ki-Koko) has an excellent voice, and uses it admirably, and Mr. Percy Wright (King Neptune) is also much applauded for his singing. An attractive feature is the graceful dancing of the Lottie Stone Troupe of Dancers; they are decidedly charming. Specialities are given by the Three Eltons, who appear in a clever bar act; Carson Hicks, coon delineator and dancer; Miss Bartinelli, whose wonderful contortions are performed with daintiness and grace; and the Marblesque Trio, in living statuary, all exceedingly good. The musical arrangements are in the hands of Mr. E. Blackster, L.C.M. The pantomime is produced by Mr. J. H. Booth and the whole has been carefully supervised by Mr. Elderton and our worthy and popular manager, Mr. McLeod Loader, to whose united efforts may be attributed a pronounced success.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT SUNDERLAND.

The King's Theatre, in deciding to produce its own pantomime this year, is to be congratulated fully and heartily, for its venture has been rewarded with a huge success. From the moment of raising the curtain on Boxing Night there was no doubting the success of *Dick Whittington*. It was obvious from the first that Mr. S. F. Davidson had spared no expense to please his patrons, the pantomime being produced on a most elaborate scale. Scene 1 is Old Cheapside, and a veritable study in the art of scene painting. It opens with bright music and chorus. Here Fitzwarren (Mr. Will Evans) introduces himself with great animation, and proves a very admirable alderman indeed, and the very essence of energy. Eliza, his cook and boon companion (Mr. Dan Crawley) is not long in following him, and they beguile the time with idle but none the less witty banter. Idle Jack (Mr. Chris. Baker) makes a rather ignominious entry, being hauled on by watchmen, with a jeering crowd in the rear, this concluding with a clever gag. Alice (Miss Gertie Gavagan) then makes her bow with a song, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," which she renders in a truly charming manner, finishing up with a graceful dance. Captain Bobstay and Bosun Ben (Bros. Ethairian) are the next to enter grotesquely arrayed, and are a very amusing pair. Now comes Dick Whittington (Miss Margaret Ruby) in a typical costume of the period, and immediately following, the indispensable "Thomas" (Donald Mackay). He opens his part with a song, "Somewhere," in a crisp, clear voice. The coast being clear Dick loses no time in making up to Alice, and it is undoubtedly a case of love at first sight. The scene concludes with rousing chorus. Scene 2 is the Kitchen at Fitzwarren's, which the Cook and Jack open with lively argument, and is concluded with a plot of Jack's to accuse Dick as a thief, and win Alice for himself. Will Evans and Dan Crawley also introduce a clever gag into this scene, "Tuning the pianoforte." Highgate Hill then appears into view, whereupon the Fairy (Miss Hilda Playfair) enters and renders "Carmena dreaming" in good style. The Ethairian Bros. introduce another of their speciality acts, which gives a quarter of an hour's amusement. The greater part of Scene 5 is devoted to business done by Will Evans and Dan Crawley in their speciality, "Building the Chicken House," which proved extremely diverting. Scene 5 of the second part is the Guildhall Festival, a truly gorgeous spectacle, and considerably enhanced by the procession of the ballet and chorus in bright and harmoniously blended dresses. Here Dick and Alice are ultimately united, and all ends "happy and glorious." Mr. Will Evans' Fitzwarren is an unqualified success, the audience making him at once a favourite. Mr. Dan Crawley as the Cook was every bit as popular on his own particular lines. Miss Margaret Ruby possesses all the attributes of a successful Dick, and her histrionic ability and singing won the highest admiration. Mr. Chris Baker as Idle Jack never lets things flag for a moment while he is on the stage. The Bros. Ethairian also contribute by no small extent to the success of the piece with their rollicking humour. Miss Gertie Gavagan, as Alice, won all hearts with her sweet voice and charming manner. Miss Hilda Playfair, as the Fairy, was also vociferously applauded for her beautiful singing. Misses Constance Clive as Dolly, Violet Trevenyon as Zobeida, and Lilian Bishop as Dalmah all did excellent work in their respective parts. Mr. Davies Massey is deserving of great praise for the exceptionally tasteful scenery, all of which was designed by him except the Port of Tangier, for which credit is due to Mr. T. F. Dunn. The music, arranged by Mr. Frank Barnard, conductor of the King's orchestra, is also of good quality. The Lottie Stone Troupe of dancers are responsible for much graceful work, and the chorus throughout was good. The whole thing goes with a swing, and Mr. Lloyd Townrow, who is responsible for the production, is deserving of the highest eulogy for such a cleverly staged work. The "book" is written by Mr Fred Boxyer. It is to be sincerely hoped that by the combined efforts of the management Mr. Davidson's pantomime will have a good run throughout the season.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Mr. Harry Burns is to be heartily congratulated upon the successful pantomime which he produced at the Grand on Monday. *Robinson Crusoe* is brimful of fun, capital songs, smart dances, and taking music. Consisting of some eleven scenes, it is an entirely new version of the story, and is written and produced by Henry Curwin.

The initial performance was in every way successful, some of the dresses being particularly rich and bright, and the scenery especially effective. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is particularly good as the dashing Robinson. Several of her songs are rapturously encored, "I can picture Polly" being received with marked favour. Dainty little Miss Fanny Harris, always a favourite here, is charming as Polly Perkins, her singing and dancing being very attractive. Miss Lillie Hayes is a naive and lively Bessie Barr; and a dashing Tom Bowline is presented by Miss Gertrude Martini. Mr. Arthur Aiston as Will Atkins has abundance of opportunity for fun-making, and avails himself of it to advantage, for he has his audience roaring with laughter the whole of the time he is on. Those old favourites, Tray and Rich are also responsible for much of the mirth, and acquit themselves with credit. Mark Stuart as Dame Crusoe is a typical character, and contributes considerably to the fun. Others who assist the success of the pantomime are Dan Hendy as Man Friday, H. Henderson as Billy Crusoe, and Mr. Bernard Cox as Davy Jones.

Bert Coote's troupe of Yankee Doodle Girls are a great attraction, their smart dancing gaining for them a considerable share of the applause.

At present the performance is on the two houses a night principle, and it is wonderful how such an amount of work has been packed in a two hours' show, but we understand that when on its tour, which commences next week, the pantomime will be played in its entirety as a one house show.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE'S company, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, is delighting crowded houses at the Court Theatre and Hippodrome, Bacup. Mr. Harry Cane as John Meadows makes a typical country farmer, and is very entertaining as Jack Livingstone; Mr. Norman B. Cannon is excellently placed, as also is Mr. Edward Valentine as Dr. Weston. The humour of the piece is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Hodson as Toby Turvey; as Barbara Wade Miss Ethel Griffies is effective; as Constance Cornell Miss Muriel Dean is excellent; and as Tilly Vane, the maid, Miss Maggin Byron appears to advantage.

MR. LEWIS GILBERT and company are at the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, with *A Daughter of the Sea*. The rôle of Mark Glensdale receives admirable treatment by the author, Mr. Lewis Gilbert; Ken. Moreland is capitally played by Mr. Paul Neville; Mr. Edward de Vere is a breezy Captain Ben Morrison; and Mr. Sutton Taylor is a versatile member of the cast. Johnny Chippendale creates much amusement by his interpretation of Billy, the village idiot; Mr. Ashmore Vincent is very successful as Dan Glensdale; Miss Florrie Green exhibits a high standard of acting in her portrayal of Sunshine; and Miss Mattie Everett is a dashing Mollie.

MR. JOHN DREW was thrown from his horse whilst riding in Central Park, New York. His collar-bone was broken, but he is making good progress towards recovery. The accident interrupted the successful run of *Inconstant George* at the Empire Theatre, and kept the house in darkness until Christmas night, when Miss Maude Adams began her annual engagement there, appearing in Barrie's comedy *What Every Woman Knows*.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

"HER PATH OF SORROW."

Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Produced at the Prince's Theatre, Accrington, on Dec. 27.

Richard Burfield.....MR. CHARLES DRAYCOTT
Guy Lowther.....MR. FRANK EAGLESFIELD
Lionel Heathcote .....MR. FRANK ETHERIDGE
Markham Ferrars.....MR. THEO. BALFOUR
Farmer Rayne .....MR. CHARLES REYNE
Tommy Onions.....MR. WILL HOOK
Jack Smith .....MR. HUBERT LAURENCE
Doctor Simms .....MR. ALLAN SETHWYN
P.C. Bridge .....MR. WILSON SAUNDERS
Detective Williams.....MR. ERIC WINSTANLEY
P.C. Robinson .....MR. T. WHEELER
Warder Jackson .....MR. WILFRED ECKHART
Mamselle Lucille.....MISS NELLIE FREELAND
Polly Green .....MISS DAISY CARLTON
Nellie Rayne .....MISS FAY GARNET-VAYNE
Pauline Ferrars .....MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, the authoress of *Her Path of Sorrow*, has had considerable experience as a writer for the stage, several of her pieces having had successful tours, notably *Was She to Blame? Her Secret Lover, The Power of the King*, and *Bound to Win*. This, her latest play, is an excellent specimen of the drama beloved by a popular audience, containing, as it does, an abundance of telling lines and exciting situations, leavened, of course, by plenty of laughable comedy business. The action of the story opens at the Old Farm, in Lamster, a country village situated some forty miles from London. Farmer Rayne is firmly resolved that Nellie, his daughter, shall marry his trusted assistant on the farm, a big, honest son of the soil named Richard Burfield. Nellie, during the course of her education at a private high school, has met a dissolute scoundrel, Guy Lowther, who has deceived her, under a promise of marriage. He wishes to marry Pauline Ferrars, the daughter of Markham Ferrars, a rich gentleman, who was the friend of Guy Lowther's father in their young days, when they were clerks in the office of a large city firm. A theft was discovered, and Ferrars was suspected of being the guilty person. The mother of Ferrars, however, came to his assistance, and repaid the money, and the matter was hushed up. Guy Lowther has somehow obtained information regarding this theft, and informs Ferrars that if he does not give him his daughter Pauline's hand in marriage, he (Lowther) will make a scandal. Ferrars is terribly afraid, and persuades his daughter to accept Lowther. Burfield, who loves Nellie Rayne, asks her to become his wife. She refuses, and informs him she cannot be the wife of an honourable man. Richard is cut to the heart, but says he will marry her to save her honour. Her father, who has entered unobserved, overhears their conversation, and orders her to accept Richard at once. Nellie declines, and her father drives her from the farm.

In the second act we find Lowther flirting with a French girl, Lucille (Pauline's maid previous to his marriage with Pauline). After the ceremony is over Pauline is confronted with Nellie, who is now destitute, and who tells her (Pauline) of Guy Lowther's treachery. Ferrars appears with a letter from Lowther's father in which the writer confesses that it was he, and not Ferrars, who committed the theft at the office. Pauline, on learning this, takes off her wedding ring and says she will be Guy Lowther's wife only in name. We see Nellie living in a bare garret, without any money to buy food for her ailing child. The doctor tells her the child would be better dead, as also does the landlord, and when Lucille appears and gives Nellie sixpence to buy poison, she rushes off and, obtaining it, administers a dose to the baby. Richard, who has been searching London for her, obtains her address, and arrives on the scene in time to restore her. Nellie says she has killed her child, but Richard takes the guilt on his shoulders. He is taken to prison. Pauline learns the facts of the case, and implores Nellie to confess to the crime, which eventually she does. Richard is released, and promises her to keep her vacant chair waiting whenever she may return. On the same evening, whilst walking in the woods at midnight, Richard comes upon Pauline, who has received a letter from Lionel Heathcote, a former lover, whom she gave up on marrying Lowther. She informs Richard regarding this, and he suspects a plot of Lowther's. Richard conceals himself and watches. Heathcote has received a telegram supposed to have come from Pauline, asking him to meet her. They exchange confidences, and are observed when parting by Lowther, who wants to compromise Pauline. He draws a revolver from his pocket, and says he will fire if she does not accede to his demands by signing a cheque for £5000. She consents, and Lowther, having placed the revolver in his pocket to fold up the cheque, Richard abstracts it, and compels Lowther to tear it up. A struggle follows, and Richard is accidentally shot by Lowther, who is arrested for attempted murder.

In the last act, after five years are supposed to elapse, we learn that Lowther has been acquitted of the charge of shooting Richard, and that Nellie has been given five years' imprisonment for the murder of her child. Richard, who had to undergo an operation to his head, is at the old farm in a weak state. He is being cared for by Ferrars and his daughter Pauline. A letter arrives from the prison authorities stating that Nellie will be released on the morrow at eight o'clock, six months before the expiration of her sentence. Pauline decides to go and meet her, and Lowther, obtaining this information, writes in Burfield's name, asking the officials to liberate her at seven o'clock, one hour earlier. He then, accompanied by Lucille, his partner in crime, goes to the prison, and takes her to his house. He is followed by Lucille, who, in the absence of Lowther, tells Nellie of his intentions. Lucille then writes to Pauline at the Old Farm, notifying her of Nellie's whereabouts. Lowther appears in search of Nellie. Lucille stabs him in the back, and he shoots her and then himself. Pauline brings Nellie back, and seats her in the vacant chair Richard has so long kept vacant for her, Pauline being free to marry Heathcote.

The company responsible for the production is an extremely capable one. Mr. Charles Draycott, who delivered his lines in an excellent manner, displayed much dramatic power and energy as Richard Burfield. Mr. Frank Eaglesfield submitted a most praiseworthy representation of Guy Lowther. Mr. Frank Etheridge as Lionel Heathcote had not many chances to distinguish himself, but the little work he had to do was done in a masterly manner. Mr. Theo Balfour made a good impression as Markham Ferrars. Mr. Chas. Reyne was very satisfactory as Farmer Rayne. Mr. Will Hook was mirth-provoking as Tommy Onions, and was ably assisted by the clever work of Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly. Mamselle Lucille was played effectively by Miss Nellie Freeland. Nellie Rayne was enacted with much delicacy and feeling by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne, who was responsible for a large share of the success; and Mrs. Charles Draycott, who is gifted with high histrionic ability, gave a charming impersonation of Pauline Ferrars. All the other rôles were capitally sustained. The drama was well mounted, and the elaborate scenery by H. O. Richardson was very picturesque.

MR. HALDANE CRICHTON'S company is at the New Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, in *The Cingalee*. Mr. Frank Barclay is well cast as Harry Vercker; and Mr. Grafton Williams is good as Sir Peter. Mr. Hylton Warde is most amusing as Chambuddy Ram; and Mr. Frank Lennard makes the most of Boobhamba. The part of Nanoya has a pleasing exponent in Miss Isa Bowman; and Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Bobbie and Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Patricia are entertaining.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 27, the Children's Pantomime, by Sir F. C. Burnand, J. Hickory Wood, and Arthur Collins; Music Composed, Selected, and Arranged by J. M. Glover, entitled,

"ALADDIN."

Widow Twankay	MR. WILKIE BARD
Emperor of China	MR. WILLIAM DOWNES
Grand Vizier	MR. ERNEST LANGFORD
Bolo, the Dog	MR. GEORGE ALI
Kassarac	MR. ARTHUR CONQUEST
Slave of the Lamp	MR. SALAMBO
Abanazar	MR. GEORGE GRAVES
Princess Badroulbadour	MISS IDA RENE
Prince Pekoe	MISS TRULY SHATTUCK
Itti Sing	MISS NELLIE STRATTON
Sau-Cee	MISS MENA BRAE
Spirit of the Ring	MISS DORIS TREVELYAN
Imperial Town Crier	MISS JIMMIE JAMES
Aladdin	MISS MARIE GEORGE
Bam Boo	MR. BERT MONKS
Bob Bi	MR. FRED PENLEY
Corki Waxi	MR. EDWARD MORGAN
Olrac	MR. HAROLD BELCHER

Mr. Arthur Collins's annual, as usual, "beggars description." It is hopeless to attempt to do justice to its myriad beauties, or to even suggest, in cold print, the dazzling glories of its splendid spectacle or the artistic effects of its exquisite enchantments. What are exactly the shares in the preparation of the "book" that have been taken by Sir F. C. Burnand, Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and Mr. Arthur Collins it would be hard to say; it is with the result that we have to do, and the result is immensely successful. Mr. J. M. Glover may always be relied upon to supply pantomime music of the most appropriate and enlivening sort, and this year he has not been wanting in musical skill and judgment; Mr. Ernest D'Auban and Mr. E. Spiller have well attended to the stage management; and Mr. Collins's all-inspecting eye has made weak places in the production impossible. The lovely costumes are designed by the clever Comelli; the beautiful ballets have been prepared by M. Jean Pratesi; Mr. John D'Auban has attended to the incidental dances; and the famous Tiller Troupe have been engaged for the run of the pantomime, which is an undeniable success.

Aladdin is a story which gives excuse for artistic, as well as elaborate spectacle. The Chinese *locale* is pleasantly bright and sunny, and Chinese royalty and aristocracy are traditionally sumptuous. We first realise this in the Market Place scene, in which a Royal Guard, splendid in crimson and gold uniforms, precedes the palanquin of the pretty Princess, a magnificent litter, with deep red hangings. Aladdin makes her Highness's acquaintance very promptly, and in the next scene, on the sea-shore, he disguises himself as a bathing-man of the French sort, in order to attend the Princess in the water. The "cloth" is raised, and a scene, very skilfully contrived, shows the Princess and her attendants amidst the surf. Big waves in perspective fill the whole of the proscenium opening with a moving picture of water and foam; and amidst the boiling surf, we see the heads of the handmaidens, who seem to be enjoying their bathe immensely. This clever illusion, which has been patented in England by Mr. Frank D. Thomas, is both picturesque and slightly puzzling. An artistic scene on the mountains leads up to the Cave scene, which is most originally conceived. Abanazar and Aladdin descend amidst shades to a mysterious cavern, from which the way leads to the garden, where the lamp is; but whenever Aladdin starts to seek it, quaint ghosts, shaped like asparagus-stalks, suddenly appear and appal him. Deserted by Abanazar, he finds his way to the Temple of the Gods, where there are some striking effects of scenery, and where he meets the Slave of the Lamp and his myrmidons. Then comes Mr. Henry Emden's beautiful Garden of Light. On an eminence at the back is seen the Magic Lamp, and here a ballet, most exquisitely arranged, takes place. The colour-scheme includes bevies of *ballerine*, respectively attired in orange and light-blue, and another contingent wears very cleverly designed dresses of greenish-blue, with quaint wings and curious headgear. The dances take place to weird "crooning," mysterious music, and there is a great deal of effective marching and posing. Then Aladdin becomes the centre of light, as he snatches the lamp from its glittering eminence, and the curtain descends on a picture of supreme brilliancy and beauty.

Very gorgeous indeed is Mr. Bruce Smith's scene of the Widow Twankay's rich house, in the second part, with its solid-looking pillars, its clever trick-changes of furniture, and its elaborately ornamented architecture. There is opportunity here for a liberal display of dresses and uniforms. The Emperor enters with his brilliant suite; a troop of beautiful maidens bring in baskets of jewels as described in the story, and the pomp of Chinese royalty is done full justice to. But the splendours of this scene pall before the striking beauties of the same accomplished artist's Palace Gardens set, which comes later. Its manifold beauties are dazzling, and the scene is well worthy of Mr. Bruce Smith's well-established reputation. In the end Aladdin lends the Princess the Lamp, Abanazar obtains it by trickery, and the gorgeous palace flies away in the air, diminishing in the distance to a mere speck. Abanazar then abducts the Princess to the North Pole, where they find Esquimaux living in a smart snow hut, with a brass knocker and an electric bell. There is a good deal of fun created by allusions to the Cook and Peary business, and the Pole becomes so crowded with explorers that Abanazar calls it "The Margate of the North." By using a coke furnace he helps a hen-penguin to hatch an egg, and teaches the chick which emerges to skate. Eventually, the Princess, longing for her Aladdin, and unpleasantly chilly, rubs the lamp, and brings him to her side, while Abanazar sinks through a "demon trap" to the realms below. The concluding set is Aladdin's Palace, a very fine scene supplied by Mr. R. McCleery.

There are comparatively few speaking parts; and that these are filled by artists of approved excellence. The Widow Twankay is a rôle which has had many exponents, and is capable of an infinite number of variations. Mr. Wilkie Bard gives a very clever and characteristic rendering of it. His peculiar humour well suits the personage, and his jokes and comicalities are irresistible. With him, as the lawyers say, is Mr. George Ali as Bolo, the most absurd and amusing of dogs. It is a treat to see the Widow Twankay attempt to disown her faithful canine dependent when the police call to enquire if she has taken out a dog licence and to witness the failure of her attempts to escape the tax. So connected are Mr. Wilkie Bard's efforts with those of Mr. George Graves as Abanazar, that it is impossible to deal with them apart. It is with Abanazar that the Widow joins in an ingenious bit of practical trickery. They draw designs of chairs, tables, lamps, &c., in chalk on a gigantic blackboard, and the outlines immediately "materialise" into objects. The effect is startling, especially when a clock, which has been thus evoked, persists in loudly ticking. The debates between Abanazar and the Widow are immensely droll; and her little laundry act is very comical and curious. Again, Mr. Bard has a large sheet on which the words of a new song "Kate" are written, partly in symbols, and, with the aid of a pointer, he teaches the audience the tune. Altogether Mr. Bard's performance is extremely humorous, without a touch of vulgarity or exaggeration. Mr. Graves's idea of Abanazar is that of a tragic actor of the old school, mellifluous in voice, elaborate in gesture, and florid of speech. He wears a Panama hat and a fur-collared coat, and his jests are unctuously amusing. When he begins to gag the audience begin to grin; and, as he proceeds, the auditorium works up into a roar. Mr. Graves may be trusted to increase his success—and his embellishments—week after week. Miss Marie George would seem to have been born to play Aladdin, so round and roguish is she as a boy; and the sly impudence of her air and the way in which she resists the tyranny of Abanazar, makes love to the Princess, and takes a header into the sea disguised as a bathing attendant is one of the delights of the "annual." At present she has no song quite equal in promise of popularity to her "Coming home in the dark" ditty, but her numbers are all agreeable and effective. Miss Ida René is a fascinating Princess Badroulbadour, and acts with grace and delicacy and sings with charming taste and skill, and; Miss Truly Shattuck is a fine, handsome, and imposing Prince Pekoe. Miss Nellie Stratton bewitches all by her fascinating freedoom and artless activity as Itti Sing, and is one of the most charming features of the cast. Mr. William Downes supplies a graphic portraiture of the Emperor of China, and Mr. Ernest Langford's tall, willowy form gives droll dignity to his embodiment of the Grand Vizier, Mr. Arthur Conquest being capital as Kassarac, and Mr. Salambo and his assistants doing marvellous things in the way of blowing flames from their mouths and extracting electric sparks from strange apparati. Miss Mena Brae is delightful as Sau-Cee, and Miss Doris Trevelyan is comely and distinct of delivery as the Spirit of the Ring. Miss Jimmie James makes a pretty figure as the Imperial Town Crier; and, as we have already indicated, Mr. George Ali is the most absurdly quaint and irresistibly amusing of pantomime dogs, every canine idiosyncracy being studied with marvellous care and cleverness. Mr. Bert Monks and Mr. Fred Penley work well together as Bam Boo and Bob Bi; Mr. Edward Morgan is capital as Corki Waxi; and Mr. Harold Belcher is a good Olrac. The *corps de ballet* is both comely and expert, and the crowds are especially well marshalled. Nothing indeed is wanting to complete the success of *Aladdin*.

"ALADDIN" AT THE LYCEUM.

Pantomime, Produced on Thursday, Dec. 23.

Aladdin	MISS DOROTHY CRASKE
Princess Badroulbadour	MISS EVA KELLAND
Pekoe	MISS SIMETA MARSDEN
Pitti Sing	MISS MARIE FREE
The Slave of the Lamp.	MISS MARJORY CARPENTER
Genie of the Ring	MISS VICTORIA SIEVERS
Widow Twankey	MR. SCOTT BARRIE
Smut-tee	MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS
Abanazar	MR. ARTHUR POOLE
Wishee Washee	MR. ARCHIE ROYER
The Emperor of China	MR. FRANK HEMMING
The Polar Bear	MR. HARRY GARDNER
Saw-See	MISS KITTY FIELDER
Ah-Sing	MISS BELLE HAMILTON
So-Fli	MISS MABEL CROUCH
Nicee-Nicee	MISS MAUD LEONARD
E-Tuk-is-Ook	MASTER BERT BOLDER
Blubber-Blubber	MASTER ALEC OAKLEY
Goodwill	MISS RITA RICARDO
Trueheart	MISS VIOLET BLYTH
Gentle Thoughts	MISS MAUD GARNER
Helping Hand	MISS EDNA LUDLOW
Queen of the Little Fairies	MISS ANNIE BEVINGTON
Fairy Heather Bell	MISS LIZZIE OPHIR

A sense of profound sadness accompanies the task of recording the success of this year's pantomime at the Lyceum, when one realises that the hand that was the primary cause of the triumph achieved is still in death. In response to the insistent demands of a delighted house on Thursday, Dec. 23rd, it was announced from the stage that Mr. Ernest Carpenter was seriously ill, and could not be present to return thanks for the enthusiastic reception that had been given to his production. Unhappily, the illness referred to proved fatal, and almost as the words were spoken to the people by whom he was held in such esteem the popular manager was breathing his last. The theatre was closed on the following day, but re-opened on Monday.

A vision of beauty and elegance is supplied in *Aladdin's* opening scene of Fairyland, from which Snowdrop in a prettily-conceived scene is banished for her grumbling propensities, and condemned to act as the Slave of the Lamp. In the Market Place of Pekin, where pigtailed natives busily ply their trades among an animated crowd, Aladdin first meets with the Princess, and dares to woo her. For his temerity he is ordered to be arrested by the Emperor, but king and courtiers alike are hypnotised by Abanazar, who thus secures the willing assistance of the hero in his search for the wonderful lamp. After a brief visit to the Imperial Baths, where the comic characters revel, we are transported to the Wistaeria Grove, a charming set, with an abundance of that delicate bloom interlacing overhanging boughs and branches. Another superb view is presented in the Golden Cave, a massive set, with monster stalactites made of the precious metal, upon which the effect of a glint of the sun is cleverly caught. A striking spectacle is presented by the entry of the Fairies of the Cave, who defile down the rocky paths to execute a series of manœuvres in which winged fays flit about in symmetrical movements. The Slave of the Lamp also does a bewitching dance, and has an affecting interview with Aladdin, who thus gains his freedom. The golden rocks light up, and the hero is seen at the top of the cave grasping the lamp, which has become magically illuminated.

A realistic set representing a gigantic Willow Pattern Plate is displayed in Widow Twankey's Laundry, which opens Part II., and the Emperor's Tea House, which follows, is a pretty reproduction of the fantastic designs which are seen on the cases imported from China. The glories of the Gardens of Aladdin's Palace, fitted with a golden throne, are next revealed. Myriads of Chinese lanterns in variegated design depend from the roof, and Aladdin's retainers crowd the stage in picturesque attire with fantastic head-dresses that produce a highly fascinating effect as their wearers move in a mazy dance. The sensation of the scene is the sight of the aeroplanes, realistic in every detail, which float across the stage at full speed, rising and falling in a way that secures a sense of their reality. It is in one of these machines that Abanazar soars away with the magic lamp, which he has induced the unsuspecting Princess to surrender. There is an excellent service of airships, however, and Aladdin is soon in hot pursuit of his wicked relative. The chase is a long and stern one, for Abanazar directs his steps, or, rather, his flight, towards the South Pole, where a gorgeous sunset and a realistic rainfall are provided. To these icy regions also come Widow Twankey, her maid-of-all-work, Smut-tee, and others of her comic train, and a dispute over the finding of the Pole arises, in which a lifelike Polar bear figures. The scene, which is written by Herbert Shelley, is ingeniously conceived and carried out. The crowning spectacle is furnished by Aladdin's Garden Party, in which the ballet, bearing branches of chrysanthemums in every shade and variety, create an effect of dazzling beauty, while the principals, arrayed in variegated attire, complete the fascinations of the scene.

The company engaged in the representation is one worthy to maintain the traditions of the house. Miss Dorothy Craske keeps her place as principal boy. Handsome, gay, and buoyant, she was first favourite throughout, and a striking tribute to her popularity was a hoop of flowers within which burned a lamp of quaint design. Miss Craske dances with all her usual cleverness, and her voice, clearer and mellower than ever, sounded sweetly in several numbers. Her most decided success was obtained in the song "The Corsican Maid," one of Francis and Day's pantomime budget, which won an irresistible encore, the pretty refrain being tastefully sung. A principal girl new to the Lyceum was seen in Miss Eva Kelland, who invested the Princess Badroulbadour with daintiness and grace, qualities which were especially apparent in her dancing. Her most pleasing number was "Little Golden Daffodils," another selection from Francis and Day's budget, the effect of which was heightened by the appearance of a number of shepherdesses attired in costumes typical of the pretty bloom named. The success of the song was immediate and complete. Miss Kelland also won distinction for "My little pal." Miss Simeta Marsden early won favour as Pekoe, acting with much animation and skill. Her songs were admirably sung, and included "Ship ahoy!" and the ubiquitous "Charlie Brown," in which the vocal assistance of the house was enlisted. A particular favourite was seen in Miss Marie Free, whose prettiness and vivacity were conspicuous in the part of Pitti Sing. She obtained an insistent encore for her song of "Schneider," to which a skilful dance was added. Little Miss Marjory Carpenter again graced the production, and as the Slave of the Lamp witched the house with her dancing. She has acquired added grace and suppleness, and her evolutions were a delight to the eye. At the end of a specially charming dance she was loaded with flowers and chocolate boxes. Miss Victoria Sievers made a beautiful Genie of the Ring, and her rendering of Francis and Day's entrancing ballad "Love makes the whole year June" proved her possession of a sweet and cultivated voice.

The contingent of comedians is strong and resourceful. The importation into the cast of a special part for Miss Florence Smithers, the well-known low comedienne, is of inestimable value. She made the most whimsical character of "Smut-tee," the maid-of-all-work, her appearance being irresistibly quaint. An especially choice piece of drollery was her wordy warfare with a seaside landlady, while her husky shout of "'Elp" proved the funniest of pantomime catch-phrases. Mr. Scott Barrie, a comedian new to us, was a deliciously droll Mrs. Twankey. He made the Widow a pensive and simpering lady, whose slim figure was clothed in amusing travesties of stylish attire. He scored with the song "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" and with the lilting refrain "Let's all go down the Strand," another of Francis and Day's publications, he caused a furore, his peculiar gliding dance proving equally effective. Honours in the mirth-making also fell liberally to Mr. Arthur Poole, whose towering figure as Abanazar was comically conspicuous throughout. He was unfailing in his efforts to create laughter, and his purposes were attained in many a quaintly conceived situation, his share of a diverting interlude with Miss Smithers contributing greatly to the hit obtained. Excellent service was done by Mr. Archie Royer, whose antics as Wishee Washee were extraordinary, as some wonderful falls, a number of high-kicking feats, and marvellous somersaults from the knee served to prove. Mr. Frank Hemming made a grotesque and resourceful Emperor, scoring especially in a spelling duet with Miss Free; and out of a long cast Mr. Harry Gardner's realistic Polar Bear should be selected for warm praise. A feature of the Garden Party was the xylophone playing of the Lewin-Martel Duo, who rendered the overture to Auber's *Masaniello* on a couple of well-toned instruments, and though the hour was late won from the appreciative audience a hearty encore.

The story of the pantomime, which is again from the pens of the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter and Mrs. Carpenter, is interestingly told, and the music, composed and arranged by Mr. H. Sullivan Brookes, is melodious, characteristic, and dramatic. All the scenes are the work of E. C. Nicholls and assistants, who have won so many scenic successes at the Lyceum. Mlle. Rosa, by whom the ballets and evolutions are invented and arranged, had a special call on Thursday night and smilingly acknowledged it. The production was finely staged managed by Mr. S. Major Jones, assisted by Mr. Henry Armstrong, no hitch being anywhere perceptible. Mounted with magnificence, fitted with melodious numbers, and with fun that never languishes throughout, Mr. Henry R. Smith, the managing director, may be said to have in *Aladdin* a pantomime that is certain to exceed its predecessors in popularity.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND."

Revived at the Court Theatre, Dec. 27.

ACT I.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

Mad Hatter	MR. FRANKLYN VERNON
Mock Turtle	MR. TOM GRAVES
Gryphon	MR. EDGAR K. FAVELLE
March Hare	MISS DORIS WALKER
White Rabbit	MISS BERTHA SCHWARTZ
Caterpillar	MR. DAN LENO, JUN.
Duchess	MISS AMY FANCHETTE
Cook	MISS YVONNE SCHOFIELD
Cheshire Cat	MISS GIRLIE LE CLAIRE
Dormouse	MISS GLADYS BARNARD
First Lobster	MISS DOROTHY EDWARD
Second Lobster	MISS PHYLLIS MUNRO
First Fairy	MISS ADA DANKS
King of Hearts	MR. EDMUND GOULDING
Queen of Hearts	MISS ELLA ANDERSON
Knave of Hearts	MR. ROY JEFFRIES
Executioner	MR. H. H. H. CAMERON
Alice	MISS IVY SAWYER

ACT II.

Through the Looking Glass.

Mad Hatter	MR. FRANKLYN VERNON
White Queen	MISS ELLA ANDERSON
White King	MR. ROY JEFFRIES
Lily	MISS ADA DANKS
Rose	MISS CRYSTAL HETHERINGTON
Red Queen	MISS AMY FANCHETTE
Red King	MR. DAN LENO, JUN.
First Oyster	MISS GLADYS BARNARD
Second Oyster	MISS BERTHA SCHWARTZ
Sailor Boy	MISS DORIS WALKER
Tweedledee	MR. EDGAR K. FAVELLE
Tweedledum	MR. TOM GRAVES
Carpenter and Humpty-Dumpty	MR. H. H. H. CAMERON
Walrus	MR. EDMUND GOULDING
Unicorn	MASTER JOE CARR
Lion	MASTER TOM HALL
Jaberwock	MR. ARCHIE GORDON
Alice	MISS IVY SAWYER

Messrs. Stedman, the well-known theatrical agents, have every reason to be proud of their version of that hardy annual, *Alice in Wonderland*, the dress rehearsal of which on Wednesday in last week they invited hundreds of little ones and grown-ups also at the Court Theatre, prior to the revival on Dec. 27. Indeed, it was a kind of a huge Christmas party, and nearly six hundred children, many of them cripples, drawn from the charitable institutions supported by Sir William Treloar and Sir William Dunn, followed the fortunes of Alice with the keenest interest. Sir William Dunn and Sir William Treloar sat in a box and watched them with a father's eye, and the uproar of mirth that rose from the joyous youngsters was a thing to remember. Messrs. Stedman did the whole thing well, and provided tea, chocolates, Christmas trees, and toys for their guests, and it is not too much to say sent everyone home extremely happy.

Raynes have redressed the piece, and new scenery has come from the Hicks' studio, Buckland supplying new properties. We are told that the twenty-second birthday celebrations of Alice's first visit to Wonderland entailed an expenditure of £7,500. In the version witnessed by the public last Monday at the Court Theatre the play began with Alice asleep in a forest glade while fairies dance around her singing a dainty chorus. She wakes to find the White Rabbit, and there is a delightful dance of tiny white rabbits before we meet the Cheshire Cat and the Caterpillar. The King and Queen of Hearts appear. "Off with his head!" says the Queen on the Cheshire Cat's being impertinent, and the Executioner protests the painful difficulty of cutting off a head that has no body to it. The Gryphon introduces the Mock Turtle to Alice, and makes appalling puns, and chants the ditty of what the Whiting said to the Snail. There is a very fine dance of Lobsters—very charming girlie Lobsters in marvellous costumes. The Mad Hatter presides, as of yore, at that most famous of tea-parties with the Dormouse and the March Hare, with the trial of the Knave of Hearts and its many moving incidents. Charming as the first act is, when the curtain falls upon it "the best is yet to be." At the beginning of the second act Alice, in a quaint little song, asks "Why are you such a Mad Hatter?" of that curious person; and after that come the glorious humours of Tweedledum and Tweedledee. The scene changes to the seashore, and the immortals of the oyster feast appear before us. The seven maids with seven mops and the little oysters who went for that tragic walk are there. Even the butter and the bread and the vinegar come tripping over the sand. We see the vengeance that befell the Carpenter and the Walrus, and how the ghosts of the little oysters came and stamped upon their chests. Tweedledum and Tweedledee fight once more their historic fight. Alice is introduced to Leg of Mutton and Plum Pudding, and told that she must never cut people to whom she has been introduced. Then the scene changes from that gorgeous palace to the wonderful glade where first we found Alice asleep on the same mossy bank, and she once again rubs her eyes and says: "What a dream I've had!"

There were many elderly critics present, but the real sages were the little girls in the stalls and elsewhere. Miss Ivy Sawyer as Alice quite took their fancy. She played the part very creditably, suggesting the precocious child very winsomely. This young lady in four previous years has played the Dormouse, and her promotion this year to the name-part is fully deserved. Miss Ivy is a very clever young lady, and is undoubtedly in the front rank of London actresses, whether juvenile or grown-up. Her dancing and singing were dainty contributions. Dan Leno's son played the Caterpillar in the first act, and an eccentric, irascible old gentleman he was, not at all a bad character study, while his quaint dancing tickled the small members in the audience. Young Dan has also to sustain the character of the Red King in the second act. A word of praise is due to Franklyn Vernon as the Mad Hatter, and to Miss Yvonne Schofield as the Cook. The music is light and tuneful, and the conductor, Miss Marjorie Slaughter, claimed a share of attention, for she is the daughter of the composer. She was obviously nervous, but her handling of her dead father's music reflected the highest credit on her. The Bunnies were deliciously quaint, and the Mock Turtle sent the audience into roars of daughter with his tearful stories and elephantine gracefulness. This part was splendidly taken by Mr. Tom Graves, who later on in the afternoon was seen as Tweedledum, with a staunch and energetic supporter in Mr. Edgar Favelle as Tweedledee. We have pleasure in referring to Miss Ada Danks, a pretty Fairy Queen in Act 1 and the Lily of Act 2. The possessor of a powerful and well-trained soprano voice, Miss Danks was recalled again and again for each number she sang. The cast is such a long one that it is impossible to give all the praise we should like to do to each individual member, but we think Messrs. Stedman are to be heartily congratulated on the way in which they have presented their version of Lewis Carroll's immortal classic. The chorus is undoubtedly made up of the pick of the profession. It is an all-round pretty and shapely one, and it is a treat to listen to the young, fresh voices rendering the many familiar numbers. Our dear old friend Marshall Moore, whose work at Drury Lane and the Coliseum all remember, is responsible for the entire production, and he is to be especially complimented on the evident care he has taken with the mounting of the piece. Mr. Archibald Benwell is musical director for Messrs. Stedman, and he, too, has exercised a masterly jurisdiction in dealing with the delightful old numbers. *Alice in Wonderland* is assured of yet another long and successful run at the Court Theatre, and so may it always be.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE STRAND.

On Tuesday Afternoon, Dec. 28, a Fairy Play, in Three Acts, by Mr. Austin Fryers, Music Composed by Master Moritz Lutzen, entitled "CINDERELLA."

Prince	MISS ROSIE FITZGERALD
Dandini	MISS CLARA COOPER
Baron	MASTER HARRY DEAN
Orynthia	MISS MABEL WALL
Ermyntrude	MISS MINNIE DEAN
Chamberlain	MISS CYNTHIA ECKERT
Fairy Godmother	MISS AGNES GLYNNE
Cinderella	MISS MARY GLYNNE

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Harry Lambart presented at the Strand Theatre the above charming little fairy play, which was performed in the prettiest, daintiest manner by a clever company of juveniles. Miss Mary Glynne, so well known to fame by her delightful performance in *The Merry Peasant*, was the Cinderella, and her ingenuous and intelligent acting won the approval and the admiration of all. Miss Rosie Fitzgerald played the Prince pleasantly and well; and Miss Agnes Glynne was good as the Fairy Godmother. Miss Mabel Wall and Miss Minnie Dean deserve praise for their performances as the Ugly Sisters; and Master Harry Dean enacted the Baron with much ability and aplomb, Miss Cynthia Eckert being efficient as the Chamberlain. To Master Moritz Lutzen, advertised as the "youngest child composer," the agreeable music of the pantomime is attributed, and he conducted his score with an amusing air of authority and earnestness. The "screaming harlequinade" which followed the fairy play was cleverly produced by Mr. Arthur Ricketts, who played Clown cleverly, Mr. Fowler Thatcher as Harlequin, Miss Violet Sellers as Columbine, Mr. J. W. Bradbury as Pantaloon, and Mr. Chas. Seymour as Policeman, all rendering valuable service. A marionette show in the second act by Mrs. Victor's "We are Seven" company of juveniles was greatly enjoyed; as, indeed, was the whole entertainment, by the many little people present, Messrs. Helmsley and Leolyn Hart's scenery deserving warm praise. In the Palace scene, Master Lutzen played a pianoforte solo nicely; and he and Miss Mary Glynne were presented to Princess Henry of Battenberg, who occupied the royal box, and warmly congratulated by her Royal Highness.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

King Sollumm	MR. J. F. MCARDLE
Humpty Dumpty	MR. CHARLES GOFF
Martha	MR. STRATTON MILLS
Bison Bob	MR. WILLIAM ROKEBY
Brick and Brack	MESSRS. TOCH AND TARD
King's Jester	MR. GEORGE DENNIS
Princess Aurora	MISS RAY WALLACE
Prince Spriteley	MISS OLIVIA ELTONE
Cherry	MISS DOROTHY VINE
Soaro	MR. GEORGE FISHER
Claribel	MISS MAY RAWLINSON
Rudolph	MISS EDNA MORGAN

Mr. Mulholland need have no fear as to the success of his eighth "annual." It is an unequivocal triumph, and the huge Boxing Day audience showed their appreciation at the finish by the loudest of cheers for all concerned. *Humpty Dumpty* has been treated for the occasion by that clever writer Mr. J. Hickory Wood, who has ingeniously elaborated the nursery rhyme into a most interesting story, wherein Humpty, after his fall, is given six wishes to make the most of, either for good or evil. Unfortunately he uses them in selfish fashion and comes to grief. He enters the kingdom of King Sollumm, a very doleful mortal, in fact, so melancholy that he has offered the hand of his daughter to anyone who can make him laugh. Up to now no one has succeeded, and Rudolph, a harlequin, having seen and fallen in love with the lovely Princess Aurora, determines to win her. Humpty also determines to make her his bride, but she shuns him as being of unknown birth. Humpty wishes for a mother, and Martha claims him as her son. Still he fails, and he then wishes to be the son of a king, so as to be of royal birth. King Sollumm, to his own surprise, marries Martha, thereby carrying out Humpty's wish. The King imposes the further condition that his daughter's hand can only be given to the finder of a diamond ring which he has dropped into the sea. The suitors thereupon descend into the sea, and eventually Rudolph, aided by the spirit of generosity, discovers the ring. A beautiful and most effective tableau of Under the Sea, with the various denizens of the deep, brings Part I. to a conclusion. How Humpty, in revenge, banishes the King, and instals himself on the throne, and afterwards repents, is tersely told, and in consequence everything ends very happily in the beautiful Land of Heartsease. As King Sollumm, the smileless monarch, Mr. J. F. McArdle is most successful in creating laughter, and his characterisation is very clever and laughable. Mr. McArdle's singing of "Don't take me home," was deservedly appreciated, and in his political duet with Martha about the Budget, "A sighing and a sobbing," more verses will speedily be necessary, so numerous were the encores. Mr. Stratton Mills's impersonation of Martha will make a stir, it is so full of mirthful energy, keeping the audience in continual roars of laughter. As Humpty Dumpty Mr. Charles Goff is exceedingly good, and lends the necessary serious tone to the proceedings. Mr. William Rokeby is a typical Bison Bob, the circus proprietor, who, with our knowledge of his powers, will soon make himself a popular favourite. Brick and Brack, played by Toch and Tard, are two funny acrobatic pantomimists, whose wrestling match caused great amusement. Miss Ray Wallace made a most fascinating Princess Aurora, singing and acting very daintily. Her capital imitations at the piano of the leading variety artists were much admired. Rudolph was a handsome and energetic young man in the personage of Miss Edna Morgan. Refined and graceful she won all hearts by her style, and settled down before the day was over into an assured success. Miss Morgan's songs, "A little soldier" and "The girl in the clogs and shawl" were cleverly rendered. Miss Olivia Eltone made a dashing and neat Prince Spriteley, singing and acting spiritedly. Cherry was delightfully played by Miss Dorothy Vine. Mr. George Fisher and Soaro, the Spirit of Ambition, acted as tradition required, and showed himself the possessor of an excellent baritone voice. Miss May Rawlinson made a very prepossessing fairy Claribel, the Spirit of Generosity. Her songs received well-earned encores. There is a full operatic chorus, which gives a good account of itself. The ballets, under the direction of Mme. Rose Lupino, are most artistic, and the augmented orchestra is judiciously conducted by Mr. Horace Middleton, who has neatly composed and arranged the music. A word of praise is due to the famous Tiller "Superba" Quartette, who give some delightful dances. The scenery is of the most gorgeous description, notably Under the Sea and the Land of Heartsease, and does great credit to the unnamed painter. The dresses are greatly to be praised, none finer having been seen at this theatre, and that is saying a good deal. The whole production has been produced under the stage management of Mr. Charles Goss, and it speaks volumes for his ability when it can be said that the pantomime went with a swing and without a hitch on the first performance. The King's annual may be trusted to draw all London.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT THE MARLBOROUGH.

Pantomime by Iam Query, Produced on Monday, Dec. 27.

Phœbe	MISS DAISY WOOD
Colin	MISS RUTH LYTTON
Squire Stubble	MR. LEW LESLIE
Dickie	MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN
Daisy	MISS HESTER REEVE
Dame Julia Durden	MR. ARTHUR STIGANT
Rosie Dimple	MISS ETHEL ASHTON
Silvius	MISS ETHEL OLIVER
Bobby Bilberry	MR. TOM J. MORTON
Goodheart	MISS DAISY WEBB
Giles	MISS FLOSSIE TELFORD
Hodge	MISS EDIE HARVEY
Roland	MISS JESS LESLIE
Roger	MISS EMILY TELFORD
Peggy Primrose	MISS BETTY BURDETTE
Betty Blossom	MISS MURIEL LILLINGTON
Lily Lilac	MISS EDITH JANNER
Hetty Hawthorne	MISS BABS JOHNSTON
Jim Blinker	MR. HAL FORDE
Joe Slinker	MR. RENIE MAYNE

One forgets the passing of the hours in the delightful companionship of *The Babes in the Wood*, who kept two audiences at the Marlborough enraptured and full of jollity on Monday, when the seal of success was set on the latest Holloway pantomime, which has been so admirably produced under the direction of Mr. Fred Fredericks. From beginning to end laughter reigned supreme, the company worked well together, and the scenery and dresses provided a wealth of colour and a revel of fantasy. Especially is this the case in the Fairy Aviary in Lovebird Land, a pavilion of silver sheen lifting to a vista of eternal summer, whose climatic conditions can only be governed by the meteorological office of the Kingdom of Make Believe. This picture, which will delight the fancy of childhood, completes the first part of the story, which reaches finality in A Bower of Roses, a set of stupendous horticultural magnificence, possible only in the fancy of the scene painter, whose name, by the way is not mentioned on the bill.

The babes of the nursery tale have had various protectors and friends in the pantomime versions that have been staged during the last quarter of a century, and we may accept Colin, the miller of the Dee, as one of the most chivalrous and breezy. He it is who offers to teach Dickie the boy babe, his trade, so that he may escape grinding poverty by grinding corn. But need we go on with a story so delightfully familiar and so amusingly told in every particular by the anonymous author concealing his identity under the

phrase "Iam Query." Of course, the comic songs and the choruses of the year are utilised, and the fulness of the popularity of each will be attained if we may judge by the hearty way in which the vast audience on the occasion of our visit took up the refrains of some of the numbers. Especially was this the case of "D-o-u-g-h," sung by Mr. Lew Leslie as the villainous Squire Stubble. A really admirable speciality is being presented at each performance by Mr. Tom Morton and Miss Maggie Bowman. The gentleman takes the character of a chawbacon, and plays it not only consistently and without exaggeration, but is quite restrained. He lets himself, go, however, in a remarkable policeman dance, and also in a soldier and sailor dance, the success of which he shares with Miss Ethel Ashton, the chief danseuse and representative of Rosie Dimple, a village coquette. Mr. Morton also joins Miss Maggie Bowman, an actress of singular charm and versatility, in a burlesque of melodrama, which is one of the cleverest things of the kind we have seen. The gifted pair have much amusing business, and of every opportunity they take the fullest advantage.

Mr. Arthur Stigant, a droll farceur, as Dame Julia Durden knows how to be funny as the old woman of pantomime without being in the least degree vulgar. It is really a sight for the gods and pit to see this dear old lady in a wedding dress of window curtains with a horseshoe worked on skirt and bodice, the costume being completed by a wonderful creation of millinery—a hat with a remarkably ingenious ornament that goes bobbing around at every movement of the head. Mr. Stigant has the usual schoolroom scene, where the fun is of the most uproarious kind, and he scores most unmistakably, too, in his song "What a pity she lived so long ago." Miss Hester Reeve, an interesting and attractive girl babe, has several duets with Miss Maggie Bowman, one—"The land of the Eskimo"—being particularly tuneful. It is followed by a dance, which results in demands for an encore, which was wisely not conceded on the occasion of our visit. Miss Ruth Lytton is a neat, elegant, and pretty representative of Colin, the gallant young miller, whose happy-go-lucky disposition is sufficiently suggested by the popular refrain of "There was a jolly miller once." Miss Lytton strikes one as a particularly jolly lad, and therefore every boy in the audience is at once in touch with her, and the bond of sympathy established on her first entrance is never loosened. She has a great success in "I've been out with Charlie Brown." Miss Daisy Wood, whom we remember in her early teens as an adorable Cinderella, is the principal girl Phœbe, and plays with a distinction, charm, and winsomeness all her own. Phœbe is a mischievious and facetious little rogue, who takes a rise out of the wicked squire and rejoices thereat in her own vivacious way. Miss Wood sings "Who'll take me for a walk," which is quite a favourite number by this time, but has greater dramatic opportunities in "To be continued in our next," in which she assists most ably Mr. Hal Forde, an excellent comedian, who plays the penny plain and tuppence coloured villain in the most diverting manner possible.

Mr. Eric Mayne, a droll performer as the pusillanimous robber, occupies a high position as a funmaker, and this happily-endowed humorist, who has played the part mentioned with great success on a previous occasion, may always be depended upon for an entertainment that bristles with drollery. Full of resource that can only come from an original and gifted comedian, his impersonation is quite in the vein of broad humour, and it embraces at least one speciality interlude worth recording. But it is in his general performance that Mr. Mayne is so strong. He works so admirably with others, and his quaint appearance forms an admirable foil to the other comedians, who play loyally and well together with the agreeable result that each is able to score.

A concluding word may be given in praise of the ballet so well arranged by the veteran Paul Valentine, with Miss Ethel Ashton a versatile and interesting *première danseuse*. Miss Ethel Oliver cuts a dainty figure as Sylvius, and the village coquettes have attractive representatives in Miss Betty Burdette, Miss Muriel Illington, Miss Edith Janner, and Miss Babs Johnston. Miss Daisy Webb wins the hearts of young and old alike as the Fairy Goodheart. The skilful stage-management of Mr. H. L. Pitman is everywhere apparent, but it is specially effective in the Fair scene. As business-manager to Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. Hugh Fleming is courteously active. Mr. J. Murray Herriot, the representative of the theatre management, has a specially hearty welcome for his friends, and he reports excellent business and prospects of its continuance.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" AT KINGSTON.

Pantomime, Produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Boxing Day.

IMMORTALS.

Regina .....Miss Florence Cameron
Siva .....Miss Clara Earle
The Spirit of the Moon ....Miss Fifi Gordon
Sunrise .....Miss Dorothy Lesleigh
Progress .....Miss Marjorie Lawrence
Vedonia .....Miss Trixie D'Eyncourt
Elegantia .....Miss Mabel Melba
Melodia .....Miss Stephanie Ross
Camilla .....Miss Sybil Glynne
Thalia .....Miss Beatrice Letchford
Clarissima .....Miss Lillian Dacroy

MORTALS.

Prince Debonair .....Miss Barbara Babington
King Karuso .....Mr. Henry Carlton
Queen Caramelba .....Mr. Ewart Drake
Princess Bonnibelle ....Miss Geraldine le Sage
Gloriannah .....Mr. W. P. Sheen
Criton .....Mr. Bobbie Hall
Swank .....Mr. Arthur Carlton
Sufrigita .....Miss Gladys Warren
Spankhurtina .....Miss Dorothy Lesleigh
Captain Dash .....Miss Marjorie Lawrence
Ajax .....Mr. Arthur Stanley
Artovoke .....Mr. Harry Laurier
Hepping .....Mr. W. Lazard

Mr. Peter Davey, the energetic and enterprising managing-director here, always strives to go one better than his previous performances, and he has this year been true to the traditions of the house, for *The Sleeping Beauty* was acknowledged by all who saw it to be one of the most refined, ornate, and whimsical pantomimes produced at the Royal County. The dresses are a thing of beauty, the scenery is remarkably fine.

Princess Bonnibelle is the only daughter of the bankrupt King and Queen of Aradia, but the good fairies, headed by their Queen Regina, attend the court on the day of her christening, and promise her a happy life and more prosperous times for her insolvent parents. There is another fairy, however, named Siva, who, expelled from Fairyland for his wickedness, had set up in business on his own account, and, attending the christening festivities uninvited, thwarts the Fairy Queen's good intentions by pronouncing a curse on the babe, to the effect that when she reaches her eighteenth birthday her hand shall be pierced by a spindle and she shall die. The good fairies hold a Parliament, and, of course, the effect of the curse is modified, and, besides, in pantomimes malignant fairies always have to reckon with heroic principal boys.

The company engaged in the show this year is rich in talents. Miss Barbara Babington, a former Kingston favourite, makes a splendid principal boy as the Prince. With a dashing manner and remarkably fine contralto voice, she soon becomes a prime favourite with every part of the house. All her songs were loudly applauded, the more noticeable amongst them being "Somewhere" and "Let us all go down the Strand." A charmingly naive portraiture of the Princess was given by Miss Geraldine le Sage, her singing and dancing being received with great favour, and stamping her as a young artist of much promise. A very effective number was a duet, "Can't you see I love you?" in which she took part with the Prince. Miss Florence Cameron displayed a remarkably fine delivery and a voice of more than usual excellence in the part of the Fairy Queen, which she invested with an indefinable charm hard to describe. She quickly became a favourite in every part of the house. An equally favourable impression, though of a different kind, was created by Miss Clara Earle as the wicked fairy Siva. Miss Earle had many lines to speak, and all were spoken with a faultless elocution and impressiveness that leaves little doubt that this young lady has a bright future before her in other stage productions. A most satisfactory picture of the mannish Sufrigita was given by Miss Gladys Warren. Though there is much that is excellent in this year's Christmas show at Kingston, it will be remembered most for the wealth and excellence of the fun of the comedians. Principal amongst them was Mr. W. P. Sheen, who plays the part of the Princess's nurse, Gloriannah, with an irresistible drollery. Mr. Sheen, in a duologue over a cup of tea, along with Queen Caramelba, simply convulsed the house with his whimsicalities, and when he gave some patter about the husbands she had had and sang a song made up of the first lines of well-known ditties, he fairly brought the house down. In this direction his efforts were ably seconded by those of Mr. Henry Carlton as King Karuso, by Mr. Bobbie Hall as the King's general factotum, Criton, by Mr. Ewart Drake as Queen Caramelba, and by Mr. Arthur Carlton as the Prince's squire, Swank, the latter of whom was, if possible, more amusing than the others. Miss Marjorie Lawrence as the one male official of the Aradian Republic, Captain Dash, was loudly applauded for her singing in "The Boys of Digby," and for her dancing, which was graceful and clever. Altogether, it was a most happy crowd of artists, and their efforts to amuse met with a most responsive echo in every part of the house.

The chorus, which completely filled the stage, went through some pretty dances, in which they showed evidence of very careful training. The dancing of Miss Fifi Goddon's troupe of ladies was also a pleasant feature of the show, which was followed by an old-fashioned harlequinade, in which Mr. Bobbie Hall was the clown, Mr. Arthur Carlton the panteloon, Mr. Fred Laurier the harlequin, Miss Marjorie Lawrence the columbine, and Mr. W. Lazard the policeman. The entire production was designed and arranged by Mr. Peter Davey, and was produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Harding. The book, which was of more than usual literary excellence, as well as the lyrics, were written by Mr. Allen Taylor, whilst the music was selected and arranged by Mr. Hugo Rignold, the *chef d'orchestre*. The scenery was painted by Mr. Geo. Miller, the resident artist, and by Mr. A. G. Betts, Mr. W. Robinson, and Mr. F. O. Jones. The costumes were designed by Miss Peter Davey, and were made under her superintendence in the theatre wardrobe by Mrs. Morgan and her assistants, whilst the electrical effects, which in some instances were very clever, were by C. Dodman, jun. Miss Hill and Miss Silvey were responsible for the millinery, Messrs. G. Arnold and A. Scott for the mechanical effects, and Messrs. C. Dodman, C. E. Dodman, and E. Hedger for the properties.

"QUEEN OF HEARTS" AT KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Dec. 27, the Pantomime, by Frank Dix, Music by Julian H. Wilson and J. O. Shepherd.

Kardallah I. .....Mr. Stephen Adeson
Queen of Hearts .....Mr. Arthur Rigby
The Knave of Hearts .....Mr. Harry Dent
Florizel .....Miss Violet Loraine
Estrella .....Miss Mabel Green
Armida .....Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill
Fortuna.....Miss May Sheridan
The Joker .....Miss Renee Reel
The Ace of Hearts .....Miss Ethel Buckler
The Ace of Diamonds .....Miss Mabel Vere
The Ace of Clubs .....Miss Eunice Gray
The Ace of Spades.....Miss Clarice Carley

When the curtain rang down on *Queen of Hearts* on Monday the verdict of the overflowing house was that it was one of the prettiest and one of the wittiest of pantomimes which has yet been produced at Kennington Theatre, and that nothing which ingenuity could suggest or enterprise furnish was wanting on the part of Mr. Robert Arthur, who had personally supervised the production, to make it one of his greatest successes. The story, which we need not describe *in extenso*, deals with the machinations of a certain sorcerer named Armida. Left alone for a few minutes with the tarts—the Royal tarts served on a golden dish and the courtiers' tarts on a pewter dish—Armida places a curse on the former and dowers the latter with every attribute of success. Unfortunately for the fulfilment of her schemes, the Knave, in a fit of jealousy, changes the Royal tarts from the gold to the pewter dish, and unwittingly secures for himself and his fellow conspirators the tarts which are anathematised as "Tarts of trouble and of woe." In the end, Armida is baffled, and the Prince, Florizel, presents to his people as his bride the charming Estrella, Queen of Hearts.

The curtain rises on the King's reception room (by Stafford Hall), in which there is a rattling chorus—and, by the way, the concerted numbers throughout are quite up to operatic standard—and the Knave (Mr. Harry Dent) puts in some excellent fooling. This is followed by Fortuna making her appearance and revealing the possession of a remarkably fine voice, the full range and compass of which finds ample scope in the song, "There is rapture." The second scene, The City of Kardallah, is an exceedingly picturesque set, into which Mr. W. T. Helmsley has put forth his most artistic efforts, and it forms a gay background for the pretty ballet by Miss Madge Martin's eight lively Sunbeams. Miss Violet Loraine, a dazzling and handsome Prince, makes tender love to a fascinating Estrella, in the person of Miss Mabel Green, and they join in a duet; but the sentiment gives place to merriment when Mr. Arthur Rigby (the Queen) and Mr. Stephen Adeson (the King) get to business, and the first-named's song "I am bound to be there," with a chorus the hang of which the gallery quickly gets, makes a palpable hit. Miss Violet Loraine also has a rousing number, "All the nice girls love a sailor." But the two outstanding features of this scene are the Ballet of Living Cards (one of the daintiest and most effective ballets Miss Martin has ever designed), and the Suffragette scene, in which the Knave figures most prominently. The ballet, in which all the cards as represented, is one of the most tasteful creations that can well be conceived, and elicited unstinted admiration. The Suffragette episode keeps all in roars. The Knave is dog-whipped by a Suffragette, who mistakes him for the Prime Minister, and, finding all egress barred, he, in despair, dashes into a lion's cage, when suddenly the lion's head comes off, and a woman emerges shouting "Votes for women."

In the third scene, The City Gates, a front cloth by Mr. G. E. W. McKie, both King and Queen get a lot of fun out of a burlesque on the carol, "Good King Wenceslas" and by their efforts to get off on their journey in a donkey cart; and then comes the great artistic effort by Mr. Stafford Hall, which is deserving of warm praise, the transformation scene with five sets, The Witches' Hovel, The Dragon's Pass, Love's Gate of Flames, The Frozen Plateau, and Poppyland, all beautifully done, and constituting quite a triumph for the painter's art. Estrella sings very sweetly the ballad "If I knew, if I knew," and Miss Renee Reel dances with great cleverness in these scenes, the closing one of which is brilliant in the extreme. The entrance of the dragon, with huge head and flaming eyes, in the second set of the scene, is also a remarkably good stage effect, which appeals with especial force to the youngsters.

In the second act, which opens with the Castle of Baba-Han, the music of Mr Julian Wilson, light and sparkling as it is, gives place to the melodies of Mr. J. O. Shepherd. The scene is notable for a wonderful mechanical change from a castle in all the pomp and circumstance which Mr. Stafford Hall can devise to a heap of picturesque ruins, in consequence of the malediction which has been laid on it by Armida. There is a good rustic chorus to send off the second act, and a fanciful ballet by the Sunbeams, whilst Mr. Stephen Adeson sings a darkey melody, "Tell the coons I'm coming," with chorus effects, in ripping style, and fairly brings down the house. Arthur Rigby also has a taking number, "When you are married, girls," whilst Miss Mabel Green's song, "I am looking for Mr. Wright," sung in dainty fashion, and accompanied by a chorus of girls, goes well. Miss Violet Loraine's rich contralto voice is heard at its best in "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," and then there is a pretty illuminated ballet amongst the castle ruins. Comic relief to this flood of melody and vision of gaiety is provided by Messrs. Adeson and Dent's knockabout duet, "The Brothers Malone," followed by an intensely amusing burlesque by the same gentlemen of a Salome dance. The Ticket Office scene, another effective front cloth by Mr. G. E. W. McKie, furnishes a big opening for Mr. Arthur Rigby, which he makes full use of with his "Top note" song, and he scores again very heavily with Mr. Dent in the Airship scene, a panorama by Mr. Fowler Hogg. In his Mr. Dent gets a full encore for his topical number "That's where I'd like to be," and after a full measure of merriment the scene changes to the brilliant finale, the Palace of Kardallah (another of Mr. Stafford Hall's triumphs) peopled with its gay and festive throng of brightly attired courtiers and people, where Estrella reigns as real Queen of Hearts. Enough has been written to show that the principals miss nothing in their endeavours to make the pantomime a great entertainment, and that they attain their object goes without saying. Mr. Arthur Rigby has added another laurel to his chaplet of honours by his impersonation of the Queen of Hearts, which is one of the cleverest efforts in the way of a dame part that has been seen for a very long time. He is a comedian of outstanding merit, and keeps the fun flowing. He is ably seconded by Mr. Stephen Adeson, whose representation of the King is unusually good. In the Knave of Mr. Harry Dent Kennington possesses quite a treasure, and these three comedians may well be trusted to keep the lamp of mirth brightly burning during the whole run of the panto. Miss Violet Loraine wins all hearts as Prince Florizel, interpreting the rôle with a good deal of vigour; and the Estrella of Miss Mabel Green is a winsome and charming study, besides which she has a silvery soprano voice. Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill is well placed as Armida, making quite a dramatic figure; and Miss May Sheridan is an excellent Fairy Fortuna, whose singing could scarcely be bettered. Miss Ethel Buckler, Miss Mabel Vere, Miss Eunice Gray, and Miss Clarice Carley are a bevy of attractive damsels as the Four Aces, and the graceful dancing of the Eight Sunbeams must delight the heart of their trainer, Miss Martin. The electrical effects of Mr. David Marshall, the mechanical effects of Mr. Harry Krot leave nothing to be desired, and the costumes well maintain the reputation of J. H. Harrison, Ltd., there being some wonderful dresses. The vocalisation of the chorus and the orchestration under the conductorship of Mr. Julian Wilson are two undeniably strong points in a pantomime towards the production of which the stage manager (Mr. P. F. Howley) and the business manager (Mr. H. B. Brandreth) have been unsparing in their efforts. Mr. Brandreth, especially, can lay the flattering unction to his soul that the theatre whose affairs he administers, under Mr. Robert Arthur's personal direction, with so much ability, has scored again with its pantomime.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Pantomime, Produced on Christmas Eve.

Prince Charming .....Miss Maisie Ellinger
Cinderella .....Miss Dorothea Clarke
Dandini .....Miss Alice Nixon
Peter Pepper .....Mr. W. H. Kirby
Phyllis .....Miss Maud Bower
Zena .....Miss Nellie Sheffield
Bill and Ginger ..Messrs. Stacey and Williams
Baron Buckshot .....Mr. Arthur Paterson
Queenie .....Mr. Paddy Dupres
Fairy Godmother .....Miss Cordelia Knight
Fairy Queen .....Miss Lillian Mildred
Footman .....Mr. Dutton Nicholls

The crystal slipper is set amid scenes of splendour at the Crystal Palace Theatre, where Mr. Bannister Howard presented his fourth pantomime to a crowded house on Christmas Eve. The piece is written by that experienced pantomime librettist, Mr. Fred Bowyer, and the music, arranged by Messrs. Leonard Gautier and Ernée Woodville, proves very melodious. A succession of scenes, in which fun, harmony, and spectacle are agreeably diversified, is begun in Fairyland, and is followed by a bit of Old London, where the principals assemble. Prince Charming is organising a dancing competition, in which Baron Buckshot, the Baroness, and her daughters compete. The palm is awarded to Cinderella, with whom the Prince duly falls in love. In the Woods is a wonderfully realistic bit of woodland, with live deer grazing by a running brook, and rabbits emerging from their burrows. A clever sunrise effect is here gained, the shades of early morning giving way to the full light, in a series of pretty tints of blue. Fun by the comedians and love-making by the Prince and Cinderella having been indulged in, the traditional meeting of the maiden with her Fairy Godmother takes place. Cinderella's rags are turned to silken raiment, and thus attired she departs for the historic ball in a crystal carriage blazing with a myriad of electric lights, and drawn by beautiful miniature ponies.

Spectacular excellence is carried still further in Part II., which opens at The Reception Hall, an artistically painted scene, giving way to the Ballroom, a gorgeous interior, peopled by Esquimos, Red Indians, Spaniards, and other nationalities, the picturesque crowd taking part in a stately measure. A diversion is here created by the appearance of a quartet of comedians attired in swallow-tailed coats and ballet skirts and tights. The Tradesmen's Entrance gives an opportunity to the comedians of which they avail themselves fully, the fun being continued in Gossip Lane, which leads to the Palace of the Prince, a scene of brilliant splendour, glowing with colour and movement.

Entire success rewards the efforts of the artists. Miss Maisie Ellinger is a commanding Prince, and carried herself buoyantly throughout. She sang vigorously, and enthusiasm was created by "Charlie Brown" and "Wake up, Britishers," for which she received a handsome bouquet. Pretty and demure is the Cinderella of Miss Dorothea Clarke, who has a graceful presence, a musical voice, and skill in dancing. She was heard most agreeably in her reverie by the fire, and in her love duet, "Kiss, Kiss," with the Prince, which drew forth lavish applause. Miss Alice Nixon is a dapper Dandini, and made a hit with "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" The leading spirit of fun is Mr. W. H. Kirby, whose drollery as Peter Pepper, the page, knows no bounds. He secured innumerable laughs by his resourceful humour, and hilarity reigned whenever he was on the stage. He has a droll scene in the kitchen, when Cinderella takes the part of a lady barber, and in turn supports that lady in her tuneful rendering of "Hallo! Mr. Moon Man," joining her in a quaint dance. Mr. Kirby also scores with "Don't take me home." A favourite of former years is found in Mr. W. H. Dupres, who makes a very substantial Baroness, lording it ludicrously over the Baron, played by Mr. Arthur Paterson, by whom the pantomime is produced. Mr. Dupres imports much individual humour into his performance, and is the cause of unlimited merriment. Laughter is also aroused by the broker's men, in whose eccentricities Messrs. Stacey and Williams revel. The Ugly Sisters are played by ladies, Miss Maud Bower making Phyllis a simpering puss, and Miss Nellie Sheffield investing Zena also with many of the attributes of the feline species. Both contribute to the mirth-making, Miss Bower singing "Is anybody looking for a widow?" and supplementing it with a quaint dance. The cast is completed by Miss Cordelia Knight, a prepossessing Fairy Godmother; Miss Lillian Mildred, an engaging Fairy Queen; and Mr. Dutton Nicholls, an imposing footman. Valuable aid to the effect of the piece is furnished by the XL Quartet of Glee Singers, whose rendering of the "Thuringien Volkslied" is very harmonious, and secured them an encore. A special troupe of dancers go through a series of novel evolutions, including a housemaid dance, in which dustpans take the place of tambourines. Fun and melody prevail at the Palace, and from its reception on the opening night the pantomime has a prosperous career before it.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE ELEPHANT.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

IMMORTALS.

The Fairy Godmother..Miss Winifred Rochefort
The Dream Fairy .....Miss Nora Martyn

MORTALS.

Prince Casimir .....Miss Mary Ambrose
Dandini .....Mr. George Newburn
Hercules .....Mr. Freddie French
Tiny .....Mr. Ted Young
Cinderella .....Miss Lilian Errol
Araminta .....Miss Alice Inman
Elvira .....Miss Florrie Haydon
Capers .....Mr. Tom Poole
Duke of Whistbridge .....Miss Madge O'Neill

Mr. Charles Barnard has chosen for his second annual pantomime at this house the story of *Cinderella*, which is presented in a very interesting and amusing manner by a capable company of artists under the direction of Mr. Ernest Stephens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan. The story is unfolded in quite a simple manner, thus possessing added charm from the juvenile point of view. The Prince falling in love with Cinderella, and giving a ball to which he issues a general invitation in order that she may be present; his changing places with Dandini, his valet, in order to win the maiden's love as an ordinary individual; the Fairy Godmother befriending the poor damsel and arranging for her attendance at the ball; the transformation into a beautiful carriage and still more beautiful dresses of a pumpkin, mice, lizards, &c.; the instruction to leave the ball at twelve o'clock; the lost slipper and the usual happy ending—all these details are to be found in the present production, simplified and yet elaborated.

Miss Winifred Rochfort as the Fairy Godmother looks and acts her part to perfection, her singing of the song "Somewhere" being one of the features of the performance. Miss Mary Ambrose is a dashing Prince, and her rendering of "Ship ahoy" will not be easily forgotten. Mr. George Newburn was a rather boisterous Dandini. He is an excellent mimic, and gives a very welcome series of impersonations in the Ballroom scene His song, "A lass in Yorkshire," was well received. Mr. Freddie French is a decidedly humorous Hercules, Baron de Debtington; and Mr. Ted Young as Tiny, the Baroness (who has a habit of using long words which she evidently does not understand) is also a capable comedian. When we mention that Mr. Ted Young is about six times as big as Mr. French in stature the humour of the nick names Hercules and Tiny will be appreciated. Their scenes are really too funny to be described, quite the best being their return from the Ball at 4 a.m. The two daughters of the Baroness, Araminta and Elvira, are played respectively by Miss Alice Inman and Miss Florrie Haydon. Both do well in these two parts, which, however, do not as yet offer abundant opportunities. Mr. Tom Poole as Capers, the Baron's servant, introduces some funny songs and still funnier dancing, his duet with Cinderella in the kitchen scene being a huge success. Miss Madge O'Neill makes a fine "boy" as the Duke of Whistbridge, her song, "Molly O'Morgan," being one of the tit-bits in the pantomime. In the name-part of Cinderella Miss Lilian Errol is dainty and winsome throughout. She has a charming presence and sweet voice, added to which she is an excellent dancer, and what more could be desired for an heroine? Her principal songs are "Fairies have gone to bed" and "Silvery moon." Baby Wolf and Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls introduce some fine dancing. The chorus is good, and all the other characters are in capable hands. The scenery is excellent, the principal sets being The Glade, The Home of the Fairy Godmother (in which scene we see Cinderella and her wonderful electric coach drawn by two of the prettiest little ponies imaginable), The Royal Ballroom, and In the Spring Time. The music is catchy and tuneful throughout. The production reflects great credit upon the stage-manager, Mr. G. Cartwright.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT THE SHAKESPEARE.

Pantomime, Produced on Christmas Eve.

For his fourteenth annual pantomime Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett has chosen *Goody Two Shoes*, and with a galaxy of star artists, magnificent scenery, and gorgeous dresses, the production easily surpasses all previous efforts. The author of the book is Mr. J. Hickory Wood, whose ripe experience has enabled him to evolve a pretty and concise story elaborated with witty and sparkling dialogues, the subject being treated in a manner that appeals to young and old alike. The various melodies have been skilfully arranged by Mr. Alf. J. Lawrance, who is also responsible for the pleasing incidental music, and the topicals are by Mr. T. F. Doyle. The pantomime is divided into thirteen scenes, and opens with the Magic Workshop, where the rival forces of fairies and demons are engaged making the shoes which mean good or bad luck to the wearer. In the next scene—the Village of Where, a pretty rural setting—acquaintance is made with the principal characters, who quickly work up the interest of the piece, and the next three scenes are whirled through with a mixture of haunting melodies and side-splitting witticisms. The final scene of the first part is the Butterfly Ball, where human butterflies dance a ballet amid wonderful electrical illuminations, which created a furore of applause. So far all has gone well, for the magic shoes worn by Goody have brought good luck to everybody. Prince Charming is anxious to share his throne with her, and the poor and needy Widow Niblick, who previously lived in a shoe, is now comfortably installed in a gorgeous mansion. The widow's rise to fortune is, however, only temporary, for Goody puts on the Demon's shoes and matters are reversed. The Fairies speedily put things right, and with the union of Goody to Prince Charming the pantomime concludes. The Prince's Flower Garden is a very effective scene, in which the elaborate dresses and a wealth of flowers provide a feast of colour.

Miss Queenie Leighton as Prince Charming heads a powerful cast, and her performance was a revelation to those who had not had the pleasure of seeing this talented artist at Drury Lane Theatre. Her fascinating personality proved irresistible, and the audience accorded her a warm welcome. Her chief songs were "Do you know Charlie Digby?" "Down in Paradise Alley," "For months and months," and "The Corsican maid," all of which were rendered in dashing style. A dainty and charming Goody was seen on Miss Gracie Sinclaire, whose sweet voice was heard to advantage in "Little Alpine maid" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." Her acting, too, captivated all hearts, and won her scores of admirers. Miss Irene Verona as the Baroness Bounder played a comedy rôle with success, and her song "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" was quickly proclaimed a favourite. Miss Minnie Mulvey was a sprightly Marjory, and her song and dance were well received. Miss Eva Reed as Jane made a droll appearance, and her comicalities caused much merriment. Miss Annie Wallace was an ideal Fairy Fortuna, and despite a tendency to sink her voice, acted satisfactorily. The song "Somewhere," allotted her, had a haunting chorus, which will soon be heard everywhere. There is a strong array of comedians, of whom Mr. Harry Pleon has the chief opportunities. His comical make-up as the Baron Bounder evoked considerable laughter, and throughout the evening he was in close touch with the audience. Possessed of a large amount of comic force, Mr. Pleon gave of his best, and nothing could be more funny than his rendering of "Don't take me home" and his skit on a coon song. He was ably seconded by Mr. J. J. Dallas, who, as the Widow Niblick, made a first-class comic female, and was untiring in his efforts to keep the ball of fun rolling, his ditty "What I suffer," being extremely comical. Another provider of mirth is found in Mr. Fred Mulvey, who played the part of Jack in the true pantomimical style, his breezy gags and numerous comicalities going far towards ensuring the success of the performance. As Rupert Mr. Roland Bottomley was all that could be desired and his excellent voice was greatly admired. His numbers included "I can't keep my eyes off the girls" and "Let's all go down the Strand." Mr. Walter Balfour was not a particularly spiteful demon, and he charmed all with a pretty song, "Cigarette." Mr. Bert Atherton as the postman and Messrs. Sando and Con Silo as flunkeys gave valuable assistance. Mlle. Dolli was conspicuous in several dances, which were executed with considerable skill and grace. A word of praise is due to the ballet, who were unflagging in their efforts, and also to a number of children, whose harlequinade dance was prettily carried out.

The production was under the stage direction of Mr. Ivan Capell, and the comfort of the audience was well looked after by Mr. Frank Seabrook, the acting-manager for the pantomime company.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT THE DALSTON.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

Ali Baba .....Mr. Harry Maxam.
Cogia Baba .....Mr. Johnny Johnston
Cassim Baba .....Mr. Ted Wootton.
Ganem .....Miss Marie Reeve
Morgiana .....Miss May Otto
Mustapha .....Mr. Arthur Stevens.
Bossi .....Mr. Syd Raymonde.
Abdallah .....Miss Dora Frank Harvey
Hasarac .....Mr. H. Hughes
Hasarie .....Mr. J. Carney
Hajam .....Miss Greta Seymour
Hoolam .....Miss Gertie Webster.

When the curtain rose on the afternoon of Boxing Day on this season's pantomime at the Dalston Theatre there was not a vacant seat in the house, and all the available standing room was occupied. The subject chosen by Mr. Fred J. Little and Mr. Fred Darcy, who again present the pantomime here, is the well worn one of *The Forty Thieves*, and Mr. Frank Ayrton, who has provided the book, keeps as near to the narrative as possible. The music has been composed and arranged by Mr. Geo. D. Fox, and goes with a good swing, Mr. W. R. Parker being musical director. In the opening scene, the market place of Baghdad, domestic trouble commences when it is found that Ali Baba, the woodcutter, who has been afar, has brought home a beautiful slave, Morgiana, but the incident is soon closed, and throughout the progress of the piece Ali and his wife form the chief source of amusement. Ali and his son have an exciting time in the woods, near the cave of wealth, hiding up, in, and around a tree, from the forty thieves, who, like the proverbial bad penny, have a habit of coming back. The woodcutter, however, eventually succeeds in entering the cave and acquiring a deal of wealth, which fact serves once more to prove that riches are not accompanied by unalloyed happiness, for Ali has a good deal of anxiety as to the storage of his appropriations, and although everything ends happily, some of those most nearly related to him have some very narrow escapes, due chiefly to the alertness of the wily slave.

Ali in the cast did their utmost to secure a "go," and the performance "went" accordingly. Mr. Harry Maxam made Ali Baba, the woodcutter, a very funny character. Ali was at once popular, but he became a positive power with the juveniles from the moment when, in the course of a song, he announced himself as "King of the Dalston Scouts." He also sang "They're all beginning to sprout" in a very comical strain. The scene in the wood where, with his son, Ganem (Miss Marie Reeve) he loads the donkey, Bossi (Mr. Syd Raymonde) with the various bags of treasure stolen from the cave, created roars of laughter, especially at those stages of the proceedings where the badly-treated quadruped repeatedly collapsed. Miss Marie Reeve acted with considerable vivacity throughout, and Mr. Raymonde made Bossi a very intelligent animal. Mr. Johnny Johnston was a great source of amusement as Cogia Baba, Ali's wife, making a decided hit with the song, "It's old Mother Brown's canary." Mr. Johnston also pleased with his neat dancing, and in the course of a skating song demonstrated a variety of forms of coming in contact with the ground. The brother of Ali, Cassim Baba, has a vigorous representative in Mr. Ted Wootton, whose excellent voice aroused the Boxing Day audience to quite a pitch of enthusiasm. His principal vocal contribution was an old favourite which decidedly caught on, and Mr. Wootton, although time pressed somewhat just then, was compelled to respond to an encore. Morgiana, Ali's slave, as portrayed by Miss May Otto, was a charming young personage, and her song, "Come where the sun is shining" evoked a genuine round of applause. Miss Dora Frank Harvey is just suited in figure and style to the leading part of Abdallah, the Captain of the Forty Thieves, and firmly established herself as a favourite. Her fresh voice lent good effect to the rendition of the song "I do like to be beside the seaside." Mr. Arthur Stevens as Mustapha, and Miss Greta Seymour and Miss Gertie Webster as two of Abdallah's lieutenants did well, but special mention must be made of two other lieutenants, represented by Mr. H. Hughes and Mr. J. Carney, who were extremely funny, and caused quite a sensation from the humorous point of view by the introduction of an extravagant boxing bout. The Forty Thieves are really a fine set of outlaws.

There are a number of specialities to be noted. The performances of the principal dancers, Sydney T. Russell's Acme Quartette, greatly pleased those having an admiration for graceful movements, while the unique speciality, the Hadji-Mohamed Ben-Medani troupe of tumblers gave the audience an opportunity of noting what a number of grotesque forms the human body can be trained to

represent. An old-fashioned harlequinade will be appreciated by many who glory in a scene of rough and tumble. The following is the list of those taking part in the harlequinade: Clown, Mr. Syd Raymonde; Pantaloon, Mr. T. Gill; Harlequin, Miss Marie Mitford; Columbine, Miss Minnie Cultiam; Policeman, Mr. T. G. Mountford. Mr. T. Wootten is stage-manager.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT THE BRIXTON THEATRE.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

Giant Gorribuster .....MR. PEN ARMSTRONG
Demon Discord .....MR. VICTOR CANNON
Fairy Rosebud .....MISS GRACE ROSAIRE
Cupid.....MISS DOROTHY MAURICE
Mabel .....MR. NAT LEWIS
Tottie .....MISS NORA GORDON
Lottie .....MISS EVA BONNER
Bertie .....MASTER ASHER ELLIS
Jack .....MISS DAISY JAMES
Princess Truelove .....MISS MARIE MOSS
Baron D'Oofless .....MR. CHAS LEVERTON
Baroness D'Oofless.....MISS DOROTHY VERNON
Roderick .....MISS STELLA DEWAR
Rosetta .....MISS DOROTHY MILLAR
Philomel .....MISS MARIE YORK
Fanfare .....MR. HARRY PHILIPI
Blowhard .....MR. JAMES PHILIPI
Algar and Hubert .....PHILIPI BROS.
Phyllis .....MISS RUBY LESTER
The Cow .....MESSRS. CURDS AND WHEY
Mrs. Jack .....MR. NEWMAN MAURICE

Hearty congratulations must be extend to Mr. Fred Melville for the great success of his third annual pantomime, which was started on its career on Boxing Day before an audience which filled the house from floor to ceiling. It has been specially written by Newman Maurice, who has closely followed the famous nursery story on which the pantomime is founded. The company engaged is one that any suburban theatre could be proud of. Miss Daisy James enacts the part of Jack, a character that suits her immensely. She quickly obtained the favour of her audience, who gave her a most hearty reception on her entrance, and her success was maintained throughout both in song or dance. The most popular items of her répertoire were "Ship, ahoy!" and "Let's all go down the Strand," both of which received encores. A graceful and dainty Princess Truelove is Miss Marie Moss, who is well remembered here for her performance in *The Earl and the Girl*. She is to be complimented upon a very charming portrait of the principal girl, her singing and dancing being carried out in a most fascinating manner that wins all hearts. Miss Dorothy Vernon is excellent as the Baroness D'Oofless, a character which is usually undertaken by a comedian. Its importance is greatly enhanced in the hands of such an experienced actress as Miss Vernon. Miss Grace Rosaire is a sweetly pretty Fairy Rosebud; Miss Dorothy Maurice is a graceful Cupid; Miss Stella Dewar as the Herald, Roderick, is very good; and Miss Dorothy Millar, Miss Marie York, and Miss Ruby Lester as Rosetta, Philomel, and Phyllis respectively are very attractive. The large array of comedians is headed by Mr. Newman Maurice, who in addition to writing the book and producing the pantomime, undertakes the arduous part of Mrs. Jack, and keeps the company present in a continual state of merriment. He is the life and soul of the pantomime, and scores a great success. Mr. Charles Leverton is a decided acquistion as Baron D'Oofless. He is a very versatile artist, and will become an immense favourite. Another pantomime favourite at Brixton is Nat Lewis, who gives two most mirth-provoking studies—first, that of a schoolboy scapegoat, and later as the Giant's baby, Mabel, his immense size adding considerably to the effect obtained. Mr. Pen Armstrong quite realises his responsibilities as Giant Gorribuster, and Mr. Victor Cannon is excellent as the Demon Discord. The popular Philippi Brothers render great assistance in the laughter-making by their clever impersonations of Fanfare, Blowhard, and Algar and Hubert. A promising young artist, and one who has an undoubted future before her, is Miss May Hill, who sings, dances, and acts equal to many an artist of greater experience. Her rendering of "Booby Boo" was received with tremendous applause. The pantomime is mounted in a most elaborate manner, some fine specimens of the scene painter's art being revealed. The Village of Sweet Delight and The Realms of Fairyland are really magnificent. The Magic Beanstalk, The Giant's Combined Room, and The King's Palace are received with delight. The music has been composed and arranged by Mr. W. T. Gliddon, and the pantomime should prove a great success both financially and artistically. Mr. W. Bellamy courteously attends to the comforts of the numerous patrons.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT THE BRITANNIA.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

Dick Whittington .....MISS MAY BEATTY
Alice Fitzwarren .....MISS RUBY VERDI
The Slavey .....MISS PEGGY PRYDE
Fitzwarren .....MR. BOB HUTT
Idle Jack .....MR. EDWARD LAURI
The Mates .....MR. WILL HARRIS, MR. ALEC FRASER
King Rat .....MISS MILLICENT COOPER
The Emperor of China ....MR. TOM MELBOURNE
Princess Mi Young Man..MISS EILEEN MACARTHY
The Cook .....MR. GEORGE RAPLEY
The Cat .....MR. JACK HURST
The Captain .....MR. TOM BIRCHMORE
The Boatswain .....MR. J. WILLOUGHBY
The Apprentices ....THE REED OETZMANN TROUPE
The Prime Minister .....MR. PERCY STANHOPE
Attendant on Princess ....MISS MABEL CAMERON
Midshipman ....MASTER LESLIE PERKS
Fairy Cat .....BABY ELVIE

Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall's first pantomime at the Britannia must be recorded as a decided success. The theatre was crowded with an enthusiastic holiday audience, who insisted in joining in the choruses of the most popular songs of the annual, and encores were prominent. The mounting of the pantomime is most elaborate, notably Highgate Hill, the Deck of the Saucy Kipper—a very fine piece of stagecraft—The Feast of Wealth—a truly magnificent picture ablaze with electric lights—and the Guildhall, in which the entire company assemble in gorgeous array.

The powerful company contains some of the most popular artists. Miss May Beatty is an ideal Dick. Possessing a graceful figure and a tuneful voice, she carried all before her, and scored a great triumph both in singing and dancing. Her most popular items were "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," "Madeira," "Money don't make happiness," and "Somewhere." Miss Ruby Verdi is a delightfully bewitching Alice, her graceful manner and dainty ways adding considerably to her success, and she is an immense favourite. Miss Peggy Pryde as the Slavey makes the most of her opportunities, causing the part to stand out prominently, and in spite of a very bad cold from which she was evidently suffering sang "Blackpool" remarkably well, and was loudly applauded. Miss Millicent Cooper is an impressive King Rat. Princess Mi Young Man is played in a captivating manner by Miss Eileen Macarthy. There is an excellent array of comedians, who make the fun fast and furious throughout. At the head is Mr. Bob Hutt as Fitzwarren. He and Mr. Edward Lauri as Idle Jack keep the audience in a continual round of merriment. The songs and dances rendered by them are received with rounds of applause. "Seaside" and "Charley Brown" are sung in fine style by Mr. Lauri, who has scored a triumphant success. Mr. George Rapley renders admirable assistance in the matter of laugh-making as the Cook. He is amply provided with songs, one of his most successful numbers being "I'm the girl who took the wrong turning." The Captain and Mates of the Saucy Kipper are made a humorous trio by the combined efforts of Mr. Tom Birchmore, and Mr. Will Harris and Mr. Alec Fraser. Mr. Jack Hurst is a wonderfully realistic Cat; Master Leslie Perks deserves to be highly commended for his performance of the Midshipman, and also for his tuneful rendering of "Ship ahoy," a song which will become immensely popular. Miss Baby Elvie, a dainty little maid, plays the Fairy with an archness which is captivating. The apprentices are cleverly represented by the Reed Oetzmann Troupe. Mr. Tom Carpenter causes amusement as the Emperor. The Eight Elves and the Ten San Tan Girls render admirable assistance throughout the evening, the last-named troupe being well received for their deservedly popular scena, "An Eastern Slave." The music has been arranged and composed by Mr. J. Carter, the musical director, the whole pantomime being produced under the experienced direction of Mr. J. M. Jones and supervised by Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall. At the close of the evening performance Mr. Jones made the announcement on behalf of Mr. Brammall that his next year's pantomime would be *Aladdin*.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT THE PAVILION.

Pantomime, by Ray L. Cody, Music by Bernard J. Paterson, Produced on Boxing Day.

MORTALS.

Robin Hood .....MISS WINNIE BROWNE
Maid Marion .....MISS EDITH HARMER
Baron Popham Hotstuff ....MR. BILLY HARMAN
Billiken .....MR. LAURIE ASTER
I Kill 'em ... / U Eat 'em ... } MESSRS. BARRETT AND KNOWLES
Dick .....MISS IRIS NORMAN
Dorothy .....MISS WINNIE MYLNE
Agnes Lizzie Snowdrop ....MR. REG. EDWARDS
Cynicus .....MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE
Friar Tuck .....MR. ARTHUR WINGRAVE
Will Scarlet .....MISS GLADYS ERSKINE
Margery Daw .....MISS VERA SANDERS
Allan-a-Dale .....MISS JESSIE MCPHERSON
Little John .....MISS GLADYS GOLDSMID
Nellie Bly .....MISS DORA GREY
Polly Flinders ....MISS J. ROSE
Mary Muffet .....MISS DOROTHY TEMPLE
Tommy Tucker .....MISS G. HART
Jack Horner .....MISS S. HANSON
Charley Wiggles .....MISS E. HUXTABLE
Heralds .....MISSES O. NOBLE AND M. HART
Premiere Danseuse .....MISS BESSIE ROYCE

IMMORTALS.

Herne the Hunter .....MR. JOHN SANDBROOK
Goodheart .....MISS VERA VIZARD

The "Drury Lane of the East" has always been noted for its pantomimes, many popular stars having graced its boards, and this season's Yuletide entertainment will compare very favourably with any that has been produced here. Mr. Alexander Leighton is responsible for the entire production, and has staged it in a very thorough manner, many of the scenes calling forth loud applause on Boxing Day, when a crowded house were evidently delighted with the entire "show." The book is specially written for this theatre by Mr. Ray L. Cody, who has done his work admirably; and the music, composed and arranged by Mr. Bernard J. Paterson, is also just what is required, most of the present-day "hits" being introduced. Very soon after the rise of the curtain the audience is put in merry mood by the ludicrous wooing of Baron Popham Hotstuff and Agnes Lizzie Snowdrop, a schoolmistress—a "faded flower" with one eye on the main chance and the other on the Baron. The Baron is, of course, anxious to be rid of the Babes, and enlists the services of the two "stony" villains, I Kill 'em and U Eat 'em, who manage to abduct the youngsters from the Schoolroom—a scene in which there is much laughter-compelling business between the schoolmistress and her pupils. Robin Hood and his sweetheart Maid Marion are, however, soon on the track of the "ruffians," and in Sherwood Forest—a particularly fine set—would rescue them, but are thwarted by the wicked demon, Herne the Hunter.

The first scene of the second half of the pantomime represents the Sands, Brightsun-on-Sea, where much amusing interpolated business takes place, the fashionably gowned seaside girls and their "Johnnies" and a number of damsels in dainty bathing costumes making a very attractive picture. Here Robin Hood and Maid Marion, disguised as a pierrot and pierrette, come to seek the Babes, who are "attached" to a troupe of entertainers presumably run by the Baron, and which also includes most of the other principals; and a very entertaining item is that in which they each give a "turn" after the manner of well-known music-hall artists. The evil one again prevents Robin and his sweetheart from rescuing the Babes, this time making his appearance in an airship, but, of course, the gallant outlaw succeeds in his mission ere the curtain is finally rung down on a pantomime crammed with amusing matter for both old and young.

The long cast is a hard-working and capable one throughout, and contains many really clever performers. The important part of Robin Hood has a handsome and dashing representative in Miss Winnie Browne, her fine figure and gallant bearing fitting her for the rôle admirably. She looks particularly well in a white pierrot dress, in which, in conjunction with Maid Marion, she contributes a pretty song and dance, and speaks her lines crisply and distinctly. The vocal numbers which fell to her share, including "One of the girls," were all well rendered, and she quickly became a great favourite. Miss Edith Harmer made an attractive and bright Maid Marion, also contributing considerably to the pleasure of the audience by her vivacious acting and tuneful vocalism. She also looks especially chic in her pierrette dress, and the couple were very happily associated. Miss Iris Norman and Miss Winnie Mylne were a couple of dainty and natural Babes, Miss Mylne contributing a pleasing rendering of "Shadowland"; and Miss Gladys Erskine and Miss Vera Sanders were also excellent as the second pair of lovers, Will Scarlet and Margery Daw, Miss Erskine's vocal numbers including a smart sailor song and dance, "Ship, ahoy!" and Miss Sanders scoring unmistakably with a well-rendered "Dutch" song and dance. The comedians of the cast are many, and all are responsible for much mirth-provoking business. The wicked uncle, Baron Hotstuff, has a droll and resourceful representative in Mr. Billy Harman, particularly ludicrous being his love passages with Agnes Snowdrop, the schoolmistress, a part funnily enacted by Mr. Reginald Edwards. "For months and months" and "Is anyone looking for a widow?" are amongst the many humorous songs for which this laughter-provoking twain were responsible, and they also devised and carried out many funny bits of "spoof" business which never failed in their appeal to the delighted audience. Prominent throughout the pantomime were Messrs. Barrett and Knowles, popular music-hall entertainers, as the two "ruffians" I Kill 'em and U Eat 'em, and their efforts in the cause of mirth always "told." Particularly funny was their "combat" in the forest, and their many songs, notably "Don't take me home" and "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" were loudly acclaimed, their success being very pronounced. Billiken, a page, also helped along the fun of the performance as portrayed by Mr. Laurie Aster, his song and dance "I do like to be beside the seaside" being amongst the popular numbers that scored; and Cynicus, a jester attached to Robin Hood, was excellently enacted by Mr. William Pringle, the versatile actor sharing in the success of the attractive "Top of the morning" song and dance with Robin and a little Irish colleen. Mr. John Sandbrook was a robust and characteristic demon Herne, the Hunter, doing full justice to his song "Revenge"; and the fairy Goodheart was ably represented vocally and otherwise by Miss Vera Vizard. The numerous other parts were all capably undertaken, and all contributed to the success of the production. The many terpsichorean evolutions of the Asturias Troupe of Dancers were also of immense value, and were all loudly applauded, notably the "bathing" interlude, and the toe solo of Miss Sylvia Rose was a clever contribution. The numerous and comely chorus sang pleasingly and acted intelligently, and had evidently been well trained, and the scenery and dresses were up to West-End form, and valuable embellishments of a production that should draw the wise men of the East and their women folk and offspring in large numbers for many weeks to come.

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT" AT THE BROADWAY.

Pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood, Produced on Monday, Dec. 27.

Prince Opulent .....MISS MINA GREEN
Princess Prue .....MISS ADA CLAREMONT
Jack .....MISS IDA VALLI
Jill .....MISS MAIDIE SCOTT
Tommy .....MISS MAUDIE FRANCIS
Margery .....LITTLE GLADYS NELSON
Siren, the Enchantress ....MISS ELSIE SKILLINGS
White Heather .....MISS MAUDE LAKE
Father Hubbard .....LITTLE ZOLA
Squire of Whare .....MR. SYD WALKER
Ripp / Rapp } BROTHERS OBO
Cat .....MR. SAM POLUSKI, JUN.
Circe .....MISS KATHLEEN O'NEIL
Honey .....MISS AMY BURTON
Mother Hubbard .....MR. FRED EMNEY

We have to chronicle another pantomime success at this handsome theatre, where pantomime is always warmly welcomed. Mr. Fred Karno is responsible for this year's production, which bears comparison with any of its predecessors for lavish mounting and handsome and costly dressing. The story is well and clearly told. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, including charming Miss Mina Green, whose Prince Opulent is what a pantomime prince should be, handsome and dashing, a fine vocalist, and a clever actress; Miss Ada Claremont makes a sweet Princess Prue; Miss Ida Valli as Jack was bright and vivacious, and soon made herself a warm favourite; Miss Maidie Scott is a delightful Jill, dainty and smart; as Tommy and Margery Miss Maudie Francis and Miss Gladys Nelson win all hearts by their charmingly natural performance, the latter giving a particularly clever "Salome" dance, and their rendering of their various numbers gave great pleasure to all present. Miss Elsie Skillings as Siren the Enchantress and Miss Maude Lake as Fairy White Heather are both fine singers and are heard to great advantage in the music allotted to them. Mr. Fred Emney is a richly humorous Dame, and his Mother Hubbard is one of the best acted parts in the production. He has a most amusing and clever partner in Little Fred Zola, whose Father Hubbard is deserving of the very highest praise. Mr. Syd Walker is quietly funny as the Squire of Whare, and in a night or two will doubtless be still funnier; Sam Poluski, jun., is a capital Cat; and the Brothers Obo give a highly amusing rendering of Ripp and Rapp, described as "gentlemen of leisure." Miss Kathleen O'Neill and Miss Amy Burton as Circe and Honey respectively are very attractive; Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers are agile and graceful; the children are cleverly trained; and the chorus is remarkably strong, both in numbers and ability.

The music is arranged, and much of it written, by the clever conductor, Mr. Dudley Powell. Among the many popular numbers rendered during the performance we may especially single out for commendation "I don't care," "Flirt with you," "Don't take me home," "Let's all go down the Strand," "Has anyone seen Kelly?" "Little Miss Snowshoes," "Come over the garden wall," "Doch-an-doris," "I used to sigh for the light of the silvery moon," "Two of a laughing family," "Ship ahoy!" "Months, months, months," "Teddy Bear," "I'm looking for a girl like you," "Somewhere," "Everybody works but father," "Old Jack Frost," "A Girl in Berlin," "There's magic in her smile," and the fairy duet from *Lohengrin*.

Mr. James Leslie is Mr. Karno's business representative; Mr. W. H. Morgan is the producer; and Mr. Harold Wellesley the stage-manager, assisted by Mr. Louis Wigley. The scenery is very beautiful, and is designed by Mr. E. Grimani; the beautiful dresses designed and executed by Mme. Hinley and Mme. Day; and lastly, but by no means least, genial and popular Mr. Bertram Iles looks after the comfort of patrons with unfailing vigilance and courtesy.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT FULHAM.

Pantomime, Produced on Monday, Dec. 27.

Ali Baba .....MR. A. G. SPRY
Mrs. Ali Baba .....MR. ALFRED PASSMORE
Morgiana .....MISS HETTIE GALE
Ganem .....MISS LILLIE LASSAH
Abdallah .....MISS GRACE HAMPTON
Cassim .....MR. C. GIFFORD
Hassan / Zobeida } .....SISTERS BARTHOLOMEW
Nomadi .....MISS M. FULLER
Horace (the Donkey) .....MR. LEN LOAN
Hassarac / Bassarac } .....PASSMORE BROS.
Fairy Queen .....MISS HELEN HAZEL

The Fulham Theatre opened the pantomime season on the afternoon of Boxing Day with a house full from the front stalls to the uttermost part of the gallery. Mr. Robert Arthur has enlisted the services of Mr. Bannister Howard to produce this his sixth annual pantomime. The story is our old friend *The Forty Thieves*, and the author keeps very closely to the original. The first scene depicts a street bazaar in Baghdad, where acquaintance is made with the two chief laughter-makers, Mr. A. G. Spry and Mr. Alfred Passmore, as Mr. and Mrs. Ali Baba of Baghdad. We also see that very important personage Morgiana, charmingly impersonated by Miss Hettie Gale, in a most coquettish Oriental costume. With the appearance of Ganem the love interest gets a good start. Miss Lillie Lassah makes a sprightly and graceful boy as Ganem, and scores frequently with song and dance. The bold bad villain is represented by Abdallah, captain of "the Forty," who finds a handsome and dashing representative in Miss Grace Hampton. In this first scene Ganem and Morgiana have a pretty song, "Kiss, Kiss," and Abdallah sings a rollicking ditty, "Charlie Brown." Scene 2 is an interior—Ali Baba's home—in which ample provision is made for that very enterprising and remarkable quadruped Horace, the donkey, Mr. Ben Loan proving very comical in this capacity. Morgiana her sings a quaint little song on "Tommy," and follows it with some amusing stories about children. Next we get the sad story of the missing Kelly, with full gallery chorus and accompaniment. Into the peaceful abode enter Hassarac and Bassarac (the Passmore Brothers) bent on mischief. The Passmores are smart acrobats, brimful of gags and wheezes, and always keep the fun going. The third scene is a very pretty woodland set, on one side of which the entrance to the Robbers' Cave is depicted. The scene opens with a medley of well-known operatic airs, and is followed by some original and entertaining business by Ali Baba and his family, chiefly on the subject of "work-shyness." Ganem puts in a good song, "Let's all go down the Strand," and with the arrival of Hassarac and Bassarac there begins a lively picnic party, in which huge fun is got from disappearing dishes, and from the entrance of a fearsome spider. At length the Forty Thieves march on, in gorgeous dress and gleaming armour, making a fine stage picture. Abdallah sings a rousing martial song with a chorus, "Soldiers." As the robbers retire the Ali Baba family enter the cave and load up the patient ass with the spoils, not forgetting plentiful allusions to taxes and other topical matters. Scene 4 is Ali Baba's house, rather more ornate than his previous abode. The envious Cassim (Mr. C. Gifford) discovers the secret. The Bartholomew Sisters here contribute some good songs and dances, notably the "Alpine dress" song. Scene 5 is the Robbers' Cave, an elaborate set, with a wealth of colour. Morgiana is brought in by the robbers, and Cassim enters and is caught red-handed. His life is spared, but he is condemned to the awful punishment of having to tell funny stories and getting them capped by others. Miss Rosa Maie, a winsome little exponent of the art of the ballet dancer, here gives a pleasing specimen of her powers. Mr. Cordery also executes his wonderful trap act, appearing and disappearing in the most daring manner. The Queen of the Fairies (Miss Helen Hazel) intercedes for Cassim, and the scene ends very effectively with a final chorus, amid a shower of gold.

The second act begins with a street scene in Baghdad. In this appear the Melody Four, in an extraordinary parody of the Danse des Apaches, and Morgiana has a popular song, "I wish I lived next door to you," and a dance which proved great favourites. Ganem also hits the popular taste with a song, "I must go home to-night," another favourite, and quickly taken up. Mrs. Ali has some good patter and a cleverly devised medley of lines from popular songs. Ali Baba's umbrella, specially designed for occasions when it rains cats and dogs, arouses a roar of laughter. Mr. Spry, to be in the fashion, as he says, has a song after the manner of last year's "Seashells," in which Peter Potter and piccaNili and other things are gloriously mixed up. His interlocutor in the house carried out her part very smartly. Scene 7 is the Courtyard of Ali Baba's house, with the thieves in their jars, all ready. Ganem scores with the song "The Silvery Moon," and Mr. and Mrs. Ali and Ganem get much laughter from a very mad coon song. The Passmore Brothers again find scope for some absurd business, and finally the robbers are duly despatched with "low flash oil." Scene 8 is a street scene, with shops. Mr. and Mrs. Ali make fun of the inevitable interview, and a good topical song "If." The Melody Four then go through a ventriloquial interlude. Scene 9 is the Palace, a fine set, full of life, light, and colour, which does credit to the producer and the scenic artists. With a good rousing chorus and a graceful dance by Rosa Maie, the play comes to an end with all happy in the approved way.

Of the artists engaged Miss Hettie Gale and Miss Lillie Lassah acquit themselves ably. They look well, act with spirit, and are soon established as favourites. Miss Hampton is a fine Abdallah, and carries herself gallantly. Mr. Spry and Mr. Passmore work indefatigably throughout. Mr. Passmore is large and solid and smiling, with a penchant for eccentric head-dresses, while Mr. Spry is slender and persuasive in his methods, and develops his business very cleverly. Both comedians are full of fun, and steer clear of vulgarity. Mr. Gifford has not much to do as Cassim, but fits well into his place. The chorus sing unusually well, with plenty of vigour. The scenery is tasteful and appropriate, and the dresses harmonise well. The music is bright and skilfuly put together, and is led by Mr. Basil Horsfall, the composer. The stage-management is capable, the piece running quite smoothly throughout.

"ALADDIN" AT THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

Pantomime by Frank Ayrton, Produced on Dec. 27.

On Monday last Mr. Wentworth Croke must indeed have felt a proud and happy man. Never before has the capacity of the Lyric been put to such a strain; crowds large enough to have filled it many times over were turned away at both afternoon and evening performances. We very much doubt also whether such tumultuous applause has before been heard in this house. Always full of life, charming and sparkling throughout, the pantomime went with a "bang" from start to finish. It was a most successful opening, and we feel sure that Mr. Croke will regret the fact that he has only arranged for a four weeks' run here.

The story follows the usual conventional lines, clearly defined and well worked up by the author, Mr. Frank Ayrton. The first scene is the Market Place at Pekin, and here we see a real motor-car, most beautifully decorated and lighted with nearly one hundred electric lights. Aladdin goes through all the troubles he experienced in the old legend, and the play closes with a very pretty interior of the palace. Every scene is an artistic triumph, the first, the fifth (the Magic Cave, which makes the rather small stage look twice as large as it really is), and the last being probably the best.

The long cast is headed by Miss Kittee Rayburn as Aladdin. Last year Miss Rayburn scored such an instantaneous success here that Mr. Croke booked her for this year, and on Monday his policy received a most enthusiastic endorsement. Miss Rayburn's lively acting and tuneful rendering of her songs win for her a great popularity in Hammersmith. Miss Rayburn sang "Charlie Brown," "Meet me where the lanterns glow," "If I had a word to say," and "It's all over with the men," and it would be extremely difficult to say which was the most popular. The reference to the local M.P., Sir William Bull, in the third song fairly brought down the house.

Another great success was scored by Miss Nancy St. John. Miss St. John acts with great charm, and her song "The girl in the clogs and shawl" was one of the successes of the evening. Her duet with Wishee Washee, cleverly and humorously interpreted by Mr. Cecil Clayton, entitled "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," was another popular number. Miss St. John's Princess Badroul was altogether delightful. Mr. Manitto Klitgaard did well as the Emperor of China and used his fine voice with excellent effect in the song "Somewhere the moon is shining," to which additional charm was added by the chorus being sung as an echo by a sweet-voiced child in the auditorium. As So Slo, the Grand Vizier, Mr. Bruce Lindley was good. Mr. Harry Morgan's broad humour as Abanazar added considerably to the enjoyment of the evening, and his song "Let's all go down the Strand" was a decided hit. Carl and Carr as the two Policemen were exceedingly comic. The dear old dame Widow Twankey was invested with a large fund of quiet humour by Mr. Fred W. Graham, who in "Girls, study your cookery book" proved most amusing. Miss Iris Fox as Pekoe was a pert and vivacious second boy, and scored with "Do you want to buy any lavender?" Miss Violet Dupré was good as Ni-See. Miss Dorothy Erskine and Miss May Raymonde as Geni of the the Ring and Slave of the Lamp respectively did all that was required of them well. The special turns provided by Victor's troupe of juveniles, who sang, danced, and imitated music-hall celebrities, and the Nine Follilettes were amongst the most successful of the many pleasing items. The three particularly clever dances by the La Belle Trio also well merited the unstinted applause they received.

Mr. Wentworth Croke is to be heartily congratulated on a completely successful show, and great credit is due to him for the efficient cast he has chosen. Mr. Ashley Richards deserves great praise for his part in composing and selecting the music, and also for the way in which he has trained the chorus. Seldom has such a fine-voiced chorus been presented on any pantomime stage. To the producer, Mr. Thomas Barry, and to the general-manager, Mr. Fred S. Jennings, to whom the smooth working of the show was undoubtedly due, we offer our congratulations. Their hard work has provided excellent results. One last word must be said in praise of the dresses, which were most artistic and pleasing to the eye.

"TOM THUMB" AT THE WEST LONDON.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

Jack Valiant .....MISS MABEL LOWE
Tom Thumb .....MISS BERTHA HANBURY
Queen of the Fairies ....MISS WINNIE BROOKS
Sophie Sunlight .....MISS VIOLET THOMAS
Marie Gold .....MISS LILY THOMAS
Susie Shy .....MISS ENID HARCOURT
Lottie Lightfoot .....MISS EVA SYLVESTER
Hans Goldberg .....MR. C. J. FOSTER
Gretchen ..... / Simple Simon } ....MESSRS. MCKIE AND MCKAY
Elvira .....MISS FREDA MURRAY

A two-houses-a-night pantomime is presented by Mr. William Bailey, with full stage sets and bioscopic effects, chorus, ballet, and a transformation scene of singular beauty. The pantomime is written by Mr. Ward Bailey, and begins by showing the exterior of Tom Thumb's home, the Village of Dingley Dell, an effective rustic set. Gretchen emerges from her cottage, and the entry of this sour-visaged dame, and her altercations with Hans Goldberg, Simple Simon (the village softy), and Tom Thumb's six little brothers make the fun fast and furious. Simple Simon accuses Tom Thumb of making game of him, and attempts to strike Tom, an effort which is only defeated by the timely arrival of Jack Valiant, who is quickly followed by Elvira, the village belle. Jack's courting is rudely interrupted by a terrible roar from the ogre, Giant Grim, whose seven-league boots are seen flying over the village house-tops. Jack vows to slay the monster, and departs with his friends, whilst Hans and Gretchen, in talking over the ways and means of keeping their large family of Tom and his six brothers, decide that the only thing to do is to lose them in the woods and leave them to the care of the good fairies. Tom overhears this, and resolves to frustrate the scheme. The screams of Elvira are now heard as she is carried off by the ogre and imprisoned in his castle, from which she can only be rescued by a little child. Tom Thumb merrily undertakes the task, and, with the help of his six brothers, all garbed as Boy Scouts, they effect an entrance into Castle Grim, where Tom steals the ogre's seven-league boots, and thus breaks the power. Finally, in the Realms of Enchantment, Jack Valiant is seen bearing the ogre's head as a trophy, and all ends happily.

As Jack Valiant Miss Mabel Lowe acquits herself gallantly and well. Possessed of an attractive personality and a bearing both comely and sprightly, she quickly becomes the sort of "boy" that the discriminating West Londoners love, and they take her to their hearts accordingly. All her lines are clearly and lucidly given, not the smallest point being missed, and her song "The lantern's glow," which brings down the curtain in the first half, is the gem of the pantomime. Miss Bertha Hanbury is full of life and go as Tom Thumb, and her success is at once assured. Mr. C. J. Foster contrives to present a typical embodiment of the rustic woodcutter, Hans Goldberg. Miss Freda Murray as Elvira sings and dances herself into popularity almost without an effort. Two of her prettiest numbers are "Do you want to buy any Lavender?" and "Drummer boy," both of which are deservedly encored. The onus of providing the fun of the evening falls on the shoulders of those capable comedians McKie and McKay, and, as Gretchen and Simple Simon respectively, they are never at a loss to crack a well-timed joke or perpetrate a wheeze appropriate to the occasion. That pretty and popular ballad "Somewhere" is so well known to the gallery boys that it enables them heartily to assist the Fairy Queen, Miss Winnie Brooks, in its rendering, a fact of which this experienced artist takes the fullest advantage. Special mention must be made of the neatly-tripped measures proffered by the well-trained dancing quartette Misses Violet and Lily Thomas, Enid Harcourt and Eva Sylvester. Allusion has already been made to the charms of the set the Village of Dingley Dell, and equally attractive scenes are the Road to the Forest and the Realms of Enchantment, all of which are noted for their warmth of colour blended with effective lighting, and the greatest credit is due to the stage-manager, Mr. Beresford Whitcomb, for his discerning supervision. The costumes, by John Hyman and Co., are bright and new; the dances, arranged by Miss Lily M. Mallineon, are ably carried out; and the scenery is painted in Mr. John Turner's best vein. The popular airs played by Mr. Ward Bailey's skilful orchestra reflect credit on Mr. Bailey for their arrangement and selection. Mr. William Bailey has our heartiest congratulations on the immediate success of his experiment, for a more cheery two hours' amusement it would be hard to find. In Mr. J. H. Shotter he has a courteous acting-manager, who carefully studies the comfort of all.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT THE ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

Pantomime, Produced on Boxing Day.

Robinson Crusoe .....MISS MAISIE JERRARD
Polly Hopkins .....MISS MAMIE IRIS
Flossie Goodmeasure .....MISS ELSIE MAY
Trixie Goodmeasure .....MISS MABELLA MAY
Wavelet .....MISS NANCY TAYLOR
Father Neptune .....MR. HELIER LE MAISTRE
Mrs. Crusoe .....MR. JIMMY DANVERS
Matilda Crusoe .....MISS POPPY LYTTON
John Willie Crusoe .....MR. JACK BLAND
Will Atkins .....MR. HARRY C. ROBINSON
Captain Brassbound ....MR GEORGE MUMFORD
Bill Bung Hole .....MR. ANDY MARSH
Scraps .....MR. ARCHIE HERBERT
King Stewemandeatem ..MR. HERBERT PEARCE
Willywalloo .....MR. JOHN FIRTH
Wallywilloo .....MR. WILLIAM GREENE
Friday .....MR. ERNEST LEON

Woolwich is well catered for in the matter of Christmas entertainments, and especially is this the case at the newly-redecorated and now handsome and perfectly-equipped Artillery Theatre and Opera House, under the enterprising management of Mr. Jules Richeux. The subject chosen for the pantomime is the always popular one of *Robinson Crusoe*, and it is produced by the experienced Mr. Edward Marris, who has provided an "annual" that none will cavil at. The scenery and dresses are first-class; there is a large and attractive chorus; many popular songs and melodies are introduced; but the outstanding feature is the fun of the whole show—fun which appeals to both grown-ups and youngsters alike. Particularly appealing to the kiddies are the antics on the island of a couple of quaint quadrupeds which are harnessed to a trap tandem, the grotesque pranks, attitudes, and behaviour generally of these "fiery untamed" steeds, and their persistent terpsichorean efforts compelling continuous laughter. There is also plenty of funny business in the scene Between Decks, for the villainous Will Atkins, the flighty Mrs. Crusoe, and one of her sons, John Willie; and the Under the Sea incidents also make for merriment, particularly the love-making of John Willie and the alluring mermaid, Wavelet. The company is a well-chosen and capable one, every part contributing to the enjoyment evidently derived by the audience on the night of our visit. The hero, Robinson, has a dashing and handsome representative in Miss Maisie Jerrard, who looks particularly well in the costume she dons after she has been wrecked on the island. In this scene she won loud applause for her rendering, with banjo accompaniment, of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," the chorus of Amazonian Guards largely contri-

buting to the attractiveness of the popular number; and her performance throughout was an admirable one. Crusoe's sweetheart, the merry Polly Hopkins, has a bright and vivacious portrayal from Miss Mamie Iris; and the mermaid Wavelet, who is "longing for someone to love her," and is not particular whether it is the gallant Robinson or his brother John Willie, was charmingly enacted by Miss Nancy Taylor, who delivered her 'nes with praiseworthy distinctness, and also ved herself a vocalist of no mean ability by rendering of a duet with Father Neptune, the monarch of the deep being quite satisfactorily undertaken by Mr. Helier Le Maistre, whose fine voice was admirably employed in the part. Mr. Ernest Leon as the faithful servant, Friday, scored in the number "There goes Jack Frost," and a well-executed dance; and the terrible King Stewemandeatem was played with a ferocity one would expect from such a cannibal by Mr. Herbert Pearce, his song "Far away in Yokohama" evoking decided approval. The comedians divide the honours pretty evenly between them, Mr. Jimmy Danvers making a very grotesque and diverting Mrs. Crusoe, Mr. Jack Bland giving a droll portrayal of John Willie; and Mr. Harry C. Robinson being appropriately mock-melodramatic as Will Atkins. The trio proved themselves very resourceful in the invention of comic business, and speedily became great favourites. The dog Scraps was a very knowing and agile canine as impersonated by Mr. Archie Herbert, and the other parts were all satisfactorily filled. Appreciated specialities were given by Mr. Jimmy Danvers, assisted by Miss Maisie Jerrard ("Paderewski Up-to-date"), the Sisters May, Archie Herbert (the man monkey), George Mumford and Andy Marsh (leg-twisting comedians), and Little Levite and company in the "Tandem," to which reference has been made. By desire, a "real old-fashioned harlequinade" is presented at every performance.

"CINDERELLA" AT STRATFORD.

Pantomime by "Iam Query," Produced on Boxing Day.

Prince Charming	Miss Madoline Rees
Dandini	Miss May Garstang
Lord Chamberlain	Miss Bessie Herbert
First Equerry	Miss Ethel Verdi
Second Equerry	Miss Flora Ernest
Countess Clarice	Miss Agnes Ellis
Mme. L'Fashion	Miss K. Hardren
Baron Pumpolino	Mr. Barney Armstrong
The Baroness	Miss Alys Eden
Thisbe	Mr. Sidney Young
Clorinda	Mr. Fred Lincoln
The Horse	The Unites
Pedro	Mr. Harry Rogerson
Cat	Jeddah
Kelly	Mr. Jimmie Steele
Cinderella	Miss Ethel Ward
Witch Spiteful	Miss Emilie Holt
Fairy of the Slipper	Miss May Primrose
The Fairy Godmother	Miss Mabel Gordon

For his fourteenth annual pantomime at the Stratford Borough Theatre Mr. Fred Fredericks has chosen the ever-popular *Cinderella*, which was produced at a "record" matinée on Boxing Day. The "book" is from the pen of that fertile playwright who elects to be known as "Iam Query," and follows the familiar fairy tale quite closely. Fifteen scenes embellish the story, many of which are exceedingly beautiful and picturesque. The Forest Glade, a scene of sparkling colour and animation; the Fairy Boudoir, wherein takes place Cinderella's preparation for the ball, and in which some clever simultaneous dancing is introduced in front of a huge "magic mirror"; Cupid's Bower, with Cinderella's gorgeous, electrically-lit chariot; and the State Ballroom, with its display of lovely dresses, are the most prominent scenes, and they evoke unstinted admiration. The pantomime proper concludes with Cinderella's betrothal to Prince Charming in the Royal Conservatory scene, and in lieu of the customary transformation a novelty is introduced in Maurin's Fairy Fountain Spectacle, which wins warm eulogiums. A further novelty supersedes the old-fashioned harlequinade in Horace and Olga's table troupe of cats and dogs, the intelligence displayed by these clever domestic animals pleasing the youngsters mightily.

In the title-rôle is Miss Ethel Ward, readily remembered as last year's Aladdin. Cinderella is daintiness itself, and prettily pathetic in Miss Ward's hands, and, although as yet no special numbers have been allotted to her, she shares in the success of several duets. Miss Madoline Rees is a handsome and dashing Prince Charming, who makes so gallant a lover, and she has some well-chosen songs. The ear-haunting refrain of "Molly O'Morgan," quickly taken up by the audience, is heard long after the singer has departed; "A girl in Berlin" is another prime favourite; and the popular "I've been out with Charlie Brown" wins plenty of applause. Miss May Garstang as Dandini is an outstanding success, her physical activity, distinct enunciation, and vivacity enabling her to do full justice to the part. Her rendering of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" creates quite a furore, and "I want you to come to Madeira with me" will, if possible, enhance its popularity in her hands. Mr. Barney Armstrong as the Baron has the lion's share among the comedians. His is rather an unorthodox and nondescript Baron, but a none the less droll and entertaining personage, indefatigable in his efforts to amuse and always successful. His songs go wonderfully well, "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" being an instantaneous success, whilst Mr. Armstrong also scores heavily, with "Do take me home" and "Harry Lauder on the brain." In each of his numbers—and practically throughout—the Baron has an inquisitive, grotesquely attired, diminutive confederate, called Kelly, and this character, as impersonated by Jimmie Steele, is highly mirth-provoking, though rather too obtrusive at present. The Ugly Sisters, Thisbe and Clorinda, have capital exponents in Mr. Sidney Young and Mr. Fred Lincoln, the latter having played Dame here more than once before, and consequently being a local favourite. He also wins much success vocally, "I've got a little job to go to" being probably his most popular item. Mr. Harry Rogerson is a bustling and alert Page, and his speciality acts, "A One-Man Melodrama" and a three-legged "Manxman" ditty, are received with hearty applause. Miss Alys Eden is entirely successful as the Baroness; and others who lend valuable aid include Miss Bessie Herbert (Lord Chamberlain), Miss Ethel Verdi (First Equerry), Miss Flora Ernest (Second Equerry), Miss Agnes Ellis (Clarice), the Unites as the Horse and Servants, and Jeddah as a juggling Cat. The Good and Bad Fairies are appropriately played by Miss Emilie Holt (Witch Spiteful), Miss May Primrose (Fairy of the Slipper), and Miss Mabel Gordon (Fairy Godmother). The eight prepossessing damsels who comprise the Stella troupe of dancers contribute some very welcome numbers; and the Unites supply a speciality tumbling and bouncing act which is keenly appreciated.

The scenery is by Mr. George Dodson and Mr. Arthur Hillyard; properties by Mr. F. F. French; mechanical effects by Mr. George Saunders; and electrical effects by Mr. W. Woodward. Mr. Ben Barrow (the resident musical-director) is responsible for the refined and melodious music, which is quite a special feature of the production; and a word of congratulation must be passed to Mr. Will L. Clement, who stage-manages in exemplary style. Mr. Fred Fredericks should be fully satisfied with the splendid reception accorded his latest "annual" at the initial performance, which augurs well for the success of *Cinderella*. With the experienced and popular Mr. Frank Rothsay "in front," the patrons of the commodious Borough Theatre will find their comfort well studied.

"ALADDIN" AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Boxing Day, Dec. 27, the Pantomime, Written by Joseph L. Barry.

Abanazar	Mr. Bert Harrow
Radia	Miss Margaret Story Gofton
Lumino	Miss Eileen Cross
Nanti Oof	Mr. Leslie Fane
Wun Lung	Mr. Chas. A. James
Aladdin	Miss Amy Bellwood
Widow Twankey	Mr. Happy Attwood
Prince Pekoe	Miss Jennie Hallworth
Princess Badroulbadour	Miss Beatrice Harris
Bossi and Wrong Un	Messrs. Bernard and Weston
Wishee Washee	Mr. Bert Rayburn
Saucee	Miss Hilda Zingari
Lardi Doo	Miss Marian Walker

Mr. Samuel Barnard may take full credit for having provided, through the medium of Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., a pantomime that has in every respect met with the emphatic approval of the patrons of the large and handsome theatre of which he is the popular proprietor. The famous story of "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" is not only brilliantly illustrated by a series of picturesque scenes, but there are numerous specialities introduced which, if they have little or no connection with the ancient Eastern tale, serve the more important purpose of adding considerably to the enjoyment of the audience. The hero in his travels and various exciting adventures is accompanied by some whimsical companions, who supply that comic relief without which no pantomime story is complete. Though Abanazar is described as a "malevolent magician" and "a black-hearted wizard," he is a villain who does very little real harm after all, and as he is always amusing his misdeeds are readily forgiven. It is true that he, a rank coward himself, induces Aladdin to encounter the unknown perils of the magic cave in order to obtain possession of the wonderful lamp, but even on this occasion his purpose is defeated by the astute youth.

This important character is played by Miss Beatrice Harris, whose many personal attractions quite easily account for Aladdin falling in love with her at first sight. Miss Harris sings "A tiny little coon" and other songs with much charm of manner, and she is also a graceful dancer, successfully emulating the skilful accomplishments of leaders of the ballet. Miss Amy Bellwood is a sprightly Aladdin; indeed, a better representation of the hero of the story could not be wished for. Amongst Miss Bellwood's most telling ditties is "I can't keep away from the girls," which is received with much applause. Abanazar is cleverly embodied by Mr. Bert Harrow, a capital pantomime comedian of unlimited resources in the way of providing abundance of fun. His catch phrase, "You are a-carrying on" is invariably most effectively employed, and his version of "Mary had a little lamb," with its laughable variations is one of the hits of the pantomime. He and Miss Marian Walker (Lardi Doo) in the seaside scena, "On the Prom.," are excellent in their burlesque representation of a masher with a comic moustache and a merry miss who meet upon the promenade and indulge in pleasantries. Mr. Leslie Fane does well as Nanti Oof, the impecunious Emperor of China, whose Vizier, Wun Lung, is ably embodied by Mr. Chas. A. James. As the Widow Twankey, the mother of Aladdin, Mr. Happy Attwood plays the part with a quiet unctuous humour that is extremely effective. Decidedly funny without being vulgar is Mr. Attwood's Dame, and his catch phrase, "It can't be done," will no doubt be a favourite saying with the youths of Woolwich for some time to come. Bernard and Weston as Bossi and Wrong Un, members of the Pekin police force, are very prominent in the scheme of amusement, and take a large share in the task of providing the fun and frolic. They speedily become warm favourites with the audience, and well deserve the cordial reception which is given them. One of their most amusing devices is to change their headgear at every available opportunity, and their well-rendered duets are also deserving of mention. Mr. Bert Rayburn is good as Wishee Washee, laundry boy to Mrs. Twankey, and scores with the quaintly sung ditty, "Hi tidley hi tidley hi," in imitation of Mr. Sam Mayo's method. Miss Jennie Hallworth is an appropriately pert Prince Pekoe, and her songs, "Beside the sea" and "I must go home to-night," are greeted with warm applause. Miss Marian Walker makes excellent use of her opportunities as Lardi Doo, the Prince's particular pal; and Miss Hilda Zangari is well suited as Saucee, maid to the Princess. Miss Margaret Story Gofton is an admirable representative of Radia, the lady of the Magic Lamp; and Miss Eileen Cross is pleasing as Lumino, her maid of honour. Some charming dancing is given by the Five Zingaris, and the chorus is well up to its work.

The principal scenes include Abanazar's (Black) Art Gallery, the Exterior and Interior of the Magic Cave, and Aladdin's Palace, in which the spectacular efforts are greatly admired. Mr. Dan Barnard as manager lends valuable assistance in front of the house.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"UN CŒUR D'HOMME."

Play, in Four Acts, by Mme. Sarah-Bernhardt, Produced at the Théâtre des Arts, on Dec. 22.

Jeanne Valréal / Ninon	Mlle. Blanche Dufrene
Sabine	Mlle. Emmy Lynn
Mme. de Gerfaut	Mlle. Jane Méa
Berthe Laurino	Mlle. Seylor
Mme. Dubois d'Augeville	Mlle. Boulanger
Vauxienne	Mlle. Pascal
Paul Sarnois	M. Henry Rousselle
Jules Pigru	M. J. Normand
Timur Laurino	M. Deneubourg
De Gerfaut	M. Belou
Pierre Fourié	M. Lagache
Prince Darnidoff	M. Nirman

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 23.—Truth compels me to say that the production of a play by Mme. Sarah-Bernhardt did not cause the slightest excitement in Paris. The correspondents of the foreign papers here tried to magnify it into a big affair, but we Parisians took no notice whatever of it. We love and admire our National Sarah, but we have long given up being surprised at anything she does. We have seen landscapes, supposed to have been painted by her. We have been shown sculpture whereon her name was engraved. We have read articles bearing her signature. But we are a polite people. We never made any indiscreet inquiries as to the origin of these works of art, and, as far as criticising these productions, such a thing never entered into anybody's head. Sarah is above criticism! I, therefore, will only describe the plot of her new play. According to the authoress, man is as fickle as woman, whose reputation for fickleness has long been established. Paul Sarnois, the hero in the play, is a young dramatic author. He falls in love with Sabine, a beautiful girl, he marries her, and, after three years of married life is tired of her. By way of diversion he starts making love to Jeanne de Valréal, Sabine's friend, fifteen years older than he; and as Jeanne repulses him he seeks consolation with the beautiful Ninon, a flighty actress, because this actress somewhat resembles Jeanne. The latter then decides to become Paul's mistress, hoping that by doing so he will tire of her and return to his wife. Her scheme proves most successful. Sabine, knowing that her husband is unfaithful to her (although ignoring with whom), turns her back on him, with the result that Paul falls in love with her anew. Jeanne happens to overhear a conversation between Sabine and her husband. Paul is pleading for her love, whilst Sabine demands the name of the woman for whom she has been betrayed. This name Paul refuses to disclose, whereupon Sabine leaves the room in a huff, vowing that she will find it out for herself. She then suspects Jeanne, who, in a pathetic tone confesses that it was all done "for the best," a theory which makes Sabine laugh. Sabine refuses to pardon Jeanne, who, in wild despair, rushes from the room, throws herself out of the window, thus putting an end to her life and to the play. The work was nicely acted, especially by Mlle. Blanche Dufréne, who really did wonders with this difficult and strange rôle. Mlle. Méa also proved very satisfactory.

"La Massiere," by M. Jules Lemaitre, has been successfully revived at the Porte-Saint-Martin, with M. Guitry in his old rôle when the work was launched at the Renaissance in 1905.

The dispute between M. Berstein and MM. Hertz and Coquelin in connection with the withdrawal of *La Griffe* whilst it was still drawing crowded houses, has been arranged to M. Berstein's satisfaction.

"MADAME MARGOT."

Play, in Five Acts, by MM. Emile Moreau and Charles Clairville, Produced at Réjane's on Dec. 23.

Mme. Margot	Mme. Réjane
Mme. d'Entragues	Mme. Munte
Marie de Médicis	Mlle. Avril
Mme. de Monglat	Mlle. Guertet
Mlle. du Tillet	Mlle. Reinhardt
Henri IV.	M. Garry
Cotton	M. Signoret
Concini	M. Castillan
Bellegarde	M. Chautard
Comte d'Auvergne	M. Monteaux
Sully	M. Varennes
Zamet	M. Barre

(From our own correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 30.—One of the collaborators in the above play—M. Emile Moreau—is part author of one of Mme. Réjane's greatest successes, *Madame Sans-Gêne*; but it is not probable that *Madame Margot* will have such a phenomenal run as the former work. The heroine is no other than Henri IV.'s wife, Marguerite de Valois, known as "La Reine Margot," or simply "Margot." Margot consents to a divorce from Henri IV. in order that her lord may marry Marie de Médicis, because His Majesty is up to his ears in debt and Marie is very rich. Besides, the King needs funds for the advancement of France, and, therefore, Margot's action is, in a way, patriotic. But Margot still loves the King, and visits him at the Louvre, where she finds her niece, Marie de Médicis, in a violent dispute with Mme. d'Entragues, the King's mistress, by whom he has two children. Henri IV. is very angry with his mistress, whom he orders to respect the Queen or leave the palace. Henriette d'Entragues vows vengeance, and, with the help of a Jesuit priest, plots the death of the King and the proclamation of her son Gaston as Dauphin. But her little son has overheard the plot, and reconstructs it in play for the amusement of the other royal children in the nursery. Mme. Margot happens to watch the children at play, and, questioning the boy, is told by him that he heard his uncle and some other members of the Court talking about this in his mother's room. Margot turns to Bellegarde, a faithful follower of the King, and asks his aid. The next morning the plot is discovered, and the would-be assassins are thrown into prison. The play is very well written, but a little dull. Moreover, it gave Mme. Réjane not much scope for the display of her talent. The work, however, was well acted and beautifully mounted.

"LE DANSEUR INCONNU."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Tristan Bernard, Produced at the Athénée on Dec. 29.

Berthe	Mlle. Alice Nory
Louise	Mlle. Goldstein
Mme. Tombelle	Mlle. Bussy
Léontine	Mlle. de Sivry
Jeanne	Mlle Creuze
Mme. Girant	Mlle. Ael
Henri Calvel	M. Andre Brule
Gauthier	M. Krauss
Herbert	M. Lefaur
Balthazard	M. Cazalis
Thibaudel	M. Callet

Le Danseur Inconnu belongs to the very light comedy order of plays; but, with a little more development, it would have taken a firmer hold of the public. As it now stands, the writing is full of quaint paradoxes and philosophy. The work is delicately humorous, but the plot is virtually told in the first two acts, leaving the third to wind up in a somewhat commonplace manner. Henri Calvel, an impecunious youth of good family, gains access to a wedding party given at an hotel. He neither knows the family of the bride nor the bridegroom, but starts a conversation with a pretty girl—to whom he has not been introduced—and falls in love with her. He is discovered by his friend Balthazard, a man living on his wits, who happens to be the guiding spirit in the household of the girl in question, a family composed of Berthe and her father, a rich landowner. Balthazard then conceives the plan of representing Henri as a wealthy man and marrying him to Berthe, with the understanding that Henri signs two drafts of one thousand pounds each, which Balthazard will discount as soon as the marriage is announced. Henri agrees. The young couple are formally introduced, and Berthe's father invites Henri to his house. In the second act we witness Henri's discomfiture on being accepted as a fiancée, and his ultimate decision to acknowledge the deception he has practised on the girl he loves. He writes a letter to Berthe's father, telling him he has neither money nor position, whereupon the girl leaves the room crying. In the last act Henri has found employment at a furniture dealer's, and here his ex-fiancée comes to make some purchases for her new home, as she will be shortly married. Henri and Berthe meet, and their love outweighs all questions of money or honour. As in *La Petite Chocolatière*, Berthe, the spoilt child, obtains her father's consent to the marriage in the twinkling of an eye, and the curtain falls. M. Tristan Bernard is a very witty and charming writer. The public laughed at all his jokes, but a little more backbone and a little less commonplace dénouement would have been more satisfactory. Mlle. Alice Nory was a graceful Berthe; M. Brûlé kept the rôle of Henri well under control; and M. Cazalis as Balthazard, and an efficient company, rendered valuable service.

The incident of the threatened strike of the ballet dancers at the Opéra has been misrepresented in the papers on your side of the water. This is what occurred: The male dancers, after conferring with the other trade unionists employed at the Opéra—including the chorus, orchestra, scene-shifters, and electricians—handed the managers an ultimatum in the middle of the performance, stating that unless they received increased salaries and modifications of the conditions of their work they would immediately go on strike. At the same moment members of the other unions represented at the Opéra presented a collective letter, in which they affirmed their solidarity with the ballet, and demanded the recognition of the dancers' Trade Union. After an animated discussion with the delegates, the managers promised to receive the representatives of the dancers and discuss their grievances. The dancers then consented to leave their dressing-boxes, and the curtain was rung up for *Coppelia*, after an entr'acte which had lasted half an hour. The dancers who threatened to strike have the support of the Fédération du Spectacle, which consists of ten thousand members. As regards pay, male dancers at the Opéra receive from £60 to £70 a year. They ask that these amounts be raised respectively to £112 and £120, on the ground that their work at the Opéra has increased so much that they are no longer able to add to their incomes by taking private pupils. MM. Messager and Broussan have now had an interview with the delegates of the Ballet Dancers' Union. The claims advanced by the latter were examined in detail, and several of the dancers' grievances were admitted to be justified. The management have pledged themselves to remedy the grievances complained of, and to let their staff know the steps they intend to take to remedy the present state of things.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

Alterations and improvements in *The House Opposite* and the provision of a new curtain-raiser make the programme at the Queen's a remarkably strong and attractive one. One character—that of the child Sybil—has entirely vanished, and with the episodes more closely contrived and the dialogue rendered more terse and connected the play becomes thoroughly engrossing. Mr. H. B. Irving has perfected his performance of the libidinous Richard Cardyne, an enigmatical character, who revels in his iniquities, acting throughout with an ease and sangfroid that veil the difficulties of the part. Artistic indeed is the way in which the clever young actor allows the better nature of the cynic gradually to arise when the voice of conscience, inspired by his little "code of morality," speaks out; and Mr. Irving's impersonation retains a firm hold on the audience. Miss Eva Moore in her clever portrayal of Mrs. Rivers again wins admiration, the anguish of the woman who stands on the threshold of disgrace being vividly depicted. Miss Muriel Beaumont makes a singularly fascinating character of Mrs. Calthorpe, and the Lady's Maid of Miss Dora Barton remains a finished exposition. The difficult character of the Right-Hon. Henry Rivers is still sustained with unerring judgment by Mr. Herbert Waring, who maintains a very effective impassiveness. Although Rivers' attitude towards his erring and self-confessed wife is still by no means clear, there is a reassuring pat on the shoulder and an appreciative smile on Mrs. Rivers' face that seem to indicate that all is forgiven.

The new playlet, produced "by arrangement with Mr. Frank Richardson," is an "Episode of the Terror," taken from the story of Honoré de Balzac, and is entitled

"FOR THE SOUL OF THE KING."

The Stranger	Mr. H. B. Irving
The Abbé de Mayral	Mr. Henry Vibart
Mlle. de Langeais	Miss Ruth Maitland
Mlle. Michalet	Miss Dora Barton

The new piece is picturesque rather than dramatic, time being expended in creating an atmosphere of mystery that serves only to overpower the real interest. It is, however, well, and even poetically, written, and contains several poignantly effective moments. To a house in the Faubourg St. Martin, Paris, where two nuns and a priest have sought refuge in the Reign of Terror, comes a crimson-coated individual, who has terrified one of the inmates by following her about for days. He is, however, no enemy, but desires to beg a favour. It is that the priest shall say a Mass for the repose of the soul of the King, who has just been guillotined. The stranger is sure it was the King, for he was close to the victim when the knife fell. He noted the rush of the crowd for relics of the dead, but they are the perquisites of the executioner, and none but he may touch them. The man is evidently deeply moved, and seems indeed to need the ministrations of the Church more than the martyred monarch. The priest attempts in vain to get his visitor to disclose his identity, and it is not until he hands him a handkerchief dipped in the royal blood that he realises that he is no other than the headsman. The room is prepared for the ceremony and the priest, stoled and vested, takes his place at the altar as the stranger leaves. An apotheosis gives a view of the guillotine with the King engaged in prayer and the headsman standing grimly by.

Mr Irving's personality dominated the piece, and his performance was both startling and affecting. His suggestion of the remorse which afflicts the man of blood who has been instrumental in depriving the King of his life was intensely real, and the agony of mind which the headsman undergoes was eloquently expressed. Mr. Henry Vibart was a calm and venerable priest, delivering his lines in well-measured tones. Miss Dora Barton thoroughly indicated the terror which the presence of The Stranger inspired in the breast of the nun, and her more daring sister was played with power and effect by Miss Ruth Maitland. Mr. Irving had repeatedly to appear at the conclusion in acknowledgment of enthusiastic calls.

Mr. Evelyn A'dell's company in *The Old Home* played to a packed house on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Loughborough. Mr. J. H. Clyndes as Daddy Dean filled the rôle of the Fisherman in an excellent manner; Miss Nina Blake-Adams as Hazel Dean played with great power; Mr. Evelyn A'dell made a capital clergyman; Sam Adams was well played by Mr. J. Edward Swinton; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair made a realistic villain of Lord Avondale. The scenery was excellent, and the incidental music very tuneful.

WANTED, TO REPRODUCE FOR NEXT CHRISTMAS,
OR SELL AFTER THE PRESENT RUN,
THE THREE GORGEOUS AND SUCCESSFUL PANTOMIMES
Now Playing at

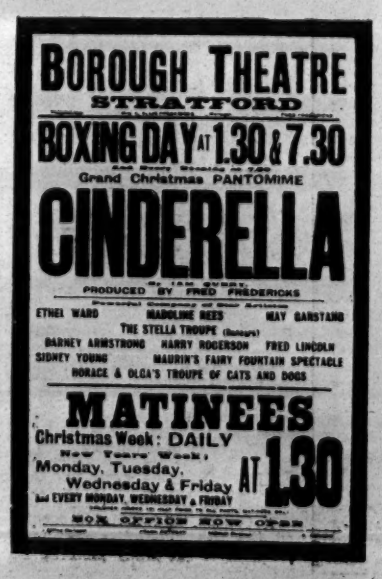

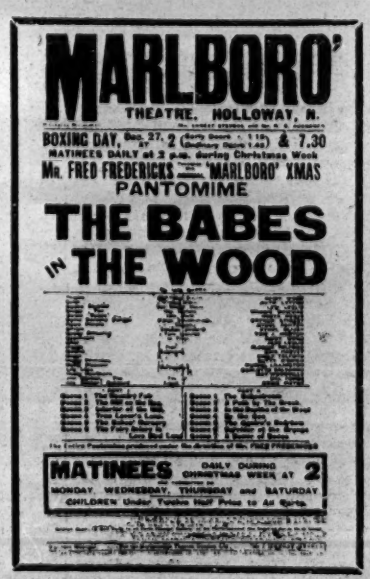

Each costing several thousand pounds. Managers should see them at once.
Wanted, to Buy one or two Big Productions, not the above subjects. *Correspondence Invited.*
A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford Road, Stratford, London, E. or to FRED. FREDERICKS, Borough Theatre, Stratford.
'Phones {1490 / 1491} East. Telegrams, Abrahamend, London. 'Phone, 897 East.

OPEN TO ARRANGE CHRISTMAS NEXT, "FORTY THIEVES." EXCELLENT SHOW.

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

Produced at the Aldwych on Boxing Day, Dec. 27.

Lieut. Richard Marsh, R.N. MR. GUY HASTINGS
Harry Gordon ..... MR. H. LANE BAYLIFF
Lord Erskine ..... MR. ROTHSBURY EVANS
Sammy Snozzle ..... MR. PAT WADDOCK
Inspector Lawrence ..... MR. L. LAWRENCE
Police-Constable Harper.... MR. H. SHERWOOD
The Vicar ..... MR. LIONEL BROWNE
Florrie Jones ..... MISS DAISY ST. CLAIR
Sally Smith ..... MISS JENNY BAXSTER
Betsy Baker ..... MISS ELSIE BROOM
Fanny Hall ..... MISS KATE ERNEST
Sally Smithers ..... MISS MARIE WRIGHT
Barney Gordon ..... MR. HERBERT LANDECK
Jerry Holmes ..... MR. D'ARCY KELWAY
John Moore ..... MR. DENNIS BYRON
Warder Johnson ..... MR. FRED CARR
Warder Harris ..... MR. F. WILDING
The Rev. Mr. Evans ..... MR. HENRY JOHNSON
Railway Porter ..... MR. SIDNEY COOMBS
Driver ..... MR. HENRY CLARKE
Gladys Erskine ..... MISS MAUD LINDEN
Mrs. Moore ..... MISS MADGE STONE
Honour Moore ..... MISS MARIE CLAVERING
Bess Moore ..... MISS VIOLET ENGLEFIELD

As a matter of fact, the "bad girl of the family" is more sinned against than sinning, and after following her thrilling adventures through four acts and eighteen scenes the packed audiences found at the Aldwych twice daily this week have gone home absolutely head over heels in love with the Bad Girl as played so delightfully by Miss Violet Englefield. Mr. Melville stretches points to get good curtains, and even situations, but he knows his audiences, and his fare satisfies them from start to finish. It does more—it gluts them. What matters it that some of the situations are on the verge of the impossible: the audiences like them—so why argue? The weirdest things happen, and such are the vicissitudes, the vagaries, the happenings, and the melodramatics of this four-act drama that no sober pen can describe the story. The drama has one outstanding scene, reckoned by the standard of sensationalism—the Bedroom scene—in which a number of shop girls who "live in" attack and utterly rout a trio of policemen with pillows, bolsters, and what not.

The story, briefly repeated, shows how Bess Moore falls a victim to the wiles of Harry Gordon, the manager of a large draper's establishment. Gordon refuses to marry Bess because he wishes to wed Gladys, the pretty daughter of Lord Erskine, who has got into the clutches of old Gordon, a Jew moneylender, and is compelled to consent to sacrifice his child to save his estates. Gladys has a lover, Lieut. Richard Marsh, who is unacceptable by Lord Erskine as a husband for Gladys. Dick has to rejoin his ship for foreign service, and Gladys is kept a close prisoner at Erskine Hall, her father being determined that she shall marry Gordon. Worn out by her father's persistent commands, Gladys at length consents to marry young Gordon, and is already dressed for the ceremony when Bess, who has escaped from custody, appears armed with a wedding dress exactly like the one in which Gladys is arrayed. A hurried consultation is made, the changes are ingeniously rung, the bride goes to the altar, and after the service is completed Gordon finds that it is Bess, and not Gladys, that he has espoused. Having received news of Gladys' peril, Dick leaves his ship and forces his way into the hall on the wedding night, which is also selected by a burglar named Jerry Holmes for a nefarious expedition. Dick and Lord Erskine meet, and the latter tries to shoot Dick, who manages, however, to get hold of the weapon, and in the struggle Lord Erskine falls mortally wounded. Dick is charged with the crime, and sentenced to death. He is visited in the condemned cell at Dartmoor by Gladys, and the prison chaplain appearing opportunely on the scene, the convict and his betrothed are made man and wife. Subsequently Dick and Jerry make a daring escape from prison in a provision cart, and secure the train to London, where Dick makes his way to Gladys' home. Gordon call in the authorities, and Jerry confesses that it was his revolver that killed Lord Erskine, and is thereupon stabbed by Gordon, who is taken away by the police.

Miss Violet Englefield (the famous burlesque artist from Wyndham's and Apollo Theatres, as Bess, "the bad girl of the family," has made a thorough study of her part. She is a splendid actress, ever on the alert for points, and she gets to the hearts of the people in a way there is no disputing. Miss Marie Wright as the leading comedienne is pert, pretty, and causes no end of merriment. Mr. D'Arcy Kelway is very good as Jerry Holmes. Mr. Guy Hastings as Lieut. Dick Marsh is a dashing naval officer, who looks and acts the part. His forceful acting may be in the conventional style that is expected of the hero, but he gives the audience what they want, and consequently they never really have enough of him. A first-class villain, Mr. H. Lane Bayliff as Harry Gordon surely must have been delighted with the thoroughness of the way in which he was hissed. Very good, too, was Mr. Herbert Landeck, an impersonator of Jewish character, as Barney Gordon. Mr. Pat Waddock is a good comedian of the pantomime order, and his Sammy Snozzle was well played, and delighted everyone. Miss Maud Linden as Gladys Erskine (the heroine) and Miss Marie Clavering as Honour Moore both merit commendation for contributing excellent parts.

THE popular musical comedy, *The Gay Gordons*, is drawing crowded houses to the King's Theatre, Seacombe, this week. The costumes and scenery are excellent, and the music sparkling and tuneful. The hero, Angus Graeme, is capitally portrayed by Mr. William Green; and Peggy Quainton finds a charming exponent in Miss Clarice Lockstone. Mr. Edward Carlton causes plenty of fun by his smart playing of Nervy Nat; and Mr. W. H. Desmond does some excellent work as Edmund Siddons. Miss Mabel Dent is seen and heard to great advantage as Victoria Siddons; and Miss Ada Mellon does well as Janet McLeod. Miss Florrie Groves as Charlotte Siddons and Miss Teesa D'Alberti as Mary McLeod, are both good in their respective parts. Lady Graeme is ably depicted by Miss Marie Selma; and Lady Millicent Graeme is well looked after by Miss Violet Morene.

THE Royal County Theatre, Bedford, reopened on Christmas Eve with the pantomime *Bo-Peep*, presented by Mr. Graham Falcon's company, and during the week the excellent production has drawn crowded houses. Miss Flora Morris, an accomplished artist, is a popular Bo-Peep; Miss Ruby Carter is a charming Prince Pastorelle; Baron Budget, in the person of Mr. F. G. Royde, is the centre of great interest; Miss Dorothy Douglas as the fairy, Sylvania, sings pleasingly, and acts with much grace; Mr. Jack Selway as Simon causes endless amusement; and he has an able partner in Mr. Harry Howe as Dame Durden. Miss Mabel Kessler as Boy Blue makes a hit with each of her songs, especially with "Kelly"; Bi Bash (Mr. Ernest Hans) and Chris. Crash (Mr. Will Lux) are two clever knockabout turns; and Mr. Gavin Wood as Lemuel Lea sings several songs in a rich baritone. The last scene of the pantomime is a glittering vision of azure and silver, with cunningly disposed electric bulbs, while the dresses are a triumph of Mrs. Graham Falcon's skill. Among the specialities in the final scene is a graceful dance, "Pour Eveiller Pierrette," by Miss Rosie P. Stevens.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

DEATH OF ERNEST CARPENTER.

The saddest event of the theatrical year took place last week, just as *The Era* had gone to press, in the death of Mr. Ernest Carpenter, the well-known and greatly respected manager of the Lyceum. Taking place as it did at the zenith of Mr. Carpenter's career, and just when a goodly run of successes had made a feature yet once again of Lyceum first nights, the news came as a great shock to all who knew him.

By a tragic coincidence Mr. Carpenter was operated on for hernia on the night of the production of his successful pantomime *Aladdin*. Nobody thought the result was likely to be of a really grave nature. Unhappily, any hopes of a favourable issue were doomed to disappointment, for just as the first performance of his pantomime was drawing to a close Mr. Carpenter passed away.

Little Marjory Carpenter, his talented daughter, had danced her way delightfully through the Lyceum pantomime on Thursday night, had been called before the curtain time after time, and had scored for the second year in succession a very striking success. Then she heard the huge audience shout "Speech! Speech! Speech!" and had watched while the crowds in the auditorium waited for her father to come forward and make a few remarks of thanks. Instead, she saw Mr. Major Jones, the stage-manager, come forward, and heard him say: "I am sorry, but Mr. Carpenter is not in the house." So little Marjory, brimming over with childish pride at the applause which she had received, went home to tell her father how the people had called for him.

Mr. Carpenter was just forty-one. He was only sixteen when he made his first appearance as an actor, and although in this particular field he held his own fairly well, it was as a manager and producer he was eventually destined to succeed. His early ventures were all marked by shrewd business instinct and far-seeing prudence. In 1893 he made a start in management at Darwen, in Lancashire, and a twelvemonth later took over the Royal at Bristol. Subsequently he carried his theatrical enterprise into Swindon and Brighton, always showing a businesslike readiness to secure a profit when the opportunity occurred. His connection with the Lyceum Theatre began in March, 1907. His partner was Mr. H. R. Smith, and together

THE LATE MR. ERNEST CARPENTER.

they revived the popularity of the Lyceum with melodrama. Mr. Carpenter was an untiring worker, and was responsible for the productions, including Thursday night's pantomime. It may be safely said that no single manager has ever made so abiding an impress upon London's theatrical world in so amazingly short a time as Mr. Carpenter. To watch him at rehearsal was to recognise to what an extent he himself was the source of the wonderful vitality of the Lyceum's curiously varied productions. Patient with others, but unsparing of himself, he seemed positively to pump energy into his actors. To use his own phrase, he made them "throw themselves into it." He knew personally every detail of theatrical production, and during his management the Lyceum has made all its own costumes and properties. He had himself acted every kind of part, from Shakespeare downwards. It was largely due to his public-spirited enterprise and courtesy in the immediate offer of the Lyceum Theatre that the great meeting for the promotion of a National Theatre came to be held last year, with such substantial results.

Personally, Mr. Carpenter was one of the most genial and courteous of men. His manner at rehearsal was quiet and persuasive, but he invariably contrived to get full value out of every line and every situation. In less than three years Mr. Carpenter made the Lyceum the playhouse of the masses. Opening with *Her Love Against the World*, he produced *The Midnight Wedding*, a popular adaptation of *The Christian*, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, *Pete*, *The Prisoner of the Bastille* and *The Proud Prince*, among other good honest melodramas. More than that, he popularised Shakespeare, producing *Romeo and Juliet*, and even *Hamlet*. *Aladdin* was his third pantomime at the Lyceum. Mr. Carpenter claimed to be the first man to put Mr. Wilkie Bard at the top of the tree. This occurred at Hanley, when Mr. Wilkie Bard and his wife were paid £8 a week.

Outside his theatre work, Mr. Carpenter has for some years past taken a great interest in municipal affairs. He was a member of the first Town Council at Swindon, and two years ago he was elected to a seat on the Town Council of Brighton. He was mainly instrumental in organising the Municipal Orchestra which has proved such a boon to the town. Mr. Carpenter was an owner of racehorses on a small scale. Under the "nom de plume" of "Mr E. Lythe," he owned a few moderate animals, which were trained by J. East, at Ilsley. The only one to carry the scarlet, silver stars, scarlet sleeves, and cap successfully last season was Cassius, who won the two-year-old sprint selling at the Newbury spring meeting.

It may be of interest to recall a chat *The Era* representative had with Mr. Carpenter at the time *The Midnight Wedding* was produced. "There would be less talk about the decadence of the drama if there had been of late years a greater supply of practical producers," he said. "You cannot get that strong dramatic effect which grips an audience unless you have the capable producer to supervise everybody and everything. One sees dramatic scenes so often played in a disjointed manner. You will realise that a producer is in the position of a general of an army. He must not bow down to the individual likes and dislikes of the various units he is supposed to control. The fact that a certain artist thinks that such-and-such a scene should be played in such-and-such a way does not concern me in the slightest, for I recognise that it is my business to consider the *tout ensemble*, and that alone." Mr. Carpenter aimed at high things. He realised that management required constant and close attention if it was to prove profitable, and that the man who tried to keep too large a number of theatrical strings in his hand was bound, sooner or later, to let some of them slip through his fingers.

On Friday last the Lyceum was closed, and on Sunday the remains of Ernest Carpenter were interred in Harefield Churchyard, situate in the old-world Middlesex village of the same name and midway between Dunham and Northwood. The beautiful floral tributes were so numerous that special cars were provided on which to bear them to the Lyceum manager's last resting place. Among those who sent wreaths were Mr. Carpenter's mother and brother; Mr. Henry Smith, managing-director; Mr. W. F. Crowe, business-manager; Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan Broone; Mr. and Mrs. Major Jones; Mr. Ben Cart, general-manager, the Grand, Brighton; Mr. and Mrs. George Chapman, Bristol; Mr. and Mrs. Horace Livermore, of the People's Palace, Bristol; Mr. and Mrs. Alty, and staff of the Theatre Royal, Bristol; the *Robinson Crusoe* company, Bristol Theatre Royal; the Lyceum staff; Mlle. Rosa, ballet mistress; the Theatrical Managers' Association; Miss Dorothy Craske; the Lyceum *Aladdin*; the Lyceum chorus, ballet, and children; and Mr. Charles Pond.

Many well-known theatrical people were present at the graveside, among the number being the deceased gentleman's partner, Mr. Henry R. Smith, Mr. Fred Carpenter, Mr. Charles Lord, Mr. S. Major Jones, Dr. Richmond, Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. Stanley Lindwall, Mr. W. F. Crowe, Miss Dorothy Craske, Miss Florence Smithers, Miss Eva Kelland, Miss Marie Free, Miss Victoria Sievers, Mlle. Rosa, Mrs. Martell, Mr. Scott Barrie, Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. Frank Hemming, Mr. Archie Royer, Mr. Harry Gardner, Mr. Eric Mayne, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Mr. Herbert Blackmore, Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Bannister Howard, Mr. William Vant, Mr. Herbert Weldon, Mr. Fred Reeves, Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. Fred Karno, and Mr. David Crombie.

Mr. Fred Carpenter, the only surviving brother of the late Ernest Carpenter, and chairman of the Lyceum Company, stated to *The Era* representative that he regretted it was quite impossible to reply to the hundreds of extremely kind messages—many of them lengthy cables—that had been received from all parts of the world. But he desired to thank very gratefully through the columns of *The Era* those dear, big-hearted professional friends who had sent so many kind and comforting messages to the widow and her little girl. Mr. Fred Carpenter went on to state that all his dead brother's plans would be carried out by his company. This included no fewer than five productions, the first of which—*The Fighting Chance*—would be put on when the run of *Aladdin* finished at Easter.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.

The Theatre Royal, Worthing, was reopened on Monday after the rebuilding which has been carried out. The building, which is now the most palatial on the South Coast, has been considerably enlarged, and will now accommodate some 900 people. The whole of the interior was destroyed, and to allow for a 5ft. slope in the floor some 700 cartloads of earth were taken away. A sliding roof has also been fixed in, and the gallery, which before was joined to the back of the dress circle, has now been placed above it. The proscenium has also been greatly enlarged, and the whole building has been reupholstered in green plush, whilst on the floors throughout green carpet has been laid.

The lessee, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, had invited Lady Aubrey Fletcher to perform the opening ceremony, and, despite the fact that the weather was very bad, her ladyship drove over from Ham Manor to fulfil her promise. The Mayor of Worthing, Councillor J. G. Denton, presided, and supporting him were the majority of the members of the town council, whilst the auditorium was filled with a number of the leading townspeople, who had been invited to meet her ladyship.

The Mayor, after a brief allusion to Lady Aubrey Fletcher's kindness in coming to perform the ceremony, said that they were all aware what Mr. Seebold had done to that building. Some of them remembered it in a different aspect some ten or fifteen years ago, when it was altered from an old assembly room into a theatre. Mr. Seebold afterwards had the idea that the time had come when he should accomplish what they saw that day, and he was sure that they were all indebted to him for his enterprise in bringing the theatre up to the pitch of excellence at which they now saw it, and he now thought that Worthing could boast of as fine a theatre as there was on the South Coast. It was nothing fresh for them to have a theatre, for its first one was, he thought, opened in the year 1807. That theatre was carried on for fifty years, and he had read that there were as many as seventeen coroneted carriages waiting outside at one time.

Lady Aubrey Fletcher, in declaring the theatre open, said that she was sure that Mr. Seebold deserved the gratitude of the town and neighbourhood, for when she remembered the theatre as it was and saw it now she marvelled. The reward for Mr. Seebold was that on all occasions the theatre ought to be crowded. (Applause.) When she left home that morning the last words that Sir Henry said to her were, "Mind you congratulate Mr. Seebold for me, and apologise for my not being able to accompany you."

Her ladyship was then presented with a shower bouquet by Miss Olga Seebold, daughter of Mr. Seebold.

After Lady Aubrey Fletcher had been thanked for her kindness in delaring the theatre open, the lessee, in response to calls, made a happy little speech, in which he referred to it as a good omen that Lady Aubrey Fletcher was able to be present, and he hoped that it would bring him luck.

The work of reconstruction has cost over £3000.

"THE LOVE OF THE PRINCESS" is being performed at the New Theatre, Consett, by a company under the direction of Mr. C. Watson Mill. Miss Dorothy Haigh as the Princess is charming; and as Sister Constania Miss Josephine Lee is well received. Lady Irene is in the capable hands of Miss Maude Steeple; Mr. Frank Harvey as the heroic Prince Conrad wins loud and deserved applause; Mr. Richard Vane as Count Dacillo makes a daring villain; and as Duke Scarfe Mr. Francis Serle does well. Mr. Beckett Bould is a capital Lieut. Orlans; and as Josef, King of Illania, Mr. John Burton is quite at home.

MR. FREDK. MELVILLE'S company, in *Her Road to Ruin*, is the attraction at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Doncaster. Mr. Dane Clark as the Bishop made a good impression; and Mr. Charles Dickens as Frank Temple shows ability. Mr. Kendrew Milsom as Tom Wells is an effective hero; and Mr. Alex. Bradley makes a villainous Philip Hardy. Miss Ada Champion is deservedly applauded for her portrayal of Jess Willoughby; and Miss Maud Gill as May Willoughby is both pleasing and sympathetic. The comic element is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Talbot as Billy Boots; and Miss Grace Emery as Jenny Cackling and Mabel Coleman as Mary Dawson (the girl who went astray) was responsible for emotional acting.

MR. LEONARD BOYNE'S company is on a week's visit to the Theatre Royal, Canterbury, with that Comedy Theatre success, *Raffles*. Mr. Reginald Dance undertakes the title-rôle, and handles well the thrilling incident of the meeting of the amateur cracksman with the Bill Sikes order of burglar in Crawshay. As Crawshay Mr. Oswald Griffiths is decidedly clever; and other quite successful interpretations are those of Mr. E. W. Thomas as Curtis Bedford and Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald as Viscount Crowley. As Mrs. Vidal Miss Molly Tremaine is entirely successful; and Miss Frances Titheradge gives sympathetic treatment to Gwendoline Conrad.

DEATH OF META ILLING.

We regret to announce the death at Frankfort-on-the-Main on Sunday last of Mme. Meta Illing, the actress who did so much to popularise English drama in Germany, and who steadily pursued the aim of establishing an English theatre in Berlin. At a meeting at the British Consulate-General in Berlin on April 3 a limited liability company was formed with Mme. Meta Illing as managing director to found and carry on an English theatre in the German capital. Mme. Illing formed a company of English artists in London, and on May 17 gave an opening performance in the Royal Playhouse at Wiesbaden, of Mr. R. C. Carton's play, *Mr. Hopkinson*. The German Emperor and Empress were amongst those present, and the piece had an enthusiastic reception. Oscar Wilde's drama *A Florentine Tragedy* was afterwards given at Frankfort, and Mr. G. B. Shaw's *Candida* at Darmstadt, Cologne, Dresden, and other German towns being also visited. On Dec. 8 the company appeared in Berlin at the New Playhouse in *She Stoops to Conquer*. Mme. Illing was then lying ill at Frankfort, and eventually she died there of pneumonia.

Mme. Illing was herself an actress of note, having been a prominent member of the famous Lessing Theatre company at Berlin for some years. She also toured the provinces with success, playing Magda, Hedda, Gabler, Nora, Rebecca West, Therese Raquin, and Mme. Sans-Gêne. In the United States—where she gave all her rôles in English—she created the utmost enthusiasm.

Mme. Illing, says a correspondent, had a great admiration for the British people and character, and she considered that it was necessary to show them as they really are to the immense number of Germans who know English sufficiently well to be able to appreciate a play. She had a great belief in and admiration for the clean and healthy literature of the modern English stage. Her experience of the German taste in this direction was interesting. Such plays as only required a knowledge of modern English—*Mrs. Dane's Defence*, for instance—were welcomed. *Merely Mary Ann* did well. But *She Stoops to Conquer* was a complete failure. The dialect was inintelligible to Germans.

Our Berlin Correspondent writes:—"The sudden

[*Photo by Lundt*

THE LATE MME. META ILLING.

and altogether unexpected news of Frau Meta Illing's death, came with a sad shock to everyone in Berlin. The famous artist was only thirty-seven years of age, and up to but a few days before her death was full of plans for the future, chief among which was her new enterprise, the English Theatre in Germany. Mme. Illing took a severe cold when with her English company at Frankfort, and was unable to come on with them to Berlin. After a few days she seemed to be better, when rapid pneumonia set in, and she died, in a private hospital, on the night of Christmas Day. Dr. Merzbach, her husband, was with her, and performed the sad task of having the body conveyed to Berlin, where the funeral took place on Friday. Mme. Illing—whose personality was one of the most delightful—will be long and sincerely mourned."

Meta Illing was born Feb. 27, 1872, at Bernburg, not far from Halle. Her father was a simple master wheelwright, who gave her the best education he could afford. At fourteen Meta left school and entered a shop in the little town. She was industrious and conscientious, and a favourite with all. She had her ambitions, and read all the classical works of her native country that she could obtain, as well as translations of great authors. Shakespeare and Gœthe were her favourites. She remained three years altogether in business. Once she astonished her master by asking if she might recite him something from Gœthe's *Faust*. He permitted it, whereupon the seventeen-year-old girl acted an entire scene with such an amount of intelligence and "temperament" as could leave no doubt regarding her real vocation in life. After diligent study, Fräulein Illing made her début at Ulm in 1891 as Agnes in Ernst von Wildenbruch's fine patriotic play *Die Quitzows*, in which she had a great success. From 1894 to 1896 she was engaged at the Schiller Theatre in Berlin, and then went to the Lessing Theatre, where she took the town by storm as Magda. Fräulein Illing remained a member of the Lessing two years, and then joined the company of the Thalia Theatre at Hamburg. After 1900 she took no settled engagement, but carried out a long-cherished plan of touring the States of America. In the meantime the clever artist had mastered the English language, and in the large cities across the Atlantic she met with an enthusiastic reception, playing her best rôles in English. On returning to the Fatherland Meta Illing became the wife of Dr. Merzbach, a well-known Berlin surgeon. The motives which prompted the organisation of the English Theatre in Germany are known to everyone. It was not a money-making project, but to extend the knowledge of good and pure English drama in Germany and to aid in the good understanding between the two countries she loved so well. What will become of the enterprise now is not yet definitely decided. I am told it is not unlikely that it will be continued by a society at Frankfort."

Mme Meta Illing, in her earnest endeavour to introduce English plays to the German public, supplied engagements to many artists, amongst whom were Mr. Cecil Ward, Mr. Richard Lambart, Mr. George Desmond, Mr. Edward Bonfield, Mr. Wm. Armstrong, Mr. Herbert Greville, Miss Violet Greville, Miss Grace A. Noble, Miss Marion Ashworth, Miss Rosalind Ivan, Miss Gertrude Ascot, Miss Ethel Dane, Miss Mayne Young, Mr. Stanley Logan, and Mr. Dalziel Heron. She was very popular with her company, whom she treated with great kindness and consideration; and they deeply regret the loss of so thoughtful and sympathetic a manageress.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, DEC. 15.—*The Lottery Man* has brought a genuine success to the Bijou Theatre after a series of failures. Billed as a comedy, the play has been correctly classed as a "screaming" farce by the newspapers. It was written in three acts by Rida Johnson Young, the lady author of *Brown of Harvard*, who fills her plays with incidents and characters that are nothing if not diverting. Of the characters there are only nine, but of the incidents there are far too many to describe. Certain doings that convulse one with laughter seem to lose their humorous flavour in cold print. The mainstay of the fun that never stops while the curtain is up is an unattractive spinster known as Lizzie Roberts. Unattractive is a mild word to use, but one has to be careful in dealing with the peculiarities of the fair sex nowadays. Recall, if you can, the appearance and facial expression of the pessimistic Miss Hazy in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, and then imagine something far worse. The comparison is made because the same clever artist—Miss Helen Lowell—originated both characters. Lizzie is nominally a "companion," but really a maid to Mrs. Peyton, a lady who has had the misfortune to take on too much flesh and spends most of her time in trying to reduce her circumference. Per contra, Lizzie has the contour of a toothpick, and no wonder, for Mrs. Peyton tries all her patent medicines on her maid before she takes them herself. Not only that, but she has to handle the dumbbells, swing the clubs, and toss the "medicine ball" in company with her employer, and indulge in violent exercises that threaten to dissolve her into nothingness. But relief comes before it is too late, for Lizzie wins a prize in a lottery, and the subservient maid quickly transforms herself into a "lady," with a long train and a fan and an imperious manner that makes the audience scream with laughter. Poor Lizzie! Her dream is short, but while it lasts she makes the most of it. Then it turns out that the winning ticket belonged to the cook and that Lizzie found it. The cook's sweetheart, who runs the elevator, proves this, and Lizzie's pride has a bad fall. All the airs she has been putting on were based on the expectation of becoming the bride of Jack Wright, the "lottery man," a good-looking young fellow whose real feelings toward Lizzie are expressed in the "face" he makes every time he looks at her. Until the discovery is made that Lizzie is not the rightful owner of the ticket it seems reasonably certain that young Wright will have to marry her, for he is the prize that belongs to the holder of the winning number. He is a reporter, and having got into debt has found it necessary to raise $1,000. This he does by putting himself up as the prize in a marriage lottery, in which scheme he is aided and abetted by the newspaper that employs him. So he finds himself in a very unpleasant predicament, for apart from the fact that Lizzie is utterly impossible, he is very much in love with Mrs. Peyton's niece, Helen Heyer, who has bought numerous "chances" in the lottery, only to see the prize go to a servant—the odious Lizzie. Their love affair, with its tiffs and misunderstandings, enlivens the play at intervals, and, of course, ends happily after Lizzie has been eliminated and the cook has been "bought off."

Mr. Cyril Scott, a graceful comedian, with an adroit method that is very effective in plays of this sort, scored an emphatic success as Jack Wright. Miss Helen Lowell drew a picture that will hang beside her Miss Hazy in the gallery of stage caricatures. Miss Janet Beecher was charming as Helen Heyer, and Miss Ethel Winthrop was amusing as the stout lady, Mrs. Peyton.

"THE LILY," a drama in four acts, adapted from the French of MM. Pierre Wolff and Gaston Leroux, was produced by David Belasco on the 6th inst. in Washington at the Belasco Theatre. *Le Lys* was the title of the original French play, and it was first produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, in Paris, on Dec. 18, 1908. The principal characters are the Comte de Maigny, a broken-down nobleman, who has brought himself to the verge of ruin by extravagance and dissipation; his two daughters, Odette and Christiane; his son, Vicomte Maximilien de Maigny; Georges Arnaud, an artist; Emile Plock, a cotton merchant; and Plock's daughter, Lucie. Odette de Maigny, the elder daughter, who has reached the age of thirty-five, is a sort of upper servant in the household, her girlhood having been sacrificed in keeping up appearances for her father. Years ago she gave up the man she loved, and she has never ceased regretting it. Her sister Christiane is a high-spirited girl of twenty. She meets Georges Arnaud, and an attachment springs up between them. At first she is not aware that he has a wife, but it turns out that he is married, although he has not lived with his wife for ten years.

Christiane has known no happiness in her girlhood. Her father is strict to the point of cruelty, and while she is forced to pretend that she is satisfied with her way of living she is at heart rebellious. She has no hope of marrying, for the Comte beat her when a youth called on her. So, with her sister's fate in view, when a chance of happiness presents itself Christiane refuses to let it slip through her fingers. Arnaud is painting in a ruined monastery when she first encounters him, and she afterwards meets him clandestinely. Christiane's brother, Vicomte Maximilien, is about to wed the daughter of a rich cotton merchant, and the Comte is eager for the marriage to take place, for the money that Lucie Plock will bring as her dowry will establish the family fortunes once more. But the cotton merchant hears of Christiane's affair with the artist, and at the eleventh hour refuses to allow his daughter to enter the de Maigny family.

Vicomte Max and his father are furiously angry with Christiane, quite as much on account of losing the money as for the disclosure of her disgrace. But Odette tells the Comte a few plain truths about his treatment of his younger daughter, and questions the right of a father to spoil the lives of his children for his own selfish ends. "Anything is better than the gnawing loneliness of an old maid's life," she cries. "It is your 'honour' that *is* killing us. It has only succeeded in making of me a woman pure, but desperate and broken hearted. Go Christiane; go towards life, towards love. . . . . I have paid the ransom for you." Thus ends the third act, the play having followed the original French version up to this point.

In the last act Mr. Belasco has modified the play to suit American audiences. The "union libre" existing between Christiane and Arnaud is not depicted as an exalted state, as in the French version; nor does the heroine win happiness and contentment by her rejection of the principles of morality and her defiance of society. On the contrary, the course she takes brings her sorrow, although there is a promise of future happiness being gained when Arnaud obtains a divorce and marries her.

Mr. Charles Cartwright appeared as the Comte de Maigny, and his embodiment of the French nobleman, tyrannical and depraved, was praised very highly. Miss Nance O'Neil played Odette, and the scene, in which she defends her sister and exposes her father's selfishness was powerfully acted. Miss Julia Dean won approval as Christiane, and the other principals in the cast were Messrs. Aubrey Boucicault, Alfred Hickman, Bruce McRae, Leo Ditrichstein, and Dodson Mitchell.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE is busily engaged in rehearsals of *The O'Flynn*, the new play by Mr. Justin H. McCarthy, which he will produce at His Majesty's early next month. Love and war form the pivot of the piece, the action of which is laid at the period of 1685. Sir Herbert will have the part of a dashing Irish soldier of fortune who, having distinguished himself in the wars of Flanders, returns to Ireland, where he takes up arms in defence of his native country, and wins the love of a beautiful lady. The last-mentioned character will be played by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, and the cast will also include Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. William Macintosh, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Hubert Carter, Mr. Nigel Playfair, and Miss Elinor Foster.

THE successor to *Sir Walter Ralegh* at the Lyric is to be a new play by Mr. C. M. S. McLellan, entitled *The Strong People*. The piece deals with a conflict between Capital, represented by the head of a great American trust, and Labour, led by a "daughter of the people," and the strong situation is reached when the former, bitterly opposed to the methods of the "trust," and the latter, who goes among the oppressed workers in the guise of a journalist, fall in love. Mr. Lewis Waller has also in contemplation a revival of *The Rivals*.

THE Adelphi has evidently found a strong attraction in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *House of Temperley*, which was produced there on Monday, and is unmistakably in for a long run. Its successor has nevertheless been arranged for, and will be found in a new musical piece written by Mr. Maxwell Bailey and composed by Mr. Michael Faraday, entitled *The Islander*, which will be produced under the ægis of that widely-experienced manager Mr. A. F. Henderson. The new piece is in two acts, and is laid partially on an island in the Persian Gulf. A notable member of the cast will be found in Mr. Nell Kenyon, the popular Scotch variety comedian, who will have the part of a Persian grandee. Mr. Kenyon's success as the Baroness in the Drury Lane pantomime *Babes in the Wood* two years ago will be well remembered.

MISS MARY RORKE and Mr. Owen Roughwood will join Mr. Martin Harvey's company for his spring tour. The former will appear in the character of Queen Margaret in his revival of *Richard III.*, and the latter in that of the Duke of Clarence. To Mr. Charles Glenney has been allotted the part of the Duke of Buckingham, and Miss de Silva will, of course, appear as the Lady Anne. Rehearsals have now commenced, and the revival will form a conspicuous feature of Mr. Harvey's London season, which will commence in April.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE'S next production at the Playhouse will be *Miss Tommy*, a play by Mr. Michael Morton. The piece is the result of a curious arrangement between Mr. Morton and M. Paul Gavault, by which each author was to write a play independently on the same subject. The result in the French author's case was *La Petite Chocolatière*, while Mr. Morton's production saw the light in America. It is from the combined material of the two plays that Mr. Morton is evolving *Miss Tommy*.

MR. EDMUND PAYNE, who has been seriously ill, was recently the victim of an impudent robbery at his house at Clissold Park. On Dec. 22 Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Payne's old associate at the Gaiety, commissioned John Gainey, who is one of the "hangers-on" at the theatre, to take a sympathetic letter to Mr. Payne. The man was left alone in the dining-room for a few minutes, and after he had left, Miss Alice Payne, the comedian's daughter, found that her handbag, which had been left on the dining-room table, and which had contained £17 10s. in gold, had been tampered with, and that £10 only remained.

SUSPICION fell upon Gainey, who was arrested. Prisoner told various stories, but ultimately said that he had taken the money and used it to provide for the needs of his young children, who were in a home at Ealing. Subsequently the greater part of the money was found on him, and he then said that he was on his way to Ealing when he was arrested. A detective-sergeant informed the magistrate that Gainey had been employed for several years as a billposter by different theatres, but recently he had given way to drink. Prisoner, who said that when he went to the house he had no intention of taking anything, but saw the gold and took some, was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

M. HENRY BERNSTEIN, the eminent French dramatist, who a few weeks ago fought a duel with the dramatic critic of the *Figaro*, going out in the rain to be fired at, and disdainfully declining to return his adversary's fire, has evolved a singular point of law. *La Griffe*, which was revived some weeks ago at the Porte-Saint-Martin, was very successful and appeared to have a long run before it; but now the managers of the theatre announce that they are taking off *La Griffe* and replacing it by *La Massière*, by M. Jules Lemaitre.

THE committee of dramatic authors and composers, considering it "unjustified and unjustifiable that a manager should have the arbitrary power of taking off a play, the profits of which are largely superior to the expenses," has offered to back M. Bernstein in a legal action against the managers, and thus encouraged M. Bernstein has thrown down the glove. The managers, MM. Hertz and Coquelin, are said to be quite prepared to argue the matter in the law courts.

MR. FOSTER COURTENAY, a well-known actor, passed away, after a long illness and serious operation, on Monday, Dec. 20. The deceased gentleman was connected with George Edwardes's companies, the Wheeler South African Co., and the old Strand Theatre. He has left a widow and child, who deeply mourn his loss.

WE regret to learn of the death of Miss Madge Avery, which took place in New York last Sunday, where she was fulfilling an engagement with Mr. Forbes Robertson's *Passing of the Third Floor Back*.

MISS AVERY sailed for America last September with Mr. Forbes Robertson's company, but was unfortunately taken ill after a few weeks' appearance at the Maxine Elliott Theatre, New York, and compelled to undergo an operation; and although there was every prospect of her speedy restoration to health, she suddenly took a turn for the worse and succumbed.

MISS AVERY'S stage career has been a long and useful one. Starting many years back under the ægis of the late Miss Sarah Thorne, she long was associated with the earlier musical pieces, such as *Falka*, *Pepita*, and other companies then toured by Messrs. Van Biene and Lingard. She was nearly three years with Mr. C. P. Levilly, playing Mme. Hilarius in *La Poupée*; also over three years in the part of Mme. Pinglet with Mr. E. Lockwood's *A Night Out* company. She played Moira in *Peggy Machree*, was several tours with Mr. Robert Courtneidge in *The Dairymaids* as Mrs. Pyechase, and played many other parts too numerous to mention.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, owing to indisposition, was unable to appear on Monday last at the Opera House, Blackpool, with his company and take up the part of Monty Brewster in *Brewster's Millions*, the part in which he has made so conspicuous a success both in London and the provinces. *Brewster's Millions* was at the Opera House last Whitsun, and the gross returns for that visit, which were very big, have been quite eclipsed on this return date. The "House full" boards were hung out soon after the early doors were opened on Monday and every succeeding night this week. On Monday next the company open at the Opera House, Southport, and the advance booking there is very heavy consequent on the fact that it is the first visit of *Brewster's Millions* since Mr. Percy Hutchison became lessee and manager.

THE friends of Mr. Alfred H. Williamson will be glad to hear that he is making a rapid recovery from the injury caused by being accidentally thrown out of a motor car. Mr. Williamson was at the time working the outdoor advertising department of the Lyceum management. For nearly fourteen years, it may be remembered, he was agent-in-advance for Mr. William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company. Mr. Williamson hopes to re join the *Two Little Vagabonds* company as advance representative in the course of a week or two.

MR. SIDNEY BLOW and Mr. Douglas Hoare's enlarged edition of *Queen of the Fairies*, with Mr. Ed. Jones's assistance in the music department, is being successfully presented by Mr. Ernest Norris's powerful company at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton. The two shows every day are packed, and everybody is delighted. At the termination of the initial performance there were loud calls for Mr. Norris, who came forward and warmly thanked the audience for their appreciation of the production.

MR. AND MRS. WILFRID COMPTON (Miss Miriam Holt) have had a busy and interesting year. During 1909 they have played Mr. Kershaw and title-rôle in *Jane*, Doctor Halroyd and Mrs. Fritchley in *The Sportsman*, Colonel Fishburne and Reeve in *Dear Old Charlie*, Jack and Eva in *My Lady Help*, Frank and Eva Perry in *Are You a Mason?* and Hawtree and Esther in *Caste*. Mrs. Compton also undertook the rôle of Mrs. Pixton and Lucy in *Jane* and Agnes in *Dear Old Charlie* during emergencies, and in addition played six weeks with her husband on the Barrasford tour.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE to-day enters on the sixth year of his tour. Mr. Wilkie's tours are tours in the ample sense of the term; that is, they last forty-eight weeks out of the fifty-two in the year. It is interesting to recall the fact that Mr. Wilkie started with a small company of fourteen and one load of scenery. His company now numbers thirty-six and eight loads of scenery. With few exceptions in the spring of 1911 his bookings now extend until May of that year.

THE Kingsway Theatre is shortly to be placed on the active list again, Mr. Herbert Trench having arranged to transfer Mr. Rudolf Besier's comedy *Don* to that admirably-appointed house on Friday, Jan. 17. The entire cast at present playing at the Criterion will go with the production.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, has been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, been produced, and is shortly to be toured by Mr J. Forbes Knowles. It is already booked at several principal drama theatres.

APPLICATIONS for tickets for the Passion play at Ober-Ammergau continues, and over 20,000 Americans have already secured places. Anton Lang, the Christus of the play, has personally undertaken to shelter 1,000 visitors during the months of June and July. Prior to 1850 the Passion Play was practically unknown to the outside world. In that year it was virtually discovered as a wonderful old relic of mediævalism by Herr Devrient, a member of the famous German actor family.

A NEW opera which Mascagni is now writing will be first performed in America, and the composer will go to the United States to direct the rehearsals and to conduct. The title of the new opera will be *Ysobel*, and the scene will be laid in England, the story being based on Tennyson's poem "Godiva." Mascagni has pledged himself to have the new work ready in October, in order that the first performance may take place in New York at the beginning of December, 1910.

THE season of opera at Covent Garden will be opened by Mr. Thomas Beecham on Feb. 19 with a performance of Strauss' *Elektra*. The chief members of the cast will be Miss Edith Walker, Fräulein Mildenburg, Miss Frances Rose, and Herr Wiedemann. Included in the programme will also be the English production of Debussy's *L'Enfant Prodigue*, and revivals of *The Wreckers*, *Tristan and Isolde*, *Carmen*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *Ivanhoe*.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD., have scored a solid success with *Cinderella* produced by Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington. The Press acclaim its beauties, and the local public have been so overwhelmingly eager to witness the performance that money has been turned away at both matinées and evening shows. A record run would seem to be in perspective for this perfect pantomime.

EASTBOURNE has gone well-nigh wild with excitement over the pantomime produced by Murray King and Clark. Much was expected, but the wonderful scenery and dresses amazed all. Added to this the book was found to be one of the funniest written on the *Dick Whittington* adventure, and even on Christmas Eve the pantomime went with one long shout of laughter. Mr. Murray King as Idle Jack was voted immense. The Devonshire Park Theatre has been packed twice daily the whole of this week.

THE opening ceremony of the newly-devised Worthing Theatre was duly performed on Boxing Day morning by Lady Aubrey Fletcher. The weather was far from propitious, but the leading representatives of the town turned up in full force. The Mayor, who was present, gave unstinted praise in his remarks, re-echoing the sentiments of all present, to Mr. Seebold in his new venture. Lady Aubrey Fletcher, in a dainty opening speech, referred incidentally to the improvement in the box accommodation compared with years gone by. Mr. Hargood, J.P., also made eulogistic references to what Mr. Seebold had done to the town in supplying such an excellently up-to-date theatre.

To demonstrate again the care that should be taken in the use of firearms on the stage, what might have proved a serious accident was only just averted at Aberdare last week, where *A Soldier's Romance* was being played. There is a scene in which the comedian has to fire a shot into the wings, and by a grave error the revolver was loaded with ball cartridge instead of a blank one. The shot struck the floor and bounced up, just grazing the hand of Mr. Alexander Loftus, who was standing about two yards away reading, with another revolver in readiness should the one on the stage miss fire. Had the weapon been aimed a couple of feet higher the result must have been fatal.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who has been very hard worked lately, and is in consequence rather run down, went for a few days' shooting in Christmas week in the West of England. Miss Beatrice Wilson spent Yuletide with friends in South Devon.

ON Tuesday, Mr. Albert Vernon, the orchestral conductor of Mr. Robert Macdonald's *Dairymaids* company, now playing at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, received a wire in the afternoon summoning him to his wife's deathbed at Cardiff. At the evening show Mr. Thomas Hilton, the resident-conductor, directed the music.

MR. CHARLES R. STONE is to be congratulated on having produced a pantomime within the short space of seven days. The company met for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, on Thursday, Dec. 16, and on the following Friday night a dress rehearsal was given of *Little Red Riding Hood*, which went without a hitch. All the artists had two clear days' rest (Christmas Day and Sunday) previous to the initial performance on Monday afternoon.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK BERESFORD (Miss Dorothy Milne) are concluding their third starring engagement as Lawrence Gray and Geraldine Lucas in *Convict 99*, under the management of the Melodrama Production Syndicate, and have been engaged for the Lyceum tour of *Two Little Vagabonds* to play George and Marion Thornton, opening at the Court Theatre, Warrington, on Jan. 3.

THREE London pantomimes, to the success of which our columns this week testify, will be available for reproduction next year or for sale after the present run. They are *Babes in the Wood* at the Marlborough, *Goody Two Shoes* at the Shakespeare, and *Cinderella* at the Borough, Stratford. Mr. Fred Fredericks, of the Borough Theatre, is associated with each production—a guarantee of excellence in mounting and effects, and that gentleman is prepared to entertain applications as to their disposal.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE was presented by the members of his *Where is William?* company at Luton on Dec. 23, the anniversary of his birthday, with a handsome silver-mounted mirror, as a token of their appreciation of his friendship and esteem as a manager. *Where is William?* has scored a great success on its first visit to Scotland, and is drawing crowded houses at the Opera House, Perth, this week.

CHRISTMAS week at the Prince's Theatre, Horwich, was devoted to entertainments on behalf of the poor children of the town. The scheme was organised by local teachers, and Mr. Durie lent the theatre, and the orchestra and staff gave their services. Mr. Harry J. Maule organised an excellent sacred concert on Sunday, when several members of the Lyric Amateur Operatic Society and the whole of the Amateur Orchestral Society rendered full aid, and a very substantial fund was established. A huge Christmas tree was provided, and the various teachers worked well in dressing it with an abundance of toys. Councillor Slade presided at the distribution of toys, and on behalf of all concerned thanked Mr. and Mrs. Durie and the teachers.

MR. HENRY AINLEY, in his recent very interesting lecture to the Playgoers' Club, gave some information with respect to the status of actors in different countries. He said: "Actors originally appear to have banded themselves into secret societies for the preservation of mystic rights and of furthering their religion. That they were exclusive there can be no doubt, for a certain tribe in New Britain made a point of killing and eating anyone who even inadvertently intruded upon their proceedings. But I am very happy to tell you that, thanks to the indefatigable investigation by the Censorship Committee, most of our actor-managers have abandoned this principle.

"IN China, actors as a class occupied a very low rank. The theatre was no established institution, and although their repértoire was to all intents and purposes a replica of the history of the country, there was a law which forbade the sons of actors, barbers, and undertakers to enter for public examination. According to an old statute, actresses were looked upon with shame to such an extent that public feeling triumphed, and women were not allowed to appear on the stage, all the female characters being interpreted by men. This happened hundreds of years ago in a civilised country, and however fond the Chinese may be of the theatre, even to-day they do not take it seriously, or really look to it for refined or intellectual influences, and, as far as one can judge from their treatment of the actor, I should imagine they get the form of entertainment they want, lack of sympathetic relationship in this instance, bringing with it a lack of a sense of the dramatic.

"In Japan the actor was more advanced, but, officially the social position of the actor was not any better than in China. They belonged to the lowest class of society, but, not being treated with that callous indifference to which their Chinese confreres were subjected, there must have been a relationship, however slight, between the actor and the public, for the actor enjoyed some consideration and was appreciated—almost idolised by the general public. There are even a few instances of actors being mourned after their death, and laid to rest with great pomp and ceremony, at the public expense. Gross exaggeration seems to have been their method. A French traveller once asked the famous Japanese actor, Sodjuro, why he exaggerated. He replied: 'If we behaved on the stage as people do in real life, who could see that we were heroes.' Until quite recently, women were not allowed on the stage, and it is interesting to note how quickly they have reached an equal footing with the men.

"IN India the statements are contradictory as to the social status of the actor. Some of them tell us how highly they were considered, how frequently they belonged to the highest caste (the Brahmins), how well to do they were. Others say that they stood outside the castes like wild swine, serpents, and reptiles. One of their names was Kûçava, meaning a person of bad morals, and, in a record of the seventh century, we read that 'butchers, fishers, actors, hangmen, and scavengers are turned out of the town, and shown a place where they may live. When entering or leaving villages, they *must* keep to the left of the road.' It is evident that there were two classes of actors in India, and there can be no doubt that the better-class actor held a higher position in India than in other Asiatic countries.

"IN Greece we find that actors, as a class, enjoyed high consideration, although Æschines, the orator (originally an actor), according to Demosthenes, was so bad that once, when playing in *Thyestes*, the audience first hissed, then drove him off the stage, and finally, was on the point of stoning him. Æschines wisely chose another career! A dramatic performance was a religious act, and those who took part in it were considered as the servants of religion, as a kind of priest. If the Greek actor was unfortunate enough to add, or forget a syllable, or break the rhythm of the verse, with a mistaken accent, the audience would protest with a storm of disapproval. As Grecian audiences easily numbered 30,000 people, and as it was a favourite proceeding to show disapproval, by throwing stones at the actor, I think we may safely assume that the Marathon race was undoubted glorification of some wretched actor, trying to escape from his persistent audience!"

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR is giving at the Coronet for the holiday season a revival of *The Private Secretary*, with Mr. Stanley Cooke in the rôle of the Rev. Robert Spalding. Forty performances will be given of Charles H. Hawtrey's popular and perennial farce, of which some 20,000 representations have been reached and for which the public have paid quite a million pounds.

MR. EUGENE CORRI, who, at the request of the *Daily Mail*, has witnessed *The House of Temperley*, Sir Conan Doyle's new sporting play at the Adelphi Theatre, is a recognised authority on boxing in this country. Most of the important contests at the National Sporting Club are refereed by Mr. Corri, who by his firm and impartial application of the rules of boxing has done as much as anyone to raise the standard of boxing as a sport. The following are Mr. Corri's impressions of the boxing in *The House of Temperley*:—

"THE spirit of chivalry pervades the whole of *The House of Temperley* at the Adelphi Theatre—the spirit which animated the old-world professors of 'the noble art,' and the same spirit which has placed boxing, as it is understood at the present day, in the proud position which it holds among the sports of the world. Everyone who holds manly actions as the chief distinction of a man should see this play. There is a good deal more than a mere realistic boxing display to be seen. There is the fine manly sporting instinct, the true chivalry in everyday dealings with the world as well as in sport, which is the mainspring of the plot. But that is not my province. I want to deal with *The House of Temperley* as a boxing display.

"I MAY say at once I have never seen boxing on the stage more faithfully reproduced. It is a curious but nevertheless admitted fact that actors as a class do not practise boxing to the same extent as they do fencing or dancing, and yet as a study to procure freedom and grace of action it is unexcelled. With this in mind, the 'sparring' to be seen in the second act between Mr. Edmund Gwenn and Mr. A. S. Homewood is really admirable, especially when it is remembered how difficult it is to 'act' at boxing. Mr. Gwenn shaped as to the manner born, while Mr. Homewood fell at the end of the contest as if really 'knocked out.' Again, in the combat on Crawley Downs attention to technical details is really remarkable, and not a fault could be found on this head.

"In the contest, which is supposed to be a real old-world 'knuckle-fight,' Mr. Charles Maude (as Captain Jack Temperley) and Mr. Reginald Davis (as Gloster Dick) put up a really stirring combat, full of ever-changing incident and warranted to deserve the cheers which came from the admiring crowds on the stage itself and mingled with the genuine applause of the audience in front. Captain Jack, in the two rounds which are vouchsafed to the audience, evidently thoroughly deserved his victory, while his opponent, though defeated, was not disgraced.

"ALL sporting London should see this play. It has evidently been carefully staged by those who understand its technical side, and in that way it should delight the dilettanti of the boxing world; while to those who have never seen a boxing contest—and the ladies are included in this category—it affords some insight into the grand principles of sport which underlie the noble art of self-defence."

MME. KATE FLINN is properly proud of her little pupil Millicent Le Hay, who went on at the Hippodrome without a rehearsal last week and played Miss Zena Dare's part in the sketch with Mr. Maurice Farkoa. The clever little maid looked the part to perfection, and both her singing and acting were really a credit to her and to her instructress. Miss Le Hay, it should be added, has never studied with anyone else but Mme. Flinn, and her youth and prettiness should speedily secure her a permanent place on the London stage.

T. EDWARD WARD'S new production, *His Real Wife*, met with gratifying success on its initial performance on Monday last at the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, where all the scenery and effects have been made. The play is unfolded in a sequence of fourteen scenes, culminating in a powerful dénouement, and vast audiences have manifested their approval of the thoroughness of the production.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL'S principal company in *From Convent to Throne* appeared at his own theatre at Grantham on Thursday and Friday of last week to crowded houses. At the close of the performance on Thursday Mr. Campbell was invited to step upon the stage, when Mr. Graham Woods, on behalf of the company, publicly presented a very handsome bust of Shakespeare and a pedestal as a mark of esteem and respect for Mr. Campbell as author and manager.

YULETIDE has been seasonably kept by the company. On Christmas Eve over 500 poor children of Grantham were entertained by Mrs. J. A. Campbell (Miss Mary Fulton) to a picture matinée, after which each child received a toy, sweets, and an orange. On Christmas night the entire company of *From Convent to Throne* were entertained to supper on the stage of the theatre, bringing a very happy visit to a close.

MR. J. B. MULHOLLAND has written to the *Referee* as follows:—"Sir,—In last Sunday's *Referee* you published a resolution in favour of the 'One Licence' passed by the Theatres Alliance, and prefaced it by saying that that body had been 'stirred up' to action by a resolution to the opposite effect passed by the Music-Hall Managers' Association, the previous week. I beg to inform you that our resolution was passed at the ordinary meeting of the Alliance without reference to the attitude of any other association, and is merely in consonance with the views which it is well known we hold. In support of this, permit me to quote from the 'proof' of evidence given before the Censorship Committee on behalf of the Alliance:—'Our present position is intolerable, and its continuance will wipe out the majority of the remaining suburban theatres. We are unanimously in favour of preserving our establishments as *theatres*, but this we can only do if the law as it is be operative. Alternatively we are unanimously in favour of 'One Entertainment Licence.' Under this we would be on something approaching even ground. As it is, a premium is put upon evading or breaking the law, and the theatre manager is compelled to fight a highly organised and aggressive opposition with one hand tied behind his back.'

"THIS proof was sent in on Aug. 17, and that the Committee attached some importance to it is, I think, proved by the following excerpt from the Report:—'The second alternative—viz., to legalise the performance of sketches in places licensed for music and dancing—we regard as unjust to the proprietors of theatres. They ask that, if the existing law, which ostensibly protects their interests, is not to be enforced, they shall at least be allowed to meet their competitors on equal terms, and, if they so desire, during a part of the year, or, it may be, as a portion of their entertainment, to present performances other than stage-plays. This cannot but be regarded as a reasonable demand.' It is noteworthy that this weighty paragraph, which goes to the very root of the whole sketch question (and, incidentally, which justifies so fully the attitude of theatre managers), has never, so far as I am aware, been published in any newspaper.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., J. B. MULHOLLAND, Hammersmith, Dec. 23, 1909."

"THE TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" having recently terminated at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, a most prosperous autumn tour, have been taking a brief rest, but will resume operations at the Court Theatre, Warrington, on Monday, Messrs. George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley's evergreen play having been booked for a long spring tour. As heretofore, Mr. Edward Beecher will pilot the company. Miss Helen Grenville, Miss Ivy Millais, and Mr. Charles Ludlow will resume their successful impersonations, and the company has been further strengthened by the acquisition of Mr. Frank Beresford, a leading actor of tried reputation.

WILSON RAE, thirty-eight, described as an electra-therapeutist, lately in business at New Oxford-street, who had been committed for trial at West Ham Police Court on a charge of obtaining jewellery by false pretences from a pawnbroker, was on Tuesday further charged with bigamy. Evidence was given of the marriage of the accused to Annie Maria Pratt at Southsea in January, 1900, the witness being her sister. Olive Louisa Prosser stated that she married Rae on Nov. 13 last, when he described himself as a bachelor, at the Staines Registry Office. She had known him only three weeks.

CROSS-EXAMINED by Mr. G. W. Davies, she said the prisoner had treated her very well; he had spent a good deal of money on her, giving her clothes and expensive jewellery. She first met him at the Berkeley Arms, Cranford, which was practically her home, as she had been adopted by the landlady, whose daughter she assisted in the house. She was, however, an actress, and knew Mr. Malcolm Scott, who on the day of the marriage suggested to her that she had not known the prisoner long enough and was marrying in a hurry. In the register she described herself as a spinster, and that was correct; she had never been married before.

RE-EXAMINED: She was under contract at Glasgow at the time of the marriage and had broken the contract, for which she had been threatened with legal proceedings. The accused, on this charge, had nothing to say, and was committed for trial, bail being allowed, the accused himself in £1,000 and sureties in £500.

WHAT is the pay of a sociétaire of the Théâtre-Français? Sociétaires are remunerated in three distinct ways. Each sociétaire is entitled to £40 a month under any circumstances. A fee of £2 is paid to each for every performance in which he or she acts. Each sociétaire receives at the end of the year a proportionate share of the profits of the joint stock theatrical business in which he or she is a partner. The sum brought in by "twelve-twelfths" of a share will amount this year to about £720. The total income of a sociétaire acting three or four times a week, barring annual leave, thus reaches about £1,500 a year. Holidays are generously accorded, and in a few short tours a sociétaire with a good manager can easily double his income.

AT Scott's Theatre, Maritzburg, on Nov. 29, a copyright performance was given of a comedy entitled *The Bachelor Girl*, Mr. Eugen Benzon being responsible for the music, and Mr. R. F. W. Rees for the lyrics and book.

MESSRS. TILBURY AND FRIEDMAN'S Dutch burletta, in two acts, *Happy Holland*, was enthusiastically received by a large house at its first performance at the Grand, Blackpool, on Monday, and the attendance since has proved how favourable was the impression made.

AMONG the successful candidates who have obtained certificates for pianoforte playing in the Lower Division at the School Examination for 1909 of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music is Miss Beatrice Harding Macartney, who is a pupil of her father, Mr. Alfred Harding, the well-known leading actor.

THE Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of London are entertaining a number of poor children at the Guildhall on Monday. Among the delights prepared for the youthful guests will be a scene of *Alice in Wonderland* from the Court Theatre, with Miss Ivy Sawyer as Alice, Mr. Tom Graves as the Mock Turtle, and Mr. Edgar Favelle as the Gryphon.

MASTER MORITZ LUTZEN, juvenile composer of the music for the children's pantomime at the Strand Theatre, is of Hungarian descent, but he has had much of his musical education in England. He is a gold medallist of Trinity College, and won there the highest prize for pianoforte playing. He has conducted orchestral concerts in Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and other principal Continental cities.

MESSRS. FAULKNER AND DE COURTSEY have arranged with Mr. Wallace Davidson to tour the well-known drama *The Sins of the Fathers*, commencing early in February. An entirely new plant of scenery is being prepared, and the firm will travel every article and property requisite for the complete presentment of the play, a clear stage only being required from the local management. The printing includes specially designed art posters by Sidney Ransom and Will T. True.

MR. HORACE STANLEY and his *10.30 Down Express* company are not playing at Hetton-le-Hole, as erroneously announced in our "On the Road" column, but are providing the Christmas attraction at the New Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring.

MISS ADA REEVE has been relating some of her experiences in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*. She says:—"I am a Cockney, and proud of the fact. But pride sometimes has a fall, and my complacence in my cockneyism once received a severe shock. While touring in Australia I engaged a dresser, a local product, who was quite a character. She was also very inquisitive, and she had scarcely been with me an hour before she asked me whether I was English. 'Yes,' I replied, proudly, 'I am a real old Cockney.' 'Oh, are yer?' she retorted. 'Well, you needn't put on frills about it, anyway. I've known lots of people what came from Cockney, and there wasn't none of 'em any good.' Dismissed on the spot.

"FOR good or for ill, I was born within sound of Bow Bells, and I went on the stage in the most natural manner possible, both my parents being already there, and well-known members of the stock companies of those days. I fancy I played many 'thinking' parts as a baby, but the first rôle of which I have any distinct recollection was that of Little Willie in *East Lynne*.

"I WAS the first girl to turn a 'catherine wheel' on the music-hall stage. In my waif and street-arab parts at the Pavilion, Mile End, I had often turned 'wheels,' and one day it struck me that it might be a good idea to introduce them on the 'halls.' Greatly daring, I put the idea into execution at the Cambridge Music Hall, and it met with instant success. Indeed, ever afterwards the audience used to greet me with shouts of 'Over, Ada!' This was pleasing, but it was not so pleasant when one night as I was going 'over,' the padlock of a bracelet I was wearing got under my hand and buried itself in the flesh; the pain was most appalling, and when my 'turn' was over I had to have the wretched thing cut out; but I had been taught to keep a smiling face in all circumstances, and the audience suspected nothing."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Too Many Theatres.

MR. DAVID BELASCO was recently quoted as saying that this was the most disastrous theatrical year ever known in New York. "And," he added, "the springing up of new theatres means that it will be still more disastrous. There are too many theatres both in New York and throughout the country. Theatres are now built in New York as factories for the manufacture of any old thing to send on the road. But the day has gone by when a play can make a successful tour on the strength of a New York run. The manager who forces a run here makes a mistake. The legitimate drawing power of the greatest success is exhausted here in twelve weeks. By that time all the New Yorkers who go to the theatre regularly have seen the play, and they're looking for something new. First-nighters, of course, don't miss anything. The torture of the author and the suffering of the actors seem to have a strange appeal to them."

Unofficial Interrupters.

IT seems that the men who, because they rise in the theatres to protest against Suffragette jokes by the comedians, have been christened "suffragents" are unknown to the Women's Social and Political Union. "We have no knowledge of them at all," declares Miss Christabel Pankhurst, "and it looks as if the managers of the theatres themselves had hired the men to advertise the plays."

First Joys.

"As a child, what was your first joy?" asks the French paper *La Quinzaine* of a number of eminent persons in France. The answers include the following:—M. Henri Houssaye, the Napoleonic historian.—When Rachel toyed with my golden locks at the Théâtre Français. M. Edmund Rostand.—A stick of sugar candy. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt.—I was given a patch of garden in the playground to share with another little girl when we were at school. My first great joy was when I bought her part of it for seven pins, two reams of ruled paper, and my lizard box with three lizards, one without a tail. I was now the sole queen of my garden. M. Jules Lemaitre.—It was followed by indigestion. Mme. Jane Hading.—In Provence, where I was born, it was the custom to have a crib in every house at Christmas time. It was lit by an oil lamp for forty days, and morning and evening I used to kneel and say my prayers before it. That little light was the brightest spot of my childhood, and it was the first, and perhaps the greatest, of my joys.

OTHERS answering are:—M. Clarctie.—Doughnuts, which we used to get on a carnival day, and then to see them swell out in the oven. Mme. Réjane.—The day when my mother consented to take me to fancy-dress ball. I wore an Andalusian costume—it had always been the dream of my life—and as I walked down the boulevards all the passers-by went into ecstasies over the "little Andalusian." That day I knew joy—real joy—joy in every sense of the word. M. Jean Aicard (the latest member of the Académie Française).—When I was at school all the pupils knew the glory of the name of M. de Lamartine. One rainy day we were playing, when suddenly the games were interrupted. At the door of the courtyard stood our teacher, hat in hand, talking with a tall, emaciated man, who had a beautiful look of melancholy in his thin face. All the boys recognised him. "It is M. de Lamartine who wants you!" I was only ten, but great pride filled my heart. It was a joy of childhood never to be forgotten.

His Own Gazeka.

MR. GEO. GRAVES, who is playing Abanazar in *Aladdin* at Drury Lane, is highly delighted to hear of the proposed alterations in stage copyright. "I'm very hot on this subject," he said to a man of *The People*. "If they protect music publishers and writers, why don't they protect a man's brain-work on the stage? What I object to is that my brain should be made to feed four or five people. They cinematograph you, they photograph you, and they lithograph you, and off you go all over the world. The Gazeka, which I invented and introduced into a piece, was copied in all parts of the civilised world, although it was my Gazeka—the child of my brain," mused the comedian, proudly. "As a matter of fact," he proceeded, recovering his composure, "the law on the subject of any special business we may think out and introduce into a piece is as plain as it can be. It is a William IV. law, and is almost fatherly in its provisions. Only there is this trouble—I've got to go into my dressing-room and write it all out—the situation and the business I've invented to go round it. With regard to the dumb show, the copyright should be a blessing. At the present time a clever troupe of clowns might originate a show and open at a West End hall with it, and the whole idea might be cribbed and used by others, perhaps the very next night."

The Widow's Right.

MR. WILKIE BARD (the representative of the Widow Twankay) was also overjoyed to hear of the proposed change. He said that it would be an excellent thing for professionals if they could be protected from the people who sucked their brains and might very possibly appear before them in the same hall and take all "the ginger" out of their act when the curtain was rung up for them.

A Stage Counsel.

"WHO is the greatest cross-examiner in London to-day?" asks the *Evening News*. It is acknowledged that Sir Edward Clarke, Sir Edward Carson, Mr. Gill, and Mr. Rufus Isaacs have claims, but a hitherto unknown cross-examiner in the first rank is Mr. Henry Vibart, who has not yet been called to the Bar. Mr. Vibart stands alone in theatredom, conducting two cross-examinations at two different houses on the same night. His performances are remarkable, and the playgoer will find it well worth his while to see him in his two pieces. He appears first at the Shaftesbury, at 8.15, in *The Factory Fire*, a Dutch play, which portrays the preliminary examination so common in Holland before a trial. Mr. Vibart for three-quarters of an hour vigorously cross-examines seven different people, impersonated by one and the same, Mr. de Fries, in a case of arson. With keen magisterial inflexibility of purpose he gently puts leading questions, changes his manner in a moment, and accuses, bullies, threatens, without mercy. The natural forensic appearance of the actor, the adroitness of his questions, and the perfect modulation of voice hold a rapt and attentive house as surely no leading K.C. ever mesmerised a Court of Justice.

"Lights Out."

MR. VIBART immediately jumps into a cab and proceeds to the Waldorf Theatre for the third act of *Lights Out*. The scene is a court-martial. A woman is at the bottom of it, of course. A corporal is the prisoner. The villain—a lieutenant—is a witness. See the grey-haired, bewhiskered, benevolent old officer sitting in judgment. Not now do we hear the stern, pitiless, bullying tone, not now the rough driving home of a point on a disarmed witness, not now the relentless extortion of a confession from a man rudely broken down, but the sweet, kindly tones of the veteran with words distilling comfort, inviting confidence, and inspiring courage, from time to time mellowing into solemn fatherly warning that the words and oaths of the witnesses are fraught with the gravest consequences to a fellow-man. The two performances of Mr. Vibart are worth following as a contrast in versatility, and for lessons in cross-examination the Temple may look Westward with advantage.

"THE HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY."

A Melodrama of the Ring, by Arthur Conan Doyle, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday, Dec. 27.

Sir Charles Temperley	MR. BEN WEBSTER
Captain Jack Temperley	MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Sir John Hawker	MR. CHARLES ROCK
Jakes	MR. SPENCER TREVOR
Ginger Stubbs	MR. EDMUND GWENN
Lord Rufton	MR. STRATTON RODNEY
Duke of Broadwater	MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Colonel Dacre	MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Jerry	MR. ARTHUR BURNE
George	MR. A. CORNEY GRAIN
Mr. Poyntz	MR. FREEMAN H. MAY
Sir Charles Bunbury	MR. H. FORD
Sir George Gascoigne	MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES
Mr. James Parton West	MR. A. G. CRAIG
General Crauford	MR. CHARLES COMBE
Tom Cribb	MR. BASSETT ROE
Joe Berks	MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Tom Belcher	MR. HUBERT WILLIS
Gloster Dick	MR. REGINALD DAVIS
Gentleman Jackson	MR. STANLEY TURNBULL
Buckhorse	MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Dutch Sam	MR. WILTON ROSS
Bill Richmond	MR. W. WALLACE
Jack Scroggins	MR. E. C. BARTON
Tom Molineux	MR. GEO. WELSH
Dan Mendoza	MR. V. LUSK
George Cooper	MR. E. CRESFAN
George Maddox	MR. FRANK EMERY
Caleb Baldwin	MR. R. J. BELL
Jack Randall	MR. W. COATS BUSH
Tom Spring	MR. ARTHUR F. THORNE
Hopkins	MR. CHARLES COMBE
Smith	MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Mercer	MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Sergeant Holden	MR. J. BYRON
Stable Lad	MR. ARTHUR BACHNER
Waiter	MR. GEORGE SHELLEY
Footman	MR. GEOFFERY HILL
Lady Temperley	MRS. RUSS WHYTAL
Ethel Morley	MISS DOROTHEA DESMOND
Lucy	MISS POLLIE EMERY
Mary	MISS JOYCE FRANCIS
Mrs. Barnet	MISS HETTA BARTLETT

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, encouraged by the success of his adaptation of his novel of the Nile, has drawn on "Rodney Stone" for suggestions for a spirited and exciting play of pugilism which was received at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday with enthusiastic acclamations, the author being called for at the close, and warmly applauded. Sir Charles Temperley, a nobleman of the days of the Prince Regent, has almost ruined himself by gambling; and the house of Temperley itself is in danger from the mortgagees. His brother, Jack, a Captain in the Army, tries to wean him from these extravagances, and makes him promise not to touch a card again, and an heiress, Ethel Morley, who is secretly in love with Jack, is willing to wed Sir Charles to save the estates. The baronet has been systematically cheated by a certain Sir John Hawker, who tries to swindle him by cutting a pack of cards for a high stake. A bookmaker called Jakes gets hold of the cards, and finds that the kings are marked. He blackmails Sir John, and gets him to sign a paper mentioning the price of his—Jakes's—"silence." Jack gets Sir Charles to consent to a match between a "novice" discovered by Hawker and a nominee of Sir Charles's, name unknown. This is Ginger Stubbs, Jack's soldier servant, an ex-pugilist; but just before the fight comes off Stubbs is kidnapped by a conspiracy between Jakes and Hawker, and Jack, who is a fine amateur pugilist, takes Stubbs's place, goes into the ring, and beats the "novice"; Hawker, in a rage, giving Jakes a sound thrashing. In revenge, Jakes charges Sir John with cheating, and the case is heard by a committee of Watier's Club, by whom, after a furious defence, Hawker is found guilty, and expelled from the club. As we learn in the last act, which takes place in the Peninsula, Sir Charles kills Hawker in a duel, and he sacrifices his misspent life to save his brother's in a storming party, leaving Jack free to marry Ethel.

A great factor of the success of the play was the admirable manner in which each character was thought out and enacted. In a very large cast, there was not a single case in which the personage was not carefully considered and rendered with rare finish and carefulness. Mr. Ben Webster, always excellent as a gentleman of high degree, played the dissipated Sir Charles Temperley with exactly the right feeling, making the spendthrift nobly chivalrous, in spite of his defects. The weakness of character, combined with a better nature, the impulses towards good and the degeneracy towards evil, were shown by Mr. Webster with great skill, and he threw over the whole picture a rich tone of aristocratic breeding. Mr. Charles Maude played the part of Captain Jack Temperley with much expressiveness, and quite sympathetically, and he was sufficiently athletic to make the victory of the amateur pugilist over the young professional not too improbable. A remarkably fine impersonation of Sir John Hawker was contributed by Mr. Charles Rock, who was most judiciously selected for a rôle which few actors could have filled so thoroughly. The vigorous, unscrupulous rascal was portrayed in very vivid and convincing colours; and Mr. Rock's rendering of Hawker's outburst in the Club scene, when his ostracism has been decided on, rose almost to the height of tragedy. Altogether, Mr. Rock's Hawker may be said to be one of the best things he has done for a long time. Mr. Spencer Trevor raised his reputation many degrees by his striking performance of the part of Jakes. He never once relinquished his hold on his audience or on the character, which he delineated with telling, yet subtle strokes, and with an energy of cunning and malignity which was very impressive and effective. Another admirable impersonation was Mr. Edmund Gwenn's Ginger Stubbs. Mr. Gwenn looked quite a possible prize-fighter, and acted the soldier-servant in his usual blunt, vigorous way. He deserves warm praise, too, for the energy he displayed in the boxing bout in the saloon in the second act, and we quite missed him from the play until his revival in the last scene of all, the comedy between him and Lucy—a personage represented with keen comic power and great energy and spirit by that excellent actress, Miss Pollie Emery, being very acceptable, and creating great amusement. The aristocratic "Corinthians" were differentiated with delicate skill, Mr. Stratton Rodney giving a firm and individual portrait of Lord Rufton, and Mr. A. S. Homewood's old school courtesy and polish as the Duke of Broadwater being exquisite. Mr. Frank Ridley contributed a neat sketch of Colonel Dacre, Mr. Arthur Burne was comical as Jerry, Mr. A. Corney Grain played George effectively, and Mr. Poyntz and Sir Charles Bunbury and Sir George Gascoyne were depicted with care and finish by Mr. Freeman H. May, Mr. H. Ford, and Mr. Archibald Forbes. Mr. A. G. Craig supplied a clever sketch of character as Mr. James Parton West; and Mr. Charles Combe, as General Crauford, in the last act gave a typical presentment of the hero of the Light Division. It was fortunate that Mr. Bassett Roe was available to represent the massive and manly Tom Cribb; he realised admirably the engravings of the doughty pugilist. Mr. Reginald Davis worked hard as Gloster Dick. Of the members of the Prize Ring, few had much to say, but all were carefully and correctly made up; but the belligerent Tom Belcher and the plucky Joe Berks had clever representatives in Mr. A. S. Homewood and Mr. Hubert Willis, and every one of the professionals played his little part well, if it was scarcely a speaking one. Mr. Charles Combe, Mr. Frank Ridley, and Mr. O. P. Heggie were satisfactory as servants; Mr. J. Byron was efficient as Sergeant Holden; Mr. Arthur Bachner was good as a stable lad; and Mr. George Shelley was capital as a Waiter, Mr. Geoffrey Hill making a smart Footman. Mrs. Russ Whytal's Lady Temperley had many merits; and Miss Dorothea Desmond was a painstaking Ethel Morley, Miss Joyce Francis being easy and ingenuous as the bar-girl, Mary, and Miss Hetta Bartlett giving a characteristic performance as Mrs. Barnet.

Warm praise is due to the way in which the piece was rehearsed and mounted, Mr. Herbert Jarman having produced it in splendid style. The fact that the fights had been arranged under the supervision of a professional boxing instructor, Mr. F. Binnington, accounted for the realistic manner in which they were carried through, and the actors did not spare themselves in carrying out his instructions, and took their "punishment" very kindly. The scenery, by F. L. Schmitz, was well painted, and the arrangement of the pugilists at the festive board in the second act and all the details of the business of the play were attended to most solicitously. All London will be drawn to the Adelphi to see a faithful reproduction of a phase of sport which now only exists in a modified and chastened form, and which has had a great influence on the destinies of England.

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

Revived by Miss Horniman's Company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Dec. 27.

Leonato	MR. HENRY AUSTIN
A Messenger	MR. J. VERNON BRYANT
Beatrice	MISS MONA LIMERICK
Hero	MISS HILDA BRUCE POTTER
Don Pedro	MR. STANLEY DREWITT
Benedick	MR. IAN MACLAREN
Don John	MR. BASIL DEAN
Claudio	MR. FRANK DARCH
Antonio	MR. STAFFORD DAWSON
Conrade	MR. GILBERT CLARK
Borachio	MR. EDWARD LANDOR
Balthasar	MR. ESME PERCY
Margaret	MISS MURIEL PRATT
Ursula	MISS ADA KING
Dogberry	MR. CHARLES BIBBY
Verges	MR LEONARD MUDIE
1st Watchman	MR. JOHN E. ETHERDO
2nd Watchman	MR. JAMES DILLON
3rd Watchman	MR. JAMES P. MARSDEN
4th Watchman	MR. THOMAS HUGHES
Another Messenger	MR HERBERT LOMAS
Friar Francis	MR. ESME PERCY
A Sextor	MR. FRANCIS HOPE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Many fine Shakespearean productions have been seen in Manchester during recent years. The latest, *Much Ado About Nothing*, was staged at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday evening, Dec. 27, under the direction of Mr. Iden Payne. No misgiving was felt on the score of the interpretation by Miss Horniman's talented company, nor indeed on any other ground, for things are done here with true artistry, and there are no failures with anything that will stand the test of an audience. Thus the curtain rose to high expectations, and these, taking the production as a whole, were by no means disappointed. Spectacular effect is one of the prime requirements in Shakespeare nowadays, and the pictures of Messina, in which the action proceeded, were beautiful to the eye, a city of flowers and sunshine, lapped by the blue Italian waters. There is nothing garish, from the highest light to the deepest of mellow shadows, from Leonato's garden overlooking the white town to the altar scene in the solemn church, which is impregnated with a quiet richness of light, as from dim stained windows, which even now admit strong yet subdued rays from the sun. The artist, Hugh Freemantle, has no less a genius for street scenes, and there is a most picturesque example in the scene before Leonato's house, which we see also by moonlight with quite lovely effect. The dresses harmonise with all this in the same spirit of moderate splendour. They are Italian of the early part of the sixteenth century, contemporaneous, in fact, with Matteo Bandello, the author from whom Shakespeare borrowed the story of "Hero." These have been designed by Norah Doyle, and executed by Ada M. Owen. Then there are dances of the period, arranged by Nellie Chaplin and directed by Madge Atkinson; the "Pavana" and the "Galliardo" in the first act, and the "La Volta" in the fourth, the latter a particularly spirited and effective movement. To complete the propriety of the setting of the comedy, there is an overture, "The King's Hunt," by John Bull, arranged by Granville Bantock; and the whole of the music incidental to the action has been selected and arranged by Dr. Henry Watson, and is entirely of English origin, while the arrangement of the dance music (William Byrd) is to the credit of Granville Bantock.

As for the acting, no one questions the all-round ability and well-balanced parts of this remarkable combination of players. For the most part, also, there is seldom a mistake in the casting. Whether an error or not has been made in one notable instance on this occasion remains to be seen. Meanwhile, one must confess to some little disappointment in regard to Miss Mona Limerick's interpretation of Beatrice. The fact seems to be that Miss Limerick's talent does not run in the direction of comedy, especially Shakespearean comedy, so much as towards tragedy. Her best work is introspective, and does not lie so much upon the surface as in suggestion, no matter the intrinsic value of the work on which she may be engaged. Nevertheless, there is no little charm in her appearance and her acting, and possibly she may be able to sink her personal temperament sufficiently to become the more lightsome Beatrice of the play than she was on the opening night. Mr. Ian Maclaren as Benedick gave a clear and vigorous rendering, and really excellent impersonations of Hero and Don Pedro were offered by Miss Hilda Bruce Potter (who is always charming) and Mr. Stanley Drewitt respectively. Fine work was added by Mr. Basil Dean as the sinister Don John, and by Mr. Frank Darch as Claudio; while competent renderings were given also by Mr. Henry Austin as Leonato, Mr. Stafford Dawson as Antonio, and Mr. Edward Landor as Borachio. Particularly good was Mr. Esmé Percy in the dual-rôle of Balthasar and Friar Francis, while Mr. Leonard Mudie played excellently as Verges, and Mr. Charles Bibby as Dogberry contributed beyond doubt the comedy success of the evening. Mr. Esmé Percy's singing of "Sigh no more, ladies," should be extolled, and a word of praise is due to the clever dancing of Misses Madge Atkinson, Hilda Davies, and Mercy Manners.

"THE TYRANT" is being presented at the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, by Miss Marie Dagmar's company, which includes the charming and talented Miss Marie Robson in the part of Tisbe, which she enacts with much grace. The title-rôle is well taken by Mr. Roy Fortesque, he being very successful in the part; Mr. Percy Follis as Homodei is also good and works hard; Messrs. Wilson Summers and Fred Laurd as Victor and Nobbo do well, as also does Mr. Edward E. Louis as Prince Rudolph. Mr. Charles E. Warne as the Dean of St. Anthony is also very good; as Lady Catherine Miss Jean Scott is satisfactory; and the Misses Lailah Shelton and Emmie Burns are effective as Eulie and Daphne, Miss Katie Lever being lively as Reginelta. The piece is excellently mounted.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"ADAM UND EVA."

Play, in Three Acts, by Julius Meier-Graefe, Produced at the Hebbel Theatre, Dec. 18.

Lassen	HERR OTTO
Frau Lassen	FRAULEIN ROLAND
Jaeger	HERR KAYSSLER
Benzenberg	HERR HERZFELD
Mueller	HERR LEOPOLD
Clara	FRAULEIN KARSTEN
Pauline	FRAULEIN BERGER
Frau Krause	FRAULEIN RICHARD
Dr. Behrmann	HERR WLACH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Dec. 23.—A cordial reception was accorded to the first play from the pen of a well-known art critic, but it was more out of respect for the author than due to the piece's merits. The action passes—as might be anticipated—in artistic circles. Fritz Lassen is a painter of unusual talent, though he has not yet reached a very high rung on the ladder of fame. He has a young and pretty wife, Lisette by name, and he has a friend—Karl Jaeger—who is devoted to him. Jaeger, who is an art critic, helps Lassen in many ways, he believes in him, and is constantly admonishing him to great deeds. Yet Jaeger does not scruple about yielding to Lisette's fascinations, or, at least, his scruples always come too late. Lisette is an empty-headed little person, who serves her husband as a model; he does not get on quickly enough for her, and she passes away the time by throwing herself at the head of her husband's best friend. Jaeger finally—out of love for his friend, who he thinks will never reach great heights while bound to Lisette—is even willing to incite a divorce and marry Lisette himself. This very remarkable sacrifice does not come about, because Lisette, having provoked a quarrel between the two men, confesses, in a fit of rage, everything to her husband, and then takes her life. After a good deal of tall talk, the friends make it up, and Lassen promises to rise upon the stepping-stones of a sad experience to the heights Jaeger has so long desired for him. I do not think this enigmatical production will see many repetitions, despite an excellent cast.

UNQUESTIONABLY the greatest success the Meta Illing English company had during their brief season at the New Schauspielhaus was on the closing night, when Henry Arthur Jones' interesting play *Mrs. Dane's Defence* was in the bill. The house was full, the audience was an enthusiastic one, and the fine acting was deserving of the applause that followed. The rôle of the unfortunate heroine was admirably rendered by Miss Mayne Young, that of the famous judge—Sir Lionel Cartaret—equally well by Mr. Cecil Ward; Mr. Logan was good as the young lover Lionel, and Miss Armytage Noble was a quite charming Lady Eastney. In the part of the genial Canon Bonsey Mr. Dalziel Heron made a decided hit, Miss Ethel Dane completed her conquest of the Germans (which she began as Mary Ann) in the rôle of Janet, and the other characters were all satisfactorily sustained. The English Theatre will return after Christmas to give a season in the old Urania, to which event we are eagerly looking forward.

AT the Deutsches Theatre Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* has been revived. It was announced with a flourish of trumpets, and knowing Herr Reinhardt's originality—to offer a mild expression—in the matter of Shakespearean productions our curiosity was not a little aroused. It may be said at once that from a classical point of view it was a distinct failure, and if the Immortal Bard turned in his grave it is not to be wondered at. On the other hand, if looked at from the standpoint of a circus display the piece was conspicuously successful. It was not a comedy, but a coarse burlesque played by clowns. And the Germans think they can teach the English how to act Shakespeare! It is only fair to state that the mounting was very effective and that the best Berlin critics were strong in their expressions of disfavour at the tone of the interpretation.

THE enterprising Bernhard Rose Theatre made an ambitious experiment on Saturday last. Goethe's *Faust* was put in the bill, and the performance was entitled in every way to respect, and at times even to admiration. The cast was good throughout. Director Rose gave the rôle of Faust himself, that of Mephisto was in the capable hands of Herr Beaurepaire, while Gretchen was admirably portrayed by Fräulein Ward, and Martha was well represented by Fräulein Schäffel The play was staged in a manner worthy of a larger theatre, and altogether the desire of Herr Rose to present Goethe's masterpiece to East End audiences was as successful as it deserved to be.

HERR SUDERMANN'S new drama *Strandkinder* was produced last night at the Royal Schauspielhaus with success.

FRAULEIN CLARA ZIEGLER, the once famous tragedienne of the Royal Schauspielhaus and one of the finest actresses in Germany, died at Munich on Sunday at the age of 65. The artist had long left the stage, and had suffered from an affection of the heart for some years, which was the final cause of death. Telegrams of condolence and wreaths were sent to Fräulein Ziegler's relatives by the Kaiser and many other Royal persons. The body was cremated at Ulm yesterday.

THE members of the German Actors' Association have sent in to the Reichstag a petition demanding an Imperial law for the protection of actors. Among other things they plead for a cessation of Sunday rehearsals and a limit to the duration of rehearsals at all times, especially when these take place on the day of performance. The Home Secretary is in favour of a Bill to this effect.

"DAS KONZERT."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Hermann Bahr, Produced at the Lessing Theatre, Dec. 23.

Gustav Heink	HERR REICHER
Frau Heink	FRAULEIN LEHMANN
Dr. Jura	HERR GEBUHR
Delfine	FRAULEIN HERTERICH
Eva	FRAULEIN ORLOFF
Selma	FRAULEIN SUSSIN
Frau Floderer	FRAULEIN GABRI
Miss Garden	FRAULEIN CRUSIUS
Fräulein Wedner	FRAULEIN EBERTY
Pollinger	HERR ZIENER
Frau Pollinger	FRAULEIN ALBRECHT
Magd	FRAULEIN WITTMANN
Chauffeur	HERR CONRAD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Dec. 30.—We have been inundated with novelties during the last week or ten days, and not one of the least entertaining is the eminent Austrian author's latest play—a comedy in the most amusing sense of the word from start to finish, It was a complete success, and the same result was achieved at the simultaneous production at the Dresden Royal Schauspielhaus. That the piece first saw the light at the Lessing was a guarantee that it would meet with every justice. The cast was absolutely faultless, and foremost in it was Fräulein Elsa Lehmann as Frau Heink. The hero is full of faults and frailties, for which he is not altogether responsible. He is Gustav Heink, the world-renowned pianist, whose unrivalled art (aided by a handsome, flowing mane) causes all the women to fall in love with him. He cannot escape them, even if he would; his pupils force him into the rôle of a Don Juan, and his good wife has stood it with resignation twelve years. She loves her Gustav, with all his weaknesses, and knows he loves her; she knows, too, that someday—when an old man, and he is not young now—he will find a haven of rest in her affection and have done with these incidents. In the meantime, however, when too closely pressed by an infatuated fair one, Herr Heink retires for a day or two to his little châlet among the Alps, accompanied—*nota bene*—by the said fair one. It is then understood by the world that he is giving a concert. The latest flame is a particularly foolish little person, wife of a certain Dr. Jura, who is even more foolish than his girl-wife. Jura is of the opinion that everyone should sacrifice himself for the good of others, and he and Frau Heink concoct a plot He is really a tool in the clever hands of the latter, who is determined to give her Don Juan a lesson. The two arrive at the châlet—where nothing very bad is happening—and declare to the astonished "Meister" and his pupil that they will all change partners, when the legal formalities can be arranged. Now, nobody wants to do this, and so ultimately the rightful couples become united again, and we trust Gustav is cured. The bright play will assuredly enjoy a long and successful run.

AT the Royal Schauspielhaus Herr Sudermann's latest play—which was anticipated with the utmost interest—has not proved an unqualified success. *Strandkinder* (in four acts) is a vendetta drama, the action of which passes in the good old times, at Hela on the Baltic. It is more of a legend than anything else; two brothers have sought to be revenged upon the murderer of their father for fourteen years, finally demanding and obtaining blood for blood. The murdered man's daughter, Brigolla, suspects the brothers to be guilty and denounces them, but the judge—to end the feud between the families—insists upon a marriage between Brigolla and one of her father's murderers. The elder brother Gregor shudders at the thought, but the younger, Heimeringk, weds Brigolla. That there will be anything but a blessing on the union we at once divine. Brigolla and Gregor proceed to fall in love with each other in their wild manner, and decide that Heimeringk must be got rid of. An attempt made to wreck the younger brother's home-coming boat by means of false lights is frustrated by a "Strand-child," Melide, by name—a poor, but worthy maiden; the guilty pair are lost in the waves, as they well deserved to be, and Heimeringk—who has returned as a knight—tells the wonderful tidings that Melide is not the outcast she seems, but of princely origin. And so this good couple wed, and live happily ever after. The reception of the piece was a mixed one. After the second act there was a good deal of applause, and Herr Sudermann was called several times before the curtain; then, however, a gradual falling-off became manifest, until at the close some hisses mingled with the applause. The interpretation was admirable; Fräulein Poppe gave the passionate Brigolla in splendid style, and the Melide of Fräulein Ressel was a most sympathetic piece of acting; Herr Staegemann gave the rôle of Heimeringk and Herr Kraussneck that of the Danzig magistrate as well as any author could desire, and the mounting—under Dr. Lindau's capable supervision—was perfect.

LEHAR'S new operetta *Der Graf von Luxemburg* is, as was only to be expected, a complete success. The famous composer has not by any means written himself out, but has produced music as fascinating as that of the immortal *Merry Widow*. The book, too, by MM. Willner and Bodanzky, is capital. The work is drawing large audiences at the New Operetta Theatre, and will certainly do so for a long time to come.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Dec. 27, the Farce entitled "THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

Whilst pantomime reigns supreme in London, suburbia, and the provinces, Mr. Robert Arthur has decided to give his Notting Hill Gate theatre patrons a taste of stronger fare in the shape of the world-famous farce by Charles H. Hawtrey, *The Private Secretary*. The piece is now in its twenty-fifth year, and over 16,000 performances have been given, and yet it flourishes and prospers. Mr. Eugene Stafford presents a capital company in this revival, which is set down for a month's run. Mr. Stanley Cooke is admirably cast for the part of the ridiculous milksop, the Rev. Robert Spalding, and whilst extracting all the humour possible from the part, he never overelaborates or exaggerates the eccentricities of this remarkable creature, but allows the character to develop itself naturally and whimsically. Mr. W. Hargreaves is vastly amusing as the portly and tyrannical old uncle, Mr. Cattermole; Mr. James Gelderd sails smoothly along in the part of his nephew Douglas, so intent on "sowing his wild oats" in order to please his exacting avuncular relative. Mr. Frederick Tyrrell contributes a capital comic character sketch as the enterprising tailor from Bond-street. Mr. Francis Trevor is good as Mr. Marsland, M.F.H., and his pretty daughter and her friend are vivaciously and naturally impersonated by Miss Olivia Glynn, a very charming Edith Marsland, and Miss Mary Deverell, a bright and lively Eva Webster. Mr. Vivian Gilbert does well in the part of Harry Marsland, and Miss Cecily Wade is extremely droll as the perplexed landlady, Mrs. Stead, and Mrs. Alfred Davis contributes largely to the fun as the spiritualistically inclined Miss Ashford. Mr. Frederick Tyrrell is the stage-manager, assisted by Mr. Charles Wallace (who enacts the small part of a servant), and Mr. Francis Trevor is acting-manager. Mr. Eade Montefiore, the clever and genial resident-manager, as usual keeps a watchful eye on the interests of Mr. Robert Arthur and the Coronet Theatre.

Jewels Galore.

WHEN *King of Cadonia* was performed at the Empire Theatre, Calcutta, on Dec. 4, the actors and actresses in the Coronation scene blazed with £500,000 worth of jewels. The theatre celebrated its first anniversary, and in honour of the event the jewels were lent by Messrs. Rai Buddri Das Bahadur and Sons. Miss Beech, says the *Statesman*, had a diamond tiara with emeralds and rubies, an equally gorgeous diamond necklace, and a diamond collar. Mr. McGrath as the King wore an emerald and diamond belt over 150 years old, set with the largest emeralds extant, and worn by one of the ancient ruling princes of India. He wore besides numerous orders set with precious stones and a beautiful emerald and pearl drop neckband.

Wearing Wealth.

SOME of the jewellery worn by other members of the company is described below:—Miss Stewart.—Diamond and turquoise necklace with diamond and pearl collar-band and diamond and turquoise tiara. Miss Birkbeck.—Diamond and ruby necklace set with a huge Burma ruby weighing over 900 carats, diamond and ruby collar, and diamond and ruby tiara. Miss D. Gratton.—A magnificent ruby and diamond necklace, a pearl collar, diamond and pearl tiara. Miss Karkeek.—A magnificent diamond and emerald necklace valued at more than £50,000, a magnificent diamond, pearl, and emerald collar, and diamond and emerald tiara. Miss Annie Romaine appeared in a necklace of what looked like preserved fruits, but was actually a nine-gem necklace valued at about £20,000.

Shakespeare and the Suburb.

"DENMARK 'ILL!" bawled the porter, as the Crystal Palace train steamed into the station. And the Shakespearean scholar, comfortably ensconced in a first-class compartment, murmured to himself, "Something is rotten in the State of Denmark."

THE recent performances of *The Mikado* by the Bradford Amateur Operatic Society at the Theatre Royal, have resulted in a net profit of £250 for the city's charities.

THE COPYRIGHT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

(Continued from last week.)

"The case of Sarpy *v.* Holland, 1905, Ch. D. 8, illustrates the anomalies which at present exist, and the futility of requiring English composers to print the notice above mentioned, which probably has to be in English, on every published copy of their musical compositions, while composers belonging to other countries parties to the Berne Convention have only to comply with Art. 9, par. 3, of the Berne Convention, which permits of notice being in a foreign language possibly unintelligible to many members of the community.

"Further, there seems to be no reason in principle why such a notice should be required in this particular class of publication, except for the protection of the public, and although at the time of the passing of the Act of 1882 it was thought right to put this obligation upon the proprietors of the copyright, it does not seem at the present day to be necessary to maintain it, the provision that the Judge shall have discretion as to costs and penalties being found sufficient to defeat any claims put forward in a harsh manner against persons who perform musical compositions without any intention of infringing the rights of the proprietor of the copyright.

"The Committee unanimously recommend the adoption of the Article, and that the necessary amendments should be made in the British law both for the purpose of conforming to the Convention and for intra-territorial purposes."

Article 12 of the Convention runs: "The following shall be specially included among the unlawful reproductions to which the present Convention applies:—Unauthorised indirect appropriations of a literary or artistic work, such as adaptations, musical arrangements, transformations of a novel, tale, or piece of poetry, into a dramatic piece, and vice versâ, &c., when they are only the reproduction of that work, in the same form or in another form, without essential alterations, additions, or abridgements, and do not present the character of a new original work.

"This Article," says the Report, "indicates certain reproductions which are unlawful, and may be restrained by the original author. At persent, under British law, transformations of a novel, tale, or piece of poetry into a dramatic composition by way of performance, and not by way of copying, are not forbidden, unless the author has first clothed his work with a dramatic character, in which case it would be protected under the Dramatic Copyright Act of 1833. It will be necessary that the law should be altered in this respect, in order to conform to the Revised Convention.

"It would seem that the Article, by implication, provides that copying a work of the nature of those enumerated, if the copyist has added new matter which would give it the character of a new original work, is not an infringement. This is not in accordance with British law. A work may present the character of a new work so as to entitle the copyist to sue any person who has copied his adaptation, &c., if such work of the first copyist has been authorised by the original author, and yet a similar adaptation without authority might still be a piratical one as between the original author and the adapter. According to British law, the presence of additions, however ingenious and novel, will not remove the taint of piracy, if any substantial feature or part of the original work has been copied. But see the cases of Wilkins *v.* Aikin, 17 Vesey, 422, and Spiers *v.* Brown, 1858, 6, W.R. 352. The above-mentioned implication presents a difficulty, for not only would the necessary alteration involve the abolition of a rule of law which is well settled in British Courts, but the adoption of the implication would raise questions of great nicety, and be the source of copious litigation.

"We do not consider that this implication, if it can be drawn, should be acceded to. We consider that the Article should not be treated as doing more than stating that the matters mentioned in it are to be unlawful productions as against the author, and that would not be inconsistent with conferring the protection contemplated by Art. 2, par. 2, which is given without prejudice to the author's rights.

"Subject to what we have said, we consider that the Article may be adopted and the necessary amendments made in the British law which will be required to give effect to it and to the suggestions which we make."

Article 13 runs:—"The authors of musical works shall have the exclusive right of authorising (1) the adaptation of those works to instruments which can produce them mechanically; (2) the public performance of the said works by means of these instruments.

"Reservations and conditions relating to the application of this Article may be determined by the domestic legislation of each country in so far as it is concerned; but the effect of any such reservations and conditions will be strictly limited to the country which has put them in force.

"The provisions of par. 1 shall not be retroactive, and consequently shall not be applicable in any country of the Union to works which have been lawfully adapted in that country to mechanical instruments before the coming into force of the present Convention.

"Adaptations made in virtue of pars. 2 and 3 of the present Article, and imported without the authority of the interested parties into a country where they would not be lawful, shall be liable to seizure in that country."

"This Article," says the Report, "alters the provisions of the closing protocol, number 3, of the Berne Convention, which is as follows:—

"'*Closing Protocol.*—§ 3. It is understood that the manufacture and sale of instruments serving to reproduce mechanically musical airs in which copyright subsists, shall not be considered as constituting infringement of musical copyright.'

"The first observation to be made on the Article is that its terms are confined to authors of musical works, and when this Article is read with the other Articles of the Convention, it is not quite clear whether under the provisions of the Convention authors of dramatic, dramatico-musical, and literary works would receive any protection against reproduction by means of mechanical instruments. It may be, in view of the terms of Art 2, that such protection is conferred, but having regard to the uncertainty which exists it seems desirable to make it plain that such is to be the case, and in any confirmation of the Revised Convention the Committee suggest that the necessary protection should be expressly conferred independently of Art. 13, and should also be conferred by domestic law."

"With regard to the adoption of the Article, and subject to the observations which will be hereafter made on the third paragraph, the Committee are of opinion that it may be accepted, and they recommend, therefore, that the author's of musical works should have protection against the adaptation of their works to instruments which can produce them mechanically, and against the public performance of the said works by means of such instruments, both under the Revised Convention and under British law, which should be amended accordingly.

"But with regard to the exercise of that exclusive right certain very difficult questions arise.

"On the one hand it has been urged by a number of the witnesses that composers having, as such witnesses contend, a new right conferred upon them, should, if they license any manufacturer to adapt instruments to the production of works mechanically, be obliged to grant a similar licence on similar terms to any manufacturer who chooses to demand it; in substance, they propose that the principles which have been adopted in the United States of America with regard to instruments serving to reproduce mechanically musical works, should be adopted in this country.

"What steps, if any, have been taken in other countries with regard to compulsory licence we have not been able to ascertain. It will be seen from the American Act that an owner of a musical copyright who permits the use of his copyrighted work upon the parts of instruments serving to reproduce mechanically the musical work is bound to permit any other person to make a similar use of the work upon payment of a royalty of 2 cents on each part manufactured. The proviso containing this provision does not extend to anything further than musical compositions.

"If the exact scheme indicated in he section should not meet with approval in this country, the contention is that some other provision should be made for a compulsory licence being granted upon equitable terms, so that all manufacturers of instruments producing a work mechanically and of the records required for the production should be placed upon an equal footing.

"The main contentions on the part of those who advocate the adoption in this country of a system of compulsory licence are based upon the grounds that a very large business has been built up under the present state of the law, in which authors have been considered to have no right to restrain the reproduction of their works by means of mechanical instruments, and that if authors have the right which Art. 13 proposes, there may be great danger of a monopoly being introduced, under which possibly one large manufacturing company would secure rights from authors to such an extent that other manufacturers might be practically excluded from the trade; and that it is desirable in the interests of the trade that all manufacturers should be left in the same position as they now are, with this exception, that they should be liable to pay to the author a proper compensation or remuneration for the right to reproduce his works. They claim that at present a manufacturer has a right to use compositions for adaptation to musical instruments, and maintain that if that right should be interfered with the result would be disastrous unless the principle of compulsory licence were introduced.

"The witnesses who supported these contentions urged in substance that the whole of the existing businesses have been built up on the principle that there is no licence or royalty to pay, and that if now licences from authors have to be obtained and payments made to them, small concerns will be absolutely unable to compete.

"On the other hand, there can be no doubt but that it is right in principle that authors of works capable of adaptation to mechanical instruments should have the exclusive right of authorising the adaptation of their works to such instruments—that it is in reality part of the literary property which they have in the product of their own brains. If they have this right it is maintained that it ought to be confirmed to them in such a way that they are perfectly free to exercise it in such manner as they think best by licensing one or more manufacturers entirely at their own option, or by declining to license at all; in other words, that they should have perfect freedom of action with regard to the exercise of their right.

"Those who maintain this view are not prepared to admit that it is proposed by the Revised Convention to confer upon authors any new right in the United Kingdom. The case of Boosey *v.* Whight, 1900, Ch. D., p. 122, was decided by the Court of Appeal in the year 1899, and it was there held that the plaintiff's copyright in certain sheets of music was not infringed by perforated rolls of paper, representing the musical score, sold for use in a mechanical organ. This case was not taken to the ultimate Court of Appeal, and there appear to be no further reported cases which touch the question, except, perhaps, Mabe *v.* Connor, 1909, 1 K.B. 513, where one of the learned judges does not appear to have been satisfied with the decision, and Newmark *v.* The National Phonograph Company, 23, Times L.R., p. 43, where Mr. Justice Sutton followed Boosey *v.* Whight. Authors were no doubt dissatisfied with the decision, and we gather that some doubt has been felt as to its correctness, but it has remained undisturbed for ten years, during which period there has been an enormous development of the manufacture of such mechanical instruments as are referred to and of the records used with them, the manufacture having commenced before that period.

"It may be added that composers put forward as a strong ground of objection to a compulsory licence that they ought to be able to control the mode in which their pieces are produced, and the character of the instrument which produces them, so that they may be properly and correctly reproduced without doing discredit to the composer.

"We have thought it right to state the two views somewhat fully, as there is no doubt about the importance of the questions which are raised by the article and the difficulty of dealing, not so much with regard to the right of the author, but with the exercise of that right, upon which we think we ought to make a recommendation, having regard to the fact that the adoption of the Article will necessitate the consideration of the reservations and conditions relating to its application (see par. 2).

"If the questions now raised had been raised at a time when authors could clearly have asserted a right to prevent reproduction of their works by mechanical instruments, it appears to the Committee that it would have been very difficult to maintain that any such systems of compulsory licence as those suggested should be brought into force, but the difficulty at the present time is in consequence of the fact that manufacturers of instruments for the purpose of mechanically reproducing works, have developed their businesses under the impression that they were within their rights in using the works of authors without making any compensation whatever to those authors, and that those rights would not be interfered with by legislation. Most of the witnesses who advocated a compulsory licence did not deny the justice of the author's claim to derive some benefit from the use of his works for mechainal reproduction, but they were afraid that the free exercise by authors of exclusive control over such reproductions would produce a monopoly which would ruin the businesses of a large number of manufacturers.

"We can hardly think that these witnesses are right in expressing such fear, and when the large number of composers that exist at the present day and the enormous production of, and demand for, these mechanical instruments are borne in mind it seems probable that the views of the witnesses are exaggerated as to the results of free rights being exercised by the author. It may be pointed out that manufacturers may at present secure the exclusive services of popu'ar artists, and indeed several of the trade witnesses maintained that the performer is of more importance to the manufacturers than the composer of the piece which the performer sings in order to produce the records, and thus manufacturers are at the present moment exposed to the danger of one class of monopoly.

"In this country it has generally been considerd that freedom of contract is most beneficial to the development of all kinds of industries, and the Committee are not aware of any analogous case in which compulsory licences have been imposed. The nearest approach to anything of the kind may be found in section 24 of the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, according to which, where the reasonable requirements of the public with respect to a patented invention have not been satisfied, any person interested may present a petition to the Board of Trade seeking to obtain the grant of a compulsory licence, but the case of a patentee can hardly be considered strictly analogous, for he is concerned with matters of commercial utility, and even the section referred to does not contemplate that he shall be under any obligation to grant a compulsory licence, provided he gives reasonable satisfaction to the requirements of the public.

"Further, we have found, on considering the subject very carefully, assisted by the evidence, that any system of compulsory licence leads to very considerable difficulties. Witnesses have pointed out that a fixed sum per record may produce hardship in cases of low-priced articles, and when an attempt is made to fix a royalty by percentage, it is found practically impossible to separate the values respectively of the manufacturer's work, the performer's work, and the composer's work, all of which contribute in varying degrees to the value of the article, and further, when an attempt is made to settle matters on the basis of an agreement, so that each manufacturer may come in on the terms agreed, difficulties are presented by such cases as where the composers themselves might manufacture the machines and records, or sell the whole of their rights to manufacturers, and there are other ways in which evasions might be attempted.

"The Committee, with one dissentient, have come to the conclusion that the author should have freedom of action with regard to the exercise of his right.

"It was suggested that some system of compulsory licence should be authorised for a limited term of years from the passing of any Act which should establish the provisions of the Revised Convention in this country, in order that the position of manufacturers might not be affected during that period except so far as making payment of remuneration to composers for the use of their works, but the Committee, with one dissentient, have come to the conclusion that the suggestion should not be adopted.

"Whether an author should have complete freedom of contract, or whether his freedom should be in any way limited by a provision as to compulsory licence, the Committee think that protection should be afforded by legislation to the manufacturers of discs, cylinders, rolls, and other mechanical devices, necessary to be used in the course of producing sounds, against piracy of these objects or their reproduction, either by means of direct copies or by means of copies produced by sound or otherwise. The grounds for this recommendation are that, as was pointed out in the evidence which has been placed before the Committee, these discs and other records are only produced at considerable expenditure by payments to artists to perform, so as to record the song &c., and by the expenditure of a considerable amount of ingenuity and art in the making up of these records; and that therefore the manufacturers are, in effect, producing works which are to a certain extent new and original, and into which the reproduction of the author's part has only entered to the extent of giving the original basis of production. Therefore, the Committee regard this as one of the things which can be the subject of copyright, and further recommend that public performances by means of pirated copies of these records should also be treated as an infringement of the rights of the manufacturer.

(To be continued.)

Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein and suite witnessed the performance of the pantomime *Cinderella* at the Strand Theatre on Thursday afternoon.

A new opera house is shortly to be erected in Berlin. The building, which will be located in the west end, near the Kurfuerstendamm, will cost approximately £250,000, including the freehold purchase of the land on which it will stand.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert found that the Stuyvesant Theatre, New York, afforded a much better environment than the vaudeville houses for her ballad singing when she gave an afternoon performance there recently. Mme. Guilbert divided her programme into three parts—rustic balladry, ballads of yesteryear, and ballads of to-day. The audience was large and appreciative.

Mr. Harry Tilbury is paying a return visit to the Prince's Theatre, Horwich, with the drama *His Dishonoured Wife*, and had a rousing reception on Monday. Miss Belle Tilbury, in the title rôle, scored heavily; and Mr. Tilbury himself fairly revelled in the part of Micky Doolan. Messrs. A. G. Fry, Fred Owen, Gilbert Hall, Edward Brown, and Misses Arline T. George, Mildred Eversleigh, and Little Priscilla Barnard gave excellent representations of their respective parts.

The grandfather of Grimaldi was a dancer of great celebrity on the French and Italian stages, and was generally called, for distinction, "Iron legs," being considered the best jumper in the world. He once jumped so high that he broke a chandelier, a piece of which hitting the Turkish Ambassador, who was in the stage box, he considered it as a premeditated affront, and complained to the French Court of the outrage. A laughable accident is said to have befel him on his journey into Flanders; he and his troupe were attacked near Brussels by banditti. The baggage waggon was ransacked, their pockets turned inside out, and, according to their usual custom, the thieves were about to dispatch their prey. It should be known that Grimaldi, wanting money for his expedition, enticed one Flahaut, a bookseller, to follow his fortunes. Flahaut, having learnt Latin, took it into his head that it would be a good thing to introduce the ancient chorus on the stage, by way of explaining Grimaldi's dances. Grimaldi appeared to approve the scheme, but told him, as it was a kind of improvement that could only be brought about by degrees, he had better learn to dance first, which would make him immediately useful. Flahaut set to work, and Grimaldi promised to make him a capital dancer. In the end, he got as much money together as he could, left his family, and, as before said, followed Grimaldi. When the sabres of the banditti were drawn to despatch the troop of dancers, Grimaldi, who at the danger of his life would have his joke, whispered Flahaut to talk Latin to them. The enthusiast, Flahaut, began, and for a few seconds the sabres were suspended. Presently, loudly vociferating "*dixi*," one of them, aiming a blow at his head, cried "*feci*"—which blow, had it taken place, must have silenced the orator for ever. But the most extraordinary part of the adventure remains to be told. Grimaldi's partner, full of romantic heroism, just as the word "dispatch" had been uttered, stepped forward, and in a scream of despair implored the banditti to have pity on her comrades, offering that, if they would be merciful, she would yield herself up a sacrifice, and devote herself to their pleasure. She described how many ways she could be useful to them; that she could dance to amuse them, she could cook for them, and, to be brief, intimated, in the language of Deborah Woodcock, that she had no objection to any work they could put her to. In short, the thieves were appeased, and carried off the lady in triumph, but not till they had stripped the whole troupe stark naked, leaving them nothing but the refuge of what they had pillaged from the baggage-waggon, consisting of a few odds and ends of pantomime dresses. Grimaldi put on an old Harlequin's jacket, poor Flahaut contented himself with the trousers of Scaramouch, and in this plight they begged their way to Brussels.

HOW TO RUN A VARIETY HOUSE

Mr. Alfred Butt recently chatted to a *Strand Magazine* interviewer about the way a variety theatre is run:

"People who tell you it is impossible to get a hearing in London," said the young managing-director of the Palace Theatre, "don't know what they are talking about. I'm just as anxious to see them as they are to come, but it is dreary work. Still, there's always the hope of something fresh, always the fear that the thing you might decline to see is good, and may get snapped up by someone else and become a big hit.

"This letter is one of the usual sort, a communication from a suburban lady with a hypen name and doubtful voice, who had sung at an 'At Home,' and whose friends had said, perhaps sarcastically, 'Why don't you go on the stage?' So she writes to me, 'Let me sing!' If I say I will hear her she will come and warble 'Dear Heart!' (it's always 'Dear Heart!') in an indifferent drawing-room voice, and seem bewildered at the lack of enthusiasm. She will leave with an expression of resignation or indignation. She has done all that she could to make the fortune of the Palace, and she cannot be blamed now when the crash comes!"

The following is a sample of some of the amusing letters sent to Mr. Butt:—

"Port Elizabeth,
"Sept. 10, 1908.

"Alfred Butt, Esq.

"Dear Sir,—I would be very thankful to you if you would be kind enough and let me know if an actor must learn. Many people told me that I've got the gift to be an actor. As I am now in Africa, where there is no clever man to tell a person or to answer my question, I would be very pleased if you would correspond with me. I have no good friends and no parents. I am very young—only eleven years, and I would, if I had the chance, learn to be an actor. I hope you won't refuse answering my few lines.

"I remain, kind gentleman,
"With many thanks,
"Yours devoted,
"———.

"P.S.—Please don't waste time!"

The funniest yarn Mr. Butt can call to mind is an incident at the Palace Theatre which absolutely brought down the house. George Golden, the American story-teller, was the hero of it.

"One of his favourite stories was that of an Irishman who went to the Rocky Mountains to hunt for bears. He was alleged to have left George Golden by the roadside and proceeded to a part where bears were known to exist in comfortable quantities. Half an hour later, Golden used to tell the audience, a cloud of dust appeared on the horizon, and, as he watched, it took the shape of his friend, pursued by a couple of the best specimens of bears obtainable.

"The man's gun had disappeared, and he sprinted as no man ever sprinted before. Golden used to depict the scene in his own inimitable way. 'What's the matter?' he shouted to his friend Casey. But Casey only sprinted harder and yelled, 'It's all right, George; I'm bringing 'em home alive!' Such was the story, but the unrehearsed sequel was funnier still, as I think you'll agree.

"Golden was telling his stories one night, and the turn following his comprised some performing bears. Pretty little fellows, some of them, like over-grown puppies. In the middle of a story, one of the bears went with a rush across the stage. He had got loose somehow, and went across the stage like a flash of lightning. Golden jumped with surprise at first, but soon recovered his *sang-froid* and repartee. 'George,' he shouted, 'I'm bringing 'em home alive!'

"He had not told this particular story that night, but the audience literally rocked with laughter. They knew the yarn. He started one of his songs, laughed in the middle, broke down, and the house roared again. People could only think of that one line."

When Mr. Butt took over the management of the Palace, nothing would have been easier than to run it on the same lines as the other London music halls. "We should have been sure of a certain following and risks would be few. But we preferred to strike an original note, and, as you know, we did so with the introduction of all the prominent theatrical people to the Palace Theatre, such as Miss Marie Tempest, Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Misses Evie Green, Ruth Vincent, Ellis Jeffreys, Lottie Venne, Louie Pounds, Fanny Brough, Mr. Lewis Waller, and Mr. Hayden Coffin, amongst a score of others, including Ellaline Terriss and Seymour Hicks. The Palace became the vogue for theatrical people."

Mr. Butt saw Miss Maud Allan first in Paris, and had with him on that occasion five English people well versed in theatrical and music hall matters. The scenic surroundings were not such as the Palace provided, but he was attracted by the grace and novelty of her dancing, and said that it had been decided to engage her for the Palace. They told me with absolute unanimity that in London she would be a failure. What did happen? Well, all London knows now. One man went to see her eighty-seven times, and a certain society lady has had thirty-two boxes to witness her performance.

"We get more new turns from America than anywhere," said Mr. Butt, in response to another inquiry. "I had the singular good fortune to secure there, in addition to Miss Marie Dressler, such sterling artists as Fred Niblo, Horace Goldin, George Fuller Golden, and Miss Rose Stahl, in *The Chorus Girl*. To show you what a London reputation does for one, I might tell you that the latter was not getting more than forty pounds a week with her sketch, but after a big success here, extending over three months, she returned to America at one hundred pounds a week, and the sketch was turned into a three-act play, which Mr. Frohman presented at the Adelphi with great success."

Mr. Butt considers that "French and American artists take more trouble over their performances, and spend much more time in inventing and developing new 'business' than our own."

The line at one time drawn between theatre and hall is gradually disappearing. Mr. Butt is a great believer in Free Trade. He thinks there should be one licence for both and no distinction in places of amusement. If Sir Herbert Tree likes to provide a music hall entertainment for his patrons the Palace has no objection, but claims an equal right to produce *Hamlet* if they want to do so. Not that they have any ambition to do so at present, but the time might come.

Mr. Geo. Arliss has been compelled by ill-health to terminate his engagement in *Septimus* at the Hackett Theatre, New York, and return to England. Having won his spurs by a series of notable characterisations, Mr. Arliss occupies an exalted position on the local stage, and we all hope that his forced retirement will be brief.

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT" AT ILFORD.

Pantomime, Book and Lyrics by Dan Thomas; Produced on Dec. 27.

Dick Whittington	Miss Winifred Ray
Alderman Fitzwarren	Mr. H. D. Lyndon
Alice	Miss Olive West
Idle Jack	Mr. Jack Harris
Captain Kettle	Mr. Romeo Missouri
Bill Blower ... Tom Bowling ..	Messrs. Haverley and Homer
Hon. Bertie	Miss May Barker
Polly Prim	Miss Edith Laurie
Emperor of Morocco	Mr. Arthur Wade
Princess	Miss Lyda Floyd
Chopem	Jack Wellor
Cat	Mr. Pete Almonti
King Rat	Master Nipper Maher
Slipon	Will Norman
Slipoff	Cyril Stafford
Betsy	Mr. Dan Thomas

This evergreen story, admirably suited to pantomime, was splendidly produced at the above hall on Monday afternoon, and has throughout the week drawn large and enthusiastic audiences to each "house." Under the personal supervision of Mr. Dan Thomas, the story of London's first Mayor is excellently treated in eleven scenes of beautiful design and effect. The floral ballet in Scene IV., during "Dick's Dream," performed by twenty local children, arranged by Mme. Schmidt, was one of great beauty and grandeur, whilst in Scene XI., The Lord Mayor's Procession, the beauty of the performance was exquisite, including the smallest team of ponies in the world.

The costumes were on an elaborate scale, brilliant, and harmoniously blended, providing a rare continual feast for the eye.

Dick Whittington was capitally rendered by Miss Winifred Ray, a charming young actress, with a dainty voice and swinging style. Alderman Fitzwarren was cleverly portrayed by Mr. H. D. Lyndon; and Alice, his daughter, had a very capable artist in Miss Olive West. The amusement created by Mr. Dan Thomas as Betsy was unending; and the merriment was carried to a high pitch by Mr. Jack Harris as Idle Jack. Messrs. Haverley and Homer were exceedingly droll in the characters of Bill Blower and Tom Bowling, and the doughty Captain Kettle was excellently played by Mr. Romeo Missouri. The Cat was in the capable hands of Mr. Pete Almonti, and his antics greatly pleased the audience nightly. The Emperor of Morocco was capitally given by Mr. Arthur Wade; and the Princess had a talented delineator in Miss Lyda Floyd.

THE FIONI—LUCAS CASE.

At the request of Mr. James Fioni, we have much pleasure in publishing the above full report of the Fioni—Lucas case, a few particulars only of which were given in our last issue. The *Liverpool Courier* of Dec. 22nd said: "Edward H. Lucas and Mary E. Lucas (his wife), music hall artists, who are this week appearing at the Liverpool Empire Theatre in an act, entitled *Scenes from Dickens*, were the defendants yesterday in a Liverpool County Court case, whereby James Fioni, theatrical agent, of 21, Norton-street, Liverpool, sought the recovery of £5 10s. commission.

"Mr. Pemberton (Messrs. Nicholson and Pemberton) appeared for plaintiff, whose case was that the money was owing to him in respect of his commission at ten per cent. on engagements he had obtained for defendants in 1907 at the York Empire, and at the Gloucester and Porth Palaces in March and April of last year. The salaries were £15 for the York engagement, and £20 for each of the two others.

"The male defendant contended that he had booked the York engagement himself, and that when the engagements at Gloucester and Porth became due he was in America, and wrote to the manager, asking him to postpone them until his return to England, at the same time offering other dates, which he was perfectly willing to fulfil. In a case like the present defendant contended that it was the custom when an artist was abroad for the agent concerned to try and arrange other dates in lieu of those already fixed. Instead of that, however, Fioni wrote to defendant immediately upon his return from America, demanding his commission, and he sent a cheque for £2 (being five per cent. commission on the Gloucester and Porth dates), but Fioni returned the money. Defendant claimed that he had done everything in his power to bring about a settlement of the matter.

"His Honour Judge Thomas gave judgment in favour of plaintiff for £4."

George Lashwood has made a big hit at the Plaza Music Hall, New York, conducted by William Morris. Converted from a high-class German theatre into a temple of variety, and situated in a fine neighbourhood, the Plaza is one of the finest places of amusement in town. On a recent evening Mr. Lashwood sang no less than six songs, and was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. His engagement was then only three days old, but it was quite evident that he had already established himself as a favourite and that his songs suited the taste of his audience to a nicety. "In the twi-twi-twilight" went splendidly, the pointed "bits" provoking hearty laughter. The chorus has a melodious swing that would ensure its being taken up immediately by an English audience, but Mr. Lashwood found that a New York audience was too bashful to participate. In other words, he was no more successful in his attempt to make them sing the chorus than others have been before him. They were apparently quite willing to let him sing until he was ready to drop, but they wouldn't "join in." Delegates from the Society of the Sons of St. George gave Mr. Lashwood a hearty greeting on the day of his opening. On this occasion he sang seven songs and addressed the audience before he retired. He is now in his second week at the Plaza, and his popularity is increasing. In the language of the natives he has "made good."

Miss Nellie Wallace was in the Plaza bill, and her success was emphatic. Her grotesque make-up and extraordinary capers, to say nothing of her lively songs, provoked no end of laughter.

At the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, just previous to Mr. Joe Ellis commencing his song "The bogie from Scotland Yard," a wee black kitten strolled on to the stage, and after fussing round Mr. Ellis's feet, making a complete circle round him, made a graceful exit. As the kitten seemed to have no owner, and had in some mysterious way wandered in from the street, Mr. Ellis has kept it, and it is now known among Miss Western's company as Little Bogie, and up to date seems very fond of its new master and its life on tour.

Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company forms the attraction at the Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Paul Beckett gives a fine performance as Felix Beverley; Jack Stirling is capitally played by Mr. G. Roberts; Mr. H. C. Hunt does well as Geoffrey Langdon; and Mr. C. Grier is a successful Colonel Myles. Miss Enid Edoni wins favour by her portrayal of the title-rôle; and Miss K. Magee shows ability in the part of Mrs. Sands.

"Scene Painters of the Past" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 3.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—T. R., Chesterfield.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—Grand T., Mansfield.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—T. R., Rotherham.
BETTER LAND, THE.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Chatham.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—O. H., Southport.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—T. R., Bedford Leigh.
BULMER, MR.—O. H., Londonderry.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—T. R., Blackburn.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—T. R., Worthing.
CHRISTIAN, THE (N.).—Star T., Liverpool.
CHRISTIAN, THE (M.).—Hawick and Kelso.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—O. H., Perth.
CINGALEE (B.).—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
CLAUDIAN.—Grand T., Aberaman.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Jarrow.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—P. G. T., Folkestone.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Gaiety T., Methil.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—T. R., Crook.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Grand T., Oldham
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Gaiety T., Worksop.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—King's T., Glasgow.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Grand T., Nelson.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Palace T., Newcastle.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—T. R., West Stanley.
FATAL WEDDING, THE.—T. R., Merthyr.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—H. M T., Aberdeen.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—King's T., Greenock.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
FOLLY'S FORTUNES.—T. R., Aldershot.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Prince's T., Accrington.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Hippodrome, Scarboro.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—Century T., Motherwell.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Lincoln.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—O. H., Londonderry.
GOD OF WAR, THE.—Court T., Bacup.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Junction T., Manchester.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—O. H., Wrexham.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Metropole T., Manchester
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Belfast.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—Grand T., Nelson.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Batley.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS.—Maidenhead and Windsor.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Queen's T., Longton.
HOME, SWEET HOME.—Lyceum T., Govan.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—T. R., Barnsley
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Atherstone and Wirksworth.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Whitehaven and Workington.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Sunderland.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Alexandra T., Hull.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Workington and Whitehaven.
MERRY WIDOW.—O. H., Cork.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—T. R., Dublin.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—Grand T., Southampton.
NO MAN'S LAND.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—New Theatre, Consett.
OLD HOME, THE.—T. R., South Shields.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.—T. R., Colne.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Junction T., Manchester.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Coronet Theatre, W.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Peterborough and King's Lynn.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Grand T., Swansea.
SERGEANT BRUE.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
SILVER KING.—O. H., Doncaster.
SINNER, THE.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
SINS OF A CITY.—Grand T., Cowdenbeath.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—T. R., Colchester.
SUTTON AND RAYNOR.—Crown T., Eccles.
SWISS EXPRESS.—O. H., Crewe.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—T. R., Chorley.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Court T., Warrington.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Arcade T., Stirling.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Leicester.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., North Shields.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—T. R., Canterbury.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Carlton T., Saltley.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Royalty T., Barrow.
WHO IS SHE?—Prince's T., Preston.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Castleford.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—P. O. W., Salford.
WRECKER OF MEN.—T. R., Loughborough.

MR. LANGDON LEE'S BENEFIT.

Mr. J. Langdon Lee, the popular manager of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, had a very successful benefit recently, chiefly supplied by local amateur talent. The fine band of the Royal Artillery, under the masterly leadership of Mr. R. G. Evans, rendered the impressive overture to *Tannhäuser* and the dramatic "1812" of Tschaikowsky with grand effect.

The Stanley Trio gave a very clever trick performance, entitled "Paper Making Extraordinary." Miss Janie Crows, L.R.A.M., executed a Chopin's Scherzo in B flat minor with delicacy of touch and sympathetic expression. As an encore Miss Langdon Lee sang Tosti's "Good-bye." Mr. Will Foster (tenor) and Mr. Sidney Smith (baritone) won much applause by their rendering of "Soldiers and Comrades." The Premier Troupe of hand-balancers and tumblers did some fantastic feats. Miss Edris Coombs brought the house down by her singing and acting. As an extra turn, Miss King, from the Palace Theatre of Varieties, was very acceptable; her castanette dance was excellent. Lieut. J. V. Meredith, of the Leinster Regiment, gave an amusing performance of song, patter, and dancing, entitled "Puzzlers"; and a ventriloquial entertainment by Mr. J. Lincoln proved popular.

In an interval the orchestra of the Theatre Royal, under the baton of Mr. Stephen Blythe, played a pleasing selection. Staff-Sergeant Avery, the well-known R.G.A. gymnastic instructor, gave a very effective exhibition of sword manipulation. Miss Decima Field sang "The Corsican Maid" with effect. Miss Edith Nation played a violin solo, "Allegro and Andante, 7th Concerto, Ch. De Bériot." Mr. C. G. Pike handled the 'cello in good style in a solo by Saint-Saëns, "Le Cygre," and another by Hartz, "Der Schmetterling." Lieut. St. J. Ronaldson, of the Leinster Regiment, used a baritone voice to advantage in "Robin Adair" and "The Rosary." Mr. Eric Ward, in a recital, "Rubinstein's Piano Playing," evoked amusement; and Mr. T. H. Rolstone brought to a conclusion a memorable evening of enjoyment by a clever pianoforte entertainment.

Mr. Langdon Lee returned thanks in a few well-chosen words. He said that the benefit, which was a record in figures for the Theatre Royal, would remain as a life memory. It was his one lasting aim to render the Theatre Royal a profitable and attractive venture. Mr. Stanley White sang the opening verse of "God Save the King," which was taken up by the entire audience. Mr. Stanley White was honorary stage-manager of the benefit.

THE Boxing Night attraction at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, was a strong variety programme, headed by Geo. A. Street, warmly received, in a stirring sketch *The Cattle Thief*, and an elaborate military spectacle. Violet Durant is popular with illustrated songs. Other turns of exceptional merit are La Vie, in tinted statuary; Chas. Bradford, comedian; La Sylphe, kaleidoscopic dancer; the American Bioscope, &c.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 6	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 6
Three Months	0 6 6	Three Months	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
6, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

JOHN GRUN MARX.—*Address Kirkly's Apartments Register, 22, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden.*

H. E. B.—*Both houses hold the same kind of licence. In Scotland—at least in the West of Scotland—there is no such thing as a double licence. Magistrates in Glasgow, Paisley, and other towns in the West of Scotland, if not all over Scotland, have made a law unto themselves and grant the same licence to either house. There are no restrictions on one more than the other. One licence suffices, with the same conditions attached, whether for theatre or music hall.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

AISTON.—On Monday, Dec. 27, at 42, Perham-road, West Kensington, Mrs. Arthur Aiston, of a son. Mother and child doing well.

BADDOW.—Dec. 24, at 1, Wordsworth-street, Lodge-lane, Liverpool, the wife of Baddow (ventriloquist), of a son. Both doing well.

BROGDEN.—On Dec. 22, 1909, at 26, Alfred-street, Neath, Mrs. Arthur Brogden (Viola May), of a daughter.

MAX.—At 48, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W., on Christmas morning, the wife of Arthur Max, of a son.

DEATHS.

AVERY.—Dec. 26, 1909, at the Polyclinic Hospital, New York, following on an operation, Madge Avery, a member of Mr. Forbes Robertson's "Passing of the Third Floor Back" company, Maxine Elliott Theatre, New York.

CARPENTER.—Dec. 23, Ernest Carpenter, managing director of the Lyceum Theatre, in his 42nd year.

COURTENAY.—Dec. 20,, after a long illness and an operation, Foster Courtenay, actor.

ILLING.—Dec. 26, at Frankfort, of pneumonia, Madame Meta Illing, Anglo-German actress.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADAMS. — In ever-loving memory of my darling mother, Sarah Ann Adams (Cicely Nott), widow of Saml. Adams, Esq., who fell asleep Jan. 3, 1900. Ever deeply mourned by her devoted daughter, ADA BLANCHE.

I lov'd her, ah, no tongue can tell,
How much I lov'd her, and how well.
God lov'd her too; He thought it best
To take her home with Him to rest.

ATKIN.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, John A. Atkin, who passed away Jan. 2, 1907.

CULLING.—In loving memory of Ada Clare (Mrs. Otto C. Culling), who passed away Dec. 31, 1903. Never forgotten by Georgie de Lara-Allen.

MELVILLE.—In loving memory of George Melville, the actor, who died Dec. 26, 1898.

"Why should our tears with sorrow flow
When God recalls his own,
And bid us leave this world of woe
For an immortal crown?"

Sadly missed by his loving daughter ALICE.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mrs. Edward Compton—Sat., Jan. 1.
Russell Wallett—Sat., Jan. 1.
Michael Nolan—Sat., Jan. 1.
George Graves—Sat., Jan. 1.
William H. Brougham—Sat., Jan. 1.
Carl Ostend—Sat., Jan. 1.
Theodore Jones—Sat., Jan. 1.
A. Russell-Davis—Mon., Jan. 3.
Mrs. John Billington—Tues., Jan. 4.
Mrs. Edward Saker—Wed., Jan. 5.
Glen Alva—Wed., Jan. 5.
Gordon Craig—Thurs., Jan. 6.
Ben Davies—Thurs., Jan. 6.
Adeline Genée—Thurs., Jan. 6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

"Mum"
removes the odor of perspiration and other bodily odors
1/. If your chemist hasn't "Mum" send us his name and one shilling, and we'll send it postpaid.
Thomas Christy & Co.
4 Old Swan Lane, Up. Thames St., London, E.C.
Gen'l Sales Agents Mum Mfg. Co., Phila., U. S. A.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abel, Mrs. Geo.
Adair, Mr. Peter
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs.
"Alpha"
Anderson, Sisters
Anderson, Mr. Wm.
Anderton and Rowland
Arnt, Mr. Billy
Austin, Mr. and Mrs.
Barry, Mr. Lennox
Buss, Mr. Harry
Bassett, Mr. A. Fellows
Beaumont, Mr. Alfred
Bedford, Mr. Harry
Beere, Mrs. Bernard
Bell, Mr. W. Gordon
Bond, Mr. H.
Brough, Miss Fanny
Burke, Miss M.
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Calbas, The
Campion, Miss
Carle, Mr. Chas.
Carte, Mr. A. G.
Catlin's Juveniles
Cauncross, Mr. George
Cavania, Miss M.
Chard, Mr. Chas.
Child, Mr. Geo. E.
Coffin, Mr. Hayden
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Collins, Mr. Patrick
Conquest, Mr. George
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Copping, Mr. E. M.
Corallie, Miss Amy
Corbett, Mr. James J.
Corri, Mr. Clarence
Costello, Mr. A. T.
Costello, Mr. H.
Coyne, Mr. E. J.
Coyne, Master T.
Creegan, Miss Moyra
Cropp, Miss Katie
Cullen and Carthy
Cunningham, Miss M.
Dale and O'Malley
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Davidson, Mr. H.
Davies, Mr. Tom
De Gracia, Mrs.
Denard, Mr. David
Desmond Sisters
Devine, Miss Mysie
Diamond, Mr. Harry
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Douglas, Mr. R. H.
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Draper, Mr. M. D.
Ducone, Mr. Louis
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Duncan, Mr. W. O.
East, Mr. John M.
Edwardes, Mr. Karl
Edwards, Miss Esme
Fiennes, Mr. Sydney
Ford, Miss Enid
Fox, Mr. W. H.
Frankford and Maine
Franks, Mr. C. L.
Gerald, Mr. Frank
Glennie, Mr. Charles
Gillespie, Mr. Robt.
Gindwood, Mr. G. H.
Glossop, Mr. Wilfred
Grahame, Mr. J. G.
Gregory, Miss Mabel
Gregory, Mr. J. M.
Grey, Mr. Cecil.
Gwenn, Mr. Edmund
Hales, Miss Lily
Harvey, Miss Dora F.
Hearn, Mr. Tom
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Hodginis, The
Hervyn, Miss Nancy
Hill and Whittaker
Hinton, Mr. Charlie
Hogan, Mr. Denis
Holland, Mr. A. E.
Homna, Mr. T.
Howard, Mr. Carl
Howard, Mr. George
Hughes, Miss Alice
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Miss Gertrude
Jerome, Mr. Jerome K.
Johnston, Mr. J.
Joy, Mr. Tom
Kelso, Miss L.
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirby, Mr. Langford
Kyasyas, The
Lake-Grange, Mr.
"La Freya"
Lang, Mr. M.
Langtry, Mrs.
Leedham, Mr. Frank
Leonard, Mr. Bert
Leslie, Miss F.
Lingwood, Miss Sophie
Lloyd, Miss Babs
Locket, Miss M.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Loftus, Mr. Alexandra
Lowen, Mr. Tod
Lucearn, Miss Lilly
Lynton, Mr. W. M.
Manning, Mr. Ambrose
Martin, Miss Edie
McCarthy, Miss Lillah
McKay, Mr. Tom
McNaughton, Mr. C
Megone, Mr. Norfolk
Molteno, Miss Agnes
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mortyne, Miss Nellie
Moxon Trio
Murphy, Mr. Michael
Napier, Miss Belle
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Noel, Mr. Edgar L.
Ormonde, Miss E.
Paul, Miss Mab
Pavis, Miss Cissy
Passmore, Mr. W.
Payne, Miss Millie
Pierce, Mr. Geo.
Pitt, Mr. Fred C.
Pemberton, Mr. and Mrs.
Penstone, Mr. Ormonde
Phillips, Mr. Arthur
Pook, Mrs.
Poole, Mrs. Howell
Pounds, Miss Louie
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Rathrena, Miss Ada
Reynolds, Mr. J. K.
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rousby, Mr. E.
Rowland, Mr. Frank
Rudenyi, Mr. Jan
Russell, Miss Agnes
Saker, Mr. Alfred
Saxby, Mr. Bob
Scharning, Miss M.
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Seeley, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Shields, Mr. Robin
Simmonette, Mr. Harry
Sivado, Mr. Charles
Spencer, Mr. Fred
Staley, Mr. Andrew
Stanley, Mr. Walter
Stebbings, Mr. Frank
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Storey, Mr. Fred
Stratton, Mr. Eugene
Stuart, Miss Eva
Studd, Mr. F. T.
Tarra, Lukio
Thorburn, Mr.
Traill, Miss Kate
Transfield, Mr. Tom
Travers, Mr. Nat
Twyford, Mr. H. J.
Vane, Miss Edith
Vardon, Perry and W.
Vernon, Mr. Albert
Victor, Miss Nellie
Vi Laurie, Miss
Vonare, Miss Nellie
Walker, Mr. John A.
Walther, Herr Julius
Ward, Miss Florence
Warne, Miss Olive
Warren, Mr. John
Waterman, Dr. A. H.
Willard, Mr. James
Williams, Mr. D. F.
Wilson, Mr. Charles
Wylie, Mr. Lauri
Wynne, Mr. Cecil
Yelding, Mr. R.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5 000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIA ROSS MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine,
is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words
"Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE"
on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR
FOR THE SKIN
Produces soft, fair, delicate skin, heals all cutaneous eruptions, and insures a lovely delicate complexion to all who use it.
2/3, 4/6, of Stores and Chemists.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 286645.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C13.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, Arthur Collins.
"ALADDIN," the Children's Pantomime.
By Sir F. Burnand, J. Hickory Wood, and Arthur Collins.
TWICE DAILY, at 1.30 and 7.30.
WILKIE BARD and GEORGE GRAVES.
IDA RENE and MARIE GEORGE.
BOX OFFICE OPEN ALL DAY.
Tels., 2588-2589 Gerr.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
A Trivial Comedy for Serious People.
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth, in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A Maker of Men," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINÉE (both Plays), WEDS., SATS., at 2.30.
SPECIAL MATINEE, THURSDAY NEXT at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts,
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.

TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 8.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Twice Daily, at 2 and 7.30.

"ALADDIN."

The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
The most Magnificent Production and the Funniest Comedians ever seen at the Lyceum.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées daily (Tuesday excepted) at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, the Thirteenth Kingston Pantomime
"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY." Matinées every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
"CINDERELLA."
Fourth Grand Pantomime, "Cinderella," 2.30 and 7.30 p.m. Connor's Great Circus twice daily. Monster Christmas Tree. Skating on the huge rink (three sessions). Ladies' orchestra. Marionettes. Military Bands, Organ Recitals, Wild Animals, &c.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Managing-Director, JESSE SPARROW.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Lois Du Cane and Company, in Dramatic Episode, "The Russian Princess," Tom Wootwell, Sadie Stanley, Brothers St. Clair, Lily Faith, Helen and Cozens, Harry Bent, David and Marriott, Fred Shepard, Rhoderick Duo, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Harry Clifford.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Derwent Hall Caine and Co., in the Betrayal Scene from "The Eternal City," by Hall Caine, Tom Leamore, Jennie Johns, Charburn's Young Stars, in Vocal Scena, "A Picnic up the River," Syd May, Phœbe Mercer and Co., in "The Interviewer," by Harry Grattan. James Stewart, Novar Ramol, Ruffell's Bioscope, T. E. Dunville.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.0.
Monday, Jan. 3, 1910:—
Carlotta de Yonson, in "Sexton Blake in America," La Belle Nello, Chas. Stevens, James Stewart, "Murphy's Affinity," Jenny Lynn, Ted Saunders, Gus Barra, Bioscope, Carlisle and Wellman, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Jan. 3, Chas. Austin and Co., "Parker, P.C.," Gertie Gitana, Norman Partridge and Co., Bradley and Barnes, Mabel Thorne, Gordon Stretton, Johnny Holland and Co., Phil Bransby, Michael Bros., Pearl and Hatton, Diamond and Hart, Eva Daunton, The Hamiltons, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sats 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Sats. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster.
Assist.-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Managers, MORRIS ABRAHAMS and CHARLES HECTOR.
Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10, and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30.—Amber Austa, Bioscope, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Sidney Mason, Joe Dale, Two Falcons, Gertie Gitana, Will Haines, Ward and Davis, Ben Bishop.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"OUR FLAG,"
A Ballet of the Hour.
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
The Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, Max Lambe, Gardner and Stoddard, Ines and Taki,
"On the Heath,"
Jury's Pictures, &c.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.15. Reduced Prices.
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Wilma, Dorothy Kenton. Webb Bros., Vindabous, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy and Cyril Keightley in "Sanctuary," Velanche's Dogs, Harry Allister, Francini Ollonis and his Page, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Co., in New Play, "The Knife," by Henry Arthur Jones, Vesta Tilley, Margaret Cooper, Tschin Maa Troupe, Kinemacolour and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.0.
Matinée, Full Programme,
Saturdays at 2.0.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Joe Elvin, Chas. Austin, as "Parker, P.C.," T. E. Dunville, Geo. Formby, Sammy Shields, Dora Lyric, Bros. Horne, Victoria Monks, Four Juggling Geraldos, Navor Ramol, Beattie and Babs, Bi-Bo-Be, H. la Martine, Wyndham and Wyatt, Bioscope, Jordan and Harvey, Morny Cash, T. Leamore, T. Woottwell, Mlle. Mab Dersy. Open 7.10. Saturday Matinées, 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, Amelia de l'Enclos, T. E. Dunville, Mildred Deverez in the Vampire Dance, George Formby, Gus Elen, Ella Shields, Hanvarr and Lee, King and Benson, Charles Whittle, M. Thales and Mlle. Massilia, Kurkamp, Madge Temple, Frank Harwood, Lionel Rignold and Co., and the Bioscope. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Fred Karno and Co., presenting "The Football Match," Victoria Monks, Kurkamp, Beatie and Babs, Henri A. Moor, Marie Blyth, Wyndham and Wyatt, Frank Lynn, Charburn's Young Stars, Ruffell's Bioscope.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Next Term begins on Jan. 6.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The Only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. New Term commences on Mon., Jan. 10.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
Principals: CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
President: GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq.
WINTER TERM begins Jan. 10, 1910.
George Edwardes Open Scholarship Examination, Jan. 7.
Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art, Deportment, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Singing, Sight-singing, &c.
Complete Course of Studies for the Light Opera and Dramatic Stage.
Pupils have secured Engagements with Messrs. Geo. Alexander, Robert Arthur, Oscar Asche, Arthur Bourchier, Ernest Carpenter, Louis Calvert, Arthur Collins, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon, Geo. Dance, St. John Denton, Geo. Edwardes, Charles Frohman, Forbes-Robertson, William Greet, H. B. Irving, Ian Robertson, Herbert Sleath, Beerbohm Tree, Lewis Waller, &c.
Amateurs coached and amateur dramatic and operatic companies stage-managed.
Lessons in Voice Culture and Public Speech given to Members of the Parliamentary, Clerical, Legal, and other professions.
Apply, SECRETARY.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building), HIS MAJESTY'S, OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH, OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.

EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."

The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.

Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD.,
Bombay;
or
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE,
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.

The
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
Having been purchased by the
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
will be
Closed on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1910,

for extensive
RE-DECORATIONS,
and RE-OPENED on
Monday, March 21, 1910,
under the General-Management of
GEO. H. HARROP,
By whom dates for only Leading No. 1 Companies will be considered.

P.S.—The Companies already booked and pencilled in by Mr. Sergenson have been taken over by the new Management.

BOGNOR ASSEMBLY ROOMS.
Good-class Shows required. Hall seats 800; Good Stage, with Act-drop; width between fly-rail 26ft., height to grid 35ft., to fly-rail 16ft.
WOOD, Manager, Bognor.

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND. Wonderful success of Zena Dare and the Dashing Little Duke. Always vacancies for really first-class attractions or first-magnitude Stars.
All communications, J. F. ELLISTON, BOLTON.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Vacant dates for light comedy or Dramas of High-class, March 14 till April 16. Now booking early Spring and onwards 1910. Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies.
Feb. 7 (?),
April 25,
May 2, and 30.
Autumn dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. MANAGER

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, lavatories, balcony. Electric light and heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the SUPERINTENDENT.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HAMMERSMITH.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.

First Vacant Date, Feb. 21.
for First-class Company only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant, Jan. 17, 18, 18, Three Nights.
Also possibly, Feb. 7, 8, 9, Three Nights.
March 7, 21, Six Nights Each.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE
Pleased to arrange with good Pantomime, six or twelve nights. Vacant dates for first-class companies only Easter, Whit-week, and intermediate dates, onward. Add., CHARLES M. JULIAN.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the finest Theatres in England.
Can Entertain Musical Comedies or
A First-class Panto. for Feb. 14, 21, 28.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Dramatic Companies who have played
Twice Nightly
Send in open dates from Feb. 28.
Those who have written before, please do so again; rush of business prevented replying.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Musical Attractions Required for
Feb. 7, April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded Houses Nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Annie Hughes in "Penelope," "The Little Damozel," "The Devil," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Proud Prince," "Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime, &c.
Only Vacant Spring Date, Feb. 28.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, JOHN COULSON.

Open all the year round with First-class Attractions, vacant April 11, June 20, July 18, 25, and various Autumn Dates.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER
(Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALES OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era Weekly"), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
CHARLES J. DAVIES, Secretary, Savoy House Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND,
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.

Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.

Agency. Tours Booked.

Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753, Gerrard.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION. Will be Held (By kind permission of Edward Terry, Esq.) At TERRY'S THEATRE, Strand, London, W.C., On TUESDAY, Jan. 25, 1910, at 2.30 p.m., For the following purposes, namely:—
To receive a Report and Accounts of Expenditure and Receipts and Liabilities and Assets.
To elect 25 Members of the Council, and to transact any other business of the Association, brought before the Meeting by the Council, or by any member who shall have given to the Secretary seven days' written notice thereof.

Notice is hereby given that any two members of the Association whose subscriptions to date are paid may give to the Secretary a notice or notices signed by them, nominating any qualified member or members as a candidate or candidates for the Council. Such notices shall contain the name and address of the proposed candidate or candidates, and shall be signed by him or them. Such notices shall be sent to the Secretary not less than twenty-one days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
Dated this 29th Dec., 1909.
By Order of the Council,
DUNCAN YOUNG,
Secretary.
32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 5d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

READY EARLY IN JANUARY.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE BERLIN THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Alexander, Miss Fyfe	March 27, 1909
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beatrice, Miss May	March 27, 1909
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Dr. Walford	April 3, 1909
Bostock, Mr. N. C.	April 10, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brooke, Miss Decima	April 10, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. Lewis	March 6, 1909
Brownie, Miss Madge	March 13, 1909
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Campbell, Late Mr. Denis	March 6, 1909
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Charcot	Feb. 13, 1909
Clyfford, Miss Kathleen	Feb. 6, 1909
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Coquelin, Late M.	Jan. 30, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Crouch, Mr. Herbert	Oct. 31, 1908
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
De Frece, Mr. Maurice	Feb. 20, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel	May 15, 1909
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Elliott, Mr. G. H.	March 20, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Dec. 18, 1909
Firmin, Miss Dorothy	Sept. 12, 1908
Foote, Miss Doris	March 6, 1909
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Fullbrook, Mr. William	March 6, 1909
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence	July 10, 1909
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harker, Mr. Frederick	Oct. 3, 1908
Harrison, Late Miss Fanny	Feb. 20, 1909
Hart, Late Mr. Harry	Jan. 16, 1909
Harvey, Late Mr. John	Jan. 16, 1909
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hodson, Miss Mildred	March 6, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert	May 29, 1909
Jefferson, Late Mrs. Arthur	Jan. 2, 1909
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kennedy, Mr. Edmund	March 27, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Kyrle, Miss Judith	May 1, 1909
Lauri, Late Mr. George	Jan. 9, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Lawrence, Mr. Herbert	March 13, 1909
Lawrence, Late Mr. Joe	Jan. 30, 1909
Lee, Late Mr. Edgar	Dec. 19, 1908
Lee, Mr. James Langdon	March 20, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. Philip	April 10, 1909
Lester, Mr. Mark	March 20, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Lovell, Late Mr. Tom	Jan. 16, 1909
Lyndon, Mr. Denis	March 27, 1909
Lyric, Miss Dora	March 6, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackney, Late Mr. E. W.	April 3, 1909
Manville, Mr. Jerrold	May 22, 1909
Matcham, Mr. A. W.	June 26, 1909
Matthews, Mr. Cyprian H.	March 6, 1909
Mavis, Miss Mabel	March 6, 1909
McNeil, Miss Sheila	April 17, 1909
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Millais, Miss Helena	April 3, 1909
Modjeska, Late Mme. Helene	May 8, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Mortimer, Miss Gracie	Jan. 2, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B.	April 10, 1909
Murray, Miss Marjorie	March 13, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Noyle, Miss Pearl	July 10, 1909
Overton, Mr. Norman A.	July 3, 1909
Pass, Miss Dora	July 24, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Pickard, Mr. A. E.	Feb. 13, 1909
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Rickards, Mr. Harry	May 29, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Rodway, Mr. P.	May 22, 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel	July 10, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russell-Davies, Mr. A.	May 22, 1909
Salambos, The	May 15, 1909
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swanborough, Late Mr. Edward	Dec. 26, 1908
Thane, Mr. Edward	Sept. 11, 1909
Thompson, Miss Cissie	March 13, 1909
Thompson, Late Miss Lydia	Nov. 21, 1908
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Thornton, Miss Maudie	March 20, 1909
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Vezin, Mr. Hermann	March 20, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Warner, Late Mr. Charles	Feb. 13, 1909
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E.	July 10, 1909
Wilkie, Mr. Allan	March 6, 1909
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Woolf, Miss Gip

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY
MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Black Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in Stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings, The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus)
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London. And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C., nr. Hippo.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER, The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1910.

THE DRAMATIC YEAR.

The past dramatic year has not been remarkable for many prodigies, either in acting or playwriting; but the supply of new pieces has been interesting and adequate. One of the strongest plays of the intellectual order which was presented in 1909 was Mr. JOHN GALSWORTHY'S *Strife*, which was produced at the Duke of York's Theatre in March. It was, perhaps, unfortunate in being transplanted to the Adelphi, a house which was unsuitable to it; but, despite its short run, it remains an unforgettable and forceful work. But all else in the way of enterprise and experiment pales before Sir HERBERT TREE'S production of a translation of M. BRIEUX'S *La Foi*, tried at His Majesty's in September. Agnostic in tendency, but strangely and impressively dramatic, it was a most striking and memorable work. The same may be said of M. RENE FAUCHOIS' poetical *Beethoven*, which, through the advantageous medium of Mr. LOUIS N. PARKER'S scholarly translation, went to the hearts of all at His Majesty's in November. A play which dealt, with scathing satire, with certain contemporary abuses was Mr. JAMES BERNARD FAGAN'S *The Earth*, done at the Kingsway in April; and a strong drama was Mr. PERCIVAL LANDON'S piece *The House Opposite*, which had a very good reception at the Queen's Theatre. Sir A. W. PINERO'S *Mid-Channel* at the St. James's was a noble example of the philosophical play with a moral; and it is difficult to decide if the public resented the sermon or the unhappy fate of the heroine. It was a fine work, worthy of comparison with French masterpieces. Mr. R. C. CARTON'S *Lorrimer Sabiston, Dramatist*, at the same theatre, was another example of the difficulty of being both serious and successful; and a very intelligent, if slightly inconsequent, piece was *The Head of the Firm*, which was presented at the Vaudeville in March—an adaptation from the Danish of HJALMAR BERGSTRÖM. Amongst the intellectual dramas of the year must certainly be included Mr. RUDOLF BESIER'S *Don*, which is still running at the Criterion after a successful stay at the Haymarket; and the production of a translation of MAETERLINCK'S *Blue Bird* at the latter house is worthy of mention.

The list of dramas of a more theatrical nature was very well filled. Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER at the Garrick presented an adaptation of HENRY BERNSTEIN'S *Samson*, which made a deep impression; and a still more striking success was achieved with Mr. CLYDE FITCH'S effective and sensational piece *The Woman in the Case*. Sir ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE turned one of his novels into a thrilling play, *Fires of Fate*, which was produced at the Lyric in June; Mr. NORMAN FORBES, who had made of one of DUMAS the elder's novels a drama called *The Prisoner of the Bastille*, revived it at the Lyceum in May; and Mr. WILLIAM DEVEREUX, the author of the immensely effective and exciting *Henry of Navarre*, which was produced at the New Theatre in January, followed up his triumph with a second success in *Sir Walter Ralegh* at the Lyric in October. A very well-planned piece was *Madame X*, a translation of *La Femme X*, by ALEXANDRE BISSON, which proved affecting and attractive at the Globe; and Mr. JUSTIN HUNTLY MCCARTHY'S *Proud Prince* was deservedly prosperous at the Lyceum. A piece which created a sensation by its apropos appeal to patriotic feeling was *An Englishman's Home*, which made an immediate hit at Wyndham's in January; and *The Whip* at Drury Lane was more than up to the average of Mr. ARTHUR COLLINS'S marvellous productions.

There was no want of comedy and farce in the dramatic fare of 1909. Mr. MAUGHAN'S *Penelope*, with its droll situations, was a success at the Comedy, where the same author's clever satire *Smith* was, and is at present, extremely popular. In *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* at the Criterion, Mr. R. C. CARTON excelled himself in his delightfully original style; Mr. FAGAN'S *Merry Devil* at the Playhouse was an interesting imitation of old comedy; and a version of *Les Gaietés du Veuvage*, produced at the Royalty in March under the title of *The Noble Spaniard*, was amusingly reminiscent of a bygone form of entertainment. Mr. ARTHUR LAW'S *Artful Miss Dearing* was favourably received at Terry's in April; and Mr. F. ANSTEY'S *Brass Bottle* at the Vaudeville was voted very droll, Mr. MONCKTON HOFFE'S *Little Damozel* achieving success at Wyndham's in October. The lighter forms of musical entertainment were well represented. *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's had all the requisites of a popular musical play, and *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety was quite up to the high-water mark of that vivacious establishment. Mr. ROBERT COURTNEIDGE at the Shaftesbury in April made a triumphant opening with that clever and pretty piece *The Arcadians;* and at the Savoy we have had *The Mountaineers* and a pretty GILBERT-GERMAN opera, *Fallen Fairies*, bringing with it echoes from a pleasant past.

Nor has there been any want of supply of the serious and romantic drama. Two notable revivals were given at the Queen's Theatre by Mr. H. B. IRVING of *The Bells* and of *The Lyons Mail*, each proving intensely interesting and impressive. At the Haymarket, Mr. HERBERT TRENCH revived *King Lear* in artistic and reverent fashion, and a revival of *Hamlet* at the Lyceum in March was quite creditable and conscientious, and attracted much attention.

The experimental theatres teemed with productions by the various clubs formed for the purpose of giving novices a hearing. It cannot be said that any great genius was discovered; but there was much merit in some of the pieces presented.

In opera there were several novelties worthy of remark, SAINT-SAËN'S *Samson and Delila*, CLAUDE DEBUSSY'S *Pélléas and Mélisande*, and FREDERIC D'ERLANGER'S *Tess*—the libretto of the last-named founded on THOMAS HARDY'S famous novel—being all offered at Covent Garden in the course of the twelvemonth.

A feature of the year was the large number of revivals; and, though these unfortunately often indicated that a failure had preceded them, they were none the less acceptable, and often quite profitable to the managements.

The movement in favour of a National Theatre has been continued; and the special publication in this paper of the names of the trustees selected by the anonymous donor of £70,000, and of the bank at which the sum is deposited, may serve to assist the efforts of the projectors of a scheme which deserves the sympathy of all lovers of the drama and of our great national poet.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Dec. 28. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (solicitor), Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Cyril Cattley, Frederick Morland, Lewis Casson, J. Poole Kirkwood, Gilbert Esmond, Clive Currie, Leonard Shepherd, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Rose Mathews, Miss Marion Lind, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the meeting held on Dec. 21 were read and confirmed.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Mote recommending Messrs. Barnes, Dunn, and Broughton as accountants, and the council directed him to arrange with that firm.

Mr. Hayden Coffin drew attention to an interview that he had had with Sir Herbert Tree, and the chairman read a letter from Sir Herbert relative to the return of the actor-managers. After prolonged discussion, it was decided that a letter in the following terms be sent to Sir Herbert Tree:—

"Dear Sir Herbert Tree,

"The council have before them your letter to Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, and, at his request, they reply to you direct.

"The objects and views of the Association, as expressed in the Articles, are unaltered from what they were when you and other actor-managers took an active interest in the Association.

"As you probably know, for the past three years there has been a party in the Association favouring "trades unionism," but the majority of the present council are strongly opposed to such a policy, and are in favour of actor-managers being members of the Association.

"They have sounded members as to their views, and they have every reason to hope that at the next annual general meeting the members of the Association will, by a large majority, extend a formal invitation to the actor-managers to resume their former interest in the Association."

The voting on the proposal was as follows:—For—Messrs. Cattley, Currie, Kirkwood, Miss Imlay. Against—Messrs. Esmond, Miss Lind, Miss Rose Mathews. Mr. Morland did not vote.

The following resolution was carried: "That it be a standing order of the council that no individual member of the council shall discuss, through the public Press, actions of the council not reported in the published minutes."

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Edward Terry, who kindly offered them the use of the theatre for the annual general meeting, on Jan. 25 next, and the secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Terry thanking him for his kindness, and on behalf of the council.

The hon. solicitor reported that he had an interview with a member on the subject of a verbal contract, and had written a letter on her behalf.

Mr. Esmond drew attention to "Emergency Exit" from the Rehearsal Room. It was proposed by Mr. Casson, seconded by Mr. Esmond, "That a fire-box indicating where the key was to be found, shou'd be placed in the Rehearsal Room, and attention be drawn to the fact."

The annual general meeting is fixed for Jan. 25 next, and the nominations for the council must be sent in not later than Jan. 4.

The following were elected: William G. Fay, Herbert Garthorne, and Beryl Forbes. The nominations were H. A. Saintsbury, Hamilton Deane, Harry Gerrish, Eva Balfour, Ethel Fifield, and Roy Byford.

THE home of the late James A. Herne, author of *Shore Acres* and other plays, at Southampton, Long Island, New York, was completely destroyed by fire on the 11th inst. The place was known as "Herne Oaks," and included eighty acres of land, being one of the finest estates on Long Island. Mrs. Herne and her son Jack were in the house at the time, and they had a narrow escape. The manuscripts of several plays were destroyed. The loss is estimated at $50,000, and is partly covered by insurance.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" AT THE ROYALTY.

Revival of Mr. Brandon Thomas's Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, on Monday, Dec. 27.

Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart. ..... MR. C. F. COLLINGS
Stephen Spettigue ..... MR. ROY BYFORD
Jack Chesney ..... MR. HUGH ARDALE
Charley Wykeham ..... MR. ROBERT BURNETT
Lord Fancourt Babberley ..... MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY
Brasset ..... MR. SYDNEY COMPTON
Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez ..... MISS ELINOR FOSTER
Kitty Verdun ..... MISS VALERIE WYNGATE
Amy Spettigue ..... MISS ETHEL FIFIELD
Ela Delahay ..... MISS CHRISTINE RAYNER

Charley's Aunt bobs up serenely like Christmas roses to add its quota of seasonable fun at Yuletide. It has been at Terry's, the Comedy, and is now in its old home at the Royalty, where on Monday two packed houses gave it the heartiest of welcomes. From far Cathay to California, from China to Peru, Mr. Brandon Thomas's farcical comedy has exerted its cheery influence. We are afraid to state the number of languages into which its amusing dialogue has been translated, and we are not certain whether it has been done into Esperanto. Its frankly farcical spirit has not evaporated with the passing of years, and to hear crowded audiences laughing at its amusing situations, conceived and carried through in the broadest spirit, and its irrepressible fun, is a most refreshing experience. Its frolic and its gaiety are just of that robust order which appeals so universally to theatre-goers, and the cast at the Royalty acts throughout in the rollicking spirit of farce with the most successful results. The part originally played by the author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, is now assigned to Mr. C. F. Collings, a capital actor, who makes a most favourable impression by his hearty geniality as the retired Indian officer. Mr. Collings, indeed, is responsible for a highly-finished and well-balanced impersonation, and in his proposal of marriage to Babs this Sir Francis Chesney does not make the mistake of not being perfectly serious—an attitude quite necessary if the real strength of the comedy is to be brought out. To the proposal scene Mr. Arthur Chesney as Babs gives a most droll complexion, the assumed coyness of the supposed widow being delightfully funny, and the actor sounds the note of pure drollery in his delineation, which from first to last gives every excuse for laughter. Mr. Roy Byford as the grumpy guardian Spettigue makes that lovelorn creature an unctuous promoter of diverting business, which has a most exhilarating effect on the general representation of the comedy. Mr. Hugh Ardale as Jack Chesney is particularly breezy and alert, especially so in the first act, where the two undergraduates arrange the luncheon for the dear girls, and plays with a delightfully natural touch. Mr. Robert Burnett is also a lively and impressionable "young college gentleman," and as free-and-easy as one could possibly wish, giving a spirited embodiment of the character. Mr. Sydney Compton as Brasset, the college scout, repeats an impersonation that is in the vein of pure comedy. We suspect Brasset of a good heart underneath the veneer of self-interest at any rate as played by Mr. Compton, he is a diplomatist of the first water. Miss Elinor Foster, a most attractive Donna Lucia, is quite irresistible in her scenes, realising the complete unconsciousness of the part most adequately; and Miss Valerie Wyngate as Kitty Verdun and Miss Ethel Fifield as Amy Spettigue are fresh and winsome representatives of the two healthy-minded English girls beloved by the two undergraduates. The touch of romance in the character of Ela Delahay is well emphasised by Miss Christine Rayner. Mr. Cecil Barth is Mr. Brandon Thomas's courteous representative "in front."

THE A.A. ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As I have been nominated as a candidate for the Council of the Actors' Association at the coming election, I should be greatly obliged if you would kindly allow me space in your columns to place my views before the members. I am a trade unionist. By this I mean that I believe the Actors' Association should be organised as an association of wage-earners, for the purpose of maintaining and improving the conditions of their employment. With this end in view the association should endeavour to secure:

1. Payment for rehearsals and matinées.
2. A £2 minimum.
3. The systematic exposure of bogus managers.

These objects cannot, of course, be easily or quickly attained. One of the chief difficulties we have to surmount is the indifference and despondency of actors themselves. I think, therefore, that the Council should take advantage of the spacious new premises into which we have moved to organise lectures and discussions, by which these and other kindred subjects connected with the improvement of the actor's position may be brought prominently to the attention of the members.

While working on these lines, I believe it can, and should, be made quite clear that we are not acting in any spirit of hostility to managers.

In regard to the new premises, while I feel that the headquarters of the association should be made as comfortable for the members as our means will allow, I think the Council should always bear in mind that the association exists, in the first place, "to protect and advance the interests of the members and of the theatrical profession generally," and must not be allowed to become a mere social club.

The same argument applies to the agency. The Council should do all in its power to make the agency efficient, while never forgetting that the chief purpose of the association is to protect the interests of the members in their work, and not to provide them with work.

There is one matter which has lately attracted a good deal of attention, and which I can hardly pass over in silence, much as I should like to do so. Believing, as I do, that the association should be organised in the interests of wage-earners, it follows that I must believe it should not include employers of labour. I hold the same views on this subject as I did three years ago, when I was first elected to the Council. No attempt, however, has been made since 1907 to alter the Articles of Association with a view to exclude managers. I do not believe that any attempt in this direction would be successful. If the Articles of Association cannot be altered, my duty is to be loyal to them regardless of any personal opinions. I will be no party, therefore, to any policy which has for its object the exclusion of persons who by the Articles of Association are fully qualified for membership. Further, I see nothing in the step lately taken by the Council, supported by a large number of members, which is in any way open to the charge of disloyalty to the association. The question of what either the Council, or individual members of the association, are or are not justified in doing is to be decided by reference to the Articles of Association as they are, and not by anyone's views as to what the Articles of Association ought to be.

It only remains for me to remind the members that I am a provincial actor, and therefore cannot promise more than a regular attendance at Council meetings whenever I am in London. It would be a good thing if candidates could be found among those working in London who would adequately represent the views of the members. It is only in default of a sufficient number of such candidates being nominated that I can ask for any votes to be given to myself.—Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK MORLAND.

32, Regent-street.

"HIS REAL WIFE."

A Play in Four Acts, by Charles A. Clarke, Produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, on Monday, Dec. 27.

Martin Avondale ..... MR. HARDING THOMAS
Herbert Barton ..... MR. CLIFFORD REAN
General Barton ..... MR. C. W. SPENCER
Randal Meredith ..... MR. BERNARD ELLIOTT
Colombe ..... MR. CHARLES YORKE
Alf Snickers ..... MR. WALTER WALMSLEY
Simon Bletherell ..... MR. T. EDWARD WARD
Mr. Hackett ..... MR. CYRIL LEIGH
Inspector Marston ..... MR. ERIC WILD
Clerk of the Court ..... MR. A. AUSTIN
Foreman of Jury ..... MR. BERT J. WILSON
Usher of the Court ..... MR. FRANK BARRETT
Mrs. Creele ..... MISS VERE HERBERT
Betty Tuttlebee ..... MISS CLARRIE YANDELL
Lady Sybil Welton ..... MISS ELAINE VERNER
Rose Avondale ..... MISS WARD

Brimful of interest and no impeachment of the human nature laws, Mr. Clarke's play had a capital reception at the leading house at Warrington on Monday afternoon. The author has not departed from the orthodox lines, but has done his work with much skill. There is always a true touch of sincerity in the development of the piece, which cannot fail to win admiration.

In the first scene we are at the home of General Barton, and the early phases of the play show that Herbert Barton, his son, is in love with Rose Avondale, an affection of which the autocratic father does not approve. Martin Avondale is a sturdy yeoman with a greatly loved daughter, Rose. Herbert Barton, a rising young barrister, son of General Barton, has promised to marry her, but his father, the General, intervenes, sends for old Avondale, and adroitly manages not only to separate the lovers, but to get his son engaged to the wealthy and proud beauty Lady Sybil Welton. At the end of the first act old Farmer Avondale is stricken with sudden blindness. Later, the loveless marriage of Herbert Barton and Lady Sybil turns out as badly as might be expected, the wife being jealous, passionate, and at times absolutely mad. Herbert finds consolation with his early love, whom he has not the courage to undeceive as to the fact of his marriage tie, hoping that before long he will be enabled to make Rose Avondale his real wife. Lady Sybil tracks down the couple, exposes the true state of affairs, and, in her violence, drives Rose out into the world with her baby, utterly friendless and in the deepest despair at her terrible position.

A blackmailing foreign rascal named Colombe, learning part of Herbert Barton's secret, steals Rose's child, substituting for it a dead baby he obtains from a tramp. Arrested on the charge of infanticide, the wretched mother begs to be allowed to see the body of her lost baby, and in a strenuous scene declares, on viewing it, that the dead child is not hers at all. This statement is, of course, unbelievable in view of the circumstances, backed up by the false statements of those who have conspired against her.

In Act III. Rose Avondale is found awaiting her case to come on, having first had a heart-rending interview with her father, who fails to recognise her voice, and then being placed in the dock to take her trial, she finds that the judge who sits to try the case is, by a curious but entirely reasonable combination of circumstances, the actual father of the supposed dead baby with whose murder she stands on trial for her life. Circumstantial evidence against her is so strong that nothing but a verdict of guilty can be returned by the jury. This leads up to the passing of a sentence of death, which her judge finds himself unable to complete, and the curtain falls after an impassioned appeal for mercy by a young counsel, on one of the most ingenious, pathetic, and dramatic situations ever devised. The last act in no sense falls away in interest. The erring but deeply wronged daughter is brought back to her sightless father, the mad wife of Herbert Barton dies, and he, now a repentant and broken man, proves his sincerity in the eyes of both father and daughter, whilst the stolen child is restored, the blackmailer arrested, and, upon a picture of prospective happiness, the final curtain falls.

Miss Ward as Rose Avondale was an immense success, the charm and grace of the character being given with excellent effect, the note struck in the emotional passages being true, deep, and sincere. Miss Elaine Verner won highest praise for her clever characterisation of Lady Sybil Welton; and in the lighter rôle of Betty Tuttlebee Miss Clarrie Yandell was a chic personage. Mr. Harding Thomas as the sturdy yeoman Martin Avondale imparted the author's conception of the stricken father with a fidelity which won the highest encomiums; Mr. Clifford Rean showed what a firm and strong actor he is by the power which he displayed throughout in the delineation of Herbert Barton; Mr. C. W. Spencer as the autocratic General Barton looked and acted the part to the letter; and Randal Meredith had a true exponent in Mr. Bernard Elliott. As the unscrupulous Colombe, Mr. Charles Yorke imparted plenty of dramatic force; and a good study of Alf Snickers was that of Mr. Walter Walmsley. Mr. T. Edward Ward was a typical mine host; and there was a professional air associated with Mr. Cyril Leigh's portrayal of Mr. Hackett, K.C. The remaining rôles were well filled, and the play was admirably dressed and mounted, the scenery, from the brush of Mr. F. Daie, of Warrington, calling forth words of admiration.

A Cruel Joke.

MR. HARRY NICHOLLS writes:—"The story you published in last week's *Era* of the actor and the cat at Drury Lane Theatre is extremely funny, and the incident itself was witnessed with the keenest enjoyment by those who had the good fortune to be present. What could be more excruciatingly comic than that a cat should stroll on to the stage and rub himself against the legs of the unfortunate actor who was delivering one of the most important speeches in the part of Macbeth? To be sure, it meant the shattering of every hope of success that the actor (William Rignold was his name) had cherished. But what of that? It was so funny! It had been the ambition of the dear old man's life to play Macbeth in a West End London theatre, and his opportunity came when he was called upon to support the great Italian tragedienne Adelaide Ristori in her performance of Lady Macbeth. And this is what came of it! Roars of laughter when the cat made its appearance—titters and murmurs of 'Where's the cat?' every time Macbeth came on the stage. When the play was over he laughed with the rest, like the sportsman he was; but is it not just possible that he may have left the theatre that night sick at heart, a sad and disappointed man?"

"Swift Succour."

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "I should like to make known, through your paper, a case of 'swift succour,' which is, I think, a record. An old actor, 'hard up,' was on his way from Glasgow to London. He had reached Middlesbrough, mostly on foot, in the late bitter weather—those who know the district traversed will appreciate the task—and was absolutely 'stoney.' He applied for help to the stage manager of the travelling company at the Theatre Royal, who referred the matter to the local manager. The latter wrote at once to an influential shipping friend. Please note: The first appeal was made at 7 p.m. In two hours the old fellow returned from the home of the steamship company's manager, beaming, with a free passage to London, a special note to the steward re food, &c., and permission to go on board over night, the boat sailing early the next morning. This was supplemented with pocket money collected by the real benefactor, the first aider, the giver of 'swift succour,' George Imeson, of Middlesbrough."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Nov. 22, 1909.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—After a most successful run extending over four weeks, *The Merry Widow* was withdrawn on Friday night last. On Saturday evening *The Lady Dandies* was produced for the first time in Melbourne, and proved an instantaneous success. Miss Florence Young as chief of the lady exquisites did excellent work, her singing and acting throughout completely captivating her audience. Miss Florence Young's voice never fails to do justice to the music allotted her. A pronounced success of the evening was a vivacious duet with Mr. D. B. O'Connor, "Tell me that you are a bold desperado." Other numbers that met with genuine approval include "Not so silly as we look," quaintly rendered by Mr. Victor Gouriet and Mr. Fred Leslie; "I always come back to you," by Mr. Arthur Hunter; and a crowning trifle, "The coquette." The concerted pieces and the choruses are charged with lilt and swing, of which the performers make the most. The stage pictures are very attractive and florid, especially that of the Café du Caveau. *The Lady Dandies* will be continued till further notice.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carke, Meynell, and Gunn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The last nights of *The Girl Behind the Counter*, which has been drawing large audiences for the past four weeks, are announced. On Saturday evening next *The Belle of Mayfair* will be revived for a brief season.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens.—That powerful drama, *The Bondman*, has been filling this theatre for the past two weeks, and on Saturday evening many people were unable to gain admission. Notwithstanding the popularity of the present production, Mr. Bland Holt is determined to keep faith with the public as regards frequent changes of programme, and Saturday evening next sees a special revival of *The White Heather*. Mr. Bland Holt's present season at this theatre terminates on Dec. 2nd next.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Packed houses are the order of the day at this popular place of amusement. New artists are arriving weekly, and Saturday evening saw the first appearance in Australia of Hassan, an Indian magician. His tricks included some clever conjuring done very cleanly. Hassan's turn throughout was watched with keen interest, and this artist is sure to become a popular favourite with Opera House patrons. Captain Winston's remarkable performing seals, which have proved a strong draw for some time past, will appear for the last time on Thursday evening next. Other excellent turns are provided by Blake and Granby, Chas. J. Johnston, Miss Athmore Grey, Gwennie Hasto, Walter Emerson, Rupert Cuthbert, Vaud and Verne, Tom Dawson, Baby Watson, and the Price Sisters.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Mr. Brennan is submitting a particularly strong programme to his patrons just now, and in consequence the house is filled nightly. On Saturday evening Deno and Campbell (pantomimists) made their first appearance, and met with a good reception; Vernon and Mack (acrobats and hand balancers) also appeared for the first time, and gave a neat and clever turn. The present programme includes Ella Airlie, monologue entertainer; Driscoll Brothers, patter comedians; George Dean, descriptive vocalist; Stella Ranger, balladist; J. P. Knowles, comedian, and many others.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN intends to produce several American plays at the Répertoire Theatre, in London, including *The Climax* and *A Woman's Way*. Miss Grace George scored a conspicuous success in New York and other cities in the latter play.

FOR Boxing and two following nights the stirring drama *Under Two Flags* proved a huge attraction at the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn. As Louis Victor Mr. Douglas Murray was excellent; Mr. Roy Jackson was an earnest Lord Rockingham; Mr. C. E. Johnson faithfully portrayed Black Hawk; Miss Elizabeth Dundas was a stately and beautiful Princess; and Miss Alice Defoe a characteristically vivacious Cigarette.

MISS MARY AUSTIN and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company in *The Cotton Spinner* is proving a great holiday attraction at the Empire Theatre, Swindon. The title-rôle is powerfully portrayed by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds; and Miss Mary Austin gives a sympathetic rendering of Mary Prescott. Mr. T. Roydan is a good Lord Northbury; Arthur Northbury finds a capable exponent in Mr. Geo. Porteous; Mr. Dashwood as Nobbs and Miss Nellie Hayes in the part of Smirk are amusing; Mr. W. H. Dewhurst is well placed as Major Stratton; Mr. W. Thornton makes an excellent Foster Cuningham; Miss Florence Hamilton a successful Lady Charlotte Needy; and the Constance Harrington of Miss Ethel Vinroy is ably sustained. The one-act play, *The Reward*, precedes.

AT the Crown Theatre, Eccles, Mr. James Kiddie's company is presenting the story of *The Forty Thieves*. The scenery and dresses are much above the average to be found in a travelling pantomime. The part of Abdallah has a capital representative in Miss Rose Pareezer, whose songs were well received; Mr. Mark Merry was responsible for much merriment as Kaderick; Mr. Arthur Burton as Cassim Baba gave a humorous performance; Mr. Reg Amber as Mustapha contributed largely to the success; and chief among the funmakers was Mr. Percy Curry, who, as Ali Baba, made the most of every opportunity and caused many aching sides. Miss Elsie Steadman as Ganem quickly won the good graces of the audience with her winning style; as did also Miss Lyle Jeffries as Morgiana, her singing and dancing being one of the successes of the night. Messrs. Fame and Fortune as Pitchett and Poppit worked well together, and their various scenes went admirably.

"THE WEDDING DAY," a play produced at the Hackett Theatre, New York, at a special matinée, dealt with a "slip 'twixt the cup and the lip" in the sense of the old saying, but the "slip" in this instance was caused by a cup, with fiery contents, reaching the lip too often. The scene of the play is laid in New York at the present time, and the action takes place between midnight and noon of the following day. Genevieve Lawrence on the eve of her marriage indulges in a little jollification with her friends at a restaurant and becomes intoxicated. Fearing to return home in such a condition, she calls on Forrest Nixon, a friend of the man she is about to marry. Nixon, very much astonished, sends her to the home of her aunt, Mrs. Estey. He tries to persaude her to tell her fiancé, Edward Leaming, of her mistake, but she is unable to muster up courage until the wedding guests are assembled and the ceremony is about to begin. When Leaming learns the truth he renounces her. Nixon, who has loved her for a long time, defends her and makes her a proposal of marriage, which is rejected. Then Leaming forgives her, and declares his willingness to go on with the ceremony. She declines, however, and the guests are dismissed. She will marry no one until she has shown that she has some strength of character, in the meantime avoiding wine suppers. The play was well acted by Messrs. Walter D. Greene, Sheldon Lewis, Forrest Winant, and Miss Jessie Bonstelle and Miss Jane Darwell.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE fourth annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C., on Sunday, Jan. 16, at 6 o'clock prompt. Mr. Fred Russell, who will preside, will give the chairman's address, and the general secretary, Mr. W. H. Clemart, his report. The V.A.F. balance-sheet up to Dec. 31, 1909, will be submitted, and a discussion will be initiated on the General Federation of Trade Unions.

A MEETING of the cinematograph trade will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday next, at 2.30 p.m., when everyone interested—manufacturers, factors, hirers, and showmen—are earnestly requested to attend. The questions to be discussed are vital to the interest of all, viz., the proposed regulations of the London C.C. and provincial governing bodies.

RUMOURS are rife in regard to that combine, and a nearer *rapprochement* of the Barrasford and De Frece interests is said to be imminent. Mr. Will Collins, formerly London district manager for the Moss-Stoll Empires, who has been responsible for the bookings of the Barrasford tour for the London Theatres of Varieties and Barrasford, Ltd., has, it is understood, relinquished that position, and rumour again places him with Mr. de Frece.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA, who has just recovered from her indisposition of last week, and who is heading the bills at the London Pavilion and Hippodrome, Balham, was asked by the directors of the Syndicate halls to deputise for Miss Marie Lloyd at the Tivoli on Monday and Tuesday last. Needless to say, the popular comedienne met with a very flattering reception. It is some considerable time since the Tivoli audiences have had the opportunity of seeing her at that house.

MISS VICTORIA is introducing two new numbers, one entitled "Skating; or, the same place every time," the second being "The Arcadians," which promises to be one of the finest numbers she has given. She sang no less than twenty-two songs on Monday, playing five turns and matinées. She will now appear in London for some considerable time to come.

YOUNG CHARLES COBORN enjoyed himself immensely at the Old Folks' Dinner, given by the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund to the veterans of variety who have passed the limit of life assigned by the Psalmist. He writes: "What a party of 'grand old men' and, but no—nothing shall tempt me to apply so ungallant an expression to the members of the fair sex who graced the festive board. True, there was one lady who even claimed the acquaintance of some eighty summers, but her brightness and vivacity must have caused the most trustful of her word to question the correctness of her arithmetic. Then there was young Amy Ellis, whom some of us remember, shining brightly as the 'Northern Star.' If some of the 'serios' of to-day had heard her sing her song amout the perambulator, they would have been forced to allow that they could profit much by observing such style, force, and elegance. My word, she did make a hit!'

"BUT just a word on our president, dear 'Old Joe' Elvin. He was a regular Christmas fairy. Not only did he contribute to the feast liberally, but presided at the commencement of it, and slyly left a New Year's gift for each of the poor old guests. With a 'God bless you all,' he ran away, so as not to jeopardise his health and business (he then suffering from a cold), and left affairs in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Herbert, the chairman of the committee. Later on Fred made an excellent speech in eulogy of the president, which was received with the wildest enthusitsm, and later still, another in responding to the toast of his own health, wealth, and prosperity, which was proposed by young Coborn, who was trying all the time to keep secret the fact that he was in the last month of his thirty-fourth year in the business.

"OH, but he was a mere boy compared with some present. Amongst the speech-makers, and by no means the least worthy, was our young friend Billy West, with his seventy-seven years. Ralph Edgar, too—no spring chicken—gave his quota to the flood of eloquence; James Lenton came and sang—and sang well, so did Albert Devoy, Bob Gates, and others of the guests, and the committee were well represented by Pat Carey, T. C. Callaghan, Fred Herbert, C. Coborn, H. Cory Woodrow, and two kindly and charming lady visitors—Miss Florence Raynor and Miss Violet Murray. But the one who took down all our numbers was good old Nat Emmett.

"ALTHOUGH Nat owned to being in his eightieth year, the vigour, point, and elocutionary excellence with which he rendered a charming little recitation, 'The Pen and the Press,' formed an object-lesson in the way in which it should be done, and none hesitated to allow that his contribution was the gem of the occasion. Time and space fail me to dilate upon the excellence of the fare and the splendid assistance rendered by Mr. Harry Sutch (the best and most accommodating of pianists), who was the very spirit of music and harmony."

MR. NEIL KENYON, whose sketches of the "Bostie of Dunrobin" and other characters have stamped him as the first Scottish comedian of the day, is by way of entering the ranks of musical comedy. He has been secured by Mr. A. F. Henderson for the chief comedy rôle in a new musical piece, entitled *The Islander*, written by Mr. Maxwell Bailey and composed by Mr. Michael Faraday, who was responsible for the music of the successful Egyptian opera *Amasis*. *The Islander* will find a home at the Adelphi, possibly at the conclusion of the run of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's successful piece, *The House of Temperley*.

THE Scots humorist will play the part of a Persian grandee, but whether he will be an "islander" or an "Highlander" time alone can prove. It is but a few years since Mr. Neil Kenyon made his début in town at the London Pavilion, having been given his first engagement there by Mr. Frank Glenister, an astute judge of comedians from North of the Tweed; for it was he who brought Harry Lauder for the first time to a West-End house; and Jock Whiteford is another of his finds.

KITTIE RAYBURN seems to have scored another big success as Aladdin at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, and to have been fortunate enough to secure a clever comedy topical song, entitled "If I had a word to say," which bids fair to be as popular a success as her great topical song "He's a bloke as I'd like to go out wiv." The boys of the Thames-side suburb, and the girls as well, give it hearty welcome.

MR. ERNEST SHAND is singing a new song entitled "Nelson and Me," written by Mr. Bertrand Davis. The make-up has never been attempted on the music hall stage since Charles Godfrey played the great sailor at the Oxford, and is therefore in the nature of a novelty. "The Agitator," written by Tom Wick—author of many of Mr. Shand's successes, such as "Bachelors," "The last pub," The Territorial sailor," &c.—is going extremely well.

MR. FRANK DANBY'S charming and successful comedietta *Love in a Coffee Shop* has been well booked up, and he opens next Monday his provincial tour at the Grand, Birmingham (Messrs. Moss and Stoll). He will be supported by Mr. Edward McLean and Miss Isa Cresse.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT is scoring a great success in pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. In a letter to his agent, Tom Pacey, he says:—"I made a record hit on the opening night. On my first entrance, in scene three, I was greeted with a tremendous reception which lasted fully a minute. My first song, "How d'yer do, my baby?" stormed the house, which cheered to the echo. In scene six I sang 'I used to sigh for the silvery moon'; this stormed them just the same. They simply cheered me to the echo. I concluded the first scene of the second part with 'Good-night, number one,' and after an encore I had to take calls in the following scenes before the pantomime was allowed to go on."

MR. FRED CONNOR'S circus opened its winter season at the Crystal Palace on Boxing Day, giving three performances to crowded houses. The general verdict is: The best circus seen at the Palace for years. Mr. Connor has every reason to feel proud of his two children, Mona and Douglas, whose riding exploits quite captivated the huge audience at each performance.

THE seating accommodation of the orchestra stalls at the Palace Theatre, Plymouth, has recently been greatly improved, presumably as a Christmas gift to the patrons of that part of the house, the seats now being arranged in semi-circular fashion, and the flooring recarpeted. The alterations and additions have given universal satisfaction, and materially add to the comfort of patrons.

THE local entertainments at Herne Bay have done well this Christmas under the able direction of Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, who is running them for the Urban District Council. Miss Grace Warner, who is playing this week at the Town Hall Theatre, has decided to extend her stay two days, Monday and Tuesday next week. Miss Warner has with her an excellent company. Ruffell's Bioscope is also doing well at the Pier Pavilion.

MR. SAMUEL LLOYD, the energetic and popular manager of the Pavilion, Glasgow, is at present seriously ill with an attack of pneumonia. In the circumstances the employees naturally postponed their annual Christmas supper and dance, which was due for Dec. 24. Our latest advices were that Mr. Lloyd had taken a decided turn for the better, though still very weak.

No little sensation was caused in Blackpool at the end of last week by the startling announce- that the Blackpool Tower Company had acquired the Grand Theatre from Mr. Sergenson, the original proprietor. Of course, it has been known for some time that the property was in the market, an advertisement to that effect having appeared in our columns, but no one suspected for a moment that it was likely to pass into the hands of the Tower Company, of which Mr. George H. Harrop is the general manager.

UNIVERSAL regret is expressed that Mr. Sergenson should have retired from management, as he has been the means of introducing all the best London companies to Blackpool; but we have not the slightest doubt that Mr. Harrop will not be found wanting in this respect. This is not by any means his first plunge into the legitimate, for in the days of his youth he was intimately associated with many theatrical ventures; but that is another story.

As will be seen by our advertising columns, the theatre will be closed until the Easter Holidays, during which time it will be thoroughly renovated. When this is done, it will probably not be surpassed in beauty and comfort by any theatre in the provinces.

THE second anniversary of the opening of Barrasford's Hippodrome, Sheffield, was celebrated last week, and on the Friday night, at the close of the second performance, the whole of the staff, members of the orchestra, and the artists appearing during the week had a pleasant gathering on the stage, presided over by the popular manager, Mr. Frank Poole, who in a short speech spoke of the great success which had attended the house since its opening. In conclusion Mr. Poole referred in appreciative terms to the loyalty of the staff, and the good feeling which prevailed all round.

THE recent matinée at Barrasford's Hippodrome, Sheffield, on behalf of "Sheffield's Poor Children," realised the magnificent sum of £222 15s. 2d. This constitutes a record for Sheffield so far as charity matinées are concerned.

THE death was announced in our columns last week of August (Harold Griffin), a clown of considerable popularity in the ring, and a partner in the combination, August and September. Mr Griffin, to the deep regret of his many friends in and out of the profession, passed away after a short illness. For a number of years he had been connected with the Tower Circus, Blackpool, where he and his partner were very popular. He broke down at Oldham in November last, and was only laid up a fortnight.

OF notable interest was the wedding which took place on Thursday, Dec. 23, at Christ Church, Lord-street, Southport. The contracting parties were Mr. Sydney Milton Tootal, of Baxenden, and Miss Violet Abra Palfrey, late of *The Merry Widow* company, Apollo, Paris, where she made such a success last year. Having sat for over 1,500 photographs, she looked very dainty and pretty—quite a picture, and fully deserved the reputation she has gained of being one of the beautiful women of the present day. Her gown was of real old Brussels lace, the train composed of ivory satin, clouded over with chiffon, and draped with the lace. She wore a magnificent rope of pearls, the gift of the bridegroom, and a large picture hat with huge plumes completed her attire. Her bracelet, earrings, and pendant, composed of real old scarabæ of historic value, were the gift of Wissa H. Eheid, Consul de France. Mrs. Eric Wyld, who attended the bride, wore blue, and looked very charming. She carried lilies of the valley and violets.

MR. EDGAR DAWSON, of Blackpool, acted as best man, and his gift was a beautiful solid silver tea service. Mrs. Eric Wyld presented the bride with a valuable toilet set. The ceremony took place at twelve o'clock, and Canon Hardy Honeyborne officiated. After the ceremony the happy couple and friends motored to the bride's residence, where the wedding breakfast was held. The presents were numerous and costly. The bride's travelling dress was of elephant-grey and white satin, over which she wore a beautiful full-length sealskin coat handsomely bordered with real skunk fur, and carried a muff to match. The dresses were made by Paquin, Paris. The happy couple will reside in Southport after the honeymoon.

JOHN LAWSON'S latest production, *The Miracle*, will be seen at the Holborn Empire on Monday next. It was a success at the Olympia, Shoreditch.

MISS LOUIE TRACY, the Dapper Dandy Boy, commences on Monday next, at the Palace, Bath, a nineteen week's provincial tour, returning to town on May 15, for a short season, prior to her departure for South Africa, in July.

MISS LOUISA PEACH'S American episode, *The Settler's Daughter*, has been very enthusiastically received at the Palace, Bow, this week. She will be at the Middlesex with it next week, and at Mr. Raymond's Hall, Walthamstow, Jan. 10 and 17.

THOSE famous musical clowns the Brothers Webb finished on Friday a five months' Continental tour, and are exclusively engaged from Monday next for eight weeks at the Empire.

FOR the production of the sensational dramatic episode *The Russian Princess*, by Frederick Maxwell, the talented actress Miss Lois du Cane has engaged a particularly strong company. The jewelled head dress to be worn by Miss Du Cane as the Princess Claudia was presented to her specially for the part by her friend, Miss Victoria Monks. The sketch will be produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday next.

SWAN AND VESTA produced a clever little sketch at Greenwich Palace last week. The story is of three people—viz., a coster, his wife, and child. The man is obsessed on the subject of Limericks, and while parting with everything he possesses, lives on the hope of winning £50 in a Limerick competition. His wife and child are greatly distressed at his persistence; but just as things are at their worst and hope is almost gone, he wins the £50, and the curtain falls on a joyous family making plans as to the investment of the money so opportunely won.

MISS ROSE DEARING, who is well known on the halls as a single turn, has, in conjunction with Miss Ely Helene, scored an emphatic success in her new duologue, *We Dine at Seven*, being played at the Shepherds Bush Empire this week, and has already received several offers for future bookings. It is a distinct novelty, and goes with a yell of laughter from start to finish.

THE 640th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert in the chair. The financial statement, showing thirty-three new members and a cash total of £39 6s. was passed.

MISS MABEL MAVIS, the talented lady musician, is continuing her triumphal career through the Stoll tour by scoring heavily this week at the Hackney Empire. Next week she will make magic melody for the delight of the patrons of the sister hall in Holloway.

MISS DOROTHY WARD, the well-known musical comedy artist, who is playing with such enormous success the part of principal boy at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, is taking a great interest in the welfare of the poor children of the city, she having been born in Birmingham. She has forwarded the following letter to Mr. J. Stevenson, the superintendent of the school attendance officers of the Birmingham Education Department:—"I shall esteem it a great favour if you and your officers will kindly arrange to provide a tea and entertainment for about a thousand poor children in Birmingham as early as possible in the New Year. I enclose a cheque to defray cost, and shall endeavour to be present, and hope to have the support of several fellow-artists. My object in doing this is to brighten the lives of some of Birmingham's poor children, if only for a few hours, and that the affair will be successful is the sincere wish of a Birmingham girl."

IN South London there are many kind hearts, and the efforts made by music hall managers to lighten the burden of life among the very poor in the mean streets of Southwark are worthy of every encouragemnt. At the Surrey on Thursday, the 23rd ult., Mr Roy Cochrane and his loyal and enthusiastic staff welcomed four thousand of South London's poorest little ones at a special matinée. Each kiddie, on entering the house, had placed in its delighted hands a package containing sufficient material for a good meal, and the big crowd soon became busy with the eatables. The band soon livened them up with popular choruses, and Punch and Judy, conjuring, kinematography, and illustrated songs passed the happy hours away. The house had a festive aspect, with its Yuletide decorations.

MR. COCHRANE continued his self-imposed charitable labours on Friday (yesterday), when he entertained 2,000 of the aged poor from the neighbouring workhouses. The fact that the sum of £56, to be spent on these charity functions, has been collected in pennies and halfpennies in answer to appeals from the stage of the Surrey proves once again the truth of the saying that it is the poor who help the poor.

MR. WILLIAM PAYNE, manager of the South London, is not to be outdone by his neighbour across the road, and to-day gives his annual treat to five thousand children, who will assemble this afternoon at the house he so ably manages to enjoy a New Year's free treat. The performance will be under the distinguished patronage of the Mayor of Southwark, the Rev. Canon Horsley, a leader of social reform Sir William Treloar, the cripples' friend, the Right Hon. R K. Causton, M.P., and the Aldermen and Councillors of the borough.

MESSRS. HENRI GROS, HENRY TOZER AND JOSEPH DAVIS head the list of the committee and donors, among which are the chief musical and dramatic agents. Kindly salesmen of Covent Garden and the Borough Markets have arranged to send on plenty of fruit for the boys and girls, and a right royal entertainment, specially constituted to appeal to the heart of a child, will be given.

MR. JOSEPH SOMERS AND MR. GEORGE JOHN STEBBINGS (both of Briff, Braff, and Broff) were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ben Whiteley, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Harry Gribben, V.T. Terrier W. L. Murray officiated as Organist. Messrs. W. J. Makey, Andrew T. Wright, Richard Edmondson, and James Hare, candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association, have successfully passed the ballot.

A SMOKING concert was held on Sunday last after the usual meeting of the Terriers' Association, at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington. Terrier W. L. Murray occupied the chair. The following artists appeared with their customary success, viz., Terrier T. C. Callaghan, "Oh, what a lovely dream"; Terrier C. C. Cornish, "The preacher and the bear" and "Swanee River"; Terrier Alf. Norton, "Twankidillo"; Mr. A. Bracey, "Vanity Fair"; Terrier Barney Hyams, "Wait till my ship comes home"; Terrier Arthur Were, the Dream Scene, from *The Bells*; Terrier Harry Gribben, "Fluttering in the breeze" and "The Bowery Boy." Terrier Callaghan acted as musical director, and Terrier J. Chas. Moore was the accompanist. A ladies' concert will be held on Sunday next at the Three Stags Hotel at 8.15 p.m. All Terriers in town are earnestly requested to attend the usual meeting, which will commence at 6.45 sharp.

MISS RENEE RALPH, daughter of Ted Young, has made a great success in William Watson's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, at the Hippodrome, Rotherham, in which she is playing second boy. Her song, "The girl in the clogs and shawl" is the hit of the production.

MR. ARTHUR AISTON received the wire announcing the birth of his son just as he was making his first entrance on the stage at the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, where he is playing Will Atkins in Mr. Harry Burns's production of *Robinson Crusoe*. He was so elated with the good news that he went on and scored an enormous success.

LA BELLE MORGAN, Australia's charming musical comedy artist, created a sensation at the Opera House, Southport, on Boxing night as Robin Hood in J. F. Elliston's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*. So charmed and delighted was Mr. Elliston with Miss Morgan's performance, that he immediately offered to engage her for his next year's production. La Belle Morgan has only been a short time in this country, and after her performance in the above pantomime, she will take her place as one of the most brilliant pantomime principal boys.

MR. G. RHODES PARRY, recently the manager of the Palace, Grimsby, took up a similar position on Monday at the Crouch End Hippodrome. Mr. Parry has had previous London experience in managerial positions at the London, Shoreditch, at Collins's, and at the Crystal Palace, and has been associated with the Palace, Leeds, the Palace, Manchester, and the district managership of the De Frece circuit.

MR. BERNARD MERVYN produced on Dec. 22 at the Variety Theatre, Hoxton, for the first time on any stage, a new and original playlet, entitled *Nick Carter, the Man from Pinkerton's*, written by himself and Ivan P. Gore. Although originally booked to open on Jan. 3 at the Palace, Bow, it has been found necessary, owing to the heaviness of the production, to postpone it until the 10th inst., when it will be seen at the above house.

ON Monday night the Lyric, Hammersmith, pantomime, after being accompanied with roars of laughter and cheers throughout, was at the close given such a hurricane of applause that Mr. Wentworth Croke appeared on the stage and publicly thanked the audience, the artists, and his staff, specially mentioning his appreciation of the hard work performed by Miss Rayburn, the principal boy; Mr. Fred S. Jennings, his general-manager at the Lyric; and Mr. Thos. Barry, who produced the pantomime. His remarks were loudly applauded by the audience.

PATRONS of the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, will have an opportunity of hearing that celebrated soprano, Miss Nellie Brierley, who is playing in G. W. Blythe's musical scena, entitled *The Toilers*. The business arrangements of *The Toilers* are in the hands of Beecham and Wheeler, through whose office these artists have secured contracts with Moss' Empires, Barrasford's Tour, &c.

MR. ALFRED BUTT has engaged for the Palace Theatre next Monday a troupe of Chinese artists. From their description it would appear that these could provide a whole variety entertainment by themselves. The Tschin-Maa troupe are stated to be marvellous Asiatic magicians, juggiers, contortionists, dancers of the Pagoda, equilibrists, conjurers, and acrobats—truly a good list for an entertainment to be crammed into twenty-five minutes.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE and Elise Craven appear at the Coliseum on Monday in *Mr. Jellicoe and the Fairy*. Another important item in the programme is the Slaviansky Russian Choir, who appear for the first time in England. The singers are dressed in the picturesque national costume. The conductor is Mlle. Slavianski, who is said to have inherited the musical talent of her father, the founder of the choir.

MR. CHARLES COBORN is repeating this week at the Paragon the splendid success he achieved lately at the South London. Numerous recalls testify to his popularity at that colossal establishment. The large foreign element welcome with delight his chippy little contributions in German, Dutch, Hebrew, &c., in the chorus of "Two lovely black eyes," which he has reproduced by desire. By the way, it was for the Paragon that Mr. Coborn wrote the now world-famed song in the spring of 1886.

FEW men in the variety profession have had such a varied experience as Mr. Fred Reeves. Though still a young man, he can point to strenuous years as a performer, as a proprietor, and as a manager. With his brother he ran the Gaiety, Leicester, in the eighties, the firm being called Reeves and Verdo, and he signalised his management of the Palace, Hammersmith, by initiating special anniversary entertainments that lasted a week. With such experience and such excellent business qualifications Fred, as he is generally called by his legion of friends, was marked out for a career in which the commercial side is uppermost, and a few years ago he joined Mr. Tom Pacey. He soon, however, commenced on his own, and his clientèle has grown by leaps and bounds. Just lately Mr. Reeves has taken into partnership his son Horace, a most apt pupil and a keen hustler, and the Cedars, Grove-road, Brixton, has become a busy centre.

To Mr. John Lawson, who is playing in *The Miracle* this week at the Shoreditch Olympia, the following "telegram" has been sent by post:—"The members of 'Zion' (Association of East London Zionists) have much pleasure in presenting this insignificant token of tribute to one of the best and noblest sons of their race (J. Lawson, Esq.), with deep gratitude and Zion's greetings for his true Jewish and kind references to our cause before the public." Mr. Lawson is asked to kindly accept this sincerely-meant message per post instead of a "telegram"—the word that heads it. It was "handed in" on Thursday.

WILLIE ALBERT, forty-four, described as a music hall artist, of Southampton-street, Camberwell, was charged on Tuesday before Mr. Baggallay with begging at Waterloo-road. Police-constable 304 L said the prisoner was stopping people and asking for money toward the cost of a night's lodging. The Prisoner: I am an old clown, and have played at theatres from Drury Lane downwards. I might have thought I knew the people I stopped. Mr. Baggallay: You must not perform in the street. One day's imprisonment.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S humble opinion is that "the one-act play is dead, so far as the regular theatre is concerned. People will not come in for it, and if you attempt to play a short sketch as the last item of the programme they seem to conclude at once that your main play is not a success, an assumption very damaging to the bill as a whole. Further, the conventional happy ending, which has been so much discussed of late, is not necessary if the sketch be played at a variety house. The reason for this is that, however deeply the feelings of the audience may have been harrowed, the tragic or pathetic trifle is certain to be followed by a comic 'turn.' By this means the author is able to express himself properly without making rubbish of his play by giving it the 'conventional happy ending.' Candidly, I hold to my opinion that the office of Censor should not be abolished, although there might be modifications now that the line of demarcation between the regular and the variety theatre has practically disappeared."

CAICEDO has recently visited Salt Lake City, heading the Orpheum bill there in his unapproachable wire act, which invariably tops the bills.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS leaves Euston at eleven o'clock this Saturday for New York. He will reach Liverpool at five, sailing thence for New York by the Carmania. He will open at the American Theatre on Jan. 8.

MR. NORMAN PARTRIDGE, who played juvenile lead at the Lyceum during Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's first year of management of that house, is by way of producing, at the Royal Standard on Monday a new dramatic episode entitled *Man and the Woman*. The actor will be supported by Miss Zana St. George.

MISS EDIE ANDERSON has suffered a severe bereavement in the death of her father, who passed away on Thursday morning, the 23rd ult., succumbing to an attack of bronchitis. Miss Anderson, who has been much touched by the messages of sympathy sent by her friends, whose kindness she desires to acknowledge.

CECIL MERRIE begs to thank sincerely the following gentlemen, who very kindly contributed to his testimonial concert: Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, David Day, W. Dean, Will Dunkley, Harry Barnard, G. P. F. Burgess, Andie Caine, Harry Conlin, Tom Wootwell, Douglas White, Chas. Pratt, John Leopold, Ted E. Box, Geo. Hood, Julian Mack, Walter Stanley, S. N. Salter, W. Hawkins, Geo. Skipper, Oswald Trigg, Harry Calver, Barney Hyam, T. C. Calaghan, C. Cornish, C. Douglas Stuart, and B. Woodger; also those who took part in the concert. There are still a number of tickets out. Would the ladies and gentlemen who have received them kindly communicate?

THE Polar bears enjoyed their rehearsals of the Hippodrome spectacle, *The Arctic* even more than the actors. Twice every day the seventy animals have had a dive and a dip in the Hippodrome lake—the old arena, now turned into a realistic frozen sea. Mr. Hagenbeck, the biggest animal collector in the world, states that it has taken him twelve years to get the company together. Time was when Greenland whalers used to shoot the old white bears for the sake of their glorious fur, but they allowed the cubs to escape. It was believed that it would be impossible to train the polar bear, but when Mr. Hagenbeck proved this to be an error, he asked the whale hunters to bring him any cubs they could obtain. They are, therefore, Polar by birth, if not by education. The eldest is a great bear in his fourteenth year; the smallest a frolicsome youngster of two.

EVEN as tiny cubs, mere balls of fur, Mr. Hagenbeck has to pay whalers a very high sum for their capture. He can seldom buy a baby bear for much less than £100, while, trained as they are, this collection is worth over £15,000, and no amount of money would persuade the owner to part with them. The trouble is that as the true white bear is to be found only in polar fastnesses, the whalers may return home year after year with not a single cub. The past season brought not a solitary addition to the Hagenbeck menagerie. The big animals were brought from Hamburg to Tilbury, encased in seven gigantic steel cages bigger than any pantechnicon, by a specially-chartered steamer.

MR. EDOUARD JOSE, whose powerful acting in *The Strike* has firmly established him on the variety stage, has obtained from Mr. Cayley Calvert the sole rights of a successor to that sketch, which proceeds along novel lines, and in which he sees wide and varied scope for the exercise of his dramatic powers. Mr. José will produce the new piece in London as soon as ready.

AT Camberwell on Tuesday Mr. G. P. Wyatt held an inquest concerning the singular death on the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway, in the early hours of Wednesday morning last, of Thomas Taylor, aged thirty-five, a well-known musician and soloist in the Alhambra orchestra, who was in partnership in the firm of Wells and Taylor, nurserymen and florists, of Sydenham.

THE deceased, who left a widow and three children, resided at Sydenham Park, and was returning home by the 11.42 train from Victoria on Tuesday night. On the arrival of the train at the Crystal Palace the window of the carriage was found smashed. A search along the line led to the discovery of Mr. Taylor's body a few yards inside the tunnel near Lordship-lane Station. Mr. Taylor was a season-ticket holder on the line, and usually got home about one o'clock in the morning, after his duty at the Alhambra.

DAVID NAVARRO, musician, and secretary of the Alhambra orchestra, said Mr. Taylor was in a very good position, and, as far as witness knew, had no troubles of any kind. On Tuesday he and deceased were together from 1.40 in the afternoon until eleven o'clock at night. They took part in a school concert at Wimbledon in the afternoon, and then in the orchestra at the Alhambra. Deceased was cheerful and in his usual health, and left to catch his usual train for home. He had been paying out money for some time to members of the orchestra and had a bag of money on him. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Mr. Taylor was found on the line, but that there was no evidence to show how he came to get out of the train.

THE Secretary of the Music Hall Home desires to thank Mr. W. H. Boardman, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for box collection of 17s., and Leonard Charburn's Young Stars for donation of 2s. 9d.; Dekarro, 6s.; and V.A.B. Fund, 15s. received. C. C. Mannering has sent his annual subscription of £1 1s.

THE old performers in the Home had a most enjoyable time on Christmas Day, and they wish to return their best thanks to the president, vice-president, and committee; also the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly helped to make it so, especially Mr. Joe Elvin (who has never missed sending large Christmas puddings, cakes, tobacco, and cigars).

On Christmas eve, Miss Kitty Colyer and Mrs. Lewis Isaacs visited the inmates, and brought a useful parcel of warm clothes, tobacco, and a Christmas pudding. Mr. Ted E. Box and daughter and Miss Ray Maskell called again with presents for each inmate. Mr. Harry Blake and his brother called late on Christmas Eve, and presented each one of the inmates with a box containing tobacco, pipe, two cigars, matchbox, and a tobacco pouch. Mrs. O'Brien, of "Rule's," Maiden-lane, kindly sent a number of tins of tobacco and a large Christmas pudding. Harry Barnard sent half a gallon of Scotch whisky; and many thanks are due to Mr. George Bush and friend, who contributed music and song, well supported by the old performers themselves. A most enjoyable day was spent, and the old 'uns wish everybody a Happy New Year.

MRS. FRUIN (matron) worked very hard studying the comforts of her large family of old performers. Many thanks for pictorial Christmas cards received from Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bawn, "My Fancy," Arthur Elvy, and many others.

A COMMITTEE meeting will be held at Empire, Camberwell, on Thursday, Jan. 6, at twelve noon. Men's old clothes and boots, always very acceptable, should be sent to the Music Hall Home, 31, Wilson-road, London, S.E.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE representative of a big foreign firm—who has been sojourning in London on business not altogether unconnected with dance music, and who had plenary powers to obtain from the English house of origin if possible the publishing rights for his country of two of the greatest waltzes of the present century—was so struck by the sheaves of telegrams of congratulation relating to panto-mime successes that reached Messrs. Francis and Day's establishment in the course of a single day—telegrams that had arrived from almost every town and city in Great Britain where Christmas annuals are in evidence, that he openly expressed his admiration and astonishment at the number of "winners" emanating from one house for one pantomime season.

HE was the same evening given an object lesson in the magnitude of the celebrated London firm's extensive range of song successes by being taken to a music hall, a house selected haphazard from a list of first class theatres of variety. It chanced to be the Tivoli, and now the intelligent foreigner is convinced that Messrs. Francis and Day's establishment is a kind of Woolwich Arsenal for songs, and that the Tivoli is a sort of "Government proof house," where more "hits" are recorded to the firm's credit in a single evening than even a gun crew supervised by Sir Percy Scott could lay claim to.

AT the Tivoli on the night in question Mr. Frank Harwood sang "Send them along to me"; Mr. Charles Whittle, "Let's all go down the Strand" and "Come and have a drink with me"; Miss Madge Temple, "I'm looking for Mr. Wright" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon"; Mr. Walter Johnson's fine orchestra played Warwick Williams's grand selection of Francis and Day's melodies, entitled "Christmas Dreams," which was received with acclamation; Mr. George Formby gave his inimitable "Joha Willie: Come on"; Miss Jennie Benson (of King and Benson) gave "If you want to be popular, girls"; and Mr. Gus Elen sang "The coster's pony" and "You've made a fine old mess of it!"

WHEN the programme of one first-class variety theatre alone, out of the large number of such in London and the suburbs, includes no fewer than ten items of great popularity from Messrs. Francis and Day"s catalogue, what would the aggregate number amount to could the vast multitude of provincial houses be reckoned in and a census taken on any night the year round! Small wonder, then, is it that theatrical managers year after year seek the house where sterling successes are looked for as a matter of course, and are—as they have been for more than a quarter of a century—always obtainable

THE London and suburban pantomimes literally bristle with the songs of the famous firm. Like some huge octopus, Pantomime, with Drury Lane and the Lyceum under its body, has stretched out its tentacles, and embraced at all points of the compass to the remotest outskirts, the people's places of amusemnt, and the strong hold it will maintain for many weeks to come is due to and by reason of the many songs obtained from 142, Charing Cross-road—songs which grip and hold like the suckers on the arms of the real giant devil-fish of the Indian Ocean.

PANTOMIMES of the big and little cities and towns all tell the same unvarying tale. All the selected numbers have more than realised expectations, and other ditties from possibly the hugest catalogue of the songs of a people in the world are momentarily coming to the front, "not in single spies, but in whole battalions." But this is only a matter of course with Messrs. Francis and Day, and little notice or surprise is evinced by them at a score of solid successes either in the summer time at coast resorts or at any other season of the year. It is simply with them as it was in the beginning of the house, is now, and will continue to be. The orders for copies of the songs sung in pantomime have already exceeded those for the corresponding period of previous years.

"CHRISTMAS DREAMS," Warwick Williams's great selection of popular melodies, has been featured, not only at every one of the Stoll houses, but by almost all the variety palaces of note throughout the kingdom, and applications for band parts are daily being attended to and dispatched in rotation by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS VESTA TILLEY'S reception nightly at the Palace Theatre has been a thing to see, hear, and remember, and it is whispered that the inhabitants of a certain great provincial city (a city which is proud of having been the birthplace of one of the greatest artists of the time) would be terribly jealous—that is, were they able to get into the magnificent temple of amusement that is an adornment to London. Miss Tilley's new songs are a joy to all, and the receptions accorded "Sydney's holidays are in September" and "Jolly good luck to the girl who loves a soldier" are such as only are given to songs of the absolute first class, sung by one who is unapproachable and alone in all she does.

MR. WILL BENTLEY has secured a new song by Maurice Scott, entitled "I couldn't look sorry to save my life." Among the songs of note with which Maurice Scott has been associated, and which have been published by Messrs. Francis and Day during 1909, are the following:—Miss Marie George's "Hello! you fellows!" Gus Elen's "You 'ave made a fine old mess of it!" Ernest Shand's "Rooty Tooty," Vesta Tilley's "That's the time a fellow wants his ma," Mr. Harry Randall's "I'm using Sunday language all the week," Miss Florrie Forde's "What ho! Otto!" Miss Dora Lyric's "Two can live as cheap as one," Mr. Billy Williams's "Here comes Oxo!" and "My old arm-chair," and Miss Rose Elliott's "Shake hands"

MISS VESTA VICTORIA'S new song, "Our little garden's Arcadee; or, leading the simple life," has been causing roars of laughter at the London Pavilion. It is really funny, reflects great credit on author and composer, and is sung in the popular lady's best style—which is saying much.

MISS CARRIE MOORE, who is an established favourite with Liverpool audiences, is scoring a tremendous success with "It's no use taking a girl there" and "Poor old John!" the latter the topical song-hit of the Shakespeare pantomime. It is also a big success at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. Both songs are published by Von Tilzer's.

MISS GERTIE GITANA is featuring, with her usual success, a new song, entitled "You do look well in your old Dutch bonnet." This dainty little number has been secured by the Von Tilzer Music Co.

THE Poluskis, at the Court Theatre pantomime, Liverpool, have in the topical duet "John Bull's Budget" a humorous satire, which promises to become quite the hit of the pantomime; not by reason of its political argument, but by virtue of its whimsical ingenuity. Von Tilzer's are experiencing a tremendous demand for the song, which they are publishing in their sixpenny edition.

MR. NEIL KENYON is making a great hit with Jack Smiles' original song, "For months and months and months," at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow. This song is the hit of all pantomimes.

(*Continued on page 28.*)

FRANCIS & DAY'S
PANTOMIME SONGS.

ALL RECORDS BROKEN.
A GIGANTIC LIST OF WINNERS.

I USED TO SIGH FOR THE SILVERY MOON.
DON'T TAKE ME HOME.
HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?
I'M LOOKING FOR MR. WRIGHT.
IF YOU SHOULD SEE A LITTLE SOLDIER.
ONE OF THE GIRLS.
THE GIRL IN THE CLOGS AND SHAWL.
FOR MONTHS AND MONTHS AND MONTHS.
COME OVER TO HANOVER.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
JENNY, I'M SAVING EV'RY PENNY.
COME UP IN MY BALLOON.
HELLO, YOU FELLOWS.
LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND.
A CORSICAN MAID.
DEAR OLD BOW BELLS.
LOVE MAKES THE WHOLE YEAR JUNE.
LITTLE GOLDEN DAFFODIL.
IT LOOKS LIKE A BIG NIGHT TO-NIGHT.

A Thousand Thanks to the Hundreds of Managers & Artistes who sent us Congratulatory Letters and Telegrams.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

KITTEE RAYBURN
AS ALADDIN.

LYRIC THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
(2nd year Wentworth Croke, Esq.).
Successful Production of her New Comedy Topical Song,
"IF I HAD A WORD TO SAY,"
By J. P. Harrington, Frank Brighten, and Edie Barnett.

CHORUS OF PRAISE.
DAILY TELEGRAPH.

"A popular hero this season is Aladdin, and at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, he is to be found embodied in vivacious Miss Kittee Rayburn. . . . Upon Miss Rayburn's shoulders, as has already been said, fall the responsibilities of the 'principal boy,' and she bears them to good effect. Her song, 'If I had a word to say,' was one of the chief successes, earning four encores, and the audience cheered her vociferously."

MORNING POST.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn strengthened her claim on public favouritism, and sustained the name-part of the adventurous Aladdin with charm and grace."

DAILY MAIL.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn proved greatly acceptable to the audience."

STANDARD.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn as Aladdin is very successful."

EXPRESS.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn is a charming Aladdin."

MORNING LEADER.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn is a vivacious and fascinating Aladdin, and achieved a distinct success."

[*Photo by Dover-street Studios.*

MISS KITTEE RAYBURN
AS ALADDIN ENTERING THE CAVE.

PELICAN.

"Mr. Croke's patrons revelled in the bright and amusing pantomime he has placed before them. I have to record the special triumph scored by that admirable principal boy. Miss Kittee Rayburn, who makes Aladdin a very bright and cheery fellow, alike good to look at and listen to."

EVENING NEWS.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn makes a vivacious principal boy, and is very successful with her songs, her song, 'If I had a word to say,' being encored four times."

STAR.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn achieves a distinct success as principal boy."

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE.

"Miss Kittee Rayburn in the title-rôle was certainly 'the smartest lad out,' playing and singing with vivacity and charm."

MISS LYDIA YEAMANS
IN BIRMINGHAM.

THE EMPIRE.

Regular holiday crowds visited the Empire Palace. At the three performances the audiences were in an hilarious mood, and thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. One of the most effective turns was supplied by Miss Lydia Yeamans. Accompanied on the pianoforte by Mr. F. J. Titus she sang "Sally in Our Alley" splendidly. The popular ballad appealed to the visitors, who cheered the vocalist and deservedly encored her. Miss Yeamans, besides being very successful in this song, also displayed much variety in her programme. She gave a capital imitation of an Irish colleen. Then she appeared as a mimic of children and their ways, and her imitation of a little girl singing a song for the first time in public was delightfully quaint. Altogether, Miss Yeamans created a great impression.—Birmingham Daily Post and Journal, Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1909.

Mirth and good humour pervaded the atmosphere at the Empire last night. Big audiences and a big programme were the order, and so splendidly varied was the programme that there was something to suit all tastes. Lydia Yeamans, the popular Australian actress and vocalist, repeated her old favourite, "Sally in Our Alley," with undiminished zest and success, and afterwards displayed her peculiar gifts as a mimic of people and their ways.—Birmingham Evening Despatch, Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1909.

"LOVE IN A RAILWAY TRAIN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I have to ask you to courteously allow me space in your columns in which to express my sincere regret that, having been, as I am now convinced, erroneously informed that when the sketch *Love in a Railway Train* was produced at the Waldorf Hotel, my name was published in connection with the authorship, and mistakenly believing the said sketch to have been founded on a story of mine, which had previously appeared in a well-known weekly illustrated paper, I communicated with the managements of the Metropolitan and Euston music halls, at which the said sketch was announced for production, thus causing its withdrawal, and loss and damage to Mr. Laurence Broust, W. F. Stayton, the author of the piece, and other persons concerned, to all of whom I desire to tender profound apologies.—Yours faithfully, CLOTILDE GRAVES.

Warborough, Wallingford, Berks.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 27.*)

TRULY, the Feldman successes this pantomime season have come "not in single spies but in battalions." Never before, perhaps, in the history of the great Arthur-street firm, have so many and such sterling successes been in evidence in one single year's pantomimes. Many of these productions each contain no less than six or seven of the Feldman songs; and to quote only a few "plums" from a truly exhaustive list, the following may be mentioned as having achieved all that was expected of them—and more:—"Somewhere," "I do like to be beside the seaside," "Molly O'Morgan," "I must go home to-night," "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," "Have you seen Charley Digby?" "Alpine dress," "Come over the garden wall," "Sweet garden Queen," "Gates of your heart," "Don't you hear the bagpipes calling?" "Send me a picture-postcard," "Do you miss me in the dear Homeland?" and "I can't keep my eyes off the girls." Truly, a formidable list.

IN addition to the unparalleled success which Feldman's biggest winner, "Somewhere," is achieving at such London and suburban pantomime houses as the West London, Lyric (Hammersmith), Marlborough, Shakespeare (Clapham), Brixton, Elephant and Castle, Broadway, Royal County (Kingston), Royal (Edmonton), &c., Miss Ada Reeve is scoring an immense artistic triumph with this lovely ballad at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Miss Linda D'Amato is also sweetly singing it at the rival Prince of Wales; while, not to be outdone, Miss Florence Dudley "makes good" with it in "Brum" at the Alexandra Theatre. Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Belfast, Cardiff, Bedford, Eastbourne, Coventry, Hull, Middlesbrough, Scarborough, Southport, and a hundred other important cities and towns have duly followed the worthy lead of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee, Paisley, &c., and have decisively made "Somewhere" their own.

THE next biggest success to "Somewhere" this year is indubitably "I do like to be beside the seaside," Feldman's great comedy number, by J. Glover-Kind. At the Britannia, Hoxton, Mr. Edward Lauri is making an enormous hit with this song, the same remark applying to Mr. Tom J Morton at the Marlborough and Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe at the Alexandra, to mention only a trio of this song's London pantomime exponents. In the provinces the artists who are singing this great song are legion. Miss Florrie Forde has made a notable success with it at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, and it is also going "great guns" in pantomime in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Paisley, Nottingham, Hull, Eastbourne, Gateshead, Coventry, Middlesbrough, Darlington, Devonport, Southport, and countless other important pantomime centres throughout these isles.

MESSRS. E. W. ROGERS AND JOHN NEAT'S ear-haunting number "Pretty little girl from Nowhere" has "caught on" in Pantomime Land with astounding rapidity. Mr. Cecil Clayton, at the Lyric, Hammersmith, is most successful in his rendering of this delightful Feldman song. Miss Molly Wynne has created a perfect furore with it at the Alexandra, Birmingham; while at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, Miss Louie Beckmann is equally successful. Miss Gladys Guy, at the New Theatre, Cardiff, Miss Elsie James, at the Grand, Nottingham, and many others, including Miss Topsy Sinden, Grand Opera House, Belfast, have also won golden opinions with this charming song.

MESSRS. FRED GODFREY AND WILL LETTERS' comedy chorus song "Molly O'Morgan" has proved the pantomime success which every good judge anticipated it would be, and both in the theatres of the Metropolis and the provinces also, is nightly delighting many thousands of auditors. Miss Madoline Rees is particularly successful with it at the Borough, Stratford, nor is Miss Iris Fox less fortunate in her rendering of the same tuneful song at the Lyric, Hammersmith. Other London singers are Miss Minnie Mulvey, at the Shakespeare, Clapham, and Miss Madge O'Neill, at the Elephant and Castle. The list of provincial singers of the adventures of "Molly" is far too lengthy to give in detail; suffice it to say that the song is the absolute rage of Leeds; and that charming Miss Ella Retford, at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, is making an even greater hit with it than she did when she originally sang it at the Tivoli, Strand.

No less than five of the Feldman numbers are being nightly sung in the County Theatre, Reading, pantomime, viz.:—"Somewhere" and "I do like to be beside the seaside," both sung by Miss May Poulton; "Come over the garden wall," sung by Miss May Poulton and Miss Carrie Harding; "Molly O'Morgan," sung by Miss Carrie Harding; and "I can't keep my eyes off the girls," sung by Mr. Chas. Preston.

IN both of Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomimes, *Mother Goose* and *Sleeping Beauty*, no fewer than five of the Feldman numbers are being featured, viz.:—"Somewhere," "Molly O'Morgan," "I must go home to-night," "I do like to be beside the seaside," and "Pretty little girl from Nowhere"; and great successes have all these songs been with these companies, both in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

MR. J. H. SAVILE, writing to Messrs. Feldman and Co. from the Paisley Theatre, says:—"On the opening night and each night since the absolute notable successes were 'Somewhere,' sung by Miss Daisy Morell, and 'I do like to be beside the seaside,' sung by Messrs. Maxford and O'Neill, both of which created a perfect furore, and were taken up by the large audience and sung over and over again. I have given this year 'The Alpine dress you're wearing,' which receives a most artistic rendering from Miss Dorothy Harris, and has been encored each night, and is already the rage of all classes of patrons."

THE following are the texts of a few wires received by Messrs. Feldman and Co. during the past few days:—"'Beside the seaside' and 'Somewhere' enormous successes. Many thanks.—May Poulton, *Sinbad*, County, Reading." "'Beside the seaside' hit of the pantomime. Compliments of the season.—Florrie Forde, Leeds. "'Molly O'Morgan' terrific hit. Cheered to the echo.—Iris Fox, Pekoe, Lyric, Hammersmith." "Congratulations; terrific success of both songs, 'Seaside' and 'Must go home to-night.'—Fred Barnes, Hull." "'Pretty little girl from Nowhere' great success.—Topsy Sinden, Belfast."

MISS VICTORIA MONKS' most popular chorus song, "There's a girl in Berlin," has exceeded all expectations. It has been made a prominent feature in over thirty pantomimes this season, and bids fair to be the most successful song of the year. It is written and composed by Fred Godfrey, Fred. E. D'Albert, and J. Chas. Moore, and published by the National Music Publishing Company, who will be pleased to submit the song on application from artists in pantomime.

MR. GEORGE ROBEY wires the National Music Publishing Company: "Your song, 'You all want something to cuddle,' an instantaneous and enormous hit." This song is being used throughout the country by the most prominent comedians. If the song you are singing is not a success, write immediately for permission for this great comedy number.

"THE ARCTIC."

An Original Spectacular Dramatic Sketch, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, Music by Edward Jones, Produced on Monday, Dec. 27, at the London Hippodrome.

Captain Jim Keeley .....MR. FRANK ATHERLEY
Ralph Kingston .....MR. PHILIP CUNINGHAM
Miss Evelyn Fairlie .....MISS EDYTH OLIVE
Larsen .....MR. CECIL KINNAIRD
Jarawak .....MR. STANLEY LATHBURY
Oobloovah .....MR. WATTY BRUNTON

The great scientific topic of the year has been Arctic exploration and Polar research and the controversy raging between Peary and Cook, the honour conferred by the King on Sir Ernest Shackleton, and the efforts being made to form further expeditions naturally foster the public interest in any stage spectacle having for its venue the vast unexplored ice fields of the Arctic Circle. With such a realistic illustration of the perils and privations to which intrepid scientists and sailors are subject as one finds at the Hippodrome even the most experienced northern explorer should be satisfied. The story, told with a wealth of thrilling incidents, with sharp, short, and decisive action, and with even the Aurora Borealis to typify the new dawn that horizons the future of hero and heroine, has been written by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, collaborators already in more than one Stoll triumph, and their work is full of interest. But the outstanding feature of the sketch is the large cohort of bears—no fewer than seventy—whose arrival on the ice pack near the vessel Albatross is in itself a very remarkable illustration of the enterprise in stage realism that has made Hippodrome spectacles a household word in footlight sensations. These ursine pets have been collected by Mr. Carl Hagenbeck, and as the true white Polar bear is to be found only in Polar fastnesses, the difficulties of bringing such a large number together are almost insurmountable. Even Mr. Hagenbeck has taken fourteen years to gather his three-score or so white bears, beautiful creatures all, and some of them magnificent specimens. But to the story.

Evelyn Fairlie, who has organised a relief expedition in search of her lover, Ralph Kingston, has excited the tender passion in the breast of her captain, Jim Keeley, a villain of melodramatic thoroughness in his methods of getting rid of a rival. Keeley has found evidence which it is convenient for him to suppose establishes the fact of Kingston's death. Evelyn, though at first dubious, believes that her lover has perished. Keeley—none too tactful—asserts his love for her, and the girl, naturally indignant at his want of delicacy, commands him not to speak of the subject again. Her disdainful refusal of his suit only steels Keeley's determination to possess her at any price. News comes that Kingston is living, and, weakened with privation, he arrives, to be heartily embraced by the girl of his heart. Kingston has a narrow escape when the Albatross is crushed by the moving ice pack. The reunited pair then make for Longman's Nek in a sledge drawn by Samoyede dogs, but Keeley is before them, and in the second scene he gives further proofs of his scoundrelism by emptying the cache in which the unfortunate Kingston has stored provisions, shooting one of his helpers who wants to "play the game." There is more excitement when the rivals meet, and Keeley thrusts the hero down a crevasse, from which he is rescued by a faithful Eskimo. Hero and villain come eventually to grips, Keeley is shot, and Evelyn rescued. Then, after an interval, the curtain lifts to disclose a wonderful Arctic scene, with hummocks and hills of ice. The herd of bears slide down in twos and threes until the miniature sea—on the waters of which the Aurora Borealis casts a glow—is alive with them, and the unexampled animal display brings a most enchanting spectacle to a conclusion.

The acting honours are pretty evenly divided. Miss Edyth Olive's clear voice and excellent elocution make her delivery of the speeches of Evelyn Fairlie admirably distinct. Mr. Frank Atherley is a stalwart and self-contained villain as Keeley; and Mr. Philip Cuningham gives first-class importance to the rôle of the hero. Mr. Cecil Kinnaird imparts all the necessary decision to the rôle of Larsen; and Mr. Stanley Lathbury and Mr. Watty Brunton make interesting representatives of the small parts of Jarawak and Oobloovah. The scenery, with a subtle sense of atmosphere, is from the artistic brushes of Messrs. W. T. Hemsley and H. Mapleson; and the music, from the pen of Mr. Edward Jones, is most effective. The stage-management of Mr. Richard Winslow is to be heartily praised; and more than ordinary importance attaches to the lighting effects, cleverly produced by Mr. Herbert Hawkins, and to the mechanical devices by Mr. J. Higson. The production has been under the direction of Mr. Sydney Blow.

A great feature of the variety portion of the bill is the entertainment of Paul Cinquevalli, who returns to the Hippodrome after a renewal of his triumphs as a juggler in the new Commonwealth. He is still *facile princeps* in his line, and retains his prestige and his pre-eminence. A diverting burlesque comedian is Charles T. Aldrich; and other new turns include the Leslie Brothers, whimsical musical clowns; Mr. Leslie Harris, entertainer at the piano; La Freya, in artistic poses; M. Jacques Pintel, a piano virtuoso; and a sketch, *The New Prima Donna*, by Madame Jacques Renard, which has been written round Miss Marguerite Doré, a cultivated singer. The animated pictures of the natural history of bird life are most interesting.

BIDEL, the most intrepid animal tamer of the nineteenth century, is dead. He was several times mauled by his pets, but nothing daunted him, not even the loss of a leg, which was amputated seven years ago. He had been for nearly half-a-century in the show business, having run away at the early age of eight years to join a travelling menagerie.

"BILLY'S MONEY BOX."

Sketch, in One Act, Produced at the Canterbury, on Dec. 27.

Mr. Elvin can be congratulated on having added another fine sketch to his already long list of successful productions. *Billy's Money Box* is full of good things, smart sayings, and laughable situations. As Tommy Taggler Mr. Joe Elvin was admirable, and he has created another sporting character, of which he may well be proud. In the opening scene we see a police inspector in conversation with Tommy's wife, and that individual is sneering at Tommy's well-known sporting propensities. There is just the faintest suspicion that the inspector would make love to the lady if he dared, but she is very much in love with her husband, and more especially as he has promised never to back another horse. The entrance of Tommy Taggler in the flashest of sporting make-up is the signal for an outburst of merriment on the part of the audience. He informs his wife that he is going to play in the final of the billiard handicap, and regrets that his boots are so shabby and that his new ones are not yet ready. At that moment Waxy, the local shoemaker, enters with the new boots, which Tommy immediately proceeds to put on. Naturally Waxy wants payment, but Tommy protests that he pays everybody quarterly, and throws his old boots out of the window. Waxy announces that Tommy must pay or fight, and as he is the 9st. 2lb. champion of the district, Tommy thinks discretion the better part of valour, and sorrowfully hands the boots back. Waxy is a kind-hearted youth, and gives Tommy a tip as he leaves to back Jiblets in the last race of the day. Tommy has no money, but remembering that there is £7 in little Billy's money box, takes the money and puts the whole amount on Jiblets. Waxy in the meantime returns with a pair of cheap boots, which out of compassion for Tommy he sells to him for a few pence. One of them has got a curiously marked heel, but merely noting the fact, Tommy puts them on. The inspector re-enters and says that a burglar he is after must be in the vicinity somewhere, as he is wearing a boot with a curiously marked heel, and heel prints tallying with the description are to be seen on the ground all round the house. The wealth of fun Mr. Elvin gets out of the situation can be better imagined than described when the inspector exclaims with emphasis: "If I get hold of that man I'll get him seven years." Jiblets wins, the bootmaker is arrested, and the fun is fast and furious as the curtain descends on an unexpected *dénouement*. *Billy's Money Box* is a welcome addition to Mr. Elvin's gallery of mirthful subjects, and was splendidly and briskly played by all concerned. Once more we have to regret that the absence of names on the programme prevents us from giving praise to those supporting Mr. Elvin.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps

FELDMAN'S

"SOMEWHERE"

IS

EVERYWHERE,

THANKS TO ALL THE

MANAGERS AND ARTISTS

WHO HAVE ASSISTED US IN MAKING THIS SONG

THE SUCCESS of the YEAR.

A FEW MORE ENORMOUS HITS—

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.
MOLLY O'MORGAN.
OH! I MUST GO HOME TO-NIGHT.
THE PRETTY LITTLE GIRL FROM NOWHERE.
DO YOU KNOW CHARLIE DIGBY?
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.
IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
DO YOU MISS ME IN THE DEAR HOMELAND?
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF THE GIRLS.

Artists singing our Songs are particularly requested to advise us, so that we can record their success in these columns.

B. FELDMAN & Co.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THERE is probably no number introduced in any pantomime this year that is making a greater success than the Dutch song "Lena Schmidt," which is being sung at all the principal theatres in the provinces and in London. It is to be heard at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, where it is being presented by Willie Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls. Although valse time melodies are to be frequently met with in this year's pantomime productions, "Lena Schmidt" has originality which at once appeals to audiences. The chorus was readily taken up at the opening performances, and it is safe to predict that before many weeks it will be sung, played, whistled, and hummed all over the country. The words and music are by Alf. Ellerton, jun., and the song is published by the National Music Publishing Company, of 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Should your production need strengthening in the way of songs, permission will be given for this and the numbers alluded to below by the above-mentioned firm.

ANOTHER popular number in pantomime is "Won't you come to Madeira with me?" This number is being successfully featured in several London pantomimes by Miss May Beattie at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton; Miss May Garstang, Borough Theatre, Stratford; Miss Margaret Story-Gofton, Theatre Royal, Woolwich; whilst Miss Ethel Haydon, at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, has made one of the most decided hits in her career with the number.

ALTHOUGH a rollicking, rousing refrain is essential to a pantomime, a song of more subdued nature is quite as necessary. A number of a sympathetic kind is to be found in "You might shake hands." This is another successful valse time melody published by the National Music Publishing Company. This is being featured with conspicuous success by Miss Edith Haley, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow; Miss Mabel Lait, Theatre Royal, Plymouth; the Floradoras, Theatre Royal, Leeds; Miss Nancy Hearne, Grand Theatre, Newcastle; and in town by Miss May Beattie at the Britannia, Hoxton.

THE well-known firm of Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew, Ltd., have just published a most attractive number of new songs and pianoforte pieces by world-famous composers. A rollicking sea song is "The yarn of the fiddler's ghost," composed by H. Trotère to the words of Francis Barron, which is a worthy successor to the same composer's popular song, "The bo'sun, the gunner, an' me." There is a fine salt flavour about "The fiddler's ghost," and the chorus is of the "Ri-tol-the-rid-dle-id-idle-ol" order. It is published in B flat and C. In strong contrast to the above comes a series of standard operatic songs and arias with English words, edited by Mr. Edgardo Lévi, R.A.M. There are many clever amateur vocalists who can sing well in English, but make a poor affair of a great aria with Italian or German words. Meyerbeer's "Roberto, o tu che adoro," from the opera *Roberto il Diavolo*, is a fine example of the series. Admirably printed in bold, clear type, with Italian and English words, Mr. Lévi has added a short account of the composer's life and principal operas, a very welcome feature of the standard edition. Published at the remarkably low price of one shilling and sixpence, they should prove extremely successful.

A GRACEFUL sketch for the piano is Valentine Memery's "La Gondola," not difficult, and very suggestive of a honeymoon on the Grand Canal at Venice. A large number of people are fond of nigger and coon songs, and the serenade two-step "I'll dance till de sun breaks through" should be very popular with its lively and catching melody. Archibald Joyce's song is dedicated to Mr. Bhoodah Studd. Equally adapted to soprano or tenor is the pretty waltz song of Herbert Marshall, with words by Kate Mullen, entitled "The love that lives." Florence Aylward in "Morning in June" has written a most charming valse for piano, and the graceful flowing melody has well marked time, an always important matter for dancers. Another waltz by the eminent composer Emile Waldteufel, "Rosée Waltz," is sure to be popular at all balls and dances this season. Whether a dignified Indian chief ever attempts any dancing except a war dance may be a question, but there is not the slightest doubt that Bertram L'Estrange's "Red-Wing" is a capital two-step. There is a whistling solo, two short verses, and a hint of the Indian tom-tom, which gives character to the lively melody.

A. H. BEHREND has composed a great number of popular songs, and "Fair Land of Kent," words by Frederick Bowyer, ought to be equally successful, and certainly sung by all Kentish men. Behrend has dedicated the song to his friend, Mr. J. P. Kent-Jones. "Le Murmure Caprice," for piano, by Francis Thomé, is a dainty composition, full of melody, and far more artistic than our old friend "The Cascade," once so popular with pianoforte players. Although not particularly difficult, the rippling runs require neat and finished execution. A pretty waltz is always welcome, and "Chanson Rivière," by Bertram L'Estrange, is sure to be a favourite in the ballroom.

"WIENERISCH WALZER," by C. M. Ziehrer, is another graceful example, and would make an excellent contrast to the rousing two-step march, "The American Girl," by Victor Herbert. In their catalogue Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew announce a number of operatic solos for violin and piano, edited by Henry Tolhurst. A series to meet the demand for high-class solos suitable for students, and as special attention has been paid to bowing and fingering, they should appeal to the teaching profession. The firm have also just published the "Favourite" Song Albums, containing songs sung by Mme. Tetrazzini, Mme. Clara Butt, and Signor Caruso, as well as songs and music from *The Dollar Princess* and *The Mountaineers*. A new feature for children is the "Teddy Bear" Album, containing six little pieces about Teddy Bears. Another seasonable production is the "Mortimer" Dance Album of one hundred and twenty pages, for the modest price of one shilling, which contains pretty music by famous composers of every kind of dance.

MISS LILY BRAMMER, who is playing principal girl with Andie Caine's pantomime at East Ham Palace this week, has made a hit with her song and dance "Molly O'Morgan."

MISS MAY MOORE DUPREZ has made a special feature of her song "Jeremiah." The report from the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, says: "The song is going terrific." Price and Reynolds have secured Fred Poplar's great song "The Parliamentary smoking concert," which Mr. George Robey is singing at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Reports says: "It is an enormous success, and simply brings down the house at every performance."

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT met with a terrific reception for her song "Maidie and her little Teddy Bear," also "Father's got a job," at the pantomime produced on Boxing Day at The Broadway, New Cross. Price and Reynolds are the publishers.

MISS GLADYS HICKS made a huge success with Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's dainty song "Old Jack Frost" at the Theatre Royal, Hanley. This song is also being featured in numerous pantomimes, including Broadway, New Cross (by Miss Maidie Francis), Shakespeare, Clapham, &c. Price and Reynolds have many requests for band parts.

(*Continued on page 29.*)

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 28.*)

PRICE & REYNOLDS received report from Mr. Chute's Bristol pantomime: "Miss Lulu Valli scores an immense hit with 'Here's to all the girls.'" Guy Jones' tuneful chorus song is one of the best principal boy songs of the year.

MESSRS. PRICE AND REYNOLDS are having a record year, and have received good reports for the following "hits" in this season's pantomimes:—"Here's to all the girls," "Little Miss Snowshoes," "Old Jack Frost," Baby's Park Parade," "Goodnight, Mr. Knight," "Is your love for me a butterfly?" "Cinderella's Lullaby," "You splash me," "Father's got a job," "If I had a thousand lives to live," "Maidie and her little Teddy Bear," "The little silver buckles on her shoes," "I think I'll be going home now," "Reggie," "Father started rolling on a roller skate," and "Chorus, next verse."

Now that pantomime is well under way, managers and artists are finding out with regard to popular songs that "It's not the hen that cackles the most who lays the largest egg." The following outstanding pantomime winners are all published by the Star Music Co.: "Ship ahoy!" "I've been out with Charlie Brown," "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly," "Sea, sea, sea!" "I can't reach that top note," "I'll let the world go by," "When you're married, girls," "Mister Man in the moon," "I want Mister Schneider," and "I'll saw his see-saw down." This is indeed a formidable list of "hits."

A. J. MILLS AND BENNETT SCOTT have again done the "hat trick" by providing off their own bat seven out of the ten great pantomime winners published by their firm (the Star Music Co.). The claim of these writers to be considered the leaders in this particular class of work is more than vindicated. *Verb. sap.*

VISITORS to the offices of the Star Music Co. a year ago will remember the formidable number of telegrams (a perfect deluge) received from pantomime artists and managers expressing gratitude and telling of sensational successes scored by the firm's songs. Callers this week will find the same thing, only very much more so. At times the offices have been literally crowded with telegraph boys waiting for replies.

IT would be quite impossible to give the names of all the fair pantomime artists who have made hits with the Star Music Co.'s songs, "Ship ahoy!" "I've been out with Charlie Brown," and "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly"; but amongst them are the Misses Bessie Butt, Lily Morris, Carrie Moore, Violet Lloyd, Maude Mortimer, Daisy Morrell, Cressie Leonard, Ruth Lytton, Marie Reeve, Nellie Wigley, Daisy James, Marie Ambrose, Violet Lorraine, Edna Latonne, May Mars, Simeta Marsden, Dorothy Chard, Dorothy Ward, Iris Coley, Florrie Forde, Yolande Noble, Jessie Templeton, Gracie Graham, Kittee Rayburn, Kitty Upton, Lulu Valli, Ida Valli, Aimée Roberts, Frances Earle, Maud Beaumont, Primrose Harding, Lillie Soutter, Bessie Esmond, May Poulton, Nita Clavering, Meg Hamilton, Madoline Rees, Elsie Steadman, Maud Prenton, Jennie Lynwood, Amy Bellwood, &c.

INDISPUTABLY the greatest comic song of the year is Wilkie Bard's Drury Lane success, "I can't reach that top note." The London and provincial press are unanimous in picking this out as the humorous tit-bit of the splendid Drury Lane production. Practically every important pantomime comedian has secured this number, which is published by the Star Music Co.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS ELISE CRAVEN.

"Little Sunlocks," as the phenomenal child dancer named above is often called, comes of a very good family, being related in a measure to the Earl of Craven, her father being a relative of Louisa Brunton, who married the Earl of Craven a couple of generations back. The story of Elise's public appearance is interesting. Her parents took her to a children's party when quite a baby, and she was asked to sing a little song, like the rest of the youngsters. Her reply was, "I'm sorry, but I'll dance instead!" So struck with her grace and technique was the host, that he persuaded her parents to have her trained for the stage. She was placed accordingly in the hands of the accomplished ballet mistress, Mme. Elise Clerc, and so rapid was her progress that she soon became a finished artist.

Let us quote Mme. Elise Clerc's own words:—"Yes, she is a born dancer, and never so happy as when she is dancing; in fact, she just lives for

[*Photo by Vernon Barrett.*

MISS ELISE CRAVEN.

it. Teaching her has been no trouble. She has the most remarkable foot I've ever seen, three of her toes being the same length, a fact which helps to make her toe-work so perfect."

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree was the first manager to see what a "find" Elise was. Before this, her services had been offered to nearly every theatrical manager in London for Christmas work, but most of them would not even see her dance. The result was that lovely children's fairy play *Pinkie and the Fairies*, produced last Christmas at His Majesty's, in which Little Elise Craven as the Queen immediately became famous. Ere three days had passed Mr. Oswald Stoll offered her parents a nett salary of £100 per week to play for seven weeks in a special production at the London Coliseum.

There she duly appeared, after the run of *Pinkie*, in the fairy fantasy, entitled *The Queen of the Fairies*, only to meet with still greater success. Within a few hours of her appearance she was booked, with the whole production (herself at the original figure), for a provincial tour on the Moss Circuit for twenty weeks. Her first tour finished at the Empire, Edinburgh, on Dec. 4, and she is now preparing for the production at the Coliseum on Jan. 3 of the new playlet *M. Jellicoe and the Fairy*, in which she will have no less distinguished a partner than Mr. Cyril Maude.

An example may be given of what little Elise trains on. Chicken, milk, whipped eggs, very underdone steak, with an application twice a day of cold sea-salt water to the legs and feet for strengthening and hardening purposes. Her particular hobby is selling autograph postcards for 9d. each and sending the proceeds to the F.A. Fund. In the provinces she sometimes invites 100 poor children to take tea with her. Her invite says, "Come to tea. Plum cake, but *not* scandal."

MR. MARK ANTHONY.

Born in Liverpool, Mr. Mark Anthony got his first taste for the profession through seeing the artistic performances of that celebrated entertainer, Fred Maccabe, and eventually became immensely popular as a concert performer under the name of "Serina, the infant Maccabe." Later, he blossomed forth as a thought reader, after the style of the late Irving Bishop, giving a number of succesful séances in the principal districts of Lancashire and Yorkshire. During this time Mr. Anthony's attention was divided between business and entertaining, which he found very trying, so on the principle that one cannot serve two masters, he made up his mind to play the game properly and become a professional out and out.

His first real engagement in that character was with Mr. Harry De Frece at the old Gaiety, Liverpool, which, by-the-way, was one of the earliest "two houses a night" theatres. Then commenced a period of struggle, sometimes as a clown in a travelling circus, sometimes playing general utility in small fit-ups. Mr. Anthony has been in turn ventriloquist, conjurer, actor, and lecturer, each with varying success. Up to that time he worked under the name of Fred Godfrey, but on the advice of a well-known agent he adopted another *nom de théâtre* in 1892, and since that time has been known under his present name of Mark Anthony.

Mr. Anthony has taken part in various pantomimes, playing Blue Beard, Sister Ann, Ali Baba, Friday, Ibrahim, and others. He has appeared time after time at all the best variety houses, including the Tivoli, Pavilion, Oxford, and Palace. He has turned up smiling in America, India, and Africa, and has also played the Harry Rickards Australasian tour with phenomenal success. Mr. Anthony, who has always stood for refinement in the halls, is at present studying a number of quaint character sketches taken from English life, and, in friendly opposition to the Scotch, intends calling himself "The English comedian." "Let me say in conclusion," says Mr. Anthony, "that my first step to better times

MR. MARK ANTHONY.

was through the kindly influence of that champion old-time performer, Mr. J. W. Rowley, to whom, through the medium of your valuable paper, allow me to return many thanks."

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT EAST HAM PALACE.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 27.

Robin Hood ..... MISS ALICE DIGBY
Will Scarlet ..... MISS DOLLY MACALLA
Alan a Dale ..... MISS MAUD WHITTAKER
Friar Tuck ..... MR. BERT ALBERT
Baron Grabal ..... MR. WAL KENT
Dame Anne Chovy ..... MR. AND'E CAINE
Jimmy Green ..... MR. JIMMY MCGRATH
Bill Buss, Walley Weary } ..... MESSRS. CODA AND DANSON
Maid Marion ..... MISS LILY BRAMMER
Marjery Daw ..... MISS MADGE MACALLA
Dolly Dene ..... MISS MABEL BEAUFORT
Reggie ..... MISS DOROTHY ELLIOTT
Cissie ..... MISS MABEL LUCINA

This excellent pantomime met with a hearty reception from a crowded audience on Monday afternoon, and since then it has been played twice nightly during the week to record audiences, whilst good business has been done at both matinées. The story of "the Babes," most prettily related, deals with the attempt to decoy them into the woods at the instigation of the "bad" Baron, the attempt being, happily, frustrated by bold Robin Hood and his merry foresters. The story is told in eight scenes of exquisite design, especial features of which are The Village of Mansfield, The Enchanted Wood, and The Earl of Huntingdon's Palace. As Robin Hood Miss Alice Digby is an ideal principal boy of superlative ability, possessing an excellent voice, and rendering her many songs in a style that is very winning. The character of Maid Marian is in capable hands, Miss Lily Brammer quite excelling herself. The Wicked Baron could hardly have a better exponent than Mr. Wal Kent, and Friar Tuck is admirably played by Mr. Bert Albert. As Dame Anne Chovy Mr. Andie Caine is at his best, and keeps the fun going from start to finish in his own inimitable style. His numerous witticisms keep the audience convulsed with laughter throughout, and his efforts receive well-deserved applause. Mr. Jimmy McGrath soon makes himself a favourite in his rôle of Jimmy Green, and Messrs. Coda and Danson add to the merriment of the audience by their portrayal of Bill Buss and Walley Weary respectively. The chorus and ballet are on an elaborate scale, and excellent variety is provided by the celebrated Sextette of Dancers. The dresses and costumes are beautiful and costly, and the stage effects, mostly electrical, are cleverly executed. Sangridge, the wicked demon, was capably played by Miss Bergitte Lindfrup, and Fairy Luna was sweetly delineated by Miss Hawthorne Thwaites.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

This year we are making an earlier appeal than usual on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of

[*Photo by Bacon.*

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Harry Tich	£1 4 0
Hymack	£1 1 0
Gus Elen	£1 1 0
Charles Weldon	£1 1 0
Harry Fragson	£1 0 0
E.	0 10 0

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 6s.

The Perriers	2	B. Godman	1
For Autograph	2	B. B. Robinson	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Mr Shannock	1
Burt Shephard	1	Mr. Thompson	1
Ting and Mile	1	Joe Winterschladen	1
Terry Sisters	1	G. H. Wallis	1
J. H. Farr	1	A. N.	1
H. B. Farland	1	J. Todd	1
Maxey and Pete	1	Admirer of Vesta	1
Wm. Colin Wara.	1	A Friend	1
Boots	1	Success	1
G. D. Clarke	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £4 10s 6d.

Per Miss Marie Lloyd	40	Neta Davies	1
Walter de Frece	20	H. Taft	1
Horace White	3	E. Recco	1
Lady Moss	2½	E. Recco, jun.	1
Sir Edward Moss	2½	T. A. Cook	1
Sisters Marlow	2½	A. Askew	1
Sandsmith	2	Walter de Frece, jun.	1
Yarker	1	J. Weis	1
A Friend	1	J. H. E. Mugge	1
Welsh Girl	1	Thomas Cavilhill	1
Adey Spencer	1	Mrs. E. Recco	1
Daisy Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Violet Keele	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £7 11s. 6d.

R. Thornton	20	Mr. Crossley	1
Mrs. R. Thornton	10	Mr. Depledge	1
Mr. Roberts	10	Dr. Irvin	1
T. and M. Hopkins	10	Mr. Hodgson	1
Mr. Randall	5	Evelyn Black	1
Mr. Messulam	2½	John Lewis	1
Mr. Kenny	2½	W. P. Wells	1
Alace Maple	2½	T. W. G. Gelling	1
Royal Diamonds	2½	T. Gay	1
L. S.	2½	W. H. Behn	1
"Marky"	2½	W. H. Claphan	1
A. F. Buck	2½	J. R. Bell	1
Mr. Wilkinson	2½	J. Robinson	1
Mrs. Black	2½	J. H. Kemp	1
Mr. Jennings	2	M. A. Thornton	1
Mr. Saxby	2	J. A. Dryden	1
Mrs. Brown Potter		Mrs. F Brown	1
G. A. Taverner	2	Jack Pellow	1
B. Dillon	2	Austin Devereux	1
S. Smith	2	R. Wrigglesworth	1
C Triggs	2	J. G.	1
H. Stokes	2	Mr Taylor	1
Mr. Kullman	2	Hall, sen.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Hall, jun.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Mr. Dougall	1
H. Hargreaves	1	Mr. Bolton	1
Mr. McNab	1	Mr. McClay	1
Mr. Love	1	Mr. Coddington	1
A Sinner	1	Mr. Walter Griggs	1
V. Kerr	1	H. G. Jenner	1
Mr. Brashaw	1	H. Griggs	1
Mr. J. Haigh	1	John Charnley	1
Mr. Dunville	1	Mr. Jeffries	1
Nellie Lees	1	John Barrington	1
F. Moore	1	Mr. Hymans	1
Mr. Habbijam	1	Walter Blake	1
Mr. Wilkinson	1	Tom Corns	1
Mr. Higgs	1	W. Sebary	1
Mr. Plant	1	R. Standring	1
Mr. Smithers	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Atroy, £1 2s.

Will Onda	1	Atroy	10
George Prince	1	Violi	10

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Berry Hope, £1 5s.

P. C. B. Webster	1	Billy Young	1
G. H. Buck	1	N. Leipzig	1
H. Holland	1	Alf. Braham	1
The Golden Lion, Edmonton	1	Jack French	1
Roebuck, Tottenham	1	W. Noegdud	1
Roebuck, High-road, Lower Tottenham	1	Mr. Hall	1
F. J. Golding	1	Mr. Rose	1
Park H., Tottenham	1	J. McDonald	1
Miss Flood	1	L. Levy	1
Miss Penn	1	Angel Jacobs	1
Alec Israel	1	Marie Reeve	1
Hector Munro	1	Bull and Pump	1
		Dover Castle	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Beresford Hope, £1 8s. 6d.

P. The Eagle	2	Schmidt	1
J. F. Carr	½	Goldstein	1
M. Mufti. The Eagle, Tottenham	1	Mainypop	1
Ted Cribb (Crib and Cribb	1	Anon	1
A. E. Frost	1	Elsie Athas	1
M. C. Shrus	1	Jack Winepress	1
W. Crook	1	Harry Bannister	1
W. Hill	1	Jack Jull	1
J. G. S.	1	Gus Elen	1
B. R., Dover Castle	1	Poor Boy	1
Old Sport	1	Messum	1
Dicky Bird	1	Gladys Miller	1
Isaacstein	1	The Professor	1
		Joe	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Harry Conlin, £2 5s.

Rosie Coleman	5	Jack Stephens	1
Harry Conlin	5	Marie Walker	1
Norman-Leonard Trio	3	Effects	1
M. C. Geraldo	2½	Frank Parker	1
Ray Wallace	2½	Friend	1
Chanti	2½	H. E. Fairbanks	1
Sisters Geretti	2	Rosie Loader	1
Cornalia and Eddie	2	George Rushe	1
Jack Sandiford	2	Squire Day	1
James Cuddihee	2	Percy Johnson	1
Baby Rosie Conlin	1½	Argo	1
Bert Harrow	1	H. P. Milner	1
Tom Butler	1	Gus Elen	1
Mr. Schutz	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 12s.

Ted and May Hopkins	5	Sergt. Brennan	1
Jackson Family	4	Madge Osmond	1
Royal Diamonds	2	Ben Albert	1
C. Hayden Coffin	1	Leo Stormont	1
Master Harry Clark	1	Jewel St. Leger	1
Maxmillian Trio	1	Will Probyn	1
Ted Curtis	1	Dan Davies	1
Damerell & Rutland	1	Arthur Lawrence	1
Achmed Ibrahim	1	J. D. MacLean	1
Rosie Archer	1	Harry Burdette	1
Mendel	1	Friend	1
Alf. Meers	1	Gus Elen	1
Nap	1		

Collected by May and Ted Hopkins, £1 10s.

Lamberti	2	Hugh Bayly	1
C. T. Aldrich	½	The Kramers	1
Grotesques	2	Dorothy Doria	1
Vere Smith	2	J. A. Watts	1
J. L.	1	Doris Lind	1
Little Georgie	1	Elsie English	1
Big Billie	1	T. A. Cook	1
R. T.	2	Barrington	1
Jack frae Glesca.	1	G. Leno	1
Annie Laurie	1	Doc Campbell	1
E. H. Brown	1	W. H. Barber	1
Daly and Lambert	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Hilliard	1		

Collected by Seener and Fridkins, £1 6s.

Seener and Fridkins	2	XYU	1
E. H. Granville	1	H. Bee	1
J. M. Fortune	1	Vive La Russe	1
Gilbert Girard	1	G. H. W.	1
Sideslip	1	E. Leopold	1
Geo. Leyton	1	Maud Gill	1
Tom Stuart	1	Malcolm Scott	1
F. L. G.	1	Leo Leon	1
Henry Coutis	1	Hyde and Cody	1
T. Peschkoff	1	Gus Garrick	1
J. S.	1	Sadie	1
E. S. Jenkins	1	Gus Elen	1
H. Altnan	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver, £1 4s.

Wm. Matthews	1	Chas. Senior	1
J. Robinson	1	Norman Gray	1
Mundill and Maude	1	L. Senior	1
J. A. Whitehouse	1	R. Outram	1
Edmund Caselli	1	Denby and Dent	1
Eva Dunville	1	Welda and Wynne	1
Arthur Lauri	1	The Lindos	1
Lauria Lauri	1	Will Harris	1
Benj. Pattison	1	Florrie Delamore	1
H. Renouf	1	Mlle. Hengleur	1
Elaine Grant	1	Lucardo Bros.	1
Geo. Gulliver	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, £1 5s.

Bert Welda	1	Ally Benson	1
Dorothy Welda	1	Alice Benson	1
Baby Welda	1	Winnie Benson	1
Reg Bolton	1	Musical Silvo	1
Sam Laurence	1	Violet Nunn	1
Harry Simms	1	Leipzig	1
Fred Cadwall	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Gustis Laurence	1	Maudie Goodman	1
Boston Twins	1	P. Corrix	1
Cyril Dane	1	Leipzig	1
Walter Aubrey	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Nap	1	Gus Elen	1
Admiral Togo	1		

Collected by Chandos and Constable, £1 6s.

C. Carlile	2	Ernie Daunton	1
Ivy Chandos	1	Bertha Evelyn	1
Fred H. Constable	1	Carlotta de Yonson	1
Sam Lavelle	1	C. N. Whittle	1
Jack Lavelle	1	Lee Gilbert	1
Bert Rayburn	1	J. H. Lowe	1
May Clarke	1	James Duncan	1
Alice Tremayne	1	G. Douglas Carlile	1
Theresa Moore	1	Mina Greene	1
Marie Knill	1	Gus Elen	1
Alma O'Neil	1	Chas. Hamilton	½
M. C. Berg	1	Ted Hamilton	½
Jim Zanora	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Vivian Evans, Wolverhampton, £1 3s.

Billy Williams	1	Rupert Woolley	1
Mark Stone	1	T. Jones	1
The Orchids	1	John Henry Wright	1
W. H. H.	1	Isaac Jones	1
Beatrice Allen	1	Kurkamp	1
Witty Walton	1	Martin Henry	1
George H. Jones	1	F. Fuidge	1
E. B.	1	Trixo	1
J. W. Somerville	1	Sisters Eston	1
Iky Peck	1	H. J. Haddock	1
Percy Nevill	1	Gus Elen	1
John Day	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 6s.

Rowlands and Ford.	2	G. W. Anson	1
Jack Pleasants	1	A. H. McKay	1
The Tame Author	1	G. A. Peace	1
W. Mowbray Harle	1	The Duke	1
R. Brantz	1	Walter Curtis	1
Will Emson	1	Ferguson and Mack.	1
Bell	1	B. Comerford	1
J. H. Walker	1	Louis Kerno	1
M. Cressall	1	Gena Manon	1
Queenie du Val	1	Albert Jentor	1
Albert Ward	1	F. Melville	1
Uncle	1	Gus Elen	1
Aunt	1		

Collected by Hannaway Bros., £1 10s.

Bros. Hannaway	2	J. Cullen	1
Eli Hudson	2	Percy Currie	1
Bowman and Morton	2	Tom Wild	1
Boris Fridkin	1	Martialo	1
Elias B. Seener	1	Maudie Ford	1
Krakes	1	The Gilbey Sisters	1
Madeline Rossiter	1	Billy West	1
Sisters Edwardes	1	Bert Williams	1
Venturini	1	George West	1
Victor Courtenay	1	Captain Ellis	1
Jack Hayton	1	Phil Bransby	1
Freddie French	1	Zanonis	1
Louis Kerno	1	Gus Elen	1
Albert Brady	1		

Collected by Livesey and Rosebery. £1 5s.

Well Wisher	1	Villion Dandy	1
Fred Sinclair	1	Carl Lynn	1
Harry Elliston	1	Master Syd May	1
George Abel	1	Mr. Charles	1
Albert Bushell	1	Mr. Russell	1
Ted E. Box	1	The Heroine	1
Radena Dey	1	The Hero	1
Tom Shaw	1	The Villain	1
W. Vokes	1	Little Willie	1
W. Armstrong	1	The Would-be Actors	1
Harry Burns	1	Livesey & Rosebery	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Gus Elen	1
W. Villion	1		

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	J. Cummings	1
Jimmy Shields	1	W. F. Frame	1
Oswald and Locke	1	Master Sydney May	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Harry Burdette	1
The Rosses	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
James McKimm	1	Wilfred Forster	1
W. Millard	1	Franklin Dyall	1
Wylie Watson	1	Margaret Holland	1
E. D. Hess	1	The Adeles	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Danas	1
Harry Bailey	1	Fred Elton	1
W. Cummings	1	Lamberti	1

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE STAR MUSIC Co.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF

*SHIP AHOY!
*CHARLIE BROWN

*I CAN PICTURE POLLY (HANGING UP THE HOLLY.)
I CAN'T REACH THAT TOP NOTE
I'LL SAW HIS SEE-SAW DOWN
*SEA, SEA, SEA.
WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, GIRLS
I WANT MR. SCHNEIDER.
*MR. MAN IN THE MOON.
*I'LL LET THE WORLD GO BY.

*BAND PARTS,
1/- PER SET.
State Theatre and Part when writing for Copies.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS:
19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS Rd. W.C.
WIRES, SONGONIA, LONDON. PHONE 8446 GERRARD

"THE GREAT UNKNOWN."

Dramatic Episode, by Edmund Gurney, Produced at the Queen's, Poplar, for the First Time, on Monday, Dec. 27.

Glory Pete .....Mr. Edmund Gurney
Gerald Kenworth .....Mr. James Martin
Big Eagle .....Mr. T. Barnard
Sergeant Tring .....Mr. S. Sefton
Private Johnson .....Mr. T. Taylor
Private Roose .....Mr. W. Dwyer
Private Blane .....Mr. E. Ayres
Private Scuttle .....Mr. N. Richards
Private Adams .....Mr. B. Winter
Private Boothe .....Mr. F. Banks
Nina .....Miss Beatrice May

The episode is taken from an event in the American Civil War of 1865. With the exception of one or two incongruities and a sudden and somewhat unexpected ending, it is, upon the whole, a capable piece of condensed drama, and much credit is due to the author for a skilful handling of the dramatic material at his command. The scene is a hut on the Northern Frontier, where Glory Pete, a famous scout of the Southern Army, is awaiting the arrival of his daughter, Nina, who is bringing him despatches. Nina, who is a spy in the Northern Army, soon arrives, and, for the moment, is unrecognised by her father, to whom she explains that in order to obtain and carry the despatches she has had to disguise herself as a Lieutenant, and is known to the Northern Army as Lieutenant Fairley. After telling her father that his life is in great danger, as orders have been issued that he is to be shot on sight, she proceeds to unfold the despatches, when soldiers of the Northern Army arrive, headed by Gerald Kenworth. Kenworth, who is in love with Nina, only recognises her as Fairley, and demands to know why she is there. In order to save his daughter, Pete informs him that he is the prisoner of Fairley, and was captured with the despatches. For the moment the answer is satisfactory, but Kenworth, whose suspicions have been aroused, enquires why the orders regarding the shooting of Pete on sight have not been carried out. He commands the supposed Fairley to shoot, but the ordeal is too great for Nina, and she faints. Then the identity of Lieutenant Fairley becomes known, and Kenworth speedily realises that in shooting old Pete he is killing Nina's love for himself. However, he finds no alternative than to obey orders, and, drawing his revolver, takes careful aim, and is about to fire, when Nina stops him, for she has heard in the distance shouts of jubilation mingled with the playing of bands, and messengers rush in with the glad tidings that peace has been declared, and the war is over. So Glory Pete is not shot.

The dialogue never flags and never bores, and the acting is excellent all through. Mr. Edmund Gurney has a particularly large part, but he is worthy of it, and Mr. James Martin gives the right touch to the part of Gerald Kenworth. Miss Beatrice May makes a charming figure as Nina, and acts with pleasing expression and charm of manner.

Jack Lorimer occupies a prominent position on the Queen's bill, and secures enthusiastic applause. Another to gain the hearty approval of the audience is Edward E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, who, with his mirth-provoking facial contortions and his "cuddling" song, literally makes the house rock with laughter. Angela Ward, handsomely gowned and looking very chic, sings "Come over the garden wall" and "I'm lonely, Lucy lonely." A clever little comedienne is Dot Moss, who sings her songs with point and in a very taking style. Others in the bill are the Lombards, Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Furkamp, Capt. Frank Taylor and his baboons, and the Queen's Bioscope, with its usually clear and interesting pictures. The orchestra does capable work, under the direction of Mr. W. Hinkinson, and Messrs. C. Hector and Ben Abrahams are assiduous in looking after the comforts of all visitors.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE; or, THE SAILOR'S LASS."

Pantomime, by W. J. Mackay and Brian Daly, Music by Gilbert Wells, Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Dec. 27.

Robinson Crusoe .....Miss Lily Simmons
Pretty Polly Perkins .....Miss Queenie Masey
Mrs. Crusoe .....Mr. Leo Trainor
William Atkins .....Mr. Harry Monkhouse
Bill .....Mr. John Braithwaite
Timothy .....Mr. Geo. Naggins
Golliwog .....Mr. John Braithwaite
Friday .....Mr. Geo. Naggins

A pantomime which might be aptly called "Robinson Crusoe in a Nutshell" has been elected by Mr. Sparrow as the chief attraction for holiday week, and although the adventures of Defoe's shipwrecked hero are submitted to the Empire audiences for only the brief space of one and a half hours at each performance, all that is essential of the story still remains, while nearly all the old favourite songs and several new ones are added. The story of Robinson Crusoe was written as long ago as 1719. Since then it has been read a million times by us grown-ups, and retold often round the wintry fireside to the little ones. It is, therefore, too well known to need repeating, and space is very precious at Christmastide. Let us therefore step from the play to the players.

Miss Lily Simmons is a handsome, dashing principal boy. She makes poor Robinson a favourite both of the boys in the gallery and their more favoured brothers in the stalls; her voice is sweet and powerful, and she has a charm which is all her own. Then comes Polly Perkins, played by Miss Queenie Masey, who is as dainty a little lady as ever flashed her pretty feet before the footlights. Robinson and Polly make a charming couple. Mrs. Crusoe is given into the hands of Mr. Leo Trainor, a capable comedian, who manufactures roars of laughter by his quaint remarks and humorous stagefalls. The bold bad buccaneer, William Atkins, is humorously portrayed by Mr. Harry Monkhouse, whose really funny make-up amuses the elder members as much as the more juvenile portion of the audience. Another comedian who adds in no small way to the success of the piece is Mr. John Braithwaite, who takes the dual rôle of Bill the Bo'sun and Golliwog, King of the Connubial Islands; laughter convulses the audience whenever he comes on the stage. Friday is nearly as necessary to the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* as the shipwrecked adventurer himself, and a really successful savage has been found in the person of Mr. George Naggins. The antics of this nigger are truly wonderful to behold, and great credit is due to his ability. Timothy, a ship's apprentice, is also cleverly illustrated by this hard-working humorist. The book has been specially written by Messrs. Mackay and Daly, who have turned out a brilliant libretto.

Mr. Reginald Payne has been re-engaged for his old part—the heavy lead—in Mr. Fred S. Peake's eminently successful costume sketch, entitled *The Gambler*, and opens at the Birmingham Gaiety on Monday night.

A sensation has been caused by a threatened strike of the ballet at the Paris Opéra. At eleven o'clock on Monday night, just before the representation of the ballet *Coppelia*, the entire staff, comprising the syndicate of the Academy of Music, the dansenses, and members of the chorus, presented themselves before the managers and refused to appear if their demands as to improved conditions were not granted. After some discussion, the managers yielded, the company consented to appear, and the curtain rose.

"THE MIRACLE."

Dramatic Sketch in five scenes, Produced at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Dec. 27.

Joseph Emmanuel .....Mr. John Lawson
Cohen Goldstein .....Mr. Campbell Goldsmid
Hotel Manager .....Mr. Charles Stafford
Lorenzo Vachell .....Mr. Edward O'Neill
Prince Wallah .....Mr. George Bushra
Ena Leveson .....Miss Lucile Sidney

For many years Mr. John Lawson has been justly famed for the stirring sketches he has from time to time presented to the public, but we do not remember to have seen him in a part better suited to his invariably fine acting than that of Joseph Emmanuel, a blind Talmudist and Zionist. In *The Miracle* one stirring incident follows another with almost breathless rapidity, and the story is a succession of plots and counter-plots on the part of a renegade Jew and another scoundrel to discount—if not to utterly discredit—the faith of Israel. They forge an ancient manuscript, and by what it is alleged to prove succeed in bringing about a riot in a synagogue. It is almost needless to add that Joseph Emmanuel, the blind believer, succeeds in exposing the plot. His reward is that his sight is miraculously restored to him.

The sketch was received with the wildest enthusiasm by a crowded house, and there can be no doubt that Mr. Lawson's powerful acting, and the fine support he received from every member of his company, coupled with the appeal to the religious susceptibilities of a great portion of the audience, was responsible for this. *The Miracle* is magnificently staged, and there are five very fine scenes. The first is a picture of East Africa, scene two is an hotel, the third is called The Wailing Walls of Jerusalem. The next and, to our thinking, the best, is a good and picturesque setting, being the presentation of a synagogue, with its priests and the congregation and the praying shawls complete. It is very realistic.

Mr. Edward O'Neill was entrusted with the part of the "Christian" villain Lorenzo Vachell, and his acting was of the most powerful order. In this he was most ably seconded by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, who as the apostate Jew, Cohen Goldstein, frequently brought down "the wrath of the gods" on his head in the shape of a storm of hisses never to be forgotten by those who heard it. Both gentlemen are to be heartily congratulated on their very fine performances. Miss Lucile Sidney fills the one lady character in *The Miracle*, and as Ena Leveson gives a clever and sympathetic rendering of the part. Mr. Geo. Bushra and Mr. Charles Stafford are also very capable in the parts entrusted to them. At present the sketch is somewhat too long, but this will doubtless be remedied at an early date, and then we predict for it a run in our variety theatres which may almost rival the lease of popularity *Humanity* has enjoyed.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

The Christmas programme which the popular manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, is providing at this favourite resort of South Londoners, is attracting crowded houses at every performance. After the overture, ably rendered by the Hippodrome orchestra, under the talented leadership of Mr. David Dealler, we are introduced to the Colonials, who appear in their musical comedy dramatic scena, *Unexpected Guests*. The scene provided represents a picturesque landscape in the backwoods of Australia, and the sketch serves as a satisfactory framework for introducing the excellent vocal efforts of Miss Lillie Kennion and Messrs. R. K. Woodville, J. Jones, W. Pyle, and R. Undish. The item is very artistic, and is loudly applauded. Miss Rosie Lloyd, who is always a great favourite at Peckham, sings with much archness and vivacity "Who's going to take me for a walk?" leaving the audience, like Oliver Twist, vainly asking for more. Mr. Charles Coverdale appears in his favourite mimetic and patter burlesque act, exciting roars of laughter with his quips and oddities, his burlesque caricatures of various well-known persons being excruciatingly mirth-provoking. Miss Mary Moya scores a great success in what is described on the programme as "a musical spasm," entitled *The Comedy Queen*, in which, in the rôle of a musical comedy star, she sings very cleverly "I want to be an actress," and a Spanish song. Her costumes are especially tasteful, and she is most ably assisted by that old favourite actress Miss Oliph Webb, whose ripe experience is of the utmost value to the success of the morceau. Mr. Russell Carr as a ventriloquist, with two automatons, proves that he inherits much of the talent of his father, Mr. Fred Russell, and is loudly applauded for his turn. Some of the patter, however, needs to be smartened up. The Cannings are two comely young ladies who play the piano, the fiddle, and the mandoline to the loudly expressed enjoyment of the audience. One of the ladies also uses a very sweet soprano voice to the very best effect. Mr. George Benson scores a most notable success as a mimic, his vocal imitations of Mr. Lashwood, Mr. Formby, and Mr. Sam Mayo being lifelike in their realism.

Mr. John Le Hay and company present a pathetic and well-written sketch, *On the Brink*, which is received with every sign of favour. Mr Le Hay gives a splendid impersonation of the broken-down old pavement artist, Screever, who dies on the Thames Embankment just as his long-lost daughter has been restored to his arms. Mr. Charles Cantley as Arthur Goodwin, and Miss Norah Le Hay as Katie Screever render most efficient aid in the remaining characters.

A very popular item in the bill is Ivan Tschernoff's wonderfully trained ponies, hounds, terriers, and pigeons; while the efforts of the musical pony Hanna come in for special commendation from the audience. The first-class programme concludes with an interesting series of films, both of a humorous and serious nature on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. It should be added that the courteous acting-manager, Mr. H. E. Sawyer, is always looking assiduously after the comfort of his numerous patrons.

THE GREAT RAYMOND.

The famous American illusionist and magician, Maurice F. Raymond, has made his initial appearance in this country at the Hackney Empire this week, and proved an immense attraction. The Great Raymond's comedy spirit seance proved highly diverting and caused unbounded amusement to crowded houses. He first introduced a magic hand, which was placed on a piece of glass in full view of the audience, and answered by tapping, any question put to it. He was then securely tied, feet and hands, and placed in a cabinet with tambourines, which instantly began to rattle, and upon the curtains being opened, he was seen still pinioned. He then, being again tied, invited one of the audience to enter the cabinet, and after a few seconds, during which the curtains were drawn, bells were rung, tambourines rattled, &c., to the astonishment of the audience, the gentleman was found with his coat and vest off, a pail on his head, bells round his neck, &c., Raymond being still tied. The final illusion created great surprise. After Mrs. Raymond had been handcuffed and placed in a sack, which was sealed, and then locked in a box, in less than one second from the time the curtains were closed, she appeared free, and Raymond had taken her place, bound exactly as she had been. The marvellous performance was greatly admired.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"FORMERLY, LONDON."

THE STORY OF FRED AND HORACE REEVES.

The life story of Mr. Fred Reeves, the well-known variety agent, may be summed up in the historic sentence: "He turned failure into success."

Mr. Reeves says he is getting on in years, and points to his big son, Mr. Horace, in confirmation of his statement. It is true the son is now a partner in his Dad's business, it is true Reeves *père* was born in 1865, it is true that everybody in the variety business has known Fred longer than can be conveniently remembered, but it is not true that Father Time has laid a heavy hand on him, for to-day there is not a grey hair to be discovered, and despite a strenuous life Reeves, sen., is as active as when, thirty years ago, he was a Benizougzoug Arab, and was required to contort himself to the best of his ability once nightly.

Fred Reeves confesses to being the son of a lawyer, who was also a member of the London School Board, one of the Poor Law Guardians, and likewise chairman of the Westminster Ratepayers' Association. Young Fred had no intention whatever of following in father's footsteps, and at the tender age of eight intimated to the powers that be that he intended to be a music hall artist. The elder Reeves was evidently a wise

MR. FRED REEVES.

man, for he argued that if the boy was not tired of the life in six months he would certainly be adapted for the profession he had chosen. So it came about that one day the top of the bill at the Standard, Victoria, read as follows:—

ROWLAND LORRIMER
(Aged Eight).
Marvellous Boy Magician.
The Wonder of the Century.
Must be Seen to be Believed, and Once Seen, will be Seen Again and Again.
Exclusive Engagement of—
ROWLAND LORRIMER
at Enormous Expense.

Well, despite the billing, which was good (or bad) enough to have ruined the act, young Lorrimer did so well that he was at once booked for Wilton's Music Hall, the Raglan, Theobalds-road, the Winchester, Deacon's, Crowder's, Greenwich, the Sun, Knightsbridge, Gatti's (road), the Hungerford, and the famous Evans' Supper Rooms, Covent Garden.

The magic circle did not appeal to young Fred for long, and soon after he began training for the acrobatic business and wire-walking with Nubar Hassan (of the original Benizougzoug Arabs). But again he wanted change, and so it came about that he joined the famous old showman James Fuller and managed his shows, including Astarte, the aerial nymph (which was at

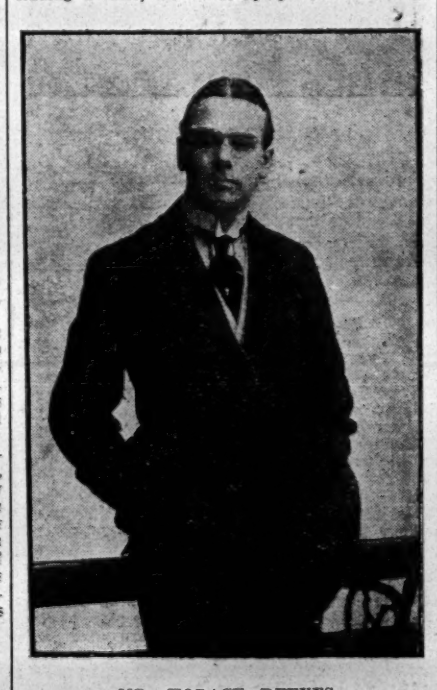

MR. HORACE REEVES

one time the rage of London), and all that gentleman's sideshows at the Royal Aquarium during the management of Mr. Wybrow Robertson and Captain Hobson. Later he took to "the road" with Mr. Fuller, and looked after that gentleman's interests and performed for him at all the principal exhibitions.

In those days Christmas entertainments were provided at the Brighton Aquarium, and we find young Reeves in the position of producer there for four years in succession. The list of Mr. Reeves's engagements from that time onwards makes a brave array, and speaks as to the strenuousness of the life he led. He was a member of the first company at the opening of the Scarborough Aquarium, and also a member of the first company at the opening of the Yarmouth Aquarium. He played in (and assisted to produce) the first pantomime at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. He has produced and stage-managed seven pantomimes, and played principal parts in no less than fourteen pantomimes, being for three years with the late Sir Augustus Harris. He has worked every hall of note in London and the provinces in conjunction with Ted Young as Young and Reeves for eight years. When Mr. Reeves became manager of the Empire, Leicester, in conjunction with his brother, Hal Verdo, he retained that position for nine years and a half.

The late Ernest Carpenter, of the Lyceum, was one of Mr. Reeves' closest and best friends, and for him Mr. Reeves managed the Empire, Bristol. Mr. Reeves was the first manager of the Camberwell Palace, which hall he opened under the directorship of Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the late Dan Leno, Mr. Fred Williams, and the late Mr. Herbert Campbell. Next, he assumed the general management of the Hammersmith Palace, where he remained for four years and a half, and everybody in the profession knows what an extremely profitable undertaking the Hammersmith hall became under Mr. Reeves' directorship, and he is naturally very proud of his connection with that place of entertainment. He resigned his position there, leaving on the best of terms with his chief, Mr. J. C. Coe, who presented him with a handsome cheque. Mr. Reeves then went in for music hall agency, and has remained in it ever since. He had twenty-eight years' experience of variety affairs (fourteen years as performer and fourteen years as manager) before joining the ranks of the agents. He never abuses the confidence that managers place in him, and consequently always retains their friendship and a share of their bookings. Most of his turns are booked up for years ahead. He never submits a turn until he has seen it and satisfied himself that it is a suitable one. This system has proved of immense advantage to him, as he has gained the confidence of the people with whom he deals, and has always resulted in a renewal of business transactions. Just over twelve months ago Mr. Reeves took his son (who had previously managed the business) into partnership.

Mr. Reeves married, at the age of twenty, Miss Lottie Chapman, one of the Sisters Chapman, the youngest daughter of Mr. George Chapman, who was at one time manager of the Star, Bermondsey, and until shortly before his death manager of the Standard, Pimlico. Mrs. Reeves is a sister of Mr. Charles Chapman, of Richard Warner's agency.

Mr. and Mrs. Reeves have only the one son (Horace) and two daughters, who are now making a very big success on the halls, in conjunction with a gentleman partner, as the Westbrooks. These young people are admitted to be two of the very best dancers on the variety stage, a branch of the business at which both Mr. and Mrs. Reeves were experts.

Mr. Horace Reeves may be said to have been cradled in the business, for although he is the youngest agent in England, he has spent his life in music halls and agents' offices, and "knows the game from A to Z." When quite a little chap, and at school at Leicester, he used to dash home from school at the week-end and during the whole nine and a half years of his father's stay in the town never missed a single Friday and Saturday night's performance at the Empire.

At the present time Mr. Horace devotes his energies to London, whilst for quite seven months of every year the senior partner is to be found in the provinces and on the Continent. The junior partner says that when he first took his book to the London managers he anticipated "as a boy" having a very rough time of it, but he is delighted to record that, without exception, he has experienced the greatest kindness and consideration from those gentlemen.

When one looks at the snug and well-kept retreat called "The Cedars," in Grove-road, Brixton, one finds it very hard to believe that a very big business is being carried on within its walls. And yet this is so, for the Reeves have the exclusive booking of eighty-four turns, and there are about 160 others. "1066 Brixton" is a busy number nowadays, to be sure; but does the telegraphic address of "Formerly, London," in conjunction with the telephone number suggest that the Reeves family came to England at the time of the Norman Conquest?

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA.

An excellent holiday programme is being presented at the above handsome and well-regulated hall this week, and much praise is due to those responsible for the performance, which is full of enjoyment and runs without a hitch from beginning to end. On Boxing Day at each performance the house was packed to the extreme, and it is greatly to the credit of Mr. Fred A. Vernall, the energetic and courteous manager here, that in spite of the number present everything went smoothly, and the seating arrangements left nothing to be desired.

Foremost on the bill appears the name of Mr John Lawson in the new sketch of original ideas, *The Miracle*, full particulars of which are given in another column. Mr. G. W. Foster, a quaint comedian, sings a humorous song, "I blow my whistle," and meets with due appreciation. Mr. Martin Adeson appears with conspicuous success in a comic skit, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*, and is cleverly and effectively supported by Miss Clara Bernard. The piece is full of drollery, and is exceptionally well received. Mr. Billy Farrell creates a profound impression, and is heartily greeted for his amusing and energetic rendering of "All the coons started cheering." He proves equally as successful in his second contribution, and is applauded accordingly. Miss Mabel Thorne sings in a winsome and charming manner "P—A—I—N—T," and although she met with a substantial reception, time did not permit a second appearance. Mr. Charles Carr musically delivers his song, "I wish I had a girl," and afterwards dances in a manner deserving of warm praise. The Barton and Franklin Trio of instrumentalists vocalists, and dancers play various instruments of a novel description in an harmonious and pleasing manner, and their rendering of the "Lost Chord" on bells of different kinds is a musical treat. The dancing of the two male members of the troupe is well worthy of special mention. Miss Ivy Aberdare scores with her song and dance, as also does Miss Olive Dene, who uses her good voice with taste and skill. An effective and alluring act is supplied by Les Alex Carangoots. Their performance of *La Danse du Dragon* is of a peculiar and weird character, and is certainly difficult and tiring to accomplish. However, they discharge their arduous duties to perfection, and fully deserve the highest praise for their attractive turn. The Three Cunards appear in their celebrated dancing act, and perform their task with much credit, and some excellent and attractive pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

"PUSS IN BOOTS" AT WALTHAMSTOW.

Pantomime, Produced on Monday afternoon, Dec. 27.

King Komilfo .....Mr. Wyn Weaver
Princess Carita .....Miss Eva Ellis
Donna Dolores .....Mr. Frank Bertram
Sancho .....Mr. Billie Young
Pancho .....Mr. Charles Jackson
Grimalkin .....Mr. Bradon Curry
Bill Bailo .....Mr. Algernon Lee
The Bull ..Messrs. Sam Leo and Bert Goodwin
Lola .....Miss Elsie Don
Perdita .....Miss Josie Hammersley
Juan .....Miss Lucia Collins

The company associated with the production is an excellent one. Miss Lucia Collins, daughter of Miss Lottie Collins, made herself a favourite from her first appearance; her pleasing style and fascinating manner as principal boy won her a host of friends. Mr. Frank Bertram as Donna Dolores causes much laughter. Miss Eva Ellis as Princess Carita is not only a capable actress, but an excellent comedienne. Special mention must also be given to Messrs. Wyn Weaver, Billie Young, Charles Jackson, Bradon Curry as the Cat, Algernon Lee, and Miss Elsie Don as Lola, who must be congratulated on the rendering of her songs. With such a company it was not surprising to find all records have been broken since the opening of the hall six years ago.

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD.

The Christmas tree treat was given at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, on Thursday last, Dec. 23, when over 100 children and their mothers sat down to a good dinner and tea, after which games and entertainments were indulged in, and then all left carrying away new boots, stockings, clothing, toys, &c. Kind messages of regret at inability to be present were received from Miss Kitty Carson, founder of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, the Rev. Donald Hole, Miss E. G. Clarke, A.C.U., and the Rev. Stephen Barrass. Amongst the visitors were Mr. Paul Martinetti (who represented the Grand Order of Water Rats), the Rev. Humphrey Townsend (who sang to the children), Mrs. Gintaro, Miss Ada M. Page, Mrs. Fred Ginnett's mother (Mrs. Mayer), Miss Flo Banks Miss Amy Elvira, Mr. James Horne and Master J. Horne (who sang to the children), Mrs. Ernest Collins was a visitor, Miss Kate Toole, and Mr. C. C. Bartram. All the members of the M.H.L.G. Executive Committee who were in town were there, and worked very hard to entertain the little ones, and Mr. Joseph Sams must be thanked for his excellent catering.

On behalf of the Committee, Miss May begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following gifts to this good cause:—Miss Lilian Baylis, for sweets; Miss Taylor, for Teddy bears; Mrs. Fred Herbert, for Christmas tree stockings and the Rev. Humphrey Townsend and the friends who have helped him in the collection of toys, &c., for children's Christmas tree. Thanks also to Miss Alexandra Dagmar, £1 1s.; Miss Irma Lorraine, £1; Miss Bessie Slaughter, 2s. 6d.; and Mr. Horace White, 5s. (per Mrs. James Horne). Master Sydney May, Hippodrome, Ipswich, 5s.; Mrs. Paul Murray, 5s.; Mrs. George Gilbey, 5s.; Mrs. R. Young, 10s. (per Mrs. Horne); Mrs. Cato, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. J. W. Hall, 5s. and (collection 2s. 6d.); Master Teddy Levy, 6d., and Miss Dolly Mozart, collecting 8s. 4d. (per Miss Lottie Albert); Mrs. Gintaro, 10s., and some Japanese dolls; Miss Kate Vulcana, 10s. 6d.; Sisters Brilliant, 5s.; Mr. W. H. Clemart, 5s.; and Mr. Burt Shepard, 5s. (per Sisters Macarte). Mrs. Ida L. Caldwell, Coloured Meisters, 5s.; Mr. Wal Pink, 10s. (per Miss Belle Elmore). Mrs. Paul Martinetti, 3s.; Miss Ida Knight, Clacton-on-Sea, 2s. 6d.; Miss Lily Hyde, collecting 12s.; Mr. Alec Barish, Birkenhead, handkerchiefs; Mr. Thomas, grocer, Kennington Road, sweets and fruit; Mrs. Frank Ross, clothing; Miss Leslie Hamilton, St. Leonards-on-Sea, clothing; Mrs. Asher, clothing; Mrs. Carl Hertz, clothing; Mrs. C. C. Bartram, gloves, books, toys, &c.; Miss Blanche Glave, clothing; Miss Ethel Bourne and Mona Garrick, presents; Chief Clerk, *Era* Office, dressed doll; Miss Grace, clothing; Miss Florence Huntley (through Mrs. Herbert Shelley), warm clothing made by herself; and also the following ladies of the Executive, who bought and sent in warm clothing for the little ones:—Miss Lil Hawthorne, Miss Millie Payne, Mrs. James Horne, Mrs. G. Smythson, Miss Belle Elmore, Mrs. Paul Martinetti, Mrs Eugene Stratton; Miss Mabel Florence sent babies' clothing, and Mrs. Ernest Collins chairs and hassock, while Mr. Mash, florist, Brixton, must be thanked for kindly lending the Christmas tree.

Mrs. Smythson wishes to thank the following for puddings, in addition to those previously thanked: Sisters Macarte, Mrs. Vetter, Mrs. Selkirk, Mrs. Levy (two puddings, per Miss Lottie Albert), Mrs. Walter Stanley (pudding), the Haytors, Mrs. Steeds, A. Friend (Altrincham), Anonymous, Miss Lottie Albert, Miss Millie Payne, Mr. W. R. Pettit (Per Miss Lottie Albert), Mr. W. Cody (two), Miss Edith Manton. The Guild helped nearly forty families to Christmas dinners with English beef and pudding distributed at the Guild rooms, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on Friday, the 24th.

The Committee of the M.H.L.G. wish all subscribers a prosperous New Year.

V.A.B.F. DINNER TO OLD ARTISTS.

Between thirty and forty of the oldest professionals living in London were entertained at a Christmas dinner on Tuesday afternoon at the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge-road, by the committee of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. Most of these "stars" of a past generation were pensioners of the Fund, and the majority were over seventy years of age. A right royal time was the order of the day, the proceedings being opened by Joe Elvin, hon. trustee of the Fund, who stopped for a few minutes, and who welcomed the guests as "Dear old pals," and hoped they would thoroughly enjoy themselves. With his unvarying generosity, genial Joe, before he left, handed over a bag of florins, one being given to each of the visitors on leaving. Mr. Sydney Mason also most kindly sent a present of a pipe to each of the old men and a packet of tea to each old lady.

After an excellent menu had been done full justice to, Mr. Fred Herbert (chairman of the committee of the Fund), who presided over the gathering—being supported by the following members of the committee: Messrs. Charles Coborn, John Alexander, P. W. Edmonds, Pat Carey, T. C. Callaghan, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary)—started an excellent concert by calling on Mr. Charles Coborn.

The following volunteer entertainers kindly contributed songs and recitations: Miss Florence Raynor, Miss Violet Murray, Messrs. Pat Carey, C. C. Cornish, T. C. Callaghan, Syd Keith, Arthur Were, Fred Herbert, Amy Ellis, Albert de Voy, James Lenton, Bob Gates, and Nat Emmett, the last-named proving a true delight with his powerful rendering of a recitation, "The Pen and the Press."

During the afternoon two photographs were taken of the merry gathering. Towards the close of the proceedings Mr. Herbert proposed in eulogistic terms the health of everyone's friend, Joe Elvin, and asked all to drink a bumper to "good old Joe," which was readily done, to the accompaniment of musical honours.

Mr. Coborn then proposed the health of the chairman, who, he said, always worked hard for the good of the profession, and also referred to Mr. Douglas Stuart, the Fund's secretary, who, he understood, had first suggested the happy thought of holding that pleasant reunion.

Mr. Herbert, in an eloquent speech, thanked the company, and said he hoped this little function would become an annual affair.

Mr. Douglas Stuart also responded, stating that it was his idea to hold the dinner, and thanked the committee for the support they had given him in carrying out the same. He also trusted that for many years to come the little festivity would be continued. The proceedings closed at seven o'clock by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," and everyone departed in the happiest possible mood to their homes, conscious of having had at least one bright hour amidst their life of poverty and trouble. One word of thanks must be accorded Mr. Harry Sutch, who worked hard at the piano the whole time, and was a most satisfactory accompanist. In a word, the whole affair was a brilliant success.

The George French Troupe produced a new and novel cycle act on Monday at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, and scored an instantaneous success.

Miss Bertha De Pas excels as a burlesque artist. She quite captivates the lads and lasses in the North of England. This week she "middles" the bill at the Empire, Oldham, and if she continues her successes will soon top the bills at all halls where she is being booked. Messrs. Tom Shaw and Co. are looking after this rising artist's interests.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Maple Flooring Afloat.

PLIMPTON AND CO., of Liverpool, inform us that they have large shipments of maple flooring now afloat, and are now in a position to deal with orders for this material promptly.

Earl's Court Booming.

CROWDS of would-be skaters were turned away from the Earl's Court rink on Boxing Day, as the floor was too crowded for comfortable skating. There were three sessions, and a few short of 12,000 people paid at the turnstiles during the day.

The Earl's Court Carnival.

A FANCY and evening dress carnival is announced for Friday, Jan. 14, 1910, at the Empress Hall Rink, Earl's Court. Mr. Izod, the manager, has many novel surprises in store for his patrons on this night. Many well-known artists of the variety world will put in an appearance, and it is whispered that one of the novelties being organised is a limelight skating cotillon, in which a lady star artist will lead.

Bertha Doud Mack at Luton.

THIS young lady "hit them hard" at Luton last week. On Saturday night she was presented with an enormous bunch of roses, Mr. Hiley, the manager, stating that it was given by her many admirers on the rink. Miss Mack can consequently be pardoned for the pride she feels in the success she has made.

150,000 People on Wheels on Boxing Day.

IN spite of the absence of frost, nearly 150,000 people in the United Kingdom, it is calculated, indulged in roller skating on Boxing Day. The manager of Olympia calculated that between 14,000 and 15,000 skaters used the rink on Boxing Day. At Brixton the skaters were "coming in by shoals," said the manager, at eight o'clock in the morning, and by the end of the first session—there are five in a day—1,500 pairs of skates had been on the rink. Holland Park had as many as 18,000 visitors during the day.

Holland Park Opened.

WHAT must be one of the very finest skating rinks in the world was opened, under the management of Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins, in Holland Park-avenue last Friday. The arrangements generally leave nothing to be desired, and the skating surface covers close upon 75,000 square feet, and is as near perfection as modern methods can make it. Prices rule on a similar scale to those in force at Olympia, while the catering by Messrs. Letheby and Christopher is excellent. The rink will be devoted to skating until the end of April, when the building will be used for exhibition purposes for five months. After this it will be turned into a circus until the roller-skating season reopens.

Sir William Has a Few Spins.

SIR WM. BULL, M.P., officially declared the rink open, and immediately he had concluded his remarks about one thousand skaters, eagerly waiting, rushed on to the skating surface. Sir William added strength to his opening remarks as to the value of roller skating as a pastime by indulging in a few good spins himself.

George Callis, Manager.

THE Holland Park rink is of no mushroom character, but substantial and tasteful in design, with a gallery running round all four sides, from which those content to be lookers on may secure a bird's-eye view of the animated picture below. Mr. George Callis, who was identified with the Cardiff rink, is in control. In the summer of 1911 it is proposed to hold an International Sports Tournament, with a six-day cycle race, an indoor Marathon, a wrestling tournament, and one or more important boxing contests.

La Scala for a Rink.

THERE are rumours that a company has acquired a lease of the Scala Theatre and will convert it into a roller-skating rink *de luxe*.

The Ashleys.

THE Ashley Team of grotesque skaters are at the Alexandra Palace, London, this week. Next week they go to the Palace, Northampton.

Coming Carnival at Wandsworth.

A FANCY-DRESS skating carnival will be held at the Central Hall Skating Rink, East-hill, Wandsworth, on Thursday, Jan. 6. No person will be allowed to skate unless in either fancy costume or evening dress, and competitors must enter their names and class on or before mid-day Tuesday, Jan. 4. A gold watch will be given to the lady and a dressing case to the gentleman with best costume in any class, and twenty-eight other valuable prizes will also be awarded.

New London Rinks.

WILLESDEN is shortly to have a rink. The Maida Vale Rink is being proceeded with as fast as possible. The Finsbury Park Rink, just outside the station, has made great progress, and will be opened very shortly. This rink is being constructed by and will be under the management of the Premier Rinks, Ltd., who have rinks open or in course of erection in several parts of the country and the suburbs. At Hammersmith the new rink is nearly completed, and will open its doors on Jan. 22. The rink at Wood Green will be opened on Jan. 15 by the company's general-manager, Mr. A. F. Wilson.

Novelty for the Skating Rink.

A NOVEL skating carnival was arranged at St. Margaret's Hall Skating Rink, East Twickenham, for New Year's Eve, when prizes were given for the most successful head-dresses. Those competing wore ordinary evening dress, with any fancy head-dress they cared for. The effect was extremely quaint and amusing. Some few years ago, it may be remembered, Lord and Lady Alington gave a head-dress dinner party at their house in Portman-square. The men appeared in frock dress—that is to say, ordinary evening dress with knee breeches and silk stockings—and the ladies also wore ordinary dinner dress—but the heads were all dressed in the quaintest fashion. Lord Alington had the head of a Red Indian, with feathers and beads quite correctly arranged; Mr. Walter Burns's head represented a clown, and on all sides original ideas were carried out.

"A Skating Fairyland."

THE new American skating rink in High-street, Merton, on the tram route, is one of the finest rinks of which London suburbia can boast. It has a perfect skating area of over 14,000 sq. ft. The building is an exceedingly spacious one, having a floor space of about 185ft. by 80ft.; it is tall, light and airy, and on entering one feels that sense of freedom so distinguished from the cramped, depressing atmosphere of some rinks. The whole of the roof space has been utilised in a most delightful scheme of decoration. Festoons of flowers and chain-work, with innumerable multi-coloured flags and pennants, amongst which are besprinkled hundreds of small electric bulbs, go to make up a picture of warmth and welcome which is truly delightful. The proprietors claim it to be "a skating fairyland," and really they cannot be accused of exaggeration.

At Brixton.

THERE was a record attendance at the Brixton Rink on Boxing Day, when the enterprising manager (Mr. Alec Flood) arranged a varied and attractive programme. Throughout the holidays the rink has been crowded, and on Thursday night there was a bicycle race between Len Williams and F. Casey, in which the former won easily. To celebrate the New Year a mammoth Carnival was held, at which the fun was fast and furious until the early hours.

Rink Hockey.

"RINK hockey," says Mr. Brockman, of the N.S.A., "was, I believe, first introduced in this country at Olympia in 1890 by Mr. F. G. Stromcke, who had been a player of repute in America (and who most singularly is now rink manager at the Crystal Palace), but hitherto has not generally been played on organised lines. Now many strong leagues are being formed, as, for instance, in Manchester, with sixteen or seventeen clubs, and London, with fourteen clubs."

Agricultural Hall Rink.

THE skating rink at the Agricultural Hall opened on Dec. 23, with an excellent attendance. Amongst those present was Mr. George Mozart. This rink is the largest in North London, with a first-class floor, British skates, and artistic scenery surrounding the rink. Mr. R. W. Wilson, the general-manager, informed our representative that over 2,500 used the rink on Boxing Day, and even with this large number many others were turned away.

Payne Deserts the Rinks.

PROF. ALEC PAYNE has accepted a sixteen weeks' provincial tour with Mr. Gus Levaine's *Babes in the Wood* pantomime, in order to produce a ballet on roller skates, in which twenty pretty young ladies appear.

Ayr Closes with a Carnival.

A BRILLIANT masquerade fancy dress carnival was held on Wednesday night at the Pavilion, Boswell Park, Ayr. It was quite a success, and provided one of the best holiday entertainments. The Pavilion closes on January 15, when Manager C. Richards, who has been the essence of geniality as manager here, goes to Stirling. He will, however, return to Ayr for the summer season. Renovation and redecoration will take place during the time the Pavilion is closed.

Bath Keeps its End Up.

AN amusing hockey match was played at the Empress Rink, Bath, on Boxing Day, when the unbeaten local players met the Cardiff club, who, like themselves, had never been defeated before. After one of the fastest games imaginable, the Bathonians won by 6 goals to 2. The New Central Rink, Bath, has caught on.

Carnival at Barrow.

A successful fancy dress skating carnival took place at the Barry Skating Rink on Monday last, before 1000 spectators. It was held under the management of Mr. Harry Reynolds.

Bishop Auckland Olympia.

The reopening of this popular rink took place last Thursday. A new floor has been laid. Mr. H. J. Butler is manager.

"Canter on One Wheel."

The Premier Skating Rink, Boston, has been quite gay this Christmas, and some very good sessions have been held during the holidays. The chief attraction has been W. Hurst's fine exhibition. His new feat is "a canter round on one wheel." Mr. Hurst is the originator, composer, and writer of the new "Enchanter Skate Dance."

Skating Rink for Cirencester.

WE understand that the directors of the Cirencester Corn Hall have decided to open it as a roller skating rink early in 1910.

Little Yorks at Derby.

THE masquerade carnival held at the Alexandra Skating Rink, Derby, on Boxing Night was a pronounced success. The programme, capitally arranged by Mr. W. H. Innes, was headed by the Two Little Yorks. Last night (New Year's Eve) a special extension was obtained, and a thoroughly enjoyable confetti battle was held.

From Chapel to Skating Rink.

THE old Wesleyan chapel at Dorking, Surrey, is to be converted into a roller-skating rink.

Children's Carnival at Trindle-road.

CHILDREN'S functions are invariably successful for the reason that the fond parent is always anxious to see how "little Willie" or "our Clara" disport themselves in public, while they also have a fascination of their own which somehow appeals to adults of all classes. The Children's Carnival held recently at the Dudley Trindle-road Skating Rink was an instance of this altruism. The spectators' seats were crowded with parents and friends, who entered enthusiastically into the spirit of the carnival, with the result that the affair was most successful, a fact which induced the management to decide to hold another carnival on the second Saturday in January. There were ten boy prize winners and five girl prize winners, the prize for the best-dressed boy going to Master Wright, and for the best-dressed girl to Miss Grainger The judging, which gave every satisfaction, was performed by Mrs. E. J. Thompson and Mrs. Nayler, the prizes being presented by the former lady. The proceedings terminated with a confetti battle.

Dundee's New Rink Opened.

THE Dundee West End Skating Rink was declared open on Wednesday afternoon by Lady Baxter, in the presence of a large and fashionable assemblage. The new rink is a huge building erected at a cost of £4,500 on the Blackness estate, the skating surface being 255ft. long by 80ft. broad. The rink is beautifully appointed, and has a handsome suite of rooms, including a raised tearoom, from which a full view of the skaters is obtained. It is heated by a hot-water system, and a very elaborate electrical installation has been introduced. The opening ceremony was presided over by ex-Provost Brownlee. Lady Baxter, in declaring the rink open, said the West End Rink was a beautiful one, and she had much pleasure in taking part in that ceremony, chiefly because in Dundee and Scotland, generally, they were in need of good, healthy amusement. She hoped the rink would give pleasure to Dundee for many a long day.

Naval Men Like Rinking.

A GRAND Confetti Carnival was announced for New Year's Eve at the Olympia Skating Palace, Dundee, where skating was to be indulged in till midnight. Manager James T. Batchelor works this popular haunt of rinkers on up-to-date lines, and is continually being congratulated on the success of his management. Mr. Batchelor's clientele includes a large number of naval officers and men, who, since Dundee has been turned into a naval base, are stationed here. They are quite at home on the "rollers." At the American Roller Rink in Melrose-terrace, Dundee, Manager Hunnequin is being kept exceedingly busy.

Another Durham Skatery.

The Durham City Olympia Rolling Rink was opened on Monday by the Mayor (Councillor W. H. Wood), who, with the Mayoress, was accompanied by other members of the Corporation. Accommodation is provided for 750 skaters and 2000 spectators, and Richardson's skates only are used. Professor Ellis is giving exhibitions of fancy skating, and the venture is under the management of Mr. Vivian D'Alby, late of West Hartlepool.

New Rink in Durham.

MR. C. E CADLE, on behalf of the Durham Skating and Entertainments Company, applied to the Durham City magistrates for a music and dancing licence for a skating rink in Walkergate. He said the premises formed part of Messrs. Henderson's factory, and there was a total superficial area of 31,900ft. The skating area was 160ft. long by 75ft. wide. The Bench granted the application.

Round the Edinburgh Rinks.

THERE are few rinks where the changes are rung so often as at the Olympia, in Annandale-street. Another gymkhana, interspersed between mile races and half-mile races, boys' races, and ladies' races, ordinary skating was indulged in last week. With such excellent facilities for indulgence in roller-skating as are provided at the Grand, it is little wonder that there is no diminution in numbers in the merry throng on rollers who nightly frequent the spacious building. Splendidly equipped, tastefully decorated, and possessing a capital band, the Grand has in its short existence become the rendezvous of hundreds of enthusiasts in the city, and during his *régime* already Mr. Woolfoot has won golden opinions for himself by his tact, his courtesy, and his ability as a manager. At "the only American roller rink in Edinburgh," out Murayfield way, things are going merrily. Bell-vue is "upsides" with the other rinks in the city, and this week provides novelty in the shape of a fancy dress masked carnival. The new rink at St. Leonards also has a fair patronage from the South Side, and fills a long-felt want by supplying a skating rink on that side of the city.

Notes from Glasgow.

IN Glasgow the facilities for roller skating are on an ample scale, and nowhere can the fascinating sport be indulged in with greater comfort and pleasure than in the West-end Rink at Kelvingrove. In this establishment an entirely new equipment, consisting of 800 pairs of the latest Philips' pattern of roller skates, has been provided. On Hogmanay skating was indulged in from 7.30 p.m. till 12.30 a.m. At the American Rink in Victoria-road, which continues to be held in high esteem among roller skaters, every preparation has been made for the large crowds of gay holiday makers. A large share of public favour is enjoyed by the Ibrox Rink, where the special attraction this week is a paper costume carnival on Hogmanay. Arrangements are also being made for a "topsy-turvy" evening on Jan. 10. This week's programme at the Govan Rink included a hockey match between Summertown and Great Eastern, and a fancy-dress carnival and souvenir night on Friday.

Glasgow Zoo Carnival.

A VERY fine carnival took place last Wednesday at Mr. Bostock's Zoo Rink. The large maple floor has just been operated on by the electric surfacing machine, and is now in an absolute perfect skating condition. Extensive decorations which had been carried out gave the huge building the appearance of a gigantic fairy palace, with that Yuletide appearance which one is wont to look for at this season of the year. The walls, galleries, &c., were gaily festooned with bannerettes, streamers, and bunting of every device, whilst numerous Chinese lanterns and other decorative novelties were suspended from the roof, and the scene presented when the place was lit up by some 2,000 vari-coloured electric lights was one of the most dazzling brilliance and most fascinating description. In addition to a great confetti battle and other amusing and exciting events on skates, prizes were given for the most characteristic costumes.

Novel Rink Lighting.

THE Grand Skating Rink, recently erected at Hirst, was opened last week to the public in the presence of a large concourse of interested people. The new building is 170ft. long by 72ft. broad, and has an area for skating of 150ft. by 50ft.—sufficient in size for a large crowd to disport upon. The floor is an admirable one, and is composed of American rock maple, the pieces being 1¼in. in width and finely dovetailed together The whole building is fitted in the latest style and lighted by the Thornton Petrol Gas at 6,000 candle power. This is provided by an Empire gas generator, which mixes the petrol with hot air, so vapourising it. This clever little engine is driven by the gas which it produces, and is so arranged that it will only produce the quantity of gas required whether one or a hundred lamps are in use. The cost works out, we understand, at about 1s. 6d. per 1000 cubic ft. It is therefore a very economical light, and one which is receiving a good deal of attention. In the building the light is certainly as brilliant as anyone could wish.

Skating in Sunny Jersey.

Mr. Louis Marks, who has for years been a leading potato merchant in Jersey, built an excellent and up-to-date rink in St. Heliers. The new rink is called the New Olympia and Winter Gardens, and is illuminated throughout with electric light, a novelty in Jersey. There is a first-rate band, under the conductorship of Mr. F. McKee, a good promenade, comfortable cloak-rooms, and a buffet. The New Olympia was opened on Boxing Day, when some 3000 skaters paid for admission. Mr. L. Marks is to be heartily congratulated on his enterprise.

Bay of Naples to Look At.

THE St. James's Hall Skating Rink, King's Lynn, was opened on Wednesday last by the Worshipful Mayor of the Borough (Mr. Holcombe Ingleby). The management of the rink have spared no expense in providing for the town a first-class resort. A new floor has been laid. In addition to an annexe for learners, lounges and cosy corners have been provided, with a raised floor set out as a Neapolitan garden, with a magnificent painting of the Bay of Naples in the background. The floor manager is Mr. Aubrey Bridges and the business-manager Mr. William Winch.

Rink Football at Kirkcaldy.

A HIGHLY successful fancy dress carnival was held at the Olympia, Kirkcaldy, last Wednesday evening, and was well attended. Special new year attractions are billed. A football match on skates was held at the Palace the same evening, in which teams representing the Palace Rink versus local footballers were the contestants. A large concourse of spectators thronged the building to witness this unique spectacle, which resulted in a draw.

Skating at Maidenhead.

MAIDENHEAD joins the list of towns where rinking has "caught on." The success attending the opening of the Pavilion as a temporary rink has been so great that a new building, 120ft. by 60ft. is being erected. The use of the rink for morning private parties is largely taken up, and the afternoon and evening sessions are largely attended. The services of Mr. T. J. Puplett have been secured as instructor and manager.

For the Present.

MR. SHEARMAN, manager of the Mansfield Skating Rink Company, applied for a licence for music and dancing for a skating rink, which was opened last Friday. It was stated that a music and dancing licence was absolutely essential for an undertaking of this kind, because people who "rinked" desired to do so to the strains of the band. It was precisely on account of the band that the licence was required, although the building was suitable for concerts, balls, and entertainments of various kinds. The management desired to open at once, and they asked for the licence as a matter of urgency. He applied for a temporary licence for fourteen days, after which proper application would be made for a full licence up to the Brewster Sessions. The plans had been carried out to the satisfaction of the Town Council. The provisional licence was granted.

Decorators in at Mansfield.

THE Prince's Skating Rink, Mansfield, has been well patronised during the holiday season, and though still in the hands of decorators, is being praised by all its patrons.

Hockey at Motherwell.

A keen and closely-contested match between Govan and the home team took place at the Motherwell rink on Monday night, resulting in a win for the visitors by 1 goal to nil. A second match will be played between the home team and Wishaw.

Notes from Newcastle.

The opening of the New White City, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has given an additional impetus to roller skating in the city. The grand stand and Exhibition Hall rinks are as popular as ever, and each session sees crowds of holiday enthusiasts "indulging" on wheels.

S. T. Smurthwaite at Newcastle.

THE staff of Newcastle's new White City rink is managed by Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite, and numbers about seventy. Mr. Smurthwaite, who until recently was a member of the Hull City Council, and is at present a director of the Hull City Football Club, has managed a number of rinks in the Midlands and on the East Coast.

A Note from Nottingham.

The Empress Rink, Nottingham, is to the fore with Christmas arrangements. Upwards of 4000 people visited this popular rink on Monday, when an exciting race was witnessed between T. Duckworth, one of the staff, and T. W. Matthewson, a local champion.

New Skatery for Oswestry.

A LARGE and commodious building is now in course of construction at Oswestry, and will shortly be opened as a skating rink. The proprietors of this company are gentlemen connected with the Albert Hall Rink, Liverpool, which venture has been attended with great success. There is certainly a good opening for a rink in the quiet old town of Oswestry, and the venture should prove a financial success. The rink will be opened in the course of the next week or two, and we understand Richardson skates will be exclusively used.

(*Continued on page 34.*)

SKATING RINK FLOORS SURFACED.

We own the exclusive right of the Celebrated American Floor-Surfacing Machine Co., and are prepared to surface any floor in the United Kingdom at 1¾d. per square foot.

For particulars address **C. P. CRAWFORD,**

AMERICAN ROLLER RINK CO., 9, COOK STREET, LIVERPOOL.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES

BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.

"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."

Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.

FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS.

Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.

Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.

Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.

LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.

SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to

M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

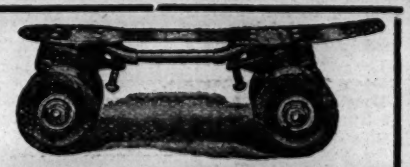

HENLEY RACING SKATE.

Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.

Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE GREAT MONOHAN

RINK and MUSIC HALL

Week Dec. 27, Return, **Premier Rink, Lower Clapton, London, N.E.**

Week Jan 3, **Olympia Rink, Darlington.**

FIRST VACANCY, FEB. 14, 1910.

Address, c/o "The Era."

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Thanks to All Managers.

THIS WEEK.

PREMIER RINK, CHESTERFIELD.

NEXT WEEK.

COUNTY RINK, KINGSTON.

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more Independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Our New Year Wish.

A PROSPEROUS and happy New Year for all our readers, and for all their patrons—the toiling millions of the Empire. It is the showman's work to brighten toil with pleasure, to lighten care with the potent medicine of joyant life Every show at every fair, every entertainer of the people at every centre of his high endeavour is (if he knows his mission in life) the friend and the servant of the toiler, whether the work be that of hand or brain, or, as in most cases, both combined. So here's "A Bright New Year" to the amusement caterers of the people.

The Lessons of 1909.

THE great lesson of all is—perseverance in good works. We know Showland, inside and outside, as few others can know it, and we fearlessly claim for showpeople as a body the grace of perseverance. 1909 has been one of the worst years for the past dozen or more years. Battling, battling bravely on, you ever find the showman doing his level best in hopeful expectation of the good time, that fair after fair largely remains a dream of the future.

THE story has been the same in all parts of the Empire. A shrinkage in the spending funds of the people has shown itself at every fair. Added to this, we have had a persistent coincidence of extremely unfavourable weather conditions. Most men in the show business will have to write off largely for depreciated values in working plant, so rapid has been in 1909 the necessity for expensive additions, renovations, and up-to-date improvements in all kinds of shows and fairground amusements. The man who thinks he will sit still and wait for the people to crowd his show will be left behind in these hustling and bustling days. No. When a modern showman ceases to go forward, he is certain to be left behind by others.

Hopeful Outlook in the New Year.

EVERY true showman is a born optimist—

"What is the use of repining.
Where there's a will there's a way.
To-morrow the sun will be shining,
Although it is cloudy to-day."

That old-time song exactly interprets the buoyant, self-reliant spirit of Showland. 1910 opens in the throes of a General Election. That means always poor days for shows so long as the political fever lasts. Fortunately, there has been a party truce over the Christmas holidays; for that great mercy we are grateful, and a General Election in January is better for Showland than one in July. Trade is mending, more wages are being handled by the workers. We are with the flowing tide of returning prosperity, and all the signs ahead are good ones.

A Retrospect of 1909.

SHOWPEOPLE have every reason to be proud of their wise foresight and provision through their Guild for the vindication of their character and status, and for the protection of their trade and business. We dealt in some historical sequence last week in the special article, "The Progress of the Guild" with the triumph of organisation in 1909. This really great and, we trust, permanent victory indicates that twenty-one years' persistent hard work has won for Showland official recognition in the great administrative departments of State—the Home Office and the Local Government Board. The first Report of the House of Lords Committee on the Movable Dwellings Bill proves to the full what we are now saying.

MORE than that, the officials of the Guild have been in direct and constant touch with the Government on the extremely important Cinematograph Act, an Act that will bear for all time witness of the fact that the highest and best constructive statesmanship of our country welcomes the expert knowledge and experience of travelling showmen.

ANOTHER immense cause for satisfaction was the utter defeat and rout of the Oldham Corporation (not the people of Oldham, for they are with the showmen). It was a lesson to those men who, in the arrogancy of assured power on the Councils of our towns and cities, seek to abuse that power to deprive the people of their liberty of choice in cheap, wholesome, and popular amusements. 1909 is, in truth, the crowning year of the showman's success against the enemies of the people's fairs, as well as the year of vindication and justification in the sight of the whole Empire. With joy and shouts of triumph the showmen will keep the Festival of the coming-of-age of the Showmen's Guild.

How the Guild Will Keep its Majority.

ON its festive social side, Manchester, the real heart of Showland, will rejoice at the Bolton Supper and Ball. Showpeople and their intimate friends will meet there in crowds, and keep the feast in the Northern centre. In the South, the Showmen's Supper and Ball at the World's Fair, Islington, on the night of the great annual gathering of showpeople, the twenty-first meeting of the Guild, will be the centre of Showland.

WITH the genial host of the Festival, Vice-President T. E. Read (lessee of the World's Fair), in the chair, supported by the president and officials of the Guild and the whole strength of the Supper and Ball Committee of the fair itself, the London celebration is bound to be a big success. Both at Bolton and at London, showmen, showwomen, and all their friends (who can number them in their multitude?) will rejoice and be merry. On the more serious side of the Festival of the majority of the Guild will be annual meetings at Manchester, London, and King's Lynn. The executive officials are making strenuous endeavours to specially mark the memorable occasion with befitting dignity and publicity.

The President of the Guild.

MR. PATRICK COLLINS has more than justified his election to the highest official position and honour in Showland. To succeed to the seat of George Sanger, with the magnificent traditions of a position unique in the world, is a great task, and only men of the calibre of Patrick Collins can ever hope to fulfil its onerous conditions.

WE are proud to announce that Mr. Collins has readily consented to be nominated as president for 1910, and we are sure that those who know him best will realise the extent of the sacrifice he again makes by his ready response to the wish of the executive to have him at the head of their organisation. A man with the enormous business interests that Mr. Collins commands must ever find it increasingly difficult to fix in with the requirements of his own ever-increasing business engagements the time that must be at the disposal of the executive officials. His elevation to the presidential chair has been more than justified; it has been a triumph of ability and devotion to duty. On the Movable Dwellings Bill and the Cinematograph Bill and on deputation and official work at the Home Office and before Corporation Committees, he has done good and brilliant work. Proud indeed ought showmen to be of Patrick Collins, a most worthy and hard-working successor to the grand old man of Showland, Lord George Sanger.

Other Workers in the Good Cause.

FOREMOST on the *honora causa* list we must place Mr. George Green, of Glasgow and Preston, the acting vice-president of the Guild. It is no mere figure of speech to say that, but for his care and vigilance the Cinematograph Bill, with all its crude and inexpert proposals, might have passed into law, to the ruin of the show business. The Parliamentary agent of the Guild read the original Bill as not touching movable structures at all, and so reported it to the council. Mr. Green's opinion was that it might be construed to include all exhibitions of inflammable films. Mr. Green was right, as after-events proved. Such is the value of a practical man at all times where technical experience is needed. Every cinematograph proprietor in the United Kingdom travelling the fairs owes a debt of real gratitude to Mr. George Green for his diligence and sound sense, and the Act as it now stands is largely the result of his expert advice. Certainly this is absolutely true, Mr. George Green has done more than any other one man to remodel and to shape the Act in order to do justice to travelling showmen.

OTHER workers—enthusiastic and strenuous—deserve special notice. In the London district, Messrs. Ball, Forrest Bros., Wilson, F. Turner, Bolesworth, Clasper, Wm. Taylor, H. Taylor (of Hounslow), J. Manders, the Bros. Beach, H. Thurston and Sons, Miss Turner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. William Wilson, Mrs. J. Manders, and a score or so more have all worked well for the common good.

IN the Western and the Welsh districts the Bros. Studt, the Hancock family, the Marshall Hill family, Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, the Dooner family, the Scard and Wadbrook family, the North family, the Kinder family, the Butlin family, the Scott family, the Winspers family, and one hundred more have proved their loyalty to the general interests of their brothers and sisters of the fairground.

Scotland Leads the Way.

FOR the third year in succession Scotch showmen maintain their proud premier position as the most generous supporters of the Guild funds. Considering their numbers, this support is doubly remarkable. It means every year a big response at Greenock Fair and again at Ayr Fair. To the Wilmot family, headed by the father of Scotch Showland, the veteran general, John Wilmot, this success is largely due. Their endeavour is most loyally and vigorously supported by the Green family in the special benefit appeal at Ayr Fair; both the meetings at Greenock and at Ayr were examples of well-won results of persistent good work. In this good work we must place on our honour list Messrs. and Mesdames Henderson, Manders, Biddall, Wingate, Paulo, Caddick, Swallow, Strand, McIndoe, Macintosh, Irvin, Dawson, Howard, Baker, Styles; but here we must stop, for the whole list of names at our pen-point would fill a page of our space. Every showman, every stallholder, every amusement caterer in Scotland belongs to the honour list.

The Rally of the Midlands.

UNDER the personal leadership of the monarch of showmen, President P. Collins himself, the response of the Midlands has been generous and without parallel in the past. Almost without exception the Midland showpeople have enrolled themselves under the banner of the Guild. The same is true of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Northern provinces, as a whole. To mention names would mean a directory of showmen for Mid-England and the North Country. Distinction where the multitude is so great is impossible. Where all have worked so hard particular mention is quite out of the question. Lancashire and Yorkshire still stand where they did, and that is enough. We must, however, notice the great revival of interest in the Guild in the Eastern Counties. With regard to this welcome increase of support, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thurston deserve great credit. There is also great cause for satisfaction in the fact that Miss Anita Welton, of Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge, has interested herself in the travelling showpeople of East Anglia, and her work as hon. diocesan secretary has roused attention to the work of the Guild amongst the clergy of the Norwich Diocese. Miss Welton is doing a good and blessed work.

The Other Branches of Guild Activity.

PEACEMAKERS at Penzance, determined warriors in the fight for Mitcham Fair, zealous opponents of all proposals to injure or abolish fairs, the champions of the showmen wherever attacked, all these and many more spheres of usefulness mark the Guild of showmen in 1909.

The Annual Meetings of the Showmen's Guild.

AT the Caxton Hall, Salford, near the Flat-Iron Fairground, Manchester, at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1910, the president, Patrick Collins, in the chair. At the World's Fair, Islington, on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 11 a.m., the president will preside and deliver his annual address. Other speakers at both meetings will be the Guild chaplain, the hon. solicitors, the hon. secretary, and specially invited speakers and friends of the Guild. See advertisements.

The British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union.

AN important committee meeting of the Union is advertised in our columns this week. It will meet at the Flag Inn Hotel, Bolton, on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 2.30. The secretary announces very important business on the agenda paper.

Guild Committees at Manchester.

THESE will be held as usual at the Guild headquarters, the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on the morning of the Manchester meeting, at 11 o'clock prompt, and in the evening at 7 o'clock.

Centres of Show Life in London.

IN addition to the World's Fair at Islington and the Tiny Town annexe at Olympia, we have a number of well-organised fairgrounds in various meropolitan districts, at Mile End-road, Fulham, Stratford, Deptford, Chelsea, Lavender Hill, Cambridge Heath-road, and at several other places from which returns are not yet to hand. We regret to report that Mr. Fred Gray and his tenants at the Lavender Hill ground suffered considerable loss from the flying sparks of the awful drapery store fire near Clapham Junction, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the fair. Mr. Fred Gray writing to us with regard to the damage done, says:—"We have had a very large fire here. Burnt all my tilts on machine and shows; also burnt tilting of side shows and stalls. Done a lot of damage." Our sympathy is with Mr. Gray and his tenants.

Lavender Hill Fun Carnival.

WITH Mr. Fred Gray, who exhibits cinematograph theatre, electric motor-car switchback, Winchester range, swings, &c., are several well-known show and amusement providers, Messrs. Ridley and Piper, Peters, Morris, and Salter with side shows, houp-las, and throwing games.

Cambridge Heath-road.

W. BIDDALL'S cinematograph show, J. Biddall's novelty booth, Thurston's motor galloping horses, helter-skelter, and racing birds, Holmes and S. Mayne's juvenile horses and cars, S. Mayne's swings, and Parr's big boat, are the show and machine attractions. Amongst the minor novelties are Stirling's Winchester range, bottle batteries by Holmes and Theodore, houp-la frames and throwing games by Bond Brett, Bolesworth, Saunders, Holmes, Theodore Manning, Hussey, and Harvey.

Fulham Perpetual Fair.

HERE are the lessees' aggregation of novelties:—The film palace, the Teddy Bear roundabout and park swings, throwing games, houp-la frames, and watch-la stalls. Associated with Mr. Manders is Mr. G. Saunders, who exhibits penalty football game, bottle battery, and cokers. Mrs. Saunders has her shooting range on the ground.

Mile End-road Fun Carnival.

ANOTHER excellent all-the-year-round fair is on H. Forrest's ground in the Mile End-road. The lessee provides the big attractions, such as the cinematograph show, the revolving flip-flap, park swings, and overboats. The other entertainers are W. Bedford, with miniature jungle, &c.; Irving with kicking donkey, Andrews with shooting range, Bolesworth with bottle smasher and throwing games, houp-las, &c., by Messrs. Harvey, Coombs, Bircher, Bolesworth, Ives, Andrews, and G. Irving.

Deptford Winter Fair.

THIS well-known fair is under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Mackeesy, the lessees, and well maintains its great celebrity. This year the lessees have opened part of the ground space at their command as a well-equipped skating rink, and they also provide the picture palace. H. Thurston's set of grotesque porkers is the big machine novelty. Mrs. Knighton's park swings, Mr. Bishop's shooting concerns, and Mr. G. Pickard's throwing games exhausts the list of attractions.

Chelsea Fun City.

LESSEE and manager, Mr. Arthur Burgess. The chief attraction here is Presland's roundabouts. The other show and fairground amusements are Ridley's show, Mr. Burgess's numerous exhibits, including swings, football frames, bottle smashers, and variety stalls, Mr. George Peters with shooters, F. Traylen with throwing games, Arthur Burgess, jun., with similar amusements, and John Battle with variety frames, &c.

Glasgow Carnival Ground.

THIS famous fairground was in full swing for the Christmas holiday, and will continue its season over the New Year holidays. The lessee, Mr. George Green, has a great array of up-to-date amusements, the Whilevate permanent cinematograph theatre and carnival varieties, the palace of animated pictures, the scenic railway, the straight switchback, the Brooklyn cake-walk machine, the four-abreast jumping horses, the juvenile sets of horses and ponies, and park swings. The other shows and amusements were Chapman's performing birds and hares, Howard's steam yachts, the shooting ranges and batteries of Messrs. Day, Lawrence and Son and Merrick's throwing games, and variety frames by Messrs. Ross, Macintosh, Blockleys, Prince, and Matchett.

Houp-las in grand array—avenues of them, a grand galaxy of light, colour, and treasure trove provided by Messrs. Day Bros., Irvin and Sons, Blockley Bros., John Wilmot, jun., P. Swallow, jun., Merrick Bros., J. Matchett, T. Ross, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Blockley, and Mrs. Bradley.

The Edinburgh Open-Air Carnival.

UNDER Mr. Codona's management this fair was set out in splendid order. Mr. Codona's exhibits are the cinematograph theatre, the mountain pony roundabout, the galloping horses, the helter-skelter tower, the Winchester range, houp-la circles, watch-la stalls, and big boats by W. Codona, jun. The other shows are Cady's savage South Sea Islanders and the freak museum, Hemming's fine art gallery and cake walk, and Bailey's two-headed giant. Houp-las in great variety by Messrs. Stroud, Bastable, Cunningham, Palmer, Ratcliff, Kelso, and Girham, and watch-la stalls by the Codona Family, throwing games and stalls by Messrs. Bastable, Palmer, Stolt, Dobbin, and Connor.

Notes from Wales.

AT Morristown are H. Studt and Sons' gondolas, Boswell's shooting range, Buss and Mothy's swings, and throwing games, houp-las, &c., by Chadwick, Boswell, and Motley. At Brynmawr are Dooner and Son, Haggins and White's picture palaces, Studt's motors and horses, Sid White's birds, helter-skelter, and aerial flight; shooters, games, and stalls by Foster, Odeley, and Dunbar, juvenile horses by Mrs. Odeley.

Sheffield Christmas and New Year's Fair.

FOR this big fair the ground is crowded from end to end. Amongst the shows are Farrer and Tyler's two picture palaces, John Proctor and Hobson's similar shows, and J. Liney Teddy Bear exhibit. The machines are those of G. T. Tuby, Marshall and Son, the Waddingtons, and J. Amos. Shooters, houp-las, and throwing games by Messrs. Richards, Lever, Buxton, Lieske, W. Radcliffe, Peters, Smith, Middlebrook, Tuby, Farrar J. Burgess, D. Johnson, E. Calver, Ashcroft, W. H. Doubtfire, C. Johnson Steward, Fawcett, Bradley, and J. Joy.

Hillkirk-street, Ardwick.

THIS excellent Manchester suburban fair had for its chief entertainers: Proctor with circus; Norman with filmoscope; Furness with school of athletes and boxers; C. Marshall's switchback; Mrs. Holden's ostriches, Helme's bikes, E. Geoghegan's gallopers and swings; Walker's and Day's park highfliers; Fletcher's Winchester range; round houp-la frames by Beaumont, Holden, Jephson, and G. Smith; throwing games, variety stalls, &c., by Cordwell, Fletcher, Holland, Worthington, Jephson, Horton, Walker, and others. This fair was bigger, brighter, and better than ever, and good business is reported.

Bolton for Christmastide.

HERE were Clark's famous cinematograph show, T. Hurst's set of racing birds, Jewell's shooting range, and games by Jewell and Shorrocks.

Middlesbrough Christmastide.

HERE were Caris's galloping horses, Rich's juvenile set, swings, shooters, and games; houp las by Watkins, J. Nicholls, Crow, J. Barugh, Harker, Kitson, Griffiths; shooters and games by H. Caris, Rich. Twilley, Woodhurst, Nicholls, J. Moore, and Watkins; throwing games, stalls, &c., by Rich, Williams, Duffield, T. Turton, Holliday, and others.

Preston Fair.

THIS great winter fair was well maintained by Payne's bioscope, John Green's motors and gallopers, steam horses by Dewhurst, swings by Harrison, gem horses and bikes by Parr, Richmond, Law, shooters by Dewhurst, Mrs. Harrison, houp las by Messrs. T. Taylor, Garlick Family, Wilson, Dewhurst Bro., and Richmond, penalty kicks by Forshaw and Garlick Bros.

Christmastide at Norwich.

THE Norwich Christmas Fair commenced on Boxing day, and was visited by a very large number of persons. Mr. Charles Thurston continues his fun fair in the Agricultural Hall, and in addition has his magnificent cinematograph show on the Castle Hill. This show has an exquisite appearance at the front, and the grand organ is no small delight to the patrons of the fair. Mr. A. Crichton is also here with a cinematograph show. Messrs. Barker and Thurston have steam motors and gondolas, and Mr. Belsworth has a bicycle roundabout; and there are a number of hoop-la stalls—W. Abbott, J. Hearn, J. H. Norman, W. Westhrop, J. Holmes, and others, who all seem doing well.

THE WORLD'S FAIR:

FIRST NOTICE.

The great demand upon our space last week owing to the issue of the cinematograph regulation, prevented us dealing with the World's Fair. In its old habitat—the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington—it is the fair of all fairs, the supreme expression of all that is greatest and best in the vast empire of shows. Mr. T. E. Read, the lessee and manager, is gifted with more than inherited genius, he is the living personification of up-to-date wisdom and ability in modern show life. A Napoleon in enterprise, a Moltke in organisation, and Columbus in new discovery, each year of his triumphant management has evidenced his modern spirit, whilst yet building on the secure foundation of the World's Fair's best and soundest principles of order and arrangement.

The Old Traditions in New Expressions.

There are still the old, yet ever new, Wombwell's menagerie, the circus arena, the modern successor of the theatre, the cinematograph palace of varieties, the roundabouts, the railway, the sideshows with marvels of nature and optical illusion, yet all up to date.

Motor-cars, aerial ships, cake-walks, Arctic scenic railway, bike tracks, shooting ranges, bowling alley, haunted castles, haunted swings, big wheels—all are there.

In the Main Hall.

Under this vast glass roof the central position is occupied by the Grand Free Parisian Circus, while other central positions are occupied by handsome carved and gilt roundabouts and motor roundabouts, and round the sides are arranged a miscellaneous collection of side shows, amongst which are some of the most handsome carved and gilded fronts possible to be seen in the world, embracing Taylor's superb cinematograph show, with its brilliant interchanging electric lights and handsome gilded front, Hasting's midget show, sliding round the winding tower, Turner's ever-mirthful distorting mirrors, mid-air trips on the big wheel, the cake walk, and Pro. Paul's glass-blowers' exhibition. If you want to laugh as you have never laughed before, don't miss the mysterious castle, the cake walk, or the haunted swing, Low's photographic studio, bicycle roundabouts, fish ponds, fancy stalls, fruit and sweet stalls. If you are a sportsman, the best miniature shooting ranges in the world are at your service, also the American bowling alley, while the numerous other side shows cater liberally for the delectation of the public for the small outlay of a copper or two.

IN the Gilbey Hall is a first-class up-to-date skating rink. This new and popular feature is located in the Gilbey Hall; splendid rock maple floor of 30,000 square feet surface, brilliantly lighted and decorated, first-class band, with the latest ball-bearing skates. At sessions as announced.

IN the arcade are located a variety of amusing and entertaining novelties, automatic machines of every description, and novelty stalls, the youngsters' delight—the mammoth Christmas tree, laden with an endless variety of toys, &c. The children's delight and the grown-ups' reminiscences of their early childhood.

IN the spacious balcony is the grand free ballroom. This popular feature is again well to the front, with all the new and up-to-date dances, while special carnival and Cinderella nights will be organised during the season. New first-class band, and the popular and efficient M.C. (Mr. H. Bloodworth) in command. Round the balcony are located a great number and variety of throwing and other games, where the skilful can secure prizes for a small outlay and enjoy all the fun of the fair.

WAVERLEY MARKET CARNIVAL, EDINBURGH.

Among the most popular of local Christmas and New Year holiday attractions is undoubedtly the annual carnival instituted twenty-five years ago by the enterprise of Sir Edward (then Mr.) Moss, and the "silver jubilee" entertainment was auspiciously opened for its usual three weeks' season on Saturday last. The spacious building has been again transformed into something like fairy-land, the effects secured by the decorators being notable for novelty and daintiness. The artistic arrangements of soft-toned draperies are pleasingly supplemented by schemes of coloured lights and electric lamps. The spaces set apart for the numerous side shows, which form a prominent and prmanent feature of the carnival from its opening to its close, are very prettily treated as to their outward adornments, and the shows themselves provide a variety of interesting and amusing objects of curiosity.

Brobdingnag is well represented by Long Joseph, a German soldier some eight feet high, who turns the scale at close on 300lb. Lilliput sends the Texas Tom Thumb, the smallest man on earth, who weighs about 30lb. A little further on four Zulu chiefs give an exposition of native magic and some weird ceremonies, including their weddings and forms of worship. In another direction La Belle of Paris goes through a Cleopatra snake dance with live snakes. "An Artist's Dream" is quite a remarkable series of illusions; and "Sculpture Bewitched" is also a clever and effective trick. "The Selbit Mystery" gives the visitor plenty to wonder at in the way of spiritualistic marvels; and there are besides the Little Moto-Messenger Boy, an ingenious mechanical figure; the Flip Flap Wheel, one of the latest novelties in locomotion; The War of 1912, a vivid spectacular production; and Le Neve and Mace's Troupe of Athletes, including Miss Nora Sulivan and the veteran Jem Mace, champion boxer of the world, now in his seventy-eighth year. Wilmot's grand racing motor cars, as well as his royal steeplechase hunters are strongly in evidence, and do a brisk business; and American shooting galleries, besides a Temple of Palmistry, with an innumerable assortment of quasi Aunt Sallies and kindred stands, draw the nimble pennies from their patrons.

The programme of the platform entertainment for the current week is a strong one; and the strongest of its many items is the presentation of the educated chimpanzee Consul. Mr. Harold L. Hilliard has the animal on tour, and under his direction it goes through a human-like performance of dining at table, pouring out and drinking wine, lighting and smoking a cigarette, partaking of tea, and finally undressing and getting into its sleeping cot Among Consul's many acomplishments may be enumerated its skill in using a mirror, hair brushes, and a muscle developer, also its expertness in roller-skating and riding a bicycle. The Marno Trio submit a sensational display as comedy acrobats; and the Brothers Artois show originality and resource in a smart horizontal bar act. The Rexos gives an admirable exhibition of skating novelties; and the Aurora Troupe of cyclists perform a succession of marvellous feats with their characteristic ease and grace. Cornalla and Eddie do some curious things in the way of tumbling, juggling, and twisting; the Three Meers introduce an element of eccentric comedy into their wire walking exploits, which conclude with clever movements on an endless wire rope; the Tan-Kwai troupe of Chinese artists show considerable skill as magicians, jugglers, benders, and so forth; and the Belleclair Brothers, American gymnasts, accomplish marvels of strength and dexterity in hand-balancing. Two fine examples of animal training are seen in the performances of Reichen's dogs and the very pretty manœuvres of Miss Marquis with her stud of cobs and ponies. Music is agreeably supplied by the band of the Lothians and Border Horse, under the bâton of Mr. J. Ord Hume. The carnival itself is ably managed by Mr. W. Campbell Milne.

THE DREAM FAIR.

From "The Forest of Wild Thyme," by ALFRED NOYES.

Three children in search of little Peterkin, their dead brother, are at last led to the Faery City of Sleep under the guidance of two fairies, and to their surprise find a strange Fair proceeding, which ended in a very mysterious and wonderful way.

* * * * * *

And once again from the heart of the city
A murmur of tenderer laughter rose;
A sound that was faint as the smile of Pity,
And sweet as a swan-song's golden close.
And it seemed as if some wonderful Fair
Were charming the night of the City of Dreams,
For over the mystical din out there
The clouds were litten with flickering gleams.
And a roseate light like the day's first flush
Quivered and beat on the towers above;
And we heard through the curious crooning hush
An elfin song that we used to love.

"Little Boy Blue, come blow up your horn" . . .
And the soft wind blew it the other way,
And all that we heard was "cows in the corn";
But we never heard anything half so gay,
And ever we seemed to be drawing nearer
That mystical roseate smoke-wreathed glare,
And the curious music grew louder and clearer
Till Mustard Seed* said, "We're lucky you see,
We've arrived at a time of festivity!"
And so to the end of the street we came,
And turned a corner and—there we were.
In a place that glowed like the Dawn of Day
A crowded, clamorous City Square,
Like the cloudy heart of an opal, aflame
With the lights of a great Dream Fair:
Thousands of children were gathered there,
Thousands of old men, weary and grey,
And the shouts of the showmen filled the air—
"This way! This way! This way!"

And "See Saw, Margery Daw," we heard a rollicking shout
As the swing-boats hurtled over our heads to the tune of the roundabout.
And "Little Boy Blue, come blow up your horn," we heard the showmen cry;
And "Dickory Dock, I'm as good as a clock," we heard the swings reply.

* * * * * *

"Dickory Dock, I'm as good as a clock, d'you hear my swivels chime,
To and fro as I come and go I keep eternal time.
O, Little Bo-Peep, if you've lost your sheep, and don't know where to find 'em,
Leave 'em alone and they'll come home, and carry their tails behind 'em."
And "See Saw, Margery Daw," there came the chorussing shout
As the swing-boats answered the roaring tune of the rollicking roundabout;
"Dickory, Dickory, Dickory Dock, d'you hear my swivels chime,
Swing, swing, you're as good as a king, if you keep eternal time."

Then we saw that the tunes of the world were one,
And the metre that guided the rhythmic sun
Was at one like the ebb and the flow of the sea
With the tunes that we learned at our mother's knee;
The beat of the horse hoofs that carried us down
To see the fine lady of Banbury Town;
And so by the rhymes that we knew we could tell
Without knowing the others—that all was well.

And then our brains began to spin
For it seemed as if that mighty din
Were no less than the cries of the poets and sages
Of all the nations in all the ages;
And if they could only beat out the whole
Of their music together, the guerdon and goal
Of the world would be reached with one mighty shout
And the dark, dread secret of Time be out;
And nearer, nearer, they seemed to climb,
And madder and merrier rose the song,
And the swings and the see-saws marked the time;
For this was the maddest and merriest throng
That ever was met on a holy day
To dance the dust of the world away.
And madder and merrier, round and round,
The whirligigs whirled to the whirling sound,
Till it seemed that the mad song burst its bars
And mixed with the song of the whirling stars,
The song that the rhythmic Time-tides tell
To seraphs in Heaven, and devils in Hell;
Ay; Heaven and Hell in accordant chime
With the universal rhythm and rhyme
Were nearing the secret of space and time;
The song of that ultimate Mystery
Which only the mad blind men who see
Led by the laugh of a little child
Can utter. Ay, wilder and yet more wild
It maddened, till now—full song—it was out!
It roared from the starry roundabout—

A child was born in Bethlehem, in Bethlehem, in Bethlehem;
A child was born in Bethlehem, ah, hear my fairy fable,
For I have seen the King of Kings, no longer thronged with angel wings;
But croodling like a little babe, and cradled in a stable.

The wise men came to greet Him with their gifts of myrrh and frankincense,
Gold and myrrh and frankincense they brought to make Him mirth;
And would you know the way to win to little brother Peterkin
My childhood's heart shall guide you through the glories of the earth.

A child was born in Bethlehem, in Bethlehem, in Bethlehem;
The wise men came to welcome Him, a star stood o'er the gable,
And there they saw the King of Kings, no longer thronged with angel wings;
But croodling like a little babe, and cradled in a stable.

* A fairy.

South Wales Notes.

A SPECIALLY strong attraction was presented at Mr. E. Ebley's Olympia Theatre, which is situated on the fairground at Bridgend, for the Christmas season. The plays included the well-known Welsh drama, *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa*, which is of local interest. Good business is being done nightly at this house of amusement.

LITTLE JENNIE ALEXANDER, on the termination of her engagement at the Empire, Bradford, on Christmas Eve, after a very successful week, was presented with a large Teddy bear. It was afterwards christened "Billy," Miss Lottie Lennox acting as godmother.

READING SKATING RINK (Vastern-road).—This popular resort has been very extensively patronised throughout the holidays.

HARRY LAUDER appeared at the West End Theatre, New York, recently, beginning a tour of the Shubert houses in that city and elsewhere, with a company of entertainers. More than five thousand persons saw his last performance at the American Music Hall.

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

A MEETING of the cinematograph trade will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday next, at 2.30 p.m., when everyone interested—manufacturers, factors, hirers, and showmen—are earnestly requested to attend. The questions to be discussed are vital to the interest of all, viz., the proposed regulations of the London C.C. and provincial governing bodies.

American Motion Pictures.

THE films department of B. Nichols, of 45, Gerrard-street, W., has released some very interesting films this week. These are the Open Gate, The Mountaineer's Honour, The Witches Cavern, and The Senorita.

THE OPEN GATE.—Hetty and George were old-time sweethearts, and as years went by George could never muster up courage to "pop the question." Finally, he bought an engagement ring, and calling Hetty out to the garden gate, with extreme effort, declares his love and puts the ring on her finger, before he realised the great extent of his daring. The earth contained no two happier souls than George and Hetty, until Hetty receives a letter telling her of the sudden death of her sister, who, leaving a little daughter three years old, made a last request, that as she had cared for Hetty through her childhood, Hetty would care for her little one, Mary. This was, indeed, a blow, and after a mental struggle her plain duty to her sister's child forces her to break off her engagement with George. Sending for him, she meets him at the gate, and expressing her determination, gives him back the ring. Years roll on, and Mary has grown to young womanhood. Jack, the nephew of George, and Mary are now sweethearts and meet at the open gate, where the old, old story is again told. Aunt Hetty must be consulted, and she, of course, gives hearty consent. Jack has received a letter from his uncle George, stating that he is tired of his wandering and may return any moment. So the boy has much to be happy for. However, the course of true love never runs smooth, and the young lovers quarrel. Uncle George arrives, and is surprised to find his old sweetheart standing where he stood fifteen years before. Hetty then tells him the gate has remained open since his departure. There is a double wedding.

THE MOUNTAINEER'S HONOUR.—This is a story of the Kentucky Hills, and deals with the trouble of a mother, father, son, and a harum-scarum daughte who know nothing of the world outside the old blue hills where they lived. The film is 977ft. in length.

THE WITCHES' CAVERN.—Joe Montgomery and daughter decide to make a trip to the far west and hunt deer. They leave the camp in charge of Joe's daughter, and after they have gone about 200 yards they are all startled, for, as they stopped at the edge of the rapids, there stood Wild Harry, who has always lived in the woods with his mother, who is known as the witch of the valley. The hunters try to speak to him, but he runs away. He gets to one of the large pine trees and stops to see if they are still following him, and turning around he spies the hunter's camp. He is off at once to investigate. Wild Harry finds Montgomery's daughter alone, and when the girl sees this freak of nature she is nearly frightened to death. She is in terror and her first thought is of the gun alongside the tent, but Mad Harry is on her at once, and after a tussle he takes the gun away from her and breaks it in two. There are many astounding adventures before the story ends with the father securing his daughter and the hunters return safely to the camp.

THE SENORITA.—This story deals with the old aristocratic chivalry of the Mexican gentleman, whose well-bred family traits and traditions eliminate thought of nationality in a wholesome desire of offering hospitality to the stranger. In this instance the stranger is an American, a "Gringo," that type not loved too well by our friends across the border. The length is 1000ft.

Annette Kellerman Pictures.

THE Vitagraph Company are issuing a film showing Miss Annette Kellerman, "the Australian Mermaid," performing her physical culture exercises, diabolo playing, fancy swimming, and diving, and, with the lady's reputation, it should find a place in many programmes.

A Bear Hunt Film.

BEAR HUNTING, a Warwick film, shows a vessel making its way to the Arctic regions, until navigation is stopped by ice. A bear being sighted, the hunters make after it, finally bringing it to bay. It is captured, and taken on board with its cubs. Other bears are chased and caught and taken on board the vessel, some dead, others alive. We are shown the ship homeward bound, and the film closes with some good views of the "Land of the Midnight Sun."

Hop-picking by Machinery.

AN exhibition was given last week on the premises of the Charles Urban Trading Company, Ltd., Wardour-street, of a series of cinematographic pictures showing the operation of a hop-picking machine invented by Mr. E. Clemens Horst. It is stated that the invention of this apparatus was a consequence of the San Francisco earthquake, the labourers required to pick the hops on Mr. Horst's fields in California not being forthcoming at reasonable prices because they found reliance on relief funds more congenial than work. The machine is erected at any convenient point, and the hop-vines are collected bodily on the fields and conveyed to it in wagons. One advantage claimed for this arrangement is that it becomes possible to select those vines which are mature, those which are not quite ready being left for a few days; whereas, with hand-picking, the vines must be stripped, whether they are properly matured or not. With the machine hand labour is required only for fixing each vine as it is unloaded from the wagon in the travelling frame of the apparatus, and this is done simply by hooking the stem round a pin. The frame draws the vines over a series of sixteen drums revolving rapidly in the opposite direction to that in which it is travelling, and V-shaped fingers on these drums, to the number in all of about 12,000, catch the hops and break them off. These fingers are so shaped that they do not become clogged, and so that they strip off as few leaves as possible. Some leaves are, however, unavoidably removed, and the machine includes two devices for separating the hops from them. Finally, the hops, by means of a conveyor, are deposited on the floor of the drying-house, where they are dried by air warmed by the exhaust steam in about two minutes after the vines have been fed in. A machine, which costs about £300 to build, can deal with vines to the number of sixteen a minute, and it is found that an average output of about 50lb. of hops a minute can be obtained, though the rate sometimes rises to 6,000lb. an hour. Last season some 8,000 bales of hops were harvested in California by means of such machines.

Mr. Blathwayt and Sunday Cinematographs.

MR. RAYMOND BLATHWAYT has addressed the following letter to the Press on what he terms "the latest specimen of our vexatious, grandmotherly legislation with regard to the closing by the L.C.C. of the Sunday cinematograph." He then goes on to say: "The cinematograph shows in London are in every sense of the word beyond reproach, and from the point of view of popular education and refinement they are acknowledged to be of the highest value. Now, the Sunday cinematograph is a great factor in the cleansing and purifying of our municipal life, inasmuch as by taking the people out of the cold, damp streets, and drawing them from the meretricious attractions of the gin palace, they are actually taking their definite and distinct share in the building-up of citizens of the Empire. So much is this realised in certain quarters that only last week I heard that one of our most prominent bishops had actually promised to open a Sunday cinematograph show in a great Northern capital with a special address, it being the intention of the committee to give a special exhibition of religious pictures each week. This sort of thing will now be at an end should the unreasonable and tyrannical restriction of the L.C.C. become law."

Pictures of British East Africa.

A SERIES of cinematograph pictures depicting life in British East Africa were shown in the studio of the Hepworth Manufacturing Company in Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, last week. The films had been taken under the direction of Mr. W. D. Boyce, publisher, of Chicago, and president of the American Publishers' Association, who, with a party of friends, recently paid a visit to the Protectorate. Three captive balloons and a complete plant for generating gas were taken on the expedition, and many of the scenes were photographed in mid-air. Considering the slender resources at the disposal of the operator some surprisingly successful results were achieved. The expedition was in no way a commercial one, and it is not proposed to give public exhibitions of the pictures. The object which Mr. Boyce and those co-operating with him had in view in undertaking the trip was to give the American public a realistic presentation of life among the natives of British East Africa. American publishers will accordingly be invited to make use of any of the photographs they choose in their publications. An interesting picture is one showing the reception at Nairobi of Sir Percy Girouard, who was a fellow-passenger of Mr. Boyce and his party, and who is seen inspecting the native guard of honour and receiving the native chiefs.

Shaving with Broken Glass.

CUSTOMS IN ABYSSINIA shows how, disdaining lather and razors, the natives squat on the ground, while the barber's assistant prepares the cutting implements (pieces of glass) by merely breaking a glass bottle. The operation is performed and the blacks seem to stand it well. This and other subjects form a unique collection of Abyssinian customs.

Panic in an Austrian Theatre.

ACCORDING to a message from Vienna, a terrible panic, attended by fatal consequences, was brought about in a cinematograph theatre at Lemberg, owing to the action of a gang of roughs, who threw into the arena a quantity of lighted fireworks. The loud detonations which ensued terrified the audience, who made a mad rush for the exit, and in the struggle fearful scenes were witnessed. When the auditorium was at length cleared it was seen that three students had been crushed to death, while six persons were discovered seriously injured, of whom two died in hospital in the course of the night. Seventeen other people received injuries of a minor character, and an investigation showed that altogether some 200 fireworks must have been thrown into the midst of the audience, the criminals having profited by the panic to pick the pockets of the panic-stricken crowd around the door.

Bioscope in Russia.

CINEMATOGRAPH theatres enjoy an amazing popularity at the present time in Russia. There are 150 of these places of amusement in St. Petersburg alone. It is estimated that Russia spends £50,000 a week in the purchase of the pictures displayed.

New Companies.

IRISH ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Dec. 20, £400 (394 £1 preference and 120 1s. ordinary). As title. Private. 2, 3, and 4, Cheapside, E.C.

NORTHERN PALACES.—Dec. 20, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £2,000 (£1). Exhibitors and manufacturers of and dealers in cinematograph views and lantern slides, &c. Private.

THE WEST OF SCOTLAND ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Registered with a capital of £20,000 in 19,000 ordinary shares of £1 each and 20,000 deferred shares of 1s. each, to carry on the business of theatre and music hall proprietors, and to provide cinematographic and photographic entertainments. A statement in lieu of prospectus is filed. The signatories are: James W. M'Millan, law clerk, 9, Clydeview, Partick; J. W. Bruce, law clerk, 65, Cromwell-street, Glasgow; J. A. L. Macdonald, law clerk, 14, Carmichael-place, Langside; A. Watson Baird, jun., chartered accountant, 2, Erskine-avenue, Dumbreck; and H. C. Hedderwick, accountant's clerk, Florentine-gardens, Glasgow; G. W. Harvey, accountant's apprentice, Helensburgh; and D. J. Donaldson, accountant's clerk, Stevenston.

GOVAN CROSS PICTURE PALACE.—Registered as a private company, with a capital of £2000 in £1 shares, to construct at Govan an entertainment pavilion, and to carry on the business of amusement proprietors and managers.

INTERNATIONAL ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Dec. 16. £6,600. Agreement with Equitable Development Syndicate, Limited. Private company.

CINEMA DE LUXE.—Dec. 22. £5,000 (4,750 £1 "A" and 5,000 1s. "B"). Agents for electric theatres, opera house, theatrical or music-hall proprietors, &c. Private. (106,611.)

THEATRE ORGANISATION COMPANY.—Dec. 22. £2,000 (£1). To take over the business of the Theatre Organisation Society carried on by C. F. Leijel, Mrs. H. W. Leijel, and N. Playfair. Private. (106,625.)

CINO CORPORATION.—Dec. 20. £30,000 (£1). Theatre proprietors and managers, cinematograph exhibitors, &c. Private. (106,550.)

Electric Theatre Manager's Charity.

FOR the Croydon Police-court poor-box, the receipt of £1 1s. from Mr. W. H. Cousins, general-manager of the Electric Theatre, North End, was announced on Thursday. £3 3s. has also been sent to the Mayor's Underfed Children's Fund, and £1 1s. to the Croydon General Hospital by the same gentleman.

The Moving Picture.

THE advance of the cinematograph has brought into use many methods of rapid photography and quick development. Events which occur during an afternoon are exhibited at the various theatres and music halls the same evening. This means that a film of thousands of pictures—each one a separate photograph in itself—has been exposed, developed, fixed, and dried, within an incredibly short space of time. In spite of the rapidity with which this is done, many of the pictures are as nearly perfect as possible. Not satisfied with ordinary tone photographs we have now living pictures in natural colours, whole plays are produced in moving pictures, and specially constructed buildings are erected for their display. In some cases the phonograph is brought into use at the same time, but up to the present the "photo-phono-graph" has not proved very successful.

THE Theatre de Luxe in the Strand presents a strong programme this week. The subjects are A Tale of the West, The Old Man's Pension Day, Mr. Poorluck Gets Married, Customs in Abyssinia, The Gibson Goddess, A Child's Dream of Fairyland, and The Motor Cyclist. The front of the house here is looked after by Mr. Fletcher.

Alexandra Picture Palace.

MESSRS. CARPENTERS, LTD., opened the Alexandra Hall, Aldershot, on Monday, as a picture palace, and with every sign of making it a successful undertaking. Miss Winnie Winn met with a tremendous success, and amongst the pictures, which were most enthusiastically received, is that great historical film of Nero, whilst the racing picture, The Jockey, is as realistic as one could wish. Next week the management have secured the film of Lieutenant Shackleton's Travel to the Pole.

New Harlesden Picture Theatre.

THE Premier Electric Theatres Co., Ltd., of King's House, King's-street, E.C., opened on Boxing Day the Constitutional Hall, Harlesden, as an up-to-date electric theatre. The hall has been handsomely re-decorated and upholstered. The entertainment provided was of the highest standard, and evidently greatly appreciated by the residents in the neighbourhood. Record business was done, and numbers were unable to gain admission. Everything points to this being a highly successful undertaking.

Good Holiday Programme at Kensington.

AT the Kensington Picture Theatre this week a very fine programme has been submitted, made up of the following subjects: Tommy Lad (Walturdaw), Motor Cyclist (Warwick), The Gamekeeper's Daughter (Pathé's), Drowsy Dick's Dream (Cosmopolitan), The Great Lakes of Central Africa (Pathé's), Foolshead Pays a Visit (Tyler), A Story of Circus Life (Pathé's), and Sleeping Beauty (Pathé's).

Sir E. Shackleton at Lewisham.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON last Tuesday afternoon paid a visit to the Lewisham Electric Palace, when cinematograph pictures taken on his Antarctic expedition were exhibited. In the course of a short speech, Sir Ernest said it was the first time that the cinematograph had been taken to South Polar regions, and considerable difficulties were experienced in operating the instrument, as in low temperature, with 70 or 80 degrees of frost, they had to take all the oil out of the machine. It was a pleasure to him to be present, as he was very proud to be associated with Lewisham, which was his old town.

New Theatre at Gateshead.

THIS most up-to-date electrical theatre has been built with all the latest improvements, and was opened under the most favourable auspices on Monday night. It has a spacious hall and marble staircases. The decorations of the auditorium are on a lavish scale and on delicate lines throughout. The theatre has a seating capacity of close upon 2,000, and the cost of construction has been about £10,000. Messrs. Hy. Gibson and Pascal Steinlet, the well-known architects, of North Shields, are responsible for the designs, and Mr. W. T. Wier, of Howden-on-Tyne, is the contractor. The building has been erected in the record time of three and a half months.

Permanent Cinematographs in Hull.

NEW plans for a Public Hall, to be erected on the site of the Old Baptist Chapel, in George-street, have been passed by the Hull Corporation Works Committee. The building will be a very imposing structure designed by Messrs. Freeman, Son, and Gaskell, architects, Carr-lane, Hull, is to be specially built for a permanent cinematograph entertainment, and will be called the Princes Hall. It will accommodate over 1,500 people. Morton's, Ltd., owners of the Grand and Alexandra Theatres, are likely to be largely interested in the scheme.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—A good holiday week programme is being presented by the management here, the films including several of the latest before the public. A change of programme was given on Thursday, following the usual custom. Despite counter attractions, good business is the order.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The Palace of Varieties and Pictures, over which Mr. Jas. Marks presides as the leading spirit, has been provided this week with a good holiday programme. Mr. Jack Pashley recites a dramatic piece specially written to coloured illustrations by the lantern. The pictures for the week are The Little Flower Girl's Christmas, Avenging Hypnotism, Ma-in-Law Learns to Ride, The first is pathetic, the next startling, and the next amusing. Ma-in-Law becomes an aviator, with an original aeroplane. The films The Alpine Echo, full of adventures in the Alps; The Vagabond's Adventure, and the Gipsy Lover, are also remarkably interesting pictures from different points of view. A disappointment awaited the audience at the hall on Monday (Boxing Day). A dramatic sketch, *The Tramp and the Slavey*, was billed for performance, but the sudden illness of Mrs. Marks was an insurmountable barrier to its performance. The other "speciality" artist additional to the cinematograph entertainment was the elocutionary efforts of Mr. Pashley, who gave "Ostler Joe" with dramatic effect.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The programme here is made extra special for holiday week. The pictures are numerous and good. For the delectation of visitors who prefer the picture of adventure, there is the Corsican's Revenge. The Bootmaker's Revenge is peculiar from the original circumstances which call it forth. The Motherless Waif is touching and pathetic. Poor Mr. Luck is a case for sympathy; Garibaldi's Son is historical in a sense, but there is a comic side. Humour in excess is seen in the films, The Mad Drainpipe, The Lamp, The Bold Counter-jumper, &c. The Street Scenes and other views of Sofia were splendid films. The artists are The Lindens, who appear in their latest absurdity, *An Ambitious Partner*; Edgar Cook, the illusionist, is most entertaining; he introduces birds and animals—that is, amazing productions of the same. His magical extravaganza, *The Conjuring Chef*, is very astounding in its mystery. May and Kennerly, the girl and the page, is an entertainment which commends itself; Mr. Alan Wright was the descriptive lecturer.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Lecky.—Mr. Lecky, the manager of the Picturedrome, entertained his juvenile patrons on Christmas Eve to the number of 300. At the afternoon "show," which is really got up for youngsters, he gave them a free tea. Each child was warned to provide itself with a mug, into which tea was poured by a staff of waiters. Then cake and sweetcake was added to the feast, and the youngsters enjoyed it immensely. A free picture "show" was given them, and each child was presented with apple, orange, and other gifts on leaving the Picturedrome. Mr. Lecky's bill this week includes a film entitled Carmen, very finely acted and capitally staged. The pictures have been obtained from real life in Spain, some splendid holiday costumes worn by the Spanish girls are objects of admiration. The story of Carmen the gipsy, and her fooling of a lowly lover, and the tragic result, are well known as depicted in Bizet's opera. The Corsican's Vengeance is a thrilling story of love and jealousy, and is very tragic in its denouement. There are other pictures which awake solicitude and sympathy in the human breast. Comic films include Bobby Wideawake, describing the adventures of a juvenile; The Theatre Pass, a screamer; The Escaped Snake, a funny picture showing the ruse of a showman. The interlude artists are Godfrey West, who gives songs and monologues in good style; and Bowden and Belle, a youthful duo of performers in song and dance.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Dirdector, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—An excellent Christmastide bill of fare is provided by the management here, and is being largely patronised. The star picture is Noel, a beautiful and interesting Christmas story. The Sick Man's Dream, Two Friends, and Leather Stocking are highly dramatic; Three-Fingered Kate is another of the popular detective series; and laughter is evoked by Race for the Monkey and Three Reasons for Haste. Miss Alice Gill is still a popular favourite; and Mr. Syd Nicholson is meeting with success as an eccentric comedian.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—A fine holiday programme here is drawing packed houses. The pictures are the latest productions, and include Rich and Poor at Christmas, Before and After Marriage, Two Strings to Her Bow, Demos Panto Troupe, The Gas Inspector, and The Light That Came. A special feature of the entertainment is the engagement of the popular and well-known Stavordale Quintette, whose skilful manipulation of banjoes and harp in a refined and pleasing selection is a musical treat of a high order, and calls forth hearty and well-deserved applause. Mr. W. A. Guest's Red Coat Band are also appreciated.

BELFAST.—NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Under the direction of the energetic manager (Mr. Will White), a fine programme has been presented here, including the following interesting pictures: A Pompeiian Martyr, Temptation of the Goldfield, The Love Token, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. George Reeves, a clever vocalist and comedian; and Mr. Charlie Williams, a funny negro entertainer.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett a fine series of films have been presented here, including The Lady with the Camellias, The Brigand's Death, His New Situation, Mr. Sadman's Cure, &c. The Maynards appear in their smart sketch, *The Lady and the Page*; also Mr. Fred Buckley, a fine actor-vocalist and comedian.

BRADFORD.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr. Henry Hibbert's pictures at the Temperance Hall, Bradford, last week, included some very good subjects. The Tale of a Deadhead is most diverting. It shows how Collins, who has no money and would like to see the play, speaks to different people coming out of the theatre in the hope of obtaining a pass. Eventually he succeeds, goes in, and gets one of the best seats. He proves so emotional, however, as to become objectionable to those near him, and is turned out. Going to the ticket office he boldly demands his money back, and succeeds in exchanging his pass for 5s., the price of the seat. Other pictures represent Wild Birds in their Haunts, Women's Life in India, and the Bootmaker's Revenge. Selections on the vivaphone, a combination of the gramophone and cinematograph, in which the movements of the figures in the picture synchronise with the movements of a song wonderfully well, form one of the best appreciated features of the programme.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. H. C. Heather.—The animated pictures exhibited here during the holiday week prove very attractive. The gorgeous pantomime *Blue Beard* is a splendid film, in which the leading features of the old story are admirably depicted. Dramatic incidents are conveyed in A Mexican's Gratitude and Love and War, and the comic pictures include The Boxing Fever, Mrs. Jones's Lover, and Paperhanging by a Novice. Mr. Arthur W. Briggs is very effective with his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures, and Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in good style.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Herbert Kent.—By arrangement with the New Bioscope Trading Company, Ltd., special attractions are submitted here this week. Two Christmastides is a touching seasonable picture. Noel conveys a Miracle Story of the Good Shepherd and the Poor; Francis I. and His Jester's Daughter is a stirring dramatic film; and the comic pictures include Lost in a Folding Bed, A Conquest, and Then He Woke Up. The Frances Harrold company gave an excellent performance of the mystic drama *The Tempter*. Mr. Stuart Lomath submitted an admirable impersonation of the struggling artist, Paul Halstead, whose wife, Marion, had a charming exponent in Miss Betty Stannard; Mr. George Holton was forcible and convincing as Satan; Miss Edith made a warm-hearted Tilda; Mr. Brian Daly was well placed as the stockbroker, Reuben Ransom; and Mr. Christmas Grose was entertaining as the broker's man, Timothy Scud.

CROYDON.—PUBLIC HALL.—Walturdaw's Electric Animated Pictures were presented here on Monday, and will remain until further notice. They are very good.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The excellent pictures being shown at this popular house have been drawing large holiday audiences. The selections show care and judgment, and are quite up to date. The place is well managed.

QUEEN'S HALL.—This hall has been well attended since the opening night, and the pictures exhibited are certainly worth a visit. Mr. Taylor is the manager.

DUBLIN.—ROTUNDA.—The original Irish Animated Picture Company continue to attract large audiences here, with their splendid display of new and original pictures, which are heartily enjoyed. The Musical Répertoire Company and Mr. Henry A. Peters is most entertaining; the Sisters Colley, Irish gems, also contribute several successful items; and Mr. Frank McGrail, with his illustrated songs, is well received.

VOLTA HALL.—Crowded business continues to run here, the excellent films of The Waterfalls of Taunforsen in Sweden, The Fascination of the Snowy Mountain Peaks, Little Jules Verne, Love and Native Land, and The Interrupted Appointment are being displayed here this week.

PALACE.—The animated pictures here this week are The Leopard Queen, Indiscreet Letters, The Little Milliner and the Thief, Salome Mad, The Reformed Drunkard, The Cobbler and the Caliph, The Troubles of a Pretty Milliner, The Amateur Detective, and the historical picture Julius Cæsar.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The programme presented here this week by the B.B. Picture Company is a very excellent one, and Mr. Tom Lunn nightly beams on crowded and enthusiastic houses. A film teeming with dramatic incidents is entitled The Lie, the scene being the Franco-Prussian War. Another of the same nature is The Mexican's Revenge, descriptive of an American naval captain's thrilling fight for a bride. Pathos is the keynote of The Motherless Waif; and in addition there is the ever-popular singing picture, and a host of others.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell.—This house has been taken over by the B.B. Picture Company, and a first-class programme, including a number of entirely new films, was presented on Monday evening. Two performances are given nightly, and an entire change of pictures is given from Wednesday night.

GILFILLAN HALL.—Capital holiday fare is presented here by the B.B. Picture Co., several of the films being brilliant examples of the cinematographer's art. A very beautiful reproduction of lovely scenery is seen in a view of the Swiss resort, Schaffhausen, great waterfalls in all their turbulent beauty being seen from close range. A very funny picture is Bobby Wideawake, which depicts a child's dream in a very amusing fashion. The talking and singing picture, The Bandolero, is a popular item, as is also the fine singing of two illustrated songs by Mr. Ralph Goggin, who is possessed of a tuneful baritone voice.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Mr. Newman presents a picture programme of quite a festive description at his popular West End house this week, in addition to which an enjoyable and novel turn is contributed by Signor Bandoni, "the one-man band."

EDINBURGH.—PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The pantomime of Red Riding Hood forms the principal picture here in an excellent holiday programme. The series of views which is shown conveys a vivid idea of the old nursery story, combining both spectacle and narrative in an admirable blend. Lines of White in a Sullen Sea imparts to the spectators a picture which many have, through hearing the rendering of Tosti's dramatic song, often imagined for themselves. The Diver's Remorse is an excellent subject; and humour is well to the fore in several amusing films. Miss Maidie Barker, comedienne, and Mr. Willie Macnay, comedian and dancer, give turns of a meritorious nature.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Mr. Sanders has provided a special programme for the holidays, and the films which are displayed rank high in respect of beauty, variety, and humour. The Sleeping Beauty gives the audiences an opportunity of witnessing a pantomimic spectacle reproduced by the bioscope, and there are many wonderful effects in this elaborate and high-class film. The singing and talking pictures remain a feature of an admirable bill, which includes many films suited to every age and every taste.

FOLKESTONE.—TOWN HALL.—Jury's Imperial Animated Pictures provide a splendid holiday attraction, and record houses both afternoon and evening witness the latest films.

GATESHEAD.—BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Black; Circuit-Manager, Mr. Geo. Black, jun.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Victor Carter.—This most comfortable new picture hall was opened on Monday, and the audiences this week have been large and enthusiastic. The programme includes The Restoration, The Mill, Santa Claus and a Waif, and in addition to a huge programme of films we have Sterling and Cachen, comedians, and Hyam Long, the musical comedian.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—An excellent programme submitted here this week contains Fools of Fate, Home Sick, and Laddie; while the mysterious Adeles provide an enjoyable "turn."

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Allan and McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan.—This hall continues along the road of success, the bill this week containing Muggins, V.C., and The Oysterman's Gold. Moneta and Ford, comedians, are also an attraction.

GLASGOW. — GAIETY. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The Gaiety still retains its popularity as a picture show, and this week the houses have been large. The films are of a novel and interesting character, and, besides, are responsible for much amusement. Special attractions are being put forward for the holiday season, and the management are certain to be rewarded for their tireless efforts to please their patrons.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank L. Clayton.—Amongst the items of interest in this week's programme the following films take precedence: The Brothers, Red Wing's Gratitude, and Muggins, V.C. Humour is not forgotten in subjects such as A Mad Drainpipe, The Gibson Goddess, and The Haunted Man. Mr. Clayton pleases greatly with his singing of "Somewhere," which is beautifully illustrated.

GUERNSEY.—RECTORY HALL.—Licensee, Mr. Albany Ward.—On Monday, Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Picture Entertainment opened here for a season. The films shown are admirable, being distinctly clear and steady, and comprise a series of dramatic and comic subjects. Especially worthy of mention are George Washington, A Tragedy in Venice, Modern Sculptors, and A Painter's Sweetheart. A distinct novelty is the talking and singing pictures on the Cinephone. Mr. G. A. Deighton is the genial and enterprising acting-manager.

HANLEY.—KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs. Kennedy and Moore; Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—Huge holiday houses are being delighted this week by a splendid series of pictures. The Forty Thieves is a fine Christmas film; 1776—The Hessian Renegades is very dramatic; and The Servant and the Actress, a complicated comedy; A Negro's Gratitude, A Brother's Jealousy, Black and White, and How the Landlord Collected His Rent are also shown. Albert Vazno, comedian, is a huge success.

IPSWICH. — POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE. — There were many interesting stories portrayed by animated pictures at the Ipswich Lecture Hall last week. The programme throughout was of a very attractive nature. The Biodrama found a great deal of favour, the clever elocution of Poole's actors and actresses, combined with the character of the picture stories, affording two very fine items, which include The Two Brothers and Muggins, V.C., the latter depicting exciting war scenes and a soldier's bravery. Other animated subjects well worthy of mention include The German Navy—in which some splendid seascapes are seen—and Before the Mast; or, A Story of a Sailor's Love"; while other pictures comprise many laughable subjects. Miss Kitty Delaney was very pleasing in her illustrated songs, "Cheating" and "Gee! but I've got the blues," while the cinephone numbers afforded further variation.

JARROW.—NEW PICTURE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. John Weddle and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Clarence.—This week this place of amusement has quite a change of pictures, which are well received.

LEAMINGTON. — ELECTRIC THEATRE, WINTER HALLS.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Another very fine programme of animated and coloured pictures is provided here this week, which is well received by crowded houses nightly. The chief pictures are A Russian Girl's Heroism and A Woman's Repentance, two remarkably fine films, whilst the others, which provide equal interest and amusement, include A Student on the Spree, The Obstinate Mule, Dottynob's Double, The Smuggler's Daughter, The Pierrette's Talisman, and Martha Tries to Reduce Her Weight. Mr. Horace Bernard is in excellent voice, and is loudly applauded for his fine efforts, whilst the reappearance of Miss Mina Langton is unanimously appreciated, and her songs well received. Miss Maud Hammerston plays the piano with artistic taste.

LEICESTER.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—This popular picture hall is receiving splendid patronage this week, a fine holiday programme being presented. The leading film is Conscription Under Napoleon, which is followed by another good one entitled The Secretary's Crime. Others include A Drama of Passion, The Adopted Child, Invisibility, Catching Fish by Dynamite, Troubles of a Pork Butcher, A Surgical Operation, The Strike, A Cork Leg Legacy, The Buffoon, Trials of a Billposter, and The Convict's Sacrifice. Ernest Greville, descriptive and character vocalist, is an additional attraction.

WEST'S PICTURE HALL.—On Boxing Day Mr. Charles West, late of the London Hippodrome, opened to the public his new picture hall in Cank-street, which is to be run on the continuous system at small charges. His machine, which is a Walturdaw, throws beautiful films, and his operating-box is of the latest and most approved pattern. His enterprise will no doubt be well rewarded. The leading films this week include Our Navy's Maid, Crocodile Hunting, How Foolshead Pays His Debts, Loved by His Servant, and Mexican Idol, all long and interesting pictures.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. W. S. Rosie; Hall-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stanyon.—Mr. Waller Jeffs' New Century Pictures are again paying us a visit, and are presenting a first-class list of films, including the original sensational episode, War in the Air, illustrating a peep into the future, the invasion of England by land, sea, and air, Mr. Jeffs' new realistic travel pictures, Polar Exploration, Winter Sports, Aviation by Day and Night, and a grand Christmas pantomime and harlequinade. Miss Dora Kingsley returns, and is most successful in her beautifully illustrated songs, and Mr. Walter Roselle is again the popular guide and philosopher.

NEXBOROUGH.—NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—A fine programme this week includes A Father's Crime, Drunkard's Reformation, the Renunciation, Salvation Army Lass, From Egg to Spit, &c.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The popular manager provided a good holiday programme this week. The Little Teacher is a fine film, depicting a romantic love story; a beautifully coloured specimen is The Golden Spider; Justice is remarkably good, showing how a tragedy was stopped by a marvellous miracle. Macbeth—Shakespeare's great play—is much enjoyed. An interesting picture is Wrestling. Several amusing subjects include Uncle Learns to Hypnotise, The Cycle Thief, Mr. Sadman's Cure, Fred Kendall, Ibraham, the Sheeny Man, is responsible for much amusement; The Godfreys, musicians and laugh-

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

A MEETING OF THE TRADE will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 5, at 2.30 p.m., when everyone interested—manufacturers, factors, hirers, and showmen—are earnestly requested to attend.

The questions to be discussed are vital to the interest of all, viz., the proposed regulations of the London C.C. and Provincial Governing Bodies.

ter-makers, achieve their usual success; Pollard and Gray score in their laughable sketch.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson; Musical-Director, Mr. Clement Austin.—An excellent programme is presented here this week to good houses—pictures, drama, and varieties. The Sisters Carlton are a clever pair, and receive a good reception.

NOTTINGHAM.—KING'S THEATRE.—Last week's series of animated pictures fully maintained the reputation of the King's for interest, instruction, and amusement. The presentation of humour cheek by jowl with tragedy redeems the subjects from a too gruesome tendency, and some of the pictures are distinctly educative. In this latter category may well be placed the really excellent set illustrative of a trip to the White Sea fisheries on a Hull trawler. The methods by which the fish are trawled, and the perils oftentimes inseparable from the voyages, are vividly depicted. Other notable films include Across the Divide, The Vagabond's Venture, Robbery of the Citizen's Bank, The Blind Man and His Dog, and Louis XI. In the absence through indisposition of Mr. Ernie Williams, illustrated songs are sung by Mr. Walter Clyde, of the London Symphony Concerts, and Mr. Rob Chamberlin played the incidental music.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—This week a change of programme takes place, living pictures being given instead of varieties, and a capital selection of films have been shown. A Child Benefactor is a good picture of childish sympathy; The Cross of Napoleon is a capital dramatic film; Diversions is a funny picture, and another one is The Dull Knife. Other films, both humorous and serious, are also in the bill, and Mr. Don Cameron contributes some good songs.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Mexican's Revenge is a powerful picture, and another good one is Attesienne. Also included are Timber Logging, a very interesting picture; Noes, Gas Inspector, Gentle Heart, Extraordinary, and His Adversary's Card, making a good bill. Mr. King sings "The Holy City."

READING.—THE VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE (Broad Street).—This popular show was open continuously all day on Boxing Day, and has also been very largely patronised during the week.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE (West Street).—Two special matinées were given here on Monday, and excellent business has been done throughout the week. A good variety of popular films have been exhibited.

BIO PICTURE LAND (King's Road).—Special holiday programmes have drawn crowded houses here.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Shepherd.—An excellent programme includes the following films: A Child of the Forest, What's Your Hurry? A Case of Tomatoes, Cripple and Cyclist, The Little Teacher, &c., and Mr. Tom Sherlock's illustrated songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—An entirely new series of Raymond pictures this week includes The Mill, Bold Counter Jumper, Consul, the Man Monkey, Hotel de Mystery, Critical Situation, The Corsican Vengeance, Child's Dream, &c. Mr. Gilbert also sings comedy and picture songs in a pleasing manner.

SHEFFIELD.—ALBERT HALL.—At the Albert Hall, Sheffield, on Christmas Day, Messrs. H. and F. Poole presented their myriorama. As in previous years, Messrs. Poole's pictorial productions are on a colossal scale, there being a mass of canvas about a mile and a half in length on which are depicted views of various places, commencing with High Holborn, London, and touching Paris, Vienna, Turin, Benares, Pekin, Tokio, Messina, Havana, and Plymouth Hoe. Virtually, the audience is taken on a tour round the world, witnesses some grand sights, and incidentally has an excellent opportunity of improving its geographical knowledge, and of comparing phases of life in the East with those in the West. A splendid tableau of the terrible earthquake in Messina is also introduced. Lighting effects are made the most of, the best scenes often being those which represent historical buildings at night time. More prominence is now given to the miscellaneous portion of the programme than during previous visits by this diorama company of bygone days. The larger part of the audience on Christmas Day afternoon was drawn from the younger life of the city, and consequently Learto and his dog Pom-Pom in a burlesque attracted a good deal of attention, the canine performer displaying remarkable sagacity. In the trick cycling line something new is introduced by the George French troupe. The acrobatic feats of the Six Borghettis were very successful. Gulliver's midget weight-lifting experts and Miss A. Alexander, vocalist, have recently been seen on Sheffield music hall stages, and, therefore, require no introduction. Other diverting turns were the Snow Family, roller skaters; and Miss Phyllis St. Claire, vocalist.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The Imperial Animated Pictures, which have won popular favour with Sheffield audiences on numerous occasions in the past, are running again this holiday season—but at the Temperance Hall. The change has been made with a view of getting the best out of the exhibition, and patrons will find the new hall at once clean, airy, and comfortably seated. Pictures humorous, scenic, and pathetic are comprised in the programme. Motor-boat Races at Barnham, which introduces some thrilling racing; Fortune Hunters, How the Cook Got Married, and Cornato, the Sioux, are very entertaining films; and a splendid example of the latest colour cinematography is provided by a film which depicts scenes in the lives of Arab women.

CENTRAL HALL.—An adaptation from one of Tolstoi's works formed one of the most interesting films last week at the Central Hall, where there was an exceptionally strong programme. Entitled Resurrection, the story deals with the profligacy of a Russian prince and his cruel desertion, and, as a sequel, the son's heroic attempts to protect his mother from the horrors of the Siberian mines. The adventures of a party of English people are shown under the title, Leather Stocking. The policeman is travestied in Bobby, the Boy Scout, the young hero capturing a couple of burglars whilst two officers are whiling away their time. Barney Noble, vocalist; Vesta Vixon, chorus song artist; and Jules Kiaro, equilibrist, are all entertaining.

SOUTHAMPTON.—PHILHARMONIC HALL.—Lessees, The Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Bonstead.—Seasonable pictures are being shown here, and crowded houses result. A splendid coloured film of The Forty Thieves gives great delight to the juvenile members of the audience.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Auguste Denton.—The pictures here include scenes from the fairy play Hansel and Gretel and the pantomime Tom Thumb, which prove just to the taste of the holiday crowds who throng this perfect picture palace.

WALLSEND.—MCDONALD'S PICTURE HALL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. McDonald.—A vast and commodious balcony has been added to this popular resort of entertainment. The new balcony has a seating capacity for over four hundred persons, and has been fitted up in record time. Mr. Pascal Stienlet, the well-known architect, of North Shields and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, is the designer.

WIGAN.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—Many new and interesting pictures are shown here this week, chief among them being The Stampede, an American romance depicting the dangers which attend the work of the cowboy. An immense herd of cattle is seen galloping across the plain, and an exciting rescue from the track of the advancing animals constitutes a feature of the picture. Two splendid dramatic films, entitled The Tower of Gesle and the Hessian Renegades, a thrilling episode of 1776, are well received. Several amusing films are shown, including Put a Penny in the Slot, An American Marriage, and Professor Whirly Twirly's Cigarettes. A diverting turn consisting of the St. Johns (Gale and Frank), musical comedians and dancers, are loudly applauded.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. H. C. Woon.—This building is still playing to crowded houses. The week's programme is well praised. The star pictures are: Was Justice Served? Won on the Desert, Learning to Dance, Mr. Inquisitive, Wanted, a Housekeeper, The Broken Window, and many more very amusing pictures. Mr. Dick Wadison, comedian and dancer, can still claim to be the Wigan favourite; and Mr. William Ashcroft, the famous baritone vocalist, is well received.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.), price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT.

A CHAT WITH WALTER REYNOLDS, L.C.C.

"The Cinematograph Act, which comes into force on Jan. 1, is intended for the betterment of the cinematograph industry. The L.C.C. will, in exercising its powers, take a common-sense view of circumstances as affecting individuals, and I feel sure no place will be refused a licence if the management complies with the simple, but effective, conditions laid down in the Act for the safety of the public." That was the assurance given by Mr. Walter Reynolds, L.C.C., to an *Era* representative this week, who questioned him concerning the statement that has been made in the Press that "the Act is a grandmotherly piece of legislation."

"All concerns—great and small—which we have been able to find running cinematograph shows within the L.C.C. jurisdiction," continued Mr. Reynolds, "have had their attention called to the Act, and the penalties for non-compliance with its requirements.

"I feel sure that no show which can be safely passed by our inspectors will be refused a licence, and I am convinced that the Act is for the good of the business generally. Its working will eventually weed out undesirable elements. That, in itself, makes for the general welfare of the industry. I can assure you that every possible care will be taken to work the Act reasonably; but those persons who endeavour to evade its requirements must of necessity court prosecution.

"Religious bodies holding cinematograph shows in mission-halls, schoolrooms, and the like, and showmen generally, will be required to satisfy our inspectors that there are sufficient exits from such places, and that all reasonable precautions have been taken with the chamber or box in which the machine is worked to safeguard both audience and operator from an outbreak of fire.

"At the same time everything in the power of the L.C.C. will be done to meet the people holding cinematograph exhibitions of every kind, but always with a reasonable regard to public safety. I cannot too often impress upon you that the L.C.C., far from desiring to hamper entertainment caterers, endeavours to assist them.

"Shows using non-flammable films will from Jan. 1 be unable to play music unless they hold a licence from the L.C.C. The moment they play music they must come under the provisions of the Act. Persons using non-flammable films will be liable to supervision by the L.C.C. inspectors, and the police are empowered to enter and inspect all buildings to see whether the provisions of the Act have been complied with. You know there is nothing to prevent a person saying he is using a non-flammable film, and even producing one, which, on examination, proves to have had several lengths joined on to it of the ordinary kind. The test will consist, I presume, of burning a piece of every length of film.

"The story of the non-flam film is one of steady progress. The first public exhibition of a non-flam was given by the Lumière Co. at the Holborn Empire about a year ago. The pictures were very clear and good, and have been much improved upon since, and Mr. Grant, the manager of the English branch of the Lumière firm, waxes enthusiastic about the non-flam future, as he says the pictures are now perfect. There are other non-flam films on the market, including the productions of the Kodak Co. and those of Messrs. Pathé, and I hear of a new American undertaking organised by the Berlin Anilyne Dye Co., whilst a German gentleman named Bayer is experimenting in Elberfelt; and, oddest thing of all in 'this strange eventful history' is that a member of the Stock Exchange is reported to have deserted the Bulls and Bears of the Zoo near the Bank of England to enter upon a new career in the manufacture of still another non-flam film, and this a 'celluloid' one, which almost sounds a paradox, and yet it is not, for what is known as acetate of cellulose is non-flammable; but its drawbacks are that it is difficult to use in consequence of its shrinking tendencies, and this, among other faults, would have to be got rid of before it could be used commercially.

"Licences will contain a prohibition against opening on Sundays. This clause I know has been severely criticised, and we have been called Chadbands and Stigginses, and many other unkind, and—believe me—undeserved names. But it has apparently not occurred to our critics that any variety and legitimate theatre could apply for a cinematograph licence—if that clause did not exist—and open as a picture show palace every Sunday. As, too, in most cases, a theatre auditorium is superior to that of the average cinematograph 'palace,' such an advantage would be greatly to the detriment of the ordinary cinematograph hall.

"Previous to the Act all cinematograph exhibitions were outside the law, and they, of course, availed themselves of all the benefits of their peculiarly lucky position. By this means they have obtained a sort of prescriptive right to Sunday opening. But it is obvious that as all shows are now covered by the law, the L.C.C. cannot make fish of one and flesh of the other, but must dispense to them all equal treatment alike, and so if cinematograph theatres are to be opened for business on Sundays, then all other theatres must be given the same privilege if they desire it."

The history of how the Cinematograph Bill came to be passed was told to the writer by Mr. Reynolds in his own inimitable and breezy way. Mr. Reynolds is known both at Spring Gardens and to the trade as "the Father of the Bill," and to his keen observation, hard work, and undisputed knowledge of the cinematograph industry all testify.

It was in 1907 that Mr. Reynolds first started his great campaign in the L.C.C. Council Chamber by speeches and constant questions. He never tired of his self-imposed task, and eventually persistence got its reward, and the Theatres Committee made enquiries on the subject.

On February 4, 1908, Mr. Reynolds put a motion before the Council which had the honour of being seconded by Sir J. Benn, with the result that on Feb. 28 of the same year a deputation consisting of Messrs. Greenwood, Brandon, and Reynolds waited on Mr. Gladstone and pointed out to the Home Secretary the dangers of fires in the existing cinematograph exhibitions. Mr. Gladstone admitted that there was great danger in connection with such exhibitions. Though they had been very fortunate up to the present, they could not shut their eyes to the fact that there might be a very serious accident, or even a catastrophe, and it was most desirable that legislative powers should be taken to put these unlicensed places throughout the country under proper authority; and he would consider whether it would be possible to deal with the matter by a short bill in the current session. He was well aware of the importance of the matter.

In July, 1908, Mr. Reynolds caused a return to be made which showed that 167 unlicensed cinematograph entertainments existed in the county of London. Mr. Reynolds prodded the Government farther by two questions, asked in the House of Commons by the Earl of Kerry, and when the disastrous fire at a cinematograph hall at Stratford had occurred, Mr. Reynolds wrote a general letter to the Press, placing the responsibility on the Home Office if action was not at once taken. On Dec. 10, 1908, Mr. Reynolds devised and brought off what must be regarded as his great coup. This was a competition of fire-preventing and extinguishing devices on cinematograph machines, which, by the great courtesy of Mr. Stoll, was held in the arena of the London Hippodrome. All the principal manufacturers of cinematographs attended, and exhibited their methods of fire prevention and extinction before a very large audience, and before a judging committee of eight, chosen by that audience and composed as follows:

Mr. Frank Allen, assisting director of Moss Empires; Mr. R. W. Paul, probably the earliest cinematograph manufacturer in England; Mr. T. J. West, the most extensive exhibitor in England; Mr. Geo. T. Bullock, of the Union Insurance Co.; Mr. R. Brice Higgins, of the Caledonian Insurance Co.; Mr. Arthur C. Cockburn, of the Norwich Union Insurance Co.; Mr. Chas. Seaton, of the National General Insurance Co.; and Mr. Walter Reynolds, L.C.C. (chairman).

After the exhibition of preventive and extinguishing apparatus was concluded, the Committee sat to deliberate in private for two and a half hours, and resolved to ask the L.C.C. to incorporate the two following regulations into the rules now governing the use of cinematograph lanterns:—

All cinematograph projectors shall be fitted with two metal film boxes of substantial construction, and not more than 12in. in diameter, inside measurement, to and from which the films shall travel. Such boxes shall be made to close in a manner which will prevent the ingress of fire, and shall be fitted with a film-slot so constructed as to prevent the passage of flame to the interior of the film-box. Provided that, where only one film is used for the purpose of an exhibition, the film-box may be not more than 14in. in diameter.

All films when not in the machine, and while still in the enclosure, shall be contained in closed metal boxes.

The film gate shall be of massive construction and provided with ample heat radiating surface, and the passage for the film shall be sufficiently narrow to prevent flame travelling upwards or downwards from the light opening.

The Committee were of opinion that if the foregoing precautions were adopted, the safety of the public would, as long as celluloid films were still employed, be assured so far as humanly possible. The Committee thought that all film boxes should be made self-closing with a spring, and that there would be an advantage in square boxes

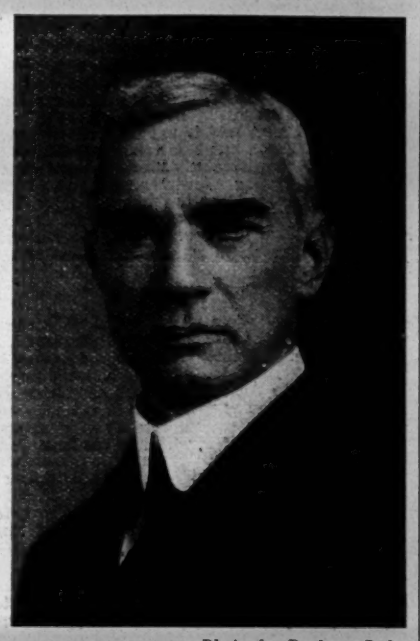

Photo. by Durham, Ltd.

MR. WALTER REYNOLDS.

in the direction of substantial hinging. The Committee also stated that some modification of the Council's rules would be possible if non-flammable cinematograph films could be successfully used.

It is not generally known that slight cinematograph fires somewhere or other in England are reported on an average once a month, and since the calamity in Paris thirteen years ago considerably more than 1,000 people have lost their lives through cinematograph fires.

As we have already intimated, Mr. Reynolds is a mine of information on his pet subject. But it came, nevertheless, as a great surprise and as "news" indeed to be informed by that gentleman that there are only four or five *manufacturers*—mark the word—of film stock in the world. These are the Eastman Kodak Co., Lumières, Photo Film Co., and Austin Edwards (Warwick). There are only about fifteen publishers of cinematograph views, and there are computed to be 400 proprietors of exhibitions, controlling nearly 3,000 shows in England.

Next session in Parliament the London County Council will, on the initiative of Mr. W. Reynolds, seek powers which will enable them to grant licences to music halls at any time of the year, and his future exertions, should he be re-elected, will be, in association with others, to try and obtain one uniform licence for all theatres. This will enable any entertainer to come to the L.C.C. and tell them that he wants to open a theatre, and all the Council would have to say would be, "Yes, comply with our safety and sanitary requirements, and we will give you your licence, and with it you can play what you like." Mr. Reynolds' aim is the burial of the old Act of 1751 known as the Disorderly Houses Act.

"The future of the cinematograph theatre, I am convinced," said Mr. Reynolds, in conclusion, "is a brilliant one, and the low class places will be weeded out—their number has long been rapidly decreasing. The good ones have come to stay. Cinematograph shows must always remain one of the great features of the entertainment world. And it is my hope that the cinematograph will eventually be installed in every one of our schools, for as an educational vehicle there is no better teacher than moving pictures."

ON Saturday night the staff of the Exchange Pavilion, Kirkcaldy, met after the evening performance and presented their manager, Mr. George Lee, with a beautiful silver cigarette case and cigars, as a token of their esteem and respect. Mr. George Kilpatrick, *The Era* correspondent, occupied the chair, and after referring to the many sterling qualities of Mr. Lee, called upon Miss Gibson to hand over the gifts, which Mr. Lee feelingly acknowledged.

"MY FRIEND THE THIEF," which was produced successfully last week at the Camberwell Empire, was presented by Miss Vona Clifford, whose property it is. The company playing it, too, was engaged by her.

THE Cinematograph Trade Protection Society have approached the Clerk to the L.C.C., and hope to be able to arrange for a deputation representing the Cinematograph trade to interview the Theatres and Music Halls Committee with reference to the regulations under the new Act. The Council of the Society hold their next meeting on Wednesday next, Jan. 5, at 3 p.m., at the Salisbury Hotel, when the matter will be again under discussion, and arrangements will be made for a meeting of the whole trade

---

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Entertainments at the Crystal Palace for the holiday season are very attractive, and have been well patronised accordingly. Immense crowds attended Mr. J. Bannister Howard's pantomime in the theatre (fully noticed in another column), and similar liberal patronage has been bestowed upon Mr. Fred J. Connor's circus in the Centre Transept, where performances are given thrice daily. Redoubtable representatives of the ring won great admiration on Monday, no small contribution to the performance being made by artists bearing the proprietor's own name. Master Douglas Connor, a sturdy little boy, makes his appearance in an equestrian hurdle act, and rides his pony bareback in dashing style, turning quaintly heels over head to the ground and remounting with much agility. He also contrives while careering round the ring to snatch up flags embedded in the sawdust, a feat for which he is heartily cheered. Another member of the family is Miss Mona Connor, whom we have seen at the Palace before. She has marvellously improved during the past year, and now poses as a full-fledged equestrienne, doing a number of leaps and flights on a bareback horse, and winning high praise. The Bros. Austin combine in an equestrian acrobatic act, in which much skill and intrepidity is displayed; Eugene Foots is a graceful tight-rope performer; Olrac, Pugh, and Etherdo accomplish difficult feats on the horizontal bar; and the Aeroplanes, a trio of skilful gymnasts, do much to earn the appellation in a series of flights on the trapeze. An astounding balancing and acrobatic act is done by the Dekoe Family, among whom two small boys dressed in military uniform figure quaintly. They are thrown about in extraordinary fashion by their elders, but exhibit quite a cat-like facility in falling on their feet. Mr. John Madigan puts Jubilee, a pretty pony, through some graceful antics, and has also a number of performing fox terriers, who carry out novel tricks with amazing intelligence.

A strong force of funny men is in attendance. Clown Rabbit is irresistibly droll, and Bishop and Winkles lose no opportunity for making mirth, peals of laughter being the outcome of an elephant act, which is skilfully worked. A burlesque cricket match in which the three comedians named join proves equally amusing. Hoppit, Tony, and Terry are seen in "The Coster's Derby Day," in which a comic policeman pursued by a donkey is the source of great fun. An item much appreciated by the juveniles comes at the close, when Santa Claus and his merry men distribute toys.

Still located in the North Tower Garden Terrace is Mr. Robert Leadbetter's collection of living wild animals, truly described as one of the finest zoological collections ever exhibited. Much interest has been aroused by a lamb born in the menagerie on Christmas Day. Baby lions and baby lambs, infant elephants and full-grown giraffes, ferocious wolves and jumping kangaroos, and almost every known species of the brute family are to be found in the well-kept menagerie, where at four o'clock—feeding time—a curious sight is to be enjoyed. None should miss the menagerie.

The skating rink, where the pastime has long been preserved before it rose to its present popularity, is being resorted to numerously, the asphalte rink affording a most enjoyable surface. Football and hockey matches agreeably fill in the intervals between the sessions. Meux's Marvellous Marionettes are to be admired at intervals in the Egyptian Court, and a miniature fair, in which Hyatt's motors and novelty stalls figure, are among the manifold attractions.

MR. JESSE SMITH.

Mr. Horace Sedger is managing-director of the Electric Palaces, Ltd., which has just opened the very fine cinematograph palace at Lewisham. Mr. Sedger is the pioneer of the living picture world, and he has made Mr. Jesse Smith, who was for so long the assistant-manager of the Shepherd's Bush Empire, his resident-manager here. Mr. Jesse Smith is one of the smartest men at the game in London, and began stage life as a choir boy, being introduced to that father of boy choirs, Mr. J. E. Nolan, who placed him at the Adelphi to sing in *Mabel's Life*. Then the Spring Choirs at Covent Garden, followed by many other like engagements till the breaking of his voice. For a time he went into the building trade and nursed his voice back again. He recommenced singing by understudying at the Alhambra, afterwards joining Mr. D'Oyly Carte's first *Patience* company, where he played in the operetta of *Quite an Adventure* and sang in the chorus of *Patience*. He stayed with Mr. Carte about six years, but each year went into pantomime. Several engagements followed another season of grand opera, pantomime, then a run on the halls, back with Mr. Carte, then Mr. Smith went into the halls again, did a single singing turn, then joined a tenor and trotted out the old duets. Next came a tour through South America under the auspices of Mr. Edwin Cleary, followed by a run of nine years under the management of Mr. William Greet, of the Lyric Theatre, London. He played in comic opera (*Mountebank*), burlesque (*Little Christopher Columbus*), and *The Sign of the Cross*.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

A Boxing Day audience at the Palace never attains the same proportions as a summer one—and naturally so, on account of the extra attractions provided in the Park—but last Monday's attendance was unusually small, due no doubt to the unfavourable weather. The Central Hall had an innovation in the shape of a well-decorated Christmas tree, nearly fifty feet high. There was the usual variety entertainment, with three houses, and a prettily-dressed ladies' band in marine costumes played pleasing selections during the performances, which took place on the floor in lieu of the orchestra. Buval, the happy Dutchman; Tony Spring, the jumping scarecrow; and the Wallonell Bros., gymnastic comedians, were amongst the turns. Mlle. Lona was commendably prominent both as a musican and dancer; Robert Gilbert made his cats and dogs do all but speak, and the high jumps were well appreciated; the Ashley Troupe, consisting of a lady and two gentlemen, were amusing in their skating act; and for musical eccentricities displayed in varied numbers the Friscos were deserving of praise. The general Alexandra Palace favourite, Captain Henry, with his zoological collection, in the Conservatory met with well-deserved support, and his live Teddy Bear, having returned to his old quarters, was at home with his kind friend and master. The theatre, which for two years has not had a pantomime, helped to make up the deficiency in a series of animated pictures, which included two pantomimes, Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves and The Sleeping Beauty. The last was an excellently executed film, proving how far coloured photography has advanced.

AT the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, the hit of the pantomime is manifestly made by Miss Maude May Murray, who appears in a marvellous spectacular dance act. The charm of colour and quick-changing aerial effects, together with Miss Murray's clever manipulation of her flowing robes, are truly wonderful, and nothing so startling and effective has been seen in Nottingham before.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

(*Continued from page* 31.)

Masquerade at Paisley.

The first grand fancy dress masquerade carnival took place at the Paisley rink on Tuesday evening, when the building was filled to its utmost capacity with rinkers and onlookers. Valuable prizes were awarded by Mr. Bostock. There was a splendid show of character costumes, and the prizes were awarded by public vote. So successful was this function that another of the same kind may be looked for in the near future.

All on Wheels in Penzance.

THE Penzance Skating Rink is going very strong, and during the Christmas holidays has been crowded daily. Another rink was opened in Penzance on Boxing Day by the Mayor (Mr. A. K. Barnett), and a third is being talked about.

Sleepless Night in Rhondda Valley.

THE Treorchy Rink held its first carnival on Wednesday, Dec. 22, which proved very successful. "A sleepless night" was illustrated by a man in a night shirt carrying two large dolls. Olympia, Pentre, has caught on wonderfully, and has been crowded at all sessions.

Sheffield Skatery Wrecked.

MESSRS. Wilkins and Crawford's roller-skating rink in Sheffield was wrecked last week. There was a big weight of snow on the roof, which fell in, and then the corrugated iron walls collapsed. Many tons of snow fell on to the maple floor. It is estimated that the damage totalled £2,000.

Sir Walter Chaytor Opens Spennymoor.

SPENNYMOOR is not behind the times, for a number of enterprising gentlemen have erected a rink on a site behind the North-Eastern Hotel, about one minute's walk from the station, and last week Sir Walter Chaytor, who was accompanied by Lady Chaytor, performed the opening ceremony. Sir Walter said he felt it a great honour to be asked to open such a magnificent building, and also felt it to be a nice change in getting away from the stormy atmosphere of party politics to the more salubrious atmosphere of skating. He thanked the directors for providing such a commodious building for Spennymoor, and congratulated them on the success they had achieved. He hoped that the public would patronise the place as much as possible, especially during the winter evenings. He had much pleasure in declaring the building open, and wished it the greatest possible success.

Christmas Carnival at Stockton.

A grand fancy and evening dress carnival was held at the Royal Rink, Stockton-on-Tees, on Tuesday. The costumes were judged by Mr. and Mrs. E. T. M. Cowburn. William Barthram, the manager, engineered the entire proceedings with every credit to himself.

Skating Rink for Truro.

AT the Truro Town Council the committee reported the receipt of an offer from Mr. Robert Thomas, of Penzance, for a lease of the Market House for at least three years. The lessees, it was proposed, should level up the existing floor, and put in a sub-floor of deal, and cover in with a maple floor; also decorate, and instal electric light. Messrs. Boase and Thomas pointed out that in consequence of its having been ascertained that the cost of fixing the proposed floors would be nearer £500 than £300, they desired to have a lease for seven years, which they ultimately reduced to five. The Council decided that, subject to the Corporation retaining control of the use of the Market House when required for public purposes, on terms to be definitely stated in the lease, a special committee was requested to negotiate further as to terms with the applicants, and to prepare a form of lease for submission to the Council for approval.

Rexos at Waverley Market.

THE Rexos use Richardson skates in connection with their act. They are at Waverley Market for the next two weeks.

Christmas Tree on Rink.

The huge and expensive rink recently opened at West Hartlepool is making a strong bid for popularity. On Christmas Eve the attraction was a gigantic Christmas tree, from which each child attending was the recipient of a welcome little present. The general manager, Mr. Albert Mathams, late lessee of the Empress Theatre, announces his first fancy dress carnival for Jan. 3, a gymkhana for the 5th, and a Cinderella for the 7th.

Jessie Darling in Paris.

ON Monday Miss Jessie Darling opened a two-weeks' engagement at the Paris Hippodrome.

"WILSON THE DANCER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "F. E. M.," in your issue of the 11th ult., p. 24, refers to "Wilson the dancer," 18, Kirby-street, Dec. 4, 1827. I suggest this might have been Kirby-street, Clerkenwell, the home of one or two of the Sadler's Wells artists. In Hone's Table Book, 1827 (1891 edition), p. 286 refers to Wilson, the comedian—cited from the *Monthly Mirror*. He made his début in the character formerly supported by Shuter.

"When Wilson, the comedian, made his début, it was in the character formerly supported by Shuter; but upon his appearance on the stage the audience called out for their former favourite by crying 'Off, off! Shuter, Shuter!' Whereupon Wilson, turning round, and with a face as stupid as art could make it, and suiting his action to his words, replied, 'Shoot her, shoot her!' (pointing at the same time to the female performer on the stage with him). 'I'm sure she does her part very well.' This well-timed sally of seeming stupidity turned the scale in his favour, and called down repeated applause, which continued during the whole of the performance."

Maybe the pewter tankard referred to the above Wilson, who as a Sadler's Wells actor and probable dancer had possessed himself of so acceptable an article.—Yours faithfully,

J. C. MARRIOTT.

WALTER READER, eighteen, of Bridge-street, Mile-end, was charged with assaulting William Watkinson and Frederick Brown, attendants at the Paragon, and further with assaulting Police-constables 61 JR and 610 J by kicking them. Watkinson's evidence showed that while engaged during the Sunday evening performance at the Paragon he had occasion to speak twice to the prisoner regarding his disorderly conduct. At the interval, about 9.20 p.m., the prisoner, who had previously left the hall with some companions, returned and created a disturbance. The witness refused to allow him to take his seat, and the prisoner then became abusive, and kicked the witness in a dangerous part. Another attendant, named Brown, came up, and was struck in the face. Brown then fetched the police, who arrested the prisoner. The evidence of Police-constables Laking, 610 J, and Brown, 61 JR, showed that the prisoner kicked them both, and continued to be very violent all the way to the station. The prisoner, who denied assaulting anyone, said he had been ill-treated by both the music hall attendants and the police. He asked for a remand, which was granted, to enable him to call witnesses.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 8.)

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week Mr. Percy Williams's company presents *The Fatal Wedding*, and opened with a packed matinée on Monday. Mr. Hugh Montgomery undertakes Howard Wilson in fine style, and he finds a splendid partner in Miss Ethel Kay as Mabel, his wife. Robert Curtis is in the excellent hands of Mr. Herbert Humber; and Miss Leah Marlborough is a powerful Cora Williams. Toto and Peter Schwartz (Mr. Harry M. Vernon and Mr. Watson Hume) are capital; Mr. Frank Ashly is a typical Policeman O'Reilly; and Mr. J. Newton makes a good clergyman. Bridget is played to advantage by Miss Blanche Humber; Miss Rosie Sanders (Jessie) and Master Tom Grice (Frank) are well received.

PORTH.—PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, in a comedy sketch, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are exceedingly smart; Dolly England is a charming male impersonator; and Fred Hallam is a very funny comedian. Arthur Fernis is smart and witty; the dancing Gilberts present a unique terpsichorean act; Minnie Olive and Bill Owen, in a refined comedietta, *The Roadside Tinkers*, arouse much laughter; the Lovelaces, American song illustrators, sing their latest successes; Valoni, juggler, presents his wonderfully-trained pigeons; Veda Carl is a favourite comedian; the Richards Trio, in an eccentric novelty act, receives rounds of applause; and the Palascope gives excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—After a lapse of ten years pantomime is revived here, *The Sleeping Beauty* being produced by Mr. J. F. Elliston from the book of Mr. St. John Hammund, the plot being based on the unintentional insult to Witch Baneful (Mr. Chas. Ommaney) in not being invited to the christening of Beauty Allfair, who is consigned to an early death. The good fairy, Silver Star, of course, intervenes. The pantomime, in twelve scenes, is enlivened by bright, tuneful music, the chorus and orchestra being under the direction of Mr. Clarence C. Corri. The cast is admirable in all respects. Miss Dorothy Chard, as the principal boy Prince Faithful, possesses both a fine physical presence and dramatic ability, and is an expressive vocalist. Miss Frances Kapstowne makes a charming and fascinating heroine; Misses Ada Tilley and Jennie Gregson are bright and vivacious as Bon Bon and Bonne Bouche. Both Messrs. George Goodfellow and Arthur Reynolds as Beauty's parents, King Half-a-Crown and Queen Algebra, are clever comedians, and have plenty of scope for their ability; Mr. Leonard Maitland making a humorous Count. Miss Beryl Vaudrey's cultured and pleasing voice is heard to advantage in several numbers, she being a great success as the Fairy Godmother. Mr. Chas. Ommaney is likewise well suited to his part of the spiteful witch. The Four Royal Vagabonds, vocalists, contribute effectively to the musical portion, and the Continental Quartette of lady dancers to the spectacular display. The scenery and general mounting, with gorgeous limelight effects, reflect credit upon Mr. Claude Agnew, the stage manager, who must be congratulated upon the smooth working at the opening performance on Monday afternoon.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Pantomime this year has given place to the legitimate drama, the attraction being Walter Melville's drama *The Soldier's Wedding*, presented by his own company. Jack Brown and Nancy Lee, hero and heroine, were impersonated with ability by Mr. Matthew Boulton and Miss Dorothy Richardson; the heavy part, Charles Courtney, receiving capable exposition from Mr. H. J. Butler.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Prominent on a strong holiday programme was *The Princess of Bagdad*, a minature musical comedy presented by Messrs. Hodgson and Lowther, comprising two picturesque scenes of the Oriental city and including some twenty-five artists; another principal turn was Mysticus, styled the human chameleon. A clever trio of grotesquely-attired musicians are Leslie Lyn and Willie; Charlton performs neatly some conjuring tricks; the Four Zodiac Girls are attractive singers and dancers; George Antill, attired as a chauffeur, amuses with his song of motor accidents; another humorous comedian is Charles Rowen; and Payne's Biophotoscope, with some interesting films, The Enchanted Poultry Yard, concludes.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The ordinary variety entertainment has given way this week to pantomime, *Dick Whittington and His Cat*, written and produced by Mr. Edward Marris, and so condensed to meet the exigency of the bi-nightly system. Miss Rosie Sylvester is a delightful Dick—dashing, graceful, and she sings well; Miss Dolly Denton is a centre of attraction as Alice, her daintiness and charm making her a favourite; an amusing Dame is seen in Billy Rex, and Idle Jack, in the person of Mr. George Brentwood, contributes strongly to the comic element. Messrs. J. R. Tyrrell and Walter B. Nugent, as Captain Kettle and Pott, his mate, play their parts with bustling humour. Chas. Danvers's rendering of Alderman Fitzwarren also adds to the fun; Mr. Will Manite's agility as the Cat is much in evidence. The Misses Rosie, Lily, and Edie Manite and Connie Retta are responsible for some gracefully executed dances.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—This house, as usual, comes in for a large share of patronage. The star turn is Madame Maud Santley, who is vociferously encored; Miss Alice Pierce is repeatedly recalled for her impressions of star players; Bert Coote and Co. very successfully present the *Lamb on Wall Street*; Clothilde and Mustoe's cockatoos interest, as do likewise Max Sterling, illusionist, the Quality Quartette of male vocalists, the Cabiacs, Miss Edmonds and Co. in *The Lady Jockey*, Paulton and Dooley, trick cyclists, and Ah Mendies.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. H. Lalande.—Mr. E. Norris's company has presented *Our Boys* in the Pavilion.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, is proving a big attraction, and, needless to say, causes one continuous roar of laughter from rise to fall of the curtain. Mr. George Mudie as Mr. Ponderbury is inimitable, and he fully maintains his reputation as a mirth-provider of the first class; Mr. Barnett-Parker is highly successful as Mr. Mervyn Thorpe; so also is Mr. H. Douglas Greet as Mr. Hyacinth Grayling; Mr. George Child is quite at home as Captain John Rumford, R.N.; Mr. Percy Bell's Butler is a very clever bit of character acting; Miss Violet Garland as Ethel Denniston and Miss Mamie Mathews as Lady Baring enact their respective parts with success; Miss Phyllis Stuckey as Mme. Polacca Modjeski treats the part with the necessary amount of delicacy; Miss Celia Gordon as Mrs. Ponderbury deserves the highest praise for her excellent portrayal. A clever little curtain-raiser, entitled *His Landlady*, written by Mr. George Mudie, was produced on Tuesday evening, and proved very acceptable.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles B. Clarkson.—The Fred Granville's (Productions, Limited) company, in *Beauty and the Beast*, is drawing crowded houses. The scenery and dresses are good, and the incidental music lively and up-to-date. Speciality turns are introduced by the Keebles (Norah and Edie), Hewson's Æolians, Ed. Stream, Micklin Williams, Royal Quintette of International Dancers, Barrie and Wood, Frank Daleno, Victoria Francis, and Hilda de Grey. Miss Norah Keeble is a sprighly Silver Buttons; Miss Hilda de Grey a most able Prince Great Heart; Miss Dollie Barrie a capital Sir Electro Plato; Miss Edie Keeble is a charming Beauty; and Mr. Micklin Williams a clever Beast. Edward Stream and Frank Daleno a funny duo as Sprindles and Twitters; Bella Moody a very quaint Whilhelmena (the Baron's ugliest daughter); Victoria Francis a pretty Fairy Sunlight; Juan Wood a most amusing Squire Winkles; Sammy Foster a mirth-provoking Sammy; and Florence Milton a dainty Dolly Dimple.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—*Red Riding Hood*, John Tiller's pantomime, is on its second week here, and the success we predicted last week on its production is fully assured. Everything goes with a swing. May Merry is as bewitching as ever; Zena Benson, May Sharples, and Lulu Russell are becoming bigger favourites than before, if this is possible; the comedy parts, as portrayed by the Brothers Hayes, Frank Helroyd, Fred Laurence, and Charles Verno create roars of laughter; and specialities of the Lotus Troupe and the Mascotte Troupe of childen, together with the pretty dresses and artistic settings, go to make the pantomime one of the best ever seen here, which is saying a good deal. Mention must be made of the excellent music provided under the bâton of Mr. F. Dexter.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Geo. T. Santé, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here in *For Wife or Kingdom*. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville is a success as Captain Max; Mr. Reginald T. Fox is a dignified General Von Nestolde; Mr. Albert Guyon is responsible for capital acting as Baron Maurice; and Mr. Edward Hobart does well as Sergeant Offenbach. Miss Lydia Andie gives a satisfactory representation of the Grand Duchess; and Miss Alice Buckland is a chic and sprightly Nita Constadt; Miss Lillian Malvern is good as Esther; and Miss Margaret R. Frame displays talent as Camille.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; Lessee, Mr. Ernest Mansell.—*Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* has constituted the attraction at the Royal Palace Theatre during the week. Mr. Chas. Macdona—whose company it is—plays with first-rate effect the name-part in this thoroughly pleasing musical comedy; Miss Nellie Hodson bewitchingly plays La Bolero; Miss Margaret Letilla sings charmingly and acts gracefully; and good effect is contributed by the remainder of the cast, among whom are Messrs. Bert Edwards, E. H. Paterson, and A. Hill-Mitchelson. The large audiences which have assembled to witness the performances have keenly enjoyed them.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessees, Borough Entertainments Association; Manager, Mr. Philip A. Lennon.—On Monday Mr. Neyill Graham staged his bright and attractive pantomime *Aladdin* at the Pavilion with signal success. Music, staging, and acting are all excellent. Mlle. Lucietta is a dashing principal boy; while Miss Lillian Earle daintily fills the rôle of the Princess; Miss Harriette Laydall, a clever comedienne, sustains the part of Widow Twankey; and good work is contributed by Mr. Wilfred Lyndon (Abanazar), Miss Cissie Clarke (Pekoe), Josephine (Nicee-Nicee), Mr. George Howard (the Emperor), A. Taylor (the Grand Vizier), Mr. C. Clarke, and the Astreys, a comic pair of Chinese policemen. Sinclair's Four Parisian Girls dance smartly.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's fine company is presenting *The Christian* to good houses. Mr. Henry Wolston as John Storm gives a forcible and realistic portrayal; and Miss Gladys Purnell is a charming and talented Glory Quayle, her acting being exceedingly clever. Mr. Wilfred Noy as Horatio Drake is most acceptable; and Mr. Fred Morgan portrays Lord Ure with skill. Mr. John Hastings Batson is most effective as Father Lamplugh; and Mr. Charles E. Dering is successful as Archdeacon Wealthy. Miss Gladys Vernon gives a very sympathetic portrayal of Pollie Love. The play is well mounted and dressed.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Mr. Fred J. Little and Mr. Fred Darcy's pantomime of *Sinbad the Sailor* is here. The book is by Mr. Frank Ayrton, and is very smartly written. The plot is on the old familiar lines, and gives scope for a gorgeous scenic display. The title-rôle is taken by Miss May Poulton, who plays the part with great vivacity and also sings in good style, Mr. Walter Adams is highly amusing as Sinbad, Mr. George Collins as Mrs. Sinbad is very diverting, Mr. Charlie Preston acts with humour as Captain Cook of the "Mary Jane," Messrs. Newco and Sullo as the Mate and Bo'sun are very successful and make a splendid hit in their latest creation "The boys in red," Mr. H. Van Lachterop as the Emperor and Miss L. Van Lachterop as Princess Zaidee display their vocal ability to great advantage in their operatic duets, Mr. Albert E. Mann is a good Old Man of the Sea, Miss Bessie Defries is a very attractive Fairy Lustra, Miss Connie Clare as Selim, Miss Carrie Harding as Zorilda, and Miss Dolly Clare as Zuleika act fascinatingly, Mr. D. Howell is a capital representative of Rum Fum, the Emperor's Prime Minister, and all the other parts are well impersonated. The Acme Quartette give an excellent terpsichorean display, and in the last scene the Szarvasi Ferencz troupe of Hungarian singers, dancers, and acrobats gain immense applause by a really excellent performance. The scenery is very tasteful and effective, the Diamond Valley scene and the Sphinx Palace being especially worth mention. The full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. Garfield Barrett. The house was crowded on Boxing Night, and excellent business has been done throughout the week. The special matinées have also been well attended.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. George Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—A most attractive holiday programme is being presented here. The bill is headed by the Jees in their world-renowned musical pantomime *The Musical Smithy*, which is exceedingly well received; Danton and Morris are two good comedians; the Claymore Trio appear in a clever pot-pourri act of dancing and juggling; Percy Farrimond, the original Lancashire singing collier, displays his vocal powers to great advantage; Les Marbas, humorous and acrobatic dancers, provide a capital turn; the Savoni Sisters sing and dance with great ability; the Lafaille Troupe give a very clever gymnastic and equilibristic act; Andie Burns is a capital comedian; and some excellent pictures are projected on the Palace Bioscope.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is paying its annual Christmas visit. The sights of the world are most realistically depicted in the myrioramic pictures, and a first-class exhibition of animated pictures is also shown. Variety is given to the entertainment by a company of star artists, including the Rochez' circus of ponies and dogs, which are very highly trained; the Selbys, eccentric comedians; Fil Gerrard, the facial king; Lang and Sheffer, comedy artists and dancers; and Carta and Mirtziana, the sensational gymnastic and equilibristic performers. Mr. Nat Abott is an efficient cicerone. Poole's Christmas visit is an established institution here, and the entertainment is receiving splendid patronage.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—*A Destroyer of Men* is the title of a thrilling drama being presented here this week by Miss Hilda Beverley's company. Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh cleverly portrays the part of Count Starevitch; Mr. Herbert Pearson is prominent with a powerful impersonation of the triple rôles of Kare Mishla, Herr Ruaz, and Uno; Mr. James Jarrett is effective as Michael Mishla; Miss Mary Brammer wins all hearts by a capital embodiment of Vida Ravel; and Miss Hilda Beverley acts with telling effect the part of Olga Mishla.

EMPIRE AND PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle.—The management continue to cater well for their patrons. On Monday some very enjoyable pictures were shown. A. Harris, vocalist, contributed two well-rendered descriptive songs; and the Whittington Trio gave a clever and amusing acrobatic act.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company are occupying the boards here with *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather is seen to advantage as Zaco Malletto; and Mr. Frank Menzies is a manly Wilfred Grey. Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock is a smart Colonel Crichton; Mr. Sam Edwards does well as Jim Rodgers; Mr. Gerald Byrne is deserving of mention as Paul; Mr. Walter A. Chetham scores as Detective Smart; Miss Ivy Ross is a pleasing Lily; and Miss Amy Maitland a sprightly Dolly Dimple. Miss Hilda Shirley presents a sympathetic rendition of the difficult part of Myra Malletto.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Edgar Fox; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—The management have decorated the auditorium with flowers and greenery, the effect being delightful. Mr. William Watson's pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe* occupies the boards. Mlle. De Rose is a charming hero; Miss Hilda Claremont is pleasing as Polly Parkin; Mr. Phil Lester is funny as Mrs. Crusoe; and Mr. Joe Waldron as John Willie Crusoe and Miss Etty Waldron as Mary Crusoe are responsible for a lot of humour. Mr. Billy Watson is deserving of mention as Will Atkins; Mr. Cliff Dacre as Wreckerces sings with great success; Mr. J. W. Hawtrey scores as King Guzzlem; Miss Ruby Carlton is smart as Wavina; and Mr. Bendene gives a lifelike portrayal of the Crocodile; Mr. Dick Nash being most amusing as Rats. Specialities are introduced by the Waldrons, Mlle. De Rose, Three Royal Temples, Lambert and Butler, Sisters Gaye, and Bendene and Vererrie.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The programme for this week is quite up to the usual good standard. St. Ruth and Conyers, operatic vocalists, have a répertoire of well-rendered works; Andy Fagan is a pleasing light comedian and dancer; Lillie Lemain presents a novel Lilliputian entertainment that is much enjoyed; and Hector and Lauraine are truly styled up-to-date comedians. The pictures are of special merit.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Good business is being done with G. Carlton Wallace's *A Thief in the Night*, large numbers not being able to find room on Monday night. Mr. Stanley Bedwell is an excellent Alan Escombe; Miss Marjory Fane as Joan was well up to the requirements of her exacting part; and Michael Pagani was a thorough scoundrel in the hands of Mr. Leyton Cancellor. Comedy was well sustained by Mr. Bert Atherton (Toby), Miss Winifred Barton (Happy), and Mr. Russell Bogue (Crake). Miss Beatrice Homer forcibly drew the ire of the audience with her Sonia Cleeve; Miss Prudence Ayrton cleverly presented Little Joan; and Mr. Charles Foster (Lord Romilley), Mr. Hugh Wallace (Richard Cleeve), Mr. Philip Crossley (Rev. Charles Halkett), and Miss Irene Chalmers (Lady Romilley) did well.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Messrs. Soniers and Saunders' pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* on Monday packed the house at the matinée and twice at night, and good houses still continue, with two hours' good fun at each performance. The Sisters Mawdsley are clever dancers and singers, and make excellent Babes; Miss Olive Astor is a dashing Robin Hood; Maid Marion is sweetly presented by Miss Lulu Lord, who sings in a very pleasing manner; Denby and Dent are a couple of comical clever ruffians; and the Baron is in the safe hands of Mr. Marcus Boyle. Mr. A. McAlister is very droll as the dame Evelean; and Mr. Willie Barrett (Simple Simon), Mr. Wm. Atherton (Friar Tuck), Miss Ada Whitton (Will Scarlett), Miss Blanche Montague (Dorothy Dimple), Miss Marie Blanche (Little John), and Miss Daisy Noel (Polly Primrose) give good support in their various capacities. Some clever work is done by the Salonicas (acrobatic dancers), and there are several interesting specialities introduced. The scenery is good, and the dresses are very pretty.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Boyle.—Miss Zona Vavey in "My Lady's Bower" gains much applause for her singing; the Singing Jockeys give a most enjoyable racing act; *The Sleepwalker* is an amusing sketch, by W. Ellis and company; the Sages (Will and Jenny) are well received for their burlesque work; and Ford and Hanson, with their musical instrument act; Tony Freedman, comedian; Les Supriskis, in pretty lady gymnastic act; Beatrice Wyke, vocalist; and Ida Barr, actress-vocalist, also contribute to an excellent programme.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The premier position here is occupied by the Cornelius Choir, whose high-class singing is greatly appreciated; the Three Comerfords are smart acrobats and tumblers; Olive Myrtle, vocalist and dancer, provides a pleasing turn; George Bernard is well received in a dramatic scena *An Outcast in the Colonies*; Mundill and Maude appear in an amusing duologue "Uncle's Coat"; Frank Solbey is a very good child mimic and comedian; and the Wedburns are as popular as ever. Other attractions are the Bioscope and the skating rink.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company are appearing here in *The Lancashire Lad*, with Mr. Douglas Watson in the title-rôle, Miss Madge Douglas as Jessie Wincote, Mr. Ernest Vaughan (Mat Carlton), Miss Muriel Inglis (Lorna Wincote), Mr. Bob Anderson (John Willy Wardle), and Miss Gertie Henderson as Mother Wardle. The characters are all exceedingly well represented.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is the attraction here, and is drawing crowded houses nightly. The scenery and dresses are excellent, and the artists one and all fill their parts with the greatest credit.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in *Whom God Hath Joined* drew an excellent house on Monday. The sensational episodes are cleverly developed by the company, and the staging is capital.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The Christmas attraction here is *The King of Cadonia*, which was presented on Boxing Day by Mr. Frank Curzon's specially-selected company from the Prince of Wales's.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The Yuletide programme here has been contributed to by the following well-known performers:—The Boissetts, in their comicality, "The Bricklayers"; the Sachoff troupe of Russian dancers; Mr. J. W. Hall, comic; Miss Mabel Sinclair, vocalist; Miss Madge Osmond, comedienne; Miss Henriquette Maude, in a novel act; the Quaint Q's, speciality artists; Miss Ethel Bourne, a pleasing artist; Matthews and Reece, two talented entertainers; and the Bioscope, with artistic new pictures.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A first-rate Christmas bill of fare was submitted to a crowded house on Monday, the artists being Mlle. Verneuil and her troupe of shapely ladies in classical statuary; Gibson and Bell, novelty artists; Dowson; Mr. Wilton Heriot's company in the sketch *Father's Footsteps*; Neder Velde's monkey acrobats; Ferguson and Mack, established local favourites of thirty years' standing; Maria Racko; Mr. George Hall; Miss Lena Wyli's; and Mr. Philip Braham's comedy troupe in the diverting absurdity *March Hares*; Augustin and Hartley; and the Bioscope.

ALBERT HALL.—Poole's celebrated Myriorama picture-show and variety company opened here to a big audience on Christmas Eve. The scenery was much enjoyed and the lighting and effects were quite up to date. The animated pictures of all the noted firms were thoroughly enjoyed, and hearty applause greeted the efforts of the following talented performers:—The famous George French troupe of trick cyclists; the expert and amusing Snow family, comedy and trick skaters; Learto the clown, and his intelligent little canine comedian; Miss Phyllis St. Clair, vocalist; Mr. Harry Dowsett, vocal comedian; Miss Hanid Alexander, mimic, vocalist, and pianist; Mr. Bert Gates, ventriloquist; and the Borghetti troupe.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory.—There was an excellent and varied bill of fare here for the holiday season, and packed houses were the rule. This week the programme includes the admirably staged operatic scena *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Mr. T. H. Wood is a fine actor and baritone vocalist as Sergeant Sulpice; Miss Nellie Moore an accomplished Countess of Berkenfelt; Mr. Ernest Chas Gittins merits high praise as Bruno; Mr. Percival Harris as Tony takes the part in a very creditable fashion; and Miss Adele Prescott sings with power and effect, and performs her part admirably. Lucy Lynd, character comedienne, wins golden opinions; Herman and Evelyn are very skilful wire performers; the Hamiltons have a refined and attractive vocal scena; M. Coselly is a marvellous chair jumper; Eric and Nora contribute a smart musical act; and Percy Maye merits the highest encomiums for his elaborately dressed and staged performance—an exceptionally fine turn.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp* was presented for the first time on Christmas Eve to a large and appreciative audience by Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. The pantomime reaches a high level of excellence in the strength of its company, the liberality of the comic element, the profusion of the ballets, and the catchy nature of the songs and choruses. The production is elaborately staged, and all the principal characters are portrayed by artists of repute. Miss Hettie Zillwood as the principal boy captivated the house. She has some tuneful numbers and chorus songs, the latter being taken up with great gusto; Miss Lou Charlesworth is a charming Princess, and was recalled for her singing; Mr. Charles H. Gallier does well as the Emperor; Mr. Fred Osmond as the Vizier creates much amusement, and his rendering of "Kelly" was repeatedly encored; the Brothers Lavelle are quaint comedy acrobats as the Chinese policemen; Mr. Frank Sutherland makes the most of Abanazar; Mr. Clarence Turner (a quaint comedian) puts the audience into excellent good humour as the Widow Twankey; Mr. Pulo is a funny Wishee Washee, and is also a clever comedy juggler; the Sisters Wingrove quickly sang and danced themselves into warm favour. Other features of the production are the graceful dancing of the Venesser troupe of dancers, the Grando Sextette of Male vocalists; and Miss May Wyatt, 'cello soloist. Frank Sutherland and Charles H. Gallier are the stage-managers, and Mr. Fred. R. Wyatt is the musical director. Chorus and orchestra do good work.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The holiday attraction is provided by the Moody Manners Opera company in a répertoire of famous operas. On Monday afternoon *Faust* was presented with complete success. Mr. Albert Bowyer, a newcomer locally, sang beautifully in the title-rôle, a like remark applying to Miss Grace Nicol as Marguerite. Messrs. William Anderson (Mephistopheles) and W. Farmer (Valentine) were also excellent. In the evening *Maritana* was given, with Mme. Beatrice La Palme in the name-part, and Mr. Seth Hughes as Don Cæsar, both scoring great successes. Other operas billed for the week are *Carmen*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *The Masked Ball*, *Tannhauser*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, and *Il Trovatore*.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Brilliantly redecorated and relighted this building reopened on Monday with a special holiday programme. Albert and Edmund's company appear in the farcical sketch, *The Tower of London*; the Woods are wonderful thought readers, and their turn is well appreciated; the Three Diamonds dance well; Ruby Dahl gives capital imitations of marionettes; and others who entertain are Steel and Laing, Morris and Moore, and Norah Stockelle.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Yardley.—The production of *Cinderella* on Boxing Day was enthusiastically received. Great praise is due to Messrs. Sydney Cooper, the Tally Ho Trio, and Chas. Wood, under whose direction the pantomime is given twice nightly. Miss Doris Langdon makes a delightful Cinders; while Miss Gwladys Soman as Prince Charming is all that the name implies; the Fairy Godmother is well played by Miss Fay Desmond; roars of laughter greet the drolleries of the two ugly sisters, Camelia and Cordelia (Messrs. Chas. Wood and Fred Anderson); whilst the Baron Doonaught (Mr. Eric Farr), his page (Mr. Fred Park), and the broker's men (Messrs. Erne Chester and Wm. Donst) are no less amusing. The Sisters Belmore and the Sisters Christopher sing and dance delightfully; and the Eight Sunrays are responsible for some splendid speciality dances. The dresses and scenery are charming, and the orchestra is directed by Mr. Edmund Peterson.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—A programme of all-round excellence has been provided for the holiday week. Sam Mayo pleases all with his quaint songs and quaint humour; Mather and Mayer are excellent in their comedy duo; Maud Wellon, comedienne, contributes some really dainty songs in a finished manner; Spissel Bros. and Mack are comedy acrobats of a high order; Leo Tell appears capable of mimicking anything; Marie Witton is a good singer; and Brinn, with his wonderful feats of strength, is creating quite a sensation.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole owners, Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Adam Seebold; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Lingham Power.—*Jack the Giant Killer* is drawing good houses here. Miss Marie Beresford takes the title-rôle with the characteristic dash and energy required; Miss Cynthia Lupino as Princess Blush Rose ably seconds the efforts of the principal boy; the Sisters Florencie dance well; Mr. Geo. Lupino amuses as the Master; while other characters to cause laughter were King Tweedledee and Tweedledum, represented by Messrs. Happy Harry Ellis and Tom Ashby; and the Widow, well played by Mr. Geo. Grenville. As the Giant Mr. H. A. Langlois is very good, and the speciality turns are well performed.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is presenting *The Sinner* to good houses. Mr. Wilson Benge as Monk Stretton is seen to advantage; Mr. Charles Burdon is good as Edgar Thornhill; and the same may be said of Mr. Alex. Finlayson as Paul Levaine; the virago-like Meg Stanton is cleverly depicted by Miss Adelaide Raby; Little Ned is well played by Miss Dora Olga; and Miss Geraldine Verner, Miss Gertrude Vickers, and Miss Saidie Smith all fill their parts with ability. Mr. Frank Radcliffe submits a good character sketch of Bill Stanton; and Mr. Lewis Newman is very good in the comedy part.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The Elliott Savonas, musical marvels, submit a scena of great beauty, entitled *The Palace of Orpheus*; Stewart and Morgan furnish another musical turn much appreciated; Thorpe and Zoe Coe contribute a good sketch, entitled *My Burglar*; Fred Elton scores in his scena, "On Board an Ocean Liner"; Mackintosh and Royal are expert dancers; and Geo. Rea, Scotch comedian; Ruby Roya, comedienne; and the Bioscope complete.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The Christmas attraction here consists of Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. Garrod plays Frank Gordon in a most convincing manner; Mr. Charles Halling is a good John Hamilton; Mr. William Bradford a successful Godfrey Clinton; Mr. Frank Dallas makes a hit as Heinrich Oppenheim; Mr. Seymour Perry as Wilberfoce Puddyphat is droll; Miss Bertha Kingston as Marjorie shows fine judgment in an interesting part; Miss Ethel Crawford makes a capital Gwendoline; and Miss Alice Clarke an amusing Adelaide Puddyphat.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—*Cinderella* was produced here on Boxing Night with every success. It is well staged and the dresses are very smart. The acting of the principals and all concerned is good. Miss Eva Travis, a captivating Cinderella, finds a worthy Prince in Miss Georgie Hawkins; Mr. Arthur Farren makes an ideal Baron; and Mr. A. Stokes and Mr. MacCabe as the Ugly Sisters are wonderful creations. Mr. James Mackenzie as Peps, the Page, and Mr. Harry May and Mr. D. Anderson as the two footmen Phil and Garlic, were productive of much merriment. The specialities were M. Le Clair's performing dogs, a really wonderful troupe; La Zenith, in an illuminated butterfly dance; Messrs. Bernard and May, comedy duo; Miss Flo Banks, lady clog dancer; and Mr. Arthur Farren, mimic.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Revill.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell produced their pantomime, *The House that Jack Built*, on Christmas Eve before a crowded audience. Plenty of good music, rollicking fun, tasteful scenery, and magnificent dresses, go to make up a most enjoyable entertainment. Mr. Jack Hayton as the dame Aunt Purdy is prominent among the comedians in providing the fun, capitally supported by Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as the broker's men Scraggs and Scraggles; Messrs. Walker and Lake as Professor Pills and his assistant Squills; and two funny men in Mr. J. W. Hamm and Mr. Paddy Sloan as Harold and Percy. Miss Daisy Wood is a captivating Jack, and makes a pleasing success with "Just Someone" and "Molly O'Morgan." A sweet vocalist is Miss Dolly Dodds, who is the principal girl Jill, and whose most popular number is "I'm looking for Mr. Wright"; Miss Nina Wilson makes a charming Fairy Twinklestar, and achieves a hit with "Somewhere."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Black.—Pantomime also prevails here, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *Dick Whittington* providing the attraction with distinct success. Miss Ethel Campbell as Dick acts and sings in good style, and is particularly pleasing in "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly"; Alice has a charming representative in Miss Tiny Franks; Miss Phyllis Seymour is successful as Molly; and Miss Ivy Proudfoot, who sings artistically "North Pole Star," is a delightful Viscount Piccadilly. Mr. Deane Tribune as Jack Idle and Mr. Albert Williams as Sarah keep the audience in roars of laughter, with able support from Mr. Jack Hodgson as Alderman Fitzwarren. An entertaining feature is Mlle. Pauline Rivers' troupe of merry mill girls and dancers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Messrs. Max Montesole and Angus MacLeod present the fairy play, *Pinkie and the Fairies*. As Pinkie Hermione Gingold, who has a sweet little voice, is a great success; Hetty Kenyon is a warm favourite as Queen of the Fairies; Dolly Summers is most amusing as the dignified Herald; Master Charles Chappell makes an excellent Tommy; the rôles of Molly (Muriel Alston), Cinderella (Lucie Cane), Dick Whittington (Joan Maitland), Sleeping Beauty (Estelle Th

are given here this week by the Zenandry Bros., Charley Bigton, and J. K. Carney. The Pictures are an excellent assortment.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale. — The manager of this cosy house is certainly to be congratulated on the undoubted success of the production of his new pantomime, *Aladdin*. The dresses and scenery and general stage effects are all that one could desire and the ballet arranged and conducted by Miss Kate Tyrrel is far above the average. Miss Edna Latonne presents a bright and smart Aladdin, and her singing and dancing produces many encores. The Princess is nicely played by Miss Jenny Hackett; Mr. Arthur Pier as the Emperor captures the audience by his fine rendering of "Somewhere," and "If I had a world to give"; the Sisters Rivers in the parts of Pekoe and Caramel are charming in their song and dance; and Miss Amy Pauline Gladwell, the possessor of a fine voice, portrays the character of the Genius most artistically. The specialities include the Brothers Lloyd, in their double bounding cable act, exceedingly well received; France and Francis, knockabouts; Perth and Oban, two clever boys; and Max Merlin, the human crocodile. Mr. Walter Bishop, both in the character of Abanazar and stage-manager, is deserving of great credit.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Collin; Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—This week a strong bill is topped by Farmer Skein in his farcical melodramatic sketch, *Robert Macaire*, which is received with applause. Ward and Davis submit a screaming duo, entitled *Wanted, a Typist;* Marie Woolston renders her songs in good style; Warren and Granville are good in their vocal and instrumental act; and some clever illusions are presented by Professor Morritt.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.— EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—The premier position in this week's programme here is occupied by the Kremos, a troupe of risley acrobats, whose marvellous exhibition fairly brings down the house; they are by far the most wonderful acrobats that have been seen in this town. Lambert, who presents the genius and the living portraits of Paderewski, Joachim, Gounod, Lizst, and Holtom, is equally at home with piano, 'cello, or violin; he is an expert with either, and upon receiving a vociferous recall his impersonation of Svengali proves him to be an adept actor. A novelty seen here for the first time is the introduction of an artist by means of the cinematograph, and this is done by Gitto, the Welsh vocal phenomenon, who is shown on the screen going through the work of a smelter and roller, and immediately stops, as it were, from the picture to the stage and discourses vocalism in a splendid voice, ranging from a falsetto soprano to basso profundo. The deftly-executed tricks of Chris Van Berne are a source of wonder to all. The comedy sketch for which the Smythson comedy company are responsible is very amusing and thoroughly appreciated. Millie Payne is a low comedy artist with a style that is provocative of much laughter. Sybil Lister, a silver-toned contralto, earns good opinion, and some capital films are shown.

WESTON - SUPER - MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr Robert Macdonald's company is proving a draw here with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Mamie Stuart is a charming Peggy; Miss Glennie Lorem is delightful as Winifred, her singing being exceptionally good; Miss Nellie Le Breton proves herself a thorough artist as Eliza; as Lady Brudenell Miss Lily Rosalie is artistic; and Miss Dorothy Vere makes a captivating Helen. As Miss Penelope Pettigrew Miss Julie St. George is decidedly good. Mr. Norman Bowyer scores a success as Joe Mixens, his quaint antics positively convulsing the house with laughter; Mr. Walter Chumpney gives a talented impersonation of Lieut. Samuel Brudenell; and the Lieut. Frank Meredith of Mr. Horace Manger is entitled to the highest eulogy. Mr. George Ascot's interpretation of Dr. O'Byrne merits praise. The whole of the magnificent scenery carried by the company is entirely new, having been specially painted for this tour by Mr. Geo. T Dobson.

WEYMOUTH.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—On Boxing Day Mr. Alfred Austin presented the fairy pantomime, *Cinderella*. Miss Mabel Austin was a dashing Prince Charming, and Miss Maidie Harrison won hearty favour as Cinderella; Miss Phyllis Leslie as the Prince's Valet and Miss Eva Swinburne as Dabette were eminently fitted for their parts; Mr. T. Read as the Baron's Page was most successful; Mr. F. E. Ellis made a capital Baron; Seraphina and Bedella were capably represented by Messrs. Newham and Latimer, who kept the house in roars of laughter; Nabber and Nailem (Mr. B. Hildersley and Mr. H. Phillips) introduced some droll humour; as the Fairy Miss Gertrude Bond had a hearty welcome, she possesses a fine voice and has a charming presence; and Little Miss Gladys Lidgett as the principal dancer was rapturously encored, especially in her dance in the Fairy Glade. The music is tuneful and bright, the dresses are superb, and the whole show goes with a swing from start to finish.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—A strong Christmas attraction was presented here on Monday evening in the drama, *A Child of the Streets*, by Miss Dot Stephens' own company. Miss Stephens, in the title-rôle acted with ability, Mr. Norman H. Tracey was a successful Jack Ainsley, and the other rôles were well taken by able artists.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—A strong and entertaining pictorial and variety programme attracted three crowded houses on Boxing Day.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company. — Crowded houses are witnessing Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's company in *Little Bo-Peep*. Mr. J. W. Groves delights the audience as Granny Brown; while Mr. Gatty, who takes the part of the Demon Wolf, sings "Revenge" in a style that is much appreciated; Mr. Albert K. Stern as Rastus Brown gives a dance and coon song in an exceptionally smart manner; and Mr. Will Shepherd as Johnnie Stout and Mr. Rex Kempton as Jimmy Green cause endless laughter. In the title-rôle Miss Lizzie Payne is a conspicuous success, and Miss Elsie Peach is a charming Fairy Moonbeam; Miss Eva M. Rosslyn as Boy Blue gives a finished characterisation; and other parts are capably filled.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—Loyal, with his performing horse and dogs, provides one of the latest novelties; Ethel Thomas is loudly applauded for her vocal selections; Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, gives a pleasing turn in a new novelty scena, *Morning, Noon, and Night;* Blair and Allen give a refined singing and dancing act; whilst Elmo and Rego, as knockabout acrobats, cause roars of laughter. The Howards are given a good reception for their comedy musical act, *Military Mad*, as also are James and Jenny Lee for their inimitable and original wire performance; Renson and Waite are popular Yorkshire humorists; Hilton is responsible for some hilarity with his Scottish comedian Jock; and Monty Walker is a favourite comedian.

WISHAW, N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Mr. Chas. Majilton's full company, including Jim Bond as Bartle Burke, is proving an excellent draw at this cosy little house; Chorley and Conner are a decided success in their comic patter and dance business; the Marzellos are excellent in a comedy horizontal bar act; and the bioscope has some excellent films.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's principal company in *The Boudman* is the holiday attraction here. Mr. Philip Darien is admirably suited to the part of Jason, and right well does he acquit himself; Mr. Stanley Harrison gives a fine portrayal of Michael Sunlocks; Mr Wilfred Beckwith is in every way excellent as Adam Fairbrother; Mr. W. H. Rotheram doubles the parts of Grandfather and Father Ferrati, and presents two cleverly thought-out character studies; Mr Fred J. Walter as Dr. Boni, Mr. Sidney Stephens as Governor Testa, and Mr. Chris A. Olgar as Marshal of Police render able assistance; and two precocious youngsters are found in Miss B. M. Hughes as Mona and Master W. Neville as Danny. Miss Emelie Mayhew acts with charm and vivacity as Christian Ann; Lily and Dora Callow are ably represented by Miss Dorothy Radcliffe and Miss Florence Owen; Miss Madge Lamerton makes a capital Mrs. Fairbrother; and Miss Violet Macarce is an irresistibly sweet Gretha. The play is mounted with that lavishness that characterises Mr. Croke's productions.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Bubbling over with vim and go, May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, simply carries her audience with her; Mme Iris introduces her troupe of animals, who show intelligence; Les Cairons present an exceedingly dexterous juggling speciality; the head and hand balancing of the Stowe Bros., two youthful acrobats, is remarkably clever; the Russian dancing of the Bros. Welimann is, to say the least of it, marvellous, nothing like it having been seen here before; under the cloak of excellent comedy Tate and Tate perform a skilful trampolin act; the chorus songs of Madge Goodall, comedienne, are readily taken up; and others who contribute to the enjoyment are Kenway and Emery, comedy duo; Dick Kendall, comedian and eccentric dancer; and Harry Lawson, comedian. Seasonable pictures are also shown on the Bioscope.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—*Babes in the Wood* was presented for the first time to crowded houses on Monday. It is undoubtedly the best thing Mr. Carlton has yet provided in the pantomime line, no expense having been spared in casting the production, nor in dressing and staging it. There is excellent entertainment for old and young, and never a dull moment. Miss Gertie Douglas is an admirable principal boy, and plays the part of Robin Hood in rollicking style. An accomplished vocalist, she finds full scope for her talent, and has achieved wide popularity. The Sisters Lang score a great success as The Babes, their clever singing and dancing and general daintiness winning full approval of their audiences. Miss Ethel Dancy, a charming Fairy Fortune, makes good use of a highly cultivated voice. Messrs. Harley and Melton fully maintain their reputation as "funny men" in the parts of Weary Will and Tired Tim, and the part of the wicked Baron is admirably played by Mr. Martin Haley. Mr. Gus Walker is very funny as Nurse Prettypet, and as Pickles, page to the Baron, Mr. Bert Lloyd makes the most of his opportunities. Mr. Angus Strong is an elusive Will o' th' Wisp, and doubles the part of King Richard. The Maid Marion of Miss Verona Philis is a dainty impersonation, and she sings in excellent style. Miss Rene Glynne is a dashing Allan-a-Dale.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—*The Merry Widow* is attracting big houses. Seldom has a neater artist graced our local boards than Mr. Sinclair Cotter as Baron Popoff, and he finds a very capable second in his messenger Nisch as portrayed by Mr. Harry Emeric. Mr. Robert Needham as Prince Danilo brings out the light and shade of this difficult character admirably. Miss Phyllis Legrand's Widow is the merriest and smartest creation imaginable. The Natalia of Miss Mabel Hope is a clever piece of acting, whilst the dancing of Miss Neste Laurel as Frou Frou is charming.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee Mr Mack.—The pictures include the pantomime *Puss in Boots*. The variety includes Barney Vox and the two clever comics Douglas and Clark.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The films are of the best, including A Woman's Repentance. The comedy is supplied by Douglas and Gordon, Caledonian couple, and Maskell, the evening dress suit comedian.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Mouillot's grand Christmas pantomime, *Cinderella*, opened here on Boxing Day. Miss Mimi Fisher as Dandini is admirable; Miss Madge Beresford as Prince Charming has a good presence and a pleasing voice; and Mr. Ralph Roberts as Baron Blighter; Mr. Martin Reno as Baroness Blighter; Mr. Frankland Grey as Araminta; and Mr. Chas. Caffrey as Buttons fully supply the comic element. Too much praise cannot be allotted Miss Molly McIntyre as Cinderella.

WREXHAM.—THE EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The strong company at this hall is headed by Lonie and Wally, lively, witty, and refined comedy artists; and at the foot of the bill is a great Wrexham favourite, D. J. Pedley, a clever comedian and dancer. The other artists include Cissie Gordon, vocalist. The pictures are an extra attraction this week.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Miss Annie Hughes and Mr. Lawrence Brough appeared on Monday in their curtain raiser, *Pickles*; both artists were well received by an enthusiastic crowded house; *The Lady of Ostend*, which followed, proved vastly amusing; Mr. Brough as Baron de Longueville had a splendid reception, in his original part his success was undoubted; Miss Beatrice Park was a fascinating Dorothy Whortles, Miss Phyllis Manners an amusing Mother-in-Law, and Miss Olga Esme a bright and charming Millie Grace; Mr. Tom Sidney was a distinct success as Joseph Carberry, and Mr. Douglas Payne looked the part of Krockett and played admirably.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—This place of entertainment is crowded nightly, the company being an excellent one. Jan Rudyeni and his company head the list and give a fine performance; Maud and Gill are the other stars, and are heartily applauded for their clever turn. Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright, in their sketch, *Hi Wun*, are extremely smart; A Ba Be's Picture Post-card Album is well received; Bert Wells and Dorothy Wynne are clever comedy jugglers and dancers; W. G. Webber has a grand voice, which he uses to advantage; Phinas and Ada are clever on the revolving pedestal; Arthur Astill is an entertaining whistler; Bert Williams gives his well-known ventriloquial entertainment with rare skill; and Anna Lang is quite a dainty comedienne.

AMUSEMENTS IN BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — The boards here are occupied by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning's company, in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards appears with marked success as Jack Frobisher; and Mr. Russell Barry as Hankey Bannister does excellent work. A perfect study of the Marquis of Steventon is given by Mr. Rutland Barrington, who also is highly successful in his entertainment at the piano; Miss Gwendoline Hay is vivacious and charming as Lady Alathea; Miss Hilda Sims presents a pretty Lucy; Mr. Haworth Browning is very good as Harry Dallas; and other parts capitally played are in the care of Miss Ethel Trevor, Miss Lilla Sharp, and Miss Gladys Leigh.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A programme of excellent quality is given here to crowded houses. Of the big-type shows the Herslebs are prominent with popular eccentric acrobatism; the Kratons are brilliant in hoop manipulation; and the Society Idols, introduced by Chas. Parker and Arthur Mertz, are an extremely smart musical combination. Gene Morelle, the ragged virtuoso, is a funny burlesque musician; and the Janfrellas are a pair of clever equilibrists. Ted Gill is a fine tenor vocalist; and George Burrows an acceptable baritone. The Empire Theatrescope shows good pictures.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Juggling McBans are particularly clever in club and hat throwing; the Dvoraks present a series of cleverly-executed see-saw jumps and somersault acrobatics; and Les Saletos, in hand-balancing, are skilful. The Sivronis, with "Opera Gone Mad," delight the house; and Jan Colquhoun wins favour with baritone songs. Harry Taylor, comedian, is recalled; and the Delomes give a smart turn of dancing. A colour photograph film, From the Egg to the Spit, is the feature of the pictures.

COUNCILLOR WILLIAM MOULD, the popular lessee and manager of the Central Palace, North Shields, kindly entertained 250 poor children to breakfast on Christmas morning.

MESSRS. MACNAIR, ROBIE, AND CO. have several "slot" automatic boot-brushing machines for sale. They are electrically driven, and are suitable for railway stations, restaurants, lavatories, hairdressing saloons, arcades, &c.

ALFRED DAVIS, twenty-one, sawdust contractor, of East-street, Walworth, was charged on Tuesday with assaulting Geo. Cheverton, an attendant at the Star Music Hall, Bermondsey. The prosecutor said that on Boxing Night the prisoner was using bad language, and when spoken to about the matter struck him three times, blackening his eye. Harriett Bendon, the prisoner's sweetheart, declared that the attendant used bad language to her, and when the young man demanded an explanation the attendant struck him. He merely acted in self-defence. The prisoner was fined 10s., and 7s. 6d. doctor's fee.

"THE SETTLER'S DAUGHTER."

Sketch, Produced at the Bow Palace, on Monday, Dec. 27.

Matthew Carrington .....MR. E. H. DOBELL
Bill Burke .....MR. EDWIN BENNETT
Jack Marrable .....MR. EDMUND SYDNEY
Nell .....MISS LOUISA PEACH

The future success of this pretty, yet dramatic episode of American life is assured, judging from the enthusiastic manner in which it was received. There is a human interest running throughout, and the author has evidently used the art of dramatic construction with skill.

The story is as follows. Jack is waiting in Matthew Carrington's hut to see the latter's daughter before proceeding home to England. He wishes to propose marriage to her, and after plucking up the necessary courage, does so, and is accepted. He then leaves to give the news to all his friends at the Wheatsheaf. After he has gone Nell's father enters the room and tells Nell that he has a big scheme on hand, and that if it comes off trumps they will go home to old England. He also adds that he has been entrusted with the safe keeping of $10,000 by an old friend, and as it will not hardly be safe for him to take it with him to the Wheatsheaf he suggests hiding it, and they both decide that the bag containing the money shall be placed in a book on the shelf. Kissing Nell good-night, he leaves her, promising to return as soon as possible. Quickly following his departure someone is heard knocking at the door, which Nell opens to find a stranger seeking food and shelter. She grows frightened when he tells her he knows she is alone, as he has watched the house for some time, and while the stranger, Bill Burke, is reading the paper, after having supped, Nell stealthily creeps to the bookshelf and quickly removes the money, finding a fresh hiding place outdoors. Bill then forces Nell to show him her father's room, for he intends sleeping in the house, and threatens Nell with all kinds of dire penalties should he be disturbed. Nell then thinks of what she shall do, when an Indian enters, and after partially suffocating her, rushes to the bookcase for the money, and not finding it there hunts everywhere in the room for it without success. Baulked in his intentions, he turns upon Nell with the intention of frightening her into disclosing the hiding place, and whilst the struggle is going on Bill Burke, who has heard the noise, enters the room and grapples with the Indian. After a terrific struggle, he manages to plunge a knife into the Indian's body, who falls mortally injured. Bill Burke then leaves to fetch Nell's father, leaving Nell alone with the dying Indian. The Indian tells over to speak to Nell, and his identity becomes at once known. The Indian is none other than Nell's father, disguised for the purpose of being able to steal the money entrusted to him without any suspicion resting upon him. He pleads with his daughter with his last breath for forgiveness, and dies just as Jack arrives. The chief histrionic honours naturally fall to Miss Louisa Peach as Nell, the conception of the rôle being in accordance with this artist's usual clever work. Mr. E. H. Dobell as Matthew Carrington gave a very strong study, and acted with fine feeling. Mr. Edwin Bennett as Bill Burke caught exactly the right attitude of the sinister brow-beating tramp; whilst Mr. Edmund Sydney as Jack Marrable was thoroughly successful.

CATLIN'S PIERROTS.

At the Leicester Borough Police Court recently, before T. Windley, Esq., and other magistrates, Reginald Basil Jarvis (23), described as a music hall artist, of 43, Evington Park-road, was charged on a warrant with obtaining by false pretences, from Henry Turland, two bills of the value of 6d., the property of William Catlin, with intent to cheat and defraud, on or about Dec. 6.

The case was on remand from last Friday, and the evidence then given was repeated.

Prisoner elected to be dealt with summarily, and pleaded guilty.

Mr. J. T. Hincks, who appeared for Mr. Catlin, said he did not propose to go into any more of the numerous cases that might be brought against the prisoner, as he had pleaded guilty. He explained that an advertisement appeared in *The Era*, asking for artists, and headed "Catlin's Pierrots." Mr. Catlin was much upset by the advertisement, which was inserted without his knowledge or authority. He was unable to obtain the name of the advertiser directly, but a letter sent in reply to the advertisement led to the prisoner being discovered. It was stated that he had had fifty or sixty replies to the advertisement, and had been engaging artists from all over the country in Mr. Catlin's name. They also found that he had been round to the places where Mr. Catlin's bills were shown, including Mr. Catlin's own photograph, collecting them, saying he was authorised to do so. He actually took a hall at Ashby, and used the bills he had stolen for advertising his show. Steps were taken to stop him, and then Mr. Catlin got a wire saying that the artists at Ashby were stranded there with no money, and could not get back again. Mr. Catlin felt very sorry for them, and, as a matter of fact, had paid money out of his own pocket to enable them to get back to their respective homes, while he had obtained an engagement for one of them. It was a very serious thing for the artists, as it meant that they were thrown over Christmas without getting an engagement. Prisoner was not quite the innocent person he had represented himself to be, for he was brought up at Liverpool Police Court on July 31, 1906, on three charges of obtaining things by false pretences, and sentenced to a day's imprisonment on each; in September of the same year he was found guilty of false pretences at Clerkenwell Police Court, and sentenced to three months' hard labour; while on March 3, 1908, he was convicted of forgery at the Central Criminal Court and sentenced to fifteen months.

The Chairman said it was about as barefaced and impudent and cruel a fraud as could well be perpetrated, bringing young professional artists from their homes and preventing them from earning their living these holidays. Prisoner had had every chance, and it had made no impression on him. He would be sentenced to three months' hard labour. Mr. Windley added that it was exceedingly kind of Mr. Catlin, whose name had been used in this scandalous manner, to take the course he had in regard to the young people who stranded at Ashby.

CROWDED houses have witnessed the performances of the Great American and Continental Circus at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham. The programme included a couple of dozen items—all of the best. There were clever equestrians, really funny clowns who kept everybody laughing, trick horses, performing bears, dogs which did marvellous tricks, jugglers, wonderful trapeze artists, bareback riders, musical clowns, and wire performers. Among the attractions were Miss Rosa Transfield, who contributed a sensational riding turn; Mons. Spangelettis's performing dogs; the well-known bareback rider, Miss Cora Stuart; an exhibition by the intelligent trick horse, Sultan, under the direction of Mr. Robert Scott; H. Stephenson, in a smart jockey act; Miss Katina, a globe walker; Miss Rosa Montese and her talented horse, Emperor, who is a marvel of equine intelligence; Captain Permane and his performing bears—a turn which should delight adults and children alike; Aerian and Ostara, "human aeroplanes"—a daring act; a bar act by Ben Tillet; more jockey acts, by Thomas Fossett; wire act, by Miss Trojer; juggling, by Mons. Platter; and a host of others, including the well-known musical clown, Dan Gregory.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Manager T. S. Mayne offers good Christmas fare at his cosy variety resort, and his patrons are not slow to respond to its attractiveness. The evergreen Chirgwin is undoubtely the popular feature of the bill, but running very close in local favour is Whit Cunliffe. Chirgwin, despite his sixty-six summers—or is it winters?—is a wonder. This is his third visit here in four months. His personal magnetism never seems to flag, and his puns never fall on stony ground, audacious though some of them may be. With his quips and cranks and his "bombasophone," his merry and now rotund personality keeps his audience rolling on a sea of laughter. His parody on "Sailor, take care," is more than funny, and therefore appreciated heartily by Tottenhamites. Whit Cunliffe and his infectious, breezy style weigh in with three songs, all good chorus numbers, which hit the bull's-eye of public fancy at every performance. His songs, "Exercise," "You're not satisfied," and "There are nice girls everywhere," are winners every one in his hands, and his audiences emphasise the fact by their approbation. "Do you want any coal?" a favourite song of Lila Shields's—her sheet anchor, in fact—proved a pleasing item, while her other number, "Money in your pockets," did not fail to elicit applause in plenty on the night of our visit. Then Marie Blythe, still another chorus comedienne, neatly arrayed in a black satin "boy's" costume—and smartly does she "carry it," too—set everybody singing her pretty refrain, "Say good-bye," a Harry Dacre number; and Mabel Thorne, with a catchy item anent the adventures of a lady who was supposed to go to church, but went instead to the Park and sat on a seat marked "Wet paint," amused highly. A smart cycle trick performer is Bert Woodward. His every feat shows polish and studied execution. His agility is little short of remarkable in his many difficult somersaults while awheel. "The Scottish Exile's Dream," presented by John Donald—in excellent voice—is a capital scena which serves as an excuse for the introduction of popular Scottish ballads. A real good turn is Mr. John Donald's. "The banks of Loch Lomond," "Bonny Mary, and "John Anderson, ma' Joe" all find adequate treatment at his hands. Geoffreys and Benson, off through temporary indisposition, had their place ably filled after Wednesday night by Frank Lynne. His coster harangue on Free Trade proves a popular topical chapter. Florence Yeaman, in coon caricatures and her song "All I want is a man," and Charles Hera, in clever juggling feats, complete an all-round enjoyable bill. Mr. William Burgess still conducts tunefully, and to evident satisfaction; while behind the scenes stage-manager Lawrence works hard and expeditiously. Next week *Puss in Boots* will reign at the Tottenham Palace, presented by Mr. Joe Collins' company.

GATTI'S MUSIC HALL.

At Tower Bridge recently Mr. Sidney Lamb, barrister, applied on behalf of Messrs. Carpenter, of the Lyceum, for a protection order, pending the application to the Licensing Justices for the transfer of the licence in respect to Gatti's Music Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, which it was proposed to reopen. He explained that the London County Council required extensive alterations, which the present licensees, Messrs. Corazza, did not feel disposed to carry out, and the music hall was closed four years ago. The licence to sell intoxicating liquor, however, had been renewed year by year by the Justices. Messrs. Carpenter and Smith had taken up a twenty-one years' lease of the premises, at a rental which increased in the first three years to £1,200 per annum, and they had carried out all the alterations required by the London County Council at a cost of about £1,500, and they now wished the licence transferred to them. The application was unusual, because none of the parties were able to attend the court. Messrs. Corazza—two brothers—were in Italy, and Mr. E. Carpenter, in whose name the papers for the transfer were made out, was taken suddenly ill on Wednesday, and had to undergo an operation.

Sub-Divisional Inspector Collins stated that Mr. E. Carpenter had held a licence at Brighton, and the Brighton police spoke very highly of his management. He had the necessary power to open Gatti's Music Hall, but he required the protection order to enable him to sell intoxicating liquors.

Mr. Lamb said that Section 16 of the Licensing Act, 1902, gave the Justices power to dispense with the attendance of the parties, and he presumed a Court of Summary Jurisdiction had the same power with regard to granting protection orders.

Mr. Rose thought that Sections 1 and 6 of the Licensing Act, 1842, gave him the necessary power, and, in view of the special circumstances of the case and the excellent report as to the applicant's character, he would exercise the discretion given to him by those sections, and grant the protection order.

In reply to the magistrate, Mr. Lamb said that they had not had an opportunity to make Mr. E. Carpenter's brother the applicant, because they only heard of the illness that morning, and the papers were all made out in Mr. E. Carpenter's name. However, if necessary, they would apply for the licence to be transferred to the brother.

[Mr. Ernest Carpenter's regrettable death is referred to in another part of the paper.]

AMUSEMENTS IN BRISTOL.

PALACE. — Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman. — Fred Sterey and company head the bill with the dramatic sketch *Rip Van Winkle*. The sketch is well staged in six scenes, and it is played well. An interesting novelty is exhibited, called "Simeon the Seer"; this is a mechanical bust of a man—an automaton—which speaks, sings, and answers questions put by members of the audience. Vowles and Bryan amuse with song and story; the Austral Trio do a smart musical and variety turn; Minnie Wheaton, comedienne and dancer, successfully entertains with song and dance; Harry Tomps plays the concertina well and amuses with his patter; Newman and Knight do a good comedy juggling act; and pictures conclude.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid. Macaire.—Mary Mayfren's company is successful with the dramatic sketch *The Yellow Pang*, the little play being well staged and capitally performed; Sinclair and Whiteford, comedy artists, amuse with their matrimonial sketch, *Getting Even;* Bayne and Hope do well in their costume playlet *David Garrick;* Elton and Edwin are expert banjoists; Wilson and West score with their comedy act, *Stage-Struck Costers;* the Starley Brothers are very smart in their motor cycle acrobatic turn; Mabel and Rosa are exceptionally clever dancers; La Belle Nello does an excellent gymnastic act; Hicks and Hunter do well in their roller-skating speciality; and Charles Stevens, comedian, obtains appreciation. Animated pictures close.

COLSTON HALL.—Poole's Myriorama opened here on Christmas Eve with every prospect of a successful season. The Myriorama is stated to be new in every detail; the animated pictures include the most popular and attractive films; there is a good band; and a smart variety company, headed by the Royal Banzais, six in number, who present a good entertainment as jugglers, contortionists, equilibrists, &c.

MLLE. SYLVESTO wishes to thank Mr. Jones, manager of the Tivoli, Dublin, for paying salary in full for Christmas week, although only working for five nights.

AN act entirely new to this country is making a great success this week at the Temperance Hall, Merthyr, Miss Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys being heartily applauded in their new and novel vocal and dancing scena. This act is booking heavily through W. Lovell Hurt.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.
Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,
THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 28, March 14, 21, April 18, May 2, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, 11, May 2, 16, 23, June 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Feb. 7, April 25, May 9, 16, Aug. 8 15, Sept. 5, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 28, March 7, 21, April 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Jan. 17, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Jan. 17, March 7, 28, April 4, 18, May 9, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Huddersfield, Jan. 17; Wolverhampton, Jan. 31; Theatre Royal, Leicester, Jan. 17; and Opera House, Leicester, Feb. 7.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Jan. 10, 31, March 14, 21, 28, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Jan. 10, 17, 24, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 10 and 31.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 7, 17 (3), 21, 28, &c., Easter.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 21, 28, March 7, 14, Easter (?).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Jan. 20 (3 nights), Feb. 14, 21, 28, May 16.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred, for MOTHERWELL, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, March 14, 28; COATBRIDGE, Feb. 17 (3 nights), March 21, 28; AYR, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, March 7, 14. FALKIRK, Feb. 21, March 2 (4 nights); KIRKCALDY, Feb. 7, 21, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights).
KILMARNOCK, immediate dates.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 5690 Gerrard.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Feb. 28 and March 14 (?).
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED (through transfer), High-class Attraction, for week of Feb. 7.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Good Pantomime, Season 1910-11.
Coms., ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Jan. 31 (?), March 28, and on.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, for Jan. 10, 17, 24, and onwards, Pantomimes and Variety Companies.

Share or Certainty. Please state when communicating all Artists names. All correspondence to WALTER BATTY, Baltic Hotel.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Entirely rebuilt and enlarged.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Shows preferred, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, onwards, three nights, one matinée or full week. All communications to C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, as above.

WANTED, Attractions, March 21, April 11, 18, Whit, May 23, 30 June 13, 20, 27, onwards. Also Variety Combinations and Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first 3 nights Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, onwards. ALFRED MANNERS Empire T., Swindon.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, commencing 28 March, 1910, and on, with exceptions, Music or Farcical Comedies preferred. Apply, M. LEOPOLD, American Palace Pier, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, something good, Panto. or Musical preferred, Jan. 17, 31, Feb. 7; now doing extra business Grand Theatre, Chorley. SANTE, Radcliffe.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
SCARBOROUGH NEW HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, Jan. 24, Scarborough, also Dramatic Co. or Variety Combination, Jan. 31 (3 nights each town). Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED. First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, April 25, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville. All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Jan. 10, Feb. 7, March 28, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Now in course of construction. A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, 1910, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, 1910, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 14, 1910, onwards.

All communications, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District.
This week, Mr. James Welch's Co., "When Knights Were Bold."
Next week, Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean Co.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Jan. 17 and 31; also certain onwards.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

BLACKBURN'S NEW PREMIER THEATRE.
THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.
The most magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire. Pronounced by every Touring Management to be one of the Finest and Best-managed Theatres in the Kingdom.
Every modern comfort both before and behind the Curtain.
Tremendous success of the Dramatic Season, bookings for which include "The Dairymaids," The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, Miss Marie Studholme, in "Miss Hook of Holland," Miss Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke," Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," "Tom Jones," "Our Miss Gibbs," Seymour Hicks's Production, "The Gay Gordons," Rutland Barrington, in "The Walls of Jericho," "A Country Girl," &c., &c. First-class Attractions only entertained.
WANTED, March 21, April 18, 25, May 9 and 16 (Whit).
Now rapidly Booking Autumn 1910 and Spring 1911.
Address all communications re dates to Mr. HARRY YORKE, Resident Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies.
Wire for Jan. 10, Wire.
Wire for Jan. 10, Wire.
Wire for Jan. 10, Wire.
Also Vacant for Big Musical or other No. 1 Attraction, Feb. 14, 28, March 14, 21, on, with exceptions.
Address, FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 10, 31.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Jan. 3 (3 nights), wire.
STANLEY ROGERS, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 24, 31, also Pantomime, Feb. 7.
Address, E. A. SMITH, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for Jan. 24 and Feb. 28, onwards, good Drawing Pantomimes and Dramas, twice nightly. Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 and 28, Prince's Theatre, Horwich, Lancs.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.

BATH, THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Known, vacant dates in Feb. and March for First-class Attractions.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Easter Monday, March 28, and other Dates.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be first-class. Address, MANAGERS.

CHORLTON THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS.
Now entirely rebuilt and enlarged.
Holding capacity about 1800.
Can stage any size stuff. Electric light. Efficient staff. Comfortable dressing-rooms, heated. Tip-up chairs. Every convenience.
WANTED, First-class Company (musical preferred), for Grand Opening, Jan. 24.
Also Good Companies, Jan. 31, on with exceptions.
Musical Comedy, Light Comedy, and First-class Drama.
Address, SECRETARY, 57, King-street, Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 21, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
JAMES BELL.

NEW THEATRE, WEYMOUTH.
Holds over £120 at ordinary prices.
Special Notice.—The Fleet (over forty Battleships) stationed at Weymouth from end of Oct. to March.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 7, 28, March 7, 14, 21, April, on.

All communications, WALTER R. WALLIS; or, London Representatives, Messrs. JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7 and 14.
Apply, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO. Seats 1200.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, or Comedy 1910. Easter and Whit Week, July 21 (3 nights), July 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 inclusive, Sept. 8 to 26, inclusive.
Address, THE MANAGER.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford First-class Companies for Jan. 17, Feb. 14, 21, 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, good Company, Jan. 20 (3 nights). Good opportunity for trial of London Production.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, Good Pantomime, Jan. 10 or 24 (first or last three nights); other Vacant Dates Feb. 7, 8, 9, 24, 25, 26, March 7, onwards.
AUGUST A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 4 (?), 25 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21, April 4 (?), 18, May 9, 16 (?), 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30 Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24 (?), Nov 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, through breach of Contract, A1 Pantomime or Dramatic Attraction, Jan. 10. Wire,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a nold ing capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Feb. 7 14 21, on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brother Etherien, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

HIPPODROME, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Feb. 7, onwards, First-class Pantomimes, Dramas, Musical Plays, on shares or certainty. All Twice Nightly.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. Telegrams, "Variety." 'Phone 9144 Central.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, First-class Pantomime or Musical Comedies, Feb. 14, 21, 28.
Must be a very Big Production.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 10, 17 (?), 24, Feb. 7, 21 (?), March 7, Easter.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 21, March 7, and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
WANTED, big Attractions, Feb., and on, Musical preferred, Easter and Whit and several good season dates available. Apply, C. CONSTANT.

THEATRE ROYAL, BILSTON.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 17, on.
MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dramatic Attraction, Jan. 13, 14, 15, also Jan. 20, 21, and 22. Apply, S. GOODMAN, Proprietor, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

WANTED, Managers with Jan. 31 and Feb. 7 vacant, to communicate with J. F. Elliston, Bolton, when they will hear of something to their advantage.

WANTED, something good, Jan. 17, 24, 31, also Spring, Grand, Chorley; Feb. 7 and Spring, Grand, Radcliffe. SANTE, Radcliffe.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, Vacant Jan. 10, 17, 24.
Apply to J. M. GLOVER, Drury Lane Theatre.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, for March 7, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction for Jan. 17. Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 10, 24, and on, Big Attraction for Easter write.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, January or February, High-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions may write for immediate Autumn and Spring Dates. Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
WANTED, Pantomimes and Musical Comedies, for Jan. 31, on. MACDERMOTT, Col., Leeds.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Pantomimes and Star Variety Companies. All coms., SCOTTIE.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 21, May 2, 9, and Autumn. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

HEREFORD DRILL HALL.
Holding capacity 1,400; stage 32ft. wide, 23ft. deep, opening 27ft., stage frame 18ft., fitted with electric light; large dressing-rooms; stock scenery.
WANTED, First-class Pieces and Companies. Re dates, A. LOVESEY, 2, Offa-st., Hereford.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-st., Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. PITT HARDACRE, "DRINK."
WANTED, Jan. 10 to Feb. 21 (both included), then various dates till Whit week, at T. R., Sheffield. Address, c/o Hutchison, 20, Union-st., Dundee.

WANTED, for "Nick Carter, Detective," by Shirley and Landeck, Autumn dates.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., Belfast.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Theatres in Wales, Jan. 24. Also Vacant Jan. 31 (South); also Vacant in Various Districts, Jan. 24, Feb. 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Feb. 7, 21, March 7, 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, March 21, 28.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth-rd, Harborne, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7, Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7, Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7, Wire or write to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14, 21, March 28, April 11, May 2, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Arcade Theatre, Sterling.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31. Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Jan. 3, Gaiety Theatre, Methil, N.B.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play, "EAST LYNNE," containing the character of "P.C. Bullock."
WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Bookings include Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Newport, &c. Write or wire,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, and on, with exceptions; now playing four weeks' season to crowded houses at Coronet Theatre, London. Letters or wires to FRANCIS TREVOR, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Jan. 10 (between Devon and Yorks), also Easter Week, either or both Plays.
Exquisitely dressed and mounted; perfectly played. Receipts scarcely affected by political opposition, as both plays draw women in great numbers.
Wire, LOIE ESMOND, to-day, Assembly Rooms, South Molton; Jan. 3, Assembly Rooms, Teignmouth (three nights).

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all October.
Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Feb. 14 (South), April 14 (three days, Mid.), May 2 (?), 9, 16 (?).
Apply, J. E. WATSON, 169, S. Lambeth-road, S.W.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Jan. 31 (South or Midlands), Feb. 7, 14 (South or Midlands), Feb. 28 (Midlands or North).
Address, CECIL BARTH, New Royalty Theatre, London, W.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, April 4, 11, and Oct. 31.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 14, 21, and 28.
FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., Sunderland.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Attraction Week of Jan. 31. Week of March 21.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Opera House, Crewe.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
Refer Messrs. Melton, Ormerod, Barnes, as to the enormous drawing powers of this Play.
The Accrington Press says: Mr. Geo. A. De Gray has written a good many plays which have met with the hearty approval of local playgoers, and his latest, "The Angel of his Dreams," maintains his reputation of producing the right material for popular drama. . . the play affords scope for fine acting. . . the scenery is also a big feature, and a fine tableaux is presented. Thanks W. D. Forsdike, Esq., for Contract, Alex., Sheffie'd.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 31, Jan. 31 (London or Midlands), March 14, May 9.
All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, this, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexborough; next, T. R., Chesterfield.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Feb. 28, March 14, May 2, 9, Aug. 1. HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

A First-class Attraction.
MR. LOUIS CALVERT'S PRODUCTION OF "SUNDAY"
as Produced and Played by Miss JULIA NEILSON and Mr. FRED TERRY at the Comedy Theatre, London.
One of the Finest Plays and most complete Productions travelling.
The entire Scenery, Furniture, and Properties Toured.
Miss JANET LIND as "SUNDAY."
Cast Chosen and Rehearsed by Mr. Calvert.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 (between Newcastle and Glasgow), 28, March 14.
Sole English Representative for Mr. Calvert, WILLIAM GIFFARD.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 24, "ALADDIN."
Enormous success at Ramsgate. Hundreds turned away nightly. Company of 40 Artists, including Mlle. Lucretia, Miss Lilian Earle, Sinclair's Parisian Girls.
Scenery and Dresses from Hippodrome, London.
Wire, NEVILL GRAHAM, Victoria T., Ramsgate. Next, King's, Gainsborough.

KEITH G. KENNETH'S COMPANIES.
"THE WOMAN OF KRONSTADT."
"THE WOMAN OF KRONSTADT."
By Max Pemberton.
The powerful Russian Military Play, from Garrick Theatre, W.
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, Jan. 31 (three nights, Midlands), Feb. 10, and March 3 (three nights), April 11, onwards.
WM. MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.; or, KEITH G. KENNETH, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 10 (between Rochdale and Barrow), Feb. 7, 14, and on (North).
The Finest "Sapho" Travelling. Fourth Year. Can be played, if required, in conjunction with our strong répertoire of eight plays. Wire for Jan. 10. To-day, ABBOTT, Exchange Theatre, Wellingborough; next week, T. R., Rochdale.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION," by Mrs. Morton Powell.
Front Rank Attractions. Vacant
Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, March 21, April 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"THE GREAT MONEY-MAKER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Feb. 14, March 21, May 2, 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
The Strongest Draw Touring.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 31, Feb. 7, April 11, May 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Vacant March 7, 21, April 18.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

GASTON MAYER'S COMPANY.
From Terry's and Adelphi Theatres.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Feb. 3 (three nights, Midland), Feb. 3 (three nights, Midland), March 14, April 11, 18, 25, March 14, April 11, 18, 25.
WALTER D. NICOLL, WALTER D. NICOLL, 105-105, Strand, W.C.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, Admitted to be one of the Biggest Money-makers Touring.
Miss ANNIE BELL, supported by Mr. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE and Star Company.
Wire for Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28. Wire.
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

EDWARD MARRIS'S PANTOMIMES.
"DICK WHITTINGTON" (once or twice nightly).
Breaking records at the Hippodrome, Portsmouth.
Refer Messrs. De Frece.
WANTED, Theatres or Halls, Jan. 31, onwards, also Xmas, onwards, next year.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE" (once or twice nightly).
Instantaneous and emphatic success at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
Retained for third week.
Refer to Jules Richeux, Esq.
WANTED, THEATRES or HALLS, Jan. 17 (?) and 24 (?), 31, onwards.
EDWARD MARRIS, 1, Douglas-house, Maida Hill, W. Telephone 5377 Paddington.

Mr. T. N. WALTER'S COMPANY.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
WANTED, Feb. 7 and 21, and few Spring Dates.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
All communications to T. N. WALTER, 133-136, High Holborn, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Dirigible, London."

WANTED, E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "WHO IS SHE?" Dec. 10, Dec. 10,
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T. R., Barnsley.

WANTED, Jan. 31, North. Oxford endorses Birmingham's favourable opinion. Wanted, Jan. 31, onward, with exceptions, for the Play of the Year, "Folly's Fortunes," a strong Drama with bright Variety introductions. Company of splendid Artists. All Scenery and Properties carried.

While diffident Managers hesitate, "F. F." Books ahead. Kindly note.—Equitable terms only accepted. "F. F." is smarter and livelier than many Pantomimes.

Maude Western as Folly, sprightly and charming.

Joe Ellis as Billy is simply a masterpiece.

"Folly's Fortunes" returns to Birmingham and Oxford.

Communications, BUCKSTONE, Theatre R., Aldershot.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (follow Leicester), Feb. 7 (precede Scarborough), Feb. 28, March 7, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Address, CHARLES GIBBON, F. T., Portsmouth.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, March 7, April 4, 25, May 2, 16. This play takes the money.
Address, C. HAMILTON, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER," by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, good Theatre, Jan. 24, to precede Bordesley. Miss Renée Glendower and No. 1 Co. Enthusiastic reception at T. R., Stratford, this week. Mr. Fredericks delighted with Company, Play, and Scenery. A Box Office magnet. Refer Messrs. A. Jefferson, H. Robertson, &c. Wire or write, ELLIS, Queen's T., Farnworth.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Feb. 7, 21, March 7.
E. BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-rd., Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Good Dates, for the following acknowledged money-makers:—The Great Drama, "SEXTON BLAKE, DETECTIVE," Vacant May 9 (between Bolton and Grimsby). The Real Life Drama, "HUSH MONEY," Vacant March 28 (Easter). Now rapidly booking Autumn, 1910, and Spring, 1911, for both Productions. Offers cordially invited.
Apply, A. H. GRAHAME, 21, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. Tel., 2431 City.

MISS MARY NEIL, in her Latest Successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS" and "HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, for either Play, Jan. 10, 17, March 21, 28, April 11, 18, and 25.
Coms. to GEORGE KIRK.
This and next, playing both Dramas, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Play.
WANTED, May 9, 23, 30, and June 6.
Town Halls, Newry and Dundalk (3 nights each).

MR. STEPHEN PRITT'S MAGNIFICENT CO., presenting the Unique Detective Drama, "ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
Which contains the finest Comedy ever written.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 17 and 24. Wire, PRITT, T. R., Colne; next, Empire, Fleetwood.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
A Grand Comic and Spectacular Pantomime. Again a Record Success.
Beaten all Records at Prince's Theatre, Preston. Holding Capacity Nightly.
Managers are invited to witness this Pantomime, with view to Production next Season.
Can be seen this week at P. T., Preston; next, P. T., Blackburn.
Refer E. H. Page, Esq., P. T., Preston.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31; also Feb. 14, onwards, with exceptions.
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Produced with enormous success at T. R., Woolwich.
Refer S. Barnard, Esq.
Vacant Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31.
Feb. 7 and 14, Feb. 7 and 14, Feb. 7 and 14, Feb. 7 and 14.
London Managers are invited to witness this Attraction, with view to Production next Season. Can be seen this week and next, T. R., Woolwich; Chatham to follow.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
One of the most successful of modern dramas.
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
Vacant Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
All coms to FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Woolwich (this week and next).

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER, Opera House, Londonderry.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter.
FRED BULMER, Opera House, Londonderry.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN'S COMPANY, in "HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, 28, May 16, June 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, Oct. 24, Xmas, and Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Everything carried. Magnificent production.
Wire, ARTHUR HINTON, Grand, Aberavon. Monday, Palace, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Feb. 7, for First-class Production of "Bo-Peep."
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Theatre, for Summer Stock, 1910, for High-class Dramas, Comedies, &c., Ethel Griffies. Jan. 3, Gaiety T., Burnley.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT," by F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Feb. 28, various, onwards.
Address, 108, Greenwich-road, S.E.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
Without doubt a Pay-box Magnet.
WANTED, Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Refer A. Jefferson, Esq., then wire for Jan. 24 or Feb. 7.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN"
Vacant May 30 and Autumn
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
Wire or write,
This Gaiety Theatre, Methil, N.B.
Next, Opera House, Lochgelly, Fife

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatre for Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, to follow Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, for the Enormously Successful Pantomime, "ALADDIN."
Now playing to record business.
Beautiful scenery, gorgeous dresses.
Specially selected cast of Star Artists includes Brothers Fiman, Ernie Myers, Tom Carrick, J. G. Aitken, Mabel Hind, Evelyn Desa, Margaret Vincent, Three Warners, and Lily Lonsdale.
Wire, wire, wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C. Telephone 5590 Gerrar.

WANTED, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, 1910, Midlands preferred, for Jacobs and Jephson's Specially selected Company, in the Grand Comic Panto., "Dick Whittington." Cast includes: Florrie Curette, Nita Dunville, Millie Seale, Cissie Trent, Phyllis Eaton, Fred Dunville, Bobbie Graham, Bros. Phillips, Lambert Eaton, Dan Jacobs, Cyril Jephson, Grand Specialities by The Musical Dunvilles, Three Toys, Bros. Phillips, Cissie Trent, Seale and Seale, Cyril Jephson, Produced Boxing Day with enormous success, packed at early doors, Curtain not down until 11.40, and cheered to the echo. Verdict—Funniest and best show ever seen in Kettering; refer Frank Payne, Esq. Kindly note, we have only experienced Artists in our company. Best terms only to T. R., Macclesfield.

UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS.
ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIME, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
The Most Gorgeous, The Most Spectacular, The Most Comical Show seen on any Stage.
All previous Records broken.
Refer to Management, or come and see for yourselves.
This, East Ham Palace; next, WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

WANTED, Jan. 17 and 31.
Share or Certainty, once or twice nightly.

EXETER PANTOMIME, "RED RIDING HOOD."
WANTED, First-class Dates, Feb. 7 and 14 to follow Eastbourne, South or Midlands.
Apply, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

GRAND XMAS PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, and dates onwards, for this splendid production. Proprietors invited to see this show, brim full of fun, splendid cast of Artists, magnificent scenery, gorgeous dresses; can play twice nightly if required. Thank Managers for offers; must have terms. Address, BARRETT, Princess's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Halls and Theatres, to follow Cradley Heath, Jan. 17, on, "Robinson Crusoe" Panto. Everything carried. Attractive printing. STOCKTON, Victoria Hall, Matlock.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only Organisation of its kind in the World.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, Jan. 24, 31 (?), Feb. 7, Scotland or North. Complete Tabloid Panto., in Five Scenes, all Carried. "Babes in the Wood," and Strong Variety Company. All coms., SCOTTIE, New Theatre, Hawick, N.B. Musical-Director, Pianist combine Violin, write.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"WOMAN OF KRONSTADT."
WANTED, a Pretty, Young Actress, for Small Ingenue Part, to rehearse Jan. 10, Southend. Photos. essential.
All particulars to
KENNETH, T. R., Leamington.

WANTED, Intense Actress, for Waif, must have power and pathos, very short and slim. Fullest particulars, references (which will be applied for), lowest terms, Box 7,067, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rehearse immediately, Powerful Actress, for very strong but short heavy part; physique, power, and appearance imperative. Address, with photos., references, height, &c., to T. E. WARD, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, to open Jan. 31, Gentleman for Lead, Gentleman for Comedy (one who can speak Scotch preferred), Lady for Emilia, Queen ("Hamlet"), Duchess of York ("Effie Deans"), &c. Also Vacancy for a Young Gentleman for Small Parts and Understudy. All must be tall. All particulars (letters only), EDMUND TEARLE, c/o Loxton, Prospect Hill, Redditch (to be forwarded).

WANTED, good reliable Responsible Man, must dress well on and off, and be thoroughly experienced. Send exact age, height, photo., and last three references, with addresses and lowest terms for long Tour, run through summer. STANLEY CARLTON, O. H., Wrexham.

WANTED, Comedian (Swiss part), Musical Comedy, open April. By letter to HARRY W. LUDLEY, Managers' Club, Savoy.

WANTED, for Australia, Small Comedian for minor parts; must be an exceptionally good dancer.
Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy Sketch Production, Jan. 10, London, Light Comedian, Pretty Juvenile Lady, Comedy Waiter and Waitress, also Chorus Ladies, with strong voices and good appearance; all found. Call or write, terms, latest references. ASHBURN'S Agency, 295, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Author and Elocutionist, also Lady Elocutionist, for Dramatic Recitals; must be absolutely First-class. Lowest terms to TRIVETT, 27, North road, West Bridgford, Notts.

WANTED, Girls, 18 to 20 years; good Dancers and Singers. Call 11 o'clock, Monday, 288, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Gentleman to Announce Act; good appearance and delivery essential. Call Monday, 8, Chesterfield-gardens, Oakhill-road, East Putney, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Principal Boy, for "Dick Whittington," to rehearse Jan. 10, Scotland. Absolute terms, where can be seen working, and photo. in boy's dress, imperative. FRED J. LITTLE'S Agency, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-st., London.

WANTED, to open at once, good Second Boy, must be young, with good appearance, Sing and Dance well. Send photos., age, height, what Pantomimes already played in, with lowest terms, to J. GAR KIDDIE, this, Court T., Wigan; next, T. R., Preston.

WANTED, Fairy Queen; must be First-class Soprano Vocalist. Terms and photo. to FRED GRANVILLE, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, several Smart Young Ladies, with good voices, for Chorus; also Pianist. Conductor. Lowest terms, &c., SCOTTIE, New T., Hawick.

WANTED, Giant and Midget, for Pantomime Production; long engagement. Give weight, height, age, &c. Address, MAURICE F. RAYMOND, c/o H. W. Wieland's (Zæo) Agency, 16, St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Cycling Cat, Pardoe's "Whittington" Panto. Come and see me as the Cat. Opera House, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, wonderful Hoop Juggling Effects, fine Panto Speciality, vacant Jan. 3, 17, 24, and 31. This Hippo., Woolwich. 5, Rathbone-street, Canning Town.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Speciality Juggling Act, also Parts. Vacant Panto. Wire, HORATIO, Post Office, Abertillery, Mon., till Sat.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and Bro., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

One of the Oldest Scenic Contractors in Provinces.
MANCHESTER SCENIC CO. (Estd. 1894).
Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.
WANTED, Contracts, Scenery. Compare our prices. WM. B. BOSTOCK (Scenic Contractor to the Entire Macnaghten Circuit. Paint frame 75ft., the storage department enlarged. Dry storage to let.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Scenic Artist, abstainer, first-class, in Provinces, best London refs. Terms, £2 5s. Address, Box 7,048, "The Era."

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio, High-class Scenery, at lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-av., Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Acting-Manager, for the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, must be reliable; experienced and of good experience. Only Managers with the highest references need apply. Add., SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Competent Electrician, to Tour. State age, height, and lowest terms to Box 7,073, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Carpenter, for Pantomime Tour. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Baggage Man, preference given to one who can understudy Donkey. Full particulars, photo., age, and recent reference imperative. FRED J. LITTLE'S Agency, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately, good Theatrical Men's Cutter, to take charge of workroom.
Reply, stating experience and salary required, to Box 7,127, Willing's, 125, Strand.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, immediately, for Electrical Dance Act, smart Lantern Operator, practical Electrician, tall, gentlemanly appearance. Photo., references to MAUDE MURRAY, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Stage-Manager, late Collins's; well up in Twice-nightly Varieties. Address, PATRICK J. BARRY, 702, Holloway-road.

WANTED, Position as Resident-Manager, London or Provinces, by good business man with London experience; excellent references; hard worker. Apply, L. H., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Very Smart Young Man of good experience and references, as Manager or Assistant, Picture Palace, or any Place of Kind of Entertainment, or Assistant to good Entertainer, Illusionist, &c. Write, HENRY, 8, Commercial-road, Pimlico, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement as General Advertiser and High Window biller; abstainer. W. H. DICKENSON, 5, Stratford-ter., Shakespeare-st., Nottingham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musical-Director, with up-to-date Library; one who can play piano and violin preferred. Age, refcrences, and terms to A. M. LOADER, Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, to open at once, used to Variety; good sight reader. State experience. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Leader, immediately, salary 35s., Variety; permanency to good man. Wire, age and references, SWINGLER, Conductor, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, good First Violin, also Clar., to Open at Once.
FRED BROWN, Mus.-Dir.,
Boro' Theatre and Hippodrome Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First Violin, to open immediately, used to Variety; good sight reader. State experience. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

C. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, to open Jan. 10, Violinist, to play First or Second; assist with fittings when travelling. A. S. MORRELL, Mus.-Dir., Synod Hall, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Reading Professional Town Band, good Cornet and Trombone. Terms shares. SEC., Town Band, Castle Inn, Castle-street, Reading.

WANTED, Cornet Player, Gentleman, for Musical Act. State age, height, salary, also photo., to JACKSON, Palace Theatre, Bath.

WANTED, a really First-class First Clarionet, also good Trombone, to travel with Military Band; a permanent all-year-round engagement is offered to thoroughly experienced, gentlemanly, and reliable players; can open immediately. Apply, stating experience, references, and lowest terms, to REANO, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, for the Cheltenham Town Band, good Double Bass Player (string). Terms shares. Address, J. BOYCE, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Euphonium and Side Drums, for Pitching, in London West End; terms Shares. BANDMASTER, 69, Carlisle-st., Edgware-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, good 'Cello, Open at Once. Permanency. Terms, age, and refs. to KELL, Empire, York.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Variety, to open Jan. 10; one performance nightly except Saturday (2). Absolute lowest first letter with last three references to BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's T., Castleford.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Drums and Effects; must be used to Varieties.
Apply, with full particulars, to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, a Drummer, for Skating Rink, start Monday, Jan. 3. State lowest terms, Apply, MANAGER, Rink, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Oboe Player, 'Cello, Horn, and Trombone, six nights, two matinées, for Operas (French Pitch); must be here by ten o'clock Monday morning for Band Call. Wire lowest inclusive terms to SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age. Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo Cornet, String Bass, Drums; open Monday, two sessions. Wire, age, terms, CHAS. BLAKER, Rink, Pentre, Glam.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant,
First Violin or Cornet Player preferred.
Apply, stating age and height,
and enclosing copies of testimonials,
to the Supt.
at the Asylum.

WANTED, Musicians, Army or other Pensioners preferred. Lowest terms and references, MANAGER, West Suffolk Rink, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, First Clarionet, Viola, First Cornet, Jan. 17 to 24, Opera Week, Manchester.
BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians before accepting Engagements in Sunderland, to communicate with J. MURGATROYD, 103, Ward-street, Sunderland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Leonard Spohr Tute, the well-known and thoroughly competent Conductor, First-class Permanent Appointment. 18, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement as Leader or First Violin; excellent references; can open Monday. Wire or write, L. ROGERS, 2, Prospect-place, Merthyr Tydvil, South Wales.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, any Business; at Liberty Jan. 3, 1910, Manchester district preferred. C/o 184, Church-lane, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, by Violinist, good Engagement in High-class Orchestra or Good Touring Co. as Leader or Repetiteur; three years Carl Rosa Co. Excellent references. LEWIS, 22, Darlington-road, Southsea.

WANTED after Jan. 1, Engagement as Cornet, any business, or can supply First-class Rink Band, up to date library of String, Military, and Brass Band Music; just concluding ten months' run; excellent refs. Terms, &c., DAVID WILLIAMS, Bandmaster, Cosy Rink, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, through disappointment; thoroughly experienced and reliable. Address, FOWLER, 7, Danypark, Merthyr, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, Conductor, first-class man; large library, rink or any business. Box 7,061, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, also Double Drums, together or separate. Address, PAUKEN, C/o Corsa, 14, Old Sneddon, Paisley.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, any Business; abstainer; 15 years' experience Staff Band; at Liberty. Apply, CLARIONET, Union Jack Club, London.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Second Clarionet, Engagement; very low wage for an opening.
3A, Bailey's-lane, Stamford Hill.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet, thoroughly experienced and proficient, any business. FRANK BRISTOW, 163, Great Knollys-st., Reading.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet or Violin, Disengaged, Varieties three years; ref. Hippo., Eastbourne; previous engagement Municipal Orchestra and Military Band. W. ASLETT, 41, Pevensey-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by good experienced Clarionettist, Situation either Variety, Rink, or Military; good references; at Liberty now. BARR, 143, Castle-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagemnt, as Double Bass, String or Military, thoroughly experienced; best references. WM. SMITH, 13, Manor-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, combine Bombardon, Theatre, Variety, or Rink; good references. SMITH, c/o Goodare, Mount Pleasant, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass (four string), combine Bombardon, any business; distance no object; ex. refs. Address, Basso, 34, Gratton-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Jan. 10, through closing, LEAVER, Contra Bass, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any business, good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, thoroughly exper. Variety; can open at once. ELLIOTT, 38, Howson-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Bassoonist, Engagement, any business; excellent reference. BASSOON, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, First-class Double Bass, at Liberty; thoroughly experienced in Theatre and Variety. Basso, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenhays, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass or Viola, Violin, experienced and reliable; good refs. HODGES, JUN., 8, Belper-road, Hyson Green, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Euphonium (Orchestra preferred); well recommended. Address, EUPHO, 34, Gratton-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Euphonium, any business, Liberty Jan. 8.
Address, J. HILTON, 25, Kent-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, thoroughly experienced and reliable; young, good appearance; ex. refs. TROMBONE, 379, High-street North, Manor Park, E.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, after ten months' Tour, Bombardon, combine String Bass, any business, long experience in Army Journal; highest refs.; can join at once. G. BARBER, 25, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Bombardon, or Euphonium (Rink), or any Business, at Liberty. B. B., 39, Hanover-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, experienced Lady 'Cellist from Manchester district seeks Fresh Engagement; used to Theatre, Variety, or good Orchestral Work; Soloist. Box 7,060, "The Era."

WANTED Known, by 'Cello, Engagement or Deputising, any business or Solo, age 30. Add., SORTIN, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-rd., E.C.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, at Liberty; experienced Variety business; good references. WHYTE, 94, Smiddles-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Sexton, Violoncellist, at Lib. Jan. 3, or Deputising; experienced; combine pianoforte. Address, 10, Connaught-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, any business, E. Grimshaw, Flautist,
59, Manchester-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, from Jan. 1, Orchestra or alone; greatest experience; highest refs. Write, Miss WOOD, c/o Herr Blomé's Orchestra, Harrogate Hydropathic, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Capable Pianist, Engagement, experienced, good composer.
Address, Box 7,070, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, Orch. or Self, any business; good reader; excel. refs.; steady, reliable. N. R., 24, Alexandra-road, Ton Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement, through misunderstanding, Double Drums and Effects, Theatre, Variety, Rink, Liberty now; sober, reliable. Wire, 27, Towson-street, Liverpool.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.
WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, C/o "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Easter and Summer, for Poppy Ladies' Orchestras and Singers; now Olympia, London, Altrincham Rink, Pavilon, Wolverhampton. POPPIES, 19, Bedford-place, Brighton

WANTED Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestra finishing tour, Cumberland, Jan. 10, Vocalists, Instrumentalists, Tubular Bells. Apply, Madame BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by World-renowned Casino Band, Conductor Tzacki (late Folkestone Pier), immense popular success. 12, Coverdale-road, W.

WANTED, by First-class Rink Band (brass or string), Engagement; just terminated long run; attractive uniforms, up-to-date library. BANDMASTER, 31, Hanover-street, Batley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Talent, of the Highest Standard, for the Arena, including Aerial Shows, Animal Shows, &c.
Anything New and Sensational, and Fresh to Birmingham. Money no object.
Wire or write immediately to
A. EDWARD INSHAW,
Director and Organiser,
American and Continental Circus,
Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

Will the Craigs please communicate immediately?

WANTED, for small Railroad Circus, commencing in April (not less than two or three days in each town), First-class Circus Artists in all Lines, including good Troupe of Japanese; could arrange with good Equestrian Family. Address, with full particulars, to E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo Rink, Glasgow. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Grand Cirque, Pinder (France), First-class Troupe of Acrobats or Arabs, for Tenting Season, 1910, about forty weeks' Tour; also good Grooms and Lamp-man.
Pinder, Lavilledieu, T. and G., France.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRCUS, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Everybody to Know that THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS have made the Greatest Success ever Known at the above Circus. All that have seen this Great Act says it beats everything ever seen in a Circus Ring. Complimented by Royalty and the élite of Scotland. Note.—The Royal Ohmys will be at Liberty middle of February, for Ring or Stage. Can be seen till further notice at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow. The Royal Ohmys wish a Happy New Year to All.

WANTED, Known, the Stephenson Equestrian Family are making the greatest success ever known at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. Don't forget Harry Stephenson, the greatest of all the jockeys. Cheered to the echo, and there have been jockeys, jockeys, and jockeys here, but this act stands out superior to all. The acme of perfection. A good prosperous New Year to the Tenters.

WANTED, Known, Etherdo Pugh and Olrac, with their splendid Gymnastics, have helped to maintain the high level of entertainment at Connor's Grand Circus, Crystal Palace.—Vide Daily Telegraph.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 10, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Jan. 3, onwards, good break going North; Hall small. State absolute lowest. Barred nowhere. J. F. FRANKLIN, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists in all Lines, Sensational and Strong Acts. Money given to the right people from now and onwards. GUSS LAZENBERG, Royal Star Pictures, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, immediate and future dates, for West Bromwich. Address, F. BOSCO, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future dates.
Fullest particulars, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Jan. 10, on, Hall small. Absolute lowest, LOUDEN, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Jan 24, onwards. Turns new to this district preferred. Nothing too big. State absolute lowest first letter to BEANLAND and EMERSON.

BEANLAND AND EMERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, nothing too big; small Turns also Wanted. Those known to us who have odd weeks open send full list of bookings, and we will fix you. Quote absolute lowest terms to BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROMES AND COMPANIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines. Monday, onward. SCOTTIE, Hippo., Hoyland.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all July, near Shrewsbury, V.A.F.'s only. F. V. ST. CLAIR, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Salop.

KINO HALL, CLAY CROSS.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines; must be refined.

WANTED, Artists for Keighley, Jan. 10,
Good Tops, 17th and 24th,
Talent of all kinds, Feb. 14, on.
Full particulars,
T. HOLMES, Hippodrome.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Cinématograph Shows, for long and short Engagements, to commence Jan. 10. Address all letters, with lowest possible price, NESTOR, GREEN, and COWEN, Drill Hall, Hinckley, Leicestershire.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Good Tops, Jan. 24, 31, April 4, Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North. Lowest, LAWSON, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

MORRISON'S AGENCY.
"Wires, Vaudeville, Middlesbrough."
WANTED, Artists to please send complete list of bookings in first instance, lithos., &c., with lowest terms, to Taylor-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Several Halls in the North. Send vacancies and lowest terms to SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

PAVILION, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Artists all Lines, cheap numbers for Picture Shows, Rink Acts, Experts, Instructors. List Bookings (odd weeks useless), litho., lowest, PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Wanted, Artists to accept Best Wishes for the New Year, also be wise, and send dates and terms to PACEY'S Agency, 196, Brixton-road, London, S.W. Teles., "Paceys, London." 'Phone 87 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists for immediate dates. Write or call,
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Send full list of bookings and permanent address. Pantomime Artists for 1910. Al-Fresco Artists for Summer Season; Good Baritone and Contralto write. Must be smart and experienced. CELTIC Agency, 1, Varna-road, Birmingham.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 10, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 10, on, nothing too big. Please send private address to save time. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Ton-y-Pandy and District; suitable turns can have five weeks. Fullest particulars to Sole Agent, GEORGE EGBERT (Maclean's Agency), 110, St. Martin's-lane, London (opposite Coliseum).

WANTED, Big Attractions, all Kinds, Star Tops for Jan. 10, 17,
Artists all Lines.
To Clients and Friends.
Wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
13, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Jan. 10, onwards. Terms, bookings, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Stebbings' Bookings for Jan. 3 include the following, which proves Stebbings is not a One-Hall or One-Town Agent:—
Tom Moore, Moss and Stoll's Empires (two tours).
Revill Hall, Barrasford Tour.
J. Milton Hayes, Barrasford Tour.
George Laurence, Macnaghten Circuit.
Ada Gatley, Macnaghten Circuit.
The Maros, Macnaghten Circuit.
Renee Grahame, Macnaghten Circuit.
The Martons, Macnaghten Circuit.
The Daintees, Macnaghten Circuit.
Lisbon and Barker, Mr. J. F. Elliston's Panto.
Bros. Lecardo, Mr. J. F. Elliston's Pantomime.
The Darntons, Mr. J. F. Elliston's Pantomime.
Mark Stuart, Mr. Harry Burne' Pantomime.
The Counties, Mr. E. C. Jazon's Pantomime.
Australian Bush Boys, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.
Peakman and Walsh, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.
The Lindoe, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.
Will Owen, Grand Theatre, Bolton.
May Knight, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Harry Mackenzie, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Evelyn Gildard, Grand Theatre, Manchester.
Tom E. Dean, Grand Theatre, Manchester.
Kittie Cameros, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.
Ella Beaumont, Central Hall, Sheffield.
'Phone 9261 Central.
Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big. Wanted, WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, Known, that T. P. Duignan, late of Empire, Belfast, and Hippodrome, Blackpool, has taken over the entire Management of the Old Queen's Fleetwood, and is open to receive offers from Good Variety Turns, Singing Picture Turns, Good Combinations, Dramatic and Comedy Acts of all kinds Wanted for Jan. 3 and onwards. Double Turns and Singing Pictures wire or write at once.
T. P. DUIGNAN,
Queen's, Fleetwood.
Note:—The Hall has been thoroughly renovated.

WANTED, for Wishaw Pavilion, First-class Variety Turns all kinds. Artists with vacancies visiting Scotland and prepared to accept reasonable salary for small town, address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo Rink, Glasgow. N.B.—Wishaw is fifteen miles from Glasgow, five from Hamilton.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, for Jan. 10, and onward, First-class Acts in all Lines, First-class Acts in all Lines, especially good Serios and Comedians.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.
WANTED, the Biggest Acts in the Market, for immediate dates. I can always book the right stuff at the right price, but cannot book all in a minute. Artists written before please communicate again. Full list of bookings, lithos., &c. Lowest terms in first instance. A jolly, happy, and prosperous New Year to all. CHARLES DEETRICH.

WANTED, through rehearsing, Smart Refined Speciality Acts, Jan. 3 and 10. Full particulars and lowest terms, DAVIS, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, Big Tops, for Jan. 10, 17, and on; must be Comedy; Comedians, Comediennes, and Specialities. Send full list of Bookings. Per. address and absolute lowest terms to J. BROWN and Co., Variety Agency, 58, Chicksand-street, N.E. Tel. No. 1098 City.

WANTED, Jan. 10 (North, South, East, and West), Variety Acts in all Lines. Full bookings imperative. Season's compliments. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Acts, Monday, onwards. Acts going North can give break. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts, of all Descriptions, Jan. 10, onwards.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tele., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Big Specialities, Sensational Novelties, Clever Juvenile Troupes, &c., for Jan. 10, onward. Address lowest terms to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top Liners only. Continent and Britain.
Real Novelties always welcomed.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANNERS and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Big Tops of Bills, nothing too big, with drawing powers, all lines.
Also Good Comedy Acts.
Wanted, Big Top for immediate dates.
Send full particulars, direct, HARRY SLINGSBY.

WANTED, Big Tops of the Bills, Jan. 10, 17, 24, nothing too big; we can Book you. Wire, DAVE BARNARD'S Variety Agency, Shaw-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 2349 Royal.

WANTED, Pierrot Troupe, for London, probably permanently, four gentlemen and lady. Send full particulars and terms to MANAGER, Premier Electric Theatres, Ltd., St. Mary's-road, Harlesden.

WANTED, Shortly, for First-class Suburban Theatre, for one or two weeks, really good Pierrot Troupe. Apply, Box 7,063, "The Era."

Sandy McNab's New Sketches.
WANTED, Smart Lady, for Music Hall Sketch, with good speaking voice, about 5ft. 3in; also Smart Page Boy (no tumbling), for Comedy Speaking Parts. Apply, SANDY MCNAB, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

YARMOUTH & LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
VARIETY SEASON.
WANTED, immediate dates, First-class Comedians and Comedy Acts.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Yarmouth.

WANTED, Big Star Comedians and Comediennes, Sensational Acts, for Top and Bottom of Bills at Leading Provincial Halls, Jan. 10, onwards. Artists send full list of bookings, lowest terms, lithos., &c., to WILL LUND'S Agency, 27, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone, 682 Royal. Telegrams, "Lund, Islington, Liverpool."

WANTED, the two most Beautiful and Perfectly formed Women in England for my New Illusion, "Beautiful Aeroplane"; also two Clever Dancing Girls. Address letters only, stating actual age, height, weight, experience, salary desired, and full particulars. Interviews by appointment only. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, c/o H. W. Wieland (Zæo) Agency, 16, St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Young Lady (18 to 20), for Comedy Act; height about 5ft. 2in. Letters particulars, AUCKLAND'S THEATRICAL AND COMMISSION AGENCY, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Trapeze Artist; one able to open at once preferred. Apply, ORENIUS, 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Young Man, to play Donkey. Full particulars, age, photo., and recent reference imperative. FRED J. LITTLE'S Agency, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, good Comedy Bar Worker. Age, tricks, lowest salary first letter, THOMPSON, G.P.O., Castleford.

WANTED, a smart youth, Tumbler, for Comedy Act, well up in Comedy Falls. State full particulars to Box 7,075, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bertha Ward, the Remarkable Singing Crippled Girl; just concluding twelve weks on Tour, Wagner's Empire Choir and Orchestra. This week, tremendous success, Town Hall, Dewsbury. Liberty Monday next and onwards, with exceptions. Offers invited. Permanent address, No. 7 Branch, Church-st., Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Jan. 3, onwards, Miss Mary Hopwood, Illustrated Vocalist, good voice, songs, own slides. Coms., 4, Stanley-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, Lydia Raie, Banjo Queen, Trick Mandolinist, Illustrated Banjo Playing. Public Hall, Worcester (Middle). Wire for an Attractive Novelty.

WANTED, Known, Funny Jessie Jess, Low Comedy Artist, vacant Jan. 10 and 17. Address, Palace, Morley, Yorks.

WANTED, Vacant Monday, Mlle. Jeanette, big Posing Speciality Star Act. Enormous success, wire, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers Lydia Raie (Banjo Queen), will on and after J. 20 be known as La Raiedia.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, by Miss Edie Le Brun, the Clever and Only Lady Juggler and Vocalist. Assisted by Edgar. Wire, 21, Shirley-st., Hove.

WANTED, Jan. 17, on, Little Dixie, Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer. New Songs. Com., Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Redfern Sisters, in Novel Speciality Act, Piano, Singing, Banjos, Comedy, Ragtime, Dancing; the Premier Lady Banjo Duo. This week, Bottom of Bill, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour; next week, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester. Vacant Jan. 3, 10, 24.

WANTED, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers, Monday, also Jan. 10, 17, and 24. Wire, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham; or 42, Council-street.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers, Jan. 17, also 24th. Offers. 50, Lloyd-st., Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Favourite Popular Collier Comedian, Originalities and Refinement. Starring Attraction everywhere Billed. Dec. 13, Northwich; 20th, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port; this, Public Hall, Barnsley. Encored nightly. After Sunday, Openshaw. Proprietors enquire En Route; Agents please yourselves.

The man who made "Harrigan" popular.
WANTED, Known, Horace Wheatley, the genial Irishman, is in great form.
Vacant Jan. 10, onwards.
Address, C/o "The Era," or TOM SHAW.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian, Chorus Vocalist and Banjoist. Wire, Central Hall, Berwick-on-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, J. H. Bray, Talented Actor-Vocalist.
Wire, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Percy Maye, vacant Monday owing to transferring. Wire, wire for an Attraction, a Draw. Hippodrome, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, by Harry Moore, the Newsboy Comedian and Champion Paper Tearer, Jan. 10, onwards; big success. This and next, Central Hall, Bolsover, near Chesterfield, wire or write.

WANTED, next week (Jan. 3), Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Alexandra Palace, London, N.

WANTED, Jan. 3, onwards, by Carl Reevo, Padlock Expert, introducing his Sensational Escape from an Iron Tank filled with Water.

WANTED, Jan. 3, onwards, Carl Reevo. Dec. 20, 27, Fun City, Liverpool. Offers invited. Permanent address, 37, Watery-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the famous World's Bantam-weight Champion Wrestler, Drawing packed houses Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, crowds turned away, £100 Challenge, &c. A happy New Year to all. Vacant Jan. 10, 17. 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Jan. 17, 24, and on, by Ali Cogia, Marvellous Arabian Magician and Equilibrist, assisted by Abdulla; also Miss Linton, Vocalist. This, T. R., Goole; next, Hippo., Ellesmere Port, Liverpool; E., Southport, to follow.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, by Trojan, One-armed Strong Man. Competitions arranged. Wire, 11, St. John's-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Jan. 17, on, by the Great Kyoto, Japanese Sensational Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, Juggler, and only Performing Pug Dog, a Novelty; Clean, Clever, and Artistic Act; also May Geraldine, a Refined Comedienne and Dancer. Enormous success, Town Hall, Loughborough. Next week, Empire, Blaina, Mon.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, 24, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, &c. Wire, T. R., Bilston. After Sunday, Picture Palace, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, by The Vanderbilts, the American Swell and Belle, Monday next; an original, refined, clever, Comedy Duo; Single if required. Wire, Hippo., Coventry.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, various, on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting Screaming Comedy Episodes, Artistically Written, Played, Dressed, and Staged. Jan. 3, Palace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, by Keeble and Reggie, and Gladys Wells. The Real Goods.
SAM HART; or ANGER and BAUER.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, by Colvil and Tate, the unapproachable Comedy Artists and Dancers. Just finished successful Scotch Tour. Halls, Pictures, &c. Wire, 4, Springfield-av., Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, by Roma and Ray, Jan. 10, 17, 24, Screaming Comedy Act, Singles, Comedian, Comedienne, Dancer, Banjoist. Conclude to-night, St. John's Rooms, Winchester; next week, Palace, Fitzroy-street, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, The Sarnthaler, the World's Greatest Tyrolean Lady Vocalists and National Dancers, from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres. Vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and on.
Offers invited.
Address, week Jan. 3, GLASGOW EMPIRE. Jan. 10, Manchester; Jan. 17, Liverpool; and Jan. 24, Birmingham Empire.
A Happy New Year to all Managers, Agents, and Friends.

WANTED, Monday next, by Howard-Hugh Trio and Doria Myddleton, Musical Sketches and Star Comedienne. Big success; brought pier down, Amphitheatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May Trio, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists, Magnificent apparatus. Costly wardrobe. Instantaneous success everywhere. Press and public unanimous in their praise. Lib. Jan. 31. Thanks for other offers, already booked. This week, Loughborough; next, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Algie, the Peerless Juggler, Effective, Original, and Classical.
Free Jan. 24 and 31.
Address,
74, Clare-road, Cardiff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Attillas, Jan. 3 and 10, Gladiatorial Combat Scene, a most Sensational Attraction. Per good Top, big Draw, wire, 199, Boaler-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Roland Brothers, Equilibrists. A Sure and Certain Draw Anywhere. Coms., P. R., 17, Wellington-av., Liverpool.

WANTED, Jan. 10, on, by Herman and Evelyn, Wire Act; also Cosselly, Acrobatic Table Act; two big Acts. Wire, write, best offers. This, T. R., Shrewsbury; next week, P. H., Darwen.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, Bouncing Peps, a talented performance, splendid Scena, repainted. Wire, Hippo., Ipswich; after Saturday, see Cards.

WANTED, Dates, by La Dor Troupe, Novelty Acrobats. Another Big Success with Benet's Pantomime, "Whittington." Wanted, youth, must be quick Tumbler. Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, Jan. 3, 10, The Flying Orenius's (1 lady, 2 gentlemen), Stage Aerial Act. This, Middlesex, London. Wire, p.a., 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Jan. 3 and 17, by Le Hurst, the Impromptu Ventriloquist. This week, Pal., Northampton (wire). Jan. 24, Argyle, Birkenhead. Perm., 23, Bath-st., Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, by Gulliver, and the Doll with the Laugh.
Hippo., Bilston.

WANTED, Jan. 10, North preferred, Joe Cookson, Novel Ventriloquist, with Cartoons.
Jan. 3, Gaiety, Clydebank, N.B.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 3, 24, 31, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Wire till Saturday, Bijou, Waterloo. Then, Union-road, Macclesfield. Wire or write.

SCOTTIE'S "BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 24 and 31; Twenty Artists, Five Scenes. Twice Nightly. SCOTTIE, Theatre, Hawick.

WANTED, by The Indiarnos, introducing Tiger, the marvellous Talking Pony, in their Artistic Scena, "Away in the Far West," Jan. 3 and 10. A sure success. An Exciting Speciality Act. Wire offers to INDIARNO, 40, Wellington-st., Stockton.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 24, 31, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act before the Public. An act worth booking, says Mr. Pringle. Starring, P., Durham; next, Picture Palace, Falkirk.

WANTED, Big Draw for Bill Tops, Big Productions, Magnificent Dresses, best ever seen. All communications, Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields, London.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, the best and cleanest in the Profession, Jan. 10, onwards, with exceptions.
Communications, week Jan. 3,
Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's famous Russian Poodles and Champion Challenge Jumping Dogs are still Topping Bills, and the talk of every town they visit. Playing to packed houses, this week, Tredegar Hall, Newport, refer Mr. Davis; next Empire, Blaina; Jan. 10, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales. Few vacancies.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Performing Irish Terriers, including Spring, the Champion Leaping Dog of the world. Open to meet all comers. Now then, sports, come on and try. Vacant Jan. 3, 10, 17. Thanks for offers. Wire, Palace, Maidstone.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy and Trick Cyclists, Football on Wheels. Always a success. Pal., Durham; next, Vic., West Stanley; vacant 10th, 17th, 31st.

WANTED, Jan. 10, on, by Swift Duo, Comedy Cycling Speciality. Monday next, Hippodrome, Bilston, wire or write.

WANTED, Pauletti, Eccentric Bicycle Acrobat, Les Caros, Gentlemen Gymnasts on Silver Frame, free April 11, on, Galas. Address, Opera House, Dudley.

WANTED, Shop, by disabled Acrobat (water shoulder); assist any act; experienced in Booth, Circus, Hall, and Panto.; smart appearance, tall, educated, handy; age 27. T., 17, Wellington-street, Stott Hill, Bradford.

WANTED, by Good Funny Knockabout Gymnast, to join for Comedy Bar Show, or otherwise; own apparatus if required. Write, Box 7,064, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagements for the British Animated Pictures, now entering upon the twentieth week at the Coliseum, Leeds. No town too big. Letters, HENRY N. PHILLIPS, Leeds Coliseum.

WANTED, Jan. 3, on, by experienced Operator and Manager; abstainer, &c.; 12 years' experience; electric or gas; 25,000ft. of splendid films. PRIEST, 51, Sprowston-road, Norwich.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.
President: PATRICK COLLINS.
WANTED, Known, Twenty-First Anniversary Meeting of the Society
at Manchester and London.
The Annual Business Meeting
will take place at the
Caxton Hall, Salford,
on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1910, at 4 p.m.
The London Meeting at the
World's Fair, Islington
(by kind permission of the Lessee,
T. E. Read, Esq.)
on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 11 a.m., prompt.
T. HURST.
Committee will meet at the Guild Headquarters, the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Jan. 12, at 11 a.m., for the usual business, Reports, Nominations of Officers, &c.

WANTED, Known, Very Important, that the Next Meeting
of the
BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS' AND SHOWMEN'S UNION
will be held at the
Flag Inn, Bolton, on Thursday,
Jan. 6, at 2.30 p.m.
Business Very Important.
(Signed) THOS. HURST, Sec.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H" "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters, Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to open at Exhibition on Mon. next, at Public Hall, Treharris, good Side Show, also Slots and few Spaces for Novelties. Apply, PARRISH, Treharris.

WANTED, Quick-showing Side Show or Freak, Shares, Fun Carnival, Walsall, opening Jan. 8. MAXIM, 237A, High-street, Dudley, Worcester.

WANTED, Novelties, Entertainments, Auctioneers. Electric Bioscope write in. Three shops South Wales, open immediately. MICHAEL, 10, The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, for Wonderland, 77, Scotland-road, Liverpool, Freaks and Novelties, good Window Flash, Shares, Mon., Jan. 3, on. Wire or write, FOSTER.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Horsham, Exhibition, Jan. 6 to Jan. 15; rent or shares. Apply, MANAGER, Exhibition, Central Baths Hall, Croydon.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, to work Illusions in Exhibitions and make himself useful; wage and commission. MANAGER, Exhibition, Central Hall, Croydon.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Carcass' Punch and Judy (with Toby) for Sale, bargain, Marionette Show complete, with figures. 90, Harley-road, Sale, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by two well-known Expert Palmists and Phrenologists, Share or otherwise. PALMISTS, 18, Andrew-street, Llanelly.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for all kinds of Side Shows. Apply at once to MANAGER, Fun Palace, 59 to 63, Powis-street, Woolwich.

WANTED, to Let, Space for Automatics or Mirrors, Shares or Rental, in new Fun Palace; good position. Box 7,066, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Good Side-shows on sharing terms. Write or wire, LESTER, Sports Exhibition, Llanelly, S. Wales. Good business to be done.

WANTED, to Hire, for Wonderland, Gravesend, best position open air and under cover Spaces, for Slip, Hoop-la, Shooting, Juvenile Roundabout, Cocoanuts, and any small games suitable for Fun Fair or will Let on Rental or Shares; no opposition. Wire, PROPRIETOR. Also require good Novelty Shows, to open Monday next.

WANTED, to Sell, Fine Art Exhibition, in good order, light car front, pack on one load and go by rail, three figures, in good order, and model engine by Tinman, of Norwich, in good order; organ by Chiappa. Can be seen at work at Plachett-road, Upton Park. Price £40.
WILLSON, Pleasure Ground.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Lighting Plant, in perfect working order, engine 6 h.p., Marshall's, Gainsborough, dynamo Dickenson, Leeds, 200 amps, 70 volts, invaluable for skating rink, cheap. Apply, MANAGER, Queen's Theatre, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Park-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess your Weight Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. W.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Wax Heads, Lloyd George, Asquith, Churchill, just specially modelled, 30s. each. DEWITT, 162, Liverpool-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Side Show of Radium, eight Spinthariscopes (specially made), Electric Sign, Lecture, Radium Photographs, Framed Notices, Press Reports, the whole complete, £50. To an intelligent man with capital it is a grand opportunity. LARCHER, 30, Pimlico-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Doll Frame, complete, 30 Dolls (except tilt), sacrifice 50s.; small Reed Organ, 30s.; bargain. JACKSON, 3, Broadway, Stratford, London.

WANTED, by Showman (Animated Pictures), Financial Assistance for further enterprises; good security, sound investment. Box 7,069, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Advertiser, having the Option on a piece of land, suitable for a Rink and Amusement Hall, in the finest position in an important town, would like to meet Gentlemen who would finance the scheme. Particulars at interview only. Address, Box 7,065, "The Era."

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Instructor, must be expert Fancy and Exhibition Skater. Lowest terms, references, height, and photo., REACH, Manager, West Suffolk Rink, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, for a Skating Rink, an experienced Manager; only those who have held similar position need apply. State experience, wages, and age with references. Box 7,074, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Instructor.
Apply, full particulars, photo.,
SECRETARY,
Rink Company, Limerick.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Instructor, for New Rink, opening middle of January in large West Country town; must invest £100 in ordinary shares. Exceptional opportunity. Apply, ROBERT FORSYTH, Pier Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Chevalier T. H. Crowther and Troupe of Expert Figure, Trick, and Swift Skaters, combining all Up-to-date Performances. Thanks Managers for Offers; still few Vacant Dates. 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager seeks Engagement, to combine General-Management of Rink and full control of Staff; well up in all points of the business; highest credentials. G. E., 43, Albert-road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Professor Geo. Gold, Re-engagement as Floor Manager; 20 years' skating experience; good exhibition skater, arranging, Carnivals, Racing, &c., a Speciality. Apply, 198, Seaside, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Position as Manager, Floor Manager, on New Rink; wages and commission. E. GRIDGEMAN, 3, Park-terrace, Victoria Park, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, experienced Floor Manager, Disengaged, capable Instructor; good references; age 25. Apply, M.-D., 10, Russell-st., Preston, Lancs.

WANTED, Management, for Skating Rink Pictures or Advance Representative; excellent references from Leading Managers. Apply, GEORGE LEYBOURNE, 40, Canonbury-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Lighting Plant, in perfect working order, engine 6 h.p., Marshall's, Gainsborough, dynamo Dickenson, Leeds, 200 amps, 70 volts, invaluable for skating rink, cheap. Apply, MANAGER, Queen's Theatre, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, 100 pairs Winslow Rink Skates, 300 pairs Barney and Berry Rink Skates, almost new, cheap. First application served first. Will sell in lots of 25 or more.
Box 7,069, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, several hundred pairs of secondhand Winslow Skates, at a very low price. Box 7,077, "The Era."

WANTED, Complete Stock of Skates, for New Fashionable Rink in large Town opening shortly; must invest £150 in shares, on which 20% is guaranteed for first year. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Frank Fishburn, and members of Band, desire to Tender their Thanks to Mr. Butler, Manager, Olympia Rink, Bishop Auckland, for paying Full Salaries during Christmas week, having been closed for three days for relaying of maple floor.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, in Yorkshire, a Prosperous twice-nightly Modern Theatre, with Dramatic and Music Licence; the only Theatre in the town, electrically lighted and thoroughly heated, fully equipped and in excellent state of efficiency; immediate possession can be had on completion. Price £6,500, freehold, and free from chief; £3,000 can remain on mortgage if required; no other offer will be accepted, as this is a sound investment. Sale of Programmes, Curtain, and Receivable Rents alone show good return on price asked. Principals or their solicitors only need apply. Address, Box 7,032, "The Era."

To all Parties Interested.
A Splendid Opportunity for Investment.
WANTED, to Sell, as a Going Concern, excellent well-fitted permanent Picture Hall, situated in Lancashire. The Hall can be leased for any length of time; low rental. The Hall is fitted with electric (two circuits) and gas heating apparatus, and all modern appliances, excellent seating, holds 800, main thoroughfare, cars pass the door; has been running now successfully since last New Year; passes all regulations of new Act; has two excellent exits; no opposition for nearly three miles; good working-class population of 30,000. Profits are being now made, ranging from £5 to £18 weekly. If the Hall was run by a Syndicate or Company owning other halls, where films are practically costing very little, it would realise about £12 average profit weekly. Sale includes fireproof machine, iron house, and all accessories, as now used. Every investigation allowed. Good reason for selling. Address sensible offers to Box 7,068, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Magnificent Travelling Picture Palace, including a very fine organ, electric light plant, and Pullman saloon car; a Unique and Refined Exhibition, and has been a Gigantic Success in every town shown; it will also meet the requirements of the new Cinematograph Act. A Fortune to any capable business man. Previous experience unnecessary, as staff can be taken over. Particulars will be supplied on application to
E. BAXTER HEDLEY, Auctioneer and Valuer,
8, Holly Park-ter., Hanwell, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, a good paying Cinématograph Show, been established over two years, in a good town and in the right position. Good reason for giving up.
Write to Box 7,054, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, new, 2½d. foot; 750 Pathé's Bluebeard; 335 Red Riding Hood; 520 Drama Seville, &c. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED to Sell, No. 7 Blick Typewriter, scarcely soiled, guaranteed perfect; also neat No. 5, special, cheap. Write BURGH, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Turnstiles, Registering, used short time, Skating Rinks, cheap. Box 7,063, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Three Beautiful Illusions, and a Living Statuary Fit-up. Apply after 12 o'clock, RICHER, Aldgate White City, High-street, Aldgate, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Macaronis, Gongs, Tubaphones, Xylophones, Marimbas, Rattles, Organ Chimes, Resonaphones, Glockenspiels. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Troupe, Five Terriers, Two Welsh Spaniels, all under sixteen months, grand condition, clean, not noisy, clever, willing, broken for my return to Africa, am giving up, too ill to keep them, great genuine bargain, suit lady, the lot together £7 10s.; no picking or approval at this price; come and see them. Also three finest Fox Terriers Living, suit Acrobats, Ladies or Gents, backs from the shoulder, fly the garter, head balance, somersaults, price £7; all fit to work with anyone in a week. Mlle. ROZA, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, to Sell, six Clever Performing Wolves, doing pedestal and Statuary Acts. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Boots, Shoes, medium size, Boys' and Girls' Dresses, for cash, cheap. Address, Miss ROSE HARVEY, 116, High-street, Tonbridge.

WANTED, to Sell.
100 shares of £1 each
of the
United Varieties Syndicate, Limited.
Apply, CHARLES WOOD, Solicitor,
Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, leno plain with ruche, 3s. 11d. per dozen; accordion pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, Flying Lady Apparatus, best make. Cost £12; take £3 10s.
F. ALLEN, 8, Hanover-street, Burslem.

WANTED, to Sell, Camille Clifford Costume, Black Velvet, quite new. Bargain.
Box 7,076, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, own New Plays, "A Beautiful Thief," "Come Back to Erin," Sketches, Duos, &c. HAL COLLIER, King's Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, an Original Sporting Comedy Drama, in four Acts, short cast. Particulars, FRED H. CONSTABLE, Empire Music Hall, Dudley.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, 500 secondhand Chairs (Windsors if obtainable).
Write, GOODMAN, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Purchase, a Quantity of Pit Seating and Tip-up Chairs. State where to be seen and price. PRITCHARD, 29, Villa-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap, Sets of Fit-up Scenery.
BEESLEY, 2, Walsall-road, Darlaston.

WANTED, to Purchase, about 200 Flags and 50 Trophies for Decoration; must be in first-class condition. Particulars and lowest price to B., 8, Silverdale, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, two more Ten-carat Blue-white Diamonds; must be round, flawless, and perfectly cut. Also Pearl and Diamond Dog Collar, or Corsage. Address, with full particulars, stating size and weight of stones, to MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Suite 10, Gaiety Hotel, Strand, W.

WANTED, two good Original Comedy Sketches, four people, about twenty minutes; one character (Scotch) must be very funny. Apply, SANDY MCNAB, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, West End Theatre.
Apply to
Messrs. FLADGATE and Co.,
2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross, S.W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, to Let, for long or short periods, to good Picture Shows, or any First-class Entertainment. Address, GENERAL-MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, the Avenue Theatre, Kettering, for three or six months or longer; terms moderate. People without means save stamps. F. PAYNE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Jan. and onwards, Byculish Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rent, or Share, splendid Hall, best position, Gravesend, for Ghost Illusion, Hall fitted with stage, electric and gas, Ghost would coin money for a few months; no theatre in town; or would entertain any big Attraction not requiring licence. Performing Animals, &c. Wire, PROPRIETOR, Wonderland, Gravesend.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c. Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smooth pine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation; 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2949 Mayfair.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Up-to-date Theatre, Provinces, also Hall, suitable for Pictures of the Best. Box 7,071, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 1d. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new list. Bargain Films Accessories, Cut Prices. Cassels Imperial Pictures, Grays, Essex.

WANTED, to Hire, a Back Cloth, representing a Shop, for one week, in London. Wire immediately, terms, LUCK, 53, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Comedy Man, Tumbler preferred, well up in Comedy Tricks; join Advertiser (a First-class Hand-balancer); a Performer only communicate. BENO, 97, Wheeler-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Partner, in Successful Dramatic Sketch, by eminent Author, small premium; Sharing terms or salary. Write for interview, B., c/o E. H. GODDARD, Solicitor, 120, Chancery-lane, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 26, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, that we do Post-cards from Photos. in quantities not less than 100 from one Photo.; Memos. also done. SENIOR and Co., Fine Art Printers, Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S CO., "THE BARNSTORMERS."
WANTED, Known, the twenty members of Herbert Darnley's Company sincerely thank him for paying full salary Xmas week, and wish him every success and prosperity in 1910.

WANTED, Known, M. Nellie Tudor, late Circus Proprietress, wishes all Friends a Prosperous New Year. Alfie Slade write.
18, Robert-street, Crofton, Blyth.

JUST OUT.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

This New Act,
which comes into force
JANUARY 1, 1910,
is now ready.

A COPY FORWARDED ON RECEIPT OF 1½d.

Address,
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

KINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT.

THE LAW AFFECTING THE SAME.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Price SIXPENCE.

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., LONDON, W.C.
Telephones: Nos. 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

803814 A

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 3, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"The Arctic," Jacques Pintel, Lottie Bellman, Chas. T. Aldrich, Cinquevalli, "Triumph of Beauty," The Siems, Leslie Harris, Leslie Bros., The Calzados, Animated Pictures, Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance."

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
La Tortajada, Elliott-Savonas, Fred Elton, Charles Vincent, Tom Bryce, W. F. Frame, John Macauley, Casey Army, Bioscope, Kremo Family, Prince Milner Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Gobert Belling, Albert Rees, Tom Moore, Smythson Comedy Co., Griffin and Ardell, Victor Travers, The Sarnthaler Sextette, De Breans, Maggie May, Maud and Sydney Wood, Bioscope, John Warren and Co., in "The Magic Carpet."

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Dumont Wrestlers, Mina Denvil, Will Cornish, Three Van Dammes, Ray and Calden, Eight Lancashire Lads, Charles Cardow, Harry Drew, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW
Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Olga Petronowa and her Military Band, Nina Wood, Ted E. Box, Park's Boys and Girls, Rhoda Bros., The Cumberlands, Harry Grey, Olive Armidale, Bioscope, F. Stuart Whyte's Co., in "1645."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Motor Chase," Mattie Lund, Borellis, Braatz's Dogs, The Whilbys, Jack Smiles, Florence, Bioscope, Willette, Whittaker and Wilbur Hill.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Sam Mayo, Phil Percival, Emil Solbrig's Automatus, Bare's Minstrels, Victor Widdicombe, Daras, The Brennans, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Ada Colley.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The Fair One with the Golden Locks," produced by Stanley Rogers.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Reano's Band, Frank Danby and Co., Henry Helme, The Erwins, Falco and Eida, Bioscope, James's Strolling Players, Dorothy Watson, Grant and Grant, Phil and Nettie Peters.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Alice Esty, Odeyne Spark, Bros. O'Brien, Gus Garrick, Dion Wade, Leipzig, Elite Harmony Boys, Bioscope, Chanti, Latonas.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Lamberti, L'Incognita, Cissie Thompson, J. A. Wilson, Walker and May, The Westwoods, Lockhart's Elephants, Musical Jees, Bioscope, "Dr." Awful Bogie.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ruth Vincent, Harry Anderson, Spry and Monti, O'Hanlon Trio, Will H. Fox, W. Fullbrook and Co., Dayton Family, Monie Mine, Bioscope, Liane D'Eve.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Will o' the Wisps, W. J. Churchill, Lily Palmer, Fred Keeton, Staig's Steeple Jacks, Taylor Granville's Co., in "The Hold-up," Edie Gray and Boys, Frank Hartley, Bioscope, To-To.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan," Bioscope, Jennie Hartley, Empire Comedy Four, La Freya, Maxey and Pete, Billy Hobbs, Stella Stahl, Jack Lorimer, The Craggs.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Amelia Bingham, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Mabel Mavis, G. W. Hunter, Stanley and Greenop, Edna Lyall, Marie Kendall, Bros. Gaudschmidt.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Takio, Counsell and Mills, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Goltz Trio, George C. Doughty, Three Welsh Girls, Lizzie Glenroy, Bioscope, George Leyton, in "The Roll Call."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The House That Jack Built," by arrangement with Fred Karno.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.
Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Cinderella," by arrangement with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan.

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Perkins, M.P." Rosa Loader, Bert Errol, Fayre and Manning, Tom Davies Trio, Enzer, Mazie Hibbs, Bioscope, The Courtiers, Gladys Mavius.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Cyril Maude and Elise Craven, in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," The Slavlansky Russian Choir, Minnie Mace, Bioscope, Vanando, Jackson Family, Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, Russell and Held, "Humsti Bumsti," Holden's Mannikins," Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Brinn, Conn and Conrad.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Boissel's "Trip to the Continent," Matthews and Reece, Mabel Sinclair, J. W. Hall, Luis Alvarez, A Ba-Be's Post Card Album, Henriquette Maude, Madge Osmond, Bioscope, Four Amati Sisters.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Ethel Bourne, Farr and Farland, Gipsy Woolf, Tom Lloyd, Vincent, Lil O'Gorman, Bioscope, Tom Clare.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Cyril Clensy, Lydia Yeamans, Dacey and Lewis, Bioscope, J. S. Scatter, Glenroy Troupe, Lily Burnand, Ugo Nap, Grace Merton, Keen and Waller, Quaint Q's.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fred Earle, Nellie Farrell, Roma and Romani, Ethel Newman, The Alaskas, Bioscope, Saschoff Troupe, Paul Barnes.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., in "Sergeant Longfellow," Florence Esdaile, Bowden and Stoll, J. L. Shine, Frank Maura, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, Larry Lewis, La Sylphe, The Kramers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Clarice Mayne, Mike Nono, Miller Bros., Mendel, Haines and Borthwick's "Half a Dollar," La Berat, Carney and Armstrong, George Rae, Bioscope, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Ruth Davenport.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Alice Raymond, in "A Night in Egypt," Annie Purcell, The Gems, Carl Lynn, Jock Mills, Clark and Hayden, Les Marsumas, Bioscope, Giovanni Wals, J. W. Rowley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Odette Valery, George Antill, Tom Child, McConnell Trio, "The Bosun's Mate," Marie Pera, Frank Le Dent, Athlones, Bioscope, Eily Adair, Lottie Lennox.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Henry Ainley and Suzanne Sheldon, in "Kiddie," Rhoda Paul, Chas. Santon, Black Diamonds, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Harvey's Boys and Girls, Arthur Ferris, Dot Hardy, Projectoscope, D'Arc's Marionettes.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Our Empire's Defenders," George Benson, "Billy," Barowskys, Marshall and Parr, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Fred Edwards and Co., in "Kleptomaniacs."

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Lukushimas, Harry Leybourne, Ross and Lewis, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Harry Bedford, Pictures, T. E. Finglas, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Baron's Menagerie, Bioscope, Rita Rhylle, Rossi Ashton, Georgettys, Talbot and Pearce, Rich Taylor, Sisters Storm, Ernie Garner.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ten Loonies, O'Gust, Agnes Molteno, Archie Naish, King and Queen, Bioscope, Okabe Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Joe Peterman and Co., in "Slaterstein, Ltd.," Bros. Corcoran, Flo D'Orville, Bert Marsden, Eadie and Ramsden, Daisy Hicks, Dancit, Pictures, Arthur Kenny.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Billy Hubbard, Hart and Pep, Mackintosh and Royal, Mlle. Haydee, Jessie Albini, Pictures, O'Malley and Brown, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for alterations.

H. E. Moss' Annual Carnival.

WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH.
Consul, Miss Marquiss's Ponies, Marno Trio, Cornalla and Eddie, Tan-Kwai Troupe, Three Meers, Bellclair Bros., Reichen's Dogs, Bros. Artois, Aurora Troupe, Rexos, and all side-shows, &c., engaged.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists please note alterations of times for Rehearsals. No Deputies will be accepted.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Pantomime, "Mother Goose."

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mather and Mayer, Two McKays, Walter Wade, Dancing Paceys, Dalvere and Wallace, Three Dixons, Arthur Lennard, The Waltons, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Ted Cowan, Lee and Kingston, Five Vernons, Harry Webber, "Deputy Sheriff," De Biere, Dutch Daly, Hanlon Troupe, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Pantomime, "Cinderella."

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
Edith St. Claire's "Aladdin."

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Bland, Julian Ross, Elise Kerry, Captain Kettle, "The Mystery Men," Jean and Josie, Warriner, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Pantomime, "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Harry Lawson, Nellie Shand, Angela Ward, The Halls, The Arntes, Clivetto, "The Boy Scout," Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Hyde and Cody Trio Harold Heath, Lennie and Hast, Belle Braham, Henriette de Sierries, James Fawn, Tate and Tate, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager—Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 3.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Four Figaros, The Rangers, Geo. Acre, Billie Burford, Florence Raymond, Arthur Norton, The Two Ludoes, "Adventures of Ronnie Blair," Clown Garford.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Barrington, Cyclumina, Dollie and Rosie, Geo. Marriott and Co., Newman and Knight, Martin Henry and Co., "Saved by Wireless," Ethel May, The Wesmars.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Danton and Morris, Sisters Desmond, Adderley Howard, Lew Lake's "Buster Browns," The Harringtons, Dick and Dorothy Trio, Jeannie Claremont, Hettie Holland, Dora Lonsdale.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Bros Lawrence, Pictures, Seven Wulfrunas, Lew Lake, Sisters Judge, Ajax and George, Hurman and Arthur, Jack Warman, Jessie Hylton, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Athlone and Sinclair.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, Ethel Donna, Five Bombays, Johnny Holland and Co., W. Benson's "Last Halt," Mollie O'Connor, Zero and Zema, Two Diamonds, Teddy Denham, Gracie Dudley.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Prelle's Dogs, Norah Desmond, Francoli Troupe, Victor and Louis, Johnny Dwyer, Arthur Harris, Rosie Gaston, Dan Whitley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Conway and Leland, Four Amaranths, J. P. Carroll, Luigi Salvino, Harry Luck, Beatrice Willey, Thomas and Taylor, Lovell and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Five X Rays, Reg. Ewen, Stein Esthor Trio, Ellis and Campbell, Imperial Russians, Cissie Lupino, Bromley and Fontein, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Simeon the Seer," Addie Dorina, The Villions, Archie Pitt, Bonnetti and Corri, Les Montados, Montes Bros., Corman's Juveniles, Palace Perfection Pictures, Tom Yorke.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pantomime.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"For Honour and Revenge."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Livesey and Rosebery, Leo Tell, Josephine Crooke, Fritz Kornau, Eileen Douglas, Ian Colquhoun, Geo. D'Alberi, Carney Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Will van Allen, Willie Long, Marie Kay, Kenneth and Kane, Munroe's Team, Five Tritons, Louie Tracy, Nora Stockelle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Creagh and Cruikshanks, Donnas Trio, Geo. Lawrence, Rene Grahame, Ada Gatley, Friscari, The Phydoras, Dan Conroy, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Signor Arvi, Leotard Bros., A. Farraclough, Tate's "Mooring," Godfrey Price, Edie Reynolds, Seibinis, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
The Martons, Sim Morec, Jennie Moore, Chas. Barron, Seigal and Fields, Daintees, Gladys Witton, Amio Trio, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Beggar Girl's Wedding."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Angel of His Dreams."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
"Robinson Crusoe" (Jazon).

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Dahl's Mannikins, The Fordyces, Little Frankie, Mayme Cannon, Walter Buxton, Bros. Ford, Palace Perfection Pictures, Frank Coyle.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Marie Santoi and Co., Steel and Laing, Wyze and Adna, Herbert Rule, Rose D'Aulby, Margit and Lener, Amy Anderson and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Ed. Edmunds and Co., Bessie Neilson, Little Miss Muffett, Alex Lefton, Dale and Vale, Harlequinade, Curtis and Piccs., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Donaldson Bros., Nora Emerald, Maro Duo, The Keppels, Walter Barrett, J. H. Greener, The Delomes, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London.

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

FOR PANTOMIME HITS. **NATIONAL** MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

IF THE SONG YOU ARE SINGING IS NOT A SUCCESS WRITE OR WIRE TO US. WE HAVE NOTHING BUT HITS.

THESE ARE THE WINNERS—

YOU ALL WANT SOMETHING TO CUDDLE.
GEORGE ROBEY wires from the Theatre Royal, Birmingham—
"Cuddle Song Instantaneous and Enormous Hit."

LENA SCHMIDT.
THE FIRST THE ONLY THE ORIGINAL.

THERE'S A GIRL IN BERLIN.
YOU MIGHT SHAKE HANDS.
WON'T YOU COME TO MADEIRA WITH ME.
IS THAT A FACT?

Professional copies of the above numbers, together with our other successes, will be sent only to ARTISTS holding Pantomime engagements, on receipt of 6d. for postage. State Theatre & Part.

Call any old time and hear them played over.

NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
132, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—3051 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

BURGH OF AYR.

SITE FOR PIERROTS TO LET.

The Corporation of Ayr is prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

for the sole right of GIVING PIERROT ENTERTAINMENTS during the ensuing summer months on the Low Green of Ayr. The site will be the same as last year—namely, opposite the gasworks. Offers are to be lodged with me not later than 7th January next.

P. A. THOMSON,
Town Clerk.

Council Chambers, Ayr,
21st December, 1909.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.E.—Comfortable bed and sitting room, close to Canterbury; trams, 'buses. Young, 71, Westminster Bridge-road.

LONDON, S.E.—One or two bed-sitting rooms, also bedroom, for Sunday next.—Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road,

LONDON, S.W.—Mrs. Leo-Peers, 303, Brixton-rd.—Sitting and Bedrooms. Vac. Sunday. Piano; bath; attendance. (Late South-place, Kennington.)

LONDON, W. — Superior furnished Apartments, from 15s.; also Suites; piano, bath; quiet street, central. 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly-circus (opposite Tube station).

LONDON, W.C.—Furnished rooms, electric light; board; bath-room; International Artist Club, Flora, 26, Litchfield street, Charing Cross-road.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD.—Mrs. Gilkeson, Vincent House, 135, Westgate, Sitting, 1 or 4 bedrooms, combined; w.c. indoors; bath, piano; late of Garden-street.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

DOWN'S PARK COLLEGE
FOR BOYS.
Herne Bay.
Terms Moderate.
Entire Charge Taken.
T. AURELIUS, M.A. (Cantab).

THE MEMBERS of the Nottingham Hippodrome Orchestra tender their thanks to Mr. T. Allan Edwards for the payment of full salary for Christmas Day.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD SITE in Tooting Broadway to be Sold Freehold, suitable for Theatre, Music Hall, &c.; frontage 66ft, depth 128ft. Price £3,000.
JAMES E. FISHER, Tooting Broadway S.W.

AUTOMATIC BOOT BRUSHING MACHINES.
SEVERAL SLOT MACHINES FOR SALE.
Electrically driven.
Suitable for Railway Stations, Restaurants, Lavatories, Hairdressing Saloons, Arcades, &c.
For particulars address,
MACNAIR, RORIE, and CO.,
Gresham House, Old Broad-street, E.C.

PRICE & REYNOLDS'
PANTOMIME "HITS."

BABY'S PARK PARADE.
LITTLE MISS SNOWSHOES.
MAIDIE AND HER LITTLE TEDDY BEAR.
HERE'S TO ALL THE GIRLS.
WALKING ROUND THE BANDSTAND.
OLD JACK FROST. MONTE CARLO.
BOY SCOUT'S SONG.
PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.

41, BERNERS STREET, W.

VON TILZER'S
Big Pantomime Songs.

JOHN BULL'S BUDGET.
FRAGSON'S terrific success.
A few towns still left vacant for Pantomime.
IT'S NO USE TAKING A GIRL THERE.
(The Principal Boy Song.)
HEALTH, WEALTH, AND THE GIRL YOU LOVE.
(MISS GLADYS HUXLEY'S chorus winner.)
YOU DO LOOK WELL IN YOUR OLD DUTCH BONNET.
WHEN THE HARVEST MOON IS SHINING, SWEET EILEEN.
IN THE EVENING BY THE MOONLIGHT, DEAR LOUISE.
(MISS GERTIE GITANA'S great hits.)
POOR OLD JOHN. DING-DONG-DING-DONG BELL.

Call and hear our songs played over.

VON TILZER MUSIC CO., LTD., 100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. £25 nett

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central. 1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing on Thursday, Jan. 6,

THE OPEN GATE.

A Beautiful Motion Picture, Pastoral, Length 988ft.

Releasing, Sunday, Jan. 9,

MOUNTAINEER'S HONOUR.

Another Great Story of the Kentucky Hills. Length 977ft.

SELIG FILMS.

We are releasing Wednesday, Jan. 5,

THE SENORITA.

A Mexican Drama, introducing New Scenery and Strong Dramatic Effects, Characteristic of the Mexicans. Length 1,000ft.

Releasing Saturday, Jan. 8,

THE WITCHES' CAVERN.

A Selig Melodrama, Depicting Adventures of Hunters in the Far West. Length 1,000ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

We are releasing Saturday, Jan. 8,

RUBBER MAN.

Trick Comic. Length 270ft.

SERVANT'S REVENGE.

Serio Comic. Length 610ft.

Releasing Saturday, Jan. 9,

FOILED.

A Negro Drama. Length 375ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

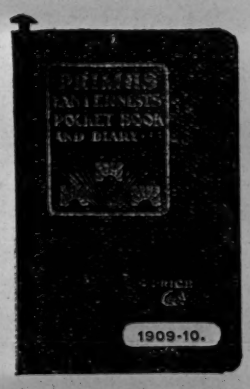

COMPILED BY

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** Free.

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St, Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO

We gladly answer any inquiries

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd., 12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.

(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

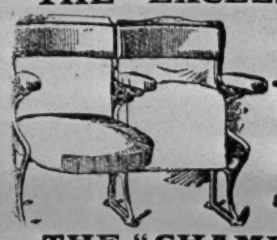

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

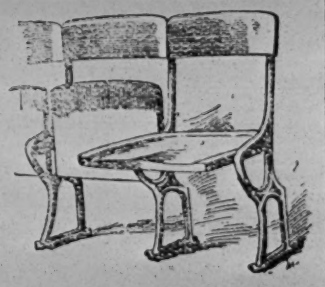

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines. All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS, 21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER, PAINTING & DECORATING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

NEW STOCK POSTERS and LITHOS.

Send for Catalogue.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates. Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers. Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

C. G. SPENCER and SONS, 55a, Highbury Grove, London, N. Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons. Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp. SPENCER BROS., LTD., 45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N., Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c. Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights. Terms upon application.

Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines.

ABDULLAH ARABS, THE 12. Success Everywhere. Jan. 3, Empire, Portsmouth.

ABEL and WELSH. Hippodrome, Rochdale. Vacant Jan. 10. Wire above.

ACHMED IBRAHIM'S GREAT Troupe of Ten Bedouin Arabs. The Genuine Success. Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

ALBAS, GREAT, in his Original Head-slide on the Slanting Wire. Address, c/o "The Era."

ALDERSONN, PROF., Premier Card Manipulator and Conjurer. Jan. 3, Middlesex. Vac. Jan. 10. 67, Walcot-sq., Kennington, S.E.

ALEXANDER, JENNIE, The Phenomenal Child Artist. Jan. 3, Empire, Barnsley. Sole Agent, Leo Fritz.

ALLEN, SISTERS W., Second Year Mr. B. Howard's "Robinson Crusoe" Panto., Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

ALVA, GLEN, T.A., Comedian and Expert Dancer, as Billy the Page, "Cinderella." The Aquarium, Yarmouth.

AMANDUS and MLLE. ROSINA, the Up-to-date Impersonator and Versatile Instrumentalist, Alexandra Palace.

AMEDA, MLLE., the only Lady Hand and Foot Equilibrist. Continent Feb. Care of "The Era."

AMIO TRIO. This week, bottom, Palace, Carlisle; next, Pavilion, Southport. Vacant, Jan. 10, Wire.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA TROUPE, The Society Athletes. Palace, Durham. Feb. 14, London district.

AUBREY, WALTER, the Great Wooden Shoe Dancer. Next, P. H., Runcorn. Jan. 10, Hippo., Keighley. Vac. Feb. 7, 14.

BADDOW, the Great Ventriloquist (also a Father, Dec. 24). Monday, Empire, Coventry.

BANZAI FAMILY, Most Novel Japanese Act. Colston Hall, Bristol, till Jan. 17, 1910.

BARNARD'S, DAVE, AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool. Tel. 2349 Royal. Always open for star artists.

BARNUM'S BEAUTY'S HOME is Belmont's Public-house, opposite Palace Theatre, W.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS, Second Boy and Girl, Fulham Theatre. Thank Pals for Wires.

BARTLETT, ROSIE. The Palace, Cork, Ireland. Address, 12A, Hill-street, Woolwich.

BATTLE, GEORGE, Character and Chorus Vocalist. This, Palace, Jarrow-on-Tyne; next, Victoria, West Stanley.

BAYNE and HOPE, in Costume Play'et, "David Garrick." Great Success, Empire, Bristol (third visit).

BAYNE and MURRAY, Black and White Comedy Duo. The Laughing Hit of every Programme. On Tour.

BEECHAM and WHEELER'S Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12 and 13, Henrietta-st., W.C. Tele., 1280 Gerrard.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjurer, assisted by Miss MAIE. Vac. Jan. 17, 24, '10. Coms., 136, Lorrimore-rd., Kennington.

BELLA and BIJOU, At Home. Telegrams, &c., "Bijou," Southport.

BELROSE and DE VELIN, Ninth Season, J. F. Elliston, Esq. Coms., T R., Bolton. Compliments to all.

BENTLEYS, MUSICAL, Novelty Musical Artists. Usual Success this week, Palace, Oldham.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 168, Brixton-road, S.W. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone 1308 and 1309 Brixton.

BERNARD, GEO., the Vocal Actor, wishes thee and thine a New Year abundant with Health and Wealth. Aquarium, Scarborough.

BEST., CHAS. F. "MacBunker," new business. Jan. 3, Hippodrome, Peckham.

BIJOU, RUBY, Artistic Barefoot Dancer. Canterbury and Paragon.

BLARNEY and BLAND, Comedians. Complimented on New Act. Success everywhere. This, T. H., Merthyr; Mon., Hipp., Aston.

BLYTHE, MARIE. Jan. 3, Metropolitan. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumental and Comedy. Success. Vacant Jan. 10. Write, Gaiety T., Worksop.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, The Cat-chy Comedy Couple. Jan. 3, Empire, Ardwick, Manchester.

BOULTON, FRED, and MLLE. BARTENELLI. Success. Will Atkins. Second Girl and Speciality. O. H., St. Helens.

BOYLE, MARCUS, Pantomiming. This week, Regent, Salford; next, Grand, Halifax.

BRADY, JAMES, Eccentric Joker, is really funny.—The Era. Great Laughing Act, Original Bus. Agent, Burns,

BRAMHAM, JOHN. Professionals' House of Call in Bradford is the Oddfellows' Arms (Saloon Bar Entrance, opposite Palace).

BRAMMER, MISS LILLY, Principal Girl, Andie Caine's Panto. No vacancies. Palace, Walthamstow.

BRENTON, SISTERS. Disengaged Monday. Wire. Edgar Stebbings, Agent, Manchester.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWNIE, MADGE, Third Year Prin. Girl with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan. Pal. T., Bordesley, Birmingham.

BURNS, C. H., Famous Versatile Vocalist, Instrumentalist This, T. R., Seaham Harbour; next, Picture Pal., West Bromwich.

BURTON, GEORGE, Pantomime Specialist. Composer, Arranger, Producer. Jeneral Manager, "Cinderella," O. H., Crewe.

CADLE'S, AGENCY, 105 and 106, Strand. Telephone No 1975 Gerrard.

CAINE, ANDIE. Panto., "Babes in the Wood." Palace Theatre, Walthamstow.

CALVERT, MR. CAYLEY, Sketch Author. 97, Melrose-avenue, Cricklewood, N.W. 'Phone 347 Willesden.

CAMBO and CASTELLE, Musical Monkey Act. Mon., Pal., Morley, Yorks (3rd return). Vac. 10th, North.

CARL and CARR, Comedians, in "Aladdin," Lyric, Hammersmith. "By the Sea," by Mellor and Gifford.

CARLISLE, COLIN, The Real Light Comedian. This, Empire Palace, Dudley.

CARNEY, J. H., Comedian. This, Theatre Royal, Warrington; next, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, Liverpool.

CASS'S AGENCY Requires all Kinds of Acts. Pleased to see any turn. Letters only, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham. 'Phone, Sydenham 1093.

CEDRICS, THE. made the biggest success of any double Act in Dumfries. Monday, Palace, Kilmarnock.

CESTRIA, Comedy Juggler and Acrobatic Waiter. Jan. 3, Royalty, Chester; Jan. 10, Empire, Dudley.

CHARD'S Ever-Popular Dog Circus. H., Hulme, Manchester. Always welcome and sure draw everywhere. Happy New yer cybody.

CHESTER and LEE'S FANTOCHE. Winter Gardens, Blackpool (return). Established Forty Years; not Forty Minutes.

CLARK, MASTER HARRY. England's Premier Juvenile. Jan. 3, Empress, Brixton. Sole Agents, Beecham and Wheeler.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CLIFFORD, ERNEST, Comedian and Simultaneous Dancer. Monday next, Palace, Dudley

CLYFFE, DAINTY DOLLY, Clever Child Comedienne. Next, Darlington. Vac. Jan. 17. Sole agent, Mr. Dottridge.

COMERFORDS, THREE. Aquarium, Scarborough. Next week, Paragon. Lib. Jan. 10 and 24. Add., 47, Larkhall Rise, Clapham.

CORA, SISTERS. Panto., "Dick Whittington," Principal Boy and Girl, Opera House, Dunfermline. A Happy New Year to All.

COYLE, FRANK, The Continuous Comedian. Monday next, The Palace, Lincoln.

CRAGGS, THE, in "Billy." Jan. 3, Empire, Hackney.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Care of "The Era" Office.

CREEDONS, THE. This week, Winter Gardens, New Brighton. Jan. 3, Palace, Cork. First Vacancy April 18.

CROSSLEY, SYD, the Long Comic. "Somewhere the Son is Shining." This week at Gaiety, Chatham.

CUMMINGER (FRANK) & COLONNA (FRANCES). Colleseum. Two different kinds of double-crown Lithos by St. Paul's Printing Co.

CYCLUMINA. This, Surrey; next, Foresters'. Booked by Richard Cass, Esq.

DAHL, RUBY, in Her Original Act. Palace, Lincoln.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington, Lancs." 29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

DANBY, FRANK, and CO., "Love in a Coffee Shop." Jan. 3, Grand, Birmingham.

DANVERS, CHARLES, Alderman Fitzwarren, "Whittington" Panto., Hippo., Portsmouth. A Happy New Year to all old pals.

DARLING, JESSIE, America's Premier Roller Skateuse. C/o "The Era."

DAY, GREAT, Illusionist, and SIGNORINA RITA. D.C. Lithos., Postcards. Success, Vac., Jan. 17, 24; next, Pal., Oldbury.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Jan. 3, Empire, Liverpool.

DE PAS, BERTHA, the Luminary of Low Comedy and Eccentric Dancing. Emp., Oldham. Jan. 3, G., Hanley. Tom Shaw & Co.

DE ROSE, Mlle., Hilda CLAREMONT, Robinson Crusoe. Polly Perkins Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

DIACOFF, TOM, General-Manager, Picture Palace, Morley, also Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

DIGBY, ALICE, Robin Hood, Mr. Andie Caine's "Babes in the Wood." Next week, Walthamstow. Add., 119, Brixton-rd., S.W.

DILLONS, BOUNCING. Bouncing Competition Fully Protected. 12, Gassiot-road, Tooting, London, S.W.

DOLLIE and ELSIE, Title-rôle, "Babes in the Wood." Jan. 3 (2nd week), Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Famous Singing Boxmakers. Huge success; Top of Bill. This, Mon., P., Cowdenbeath.

DOUGLAS and GORDON. Vacant Jan. 24, to follow Merthyr. Jan. 3, Hipodrome, Dumfries.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians. Levy and Cardwell's "House that Jack Built." Theatre Royal, Stockport.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Ventriloquism and Magic; two splendid Acts. Monday, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency, 1A, Loughborough-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Tel., "Durhamlike, London."

EDWARDS and WARD, Owing to Miss Ward's indisposition, Ad., 9, Randolph-st., Jarrow; or, Sherek & Braff.

EIRL, MISS MARCELLE, In "A Moon-Dream" and Selected Songs. 6-28, Cathcart-hill, Junction-road, N.

ELLA'S, MISS, Educated Lion Show, Best in the Profession. Jan. 3, HIPPODROME, HOYLAND.

ELLIOTT - SAVONAS, THE, Musical Marvels. Jan. 3, H. M. Theatre, Walsall.

ELLIS, FRED E., Comedian. Note initial "E." saves confusion. Baron in "Cinderella." Jan. 3, Palace, Maidstone.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

E N Z E R. This, Empire, Shepherd's Bush. Next, Empire, Stratford.

ESMOND, MAUD, the "Charlie Brown" Girl. Jan. 3, Canning Town. This year's biggest Pantoime song.—Vide Press.

EUGENE and WILLIE will in future be known as Bros. Erard, Comedy Musical Act. Coms., 59, Gosberton-road, Balham.

EUSTACE, FRED. During absence abroad, Address, c/o "The Era."

F I M A N, E. W. The Fimans, Pantomime, Grand T., Falkirk, N.B.

FINDEN, MR. and Mrs. HAROLD, Playing "Two to One." Empire, Oldham.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1686 Royal

FLORADORAS. Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Leeds. Opening Night Dec. 23. Prosperous New Year to Friends.

FOLAY and FRANCIS, The Successful Comedians. Pantomime, Jan. 3, P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

FORD, MISS RAY. Produce Monday, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1309 Gerrard.

FRANCISCO, the Incomparable Equilbrist. London shortly, after an absence of four years. Address, 81, Crafton-st., Leicester.

FRANCK, MLLE. HELENE, the Parisian Girl at the Piano, in her French and English Rép. Add., 31, Comeragh-road, W.

FRANKS, TOM, with Lancashire Billy, The very latest in Humorous Ventriloquism. Hippodrome, Bury; next. Hippodrome, Preston.

FRANTZ'S COMEDY FIVE, Humorous Acrobats. Next, Hippo., Exeter; Vacant Jan. 3, 17, 24. Jan. 10, Canning Town; 30th, Empress.

GARFORD, CLOWN, and Comedy Tikes Owing to Success, Surrey Theatre, engaged Palace, Bow, Jan. 3. Address Bow.

GARVEY, BROS., Character Comedians, Top Boot, and Buck Dancers. Liberty Mon. on. 119, Bessemer-st., Grangetown, Yorks.

GASTON, LILY, Male Impersonator; WINNIE LAURI, Comedienne. Lib. 10th. 48, Victoria-street, Hemsworth, Yorks.

GRAHAM and BARRON. Enormous success as The Ruffians, "Babes in the Wood," Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

GRAHAME, RENEE. Big Success in New Song, "Cheer Up, Girls," by C. Levy, Esq. This, Pal., Huddersfield; next, Hippo., Stoke.

GRAY, GEORGE, GRAY, GEORGE, "Parson Grey, V.C."

GREEN, BRUCE, Huge success Dame, "Jack and Jill," Pavilion, Liverpool (two weeks).

GULLIVER, and the Doll with the Laugh. Hippodrome, Bilston.

HARRIS, WILL, The Nimble Comedian. Panto, Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, N E.

HART, DAVID, Dramatic and Variety Agent. 263, Brixton-road, S.W. Telegrams "Divadart, London."

HART, SAMUEL. Dramatic and Variety Agent, 7, Lancaster house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116, Brixton

HECTOR and LAURAINE, Comedians and Feet-fighters. Next week, Aquarium, Scarborough. America in Oct., 1910.

HENDERSONS, THE, Original Speciality Artists. Jan. 3, H., St. Helens.

HENRIETTE and SELINA, The Renowned Musicians. Monday, Second Week, T. Hall, Bedford.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Up-to-date Vocalist. Vacant Jan. 3. Coms., C/o Performer.

HESS and CHIVERS. A Happy and Prosperous New Year. Jan. 3, Empire Rink, Cowdenbeath, Scotland.

HIGHAM, FRED, Variety Agent, 9, York-road London, S.E. Always vacancies for Star Turns. 'Phone 300 Hop.

HIND, MABEL, Principal Boy and Title-rôle for R. C. Buchanan, Esq., "Aladdin." Grand Theatre, Falkirk, N.B.

HORACE and OLGA'S Great Table Troupe of Dogs and Cats. Great Success. Pantomime, Borough Theatre.

HULBERT and DE LIL. Two Acts. Vac. Monday. Wire offers till Saturday, Bijou T., Waterloo; then Union-rd., Macclesfield.

HUMBER, FANNIE. Concludes Hippo., Airdrie. Jan. 3, Picture Palace, Clydebank, N.B.

HUXTER, THREE BROTHERS Languid Energy. Jan. 3, 1910, Pavilion, Wishaw.

HYMACK, M R., Third American Season. C/o MARINELLI, or Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York.

JAMES, CHAS. A., Waxworks and Varieties, 30, Henry-street, Dublin. Always Openings for Novelties

JAQUES, T. C., Versatile Comedian. Vacant Jan. 3, 10, 17, and 24. 16, Rumford-street, Manchester.

JAYS, THE TWO, Kwarrelsome Komedians. Jan. 10, Empire, Middlesbrough.

JECKS, REGINALD, The Ballad Vocalist. Jan. 3, Pav., Bexhill. TOM PACEY.

JONES, MARIE, The English Protean Actress, wants Jan. 3, on. Wire, 5, Cowper-road, N.

JUDGE'S COCKATOOS. The Macnaghten Tour. London.

KARINA, KITTY, the Little Nugget. London shortly. All coms., 3, Edward-st., Aldershot. Cousin to Vi and Norah Stockelle.

KEBBLES, THE (NORA and EDIE), Prin. Boy and Girl, F. Granville's "Beauty and the Beast." Next, Prince's, Blackburn. PEEL.

KEEBLE and "Reggie"; GLADYS WELLS. The Real Goods. This, H., Lowestoft; Jan. 3, Q., Castleford.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL. Panto., "Cinderella." Jan. 3, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

KENDALL, FRED, "Laughter Stakes." Abraham 1, Popularity 2, Return Date 3. Away from other Jew acts. Neath; or Tate, Strand.

KING, MR. EDWARD, Manager, Palace Theatre, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

KINNARD, Magician; LILLIE LURAINE Musical Act. Emperor and Princess, "Dick Whittington." Gaiety T., Leith.

KIRK and SARASKI, Girl Aquatic Marvels. Next week, King's, Gateshead.

KIRK, HARRY, Comedian. Baron Nortiboy, John Tiller's "Bo-Peep" Co, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE. The Original Harrigan. Hippodrome, Leigh; or REEVES' Agency.

LASSAH, LILLIE, Principal Boy, Grand Theatre, Fulham.

LAWLESS', F. A., Celebrated Cornelius Choir, 10 Vocalists. Want Jan. 3, 10. 69, Carter-st., Greenheys, Manchester. This, Scarboro'.

LAYNE and VALROY, Comedy Duo and Illustrated Classic Duettists. What a success. Th. Royal, Middleton.

LAYTON and DOUGLAS, Quick-Change Character Instrumentalists. Next week, Pavilion, Ashton.

LEIGHTON, CHARLES. This, Royal, Warrington; next, c/o Winter Gardens, New Brighton. ENA RICHARDS, care of above.

LE MAIN, LILLIE, and her Living Marionettes. This, P. Th., Runcorn; next, Hipp., Rotherham. Vac. Feb. 28.

LENNARD and VEREKER, In Unique Pictorial Songs. Em., Barnsley; next, Hippo., Belfast. Wanted, May 16.

LENNIE, MISS VERE, The popular Principal Boy. This, Hip., Dover; next, Hippo., Eastbourne.

LEON, KITTY, Comedienne and Dancer, Vacant Jan. 3 and 10. Perm. add., 24, Mostyn-gar., Willesden, N.W.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, On tour; also CASTANCIA, 53, Third-avenue, Manor Park, Essex. Happy New Year to all.

LESBY, WAL, Character Comedian. Big Success as Sweetie, Cinderella's Ugly Sister, Aquarium, Yarmouth. Coms. direct.

LESLIE BROS., Australia's Representative Musical Artists, Frederick the Great, William the Conqueror. Hippo., London.

LI-CHANG-HI, The Speciality of the Panto, "Aladdin," Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

LIND, BESSIE. Hippodrome, Accrington. Jan. 3, Hippodrome, Aston.

LINDSAY, WILL, The Funniest of all Yorkshire Comedians. Enormous success, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

LINN and DARIUS. Jan. 3, Hippo., Keighley; London Pavilion shortly. Exclusive agents, G. and F. PEEL.

LISTON, MR. HARRY (Self, or with) MISS LUMLEY. 20 to 120 minutes "Merry Moments," for Piers, Concerts P. O., Colwyn Bay.

LIVESEY and ROSEBERY, A Happy New Year to all. Palace, Huddersfield.

LIZZETTE TRIO, THE, Lady Acrobats; MOLLY AUGARDE, Vocalist. Jan. 3, Hippodrome, Coventry.

LLOYD, BABS, Star Artist. Grand T., Wolverhampton, Principal Girl. Next, New T., Cambridge, Milton Bode's Grand Panto.

LORCH FAMILY, THE, Marvellous Risley Performers, New York Hippodrome. Per., c/o P. TAUSIG, 104, E. 14th-street, New York.

LOUIE and WALLY, Comedy Couple. This, Empire, Wrexham; next, Albert Hall, Darwen.

LOVELACES, THE, American Song Illustrators. Palace, Porth; next, Palace, Gloucester.

LUCRETIA and JOSEPHINE, Principal Boy, Aladdin, and Nicee. Big success. Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.

LUDOES, THE (MAY and EDDIE), Continental Equilibrists. This, Sadler's Wells. Vac. Jan. 31. 2, Elsden-rd., Tottenham.

LUMIERE'S, LA BELLE, Original Electrical Dances. Always Something New. Address Birteno, Inventor, Empire, Hull

LUND'S AGENCY, 27, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone, 682 Royal. Wires, Lund, Islington, Liverpool. Star Turns always placed.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, In American Picture-Songs. This, Music Hall, Shrewsbury; Monday, Empire, Wrexham.

LYNTONS, THREE SISTERS, Instrumental Vocal Act. For vacs., 16, Wentworth-avenue, New Brighton.

LYTTON, BERT, the Swell Comique. This week, Bedford, London, N. Jan. 3, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

MACMASTER, A., Wine and Spirit Merchant, Victoria House, 297, High-street, Kilcaldy.

MACS, THE NEW, Comedians. Monday next, 77, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MARJUTTI, MLLE. The only vacant dates, Jan. 10, 24, 31, Feb. 7. Jan. 3, Hippodrome, Woolwich.

MARO DUO, Funniest Triple Bar Comedians, Palace, Huddersfield. Mon., Pal., Carlisle. Lib. Jan. 31, Feb. 7. Happy New Year.

MARTINETTES, THE THREE. Big Success with Harry Roxbury's "Sleeping Beauty." Next, Regent, Salford.

MARTIN'S HAND - PAINTED POSTERS, The Talk of London.

MARZELOS, Triple Bar Comedians. Vacant Jan. 10, 17, onward. This week, Pavilion, Wishaw, N.B.

MAUDE, MISS HENRIQUETTE, "The Little New Zealand Travelling Girl." Moss and Stoll Tour.

MAVIS and FARRELL, the Versatile Two. 13th week with Mr. Tom Owen's Co. Commercial Hotel, 90, High-street, Margate.

MAYE, PERCY. Hippodrome, Shrewsbury. A Sensation. Unexpectedly vacant Monday. Wire, Wire.

MAYNE, VERA, Principal Boy, E. C. Jazon's "Cinderella" Panto Jan. 3, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

MAYOS, FOUR, Fascinating Solo and Comedy. Acknowledged the Funniest Skating Act. Jan. 3, Hippo., Rotherham.

McASKELL, Comedy Conjurer. Address, Library House, Workington.

McNEIL, SHEILA, Scotch Comedy Artist. All coms., 35, Cleland-street, Glasgow.

MELROYD, FRANK, as the Dame, Princess Prittypet is very funny but never vulgar.—The Era. Next, Hippodrome, Ashton.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE, THE. The Original Act. Fovarosi Orfeum, Budapesth. ANGER and BAUER, 50, Rupert-st., W.

MILSTED - BELL TRIO Happy New Year to All. Jan. 3, Grand, Manchester.

MILTONS, THE, Skating Comedians. Harry Roxbury's Panto. "Mother Goose," Second year, Jan. 3, Palace, Manchester.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED'S Famous Souasa Arab Troupe (nine men), Apollo Theatre, Bochum, Germany.

MOLTENO'S, AGNES, Beautiful Scena. "A Dolly and a Coach." A few vacs. H., Huddersfield; Jan. 3, E., West Hartlepool.

MOON and MORRIS, The Unique Pair. Another Big Success, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MORE, REUBEN, Versatile Entertainer and Song-writer. Happy New Year to all. Perm. add., 51, Darlington-rd., Southsea.

MORRIS, MAMIE. Big Success, Palace, Bradford. Monday, Empire, Dover.

MOULE, MR. FRED, "The Married Widow." Vacant Jan. 10, 17, and on. 153, Capworth-street, Leyton.

MOZZETTO, F., One of the World's Finest Jugglers. Jan. 3, Shoreditch Empire. No vacancies.

MUELLER and COYNE. this week, Big Success, Hippo., Greenock. A Happy New Year to Friends.

MUNDILL and MAUDE, Comedy Artists, in "Uncle's Coat." This, Aq., Scarboro'; Monday, Alhambra, Openshaw.

NEIL, NELLIE, The Charming Comedienne and Dancer. Monday (return), Empire M.H., Bristol.

NEIMAN and BENN, Variety Agents, 108, Strand, London. 'Phone 8488 Gerrard.

NETHERLAND, FOUR SISTERS. This week, Queen's, Leeds; next, Tivoli, Barrow A Happy New Year to All.

NEWMAN and KNIGHT, Comedy Juggling Act. Monday, Foresters', London.

NIBLO, VICTOR, and his wonderful Talking Birds, Coo-Coo and Laura. Apollo Theatre, Vienna.

NOLAN, MISS AGGIE. To-night, Hippo., Peterborough; next week, resting. For vacancies address MICHAEL NOLAN.

NORA, NELLIE. Dainty Instrumental Act. This, Empire, Dudley (return); next, Pal., Northampton (return).

NORTHCOTES, THE, Vocal Duettists. Stoll Tour, 1911 and '12. Grand, Byker.

NOTE, R. C. DAISY DEVONPORT. R. C. NOTE. DAISY DEVONPORT. No Vacancies. Agent, F. HIGHAM.

OKABE FAMILY, THE. Japanese Artists. Jan. 3, Empire, West Hartlepool.

OOWANA GIRLS, EIGHT. (Sydney T. Russells). This and next week, Alhambra, Openshaw, Manchester.

PACEY, TOM. Agent, 186, Brixton-road, S.W. Tele., "Paceys, London." 'Phone 87 Brixton.

PALETTE and Dog "Max," Artistic Musical and Canine Novelty. Monday, King's Theatre, Hanley.

PALMERS, THE MUSICAL. Monday next Pavilion, Wolverhampton. A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

PAYNE, ALEC, Producer "Skating Ballet," Levaine's "Babes in the Wood" Panto. Sixteen weeks' tour. Coms., STEBBINGS.

PAYNE, MISS ADAH, Soprano Vocalist. Late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co. No immediate vacancies.

PEARL, MISS ELSIE, and MR. ALLYN WHYTE, On Tour. 21, Wells-street, Oxford-street, W.

PEPS, BOUNCING PEPS Original Performance. Own Scena. Perm., 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

PERKINS SANDON, F.R.G.S., Arctic Pictures, Tabloid Travel Talk, as at Hippo., Coliseum, London. Vac. Jan. 10. BLACKMORE'S.

PERMANE'S, W., Real Live Troupe of Teddy Bears. Great Success, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

POLLINTA'S Original Steeplechase Marionettes, Manipulate 38 Figures. Hippo., Yarmouth; vac. Jan. 17. Add., Hippo., Lowestoft.

POYNTON, MR. ALFRED, the Great Impersonator and Chapeaugraphist Address, Blenheim Hotel, Brighton.

PURVIS and PARTNER, "The Postman's Knock." Few vacancies, 1910. New Empire, Wakefield.

RAE, GEO., Scotch Comedian. This week, Em., S. Shields. Jan. 3, Em., Sheffield. A Happy New Year to all.

RAIE, LYDIA, the Banjo Queen. This week, success, Public Hall, Worcester; Continent shortly. Season's greetings to all friends.

RALPH, RENE. Enormous Success as Jack, Second Boy in "Robinson Crusoe." This, Hippo., Rotherham; next, Empire, Dewsbury.

REEVES, FRED, Variety Agent, The Cedars, Grove-rd., Brixton. Tele., "Formerly, London." 'Phone 1066 Brixton.

RENO, MARTIN, Dame, "Cinderella." This, Theatre Royal, Worthing; next, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

REYNOLDS, EARLE, and NELLIE DONEGAN. Whirlwind Dancing Skaters. Address, c/o "The Era."

RIOGOKU FAMILY, THE. Unrivalled Japanese Artists Jan. 3, Empire Theatre, Middlesbrough.

RIVERS, MLLE. PAULINE, Children's Scena, "In the Merry Winter Time." Panto., T R., Hanley. 2, Crewdson-rd., Brixton.

ROSINI'S, MLLE., Famous Troupe of Dogs. This, Hippo., Burslem; next, Alexandra Palace, London. Vac. Jan. 10, 17.

ROUND, LIZZIE, & SAM GRIESLEY. Hippo., Dumfries; next, Picture Palace, Cowdenbeath. A Happy New Year to all.

ROXBYS, THE ORIGINAL. This, Grand, Gravesend. Vacant Jan. 3. Agent, WILL OLIVER, or 272, Liverpool-st., Salford.

ROZEL, Great Sensational Speciality, has few immediate dates. Coms., 69, Boundary-lane, Liverpool.

RYDE and BEEMAN, Acrobats. Vacant Monday. Wire Pav., Wolverhampton. After Sat., 1, Henry-st., Hulme, Manchester.

SALAMBOS, THE, Address, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

SCOREYS, THE FOUR, Jan. 3, Theatre, Torquay. Panto, Speciality and Parts.

SCOTT, HARRY, Comedian; MURIEL DANTE, Australian Illustrated Songstress Jarrow; next, Wairloo Th., Whitby. Vac Jan 10.

SCOTT, MISS MAIDIE Just a Comedienne. Jill, New Cross. Holmewood House, Upper Tulse Hill, S.W.

SELMAN, E. W., Comedian; IVY GALLARD, Comedienne. Panto., "Hop o' my Thumb," Coliseum, Oldham, Happy Jerry, Baron.

SEWELL and DUDLEY, in the sparklet, "The Sun-Bath," by Chas. Kitts. Scene carried. Vac. Ap. 4, 11. Care of "The Era."

SILVO, BEN, Novelty Gymnast. Now appearing with big success, Albert Hall, Edinburgh. Free Jan. 17 and 24.

SILVO, MUSICAL. Unapproached and unapproachable.—Vide Press. Pavilion, Glasgow.

SLIPPERE. A Man of Many Parts, Blind Entertainer. Jan. 3, Boro' Theatre, Wallsend.

SMITH and JOHNSON. Pal., North Shields. Jan. 3, Pal., West Hartlepool. A Prosperous New Year to all.

SMYTHSON COMEDY COMPANY. This, West Hartlepool. Next (Jan. 3, 1910), Empire, Glasgow.

SNOW and FARRON (GEORGE and CLARE), King and Princess, Geo. Brydon-Phillips' "Sinbad" Co.; next, T., Harrogate.

SOULS, WILL. Look Out for New Act "Watch the Lamp." Six minutes' squeals. Globe Hotel, Hospital-st., Birmingham.

STANHOPE and CO., LTD., Theatrical and Variety Agents. 12, Buckingham-street, Strand. Tel., 6070 Gerrard

STAVORDALE QUINTETTE, THE. "An Act that charms everyone."—Vide Press. Jan. 3, King's, Longsight. Vac. Jan. 24.

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent, 28, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone 9261, Central.

ST. JOHNS, THE, Musical Comedians, Dancers, &c.; vac. Jan. 10, 31, June 27. Monday, Hippodrome, Darlington.

ST. RUTH and CONYERS. This, P. H., Runcorn; next, P. T., Jarrow. Thanks to Keighley management for kindness.

STYLO, Expert Hoop Juggler. Hippo., Woolwich. Vacant Jan. 3 and 17. Address, 5, Rathbone-street, Canning Town, E.

SYDNEY GIRLS, EIGHT, (Sydney T. Russell's). This week, Palace, Blackburn; next week, Palace, Manchester.

SYLVESTER'S FETE and VARIETY AGENCY, Estab. 1878, no connection with any others. Only Offices, 271, Clapham-road, S.W.

SYLVESTO, MLLE., Greatest of All Lady Contortionists. Lib. Jan. 10, on. This, Hippo., Bolton; next, Hippo., Birkenhead. SLEY.

TALBOT and CLARE, On Tour. Perm. add., 39, Shepherdess-walk, London, N.

TAMAMOTO, C., the Japanese Blondin. This, Tivoli, Brierley Hill; next, Hippodrome, West Bromwich. For terms and dates.

TEEL, LEN. Thanks Managers for Offers. This week, Hip., Dover; next, Hip., Eastbourne.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL including LOUIE GILBERT. Panto., Empire, Dewsbury.

TERRY SISTERS (BELLA and MINNIE). An Entertainment in Themselves. Panto., Jan. 3, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

TILBURY, ERNEST, Eisteddfod Prize Tenor. Enormous Success, King's, Longsight; Jan. 3, Tivoli, Dublin. Vacant Jan. 24.

TODD BULLER, SISTERS, Duettists, Buglers ("The Territorial Girls."). This, Palace, Batterseas; next, Palace, Greenwich.

TROJAN, the One-armed Strong Man. Good appearance and dress. Vacant Monday. Per. add., 11, St. John's-rd., Scarboro'.

TYMES, THE, in Original Song Scena. Big Success. Want Jan. 10. A Prosperous New Year to All. Pav., Bangor, Wales.

VALDO BROS., THE. Third Panto. Season at Theatre Royal, Bradford, and the Eighth Panto. Season with John Hart, Esq.

VALMA, DAINTY VENA. Big Success as Jill, "Mother Goose" Panto. Grand Theatre, Hull.

VANCE, SID, a Droll "Duck," but no "Quack." 17th week with Walter Morgan's Irish Tour. Perm. add., 75, Grafton-street, Hull.

VERNE, TOM. Big success Bathgate Rink last week. Manager, Bostock's Skating Rink, Wishaw, N.B.

VERNO'S AGENCY, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert. Jan. 3, Empire, Swansea.

VINE, TOM VINE, and MRS. TOM VINE wish one and all good health and a prosperous New Year.

VIOLI, Lady Instrumentalist, Cromwell Hall, Lancaster.

VOLTA, JACK, Monkey-man. On Tour. Happy New Year to all. Colston Hall, Bristol.

WAMBAS, LES. New Act Preparing. For terms and dates, Leeside, Viewforth-square, Edinburgh.

WEBB BROS., The Empire T., Leicester square, W.C. A Happy New Year to All.

WEDBURN, MRS. JAMES (the Wedburns), née Amy Carina. Communications, care of "The Era."

WEDBURNS, Comedians. Big success at Scarboro'. Jan. 3, City Varieties, Leeds.

WELDA and WYNNE (BERT and DOROTHY). This, Empire, York; next, Mabeldene, Mysore-rd., Clapham J. Vac. Jan. 17, 24.

WEST, JOHN E., Friday, J. H. Saville's Panto., "Robinson Crusoe," T.R., Paisley. A Guid New Year to the Boys.

WHITEMAN, JOHNNY, Gen.-Man., Queen's T., Leeds, and City Var., Leeds. Prop. Pack Horse, Briggate, Leeds. Tel. 4030.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artists, Gala, and Fête Agents. 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILL and ROZE. Dec. 31 to Jan. 6, Palais d'Hiver, Pau, France. Big success. Starring everywhere.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. Empire Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. A Happy New Year to All.

WISPER and BEATTIE BLOOM thanks Dr. Leon Vint for paying salaries in full for Christmas week. Mon., Hip., Lowestoft.

WOOD, CARLOTTA, Principal Girl. This, T. R., Chesterfield; next, T. R., Attercliffe. Prosperous New Year to all.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI, Japanese Equilibrists. Jan. 4, Kirkcaldy; 5th-8th, St. Margaret's Hall, Dunfermline, N.B.

YORKE, TOM. This week, Palace, Bow. Next week, Palace, Southampton.

YOUNG, TED. Enormous Success as Baroness in Pantomime, "Cinderella," Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

ZANONI, LILY and HARRY. Unrivalled Juggling Scena. No vacancies. ROSEN and BLIES and FIONI.

READY EARLY IN JANUARY.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION. A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

CRAVEN'S Famous **HAMPERS.**

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	G.P.O. Rollers on Lining	Tray Bottom
24 x	14 x	14 ..	6/10 ..	3/2 ..	3/0 .. 2/0
25 x	16 x	15 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 .. 2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 .	3/3 .. 2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10/6 ..	4/6 ..	3/6 .. 2/6
33 x	21 x	21 ..	12/6 ..	5/3 ..	4/0 .. 3/0
36 x	22 x	22 ..	14/6 ..	6/0 ..	4/6 .. 3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.

Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.

LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.

Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.

T. CRAVEN & SONS

T. Dept., 99, Corporation St., MANCHESTER Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

HAMPERS that will stand rough usage, including the All Cane Hampers. Monarch of all Hampers. Illustrated Price List Free. REUBEN DUCKWORTH, 23, King-street, Blackburn; 97, Byron-st., Preston.

FRED AND HORACE REEVES WISH EVERYBODY A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

A FEW Turns (ALWAYS WORKING) Booked by

Telegrams: "FORMERLY, LONDON."

FRED & HORACE REEVES

Telephone 1066 Brixton.

FRED and HORACE REEVES' Star Coster Artists.

DUNCAN & GODFREY.

(MINNIE and ARTHUR),
in their Latest and Greatest Success,
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."
"THE COSTERS' COURTSHIP."

Produced at the Empress, Brixton, Monday, Dec. 6, 1909.
An Emphatic and Genuine Success.

No open time. No open time.
No open time. No open time.
No open time. No open time.

DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.
DUNCAN and GODFREY.

An Artistic and Laughing Success all over the English-speaking World.

"ME AND 'ER,"
"ME AND 'ER,"
"ME AND 'ER,"
A Success on Three Continents.
A Success on Three Continents.
A Success on Three Continents.

Australia with Harry Rickards, Esq.,
America with Percy Williams, Esq.,
and Great Britain with every Management of Note.

Also,
"ME AND 'ER AND THE BABY"
"ME AND 'ER AND THE BABY"
"ME AND 'ER AND THE BABY"
and
"'LIZA O' LAMBETH."
"'LIZA O' LAMBETH."
"'LIZA O' LAMBETH."

All Written by Arthur E. Godfrey.
Music by Murray and Everard.

Booked Stoll Tour.
Booked Barrasford Tour.
Booked Syndicate Halls.
Booked Everywhere of Note.

Fully Booked till 1913.
Fully Booked till 1913.
Fully Booked till 1913.

At present in Pantomime at NEW THEATRE, CARDIFF.

Exclusive Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.
Exclusive Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.
Exclusive Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.

We only Sign through REEVES' Agency.

THE FOUR ATHOS.

THE FOUR ATHOS.
THE FOUR ATHOS.
THE FOUR ATHOS.

The Greatest Ball Manipulating and Acrobatic Act on Earth.

Everything New and Original.
Everything New and Original.

Always Working.
Always Working.

Always Successful.
Always Successful.

Always Top or Bottom of Bill.

The Success of the Company wherever we appear.
The Success of the Company wherever we appear.

Our Act Stands Alone.
Our Act Stands Alone.
Impossible to Copy our Performance.
Impossible to Copy our Performance.
Always the Talk of Every Town.
Always the Talk of Every Town.
Now Finishing Gibbons' Tour, then Paris and everywhere to follow.
Causing a Huge Sensation Everywhere.
Causing a Huge Sensation Everywhere.
No Vacancies.
No Vacancies.
Fully Booked.
Fully Booked.
Have only had Five Weeks Vacant in Four Years.
Have no Open Time the Next Three Years.

Sole Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.
Only Sign through FRED and HORACE REEVES.
Always the same Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.

FRED and HORACE REEVES' Coming Star Comedienne,

MAUDIE FORD,

the Dainty Comedienne and Dancer.
Has only had Five Weeks Vacant in Four Years.
"A Record."
Quite Full for 1910.
Quite Full for 1911.
Only Three Weeks Vacant in 1912.

Re-engaged for all MR. GIBBONS' HALLS.
Re-engaged for all the SYNDICATE HALLS.
Re-engaged for all the DE FRECE HALLS.
Re-engaged Everywhere of Note in Town and Country.

Now Playing Principal Girl in Cullen and Carthy's Pantomime.
This Week, QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Next Week, QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Only Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.
The Same Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.

A COMET THAT IS PASSING

ROUND THE WORLD.

ARCHIE ROYER,

That Great American Comedian.
That Great American Comedian.
That Great American Comedian.
That Great American Comedian.
That Great American Comedian.
That Great American Comedian.

Watched Every Night by all the Wise Men.

NOT ONLY a GREAT COMEDIAN,
NOT ONLY a CLEVER DANCER,
NOT ONLY a MARVELLOUS HIGH KICKER,
NOT ONLY an AWFUL SINGER,

"BUT"

THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.
THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.
THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.
THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.
THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.
THE GREATEST ACROBAT IN THE WORLD.

Acknowledged so by All,

Press, Public, and Managers.

MY TIME IS 20 MINUTES,

"BUT"

I did One and a Half Minutes (in Front Cloth), at Hippodrome, Liverpool,

Nov. 29, 1909,

and was
THE HIT OF THE BILL,

"CAN YOU DO IT?"

Applause and Laughter from Start to Finish.

TIME ALL FILLED 1910.
TIME ALL FILLED 1911.
TIME ALL FILLED 1912.

Ask my Sole Agents,
FRED and HORACE REEVES.
For Vacancies in 1913.

Now Playing
WISHIE WASHIE,
LYCEUM THEATRE,
LONDON.

A Big Success.
A Laughing Success.
An Artistic Success.
An Overwhelming Success.

LYCEUM THEATRE,
LONDON.

ROYER ROYER ROYER

Only accept Dates through F. and H. REEVES.

THE COMEDY ACROBATIC BAKERS

THE

LECARDO BROS.

The Personification of Versatility.
The Personification of Versatility.
The Personification of Versatility.
The Personification of Versatility.
The Personification of Versatility.

In their Screamingly Original Lightning Comedy Acrobatic Act, entitled
"REVELS IN A BAKERY,

Screams of Laughter.
Thunderous Applause.
Shouts of Astonishment,

The Most Original and Entertaining Act on the Variety Stage.

Everything carried, including scenery,
Only want a clear Stage.
The Act of the Present,
and
The Act of the Future.
An Act that Defies Description and Imitation.
Original, Refined, Clean and Clever.

Now in Panto with J. F. Elliston, Esq.

For very few remaining Dates, Apply,
FRED and HORACE REEVES,
Our Sole Agents.

STEVE BARTLE.

The Vocalist,
The Vocalist,
The Concertina King,
The Concertina King,
Always a Hit on any Programme.
This week, Walham Green.
Next week, TIVOLI, PENTRE.
FULLY BOOKED. FULLY BOOKED.
Booked Stoll Tour.
Booked Gibbons Tour.
Booked Syndicate Halls.
And all Return Dates at Big Increase,
And every date has been made by Sole Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES

MAUD ESMOND.

THE "CHARLIE BROWN" GIRL.

All Songs specially written by the Star Music Company, Mills and Scott.
THE PREMIER REFINED CHORUS ARTIST.
Fully booked 1910.
Very few Vacancies in 1911.
Vacant Panto. Boy, 1910-11.
SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL.
Maud Esmond, for appearance, voice, and songs stands unequalled.—Vide Press.
Communicate for few remaining 1911 vacancies to FRED and HORACE REEVES.

AUSTRALIA'S FAVOURITES.
AMERICA'S FAVOURITES.
ENGLAND'S FAVOURITES.

KING & BENSON

THE HARMONIOUS PAIR.
THE HARMONIOUS PAIR.

THE SENSATION OF THE CENTURY.
THE SENSATION OF THE CENTURY.

KING & BENSON

A HIT; A HIT; A PALPABLE HIT.
A HIT; A HIT; A PALPABLE HIT.

KING & BENSON

NO VACANCIES FOR YEARS.
NO VACANCIES FOR YEARS.
NO VACANCIES FOR YEARS.
NO VACANCIES FOR YEARS.

KING & BENSON

BOOKED EVERYWHERE.
BOOKED EVERYWHERE.
BOOKED EVERYWHERE.
BOOKED EVERYWHERE.

KING & BENSON

THE ACME OF REFINEMENT AND ORIGINALITY.
THE ACME OF REFINEMENT AND ORIGINALITY.

KING & BENSON

(Charlie and Jenny).

Stand alone, Unapproached and Unapproachable.

NO OTHER ACT LIKE IT.
NO OTHER ACT LIKE IT.
NO OTHER ACT LIKE IT.
NO OTHER ACT LIKE IT.

KING & BENSON

wish all their friends

A Prosperous New Year.

KING & BENSON

COPIED BY MANY. EQUALLED BY NONE.
COPIED BY MANY. EQUALLED BY NONE.
COPIED BY MANY. EQUALLED BY NONE.
COPIED BY MANY. EQUALLED BY NONE.

KING & BENSON

THE TOP LINERS WHO ARE ALWAYS A SUCCESS.
THE TOP LINERS WHO ARE ALWAYS A SUCCESS.

This Week,

TIVOLI & CANTERBURY

Next Week,

TIVOLI & CANTERBURY

NO VACANCIES.
NO VACANCIES.
NO VACANCIES.

Still the same Agents, F. & H. REEVES.
Every Date made by F. & H. REEVES.
All Communications to F. & H. REEVES.

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL.

"THE" COMEDIAN.

DUSTY RHODES.

DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,
RHODES,

"THE" COMEDIAN.
Give Fred or Horace Reeves the authority to lend me your stage for ten minutes, and I will endeavour to do something Clean and Clever.

Booked GIBBONS TOUR.
Booked GIBBONS TOUR.

Booked OXFORD till 1916.
Booked OXFORD till 1916.

Booked TIVOLI till 1916.
Booked TIVOLI till 1916.

Booked PAVILION till 1916.
Booked PAVILION till 1916.

Booked ALL SYNDICATE HALLS till 1916
Booked ALL SYNDICATE HALLS till 1916

Booked STOLL TOUR for three years.
Booked STOLL TOUR for three years.

All done by Fred and Horace Reeves.
All done by Fred and Horace Reeves.

Booked for years at every Hall of Note in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales and very likely other places.

Conclude to-night, Empire, Middlesbrough.
Monday next, WALHAM GREEN.

"THE" COMEDIAN
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
DUSTY
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
RHODES
can only be booked by Fred and Horace Reeves.

Nobody has authority to offer my services except FRED and HORACE REEVES, "The Cedars," Grove-road, Brixton.

SISTERS HALL,

Descriptive Vocalists par excellence.

Fully booked. Fully booked.
No Vacancies. No vacancies.

Now playing Principal Boy and Girl in J. F. Elliston's Pantomime, and making a Record Success.

Booked everywhere including GIBBONS TOUR and SYNDICATE HALLS.
Return to Bristol for Panto., 1910-11.

Always working; never resting

Still the same Agents, F. and H. REEVES.

DICK TUBB.

The Grotesque Comedian.
The Grotesque Comedian.
That's all.

Pantomime,
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD.

DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.

Booked Gibbons Tour.
Booked Stoll Tour.
Booked Syndicate Halls.

DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.
DICK TUBB.

Booked solid for years.
No Vacancies.

Communications,
FRED and HORACE REEVES.

The Society Entertainer.
The Society Entertainer.
The Society Entertainer.

LILIAN ROSE.

The Refined Comedienne and Dancer.
The Refined Comedienne and Dancer.
The Refined Comedienne and Dancer.
The Original Monologue Artist, in Selections from her Extensive Répertoire.
The Vocalist, the Dancer, the Actress
Always Successful. Always Re-engaged.

Now on Gibbons Tour.
Now on Gibbons Tour.

For Vacancies apply to
F. and H. REEVES, Grove-road, Brixton.

The Success of Modern Times.

THE WESTBROOKS

(MAUDIE, TESSIE, and SIDNEY),

in a New and Novel Vocal Comedy

and Dancing Scena,

"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."
"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."
"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."
"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."
"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."
"TWO LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL."

Written by A. E. Godfrey, Esq.

Music Composed by T. Kent, Esq.

Vocalism of the Highest Standard.

The Perfection of Dancing.

No Vacancies till 1913.
No Vacancies till 1913.

Conclude To-night, Canterbury.

Monday next, GRAND, BOLTON.

Booked DE FRECE TOUR.

Booked GIBBONS' TOUR.

Booked SYNDICATE HALLS.

PAVILION, TIVOLI, OXFORD.

and all Associated Halls for the next Three Years.

No Vacancies of any Kind.
No Vacancies of any Kind.

In Preparation, a New and Elaborate Production, entitled
"The KNIGHT OF THE ROAD,"
by A. E. Godfrey, Esq.

Splendid and Novel Dancing.

Original Vocal Numbers.

Elegant Costumes and Effects.

A Magnificent and Costly Production.

THE WESTBROOKS,
THE WESTBROOKS,
THE WESTBROOKS,
THE WESTBROOKS,
THE WESTBROOKS,
THE WESTBROOKS,

Booked Solid till 1913, and all Return Dates.

Every Date made by our Exclusive Agents, FRED and HORACE REEVES.

FRED. KEETON.

The People's Peculiar and Popular Pet.

Booked Solid till 1913.
Booked Solid till 1913.
Booked Solid till 1913.
Booked Solid till 1913.
Booked Solid till 1913.
Booked Solid till 1913.

Booked OXFORD.
Booked TIVOLI.
Booked all SYNDICATE HALLS.
Booked STOLL TOUR.
Booked GIBBONS' TOUR.
Booked AUSTRALIA.

Booked every Hall of Note in the United Kingdom.

Genuine Comedy without Vulgarity.
Genuine Comedy without Vulgarity.
Genuine Comedy without Vulgarity.

Always a Laughing Hit.
Always a Laughing Hit.
Always a Laughing Hit.

Always a Pay Box Draw.
Always a Pay Box Draw.
Always a Pay Box Draw.

The Laughing Hit of every Programme.
The Laughing Hit of every Programme.
The Laughing Hit of every Programme.

Conclude to-night, Hippo., Kilburn;

Monday next, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.

Representatives, FRED and HORACE REEVES.

CEDAR & ELGAR.

Original Olde Englyshe Comedians, in New Business,
"YE DAYES OF OLDE."
CEDAR and ELGAR,
the Original Pair.

CEDAR and ELGAR,
the Talkative Two.

CEDAR and ELGAR,
Have very Few Vacancies.

CEDAR and ELGAR,
Booked all Principal Halls.
CEDAR and ELGAR,
Wish everyone a Prosperous Year.
CEDAR and ELGAR,
New, Novel, and Original.

All Communications must be addressed to FRED and HORACE REEVES.

"THE CEDARS," GROVE ROAD, BRIXTON, S.W.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is here in *The Tyrant*. Marked success is achieved by Mr. Roy Fortescue as Angelo; Mr. Percy Follis plays Homodei with great dramatic power; Mr. Edw. E. Louis gives an admirable portrayal of Rudolph; Mr. J. P. Lallan is successful as Lieut. Taska; Miss Marie Robson makes a graceful and attractive Tisbe; Miss Jean Scott is well suited to the part of Lady Catherine; Mr. Wilson Summer as Victor, Mr. Fred Luard as Nobbo and Miss Katie Lever as Reginetia are vastly amusing.

NEW EMPIRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Victor Knight.—The Three Pirmans top the bill, and are meeting with general approval in their sensational horizontal bar act; Dora Knowles is a charming comedienne and dancer; the Daintons, in their speciality act, are well received; Lenton and Lane are decidedly good in their musical comedy, *Unconsidered Trifles*. Some excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Patriotics have succeeded pantomime at His Majesty's, and fine audiences have hailed with delight the most stirring and inspiring representations of *The Flag Lieutenant* given all this week. The company is a very fine all-round combination, with Mr. Edgar Kent in the title-rôle, Miss Dorothy Ripley as his charming sweetheart, Mr. Montagu Love as his friend the Major, and Miss Stella Leigh as the lovable widow who has set her heart on the Major. Altogether an artistic and thoroughly enjoyable show.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Mr. Fred Karno's clever comedians are here this week in *Early Birds* and *Mumming Birds*. Other turns are contributed by Miss Lily Belle, comedienne and barefoot dancer; Mr. Mark Hanbury, vocal comedian, the Real Mackays, a clever pair of junvenile performers; and Miss Ray-Raymond, a dashing comedienne.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's principal company is the attraction here in the romantic drama *From Convent to Throne*. Mr. Graham Woods most effectively portrays the hero, Lieut. Ernesto Von Hapsburg; Mr. A. F. Stuart gives a clever rendition of the Prince of Carpathia; Mr. William J. Miller as the scheming Baron Strelsau plays with excellent judgment; Mr. Arthur Estcourt is responsible for a dignified representation of General Von Hapsburg; Mr. T. G. Vane does full justice to the part of Lieut. Otto; Mr. Gibson Brooke is satisfactory as Eugene; and Mr. H. Maxwell successful as Michael. Miss Mary Fulton's impersonation of the Princess Maritza is full of interest; Miss Maudie Grayson is a vivacious Rosella; and Miss B. Bateman is all that can be desired as Lady Violetta.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—George First, the wonderful cycling ape, introduced by Dandy George, heads the bill here, and proves very entertaining; Frank Elliston and company in the costume sketch, *Lady Betty*, receives loud applause; Henri Bekker is a conjurer of much merit, and Gus Hindell is a smart entertainer; the Cavalotti Brothers provide a neat musical turn; Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats, have a hearty reception; and Jeannie Reeves, comedienne, receives due recognition, and the Bioscope pictures complete.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—[illegible] and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-[illegible]ager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*Folly's Fortunes* [illegible] presented here by Miss Maude Western's company twice a night. The scenery and dressing generally are all that could be desired. Miss Maude Western and Mr. Joe Ellis are the most prominent as Folly and Billy respectively; whilst Misses Babs Walton, Ada Hender, and Kelly Lamberto, and Messrs. Walter Buckstone, Alex. Alexander, and John Cevey do well and help to the success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, Jun.—*The Babes in the Wood* is running very smoothly, and attracting well.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The Jno. Tiller pantomime company is here with *Little Red Riding Hood*. Miss May Merry enacts the sweet maiden, guileless and innocent, very prettily, and sings well; Miss Dot Hinson makes Mrs. Hood quite the old woman of pantomime; Miss Zena Benson as the good fairy Truelove is shapely and graceful; Mr. Benson Kleve as King Lupas suggests in his own person and manner the ravenous wolf; Mr. Frank Helroyd as Pretty Pet is his clever ugly daughter; Boniface is very humorously conceived by Mr. Douglas Hayes; Oswald, the Ostler, is well done by Mr. Phil Hayes, Miss Marie Brian is chic as Nanette; Miss Mav Sharples cuts a dash as Captain Slasher; Mr. Fred Lawrence as Dr. Dignun is an unctious pedagogue; Mr. Chas. Verno as Trotters the page is comical; and Miss Lulu Russell is a dignified Prince Valiant. The specialities of a good production are the Lotus troupe of dancers, the quartette of male voices, and the Mascotte troupe of children.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, is here this week, and on Monday night a packed house gave it a hearty welcome. Miss Florence Lewis, in the title-rôle, proves herself a capable and attractive principal boy, her breezy style making her a big favourite; Miss Carlotta Wood is a pert and winsome Polly Perkins; a pleasing performance is that of Miss Violet Leslie as Undine, her vocal numbers being rendered in fine style; Tom Bowling has a sprightly and captivating representative in Miss May De Rowse; Miss Maisie Dainton as Lieut. Sprite and Miss Bertha Collins as Susan are also good; the Cannibal Queen and Thursday are well undertaken by the Countees, whose singing is a special feature; Mr. Fred C. Fields is funny as Billy Crusoe; Mr. Mark Lane plays Dame Crusoe on conventional lines, but without vulgarity; Mr. R. A. Byland makes the small part of the Cannibal King an effective one, and also discharged the duties of stage-manager in a praiseworthy manner; Friday is played in good style by Mr. J. H. Wakefield; Mr. Syd Benson as Will Atkins and Williams and Warden as Nab and Grabem are a mirth-provoking trio; and Mr. Andro Lukos as the Monkey and Mr. S. Edun as Neptune contribute to the general success. A word of praise is due to Miss Maisie Dainton, who has charge of the ballets and groupings. Interesting specialities are given by the Countees, Mr. Andro Lukos, the Eduns, and Messrs. Williams and Warden.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson appears here with his new play, *The King and the Unknown Woman*. The cast is clever and effective. Mr. Wellesley Draper as Prince Loris, Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson as Prince Menski, Little Elsie Clark as Casgar, Miss Violet Carlyle as Countess Melveitch, and Miss Helen Richmond as Elsa are all good.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—The holiday bill is headed by the clever Sutcliffe troupe, who give a versatile act; the Scottish Meisters are excellent in their scena, *Ancestral Spirits*; B. Troba gives an astounding juggling act; Ernest Montefiore and company appear in a pathetic playlet, *The Little Colonel*; Harry Taylor is a real Yorkshire comedian; the Three Gelins, Continental acrobats, give a good show; Jennie Alexander is an exceedingly charming little comedienne. The Palascope gives good pictures.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Messrs. Chabôt and Henri's pantomime company appeared here for three nights with *Aladdin*. As the Widow Twankey, Mr. George Whillis scored an immediate success, his songs and dances being vociferously applauded; Mr. Wilfred Barndon was sufficiently mystic as the Magician; Wun Lung was capably handled by Mr. Fred Edwards, his song "Months and Months" being received with evident delight; Miss Celestine Brandon made a vivacious and entertaining Aladdin; Miss Janet Lawton interpreted the part of the Princess with charming effect; and the Misses Herschell contributed several interesting turns.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here with the farcical comedy, *Where Is William?* The piece is exceedingly humorous, and is being much appreciated by good audiences. Mr. Windermere as Sir William Gregory is a host in himself; Mr. Rule Pyott is all that could be desired as William Jolly; Mr. Leslie Norman is admirably suited to the part of General Rubbub; Miss Belle Donaldson is a clever and charming Lady Gregory; Miss Clare Mansfield makes a dainty Phyllis; and Miss Zoe Davis is clever as Eliza.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The F. R. Benson (North) Shakespearean company is here with the following répertoire:—*The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, *King Lear*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Macbeth*.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—George Gray and company top the bill with *The Fighting Parson*, the several characters being excellently portraped. Mr. Gray is a great success in the title-rôle. The programme is completed by Wilbert and Lealand, Bros. Deane, Allis and Cassafi, Mabel May, and Vernon's Bioscope. Capital houses are the rule.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Will Van Allen is once again hitting the mark in his musical tramp act; Louie Tracey, the dapper, dandy boy, straight from her London engagements, commences another tour of the provinces here this week with the happiest prospect of winning many favours. The Tritons, instrumental troupe, meet with a great reception; Norah Stockelle is paying a welcome return visit; Munroe's comedy team of juveniles reappear after a long absence; the Great Lauri performs the box trick, and then is padlocked in a barrel of water, escaping after a few moments' imprisonment; Kenneth and Kane, comedy duo and dancers, and Willie Long, comedian, with some capital pictures, complete the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Dollar Princess* is reigning majestically for a second week, Mr. George Edwardes's production and his wonderfully powerful cast of principals having appealed to all playgoers for miles around Bath.

BATLEY.—BATLEY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—This theatre was reopened on Monday evening after having been thoroughly renovated. Additional electric lights have been installed, and the pit and circle fitted with tip-up chairs. A new heating apparatus will also add to the comfort of the patrons, and the theatre is now one of the cosiest in the provinces. Miss Ethel Van Praagh (Mrs. Whitty) and Mr. Whitty's company has been the attraction in *The Eyes of the World*. Both Mr. and Mrs. Whitty are very popular, and they have had a warm reception. The piece is well staged and acted. Miss Van Praagh herself plays the leading part, and Mr. Whitty and Miss Nellie Garside as the young lovers cause much amusement. Mr. Charles O'Connor, Mr. Will Casey, Mr. R. Wilton Bedford, and Miss Flora Hastings are all deserving of mention. A number of up-to-date films are shown on the Bioscope in the intervals, and this new feature meets with great approval.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Fred W. Warden's pantomime *Aladdin* is in the second week of a successful run, the magnificent scenery being the talk of the city. Much spirit and humour is infused into their respective rôles by the accomplished principals—Miss George Corlass, Miss Thelma Raye, Miss Topsy Sinden Carlton, Mr. Colin Coop, and Mr. W. H. Powell—their popularity being unbounded. Many of the songs have caught on immensely, especially "There is a home in Ireland," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and "Somewhere." Mr. Warden must be congratulated on the triumph that is rewarding his enterprise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is *Her Marriage Vow*, presented by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles's company. Miss Violet Lytton, an accomplished actress, is most successful as Kate Walters, and Mr. J. Forbes Knowles must be commended upon his fine impersonation of Ned Benton; the villainies of Gilbert Carlton are realistically portrayed by Mr. Edward Avinal, and Mr. Harry Momber is admirable as Daffy Dan; the humorous element is in the capable hands of Miss Nancy Laurence as Maggie Clare. Mr. Ridiard Nugent as Larry Leary, and Mr. Walter Wilby as Eben Chobb, and they never failed to keep the audience thoroughly amused; Miss Nellie Shirley is a charming Hestor Norton, and the rôle of Almira is done full justice to by Miss Grace Garside.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by Haley's Juveniles, whose clever performance has been enthusiastically received. Much fun has been created by the farcical sketch *Three of a Kind*, presented by Ethel Arden and George Abel; Mr. Harry Lamore appears with much success in his comedy act, and a flattering reception has been extended to Miss Harriett Vernon in her latest song scena "Emblems"; Mr. J. L. Cunliffe, society entertainer, takes well, and the feats of Jules Kiarno, equilibrist, are of the most daring nature; also in the bill are Lennard and Verriker in pictorial songs, Henry and Tyler in their comedy act, Mr. Leslie Race, vocalist, Martin Henderson in musical speciality, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Roland tops the bill, and in conjunction with Miss Marjorie Russell appears with undoubted success in *The Bachelor's Dream*; O'Malley and Brown create much laughter with their comedy act, and the dancing of Mackintosh and Royal is very smart; Mlle. Haydee introduces her miniature vaudeville theatre with great effect, and Miss Jessie Albini is an accomplished comedienne with good songs; the feats of head and hand balancing by Mart and Pop are really remarkable; also here are Billy Hubbard, eccentric comedian, and the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddies' pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, is here for a short run, and has proved an immense success. Miss Marion is a sprightly and vivacious Robin Hood; Miss Mary Dene is an irreproachable Maid Marion; and Miss Nell Rene is an admirable Will Scarlet. The company is rich in comedians, and with Mr. Harry Rousby as Araminta Koffkake, Mr. Oliver Conroy as Soft Sammy, Mr. Brinsley Smith as the Wicked Uncle, and Conan and Doyle as the two ruffians the fun is naturally fast and furious. Miss Emmie Mappin sings charmingly as Sylvania, the good fairy; Mr. Edwin Webb is seen and heard to advantage as Infernalito; Mr. Bert Cardle is a good Lord Knows Who; the babes are ably represented by Millie and Lillie; and minor parts are well filled. The supernumeraries are numerous and efficient, and the pantomime is produced with a wealth of scenic effect; the various songs and dances are of the best, and a delightful entertainment goes with a swing from start to finish.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Two performances nightly of Mr. William Holland's pantomime, *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp*, are justly rewarded with crowded houses. The title-rôle is admirably represented by Miss Helen Charles, who makes a delightfully piquant and effective hero; Princess Balroubadour is charmingly played by Miss Poppie Holland; Mr. Robb Wilton is an excellent Widow Twankey; and Mr. Bob Selvidge is inimitable as Abanazar. Mr. Kennedy Allen scores heavily as Wishee-Washee; and the three comedy characters are also conspicuous throughout. The cast also includes Miss Beatrice Vere, Miss Frances Haskoll, Miss Bertha Clifton, and Miss Queenie Tilbury. The production is liberally staged. Brown's Royal Bioscope also figures with success.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Leoni Clarke and his numerous troupe of performing birds and animals form an interesting and attractive feature; Mr. Harry Bickley is a comedian of resource, and has made a decided hit; and the more important turns also include those of Mr. Harry McKenzie, comedian; Miss May Knight, comedienne; the Lindons, in *An Ambitious Partner*; Williams' Welsh Minstrels, in a charming vocal entertainment; Rumbo Austin, in a clever comedy and gymnastic act; Mlle. Sylvesto, is an effective contortionist;; and the Hippodrome pictures entertain.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Crowded audiences continue to testify to the excellence of the *Jack and the Beanstalk* pantomime. Mr. George Robey and Miss Ada Reeve are the leading artists in the cast, and the pantomime runs merrily right through, and promises to be one of the biggest successes at this theatre.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Manager, and Lessee, Mr. J. F. Graham; acting-manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—There is no fear of the election campaign interfering with the popularity of the *Babes in the Wood* pantomime, which is running smoothly here. Miss Dorothy Ward, the handsome principal boy, is a prime favourite. She has made the biggest "hit" of any principal boy in recent years. Mark Sheridan and the Brothers Egbert have a big following, and Daisy Dormer continues to delight with her songs and dances. There are large enthusiastic audiences at every performance.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The popular proprietor fully deserves the congratulations showered upon him, breaking all records with his *Aladdin* pantomime. The Brothers Brookes as the Chinese Policemen, are big favourites; they are tip-top comedians, who work hard and most effectively. Miss Ethel Beech, Miss Molly Wynne, and Miss Ray Ford have some excellent songs, and each lady is heartily welcomed. Miss Florence Dudley, the second boy, is a striking success; Miss Millie Doris is a highly amusing Widow Twanki. Unfortunately Cull Pitt (Abanazar) has been suffering with a cold, but he has returned to show that he is the brightest of stars.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*The Fair One with the Golden Locks* continues to attract crowded audiences. It is a delightful production, containing much that amuses the children, and songs and spectacles that entertain the elders.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Worst Woman in London* continues to prove an attraction at this theatre, and is fully justifying a fortnight's engagement. Miss Rose Ralph in the part of Frances Vere displays great capability, and much praise is also due to Mr. A. W. Chappell (Jack Felton), Miss Ada M. Ryder (Ruth Milford), Mr. Felix Pitt (James Milford), Mr. J. B. Shinton (Vincent Lyle), and Miss Susie Beaven (Mathilda Parker).

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Babes in the Wood* is played by a capable company, and the second week performances are being well patronised. A successful tour is assured.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—An enthralling drama *Life's Sweetest Sins*, is attracting good houses this week. The piece contains many thrilling situations, of which the most effective is that which takes place within a submarine boat on the bed of the ocean. Mr. T. Arthur Jones, whose company is responsible for the production, makes a popular hero, and Miss F. Melrose Millett is a clever emotional actress as Doreen Rivers; Mr. Juan d'Alberti undertakes the rôle of Doctor Colbrooke with much credit; and Miss May Neilson and Mr. Fred Rose contribute acceptable humour.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Sam Mayo heads the bill. Some beautiful songs are effectively rendered by Miss Ada Colley, "the Australian nightingale," who has a powerful voice of exceptionally wide range; Daras is a clever up-to-date entertainer; his conjuring tricks are smart, his dancing pleasing, and his mimicry of well-known musicians excellent; there is much genuine, wholesome humour in the sketch entitled *Her Devonshire Dad*, in which Victor Widdicombe is very successful; the Brennans are skilful and graceful dancers; Frank Cass has some good humorous songs; Phil Percival's performance at the piano is greatly appreciated; and entertaining items are contributed by Charles Dare's Minstrels.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The audience became quite enthusiastic over Reano and his band. An amusing comedietta, *Love in a Coffee Shop*, is successfully played by Frank Danby and Miss Nita Alexander; a vocalist with a fine voice is Henry Helme; the Erwins give an exhibition of skilful tumbling; Phil and Nettie Peters are a vivacious couple, whose amusing by-play and dances meet with warm approval; Falco and Eida present a novel performance, illustrating the possibilities of ju-jitsu; loud applause rewards the Sydney James Troupe of Strolling Players for their songs rendered in lively fashion; a charming vocalist with a pleasing voice is Dorothy Watson; and Grant and Grant complete a bright all-round performance.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Borghetti troupe of risley artists are "starring" here with a turn which includes some marvellous feats. Lady Mansell and Juveniles are responsible for a bright and up-to-date entertainment, two of the children being especially clever. A dramatic sketch entitled *The Gambler*, presented by Fred S. Peake and Co., arouses great enthusiasm, and the Haverleys, song illustrators, figure is a chorus which is heartily taken up. Jack Crawley is a versatile comedian; and Harry Tomlin, descriptive vocalist. Dolly England, male impersonator, the Sisters Love, dancers, and the Saletos, head and hand balancers, are other pleasing features in an attractive programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—The coon delineations of Josephine Sabel, a smart and vivacious American comedienne, are very much to the taste of patrons; a clever trick cycling act is given by Fred St. Onge and company, and the "Boys of England," in a bright vocal scena are well received. Walter Stanley is a singer of merit, and Gibbon and Bell give a wonderful tumbling turn, as also do the Laure Cabiacs. Mr. Wilton Heriot and company present an entertaining sketch; Alec Chantrens is a talented French vocalist; and Revil Hall is a smart quick-change voice artist.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—At the head of an attractive programme are Leroux's Monkeys, whose unique act is a source of wonderment; Robins and Collier make a big hit in their humorous speciality, *The Lady and the Porter*, and Blarney and Bland, American eccentrics, are another popular turn; Lillie le Breton, expert lady gymnast, is highly appreciated, and the Warsaw Brothers, comedy musical sketch artists, add to their already big reputation; the Raymond Trio are good instrumentalists and dancers; Neville and Mors appear in an enjoyable sketch; Bessie Lind is a pleasing comedienne; Tom and Neil are amusing knockabouts; and the Hipposcope pictures are good.

CURZON HALL (AMERICAN AND CONTINENTAL CIRCUS).—Organiser and Director, Mr. A. E. Inshaw.—Frequent changes are made in the programme, and this week great attention is aroused by the wonderful performancesc of horses, bears, dogs, and other animals. The comedy business provided by a clever troupe of clowns, headed by Dan Gregory, pleases both young and old.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A beautiful pantomime picture, illustrating the story of Cinderella, is a popular feature here this week, followed by an old-fashioned harlequinade, taken part in by a clever troupe of clowns; *The Web of Fate*, *The Little Flower-seller*, and *The Detective's Bag* are other good subjects; and an acceptable turn is also contributed by Our Charlie.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—The world-renowned Royal Carl Rosa Opera company is appearing in an attractive répertoire, introducing *Don Giovanni*, *Destiny*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, and *Rigoletto*. On Monday Mozart's *Don Giovanni* was given. Mr. Charles Victor in the name-part sang in magnificent style and acted convincingly; Mr. Arthur Winckworth's vocal efforts left nothing to be desired—as Leporello he excelled, and a feature of his performance was his clear articulation. Miss Douglas Wilson played the part of Donna Elvira with credit, and her numbers were much enjoyed; Miss Gertrude Vania was unfortunately prevented by a cold from taking this part, but was seen to distinct advantage in later works during the week; Mme. Gleeson White made a very good Donna Anna, and has a sweet yet powerful voice; Miss Ina Hill, the Zerlina, possesses a pleasing voice, and her numbers were productive of much applause. Mr. Walter Wheatley is a good tenor, and as Don Octavio created a very excellent impression. Mr. Richard as the Commandant was also seen and heard to advantage. The pieces are well dressed, and an augmented band, under Messrs. Eugene Goossens and Van Noorden, does able work.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The Four Amaranths, a quartette of graceful and dainty ladies, give a clever and attractive acrobatic turn; H. C. Lovell and company have a funny sketch in *The Queen of Sheba*; Dick Thomas and Lincoln Taylor, in "Fun on the Midland," are also clever, introducing quick changes; Conway and Leland, one-legged performers, are old favourites, and their acrobatics are much appreciated; J. P. Carroll, a tambourinist of exceptional ability, does a good turn in the way of mimicry of sounds and instruments; Harry Luck sings comic songs to advantage; and Beatrice Willey sings of flowers with success. Luigi Salvini, a boy instrumentalist, also contributes. Pictures complete.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here again with *The Earl and the Girl*, and drawing the usual big houses. Jim Cheese is on this occasion played by Mr. Bert Beswick with conspicuous success; and Miss Ada Waugh is equally successful as Liza Shoddam. Mr. Leslie Owen as Crewe Boodle and Miss Lily Gullick as Elphim Haye also fulfil the respective parts worthily. The choruses are rendered by a strong combination of voices, and the whole production is highly creditable.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop.—*The Rogues of the Turf*, as played by Mr. J. F. Preston's company, is the fare provided here, and in which three important parts are played by three thoroughbred racehorses. Mr. Preston plays Joe Flaxman, the honest trainer, whilst the scheming adventuress Marion is played by Miss Mabelle F. Barlow. The scene depicting the Manchester Racecourse is very well done. After this week the theatre will be closed until Easter, to allow for redecorations.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Cruickshank, the clever musical jester, is the favourite artist here, and evokes tumultous applause at every performance; the Four Garricks contribute a pleasing vocal turn; and Zeta Grey and company are responsible for an amusing Lancashire sketch, which goes well. Other numbers are supplied by Frederic Neiman, ventriloquist; Flo Conelly, comedienne; Yetta, in a dancing act; the Soho Trio, singers and dancers; Syd Garti and Lucky Law in a vocal comedy act; and Theissen's performing dogs.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. J. F. Elliston has exceeded all his previous efforts in the production of his thirtieth annual pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood*, which was staged in a thorough manner on Monday evening last, when a crowded house was delighted with the entire production. The dresses are costly and pretty, and the whole of the scenery beautiful examples of the artist's craft. The book is specially written by Mr. George M. Slater, and produced under the personal direction of Mr. J. F. Elliston. It is full of fun, gaiety, and good humour, and is in the hands of a really clever and capable set of artists, who makes the best of the parts assigned to them. Robin Hood is undertaken by Miss La Belle Morgane with dash and a convincing style, and she has established herself a prime favourite; Miss Lilian Pollard is successful as the principal girl, Maid Marian, her sprightliness and breezy interpretation of the part calling forth well-merited applause. The Sisters Darnton, as Will Scarlet and Margery Daw, make the most of their opportunities; the Babes are represented by two clever juveniles, the Sisters Herbert; Miss Donnie Rita is humorous as Mary Ellen, the Baroness; Mr. Fred Roma as the Baron Tweedledee, is funny from start to finish; Richard the Ruthless and William the Soapless are effectively represented by John Simms-Woolley and Willie Le Brun; Ruhart as Slippy, the Baron's page, has ample opportunities for the display of his abilities; Miss Edith Cornish as Little John and Miss Dolly Ross as Phyllis also deserve praise. Mr. W. H. Howarth is "at home" as Friar Tuck; the Immortals are represented by Miss Maud De Velin (Morning Star), Dot Herbert (Comet), Miss Mamie Stuart and Miss Madge Phyllys (as the Evening and North Stars), and Mr. George Belrose Herne (the Demon Hunter). Specialities are introduced by the Harvard Sextette, Lecardo Bros., and the Doreen Girls. Mr. Frank Seddon is the musical-director, and Mr. Walter McEwan stage-manager.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The holiday programme here has drawn crowded houses. The Four Eugenes, in their refined aerial gymnastic performance; Janette Hall, lady baritone; Tony Black, Scotch comedian; Melia and Mozarabar, Oriental equilibrists, with trained ravens and pigeons; the Westbrooks, in their novelty dancing scena, *The Little Maids from School*; Lawley and Gallafent, in a musical comedietta, entitled *A Chance Acquaintance*; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; Goggin and Davis, in a versatile comedy acrobatic act; Will Owen, the dame comedian; Reginald Eyre's company, in a military play, in an act, entitled *Gentleman, the King*; and the Premier Bioscope comprise the programme.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Miss Edith St. Clare's pantomime of *Aladdin* is here for one week, and is being well supported; Miss Clare gives a dashing representation of Aladdin; and others appearing successfully are Mrfl Fred Russell as Abanazar, and Miss Marian Bradshaw, as Rhadianta, the Geni of the Cave.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, the Excelsior Co.; Manager, Mr. George Barry.—Frisk and Johnson are a pair of mirth-provoking conversationalists and dancers; Mint and Mart are clever and amusing in their novelty act, in which they introduce paper manipulations; Jack Bradley scores a success in his comedy cycle act; as also does Laurie Leyton, boy ventriloquist; Andy Sagan is a refined comedian and clever dancer; and Miss Gladys Wright is a vocalist of no mean ability. High-class animated pictures complete.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—Sidney Cooper and the Tally-Ho Trio present the grand Christmas pantomime *Cinderella* this week, their efforts being crowned with great success. Miss Doris Langden makes an ideal Cinderella; Miss Gladys Soman plays well the part of Prince Charming; Miss Bertha Belmore is most successful as Dandini; Miss Blanche Belmore does well as Cherry; and the part of the Fairy Godmother is capably taken by Miss Fay Desmond. Mr. Fredk. Park is a good Sprightly; as the Ugly Sisters Mr. Charles Wood and Mr. Fred Anderson are droll; Ceesem and Grabem are extremely funny as played by Mr. Erne Chester and Mr. Wm. Donat, and the part of Baron Doonaught is ably taken by Mr. Eric Farr. There is speciality dancing by the Eight Sunrays, a capital troupe.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Mouillot's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, is popular here, and will continue until Saturday next. The book is cleverly written by Mr. Leslie Moreton. Miss Hilda Vining makes an attractive Crusoe, and sings her songs charmingly; Miss Daisy May is also good as Polly; Mr. Matt Powell makes an excellent and amusing Dame Crusoe; Mr. Ernest Sefton as Will Atkins, the freebooter, creates much laughter; Mr. Chas. Resti as Friday accomplishes some very clever conjuring tricks, and delights the audience with his singing and dancing; Miss Mary Pitcairn presents a refined and artistic rendering of Princess Moonshine; Miss Ruby Melbon sings well as Coraline. The cast also includes Mr. Mark Lupino as Billy Crusoe, Mr. Alfred Drayton as Bumper, Miss F. Gordon as Sechelle, Mr. Archie Drew as Davy Jones, Mr. Robertson as Neptune, and Mr. A. Cooke as the Monkey. The pantomime is produced by Mr. J. R. La Fane, under the direction of Mr. Leslie Moreton.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The overflowing audiences and interest taken in Mr. Hart's very charming pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, more than bear out the promise on its production on Christmas Eve; and the clever company, now that the they quite settled down to their respective tasks, more than realise expectations. Miss Nell Emerald as the hero, Jack, is particularly energetic, and already very popular; and Miss Annie Schuberth (whose exquisite vocalism in the part of the Fairy Gleam is quite a leading feature of the production) is an established favourite. Mr. Rowland Hill as Mother Muggles, Mr. Harry E. Ray as the Squire, and Mr. Marriott Edgar as Ladle, the milkman, vie with each other in fun-making and introducing screamingly funny business and patter. In their antics as the Cow the Valdo Bros elicit much laughter; as the village sweep Mr. Kit Keen scores well with his clever coon dance and bone solo; Radford and Valentine's screamingly funny juggling act elicits roars of laughter; Mr. Cyril Thompson sings finely in the part of Gobble; as Margery Miss Jose Collins is bright and charming and very popular; and the beautiful ballets elicit unstinted applause.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor, F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Judging by the attendance and the uncontrolled laughter and hearty applause, *The Forty Thieves* is an undoubted success. It is certainly Mr. Laidler's finest effort here from a spectacular point of view, and the company of comedians are very versatile and smart, and everything goes with a merry swing from start to finish. As Cogia Mr. Fred Spencer is quaint, and his get-up is funny; Mr. Dick Tubb is a big favourite as Ali Baba, and he and little Alf Corri as Hassarac are capital funproducers; as Cassim Baba Mr. Arthur Gibbons acts well; Mr. Chris Le Brun, in his clever impersonation of the Donkey, elicits much laughter; as Ganem Miss Ada Fawn is winning her way to the hearts of her audience; Miss Lesley Gibson is very dainty as Morgiana; Miss Mabel Mannering is a striking figure as Abdallah; there is much merit in Miss Patricia Weldon's impersonation of Selim; and the children's scenas and the dancing of John Tiller's Cherry Girls are features of the pantomime.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The Boissets are here this week, entertaining the audience highly with their boisterously funny and cleverly staged sketch, *A Trip to the Continent*; J. W. Hall, the comedian, is amusing with some good songs; Mathews and Reece, speciality athletes, introduce some clever novelties; Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist, gives an excellent entertainment; Luis Alvarez, Spanish operatic tenor, is heard to advantage in excellent songs; Miss Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealand travelling girl, previous to her dramatic scena called "Lasca" details her stirring adventures cleverly; Madge Osmond, as an ideal Dandy is

comedienne finds favour; Dan Whitley is an exceedingly funny and smart little comedian, who elicits much laughter; and the Palace Perfection Pictures, as usual, prove very entertaining.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*, considerably curtailed, is running merrily here, and is attracting good houses. Miss May Mars as Robinson Crusoe is a great favourite, and evokes enthusiasm with her charming and artistic vocalisation. Miss Violet K. Orme as Polly Perkins sings and dances herself into high favour; and Miss Vera Ray as Fairy Goodenough gives her lines with clearness and emphasis. The comedy element is mainly sustained by Messrs. Sandford and Lyons, who impersonate Captain Kettle and Corkscrew Bill respectively; their comic ditties and smart patter teem with robust, wholesome humour are very diverting, and they display clever and eccentric dancing. Mr. Dave O'Toole (Mrs. Crusoe) and Mr. George Campbell (Billy Crusoe) are also entertaining; Mr. Edgar Budden (Friday) is a nimble dancer and good bone soloist; and among others who render able support warm praise must be accorded Mr. Joe Redfern (Will Atkins) and Mr. Fred A. Marston (Rajah). The choruses are well sung; and the success of the production is materially enhanced by the picturesque scenery and the brilliant electrical effects.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Olive Lenton and company secure hearty applause for their picturesque and charming musical act, *Harvest Time*; Tom Stuart, dramatic and burlesque impressionist, achieves great success; Les Frascettis play on a variety of instruments with skill and artistic expression; May B. Brilliant sings and dances herself into favour; Morris and Marte are excellent in song, patter, and novelty dances; Woolmer Young sings some capital songs; the Eight Boston Belles submit a turn of singing and dancing which is warmly appreciated; Crawford and Johnson, coloured comedy instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers, are cordially received; the Seymons appear in a neat equilibristic juggling act; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Ivan Tschernoff's well-trained ponies, dogs, and pigeons provide a much appreciated turn; Austin Rudd, comedian, evokes warm applause with his humorous and topical songs; Paulton and Doley are clever bicycle comedians; James Hare and company are highly successful in the dramatic and humorous episode, *Wrong 'Uns*; the Krags Trio, gymnasts, perform daring feats in mid air; the Channings submit a refined vocal and musical act; the Robertsons are very smart and clever acrobatic dancers; Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers, are well received; the Maximilian Trio are pleasing comedy equilibrists; Will Musgrave, comedian, and Reg. Beauchamp, grotesque comedian and amusing patterer, give good turns; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—The pretty and delightful musical fantasy, *The Queen of the Fairies*, continues its run here, and is doing good business. Miss Nora Roylance, who sustains the title-rôle, is a graceful singer and dancer; and other fairy characters are charmingly portrayed by Miss Blanche Kinross, Miss Molly Heyward, Miss Marie Montague, Miss Vera Alleyne, and Miss Mamie Ainsworth. Of the mortals Mr. H. E. Garden (Duke) and Miss Florence Lynn (Duchess) are entertaining; Miss Kathleen Storr (Lady Violet) and Mr. Eric J. Langham (Reginald Wane) are a pleasing pair of young lovers; and Mr. Edward Boddy acquits himself admirably as the gardener, Samuel Appleyard. The fairies contribute several choruses and dances in good style.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* has now become very popular, the house being filled at each performance. All the principals have settled down to their work admirably, the pantomime going very smoothly. The scenery is much admired, the electric dances are very attractive, and the costumes are all rich and appropriate.

Theatre Royal.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Ally.—*Robinson Crusoe* is proving very successful, good houses being obtained at each performance. The artists work admirably together, and the principals are rapidly gaining in popularity. The scenery is far above the average.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The programme here is headed with a fine dramatic sketch by John C. Brandon, entitled *The Leaves of Memory*, in which Miss Beaumont Collins presents an intensely powerful exposition of Ruth Challoner, being adequately supported by Messrs. David Baird, Edward Sorley, and J. W. Lawrence. The sketch is excellently staged, the scene being a well appointed drawing-room in St. John's Wood. The Pasquali Brothers do an admirable act as tumblers and equilibrists; Les Rubens score with their musical act *The Two Merry Vagabonds*, the lady especially, being a most accomplished vocalist; Picitt and Lizette do a clever magical act, entitled *The Crazy Cook*, in which about fifty birds and small animals are introduced; Natalia and Diana are expert and graceful gymnasts on the trapeze; Fred Land, eccentric comedian, is successful; and Terry and Tate entertain with song, story, and dance. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Julius Walther, the well-known Carl Rosa tenor, is highly successful here. On Monday evening he contributed in his best style "The Star of Bethlehem" and the "Miserere" tenor solo from *Il Trovatore*. The amusing sketch *Three of a Kind* is capitally played by Ethel Arden's company; the Selbonians do a clever comedy juggling act; Raie Walters, comedienne, is appreciated; Celest does a very expert act on the wire; Nellie Neil is a pleasing comedienne; Arthur Breton's company of pantomimists amuse with *A Sleepless Night*; Harry Palm, comedian, is successful; and Smith and Gibbs do a clever act as speciality gymnasts. The performance closes with excellent animated pictures.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. B. Vivian Edmond's company is here in *The Cotton Spinner*. The emotional part of Mary Prescott is capitally portrayed by Miss Austin and capital work is done by Mr. Vivian Edmonds in the title-rôle; Miss Ethel Vinroy is a convincing Constance Harrington; Mr. Walter Thornton is well cast as Foster Cunningham; and Mr. Geo. Porteous as Arthur and Mr. W. H. Dewhurst as Major Stratton are exceedingly good.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The head of the bill here is occupied by B. A. Rolfe's company, in "Ye Colonial Septette" in "An Old Time Halloween," which includes delightful instrumental music, pretty dances, and beautiful dresses. Webb and Edna Bronston are again welcomed for capital duets; and Ted Gill, Yorkshire tenor, is enthusiastically received. Charles Ure pleases with songs; Ben E. Verity contributes lively dances; the Three Clarks are smart in club-throwing; and Les Zelovas accomplish clever equilibristic feats. Millie and Arthur are delightfully funny in *Domestic Bliss*; and An Unlucky Picnic is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Signor Arvi is mystifying audiences here with his clever illusion, "The Metablescope," which introduces a series of beautiful tableaux. The cycle act of the Selbinis is brimful of clever and exciting items, and roars of laughter greet the efforts of Harry Tate's company, in *Motoring*. J. P. Poole presents Godfrey Prince in an excellent song scena, "The Trumpeter"; and the Leotard Bros., eccentric clowns, are very funny. Albert Barraclough, descriptive vocalist sings capitally; Edie Reynolds delights with violin solos; and the Palace Pictures are interesting.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Mr. George Dance's company on Monday presented *Miss Hook of Holland* to a packed house. Foremost in the cast is Mr. Edmond Russell, who makes of Mr. Hook a quaint and amusing character; Mr. George Mudie, jun., is as good as ever as Ludwick Schnapps, and is to be complimented upon the rendering of his musical numbers; Simon Slinks is a typical loafer as portrayed by Mr. Fred Dark; Mr. Wood Mansey is excellent as Capt. Adrian Paap; and the same may be said of Mr. Arthur Ballance as Bandmaster Van Vuyt; Sally is delightfully played by Miss Gertrude Melville, her acting and singing being of a high order; Miss Cissie Sephton is again seen in the part of Mina, to which she imparts some clever touches; Mr. C. F. Hewett as Lieut. de Coop, Miss Nora Nairne as Freda, Miss Lily Ashton as the old market woman, all do excellent work. A full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. H. A. Dyer, and Mr. P. F. Thompson is the business-manager.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—New and varied pictures, shown on the Ottograph, continue to draw good houses, and excellent turns are given by Agnes Tina, mimic and impersonator, and the Four Panamas, refined comedy entertainers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Luis Hardt is top turn, and meets with a flattering reception; Fanny Robina is an old favourite, and her songs are rendered in capital manner; Poole and Maguire shine in vocal comedy scena; Ida Barr, actress-vocalist, has several good songs artistically rendered; a comedian of the spasmodic order, Ted Waite, is responsible for considerable merriment; and Billie Bint is also a good comedian; Florence Cooper repeats her former successes; Stanley and Vandyke, in a comedy duo on somewhat broad lines, keep the audience convulsed with laughter.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The pantomime week opened here on Monday night with Milton Bode's *Red Riding Hood*, which was greeted by a large audience. In the name-part Miss Babs Lloyd was very taking and is an exceptionally clever dancer; Mr. Laurie Wylie Marmalade had any amount of comic business; Mr. Rolanda Martin Johnny Stout was a good all round boy; Mr. John E. Conan was capitally got up as Dame Trot, and very amusing; Mr. Frank Lilliput made the most of Simple Simon; Boy Blue was in the hands of Miss Aimee Roberts, who made a dashing and rollicking principal boy; Miss Carda Walker was a charming Fairy Queen; Miss Ruby Wentworth shows to advantage as Tom; Miss Blanche May was a dainty Bo-Peep; Mr. Stanley Fields, Mr. J. F. Smith, and Miss Jessie Smith were all most amusing. The variety show also was very strong, consisting of the Marvellous Pattersons, Mr. Laurie Wylie with his mimicking mannikin, and Zellini, a funny juggler.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—An unprecedented success is the verdict pronounced upon the pantomime *Dick Whittington*. The principals have already established themselves firm favourites, and nothing but praise is heard on all sides of the sprightliness of the lady artists and the capabilities of the comedians. Miss Isabelle Dillon as Dick is exceptionally successful, and charms all by her dash and versatility; Miss Gladys Guy as Alice is positively bewitching, and is an immense favourite; Miss Blanche Astley is earning a great reputation; Mr. Mark Lester (Idle Jack), Mr. Phil Smith (Matilda), Mr. Arthur E. Godfrey (Captain Scupper), Mr. Arthur Leslie (Bill Oakum), and Mr. Tom E. Sinclair (Fitzwarren) are the making of this year's production. The pantomime is assured of a prosperous run.

Theatre Royal.—General Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*Mother Goose* is now in full swing and running smoothly. The artists have fully mastered their respective parts, while the chorus are doing excellent work. The principals have made names for themselves in the district, and good houses is the rule nightly.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Cyril Clensy and company are here in *The Last Chance*, a unique sketch, introducing in a novel way the excellent powers of Mr. Clensy himself as a mimic. A great treat is provided by Miss Lydia Yeamans, who delighted two large audiences on Monday with "Sally in our alley," and other interesting numbers; the Quaint Q's, a quartette of gifted vocal comedians, vary melodious harmony by amusing antics; Keen and Waller, comedy acrobats, gain applause for a clever turn; and Miss Lily Burnand makes a great success in her catchy songs; the Glenroy troupe of speciality dancers are experts in their particular line; Ugo Nap, in his scena *Home Without a Mother*, once more commands appreciation with his smart sayings; and J. C. Scatter, the Tyneside comedian, is a good raconteur; Will Dacey and Nellie Lewis, in song and dance, and the Bioscope complete a fine evening's entertainment.

Palace and Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Good business rules here. Marie Santoi and her merry Japs, in *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*, form a most attractive item, and proves very entertaining; Amy Anderson and company are another successful turn in their comedy scena *The Banana Queen*; Steel and Laing score in a comedy acrobatic singing and dancing act; Wyze and Adna, Herbert Rule (comedian), Rose D'Aulby (chorus comedienne), and Margit and Lener (eccentric acrobats), also win approval. The Palace Perfection Pictures complete.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mrs. R. Stewart McKim and Mr. Thos. Courtice; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Carr Loates' company in *At the World's Mercy* commenced a two-performances-a-night engagement on Monday. In the principal part Miss Cissie Milford has many telling scenes, and soon became a favourite; Mr. Bert Leighton gives a robust rendering of Captain Manley; Mr. Carr Loates, Mr. G. D. Knight, Miss Margaret Butler, and Miss Vera Raynor contribute satisfactory performances.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are paying a visit with *The Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet, Merry Wives of Windsor, Sleigh Bells*, and *David Garrick*. The first-named was presented on Monday. Mr. Allan Wilkie's reading of Shylock is good, the revengeful side of the character being painted in vivid colours; Mr. Alexander Marsh gives a steadfast and earnest delineation of Bassanio; Mr. Sinclair Neill supplies a picturesque portrayal of the Prince of Morocco; Mr. Houston Meharry is a quietly effective Antonio; and Mr. John Paley is well placed as Gratiano; Salanio and Salarino are ably interpreted by Messrs. Stanley Vine and Frank Forbes-Robertson; Mr. Eugene Wellsley makes a passionate and tender Lorenzo; Mr. F. H. Wilson plays the Jew Tubal efficiently; and Mr. Arthur Keane treats the humours of Launcelot quaintly; Miss Carrie Baillie as Portia is very successful; her comedy is good, her emotions well simulated, and her lines given with fine point and discretion; Mrs. Allan Wilkie is a charming and natural Narissa; and Miss Hilda Plowright makes a sweet Jessica.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Achmed Ibrahim's troupe of Ten Bedouin Arabs accomplish a series of unique acrobatic achievements; Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in a novel act, *Fun at a Railway Station*, cause much laughter by their knockabout business and eccentric dances; The Adams are applauded in their funny cycle act; Harry Keeble is a clever and amusing ventriloquist; Gladys Wells renders a couple of songs in excellent voice; Les Bollingers are interesting Parisian rag painters; Harry Wenburn scores heavily in song and dance; the Sisters Draycott gain great applause for their vocal harmony; and the entertainment concludes with an up-to-date show of pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Here we have Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, on a return visit, with *The Bondman*. Mr. Philip Darien furnishes a powerful impersonation of Jason; Mr. Stanley Harrison is responsible for a fine study of Michael Sunlocks; Mr. W. H. Rotherham once more gains applause for his clever work as Grandfather and Father Ferrati; Miss Madge Lanerton does full justice to the rôle of Mrs. Fairbrother; and Miss Violet Macaree, the Greeba, meets with much well-merited applause.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Host Barnard's programme includes Edna Deno, a dainty little dancer; Russell Carr, in smart ventriloquial act; Phillips and Terry, with their sketch, *The Revolt of Man*; Oliver Martyn's patter takes well; Elara is assisted in his act by a cleverly trained dog; Arthur Woodville pleases with songs and neat dancing; roars of laughter are created by the Six Brothers Luck's company in *Lift-ems, Ltd.*; and Lacey's Erascope has an entire change of films.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—The Marvellous Child Trio are surprising the audiences by their skilful contributions on the 'cello, violin, and piano; Rose Cambry pleases with "Come out and sit on the balcony"; Will Avis is a conjurer who quite mystifies Gaiety patrons; Picardo proves a dexterous juggler; Lylie Read, juvenile vocalist, is a warm favourite; Ardell and Odel cause much amusement in *Quarter to Nine*; and George Lennard and the Edisonograph complete.

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, has proved immensely popular. Miss Florence Carlile (Robinson Crusoe), Miss Kittie Liske (Polly Perkins), Mr. Ally M. Benson (the Dame), Mr. W. Bland (Billy Crusoe), Miss Rena Rees (Captain Kettle), and Miss Violet Thorne (Jack Harkaway) make decided hits. Mr. Harry Daniels (Man Friday) and his quaint and clever canine companions are the delight of the juveniles. Miss Florence Parkinson (Midshipman Easy) is a bright and attractive young artist; Miss Hilda Hemus (Spirit of the Ocean), a gifted vocalist, acts easily; Miss Hettie Matthews and Miss Clara Nottingham as Tom Bowling and Dick Seabreeze, and Miss Nellie Ellis as Japheat Faithful do well; as also does Miss Kitty Chester (Fairy Liberty). Mr. Tom Lewis is typically accurate is dress, face, and manner as the bold, bad Atkins. The music was composed and arranged by Mr. Albert Rigby (musical-director), and the production is stage-managed by Messrs. Willie Leigh and John Walters, under the personal supervision of Mr. and Mrs. John Walters.

Victoria Rooms.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—Boswell's circus continues to attract large houses, assisted by Kame Yasuda, the wonderful little Jap; the Nondescripts; Crusoe, feet equilibrist; and other good turns.

CHORLEY.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees, Geo. T. Santé, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank Santé.—Mr. E. G. Kimberley's capital company appeared here on Monday in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. As Captain Frank Carsdale Mr. William Vane gave an exceptionally fine rendering, Mr. Edward Bikker being particularly good as General Kingsley, V.C.; Captain George Darrell was in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Fare; Messrs. Will Percy and Dick Seddon as Quiney O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer respectively are quite exhilarating; the two little drummer boys are sympathetically played by Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas; Miss Violet Ingram giving a really fine study of Margaret Rivers; and Miss Violet Langley being particularly vivacious as Molly Meadows.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—*The Soldier's Wedding*, improved in dresses, scenic effects, and other ways, is on a return. Mr. Matthew Boulton maintains in worthy style the heroic part of Jack Brown; Miss Dorothy Richardson does every justice to her part of Nancy Lee; Mr. W. J. Butler as Charles Courtenay makes a capital villain, and receives great assistance from Miss Nita Langford as Julie de Beauvrias; the rôle of Colonel Jas. Graham is nicely depicted by Mr. Cyprian Matthews; and a deal of fun is provided by Mr. Will Scott as Tom Spratt.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Howards, mental telepathists, are the big line here this week, and submit plenty of interesting experiments; Jean and Josie, billed as the greatest of living contortionists, show wonderful ability; Captain Kettle (the silent performer) reappears with his coin and card manipulating; Warriner, mandolinist, is capable, hard-working, and entirely successful; Julian Ross, light comedian; Harry Sellars, comedian; and Elsie Kerry, comedienne, contribute good numbers, which are much applauded, and the pictures are effective.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company present *The Old Folks at Home*. Mr. Frank Liston is well suited in the character of the villainous Lord Howard Kenilworth; and as Andrew Ross, Mr. Geo. Steel makes a capital hero; Hugh Lovell is in the capable hands of Mr. Ian Fleming; Mr. Henry Sainsbury and Miss Clara Santley as the old folks are repeatedly applauded; Mr. Vincent Wardle as dumb Jock displays ability; and as Sam, a negro, Mr. Richard Loft is good; Miss Maud Warburton is a great success as Dorothy Robin; Miss Kate Froud is a clever Patricia Bathurst; and Miss Ada Frank and Mr. Geo. Scully is responsible for the comedy element.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, opened a second week's engagement here, and is drawing good houses. The principals continue to please, and the play is highly enjoyed.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—*A Vision of Japan*, presented by O'Hana San and company is much enjoyed; Barnard's Mannikins, in *A Coon's Revelry*, are capitally worked and staged; Marjory Russell proves herself a clever magician; Arthur Slater is the clever-ist whistler heard here for a long time; Harry Clyst, Welsh singing collier, sings some fine songs; the Creedons introduce club-swinging and boxing with good effect; and Lina Leslie and Maie Rello, comediennes, contribute catchy songs.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—For the second week Mr. Arthur Carlton presents his successful pantomime, entitled *Cinderella*, and, as last week, houses are filled in all parts. The songs are changed and several local topical themes introduced with effect. Miss Ella Willmer is a general favourite as Cinderella.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The top turn this week is the up-to-date farcical absurdity *The Bailiff; or, Albert Bruno in Possession*. The whole scene, from the start to the finish keeps the house in laughter. Another amusing sketch, entitled *Toplitsky; or, The End of the World*, is presented by Messrs. Hayman and Franklin's company, and absolutely takes the house by storm. The Sisters Lizette, lady acrobats, contribute a good turn; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna are fine sand dancers; Mr. Ian B. Vanbert's illusions and smoke pictures are exceedingly clever; Louie Belrose is a dainty singer and dancer; and Charlotte Levey, comedienne, and Harry Cook, comedian, are also entertaining.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, is in its second week here, and business is exceptionally brisk. The scenery and dresses have been much admired, and the well-balanced chorus has given great satisfaction; Mr. Otto Mann's orchestra also winning approval. Miss Kathleen Courtney is a pretty and frolicsome Mary Gibbs; Miss May Marshall is delightful as Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Nancy Hervyn gives a splendid rendering of Madame Jeanne; Miss Lilian Birtles is good as Lady Elizabeth Thanet; and Miss Winifred Kinckby makes an aristocratic Duchess of Minster. Mr. Theodore Leonard is full of quaint acting as Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Tom Shelford's dry humour admirably fits the rôle of Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Ernest Darrell exactly fits the part of Earl of St. Ives; Mr. Reg. Sheldrick contributes his full quota as Slithers; Mr. Harry Fairfax is successful as Lord Eynsford; and a word of praise is also due to Messrs. R. M. Strachan (Mr. Toplady), Henry De Solla (Mr. Beavis), Murray Stephen (Mr. Amalfy), and H. Player (taxi-cabby).

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Walter Gibbons and Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. Jay is putting forward a capital bill of fare here. Vesta Victoria is a sterling comedienne, and her reception is a cordial one; the Three Laurels give a smart acrobatic and tumbling act; Jerold Robertshaw's company, in *The Private Detective*, is well received; Horace White introduces a novel ventriloquial act; Sylvia Cavalho, Clifford Pembroke, and company vividly render the sketch *The Signal*; George Gilbey is a droll comedian; Daisy Hurdle is a neat comedienne; Rauschle's impersonations of great men are worth seeing; and Russell Brandow is an expert dancer.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The twice-nightly system is arranged here for a few weeks, and Messrs. Silverstone and Wright's company played to two packed houses on Monday with *The Nihilist*. Mr. George Mitchell as Ivan gives a clever performance; Mr. O. Silverstone as Prince Alexander shows to advantage; as Karl Orloff, Mr. Cowell Clark is good; Mr. Henry Wright and Miss Jessica Ford are responsible for the comedy parts as Bobbie Smart and Katrina Zindoff; Miss Florry Kelsey is fine as Princess Olga; and Miss Edna Clare makes a pretty Alexina Orloff.

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—The bill is topped here by Richard Corbin with his dogs; Thorne and company, in their sketch *Mr. Burglar*, are humorous; Johnnie Walker, comedian, is capital in song and story; Reg Fox is a clever ventriloquist; Dainty Dolly Clyffe, the child comedienne, is great; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde give a pleasing turn; and other good shows are the St. Johns, musical comedians, and Rowlands and Ford, Scotch and Welsh comedians.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company is here in *Was She to Blame?* Mr. Frank Anderson as the broken-down actor William Clark shows much skill; Mr. Henry Rutland is a capital Vicar of Beechwood; Mr. George Langden brings out well the villainies of Frank Roselle; and Mr. Geo. Keene does well as Captain Courtney. Miss Cissie St. Elmo is an excellent Mrs. Roselle; Miss Maud Hastings invests Lilian Norman with charming simplicity; Miss Ellen Beverley is a capable Mary Norman; and comedy parts are well portrayed by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun. as Timothy Swales, Mr. A. Smith as Jim Harford, Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales, and Miss Florence Steyne as Alice Firearms. The piece is elaborately dressed and mounted.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr Arthur Carlton's pantomime *Puss in Boots* continues to draw large and representative audiences. The various artists are now quite familiar with their parts, and everything goes with a good swing. The various chorus songs are speedily taken up, and the dancing is all that can be desired. The speciality this week is the Zaid Trio of Moorish acrobats, whose various feats provoke the heartiest approval.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—The star turn this week is provided by Phil Herman, a vocal comedian whose quietly humorous songs and stories meet with deserved appreciation; the Richards Trio are remarkably clever knockabout comedy acrobats; the Four Markies, in a vocal and instrumental scena, prove themselves artists of first-class ability; Ridiculous Recco submits an acrobatic skit which creates roars of laughter; the Two Wiltons as duettists and dancers are eminently successful; the Forsyths, in a sketch *The Tramp in the Nursery*, are entertaining fun-makers; and Vi Laurie, comedienne, sings and dances in a manner most pleasing. The Bioscope concludes an up-to-date bill.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr Herbert Taylor.—The principal turn *A Society Woman*, presented by Alan Holt and company, is brimful of excitement, which culminates in a realistic battle between a man and a woman. Some finished and refined singing is done by the Quality Quartette, the audience demonstrating in no uncertain way their unequivocal appreciation of the artists' efforts; Walter King is quite at home in the comic department, and proves a very popular entertainer; the Pichel Troupe do some daring acrobatic feats with remarkable skill, agility, and precision; Blanche and Powell are responsible for an attractive instrumental and vocal number; and Minnie Wheaton's dances find universal favour.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* is here this week, admirably staged. Miss Doris Brookes as Molly Vernon proves herself a very capable actress; Capt. Caversham is forcibly played by Mr. Richard Ferris, who is ably assisted by Miss Lydia Mannington as Marian Franklyn; Mr. Cecil Mannering is to be commended for his excellent portrayal of Jack England; Miss Maggie Hobart as Rosie Seymour gains the sympathies of the audience; Mr. Joseph Millaine distinguishes himself as the Rev. Robert Everton; and the part of James Sutton is in the capable hands of Mr. George Daiper. The comedy parts of Dick Punch and Isabella Jones are filled by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin and Miss Maimie Thorpe, who keep the audience in continuous laughter; and Mr. R. Chester does well as Detective Weathersby.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—*Robinson Crusoe* is being performed here this week by Mr. Wm. Watson's company. The Waldrons (Joe and Etty) as John Willie and Mary Crusoe keep the house in continuous laughter; Mlle. De Rose is very successful in the title-part; Hilda Claremont as Pollie Parkin uses her fine voice to advantage, and has an excellent reception. A realistic imitation of the crocodile is given by Mr. Bondene; Lambert and Butler are very funny as the two policemen; Wreckeross has a capable exponent in Cliff Dacre, who has a capital voice; the singing and dancing of the Sisters Gaze are exceedingly well received; J. H. Hawtrey as the cannibal king sings very well; and Dick Nash as the pet dog is very amusing. Phil Lester and Lem Naylor do well as Mrs. Crusoe and Captain Blizzard; Rene Ralph as Jack and Billy Watson as Will Atkins ably sustain their parts; and specialities are introduced by the Three Royal Temples, Bendene, and Verrière.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; stage-manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—The bill here is headed by the Canworths, in an instrumental and vocal act. Their performance is clever and refined, and wins unstinted applause. The Australian Bush Boys, in an original vocal and dancing act, are a success; Tom Isherwood excels as a comedian and descriptive vocalist; humour is liberally provided by Peakman and Walsh, comedy jugglers; a highly commendable turn is that of the Cliffords, in a vocal speciality, "My Dainty Cigarette." Dot Moss, comedienne and banjoist; the Lindos, comediennes and dancers; and a capital display of animated pictures complete a good programme.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened their second week on Monday with *Carmen*, which was presented before a very large and appreciative audience. Mlle. Zelie De Lussan was particularly fine, her charming and artistic acting and excellent vocalism in the title-rôle being greatly admired. As Don José Mr. Philip Brozel did full justice to the part, and Mr. Charles Moorhouse had a well-deserved encore for his rendering of "The Toreador." Miss Raymond Amy as Michaela, Miss Mordon as Frasquita, Miss Matthews as Mercedes, Mr. F. Davis as Il Remendado, Mr. R. Cliffe as Il Dancairo, Mr. Matthews as Morales, and Mr. H. Brindle as Zuniga were all excellent in their respective parts.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat* entered on the second week, and is now running with great success.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*The Babes in the Wood*, Messrs. Cullen and Carthy's pantomime, concludes to-night after a very successful twelve nights' engagement.

Empire. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. March.—The prominent position here is held by Mr. Joe Peterman and company in their sketch, *Slaterstein, Ltd.*; in a sensational cycle act Mr. Arthur Kenny calls forth loud applause; Miss Flo D'Orville as a *danseuse* is a capable and painstaking artist; the Brothers Corcoran score successfully in a clever musical act; Mr. Bert Marsden's impersonations are extremely good; and Miss Daisy Hicks is an engaging comedienne with catchy songs. Also appearing are Eadie and Ramsden, smart comedy artists; and Dancit, expert clog-dancer. The Empire pictures conclude.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The programme submitted here this week includes the Max Tourbillon troupe of bicycle acrobats: Otta and Olga, in a musical act; Werde Brothers, acrobatic eccentrics; the Three Sisters Eston, comediennes; the Arbas, triple bar performers; Ernest Tilbury, vocalist; Vesta Nixon, comedienne; George Reeves, quaint comedian; Johnnie Wilkinson and Nora Layton, duologue artists; and the Bioscope.

DUDLEY. — Opera House. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*Dick Whittington*, produced by Mr. Wm. Pardoe, is charmingly put on here. Miss Lottie Holland again scores a big success as Dick, having a prepossessing and attractive appearance and an excellent voice; Miss Nellie Rose is a worthy supporter as principal girl; Miss Rose Finnettie acts with refinement and animation in the part of Lord Dedbroke; Miss Elsie Kedward as Princess Precioso is a charming personage; another natural and pretty part is played by Miss Beattie Howard as Miss Khan Tellum. Mr. Geo. Hyam is Idle Jack, and his original humour keeps his audience merry. He is ably assisted by Mr. Alf. Grady as Jim, and Mr. Will Robb as Captain Rinnacle. Mr. Joe Venora as the Emperor of Morocco, Mr. Tom Hulme as Fitzwarren, and Mr. Jimmy Wood as the Cook are all successful; and the skilful antics of Mona Pauli as the Cat and the singing of Mr. Tom Griffitt (King Rat) are much applauded.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—The programme is headed by the Derrington Family, sensational cyclists; the Four Louberts, in a pantomimical act, comprised of dancing, tumbling, and real good comedy, have been a great attraction; Chandos and Constable, in their absurdity *Fluffie*, are well received; as are also George Porter (Tyrolean vocalist), Ernest Clifford (comedian and dancer), Jessie Ward (a dainty comedian), and Little Dot Wright (juvenile comedienne). The Empire Pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Robert Arthur's annual, *Cinderella*, was produced here on Monday, and a notice appears elsewhere.

King's Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Alfredo Marschall occupies place of honour, and goes through some marvellous feats, his most sensational item being the catching on his neck of a mountain cannon weighting 400lb.; the Brothers Long give a good exhibition of wooden-shoe dancing; Maud Courtney scores a decided hit with her Yankee ditties; Ethel Stephenson sings Tosti's "Good-bye" in charming style; Charles Woodward is a huge favourite; Mr. C. keeps his audience highly amused; Nina Gordon brings down the house with her clever impersonations; the Camille Lavis Trio prove experts in the dancing line; and a remarkable picture of a fair in Brittany is shown by the Kingscope.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A strong attraction here is *Drink*, which is admirably presented by Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre and company. Mr. Hardacre himself as Coupeau furnishes a pi

their specialities is given by the Nine Kremos, a troupe of risky acrobats second to none in this kind of exhibition; the Casey Army, with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey, contributes a series of Casey Court revels; John Macaulay makes a hit as a ballad vocalist; Fred Elton provides entertainment at the piano in his sketch *On Board an Ocean Liner*; Charles Vincent sings an amusing medley of songs and parodies; and that excellent comedian, W. F. Frame, supplies a couple of his usual good turns; while the programme is further strengthened by Tom Pryce and Miss Masson's duologue *The Lude's Wooing*, and by a fine set of Bioscope pictures.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke; Manager, Mr. Talbot Cooke.—Three or four performances a day have been among the holiday week's arrangements at Mr. Cooke's popular place of amusement, where crowded audiences have enjoyed the liberal entertainment provided. Siberia, the special item on the bill, holds its own as one of the most successful of Mr. Cooke's many circus spectacles.

MOSS' CARNIVAL.—Manager, Mr. W. Campbell Milne.—The Waverley Market has been visited by endless crowds during the past week, and the business done in the side-shows, merry-go-rounds, &c., has been well-nigh unprecedented; while standing room only could be had within the enclosure reserved for chairs in front of the public performance platform. The programme here remains unchanged, the artists engaged having evidently far from exhausted their popularity.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*Red Riding Hood* has entered upon her second week, and the pantomime, which is essentially one for children, and in which so many talented juvenile artists appear, bids fair to maintain its popularity. The revival of the comic harlequinade, with Mr. Steve Asher as Clown, Mr. Joe Clark as Harlequin, Miss Letine as Columbine, Mr. Frank Stathan as Pantaloon, and Mr. Mike McClusky as Policeman, is immensely popular, and the more so because it is made local and topical with a continuous change. Much credit also is due to Mr. Percy M. Dunsford, the acting-manager who is responsible for this year's Exeter pantomime, and to Miss Maud Tucker, under whose superintendence the special dresses have been executed.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—At the top of the bill are Mr. E. H. Bostock's highly-educated Baboons introduced by Capt. Graham, who is loudly applauded; it is a return visit this week of The Romps and other turns are Arthur Hickman ("Simply a Singer"), Blanche and Zena (in their clever act with racing cycles), Sadie Simpson (a clever comedienne and dancer), and Billy French (wooden-shoe dancer). Yangar, the West African wonder worker, is also very accomplished.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—The *Aladdin* pantomime entered upon its second week on Monday. The success of this, Mr. R. C. Buchanan's latest enterprise, has been unprecedented. At matinées and evening performances alike the theatre has been more than packed, to the unfeigned delight of Mr. Thomas C. Browne, the general manager of the company. As the Princess Miss Lily Lonsdale continues to charm with her presence and her singing, an observation which also applies to Miss Mabel Hind as Aladdin. Miss Margaret Vincent as Electra has also a nice sweet voice. Ernie Myers, Tom Carrick, J. G. Aitken, and the Brothers Fiman provide fun unlimited.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's répertoire company is here this week. On Monday *Almost His Bride* was performed, Mr. David McFarlane makes excellent use of his opportunities as the Earl of Ulswater; Mr. Percy Warlow gives good support as Squire Rowland; and Mr. A. F. Dudley is a great favourite as Philip Rowland. The villain is in the good hands of Mr. R. F. Stacey; Miss Louie Peebles gives a clever interpretation of Mona Gilchrist; and Ruth Gilchrist is ably portrayed by Miss Adele Liddon. Miss Lilly Prescott shows marked ability as Myra Thorne. The comedy element is in the hands of Miss Nellie Hook and Mr. Pritt, who create roars of laughter. On Wednesday and Thursday *A Woman's Passion* was staged.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Mr. Nevill Graham's pantomime company is here with *Aladdin*. Mlle. Lucretia ably fills the title-rôle, and she is well supported by Miss Lilian Earle as the Princess. Somewhat in the nature of a novelty is the appearance of Miss Harriett Loyd as the Widow Twankey, in which she wins success; the Emperor of Mr. Geo. Howard and the Abanazar of Mr. Wilfred Lyndon are capably played; the Astrays are amusing as Chinese policemen, and also give a clever acrobatic turn; Sinclair's Four Parisian Girls introduce some clever dancing; and Cissie and Charlie Clark give a vocal sketch "The Scarecrow." The chorus is powerful, the dresses pretty, and the scenery effective.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—A very acceptable return visit is being paid this week by the Vays, who portray *Life in the Slums* with clever comedy and real pathos; Kirk and Saraski, described as the girl aquatic marvels, are appreciated; a most acceptable item on the bill is Albert Wyndham's presentation of *Prince Arthur*, in which Mr. Wyndham is ably assisted by Miss Mona Shepherd; Marice and Maurice, vocalists, are well liked; Tiny Arnold, a diminutive singer and dancer, is a favourite; Khan and Khan, in their illusionary and second-sight entertainment, are pleasing; R. K. Dunning, ventriloquist; Harry Morris, character comedian and raconteur; and the Kingscope do good turns.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bokam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Bokam's presentation of Mr. Chas. Barnard's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, has made a hit here. During the holidays many would-be patrons were turned away, and the attendance has been gratifying. The principals have added several items since the opening night, and their topical gags meet with approval.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—*The Dollar Princess* is making records here, and the sight of "House Full" boards an hour before the curtain rises needs no further comment to emphasise its popularity.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fred. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—*Aladdin* continues on his victorious career here, and, thanks to Harry Tate, Malcolm Scott, Happy Fanny Fields, and Bessie Butt, the holiday crowds who have thronged the theatre have been treated to a surfeit of fun.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—The D'Oyly Carte company is now in its last week, and *The Mikado* has been proving their trump card, though the other operas are by no means neglected.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—Exigencies of space made our last week's notice of *Mother Goose* extremely brief, but we must place on record the hit made by Miss May Moore Duprez, "the jolly Dutch girl," who now plays the part of Gretchen.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—To the country crowds who flock into Glasgow at the New Year time a visit to the Princess's pantomime is regarded as an essential part of their programme, and *Willie Winkie* has more than fulfilled their expectations as regards the fun and enjoyment to be found there.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's new drama *The Bad Girl of the Family* is here. Miss Violet Crossley is an excellent Bess Moore, acting with a depth of feeling that quickly wins the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Richard A. Greene plays Lieut. Richard Marsh in fine style, speaking his lines with admirable point; Miss Daisie Cook invests Gladys Erskine with charming grace; the many villainies of Harry Gordon are convincingly shown by Mr. George Montford; Barney Gordon is made the most of by Mr. Luke Forster; and Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman sustains the part of Lord Erskine. Miss Margaret Tueskie portrays Honour Moore in powerful fashion; Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle causes a good deal of legitimate mirth, being laudably aided by Miss Amy Randolph as Sally Smithers; and Mr. George Belmore gives a clever performance of Jerry Holmes.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—At this season of fun and frivolity there is still a public for strong domestic drama, and the fact is proved by the visit of Mr. Frank Lindo and his company in *Home, Sweet Home*. As the young fisherman hero Stephen Armitage Mr. Lindo gives an excellent performance, and the character of Joan is ably acted by Miss Marion Wakeford. The company otherwise is a well-balanced combination, and the play is picturesquely staged.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Reynolds.—Gobert Belling and his educated donkeys provide a capital holiday item here. The Smythson Comedy Company contribute a lively sketch; lots of fun is caused by the antics of Griffin and Ardel; Albert Rees is an entertainer of merit; the singing of Tom Moore is much appreciated; the Sarnthaler Sextette contribute their characteristic songs; the De Breans take well in a Japanese entertainment; Maud and Sidney Wood give a smart show; John Warren's magical display is full of good things; and Maggie May and Frank Haskell complete an attractive programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—Constantine Bernardi, protean artist, heads the bill here, and gives a wonderful performance. Leo Dryden once more delights the audience with his stirring chorus songs; Bijou Russell is an established favourite here, and has to work hard accordingly; L. Charlier, French ventriloquist, &c., takes well; Chas. Ulrick, the barrel king, once more displays his ability; Florence and Rose Showell are clever duettists; Alvan Correze is a juggler of merit, and his assistant, Keith, is very funny; Alma, at the piano, and Silvo, with his musical glasses, being also included in the list of holiday attractions.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Jas. Willard and company present the sensational sketch *The Ace of Hearts*. The old favourites Howard and Harris are always sure of a good reception; Sibb and Sibb are responsible for a clever double trapese act; in *Much Ado About Nothing* Baker and De Sales are creators of merriment; Zanora and Burg in their comedy cycling act get through many clever things which tend to amuse; Jack Henri, Scotch comedian, and Allan Hanbury, patter comedian, also add to the evening's enjoyment; and Maidie Burker is a neat and dainty chorus vocalist. Stewart and Morgan are responsible for a double vocal turn, and their reception is of a flattering nature. The Palascope concludes.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Moran and Wiser are responsible for a novel entertainment of hat throwing; the Eight Lancashire Lads pay a return visit, and are exceedingly popular; the Three Van Dammes in a comedy acrobatic sketch accomplish a lot of excellent tumbling; Harry Drew, the Welsh basso, has a capital voice, and renders his various numbers pleasingly; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden are seen to advantage in an original comedy act which is productive of mirth; Will Cornish's hand-bell selections are appreciated fully; Charles Cardow as a comedian makes a successful appearance; and Mina Denvil is a comedienne with a good voice. A wrestling tournament, including fourteen of the champion heavyweight wrestlers of the world, is proving of interest. The usual Bioscope films terminate a capital evening's enjoyment.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The star turn here this week is provided by J. H. Harris, who received quite an ovation for his contributions. Bob Campbell, one-legged comedian and dancer, is most amusing; Miss Louie Frayne displays talent as a post-horn soloist; Dio Berry, the singing shoe black, is loudly applauded; and Mattie Carson, a chic comedienne, is much admired. The Bioscope is much enjoyed by the large audiences.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe's répertoire company opened on Monday with *Jane Shore*. Mr. Woulfe cleverly interpreted the part of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Wm. Buson was admirable as King Edward IV., Mr. Chas. M. Julian as Anthony Yeast and Mr. F. Branigan as Sir William Catesby well sustained their parts; Miss Edith Loraine, in the title-rôle gave a clever interpretation. *Lady Godiva, Robin Hood*, and *The Merchant of Venice* are also billed.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Owners, Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—The Lafaille Troupe are clever acrobats; Coram, the ventriloquist, gets a fine reception for a real good act; Miss Maude Vera sings two capital songs; the Dancing Gilberts provide a smart dancing turn; Miss Lillian Lowe sings tastefully; the Lovelaces, with illustrated songs, have a good reception; and Roi Beavis, conjurer, has some novel tricks; Captain Ellis and Son, musicians, also appear; and the Palascope concludes an up to standard performance.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An excellent programme is presented here by the Monarch Picture and Variety Co. At the top of the bill is Empress, handcuff expert, who performs some astonishing feats; The Bells, in a comedy duo, meet with a gratifying reception; Mr. Andy Hanson, comedian, is entertaining; Miss Gertie Moore is a charming soubrette; the Delmores, song and dance artists, are worthy of mention; and Annie Anderson is a capital descriptive vocalist. The Monarch pictures are novel and entertaining.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Starred for this week is Graham, the human marionette, who pays a welcome return with his unique performance; Delaforce and Hartley, Transatlantic drolls, are very smart in patter, dancing, and singing; Phillips and Bristow, vocalists and dancers, are good; Mollie Seymour, comedienne and violinist, is accorded well-deserved recognition; Roberts, in his sporting dog act, performs some very clever feats; Rose and Bud are mirth-provoking comedy sketch artists; and Shirley and Ransome present their playlet, *Jim's Pal*, with skill; the Edisonograph completes.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Several new songs and dances have been introduced in Mr. Edward Graham Falcon's pantomime *Cinderella*, which is a big success.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Four Royal Scots appear with great success in a musical and vocal novelty act; Barney Vox is a first-rate ventriloquist; Sid Bedford and Co. are popular with their sketch *The Second Mrs. Chester*; Arthur Holland's song-scenes are well received; Syd. Crosley is a very funny comedian; and Bert Beecham scores with his songs.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—For the holiday week Mr. Charles Constant's company is attracting full and delighted houses with *Florodora*. Mr. Arthur Lenville as Tweedlepunch has a part that suits him admirably; Mr. Robert Hine as Frank Abercoed sings and acts in finished style; the part of Captain Arthur is exceedingly well handled by Mr. Eric Deane; and Mr. Edward Chester makes the most of his opportunities as Mr. Gilfain; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores contributes a charming portrayal; Miss Fannie Holmshaw essayed the rôle of Lady Holyrood effectively; and great praise is also due to Miss Josephine Ellis for her speciality dances.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The attractive programme provided here for the holiday week is headed by Drum and Major, whose entertaining sketch keeps the audience in a merry mood; Johnson and Devere accomplish several clever feats on cycles; Winona and King, rifle experts, contribute a capital turn; the Hargreaves Trio appear with success in a comedy act, entitled *Three of the Best*; the Brownlows excel as dancers; Cavalli is a smart ventriloquist; and Gertie Moore, comedienne, does well.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Edward Compton has received a hearty welcome on his return here. He is presenting four from his répertoire of celebrated comedies. The week opened with *Davy Garrick*, Mr. Compton portraying the gallant Davy with as much charm and freshness as ever; Miss Kathleen Leigh acted with winning grace as Violet Gresham; Mr. H. Crocker represented Alderman Gresham with suitable dignity; Mr. Frank Royde showed the necessary dash and abandon as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; Mr. Phillip Gordon as Rumbelow, Mr. J. W. Austin as Sowerberry, and Mr. C. Marquand as Simkins gave excellent studies of these droll characters; while Miss Mary Hassell as Mrs. Rumbelow and Miss Lorraine Stevens as Selina Sowerberry also thoroughly realised the quaintness of the parts.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. S. Surfleet.—Miss Juliette's sea lions give a performance of exceptional interest, for these strange Arctic animals accomplish feats of jugglery that would be a credit to human performers; the New York Nippers gave a bright speciality, which includes singing and dancing, and their dancing is especially smart; the Three Askarnos are a trio of accomplished acrobats both in English and Arabian styles; Ernesto is a versatile artist skilled in jugglery, equilibrism, and music; Vessey and O'Connor are a couple of talented lady musicians; Kydd and Kydd are comedians with amusing cross patter; and Nellie Martell is a pleasing chorus song singer.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—*Pete* is being admirably interpreted here by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company. Mr. Austin Milroy plays the title-rôle with sincerity and earnestness; Mr. Alfred Gray is a consistently good Philip; Mr. J. E. Fletcher an admirable Ross; Mr. Frank Stone is good as the severe Cæsar; and Mr. James Williams is the Doctor; Miss Amy Vennimore is an ideal Grannie; Miss Maie Duncan a sprightly Anne; and Miss V. Malcolm Barnett contributes a clever conception of Kate Cregeen.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. James Welch's company is here with *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. H. L. Bruce plays Sir Guy De Vere very cleverly; Mr. Colin Johnston's Rev. Peter Pottlebury is worthy of high praise; Mr. C. Lloyd (Isaac Isaacson), Miss I. Glynne (Miss Isaacson), Mr. W. M. Lynton (Whittle), Mr. W. Lockhart (Barker), Miss E. Oliphant (Lady Millicent), Miss M. Carton (Lady Marjorie), Miss Bremba (Kate Pottlebury), and Miss E. Lascelles (Lady Rowena) are all good. Miss Mabel Younge's Mrs. Waldegrave is a noteworthy portrayal.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. T. H. Lambert.—The Stein-Esthor Trio give a marvellous exhibition of hand-jumping and hand-balancing here, and win unstinted applause; Bromley and Fontein, musical entertainers, do a much-appreciated turn; Cissie Lupino is a clever little dancer; the Fix X Rays, acrobats, Reg. Ewen, comedian, Dan Ellis and George Campbell, comedians and dancers, Scener and Fridkin's Russian troupe of singers and dances, are all good.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks. — Messrs. Somers and Saunders' pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, is here. An evenly-balanced cast includes Miss O. Astor (Robin Hood), Miss Lulu Lord (Maid Marion), Sisters Mawdsley (Bertie and Cissie—the Babes), Mr. M. Boyle (Sir Scoun-de-Rel), Denby and Dent (Tim and Willie), and Mr. A. McAllister (Evalean).

VICTORIA HALL.—Gala and Norris' company is at this hall with *Fascinating Peggy*. Mr. Frank Gala and Miss May Norris undertake two of the principal parts and introduce a new and clever dance.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* commenced its second week with greater success than ever. Miss Maud Mortimer, the greatest of all pantomime favourites with the Potteries, continues her merry career as Crusoe, and every appearance evokes enthusiastic applause. Her vocal numbers are excellently rendered, and her dresses are perfect pictures. Miss Yolande Noble as Polly Perkins is charming in figure and dress. She plays and sings delightfully. Mr. Arnold Richardson as Billy continues to score with his quaint style. He is a born comedian, with a great future. Mr. C. Young Fixott is good as Mrs. Crusoe; Mr. Charles Heslop is a droll Will Atkins; Mr. H. Flockton Foster as Captain Cutter is a huge success; Mr. Oswald Battye as Friday is very clever; Miss Ray Morgan is a charming dusky Queen; and Messrs. Elton and Elma are great favourites.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A better programme than the one submitted this week it would be difficult to find. Mlle. Bella Ophini, a graceful gymnast, is decidedly clever; Bertha de Pas, comedienne and dancer, is charming; Will Shrillo, whistler, is well received; Barton and Ashley in *Adam the Second* are the hit of the show, being closely followed by the Brothers Spessel and Mac in a unique comedy acrobatic act. The Great Northern Troupe of dancers are warmly applauded; Alf. W. Loyal's dogs show wonderful training; the De Lolme Juveniles are most pleasing; and the picture A Dreadful Darling Boy is funny.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Mr. George Brydon-Phillips is no stranger here, and his *Sinbad, the Sailor*, is being presented here. Miss Hettie Lee, a vivacious principal boy, has good support from Miss Constance Lait as the girl; Miss Amy Maple as Zoe and her partner Mr. Fred Maple as Hindbad are the life and soul of the show; Mr. Harry Rose is a hard worker as Mrs. Sinbad; Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff are good dancers; and Miss Nella Dene, the principal dancer, is one of the features of the pantomime. The chorus is good, and the large orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Sydney Davidson.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark's company in *Dick Whittington; or, The Faithful Cat and the Demon Rat*, opened a week's visit here on Monday, and afforded every satisfaction to a well-filled house. Miss Gertrude Gilliam was alert and sprightly as Dick, her songs being well rendered; Alice was excellently impersonated by Miss Norah Dwyer, and both ladies were quickly on the best of terms with their audience. Mr. Murray King made some capital fun as Jack, and was assisted in the auditorium in a catch song by Mr. F. Maxwell Stuart, the producer of the pantomime. Other good comedians were found in the Phyllis of Mr. Tom Walls, the Captain Pott of Mr. Herbert Walton, and the Peter Pawn of Mr. Jamie Dallas, the latter contributing a quick-step dance which evoked applause. Mr. Ardene Linden was well made up as Fitzwarren, and Miss Adele Levey was of good appearance as the Emperor. The Cat was well presented by Mr. T. R. Pinaird, jun., and the Demon Rat by Mr. Douglas Cox, who also stage-managed. Miss Edith Jeffries made a graceful and handsome Fairy; Lottie Stone's Troupe of dancers were very effective in their *pas de quartre*; the music was well rendered by an augmented orchestra, directed by Mr. Michael Dwyer; and a large chorus sang with power and effect. The scenery is painted by Mr. F. L. Schmitz, the Palace scene, with its handsomely dressed ladies of the Court, being very brilliant, as also was Old London, wherein Sir Richard makes a triumphal entry on horseback.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* is running its course merrily enough to very large audiences. The village scenes are charmingly artistic. Mr. Hunter is a most diverting Dame Trot, and his duet with Mr. Mat. Melrose, the wicked Squire, is delightfully comic. Pleasing songs and duets are rendered by the Misses Lallah Melrose, Vera Dudley, and Rene Ashley. Mr. Fred Beck as Johnnie Stout also sings with much ease and fluency. The light and graceful dancing of the Sisters Edwards and Mr. Phil Inglis as Tommy Green is thoroughly appreciated. Mr. J. E. Cowell as the Giant is amusingly conspicuous.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr Harry Boyd; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing.—Excellent pictures are shown here. Harry Estelle is a good descriptive vocalist; clever step-dancing is accomplished by Willet and Rea; and Jones and Estelle harmonise effectively in operatic and character songs.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Driver.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in *The Lancashire Lad* forms the New Year's attraction here. Mr. Hy. Douglas in the title-rôle plays in manly style; Mr. Ernest Vaughan submits a grand impersonation of Max Carlton, the dishonest mill proprietor; Mr. Wilton Reed as Jem Wincote does full justice to the part; Mr. Rob Anderson as John Willie Wardle, the village carpenter, creates roars of laughter; and Mr. George Watson is a faithful Tum-o'-the-Swilltub, the village sponge. Miss Madge Douglas is a winsome Jessie; Miss Muriel Inglis's Lorna Wincote is an artistic performance; Miss L. Rignold as Jane Alice is a typical Lancashire mill girl; Miss Molly Shine as Flossie Mayfair dances herself into favour; and Miss Nellie V. Warden is a capital example of the "gradely" Lancashire housewife, her Mother Wardle being highly appreciated.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Condensed pantomime is being played twice nightly during this week. The company appearing is Mr. James Kiddie's, and the particular story chosen for representation is *The Forty Thieves*. Included in the cast are Miss Rose Parecezer, as the Captain of the Forty, Miss Elsie Steadman, "a bit of a tartar," as Ganem, and Miss Lyle Jeffries, a sweet singing Morgiana. The comedians are Messrs. Mark Merry, Percy Curry, Arthur Behan, and Fame and Fortune. The ubiquitous donkey is humorously represented by Mr. Harry Walker. The music is bright and up to date, the scenery appropriate, and the dresses charming.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—An excellent variety company comprises Carter Livesey, Leo Minster, and Miss Lilian Rosebery, in their funny burlesque *The Would-be Actors*; Fritz Kornau, a mellifluous whistler; Ian Colquhoun, baritone vocalist; Carney Bros., character duettists; Geo. D'Albert, a greatly popular light comedian; Miss Eileen Douglas, comedienne; Miss Josephine Crooke, with pleasing illustrated songs; and Leo Tell, a mimic of various sounds and a comedian of originality; and the Palace pictures.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. W. F. Morton, Manager.—The pantomime has now settled down into full swing, and is attracting good business. The corps of comedians is a strong one, Mr. Harry Rich as Mother Goose forming the head, his catchy choruses being very acceptable to the audience. Miss Lola Patey is Gretchen and continues to carry the house with her; Miss Ethel Hall, the principal boy, is now more at home in her rôle, and therefore more effective; and the beautiful voice of Miss Violet Romaine is one of the features of this show. The dances are well rendered.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, Manager.—*The Love of the Princess* is fetching crowds to the Alexandra. Mr. Frank Hawes plays the heroic Prince with great distinction; Miss Dorothy Haigh finds full play for her powers as the loving woman; in proper tones Mr. John Burn realises the part of King Joseph; Miss Josephine Lee is a courageous Constantia; and Miss Maud Steeple is a pleasant Lady Irene. Mr. John Worth is an effective Lieut. Zaroff, while Mr. Rich. Vane is excellent as Count Nicholas Ducillo.

HYDE. — EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—House full at early doors was the reception given to *Aladdin* on Monday. Miss May Fayre's handsome presence and tunefully-rendered songs make the title-part very popular; as the Princess, Miss Margaret Geddess is piquant and attractive; Mr. Reg Bolton as Abanazar tells funny stories with point and effect; Mr. Matt Kilduff is a humorous Widow Twankey. The specialities are Abadaroffs, pre-historic acrobats; and the Greig dancers. The scenery and costumes make fine display.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—For the first three nights this week we had *The Gay Gordons*. Angus Graeme was very well played by Mr. Stafford Dickens; Mr. Sidney Burt gave a good account of himself as Nervy Nat, as also did Mr. Ernest Pierce as his son Edmund; Peggy Quainton as played by Miss May Yates was admirable, and she had to respond to repeated encores; Miss Ruby Louis took the part of Victoria Siddons capitally; and the staging was good. For the remainder of the week Mr. Tom Macfarlane's company with *Raffles* is billed.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—*The Arcadians* is delighting large audiences. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson in the dual part of James Smith and Simplicitas is excruciatingly funny, as also is Mr. Alfred Biers as Peter Doody; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald is a lively Jack Meadows; and Mr. Cyril Lane as Bobby, Mr. Wallace G. Court as Sir George Paddock, Mr. H. Aylesbury as Percy Marsh, Mr. Arthur Mann as Reggie, Mr. T. R. Norbury as Sir Thos. Ryan, and Mr. Frank Lester as Desmond do well; and Mr. Horace Nye acts as Father Time. Miss Gertrude Aylward, in the part of Mrs. Smith, scores a great success; Lady Barclay is played by Miss Dorothy Tancredi, and Lucy Selwyn by Miss Marguerite Mackenzie; Eileen Cavanagh is charmingly enacted by Miss Gladys May. Of the Arcadians, Miss Muriel Dance is Crysea, Miss Sybil Tancredi is Sombra, Mr. John Montague is Astrophie, Mr. A. Tregonwill is Strephon, and Mr. R. Lampeirce is Damoetas. The solo singing throughout is of a high order, and the chorus is well trained. The dresses and scenery are superb.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company in the pantomime *Babes in the Wood*, is drawing large audiences. Miss Marie Brayman possesses a fine voice, and as Robin Hood makes a charming principal boy; Maid Marian, by Miss Mabel Osborne, is also a favourite; Noddy Tithe and Soppy Sam are the two ruffians, the two Babes are Miss Marie May and Miss Elsie May; Baron Skeemalot, by Mr. Harry Elliston, and Euphemia Gadabout by Mr. Victor Wallace are amusing. The John Lloyd Quartette appear as foresters, and their singing is delightful; Mme. Teresa's troupe of singers and dancers, the Eight Little Pinkies, are also very clever and great favourites. The smaller parts are capably filled. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company opened here on New Year's Eve with *East Lynne*. On Monday night they gave *Home Sweet Home*. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's rôle of Stephen Armitage suited him admirably; Mr. Frank Dalton was good as David Armitage; Dorothy Davis as Dora acted cleverly; Mr. Robert Faulkner played Lucas Lysle; Miss Winifred Love as Joan won tearful sympathy; Mr. A. W Norman scored a success as the Duke; and the minor parts were in good hands. During the week *The Coal King* and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* were to be staged.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford, jun.—Will Netta's singing jockeys prove popular; Briff, Braff, and Broff provide an exceedingly clever turn; Helen Marlyn uses her well-trained voice in an artistic manner; Lillie Farrar has a charming song-scena *Bubbles*; Maude Elliston and company appear to advantage in a farcical production *Dobson's Day Off*; Tom Garland is a capable ventriloquist; Lynn and Daring score in a musical and vocal scena; Bert Anderson, conjurer and illusionist, succeeds in mystifying the audience, and animated pictures complete.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green produced *The Fatal Marriage*. As Zaco Mr. Jerrold Heather acted artistically; Miss Hilda Shirley as Myra gives able support; Messrs. Colin Heather and G. Mortimer Hancock are respectively good as Wilfred Grey and Colonel Crichton; Miss Amy Maitland is pleasing as Dolly Dimple. The piece is well staged. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. Percy Tyler's company is billed in *A Message from Mars*.

KING'S LYNN.—HIPPODROME.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week Mr. G. A. Street's variety company has shown to good houses. Mr. Street was excellent in his sensational spectacle, *Military Commanders of the World*; La Sylphe was graceful in her kaleidoscopic dances; Charles Bradford was a great favourite with his songs; Neddy Vokes showed much cleverness in his musical act; and La Vie posed exquisitely in a living statuary exhibition.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Mr. Ian Robertson's company appeared here in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Ian Robertson played the part of A Passer-by with quiet dignity and gentleness. He was ably supported by Miss Jeannie Thomas and Miss Helena Parsons, whose Mrs. Sharp and Stasia respectively were clever studies. Other performances worthy of special commendation were the Vivian of Miss Barbara Everest and the Joey Wright of Mr. W. C. Billington. The piece was preceded by Mr. Ian Robertson's one-act play *Come Here*, in which Miss Barbara Everest, Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, and Mr. Wilson Blake appeared with success. For the latter part of the week Mr. Keith G. Kennett's company was announced in *Under the Greenwood Tree*.

LEEDS.—THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. G. Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Galley.—Odette Valery gains applause in some classical dances; Tom Child's fine voice is heard to advantage in "Come into the Garden, Maud" and "I was dreaming"; Miss Lottie Lennox introduces some new songs which are popular; and a clever sketch, *The Bo'sun's Mate* is highly appreciated; the McConnell Trio are favourites; and George Antill, the Athlones, Marrie Pera, and Frank Le Dent complete a capital company.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Minola Hurst and her Miniature Marvels, Fields and Lewis, Lily Eyton, Alfred Meadies, the Resas, Sterling and Cashem, Baby Vi Davis, Geo. Phillips, and Everhart (hoop manipulator) are appearing here.

THE CITY VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, the Wedburns, Mars Trio, Jimmy Shields, Alice Blandford, and Harry Letter are all favourites here.

THE QUEEN'S.—General-Manager, Mr. Johnny Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*The Yellow Fang*, an exciting sketch of an opium den, is the principal attraction here. L. W. Harris, Gwennie Morgan, Leolin, Crown Trio, Lyons and Cullum, and the Zanfrellas complete.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—General Business-Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—Messrs. Thos. McKenzie and C. St. John Denton's pantomime of *Sinbad the Sailor* continues its merry career, and Miss Jessie Wilton, Miss Cindy Asche, Miss Sissie Brand, Miss Madeline Rossiter, Miss Marie Leigh, Mr. Will Johnson, Mr. Sydney James, and Messrs. Walton and Lester

This week a lot of new business has been introduced by the comedians, who are unflagging in their efforts to keep the ball of fun rolling. In this particular Yost and Yost, Tom Veronique, and Barry Bond are to be singled out for the hard work they do, and for the clever style they render their songs and concerted numbers. We cannot accord too much eulogium to Miss Daisy Silcott as the Prince and Miss Lily Pearl as Cinderella, the embodiments being of a most delightful and charming character. Miss Silcott also introduces a new song, "I must go home tonight," with success, as does also Miss Lily Pearl score with a new one entitled "Mary took the calves to the show." Miss Annie Craig gives the greatest satisfaction both in her acting and singing as Dandini; and Miss Daisy Rhyl as the good fairy Sunshine is all that can be desired. Mr. David Donaldson, who is possessed of a good voice, fulfils the part of the evil genius, Talicio, as it should be done; Miss Iris Ray is a capital Phyllis; Lew Towers is good as Tilario, and also renders the light comedy song "You can't do as you like with the girls" in excellent style. Some new dances are also cleverly given by the Kitina Dancing Girls, their clog dancing being especially noteworthy. We should not omit to mention the pretty scene in which Cinderella drives away in her gorgeous electrical carriage.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's *Dick Whittington* pantomime continues its phenomenally successful run, the efforts of all concerned in the production being received with every mark of favour. The comedians quickly become popular, the songs of Mr. Sydney T. Russell as Idle Jack and the topical ditty of Mr. Jack McKenzie in the Dame part being conspicuously successful. Miss Helene Mohr and Miss Nina Carlton are most pleasing in the rôles of principal girl and boy; the antics of the Cat (Mr. James Stratton) are cleverly studied; and the interlude of "The Enchanted Tree," in which Mr. John Darlison (its author) appears with twenty little Leith lassies, forms a charming scena very daintily produced. It is one of the happiest of Mr. Darlison's many musical sketches of a kindred description.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The pantomime *Red Riding Hood* is now in full swing and going along with great smoothness, while business is very satisfactory.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—In consequence of the large amount of humour contained in the pantomime *Dick Whittington and his Cat*, the production is enjoying increasing patronage, and success is assured Drew and Alders are well to the fore with their eccentricities, and the funny passages between the Emperor, well played by Mr. Eric Campbell, and Mr. Tom Foy enrich matters very much. Mr. Fred Whittaker's natural cat is generally commented on.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's *Dick Whittington* pantomime is here for a second week, and doing well.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction here this week is *The Christian*, played by a capable company, sent by Mr. Wentworth Croke. Mr. Henry Wolston undertakes the rôle of John Storm with fine dramatic effect; the Glory Quayle of Miss Gladys Purnell reflects credit upon that artist; Mr. Wilfred Noy makes an excellent Horatio Drake; Mr. Fred Morgan handles the part of Lord Robert Ure with care and discretion; a well-presented Father Lamplugh comes from Mr. John Hastings Batson; and included among other able artists are Messrs. Charles E. Dering (Archdeacon Wealthy), Royce Milton (Lord Storm), Arthur E. Maskell (Parson Quayle), Miss Gertrude Maxwell (Lady Ure), and Miss Florence Harland (Liza).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*A Country Girl* is here for a second week, and doing satisfactory business.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Heading the programme here this week is the always popular Ruth Vincent, who enjoys cordial receptions for her taking songs; Spry and Monti are as diverting as ever; the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio go through a unique musical, vocal, and dancing scena, *Romps in a Drawing-room*; Will H. Fox pleases greatly with his humorous work at the piano; Mlle. Liane D'Eve delights everybody with her smart transformations and songs; Harry Anderson has some funny ditties and patter; *Astronomy* is given by W. Fullbrook and Co.; the Dayton Family present a clever risley performance; and Monie Mine earns considerable popularity for her songs and dances, which are rendered in good style.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* remains another week.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week is the smart musical fantasy *Concordia*, given by Percy Honri and company; Dale and O'Malley cause their audience to rock with laughter, their songs and sayings being particularly rich; Philip Braham's company has an excellent funny sketch, entitled *March Hares*; some smart comedy juggling comes from the Gascoignes; Diana Hope and company have a neat sketch, *The Altar of Duty*, which is much appreciated; the Primrose Quartette are given a most hearty welcome for their capable vocal harmony in a Welsh scena; Lena Wylie renders several soprano songs in artistic style; and George Hall, light comedian and whistler, also appears.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Heart of a Hero* is presented here this week by the stock dramatic company, the principal parts being in the hands of Messrs. Harry Tresham (Jim Resdale), R. Seath Innes, Sydney Grant (Wilfred Marl), Tom H. Solly (Timothy), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Nell Resdale), Mis Gertrude Gilman (Susie Slack), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (May Rider). Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope shows some capital films.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The Will o' the Wisps are a company of excellent vaudeville entertainers, their show of music, melody, and dancing affording a deal of satisfaction; the popular comedian, W. J. Churchill, is as good as ever, and keeps his audience in the best of humours with his diverting wheezes; Lily Palmer shows herself a pleasing comedienne; Fred Keeton provokes much laughter with his songs and jokes; Staig's Steeplejacks are daring cyclists; Edie Gray and boys provide a neat turn as vocalists and dancers; To-to, the mysterious musician, causes people to wonder; Taylor Granville and company go through a smart trifle, *The Hold Up*; and Frank Hartley, for a boy, shows much skill as a juggler.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—John Tiller's *Jack and Jill* pantomime remains another six nights, splendid business being done.

Reynolds's Exhibition.—At this old-established and popular resort crowds attend daily to witness the fine collection of figures and other objects of interest shown. The annual marionette pantomime is now in full swing under the title of *Blue Beard*, Mr. Harry Jennion's cleverly manipulated puppets being a source of much amusement, especially for the youngsters.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's principal company is this week presenting *A Message From Mars* to good houses. Mr. Aidan Lovett as Horace Parker and Mr. Geo. P. Poison as the Messenger do full justice to their respective parts, and the minor rôles are in capable hands.

MAESTEG. — Town Hall Theatre.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's pantomime, *Cinderella*, commenced a week's engagement on Monday before a full house. Miss Leila Zillwood makes a dashing and smart Prince Charming; as Cinderella Miss Dela Fredericks is dainty and winsome; Dandini is played in clever style by Miss Lottie Mellor; Miss Gertie Russel is good as Fairy Sunshine; the Ugly Sisters are humorously played by Mr. Will Webb and Mr. Tod Squires, who keep the audience in a continual roar of laughter; Mr. Carl Fredericks is excellent as the Baron; Mr. Gus Granville as Blustering Jim and Mr. Frank Shepherd as Nervous Joe do exceedingly well their share of the comic business; the May Quartette execute some pretty dances. Specialities are given by Mr. P. J. Dwiney, champion globe walker; Len Lydette, novelty instrumentalist; Wyman, trick roller skater; Mlle. Cordelia, transformation dancer; Carl Bradericke, illusionist; and La Belle Mascot, wire walker.

MANCHESTER.—Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company in the well-known military play, *Her Love Against the World*, are appearing here twice nightly. The piece is always well received, and once again the characters are all in good hands. Especially good are Mr. Fred Emery as Eric, Miss Elsie Roberts, Mr. Oswald Cray as Ulric, and Miss Rossie St. John as Lionel. Plenty of humour enlivens the action, and the play is very well put on.

Royal Osborne Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—An entertaining version of *Little Cinderella* is put on here this week by Mr. James Kiddie. All the usual appurtenances of pantomime are requisitioned for effect, including an especially fine silver carriage, illuminated by electric light: also a powerful chorus and ballet, and an augmented orchestra; while the pantomime itself is full of wholesome fun and brightened by merriment and scenic beauty. Miss Kitty Avey as Cinderella and Miss Edie May as the Prince agreeably sustain the principal story parts; while Miss Lily Ennis as Dandini plays well; and comic renderings of the two Ugly Sisters are given by Mr. Harry Bliss and Mr. W. G. Wesley. Mr. Leslie Hawkins adds fun as the Baron, and Miss Fanny Douglas is a nice Fairy Sunbeam.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company are here this week in the popular romantic play, *The Princess and the Beggar Maid*, which drew a very good house on Monday. Mr. Howard's plays are always welcome here, and especially enjoyed on this occasion are the interpretations of Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox as Prince Olaf, Mr. Victor Rae as Michael, his brother, and Miss Ethel Bracewell as the Princess of Illyria. Clever work is added by Miss Stella Campbell as Camiola, Mr. Alfred Goddard as the Prince of Sylvania, Mr. W. R. James as Nathan, the dumb servant, and Mr. Herbert Burton as Captain Hector; while capital humour is submitted by Mr. J. H. Vyvyan and Miss Mona Hall.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—An attractive programme here is topped by the clever Billy Williams, whose humour is much enjoyed. Smart and entertaining turns are added by Harry Blake, the popular comedian; Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires; Les Supriskis, a marvellous Continental lady gymnastic act; the Days, telepathic wonders; Baby Myrtle Grove, vocalist and dancer; and Monty Walker, comedian.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A very pleasing top turn here this week is that supplied by Olga Petronowa and her All-British Band, who play fine selections in first-class style; while an interesting feature of the programme is *1643*, an episode of the Great Rebellion, played in capital fashion by F. Stuart Whyte's company. Enjoyable items are added by Nina Wood, at the piano; Ted E. Box, comedian; Park's clever Eton Boys and Girton Girls; the Rohda Brothers, fine athletes; the Cumberlands, marvellous cyclists; Harry Grey, the Australian comedian; and Olive Armidale, a smart soubrette.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*The Motor Chase* continues to be a great attraction at this popular house. Willette Whittaker, assisted by F. Wilbur-Hill, is delightful in an artistic vocal and instrumental act; Jack Smiles, who reminds one of Tom Murray, is a capital comedian and an exceptionally clever step-dancer; Mattie Lund, soprano, sings well; Signor and Mme. Borelli score a big success, especially with their "cat" duet; Braatz's dogs are uncommonly well trained; Florence is a clever lady mimic; and the Whitbys, with their magic blackboard, give a very novel and entertaining act. The Bioscope pictures are excellent.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Annie Hughes and Lawrence Brough are exceedingly good here this week in a well-acted item, *Love in a Railway Train*, and are well received; the Serenaders, Italian operatic quartette, are fine singers, and are greatly appreciated; George Shurley, comedian, scores with smart dancing; the Frohmans give an enjoyable musical act; Ada Marion, a charming juvenile character vocalist, sings nicely; Hilda Ray, comedienne, does well; Florence Leonard, soprano, has a good voice; Duncan and Brasque are capital in *My Lancashire Wife*; and a first-rate series of pictures complete.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—A capital holiday programme here is headed by George Mozart, the popular burlesque comedian; other strong items being W. Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker*; and the well-known Stavordale Quintet, in their banjo specialities. These attractions are ably supplemented by the Sages, comedy artists; Tod Lowen, the funny fellow; the Rosses, comedians and dancers; and Sydney Brandon, in excerpts from Dickens.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill here this week, and are highly successful in their sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, causing roars of laughter; the Marriotts give a most bewildering second-sight performance; the Phœnix Trio are good singers and sand dancers; Lieut. Chard's dog circus is an excellent show; Amie Jumel is a clever dancer and instrumentalist; Johnson and Bert are exceedingly funny in their act, *A Queer Customer*; and George Robinson, character comedian, is capital. The 10.40 Express, shown on the Bioscope, is an exciting film.

MARGATE.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Myall.—Charles Godfrey's company, which includes Miss Crissie Francess, Miss Josie Beltram, and Mr. Martin Sands, in the new sketch *The Boy Scout*, has been received with great favour; Clivetto, the dancing juggler and equilibrist, also gives a good turn; and Angela Ward, comedienne and singer of chorus songs, has made herself popular; the Arntes, coloured vocalists, quaintly described as the North Carolina Sunbeams, have given an acceptable song and dance entertainment; the Hulls, in their musical comedy act have amused; and Nellie Shand, comedienne and dancer, and Harry Lawson, comedian and dancer, have also contributed bright turns to the evening's programme. Good Boy Hechter and Seal Hunting are excellent animated pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*The Fatal Wedding* is capitally presented by Mr. Percy Williams' company. As Howard Wilson Mr. Hugh Montgomery succeeds admirably; Miss Ethel Kay plays naturally and sympathetically as Mabel Wilson; as Cora Williams Miss Leah Marlborough acts in a forcible and convincing style; Mr. Herbert Humber as Robert Curtis acquits himself creditably; Miss Beatrice Hudson as Bridget, and Mr. Harry M. Vernon as Toto are responsible for much of the comedy of the play; Miss Rosie Sanders plays charmingly as Jessie. The Children's Scene in Act 3 gains great applause.

METHIL.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—The New Year attraction is Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. In the title-rôle Miss Gertrude de Lacy is exceedingly good, her singing being much appreciated; Miss Kathleen Stewart as Ruth Montrose also sings well, and acts with feeling; Mr. George A. Fox as Capt. Fielding is effective; Mr. Robert Gilbert ably depicts the scheming Captain Dudley; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith is well placed, her sabot dance being a distinct feature; Misses Lillie and Iris Elvido dance gracefully; Mr. Harry Ugar as Silas Crumn keeps the audience in fits of laughter with his songs and patter. A crowded house gave the piece a good reception.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Ida Millais and company are this week presenting *No Man's Land*. Mr. Henry Herne presents a manly figure as Harry Oaklands; the treacherous Silas Moore is effectively portrayed by Mr Ernest Wingfield; Mat Marsden is finely played by Mr. Villiers Stanley; Mr. Wm. Manning skilfully fills the dual rôle of Gilbert and Norman Bathurst; Dr. Buxton (Mr. Richard Webb) and Solomon Jacobs (Mr. W. A. Warren), play their respective parts exceedingly well; Miss Ida Millais is graceful and sympathetic as Mary Bathurst; Miss Lizzie Lennon is an entertaining Mrs. Poodle; and Miss Kitty Rose does well as Bessie.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The pantomime of *Jack and Jill* is running smoothly and successfully.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. J. C. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmonde's company is playing *For Wife and Kingdom* to appreciative audiences. Miss Lydia Audre as the Grand Duchess Marie of Gotzburg is very pleasing; Mr. Reginald T. Fox gives every satisfaction in the part of General Von Nestolde; and as Captain Maximilian Lubeck Mr. Mathew H. Glenville is successful.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges. — The Riogoku Family present their truly wonderful and sensational act, to the delight of large audiences; Hinton and Wootton, in their bicycle football show are a pronounced success; the Coloured Meisters sing well; the Two Jays, patterers and dancers; the Calcotts, in *Rags and Tatters*; Birt Weston, vocalist; Alf Millington, with illustrated songs; and coloured pictures complete a capital programme.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—The Lesters prove an acceptable turn, and a first-rate programme of pictures is much enjoyed.

MORLEY.—Alexandra Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Large audiences have testified their appreciation of a well-balanced company. Cambo and Castello are at the top of the bill, and their musical scena, *The Monkey and the Maid*, scores a great success; Miss Edith Moore, with her charming personality, magnificent costumes, with quick changes and classical international dances, captivates all; Jack Hartley is a really funny Yorkshire comic and patterer; and Miss Jessie Jess shines as a low comedy exponent. Pictures are excellent.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Chisholm Taylor.—*The Gay Gordons* is the attraction here. The Angus Græme of Mr. William Greene has much dash and spirit, and he is exceedingly popular; Mr. Edward Carlton as Nervy Nat is full of sly humour; an excellent contrast is found in the comical slowness of Mr. W. H. Desmond as Edmund; the millionaire father has an excellent exponent in Mr. Greville Hayes; Miss Clarice Lockstone is a sweet and dainty Peggy Quainton; and Miss Mabel Dent sings and dances prettily as Victoria Siddons. Very funny is the Charlotte of Miss Florrie Groves; the rôle of Janet M'Leod is admirably rendered by Miss Ada Mellon; Miss Violet is charming as Lady Millicent. Scenery and dresses are excellent, and there is a fine orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Leonard Leslie.

NEATH.—Gwyn Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. W. Robinson; Business-Manager, Mr. W. George.—Miss Violet Osmond's company brought *The New Barmaid* for the early part of the week. Mr. Alexander White as Bertie White scored a great success, and Miss Florrie Millington proved an actress of capability. The piece was full of amusing situations, and there was a full chorus.

Prince of Wales.—Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson.—Another bright programme is presented here, some extra good pictures and varieties being included in the bill.

NELSON.—Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—A most enjoyable programme is headed by the protean spectacular production known as *Change*. Some fine trick scenery is introduced; there are four distinct transformations, which for beautiful effect and general stagecraft the turn is unsurpassed. Other capital numbers are The Brilliants, xylophonists, who produce a remarkably sweet and rich tone on their instruments; J. H. McCann, a wonderfully clever roller skate dancer; Mr. "E.," pictorial patterer; Edie Eudon, comedienne and dancer; Leslie's Cadets in a new and original naval scene, *After Lights*; The Orchids, a smart comedy trio; and the Wartana Trio of lady jugglers.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Horner.—Mr. and Mrs Charles Draycott presented Mrs. Kimberley's new drama, *The Path of Sorrow*, which was produced for the first time at Accrington last week. Mr. Draycott gives a very powerful impersonation of Richard Burfield; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield portrays in striking fashion the iniquitous Guy Lowther; whilst Mrs. Draycott is eminently successful as Pauline Ferrars; the unfortunate Nellie is admirably delineated by Miss Fay Garner-Vayne, and some capital humour is introduced by Mr. Will Flook and Miss Daisy Carlton. The other parts are in capable hands.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—A capital bill is presented here. The Claymore Trio juggle and dance in wonderful style; the Ellimans play numerous instruments in a delightful manner; exceptionally good dancing and good singing are submitted by the Sylvester Trio; Master Edmund Kershaw has made a decided success with his well-trained voice; and Mr. Charles Leighton, the tramp at the piano, comes in for much laughter and applause; Little Alice dances nicely, and Miss L. Brunton also appears. The animated pictures are thoroughly interesting.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Langham.—The success of the delightful pantomime, *Cinderella*, is now assured. Miss Iris Hoey, as Cinderella continues more and more in popular favour; Miss Cressie Leonard as the Prince; and Miss Meg Hamilton as Dandini are already firm favourites. The fun-making is in the capable hands of Messrs. G. Alexandre, J. Hughes, Johnnie Schofield, Walter Aridge, Harry Brayne, and Miss May Lilian Levey; and dainty dances by the Eight Sunflowers are featured in several scenes. Miss Jessie Jones and Mr. Frank Melville (the fairy queen and the demon respectively) are heard to advantage in several fine songs.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. George Dance's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, opened their second week at the above theatre on Monday evening, to a large audience.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. Edward Whitty's company, in *The Eyes of the World*, is the attraction here. The rôle of the wronged wife, Helen De L'Orme is played by Miss Ethel Van Praagh with artistic skill; and Mr. Edward Whitty gives a capital rendering of Achille.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—The pantomime *Bo-Peep*, is proving immensely popular here and crowded houses are the rule. Miss Nancy Hearn as Boy Blue; and Miss Lizzie Hay as Bo-Peep are both great favourites. Whilst the excellent comedy of Wittie Wattie Walton, Hooc and Pauly, and Mr. Fred Danvers is greatly appreciated.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Amongst the many interesting items here this week, Lamberti takes a prominent place, his impressions of famous musicians are excellent, and he was accorded a hearty reception. L'Incognita, the masked singer, again provides a most enjoyable turn, her beautiful voice being heard to fullest advantage. Walker and May, coloured singers and dancers, and the Musical Jees in a pantomime scena, "The Musical Smithy" provide in each case, capital amusement in their own lines. J. A. Wilson, in his military scena, assisted by his clever dog, Towser, once again made a great hit, and the Westwoods, comedy cyclists, and Cissie Thompson, an attractive comedienne, also provide entertainment of a high character. Lockhart's Elephants presented by Capt. Taylor, and the Bioscope pictures complete a splendid bill.

Pavilion Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The great Lafayette is here this week, and other artists appearing are Mary Law, violinist; Annie Heath, Willie Gardner, Bros. Wills, Godfrey James, Ted Moxon Trio, and Mark Leslie.

NORTHAMPTON.—Palace of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—The New Year's programme is full of good things, of which the most prominent are the Luzellas, a couple of lady gymnasts and dancers of exceptional talent; Marguerite Ismay and her White Coons are very successful in their musical scena; Nellie Nora wins applause for her violin and other instrumental solos; Aucie Gerard shines as a flute and piccolo soloist; Walter Foster and company appear in a dramatic episode with success; the Ashley Team of Skaters please in their comical act; Dennis and Morris, comedians and dancers; Bert and Dora, comedy duo, and Jack Charman, vocal comedian, are also popular.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, with *The Village Blacksmith*, has had an enthusiastic reception here. As John Strong Mr. Sam Livesey plays in excellent style, and Miss Maggie Edwards ably sustains the part of Kate Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter makes a capital Captain Leo; Mr. Edwin Maydew scores as Lucas Marler; Mr. George Wilton is well placed as St. John Harman; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall makes a hit as Jeremiah Parkins, and Mr. Fred Haming proves a capable Billy Twigg; Miss Rosie Kearns as Martha Mopps deserves praise; Mrs. T. C. Livesey is good as Sal Parkins; Miss Pauline Garside is a pleasing Harry Strong; and Miss Cassie Le Grande makes the most of Ruth Parkins.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—A capital bill here is headed by the Six Lancashire Lads in their singing and dancing act, which has gained them a cordial reception; the Raffo Brothers, hand balancers, are very smart; Frank Martino, the Man Frog, achieves great success; the Van-Earles in their novelty act prove a very acceptable turn; and Belle Ray in illustrated songs, Irene and Morton (comedy duo), with illustrated songs; and coloured pictures complete a capital programme.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company in *The Flag Lieutenant* is well patronised here. Mr. Mark Paton as Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley Wynne performs excellently; as Richard Lascelles Mr. Hastings Lynn receives warm appreciation; Mr. Stanley Groome is very good as John Penrose; and Mr. Frederick Leister deserves praise as Major Thesiger; Mr. Stephen Gatling as Christopher Neate and Mr. Edward Mervyn as Crutchley do well; Messrs. Geoffrey Wilkinson and Guy Lanham, the midshipmen, are humoursome; Miss Mabel Rees deserves every compliment as Mrs. Cameron; Miss Rita Johnson acts charmingly as Lady Hermione Wynne; and Miss Rosalind Rose deserves praise as Lady Dugdale. The dresses are elaborate and the staging effective.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A new musical sketch by Mr. Bert Danson, entitled *A Seaside Honeymoon*, is dealt with in another column. The Big Four Americans, leading comedians and vocalists, head the bill, and proved an interesting turn; Geo. A. Street and company give a clever portrayal of *Military Commanders of the World*; Delvanie's Marionettes are a very attractive item; Jack Barker is a warm favourite; while Gilbert Gerard is a marvellous animal and instrumental mimic; Frank F. Street is a capital comedian; and Will E. Stopit excites laughter by his quaint eccentricities. The Hippo Bio is good.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Jack and Jill* continues to attract large audiences, and is running smoothly. Miss Constance Hyem and Miss Queenie Essex are making hosts of friends; Miss Nathalie Ralph, the Fairy, has introduced a new song, with a charming waltz refrain, "I'll let the world go by," and she sings it with great taste; the Goose (Mr. Albert Felino) is as good as ever, and the comedians all work hard to make the pantomime go with a swing. The dancing of the Martini Sextette is of a high order.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*Mother Goose* is pleasing large audiences. The comedy of the panto is well looked after by J. T. Macmillan and other comedians of skill and resource, and the winsome manner of Miss Minnie Love and charming singing of Miss Elsie Jones backed by a very capable company, help towards an entertainment of exceptional merit.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Harry Roxbury's presentation of *Sergeant Longfellow* is a thoroughly amusing and pleasant entertainment, and richly deserves its warm reception; La Sylphe's graceful movements evoke unstinted applause; the comedy sketch, *Hogmanay*, by J. L. Shine and company, is an excellent piece of work; Miss Vashti Wynne contributes an artistic Egyptian sketch; the Kramers achieve success in their burlesque dancing item. An equilibristic turn by Frank Maura is well received and admirable displays are given by Bowden and Stoll, acrobatic comedians; Florence Esdail vocalist; Violet Stockelle, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—A charming musical comedy, entitled *The Prince of the Dandies*, is smartly played and staged, and the fun is kept rolling by Flo Stanley, Arthur Watson, Robert Leardo, and Harry Neilson. *The Lady Jockey* is a droll sketch capitally presented by Miss Teddy Edmonds and company. Maria Racks and Partner successfully negotiate some difficult acrobatic feats and a football match on cycles makes the Olympian team great favourites. Dewson proves a versatile musical artist of no mean skill, and other items are presented by Ferguson and Mack, dancers; A. W. Scott, comedian; Harry Hayton, comedian; and Cash and Clair, dancers.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is here with *Dear Little Denmark*. Miss Netta Lynde as Christine is a charming and dainty actress, and sings sweetly. Mr. Conway Dixon as Conrad Petersen has a fine presence, and his acting is well-nigh perfect. As Ophelia Miss Mabel Sealby's singing is capital, and her comedy excellent; Mr. Arthur Staples as Hans Hansen is very droll; Miss Claire Lynch makes a charming Xandra, and Miss Gladys Beech is a very good Adeline; as the gouty Duke Ernst, Mr. Henry Kitts is lifelike, and Mr. J. C. Fagan does well as Karl. Mr. Tom Redmond is smart as the burly Simon Jorgensen, and Mr. Harry Gregory is good as Jonas Jensen. The scenery is pretty, the chorus is strong, and clever dancing is also introduced.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's company in the pantomime, *Hop o' My Thumb*, continue to attract good business. Miss Kitty Trewhitt makes a dashing Prince Uno and her singing is capital. Miss Kitty Rafferty is a winsome Princess, and sings in delightful manner; Miss Gladys Wyse gains much approbation for her smart dancing as Jeannie Macgregor, and Miss Evelyn Major is a piquant Rupert. Little Georgie Harris is smart as Hop, his efforts being heartily enjoyed, and Harold Pyott as the diminutive Tom is a source of wonder. Mr. Vivian Wakeman as Georgina has numerous opportunities for fun-making, of which he takes full advantage; Mr. E. W. Selman as Jerry gains hearty applause; Cowley and Rick sing and dance cleverly; Master Stanley Annison and Master Sandy Simpson are smart and amusing; Miss Olive Purcell is a capital Fairy, and Mr. Sam Rogerson does well as the Giant. The chorus is excellent, and the ballets are well balanced.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager Mr. J. Hulme.—Les Piccolinos top the bill in their marvellous turn; My Fancy dances with great success, and has a good reception; Les Francois Troupe of acrobats give a fine display of equilibristic work; Cissie Curlette is a capital mimic, and Mona Garrick as a character impersonator is very good; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Findon cause much amusement with their sketch, *Two to One*; Vowles and Bryan are a capital pair of comedy artists, and Ivy Aberdare is a smart comedienne. The Bioscope depicts some amusing and interesting pictures.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime *Dick Whittington* opened here on Monday to packed houses, and the show was much enjoyed. As Dick, Miss Ethel Campbell is well suited, her singing being very good, and Miss Tina Franks as Alice is captivating; Miss Phyllis Seymour as Molly sings and dances charmingly; Miss Ivy Proudfoot makes a smart Viscount Piccadilly, her songs being well rendered. The singing of Mme. Clare Boardman as Fairy Sunshine arouses enthusiasm, and Miss Ethel Haidee as Princess Amarynth is no less successful in her song and dance; Albert Williams as Sarah causes hearty laughter, and Deane Tribune as Idle Jack is very amusing. Jack Hodson makes a smart Fitzwarren, and between the three the fun never flags; Tom Gilmore as the Cat delights the youngsters; Mlle. Pauline Rivers' Mill Girls and Dancers introduce some smart dances, and also sing well.

OXFORD. — New Theatre, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Tom Craven's company opened here on Monday with his drama *When a Lass Loves*, which was received with every mark of favour by the evidently delighted house. Mr. F. Stoney gives an excellent and faithful rendering of the old Lawyer, Caleb Crass; Mr. F. R. Robertson as his son Dr. Crass gives a most powerful and interesting performance; Mr. P. R. Forman is wonderfully good as the villainous albeit amusing Bridge; Mr. Louis Palgrave as Slack and Mr. Percy Maitland as Stapleton are a most amusing pair, and keep the fun going merrily; Miss Doris Digby gives a capital sketch of the good-natured chorus girl, Nina May; Miss Rita Trekelle plays Cynthia Bridge with incisive power and artistic finish; whilst Miss Josephine Middleton quickly wins the sympathy of the house by her convincing and clever performance of the lady detective, Constance Lane.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—A very excellent programme is provided here this week with Mr. T. N. Walter's company in the musical comedy *The Flower Girl*. The company generally is a very talented one, and enjoys a highly enthusiastic and most cordial reception. Mr. J. Burlington Rigg possesses a fine voice, which he uses with conspicuous success as the Hon. Billy Greenhill; Mr. Cyril Delevanti is capital as Reginald Rackitt; Mr. John A. Latham is well placed as Johnny Wheeler; while Mr. John T. MacCallum scores immensely with his irresistibly funny portrayal of Joe Wheeler. Mr. Henry Adnes achieves distinction and is a general favourite as Alphonse de Racquett; he is ably supported by Miss Elsa Brettingham as Lizette de Racquett; the pair keep the house in continual roars of laughter. Miss Eva Brickwell makes a typical though charming suffragette as Miss Greenhill, while Miss Lena Brickwell is delightfully engaging as Lily, the Flower Girl. Miss Idalia May is the solo dancer.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—Temperance Hall.—On Saturday and Monday last Miss Inez Howard's company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell) presented *Pete* to crowded audiences. Mr. Geo. R. J. Austin was a most convincing Pete Quilliam; Mr. Guy P. Ellis played excellently as Phillip Christian; Mr. Clem Horlock was very good as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. William J. Roe ably sustained the part of Ross Christian; Miss Margaret Savill showed great ability as Kate Cregeen; and Miss Katie Flood was a capable Nancy.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is playing *The Prodigal Son* here to good houses. Mr. Mark D. Draper submits a powerful and convincing impersonation of the prodigal, Oscar Stephensson; Mr. Ernest Owttrim gives a strong characterisation of Magnus Stephensson; Mr. Charles Sewell ably undertakes the part of Stephen Magnusson, whose wife Anna has an admirable representative in Miss Florence Lovell; Mr. Arthur E. Holland gives a commendable rendition of Oscar Neilson; the Pastor as played by Mr.

mere's trained rabbits, doves, rats, and dogs give an interesting show; and the Campilins (in musical comedy), Cyril Dacre and wife (in amusing comedy), and some new pictures add to the attractions.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime is now in its second week, and still draws appreciative audiences. Both Miss Rosie Sylvester (Dick) and Miss Alice Denton (Alice) continue to fascinate.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—An exceptionally attractive programme is provided here. Prominent is the Mysterious Mephisto, with his twelve marvellous illusions; Foot Gers' burlesque imitations of Fragson win rounds of applause; John Grun Marx exhibits his wonderful feats of strength; the Daunton-Shaw troupe are smart in cycling feats; and particularly expert club manipulators are the McBanns. Wyllie is an amusing tramp musician; some interesting acrobatic feats are performed by the Croisat Trio; Mooney and Holbein are entertaining; and the Arthur Gallimore Trio in pantomime sketch, Nat Watkins, and Little Sunbeam complete a first-rate entertainment.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's *Little Bo-Peep* is proving a big draw here. Mr. W. H. Gatty (the Demon Wolf) and Miss Elsie Peach (Fairy Moonbeam) both possess excellent voices; Miss Eva May Rosslyn is a sprightly Boy Blue; Miss Lizzie Payne is a charming Little Bo-Peep; Miss Bertha Norwood makes a smart Lord de Rhino; Mr. Harry Rex as Baron Hardup, Mr. J. W. Groves as Granny Brown, Mr. Will Sheoherd as Johnnie Stout, Mr. Rex Kempton as Jimmy Green, Mr. Willie Harris as Tommy Long, Mr. Albert Kail Stern as Rastus Brown, and Cling and Clancy as Willy and Timm all work together and keep things going with a hum.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—E. Hill Mitchelson's company in *Who is She?* is playing a return engagement here. Mr. James Stillwell is a capital King Vladimir; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan imbues the character of Prince Bora with the necessary amount of stage villainy; Mr. Sinclair Holdew makes a humorous Captain Arthur Gower; Mr. Alfred Grenville is a manly Sergeant Metroff; Mr. Bernard Liell as the Chinaman, Chang Tee, is clever; Mr. Willie Hicks is a capable Paul; Mr. W. C. Bailey extracts humour from the part of Michael; and Messrs. Henderson as the ew George Gibbon as the headsman, and Cyril Maitland as the sentry are good in their respective characters. Miss Mabel Ronald is again seen to advantage as the Little King; Miss Georgette Thierry deserves praise in the title-rôle; Miss Mary Collier is a sprightly and vivacious Sarette, Miss Constance Medwyn a realistic Keta Noveitch, and Miss Alice Barber a pleasing Countess Ladori.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—At the top of the bill this week Miss Zona Vevey, assisted by Herr Max Erard, is, in spite of several previous visits here, proving a bigger draw than ever; James and Jenny Jee, in their jumping and cycling on the tight and endless revolving wire give a wonderful performance; Johnson and Hart, in their speciality, *In Hoopville*, prove themselves to be hoop manipulators par excellence; the Merrions (Will, Harry, and Fred) have a smart and original turn; Tom Franks, ventriloquist, is decidedly original in his methods; Tony Freedman, light comedian, contributes a smartly-written and well-rendered topical ditty; Frank E. Ford is a clever exponent of wooden shoe dancing; and capital films are shown.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; Lessee, Mr. Ernest Mansell.—On Monday evening Mr. James E. Lewis's company commenced a six nights' engagement in the attractive musical drama *The Welsh Maid*. The piece is put on in excellent fashion, and the performances have elicited considerable appreciation.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.—We have this week Mr. G. M. Copping's company in *Love Rules the World*, which was admirably performed on Monday, and greatly appreciated by a large audience. Mr. Will Hee gave a fine impersonation of Harold Kingston, and as Maud Carruthers Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes also gave a clever and powerful portrayal; Mr. George Gaisford as Stephen Blight made a most effective villain, and Miss Helen Cameron as Flo Merton was equally good as his accomplice in crime; Mr. Mat Russell as Billy Binks was most amusing, and as Kitty Snowdrop Miss Florence Gomer was successful; Mr. David Donaldson as Jim Dixey was good; and Mr. S. Wallbank as Paul Carruthers was convincing and earnest. The play is well staged.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is having a record pantomime success in *Sinbad the Sailor*, which continues to draw splendid business. Miss May Poulton is a highly-popular Sinbad, and all the artists, enumerated last week, are thoroughly up to their work. The specialities by the Lachterops, Newco and Sullo, the Sisters Clare, Walter Adams, and the Szarvasi-Ferencz Troupe are all well received.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. George Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—El Tampicos present a typical Mexican instrumental, vocal, and dancing act, which is set in their own picturesque scenery, and proves a very attractive turn; Gladys Ray is a good comedienne and dancer; Clarke and Glenney create much diversion in *The Haunted House*; the Three Jewels dance with grace and agility; Prince Kuroki, Japanese illusionist, performs some very clever conjuring tricks; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia give a capital novelty entertainment in which juggling, mirth, and music are introduced; Chas. Mackwey and company produce a highly-amusing sketch, *Breaking Up the Happy Home*; Chas. Russell and Alf. H. Drinkwater are both good comedians; and the Palace Bioscope completes an acceptable entertainment.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—Joseph Poole's myriorama is still doing excellent business here, this being the last week of the visit. The entertainment is of a very varied and attractive character.

REDDITCH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. E. Field.—Professor Woods' musical and pictorial combination opened here on Monday. The company comprises the following artists, who delight large audiences nightly:—Reg Heaton comedian; Eileen Hall, ballad vocalist; Walter Gray, juggling act; Young Stanton, ventriloquial sketch artist; Prof. Maccann, concertina soloist; and Miss Zelli Vondi; with a good show of animated pictures.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—*Sapho*, the attraction here this week, is well staged, and finds great favour. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott impersonates with ability the part of Jean Gaussin; Miss Ada Abbott holds the audience with a fine embodiment of the title-rôle; Mr. Stephen Crossley admirably portrays the polished Henri Dechelette; Mr. Edward Ouston makes up well as Flamant; Mr. Edwin Keene as Uncle Cesaire is highly diverting; Mr. Weedon Ross submits a forcible and convincing portrayal of old Legrand; and Miss Marjorie Tennant plays with distinction the part of Nichette.

EMPIRE AND PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle.—The pictures shown here continue to attract good houses; and variety turns by the Lannons, pedestal dancers, and Douglas's Jolly Bakers, in an amusing and clever acrobatic act, complete a most enjoyable bill of fare.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here this week with *The Beggar Maid's Wedding*. Mr. Otto Minster is a manly Jack Cunningham, and Mr. Charles Barclay is seen to advantage as Dr. Millbank; Dicky Storm is most amusingly enacted by Mr. Herbert Lloyd, and Mr. Charles Brunester scores as Norman Marsh; Tina Torkington is smartly portrayed by Miss Daisy Meynard, and Miss Olive Warne cleverly enacts Maud Villiers; Miss Lily Duncker scores heavily as Elsie Cunningham, and Miss Marie Duncan is pleasing and sympathetic as Bessie Webster. The mounting and scenery are elaborate.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Edgar Fox; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Holtands.—Messrs. Callahan and St. George head the bill here with a clever musical act. Wee Montyn Moore is deservedly applauded; Colbert brings down the house with a finished exhibition of club and hoop manipulation; Lillie Le Main scores highly with living marionettes; the Four Mayos are smart skaters; J. W. Darley and company present an interesting act, *Music*; Le Lars are high-class vocalists and dancers; Adelaide Waldorf does a brilliant vocal turn, and George Norton also appears with success.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Good houses are the rule this week to witness a further first-class programme, consisting of Dene and Dixon, an entertaining turn, in *The New Page Boy*; Walter Aubrey, with the wooden shoes; Les Zanonis, a pair of jugglers in clever work; and Watson and McCue, a satisfying pair of comedians. The pictures are good.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is here with *The Woman Pays*, and a full house followed the play with much satisfaction. Mr. Phil Harper plays the hero Sid Armstrong with vigour; the villainous steward Roger Marchant is ably portrayed by Mr. Clavering Craig; Mr. Joseph Magrath (Mickey Maloney) and Miss Lily Beverley (Polly Stokes) make good use of their opportunities in the comedy line; Miss Alice Greenwood is a charming Madge Armstrong; and Miss Kat Blair gains much sympathy for her clever presentation of Nell Morland. Mr. Beresford James makes a smart Cyrus Treadgold; Mr. Dunlop Stewart does good work as Luke Morland; Mr. C. Gaskell is a comical Nathan Moss; and Miss Florence Thorne (Tabitha) and Mrs. S. Porteus (Nurse Agnes) give good support.

RECENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Crowded houses (twice nightly) find much genuine fun in Harry Roxbury's pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty* (book and lyrics by Miss Vashti Wynne), which is beautifully staged, and comprises ten scenes. Mr. Tubby Edlin as the Demon's Son keeps the house in roars of laughter, and the King and Queen are comically presented by Mr. Tom Shenton and Mr. Willie Black. Princess Beauty is charmingly presented by Miss Ivy Moore, who sings well; Miss Lillian Elliott is a dashing Prince Fearless, and has a pleasing voice; Miss Winnie Acton (Fairy Queen) and Mr. Frank H. Morton (Demon) are well placed, and gain much applause for singing. The specialities are of excellent quality, including cornet solos by John S. Leick and Mabel Keith, very smart dancing and manœuvres by the Eight Oowana Girls, acrobatic comic business by the Three Martinettes, and sand-dancing by Tom Shenton, Eva Shenton, and Willie Shenton. Miss Nellie Valentine as Viscount Broadlands gets much appreciation for her dashing manner and singing of "Charlie Brown. Under the bâton of Mr. Forshaw Kershaw the choruses are very pleasingly rendered.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Boyle.—*The Midnight Wedding* is on a return visit, and Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company do full justice to the piece. Both performances on Monday night were crowded with delighted audiences. Paul Valmar (the hero) was well presented by Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes; Miss Margaret Brodie cleverly portrayed Princess Astrea; Mr. Charles Whitlock was a dashing Captain Rudolf; Miss Jessica Black as Kathie, Mr. James E. Page (Sergeant Max), Mr. Wm. Franklin (Corporal Otto), and Mr. Algie Spalding (Private Bobo) combined to keep the audience in excellent humour. Miss Gladys Faunce as Rozel and Mr. St. George Frere as Lieut. Eugene von Streisburg also did well, and there were excellent representations of the other parts. The costumes and staging were very good.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—A strong attraction is Mr. James Kiddie's grand comic Christmas pantomime, *Dick Whittington*. Mr. Charles Cork plays effectively as the villain Rodento, the King of Rats, his principal foil. Concordi, the Fairy of Belles, being prettily personated by Miss Maude Leviete; Miss Lena Page appears to advantage in the title-rôle, and Alice is charmingly presented by Miss Florrie Warner; Mr. Dennis McCarthy gets in some solid comic business as Alderman Fitzwarren; the Cat has been well studied by Mr. Bert Hudson; Idle Jack is in the able hands of Mr Charley Chard; and Mr. Tom Gott causes plenty of laughter by his rendering of Amelia Florence; Clifton and Gibson prove a clever pair of fun merchants as Silly Peter and Lazy Larry; the old favourite Miss Florence Hilton being accorded numerous encores for her smart rendition of the musical numbers as Sir Algernon de Mash.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The King of Cadonia* continues to be performed here to large audiences, and the members of Mr. Frank Curzon's company are all warmly applauded. The fine acting and finished vocalism of Mr. Bertram Wallis as the King are appreciated; Miss Alice Moffat as the Princess Marie has many admirers, her charming personality, melodious voice, and graceful deportment making her popular; Mr. Bertie Wright's Duke of Alasia is an impersonation full of genuine humour; Mr. Cecil Moylan is good as Brau; and other clever performances are Mr. Jack Martin's General Bronski, Mr. Cameron Carr's Captain Lanski, Mr. E Hartley-Summers' Panix, Mr. Cecil Tressillian's Laborde, and Miss Florence Lelgarde's Duchess of Alasia. The chorus is admirable, and Mr. H. R. Matthews is an efficient conductor.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—*Jack and Jill*, with its excellent company, exquisite dresses, and beautiful scenery, is firmly established in public favour here.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Crowded audiences continue to enjoy the fun, music, and beautiful scenery of *Dick Whittington*, and Miss Florrie Gallimore, Mr. Fred Lloyd, Mr. H. O. Wills, and Mr. Will Lorenzi are other favourites.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The drawing-room entertainment of vocalism and mimicry by Miss Clarice Mayne and her humorous pianist was deservedly applauded. Messrs. Carney and Armstrong's clever and original comedy business and clean repartee were thoroughly enjoyed, and other popular turns were done by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber in *The Dramatist at Home*; Haines and Borthwick in a comic sketch, *Half-a-Dollar*, supported by Miss M. Damer and Miss Vynall; Mendel, the talented blind pianist and composer; Miss Ruth Davenport, who looked charming in eighteenth-century costume, and sang "Beware," from *Dorothy*; La Berat, in her graceful and artistic mystic grotto dance; the Bros. Miller, comedians; and Mr. Mike Nono, dancer. On the Bioscope some amusing films were shown.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The clever sporting sketch in three scenes, *A 33 to 1 Chance*; Gillin, ventriloquist; the Three Orleans, vaudeville artists; Elroy, armless wonder; Miss Connie Mascot, comedienne; Messrs. Vandon, Perry, and Wilbur, the smart song and dance boys; Mr. R. H. Douglas, the clever comedian and burlesque-actor; and Miss Gladys Revell, are all popular here. The Bioscope, with artistic new pictures; Clare and Pastor; and Barrold's wonderful performing dogs and monkeys are quite successful.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, the Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Holmes.—The highly-dramatic and artistic pictures shown here are the theme of general approbation, notably A Good Action Rewarded and A Tragic Idyll. The artists engaged are Mr George Young, blind musician; Miss Ella Beaumont, vocalist; and the Willands, with their Fantoches entertainment.

ALBERT HALL.—Poole's Myriorama and Picture Show is still doing good business by day and night. The variety entertainment here is contributed to by the Cattenos, amusing comedy gymnasts; the clever Manek-Shaw troupe of Hindoo conjurers, who are loudly applauded; the famous George French trope of trick cyclists; Learto, the clown, and "Pom-Pom"; the Snow Family, comic and graceful skaters; Miss Phyllis St Clair; Mr. Harry Dowsett, and the Comical Midgets.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Some first-class variety turns and capital moving pictures are the attractions here. Akbar is a skilful gymnast performing on the flying rings; the Spadonis merit high praise for their duets and dances; the Leonas contribute a smart musical act; and Bella Leaburn is a bright and pleasing comedienne and descriptive vocalist.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Messrs. Matthew H Glenville and Fred Osmond's company continues to present the famous funny and refined pantomime *Aladdin*. The title-rôle is filled by Miss Hettie Zillwood, a charming personality, who is ably partnered by Miss Lou Charlesworth, a dainty Princess. The principal boy creates the greatest impression, perhaps, with "He's my pal," and also scores with "I've been out with Charlie Brown." Miss Lou Charlesworth sings "Somewhere" beautifully, and fully deserves the encore. The indispensable "Kelly" is brought into prominence by Mr. Fred Osmond, who, as the Vizier, creates much amusement. Mr. Clarence Turner supplied a quaint Mrs. Twankey, whose song, "Never let your husband be an explorer," and his patter in the Lancashire dialect put the audience into excellent humour. The Brothers Lavelle as the Policemen distinguish themselves by their knockabout tricks, particularly in the Kitchen scene. Mr. Pulo, who is quite at home as Wishee Washee, also introduced a clever and amusing juggling turn. Mr. Charles H Gallier does well as the Emperor, and his song, "Don't take me home," has caught on immensely. Mr. Frank Sutherland makes the most of Abanazar; and opportunities are afforded for the Venester Troupe of Dancers to display their particular abilities. The Sisters Wingrove also show remarkable skill in this respect, and their singing of "The dashing military maid" and "Ida my Idaho" bring them into warm favour. In the last act the vocal efforts of the Grando Sextette are greatly appreciated. There is an almost entire change of programme this week. Herr Carl, the Tramp lightning cartoonist, is a distinct success. The Three Hilberts, clever comedy acrobats and bouncing table experts, have an amusing competition; Miss May Wyatt, 'cello soloist, is also an interesting feature. A word of praise is certainly due to Mr. Frank Sutherland, who produced the pantomime, and also to Mr. Charles H. Gallier, the stage-managers. Mr. Fred R. Wyatt is the musical director.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The programe here this week is of all-round excellence. The artists engaged include Henriette de Seiri's artistic bas-reliefs; Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress; the Hyde and Cody Trio, eccentrics, in insane tricks; Harold Heath, coon delineator and dancer; Peggy Lennie and Walker Hast, in a charming little poetic phantasy, "A Sea Nymph"; and Tale and Tale, "The Barmaid and her Eccentric Customer."

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr George Clarkson.—The entertainments at the Opera House for the coming year have been started with great eclat by the enterprising Mr. Percy Hutchison, who is to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which he has catered for the public amusement; and he thoroughly deserved the unstinted support accorded by the packed and enthusiastic audiences who witnessed the opening performances on Monday. The arrangemnts are this week of an exceptionally elaborate and attractive character, two separate plays being presented each day, the charming musical fairy play *Pinkie and the Fairies* in the afternoon, and *Brewster's Millions* in the evening. Both plays are capitally enacted by the clever artists engaged. In the former Miss Hermione Gingold is prominent as Pinkie. She acts with confidence and grace, and has a clear articulation; Miss Hetty Kenyon as the Fairy Queen is very attractive and is also a clever dancer; Misses Aileen Faithful, Peggy Rae, and Kathleen York are highly commendable as the Elves; Tommy is cleverly impersonated by Master Charles Chappell; Miss Dolly Sommers is admirable in the part of the Herald; Miss Lucie Caine (Cinderella) and Miss Estele Thebaud (Sleeping Beauty) are both good vocalists; characteristic impersonations are given by Misses Haidee Gunn (Aunt Imogen), Lucy Evelyn (Aunt Caroline), Muriel Alston (Molly), and Messrs Ribton Haines (Uncle Gregory), T. P. Haynes (Mr. Irons and the Beast); clever animal work is done by Mr. Sam Wilkinson as the Cat, and the Fairies' chorus was exceptionally well rendered. In *Brewster's Millions* Mr Percy Hutchison, who appeared for the first time since his leasehold of the Opera House, received a very hearty welcome, and repeated his inimitable and highly successful representation of Monty Brewster. He was ably assisted by Miss Lillias Earle as Mrs. Dan De Mille, a part she essayed very effectively, and also by Miss Cicely Stuckey, who portrayed Peggy in a fascinating manner.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*The Old Home* is being presented here by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company. Mr. Charles Franmore gives an admirable portrayal of Daddy Dean; Hazel Dean is excellently depicted by Miss Nina Blake-Adams; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell is very good as the Rev. Eric Armstrong; and the same may be said of Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Lord Avondale. Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite does justice to the part of Bridget Donoghan; Mr. Fred L. Connyngham is very funny as Sam Adams, and is ably assisted by Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Polly Popp.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—A delightful turn is that of the Lukashimas, a Japanese troupe of acrobats, who have a good reception; T. E. Finglass, with "Idaho," sings himself into favour; Phil Rees's stable lads contribute a good sketch, *Not a Crook*; Jack Rose and Sue Lewis, the Yankee Doodle Duo, showed some good dancing; Harry Leybourn, comedian and mimic, Harry Bedford, with new songs, and the Bioscope complete an interesting bill.

STALYBRIDGE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. K. Stewart Macdonald.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn and company present *For Honour and Revenge*. Mr. Beaudyn in the arduous part of James Galston wins encomiums for his clever rendering, and Miss Irene Munroe as a woman of the world does well.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD. General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. C. Elderton's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* continues to have a successful run, and all are loud in praise of the production. Miss Nita Clavering as Robinson renders some new songs in pleasing style, and Miss Isa Gibson (Polly Perkins) is greatly applauded in song and dance. The fun has increased, and Mr. J. H. Booth (Mrs. Crusoe), Mr. Fred Boulton (Will Atkins), Mr. Teddy Worth (little Billy Crusoe), and the Eltons miss few opportunities in the way of exciting laughter, and the whole company may be congratulated upon the admirable manner in which each performs his or her part.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Mme. Albani occupies the head of the programme here, and her songs are heard with great pleasure. Menotti does some wonderful feats on the wire; the Venetians' singing, with pictorial effects, is received with much applause; Harris Coonie is a capital dancer; Hayman and Franklyn present a highly-amusing sketch, *A Suit for Divorce*; and Starr and Leslie are smart in their act. Pictures on the Bioscope conclude.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's pantomime, *The House That Jack Built*, continues its success of last week, delighting large audiences; but despite its popularity it concludes to-night (Saturday).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Black.—Ernest Lord's Excelsiors, vocal entertainers, have had a pleasing reception here. Among the array of talent appearing are the Falady Troupe, exceedingly clever acrobats; Curtis Leo, who conjures in amusing style; Edie Anderson, a dashing vocalist and dancer; Hayes and Merritt, smart bounding trampolinists; Les Andres in an entertaining terpsichorean act, *Dances of all Nations*; Zenora, the little upside down wonder; and Charlton, a conjuror of much ability.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company presents *The Lighthouse Robbery*, the play, which is full of thrilling incidents, being well received. Miss Hilda Baynton is a distinct success as Rose Prescott; Baby Freda is very clever as Little Nellie; Mr. Percy Beresford appears with credit as Tom Manly; and Mr. Rupert Talbot ably represents James Hammond.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The London Grand Opera Company, organised and directed by Mr. John Halpin, is giving a great treat to music lovers. The company includes some well-known operatic vocalists, and the principal artists are Miss Toni Seiter, Miss Agatha Wurth, Miss Una Bruckshaw, and Messrs. L. Russell, Wilson Pembroke, and Charles Tilbury. The company give a different opera each evening. The rest of the programme includes Kelly and Agnas, a good Australian comedy duo; Dan Conroy, popular comedian; Bonhair and Tess, with a charming speciality act; Marie Dawber, dainty comedienne; the Melba Twins, harmonising vocalists; and Horace Sade, international dancer. The Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company commenced the last week of its stay, after a two years' successful run, with the exciting drama *A Lancashire Lad*. Mr. F. S. Strickland, Mr. Stanley Gordon, and Mr. Byron, assisted by Miss Lina Nazeby and Miss Nina Vaughton, showed great ability in their respective rôles. To-night *Sweeney Tod* will be staged. The performances this week are for the company's benefit.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—An interesting dramatic playlet entitled *Her Return* is presented with artistic skill by Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks. The Donnas Trio appear in a clever equilibristic act on the trapeze; Ren Grahame is a smart descriptive comedienne; Dan Conroy submits his latest successes; the Three Phydoras are seen in a novel musical act; Friscari's manipulation of top hats is very wonderful; Ada Gatley, in her pot-pourri act, and George Lawrence, light comedian, are popular contributors to the programme, which is concluded by the Perfection Pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week we have Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky 'Liza*. Mr. Dickie Clare takes the triple part of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French Waiter; Peter Pettitoe, in the hands of Mr. T. W. Benson, is well handled; Mr. Norman W. Lee as Paul Pettitoe has a character to which he is admirably suited; Miss Vesta Brownie as Lucky 'Liza fetches the house with her dancing; Mr. A. W. Thompson makes a capital Barnaby; and Miss Elsie Walton deserves special mention for her capital portrayal of Vergina. Mr. J. W. Forrest is funny as William Biffins, and Mr. Bert Collins is droll as Tompkins, the Court Usher.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is playing *Little Phil's Mother*. Miss Maud Russell, the principal lady, gives a meritorious performance as Ruth Towers, and Miss Gertie Renand does creditable work in the juvenile rôle of Phil. Miss Violet Crauford gives a well-studied delineation of Elspeth, playing with dramatic effect throughout. The Frank Towers of Mr. Percy Ballard is a meritorious piece of work; as also is Geoffrey Dane, by Mr. N. J. Monte. Mr. John Cullen is good in the rôle of Donald Taggarty; Messrs. Henry Earlsmore (Oscar Titherton) and John E. Tomlinson (Bill Brisket) prove themselves capable exponents of villainy; while the lighter vein is in the good hands of Miss Leslie Warner as Julia Worrilove and Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Sam Perkels, who do excellent work.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading the programme are Messrs. Fred Edwards and Co. in an original sketch, entitled *Kleptomaniacs*; from beginning to end it is brimful of sparkling humour, and the chief participants, Mr. Fred Edwards and Miss Bertha Northam, carry the whole thing through in commendable manner. Leoni Dixon scores a great success with her song and dance; the Barowskys are clever and humorous in their Continental acrobatic act; George Benson is warmly applauded for his well-studied mimicry of leading comedians; Marshall and Parr are clever and refined entertainers; Billy, the human-brained horse, causes wonderment with his extraordinary sagacity; and the success of Mr. Wallace Selkirk's spectacular production *Our Empire's Defenders* is being repeated this week.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—From the crowded houses during the past week it is quite evident that Mr. S. F. Davidson's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is entirely suited to the public taste. Mr. Will Evans in the rôle of the genial Alderman has made himself a great favourite, and is very effectively developing the humour of his rôle; Mr. Dan Crawley is a neat, smart, and humorous Eliza, the cook, and creates roars of laughter; Mr. Chris. Baker continues to please in his rôle of Idle Jack; the Brothers Ethairien have also established themselves as favourites as Captain Bill and Bo'sun Ben, and their rollicking humour is a source of much enjoyment; Mr. Ernest Laws does good work as Ahmed, and his rendering of "Asleep in the Deep" has created a furore; Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., is also in evidence as the Watchman; as Dick Miss Margaret Ruby's vivacity and buoyancy are decidedly refreshing, and her singing is a source of much delight; Miss Gertie Gavagan as Alice has also made herself extremely popular with her charming manner and her song and dance; Miss Hilda Playfair gives significance to her lines by her clear utterance and excellent vocalism; Miss Constance Clive as Dolly and Miss Violet Trevenyon greatly assist towards the success of the pantomime; and the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers delight all with their graceful movements.

(*Continued on page 11.*)

WANTED, TO REPRODUCE FOR NEXT CHRISTMAS,

OR SELL AFTER THE PRESENT RUN,

THE THREE GORGEOUS AND SUCCESSFUL PANTOMIMES

Now Playing at

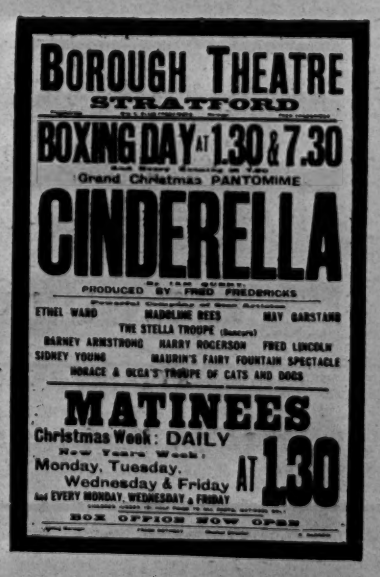

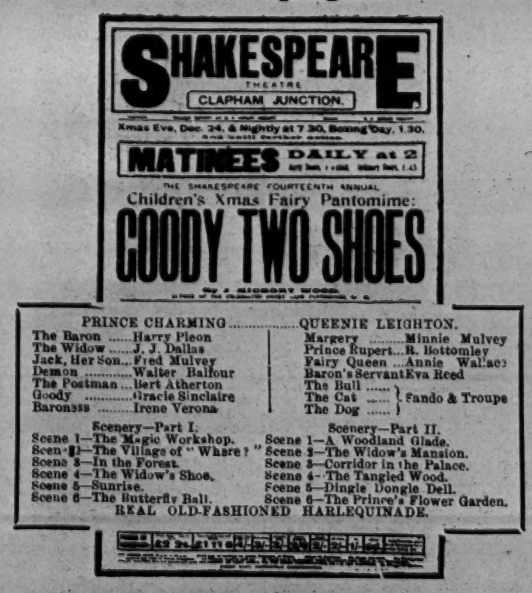

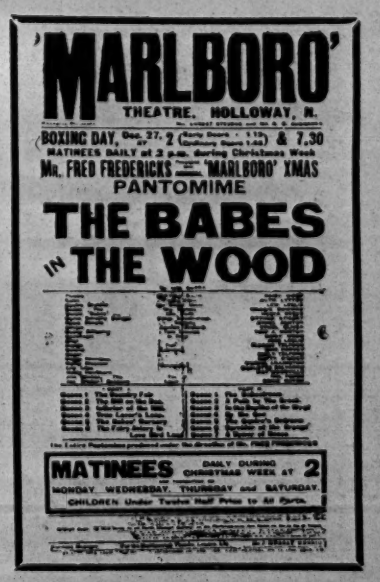

Each costing several thousand pounds. Managers should see them at once.

Wanted, to Buy one or two Big Productions, not the above subjects. ***Correspondence Invited.***

A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford Road, Stratford, London, E. or to FRED. FREDERICKS, Borough Theatre, Stratford

'Phones {1490 / 1491} East. Telegrams, Abrahamend, London. 'Phone, 897 East.

OPEN TO ARRANGE CHRISTMAS NEXT, "FORTY THIEVES." EXCELLENT SHOW.

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Johnson v. Ketchell Film.

THE film of the Johnson-Ketchell contest, which Mr. J. W. Coffroth, of San Francisco, has brought to London, is altogether excellent. It shows everything, from the training of the competitors up to the time when the white man, after a game and plucky stand, is counted out. All the same, when one bears in mind that Ketchell was giving away no less than two stone, it strikes one very forcibly that the show he put up was quite wonderful.

Slight Fire in Shoreditch.

FIRE occurring at the Alcazar Picture Palace, Shoreditch, late last Monday night, alarm was caused among the members of the Central Shoreditch Club, whose rooms are situated above the picture show, but all escaped without injury.

Annette Kellerman Film.

THE Annette Kellerman swimming and diving pictures have been shown at the Standard, Pimlico, during the week. They are very fine, and the astounding acquatic feats of the beautiful "Australian mermaid"—sinuous form, bewitching smile, and grace itself—were cheered to the echo.

Arthur Brogden's New Appointment.

MR. ARTHUR BROGDEN has been appointed general-manager for Mr. Leon Vint's circuit of electric picture palaces, and will shortly open his London offices.

Our Navy and Army.

THERE is no entertainment in London to which the boys and girls home for the holidays can be taken with a better certainty of being genuinely interested and instructed than Mr. Alfred West's Life in Our Navy and Army, at the Polytechnic, in Regent-street. By means of the cinematograph the everyday life of our sailors and soldiers is presented so vividly and with so pleasing an admixture of the serious and the lighter sides of the Services that the entertainment holds the attention from the first picture to the last. For two hours each afternoon and evening Mr. West makes his appeal to large audiences of young people and their elders. In the first half of the programme life in the Navy is the subject. We see the latest Dreadnoughts, we watch a lesson in gunnery and various other instructions and drills. A Crowd on a Battleship is a delightful experience, and Portsmouth Harbour brings memories of the Victory, while a demonstration of how our bluejackets fight on land is a very inspiring affair.

For the First Time in Europe.

AT the Palace Theatre the really beautiful new series of life-motion studies of flowers and leafage, diversified by the action of light, which Mr. Alfred Butt (with the connivance of Mr. Charles Urban) is including in "Kinemacolor," may be taken as the crowning-point of bioscopics in Nature's tints, since they are the identical pictures that converted America's doubts into enthusiastic endorsement three weeks ago. They are being shown for the first time in Europe exclusively at the Palace.

A Film Dinner.

AN interesting event took place on Tuesday evening last at the Washington Hotel, Lime-street, Liverpool, when over thirty of the headquarter staff of Messrs. Films, Ltd., the well-known cinematograph experts, of 18 and 20, Manchester-street, were entertained at dinner by the directors, the occasion being the thirty-fifth anniversary of the birthday of the managing-director, Mr. A. T. Wright. Several artists from the local variety theatres contributed to the enjoyment of the evening, in the course of which Mr. Edwin W. Smith, on behalf of the staff, presented Mr. A. T. Wright with a magnificent diamond combination pin and stud, and in a few well-chosen words said that it was a slight token of the respect and esteem in which he was held by everyone connected with the firm. Mr. Wright, in reply, said that he was taken completely by surprise, and thanked them all most sincerely for the beautiful present. He called attention to the rapid growth of the firm, and said that it could not have attained its present position without the hearty co-operation of its employees. He was pleased to see so many there, and only regretted that the London, Belfast, and Newcastle-on-Tyne staffs could not be present, but hoped that on some future occasions it may be found possible to bring together the whole of the staff.

Pictures as Arguments.

A NOVEL method of addressing electors was introduced by Mr. J. T. Dales at St. Saviour's Hall, Forest Gate, last Wednesday night, when he demonstrated the advantages of Tariff Reform by a series of magic lantern pictures. If a heckler contradicts Mr. Dales' statements he simply flashes on the screen one of his many pictures, thus showing the disbeliever proof of his accuracy. One of the pictures depicted the enormous crowd outside Billingsgate, when 2,000 men applied for forty jobs. Others were of steamers, dumping their cargoes—steel, pottery, granite, glassware, and doors—on the docks free of duty. Mr. Dales also showed pictures of many factories which have been closed owing to unfair foreign competition.

Living Portrait Albums.

A LONDON firm has started taking cinematograph portraits of children and grown-ups and producing them in a small and handy form, so that by means of an instrument resembling very much the well-known stereoscope, an actual moving picture of the subject may be seen for ever after. This new development in portrait photography suggests extraordinary possibilities. It will be possible, for instance, for the octogenarian of 1990 to see himself laughing or crying in his cradle, or taking the first tottering steps of his life. Or scenes in the present-day nurseries, of children romping together, can be transferred with all their living movement to photographic reproduction, and kept for the happy youngsters, to be shown to their own children in days to come. The films on which these photographs are taken are 40ft. long, and show perhaps a full minute or more of actual movement. There are from 500 to 700 pictures, so arranged round a cylinder that they appear like the leaves of a book. The cylinder is placed in the Kinora, as the stereoscope-like machine is called, and the cylinder made to revolve either by means of a simple spring or by clockwork. The pictures flash across the line of view, and the animated effect is obtained. The cost of the first reel is 30s., and duplicate copies may be had for 6d. The Kinora varies in price, according to the type and model, from 15s. to as many guineas. The Kinora is actually equivalent to a living portrait album.

New Companies.

TAK-KOS-KOPE COMPANY.—Dec. 29. £69,000 (£1). To adopt an agreement with C. T. Mackay, to acquire patents relating to the invention known as the "Citoscope," and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in citoscopes, biographs, films, articles of amusement or entertainment, &c. The signatories are: G. C. Thomas, 20, Castle-street, Liverpool, five shares; L. A. Breviaire, Boulevard St. Denis, No. 26, Paris, one share; K. Kusel, 20, Castle-street, Liverpool, one share; T. K. Jones, 20 Castle-street, Liverpool, one share; C. E. Williams, 4, Courtland-road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, one share; E. D. Petterson, 1, Derivale-street, Liverpool, one share; J. Morenas, Boulevard St. Denis, No. 26, Paris, one share. Minimum cash subscription, ten shares. First directors (not less than two nor more than five): G. C. Thomas, L. A. Breviaire, and J. Morenas. The two last named may appoint not more than two additional directors. £1. As fixed by company. Various agreements have been entered into between M. Hansen, J. Morenas, L. A. Breviaire, W. H. L. Dickson, F. G. Fraser, and C. T. Mackay. Purchase consideration, £69,000 (£4,000 cash and £55,000 shares.)

ELECTRIC PALACES, LTD.—Charge on certain leasehold land in High-street, Lewisham, forming part of premises known as Riverdale, upon which an Electric Palace or hall has been erected, dated Nov. 26, 1909, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to London and Provincial Bank, Ltd., 3, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, E.C.

ELECTRIC PICTURES (DOVER), LTD.—Mortgage on certain land, with Queen-street Chapel and other buildings thereon, in Queen-street and Last-lane, Dover, dated Nov. 22, 1909, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd., not exceeding £700.

CINO CORPORATION, LTD.—Registered Dec. 20, by Wansey, Stammers, and Co., 38, Moorgate-street, E.C. Capital, £30,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To carry on the business of theatre proprietors and managers, cinematograph exhibitors, and caterers for public and private amusements, &c. Private company. The signatories are to appoint the first governing director. Remuneration of governing director, not more than £1,000 per annum.

EALING CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, LTD.—Registered Nov. 29. Capital, £10,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with M. A. Pyke, and to carry on the business of amusement caterers, providers of entertainment and kinematograph pictures, &c. Private company. Registered office, Dewar House, Haymarket, S.W.

PICCADILLY-CIRCUS CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, LTD.—Registered Nov. 27. Capital £10,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with M. A. Pyke, and to carry on the business of amusement caterers, providers of entertainment and kinematograph pictures, &c. Private company. Registered office, Dewar House, Haymarket, S.W.

CINEMA DE PARIS, LTD.—Registered Dec. 1. Capital, £3,000, in £1 shares, 2,600 Preferred Ordinary and 400 Deferred Ordinary). Objects: To acquire in the United Kingdom or elsewhere sites for the erection of cinematograph or recreation halls or other premises, and to carry on the business of caterers for cinematograph and other entertainments, &c. Private company.

MIDLAND ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Dec. 28, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £20,000 (19,000 £1 shares and 20,000 1s. shares). As title. Agreement with the Provincial Palaces, Ltd. Minimum subscription, £7.

Thrills at the A.P.

AT the Alexandra Palace last week there was a high-class exhibition of up-to-date and comical subjects. The comical series were uproariously funny, and at least one, The Airship Destroyer, was ahead of time. The inventor of the aerial torpedo is discovered in a garden of roses with his lady love. He is a muscular young fellow and comely to look upon. He plucks a rose and gives it her, and they swear to be true to one another; but, there is always a "but." In this case it is her father who scorns the inventor hero who is hurried away by a mechanic. Through the field-glasses of the hero the audience sees a huge airship and later a host of aeroplanes. The airship, however, appears to be invincible. Its missiles are seen to hit their marks, aeroplanes drop and the occupants hurled out, a church is fired, and a motor gun has several narrow escapes, until at length that is blown up. A gallant signalman who sticks to his cabin falls a victim as the cabin is blown up. The next explosion witnessed is at the house of the hero's sweetheart. He runs from his aerial torpedo and dashes through smoke and flame and rescues her. Leaving her among the débris he rescues her father. Naturally there are orange blossoms for the hero. That is only one in the long list of pictures, and it is a very short story in comparison with the pantomime pictures. There was Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves and The Sleeping Beauty.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

THIS week at the Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, films have been shown of The Big Horn Ranch, Life in the Interior of North Borneo, Two Truants, A Plucky Little Girl, The Unlucky Bridegroom, The Deserter, and John Gilpin's Ride.

Strand's Non-Flam Programme.

AN entire non-flam programme was given on the cinematograph at the Theatre de Luxe, in the Strand, last Saturday, and will be continued each day, Sunday included.

Harringay's New Electric Theatre.

PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRES, LTD., have acquired an important site next the Queen's Head Hotel, Harringay, for a new picture theatre. Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co., the well-known theatrical architects, have prepared the plans for a model theatre on the most approved up-to-date lines, with seating capacity for upwards of 1,000 persons. Building operations will be commenced forthwith, and it is anticipated the structure will be completed early in March.

Aldershot Picture Palace.

MESSRS. CARPENTERS, LTD., have opened the Alexandra Picture Palace, at Aldershot.

Neath.

AT Vint's Electric Palace of Varieties, Neath, a very good programme has been presented this week, the principal items dealing with A Russian Girl's Heroism, The Obstinate Mule, Yokohama's Jubilee, Wanted, a Child, Marrying the Servant, and For Her Sake.

ABERDEEN.—WALKER AND CO.'S NEW YEAR CARNIVAL.—Messrs. Walker and Company's New Year carnival entertainments were given in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, to large audiences. The excellence of the cinematograph pictures shown by this local firm—the pioneers of cinematography in the North—doubtless is the means always of drawing big audiences, but the festive season has also much to do with the attendances. In a galaxy of novel and up-to-date representations of scenes and incidents, probably that depicting a good old fashioned pantomime was the best bidder for success. The subject was the never-old story of Cinderella, and as scene after scene was unfolded in all their brightness and splendour the audience was gradually worked up to a state of wondering excitement that culminated in the great transformation which precedes the famous harlequinade that our grandfathers and grandmothers revelled in. The story of The Haunted Castle forms the harlequinade, and many startling incidents take place while it is being told. To instance only one other of the films—that of the North Sea Trawling—the storm effects, contrasted with the calm and the attendant "fun and frolic" aboard these toilers of the sea, gives one an idea of what sea life is, both in its dangers and in its sports. Many interludes in the form of comic pictures keep the audiences in the best of humour.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—In compliance with a stipulation made by the Aldershot Council, under the Public Health Act, the bioscope has been removed outside the auditorium, with the result that the seating accommodation has been increased, and work of redecorating is now in progress. Capital programmes are being presented, the first part of the week the following films being shown:—Chicago May, a strong dramatic picture, Eastern Man, Mad Woman's Child, Crime by Suggestion, Longing for Gold, Human Wheel, &c.; whilst for Thursday and following nights a good set of pictures is presented.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenters' Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. Connors.—This fine building, erected many years ago as an entertainment hall, has been through many vicissitudes, with only little or no success, and, until recently, was a furniture saleroom. As a picture show there are signs of a great success, and the management may look forward to good support, judging by the patronage bestowed during the week just gone. The hall is most comfortable, the seating and heating being excellent, whilst the pictures shown are particularly clear and effective. The chief film this week is Furthest South with Lieutenant Shackleton, and other pictures are highly appreciated. Archie Gervase sings two capital songs during the performance.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The Pavilion pictures for the week include some scenes of enchantment and beauty to young folks, from the pantomime, *Little Red Riding Hood*. A very beautiful scenic subject of Swiss scenery is Shauffhausen, its environs and its people. Entombed Alive is a very good drama; Unending Discussion is full of incident, which provokes laughter; Out With It is something out of the common, and should not be missed as an original circumstance; Subterfuge, or, the Misunderstanding is well conceived and worked out; Gas Inspector is full of comedy. The vaudeville portion of the programme is also of a superior order of merit. Layton and Douglas give a refined musical act; selections are given of classical music, marches, operatic selections, and latest songs. Elliott and Lane are a clever couple of Scotch comedy artists and dancers.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Welsker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—"The World in Motion" pictures at this pleasure resort continue to win the favour and attendance of the working section of the public. The bill of fare for the week includes some films of special interest. Gentle Hearts, a pretty little picture-play. The subject is pathetic: two poor sisters in dire distress, who are finally rescued from starvation by the sagacity of a dog. A tantalising Young Lady is an amusing film; His Adversary's Card is also one of the comic series. We get also an interesting view of St. Malo, off the French Coast; and The Little Vendean tells a striking, touching story between the struggles of the French Royalists and the Republicans; Traitor to King and Country is also a good film. Mr. Robt. Paulas, baritone, sings a couple of songs in fine voice; Dalton and Dale, a couple of young artists are good at cross-talk and dancing at one and the same time.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks.—This variety and picture palace continues to forge to the front with good wholesome entertainment. The leading picture of the current week's programme is The White Slave. It is a story that not only excites, it thrills, and attention is ever on the stretch from the opening to the closing scene. Lugubrious humour is found in following the details of Suicide as a Profession. A very pretty story of the tender passion is The Love Token; and He Tried on the Handcuffs excited the mirth of all. Three-Fingered Kate is the doings of a lady who perpetrates a series of clever robberies by means of her maimed hand, which are not discovered for some time.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The excellent programme of pictures here this week includes Terrors of Russia in the Olden Time, A Woman's Repentance, The Navvy's Dream, and Bobby Wide Awake. A pleasing and deservedly applauded musical speciality act is contributed by Mr. Preston Holmes.

BARNSLEY.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—The Royal Canadian Picture Co. have done enormous business during the holidays. The pictures are exceedingly good.

BIRMINGHAM.—QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The re-opening of this hall with picture entertainments has met with marked success, and the enterprise of the management in securing the latest film subject is meeting with due reward in the shape of full houses. The programme is enriched with smart variety turns, and these prove very acceptable.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Prince and the Pauper is a splendid film, comprising several interesting and stirring scenes; The Redemption of John Farley and His Lost Love convey stories of a dramatic and pathetic character; and much amusement is afforded by Effects of Eating Dog's Meat and A Postman's Misfortunes. Mr. Arthur W. Briggs materially adds to the enjoyment of the pictures by his very appropriate and descriptive pianoforte accompaniments; Mr. Osland Denner, a well-trained baritone vocalist, contributes much-appreciated songs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert Kent.—By arrangement with the New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd., a varied selection of animated pictures is exhibited here. Palermo and Its Surroundings includes a series of picturesque views; Christmas is a very interesting film; Cricket on the Hearth presents Dickens's story in realistic style; and dramatic episodes are portrayed in A Montana Schoolmistress, Sons of the Soil, and A Soldier's Heart; while Evil Spirit in a Boarding-School and Lady Helen's Escapade are diverting.

BRISTOL.—COLSTON HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is attracting a good attendance here, and the variety company is strong and effective.

DARTFORD.—CONSERVATIVE HALL.—The following pictures were shown here last week: A Smart Burglar, Your Turn, Marquis, Course of True Love, The Childless Home, A New Jonah, Christmas, Picturesque Corsica, Animated Cotton, Comata, Sioux Chief, and Romance of a Boot and Dancing Slipper.

DUBLIN.—ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The new and original Irish Animated Picture Co. are doing excellent business here, and the change of pictures, which include A Woman's Repentance, The Strong Arm of the Law; Seal and Walrus Hunting in Arctic Regions; The Black Hand Society; Onawanda, or the Red Indian's Devotion; Scenes of Yokohama's Jubilee, and others, are particularly fine and are heartily enjoyed. The Sisters Colley, Dublin's famous prodigies, in new songs and dances, have become big favourites. Mr. Frank McGrail is very good in Illustrated Songs, and Mr. Henry A. Peters conducts the orchestra in capital style.

PICTURE PALACE. — Lessees, Entertainment Halls, Ltd. — The pictures presented here this week are as follows: An Alpine Echo, When Jack Comes Home, The Burglar and the Champagne, Teaching a Husband a Lesson, Yachting at Cowes, For Her Sake, and Oliver Twist.

VOLTA.—The new pictures shown here include The Waterfalls of Tannforsen in Sweden, The Fascination of the Snow Mountain Peaks, Little Jules Verne, Love and Native Land, and the Interrupted Appointment.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—A fine holiday programme is presented here this week, and Mr. Lunn is kept exceedingly busy indeed. Several films representing incidents of world-wide interest and touching scenes in everyday life are vividly portrayed. Of the latter class, one entitled The Child Benefactor creates a fine impression. Among others shown are Tommy Lad and An Attempt to Smash a Bank.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell.—A capital show of pictures is presented here. A sensational view, A Captain's Honour, is shown with exceptional brilliance. The lecturettes by Mr. Tom Imeson add much to the pleasure of the display.

GILFILLAN HALL.—The B.B. Picture Company had a big house on Monday evening, when they started their concluding week here. Quite a host of films are exhibited, keen excitement being manifested when the view entitled A Duel in Mid-Air was thrown on the screen. Humorous films are numerous, and include an outstanding one entitled Two Strings to Her Bow.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred. Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—A good holiday programme is presented here this week, and at every performance this cosy hall is packed by delighted audiences.

EDINBURGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Mr. Sanders is giving splendid value to his patrons this week, and the special performances, six daily, are attracting very large holiday audiences. White Sea Fisheries is a realistic subject, in which effects of wind and wave are shown with great realism. The Sleeping Beauty displays in elaborate and beautiful films the old fairy tale, while The Indian Scout adds a dramatic touch in its suggestion of adventure in the Wild West to a bill replete with variety and interest. The Humour of Christmas and Hypnotic Suggestion are much to the taste of the spectators, and in the comedy turns provided by Mr. Fred Collins there are elements of fun which are heartily recognised.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. George Edmunds.—An excellent series of films is being shown this week. Lost in Siberia is a very interesting and sensational subject, and Muggins, V.C., tells of a soldier's bravery on the field of battle. There are several humorous pictures; while Mr. W. H. Smart, "Harry Lauder's Brother-in-law," is very amusing and Miss Kitty Lavigne contributes a charming turn.

FALKIRK.—TOWN HALL.—For the second week in succession Mr. Ralph Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. has been showing in the Town Hall to crowded houses. The films are capital. The variety turns this week include the famous Scottish comedian N. C. Bostock and Billy Ross and company, singers, dancers, &c.

GLASGOW.—GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—To suit the holiday traffic, an attractive list of films, in which the humorous predominate, and several singing items, form the features of this week's display.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—A fine series of pictures is being exhibited this week. A highly-interesting dramatic film, entitled The Restoration, is well received; and another amusing incident in the career of Foolshead is very entertaining. By means of the Gemophone some of the latest successes of Drury Lane pantomime are put on and are very popular.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—Variety marks the excellent series of pictures exhibited this week. Schaffhausen is a beautiful coloured picture which shows the wonderful falls on the river Rhine; The Lie is a powerful dramatic picture depicting incidents of the Franco-Prussian War, and others which stand out prominently are The Motherless Waif and Noel. The amusing pictures in the programme include The Motor Cyclist, The Two Mr. Whites, and Bobby Wide-awake.

GUERNSEY. — RECTORY HALL. — Lessee, Mr. Albany Ward.—On Monday Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures entered on its second week. This class of entertainment is evidently keenly appreciated, judging from the crowds that pay for admission. New films are added, one of special interest being Shackleton's Dash to the South Pole. The Unseizable Pickpocket, Father's Quiet Sunday, and Bobby's Practical Jokes cause roars of laughter, while Lost, Stolen, or Strayed and A Sailor's Romance appeal to the sentimental. The Stolen Bride is particularly good, and other subjects all please. The Cinephone Singing Pictures complete a good show.

HANLEY.—KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs. Moore and Kennedy; Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—The packed houses at each show are thoroughly enjoying the following versatile programme:—Justified, Foolshead at Pokenose, When Willie Changes Places with his Boss (very funny), The Talisman (a very pretty and original pantomime picture), Nick Carter (a cleverly-thought-out film), In Love with a Picture Girl, and The Jockey, one of the finest films ever shown. The vaudeville items presented by Palette and his dog Max are causing quite a sensation here.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Two large audiences nightly are testifying to the popularity of Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures. The Fisherman is a splendid dramatic tale of the sea, well told. Capital dramatic subjects are also A Modern Highwayman and In the Dead of Night. A splendid stern view of Ursula, the fatest motor boat in the world, is particularly interesting, and How a Sailor is Made is also watched with keen interest. Heaps of comedy are provided in The Brigand, When Prison Bars Are Useless, and Wonderful Machine Oil. A "go-as-you-please" competition takes place each evening, the final for which is announced for Saturday night.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—THE TOWN HALL PICTURE PALACE was opened on Monday, by Mr. Fred Wood, M.H.A.R.A. The programme consisted of a very fine display of animated pictures, and included three first-class turns by Mr. Baron Davies, Mr. Joe Burgess, and the musical sketch, entitled *Britain's Pride*.

KETTERING.—VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—Proprietor, Leon Vint; General-Manager, Arthur Brogden.—Both houses were crowded on Monday night, and the programme gave entire satisfaction. The pictures included: The Little Teacher, The Golden Spider, Macbeth, and Wrestling. The Dubrees and Harry King supplied the variety turns.

KIRKCALDY.—EXCHANGE PAVILION.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The London Safety Bioscope Company successfully catered for their numerous patrons during the holiday week, and presented a tip-top show. The entirely new film Nero, the burning of Rome, is a picture of unequalled grandeur, light and shade being beautifully marked, while the realism of the piece proves most effective. Without exception this is the finest film ever shown anywhere. The Orphan's Christmas, Billy Muggins, V.C., A Patient from the Country, &c., are also good. Mr. George Park sings some well-known baritone songs in true artistic style; Mr. Harold Carlyle proves himself a versatile comedian; while Master George Henday is highly pleasing in his chorus songs rendered in an à-la Lashwood manner. Dainty Doretta is also a very good turn.

LEAMINGTON.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Another very entertaining programme of pictures is provided at this popular palace of amusement, which meets with the hearty approval of crowded audiences nightly. The principal pictures include The Mill (a beautiful coloured film), The Bootmaker's Revenge, and Poorluck's Wedding, whilst others of an interesting and amusing character are A Day in Venice, Lilian's Christmas Day, For Gold and Glory, The Gulf of Salerno, and Bringing Home the Lamp. Both the artists, Miss Mina Langton and Mr. Horace Bernards, continue to delight the audiences with their artistically-rendered illustrated songs. Miss Maud Hummerston ably presides at the piano.

LEICESTER.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The two big pictures in another excellent assortment are Was Justice Served? and Won in the Desert. Others shown include Learning to Dance, Mr. Inquisitive, Wanted a Housekeeper, Mulligan's Waterloo, The Heart of Gavroche, Empire Day in Sydney, A Wonderful Remedy, Grin and Win, Jones's Amateur Theatricals, The Broken Window, Through the Child, and A Share of the Poor. Lottie Lonsdale, a local favourite, is also making a successful first appearance here.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. W. S. Rosie; Hall-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stanyon.—Mr. Walter Jeffs' present visit here will be brought to a close this (Saturday) evening. The usual excellent and diversified programme has been submitted during the week, including, by special desire, Mr. Jeffs' great sensation War in the Air, showing the future possibilities of an aerial invasion of England. The other films shown include The Huguenot, Sleeping Pills (one of Nick Carter's adventures), A Journey to Delhi, Lion Hunting in Wildest Africa, La Poupée, Fire Brigade at Drill, A Sailor's Vengeance, The Emerald Isle, A Tour Through Wales, Aviation Up-to-date, Politicians of the Day, Grand Comic Christmas Pantomime, The Housebreaker and the Champagne, One-Legged Beggar, and Weary Bones. In addition, Miss Dora Kingsley, in new illustrated ballads; Mr. Walter Rosette, in his illustrated recitals; and Miss Miriam Kananovitch, the juvenile musical prodigy, have appeared with success.

LIVERPOOL.—THE PALAIS DE LUXE CINEMA (late Tivoli), Lime-street, has certainly caught on, its success since the opening, several months ago, being somewhat remarkable. The show is a continuous one, patrons being allowed to enter when they please, and remain any length of time, while tea is served free between four and six o'clock in the afternoon. This alone is a big attraction for ladies shopping in town. The films shown are of the finest and freshest character. The management has consequently found it necessary to number the tickets of admission in order to deal fairly with their numerous patrons. There is again a pleasing variety in the programme, the many pictures exhibited including A Wedding Among the Rag and Bone Merchants and A Story of Circus Life, in addition to a thrilling scene of domestic tragedy, entitled Justified.

LLANELLY.—PICTUREDROME.—This week a champion solo competition (open to all) has been held. A prize of one guinea and a week's engagement was the reward. The pictures shown were: Further Adventures of the Little Chimney Sweeps, Italian Field Artillery, A Mother's Love, Life in a Gipsies' Camp, Italian Waterfalls and Fountains, The Glacier's Secret, and For the Money's Sake.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—An excellent bill of fare is produced this week. A Russian Girl's Heroism is a fine subject; Wanted, a Child, unfolds a pathetic tale of parental love; and For Her Sake is well received. Among the amusing subjects, our old friend Foolshead is in trouble again. The obstinate Mule and Ma-in-Law Must Fly cause great laughter, also Marrying the Servant. The Brady and Johnson team are decidedly good.

NEWPORT.—CINEMATOGRAPH LICENSING.—At a special meeting of Newport Town Council last Friday, the Mayor (Mr. W. M. Blackburn) presiding, applications were considered for licences under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. A licence was granted for the Tredegar Hall, but the opinion was expressed that the screen and pay-box at the entrance should be removed. With reference to the Empire, it was stipulated that there should be an automatic contrivance for extinguishing a flame and a ventilator. The Central Hall and Temperance Hall proprietors had not complied with the Act, and licences were not issued to them. In the case of the Tivoli at Pill and Danter's Hall in Clarence-place, the buildings were declared to be unsuitable.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The principal dramatic themes this week are Justified, a story of a loveless marriage; The Mysterious Packet, a detective subject; and Good for Evil, a story with a moral. The comic subjects are new and entertaining.

NORTH SHIELDS.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—Splendid business has again been done here, thanks to the excellent programme provided, the principal pictures being Gentle Hearts, Truth Will Out, The Tale of My Life, &c. Hal Croueste, light comedian and character actor, appears and meets with great success.

HOWARD HALL.—Another enjoyable programme is again put forward here, The Patriot's Daughter, The Restoration, The Butcher's Bill, and other films being greatly enjoyed.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr. A. Eskdale.—This popular little hall has again had a fair share of patronage. The leading films this week include Briton and Boer, The Minstrel, A Perilous Mission, &c. Fred Baxter, the favourite baritone, is paying a return visit, and is as popular as ever.

JUST OUT.

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS

made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation January 1, 1910.

with an APPENDIX concerning

LIMELIGHT

also the

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909,

which came into force January 1, 1910.

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

EXPLANATIONS OF THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act,
The Regulations,
The Explanations,

sent post free four stamps.

Published at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.

A BIG BUILDING

AVAILABLE FOR

Motion Picture Shows.

RENT OR SHARE.

Apply,

C. B. COCHRAN, Egyptian House,
170-173, Piccadilly, W.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital programme is provided this week. A Story of Circus Life topping the bill. This is a very good picture, depicting the hardships of equestrian artists. The Blind Man is a most pathetic film, and takes well. A wonderful adventure film is Bobby Wide Awake, and it raises much applause. The amusing pictures are very funny and include The Lamp and Mr. Foolshead Steals a Carpet. Mr. Don Cameron also sings some well-illustrated songs with good results.

HIPPODROME—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Two Orphans is a good headline, and other very good pictures are also in the bill. The amusing films include Foolshead's Christmas, The Motor Cyclist, and Unending Discussion. The Rhine Waterfalls is a good travel picture, and others are also very good. Mr. King contributes "Killarney."

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Change of Hearts (a powerful drama) and other excellent films, including The Dragon's Helmet, The Ragpicker's Christmas, &c., are given twice nightly to packed houses, who also enjoy the illustrated songs by Mr. Tom Sherlock.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include Muggins, V.C., Two Strings to Her Bow, The Gas Inspector, Before and After Marriage, The Light that Came, and Reforming a Husband, and draw big houses (twice nightly). Mr. Gilbert sings "It looks like a big night to-night" (illustrated), and "My home is far away."

SHEFFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The Aerial Warfare of the Future and other wonderful animated pictures are presented here to large audiences by Mr. Fred Baugh.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—Mr. Henry Hibbert's interesting programme this week includes A Trip to Blackpool, Hiring a Girl, Through the Riviera in a Motor-car, Follow-Me-at-Three, A Theatre Pass (a screamingly funny film), An American Marriage, &c.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THEATRE DE LUXE.—The directors of the Theatre de Luxe, through their manager (Mr. J. W. Hemming), invited one hundred children from the Nazareth House to witness their pictures on Tuesday afternoon last. The children seemed to enjoy the pictures judging from their appreciation and laughter during the performance. On leaving the theatre each child was presented with an orange, a mince pie, and a bag of sweets by the management.

STALYBRIDGE.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. W. Llewellyn. An excellent programme is drawing good houses. Among the many pictures shown are A Pompeian Martyr, The Hunting Meet, The Mad Miner, The Leather Stocking, The Silkworm, a very beautiful picture showing the different stages in the life of this wonderful insect; True Love Never Runs Smooth, Where Prison Bars are Useless, A New Kind of Athlete, Uncle Learns Hypnotism, an amusing picture which provides the audience with plenty of laughter. Illustrated songs are rendered at each performance.

FORESTERS' HALL. — Lessees, Bros. Lens; Manager, Mr. Frank Lens. — The above hall has opened, and for the first week the management has secured Entombed Alive, Laddie, Unexpected Santa Claus, Sole Legatee, Yokohama's Jubilee, The Bank Smash, Missionary and the Maid, The Motor Cyclist, Roneo Turns Brigand, and A Conquest. Miss Frankie Barton is a pleasing vocalist, and Miss Molly Rayne, with her catchy songs, soon has the audience joining with her in the choruses. Mr. Russell Hatton introduces some very smart work with his twenty-five heads under one hat.

SUNDERLAND.—PALACE THEATRE.—Hamilton's Pictures and Varieties Company.—Large crowds are gathering here this week, and a good all-round programme is submitted. George Penn is a good singer and dancer, and his turn was warmly applauded; Charles Dare's Minstrels scored an instantaneous success; Ted Karno and company present an amusing sketch; the pictures include Comedy and Tragedy and Gentle Hearts, and are all of good quality.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The pictures and varieties at this house are of exceptional quality, and have attracted large holiday crowds this week. A Western Cowboy Story is the principal film, and a very powerful one indeed; Mr. Gadabout's Christmas was the source of much laughter. Gertie Gordon sang and danced to the entire satisfaction of all; Bell and Dryden kept their audience well amused; and D. W. Watson was warmly applauded for his instrumental solos.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL. — The Martell Vandeville Company are submitting a truly magnificent programme this week, which is well appreciated by crowded houses. A beautiful scenic picture of logging in Canada is Down the Isar on a Timber Raft; A Brutal Master being a pathetic dramatic; while The Merry Widower produces roars of laughter. The Murder of the Duc D'Enghien, an historic film of Napoleon's time, is very fine, the stirring incidents being closely followed. A beautiful coloured pantomime picture is Blue Bird, while the Race for a Monkey made the audience clamour for an encore. The Jockey is the title of a splendid film of the racecourse. We first see the trainer's daughter confessing her love for Jim Blackwood the apprentice, who is anxiously awaiting his chance to ride in a race. As the hour of the great race approaches the regular jockey is found drunk, and Jim gets his chance. The starting-gate rises, the horses are off, and Jim, amidst great excitment, wins the race to the unspeakable delight of his sweetheart. Jim is persuaded by an unscrupulous bookmaker to dope the favourite for the St. Leger, but his sweetheart overhears the plot and exchanges the favourite for another horse, which Jim dopes. The favourite wins the race, and in the final scene Jim's sweetheart forgives him, and all ends happily.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Black; Manager, Mr. R. F. Hill.—Black's justly popular pictures are a strong holiday attraction, and fill the house twice nightly. There is excellent variety this week. The Light that Failed is a pretty film of a pathetic tendency, showing incidents in the life of a blind musician. The Child Benefactor and The Fatal Wedding, two dramatic subjects, are very entertaining. There is much that is humorous, particularly The Gas Inspector, Jones Eats Kangaroo, Baudoni is a favourite here, who never fails to please, and his original musical act is much enjoyed.

WIGAN.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—Another capital bill of fare is submitted here this week to crowded houses, the films being exceptionally fine. The Cricket on the Hearth, a splendid dramatisation of that story by Charles Dickens, is well received. Onawanda, a tale of an Indian's devotion to his employer, and The Jilt, a story of American society life, comprise the chief pictures. Several very amusing pictures are shown, amongst them being His Wife's Wine, The Talisman, The Winning Coat, and a beautifully coloured film, entitled Diamond Cut Diamond. Eugene and Willie, comedy musical artists, created much amusement.

WORKINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Mack.—A good set of pictures and some good variety, including the Baltzens, Japanese jugglers, and Wee Tokio.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Good houses witness a full display of films. The variety is also up to date and funny, including The Bohemians and up-to-date "Mr. E."

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—A programme of excellent pictures is shown this week. The chief are Muggins, V.C., a finely staged dramatic picture of a village lad in an Indian frontier war, who, by a brave deed, wins back the affection of his sweetheart; and The Brothers, an absorbing tale of self-sacrifice. Others include: Automatic False Teeth, Wonderful Machine Oil, Conscription Under Napoleon, A Childless Home, Three Neighbours, and a most beautiful panoramic view of Bettws-y-coed. Miss May McPherson is most successful in illustrated songs. The Cinephone is highly appreciated.

YORK.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Managing-Director, Mr. G. W. Wilburn.—The Incemores, living marionettes, are proving very attractive; Dolly Vince is a pleasing coon vocalist; and Eric Walmore a comedian of great merit. The pictures include The Gold Digger's Son, Fun with a Cigar, and The Pseudo Lady's Maid. Large audiences continue the rule.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Bert Rutter.—Red Wing's Gratitude is a very fine film, well received. The Little Flower Girl's Gratitude is specially fine; and Jack Binns is an up-to-date comedian.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners. — Mr. Leonard Boyne's company in *Raffles* is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr Reginald Dance meets with an enthusiastic reception in his portrayal of Raffles; the Earl of Amersteth finds a capital exponent in Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald ably plays Viscount Crowley; Mr. E. W. Thomas gives a meritorious impersonation of Curtis Bedford; Mr Harold West acquits himself creditably as Harry Manders, and a capable character study of Crawshay is presented by Mr. Oswald Griffiths. Miss Agnes Knights does well as Lady Melrose; Miss Marjorie Unette is a natural Lady Ethel; Miss Frances Titheradge makes a charming Gwendoline Conran; Miss Molly Tremaine is an effective Mrs. Vidal; and the Marie of Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is good. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* precedes.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company, in *Married to the Wrong Man*, is a wonderfully strong attraction; Mr. H. Lonsdale as Jack Gladwin presents a masterly piece of acting; Captain Dering is capably undertaken by Mr. G. Arthur; Mr. Leonard S. Harrison does well as Sergeant Manners; Mr. Henry Fielding provides much amusement as Timothy Clinker; Miss May Pemberton's asumption of Ruth is very clever; Miss Cissy Bellamy wins favour as Rose O'Connor; Dolly Fritter is played by Miss M. Day in a sparkling manner.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Ella Blair and her Bowery Boys score heavily here, as also does Tudor with his cleverly-trained ponies; the Herald Comedy Four are well received; Fred S. Howard also gives a good turn; and the leading films are Laddie and Broncho Breaking.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Tom Thomas, the undefeated middle-weight champion of Great Britain, has taken to the boards, and makes his first apearance here—at home—where he worthily tops the bill; Jan Rudenyi and company meet with a hearty reception, as do the Wittington Trio of acrobats; the Six White Boys present a neat turn. Other accptable items are given by the Cromwells, Fritz Von Liston, Leah Arden, and G. F. Hall. The Empireoscope reveals the recent Thomas V. Wilson fight at the N.S.C.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. John A. Thomson's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty* is running with much success here, and good audiences continue to assemble nightly. Miss Adele Roze fully maintains her popularity as the principal boy, and her singing of "I can picture Polly" is frequently encored; Miss Alyce Willyams, in the title-rôle, gives a winsome impersonation, Miss Emmie King and Miss Ethel Scorey being equally well placed as Boy Blue and Bo-Peep respectively; Miss Ethel Broad wins applause as the Fairy; Mr. Dan Belmore as the Yellow Dwarf is quite in his element; Mr. Jo Monkhouse is exceedingly quaint as Bamboozleum, a part in which he is admirably seconded by Mr. Richard Teasdalo as the King, and much merriment is caused by their antics; Mr. Sydney Godfrey is a Dame of considerable resource and has a good make-up; Mr. Edward Hanlon and Mr. Charles Harlin are amusing comedians and work very hard; and Mr. Edward Freeling is decidedly droll as Tommy Trout. The singing and daintly dancing of the large chorus add considerably to the success of the performance.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimbeley's company is here in *A Soldier's Honour*. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis gives a manly rendering as Captain Deane, the hero; Mr. Jerrold E. Reed does full justice to the part of Captain Gerald Temple; Mr. Andrew Money is seen to advantage as the villain, Henry Thornton; the rôle of General Rochester is effectively filled by Mr. Ernest C. Edwards; and Mr. Harry Lyndon does well as Lieutenant Brattle. Miss Edie Macklin is an excellent Jemima Eliza; Miss Lilian Burns gives a good representation as Cora Lee; Miss Isa Lyndon makes a sympathetic Doreen Illingworth; a clever juvenile is found in Little Olive as Queenie Deane; and Miss Zara Leigh is pleasing as Gwendoline Temple.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Fred Karno's company admirably present two sketches, *Skating* and *Mumming Birds*, which cause great amusement. In the former sketch some clever fancy skating is contributed by the Sisters Jackson and Arthur Weston. Mr. Walter Purvis, comedian, is popular; the Herrsleb Brothers are smart comedy gymnasts; and Mr. Stanley Buxton, comedian, and Miss Blanche Vincent, comedienne, also give pleasing turns. The Bioscope exhibits excellent coloured pictures.

HIPPODROME. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. E. E. Howard and Co. win applause for their clever acting in the sketch *Fight in a Lighthouse;* Mr. Horace Wheatley, comedian, has an enviable reception; Mr. Alex Lukos is an entertaining protean artist; Mr. Alec Holt, mimic, provides a capital turn; Mr. Tom E. Conover sings well; and Miss Doris Daze is a clever dancer.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company is here in *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Dorothy Milne gave a natural representation of the sorely-tried Marion Thornton; Miss Mabel Cooke as Barbara Scarth was thoroughly efficient; and Miss Katharine Maude made a pleasing Nurse Randall. Welcome touches of humour were contributed by Miss Marie Pritchard; and Miss Ida Taylor was good as a maid servant; Miss Helen Grenville played with conspicuous success as Dick; and the consumptive Wally, as enacted by Miss Ivy Millais, soon won the sympathy of the house; Mr. Frank Beresford scored as George Thornton; and Captain Darville was capably enacted by Mr. Charles Brock; Mr. Edward Beecher was satisfactory as John Scarth; and Mr. C. Arthur Fairfax rendered good service as Leeson. An excellent study of Bill Mullins was given by Mr. Charles L. Ludlow; and the same remark applies to Philip Beaufoy as Dido Bunce and Mr. Fred Archer as the Coughdrop.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Albert and Edmunds company are delighting large houses here this week with the absurdity *The Tower of London*. The company also scores in the harlequinade; Ted Curtis and Picos make a hit with their dancing act; Alex Lofton is a smart coloured comedian and little Miss Muffett a dainty artist; Dale and Dale score as vocalists and dancers; and Bessie Neilson's illustrated songs are much enjoyed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—There is another excellent array of pictures here this week.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here in *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, and is no exception to the rule. The company is a very powerful one. Mr. F. Ronald Adair as Willie Mason has a part well suited to him; Mr. Sidney Sarl as Bill Slater is good; Miss Jessie Belmore as Sophie Coventry is a fine study; and Miss Florence Halton as Lucy Coventry is a charming sketch. The other parts are all well sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin. — There is plenty of variety at this place of amusement, for in addition to the very excellent pictures clever turns are provided by Kitty Cameron, a comedienne and dancer of much ability; Geo. Castrey, comedian; Yamatamo, who gives a wonderfully clever slack wire performance; and Tamamoto, who is described as the greatest Japanese rope performer in the world. Farmer Skein's version of Zola's famous novel, "L'Assommoir," entitled "A Drama of Drink," also creates a very great impression.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., No. 1 company is presenting *The Better Land*. Miss Marguerite Trevosper creditably represents Doris, and Mr. Edward E. Ashby undertakes the rôle of Philip Radcliffe. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is well suited in the character of Hubert Radcliffe; and Miss Gerty Moody and Miss Emilie Entwistle, two clever and pretty children, are excellent in the rôles of Harry and Tessa.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—"Standing room only" was the notice which patrons of this theatre were greeted with at both houses on Monday. The Okabe Family do some marvellous things in the way of balancing and acrobatic tumbling; Agnes Molteno is an operatic vocalist of considerable repute and also an expert on the piano, and her sketch *A Dolly and Coach*, in which she is assisted by her company, is thoroughly enjoyed; King and Queen are funny in their comedy sketch, introducing much that is original; some clever imitations are submitted by O'Gust, the original clown, and fully appreciated; a capital coloured film, The Mill, depicting a Dutch love story with a dramatic ending, is watched with considerable interest; the Ten Loonies in their musical absurdity are funny; and Archie Naish is entertaining at the piano

WESTON - SUPER - MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. John A. Thomson and Arthur Squire's pantomime company is paying its annual visit here in *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Pattie McCarthy's fine presence and good acting make Robin Hood a charming personage; as Maid Marion Miss Daisy Stone is entitled to the highest encomiums; Allan-a-Dale finds a dashing exponent in Miss Winnie Hypatia; and Miss Ethel Hypatia is decidedly chic as Doris. Miss Cissie Williams as Tom and La Belle Sylvia as Daisy, the Babes, are a great success, their terpsichorean efforts being especially good. As the Dame, Pansy Blossom, Mr. Ross Warren proves himself a comedian far above the average; Mr. William Chandos as Weary Willie and Mr. George Chandos as Tired Tim keep the house thoroughly amused; Mr. Laurie Ray as Baron Graball and Mr. Charles Ross as Blinker, two local favourites, are given a flattering reception; Mr. John Vert's artistic singing makes Will o' the Wisp stand out most prominently. Unstinted praise must be given Miss Norah Prendergast, who sings with rare expression as the Fairy Queen. The quartettes sung by the Merry Foresters are quite a feature of the piece.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Mr. Louis Calvert presented *Sunday* here this week, and on the opening night the performance was patronised by the Mayor and Corporation, as well as the elite of the district. Mr. William Giffard gave a fine impersonation of Colonel Brinthorpe, and Tom Oxley was capitally played by Mr. Richard Trieve; Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, "The Boys," were entrusted to Messrs. Richard F. Symons, Launcelot St. G. Lowther, James Hussy, and George Marriott, jun., respectively, and their interpretations commanded general praise. Mr. Boyce Williams as Arthur Brinthorpe made the most of the slender opportunities afforded him; Miss Janet Lind deserved all the encomiums showered upon her for her acting in the name part; Miss H. Graham Edwin made a vivacious Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Jessie Stone as the Nun pleased very much.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company provides a strong holiday attraction with *Leah Kleschna*. Mr. W. Clayton appears to great advantage as Kleschna, and Mr. Chas. Barrett is excellent as Paul Slyvaine; Mr. A. J. Hicks cleverly enacts the character of Raoul, and Mr. E. J. Coyne submits a sterling performance as General Berton; Miss Bessie Rignold's conception of Leah is artistic throughout, and she received repeated applause. For the remaining three nights *Lucky Durham* is billed.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*The Prisoner of Zenda* is here and great praise is due to Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company for their interpretation. In the dual character of Rudolf the Fifth and Rudolph Rassendyll Mr. Mark Blow is an eminent success; the part of Michael Duke of Streslau is in the capable hands of Mr. Geo. A. Brandram; Colonel Sapt finds an able exponent in Mr. Julian Cross; Mr. Edgar L. Hentzau; the part of Antoinette de Maubar is smartly handled by Miss Agnes Verity; and Miss R. Barton adapts herself capitally to the rôle of Princess Flavia.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Richard Nightingale's talented company is here in *Aladdin*. Miss Edna Latonne scores well as Aladdin; and Miss Amy Pauline Gradwell is heard to advantage in the musical numbers of the Genie of the Ring. Miss Marie Radcliffe sings capably as the Slave of the Lamp; Miss Jenny Hackett makes a charming Princess; Mr. Harry Albery and Mr. Joe Perth cause plenty of fun as Widow Twankey and Wishee Washee; and Mr. Walter Bishop creates roars of laughter as Abanazar. Messrs. Francis and Francis are highly diverting as Flip and Flop; and the Bros. Lloyd are applauded for their double bounding cable act.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles Barnard.—A very strong attraction is provided here this week by the engagement of H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *With Edged Tools*. Prominent in an excellent cast is Mr. Hamilton Deane, who acts with power and earnestness as Jack Meredith; Mr. Henry Nunn gives a quiet but effective rendering of Guy Oscard; quite a feature of the performance is the exceptionally clever portrayal of the villainous half-breed Victor Durnovo by Mr. Arles Conway; Mr. Albert Campbell is successful as Maurice Gordon; and Mr. J. D. Geddes submits a scholarly study of the superstitious Sir John Meredith. Miss Marguerite Cellier has a difficult task in Millicent Chyne, but acquits herself well; Miss Marion Fawcett lends an air of distinction to the part of Lady Cantourne; Marie has a capable exponent in Miss Florence Dulhunty; and Miss Marie Leonhard sustains the part of Jocelyn Gordon with a sweet womanly grace that is positively refreshing. The stage effects in Gordon's Bungalow at Loango are realistic.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—At the top of a good all-round bill is Arthur Lennard, whose character-studies "Sweet seventy-two" and "The woman pays" are rendered in a style which proclaims the true artist; Dalvere and Wallace are a couple of comedians whose methods are as novel as they are entertaining; the Three Dixons are heartily applauded for their singing, dancing, and banjo-playing; the Waltons provide a novel Chinese acrobatic act; Lazern thoroughly mystifies the audience with sleight of hand; Walter Wade, the mimetic comedian, scores heavily with his tenor songs; and other good turns are Mather and Mayer (comedy dancing duo) Two McKays (eccentric comedians), and the Dancing Paceys.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh have presented *Lucky Durham* here. Mr. Edmund Kennedy plays well in the title-part, and is ably supported by Miss Florence Tressilian as Helen Vallerton; Mr. Wm. Calvert is a great success as Lord Mountfallon and Arthur Leigh shows promise in the character of Reginald; Nellie Bonser plays the wronged widow with a fine feeling, and Dorrie Turner does well as the Hon. Margaret.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Dashing Little Duke* is one of the prettiest musical plays seen here for some time, and as it is led by Zena Dare in the title-rôle, large audiences have been the rule. Miss Dolly Castles is a picturesque Diane, singing with great expression and taste; the fine voice of Reginald Adair is heard to advantage as De Malignon; Mr. Alec Johnstone renders excellently the part of the Abbé de la Touche; and as the unctuous Baron de Bellechasse Mr. Johnny Danvers is delightfully funny. Miss Nellie Dade is infinitely amusing as the Baroness.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook. — A huge success must be accorded Mr. Harry Burns and company in the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is entitled to unstinted praise for her effective impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Fanny Harris, too, as Polly is popular; as is also Miss Lilly Hayes as Bessie Barr; as Will Atkins Mr. Arthur Aiston scores a distinct success; and nothing could be more droll than the Mrs. Crusoe of Mark Stuart, a first favourite; Mr. F. Henderson is a comical Billy Crusoe; then there is Dan Hendy as Man Friday, Tray and Rich, and Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls.

The Committee of the cinematograph operators will meet on Tuesday to receive the draft reports from the secretary and treasurer for the past year, and to make arrangements for the annual meeting, which is to take place on Tuesday, Jan. 18. The representatives who attended the meeting at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday will also give their report. Nominations for any office and for the committee to act during the coming year may now be sent to the secretary, and should reach him by Tuesday next at the office, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—*The School for Scandal* was revived in splendid style at the New Theatre on the 15th inst. The effect of more than one scene was marred by the "perversity of inanimate objects" or the bungling of the stage hands, and these little drawbacks to what was otherwise a highly praiseworthy production were rather severely criticised. In fact, one newspaper went to the extreme of enumerating in detail every little *contretempts* that occurred during the performance. There is a marked tendency, however, in certain quarters to find fault with everything at the New Theatre that falls short of absolute perfection. But, for all that, the excellence of the production, and the performance as a whole, was fully recognised by the highest critical authorities. Miss Grace George appeared for the first time as Lady Teazle, and her interpretation had to stand comparison with past performances of the rôle by eminent players. The comparison being made, however, the general opinion was that Miss George had fulfilled expectations, and had come through the ordeal with flying colours. It is safe to predict that her performance will acquire the finish that makes for perfection as time goes on, and that higher honours will be hers than those which she has already won. As regards the rest of the fine cast selected for this notable revival, suffice it to say that all the characters were ably represented, the various parts being distributed as follows: Joseph Surface, Mr. A. E. Anson; Maria, Miss Olive Wyndham; Mrs. Candour, Miss Rose Coghlan; Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. Louis Calvert; Charles Surface, Mr Matheson Lang; Mr. Crabtree, Mr. Albert Bruning; Sir Benjamin Backbite, Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk; Sir Oliver Surface, Mr. E. M. Holland; Moses, Mr. Lee Baker; Trip, Mr. Oswald Yorke; Careless, Mr. Henry Stanford; Lady Sneerwell, Miss Thais Lawton; Snake, Mr. Cecil Yapp; Sir Harry Bumper, Mr. Charles Balsar; and Rowley, Mr. Jacob Wendell, jun.

"CAMEO KIRBY," a play in four acts, by Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson, has been well received at the Hackett Theatre. The scenes are laid in Louisiana, in 1832, the days of frilled shirts, tight boots, and pantaloons for the men and of ringlets and crinolines for the women. Consequently *Cameo Kirby* is a "costume play" as well as a reproduction of certain phases of Franco American life in Louisiana that proves decidedly interesting. The action is from sunrise to sunrise, the scenes showing Madame Davezac's house in New Orleans, and the plantation owned by the Randall family outside of the city. The head of the house of Randall has been fleeced by a Mississipi River gambler, and, in a state of drunkeness has deeded away his plantation. The victim has killed himself, and his son learns from Colonel Moreau that the gambler was Cameo Kirby. The latter fights a duel with Moreau, and kills him. To avoid arrest, he climbs to a balcony and hides in the house of Mme. Davezac, where he is mistaken for Colonel Moreau, and according'y impersonates him, the Colonel being expected at the time as a visitor. Kirby eludes his pursuers by riding with Adele Randall and her friends to the plantation, where he falls in love with her, being still unrecognised as Kirby, the gambler. In the end, of course, his identity is disclosed, and the son learns that it was really Moreau who swindled his father, Kirby having entered the game in order to save the planter and restore his property when he became sober. This being made clear, Kirby carries out his original intention, and hands over the deed to Miss Randall, whose affection he has won, and who agrees to marry him.

Mr. Dustin Farnum, having the advantage of a romantic personality, makes Cameo Kirby a highly attractive personage. Such an heroic and gentlemanly gambler may never have been encountered in real life, but in the theatre nobody will remember that.

MISS NANCE O'NEIL has scored a great success as Odette de Maigny, in *The Lily*, a drama adapted from the French of MM. Pierre Wolff and Gaston Leroux by David Belasco, which was recently produced in Washington, and then described. The play was brought to the Stuyvesant Theatre, New York, on the 23rd inst, and was received with enthusiasm by a crowded house. Miss O'Neil, who portrayed a self-sacrificing "old maid" of thirty-five, the victim of a father's selfishness, who gives up everything in life worth having in order to preserve the so-called "family honour," electrified the audience with her denunciatory outburst at the end of the third act. As the curtain descended there was a storm of handclapping, and from all parts of the house came shouts of approval. In a lifetime of theatre-going one would rarely witness such a scene. The curtain was raised so many times that one lost count, and although the entire company was liberally applauded, the storm became a hurricane when Miss O'Neil appeared alone. Doubtless there were many in the audience thinking of the old adage, "Everything comes to him who waits." *The Lily* is a powerful play, and it is admirably acted all round. Mr. Charles Cartwright's impersonation of the Comte de Maigny is a masterly performance. Not forgetting his Kleschna, the burglar, or his Bennett, the butler, his portrayal of this arrogant and selfish old aristocrat is the finest thing he has done on this side of the water at any rate. Mr. Belasco has another success on his hands. *The Lily* will stay at the Stuyvesant till the end of the season.

MR. WILLIAM A. BRADY will call his new theatre in West Forty-eighth-street The Playhouse. It will be built in the Tudor style of architecture, with interior finish and decorations of the old English type. The stage and scenic devices will be modelled after those of the Prinz Regent Theatre, in Munich. Miss Grace George will open the new theatre, and will fulfil long engagements there each season, appearing in several of the old English comedies.

"MRS. DAKON," a drama in four acts, by Kate Jordan, was recently produced at the Hackett Theatre, the play being performed at special matinées. Mrs. Dakon is a selfish, frivolous woman. Having jilted Lawrence Brundage because he was not rich enough to stand her extravagance, she has married Dakon, he being a wealthy widower with a daughter named Ruth. Dakon loses his money, and his wife runs away from him, leaving a note to say that Brundage has enticed her to New York. Reaching the Metropolis, she slips into Brundage's apartment at a late hour, relying on his old affection for her, and hoping to persuade him to marry her after she has obtained a divorce from Dakon. But Brundage has no such intention, and insists on her returning to her home forthwith. Before she can leave, however, a telegram comes to say that Dakon has committed suicide, and she swoons as the curtain falls on the first act.

Eight years later, the child Ruth has grown to girlhood, and is living with her stepmother on a liberal income secretly supplied by Brundage without Ruth's knowledge. He has returned from South America, and Mrs. Dakon still has hopes of becoming his wife, but an attachment springs up between Brundage and Ruth, and the older woman witnesses an ardent love scene which throws her into hysterics. Brundage is determined that Ruth shall be made acquainted with the circumstances of her father's death, and it is understood that Mrs. Dakon is to tell her. But, fearing to lose her stepdaughter's love, the woman produces some old love letters that Brundage wrote her before her marriage, making it appear that they were written afterwards, and were the cause of her downfall. Ruth naturally turns against Brundage, believing her mother to be the victim of his treachery to her father, and Brundage the cause of his death. When she learns that he has been supplying them with money, she compels her mother to give up the income from that source, and they go to Paris, where Ruth paints pictures for a living. A year later Brundage finds them struggling along, and demands an explanation of Ruth's unaccountable opposition to him. Mrs. Dakon, who is about to marry again, is forced to confess the truth about the letters, and Ruth's love for Brundage is revived when she learns that he was not to blame for her father's death.

Miss Dorothy Dorr played the title-rôle effectively, and Miss Laurette Taylor distinguished herself as Ruth Dakon, winning high praise from the critics. As Lawrence Brundage Mr. Robert Warwick was earnest and sincere, and the other parts were well acted. The play is to be put on for a run shortly under the more appropriate name of *Mrs. Dakon's Daughter*.

OWING to Mr. Forbes Robertson's success in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* at Maxine Elliott's Theatre, New York, and the unwillingness of Miss Elliott to disturb the run, the Schuberts have had to find another playhouse for Miss Elliott's season. Consequently it has been arranged that she shall appear at Daly's Theatre, New York, on Jan. 2 in *Deborah of Tod's*.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD is singing "In the Twi-twi-twilight" at the American Music Hall. He has "caught on" and is already a great favourite at the William Morris houses.

MISS CECILIA LOFTUS, who returns to London shortly, is appearing at the Plaza Music Hall. An evening newspaper says, "Cecilia looks tremendously British this season." Miss Loftus has added an impersonation of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt to her répertoire. Her imitation of Rose Stahl as the "chorus lady" is perfect, and when she appears as Bert Williams, playing poker, everyone roars with laughter.

MR. GEORGE ARLISS, whose retirement from the cast of *Septimus*, through illness, was recently announced, has derived so much benefit from a short rest that he intends to resume his part in the play next Monday.

SHOWMEN'S SUPPER AND BALL, BOLTON.

This popular social event in Showland was celebrated with great enthusiasm and enjoyment. Three hundred guests were present. Alderman Dickinson, chairman of the Market and Fair Committee, welcomed the showpeople, and wished them a prosperous and happy New Year. The Guild Chaplain responded for the showfolk, and expressed the pleasure they felt at being once again amongst their friends, the progressive and enlightened people of Bolton. The Showmen's Guild right gladly co-operated with Corporations in the uplifting and betterment of the popular amusements provided by the showmen at our fairs, feasts, and wakes. Arising out of the Bolton Ball and its success, a project was launched to commemorate similarly the Manchester gathering next Wednesday. There will be immediately on the close of the afternoon meeting of the Guild a meat tea for the members, followed by a social evening and a dance. Tickets, 1s. 6d., may be obtained from the members of the committee or direct from T. Hurst, hon. sec.

AT Newport, Mon, for the holidays, were Danter, Matthews, Butler, Fletcher, North, Wright, Shelton, Holmes, Gage, Turner, Williams, Jones, Hitchcock, Gess, Blanch, and others with shows, machines, and fairground novelties. At Burslem were Collins's Wonderland Show No. 1 and No. 2 motors, Davies' roundabouts and yachts. Hayes's park swings, shooters, throwing games &c., by Messrs. Wright, Hayes, Chaplain, Humphreys, Connoy, and others in combination will be at Newcastle, Staffs., for this week end.

"MISS TOMMY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It would be very kind indeed of you to draw Mr. Cyril Maude's attention to the fact that for months I ran a play in the English provinces entitled *Miss Tommy*, by Jerome K. Jerome. You can prove this by referring to your many criticisms of that play.—Yours faithfully,

ANNIE HUGHES.

Midland Hotel, Manchester,
Jan. 4, 1910.

[We understand that Mr. Maude has decided to alter the name of Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation of *La Petite Chocolatiere* to *Tommy*.—ED. of *The Era*.]

AT the Maidenhead Town Hall Mr. Fred Karno opened a two nights' engagement on Monday with *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr. Sid Kearns as Sergeant Lightning was the life and soul of the piece, and worked very hard all through. Miss Winnie Bradfield and Mr. Doran Vincent acted well together as Lady Maud and Lord Easem; Mr. Jack Melville was amusing as the comic Curate. An acrobatic interlude in Act 1 was very cleverly performed, and another by Mr. George Hoare, with Mr. Tom Manardo as a dressmaker's dummy, won much applause. Mr. G. Robertson was natural as Mr. Miffin; Mr. Bert Royston caused fun as Fritz; and Miss Kate Brunton was a typical "New Woman." Miss Maggie Morton was billed for Thursday with *A Broken Heart*.

THIS week the Lancaster Grand Theatre was closed for three nights, reopening on Thursday with Messrs. Bennett and Wray's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

MR. HARRY BENET'S company is playing *The Lady Slavey* to crowded holiday houses at the New Gaiety, Ayr. The audiences have been thoroughly enjoying the acting of Miss Nora

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT" AT DEVONPORT.

Mr. King, the courteous and energetic manager of the Metropole, Devonport, has this year chosen a subject always popular and fascinating with the children. The pantomime was produced on Boxing Day. The first scene is fixed at the Village of Sunnydell, and the powerful chorus quickly illustrate their vocal strength and the thoroughness of their training. Miss Kathleen Emmett as Jack Trot obtains the initial encore for a first-rate rendering of "Mrs. McCoy." Mr. Gilbert Payne—who, by the way, is the author of the book, and is to be heartily congratulated on placing before the public a witty composition—makes his *début* in this scene as Dame Trot, and quickly ingratiates himself. Messrs. Lapham and Wallen, a genuinely funny pair of comedians, create an excellent impression as Jessem and Jewen at the start with a rag-time song; and Miss Fanny Adamson as Sunshine is responsible for a picture-postcard song, which bids fair to become one of the most popular of the show, whilst the artist incidentally reaps a rich harvest of pictorial cards, which are thrown on the stage by various admirers. In Scene 2, Sir Niggley Grabbe's Pawnbroking Office, Mr. Fred Fulton as Sir Niggley renders "Mr. McCan" in rattling style, and with Mr. Payne he creates roars of laughter by a smart little skit on kleptomania. Scene 3 is illustrative of Dame Trot's Summer Retreat, and here a pretty stage picture is presented, the scenery and dresses of the company blending admirably. In this scene Miss Hilda Deacon as Marjorie Dawe is responsible for a well-executed song and dance, which the audience are not slow in appreciating. The following scene depicts the Flight of an Airship, the machine being most ingeniously constructed. The surrounding scenery being of of a plain greyish white creates a fine cloud effect, and the whole conveys an excellent impression of an aeroplane in full flight. The opening scene in Part II. illustrates the Island of Shoeland, and particular mention must here be made of the excellent scenery, the huge shoes being a source of delight to the children, whilst the scholastic pantomime keeps them on the tip-toe of amused expectation. The elders, too find plenty to keep their risible faculties busily employed as soon as Messrs. Lapham and Wallen appear as a couple of schoolboys. The second scene accords with the accepted notion of the House that Jack Built. Messrs. Lapham and Wallen again score in this scene with a "goey" song, accompanied by some smart step-dancing. The last scene, The Floral Palace, is a very pretty picture, and some finished dancing is here done, thanks to the efforts of the Godfrey Girls, the curtain being finally rung down on an exquisite tableau formed by the company, and the bioscope depicting a revolving Union Jack.

"CINDERELLA" AT DUNDEE.

Mr. Robert Arthur's annual pantomime, which is this year based on the good old fairy story of "Cinderella," was produced at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, on Monday, the 3rd inst. The production this year has been entrusted to Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and Ernest Stevens, and is the same version that had a surprisingly successful season of over ten weeks at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, last year, and received the rare compliment of being chosen from amongst the countless pantomime stories now before the public to be taken over to the Antipodes, and performed before a Melbourne and Sydney audience. Judging by the enthusiasm of Monday's audience, *Cinderella* bids fair to outdo all Mr. Robert Arthur's former pantomime successes at this house. The music, which is unusually bright and tuneful, even for a pantomime, has been arranged, selected, and composed by Messrs. Harry Richardson and George M. Saker, who must be heartily congratulated thereon. The lyrics and libretto are by that well-known and expert writer of pantomime books, Mr. Stanley Rogers, who also produces the pantomime for Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens. Mr. Rogers has followed the main lines of the "Cinderella" legend, while also taking full advantage of the licence generally allowed to pantomime writers, and the result is that we have a little of everything, the whole combining to make an entertainment of the very brightest and best.

The production is one of gorgeous splendour, no expense having evidently been spared on costumes, properties, and scenery. The pantomime is divided into two parts, and is played in nine scenes, viz., The Glade, The Baron's Library, Cinderella's Kitchen, The Portals of Fairyland, The Home of the Fairy Godmother, The Royal Ballroom, Exterior of De Debtington Hall, Ante-Room in the Palace, and In the Sweet Springtime. The various sets and cloths, every one of which is a masterpiece of the scene-painter's art, are by Messrs. Harry Brooke and J. Fowler Hogg. An extra special word of praise is due for the scenes entitled The Glade (a magnificent piece of staging and painting), The Home of the Fairy Godmother, The Royal Ballroom (a piece of particularly dainty and artistic colouring), and the concluding scene, In the Sweet Springtime (another excellent set).

Of the cast, which is remarkably well chosen, nothing but the highest praise is due to Mr. Rogers for his able selection. Miss Agnes Tandy is in every way a most successful Prince, her dashing style, clever acting, and charming rendering of her songs, all combine to make her an ideal principal boy. She is possessed of an excellent contralto voice, which she uses with good effect in her songs, "Somewhere," which was rapturously encored, "Health, wealth, and the girl you love," and "Jenny, I'm saving every penny," and in both of these also she made a hit. A delightful little Cinderella is found in Miss Felicia Firmin, who is the possessor of a rich and melodious voice and a dazzling smile. She scored a decided hit with her song "In the jungle," and was also vociferously applauded for her other song, "Little Miss Snowshoes," both of which had to be repeated. Her terpsichorean accomplishments are also of a high order, and in this line her success is also unequivocal and complete. Along with Capers (Mr. W. Leopold, jun.) she also took part in the "Parrot" duet, which proved an attractive number. Miss Dollie Hook is a very dainty Duke of Whistbridge, her contribution of song and dance stamping her as an artist of rare ability. She speaks her lines with delightful clearness and distinctness, and her song "The girl in the clogs and shawl" was rendered with such smartness and point that the audience were loth to let her depart, even after she had responded to several encores. Dandini is pleasingly represented by Mr. Harry Ongar, who sings "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" and "Come and put your arms around me, Georgie, do," very happily. In the latter he is very effectively and picturesquely assisted by the chorus. He also contributes several nimble dances, for which he was loudly cheered. The Baron and Baroness, as played by Messrs. E. Statham Staples and Alfred Clark, two excellent comedians working on widely-contrasted lines, the one lugubriously comic and the other with a ponderous and unctuous type of humour, are ridiculous and diverting personages in the extreme. Messrs. Staples and Clark are the principal fun-providers, and their business in the scene where the Baron has to swallow a compulsory dose of medicine is ridiculously comic; and, in fact, all through the pantomime the audience are kept in fits of unrestrained merriment. Mr. Staples's song, "Don't take me home," caught the fancy of the audience at once, and had to be repeated over and over again. He is a complete master of facial contortion, and created much laughter with his extraordinary dancing. As the Baroness Mr. Alfred Clark keeps up a running flow of quaint malapropisms, while his acting, especially in connection with the ruling of her ineffective spouse, the Baron, is ludicrously funny. He sings with much success "For months, and months, and months," which was provocative of great hilarity. The two elderly daughters of the Baroness, Araminta and Elvira, are played by Miss Ethel Ramsay and Miss Marianne Carozzi respectively, and they play into each other's hands admirably, their quarrelling scenes being capitally managed. Mr. W. Leopold, jun., makes a diverting and agile Capers, whose comical acrobatic dancing caused much amusement. Mr. Harry Carlisle as the Royal flunkey, Joseph, was quaintly comical. Miss Dorothy Moulton makes a handsome Fairy Godmother, and displays a sweet singing voice in "Love makes the whole year June." Misses Molly Beverley, Irene Vaughan, and Annette Vox looked well and acted nicely their respective parts. Speciality dances were introduced by the Lottie Stone Troupe, and these nimble-toed and charming ladies were warm favourites throughout the evening. Special praise must be awarded the chorus, who have evidently been picked with a view to their talents as well as good looks, for their excellent singing and acting, their various evolutions being gone through with much dash and spirit.

Taken altogether on its merits, *Cinderella* should have a very prosperous career, and we tender Mr. Robert Arthur and his courteous acting-manager here, Mr. Louis Karpe, our warm congratulations. The stage-management is in the hands of Mr. Henry Carlisle, who deserves every credit for the manner in which the various heavy sets were handled on the opening night. The musical-director is Mr. Ernest Wolfe, and right well did he perform his duties. The elaborate costumes are by Miss Hall, Miss Adela Jackson, and Messrs. H. and M. Rayne. A beautifully-designed carriage, brilliantly lit with electricity, and drawn by two pretty little ponies standing some thirty inches high, is an important factor of the production, and is a special delight to the children. In a word, *Cinderella* is a huge success.

"CINDERELLA" AT LEEDS.

Mr. John Hart's pantomime *Cinderella*, at the Grand Theatre, opened with great success, and, judging by the crowded houses, it seems as though it will equal any of its predecessors in popularity. We always look to the Grand Theatre to give us something worthy for all Yorkshire pantomime lovers to journey to, and it will quite come up to the anticipation of its visitors. The whole pantomime is bright and artistic, with not a touch of vulgarity, and crowded out with mirth from start to finish. Indeed, during a course of some twenty annual pantomime visits here, we do not remember seeing such a funny comedian as Mr. Tom E. Murray, who takes the Baron character. His own original laugh, and the funny manner in which he renders his "wheezes," keep the audience in one continual roar of merriment. He seems to have plenty of latitude allowed him in occupying the stage, and this is as it should be with so funny a comedian. Another sterling comedian is Mr. Edward Lewis, who plays the Baroness, and who makes the character stand out prominently. His song, "I can't reach that top note," will be one of the hits of the pantomime. Another favourite artist is Jack Pleasants, who is rapidly forging ahead in popularity, and his "dry" humour is fully appreciated. It seems to be the fashion nowadays to hand the character of the Ugly Sisters over to the ladies, and this year we have a lady taking one of these characters, viz., Miss Alice James, who creates much amusement, and plays the part with a keen sense of humour, and much cleverness of characterisation, and Mr. Albert Letine taking the other with equally satisfactory results. The Brothers Redmond as the Handymen work indefatigably throughout. Miss Moya Mannering is a very pretty Cinderella. She fits the rôle admirably, and has already become a great favourite. Equally charming is Miss Jane Eyre as the Prince. She renders her lines in a crisp and clear manner, and she possesses a fine voice. Dandi, the valet, is in the capable hands of Miss Olive Crellin; and Miss Barry Eldon makes a capital Fairy. Towser, the dog, is well played by Mr. Fred Zarinella. When we say that the "book" has been written by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, it is sufficient guarantee of its hall-mark of excellence, and the local topics and additional lyrics have been cleverly written up by Mr. T. P. Doyle The pretty scenes, painted by Mr. R. C. Oldham, quite come up to expectations, especially Scene 3c, which shows Cinderella's Departure for the Ball, and also Scene 5, in the Second Act, is deserving of special mention. The beautiful ballets have been arranged by Mme. Phillipini, and the incidental music has been composed and selected by the clever conductor, Mr. Henry Jaxon. Mr. Wynn Miller, the courteous manager, ably looks after the front of the house.

"MOTHER GOOSE" AT MANCHESTER.

At the Palace, Manchester, on Monday, Harry Roxbury's pantomime of *Mother Goose* was successfully produced. Proceeding upon the sound assumption that fun is the main thing, no opportunities of raising a laugh have been allowed to go by, the humour being, in fact, developed to an extraordinary degree; yet nothing essential is sacrificed in the way of spectacular effect. The story told is simply that of the poor widow's rise to opulence by means of the wonderful goose; the loss of the goose, the wishing-well, and the gift of beauty, and the finding of the goose by Colin, who thereby gains the hand of Jill, the widow's daughter. Mother Goose is, of course, a very funny old lady, who, among other eccentricities, has a turn for vocal parody, in which she is melodiously joined by her son Jack, as when she repudiates her landlord's request for the payment of his rent. Walter Dale is very well cast as the Widow, and his tenor, harmonising with the baritone of Jack, scores every time. J. W. Gallagher, in the latter rôle, shows himself a capable and resourceful comedian; his style is unctuous and effective, and there is no lack of amusement while he is on the stage. A third comedian of note is Fred Acton, who has an infectious laugh, and who works well with the others as Muggles, one of the three brothers from the Mill. He is also responsible for the production (under the personal supervision of Harry Roxbury), and should be complimented on its smoothness. Then we have some extremely comic business with a horse, made up by the Lemaires; while Edgar Martell makes quite an amusing hit as the Goose, and two lively village constables are seen in the Miltons. Maud Prenton as Colin fulfils all requirements as principal boy; her voice is clear and powerful, and her appearance and movements are bright and pleasing; while a nice impersonation of Jill is given by Kitty Russell, the secondary parts being in the capable hands of Marjorie Prenton as Phyllis and Bessie Esmond as Eric. Pertinent to the action are the appearances of Amy B. Ellis as the Demon Discontent and Lois Caris as the Fairy Content. In addition to the entertainment of the story, some excellent specialities are introduced. Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls provide pretty and graceful dancing; the Miltons give a really clever and comic exhibition of roller-skating; and an excellent vocal and dancing act is introduced by the Society Quartet. Many good songs are sung, the most notable being "I do like to be beside the seaside," by Maud Prenton. Of the scenery, a nice set is the Village Green, and there is an effective mechanical change of the Wishing-Well scene from summer to winter. The dresses are bright, and good work is done by the chorus and orchestra, the latter being under the directorship of Leslie Russell.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE LAW OF THEATRICAL CONTRACTS.

A paper on the law of theatrical contracts, and particularly with regard to contracts with artists, was read before the Theatrical Managers' Club by Mr. A. Montefiore Brice, barister-at-law, on Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Mr. Brice dealt at some length with the general legal principles underlying all theatrical contracts, pointing out the five essential elements in every contract—the offer and acceptance, the reality of the consent to the contract, the consideration for the contract, the capacity of the parties to the contract, and the legality of the objects of the contract. After discussing the essential elements in some detail, Mr. Brice applied these legal doctrines to various theatrical contracts, and in particular to contracts between managers and artists.

Dealing with contracts for exclusive service, Mr. Brice said:

Undoubtedly the prevailing idea on the part of the manager is to obtain, and on that of the artist to render, exclusive services. In fact, when the terms are not expressed the Court will imply that the services are exclusive. Thus, in Fechter *v.* Montgomery, although not a word was said in the letters which passed between the parties and formed the contract about an exclusive engagement, it was held that there was a mutual agreement that Fechter should give Montgomery a part at his theatre and that Montgomery should not act elsewhere without Fechter's permission. So, too, in Montague *v.* Flockton (L.R. 16, Eq. 189), where it was held that an engagement to act at one theatre is a prohibition to act at another. But when the parties set down their mutual agreement in writing, then the interpretation of its nature rests on the terms employed in that writing; and if those terms are not sufficiently explicit or, through careless or ignorant drafting, do not express the whole meaning intended, then the parties have themselves to blame if the contract should hereafter be found to express what they never meant. In illustration of this one may cite the case of Kelly *v.* London Pavilion, the New Tivoli, and the Oxford, Limited (77 L.T., 215), where the parties had contracted that "The said artist shall not perform before nor during this engagement at any theatre, music hall, club, concert, or place of amusement within one mile of the said music halls"; and that should the conditions be not observed, the company should have the option of cancelling the agreement. The plaintiff, who was better known as Miss Sybil Arundale, sang at a concert held at the Lyric Club (within a mile of the said music halls) one Sunday evening, and her contracts with the three halls were promptly cancelled. Sueing the management for damages for breach of contract, she succeeded on three grounds—firstly because Sunday is a *dies non* in theatrical contracts; secondly because the performance was not the same as that she had contracted to give; and, thirdly, because entertaining a private audience was not a performance in the sense of the contract. Now a common clause in modern theatrical contracts runs thus: "The artiste is engaged exclusively, and during the continuance of this agreement will not perform, sing, dance, or otherwise exercise his talent in public, either gratuitously or for his remuneration or advantage, or for that of any other person, theatre, or establishment (although not thereby prevented from fulfilling this engagement)." Perhaps this clause might be thought wide enough to cover the case of Kelly *v.* London Pavilion, but as a matter of fact it does not do so, and it still leaves artists open to do what Miss Arundale did.

Passing on to the case of the illness of the artist, Mr. Brice pointed out that there is no clause in theatrical contracts more usual than the clause or clauses relating to the illness of the actor. Thus a clause in the printed form of agreement of a well-known manager runs as follows:—"Should such absence [from illness] exceed twelve performances, whether consecutive or not, the engagement may be cancelled at the option of the manager." In another equally well-known agreement the clause runs:—"Should the artist be absent, owing to illness or other unavoidable cause, from more than six performances (whether consecutive or not) during the continuance of this agreement, the engagement may be cancelled." These clauses appear definite enough, but they do not deal with the case where the artist is absent through illness on one or two occasions, and those, let it be assumed, constituting the first two performances of a new play, when it might be supposed that the securing of a given artist capable of so creating a part as to make what in other hands might be a failure an extremely successful rôle would be a matter of great importance to the management. A contract which does not provide for an event so possible and so fraught with importance is not satisfactory, especially when it is seen that if the matter should come into the Law Courts the issue might be doubtful. For the law would apply to the facts of the case the test as to whether the failure of the artist went to the root of the contract or not. If it did, the manager might safely dismiss the artist; but if it did not, he would dismiss at his peril.

This is well illustrated, said Mr. Brice, in the case of Poussard *v.* Spiers and Pond, where the artist engaged in a principal part was unable, through illness, to attend the final rehearsals and the first four performances. Upon recovering from her illness and tendering her services the employers refused to accept them, and on her bringing an action for damages for wrongful dismissal it was held that the plaintiff's inability to perform at the opening and early performances went to the root of the matter, and justified the defendants in rescinding the contract.

Discussing contracting out of the Employers' Liability Act, Mr. Brice drew attention to the common clause in theatrical contracts of this nature which deals wih the common law and statutory right of an employee to sue for damages by way of compensation for injuries received in the course of employment. Such a clause usually runs thus:—"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, or any Act containing or amending the same, the artist shall not, nor shall the artist's legal personal representative, in case of the said artist's death, have any right of compensation or any remedy whatever against the manager in respect of any personal injury to the artist"—caused by defect of plant at the theatres visited or by the negligence of persons in the service of the managers of such theatres.

It is true that a person may contract out of his rights, whether they are statutory or at Common Law; but it may be pointed out that this clause is not effective against a claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, under which, however, the maximum amount recoverable in the event of death or permanent incapacity does not exceed £300, or, in the event of temporary incapacity, does not exceed £1 a week.

But there is a further consideration which affects this clause. It does not protect the manager from a claim by the artist when such artist is under the age of twenty-one years. It is true, of course, that an "infant" can enter into valid contracts of service which contain restrictive covenants. It has been held, indeed, that contracts of service which imposes fines and restraint of employment after leaving that contemplated by the agreement in question are binding on infants. And, further, it has been held that an infant may even contract himself out of the Employers' Liability Act and his common law right to compensation for injuries received through the negligence of his employers and their agents. But the law, when considering such contracts, always regards them from the point of view as to whether or not they are generally, and on the whole, for the benefit of the "infant." Thus, in Clements *v.* London and North-Western Railway (1894, 2 Q.B., 482) where the plaintiff, an "infant," upon entering the service of the defendant company, contracted out of his right to claim under the Employers Liability Act or on account of his common law right, but agreed to join and be bound by the rules of an insurance society connected with the railway company, and to which the railway company largely contributed, under which he obtained more favourable terms than were open to him by preferring his statutory or common law claim, it was held that such a contract was valid and, as a whole, for the benefit of the "infant" plaintiff. As Lord Esher, Master of the Rolls, said in his judgment in that case, that while the contract contained terms not to the advantage of the "infant," on the whole the agreement was a manifest advantage to the "infant," and as such was valid.

But in the clause inserted in the theatrical contract in question there is no such counterbalancing advantage to the "infant." The manager does not contribute to an alternative insurance scheme—there is no such alternative scheme to which he could contribute—and the clause makes the contract not a contract to the advantage of the "infant." Seeing that so large a number of persons below the age of twenty-one are employed under these contracts the fact that such a clause is invalid as against them is a matter of no little imporance.

Other subjects dealt with in the paper included "The Understudy," "Custom of the Profession," "Giving and Receiving Notice," "Interpretation of Clauses," "Managers' Decision and Discretion," "Fines and Forfeitures," and "Injunctions."

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Little Mrs. Cummin, comedy, in three acts, by Richard Pryce, adapted from "The Eglamore Portraits," by Mary E. Mann; Playhouse, Dec. 1.

The Visit, play, in one act, by Richard Pryce, adapted from "Freddy's Ship," by Mary E. Mann; Playhouse, Dec. 1.

Enchantment, play, in one act, by Miss Grete Hahn; Rehearsal Theatre, Dec. 2.

How to be a Hero, comedy sketch, by R. Malcolm Morley; Rehearsal Theatre, Dec. 2.

Uncle at the Office, play, in one act; Rehearsal Theatre, Dec. 2.

Matrimony, Ltd., comedietta, by Ernest Martin; Studio Theatre, Bedford-street, W.C., Dec. 3.

The Purple Emperor, musical comedy, in two acts, book by Tristram Crutchley and Cyril Austin, music by Harold Austin; King's Theatre, Hammersmith, Dec. 6.

The Reward, play, in one act, by Millicent Edmonds; Dalston Theatre, Dec. 6.

Terence, comedy, in four acts, adapted by Mrs. B. M. Croker from her novel (originally produced at Theatre Royal, Margate, Feb. 18, 1907); Grand Theatre, Fulham, Dec. 6.

The Shewing-up of Blanco Posnet, a sermon in crude melodrama (originally produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Aug. 25, 1909), piece produced by Incorporated Stage Society; Aldwych, Dec. 6.

Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen's play, in four acts, in Russian (Mme. Lydia Yavorskaia's—Countess Bariatinsky — season — Afternoon Theatre); His Majesty's, Dec. 7.

The Stronger Woman, play, in one act, by August Strindberg, translated by Edith A. Browne and Frank Schloesser (Mme. Lydia Yavorskaia's season—Afternoon Theatre); His Majesty's, Dec. 7.

The Lethal Hotel, a grotesque, in one act, by J. W. Willner, freely translated by Frederick Whelen; His Majesty's, Dec. 7.

The Blue Bird, fairy play, in five acts, by Maurice Maeterlinck, translated by Alexander Texeira De Mattos; Haymarket, Dec. 8.

Where Children Rule, fantasy, in four acts, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, lyrics by Douglas Hoare, music by Edward Jones; Garrick, Dec. 11.

Oliver Twist, adaptation of Dickens's novel in five acts, by Walter Dexter and Frederick T. Harry; Broadway Theatre, New Cross, Dec. 13.

Whom God Hath Joined —, drama, in four acts, by Stuart Lomath and Ellen Owen; Elephant and Castle, Dec. 13.

The King's Cup, play, in four acts, by H. Dennis Bradley and E. Phillips Oppenheim; Adelphi, Dec. 13.

The Wilson Trial, play, by Christopher St. John; Court, Dec. 14.

Holiday Home, play, in three acts, adapted by H. C. Wiatt from Ouida's novel (played by amateurs); Corona Hall, Hammersmith, Dec. 14.

Fallen Fairies, opera, in two acts, by W. S. Gilbert, composed by Edward German (founded on *The Wicked World*, by W. S. Gilbert, produced at the Haymarket, Jan. 4, 1873); Savoy, Dec. 15.

The White Hair, comedy, in one act, adapted from the French by Ella Erskine; Hyde Park Hotel, Dec. 15.

The Third Way, piece, in one act, by Archibald H. Pocock (produced by amateurs); Cripplegate Institute, Dec. 18.

The Defence of Lady Rosa, comedy, in three acts, by Archibald H. Pocock (played by amateurs); Cripplegate Institute, Dec. 18.

The Monk of San Marco, play, in three acts, by Sybil Ruskin; Court, Dec. 19.

Aladdin, pantomime, by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, music by H. Sullivan Brooke; Lyceum, Dec. 23.

Cinderella, pantomime, by Fred Bowyer; Crystal Palace Theatre, Dec. 24.

Goody Two Shoes, pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; Shakespeare, Clapham, Dec. 24.

Aladdin, pantomime, by Sir F. C. Burnand, J. Hickory Wood, and Arthur Collins, music by J. M. Glover; Drury Lane Theatre, Dec. 27.

The Bad Girl of the Family, drama, in four acts, by Frederick Melville (originally produced at Elephant and Castle, Oct. 4, 1909); first West-End production, Aldwych, Dec. 27.

The House of Temperley, melodrama of the "ring," by Arthur Conan Doyle; Adelphi, Dec. 27.

Babes in the Wood, pantomime, by "I Am Query"; Marlborough, Dec. 27.

Humpty Dumpty, pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; King's, Hammersmith, Dec. 27.

Queen of Hearts, pantomime, by Frank Dix, music by Julian H. Wilson and J. O. Shepherd; Kennington Theatre, Dec. 27.

Cinderella, pantomime; Elephant and Castle, Dec. 27.

The Sleeping Beauty, pantomime, by Peter Davey; Royal County Theatre, Kingston, Dec. 27.

The Forty Thieves, pantomime, by Frank Ayrton; Dalston Theatre, Dec. 27.

Jack and the Beanstalk, pantomime, by Newman Maurice; Brixton Theatre, Dec. 27.

Dick Whittington, pantomime; Britannia Theatre, Dec. 27.

Babes in the Wood, pantomime, by Ray L. Cody, music by J. Bernard Paterson; Pavilion Theatre, E., Dec. 27.

The House that Jack Built, pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; Broadway Theatre, New Cross.

The Forty Thieves, pantomime; Grand, Fulham, Dec. 27.

Aladdin, pantomime, by Frank Ayrton; Lyric, Hammersmith, Dec. 27.

Tom Thumb, pantomime, by Ward Bailey; West London Theatre, Dec. 27.

Robinson Crusoe, pantomime, by Edward Harris; Artillery Theatre and Opera House, Woolwich, Dec. 27.

Cinderella, pantomime, by "I Am Query"; Borough Theatre, Stratford, Dec. 27.

Aladdin, pantomime, by Joseph L. Barry; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Dec. 27.

What a Man Made Her, play, in four acts, by Charles Darrell; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Dec. 27.

For the Soul of the King, an episode of "The Terror," taken from the story of Honoré de Balzac; Queen's Theatre, Dec. 28.

Revivals.

Pinkie and the Fairies, fairy play, in three acts, for children; His Majesty's, Dec. 16.

A White Man, play, in four acts, by Edwin Milton Royle (special matinées); New Theatre, Dec. 15.

Peter Pan, by J. M. Barrie (fifth revival); Duke of York's, Dec. 20.

Charley's Aunt, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Brandon Thomas; Royalty, Dec. 27.

Alice in Wonderland, version of Lewis Carroll's story, by H. Savile Clark, music by Walter Slaughter; Court, Dec. 27.

Provinces.

The Real Mr. Jonathan, farcical comedy, in three acts, by C. Vernon Proctor; Theatre Royal, Brighton, Dec. 6.

The Murder of Adolphus, comedy, in three acts, by Beryl Tucker and R. Henderson Bland; Town Hall, Maidenhead, Dec. 14.

Duke or Devil, fantastic opera, in one act, music by Nicholas Gatty, libretto by Ivor Gatty (Moody-Manners Co.); Gaiety, Manchester, Dec. 16.

Folly's Fortunes, musical comedy-drama; Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, Dec. 20.

Her Path of Sorrow, domestic drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Prince's Theatre, Accrington, Dec. 27.

Much Ado About Nothing, Shakespeare's comedy (revived by Miss Horniman's company); Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Dec. 27.

His Real Wife, play, in four acts, by Charles A. Clarke; Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, Dec. 27.

Paris.

Comme les feuilles, comedy, in four acts, by Giacosa, French adaptation by Mlle. Darsenne; Odéon, Dec. 1.

Le Papa du Régiment, farce, in three acts, by A. Mouëzy-Eon and Durieux; Déjazet, Dec. 2.

Myrtil, musical tale, by A. Villeroy and E. Garnier, in two acts, music by Ernest Garnier; Opéra-Comique, Dec. 8.

Le Cœur du Moulin, lyric poem, in two acts, by Maurice Magre, music by Déodat de Séverac; Opéra-Comique, Dec. 8.

Un Mariage de Gourdes, vaudeville, in three acts and four tableaux, by M. Gardel-Hervé; Cluny, Dec. 9.

Une affaire est arrangée, in one act, by H. Monréal and F. Bloch; Variétés, Dec. 14.

Un Ange, comedy, in three acts, by Alfred Capus; Variétés, Dec. 14.

Pierre et Thérèse, play, in four acts, by Marcel Prévost; Gymnase, Dec. 20.

Un Cœur d'homme, play, in four acts, by Sarah Bernhardt; Théâtre des Arts, Dec. 22.

Madame Margot, play, in five acts, by E. Moreau and Ch. Clairville; Réjane, Dec. 23.

Le Danseur inconnu, comedy, in three acts, by Tristan Bernard; Athénée, Dec. 29.

Berlin.

Das Veilchenfest, four-act opera, by Jan Brandis; Komische Oper, Dec. 3.

Im Taubenschlag, three-act farce, by MM. Hennequin and Veber; Residenz, Dec. 4.

Heuchler, comedy, in three acts, by Bernard Shaw; Kleines, Dec. 4.

Dr. Eisenbart, four-act comedy, by O. Falkenberg; Berliner, Dec. 5.

Der Ehrenrat, three-act comedy, by G. von Forrell; Friedrick Wilk, Städtisches, Dec. 7.

Merely Mary Ann, comedy, by I. Zangwill (English Theatre season); New Schauspielhaus, Dec. 9.

The Tragedy of Nan, three-act play, by J. Maxfield (English Theatre season); New Shauspielhaus, Dec. 10.

Ein Königlicher Spass, four-act comedy, by Felix Joski (drawn from Justin McCarthy's novel); Neues, Dec. 10.

Die Süsse Cora, three-act farce, by MM. Kren and Lippschitz; Thalia, Dec. 11.

Mrs. Dane's Defence, play, by H. A. Jones (English Theatre season); New Shauspielhaus, Dec. 15.

Adam und Eva, play, in three acts, by J. Meier-Graefe; Hebbel, Dec. 18.

Strandkinder, four-act play, by Hermann Sudermann; Royal Schauspielhaus, Dec. 21.

Das Konzert, comedy, in three acts, by H. Bahr; Lessing, Dec. 22.

Der Graf von Luxemburg, three-acts operetta, by F. Lehar; New Operetta, Dec. 23.

Das Tal der Liebe, musical comedy, in three acts, by R. Lothar, music by Oscar Strauss; Komische Oper, Dec. 22.

Der grosse Name, three-act comedy, by MM. Léon and Feld; Kleines, Dec. 25.

Der Kampf um Schneewittchen, musical fairy play, in five acts, by MM. Wolff and Schmaltisch; Volks Oper, Dec. 31.

Eine Vergnügte Kindtaufe, three-act farce, by R. Helling; Luisen, Dec. 31.

Der Vize-Papa, three-act farce, by A. Richards; Rose, Dec. 31.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your report of Mr. Arthur Carlton's *Cinderella* pantomime at the Opera House, Coventry, you state that Miss E. Rainforth played the Fairy Godmother. The part has been undertaken since the production by—Yours faithfully, May de le Grange.

Presentation.—As a mark of appreciation of his kind assistance during the rehearsing and producing of Miss Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's pantomime *Dick Whittington*, at the Grand Theatre, Mansfield, Mr. Joseph presented Captain Cecil Clayton, the manager of the theatre, with a richly-chased silver cigar-case. The presentation was made immediately before the fall of the curtain on Saturday evening, and aroused great enthusiasm amongst the audience.

Messrs. Jacobs and Jephson's *Dick Whittington* is a big attraction at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield. Miss Florrie Curtite, a dashing Dick, wins much admiration; Miss Netta Dunville is quite at home as Alice, and her singing and dancing cannot be too highly praised; Miss Millie Seale as Capt. Cuttle is particularly smart and charming; Mr. Bobbie Graham is an amusing Fitzwarren, and is well supported in the laughter-making by Mr. Fred Dunville as Idle Jack and Mr. Dan Jacobs as Sarah; Mr. Cyril Jephson is an imposing Emperor; as Shuffle and Shirk Messrs. Alf and Will Phillips are very good; and Mr. Lambert is an effective Cat.

Mr. Chas. Elderton's company is drawing crowded houses in *Aladdin* at the Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland. Miss Maudie Vincent (Aladdin) and Miss May Gibson (Princess Badroulbadour) are very pleasing, and Messrs. James and Alexander are popular as Tip Pit and Wot Toe. The Cameron Quartette are highly successful, and Morrisey's musical turn and balancing act gives great satisfaction. Stean and Melia are good dancers, and Claremont and Victor give a capital performance in their acrobatic turn. The Chinese magician Li-Ching-Hi is full of masterly trickery, and the Sisters Terry gain favour as duettists. The Lottie Stone Quartette dance well, and the Mimosa Juveniles are capital.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Nov. 30.—Miss Nellie Stewart is at the Royal, playing her greatest part, Nell Gwynne, in *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*, with Mr. Harcourt Beatty as Charles II., in which he made his first appearance in Australia. And the house is full, for Miss Stewart is our most popular actress, and, unless the disastrous coal-miners' strike paralyses all business, a record Christmas season is in store. Miss Nellie Stewart's next bill will be a revival of *Zaza*. The lady's friends will rejoice to hear that the New Zealand tour quite restored her voice and general health.

THE Ascho-Brayton "boom" is still on at the Criterion, *Othello* being the attraction, but the last nights are announced, when *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Julius Cæsar* will be revived.

"HAVANA" was revived—naught but revivals now—at Her Majesty's on Saturday, the event being made attractive by the return of Mr. Bert Gilbert, after his enforced rest on the Blue Mountains. He made a hit as Nix, the lugubrious boatswain. Miss Olive Godwin also scored a distinct success as Consuelo; and Miss Susie Vaughan proved her value by "taking on" the giddy Isabelita. Mr. W. S. Percy became more popular than ever as Reginald Brown; and Mr. Herbert Clayton (Jackson Villiers) made quite a success. Mr. J. R. Hogue, one of "our own," sang well and acted carefully as the Hon. Frank Charteris; Mr. Pat Bathurst appeared as Diego de la Concha, and every part was faithfully filled. The chorus is the finest ever heard, even in this land of splendid choruses.

"THE HEART OF A HERO" is the bill at the Palace, with Miss Nellie Fergusson and Mr. Kenneth Hunter and Miss Ethel Buckley in principal rôles.

THE Tivoli patrons have gone mad over Mlle. De Dio, the wonderful dancer whom Mr. Harry Rickards secured when in London early this year. The Trapnell Sisters and Miss Bertha Stuart are all popular. Mr. F. Curran pleases greatly; and Miss Dolly Harmer has many admirers. To-night Fred Graham and Miss Dent will return to the Tivoli.

MASTER HAYDN BECK, a wonderful player on the violin, only nine years old, is creating a sensation. At six years of age he played the best of music at the New Zealand Great Exhibition. He is a child in manner, very attractive in appearance, and he is generally regarded as a re-incarnation of some dead and gone great musician. He is going home for "finish," as it is called.

MR. LEWIS SCOTT, the veteran actor, author, critic (for *The Era* for nearly forty-four years), and journalist, has been seriously ill. A most influential committee organised a testimonial fund. All the leading musical artists combined in a grand concert, folks of all ranks, including all the theatre managers, sent subscriptions, and the recipient is now ordered away to the Blue Mountains to recuperate.

MISS NETTIE BUNDLE, a new elocutionist from New Zealand, created a profound impression at the Haydn Beck recital.

MELBOURNE, Nov. 30.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait).—*The Lady Dandies* continues to draw large audiences. The elaborate and pretty dressing of the piece renders it specially attractive, while the music is tuneful and catchy. The solo parts of Miss Florence Young are finely rendered, while the choruses are bright and harmonious. Judging from present appearances *The Lady Dandies* is destined to enjoy a long and successful run.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessees, Messrs. Meynell and Gunn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy).—After a successful run of three weeks *The Girl Behind the Counter* was withdrawn on Friday evening last. Saturday night saw a revival of the popular musical comedy *The Belle of Mayfair*. There was a packed house, which thoroughly enjoyed every item throughout the piece. Mr. Cromwell repeats his interesting and successful portrait of Hugh Meredith; Mr. Brett comes to light once more as the bumptious and amusing Sir John Chaldicott; Mr. Tom Payne is a nimble and altogether satisfactory Simpson, the footman; Mr. Harold as Raymond Finchley is quite at his best; Miss Lizette Parks is a charming and winsome Julia; Miss Helene Rose, whose "Gibson Girl" song is one of the features of the play; and Miss Ruth Lincoln and Miss Emmeline Orford are others in the cast.

KING'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens).—*The White Heather*, one of Mr. Holt's most successful pieces, was revived here on Saturday evening in the presence of a packed house. Mr. Bland Holt has around him a numerous company, capable of fulfilling all the demands which *The White Heather* puts on the performers. The play was capitally mounted, the Lock scene and that depicting the search for a missing ship's log in a wrecked schooner at the bottom of the ocean being especially well arranged. *The White Heather* can only be repeated for five more nights, as Mr. Holt's season terminates here on Saturday evening next.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—To an already exceptionally strong programme several new turns were added on Saturday evening last. Foremost among the new arrivals are the Kremka Brothers, who succeeded in rousing the audience to enthusiasm with their exceedingly clever acrobatic feats. The Kremka Brothers are undoubtedly the best acrobats that have appeared in Melbourne. Mr. Harry Marte, who appeared for the first time, sang a number of new melodies very successfully and danced cleverly; Miss Phyllis Sydna contributed an English ballad, for which she was recalled; Mr. Tom Dawson convulsed the house with his song entitled "You're the one"; Mr. Franco Piper repeated his clever performance with the banjoes; Hassan, the Indian juggler, introduced a number of new tricks and illusions; while other interesting items were contributed by Brown and Robinson, Walter Emerson, Post Mason, Gwennie Hasto, Harold Parkes, Bert TyrreH, Miss Athmore Grey, and Vaud and Verne.

GAIETY THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan).—A complete change of programme drew a crowded house on Saturday evening. Artists appearing with success at present include Nellie Morrison (soubrette), Lilly Vockler (balladist), Roger Quartette of acrobats, Coleman's Girls (dashing duo), Deno and Campbell, George Deroc, James Craydon, Pearl Livingstone, George Dean, Ella Airlie, Charles Fanning, and Warwick Lumley.

WEST'S pictures at West's Palace still continue to draw excellent houses. On Saturday evening a number of new films were submitted, and met with approval from a large house.

THE World's pictures at the Bijou Theatre are nightly witnessed by full houses. The management have reverted to the old system of a mixed programme instead of relying on pictures alone, and on Saturday evening a number of artists appeared in various turns, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

MESSRS. J. C. LODGE-PERCY AND JAMES MARTIN'S company are at the Sheerness Hippodrome for the week, and opened with *Moths*. Mr. F. Vernon Travers was seen to advantage as Prince Sergius; Lord Jura was well portrayed by Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy; Raphael de Correzo was in the hands of Mr. Douglas Howard; Mr. Edward Ashworth did well as Ivan; Miss Marie Ramuz made the most of the Duchess de Sonnac; Miss Henrietta Schiller played the difficult part of Fuschia Leach with great success. *Camille* is also in the bill.

THE LATE HENRY SWINERD.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Henry Swinerd (which occurred on the 18th of last month at the comparatively early age of fifty-seven) was received with universal regret by the whole of the theatrical profession, but more particularly so by those who could claim an intimate acquaintance with so interesting a personality. Mr. Swinerd's connection with the theatre world dates from the early eighties, and he will be best remembered as the genial manager of the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, a post which he only vacated two years ago. For the rise of this theatre from an occasional concert hall to its present standing the late Mr. Swinerd could be said to be mainly responsible. The formation of a local amateur theatrical company, under Mr. Swinerd's direction, marked an advance in things theatrical in Woolwich, and so popular were the entertainments provided that a continuous run became necessary. The Christmas pantomimes of this period provided by Mr. Swinerd were liberally supported. Eventually Mr. Swinerd booked a series of engagements with high-class touring companies, with the result that the accommodation of the theatre was taxed to its utmost capacity.

The whole of the profession will remember with regret the fire of 1908, which completely gutted the theatre, but Mr. Swinerd used his influence in initiating the movement which culminated in the building of the present charming playhouse, complete with every modern improvement. The reopening of the new theatre really marked the termination of Mr. Swinerd's energies in Woolwich, for by this time he had launched out in private enter-

THE LATE MR. HENRY SWINERD.

prises which needed his personal supervision. Mr. Swinerd's companies included *Justice at Last*, *The Girl from Japan*, and *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, the two latter plays being toured in partnership with Mr. J. W. Cordiner. *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, the well-known musical comedy, is in its tenth year of tour, and is still running.

Mr. Swinerd will be remembered in Woolwich not only for his theatrical successes, but also as the provider of other miscellaneous entertainment, for he was a ruling factor of all local fêtes, &c. As a patriot and a sympathiser with deserving charitable institutions Mr. Swinerd was unsurpassed. In this connection it is perhaps sufficient to mention that toward the "Absent-Minded Beggar" Fund he was personally responsible for a contibution of a sum of £150. Mr. Swinerd's abilities and his genial personality won for him a wide circle of friends.

MR. WM. WILSON-RAE, general-manager of Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., theatrical furnishers, Duke-street, Liverpool, writes:—"In reference to the report of a charge heard at the West Ham Police Court against a person giving the name of Wilson Rae, and reported in 'Theatrical Gossip' in your issue of the 1st inst., I have to inform you that I am not the person referred to, nor am I in any way connected with him. I have no relatives of the same name (outside of members of my own family), and, as far as I know, am the only person in Great Britain legitimately entitled to the surname of Wilson-Rae.

"THE SINNER" is being played at the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, by Mr. Wilson Benge's company. Mr. Wilson Benge undertakes the leading rôle of Monk Stretton in a satisfactory manner; Mr. Alex Finlayson as Paul Lenaine acts creditably; Mr. Charles Burdon (formerly of Spennymoor) makes a hit as Edgar Thornhill; Mr. Frank Radcliffe was exceptionally good as Bill Stanton; Mr. Ulick Burke is successful as Lord Ewen; and Mr. Harold Playfair plays well as Jack Ewen. Miss Sadie Smith is capital in the rôle of Honor Thornhill; Miss Dora Olga is very good as Little Ned; Miss Geraldine Verner as Vera Ewen is satisfactory; Miss Adelaine Raby is a fascinating Meg Stanton; and Miss Gertrude Vickers acts with credit the rôle of Nora.

MESSRS. C. AND F. RENAD'S company, in *The Swiss Express*, is providing plenty of fun at the Crewe Opera House. Miss Dorothy Deakin is a pleasing Virginia; Mr. Wilfred Bailey as Dr. Gondimar Gull convulses the house, and as his two eccentric servants Messrs. C. and F. Renad are very quaint. Mr. Victor Raymond's clever portrayal of Dudley Green is enjoyed, and Mr. James Hawkes is a good Bob Rollingstone. The Lottie Stone Quartette of dancers are excellent.

AT the Opera House, Burton-on-Trent, Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, with *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, is drawing good houses this week. Mr. Walter Howard, impersonating Prince Olaf, is an ideal hero. The vindictive Prince Hildred and his ill-fated brother Michael are well played by Mr. Mayor Crooke and Mr. Lionel Gadsden respectively. A dignified cleric is Mr. F. B. Farbridge's Bishop of Illyria; Mr. Robert Noble is good as Captain Hector; and bright and amusing are the scenes between Mr. Richard Lane (Karl) and Miss Mono Hungerford, a winsome Viola. The arduous rôle of the Princess is undertaken with complete success by Miss Ethel Bracewell. Miss Ethel Patrick plays with natural ease as the Beggar Maid.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice of *Miss Hook of Holland* at Ayr in your current issue you state that the part of Mina is played by "Miss Muff Carewe." It should be Miss Madge White.—Yours faithfully, Ada White, 13, The Avenue, King-street, Southsea.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.), price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert H. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS WARD.

Miss Ward, who has achieved an enviable reputation in the provinces, commenced her theatrical career some fourteen years ago, after having won honour as an amateur, both in operatic and histrionic work. It was chiefly with amateur societies around the Midlands that she was concerned, her father, the late Dr. Charles Aston-Smith, of Tipton, being a very well known practitioner, and commanding a wide circle of friends. Her first professional engagement was with Mr. Louis Calvert, when on tour with his extensive répertoire company, in Shakespearean and other classical plays. During this time, Miss Ward gained valuable experience in understudying and in playing all kinds of small parts. For some two years after this, owing to indifferent health and private matters, Miss Ward left the stage, but returned to play Adrienne, in *Proof*, which was then being toured by her husband, Mr. T. Edward Ward, and, notwithstanding so long an absence from theatrical work, achieved a marked success. Later she essayed the dual rôle of Madeline and Adrienne, and continued playing these parts until the expiration of Mr. Ward's lease of this play. After this Miss Ward always headed the cast of the different productions undertaken from time to time by her husband. First she played the parts of Mary and Lucie, in Mr. Arthur Shirley's *Perils of Paris*, and latterly the part of Jeanne Fortier, in the same drama. Then followed a three years' run as Madge Conway, in a new version of Mr. E. T. De Banzie's *Her Wedding Day*, the pronounced success of which venture was not a little owing to the leading lady's charm and virility. The monotony of so long a run was naturally now and again relieved by the happening of the unexpected, sometimes serious and sometimes otherwise, one such incident distinctly otherwise occurring when Miss Ward sustained a dislocated elbow, caused by a nasty spill from her bicycle, and, in spite of chloroform and an operation pluckily insisted on, giving her evening's performance with no more apparent discomfort than the wearing of her injured arm in a sling. The unusual sight of the innocent young bride, Madge Conway, heroically walking to the scaffold in the last act with a broken arm aroused an extra amount of sympathy and tears.

In the next production, that of *Man and Wife*, the popular Napoleonic play written by Mr. Walter Howard, Miss Ward created the leading part of Marcelle, and afterwards showed her versatility by playing the cripple boy Jean, in the same piece, a part requiring much quiet intensity, especially in the death scene, where silence "off" is indeed golden, but which on one occasion at a Birmingham theatre was rudely disturbed by a new stage-hand, who on being cautioned by the cripple boy herself, threatened to box the "young nipper's" ears, the ferocity of the threat being only equalled by the abjectness of his apology on his discovering that the "young nipper" happened to be Miss Ward. The next engagement was that in the leading part of Honor Symes, in *Her Fatal Past*, which Miss Ward created and played for two years. After another run with *Man and Wife*, playing Marcelle, Miss Ward created Nell Greystone, in Mr. Walter Howard's *Second to None*, which was quickly followed by her taking up the part of Princess Idalia, in Mr. C. Watson Mill's new play, *The Love of the Princess*. Recently she again played Nell Greystone, varying the irksomeness of a long tour by impersonating odd nights two such diverse parts as Vere Herbert, in a version of Ouida's *Moths*, and Nan, in Buckstone's comedy, *Good for Nothing*. At the Court Theatre, Warrington, on

MISS MAUD E. WARD.

the 27th ult., Miss Ward created the leading part of Rose Avondale in her husband's production of *His Real Wife*, by Chas. A. Clarke, and achieved distinct success.

ON the night of the 3rd, at the Town Hall, Newry, Mr. Payne Seddon presented Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company, in *Rollicking Rory*. Mr. Mackey, in the title-rôle, thoroughly sustained his reputation; Miss Nana Flensberg as Rosie Callaghan made an admirable Irish Colleen; Mrs. Chalmers Mackey as MRS. Ashleigh, and subsequently as Rosaleen displayed ability; Miss Janette Lyons as Widow O'Donohoe was a fine type of old Irishwoman; Mr. J. P. McBride as Desmond Fitzgerald was clever and convincing; Mr. John St. John Stuart as Stephen D'Arcy took the part of the villain to perfection; Mr. Fred Charles did full justice to the part of Captain Ashleigh; and Mr. Lawrence Sullivan as Shaun Brady was well placed.

ON Saturday Mr. Allan Wilkie's company completed their week's engagement at the King's Hall Theatre, Ilkley, and gave a fine performance of *Hamlet*, with Mr. Wilkie in the title-part and Mr. Alexander Marsh as the Ghost. Miss Carrie Baillie as Ophelia quite captivated the audience, and at the close of the play Mr. Wilkie was called to the front for a speech, in which he expressed his thanks for the kind manner in which he had been received.

PRESENTATION.—After the performance of *Miss Hook of Holland* at the New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, on New Year's Eve, the staff met to present Mr. H. W. Day, the manager, with a diamond scarf-pin and their best New Year wishes, together with a handsome ring from a local gentleman. In acknowledging the gifts, Mr. Day said he accepted the presents in that hearty spirit in which they were offered, and they would always remind him of his very pleasant connection with the staff of the New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr. He wished them all a very prosperous time in the New Year.

DEATH OF ALFRED B. CROSS.

The news of the death of Mr. Alfred B. Cross will be almost as great a shock to his comrades as it has been to his relatives. To one and all he was a sympathetic friend, to his wife a loving and devoted husband, and to his son an affectionate father.

Mr. Cross, whose real name was Alfred Brookes, was born in Bolton in 1853, and commenced business life at the early age of eleven in the Bolton Post Office. Here, in the course of a few years, he rose to a position of trust and responsibility, and his courteous manner when dealing with the public enhanced the popularity he had already earned in the town. When it is explained that he was captain of the Cricket Club and secretary of the Dramatic Society, as well as being associated with other local organisations, his popularity will be readily appreciated. Even the Dramatic Society did not, however, fulfil all his histrionic ambitions, as before he was twenty years of age he gave frequent recitals, engaging even the Town Hall and filling the entire programme himself with recitals from Shakespeare and other classics, and readings from the works of Charles Dickens. With such ambitions, it was inevitable that sooner or later he would abandon the life of routine in which he was then engaged for the more congenial atmosphere of the theatre. He commenced his professional career as a member of the stock company at the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, in 1877, under the management of Mr. Dutton. He then went to Exeter, where for six months he was a member of the stock company

THE LATE MR A. B. CROSS.

directed by Mr. Neebe. It was during the Exeter season that his one and only son, Evelyn, was born. In 1879 he was playing Captain Beauclerc in *Diplomacy* with a touring company; a stock season with Mr. John Coleman followed. During 1880 Mr. Cross was a member of the touring *Caste* company, playing, among other parts, George D'Alroy and Lord Beaufoy. It was during this tour that he became associated with Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Herbert Waring. He went to Leicester in 1882 as leading man, and eventually toured under the management of Mr. Elliot Galer. Subsequently he played Frank Darlington in *Youth* on tour, under the direction of Messrs. Holt and Wilmot. During 1883 Mr. Cross was leading man with Mr. Joseph Eldred, and followed by playing Bob Brierley at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. In the autumn of 1884 Mr. Cross played "leading business" at the Surrey, under the management of Mr. Paul Merrit, and was then selected by Mr. Wilson Barrett to play Theorus to Mr. Leonard Boyne's Claudian on tour. With Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) he played George Warner, Nathan, and Colonel Forrester on tour, and afterwards spent twelve months playing the entire Shakespearean lead with the Alleyn-Bernard company. For a further twelve months he played Harold Armytage in the *Lights o' London* tour. During 1888, while *Ben-ma-Chree* was still running at the Princess's Theatre, Mr. Cross was selected by Mr. Barrett to play the part of Dan Mylrea in the first provincial production of the drama. He was frequently afterwards associated with this play in production as well as in acting. Mr. Cross played Andreas to Miss Grace Hawthorne's Theodora during one of that lady's provincial tours, and also at the Princess's Theatre during Mr. Boyne's absence. During the next few years his engagements in the provinces were to play Jack Manley in *Still Alarm*; Walter Lee in *Taken from Life*; Prince Kandos in *Passion's Power*; Ned Drayton in *In the Ranks*; Orlando in support of Mrs. Langtry; lead in *Cross for Valour*, *England's Flag*, and *Silence of Night*; lead and management with *Lured to Ruin* and *Fettered Lives*. His London engagements during this period included lead at the Olympic, under Mr. W. W. Kelly, lead at the Opéra Comique, lead in many special matinée performances, and during the run of *The English Rose* at the Adelphi he was retained by Messrs. Gatti to understudy Mr. Boyne as Harry O'Mailley, and occasionally played the part. He has also played for the Elizabethan Stage Society, and in 1897 he stage-managed and produced *Caste* for the Dublin University Dramatic Club. His first real venture in management on his own account was with *Wings of Wealth* in 1900, but soon after this he was with the Bandmann Répertoire Company, playing D'Artagnan; David Garrick, Bob Brierley, one of the Corsican Brothers, and Pete Quilliam in Messrs. Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett's *The Manxman*. Soon afterwards, owing to the illness of Mr. E. H. Vanderfelt, he was called upon at very short notice to play Orlando at the Court Theatre, London, but owing to the death of Mr. Vanderfelt the performances were brought to a close in about a fortnight. The part of Pete Quilliam, in connection with which Mr. Cross will be most vividly remembered, had, however, such a strong attraction for him that he again commenced management with a répertoire company of his own, playing *The Manxman* as often as possible. Very shortly afterwards, at the end of 1901, he was successful in securing the full rights of the latter play, and commenced touring it alone It was during the early days of this tour that his first wife, and mother of his only son, died, and in 1905 he married Miss Minnie Waterford, daughter of Adelaide Rorsand and the late Tom W. Ford. His performance of the great-hearted Pete is so well known that it does not require comment here. Sufficient that he toured the play practically without a break till the end of 1908, when it was altered by Mr. Hall Caine and revived by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter at the Lyceum Theatre, London, under the title of *Pete*. Mr. Cross thus played Pete about 2,500 times, while Mrs. Cross played Kate for about five years. A short tour with an American play, *The Night Before Christmas*, practically closed his professional career, and for the past few months he had been resting in Manchester. His favourite parts were Pete, Dan Mylrea, and Claude Melnotte, and his hobby, work, and plenty of it. He came to London a few days before Christmas, and it is thought contracted a chill on or after the journey. He did not, however, show signs of any real illness until Thursday, Dec. 30, when he was too ill to rise in the morning. By the night of the 31st he was worse, and the doctor was called in. During the next twenty-four hours he was delirious, but on Saturday evening he fell into a deep sleep of exhaustion, which lasted until mid-day on Sunday, Jan. 2, when he ceased to breathe. He had the unremitting care of his devoted wife, who never left his side during the three days. Both his wife and son, to whom he was deeply attached, were present in his last moments. The cause of death was heart disease, accelerated by work, worry, and chill.

Mr. Cross was buried quietly at Nunhead on Tuesday, only his wife, son and daughter-in-law, sister, and sister-in-law being present.

THE MUSICAL YEAR.

The year 1909 was remarkable for the number of important musical events, and the increasing interest shown by the public in music of a high-class character. In January, an English season was given at Covent Garden, in which the chief feature was three cycles of the *Ring* by English vocalists, with only one or two exceptions, under the experienced direction of Dr. Richter. So confident was the great conductor in the possibility of giving Wagner's *Ring* in English, and so much had our native artists benefited under his training, that the experiment, although a daring one, was not without success, and the music in many instances delightfully sung. The chief fault of the English singers seemed to be a lack of clear enunciation, but it has to be considered that many of the young artists came fresh from college, and had little or no operatic experience. Dr. E. W. Naylor's opera, *The Angelus*, which won Messrs. Ricordi's prize was also produced during this season; but did not prove any particular success. The grand season at Covent Garden opened brilliantly with a highly successful performance of Saint-Saëns's *Samson et Dalila*, given in operatic form for the first time in London, although the music is familiar to all concert-goers. So great an interest was taken in this performance, and Madame Kirby Lunn's superb embodiment of Dalila that during the season the opera was produced a number of times. Another novelty by a French composer was Debussy's *Pelléas et Melisande*. Although splendidly mounted and admirably performed Debussy's opera did not achieve any special success beyond a certain amount of interest aroused by a clever and artistic production. The performance, however, of Gustave Charpentier's *Louise* at once secured a triumph, both by its charming music, interesting libretto, and the magnificent performance of M. Gilibert as the father. That so fine an opera has not been given at Covent Garden before is a matter of some surprise. The last novelty of the season was Baron d'Erlanger's *Tess*, founded on Thomas Hardy's well-known novel, "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," which, mounted with great care for picturesque effect, contained graceful and pathetic music, and had a most favourable reception. Following the grand season came the Moody-Manners' brief, but highly successful season of opera in English at the Lyric Theatre, in the course of which A. Maclean's opera *Maître Seiler* was produced. The Castellano Italian company also gave a season of Italian opera at the Coronet Theatre, and afterwards at Drury Lane, that proved highly popular. Many of the older and seldom performed operas were given with excellent results by this clever company. The new works they produced were Domenico Mouleone's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, on the same subject as Mascagni's opera, and Leoncavallo's *Zaza*. In the autumn a short season at Covent Garden was given by the Carl Rosa Opera Company. At His Majesty's Theatre, Miss Ethel Smyth's opera, *The Wreckers*, was successfully produced by Mr. Thomas Beecham, three performances being given, and an extra one at the command of the King. The students of the Royal Academy of Music gave an excellent account of Mozart's *Magic Flute* and part of Bizet's *Carmen*, and in the autumn gave a performance of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's opera, *Colomba*, not heard in London since 1883, while the students of the Guildhall School of Music distinguished themselves in Hérold's *Pré aux Clercs* and Gounod's *Irene*, the English version of *La Reine de Saba*. Joseph Holbrooke's *Pierrot and Pierrette* was given six times at His Majesty's Theatre, and in December W. S. Gilbert and Edward German's new opera, *Fallen Fairies*, was produced at the Savoy Theatre. No city in the world is at the present time better supplied with fine orchestras than London, and the New Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Landon Ronald, which held their first season this year is a welcome addition to our many splendid orchestras. Excellent performances have been given at their concerts, and among the new works produced mention should be made of Sir Charles V. Stanford's "Ode to Discord," Hamilton Harty's "Concerto for violin in D," "Francoys Villon," by William Wallace, and Schuman's "Symphony." The Queen's Hall Symphony Concerts, under Mr. Henry Wood, have produced three Nocturnes, by Debussy, conducted by the composer, Borodin's "Symphony in B minor," and two tone-poems, "Finlandia" and "En Saga," by Sibelius. The London Symphony Orchestra continue to retain the esteem of the musical public by the high standard of their performances. The conductors were Nikisch, Hans Richter, Safonoff, and Kussewitsky, and the chief novelty produced was Paderewski's new symphony in B minor, given for the first time in this country. Festivals were held at Brighton, Hereford, Liverpool, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the hundredth anniversaries of the birth of Mendelssohn and the death of Mozart duly honoured. Of the choral societies, the Royal Albert Hall, under Sir Frederick Bridge, the London Choral Society, directed by Mr. Arthur Fagge, and the Bach Choir, all gave interesting and artistic performances, and a new choir, the Queen's Hall Choir, conducted by Mr. Leoni, has produced Hubert Bath's "Wedding of Shon Maclean" with very successful results. It is impossible to more than refer to the host of concerts given during the past year, but mention should be made of the important concerts given by such great artists as Madame Nordica, Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Mme. Calvé, Clara Butt, Gerhardt, and Henschel. During the past year many famous composers and artists have passed away, Edward MacDowell, Mrs. Henry J. Wood, Lassalle (the baritone), F. Thomé, Ebenezer Prout, George Perren, A. Veanesi, Clotilde Kleeberg (pianist), J. L. Molloy, Dr. Jordan (organist), Heinrich Conried, Hermann Schroeder, Edouard Silas, E. Hartog, and many others of note. Finally, mention should be made of the successful series of promenade concerts at Queen's Hall, under the conductorship of Mr. Henry J. Wood.

AT the Aberaman Grand Theatre, Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann and company are playing to crowded houses in *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren gives a very excellent portrayal of Claudian Andiates, and Miss Bandmann plays with considerable spirit and effect as Almida; Mr. Frank Owen Chambers acts with fine reserve as Thariogalus; Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner is successful as Belos; Mr. Douglas Earle is good as Agazil; Alcares is well handled by Mr. Weston Hubbard; Mr. Cecil Maynard did good work as Rhamanies; Miss Maud Garth was a pleasing Edessa; and other parts were well sustained. The play is capitally staged.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM arrived in New York last week, and, with Miss Mary Moore, will appear at the Comedy Theatre there on Monday next in *The Mollusc*, which is an established favourite with Americans. Sir Charles occupied a box at the theatre last Monday evening, when Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney appeared in *The Affinity*, which has been seen in London under the title of *The Incubus*.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING was heartily called after the second act, and after eulogising the author of the play, M. Eugène Brieux, added, "I would like to say that I sincerely hope the long esteem and regard in which you held him who made famous the name I bear will never be diminished by anything I may say or do. You were always loyal to my father, and I trust I may never do anything that would meet with his disapproval were he still alive."

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, speaking in New York of the New Theatre there, said that "one of the great difficulties with such an institution was to secure a large number of actors of the first-class. They can employ themselves so much more profitably in other ways that it is only reasonable to suppose that they will not take up with the national theatre idea. The only way I can see for such a plan to be successful is through the establishment of a large fund for pensions. As for a national theatre in England, I do not think one will be established, and have said so repeatedly. As far as we have been able to make out in London, your millionaires are arranging to present the same productions the regular theatres in New York have had for years. I had not thought they would begin on that ground at least."

SIR HERBERT TREE, in response to many requests, will revive *Beethoven* at His Majesty's for a week, namely, from Monday, Jan. 24, until Saturday, the 29th, with matinées on the Wednesday and Saturday. The theatre will then be closed for one day to admit of the final rehearsal of Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy's new play, *The O'Flynn*, which will be presented for the first time on Tuesday, Feb. 1, with Sir Herbert himself in the title-rôle and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy as his leading lady.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has decided upon Thursday, Jan. 20, as the date of production at the Garrick of *Dame Nature*, Mr. Frederick Fenn's adaptation of *La Femme Nue*, with Miss Ethel Irving in the principal rôle. Miss Irving's support will include Miss Nancy Price, Miss Agnes Hewitt, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, Miss Minnie Terry, and Messrs. Norman Forbes, Frank Cooper, J. D. Beveridge, Ernest Leicester, F. Kinsey Peile, Bertram Steer, and George Bealby. *Dame Nature's* stay at the Garrick is limited, owing to arrangements made for the production of a new play in February, when the former piece will in all likelihood be transferred to another theatre.

"THE TENTH MAN" is the title of the new play by W. Somerset Maugham which Mr. Arthur Bourchier will produce at the Garrick early next month. What sort of individual the "Tenth Man" actually is must be left for the first night to disclose, but it may be assumed that he is the personage who acts differently to anyone else, who, in fact, does just the opposite to what, in the words of the accustomed phrase, would be done by "nine out of ten." Such a character it is undeniable would form an excellent subject for Mr. Somerset Maugham's facile pen.

"GLASS HOUSES" is the suggestive title which Mr. Bourchier has conferred upon the English version of Paul Hervieu's play *Connais-Toi*, of which he has secured the rights for this country. Three writers are at present at work on the piece, and much may therefore be expected.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY commences his spring tour at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, on Monday. The company will consist of Miss N. de Silva, Miss Mary Rorke, Messrs. Charles Glenney, Fred Wright, sen., Owen Roughwood, Percy Foster, George Cooke, Philip Hewland, Leonard Craske, B. A. Pittar, Denholm Muir, Comberbach, and Neville; Misses Brenda Gibson, Beatrice Ainley, Sybil Walsh, and Bessie Elder. Mr. Frank B. O'Niell will continue in the capacity of business manager.

DURING the early portion of the tour Mr. Harvey will mainly rely upon *The World and His Wife*, *The Conspiracy*, *The Breed of the Treshams*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *The Only Way*. Despite the pull which electioneering has of necessity on the public interest at the present time, the advance booking at Southampton is of a highly satisfactory character, and big houses are practically assured.

MR. FORBES-ROBERTSON'S manager, Mr. Percy Burton, who crossed from New York to London for Christmas and New Year's week, speaks enthusiastically of the theatres in the Empire City, and Mr. Forbes-Robertson's success. He says: "When went to Washington, I called at the White House, and was received by President Taft, who was most genial, and shook hands with the grip of a bear. He expressed his great interest in the theatre, and his intention of coming to see Mr. Forbes-Robertson act, and he did so last week. 'Of course, I have other things to do,' the President said, smilingly, 'besides going to the theatre.'" Mr. Burton, by the by, has been suffering from a sharp attack of rheumatic fever, and will be detained in London by his doctor's orders for another week.

MISS VIOLA TREE, who has already made her mark as an actress and a concert singer, is also a clever essayist, and in the January number of *The Nineteenth Century and After* there is a paper by her on the censorship of stage plays. She concludes her article thus: "Let not this year's Blue-book be relegated to the dust-heap, or merely looked on as a pleasant reference book of wit and epigram; let it become part of the living law. One who spoke in favour of the Censor allowed that in an ideal state of things there need be no Censorship. This is the first step towards the realisation of that ideal state."

MISS MARIE TEMPEST, always a favourite of the New Yorkers, has renewed her popularity in *Penelope*, at the Lyceum Theatre in that city, and is playing to crowded houses. Having tested the loyalty of her American admirers by staying away from them for five years, she has returned to find them staunch and true. Miss Tempest finds abundant opportunity for the exercise of her sprightly wit in Mr. Maugham's diverting play, and is seen at her very best as Penelope O'Farrell. The sparkling dialogue and the consulting-room scene of the second act cause constant laughter. Mr. Philip Desborough as Dr. O'Farrell, Mr. Herbert Ross as Professor Golightly, Mr. Wilfred Draycott as Davenport Barlowe, Miss Mabel Trevor as Mrs. Ferguson, and Miss Maud Milton as Mrs. Golightly, are all very good in their respective rôles, other parts being well played by Mr. McIntyre Wicksteed, Miss Minnie Griffen, Mr. J. Sebastian Smith, and Miss Nannie Bennett.

THE wedding took place at Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, on New Year's Eve, of Miss Auriol Lee, the talented young actress, and Mr. Frederick W. Lloyd, the well-known actor. The bride was becomingly dressed in white cloth, with an overwrap trimmed with ermine, and a white turban toque ornamented with a large white plume. The Rev. Swan Mason, who officiated, gave an eloquent address, in the course of which he said he knew, and was glad to know, that they both followed the same calling and profession, and in that profession he saw much like his own. It was noble work. It had God's sanction, and in some ways it was an ally of their Church.

IT had been said that "He who pleases is of greater utility than he who instructs." What a privilege to combine both! All the world might be a stage on which we must play a part, but it was not given to all to play in the fierce light of public opinon. To how great an extent they were called on to instruct was shown by the fact that even on that solemn occasion he could not find more suitable words to say to them than those which had often publicly fallen from the lips of their sister there:—

"It is very meet
The Lord Bassanio lead an upright life,
For, having such a blessing in the lady,
He finds the joys of Heaven here on earth."

There, in four lines, was the whole marriage address. Those lines set forth the duty of the wife to be the true helpmeet to her husband, to strengthen and confirm him in an upright life; and the duty of the husband that he might repay such love by deserving it.

SEVERAL prominent people in the theatrical world were present at the church, and at the subsequent reception held by the bride's mother at 10, Queen-street, Mayfair. Sir Herbert Tree sent a letter of congratulation, which was also signed by every member of the company at His Majesty's Theatre, and among the many presents were a blotter from Miss Marie Lohr and a silver vase from Miss Madge Titheradge and Mr. Charles Quartermaine.

THE glories of the old Britannia seem to have been revived under the management of Mr. Humphrey Brammall, jun. The sea of faces which confronts the visitor to the theatre testifies to the great success of the pantomime, while hundreds have been unable to obtain admission. The pantomime is quite up to the standard of West End productions, the company work together with the greatest unanimity, and the music and stage-management are excellent.

SIR GEORGE LEWIS, by his retirement from practice as a solicitor, leaves a gap which will not easily be filled. His name is associated with many cases connected with the theatrical profession; and many actors and actresses will remember with pleasure the tact, knowledge of the world, and legal experience and acumen which steered them through serious difficulties.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON recently read Richard Watson Gilder's poem, "The Heroic Age," in the actor's exquisitely polished and expressive style, at a dinner of the Civic Forum at the Hotel Astor, New York.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS has hit upon a useful expedient for the enlightenment of the lover of music by the issue of a series of "All Abouts," each of which contains a full description of the story and music, scene by scene, of famous operas, the principal airs and themes being illustrated by a few bars of each. No. 1 and No. 2 are devoted to Wagner's *Rienzi* and Gounod's *Faust* respectively. The guides, which have been prepared and written by Mr. Francis E. Barrett for the Moody-Manners Opera Company, will enable those witnessing the opera to understand the story thoroughly and to get a good idea of the prominent features of the music. The little book, which may be had for 2d. each, is just the thing necessary for the ordinary public, who are thus enabled to realise and understand more clearly the beauties of the composers' works.

DISCUSSING the arduous work attendant on stage management, Mr. Arthur Collins says:—"I don't know whether managers are long-lived men, but I shouldn't think so. Sir Augustus Harris was only forty-five when he died; H. J. Leslie, who produced *Dorothy*, also died young; Charles Harris was about the same age as his brother when he died; Charlie Wilson, lately with Stoll's and one time of the Alhambra here and Hammerstein's, New York, was also quite a young man, and the news of his death a few days ago came quite as a shock. The late Augustus Daly was yet another of the great managers and producers who died while still comparatively young.

"IT is very engrossing work, as this little story of young Shubert, head of Shubert Bros., New York, shows. Young Shubert, then a man under thirty, was badly smashed up in an accident. He wouldn't let the doctors deceive him, but asked them point blank how long he had to live. They told him the end could not be more than an hour or so away, upon which he ordered them, despite their protests, to carry him to the telephone, and he spent his last moments fixing up what was to be done with the various theatrical companies and enterprises in which he was interested, literally dying at his post as much as any soldier had ever done on the battlefield."

MR. JAMES WELCH returns to the West End on Monday, the 17th inst., when he will revive at the Criterion *When Knights Were Bold*, with which he has been enjoying a highly prosperous tour. Mr. Welch will be seen again as the irrepressible baronet so whimsically cast back into the days of old, and Miss Audrey Ford will reappear as Rowena.

MR. ERNEST ALFRED CARPENTER, joint managing-director with Mr. H. R. Smith, of the Lyceum Theatre, and managing-director of the Theatre Royal, Bristol, whose sad death we recorded in our last issue, has left estate sworn at the total amount of £382.

MISS EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON and her husband, Mr. Charles Rann Kennedy, leave Liverpool for New York to-day (Saturday) by the ss. Lusitania.

MR. E. RAYSON-COUSENS has been engaged by Mr. Tom Watt for the part of Archibald Carlyle and stage-manager for the Bullock version of *East Lynne*

NUMBER one of *The Prompter*, a monthly journal devoted to the interests of amateurs, has just appeared. The little paper is intended to form "a medium for the exchange and discussion of ideas pertinent to questions of the moment" from the amateur point of view, and is a very readable production. Among the features of the journal are "Stellar Jottings," in which appreciations of the work of leading actors and actresses are given week by week, and the Play Bureau, by means of which new one-act pieces may secure production or publication. The first number contains a comedietta by Duncan Kennedy, entitled *Isaac Harber's Heart*, which, if not of striking originality, is humorously written, and should be of excellent service to the amateur.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON is accomplishing a remarkable achievement at the Opera House, Southport, of which he is lessee and manager, putting on two colossal shows like *Pinkie and the Fairies* and *Brewster's Millions* each afternoon and evening respectively throughout the week. On Monday both productions ran with extraordinary smoothness, not a hitch being discernible. Mr. Hutchison, who, on Monday, appeared for the first time at the Opera House since it came under his management, received a hearty welcome, and won warm praise for his artistic rendering of Brewster.

AT the close of the performance, in response to a demand for a speech, Mr. Hutchison, after warmly thanking the audience for their magnificent reception, said many of the patrons were no doubt aware he was responsible for the régime of the Opera House, and he endeavoured to place before them all that was worthy of their support, both as regards musical and dramatic performances. Amongst the prospective London successes to be presented there were *Our Miss Gibbs*, *The Flag Lieutenant*, *The Arcadians*, Mr. Martin Harvey, *The Dollar Princess*, and many others.

MR. HUTCHISON then made a welcome announcement. That evening he had received a cable from America, sent by his chief under whom he had served for ten years—Sir Charles Wyndham—in which he announced that he would visit Southport. He took that opportunity of thanking his loyal staff, from behind and in front of the house, also the orchestra, and last but not least, Mr. George Clarkson, his resident-manager.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and Mr. Mark Blow's company, in *The Little Damozel*, scored a great success at their opening performance at Harrogate last week. According to local critics, the play was so beautifully acted and so lavishly mounted as to make the audience imagine they were witnessing a performance at a West-End London theatre. Miss Molesworth's performance of the Damozel was described as "a veritable triumph." All the scenery, furniture, and properties are reproductions of those used in London. The play was immediately re-booked for a return visit in the height of Harrogate's summer season.

MR. A. HYLTON ALLEN, whose marriage we announce in another column, has recently attracted a good deal of attention in New York by his performance of Aristobulus in Mr. Faversham's production of Stephen Phillips's *Herod*. Mr. Hylton Allen's work in this country was chiefly in association with Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. Nat Goodwin, while three of his visits to America were under the management of each of these gentlemen.

MRS. HYLTON ALLEN, although English, has played only in America under the management of Mr. Nat Goodwin, and also with Miss Elliott in Mrs. de la Pasture's new play *Deborah of Tod's*, produced in Boston Dec. 6. Mr. Hylton Allen is a Sussex man, and is looking forward to spending a portion of next summer in that county, and introducing his wife to his many friends and to the scenes of his boyhood.

THE O.P. Club have removed to new premises and are now located at the Adelphi Hotel, Adelphi, W.C.

PRESIDENT TAFT carried out his intention of going to see Mr. Forbes Robertson in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, and visited Elliott's Theatre, New York, on the 30th ult. for that purpose. At the end of the second act the President expressed a desire to meet Mr. Forbes Robertson, and the actor was escorted to the President's box, where he and Mr. Taft talked for about ten minutes. Mr. Robertson said he had never before played in the presence of the President of the United States, and that he greatly appreciated the honour. Mr. Taft said he was very much pleased with the work of the star and his company.

SINCE M. Maeterlinck's delicious fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, started on its successful career at the Haymarket Theatre, the blue bird has come to be regarded as the symbol of happiness. To ensure the happiness of ones friends in the new year, therefore, one must give them a blue bird. The fluffy blue mascots can be bought at the Haymarket Theatre and all the principal stores, in all sizes, from 1s. upwards.

"WHERE CHILDREN RULE," which is being enjoyed by enthusiastic audiences twice daily, will be suspended at the Garrick Theatre on Saturday evening next, in deference to Mr. Arthur Bourchier's long-standing contract to produce his new play the following week. An interesting event will take place this evening, when a large contingent of boy scouts, who are going to witness the performance, will be reviewed by Master Bobbie Andrews before entering the theatre.

THE remains of Albert Henry Fielding, late bill inspector at the Haymarket Theatre, were laid to rest at Tooting Cemetery on Monday. Mr. Fielding was for many years agent in advance for some of the best companies on the road, and in his earlier days was in the service of the Great Vance. Amongst those who attended the funeral were George and Walter Fielding (brothers), the deceased's eldest sister, all from Bristol, and Robert John Williamson, bill inspector at the Garrick Theatre (his bosom friend for twenty-eight years).

THE inclusion of Mr. Lyn Harding in the cast of *The Strong People*, which is to be Mr. Lewis Waller's next production at the Lyric, is an assurance that the playgoer may expect some powerful scenes in Mr. McLellan's new play.

THAT very pretty pantomime *Cinderella* at the Crystal Palace Theatre will be given every evening during next week and until further notice, with matinées on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Miss Dorothea Clarke as Cinders has become a great favourite, and Miss Maisie Ellinger as Prince Charming shares the honours. Of the many beautiful scenes, perhaps The Grove is the most popular, for here live deer are seen drinking from a running brook, to the accompaniment of the singing of many birds. Cinderella's electric-lighted coach is a splendid equippage.

THE Stage Society has selected for its next production a play in three acts, by Lady Bell, with the significant title of *The Way the Money Goes*. The play deals with the conditions of the working classes, a subject in which the authoress has long manifested a deep interest.

AT Lambeth Police-court on Monday Stewart McCarthy, aged twenty-eight, who declined to state his address or occupation, was charged on remand with stealing property belonging to Austen Milroy, an actor. On Dec. 11 the prisoner called at the Kennington Theatre, where the prosecutor was then performing, and, giving his name as Stewart, asked to see Mr. Milroy. That gentleman, who had met the prisoner during the previous week at Cheltenham, and believed him to be a man of some position, received him in his dressing-room, and left him there while he went on the stage. When Mr. Milroy returned he found the prisoner had gone. He afterwards missed a diamond pin, a gold watch, chain, and a gold-mounted umbrella, valued in all at £15. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who is well-known as a keen sportsman, arranged a hockey tour in the South of England last week. Mr. Norman's team, which included half a dozen county players from Hampshire, Dorset, Cornwall, and Devon, played four matches, winning two, losing one, and sharing one. A very pleasant time was spent.

THE Children's Court was duly inaugurated on Tuesday at six of the London Police Courts, and juveniles for whom licences to appear on the stage are required will no longer be compelled to attend a place where justice is dispensed to hardened criminals. Special rooms are now provided in which to hear the various cases, and no member of the public is admitted, with the exception of the Press. To suit the convenience of magistrates it has been arranged to take the juvenile cases at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

THE first application of a theatrical character was at Bow-street, when permission was granted for nine girls, all over twelve years old, engaged in the Drury Lane pantomime, to remain in the theatre until eleven o'clock at night. Another application was granted in favour of little Mary Glynne at the Strand Theatre, and another on behalf of Miss Elise Craven and Master Claire at the Coliseum.

THE Glossop-Harris Shakespearean company met with more than ordinary success on the occasion of their first visit to the King's Theatre, Greenock, last week. On Saturday, when *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented, the theatre was packed to the doors with an enthusiastic audience of nearly three thousand people. The final fall of the curtain was the signal for a remarkable ovation, of which Miss Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier were principally the objects. With the advent of the New Year Miss Glossop-Harris entered on the fifth of her tour.

THE Glasgow "Cinderella" Fund for Poor Children, which was originated some years ago by Mrs. Percy O. Humphrys, wife of the manager at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, is once more to be helped by theatrical sports, taken part in by all the pantomime stars. These will be held in Celtic Park on Thursday, Feb. 10, and the leading attractions will be an aeroplane display and a Marathon race from the Royal to the grounds.

THE fancy dress ball of the Playgoers' Club will take place on Monday at the Hotel Cecil. A feature of the occasion will be a number of sets made up of dances representing characters from various plays, whilst Mr. Kenneth Douglas and Miss Marie Löhr are coming specially to judge a novelty in the form of an "egg and spoon" waltz, which is calculated to try the skill of the dancers.

MR. STANLEY COOKE desires it to be known that he is not a member of Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's touring company, but is fulfilling a special engagement of four weeks at the Coronet Theatre to play the Rev. Robert Spalding.

THE Murray King and Clark pantomime *Dick Whittington* has already made for itself a great name on the South Coast. Never before have so many flowers been thrown on to the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, stage as were recorded last Saturday, when the Christmas run terminated at that flourishing town. Hastings is following suit, and judging from the advance booking, Folkestone refuses to be left behind.

AN interesting performance will take place at the Birmingham Theatre Royal in May. It is a musical comedy called *The Heiress of Edgbaston*, written by Mr. Follet Thorpe, a local author, and composed by Mr. Guy Jones, the conductor of the Theatre Royal orchestra. It will be played for six nights and one matinée at the Theatre Royal by a company entirely composed of amateurs.

MRS. E. L. FERNANDEZ, the vice-president of the Professional Woman's League, died in New York on the 21st ult., at the age of fifty-seven. Mrs. Fernandez had conducted a dramatic agency for a number of years, and was known by everybody in the American theatrical profession. She was the mother of Miss Bijou Fernandez (Mrs. W. L. Abingdon). Before the closing of Tony Pastor's Theatre, New York, she always acted as the hostess at the annual Christmas tree and gathering of stage children.

THE hundredth performance of *Sir Walter Ralegh* was reached at the Lyric on Tuesday, when a full house greeted the principal members of the cast with much heartiness, Mr. Lewis Waller, of course, receiving an especially warm welcome. Miss Winifred Emery and Miss Lilian Braithwaite's fine performance also won renewed admiration.

THE licence of the Alexandra Palace has been transferred from Mr. Edwin Goodship to Mr. F. T. Boucher, the newly-appointed managing secretary to the Palace trustees. Mr. Boucher was formerly in the service of the Crystal Palace for twelve years, and during the latter part of the period he was assistant manager.

A NEW prima donna came to the front on Tuesday, when Miss Amy Evans, the well-known Welsh concert singer, appeared in the rôle of Selene in *Fallen Fairies* at the Savoy. The daughter of a concert singer, Miss Evans received her first instruction in singing from Mr. David Lloyd, of Ton-y-Pandy, afterwards studying under Signor Alberto Randegger. At the age of fourteen she won first prize at the Eisteddfod at Cardiff. After singing at various musical festivals and concerts, Miss Evans made her London début at the Queen's Hall on Sept. 17 last, when she won enthusiastic praise.

APPLICATION was made on Wednesday to the President of the French Civil Tribunal on behalf of the directors of the Porte St. Martin Theatre, for permission to institute an action for damages against *L'Eclair*, the Paris *Journal*, and the *Secolo* of Milan for publishing pirated extracts from *Chantecler*, the production of which is now promised for the end of January at the Porte St. Martin Theatre. The Court granted the application, and the case will come on for hearing next week.

MRS. CALEB PORTER, who will be remembered as playing all sorts of character-parts, including that of Stephanus in *The Sign of the Cross*, and as part authoress of *The Bridge Tangle* produced at the Court in 1908, left the stage some years ago to take up dressmaking, and has established an agency at 175, Brompton-road, where costumes can be found to suit all sorts of parts at the last minute and at extremely low prices. Mrs. Porter's own stage experience showed her how hard it was to have to dress a part as well as one would like when studying and rehearsing all day, and she has tried to meet what she found one of the greatest difficulties—that of making a little money go a long way. Some of the new firm's character dresses may be seen at the Playhouse in *Little Miss Cummin*, and orders for a good many pageant and fancy dresses have also been executed. The busier members of the profession will find it a great saving both of time and money to pay a visit to Mrs. Porter's establishment, where a large stock of Paris and Vienna models are on show.

MR. W. W. KELLY'S bookings for the Christmas and New Year holidays at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, and at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal, have proved thoroughly successful. At Kelly's Messrs. Dudley Bennett and Wray's company in *A Country Girl* has played to capacity business nightly, and every evening since Boxing Night money has been turned away. On Monday Mr. Kelly's attraction will be Mr. Arthur Carlton's company in *Cinderella*. At the Birkenhead Theatre Royal next week Mr. Percy Hutchison, Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Cicely Stuckey, and company will be the attraction in *Brewster's Millions*.

A NEW Territorial musical play, entitled *The Cause*, written and composed by Captain and Mrs. Scott-Gatty, was successfully performed at Hertford on Wednesday, in aid of the Hertfordshire Regiment.

MISS DORA PASS concluded on Saturday last a special engagement as Mary Lee, in *Captain Jack*, in which she achieved gratifying success. She has had another tempting offer to go abroad with Miss Mohawk, but prefers England at present. Her recent engagements have been under the managements of Mr. Andrew Melville, Mr. Morton Powell, Mr. Gilbert Payne, and Mr. Cyril Leighton.

MISS GLADYS FORD-HOWITT, at the termination of *False Gods* at His Majesty's, was engaged by Mr. William Giffard for Mr. Louis Calvert's tour of *Sunday*, appearing with marked success in the title-rôle.

MR. KEITH G. KENNETH commenced his spring tour last week with *Under the Greenwood Tree* and *The Woman of Kronstadt*. Both plays are dressed and mounted on a most elaborate scale, and the company is one of exceptional strength, including Miss Betty Fairfax, Miss Ida Chapman, Mr. Bernard Copping, and Mr. Montague Lane, who undertakes the stage-management.

THE many friends of Mr. Reginald Grant, the popular acting-manager at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, will learn with satisfaction that he is back at his post after his serious illness. Mr. Grant has received so many good wishes and hopes for his speedy recovery that he finds himself unable at present to personally reply to each, and asks us to express his gratitude to his well-wishers.

MR. TOM CONWAY, the popular Baroness of the *Cinderella* pantomime now playing at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, has not been able to appear since Tuesday night through a very bad attack of influenza and bronchitis. He was unable to attend rehearsals, but played at the first performance, and continued to do so, although very ill, until Tuesday. He hopes to resume his part after a few days' rest.

"DON" will celebrate its hundredth performance at the Criterion Theatre on Monday. Mr. Rudolf Bessier's clever comedy goes to the Kingsway on Jan. 17, with all the members of the original company.

OWING to the success of *The Forty Thieves* at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, special matinées will be given every Monday until further notice, in addition to those on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Children are admitted half price at all performances except those of Saturday evening, and to all seats except gallery.

MR. C. C. DORRILL'S experiment of providing a pantomime Boxing Day at New Theatre, Oxford, the first time for twenty-one years, proved a great success, and Mr. Brydon Phillips is to be congratulated on his foresight in catering so acceptably for the University town. *Sinbad* was voted a refined and funny pantomime, eminently suitable to Mr. Dorrill's patrons.

MR. J. E. VEDRENNE is sending out a company with Mr. Lewis Waller's success, *The Fires of Fate*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The company plays four weeks in the suburbs, opening on the 31st inst. at the Fulham Theatre, with the Coronet and Kennington to follow, and subsequently visits all the large towns.

"THE PARENTS' PROGRESS," a new one-act play by "George Paston," will shortly be put on at the Prince of Wales's in front of *The Little Damozel*. That popular piece will early next month have to be transferred to another theatre to make way for a new musical play, written by Mr. Frederick Lonsdale and Mr. Paul Rubens, with lyrics by Mr. Arthur Wimperis and Mr. Rubens, and music by Mr. Rubens. The cast will include Miss Isabel Jay, Mr. Bertram Wallis, Mr. James Blakeley, and Mr. Lauri de Frece.

PROFESSOR EBENEZER PROUT, Professor of Music in the University of Dublin, who died on Dec. 5 last, has left property sworn at £4,749 gross, and £4,731 net.

INTERESTING statistics of the performances during the first half of 1909 at the Paris Grand Opera are to hand. The largest number of performances fell to Wagner, who had fifty-one evenings to his credit, and he was the only composer who was represented by as many as five works. Gounod came next with forty-two, Saint-Saëns had twenty-four. Meyerbeer, with two operas, had only twelve.

THE centenary of Schumann's birth will be celebrated at his native town of Zwickau by the opening of a museum bearing the name of the composer.

THREE new operas have been written by Leoncavallo, the first of which, entitled *Maja*, will be heard for the first time next Monday at the Teatro Costanzi in Rome. *Malbruk*, the second novelty, will be presented at the Teatro Nazionale, Rome, in the course of this month. By the composer's desire, the third work, *Camicia Rossa*, will not be brought forward until next year, when it will be performed in Rome on the occasion of the unveiling of the Victor Emmanuel monument.

AT a Shakespearean reading of *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Passmore-Edwards Institute on Sunday, the 16th, Miss Ella Erskine will be the Beatrice and Mr. Walter Pearce the Benedick. Miss Agnes Brayton, sister of Miss Lily Brayton, will be the hero. Miss Erskine will also assist at a Shakespearean recital at the Portman Rooms on the 18th (Tuesday) as Olivia, in a scene from *Twelfth Night*.

THE combat of the two Hunnish knights in *Fallen Fairies* at the Savoy is among the most realistic sword-fights ever presented on the stage. The weapons used are specially wrought Sheffield steel blades, 42in. long and nearly ¼in. in thickness, and the force of the blows delivered may be gauged by the fact that after three weeks' fighting the edges of each sword are cut and dented like a saw. The men who handle these weapons are well able to wield them. Mr. Claude Flemming, an Australian, whose early life was spent in rounding up cattle and stock on his father's 50,000 acre holding on the Darling River, stands 6ft. 3in., with a 48in. chest, and weighs, with his tiger skins and armour upon him, nearly 18st. His opponent, Mr. Leo Sheffield, is well over six feet, weighs nearly 15st., and has a chest measurement of 42in.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Triumph of Naturalism.

THE following neat bit of criticism is taken from *Vanity Fair* of Nov. 10 last:—". . . think again of the exact depiction of a man driven to find consolation in the brandy bottle, which was recently given us by Mr. Lyn Harding in *Mid-Channel*, at the St. James's Theatre. It was not the shouting, raving drunkard of tragedy or of farce with which we were so painfully familiar—the more obvious art of a simpler day; it was the subtle, scientific representation of the first steps downward in the drunkard's career, drawn for us by an artist in Nature, whose very restraint was terrible because it was true. It was the triumph of naturalism. And it is that naturalism which so differentiates the modern stage from the older school of fine declamation and rough, haphazard effects."

Cinderella's "Fairy."

HEARING so much of the wholesome honest hilarity and the beauties of the Elephant and Castle Theatre pantomime *Cinderella* (presented with such success by Mr. Charles Barnard, by arrangement with Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan), a local school teacher made up a small party of his "toddlers" the other afternoon, and made them all comfortable in the pit. In East-street next day two of the party, orphans, (aged respectively six and five), were discovered holding converse on a doorstep. The result of the consultation was that their locale was ultimately changed from the said doorstep to the stage door of the theatre, where they waited and waited with a patience worthy a good cause. They had made diligent inquiries as to where they could find "Cinderella's Fairy," and by some means they had migrated to the back instead of the front of the theatre. Probably their infantile instincts suggested that, as they had not seen the Fairy enter while they were in the pit, she must of necessity have another mode of ingress and egress.

AT twelve midnight a kindly journalist passed through the stage door into the chilly night air, and under the contiguous railway arch noticed the two children fast asleep in each other's arms. He thereupon awakened them, and asked what they were doing there. "Please we're waiting for Cinderella's Fairy," said Tommy, and Mollie nodded her head vigorously. "And what do you want of her?" queried the gentleman. "We want her to take us to her boo'ful home, where we can have sweets, and oranges, and—and——" And Tommie paused. "And find our mummies and farders, 'cos everybody says they have gone there." This from Mollie. The journalist knew an influential man who wanted to adopt two such children; and thus it came about that Tommie and Mollie have since been adopted, and in years to come will tell their friends how they found Cinderella's Fairy in the person of the kindly journalist.

Miss Tempest on Oysters.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST has been praising American cooking. To a representative of the *New York Herald* she said: "I think all your food over here is heavenly. Your cooking is superb. Your oysters are divine. I would as soon paint my tongue with iodine as eat a London oyster. It has much the same taste. But the oysters one gets here! The flavour is maddening! I love to contemplate them lying in their liquid depths calmly awaiting interment. Doesn't it seem cruel to jab a fork into them? It seems as if I had been living on the half shell since I reached this city. And your oyster cocktails! I adore them. You may think it unpatriotic on my part to hit the English oyster when it is down," said Miss Tempest earnestly, "but it is the most dangerous thing in England to-day." "Except the suffragette." "I accept your amendment. The English oyster doesn't wear hatpins."

Changing the subject, Miss Tempest spoke of her reception at the Lyceum, New York, where she is now appearing in *Penelope*, and expressed herself as being "deliriouly happy over it." Although she had been playing the part in London for over a year, Miss Tempest confessed to an attack of stage fright. She said: "I tried to think of the many good friends I had made over here, but it didn't help me. I felt as if I should go to pieces, and I told my company so. When I made my entrance my voice failed me absolutely for several seconds, but under the spell of such a spontaneous welcome I came around all right. When the curtain went down on the first act I was the happiest woman in the world."

The Comet and the Stage.

THE approach of the comet reminds one how little the topic has been touched on in writing for the stage, although it lends itself to humorous treatment. Apparently, however, in Germany one farce turning on the comet which is now appearing does exist. It is by Nestroy, who was a well-known writer of farces, and it is even now played on almost every stage in Germany and Austria. It is called *Lumpacy Vagabundus*, or *The Tramp Wanderer*, and there are very comic characters in the piece. A tailor, a cobbler, and a joiner, all of them tramps, meet as such on the high road. They buy jointly a lottery ticket, and with it win the first prize. The joiner keeps his share of the money and marries his master's daughter; the tailor plays the Grand Seigneur and gets rid of his; the cobbler spends his in drink because he has read somewhere that the comet, which is coming, is to destroy the earth, and it would be no good, under those circumstances, to keep what he had won. One of his songs, which had very great popularity, was "Die welt steht auf kein fall mehr lang, lang, lang" ("The earth will not last, in any case, very much longer").

Pantomime Gout.

IT is not generally known that Mr. Arthur Collins has suffered for the past five or six years from gout in the feet and legs during the last few days before the production of a pantomime or drama. Mr. Cecil Raleigh, who has had a great deal of experience of rehearsing at the "Lane" attributes this to the fact that the stage there slopes downward to the footlights, making the task of directing a rehearsal a particularly uncomfortable one. Mr. Collins will often have to stand, in virtually one position, on the slope for hours at a stretch, and this year he finished his rehearsals with one foot and leg in a gout boot.

The Effect of Music.

THE *Week End*, a rising and spirited little paper, is full of theatrical tit-bits this week, and we take from it the following:—"Two professional pianists were anxious to impress each other, and one remarked, 'Do you know, the other night I sat at my piano and wandered idly over the keys, until I found myself playing "Home, Sweet Home," and I played it as it has never been played before. Its pathos even affected me. Suddenly I became conscious of another sound, proceeding from the cage of a canary that I had covered up for the night. On withdrawing the cover I found the poor little bird with tears rolling from its eyes, and sobbing its heart out!' After listening in pained silence to this touching story, the other man replied, 'Yes, I can well believe it, for I, too, have had a strange experience. The other evening, filled with all the fire and ardour of a musician's soul, I sat at my instrument and played as I had never played before. 'The Village Blacksmith' was my theme, and I could see with my mental vision all the animation and life of the noisy forge. Presently I became aware of another sound in the room, and on lifting the cover from my canary's cage, I found the dear little bird with sparks flying out of its tail.'"

"CINDERELLA" AT STOKE NEWINGTON.

Pantomime, Written by Stanley Rogers, Music Composed, Selected, and Arranged by Mr. Harry Richardson and George M. Saker, Produced at the Alexandra Theatre on Boxing Day.

IMMORTALS.

The Fairy Godmother .....MISS KITTY DALE
The Dream Fairy .....MISS JESSIE HAMILTON

MORTALS.

Prince Casimir .....MISS NELLIE WIGLEY
Dandini .....MR. ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE
Hercules .....MR. GEORGE FRENCH
Cinderella .....MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL
Tiny .....MR. TOM CONWAY
Araminta .....MISS EDITH BARWELL
Elvira .....MISS VIC. CHARLTON
Capers .....MR. BOBBIE WALKER
Joseph .....MR. CHAS. KEAN
Duke of Whistbridge ....MISS GWEN HOWARD
Viscount Euchre .....MISS DORA BALMAIN
Marquis of Gamesby .....MISS ETTA COPSLEY
Lord Dice .....MISS JEAN LEIGHTON

Moss's Empires, Limited, and the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces, Ltd., with their respective magnates, Sir H. E. Moss and Mr. Oswald Stoll, are the joint proprietors of the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, and Messrs. Moss and Stoll have shown their usual excellent judgment in arranging with Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan for the production there of the pantomime of *Cinderella and the Glass Slipper*. The cant phrase, "funny without being vulgar," is exactly appropriate to this admirable entertainment. It is too often the practice to vulgarise pantomime; but a much better effect can be obtained by genuine comedy than by meaningless buffoonery, and by well-delivered dialogue than by lazy, crude, and careless improvisation. There is plenty of broad fun in *Cinderella*; indeed, the entertainment is full of it, and laughter is never long unheard. But the fun is based on really humorous ideas, and there is no ugly absurdity about the effect. Take, for instance, the performances of the parts of the Baron and Baroness by Mr. George French and Mr. Tom Conway—who, by the bye, has been absent from the cast from indisposition since Tuesday, his place being taken with great ability by Mr. Chas. Kean. Each of these impersonations, extravagant as it is, is intelligently conceived. The Baron has a distinct individuality. His make-up as a little man of bilious temperament, habitually overborne by his stalwart spouse, is carefully elaborated for all its exaggeration. Mr. Conway as the Baroness might be the tyrannical parson's wife sometimes met with in the rural districts. These two artists act their parts, and the absurdity of the situations is doubled by the "possibility" of the personages. To see the sudden awakening of hope in the Baron's face when his stern help-mate reads from a doctor's book that his spasms can be cured by a "teaspoonful of neat brandy," and to mark the dejection which his features express when she goes on to discover that, on the symptoms becoming more severe, the pains must be allayed by a teaspoonful of turpentine in water, is delicious; and the characterisation is not abandoned when the Baron gets up the chimney, and, after the explosion of a patent cleaner, comes tumbling down covered with soot, or when he engages in a screamingly funny wrestling match with a gigantic footman, formidably embodied by Mr. Chas. Kean. In all cases, the little Baron is still himself, ever excruciatingly absurd. The well-simulated dignity of the Baroness makes her mishaps—as when a property-horse lies down on her, and she is finally beaten down by her husband after she has forced him to become belligerent—all the more droll; and these two actors are inexhaustible in their supply of "business." Miss Nellie Wigley, who plays the gallant Casimir, is an ideal Prince. She has a superb figure, beautiful features, and a very agreeable voice. She acts with easy effrontery, and sings some well-chosen songs in a way that renders encores undeniable; and she has a winning way with her, composed of equal parts of dash and daintiness, which makes her immensely popular. It is not often that one finds in pantomime as fresh, as refined, and as ingenuous a Cinderella as Miss Dorothy Rundell, a pretty young lady, with "educated" enunciation, and a mellow voice pleasantly inclined to the lower register. She is delightfully simple and natural, and at the same time shows a quiet sense of humour. The tradition of making the elder sisters two hideous monsters has happily not been observed in this case. As Araminta, indeed, Miss Edith Barwell's charms are obscured by a clever make-up, not, however, amounting to horrible ugliness, and she plays the part accordingly; but the other sister, Elvira, is by no means a "fright" as represented by Miss Vic. Charlton, who acts with agreeable archness, and, assisted by the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers, sings some very effective songs. The ever-active Capers is made strikingly important by Mr. Bobbie Walker, whose acrobatic skill enables him to throw himself about in recklessly amusing fashion. He is ever on the move, and all his fun is clever and clean. Miss Gwen Howard is a fine figure of a Duke as his Grace of Whistbridge, and her song "Ship ahoy" is rendered in free, easy, and exhilarating style, and evokes very hearty applause. Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe treats the part of Dandini in quietly effective comedy style, and, coming before the curtain in an interval, delights the audience with a humorous song about a "Grand Baby and a Baby Grand"; and special praise must be given to Miss Kitty Dale as the Fairy Godmother for her beauty of face and figure, her clear and distinct delivery, and her charming and sympathetic singing. Miss Jessie Hamilton is good as the Dream Fairy. Miss Dora Balmain, Miss Etta Copsley, and Miss Jean Leighton are pleasing representatives of minor personages; and the *corps de ballet* and supernumeraries are all well chosen and perfectly drilled. The scenery, by Messrs. Thos. Holmes, Stafford Hall, R. C. Oldham, D. G. Hall, A. Terraine, and E. Grimani, is very artistic and effective, excellent examples being the Home of the Fairy Godmother, in which an electrically-lighted coach and bouquet are introduced, and the Royal Ballroom, a handsome and spacious set. Miss Lottie Stone has arranged the ballets, in one of which there is a picturesque dance of *bayadères*; and the stage-manager for the pantomime season is Mr. Augustus Hammond, to whose care and attention much of the closeness and smoothness of the performance is due. Mr. H. J. Yorke, the musical director, leads an excellent orchestra with skill and decision; and, altogether, the Alexandra Theatre pantomime deserves to be most enthusiastically admired and praised. Full houses at both afternoon and evening performances testify to its success, which is richly merited by its many excellent and attractive qualities.

AT the Exchange Hall, Wellingborough, Mr. Percy Tyler's company appeared on Tuesday in *A Message from Mars*, which, being admirably mounted and very capably acted, gave great satisfaction to a good audience. The performance of Mr. Dudley Stuart as Horace Parker was distinctly good, and the weird Messenger was all that could be desired at the hands of Mr. Lionel Yaldwin. Mr. Percy Tyler gave a capital study of the Tramp; and Mr. Charles K. Francis was quite satisfactory as Arthur Dicey. Miss Nita Charlton was pleasing as Minnie Templer; and Miss Clara Nicholls was well suited to the character of Miss Parker.

"WHERE Children Rule Twice Daily" is the inscription on the front of one of our theatres. That is all right (says a weekly paper), but it is the midnight ruling we object to.

A GREAT AUTHOR-MANAGER.

"I have seen a gentleman soldier and a gentleman tailor, but never before a gentleman player," said Kelly, the dissolute leader of a Mohawk club, who had leaped on the stage and insulted the actresses in the company of Thomas Sheridan, the father of the great dramatist, and had been chastised by him. "I trust sir," said Thomas Sheridan, bowing, "that you see one now." The prejudice long clung to the actors, and, indeed, to the dramatic author's profession, has now almost passed away. Mr. George Alexander performs important civic duties, and at least two of our Members of Parliament are dramatists. But in the days in which Mr. Walter Sichel, the author of the fine biography of Sheridan which has just been published in two volumes by Constable and Co., deals the prejudice against the actor's profession was still strong, and even now Sheridan is better remembered as the author of *The School for Scandal* and *The Rivals* than for his splendid Parliamentary labours.

It would be hard to overpraise the way in which Mr. Sichel has done his work. And it is not mere bookmaking. He is primed to the muzzle with his subject; and, with the exception of a certain exuberance of "political" quotation, there is not a dull or unreadable page in these two finely-bound volumes. And Mr. Sichel, in order to place us in the proper "atmosphere," has even sketched the chief characteristics of Sheridan's age. The biographer's analysis of the dramatist's complex nature is masterly and complete. He says of Sheridan's traditional impecuniosity:—

"It must not be supposed, however, that Sheridan was always owing. For twenty-six years his Stafford election bills were regularly paid. During the attempt to arrange his affairs in 1807 it was found that his debts did not amount to one-fifth of what he imagined, while after his death they did not exceed £5,500—no more than his father's had been in 1769, and a trifle compared with the vast sums owed and handled by his compeers. It is plain that he could not have fought his way under every disadvantage for more than forty years without often paying for it. It is equally plain that the drunken swindler and driveller of tradition could never have more than held his own with those intellectual athletes, his competitors. Yet with every allowance for misstatements, his own letters prove that he passed long intervals in weathering the storm of the great unpaid, a fact which once led him to observe of an actor's absence of mind that it 'never extended to a Saturday.' Actors and actresses were often indignant at the close of the week, but deserters usually returned; they persevered for years in his employ, and King, his actor-manager, who complained that he had 'no free hand' even to buy a piece of 'copper-lace,' twice fled, and twice came back to the fold. Sheridan's periodical inattention to the theatre was chiefly due to his political preoccupations, and we find Mrs. Tickell longing for his return and stalwartly defending him against the impugners of his credit. Moreover, it may not be generally known that Garrick, reputed the most punctual of paymasters, was beset by actors clamouring for arrears. And since Garrick's day rent, competition, and salaries had risen, while audiences dwindled under the war of the French Revolution far more than under that with America. Where the prompt Garrick erred through caution the reckless Sheridan erred through delay. Garrick was kind and hospitable, but could be both jealous and stingy. His niggardliness, Quin used to relate, made him turn back on his way to a charity benefit because he had met 'the ghost of a shilling.'

"Sheridan, however, always found the way out. There is an authentic story which illustrates how he used to pour oil on the troubled waters. Miss Farren, on the eve of her marriage with Lord Derby, got him to remonstrate with the manager. The Sheridan papers proved that, as a matter of fact, she had been fined for non-attendance at rehearsals, and that these fines were deducted from her salary. But Sheridan thus appeased the diminutive peer: 'This is too bad. You have taken from us the brightest jewel of the world, and now you quarrel about a little dust that she leaves behind her.' Yet the dust was gold-dust, as the wit was well aware.

"To return to Sheridan's scruples, from which we have travelled too far. They harassed each of his wives even more than his carelessness. They starved his very horses. They victimised his equally prodigal son, who complained, with reason, that his father's desire to satisfy honour by big payments had marred his prospects in the new theatre; though he also complained, and without reason, that by dangling a theatrical monopoly before him he had barred him from a public career. They ultimately caused Sheridan's usual choice to be a choice of sufferers—one often exercised against his nearest and dearest. They led to his dread of facing a settlement because he fancied that disclosures would compromise him. These surely are queer counsels of perfection. By shrinking from a revelation of debts which he feared would damage his character, Sheridan really damaged it. Yet we know from the Sheridan papers that, so far from excluding his son from politics, he actually borrowed eight thousand pounds—and he considered it degradation—to forward Tom's three candidatures for Parliament. And we also know, from a number of authentic sources, that not one of his intimates, however they might have suffered, ever supposed that his injuries were designed. Though he could be terribly selfish he was not wittingly so. When it was brought home to him he hastened to atone; and where his sentiment was touched he could be unselfish also. When his need was sorest he at least twice disobliged the Prince, once at the beck of chivalry in the case of Princess Caroline, and again at the beck of principle with regard to Ireland and the Catholic question. 'His follies,' to quote Sheridan's favourite Farquhar, 'were weakly founded on the principle of honour, and the very foundations helped to undermine the structure.'

"But he touched life at too many points. He could be callous as well as sensitive to the call of his honour. Early forced to put a bold front on his distresses, he outran the uncertainties of his lot and even of his hopes. Absorbed by one subject, he readily let slip the other. He forgot the stage in his politics, and his politics in the stage; under the pressure of needless obligations his family, too, receded into the background. Woe indeed to all whose income depended on Drury Lane! Take the case of his first wife's kindred, whose trustee and executor he became. He loved the Linleys (who could help loving them?), their father always deferred to his opinion, yet soon after his second marriage their allowance was interrupted and for a time they were reduced to penury. The son, who through Sheridan had obtained an East Indian writership, was the first to acquaint him of their plight, and he must have succoured them, or they would not have remained his friends. That is the amazing part of his seeming heartlessness: no one quarrelled with him for long. While the great Mr. Sheridan's curricle scoured the countryside, and he flung guineas to postboys, what recked he of poor old Martha stranded at Bognor, or of Sarah, the other maidservant, coalless and threatening notice in town? No sooner shall Martha or Sarah recur to his recollection than they will be paid, and with tears, at the cost, perhaps, of some other victim, who will equally turn into his devoted slave. He would put himself to endless trouble for others. Richardson, who believed in his friend's goodness of nature, attributed all his errors to his moneyless beginnings. This is true; nor is it the trite plea of Becky Sharp that virtue is easy on five thousand a year."

"THE CITY."

Modern Play of American Life, by Clyde Fitch, Produced at the Lyric Theatre, New York, on Dec. 21.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Announced as the last play written by the late Clyde Fitch, *The City* has scored a success that may be fairly described as sensational. It seems to be the general opinion that this is the "strongest" drama that Fitch ever wrote, and its success imparts additional honour to the playwright's memory. A high authority has pronounced it "the greatest example of purely melodramatic writing that has yet been accomplished by one of our native dramatists," and "a play of tremendous fascination and power."

Those who remember the terrifying realism of the late Charles Warner's impersonation of Coupeau, when he depicted the agonies of delirium tremens in the play called *Drink*, will be able to form an idea of the performance that has brought a comparatively unknown actor to the front during the past week, and created such scenes of excitement and commotion as are seldom witnessed in a theatre. The actor is Mr. Tully Marshall, and he impersonates a "dope fiend," which, in American English, means a victim of the morphine habit. Mr. Marshall was the original Joe Brooks in *Paid in Full*. It is said that Clyde Fitch "took his measure" on seeing him in that play, and had him in view when he drew the character of George Frederick Hannock, the aforesaid "dope fiend." Hannock is worked into a frenzy of horror and despair when a certain disclosure is made to him, and the pitiable condition of this human wreck is so vividly pictured by his representative that the audience is worked up to a degree of excitement that is almost hysterical. Hannock's writhings and contortions are dreadful to witness; but while we have shuddered at the picture we have admired the technical skill of the artist, and the newspapers seem to agree with the public that Mr. Marshall has "arrived."

The theme of the play is the change effected by the conditions of city life in a family reared and educated in a small country town. George Rand, sen., a highly respected business man with a grown-up family, living in Middelburg, N.Y., had an affair with a young woman some years ago, and she bore him a son. The woman is dead, and the son, not knowing that Rand is his father, but only that his mother was wronged, blackmails Rand. The latter has received a good-business offer from New York, and the members of his family, being tired of Middleburg, are eager to move to the metropolis, but the father decides to remain where he is. His illegitimate son, known as George Frederick Hannock, makes further demands upon him, and Rand is forced to reveal the skeleton in his closet to his own son. He has hardly done so, when he dies of heart disease. The second act takes place several years later in New York. Young Rand has succeeded not only in business but in politics, and is about to be nominated for the Governorship. Hannock, whom he has employed as his secretary, threatens to expose Rand's dishonesty in business unless he is promised preferment and the hand of Rand's sister in marriage. This last demand horrifies Rand, knowing, as he does, the relationship between them. He tells Hannock that what he asks is impossible; but his sister blurts out that they were married that morning. He sends her out of the room and reveals the fact that Hannock and Teresa Rand are children of the same father. Hannock is under the influence of morphine, and the effect of this disclosure is to make him rave like a maniac. He tells Rand that he lies, and defies him to make the statement in the presence of his sister. The girl is called in, but Rand has hardly opened his lips when Hannock shoots her, and she dies in her brother's arms. Seized and disarmed by Rand, the frenzied murderer struggles to get the pistol in order to take his own miserable life.

"If I am brought to trial," he cries, "all your own sins will be made known. Save yourself and your family! For God's sake give me the pistol!"

And Rand almost yields to his pleading. He lays the revolver on the table, but just as Hannock springs for it he snatches it up and hurls it through the window. As the curtain falls the madman is arrested. Mr. Walter Hampden, who appeared as Rand, was at his best in this scene.

The third act seems weak by comparison. Rand is obliged to give up the Governorship, and he fears that the girl he wishes to marry will turn from him; but when he frankly admits his faults she agrees to stand by him. In the final scene, Teresa Rand, an older sister who has married unhappily, and the husband she wishes to divorce, in seeking the cause of their unhappiness, cast the blame on the city. But the brother tells them that they are wrong. "Do not blame the city," he cries. "It's not her fault; it's your own. What the city does is to bring out what's strongest in us. If at heart we are good, the good in us will win; if bad, God help us! Do not blame the city. She gives man his opportunity; it rests with him what he makes of it. A man may live in a small place all his life—deceive the whole place and himself into thinking he has all the virtues, when at heart he's a hypocrite; but the village gives him no chance to find out—to prove it to his fellows—the small town is too easy. But the city! A man comes to the gate and knocks. New York or Chicago, Boston or San Francisco; no matter what city, so long as it's big and busy and selfish and self-centred; and she opens the gate and takes him in, and she stands him in the middle of her market place—where Wall-street and Herald-square and Fifth-avenue and the Bowery and Harlem and Forty-second-street all meet—and there she strips him of all his disguises, and of all his hypocrisies, and she paints his ambition on her fences and lights up her skyscrapers with it—what he wants to do, and what he thinks he is. And then she says to him: 'Make good if you can, or to hell with you!' And what is in him comes out to clothe his nakedness. To the city he can't lie. I know, because I tried."

Mr. Edward Emery, as Gorden Van Vranken, the husband of Rand's sister, gives a finely finished portrayal of a befuddled man-about-town, and the other rôles are in good hands.

MR. ROBERT MACDONALD'S company with *The Dairymaids* is playing to full and appreciative audiences at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff, a dainty young actress of exceptional ability, scores a success as the winsome Peggy. Winifred is also gracefully portrayed by Miss May Casson. Mr. Wm. Spray as Lieut. Sam Brudenell, R.N., and Mr. Robert Caradoc as Joe Mivens, A.B., keep the house continuously in roars of laughter. Mr. Bernard Vaughan's fine stage presence is seen to advantage as the Irish naval doctor; Lieut. Breeton, R.N., is breezily acted by Mr. James W. Duval; Miss Mabel Medrow and Miss Kitty Kirwan lend valuable support as Lady Brudenell and Miss Pyechase; and praise is due to Miss Edie Martin for her clever study of Eliza.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In mentioning me as the producer and stage-manager of the pantomime, *Red Riding Hood* at this theatre, your correspondent erroneously states that I am "an old Oxonian." He is evidently confusing me with a namesake—Mr. George Stone—who was business-manager here for the late Mr. Fred Neebe. I am an old Brightonian.—Yours faithfully CHARLES R. STONE. Theatre Royal, Exeter, Jan. 3, 1910.

A Copy of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER GROSSE NAME."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Léon and Feld, Produced at the Kleines Theatre, on Dec. 26.

Hoefer .....HERR MARX
Frau Hoefer.....FRAULEIN HEAVI
Brandt .....HERR ZIEGEL
Klara .....FRAULEIN GRUNING
Senta .....FRAULEIN SCHINDLER
Laft .....HERR ADALBERT
Manhardt .....HERR KLEIN-RHODEN
Wiegandt .....HERR STERNBERG
Prof. Rommel .....HERR BOYKOW
Huschka .....AUGE. ROWOTNY
Stephanie .....FRAULEIN BRANDT
Baronin Rodek.....FRAULEIN TOMFURI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Jan. 6.—A cordial and well-deserved reception was accorded to the popular collaborators' latest effort, which, though not without its faults, is very entertaining and humorous. The bearer of the "great name" is Joseph Hoefer, the most successful composer of dance operettas—needless to say he is a Viennese—and therefore extremely wealthy. Twenty years ago he was poor and insignificant, and was reluctantly compelled to own the superiority of his fellow-student's talent, one Robert Brandt. Robert, moreover, found favour with Klara, Hoefer's sweetheart, so that altogether poor Joseph was to be pitied. Now, after twenty years have elapsed, the men meet again, and their positions are reversed. Brandt's talents have not proved remunerative, and he is at a very low ebb indeed, with no prospect of getting his great work—a symphony, into which he has put the best part of himself—performed anywhere, not having the requisite name. Hoefer, one would naturally imagine, would gloat over his rival, but his heart of gold triumphs over base passions, and he magnanimously determines to help his old comrade to fame and fortune upon his own shoulders. He proposes that the great symphony shall be announced for performance under his name, and this is all the more generous of the "Waltz King," as he has been contemplating for some time the production of a serious composition himself. He has his reward, however, in the gratitude of his old sweetheart and her husband, and also in the loving admiration of the new queen of his heart—the daughter of an old acquaintance, a professor of music. That all comes to a happy termination is a foregone conclusion. Many of the scenes are very realistic and fascinating, particularly the artists' room of the Berlin Philharmonic Hall on the evening of the great symphony's performance. It is hardly necessary to say that the composition was a phenomenal success, and Brandt from henceforth becomes a noted musician. The interpretation was very good, and the piece is filling the bill to the exclusion of all else.

DR. LOTHAR has drawn a fairly amusing libretto from Herr Max Dreyer's satirical comedy *Das Tal der Liebe*, to which Oscar Strauss has written the music of an operetta, which has been produced at the Komische Oper with some success. The title remains the same as the play. The latter was produced at the Lessing some time ago and was then fully described in your columns. The music is pleasing, though not striking, and the work is well mounted and performed.

HENNEQUIN AND VEBER'S wild farce *Im Taubenschlag* is still holding the boards at the Residenz, and drew large houses through the holidays. The chief attraction is, of course, Herr Richard Alexander, the clever actor-manager, in the principal rôle, but the characters are all admirably sustained, as is the rule in this theatre. At present there is no sign of a change of programme.

ON New Year's Eve the merriest play in the bill of most of our theatres was put on, as is usual here. *Miss Hobbs*, at the Schiller, at Charlottenburg, drew a crowded house, and at the Luisen a laughable farce by Helfing, entitled *Eine vernügte Kindtaufe*, met with distinct success. The action of the piece passes in Saxony, and the dialect—not a little exaggerated, of course—amused the Berliners immensely. At the Volksoper a new composition by Klemens Schmaltisch met with a cordial reception. The title is *Der Kampf um Schneewittchen*; the plot, as may be gathered, is drawn from the old nursery fairy tale. The instrumentation is good, and some of the melodies are very pleasing.

A FINE performance of *Der fliegende Hollander* was given at the Royal Opera last night. The Emperor was present with several of his sons and a numerous suite.

THE handsome Hebbel Theatre is in a state of insolvency. It has been under an evil star from its commencement, and the deficit of last year has risen to enormous proportions. Herr Robert, the lessee and manager, who came full of excellent intentions to us from Hungary, has—despite good and conscientious work—been forced to succumb to adverse circumstances, and he has everyone's sympathy. The performances are continuing for the present, the proceeds being divided among the company. A new manager will probably be in office next week.

THE CENSORSHIP COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Society of West-end Theatre Managers was held on Wednesday to discuss the recent recommendations made by the Censorship Committee. Four resolutions were unanimously adopted, and a copy of these were forwarded on Thursday to the Lord Chamberlain. Sir Charles Wyndham (president), Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Mr. George Edwardes (vice-presidents), and Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Tom B. Davis, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. J. M. Gatti, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, and Mr. Lewis Waller are members of the society.

The resolutions passed are as follows:

(*a*) That this society regards with extreme dissatisfaction the opinion expressed by the Joint Select Committee on the Censorship that it would be advisable to abolish the power of licensing theatres now vested in the Lord Chamberlain.

(*b*) That, in the opinion of this society, the discretionary powers of the Lord Chamberlain, exercisable as they are by him personally, without expense or delay, afford the greatest protection to the public and the State, and, in support of this opinion, this society would refer to the uncontroverted evidence of many witnesses called by the Joint Committee who testified to the satisfactory working of the Lord Chamberlain's department as the licensing authority.

(*c*) That in the opinion of this society, the substitution of the London County Council or any other authority for that of the Lord Chamberlain would prejudice the theatre by depriving it of the prestige which it now enjoys as holding its licence from the Crown.

(*d*) That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Lord Chamberlain, and that he be informed that this society desires to record its appreciation of courteous treatment extended at all times to its members by him and by his predecessors, and to express its intention of supporting his authority so far as it lies in the power of the society to do so.

MR. FRED MELVILLE'S *Her Road to Ruin* occupies the boards at the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes. Miss Ada Champion plays Jess Willoughby to perfection. Mr. Charles Dickens is well placed in the part of Frank Temple.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Hall Caine figures in the bill at the Chelsea Palace this week, not by means of an original sketch, but with an excerpt from one of his most popular dramas—*The Eternal City* to wit. The part chosen is the Betrayal scene, and the experiment has proved entirely successful, the act being closely watched, understood, and applauded. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, who has appeared many times in the part of David Rossi, repeats his impersonation with satisfactory results, his passionate acting appealing forcibly to the sentiment of the audience. Mr. Caine, however, might be warned against a tendency to precede with a consonant words that begin with a vowel, which militates against distinctness. Mr. Lewin Mannering gives sinister expression to the crafty minister Bonelli, and executes a most realistic death-fall; and Miss Phyllis Relph is a handsome Roma and displays tragic and emotional gifts. The excerpt is mounted in admirable style, a massive and well-furnished interior representing Roma's studio.

Another new item in the bill is a comic sketch by Harry Grattan, entitled

"THE INTERVIEWER."

Dr. Davis .....MR. FRANK HARRISON
Charles .....MR. MACK JOYCE
Miss Guinvere Geithere ....MISS PHŒBE MERCER

The farce was announced for production some weeks back, but was prevented by the illness of Miss Mercer, who was to undertake the title-rôle. Miss Mercer has now quite recovered, and appears as a lady journalist, who comes to interview a rising scientist. He detests all such ordeals, and every effort is made by the man-servant to circumvent the resourceful lady; but she is proof against all attempts to deter her, covering her face with a patent air-purifier when the man begins to sweep a particularly dusty carpet. Eventually the lady runs her quarry to earth, or rather to his Turkish bath, and it is while he is enjoying that luxury that the enterprising lady confronts him. The Doctor's rage knows no bounds, and he refuses point-blank to be "interviewed," but the water is getting hotter and hotter, and it is while undergoing increasing torments that the lady secures a "snapshot" of his face with a duly agonised expression. Under the threat to publish the photograph in her paper the Doctor at length succumbs and gives her his word to submit to the hated process. The humour of the dialogue is not particularly strong, but frequent laughter was evoked during the progress of the sketch, Miss Mercer acting vivaciously as the interviewer; Mr. Frank Harrison putting on a variety of comic expressions as her victim; and Mr. Mack Joyce doing very well as the man-servant.

Two favourite comedians occupy places of honour in the bill. Mr. T. E. Dunville uses his mirth-provoking abilities with effect in "Rub it out," and the "patter" attached to his policeman effusion "They haven't made me sergeant yet" is quite in the Dunvillian vein. Another old-established fun-maker is Mr. Tom Leamore, who relies on his "potman" impersonation to promote merriment. His more effective number is "Waiting for Mary Ann," in which Mr. Leamore achieves a most grotesque appearance and accomplishes a still more eccentric dance. A vocal scena by Charburn's Young Stars is supplied in *A Picnic Up the River*, which is enthusiastically received, and popularity is also won by Miss Jennie Johns, who makes a smart sailor lass and sings "The Middy of the King's Navy" in exhilarating style. The impersonations of Mr. Syd May are loudly cheered, the most realistic being that of Mr. Gus Elen, in which the imitator is aided by a close make-up. James Stewart amuses as the "tramp at the piano"; Ruffell's Bioscope furnishes an excellent selection of pictures; and Miss Dorothy Sefton appears in place of Novar Romal, indisposed. Satisfaction to artist and audience alike is secured by the co-operation of the capable manager, Mr. J. Norman Berlin, and his energetic assistant, Mr. George B. Andrews. Mr. Charles Aves ably presides over the orchestra.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

Visitors to this popular local hall can always rely upon a good and varied programme being submitted to them, and this week's company is no exception to the rule. The principal item is a really fine sketch, entitled *The Last Halt*. We are in the officers' quarters, the last halt of a batch of prisoners on the march to Siberia. Amongst them is the mother of Prince Paul Lerkoff—Rebecca Marstein. Through the instrumentality of the Prince the prisoners are set free, and Rebecca is called before the Prince, and in a very affecting scene she discloses the fact of his parentage. He leaves her for a short time to visit the outposts, and on his return finds her dead. The sergeant, asking for the new countersign, receives the reply "The Last Halt." The sketch is most capably played by Mr. W. H. Benson and company. Mr. Benson himself undertakes, in a most artistic and powerful manner, the character of Prince Paul Lerkoff. A clever performance of Rebecca Marstein is presented by Miss Mabel Wynn, an artist of no mean attainments.

Johnny Holland and company are responsible for an amusing sketch, entitled *The Millionaire*, which is strongly reminiscent of *The Spitalfields Weaver*, a notice of which appeared a short time since. We can only report the favourable impression it made, and can vouch for the fact that it kept the audience in a merry mood during its performance. Of the variety items, chief place must be given to Teddy Denham, a smart eccentric comedian, who is responsible for two songs, "So I do" and "The man who calls me wife," both of which received hearty applause; the Five Bombays also oblige with a good vocal and dancing act, the voices harmonising well together, and some very smart clog dancing being shown; Miss Molly O'Connor, a chic comedienne, introduces two songs, entitled "On Sunday he goes angling" and "Come and have a game with me," the last item suiting her style considerably better than her first number; Zera and Zema, continental equilibrists, present some smart hand-balancing; the Two Diamonds are charming singers and dainty dancers; Miss Ethel Donna is a good comedienne; and Gracie Dudley a pretty serio and a graceful dancer. Mr. James McCarthy is the courteous manager here.

THE GRANVILLE.

Once again Mr. Robert W. Duce has put forward a well-diversified programme for his patrons' amusement, and in him Walham Green is certainly able to boast of possessing an astute and courteous manager second to none. The famous Australian contralto, Miss Alice Hollander, is always a welcome and popular turn, and being in excellent voice, the audience were very loth to let Miss Hollander go, her artistic rendering of "Oh! dry those tears" charming everybody. Another attractive item is the skilful rifle-shooting of the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, who are aptly billed as the world's greatest rifle shots, and certainly the lady described as Miss Vera hits the mark every time with unerring accuracy. La Belle Alva (the gipsy peasant girl) trips several National dances with nimble gracefulness, and her latest novelty, the barefoot sand dance, is heartily applauded. Rhobins and Kruso are a clever musical comedy couple, who have just returned from a successful South African tour, bringing back with them many little tricks and incidentals, both novel and new.

Mr. Dusty Rhodes is programmed as a singing comedian, which is a perfectly correct statement, for he manages his voice most effectively, especially in the various little parodies of popular songs, which he introduces into two most mirth-provoking ditties, "Eggs and bacon," and a smart, up-to-date football song, "All friends together." The Czar's Royal troupe of whirlwind dancers storm the house with their robust and rapid movements, their agility being marvellous; whilst Miss Marie Terry and Mr. J. S. Bentley are seen to much advantage in a little military diversion, which pleases everyone. Others that appear are Mr. George James, a comedian who does well, and Miss Eiri Daunton, a pleasing comedienne. The latest films on the cinematograph conclude the evening's entertainment, the brightness of which is enhanced by the playing of the capable orchestra, under the skilful bâton of Mr. Frank Thomas.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

The Camden is now well started on its successful career as a music hall, and Mr. Albert H. Adams, the manager, is able to report excellent business. The top of the bill is occupied by that popular comedian, Lew Lake, who is presenting *Old Chinas in China*, which is another episode in the career of that ever delightful duo, Jerry and Nobbler. In the present scena we find them still in trouble, and the detectives looking for them, and they turn up in a piano case, and then, by the aid of help from their old friend, Isaacs, they get aboard ship, and after a somewhat adventurous voyage arrive in China, where, after much fun in a tea garden, they find Scotland Yard still after them, but, by the aid of a flying machine, again elude the "tecs." Lew Lake and Bob Morris, as of yore, are as amusing and lively as can be in their diverting personation of Jerry and Nobbler, and their audiences roar with delight at their various doings. There is a capable company, who all work hard to ensure success, and the sketch is capitally mounted.

Another big favourite is Tom Costello, who tells of his troubles anent a large family, which causes roars of laughter, and afterwards he gives his delightful scena, "My Home is Far Away," which he does in his usual artistic manner, and scores very heavily thereby. Ina Lorrimer, a Scotch comedienne, soon gains favour, and makes a decided hit. Essman is a clever juggler, who seems to be able to juggle with anything, and spins dishes in a most bewildering fashion. Mr. Claude Gardiner is a bright comedian with a couple of catchy songs, which he makes go with a swing. A fine display of dancing is given by Miss Edie King, who does varied styles, including some clever toe dancing. Miss Madge Allen is a very smart comedienne, whose song, "Take me down to Blackpool" goes with a bang, while her second number, "Paddle your own canoe" is equally bright, and she is most popular. Frank Sylvo, the tramp juggler, is as diverting as ever, and keeps his audience in a fine humour, while he juggles cigar boxes and lamps; Phil Bransby as a coster comedian of the Gus Elen type sings of his dream of wealth and caused much amusement. A fine bevy of beauty is found in the Colonial Girls, who sing some pretty songs and dance in the most fascinating manner possible. Their turn is extremely bright and lively, and cannot fail to make a good impression. The Four Burnells appear in their comic interlude, "On the Links," in which they indulge in some excellent fooling, which compels laughter. The boxing contest is especially funny, and keeps the fun going very fast. The Bioscope with some interesting films concludes.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

We paid a visit to this popular East-End house of varieties on Tuesday evening last, and were cordially welcomed by Mr. Austin Anderson, who so ably attends to the managerial duties. After the orchestra, which is now under the direction of Mr. Smith, had opened proceedings in admirable style, Fred Arthur, in his song "Up the West," dilated on sundry incidents in humorous style. Sylvia Phillips warbled in tuneful fashion "I like you better than anyone else," which is quite a good number, and "Handle him with care."

Welcomed with hearty applause, Harry Champion rattled off, in that thirteen to the dozen style, the old favourite, "Boiled beef and carrots," also his "Policeman" song and "Showing it," the latter of which literally tickled the audience to death. Harry has a decided personality, and is a genuine favourite here. The Three Aza Boys, a clever trio, sang about the vagaries of the "Don't work brigade," afterwards treating the audience to some novel and interesting simultaneous dancing, a pleasing feature of which, without doubt, was the admirable time kept, and the symmetry of the different difficult steps. Camilla Feo, a prepossessing comedienne, costumed in white, sang her two songs, "Welcome" and "Can't go yet," with dainty expression and point, and danced with pleasing effect. She was the recipient of a lovely bouquet. The male member of the Paolins, a splendid example of muscular development, exhibited his strength in clever fashion, lifting his partner under different conditions with apparently the greatest ease.

Mabel Thorne, looking exceedingly handsome in a large picture hat and black Empire gown, daintily worked with red flowers, sang that good old chorus song "P-A-I-N-T" with all her accustomed "go." Perhaps her best effort was with "Georgie, where are you?" a new song which certainly took on. Mabel makes a lot of humorous business in endeavouring to find her "Georgie" in the hall, his eventual discovery creating much laughter. The Barton and Franklin Trio proved to be smart instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers, the whole of their performance being smoothly and cleverly presented. Fred Karno's sketch *The Yap Yaps* proved very amusing, and mention must be made of the efforts of Marjorie Cecil, Gus Le Clerq, and H. V. Surrey in this direction. The Bioscope, with some humorous pictures, ended a thoroughly enjoyable programme.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Business continues to be wonderfully good at this popular hall, the seating capacity being tested to its utmost capacity every evening, and it must be admitted that the attractive programmes which succeed each other here with such unfailing regularity, fully deserve such a gratifying recognition. Alec Hurley, supported by a big company, is at the top of the bill in his latest production, *Cockneys in Japan*. Most of the musical numbers introduced fall to the principal artist himself, perhaps the best of the bunch being the love song. Billy Hobbs, coon vocalist, who is remembered in the neighbourhood as a popular member of the Mohawk's, sings a couple of songs with great acceptance, and proves that he is an exceedingly clever dancer, his ability in this direction gaining for him a great reception.

Stella Stahl, who opens the evening's entertainment, has a good voice and gives a clever display of dancing, gaining a very hearty curtain at the close; Maxey and Pete give a smart cyclist act, in which skill and humour are happily blended, the audience being most appreciative the whole time they occupy the stage. Jack Lorimer, the well-known Scottish comedian, who shares the bottom of the bill, is making himself a decided favourite, singing three songs, in the latter of which he has the assistance of a very attractive young lady, their dance being greatly appreciated. The Empire Comedy Four give a particularly good turn. Their part-singing is as near perfect as can be imagined, and there is a continuous current of comedy running through their act, which is thoroughly enjoyable. They gained one of the big receptions of the evening, and it was thoroughly deserved.

La Freya presents a series of studies, the lantern being utilised to throw a selection of very beautiful pictures on a white cloth, with the artist as the principal figure. Very frequent applause testified to the success of the turn, a hearty curtain being accorded. Jennie Hartley, in a song and dance, did well, the latter item being exceedingly good.

A feature of great interest in the programme is the appearance of the famous Craggs, who are at the bottom of the bill, in a new acrobatic comedy sketch *Territorials; or, England's Last Hope*. The show is in two scenes, the first representing a soldiers' dormitory in barracks, and the second, the gymnasium. "Billy," a new recruit, and his somewhat exciting experiences, forms the main idea of the trifle, and certainly the member of the troupe who portrayed that rôle caused some of the heartiest laughter of the evening. The production serves to introduce the company in their well-known acrobatic performance, which is as clever as ever. The whole show had obviously been well rehearsed, and the elaborate way in which it is staged should make it a popular feature in vaudeville programmes for a very long time, its reception by the audience leaving no room for doubt on that score.

The selection of pictures for the week comprises a very beautiful series of films in natural colours, of wild birds in their haunts, the pictures being wonderfully realistic. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Walter Greco, give a spirited performance of the overture to "Martha," and Mr. Charles Marté, the acting-manager, and Mr. Cyril Percival, his assistant, are very attentive and courteous in the front of the house.

THE METROPOLITAN.

There is plenty of rollicking entertainment of exactly the right type presented by Mr. Leslie Gooch at the popular house in the Edgware Road, and though the usual tabloid of drama is conspicuous by its absence this week, it is certainly not missed. Why should it be, indeed, with such a full-bodied and varied show, and with such a screamer as *The Football Match*? Here we have all the fun of pantomime in a compressed form, and there is over it all the aspect of sport—a decided asset in its favour. In the first scene the footers are making themselves fit, and we have the semblance of a plot in an alleged scheme for "nobbling" "Stiffy," the goalkeeper; but it really doesn't count. It is Stiffy whom we watch and at whom we laugh. He is responsible for many anomalies, among them being a quartet of kiddies, one of them black. There is a continual struggle at the entrance to the football ground, and when we get there we are absolutely dumbfounded at the great form displayed at goal by Stiffy, who saves his side and confounds the villain. Mr. Charles Chaplin in the character is decidedly droll, and he receives capital support. The whole thing is a screamer from start to finish.

Beattie and Babs, two youngsters, get one of the receptions of the evening. The elder girl, an attractive blonde, is responsible for some capital dancing, and the smaller girl burlesques the prima donna singing "Il Bacio" in a way that makes the audience laugh consumedly. In a final dance the kiddie shows all the aptitude of an expert. Mr. Frank Lynne, the chief comic singer of the bill, has a droll number in "That's as far as I go for ninepence." A particularly quaint item in his répertoire, too, is "A Coster's Idea of Free Trade," written on Tariff Reform lines, and very heartily received.

Miss Victoria Monks has a most popular number in "Back to home, sweet home," in which she relates how by a stroke of luck at backing a winner the owner of some drawing room furniture is able to pay out a distraint and eject a grasping landlord. The chorus is of the most tuneful order, and gallery and pit are very enthusiastic in the way they take up the choruses. They likewise exercise their lungs in the refrain of the favourite song "There's a girl in Berlin." Kurkamp, the singing conductor, introduced the song "Mélisande in the Wood," which is decidedly out of the beaten track of the serious vocalist at a variety house. We believe that Mr. Hayden Coffin recently sang it at the same house, and this week's audiences have been able to make comparisons. Charburn's Young Stars present a pretty entertainment under the title of *A Picnic up the River*, and with solo, chorus, and dance make things hum. Mr. Henry Moore in his mimicry includes counterfeits of Gus Elen and R. G. Knowles; Miss Marie Blythe's deep contralto voice gives full value to a tuneful descriptive song; and other turns include Wyndham and Wyatt and Ruffell's Bioscope with some most interesting films.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Each evening this fine house is twice crowded to its utmost capacity, and in consequence the duties cast upon the energetic and urbane manager, Mr. C. Foster-Marner, are by no means light, but he comes through the ordeal satisfactorily. For the present week the programme is varied and most attractive. A capital first turn is that of Phillips and Merritt, smart dancers, and of whom the lady partner proves herself to be a whistler of no mean order. Prof. Lux's wonderful performing dogs perform all sorts of clever tricks, showing signs of very careful training, amazement being expressed at the arithmetical calculations of one of the animals. A warm reception greeted Mr. Harry Weldon for his screamingly laughable rendering of "Stiffy, the Goalkeeper," his reading from the newspaper of his astounding efforts "between the sticks" creating great amusement. Miss Frances Letty, looking very dainty, cleverly sings a new coon song, "Pack up your trunk and go," and dances very smartly. That favourite couple, Clark and Hamilton, with their wayward conceits, meet with general approval, the audience being kept highly amused. A new and beautiful series of art poses is provided by Mlle. Suzanne de Vernenil and ladies. The studies, "Sweet Awakening," "The Nymphs," "Diana," "The Bathers," "The Wave," "Despair," "The Three Graces," and "The Four Seasons" each evoke vociferous applause. Miss Rose Hamilton, a popular artist, follows with two very taking songs, "I do like a little bit of blue" and "Don't you think you'd like to marry me now," which give every satisfaction.

The new dramatic thrill, by Graham Hill, *Heard in Camera*, and played by those excellent Lyceum artists, Miss Frances Dillon and Mr. Eric Mayne, proves most delectable to the audience. The display of pathos and passion by Miss Dillon as the persecuted woman earns salvos of applause. Mr. Eric Mayne's Prefect is, of course, an admirably-sustained representation of cool and collected villainy. Mr. Ambrose Thorne's contribution, "I hope they won't put a tax on girls," and his patter, are sufficiently diverting. Sinclair and Whiteford, the popular comedy duologuists, give their well-known performance of "Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins" with good effect. The marvellous tricks of Sahib Gustav Fasola, the famous Indian fakir and Oriental wonder-worker, create much astonishment, his cabinet and box tricks being so skilfully and quickly performed that the audience is in a constant state of wonder during the whole turn. Two popular bioscope pictures are shown: Volcanoes of Japan and Why Smith Couldn't Sleep? and serve to end an exceedingly capable programme.

SANDY MCNAB and company are at the top of the bill at the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, this week, and their sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*, proves very entertaining. Mr. Dave Samuels, Hebrew comedian, is excellent. Messrs. Ross and Grayson, in their musical scena, *The Professor and the Pupil*, are very amusing, and Damerell and Rutland are diverting comedians. The Sisters Netherland (vocalists and dancers), Miss Maud Clifton (comedienne), and Messrs. Polo and Florence (equilibrists) are all interesting turns, and the bill is concluded by a pleasing film on the Hipposcope, entitled A Noble Forgiveness.

"THE RUSSIAN PRINCESS."

Dramatic Episode, Written by Fred Maxwell, and Produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Jan. 3.

Princess Claudia .....MISS LOIS DU CANE
General Draganoff.....MR. LIONEL D'ARAGON
Prince Karl .....MR. P. BARRY LEWERS
Gorski .....MR. MURRAY YORKE
Pederoff .....MR. HERBERT SYDNEY
Marx .....MR. CHARLES GAWTHORNE

Conspiracy, anarchy, love, revenge—we have them all in this new sketch, drawn in proper sequence by a talented writer, and illustrated by competent actors and a gifted actress. The story is typically Russian. Many of the characteristics of this land of despotism are placed before our notice. The cruel overpowering work of the secret police is brought into contrast with the serious devotion of the Nihilists to the cause of Anarchy, but there is nothing crude, nothing out of place, and good taste harmonises with artistic staging in introducing an excellent production.

As the curtain rises, the interior of a Russian gate-house comes before our eyes, a house to which years ago political prisoners who were dangerous were brought, bound, and precipitated into the river flowing beneath the floor. No trial took place, no questions were asked; the prisoners vanished, and only the old decaying walls were witness to the murder. Now this ancient house is in the hands of the Nihilists. To them the death trap is invaluable. The house is left to the care of one Gorski, a serf, who, as the play commences, is awaiting the arrival of his mistress, Princess Claudia, a mistress whom he loves, partly because both are pledged to espouse the Anarchists' cause, and partly because of her beauty and goodness. Presently sleigh bells are heard, and the Princess enters claud in furs. To her servant she explains her visit. Her lover Prince Karl, also a Nihilist, has long been imprisoned in a neighbouring fortress. Steps have been taken to aid him to escape, and the Princess has come to receive him and assist him to the frontier. Even as she speaks guns are fired in the distance, and we hear the sound of hurried footsteps gradually coming nearer, until at last, breathless and spent, Prince Karl climbs through the window, into his lover's arms. Pursuers are following him, however; the hated General Draganoff is on his track. Hastily the conspirators take council. They agree that the General must die, and draw lots to decide whose hand must strike the blow. Princess Claudia chooses the fatal card, and drawing herself up to her full majestic height, swears she will gladly be the executioner. Ere the confederates have fully decided on their plans, however, knocks sound at the door, and the voice of General Draganoff is heard crying, "Open, in the name of the Czar." All retire, and the General comes in. He bids his followers search the room, and presently he himself pulls aside a curtain, to reveal the charming figure of the Princess, clad in a bewitching gown. Claudia, in the few seconds she has been concealed, has decided on her plan. She will fascinate him with her beauty; she will call all her woman's wit to make him love her. The General is struck with her beauty; a passion is kindled in his breast—a passion that he cannot control; he desires her, and she is there enticing him to her arms. At length he is completely conquered; they fall together on a seat, and then Claudia's lover and her servants rush in and bind and gag him. But what can they do with their victim? Suddenly the death trap comes into their minds. Prince Karl disguises himself as the General, and Draganoff is flung into the river with only a muffled cry to denote his departure from this world, and as the soldiers reappear, the Prince, in his disguise, leads his newly-found lover, Claudia, to the General's carriage.

It is seldom that a new sketch has met with such applause, and Miss Lois du Cane is to be congratulated on the choice she has made, and on the ability displayed by her in her part of Princess Claudia. General Draganoff, portrayed by Mr. Lionel D'Aragon, is a clever character study. Mr. P. Barry Lewers as Prince Karl is also well placed. He ably seconds Miss Du Cane in her love scene, and plays the unfortunate Prince in an extremely lifelike manner. As the servant, Gorski, Mr. Murray Yorke is highly successful; while Mr. Henry Sydney as Pedroff and Mr. Charles Gawthorne as Marx deserve considerable praise.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

A nightingale came to Rotherhithe this week. The pity it is that the songstress has a physical affliction that compels her to use crutches. Nellie Brierley is sweet of face and is a singing pit-brow lassie from Lancashire. We see her in a little scene representing the usual pit-head. The dialogue is poor stuff, and might well be dispensed with, but one is amply recompensed for this infliction in the three numbers rendered by Miss Brierley. In a very fine and cultured soprano, she first of all sings us "Home, Sweet Home," and then, it is to be presumed as an excuse to introduce her father, sings his favourite ballad, "Always." The third number is "Sing, sweet bird," taken somewhat too slowly, but always showing off Miss Brierley's upper notes. The young lady had very deservedly a fine reception, and we hope to hear a great deal more of her. We understand she is a protégée of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's, and that in itself stands for a great deal.

The top of the bill is held by Mr. F. Lister and Mr. F. Kitchen's company, in a dramatic sketch, entitled *No. 99*. The story tells of how No. 99 breaks into the house of a Criminal Court Judge, and while in the act of robbing his desk of a roll of bank notes, is caught. The Judge covers him with a revolver, and telephones for the police. While waiting for their arrival, the Judge discovers in the burglar a man whom he has previously sentenced to ten years' imprisonment on a charge of manslaughter, and asks him how it is that he cannot go straight. The burglar explains that since coming out of prison he had tried hard to obtain employment, but, owing to his having been a convict, he was unable to. The Judge disbelieves him. The arrival of the police is then announced, and the burglar endeavours to make his escape. In doing so, he encounters the Judge's little daughter, who is just recovering from a severe shock caused by her being nearly run over by a runaway horse. She recognises in the burglar the man who saved her life by stopping the horse, and tells him that her father has been searching everywhere for him to reward him for his bravery. The Judge enters the room unobserved, and overhears the conversation, and so, instead of handing No. 99 over to the police, the Judge tells them he has escaped.

The acting throughout is excellent, and No. 99 is played by Mr. F. Lister. Mr. Langley is perfect in his part, and gives the audience a fine portrayal of the hard-hearted and cynical Judge. Miss May McGinley's rendering of the daughter's part is both characteristic and pathetic. Mr. Harvard plays the Doctor, a small but very difficult part, and was well received.

Miss Marion Armitage, comedienne and dancer, arrayed in male Scotch attire, greatly amused the audience with her Scotch song and burlesque dance, and informed them that she was "not cold in the kilt, nor kil't with the cold." Franco's Midgets, the smallest conjurers in the world, gave a fine display of tricks, and, with their quaint jokes and smart repartee, convulsed the house with laughter. Charles Carr, Stillman and Russell, Rosie Lee, and Dower and Denville are also in this bill.

CARL AND CARR'S song, "By the sea," by Mellor and Gifford, has proved a huge success, the audience joining in the chorus at every performance.

"A MAN AND A WOMAN."

Dramatic Sketch, Produced at the Standard Music Hall, on Monday, Jan. 3.

A Man .....MR. NORMAN PARTRIDGE
A Woman .....MISS ZANA ST. GEORGE

The Woman is of the lower world. Pretty of course, and unlucky, and, when we first see her, starving. The Man is a drunkard, also unlucky, and almost penniless. The Woman meets the Man when he is intoxicated, and she induces him to go home with her. A common enough occurence. But the Woman is no ordinary street-walker, and loathes the life she is compelled to lead, so when the Man partially regains his senses, she inquires the reason of his giving way to drunken habits. His story, too, is a common one. Jilted by the girl he loved, he had gone to the devil, had dissipated his money, and now the end had come. In his turn, he asks for the Woman's story. Another commonplace: A trusting girl, a blackguard man, disgrace, and the one course a woman can go unless somebody helps her. Then the Man tells the Woman that he has many friends, but although all of them will ask him to have a drink, all forget to ask if he is hungry. Talking of hunger reminds him that he is hungry, and that the Woman may be so too. He counts the few coppers he has left—sevenpence! Enough to buy a meagre breakfast for both; but the Woman, before she allows the Man to go out insists that he brushes his hair and has a wash. It pulls him together, and he takes a fresh interest in life. The Man tells the Woman that from the cradle he has needed a woman's care and to the grave he will need a woman to work for, to care for. They know nothing of one another—will she link her fate with his? No; it would not be right is the answer of this woman, trying to be womanly. And so he goes out to buy the breakfast. Presently he returns with the food, and the wonderful news that a man he had met in the shop had put him on to a job, at which he is to get a pound a week. The Man needs a Woman to care for him, needs the support a woman's affection will give him to be a success in the world. The Man tells the Woman this—begs her to marry him, and thus enable him to justify his claim to being a man. And so it comes about that the Woman gives her hand to the Man, and they take a vow. *A Man and a Woman* is splendid. It is a story of the murky depths of life—common as blackberries in September. But with Norman Partriege as the Man and Miss Zana St. George as the Woman it receives a treatment that grips the audience as a melodramatic interpretation never could do. The subject is a risky one, but everyone realises it is an everyday episode, acted in such a life-like manner that sympathy with two unfortunates is compelled, and instinctively one gives a sigh of relief, and is almost unreasonably happy and excited when the curtain comes down with a golden glow on the new life prospects of the handsome pair. Mr. Norman Partriege has never done anything better than the Man. Miss Zana St. George's fine, natural acting makes the Woman a delight.

Mr. Dickie should be well pleased with the all-round success of this week's programme at the Standard. *Parker, P.C.* tops the bill, and the little gallery boys scream with delight at the antics of the most amazing constable surely ever seen. Johnny Holland's *Boat Builder* is a double-meaning dialogue sketch reminiscent of the lieutenant in Captain Marryat's "Percival Keene." It was a big laugh from start to finish.

Gertie Gitana figures in this bill, in company with Diamond and Hart, Gordon Stretton, Phil Bransby, Bradley and Barnes, Eva Daunton, Morris and Mills, and Mabel Thorne, whose song, "Oh, whereever is Georgie?" goes splendidly. Mr. Maurice Volny, the Standard's well-known assistant-manager, wore a very satisfied smile when we wished each other "Good-night."

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of Jan. 1, on page 44, Mr. Dusty Rhodes announces that he is booked at this theatre until 1916, and, as he holds no contracts with us, I shall be glad if you will be good enough to correct his statement.—Yours truly,

FRANK GLENISTER,
Manager.

London Pavilion,
Jan. 6, 1910.

MISS MABEL MAVIS was unable, through indisposition, to appear at the Holloway Empire this week. She has now happily recovered, and will resume business next Monday at the New Cross Empire, following on to the Coliseum. This weather is responsible for many breaks in the published programmes of the various variety theatres.

MR. SAM WALSH, the comedian who plays the star part in the sketch *Town Hall—To-night*, does not suffer from swollen head, for he has the smallest head of any living artist. His size is six and one-eighth, an unknown make in stock sizes, and the despair of every wig-maker in the world. Willie Clarkson, indeed, has had a special block made for the exclusive use of Mr. Walsh, and latterly this example has been followed by other perruquiers.

MR. WALSH is a Yorkshireman, and in the course of his career has played under canvas, in booths, and once penetrated 500 miles into the bush with his beloved piano to do a show for the benefit of the gold miners there. At Invercargo, New Zealand, Mr. Walsh once had a funny experience. On arrival he put up at one of the hotels, and asked for a glass of Burgundy. He was told he could not be served with it. Thinking Burgundy might be a scarce commodity in those parts, he changed the order to whisky and soda. The manager was fetched, and that individual duly informed Mr. Walsh that Invercargo was in a prohibition State, and that he could not be served with alcohol. With every deference the manager suggested a cup of cocoa as an admirable substitute, but the comedian would have none of it. The next day he sallied forth in search of whisky, with memories of former difficulties surmounted in Glasgow and Cardiff on sundry Sabbath mornings.

WALSH'S first attempt was with a guardian of the peace. Said he: "I'm an Englishman, just arrived here, and I want a drink of whisky. Where'll I get it?" The policeman told Sam it was well for him he was an Englishman and only just arrived or he would have run him in for daring to suggest such a thing. Mr. Walsh five minutes later put the same query to a carter; but that individual, being a life-long teetotaler, refused to have anything to do with him. Walsh next tackled an indolent-looking young gentleman standing at the corner of a street. For a moment he looked suspiciously at the comedian, and then replied, "Sure you are an Englishman?" "Yes." "Sure you've only just landed?" "Yes." "Sure it ain't a dog you want to buy?" "No, not a dog, wh——" "Yes, you do, you want to buy a dog."

WITHOUT another word the young man led the way to a ramshackle shop, where a most respectable-looking old gentleman sat entering figures in a ledger. "Dad," said the youth, "this gentleman has come to buy a dog. Let him have one." The "dog" was handed over to Mr. Walsh done up in brown paper, and, strangely enough, it cost exactly as much as a dog licence does in old England—7s. 6d. "But it tasted much nicer, I am sure," concludes Mr. Walsh in telling the story, "than any real little doggy would have done."

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 10.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Grand T., Chorley.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Sunderland.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—T. R., Bilston.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Stratford.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Mountain Ash.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.—Prince's T., Accrington.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Grand T., Lancaster.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Abertillery and Pontypridd.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Aston.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—T. R., Birkenhead.
BROKEN HEART.—Empire T., Swindon.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—T. R., West Bromwich.
BULMER, MR.—O. H., Londonderry.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Court T., Wigan.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—O. H., Northampton.
CHRISTIAN, THE (N.).—T. R., Preston.
CHRISTIAN, THE (M.).—New T., Consett.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Ayr and Falkirk.
CINGALEE (B.).—Palace T., Watford.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Leamington.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—T. R., Huddersfield.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—Irving T., Seacombe.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—New T., Houghton.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Lyceum T., Govan.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—T. R., Lincoln.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—King's T., Glasgow.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Darwen.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Chesterfield.
FATAL WEDDING.—New T., Bargoed.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Palace T., Newcastle.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Falkirk and Ayr.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—Walsall.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ryde.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—Prince's T., Horwich.
FOLLY'S FORTUNES.—Tidworth.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Miners' T., Ashington.
FOR AULD LANG SYNE.—O. H., Londonderry.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Castle T., Stockton.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—New T., Houghton.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—T. R., Coatbridge.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Edmonton.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Star T., Liverpool.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—T. R., Whitehaven.
GOD OF WAR, THE.—Queen's T., Longton.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Junction T., Manchester.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Grand T., Southampton.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Grand T., Aberaman.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Palace T., Ebbw Vale.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Osborne T., Manchester.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Darwen.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—T. R., Castleford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Madeley and Newport.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—New T., West Stanley.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—Kursaal, Bexhill.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—T. R., Barnsley.
LUCKY DURHAM.—H. M. T., Barrow.
MERRY WIDOW.—Grand T., Swansea.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—T. R., Dublin.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—County T., Reading.
MOTHER.—Lyceum T., Newport.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
OLD HOME, THE.—Grand T., Nelson.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—O. H., St. Helens.
OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.—Hetton le Hole.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID.—King's T., Longsight.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—O. H., Coventry.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Coronet Theatre, W.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
ROLLICKING ROSY.—T. R., Belfast.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Gainsboro' and Grantham.
SERGEANT BRUE.—Century T., Motherwell.
SILVER KING.—O. H., Blackburn.
SINS OF A CITY.—O. H., Perth and Dunfermline.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—T. R., Woolwich.
SUTTON AND RAYNOR.—Empire T., Huddersfield.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Royalty T., Barrow.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Todmorden.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—O. H., Stockport.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—H. M. T., Dundee.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—King's Lynn and Loughboro'.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—County T., Bedford.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—P. O. W., Salford.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Rawtenstall.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—O. H., Blackpool.
WHO IS SHE?.—Prince's T., Preston.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Macclesfield.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Empire T., Southend.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—New T., Ferndale.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Maud Russell—Saturday, Jan. 8.
Flora Blake—Saturday, Jan. 8.
E. S. Willard, Sunday, Jan. 9.
George Conquest—Sunday, Jan. 9.
John Lawson—Sunday, Jan. 9.
Jessie Bond—Monday, Jan. 10.
Effie D. Crawford—Tuesday, Jan. 11.
Lady Bancroft—Wednesday, Jan. 12.
Frederick Annerley—Wednesday, Jan. 12.
Haidee Wright—Thursday, Jan. 13.
May Lillian Levey—Thursday, Jan. 13.
Harry Corson Clarke—Thursday, Jan. 13.
Edward Compton—Friday, Jan. 14.
Evie Greene—Friday, Jan. 14.
Dolly Harmer—Friday, Jan. 14.
Sam Redfern—Friday, Jan. 14.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

Dec. 1.—Charles Lacey.
,, 3.—William Woods.
,, 4.—Mrs. Henry Jeffries Ashley.
,, 5.—Dr. Ebenezer Prout, aged 74.
,, 6.—Mrs. Harrington Baily, aged 54.
,, 8.—Alexander Stuart.
,, 16.—Harold August.
,, 18.—Henry Swinerd, aged 57.
,, 20.—Mrs. Henry J. Wood.
,, 20.—Foster Courtenay.
,, 23.—Ernest Carpenter, aged 41.
,, 25.—Ada Margaret Jackson.
,, 26.—Madge Avery, aged 48.
,, 26.—Mme. Meta Illing, aged 37.
,, 26.—John Catlan.
,, 27.—John Grove Radford.
,, 28.—Harry Fieldhouse, aged 43.
,, 30.—Mrs. Julia Davenport, aged 37.

A LARGE and happy gathering on New Year's Eve at an old folks' matinée at the Surrey Theatre blessed the names of Macnaghten and Baugh. The audience consisted of the inmates of the Southwark Union Workhouse in Westmorland-road, the St. George's Workhouse, in the Borough, and the Christ Church Workhouse, in Marlborough-street, and altogether about 1,600 were present. The thoughtful hosts not only provided an excellent entertainment, which everyone enjoyed most thoroughly, but they also generously presented each of the old men with a briarwood pipe and an ounce of tobacco, whilst each of the old ladies received a substantial packet of Lyons' tea. The whole of the expenses were borne by the management of the theatre, and among those present were Mr. Devereux, the Deputy-Mayor and vice-chairman of the Southwark Board of Guardians, and several of the members, who took the opportunity before leaving of thanking the directors for their kindly hospitality to the old people.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 6	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months	0 6 6	Three Months	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

D. B.—*We are quite unable to oblige you with the private name and address of the lady you mention.*

L. A. D.—*We believe so; but are not certain, though we only know of the one lady bearing the name.*

NAPOLEON.—*Yes; there is a lady of that name in the profession. Write to the Gaiety or Daly's, and inquire of the managements of those houses.*

SPARKS.—*La Freya is a lady, and was very recently—in fact, in December—at the Coliseum, London. She is noticed at the Hackney Empire in this week's issue.*

ALICE BRICKMANN.—*You might write to the executors, care of Daly's Theatre, or to* The New York Dramatic News, *Broadway Building, New York. See notice above.*

MABEL AND ROSA.—*Among the Nine Muses there was no goddess of electricity as there was of dancing, music, and poetry. Urania presided over astronomy, and therefore, in a sense, light. She is represented as a young virgin dressed in an azure-coloured robe, crowned with stars, and holding a globe in her hands. Electra was not a goddess, and her story, which is the foundation of a tragedy by Sophocles, had nothing to do with electricity, in spite of the similarity of the name.*

ST. JULIAN (Hackney).—A Fair Equestrienne *is a musical comedy, in one act, written by Haslingden Russell—who adapted it from the play* Die Kunstreiterin—*and first performed at Bristol on March 14, 1890. In March, 1893, it was seen at the Trafalgar-square Theatre, where Miss Cora Stuart played Lady Kitty Clare, afterwards repeating her success in that part on the halls—the Palace Theatre and the Oxford among others. We do not know the address of the adaptor. Other versions of the same German original were produced in America.*

INTERESTED PHŒBE.—*Mr. Godfrey Tearle is not in the cast of* The Importance of Being Earnest *at the St. James's, neither is Miss Mary Malone. We cannot say where he is acting at present. A letter addressed to the theatre would reach him. In the spring of 1903 he was playing the part of the Rev. Edgar Linnell, in* The Hypocrites, *in the North company, on tour. Others in the cast were Miss Gladys Harvey as Rachael Neve; Mr. E. F. Meads, Leonard Wilmore; Miss Amy Ravenscroft, Mrs. Wilmore; Mr. Alfred S. Barber, Mr. Wilmore; Miss Florence Steventon, Mrs. Blaney; Miss Pauline Straus, Miss Linnell; Mr. Sydney Hamilton, Sir John Plugenet; Miss Mary Malone, Helen Plugenet; and Mr. Cecil Brooking, Rev. Everard Daubeney.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ALLEN—KELLY.—On Nov. 21, 1909, in Jersey City, U.S.A., Miss René Kelly, of the Maxine Elliott Company, to Mr. A. Hylton Allen, of the William Faversham Company.

DEATHS.

CALLAN.—Dec. 25, of pneumonia, John Callan, minstrel comedian, late of Moore and Burgess.

CROSS.—Jan. 2, after three days' illness, from heart disease and influenza, Alfred B. Cross. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife (Minnie Watersford) and his affectionate son, EVELYN. R.I.P.

DAVENPORT.—On Dec. 30, at 426, Mile End-road, E., Mrs. Julia Davenport, age 37, beloved wife of Lewis Davenport (The Davenports). Rest in peace.

FIELDHOUSE.—Dec. 28, suddenly, at Kingston-road, Taunton, Harry Fieldhouse, pianist, age 43.

JACKSON.—At The Drive, Thornbury, Bradford, on Christmas Day, Ada Margaret Jackson (née Preston), wife of J. T. Jackson (late of Castleford), for twenty-five years hon. medical officer, Castleford Theatre Royal. Interred at Undercliff, Dec. 29, 1909.

PRESTON.—Jan. 2, at Prudhoe-on-Tyne, Cynthia, daughter of Marie and George Preston, aged 11 months.

URQUHART.—Jan. 3, at Airdrie, N.B., Charles Urquhart, in his 82nd year, father of John Hamilton Urquhart.

IN MEMORIAM

HARPER.—In loving memory of my lifelong friend Charles Harper, of 3, Liddington-place, N.W., Professor of Music (late of the Royal Academy, Sacred Harmonic, Covent Garden, and Savoy). Died Jan. 5, 1893; interred in St. Pancras Cemetery. Always thought of and ever grieved for by Elise.

LLOYD.—In loving memory of Richard William Delarue Lloyd (father of Amy Elvira), died Jan. 4, 1890, at 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C. Deeply mourned by his wife and family.

LOVELL.—In loving memory of Tom Lovell, who "crossed the bar" Jan. 4, 1909.
"To live in the heart is not to die."

SPENCER.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Geo. Spencer, late Musical-Director, who passed away Jan. 2, 1906. Deeply mourned by his wife Alice.
Hard, hard was the stroke that compelled me to part
From a loved one so near and so dear to my heart;
But the love that I bore him will dwell in my breast
Till I meet him again in the realms of the blest.

DURING the past week Miss Chummie La Mara has had three offers to take up the part of principal boy in pantomime.

MISS ENID MEEK, who has made such a success as Red Shoes in *Little Hans Andersen* at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, received her dancing instructions from Miss F. Martell, of the Empire Theatre, London, who is to be congratulated on a most successful pupil.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abel, Mrs. Geo.
Adair, Mr. Peter
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs.
Anderson, Sisters
Anderson, Mr. Wm.
Anderton and Rowland
Austin, Mr. Geo. R. J.
Buss, Mr. Harry
Beaumont, Mr. Alfred
Beringer, Miss Esmé
Beere, Mrs. Bernard
Black, Mr. Stuart
Bond, Mr. H.
Brough, Miss Fanny
Buckenham, Miss Marie
Burke, Miss M.
Campion, Miss
Carle, Mr. Chas.
Carte, Mr. A. G.
Cavania, Miss M.
Cheeks, Mr.
Coffin, Mr. Hayden
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Copping, Mr. E. M.
Corallie, Miss Amy
Corri, Mr. Clarence
Costello, Mr. A. T.
Costello, Mr. H.
Coyne, Master T.
Cropp, Miss Katie
Dagmar, Miss Marie
Dale and O'Malley
Dalton, Miss F.
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Davidson, Mr. H.
Denard, Mr. David
Desmond Sisters
Devine, Miss Mysie
Diamond, Mr. Harry
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Dornau, Mrs. Fred
Douglas, Mr. R. H.
Draper, Mr. M. D.
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Duncan, Mr. W. O.
East, Mr. John M.
Edwardes, Mr. Karl
Edwards, Miss Esme
Ewart, Mr. Stephen
Foldi, Miss Irma
Ford, Miss Enid
Fox, Mr. W. H.
Frankford and Maine
Franks, Mr. C. L.
Gerald, Mr. Frank
Gerrard, Mr. E. S.
Glennie, Mr. Charles
Gillespie, Mr. Robt.
Gindwood, Mr. G. H.
Glenn, Miss Isabell
Gregory, Miss Mabel
Gregory, Mr. J. M.
Grey, Mr. Cecil.
Gwenn, Mr. Edmund
Hales, Miss Lily
Hal and Lal
Hall, Miss Amy
Harvey, Miss Dora F.
Hodginis, The
Hebden, Miss Lily
Hervyn, Miss Nancy
Hill and Whittaker
Hinton, Mr. Chas.
Hirukawa, Mr. and Mrs
Hopkins, Mr. T.
Homna, Mr. T.
Howard, Mr. Carl
Hughes, Miss Alice
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Miss Gertrude
James, Mr. A. C.
Jerome, Mr. Jerome K.
Kelso, Miss L.
Kennedy, Mr.
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirby, Mr. Langford
Kitchen, Mr. Fred
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kyasyas, The
Lake-Grange, Mr.
Lang, Mr. M.
Langtry, Mrs.
Lauder, Mr. Chas. O.
Leedham, Mr. Frank
Leslie, Miss F.
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lingwood, Miss Sophie
Lloyd, Miss Babs
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Loftus, Mr. Alexandra
Lucearn, Miss Lilly
Lynch, Mr. and Mrs.
Lynton, Mr. W. M.
Mackinnon, Mr. A. N.
Manning, Mr. Ambrose
Matthews (Tennessee G.
McCarthy, Miss Lillah
McGoverns, The Three
McKay, Mr. Tom
Megone, Mr. Norfolk
Michel Bros.
Molteno, Miss Agnes
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mortimer, Mr. Leonard
Mortyne, Miss Nellie
Mount, Mr. Lampton
Murphy, Mr. Michael
Murray, Mr. Geo. C.
Nadine, Mme.
Napier, Miss Belle
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Noel, Mr. Bertram
Paull, Miss Mab
Paulton, Mr. Tom
Pavis, Miss Cissy
Passmore, Mr. W.
Payne, Miss Millie
Pierce, Mr. Geo.
Pitt, Mr. Fred C.
Penstone, Mr. Ormonde
Phillips, Mr. Arthur
Pook, Mrs.
Poole, Mrs. Howell
Pounds, Miss Louie
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Rappo and Ella
Rathrena, Miss Ada
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rosill, Mr. J. A.
Rousby, Mr. B.
Rowland, Mr. F.
Royce, Mr. A.
Rudenyi, Mr. Jan
Russell, Miss Agnes
Saker, Mr. Alfred
Saxby, Mr. Bob
Scharning, Miss M.
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Seeley, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Shields, Mr. Robin
Somos, Mr. R.
Staley, Mr. Andrew
Stanley, Mr. Walter
Starr, Mr. H.
Stebbings, Mr. Frank
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Storey, Mr. Fred
Studd, Mr. F. T.
Swann and Vesta
Tarra, Lukio
Thorburn, Mr.
Traill, Miss Kate
Transfield, Mr. Tom
Travers, Mr. Nat
Vardon, Perry and W.
Vernon, Mr. Albert
Vernon, Mr. Leslie
Victor, Miss Nellie
Vi Laurie, Miss
Vonare, Miss Nellie
Wakeman, Mr. V.
Walther, Herr Julius
Warren, Mr. John
Waterman, Dr. A. H.
Wallonell, Mr. Jack
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Williams, Mr.
Wilson, Mr. Chas.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri
Wynne, Mr. Cecil
Yelding, Mr. R.
Yorke, Mr. Philip

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 3. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

THE GREAT
Raymond
TOPPING THE BILL, MOSS-STOLL TOUR.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London. 91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W., All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents). 9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents). 459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents). 24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents). York House, York Street, S.W. (Ladies only). Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2516 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Rowland's ODONTO,
a pure, fragrant, non-gritty Tooth Powder;
WHITENS THE TEETH,
prevents decay and sweetens the breath.
Sold by Stores, Chemists, and A. Rowland & Sons, Hatton Garden, London.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5 000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By OUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.
To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, Arthur Collins.
"ALADDIN," the Children's Pantomime.
By Sir F. Burnand, J. Hickory Wood, and Arthur Collins.
TWICE DAILY, at 1.30 and 7.30.
HARLEQUINADE AT EACH PERFORMANCE.
WILKIE BARD and GEORGE GRAVES.
IDA RENE and MARIE GEORGE.
Box Office Open all Day. Tels., 2588-2589 Gerr.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts,
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 8.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.

COMEDY THEATRE
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Twice Daily, at 2 and 7.30.
"ALADDIN."
The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
The most Magnificent Production and the Funniest Comedians ever seen at the Lyceum.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."
For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE
Managing-Directors,
Mr Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, the Thirteenth Kingston Pantomime
"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY." Matinées every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
GRAND CIRCUS.
Connor's Grand Circus, Twice Daily. Giant Tree laden with Toys. Gorgeous Pantomime "CINDERELLA," 7.30 p.m.; Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2.30 and 7.30. Skating on Mammoth Rink, Three Sessions; Rink Hockey, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8.30. Wednesday next, GRAND FANCY DRESS SKATING CARNIVAL, 7 p.m. Organ, Zoo, &c.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Managing-Director, JESSE SPARROW.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Frank Danby and company in "The Morning After the Night Before," Pat Rafferty, Evelyn Taylor, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles in "Kindergarten," Tom Joy, Donald and Doome, Jack Ridgeway, Michel Brothers, Clifford and Ray, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Ike and Will Scott, and The Dandies.

CHELSEA PALACE
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Leo Stormont and Co., in "Exposure; or, A Story of an Artist's Studio," including Oscar Adve Wilfred E. Shine, and Nora Brocklebank; Beatie and Babs, Henry A. Moore, Wilson and Waring, Katie Cohen, Wyndham and Wyatt, Alf. Johnson, Ruffell's Bioscope, Arthur Albert, Harry First and Co., in "The Matrimonial Fee."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.0.
Monday, Jan. 10, 1910:—
"The Money Makers," Cyril Dane, Rosie Bartlett, The Carlisles, Beale and Broadway, Harry Lawson, Tom Jones, Celeste, The Sprees, "The Masked Ball," Bioscope, "Paradise Alley," Three Sisters Collins, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Jan. 10: Ernest Shand, Sydney Mason and Co. in "The Usurer," Ambrose Thorne, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, Six Albyns, Sybil Montague, Ess and Hoey, C. H. Charlton, Blanche Vincent, Pueblo and Cropp, Bruce and Bruce, Amy Saville, Ediconograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sats. 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Sats. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assist.-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Managers, Morris Abrahams and Charles Hector. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10, and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30: The Leonards, Orpheus, May B. Brilliant, Alice Blandford, Bioscope, Ike Scott and Son, Will Driscoll, Miss Eugene Magnus and Co., in "The Black Angel," Clifton and Wallace, Bert Crawford.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 12.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"OUR FLAG,"
"OUR FLAG,"
New Patriotic Ballet.
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
The Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, De Biere, Gardner and Stoddard, Ines and Taki,
"On the Heath."
Jury's Pictures of the World's Events, &c.
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Wilma, Dorothy Kenton, Webb Bros., Vindabons, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy and Cyril Keightley in "Sanctuary," Velanche's Dogs, Harry Allister, Francini, Oiloms, "March Hares," Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Co., in New Play, "The Knife," by Henry Arthur Jones, Vesta Tilley, Margaret Cooper, Tschin Maa Troupe, Kinemacolor and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.0.
Matinée, Full Programme,
Saturdays at 2.0.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Joe Elvin, Chas. Austin, as "Parker, P.C.," T. E. Dunville, Geo. Formby, Sammy Shields, Sisters Carina, Dora Lyric, Bros. Horne, Victoria Monks, Four Juggling Geraldos, Beattie and Babs, Bi-Bo-Be, H. la Martine, Wyndham and Wyatt, Bioscope, Jordan and Harvey, Morny Cash, T. Leamore, T. Woottwell, Mlle. Mab Dersy. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, T. E. Dunville, George Formby, Gus Elen, Ella Shields, Hanvarr and Lee, King and Benson, Charles Whittle, M. Chales and Mlle. Massilia, Madge Temple, Coralie Blythe, Alec Chentrens, Ida Barr, Frank Harwood, and the Bioscope. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
"Consul," the almost human, Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel, in "Three of a Kind," Ella Shields, Juggling Geraldos, Geoffrey and Benson, Lyon Trio, Tess Lilley, Harry Russon, Dan Fraser, Alex Chentrens, Ruffell's Bioscope.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The Only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. New Term commences on Mon., Jan. 10.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

SCALES OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era Weekly"), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building), HIS MAJESTY'S, OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH, OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Lyd., Bombay;
or
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
BLACKPOOL.
The
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
GRAND THEATRE
Having been purchased by the
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.,
will be
Closed on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1910,
for extensive
RE-DECORATIONS,
and RE-OPENED on
Monday, March 21, 1910,
under the General-Management of
Geo. H. Harrop,
By whom dates for only Leading No. 1 Companies will be considered.
P.S.—The Companies already booked and pencilled in by Mr. Sergenson have been taken over by the new Management.

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove, and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
For Vacant Dates, apply Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Vacant dates for light comedy or Dramas of High-class. March 14 till April 16. Now booking early Spring and onwards 1910. Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies.
Feb. 7 (?),
April 25,
May 2, and 30.
Autumn dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. Manager

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, lavatories, balcony. Electric light and heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the Superintendent.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Currr.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HAMMERSMITH.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
First Vacant Date, Feb. 21.
Wanted, First-Class Pantomime for 5 or 6 weeks for Christmas, 1910 and 1911.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager. Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of William Morton.
1909-10 engagements: Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Co.; George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore, in "Merrie England"; Annie Hughes, in "The Chorus Lady"; Robert Courtneidge's Company, in "The Arcadians"; Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliot, and Co.; Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; The Moody-Manners No. 1 Co. (two visits); Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c. Pantomime, "Mother Goose," at Christmas, in conjunction with J. F. Elliston.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Feb. 7-28, Easter Week, for Musical Play.
Address, Wm. Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant, Feb. 7, 8, 9 Three Nights.
March 7, 21, Six Nights Each.
Address, E. Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Dramatic Companies who have played Twice Nightly
Send in open dates from Feb. 28.
Those who have written before, please do so again; rush of business prevented replying.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for
Feb. 7, March 7, April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Bouchier.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinees.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded Houses Nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Annie Hughes in "Penelope," "The Little Damozel," "The Devil," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Proud Prince," "Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime, &c.
Only Vacant Spring Date, Feb. 28.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions, vacant April 11, June 20, July 18, 25, and various Autumn Dates.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER (Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND,
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Charles J. Davies, Secretary, Savoy House Strand

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753, Gerrard.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
Notice is hereby given that the NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION, Will be Held
(By kind permission of Edward Terry, Esq.) At TERRY'S THEATRE, Strand, London, W.C., On TUESDAY, Jan. 25, 1910, at 2.30 p.m., for the following purposes, namely:—
To receive a Report and Accounts of Expenditure and Receipts and Liabilities and Assets.
To elect 25 Members of the Council, and to transact any other business of the Association, brought before the Meeting by the Council, or by any member who shall have given to the Secretary seven days' written notice thereof.
Notice is hereby given that any two members of the Association whose subscriptions to date are paid may give to the Secretary a notice or notices signed by them, nominating any qualified member or members as a candidate or candidates for the Council. Such notices shall contain the name and address of the proposed candidate or candidates, and shall be signed by him or them. Such notices shall be sent to the Secretary not less than twenty-one days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
Dated this 29th Dec., 1909.
By Order of the Council,
Duncan Young,
Secretary.
32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 5d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

READY MONDAY, JANUARY 17.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

CHARITY AND THE PROFESSION.
By F. H. PEDGRIFT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

RHYMES OF SHOWLAND.
By Rev. T. HORNE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"OUT OF EVIL."
By HELENA MILLAIS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JOLLY JACK TAR."
By VESTA TILLEY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AWAY TO THE WEST.
By J. H. BARNES.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE "DANDY" PANTOMIME.
By HENRY NEVILLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOOTLIGHTS.
By Rev. DONALD HOLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

SOME THOUGHTS.
By LOUIE FREEAR.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

I ATTEMPT A STRAIGHT PART.
By DAN ROLYAT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN IRISH EXPLANATION.
By FRED TERRY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE FAILURES.
By RUTLAND BARRINGTON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A PUNCH AND JUDY FIASCO.
By JOHN LE HAY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

LEFT BEHIND.
By S. A. COOKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A MOVIN' ON.
By MAY E. LUCAS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"SOMETHING NEW."
By JOHN LAWSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN AERIAL ADVENTURE.
By H. J. HITCHINS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE PRICE OF A CHRISTMAS DINNER.
By KITTY LOFTING.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW PLAYS AND IMPORTANT REVIVALS.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW SKETCHES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A HARPIST'S REMINISCENCES,
By CHAS. CLIFFORD.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TUFFY.
By HARRY NICHOLLS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MENAGERIE.
By CHAS. COLLETTE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

IN SEARCH OF PEACE.
By WILLY CLARKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ODDS AND ENDS.
By ARTHUR WILLIAMS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MINSTREL BOY.
By FRED GROVE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE HAT THAT FAILED.
By ALFRED LESTER.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MENAGERIE.
By CHARLES COLLETTE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE LONG ARM OF COINCIDENCE.
By FRED TRUSSELL.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JUST ONE OF THEM"
By EDITH COLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE BERLIN THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE NEW YORK THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL SKETCHES PRODUCED AT LONDON AND PROVINCIAL VARIETY HOUSES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Black Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in Stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings, The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. nr. Hippo.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA"
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st. Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1910.

SPIRITUAL PLAYS.

In the course of an article which we printed some time since on the subject of the Censorship we remarked how few really fine pieces had been denied to the general public by reason of the existence of the Reader of Plays; and a case in point is Mr. RANN KENNEDY'S remarkable drama *The Servant in the House*. We omitted mention of the play in our *résumé* of the productions of the year, as any passing allusion to it could only be perfunctory and insufficient; but no one who heard the eloquent discourse which Mr. KENNEDY recently delivered to the members of the O.P. Club could have failed to be impressed with the idea that a writer had come amongst us with an entirely new conception of the importance and elevation of the art of the dramatist. We are all ready to acknowledge, in theory, that elevation and that importance; but few of us have either the ability or the enthusiasm to carry our principles into practice. Mr. KENNEDY, as he told us, approached his task with all the enthusiasm and earnestness of a BUNYAN or a SAVONAROLA. In the lecture to which we have alluded he said: "It was in some mild appreciation of God's humour, not to mention His awful Love, His Irony and Will, that I gave up lying myself, and set out to obey Him in *The Servant in the House*. What I said was (and there is no real modesty about me, thank God!): 'Wouldn't it be rather a fine thing, just at this very moment, when they are all talking a devil of a lot about dramatic construction, the abolition of the Censor, and the need of a National Drama, for someone to pop up unbeknown out of oblivion and give them a real play to test them!' So I did it, and wrote them a play so classically constructed that none of them ever noticed it, so humbly obedient to the sacred law of the Censorship as to make disobedience look rather a fool by side of it, and so national that just ordinary men and women at once found in it the actual problems, the veritable experiences of their own lives. I did it, and the clergy and the common people heard me gladly. It was part of my very problem to bring people to cues on the high and sacred questions I was propounding, to stir them to separation point, to divide the sheep from the goats; and it came out pat as I intended. I shall have seven such plays to give them before I've done. I shall have to pay for it, of course; but I expect that. Let us see, then, what there is about this play, which has really been so successful in America, in Sweden, in Finland, and many other countries, both in book form and on the stage, to make some people in my native land dislike it so intensely and others to claim for it quite a respectable place among dramas, as dramas go. . . . There will always be a very serious division among men the moment you make any very vital demand upon their religious and social faith, the moment you pin them down, as I did in *The Servant in the House*, to the realities of the creeds and prayers and professions they make so glibly, and force them to face the truth which they themselves are supposed to represent. You saw in *The Servant in the House* the actual struggle in which your own lives are at present involved—not merely the external obvious struggle of your conflicting creeds and parties, but the deep inward vital struggle of your souls for the possession of that which alone can bring you peace, for the lack of which you and all of us are being damned—namely, the realisation of our brotherhood towards all mankind. 'The hunger for brotherhood is at the bottom of the unrest of the modern civilised world,' wrote George Frederick Watts—a text I take for the title-page of the play. Now, it would be very easy—particularly easy on the stage—to tell lies about this, to flatter ourselves and others into the imagination that all is right with us or with them, when all is palpably wrong; to deal out smug smiles and dearly-beloved-brethrens, and little doles of Sunday school charity, and dream that we have saved the world. But I don't find God's world built that way; no more do you. Things are not made so easy for us. We live in a world of men, not milksops—fierce, pitiful, terrible, sinning, striving men who live actual lives, not pleasant Sunday afternoons. The fact is, this realisation of brotherhood, for which our whole life cries out, is a devilishly difficult piece of business."

Mr. RANN KENNEDY is right; and the stage is the place for the preaching of such doctrine as his. The drama has always been inclined to take the side of LAZARUS as against DIVES, of DON JUAN against TARTUFFE, of CHARLES SURFACE against JOSEPH. There is so much always being said on the side of conformity and respectability that we always welcome a voice on the other side. But just a word of warning may be given. "Brotherhood" is not always on the side of the spendthrifts, the rakes, and the drunkards, nor is selfishness always the sin of the sober, the thrifty, and the continent. A man may be just as rank an egoist who is ruining his family by extravagance and his constitution by intemperance as another who is hoarding his cash at the bank. Mr. KENNEDY is, perhaps, rather too much of a partisan. The rough working-man who is the hero of his play is a problem in himself; and a comedy might well be written showing the results of the action of his brother the clergyman had the latter placed the workman on the same social footing as himself, with all the differences of breeding and education, and the "drink habit" which is described as being the result of the mechanic's grief at the death of his beloved wife. Such comedy would be almost cruel, but it would be almost as near to average truth as Mr. KENNEDY'S stirring satire, which, as he acknowledges in the case of his bishop, is purposely exaggerated in order to point a moral and awaken the conscience of an audience. It is pleasant nevertheless to know that three American companies continue to play *The Servant in the House* to crowded houses, as also do the companies in the various European countries where it has already been produced; and that an excellent English tour has been booked, and will be commenced in the middle of February.

"HENRY OF NAVARRE'S" RETURN.

The New Year brings the welcome return to London of Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson with *Henry of Navarre*, and a crowded audience at the New Theatre on Monday evening greeted the favourite artists with hearty warmth. All the elements of a popular success are contained in Mr. William Devereux's clever play, in which scraps of history are leavened with a copious infusion of love, romance, and stirring adventure. Mr. Terry has in Henry of Navarre that kind of character which he has manifestly made his own. He is overflowing with gaiety, humour, and tenderness, and never a more gallant figure than the chivalrous Gascon has graced the stage. Certain parts of Mr. Terry's performance electrify the audience, notably at the end of the second act, when Henry, having been unconsciously saved from poison by his wife, dashes the cup in turn from her lips, bringing down the curtain amid extraordinary enthusiasm Miss Neilson repeats her artistic performance of Margot. Radiant in her silken robes, Miss Neilson acts the Princess to the life, being equally entrancing in her coquettish and her sentimental moods, her silvery voice falling on the ear with all its accustomed sweetness.

An event of no mean importance in the present revival is the introduction into the cast of Miss Terson, whose *nom de théâtre* furnishes in each syllable unmistakable indication of her identity. Miss Terson, of course, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Terry, and combines with inherited graces a particular charm of her own. As the maid-of-honour, Marie Bellepret, she acts with girlish freshness and with the confidence of a more mature age. Her love scene with De Mouhy was exquisitely enacted, and won the admiration of all. The blunt soldier is still strongly embodied by Mr. Walter Edwin, who carries out the author's conception with unerring fidelity and skill.

Mr. Malcolm Cherry's performance of Charles IX. has grown in impressiveness. His make-up is wonderfully effective, and the King's petulant displays of passion are strikingly real. Mr. Cherry gains frequent rounds of applause, and it may well be said that he has added in a marked degree to his reputation. Mr. Horace Hodges makes an awe-inspiring figure of the astrologer, investing the part with dignity and delivering his lines with the point and emphasis always associated with this admirable artist. Miss Tita Brand draws a deftly-coloured portrait of the designing queen-mother, whose insinuating smile giving way to the expression of malignancy and cunning form quite a study in facial play.

Promoted from the minor part of M. De Besme to that of the Duc De Guise, Mr. Philip Merivale represents that rash and impetuous personage with due ferocity and vigour. Mr. Harry F. Wright repeats his picturesque portraiture of the effeminate Duc D'Anjou; Mr. J. Carter-Edwards as the Marshal De Tavannes again proves his ripe ability; Miss Gladys Gardner brings the part of Charlotte De Sauve into agreeable prominence by virtue of her charm and vivacity, and the other members of the cast who compose the gay throng assembled in the palace conduct themselves irreproachably.

A speech was demanded at the close of the play, and Mr. Terry expressed the thanks of his wife, himself, and their company for the kind manner in which they had been received. They would indeed be ungrateful, he added, not to appreciate the tremendous reception accorded them.

AT the Assembly Rooms, Carmarthen, packed houses greeted Miss Inez Howard's capital company, who, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, presented *Pete* to an enthusiastic audience. The title-rôle was excellently played by Mr. George R. J. Austin; Mr. Guy P. Ellis distinguished himself as Philip Christian; Mr. William J. Roe was highly successful as Ross Christian; Mr. Clem Horlock was a capable exponent of the part of Cæsar Cregreen; Mr. Walter Hackton was capital as Dr. Mylechreest; Miss Margaret Savill obtained a flattering reception for her artistic interpretation of Kate Cregreen; Miss Katie Flood was a warm favourite as Nancy; and Miss Maud Randford as Grannie deserved much praise. The minor parts were in capable hands. The dresses and scenic effects were elaborate.

MR. FRED GRANVILLE is presenting the play *Another Man's Wife* at the Grand, Mansfield. The cast includes Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland, Mr. Wilson Roberts, Mr. Leonard Marshall, Miss Hilda Brewster, Miss Phyllis Spalding, Miss Marion Mayne, Miss Beatrice Western, and Miss Ruby Loncraine.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. W. W. Mote (solicitor), Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Frederick Morland, Cyril Cattley, Lewis Casson, F. J. Arlton, Langford Reed, J Poole Kirkwood, and Gilbert Esmond, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Marion Lind, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and to say that the council sympathise with their views and their aims, and that they would be glad to have a copy of the letter they proposed sending to the London County Council and the Home Office, before definitely pledging themselves to any action.

The following bye-law was adopted:—"That the secretary be empowered to refuse admission to anyone who refuses to sign the book on entering the rooms, and that all visitors must be introduced by members.

The secretary presented the Rules and Constitution of the German Actors' Society, and it was decided that Mr. Freund be asked to kindly translate them, so that the council might be able to go into the matter of "International co-operation."

It was unanimously agreed that at the annual general meeting the following be presented as a council resolution:—"That this meeting wishes to express its approval of the action taken by members of the Council that the actor-managers who resigned should be asked to again become members of the Association."

The finance committee's report was submitted and adopted. The hon. solicitor reported progress on three legal matters. It was agreed that tariff cards should be posted up in the rooms of the Association, and that the members be asked to support as far as possible the efforts of the kitchen committee. It was arranged to hold a special meeting of the council to-day (Saturday), at 12 o'clock, to receive and pass the report and balance-sheet.

The following were elected:—Juan Bounaparte, Lionel Atwell, Una Gilbert, Charles Aldred, Ernest Bucaloss, and Rosina May Sullivan. Gordon Philiott, Douglas Munro, Maud Bowyer, Grenden Bentley, and H. Wentworth Fane were nominated, and Lucie Wilson was reinstated.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL FOR 1910.

Edward Morgan, proposed by Fred. Grove, seconded by John Mortimer.
C. F. Collings, proposed by Kathleen O'Connor, seconded by Joan Pereira.
Frederick Morland, proposed by Hilda Hatton, seconded by Victor Gardom.
Clarence Derwent, proposed by Aileen Barr, seconded by Edwin Oxlee.
Gilbert Esmond, proposed by Eleanor May, seconded by Rita Tomkins.
Henry Pettitt, proposed by Helen Moosely, seconded by Ernest Douglas.
C. Hayden Coffin, proposed by Kathleen Russell, seconded by Joan Pereira.
F. J. Arlton, proposed by Bessie Armitage, seconded by Kathleen Russell.
Joan Pereira, proposed by Laura Leycester, seconded by Henry Pettitt.
Richard A. Greene, proposed by Grace Denby Russell, seconded by Dulcie O'Mull Conry.
Murri Moncrieff, proposed by George Bellamy, seconded by Archibald McLean.
Cyril Cattley, proposed by Monckton Hoffe, seconded by D. Lewin Mannering.
Chris Walker, proposed by Cecil Brooking, seconded by Morrice Seaton.
J. Poole Kirkwood, proposed by Lionel Bevans, seconded by Alfred Harris.
Henry Le Grand, proposed by Vita Spencer, seconded by Alexander McLean.
Frederick Annerley, proposed by Cecil Raleigh, seconded by C. F. Collings.
Robson Paige, proposed by Cecil Raleigh, seconded by Lucy Sibley.
Cecil Raleigh, proposed by Lucy Sibley, seconded by Vita Spencer.
Lucy Sibley, proposed by Archibald McLean, seconded by Ada Barton.
Rose Mathews, proposed by Vita Spencer, seconded by Henry Le Grand.
Mildred Cottell, proposed by Lucy Sibley, seconded by Joan Pereira.
Rose Cazalet, proposed by Norah Mahone, seconded by Lucy Sibley.
Vita Spencer, proposed by Norah Mahone, seconded by Eleanor May.
Kitty Marion, proposed by Kathleen O'Connor, seconded by Vita Spencer.
Dora Levis, proposed by Sylvia Morris, seconded by Wilson Gunning.
F. H. De Quincey, proposed by Dulcie O'Mull Conry, seconded by Maude Kirwan.
Langford Reed, proposed by Ethel Royal, seconded by Ada Matchwell.
Basil Deane, proposed by Beatrice Chester, seconded by Charles Harley.
Lewis Casson, proposed by Frederick Morland, seconded by Cyril Cattley.
Beatrice Chester, proposed by Lucy Sibley, seconded by Vita Spencer.

A.A. ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As I am nominated for the A.A. Council may I crave a little of your valuable space in which to briefly set forth my views, for I should hate to be supported by those who differed from me.

I believe I am generally termed an "Extremist" in actors' politics. That I take as a compliment (although I do not think it is meant as such), for an "Extremist" to my mind wishes to make up for lost time, to do a thing now, *at once*, whilst it is of some use; but my friends the "Moderates" say, "Oh, wait a bit. Let things get worse before we do anything!" Now that doesn't suit me at all. For instance, a minimum wage of £2 per week would be a very good thing if adopted *now*, but in, say, three or four years' time it may be quite useless, quite inadequate, as by that time we may all have to play twice nightly, also giving two matinées per day, and also be expected to travel in our own motors.

Again, payment for rehearsals is wanted badly now, but when the minimum wage has created a standard, and only those who come up to that standard are able to obtain engagements, a week or two's rehearsal will suffice, and the company being more efficient, runs will be longer, so payment for rehearsals then would not be the boon it would be now.

But I must "come to cues." So, briefly, I stand for the minimum wage, payment for rehearsals and matinées, the exposure of bogus managers at any cost—libel, or even wreckage of the Association. (Having just been the victim of a bogus actor-manager at a well-known suburban theatre, I speak feelingly.)

I also stand for a free agency. That is, I believe the Association should be the permanent address of all touring actors and actresses, much in the same way as the Green Room Club and the Ladies' Guild are those of the London actor and actress. It would be a boon to both artist and manager.

In conclusion, I do not believe in managerial influence at all. In a society of employees it is absurd, and has stunted the actor's efforts for twenty long, weary, dreary years. No argument can support it. So doubtless members will prefer to vote for the many "dark horses" who have put up for this election in preference to—Yours faithfully, ROBSON PAIGE.

36, Montpelier-road, N.W.
Jan. 6, 1910.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Jan. 3, for the first time in London, the Drama in Four Acts, by Frank Price, entitled.

"A CHILD OF THE STREETS."

Sir John Graham ..... MR. JOHN ERROLL
Lawrence Craigie ..... MR. LEONARD AARDALE
Lieutenant Jack Ainsley MR. NORMAN H. TRACY
Robert Wallace ..... MR. CHARLES FREEMAN
Oscar Van Dam ..... MR. MAURICE JONES
Ezra Scroggie ..... MR. GEORGE FRANCIS
Pomeroy Smith ..... MR. CHARLES TOLCHER
Constable 214D ..... MR. LEWIS RAE
Gertrude Graham .. MISS NELLIE THORNE HALLAM
Lorna Carstairs ..... MISS YOXA SUMMER
Selina Haddock ..... MISS CARLOTA BLONDIN
Little Doris ..... LITTLE MAY RENAUD
Doris Graham ..... MISS DOT STEPHENS

Originally produced at the Grand Theatre, Walsall, in September last, *A Child of the Streets* made its initial bow to a London audience at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday. The author has relied for success on a story of strong domestic interest, easily followed, and embellished with appropriate scenery Consequently, its enthusiastic reception by Monday's audience was entirely merited. The plot was so fully dealt with in our columns of Sept. 25 that a brief outline will now suffice. Gertrude Graham and her child, on the death of Gerald Graham, return to England after a long estrangement from Gerald's father, Sir John Graham, the old man being now desirous of making reparation to his son's wife and child. This does not "suit the book" of his rascally nephew, Lawrence Craigie, and his paramour, Lorna Carstairs; but, despite their scheming, Sir John becomes reconciled to Gertrude, and little Doris, and Craigie, driven to desperation, murders his uncle. He manages, however, to fix the crime on Gertrude Graham, and contrives to have Doris kidnapped. Ten years now elapse. Gertrude has escaped conviction of the crime of murder, but she is homeless and friendless, and parted from her daughter, now a pretty and winsome lassie, who, as a street singer, has become a source of income to the villain Scroggie, who abducted her. The girl's pretty face and pleasing voice attract the notice of Oscar Van Dam, the keeper of a notorious saloon; and to the temptation of the ease and luxury offered her, Doris very nearly succumbs. She has, however, a guardian angel in her own mother, who, though unaware of her daughter's identity, accepts a situation in the same house in order to keep an eye on the friendless girl. After many vicissitudes, mother and daughter are finally revealed to each other, and there is a happy ending to a piece of more than passing interest, which should add another leaf to Mr. Frank Price's laurels.

Miss Dot Stephens, who plays Doris Graham after the first act, supplies the chief attraction of the piece Miss Stephens, it will be recalled, achieved fame in musical comedy before meeting with the railway accident which it was then feared would end her very promising career. Since, however, by remarkable surgery, she has been enabled to appear on the variety stage, which she has in turn forsaken for her old love, the theatre. In the rôle of Doris Graham Miss Stephens acts with a pathetic charm and grace, which win all hearts, and she sings "Mother's Eyes" and "Someone" with much expression and feeling. Her reception is the more hearty as Stratford is her birthplace. Mr. Leonard Aardale as the villainous Lawrence Craigie plays with considerable skill and power; and Mr. Norman H. Tracy has an excelent part as Jack Ainsley, a young man about town, and does justice to it. Mr. Charles Freeman is manly and convincing in the rôle of Robert Wallace; and Mr. Maurice Jones plays most appropriately as Oscar Van Dam. The vicious nature of Ezra Scroggie is admirably depicted by Mr. George Francis; Mr. Charles Tolcher is a decidedly clever and entertaining Pomeroy Smith; and Mr. John Erroll makes the most of his opportunities as Sir John Graham. Miss Yoxa Summer as the scheming Lorna Carstairs submits a well-studied embodiment of this prominent part, and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam is a sympathetic and graceful Gertrude Graham. Miss Carlotta Blondin's portrayal of Selina Haddock is a diverting character study; and a word of praise must be bestowed upon little May Renaud for her very intelligent impersonation of Little Doris. As a police constable, Mr. Lewis Rae does well.

"THE HAG AND THE MASHER."

Dramatic Episode in One Act, by Alfred Hollis, Produced at the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, on Thursday, Dec. 30.

The Hag ..... MR. ALBERT SEMBER
Reggie Verne ..... MR. H. ARNOLD ALLEN
Aubrey Verne ..... MISS VIOLET LAND

The scene of this little play is the garret of an old hag, who has kidnapped Aubrey Verne, the child of a Judge in revenge for his sentencing her son, a criminal, to death. The action arises from the attempts of Reggie, the brother of the child, to discover his whereabouts. In this he is eventually successful, though the hag makes several attempts to murder him. Mr. Albert Sember did some powerful acting as the Hag, and Mr. H. Arnold Allen was very active and effective as Reggie, Miss Violet Land playing Aubrey Verne prettily.

MR. EDITOR,—SIR,—In your current issue you state that the stage management of *Cinderella* at this theatre was under the direction of Mr. Wm. Cartwright. Mr. Wm. Cutler is responsible for this department for Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Mr. Cartwright being resident-manager for Mr. Chas. Barnard only.—Yours faithfully, John Coghlan, general secretary, Theatre Royal, Elephant and Castle, London, S.E., Jan. 4, 1910.

CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO'S Italian Grand Opera Company is at the Worthing Theatre Royal. On Monday *Il Trovatore* was presented, the brilliant solos and pleasing choruses proving enjoyable. The répertoire includes *Faust*, *Il Barbière*, *Di Seviglia*, *Rigoletto*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *I Pagliacci*, *Traviata*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and *Carmen*.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING," played by Mr. Wilson Benge's company, filled the bill for the first three nights of this week at the Gaiety, Musselburgh, and was well patronised. Leading parts were taken by Messrs. Cecil A. Melton, Charles Osborne, C. M. Doyle, and Arthur Keand; and Misses Pauline Nanton, Esmai Ellys, and Annie Hylton.

PLAYS, in the time of Shakespeare, began at one o'clock in the afternoon. Some persons, however, were actuated by a stronger curiosity, and in order to secure good places went to the theatres without their dinners. See the prologue to *The Unfortunate Lovers*, by Sir William D'Avenant, first performed at Blackfriars in April, 1638:

"——— You are grown excessive proud,
Since ten times more of wit than was allowed
Your silly ancestors in twenty year,
You think in two short hours to swallow here.
For they to theatres were pleased to come,
Ere they had dined, to take up the best room;
There sat on benches, not adorn'd with mats,
And graciously did vail their high crown'd hats
To every half-dressed player as he still
Through hangings peep'd to see the galleries fill.
Good easy judging souls, with what delight
They wou'd expect a jig or target-fight!
A furious tale of Troy, which they ne'er thought
Was weakly writ, if it were strongly fought;
Laugh'd at a clinch, the shadow of a jest,
And cryed, 'A passing good one, I protest.'"

THE COPYRIGHT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

(Continued from last week.)

"We will now proceed to consider the effect of the third paragraph of the Article. It is somewhat ambiguously worded, and is possibly capable of different interpretations. One member of the Committee took the view that par. 3 should be read as providing that par. 1 should have no retroactive effect whatever, and that in order to bring the latter part of par. 3 into harmony with the first few words of that paragraph the words 'have been lawfully adapted' should be read 'have been lawfully adaptable,' so that in those countries where the adaptation of works has been unlawful the adaptation of works published before the operation of the Revised Convention should still be unlawful, but that such should not be the case in countries where it has hitherto been lawful to adapt.

"This view did not commend itself to the rest of the Committee, who were of opinion that the object of the paragraph is that manufacturers who have, at the time of the coming into force of the Revised Convention, lawfully adapted works (that is to say, adapted them without infringement of authors' rights) to mechanical instruments, may still proceed to manufacture records in respect of the works which they have so adapted. But a difference of opinion arose as to whether, where there had been any adaptation to mechanical instruments of a work at the time of the coming into force of the Convention, that particular work would be free to be adapted by any manufacturer for any kind of instrument, or whether the manufacturer who had adapted it would be the only manufacturer who could produce the records of the work without the author's consent. A narrow majority of the Committee were in favour of the former view, which in their opinion is in accordance with the exact words of the latter part of the paragraph, and leaves all manufacturers upon an equal footing as regards works which by virtue of the paragraph might be reproduced without the author's consent, so that the effect of treating a manufacturer as having a vested interest in the work which he has adapted will be to give every other manufacturer practically the same freedom.

"It may be remarked that if protection be given to the manufacturers of records, in the sense that they should have what may be termed the copyright in those records, they ought to have the power to prevent the importation into this country of records copied from their own records. It will probably be necessary for this purpose to introduce some legislative provisions analogous to those found in the statutes, prohibiting the importation of records which would infringe the rights of the owner of copyright, and to impose, not merely confiscation of the records attempted to be imported, but also a penalty upon the importer, so that the clause may be practically enforced; and better provision might be made for seizure in this country, and forfeiture of any records found to be infringements, and for the punishment by penalties of any persons dealing in such records.

"Evidence was given before the Committee on the question of the effect of the production and sale of records, perforated rolls, &c., on the sale of sheet music, but the Committee do not find it necessary to refer thereto.

"Art. 14.—Authors of literary, scientific, or artistic works shall have the exclusive right of authorising the reproduction and public representation of their works by cinematography.

"Cinematograph productions shall be protected as literary or artistic works if, by the arrangement of the acting form or the combinations of the incidents represented, the author has given the work a personal and original character.

"Without prejudice to the rights of the author of the original work, the reproduction by cinematography of a literary, scientific, or artistic work shall be protected as an original work.

"The above provisions apply to reproductions or production effected by any other process analogous to cinematography.

"The Committee consider that this Article is reasonable, and therefore recommend its adoption, although it introduces new matter into the area of protection, and that the necessary legislation for that purpose and for domestic purposes should be included in any enactment necessary to carry out the suggestions in this report.

"Art. 15.—In order that the authors of works protected by the present Convention may, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be considered as such, and be consequently admitted to institute proceedings against pirates before the courts of the various countries of the Union, it will be sufficient that their name be indicated on the work in the accustomed manner.

"For anonymous or pseudonymous works, the publisher whose name is indicated on the work shall be entitled to protect the rights belonging to the author. He shall be, without other proof, deemed to be the legal representative of the anonymous or pseudonymous author.

"Art. 16.—Pirated works may be seized by the competent authorities of any country of the Union where the original work enjoys legal protection.

"In such a country the seizure may also apply to reproductions imported from a country where the work is not protected, or has ceased to be protected.

"The seizure shall take place in accordance with the domestic legislation of each country.

"Art. 17.—The provisions of the present Convention cannot in any way derogate from the right belonging to the Government of each country of the Union to permit, to control, or to prohibit by measures of domestic legislation or police, the circulation, representation, or exhibition of any works or productions in regard to which the competent authority may find it necessary to exercise that right.

"The Committee consider that these Articles may be accepted, subject to qualification. Art. 16 would clearly be inappropriate to the subject-matter of architecture. It has been already pointed out that the proper remedy for infringement in such a case would be a penalty of some kind, but if the Article means that provision must be made so that the author may be entitled to set the authorities of a country in motion to seize the object of which he complains, it will clearly have to be modified so as to exclude architecture from its operation. We think that there are other subject-matters to which this remedy may be inappropriate, and we recommend that this Article should only be accepted with the qualification that Great Britain may apply its provisions only to such subjects and in such cases as it considers suitable. The legislation which has been suggested must include dealing with Arts. 15, 16, and 17."

HARLEQUIN was a Roman mime. He is described with his shaven head (*rasis capitibus*), his sooty face (*fuligine faciem*), his flat, unshod feet (*planipedes*), and his patched coat of many colours (*mimi centunculo*). Even Pulcinella, whom we familiarly call "Punch," may receive, like other personages of no great importance, all his dignity from antiquity, one of his Roman ancestors having appeared to an antiquary's visionary eye in a bronze statue. More than one erudite dissertation authenticates the family likeness—the nose long, prominent, and hooked; the staring goggle eyes; the hump at his back and at his breast; in a word, all the character which so strongly marks the Punch-race as distinctly as whole dynasties have been featured by the Austrian lip and the Bourbon nose.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY was an interested spectator among the huge audience that filled the Coliseum on Monday afternoon to see the playlet *Mr. Jellicoe and the Fairy*. It will be remembered that she was one of the original company playing in *Pinkie and the Fairies* at His Majesty's, being supported in that production by Little Elise Craven as the fairy queen Since that time Miss Terry has taken great interest in this gifted youngster, and frequently applauded her in her latest performance.

AT the conclusion of the performance of *Mr. Jellicoe and the Fairies* on Monday evening, Mr. Cyril Maude, in answer to repeated calls, appeared with little Elise Craven in his arms. The audience seemed to be as delighted as the child, whom the popular actor-manager carried pick-a-back at his next appearance in front of the tableau curtains.

THE great sketch question is not solved certainly; but the appearance of one actor manager and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier) at the Palace and another actor-manager (Mr. Cyril Maude) at the Coliseum seems to make the solution much easier. At any rate, the début on the variety stage of the celebrated trio of theatrical artists is a step forward, and gives a genuine significance to the concordat. For some time to come, we fear, this compromise will afford the only solution of one of the legal anomalies of the licensing laws. The report of the Theatres Commission which sat in 1892 was shelved, and history has an unfortunate knack of repeating itself.

THE success of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's little drama *The Knife* has resulted in Mr. Alfred Butt inviting the popular pair to extend their stay. Mr. Bourchier, however, is busy making arrangements for the production of *Dame Nature*. He also has on the stocks the piece, by Paul Hervieu, produced at the Comédie-Français on March 29 last year, and entitled *Connais-Toi!* The excellent English title selected for the adaptation is *Glass Houses*.

IT is rarely that an artist is nonplussed by loss of memory; but Little Tich had the rare experience one evening during the week of completely forgetting his patter in his capital song "The Dentist." He tried during a little impromptu gag to recollect; but memory was for once obstinate, and he went off. The Tivoli crowd took the incident quite good-humouredly, and gave the comedian a very hearty round of applause on his return to the footlights as the rose-crowned pet of the ballet.

MISS VICTORIA MONKS met with an accident on Monday, as she was motoring from the Metropolitan to the Oxford stage entrance in Tottenham Court-road. In order to avoid a horse and van, the car was turned suddenly and skidded into one of the electric lamp standards in the roadway. The car was damaged, and the popular comedienne had her hand cut by broken glass. She was attended by a Harley-street doctor, and was able to fulfil her engagement at the Oxford.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS left Euston at midday on Saturday by the Cunard special train for an extended tour in the United States. A crowd of friends and admirers assembled on the platform to see him off, prominent among them being officials and members of the Dickens Fellowship, of which Mr. Bransby Williams is vice-president. As the train moved out of the station, amid waving handkerchiefs and hats, Mr. Bransby Williams, in the most exuberant spirits, scattered cards among the crowd, on which they were exhorted to "Smile."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, in an interview, confesses his conversion to the doctrine of the idea of a National Theatre. This, he declares, is mainly due to the criticisms of a learned dramatic critic who has thought fit to make sweeping assertions against those who attend the various performances of the Palace Theatre. Mr. Bourchier declares he can picture in his dreams a stately building, enriched by statues of ancient philosophers and scholars, where ordinary common or garden people would not be given the plays they desired, but on the other hand plays that they ought to see. The audience would also have to produce a sort of testimonial as to their general character, and the advertisements would be embellished with extracts from the ancient poets.

THE popular actor-manager is quite enthusiastic over his receptions at the Palace. He says that he has never acted anywhere to a more intelligently sympathetic audience, and that his experience of the halls has been so favourable that he means to return whenever a suitable opportunity arrives. The great difficulty, he declares, is the production of one-act plays. They have been slighted in the past by the very fact of their position on a theatre programme. Aspiring dramatists must therefore look to the variety theatres for much-needed encouragement in their work. They may be quite certain of "placing" works of real merit before the public.

AT the Water Rats' Lodge meeting on Sunday, at the Vaudeville Club, the officers of the year were duly installed, with the exception of Mr. Harry Tate, who was away in Glasgow. Ex-King Rat W. H. Clemart having installed Mr. Charles Warren in the chief office, the new King Rat proceeded to make the further installations. These included Papa Brown, Bank Rat; Burt Shepard, Musical Rat; W. H. McCarthy, Scribe Rat; Dave O'Toole, Test Rat; and Papa Cragg and Papa Brown, Trustees.

MR. CHARLES WARREN, who is known to all our readers as the enterprising representative in the United Kingdom of the American publishing firm of Witmarks, is also a legitimate comedian of considerable gifts, having played both in the States and England. His experiences on the variety stage in this country are later history, and are well within the recollection of our readers. He seems to have the secret of perennial youth, though his big and clever son, Charles Denier Warren, may be said to give popper away. Mrs. Warren is the charming and successful comedienne, Miss Rachel Lowe. As King Rat Mr. Warren's acknowledged administrative ability and his tact should have full scope, and we may join in the hope of his many friends that he may have a most successful year.

AT a special general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, to be held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Sunday, at six p.m., under the presidency of the Federation's chairman, Mr. Fred Russell, a most important proposal will be embodied in the rule which suggests the appointment of a permanent salaried chairman, in addition to a paid general secretary. We quote the proposed rule:—"The managing body shall consist of the following: A permanent chairman of the Federation, who shall be a member of the Federation, and who shall be appointed by the then Executive Committee in the United Kingdom voting by ballot, who shall be paid a salary determined by the Executive Committee, and shall remain in office until a resolution to remove him is carried by a two-thirds majority of the then Executive Committee. His agreement with the Executive Committee shall be subject to three months' notice on either side."

MR. WILL STONE, at the Ton-y-Pandy Hippodrome, on New Year's Day entertained 7,400 children to a free show. The youngsters were also presented with an orange each.

ON New Year's Day the orchestra at the Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, presented their popular general-manager and lessee (Mr. W. Stone) with a silver and ivory calendar and diary. Mrs. Stone received three volumes of Beethoven's works, and Mr. E. Harper (acting-manager) a gold-mounted amber cigar-holder.

THE Borough of Margate Entertainments Committee invite tenders for the right to give musical entertainments on the Marine-terrace Sands during the ensuing season (May 16 to Oct. 1, 1910). Tenders, endorsed "Sands Entertainments," to be addressed and sent not later than Jan. 15, to John E. Saxby, secretary and manager, 12, Grosvenor-place, Margate.

THE Grand Theatre, Blackpool, as we stated last week in this column, has been purchased by the Blackpool Tower Company. It will be closed today for extensive decorations, and reopened on Monday, March 21 next, under the general-management of George H. Harrop, by whom dates for leading No. 1 companies will be considered. The companies already booked by Mr. Sergenson have been taken over by the new management.

AT the annual meeting of shareholders of the New Spa and Gardens, Ltd., Bridlington, on Thursday, the 30th ult., Mr. Harry Tunbridge, who has been general-manager and secretary for the last two years, was unanimously elected managing-director of the company. The appointment is a very popular one. Mr. Tunbridge has made himself a name here both amongst residents and visitors for his courtesy and geniality as well as for the excellent fare he provides for the patrons of the Spa.

"FORM, Riflemen, form," which is being sung so successfully at the Oxford this week by Mr. Leo Stormont, is from the pen of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. We are told that the lilting swing of it throbs through the hall. There was a good deal of cheap patriotism about during the Boer War, represented by indifferent songs. But the "black week" of December, 1899, put an end to braggadocio verses. A song, however, which stirs the loftiest sentiments of patriotism in the listener is more than welcome.

AFTER the performance at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on New Year's Eve, Miss Dorothy Ward, the popular principal boy, travelled in her motor-car to Dudley, and presented the prizes to the successful competitors in a carnival at the Trindall-road Roller Skating Rink. Upon entering the building she was accorded an enthusiastic welcome, and was personally received by the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor of the town. A dainty little girl on skates presented her with a handsome shower bouquet. Miss Ward was seasonably dressed, her beautiful toilette being of cream serge, with white ermine muff, necklet, and hat.

AT the Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Dec. 27, Mr. William Holland produced a brisk and entertaining version of *Aladdin*. Good scenery, tuneful music, and a brilliant variety of dresses characterised the show, which met with a good reception. Miss Helen Charles was very pleasing in the title-part, and was well supported by Miss Poppy Holland as the Princess; while excellent fun was contributed by Mr. Bob Selvidge as Abanazar, Mr. Kennedy Allen as Wishee-Washee, Mr. Robb Wilton as the Widow Twankey, and the Three Comedy Chanters in subsidiary rôles. Songs, choruses, and dances were all well done.

THE famous Clempert has proved himself a draw all over the United Kingdom, and has been in great demand; but so great are the inducements offered to him by a South American management that at some pecuniary sacrifice he has arranged with managers here to postpone his immediate dates. He sailed by the Arrigan on Friday, the 7th inst., to Buenos Ayres, where he opens on Feb. 1 at the Palacis Novedades, for two months. He is due back in England in June to open at the Empire, Portsmouth (return date), and holds contracts for every legitimate hall in Great Britain to follow. There are hints already from the other side of the Atlantic that he will be compelled to be put to the inconvenience of postponing later dates in England, providing his health does not fail him. He wishes to thank all managers and agents for their kindness, and greets them with "An revoir," but not "Good-bye."

COUNCILLOR HAROLD ARNOLD, of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, had a very unpleasant and unwelcome New Year greeting on the morning of the first day of the year, being aroused at 5 a.m. by a policeman with the unsettling intimation that the stage door of the theatre had been found open.

HASTENING down to the "house" Mr. Arnold made a most disagreeable discovery. The members of the Bill Sikes fraternity had paid him a visit during the night. Whisky and cigars in considerable quantity had been removed from the circle bar, whilst the various offices had been forcibly entered, and an attempt made to remove the safe from its cupboard recess. The burglars had succeeded in turning the safe upside down without removing it far, and had forced the lock facings, but had failed to break open the door. As the safe contained the week's salaries of the artists (to be paid on the Saturday evening) Mr. Arnold may consider himself fortunate.

A COLLECTING box for the Poor Children's Breakfast Fund had engaged their expert attention, and this, being made of wood, was an easy mark, a sum of about 30s. being extracted. Some articles of wearing apparel, the property of Mr. Arnold, were taken, and it is presumed that the thieves then made their way towards an exit—the stage door. In their path they came across the stalls bar, and, evidently incensed at the failure of their main efforts, turned on the tap of a vessel containing about six gallons of port wine. Several jemmies, chisels, and hammers were left strewn over the place, and the loss and damage are estimated at between £40 and £50. Mr. Arnold is of opinion that the robbers attended Friday night's second performance and afterwards secreted themselves on the premises.

THE Great Salambos, who are appearing with such marked success in *Aladdin*, the greatest of all Drury Lane's production, in their popular and wonderfully mystifying electrical speciality in the Grand Palace scene, are a most creditable feature in this beautifully-mounted pantomime. At their behest, as Slaves of the Lamp, Widow Twankey's laundry becomes a gorgeous palace. Some ugly pieces of furniture are left behind, and Aladdin remarking on this, the old pieces are changed into beautiful palace couches, while a dingy-looking old mangle is transformed into a magnificent and luxuriously provided banquet table. This done, they then use numerous articles of food, &c., from the table as paraphernalia for their mysterious electrical displays. Their puzzling trickery, so entirely appropriate to such a pantomime, is done in full view of the audience.

JACK SMILES sent his dad, Jack Boston, a cheque for £50 as a New Year's gift. We do not suppose he will do it again "for months and months and months."

THE monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon next, at 4 p.m.

MISS LALLIE FORSYTH will present at Collins's *A Million and a Half*, a new comedy act, by Rita Carlyle. Miss Forsyth has just returned from a tour of India, China, and Japan, under Mr. Maurice Bandmann's management.

THE Great Caicedo, King of the Wire, is being complimented by Press and public in the States on his feats of startling originality. Needless to say, he is topping the bill everywhere on the Orpheum circuit.

MISS NELLIE BRIERLEY, owing to her enormous success at Rotherhithe, has been booked by Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler with Mr. Leon Zeitlin.

THE Stage Productions Company are presenting their first ambitious effort on Monday next at the Bedford—a musical comedy sketch, by Charles Crozier, with music by Frank Crozier.

AT the 641st meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert, in the chair, the weekly financial statement, showing forty-three new members and a cash total of £48 19s., was passed.

MISS BESSIE BUTT has made a pronounced success as Aladdin at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in Mr. Robert Arthur's gorgeous production, and Press, public, and management are unanimous in declaring that she is quite the finest Aladdin ever seen in the "Second City of the Empire." Miss Butt has now thoroughly established a reputation as one of the best principal boys extant.

IT is proposed that, upon the occasion of the retirement from active stage work in the music hall profession of Mr. John Alexander—familiarly and affectionately known as Johnny Alexander—a complimentary benefit shall be arranged as an expression of the high regard of his many friends, both professional and private. A meeting will be held on Thursday next, at twelve o'clock noon, at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., for the purpose of completing the committee list, and for fixing the date and place of the benefit performance.

AMONG those who form the committee are Joe Elvin, George H. Chirgwin, Paul Martinetti, Charles Pratt, George Harrington, George Harris, Harry Barnard, Albert Voyce, T. C. Callaghan, J. H. Milburn, Barney Hyams, Sammy Shields, Charles Stevens, Walter Munroe, Jack Lotto, Leon Bassett, Sammy Salter, Horace Wheatley, Arthur Were, C. Douglas Stuart, Joe Tennyson, Bros. Obo, Charles Coborn, Harold J. Pounds, Lawrence Barclay, Frank Boyce, H. Cee-Mee, J. Sparrow, J. F. Lambe, L. Peate, G. P. R. Burgess (President, Terriers' Association). Mr. Arthur Were is the hon. secretary pro tem.

MISS MARIE LOFTUS'S visits to London are, alas! almost as rare as those of Halley's comet to this terrestrial ball. The popular lady has, however, during the week more than justified her right to be acclaimed a star of the first magnitude, as has been evidenced by the packed houses at the Shoreditch Empire, where she has been delighting the wise men of the East by her arch and finished renderings of "Don't imagine your husband is a diamond in the rough (You're bound to cut your fingers if you do)," a song railing at the perfidy of man, and "Do I have to change before I get to London?" which details in humorous fashion the adventures of a Lancashire lass who, though looking harmless as a dove, is blessed with more than the wisdom of the serpent. The fair artist has not been permitted to leave the stage till she has given her wonderfully contrasted pot-pourri on "Artists past and present."

THE licence of the Alexandra Palace has been temporarily transferred from Mr. Edwin Goodship to Mr. F. T. Boucher, who has succeeded him as secretary to the Palace trustees, in order that he may carry on the business until the next ordinary transfer day.

MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY, the well-known actor, will appear on Monday, Jan. 10, at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, in a new dramatic sketch, entitled *The Strolling Player*, written by Miss Beatrix de Burgh, which gives Mr. Saintsbury exceptional opportunities to justify his reputation as a Shakespearean actor.

MISS MAY BEATTY, who is playing Dick Whittington in Mr. E. Humphrey E. Brammall's interesting revival of pantomime at that famous house, the Britannia, became an immediate favourite of the host of patrons that crowded the great house in Hoxton on Boxing afternoon. Dick sang "Somewhere," and there arose a mighty chorus. From four thousand throats it came, and the fair singer has never had a more successful number, to which her beautiful voice does complete justice.

THE replayed tie for the Music Hall Golf Pennant between Mr. Harry Meymott (holder) and Mr. J. W. Rickaby (challenger) took place on Tuesday on one of the West London courses. Mr. Rickaby played fine golf, and after standing two up at the end of the first round, he eventually won by two up and one to play. The winners of the pennant in rotation are:—Ed. E. Ford, J. W. Rickaby, Hal Forde, H. Meymott, and J. W. Rickaby.

MEMBERS of the theatrical and music-hall profession will learn with regret of the unexpected death of Mr. John Callan, a well-known comedian, which took place at 11, Upper Baker-street, Liverpool. Deceased was performing a fortnight ago as principal comedian in a minstrel troupe which appeared at the Olympia, and, although suffering from chill, he took his part until the close of the engagement on Saturday evening, the 19th ult. Afterwards pneumonia set in, and he died on Sunday, Dec. 26.

MR. CALLAN was an American, and came to this country with a minstrel troupe. He was afterwards connected with the famous Moore and Burgess Minstrels, and was a favourite with the public in Liverpool and elsewhere. His remains were interred at West Derby Cemetery, and since his death much sympathy has been expressed with his widow, who, we regret to hear, has been left in impecunious circumstances. John Callan was known all over the world as a minstrel, and should his many friends wish to help the widow they can do so by sending a contribution to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift at *The Era* offices, who will duly acknowledge any subscription sent.

MANY of our readers to whom Mr. James White, the stage-manager at the Granville, is so well known, will deeply sympathise with him in the death of his wife on Christmas Eve last, under tragic circumstances. The deceased lady was under the care of her medical man (a well-known Fulham practitioner), and he unfortunately mistook a certain bottle in his surgery, with the result that a dose of strychnine was administered in her medicine, with the above melancholy and sorrowful result. The inquest was held last Tuesday, and the coroner's jury added a rider that all poison bottles should be made in a distinctive shape.

TERRIER HARRY BARNARD has been appointed hon. treasurer to the Terriers Association.

AN extra turn matinée will be given at the Paragon this day (Saturday) at two o'clock.

MR. ARTHUR WERE, the secretary of the Terriers' Association, has been elected president of the Gallery First Nighters' Club.

MESSRS. ABRAHAMS, of the Queen's, Poplar, are giving their manager, Mr. Chas. Hector, a complimentary night on Friday, Jan. 21. Artists please note, and those willing to appear kindly send in their names.

MR. W. G. SYLVESTER, the Royal caterer, again successfully catered for the children's entertainment at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday. The youngsters were delighted with the programme arranged.

MISS ADELE LEVEY, who has been with Messrs. Murray King and Clark since May last, was presented on Monday by those gentlemen with a beautiful bouquet on making her entrance as the Emperor of Morocco in the gorgeous Palace scene. Miss Levey presents a striking figure in a dress of rare resplendence.

MR. ALFRED B. CROSS, the actor, who died on Sunday last, to the inexpressible grief of his wife, known professionally as Minnie Watersford, acted some years since on the variety stage under the name of Hugh Cannon in tabloid versions of *Lady Audley's Secret*, *East Lynne*, and other dramatic sketches, in companies pioneered by Mr. Brien M'Cullough.

THE draft report of the Joint Committee on the Censorship recommends that the producer of a play regarded as objectionable by the Public Prosecutor may be proceeded against. In the case of a conviction, it may be endorsed on the theatre licence. In the case of a song-writer it would probably be endorsed on his poetic licence.

THE Maid Marian of the Prince of Wales's pantomime in Birmingham is Miss Daisy Dormer, and the local press have become enthusiastic in that dainty artist's praise. We do not wonder at this; for, as a prominent manager said a little time since to the writer:—"It is delightful to see Daisy work, she puts her whole soul into it." We are not surprised therefore that she is booked until 1917.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON'S efforts in the cause of the Crimean and military veterans never seemingly slacken. The Master of Newington Workhouse had made the declining days of James Williamson, one of the six hundred, so happy, that the old man elected to remain where he was treated as an honoured guest, rather than take the chance of an uncomfortable lodgings on a small pension.

WHEN the old man died there was the difficulty of providing a grave without going to the parish. This was speedily solved by the same kind-hearted master and George Leyton. The Legion of Frontiersmen, of which corps Mr. Leyton is a member, bought a grave in Streatham Park Cemetery, and Colonel Driscoll, commanding a detchment of the Legion, paid the deceased veteran military honours.

THE secretary of the Music Hall Home, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E., desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly contributed towards the most enjoyable time spent at Christmas by the old performers in the home—especially Joe Elvin, Ted E. Box, Harry Blake, Harry Barnard, F. H. Pedgrift, Miss Kitty Colyer, Miss Mildred Hayman, Miss Ray Maskell, Mr. Harry Bawn, and My Fancy, Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Vesta Tilley, the president (Mr. Walter de Frece), Mr. Lewis Isaacs, George Bush, Arthur Elvy, and Oswald Lux.

ON Sunday last the inmates were entertained by music and song by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Coles, Miss Cissie Bush, Mr. Fred Ralph, and Mr. George Bush, whose selections on the banjo were much appreciated. The secretary has pleasure in acknowledging the receipt from Mr. Vivian Evans, of the Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, the sum of £1 13s., and from Mr. George Weldon, Hippodrome, Dewsbury, £2 6s., being box collections for the Home Fund, and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mannering a donation of £1 1s.

THE Music Hall Home is now in its fourteenth year, and accommodates twelve old performers with home comforts. The committee hope for the support of the profession to *The Era* New Year appeal, headed by Miss Vesta Tilley. This annual appeal is the main support of the Home. The secretary will gladly send a collecting card to any willing to work on behalf of the Fund. Men's old clothes and boots are always very acceptable.

MISS MELINDA MAY, Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs gratefully to thank the following. Mr. Alec Barish (Birkenhead) for new portmanteau containing new gentleman's and boys' clothing and ladies' new shoes. Miss May omitted to mention that Mrs. Ernest Collins was a visitor to the children's Christmas party at the Horns, Kennington, on Dec. 23. Also Mr. James Horne and Master Horne, who sang to the children; Mrs. Levy, two plum puddings (per Miss Lottie Albert); Mrs. Walter Stanley, pudding. The Sisters Macarte's gifts to the Christmas tree were warm jerseys, petticoats, &c.; also Miss Rosie Foote, warm clothing for the Christmas tree; Messrs. Mayne, costumiers, Waterloo-road, for loan of entire costume (Santa Claus); and Miss Agnes White, clothing and sweets.

WILL friends in or out of the profession please note that a prize will be given to anyone collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months, commencing from Nov. 4, 1909? The result will be published in all variety papers.

THE bicycle given by Mr. Joe Zarmo is now on view at 18, Charing Cross-road. Hurry up; there are only a few tickets left, 1s. each, and the machine is a Rex, worth £50. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception, held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

THE following are the correct particulars regarding the dogs used in the Hippodrome spectacle *The Arctic*. The Samoyede dogs are natives of North-East Russia and West Siberia, and of the same breed as dogs used on most of the Polar expeditions which have started from England and Europe. They are thoroughbred specimens supplied by Mrs. Kilburn Scott, of Vale House, Bromley, Kent, whose kennels contain representatives from two Arctic expeditions, namely, that of H.R.H. the Duke of Abruzzi and the Jackson-Harmsworth and the first expedition to the Antarctic on the "Southern Cross."

THE sledge on exhibition in the entrance hall of the Hippodrome was the first to be used on the Antarctic continent in 1899 by C. E. Borchgrevink. He left some Samoyede dogs on Stewart Island, New Zealand, and descendants of them were used by Sir Ernest Shackleton on the last expedition. It should be noted that these Samoyede dogs of the Old World are quite different from the wolf-like Esquimaux of the New World. Expeditions starting from Europe do not use Esquimaux dogs because it is so easy to go to Russia and Siberia and get extremely intelligent, agile, and hardy dogs there.

AT the Wakefield licensing sessions, on Thursday, Dec. 30, Mr. Scott Alexander, of Scottie's Hippodrome, Hoyland, applied for, and received, a dramatic licence for above. He was also one of the few who received a Bioscope licence.

LADY CONSTANCE STEWART-RICHARDSON is said to be a disciple of the Maud Allan school, if we can apply that very prosaic word to the unmeasured impulse of that lady's interpretations of classic *lieder* and symphonies. My lady comes to the Palace to dance on the 17th.

LADY CONSTANCE is well abreast of the modern movement for the amusement of children—as evidenced by the sudden growth of children's plays everywhere—and is opposed strongly to their usual toys. "It must be worse than wrong," she says, "to make little children—the most lovely of the many lovely things that have been given us—the receptacles of hideous things—ogres, golliwogs, horrible animals in crude colours. . . . They would scare a grown person."

THE scores of the Music Hall and Theatrical Football League competition, for the challenge cup presented by Mr. Harry Tate, up to Sunday last, were: Gaiety Theatre, eight points; Edmonton Empire, eight points; Tivoli, six points; Fulham Theatre, six points; Holborn Empire, two; King's, Hammersmith, two points. The last-mentioned team sustained a defeat from the Tivolians on Sunday last by four goals to one.

SO great and novel an attraction have the seventy diving Polar bears proved to be at the London Hippodrome that now, at the close of each performance, both afternoon and evening, the circular curtain is raised for ten minutes to allow visitors to have a longer view of the animals playing and splashing in the water. Some of the bears search round for herrings which have been cast into the water, others play together in sheer enjoyment of the bath, while a further batch climb back to the stage to roam among the icebergs, thus giving the scene a most realistic appearance.

A FURTHER application was made on Saturday by Mr. Sidney Lamb, at Tower Bridge, in respect to the liquor licence of Gatti's, Westminster Bridge-road. After the premises had been closed four years a lease was granted to the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter, of the Lyceum, and his brother, Mr. Frederick William Carpenter, who, having carried out the necessary alterations required by the London County Council, proposed to open the place for cinematograph shows.

MR. LAMB said that on the very morning that the protection order was granted Mr. Ernest Carpenter died, and he now asked that a second protection order should be granted to Mr. Frederick William Carpenter. The authority which the protection order gave to the late Mr. E. Carpenter to sell liquor died with him. Sub-divisional Inspector Collins offered no opposition to the application, and the magistrate thereupon granted the protection order to Mr. F. W. Carpenter.

MR. FREDERICK VILLIERS, the famous war artist correspondent, will open at the Tivoli on Monday next in an entertainment, entitled "Fifteen Minutes on the Warpath." Mr. Villiers will relate his recent experiences with the Spanish troops in Morocco during the Riff campaign, illustrated with fifty remarkable photos of the actual fighting. Some of these photographs were taken by Mr. Villiers at immense personal risk.

IN the wonderfully successful sketch, *The Russian Princess*, by Frederick Maxwell, Miss Lois Du Cane wears for her first entrance a long handsome sealskin coat and Russian cap with graceful plumes and gold clasp, and white suede gauntlet gloves. Later, in the big scene with General Dragenoff, she appears in a beautiful evening gown of Russian blue crepe de chine and gold, with diamond ornaments, gold shoes, and silk stockings to match. Mr. Walter Gibbons has already booked the sketch, and it will be staged at the Hippodrome, Poplar, next week.

AN interesting turn was witnessed on Saturday last, on the occasion of the annual treat to 1,000 of the aged poor of Liverpool in St. George's Hall, when the eight-year old child of Mr. Herbert Cottesmore, the producer of the Shakespeare pantomime in the Mersey City, made her first appearance as an artist, and sang Tom Foy's song, "99," receiving a hearty round of applause from the delighted auditors. The presence of Mr. W. H. Mathews, who is eighty years of age, and the second oldest clown living, and who, in the character of Father Christmas, presented the little lady, was also appreciated, the contrast in the ages of the two being freely commented on.

NEW YEAR'S DAY at the South London was celebrated in customary fashion, Mr. William Payne, the esteemed manager, providing the poor children of the locality with a special entertainment. 6,000 youngsters responded to the invitation, and municipal importance was lent to the occasion by the presence of the Mayor of Southwark, supported by his aldermen and councillors. Other notable visitors were the Rt. Hon. R. K. Causton, the M.P. for Southwark, and Sir W. Henry Dunn, J.P., his opponent in the impending Parliamentary conflict. Fruit in large quantities had been given by the Borough and Covent Garden markets, and everyone on departure carried a parcel of fruit, buns, and sweets. Each child was further gladdened by a useful pencil case, presented by the Capital and Labour Company, Newington Causeway.

KEEN delight was manifested by the youngsters in the entertainment specially prepared for them, most applause being lavished on Professor Rosser's Royal Punch and Judy, which proved a great treat. In addition to many "extra turns," the programme was contributed to by Pete, the human monkey; the New York Nippers; Henry Hilton, conjurer; the Five Olracs, comedy acrobats; Garford's clever performing dogs; the Four Geraldos, jugglers; Professor Rosser's Royal Punch and Judy; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope; Percival, comedy pianist; and Milli Dawson, child comedienne.

MR. JAMES HARE was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier W. L. Murray, W.T., assisted by Terrier Harry Gribben, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist.

A VERY successful ladies' concert was held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday last. Terrier W. L. Murray was in the chair, supported by the president, Terrier G. P. R. Burgess, Terrier Harry Barnard, Terrier Harry Gribben, &c. The following artists appeared: Terrier T. C. Callaghan ("Oh, what a lovely dream"), Terrier George Cooper ("That fatal rose of red"), Miss Lottie Lee ("Some Day" and "What you can't get you can do without"), Terrier Barney Hyams ("Seeing Life" and "Wait till my ship comes home"), Mr. W. Waite ("Golden Vanity" and "A Sergeant of the Line"), Terrier Charles Stevens ("Trying to find a match" and "The king of the house is baby"), Mr. Sam Wells ("Nazareth" and "Asleep in the Deep"), Terrier Steve Buckingham ("How do you do, de ay?"), Master John Marks ("Yiddisher Stories"), Terrier Harry Gribben ("The Bowery Boy"), Terrier Andie Caine ("Dingle Dongle Dell"), Mrs. James Tray ("Enjoy Yourself"). Terrier Barney Hyams acted as musical-director, and Terrier J. Chas. Moore was the accompanist.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE pantomimes have everywhere got into their stride, and that hydra the British public, having sampled them all, is now clamouring remorselessly for copies of the songs which have been the principal means of making the "annuals" once more the successes they everywhere are—clamouring so vehemently that the several printing firms who work for Messrs. Francis and Day would welcome a rest, for even seemingly tireless machinery is the better for a stop, and some of the "hands" are complaining of having, through stress of work and overtime, to postpone their Christmas gatherings till near Easter, notwithstanding their knowledge of the existence of the saying that has ever been laid down as an axiom that "Holidays were not made for printers."

TIME was when "London and three miles round" was as far as the fame of a song was expected to extend, but nowadays the fame of the songs of the firm of Francis and Day extends to the uttermost edges of these islands, invades Continental countries, overlaps into the Colonies, and even surges up round the "Hub of the Universe." A visit to the theatres of London at this juncture, a glance in the musicsellers' windows in the neighbourhood of each playhouse, and the sounds emanating from the man in the street as he whistles on his way in any district, all show indubitably which are the songs of the hour, the day, and the time, and if Orpheus with his lute revisited these glimpses of the moon he would make no show in or near Town until he had learned to play some ten or dozen airs which are now permeating the Metropolis, and which emanate from 142, Charing Cross-road, particularly, it seems, "Let's all go down the Strand" and "There are nice girls everywhere," which are heard in everyone's mouths.

In the West Central district, and at Hammersmith, Stoke Newington, Clapham, Kennington, Brixton, Fulham, New Cross, Mile End, Stratford, Sydenham, and elsewhere, theatres huge and small have nightly (and daily likewise in most instances) vomited forth full audiences, the burden of whose song has been "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" or "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." In other instances it is "The girl in the clogs and shawl" or "Don't take me home" that appeals to the denizens of a particular locality; and again it is "For months, and months, and months" or "I'm looking for Mr. Wright" that has won the heart of the multitude, whilst at the portals of the great West End pantomime houses, in addition to most of the before-mentioned songs, "I'm waiting here for Kate," "Hello! you fellows!" and "Love makes the whole year June" are the topics of conversation among lovers of humour and judges of artistry and melody. And so it is that the printing presses toil on whilst an impatient London music trade clamours for copies of the songs that Francis and Day publish, all trying to forestall their provincial business rivals in the battle for editions of each and every one of the songs.

A PLEASING feature of the Birmingham pantomime of *Aladdin* at the Alexandra Theatre is the singing and dancing of those charming Australian ladies the Sisters Oswald. Their new song, "San San Sue," by Percy Edgar and Alf. J. Lawrance, is a decided hit. Messrs. Francis and Day will issue it forthwith.

MR. LOUIS LA RONDELLE has been delighting the stupendous audiences at each performance at the London Coliseum during the week by playing as overture a spirited march from his own pen, entitled "A Happy New Year." Next week the fine orchestra under his baton will essay "The Navy" two-step for the first time. It is sure to have a great vogue both in the ballroom and elsewhere, and to artists in want of bright music for use during an act it will be a boon. The name of its composer (Henry E. Pether) is a guarantee of excellence. Orchestrations are being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. As a ballroom dance it is a great novelty, and directions are supplied with the pianoforte copies, which are commanding a ready sale among votaries of the light fantastic.

A NEW song of Miss Marie George's, entitled "Fol-lol-the-diddle-ol-the-day," by J. P. Harrington and Orlando Powell, will be issued soon by Messrs. Francis and Day, who have also secured Miss Rosie Lloyd's number, by Harrington and Fred Godfrey, the name of which is "Who's going to take me for a walk to-night?"

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY are bringing out immediately Mr. Eugene Stratton's new song. "I may be a millionaire" is the title, and it is the joint work of Fred Godfrey and Charles Collins.

MISS ADA REEVE, who adorns every song she sings in the same manner as she illumines every line she speaks—with the indefinable touch of genius—is making a terrific success at Birmingham with Messrs. Francis and Day's song "He's a naughty, naughty boy."

MR. HERBERT E. HAINES has recently composed a charming "Valse des Roses" and a two-step, entitled "Frolic." The works of this gifted composer are ever in request, and it will be good news that both these compositions have been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. TOM COSTELLO, who has in town been working during the week no fewer than three houses (six performances) nightly, has secured a fine example of the work of Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford. It is a song called "I don't mind leaving the dear Homeland." Messrs. Francis and Day will issue it.

A HUMOROUS characteristic song of Miss Vesta Victoria's will be put upon the market directly by Messrs. Francis and Day, entitled "Mother's had a row with father." It is by J. P. Harrington, Chas. Collins, and Fred Godfrey.

E. W. ROGERS, whose successful songs for stars have been legion, has again supplied his old friend and client Mr. Arthur Lennard with a song. It is entitled "Which would you like to spare?" and, like all the songs from the pen that gave the world such numbers as "Skylark" and "Following in father's footsteps," it bears the impress of a past master of versification and flowing melody writing. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

A PENDANT to that delightful number "Mandy's Wedding," entitled "Mandy's Christening," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, will shortly see the light in sheet music form. Again the publishers will be Mr. David Day's firm.

MR. TOM YORKE'S latest song, entitled "William," written by Harry Castling and C. W. Murphy, has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MR. ALF. ELLERTON, whose great humorous song for Mr. Frank Lynne, entitled "My inquisitive kiddy," is still remembered, has provided the same artist with a most comical number called "Do what you can for ninepence," which details the endeavours of a chronically impecunious wight to obtain a shilling's-worth of the pleasures of life under varying circumstances with the full amount of his weekly allowance of pocket-money, and the disastrous consequences that always ensue. The ditty will yet further enhance the reputations of author and artist.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

FRANCIS & DAY'S
PANTOMIME SONGS.

ALL RECORDS BROKEN.
A GIGANTIC LIST OF WINNERS.

LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND.
I USED TO SIGH FOR THE SILVERY MOON.
DON'T TAKE ME HOME.
HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?
I'M LOOKING FOR MR. WRIGHT.
IF YOU SHOULD SEE A LITTLE SOLDIER.
ONE OF THE GIRLS.
THE GIRL IN THE CLOGS AND SHAWL.
FOR MONTHS AND MONTHS AND MONTHS.
COME OVER TO HANOVER.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
JENNY, I'M SAVING EV'RY PENNY.
COME UP IN MY BALLOON.
HELLO, YOU FELLOWS.
A CORSICAN MAID.
DEAR OLD BOW BELLS.
LOVE MAKES THE WHOLE YEAR JUNE.
LITTLE GOLDEN DAFFODIL.
IT LOOKS LIKE A BIG NIGHT TO-NIGHT.

A Thousand Thanks to the Hundreds of Managers & Artistes who sent us Congratulatory Letters and Telegrams.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

THE COLISEUM.

One has to believe in fairies at Yuletide and at the birth of the New Year. The kiddies insist on it, and one's faith in this most delightful doctrine of child life becomes firmer on listening to such a sweet little advocate as Elise Craven, the Coliseum fairy. To this fine house she returned on Monday with a most welcome companion in Mr. Cyril Maude, who made his début in variety as the protagonist of greed, in the new fairy piece by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare,

"MR. JELLICOE AND THE FAIRY."

Mr. Jellicoe ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Policeman ..... MR. J. H. MILBURN
Sarah Dibin ..... MISS BERYL MERCER
Albert Edward Dibin ..... MASTER BERT CLERC
William Acres ..... MR. J. C. BUCKSTONE
The Fairy ..... MISS ELISE CRAVEN

The idea of the new fairy story is similar to Richard Ganthony's *A Message from Mars*, in which, it will be remembered, Charles Hawtrey, as Horace Parker, had to undergo the transformation from gentleman to tramp, a process that is now repeated in the case of Mr. Jellicoe. We are in Trafalgar-square, at the base of the Nelson column. To this stony refuge come the waifs and strays of the greatest city in the world, in all their squalid misery. Among them are Mrs. Dibin, a blind seller of bootlaces, who is led by her son, Albert Edward, a boy tramp, and a Mr. William Acres, who has done "time" for a crime of which he is innocent. The woman attributes her blindness and general feebleness to her work for an East End sweater, Mr. Jellicoe, who is also responsible for the man's conviction.

Mr. Jellicoe drives up in a real hansom, drawn by a real horse, and in his hunt for a shilling to pay the fare to Morley's Hotel he accidentally drops a sovereign or two. One of them is picked up by Acres. Recognising his old employer, Acres has an altercation with Jellicoe, who charges the boy with theft of one of the "quids." The good-hearted policeman will not take the charge, and Jellicoe goes into Morley's Hotel. Then, with the approach of morn, and to the strains of mysterious music, the column of Nelson descends, the figure of the great Admiral being accompanied by a fairy, who steps lightly to earth, and waves her wand over the prostrate figure of the boy waif intent on a book of fairy tales found in a dustbin at Highgate.

The radiant figure makes him overjoyed. He dances with her, and capers with happiness. Jellicoe is then brought bodily from his bedroom, and no sooner is he dumped in the square than he becomes a typical drink-sodden wretch. William Acres, his victim, on the contrary, is "togged out" in a fur coat and silk hat. The change of fortune does not stop here, for Jellicoe, caught in the very act of snatching Acres's watch, is given in charge, but his piteous cries for mercy are listened to, and he is allowed to go. When the fairy is quite satisfied that Jellicoe will continue in well-doing, she bids him a final farewell, is caught up by Nelson, and goes back with him to the top of the column.

Mr. Cyril Maude as Jellicoe turned tramp submitted an impersonation in every way as artistic as his Eccles, and though his opportunities are somewhat limited, owing to the necessities of time, he contrives to exploit his powers as a character-actor, and to completely enchain interest by a really clever sketch. Elise Craven is the fairy and dances in such a way that we may quote Florizel's praise of Perdita, and say "When you do dance, I wish you a wave o' th' sea, that you might ever do nothing but that." She is joined in her dances by Master Bert Clerc, a very promising youngster, who plays Albert Edward. Master Clerc, one can easily guess, is a pupil of his relative, Miss Elise Clerc, the ballet mistress of the Alhambra, and the instructress of *la petite* Craven. Miss Beryl Mercer plays quite conscientiously as Sarah Dibin; and Mr. J. C. Buckstone is most effective as William Acres. Mr. J. H. Milburn is an irreproachable member of the force.

The chief musical novelty of the bill is the Slaviansky Choir, founded by the late Mr. D. J. Slaviansky, who was the first to conceive the idea of collecting the old folk songs of the Slav people, and singing them in public, thereby introducing to society the real music of Russia, which, up to that time, had been entirely ignored. In short, Mr. Slaviansky did for the folk songs of his country precisely what Mr. Andreef has done, and is doing, for the native instrumental music of that country. Mr. Slaviansky himself was a singer of exceptional merit, the possessor of a fine tenor voice, and an able conductor. His musical talents have been fully inherited by his daughter, Mlle. Slaviansky, who continues to carry one his work, preserving all the old traditions. The chorus is composed of male and female voices, all of a high standard of excellence, and the singers are dressed in the rich national costume. Mlle. Slaviansky not only conducts the choir, but sings the incidental solos quite artistically. She obtains the finest shades of expression and a perfectly harmonious ensemble. On Monday the choir interlude opened with a rendering of a ballad of the eleventh century, about the celebrated Giant Nikitsch, which was followed by another ballad, "I hide my ring." A selection favoured with considerable applause was "Ei Uchnem," the song of the boatmen on the Volga, which was played many times by the Russian Balalaika orchestra during its stay at the Coliseum. There are some fine voices in the choir, one basso being especially remarkable.

Dickens interpretations are invariably popular at the Coliseum, and a most interesting pair of delineators of the characters of the great novelist appear in Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas. The pair win their chief triumph in their sketches of Dick Swiveller and the Marchioness, the scene between the two being followed by much interest. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, who have returned lately from America, should have no difficulty in increasing their already great popularity on this side. A comic turn that affords immense amusement, is furnished by Humpsti-Bumpsti, who have found the way to put a most amusing face on disaster. Early in the bill we have the pleasure of hearing Miss Minnie Mace, a dainty dancer, a most effective singer, and a great favourite. Olga, Helga, and Eli Hudson share the artistic triumph secured by the older lady in "The Angels' Serenade," by Braga; Brian astounds everyone by his feats of strength; there is real comicality in the methods of Conn and Conrad; and Holden's Manikins deservedly score a hit with their almost human acting and gesture play. We have seen nothing better indeed than the wonderful realisation of the Salome dance before a miniature Herod, and there is a most interesting melodramatic coon scene with a manikin pony, possessing a natural activity that is more than remarkable. A delightful crowd on the evening of our visit made a couple of special calls for the manipulators of this highly artistic show, and the youngsters in all parts of the house were evidently highly pleased. Russell and Held, Vanando, ventriloquist, the Jackson Family, a most versatile crowd, and the Bioscope all contribute variety to a most excellent bill.

MR. EDWIN C. JAZON'S pantomime company, with *Cinderella*, opened at the Blyth Theatre Royal on Monday, in the presence of a packed house. In the title-rôle Miss Dolly Doon, the possessor of a sweet voice, soon became a favourite, her singing and dancing eliciting loud applause. Miss Vera Mayne met with a hearty reception as Prince Charming. The Ugly Sisters were well represented by Messrs. Crosby and Walker; Miss Jennie Clare won much favour as Dandini; the Baron had in Mr. Will Penn a clever exponent; the Carlsons and the Musical Keiths are responsible for the incidental specialities. The production was excellently staged.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Many flattering letters continue to pour into headquarters anent the truly wonderful successes achieved by the cream of King Pantomime's favourites, not only with the "plums" of the Feldman basket, but with some of the less highly-appraised numbers. Significent, too, is the fact that many of the Boxing Night song-failures have since been eliminated from many pantomimes, both in London and the provinces, and Feldman "winners" substituted for these "bad starters."

Charming Miss Helene Mohr, who has been so eminently successful in Mr. Fred Little's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, at Leith, is taking her audiences by storm with her delightful rendering of Fred Godfrey and Will Letters's great song "Molly O'Morgan," and is nightly the recipient of many encores. In a recent letter she speaks in most glowingly-enthusiastic terms of her success with the tuneful tale of the Irish-Italian "girl with the organ."

Miss Christine Roy, writing from the Royalty Theatre, Chester, where she is performing in Mr. Peter Davey's pantomime this year, records the pleasing fact to Messrs. Feldman and Co. that their publication, "In a waltz, waltz," has been one of her most successful songs there, and next week, in addition to this number, she purposes introducing the ubiquitous "Somewhere" into the pantomime also. "Good wine needs no bush."

Mlle. Pauline Rivers, writing Feldman's from the Theatre Royal, Hanley, says: "Am still using in my scena ('In the merry winter time,' specially introduced into the pantomime) your two numbers, 'Sunbonnet Lady' and 'Come over the garden wall.' The former goes splendidly, while the latter is simply a walk-over. There was a hush, and then the most magnificent burst of enthusiastic applause it was possible to hear. Both these numbers are sung by the Sisters Gertie and Nellie Langley and the tiny tot Little Emmie." Letters like these speak for themselves.

Mr. Douglas Campbell, stage-manager of the Grand Theatre, Hull, pantomime, writes Mr. Bert Feldman: "Your songs are lifting the pantomime, 'Seaside,' 'I must go home to-night,' 'Molly O'Morgan,' and 'Somewhere' storming them." Thus does Hull reiterate the tale of success that all the other cities and towns are daily telling.

Miss Ella Retford, in a characteristic letter to Mr. Bert Feldman, from the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, ends up thusly: "I am pleased to let you know that 'Molly O'Morgan' and 'A girl up North' are both huge successes." Both these big Feldman winners are written and composed by Fred Godfrey, the former in collaboration with Mr. Will Letters, the latter with Mr. Fred D'Albert.

Mr. Gilbert Payne, whose successful pantomime, *House that Jack Built*, is at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, in a recent communication to Feldman and Co., says: "I am pleased to say your song 'Somewhere' is one of the hits of the pantomime. My Fairy Queen is singing it in a special scene, with the chorus thrown on screen from lantern. 'Seaside' also going well."

The Sisters Albert inform Messrs. Feldman and Co. that they have made a record hit at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, with Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's latest "gem" of melody and poesy, "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," for the rendering of which they get several encores nightly, and exactly the same thing happens at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, with exactly the same song, but, of course, a different singer, the principal girl, Miss Angela Hope, who is about to "try out" (as our American friends put it) Rogers and Neat's latest rage, "The pretty little girl from nowhere," published by the same firm.

No fewer than three separate artists, all engaged in Mr. Graham-Falcon's pantomime at the Aquarium, Great Yarmouth, have written Feldman's laudatory letters respecting their songs during the current week, to wit: Miss Lilian Drake, who declares that "Molly O'Morgan" is the hit of the pantomime, Mr. Albert Lawrence, who is scoring prodigiously with "Somewhere," and Mr. Jack Waller, who is featuring "I must go home to-night."

Miss Hettie Lee, the dashing principal boy of the *Sinbad* company visiting the New Theatre, Harrogate, this week, is simply greeted with thunders of applause at every performance for her renderings both of "Somewhere," by Chas. K. Harris, and "Do you miss me in the dear homeland?", by E. W. Rogers and John Neat. Both of these are Feldman publications, far above the average as meritorious compositions.

A very striking success is Messrs. Little and Darcy's pantomime at Dalston, and anyone liking to hear good songs well sung should not fail to visit that popular house. Miss Marie Reeve in "I must go home to-night," Miss May Otto in "Somewhere," and Miss Dora Harvey in both "Molly O'Morgan" and "I do like to be beside the seaside," all do full justice to themselves (no faint praise) in these four Feldman "winners."

That sterling performer Mr. Marcus Boyle, who is playing Baron in *The Babes of the Wood* company at the Grand Theatre, Halifax, writes Feldman's most enthusiastically as to the success he has won with his rendering of Billy Williams's great song "I must go home to-night," by William Hargreaves, in pantomime. In the comic line this song may safely be quoted as one of the most universally appreciated in the realm of pantomime this season, and the chorus already permeates the air of every town in which it has been sung. Perhaps it is the infectiousness of the song's own "air" which is to blame—or to be thanked—for this!

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your notice in Saturday's edition of *The Era* of the pantomime at the Kingston Theatre you say the scenery is by Mr. G. Millar, the resident scenic artist. I am the resident scenic artist, and have painted all the full sets, Mr. Millar having executed two front cloths.—Yours faithfully, A. G. Betts, Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, Jan. 3.

Percy Mayr produced last week at the Hippodrome, Shrewsbury, a new song specially "fitted" for him by Messrs. Mills and Bennett Scott, entitled "Modes à la Française," which he is anticipating will prove a winner on his forthcoming tour.

H. F. Greenfield, whose comic husband and wife duet, "Do you remember?—How can I forget?" is for the second year in succession one of the big hits of the Crystal Palace pantomime, has, again in conjunction with Edgar Bateman, completed a song entitled "—— And just then he fell out of bed," which details in humorous fashion the dreams on different occasions—whilst asleep on a terrible boarding-house bedstead—of a Frenchman, a chorus lady, a racing man, a Hebrew gentleman, a Scot, and a soppy masher, and what each was doing and saying in his or her vision at the crucial moment when a fall from the bed brought their momentary paradise to an abrupt conclusion. The song has been commissioned from America, but all rights for Great Britain have been retained. The foremost concert artists on this side are on the *qui-vive*, as it is rumoured that they only will have the opportunity of acquiring permissions to sing the number.

(*Continued on page 23.*)

"A SEASIDE HONEYMOON."

A Musical Play, in One Act, the Lyrics and Music by Mr. Bert Danson, Produced at the Hippodrome, Norwich, on Monday, Jan. 3.

Jim McGregor Brown.....Mr. Bert Danson
Maria Brown .....Miss B. Wellings
Fifi .....Miss Majorie English
P.C. Nosy Parker .....Mr. Shirley Lea
Kruger .....Mr. Tom Hearne
The Boy Scout .....Master Tommy Toms
Dick .....Mr. Johnnie Watts
Dolly .....Miss Lilian Fawn
Maud .....Miss Lydia Alexandra
Agnes .....Miss Gertrude Carr
Kitty .....Miss Nelly Somers

(from our own correspondent.)

The piece is full of life and action from beginning to end, and the music bright and catchy. The scene is laid on the shore of a popular watering-place, where McGregor Brown is expected with his newly-wedded third wife. Suddenly an aeroplane is precipitated to the ground, from among the wreck of which Brown emerges. Anxious inquiries are made for the wife, but she is nowhere to be seen, so Brown goes in search of her. Fifi now appears and explains to P.C. Nosy Parker that she had been recently married, and her husband had left her forlorn at the church door. The truant husband, however, returns, and he and his bride decide to have a dip in the sea, and retire to separate tents to don their bathing suits. Thus attired, Fifi sings a tuneful song, "Will any young man come and splash me?" to which a dance is added. After she has retired to her tent Mrs. Maria Brown, accompanied by her thirteen children, appears grief-stricken at the desertion of her husband P.C. Parker recognises Brown as the deserter, and arrests him for bigamy. The two wives both claim the husband, and, to settle the dispute, Brown acknowledges his allegiance to his lawfully wedded wife, and turns Fifi over to his friend Dick, an arrangement which apparently is satisfactory to all parties.

Mr. Bert Danson as Brown was the life of the piece, his witticisms arousing much laughter. Miss B. Wellings as Mrs. Brown deserves praise; Miss Marjorie English made a dainty Fifi, and her song and dance were well received; Mr. Shirley Lea as P.C. Nosy Parker both looked and played his part to advantage; Mr. Tom Hearne's antics as Kruger, the bulldog, were amusing, Johnnie Watts as Dick rendered material assistance, as did Master Tommy Toms, the boy scout; and "the four girls who want splashing" materially added to the effect of the piece. The dresses were very pretty

At the New Royal and Hippodrome, Bilston, the Swift Duo, knockabout cyclists, introduce some clever and amusing feats; Gulliver, with his talking and singing doll, wins hearty applause; the amusing sketch *The Registry Office*, by the Matt Wilkinson Trio, is also very successful. The chief pictures are The Workman's Revenge and The Escaped Lunatic.

MR. LEON VINT.

Mr. Leon Vint, the well-known proprietor of the Globe Choir organisations and sceneoramas, after a most successful run of fifteen years, is about to retire from the touring business, and take up his residence at Globe Villa, Exmouth, a handsome mansion, standing on its own grounds in one of the prettiest parts of Devonshire.

In conversation with our representative, Mr. Vint said it was not his intention to give up work entirely, but there were several financial interests with which he was connected apart from his Globe

MR. LEON VINT.

Choir and sceneorama which required his attention, and the one most important just now was his electric picture palaces.

Neath and Kettering were well established, but he had another six to open between now and September. "My palace at Barry Dock," he said, "will be ready first, I hope; then I am building a fine brick and stone structure at Llanelly. I have taken a long lease of the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, which I intend altering and redecorating, and the same with the Town Hall, Rugby. I bought the King's Hall, Exmouth, the other day, and also settled for a new picture palace at Bradford. This will be a big affair, and I intend when ready to name it 'The Welcome.' I hope also to start building a new palace at Neath to take the place of the present one. So, you see, I am not exactly retiring; in fact, I intend adding to my circuit of picture palaces wherever I can see a good opening. Mr. Leon Vint is comparatively a young man, being well on this side of forty.

"KING NOBBLER."

Farcical Sketch, Produced at the Surrey Theatre by Mr. Lew Lake, on Monday, Jan. 3.

Zacchari .....Mr. Harry Roberts
Umbrago .....Mr. Harry Lavers
Jerry .....Mr. Bob Morris
Jack Ambrose .....Mr. George Thurssy
Aby Isaacs .....Mr. Dave Bentley
Nobbler .....Mr. Lew Lake

"The perpetual pals" (vide programme) Nobbler and Jerry turned up amidst new surroundings on Monday night at the old Surrey Theatre. Our always-amusing burglar-convict-Cockney friends have invested in or acquired an aeroplane, and, in the company of Aby Isaacs, sail away to tropical climes and a cannibal island. In descending to mother earth once more the airship breaks from her moorings and escapes into the heavens. Whilst the trio are wondering what to do they are surrounded by savages, and both Mr. Bob Morris as Jerry and Mr. Lew Lake as Nobbler contrive to get an endless amount of fun out of this particular situation. To their great surprise the head man of the tribe welcomes them, and tells Nobbler that there is a prediction in their land that one day a stranger shall descend from the skies and shall rule over them. He, having seen the descent, welcomes Nobbler as King. The three comedians make the entry into the royal palace one long peal of laughter. Chiefs arrive from all parts with presents, and there is a dance by a number of black beauties. There is no regal dignity about King Nobbler, and, as a reward, he takes a dancer on each knee and distributes the others between Aby and Jerry. There is jealousy and treachery on the part of the cannibal astrologer, and a plot is hatched to dethrone King Nobbler. Our heroes get into a very tight corner, and their lives are almost on the point of being sacrificed when a party of bluejackets and marines arrive and the curtain descends on a hand-to-hand encounter between the men-o'-warsmen and the savages, and once more the inseparables are triumphant. *King Nobbler* is very laughable, very briskly played, and very well mounted, and got the heartiest of receptions. Messrs. Lake and Morris are in fine form just now, and they have a very staunch supporter in Mr. Dave Bentley as Aby Isaacs.

Nirlo's talking birds are creating quite a sensation on the Continent, where they are being booked far ahead by Continental directors, who are delighted with the novelty.

FELDMAN'S
Coming Craze.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

NO PRODUCTION COMPLETE WITHOUT THIS.

Write for Band Parts at once. Price Is.

A SURE ARTISTIC SUCCESS.

Artists singing our Songs are particularly requested to advise us, so that we can record their success in these columns.

REMEMBER, FELDMANS ONLY STAKE THEIR REPUTATION ON CERTAINTIES.

B. FELDMAN & Co.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

THE TIVOLI.

The New Year bill at the cosy house in the Strand has quite an international complexion, and the attractiveness of it is rightly acclaimed by large audiences. Mildred Deverez from Mexico and Amélie de L'Enclos from Paris, the former a dancer of dramatic gifts, who is seen in "The Vampire Dance," and the latter with a phenomenal upper register, may be quoted as instances of the cosmopolitan nature of the bill. Miss Deverez's appearance is associated with the return of Mr. Tom Terriss to London, and he adds largely to the significance of the lady's fine interpretation of the red-haired syren and her deadly purpose. Amélie de l'Enclos does not attempt vocal gymnastics in the way of runs or trills. She just does a crescendo to the highest notes above the stave of the treble clef, and holds them without difficulty. Her choice of numbers includes Godard's "Berceuse" and "The Last Rose of Summer," and the extraordinary notes vocalised with such ease are of good quality—not thin as are those of many *soprani leggieri* we have heard.

Miss Marie Lloyd, who had quite recovered from her indisposition on the night of our visit, finds a specially hearty welcome for her original comedy at a house that seems to be specially her own. Her magnetism is remarkable, and the Lloyd methods are employed with the admirable finesse that is the distinguishing mark of this real comedienne. We get great versatility, too, from the "one and only" in such numbers as "The Costers' Ball." "The lady from over the water" and "The next best thing" are other popular items from a répertoire that is invariably being freshened up with lyrics that throw on social domestic problems quite a piquant colouring.

Another prominent favourite in Mr. Joseph Wilson's list of stars is Mr. Tom Dunville, who can burlesque anything from Shakespeare downwards. Just now he is making a real success of his "Policeman" song. He is particularly fortunate in the choice of his répertoire, and though naturally revelling in extravagance and absurdity, there is always point in patter and lyrics, and the *vis comica* does the rest. Little Tich's return is another welcome event to the Tivolians. Opening with the number, "A risky thing to do," this bundle of fun follows on with a capital skit, "The Dentist," which is a real screamer, and a final success is scored in the now-famous skit of the ballet girl, in which Tich figures as a wreath-crowned fairy in voluminous skirts, and keeps everyone laughing.

Mr. Gus Elen contributes to the general enjoyment of his admirers at this house by his admirable comedy as a pessimist in "You've made a nice old mess of it," which is quite Elenic in character; and a comedian, George Formby, who hails from Lancashire, makes his mark by his quaint style in "My night out." Mr. Charles Whittle is successful in "All go down the Strand"; and Kurkamp, the singing conductor, has a good reception in "I've left my love in Dixey."

A tabloid version of *What Happened to Jones* raises shouts of laughter as presented by Mr. Lionel Rignold, whose admirable impersonation of Jones is consistently supported by Mr. Fred Dobell in the part of Ebenezer Goodly and by Miss Marie Daltra in the part of Alvina. *A Pierrot's Crime*, a tragi-comedy in dumb show, is from the pen of Max Maurey, the well-known French playwright, with music by Rudolphe Berger. Pierrot, after having disgusted his indulgent wife with his behaviour in his cups, becomes furious when she leaves him. He stabs with a table-knife the dressed dummy belonging to madame, and from the depths of remorse he rises to heights of happiness when, on his recovery from his tipsy nightmare, he finds himself being tended and soothed by the wife he accuses himself of having murdered. The eloquent gesture play of M. Thalès makes the trifle quite artistic and interesting; and Mlle. Massilia does all that is necessary for the part of the wife.

Miss Madge Temple returns after a short absence to this house, and renews her enviable popularity in the capital selection, "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," an aeroplane song, and in "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," the latter a very charmingly written chorus song, with which the singer is admirably suited. The lyrics are nicely scored, and the fair vocalist makes of the melody a most effective and artistic study in singing. Jack Marks is a smart dancer; Mr. Frank Harwood sings capitally; Miss Ella Shields makes herself popular; and King and Benson and Hanvarr and Lee are also on the bill. There are also pictures projected by Ruffell's Bioscope.

"THE GUN."

Dramatic Episode, in One Scene, by Percival H. T. Sykes, Produced at the South London Palace on Monday, Jan. 3.

Henri Duval .....Mr. Percy Murray
Dr. Louis Blanc .....Mr. Frank Elton
Master Henri Duval .....Master S. Sykes
Mme. Annette Duval .....Miss Jane Read

Pathos is provided in the new sketch which Mr. Percy Murray presented on Monday to a South London audience, by whom it was highly relished. The little piece is a domestic tragedy, carried out with poignant effect by its exponents. Mr. Murray has the part of a French workman, who idolises his little boy Henri. It is the lad's birthday, and among his presents is a gun given him by his equally doting mother. The father thinks he ought to practise the use of firearms so that he can teach his boy to shoot, and with that purpose loads the gun and fires at the door. Just at that moment the boy, who has been trying a flying machine in the garden, enters, and is struck by the bullet. The father, rendered crazy by the occurrence, lays the boy's inanimate form on a couch and refuses to allow anybody to touch him, until he is at length dragged away by a couple of gendarmes, who have been hastily summoned. The boy, however, is not mortally injured, and eventually revives; but the father has entirely lost his reason, and, after an affecting scene, falls dead. Mr. Murray draws a touching picture of the inconsolable parent, and his depiction of the demented father at the close is very impressive. Master S. Sykes makes a pretty boy, and acts intelligently. His voice reaches well over the footlights, but an effort should be made to correct an inclination to place emphasis on the wrong word. Mr. Frank Elton as a Doctor and Miss Jane Read as the young mother, play their parts acceptably.

The other items of Mr. William Payne's programme are well assorted. Mr. Harry First's humour as the Hebrew parent in *The Matrimonial Fee* is unforced and skilful, and is highly appreciated. He has admirable assistants in Mr. R. Salisbury and Miss Florence Hadley. Another sketch in which homely humour and sound sentiment are contained is supplied by Lee and Bentley; Mr. Ernest Shand keeps the audience continuously amused with his depiction of "The Agitator," and in his song "Send for me," his breezy style being very effective. Ruffell's Bioscope supplies a diverting series of pictures, and the programme is further strengthened by Cecil Curtis, variety artist; Henri Cazman, "the one-man music-hall," in entertainment, "Le Café Chantant"; Katie March, comedienne; The Rawsons (Maggie and Jack); and Jack Hamilton, comedian.

Miss Phyllis Dailey, who was originally engaged by Mr. Bernard Mervyn to play Lady Isabel, has been presenting the heavy leads in his sketches, and is now retained for his "Nick Carter" series, the first of which is due at Bow next Monday.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 22.*)

THE National Music Publishing Co., of 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C., can be truly said to possess more than the average share of pantomime successes this season. The hearty reception which continue to be given to "There' a girl in Berlin" has been an inducement to several managers to include it in their productions

"LENA SCHMIDT," another of the company's winners, grows more in favour at every performance, and without hesitation we may add that it will scarcely be possible to escape this melody wherever you may go, so fascinating is the refrain.

THE title of "You all want something to cuddle" is so manifest that "it is readily embraced" by all sections of the pantomime-going public. This swinging melody has vastly improved several productions to which it was only added after a week's performance had already been given. There is no doubt that it is really a winner all along the line.

As was to be anticipated, "You might shake hands" has likewise readily scored. Its tender appeal forms a marked contrast to the more vivacious numbers in the pantomimes, and by this means alone secures its full complement of applause.

"BADEN POWELL'S SCOUT," another of the National Music Publishing Company's, is set to an enspiriting march theme, which at once stirs the patriotism of all hearers in our tight little island, more especially the rising generation, with whom, of course, the subject of the song deals. It has made a big victory everywhere it has been engaged for pantomime.

MR. NEIL KENYON'S successful Scottish song, "Is that a fact?" with which he has made such a conspicuous hit at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, is now published by the National Publishing Company. Additional verses have been written, which permits the song being successfully rendered either in pantomime, concerts, or any place of entertainment.

ONCE again we may mention that if you are still desirous of further improving your pantomime you should secure some of the above-mentioned, permission for which will be readily granted.

PANTOMIME artists all over the kingdom continue to bombard the Star Music Co. with telegrams announcing the success of one or other of the firm's popular songs. An especially interesting item is the fact that artists finding certain songs not too successful are almost invariably replacing them with Star Company numbers, those most in demand being "I've been out with Charlie Brown," "Ship ahoy!" "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly," and "Sea! Sea! Sea!" This is very significant.

ARTISTS engaged in pantomime are advised to note that the Star Music Co. are preparing an exceptionally strong batch of songs for those who will be returning to the halls, and will welcome correspondence on the subject. Amongst the new songs will be found several by those experts, A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott.

MISS ADAH PAYNE, the famous soprano vocalist, late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company, is this week getting a perfect ovation at the New Palace, Durham, by her masterly interpretation of "To the end of the world with you," and with other songs from her extensive répertoire.

A PARODY.

Mr. Charles Coborn has sent us the following excellent verses, which should be read with special interest by the slackster, who, in spite of the implorings of secretary and other officials of the M.H.A.R.A., is too graceless to assist in the promoting of his own welfare:—

"A FOOL THERE WAS."
(*With apologies to Rudyard Kipling.*)

A fool there was and he made his prayer—
(Even as you and I)
To the Railway Co.'s to reduce his fare—
We call him the feller who didn't care,
For he never attempted to prepare—
(Even as you and I)

He knew that a list was prepared for him—
(Even as you and I)
Stuck up at the Agency, neat and trim,
For the small and the great and the fat and slim,
For the grumbler, as well as for Sunny Jim
(Even as you and I)

Oh, the time we waste and the money we waste,
And the work of our clerical band!
And all for a feller who doesn't care,
And we jolly well know that he never will care,
Nor try to understand.

A fool there was and he "chinned" at the bar
(Even as you and I)
Till Saturday came, and his joy fled far
When he found that the Rules would his chances mar,
And he lost the concession—and there you are!
(And so did you and I.)

But it isn't "the game," and it is a shame
That one of this favoured band
Won't take the simple trouble to try
And fill in his name as the days go by,
And will *not* understand.
(Weeps.)

CURTAIN, to slow music.

"A1 DEMONS."

THE SALAMBOS AS SLAVES OF THE LAMP.

Many a small boy and girl these holiday times have gasped and later on chattered incessantly on the wonders he and she have witnessed at the Drury Lane *Aladdin* pantomime. A tiny youth of the writer's acquaintance was asked the other evening what item in the pantomime he liked best.

"Oh," he replied, without the slightest hesitation, "those fire-eating fellows, of course. They are just A1 demons." The young gentleman meant the Salambos, and he should not have used the word fellow in the plural sense, because one of the "fellows" is a lady. But boys do not as a rule stop to consider a trifle like the letter s and the difference it might make. Their opinions, however, are usually honest ones, and that is why the writer sought Mr. Salambo out for a chat, for the many fine scenes he has in the Lane production call for attention from adults as well as youngsters.

Does he not as the Genii of the Lamp appear to the audience in a circle of flame? And when later Abanazar's assistant tries to get possession of the lamp, does not Salambo disappear in a flash of light from sight? Again, when Aladdin rubs his lamp on his sleeve, does not the faithful Genii again appear in a flame with glowing tongues of light streaming from his mouth, eyes, and fingers, and with one more flash, bigger than any that have gone before, does not Salambo change the old laundry into the banqueting hall of a fairy palace? All of which, remarkable as it may seem to a small boy, is equally wondrous to the grown up, and everybody is left wondering as to how it is done.

The Salambos appeared in the *Sleeping Beauty* at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, in 1897, and the previous year were at Brixton in *Cinderella*, duplicating that performance in Hull in 1898. Mr. Salambo possesses a wonderful map of the world,

[*Photo by Charles and Russell.*

THE SALAMBOS.

on which is marked the date of his visit to each city, town, and village, and return dates. An hour's study of this original document convinced the writer that there is scarcely any village of importance anywhere that the Salambos had not played.

"Yes," says Mr. Salambo, with just a touch of pride, "to-day we are playing in the first theatre in the world, and we—my wife and I—have also given fit-up shows in villages in the remotest and most savage parts of the earth."

Mr. Salambo confesses to being the son of a doctor, and as a boy he was apprenticed to a cabinet-maker. When he had saved a little money he became a fruit buyer in Los Angelos. Then came a hard luck period, and he became an engine driver on the Southern Pacific Railway—an engine driver, mark you, who studied chemistry and electricity between the signals and the stations. There were no accidents worth mentioning.

It is nearly four years since the Salambos were seen at the best entertainment places in Britain. In the meantime they have been on a world tour. They were responsible for the creation and building of "Dreamland," St. Kilda, Melbourne; also of "Wonderland City," Sydney. They have toured Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, China, Japan, and India with their own company, and during their travels they have met with many novel and unique experiences.

In India their fire-blowing act caused the Parsees to really worship them, for fire is the Parsees' god, and when they saw the Salambos toying with flame and exchanging volumes of fire with each other by merely blowing sheets of flame from the bare lips, they seemed to think they were their gods come to earth. As a consequence, they were followed from town to town, and were bowed and salaamed to whenever they were seen in the streets.

Mr. Salambo has a very fine and valuable collection of views that he has taken during his travels. While in Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand, Mr. Salambo, together with his wife and a party were boating on the Avon, a picturesque little river that runs through the city. They had rowed up the river some three or four miles, and owing to the swift down current were nearly exhausted in attempting to land on the river bank. Mrs. Salambo made a grab for the bank, and, in doing so, her weight pushed the boat away from the shore. The craft capsized, precipitating the lot into the water. Mrs. Salambo, in her frantic endeavour to avoid being thrown into the water, grabbed again at the grass, and her fingers went through the body of a dead cat that lay on the bank. The camera Mr. Salambo had made such good use of was at the bottom of the river. Coats, hats, and other belongings went floating down stream, and the party had to walk back to town along the river bank. After being laughed at by half of Christchurch they arrived at the theatre in time to get on.

In Colombo they were followed about by hordes of beggars—young men, old men, small boys, young women, old women, and little girls—who all claimed relationship in the only few words of English they could speak. Mrs. Salambo put up a joke on her husband there. She got a young woman who had a youngster on her back to come up to Mr. Salambo and demand a kiss. Now, the women here all more or less chew some sort of a root that causes the teeth to turn red, and this particular girl had the reddest teeth of all. She climbed into the Salambos' carriage and insisted on the kiss from Mr. Salambo that his wife had promised her she could have. "The sight and experience was funny—after it was all over," admits Mr. Salambo, "but it was rather awkward for me at the time. But I escaped the onslaught by handing the girl a dollar."

When on board the Orient ss. Oroya, while crossing the great Australian Bight, very bad weather was experienced—so bad, in fact, that a sailor was washed off the hurricane deck on to the main deck, a 60-ton coil of wire rope was taken from one deck to the other by the waves, and the vegetable lockers were broken open and vegetables covered the decks of the whole ship. As they lay in their bunks in their state-room the Salambos admit that they were tumbled about to an alarming degree, and neither of them spoke to the other, thinking in each case that the other might be asleep. As it happened they were both wide-awake. The first indication Mrs. Salambo had was when Mr. Salambo blurted out, undoubtedly talking to himself: "Rocked in the cradle of the deep—be blowed!"

The Salambos have crossed the Andes Mountains from Buenos Ayres to Valparaiso, having done the journey on the backs of little mountain climbing donkeys. The whole company travelled with them. Mr. Salambo, on the first occasion he did this journey, carried a stage frame weighing nearly a ton over mountain passes. When he got to Valparaiso he discovered that he could throw the picture of a frame by means of the bioscope on to a cut cloth and get the same effect. "I thought things," he admits.

Once Mr. Salambo broke his journey at Trinidad. He bought out the Spanish proprietors in the market place, and erected a stage there. Everybody brought their own seats, and the Genii of the Lamp went away with a big basketful of money. He has never played to such generous patrons before or since.

But the Salambos have a fund of anecdote and adventure that only the space of a volume could do justice to. They intend to publish their experiences one of these days, and when they do the world will get some interesting reading.

Mr. Salambo's Christmas card this year took a novel and original shape. It represented the proscenium of Drury Lane Theatre. By an ingenious arrangement at the back the drop curtain automatically raises itself—disclosing the wizard and his charming wife in the Palace scene, in which they work their fiery wonders at our National Theatre.

As the small boy remarked: "They are A1 demons," and nobody should miss seeing the Salambos and the many wonderful things they accomplish.

"SEXTON BLAKE IN AMERICA."

A Detective Dramette, in Four Scenes, by C. D. Carlile, Produced at the Bedford, on Monday, Jan. 3, 1910.

Sexton Blake ..... MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE
Tinker ..... MR. LEE GILBERT
Risque Lincoln ..... MR. C. A. CARLILE
Kit Carson ..... MR. JAMES DUNCAN
Yellow Jack ..... MR. J. LANGFORD
Tess ..... MISS CARLOTTA DE YONSON

Miss Carlotta De Yonson is producing another of her Sexton Blake sketches at the Bedford this week, and the latest scored an immediate success. In this sketch Sexton Blake is in America, and we find that the Bank has been robbed by a notorious gang—the Night Hawks. Kit Carson is the Chief of Police of his district, and has failed to capture the thieves. Sexton Blake offers his services, and tracks the gang down to their den at Risque Lincoln's drinking saloon. Here, disguised as a clergyman—and a fighting parson too, as he proves—he discovers who the gang really are, and also of their plan to lure Carson and his men to the hut in the mountains, and blow them up. Blake outwits them, and in the final scene in the hut, we get some exciting moments, and are shown how Sexton Blake, aided by his young assistant, Tinker, captures the whole gang. It is a thrilling episode, and capitally played by Mr. Douglas Carlile, who repeats his finished impersonation of Blake, and plays with his accustomed coolness and ease which is always so telling. Tinker is capitally played by Mr. Lee Gilbert; and Mr. C. A. Carlile is very dramatic as Risque Lincoln. Messrs. Duncan and Langford both gave excellent accounts of themselves as Kit Carson and Yellow Jack; while Miss Carlotta De Yonson contents herself with the small part of Tess, Lincoln's daughter, who is in love with Carson, and lends material aid to Sexton Blake. However, Miss De Yonson by her admirable handling of the character makes it stand out prominently, and she is to be congratulated on the very pronounced success of her latest production.

MR. HARRY LUCK has in study a new song, by Chas. Collins and himself, entitled "The Quaint Old Fellow with the Quaint Old Style"; also another, by Harry Wincott, "Moving the Happy Little Home."

THE
STAR MUSIC Co.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS.

*SHIP AHOY!
*CHARLIE BROWN.
*I CAN PICTURE POLLY (HANGING UP THE HOLLY.)
I CAN'T REACH THAT TOP NOTE.
I'LL SAW HIS SEE-SAW DOWN,
*SEA, SEA, SEA.
WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, GIRLS.
I WANT MR. SCHNEIDER.
*MR. MAN IN THE MOON.
*I'LL LET THE WORLD GO BY,

BAND PARTS 1/. Per Set. State Theatre and Part when writing for copies.

19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Wires, SONGONIA, LONDON. Phone, 8445 GERRARD.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Harry Tich	£1 4 0
Hymack	1 1 0
Gus Elen	1 1 0
Charles Weldon	1 1 0
Harry Fragson	1 0 0
Mr. Courtice Pounds	1 0 0
E.	0 10 0
Pert and Leonard	0 2 6

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 6s.

The Perriers	2	B. Godman	1
For Autograph	2	B. B. Robinson	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Mr Shannock	1
Burt Shephard	1	Mr. Thompson	1
Ting and Mile	1	Joe Winterschladen	1
Terry Sisters	1	G. H. Wallis	1
J. H. Farr	1	A. N.	1
H. B. Farland	1	J. Todd	1
Maxey and Pete	1	Admirer of Vesta	1
Wm. Colin Wara..	1	A Friend	1
Boots	1	Success	1
G. D. Clarke	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £4 10s. 6d.

Per Miss Marie Lloyd	40	Neta Davies	1
Walter de Frece	20	H. Taft	1
Horace White	3	E. Recco	1
Lady Moss	2½	E. Recco, jun.	1
Sir Edward Moss	2½	T. A. Cook	1
Sisters Marlow	2½	A. Askew	1
Sandsmith	2	Walter de Frece, jun.	1
Yarker	1	J. Weis	1
A Friend	1	J. H. E. Mugge	1
Welsh Girl	1	Thomas Cavilhill	1
Adey Spencer	1	Mrs. E. Recco	1
Daisy Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Violet Keele	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £7 11s. 6d.

R Thornton	20	Mr. Crossley	1
Mrs. R. Thornton	10	Mr. Depledge	1
Mr. Roberts	10	Dr. Irvin	1
T. and M. Hopkins..	10	Mr. Hodgson	1
Mr. Randall	5	Evelyn Black	1
Mr. Messulam	2½	John Lewis	1
Mr. Kenny	2½	W. P. Wells	1
Alace Maple	2½	T. W. G. Gelling	1
Royal Diamonds	2½	T. Gay	1
L. S.	2½	W H. Behn	1
"Marky"	2½	W. H. Claphan	1
A. F. Buck	2½	J. R. Bell	1
Mr. Wilkinson	2½	J. Robinson	1
Mrs. Black	2½	J. H. Kemp	1
Mr. Jennings	2	M. A. Thornton	1
Mr. Saxby	2	J. A. Dryden	1
Mrs. Brown Potter		Mrs. F Bolam	1
G. A. Taverner	2	Jack Pellow	1
B. Dillon	2	Austin Devereux	1
S. Smith	2	R. Wrigglesworth	1
C Triggs	2	J. G.	1
H. Stokes	2	Mr Taylor	1
Mr. Kullman	2	Hall, sen.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Hall, jun.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Mr. Dougall	1
H. Hargreaves	1	Mr. Bolton	1
Mr. McNab	1	Mr. McClay	1
Mr. Love	1	Mr. Coddington	1
A Sinner	1	Mr. Walter Griggs	1
V. Kerr	1	H. G. Jenner	1
Mr. Brashaw	1	H. Griggs	1
Mr. J. Haigh	1	John Charnley	1
Mr. Dunville	1	Mr. Jeffries	1
Nellie Lees	1	John Barrington	1
F. Moore	1	Mr. Hymans	1
Mr. Habbijam	1	Walter Blake	1
Mr. Wilkinson	1	Tom Corns	1
Mr. Higgs	1	W. Sebary	1
Mr. Plant	1	R. Standring	1
Mr. Smithers	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 13s.

Leo Fritz	4	Mrs. Cash	1
Harry M. Vernon	2	Harry Taft	1
Bert Howell	2	Rosie Lloyd	1
Morny Cash	2	Herbert Darnley	1
Walter Bentley	1	Ted Marris	1
F. A. K. Hounsell	1	Sam Mayo	1
J. Amery Parkes	1	H. Phillips	1
Ramsey	1	W. Russell	1
Sam Hart	1	S. C. May	1
Athas	1	J. G. R.	1
Chris Horn	1	G. W. Gerald	1
Jack A. Frece	1	David Hart	1
Tom Pacey	1	Gus Elen	1
A. F. P.	1		

Collected by Atroy, £1 2s.

Atroy	10	Will Onda	1
Violi	10	George Prince	1

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Berry Hope, £1 5s.

P. C. B. Webster	1	Billy Young	1
G. H. Buck	1	N. Leipzig	1
H. Holland	1	Alf. Braham	1
The Golden Lion, Edmonton	1	Jack French	1
Roebuck, Tottenham	1	W. Noegdud	1
Roebuck, High-road, Lower Tottenham..	1	Mr. Hall	1
F J. Golding	1	Mr. Rose	1
Park H., Tottenham	1	J. McDonald	1
Miss Flood	1	L. Levy	1
Miss Penn	1	Angel Jacobs	1
Alec Israel	1	Marie Reeve	1
Hector Munro	1	Bull and Pump	1
		Dover Castle	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by May and Ted Hopkins, £1 10s.

Lamberti	2	Hugh Bayly	1
C. T. Aldrich	2	The Kramers	1
Grotesques	2	Dorothy Doria	1
Vere Smith	2	J. A. Watts	1
J. L.	1	Doris Lind	1
Little Georgie	1	Elsie English	1
Big Billie	1	T. A. Cook	1
R. T.	2	Barrington	1
Jack frae Glesca..	1	G. Leno	1
Annie Laurie	1	Doc Campbell	1
E. H. Brown	1	W. H. Barber	1
Daly and Lambert..	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Hilliard	1		

Collected by Harry Conlin, £2 5s.

Rosie Coleman	5	Jack Stephens	1
Harry Conlin	5	Marie Walker	1
Norman-Leonard Trio	3	Effects	1
M. C. Geraldo	2½	Frank Parker	1
Ray Wallace	2½	Friend	1
Chanti	2½	H. E. Fairbanks	1
Sisters Geretti	2	Rosie Loader	1
Cornalla and Eddie	2	George Rushe	1
Jack Sandiford	2	Squire Day	1
James Cuddihee	2	Percy Johnson	1
Baby Rosie Conlin..	1½	Argo	1
Bert Harrow	1	H. P. Milner	1
Tom Butler	1	Gus Elen	1
Mr. Schutz	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 12s.

Ted and May Hopkins	5	Sergt. Brennan	1
Jackson Family	4	Madge Osmond	1
Royal Diamonds	2	Ben Albert	1
C. Hayden Coffin	1	Leo Stormont	1
Master Harry Clark	1	Jewel St. Leger	1
Maxmillian Trio	1	Will Probyn	1
Ted Curtis	1	Dan Davies	1
Damerell & Ratland	1	Arthur Lawrence	1
Achmed Ibrahim	1	J. D. MacLean	1
Rosie Archer	1	Harry Burdette	1
Mendel	1	Friend	1
Alf. Meers	1	Gus Elen	1
Nap	1		

Collected by Vivian Evans, Wolverhampton, £1 3s.

Billy Williams	1	Rupert Woolley	1
Mark Stone	1	T. Jones	1
The Orchids	1	John Henry Wright	1
W. H. H.	1	Isaac Jones	1
Beatrice Allen	1	Kurkamp	1
Witty Walton	1	Martin Henry	1
George H. Jones	1	F. Fuidge	1
E. B.	1	Trixo	1
J. W. Somerville	1	Sisters Eaton	1
Iky Peck	1	H. J. Haddock	1
Percy Nevill	1	Gus Elen	1
John Day	1		

Collected by Beresford Hope, £1 8s. 6d.

P. The Eagle	2	Schmidt	1
J. F. Carr	2	Goldstein	1
M. Mufti, The Eagle, Tottenham	1	Maizypop	1
Ted Cribb (Crib and Cribb	1	Anon	1
A. E. Frost	1	Elsie Athas	1
M. C. Shrus	1	Jack Winepress	1
W. Crook	1	Harry Bannister	1
W. Hill	1	Jack Jull	1
J G. S.	1	Gus Elen	1
B. R., Dover Castle	1	Poor Boy	1
Old Sport	1	Messum	1
Dicky Bird	1	Gladys Miller	1
Isaacstein	1	The Professor	1
		Joe	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Seener and Fridkins, £1 6s.

Seener and Fridkins	2	XYU	1
E. H. Granville	1	H. Bee	1
J. M. Fortune	1	Vive La Russe	1
Gilbert Girard	1	G. H. W.	1
Sideslip	1	E. Leopold	1
Geo. Leyton	1	Maud Gill	1
Tom Stuart	1	Malcolm Scott	1
F. L. G.	1	Leo Leon	1
Henry Coutts	1	Hyde and Cody	1
T. Peschkoff	1	Gus Garrick	1
J. S.	1	Sadie	1
E S. Jenkins	1	Gus Elen	1
H. Altnan	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver, £1 4s.

Wm. Matthews	1	Chas. Senior	1
J. Robinson	1	Norman Gray	1
Mundill and Maude	1	L. Senior	1
J. A. Whitehouse	1	R. Outram	1
Edmund Caselli	1	Denby and Dent	1
Eva Dunville	1	Welda and Wynne	1
Arthur Lauri	1	The Lindos	1
Lauria Lauri	1	Will Harris	1
Benj. Pattison	1	Florrie Delamore	1
H. Renouf	1	Mlle. Henglear	1
Elaine Grant	1	Lucardo Bros.	1
Geo. Gulliver	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Chandos and Constable, £1 6s.

C. Carlile	2	Ernie Daunton	1
Ivy Chandos	1	Bertha Evelyn	1
Fred H. Constable	1	Carlotta de Yonson	1
Sam Lavelle	1	C. N. Whittle	1
Jack Lavelle	1	Lee Gilbert	1
Bert Rayburn	1	J. H. Lowe	1
May Clarke	1	James Duncan	1
Alice Tremayne	1	G. Douglas Carlile	1
Theresa Moore	1	Mina Greene	1
Marie Knill	1	Gus Elen	1
Alma O'Neil	1	Chas. Hamilton	½
M. C. Berg	1	Ted Hamilton	½
Jim Zanora	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, £1 5s.

Bert Welda	1	Ally Benson	1
Dorothy Welda	1	Alice Benson	1
Baby Welda	1	Winnie Benson	1
Reg Bolton	1	Musical Silvo	1
Sam Laurence	1	Violet Nunn	1
Harry Simms	1	Leipzig	1
Fred Cadwall	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Gustis Laurence	1	Maudie Goodman	1
Boston Twins	1	P. Corrix	1
Cyril Dane	1	Leipzig	1
Walter Aubrey	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Nap	1	Gus Elen	1
Admiral Togo	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 6s.

Rowlands and Ford.	2	G. W. Anson	1
Jack Pleasants	1	A. H. McKay	1
The Tame Author	1	G. A. Pence	1
W. Mowbray Harle..	1	The Duke	1
R. Brantz	1	Walter Curtis	1
Will Emson	1	Ferguson and Mack.	1
Bell	1	B. Comerford	1
J. H. Walker	1	Louis Kerno	1
M. Cressall	1	Gena Manon	1
Queenie du Val	1	Albert Jentor	1
Albert Ward	1	F. Melville	1
Uncle	1	Gus Elen	1
Aunt	1		

Collected by Hannaway Bros., £1 10s.

Bros. Hannaway	2	J. Cullen	1
Eli Hudson	2	Percy Currie	1
Bowman and Morton	2	Tom Wild	1
Boris Fridkin	1	Martialo	1
Elias B. Seener	1	Maudie Ford	1
Krakes	1	The Gilbey Sisters	1
Madeline Rossiter	1	Billy West	1
Sisters Edwardes	1	Bert Williams	1
Venturini	1	George West	1
Victor Courtenay	1	Captain Ellis	1
Jack Hayton	1	Phil Bransby	1
Freddie French	1	Zanonis	1
Louis Kerno	1	Gus Elen	1
Albert Brady	1		

Collected by Livesey and Rosebery. £1 5s.

Well Wisher	1	Villion Dandy	1
Fred Sinclair	1	Carl Lynn	1
Harry Elliston	1	Master Syd May	1
George Abel	1	Mr. Charles	1
Albert Bushell	1	Mr. Russell	1
Ted E. Box	1	The Heroine	1
Radena Dey	1	The Hero	1
Tom Shaw	1	The Villain	1
W. Vokes	1	Little Willie	1
W. Armstrong	1	The Would-be Actors	1
Harry Burns	1	Livesey & Rosebery	1
Arthur Aiston	1	Gus Elen	1
W. Villion	1		

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	J. Cummings	1
Jimmy Shields	1	W. F. Frame	1
Oswald and Locke	1	Master Sydney May	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Harry Burdette	1
The Rosses	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
James McKimm	1	Wilfred Forster	1
W. Millard	1	Franklin Dyall	1
Wylie Watson	1	Margaret Holland	1
E. D. Hess	1	The Adeles	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Danas	1
Harry Bailey	1	Fred Elton	1
W. Cummings	1	Lamberti	1

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
		Elsie Roby	1
Harry Ford	1	Andy McLeod	1
Will H. Fox	1	Lamberti	1
Mrs. Harry Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Fred Dean	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dandy George	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Chris. Richards	1	Cornalla and Eddie	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Alfred Artois	1
Will Lester	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Berry Hope, £1 11s. 6d.

Only a few	2½	H. S.	1
Horris Hope	2	Marguerite Ismay	1
Nell Seaton	2	Elsie Hulbert	1
Monti	2	F. Bernard	1
B. C. Titch	2	Nell Lepard	1
Alf. Cull	2	D. Graham	1
John Webb	1	Will Crusha	1
Jimmy Fearless	1	Ted Rollings	1
Eva Silverston	1	E. Alexander	1
Mike Hart	1	Alexander	1
Albert Rodd	1	Pete	1
T. G. Richards	1	Gus Elen	1
Billy Young	1		

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton	1	Alma Shelley	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley	1
J. Cooke Beresford	1	Gus Elen	1

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE NEW CINEMATOGRAPH LAW.

TRADE DISCUSSION AT THE HOLBORN RESTAURANT.

REV. T. HORNE'S VIGOROUS SPEECH.

A well-attended meeting of the newly-formed Cinematograph Defence Society was held on Wednesday afternoon last at the Holborn Restaurant. The main object of the meeting was to discuss what action, if any, proprietors, manufacturers, and showmen should take in respect of "the uncalled for action of the London County Council in shutting up Sunday cinematograph shows."

Mr. E. H. Bishop, of Messrs. Tylers, was in the chair, and among those present were F. R. Griffiths (New Bioscope Trading Co.), W. Jury (Jury's Imperial Pictures), W. H. Broughton (representing a company with four halls), the Rev. Thomas Horne (chaplain to the Showmen's Guild), J. Rosenthal (of Rosie Films), Andy Wright (of Films, Ltd.), G. W. Grant (managing-director of Biograph Theatres, Ltd.), J. Williamson, J. J. Newbould, G. H. Smith, J. Rosenthal, J. W. Smith, L. Landmann, G. H. Cricks, Marquis Serra, P. E. Stow, and R. Collier.

The Resolution.

The first resolution, moved by Mr. W. H. Broughton, was as follows:—

"That this mass meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors of the United Kingdom, whilst welcoming the new Cinematograph Act for the further safety of the public, protests against certain regulations as drawn up by the Home Secretary as being unworkable, and against the introduction by certain licensing authorities of conditions not intended by the Act or mentioned therein, especially with regard to Sunday opening."

The speaker said few people had an intimate knowledge of the Act. His experience was that plenty of people had not read it at all. For his part he was convinced that the people responsible for the drawing up of the L.C.C.'s new regulations knew practically nothing about the cinematograph business. Mr. Broughton severely criticised the drastic action of the Council which makes it imperative that the operating chamber shall be placed outside the building or the auditorium of permanent shows. He contended that they should not be left to the mercy of local busybodies. It stultified their efforts, and prevented money being spent in new enterprises. They were now placed in a position to be harassed by local authorities. The regulation restricting the electric pressure to 110 volts would entail ninety per cent. of showmen having to lay down motor generators to reduce their current. He thought it would be very inconvenient to have the cables taken as a separate circuit from the source of supply, and he could not see how it affected the safety of the public. How the size of a spool box affected the public safety he also failed to see, and satirised the proposed restriction of the spool to 12in. He could not understand this regulation. On the other hand, where only one film is used the spool box could be 14in. The regulation requiring a special attendant to watch over the sand bucket was equally absurd, especially if it was outside the operating chamber. It was not right for exhibitors to be in the hands of any constable who could walk in and demand to see the licence, but a special official should be appointed. The London County Council had bands in the parks on Sunday and took the money for programmes and seats, and also from forty to fifty music halls that were opened every Sunday. What was good for them should be good for such an innocent recreation for the people as a cinematograph show. The whole industry should say "We abide by the Act, but refuse to be dictated to by any Councils going outside that Act in any shape or form."

A Vital Trade Matter.

Mr. J. J. Newbould, of the London Cinematograph Theatres and the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, in seconding the resolution, said he entirely agreed that the L.C.C. had gone outside the Act. He strongly supported the formation of a diplomatic committee to approach the Home Secretary and the L.C.C. on the matter, so vital to them all, and especially as regards the section dealing with Sunday closing. He knew a Bishop and many of the clergy regarded the picture show as an instructive entertainment for the people. Coming to theatres took the people off the streets, and from the public houses. For that reason alone coming to theatres should be encouraged. He suggested that everyone interested should subscribe to the funds, and that counsel's opinion be taken as to their position. *The Era* had done a great deal for cinematograph showmen in the past, and had helped them to maintain an independent position with the authorities. That journal was prepared in the future to maintain the rights of cinematograph proprietors, and to support to the greatest extent in its power whatever action the committee might decide to take.

Mr. Ogden Smith advocated that immediate action should be taken, and proposed the second resolution:

"That a Cinematograph Defence League, composed of cinematograph exhibitors and others interested in the cinematograph industry, be and is hereby formed for the mutual protection of the cinematograph exhibitors against the arbitrary interpretation of the Cinematograph Act."

The Rev. T. Horne was not officially invited to the Holborn Restaurant meeting, but he was present—extremely late, unfortunately—and was not able, owing to pressure of work, to stay to the end. He saw enough of the earnest purpose of the vast gathering to convince him that there was need for him (busy as he is just now) to lend a helping hand.

So great was the stern resolve to get to work at once that resolutions were passed without amendments where wise and careful redrafting would have been better for the utimate success of the movement. For example, Resolution 1 conveys a wrong impression, utterly at variance with the best thought of the meeting. We refer to the part of the resolution we have marked in italics:

"That this mass meeting of the cinematograph exhibitors of the United Kingdom, whilst welcoming the new Cinematograph Act for the further safety of the public, *protests against the regulations drawn up by the Home Secretary as being unworkable*, and against the introduction by certain licensing authorities of conditions not intended by the Act or mentioned therein, especially with regard to Sunday opening."

Hot blood will run riot at times—and better enthusiasm running over than hesitation and lukewarmness. It is the enthusiasts that give life to every forward movement. Having regard to the tactical mistake of censuring the Home Office, at the outset Mr. Horne did not support the resolution. The real culprits are the licensing authorities, straining their local powers and lending to the regulations their own views.

As a stranger at the meeting, Mr. Horne saw the uselessness of protest under the excitement of the moment. He was, however, in fullest sympathy with the real object of the framers of the motion, and took the will for the deed.

The Rev. T. Horne's Fine Speech.

At the request of the secretary of the meeting, the Rev. T. Horne supported the second resolution in a speech that was punctuated by considerable applause. The rev. gentleman warmly endorsed the resolution. It was high time, he averred, that cinematograph exhibitors of all grades combined for the protection of their interests and for the vindication of their work as the instructors, as the amusement providers of the people. He claimed for himself considerable experience in one great branch of the business—the showmen exhibitors—who travelled the fairs of the country. As well as being the Guild Chaplain he was the official representative in the Parliamentary work of the organised showmen of the Empire. He emphasised the regret that previous speakers had expressed that concerted action was not taken earlier. *The Era*, in articles from his pen, had, week by week, sent warning messages to the whole body of cinematograph exhibitors and traders. Only the showmen, through their organisation, had taken Parliamentary action to modify the Bill when before the Legislature. He, and those identified with the show business, had received every possible courtesy and consideration from the Home Office. The fullest possible attention had been paid to them, and he assured the meeting that the Home Secretary would deal justly with every genuine grievance brought properly before the Home Office. He asked them to act with such care as not to prejudice their cause with the general public. They must carry public opinion with them at every step of their onward movement.

He gave them one important piece of information—the one valuable contribution he possessed. In intercourse with the Home Office the question of Sunday shows was mentioned. He was then told *that the Home Secretary did not intend to make his Bill a Sunday-closing Bill.* He begged his hearers to remember that Corporations have large powers of option and discretion under the various Local Government Acts.

It is the manifest intention of local government legislation that this should be so. Their chief work must be to convince the local authorities that the cinematograph exhibition was the most powerful and the most successful counter-attraction to the gin palace and to the public-house.

Their League would have to go slow and carry public opinion with them. Above all, they must not, in their eagerness to get redress, forget that public opinion was based on religion. Their Sunday exhibition must be worthy of the occasion. They must instruct as well as interest and amuse. He warned them against allying their League with those who were waging war against proper Sunday observance, the forces alien to the sober christian thought and the progressive elements in the empire.

As a clergyman of the National Church, he ventured to warn them against the dangers he had specifically referred to. Above all, he urged the League to be ever forwarding all good efforts, to instruct as well as to interest the people, to be whose servants in these high endeavours should be their earnest purpose.

The Guild Chaplain was obliged to leave before the meeting terminated. His speech was highly appreciated, and at the request of the promoters of the movement, he consented to join the Executive Committee. Mr. Horne has further written on the subject as follows: "Arising out of the action of the London County Council and some provincial corporations in administrating the new Act, great alarm at last fills the minds of cinematograph exhibitors. Acting with definite information, specially ours, we tried to arouse the cinematograph industry to a sense of the impending danger. When the act was under discussion in both houses of Parliament, warnings were sent from *The Era* to all the interests threatened by the Act, in ample time for strong action to be taken. We were assured that the Theatre and Music-Halls Committee of the L.C.C. were in perfect accord with the trade interests, and that all was well as regarded permanent shows. We are amazed to find that the assurances have not been borne out by the later facts of the case. The executive officials of the Guild were in constant touch with Mr. Gladstone through the Home Office officials, and the Act as regards movable structures, tents, and booths, is full proof of the hard work done by the Guild. In Section C of Clause 7 the important words: '*subject to such regulations*,' were not in the Bill as amended by the Commons. The determined action of the Guild procured the acceptance of these extremely important qualifying words. The Guild officials also obtained the promise, faithfully kept, that a forward copy of the draft regulations should be submitted them for consideration and observation before they were issued. When the Guild Chaplain received the draft copy he at once brought the President of the Guild (Mr. P. Collins) and the Acting Vice-President (Mr. George Green) to town. These experts attended with Mr. Horne at the Home Office. The Home Office officials quite readily and frankly heard the showmen's objections to certain of the regulations that appeared to bear hardly on their business. The results, as seen in the regulations, although not all that they sought, show a real desire on the part of the Home Secretary to understand and to make all reasonable allowances for travelling shows.

The Advantage of Being Ready.

"The showmen were ready. Their organisation was already in touch with the Home Office on various other matters, and independent of that the showmen have friends in both Houses of Parliament, ready to act for them."

It was ultimately decided to take counsel's opinion as to whether the L.C.C. and other bodies were legally entitled to restrict the Sunday opening of shows under the Act. The members of the Society are to be informed as to what course counsel advises. In the event of the licensing authority bringing actions against their members, the Society will defend them in such actions. The subscription is £5, of which £2 is payable at once and the £3 remaining will continue in abeyance, to be called up if needed. We are informed that a decision was arrived at to open all shows next Sunday. By this means a test case will be obtained, and the trade will then know once and for all its real position.

The following gentlemen will constitute the committee: Rev. Thos. Horne, Messrs. Ralph Pringle, Onda, Sydney Bacon, T. Whiteley, Horace Sedger, E. Laurilard, Ruffel, Matt. Raymond, F. R. Griffiths, M. A. Pyke, Walter Jeffs, A. Andrews, Leivers, Park, A. Wright, Jamieson, S. Carter, Shanley, W. H. Broughton, G. W. Grant, F. Weisker, T. R. Grant, W. M. Borrodaile, Deacon, F. Stebbings, W. Jury, Geo. Edwards, J. D. Walker, H. T. Brickwell, Ogden Smith, R. T. Jupp, Erskine, Somerall, Hayforth Smith, T. P. Alton, C. W. Lovesy, J. Rosenthal, J. J. Newbould, H. Erman, Henderson, P. M. Beck, B. Everitt, J. Robart, F. Prentice, A. Burgoyne, Savage, and Halliman.

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

He must understand that his show is under a special Act of Parliament, now part and parcel of the law of the United Kingdom—England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales; that wherever his show was built up on Jan. 1, 1910, that was, for the purposes of the law, his county and place of abode. If he understood the Cinematograph Act clearly, he has already made an application to the licensing authority for a licence.

Who is the Licensing Authority?

The Cinematograph Act, in Clause 2, fixes the County Council as the licensing authority. The showman seeking a licence must apply, in the first instance, to the Clerk to the Council of the county wherein his show is built and ready for inspection.

What the Showman must do to Obtain His Licence.

He must try and get a clear grip of all that the Cinematograph Act requires him to do. This may best be done by studying the Act itself, and with it the all-important regulations that the Act enforces. Get

1. The Act,
2. The Regulations,
3. The Explanation

from *The Era* offices, post free, for 4d. For the good of all cinematograph show proprietors using movable structures *The Era* publisher will send copies of the three pamphlets on receipt of 4d. to any address.

The Operator's Box.

The first and great essential is to satisfy the licensing authority that the operator's box fulfils the conditions set out in the regulations. It is evident that the law demands, *in the interest of public safety*, the most constant care and the most perfect appliances, with regard to the box or the enclosure. Every cinematograph proprietor and every operator must thoroughly grasp the conditions under which the law now permits him to work. Ignorance will be no excuse. It is the showmen's business, like every other citizen, to know the law and to keep it. Ignorance will mean the loss of the licence, and will close the show. So get the Act, the regulations, and this guide to both. Read, mark, learn, and understand them.

How the Regulations Carry Out the Act.

With regard to the licence of a travelling show the Act says in Clause 2:—"(1) A county council may grant licences to such persons as they think fit to use the premises specified in the licence for the purposes aforesaid on such terms and conditions and under such restrictions as, subject to regulations of the Secretary of State, the council may by the respective licences determine. (2) A licence shall be in force for one year. (4) An applicant for a licence shall give not less than seven days' notice in writing to the county council and to the chief officer of police of the police area in which the premises are situated of his intention to apply for a licence."

Section 5 of the same clause fixes the licence at not more than £1 a year. Regulation 3 says that "Every licence granted under the Act shall contain specific conditions for the carrying out of regulations 1 and 2 in the building for which the licence is granted. Provided that, where the licensing authority is of opinion that it is impracticable, or, in the circumstances, unnecessary to safety, that the enclosure should be of a permanent nature or should be erected outside the building or auditorium, the licence may by express words dispense with these requirements. In any such case the enclosure shall be effectually ventilated direct to the outside air; and the floor, if of wood, shall be completely covered with fire-resisting material. Subject to the provisions of No. 14 of these regulations, every licence granted under the Act shall contain a clause providing for its lapse, or, alternatively, for its revocation by the licensing authority, if any alteration is made in the building or the enclosure without the sanction of the said authority."

Conditions as Regards Show Booths.

Except so far as the regulations exempt movable structures, from conditions only reasonably applicable to permanent buildings, the word "building" in the Act means "any booth, tent, or similar structure." The exemptions in the Act itself are extremely valuable. In Clause 7 of the Act and Section 3, it is provided, in the interest of travelling shows:—

"(3) Where it is proposed to give any such exhibition as aforesaid in any building or structure of a movable character, it shall not be necessary to obtain a licence under this Act from the council of the county in which the exhibition is to be given if the owner of the building or structure—

(*a*) has been granted a licence in respect of that building or structure by the council of the county in which he ordinarily resides, or by any authority to whom that council may have delegated the powers conferred on them by this Act; and

(*b*) has given to the council of the county and to the chief officer of police of the police area in which it is proposed to give the exhibition, not less than two days before the exhibition, notice in writing of his intention to give the exhibition; and

(*c*) complies with the regulations made by the Secretary of State under this Act, and, subject to such regulations, with any conditions imposed by the county council, and notified in writing to the owner."

It will be seen that having once obtained his licence the showman has no further expense; the one licence carries him for twelve months the country through.

The All-Important "Regulation 14."

In the regulations issued by the Home Secretary to carry out the Act, the all-important one for showmen is No. 14. It recognises the practical differences between permanent and movable structures, and it provides for the special circumstances of the show business as distinct and separate from cinematograph shows in halls, shops, or other permanent premises.

Clause 7 in the Act is the charter of the showmen's freedom. "Regulation 14" is the first attempt of the Home Office to practically safeguard that charter of freedom. It is for showmen to give the regulations (now and until revoked the law of the land as much as though it was in the Act itself) the most ready obedience.

Regulation 14 says:—"In every case where a licence has been granted under the Act in respect of a building or structure of a movable character, a plan and description of the building or structure, certified with the approval of the licensing authority, shall be attached to the licence. Such a licence may provide that any of the conditions or restrictions contained therein may be modified either by the licensing authority or by the licensing authority of the district where an exhibition is about to be given. The licence and plan and description shall be produced on demand to any police constable or to any person authorised by the licensing authority or by the authority in whose district the building or structure is being or is about to be used for the purpose of any such exhibition."

The Sum and Substance of the Whole Matter.

The showman must realise that two things are absolutely necessary to obtain and to hold his licence: (1) The box must be certified all right by the licensing authority; (2) the booth must be all right. A word or two about the booth. There is no difficulty at the Home Office about show booths. At the Home Office conference, before the regulations were finally fixed, the executive officials of the Showmen's Guild (Messrs. Collins, Green, and Horne) convinced the experts concerned in the drafting of the regulations that shows provided more than the strictest requirements of local authorities with regard to exits, and the immediate access to them. Shows have no staircases, no passages; from the auditorium to the exits is but a step, and that an immediate outlet into the open air is provided by the numerous exits of cinematograph show booths. The comparison made by the Guild of the Building Bye-laws of great towns like London and Glasgow, and submitted to the Home Office, proved that shows provided 30 per cent. more exits space than permanent buildings. That is why the regulations only demand adequate exits and ready access to them. The comment of the Home Office on the Guild's case for show booths was to the point: "You offer us more than we ask."

For a 50ft. to 60ft. back booth two exits on either side are more than adequate, with, of course, the exits over the front. As most booths have three on each side (some have more), and two over the front, the show booth is in a superior position as regards exits to permanent places of amusement. The regulations governing the inside or the auditorium of the show booth are No. 1 and part of No. 2. Gangways, staircases, and passages do not exist in travelling shows. Travelling shows are built level with the ground, and open directly into the open air on all sides of the booth. Regulations 1 and 2 are:—

"1. No building shall be used for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions to which the Act applies, unless it be provided with an adequate number of clearly indicated exits placed in such positions and so maintained as to afford safe and speedy egress for the audience.

"2. The seating in the building in which the exhibition is given shall be so arranged as not to interfere with free access to the exits."

What to do when Moving from Fair to Fair.

Having obtained your licence for the year you are free to travel the country, provided you observe the conditions set out in Clause 7, Section B. Under it you must give two days' notice to the county council and to the chief officer of police of the district in which you are building up two days, or more, before you reach the town, telling both the police and the county authority that you will give an exhibition under the licence of the Act, and in conformity with the regulations.

A letter addressed to the Clerk of the County Council, and where the town is itself a county borough you address your letter to the Town Clerk. Where the police are a borough force, you must send your No. 2 letter to the Chief Constable of the town. You must fix the time convenient to you, and give in your letter the date and time of your first performance, to both the county authority through the Clerk, and the police through its chief officer. That is all the law requires of you. Although you are only required to give two clear days' notice of your first performance, we advise for the smooth working of the Act that you send in several days' earlier than the legal notice. There may be local conditions about which the authorities administering must give you written notice. It will be to your advantage to know fully about these, in order to take action if needed to safeguard your interests.

Local Conditions—If Any?

We do not anticipate that these will be found in any serious or injurious sense. If experience proves that they are, we have the remedy for redress provided in the Act. We can petition the Home Secretary to issue new regulations. Time will show the necessity for this; but, none the less, the remedy is there. The Guild fought hard for it and won it, and the Guild will use it when the need arises.

Suggestions for Letters Under the Act.

We now give suggested forms of application under the Act. They are merely suggestions in order to enable proprietors and managers to get to work at once under the Act.

NO. 1.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

Date .....

To the Clerk to the County Council.
(Name of county.)

Sir,—Under the provisions of the above Act I make application for a licence for a movable structure. My show is now located at ..... (here state place). I shall be glad to satisfy the officer authorised by you that my show complies with the requirements of the Act.

The favour of an early reply as to when I may expect the appointed officer will oblige,—

Your obedient servant,
(Name.)

NO. 2.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

Date .....

To the Chief Officer of Police for ..... (name of county or county borough).

Sir,—Under the provisions of the above Act I hereby notify you of my intention to apply for a licence for my show—a movable structure under the terms of the Act—now located at (or being erected at) ..... I shall be glad to satisfy you, or any officer duly authorised by you, that my show fulfils the police requirements of the Act.—I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Name.)

NO. 3.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

Notice of Intention to give Cinematograph Exhibition.

Date .....

To the Clerk to the County Council.
(Name of county.)

Sir,—I hold a licence under the above Act. I hereby give you notice of my intention to erect my show (a movable structure within the terms of the Act) at ..... (name of town and exact locality).

I shall be glad to receive the official of your council authorised to deal with the matter before my first performance. I propose opening my show to the public on ..... (here date).

I will satisfy your officer that my show complies with all the requirements of the Act, and I will comply with any local requirements (not in excess of the regulations of the Home Office) you may require, and notify me in writing.—I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Name.)

NO. 4.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

Notice of Intention to give Cinematograph Exhibition.

Date .....

To the Chief Officer of Police for ..... (name of county or county borough).

Sir,—I hereby notify you that I intend opening my show (a movable structure under the above Act), and to give exhibitions of cinematograph films on ..... (date) at ..... (town and exact locality).

I shall be glad to satisfy you or any officer appointed by you that my show complies with the terms of my licence as to the police requirements of the Act.

Your obedient servant,
(Name.)

Minor Points, yet Important.

Draw a sketch ground plan of your booth showing the exits, and that they open outwards, giving the width of each exit. This plan of your show must be produced, duly signed by your licensing authority, at the request of the proper authorities where your show may be located.

Always send in your notification of intention to show in the next town a week or more in advance. It will smooth matters immensely with the local authorities whenever you do this. It is more businesslike and shows on your part desire to meet the local authorities readily and allows time for correspondence. Besides all that, it is good business to be able to say, "I gave you ample notice." It gives you a claim for consideration with regard to possible interference at the last moment.

It is as much for the good of the showman as for the local authorities and the general public that the Act, under the first issue of the regulation should have a full and fair trial.

An Extremely Important Point.

Showmen must no longer nurse their grievances or suffer tyranny under the law, or rather the tyrannical straining of power by local authorities. In every case where attempts are made to impose conditions and regulations in excess of the regulations under the Act, write at once to the Guild Secretary, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C. Take pains and trouble to state fully and clearly your grievance, and the Guild officials will deal with the matter. If the regulations press hardly on showmen, our remedy is plain. It is to present such a case for more just treatment as shall be irresistible. **We can always obtain justice, if your case is just, at the Home Office. So do not submit to local tyranny, where such is attempted, without using your Guild as a means of protection and remedy.**

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A meeting of those interested in the cinematograph industry, held on Wednesday in the Holborn Restaurant, came to a decision which may affect everyone employed in theatres and music halls throughout the country. For this meeting a general invitation had been issued, but it appears that the operators and smaller exhibitors were not given much attention or a fair hearing, and that the questions raised were only those affecting the financial interests of the proprietors and manufacturers.

The main question was the decision of the London County Council not to permit cinematograph entertainments to be given on Sundays except under the conditions that are imposed upon licensees of theatres and music halls The organisations representing the artists, actors, musicians, and stage employees have taken prompt action to place their views on this very important question of Sunday labour before the Home Secretary, the London County Council, and the Press. The following is a copy of the letter in which these views are stated:—

Jan. 6, 1910.

To the Right Hon. H. J. Gladstone,
Home Secretary, Whitehall.

Sir,—We are instructed by the societies we respectively represent to draw your attention to the fact that on Sunday last cinematograph entertainments were given, and that a number of proprietors have resolved to continue giving such entertainments on Sundays within the metropolitan area, contrary to the regulations of the London County Council, which, we understand, have been approved and sanctioned by you.

At a meeting held yesterday in the Holborn Restaurant, of representatives of manufacturers, factors, hirers, and showmen connected with the cinematograph industry, steps were taken to establish an organisation, and to provide funds to defend those proprietors who may be proceeded against for giving entertainments on Sundays. This meeting was furnished with counsel's opinion, in which it was clearly stated that

"It is the clear duty of all proprietors of cinematograph entertainments to combine in resistance against the announced purpose of the London County Council to close these entertainments on Sundays.

"I hold a strong opinion that as the Cinematograph Act, which comes into operation next Saturday, finds them open on Sundays and does not declare that they shall be closed, any regulation of the London County Council to that effect is *ultra vires*."

The regulations of the London County Council to which we attach vital importance, and to which the proprietors of cinematograph entertainments are opposed, prohibit any place of amusement, licensed by the Council, being opened on Sundays "by way of trade or for personal gain."

If the proprietors of cinematograph entertainments are allowed to give entertainments on Sundays by way of trade and for personal gain, as they desire and claim the right to do, an invidious preference would be given to them which would make them still more serious rivals to theatres and music halls, and we are certain managers of theatres and music halls would, in self-defence, immediately make an effort to secure the same right. If this came to pass we should have Sunday amusements all round, with seven days' compulsory service for all engaged in places of amusements.

We ask you, Sir, to secure equality among the competitors in the amusement world by safeguarding the interests of those employed therein, by taking such steps as may be necessary to enforce the regulations made under the Act, and we suggest that the Metropolitan Police should be authorised to ascertain from those organising Sunday entertainments, if the permission of the London County Council has been obtained.—We are, yours sincerely,

(Signed by)
W. H. Clemart,
General Secretary, the Variety Artists' Federation, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
Duncan Young,
Secretary, the Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.
Joseph B. Williams,
General Secretary, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C.
William Johnson,
General Secretary, the National Association of Theatrical Employees (including cinematograph operators), 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Theatrical employees are reminded that the general meeting of the Dramatic and Variety Theatre Employees' Provident Association will take place to-morrow, Sunday evening, in the St. James's Theatre. The proceedings will commence at eight o'clock prompt. Doors open at 7.30. Any non-member who is interested is cordially invited to attend the meeting. The following alterations to the rules will be submitted and recommended for adoption by the Management Committee:

Rule 6, clause A: after the words "who is" on the last line but one, to read ". . . a financial member or becomes a financial member of the N.A.T.E."

Rule 8: add at end of clause B the words, "A member shall clear his card of all dues on or before the last Saturday on the card, or be fined 6d."

Rule 12, clause A: on second line, after the word "received" add the words "by the secretary."

Rule 16, clause 3: add after the words "sick visitor" the words "within three days of being notified."

Rule 21: add "Any member failing to attend a general meeting or to send an acceptable excuse to the secretary before the meeting shall be fined 6d. Every member shall pay 2d. for each new card, and to replace a card lost by a member the member shall pay 3d."

At a meeting of the committee held on Tuesday evening Mr. Arthur Palmer presided, in the absence of the President. Eleven applications for membership were granted, and the arrangements for Sunday's meeting completed. It is hoped that Mr. Cecil Paget, of the Hippodrome, Peckham, a trustee, will be able to preside at the meeting.

Arrangements are being made to hold the annual general meeting of the London No. 1 Branch of the N.A.T.E. on Sunday, Jan. 30, and it is requested that members of this branch will send in nominations for office and committee and resolutions for consideration at the meeting to the secretary not later than Jan. 14. Notice of the business for the meeting will be issued to members in due course. At the meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, ten applications for membership were granted. It was decided to endorse the joint actions of the various societies opposing Sunday labour in places licensed for amusement by the L.C.C. The annual dinner will probably take place on Sunday, Feb. 13, and it is expected a much larger number will be present on this occasion. Tickets 2s. 6d. each, will be obtainable from the secretary and stewards.

The Vaudeville Theatre staff are invited to a dinner to be given to-morrow evening in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, by Mr. F. Anstey, the author of *The Brass Bottle*. This will be the second occasion on which Mr. Anstey has been the host of the staff, who were also the fortunate recipients of most seasonable presents at Christmas from Mr. Gaston Mayer and the management of this house.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Earl's Court Carnival, Jan. 14.

THE Empress Rink people at Earl's Court are holding their first fancy dress carnival on Friday, Jan. 14. There are to be fourteen prizes divided between competitors, arranged in first, second, and third classes. A committee of five, from contemporary rinks, will act as judges, and numbers will not be allotted to intending competitors until the night of the carnival. Walter Stanton, the famous skater, has been specially engaged to give an exhibition of fancy skating. There are to be rainbow and moonlight dances, and the huge rink and corridors will be arranged in a Chinese scheme of carnival decoration. The prizes have been on view in the spacious corridors of the rink for some time now, and Mr. Izod, the manager, who is putting out every exertion to make the function a "startler," tells us that he has a very pleasant surprise in store for those attending the carnival, among whom will be a number of well-known actors and actresses.

Election News at Earl's Court.

THERE seems to be no end to the enterprise of the Willard and Bostock management of the Earl's Court rink. We are informed by these gentlemen that they have made arrangements for announcing every election result on the rink as the news arrives. Special printing machinery will be installed at Earl's Court on Monday next, and as the results are telephoned the figures will be immediately printed and issued to rink patrons desiring the latest political information. By this means it is hoped that the latest news will be obtainable at Earl's Court even in quicker time than if political enthusiasts had waited for it at their clubs or in town.

At the Aldwych.

ONE of the first roller rinks in London was the Aldwych Skating Rink, standing now where the old temporary building of the *Morning Post* stood. It is a pretty cottage-like building from the outside, but once inside you are in a domed hall where enjoyment holds sway. Here all day long you hear the song of the roller-skates; the persistent loud roar of thousands of little wheels frolicking over the smooth maple flooring, making a noise that comes to the ears like the purring of a thousand cats. The place is always crowded, and the Aldwych is the only skating rink in the heart of London, and all roads lead to it. In connection with the Aldwych Rink there is also run a Sunday skating club, which has become very popular with the patrons.

Haystack at Olympia.

ON Jan. 14 Olympia will witness a "Barnyard Festival," in which the skaters are to represent rustic characters. There will be men in smock frocks, ploughboys, and dairymaids, and there will also be all sorts of animals announcing themselves not only by their appearance, but by their cry. The hall will we transformed, at one end being a huge haystack, with real pigs, a real cow, real fowls, and a real dovecot.

Crystal Palace Skating Carnival.

THERE will be a fancy dress skating carnival at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next, Jan. 12, at 7.30. Judging from the number and variety of entries, it bids fair to be the best carnival that has ever been held on this mammoth rink. The rink manager, Mr. F. G. Stumcke, has this year made several new departures in the way of variety of classes, and on this occasion prizes will be awarded for the most effective, most handsome, the best burlesque, the most original, and the best advertisement costumes. There will be a special prize given for the ladies' most handsome evening dress. The juvenile classes will be for girls under eleven years and boys under fourteen years. Intending competitors should send in their names and class as soon as possible. During the evening competitors and audience alike will be entertained by Mr. Syd Martin.

A.R.H.A.

THE rinks registered with the Amateur Rink Hockey Association are the Crystal Palace, Balham, Brixton, Porchester Hall, Cricklewood, County Rink (Kingston-on-Thames), Oxford Rink, Castle Rink (Bedford), Castle Rink (Northampton), and the Walpole Hall Rink (Ealing).

Geo. Callis at Holland Park.

IT will interest Welsh people to know that George Callis, formerly manager to the American Roller Rink Company at Cardiff, is manager of the new Holland Park Rink.

Reynolds and Donegan Snowed Up.

REYNOLDS AND DONEGAN were snowed up on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21, and all Sunday night, in a 10ft. snowdrift, 15 miles from Sioux City, and there was no dining-car on the train. Earle Reynolds was equal to the occasion, and bought out all the fruit and candy the newsboy had, "so we got along fine." He adds: "We are on our Pacific Coast trip now, leaving to-night for St. Paul and Minneapolis, where we play three weeks. Then a three days' journey to Spokane, Wash., which forces us to lose a week in travel."

Rinking Going Big at A.P.

So great is the demand made upon the accommodation for skaters provided by the Alexandra Palace Skating Rink that the Trustees have decided to enlarge it at once, and the work is already in hand. By the removal of the rather extensive orchestra at one end and carrying the skating surface futher under the gallery at the other, the floor of the rink will be practically doubled in size. In addition the old-time monkey house is to be adapted to the needs of learners. When these alterations are completed the Alexandra Palace Rink will be one of the finest in London.

Rinker's Chin.

"RINKING CHIN" is the very latest facial eccentricity of fashion! According to the *Daily Mirror* it has ousted even the "motor frown" and the "aeroplane peck." The "rinking chin" is spreading through every class, and it is so characteristic of the rinker that you can pick out from a dozen persons walking along the street those who are rinking adepts—by the way they hold their chins. There is a touch of vanity about it, but a great deal more of weariness. It is the habit of balancing and of looking a good distance ahead, while moving swiftly, that gives the peculiar method of holding the chin—slightly elevated and projected—which is associated with this sport. Except that it makes conceited people appear supercilious, and does not go at all well with a tip-tilted nose, the "rinking chin" is not to be deplored.

Monohan Talks.

THE great Monohan writes to us from the Olympia Rink, Darlington, where he has been accorded a hearty reception this week. Next week he will pay a return visit to the Spring Bank Rink, Nelson. Monohan says: "I frequently hear rink-managers say they are getting the crowds without attractions. This may be true for the moment, but wait till the crowds begin to drop off. Ordinary skaters get tired of the same old thing, skating round and round. Then is the time that managers begin to think of some way to bring them all back as before. My advice is, open your rinks with a boom, and keep them going in that way. Managers should teach their patrons something of the art there is in roller skating, and show them how many steps and movements can be accomplished. When they are learning fast, encourage them and keep them interested. That is why, from time to time, good professionals should be engaged to give exhibitions."

"Bab" Skates.

THE British Roller Skate and Engineering Co., Ltd., have secured an order for 1,000 pairs of "Bab" skates for the new Finsbury Park rink, and the rink at the World's Fair, Agricultural Hall, is also fitted up with "Bab" skates.

The Era's Xmas Crackers.

The Era correspondent, Mr. C. E. Evason, was successful for taking first prize for the funniest costume and make-up at the Stourbridge Rink New Year's Eve carnival. He went as a huge Christmas cracker or bon-bon.

London Rink Hockey League.

AT the Crystal Palace rink on Wednesday night a match in the Second Division of the London Rink Hockey League between Orion Athletic and Glendale was won by the former club by four goals to none. Green and Dudham each scored two goals for the winning side.

AT Cricklewood last Thursday evening, in the second division of the London League, Melbourne Athletic beat Kent House by 1 goal to 0. The losers played a man short during the greater part of the first half, but managed to resist a very strong attack. In the second half Melbourne Athletic continued to have the better of the game, and F. Wilkinson scored the only goal.

Racing at the Lava Rink.

BEFORE an excellent attendance some good racing took place at the Lava Rink, Camberwell, last Thursday night. Officials: Judge, Mr. H. H. Ewin; timekeeper, Mr. H. Brockman; starter, Mr. C. B. Saunders; M.C., Mr. Chas. Knight. One Mile Members' Handicap (novices).—H. E. Hoyles, scr., 1; J. O. Titcher, 10 yds., 2; E. E. Anthrobus, 30, 3. Won by thirty yards. Time, 4min. 19 2-5sec. One Mile Members' Race.—S. F. Casey, 1; E. J. Liddle, 2; F. E. Barker †, E. M. Swain †. Won by a yard; inches. Time. 3min. 57 2-5sec. In an attempt to beat the Lava Rink one mile record, A. W. K. Cocker covered the twenty-two laps to complete the distance in 3min. 52 3-5sec., being outside the record of 3min. 47 2-5sec.

Amateurs to Race at Catford.

AT the Central Hall Skating Rink, Catford, on Jan. 20, under N.S.A. laws, a one mile handicap, open to all amateurs, will be held. The handicapper will be Mr. G. H. Brockman, N.S.A. Competitors may train on the track on Monday and Wednesday, Jan. 17 and 19, from 5.30 to 7 p.m. Entries close on Jan. 17.

Masked Carnival at Clapham Junction.

THE masked carnival at the Vardens-road Rink on New Year's Eve proved a big success. The costumes were numerous and picturesque. Mr. L. J. Mantle as a tramp kept the audience amused with his eccentricities. An advertising costume worthy of note was that of a sailor, with "Ironclad Mantles" suspended from his cap and pictures of battleships on his costume. During the evening sports, in the way of musical chairs, egg and spoon, potato races, &c., were indulged in, for which prizes were given. Prof. Carroll gave a clever exhibition of trick and fancy skating, and concluded with two jumps. A football match between two scratch sides resulted in a win by the floor-manager's side by two goals to nil. About 12.30 a confetti battle took place, and for half an hour the air was full of confetti.

A Wonderful Party at Clapton.

A CHILDREN'S Christmas party was held yesterday afternoon at the Premier Rink, Lower Clapton-road, N.E. Prizes of £2 2s. and £1 1s. and several silver prizes were given to the girls, and similar rewards to the boys. There was a monster Christmas tree (the largest ever seen). A real Father Christmas presented each child with a toy, and a wonderful tea took place at four o'clock. Father Christmas, assisted by Fairies, Goblins, Brer Rabbits, Puss-in-Boots, Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast, Robinson Crusoe, Teddy Bear, Elves, Punch and Judy, and other distinguished guests, proved himself the most popular president ever seen at the biggest and best children's tea party ever given.

Croydon's First Costume Carnival.

THERE was a very large attendance for the first costume carnival at the Croydon Rink, given on New Year's Eve.

Amateur Handicap at Ilford.

ON Wednesday night the Ilford Rink Speed Club held under N.S.A. laws their first open mile race. The event drew a large crowd, and excellent sport was witnessed. A handsome silver cup was put up by the management, and this was won by C. Weidhoff, of the Ilford S.C. The Ilford Club are fortunate in possessing a skater of Weidhoff's promise. A case of hard luck was that of H. H. May, another Ilford man, whose time as second in the fourth heat was just one-fifth of a second behind that of Webb, the fastest second. Officials:—Timekeeper and handicapper, Mr. H. G. Brockman; starter and judge, Mr. Fred Leighton; judges, Messrs. Morgan and Schramm; corner judges, Messrs. Jarvis, Lock, Beresford, and Mason; lap-scorers, Messrs. Dixon and Phillips. Track, thirteen laps ninety yards to the mile. Heat 1: A. V. Freeman, Aldwych S.C., 75yds., 1; D. M. Swain, Lava S.C., scratch, 2. Time, 3min. 39 2-5sec. Heat 2: C. Weidhoff, Ilford S.C., 75yds., 1; F. G. Carlisle, Lava S.C., scratch, 2. Time, 3min. 40 2-5sec. Heat 3: S. F. Casey, Lava S.C., 20yds., 1; R. H. Webb, Ilford S.C., 95yds., 2. Time, 3min. 39 3-5sec. Webb's time (fastest second), 3min. 40 3-5sec. Heat 4: E. W. Bussey, Lava and Brixton S.C.'s, 35yds., 1; H. H. May, Ilford S.C., 70yds., 2. Time, 3min. 40sec. Final: C. Weidhoff 1, A. V. Freeman 2, R. H. Webb 3, S. F. Casey 0, E. W. Bussey 0. Time 3min. 37 2-5sec.

Central Hall, Wandsworth, Carnival.

ON Thursday last a grand fancy dress carnival was held at the Central Hall Skating Rink, Wandsworth. It was a magnificent success, fully 300 people appearing in costume, and about the same number of spectators. The floor was one blaze of colour, and so little to choose between the costumes that it took over an hour to judge them. Twenty-eight prizes were competed for, including a gold watch for the most handsome lady's costume, which was won by a lady dressed in the Early Victorian period, and a dressing-case for the most handsome gentleman's costume, which went to a gentleman arrayed as Sir Walter Raleigh. After the prizes had been presented Mr. L. Morley (the manager) made a speech thanking the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly judged the costumes, and the skaters for turning up in such numbers. The skaters responded with three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Morley. The whole affair was one continual success from the start to the finish, and Mr. Morley and his assistants are to be congratulated on the result which was obtained.

Officers Only.

THE Aldershot maple floor rink, situated in Halimote-road, close to the station, is largely attended at all sessions. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 2.30 till 5, it is reserved exclusively for officers and their families. A great fancy-dress and masked carnival takes place on Tuesday next, Jan. 11

Novel Exit of 1909

THE Cliftonville Skating Rink, Belfast, presented a very attractive appearance on New Year's Eve, when a fancy dress ball was held and a dramatic surprise illustrating the departure of 1909 and the coming of the New Year. There was a fashionabe attendance, the entire arrangements being carried out by Manager Lieut.-Colonel F. W. Roberts, V.D. A few minutes before midnight an old man, representing 1909, crossed the floor, vanishing in a volume of flame. The figure of a child seated in a sleigh with bells next appeared, representing 1910, and was accorded a hearty welcome. Lieut.-Colonel Roberts worked untiringly for the success of the function, and was deservedly congratulated by many of the skaters present.

New Year's Eve in "Brum."

A GAY company skated in the New Year at the American Rink, Monument-road, Birmingham. A fancy dress carnival was held in aid of the Crimean and Mutiny Veterans' Association, a handsome sum being realised. The participants displayed much originality in their attire, and it is safe to say that such a brilliant scene has never before been witnessed on a rink in the city. The prize-winners were as follows:—Ladies: Prettiest costume, Mrs. Dawes, "The Poster Girl"; most original costume, Miss L. Doherty, "Tariff Reform"; most grotesque costume, Miss Cowley, "Washerwoman"; consolation prize, Miss Davies, "Mrs. Siddons." Gentlemen: Prettiest costume, Mr. C. Baker, "Chinaman"; most original costume, Mr. Hardman, "K.C.B."; most grotesque costume, Mr. Challingsworth, "Scotch Territorial"; consolation prize, Mr. Richards, "Alfred the Great." Children: Miss Gladys Hill, "Bonbon," and Miss Walker, "Swiss Peasant." At midnight the skaters joined hands and sang lustily "Auld Lang Syne." Skating continued until 12.30 a.m.

East Birmingham.

WITH a capital of £13,000, divided into £1 shares, the Empire Skating Palace, Ltd., has been formed to conduct a rinkery within a populous district of East Birmingham. The total net profit to be earned is estimated at £8,421, whereas the payment of 50 per cent. on capital would involve £6,500, thus leaving ample margin for contingencies.

New Skating Palace for Sparkbrook.

IT will be welcome news to the lovers of rinking in South Birmingham that a magnificent rink is to be built in their midst, and it will be equally welcome news to skaters all over Birmingham to hear that one of the finest rinks in the provinces will be provided at Walford-road, Sparkbrook. The Empire Rink will be the last word in construction and equipment, and will be a pattern of organisation. It is proposed to remedy the defects which have been found in older rinks, and it is expected that the rink will immediately take up the position of the leading rink in the Midlands. The skating area will be 24,320 sq. ft., and will hold 1,500 skaters, while the promenade and gallery will accommodate 3,500 spectators. There will be a secret-jointed hard maple floor, no pillars, separate cloak and skate room, refreshment room, billiard room with three tables, a band of ten performers, and the best ball-bearing skates. There will be a separate rink for learners, popular prices, and the rink is only a penny stage from the city. The prospectus of the company has just been issued, and shows that the capital proposed is the extremely moderate one of £13,000, offered in £1 shares at par.

Lady Havelock Allan to Present Prizes.

ON the 12th inst a carnival will be held at Olympia, Bishop Auckland. The management are decorating the rink for the occasion. Lady Havelock Allan has been asked to award the prizes.

New Year's Eve at Clacton.

THE Clacton-on-Sea Rink is being patronised by large numbers of skaters and spectators. The floor is crowded at each session, and Mr. Wooldridge is kept very busy instructing. Excellent music is supplied by an "Orchestrion" and a continuous show of animated pictures proceeds simultaneously with the skating. The New Year's Eve carnival was a great success, the fun lasting until well into New Year's morning.

Moonlight Carnival at Dudley.

WHAT the management claim to be the finest carnival ever held in the provinces took place at the Trindle-road Rink on New Year's Eve, in the form of a Fancy Dress Moonlight Carnival and New Year's Eve Confetti Fête. Just before twelve all the skaters clasped hands, forming one huge circle. Suddenly the rink was plunged in darkness, just one faint light being thrown on the clock; as the minute finger touched the midnight hour twelve sonorous notes boomed out, proclaiming the passing of the old year. Gradually the darkness lifted as the limelights got to work, and the skaters sang "Auld Lang Syne." A confetti battle took place, lasting until one o'clock. The prizes were presented by Miss Dorothy Ward, the principal boy from the Prince of Wales pantomime, Birmingham, who motored over after her performance to perform this ceremony.

Hae their Doots.

THE Town Council of Dunoon, the popular Clyde resort, met recently to discuss a scheme for a rink in the Castle Gardens, to be run by the Council in connection with their popular concerts. A specification was submitted for a rink to accommodate 400 skaters and 500 spectators, to cost £2,600. No decision was arrived at, as several councillors thought the popularity of roller-skating might decline before the outlay had been recovered. In the meantime, statistics are to be collected, showing the results of other West of Scotland rinks.

Fancy Dress Carnival at Eastbourne.

ROLLER skaters at Eastbourne had the novel experience of ushering in the New Year on the rink. The management of the Devonshire Park arranged a carnival masque, which, announced to commence at 9.30, continued until the early hours of the morning. Both as regarded the number of skaters and spectators, the event proved highly popular, while the fancy dress costumes were exceedingly good. There were many of artistic design, and a great number of a humorous description. A capital programme had been arranged, including a half-mile handicap, which had a very exciting finish, and resulted in a win for C. Arnold, B. Cooper being second, and F. Rawlings third. Among the other items were the usual fancy dress competition, a thread-needle race, an excellent exhibition of fancy and figure skating by Prof. John F. Davidson, an egg-and-spoon race for ladies, and a hand polo match between teams representing Devonshire Park and St. Peter's. At midnight the skaters unmasked and exchanged the usual New Year compliments.

Billy Frames as Skate Judge.

THE fancy dress Christmas carnival held at the Zoo Skating Rink, Glasgow, on Wednesday evening of last week must be set down as having been an unqualified success. The number of spectators and competitors were alike gratifying, the former reaching almost 1,000, while the latter would probably total 200. The following were the judges:—Mrs. Humphrys, Theatre Royal, Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Preston; Mr. W. F. Frame, the well-known Scottish comedian; Mr. John Clyde, the famous modern Rob Roy; Mr. "Colin McGregor"; and Mr. A. D. McFarlane, husband of Miss Frances Letty. During the evening the skaters paraded, and after the grand march past the judges awarded the prizes as follows:—

BEST costume representing *Tit-Bits*:—Lady's prize, Miss Paton; gentleman's prize, Mr. Tom Smith. Most humorous costume:—(1) Mr. Jack Brown (Mug's Alley); (2) Mr. William Gilchrist (sweep). Prettiest costume:—Miss Belle Gallacher (baby). Best Father Christmas costume:—Mr. Jack Findlay. Best costume representing Christmas:—Miss Madge Mossman (Christmas Cracker). Best costumes representing national dress of any country:—Miss Younger (Egyptian lady) and Mr. McIntosh (King James). Best costumes representing Glasgow pantomime favourites:—Miss Ina Robin (Happy Fanny Fields) and Mr. J. Murray (Harry Tate in *Fishing*). Prettiest costumes worn by children under 14 years:—(1) Master Gordon Aitken (Santa Claus); (2) Miss Madge Dewar (Dutch girl). The prizes were presented by Mrs. Bostock (wife of Councillor Bostock, proprietor of the rink). The carnival terminated with a confetti battle, after which the company sang "Auld Lang Syne."

Great Yarmouth Winter Gardens.

GREAT YARMOUTH, with its 52,000 population, has under consideration a scheme to lay a rock maple floor in the Winter Gardens for the use of roller skaters. The Corporation was one of the first bodies in the Eastern Counties to encourage this popular sport. Now the Piers Committee have decided to appeal to the Council for the necessary powers to cover the present Jarrah block floor with rock maple. The building is an exceedingly spacious one, having a floor space of 150ft. by 50ft. On entering one feels that sense of freedom so distinguished from the cramped, depressing atmosphere of some rinks. The whole of the roof space is festooned with a growth of creepers.

COUNTY BOROUGH of GREAT YARMOUTH

SKATING RINK FLOOR

The Council are prepared to

RECEIVE TENDERS

from persons who have done similar work, for laying the floor of their Winter Garden with a Rock Maple Floor in accordance with plans and specifications to be obtained at my office.

Tenders, on the form and in the envelope supplied, are to be delivered at the Office of the Town Clerk, before noon of Friday, January 14th inst,

No guarantee is given that the lowest or any tender will be accepted.

By Order. (Signed) J. Wm. COCKRILL,
M. Inst. C.E., A.R.I.B.A., Borough Surveyor.
Town Hall, Great Yarmouth. Jan 1st, 1910.

Rink Managers who are desirous of obtaining the strongest and most durable roller skates for their patrons, which are at the same time adjustable, light, and easy running, should write for particulars and prices of the

These skates are made by a leading firm of cycle manufacturers with all the precision and finish of a high-grade bicycle, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction. King o' the Rink Patent Tubular Skates are noted for strength, lightness, and elegance.

BRAMPTON

ADJUSTABLE ROLLER SKATES

A good supply of a dainty booklet, "The Art of Roller Skating," will be sent free for distribution at your rink on receipt of sample order.

The enormous stocks of all well-known roller skates which we carry guarantee you prompt deliveries and lowest prices. Write for quotations.

BROWN BROTHERS, LTD., Great Eastern Street, London, E.C., And 271-273, Deansgate, Manchester.

THE GREAT MONOHAN

RINK and MUSIC HALL

To-day, Olympia Rink, Darlington.

FIRST VACANCY, FEB. 14, 1910.

Address, c/o "The Era."

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Thanks to All Managers.

THIS WEEK.
COUNTY RINK, KINGSTON.

Address,
Care of "THE ERA."

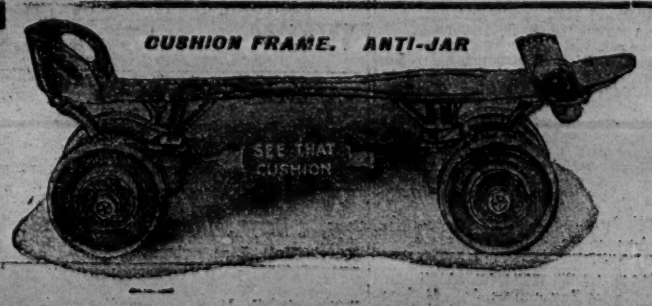

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more Independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

Tender forms can be obtained from Mr. J. W. Cockrill, surveyor, Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.

Pigs, Ducks, and Turkeys as Prizes.

THE management of the Royal Concert Hall, Hastings, organised a grand farmyard carnival on skates on Wednesday last, offering valuable prizes of live pigs, ducks, fowls, turkeys, geese, &c., the conditions being that the lady or gentleman competitor must dress as a farmer, ploughman, or farmer's wife, dairymaid, and so on. The event proved a very great success.

Festivities at Hove.

A MASKED costume carnival was held on Thursday evening at the Selborne-road, Hove, rink. The second, for children in fancy dress, will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Hull's Skating Rinks.

A FINE maple floor, good skates (the Samuel Winslow), excellent music, and good company are to be found at the American Roller Skating Rink in Beverley-road. Business has been very brisk at the Newington Rink during the holiday season. The floor and band are at their best, whilst the skaters are rapidly approaching proficiency. Next Tuesday a masked fancy dress carnival is being held. An average of 150 skaters is to be found on the floor at the East Park Rink every evening.

New Year at Ipswich.

SOME 220 skaters took part in the New Year's Eve carnival at the Ipswich Palace Rink. The grand parade was a great success. Engineered by Mr. Fisk, the skaters formed into couples, quartettes, and couples again, deploying all round the rink to the gratification of the large gathering of spectators. Following on this came the waltz competition, the judging of teams—always one of the prettiest features of carnivals at the Palace—and the judging of costumes, couples, &c. The utmost ingenuity was shown by some of the competitors. An immense representation of a Michelin tyre advertisement (Tyred Tim) was one of the chief features, while a Jack-in-the-Box arrangement had good points. The youngsters fell in love with a massive Teddy Bear, and needless to say topical ideas, such as that of cartoons of the General Election, Father Christmas, &c., were much in evidence.

Merrymaking in Kirkcaldy.

A MOST enjoyable evening was inaugurated for patrons of this rink by manager James Hunter, whose name is now synonymous with enterprise in local rinking circles. Games and sports of all sorts were participated in by old and young, and the advent of 1910 was hailed amid an animated scene of rinking merrymaking. A grand fancy-dress carnival, too, was held here, at the Palace, on Friday, and was well attended. A feature of the turnout was the varied forms of fancy attire, which received fitting reward by the management. A battle of confetti at midnight was most pleasing to watch. Mr. James Grant is manager here.

Merry New Year's Gatherings.

THE old year was "rinked out" and the new year "rinked in" at Chapeltown and Roundhay, Leeds. At Chapeltown, just before midnight, 500 skaters formed a ring on the skating floor, and joining hands, sang "Auld Lang Syne." On the stroke of midnight Tschaikowsky's "1812" overture was given, and afterwards skating was renewed. At the Olympia Rink, Roundhay, a fancy dress and masquerade carnival took place. The rink was beautifully decorated. The prize-winners were:—Best Costume.—Ladies: 1, Miss Leslie Kirkby (Wincarnis); 2, Mrs. Jackson (Fashion for All); 3, Mrs. Appleyard (Olympia Rink). Gentlemen: 1, Mr. Ives (Directoire); 2, Mr. Andrew Angel (The Turk); 3, Mr. D. V. Allen (Crusader) Most Original Costume.—Ladies: 1, Mrs. Woodhouse (Court Dress); 2, Miss Swinden (Aviation); 3, Mrs. Jackson (Beefeater). Gentlemen: 1, Mr Sugden (Bedouin Chief); 2, Mr. T. Appleyard (John Bull); 3, Mr. G. Hargreaves (Good-night) Comic Costumes.—Ladies: 1, Mrs. Smithson (Mrs Brown's "At Home" Day); 2, Mrs. Schofield (Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe); 3, Miss Powell (Folly). Gentlemen: 1, Mr. Symonds and Mr Jackson (Heavenly Twins); 2, Mr. Stanley Parker (Clown); 3, Mr. Bearup (Monkey Brand).

Big Business at Leicester.

THE craze at Leicester for rinking reached its zenith during Christmas, the Boulevard, the Empress, and the Belgrave rinks being crowded both at the morning, afternoon, and evening sessions At all the rinks the enterprising managements put forward special attractions.

Littlehampton now in Line.

A SYNDICATE has been formed at Littlehampton, Sussex, to build a skating rink and public hall, and will be provided in due time with every accommodation for theatrical productions. The hall is to be 120ft. long by 45ft. wide, with ample dressing-rooms and every convenience. Messrs. J. Linfield and Sons, Littlehampton, are the builders, and the secretarial duties will be carried out (pro tem) by Mr. T. Crunden, 9, Beach-road, Littlehampton. The building is now in course of erection, and will be ready for the Easter holidays. This will provide a long-felt want for the town and neighbourhood.

A Look Round Liverpool.

ROLLER skating is being carried on in the Mersey city with great success. At the Tournament Hall, Edge-lane, crowds attend the three daily sessions, the floor being kept in capital condition. The Premier Rink, Renshaw-street, a fine and enormous place, opened only a few weeks ago, and capable of holding 1,500 skaters, is going ahead like wildfire, prizes being given on special occasions. The speed races at the big Albert Hall building, in Pudsey-street, are a novel draw, bringing plenty of patronage; and the Bootle rink is being visited by large numbers of residents of the north end.

Rita and Her Teddy Bear.

THE Premier Rink, Luton, was opened last August, and still continues to draw large crowds. Last week the rink was full each evening. Rita and her Teddy Bear caused much amusement on Friday evening last. The graceful skating of this young couple was much admired.

The Rexos.

THIS indefatigable skating couple journey to Manchester next week, where they will open at the Ardwick Empire.

Mansfield's Gold Medal.

SKATING has taken on here in no half-hearted manner, session after session seeing the rink conveniently crowded. The management, represented by Mr. Shearman, has given a gold medal, to be raced for by competitors within a five-miles radius of Mansfield. Prof. Chinn gives exhibitions of fancy skating daily.

Chilton-Heyes Sisters.

THE wonderful exhibitions by the Chilton-Heyes Sisters at Montrose have provided not only entertaining but instructive programmes, and so successful has their visit been that Mr. Bruce London arranged for a return visit.

Old Infirmary as Skating Rink.

THE Central Skating Rink, Old Infirmary, Scotswood-road, Newcastle, was formally opened for beginners on New Year's Eve by Mr. Colin Veitch, of Newcastle United. Mr. Veitch referred to the conversion of the old building to a place of entertainment and healthy recreation, and said he was greatly in favour of roller skating, and wished every success to the rink.

The Empress, Nottingham.

THE Empress Rink has long established itself to be Nottingham's premier rink, and it still continues far and away to hold that position. The attendances are a long way in excess of any competitor, and New Year's Eve was no exception to the rule. The special attraction was a one mile race between C. Fell (cyclist) and T. Slater (skater), which the skater won with ease, being awarded a gold medal. A grand fancy dress carnival took place on Thursday last.

First Pentre Carnival.

THE first carnival proved a huge success, drawing both skaters and sightseers from all directions. Many of the costumes were very fine, and reflected great credit on the patrons. One of the best was the "Black Cat" of Mr. Horner, advertising the cigarettes of that name. The Diamond Carnival was voted splendid, and resulted in the "Sandwich Man" and the "Maori Maid" winning the prizes.

Father Time and the Fairy.

THE first grand fancy dress carnival was held at the Victoria Rink, Salisbury, on Friday last, and proved a great success, being one of the most brilliant spectacles seen here for a long time. Every seat had been taken, and standing room only was available. The costumes were most original, and two ladies, representing "Superstition" and "The General Election," secured handsome prizes. A fine display was made by the grand march past, and great amusement was afforded by the musical chairs. At twelve o'clock a car enveloped in a dark covering was drawn across the floor by "Father Time," and as the last stroke of twelve had sounded the covering was removed and a dainty fairy was seen standing in a silver-coloured car, representing "The New Year." A battle of confetti brought a successful and enjoyable evening to a close.

Rinking in Sheffield.

THE pastime of roller skating is at the height of its popularity in Sheffield just now, and the attendances at all the rinks are large. At the American Rink, in Shoreham-street, there was recently a ladies' night, and ladies ruled the rink. A novel feature is to be introduced at this establishment shortly. On Monday, Jan. 24, championship races are being arranged for boys and girls who use the road skates which are to be seen in such great numbers. This should prove very attractive. Professor J. Gentil, the Brazilian champion, has been fulfilling an engagement at the Olympia Rink, and his skating feats are proving very attractive. At the Empire Rink, near Abbeydale-road, Little Doris's displays attract a good deal of attention, and are really remarkable exhibitions of skill.

Where Sheffield Children Rink.

SANTA CLAUS evidently left many roller skates in the stockings of the children of Sheffield judging from the number who are found converting the asplated playgrounds into open-air rinks. There is now an open space in Headmill-road, Sheffield, this week devoted to roller rinking.

Council and Skating Rink.

SPENNYMOOR'S new skating rink was the subject of discussion at the local Council meeting last week. It was stated that the rink proprietors had persisted in erecting the building before the plans were passed, and that the erection was contrary to the Council's by-laws. The Council decided by resolution to take legal proceedings against the company.

Topsy Turvy Night at Stourbridge.

ON Thursday evening the manager of the rink (Mr. H. J. Wharton) organised a very successful Topsy Turvy night. The floor manager was Miss Blenkarne, and the instructors (!) were Mrs. Banks, Mrs. Calder Moore, Mrs. H E. Haskew, Miss Chappell, Miss E. Chapman, Miss A. Chambers, and Mrs. Wooldridge. Much fun was caused by the menkind falling frequently, and having to be assisted by the instructors (!). The competitions were freely patronised, and caused much amusement. Altogether, a most enjoyable evening was spent, and reflects great credit on the manager.

Premier Rink, Sutton-on-Sea.

THE above rink held its first carnival on Tuesday last, when the management presented for competition some handsome and valuable prizes. During the evening W. Hurst showed all present what fancy figure and trick skating can be accomplished on wheels. The management of the affair was carried out by Mr. W. H. Seager, the district-manager of the company.

West Hartlepool Pavilion Rink.

THE carnival held on New Year's Eve at this rink was a huge success. Many of the costumes were novel and striking, particularly one representing "Ruination" (women, wine, and cards) and one of "The World on Wheels" (Mercury carrying the globe). Commander Peary was there, looking quite at home. A novelty introduced on this occasion was a class for representations of celebrated actors and actresses in some popular character, and in this class Mr. J. W. Roderick cleverly impersonated our old friend W. H. Brougham as the Messenger from Mars, for which he was awarded first prize; whilst Mrs. Peake secured the ladies' prize for a representation of Miss Lily Elsie as Sonia in *The Merry Widow*.

Queen's Rink, West Hartlepool.

MONDAY night was the occasion of the season here, when the first fancy costume carnival was held. There were many competitors and over 3,000 spectators, and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Of costumes there was a great variety, many of them being quite original. Of the ladies, a billiard table was a novel idea, and for this Mrs. Peake was awarded first prize in the original class. Others were "Merry Widow" (Miss Hogg), "Topsy" (Miss Turnbull); advertisement, "Hixopad" (Mrs. Alex Hirst). The gentlemen prize winners were: Handsome, "Comet" (Mr. Broderick); original, "Diver" (Mr. F. Lund); burlesque, "Scotchman" (Mr. Straughan); and advertisement, "Spratt's Biscuits" (Mr. R. P. Blacklin). The prize for the best couple was awarded to "Bear and keeper" (Messrs. Sheldrake and Rush). A gymkhana and a Cinderella is announced for later on in the week.

Weston-super-Mare.

A GRAND fancy dress masquerade carnival was held on New Year's Eve at the Victoria Skating Rink, Weston-super-Mare. The competition was very keen, and Mr. Stanley, the proprietor, awarded some very handsome prizes. The open event was very easily won by Miss Byrne Jones, a professional lady skater.

Jessie Darling on the Continent.

THE *New York Herald* has fallen in love with Jessie Darling. Says the *Herald*:—"Jessie is the finest rink skater in the world. She is at the Hippodrome. Her *début* was a triumph. Jessie Darling on skates surpasses in grace and audacity the best terpsichorean artists. The dangerous 'fire dance' is a most thrilling performance. Unfortunately, Jessie Darling can only remain a week in Paris." Miss Darling writes us that she opened this week at Berlin, and next week will be at Hamburg. Happy New Year, Jessie!

IT was unfortunate that Cull Pitt should be forced to "lay off" with a cold for a few days just as he had perfected the part of Abanazar in the Alexandra Theatre pantomime, Birmingham. He has, however, shaken off the cold, and is playing his part with undoubted success. Mr. Harry Cooke, the stage-manager, deputised for Cull Pitt.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

Sergeant Simon of the Tenth, sketch; Middlesex, Dec. 6.
Faithful James, comedietta; Tivoli, Dec. 6.
The Private Detective, sketch; Willesden Hippodrome, Dec. 6.
The Silver Medal, dramatic episode, by Harry M. Vernon; Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, Dec. 6.
Town Hall To-night, playlet, by Wm. M. Cressy, incidental music by Theodore Holland; Euston, Dec. 6.
Flash Adelaide, duologue, by Arthur Skelton; Shoreditch Empire, Dec. 6.
Roma, sketch, in one scene, by Miss Muggeridge; Empress, Brixton, Dec. 6.
No. 9, farcical sketch, adapted from *The Lady of Ostend*, by Sir Francis Bernand; London Pavilion, Dec. 6.
A Pierrot's Crime, wordless playlet; Metropolitan.
Another One Off to America, farcical absurdity, in one scene; Royal Standard, Pimlico, Dec. 6.
The Colleen's Eviction, an Irish musical comedy sketch, with lyrics by Neville Lynn, and music by Mlle. Ghita Corri; Winter Gardens, New Brighton, Dec. 6.
The Revolution, written and produced by Fred Maxwell; Camberwell Empire, Dec. 6.
The Last Straw, dramatic sketch, by the Rev. E. S. Edwards; Bedford, Dec. 6.
The Key, playlet, by Arthur Rose; Queen's, Poplar, Dec. 13.
A Ride with the Guns, military scena, arranged by Marshall Moore; Empress, Brixton, Dec. 13.
Kiddie, playlet, by Cecil Twyford; Hippodrome, Dec. 13.
Sanctuary, play, in one act, by Malcolm Watson; Empire Theatre, Dec. 15.
The Pride of All, dramatic sketch, by Edward Ranier; Middlesex, Dec. 20.
Our Flag, ballet of the hour, arranged by Alfredo Curti, music by George W. Byng; Alhambra, Dec. 20.
Heard in Camera, "dramatic thrill," in one scene, by Graham Hill; Holborn Empire, Dec. 20.
My Friend the Thief, original episode, by Charles Hector and Edward Thane; Camberwell Empire, Dec. 20.
The Knife, play, in one act, by Henry Arthur Jones (Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier); Palace Theatre, Dec. 20.
Phantoms of the Wood, comedy of illusions, in one act; East Ham Palace, Dec. 20.
The Arctic, spectacular dramatic sketch, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare; Hippodrome, Dec. 27.
Billy's Money Box, farce, by Wal Pink; Canterbury and Oxford, Dec. 27.
Babes in the Wood, pantomime; East Ham Palace, Dec. 27.
The Great Unknown, dramatic episode, by Edmund Gurney; Queen's, Poplar, Dec. 27.
Robinson Crusoe, pantomime, by W. J. Mackay and Brian Daly, music by Gilbert Wells; Camberwell Empire, Dec. 27.
The Miracle, dramatic sketch, in five scenes; Olympia, Shoreditch, Dec. 27.
Puss in Boots, pantomime; Walthamstow Palace, Dec. 27.

MR. HARRY LAUDER, in New York, is repeating his former success, and going bigger than ever if that were possible.

AT the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, the artists at the top of the bill this week are Agnese and Arthur Lynch, who are a very popular turn with their American picture songs. The other attractions include Wayne and Lovell, patter comedians, in a novel musical act; Lucy Lynd, vocalist; and the Hamiltons, in their refined vocal scena. The pictures fully maintain their popularity.

ALI COGIA, Arabian magician, is the chief turn at the Ellesmere Port Hippodrome and Picture Palace. Bert Everard as a light comedian is enjoyed; Lillie Linton is well received as a comedienne; Douglas and Clark are heard to advantage in their songs and patter; and a comedian and dancer with a refreshing style is D. J. Pedley. The animated pictures are interesting.

MISS ELLA and her lions are paying their first visit to Scottie's Hippodrome, Hoyland, this week. The animals are well trained, and went through their performance on Monday night without a hitch. The tableau at the finale, showing Miss Ella as Britannia, is very pretty. The Vemians, in living statutary, are smart and refined; Phil Burt, comedian, Belsey and Hughes, Laffan B. Jolly, and Miss Pattie Burton are also in the bill, which includes pictures.

MR. SCOTT ALEXANDER (Scottie) entertained, in Scottie's Hippodrome, Hoyland, on New Year's Day, about 500 poor children of the district to a good breakfast, which was followed by an entertainment. He also made a present to all the old people of the district.

MR. RYDER DAVIS writes that he and his wife have held the names of "Ward and Davis" since 1897. But this last year or so there has cropped up another firm with the same names. Everybody in the profession, he asserts, knows that he and his wife are the first with this name. It is only fair that this should be known, as on two occasions at least confusion and loss of engagements have resulted.

A PRETTY little girl carrying a large Teddy Bear attended before Mr. Paul Taylor on Monday at Marylebone, and application was made on her behalf for a licence to enable her to take part in a variety entertainment at the Metropolitan. "But I cannot take these applications now," said the magistrate. "They must be made at the Children's Court at Clerkenwell." A similar application made to Mr. Curtis Bennett at Bow-street had been refused on the ground that the Court had no jurisdiction now that the Children Act had come into operation; and he (Mr. Paul Taylor) proposed to follow Mr. Curtis Bennett's example. A police officer explained that the child was to appear at the theatre that night, and the Children's Court does not sit until Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Paul Taylor replied he had nothing to do with that. He had no jurisdiction.

AT the Palace Theatre the really beautiful new series of life-motion studies of flowers and leafage diversified by the action of light, which Mr. Alfred Butt (with the connivance of Mr. Charles Urban) is including in "Kinemacolor," may be taken as the crowning-point of Bioscopics in Nature's tints, since they are the identical pictures that converted America's doubts into enthusiastic endorsement three weeks ago, and they demonstrate more conclusively than any previous specimens the complete solution of many photographic problems—especially with regard to the colours, blue and violet. The subjects, rich in stereoscopic effects, illustrate the intricate beauties of carnations, chrysanthemums, roses, lilies, nasturtiums, pink heath, cornflowers, gladioli, pansies, and dahlias, and they are being shown for the first time in Europe exclusively at the Palace.

ON behalf of the management of the Coliseum, an application was made at Bow-street on Tuesday for licences for the appearance of Miss Elise Craven and Master Bert Clerc. Miss Craven, he said, had been previously licensed at that Court, and at Marlborough-street also, for Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's production of *Pinkie and the Fairies*. The children appeared in a play with Mr. Cyril Maude, and the application was for an eleven o'clock licence for four weeks from Monday, although it was not thought they would be required until that hour. Sir Albert de Rutzen granted the application.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,
THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 28, March 14, 21, April 18, May 2, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, 11, May 2, 16, 23, June 6, Aug. 8, 15, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, 16, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 31, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 28, March 7, 21, April 11, 18, May 2, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, April 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Jan. 17, March 7, 28, April 4, 18, May 9, 16, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton, Feb. 28, March 14; Wolverhampton, Jan. 31, Feb. 14; T. R., Leicester, Jan. 17; Huddersfield, Feb. 21, 28.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Jan. 31, March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Jan. 17, 24, Feb. 7, onwards.
Address E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford

WANTED, First-class Attraction Jan. 31.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 7, 17 (3), 21, 28, &c., Easter.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 21, 28, March 7, 14, Easter (?).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Jan. 20 (3 nights), Feb. 14, 21, 28, May 16.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Feb. 28.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK.
Feb. 7 (?), March 7.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
March 7, 21.
March 7, 21.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT.
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attraction (Musical preferred), April 25.
Now Booking Autumn, 1910.
Now Booking Autumn, 1910.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Feb. 28 and March 14 (?).
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham First-class Pantomime or Musical Comedies.
Feb. 14, 21, 28.
Must be a very Big Production.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Jan. 31, Feb. 24 (3 nights), April 25, May 2 and 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
Feb. 21 (3 nights), April 4, 25, and May 2.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
Feb. 3 (3 nights), March 14, April 4, 11, and May 9.
STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies Jan. 31 (?), March 28, and on.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Feb. 21,
March 14,
April 11.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 21,
March 28,
JAMES BELL.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brother Etherien, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE, SCARBOROUGH NEW HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, Jan. 24, Scarborough; also Dramatic Co., or Variety Combination, Jan. 31; three nights each town. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED. First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 2, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District.
Last week, Mr. James Welch's Co.
"When Knights Were Bold."
This week, Mr. F. E. Benson's Shakespearean Co.
Next week, "Lucky Durham."
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 31, Feb. 7.
also certain onwards.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now playing to enormous business.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical and other Companies, Feb. 14, 28, March 14, 21, April 18, 25, May 2, to follow F. R. Benson, "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Merry Widow," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Diana of Dobson's," &c., &c.
Address,
FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for the
NEW THEATRE, WATFORD,
First-class Attractions, three nights, Jan. 20, 21, and 22;
also for Feb. 14, and onward.
None but the best of productions can be entertained.
Open to arrangement several Flying Matinées.
Apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER,
217, Piccadilly, London;
or 'Phone 7278 Gerrard and 151 Watford.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 10, 17 (?), 24, Feb. 7, 21 (?), March 7, Easter.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives, FAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Big Pantomime, six or twelve nights, first in town, also First-class Attraction Easter, Whit, and various onwards, also good Picture Show write in. Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 31 (three or six), Feb. 14 (three), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on. W. E. POTTS.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, suitable Attractions, March 7 and 14 (?), April 25, May 9 and 16, also various Sept., Oct., and Nov. weeks, for recognised London successes only. Silence a negative pro tem.
SIDNEY COOPER.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, York, First-class Attraction (Musical preferred), Feb. 21, March 7 and 21. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Good Musical, or other High-class Companies, for Feb. 7, and Easter week. Address, W. MORTON, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Attractions, March 21, April 11, 18, Whit, May 23, 30 June 13, 20, 27, onwards. Also Variety Combinations and Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first 3 nights Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, onwards. ALFRED MANNERS Empire T., Swindon.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for March 7 and onwards, with exceptions. Required, Sound Attractions, for Easter week, March 28.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, March 14. Can also enterain First-class Pantomime Productions next Christmas. Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford First-class Companies, Jan 17, Feb. 14, 21, 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, and March 7.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Something Real, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Spring, Grand, Chorley, business extra good, refer; also Feb. 14 28 Spring, Grand, Radcliffe, Monday, Dec. 27, £30, finishing Saturday, 1st, £70; refer Osmond and Glenville. Monday, Jan. 3, £50, refer, "Happy Holland." Add., SANTE, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Jan. 24, also few intermediate dates, onward. Address, GERALD HARDING.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies (through transferring), the last three nights of Jan. 17 and 24.
Address, J. A. CAMPBELL.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 21, March 7, and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

GRAND PIER, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, Musical Comedies or Strong Theatrical Companies, from Easter to Whit, 1910.
Apply, FRED MCCREA, Gloucester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 4 (?), 25 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21, April 4 (?), 18, May 9, 16 (?), 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30 Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24 (?), Nov 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.

Under Entirely New Management.

This Most Magnificent Modern Theatre
will Shortly Re-open under the Sole Direction of
Mr. CHARLES EVANS
(of Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate).
Resident-Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime or any Big Attraction, for the Re-opening date, Jan. 24 or 31;

Also Now Booking for
Spring, Summer Season, and Autumn.
West-End Productions,
Musical Comedies, Operas, and Good Dramas.

This Theatre was recently Re-modelled by
Frank Matcham, Esq.,
for
Lord George Sanger
at a cost of £10,000.

The Finest Theatre on the South Coast.
and the Only Theatre proper in Ramsgate.

Can Stage Any Attraction. Electric light, every convenience.
First-class Companies only received.

All communications as above.
Resident-Manager (for Mr. Chas. Evans)
HENRY BOWMAN.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a nolding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, March 14, 28;
COATBRIDGE, Feb. 17 (3 nights), March 21, 28;
AYR, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, March 7, 14;
FALKIRK, Feb. 21, March 2 (4 nights);
KIRKCALDY, Feb. 7, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights).
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 6590 Gerrard.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, from March to Dec., 1910, 8 Leading Attractions, 8.
Dramatic or Musical Comedy.
It will pay Good Companies to play this town.
They can be Billed.
Have Plans out and Seats Booked,
and preliminary Notices in Newspapers
two or three weeks before opening.
the intervening weeks being given to Variety, which is no way interferes with the Legitimate, the Public not being surfeited, are naturally anxious and hungry for good strong drawing attratcions; there being so few, are sure of doing good business.
Already booked:
"The Dairymaids," Sept. 5.
"The Merry Widow," Oct. 3.
Managers may refer to above as to how they were treated and the holding capacity.
All coms. to THOS. HOLMES, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
Feb. 7, 28, March 21, London,
and
March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11,
Provinces and Scotland.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Various dates,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be first-class. Address, MANAGERS.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 24 and 25 (2 nights, 1 matinée, March 28 (Easter), and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical Pieces preferred), for March 7 (re-opening week), 14, 21, 28, April 4, May 2, 9, Oct. 9, 17, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, good Company, Jan. 29 (3 nights). Good opportunity for trial of London Production.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, May 23, June 13, 27, July 4.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for Jan. 24 and Feb. 28, onwards, good Drawing Pantomimes and Dramas, twice nightly. Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO. Seats 1,200
WANTED, Musical Attractions, or Comedy 1910. Easter and Whit Week, July 21 (3 nights), July 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 inclusive, Sept. 8 to 26, inclusive.
Address, THE MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, BILSTON.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 24, on.
MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 24 (week), 31 (3 nights), Feb. 14 (week), March 10 (3 nights), and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 21, May 2, 9, and Autumn. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
One of the largest and best-appointed Theatres in Yorkshire. Good band, staff, resident artist, &c.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Jan. 17, first in Hoyland for two years; also Big Pantomimes, Musical Comedies, and Star Variety Combinations. All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Theatres in Wales, Jan. 24, also Vacant Jan. 31 (South); also Vacant in Various Districts, Jan. 24, Feb. 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 24.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Feb. 7, 21, March 7, 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, March 21, 28.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 21, March 28.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, New Theatre Royal, Blyth-by-Sea.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
New Theatre Royal, Blyth-by-Sea.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7.
Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7.
Weeks of Feb. 21 and March 7.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14, 21, March 28, April 4, 11, May 2, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Gaiety Theatre, Dundee (12 nights).
The biggest business done at the Arcade Theatre, Stirling, for sixteen years.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31.
Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Jan. 10, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, N.B.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
Jan. 31 (South or Midlands),
Feb. 7, 14 (South or Midlands),
Feb. 28 (Midlands or North).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
New Royalty Theatre, London, W.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all Oct.
Address, POLINI, 93 Penge-road London S.E.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, April 4, 11, and Oct. 31.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 14, 21, and 28.
FRANK M. THORNE, Metropole, Gateshead.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, and on, with exceptions; now playing four weeks' season to crowded houses at Coronet Theatre, London. Letters or wires to FRANCIS TREVOR, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Jan. 24, follow Harrogate.
Third visit.
Wire, LOIE ESMOND, to-day, Pretoria Hall, Okehampton; Jan. 10, Garrison T., Bulford Camp, 5th visit.

A First-class Attraction.
MR. LOUIS CALVERT'S PRODUCTION OF
"SUNDAY,"
as Produced and Played by
Miss JULIA NEILSON and Mr. FRED TERRY
at the Comedy Theatre, London.
One of the Finest Plays
and most complete Productions travelling.
The entire Scenery, Furniture, and Properties Toured.
Miss JANET LIND as "SUNDAY."
Cast Chosen and Rehearsed by Mr. Calvert.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 (between Newcastle and Glasgow), 28, March 14.
Sole English Representative for Mr. Calvert,
WILLIAM GIFFARD.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Shakespearean Répertoire, also "The Three Musketeers," "Ingomar," "Virginius," "Jeanie Deans," &c.
WANTED, Feb. 21, Feb. 21.
Add., c/o LOXTON, Prospect Hill, Redditch.

"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Jan. 24, March 14.
Jan. 24, March 14.
Stalybridge receipts £197; refer F. Macnaghten.
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
Jan. 31, Feb. 7.
Jan. 31, Feb. 7.
To follow Grand Theatre, Derby (return).
HARRY FOXWELL, Empire, Swindon.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Attraction,
Week of Jan. 31,
Week of March 21.
Address, C. and F. RENAD,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 14 (?), 28,
March 28.
Admitted to be one of the Biggest Money-makers Touring. Miss Annie Bell, supported by Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee and Star Company.
Wire for Feb. 14, 28. Wire,
JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (follow Leicester), Feb. 7 (precede Scarborough), Feb. 28, March 7, 28,
and on, with exceptions.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON, P. T., Portsmouth.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO.
"TEMPTATION," by Russell Vaun
(Part Author of "The Great Awakening.")
WANTED, Theatres. Only Spring Vacant Dates, Feb. 14, March 21, 28, and April 4.
Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Abercrombie Hotel, Bootle-street, Manchester.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, March 7, 28, April 4, 18.
E. BERTRAM, 6, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

J. PITT HARDACRE, "DRINK."
WANTED, Theatres, from now till Feb. 26.
Address, Woodlea, Ashton-on-Mersey.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
The Great Money-maker.
Again at Leigh this week,
following Holidays,
Playing to Big Business.
Receipts jump up nightly.
An All-Star Cast.
Miss Isla Garnett-Fane as The Girl.
Mr. Harry Scott as The Hero.
Mr. Edward M. Heanley as The Betrayer.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Winnie Waters.
Vacant,
Feb. 14, May 2, 9, June 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
Stands alone.
A Production Second to None.
A Cast of All-round Excellence.
Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Sterling.
Vacant,
Feb. 7, May 9, June 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
A Certain Success.
Enormous Production.
Great Plant of Printing.
Strong Heart Play.
Powerful Cast.
Vacant,
March 7 (through changing), March 21, April 11.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21.
Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Opera House, Londonderry.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter.
FRED BULMER, Opera House, Londonderry.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and
TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, 28,
June 28, July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1, 15, and Oct. 24, and Xmas and Spring, 1911.
Otherwise Autumn Fully Booked. Everything carried. JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO; HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA. Wire, ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Ebbw Vale. Monday, Clarence, Pontypridd.

MISS MARY NEIL,
in her Latest Successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS"
and
"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, for either Play,
Jan. 10, 17,
Wire for Jan. 10.
Wire for Jan. 17.
March 21, 28.
April 11, 18, and 25.
Coms. to GEORGE KIRK.
This and next, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee,"
Feb. 28 March 14, May 2, 9, Aug. 1.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Palace, Watford.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock."
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSON as LADY ISABEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Write or wire,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

MAUDE WESTERN'S TOURING SUCCESS.
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES,"
By Joe Ellis.
The Money Magnet, "FOLLY'S FORTUNES."
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES," the Play Success of 1910.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, to follow Burnley.
Three Dates offered, but out of route.
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES,"
Strong Drama, with Variety Introductions.
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES."
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES."
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES."
The Play Success of 1910.
Ask Clarence Sounes his opinion. He saw the whole show through on Monday.
"FOLLY'S FORTUNES"
is the Play to buck up Business.
Coms.
BUCKSTONE, Garrison Theatre, Tidworth.

"THE OLD HOME."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 24, Easter, April 4.
Jan. 24, Easter, April 4.
£300 worth of Properties carried.
Star Caste, including Mr. Charles Franmore, Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, &c.
Wire E. A'DELL.
To-day, T. R., South Shields;
next Grand, Nelson, Lancs.

Enormous Success of the New Play, "HIS REAL WIFE." Chas. A. Clarke's Masterpiece. Tremendous Houses at Court Theatre, Warrington. Refer Mr. A. M. Loader.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept., and Oct.
Address, T. E. WARD, Gaiety T., Burnley.

MR. STEPHEN PRITT'S MAGNIFICENT CO., presenting the Unique Detective Drama,
"ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
Which contains the finest Comedy ever written.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 17 and 24.
Wire, PRITT,
To-day, Empire, Fleetwood; next, Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, Jan. 31, London or near, "The Private Secretary," Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's No. 1 Co. FRANCIS TREVOR, Coronet Theatre, W.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, all August, Sept. 19, betwen Star, Liverpool, and Osborne, Manchester, Oct. 3, precede Star, Swansea, and on, with exceptions.
"The story read by millions." J. FORBES KNOWLES, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

Mr. T. N. WALTER'S COMPANY.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
WANTED, 7 and 21.
and few Spring Dates.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
All communications to
T. N. WALTER,
133-135, High Holborn, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Dirigible, London."

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
The Record Breaker.
Terrific Business again this week at Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31.
Jan. 31,
Jan. 31,
Feb. 14, and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
Another "Winner."
Wanted, Jan. 31,
Jan. 31,
Jan. 31,
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, Jan. 24,
Jan. 24.
Jan. 24.
Re Dates, address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
The above will be Toured in the Spring and Autumn, 1910.
Special Scenery.
New Plant of Printing.
An Excellent All-round Cast.
Each Artist carefully selected for their various Rôles.
Managers of Theatres where the Play has been produced know the remarkable Drawing Powers of this Exceptional Attraction.
No Expense will be spared
to ensure a Successful week or weeks.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Bookings and Pencillings include
London, Liverpool,
Manchester (six weeks),
Blackburn, Preston,
Birmingham, &c.
Several Summer and Autumn Dates vacant for same (by arrangement).
Address,
J. E. BARNES,
Prince's Theatre,
Accrington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Pantomime,
Jan. 31,
Jan. 31,
and
Feb. 7,
Feb. 7,
North preferred.
Re Dates, address,
FRED GRANVILLE, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14.
One of the Finest Domestic Dramas on the Road, Bar None. The play beautifully mounted, and written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Feb. 28, Feb. 28, Feb. 28.
Special band to parade; excellent cast.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 21, 28.
Managers needing Good Sound Attractions wire for above shows to F. G. KIMBERLEY,
T. R., Darwen;
next, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, and HINTON'S,
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Feb. 24, to precede Portsmouth, and Feb. 7, to follow; also Easter and Whit weeks. The Greatest Domestic, Novel, Moral Play on the Road to-day. This week at Darwen, Monday night, the worst night of the week, refer Managers needing this Big Attraction for Jan. 24, Feb. 7. Wire, KIMBERLEY, T. R., Darwen; next, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Play.
WANTED, May 9, 23, 30,
and June 6.
Theatre Royal, Belfast.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT," by F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Feb. 21, between Edmonton and Metropole, Birmingham. Address, HERBERT VERE, 108, Greenwich-road, S.E.

Mr. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A Pair of Spectacles" or Répertoire, Jan. 17, 24, and onwards.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31,
Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Jan. 10, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, N.B.

GRAND XMAS PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, for this Beautiful Production. A lovely Pantomime, Brimful of Fun, and strictly refined. Magnificent scenery, gorgeous dresses, splendid cast of selected Artists. Proprietors invited to see the Show. This, Princess Theatre, Llandudno; next week, Theatre Royal, Goole, return visit. Address, BARRETT, Theatre Royal, Goole, Yorkshire.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR."
Produced at New Theatre, Oxford.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 7, for above. The first Pantomime produced in the University Town on Boxing Day for many years, and a Great Success.
Address, BRYDON PHILLIPS,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for next Christmas Season. Address BRYDON-PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

"UNDER THE IRON HEEL."
WANTED, for this Emphatic Success, Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14. Refer F. W. Warden, Esq., Belfast; W. Wright, Esq., T. R., Leicester. Wire, WILSON HOWARD, T. R., Leicester. Next week, T. R., King's Lynn (3); T. R., Loughborough (3).

"OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY."
"WOMAN OF THE PEOPLE."
WANTED, Jan. 17, through obliging Manager, between Hetton and Treherbert, South Wales. Wire, ROWLAND and NEGUS, T. R., Colne; next, Hetton.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIME.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Complimented by the Management,
Booked to return East Ham Palace,
after two weeks, Jan. 17.
This speaks for itself. Come and see it.
WALTHAMSTOW PAL. Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Known, only vacancy, Jan. 31.
Share or Certainty.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only Organisation of its kind in the World.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, for this first-class variety company. Every item a recognised star act. Big load of scenery, props., and effects carried.
All coms., SCOTTIE, Arcade Theatre, Sterling.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatre, Summer, 1910, for Stock Season of High-class Plays. ETHEL GRIFFIES, "A Girl's Cross Roads" Co., Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Feb. 7, for First-class Production of "Bo-Peep."
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

ARTISTS WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Acknowledged Juvenile Leading ~~Actor; First-class Heavy Leading Actor~~; must be acknowledged artists of ability. MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, immediately, six refined Ladies and Gentlemen, to rehearse Musical Comedy, London production. Write or call, JACOBS and MITCHELL, 10, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Powerful Leading Actor, also ditto, with strong Emotional power; also strong Juvenile Leading Lady; open Jan. 24, London. All particulars, lowest terms, and photo., LEONARD MORTIMER, 158, Clapham-road, S.W. Letters only, no callers.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, for Responsible Parts, for a few weeks in Feb. Particulars, last two refs. Also Lady and Gent., to Play Small Parts, &c. Cannot accept other people's pupils. Letters only to A. SMITH-NEILL, 9, Lower Rock-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, capable of Strong Parts, Jan. 17, London. Photos., &c. MANAGER, 137, Biddulph-mansions, Maida Vale, W. Letters only.

WANTED, good smart Young Lady; sing, dance, and act well. Tour to start Feb. 14. Box 7,100, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Smart Soubrette; must be able to accompany. Terms, photo., and full particulars, G., 6, Fielding-terrace, Ealing Common, W.

WANTED, Known, opportunity occurs for Smart Amateur Actress to join established Touring Company, understudy and small parts. Apply first instance, Box 7,095, "The Era."

WANTED, a Heavy Gentleman, for Legree, in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Terms, age, height, photo., references, and full particulars, to CHARLES HARRINGTON, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, twelve nights.

WANTED, immediately, for Harry Roxbury's Productions, Comedian for part of irascible Major. Photos., terms, height, &c., HARRY ROXBURY, Empire, Bradford.

WANTED, Comedian, for Part of Page; rehearse Monday next. Age, names, addresses last two references, photo., lowest salary required, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester. Mark envelopes "Page."

WANTED, for "Flood Tide," smart young Ladies and Gentlemen to walk on; must have good appearance. Apply, SELWYN, Equestrian Hotel, Blackfriars-road, next door Surrey Theatre.

WANTED, Good Amateurs for Concert Tours; Pupils Coached and Engaged. Small tuition fee. Concert Direction, 23, Stembridge-road, Anerley, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Chorus Ladies, open at once. Send photo., lowest terms.
BARRETT, Theatre Royal, Goole, Yorks.

WANTED, Soprano, Contralto, Tenor, Baritone, for Refined Music Hall Sketch, good voices essential, and musical comedy artists preferred. Apply by letter, state experience, enclosing photograph, to KENNETH LYLE, Hippodrome, Oxford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, good Contralto (German or Swiss), for Tour with old-established Tyrolean Troupe. Photo and particulars, Box 7,079, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, by First-class Solo Violin, Actor-Vocalist, to join in Sketch. Write, H. S., 87, Alcester-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, The New Francis Club, 425, Strand, W.C. (entrance in Harvey's Buildings). For ladies. Subscription yearly £1 1s., or paid weekly 6d. No entrance fee. Temporary membership and use of Room for Interviews, Rehearsals, &c., by arrangement. Use of cosy sitting-room, piano, circulating library. Theatrical papers and address. Dining rooms. Exceptional tariff. Room to let, for rehearsing or interviews.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Young Lady possessing Artistic temperament and Dramatic ability, Engagement, Musical; would accept small salary for genuine offer. No agents; slight Professional experience. 4, Frithville-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagements, by a Refined Young Lady, Sacred, Sentimental, and Light Comedy Vocalist, Ballad Concerts, Banquets. Box 7,104, "The Era."

WANTED, by Theo. Leslie, immediate offers, Light Comedian, Musical Comedy, Light Baritone, Dude, or Juv. resp. This week, Post Office, Bury St. Edmunds; next week, Post Office, Brightlingsea.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Recognised Principal Burlesque Actress of ability and repute for Ganem in "Forty Thieves," through illness, to open Monday, Jan. 17, at Blackburn. Rehearse Jan. 13. Send full particulars, with photo., age, height, and references, also to save time lowest terms, to JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, through illness, Principal Girl, Jas. Kiddie's Pantomimes; must be good Vocalist. Address, Hippodrome, Huddersfield; next, Grand, Halifax.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop-juggling Effects, fine speciality for panto., Vacant Jan. 17, 24, 31, and Feb. Next week, Hippo., Ilford.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio, High-class Scenery, at lowest prices.
W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-av., Hurlingham, S.W.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, &c., good work at fair prices; contractor to the Broadhead Circuit, T. C. DALY, Hinckley-street, Bradford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager, for First-class Variety Theatre, Glasgow, Character must bear the strictest investigation.

Age, terms, and particulars to
Box 7,093, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Nottingham, Assistant-Manager, to take charge of advertising and press department; security required for £200 with Guarantee Company. State salary, age, height, and forward references, with photo., enclose stamped addressed envelope for return of same. Letters only. T. ALLAN EDWARDES, Temple House, Derby.

WANTED, Gentleman, good address, about 30; sobriety indispensable, for Management; salary commence £100 per annum, with advances. Premium and references required. Box 7,102, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Gentleman, to act as Assistant-Manager for a well-known Theatrical and Variety Agency in the West End; one used to the business preferred; progressive salary. Address, Box 7,105, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced, abstemious Man, speaking English, French, German, Engagement, Acting-Management; apparatus fixer, Pantomimic or small Speaking Parts, &c. M., 124, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham.

WANTED, by London Manager, with good experience; position as Manager at Provincial Hall; one where business requires working up preferred.. L. H., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager, Assistant, Advance, Picture Palace, Tour, &c.; good experience and references. HENRY, 8, Commercial-road, Pimlico, London.

WANTED, Position in Theatre or Music Hall, by a Young Man, age 26, Shorthand-typist, quick at Figures, over 12 years' business experience; excellent refs. from well-known Managers as Assistant Acting-Manager and Secretary. Could undertake any work in Theatre, whole time or evening only. Apply, ASSISTANT, Box 7,092, "The Era."

WANTED, by Practical Electrician, appointment as chief; just completed large installation, being thoroughly experienced in Theatre and Stage Effects; well acquainted with Bioscope and Lanterns. PARKER, 66, Latimer-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, as Billposter, &c., Music Hall or Theatre, permanent; highest refs.; total abstainer. W. VALLANCE, 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
to Augment
Renowned English Ladies' Orchestra,
Touring Switzerland,

Experienced Lady First Violinist,
to join last week of Jan.;
good appearance and competence essential.

State lowest weekly salary (all found), direct to
MACGREGOR,
Predigergasse 10, Zürich, Switzerland.

WANTED, good Violin and Cornet, for New Orient Liner, sailing Jan. 21. Apply, BANDMASTER, 21, Daneville-road, Denmark Hill, S.E. Castle or Orient men preferred.

WANTED, First Violin, to open immediately, used to Variety; good sight reader. State experience. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Reliable Cornet, Open Monday; others, for rinks, open later. Only experienced performers, two sessions. Archie Glenn communicate. Wire age and lowest, CHAS. BLAKER, Mus. Dir., Rhondda Rinks, Ltd., Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, a Firts-class Cornet Player, for Musical Show, fully booked; permanency to right man. Only the best need apply, stating age, height, and salary required, to Box 7,096, "The Era."

LEIGH HIPPODROME, LANCS.
WANTED, to Open Monday, Jan. 17, Good Solo Cornet, well experienced in variety. Permanency. Salary 27s. 6d. and matinée. References, &c., MANAGER.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and Trumpet, salary £4 per week. Only first-class players, with Concert experience, apply, JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical-Director to the Corporation, Brighton Municipa. Orchestra, Brighton.

WANTED, a First-class Solo Cornet to open Jan. 17. Terms and references to
A. M. LOADER, Opera House, St. Helens.

PALACE, MAIDSTONE.
WANTED, Cornet, used to Variety. State lowest terms to C. J. LOMAS, Mus.-Dir.

WANTED, Cornet-Horn or Posthorn Player to combine Oboe or Milanese Pipe; only sixteen bars to play. TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, for Joseph Poole's Myrioramas, to open Jan. 17, good Double Bass, must wear evening dress and assist with fittings when travelling. J. W. POOLE, Masonic Hall, Milford Haven.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, thoroughly reliable Double Bass. Lowest terms and references to J. GLADWIN (Manager for Mr. Somnes).

WANTED, a really brilliant Solo Trombone, to Tour with Military Band; must have a good firm strong tone, and be well up in all the journals. A guaranteed permanent engagement to the right man. Reply, stating full experience, age, and lowest salary, to HAYDEN, Empire Theatre Sheffield.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, 'Cellist, Empire; and good Leader Opera House. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

WANTED, good 'Cello. Open at Once. Permanency. Terms, age, and refs. to
KELL, Empire, York.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, for Pictures and Variety. Address, Cottrell's Pictures, Theatre Royal, Thornley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting Ireland Leader, Solo Cornet, Second Cornet, Clarionets, Horn, Trombone, Bombardon, Euphonium, and Double Drums, to commence Easter Monday, March 28, 1910. Apply SIR EDWARD HANNEFORD, 27, Third-avenue, Consbrook-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED, Experienced Bandsmen,
for Special Reserve Battalion,
near London,
Cornets, Clarionets, Horns, Bassoon, Bass, Side and Bass Drums; extra Band Pay in addition to Government pay and allowances. Only capable players need apply. C. MAHILLON and Co.,
182, Wardour-street, London, W.

SOUTHPORT PIER CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Band, for coming season. For full particulars, apply, MANAGER, The Pier, Southport.

WANTED, Musicians, Brass, and Double Drummer, Rink in South; three sessions daily; also Leader, with own music.
Address, Box 7,097, "The Era."

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM,
LONG GROVE, EPSOM, SURREY.
WANTED, Male Attendants; must be tall and strongly built, unmarried, and not exceeding 35 years of age. Wages £29 per annum, rising (on satisfactory completion of six months' probation) to £31, and then by £1 per annum to £40 with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Asylum experience not essential. Ability to play First Clarionet (B flat), First Violin, or Bassoon will a recommendation. Daily leave, subject to convenience of service, 8 p.m., to 10 p.m.. Weekly leave, 1½ days. Annual leave, first six months (after nine months' service), six days, the following twelve months twelve days, each succeeding twelve months fourteen days. Applications, stating age, height, experience, and previous occupation, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to be sent to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age, Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians before accepting Engagements in Sunderland, to communicate with J. MURGATROYD, 103, Ward-street, Sunderland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Leonard Spohr Tute, the well-known and thoroughly competent Conductor. First-class Permanent Appointment. 18, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED, permanency, Conductor (Piano), also brilliant Leader; 15 years' experience; steady and reliable. CONDUCTOR, 67, Coalshaw Green-road, Hollinwood, near Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Conductor, Variety, Musical Comedy, Concert, or any Business; age 29. Orchestra supplied if required. Highest refs. Apply with terms, CONDUCTOR, 55, Bournemouth-road, Merton Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ruby Verni, Leader Violinist, six years Grand and Comic Opera. Offers, C/o O'CONNOR, Carl Rosa Co., this, Royal, Blackburn; next, Court, Wigan.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, L.R.A.M., experienced Soloist, Disengaged, Engagement in good Concert Party.
Apply, Box 7,085, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; excellent references. Wire or write. VIOLINIST, 5, Kingston-road, Earlsdon, Coventry.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, any Business; at Liberty Jan. 3, 1910, Manchester district preferred. C/o 184, Church-lane, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, by Violinist, good Engagement in High-class Orchestra or Good Touring Co. as Leader or Repetiteur; three years Carl Rosa Co. Excellent references. LEWIS, 22, Darlington-road, Southsea.

WANTED an Engagement, by experienced First Violin, any business; excellent refs.; can take the lead if required. VIOLINIST, 29, Bromehead-street, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin; experienced. Write, VIOLINIST 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, Cornet, any business, thoroughly experienced; could supply Rink Band, String or Brass. DAVID WILLIAMS, 57, Cardigan-crescent, Leeds.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Cornet, steady, reliable, Disengaged Jan. 8. CORNET, 55, Winstanley-crescent, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by young Cornetist, experienced; London if possible; Orchestra preferred; good refs. J. A., 44, British-st., Bow, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, good Second Cornet, experienced any business, thoroughly reliable, age 24. CORNET, New Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, Durham.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Rink or otherwise; Orchestra or Military Band; good references and experience. Box 7,083, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, combine Bombardon, Theatre, Variety, or Rink; good references. SMITH, c/o Goodare, Mount Pleasant, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass; competent, experienced, and thoroughly reliable; good references. Liberty now. ALFRED SUNDERLAND, 24, Convent-lane, Hull.

WANTED, Known, First-class Double Bass, at Liberty; thoroughly experienced in Theatre and Variety; any distance. BASSO, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenhays, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by String Bass, experienced in all Lines, Theatre, Variety, &c.; references. WM. SMITH, 27, Charles Holden-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement; experienced, any business; good refs.
TROMBONE, 41, Fairmead-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Situation for Youth 16, Plays Trombone and Violin; live in preferred. TROMBONE, 4, South-terrace, Hailton, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced, Trombonist; excellent performer; good appearance; highest refs. 379, High-street North, Manor Park, E.

WANTED, Known, Amy Luraine, Euphonium, Disengaged. Permanent address, Mayblossom, Belvedere, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Euphonium, in good Rink, with two sessions per day only; good references. 271, Shoreham-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn or Saxhorn, any Business; Liberty Jan. 10. Address, HORN, 6, Daisy Bank-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by French Hornist, young, abstainer, any business.
E. CHEETHAM, 113, Charlotte-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced French Horn, any Business; permanency preferred. ALFRED WARD, c/o Brearley, 271, Bilsland-drive, Glasgow.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, about to leave Royal Navy, situation, Theatre or Music Hall Orchestra preferred. Usual references, address, W. BUCKLER, H.M.S. Warrior, Portland.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged through disappointment; experienced; good references. LEACH, North View, Illingworth, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Oboist, Theatre or Music Hall. Open at once. W. HELLIWELL, Horsehold, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, in Theatre or Music Hall, by experienced Flautist.
Box 7,090, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, any business.
FLAUTIST, 5, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Constance Upstone, A.T.C.L., Solo Pianist, Soprano Vocalist, sight reader, MSS., good accompanist; first-class references. 11, Willoughby-park, Tottenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orchestra or Self; any business; good reader, steady, reliable; excel. refs. 24, Alexandra-road, Ton Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, thoroughly experienced; can open Monday, Jan. 10. 17, Woodhalldene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, used to any business; excellent refs.; open at once. WHITEHEAD, Empire, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Vocalist (Contralto), just concluded 20 weeks Tour with Pictures; experienced. MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-street, Hendon.

WANTED, Easter and Summer, for Poppy Ladies' Orchestras and Singers; now Olympia, London, Altrincham Rink, Pavilon, Wolverhampton. POPPIES, 19, Bedford-place, Brighton

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestra, free Jan. 10, smart Rink Band, free 11th. For terms write, Madame BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.
WANTED, Managers, Committees, and Musical Directors of Summer Resort Piers, Pavilions, Parks, Theatres, &c., to know that the above Society, consisting only of Musicians of High-class ability, are prepared to provide Full String Orchestras and First-class Military Bands (with or without Conductors), for Season and other Engagements. Individual players at Liberty for same; efficiency guaranteed. Qualified Musicians of repute earnestly invited to join. "Local Centres" (branches) established in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Oldham, &c. For full particulars write the Hon. Secretary, JOSEPH. BALL, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme, Manchester. N.B. — Semi-amateurs are requested to refrain from writing. This class is not admitted.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.
WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, C/o "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Known, the Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra, now booking; smart uniform. Apply, DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, Nella Ladies' Orchestra, three to any number; just concluded Successful Engagement, ten months, London Hotel. References. 23, Marlborough-hill, N.W.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates apply, Madam SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. CARTER, 32 Tenison street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Useful Family want Shop with Show or Circus, Violin, 'Cello, Flute and Piccolo inside, or Fife Band Parade; generally useful and willing to work. BANDMASTER, 5, Great Crosthwaite, Keswick.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WALTER SCOTT AND SONS' CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.
TENTING SEASON, IRELAND, 1910.
WANTED, to open Easter Monday, March 28, Circus Artists in all Lines, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Clowns, Serios, Sisters, and Irish Comedians, anything new, novel, and sensational. A first-class Agent; one that knows the country well; Ring Master, one that can Lecture a little; Stud Groom, and Tent Master; also a Band of Nine. All letters, with full particulars, to
Sir EDWARD HANNEFORD, 27, Third-avenue,
Consbrook-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

HANNEFORD'S CIRCUS, HIPPODROME, and MENAGERIE, TOUR 1910, IRELAND.
WANTED, for the above, First-class Circus Artists in all Lines, Acrobats, Animal Acts, Aerial Acts, Irish Comedians. A good useful family of Performers write. Those doing more than one Act preferred, for long engagement. Tent Master, Stud Groom, also Band. All to commence Easter Monday, March 28, 1910. Apply,
Sir EDWARD HANNEFORD, 27, Third-avenue,
Consbrook-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED, Talent, of the Highest Standard, for the Arena,
including Aerial Shows,
Animal Shows, &c.

Anything New and Sensational, and
Fresh to Birmingham.
Money no object.

Wire or write immediately to
A. EDWARD INSHAW,
Director and Organiser,
American and Continental Circus,
Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

Will the Craigs please communicate immediately? Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, First-class Aerial, Animal, Ground Acts, immediate dates; Comedy Act, 17th (Midlands), all lines, Pavilion, Wolverhampton, Feb., on, cheap numbers, Pictures (Lancs., Yorks.), Rink Specialities. Full list bookings, lowest. PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Circus, Proprietors, and Hippodrome Managers to Know that the Only and Original
THREE ROYAL OHMYS
will shortly be at Liberty. Now appearing at Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow, to crowded houses. Hundreds turned away at each performance; the Record Business ever done since the Circus was built. The Three Royal Ohmys are the Talk of Glasgow. No Circus complete without this Great Show. Can be seen till further notice at Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, The Stephenson Equestrian Family are making the Greatest Success at Curzon Hall, Birmingham, ever known. Praised by Press and Public alike, and Harry Stephenson idolised by the élite of Birmingham for his great Jockey Act, and on Monday and Wednesday evenings was the recipient of elaborate floral tributes from admirers of this great act. The vast audience, performers, and staff alike held spellbound whilst this act in the ring. Address, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Jan. 10, the Flying Oreniuses (one Lady, two Gentlemen), Stage Aerial Act. Per. add., 67, Walcot-square, S.E. Wire for Mon.

WANTED, Known, The Alvenos, Lady and Gent, Sensational Revolving Breakaway Ladder Act, Liberty Monday, also for Tenting. Wire or write offers, ALVENOS, White City, Gill-st., Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly; also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Lady Dancers for Troupe; also Amateurs for Small Halls, London. GRAHAM'S, 15a, Electric-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 17, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists to support "The Devil's Sunday" at Wakefield, Jan. 17. Lowest terms to SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Jan. 17, onwards; good break going North; Hall small. State absolute lowest. Barred nowhere. J. F. FRANKLIN, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for Queen's Hall Picture Palace.
GEO. BEESLEY, Darlaston.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROMES AND COMPANIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Monday, onward. Coms., SCOTTIE, Hippo., Hoyland.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future dates.
Fullest particulars, MANAGER,
as above.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Jan. 31, on, for small Picture Hall in Lancashire.
PLOWDEN Agency, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank, N.B.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines.
HY. HEARN,
late with Messrs. Broadhead's Hippodrome,
Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Variety Artists,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY. Specially for RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY, the 17th and 24th. RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY. Write me, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham. 'Phone Sydenham 1093.

GRAND PIER, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, Variety Artists,
for Summer Season, 1910.
Lowest terms to Sole Agent,
FRED MCCREA, Gloucester.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Jan. 31, and other dates. Nothing too big, nothing too small, if good. We can offer artists twenty weeks' engagement King's Lynn, Fleetwood, Farnworth, Wigan, Gainsborough, Worcester, Swindon, Grantham, Scarborough, Castleford, Bacup, Wellingborough, Northampton, Harrogate, &c.
Must have your full list of bookings and permanent address.
If you played with us on same bill, say when and where. Artists who can supply a second act (if required), say so. Comfortable engagements and sure money.
Terms, &c.,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
The Empire, Liverpool.

PALACE, DURHAM
(on main line).
WANTED, Star Artists;
must have drawing powers,
for immediate
and future dates.
Could arrange
with good Panto.
Twice Nightly.

Apply,
T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for several Music Halls in the North; big Tops for immediate dates. Apply, Signor PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY,
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Jan. 17, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North. Lowest, LAWSON,
Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

HORACE CAMPKIN'S AGENCY,
14, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Tel., "Campkin, Liverpool. 'Phone, 1192 Royal.
WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, Jan. 17, onward, to communicate, with
Full Bookings, Terms, Lithos., &c.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines,
Jan. 17, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Jan. 17, onwards. Terms, Bookings,
Big Acts for Galas, May 16, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone 9261 Cent. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105 Strand, London.
WANTED, for Jan. 17, and onward,
First-class Artists in all Lines.
First-class Artists in all Lines.
Especially good Serios and Comedian.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Agents, Artists, and others to note, all applications for engagements at the new Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to Benson's Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., 24, Manchester-chambers, 46A, Market-street, Manchester.

TIVOLI, PENTRE, S. WALES.
WANTED, Known.—Pooles' Theatres, Ltd., hereby give notice that this variety theatre has been leased to Mr. Will Stone as from Jan. 24, 1910, and that all contracts with artists for appearance at the Tivoli, Pentre, after Jan. 22, 1910, are at an end. Mr. Stone may take over some of the bookings. Apply to him.
Address,
Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for Easter,
March 21, 28,
Whit Week,
and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Warted.
Big
Stars
in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
WILL SLEY, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars for immediate Dates, Halls; Trio or Quartette Dancers. Tour. Young Baritone (pianist preferred), Tour.
GEO. AYTOUN, 61, Camberwell New-road, S.E.
'Phone 793 Brixton.
The Dunlops wire address.

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Big Turn (bottom), open Monday next, Jan. 10. Wire,
SHERWOOD and Co.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

MORRISON'S AGENCY.
Tel. address, "Vaudeville, Middlesbrough."
WANTED, March 7, 14, and onwards, Star Acts, Comedians, and Big Specialities, Star Acts, Comedians, and Big Specialities, of all kinds.
Terms, with list of Bookings, to
MORRISON'S Agency, Taylor-st., Middlesbro.'

WANTED, Known, always Vacancies for Big Acts. Communicate immediately, can book you. Lowest terms, particulars, first instance. CHARLES DEITRICH'S Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
Jan. 10, onwards.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Jan. 17, onwards, Speciality Variety Acts; full bookings imperative. Re Tivoli, Pentre, will Artists booked through my Agency wait one week before arranging elsewhere to allow me if possible to transfer dates to New Management. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Twice nightly.
WANTED, for Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 21, onwards, Variety Combinations and Panto) mimes, percentage or certainty. All communications to WALTER BATTY, Baltic Hotel.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

YARMOUTH AND LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
WANTED, Good Tops, and Artists of every Description.
Immediate Dates and Dates onward.
Apply, with lowest terms, &c.,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.
Impossible to answer all.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool.
'Phone 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops.
Jan. 17, 24, and onwards.
Also First-class Acts in all Lines.
Also First-class Acts in all Lines.
Nothing too Big.

CHARLES DARE'S FAMOUS MINSTRELS.
WANTED, Monday next, Big Top or Bottom Bill. Seven Brilliant Comedians and Vocalists. Wire, Empire, Birmingham; or TOM SHAW and Co.
Jan. 17, Coliseum, Glasgow.
Vacant Jan. 24.

WANTED, Big Atractions, all Kinds, Star Tops for Jan. 10, 17,
Artists all Lines.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
18, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Startling Attractions, big Sensational Novelties and really Funny Acts, anything with strong magnetic drawing powers, for Jan. 17, onward. Lowest terms to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top Liners only.
Continent and Britain.
Real Novelties always welcomed.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Big Tops of Bills, nothing too big, with drawing powers, all lines.
Also Good Comedy Acts.
Wanted, Big Top for immediate dates.
Send full particulars, direct, HARRY SLINGSBY.

CENTRAL PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Known, the undersigned is prepared to negotiate with responsible persons for providing First-class Attractions or Combinations on Shares or Rental, for Easter, Whitsuntide, and months of July, August, and Sept., 1910; the finest Pier Pavilion in the World.
E. HILL, Manager.

WANTED, one or two Smart Young Ladies, about 5ft., to Sing and Dance; also Toe Dancer; tall, handsome Chorus Ladies for West End Production. Call, ASHBURN'S Agency, 295, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Acrobatic Dancers and Singers, chance of a lifetime for good girls and workers.
Full particulars to Box 7,107, "Era."

WANTED, young, pretty Comedienne, good voice, good buck dancer, permanency.
Apply, 4, Pimlico-road, S.W.

WANTED, for First-class Portable Theatre, Comedian with turns, also Responsible Lady and Dramatic and Variety Pianist; all must be young. WAL CURTIS, 26, Ipswich-street, Stowmarket.

WANTED, for Special Night, at Epsom, Jan. 17, really First-class Ventriloquist;
also a good up-to-date Conjurer;
both must be really clever.
F. DARRELL AND Co., 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Boys, age about 15 to 16, height about 4ft. 10in; good voices essential.
Apply, F. LEO, 8, Clifden-gardens, Twickenham.

WANTED, Smart Lady Trapeze Performer, to open at once, with Troupe. Apply, TRAPEZE, 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, at once, good Comedy Bar Performer, all-round Gymnast preferred; easy job, plenty work, good money. MATHEWS, Box 7,081, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Comedy Bar Worker. Tricks and lowest salary first letter.
Box 7,091, "The Era."

WANTED, by Renowned Gymnasts, Young Man, age from 20 to 25, must be single, for Stage Aerial Act; must be experienced as Catcher. Reply or call, THOS. EUGENE, 20, Medusa-road, Catford, London, S.E.

WANTED, a good Comedy Man, able to Tumble well up in Witty Tricks and Falls; good shop awaits the right man.
List of tricks,
full particulars, salary expected, to
Box 7,106, "Era."

WANTED, a smart Young Tumbler, to join Troupe. State full particulars to
Box 7,084, "The Era."

WANTED, for Picture Show, South Coast, First-class Operator, lime and electric. Apply by letter only, with full particulars and salary required, D'ARCY LOCKE, Christchurch.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents to Note.—Owing to the Numerous Imitations of La Belle Lumiere's Fairy Grotto and Electrical Aerial Dances, D. Birteno, the Inventor, has in preparation an entirely New Speciality, which will be ready for bookings Feb. 7, onwards, with exceptions. This week absolutely packing the Empire, Hull, to excess nightly. Jan. 10, Palace, Glasgow. 17th, P., Gloucester. 24th, P., Perth, &c.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, Miss Mary Hopwood, Illustrated Vocalist, good voice, Songs, own Slides. Coms., 4, Stanley-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Jan. 17, on, Little Dixie, Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer. New Songs. Com., Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED Known, that Alice Winsome, Dainty Child Comedienne, is vacant Jan. 10, on, with few exceptions. Satisfaction guaranteed. Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Oldham.

WANTED, Jan. 10, Dainty Dorretta, the Cleverest Dutch Acrobatic Dancer Travelling. A Sure Success. Wire, Pavilion, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, by Edie Le Brun, Unique Vocal and Juggling Speciality, assisted by Edgar. Wire, 21, Shirley-street, Hove.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, Lydia Raie, Banjo Queen, will on and after Jan. 20 be known as La Raiedia.

WANTED, Monday, Lydia Raie, Banjo Queen, Trick Mandolinist, Illustrated Banjo playing, precede Etoile Palace, Paris. Wire, 79, Mildenhall-road, London.

WANTED, Monday, also Feb. 7, to follow Castleford, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. Success everywhere. Wire, Clifton House, Chopwell, near Ebchester, Durham.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers, Jan. 24, This, Hippodrome, Shrewsbury (return); next, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Popular Collier Comedian, Copyright Scena, Original Illustrated Colliery Pictures. Telegraphic address, "Probable, Manchester."

WANTED, Feb. 7, on, by George Franklin, Quaint Comedian with Quaint Songs.
Coms., C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian, Chorus Vocalist, and Banjoist. Wire, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Known, Little Tichbourne, vacant Feb. 28, March 7. This, Gaiety Theatre, Leith, Scotland; next, King's T., Greenock, N.B.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Fred Laurier, Acrobatic Comedian and All-round Dancer, Feb. 14, 28, and March 14. Now appearing in Panto. with Great Success at Royal County T., Kingston. Coms., FRED LAURIER, Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Jan. 10, 17, 24, by Bert Groves, the real funny Comedian. A sure success. Wire or write, 93, Hanover-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Harry Harvey, few Vacant Dates this year. Great Success. Victoria, West Stanley; next, Houghton. 1, Lambs-buildings, Gateshead.

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Moore, the Newsboy Comedian and Expert Paper Tearer. Two Acts if required. Wire, Central Hall, Bolsover, near Chesterfield.

WANTED, Monday next, 17th and 24th, Dan Ashton's "Lancashire Colliers'" Scena, with original copyrights, illustrated colliery pictures. Tremendous Success. Communications, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Humorist-Pianist, extensive Rep., well-known Entertainer, Monday, onwards. Wire, VULCARIS, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincs.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, and on, by Ali Cogia (Arabian) Magician and Equilibrist, assisted by Abdulla. Gorgeous Oriental Act. Starring Everywhere. This, Hip., Ellesmere Port; next, Pavilion, Bangor. Empire, Southport, to follow.

WANTED, Known, Sergt. Bert Powell, the famous Military Illusionist, is vacant Jan. 24 and 31. Wire or write, Jan. 10, week, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 10, onwards, by Carl Reevo, the famous Tank Trick fully Exposed; the Act which has baffled thousands. Offers invited.

WANTED, Jan. 10, onwards, by Carl Reevo, the Padlock Expert; a Sensational Act with drawing powers. Address, 37, Watery-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Aldersonn, Premier Card Manipulator and Conjurer. Permanent address, 67 Walcot-sq., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Jan. 17, 24, 31, on, the Great Kyoto, Japanese Versatile Pot-Pourri Act, Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, Juggler, and Pug Dog; also May Geraldine, Chorus Comedienne and Dancer. Enormous Success, Empire, Blaina. Jan. 10, Hippo., Leek.

WANTED, The Bohemians (Will and Madge), Instrumentalists. Terrific hit, this, Carnegie Hall, Workington; vacant 10th and 17th. Wire above.

WANTED, May and Kennerley, The Girl and the Page, Comedy Duo, in their Refined Comedy, Singing, and Dancing Act. Big Hit everywhere. Vacant Jan. 10, 17. Wire quick, 22, Laburnum-road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Spry and Bentley, in Unique Comedy-Drama Speciality. Terrific success here; refer Manager. Wire, Boro' Theatre, Wallsend.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Novel Electric Show; also Double Comedy, Singing Turn. Fourth time here, Palace, Dover.

WANTED, Monday, on, by Doris Myddleton and Teddy Hugh, Double and Single, Star Comedienne and Musical Sketches. Town Hall, Abergele, North Wales.

WANTED, by Lizzie Round, Male Impersonator, and Sam Griesley, Vocal Comedian; two of the best, Monday next. Wire, Picture Palace, Cowdenbeath, Fifeshire.

WANTED, Jan. 17, also 24th, by Ryder Davis, the Comedian, and Eva Ward, Soubrette. Finish to-night, Boro', Wallsend; Mon., E., Hull.

WANTED, Jan. 17, 24, by the Original Ward and Davis (Eva and Ryder), held this name since '97. Coms., Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Jan 10 and 17, by a Turn with House-packing Powers, Ella and Edwards, in their comedy sketch and illusion, "A Midnight Adventure." Wire, CHATLAND, Spon End, Coventry.

WANTED, Vacant Feb. 14, on, Harry Hellis, Pianist-Vocalist; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Singer, Dancer, Cornettist. Next, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Jan. 17 and 31, by The Leonas, Musical Novelty Act. This, Hippo., Shrewsbury (return); next, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next by Colvil and Tate, Unapproachable Comedy Couple. Sure Draws for Halls, Pictures, &c. Wire, 4, Springfield-av., Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, by Blarney and Bland, Eccentric Comedians, vacant Monday 10th, also 17th. Wire, Hippo., Aston; Monday, 33, Stafford-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Novelty Comedians and Feet Boxers, Monday next and Jan. 17. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough; after Saturday night, 142, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, by Keeble and Reggie, and Gladys Wells, the Real Goods. Address, SAM HART, or ANGER and BAUER.

WANTED, Jan. 17, by the Three Van Earles, beautiful singers, expert dancers. Another big success. Refer, Hear Lorna. What a voice! Palace, North Shields. Next, Palace, Normanton.

WANTED Monday, by Three Tivos, Comedy Sketch; also good Double and Single. Great Success, Hippodrome, Maldon. Address till Monday, 25, North-street, Maldon, Essex.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, great Contortionist Act, and Rumbo Austin, new Comedy Acrobatic Navvies. Jan. 10, 17; two distinct Acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Francisco, Novel Equilibrist and Juggler. Managers and Agents invited to see my Act at Greenwich next week.

WANTED, Known, who requires a good Top or Bottom for Jan. 17, 24, 31? John Olrac presents the FIVE OLRACS, in a new and novel Comedy Act, "ACROBATICAL FUNNIOSITIES," From Empire, Palace, Coliseum, and Hippodrome, London. Address, 6, Cliff Bridge-place, Scarborough.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, Jan. 10 17, Star Novelty Performance; Skill and Comedy. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, that the Seven Wulfrunas (Ladies and Gentlemen), Comedy Acrobats, "Fun in a Café," with own Scenery, Effects. Only Act of its Kind in the Business; most refined, no vulgarity. This week, enormous success, Surrey; next week, Sadler's Wells; after this date all communications addressed Madam WULFRUNA, Cole Proprietress of above Act. Any First-class Agent Liberty to Book the Above.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist); two smart Acts. Offers invited. Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Agents, Proprietors, Managers, to book Financial Productions, Produced by Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act before the Public. Town Hall, Falkirk; next, P., Londonderry.

WANTED, Jan. 17 or 24, for Scottie's Spectacular Military Episode, "Napoleon at Waterloo," also "Whizzing the Whirl," the great laughing cyclone. Wire, SCOTTIE, Arcade Theatre, Stirling, Scotland.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Wanted, Jan. 31, for The British Animated Pictures The British Animated Pictures and Vaudeville Co., and Vaudeville Co., Once or twice nightly. Now in 22nd week at the Coliseum, Leeds. Wire or write, PHILLIPS, Coliseum.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

A Sensation.

WANTED, Known, a Money-maker. A Draw. The Great French Mystery, "An Artist's Dream." Now showing with Genuine Success at Sir Edward Moss's Carnival, Edinburgh. Open for immediate dates. Write, FRED FRANKLIN, Moss' Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's famous Educated Lion Show, Vacant Jan. 31, onwards. Offers invited. Com., week Jan. 10, Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, Permane's Troupe of Real Live Teddy Bears, the talk of Birmingham. See Press. Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears. At Liberty Feb. 7. PERMANE, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Tudora's Ponies, the prettiest Pony Act on the Variety Stage, Liberty Jan. 10, 17, and on. Thanking Mr. Stone for four comfortable weeks' engagement. Mr. and Mrs. and Baby Tudor wish all friends a Very Prosperous New Year. All coms., TUDORA, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Famous Russian Poodles, great novelty, the talk of every town they visit, including champion challenge jumping dogs. Still topping bills. This week, Empire, Blaina; next, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy. Vacant Jan. 17, 24.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Performing Irish Terriers, including Spring, the Champion Leaping Dog of the World. This act stands alone. Vacant Jan. 10, 17. Wire. Wire. 14, Shelly-st., Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, the Wonderful Cycling Cat, now making Big Success as the Cat, Wm. Pardoe, Esq.'s, "Dick Whittington" Pantomime. Come and see me. Free Xmas 1910-11. Free for Halls, Galas, April 18, onwards. This, O. H., Dudley; next, T. R., Leigh.

WANTED, Jan. 17, on, by Swift Duo, Novel Cycling Comedy Act. Wire or write, 1, Broad-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Always a success. This, West Stanley; next, Empire, Cowdenbeath; Vacant 17th, 31st.

WANTED, Known, Brothers St. Clair, Comedy Trick and Football Cyclists. Liberty Jan. 10, 17. Wire, Emp., Camberwell. Mon., perm., 14, Seaview-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Pollinta's Original Steeplechase and Boxing Kangaroo Marionettes stand alone for Originality. Few vacancies, 1910. All coms., Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Pollinta's Original Steeplechase Marionettes, manipulate thirty-eight figures in twenty minutes' performance. Great success. Hippo., Yarmouth. Monday next, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Pollinta's Marionettes, two manipulators who introduce thirty-eight figures each performance. Vacant Jan. 31, Fit-up; no encumbrance. Monday next, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, as Assistant to Entertainer, Illusionist, &c., by smart, reliable young man, 27, 6ft.; good experience; A1 references. WILSON 79, Lower Sloane-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, by two Active Youths, Berth with Troupe, Sketch, or good Lady and Gentleman Comedian. Box 7,094, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WORLD'S FAIR, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON, N. Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. READ.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, THE SEVENTEENTH ORIGINAL ANNUAL SHOWMEN'S SUPPER AND BALL will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 1910, at the Royal Agricultural Hall.
President, Rev Thomas Horne; Chairman, T. E. Read, Esq.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Frank Turner; Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Day.
Committee: Messrs. C. Hyatt, W. Wilson, J. Tronson, A. Dashwood, R. Turner, J. Hastings, F. Bibby, W. Slatter, T. Hurst, T. White, W. Taylor, E. W. White, A. Ball, J. Thomas, W. Price, H. Taylor, J. Wentworth, and Mellor.
Supper at 11.45.
Tickets for Supper and Ball, 4s. each, which can be obtained from any of the above.
Mr. H. Bloodworth, M.C.
"Success to the World's Fair."

WANTED, Known, that the Annual General Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Caxton Hall, Salford, close to the Black Lion Hotel (Headquarters), on Wednesday next, Jan. 12, to commence at 10.30 a.m. Dinner, for members only, will be served at the Black Lion Hotel at 2 p.m. As this is the Annual General Meeting, will members please note that all cases deferred to this Meeting will be dealt with, whether members affected are present or not.—Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters, Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark S.E.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES,
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Showmen to Learn Particulars of American Box Ball Alleys, wonderful money makers; one Alley costing £45 took in £103 the first 51 days; no assistants needed. Players themselves set up pins by simply pulling a lever. Write to-day for illustrated pamphlet free. ANGLO-AMERICAN BOWLING ALLEY Co., 9, Southampton-st., Holborn, London, W.C.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, for Glasgow, London, and Manchester. Full particulars, lithos., and postcards, first letter. A. E. PICKARD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, Exhibitions, Auctioneers, people for Pepper's Ghost Shops, South Wales; open immediately; starting point. MICHAEL, 10, The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, Good Novelty, start to-day. Wire, BARRON, 233, Edgware-road, W. Others write in for future dates.

WANTED, by established Firm, Entire Staff, for Auction Mart, to open Feb., Planksmen, Comedians, Pianist-Vocalist, Stock-keeper, also General Man, for Tent. Only Trustworthy, experienced Auction Mart Men apply, with reference. MART, c/o Messrs. Beal, Red Hill Works, Sheffield.

WANTED, Smart, Experienced Doorsman, used to picture business. Apply, Acton Hall Picture Palace, Acton, London.

WANTED, Known, that Le Neve and Mace's Troupe of International Athletes, including Jem Mace, the G.O.M. of the Prize Ring, and Norah Sullivan, winner of Sandow's Challenge Medal, are proving a big success at Sir Edward Moss's Carnival, Waverley Market, Edinburgh. Vacant 17th. Anyone requiring something away from all others. Apply for terms. LE NEVE, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, a Living Picture Gallery, Madame Bowman, Expert Lady Boxer, Wrestler, and Weight Lifter. A sure draw. Lib. 17th and on. Perm., 399, New Cross-road, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Shops or Engagements for Tiny People Show, three in number, good paintings and flash, immediate. Madam SMALL, P.O., Preston.

WANTED, Known, Bert Hall, late Auctioneer and Manager for Taylor's Auction Mart, is at Liberty. Apply, 1, Spur-road, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Situation as Auctioneer, long experience in Jewellery, Swag, &c.; not afraid of work; good references. Address, AUCTIONEER, 49, Lumley-road, Burley, Leeds.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, to Showmen, Stall-holders, and Amusement Caterers, following Feasts, Fairs, &c.

P. COLLINS, is now open to book First-class Tenants for his well-known Spring and Summer Route of Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes, Oswestry, Longton, Cefn, Llangollen, Welshpool, Newtown, Llanidloes, Ruthin, and Wrexham, Lichfield, Dudley, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath.

Good Easter Fairs.
Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stourbridge, London, and New Brighton.
Ludlow May Fair, Chester Races.

Whitsuntide.
Leicester Fair, which will be one of the biggest events in this year.

I intend having some big outside Free Attractions. Birmingham Fair, and a run of Fairs, Feasts, Wakes, Flower Shows, &c., right through the season.

For terms, &c., apply,

P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

Telephone 80 Walsall.

Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, to Let, Best Shop in Hull, suit Show or any kind of business, open front, thousands of people daily pass, fitted with electric light. Apply, BERRY, 44, Whitefriargate, Hull.

To Syndicates, Pleasure Resorts, and Showmen. THE AUSTRALIAN WONDERLAND. Now exhibiting, 108, Upper-street, Islington.

WANTED, to Sell. Six Shows in One. An Ideal Palace of Amusement, Comprising Large Working Models, Moving Engines, Moving Cities, Moving Figures, A Lifetime's Collection Freaks of Nature, A WORKING COAL MINE, 12 Sections, 12, representing underground dangers. FROM LIFE TO DEATH, and Many Other Great Novelties. 2 Automatic Pianos, 2. This exhibition has never been shown in England before; is straight from Australia. The proprietor having to return on urgent business is desirous of selling the whole as a going concern. Open to Best Offer. Must be seen to be believed. Also an Aerial Flying Roundabout; all portable.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart and Tent, known as Bloom's No. 1, 47ft. frontage, beautifully carved front, boarded, sided Tent, built of solid mahogany and oak frames, everything complete. Cost £1,200; any price, or easy terms. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Light Plant, on covered road waggon, twin cylinder Singer engine, 65 volts 75 amp. dynamo; can be seen running. Photo., HEWITT, Essex-road, Rushden.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Park-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Wax Heads, Lloyd George, Asquith, Churchill, just specially modelled, 30s. each. DEWITT, 162, Liverpool-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Wrench Showman's Bioscope, safety light cut off, 1 h.p. jet, 2 spools, travelling case. Take £16. W. EVANS, 33A, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to Sell, a Haunted Castle, in good condition, a quick money-getter, goes complete as one rail load. For Sale, a Show, two waggon Front, and Booth. This lot is nearly new, and in splendid condition, ready for taking money. I will sell this cheap to a quick purchaser. For Sale, a Set of Switchback Gondolas, all in first-class order, could be turned into Motors if required. For terms and particulars apply, P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, three Winchester Rifles (repeaters), 20s. each; four-valve Electric Target, 90s.; Running Animal. Lot, with engine, £10. JACKSON, 3, Broadway, Stratford, London.

WANTED, to Sell, or exchange with Useful Circus Waggons, gold front and living waggons, late W. Taylor's. F. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

Largest and Most Luxurious Rink in the World.

WANTED, Instructors and Instructresses. Only proficient skaters of good appearance entertained. Also skate boys. H. F. BLACKWELL, Manager, Maida Vale Roller Skating Palace, Delaware-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Good Skate Mechanic and knowledge of electricity, &c.; good references. HODGES, 8, Belper-road, Hyson Green, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Floor Manager, long experience, trick and fancy skater. Address, Box 7,101, "The Era."

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Situation, as Floor Manager or Instructor, by experienced skater. Good references. Apply, M. D., 10, Russell-street, Preston, Lancs.

WANTED, to Hire, Large Skating Rinks, Exhibition, or Drill Halls, from March 26, onwards, for ROYAL ITALIAN CIRCUS. All necessary erections carried, which can be fitted up without nails or screws. Mat carried, 2in. thick, which covers the entire ring, thereby protecting the floor from any damage.

Full particulars, with dimensions of hall, EDWIN GILLEY, Drill Hall, Macclesfield.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, in Yorkshire, a Prosperous twice-nightly Modern Theatre, with Dramatic and Music Licence; the only Theatre in the town, electrically lighted and thoroughly heated, fully equipped and in excellent state of efficiency; immediate possession can be had on completion. Price £6,500, freehold, and free from chief; £3,000 can remain on mortgage if required; no other offer will be accepted, as this is a sound investment. Sale of Programmes, Curtain, and Receivable Rents alone show good return on price asked. Principals or their solicitors only need apply. Address, Box 7,032, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease, Old-established Theatre in Lancashire; fully licensed (2) bars; some first-class bookings. Principals only. Apply, F. G. WRIGHT, 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Buildings (wood and iron), Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, Bungalows. F. H. HEATH, LTD., Manufacturers, Department E, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Pantomime Productions now playing; also various Dresses (some quite new), and Scenery. Box 7,078, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, at end of Run, First-class Pantomime Production, "Robinson Crusoe." Managers invited to inspect. E. GATES, Grand Theatre, North-road, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Castle Scene, 175ft. by 36ft., used in Welsh National Pageant, Cardiff, Papier-Mache Armour, any period, made to order. DYMOND, Wyndham-arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, 20,000ft. of Films, good condition, 1d. and ½d. per foot; Dramatic, Comic, Magic, coloured. F. BOSCO, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, FILMS, new, 2½d. foot; 750 Pathé's Bluebeard; 335 Red Riding Hood; 520 Drama Seville, &c. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

A Splendid Opportunity for Investment.
WANTED, to Sell cheap, a just completed Novelty in Animal Shows, including new Scenery, Apparatus, Dresses, &c., suit Lady or Gentleman; Show already Booked, existing Contracts given to purchaser; experience not necessary. Offers, Box 7,088, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a handsome Dapple-grey Cob, 7 years old, broken for Ring and Stage, and used this past twelve weeks by Gobert Belling at the Alhambra Theatre, London; also Entire Black Performing Donkey, does the Revolving Table, &c., &c. Full particulars and terms, address OTHO TWIGG, 164, Brixton-road, London, S.W. Reason for selling reducing stock of animals.

WANTED, to Sell, pretty little Midget Shetland Pony, only 27in. high. Price £12, carriage paid. G. STEPHEN, Braehead, Ferryhill, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, 29in. Midget Pony; pair Blacks, 31in.; Skewbald, 32in.; handsome, sound, and healthy. GRAHAM CLARK, Ashbank, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Pedigree Fox Terrier, good Somersault and Jumping Dog; also Poodle, Cards and Clowning; free workers. C. DICKEL, 35, Limehouse-causeway.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Tube Lyres, Xylophones, Resonaphones, Marimbas, Macaronis, Tubaphones, Glockenspiels, Chimes. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, two Guitars. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, 94, Gower-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid Stage Illusion quite new, cheap for cash. Write, TESLA, 13, Grange-terrace, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity New Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus, bargains; something new. MAKER, 52, Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Unique Set of Concert Chimes 2 chromatic octaves (D—D), pedal action, nothing like it ever seen, suitable as a feature in musical act; easy manipulation, beautiful appearance; packing case complete. Original cost £80; the first smart applicant can have it for £30. A gift. Appointment. EDWARDS, 4, Sistova-road, Bedford Hill, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, very Large and Complete Library of Orchestral Music, all the standard overtures, symphonies, and popular selections, miscellaneous pieces, &c., most complete collection of dance music, by the Strauss Family, Gung'l Lamer, &c., full orchestra and extra strings, conductor, the whole in first-class condition, and contained in seventy-two of Stone's patent music boxes, classified and alphabetically arranged L. H. WALSER, Library, Church-road, Hove.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Full sets, Interiors Exteriors, Cloths, Rostrums, &c., cheap for cash. Letters, BROOKE, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston.

WANTED, to Sell, the three handsome Electrolliers used in "The Devil." ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Auto-piano Paper Music, Drum, Bells, Cymbals, 18 Selections. Cost £50 wholesale; nearly new, £20, suit Rink. 233, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, on approval, First-class Bioscope; must be in perfect condition. All particulars, H. B. PARKINSON, Picturedrome, Llanelly, South Wales.

WANTED, a First-class Cinématograph (gas). Exchange 4 h.p. Bat Touring Motor Cycle, in thorough order; sell £20. Box 7,082, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, set of Flats, good condition, two practical doors. Lowest price for cash. E. D. NICHOLLS, Grand T., Derby.

WANTED, to Purchase, immediately, four or six very small Shetland Ponies, a uniform size; also a small Midget Carriage or Cinderella Coach.

Apply, with full particulars, to FRED CLARK, 51, Sheath-gardens, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Buy, Monkey, not older than six months. State lowest price and apply HAYDEN AND SONS, Quay, New Ross, Ireland.

WANTED, to Buy, Some First-class Conjuring Tricks and Apparatus, no old stuff; must be good. Apply, J. PORTER, The Chequers, Dorchester.

WANTED, secondhand Lime Box and Lens, no jet; also Goat, Dog, and Parrot Dresses, cheap. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Sudbury, Suffolk.

WANTED, two 32ft. Cloths, Rocky Landscape, dark; also Plain Corridor. Hire or buy. Particulars, POPPLEWELL, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, to Buy, Scene Cloths, for Repainting, also a Stage Cloth, must be in good condition. State size and price. BARRETT, Theatre Royal, Goole, Yorkshire.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, a Black Drop Ground Cloth and Cut Cloth, suitable for Serpentine Dancer; also Lamps. E. B., 1, Fieldsway-house, Highbury, N.

WANTED, to Buy, Serpentine Dancing Dress, white silk. Price, particulars, to BARRETT, Theatre Royal, Goole, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Song Slides, Just Idle Dreams, and others; also Alto Saxophone; must be cheap and perfect. MUSICIAN, 66, Wharf-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Plushette or Baize Curtains, secondhand, suitable for lining Picture Palace, cheap for cash. Size, particulars, &c., to Box 7,099, "The Era."

WANTED, cheap Portable; must have good tone. TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, West End Theatre. Apply to Messrs. FLADGATE and Co., 2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Jan. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

HANOVER-SQUARE.
WANTED, to Let, a Large Hall, temporarily or otherwise, suitable for Dancing, Singing, or Musical Classes, Rehearsals, &c. Good Dressing Rooms and Offices attached. Apply, 12, Prince's-street, Hanover-square, W.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smootpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, the Rights for an Advertising Curtain, and also Advertisement portion of the programme of the magnificent ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE. Under Entirely New Management. Write offers immediately to CHAS. EVANS, as above.

WANTED, to Let on Royalty, New Plays and Sketches, by Thompson Jackson.

14, Trafford-street, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, Grays, Essex.

WANTED, to Let, New Domestic Drama, thrilling plot, smartly written, plenty of Comedy, small cast. W. SALTOUN, 10, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Particulars of Halls, &c., suitable for Cinématograph, High-class, town and Provinces; purchase or rent. Box 7026, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, First-class Dramas (small cast). Address, with fullest particulars and absolute lowest terms, JAMES BELL, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by Advertiser taking West End Theatre, a Lady or Gentleman to join him with some capital; excellent opportunity for London appearance. Address, Box 7,089, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Partner with capital, for Picture Palace, going concern, only Picture Show in town of nearly 50,000 inhabitants, chiefly prosperous working class; complies with 1910 regulations; good reason given. Every investigation invited. Genuine offer; splendid opportunity. Principals or their Solicitors only dealt with. Address, Box 7,098, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, to put down equal sum with Advertiser (well known), for London spec., or good tour. Solicitors' and bankers' refs. Box 7,103 "The Era."

WANTED, good Songwriting Partner; Pianist essential; splendid business for the right partner. Advertiser has good connections. Address, Box 7,090, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good Bearer, Trapeze or otherwise; would join partner, trio, or good troupe. S. LORETTIE, c/o Post Office, Richmond, Surrey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, that we do Post-cards from Photos. in quantities not less than 100 from one Photo.; Memos. also done. SENIOR and Co., Fine Art Printers, Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

PERSONAL.

WANTED, V. Hayes, Royal Strolling Pierrots Company, to communicate with Harry F. Proudfoot, Aylsham, at once, in reference to the Town Hall. Booked for Jan. 24 to 26.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, I very much regret having Billed the Bros. Huxter to appear at my Hall, Watson-street, Glasgow, on Aug. 2, 1909, which was done through a misunderstanding. Signed, RALPH PRINGLE.

WANTED, by a Young Frenchman, possessing necessary skill, a Trainer for Diavolo or other similar exercise. BAUGNIET, 37, Heath Hurst-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Richard Winslow thanks his numerous friends for all kind gifts and messages.

WANTED, to hear, Particulars of Cinématograph Halls, with view to purchase or amalgamation, as going concerns. Communications treated as confidential. Address, Box 7,087, "The Era."

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA." PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 10, 1910.

Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

"The Arctic," Jacques Pintel, Lottie Bellman, Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," Chas. T. Aldrich, Cinquevalli, Leslie Bros., Charburn's Young Stars, Siems, Martineks, Animated Pictures, Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire Dance."

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Ruth Vincent, Musical Jees, Delomes, Ross and Lewis, Lukushimas, Harry Bedford, Harry Leybourne, Rita Rhylle, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser, Bensons.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for :—

Elliott-Savonas, Sergt. Bert Powell, Chas. Vincent, Ted E. Box, Harben and Jerrold, Marquis' Ponies, Frank Danby and Co., Fred Elton, Bioscope, Will o' the Wisps.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Albert Marsh's Co., in "Chums Till Death," Violet Stockelle, Loyal's Dogs, Fred Keeton, Olive Lenton, Nina Wood, Taree, George Benson, Bioscope, Casey Army, Larry Lewis.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

H. P. Selwyn's Co., in "A 33 to 1 Chance," Harry Anderson, Harry Merrylees, Amelie De L'Enclos, Cedar and Elgar, Clement Trio, Lizzie Glenroy, Bioscope, Rexos, Lockhart's Elephants.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

"Motor Chase," Les Bollingers, Russell and Held, Sarnthaler Troupe, Marno Trio, Eight Lancashire Lads, Bioscope, Calzados, Les Romanis.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

J. E. and J. H. Jewells' Co., in "Change," Miss Billie Burford, J. H. Scotland, Goltz Trio, Dion Wade, James Stewart, Jean and Josie, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, W. Fulbrook and Co., in "Astronomy."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The Fair One with the Golden Locks," produced by Stanley Rogers.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Alice Esty, Four Regals, O'Gust, Victor Travers, Miles Stavordale, Ethel Newman, Herbert Shelley, Odeyne Spark, Frank Le Dent, Bioscope, "Our Empire's Defenders."

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Odette Valery, Edith Heron-Brown, Henry Helme, "Half-a-Dollar," D'Arc's Dolls, Barowskys, Rossi Ashton, Alf Maynall, Bioscope, F. Stuart Whyte's Co., in "1643."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Petronowa's Band, Falco and Eida, Harry Friskey, Bert Errol, Rohda Bros., Prince Milner Trio, Bioscope, Florence, Darnley's "Barnstormers," Tom Moore, Giovanni Wals, Latonas.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mons. Rosi's Italian Ballet, entitled "Uncle Isadore," Bros. Corcoran, Arthur Kenny, Emil Solbrig's Automatus, Coloured Meisters, Smythson Comedy Co., "Billy," Francoli Troupe, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Tom Clare.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Raymond, Mina Denvil, Bioscope, De Breans, Park's Boys and Girls, Corbin's Dogs, Eadie and Ramsden, Harry Clifford, Four Amati Sisters, Saschoff Troupe.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Henry Ainley and Suzanne Sheldon, in "Kiddie," Vanando, Lester Bros., Lawrence Barclay, Melody Makers, Braatz's Dogs, Bros. Durant, Frank Cass, Bioscope, O Hana San, Gertie Gitana.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Lorimer, The Craggs, Billy Hobbs, Jennie Hartley, La Freya, To-To, Maxey and Pete, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan," Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Horace White, G. W. Hunter, Bros. Gaudsmidt, Florence Esdaile, Mabel Mavis, Hill and Whittaker, Marie Kendall.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," by arrangement with Fred Karno.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Cinderella," by arrangement with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan.

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chung Ling Soo, Takio, Three Welsh Girls, Cumminger and Colonna, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, "Humpsti-Bumpsti," George C. Doughty, Hugh Guest, Bioscope, Geo. Leyton, in "The Roll Call."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Cyril Maude and Elise Craven, in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," Slaviansky Russian Choir, Fred Edwards and Co., in "Kleptomaniacs," Daras, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, The Rawsons, Fatmah Diard, Bioscope, "Humpsti-Bumpsti," Andy McLeod, Belclair Bros., Pilarica Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "Sergeant Longfellow," Ruth Davenport, Harry May Hemsley, Carney and Armstrong, Miller Bros., Mendel, Reichen's Dogs, Kate Butler, Bioscope, La Berat.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Cyril Clensy, La Sylphe, Ugo Nap, Glenroy Troupe, Lily Burnand, Dacey and Lewis, Grace Merton, Bioscope, Fred Earle, Three Meers.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Miss Evie Greene, Stanley and Greenop, Elite Harmony Four, Harry Grey, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Spry and Monti, Tate and Tate, Olive Armidale, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Taylor-Granville's "Hold-up," The Crisps, Farr and Farland, Vincent, Tom Lloyd, Ethel Bourne, Lil O'Gorman, Bioscope, Lydia Yeamans, & F. J. Titus.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Lamberti, Cissie Thompson, Marshall and Parr, Holden's Mannikins, The Gems, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Walter King, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Reano's Band, Clark and Hayden, Gus Garrick, Lottie Lennox, Barnard's Mannikins, Cumberlands, Goggin and Davis, Monie Mine, Bioscope, Alf Gibson, Will H. Fox.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Boisset's "Bricklayers," A Ba-Be's Album, Matthews and Reece, Luis Alvarez, Mabel Sinclair, J. H. Hall, Miss Henriquette Maude, Madge Osmond, Bioscope, Baron's Menagerie.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Clarice Mayne, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt," Les Marsumas, Annie Purcell, Jock Mills, Carl Lynn, Lester Carey, Bowden and Stol, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Whilbys.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Karno's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Perkins, M.P.," Rosa Loader, Counsell and Mills, Fayre and Manning, Tom Davies' Trio, Edna Lyall, Mazie Hibbs, Bioscope, Courtiers, Gladys Mavius.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Bert Coote and Co., in "A Lamb on Wall Street," John Macauley, Athlones, Archie Naish, Miss Millie Engler and Co., in "Beauty and the Burglar," Staig's Steeplejacks, Maud and Sydney Wood, Bioscope, James' Strolling Players.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

J. L. Shine and Co., in "Hogmanay," Leonie Dixon, Walker and May, Gitto, Westwoods, Rhoda Paul, Waul Langtry, Pictures, Keen and Waller.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gobert Belling, Sisters Caselli, Bros. O'Brien, The Kramers, Frank Maura, Chas. Santon, Bioscope, Tom Costello.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Cruikshank, Ray and Calden, Alice Hollander, The Cecilias, Chas. Cardow, Bioscope, Sutcliffe Family, Globe of Life.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Great Roland, Jessie Albini, O'Malley and Brown, Mlle. Haydee, Mackintosh and Royal, Fred Kendal, Pictures, T. E. Finglas, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

W. J. Churchill, Daisy Hicks, Musical Sylvo, The Newmans, Dancit, Ethel Arundel, Pictures, Tom Bryce.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

H. E. Moss' Annual Carnival.

WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. sharp for :—

Dumont Wrestlers, Menotti, Lanos and Montes, Manchurians, Lareux's Monkeys, Sauterons, Walton's Performing Dogs, Brown the Scottish Hercules, Zanora and Brag, and all Specialities, Side Shows, Band, &c., engaged.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Les Zelovas, Neven Tosseau, Spissell Bros. and Mac, "Drums of Oude," Dalvere and Wallace, Four Fords, "The Bailiff," Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Cash and Clare, Angela Ward, Newman and Knight, Five Vernons, Hugo and Smit, "The Deputy Sheriff," Pictures.

HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

"Cinderella."

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

"Dick Whittington."

HIPPODROME, BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Dutch Daly, Ted Cowan, Hyde and Cody, Lee and Kingston, Harry Webber, Harold Heath, Five Whiteleys, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for :—

Leoni Clarke, Rens Bros., Bonhair and Tess, Mabel Moss, Lee and Bentley, Three Sisters Eston, Harry Augers, Six White Boys, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

"A Message from Mars" Co.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Phil Kauffmann, Dave Laird, Cissie Lupino, Elsie Kerry, The Arntes, Denaro Bros., The Mystery Men, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—

Jack Hayton, Russell Carr, Tom Carney, Clara Sefton, Jessie Ward, Kenway and Emery, Baines and Reed, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Jan. Rudenyi, Hanlon Troupe, Adele Moraw, Chas. D'Aix and Dog, Dancing Paceys, Les Alex Carangeots, Burt Shepard, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON

London District & Booking Manager—**Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 10.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Five Bombays, Marie Kay, Jack Warman, Jeannie Claremont, Mamie Morris, Flo Burnett, Adderley Howard and Co., Teddy Denham, Cammeron Mathewes and Co.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Danton and Morris, Geo. Acre, The Two Ludoes, Sisters Desmond, Dolly and Rosie, The McKinleys, H. G. Brandon and Co., Dora Lonsdale, G. Marriott and Co., Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Bros. Lawrence, Seven Wulfrunas, Sisters Judge, Ajax and George, Cyclumina, B. Mervyn and Co., "Nick Carter," Lily Denville, Wallace Byms, Gracie Dudley, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Barrington, Delaforce and Hartley, Mabel Thorne, Margit and Lener, Austin Temple, Dick and Dorothy Trio, Martin Henry and Co., The Five Cliftons, "Buster Browns," Lew Lake and Co., "King Nobbler," Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
The Four Figaros, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Ethel May, Florence Raymond, Chas. Carlile's Co., Rangit Bhay, Swan and Latimer, John Parrott, Gilbert's Dogs, Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Tate's "Motoring," The Bristons, Dahl's Mannikins, Norah Desmond, The Phydoras, Lovell and Co., Jennie Belmore, Harry Brown, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Chas. Prelle's Dogs, The Selbinis, Johnny Dwyer, Sisters Henderson, Leoni de Lausanne, Damerell and Rutland, Curtis and Picos., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
"Slaterstein Ltd.," Victor and Louis, Albert Barraclough, Estrella, J. H. Greener, Maro Duo, Amy Anderson and Co., Eileen Douglas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Barton and Ashley, Ian Colquhoun, Josephine Crooke, Kenneth and Kane, Munroe's Team, Rose D'Aulby, Willie Long, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
The Four Kellys, Winnie Wheaton, Pictures, Lawrie, Rene Graham, Friscari, Stalman and Russell, Wynnie Darrell.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"East Lynne."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Warsaw Bros., Godfrey Price, Mona Garrick, Little Miss Muffett, Reg. Ewen, Five X-Rays, Ten Achmed Ibrahim Arabs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Marie Santoi and Co., Kitty Leon, Archie Pitt, Tom Yorke, Steel and Laing, Bonnetti and Corrie, Addie Dorina, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"The Pawnbroker," The Roxdys, Kitty Willis, Bessie Neilson, Walter Barrett, Ellis and Campbell, Two Wiltons, Pick of the Picture World, The Curreys.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Ed. Edmunds and Co., Carney Bros., Conway and Leland, Stein Esthor Trio, Alex. Lofton, Beatrice Willey, Harry Luck, Fritz Kornau, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Bromley and Fontein, The Keppels, Akbar, Bella Leaburn, Dorothy Marsden, Terry and Tate, Creagh and Cruikshanks, Charles Warren, Alice Gill, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Robinson Crusoe" (Jazon).

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Eyes of the World."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Herbert Rule, Louie Tracy, Sisters Melba, Charles Byron, Wyze and Adna, Hersleb Bros., Sleath and Aldin, Helene Stewart, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Thomas-Wilson Fight Picture, Five Tritons, Frank Coyle, Les Montaldos, Walter Buxton, J. P. Carroll, Nora Stockelle, Dan Whitley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Sinclair and Whiteford, Sim Moree, Montes Bros., Les Saletos, Arthur Harris, Mona Vivian, Rosie Gaston, Pete and Juno, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Signor Arvi, Webb and Branston, Mr. E., The Evalos, Morelli and Moore, Flo D'Orville, Donnas Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

FOR PANTOMIME HITS.

NATIONAL

MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

IF THE SONG YOU ARE SINGING IS NOT A SUCCESS WRITE OR WIRE TO US. WE HAVE NOTHING BUT HITS.

THESE ARE THE WINNERS—

YOU ALL WANT SOMETHING TO CUDDLE.
GEORGE ROBEY wires from the Theatre Royal, Birmingham—
"Cuddle Song Instantaneous and Enormous Hit."

LENA SCHMIDT.
THE FIRST THE ONLY THE ORIGINAL.

THERE'S A GIRL IN BERLIN.
YOU MIGHT SHAKE HANDS.
WON'T YOU COME TO MADEIRA WITH ME.
IS THAT A FACT?

Professional copies of the above numbers, together with our other successes, will be sent only to ARTISTS holding Pantomime engagements, on receipt of 6d. for postage. State Theatre & Part.

Call any old time and hear them played over.

NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
132, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—3661 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BLACKPOOL. — Good apartments. Piano. Easy terms; 2 minutes from Theatre. Mrs. Ward, 6, Upper Talbot-street; Vacant Sunday.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA. Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT. Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette. Splendid rooms, every attention; piano, bath (h.c.), w.c.; 1 minute from Empire, Opera House, sea.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Pilling, 48, West-street; bed and sitting-room, also combined; near to Halls and Theatre; piano; good fires; rec. by Escourt, illusionist, his second visit.

WAKEFIELD.—Mrs. Gilkeson, Vincent House, 136, Westgate, Sitting, 1 or 4 bedrooms, comb.; w.c., bath; piano; late of Garden-st.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. Proprietor, WALTER HEWITT.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD SITE in Tooting Broadway to be Sold Freehold, suitable for Theatre, Music Hall, &c.; frontage 66ft, depth 128ft. Price £3,000.
JAMES E. FISHER, Tooting Broadway S.W.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

PRICE & REYNOLDS'

PANTOMIME "HITS."

BABY'S PARK PARADE.
LITTLE MISS SNOWSHOES.
MAIDIE AND HER LITTLE TEDDY BEAR.
HERE'S TO ALL THE GIRLS.
WALKING ROUND THE BANDSTAND.
OLD JACK FROST. MONTE CARLO.
BOY SCOUT'S SONG.
PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.

41, BERNERS STREET, W.

BOROUGH OF MARGATE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE.

The Committee
INVITE TENDERS
for the right to give

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS

on the MARINE TERRACE SANDS during the ensuing season (May 16 to Oct. 1, 1910).
There are two positions, open to tender, the entertainments for same to be of a refined vocal and instrumental character.
Tenders must be made on the official form, which can be obtained, together with full particulars and conditions, on application to the undersigned.
The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.
Canvassing will be deemed a disqualification.
Tenders endorsed "Sands Entertainments," to be addressed and sent the undersigned not later than Jan. 15, 1910.
JOHN E. SAXBY, Secretary and Manager.
12, Grosvenor-place, Margate.

AUTOMATIC BOOT BRUSHING MACHINES.

SEVERAL SLOT MACHINES FOR SALE.
Electrically driven.
Suitable for Railway Stations, Restaurants, Lavatories, Hairdressing Saloons, Arcades, &c.
For particulars address
MACNAIR, ROBIE, and CO.,
Gresham House, Old Broad-street, E.C.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. £25 nett

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central, 1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

Empire

CINEMATOGRAPHS AT ALL PRICES.

MODEL No. 1, 1909.
A Popular Priced Projector Producing Perfect Pictures

CINEMATOGRAPHS (Four Models).
ARC LAMPS.
CARBONS. Best British Made.
HIGH POWER MIXED & INJECTOR JETS (Ten Models).
IRON HOUSES. Fulfilling all Regulations.
FIREPROOF SPOOL BOXES. Well made in aluminium, with adjustable rollers.
RESISTANCES, FILM WINDERS, &c.

Write for Catalogue giving all particulars.

FILM HIRE SERVICE.

An extensive up-to-date service is at your command. Films added daily. The pick of the English, American, and Continental Markets. Write for terms and full particulars.

W. BUTCHER & SONS, Ltd.,

The Showman's Headquarters for Everything Cinematographic,

FARRINGDON AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.

Telephones: 5995, 5998, 5997 Holborn. Telegrams: "England, London."

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

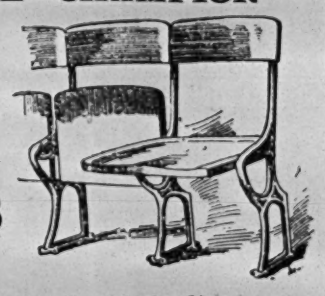

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Extract from letter received from Scott's Entertainment Agency, of Glasgow:—"I have always got at least one Biograph Top Liner on my programme every week. The acting and setting of biograph subjects are always up to the mark (no joke intended). I can depend on them as a draw. This week I have "In the Watches of the Night," a picture that appeals strongly to the masses, and for next week I have booked "What's Your Hurry?"

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, Jan. 16,
THE DEATH DISC.
An Historical incident of the Cromwellian period. Length 995ft.

Releasing Thursday, Jan. 13,
TRICK THAT FAILED.
A humorous and original comedy subject. Length 645ft.
IN THE WINDOW RECESS.
A strong pathetic drama. Length 337ft.

SELIG FILMS.

We are releasing Thursday, Jan. 13, great educational subject,
ACROSS THE ISTHMUS.
Showing the most interesting parts of the work in cutting the Panama Canal. Length 900ft.

Releasing Sunday, Jan. 16,
THE STAGE DRIVER.
A great Wild West Hold-up story. Taken amidst the real scenery. Length 1,000ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

We are releasing on Sunday, Jan. 16,
CUB REPORTER.
Serio Comic. Length 945ft.
A LIFE FOR A LIFE.
Lubin drama, many scenes of which are laid amongst some most interesting seascapes. Length 850ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.
Full particulars on application.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

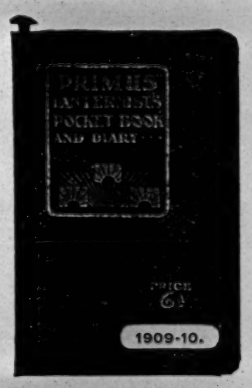

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** *Free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical, Liverpool." Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

THE PRINTERS FOR 1910
FOR THEATRICAL AND SHOW PRINTING.
Write for Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.

C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS

— FOR —

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price ***3/6.*** *Post free,* ***3/9.***

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.

All the American Theatrical News.

For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

THE BILLBOARD.

AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.

It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.

London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.

Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

MR. BAY RUSSELL
With Lottie Bellman,
Hippodrome, London, indefinitely.

MR. A. RUSSELL - DAVIS,
Arrangements complete.
2 Ivy House, New Church-road, Hove.

MR. STEPHEN E. SCANLAN,
Disengaged at Easter.
Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Mr. Walter Melville's "The Soldier's Wedding" Co. Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Engaged for George Fisher, in "Are You a Mason?" 123, St. George's-road, Belgravia, S.W.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder). Leading Business.
73, Constitution-hill, Birmingham.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor. Disengaged.
15, Rowan-road, Hammersmith, London.

MR. CHAS. A. STEPHENSON,
Principal Comedian, Simplicitas, "The Arcadians." This, Norwich; next Colchester.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING,
De Beaumont,
"A Royal Divorce."

MR. CHARLES R. STONE,
Play Actor and Producer.
Offers invited for Spring T. R., Exeter.

MR. FRANK STONE,
Cæsar Cregeen, "Pete," Lyceum tour (3rd engagement). Jan. 17, T. R., Norwich.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (sixteenth year).
Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY - GOFTON.
The Giant, Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
A truly great performance.—Vide Press.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Assistant Producer and Stage-Manager, "The Fair One" Panto. Palace Theatre, Bordesley.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Lead.
7, Fynes-street, Vincent-square, S.W.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. RICHARD TELFORD,
Comedian, Disengaged.
ARTHUR HART.

MR. ALFRED TERRAINE.
Address,
25, St. Alban's-avenue, Bedford Park, W.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE.
Edward Thane, Queen's, Poplar.
Louise Hampton, Aldwych Theatre, W.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Disengaged, Character Comedy, Eccentric Old Men. 23, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. RAYMOND THOMAS,
At Liberty for Heavy Lead or Character.
Address, 43, Sharsted-street, Kennington, S.E.

MR. E. W. THOMAS,
Disengaged until Feb.
7, Grafton-square, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. HOWARD L. TRACY
(Miss Babs Stuart). Leads, "A 33 to 1 Chance." Hippodrome, Balham.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Rehearsing.
Address, 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. F. VERNON TRAVERS,
Disengaged for Leading Business or Management. Next, Kidderminster (3), Lincoln (3).

MR. R. S. TRELAWNEY,
At Liberty for Leading Business.
Castlewich, Callington, Cornwall.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD,
"Pygmalion and Galatea." At. Lib., Jan. 28.
22A, Craven Hill-gardens, W.

MR. GEORGE UNWIN.
Address,
Care of "The Era."

MR. & MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE,
Auguste and Edward van Biene's "Man and Wife" Co. All communications c/o "The Era."

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Hamlet, Shylock, David Garrick.
Bandmann Comedy Company, Yokohama, Japan.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN
(Miss Miriam Lewes). Mr. Vaughan at Liberty. 12, Mentone-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. HERBERT VERE, General Man., Strong Lead or Character; Lib. few Special Weeks. Address, Metropole, Birmingham.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
Tallyrand, "A Royal Divorce."
Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. HAROLD WAGNER and ADA TILLEY. Business-Manager and Second Boy, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Lead, Moss and Stoll's "Motor Chase."
Hippodrome, Manchester.

MR. HYLTON WARDE.
Prin. Com., Chambuddy Ram, "Cingalee" Tour. 17, Doris-road, Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged.
48, Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

MR. A. HAMILTON WARDEN,
General Manager for Mr. Arthur Carlton.
Theatre Royal, King's Lynn.

MR. HAROLD WARDROPER,
at Liberty Now and Spring. Juveniles, Musical or Farcical Com. Perth Villa, Hunstanton.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY.
Theatrical Agency. 3, Bedford-street, Strand
'Phone, 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER.
Disengaged Spring. 63, Willowfield-road, Eastbourne; or Mr. C. St. John Denton.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
"MR. HOOK."
Wolverhampton; next, Lyceum, Sheffield.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
At Liberty, to Produce, &c.
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged, Character, Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manager. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General-Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley)
"Little Damozel" Tour. O. H., Cheltenham.

MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE,
"Her Devonshire Dad."
King's Theatre, Gateshead.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
Disengaged.
31, St. Leonards-road, Hove, Sussex.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS
"Because they will do it."
Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business. At Liberty.
"The Blorenge," Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
At Liberty.
5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
General Manager.
Only Address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Evelyn Shaw), R. W. Stage-Manager, The Hip., S.E. Conc. engagement Garrick T., W.C.

MR. GRAHAM WOODS,
Star Lead, Mr. J. A. Campbell's "From Convent to Throne," so. Court, Wigan.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Musical and Farcical Comedy Character. Conc. "Butterflies. Disen. 147, Stockwell Park-rd.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Heavies, Character, Management.
52, Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MESSRS. J. G. and F. SANTE,
"Life of a Showman" Co.
Address, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

ENTERTAINERS.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Just returned from American Tour. Permanent address, 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS Costume Concert Company (Director, George Robins). Booking 1910, Woodbine, Salisbury-rd., Wimbledon

MISS CORA MARRIOTT, Society Entertainer. Humorous and Dramatic Recitals, Irish Monologue, &c. Only first-class offers entertained. Lynbrooke, Urmston, Manchester.

ARTHUR THOMAS, Entertainer.
Telephone 445 Lee Green.
111, Silvermere-road, Catford, S.E.

AMY PRY VERTE, Teacher of Music Dancing. Variety Entertainer. Song Writer required. 129, St. George's-road, Hull.

WHITE'S TIGHTS

50 Years' Reputation.

Postage 3d. per pair.

	s.	d.
Cotton Tights, Flesh, Black, and White	2	6
" All other shades	2	9
Silk Lustre, all shades	3	9
Superior Silk	5	6
Best "	10	6
Stout Worsted	6	6
" Cashmere	7	6

Telegrams: Tights, Bobbers Mill

Send stamp TO-DAY for List & Patterns.

WHITE & SONS (Dept. E),

Telephone: 1566

BOBBERS MILL, near NOTTINGHAM.

London Agent: Gamage, Ltd., 124, Holborn.
Edinburgh Agent: F. A. Lumley, 141, Leith-street.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
1402 BROADWAY,
AND AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Jackson Withers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archie Ainsleigh.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company is here, in *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. Louis Hector gives a good performance of George Addison; Mr. W. H. Porter makes a plausible villain of Charles Devereux; Mr. J. F. Brandon is successful as Geoffrey Broughton; Miss Alice Bowes plays Lucy with great effect; Sir George Lancaster is well represented by Mr. Williams; Miss Grace Lester is seen to advantage as Lady Lucertia Lancaster; Miss Gladys Newcombe as the Mother Superior deserves praise; and Mr. James Raymond plays Dr. Fenwick effectively.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Harry Benet presents his grand comic pantomime, *Dick Whittington and His Cat*. Miss Nellie Dyson makes a great hit as Dick Whittington; Mr. Cliffe Owen is successful as Alderman Fitzwarren; Miss Stella Millard as an engaging Alice; Mr. Harry Benet as Idle Jack is amusing; and Mr. Bob Stanto causes a good deal of laughter as Toddles. Specialities are introduced by the La'dor Troupe, sensational acrobats; Kloof and Ramsey, novel musical entertainers; the Doloras, clever lady and gentleman double trapeze artists; and the San Remo Girls, speciality dancers.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The engagement of the D'Oyly Carte Principal Opera Company is affording delight to music-lovers in the Granite City. Mr. Fred Billington is renewing old triumphs; while Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Bertha Lewis, and Mr. Henry A. Lytton fully maintain all the old traditions.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The lady who chooses to go under the title of L'Incognita supplies the principal turn here this week, and her phenomenal vocalisation is creating quite a furore. Other turns are contributed by Cornalla and Eddie, comedians and acrobats; Mr. C., a clever comedian and vocalist; Miss Maud Courtney, American comedienne; Miss Nina Gordon, a versatile mimic; Kelly and Agnes, sketch artists; Rowlands and Ford, comedians; and Johnnie Walker, comedian.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—The Fred Granville Productions, Limited, are presenting a capital pantomime, entitled *Beauty and the Beast*, which has afforded every satisfaction to well-filled houses. Miss Hilda De Grey scores a success as Prince Great Heart, having a prepossessing and attractive appearance and an excellent voice; Miss Norah Kebble makes a dashing and bright Silver Button; and Miss Edie Kebble is a charming Beauty. Miss Bella Moody deserves every commendation for a smart character study as the Baron's ugliest daughter Wilhelmena; Mr. Sammy Foster (an old favourite here) is a source of amusement as Sammy; and he is ably assisted in creating laughter by Mr. Albert Juan as the village Squire, Mr. Edward Stream as Sprindles, and Mr. Frank Debano as Twitters. Miss Victoria Francis makes a dainty Fairy Sunlight, and Miss Dollie Barrie is very successful as Sir Electro Plato. Excellent specialities are introduced by the Hewson's Æolians, the Royal Quintette of International Dancers, the Kebbles, Victoria Francis, Foster and Juan, &c.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—The Ten Loonies, the mad musicians, are attracting big houses. Harry Lamore introduces Chinese conjuring, comedy juggling, and slack-wire walking; Ernest Lord's Excelsiors are singers of much ability; Harry Taylor is received with shouts of laughter; Lennard and Vereker are capable song illustrators; Lily Le Breton submits a graceful gymnastic performance; and pictures on the Bioscope complete.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Miss Dot Stephens's company is appearing with great success this week in the excellent drama *A Child of the Streets*. Miss Dot Stephens, besides giving a delightful impersonation of Doris, contributes imitations of well-known artists; Mr. Charles Tolcher also shines with his impersonations, in song, of persons in different nations. Those appearing in principal rôles, besides Miss Stephens, are Messrs. Leonard Aardale, Charles Freeman, Norman H. Tracy, Maurice Jones, George Francis, Chas. Tolcher, Misses Nellie Thorne Hallam, Yoxa Summer, Carlotta Blondin, and Little May Renaud, and, as already stated, they are hugely successful.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mill's company is paying a welcome return visit this week with *For Love and the King*. Mr. Watson Mill gives a fine conception of Jarval, the Britisher; Mr. Alfred Maurice contributes a good character study of Michael Obrenovic; as Prince Uros Mr. F. K. Wicksteed is very good, as also is Mr. Jeffrey Chate as Duke Fernand. Vladimir Obrenovic is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred J. Webb; Mr. Stanley Weston as King Kara is excellent; and Miss Rosalind Tate gives a fine portrayal of Edith Meredith, Miss Joan Ellis as Natila being most winning. The comedy is in the keeping of Mr. Oscar Power, an old favourite, and Miss Marie Danvers Smith is capital as Grazia.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is in possession with *A Soldier's Honour*. Miss Edie Macklin has been specially engaged to sustain her humorous creation of Jemima Eliza; Mr. T. Arthur Ellis makes a dramatic Captain Deane; Mr. Jerrold E. Reed as Captain Gerald Temple acts cleverly as the faithful friend; Henry Thornton is depicted with stage cunning by Mr. Andrew Money; and Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as General Rochester acts with dignity and martial spirit. Miss Amy Dolby as Gwendoline Temple acts with great charm as Percy's Sweetheart; Miss Sylvia Vickers as Mrs. Deane is the solicitous and faithful mother of Captain Deane; and Miss Isobel Marte is the bold and unabashed woman of the world as Flanchette.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The head of the bill is here taken by the well-known Billy Williams, the man in the velvet suit, a really good comedian. Then we have the Rosses, expert comedians and dancers; the world's greatest wooden shoe dancer, Frank B. Ford; and James and Jenny Jee, those inimitable dancing, jumping, somersaulting, and cycling artists. The Stavordale Quintette are most attractive instrumentalists, their banjo and harp speciality being a wonderful imitation of the human voice; the tumbling pantomimist troupe, the Havannas, are a remarkable acrobatic combination; the Sages (Will and Jenny) appear in a favourite burlesque song-scena; Johnson and Harte are wonderful manipulators of hoops. The laughing hit of the bill is W. Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker*.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* is here. Mr. Wilford Bailey is a capital Dr. Gull, and the two Renads do excellent work. Mr. Victor T. Raymond is a guileless Dudely Green, and Mr. James Hawkes a commendable Bob Rollingstone. Mr. Harwood Cooper is a rattling Jack Gadabout, and Miss Dorothy Deakin is a sweet Virginia Squeeze. Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette do well in singing and dancing.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham* is here. Mr. Edmund Kennedy presents a powerful and dominating John Durham, and Mr. William Calvert makes a forceful Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Arthur Leigh a humorous Hen. Reginald Steighton, and Miss Frances Wolviston a good Lady Mountfallon. Miss Florence Tressilian is a tender and loving Helen Vallerton, and Miss Dorothy Turner is refreshingly natural as the Hon. Margaret Steighton. Miss Nellie Bonder does well as Mrs. Durham.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital programme is presented here this week. Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery create roars of laughter with *The Would-be Actors*; a most masterly performance with the Indian clubs is given by Buttan Singh; Will Owen is a capable comedian, with good songs; the Three Dixons are clever dancers and instrumentalists; Mollie Watson catches on with good chorus songs; Harry Tomlin is well received; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Marie Santol and her Merry Japs are once again presenting their pretty and elaborately-staged musical scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*, which retains all its charm; another old favourite is Addie Dorina, whose protean act, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, newly dressed and with many fresh bits of business introduced, goes well from start to finish; Mr. Frank Wheatcroft now assists this clever lady as Dr. Spot. Bonnetti and Corrie, comedy jugglers, are droll; and the comedy turn of Steel and Laing is noteworthy for smart dancing; Kitty Leon is also a clever step-dancer; Archie Pitt has quaint songs; and Tom Yorke, in character songs, is popular. The pictures are excellent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Ian Robertson is appearing in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, which on Monday stirred the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Mr. Ian Robertson as the Passer-by conveys a wonderful impression of calm contentment by his skilful handling of this effective character. Nothing but praise can be accorded to the rest of the cast, be it Miss Helena Parsons (a slut), Miss Jeannie Thomas (a cheat), Miss Drusilla Wills (a painted lady), Miss Lena Delphine (a shrew), Miss Blanche Ripley (a snob), Mr. P. Gedge Twyman (a bully), Miss Barbara Everest (a hussy), Mr. W. C. Billington (a satyr), Mr. J. Woodall Birde (a coward), Mr. Stanley Brown (a rogue), or Mr. Herbert Garthorne (a cad). A unanimity of sympathy between the players is evident from beginning to end of this delightful and extraordinary play. *Come Here* forms an agreeable curtain-raiser, and gives Mr. P. Gedge Twyman a good chance of showing his histrionic ability as Frederick McVicker, good support being accorded by Miss Barbara Everest as Catherine Staunton and Mr. Wilson Blake as Tom. Mr. Harold C. Lloyd is the courteous business-manager for the tour.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Miss Grace Warner and her capable company are appearing in *The Wages of Sin* and *East Lynne*. On Monday night, when the former piece was played, there was a good house. Miss Grace Warner portrayed Ruth Hope with pathos and artistic control, and was admirably supported by Mr. George Gordon as the Rev. George Brand. Mr. Frank Smith was extremely good as the villain Stephen Marler, and as the millionaire Josiah Deane, Mr. Frank Hertie seemed quite at home. Mr. Louis Nanton as Ned Drummond introduced a good deal of welcome humour, and was recalled for his rendering of a comic song; Miss Florence M. Daly as Jemima Bloggs was frequently applauded for her clever acting; Miss Florence M. Daly was a vivacious Julianna Bloggs; and Miss Lallah Price was good as Barbara Dale.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—To-night (Saturday) completes three weeks of Mr. Fred W. Warden's pantomime *Aladdin*, which has been phenomenally successful, crowded houses being the rule. The spectacular effects are simply gorgeous, while such popular songs as "Somewhere," "Little Girl from nowhere," "Charlie Brown," &c. (rendered in finished style by Miss Georgie Erlass and Miss Topsy Sinden) are being whistled and sung everywhere.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The Irish musical play *Rollicking Rory* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay's company. In the title-rôle Mr. Mackay achieved success, thoroughly amusing all; Mme. Constance Bellamy appears as Peggy O'Moore, and her faultless rendering of several Irish songs creates quite a furore; Mrs. Chalmers Mackay is seen to great advantage as Mrs. Ashleigh; and a delightful impersonation of Rosie Callaghan is furnished by Miss Nana Flensberg. Praise is due to Mr. J. P. McBride for his clever impersonation of Desmond Fitzgerald, and Mr. St. John Stuart submits a powerful impersonation of the villain Stephen D'Arcy. Mr. Fred Charles is capital as General Ashleigh, and Miss Jeannette Lyons deserves a line for her able impersonation of Widow O'Donohue. Other rôles are presented by Miss A. Webber, Little Dorothy, and Messrs. A. Sullivan, E. Lowrie, F. Allen, and F. Donnelly.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by Constantino Bernardi, the clever protean actor; Miss Janet Hall, lady baritone, is the possessor of a good voice, her rendering of "The wolf" being a fine effort; Clyne and Clark, black and white comedy duo, make their customary hit in this city; the Zaid Trio appear in their marvellous speciality; and also here are Ulrick (foot equilibrist), Tom and Neil (burlesque wrestlers), and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Mr. W. J. Churchill, the capital comedian, whose songs met with a good reception; Dancit furnishes an exhibition of the terpsichorean art it would be difficult to equal; Musical Sylvo plays several musical instruments in clever style; Miss Ethel Arundel is a charming soubrette; Mr. Tom Bryce appears with much success in a musical comedy sketch entitled *The Dude's Wooing*; the trick cycling performances by the Newmans creates quite a sensation; and also in the bill are Miss Daisy Hicks (a refined comedienne) and the Bioscope.

ALHAMBRA.—Proprietors, Belfast Alhambra, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—The Jockey, The Garibaldian Boy, and The Drunkard's Reformation are among the pictures shown in the excellent Bioscope entertainment here. In the variety company are Chorley and Connor, smart comedians; and Dan Derry, an expert ventriloquist.

BILSTON.—NEW ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Tunstall.—Geo. A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company is presenting here *The Angel of His Dreams*. Mr. De Gray depicts the character of the young clergyman Christian Esdale with skill and dignity. The Bessie Sparkles of Miss Etta Turner is vivacious; Miss Effie Bartlett plays with power as Hilda; and Miss Edna Earl makes a sympathetic Milly. Mr. Frank Brunnell is good as Sam Tippett, and Mr. Robert Hall is successful as Roy Ferrars.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Brewster's Millions*, form an undeniable attraction. The comedy is splendidly staged, and the Yacht scene is a model of mechanical skill. Monty Brewster is cleverly and amusingly impersonated by Mr. Charles Esdale, who does full justice to the part; Peggy is splendidly played by Miss Cicely Stuckey; Mrs. Don De Mille is cleverly portrayed by Miss Pauline Straus; and Mr. Aubrey Mather is well suited as Joseph McLeod. Remaining characters are without exception in capable hands. The company and piece have created an excellent impression here.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Mr. William Watson's company are appearing twice each evening in a smart version of *Robinson Crusoe*, a production which reflects infinite credit on all concerned. Mlle. de Rose, who is very favourably known in this town, gives a fine performance of the title-rôle; the Waldrons contribute materially to the success of the pantomime, and the production is thoroughly successful.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Kioto and Esa in a clever and effective equilibristic act, head a strong company; Milton and Horton, in their comedy triple bar performance, are a leading feature; and other excellent turns are also furnished by Scholey and Scholey, in their amusing sketch, *Winning a Wager*; A. W. Scott, coon vocalist; Joe Dale, light comedian; Darno, juggler and gymnastic comedian; Phinas and Alda, equilibrists; Miss Ethel Mann, contralto vocalist; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* is proving a popular pantomime, and there continues to be a big demand for seats.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; acting-manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—A pantomime brimful of good wholesome humour and pleasing songs is *Babes in the Wood*, and it is well patronised. Leading members of a cast of all-round excellence are Mr. Mark Sheridan, Miss Dorothy Ward, Miss Daisy Dormer, the Brothers Egbert, and Mr. Harry Conlin.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Crowded audiences are enjoying the record-breaking pantomime *Aladdin*.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*The Fair One with the Golden Locks* continues to run merrily, and there will be general regret when it has to depart.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle-Taylor.—Enthusiastic audiences are enjoying the stirring drama *On His Majesty's Service*, presented by Mr. Andrew Emm and company. Mr. Archie W. Chappell, in the rôle of Frank Fairway, earns warm approval; and Miss Rose Ralph makes an excellent heroine; Mr. John B. Shinton portrays an unscrupulous character as Captain Hedley, and as his accomplice, Miss Susie Beaven is convincing; Mr. Andrew Emm infuses lively spirit into the character of Wittles, the postman. The other parts are capably represented, and bright uniforms and good scenery make a splendid show.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. C. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting *The Bondman* to appreciative audiences here. Mr. Philip Darien makes the most of his opportunities in the part of Jason; Mr. Stanley Harrison as Michael, the half-brother, scores a success; Mr. W. H. Rotheram displays ability in the rôles of Grandfather and Father Ferrati. Miss Violet Macaree is enthusiastically applauded for a skilful portrayal of Greeba; and Miss Maude Laverton is clever as Mrs. Fairbrother.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's company is presenting here *The Way Women Love* and a version of *Camille*. Mrs. Bateman displays considerable ability, and is well supported by a clever company.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—The excellent standard of the bills at this house is well-maintained this week. A spectacular protean sketch, *Change*, on an ambitious scale, is successfully played by the Jewels; merriment is caused by Mr. W. Fullbrook and company, in *Astronomy*; Billie Burford, a prime favourite, sings chorus songs delightfully; Dion Wade is an up-to-date comedian and mimic; the Galtz Trio are skilful performers on the globes and wire; a pleasing entertainment is provided by James Stewart at the piano; J. H. Scotland is an accomplished vocalist; Jean and Josie are warmly applauded for a novel contortion act; and Jennie Alexander is a pleasing juvenile comedienne.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Patrons are hailing with delight the appearance of Mme. Alice Esty, the famous prima-donna, and she has a great reception in selections from her répertoire; a fine spectacular production, entitled *Our Empire Defenders*, in which 100 Birmingham children perform, is pre-

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.
The Tempest.

PANTOS.

We are prepared to collect, clean and deliver Panto dresses between shows.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

T. Harris, Esq., Kennington,
The Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co. 7th January, 1910.

Dear Mr. Harris,

In reply to yours, the whole of the curtains and fittings were in position as per your promise and they really look splendid; in fact, in my opinion, they could not be improved upon. You have carried out this work for Mr. Arthur (as you always do) in an unequalled manner.

Yours faithfully,
H. B. BRANDRETH.
Business Manager for Mr. Robert Arthur at Kennington

Write for particulars of our NEW RAIN-RESISTING PROCESS as applied by us to Ladies' and Gents' Clothes.

By Special Arrangement TOURING MANAGERS can have their Wardrobes Cleaned between the Shows by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING and DYEING CO.

(T. HARRIS, Manager),
Original Theatrical Cleaners and Dyers,
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

'Phone: 1911 Gerrard (2 lines)
Telegrams: "Cleaning, London"

sented by Wallace Selkirk; O'Gust proves himself a clever mimic; Victor Travers amuses with original travesties; Herbert Shelley appears in a clever protean drama; Ethel Newman presents a good monologue; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette are clever instrumentalists; the Four Regals are muscular marvels; and Frank le Dent, comedy juggler; Odeyne Spark, and the Bioscope are also popular.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Audiences are delighted with the bright and vivacious performance of Miss Zona Vevey, who appears with Max Erard, in a clever vocal and musical scena, a number of choruses being heartily taken up; Lila Vesta, a talented singer, quickly earns popularity; and Luis Hardt, "the boy Samson," gives a wonderful display of strength. Baker and Balfe are expert xylophonists and dancers; and the Six Olympians provide an astonishing turn of trick cycling. Clive and Vera are an entertaining pair; W. B. Raby is a popular and up-to-date comedian; Eva Elsie has a good reception as vocalist; and the Gaietoscope exhibits new moving pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—The McBann's appear here in a novel and skilful juggling act; *The Lady Jockey* is the title of a sketch effectively played by Miss Teddy Edmond's company; a varied vocal entertainment is given by the Romps; pleasing songs are rendered by Rob Rossie, a tenor singer from the Isle of Man; Baby Vi Davis is a clever little performer, with a bright future; Dale and O'Malley are big favourites here; and others on the programme are Foot-Gers, a versatile French comedian; Flake White, lightning sketch artist; Maria Racko, in a skilful acrobatic act; Lena Wylie, who sings sweetly; Paulton and Doley, in a comedy cycle act; and living pictures on the Barrascope.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is producing here *The Babes in the Wood*, one of the best travelling pantomimes in the provinces. Riotous fun is well sustained by a company of first-class comedians, including Mr. Victor Wallace (the Baron), August and September (the Robbers), and Mr. Harry Elliston (Euphemia Gadabout). Miss Marie Brayton is a vivacious and clever principal boy; and Miss Mabel Osborne is popular as Maid Marion. The Babes are represented by two dainty youngsters, Misses Marie and Elsie May. Miss Carry Parry sings well as the Fairy; and the John Lloyd Quartette are also well received in vocal items. The dancing is excellent, and the scenery pretty and effective.

CURZON HALL (AMERICAN AND CONTINENTAL CIRCUS).—Director and Organiser, Mr. A. Edward Inshaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Inshaw.—The enterprise of the management here is reaping a rich reward. The Four Craigs figure prominently on the programme this week with a novel gymnastic performance; Captain Permane's performing bears are very entertaining, and there are several other new features.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley. — Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is here on a return visit. Mr. Sam Livesey plays the part of John Strong in his accustomed clever style; as Captain Leo, Mr. Joseph Carter is as good as ever; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is a cunning Jeremiah Parkins, being finely assisted by Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins. Mr. Fred Haming pleases as Billy Twigg; Miss Rosie Kearns does well as Martha Mopps; Miss Cissie Le Grande makes the most of her part as Ruth Parkins; and Miss Maggie Edwards is all that can be desired as Kate Strong.

THE HIPPODROME (BISHOP AUCKLAND), LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—George Gray and company top the bill here in *The Fighting Parson*, which is very successful; Rex Fox is a good ventriloquist and a versatile performer on the wire; J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser are very clever; Arthur Lennox is a good diabolist and dancer; Hinton and Wooton, in their football match on bicycles keep the house alive; Helen Martin is charming in her singing; and the Hipposcope provides amusing pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. Huddlestone.—*Where is William?* is submitted here by Mr. Charles Windermere and company. Mr. Windermere himself plays the principal part, and keeps his audience in a constant roar of laughter. He is ably assisted by Miss Belle Donaldson, who plays Lady Gregory. Minor parts are carefully sustained by Messrs. Wylie A. Thompson, Leslie Norman, Rule Pyott, and G. L. Burton, and Misses Clara Manifield, Leslie Russell, and Zoe Davis.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Atlas and Vulcana are giving skilful exhibitions of strength; Barnes and West are responsible for a dancing act; and the Two Lillys present a clever equilibristic act; Bart Kemble is a capable comedian; Reno amuses with his comedy cycling performance; Rosie Archer is a pleasing mimic, who plays her own piano accompaniment; Gwennie Morgan is a good comedienne and dancer; and Vera Hindle is also a taking comedienne.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company opened on Monday with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. In the part of the Rev. Robert Everton Mr. Joseph Millane gave a capital impersonation; Mr. Cecil Mannering in the dual rôles of Jack England and Private Johnson was rewarded with much applause; Miss Lydia Mannington was a satisfactory Marion Franklyn; Mr. Richard Ferris as Capt. Geoffrey Faversham was prominent; as James Sutton Mr. George Daiper made a good impression; and Miss Doris Brookes in Molly Vernon, the title-rôle, soon became a favourite.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Elliston's pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood* entered on its second week on Monday, when the theatre was again crowded. La Belle Morgane as Robin Hood has established herself as a warm favourite, her song "Ship Ahoy" nightly bringing down the house. Other principals whose efforts are much appreciated are Miss Lilian Pollard, Miss Dolly Ross, the Sisters Herbert (the "Babes"), Miss Maud de Velin, and Messrs. C. Harvard, W. H. Howarth, Geo. Belrose, and Reuben Kitchen. The variety turns of the Lecardo Brothers, the Harvard Sextette, the Doreen Girls, and the Eight Tiny Tots are greatly enjoyed.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A good company is headed by the Aurora Troupe, who perform some truly wonderful cycling feats. Other turns are Chas. Grantley, comedian; the Calcots, in a wayside episode, *Rags and Tatters*; the Four Panamas, in their pantomimical specialty *The Delineator*; the Creo Brothers, comedy acrobats; France and Stewart, in their American racing comedy *The 100 to 1 Chance*; Richard Finberg, in character studies; Miss Ethel Thomas, "the Welsh nightingale"; Verno and Voyce, in their racing episode *Sporting Luck*; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Leoni Clarke, with his 200 cats, rabbits, monkeys, rats, mice, canaries, &c., proves a great attraction. The following make up a strong company; Mabel Moss, a refined comedienne; the Three Sisters Eston, who appear in a triple trapeze act; Wm. Lee and Helen Bentley, in their comedy sketch *The King's Counsel*; Bonair and Tess, in their Japanese quick-change act; the Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats and ladder performers; Harry Angers, comedian and dancer; the Six White Boys, in a novelty singing and dancing act; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—Dutch Daly is once again paying a visit with his inseparable concertina and funny stories; the Five Whiteleys give a clever acrobatic, wire-walking, and musical pot-pourri; Lee and Kingston popular comedy duo, are very successful in *A Resourceful Lover*; Ted Cowan is a quaint comedian; Harry Webber is indeed "the Happy Hebrew"; Hyde and Cody Trio are real eccentrics; and Harold Heath, coon delineator and dancer, is well applauded. The Hippo. Pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* may certainly be numbered amongst Mr. Hart's most brilliant and successful productions in the way of pantomime.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Forty Thieves* is an established success, and [illegible] to finish the performance runs with a m[illegible]

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd. Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—La [illegible], E.C.

butes some remarkable skirt dancing; Kate Butler, comedienne, furnishes an acceptable item; and Mendel, the blind pianist, is astounding the audience with his remarkable powers of memory and his skill as an executant; Ruth Davenport, with grace and charm, submits vocal selections from *Dorothy*, which win unstinted applause; wonderful skill in animal training is exhibited in the unique performance of Reichen's tiny dogs; George Carney and Frank Armstrong simply convulse the audience with their grotesque humour; and Miller Bros., on the bars, give a clever and humorous display; Harry May Hamsley does some clever charcoal sketching and child mimicry; and Harry Roxbury, supported by a good company, and surrounded by a gorgeous Egyptian stage setting elicits laughter as Sergeant Longfellow.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Ruby Dahl introduces a novelty in her Merry Mannikins here this week, giving clever imitations of the working of life-size marionettes; and a clever grotesque musical act, with legmania dancing by the Phydoras is a leading feature of the capital programme; the Bristons, comedy cyclists, do some funny and daring tricks; Jennie Belmore furnishes an amusing character turn; H. C. Lovell and Co., are amusing as ever in the absurd sketch, *Mlle. Pom Pom*; roars of laughter once more greet Harry Tate's No. 1 company, in *Motoring*; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is distinctly eccentric; Little Frank exhibits promise as a juvenile Scotch comedian, and is an acceptable deputy for Norah Desmond, vocalist; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are interesting.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Henry N. Phillips; Manager, Mr. George W. Coe.—*Her Road to Ruin* is this week being staged here. Mr. Charles Dickens gives an excellent impersonation of Frank Temple; Mr. Alex. Bradley makes a good stage villain; Mr. Dane Clark is very capable as the Bishop; Mr. Kendrew Milson wins sympathy for his excellent delineation as Tom Wells; Miss Ada Champion submits an admirable representation of Jess; Miss Mabel Coleman deserves praise for a fine interpretation of a triple rôle; and Miss Maud Gill is charming as May Willoughby. The comedy element is in the able hands of Miss Grace Emery and Mr. Harry Talbot.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*Robinson Crusoe* is still doing good business here. Owing to illness Mr. G. Sandford has been compelled to relinquish the part of Captain Kettle, which is now admirably undertaken by Mr. Jimmy Fergusson. The latter and Mr. Lyons as Corkscrew Bill, are a very humorous pair; and much amusement is also afforded by Mr. Davé O'Toole as Mrs. Crusoe, and Mr. George Campbell as Billy Crusoe, Miss May Mars (Robinson Crusoe) is a great favourite, and evokes enthusiasm with her artistic vocalisation; Miss Violet K. Orme makes a bright and engaging Polly Perkins; Miss Vera Ray is a graceful Fairy, and Mr. Joe Redfern a picturesque bold pirate, Will Atkins; Mr. Edgar Budden as Friday dances himself into favour; and able support is given by Miss Irene Rose and Mr. Fred A. Marston. The brilliant scenes depicting The Bottom of the Sea and The Rajah's Palace merit especial praise.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Eugene Stratton, "the ideal coon," is enthusiastically applauded; the Crown Trio gives a vocal turn which is warmly appreciated; Billy Andrus and company are diverting in *Troubles with a Tramcar*; Haigh and Russell evoke much laughter with *Aunt Amelia*; Mostol provides a good musical entertainment; Julian Ross is a capital light comedian; Merlin manipulates cards very cleverly; Maud Wilton is a graceful comedienne; the Sisters Alfred are pleasing with song and dance; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Barnold's dog and monkey actors are very entertaining in *A Hot Time in Dogville*, the turn evoking hearty laughter; John Grun Marx performs astonishing feats of strength; the Croisit Trio gives a clever gymnastic display; Wyllie, the tramp musician, is well received; Ritter and Foster are eccentric comedians and dancers; the Arthur Gallimore Trio are robust humorists; Billy Haines is a capital coon vocalist; the Daunton-Shaw troupe are daring and clever cyclists; and Mephisto is a mystifying illusionist.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—The musical fantasy, *The Queen of the Fairies* closes its run here this evening (Saturday). Miss Nora Roylance has been a great favourite in the title-rôle; Miss Blanche Kinross danced gracefully as Lady Mushroom; while, among the mortals, Mr. H. E. Garden as the Duke and Miss Florence Lynn as the Duchess gave admirable impersonations; and the young lovers, Lady Violet and Reginald Wane, were ably represented by Miss Kathleen Storr and Mr. Eric J. Langham.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* continues to be highly successful, money being turned away at some performances. The magnificent scenery is much admired, as also are the electric ballets, and the costumes. Mr. Horace Mills as Mother Hubbard is really amusing, and scores with his songs; Miss Fairbrother is quaint and entertaining as Mary; Miss Alice Pollard and Miss Lulu Valli are pleasing in their respective parts of Goody and Reggie; Mr. George Barrett has made a fine part of Tacks; Mr. Charles Harvey makes the most of the Baron; and Mr. George Elliott has become very popular as Chocolate, his song and dance specialities being much appreciated. As a canine study Mr. Fred Conquest's Fido would be very hard to beat; and the numerous children engaged in the pantomime reflect much credit upon their trainer, Miss Leah Hanman, who both acts and dances well as Tric. Miss Norah Walters does excellently as the other fairy, Antic.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Robinson Crusoe* is doing remarkably well here. The comedy element is, as usual, strong, the comedians including Mr. Edwin Garth as Mrs. Crusoe, Mr. Frank Dunlop as Will Atkins, Mr. Charles F. Martell as the Bo'sun, and Mr. John R. Bennett as the Mate. Miss Kitty Upton increases in popularity as Robinson Crusoe; as also does Miss Blanche Marion as Polly Hopkins; the Misses Jeannette and Rosie Albert are pleasing as Captain Lanyard and Sally; and Mr. David Jenkins obtains much appreciation for his bass solos. Miss Judith Espinosa acts capitally as Friday, and she is a very expert dancer. The scenery of the pantomime is both pretty and appropriate, and the dresses are quite up to the mark.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Alan Holt and company successfully head the bill with the realistic sketch, *A Society Woman*. Cassie Walmer entertains most effectively with song and dance; Jack Hylton, comedian, is appreciated; the Pichel Troupe, five in number, score as risley acrobats and tumblers; Pop Dearly is a pleasing singer of coon songs; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard amuse with their comedy sketch, *Coming Home*; and Earle and Godfrey do well as duettists and dancers. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Al Fields and Dave Lewis and company present, with much success, their comedy skit, *The Misery of a Hansom Cab*; Alexandra Dagmar, comedienne, does an excellent turn, her songs being both amusing and cleverly rendered; Rose Atherton and company entertain with their clever farcical absurdity, *Murphy's Affinity*; Len Teel, comedian, obtains appreciation; the Three Krakes score with their knockabout comedy act, "The Electric Tram Conductor"; Archie Glenn, comedian and dancer, is successful; Vere Lennie is a pleasing comedienne; and Barn and Bardell, patter comedians, do well in their line. Interesting animated pictures close the entertainment.

COLSTON HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is attracting large houses at each entertainment, and the variety artists do excellent turns. The band is a good one, and the animated pictures are all up to date.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*When Knights Were Bold* is delighting people here this week. Mr. James Welch's company is a strong one, Mr. Langdon Bruce taking first place as Sir Guy de Vere, wherein he maintains a continual state of merriment; Sir Brian Ballymote is well played by Mr. Gerald Venning; as is the Rev. Peter Pottlebury by Mr. Colin Johnson. Mention must be made of Miss Ernita Lascelles as Lady Rowena; Mr. Charles Lloyd as Isaac Isaacson; and Mr. H. Winton as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe. A very pleasant one-act comedy, *Millie's Mother*, precedes.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The programme here is drawing excellent houses. The Riogoku Family of seven Japanese earn well-merited applause for thrilling acrobatics; a capital turn is provided by Richard Wally, juggler, and his page-boy, smart execution and quaint humour predominating; Harry Drew-Welsh, basso, is greatly appreciated; and the Mars Trio, military gymnasts, give a good display; Carl Muller is a clever dancer; and Fallows and Beaumont provide an enjoyable vocal comedy turn; Gladys Hooley charms the house with her brilliant violin solos; and Motor-boat Racing and An Egyptian Mummy are shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Albert and Edmunds company, in a farcical comedy *The Tower of London*, is the principal turn here, and is highly successful; Conway and Leyland, the merry monopedes, are welcomed in their smart acrobatic turn; the Carney Bros. win approbation for well sung duets; and Fritz Kornau pleases with flute imitations; the Stein-Esthor Trio of comedy hand-jumpers are very good; and a pretty turn is given by Beatrice Willey in a medley of old flower songs; Harry Luck sings two lively songs; Alex. Lofton, coloured comedian, is very good; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are appreciated.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company present *The Midnight Wedding* here. Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes gives an earnest and powerful impersonation of the hero, Paul Valmar. The villainous Von Scarbruck and his tool, Von Strelsburg, are depicted with virulent intensity by Mr. Chas. Whitlock and Mr. St. George Frere. The idiosyncrasies of the three soldier comrades and the vivacious waitress (Kathie) are amusingly portrayed by Mr. Jas. E. Page, Mr. Wm. Franklin, Mr. Algie Spalding, and Miss Jessica Black. A sympathetic heroine with a judicious mingling of passion and pathos is Miss Margaret Brodie as the Princess Astrea. Miss Gwladys Faunce, Mr. John Nesbit, and Mr. Forbes Harrison creditably sustain their respective characters. The play is well staged.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—Mr. G. W. Bowes' company in *The Sign of the Cross* has drawn good houses. Mr. Leonard Yorke as Marcus Superbus not only looks the part, but acts with commendable power; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle's Tigellinus is a creditable performance; Nero and Licinius are portrayed with sinister force by Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice and Mr. Evan Davies; Mr. Donald McAdam (Glabrio) and Mr. Theo Leslie (Philodemus) provide considerable amusement; Favius and Titus are effectively played by Mr. Edward Clowes and Mr. Aubrey; Miss Florence Maber is a graceful and sympathetic Mercia; the rôle of Bernis is filled by Miss Gabriel Romero with conspicuous success; a vivacious Dacia is found in Miss Lilian Ward; Miss Margaret Wall makes a stately Empress; and Stephanus is played with deep pathos by Miss Effie Dane. The play is well mounted.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Hall Caine's *Pete* has achieved a great success here. Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company is responsible for the production. Mr. Austin Milroy has a fine stage appearance, and as Pete is admirable; Miss V. Malcolm Barnett as Kate Cregeen is also worthy of the highest praise, carrying the audience entirely with her; Mr. Frank Stone, a capable actor, gives a highly finished rendering of Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Alfred Gray is also very good as Philip Christian; Mr. J. Edward Fletcher is a convincing Ross Christian; and Mr. E. J. Preston cleverly impersonates the Mayor of Douglas. Miss Lucy Murray, in a small part, Nancy, is particularly good.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Dick Whittington* has eclipsed all previous pantomimes in Cardiff. Huge business is being done, and Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford thoroughly deserve the success which has so early crowned their brilliant entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.—General Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*Mother Goose* has entered upon its third week, and the anticipated success has become a reality. The management can be fully satisfied with the result of their first pantomime in the city, and patrons express the hope that the final performance is far distant.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor. — Miss Evie Greene makes a welcome appearance, and charms all by her style and manner; Harold Nuttall's company is seen in *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, in which Mr. Martyn Roland scores a great success; the Abdullah Arabs astound all by their wonderful acrobatic skill; Harry Grey brings down the house by his amusing female skit; Tate and Tate, a capital duo, thoroughly deserve the hearty applause accorded their acrobatics; Spry and Monti are another successful couple; and the Elite Harmony Boys in a vocal act; Stanley and Greenop, in an exhibition of banjo playing; and Olive Armidale, in a taking song, contribute also to the success.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The representation on the Bioscope of the contest between Tom Thomas and Charlie Wilson for the Middle-weight Championship of England is distinctly clear, and a good record of the fight is given. Dan Whitley, the popular comedian, makes a return visit, and causes abundant fun with his comical antics and humorous sayings; a first-class item is provided by the Five Tritons, vocalists and instrumentalists, who are adepts in their particular line, and gain applause; J. P. Carroll, soldier tambourinist, does a unique and clever turn, which is appreciated; and Les Montaldos, equilibrists on the slack wire, and introducing highly-trained parrots and cockatoos, obtain their share of applause. Walter Buxton, descriptive vocalist, has a fine voice; and Norah Stockelle, a charming soubrette, sings her numbers in a pleasing and captivating style. Frank Coyle, comedian, completes a good programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Charles Elderton's pantomime, *Aladdin* is attracting big audiences. Mr. Elderton's company includes many clever and popular performers, and as the piece is smartly written, with plenty of genuine fun, the dresses tasteful, the music bright and sparkling, and the scenery pretty success is assured. Miss Maudie Vincent makes a dashing principal boy, singing and dancing with grace and skill; as the principal girl Miss M. Gibson soon became a favourite—her songs, "Somewhere" and "Your eyes have told me so," were excellently rendered and enthusiastically received; Miss Bella Terry and Miss Winnie Terry fill their parts admirably; Widow Twankey as played by Mr. Will Beanland is a most amusing and diverting character, laughter loud and long greeting his every effort; no less successful is Mr. Billy Melia, a comedian brimful of fun; Abanazar has a clever representative in Mr. Harry Harrop, whose patter songs are quite a feature of the performance; James and Alexander as the Policemen and Mr. J. Matchett, the Emperor, contribute fine vocal turns. The dancing all round is particularly good, the Lottie Stone Quartette, Stean and Melia, and the Mimosa Troupe giving some clever examples of the art. Claremont and Victor, comedy acrobats, Li-Chang-Hi, conjurer, and Morrisey, balancing musician, are also smart and deservedly popular turns.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman J.P.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's *The King and the Unknown Woman* appeals very effectively to audiences here. The rôle of Zora, the unknown woman, is filled by Miss Violet Carlyle, whose representation of the character is clever and studied; Countess Melvitch is well placed in the hands of Miss Gertrude Sterrol; Miss Stella Richmond makes a charming Else, and plays with vivacity and grace; Mr. Wellesley Draper as Prince Loris plays with much effect; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan gives a forcible rendition of the villain, Prince Menski; the dignified General Platz is faithfully portrayed by Mr. W. R. Winning; Mr. Cyril Harrison makes a droll Captain Gara; Mr. J. Tilly-Dillsen and Miss Cissie Podmore receive liberal applause for their humorous portrayals of Corporal Stack and Schnapps; and Miss Elsie Clarke is easy and natural as Cascar.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The chief attraction here is Henriette de Serris' Living Art Masterpieces and Bas-relief, which cause considerable interest; Raglus is a smart ball manipulator, and his humorous by-play arouses roars of laughter; Harry Bickley's songs and funny stories receive generous appreciation; Cliffe and Vanstan (Maud and Eveline) in a musical comedy duologue meet with considerable success; Sara Rosebury, with sweet and tuneful voice and quaint dialect stories, is enthusiastically applauded; Ernest Montefiore and company, in their musical sketch *The Little Colonel*, are heartily applauded; Elsie Malpass is a clever child mimic, and her dancing is smart and graceful; and Bert Friere sings a couple of songs with much spirit. The pictures of the Loyal Dominion Co. are as popular as ever.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*Aladdin* is produced by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd. In the title-rôle Miss Amy Bellwood proves a great favourite; Miss Beatrice Harris is the Princess Badroulbadour, and gives a pleasing impersonation; Mr. Bert Harrow scores a decided success as Abanazar; Mr. Happy Attwood is admirably suited in the part of Widow Twankey, and Bernard and Weston give valuable assistance as Bossi and Wrong 'Un.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—At the top of the bill is the Six Brothers Luck's Company in *The Demon of the Cellar*, which proves as laughable as ever; Shirley and Ransome make a hit in *Jim's Pal*; Henrietta and Selina win much applause for their musical act; Fred Herbert's topical and patriotic ditties are much enjoyed; Allsopp and Beckworth amuse with *His First Lesson in Acting*; and others appearing are Clivetto, comedy juggler; and Ken Jones, comedian.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford; Mr. George Edwardes's excellent company opened to a crowded house on Monday with *The Dollar Princess*. Miss Norah Barry and Mr. Alec Worcester act with distinction in the leading parts of Alice Conder and Freddy Fairfax; Mr. Sydney Lyndon and dainty Miss Peggy Primrose as the second pair of lovers, John, Earl of Quorn and Daisy Conder, enact pleasantly their little comedy of the affections; Miss Primrose sings and dances charmingly; Mr. Leslie Holland, a popular local favourite, does excellent work as Harry Conder, and with him is associated Miss Madeleine Seymour, a handsome and attractive Olga, the lion queen; Mr. W. H. Rawlins gets no end of fun out of the part of Mr. Bulger, hopelessly in love with the fascinating Countess—his song "Again my heart goes pit-a-pit-a-pat" was trebly encored on Monday; Mr. J. Cranstoun Neville is amusingly comical as Conder's cousin, Dick, and the head footman, Sir James MacGregor, Bart., is very quaintly studied by Mr. Willie Wardo, jun.; Miss Doris Joy as Dulcie du Cros and Miss Kathleen Rich as Sadie Von Tromp do well, as do the Misses Eva Wright, Mabel Thornton, Ethel Hampton, and Gertrude Miller as the Ladies Augusta, Dorothy, Gwendoline, and Margaret; Miss Muriel Hodgson is good as Hon. Edith Dalrymple and Mr. J. Bates as the Butler, Duke of Stonehenge. The work of the full chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, is all that could be desired. The staging and dressing are fine.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—This is the third and last week of Messrs. St. John Denton and Peter Davey's beautiful pantomime, *Blue Beard*, which still continues to draw large and delighted audiences. Last week the special novelty was the remarkably clever and extremely funny comic juggler Cestria, whose antics hugely delighted the Chester public. This week Polo and Florence, the famous Parisienne equilibrists, prove a welcome addition to the delights of pantomimic fun and splendour.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. George Dance's company is winning success with *Our Miss Gibbs*. In the title-rôle Miss Elfie Vincent is lissom, gay, and spirited; Mr. Vincent Erne, in the Yorkshire character of Timothy, evokes roars of merriment; Mr. Eustace Burnaby as Hon. Hughie is throughout a great favourite; Mr. J. S. Durant is a capital Slithers; Mr. Arthur S. Radcliff makes a good Lord Eynsford; and Mr. A. Gordon Begg a polished Earl of St. Ives. Miss Ellaline Thorne is admirable as the modiste, Jeanne; and Miss Lilian Birtles made the most of the part of Lady Elizabeth; the Duchess being characteristically depicted by Miss Amy Singleton. Miss Florence Hylton is a capital Mrs. Farquhar.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company is presenting *A Message from Mars*, and the management are skilfully advertising it by means of some capital sky signs. Mr. Aidan Lovett as Horace is good, and in the fore part of the last act attained a high degree of dramatic excellence. Mr. George Polson, with immobile countenance, demonstrates his ability to enact the part of Marsey; Mr. Norman Clark gives a realistic display of the "deadbroke"; and the numerous subsidiary male parts were very efficiently undertaken. Miss Rose Hellene makes a charming and ingenuous figure of Minnie; and as her guardian Miss Aubrey Ashton is skilful.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here with *The Christian*. Mr. R. Scrope Quentin as the Hon. John Storm is interesting; Mr. John Blake excellently portrays Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Edward Ling as Father Lampiugh is well suited; Mr. Arthur Layland is a capital Horatio Drake; Mr. William Mallalieu is good as the Archdeacon, and as Lord Storm Mr. W. Ellis deserves praise; Miss Muriel Marsden's Glory Quayle calls for the highest praise; Miss Alice Maude as Mrs. Callender is good, and as Polly Love Miss Cissie Murdoch is well received.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company opened here this week with *Sunday* by Mr. Racewood. Miss Janet Lind, in the title-rôle gave a really convincing study. The "boys," as represented by Mr. Richard F. Symons (Towzer), Mr. Launcelot Lowther (Davy), Mr. James Hussey (Lively), and Mr. George Marriott (Jacky) were all excellent, and Mr. Bryce Williams as Arthur Brinthorpe, and Mr. William Giffard as Colonel Brinthorpe were also very good; Miss H. Graham Edwins as Mrs. Naresby and Miss Jessie Stone as the Nun were successful. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play *Dolly Reforming Herself* is billed for Saturday night.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—The bill presented here is headed by a musical comedy, entitled *The Prince of the Dandies*, which provides plenty of fun; Will Cornish, musical bell expert, is entertaining; the Four Amaranths introduce a number of graceful acrobatic dances; Walter Wade, comedian, succeeds in entertaining his hearers; Henry and Tyler, cyclists, give an excellent turn; Henry Bekker, assisted by Miss Maie, gives a clever exhibition as a conjurer; Rosie Wells dances nicely; and the Palacescope pictures are new and entertaining.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Messrs. Walter Howard and Mr. Alfred Paumier's principal company is here with *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, by Walter Howard. Miss Stella Campbell gives a charming portrayal of the character of Monica, Princess of Illyria; Mr. C. W. Standing acts with conspicuous success the part of Prince Olaf; the difficult part of the deformed Prince Michael is in the capable hands of Mr. Lionel Gadsden; Mr. Mayor Cooke is good as the stern Prince Hildred; and Mr. S. B. Farbridge acts creditably the part of the Bishop of Illyria.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Director, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The premier honours here must be given to the famous O'Kabe family, a wonderful troupe of Japanese artists, who present some marvellous feats of equilibrism, bending, turning somersaults, &c.; a farcical sketch, entitled *Poor Beggar*, by Mr. John Lehay and company, causes roars of laughter; Lady Mansel's Juveniles appear in a comedy speciality, styled *A Concert Rehearsal*; the Wartana Trio of jugglers give a fine juggling display; the Haverleys, the American song illustrators, have an attractive entertainment; and other artists are Bertha de Pas, songstress; Phil Parsons, comedian; and Frank Lynne.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Mouillot's pantomime company in *Cinderella* is here for a fortnight, and is meeting with cordial greetings. Pretty scenery and dresses and a handsome chorus are noteworthy features. Miss Molly McIntyre makes a sweet and enchanting Cinderella and is a great favourite; Miss Mimi Fisher is bright and attractive as Dandini; Miss Madge Beresford's fine stage presence admirably fits the rôle of Prince Charming; Miss Ray Vivien is capital as Melissa; Miss Kitty Allen is fascinating as Martha; and Misses Ethel Leicester and Ebba Darcher are neat as Lord Chamberlain and the Fairy Crystal. Mr. Ralph Roberts makes a big hit with his whimsical rendering of Baron Blighter; Mr. Martin Reno is very quaint and curious as the Baroness Blighter; Mr. Frankland Grey contributes his full quota of fun as Araminta; Mr. Charles Caffrey causes genuine mirth as Buttons, the page; and a word is due to Mr. Tim Ryley as Lord Factotum. Special mention must be made of the weird and cleverly-executed dance of Miss Margaret Bright-Morris as the Spirit of the Forest. The Four Sydney Girls introduce some interesting dances; and Chevalier Le Grand commendably conducts the augmented orchestra.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Walter Gibbons and Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's company is keeping the house agog with merriment in the sporting sketch *The Yap Yaps*; G. H. Chirgwin is causing his usual sensation; Frank Seeley, comedian, scores; Thorpe and Coe are great in the comedy act *My Burglar*;. Tom Collins, comedian, is much liked; Lux's dogs are well trained; Cole and Rags are smart in a comedy juggling act; Lalie Brooke's scena "Girls, Past and Present," wins applause; the Three Cunards are capital in a dancing act; and Sadie Bizet, comedienne, and the Bioscope pictures, are interesting.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The third week of the Moody-Manners season commenced on Monday, when *Aida* was again presented before a large and appreciative audience. Mme. De Vere Sapio acquitted herself with artistic ability as the Ethopian slave, and Mr. Philip Brozel successfully represented the Captain (Radames); as the High Priest, Ramphis, Mr. Charles Manners sang splendidly, and acted with his accustomed ability; Mr. Charles Magrath acted and sang admirably as the King of Egypt; and Mr. Lewys James was very good as Amonasro. Miss Marie Louise Rogers gave a very clever portrayal of Amneris. The staging and dresses were very elaborate, and the choruses excellently sung, and Herr Richard Eckhold conducted in capital style. On Tuesday night, before a very large and fashionable audience, the first production in English of Saint-Saëns' *Samson and Delilah* was given. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan gave a passionate and voluptuous performance as Delilah, her treatment of the aria "Softly awakes my heart," being magnificent; Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Samson did not spare himself; Mr. William Dever, in the part of the High Priest and Mr. Magrath as the aged Hebrew did excellent work, and Herr Eckhold gave great attention to the choral and orchestral preparation.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Dick Whittington and His Cat* has proved a success here. Miss Kathleen Grey has become a very popular favourite, and her songs are warmly encored; and Miss Ethel Mann also gains a fair share of applause for her excellent vocalism in the part of Sunshine. Of course, Wee Georgie Wood is no doubt the biggest hit in the pantomime, and his business, which is really smart and clever for a youngster, causes amusement. Mr. Julian Mack is capital as Selina, and his clever rendering of several very good songs gains him deserving applause. Miss Adela Crispin dances gracefully and sings her songs with a charming and pleasing manner. The remaining parts are also well done.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—This popular theatre of amusement opened again on Monday after a successful fortnight's pantomime with the sensational drama *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company is an excellent one, and Mr. Gilbert Standing displayed his abilities cleverly in the rôle of Amos Pauloff; Mr. Carl Kerzo was an able exponent of the character of Fergus Lovinsky; Miss Trixie Leighton acted with great dramatic power and skill as Lola Kalnovsky, and Miss Margaret Noble gave an admirable reading of Roma Pauloff. Mr. C. W. Black also did very well as Bertie Scribbles; Mr. A. B. Mackay made a capital General Borinski; and the other parts were adequately fulfilled.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The chief item here this week is the Great Roland, assisted by Miss Marjorie Russell, in his clever illusion act, which is well received; O'Malley and Brown, the popular comedians, keep the house convulsed with laughter; and Tom Finglass, the original cowboy coon, scores a decided success. Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is very entertaining and amusing; and Fred Kendal, Hebrew comedian, meets with a warm reception. The dancing act of Mackintosh and Royal is nightly encored, and Dean Swift is a capital tenor vocalist. Miss Jessie Albini and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Miss Harriett Vernon heads the bill here, and repeats her former success. Also appearing are Alpho, the ventriloquial college boy; Peakman and Walsh, comedy jugglers; Leslie Race, vocal comedian; Rell and Butt, in their comedy act *Fun in a Garden;* Ross and Grayson, the quaint comedy couple; Gertrude Blanche, comedienne; Williams' Welsh Minstrels; Jules Kiaro, equilibrist; and the Bioscope.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Miss Marie Dagmar is presenting *The Tyrant*, which has made a deep impression. Mr. Roy Fortescue depicts the ferocious Angelo in a skilful and artistic manner; and the strength and realism displayed by Mr. Percy Follis as Homodei (the avenger) makes it entirely convincing. Another powerfully played part is that of Rudolph by Mr. Edward E. Louis. The comedy is in the capable hands of Mr. Wilson Summers as Victor and Mr. Fred Lonard as Nobbo, and these are ably abetted by the captivating Reginella of Miss Katie Lever. The thorough abandon of Miss Marie Robson as Tisbe causes the character to stand out prominently; Miss Jean Scott acts with true artistic skill as Lady Catherine; and Miss Lallah Shelton as Eulie and Miss Emmie Burns as Daphne fill their parts excellently.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—An attractive programme is headed by Cestria, comic waiter, amusing in juggling, and exceedingly clever as an acrobat; Kirk and Saraski, girl aquatic marvels, accomplish a remarkable performance under water; Sibb and Sibb are smart and quick on the trapeze; Norman Holt, musical Lancashire lad, proves a strong favourite; as also does Sam Dalton, vocal eccentric. Lily Kirton, comedienne, and Lilian Travellie, light ballad vocalist, are dainty and charming. The Empire pictures are interesting.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—The initial success of *Cinderella* has been followed by a brilliant record, crowded houses having been attracted both to the matinée and evening performances. Miss Agnes Tandy as Prince Casimir plays and sings very attractively; Miss Felicia Firmin is a particular favourite, her Cinderella being quite a delightful study; Miss Dollie Hook (Duke of Whistbridge) keeps the audience in a flutter of delight with her dainty acting and singing, her song, "The girl in the clogs and shawl," being quite a feature of the pantomime; Mr. E. Statham Staples and Mr. Alfred Clark, as the Baron and Baroness respectively, with their well-contrasted methods of humour, have made a tremendous hit, and are increasingly happy in the diversion they create; a more energetic Dandini than Mr. Harry Ongar could not be wished—he is a capital vocalist, and dances with extraordinary agility; Mr. W. Leopold, jun., is a thoroughly amusing Capers, and is deservedly exceedingly popular; Misses Ethel Ramsay and Marianne Carozzi as the Ugly (?) Sisters and Miss Dorothy Moulton, the Fairy Godmother, all work hard and well for the production, which is the most complete and enjoyable in every detail submitted to a Dundee audience. The interests of the pantomime company are looked after in first-class style by Mr. Arthur Law Raynor.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping a good all-round bill here are the Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese, whose turn is surely the last word in skill and daring; the Vays are much appreciated in their scena, *Life in the Slums;* Ethel Stephenson gains warm approval for her vocal tit-bits at the piano; Harry Morris scores both as character comedian and raconteur; Charles Erard is a skilful mimic and pianist; Elsie Bernard, a most meritorious performer, brings down the house with her up-to-date Yankee ditties and talk; Lenerix, a clever comedy juggler, is possessed of a vast fund of smart and humorous patter; Hayman and Leo, speciality artists, present a good show; and the Kingscope further adds lustre to the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here in the old favourite play, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which has received quite an ovation, especially from the younger members of the audience. Mr. J. H. Boehm scores a success as Uncle Tom, the emotional passages being excellently rendered; Phineas Fletcher finds a capable exponent in Mr. A. Hayes; as Mr. St. Clair Mr. Charles Harrington displays fine, dignified acting; Mr. G. Lubinoff presents a fine character sketch of the brutal Legree; Miss Hero Hathaway makes a sympathetic Eliza Harris; Miss E. Turner-Elliott gives a delightfully quaint impersonation of the prim Aunt Ophelia; Topsy is realistically rendered by Miss Annie Watson; Miss Gem Lloyd is a very pathetic and impressive Little Eva; and Cassie is graphically delineated by Miss Hettie Johnson.

KINNAIRD HALL.—Hamilton's Excursions are still proving popular here, and the courteous business-manager, Mr. Victor Hamilton, should be pleased with the patronage extended to them. As an entertainment, calculated to please both old and young alike, Hamilton's would indeed be hard to beat. The variety company remains the same as formerly noticed.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. George Edwardes's company provided the bill of fare here for the first three nights of this week, in *The Merry Widow*. Mr. Robert Needham is highly successful as Prince Danilo; Miss Phyllis Le Grand is a charming and fascinating Sonia; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter by his quaint performance of Baron Popoff establishes himself a general favourite; Mr. Arthur Geary is responsible for excellent singing in the part of Jolidon; Mr. Harry Emeric, a capital Nisch, joins Miss Mabel May as Frou-Frou in delightful dances; Mr. Tom H. David is highly appreciated as Marquis de Cascada; and Mr. Spencer Lloyd as M. de St. Brioche, Mr. Cecil Warwick as General Novokovitch, Mr. C. L. Steward as M. Khadja, and Mr. Clinton Reynald as Waiter all put in good work. Miss Neste Laurel is an effective Natalia. Miss Winifred Maude's company, in *The Sins of a City* was billed for the last three nights.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The Musical Marvels, in an excellent entertainment, head the bill; Halma, in masterpieces of manipulation, proves a favourite; and Emmie Ames is encored for her "Christmas Tree." The antics and jokes of Geo. Antill cause much laughter; the Donatos, one-legged clowns, are smart in an acrobatic act; Les Trippellos, including Little Ralph Goodcliffe, give a brilliant musical turn; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, scores; and the Cathedoscope completes a capital bill.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is appearing here this week in *The Dairymaids*. Mr. Edwin Dodds has a really funny style, and this clever comedian as Joe Mivens keeps the merriment in rapid motion; Mr. William Spray is full of life and movement as Lieut. Sam Brudenell; Mr. Bernard Vaughan is a hearty, benevolent Dr. O'Byrne; and Mr. Herbert Lugg does well as Frank. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff, pretty and attractive, sings sweetly and acts very pleasingly as Peggy; Miss May Casson, too, is a gifted vocalist and a happy Winifred; Miss Edna Russell is a dainty and efficient Helen; Miss Edie Martin very cleverly provides much laughter as Eliza, the maid; Miss Mabel Medrow is a handsome and dignified Lady Brudenell; and a large number of pretty, shapely ladies add to the attractions. Mr. Albert Vernon is the musical director.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—Heading the bill here this week is Miss May Henderson, whose brightness, merriment, and clever dancing leave not a dull moment in her act as the dusky queen; Miss Bessie Mackenzie has a voice of much power and sweetness; Manson and West have a diverting sketch; Miss Nora Guy is an interesting and refined comedienne; Frazer, Iris, and French sing and dance ably; Mr. Harry Hasto, comedian, sings in good style; and the Dutrees are a couple of lightning artists who sketch well.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Miss Edie Veno is responsible for a most agreeable turn; an old favourite, Miss Fanny Robina, meets with well-merited approval; Mr. Monty Walker, comedian, provides an amusing ten minutes; the Merrions give a clever comedy sketch; Messrs. Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires, submit a variety of musical items interspersed with comedy; Miss Florence Cooper is a young singer of ability with a very pleasing style; Wilkinson and Layton in their sketch create laughter; and Tony Freedman is a good light comedian. The sensation of the evening is provided by Tom Grave with his new motor act, entitled "Whizzing the wheel and shooting the bar." The Bioscope completes a good programme.

EDINBURGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Fred Granville's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, now in its fourth week, wears well, and the performers work briskly together. The humours of the comedians create much merriment, one of the best hits being Messrs. Will Terry and Sam Fry's parody of the "Somewhere" song; while among the specialities none is more diverting than the educated donkey. Tomato, and its trainer. The singing of the Prize Vocal Sextette is among the most delightful successes of the entertainment; and the songs contributed by the Juvenile Follies, the Babes, Miss Kitty Douglas, Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme, and Miss Dolly Elsworthy, are all duly appreciated.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Miss Ruth Vincent takes the lead this week with varied selections from an extensive repertory of songs, which are greatly enjoyed. The boomerang hat throwing of Moran and Wiser is sensational in its way, as well as amusing; the Bensons appear in a vocal musical comedy act, *The Page and the Maid;* Ross and Lewis provoke occasional merriment with their humorous dancing idiosyncrasy; and the Royal Delomes give a smart display as specialists in *The Phantom Clogs*. Outstanding items are contributed by the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese entertainers, and by the Musical Jees, in *The Musical Smithy*. Of the comedian turns, Harry Bedford is heard in several new songs; Harry Leybourne repeats his diverting imitations of a village concert; Rita Rhylle is a pleasing comedienne; and the American Bioscope is in evidence with interesting pictures.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke; Manager, Mr. Talbot Cooke.—*Siberia* is proving a strong attraction here. The piece is full of realistic touches of Russian life, and affords graphic glimpses of the hardships and sufferings entailed upon the miserable exiles to the bleak province of Siberia. The programme is otherwise a strong one. A graceful, pretty act is given by the Misses Cooke, in the character of two prairie girls; Mlle. Cilla is seen to advantage in a stirrup vaulting performance; and Miss Marie de Carteret is heard in a pleasing song scena, "The Goblin Man"; Mahatma and Steen provide an extremely clever thought-reading entertainment, in which they display remarkable powers of divining the wishes and guessing the thoughts of members of the audience. The clowning is admirable, Talberto and Douglas, Piccolo and Fiore, and Shadow contributing to the general merriment. An amusing leaflet taking off the political situation is issued by Talberto.

MOSS' CARNIVAL.—Manager, Mr. W. Campbell Milne.—For the closing week of the carnival an entirely new programme, attractive and varied, is presented. The Haydas Troupe of acrobats give an extraordinary display of agility in their gymnastic feats; Menotti, a Swedish tight-wire performer, evokes great enthusiasm by his daring entertainment; Mr. Walton's dogs and Leroux's monkeys show the intelligence of these animals, and the extent to which training can develop their natural powers of observation and sagacity; Zanora and Berg, American comedy cyclists, are amusing and clever in their trick riding act; Lanos and Montes provide an excellent budget of fun in their eccentric acrobatic performance; Sauteron's champion jumpers submit a smart act; and Bob Brown, miniature Hercules, does several weight-lifting feats. A feature of the programme is a wrestling tournament, for which many well-known athletes have entered including Kara Ibrahim, Turk; McDonald, of Glasgow; Noel Le Bordelais, Frenchman; Carl Johanson, Swede; Karlsaff, German; Versen, Dane; and Sutherland, of Edinburgh.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.—The following contribute to the fine programme here:—Besley and Hughes, in a comedy sketch; Barry Mills, light comedian; Kitty Hildrew, comedienne and dancer; Globella, who gives an acrobatic performance on the rolling globe; Laff Jolly, comedian; Snowball and Mac, comedy duettists; Le Hurst, ventriloquist; and Walker's "Would-be Acrobats."

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*Red Riding Hood* still continues to attract crowded houses, and there is little doubt that this season's pantomime has proved even more successful than its predecessors. New songs, gags, and other business have now been introduced, which tend to enhance the attractions of an already charming production.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Gordon's Juveniles (12 in number), who top this week's bill, are winning much success in their scena, *The Waif;* V. L. Granville scores in no uncertain fashion in his presentation of the protean play, *Twixt Dawn and Daylight*, the five characters in which are all depicted in realistic style by himself; Nellie Brierley, the Lancashire pit brow soprano, sings sweetly; Roma and Romani are a pair of classical musicians possessed of talent of no mean order; ridiculous Reco contributes a clever burlesque acrobatic act; and another interesting item is the trick cycling of Lillian.

FALKIRK.—THE GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is here played by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company. Mr. Edgar Kent was admirable as Richard Lascelles; William Thesiger was capitally presented by Mr. Montagu Love; Miss Stella Leigh as Mrs. Cameron filled the part with conspicuous ability.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—From the crowded house on Monday night it is quite evident that Murray, King, and Clark's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is entirely suited to the public taste. The cast is remarkably well chosen, and the highest praise is due to Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart for his selection. The play is adequately mounted, and the numerous scenes are very effective. Miss Gertrude Gilliam in the title-rôle makes a capital principal boy. She sustains the character with bright vivacity, and is quite successful in the latest songs, which provoke considerable applause. The rôle of Alice is filled in a delightful and dainty manner by Miss Norah Dwyer, her songs being sung with much verve and finish; Mr. Murray King is seen to excellent advantage as Idle Jack, his quaint songs and humour keeping the house in continuous laughter; as Alderman Fitzwarren Mr. Ardene Linden is a capable comedian; and much amusement is created by Messrs. Herbert Walton and Jamie Dallas as Captain Pott and Peter Pann, the dancing of the latter being exceptionally good. Miss Edith Jefferies merits praise as Felina the Fairy Queen, her singing being sweet and tuneful; Mr. T. R. Pinaud, jun., does full justice to the part of Tobias, the cat; as Phyllis Pushwinkle Mr. Tom Wallis causes much amusement; and Miss Adele Levey is very acceptable as the Emperor of Morocco. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers are very effective, and the singing of the chorus is all that can be desired. The elaborate scenery is painted by Mr. F. L. Schmitz, and Miss Annie Burrowes is responsible for the brilliant dresses.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—The Four Garricks, in an entertaining song-scena, are starring here this week; King Luis and Partner show some original acrobatic tricks; Tom Drum and Katie Major, in "The Broker's Man," are an amusing pair; Mark Hanbury is a quaint comedian; Chas. Woodward, a topical comedian, is a favourite; there are many amusing gags in the act of Rennie, a ventriloquist; the Walonells, comedy gymnasts, are admired; Boy Vivan (blind choir boy) sings sweetly; and the Kingscope attracts attention.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company, in *Little Phil's Mother*, has drawn large and appreciative audiences to this house during the week. A clever portrayal of Frank Towers is presented by Mr. Percy Ballard; Mr. Henry Earlesmere faithfully depicts Oscar Titherton; an amusing Sam Perkels is done by Mr. Frank Thorne; Geoffrey Dyne is the subject of an intelligent impersonation by Mr. H. W. Monte; Miss Maud Russell is well suited to the rôle of Ruth Towers; a sufficiently villainous Elspeth is well embodied by Miss Violet Crawford; Julia Woorilove is well looked after by Miss Leslie Warner; Little Gertie Renaud deserves high praise for a clever rendering of Phil.

GLASGOW.—ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers' Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The spring season of the Repertory Company commenced on Monday, when Neil Munro's clever local comedy, *Macpherson*, was revived with complete success. Mr. M. R. Morand again appeared in the title-part, and repeated his life-like portrayal of the old Scotch waiter; John Latimer and his wife Lilian were invested with abundant local colour by Mr. Campbell Bullan and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon; Mr. P. Perceval Clarke gave a refined impersonation of Charlie Stuart, whose sweetheart Clotilde Fortune was represented in bright and engaging fashion by Miss Muriel Pope; as the young fop Blair Mr. Cecil Brooking did good work; the new art craze was cleverly satirised by Miss Lola Duncan as Rebecca Swete and by Miss Irene Francklyn as Susan McGilp; Mr. Laurence Hanray's music professor was a quaint and original figure; and the servants' parts were ably filled by Misses Irene Clarke and Ethel Evans. Violin solos by Mr. Albert Cazabon are again a welcome feature in the programme.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* continues on her victorious career, and the crowded houses at every performance are, in Scotch parlance, "a sicht for sair een." Neil Kenyon and Jack O'Connor are most prolific in their invention of new and funny business, and the recent addition to the cast of Miss May Moore Dupréz has proved a decided hit. This lady's quaint style and volatile humour make the part of Gretchen an outstanding feature. Miss Lily Morris as a principal boy won her spurs in Glasgow a few years ago, and is enhancing her reputation in this pantomime. On Monday Miss Rhoda Gordon, the attractive principal girl here, introduced that catchy song of Feldman's, "The Alpine dress you're wearing," and is likely to make a hit with it. Miss Howell Hersee, the fairy queen, still scores with the beautiful song, "Somewhere," and the Demon, Mr. Alec Davidson, is equally successful with "If I had the world to give."

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* continues to draw large audiences. Nearly all the members of the company are approved favourites. Miss Jessie Templeton as Willie Winkie and Miss Venie Clements as Brenda repeat their old success; Mr. Harry Levaine's amusing performance of Muggins is a source of merriment; and Mr. Fred Ingram has some very funny business as Liza. The MacSolder of Mr. Billy Oswald is very diverting. Four comedians of repute are Messrs. Harry McClelland, Barry Gilmour, Mount Stephens, and Harry Rennior, and in their capable hands the ball of fun is kept merrily rolling. Miss Edith Haley's pleasing performance of Teddy, Miss Vesta Crystal as Jeannie, Miss Nita Crystal as Rab, and Miss Madge Locke as Robin add greatly to the success.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Ferdk. Melville's drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, is running its second week, and is drawing good houses, after a big week at the New Year, with matinées every day for the holiday crowds.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is presented by J. W. Cordiner's company. Mr. Geo. A. Fox as Captain Geo. Fielding and Mr. Robert Gilbert as Captain Edward Dudley, as hero and villain respectively, give capital sketches, while as principal comedian Mr. Harry Ugar in the character of Silas Crump is responsible for many amusing scenes. Miss Gertrude de Lacy in the title-rôle acts and sings well; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith has a song and sabot dance which is specially praiseworthy; Miss Kathleen Stewart as Ruth Montrose also sings well; while Misses Lillie and Iris Elvido, as Polly and Rosy Ann respectively, give a nimble display of the Terpsichorean art. The music by an augmented orchestra, under Mr. Harry Bolton, and a fine scenic setting are pleasing features.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The Elliott-Savonas once more give their magnificent musical turn here, and their "Palace of Orpheus" scena is received with its wonted enthusiasm; the Will o' the Wisps, under the direction of S. Sherrington Chinn, are very entertaining; Hubert Harben and Mary Jerrold, of Glasgow's Repertory Theatre Company, repeat the success they made there in the clever little play, *The Suffragette's Redemption;* Sergeant Bert Powell contributes a clever and mystifying conjuring act; Miss Marquis and her trained ponies are applauded to the echo; Frank Danby and company present a pleasant comedietta, *Love in a Coffee Shop;* Ted E. Box as an eccentric comedian is a strong favourite, and has a lot of smart songs; Charles Vincent, comedian, also adds to the general enjoyment; and Frank Elton, in "On Board an Ocean Liner," introduces a lot of enjoyable items at the piano.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—Mlle. Liane D'Eve, French chanteuse, tops the bill here, and in her characteristic songs and dressing-room scena makes once more a great hit; Everhart, the hoop manipulator, seems to enhance the merit of his turn at every visit, and his dexterity is marvellous; Minola Hurst and her Midgets combine to make one of the best successes of the evening; El Tampico Trio (or Quartette) give an enjoyable musical and dancing turn, which is heartily enjoyed; the Sisters Macarte appear again in their clever scena, *The Land of the Lotus*, introducing their wire-walking and acrobatic speciality; Mysticus gives his ingenious quick-change "chameleon" act, which takes well; Ray Raymond is a chorus comedienne with several taking songs; Charles Banks and his clever little dog make an enjoyable item in the programme; and the Macdonald Troupe of Dancers are well received for their smart dancing turn.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Haley's Juveniles top the bill, and their performance was greeted with rounds of applause; Bijou Russell, coon vocalist and sand dancer, creates enthusiasm. Other notable turns include James Willard's company, presenting *The Devil's Box of Bricks*, in which the three principals are seen to advantage; La Belle Lumière, in the electric grotto and butterfly dance; Ray Raymond, chic comedienne and chorus singer; Florence and Rose Showell, classical vocalists; and Cavalli, in an original act, "The Sleeping Ventriloquist and His Wide-awake Figure"; and Bioscope pictures.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—In the place of prominence is Mr. Albert Marsh's dramatic sketch, *Chums till Death*. Mr. Marsh gives a capital performance as Joe Saunders, and is ably supported by Miss Grace Mortimer and a talented company. *The Casey Army; or, The Battle of Casey's Yard*, with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey, is quite up to the past exploits of the Casey Brigade. Alf. W. Loyal is responsible for a very interesting turn with his trained horse and dogs; Olive Lenton's little vocal scena, "Harvest Time," is unique, and merits the praise accorded; George Benson is a clever mimic; Fred Keeton renews his popularity; Nina Wood is a dainty entertainer; Taree, the Australian musical Bushman, has a good turn; Violet Stockelle, comedienne, is well received, a like remark applying to Larry Lewis, a quaint comedian. The Bioscope films interest and amuse.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Large audiences are the rule. Bob and Harry Merrilees, comedians, patterers, and dancers, are the principals here; Bob Ross, Scotch comedian, is very popular, and Greta Simons, contralto vocalist, contributes several songs, which are appreciated. The other artists include Raymond Syneth, vocal comedian, Austin George, descriptive vocalist, and Maudie Sutton, comedienne. There is as usual a high-class Bioscope display.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company, in *Was She to Blame?* is here this week.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Tom Kelso, the Yorkshire comedian, is scoring a success here; Wisper executes some smart juggling feats; Maxwell and company are popular with their scena, entitled *Vocal Comedy Flirtation;* the Amio Trio are first-rate gymnasts; Mr. Sid Bandon is an excellent descriptive vocalist; Stave is amusing; and Beattie Bloom's chorus songs go well.

THE GEM.—Manager, "E. V. Barr."—The pictures this week are of the usual high standard, the best being a dramatic film, entitled Conscience.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is proving a big attraction. Miss Nina Carlton as Dick is excellent, and evokes rounds of well-merited applause; she is well supported by Mr. James Stratton as the cat, his mimicry of feline habits being well appreciated; and by Miss Helene Mohr as Alice, whose dancing is particularly good. Miss Jeanie Mackay finds considerable favour as the fairy Silvertone, scoring especially with her song "Somewhere"; Mr. Jack McKenzie, in the part of Sarah, the cook, provides much mirth, and is ably assisted by Mr. Sydney T. Russell, whose efforts to amuse as Idle Jack meet with much success; Mr. Bert Edwards and Little Tichbourne are a comical couple as mate and bo'sun of the "Lively Polly"; Mr. Bert Maddison is good as Alderman Fitzwarren; and Mr. Clifton Hall sings well as King Rat. The staging and dresses are good, and mention should also be made of the dancing of the Eight Esmeralda Girls.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The Four Royal Scots appear with great success in a clever vocal and instrumental sketch entitled *When the Cat's Away;* the McConnell Trio entertain largely with their musical comedy sketch; Lieut. Travis is a ventriloquist of the highest order, and his business is original; the Claymores, humourists, vocalists, and dancing club jugglers, are well received; and good turns are also given by Eily Adair (comedienne and dancer) and the Boston Twins (comedy artists). The Dromoscope pictures are again a capital collection.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's *Bo-peep* is here. Miss Lizzie Payne gives a dainty representation of the title-part, and her singing and dancing are alike pretty; Miss Eva May Rosslyn is a dashing principal boy as Boy Blue; Mr. J. W. Groves as Granny Brown makes a very droll dame; Messrs. Will Shepherd and Rex Kempton, as Johnnie Stout and Jimmy Green, have a great variety of amusing business and patter; Mr. Willie Harris as Tommy Long and Mr. Harry Rex as the Baron also contribute largely to the humour; whilst Messrs. Cling and Clancy create much laughter as Willy and Timm, and also dance smartly; Mr. W. H. Gatty sings with good effect as the Demon; and the same may be said of Miss Elsie Peach as Fairy Moonbeam. Miss Kitty Rorke, the second boy, sings well; and good specialities are introduced by Mr. Albert Kail Stern, a coon singer and dancer, and little Ivy Francis, a juvenile singer and step-dancer.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Mackinnon's Scottish Glee Singers are a quartette of talented vocalists, and introduce novel stage business and comedy; the Faludy Troupe of Hungarian acrobats give a performance that is as daring as it is smartly presented; an amusing nautical farce is *The Boatswain's Mate*, the chief characters being cleverly portrayed by Mr. Fred Knight, Miss E. Vandray, and Mr. G. Malvern; the Bros. Dean give an acceptable dancing speciality; Mme. Gladys Rogers wins favour as a soprano vocalist; and Madge Goodhall sings and dances pleasingly.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. George Dance's company is here with *The Little Duke*. Miss Zena Dare puts plenty of life and "go" into the part of the Duc de Richelieu; Miss Dolly Castles as Diane fully maintains her reputation, her singing being sweet and tuneful; Mr. R. Adair's Matigon is a good performance; as the Abbé de la Touche Mr. A. Johnstone is excellent; Miss G. Robertson is ladylike and dignified as the Duchess de Burgoyne; Miss K. Graham-Beck makes an impressive and austere Duchess de Noailles; as Césarine Miss D. Dickens plays nicely; the eccentric Baroness de Bellechase is well played by Miss N. Dade; and Mr. Johnny Danvers gets a lot of telling humour out of the part of Baron de Bellechase.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Reg. H. Foster.—Peterman and Rickett's company, in *Slaterstein, Ltd.*, is here; Eileen Douglas, the musical comedy girl, makes a welcome return visit, and is appreciated; Estrella is a clever dancer; Victor and Louis present a funny interlude, "The Golfer and the Caddie"; Amy Anderson and Co., in "The Banana Queen," do a popular turn. J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, Maro Duo, comedy triple-bar act, and Albert Barraclough, descriptive vocalist, also appear.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*, is being played here. Miss Elsie Steadman is a success as Ganem, and is a sweet singer; Miss L. Jeffries is a charming Morgiana; Miss R. Pareezei's Abdallah is good; Fame and Fortune create plenty of laughter as Pitchett and Popett; Miss Cissie Behan and Miss Kitty Behan do well as Colet and Mirza; Mr. Percy Curry is a fine Ali Baba; and Mr. A. Burton as Cassim Baba, with Mr. R. Ambler as Mustapha, are successful.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Rene Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millan.—Mr. Chas. Majilton's company, including Mr. Jim Bond, is topping the bill here in a condensed version of *Round the Clock*; Dessenda and Green are a couple of expert jugglers and club manipulators; Guy Ryder is an entertaining whistler; W. E. Hilton is an amusing ventriloquial turn; Cummin and Seaham are clever in an acrobatic sketch, *The Ragman and the Postman*; Mdlle. Pollo, the lightning lady gymnast, contributes an excellent turn; and Cliff and Kean (novelty dancers), Donal Macdougal (Scotch comedian), and the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY.—ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. C. G. Elphinstone.—Messrs. Longden and Dottridge's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is attracting packed houses. Principals and chorus are excellent, the especial favourite being Miss Maude Mortimer, whose Robinson is much admired.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Culliver, a clever ventriloquist, makes a hit, as does also Sam Mayo, comedian; Huns and Thomas are very entertaining; the Soho Trio, dancers and singers, make a favourable impression; Dainty Dolly Cliffe is a clever juvenile; Tom Stuart, character impersonator, is successful; the Two Butterflies are really smart; Les Piccolinos, miniature artists, are the star attraction, and are loudly applauded. The pictures are enjoyable.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Pantomime again holds sway here. This time *Robinson Crusoe* is the fare, presented by Mr. Harry Burn's excellent company. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is a tuneful Robinson; Miss Fanny Harris soon made herself chief favourite as Polly Perkins; Mr. Mark Stuart as Dame Crusoe worked hard with good results; the honours of the show fall to Mr. Arthur Alston as Will Atkins—whenever he was on the stage he kept the audience in a roar; Messrs. Tray and Rich appeared with success as Captain Cuttle and his Mate; and Miss Lille Hayes must be specially mentioned for her dancing, which brought the house down.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company opened a week's visit here on Monday in *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Maud Hildyard as "the woman," Claire Foster, gave a most artistic delineation of the character; Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret Rolfe portrayed with admirable fidelity the mental agony of the dist

much applauded; as the terrible Squire Mr. Mat Melrose proves himself a vivacious singer; the Sisters Edwards as Boy Blue and Bo-Peep are delightful dancers; and Miss Rene Ashley is received with great favour as the Man in the Moon.

HORWICH.—Prince's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. T. N. Walter's company in the musical comedy *The Flower Girl* is attracting large audiences. The songs and dances are very tuneful, the scenery elaborate, and the dresses and uniforms handsome. The company is an exceptionally strong one. Miss Lena Brickwell is possessed of a very sweet voice, and is a very fascinating Lily; Miss Elsa Brettingham is a vivacious exponent of Lizette de Racquet, a typical Frenchwoman; Miss Eva Brickwell's Miss Greenhill, suffragette, is a captial study; the Misses Florence Vernon, Kitty Vernum, Elsie Lore, Phyllis Leslie, and Gertrude Munroe have plenty of scope as Miss Maisie Flirtington, Jessie, Maudie, Kate, and Dot respectively; Mr. John T. MacCullum as Joe Wheeler creates quite a furore, his creations of Italian musician, soldier, and policeman being equally successful; Mr. John A. Latham renders valuable assistance in the part of Johnny Wheeler; Mr. J. Burlington Rigg plays the Hon. Billy Greenhill in grand style, and his fine baritone voice is heard to perfection; Mr. Cyril Delevanti as Reginald Rackitt is an excruciatingly funny dude; Mr. Henry Adnes scores heavily as Alphonse de Racquet, whose droll antics create roars of laughter; Mr. Baron Heron, Mr. Arthur Carter, and Mr. C. Brailsford render good service as constable, Bunker, and Bertie respectively; and some admirable dancing is executed by Miss Idalia May.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Terry.—We have here this week Amos Howard, vocalist, whose dancing is extremely clever; Ye Merry Mannikins, living marionettes, are very amusing; Musicus introduces a smart musical act; *The Great Unacted*, musical sketch, is well received—Arthur a would-be author, is well taken by Mr. F. Martell, and he is well supported by Mr. C. Douglas (Smut), Miss Edith Maynard (Ina), and Miss Foster (Crackers). The bill includes Elsie Foster, Amber and Avon, and Charles Douglas. Mr. John Lambert shows some good pictures on the Bioscope.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; Gen.-Man., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A change from the usual variety programme is provided this week by Messrs. Sutton and Raynor's company in *Moths*, for three nights, *Camille*, two nights, and *Still Waters Run Deep*, for one night. The plays are given twice nightly, and on Monday the cleverly adapted version of *Moths* received an excellent rendering. The outstanding feature was the natural, finished, and effective work done by Mr. Raynor in the part of Lord Jura. The other characters were ably portrayed by Miss Cecilia Dare as the Duchesse de Sonnaz, Miss Hilda Blanche as Fuchsia Leach, Miss Frances Waring as Lady Dolly, Miss Granville as Vere, Mr. C. Baddeley as the brutal Prince Zouroff, Mr. M. C. Curtis as the Duke of Mull, and Mr. C. Heywood as Correze.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside. — The excellent variety combination appearing includes Warsaw Brothers, two amusing musical comedians; Godfrey Price, a good baritone singer, with "The Trumpeter"; Little Miss Muffett, a precocious mite of a comedienne; Reg. Ewen, light comedian; Miss Mona Garrick, an actress of considerable power in some scenes from well-known plays; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of wonderful acrobats and tumblers; the Five X Rays, in their athletic medley; and some very good films on the Bioscope.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. W. F. Morton.—The pantomime has caught on, as predicted. Miss Lola Paley has come much to the front, and her Gretchen is one of the features; the principal boy, Miss Ethel Hall, is a very hard worker; Mr. Harry Rich as Mother Goose has done much towards the success attained; and Mr. Chas. Rich as Jack has a fat part. The coming week is the last of the present pantomime.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, Manager.—*The Nihilist*, despite great political attractions, is filling this house. The best of work is done by Miss F. Kelsey as the Princess and Miss Elma Clare as Alexina; Mr. O. Silverstone portrayed the Prince with good effect; and the comic relief is in the good hands of Mr. Henry Wright.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—This week Ilkeston playgoers have quite a treat by way of Mr. A. E. Smith's pantomime *Sleeping Beauty*, which goes with a good swing from start to finish. Miss Kathleen Garnon as Prince Perfect makes a capital principal boy, her songs giving every satisfaction; Princess Beauty falls into the clever hands of Miss Elsy Denys; Miss Gertie Leno as the Fairy is encored for her singing; the Sisters Lesmere as Lord de Vere and Dorothy Dimple sing well; the Sisters Wynstay (Hon. Reggie and Daisy Buttercup) are also clever song and dance artists; Mr. Billy Taylor makes a hit as the Dame; and Mr. Geo. Alderman as King Sol is successful. Messrs. Foiay and Francis are a pair of comedians quite to the taste of the audience, their quaint ways and speeches keeping the house in a perpetual roar. Simosa San, lady juggler and balancer; an excellent chorus, and effective scenery add greatly to the evening's enjoyment.

IPSWICH. — Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. Austin's pantomime company is here in *Cinderella*. The Prince Charming of Miss Mabel Austin and the Cinderella of Miss Maidie Harrison are admirable. Miss Gertrude Bond, an old favourite with Ipswich playgoers, keeps her reputation in the part of Flora. Miss Phyllis Leslie as Dandini and Miss Eva Swinbourne as Babette act well together. Mr. Fred Ellis makes a good Baron, and Mr. Tom Read as Pickles, his page, is very amusing. Mr. Newham and Mr. Latimer fill the parts of Seraphina and Bedella, the two bad sisters. Mr. Bert Hildersley and Mr. Harry Phillips as the two brokers' men are sufficiently amusing. Miss Gladys Liggett is graceful as principal dancer.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. George A. Street's company occupies the leading place in the bill this week, and is popular with those who enjoy moving military spectacles. Bert Danson and company give an amusing turn with their seaside comedy sketch. Delvaine's Marionettes, so cleverly manipulated, are deservedly popular. Gilbert Girard gives some lifelike imitations of animal voices. Jack Barker has a character turn with plenty of fun. Frank Street is an excellent patter singer, and Will E. Stopit is both amusing and original.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Messrs. Bennett and Wray's company is here this week with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Chas. Sims as Mr. Hook causes much amusement, and Mr. Robt. Selby Cooks plays the part of Captain Adrian Paap well; Mr. F. G. Dunn makes an ideal Van Vuyt, and his singing establishes him as a favourite; Mr. Charles Berkeley is Ludwig Schnapps exactly, and Mr. Edward Kipling makes the most of the part of Simon Slinks. Miss Nan Stuart gives an excellent performance of the part of Sally, and her singing is excellent; and Miss Madge White is good as Mina.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Vaudeville is being given here twice nightly. The star turn is Buster Brown, who gives an exhibition of fancy, comic, and trick roller skating, and invites members of the audience to take part in a competition. Other turns include Ray Randall, a catchy chorus comedienne; Hugh and Hill, who produce music from a strange assortment of instruments and make clever devices by paper-tearing; Harry Maynard, a successful vocal comedian; and Miss Lily and George Antley, in a funny farcical playlet, entitled *It*.

KEIGHLEY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford, jun.—The Big Four hold the premier position here and are big favourites; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, assisted by Miss Eileen Dartrey, appear in an up-to-date comedietta, *My Lady's Chamber*; Mlle. Marjutti, in an original creation, *From Demon to Fairyland*, is strikingly successful; Fred Gibbon and Marie Bell make a decided hit in an acrobatic and dancing speciality; Gladys Witton's songs are well received; Walter Aubrey is a very clever dancer; and George Shurley, comedian and dancer, also scores. Rounds of applause are secured by Frank Hartley, a very smart juggler.

KIRKCALDY.—Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—After a week's record business this house of entertainment still maintains its customarily high standard of excellence. Miss Hetty Holland is proving a strong attraction this week with her ventriloquial turn as a Red Cross nurse. She is very smart in repartee, and her lay figure is so quaint that Miss Holland has great difficulty in getting off the stage, so much is her turn appreciated. Four top-of-the-bill films are shown this week, namely Aviation, Out With It, Tommy, My Lad, An Exciting Pig Chase, and numerous others equally good in their own class.

LEEDS.—Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Alice Raymond and her players introduce her famous musical sketch *A Night in Egypt*; a singing conductor who possesses a nice voice adds to the attraction; another lady who is a big favourite is Miss Clarice Mayne, whose fame had preceded her; Annie Purcell is also another name to conjure with; other capital turns include the Original Whilboys in a unique entertainment, Lily Palmer, Cari Lynn, Les Marsumas, Bowden and Stol, Lester Carey, and Jock Mills.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine appears in some pretty posing; a good sketch is provided by Diana Hope and company; the Ted Moxon Trio are good acrobats; and other good artists appearing are Anna Heath, Mark Leslie, Godfrey James, Willie Gardner, the Gascoines, and Fred St. Onge and Co.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—An entertaining farcical comedietta *The Second Mrs. Chester* is presented by Sid Bedford and company; Cliff Ryland with his droll songs is very amusing; Ethel Donna is a nice comedienne; and other capital turns are Ernesto, Ernest Clifford, the Canworths, Syd Garti, and Lucky Law.

The Queen's.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A tabloid pantomime *Babes in the Wood* is presented to crowded houses. Bessie Cohen proves herself as good as ever, and Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley cause much fun.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—General Business-Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—The pantomime of *Sinbad the Sailor* entered on its third week here on Monday, and is delighting full houses.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The attraction this week is Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company in the realistic drama *For Honour and Revenge*. Miss Irene Munroe stands out prominently with an excellent impersonation of Maud Destmond, and as James Galston Mr. Montague Beaudyn is also a conspicuous success.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The leading attraction here is Odette Valery in her dance creations "Salome" and "Cleopatra"; F. Stuart-Whyte is presenting with well-deserved success the artistic and historical dramette *1613*; Haines and Borthwick create endless laughter with *Half-a-Dollar*; a fine show is given by D'Arc's dolls, their impersonations of Vesta Victoria, Amber Austa, and Harry Lauder evoking loud applause; the Barowskys make a hit with their clever Continental acrobatic act; Rossi Ashton is very good in his speciality "Song Sketching"; and Henry Helme, the French Alpine vocalist; Alf. Maynall, a mirth-provoking comedian; Edith Heron-Brown, comedienne, at the piano; and the American Bioscope provide other acceptable turns.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—After a fortnight of pantomime we have reverted to the usual vaudeville programme this week. The Four Kellys, in a first-class acrobatic display, are the premier attraction. Friscari, the clever performer with hats, gives an excellent juggling performance; Stalman and Russell raise hearty laughter with their comedy dialogue *Borrowed Plumes*; Renee Graham is a capital male impersonator; Lauri, a performer of clever tricks, escapes from a barrel filled with water and padlocked; and Wynnie Darrell, expert dancer, and Winnie Wheaton, vocalist, also present entertaining turns.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr. William Pardoe's pantomime *Dick Whittington*, which is drawing good houses. Miss Lottie Holland in the title-rôle makes a capital principal boy; Miss Nellie Rose is a charming Alice; Mr. George Hyam is already a great favourite as Idle Jack, there being no end to his resources as fun-maker; Mr. Tom Hulme and Mr. Alf. Grady also work hard and successfully as Fitzwarren and Jim; Mr. Tom Griffitt sings well as King Rat; and a good performance of the Cat is given by Mons. Pauli. Interesting specialities are introduced by the famous Edengale Trio of dancers, Victor Brothers, acrobats and balancers, and Pauletti, acrobatic cyclist.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—Messrs. Somers and Saunders' company is here in *Babes in the Wood*. Miss Olive Astor is seen to advantage as Robin Hood; Miss Lulu Lord does exceedingly well as Maid Marion; the Sisters Mawdsley sustain the parts of Bertie and Cissie most creditably; Mr. Willie Barrett causes much amusement as Simple Simon; Mr. Marcus Boyle is most successful as Sir Scoun-de-Rel; and Messrs. Denby and Dent as Tim and Willie do some commendable work. Specialities are also introduced by the Sisters Montague, duettists, and the Salonicas, acrobatic dancers.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*Aladdin*, written by Mr. Stanley Rogers and well equipped in the matter of scenery and costumes, commenced a short season here on Monday. An excellent company carries through an enjoyable entertainment with great zest, the comedians providing plenty of fun and the ladies in the cast doing justice to the musical numbers allotted to them. Miss Mabel Hind is a particularly bright and pleasing Aladdin; Miss Lily Lonsdale a charming Princess; and the Three Warners are very vigorous in their whirlwind dancing and somersaulting. The leading comedians include Mr. Ernie Myers, Abanazar; Mr. J. G. Aitken, Grand Vizier; Mr. Tom Carrick, Widow Twankey; and the Brothers Firman as Bo Bi and Ko Ko. Mr. John Darlison's fairy interlude, *The Enchanted Tree*, with the author as the Tree Man, Miss Jean Brodie as Queen Ariella, and a band of sprites and elves represented by a score of Leith little lassies, continues to hold a place in the programme.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne, Seddon, and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—*A Message from Mars* was for the first three nights admirably presented by Mr. Percy Taylor's company. Mr. Dudley Stuart as Horace Parker and Mr. Percy Tyler as the Tramp were seen to great advantage, and Mr. Lionel Valdwyn lent power and distinction to the Messenger. Miss May Mallalieu was a charming Minnie, and the other parts were ably interpreted. *A Destroyer of Men*, with Miss Hilda Beverley in the leading rôle, is announced for the last three nights.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Miss Louie Tracy, a male impersonator of dashing appearance, is winning favour here, and Mr. Herbert Rule is a comedian of real humour. Hersleb Brothers present a clever acrobatic act with one or two novel surprises, and the Melba Twins sing with great charm. Sleath and Aldin, Wyze and Adna, Charles Byron, Helene Stewart, and the Palace Perfection Pictures complete an attractive programme.

LIVERPOOL. — Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction here this week is *The Idol of Paris*, with Miss Annie Bell in her striking rôle of Flare Flare. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee affords great support as Phillip D'Esterre, a man about town, a part into which he infuses a deal of spirit; Mr. Gordon Robev plays excellently as Prince Sergius; Mr. Chris. Roberts and Miss Pharo Anderson, in the respective rôles of Theo. Decline and Rachael Bernhardt, prove highly amusing; and Miss Frances Bruce is eminently fitted for the character of Mme. Sancterre.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Mr. Walter Melville's talented combination is doing good business with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Ethel Griffies plays powerfully as Barbara Wade, winning the sympathies of her audience; Mr. Norman B. Cannon proves a manly and popular Jack Livingstone; Miss Nell Oliver handles the difficult rôle of Nellie Meadows with a deal of discretion; Mr. Harry Cane is the John Meadows, a typical farmer; Mr. Fred Hodson (Toby Turvey) and Miss Maggie Byron (Tilly Vane) provoke much laughter; and the remainder of the cast give valuable support.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Pantomime occupies the stage here this week, Mr. Arthur Carlton having brought his *Cinderella*, a very pretty and funny production. Miss Ella Willmer holds the title-rôle to the general satisfaction; Miss Flo Wilton scores as the Prince; Miss Ida Dorrie does excellently as Dandini; Miss Bessie Heins looks charming as Dolly Varden; and others who contribute largely towards the success are Messrs. Alec Herman (Adolphus), Henry Maynard (Malignant), Hedbert Colley and Fred Hutchings (the Ugly Sisters), and Sandy and Carl (the Broker's Men). Specialities are introduced by the Butterfly troupe of dancers, &c.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Foremost here this week is an Italian ballet, introduced by Mons. Rosi, entitled *Uncle Isadore*, which is witnessed with keen interest; Tom Clare affords a deal of satisfaction with his work at the piano; the Francoli troupe of acrobats raise shouts of laughter with the sketch, *The Bill Poster and His Comic Living Lithographs*; loud applause greets the pleasant musical turn given by the Four Coloured Meisters; "Billy," the trained horse, surprises with his intelligent tricks; Emil Solbrig's Automatus presents an amusing act, *A Day Out*; the Smythson Comedy company gain a cordial reception for their sketch; Arthur Kenny has a sensational cycle act, leaping 10ft. through space; the Brothers Corcoran please immensely with their smart musical speciality quick-change act; and Mike Nono dances and sings well.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The bill is occupied by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, which is produced in capital style. Miss Ethel Campbell makes a dainty Dick; Miss Tina Franks as Alice is a valuable help; the part of Sarah, the cook, is most amusingly undertaken by Mr. Albert Williams; Mr. Leo King is an effective King Rat; as the Emperor Mr. Geo. Melbah affords every satisfaction; Mr. Deane Tribune is a merry Idle Jack; and Mr. Jack Hodgson does everything necessary with the Alderman. Specialities are presented by Mlle. Pauline Rivers' troupe of mill girls and dancers. Business is good.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill this week with their merry sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which provokes great laughter. The Davis and Gledhill Trio of cyclists go through a sensational racing performance, the principal item being a contest between a man and a motor; Dave Samuels, Hebrew comedian, keeps his audience in shouts of laughter with his sayings and songs; a funny ventriloquial turn comes from W. E. Gillin; the Boys of England render acceptable barrack-room ballads; some excellent juggling is executed by the Resas; Dewson meets with approval for his songs at the piano; Gladys Revell pleases greatly by reason of her chorus songs; and others in the programme are Lily Eyton, vocalist and dancer, and Walter Stanley, comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Lancashire Lad*, from the pen of G. Carlton Wallace, is being given here by the stock dramatic company. Mr. Harry Tresham makes a natural David Elmore; Mr. Sydney Grant plays strongly as the gambler, Max Carton; Mr. Tom H. Solly is an amusing John Willie Wardle; Miss Lilian Radbourne is well suited to the part of Lorna Wincote; and valuable help also comes from Mr. R. Seath Innes, Mr. Cecil Ravenswood, Mr. Leo Montgomery, Miss Gertrude Entwistle, and Miss Gertrude Gilman. Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope has the latest pictures.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big line here is occupied by Raymond, an able conjurer and illusionist, whose work is of a really puzzling character; the Four Amati Sisters provide a refined musical entertainment; Miss Gisela Amati being especially pleasing with her high-range soprano voice; a turn that is well received is given by the Saschoff troupe of Russian singers and dancers; Harry Clifford proves as funny as ever; Richard Corbin's dogs go through a highly-trained performance; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden have a smart dancing trifle, "Charlie's Visit"; rounds of applause greeted the droll and amusing act submitted by the Japanese De Breans; and the programme also contains the names of Nina Denvil, vocal comedienne, and Park's Girls and Boys, vocalists.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Karno's *Mumming Birds* heads the bill, and provides as much amusement as ever; Hayman and Franklin present an uproariously funny sketch, entitled *Toplitsky*; the Four Mayos have a really comic skating turn; Lieut. Chard's dog circus is uncommonly good; the Three Orros go through a clever and graceful performance on the silver chains; the singing and smart dancing of the Phœnix Trio find much favour; and Ernest Tilbury renders in good style popular tenor songs.

MANCHESTER.—Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company is here, in *Her Love Against the World*, which was played with success last week at the Metropole Theatre.

Metropole Theatre.—Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Last week's entertainment at the Royal Osborne Theatre is transferred this week to the Metropole, where *Little Cinderella*, presented by Mr. James Kiddie's company, is enjoying deserved popularity.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. James Kiddie's company, in *Dick Whittington*, is doing well here. The production, from every point of view, is entertaining, the scenery and dresses being bright and pleasing, and the cast an excellent one. Miss Flo Hilton as De Mash is a great treat, and is very well received; Miss Lena Page is all that could be desired as Dick; and she has a capital partner in Miss Fiorrie Warner as Alice; while the auxiliary parts of note are well filled by Misses Annie Broughton, Bertha Barton, Edie Goodwin, and Edna Francis, who dance well. Much humour is provided by Mr. Charles Chard as Idle Jack, Mr. Tom Gott as the cook, and Mr. Dennis McCarthy as Fitzwarren; while Messrs. Clifton and Gibson as the lazy apprentices acquit themselves well; and Mr. Charles Cork plays cleverly as Rodento and the Emperor.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. John Tiller's pantomime of *Jack and Jill*, an excellent show, is continuing its successful career.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top turn here this week is *A 33 to 1 Chance*, played sensationally by Harry P. Selwyn's company, the prime feature being the fight between Ben Jordan and Young Sullivan, a pair of light-weight champions. The Rexos are also prominent, and deservedly so, for their wonderful exhibition of roller-skating; while other good turns are the Clement Trio, flying trapezists; Lockhart's Elephants, presented by Capt. Taylor; Harry Merrylees, Scotch comedian; Amelie De L'Enclos, a phenomenal soprano vocalist; Cedar and Elgar, jesters of the olden time; Harry Anderson, the popular song comedian; and Lizzie Glenroy, Scotch comedienne and expert dancer.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*The Motor Chase* still holds the prime place in the programme here; while the Romanis figure prominently in a really artistic musical mélange. The Calzados, Spanish dancers, add a fine turn; and the Marno Trio give a capital exhibition in comedy acrobatics. Other nice turns are offered by the Sarnthaler Sextette of vocalists and Swiss dancers; Les Bollingers, in their novel rag painting act; Russell and Held, American comedy artists; and the Eight Lancashire Lads, accomplished singers and dancers.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Excellent business is being done here with Fred Karno's production of *The Bailiff*, the principal part in which is filled remarkably well by Albert Bruno, assisted by a clever cast; the Four Fords give an excellent dancing act; A. L. Levering presents the fine military episode, *The Drums of Oude*; and interesting items are added by Les Zelovas, gymnasts; Neven-Tossau, in *The Vagabond Artist*; Spissell Bros. and Mack, American acrobatic eccentrics; and Dalvere and Wallace, in laughter and song.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Pattie Browne, who tops the bill here is seen to great advantage in an effective monologue, entitled *Liza's Bill*. *A Florentine Tragedy* is well acted by Elfie Leigh and company; the Carneys of Killarney are highly amusing in musical sketch with dances, *Barney's Little Joke*; whilst other good items are offered by Wyotti the jocular juggler; the Leonas, in musical and fencing act; Lilian Farrar, in *Bubbles*, a charming song-scena; Vron and Neville, in *A Breezy Morning*; and Edie Coolville, vocalist. Pictures complete a capital programme.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—After a highly successful week at the Grand Junction Theatre, Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here in the popular romantic play, *The Princess and the Beggar Maid*, adapted to play two performances nightly. Full houses are the rule.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—An excellent all-round programme is headed by Percy Honri in that highly successful musical phantasy, *Concordia*. Another capital item is given by George Mozart, who scores as a story-telier and burlesque actor, creating no end of laughter; Marjorie Russell makes a hit as a clever and pleasing entertainer; Lozette goes through a neat gymnastic display; the Ten Dixie Girls are exceedingly smart dancers; Harry Blake is a capital comedian; J. P. Ling, a first-rate comedian and mimic takes well; Tom Franks, ventriloquist is greatly enjoyed; and Will Willis comedian, is good.

Methil.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is paying a welcome return visit here with *A Beautiful Fiend*. In the title-rôle Miss Sidney Crowe surpassed herself by her powerful interpretation; Mr. G. M. Montanini gave a good rendering of Count Feodar Karsteff; Mr. Herbert Skardon showed to advantage as Major Ivan Paulovitch; Miss Netta Mitchell as Nadine Strogoff acted with real feeling; comedy relief was supplied by Mr. Bert Woodin as Christopher Crackles and Mr. Charles Russell as Malachi, assisted by Miss Madge Palmer as Patty Woodlands. The Gaietyscope showed some interesting films.

Middlesbrough.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*Jack and Jill* continues to draw crowded houses. The pantomime is the most successful ever placed before the public of the iron town.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. E. H. Knight presents *The Lighthouse Robbery* to very appreciative audiences. As Rosa Prescott Miss Hilda Bayton is successful, and as Nellie Baby Freda does admirably. Tom Manley is in the able hands of Mr. Percy Beresford; as James Hammond Mr. Rupert Talbot meets with thorough approval; and the humorous character of Sam Kidder is well sustained by Mr. Jesse Boxer.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Billy Howard and Kathryn Harries submit a clever and amusing turn in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; Harry Lickson's canine acrobats command high praise; and Willman, instrumentalist, Victor Widdicombe and company, in *Her Devonshire Dad*, Rickaby and Davies, comedians and dancers, Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque, in the playlet *My Lancashire Wife*, Tiny Arnold, comedienne, W. G. Webber, bass vocalist, and the Empire pictures complete a capital programme.

Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Leigh Leicester, comedian, contributes numbers that please, and the remainder of the entertainment consists of patriotic and amusing pictures.

Town Hall.—Mr. J. W. Turner's company is here in a round of operas, the performances eliciting warm praise.

Motherwell.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Mr. Harry Bennet's company is presenting *The Lady Slavey*. In the name-part Miss Nora Horsa is quietly effective; Mr. Lister Morrah acts with charming ease as the Millionaire; Mr. Chas. F. Clark is the impecunious Irishman to the life; and his daughters Maud and Beatrice have charming exponents in Mmes. Kitty Hyde and Ivy Deane. Miss Raydon has a fine stage presence and sings admirably as Flo Honeydew. Very amusing is Mr. Harry Quinningborough as the Broker's Man, and Mr. Tom G. Warren is excellent as Lord Lovender.

Neath.—Gwyn Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. W. Robinson.—Mr. Vint's Globe Express Excursions form the great attraction here this week. Mme. Vint goes through her clever clairvoyant performance in a remarkable manner; Alf. Thomas, Welsh comedian, an old favourite here, is cordially received; Wee Wullie is also given a hearty welcome upon his reappearance; Little Gertie in her latest successes is popular; Lonzo Brown, sand dancer, wins applause; Mr. Fred Maurie is a smart comedian; Miss Olive Audley, a sweet soprano, and Miss Mabel Rossetti's contralto songs are much enjoyed. Miss Alice Smythe, Miss Edith Dare, Miss Mabel Lillian, and the Sisters Sparks are also in the bill.

Prince of Wales.—Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson; Musical-Director, Mr. Clement Austin.—Comedy, drama, and pictures form a strong attraction here this week. The pictures are beautfully clear, and greatly enjoyed.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*Cinderella* is now in the full tide of a most successful run. Miss Cressie Leonard is undoubtedly one of the best "boys" we have seen in recent years, and is nightly charming the audiences with her dashing style and delightful singing. Miss Meg Hamilton as Dandini and Miss Iris Hoey as Cinderella have also become established favourites, whilst any amount of good wholesome humour is contributed by Alexander and Hughes, Johnnie Schofield, Harry Brayne, and Miss Lilian Levey. The dancing of the Eight Sunflowers also contributes in no small measure to the splendid success of the show.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company opened a fortnight's season here on Monday with *Dear Little Denmark*. Miss Netta Lynde was a fascinating Christine, her singing being much admired; Mr. Conway Dixon, who is the happy possessor of a good voice, must be commended for his clever impersonation of Conrad Petersen; as Ophelia Miss Mabel Sealby keeps the house in continual merriment, her dancing and singing receiving double encores. In the part of Hans Hansen Mr. Arthur Staples creates roars of laughter, his character song with Miss Sealby being very smart; Mr. Henry Kitts is decidedly clever in the character of the Duke; Mr. Harry Gregory as Jonas Jensen is exceedingly amusing; and Miss Claire Lynch acquits herself well as Xandra.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Messrs. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company, in *The Face at the Window*, is paying a return visit here. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Gouffet gives a fine rendering as Delgado; Mr. Charles H. Phelps plays an unpopular part exceedingly well; Mr. Vouchotte Wilson is good as Lucien Courtier; and as the heroine Marie de Bresson Miss Clare O'Sullivan does well.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—*Little Bo-Peep* is still running merrily, and large houses are the rule. It is a bright and sparkling show, with pretty songs, smart dancing, and plenty of good fun. The introduction of Messrs. Harrigan and Holt, two excellent comedians, as the Naughty Boys is an immense success. A new Dame in Mr. Edgar Driver has also been introduced with much satisfaction. Miss Nancy Hearne as Boy Blue and Miss Zena Hay as Bo-Peep still continue in popular favour, and have excellent support from the rest of the company.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Amongst the many interesting turns on a splendid bill, pride of place is held by Olga Petronawa and her band of twenty-five picked instrumentalists. The programme includes *William Tell* and Tschaikowsky's *1812*, which are splendidly rendered. An item of more than usual merit is presented by Frank and Jem Latona in their well-known musical act; hearty laughter greeted the performance of *The Barnstormers*, a farcical production by Herbert Darnley's company of comedians; and another clever and amusing turn is Harry Friskey, American comedy juggler. Falco and Eida, in an original act illustrating the ju-jitsu methods of self-defence also go well; as also does the graceful acrobatic turn of the Rohda Bros.; Giovanni Wals, the Spanish Caruso, justifies his name; and other capital items are provided by Tom Moore, character comedian, and Bert Errol, singer with the lady's voice.

Pavilion Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—Lafayette has been retained another week. Other artists appearing are George D'Albert, F. Mozzetto, Leo and Roland, Little Sunbeam, and Clare and Pastor.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*Mother*, a domestic drama, is the attraction here, presented by Mr. Henry Foxwell's company. Duncan Fairweather is admirably impersonated by Mr. J. O. Stewart; Mr. A. J. Haviland in the rôle of Frank Rodney is a great favourite; and the part of the villain Stephen Carrington is well taken by Mr. Reginald Brown; while there is a breeziness about the character of Old Crump (Mr. R. Gordon) which stamped him as a typical old salt. The comedy element is sustained by Mr. Teddy Myles as Tommy Noblets; Miss Grace Jones as Nellie Fairweather is graceful and charming; Miss Mary Holmes makes a winsome Mary May; Miss L. Bates as Polly Crumpet creates a good deal of laughter; and Miss P. Vaughan does well as Vesta L'Estrange.

Empire. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Wilde.—An attractive programme here includes the Crisps, in a pretty dancing act; Miss Lydia Yeaman presents some wonderful mimicry; and Tom Lloyd is a comedian of ability. Lil O'Gorman sings and dances well; Farr and Farland present an amusing turn; and the great Vincent performs some startling acrobatic feats; Phil Bourne sings in admirable style; and a special attraction, however, is the sketch, *The Hold-up*, presented by Taylor-Granville, with Mr. Paul Lovett as the Operator and Mr. Leonard Robson as the Hold-Up Man. The scenic effects are very fine.

NORTHAMPTON.—Palace of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. H. Anderson; Manager, P. H. Gould; Musical-Director, Walter Ashton.—Henry Herne and company, who head the programme this week, are presenting a dramatic episode in five scenes, entitled, *The Colleen Bawn*, with the following cast: Myles Na Coppaleen, Mr. Henry Herne; Hardress Cregan, Mr. Edward Wingfield; Danny Mann, Mr. Richard Webb; Mr. Corrigan, Mr. Dan Mathews; Mrs. Cregan, Miss

tunities. Miss Florence Hunton is a captivating Gretchen; Miss Lillah Price as Sadie, a smart lady detective, has some good songs; and Miss Margaret Ashton as Frau Bender is most successful. Mr. Clifford Morgan as Jack Blake is a manly hero; Mr. Lionel Braham is very cute as the Yankee detective; and Mr. L. Ellis, an amusing Alphonse Napoleon, along with Miss Radcliffe, does well in La Danse des Apaches Reversée. Mr. Augustus Williams makes a capital Van Decker.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Hop-o'-my-Thumb* continues merrily on his way, and is delighting large crowds nightly.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A good bill is provided this week. Charlier, the French comedian and ventriloquist, being a capital turn. The Seven Perezoffs again "acrobat" with success; Rastus and Banks are good entertainers; Florence Phillips uses her baritone voice with good effect; Les Cairolis are excellent in their equilibristic act; and the Bros. Cavallotto are musicians of exceptional merit. Stidder and Dunbar are smart in some neat sand dances; and the Bros. Roland are a well developed pair of equilibrists. Jack Hayworth is a smart Scotch comedian; Geo. Lawrance, a good actor-vocalist; and the Bioscope concludes.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Milton Bode, who for so many years past has been so successful in pleasing us with his New Year's pantomime, is this week presenting *Red Riding Hood*, which, judging by its reception on Monday night, will add yet another to his many triumphs here. The book is very amusing and the company a strong one. Mr. Laurie Wylie uses his many opportunities to the best advantage as the wicked Squire; Mr. Rolando Martin is always amusing as Johnny Stout; Mr. Frank Lilliput is equally funny as Simple Simon; Mr. John E. Conan never misses an opportunity of scoring as Dame Trot; Miss Aimee Roberts makes an ideal Boy Blue; Miss Babs Lloyd is very sweet and fascinating in the title-rôle; Miss Blanche May is a capital Bo-Peep; Miss Ruby Wentworth is a handsome and competent Tom; Miss Carda Walker sings very pleasantly as the Fairy Queen; the Three Pattersons are much applauded for a first-class gymnastic performance; Lauri Wylie and his mimicking mannikins are vastly amusing; and Zellini is a funny juggler. The scenery and dresses are quite up to Mr. Bode's usual standard of excellence.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Nevill Graham's company is here with *Aladdin*. Mlle. Lucretia fills the rôle of Aladdin with distinction, and Miss Lilian Earle is an attractive Princess Balroubador. Miss Cissie Clarke makes a sprightly Pekoe; Miss Josephine is good as Nicie Nicie; and Miss Harriette Loydall as Widow Twankev is admirable. Mr. Geo. Howard is an ideal Emperor, and adds considerably to the general success; while Mr. Charlie Clarke sustains the difficult part of the Chinaman, Wishee Washee, cleverly. The Astroys are Sloppa and Koppa, and Mr. Alec Taylor is quite adequate as the Grand Vizier. The specialities include Sinclair's Four Parisian Girls, who contribute some graceful dances; Miss Cissie Clarke and Mr. Charlie Clarke in *The Scarecrow*; the Astroys, Miss Harriett Loydall, and Mlle. Lucretia and Miss Josephine. The pantomime is highly successful.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Robinson Crusoe* is running right merrily, and is proving a decided attraction, judging by the large attendances at all performances, matinées included. Thanks to the excellent cast, the interest in the pantomime never wanes, the fun especially being well and capably sustained by the comedians. In this respect Mr. Tatten Hall as Will Atkins proves himself a resourceful comedian, and never fails to put the audience in the best of humour; Mr. Harry Farrow is another comedian of the versatile order, and his Mrs. Crusoe is full of quaintness and merriment; Messrs. Dan Maxford and Tom O'Neill as Captain Kettle and the Mate respectively work assiduously together, and give abundant proof of their ability to entertain; and Mr. Harry Arnold as Willie Crusoe completes the quintette of comedians, who keep the fun well sustained. Miss Daisie Morell makes a dashing Robinson Crusoe; while as Polly Perkins Miss Maud Terry is sprightly and vivacious. Miss Primrose Harding makes a delightful Peter Piper; and as Dolly Dimple Miss Dorothy May is charming. The Sisters Sable perform well in the parts of Tom Tug and Bella Brighton; a most engaging Princess Pittising is Miss Dorothy Harris, who dances daintily and sings sweetly; Friday is capitally played by Mr. John E. West; and Mr. Fred Eugene gives a good portrait of King Wamba. Miss Phyllis Thornton is distinctly successful in the rôle of Coralie; Borea has a smart and clever representative in Miss Margaret Webster; and Mr. Lewis Morgan is an admirable exponent of the Gnome. The chorus is good, and the staging and dresses are gorgeous. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers perform artistically. The stage-managing is in the capable hands of Mr. Walter D. Brodie, who has everything to work very smoothly.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is meeting with deserved success here this week. The pantomime, which is capitally staged and well dressed, abounds with many amusing scenes, and the fun is well sustained throughout. The Sisters Cora, the personification of daintiness and grace, are altogether charming as Dick Whittington and Alice; Mr. W. Glanmore Jones is an admirable representative of Alderman Fitzwarren; as Idle Jack Mr. Sam Thomson is very funny, laughter loud and long greeting his untiring efforts; Mr. George Westland is extremely comic as Mary Ann; Mr. L. C. Young as the feline Tom, is diverting and clever; Mr. J. Randle Wilson scores in the double rôles of Captain Bailey and the Sultan; Miss Kitty Thomas makes an excellent Tom Bowline; and Miss Topsy Johnstone makes a welcome reappearance locally, and scores a success in the rôle of Princess Halfid. The cast of principals is satisfactorily completed by Mr. Michael Kemble as Rodenta, who sings excellently, and Miss Connie Irwin as Fairy Bow Bell, who deports herself in praiseworthy style. Specialities are introduced by Lindsay and Harte, who are very entertaining, the Sisters Cora, the Four Killarney Girls, dancers, and the Celesta Comedy Quartette.

PENZANCE. — ST. JOHN'S HALL. — Mr. Robt. Macdonald's company opened here on Monday in *The Dairymaids*. Miss Mamie Stuart was clever as Peggy, quickly winning the appreciation of the audience, which she retained throughout. Miss Glennie Levean as Winifred showed exceptional qualities as a singer; the irresistible humour of Mr. Norman Bowyer as Joe Mivens was a great success; and in the part of Lieut. Sam Brudenell Mr. Walter Champney was quaintly humorous. As Lieut. Frank Meredith and Dr. O'Byrne Messrs. Horace Mauger and George P. Ascot put plenty of life into the parts. As Lady Brudenell Miss Lily Roselle acquitted herself admirably; Miss Nellie Le Breton was clever and amusing as Eliza; the characteristics of Penelope Peychase were displayed with ability by Miss Julie St. George; and as Lieut. Brereton Mr. J. Rutland Mennell did good work. Miss Dorothy Vere made a pleasing Helen. Mr. Gordon Starkey was acting-manager and Mr. W. Neale conductor. To Messrs. Rogers and Son, of Penzance, much praise is due for arranging this visit.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Graham Falcon's pantomime *Cinderella* was produced here on Monday before a good house. Miss Cecilia Gold makes a charming Cinderella; Miss Maude Nichols enacts the part of Prince Elegant with plenty of dash; Miss Lilian Drake is good as Dandini; the Fairy Godmother is successfully played by Miss René Willoughby; Miss Leila Carstairs is a delightful fairy; and Mr. Jack Waller, a very funny Baron Stoney, his two "charming" daughters being cleverly presented by Mr. Wal Lesby and Mr. Arthur Lawrence. Mr. Glen Alva as Billy Buttons and Messrs. Jack Harley and Joe Hardon as the Baron's retainers keep the fun rolling; and clever dances are given by the Misses Minnie Dorina, Connie Langford, Norah O'Malley, and Hetty Ray. The scenery and dresses are all that could be desired.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Ye Colonial Septette, presenting *An Olde Tyme Hallowe'en*, top the bill. Blair and Allen are smart comedians; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne, takes well; Charlie Craston is quaint; Mart and Pep contribute a clever balancing act; Dave Carter is encored; and several good pictures are shown.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Robinson Crusoe* is now going splendidly, and fine business is being done. A few minor alterations and additions have been made, all of which tend to the improvement in the performance.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Pasquali Bros. provide some fine tumbling, and altogether give a very finished exhibition; Alice Hughes and company submit a witty sketch, entitled *The Star of the Bazaar*, which is brimful of humour; Fred Land is a popular contributor; Randolph King gives some excellent impersonations; Les Rubens, in *Two Merry Vagabonds*, entertain with a vocal sketch; Natalia and Diana skilfully perform some difficult gymnastic feats; and Garry Lynch, in a couple of songs, proves himself a vocalist of more than ordinary ability.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—Wild, Willie, and West, comedy acrobats, create roars of laughter; Lilian Lowe is an excellent vocalist; Tony Iveson, the ragman at the piano, is very good; Captain Ellis and son present an original musical entertainment; Peter Shannon is an ideal coon, and gives a clever exhibition of buck and sand dancing; Jennie Reeve is a dainty and charming comedienne; Arthur Melrose is a capital comedian; the Great Coram, ventriloquist, is very popular; and the Palascope, as usual, presents excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*The Sleeping Beauty* is now firmly entrenched in public favour. The most picturesque of the set scenes are The Land of the Fairies, The Palace of Slumber, The Coral Grotto, The Steel Castle, and The Palace. The artists continue to win approval, both for their acting and singing, the Misses Dorothy Chard, Frances Kapstowne, and Ada Tilley (Bon-Bon) being primarily responsible, along with the Four Royal Vagabonds, for the success attained.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Hearty approval is accorded the presentation by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow of *Under Two Flags*. Miss Doris Gilham gives a fine impersonation of Cigarette; Mr. Douglas Murray is an able exponent of Bertie Cecil Royellieu; and Colonel Chanteroy receives clever portraiture from Mr. Chas. E. Johnson.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A well-staged, powerfully-acted dramatic episode, *No. 99*, is presented by Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister; and Harvey's American Boys and Girls dance and sing some tuneful coon songs. Perhaps the most popular turn is that of the Bouncing Dillons, who invite amateurs to a bouncing competition, the antics of the competitors causing great laughter, while the lady member gracefully executes feats on the trapeze. In addition to some amusing films from Payne's bio-photoscope, the Sisters Harcourt, Dale and Vale, Lilian French, Blanche and Zeyna, and Woolmer Young contribute to the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—An entertaining version of *Cinderella*, presented by Messrs. Sydney Cooper and the Tally-Ho Trio, opened on Monday with every prospect of popular favour. Miss Doris Langden is a fascinating Cinderella; Miss Gladye Soman is well placed as Prince Charming; Dandini has a bright and vivacious rendering from Miss Bertha Belmore, who with her companion Cherry (Blanche Belmore) dances and sings artistically; the vocal mirth of the Tally-Ho Trio is enjoyed, and Messrs. Fred Park, Fred Anderson, and Chas. Wood, the producer of the pantomime, are successful fun-makers; the Eight Sunrays dance with pleasing effect; and Miss Fay Desmond's vocal abilities are enthusiastically applauded in her rôle of Fairy Godmother.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—Topping the bill is Whit Cunliffe, whose cleverly-written songs and vocalisation win rounds of applause. Other amusing comedians are Reginald Beauchamp and Will Musgrave. Frank Hardy and company, in *The Traitor*, were substituted for Walter Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker*; the acrobatic portion of the entertainment is provided by the Keragg Trio, Brothers Artois Maximilian Trio, and the Robertsons, with whom dancing on the hands is the particular feature; Mr. and Mrs. G. Wilde, well-known to local audiences, provide their hand shadowgraph performance; Adah Payne vocalises; and the Barrascope shows a Spanish Bull Fight.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in the Lyceum Theatre version of *The Christian*, is this week's attraction. Mr. Henry Woolston gives an excellent representation of John Storm; Miss Gladys Purnell is a clever actress, and is seen to great advantage as Glory Quayle; Mr Wilfred Noy is as good as ever in his old part of Horatio Drake; Mr. Fred Morgan as Lord Robert Ure portrays the confirmed roué realistically; Mr. J. H. Batson is an ideal Father Lamplugh; Miss Gladys Vernon is to be complimented on her skilful handling of the part of Polly Love; Miss Mollie Hayden is excellent as Mrs. Callander; as is Miss Gertrude Maxwell as Lady Robert Ure; Mr. Chas. E. Dering is a typical Archdeacon Wealthy; and Miss Lizette Cardoza gives a clever portrayal of Black Meg. The play is capitally mounted.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is doing good business here. Miss Maud Beaumont is a sprightly Dick; Miss Ena Compton a dainty Alice; Bob Stephenson a most comical Sarah; Willie Vanda as Thomas, the cat, causes much laughter; William Miller as Fitzwarren, and Fred Ward as Jack are equally good; Justin and Mantell as the Captain and the Mate, are a merry pair; Jim Vone is a capital Emperor of Morocco; Miss Dolly Richardson a dashing Prince; Miss Amy Salida and Miss Ada Pearce as Princess and Susan are very chic; Miss May Edwards is a bewitching Fairy Bountiful; and specialities are introduced by the Vandas, Justin and Mantell, Pearce and Ward, Salida and Vone, and Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots. The scenery is good.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Cecil Gray and his company, including Miss Dora Eastlake, present a dramatic little play, *The Last Straw*, which is well staged and well rendered; Johnson and Bert introduce some clever acrobatic dancing into their novel act, "A Queer Customer"; the Stanley and Vandyke Comedy Duo are a funny turn; the Three Drabbles, talented children, win loud applause for a refined musical act, playing cornet, violin, piano, and other instruments; Les Carmody Trio, in their juggling and acrobatic mélange, give a clever turn; the Normans (Lil, Eric, and Val) have a capital military song scena, "Always Ready"; Will Rhodes, comedian, renders excellent songs; Frances Hanlow, comedienne and dancer, meets with a hearty reception; and the Three Burkes have a novelty comedy gymnastic act. The Pedlar's Daughter on the Bioscope concludes.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessees, Messrs. Geo. T. Santé, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. R. Nightingale has surpassed himself with his gorgeous and funny pantomime *Aladdin*. Miss Edna Latonne as Aladdin is a hard worker, and scores heavily; Miss Marie Radcliffe has a beautiful voice, and takes the Slave of the Lamp; Miss Amy Gradwell leaves nothing to be desired at the Geni of the Ring; and Miss Jenny Haskett is good as the Princess. As Widow Twankey and Wishee Washee Messrs. Harry Albery and Joe Perth are screamingly funny; and Mr. Walter Bishop is a real treat as Abanazar. The Brothers Lloyd receive much applause for their cable act, and Messrs. France and Francis are amusing as Flip and Flop. Mr. Max Merlin is a living wonder as the human crocodile.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.—We have this week Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Miss F. Medrose Millett is successful as Doreen Rivers, giving a powerful impersonation. As Captain Harold Marston Mr. T. Arthur Jones gives a truly manly portrayal; Ernie Woodstone is well presented by Mr. John Davidson; and Mr. J. D'Alberti is a successful Doctor Colbrooke. Miss Marie Daventry makes an excellent Fay Colbrooke, and Miss May Neilson as Bess Grayson is capital. Mr. Charles Preece as Bob Tanner is also satisfactory.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—The Moody-Manners company is providing a rich musical treat with a series of grand operatic performances. On Monday Gounod's *Faust* was produced in admirable style. Mme. Beatrice La Palme was the prima donna, her singing and acting in the part of Marguerite being all that could be desired; Miss Olive Westwood was effective as Siebel; Miss V. Barry also did well as Martha; the title-rôle was satisfactorily rendered by Mr. John Child, who was in excellent voice; Mr. William Anderson was a good representative of Mephistopheles; and Mr. Graham Marr played most creditably as Valentine. The principals were supported by a chorus of thirty-five voices, a corps de ballet and augmented orchestra. Mr. Cuthbert Hainley was an efficient conductor. The repértoire for the remainder of the week comprises Verdi's *Masked Ball*, *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, *Tannhäuser*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, and *Maritana*.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—The Cattaneo company appear in a very clever and humorous acrobatic sketch; Florence W. Gardner's songs at the piano are well received; the Three Favourites appear successfully in their comedy speciality act *Park Pets*; C. Ibbotson and company create much amusement in their sketch *Major McFee, M.P.*; Stanhope Gordon is a good light comedian; Andrews and Thompson sing very effectively in the vocal scena *The Rube and the Romany*; and George Sheldon and company present a highly dramatic episode, entitled *Before the Dawn*.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Miss Renée Glendower gave much pleasure with her acting as Janet McAllister (an artist's model) in her new four act play, *What a Man Made Her*, from the pen of Mr. Charles Darrell. Mr. Edward Rawlinson sustains the part of Rupert very cleverly; Sir Ernest Cavendish is well played by Mr. C. Hartopp; Dr. Mark Haven is excellently presented by Mr. J. M. Olivert; Mr. Barnett Lando is very droll as Gunnerstein, and Miss T. Myers is a vivacious Deborah; Miss F. Russell Spiers as Elfrida and Miss Stella Carmichael as Lady Thora also do good work. The staging is good.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Another pantomime this week, twice nightly. Mr. Wilmot Edison's company includes several clever comedians, who make *Aladdin* a comical and enjoyable pantomime. Miss May Fayre in the title-rôle makes the most of her opportunities, and sings well; Mr. Mat Kilduff is an amusing Widow Twankey; Mr. Reg. Bolton keeps things lively as Abanazar, and has a pleasant voice; Wishee Washee has an excellent exponent in Mr. Tommy Neildon; Miss Josephine Richards is a dashing Pekoe, and Miss Queenie Harvey is a charming Soshi; Princess Badroulbadour is well presented by Miss Margaret Geddes; Miss Amy Cooper gains appreciation for her singing as Electra; the comic police are in the smart hands of Messrs. Bob and Nat Cameo; Mr. Charles Clark makes a good Emperor, and Miss Patty Wilhelm does well as Kasrac. The scenic effects and dresses are very pretty. Several specialities are much enjoyed and include Mr. Reg. Bolton and Mr. Tommy Neildon, the Abaradoffs, prehistoric mountebanks, and the Greig Dancers, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Boyle.—Mr. John Tiller's panto, *Little Red Riding Hood*, consists of plenty of fun, beautiful dresses, pretty scenery, and catchy songs, and twice nightly is much enjoyed. Red Riding Hood is charmingly represented by Miss May Merry; Miss Lulu Russell is a smart Prince Valiant; Miss Zena Benson is a pleasing singer as the Fairy Truelove; Mr. Benson Kleeve makes an excellent King Wolf; Mr. Fred Danvers is a comical Pretty Pet; Mr. Douglas Hayes (Boniface), Mr. Phil Hayes (Oswald), Mr. Fred Lawrence (Dr. Dignum), Mr. Charles Verno (Trotters), Miss Chummie La Mara (Tommy Tucker), Miss Dot Hinson (Mother Hood), Miss Evelyn Warren (Fairy Lightwing), Miss Marie Brian (Nanette), Mr. Sam Mitchello (Joseph), Mr. Geo. Matfey (Fritz), and Miss May Sharples (Capt. Slasher), also keep the fun rolling. Specialities include some smart dancing by the Bros. Hayes and John Tiller's Lotus Troupe; also turns by Ted Waite and the Mascot Troupe of children.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Five Olracs top the bill, and provide a turn both clever and amusing; Dan Conroy is a good comedian and dancer; The Taffies, Welsh vocalists, are well received; Arthur Croxon, Yorkshire entertainer is popular; Les Supriskis are smart gymnasts. Other good turns are given by Yettmah, Japanese conjurer, and Harrison Bros. in *A Game of Golf*.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*Sherlock Holmes* is on a return visit. The title-rôle is filled to perfection by Mr. Hamilton Stewart; Mr. Charles Brandon is excellent as Professor Moriarty; as Alice Faulkner Miss A. Bruce Joy leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Eric Morden makes a capital Dr. Watson; Mr. Arnold Raper and Miss May Beatrice appear to advantage as the Larabees; and Master Thomas Russell creditably fills the rôle of Billy.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company is here this week with *A Country Girl*. Mr. Nelson Hancock scores as Geoffrey Challoner, his fine voice gaining him great applause in the musical numbers; the clear enunciation and smart acting of Mr. Joseph Bruce are very effective in his part of the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph and Mr. H. B. Hargreaves as Douglas Verity are both good in their respective parts; as also is Mr. C. T. Chapman as Lord Anchester. Mr. Percy Russell does well as Lord Grasmere; and the same may be said of Miss Dorothy Arliss as Marjorie Joy. Mr. Coningsby Brierley causes continuous fun by his smart personation of the indefatigable Barry; and Miss Myfanny Newell is good as the Princess. Sophie finds an excellent exponent in Miss Addie Lennard; and Miss Anna Hickinson presents a pleasing and diverting Nan.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company occupies the boards with *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. W. Graham Arthur's acting reaches a high standard in the parts of Dick Kenyon in the prologue and Sir Montague Jephson in the drama. Joseph Verham is admirably sketched by Mr. John Riley; Mr. Harold Heath submits a vigorous Jack Stanley; Seth Pearse finds a convincing exponent in Mr. Fred Bentley; Miss Mabel Liston effectively enacts the rôle of Alva Kenyon; Rose Verham is delightfully drawn by Miss C. Middleton; Miss L. Turner is a characteristic Mary Ann Barnicoat; Nellie Kenyon is charmingly drawn by Miss Priscilla Barnard. The scenery and effects are commendable.

SHEERNESS. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Mr. H. A. Langlois and company opened on Monday before a large and delighted audience with *Jack the Giant Killer*. The pantomime is handsomely staged and dressed, and contains some good musical numbers. In the title-rôle Miss Marie Beresford is very winsome, singing and acting with easy grace; Miss Cynthia Lupino is a dashing Princess Blushrose, and her songs are loudly applauded; she is ably supported by Miss Tina Langlois as Jack's sister. Mr. George Grenville as the Widow and Mr. George Lupino as the Master keep the house in roars of laughter; Mr. H. A. Langlois is a capital Giant Blunderbore. In the Palace scene specialities are successfully introduced by Miss Grace Buckingham and her troupe of performing dogs; Miss Alice Vernon, a clever cornet soloist; the Sisters Florencie, international dancers; and Mr. George Lupino, pirouette dancer.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. J. Gar-Kiddie's company opened to a large audience on Monday in the bright and humorous pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*, written by Joseph Lomas Barry. Miss Mary Dene was a pretty and graceful Maid Marian, and Miss Marion Scott's Robin Hood delighted the house, and she was loudly applauded for her excellent rendition of the pleasing song "Somewhere"; the Babes were cleverly represented by Lilie and Millie; Mr. Oliver Conroy, a "Sheffield Blade," caused great mirth as Soft Sammy from Crookes; and other commendable impersonations were Mr. Alfred Rousby's Araminta, Mr. Brinsley Smith's Baron Kelly, Messrs. Conan and Doyle's comic robbers, Gentle Albert and Burgling William, Miss Nell Rene's Will Scarlett, Miss Emmie Mappin's Sylvania, Mr. C. Cardle's Lord Knowsall, and Mr. Edwin Webb's Infernalito. The ladies of the Hammersley ballet troupe were deservedly applauded, and the entire production reflected credit on all concerned.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Henfrey Aldred.—Mr. Hart's beautiful and funny annual, *Jack and Jill*, continues to give enjoyment to crowded houses. The charmingly vivacious Miss Josie Delaine is a favourite as Jill; Mr. Albert Le Fre keeps the audience in merriment as Walker, and Mr. Charles Norton acts cleverly as the comic opera King, and brings down the house nightly with his amusing and life-like imitations of popular music-hall pros. The exquisite transformation scene, The Realms of Fairy Gleam, with its lovely ballets of lilies and sunflowers, gives refined delight to lovers of artistic spectacle.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's *Dick Whittington* is doing excellent business. Miss Florrie Gallimore is a great favourite as Dick, and her songs are whistled and sung all over the town; Miss Edith Dottridge makes a delightful and melodious Fairy Queen, and Mr. Will Lorenzi causes great amusement as the lively seaman Captain Tarpaulin.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Reano's military band begun a return visit on Monday. Mr. Alf Gibson, the original "Put your head through the window, Fred," and Mr. Gus Garrick, the lively burlesque actor, both cause great diversion by different methods, and other popular performers this week are Clark and Hayden, Morrie Mine, Barnard's smartly worked mannikins, the Cumberlands, Goggan and Davis, Will H. Fox, the amusing pianist; the Bioscope pictures and the dashing serio-comic vocalist, Miss Lottie Lennox, with new songs.

THE HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Miss Edith St. Clair's well-staged and uproariously funny pantomime *Aladdin* is being played twice nightly. Miss Edith St. Clair looks a picture of charming feminine beauty in Aladdin's costly costumes, and acts, sings, and dances with her well-known grace and chic; Mr. Fred Russell proves an admirable comedian in the part of Abanazar; agile dancing is done by the ladies of the Canton Troupe; and the Primrose Quartet sing in a spirited manner "The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*.

ALBERT HALL.—Poole's great aggregation of pictoralia and vaudeville continues to attract large houses. The Geo. French troupe of cyclists, the Snow Family, skaters; Mr. Harry Bristow, Learto and Pom-Pom, the clever Lilliputian family, and other entertainers, are all cordially applauded.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baugh.—Mr. F. V. St. Clair, the vocalist and song composer tops the bill and delights his audiences by his clever versification; Rene is an expert girl juggler; Fox and Melville present some beautiful pictures on their own bioscope accompanied by appropriate melodies; J. D. Pedley is a jovial and up-to-date dancer and comedian; Roy Bevis, a talented conjurer; and Mr. J. B. Andrews sings effectively; and the Godfreys entertain with their quips and cranks and musical items; political and other moving pictures complete.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Pantomime is again the rule here, a visit being paid by Mr. Arthur Leighton's company in *The Babes in the Wood*. The principal boy is Miss Jennie Lynwood, who makes a handsome and dashing Robin Hood, making a great hit in "The girl in the clogs and shawl" and "Charlie Brown"; Miss Lilian Jeffries as the principal girl is a valuable acquisition; there is no dearth of comedians. Mr. J. W. Hooper as the Baron Hotstuff causes much laughter for his capital drollery, and his song "Must go home to-night" was heartily taken up by the audience; Mr. W. B. Frear is a lively and amusing Page, and introduces a very clever dance after his song "The catch of the season"; Messrs. Fyne and Hurley play a very prominent part as I. Killem and U. Eatem, their business being of the active, humorous order; the Babes are represented by the Misses Elsie Videau and Phyllis Hughes, a pair of pretty and talented children, and their song "Little girl from nowhere" is a distinct success; Mr. Alec Godfrey is one of the leading spirits in the merrymaking as the Schoolmistress; the Sisters Lillie and Violet English have been well chosen as the second principals; Miss Millie Gordon, the première danseuse, is well received in two pleasing items; and the Asturias Troupe of National Dancers are also an acceptable feature. Miss Madge Bell appears to advantage as Fairy Goodheart; Mr. Harold Godwin sustains the rôle of Herne the Hunter with every success; and the chorus reflects great credit on Mr. S. Clarke-Richardson. Scenery by A. R. Lingham includes Buttercup Village, Sherwood Forest, Brightson-on-Sea, the Garden of Roses, and the gorgeous palace of the Earl of Huntingdon. Mr. R. L. Cody is responsible for the book; the music by B. J. Paterson and S. Clark-Richardson, and the whole production by Rudolph Kloss, for Mr. Alexander Leighton. The ballet and dances have been arranged by Miss Ina Alston.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—This week Mr. Martin Harvey and company are appearing in a repértoire of plays. On Monday *The Only Way* was given before a large and fashionable audience, including the Mayor and Sheriff. Mr. Harvey who was accorded a magnificent reception, was seen at his best as Sidney Carton, and scored a triumphant success; Miss N. de Silva was truly sympathetic as Mimi, and others who lent efficient aid were Mr. Fred Wright, sen., an admirable Dr. Manette; Mr. Charles Glenney (Defarge), Mr. Percy Foster (Lorry), Mr. Leonard Craske (Darnay), and Mr. Philip Hewland (Stryver), and Miss Brenda Gibson (Lucie). Other plays billed for the week include: *The World and His Wife* and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Barton and Ashley are an entertaining comedy duo; Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas submit a most interesting series of scenes from Dickens's works; Ian Colquhoun is a capital vocalist; and Josephine Crooke excels as a singer of illustrated songs. Others appearing are: Rose D'Aulby, Kenneth and Kane, Willie Long, and Munroe's Comedy Team.

HIPPODROME.—Managers, Messrs. W. de Frece and Fredk. Mouillot. — Pantomime again reigns supreme, Mr. Edward Marriss's company giving capital performances of *Dick Whittington* twice nightly. Miss Rose Sylvester is a sprightly Dick, singing and acting to perfection; Miss Dolly Denton is a winsome Alice, scoring with her dainty songs; Mr. Chas. Danvers is excellent as Ald. Fitzwarren, and the fun waxes fast and furious while he is on the stage; Mr. Will Manite is an agile cat; and other fun-makers are Messrs. Billy Rex (Dame), George Brentwood (Idle Jack), J. R. Tyrrell (Captain Kettle), and Walter B. Nugent (Pott). Excellent dancing is introduced by the Misses Rosie, Lily, and Edie Manite and Connie Retta, and the performance from start to finish is a capital one.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome Proprietary; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The artists engaged here this week include Jan Rudenyi and company, the celebrated actor-violinist, in *The Power of Music*; the Hanlon Troupe of aerial gymnasts; Adele Moraw, international comedienne; Burt Shepard and a piano; Chas. D'Aix and his marvellous dog; Dancing Paceys; and Les Alex Carangeots, in their Parisian dancing pantomime, *La Fiancée du Dragon*.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*Our Miss Gibbs*, presented by Mr. George Dance's company, is accorded hearty receptions here by large audiences. The title-rôle has a charming and vivacious representative in Miss Kathleen Courtney, who merits unstinted praise; Miss Jennie Richards presents a capital impersonation of Mrs. Farquhar; Mme. Jeanne has an excellent exponent in Miss Nancy Mervyn; Miss Gladys Ivey is very good in the character of Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss Winifred Kinckby gives a typical representation of the Duchess of Minster; Mr. Tom Shelford is exceedingly humorous and clever as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Theodore Leonard gives a highly commendable portrayal of Timothy Gibbs; as the Earl of St. Ives Mr. Ernest Darrell is distinctly successful; Mr. J. E. Stevenson does full justice to the rôle of Slithers; Lord Eynsford is capitally depicted by Mr. Craufurd Kent; and other good character-sketches are supplied by Mr. R. M. Strachan (Mr. Toplady) and Mr. Henry de Solla as Mr. Beavis.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime *Cinderella* is playing to good houses. The production is bright, up-to-date, and full of "go." Miss Molly Doon plays Cinderella gracefully, and delights all with her singing of "Somewhere" and "Molly O'Morgan." Miss Vera Mayne is a dashing Prince Brilliant, and much humour is created by Leo Fields as Buttons, the Baron's page. Specialities are introduced by the Sisters Varley, the Musical Keiths, Crosby and Walker, and the Carlsons, gymnasts. The scenery and effects are excellent.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier position on the bill is occupied by Mr. J. L. Shine and Co. in *Hogmanay*, which is performed in a delightful manner, and well applauded; Keen and Waller

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Last Sunday at the Cinema Theatres.

A REPRESENTATIVE of *The Era* made a round of visits of the West-End cinematograph theatres last Sunday afternoon and evening, and found them, without exception, doing wonderful business. In each case the managers informed the writer that they were using "non-flam" films, and were of opinion that the L.C.C. was powerless to take any action whatever against them. From the writer's own observation there can be no doubt but that these theatres fill a long-felt want in the Metropolis, especially in catering for the foreign residents in our midst. It would be no exaggeration to say that the audiences were made up of quite 60 per cent. of French, Germans, Italians, and Americans. Several of these people, spoken to on the subject, confessed that before the Sunday cinematograph existed they had nowhere but their clubs or the public houses to go to, and that it would entail a great hardship on thousands if such entertainments were closed. The class of picture shown seemed to be mainly historical and travel. No Biblical subject was dealt with, and in only one instance did our representative meet with a comic film.

Cinematograph Deputation to Home Secretary.

A DEPUTATION, headed by Mr. F. Mouillot (Electric Theatres, Ltd.), Mr. G. Washington Grant (president of the Cinematograph Defence League), Mr. F. R. Griffiths, and Mr. J. J. Newbold, waited on the Home Secretary last Monday to suggest various amendments of the Cinematograph Act. In the absence of Mr. Gladstone, the deputation were received by Mr. W. P. Byrne, Assistant Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, who, after listening to and discussing the representations made to him, promised that the suggestions made should be fully considered and that a definite answer would be made at a later date. In the course of the afternoon a meeting of a number of British, American, and foreign cinematograph manufacturers was held at the Holborn Restaurant, when it was decided to give financial support to the Cinematograph Defence League.

New Warwick Pictures.

SOME excellent films have just been issued from the Warwick headquarters. They are respectively Mugchump's Excursion, The Witch of the Glen, and Jenkins Joins the Police Force. The stories will be found extremely interesting.

MUGCHUMP'S EXCURSION.—Mr. Mugchump determines to have a day's excursion. He purchases his train ticket the night before, and at 6.30 he makes an early start. On the way to the station he meets with many exciting adventures and impediments. The roads are up, and excavators at work impede his progress. He leaves the cab and has to scramble across heaps of rubbish, and after being dragged and bumped about until his original smart appearance is considerably spoiled, he reaches the station platform. He is congratulating himself upon arriving in time for his train when he begins a frantic search for his ticket, which, to his horror, he cannot find, having left it behind in his flat. Leaving his portmanteau on the platform he makes a dash for the booking-office for another ticket, a watchful thief at the same time making off with his luggage. The train comes in and leaves the station just as Mugchump dashes on the platform, and after his strenuous exertions he misses the train. His mad search for his luggage, upsetting all and sundry, finally lands him into the arms of the station police.

THE WITCH OF THE GLEN.—The scene opens in the midst of a beautiful forest. The villagers are congregated at a festival to their patron saint. Francis, a village fop, is the centre of attraction to the girls. Two of the village maidens plot to secure his love, and consult the witch of the glen, who sells them a magic philtre. The potion is mixed with liquor and given to Francis, who detects a peculiar taste and shares it with two companions. The result is rather alarming, as the whole three fall immediately in love with the two girls. They fly to the witch's cave followed by their lovers. The witch hides the girls in a wardrobe, and when the men arrive she proceeds in a mysterious and impressive way to awe the men by her incantations. The men are so frightened that they fly out of the witch's haunt. The girls leave their hiding place and proceed to the forest, where they meet the three love-sick villagers. Francis is decoyed away, and his two companions and the two girls go away together and are united in marriage. Francis, under the impression that he is meeting one of the girls, actually meets the witch, who is dressed up for the occasion, and makes love to her. He discovers the trick played upon him, but is too late to stop the marriages and finds himself left in the church with only his wounded vanity for consolation.

JENKINS JOINS THE POLICE FORCE.—Jenkins, a kind of nondescript individual, is desirous of finding employment, and visits a registry office. His antics set the people in roars of laughter, and he receives his slip from the clerk and proceeds to sample his first situation, which is in the office of a merchant. Here he soon gets into disgrace, and is quickly bundled out. Undeterred by his failure, he next applies to a pastry-cook, where he is engaged. With his usual ill-fortune he comes to grief once more. He cannot think of any better way of clearing the shelves than by climbing up them, with the result that the whole of the fittings and contents come tumbling about his ears. The proprietor falls upon the unfortunate Jenkins, soundly trounces him, and once more he is turned out into the street. He tries other modes of employment, until, fired with admiration of policemen on their beat, he determines to become a policeman. He applies, and is finally accepted into the force. Here he appears to have at last gained his proper position, and is apparently successful, if we may judge by the number of persons he arrests. He determines to have revenge upon all those who have treated him so badly in the past, and proceeds on one pretext or the other to arrest them. He is commended by his superior officer for his smartness, but in the midst of his felicitation explanations are given by his victims, with the result that the prisoners are released and poor Jenkins is locked up in a cell by himself.

Markt's New List.

THE list of subjects just released by Messrs. Markt and Co. is a formidable one, including as it does Up San Juan Hill, The Fisherman's Bride, Through the Breakers, Redman's View, Take Mother's Advice, He Wanted a Baby, If Love Be True, The Smuggler's Game, The Highlander's Defiance, Buried Alive, and A Daughter of the Sioux.

HE WANTED A BABY.—Henry Hardman was passionately fond of children, and it was the one blot upon his happiness that no babies had come to bless his own charming home. On the street Mrs. Hardman could scarcely drag him away from the babies out for an airing, and he even sought to abduct an unusually pretty child, and was pursued by a mob of excited nursemaids, who compelled him to return the child, while some husky men evinced an entire willingness to lynch him. He advertises for an infant for adoption, all unconscious of the surprise in store for him, for, while his office is crowded with mothers eager to have their infants adopted, word comes over the telephone that Hardman is very much wanted at home. Discretion is the better part of valour, and Hardman gets out of the window in preference to explaining things to the excited women. He rids himself of their pursuit by exchanging clothing with a man whom he bribes, and continues his way home, picking up a baby carriage as he goes, but he finds that he was too conservative—that more are wanted, and his delight is in proportion to the generosity of the stork. It is a lively little story, with a climax picture that will make a hit with any sort of an audience.

IF LOVE BE TRUE.—If love be true, love will find a way. Neville Sterling by chance encounters Martha Bartlett as she is leaving the box factory where she finds employment. He is deeply impressed by her beauty, and seeks to make her acquaintance, but Martha fears that no good can come from the friendship of a man of wealth for a poor working girl, and, though he protests the honesty of his intentions, she gently repulses him. But Sterling is very much in earnest. He procures suitable clothing, and, disguised with a beard, he seeks, and obtains, a place in the same factory in which she is employed. Their friendship soon quickens into a deeper passion, and all is going well when a fire breaks out, and Neville rescues Martha, who is overcome by smoke while trying to save her chum, who has fainted through fright. He is badly cut, and, worse still, his disguise is penetrated, but Martha realises at last the depth of true love he has to offer, and her hand and heart are the reward of his bravery. The story is tersely and thrillingly told, the factory scenes having been taken in an actual box-making establishment.

THROUGH THE BREAKERS.—The earth sustained no two happier beings than Mr. and Mrs. Nostrand when God's greatest gift, their first-born, was bestowed. They give the child over to the care of the governess, until eight years later we find the father's time entirely taken up at his club, while the mother devotes hers to her whist-parties. Alone, neglected, and forlorn, the child, crushed in spirit, becomes seriously ill. The father is now alarmed in the child's behalf, and insists that the mother stay at home and care for it. He reasons that that is what the little one most needs. He is the first to reproach himself for negligence, and tries to point this out to his wife, but she is not as perceptive, and attends the child in rather a half-hearted manner. She does not consider her child is as ill as they would make her believe, and chafes under the forced and, in her opinion, unreasonable demands. Nervous, tired, and longing for diversion, she defiantly attends a fancy dress soiree. During her absence the child becomes worse, and the doctor tells the husband the end has come. Dispatching a servant for the mother, the doctor endeavours to keep life in the little form until she comes, but in vain. The tie broken, the husband leaves, and she now realises how false and hollow is the world in which she has been living. She sees nothing beyond but expiation. But how can she expiate this sin of neglect? Her child dead, her husband gone, life is mantled by gloom. At the grave of the child we see the poor woman, with bruised heart, breathe forth prayers of contrition, when the husband, drawn by the same impulse, approaches. Softened by the same grief, they are reunited.

Barker's New System.

AT the Empire, a new development of the Bioscope was presented last week in Barker's new system of photography, which makes animated pictures thrown on the screen as steady as ordinary photographs. Among the new photographs is a beautiful coloured picture showing the process of hat-making in the Sunda Islands.

Hale's Tours.

"HALE'S TOURS OF THE WORLD," comprising exhibitions in Oxford-street (London), Poland-street (London), Estcourt-road (London), Birmingham, Bristol, Newport, Manchester, Blackpool, and New Brighton are in the market, and Wheatley Kirk, Price and Co., auctioneers, of 46, Watling-street, E.C., are inviting tenders, subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, for the purchase of the properties in question. The purchase is to be completed on or before Feb. 18, 1910, at the office of Messrs. Lawrence Graham and Co., at No. 6, New-square, Lincoln's Inn, London. The present phenomenal success of cinematographic theatres throughout the United Kingdom is a certain indication of the favourable results which should attend, under good and energetic management, the wonderfully realistic exhibition of "Hale's Tours." The illusion of travelling whilst comfortably seated in an express train and viewing the scenery of the world is a delight not easily forgotten. Compared with other exhibitions, the cost of running a Hale's tours car singly or in pairs is so small that, given a suitable locality, large profits should result.

Election by Vivaphone.

THE vivaphone, a marvellous instrument manufactured by the Hepworth Manufacturing Co., of Cecil-court, London, W.C., is being widely used to make known the speeches of various notable speakers on the Tariff Reform side. The vivaphone, which is a combination of the gramophone and cinematograph, produces results that are strangely life-like, the synchronisation being nearly perfect.

Pictures, Tea, and Variety Turns.

THE old Gatti's Music Hall in Westminster Bridge-road has introduced an entertainment which begins at two o'clock in the afternoon. There is a break at five—but the audience need not go; they can have tea and chat. The entertainment is resumed at six, and closes at eleven. The programme is: Two pictures, a variety turn, two more pictures, another variety turn, and so on. The variety turns include vocalists, comedians, duettists, and dancers. The prices of admission are 2d., 4d., and 6d.; the latter seat entitles the holder to tea. Tea is served by neat waitresses, who bring round a small tray, on which are a pot of tea, a plate of bread-and-butter, and a plate of cake. Smoking, of course, is allowed, and there is a bar at the back of the auditorium, for the place is fully licensed. The management make no secret of their readiness to take hints from their clients. At the close of the entertainment they flash their appeal on the screen: "If you are pleased, tell your friends; if you aren't, tell us."

Pictures that Influence Votes.

MR. RALPH HALL CAINE, an ardent young Liberal and son of the famous novelist, has organised a special series of election films. These are real pictures of actual events to real people. The foreign pictures of everyday life in Protectionist countries make a grim contrast to those taken here in England. Not the least interesting is one showing a Paris horse-meat shop, and poor Parisian wives making their purchases, and workman husbands eating horse steaks. An old age pensioner drawing his pension at Hendon, and an English butcher's shop are contrasted to the three horses' heads, which is the trade sign among the horseflesh butchers in France.

Old Age Pensions Treat.

To celebrate the first anniversary of the Pension Act, Mr. Harry B. Parkinson, the young and popular manager of the Picturedrome, Llanelly, is, on Tuesday afternoon next, inviting all the 450 of the town's pensioners to a free treat in the Picturedrome. The two candidates at the election, Lord Tiverton and Mr. L. Williams, will be present to welcome and receive the old people as they enter the hall. Many local gentlemen have entrusted their motor-cars to Mr. Parkinson to run to and from the Picturedrome any of the old people who may consider it too far for them to walk. The audience will be one of unusual interest, as every person present will be over seventy years of age. Although a stranger to the town some three months ago, Mr. Parkinson, with energetic zeal, is now an established favourite. The Picturedrome is Llanelly's home of amusement and is crowded nightly.

EVERY person entering the Picturedrome next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday will receive a card, whereby he or she is asked to forecast the result of the local election, which takes place on the Wednesday. The person who names the winning candidate, together with the number of votes gained in majority, will receive a three months' free pass, enabling him or her to visit the Picturedrome as often as desired. Over 10,000 of these cards have been circulated about the town, and great interest is being taken in the competition.

Grand Trunk Pictures.

SOME special Canadian pictures were recently taken by Messrs. Butcher and Sons in Canada, in connection with the Grand Trunk Railway. Yesterday, at a "Cinemat at Home," held at the Caxton Hall, Caxton-street, Victoria, S.W., a series of striking moving pictures was shown to a very interested gathering. In rapid succession the Lachine Rapids, Montreal, Silver Mining in Cobalt, and A Fishing Trip in Northern Ontario were shown. Then we were shown the Building of A Transcontinental Railway, Scenes Along the Grand Trunk Pacific, and a Boys' Holiday Camp on Lake Temagami. A Trip Along the "Lake of Bays," and A Glimpse of Apple Picking and Harvesting in Western Canada, followed by A Canoe Race by Indian Guides completed a very fine series. Mr. Frank E. Butcher personally superintended the taking of this remarkably interesting series of moving pictures, we are informed.

Rector and Sunday Pictures.

THE Rector of Bath has stated that he has "not the smallest wish to act as a kill-joy, or to thwart the pleasures of the people. Reasonable relaxation I hold to be excellent, and I would do all in my power to promote it. But I, and those with me, are unanimous in holding that public authority ought to be withheld from Sunday entertainments for profit."

Donation for Poor Box.

Croydon Police-court poor-box on Thursday received £2 2s. from the Electric Theatre, North End, as a further donation.

Cinematograph Duels.

UNDER the name of "Cinematograph Targets, Ltd.," a company has been formed in London to supply the public at popular prices with shooting practice extraordinary, and provide "duels" between the marksman and his targets. At one of the new ranges, by merely pressing a button, any amateur can immediately conjure up life-size soldiers, who will shoot at him from behind natural "cover." Having taken their shots, these realistic targets promptly attempt to retire, and it is the marksman's part to hit them before they get out of range. In most cases the marksman must fire before the smoke has cleared from the target's barrel, a hit being automatically recorded by an indicator. A director of the company explained that the "soldier" was first photographed in appriate scenery and his actions afterwards thrown on a canvas screen in the ordinary way of a cinematograph machine placed over the marksman's head. Then behind the figure in the picture an iron plate is fixed which is electrically connected with the indicator. The first target will be set up in a fortnight's time, and the targets generally installed about London in about three months.

New Companies.

ELECTRIC PICTURE PALACES (MIDLANDS).—Jan. 6, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £50,000, in 188,000 preferred ordinary shares of 5s. each and 60,000 deferred shares of 1s. each. To carry on the business of caterers for public entertainments, producers of cinematographic and bioscopic displays and animated pictures, &c. The signatories are: T. E. Samuels, 25, Bramston-road, Harlesden; J. Crouch, 103, Lenthall-road, Dalston, N.; F. W. Stanford, Woodcroft, Corbylands-road, Halfway-street, New Sidcup; G. C. Hayward, 11, Stonefield-street, Islington, N.; G. T. Green, 69, Usk-road, Battersea; A. T. Freeman, 119, Hemingford-road, Barnsbury, N.; W. T. Wyper, 33, Horsell-road, Drayton Park, N. (one share each). Minimum subscription, 10 per cent. of shares offered. First directors (not less than two nor more than five): R. E. Wensley, H. F. Lewis, and W. H. Ray. 500 deferred shares. £100 each per annum. County Chambers "A," Martineau-street, Birmingham.

MIDLAND PALACES SYNDICATE.—Jan. 6, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £1,000 (£1). Caterers for public entertainments and exhibitions, theatre proprietors and managers, &c. Private. 9, Mincing-lane, E.C.

GOVAN CROSS PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Registered Dec. 15, in Edinburgh. Capital, £2,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To carry on at Govan the business of entertainment and amusement proprietors and managers, restaurant keepers, wine and spirit merchants, and tobacco dealers. Private company.

WOOD GREEN MARKET AND CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE CO., LTD.—Registered Nov. 19. Capital, £3,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To acquire premises at Lordship-lane, Wood Green, N., heretofore known as Ashford's Saw Mills; to provide and maintain a market and hall; to carry on the business of cinematograph theatre proprietors, &c. Private company.

NEW FILM HIRING CO., LTD.—Particulars of £500 debentures, created Nov. 3, 1909, filed pursuant to section 93 (3) of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, the whole amount being now issued. Property charged—The company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No trustees.

RUFFELL'S IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, LTD.—Satisfaction in full on Dec. 6, 1909, of debentures, dated May 7, 1909, securing £960.

GOSPORT Theatre Co., Ltd., with a nominal capital of £2,500, has been registered the past week, a syndicate having acquired a recently disused Wesleyan Chapel in the High-street, are about to convert primarily for cinematograph show, and ultimately as a theatre of varieties. Gosport, a town of 30,000 inhabitants, hitherto has possessed no place of entertainment of its own, relying upon its neighbour Portsmouth to supply this need, other than travelling circuses and occasionally a touring dramatic company.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

THE Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., has presented the following films this week: Dove Eyes' Gratitude, How Dutch Cheeses are Made, The Cold Water Massage and the Friction Cure, Anne, Duchess of Masovia, Calino's Fire Extinguisher, Scenes in Durban, and The Jealous Doll.

Ealing Electric Theatre.

ENCOURAGED by the prosperity of cinematographic entertainments in the district, another bidder for popular favour opened its doors on Thursday, Jan. 6, and this time, not only in the centre of the Broadway, but under the very roof of the Hippodrome itself. The management of this new departure evidently aims at attracting what may be called the "upper ten," for the prices of admission are an advance upon those of other houses in the district, but in the elegant appointments of the lounges adjacent to the auditorium, tea-rooms and many other aids to enjoyment, ample justification is found for the extra charge.

West Ealing Cinematograph Theatre.

THE promise of success given by this house upon its opening in September has been more than realised, for up to date the admissions total upwards of 80,000, the record for a week being reached at Christmas, when 10,000 passed the pay-box.

Walham Green Picture Palace.

ONE of the most palatial cinematograph palaces in London has just been opened at Walham Green, just opposite the Granville. Under the management of Mr. Lionel Grant, patrons are given an exceptionally fine show of pictures. There are three sessions daily, and in the afternoon visitors are provided with a complimentary tea.

Bristol Gets Its Licence.

AT the weekly meeting of the Sanitary Committee, at the Council House, Bristol, Mr. O. Smith made an application for a cinematograph licence for a building, formerly Counterslip Chapel, in Philip-street. The surveyor (Mr. Yabbicom) reported favourably of the building, and said the means of egress were ample. The chairman said that committee could grant one certificate as to the premises; and there would be a further certificate required as to the apparatus. Mr. Boyd asked if they had had any accidents in Bristol through cinematograph appliances. The chairman replied in the negative, but there had been very serious accidents elsewhere; there were one or two narrow escapes. The application was granted.

Hemel Hempstead Electric Theatre.

THE Entertainment Properties, Ltd., having purchased the old Salvation Army barracks in Albion Hill outright, at once set to work to refit, reseat, and redecorate it. Having accomplished this, they engaged Mr. Manville Morton to put the finishing touches to it, and boom it, and it is now one of the finest halls of its kind. Mr. Morton, it will be remembered, opened the first of Mr. Leon Vint's palaces at Neath last Easter with the greatest success. There is one continuous performance nightly, from 6.30 until 10.30. The proprietors, being the owners of the New Film Hiring Co., Ltd., are showing some of the finest films obtainable, and are giving occasional "non-flam." programmes.

Prohibited at Reading.

AT the Reading Town Council meeting held last week, the Town Clerk submitted a report to the Watch Committee with reference to the Cinematograph Act, 1909, which came into force on Jan. 1. The Head Constable, the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, and the Borough Surveyor submitted a joint report upon the places in Reading in respect of which licences had been applied for, namely:—The Palace Theatre, the Vaudeville Electric Theatre, Broad-street, the King's Hall, King's-road, the Foresters' Hall, West-street, the Large and Small Town Halls, the Royal County Theatre, Friar-street. They said:—"We are unable to recommend to the committee that a licence be granted for the Royal County Theatre, as the premises are not in conformity with the regulations made by the Secretary of State." It was agreed that licences for the other premises be granted. Mr. Bull proposed a resolution that the licences for cinematograph entertainments should be subject to the condition that the premises should not be opened on Sundays This was agreed to by 23 to 1.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—Following the necessary alterations to meet the requirements of the new Act, this hall was closed during the first three nights of the week for re decorating purposes. On Thursday a capital programme opened with a series of good pictures, the chief one being The Army and Navy Boxing Championship. The others are: The Last Days of Pompeii, Industries and Sports in Burma, The Brigadier's Strife, Pensions for Working People, &c. The performance is highly appreciated.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. Connors.—At this popular hall there is a good programme provided for the patrons, and good audiences are the order. The chief film is The White Slave, which is followed with great interest and appreciation, whilst other pictures are The Restoration, A Christmas Miracle, The Mill, &c. Miss Winnie Winn sings delightfully.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The cinematograph pictures for the current week are Hunting in Arctic Regions, Sport Amidst Snow and Ice presents apparently few charms to the sportsman, but there is one feature of this series of pictures, they are wonderfully well taken. The pictures were photographed by Messrs. Warwick's special artist. White and Black is a comic film, with grotesque incidents connected therewith. Dimitri Douskoj is the name of a Russian woodcutter. He figures very prominently in a great Russian drama. It is one of Pathé's pictures. Tommy Lad is a startling picture of military life, full of dramatic and romantic incidents. Foolshead Steals a Carpet. This comic individual has been seen in varied guises, but always as an eccentric. A Midnight Adventure is an American romantic story, which ended in a farce. The Two Orphan Girls is a story of the reign of Louis the Fifteenth of France. Saved by a Sock shows a steeple-jack in a perilous position hanging on a ledge of a high chimney, the support to his feet having collapsed, and his saving by means of the sock which he unravels to bring up a rope. Before and After is also very good. For change this week we have The Lovelaces as American song illustrators, and Ted Lowen as the singer of old melodies of a quaint character.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Mr. Marks has arranged a go-as-you-please competition for children every Saturday afternoon which is very popular. The winners are awarded useful prizes. The week's "bill" of pictures begins with a thrilling story of mining life, called Temptation of the Goldfields. It is a narrative of villainy and punishment. The Duchess of Masova is one of those elaborated foreign pictures of romance and mystery. For humour we have Scratch Me, The Widow, Sixteen Children, and The Ideal Servant, all laughter-provoking. The Old Man's Pension Day is a story to interest all. It brings the Boy Scouts to the rescue of an old soldier of the pension list who is being abused by two desperadoes. For specialities Mr. Marks introduces a couple of local youths who give a clog dance—Masters Sidebottom and Bentley.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The programme at the Picturedrome opens with a French drama, The Two Orphans, the English version of which was a very popular stage piece some years ago. Those who are familiar with Henriette and Louise, the two sisters, the latter blind and helpless, the former gay and beautiful of face and figure, who becomes the mistress of a young scion of the French nobility. Louise's fate is sad and pathetic. She is exploited by a wicked old French woman, La Frochard, who causes her to beg in the streets. The Motor Cyclist is a very humorous film, and we see in the vagaries of the cyclist some most laughable exploits and spills. We have another amusing adventure of the eccentric individual, Mr. Foolshead, who pays visits, in this instance with alarming, and at the same time diverting, experiences. The funniest and most bewildering and whimsical set of circumstances are produced by what is called Unending Discussions. A good Christmas fairy story is told in The Tale of My Life, concluding with the Stable at Bethlehem and the Adoration of the Son of God. The False Oath is a startling melodrama. A coloured picture is shown of Belgian Cavalry in feats of horsemanship. Alf Warner appears successfully as a light comedian, and his violin-solo and Jap-violin solo were loudly praised. Barney Murphy has a grotesque "make-up," and gives an eccentric dance and a good impersonation of Mark Sheridan.

BELFAST.—NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures has been presented here, including The Jockey, The Garibaldian, The Drunkard's Reformation, &c. The variety element is sustained by Chorley and Connor, comedians and dancers, who are successful, and Mr. Dan Derry, a really good ventriloquist.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett some interesting films have been presented here, including The Red Domino, Betty's Choice, Under the Mistletoe Bough, &c. Mr. Tom McCullough, who is possessed of a sweet tenor, sings some songs with much expression.

BIRMINGHAM.—KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The management are pursuing a wise course in continuing their pictorial pantomimes and harlequinade. This week a beautiful subject, entitled Blue Beard, is the leading feature, and it is immensely popular. Other good films are on the programme, including A Doctor's Sacrifice, The Minister's Daughter, The Boy Scouts, Fun with a Tiger, &c. The Wys Troupe, Charles Selbin, and the Levines contribute pleasing variety entertainment.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A splendid pantomime picture, entitled Ali Baba, or the Forty Thieves, is attracting good houses to this popular hall. There is also a powerful dramatic film, A Life for a Life, and several new comic subjects. Vaudeville turns of an attractive nature are supplied by Dandara, coon delineator; Baby Banbury, comedienne and dancer; and the Three Veros, vocalists and dancers.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford.—A very attractive series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Indian Trailer is a fine, dramatic film, replete with exciting scenes and incidents; and dramatic stories are conveyed by The American Marriage, The Lifebuoy, and The Seventh Day; while much amusement is afforded by Mr. Pokenose, Pig Chase by Aeroplane, The Lost Handbag, and Why Brown Left Home. Mr. Osland Dehner, baritone vocalist, wins hearty applause, and the pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures and songs are admirably given by Mr. Arthur W. Briggs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert Kent.—Prominent among the films exhibited here this week is *Macbeth*, which admirably depicts stirring and exciting incidents. Other pictures included in the programme are The Man in the Moon, The Robbers' Ruse, Married in Haste, The Violin-maker of Cremona, Two Macs Go Fishing, The Forgotten Watch, and Nick Carter in the Double. Hector MacNeil contributed Scottish songs, and sang them very well too.

DARWEN.—ALBERT HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—A fine set of films is shown, including Sexton Blake, a Modern Highwayman, Wild Birds in their Haunts, Hercules in the Regiment, and Country Cousins. Interspersed are Whitty and Wyse, versatile comedians; Harper, ventriloquist; and Wm. Threlfall, vocalist.

DEWSBURY.—INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—The pictures shown here this week are a very interesting series, included in the programme are some fine dramatic films, the most interesting being For His Sake; Cupid's Loaf; and The Patriot's Daughter. Some very amusing firms are also shown, Ceremonious (one of the Foolshead series), Aunt Lena's Visit, and The Biter Bit being very popular. All the pictures are exceedingly clear and steady. Everything has been done here in compliance with the new Act, and no stoppage whatever has taken place through its intervention.

DUBLIN.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Entertainment Halls, Ltd.—The change of films here this week includes the following:—The Hague v. Langford Fight, Amateur William Tell, Adventures of a Sandwichman, Two Little Runaways, Suffer Little Children, Butcher Boy and Penny Dreadful, and Jewel Thieves. Good houses are the rule.

VOLTA.—A new and interesting series of pictures are shown here this week. A sensational dramatic film entitled Bianca Cappello, a noble Venetian lady, being well received. Another good picture is The Dressmaker's Romance. The others include How Soap is Made and The Handkerchief Race, a very amusing sketch.

ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Co. continue to give great pleasure to its patrons by providing the latest and most novel films. The pictures are:—Sports in India, Vineyards of Portugal, a dramatic picture of Dimetri Douskei. Mr. Francis Rayne in musical comedy, and Miss Bella Colley, vocalist, have been engaged.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Man. Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Man., Mr. Tom Lunn.—The fame of the Palace Pictures has spread far, with the result that at all performances this cosy house is well filled with audiences who are loud in their praise of the excellent fare provided by Mr. Lunn for their delectation. This week's display includes Spartacus, the Last of the Gladiators, a remarkable reproduction of an episode of ancient Rome. A Wedding Amongst the Rag and Bone Merchants is a perfect rib-tickler. The party set out in hand-carts drawn by two of the guests, and various accidents are met with on the road. The inuptial knot is securely tied, and toasts are heartily drunk at table—too freely, however, for the wedding ends in a prison cell. Many other excellent films are shown, and the singing picture still proves an attractive item.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Austin.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, the most popular films being An Episode of Napoleon's War with Spain, Wouldn't it Tire You? A Story of Circus Life, and the talking and singing picture, Come Along Up in the Flip-Flap.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—There is no diminution in the patronage of this popular West End haunt, where the programmes are always of the best and most up-to-date order.

JUST OUT.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909,

which came into force January 1, 1910.

Also the

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS

made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation January 1, 1910,

with an APPENDIX concerning

LIMELIGHT

and

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

EXPLANATIONS OF THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act,
The Regulations,
The Explanations,

Sent post free four stamps.

Published at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.

EDINBURGH.—Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—In Old Kentucky is one of the principal pictures at this house. The films give a capital idea of life on a Southern plantation, and the numerous incidents which are displayed are remarkable alike for the effective representation of scenery and action. The Adventuress, a tale of French life depicted by leading actors and actresses, is a strongly dramatic subject, and Carmen gives a vivid idea of Bizet's popular operatic story. Foolshead Ceremonious is a droll picture—one of many amusing films. Master George Hendry, vocalist and dancer, contributes a clever act.

Pringle's Picture Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmonds.—A complete change of programme at this house brings forward a number of admirable films. Briton and Boer, The Wheels of Justice, and Redwing's Gratitude are three splendid pictures, in which dramatic episodes are shown with life-like fidelity. Humour is not absent, and several clever films give the audience an opportunity of seeing the funny side of things. Newman and Brown, musical sketch artists, and Donaldson and Emslie, Scotch character comedians, are clever and versatile performers, whose efforts add greatly to the pleasure of the evening.

GATESHEAD.—Queen's Theatre —Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—Two pictures of much merit, Nursing a Viper and The Stampede, are being shown here this week, and in addition we have Tom Hornsby, the slinging slinger.

Ravensworth Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. Allan and McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. S. Newton.—The chief items on the list here are The Hostage and Bride Won by Bravery. Joe Burgess, an amusing comedian, is also an attraction.

GLASGOW. — Gaiety, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A good evening may be spent at the Gaiety, where an interesting series of films is presented. Good turns are provided by Alf Tilly and Lena Cody.

GLOUCESTER.—King's Hall.—Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—Animated pictures, Biodrama, Cinephone, and illustrated songs form a popular entertainment.

Theatre de Luxe.—Animated pictures run here continuously from 2 to 10 p.m.

GUERNSEY. — Rectory Hall. — Lessee, Mr. Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. A. Deighton.—On Monday Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures opened with Carmen, a splendid film depicting the story of a gipsy girl and her lover. A really beautiful picture is A Pompeian Martyr, appealing to the sympathetic. Father's Baby Boy, Jones Was Never Late, and The Sweep's Bath provoked roars of laughter; Redeemed and Leather Stocking, too, were much appreciated.

HANLEY.—King's.—Lessees, Messrs. Moore and Kennedy; Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—Cinderella is a pretty pantomime picture; Little Flower Seller is very pathetic; The Web of Fate The Mad Miner, For the Motherland, The Detective's Bag and The Enchantment Ring are good. The place is packed at each house. Maud Ethelda, the dainty singer, is clever.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxted.—Ruffell's Imperia Bioscope pictures continue to provide the sole attraction here and are very popular. War in the Air, Fishing under Ice, and British Army Manœuvres are subjects which are followed with considerable interest, and The Johnson-Burns Fight is also very interesting. 1776 is intensely dramatic, and a splendid picture, The Park of Caserta (Italy) is a pretty scenic effect, and the many comic films are thoroughly enjoyed.

HASTINGS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. H. B. Boyd; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing. — The bioscope pictures shown here are remarkably clear and effective. Some pleasing songs are sung by Gracie Floyde. Local talent is represented by Gus Eric, a Hastings comedian. An amusing turn is also given by Snowden and Alex.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—The Town Hall Picture Palace.—Mr. Fred Wood provided another good programme. The animated pictures included grand films entitled Sexton Blake and Shelly's Heart, with a host of humorous subjects. The variety turn was Harry Harvey.

JARROW.—The Gem Picture Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. John Weddle and Co.; Manager, Mr Arthur Clarance.—This hall has a change of pictures, which includes The Martyrdom of Adolf Beck, Trip through the Pyrenees, A Fatal Wedding, Foolshead's Christmas, A Western Cowboy's Story, and Mr. Leolin, in a juggling scene, A Carnival of Clubs.

KETTERING.—Vint's Electric Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr Arthur Brogden.—The popularity of this house increases weekly, and the twice-a-night system has become a recognised thing. Amongst the principal pictures shown are: The Russian Girl's Heroism; Wanted, a Child; Lines of white on a Sullen Sea; and For Her Sake. The Brady and Johnson Team and C. Hefron (comedian) are great favourites.

LEAMINGTON.—Electric Theatre.—Lessees Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The chief pictures are The Beggar's Gratitude, Before and After, and The Gas Inspector; whilst the others, which are highly interesting and amusing, include Ma Learns to Ride, The Hotel Dog, Private Muggins, V.C., The Subterfuge, and Love and Duty. The variety part of the programme is exceedingly good, and the artists, Miss Mina Langton and Mr. Horace Bernard, are to be congratulated.

LEICESTER.—Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. R. Craig.—A Strange Meeting and The Gambler's Repentance are this week's two leading films, which are backed up by the following excellent and interesting pictures: The Production of Coffee, A Sea Drama, The Obdurate Father, Peter's Patent Painter, A Lesson in Charity, Juggling Made Easy, and Scratch-as-Scratch-Can. Lottie Lonsdale, comedienne, owing to the great success she achieved last week, has been retained over another week, and is again making a big hit.

West's Picture Palace.—This new and continuous animated photography place of entertainment continues to put forth very good and well-shown films. The principal ones this week include: East Lynne, The Suicide's Club, Goggan Breaks all Records, Led Astray, The Spy, Aerial Feats, and An Unwelcome Lover.

LLANELLY.—Picturedrome.—Who will win the election? Every person entering the Picturedrome next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday will receive a card whereby he or she is asked to forecast the above. The person naming the winning candidate together with the number of votes gained in majority, will receive a free pass from the management, enabling him or her to visit the Picturedrome as often as desired during the course of the next three months. Mr. Parkinson, the popular manager of the Picturedrome, on the night of the poll proposes to show his cinematograph pictures on a screen outside the Athenæum Hall, and the result of the poll will also be made known on the screen on Wednesday night. At the close of the second performance next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at the Picturedrome the leading and most interesting election results will be thrown upon the screen. The open solo competition at the Picturedrome last week was a huge success. Mr. Harry Davies, baritone, Llanelly, was the winner. Mr. David Harry, Llwynhendy, came a good second, whilst Miss Howells, Llwynhendy, took third.

MEXBOROUGH.—New Picture Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—The programme this week includes: The Terrible Brazilian, Aerial Elopement, The Jilt, Sculptor's Statue, Blind Detective, One Touch of Nature, &c.

NEATH.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—A fine film this week is The Flower Girl's Christmas. A Woman's Repentance unfolds a sad story of rural courtship. A stirring story of Indian life is Red Wing's Gratitude. Some most amusing subjects are The Gibson Goddess, Theatre Pass, Bleary, Oh! The Village Aviator, Mr. Poor Luck, Bobby Wide Awake and Noel. The varieties comprise McAskell, comedy conjuror, who is an excellent addition; Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers, got a very favourable reception.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—The pictures here continue to win the favour and attendance of the public, and an excellent bill of fare is again introduced this week, the principal items being The Two Orphans, From Cabin-boy to King, Found in a Taxi-cab, &c. Messrs. Chester and Lee's marionettes are appearing, and their clever entertainment is greatly relished.

Howard Hall.—Good houses witness a splendid variety of films, which include The Pillagers, The Hunchbacked Fiddler, &c.

Gaiety Theatre.—Another good programme is again provided here, the most prominent pictures being The Open Gate, Tempered with Mercy, Circus Life, &c.

OLDHAM.—Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A fine series of pictures are being shown here, the principal film being a very dramatic one, The Duchess of Masovia. Another fine one is The Noble and the Dog; A Sticky Proposition is most laughable; Never Late is another good one; and the Dragoon's Helmet is very funny. The remaining pictures are also very good. The Brothers Leotard appear in their funny comedy act.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Heir of Clavencourt is a capital picture. The bill also includes Paris Viewed from the Eiffel Tower (a good view) and The Hunchback Fiddler; Tempered with Mercy also gets well received. The amusing pictures include Stickfast Paste, Dog and Pipe, and Love and War. Mr. King contributes his usual song.

READING.—Vaudeville Electric Theatre.—The principal item on the programme this week is a film showing the equatic performances of Miss Kellerman, the lady swimmer.

West's Picture Palace.—An amusing film apropos of the General Election, Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire, in which the trials of a candidate are humorously depicted, is being shown here.

ROCHDALE.—Empire and Pringle's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle.—Pictures depicting A Mountaineer's Honour and A Russian Girl's Heroism are of stirring interest, and with others of humorous nature are much appreciated by large audiences here. Persugal, a ventriloquist and mimic, and Miss D. Barrington, in a scena, complete an attractive bill of fare.

SALFORD.—Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Among the pictures this week is the drama The Awakening, also The Doctor's Monkey, Mother's Love, &c. Mr. Tom Sherlock also sings illustrated songs.

New Central Hall.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—A Tour in Russia, The Stolen Wig, Rich and Poor at Christmas, Baby-rearing Institute in Paris, The Gamekeper's Daughter, The Dwarf Detective, The Terrors of Russia in the Olden Times, and Bobby Wideawake are good Raymond pictures this week. Miss Eva Carter and Mr. A. H. Gilbert also sing acceptable songs.

SHEFFIELD.—Central Hall.—The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Holmes.—A fine programme is submitted here, including the latest films.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. Fred Baugh presents here a series of dramatic, comic, and fantastic pictures with appropriate orchestral music and effects.

Montgomery Hall.—Here Mr. Henry Hibbert's up-to-date pictures delight and instruct all who like to see "the world in motion."

SOUTHAMPTON.—Empire Theatre.—Lessees, The Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Denton.—This place of entertainment is doing capital business, and the films are twice nightly loudly applauded.

Philharmonic.—Lessees, The Walturdaw Co. Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Boustead.—There is a fine and varied exhibition of pictures here this week, and good houses twice nightly are attracted.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—An excellent programme of pictures and varieties is attracting large crowds. Rickaby and Davis score a success in their humorous act *Boxed Up*; the Beckstowe Bros. provide another humorous turn in "The Butler and the Dude"; Lil Garrick proves a decidedly entertaining comedienne and dancer. The pictorial part of the programme is also quite up to the usual standard.

Palace Theatre.—Hamilton's Pictures and Variety Co.—The chief films are Lake Lucerne, a delightful travel subject, and His Masterpiece, a strong drama. The Cleveland Versatile Troupe score a great success with their entertaining turn, and a humorous sketch, *A Kentucky Court House* causes general amusement. Frank Martino is also popular with clever imitations.

TODMORDEN.—Town Hall.—A capital programme is submitted this week by the Martell Vaudeville Company. A fine dramatic is The Convict's Sacrifice, while Foolshead's Betrothal causes roars of laughter. A splendid exhibition of Ji Jitsu wrestling is also shown, other films being The Pompeian Martyr, The Conquest, Oh, What a Surprise! The Hypnotic Suggestion, and The Violin-maker of Cremona.

WATFORD.—Picture Shows.—Picture shows are being run by the Kinetic Company in the Corn Exchange and by Bipics, Limited, in the Conservative Hall. Jury's Imperial Pictures re-open at Clarendon Hall to-night (Saturday).

WOOLWICH.—Picture Palace.—Electioneering rival attractions notwithstanding, the public of Woolwich have voted for the Picture Palace all this week. Mr. Wensley Russell is staying on, and Mr. N. S. Nesbitt has the usual complete change of films. The new series includes The Blight of Sin, The Wealthy Rival, Leather Stocking, a most realistic picture of life in the Far West; a humorous, up-to-date picture, A Would-be Hero; and many others.

WORKINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—A good set of films, including The James Boys in Missouri, Cambo and Costelle, Monkey and Maid, and the Wonderful Cheers with their clever cats, make up a first-class programme.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bvnorth.—An excellent array of animated pictures are here shown. A Mexican's Revenge is a picture full of thrilling situations; The Vandeau Revel, illustrated by Messrs. Poole's Biodrama Co., is a brilliant affair; The Way of the Cross and The Missionary and the Maid are very pathetic; while the humorous side is presented by A Tempestuous Adventure, His Wife Wins, and The Ferryman's Daughter. The Production of Coffee and Delhi are remarkable pictures; and Miss May McPherson and the Cinephone render illustrated songs.

YORK.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman.—There is a capital display at this popular house, Sexton Blake being the principal attraction. The Would-be Acrobat is very funny, also Father Buys an Arm Chair. In addition Eric Wilmore is a popular comedian; Dolly Vince a clever coon vocalist; and the Incemores give a clever living marionette show.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—The high standard of the entertainment here is fully maintained. The Light that Came and Foolshead's Christmas are perhaps the pick of the pictures. Wragg and Wragg give a skilful exhibition of sword feats which is well received.

For three nights Mr. Wentworth Croke's company presented, with much success, *The Prodigal Son* at the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn. Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Magnus sustained the part with ability; as Oscar Mr. Mark D. Draper was excellent; Mr. Charles Sewell as the Governor was dignified; Miss Sara Dudley imparted much pathos to the part of Thora; and as Helga Miss Lily Crammonde showed promise. Miss Maud Locker as Aunt Margaret gave brightness to the play.

A special attraction at the Winter Gardens, Bootle, is the visit of Mme. Sims Reeves in favourite songs of Sims Reeves; the Frohmans give a clever musical entertainment; the Orchids make a hit with their smart patter and singing; Vio Land is a dainty little comedienne and dancer; and the pictures are up to the usual standard.

Mr. William Maclaren and company are presenting *Claudian* at the Theatre Royal, Leamington. Mr. Maclaren gives a picturesque performance of the title-rôle, and is ably supported by Miss Lily C. Bandmann, who plays the gentle Almida with considerable charm. Very powerful performances are those of Mr. Douglas Earle as Agazil, Mr. Frank C. Chambers as the Tetrarch, Mr. Weston Hubbard as Alcares, Miss Maud Garth as Edessa, and Mr. C. T. Chaloner as Belos.

"The Arcadians" is proving a powerful attraction at the Theatre Royal, Rochdale, this week. Mr. Gus. Oxley as James Smith and Simplicitas keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Frank Collins is a great success as Peter Doody; Mr. Roy Sidney is a favourite as Jack Meadows; Miss Madge Haines acts the part of Mrs. Smith to the life; Miss Mysie Devine is a delightful Eileen Cavanagh; and Miss Marion Edwardes a charming and fascinating Sombra.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week Mr. John Warren and company are filling the house twice nightly with his latest conjuring tricks and illusions. Mr. John Warren gives a wonderful turn in his *Cheshui; or, Conjurer at Home*; Miss Mollie Wynter is a capital whistler; Mr. Jackson Collis sings some good songs; and Mr. F. G. Fenn fetches the house with his dramatic recital "Phil Blow'a Leap." The whole company appears in *The Magic Carpet*, written by Mr. J. Warren.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The attraction here this week is the drama *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Cullenford submits a powerful portrayal of John Barnard; Stephen Raylton is successfully taken by Mr. Clifford Hamilton; Mr. C. Eldred Wood is very amusing as Tony Tibbets; Mr. Ernest Duval cleverly impersonates Gash Gills; and Mr. Will Beasley is seen to advantage as the Rev. Mr. Staunton. Miss Nellie Hope does well as Mrs. Barnard; the Sally Travner of Miss Nancy Mitchell is pleasing; Miss Daisy Rochefort is eminently satisfactory as Little May; Miss Elsie Shields enacts Grace Fanshaw with ability; and Miss Sheila Walsh gains sympathy with her capital presentation of Mary Barnard.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Miss Violet Osmund's company, in a new and revised version of *The New Barmaid* occupies the boards here. Captain Lovebury is safely entrusted to Mr. Leslie Austin; Mr. E. Sykes is successful as Colonel Claymore; and the Bertie White of Mr. Alex. Loftus is praiseworthy. Miss M. Prior shines in the title-rôle; and Miss V. Grafton is good as the Old Barmaid. Mabel, in the hands of Miss M. Mascotte, makes a decided hit.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Topping the bill are Mme. Henglеur's Russian poodles and leaping dogs. Miss Maud Edwards is a clever lady ventriloquist; the Royal Diamonds, one-legged acrobats, score heavily, as do the Royal Minstrel Trio. Syd Kemp and Nelly Neil both do well. The principal picture is In Old Kentucky.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. John A. Thomson's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty* concludes its run here this week, and has been very successful. Miss Adele Roze has installed herself a great favourite as the principal boy, and Miss Alyce Wyllyams has done very successfully in the title-rôle; the comedians have all made themselves popular, and in Messrs. Richard Teasdale (the King), Joe Monkhouse (Bamboozleum), Edward Hanlon and Charles Harlin are very amusing quartette has been selected. The Four Musical Sconeys have done exceedingly well in their variety turn, whilst Abex is this week introducing some very difficult weight-lifting feats.

WAKEFIELD.—Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. George Brydon Phillips's company in the pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor* is the attraction. Miss Hettie Lee makes a dashing Sinbad; Miss Constance Lait is charming as Badorna, and sings sweetly; Miss Amy Maple as Zoe and Mr. Fred Maple as Hindbad contribute largely to the success of the show. Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff as Jack Bobstay and Ben Brent are amusing, and dance well; Mr. Harry Rose makes a capital Mrs. Sinbad; Mr. George Snow works well as King Tibbles, and is ably supported by Miss Dorothy Tempest is a delightful Fairy Queen; Mr. Harry Ewins is very clever as Agrippa; and Mr. E. Tetley is successful as Captain Scuttle. Smart solo dances are contributed by Miss Nella Dene; specialities are provided by the Maples, Snow and Fairon, and Morris and Cardiff, and all receive well-earned approbation.

New Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Tennyson and Wallis, comedians, head the bill here, and are very amusing in patter; Mr. J. W. Rowley, the evergreen comedian, gives a popular turn; Wee Montyn Moore is a clever juvenile comedian; Mr. J. W. Darley and company in a domestic sketch meet with warm approval; the Whitworth Trio of trick cyclists display ability; Mark Anthony, comedian, merits appreciation; Siegel and Fields, comedians, are entertaining dancers; Mr. George Porter, vocalist; Emmie Harlow, comedienne; and Della Reay, chorus vocalist, give admirable items.

Hippodrome. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Serenaders, in a pretty Venetian scene, have a fine vocal act; Farley, Rennie, and Farley cause endless laughter in their sketch *Fun at the Railway Station*; Jack Carew, comedian, gives an enjoyable turn; Harry Wenburn is a versatile comedian; Tee and Tee, musical eccentrics, provide a novel speciality; the Three Brothers Huxter are exceptional acrobats; Renson and Waite, comedy couple, cause much merriment.

WALLSEND. — Borough Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Duffy; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hy. Hearn.—The place of honour is this week held by Leslie's Comedy Cadets, who score in their scena *After Lights Out*; the Sisters Lindas are dainty comediennes and smart dancers; Kane Cynski, musical virtuoso, obtains a flattering reception; Mueller and Coyne score in a laughable sketch; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer, has a budget of good songs; Frank Stanert, musical comedian, causes much mirth; Shawlene, whistler, is received with enthusiasm; the Shelleys appear in an up-to-date comedy duologue; Mlle. Leonie De Louvois, in a living art bronze act, completes the programme.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Charles Elderton's pantomime company in *Robinsoe Crusoe* is here this week. Miss Nita Clavering is a dashing hero, who sings in captivating style; Miss Isa Gilson is a charming Polly Perkins; and an amorous Princess is Miss Nellie Stuart. Miss Nina St. Elmo as Captain Kettle and Miss Ivy Boulton as Dolly Dimple are each clever; the delightful singing of Miss Maud Hastings sends her hearers into raptures; Mr. J. H. Booth, under whose direction the pantomime is produced, develops to the full the part of Dame Crusoe; and there is plenty of legitimate fun extracted from the part of Billy Crusoe by Mr. Teddy North. Mr. Fred Boulton does well as a Bill Atkins, whose confederates have capable representatives in Messrs. Will Elton and Harry Elton. Mr. Theodore Jones sings well as King Ki Koko, a remark which also applies to Mr. Percy Wright as King Neptune. The specialities are all good, notably those of the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers; the Marblesque Trio of statuary exponents; Miss Bartinelli, contortionist; Carson Hicks, coon delineator; and the Three Eltons in a smart comedy two-act. Mr. E. Blackster, L.C.M., wields the bâton.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Good business is being done here this week. Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford are making a hit in *Getting Even*; Mona Vivian is a capital mimic and dancer; Arthur Harris scores with good songs; and a dainty artist is Rosie Gaston. Pete and Juno have further established themselves as favourites; Les Saletos are really fine hand balancers; Sim Moree as the "Indiarubber Mohammedan" is a remarkable contortionist; and the Montes Brothers, comedy acrobats, cause plenty of mirth in the sketch *Mishaps on a Motor*. The pictures are good.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Fred Poplar is a success here. Kitty Wager's winsome ways have won for her a host of admirers; Jack Martin is a popular actor-vocalist; Farrell and Dunn have up-to-date business; and the pictures are good.

WATFORD.—Palace Theatre.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—After a brief absence, Mr. Haldane Crichton's principal company is this week paying, by special request, a return visit with *The Cingalee*, a visit for which Watford theatregoers have been clamouring since the last sojourn of the troupe. Mr. Arthur Cartwright is a convincing Harry Vereker, and Mr. Douglas Munro's smoothly acted Boobhamba is as excellent as ever; Mr. F. W. Ford's Sir Peter Loftus is not overdone—a great point in such a part; and Mr. Scott Cullen as Bobby Warren pleases every moment he is on the stage. Miss Florence Watson rounds off every detail of the trying part of Nanoya; Miss Pauline Hague's Lady Patricia Vane is as dignified and beautiful as ever, but, without being invidious, it may be said that chief honours must still rest between Mr. Jack Crichton's Chambhuddy Ram and Miss Ida Ernest's Peggy Sabine.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is appearing here in the intensely human play *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*, written by Mrs. Morton Powell, who herself takes the part of Miss Minnie Waters, a study full of interest; Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne is clever as Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott as Harry Hailing is a typical sailor, and Mr. Edward M. Heanley has a difficult dual rôle as Philip Edge, a roué, and Philip Dare, K.C., M.P., while the other parts are all in very capable hands. The play is excellently staged and mounted, and the Bioscope pictures are very fine.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—In addition to some remarkably clever pictures there are turns provided this week sufficiently attractive to secure the success of any show. Howard and Louie appear in a delightfully humorous duologue, *A Knight in a Daze*, which is much appreciated; Harry Wright is an extempore vocalist, who sings well; Miss Nellie Jannow is a fine singer, and Jackson and May give a wonderfully clever performance, cycling in mid-air.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and company are appearing this week in *Who is She?* in which Mr. Hill-Mitchelson undertakes in good style the character of Prince Bora and Miss Georgette Thierry ably interprets the rôle of the heroine.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Cruikshank, the fool of the family, heads the bill this week. *The Globe of Life*, exhibited by "Wizard" Stone and Irene Stone, is intensely sensational; the Sutcliffe family of Scottish acrobats, pipers, and dancers come in for a goodly share of applause; and Charles Cardow is a capital entertainer. The Cecilias, lady instrumentalists, Ray and Calden, in an amusing comedy act, and May Thorne, an attractive soubrette, who is appearing in place of Alice Hollander (indisposed), are also in the bill.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie, Secretary, Mr. Thomas Swinton.—Mr. Walter Melville's dramatic success *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* was well received on Monday by a packed house. Mr. Otto Minster is convincing as the hero, Jack Cunningham; Miss Marie Duncan is a sweet and charming Beggar Girl, and her acting is powerful; Gilbert Lindsay finds a clever exponent in Mr. Herbert Morgan. As Dicky Storm Mr. Herbert Lloyd provides an abundance of fun, while Miss Daisy Meynard helps him considerably as his "donah." Miss Lily Duncker is a charming Elsie Cunningham, and Miss Olive Warne makes a realistic adventuress of Maud Villiers. The staging and costumes are on an elaborate scale. The Bioscope provides an additional attraction.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Another strong variety and pictorial entertainment figures in the "two-houses-a-night" system here. The Three Clarkes provide the top of the bill and are clever athletes; other turns are the Alphmegos (comedy merchants), Ford Williams (Welsh basso), and George Bernard (actor vocalist).

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company is here this week in *Carmen, Il Trovatore, Faust, Merry Wives of Windsor, Destiny, Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana*.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—The premier position is occupied here by the Child Trio, who are highly applauded for their musical selections; Albas is a skilful wire performer; Johnny Holland and company cause endless laughter in *My Friend, Boots;* Curtis Leo mystifies the audience with his tricks; and the Three Orleans sing and dance themselves into favour. Great Thora is a ventriloquist of merit; Jack Smiles is an exceptionally smart dancer; and others entertaining are Harry Zetter, comedian; G. Maston, mimic; and Ryan and Hall, comedians and wrestlers.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Despite strong counter-attractions in the shape of political meetings, good business is being done here by Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's delightful pantomime *Aladdin*. Possessed of an attractive stage presence, excellent voice, and winning manner, Miss Hettie Zillwood in the title-rôle is in every respect excellent as the Princess; Mr. Robb Wilton does extremely well as the Widow Twankey, playing a popular role with excellent taste; Mr. Kennedy Allen is also extremely droll as Wishee Washee, and as Abanazar Mr. Bob Selvedge is always to the fore playing in first-rate style. Capital part songs are rendered by the Three Comedy Chanters, who are well received.

CINEMATOGRAPH DEFENCE LEAGUE.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S FINE WORK.

We desire to draw the attention of all responsible people connected with the moving picture industry to the assurance given to the Cinematograph Defence League by the London County Council officials, that Mr. Greenwood, chairman of the Music Hall and Theatres Committee, would give no instruction for any action to be taken with reference to Sunday opening pending receiving a deputation to bring their views before him, and to all country members acquainting them of the action of the L.C.C., and advising provincial members to use their own discretion. This statement has been telegraphed to all the London members of the League.

After the meeting held at the Holborn Restaurant on Jan. 5, various sub-committees were appointed to deal with special matters, and arrangements were made for interviewing the London County Council officials and the Home Secretary. Solicitors were consulted, and a conference took place with Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C.

Last Saturday the Home Office regulations were fully discussed, and on Monday a deputation, consisting of Messrs. F. Mouillot, F. R. Griffiths, G. W. Grant, and J. J. Newbold, waited upon Mr. Byrne at the Home Office. They were assured that full consideration would be given, not only to the suggestions offered by the members of the deputation, but also to every one of the clauses in the regulations.

Amendments to the regulations will be made by the Home Secretary with a view to securing, as far as possible, uniformity in the conditions of licenses issued by the various local authorities throughout the Kingdom. Pending further consideration of the suggested amendments, we are informed that the Home Office will advise the various licensing authorities to act leniently under the new Act. Last Monday the committees sat for between five and six hours, and dealt with a large number of applications for membership.

An account was opened at Parr's Bank, and it is requested that all future cheques be made payable to the Cinematograph Defence League at Parr's Bank, Charing Cross branch. The League has been registered under the limited liability Acts, so that the liability of each member is limited to the amount of his individual subscription, and offices have been taken for the business of the League at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Mr. H. E. W. Poole is the secretary, and he will be glad to receive reports from showmen as to any action taken by the various local authorities.

The names and addresses of the executive committee are as follows:—W. H. Broughton, chairman, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.; P. Beck, Alcazar Picture Hall, Shoreditch, E.C.; Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, W.C.; W. M. Borradaile, 20, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; T. Einstein, 23, Charing Cross House, W.C.; G. W. Grant, Aldwych Mansions, Strand, W.C.; F. R. Griffiths, 1, Cecil Court, Charing Cross-road, W.C.; Archibald Hunter, 31, Litchfield-street, W.C.; R. T. Jupp, 161, Jermyn-street, W.; W. F. Jury, 142, Long-acre, W.C.; J. J. Newbould, 145, Piccadilly, W.; M. A. Pyke, Dewar House, Haymarket, S.W.; J. Robarts, Arena, Villiers-street, Strand, W.C.; Horace Sedger, 5, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; A. T. Wright, 23, Cecil Court, Charing Cross-road, W.C.; J. D. Walker, 40, Gerrard-street, W.

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company opened at the Glossop Theatre Royal on Monday with *The Lancashire Lad*. Mr. Wallace Clark as David Elmore is well suited; Mr. Ernest Vaughan gives a clever impersonation of Max Carlton; Mr. Wilton Reed as Jem Wincote does full justice to the part; Mr. Rob Anderson as John Willie Wardle is mirth-provoking; and Mr. Geo. Watson is excellent as Tunn o' th' Swiltub. Miss Madge Douglas is a winsome Jessie; Miss Muriel Inglis as Lorna Wincote gives an artistic rendering; Miss L. Reynold as Jane Alice Clitheroe is a typical mill girl; Miss Gertie Haye as Flossy Mayfair dances smartly; and Miss Nellie V. Warden as Mother Wardle gives a capital rendition of a Lancashire housewife.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company is at the Darwen Theatre Royal in *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. Draycott gives a fine manly rendering of Richard Burfield; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield displays the scheming Guy Lowther to perfection; Mr. Frank Etheridge is a capable Lionel Heathcote; Mr. Theo Balfour as Markham Ferrers and Mr. Charles Reyne as Farmer Rayne make the most of their parts; and Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions, supported by Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly, create roars of laughter. Mrs. Draycott is a charming and sympathetic Pauline Ferrars; Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne acts finely the betrayed Nellie Rayne; and Miss Nellie Freeland is a vivacious Lucille. The company is altogether a strong one, and the dresses and mounting leave nothing to be desired.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is presenting *The Prodigal Son* at the Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton. Mr. Ernest Owttrim gives a powerful rendering of Magnus Stephensson; Mr. Mark Draper acquits himself admirably as Oscar Stephensson; Miss Sarah Dudley, in the dual rôle of Thora Neilson and Elin, displays much ability; Miss Lily Crammonde adds the right touch of subtlety to the character of Helga Neilson; Mr. Chas. Sewell does well as Stephen Magnussen; and the character of Anna, his wife, is ably filled by Miss Florence Lovell. Mr. Arthur E. Holland is well suited as Oscar Neilson.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's company appeared at the King's Theatre, Gainsborough, the first half of the week, in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Keith Fraser gave a powerful rendering of Napoleon; Miss Violet Ellicott was equally successful as Josephine; the opposite type of character of Marie Louise was cleverly portrayed by Miss Winnie Tempest; Mr. Charles Sterling as Marquis de Beaumont, Mr. E. J. Collins as Augereau, and Miss Dorothy Garth as Stéphanie were good representatives of their respective parts; Mr. J. J. Jordan was amusing as the drunken innkeeper. All the rest of the characters were capably filled. Dresses and general mounting are excellent.

At the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Mr. Allan Wilkie and his Shakespearean company opened on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. As the Jew Mr. Wilkie gave a clear and vigorous rendering; Mr. Alexander Marsh was warmly greeted for his artistic rendition of Bassanio; Miss Carrie Baillie submitted an admirable portrayal of Portia; as Norissa Mrs. Allen Wilkie acted with much ability; Miss H. Plowright won great admiration as Jessica; Antonio had a capable representative in Mr. Houston Meharry; and Mr. Arthur Keane made an excellent Lancelot Gobbo. *The Taming of the Shrew, Merry Wives of Windsor, Romeo and Juliet, School for Scandal, David Garrick*, and *The Sleigh Bells* are also in the bill.

Miss Winifred Maude and her company, under the direction of Mr. Victor du Cane, were at the Perth Theatre for the first three nights of the week with *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude, who plays the heroine in a sympathetic manner, is ably supported by Mrs. Wingold Lawrence, Miss Minnie Millwarde, Miss Elsie Maxwell, Miss Mabel Lane, Mr. Arthur L. Read, Mr. Arthur Lester, Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. Morris Maud, and Mr. Alfred Chester. Mr. George Edwardes's company came on a return visit during the last three nights of the week with *The Merry Widow*.

USEFUL WORKS OF REFERENCE.

Forty-third Year of Publication.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MOST COMPLETE THEATRICAL DICTIONARY OF DATES EVER PUBLISHED.

It will also be found to be the most interesting Annual of the Year, containing as it does many Stories told by Members of the Dramatic and Musical Professions. Illustrated by Photographs and Autographs.

Price ONE SHILLING, post free.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS

... FOR ...

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3s. 6d. Post Free 3s. 9d.

Price 6d. Post Free, 7½d.

HUMOROUS AND TRAGIC

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE

Told by the Rev. THOMAS HORNE,

Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK AND DIARY

Compiled by W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post Free SIXPENCE.

FAIRS - - SHOWS - - WAKES

THE SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK

Edited by the Rev. THOMAS HORNE.

100 Pages. Price ONE SHILLING.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA.

By GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Price SIXPENCE.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE

MANAGERS, AGENTS, ENTREPRENEURS, AND PERFORMERS

WISHING TO POSSESS A COPY OF THE

COMPLETE ACT (in a Concise Form),

CAN DO SO BY FORWARDING

THREE STAMPS to the Publisher.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK.

Price ONE SHILLING.

Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the two great Charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions, the

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND AND THE MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909,

which came into force January 1, 1910, also the

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS

made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation January 1, 1910.
With an APPENDIX concerning

LIMELIGHT

and

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

EXPLANANATIONS OF THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act—The Regulations—The Explanations—sent post free, Four Stamps.

CINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT AFFECTING THE SAME.

By WILLIAM JAGO, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price ONE SHILLING. Post Free 1s. 1d.

Price 3s. 6d. Post Free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Chapter I.—COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT. CHAPTER II.—PERFORMING RIGHT. Chapter III. INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES, Chapter IV.—MUSICAL COPYRIGHT. Chapter V.—INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

TELEPHONE - 4747 and 1438 CENTRAL.

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

Revived at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, Jan. 8.

Orsino ..... MR. HARVEY BRAHAN
Sebastian ..... MR. A. B. IMESON
Antonio ..... MR. W. H. PERRETTE
A Sea Captain ..... MR. J. DARNLEY
Valentine ..... MR. D. VAUGHAN
Curio ..... MR. ALFRED HILLIARD
Sir Toby Belch ..... MR. RYDER BOYS
Sir Andrew Ague-cheek ..... MR. S. A. COOKSON
Malvolio ..... MR. ARTHUR GRENVILLE
Fabian ..... MR. WALTER T. CLIFFORD
Feste ..... SIGNOR GHERARDI
Olivia ..... MISS MOIRA CREEGAN
Maria ..... MISS CICELY RICHARDS
First Officer ..... MR. H. LLOYD
Second Officer ..... MR. GORDON KINGSLEY
Page to Olivia ..... MISS DORIS PEACH
Viola ..... MISS MARGARET HALSTAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is the fifteenth annual Shakespearean revival under Mr. R. Flanagan's management of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, and, among many undoubted successes, *Twelfth Night* will probably rank as one of the foremost, from the point of view of the public. There is in playgoers a taste for humour nowadays which only an opulent production of Shakespeare or some kindred attraction of an educational sort can divert; and if Shakespeare can be made by modern actors to approximate to the modern sense of humour, so much the better for the enjoyment of the audience. *Twelfth Night* is a comedy which lends itself to comic exploitation. The tale of Viola and Orsino, with the cross-interests of Olivia, Sebastian, and the rest, matters little to the eye if the humour of Sir Toby, of Malvolio, and Ague-cheek is made the most of, and perhaps a really good Sir Toby will transcend the lot in popular enjoyment. That is almost what it comes to in the present case, in spite of the demands of Viola and Malvolio for premier notice; for Sir Toby is a right funny dog, and was responsible for most of the laughter that accompanied the action on the first performance.

Mr. Ryder Boys, who plays Sir Toby Belch, is an actor of considerable experience and knowledge. To watch him closely, knowing what to look for, is to see exemplified constantly some phase of the actor's art. He has, moreover, a voice that lacks nothing in point of resonance or modulation, though it is certainly on the side of loudness. So far as the requirements go, it is the voice of a comedian who knows how to get every ounce of "fat" out of his part. One cannot get away from Sir Toby in estimating the appeal of the production to its audience. He will prove to be one of the chief elements, if not the chiefest, in the success of the play. That is because an audience likes, above all things, to be amused, not because the current Sir Toby is a transcendant Shakespearean impersonation to the knowledge of the audience. He is funny in the modern sense, far more so than Ague-cheek, who, in the person of Mr. S. A. Cookson, is invested rather with the atmosphere of the play, as, indeed, Malvolio is—a compliment to both. Mr. Cookson at no point of his performance steps out of the character, as he conceives it, for the sake of a laugh. The laugh is moderately there throughout. Especially in the Kitchen scene, his work, in conjunction with Mr. Ryder Boys, is capital. As for Malvolio, an excellent impersonation was only to be expected from Mr. Arthur Grenville, who never forgets that he is Malvolio, and whose enunciation amply makes up for what he may lack, by comparative standards, in cheap arrogance of demeanour. Then there is Feste. But Feste is not an English clown; his tones lack humour, and Signor Gherardi cannot conceal the foreign accent of one whose vocation, it would seem, is rather to sing songs. That he sings them in a tolerable tenor, and is sprightly withal, is much to his advantage in the estimation of the audience, who applaud him well. On the side of the story, we have Mr. Harvey Brahan as Orsino, who is very lovesick and declamatory indeed, according to old Shakespearean tradition, which will not permit one quite to lose touch with the "periods" of the verse. Mr Braban is, however, a capable actor; and if he errs in point of his delivery, he does so in good company; for even Miss Margaret Halstan, who plays Viola, is frequently over-conscious of the length of her lines, though for the most part her rendering is that of a really cultured and engaging actress. Her performance, as a whole, was much enjoyed on Saturday, and earned her well-merited personal recognition. Others to be praised are Miss Moira Creegan, who gives a lively version of Olivia; Mr. A. B Imeson as Sebastian; Mr. Walter T. Clifford as Fabian; Mr. W. H. Perrette as Antonio, the sea captain; and Miss Cicely Richards, who submits a really smart and enjoyable impersonation of Maria, Olivia's woman.

As on previous occasions, Mr. Flanagan has made a big feature of the staging. There is an opening tableau of a wreck on the sea-coast—a very effective picture; and at the end he has introduced a church set, elaborately detailed, for the function of Viola's marriage to the Duke of Illyria. This is a fine piece of work. Intermediately some effective scenes—such as Olivia's garden and the Duke's palace—please the eye. The dresses are no less decorative and splendid in their way. The incidental music has been done by Mr. Yorke Sheffield, and there are several vocal numbers by the Queen's Theatre Choir. So pleased and entertained were the audience at the end of the first performance that Mr. Flanagan was obliged to present himself in response to calls.

THE GREEN ROOM LODGE.

The Green Room Lodge held its thirty-fifth regular meeting at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent-street, on the 7th inst. The reigning Master, Mr. Charles Macdona, was supported by his officers, Messrs. E. H. Bull, I.P.M., Hubert Willis, S.W., J. H. Ryley, J.W., Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., Secretary, Douglas Gordon, Second Steward, acting as S.D., E. Vivian Reynolds, assisted by Sydney Lawrence, J.D., Frank Vernon, I.G., H. Nye Chart, acting as D.C., A. E. Raynor, Fourth Steward, acting as Organist, J. Cooke Beresford, Third Steward, and E. J. Nesbitt, Tyler. There were also present Messrs. Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., and Akerman May, L.R., Past Masters of the Lodge, and the following members:—Messrs. Leslie Carter, Thalberg Corbett, John R. Crauford, A. E. George, Sydney Lawrence, Arnold Lucy, H. D. McCarthy, Ernest H. Paterson, Herbert Shelley, Spencer Trevor, and D. J. Williams. Messrs. C. A. C. Jackson, J. Channon, and Cecil H. Phillips attended as visitors.

Mr. D. J. Williams was advanced a stage in his novitiation, and interest in the proceedings was enhanced by the delivery of explanatory lectures by Messrs. Harry Nicholls and J. H. Ryley. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Lestocq, through ill-health, the discussion on the question of a Benevolent Fund was postponed till February 4. Mr. Charles Cruikshanks placed the motion before the Lodge, and read a letter from Mr. W. S. Penley, Past Grand Treasurer of England, the Treasurer of the Lodge.

Apologies for non-attendance, &c., were received from Messrs. Blake Adams, S.D., Henry Ainley, Fredk. Annerley, First Steward, Rev. W. P. Beeley, Chaplain, Louis Calvert, Chas. A. Doran, Lytton Grey, Hubert Harben, Frank Harding, Edward Jones, Organist, Cyril Keightley, Luigi Lablache, P.M., L.R., Robert Loraine, Gerald Maxwell, P.M., A.G.D.C., Walter Maxwell, Percy Nash, W. S. Penley, P.G. Treas., Treasurer, Julian Royce, and Stephen Wentworth. Mr. Robert Minster was proposed as a candidate for election.

"THE PRINCESS AND THE DOLL."

Fairy Play, in Three Acts, with Prologue and Epilogue, by George and Dickson Rudert. Produced at the Albert Hall Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 11.

REAL PEOPLE.

Grannie ..... MRS. DENING
Jack ..... MASTER DICK SCHNOBCKEL
Tom ..... MISS MURIEL SCHNOBCKEL
Nancy ..... MISS NORA SCHNOBCKEL
Lady-in-Waiting ..... MISS WHITE
A Nurse ..... MISS MARIAN ANDREW
A Page Boy ..... MASTER ALLAN BURCH
Princess Poppy ..... MISS VERA LE FLEMING

DOLL PEOPLE.

Lola ..... MISS RUBY GROOM
The General ..... MISS VICTORIA SIMS
A Teddy Bear ..... MASTER ERIC DENNES
A Chimney Sweep ..... MASTER VLADIMIR MATVIEFF
A Jack-in-the-Box ..... MASTER DICK SCHNOBCKEL
A Clown ..... MASTER GREGORY MATVIEFF
A Gollywog ..... MASTER JOHN ARNOLD
A Policeman ..... MASTER EDGAR FOURAKER
The Nutcracker Man ..... MASTER ALLAN BURCH
Lady Bluebell ..... MISS VERA LE FLEMING

An affecting problem was presented to a large audience at the Albert Hall Theatre on Tuesday afternoon last, when a new fairy play, entitled *The Princess and the Doll; or, The Golden Comb*, supplied the programme of an entertainment in aid of the Bat and Ball Club, established in connection with the Children's Page of the *Ladies' Field*. The club, it may be noted, has the estimable object of interesting the children of the better classes in the children of the poor, chiefly in order that the latter may be furnished with the materials for outdoor games. Encouraging success has already been attained, for at Christmas, 1908, and in the summer of last year the club was enabled to provide some 500 children, drawn from the poorest parts of London, with a substantial tea and a really good toy, besides furnishing three footballs and a cricket set for the use of school clubs. In the New Year it is the ambition of the club to increase the number of participants to 1,000. A full house and a fancy trade in programmes at the entertainment on Tuesday will, no doubt, go far towards this satisfactory result.

The problem with which the play deals is "Can toys feel pain?" and it is answered in a prologue, three acts, and an epilogue. The story is quaintly begun by Grannie and represented in the subsequent acts. It is that of a wilful and cruel little ten-year-old princess, who treats her toys spitefully, making a pin-cushion of her Teddy Bear, and leaving her doll to sleep out in the cold. By a special dispensation the toys are given one hour of life, and are thus enabled to meet together and discuss their grievances. One old toy—the nutcracker man—who had been in the family for years, and was present at the Princess's first birthday, relates how a malevolent fay presented the baby with a golden comb, at the same time uttering the ominous warning—

Dark the hour and sad the change
If from you this comb shall range.

The comb soon "ranges," the naughty Princess, in a fit of temper, taking it from her head in order to comb the hair of her doll Bluebell. Disaster duly happens, for in a flash or two of lightning the Princess is changed into her doll and the doll into the Princess. Bluebell is delighted to be alive again, and her first care is to pull the pins out of the Teddy Bear and make her former comrades as happy as their state will allow. Meanwhile the Princess is received into the toy community with contumely. As it is not quite certain that she really is the Princess, it is decided to cut her up, in order to find out if she has a black heart. Such a proceeding is happily averted by the Nutcracker Man, who returns to his allegiance and restores the comb to the Princess's head, when she immediately becomes herself again, having learned a wholesome lesson.

A whimsical effect was created by a number of children dressed as counterparts of the denizens of toyland who figured in the piece. Shrill voices piped from beneath bear skins and Gollywog heads, and small boys gabbled off their lines in a desperate effort to get rid of their responsibility. It was all very diverting, and the audience was delighted. Conspicuous among their companions were Miss Vera Le Fleming and Miss Ruby Groom, who danced and sang cleverly. Miss Le Fleming was especially good, and acted with remarkable ease and confidence. She is obviously too young to appear on the professional stage, but when she does she will inevitably make a name.

"THE COMMANDING OFFICER."

An American Military Drama, in Four Acts, by Theodore Burt Sayre.

This drama has scored a decided success at the Savoy Theatre, New York. The scenes are laid at Fort Butler, a military post in Nevada, near the town of Roosevelt City, and the story deals with the indiscretions of the commanding officer's wife, which bring about the death of a mine-owner who has been attentive to her during her husband's absence, and involve an innocent girl. Belle Archer is the wife, Brent Lindsay the mine-owner, and Belle's friend, Floyd Carroll, the innocent girl. The latter has many suitors, and Lieut. Waring is one of them. He has in his possession a photograph of Lindsay in the act of kissing Mrs. Archer. Knowing that she will do her utmost to protect Mrs. Archer's reputation, Waring tries to force Miss Carroll's consent to marry him by threatening to show the photograph. Failing in this, he sells the film to Lindsay for a considerable sum, as he needs the money to cover his speculations in Wall Street. Lindsay promises to hand over the film to Mrs. Archer is she will come to his house for it. At the same time Waring is to be there for his money. Dressed in her husband's uniform, Mrs. Archer tries to keep the appointment, and fails. Waring gets there, however, and during the interview a quarrel occurs, and he kills Lindsay. On the following morning several witnesses testify that they saw a man in uniform leave Lindsay's house, and it is also brought out that the shadows of two persons, a man in uniform and a woman, were seen on the blind of Miss Carroll's room. On investigation it is proved that Lieut. Waring and Lieut. Hammond were absent from quarters that night, and the authorities decide that the one who was not with Miss Carroll was the murderer. The truth is that Mrs. Archer entered Miss Carroll's room after failing to find Lindsay, and it was her shadow that appeared to be that of a man in uniform. Miss Carroll is in love with Hammond, and she had asked him to follow and protect Mrs. Archer. Waring, the real criminal, denies his guilt, and Hammond refuses to compromise his sweetheart by saying that he was the man in her room. Waring, however, tries to clear himself at Hammond's expense, and the latter is believed to be guilty when an old sweetheart of Lindsay's, who was hiding in his room, gives her account of the affair. In the end Waring is banished to Japan, Colonel Archer and his wife are reconciled, and Miss Carroll accepts Lieut. Hammond. The drama is interesting throughout and at times exciting. It is well acted by a company of well-known players, including Miss Isabel Irving, Messrs. Charles Millward, Robert T. Haines, Edward Martindell, George C. Staley, and Charles Lane.

THIS week Mr. A. Clifton Anderson's company is paying a return visit to the Theatre St. Julian's, Guernsey, in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. The play was well interpreted.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. WALNER GREGORY.

Born in London, near Regent's Park, on Oct. 4, 1869, Mr. Walner Gregory, son of John Ballard Gregory, organ-builder, was educated at private schools in London, Oxford, the Grammar School, Walsall, and O.C.S., Thame, Oxon. He was trained for a commercial life, with several well-known City firms, graduating from office-boy to town and country traveller, then, probably through passing many pleasant evenings at the theatres, developed a serious interest in acting, and exchanged a business career for an engagement with Miss Emma Hutchison, making a first appearance on the stage in the spring of '92, at the Grand Theatre, Derby, as Mr. Carter, in the famous Criterion comedy, *Brighton*. At the end of this tour Mr. Isaac Cohen, of the Pavilion Theatre, gave him a series of parts in the stock productions, together with a good deal of sound advice on the rudiments of strong character. Opportunities of studying the ways of bustling comedy followed, with tours as Wagstaffe in *Pink Dominoes* and McManus in *Betsy*. In the early days of *The Dark Continent* Mr. Mouillot gave him the part of Michot, in that play, and later Mr. Morgan, in the six months' stock season at Scarborough, considerably developed his memory by a rapid succession of quick changes with about a hundred varied parts, from utility to leads in a repertoire including farce, drama, classics, Shakespeare, and pantomime—all played by the same stock company! It was by this company that the first performances of a popular drama, *£1,000 Reward*, were given, and fortunately led to the retention of Mr. Gregory for its original tour, which was followed by another stock season, this time at the old theatre in Dudley. Many more touring engagements followed—*In the Ranks*, *A Royal Divorce*, *The Silver King*, and a first appearance in light opera, as Tom Strutt, in *Dorothy*.

The original country company of *A Woman of No Importance* was the occasion of a partial reversion to business instincts, Mr. Gregory enjoying a first experience of acting-management, combined with the part of Sir John, and frequent appearances in that originally played by Sir Herbert Tree. Messrs. Morell and Mouillot provided the next new experiences by placing him in charge

WALNER GREGORY.

of the treasury of their first pantomime at Plymouth, with which position he doubled performances as the Wolf. The following season took him on another new sphere, that of advance work for the first tour of *A Trip to Chinatown*. He also fulfilled similar engagements with *The Shop Girl* and *All Abroad*.

A chance of Colonial adventure prompted Mr. Gregory to try fresh fields, and pleasant associations were begun with Mr. Bland Holt, the Australian producer of the Drury Lane and Adelphi successes. Later, with Mr. George Rignold, he accomplished a two years' trip with Mr. Rickards' *Little Minister* company. On the voyage home an attempt at dramatic construction resulted in a comedy version of Mr. Barrett's novel, *A Set of Rogues*, which went the usual round of possible producers until eventually exchanged by arrangement, to form the basis of a musical play tried by Miss Ada Reeve some time ago. In 1900 Mr. Gregory made a re-appearance under the management of Mr. Isaac Cohen, at the Princess's, as the villain, in *Going the Pace*. A tour in repertoire with Miss Lancaster Wallis followed, then Mr. Morrell placed with him the control of the first tour of *A Message from Mars*, and the production for the suburban company of *Becky Sharp*, in which, during the illness of Mr. Cooper Cliffe, the part of Rawdon Crawley was played by Mr. Gregory. The courtesy of "the firm" enabled him to accept Mrs. Langtry's offer to take in hand the acting-management of the Imperial Theatre during the run of *Mlle. Mars* and *The Degenerates*, which led to similar work at the Comedy for Mr. George Hawtrey, later at Covent Garden for the Moody-Manners opera season, and recently several seasons at the Scala, notably for the great "Lion" play, *The Judgment of Pharaoh*, and the Ruth St. Denis dances. The last West End theatre engagement in his list is the recent interesting production of Mr. Leslie Faber's *Head of the Firm*, at the Vaudeville.

In the intervals Mr. Gregory has found time to book and organise the original companies of *Sunday* and *The Garden of Lies*, for Mr. Louis Calvert; manage a tour of *The Three Little Maids* for Mr. George Dance; and to run summer tours very successfully with *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, *The Manœuvres of Jane*, and *The Liars*; also to play in these comedies, and in the "Melville dramas." Further, to be in the fashion, he has, with Miss Florence St. John, been to many of the music-halls in her sketch, *Quits*, and, finally, was responsible for the introduction of that weird mechanical man mystery at the Coliseum, *Occultos*.

Mr. Gregory believes in hard work, and for a few weeks last summer held an extraordinary record, starting the day at 9 a.m., by disposing of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones' business affairs; then rehearsing a touring production from eleven to three; directing the destiny of *Occultos* from 3.30 to 4.30; then, during the late Mme. Illing's absence abroad, attending to her correspondence connected with the German tour; and to fill out the day appearing as acting-manager for the suburban performances of *The J.P.*

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE'S company is presenting *A Thief in the Night* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexborough. Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives a refined presentation of Alan Escombe; Michael Pagani is made a typical leader of a secret society by Mr. Leyton Cancellor; Mr. Philip Crossley plays well as Richard Cleeve; Lord Romilly has an able exponent in Mr. Hugh Wallace; Mr. Russell Bogue (Drake), and Mr. Robert Merrick (Detective Layton) are effective; Miss Marjory Fane is both cultured and impressive in her rendering of the character of Joan Escombe; Sonia Cleeve is dramatically interpreted by Miss Beatrice Homer; original comedy is provided by Mr. Bert Atherton (Toby) and Miss Winifred Barton (Happy).

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, JAN. 5.—Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney commenced their second American tour at the Savoy Theatre, Atlantic City, N.J., on the 31st ult., appearing in Mr. Irving's translation of Eugene Brieux's comedy *Les Hannetons*, now called *The Affinity*, but formerly known as *The Incubus*. Mr. Irving and Miss Hackney repeated the success they made last season as the Professor and the tyrannical mistress he cannot shake off. Last Monday they began an engagement at the Comedy Theatre in this city, under the management of the Schuberts, and received a warm welcome.

"THE FIRES OF FATE," a drama, in four acts, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, was produced on Dec. 28 at the Liberty Theatre, New York. The play has been well received by the Press and the public, although the scene which, according to the critics who saw the London performance, was the strongest of the play is not nearly so effective in the New York production. This is the scene of the third act—the Abousir Rock—where the party of tourists are captured by the Dervishes. The English Dervishes, we are told, bore themselves more bloodthirstily, the American Dervishes being much too gentle. Colonel Egerton, the central character, is finely acted by Mr. Hamilton Revelle. Manly and sincere, he wins the sympathy of the audience in the opening scene, and holds it to the end. Mr. William Hawtrey makes himself popular as the Rev. Samuel Roden, and Mr. Edwin Brandt realises the character of the materialistic medico, Dr. James Roden, to perfection. Miss Grace Carlyle plays the American girl Sadie Adams very charmingly; and others who acquit themselves well in their respective rôles are Messrs. Percy C. Waram, Thomas R. Mills, Ernest Perrin, George Henry Trader, Courtenay Foote, and Paul Pilkington. The scenery is excellent.

THERE was a double bill at the New Theatre on the 29th, consisting of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Histoire d'un Pierrot*, a pantomime, in three acts, with music by Mario Costa, given for the first time in America. Louisette, a young modiste, has many admirers, among them being Julot and the timid Pierrot. The latter serenades her on her birthday, but is too shy to declare his love. Pochinet, an old friend, teaches him how, and the first act ends with the two lovers promising eternal affection. In the second act it is discovered that Pierrot, now a husband, has been unfaithful to Louisette. She reproaches him on his return, and he renews his promises of love; but Julot enters during her absence, and introduces him to a pretty grisette, Fifine, with whom he dances. He gambles with Julot, loses all his money, and finally elopes with Fifine. In the third act the remorseful Pierrot returns, and is reunited to his wife by the child that has been born in his absence. There have also been several performances of *La Fille de Madame Angot* at the New Theatre recently.

MR. FRANCIS WILSON'S success in "straight" comedy has fully justified the departure he made a few years ago from the field in which he had made himself such a prominent favourite. In other words, he is just as popular in comedy without music as he was in *Erminie*, which is saying a good deal, for no matter what sort of part he may play Mr. Wilson's Cadeaux can never be forgotten. And now, after entertaining the public for thirty or forty years as an actor, he has come out as an author, having written a three-act comedy called *A Bachelor's Baby*, which has scored an emphatic success at the Criterion Theatre. Mr. Wilson appears in his own play as Tom Beach, a bachelor with a decided aversion to children. Through the death of his twin brother, the guardianship of his niece, a child of five, is thrust upon him. He tries to evade the responsibility in vain, and the various stages of his conversion from a crabby child-hater to a most devoted uncle afford Mr. Wilson abundant opportunity for fun-making. He could be tender, too, on occasion, and his gradual surrender to the youngster's wiles delighted the audience immensely. At the close of the second act he appeared before the curtain and said that he had tried his best to show what a big part the little ones play in the lives of the rest of us. Baby Davis, as the child, shared the chief honours with Mr. Wilson, and Mr. E. Soldene Powell was very funny as a superannuated butler, the other parts being well played.

"A LITTLE BROTHER OF THE RICH," a satirical play in four acts, by Joseph Medill Patterson and Harriet Ford, the authors of *The Fourth Estate*, has succeeded the latter play at Wallack's Theatre. It is founded on Mr. Patterson's novel of the same name, and deals with the fads and follies of a shallow, selfish, money-mad set of people, supposed to be typical of a certain section of New York society. Muriel Evers confesses that she can be happy with almost any man except her husband. Evers catches her in an intrigue with Paul Potter, and when a divorce is obtained Potter has to marry her. Two years later she flirts with her first husband when they meet again, and a man of wealth also engages her affections. He presents her with a motor-car, and on one of their trips they meet with an accident, and Muriel is killed. Potter was engaged to Sylvia Castle, an actress, when in a moment of weakness he married the divorced wife of Richard Evers. He returns from the West to be present at Sylvia's début, and at the end of the play takes her to supper, the situation indicating that he intends to marry her. The first scene of the last act represents a "first night" at a theatre, and the final scene gives an interesting glimpse of stage life after the audience has departed, the back-door man proving himself a most amusing character.

Miss Hilda Spong plays Muriel Evers quite cleverly. As Sylvia Castle Miss Ida Conquest is charming, and Mr. Vincent Serrano does well as Paul Potter, the "Little Brother of the Rich." It should be mentioned that the humour of the piece saves it from being as shocking as it sounds.

"THE NEXT OF KIN," a drama in three acts, by Charles Klein, is the current attraction at the Hudson Theatre. The play is written around the trials of Paula Marsh, whose uncle tries to obtain possession of the fortune which she has inherited from her father. To further his plans he employs an unscrupulous lawyer, formerly a Judge of the Supreme Court, whose political influence and perversions of law and justice enable him to block every move made by the young woman's counsel. Furthermore, the uncle and his lawyer enlist the aid of a physician of doubtful reputation in trying to make it appear that Paula is insane, and the distracted girl is committed to a sanatorium. Her uncle's step-son falls in love with her, however, and comes to her assistance, and when she regains her liberty she gives him her hand in marriage.

Although *Next of Kin* is not so favourably regarded as other plays from the same pen, it seems to please the public, and will no doubt win a fair share of success. Miss Gracie Elliston as Paula, Mr. Wallace Eddinger as her deliverer, Mr. Frank Sheridan as the rascally lawyer, and Mr. Frederick Perry as Paula's legal adviser have earned high praise for their impersonations.

MISS BILLIE BURKE will make her first appearance in W. Somerset Maugham's comedy, *Mrs. Dot*, on the 20th inst. out of town, preceding her opening in New York. Mr. Frederick Kerr will be Miss Burke's leading man.

"THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER," the musical version of Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man*, is in the eighteenth week of its run, and is still crowding the Casino, the third theatre it has occupied since its opening.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"NOBLESSE OBLIGE!"

Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by MM. Maurice Hennequin and Pierre Véber. Produced at the Nouveautés, on Jan. 6.

Yvonne ..... MLLE. MARGUERITE CARON
Marquise de Kerlandec ..... MME. ROSINE MAUREL
Clara Lebouzier ..... MLLE. LOUISE BIGNON
Juliette ..... MLLE. MAGDA SIMON
Emmeline ..... MLLE. DELYS
Goujon de L'Estang ..... M. GERMAIN
Lebouzier ..... M. GERBER
De Bliquy ..... M. COUQUET
De Kerlandec ..... M. LANDRIN
Guingand ..... M. DARNAUD
Liriche ..... M. LAURET
Boucoardon ..... M. CHOISY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Jan. 6.—MM. Hennequin and Véber have given us a political vaudeville, wherein Socialists and ultra-Conservatives receive their equal share of chaff. To those English readers not familiar with French politics I would like to point out that there is a kind of "Young Royalist" party here, whom nobody takes seriously, and who seem to think that they further their cause by secretly smashing the statues of those who rendered services to the Republic. These ill-advised youths term themselves "Les Camelots du Roi," and it is indeed wonderful that ridicule has thus far not killed them. The plot of the new play is as follows:—M. Goujon, having bought a title, proudly calls himself Baron Goujon de L'Estang, and he is married to Yvonne, the daughter of the Marquis and the Marquise de Kerlandec. Both the Marquis and his son-in-law detest politics, and would gladly have led a quiet life. Unfortunately, the Marquise is a fanatical royalist, whose sole wish is to see the hated Republic come to grief and a King on the throne in France. To her delight, Goujon becomes militant. He stays out the whole night, and, on his return in the early morn, produces bits of marble and bronze, which, he says, he has broken off the statues in the Capital. The whole thing, however, is a bluff on Goujon's part. Whilst his chauffeur, bribed by him, does the "smashing," he (Goujon) spends the night in the arms of the lovely Clara, the wife of Lebouzier, editor of an anarchist sheet, wherein Goujon is reviled every day. Lebouzier being constantly away from Paris, it is easy for the lovers to meet. Parliament having been dissolved, and the elections drawing near, Goujon is urged by his mother-in-law to go to the provinces and make propaganda for the royal cause. Goujon gladly consents to do so, and at once goes with his beloved Clara to Vouzy-sur-Brenne, an out-of-the-way little village where he hopes to be safe from intruders. Fate, however, decides otherwise. Lebouzier has become the candidate of the revolutionary party in the district, whilst the Conservatives, headed by the Duc de Bliquy, want Goujon to represent them. Goujon, who is staying in the hotel under an assumed name, is in an awful predicament. People believe him to be Lebouzier, and he is compelled to make an incendiary speech against capitalists and society in general. Things reach a culminating point when Lebouzier also arrives, and is, of course, believed to be Goujon. A terrible imbroglio ensues, ending in Goujon—always supposed to be Lebouzier—being arrested for having boxed the ears of the Sous-Préfet and brought back to Paris. Lebouzier also collides with the police, and a very funny scene is the one wherein the two men want to go for one another, but cannot move because they are handcuffed. In the end the matter is cleared up. Goujon's wife is prevailed upon to forgive her husband's escapades, and Lebouzier is made to believe that his wife has never been unfaithful to him. Moreover, Goujon having found some compromising letters from Lebouzier to a certain damsel, the former is compelled to give an undertaking never to publish any more attacks on Goujon.

THERE is much excitement in the theatrical world over the "Chantecler affair," garbled extracts having appeared in the *Eclair* and the *Tout-Paris*, taken from the well-known Milan paper *Il Seculo*. The copies containing these extracts have been confiscated by the police, acting on a complaint lodged by the managing editor of *L'Illustration*, to which M. Rostand had conceded the sole rights of serial publication. A gentleman living in one of the suburbs—who calls himself an Englishman, but is supposed to be a German—has been hawking these extracts about for some time, and even offered them to a well-known English paper for the sum of £24. The editor of the English paper very properly sent this man's letter containing the offer to M. Rostand. Inquiries made by the police failed to prove that the Anglo-German in question had been guilty of any illegality, and no proceedings will be taken against him. It appears, however, that an actor who at one time took part in the rehearsals behaved in an indiscreet manner. In fact, it is no secret that M. Rostand, while at a Montmartre cabaret one evening, was astounded to hear the "Hymn to the Night," which is included in *Chantecler*, openly recited. What causes M. Rostand most annoyance is that the incriminated article contains some of the verses in a mutilated form, and a plot which is nothing but an invention. M. Rostand describes it as a gross libel on his work.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S Shakespearean company (North) is paying a welcome return visit to the Grand Theatre, Lancaster, and has drawn good houses each night. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was given. Mr. Henry Herbert gave a finished and impressive rendering of Shylock; Miss Gladys Vanderzee played Portia with skill and delightful feeling; Mr. Robert Atkins was a good Antonio; the Prince of Morocco was well represented by Mr. John Cairns; and Mr. C. E. Sworder was a capable Gratiano. As Jessica Miss Dorothy Radford did exceedingly well; as also did Miss Kate Turner as Nerissa. *The Tempest*, *King Lear*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* are also billed. Throughout the plays have been beautifully costumed and staged.

MR. NELSON BARRETT'S pantomime *Cinderella* opened at the Theatre Royal, Goole, on Monday. Miss Eva Travis as Cinderella is a decided success; Miss Georgie Hawkins makes a charming Prince; Miss Isa Bernard as Rose sustains her part in an able manner; and valuable support comes from Miss Vera Leslie as Fairy Fortune. Amongst the comedians (all of whom are clever) are Mr. J. Mackenzie (Peps), Mr. A. Farren (Baron), Messrs. A. Stokes and E. Maccabe (the Ugly Sisters), Mr. H. May (Garlie), and Mr. Anderson (Phil), who keep the house in roars of laughter.

AT the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, Mr. Wilson Benger is presenting *The Eve of Her Wedding* with much success. The leading part is taken by Mr. Cecil A. Melton, and his interpretation of George Tremain wins unstinted admiration; Squire Leverton is well played by Mr. Charles Osborne, and that of his son, Dick, equally so by Mr. Henry Danson; Mr. C. Milley Doyle is excellent as Rudolph Earle; and Giovanni is capitally handled by Mr. Arthur Keand. Mr. Chas. W. Dockwray is clever in the dual parts of Paul Cairshaw and Hiram P. Younger; and Mr. Herbert Hastings gives a sympathetic rendering of Jack Herne, a cripple. Mr. Harry Leyton acquits himself creditably as Dean Clifton; Miss Pauline Nanton is a clever exponent of melodramatic art, and displays marked ability as Mavis Leverton; Renée de Telle is a masterpiece of stage villainy as portrayed by Miss Annie Ayton; and Miss Nancy L. Clarke does well as Edith Trevanion.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE will reappear at His Majesty's on Monday, the 24th, when *Beethoven* will be revived for a week. A few changes will be found in the cast, but for the most part the original company will appear, including, in addition to Sir Herbert Tree as Beethoven, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. William Haviland, Mr. Edward Sass, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy. As on the previous production of this play, the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Adolf Schmid, will be enlarged.

"THE O'FLYNN," which is Sir Herbert's next production at His Majesty's, will be produced on Feb. 1. The first scene is a State Ball at Dublin Castle, among the distinguished guests being James II. himself. The second is laid at Castle Famine, as The O'Flynn humorously alludes to his ancestral home. After many dashing adventures the intrepid Irishman—portrayed, of course, by Sir Herbert—woos and wins for his bride the lovely Lady Benedetta, to be played by Miss Evelyn d'Alroy. Mr. Henry Ainley will appear as Lord Sedgemouth, Miss Auriol Lee as Fancy Free, and Mr. William Fay, Mr. Edmund Gurney, Mr. Jules Shaw, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. Sheil Barry, Mr. William Mackintosh, Mr. Hubert Carter, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Edward Sass, and Miss Helen Ferrers are also engaged.

THE next manager of the Strand Theatre will be Mr. Robert Hilton, who starts his season early next month, with a revival of *Richelieu*. *David Garrick* is to be played at matinées. Future productions include a new version of *L'Arlésienne*, by Alphonse Daudet, in which Miss Ellen Terry will probably appear. Mr. Rider Haggard's *Cleopatra* is also included in Mr. Hilton's list of productions. Landon Ronald's orchestra of forty performers has been engaged. Mr. J. R. Wilkinson, a well-known Eccentric Clubman, is to be general business-manager.

MR. H. B. IRVING has chosen the evening of Jan. 29 for the production at the Queen's of a new stage version, by Mr. Comyns Carr, of Robert Louis Stevenson's famous story, "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." An interesting engagement made by Mr. Irving is that of Miss Tittell Brune, the young Australian actress, who lately succeeded Miss Violet Vanbrugh at the New Theatre as Claire Foster in *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Brune will play the part of Agnes Carew, the sweetheart of Dr. Jekyll during the time that gentleman retains his original personality. Among others in the company will be Mr. Eille Norwood, Mr. Charles Sugden, Miss Cynthia Brooke, and Miss Dorothea Baird, the last-named appearing as Mrs. Jekyll.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY commenced his spring tour of the provinces last Monday at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, and during the week appeared in *The Only Way*, *The World and His Wife*, *The Conspiracy*, and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*. The initial week of the tour has been of a most auspicious character, large and enthusiastic audiences being the rule. The popular actor appears at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, next week, and the interest of local playgoers is showing itself in some capital advance booking.

DURING the last few days Mr. Martin Harvey has been much amused at a schoolboy's "howler" in which he was involved. The youngster perpetrated the following pronouncement:—"Martin Harvey invented the circulation of the blood." As some publicity was accorded this really tremendous statement, Mr. Harvey, in the course of an interesting letter to us, thus refers to the matter:—

"The schoolboy was, after all, not so very far wrong, for though the matter is not an 'invention' (as my young friend has it), it remains, in the circumstances, a curiously-interesting fact that the circulation of the blood was *discovered* by an ancestor of mine, Sir William Harvey, who lies buried in the Chapel at Hemstead, near the place where he lived, Hemstead Hall, in Essex."

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton continue to enjoy social and artistic success in Australia. Such a "boom" has been created in Sydney, where the popular artists have been lately appearing, that one bookshop reports a sale of 3,000 copies of Shakespeare since the beginning of the season. One of the leading Sydney preachers, moreover, has made Mr. Asche's *Othello* the subject of a sermon.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL sailed on Wednesday for New York. The popular actress takes with her a play, entitled *The Ambassador's Wife*. It is the work of a new writer, who bears the name of Allan Patrick Campbell. The author, it may be concluded, is the only son of Mrs. Campbell. He was formerly a naval cadet in China on H.M.S. *Glory* and later an undergraduate of Hertford College, Oxford.

THE late M. Coquelin, the distinguished French actor, left estate of the gross value of £2,390 in the United Kingdom. He has bequeathed £8,000 to the Home for Comedians founded by him, £4,000 to his two nieces, £2,000 to his brother Gustave, and £4,000 to his servant Gillet. The testator's wishes are thus expressed:—"Apart from these few legacies, my son is therefore, of course, the universal legatee of what I have had so much trouble in earning. I beg him to be sparing of it, and, if he does not marry, to leave whatever remains thereof to the Association of Dramatic Artists, upon the committee of which I should like him to sit, if he share my ideas, and to succeed me some day in the presidency of that association."

MR. ACTON BOND and Miss Eve Tame took the parts of Malvolio and Viola at the first evening public dramatic reading of the Weston-super-Mare branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society. *Twelfth Night* proved a big draw, for a large and representative audience were present at the Assembly Rooms on Monday last. Miss Tame was presented with a bouquet. In acknowledging a vote of thanks Mr. Bond expressed his gratification at being present at their first big function, and predicted much success for the cause in Weston. Not only, he added, was Shakespeare, without doubt, more appreciated and understood when prominent men and women cheerfully gave up their time for rehearsals, to achieve such an evening's success, but all that was best in dramatic work generally would also gain considerably.

A MEETING of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association, Ltd., was held at the Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, Strand, on Jan. 7. Present: Mr. Cecil Barth (in the chair), Mr. E. G. Falcon, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. William Holles, and Mr. Frank Weathersby. A member reported a dispute with a resident-manager, and, both being agreeable, two members of the committee were appointed to arbitrate in the matter. The solicitor was instructed to take proceedings on behalf of a member against an actor who broke his engagement.

AT a meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club, held on the same day, the following gentlemen were elected members:—Mr. José G. Levy, Mr. George Dorman, Mr. Jack Denton, Mr. William H. Chattell, Mr. Arthur Ralph, Mr. Alban B. Limpus, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Edwin T. Heys, and Mr. F. Brown.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON received, at the hands of his Opera House, Southport, patrons, last week a wonderful greeting, and on Saturday night last extra rows of stalls and chairs had to be added to accommodate the huge audience. With *Brewster's Millions* every evening and *Pinkie and the Fairies* every afternoon a record week's business was done at the Opera House. At the termination of the performance, after Mr. Hutchison had received twenty-two calls during the evening, a speech was demanded from the popular lessee and manager, at the conclusion of which Mr. Hutchison was enthusiastically cheered.

ON the stage, immediately the curtain finally fell on *Brewster's Millions*, Mr. E. W. Silverthorne and Mr. Geo. Clarkson, the joint managers, presented to Mr. Hutchison, on behalf of the company, a handsome diamond scarf pin. The gift was feelingly acknowledged by the recipient.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison made handsome New Year's gifts, consisting of a case of silver-backed brushes, scarf pin, and watches to Mr. E. W. Silverthorne, manager of *Brewster's Millions* company, Mr. Geo. Clarkson, resident-manager of the Opera House; Mr. A. P. Kaye, stage-manager; and Mr. O. Hazleton, secretary.

"THE FIRES OF FATE," produced with such success by Mr. Lewis Waller at the Lyric Theatre, will have the benefit of a very strong cast when Mr. Vedrenne presents his company to Mr. Robert Arthur's patrons at the Fulham Theatre on Monday, Jan. 31. Included in the company will be Messrs. Stephen Ewart, Herbert Vyvyan, Frederick Worlock, Stanley Logan, Arthur Coventry, Herbert Maule, Gerald Mirrielees, Alfred Sandoe, Charles Francis, G. T. Lambert, and E. Vanderlip, and Mesdames Ruth Bower, Lydia Hayward, and Gwendolen Floyd.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR has decided to adopt still more popular lines at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, in the shape of a reduction in prices, which will come into force from Monday next. Patrons will therefore have an opportunity of visiting Mr. Bannister Howard's very successful pantomime *The Forty Thieves* at reduced charges for the remaining weeks of the run, during which an orchestra stall may be had for 3s., and a seat in the gallery for 6d.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON is to undergo to-day an operation for appendicitis. As he is in excellent general condition, there is every expectation of its being successful, and he has the best wishes of all his many friends.

THE New Frances Club, in spite of its comparatively short existence, has already gained a reputation for excellent Sunday concerts. Another of these was given by the club members and friends at the Rehearsal Club on Sunday evening, when songs were artistically rendered by Miss Roma Castille, Miss Gertrude Hember, and Mr. Harry Tolfree. That well-known artist, Miss Italia Conti, recited, Mr. Gordon Goodyer contributed humorous and serious piano recitals, and Mr. Sutherland Mackay's violin solos were greatly appreciated. The concluding item on the programme was a sketch, by Bertha N. Graham, *An Alien Star*, which was ably performed by Misses Winifred Howell-Jones, Muriel Meek, and Mr. Harold B. Lewis. The club is situated at 425, Strand, and has a growing membership.

WE regret to have to record the death on Saturday last of Mr. Augustine Knight, of pleurisy and pneumonia, at West Stanley. Mr. Knight was at one time a member of Mr. F. R. Benson's company. He also acted in *The Grip of Iron*, *Passion's Power*, *In the Shadow of Night*, and *The Worst of Her Sex*, making a hit as Le Loup in *The Face at the Window*. From 1906 to 1909 he toured *The Assassin*, *The Mysteries of the Thames*, and *Revenge*. In August, 1909, he rejoined *The Face at the Window* company to play Le Loup and undertake the general management for Messrs. Marriott Watson and James Ussher. He was a Mason, being a member of the Cheltenham Lodge and Liverpool Dramatic Lodge. The funeral took place at Cheltenham on Wednesday. Wreaths were sent by Miss Ella Vane, Mrs. Knight (sister-in-law), F. Threlkeld, N. B. Wilson, Miss Eva Trevenna, Mr. Arthur Keand, the members of *The Face at the Window* company, Messrs. Marriott Watson and J. Ussher, Miss Hettie Senior, Mr. George Stevens, Mr. T. W. Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. Tom J. Taylor, Mrs. Hancock (sister), Miss May Vane, Miss Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Stanley, Mr. and Mrs. A. Workman, Mr. and Mrs. G. Stevenson, W. M. and Brethren, the Royal Masonic Lodge, Cheltenham, and the members of *Only a Little Boy* Company. Mr. Alan Hineson sent a cross.

MISS RUTH VINCENT will be one of the most interesting of the newcomers to Covent Garden during the forthcoming season of grand opera under Mr. Thomas Beecham. The popular artist will appear as Gretel in Humperdinck's fairy opera. Miss Vincent studied with Mr. Hermann Klein, and subsequently in Paris with M. Bouhy, and her singing of the florid Italian airs (with an E in alt) at the Palace Theatre recently placed her in the very front rank of English sopranos.

THE full cast of *Dame Nature*, which will be produced at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, will consist of Messrs. Ernest Leicester, Norman Forbes, Frank Cooper, J. D. Beveridge, F. Kinsey Peile, Charles Hampden, Charles Dodsworth, Bertram Steer, and George Bealby, and Misses Ethel Irving, Nancy Price, Alma Ellerslie, Minnie Terry, Verita Vivien, Winifred Harris, Pamela Gaythorne, and Agnes Hewitt. At the end of a month, when *Dame Nature* gives way to a new piece, the former will be transferred to another theatre.

THE KING has granted Mr. H. S. J. Booth permission to accept from the King of Italy the title of Chevalier, and to wear the decoration of a Knight of the Crown of Italy, for organising the brilliantly successful Adelaide Ristori Memorial performance, given at His Majesty's Theatre in November of 1908. The investiture of the Order was made through the Italian Embassy by His Excellency the Marquis de San Giuliano, Ambassador to the Court of St. James's.

A NEW one-act play from Mr. Basil Dean's pen, entitled *Effie*, has been acquired for eventual production by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

MR. ROBERT WHYTE, JUN., has, we are glad to hear, successfully undergone his operation, and is now well on the way to recovery.

"RICHARD III." will be given as a dramatic reading by the British Empire Shakespeare Society—for the first time in Central London—on Thursday evening next, at University College, Gower-street, W.C. Mr. Acton Bond will appear in the name-part, Mr. Halliwell Hobbes as Clarence, Mr. Frederic Sargent as Buckingham, and Mr. Franklin Dyall as Richmond; Miss Adeline Bourne as Margaret, and Miss Nora Lancaster as Lady Anne. Mr. Howard Rose, Mr. Thomas Stewart, Mr. George Musgrove, Mr. Trevor Roper, Miss Florence Geere, and Miss Juliet Hardinge will also be included in the cast. *Romeo and Juliet* will be given by the Society, with a star cast, on Monday afternoon, Feb. 21, at the St. James's Theatre. Miss Evelyn d'Alroy will interpret Juliet.

EARLY this week Mr. W. W. Kelly sent to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool a cheque value £140 2s. 6d., the result of the benefit performance at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, in aid of the sufferers by the wreck of the Ellan Vannin. The popular manager has received the following letter in reply:—

"Dear Mr. Kelly,—I beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of your letter and cheque for £140 2s. 6d., the proceeds of the entertainment given at Kelly's Theatre in aid of the Ellan Vannin disaster. Such a handsome contribution to the fund is a most welcome addition to the effort which I have been making towards the object, and I think you are to be congratulated on the result of your assiduous efforts which have culminated in such a success.—Believe me, yours very truly, W. H. WILLIAMS, Lord Mayor."

AN interesting *début* was made at the Opera House, Northampton, recently, when Miss Nell Compton, a daughter of the popular comedian, Mr. Edward Compton, made her first appearance on the stage. Miss Compton elected to start her career in the characters of Sophia Freelove and as Maria in *The School for Scandal*, and acted in such a way that it was difficult to realise that it was a novice who was playing the parts.

MISS COMPTON is eighteen years old, and studied elocution, singing, music, and acting at Paris under Mlle. Favotte Faylis, of the Théâtre Française. Mr. Compton had already given one of his daughters to the service of the stage, Miss Viola Compton having met with conspicuous success on tour. She was seen in London at the Coronet last year, when she cleverly realised the title-rôle in a play founded on the life of Nell Gwynn.

NEWS is to hand from America of the death on the 2nd inst., after a long illness, of Mrs. Agnes Booth Schoeffel, wife of Mr. John B. Schoeffel, the owner of the Tremont Theatre, Boston. Mrs. Schoeffel, famous thirty years ago as Miss Agnes Booth, a Shakespearean actress and creator of many rôles, was born in Sydney, Australia, on Oct. 4, 1843. Her maiden name was Marian Agnes Land Rookes, and she was the daughter of a British officer then stationed in Sydney. She was attracted to the stage at an early age, and at fourteen made her début as a dancer.

SIX months later she went to San Francisco, where she appeared in drama, under the management of Mrs. John Wood. Later she joined the company at Maguire's Opera House, and remained with it until June 17, 1865. Four years previous to that, on Feb. 11, 1861, she married Henry A. Perry, an actor of ability, but he died within a year. Mrs. Perry went to New York in 1865, and made her metropolitan début at the Winter Garden in October of that year. Later, joining Edwin Forrest, whom she supported in *Richelieu* at Niblo's Garden, she became one of the leading actresses in the country.

SHE became the wife of Mr. Junius Brutus Booth in the spring of 1867, and thereafter was professionally associated with every star of prominence. She was for many years at the Madison-square Theatre, where she created the leading parts of numerous successes. Mr. Booth dying on Sept. 17, 1883, Mrs. Booth became the wife of Mr. John B. Schoeffel on Feb. 4, 1885. She retired from the stage a few years later and took up her residence at Manchester-by-the-Sea, subsequently moving to Boston, where she was a popular favourite. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Mr. Junius Brutus Booth and Mr. Sydney Barton Booth, the latter being in Miss Lillian Russell's company.

BY the courtesy of the manager of the Aston Theatre Royal and the members of the pantomime company performing there, about 250 children from the Cottage Homes of the Aston Union at Erdington on Saturday attended a matinée performance of *The Babes in the Wood*, heartily enjoying the treat.

MISS MARGARET MORRIS'S classic dancing, which has been a feature of the Fred Mouillot *Cinderella* tour, will shortly be in evidence in the metropolis, for when *Orfeo* is revived at His Majesty's in the early spring, in addition to appearing as *première danseuse*, Miss Morris will arrange all the dances. This week Miss Morris is at Croydon, where her "Dance of the Elves and Gnomes" makes *Cinderella* doubly attractive.

SINCE his return to Melbourne Sir Rupert Clarke, Bart., has made arrangements whereby he can give up a considerable portion of his time to the management of the firm of Clarke and Meynell, under which style it is to be in future carried on, Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell now being the managing-directors and sole lessees of the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, and the Criterion Theatre, Sydney.

THE handsome building, the Royal Victoria Pavilion Theatre, Ramsgate, has been leased to Mr. Thomas Richard Price, who has secured as his manager his brother, Councillor Charles Price, who has had great experience in this country, America, and the Continent. The summer season dates will be booked in conjunction with the Theatre Royal, Margate, by Weathersby's Agency.

THE many friends of Mr. Armstrong Bell, acting-manager of the Royal, Portsmouth, will regret to hear that he is making but very slow progress towards recovering from his severe attack of neuritis. Mr. Horner is temporarily discharging the duties appertaining to the post.

MISS AMY EVANS sang a new love song for the first time at the Savoy Theatre in the second act of *Fallen Fairies* on Wednesday. The words, which are by Sir William Gilbert, are very poetical, and the music by Mr. Edward German is worthy of that composer's high reputation. The new song was very successful.

A COMMITTEE, including Mr. C. F. Collings, Miss Vita Spencer, Mr. Robson Paige, Miss Lucy Sibley, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Rose Cazelet, Mr. Henry Pettitt, Miss Kitty Marion, Mr. Fred Annerley, Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. Langford Reed, Mr. Henry le Grand, Miss Beatrice Chester, Mr. Basil Dean, Miss Rose Mathews, and Miss Muriel Cottell, have issued a manifesto in order that all members of the Actors' Association who vote for the above may know exactly what they are doing. The candidates desire to state that they are in favour of, and if elected to the Council will do their utmost to obtain:—A minimum wage of £2 per week for all persons playing speaking parts of more than three lines. A payment of one full night's salary for all morning performances. Payment for all rehearsals after two weeks given free in the country and four weeks given free in London. Payment of cab fares up to 10s. to any member of a company requiring the same when any rehearsal has been protracted after ten o'clock at night. A free agency. The suspension of any stage-manager, acting-manager, or theatrical manager from service on the Council while employed in any of the above capacities. A standing order to the effect that the fullest possible publicity should be given to the minutes of the Council, and that nothing should be omitted therefrom saving such legal matters as our honorary solicitor may advise on the ground that they are transactions which should not be disclosed till they are complete, or that they are of a nature calculated to imperil the Society by an action for libel. The fearless exposure of all bogus or suspicious management. No increase in the subscription.

WHEN *Don* is moved to the Kingsway on Monday next it will be preceded by Mr. Harold Montague in a humorous pianologue. Mr. Herbert Trench has secured the services of Mr. Christopher Wilson as musical-director at the Kingsway during his season there. Mr. Wilson has had great experience in theatrical work. He directed the music for Mr. F. R. Benson during his Lyceum season in 1900, and was with Mr. Otho Stuart during the whole of his tenancy of the Adelphi, composing music for many of his productions, amongst others Mr. Besier's *Virgin Goddess*.

AT the end of the second act of *A Reformed Rake* at the Prince of Wales's, Grimsby, on the 7th inst., Mr. Edward Compton was presented with a magnificent silver cigar casket by Mr. J. H. Curry, the managing-director of the theatre. With it was a note from the donor: "Dear Mr. Compton, please accept this small token of my great admiration for you as an actor, my regard for you as a brother manager, and my esteem for you as an accomplished gentleman and a man of honour. When you chance to glance at it may the memories it conjures up be happy ones. With all good wishes for a bright and happy New Year. —Yours faithfully, Joseph H. Curry."

AT the conclusion of the performance, after Mr. Compton had briefly thanked the audience for their kind support, he said:—"I also desire to thank my old friend and your esteemed manager, Mr. Curry, for the very handsome silver cigar box with which he has surprised me to-night. I was quite taken aback—indeed, I haven't got over it yet—and it was accompanied by such a charming letter that I blushed furiously on reading it, and I believe, in fact, if you could see it, I am blushing still. Seriously, it has touched me deeply. I thank Mr. Curry from the bottom of my heart, and I assure him again that I shall always regard his beautiful presentation as another link in the chain which holds me so firmly and affectionately to the Grimsby Theatre and Grimsby theatregoers."

"CHRISTMAS AND THE DRAMA" was the title of a lecture delivered by Professor Gollancz at the London Institution on Monday. When the new religion came from the East, he said, the Roman Saturnalia exceeded all bounds in lewdness and immorality. To divert the attention of the people the Church fathers invented the liturgical drama, which finally celebrated in the monastic schools the festival of St. Nicholas, still kept up by children as the festival of Santa Claus. The monastic drama was the precursor of modern comedy and tragedy—the buffoons, the jugglers, and the comic interlude players enacted secular pieces always associated with Christmas.

THEY could not doubt that some of the very finest plays that were ever likely to be written were written by Shakespeare for the period between Christmas and Twelfth Night, when revels ceased and work began. There was inherent evidence that *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Cymbeline*, and, of course, *Twelfth Night*, were written for that season, as well as Ben Jonson's wonderful masques. The association of Christmas with the drama was still maintained, as could be seen by the titles of the children's pantomimes, and he hoped they might look forward to the tercentenary of Shakespeare, when some new dramatic genius would arise to perpetuate in dramatic form the great and noble ideals of the season.

THE Mayor and Mayoress (Sir William and Lady Dupree), with a large party, witnessed the performance of *Alone in London* at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, on Saturday evening. The cosy theatre was packed from floor to ceiling. Miss Nellie Clyde, who charmed the audience with her acting of Nan, the flower girl, was the recipient of many floral offerings, including a magnificent bouquet from the Mayoress. A very pretty compliment was paid to the actress after the third act, several Portsmouth flower girls handing bunches of their flowers to her over the footlights.

"IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN" is the title of a new drama by Riada (Frank Adair), author of *The Favourite*, &c., and is to be produced in London in June.

IN addition to *The Way the Money Goes*, by Lady Bell, which is to constitute the next production of the Stage Society, the programme will include a one-act play, by Fred D. Barker, entitled *A Lioness and Her Whelps*. The two pieces will be presented on the evening of Sunday, Feb. 6, and in the afternoon of the following day.

MISS MAB PAUL has left for Australia to play lead with Mr. George Willoughby (Meynell and Gunn) in *The Night of the Party*, *The Woman in the Case*, *Preedy and the Countess*, &c. Miss Paul has just completed a very successful tour with the first-named piece. It may be recalled that she played junior lead with the late Sir Henry Irving as Beatrice in *Dante*, and Melantho in *Ulysses* with Sir Herbert Tree.

THE partnership heretofore subsisting between Joseph Ainsley, Henry Hall, and Henry Lewis Osmond, carrying on business as theatre proprietors at Houghton-le-Spring in the County of Durham, under the style or firm of the Houghton Theatre Company, has been dissolved by mutual consent as and from Jan. 6, 1910, and Mr. Henry L. Osmond has disposed of his interest in the New Gaiety, Houghton, to his two late partners, and intends touring his new musical absurdity, *Miss Plaster of Paris*. The tour will begin on Easter Monday.

THE Princess Marie Louis of Bourbon, Duchess of Seville, Princess of Karadja, and Prince Constantine of Karadja, and friends, visited the Coronet Theatre on Wednesday afternoon to witness the remarkably successful revival of *The Private Secretary*, which Mr. Robert Arthur has staged this season for forty performances. Mr. Eade Montefiore, the manager of the Coronet, was honoured by an invitation to lunch to meet the Royal party prior to the performance.

THE new piece destined for production next month at the Prince of Wales's, to which we referred in our last issue, is to be called *The Balkan Princess*. The plot concerns a princess who, while incognita, meets a nobleman in a restaurant and falls in love with him, until, angered by his disloyal sentiments, she reveals her identity and demands that he shall be arrested. The third act brings about the happy reconciliation of the princess and her prisoner. The principal members of the cast will be Miss Isabel Jay, who will play the Princess; Mr. Bertram Wallis, who will portray the seditious nobleman; Mr. James Blakeley, and Mr. Lauri De Frece.

AN event which is being anticipated with much interest in Berlin is the production next month of Mr. Arthur Nevin's Indian opera, *Poia*, at the Royal Opera—the first American work ever put on that stage. Poia is the Indian god, or rather Messiah, who brings the dying the consoling message of their reception into the realms of the happy. The book is by Mr. R. Hartley, and the composer has founded many passages upon native melodies of the Blackfoot Indians, among whom he lived some time for the purpose of study. It is even stated that some original Indian instruments are on their way from America to take their place in the Royal Opera orchestra. Herr Leo Blech, one of the first Kapellmeisters of the Opera House, will conduct the work.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON, who has recently made quite a number of notable additions in regard to costume plays to the drama, produced a new play on Friday evening at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, set in the eighteenth-century period. This latest addition to Mr. Compton's répertoire is an adaptation of Charles Mathews' *Used Up*, entitled *The Blasé Baronet*. It has been specially written for Mr. Compton by Walter E. Grogan, of whose works Mr. Compton has several already in his repértoire, including *A Reformed Rake* and *The Scarlet Coat*. On Friday Mr. Compton celebrated his birthday, and was presented with a laurel wreath by the members of his company as a token of the esteem and regard in which he is held.

THE Lent term of the Trinity College of Music will commence very shortly. On Wednesday next the opera class, conducted by Mr. Cairns James, will meet, and on the following Wednesdays *Les Cloches de Corneville* is in rehearsal. On Thursday the orchestral class (conductor, Mr. Wilhelm Sachse) will meet, and on the following Mondays and Thursdays. On Monday, Jan. 31, there will be a students' concert; and on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 1, the first of four lectures on Musical History will be delivered by Dr. C. W. Pearce at 3.30 p.m. The Lent term will end on April 8.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN, on the completion of a special re-engagement as Charley, in *Charley's Aunt*, has been engaged to play George Fisher during the spring tour of *Are You a Mason?*

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN, who has just terminated a six months' successful engagement as Zara in *The Girl Who Went Astray*, was the recipient of two beautiful bouquets, one from her manager and other from the juvenile and heavy leading men of the company, on the occasion of her 825th performance of Lady Isabel in her own copyrighted version of "East Lynne," which she produced for Mr. Bulmer and which drew packed houses at the Opera House, Londonderry, the last three nights of last week.

THE new one-act play, *The Parents' Progress*, which is to be put on in front of *The Little Damozel* at the Prince of Wales's, will be produced on Tuesday, Jan. 25. The cast will comprise Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Ruby Miller, Mr. Ernest Thesiger, Mr. Guy H. Addison, and Miss Lorna Lawrence. The scene of the playlet is laid at Balham, and is concerned with the affairs of a ready-made clothier.

IN consequence of the success of *Cinderella* at the Crystal Palace Theatre, Mr. J. Bannister Howard has arranged to give extra matinées on Thursday next and the following Thursday in addition to the usual matinées on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

THE variety stage is claiming more and more from the ranks of the legitimate. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, one of its most distinguished representatives, has succumbed to a tempting offer to appear at the Coliseum, where she opens in September next. Miss Winifred Emery has been secured for the Hippodrome, whither she goes on Feb. 21; and Miss Fanny Brough will shortly appear at the Empire, where she will play the principal part in a farcelet, entitled *A Change of Front*, by Mr. Malcolm Watson.

WE are glad to hear that Mr. Lestocq is completely recovered from his recent indisposition and is now as alert and energetic as ever.

THE entire rights of *De Thuiskomst*, a wordless play, invented by George Unwin, with the music by Jacques Henri, have been acquired by Herr Engelen, of Amsterdam, who will produce it shortly in that city. It will afterwards be seen in the principal capitals of Europe, including London and New York. The music is said to be exceptional. The story is tragic, and will be interpreted by some of the most prominent Dutch actors and actresses.

A BROCHURE DE LUXE, dealing with Mr. Beecham's forthcoming opera season at Covent Garden, is issued free by Mr. Thomas Quinlan. The booklet gives the plot of the operas forming the répertoire, including that of *Elektra*, and a list of the singers.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison have secured the entire provincial and suburban rights of *Don*, and will send out an exceptionally strong company at Easter.

THE Theatrical Managers' Association of Australia, of which Mr. Clyde Meynell is chairman *pro tem.*, and Mr. Phil Finkelstein hon. secretary, is now a powerful body, and has done a great deal to conserve the interests of the various managements throughout Australia, and improve matters generally in connection with the business.

THE old Theatre Royal at Croydon, where Edmund Kean, Sothern, Charles Mathews, Ben Webster, Buckstone, Irving, and Toole appeared, is being demolished. Originally a theatre stood almost opposite the site of the present structure on Crown Hill. Access to the gallery of this house was obtained by a wooden staircase outside. The building was pulled down during the remodelling of the west side of the High-street and the destruction of the old Middle-row. Amongst those mentioned as proprietors of the theatre at one time or another are Burton, Fly, Gilles, Watton, French, Barrett, and the Buckstones (Jack and Rowland). Miss Foote was advertised to perform there in March, 1830, and she came to Croydon for that purpose, but refused to appear because the salary offered was too small. Charles Kelly and Harry Taylor played there, as did also Charles Mathews; Irving and Foote acted there for a week. When Sothern acted there the house was so crowded that money had to be refused.

EDMUND KEAN appeared there as Sir Giles Overreach and Richard III., and Webster walked to Croydon, when poor and half-starved, to play at the old theatre. William Gilles managed the property for many years. He was an old-time actor who had a long and varied career, travelling and performing in most of the towns in the United Kingdom. He was for some period with Charles Kelly, husband to Miss Ellen Terry. He was also partner with Robert Soutar, husband of Nellie Farren, in Blackburn, Oldham, as far back as 1858. The following dates are interesting. In 1800 the old theatre was built by Fly. In 1845-6 it was run as an amateur theatre, and was taken by Harry de Brennir and his Tremont Serenaders for three weeks, the prices being five shillings all over the house. The original entrance was then under what was recently the gallery archway. In 1835-6 Barrett was proprietor. Before Messrs. Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett took the theatre, John Loome had it, the Four Musical Palmers forming the orchestra. In 1875 or 6 Lady Sebright brought a company to the house which included Sothern and Charles Mathews, giving a show for the benefit of the hospital, high prices being charged.

LONG "queues" of cold, shivering Parisians were waiting their turns in the street outside the Porte Ste. Martin Theatre, Paris, on Thursday night to procure tickets for *Chantecler*. Seats in the stalls and the dress-circle for the first two performances fetched £5 each, and were sold by speculators at double that sum. For the first twenty performances it will be impossible to obtain a stall under £2, and accommodation in the amphitheatre will command proportionately high prices. Although the box-office has only been open about eight hours, the advance bookings already exceed £2,000.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Whistler's "Irving."

IN consequence of the death of Mr. E. Thomas, of Philadelphia, Whistler's "Irving as Philip II. of Spain," for which the late owner gave 4,800 guineas at the Irving sale of 1905, is, says the *Daily News*, again in the market. No Whistler has ever fetched so high a price at auction in this country, though by private treaty "La Princesse du Pays de la Porcelain" and the Valparaiso Nocturne were more highly valued. Some time after being exhibited at the Grosvenor Gallery in 1877 as "An Arrangement in Black," Irving picked up the "Philip II." for £20 or £30. Some will recall, again, that it was temporarily in a Bradford gallery when, a few hundreds yards away, the actor was bidding farewell to life.

Dull Lovers.

"WHY," asks a querist in the *Daily Mail*, "are present-day plays about such uninteresting people? Everywhere you go you see old men of forty making love to the heroine, and the audience seem to like it. Why cannot a young man be a hero nowadays? Whenever you see a man of less than thirty in a modern play he seems to have been interpolated as a kind of comic relief. Is it because the dramatists are middle-aged and out of touch with youth? They have deceived themselves, I suppose, into thinking that only middle age is attractive and interesting. Their heroines are thirty-five, and their heroes forty, and their young men impossible. And it is just the same whatever you read or wherever you go, the man in the thirties is the only person that seems to matter.

Serious Heroes.

"THE dramatist's hero of to-day has grown his wisdom teeth at the back of beyond and faced adventure in the dark and dangerous places of the earth. Or he has won wealth as a pioneer in new countries, and returns with a mission to rebuke our frivolity, or he does quixotic things to point a sermon, or he is a victim of the engrossing cares of high finance, or he is in arms against a narrow-minded world. But whatever his particular duties he is always and altogether a most mature and serious-minded person. And naturally he takes his love-story very seriously—which perhaps explains his popularity.

Cynical Youth.

"It is scarcely the fault of the dramatist. He can only hold up the mirror to nature and try to see it does not slant. Every age has its hero, and it should be recognised that to-day only a mature hero can be regarded as desirable or even possible as the perfect lover. And why? I put the question to a woman, a wise woman, who confesses forty. 'Only a young man can be a hero,' she decided, 'but the modern young man is not young. He has sold his birthright for the bubble reputation of a cynic.'"

Cinderella's Other Slipper.

A CORRESPONDENT writes as follows: Noticing the favourable reports and rumours of the beautiful and funny pantomime *Cinderella* (presented by Moss' Empires, Ltd., by arrangement with Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan) at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, I paid a visit to that fine building (now replete with every comfort) the other evening, and was compelled to admit that what I had read and heard was true in every detail. I do not think I ever enjoyed a theatrical entertainment so much. It is quite a fairy play with music, full of choice tit-bits and rollicking, clean fun. While in the refreshment bar I chanced upon a gentleman who informed me he had just arrived from the East, and we chatted sociably together during the interval. He appeared to be a great scholar, and (*inter alia*) made known to me the following story of Cinderella's "other" slipper, which he stated appeared in the original script of the story, but which does not appear to be generally known: When Cinderella ran away from the Prince's Palace on the fateful stroke of twelve she, in her haste, dropped one of her slippers. On arriving home, and prior to going to bed, she placed the other slipper near at hand. Her two sisters shared the same sleeping apartment with her. Very early in the morning one of the said sisters whispered affrightedly that she thought a burglar was in the room, and sure enough it was so, and the bad man was the Evil Genii come to steal the slipper. All the sisters thereupon jumped out of bed, and seizing the man, they looked for something to thrash him with. Cinderella's slipper being the nearest object, they slapped the man soundly with it, knocking sense and nonsense out of him until he begged, on his knees, for mercy. Then the faithful men retainers came in, and taking the burglar away they drowned him in the local duck-pond. Thus it came about that both of Cinderella's slippers performed a useful service; one secured to her a noble prince as a husband, while the other probably saved her life.

The Acting of Children.

"THE children who have recently astonished London do not seem to me to go beyond elementary acting," writes Mr. E. A. Baughan in the *Daily News*, "but the astonishing thing is that they show a keen sense of humour, as if they themselves thoroughly understood our grown-up sense of the inappropriate. I have never been able to understand this sense of humour in children, for it presupposes some curious power of analysis which we hardly associate with childhood. They pretend to themselves that their dolls and teddy-bears are alive, and the grown-up creature who clumsily shows that he does not understand that serious make-believe has a poor chance of being popular.

"I HAVE never seen a child act in the true sense of the word. They are never anything but themselves, or a conscious exaggeration of themselves. As I have already written, many grown-up players do not go beyond that elementary form of acting. The real art of imagining the emotional and mental life of a character and conveying it to the audience they cannot be expected to possess. Very few grown-up players are actors in that sense; very few indeed! All that these wonderful children prove is that the superficial type of acting is just a matter of instinct, and is not an art at all."

A Theatrical Time.

THE eighteenth century was a demonstrative time in England, one of italics, one far more theatrical than has been supposed (says Mr. Walter Sichel in his recently-published life of Sheridan). Tears did not go out of publicity till 1808, when the surtout came into fashion and the eighteenth century may be said to have died. For some forty years they were cultivated in both Houses, where they were as common as the Latin quotations. Burke wept when Fox praised him in 1790, and fox wept at Burke's irrevocable farewell from his friend and pupil in the following year. Fox, indeed, was an inveterate weeper on political emergencies. Tears trickled down the fat cheeks of this spoiled child of fifty in 1799, when he hurried up for two days from his Arcadian self-exile in the vain hopes of at length defeating Pitt. Fox and Burke were emotional, but Pitt, the unruffled, wept also, "pressing his hat upon his brow," when the vote impeaching his beloved Lord Melville was recorded.

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

"CAPTAIN KIDD."

Musical Play, by Seymour Hicks, Adapted from Richard Harding Davis's successful Play, *The Dictator*, Lyrics by Adrian Ross, Additional Lyrics by George Arthurs, Music by Leslie Stuart, Produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Viscount Albany	MR. SEYMOUR HICKS
Simpson	MR. HUGH E. WRIGHT
Dick Hyne	MR. EVELYN BERRBOHM
Colonel John T. Bowie	MR. JOHN CLULOW
Duffy	MR. FRED LEWIS
Rev. Arthur Bostick	MR. CYRIL ASHFORD
General Santos Campos	MR. FRANK WILSON
Samuel Codman	MR. FRANK VIGAY
Dr. Vasques	MR. J. J. HOOKER
Lieutenant Perry	MR. CHARLES BRADLEY
Colonel Garcia	MR. FRANK AIMES
Lieutenant Manuel	MR. F. F. HOLT
Teresa Glond	MISS ROSIE CHESNEY
May Pole	MISS MAY KENNEDY
Grace Hufnagle	MISS DORIS STOCKER
Rose Flipmaguilder	MISS MARIE BRENDA
Amy Striapolo	MISS CARINA CLIFF
Lily Friedenhamar	MISS LAURIE OPPERMAN
Anne Tique	MISS NELLIE PRYOR
Olga Comoff	MISS NANCIE FREYNE
Emmie Palorompins	MISS ASTA FLEMING
Sarita	MISS FLORENCE THURSTON
Mrs. John T. Bowie	MISS SYLVIA BUCKLEY
Senorita Juanita Arguilla	MISS HILDA GUIVER
Aggie Shrubb	MISS IVY ST. HELIER
Mme. Ducrot	MISS MOLLIE LOWELL
Lucy Sheridan	MISS ELLALINE TERRISS

Captain Kidd has one great advantage—it starts with an excellent story. Mr. Richard Harding Davis's play, *The Dictator*, which was performed on May 3, 1905, at the Comedy Theatre by an American company, headed by Mr. William Collier, is a good example of the comedy of adventure. By the time that this is in print the performance of the piece will have been reduced to convenient limits, and the dialogue and incidents curtailed and condensed. Captain Kidd is the name adopted by young Viscount Albany, who, having been insulted by a cabman in New York, has knocked him down, and left him for dead. Flying to the States to escape arrest for murder, he embarks on the Bolivar, a ship bound for Porto Banos, a town in Central America. On board of the vessel is a charming young lady named Lucy Sheridan, who is going out to Porto Banos to marry the Rev. Arthur Bostick, a pale and plain clergyman. On the voyage Viscount Albany falls in love with her, and she is favourably impressed by his boldness, vivacity, and unfailing good humour. A certain Colonel John T. Bowie has been appointed American Consul of Porto Banos, and has arranged, in order to obtain power, for a revolution to take place on his arrival. Unfortunately, his local partisan is overpowered by a rival, Santos Campos, and Bowie is afraid for his life to land. Albany, on his side, has been frightened by the appearance on the ship of a secret service detective, named Duffy, who has been ordered by cable to arrest the Viscount for the affair of the cabman; so Albany and Bowie exchange identities, and the former goes on shore as the Consul of Porto Banos. Before he leaves the ship, however, he almost estranges Miss Sheridan from him by—in his character of Colonel Bowie—embracing Mrs. Bowie, a young and attractive female.

In the next scene we are at the American Consulate. The clergyman has been arrested by mistake as Viscount Albany, and has been chained to the short and sprightly stewardess of the Bolivar, who has been taken for his accomplice. Santos Campos, now general and president of the state, arrives with his troops, and bullies the pretended Consul, whom, however, he dares not attack in the sacred shelter of the Consulate. Albany, who has plenty of money, hires an army and prepares for resistance. His anxieties are increased by the menacing attitude of a certain passionate and revengeful Central American, Senorita Juanita Arguilla, an old flame of Bowie's. But Miss Sheridan, whose loyalty to her clerical fiancée weakens when she learns of his incarceration with the stewardess, is still favourably disposed towards the Viscount. In the end, of course, he triumphs, gets through his difficulties, and marries Lucy, the Rev. Arthur pairing off with the Senorita, who will assist him in converting the natives.

The success of the play is assured by the dominating personality and immense popularity of Mr. Seymour Hicks, who is the spoilt child of his particular public, and is allowed by them unlimited licence. He keeps the house in intermittent laughter while he is on the stage; and so deliciously absurd are his "gags" and jokes, so buoyantly audacious are his sallies, and he has such a complete faith in himself and trust in his audience, that he proves entirely irresistible. He gets the utmost amount of effect out of his songs, notably one about the only girl he ever loved. But it is the never-ceasing activity, the unfailing good humour of Mr. Hicks that win the day. Miss Ellaline Terriss's charm and cleverness are as evident as ever, and in the part of Lucy Sheridan she is only second to Mr. Hicks in her amusing interpolations. She renders her two songs, "Peru" and "Yucatan" with her usual grace and expression, and her passages of arms with Mr. Hicks, and her share in duets with him, are very daintily done. The surprise of the evening was the success of Miss Ivy St. Helier, who played the "Louie Freear" part of Aggie Shrubb with an easy, natural humour, which was very effective, and won a well-deserved encore for a capital song in the second act, her high note bringing down the house. Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm very cleverly made the most of the slight part of Dick Hyne; Mr. Hugh E. Wright gave importance to the part of Simpson by the dry humour with which he depicted the gloomy valet; and Miss Hilda Guiver's fine voice, impressive energy, and bold beauty were valuable in the rôle of the Senorita Arguilla. The remaining characters, small as they were, had all excellent representatives. Mr. John Clulow was strong and characteristic as the conspiring Colonel; Mr. Fred Lewis's loud and throaty secret service agent stood out distinctly; Mr. Cyril Ashford, well made up, was passively drôll as the comic clergyman; Mr. Frank Wilson made a dazzling and truculent Santos Campos; Mr. Frank Vigars did well as the Captain of the Bolivar; Mr. J. J. Hooker was efficient as Dr. Vasques; and Mr. Charles Bradley was satisfactory as Lieutenant Perry. Praise is also due to Miss Mollie Lowell, a buxom and attractive hotel proprietress; and to Miss Sylvia Buckley, an agreeable representative of Mrs. John T. Bowie, Miss Florence Thurston dancing well as Sarita. Mr. Joseph Harker has painted two picturesque scenes; Mr. Fred Farren has arranged some pretty dances; and the chorus and costumes are charming. We must not forget to praise Mr. Leslie Stuart's music, which is in that clever composer's most sweet and facile vein. *Captain Kidd* will develop into a success.

Costume at the Theatre.

"IT is amusing," says *John Bull*, "to hear that in Berlin they are at last making a fierce stand against the wearing of 'day' dresses at the opera and theatres by women of wealth and rank, as has hitherto been a sort of lingering fashion; also against the wearing of evening dress, by men, at weddings, funerals, and afternoon receptions of a ceremonial nature. A club has been formed amongst the most influential people in Berlin society, and the reform was openly started on New Year's Day in all the fashionable restaurants, theatres, and public places of amusement."

"THE QUEEN OF HEARTS" AT KENNINGTON.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

There is something uncommon and original about the "book" of the Kennington pantomime. Since the opening night large excisions have been made in the text, but sufficient of the dialogue has been left to outline the story of the greedy king who marries his cook, and of the sorceress who keeps a charming damsel of Royal blood under her spell, and curses the Royal tarts, with the result that the king and queen are dethroned and obliged to resort to menial work to obtain a living. Their son, Florizel, falls in love with the enchanted maiden, faces danger and temptation to reach her, and eventually marries her. The elasticity of the story admits of the introduction of any amount of interpolated fun; and laughter seldom ceases during the performance of this lively and diverting annual. The members of the cast all work hard, and their burlesque acting has the necessary dramatic backbone. Mr. Stephen Adeson, for instance, gives suggestion of real power in his travesties of melodrama, and plays the King with irresistible energy and spirit, singing with a humorous earnestness and point which bring down the house. With him, as the lawyers say, is Mr. Arthur Rigby, whose drollery is various, ingenious, and unconscious. The elderly woman of the lower middle class is always an amusing personage in a suburban pantomime, and Mr. Rigby does not vulgarise the type. His lecture to ladies is punctuated with screams of laughter, obtained in legitimately comic means. Both he and Mr. Adeson introduce plenty of business; and the house rings with mirth at their troubles with the donkey-cart, in which they "move" to their new home, and at their odd attempts at making pastry. Mr. Harry Dent, who plays the treacherous Knave of Hearts, overflows with fun, and completes the trio of broad fun-makers. He joins with Mr. Adeson in an amusing "skit" on certain music hall turns, and is constantly creating merriment throughout the progress of the pantomime. A dashing, delightful principal boy is Miss Violet Loraine, whose energy and activity are agreeably spontaneous, and whose voice, good in both upper and lower register, is heard in some very spirited and successful songs. Miss Loraine is full of animation and earnestness, and her fine figure and supple grace complete her triumph as Florizel. A sweet and sympathetic Estrella is Miss Mabel Green, whose singing is decidedly above the average, and who looks very pretty and pathetic as the enchanted princess. Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill enacts the sorceress, Armida, in sternly dramatic style, and presents a very imposing appearance; Miss May Sheridan is admirable in every way as the Fairy Fortuna; Miss Renee Reel dances cleverly as the Joker; and Miss Ethel Buckler, Miss Mabel Vere, Miss Eunice Gray, and Miss Clarice Carley are handsome and graceful Builders of Bridges. The incidental music, composed by Julian H. Wilson and J. O. Shepherd, is remarkably good, and some of the numbers are quite operatic. The ballet is tastefully attired, and does its work well, under the able direction of Miss Madge Martin, whose Eight Sunbeams are pretty and dainty dancers; and the choruses are remarkably well rendered by trained singers, under the expert bâton of Mr. Wilson. There is some very beautiful scenery by Messrs. Stafford Hall, W. T. Helmsley, G. E. W. Mickie, and J. Fowler Hogg, notably a set of four leading up to that of Poppy Land, at the end of the first part, painted by the last-named artist, in which the colours are agreeably dainty and delicate. There is also a cleverly-contrived airship panorama by the same gentleman in the second part. *The Queen of Hearts* is a composite entertainment, and it is difficult to say whether its success is due to the way in which the artists have energised and invented, to the way in which the costumiers and the scene-painters have done their work, or to the complete and careful manner in which Mr. Robert Arthur has superintended the preparation of the whole. Success, at any rate, has been attained; and Mr. H. Barrett Brandreth is kept busy in attending to the demands on him in the front of the house, where the box-office is besieged at all hours.

Caruso at the Post Office.

AN amusing anecdote relating to Signor Caruso's recent tour in America is given in the Paris *Temps*. The famous tenor, who had just left the Metropolitan Opera House, where he had scored a tremendous success, went to the post office, accompanied by a friend, to take out an insured letter containing a large sum of money which had been sent to him from Europe. The official, however, notwithstanding his protests, refused to hand over the packet to him. He vainly exhibited envelopes, cheques, and photographs; the postal employee would not hear of it. "Come again to-morrow," he said, coolly. "But I am leaving this country to-night," exclaimed Caruso. "I must have my money now!"

THE American official suddenly appeared to have been struck by a bright idea. "You claim to be Caruso, do you? Well, then, you can easily prove it; sing us something." Taken aback at the request, Signor Caruso hesitated one moment. But the postal official had settled himself comfortably on his seat to hear the tenor, and had invited his colleagues to act as judges. So the famous singer gave up resistance, and gave, in his most enchanting tones, the romance from the third act of *The Tosca*, in which the hero declares in sighs that he is going to die in despair, and that he has never loved life better.

"BRAVO! bravissimo!" exclaimed the officials, at the concluding notes. "And now," added the letter clerk, "here is your packet. We knew who you were all the time; only, as you charge the poor public such impossible prices for hearing you, we thought we would do so free of charge. Kindly sign the receipt book, and accept our sincerest thanks." There was nothing left for Caruso to do but to laugh at the adventure, which he did, says the *Temps* correspondent, very heartily.

"DON," Rudolph Besier's comedy, was produced at the New Theatre, New York, on Dec. 30, and, being admirably acted by the company, was received with applause and much laughter. Mr. Matheson Lang was capital in the title-rôle, and Mr. William McVay did equally well as General Sinclair, Don's prospective father-in-law. Mr. Louis Calvert's embodiment of the religious fanatic, Thompsett, was true to life. Miss Beverly Sitgreaves, Mr. E. M. Holland, Miss Thais Lawton, and Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter played prominent parts, and contributed to the success of the performance. *Liz, the Mother*, a one-act play, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce, preceded *Don* as a curtain-raiser. It was originally produced in London at the Waldorf Theatre under the title of *His Father*, and is a grim portrayal of life and character in the East End of London. Miss Annie Russell acted the title-rôle of Liz Piecemeal effectively, and was well supported by Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Oswald Yorke, and Miss Jessie Busley as the other members of the Piecemeal family.

THE Glossop-Harris Répertoire Company opened at the New Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, on Monday, in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. H. P. Owen does well as Antonio; Mr. Frank Cellier makes a powerful Shylock; Miss Ine Cameron makes a clever Jessica; and Miss Florence Glossop-Harris an excellent Portia. Other plays down for the week are *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Scandal*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *Othello*.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting, held on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Frederick Moriand, in the chair; Mr. H. W. Mote, Solicitor; Messrs. F. J. Arlton, Cyril Cattley, Leonard Shepherd, J. Poole Kirkwood, Langford Reed, Lewis Casson, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Marion Lind, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary.

The minutes of the meetings held on the 4th and 8th inst. were read and confirmed.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of Mr Freund's letter and to write to Herr Stark saying that they would be willing to wait until he was able to give more information with regard to the re-construction of the Rules and Regulations of the German Actors' Society.

The auditors presented the report of accounts and balance-sheet, which was discussed at length, and eventually Messrs. Barnes, Dunn, and Boughton promised the final statement of accounts in time for the Special Meeting of the Council on Friday (yesterday) at 12 noon. The Council accorded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Boughton for his very clear statement of accounts.

It was decided that the Secretary be instructed to arrange for a new register or details of a scheme for presentation that day three weeks.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter from the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and to say that they agreed to appoint a delegate to the London County Council on Wednesday, the 26th inst., and that they would be glad to hear further from the Union as to their proposed action.

The Secretary was instructed to place the last paragraph of the letter with regard to the suggestion of organising Sunday concerts on the Agenda for the first meeting of the new Council. The Secretary was further instructed to acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Secretary of the Imperial Sunday Alliance and to thank them for their kind expression of opinion.

The Hon. Solicitor tendered his report in which it was stated: "We have had an interview with a member, and he has accepted the sum offered by a manager in full settlement of the claim. We have had a letter from a manager offering to settle two claims by paying less than what is claimed and have had an interview with a member who has instructed us to accept an amount in settlement. The Hon. Solicitor likewise read the proposed agreement with the Kitchen Committee.

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Arlton and adopted.

It was proposed that the standing order with regard to dogs be uphe'd. An amendment that small dogs be permitted was lost, and a proposition that a notice be posted in the rooms and on the landing on the entrance to the rooms that dogs are not admitted was carried.

The following were elected:—Una Erle, H. A. Saintsbury, Hamilton Deane, H. S. Gerrish, Eva Balfour, Ethel Fifield, Roy Byford, Adeline Leicester. The nominations were:—Arthur Baxendell, Geoffrey Saville, Beatrice Smith, Alice O'Dea, J. Plumpton Wilson, Evelyn Shaw, Ernest Vinden, Jessica Thorne.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Though many of the candidates now up for election are well known to the members of the Actors' Association, their views on certain matters of vital importance have never yet been publicly formulated. What we think about the past does not matter so much as what we should propose to do in the future. In order that there may be no doubt about our opinions, and in order that all members who vote for us may know exactly what they are doing, we desire to state that we are in favour of and if elected to the Council shall do our utmost to obtain:

1. A minimum wage of £2 per week for all persons playing speaking parts of more than three lines.
2. A payment of one full night's salary for all morning performances.
3. Payment of all rehearsals after two weeks given free in the country, and four weeks given free in London.
4. Payment of cab fares up to 10s. to any member of a company requiring the same, when any rehearsal has been protracted after ten o'clock at night.
5. A free agency.
6. The suspension of any stage manager, acting manager, or theatrical manager from service on the Council while employed in any of the above capacities.
7. A standing order to the effect that the fullest possible publicity should be given to the minutes of the Council, and that nothing should be omitted therefrom, saving such legal matters as our honorary solicitor may advise on the ground that they are transactions which should not be disclosed till they are completed, or that they are of a nature calculated to imperil the society by an action for libel.
8. The fearless exposure of all bogus or suspicious management.
9. No increase in the subscription.

In order that a definite result may be obtained at the coming annual general meeting, and that the future Council may have some exact guidance as to the wishes of the members of the association, we venture to express the hope that members who approve of the policy we have put forward, and will support it by voting for us, will not vote for any other candidates. A half-and-half Council will be worse than a curse to the Association. We beg members to vote on principle frankly and fearlessly one way or the other. But we trust they will leave nothing in doubt. We say to them plainly, if you vote for anyone whose name is not to be found in the signatures to this letter, do not vote for us. But if you vote for us, do not vote for anyone else.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants

(Signed), C. F. Collings, Vita Spencer, Robson Paige, Lucy Sibley, Cecil Raleigh, Rose Cazalet, Kitty Marion, Fred Annerley, Edward Morgan, Langford Reed, Henry Le Grand, Beatrice Chester, Basil Dean, Mildred Cottell, Rose Mathews, and Henry Pettitt.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Members of the Actors' Association have this year an unusual chance of letting the council known exactly what they think of it. For a long time past it has been the custom to elect the council at the annual general meeting, only those persons present giving their votes. This year every member of the Association has been sent a voting paper, so that the entire strength of the Association can record its opinion. This I devoutly hope it will do, in decided terms. Nothing is so bad for any Association as a half-hearted, half-and-half administration. Opinions on certain matters have recently been so divided that I venture to assert that it is the duty of every man and woman in the Actors' Association to record his or her vote this year.

Let me point out at the same time that no vote is valid unless the subscription of the voter is paid before Jan. 25. The members who do not want to pay their full subscription within that time can qualify by paying one-quarter, in the usual way. So to my fellow members of the Association I say, "Don't waste time, qualify at once, and record your votes."

May I point out in conclusion that members need not vote for the full number of twenty-five candidates? They need only vote for the candidates they know—for the candidates whose views they agree with.—Faithfully yours,

CECIL RALEIGH.

2, Brunswick-place, Regent's Park, N.W.

Jan. 12, 1910.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DON JUAN'S LETZTES ABENTEUER," Drama, in Three Acts, by Otto Anthes, Produced at the Neues, Jan. 7.

Spinelli	HERR SCHMIDTHASSLER
Lukrezia	FRAULEIN RENIER
Durini	HERR PAROW
Signora Durini	FRAULEIN KRONAU
Mattoni	HERR ANDRESEN
Cornelia	FRAULEIN RITSCHER
Franzesco	HERR STOECKEL
Giovanni	HERR CHRISTIANS
Antonio	HERR WERNER
Claudio	HERR SCHWAIGER
Lorenzo	HERR HARBLING
Piero	HERR SCHULTE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Jan. 13.—The author is new to fame, and as a novice he is entitled to a good deal of respect and commendation; his intentions are excellent, and perhaps some day he will do better work. There is a certain amount of dramatic swing in the piece, and this appealed to the audience, so that abundant applause followed each act. The characters, nevertheless, are all more or less impossible, and some of the scenes are comical in their effect where, alas! they are meant to be tragic. The Don Juan is one Giovanni, who, after a number of years passed in the pursuit of love-making, finds more than his match in Cornelia—a very remarkable young person, who is engaged to Franzesco. The maiden loses her heart—or, rather, her head. She believes herself passionately enamoured of the elderly Giovanni, and behaves herself as no well-brought-up Roman maiden should. In fact, the ardour of her passion gives Don Juan pause. This is, as the title tells us, his last adventure, so we are naturally prepared for the worst. Cornelia confesses to Franzesco that she has gone off the path of rectitude, but she loves her betrothed in reality, and is forgiven, while Giovanni, after declaring he loved Cornelia, plunges a dagger—with which he has been trifling throughout the whole of the play—into his heart. The cast was satisfactory, each member doing his or her best to make the characters convincing—a thankless task.

THE Neues Theatre is bringing out the German version of *When Knight Were Bold* early in February. Herr Siegfried Lutz has translated it and obtained all rights for Germany. Dr. Lothar is adapting it to the German stage. Herr Harry Walden, one of our first actors, will be cast for the rôle of Sir Guy de Vere.

"DER VIZE-PAPA," three-act farce, by Arthur Richards, met with a very cordial reception at the Rose Theatre last week. It has a complicated plot, and its fun is caused by a series of improbable "situations." Several couples who ought to be elsewhere turn up at a smart seaside place, and all, of course, are staying at the same hotel, where the various parties endeavour to avoid being seen by each other. The last act passes in Berlin, the native city of all concerned, and gradually things right themselves. There is very little originality in the plot, but the humour is undeniable, and the interpretation was of the best.

MRS. FRANCIS MACLENNAN was cast for the part of Aida at the Royal Opera on Monday. This is one of her best rôles, and both the Emperor and Empress had warm words of appreciation to the charming artist the first time she appeared in the part. On Monday evening the house was crowded, and Mrs. Maclennan, who still sings under her maiden-name of Florence Easton—was applauded to the echo. Mr. Maclennan was again honoured by a summons to the Imperial box recently, after singing Raoul in *Die Hugenotten* at the Royal Opera. His Majesty, who was present with two of his sons, complimented the famous tenor very highly, and expressed his pleasure that Mr. Maclennan had quite recovered from his late indisposition.

THE scheme of a new Grand Opera here is meeting with great interest everywhere. It is a private undertaking, like the Komische Oper. Herr Fedor Berg, the proprietor of the Thalia, is the enterprising man, and Angelo Neumann has been selected as manager-in-chief, always supposing he can obtain permission from the National Theatre at Prague, where he is still manager, and where his contract has some time to run. The new house is to be built in Kurfürsten Damm, the most aristocratic thoroughfare in Berlin.

"THE REVELLERS."

A new Musical Entertainment, Lyrics and Music by Ernest Torrence, Produced at the Coronet Theatre, on Monday, Dec. 10.

The Toreador	MR. POWIS PINDER
La Fleur	MISS ETHEL QUARRY
The Tyrolean	MR. ARTHUR HYDE
La Lune	MISS RUTH THORP
Uncle Podpurple	MR. LOUIS EDMONDE
La Pas Bas	MISS DOROTHY FROSTICK

The Private Secretary, now in the third week of its Christmas season at the Coronet, is going capitally to a rippling accompaniment of laughter, and by the shrieks of merriment which greet each phase of the *imbroglio*, it is evident that there are many who keenly appreciate its humours, or else to whom the comicalities of this old farce are entirely new. An audience put in the best of possible humours by the exposition of this merry farcical comedy, witnessed on Monday the first production of Mr. Powis Pinder's merry musical contribution to the evening's entertainment, entitled *The Revellers*. It is a light, filmy trifle, well adapted to pass the fleeting hour during the festive season, and is commendably crisp and bright in action. Uncle Podpurple, of Peckham, is caught by some revellers asleep, and is promptly adorned with a luminous nose, which causes him great perturbation and discomfort. This happens at a carnival in the garden of the Hotel Revel, Nice, a most charming and picturesque scene by the way, which quite warms the fancy and inclines the eye and ear to merriment. It transpires that Podpurple is really there partly on the business of catching his nephew, who has run away with one of the teachers at the Sunday school, and partly on pleasure bent. The party of revellers includes his scapegrace nephew and his fair bride, and anon by dint of threatening Uncle Podpurple with all sorts of penalties in the shape of telling his good wife at home of his "carryings on" with the Queen of the Carnival and others, and more by token that his nephew's bride looks so very charming in her fancy costume as "La Lune," he is persuaded to forgive the runaway pair.

Mr. Powis Pinder has a good song, "The Ladies," admirably rendered; Miss Ruth Thorp sings very sweetly "Moon of the Mediterranean"; Mr. Arthur Hyde sings with great fervour "Love in a cottage"; and Miss Ethel Quarry gives a pert rendering of "Suburban romances." Miss Dorothy Frostick gives us a taste of her quality in the menu dances arranged by Mme. Sismondi, viz., "Salome," "Champagne," and "The Vampire," whilst Mr. Louis Edmonde is full of fun as Uncle Podpurple, of Peckham, "on the loose." As a bright, amusing, and pretty curtain-raiser, or on the halls, the piece should have some vogue. The costumes of the Toreador, La Fleur, La Lune, the Tyrolean and La Pas Bas are very tasteful and pretty, and as aforesaid, the scenery, by Messrs. Bull, is sweetly pretty.

THE New Opera House, Kidderminster, is occupied by Mr. John A. Thomson's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*. It is an excellent production, and good houses have thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EUSTON.

Since her rapid rise to popularity Miss Victoria Monks has been much at the Syndicate halls and at those governed by the Variety Theatres Consolidated, and her appearances at the snug house near the great termini in the Euston-road have been marked by hearty receptions. At present Miss Monks has no number in her répertoire that is likely to be the vogue. The Euston folk naturally look for something catchy and bright from so popular a chorus singer; and on the night of our visit it was easy to see that they were not deeply interested in either of the two selections she gave in the first house. There were no massive choral effects from the "gods" or the pit. The plaint of a stage nigger—fed up with manager's bluff—who has made up his mind "to go home to Jacksonville' was certainly the better of the twain.

Mr. Tom Dunville exploits several quaint notions in his song, "Rub it in; rub it out," and has an excellent standard of comedy in his "policeman" song. It is the fate of the "force" to be burlesqued on both stages; and on the variety boards we know of no prominent comedian who has not at some time or other included the "copper" in his repertory of characters. As long as fun is the predominant feature of such impersonation everybody's satisfied — not excepting Robert himself; for no one takes more good temperedly comic aspersions on his alacrity and usefulness than the men who guard our homes. They must at any rate regard as a rich treat the fund of drollery to be found in Mr. Dunville's "Bobby's" notebook.

Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss are here with "The Vampire Dance," the purport of which is not quite so well understood in the Euston-road as it is in the Strand. Miss Deverez is a fine figure of a woman, and Mr Terriss supports her quite effectively. Step dancing and high kicking have a popular exponent in Miss Kitty Colyer, whose alertness and skill in a series of rapid steps and a final handspring or two bring down the house. Bert Woodward, who is called the steeplechasing "cyclist," makes light of the feat of a somersault on his bike over a table; and we have a remarkable exhibition of roller skate dancing by Len Hale, a performer who shows immense cleverness and aplomb.

Miss Jennie Johns, comedienne, is quite at home when, as a peri of a seaside pier, she criticises a number of male admirers, whose mannerisms she hits off with no little humour. Her second song details some of the adventures of a middy of the King's Navee, whose experiences with the fair sex remind one of the stories told in the novels of Captain Marryatt. Geoffreys and Benson are responsible for a lively sketch, in which the lady of the twain impersonates an Irish slavey of the boisterous stage pattern. The final jaunting car song, accompanied by a dance, is heartily applauded. The comedy of the Gothams, vocal entertainers, is very much the same as it was on the first appearance of the team in this country several years since. Neither has any alteration been made in the harmonised quartets nor in the naive fun which wins such a hearty reception. Gicardo, juggler, and Jock Whiteford are the other announcements on the bill, which is carefully supervised and directed by the popular Mr. Fred McAvoy, Mr. Henri Gros' lieutenant at this house. Mr. Victor Opferman's orchestra is an excellent body of instrumentalists, who do capital work in the accompaniments. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope projects a number of pictures of a most interesting character.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Excellent business has been maintained here during the holiday season, the seating capacity of the hall being tested to its utmost accommodation, and this speaks well for the Christmas fare that has been placed before the patrons of this house. The bill for the current week is also a capital one, and at the top is placed Ashley Page and Marion Denvil and company, in the sketch *Cromwell or the King?* which deals with a wounded soldier, who has been fighting for the King, taking shelter from Cromwell's men in the house of a Cromwellian, in whose daughter he finds his sweetheart and former playmate. In a pretty piece of acting the girl endeavours to hide the soldier's presence from the men, who, suspecting, come to search the house, but he is eventually discovered, and during some high words that are exchanged between the parties, the officer of the guard pierces him with his sword, and considering him killed, he and the guard withdraw, but on the fall of the curtain the soldier returns to consciousness, and so all ends happily. The sketch is well acted and suitably dressed and mounted, and has a good reception. Arthur Reece is heard to advantage in a couple of smartly-written ditties, and scores handsomely in the song "When women get their rights," his many topical and political allusions, more especially those dealing with the advantages of Tariff Reform, meet with an enthusiastic response, which, by the way, may indicate which way the wind is blowing. A lively turn is offered by Edie King, who evokes much applause by her rendering of "The girl in the red cockade," and other songs; she also displays much ability as a dancer, and several international dances are most gracefully performed, and meet with general approval. Edward E. Ford provokes roars of laughter by his representations of "Faces I have seen," his facial expressions being funny in the extreme; he also has the happy knack of getting a tight hold of his audience, and he may be fairly summed up in his own terms—"Boschar!" A popular turn is provided by the Barton and Franklin Trio, whose playing upon bagpipes, trumpets, bells, &c., is cordially received; they are also highly successful in their singing and dancing. Jack Crawley is very amusing in his imitations and anecdotes, and is extremely diverting. Considerable hilarity is produced by Lowenwirth and Cohan, and their Hebrew sallies are warmly welcomed. Elsie Earle scores well in her songs, "March, march away," and "'Twas a battle of love against gold." The Colonial Girls give a bright performance in their vocal and dancing scena, and are accorded a hearty welcome. The Bioscope concludes the bill with up-to-date films.

In the front of the house Mr. Herbert H. Laidman, the popular manager, continues to bestow generous attentions, and is ably assisted in this respect by Mr. A. Bradley; while behind Mr. Reuben H. Presland capably undertakes the stage-management. The orchestra, upon which so much depends, is under the careful direction of Mr. Douglas H. Ross.

THE FORESTERS'.

The directors of this well-conducted establishment have provided an excellent programme for this week, the foremost item being that popular dramatic sketch, *The Maid of the Alps*, by George Marriott and company. To again describe the story is quite unnecessary, as it is so well known, but suffice to say that Mr. Marriott's impersonation of Mother Potard, the Hag of the Hills, is still as powerful as ever. Miss Edith Finlay acts and sings well the character of Louise, being well supported by Mr. J. Purdie as Sir Stratton Towers, by Mr. R. Raymond as Lucas, a brigand chief, and by Mr. O'Shea as Jeremy Diggs. The Sisters Desmond, as usual, are well received for their capital rendering of "The Motor" and "The Horse," also "Hunting," in which the different styles of the coster and aristocrat are well personified. George Acre, burlesque and character vocalist, possesses a good style, which is seen to advantage in a burlesque of a bull-fighter. His second item, "Westminster," is a tuneful number, and well staged, the special setting displaying The Abbey.

The Rhoderick Duo, two pretty young Scotch lassies, received rounds of applause for their delightful rendering of "Crooket Bawbee" and "Annie Laurie," both voices being extremely sweet and blending well together. The McKinleys, duettists and dancers, are responsible for some clever dancing in wooden shoes, the lady singing a pleasing little song, "Nora," which has a catchy chorus. Mr. H. G. Brandon and company, in an original petite comedy drama, entitled *Light at Last*, by Mr. Brandon, are most interesting throughout, notwithstanding the fact that the story has been told before. Danton and Morris are amusing fellows, who are responsible for good dancing, singing, and bright repartee. Miss Dora Lonsdale (comedienne), the Two Ludoes, tumblers and contortionists, and the Bioscope, conclude a most enjoyable evening.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

The popular impression is that a General Election does not have a good effect upon business in the entertainment world, consequently it was with a little surprise that we listened to the greeting at Shepherd's Bush on Wednesday, "Haven't a seat in the place! Do you care to stand?" Glancing through the programme a minute or two later it became obvious that there was plenty of cause for the packed house, for although the programme at this hall is always particularly good, the present week's bill is even more attractive than usual. At the head is Mr. Fred Karno's big production, *Perkins, M.P.*, with that excellent comedian, Mr. Fred Kitchen, in the title-rôle.

Some of the adventures of Mr. Perkins formed, if we remember rightly, the subject of one of Mr. Karno's previous productions; at all events, the programme refers to the present one as dealing with the "further adventures of the well-known character," which, it goes without saying, are extremely humorous. Perkins, who at the opening of the sketch seems more "at home" selling ointment than soliciting votes, is one of the funniest characters that Mr. Kitchen has introduced us to, and the little play depends almost entirely upon the impersonation of this rôle. In the second of the three scenes we are shown Perkins canvassing, a spectacle which, apart from its intrinsic humour, naturally has considerable topical interest.

The last scene presents (with quite a large degree of success) the interior of the House of Commons, and we witness the triumphant entry of Perkins, M.P., who, by the way, champions the cause of the Suffragettes. In this scene Perkins more or less runs riot, and his extraordinary methods of introducing bills, dealing with opposition, and so on, are the cause of roars of laughter. Mr. Kitchen is ably seconded in his efforts to amuse by a large company, which includes Miss Aggie Morris (as Mrs. Perkins), Miss Lily White, Miss Grace Wixon (leader of the Suffragettes), Mr. Herbert Sydney (Perkins's rival candidate), and Mr. Albert Taylor. The sketch is excellently mounted, as Mr. Karno's sketches always are.

Edna Lyall sings a couple of ballads in a very pleasant manner, Tosti's "Good-bye," in particular, being much appreciated, and Mazie Hibbs shows considerable ability as a speciality dancer. Louie Counsall and Oscar Mills appear with much success in a musical melodramatic burlesque entitled *On the Stage*, their humorous singing of a coon song and their performance of a mock melodrama causing great merriment.

Gladys Mavius sings a couple of songs, one with the somewhat ironical title "It's a grand old world to live in," the other "She's coming home to-night," both of which find great favour. A most exciting turn is that contributed by the Tom Davies' Trio, called *Motoring in Mid-air*, in which motor-cycles are ridden at a tremendous pace on a circular slanting track. During part of their show the track is raised to a height of eight or ten feet from the stage, the effect being most sensational, as it is obvious that the slightest divergence from the track would be attended with consequences of a more or less disastrous nature.

One of the most delightful and picturesque turns of the concert party variety now before the public is that of *The Courtiers*, which includes and is under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill. The pretty appearance which this act presents, and the really excellent singing of charming songs, make entertainment of a most pleasant type. Miss Rosa Loader, "the happy slavey at the piano," is extremely clever, and her singing and imitations prove her to be possessed of a keen sense of humour.

The orchestra, under the experienced direction of Mr. Henry W. May, is this week playing, as an overture, a selection from Mr. Somerville's opera, lately at the Savoy, "The Mountaineers." Mr. Lewis Vincent is the popular acting-manager, and he is ably and courteously seconded by Mr. Herbert Mack.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

After the pantomime season, which has done much to popularise this new outer-metropolitan hall, variety entertainment has once more resumed full sway, and the programme submitted here this week is *par excellence* in every detail. George Gilbey, the popular Lancashire star, is making his initial appearance, and his songs and patter are receiving their usual hearty welcome. His song, "I couldn't; could you?" quite suits the popular taste, and his second effort, in which he amusingly portrays his rôle as a policeman, is really too funny for adequate expression. Another screamingly funny "turn" are Clark and Hamilton, the inimitable pair, whose eccentricities convulse the audience with laughter throughout their entertainment.

Miss Carlotta de Yonson presents the sensational detective dramette *Sexton Blake*, a most stirring illustration of the unravelling of the intricate case of the Neva Brotherhood, a desperate anarchical secret society. The efforts of Miss Carlotta de Yonson and her capable company are warmly applauded. A splendid novelty act is provided by Stylo, a clever hoop manipulator; whilst another clever turn are the Three Glenvilles, in a pretty dancing and vocal act. Chris. Richards, comedian, carried the audience to a high pitch of mirth with his funny antics, displaying many clever tricks of manipulation with his hat.

Vera Wooton, a dainty comedienne, pleases the audience immensely with her song "I like your picture hat," the chorus being a very "swinging" one, to the full taste of the audience. A very clever musical act is rendered by the Four Cecilians; and another excellent "turn" is Miss Yvonne Lamor, a comedienne with a good voice and style. Some interesting naval pictures are exhibited on Ruffell's Bioscope.

The new manager of the Hippodrome, Mr. Jack M. Hart, who took over the reins of office last week, is showing excellent enterprise. In his capable hands the popularity of the "hall" has already received a decided fillip. Mr. Hart, prior to his coming to Ilford, was identified with the management of the Camden Hippodrome.

Miss Rosie Lloyd, the charming comedienne, tops the bill at the Palace, Gloucester, and gets a capital reception; and Horace Wheatley's droll singing and inimitable dancing install him a favourite at once. Clown Argo gives a clever exposition of mimicry; and the Starley Brothers, trick cyclists and motor cyclists, are very smart. Messrs. Burns and Bentley dance excellently; and Olive and Owen have a tuneful scena in *The Roadside Tinker*. Steve Bartle, edeophonist and concertinist, goes well; and White and Clifford, in "Watch the piano," have a good number. The Palacescope concludes.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The Home Secretary, in his reply to the joint letter sent to him by the various societies on behalf of the artists, actors, musicians, and employees on the opening of cinematograph theatres on Sundays, says that the L.C.C. regulations do not require to be sanctioned by him, and that the matter is now receiving the attention of that body. The various societies have now asked the L.C.C. to receive a deputation from them on the matter, and as the L.C.C. has consented to receive a deputation from the proprietors of these exhibitions, it is to be assumed they will take the opportunity of hearing both sides. Although the question of departing from or modifying the L.C.C. regulations for Sunday entertainments is not entirely one for the proprietors and employees, there are many other organisations that will, no doubt, have something to say on the matter. Whether the theatre and music hall managers are moving in the matter remains to be seen.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of the members of the general staff branch, N.A.T.E., will take place on Sunday, Jan. 30, in Terry's Theatre, by kind permission of Mr. Edward Terry. Nominations for office must reach the secretary on or before Jan. 23, and resolutions and amendments to rules for consideration at this meeting by next Wednesday. The audited statements of accounts for the past year were submitted to the committee at the meeting on Wednesday night at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. At this meeting eleven applications for membership were granted.

A summary of the accounts is as follows:—

Income.	£	s.	d.
By entrance fees	17	3	4
Contributions	311	0	10
Wages and compensation recovered	28	9	6
Interest on fund and other items	28	19	11
Share of Adelphi concert balance	15	0	0
	400	13	7
Balance from 1908	504	9	7
	905	3	2
Payments.			
General and management account	344	12	6½
Death benefits	15	0	0
Sick benefits and transfers	22	7	5
Benevolent grants	37	2	6
	419	2	5½
Balance Dec. 31st., 1909	486	0	8½
	905	3	2

There were about 40 members of the Vaudeville staff present at the dinner given by Mr. F. Anstey, author of the *Brass Bottle*, on Sunday evening in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martins. Mr. C. T. Cory, the master carpenter of this house, presided, and after the dinner an excellent concert was given. Mr. Mercanton, Mr. Vernon, and the chairman made short and breezy speeches during the evening, and the whole party enjoyed themselves immensely.

Friends of Mr. William Barbour, the electrician at the St. James's Theatre, will regret to hear that he is seriously ill with pneumonia. Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander paid a visit the other day to ascertain how Mr. Barbour was progressing. The doctor cannot yet say how the illness will develop.

The annual general meeting of the cinematograph operators will be held at 2.30 on Tuesday next at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. All members in London are urged to attend. On Tuesday last the committee met, and among those present were Messrs. J. Wood (president), E. Catlin (vice-president), H. L. Merritt, (secretary), Wm. Johnson (hon. treasurer), and Malcolm, Mason, Weedon, Hughes, Mayo, Field, Hughes, and Hutchins. The secretary submitted his draft of the annual report and the treasurer his report on the accounts. Messrs. Mason and Weedon were appointed auditors, and the statement of accounts will be submitted to the meeting on Tuesday. A number of applications for membership were granted, and several suggested alterations to the rules considered.

The first general meeting of the members of the Dramatic and Variety Theatre Employees' Provident Association was held last Sunday in the St. James's Theatre. In the absence of Mr. Cecil Paget, who was unable to attend, Mr. James Cullen, chairman of the Management Committee, presided, and was supported on the stage by Mr. Harry Norton, Mr. Arthur Palmer (master carpenter the Comedy Theatre), Mr. Phillip Sheridan (electrician, Strand Theatre), Mr. F. B. Fidge (electrician, Lyceum Theatre), Mr. David Sheridan (electrician), Mr. Albert Jones (Royal Opera House), Mr. J. Reid (president of the Theatrical Carpenters' Society), Mr. J. N. Hunt (Alhambra), Mr. G. Pickering (Duke of York's Theatre), Mr. H. Lane (Savoy Theatre), and the secretary, William Johnson.

Mr. Chairman, in declaring the meeting open, said:—"Gentlemen, in opening the proceedings of our first annual general meeting I wish to welcome you, the more so as I think you will all agree that, notwithstanding the comparatively small number of members who joined us nine months ago, the result of the nine months' work has been very satisfactory and fully justified our expectations. The report and balance-sheet proves that our expectations were warranted, and that all we have to do to realise in the fullest measure our estimate of the possibility of such an association is that each member will do his utmost to increase the number of members. If each one of us would secure even only one member this month our membership would then reach 700. I may say that non-members have been invited to this meeting to hear our proceedings, but I must ask them not to take part in the discussion or to vote, and when a vote is taken all members will please hold up their green cards. I do not think we shall take up much of your time to-night, and I will now call on the secretary to submit the statement of account approved by the committee and issued to members."

Mr. William Johnson then formally moved the adoption of the audited statement of accounts, and in doing so briefly referred to several items and dealt with several questions which had been put to him prior to the meeting. He said they commenced the New Year's account with £48 18s. 3d., after dividing £222 15s. of the surplus funds among the members.

Mr. Harry Norton, one of the trustees, seconded the resolution, and while expressing his satisfaction with the result of the past year's work, regretted that a larger number of members had not thought fit to attend the meeting. The resolution, on being put to the vote, was unanimously adopted.

The secretary then, on behalf of the committee, formally moved the adoption of the following amendments to the rules, recommended by the committee:—

Clause (a), Rule 6, page 4, to read—After the words "who is" on last line but one—"a financial member or becomes a financial member of the N.A.T.E."

Clause (b), Rule 8, page 5—Add at the end of clause the words "A member shall clear his card of all dues on or before the last Saturday on the card, or be fined 6d."

Clause (a), Rule 12, page 6—After the word "received" on second line, add the words "by the secretary."

Clause III., Rule 16, page 8—Add the words "sick member on first line the words "within three days of being notified."

Rule 21, page 9—Add at bottom "Any member failing to attend a general meeting, or sending to the secretary an acceptable excuse before the meeting, shall be fined 6d."

New clause, to be Clause (b) of Rule 21—"Every member shall pay 2d. for each new card, and to replace a card lost by a member such member shall pay 3d."

Mr. Arthur Palmer seconded the proposal. In reply to several comments and amendments to the recommendations, the secretary said the proposals arose out of their experience in the management of the association during the past year. It was very much to be regretted that members did not take a greater interest in their own affairs, and the least they could do was to attend the general meeting, as even when the results were so satisfactory, as in this case, the members ought to show their appreciation of the committee's efforts and work on their behalf. He felt sure that most of the unfortunate incidents that were annually reported in connection with similar societies arose from the neglect of the members to take a personal interest and fulfil their responsibilities. The committee's recommendations were adopted.

Mr. Philip Sheridan moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. George Alexander for kindly lending his theatre for the meeting. Mr. Sheridan said it must be a pleasure to them all to meet in such a beautiful theatre, and he felt sure they all appreciated Mr. Alexander's kindness. He was very sorry to hear that Mr. Wm. Barbour was seriously ill, and he hoped that Mr. Barbour would soon be amongst them again. Mr. Albert Jones seconded the resolution. The resolution was supported by the secretary, who said it would gratify them to know that they could support this resolution most whole-heartedly, because Mr. Alexander was one of the kindest employers in their business, and he took an interest in the welfare of every man and woman in his employ. The secretary said Mr. Alexander had made an offer which it would interest them to know. On the occasion when Mr. Alexander presided at the annual dinner of the Heads of Departments Association, and when the proposal to establish a club for theatrical employees was being considered, Mr. Alexander alluded to the matter, and said he would be glad to have the honour of furnishing the first room when the club was to be established. This question of club as a sort of headquarters of all the theatrical employees societies was one which would be practical when their Provident Association had secured that number of members which it ought to have, and which he felt sure it would in time secure, and when the time arrived he had no doubt but that Mr. Alexander would give effect to his offer. He heartily supported the resolution. Mr. J. Cullen briefly endorsed all that the secretary had said in regard to Mr. Alexander, in whose service he (the chairman) had been for many years. "No man," said Mr. Cullen, "could wish for a better employer or manager." The resolution was carried with hearty cheers.

Mr. H. J. Kemp moved a vote of thanks to the committee for their services. This was seconded by Mr. J. Haley, of the Alhambra, and carried unanimously. The proceedings then terminated. After the meeting a number of non-members applied for membership forms.

THE BALHAM HIPPODROME.

Provision for the politicians of Balham is made by Mr. E. W. Hancorne James, the zealous manager of the hall, who has made arrangements by which election results will be displayed this evening on the sheet. Meanwhile, the entertainment for the current week is being liberally patronised, the first house on Wednesday being almost without a vacant seat. Mainly responsible for so gratifying a result is the engagement of Mr. Joe Elvin, who is presenting to Balham audiences his latest sketch, *Billy's Money Box*, which is manifestly another winner. Mr. Wal Pink, the author of so many of Mr. Elvin's former successes, has provided the famous comedian with an unlimited quantity of funny lines, which all score laughs innumerable. Mr. Elvin's support is as capable as ever, and the popularity of his production is unbounded. Pathos is provided by the romantic military episode, *The Last Command*, in which Mr. Fred Maxwell gives his impressive performance of a Colonel who has to see his son led out to execution in order to preserve the honour of his regiment. The exciting incidents of the story, which holds the attention of the audience, are skilfully defined by the members of an able company.

As an exponent of the Terpsichorean art Miss Bertha Winder long since won renown, though her years are few. She bounds on to the stage bedecked with medals, a handsome belt which adorns a side-table denoting the championship honours held by the youthful artist. Miss Winder dances with rhythmic grace, and subsequently in golden clogs executes a series of intricate steps, which win the admiration of the most critical. Dancing of an eccentric order is submitted by Mr. Russell Brandow, a coloured comedian, whose expert footwork is varied by the oddest movements and acrobatic tricks that arouse frequent laughter.

Carrie Laurie's Juveniles carry on their school with their customary diverting and harmonious results. Their latest inspiration is to represent various professions, appearing in turn as boy scout, Red Cross nurse, Suffragette, member of the force, &c., with songs appropriate to each character. Pictures, both funny and educational, are presented on the Bioscope, that of the Persistent Wooer being particularly mirth-provoking. The admirably chosen programme has contributors also in Mr. Tom E. Hughes, the comedy purveyor, Miss Daisy Hurdle, comedienne; the Carina Sisters, instrumentalists; and Mr. G. S. Melvin, comedian. The orchestra is under the competent direction of Mr. Lawrie Owen, Suppé's fine march, "Light Cavalry," figuring as an overture.

Miss Nellie Brierley, the pit-brow lassie, noticed by us at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome last week, is not a protégée of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's, but was found by Mr. G. W. Blythe singing in a small hall at the colliery village of Great Harwood, near Blackburn. Born at Blackburn, she was brought up in Darwen. Owing to a paralytic stroke at the age of eighteen months, she has to walk with crutches. In her early education music lessons were included, and her phenomenal voice was trained by Mme. Minne Grimes, of Darwen. Mr. G. W. Blythe, her discoverer, wrote her a scena, entitled *The Toilers*, which was produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Aug. 30 last year, with immediate success, and as a result it was secured for the Stoll and Barrasford tours.

Messrs. Little and Darcy's pantomime, *Sinbad the Sailor*, is at the Opera House, Crewe. Miss Mary Poulton is a dashing principal boy; Miss Carrie Harding is a dainty and winsome Zorilda; Miss Connie Clare is successful as Selim; Miss Dolly Clare has many admirers as Zuleika; Miss Bessie Defries is a charming Fairy Queen; and Miss L. Van Lachterop makes a pleasing Princess Zaidee. As Mrs. Sinbad Mr. George Collins is a decided success; Mr. Walter Adams creates much merriment with his droll rendering of Tinbad; Mr. Charles Preston makes many friends as Captain Cook; Messrs. Newco and Sullo as Baccah and Stoppah are excellent knockabouts; and Mr. Van Lachterop is a typical Emperor Ali Loofah. Mr. A. E. Mann appears as the Old Man of the Sea. Specialities are given by the Szarvai-Ferencz Troupe of Hungarian singers and dancers, Newco and Sullo, and the Havana Girls.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Glasgow's Latest.

The newest addition to Glasgow's two dozen rinks is that in the Exhibition grounds at Dennistown. It opened auspiciously at the New Year, and caught a large share of the holiday crowds. Mr. James Slater, recently of Ayr Rink, and who has been associated with numerous amusement ventures in this same place, is the manager, and is busy preparing for a Burns Night Carnival on Jan. 25, a date dear to the heart of every Scotsman.

Political Rinking Carnival.

So successful was the skating Farmyard Carnival held last week at the Royal Concert Hall, Hastings, that another carnival was arranged for last Wednesday. The fancy dress was of a political character. All competitors were dressed in blue and white (Unionist) or red, white, and blue (Liberal), or to represent something political, as Tariff Reform, Free Trade, &c. The judging of the fancy dress was by ballot of the spectators.

Children's Carnival at Hove.

The outstanding event at the American Roller Skating Rink, Hove, this week, was the children's carnival, which took place on Wednesday. It was a brilliant success, as nearly all the children of the leading families in the district had entered. Handsome prizes were offered for the best dresses and these were distributed at four o'clock, when regular skaters were permitted to use the rink.

Notes from Liverpool.

Rinking is now immensely popular in the Mersey city, the many special attractions offered drawing big crowds. At the Albert Hall, Pudsey-street, the first match under the Liverpool and Wirral Hockey League was announced to be played on Thursday night between teams representing the hall and St. Helens. For the evening of the 19th a summer costume carnival has been arranged at the new premier establishment in Renshaw-street, when a number of attractive events will be competed for. The Bootle Roller Rink, at the corner of Knowsley-road, boasts of a noiseless floor, an excellent military band, and a handsome café lounge.

Newington Skating Rink.

The fancy dress carnival held at the Newington Skating Rink, Hull, last Tuesday night was a huge success. There were some 500 spectators and about 250 competitors present. Many of the dresses were decidedly novel. The prize-winners were:—Lady's fancy costume, Miss R. Nicholson; gentleman's fancy costume; Mr. C. Harman; most original lady's costume, Miss Carlin; most original gentleman's costume, Mr. Hull; lady's comic costume, Miss R. Woodins; gentleman's comic costume, Mr. Swannack.

New Manager at Nottingham.

The Empress Rink, Nottingham, management has appointed Thos. Duckworth as floor manager. Mr. Duckworth has been at the rink since the opening.

Penzance Skating Rink.

On Tuesday evening the first fancy dress carnival was held here, and was most successful, both as regards the skaters and the large number of spectators, while the fancy-dress costumes were exceedingly good, there being a great number of a humorous description. The arrangements were carried out by the manager, Mr. Robert Thomas, who was ably assisted by Mr. Alex. Corrison, the assistant-manager.

Two Miles' Race at Southampton.

The Coliseum, Southampton, was well patronised last Wednesday, when A. H. Bear (London) met T. G. Court (Southampton) in a two miles race for a side stake. Both men kept well together, and a most exciting struggle was witnessed. On entering the last lap Court took the lead, and by a great effort Bear got level, and snatched a victory. In a one-mile race Heasell was first and Collier second. The half-mile ladies' race was won by Miss Bright, with Miss Tilbury second. The judge was Mr. Kelly Whitlock.

Little Yorks at Southampton.

The Royal Pier Roller-skating Rink is going very strong, in spite of opposition, and during the holidays each session has been extensively patronised. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the Little Yorks have been specially engaged to give their finished and skilful exhibition. Both these youthful artists are exceedingly graceful in everything they do, and are aptly programmed as "Two skaters with one mind."

Southampton's Newest Rink.

The magnificent new rink belonging to the Southampton Skating Rink Company, Ltd., and situated in the Shirley-road, was opened on Wednesday afternoon by the Mayor (Alderman C. J. Sharp) in the presence of a very numerous company of guests. The rink is a really splendid addition to the attractions of the town. It is conveniently situated, and has a skating surface of from 15,000 to 20,000 feet, making it, as the Mayor said, probably the finest rink in the South of England. It is 200ft. long by 100ft. wide. The special spring floor of 2in. Canadian maple is bedded for smooth running and little sound. The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayor, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, and others who participated in the little ceremony in the centre of the floor were Mr. Chas. Bedworth, chairman of the company, who presided, Messrs. Bernard Harfield, J.P., and Sidney G. Bedworth (directors), Mrs. and Miss Grierson, Mr. W. T. Bowman (secretary), the Misses Bowman, and others. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Balfour were also present. In the course of the afternoon Mr. F. Scott and Miss Gladys Ivy gave an exhibition of fancy skating.

Lady Guinness opens Suffolk Rink.

Lady Evelyn Guinness, who was accompanied by the Hon. Walter Guinness, on Monday opened the new West Suffolk Skating Rink, which has been erected at Bury St. Edmunds by Whitmore's Timber Co. Among those present were Sir Henry J. C. Bunbury, Lady Bunbury, and Miss Bunbury, Sir Walter Greene, the Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds (Mr. A. Mitchell), and many other residents of West Suffolk. After the opening ceremony Mr. G. L. Betts—who designed the ring and superintended its erection—on behalf of the management presented Lady Evelyn with a handsome pair of silver-mounted skates of the "Wolf" pattern as a memento of the occasion. Sir Walter and Lady Evelyn Guinness skated round the rink, and afterwards there was an exhibition of fancy skating. The floor of the rink has a skating surface of 160ft. by 80ft. It is of rock maple, and was supplied by Messrs. Brown and Co., of Ipswich. The walls of the building are of brick, and the roof of corrugated iron, matchboarded inside. A tearoom, ladies' and gentlemen's cloakrooms, &c., are arranged. The rink is under the management of Mr. S. Reach.

Street Skating Stopped in Paris.

Following a number of accidents, roller skating in the Paris streets has been absolutely prohibited by the Prefect of Police.

Plimpton's at Ton-y-Pandy and Truro.

The Rhondda Valley district of South Wales is practically studded with rinks, and the latest town to adopt a rink in Ton-y-pandy. Messrs. Plimpton's, Liverpool, have been entrusted with the laying of the floor, and they have also secured the order for Richardson skates. Plimpton's have also been entrusted with the order for the supply of maple and the laying and surfacing of the floor at the Truro rink.

(*For other RINKING GOSSIP, see page 25.*)

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 17.

ALONE IN LONDON.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—T. R., Wednesbury.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Aston.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.).—Glasgow.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Woolwich.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.—Queen's T., Longton.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—New T., Aberdare.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—King's T., Seacombe.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—T. R., Bury.
BROKEN HEART.—Alexandra T., Hull.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Belfast.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—O. H., Northampton.
CHRISTIAN, THE (N.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
CHRISTIAN, THE (M.).—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Kirkcaldy.
CINGALEE (B.).—T. R., Lincoln.
CLAUDIAN.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—T. R., Woolwich.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Hetwich.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Smethwick.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Rotherham.
FATAL WEDDING.—Grand T., Aberaman.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—O. H., Southport.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—County T., Bedford.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Darlington.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—O. H., Harrogate.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Grand T., Wigan.
FOR AULD LANG SYNE.—T. R., Belfast.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T. R., Middlesborough.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—King's T., Greenock.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Stratford, E.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
GLOSSIP-HARRIS, MISS.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—T. R., Bournemouth.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Pavilion T., Abertillery.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Junction Theatre, Manchester.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Smethwick.
HIS REAL WIFE.—P.O.W., Mexborough.
IDOL OF PARIS.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Dawley and Chirk.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Prince's T., Accrington.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—O. H., Cheltenham.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Grand T., Halifax.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—T. R., Lincoln.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Grand T., Lancaster.
MERRY WIDOW.—Lyceum T., Newport.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—T. R., Dublin.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—O. H., Merthyr.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Queen's T., Workington.
OLD HOME, THE.—T. R., Stockport.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Star T., Liverpool.
OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.—Sacriston.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—T. R., Worcester.
PETE (S).—T. R., Norwich.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Hippodrome, Salford.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Coronet Theatre, W.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Gainsborough and Chesterfield.
ROLLICKING ROBY.—Queen's T., Dublin.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Castle T., Stockton.
SERGEANT BRUE.—T. R., Coatbridge.
SILVER KING.—H.M. T., Carlisle.
SINS OF A CITY.—Gaiety T., Methil.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
SWISS EXPRESS.—T. R., Jarrow.
TEMPTATION.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Lyceum T., Long Eaton.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Palace T., Newcastle.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Gateshead.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—T. R., Belfast.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—T. R., Torquay.
WHO IS SHE?—O. H., St. Helens.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—St. George's T., Kendal.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Star T., Swansea.

LA TORTAJADA will be seen at the Coliseum on Monday, when the Grotesques, who have just finished a successful season at the Queen's Hall, will also appear. An interesting newcomer will be Miss Mabel Mavia.

THE *Manchester Chronicle* says:—"Jack Smiles dances with a rare regard for accuracy and elegance," and his father, Jack Boston, is still smiling and smoking a Boston cigar.

"THE ARCADIANS," the London musical comedy, was produced for the first time in America at the Forrest Theatre, Philadelphia, on the 27th ult. Mr. Frank Moulan was the principal comedian, and Misses Connie Ediss, Julia Sanderson, and Ethel Cadman played the leading musical parts.

MAURICE DE FRECE, the oldest-established dramatic and variety agent in the world, has left the nursing home partially recovered from his long, severe illness, and has been appointed general-manager of the De Frece's Agency, Ltd., of 178, Charing Cross-road, where he will be pleased to see his old and new clients and numerous friends.

THE popular vocalist, T. C. Note, a stylish singer of sensible songs, tops the bill this week at the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, and second only in importance to him are the Maynards, with an amusing comedy act, *The Lady and the Page*. Fred Buckley is a vocalist and comedian of ability; and Miss Daisy Devonport commands applause by her clever singing and dancing.

A BOOK of stories and recitations from the pens of Mr. J. W. Parratt, of Ilkley, and Mr. W. Milton Thompson, of Dulwich, S.E., has been placed on the market, at the price of 1s. The work contains many good pieces in prose and verse, a feature being made of humorous stories, which are in English, Scotch, and Irish, and in the Yorkshire dialect.

MESSRS. H. ARMITAGE AND ARTHUR LEIGH'S company is presenting *With Edged Tools* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing. Mr. Hamilton Deane as Jack Meredith gives a manly impersonation of the character; Mr. Henry Gunn as Guy Oscard presents a fine character-study; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Victor Durnovo gives an excellent portrayal of an exacting part; Miss Marie Leonhard makes a bewitching Jocelyn Gordon; the Millicent Chyne of Miss Marguerite Cellier deserves commendation; and the remaining characters are well placed.

THE management of the Haymarket Theatre have issued a very tasteful and artistic souvenir of the *Blue Bird*. It is in oblong octave form, and its letterpress consists in an essay by Mr. Herbert Trench on the life and work of Maeterlinck. The picture on the cover is taken from the familiar poster drawn by Mr. John Hassall. The illustrations within show scenes and characters from the piece, reproduced from pastels by George P. Denham, A.R.C.A., from photographs by the Dover-street Studios and original drawings by J. Cayley Robinson and S. H. Sime. The souvenir is printed and published by Mr. John Long.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 4 6	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months	0 6 6	Three Months	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).

Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

HARRY BRAHAM.—*Your questions involve considerable search, and will be replied to next week.*

SPARES.—*A-Ba-Be's picture postcards have been seen lately on the Stoll tour at Bradford. You might inquire at Moss and Stoll's head office, Cranbourne-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C.*

F. SMITH (Hove).—*Paul Bedford appeared in the drama in 1865, but not in the title-rôle, which was played by Joseph Jefferson. In such characters as Jack Gong and the Kinchin Paul was without a rival, but his range of character was very limited, and Rip was quite out of his line.*

EDINBURGH.—*We know nothing of the comedian you name in London, but if he is as good as you say he is we hope soon to see him here. The paper could be procured through any well-established newsagent, or of the Prompter Publishing Company, 50, Copthall-avenue, London, E.C.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

EDWARDS.—Jan. 6, at 9, Randolph-street, Jarrow, wife of Teddy Edwards (Edwards and Ward), of a fine son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CARROLL—WEIR.—Jan. 11, at Paisley, Tommy (Fred) Carroll to Lena Weir. Both of C. Majilton's company.

DEATHS.

BORÉE.—Jan. 5, in Berlin, Albert Borée, German comedian.

KNIGHT.—On Jan. 8, at West Stanley, Augustine Knight, aged 41, from pleurisy and pneumonia, accelerated by heart failure. Liad to rest at Cheltenham.

MADDIN.—Jan. 11, suddenly, 54, Elmbourne-road, Tooting, Charles James Maddin, of Westminster. Funeral service, St. Margaret, Westminster, 2.30; Brompton Cemetery, 3.30, Monday, Jan. 17.

NOLAN.—On the 12th inst., at 2.30 a.m., Michael Patrick Nolan, aged 42 years. Funeral will take place to-day at the Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, at 2.15 p.m. The cortège will leave the residence of the deceased, 17, Bushey Hill-road, Peckham-road, S.E., at one o'clock.

SCHOEFFEL.—Jan. 2, at Boston, Mrs. Agnes Booth Schoeffel, professionally known as Miss Agnes Booth, American actress.

IN MEMORIAM.

CRISP.—In loving memory of Winifred (Minnie) Crisp, dearly loved wife of Frank Crisp (baritone), who died suddenly, Jan. 18, 1909. Deeply mourned by sorrowing FRANK and the little children, EILEEN, MADELINE, and PAT. In the midst of life we are in death.

HARCOURT.—In affectionate remembrance of my dear husband Fred Harcourt, who passed away Jan. 12, 1906. Never forgotten by his loving wife Lilian Harcourt. R.I.P.

LAWRENCE.—In loving memory of my dear uncle, Joseph (Joe) Lawrence (upside-down comedian), who departed this life Jan. 24, 1909. "We miss him most who loved him best."—From niece, ADA, Leeds.

MACCABE.—In loving memory of Joseph Maccabe (Joe Mac), died Jan. 11, 1893. Gone but not forgotten by his wife, ALICE MAYDUE.

READ.—In ever affectionate memory of my dear husband, Theophilus Read, late lessee of the World's Fair, Agricultural Hall, Islington, who departed this life Jan. 16, 1906.

Though gone, not forgotten.

READ.—In loving memory of my dear father (and partner), Theophilus Read, who departed this life Jan. 16, 1906. Deeply mourned by his only son, T. E. Read, daughter-in-law Letitia, and two grandchildren (Claude and Winnie).

Always in our thoughts.

ROBSON.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Emily Maria Robson, who died Jan. 17, 1909.

TAYLOR.—James Goulde Taylor, Jan. 16, 1904, the beloved father of Chisholm Taylor.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Alexandra Carlisle—Saturday, Jan. 15.
Minnie Cunningham—Saturday, Jan. 15.
Rutland Barrington—Saturday, Jan. 15.
J. Forbes Robertson—Sunday, Jan. 16.
Marie Dagmar—Sunday, Jan. 16.
Betty Hicks—Sunday, Jan. 16.
Janet Achurch—Monday, Jan 17.
Richard Warner—Monday, Jan. 17.
Sam Poluski—Monday, Jan. 17.
Olga Nethersole—Tuesday, Jan. 18.
Johnnie Schofield—Tuesday, Jan. 18.
Margaret Dale Owen—Wednesday, Jan. 19.
Rose Hamilton—Thursday, Jan 20.
Fred Folloy—Friday, Jan. 21.

MR. GEO. ROBERTSON'S company appeared in *Charley's Aunt* on Monday and Tuesday at the Exchange Hall, Wellingborough. The Babberley of Mr. Brember Wills was irreproachable, and the other undergrads were well taken by Mr. C. A. R. Shum (Jack) and Mr. Archie Selwyn (Charlie). A decidedly good Stephen Spottigue was found in Mr. Wilfred Protheroe, and Miss Vere Hodson's Donna Lucia was all that could be wished.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albury, Mr. Eric
Anderson, Sisters
Anderson, Mr. Wm.
Austin, Mr. Geo. R. J.
Buss, Mr. Harry
Beringer, Miss Esmé
Beere, Mrs. Bernard
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Biddall, Mr.
Bliss, Miss Hebe
Bosco, Miss Freda
Brough, Miss Fanny
Buckenham, Miss Marie
Burke, Miss M.
Burnett, Mr. Robert
Burton, Mr. Percy
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Cavania, Miss M.
Cheeks, Mr.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Comin, Mr. Hayden
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Collins, Mr. George
Copping, Mr. E. M.
Costello, Mr. A. T.
Cropp, Miss Katie
Crosbie, Mr. Bert
Dagmar, Miss Marie
Dale and O'Malley
Davidson, Mr. H.
Delcellier, Mons. A.
Dellar, Mr. M. K.
Devine, Miss Mysie
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Dornan, Mrs. Fred
Douglas, Mr. George
Douglas, Mr. R. H.
Edwards, Miss Esme
Emney, Miss L.
Evans, Mr. E.
Forbes, Miss Mary
Ford, Miss Enid
Frankford and Maine
Garrick, Mr. Gus
Gerrard, Mr. E. S.
Glennie, Mr. Charles
Gregory, Mr. J. M.
Grey, Mr. Cecil.
Gwenn, Mr. Edmund
Hales, Miss Lily
Hall, Mr. G. F.
Harvey, Miss Dora F.
Haslam, Mr. J. F.
Hebden, Miss Lily
Hervyn, Miss Nancy
Hicks, Mr. Richard
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Hinton, Mr. Chas.
Hopkins, Mr. T.
Homna, Mr. T.
Howard, Mr. Carl
Howard, Mr. Paul
Hylton, Miss B.
James, Mr. A. C.
Kelso, Miss L.
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kitchen, Mr. Fred
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kyasyas, The
La Dor Troupe
Lang, Mr. M.
Langtry, Mrs.
Lauder, Mr. Chas. O.
Leonard, Mr. Bert
Leslie, Miss F.
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lucsarn, Miss Lilly
Lynches, The
March, Mr. Charles
Marion, Miss Kitty
Matthews (Tennessee G.
McKay, Mr. Tom
Millis, Mr. F. W.
Moltano, Miss Agnes
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mortimer, Mr. Leonard
Mortyne, Miss Nellie
Mount, Mr. Lampton
Murphy, Mr. Michael
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Napier, Miss Belle
Noel, Mr. Bertram
Norman, Mr. Norman V
Passmore, Mr. W.
Paull, Miss Mab
Paulton, Mr. Tom
Pavis, Miss Cissy
Payne, Miss Millie
Pearce, Mr. Albert
Penstone, Mr. Ormonde
Phillips, Mr. Arthur
Pook, Mrs.
Ponnde, Miss Louie
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Rappo and Elia
Rathrens, Miss Ada
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rosiers, Extra.
Rowland, Mr. F.
Royce, Mr. A.
Russell, Miss Agnes
Russell, Mr. Scott
Saker, Mr. Alf.
Scott, Mr. Maurice
Sealby, Miss Mabel
Seeley, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Somos, Mr. R.
Sprake, Mr. H. J.
Staley, Mr. Andrew
Stanley, Mr. Walter
Starr, Mr. H.
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Storey, Mr. Fred
Studd, Mr. F. T.
Tarra, Lukio
Thorburn, Mr.
Thorne, Miss Ellaline
Traill, Miss Kate
Transfield, Mr. Tom
Travers, Mr. Nat
Vardon, Perry and W.
Vernon, Mr. Leslie
Vonare, Miss Nellie
Walther, Herr Julius
Warren, Mr. John
Wester, Mr. Harry
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Williams, Mr.
Wilson, Miss Margaret
Wilson, Mr. Chas.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri
Wynne, Mr. Cecil
Yelding, Mr. R.
Yorke, Mr. Philip

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 5. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
York House, York Street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5 000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Barton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1295 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
[Telephones: Nos. 2515 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Boerselles, London."]
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, both in EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIA ROSA MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL FOR THE HAIR
Preserves, Beautifies, Nourishes it, and Prevents it Falling off or Turning Grey.
Nothing equals it. 120 years proves this fact.
Golden Colour for Fair Hair.
Of Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and Rowland's, 67, Hatton-garden, London.
Sizes—3/6, 7/-, 10/6.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

TRADE MARK. No. 236645.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Compress
Made in England. (Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original Velvet Grip Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, E.2.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts,
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 8.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Twice Daily, at 2 and 7.30.
"ALADDIN."
The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
The most Magnificent Production and the Funniest Comedians ever seen at the Lyceum.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."
For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, the Thirteenth Kingston Pantomime
"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY." Matinées every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE,
HAMMERSMITH.
Great Financial Success of
Mr. Wentworth Croke's Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
Managers cordially invited to witness this Production. Arrangements can be made with responsible managers for next Christmas.
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
CONNOR'S CIRCUS.
Connor's Grand Circus,, twice daily; Giant Tree Laden with Toys; Gorgeous Pantomime, "Cinderella," 7.30; Wed. and Sat. 2.30 and 7.30; Skating on Monster Rink (3 Sessions); Rink Hockey, Wed. and Sat., 8.30; Organ, Bands, Zoo, Ladies' Orchestra, &c.; Skating Gymkhana, Jan. 29.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Joe Elvin and Co., Wilson and Waring, Jennie Johns, Alfred Macelvin, Harry Taft, Bert Woodward, Kitty Colyer, Florence Yyamen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Managing-Director, JESSE SPARROW.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Alan Holt and company in the French playlet "La Gigolette," Dion Wade, Mat Wilkinson Trio, Kittie Bell, Ellis and Campbell, Gladys Scott, Davis and Deane, Graham, Josie and Frances Jonghmans, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, The Macweys.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Victoria Monks, The Gotham Comedy Quartette, Bert Woodward, The Dardinis, Ida Barr, Jack Marks, Three Cape Girls, Tess Lilley, Ruffell's Bioscope, Edouard José and Co., in "The Strike."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.0.
Monday, Jan. 17, 1910:—
F. Stuart Whyte and Co., in "1643," Miss Alice Hoodless, Mark Hanbury, Harry Russell Trio, Unita and Paul, W. Theodore and Co. "Strategy," Staffo, Bradley and Barnes, Bioscope, Harold Brough and Co. "English Slaves," The Courtiers, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Jan. 17, Frank Fenton and Co., Alice Hollander, Jordan and Harvey, Jack Worman, Four Louberts, The Leonards, Ada Cerito, Mlle. Pollo, Fred Dunstone, Will Ambro, Lottie Leighton, Lawson and Dell, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sats. 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Sats. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assist.-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Managers, MORRIS ABRAHAMS and CHARLES HECTOR.
Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10, and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30: Lily Kirton, Louis Seymour, The Anartos, Bioscope, Chas. Baldwin's Co., Peggy Pryde, Jimmy Walker, Vona Clifford's Co., Vendome and Chase, Tom Woottwell.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
New Patriotic Ballet.
"OUR FLAG,"
"OUR FLAG,"
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
De Biere, Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, Gardner and Stoddard, Ines and Taki,
"On the Heath,"
Jury's Pictures of the World's Events, &c.
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Clark and Hamilton, Johnson and Hart, Wilma, Webb Bros., Vindabonas, Miss Evelyn, D'Alroy and Cyril Keightley in "Sanctuary," Harry Allister, Olloms and his Page, Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
LADY CONSTANCE STEWART RICHARDSON, ARTHUR BOURCHIER, MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH and CO., in new play, "THE KNIFE," by Henry Arthur Jones, VESTA TILLEY, MARGARET COOPER, TSCHIN MAA TROUPE, ELECTION RESULTS, and TOPICAL PICTURES on BIOSCOPE, &c.
Evenings at 8.0.
Matinée, Full Programme,
Saturdays at 2.0.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Joe Elvin in "Billy's Money-Box," T. E. Dunville, Victoria Monks, Geo. Formby, Jordan and Harvey, Bros. Horne, Sammy Shields, Dora Lyric, Beattie and Babs, Tom Leamore, Morny Cash, Four Juggling Geraldos, T. Woottwell, Sisters Carina, Wyndham and Wyatt, H. la Martine, Bi-Bo-Be, Gintaro (Japanese Juggler), Ruffell's Bioscope, Bertisch, American Athletic Novelties. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées at 2.15. Sunday Popular Concert to-morrow at 7.30.

TIVOLI.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, T. E. Dunville, George Formby, Gus Elen, Clifton and Wallace, Millie Payne, Ella Shields, Hanvarr and Lee, King and Benson, Charles Whittle, Madge Temple, Coralie Blythe, Alec Chentrens, Ida Barr, Frank Harwood, and the Bioscope.
Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The Only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Spring term commenced Jan. 10.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
The New Term begins this week.
Violin Recital by Miss Sarah Fennings, on Wednesday (19th), at 5, and the Operatic Class reassembles at 6.30 on the same day.
Full particulars on application,
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building), HIS MAJESTY'S, OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH, OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD., Bombay;
or
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
The
GRAND THEATRE
Having been purchased by the BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD., will be
Closed on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1910, for extensive
RE-DECORATIONS,
and RE-OPENED on
Monday, March 21, 1910,
under the General-Management of
GEO. H. HARROP,
By whom dates for only Leading No. 1 Companies will be considered.
P.S.—The Companies already booked and pencilled in by Mr. Sergenson have been taken over by the new Management.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Vacant dates for light comedy or Dramas of High-class, March 14 till April 16. Now booking early Spring and onwards 1910. Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies.
Feb. 7 (f),
April 25,
May 2, and 30.
Autumn dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1910.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. MANAGER

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, lavatories, balcony. Electric light and heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the SUPERINTENDENT.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
First Vacant Date, Feb. 21.
Wanted, First-Class Pantomime for 5 or 6 weeks for Christmas, 1910 and 1911.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE, PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL.—Correspondent Required to supply Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah.
A few Vacant Dates in Spring and Autumn. Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.; or HENRY C. CAVANAGH, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Feb. 7, 8, 9 (?), Three Nights, March 7, 21, Six Nights Each.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Dramatic Companies who have played Twice Nightly
Send in open dates from Feb. 28.
Those who have written before, please do so again; rush of business prevented replying.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Feb. 14, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Musical Attractions Required for
Feb. 7, March 7, April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded Houses Nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Miss Emma Hutchison and Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Co., "Don," from Haymarket, Criterion Theatres, "The Little Damozel," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Proud Prince," "Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime, &c.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER (Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALES OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era Weekly"), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up." 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND,
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
CHARLES J. DAVIES, Secretary, Savoy House Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND,
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held on the Stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Monday, Feb. 7, 1910, at 1½ o'clock noon, to receive the report of the committee and the accounts for the year 1909.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
in the Chair.
The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753, Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB and TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 5d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, JOSEPH AINSLEY, HENRY HALL, and HENRY LEWIS OSMOND, carrying on business as theatre proprietors at Houghton-le-Spring in the County of Durham under the style or firm of The Houghton Theatre Company has been dissolved by mutual consent as and from the sixth day of January, 1910
ALL debts due and owing by the said late firm will be received and paid by the said Joseph Ainsley and Henry Hall.
Dated 6th day of January, 1910.
J. AINSLEY.
HENRY HALL.
HENRY LEWIS OSMOND.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law," ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Alexander, Miss Fyfe	March 27, 1909
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beatrice, Miss May	March 27, 1909
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Dr. Walford	April 3, 1909
Bostock, Mr. N. C.	April 10, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brooke, Miss Decima	April 10, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. Lewis	March 6, 1909
Brownie, Miss Madge	March 13, 1909
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Campbell, Late Mr. Denis	March 6, 1909
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Charcot	Feb. 13, 1909
Clyfford, Miss Kathleen	Feb. 6, 1909
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Coquelin, Late M.	Jan. 30, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
De Frece, Mr. Maurice	Feb. 20, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel	May 15, 1909
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Elliott, Mr. G. H.	March 20, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Dec. 13, 1909
Foote, Miss Doris	March 6, 1909
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Fullbrook, Mr. William	March 6, 1909
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence	July 10, 1909
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harrison, Late Miss Fanny	Feb. 20, 1909
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hodson, Miss Mildred	March 6, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert	May 29, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kennedy, Mr. Edmund	March 27, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Kyrle, Miss Judith	May 1, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Lawrence, Mr. Herbert	March 13, 1909
Lawrence, Late Mr. Joe	Jan. 30, 1909
Lee, Mr. James Langdon	March 20, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. Philip	April 10, 1909
Lester, Mr. Mark	March 20, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Lovell, Late Mr. Tom	Jan. 16, 1909
Lyndon, Mr. Denis	March 27, 1909
Lyric, Miss Dora	March 6, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackney, Late Mr. E. W.	April 3, 1909
Manville, Mr. Jerrold	May 22, 1909
Matcham, Mr. A. W.	June 26, 1909
Matthews, Mr. Cyprian H.	March 6, 1909
Mavis, Miss Mabel	March 6, 1909
McNeil, Miss Sheila	April 17, 1909
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Millais, Miss Helena	April 3, 1909
Modjeska, Late Mme. Helene	May 8, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Mortimer, Miss Gracie	Jan. 2, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B.	April 10, 1909
Murray, Miss Marjorie	March 13, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Noyle, Miss Pearl	July 10, 1909
Overton, Mr. Norman A.	July 3, 1909
Pass, Miss Dora	July 24, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Pickard, Mr. A. E.	Feb. 13, 1909
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Rickards, Mr. Harry	May 29, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Rodway, Mr. P.	May 22, 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel	July 10, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russell-Davies, Mr. A.	May 22, 1909
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thane, Mr. Edward	Sept. 11, 1909
Thompson, Miss Cissie	March 13, 1909
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Thornton, Miss Maudie	March 20, 1909
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Vezin, Mr. Hermann	March 20, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warner, Late Mr. Charles	Feb. 13, 1909
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E.	July 10, 1909
Wilkie, Mr. Allan	March 6, 1909
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Woolf, Miss Gipsy	March 13, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY
MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Black Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in Stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C., nr. HIPPO.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA"
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st, Strand, W.C.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1910.

"SARAH" AT THE COLISEUM.

The news which has come to us from Paris that, after much doubt and difficulty, Madame SARAH BERNHARDT has consented to appear at the London Coliseum next autumn is extremely welcome. It was not without much hesitation that the great French actress decided to allow her name to appear in the bills of a music-hall. We must remember that the equivalent of a "variety theatre" in London is a "café concert" in Paris; and the name conveys to French ears a very different idea. There is no music-hall in Paris which is quite on the same grade as the Palace or the Coliseum. We do not mean to draw any invidious comparisons between these places of amusement and others equally excellent on their own lines; we merely refer to certain subtle differences in the audiences and the entertainment. But, at last, Madame BERNHARDT'S scruples were overcome. The shades of meaning have been pointed out to her; and she has been informed that many of our leading English actors and actresses have appeared, or are to appear, at our music-halls. She has accordingly engaged herself and a company of five actors and actresses to perform at the Coliseum for a period of four weeks, with the option of renewal for another four weeks; and she will appear for half an hour every evening in a scene from any play at her choice—in *L'Aiglon*, *La Dame aux Camélias*, &c.

The announcement that Madame BERNHARDT is to perform portions of her splendid dramatic repertory is indeed delightful. Madame BERNHARDT is a most accomplished variety artist; and, in case of need, she could supply three entirely different turns. She could "clay-model" cleverly in the sight of the audience; she could paint a landscape or do a caricature in charcoal in the same manner; and she could give a charming performance with some of the wild animals whom she has made her pets, concluding by jumping into her celebrated satin-lined coffin, and being carried off the stage amidst thunders of applause. But Madame BERNHARDT is simply going to give us extracts from the pieces which have made her so famous. No doubt this may prove in practice to be the best plan; but we cannot help wishing that it had been feasible for her to present, even in a condensed form, some of the many fine one-act pieces with which the French stage is so well supplied.

The appearance on the variety stage of our best actors and actresses in plays written by our cleverest dramatists is a fact of striking significance. It has been pointed to as an instance of the aggrandisement of the music-hall at the expense of the theatre; but there is another side to the question. The original object of the theatre was to produce plays in three, four, or five acts. The original object of the music-hall was to present songs, acrobatic entertainments, and any other interesting, amusing, and exciting items. The two entertainments stood distinctly apart. Music-hall artists went on the stage; and, less frequently, theatrical artists took to the "halls," but the two departments were kept distinct. As we have pointed out again and again, if a variety theatre is licensed to produce plays of any length, and composes its programme of dramas and comedies interspersed with "variety turns"—as used to be done, at one time, at the old Britannia Theatre—it is not the variety business that has gained an accession, but the theatrical business which has received an addition. The distinction is not in the name or the permission to smoke, but in the nature of the entertainment provided. The introduction of sketches into our "variety bills" rather suggests that the tremendous prosperity of the music-hall has outgrown the supply of purely "variety" attractions. From time to time the same problem is observable in the theatres. Then there is a panic, and an apprehension of a theatrical slump. A theatre is turned into a music-hall, and back again to a theatre. Then the managers rouse themselves to desperate efforts, attractive plays are discovered, and prosperity reigns once more.

From an artistic point of view, the introduction of plays at the halls and their limitation are decided advantages. The writing of short pieces is an art in itself. More difficult in some ways than the writing of long plays, but easier, of course, in others, the craft is one which should not be allowed to become extinct, as it nearly has become at the theatres. When we think of the masterpieces in little of LABICHE and others, and of the beautifully concrete achievements of some of our own comedietta-writers, we turn to the variety stage with the hope that it may foster contemporary talent in this department. One counsel we give to managers, authors, and artists who are engaged in the selection and production of "sketches"—*i.e.*, not to be afraid of their public. The best is not too good for them, as long as it *is* the best. However mixed an audience is, it appreciates exquisite delicacy, true refinement, and real pathos. It is not by assuming density and vulgarity in the common people, and writing or acting down to them, that the greatest success is to be obtained. It is true that a fastidious and cultured audience will endure mediocrity with more equanimity than a rough-and-ready one; but, if the appeal be made with supreme art, there is no public which appreciates beauty and poetry more than a "popular" public. We feel certain that Madame BERNHARDT'S genius, her perfection of technique, and her infinite charm and skill will be as warmly applauded at the Coliseum as they were, many years ago, at the Comédie Française.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."

Pantomime, Book and Lyrics by Dan Thomas, Produced at the Richmond Hippodrome on Monday, Jan. 10.

Dick Whittington ..... MISS DAISY YATES
Ald. Fitzwarren ..... MR. H. D. LYNDON
Alice ..... MISS OLIVE WEST
Idle Jack ..... MR. JACK HARRIS
Capt. Kettle ..... MR. ROMEO MISSOURI
Bill Blower .. } MESSRS. HAVERLEY AND HOMER
Tom Bowling }
Hon. Bertie ..... MISS WINEFRED RAY
Polly Prim ..... MISS MAY BARKER
Emperor of Morocco ..... MR. ARTHUR WADE
Princess ..... MISS LYDIA FLOYD
Chopem ..... MISS JACK WELLER
Cat ..... MR. PETE ALMONTI
King Rat ..... MASTER NIPPER MAHER
Slipon ..... MR. WILL NORMAN
Slipoff ..... MR. CYRIL STAFFORD
Fairy Queen ..... MME. LILLIAN
Betsy ..... MR. DAN THOMAS

The tabloid pantomime boasts a distinct advantage over more elaborate entertainments. Mr. Dan Thomas is responsible for the very latest tabloid version of *Dick Whittington*, and let it be in fairness acknowledged he has so artfully prepared his menu that the dish is a huge success. Scene 1 shows Cheapside, and Dick and Cat are introduced in the orthodox fashion; in Scene 2 the theft is committed, and Dick leaves for Highgate. In Scene 3 we have a wonderfully well-trained ballet, and the general picture is quite excellent. The story is followed in its original version. Dick goes to sea, gets shipwrecked, arrives at Morocco, and saves the country by the aid of his feline companion. He returns laden with wealth and honour, and in Scene 11 he is proclaimed Lord Mayor of London.

One can hardly speak too highly of the general interpretation. Of course, premier honours go to the irrepressible Dan Thomas. As Betsy, the cook, he is the life and soul of the show, and is ably seconded in his efforts by the whimsicalities of the idle apprentice, Jack, capitally played by Mr. Jack Harriss. The Alderman is played with dry humour by Mr. H. D Lyndon; the vagaries of two L.C.C. "sailors" are happily and drolly depicted by Messrs. Haverley and Homer; Mr. R. Missouri finds scope for his undoubted ability as the reckless, swaggering sea-dog, Kettle; Miss Daisy Yates is an ideal Jack, dashing and bright; quite early she becomes prime favourite, and is an artist of value; a pert and pretty Alice is found in Miss Olive West, her dancing and singing alike winning commendation; Miss Winefred Ray looked charming as the Hon. Bertie; and Polly Prim is dainty and bewitching as played as May Barker. Mr. Arthur Wade is dignified as the Emperor, and sings his allotted song in good style; while Miss Lydia Floyd as the Princess also wins recognition. Quite a hit is made by a dusky warrior, Chopem, who is seized with a frenzied desire to decapitate everyone's "lalipaloola," that is, their heads. Probably the favourite with the juvenile portion of the audience is the Cat, Tommy the Terror, splendidly played by Mr. Pete Almonti. Mme. Lillian is the Fairy Queen and vocalises sweetly. All things considered, this tabloid "show" is unique; the music—much of it exceptionally good—is by Carl Hamlin; and Dan Thomas is responsible for the book and lyrics. We doubt if he will ever do better. Mr. Harry Lawrence ably conducts the orchestra, and in the front of the house Mr. Wilkes is in command.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT TOTTENHAM.

Tottenham is having a sumptuous feast at the hands of King Pantomime just now. Following *Puss in Boots* last week, Mr. Andie Caine's elaborate production, *Babes in the Wood*, is Mr. T. S. Mayne's attraction this week. This ever-courteous manager has had a big crowd to distribute in the various parts of the house each night. He was somewhat handicapped in the earlier part of the week by the absence of his able lieutenant, Mr. Harold Nuttall, who has had the misfortune to lose his father. The book of *Babes in the Wood* is written by Mr. Ben Albert. There is not a dull moment in the eight scenes. A merry company of sixty work hard and harmoniously from start to finish, and in the scene depicting The Enchanted Wood group, pose, and dance in a manner which compels applause. The Village School is replete with genuine fun and frolic, and The Baron's Library affords an excellent medium for some droll fooling between the two bold, bad, and beery hirelings (Messrs. Coda and Danton) and the wicked uncle (Mr. Wall Kent). The title-rôle is performed in precocious, yet dainty, style by Misses Dorothy Elliot and Mabel Lucina. The Sisters McColla (Dolly and Madge) sustain their parts of Will Scarlet and Margery Daw faithfully and well. In their duet, "Come over the garden wall," they are excellent. Mr. Andie Caine is a delightful Dame, Anne Chovey, bubbling over with comic repartee. Mr. Ben Albert makes a jovial Friar Tuck, and plays a prominent part in the pantomime. Robin Hood is played gallantly and gracefully by Miss Alice Digby; and that of Maid Marion is coyly sustained by Miss Lily Brammer. As the scheming Sangride Miss Bergitte Linderup looks charming and acts ably; Miss Hawthorne Thwaites as Fairy Luna is particularly appealing in her song "Somewhere"; and Mr. Jimmy McGrath is extremely quaint as Jimmy Green. Gorgeous sets and elaborate costumes make up a really fine show.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT THE MARLBOROUGH.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

The up-to-date pantomime, mounted in excellent taste, and presented by Mr. Fred Fredericks at that favourite theatre of the Northerners—the Marlborough—is, it appears, cutting the record. And those who know those records do not need to be told that this is a great achievement. Of the charming and novel effects in the scenery, of the crispness and consistency of the story, and of the solidarity and unity of the company we have already written, but with a second visit we were able to enjoy even more fully than on Boxing Day the excellent acting. It is good fun and wholesome fun that the kiddies and the grown-ups laugh at; and from first to last there is not the slightest taint of vulgarity in dress, demeanour, or dialogue.

Whimsical Ernie Mayne has added many droll touches to his unctuous impersonation of Joe Sliaker, the more tender-hearted of the necessary pair of cut-throats. Resourceful in gag and business, Mr. Mayne must feel a real delight in the uproarious laughter that greets his every entrance and his every bit of business. Another of the chief fun providers is Mr. Arthur Stigant, who has no difficulty in securing his share of public favour. In various disguises, which are scarcely less droll than his numerous gags, this capital comedian keeps well within the legitimate bounds of fun by his impersonation of the giddy and ancient coquette. He scores most unmistakably in "What a pity she lived so long ago," a topical song that will be ever increasing its tale of verses with the advent of Parliamentary contests in the neighbourhood.

Miss Ruth Lytton's Colin is quite a dainty and delightful performance from first to last. She looks particularly fascinating in her Scotch dress, and speaks her lines with a real sense of dramatic effect. Miss Daisy Wood as Phœbe, the village beauty, is full of rustic coquetry, and is always nice, and bright, and intelligent. "Who's going to take me for a walk?" is a question asked nightly in song by Miss Wood, and many of the youths of Holloway would gladly accept the invitation. Mr. Tom J. Morton as Bobby Bilberry, a farm labourer, and Miss Maggie Bowman as Dickie co-operate in some entertaining and interesting interludes. One of the most effective of these is a skit on transpontine melodrama. In this Miss Bowman proves herself to be an actress of considerable gifts, and it is refreshing to hear her clear delivery and to note the animation she puts into every line of her part. Mr. Morton keeps well within the lines of his bucolic impersonation, but lets himself go in an eccentric policeman dance and as a seaside masher.

Mr. Hal Forde's penny plain and tuppence coloured villain of Richardson's show or travelling booth type is intensely amusing in its jack-booted ferocity and robust denunciation of anything virtuous. The combat between Mr. Forde and Mr. Ernie Mayne is one of the tit-bits of the production, and it is followed by the heartiest ebullitions of mirth all over the house. Mr. Forde maintains a serious countenance that adds to the laughable nature of his work. Mr. Lew Leslie is entitled to further praise for his Squire Stubbly. He has opportunity for a most entertaining chorus song when he sings "Ding, dong." A popular little lady is Miss Hester Reeve, who as Daisy makes a hit in the now famous melody "Somewhere," for the singing of which she has to concede an encore. Miss Ethel Oliver as Silvius looks pretty and picturesque, and the four dairymaids have attractive representatives in Misses Betty Burdette, Muriel Lillington, Edith Janner, and Babs Johnston. Mr. Hugh Fleming is the business-manager for Mr. Fredericks; Mr. A. L. Pitman stage-manager; and the musical forces are directed by Mr. Ernee Woodville. Mr. Murray-Herriot, the resident-manager, is wearing a perennial smile as a result of the excellent business that is being done with Holloway's latest pantomime.

"A SHAPED END."

Sketch, in One Act, by Godwin Bulger, Produced at the Balfour Institute, Liverpool, on Saturday, Jan. 8.

Thomas Venton ..... MR. J. A. DODD
Richard Estland ..... MR. GODWIN BULGER
Violet ..... MISS NORA NEARY
The Lady from Next Door .. MISS MARY WITTY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is a smart little trifle, much above the average of curtain-raisers in merit, and, after a little judicious pruning of the earlier portion of the dialogue, so as to accelerate the action, it should prove acceptable. There is a touch of originality about the story which makes it refreshingly welcome, and it is sufficiently interesting to hold the attention of an audience.

The incident takes place in the bachelor flat of Richard Estland, where we find his next-door neighbour, described at "the lady," engaged in placing his arm in a sling, he having met with a slight accident. During the operaton they exchange confidences, in the course of which he relates his youthful love for a girl since married, while she tells a sad story of her husband's desertion. On retiring, she asks him to summon her should he need any further assistance. Violet Venton, his former sweetheart, then puts in an appearance, and declares her determination not to return to her husband, owing to his brutality. Estland, however, convinces her of her indiscretion in coming to him, and eventually the woman decides to return home. She is on the point of departing when her husband, having suspected the place to which she had fled, appears; whereupon Violet is hidden in an adjoining chamber, "the lady" accompanying her. An angry scene takes place between the men, and the husband, noticing his wife's glove on the table, is about to force an entrance to the inner room, when "the lady" appears, much to his consternation, for she at once recognises him as the husband who had abandoned her several years previously. Estland gives him the alternative—which he accepts—of disappearing from the country, or being arrested for bigamy. The amateurs performed the sketch in fairly commendable style.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

The Christmas attractions ended on Saturday evening last with the second week's variety entertainment in the Central Hall. Costel, the Court magician, did some smart tricks of legerdemain; Sid Penna was equally at home in each of his musical numbers; Miss Lily Macarte, "the Girl in the Hoop," was graceful and agile; on the horizontal bar Mlle. Dagmar proved herself to be a lady athlete of no mean order, and her comedian attendant added to the success of her entertainment; and a facial mimic, Amandus, gave presentations of popular notabilities, and, whatever opinion any of the audience might have had in regard to Mr. Lloyd George's policy, no possible exception could be taken to the wonderful make-up as the Celtic Chancellor of the Exchequer. Another number of varied musical instruments, well and carefully executed by Rosina, was listened to with pleasure. The performance concluded with a miniature menagerie, representing a stag-hunt by trained dogs, under the able tuition of Mlle. Rosini, whose fortune-telling dog, Rosie, calls for special comment.

ELLA BLAIR and her Bower Boys, in their sensational dancing act, top the bill at the New Empire, Aberdare, and are well received; Cliff Inman, eccentric comedian and dancer, occupies a prominent position; Hetty Knight, a chic comedienne, provides one or two good songs; and Ada Gatley is well rewarded for her unique wire act.

LONDON PAVILION.

The domestic comedy of the mean street has been almost invariably a source of merriment at the halls. Mr. Chevalier, it is true, endowed the coster with romance, but the variety comedienne rarely takes a sentimental view in song of Mrs. Coster or of the class of which she forms a type. The domesticity of the homes of the masses, and its attendant worries, is decidedly more popular because more cheerful, and the song that puts a comic complexion on every-day incidents in the homes of the toiler can scarcely fail to be successful, simply because it touches on subjects with which nine-tenths of popular music hall audiences are familiar. Such a song, of course, largely depends for its success on the comedy gifts of its exponent. Miss Vesta Victoria, who is the chief lady star of Mr. Frank Glenister's capital New Year bill, has a delightful aptitude for such songs, and the great ability with which she interprets them has been recognised quite as universally in the United States as in the United Kingdom. Just now this favourite comedienne is dealing very cleverly with "the simple life," or, rather, with that view of it that may be compassed from the back garden of a small suburban villa. The proud owner, who calls it "Arcadee," insists on the partner of his joys being decked with roses, and restricts her nutriment to apples and bananas. Vesta's appearance as a suburban copy of an Arcadian maiden, with her ruddy tresses hanging down her back, and her head leaf-crowned, is the drollest piece of absurdity that we have met with for some time. "Now, I have to call him father," the song that has captured two hemispheres, is the final triumph of the popular lady, who is cheered to the echo.

Mr Harry Ford—a rare favourite at this house—nas a song on "Fact," which is full of paradoxes, pithily rhymed and pointedly put; and in a later song, "Let it go," the comedian impersonates a broken-down swell, who is equally as ready to outbid a Rothschild or a Carnegie as to formulate a Budget. Both songs get away from the beaten track, and afford considerable amusement. Mr. Chris. Richards is chiefly notable as a dancer and hat manipulator; and we get some sensational foot and head-over-heels work from Miss Kitty Colyer. Mr. Ernest Shand has much pertinent matter scattered throughout his patter, which is invariably amusing. Mr. Ben Albert's working man, too, is a faithful, as well as a funny, study; and Mr. Ambrose Thorne's light comedy finds many admirers. Who that has heard Ellwanger and company in *Who Did It?* has been able to do anything else but laugh? and the light-hearted behaviour of the Hiatts, in a comedy musical mélange, makes their offering a most acceptable one. For legitimate farcical acting, commend us to Mr. Rutland Barrington in *Faithful James*; and the jollity and heartiness of the fun in *The Butler's Concert*, exploited by Joe Peterman's company, are unmistakable, Mr. Walter Williams as the Secretary and Mr. Frank Leedam as the Professor being especially conspicuous. Mr. Fred Russell's ventriloquial comedy is backed up by much originality. His "figures of speech" in two senses are extremely funny. Other interesting turns are contributed by the Elsie Girls, Francis and Alfred (who combine jesting and juggling), the Fitzroys (flying ring performers), the Gothams, and Jock Whiteford. Mr. A. Bond-Sayers has an excellent orchestra here, and it is pleasant to see Mr. William Cobbett back again, completely recovered from his illness.

FUNNY FOOTBALL.

A comic football match took place at Craven Cottage on Monday afternoon, where eleven players of the Fulham F.C. opposed twenty-four of the performers engaged in the *Aladdin* pantomime at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith. Miss Kittee Rayburn, the principal boy, kicked off. Mr. Harry Morgan, the Weird Wizard of the pantomime, netted, and his colleagues almost dislocated his arm in their vigorous congratulations. The "police" took the goalkeeper, Claud Lipp, into custody for allowing the goal to be scored. Mr. Fred W. Graham scored from a penalty. Some amusement was caused by the antics of a couple of donkeys who patrolled the ground, and their services were requisitioned to defend the Pantomime goal, several shots from the Fulham players striking the quadrupeds. A third goal for Fulham was scored by Mr. Price, who was promptly smothered with flour, a number of white bombs being also exploded. Just before half-time Ryan, one of the policemen, adopted the Rugby code, and, carrying the ball over the line, scored the equalising point. Three goals each was the score at half-time. Mr. Bruce Lindley, the Grand Vizier, after a devious run which mystified his opponents, shot into the undefended Fulham goal, the home team now playing without a custodian. Three times the Fulham full-back tried to shoot a goal from the ten yards line, but each time failed to drive the ball through the serried ranks of the Pantomimists, who lay in the goal two deep. Exactly how many goals were registered probably even the referee could not tell, but the official verdict gave the result as 11—10 in favour of the Pantomime company. A collection was made on the ground on behalf of local charities, to which the proceeds of the game will also be given.

In the evening the members of the Fulham Football Club paid a visit to the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, to witness the pantomime *Aladdin*, and showed their appreciation of the performance by hearty applause.

The members of the Fulham football team, between one of the scenes, appeared on the stage, and, addressing the audience, Mr. Fred S. Jennings, the manager of the theatre, said:—Ladies and gentlemen,—I have here on the stage to-night, in full force, the members of the Fulham football team, who played a charity match to-day—our second annual match—with our pantomime company. I am pleased to say that the pantomime company are not only excellent artists, but good football players. Thanks are also due to Mr. Wentworth Croke for his kind and magnificent support of the whole affair. I have tried to make him come on the stage to-night, but unfortunately he has a very bad cold. The Fulham football team wish to present Miss Kittee Rayburn, who "kicked off" this afternoon, with this cup. It is impossible to state the exact amount realised by the match, but I have every reason to believe it is in excess of last year. I need hardly say I hope we shall play this match next year, and for many years to come, with even bigger success than to-day. I will conclude by thanking the Press and public for their kind attendance this afternoon.

Here repeated calls were made for Mr. Wentworth Croke, who finally appeared, and said:—It is very nice to see you all in "front" to-night. I really do not know why I am dragged on. (A voice from the audience: "Because you are a jolly good fellow.") I have not a word left to say after Mr. Jennings' eloquent speech. Thank you all very much indeed for being here. I hope you are coming again in the same numbers every night during the run of the pantomime. Thank you.

YAMAMOTO and Miss Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists, in a marvellous series of equilibristic poses, are proving an extremely popular star turn at the Pavilion, Wishaw, N.B. Miss Ada Kessanly's clever fox-terriers are marvels of dog training; the Real McKays (Harry and Jean) are a couple of versatile youngsters; Radena Day is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Handleys introduce some pleasing Scotch comedy in a musical sketch; and the Bioscope concludes.

"THE LADDER OF FAME."

BY DAN ROLYAT.

"There was once," writes Mr. Dan Rolyat, "a 'mysterious' manager who advertised for clever amateurs to make up a variety combination he intended running at a small town on the Welsh coast. Now, having earned a small reputation in Birmingham as an amateur entertainer, I was naturally anxious to stagger other worlds with my stupendous talent, so I wrote to the aforementioned 'manager' (?) and carefully explained that 'as a comedian my performance began just about where Dan Leno's left off.' He replied that if I was as good as I thought I was, he would either have to enlarge the hall or give overflow performances; but if I cared to accept £4 a week for the season he would be pleased to fix up. I accepted promptly. At last I had my foot upon the first rung of the 'Ladder of Fame,' and quite believed my second step would take me over the top of it. 'What a death!'

"Upon arriving at the hall I was gently informed by the manager that all the company would have to parade the town on bicycles in full make-up. I looked upon this as somewhat lowering to my dignity, especially as they had billed me as Dan Leno's only rival. However, I put my pride in an empty pocket, and hoped that, with the aid of some fearsome whiskers and a generous application of grease paint, no one would recognise me. Fortunately, no one did; in fact, with the exception of a few half-starved boys leading dyspeptic donkeys, I don't believe anyone took the slightest notice of us. Well, we paraded deserted streets in a drenching rain for two solid hours. I often wonder what I must have looked like. I am not an adept at face make-up even now, but my idea of a funny make-up then was extremely crude, and it's letting it off very lightly at that. I leave you to imagine what I looked like after the rain had finished with me. At two o'clock in the afternoon we were about to open the doors for the matinée, but the comic caretaker of the hall freezingly remarked that 'No doors wasn't going to be hopened till a few little hexes was settled.'

"I think he must have noticed the somewhat anæmic queue outside, which consisted of six small boys, who had been handbilling for us, and were coming in 'on the nod.'

"After a scramble, we reluctantly parted with the necessary palm-oil, and were condescendingly allowed to open the doors and 'stagger humanity,' but we were the first to receive the staggers. The doors opened to a big rush of cold air, a few invalids, one or two little children, and the above-mentioned 'on the nod' contingent. 'What a hit.'

"The performance trickled along quite harmlessly without any serious demonstration from the audience; only an occasional 'nasty hacking cough' from some old invalid, and then 'Peace, perfect Peace.' It was like performing to a troupe of 'opium biters,' but this peaceful calm was somewhat ruffled when we came to one of our 'best turns,' a big novelty in those days—the 'Animatograph,' or 'Moving Pictures.' Dear! Dear! Dear! Cinematographs even to-day are a trifle 'jerky,' but ours was worse than a motor-'bus with convulsions. It took a good twenty minutes to induce even the preliminary disc to appear on the sheet, then followed some weird splotches and jags that resembled Wormwood Scrubbs being struck by lightning, and then, oh Joy! a picture actually appeared. True, it was somewhat vague, but still it was a 'picture.' Then all the company tried to guess what it was. I said it was an oil-spring on fire; another said it was Mount Vesuvius in eruption; upon referring to the programme, however, it turned out to be 'A Baby and a Kitten Playing.' The patience of the audience was positively beautiful, but after waiting fruitlessly for the rest of the series, the whole audience (thirteen) arose in a threatening manner, so our trick orchestra (trombone and harmonium) prematurely played the National Anthem, thereby completely cutting out the 'screaming (?) farce,' in which I had a fine part.

"Thus ended the first performance, and for the rest of the week I blushed every time I passed one of our day-bills.

"On the following morning, after a heated debate, we decided to abolish the usual method of charging for admission at the doors, and adopt the ingenious idea of taking up a silver and copper collection. That night we simply fought for the privilege of going round with the collection bags. Saturday arrived at last, and I may say that I was a 'good first' at the treasury call, only to discover that our worthy manager had left the town the previous night in mufti and a milk-train, and had carelessly omitted leaving either our salaries or his new address. Result—Auntie received a wire worded thusly:—'Dear Auntie,—You will be pleased to hear that I have made an enormous success. Kindly wire thirty shillings, Post Office, Rhyl.'"

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Under the energetic management of Mr. Bertie Ralland, affairs continue to thrive apace at this well-known place of entertainment, and the present programme is being well patronised. A starring engagement is being fulfilled by Jack Lorimer, the well-known Scotch comedian, and it is an agreeable circumstance to be able to record the entire success of his reappearance here. He contributes three songs, "I got married to-day," "My Hielan' Lad," and "Jeannie McGregor," all given in his well-known style. The premier acrobats, the Cragge, create much merriment in their latest acrobatic comedy sketch *Territorials*, the new recruit, Billy, causing considerable amusement with his queer antics. Their turn is received with great favour. Billy Hobbs, a remarkably agile coon vocalist and expert clog dancer, gives two capital songs, "When I wasn't any bigger than you" and "Trans-Mag," concluding each item with a cleverly-executed dance; the eccentric nature of the latter convulses the house. A very successful turn is given by Jennie Hartley, who sings "Climbing," and her singing and dancing show no small amount of talent.

La Freya appears in her original artistic visions, and Mlle. Lucia presents her mysterious musician. This is a distinctly novel show; the mechanical figure is brought on by an attendant, placed in a chair with an auto-harp upon a stand in front of it, and at the word of command plays the accompaniments to Mlle. Lucia's songs. This interesting number affords free play to the imagination. It is so strange and mystifying that one is absolutely at a loss to understand where Art ceases and Nature begins. Maxey and Pete provide a capital entertainment as eccentric wheelers, whose clever tricks are set off by their comic antics. Stella Stahl gives a neat song, "Gogo," and dance, and the Empire Comedy Four gain much applause for their very popular turn. Mr. Fred Camp presides over the very efficient orchestra, and, in addition to the above programme, some capital pictures are shown by the American Bioscope.

MR. CHARLES MADDIN, of Westminster, passed peacefully away at his residence at Tooting on Tuesday at the early age of forty-seven, after a short illness of only three days. Mr. Maddin was the father of Miss Iris Fox, who is playing Pekoe at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, with pronounced success. Mr. Maddin for years had been closely identified with the variety world, in which his friends were legion.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

THERE will be general regret at the news that Mr. Alfred Moul, of the Alhambra, is ill with a severe attack of appendicitis. He was in Paris on Sunday, the 2nd inst., superintending the final rehearsals of a production of his *Psyche* ballet at Olympia in that city. On the Tuesday morning, although he was suffering from serious internal inflammation, he decided upon an immediate journey homeward rather than remain at a foreign hotel.

ON his arrival in London, he was met by a doctor at the station and went home to bed. A specialist was called in, and an operation was decided on. This was successfully performed on Wednesday by Mr. William Henry Battle, the well-known surgeon, of 49, Harley-street. Up to the time of going to Press the patient's condition is pronounced to be highly satisfactory, and his progress most encouraging.

NOTWITHSTANDING the contradictions of Paris and London journals we may take it that Mr. Oswald Stoll has captured Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. She is to make her appearance at the Coliseum in September with a company. It is quite possible that "La Grande Sarah" will give excerpts from *La Tosca, Fédora, L'Aiglon, La Princesse Lointain*, and—why not?—*Hamlet*.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE having gone to the Coliseum, it is quite in accordance with the fitness of things that Miss Winifred Emery (his accomplished wife) should go over to variety for a time, and she has accepted an advantageous offer from Mr. Oswald Stoll to appear at the Hippodrome, where she is expected to make her début on Monday, Feb. 21. The popular actress has one or two little plays up her sleeve, but has not yet decided which to produce. Why not try *A Soldier's Daughters*?

MISS FANNY BROUGH will make her second experiment in variety at the Empire, where she has been engaged to replace Miss Evelyn D'Alroy—shortly returning to His Majesty's to support Sir Herbert Tree in *Beethoven*. For the favourite comedy actress Mr. Malcolm Watson has written a little piece of a farcical character, entitled *A Change of Front*, which will take the place of *Sanctuary*, the serious little drama from the same pen now running successfully at the Empire. It will be remembered that Miss Fanny Brough made her variety début in *Law and Order*, a comedy duologue played by her and Mr. Stanley Cooke at the Palace Theatre in January, 1908.

A WRIT for libel has been issued by the management of the Palace Theatre against Mr. William Archer and the proprietors of the *Nation*, in consequence of an article written by the critic animadverting in that journal against the class of audiences frequenting the famous variety house in Shaftesbury-avenue.

MR. HARRY BICKLEY very kindly sends five shillings for the widow of the late John Callan.

THROUGH a printer's error, the praise bestowed on Mr. Ernie Mayne, the chief comedian at the Marlborough, Holloway, was assigned to Mr. Eric Mayne. Reference is again made to Mr. Ernie Mayne's funny impersonation in a second notice of the Holloway pantomime in another page.

MR. BERT FELDMAN was an interested spectator at the Grand, Glasgow, pantomime of *Mother Goose* on Monday, especially as several new numbers had been added to the long list of Feldman's songs given there. This pantomime has been making fresh records for New Year holiday drawings here, despite the strong opposition, and there is no need to ask the familiar query, "Is everybody happy?"

THE annual dinner and dance of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association will be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, Feb. 20, when it is hoped to secure a prominent proprietor to take the chair. The proceeds will be given to the funds of the new Variety Benevolent Institution. By the matinée at the Coliseum, music-hall charities—the V.A.B.F. and the institution just named—benefited to the extent of £140 each.

THE "ballet-revue," "On the Heath," at the Alhambra, is bright and breezy, and has the added merit of providing opportunity for the introduction of "skits" upon current events. The latest parody is on the Vampire Dance, which lends itself readily to ridicule. Miss Julia Seale displays considerable humour. An election burlesque is another amusing interlude, and in its second edition the "ballet-revue" should find renewed popularity.

WE may once more remind our readers to-morrow (Sunday) is fixed for the fourth annual general meeting of the Federation at the Bedford Head Hotel at six o'clock prompt. Mr. Fred Russell will deliver the chairman's address, the general secretary will give his report, and the V.A.F. balance-sheet up to Dec. 31, 1909, will be submitted, and there will be a discusion on the General Federation of Trade Unions.

THE Slaviansky Russian Choir, now singing with very great success at the London Coliseum, were commanded to sing before the King during the first week of their appearance. They sang fifteen songs to His Majesty, who warmly applauded, and made very complimentary remarks upon the performance. At his own request His Majesty was introduced to Mme. Slaviansky, to whom he expressed his warm admiration of the choir's beautiful singing.

EVERYBODY is congratulating Mr. Charles Coborn upon the tremendously popular ovation which he received at the Middlesex Music Hall last Tuesday night, upon the historic "last appearance" of that celebrated hall, under the management of Mr. J. L. Graydon. One report states that the audience "went wild with enthusiasm." Mr. Charles Coborn's forecast for the General Election result gives:—Unionists, 279; Liberals, 263; Nationalists, 82; Labour, 46. This is not as he would like it, but like what he imagines the result will be.

NEWS of the serious illness of the mother of Miss Bertha Doud Mack, skate dancer, has been cabled from the States, and unless she has a more reassuring bulletin to-day Miss Mack will be obliged to cancel all outstanding engagements and return to the States immediately to be at the bedside of the sufferer. Miss Mack is deeply sensible of the courtesy she has received on this side, and she will return to England to take up her work again as soon as she can leave her mother.

THE Sketch Association held its first smoking concert at the Crown Hotel, next door to the Hippodrome, W.C., on Sunday. Mr. George Gray, the president of the association, being away on tour, Mr. Arnold Bell presided most efficiently over a representative gathering. Mr. Leonard Mortimer had charge of the musical arrangements, and he provided an excellent programme. Mr. Harry Pleon and Mr. Herbert Terry both worked hard, and their efforts largely contributed towards the success of the evening. The ladies turned up to the first smoker in considerable force, and the chairman evidently gauged the feeling of the audience when he announced amid applause that another smoker would be held at an early date.

AN application for a dramatic licence by Mr. Frederick Mouillot to perform a pantomime for the week commencing Jan. 17 at the Hippodrome, Margate, was brought before the Council at the Town Hall on Tuesday, and on being put to the vote it was decided not to grant the licence asked for.

CROYDON'S oldest playhouse, the Theatre Royal, is being demolished. Its history goes back to the days of wax candles and oil lamps. In 1830 it was announced that the house would be "splendidly lighted with gas." Many great actors have appeared on the stage, among them Edmund Kean, Edward Askew Sothern, Charles Mathews, Ben Webster Buckstone, Henry Irving, and Toole. When the Buckstones took the theatre the band was sent into the street to attract an audience, but the police arrested the musicians as rogues and vagabonds.

THE old house opened with varieties on Easter Monday, April 20, 1908, under the name of the Hippodrome, with two houses a night; and it had a variety career in 1897, being then opened as the Empire, with Messrs. Fred Bartlett and Edmund G. Pratt as managing-directors and Mr. Will Sergeant as manager.

THE house will be rebuilt by the Moss and Stoll combination, and will not be finished for some months, as the house is not yet completely pulled down.

MR. CONWAY WERTHEIMER, Conservative candidate for South Hackney, accompanied by Messrs. J. J. Roberts, Ranger, Barnett, Friedberg, J. McCarthy, and G. Dickson, occupied the stage box at the Hackney Empire on Saturday evening last, and on being recognised by the large audience, met with an enthusiastic reception.

DURING the evening Mr. Wertheimer presented the star turn of the week, Miss Marie Kendall, with a handsome bouquet, composed of choice exotics tied with streamers of blue and white. Miss Kendall, in thanking him from the stage, who was afterwards introduced to Mr. Wertheimer, referred to him as the plucky candidate, and took that opportunity of wishing him success.

ON the previous evening (Friday) Mr. Bottomley was present at the Empire and also presented Miss Kendall with a bouquet. Mr. Chas. Marte attended to the welfare of the visitors, and Mr. J. Christie, London district manager for Moss and Stoll, rejoices in excellent business, notwithstanding the political excitement prevalent.

MR. FRANK DANBY, who with his company made such a successful visit last week to Birmingham, had an unpleasant surprise on Friday night (7th) on visiting the Grand Theatre. He was met at the stage-door by a gentleman, who informed him that he held a warrant for his arrest

HAD it not been for the services of the ever-courteous manager, Mr. Foster, Mr. Danby would have spent the night in Winson Green Gaol. On promising, however, to deliver his body at eleven o'clock the following morning, Mr. Danby was allowed to give his sketch. It was then proved that the Mr. Frank Danby wanted was the *nom de théâtre* of another gentleman. The matter will, of course, be pursued further.

ONE thousand poor children filled two spacious rooms in the Floodgate-street Schools, Birmingham, on the afternoon of the 7th inst. They were the happy little guests of Miss Dorothy Ward, a Birmingham lady, who is the popular principal boy in the Prince of Wales Theatre pantomime. They laughed, talked, and sang, and a merrier party never assembled under one roof. Mr. J. Stevenson, superintendent of school attendance officers in the city, had undertaken to arrange the affair for Miss Ward, she having sent him a cheque to defray expenses, and he was ably assisted by the school attendance officers and their wives and daughters.

MISS WARD, Miss Daisy Dormer, Miss D'Amato, Miss Jean Burton (the Babes from the Prince of Wales Theatre) assisted at the tables, and found the novel experience thoroughly enjoyable. They also sang several chorus songs, which the children took up with great enthusiasm. After the youngsters had been regaled with sausage-rolls, buns, cakes, and tea, they each received an apple and an orange as they filed out. Miss Ward and her friends were evidently very happy in their self-imposed task of giving the kiddies a delightful afternoon.

MR. CHARLES CLIFFORD, the solo harpist, was at the Palace, Jarrow, last week, after a prolonged absence, and delighted audiences nightly by his playing and singing. Mr. Clifford plays two kinds of harps, one a large Erard harp and a small Irish harp. The latter is an especially unique instrument on account of the quality of tone and rarity and value. Notwithstanding that he has received many tempting offers to tour in Australia, United States, South Africa, and other places, Mr. Clifford has preferred to stay in the homeland

MR. HARRY ROXBURY has no sooner launched his brilliant tabloid musical comedy *Sergeant Longfellow* than he is preparing a further new production on a sumptuous scale. This new three-scene sketch, entitled *On the Track*, will be produced by Mr. Roxbury at the Empire, Leeds, on Monday, Jan. 24. Miss Vashti Wynne, co-author, and Mr. Dudley Powell have composed the music.

THE scenes will be a Matrimonial Agent's Office, a Railway Station, and On the Beach at the Seaside. It contains an abundance of good wholesome fun, and the latest adventures of the famous detective, Archibald Longfellow, will be awaited with keen interest. Mr Roxbury himself will appear as the detective, and his various disguises include that of an office boy, railway station porter, strolling player on the beach, and an old woman in charge of a bathing-machine.

MISS BILLIE BURFORD, who is delighting patrons of the Birmingham Empire this week, sails for South Africa to fulfil a three months' engagement, on Saturday, Jan. 29.

THE seventh annual sacred concert in the Nottingham Empire, in aid of the fund for the support and endowment of the Empire Cot in the Nottingham Children's Hospital was crowded. The £63 6s. realised in the collection goes to the charity, for nothing is paid away in expenses, the Empire being lent by the directors, and the staff, under Mr. Albert C. Duncan, giving their services. The sum is a record for the series, of which this is the seventh concert.

CAPTAIN MORRISON, in a short address at the interval, explained that a sum of £30 was asked for annually to keep up the cot, and there was being laid by out of the surplus year by year a sinking fund, which would eventually, it was hoped, amount to practical endowment, so that the Empire Cot would be perpetuated. The sum required was about £1,000, and they were going well towards that end, for they had already in seven years, in addition to paying their way, the £30 annually, put aside over £75.

NOTWITHSTANDING the demonstrations against it, John Lawson's sketch *The Miracle* pursues its successful career. It will be at the Hippodrome, Poplar, next week. The Synagogue scene has been altered.

ARTISTS may be reminded that Mr. Charles Hector's complimentary night at the Queen's, Poplar, is on Friday next, Jan. 21. Mr. Hector announces that all necessary permissions have been granted.

A FEATURE of Collins's programme next week will be the introduction of Mr. Tom Wood's latest comedy sketch, entitled *A Slight Misunderstanding; or, Fweddie's Dilemma*. Those who have seen the number at rehearsal proclaim it one of the funniest fifteen-minute farces ever staged. Included in the cast are Miss Madge Soutter, sister of Miss Lillie Soutter, and Mr. Edmund Russon, while Mr. Wood will figure prominently as a jovial "boy in blue."

MR. WALTER F. MUNROE, the man who first booked and introduced in London Harry Lauder, opens on Monday at the Empire, Hackney, with his juvenile comedy team. Mr. Lauder states that he had offered his services "free gratis" to both London managers and London agents, but could never get a footing in the Metropolis until Mr. Munroe, recognising his wonderful abilities (although he was receiving a small salary) took him up, and after a hard fight induced Mr. Tom Tinsley to put him in the programme at Gatti's (Road) as an extra turn.

FROM that time Lauder never looked back. Says Lauder: "I have to thank Mr. Walter F. Munroe for his exertions on my behalf and for securing for me my first engagement in London." Mr. Munroe's wife (Emma Don), the well-known popular male impersonator, is also playing London after a long and successful tour of the provinces.

MISS ALICE MAYDUE was able to resume her part in *The Motor Chase* on Monday, at the Hippodrome, Manchester, after her severe indisposition.

MR. LEO DRYDEN will produce at the Empire, Wolverhampton, on Monday next, for the first time, a new song playlet, entitled *False Gods*.

THE annual dinner and ball of the Terriers will be held at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday, March 6.

AT the meeting on Sunday last the Secretary presented the annual report and balance-sheet of the Terriers' Association for the year ending Dec. 31, 1909—one of the most successful in the history of the association, the profit on the year's working exceeding all records. At the conclusion of his speech the Secretary was heartily congratulated.

MR. BERT WELDA was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier W. L. Murray, W.T., assisted by Terrier Ben Obo, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. Mr. Paul Reed (of Baines and Reed) has successfully passed the ballot.

THE Johnny Alexander Complimentary Benefit Committee met on Thursday at 18, Charing Cross-road, Mr. Chas. Coborn presiding. A telegram from Sir H. E. Moss, J.P., kindly promised his support and patronage, and a number of letters were read from gentlemen offering to serve as members of the committee. Amongst others were Messrs. F. H. Pedgrift (*The Era*), Fred Kitchen, Will Oliver, Fred Griffiths, J. W. Cragg, the Renads, Abel and Welsh, James Stewart, Fred Herbert, Fred Neiman, Arthur Gallimore, Atroy, Geo. Ayburn, Pat Rafferty, &c.

THE question of the date and place of the proposed benefit was discussed, and ultimately adjourned for some of the members of the committee to ascertain price for renting a certain well-known hall for a matinée. The hon. officers were elected, and it was decided to write and ask if they would be willing to accept the positions.

THE following have already accepted honorary positions in connection with the benefit:—Mr. Joe Elvin (hon. treasurer), Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (assistant hon. treasurer), Mr. Arthur Were (hon. secretary), and Mr. T. C. Callaghan (assistant hon. secretary). The names of the others will be announced next week. The meeting was adjourned until Tuesday next at eleven o'clock, when a draft of the circular asking for donations will be submitted. Another meeting will be held on Thursday at twelve o'clock.

FRIENDS of Mr. Fred Lewis, circus advance agent, will be glad to learn that he has now fully recovered from his severe ailment, caused by a nasty kick from his fiery steed whilst on tour in Ireland, 1909 (tenting). Although his doctor ordered him to hospital, the popular Fred's characteristic pluck would not allow him to leave his post, and he remained in harness up to the last moment. Mr. Lewis is now quite fit.

MR. CHARLES COBORN, vice-president, took the chair at the 642nd meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon. Messrs. J. W. Cragg (trustee), Johnny Alexander, J. Miller Northern, T. C. Callaghan, Wm. Welsh, J. H. Milburn, Jack Crawley, R. Abel, Harold Finden, and Lieut. Albini were also present. The weekly financial statement, showing forty-seven new members and a cash total of £57 7s. 6d., was passed.

THE Brothers Webb spent their Christmas at Budapest, where twelve English artists met and dined on turkey and plum-pudding at Trenk's Restaurant. The jovial crowd included Arthur Webb, Joseph W. J. Webb, Charles F. Stirling, B. Gross, Alexander Gross, Charles F. Stirling, J. Miles Stavordale, Walter Freswick, Kathleen Vere, R. A. Speedwell, Harry Hurrell, Carl Ryden, and Millie Miles-Stavordale. The three toasts proposed were "Our King," "Absent Friends," and "Our Home." The gathering excited a good deal of interest, and much care was exercised by M. Trenk in the preparation of the pudding.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT is scoring an unqualified success as Chocolate in the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, pantomime *Mother Hubbard*. The part itself is not a very important one—in fact, it might with advantage have been written up a bit—but Mr. Elliott certainly makes the very most of his opportunities. However, he soon stands out as one of the shining lights of the pantomime by means of his specialities of song and dance. "How d'you do, my baby," gets Chocolate into the good graces of the audience, and in this song he has the assistance of a chorus of well-trained children. "Good-night, number one," also introduces the children successfully; "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" is really pretty and most artistically done by Mr. Elliott; and his final effort, "Don't take me home," as rendered by him, gives full scope to his untiring energy. Mr. Elliott has a really pleasing voice, both in speaking and singing; he is an excellent dancer; and his well-made frock suits of white satin, &c., are no mean attraction. There almost seems to be something magnetic about Mr. Elliott's coons, and the Prince's audience began to find this out on the first night of the pantomime.

MISS OLLA HUMPHREYS, a young Australian actress, is to make her appearance at the Palace Theatre shortly in an adaptation from the French by Mr. Michael Morton.

MR. MORTON, who is the author of *Resurrection* (taken from Tolstoy's novel), *My Wife, Her Father*, and other clever adaptations, is not an entire stranger to the variety stage, as a short work from his pen taken from the French, and entitled *Charlie the Sport*, has been successfully produced at the halls.

MR. CYRIL FAIRLIE has been re-engaged by Miss V. Clifford to play his original part of the Thief in *My Friend the Thief* at the Queen's, Poplar, next week.

MESSRS. BROWN AND ROBINSON, the singing bricklayers, have been re-engaged for a further run of six months with Mr. Harry Rickards in Australia through Messrs. Neiman and Benn's Agency.

MR. HENRY HERNE and Miss Ida Millais, who have been touring the provinces with their water sketch, *Blackmail*, will return to London on Monday for a short season, opening at the new Imperial Palace, Canning Town.

THE management of the Camden Hippodrome have made arrangements for to-night and next week whereby the results of the various polls will be telephoned there the moment the counting is finished, and immediately announced from the stage.

HOLDEN'S MANNIKINS, which have been such an enormous success at the London Coliseum, are at the Hackney Empire on Monday. The life-like movements of the puppets and the clever lighting effects are very much to the taste of the thousands of North-East Londoners who visit their favourite Empire.

MR. EDGAR CURTIS, the well-known humorist, has lately taken up the living marionette business with considerable success, as has been evidenced by the many social functions for which he has been requisitioned. He has earned the encomiums of that past-master of the art, Mr. Walter Graham.

MISS GERALDINE MONTROSE has purchased the entire rights of the thrilling sketch *The Storm*, by Percival Sykes. Wonderful rain and storm effects are to be a feature of the production. We might have something like Sir Herbert Tree's "thunder" in *Julius Cæsar* or the rain storm that was such a feature of *The Ruling Passion* twenty years ago at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, now the Shoreditch Olympia.

OUR contemporary, the *New York Clipper*, in a recent issue devotes some space to a glowing eulogium of Mr. George Lashwood, who has achieved in America one of the greatest triumphs of his career. His songs, "My latchkey" and "In the twi-twi-twilight," are specially mentioned as being much to the taste of our transatlantic cousins.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road. Mr. Jennings (hon. trustee) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. T. B. Brydge, A. Drew, and F. Boyer. There was no business of any public interest, and the proceedings closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

MR. SAMUEL LLOYD, of the Pavilion, Glasgow, is still seriously ill, a slight relapse having taken place at the end of last week. Kindly messages of sympathy have been received from all parts of the country by Mme. Lloyd, and have helped to tide her over a trying and anxious time. During the illness of Mr. Lloyd, the busy traffic of the New Year was ably looked after by Mr. Evan Good.

THE directorate of the Pavilion, Glasgow, recognising the serious nature of the illness of Mr. Samuel Lloyd, and the likelihood of a lengthy period of convalescence, have appointed Mr. Evan Good, who has been assistant-manager here for several years, to the more responsible post of general-manager. Mr. Good entered on his new duties at the beginning of this week.

MR. BENJ. WOODGER, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires on behalf of the committee to thank Vivian Evans (Empire, Wolverhampton) for £1 13s. and George Weldon (Hippodrome, Dewsbury) for £2 6s., being box collections for the Home Fund; also a donation of £1 1s. received from C. C. Mannering, of South Norwood. A committee meeting will be held on Thursday next at the Empire, Camberwell, at 12 noon.

THE Music Hall Home is now in its fourteenth year, and accommodates twelve old performers with home comforts. The committee hope for the support of the profession to *The Era* New Year appeal, headed by Miss Vesta Tilley. This annual appeal is the main support of the Home. The secretary will gladly send a collecting card to any willing to work on behalf of the Fund. Men's old clothes and boots are always very acceptable.

A NOVEL football match was played on Monday afternoon at Craven Cottage Grounds, Fulham, between the *Aladdin* pantomime company from the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, and a team of Fulham players, the proceeds being devoted to local charities. The Fulham team consisted of the usual eleven, but the pantomimists numbered over a score. The latter were attired in all sorts of costumes—pierrots, policemen, cats, and clowns—while Mr. H. Morgan appeared as Abanazar.

MISS KITTIE RAYBURN, the popular principal boy of the Lyric *Aladdin* company, kicked off, and the fun became fast and furious. The game was highly interesting, even the referee at times taking a player's part. The theatrical team claimed to have won by nine goals to eight, the scorers being:—*Aladdin* Company: Ewart, Graham, East (twice), Morgan (twice), Shirley and, Klitgaard (twice). Fulham—Lindsay (twice), Wayman (twice), Millington (twice), McEwan, and Lindsay. During the progress of the game Mr. Richards, the musical director at the Lyric, collided badly with another player, and had to be assisted off the field. Several of the ladies, including Miss Rayburn, with collecting boxes, drove round the ground in a donkey cart.

THE Royal Palace Theatre, Ramsgate, which was recently renovated and remodelled at a cost of £10,000 from designs by Mr. Frank Matcham, has been taken over by Mr. Charles Evans, of the Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, who will reopen it on Monday, Jan. 31, with one of Mr. Walter Melville's latest dramatic successes. Mr. Evans, who is justly popular throughout the district, has engaged the services of Mr. Henry Bowman to be his resident-manager. This gentleman returns to the town after an absence of two years on tour, and, considering his vast experience in booking attractions suitable to the tastes and requirements of local patrons, and the esteem in which he was held during his several years management of the Amphitheatre (on the site of which the present up-to-date building has been erected), we consider Mr. Evans could not have put matters in more capable hands.

THE old Middlesex Music Hall in Drury-lane saw its last performance on Tuesday night, when Mr. J. L. Graydon, the doyen of music hall proprietors, said farewell to those staunch variety patrons for whom he has catered so admirably. Almost immediately the housebreakers will arrive to perform the final "turn." For the last night the ancient office of "The Chairman" was revived, and ancient frequenters recalled memories of Gus Leach, chairman for many years, who used to sing a stirring ditty entitled "Sunday morning down Petticoat-lane."

THOUGH Mr. Graydon, finding the competition of syndicates and gigantic circuits too strong for him, is relinquishing the cares of proprietorship, he will still do his best to serve the interests of the Proprietors of Entertainments Association, of which he is the active hon. secretary, and he will keep in touch with the modernities of the up-to-date variety theatre through his directorship of the Palace Theatre.

No one in the ranks of proprietors has done more to establish the popularity of sketches than the popular proprietor of the "Mo." The writer well remembers the production there of the Dromio-like sketch *Chickweed and Groundsel*, written by Charles Merion, and played by the fascinating Sisters Mario and the twin Brothers Wemms. Joe Keegan and Joe Elvin (father and son) gave of their best at the Drury-lane house, where all their early successes were seen in turn—*Sport, The Tinker's Holiday, The Clock, The Hansom Cabby*, &c. Mr. Johnny Hanson was a great favourite, too, in *The Doctor*.

THE more notable productions included a one-act version of *Rip Van Winkle* and a tabloid version of "Jack Sheppard," by Frank Hall (afterwards secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund), entitled *Captain Jack and Wild Ju-Nathan*, which scored a great success on its production and was revived several times. The hero was played by Miss Alice Maydue, now acting in *The Motor Chase*, and a later protagonist of prison breaking was Miss Carrie Julian, now Mrs. O'Brien, the hostess of that famous house Rule's, Maiden-lane, a lady who now does so much for poor professionals. Miss Rose Hamilton was also seen in the part.

LATER, Miss Julian was seen at the Middlesex as the hero in Mr. Frank Hall's version of *Robin Hood*, in which the author played Friar Tuck. An immense favourite with the Mogulites, too, was Harry Lynn and his daughters. He was an actor of the Macready school, who presented melodramatic playlets by the dozen.

MR. GRAYDON took over the house in 1878 from Mr. H. G. Lake, who had accquired the Metropolitan, which he held for many years. Alterations and improvements were immediately initiated, and the inaugural night of the new proprietor happened on July 31, 1878. Among the entertainers on that evening were Diamond and Gant, the latter being the father of Charlie Ross, afterwards famous as a dancer in Gaiety burlesque. Like his sire, Charlie died young. The then great topical singer, Charles Williams—acknowledged to be the best in his "line of business"—was another entertainer at the opening night, and Polly Randall, a good dramatic descriptive singer, another.

DAN LENO owed much of his initial success at the halls to the encouragement of Mr. Graydon, who first billed him as the great comic vocalist. The Irish vocalist was always a cherished turn at the old house; and Pat Feeney and Nellie Farrell were the adored of the "gods." Another idol was Charles Godfrey, who sang "On Guard" and "Across the Bridge." Lottie Collins was quite a youngster when she appeared as one of the Sisters Collins; and among the conspicuous successes of the late eighties were Sweeney and Ryland and the Brothers Armstrong, knockabouts—now represented by Barney Armstrong, the popular comic singer.

ONE of the finest acrobatic teams of the present day—the Kellinos—were represented by their ancestors at the old "Mo"; and a most interesting crowd of acrobats and musicians were the Seven juvenile Sisters Matthews, one of whom is now Mme. Frasetty, the well-known violinist and xylophone player. An appearance at the Middlesex in mid-Victorian days gave a sort of cachet to a turn, and every performer of any prominence thought it an excellent experience to face the music at the "Mo."

THE new hall is to be called the Middlesex Empire, and the scheme for its erection is understood to be in the hands of Mr. Isaac Lyons, a brother of Mr. Joseph Lyons. The seating accommodation of the new house is stated to be over two thousand, and therefore a big auditorium is foreshadowed. The old "Mo" tavern will be kept standing, and the new place may be opened by August Bank holiday.

MR. WILL EDWARDS, his numerous admirers and friends will be sorry to learn, has been confined to his bed for some time with bronchitis, and pneumonia was at one time feared. But the genial comedian is now on the mend.

MR. FRED WHITTAKER, with feline grace and comic activity, is playing the very necessary cat in the production of *Dick Whittington* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. Pussy has been a study for years with Mr. Whittaker, who originates his own dresses and masks, and the shouts of delight from the youngsters at the house named when, as the "tabby" beloved by Dick, he comes on is eloquent testimony of his success. He has played the part for sixteen consecutive seasons, and his eccentricities and prancings round the balcony of the house are great features in the success of the pantomime.

DAMAGES to the amount of £250 were awarded by a jury on Thursday in Mr. Justice Phillimore's Court to Mrs. Marie Becker, a music hall performer, in respect of a libel which appeared in the *Magician*, a periodical published in connection with the business of Messrs. Gamage, Limited. The plaintiff formerly acted as medium in a thought-transference performance given by the late M. Guibal, the conjuror. He died in hospital a long time after she had left him. But the *Magician*, in an article, which it said was supplied to it by a "soulless trick," repeated a mistaken story that Mrs. Becker had shot M. Guibal.

MR. OSWALD STOLL, the chairman and managing-director of the Leicester Palace Theatre, kindly granted the use of the building on Sunday afternoon and evening last for a concert on behalf of the Leicester Poor Boys' and Girls' Summer Camp, the attraction being the Grenadier Guards' band, under the conductorship of Lieutenant A. Williams, M.V.O., Mus.Doc., Oxon. The building was crowded on both occasions, and the performances evoked the greatest pleasure. In addition, Miss Edith Kirk and Mr. Percival Driver appeared as soloists.

AT the conclusion Mr. W. E. Tyler moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Stoll for the use of the Palace, and to Mr. C. Finch-Hatton, the acting-manager, and his staff, which was heartily accorded. Mr. C. Finch-Hatton replied, remarking that he had been down to Mablethorpe and seen the work there, and could confidently recommend it to the support of all philanthropically inclined people. It was a pleasure for him to do what he could for so good a cause.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MESSRS. FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER have received glowing accounts from Mr. Richard Waldon about their song "Send them along to me," which is another of the many numbers of this well-known firm that he has in his magnificent production. Mr. Waldon, speaking of this song, says, "The song was encored three times to-night."

MR. GEORGE GRAVES is singing with huge success at Drury Lane Theatre that well-known comic song "For months and months and months," written and composed by Joseph Tabrar. It is in many other first-class pantomimes, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

DURING the last few days the growing number of applications from pantomime artists has been noticeable for Messrs. Francis and Day's pretty song, "Pride of the Prairie Mary," a number destined to be ranked with the most popular ditties of the year. A few permissions to sing this admired song at theatres of variety are available.

SONGS from the pen of Jack Mahoney and Theodore F. Morse, the famous American song-writers, are always in greatest request with those who like quaint and tuneful numbers, and the twain's latest composition, entitled "Jungletown" and "On a Monkey Honeymoon" will be eagerly sought after by artists in search of novelties of distinction. Messrs. F. and D. Spell are the publishers.

THAT notable octette of singers and dancers, the Palace Girls, have been nightly at the fine house in Cambridge-circus, and seen to great advantage, in the two-step entitled "Billy 'Possum," composed by T. W. Thurban, of "Brooklyn Cake Walk" fame. The item is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S dresses have been evoking cries of admiration from the lady visitors at the Tivoli, so exquisite are they. "I'm looking for Mr. Wright" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" are growing more and more in public favour, as was inevitable seeing that the fair artist brings to her rendering archness and a cultured and beautifully-modulated voice.

MISS HILDA ELEN, the niece of the celebrated coster comedian, who is touring the provinces with Fred Mantell's combination, has made a great success with her song, by Maurice Scott, entitled "John Henry."

MISS VICTORIA SIEVER'S beautiful rendering of Henry E. Pether's ballad "Love makes the whole year June" at the Lyceum is doubtless responsible for the daily increasing London sales of this number, and Dundee and Newcastle-on-Tyne are among the provincial places of note who show seemingly unsatiable maws for more and more copies of the morceau. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

FROM Messrs. Chas. Woolhouse, of 174, Wardour-street, W., come a number of songs, pianoforte pieces, vocal exercises, and vocal quartettes. "Rest of the weary," a sacred song, composed by Wilfrid Shaw to the words of S. B. Monsell, is an excellent specimen of this class of music. The song is not only dedicated to Mme. Edna Thornton but sung by that eminent English artist. A very pleasing Nocturne for the piano has been composed by Lita Masey, in admirable contrast to the lively gavotte for pianoforte written by Fredk. W. Martin, entitled "Springtime." "A sprig of white heather," a Scotch ballad by Darman Ward to the words of Thomas Kay, has much charm both in music and words; it is dedicated to, and sung by, Mr. Harry Lauder; and so excellent a portrait of the world-famous singer is given on the cover, so full of character and beautifully printed, that it is worthy of a frame. In Scotland white heather is considered to have special virtues, and, as a verse of the song has it,

"For if she will wear it who's guileless and true,
Her fondest desire it will be to renew
Those bonds of affection which Nature imparts
In valley or mountain to pure loving hearts."

We have it on the authority of Mr. Richard Swiveller that beer always has the best flavour when drank from its "native pewter," and the quaint song "The pewter pot," composed by Alba de Benedi, with words by Frank Bunnie, fully bears out this statement. "The pewter pot" is a capital song for a baritone. From the same composer comes "Drowsy Dustman Dan," a song likely to interest our young folks, who, when getting sleepy, say "the dustman is coming." That this idea is not confined to English children is shown by Hansel and Gretel in Humperdinck's opera referring to it in the Forest scene. A simple and easy song of somewhat the same character is "Baby," composed by Arthur Cole. "A Message," words by S. Hawkshaw and music by Wilfred Shaw, is a graceful song of sentiment. In this work much depends on having a clever pianist, for the accompaniment is far more difficult than any of the preceding songs. "The Message" is dedicated to, and sung by, Mr. Charles Saunders. A violoncello and pianoforte duet is always welcome, and Victor Montefiore's "Serenade" should, when well played, prove very attractive. A. B. Cawood has written a dainty Minuet for the pianoforte, which, however, to do full justice, requires an experienced player. From the same composer comes an expressive "Evening," also for piano. Dedicated to the members of the Plymouth Orpheus Male Voice Choir is "The Elected Knight" quartette or chorus for men's voices, written by David Parkes to Longfellow's verses. A piano accompaniment for practice only is also included. The mystical ballad of Longfellow is from "Nyerup" and Rahbek's "Danaka Viser" of the Middle Ages, and deals with the first preaching of Christianity in the North. The effective quartette is arranged for first and second tenor and first and second bass. A charming vocal composition is "There is a height" for first and second treble, alto, tenor, and bass. The music is by L. Robinson and the words by Lewis Morris, with the kind permission of Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner. Another quartet by L. Robinson, to the words of Helen F. Bantock, bears the title "Love Sleeps," and is arranged for soprano, alto, tenor, and bass.

SEVERAL vocal exercises by W. McConnell-Wood, from the Conservatoire, Leipzig, and R.A.M. (London), are for the medium voice, and intended to be used in conjunction with Concone's forty studies for contralto and bass and the fifty studies for medium voice. For vocal students the above work should prove of great value, as in addition to the exercises Mr. McConnell-Wood gives several useful hints as to attitude, position of the tongue, and management of the throat, and other hints as to vowel sounds. All these hints are practical, and the sound common sense of proper voice production.

MR. ANDREW N. ALLEN has just written and composed a new soldier song for Miss Vesta Tilley, entitled "Look for a soldier if you want to find a girl."

MR. HARRY LUCK has in study a new song by Chas. Collins and himself entitled "The quaint old fellow, with the quaint old style," also one by Harry Wincott, "Moving the happy little home." Both songs will be produced at an early date.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"NICK CARTER."

A Miniature Monologue, by Ivan P. Gore and Bernard Mervyn, Produced at Sadler's Wells on Monday, Jan. 10.

Richard Morgan .....MR. JOHN F. TRAYNOR
"Bully" Bunce .....MR. IVAN P. GORE
Ned Westerton .....MR. W. E. MOSS
Milly Gray .....MISS MAMIE RENDLE
Ilma D'Arvois .....MISS PHILLIS DAILLEY
Nick Carter .....MR. BERNARD MERVYN

They adore thrills at Sadler's Wells, and Mr. Bernard Mervyn has given his audiences at this theatre plenty of them this week in his new sketch, *Nick Carter*. Mr. John F. Traynor plays the part of Richard Morgan in fine style. Richard is a first-class president of a gang of thieves, murderers, swindlers, and other undesirable individuals, styling themselves the "International Crimes Association." Ilma D'Arvois, represented by Miss Phillis Dailley—well-dressed, subtle, and with good declamation—is the lady in the case, who manages all the delicate details in scientific robbery that her male associates might bungle. Ned Westerton, a young bank manager, is sent by his people with a certain sum of money to the Continent, and, of course, Morgan gets to hear of it. Otherwise there would be no story to tell. So the villains, male and female, conspire to obtain possession of the money. And what better way can there be of luring a young man to his doom than by telling him something he should not believe about his sweetheart, rejoicing in the good old noveletty name of Milly Gray. Milly is a good girl—that need scarcely be told—but her best boy is led to believe she is not. He is induced to visit a cellar near the Thames in order that the truth of the matter may be made clear to him. The object, of course, is to rob him. Just before his arrival, Nick Carter, detective, arrives on the scene, spying out the land, as it were. The action of the little piece is very rapid. Nick discovers himself to the gang, and is immediately made prisoner. Nevertheless, he hurls defiance at Morgan and all his myrmidons, swearing that he will land them all in gaol before midnight. He has only six hours in which to do it, and as he is a prisoner behind iron bars the odds seem against Nicholas. But he keeps his word—how, it would not be fair to tell. There is much of the impossible in this "miniature monologue"—we would rather have written dramatic playlet—but what it lacks in probability it makes up for in excitement. The dialogue does not dovetail smoothly at present, and should be re-written in places; then *Nick Carter*, played by the same company, for the most part very capable actors, will be a welcome addition to any variety programme. Mr. Bernard Mervin as Nick Carter gave us a very fine impression of the name part.

The Bros. Lawrence are styled on the programme "Scotland's representatives." If being attired in plaid suits, and dancing to a string of Scottish melodies entitles them to this description, well and good. Otherwise their accent, their clog and sand dancing—both extremely good—and their singing are not representative of the land north of the Tweed. The Sisters Judge introduce their marvellous performing parrots, macaws, and cockatoos; Lilly Denville is a dainty little comedienne and dancer; Cyclumina is a novel trick cycle act; Ajax and George are well styled gymnastic wonders; and Grace Dudley, the Seven Wulfrunas, and Wallace Sims complete the programme.

MESSRS. DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN have, as expected, produced a twice-nightly pantomime for the halls far in advance of anything so far seen. Their *Dick Whittington* is a brilliant production, and its gorgeous costumes are the talk of all who behold them. It is admitted on all sides to be one of the brightest and most refined and funny pantomimes at present touring.

DEATH OF MICHAEL NOLAN.

To many of his friends, who knew how illness had afflicted Michael Nolan during the last two years, his death on Wednesday morning at his residence, 17, Bushey Hill-road, Peckham, has not come as a surprise. He was barely forty when lung and heart disease prevented him from working—a sore trial indeed for a man so popular as he was. In the zenith of his powers as a stage Irishman Michael Nolan wore with dignity the mantle of Pat Feeney, of whom he occasionally reminded one. His voice was tuneful; he sang always with real feeling and no little culture; and his Hibernian characters sustained the best traditions of the race for humour and pathos.

Born at Tipperary forty-two years since, the deceased became a chorister in the Bradford Catholic Cathedral at the age of ten. His first appearance was made at the Star Music Hall,

MICHAEL NOLAN.

Bradford, on Sept. 13, 1880, then under the management of Mr. William Taylor. From the first Master Nolan made a favourable impression, and so successful was his début that Mr. Taylor kept him on for three weeks, at that time quite a long stay, especially for one so young. It was on the Friday evening of the third week that the late George Leybourne, the lion comique, presented Michael with a gold watch, subscribed for by some of his admirers, and with it some good advice.

Master Nolan sang mostly Irish ballads, afterwards going through the various grades of Irish business. As a boy he constantly wrote songs for himself and others, and to this fact he considered much of his success was due. His first great hit will be easily remembered—"Little Annie Rooney is my sweetheart." One can scarcely think of this "darlint" without in some way blushing for her, for "Annie Rooney" had sweethearts in nearly every country under the sun. "Dada's baby boy," "Whistle and wait for Katie," "That's a Mick," "Where was Hooligan," and other enormously successful songs followed from the same pen, and with much the same result. In comedy Mr. Nolan's first real triumph was "The brick came down," written by the late Tom Browne, and this character immediately stamped the versatility of the singer.

Always trying to be strictly original, and keeping in a path entirely his own, his creation, "Play us an old come-all-ye," was an acquisition to his previous record. Mr. Nolan and his wife (Miss Agnes Hazel) sailed for South Africa in September, 1897, and there again he added to his high reputation; but a greater success awaited him on his arrival in Australia, where he served a comfortable season of six months with Mr. Harry Rickards in 1898. He went again to Australia in 1907, once more renewing most pleasant impressions, and adding largely to the number of his admirers. Mr. Nolan took a great interest in the charities of the profession, was a popular Water Rat, a staunch V.A.F., and did much effective work as a member of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. The last few months of his life were much cheered by the success on the variety stage of his daughter, Miss Aggie Nolan. His son, Mr. Bert Nolan, is connected with Barclay's Agency. To the bereaved widow and family we add our own to the many messages of sympathy they have received.

Says the *Daily Chronicle*:—"The dead singer was always ready to do a kind action. One bitter winter's day, when the snow was a foot deep, he was 'discovered' by a friend as he was taking a bottle of wine and some other delicacies to a poor sick professional."

The funeral is fixed for to-day at the Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, at 2.15, the cortège leaving the residence of the deceased, 17, Bushey Hill-road, Peckham-road, S.E., at one o'clock.

"AT THE MASKED BALL."

A Musical Sketch, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, Jan. 10.

Bouncey Larkitt .....MR. ALFRED LESLIE
Charlie Flickers .....MR. JOHN ASHBURN
Splitz .....MR. ROBERT COMBER
Mrs. Larkitt .....MISS MARGARET LUREY
Miss Jessie Weaver .....MISS JESSIE HART
Lucy .....MISS MAY STAPLES

This new musical sketch, which had its first production on Monday evening, is the initial essay of the Stage Production Company, and is under the direction of Mr. John Ashburn, who is the producer of it. There is a slight plot of a husband and his friend, who go to a masked ball, to which, as well, have gone his wife and his friend's fiancée. They meet, and a scene follows, so disguises are adapted by all four unknown to each other, and further complication of an amusing nature follow. All is happily cleared up at the finish. Mr. Alfred Leslie is good as Larkitt, and Mr. John Ashburn does well as Charlie Flickers; while Mr. Robert Comber is very comic as Splitz, the waiter. Mrs. Larkitt is smartly played by Miss Margaret Lurey, who contributes a clever dance, and Miss Jessie Hart makes a captivating Miss Weaver. Lucy, the maid, is pertly played by Miss May Staples. There is a very large chorus, and when the whole has been pulled together, the show should prove a very lively one. The music is tuneful, but we think another song or two would materially add to the success of the sketch, which is well mounted and very well dressed.

MR. AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, who arrived from New York on the Kaiser Wilhelm II. on Tuesday, will appear at the Hackney Empire on Monday next in a new sketch called *Van Biene's Baby*. Though not without pathetic touches, the sketch will be, on the whole, comic, and this will be the first time that Mr. Van Biene has appeared in a humorous play.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER

The acknowledged and undisputed PANTO HITS of the year are:

LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND.
I USED TO SIGH FOR THE SILVERY MOON.
HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?
FOR MONTHS AND MONTHS AND MONTHS.
THE GIRL IN THE CLOGS AND SHAWL.
DON'T TAKE ME HOME.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE.
I'M LOOKING FOR MR. WRIGHT.
LOVE MAKES THE WHOLE YEAR JUNE.

Band Parts of any of above sent on receipt of wire.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., W.C. Telegrams: "Arpeggio, London."

VARIETY ARTISTS FEDERATION.

At the special general meeting of the V.A.F. held on Sunday at the Bedford Head Hotel (Mr. Fred Russell, chairman), a portion of the suggested alterations to the rules was dealt with. The consideration of the remaining alterations was postponed until a later meeting. The principal variations in the new rules deal with the qualification for membership and the appointment of a permanent chairman. Rule 4 now reads as follows:—

4.—QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

(1) Any person who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, is a bona-fide performer, shall be eligible for membership. The term "bona-fide" performer shall mean:—

(a) Any performer who accepts contracts for engagements over his own signature, and who is actually engaged in entertaining music hall, theatre, or circus, or kindred audiences.

(b) Any proprietor of sketches, troupes, or other acts, whether appearing in the same or not.

(c) Any member of sketches, troupes or other acts.

But any person acting in the capacity of manager, sub-manager, manager's clerk or assistant, shall not be eligible for membership.

The Executive Committee shall have power to grant permission to any existing member of the Federation to transact agency business, but no member shall act as an agent without the written consent of the Executive Committee.

(2) A member retiring from the profession for the purpose of becoming a proprietor, manager, sub-manager, manager's clerk or assistant, having been a member of the Federation for one year, and still continuing to pay up his subscriptions and levies, shall be entitled to the death levy, but shall not have the right to attend meetings, vote at elections, or be eligible for the Executive Committee.

(3) That any member of the Federation retiring from the profession to take up a paid office in the Federation shall be entitled to all the benefits of an ordinary member, but shall not have the power of voting at meetings or elections.

NOTE.—The word "manager" as used in these rules shall mean any person who is the manager of a music hall, theatre, or circus in his own right, or acting in that capacity on behalf of a syndicate or company. It shall not apply to managers of sketches, troupes, &c.

Rule 10 deals with the appointment of a permanent chairman, and reads:—

A permanent chairman of the Federation, who shall be a member of the Federation, and who shall be appointed by the then Executive Committee in the United Kingdom voting by ballot, who shall be paid a salary determined by the Executive Committee, and shall remain in office until a resolution to remove him is carried by a two-thirds majority of the then Executive. His agreement with the Executive Committee shall be subject to three months' notice on either side.

"A MILLION AND A HALF."

A Farcical Comedy Act, Produced at Collins's on Monday, Jan. 10.

Mr. Alfred Selwyn has a first-rate bill at the Islington Green house this week. The outstanding feature is Miss Lallie Forsyth's humorous little sketch *A Million and a Half*. It is a big laugh, and well and briskly played by all concerned. The only bone we have to pick with the management in connection with it is that the names of the lady and gentleman who so ably help Miss Forsyth to take curtain after curtain are not mentioned in the programme. Now to the story, something similar to which we remember having heard before. The heroine is left a million and a half of money on condition that she weds a certain gentleman. She detests the idea, so conspires with her maid of all work that they shall change places, for, by so doing, she hopes that the suitor will refuse to marry her. Mistress and maid change clothes, and then the fun begins. The suitor arrives, and is promptly received by the maid posing as mistress. The finale can be imagined after it is recorded that the real mistress, as maid, becomes jealous of her servant's shameless masquerade. There are the usual explanations, and all ends happily with wedding bells.

Nellie Nestle looks well, and sings "Love rules the world" in first-rate style. She has a fine, strong voice, and knows the class of song that suits it. Veronne gives an impersonation of the late Sir Henry Irving in *The Bells*. The comedians are Frank Jester and Metz and Metz. Candos and Constable presented their farcical absurdity, *Fluffie*, and got plenty of applause for it, too. Cissie Esdaile is a very dainty comedienne; and in the same programme are the Brothers Hamilton, Edith Evelyn, and the Eight Marvels. A Ladies' Beauty Show has been in progress during the week. The final judging takes place to-night (Saturday).

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

The name of Arthur Roberts on the top of the bill makes Radical and Tory alike forget his opinions for a few hours, and spend at least one evening away from the atmosphere of politics to breathe the more genial air of the Camberwell Palace. Even our friend the Socialist is tempted to lock up his red tie and pass a short while away from his grievances, for Mr. Roberts is a magnet that can draw, and his sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, is still the laughter-making machine it has always been. Another attraction this week at this comfortable theatre of varieties is the Four Netherlands in their speciality, the bare foot dance; grace and ability are intermingled, and they give a really charming performance. Their voices, too, are good, and the quartette retire amid a storm of handclaps.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden nightly receive great applause. In their well-known comedy duologue they are quite as good as ever, and add considerably to the evening's amusement. Football lovers who attend this hall this week are fortunate, for the merry face of Sammy Shields gladdens their eyes, and his racy songs and football anecdotes give them abundance of amusement. The management has been fortunate in obtaining the services of Hunter and Morris. The former is an acrobat and comedian of no small order, and the later a charming comedienne, who can sing a good song; her ragtime melody, "Coonville Coloured Band," being rendered with a dash and vigour which is typical of the lady.

Lovers of juveniles pass a pleasant twenty minutes in witnessing the turn of Haley's Garden of Girls. This turn has special scenery and electrical effects, which, together with the ability that the little ladies undoubtedly display, go to make a really excellent spectacle. The concertina well played is an instrument which has a charm of its own, and when a good instrument is placed in expert hands this charm is greatly increased. Minnie Paget is the lady who entertains us on the concertina this week, so one expects to be—and is—enchanted. Harry Weldon, a comedian whose eccentricities amuse the house, is another valuable asset to the bill. His *Dick Turpentine* has run a long time now, but is just as amusing as ever. That inimitable mimic, Syd May, is also on the programme, and his imitations of Sam Mayo and George Robey are very lifelike. Perhaps the voices of Austin and Cowan, however, the popular Australian vocalists, give as much pleasure to the audience as any other turn.

WISPER AND BEATTIE BLOOM wish to thank George Gilbert, proprietor of the Hippodrome, Lowestoft, for paying full week's salary, although they only played four nights.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Undeniably one of the most pronounced song successes of the present season is Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's tuneful number, "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are so vigorously exploiting. Mr. Knight Pearce, conductor of the *Dick Whittington* pantomime at the New Theatre, Cardiff, writes that this song is one of the principal hits of the show. The Sisters Bartholomew, too, at the Grand, Fulham, are scoring tremendously with it.

Mr. Bert Feldman, who is just now touring the principal pantomime centres, was highly delighted, a few nights ago, when he looked in at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, to hear the wonderful reception which Miss Clare Hartland received for her delightful rendering of his firm's great song, "Somewhere." At the King's Theatre also, he was more than gratified by the audience's keen appreciation of Miss Kittie Douglas's rendition of two more of his firm's songs, "A girl up North" and "Booby Boo," both of which "went" with great *éclat*.

At the Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood, during the current week, Miss Doris Phillips has been winning golden opinions for her two charmingly rendered songs, "Just as the brook flows" and "Somewhere," both of which are Feldman publications. The choruses have "caught on" tremendously, and both songs have been redemanded nightly; truly a flattering compliment to both singer and songs.

Messrs. Feldman and Co.'s four songs, "I do like to be beside the seaside" (Arthur Godfrey's greatest hit in the pantomime), "I must go home to-night," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," and "Somewhere," all loom large in the New Theatre, Cardiff, pantomime, and win nightly torrents of applause from the house's delighted patrons.

At the Theatre Royal, Worcester, Miss Ethel Dancy, the Fairy Queen, has made the greatest success on record in this town with Feldman's delightful song "Somewhere," the chorus of which is already all over the town, and she is nightly the recipient of many encores for her cultured rendering of this ubiquitous ballad of the emotions. Miss Gertrude de Lacy is also phenomenally successful in the same beautiful song, in the well-known play *Dare-Devil Dorothy*.

Miss Madge Brownie, who is playing in pantomime at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, testifies to the wonderful success she is achieving with Godfrey and Letter's catchy chorus-song, "Molly O'Morgan," which nightly "brings down the house." The part-author of this successful Feldman publication, Mr. Will Letters, is principal comedian in the same pantomime.

At the Hippodrome, Accrington, this week, Miss Jennie Reeve is scoring a well-deserved hit with Messrs. Rogers and Neat's tuneful song, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," one of the most successful of the recent Feldman publications.

The most necessary elements in the success of a pantomime are the elements themselves. As compared with last year the weather has been decidedly favourable, and there is sufficient briskness in the temperature of the atmosphere to make audiences visiting pantomimes feel on good terms with themselves. This readily puts them in the humour for taking up the choruses of any catchy refrain which they may listen to. This is particularly noticeable in the numbers issued by the National Music Publishing Company, of 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C., which include the successful songs, "There's a girl in Berlin," "You might shake hands," "You all want something to cuddle," "Won't you come to Madeira with me," and "Lena Schmidt," all of which are swinging waltz-time melodies. Also the quaint ditty, "Is that a fact," sung by the great Scottish comedian, Neil Kenyon, and the inspiriting march song, "Baden Powell's Scout," whose subject, of course, deals mainly with the future defenders of England.

The phenomenal success attained in last year's Drury-lane pantomime by Mr. Wilkie Bard "Put me upon an island where the girls are few" has been repeated this season by several comedians in the provincial pantomimes. The sale of this song, so the National Music Publishing Co. inform us, is as great as ever.

Another very pretty number is "Nora from Norway," which is being successfully featured in several productions this year. This is also published by the National Music Publishing Co.

A notable hit has been secured by several of the principal boys with the popular and amorous song "I'll have the bread and cheese and the girlie." There is a popular and heavy demand for this number, which is written and composed by that well-known writer of a great many of the most recent successes, Will Letters.

The popular comedian, Mr. Charles Whittle, whose every song is an assured success, has one of the best of them published by the National Music Publishing Co. It is entitled "I'd like to spend my holidays with you." It has created a most favourable impression everywhere. Permission for producing any of the above-mentioned successes can be obtained on application to the National Music Publishing Co., of 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Miss Ada Reeve has kindly consented to act on the committee of management for Johnny Alexander's benefit.

The members of the pantomime company at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, made extra contributions to the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund in a novel way on Monday afternoon. The Brothers Egbert arranged a hoop-la stall in their dressing-room, and their confrères paid sixpence for seven rings. There were very few who did not prove themselves experts, and as the fancy articles disappeared silver coins dropped with a ring into the collecting box.

Miss Ruth Vincent, the musical comedy favourite, after a successful tour of Mr. Stoll's principal provincial houses, will commence a three weeks' engagement at the Hippodrome prior to appearing in grand opera during the forthcoming season. Lamberti, whose imitations of musical composers recently created very favourable comment, returns to the Hippodrome on Monday.

One of the funniest "turns" in Connor's Circus at the Crystal Palace is *The Coster's Derby*, shrieks of laughter greeting Eliza and her better half. The imperturbable demeanour of 'Liza, in spite of the reckless pace of their steed is humorous to a degree, but she quickly shows her pugilistic powers when a constable makes his appearance and endeavours to check her furious driving. This scena is only one of many funny and extremely clever items in the programme. The Dekoe Family still remain very popular, their performance being remarkably clever, while the pluck and daring of little Mona and diminutive Douglas Connor have been greatly admired. These two juvenile bareback riders, by the way, are son and daughter of Mr. F. J. Connor, the genial proprietor of the show. The last performance of the circus will be given on Saturday, Jan. 29.

BIRMINGHAM MANAGERS.

MR. W. GOODWIN WOODWARD, BORDESLEY PALACE.

A bright personality and a thorough knowledge of his business are essential qualifications of the successful theatrical manager. They are typified in Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, the popular chief at the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham. He is urbanity personified, and as to experience, he has been nurtured in the lap of the Thespian art, so to speak. Born at Cheltenham he belonged to a musical family, and made his *début* at nine years of age, singing at a concert. He won a scholarship at Cheltenham Grammar School for singing, and trained for the Civil Service, which he entered and did successfully for years. His natural inclination, however, was to tour with various operatic companies; but after one or two essays in this direction he came to the conclusion that it was more congenial in the front of the house. He then drifted into theatrical management, a sphere in which he has laboured since then with credit to himself and honour to the profession.

First of all he was engaged by St. John Denton to produce pantomimes, and stage-managed them. Then he was secured by Fred H. Anderson as general-manager of his touring companies, more especially *The Sands of Time*, which was produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, and afterwards toured. He then filled the position of manager for the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Northampton. During his period of office he greatly popularised the cake-walk in the town, training a number of raw youngsters to take part in a competition in a remarkably short time, his prowess as a pantomime producer standing him in good stead. On vacating his position he was engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona, and was for five years manager of various musical comedy companies run by that gentleman, including *The Chinese Honeymoon*, *The Country Girl*, *The Toreador*, and *The Cingalee* tours. The pantomimes he has produced include *Cinderella* (Harriett Vernon, principal boy), *Dick Whittington* (Marie Loftus, principal boy), *Puss in Boots* (Lil Hawthorne, principal boy), *Babes in the Wood* (Rita Presano, principal boy), &c. At the present time he is utilising his pantomime experience with every success on behalf of the production *The Fair One with the Golden Locks*, which is enjoying an auspicious season at the Bordesley Theatre.

Having risen from the bottom rung of the ladder Mr. Woodward is more in sympathy with the men who work under him than one who assumed command of a theatre without previous experience. Though a strict disciplinarian, he retains the goodwill and wins the respect of all with whom he comes in contact. In this connection it should be mentioned that during his managership at Bordesley he was the central figure at a presentation and complimentary supper arranged by the staff and friends. His successful managements of the London Princess's, Shakespeare, Clapham Junction, and Dalston theatres, and of the old Elephant and Castle, have also spoken well of his capabilities.

Mr. Woodward's chief hobby is bulldog breeding. He is also keenly interested in shooting, being, in fact, a thorough student of Nature. His private office at the theatre is shared by a pet canary, which trills away merrily whilst he is at work. A few days ago the bird managed to escape from its cage, and when it was not to be found Mr. Woodward was inconsolable. At length the canary was safely returned to him.

On one tour Mr. Woodward had for a companion a valuable two-year-old bulldog. "Baby," as he was called, was not beautiful, and on Mr. Woodward going in search of lodgings, accompanied by

MR. W. GOODWIN WOODWARD.

his pet, their custom was declined at every call. "Love me, love my dog," was evidently Mr. Woodward's motto, for he resolutely declined all the lodgings if his dog could not be entertained as well, and for that week, at least, the manager and his pet slept at the theatre. But it became evident that this state of things could not continue, and reluctantly at last, as all the world seemed against "Baby," he was sent back to London.

"THE BLACK ANGEL."

Produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, Jan. 10.

Raoul, Vicomte de Lenoir..Mr. John Burnett
Granville Savernake ..Mr. Henry Hargreaves
John Waring .....Mr. George Ingleton
Evangeline Dupres .....Miss Dora Heritage
Mimi Augarde .....Miss Lucy Burrows
Fifi Melargs .....Miss Claire Townshend
Betty Seabrooke .....Miss Eugene Magnus

This sketch is from the clever and facile pen of Miss Eugenie Magnus, who has written several successful sketches, and deals to some extent with the half-world. The scene depicted is a salon in the establishment of Raoul, Vicomte de Lenoir, in the evening. It is Betty's birthday, and all are in good spirits with the exception of Betty, who is particularly despondent, for she is tired of the life she is living. Her spirits rise with the arrival of John Waring, for she really loves him, despite the fact that she has assisted in the plucking of this "pigeon" on past occasions. He wishes her "Many happy returns," and gives her a present, at which she is visibly affected. They toast one another's loves, after which he touchingly appeals to her, and begs her to run straight. The party then return, and all ask Waring to stop with them for the night, but he tells them he is unable to as he has £20,000 in his pocket, a legacy of his little sister's. This only causes them to be more determined that he shall stay; £20,000 would be a nice little parcel to "cut up." They decide to get him to have a parting drink and to drug his glass; but Betty has seen all, and instantly decides that the man she so loves shall not be robbed. She takes the drugged wine, and after the others have left bolts the door and tells Waring all. She tells him to escape quickly, for her accomplices are desperate characters, and then falls to the floor, for the deadly drug has taken effect. Turning the lights out, Waring picks up the inanimate form of the "Black Angel," and as the party rush in through the burst door he escapes with Betty in the confusion and darkness.

Though the plot is a slight one the dialogue is brisk, and interest is maintained to the fall of the curtain. Miss Eugenie Magnus as Betty, the "Black Angel," did excellent work in a part that fitted her exceedingly well. Mr. George Ingleton gave a strong and sympathetic reading of John Waring. The other characters were adequately filled.

The varieties included Ethel Christi, Brull and Hemsley, Alice Blandford, Dusty Rhodes, Bob and Jimmy Leonard, Orpheus, and May B. Brilliant. Special mention must be made of the splendid pictures as depicted by the Queen's New Bioscope the subjects being really interesting and the production exceptionally good.

Mr. Harry S. Hart, variety agent, is laid up with a sprained ankle, through trick roller skating. The accident happened on Monday night at Olympia, and the sufferer will be in bed for a week.

"A STROLLING PLAYER."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Beatrix De Burgh. Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Jan. 10.

A Strolling Player .....Mr. H. A. Saintsbury
Richard Brinsley Sheridan ..Mr. Clive Currie
Mr. Richards .....Mr. Alfred Beaumont
Mr. Tickle .....Mr. Fred Grove
Martha .....Miss Margherita Gordon
Alice .....Miss Laurie Flockton

Snippets from Shakespeare are presented in a very attractive form in the newest production with which Mr. H. A. Saintsbury is associated. Mr. Saintsbury has the part of an itinerant actor, who has tramped to London with his daughter to seek out Sheridan with the hope of obtaining an engagement. He meets with the celebrated actor-dramatist at an inn where Sheridan is entertaining his boon companions, the old actor being brought with little ceremony into the room where the party are making merry. Not knowing who they are, the strolling player refuses indignantly to accede to their suggestion to recite; but his daughter is starving, and in order to earn a meal for her he consents. His performance takes the form of a series of extracts from Shakespeare's plays, in illustration of various human emotions. Thus love is represented by Romeo's "banishment" speech; melancholy by Hamlet's soliloquy, "To be or not to be"; philosophy by Jaques' homily from *As You Like It*; revenge by Shylock's malevolent utterance on the Rialto; ambition by Wolsey's affecting lines from *Henry VIII.*; and jealousy by Othello's fiery denunciation. The old actor is almost exhausted and falters at the last line, but his hearers have been greatly impressed, and one of the company suggest *Lear*, in which the services of the girl might be utilised. The player accepts the suggestion, and taking his daughter in his arms begins the scene in which Cordelia dies in the aged King's arms. It is soon obvious, however, that the actor is not speaking the lines of the part, and that the form that he clasps in his arms is really dead. The noisy party are rendered silent by the tragic occurrence, and after Sheridan has declared himself and promised to look after his welfare, the old man is left alone with his grief.

The arduous work of the leading rôle was artistically accomplished by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who invested the familiar selections with suitable degrees of emotion, skilfully-varied inflection, and facial expression happily suited to each rôle. Mr. Saintsbury, we would suggest, might diminish the difference in age between father and daughter, and give the veteran actor a less patriarchal appearance. A few lime effects towards the close, too, might not be inappropriate. The impersonation, however, was a decided success for Mr. Saintsbury. He bears an enviable reputation at the Empress, but his admirable performance won entirely on its merits, and led to him being recalled thrice at the close. Worthy support was given by the cast—capable players all of them—who "dressed" the stage most effectively, and worked up the scenes realistically. Mr. Clive Currie was a sympathetic Sheridan, whom he made quite the actor and the gentleman; Mr. Fred Grove's ripe abilities enabled him to make of the bibulous Mr. Tickle a most amusing personage; and Mr. Alfred Beaumont also did valuable work in a subsidiary part. A touching portrayal of the old man's daughter was given by Miss Laurie Flockton, who acts and speaks well. The sketch is dramatically conceived and well connected, and the audience became absorbed in it throughout.

"THE CHANGELING."

By W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, Jan. 10.

George Henshaw .....Mr. Martin Adeson
Ted Stokes .....Mr. V. C. Newman
Mrs. Henshaw .....Miss Dorothy Neville

The above capital sketch, produced under the direction of Mr. T. B. Vaughan and John Lawson, is no stranger to the boards, having formed the *lever de rideau* at Wyndham's Theatre during the run of *When Knights Were Bold*. The plot of the piece is as follows:—George Henshaw has been seen by his wife in company with his friend Ted Stokes flirting with two ladies on the top of a 'bus. Henshaw denies that he was there, but his wife refuses to believe him. Henshaw consults his friend Stokes as to how he can get out of his unfortunate scrape. The ingenious Stokes hits upon a novel scheme. It was not George Henshaw who was flirting, but one, James Bell, of Scotland, who is, unfortunately, very like him. Henshaw demurs at the idea at first, but ultimately resolves to try his luck. He puts on what he considers a Scotch costume, and makes ludicrous attempts to assume a suitable accent. Meanwhile, Mrs. Henshaw has overheard their little plot. She receives "Mr. Bell" and his friend, and pretends to believe their story. When, however, they have gone, she locks the front door, and informs her astonished husband on his return that he is Mr. James Bell, that her husband is already upstairs, and that she is just going to bed herself. Poor Henshaw is thus locked out for the night, and is left to cool his heels in the street, and find such consolation as he may in the society of his friend Ted Stokes.

Mr. Martin Adeson gave a very ludicrous conception of the henpecked husband, George Henshaw, and caused roars of laughter. Mr. V. C. Newman was capital as the quick-witted Cockney, Ted Stokes, and Miss Dorothy Neville was very good as the irate spouse, Mrs. Henshaw. The piece was received with every mark of approbation, and is certainly one of the most humorous contributions to the stage that Mr. W. W. Jacobs has ever given us.

Mr. Albert Bruno, who met with an accident at the New Empire, Wakefield, on Christmas Eve, is progressing favourably and is now able to resume his part in Mr. Fred Karno's sketch *The Bailiff*.

The programme of the Palace Theatre will receive an important addition on Monday next, when Mr. Alfred Butt will present for the first time on the variety stage, Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson, who will submit a series of dances based on classical music from the old masters. Lady Richardson is one of the most noted members of society, chiefly because of her daring exploits as a huntress. At the Bath Club she won the Challenge Shield three times in succession, and afterwards caused great consternation with the British authorities in West Africa owing to the fact that the lady penetrated further into the interior than was thought advisable, until at last Lady Constance was ordered to return to the Coast.

Lady Constance is the daughter of the late Lord Cromartie and a grand-daughter of Anne, Duchess of Sutherland. Her object in making an appearance on the variety stage is to raise funds to found a school for boys, so that her special theory of education may be carried out. The Greek system of education seems to Lady Constance as being the real foundation, and she has adopted as her motto "Mens Sana in Corpore Sana." She suggests that all sensible actual bodily exercise has a tremendous influence on the mind, and that physical and mental development should be evolved co-jointly. Lady Richardson will practically adopt some children between the ages of two and twelve years and gradually educate them to become hardy Britishers. Among the dances to be submitted are: "Au Printemps" (Grieg), "Chansons Sans Paroles" (Tschaikowski), "Marche Funebre," from the Sonata Op. 26 (Beethoven), and polka, "Bonne Bouche" (Waldteufel).

FELDMAN'S

Coming Craze.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

NO PRODUCTION COMPLETE WITHOUT THIS.

Write for Band Parts at once. Price 1s.

A SURE ARTISTIC SUCCESS.

Artists singing our Songs are particularly requested to advise us, so that we can record their success in these columns.

REMEMBER, FELDMANS ONLY STAKE THEIR REPUTATION ON CERTAINTIES.

B. FELDMAN & Co.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Harry Tich	£1 4 0
Bros Webb	1 1 0
Hymack	1 1 0
Gus Elen	1 1 0
Charles Weldon	1 1 0
Harry Fragson	1 0 0
E.	0 10 0

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £4 10s 6d.

Per Miss Marie Lloyd	40	Neta Davies	1
Walter de Frece	20	H. Taft	1
Horace White	3	E. Recco	1
Lady Moss	2½	E. Recco, jun.	1
Sir Edward Moss	2½	T. A. Cook	1
Sisters Marlow	2½	A. Askew	1
Sandsmith	2	Walter de Frece, jun.	1
Yarker	1	J. Weis	1
A Friend	1	J. H. E. Mugge	1
Welsh Girl	1	Thomas Cavilhill	1
Adey Spencer	1	Mrs. E. Recco	1
Daisy Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Violet Keele	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £7 11s. 6d.

R. Thornton	20	Mr. Crossley	1
Mrs. R. Thornton	10	Mr. Depledge	1
Mr. Roberts	10	Dr. Irvin	1
T. and M. Hopkins	10	Mr. Hodgson	1
Mr. Randall	5	Evelyn Black	1
Mr. Messulam	2½	John Lewis	1
Mr. Kenny	2½	W. P. Wells	1
Alace Maple	2½	T. W. G. Gelling	1
Royal Diamonds	2½	T. Gay	1
L. S.	2½	W. H. Behn	1
Marky	2½	W. H. Claphan	1
A. F. Buck	2½	J. R. Bell	1
Mr. Wilkinson	2½	J. Robinson	1
Mrs. Black	2½	J. H. Kemp	1
Mr. Jennings	2	M. A. Thornton	1
Mr. Saxby	2	J. A. Dryden	1
Mrs. Brown Potter		Mrs. F Bolam	1
G. A. Taverner	2	Jack Pellow	1
B. Dillon	2	Austin Devereux	1
S. Smith	2	R. Wrigglesworth	1
C Trigge	2	J. G.	1
H. Stokes	2	Mr Taylor	1
Mr. Kullman	2	Hall, sen.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Hall, jun.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Mr. Dougall	1
H. Hargreaves	1	Mr. Bolton	1
Mr. McNab	1	Mr. McClay	1
Mr. Love	1	Mr. Coddington	1
A Sinner	1	Mr. Walter Griggs	1
V. Kerr	1	H. G. Jenner	1
Mr. Brashaw	1	H. Griggs	1
Mr. J. Haigh	1	John Charnley	1
Mr. Dunville	1	Mr. Jeffries	1
Nellie Lees	1	John Barrington	1
F. Moore	1	Mr. Hymans	1
Mr. Habbijam	1	Walter Blake	1
Mr. Wilkinson	1	Tom Corns	1
Mr. Higgs	1	W. Sebary	1
Mr. Plant	1	R. Standring	1
Mr. Smithers	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 13s.

Leo Fritz	4	Mrs. Cash	1
Harry M. Vernon	2	Harry Taft	1
Bert Howell	2	Rosie Lloyd	1
Morny Cash	2	Herbert Darnley	1
Walter Bentley	1	Ted Marris	1
F. A. K. Hounsell	1	Sam Mayo	1
J. Amery Parkes	1	H. Phillips	1
Ramsey	1	W. Russell	1
Sam Hart	1	S. C. May	1
Athas	1	J. G. R.	1
Chris Horn	1	G. W. Gerald	1
Jack A. Frece	1	David Hart	1
Tom Pacey	1	Gus Elen	1
A. F. P.	1		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £2 7s.

Kittee Rayburn	21	Edouard Jose	1
Palace Girls	4	Edwin Foster	1
Harry Rich	1	Erin	1
Fred Knight	1	A. Anarto	1
Gerald Malvern	1	R. Peuso	1
Charlie Rich	1	L. Anarto	1
Mrs. Hunt	1	D. Gould	1
Mrs. Ellis	1	J. Johns	1
Mrs. Spencer	1	Mr. Holmes	1
Cissie Thompson	1	Jack Lotto	1
Elizabeth Rogers	1	Orpheus	1
E. Moody	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. A. Spencer	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

The Perriers	2	B. Godman	1
For Autograph	2	B. B. Robinson	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Mr Shannock	1
Burt Shephard	1	Mr. Thompson	1
Ting and Mile	1	Joe Winterschladen	1
Terry Sisters	1	G. H. Wallis	1
J. H. Farr	1	A. N.	1
H. B. Farland	1	J. Todd	1
Maxey and Pete	1	Admirer of Vesta	1
Wm. Colin Wara	1	A Friend	1
Boots	1	Success	1
G. D. Clarke	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £1 9s.

Fred Dunning	3	Walter Aubrey	1
Rosa and Kitty Simms	2	Leo F. Daly	1
M. Evans	2	Gwen Davies	1
Bob Morris (Jerry)	1	Welsh Girls	1
Rhoda Paul	1	Jones	1
Local Girl of Hull	1	Bowden Stol	1
Jennie Johns	1	T. Tomlinson	1
Thana Johnson	1	W. H. Lennon	1
G. N.	1	Mabel Sinclair	1
Lambert	1	Victor Travers	1
B. Davies	1	Annie Bidwell	1
D. Davies	1	C. Bennison	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Berry Hope, £1 5s.

P. C. B. Webster	1	Billy Young	1
G. H. Buck	1	N. Leipzig	1
H. Holland	1	Alf. Braham	1
The Golden Lion, Edmonton	1	Jack French	1
Roebuck, Tottenham	1	W. Noegdud	1
Roebuck, High-road, Lower Tottenham	1	Mr. Hall	1
F. J. Golding	1	Mr. Rose	1
Park H., Tottenham	1	J. McDonald	1
Miss Flood	1	L. Levy	1
Miss Penn	1	Angel Jacobs	1
Alec Israel	1	Marie Reeve	1
Hector Munro	1	Bull and Pump	1
		Dover Castle	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Berry Hope, £1 11s. 6d.

Only a few	2½	H. S.	1
Horris Hope	2	Marguerite Ismay	1
Nell Seaton	2	Elsie Hulbert	1
Monti	2	F. Bernard	1
B. C. Titch	2	Nell Lepard	1
Alf. Cull	2	D. Graham	1
John Webb	1	Will Crusha	1
Jimmy Fearless	1	Ted Rollings	1
Eva Silverston	1	E. Alexander	1
Mike Hart	1	Alexander	1
Albert Rodd	1	Pete	1
T. G. Richards	1	Gus Elen	1
Billy Young	1		

[*Photo by Bacon*

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

Collected by Beresford Hope, £1 8s. 6d.

P., The Eagle	2	Schmidt	1
J. F. Carr	½	Goldstein	1
M. Mufti, The Eagle, Tottenham	1	Maizypop	1
Ted Cribb (Crib and Cribb	1	Anon	1
A. E. Frost	1	Elsie Athas	1
M. C. Shrus	1	Jack Winepress	1
W. Crook	1	Harry Bannister	1
W. Hill	1	Jack Jull	1
J. G. S.	1	Gus Elen	1
B. R., Dover Castle	1	Poor Boy	1
Old Sport	1	Messum	1
Dicky Bird	1	Gladys Miller	1
Isaacstein	1	The Professor	1
		Joe	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by May and Ted Hopkins, £1 10s.

Lamberti	2	Hugh Bayly	1
C. T. Aldrich	2	The Kramers	1
Grotesques	2	Dorothy Doria	1
Vere Smith	2	J. A. Watts	1
J. L.	1	Doris Lind	1
Little Georgie	1	Elsie English	1
Big Billie	1	T. A. Cook	1
R. T.	2	Barrington	1
Jack frae Glesca	1	G. Leno	1
Annie Laurie	1	Doc Campbell	1
E. H. Brown	1	W. H. Barber	1
Daly and Lambert	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Hilliard	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 12s.

Ted and May Hopkins	5	Sergt. Brennan	1
Jackson Family	4	Madge Osmond	1
Royal Diamonds	2	Ben Albert	1
C. Hayden Coffin	1	Leo Stormont	1
Master Harry Clark	1	Jewel St. Leger	1
Maxmillian Trio	1	Will Probyn	1
Ted Curtis	1	Dan Davies	1
Damerell & Rutland	1	Arthur Lawrence	1
Achmed Ibrahim	1	J. D. MacLean	1
Rosie Archer	1	Harry Burdette	1
Mendel	1	Friend	1
Alf. Meers	1	Gus Elen	1
Nap	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £2 8s. 6d.

Courtice Pounds	20	Aunt	1
Pert and Leonard	2½	G. W. Anson	
Rowlands and Ford	2	A. H. McKay	1
Jack Pleasants	1	G. A. Peace	1
The Tame Author	1	The Duke	1
W. Mowbray Harle	1	Walter Curtis	1
R. Brantz	1	Ferguson and Mack	1
Will Emson	1	B. Comerford	1
Bell	1	Louis Kerno	1
J. H. Walker	1	Gena Manon	1
M. Cressall	1	Albert Jentor	1
Queenie du Val	1	F. Melville	1
Albert Ward	1	Gus Elen	1
Uncle	1		

Collected by Harry Conlin, £2 5s.

Rosie Coleman	5	Jack Stephens	1
Harry Conlin	5	Marie Walker	1
Norman-Leonard Trio	3	Effects	1
M. C. Geraldo	2½	Frank Parker	1
Ray Wallace	2½	Friend	1
Chanti	2½	H. E. Fairbanks	1
Sisters Geretti	2	Rosie Loader	1
Cornalla and Eddie	2	George Rushe	1
Jack Sandiford	2	Squire Day	1
James Cuddihee	2	Percy Johnson	1
Baby Rosie Conlin	1½	Argo	1
Bert Harrow	1	H. P. Milner	1
Tom Butler	1	Gus Elen	1
Mr. Schutz	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Vivian Evans, Wolverhampton, £1 3s.

Billy Williams	1	Rupert Woolley	1
Mark Stone	1	T. Jones	1
The Orchids	1	John Henry Wright	1
W. H. H.	1	Isaac Jones	1
Beatrice Allen	1	Kurkamp	1
Witty Walton	1	Martin Henry	1
George H. Jones	1	F. Fuidge	1
E. B.	1	Trixo	1
J. W. Somerville	1	Sisters Eston	1
Iky Peck	1	H. J. Haddock	1
Percy Nevill	1	Gus Elen	1
John Day	1		

Collected by Seener and Fridkins, £1 6s.

Seener and Fridkins	2	XYU	1
E. H. Granville	1	H. Bee	1
J. M. Fortune	1	Vive La Russe	1
Gilbert Girard	1	G. H. W.	1
Sideslip	1	E. Leopold	1
Geo. Leyton	1	Maud Gill	1
Tom Stuart	1	Malcolm Scott	1
F. L. G.	1	Leo Leon	1
Henry Coutts	1	Hyde and Cody	1
T. Peschkoff	1	Gus Garrick	1
J. S.	1	Sadie	1
E. S. Jenkins	1	Gus Elen	1
H. Altnan	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver, £1 4s.

Wm. Matthews	1	Chas. Senior	1
J. Robinson	1	Norman Gray	1
Mundill and Maude	1	L. Senior	1
J. A. Whitehouse	1	R. Outram	1
Edmund Caselli	1	Denby and Dent	1
Eva Dunville	1	Welda and Wynne	1
Arthur Lauri	1	The Lindos	1
Lauria Lauri	1	Will Harris	1
Benj. Pattison	1	Florrie Delamore	1
H. Renouf	1	Mlle. Hengleur	1
Elaine Grant	1	Lucardo Bros.	1
Geo. Gulliver	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Chandos and Constable, £1 6s.

C. Carlile	2	Ernie Daunton	1
Ivy Chandos	1	Bertha Evelyn	1
Fred H. Constable	1	Carlotta de Yonson	1
Sam Lavelle	1	C. N. Whittle	1
Jack Lavelle	1	Lee Gilbert	1
Bert Rayburn	1	J. H. Lowe	1
May Clarke	1	James Duncan	1
Alice Tremayne	1	G. Douglas Carlile	1
Theresa Moore	1	Mina Greene	1
Marie Knill	1	Gus Elen	1
Alma O'Neil	1	Chas. Hamilton	1
M. C. Berg	1	Ted Hamilton	1
Jim Zanora	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Atroy, £1 2s.

Atroy	10	Will Onda	1
Violi	10	George Prince	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, £1 5s.

Bert Welda	1	Ally Benson	1
Dorothy Welda	1	Alice Benson	1
Baby Welda	1	Winnie Benson	1
Reg Bolton	1	Musical Silvo	1
Sam Laurence	1	Violet Nunn	1
Harry Simms	1	Leipzig	1
Fred Cadwall	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Gustis Laurence	1	Maudie Goodman	1
Boston Twins	1	P. Corrix	1
Cyril Dane	1	Leipzig	1
Walter Aubrey	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Nap	1	Gus Elen	1
Admiral Togo	1		

Collected by Hannaway Bros., £1 10s.

Bros. Hannaway	2	J. Cullen	1
Eli Hudson	2	Percy Currie	1
Bowman and Morton	2	Tom Wild	1
Boris Fridkin	1	Martialo	1
Elias B. Seener	1	Maudie Ford	1
Krakes	1	The Gilbey Sisters	1
Madeline Rossiter	1	Billy West	1
Sisters Edwardes	1	Bert Williams	1
Venturini	1	George West	1
Victor Courtenay	1	Captain Ellis	1
Jack Hayton	1	Phil Bransby	1
Freddie French	1	Zanonis	1
Louis Kerno	1	Gus Elen	1
Albert Brady	1		

Collected by Livesey and Rosebery. £1 5s.

Well Wisher	1	Villion Dandy	1
Fred Sinclair	1	Carl Lynn	1
Harry Elliston	1	Master Syd May	1
George Abel	1	Mr. Charles	1
Albert Bushell	1	Mr. Russell	1
Ted E. Box	1	The Heroine	1
Radena Dey	1	The Hero	1
Tom Shaw	1	The Villain	1
W. Vokes	1	Little Willie	1
W. Armstrong	1	The Would-be Actors	1
Harry Burns	1	Livesey & Rosebery	1
Arthur Alston	1	Gus Elen	1
W. Villion	1		

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	W. F. Frame	1
Jimmy Shields	1	Master Sydney May	1
Oswald and Locke	1	Harry Burdette	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
The Rosses	1	Wilfred Forster	1
James McKimm	1	Franklin Dyall	1
W. Millard	1	Margaret Holland	1
Wylie Watson	1	The Adeles	1
E. D. Hess	1	Danas	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Fred Elton	1
Harry Bailey	1	Lamberti	1
W. Cummings	1	Gus Elen	1
J. Cummings	1		

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
Harry Ford	1	Elsie Roby	1
Will H. Fox	1	Andy McLeod	1
Mrs. Harry Dean	1	Lamberti	1
Fred Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Dandy George	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Chris. Richards	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Cornalla and Eddie	1
Will Lester	1	Alfred Artois	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton	1	Alma Shelley	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley	1
J. Cooke Beresford	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong.

Barney Armstrong	5	Madoline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson	1
Four Royal Scotts	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lynn	1	Will Clement	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Brunton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE STAR MUSIC Co

ENORMOUS SUCCESS.

*SHIP AHOY!
*CHARLIE BROWN.
*I CAN PICTURE POLLY (HANGING UP THE HOLLY.)
I CAN'T REACH THAT TOP NOTE.
I'LL SAW HIS SEE-SAW DOWN.
*SEA, SEA, SEA.
WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, GIRLS.
I WANT MR. SCHNEIDER.
*MR. MAN IN THE MOON.
*I'LL LET THE WORLD GO BY.

BAND PARTS 1/- Per Set. State Theatre and Part when writing for copies.

19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Wires, SONGONIA, LONDON Phone, 8446 GERRARD.

LAST OF "THE OLD MO."

MR. J. L. GRAYDON SAYS "GOOD-BYE!"

Sic transit! The old Middlesex Music Hall has closed its doors, and many of us are sorry that it is so. The great assemblage of last Tuesday night at Mr. Graydon's famous hall in Drury-lane meant more than a change of management. It was the last night of an old tradition. For "the guv'nor" was saying good-bye to us all after nearly forty years of successful management, after being a pioneer in the variety business, and after having achieved a splendid record for fair dealing, honourable management, and liberal catering on behalf of his patrons; and there were those of us present who felt sad amidst the laughter, and when "the guv'nor" broke down in making his speech we broke down too. Blood is thicker than water even in these hustling commercial days, and some of us have memories, and some of us are old-fashioned enough to keenly regret the passing of the old Mogul.

This much is certain—Mr. Graydon's regret at leaving the hall which he has conducted so creditably is not less poignant than that of its patrons at losing him. He having sold the property to Mr. Harry Lyons, brother of Mr. Joseph Lyons (of J. Lyons and Co., Ltd.), the Middlesex will be razed to the ground, and a new hall—a larger one—with all the latest improvements and appliances, will be erected on the site, and probably designated the Middlesex Empire. It will have a seating capacity of 2,800, and will be run on the two-houses-a-night principle.

The Middlesex was always a friendly, homely place. The audience was always on the best of terms with the stars, and conversations were carried on between them over the footlights and between the verses. This tradition was carried out to the last, and on Tuesday, as always, waiters looking like noblemen in disguise (the only people in evening dress) dispensed stout to the aristocracy in the stalls, while outside the gallery doors coster girls (the professional descendants of Nell Gwynne) sold oranges to wet the whistles of the Mogul "gods."

There was no "half-time" on Tuesday last, and

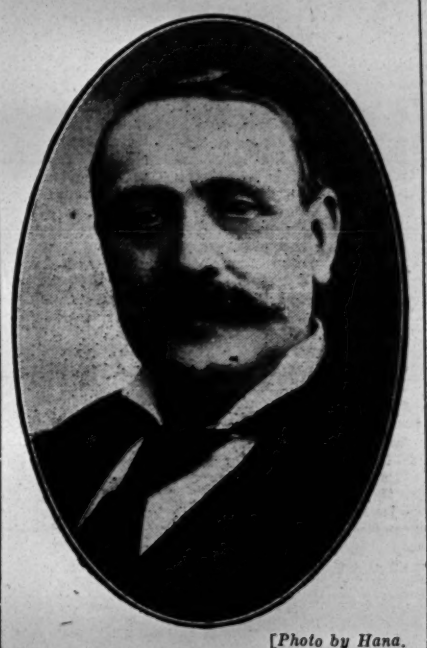

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. J. L. GRAYDON.

big bills announced the fact, to the astonishment and dismay of more than one regular patron. The house was packed, and everyone who is anyone in the variety world made it a point of honour to turn up some time during the evening or early morning. There was no standing on ceremony, and star artists chatted on old times with West End managers or agents, and even the great ones of the "legitimate" hobnobbed with the daily paper journalists present, and they all toasted "the dear old Guv'nor" in the time-worn circle bar—for the last time.

Everyone was "reminiscing" on Tuesday, and the triumphs of Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell and Marie Lloyd and Joe Elvin on the boards of the "Old Mo." in the days that are gone were particularly recalled. Here and there in the house sat clean-shaven men with iron-grey hair, hawk-like faces, and mobile lips which gave away their secret. These were some of the other stars, who on nights far back were heroes at the Middlesex.

Again they heard the roars of laughter rise up to them, and the volley clappings and whistling of the "gods" aloft. They had come to see the last of the old place that had piloted them to fame.

And the "gods"! They imperilled their lives, as they ever did, hanging over the iron railing which prevented them from falling into the pit, and, with their bowler hats well back from their front locks, they sang choruses and whistled to the click-clack of light heels, and shouted friendly encouragement to the funny man, and sucked oranges. The sedate circle refreshed itself on Banbury cakes, purveyed by a pale-faced youth, and chortled joyfully to "the floor-flogger" to "go it."

On this farewell occasion Mr. Graydon reintroduced the old-time chairman's table, and the names of the artists who were not on the programme were announced from the chair. There were various chairmen during the evening, all shining lights of the profession, and all desirous of taking an official part in the change which the whirligig of time has brought about. The last men at the "Old Mo." to handle the gavil were Edward Angel, Ernest Lepard, Charles Coborn, John Wood (Marie Lloyd's brother), and Papa Brown.

The bill was, surely, the smartest and brightest ever seen, even in a house renowned for many years for its "lightning programme" and brilliant talent. The regular company included Corrina, the champion lady wrestler of the world; Wilson Hallett, the child mimic and comedian; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie, Fred Costin, Marie Lord, Mlle. Pollo, Billie Hurst and George Fredericks, the Sprees, Eva Daunton, Cresswell and Cross, and Evelyn Beresford and company, in a sensational Indian episode, entitled *The Half-Caste*.

But a host of artists made an appearance besides. There were Edith Evelyn and company, Rose and Calvert, Steve Buckingham, Katie Lawrence, Jack Marks, Sadie Stewart, Frank Boyce, Little Victoria, Maurice, Four Mexicans, Jenny Hylton, Claude Gardner, Mason and Moore, C. C. Gibbs, and the Lyons Trio.

One of the delightful moments of the evening was when Charles Coborn appeared and sang his old and famous number, "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo." How the "gods" sang, how we all sang the well-known refrain! And Charlie, in fine robust voice, as ever, made it hard to believe that fifteen years had passed since we heard him sing the ditty to success at the old Trocadero and London Pavilion not so very far away.

Mr. Graydon confessed to the writer that, for the third time in its 240 years of existence, the Middlesex will be entirely rebuilt and reconstructed. Only the old Mogul tavern is to be kept open during the rebuilding. Mr. Graydon will still remain a director of the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue; of the Empire, Middlesbrough; and hon. secretary of the Proprietors of Entertainments Association, in which important spheres he will still have at heart the best interests of the profession which he has done so much to conserve and promote.

The Middlesex anniversary, which was celebrated so recently as Nov. 10 last, was to a certain extent a farewell function, and Mr. Graydon on that occasion was the recipient of a beautifully-designed silver-gilt loving cup from a few friends in the variety world, and an illuminated address from the members of the staff as a mark of their kindly feeling towards "the Guv'nor," both of which testimonials are prized amongst his most cherished possessions.

Frank Parker told a good story during the evening apropos the energy of Mr. Graydon, and in a measure confirming the saying that he was only happy at the Middlesex, and spent every waking moment there. It appears that some years ago Mr. Graydon had occasion to take his daughter to school, at Dieppe. He told everyone that he intended to take full advantage of the fact to steal a complete week's rest from London, and the variety business in particular. He accordingly made arrangements with his manager to attend to everything in his absence, and away he went. The second day of his stay in Dieppe no letters arrived for him. This fact agitated Mr. Graydon so much that he took the next boat back to England. In response to his manager's anxious inquiries as to the reason of his early return, he said: "Oh, I'm all right, and so is Dieppe; but there's no place like Drury-lane."

At about 10.45 Mr. Graydon went on the stage to make his farewell speech. A fine figure of a man, his appearance was the signal for an outburst of applause seldom heard even within the walls of the "Old Mo." He said:—

"I am very sorry to leave old friends, but, like all other earthly institutions, I have to submit to the inevitable laws of change; but I am proud to think that, in spite of all opposition, the Middlesex has held its own to the last. It is with the deepest regret that I am leaving this dear old place, but in these times of big combinations and large speculations a single-handed man is handicapped to a great extent, and for that reason I think it best for me to retire. During the long period I have been proprietor I have altered the hall several times. When I came here over thirty years ago it was a small place of entertainment—no stage and no scenery, merely a platform with mirrors at the back; and three large alterations brought it up to its present condition. I take this opportunity of thanking the artists who have appeared here to-night and on past occasions, and I thank the staff for their valuable assistance. The rebuilding of the new Middlesex will occupy eight months. I hope to be able to pay a visit to the new hall. Ladies and gentlemen, again and again I thank you for your long and continued support." (Here Mr. Graydon broke down, and in the storm of applause that followed waved his hand to the audience and walked from the stage.)

For our part we all wished him health, long life, and continued prosperity, and as the evening wore on the spirit of goodwill and enthusiasm was abundantly manifested. And then we sang "For he's a jolly good fellow" and "Auld Lang Syne," not once, but twice and three times. The famous old house, the boxes richly decorated with choice blooms, has rarely appeared more brilliant than it did last Tuesday night on the eve of its demolition.

The oldest Middlesex attendant has been on duty in the stalls for thirty-seven years, and there are very few nights when he has missed the roll-call. This is Mr. E. Gilbert, and his memories and anecdotes of "the old days" and the old stars—and stars of to-day as well—would make fine reading had one the space to spare to record them.

The distinction of having given the *very last* turn on the stage of the old "Mo" belongs to the Lyons Trio.

It is interesting to recall that Mr. Graydon's early experience of music halls was gained about the time of the Great Exhibition, 1862, at Weston's. Then a youngster in his teens, he acted as treasurer at that hall, and it was his duty to pay salaries, often of the most modest dimensions, to artists who have since become prosperous beyond their wildest dreams. Mackney, the famous negro comedian, he remembers making what was then regarded as a meteoric progress through the salary list. Mackney used to have ten pounds a week, then twelve, and then eighteen—an enormous salary for an artist in those days. When William Holland, the people's caterer, engaged George Leybourne's exclusive services for a year at the rate of twenty pounds a week he made a landmark in music hall salaries. Mr. Graydon remembers Mackney as the first music hall artist to use a brougham for his round of turns. Miss Annie Adams, another popular favourite of the time, soon followed suit. "Vernon Rigby and Charles Bernard, two of the finest vocalists of their day, were members of an operatic company engaged at Weston's," Mr. Graydon informed the writer. "The place had been a schoolroom once, and then a public room. There was a tavern next door. The first music halls, as we know them to-day, were the Canterbury, which Mr. Charles Morton developed from a public house free-and-easy, and Weston's. Ned Weston must have made a lot of money during the Exhibition year. We used to have the place full three times over in a single evening, the audience coming and going, you know. Western built a pretty place called 'The Retreat' at Kentish Town, and gave a garden party there. One of his friends said, 'What a capital Cremorne this would make,' and Weston foolishly jumped at the idea. He spent no end of money on the place, and it was his ruin. All his neighbours objected most strongly to the transformation, and he was engaged in constant litigation. Meantime, the music hall suffered. Other halls sprang up—the Oxford, the Cambridge, and so forth—and snapped up the available variety turns, so Weston's was left to rely upon its musical selection company when it needed something more."

When Mr. Graydon left Weston's he embarked for a time in the licensed victualling trade; and then, in 1871, he came to the Middlesex, where he has ever since remained, becoming proprietor in 1878. The Middlesex has an interesting history. It is an outgrowth of the Great Mogul, one of the oldest taverns in London. The Mogul had its singing room; then it became the Mogul saloon, and finally, when the music hall became a recognised institution, the Middlesex Music Hall arose and flourished.

Mr. Graydon has had distinguished visitors at the Middlesex from time to time. For instance, Colonel Burnaby occupied a box at the Middlesex three nights before he went away to meet his death. Colonel Burnaby's mentor for the occasion was Mr. John Hollingshead, who during his management of the Gaiety often came to the Middlesex with the view of picking up an oddment of undiscovered talent. In this way he acquired the services of Miss Connie Gilchrist. Arthur Roberts went to the Middlesex from the Penny Reading business at a salary of £2 10s a week. He used to stand behind a little table in those days and give imitations of Society types. That was, of course, before he sang "If I were only long enough." Dan Leno made his first success at the Middlesex. Mr. J. W. Rowley was another great favourite. It was there he acquired the name of "Over" Rowley, so called because having once turned a somersault at the end of his song "Going to the Derby" he was henceforth doomed to perpetual repetition of the feat by loud demands of "over, Rowley!" Miss Marie Loftus likes it to be known that when Mr. Graydon topped his bill and starred her first of all she was far from being a star. Her salary was about £3 10s.—perhaps £4. Mr. Graydon evidently knew how to "top" his bill; and his judgment has been supported by thousands of Marie's admirers since

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Triumph of the Guild Work.

SIX weeks ago three London suburban fairs were threatened with extinction. The Rural District Council of Isleworth and Heston petitioned the Home Secretary under the provisions of the Markets and Fairs Abolition Act, to do away with the local fairs of Hounslow, Heston Green, and Isleworth. The Rev. T. Horne took the matter up, got into direct touch with the showmen using these fairs, and in their name, because they were Guild members, sent three petitions to the Home Office, one for each threatened fair. We published the text in full of these petitions in our columns. Mr. Horne then went down to Hounslow and Isleworth, and warned the people whose fairs were attacked of the danger before them. Prominent public men in all the three places supported the action of the organised showmen. The result of the work done is seen in the official letter from the Home Office sent to the Guild offices, which reads as follows:—

Home Office, Whitehall.
Jan. 8, 1910.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 6th ultimo, in which you ask that the fairs held at Heston, Hounslow, and Isleworth may not be abolished, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has made inquiry, and has informed the Urban District Council that he would not feel justified in issuing an Order for their abolition.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

G. A. AITKEN.

The Rev. T. Horne, The Showmen's Guild.

Good News for the New Year.

IT has been decided to issue a penny weekly popular paper dealing exclusively with the Showman World and its allied industries. It will be the official organ of the great trade societies in Showland. All the news week by week of the trade and business of the fairgrounds of the United Kingdom will be given fully. It will be the official gazette of The Showmen's Guild, and will give detailed account week by week of the Parliamentary defence work, the defence of fairs, and the opposition to corporations endeavouring under by-laws to injure the show business. It will be an accurate register week by week of fairs, fairgrounds, and lessees, market inspectors and agents, to whom tenants must apply. It will chronicle week by week the life and enterprise of showland. It will be sold at one penny, and will be obtainable every Saturday morning on every fairground in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. The Rev. T. Horne will be the editor; Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, business manager and publisher; and the office of issue will be the *Era* offices. The first number will appear at the end of February (next month).

The Showman World Page of "The Era."

IT is not intended to give up the Showman World Page of *The Era*. All important news will appear the same week in both papers. The decision to found a popular penny showman's weekly paper has been demonstrated by the rapid growth of the demand for increasing space to fully record the news of showland, hence the necessity and the growing importance of a supplementary (yet perfectly self-contained) penny paper to deal faithfully with the important and growing industry of the fairs, feasts, and wakes of the kingdom.

The Coming of Age of the Guild.

A SPECIAL significance attaches to the London celebration of the above event. Showmen from all parts of the Empire will gather at the World's Fair on Wednesday next, at 11 a.m., to rejoice in the triumph of their trade society. See our showmen advertisements for further details.

Important Hoopla Decision.

THE Lord Chief Justice and Justices Bucknill and Bray heard a novel appeal in a King's Bench Divisional Court on Thursday. A showman placed his "hoopla" near the Promenade at Whitley, Northumberland, and invited the public to throw rings (at so many a penny) for prizes. The urban district council wanted to see plans, and they summoned the owner for not giving notice of the erection of the structure; but the magistrates dismissed the information. The district council, as appellants, urged that the magistrates should have convicted, seeing that the "hoopla" was a "temporary building" within the meaning of the statute. The Lord Chief Justice: "My brother Bucknill knows all about these things; I don't."

MR. JUSTICE BUCKNILL, who had been studying a plan of the "hoopla," replied with a smile, "Yes, I think this is correct. (Laughter.) The Lord Chief Justice said that if they decided that the "hoopla" was a building it might be suggested that a tent was a building too! "Suppose my brother Bucknill wants to put one of these things up at his garden party in the summer, would he have to send plans to the local authority?" (Laughter.) Counsel did not solve this question. Mr. Justice Bucknill said there was no question of egress and ingress, as everybody stayed outside. The appeal was dismissed.

AT Mold Fancy Fair held in Roberts's field, New-street, recently, were P. Collins's No. 1 motors, haunted castle, cakewalk machine, racing bicycles, and No. 2 Wonderland show; also Capt. Roper's wild beast show; and minor amusements by Cordwell and Brummy Dick.

KINEMATOGRAPH
COPYRIGHT.
THE LAW AFFECTING THE SAME.
BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW.
Price SIXPENCE.
Address, THE PUBLISHER.
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, TAVISTOOK-ST., LONDON, W.C.
Telephones: Nos. 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

For the twenty-first consecutive year the Vandwellers' Society (now known as the Showmen's Guild) held its business, committees, and annual public meeting at the Manchester Centre of Showland. This year marks the coming of age of the society. It was quite the right thing that the celebration of its majority should take place at its original home and birthplace, Salford, Manchester. The Caxton Hall, where the gatherings took place, is on the outer edge of the Flat Iron Market and Fair Ground, one of the most historic spots, as regards show life, in the North of England, well within the shadow of sacred Trinity Church, a church that, to its lasting honour it may truly be said, it has mothered (in the spiritual sense) Manchester show life.

Invited Speakers.

The invited speakers at the majority commemoration were the Rev. H. Norburn, Rector of Birch, Longsight, the Senior Hon. Local Chaplain of the Guild; the Rev. Peter Green, Rector of Sacred Trinity Church and Hon. Local Chaplain for Salford; and Charles Howard, Esq., Hon. Solicitor for Manchester and District. The afternoon meeting was well attended by showpeople, and great enthusiasm marked the proceedings. The Rev. T. Horne occupied the chair. In his opening speech the chairman briefly related the story of the rise and progress of the Guild—how it came about that the whole of showland twenty-one years ago was without leadership and had no organisation to defend its honour and its livelihood from ignorant and sometimes vicious attacks of the avowed enemies of the people's fairs, and the amusement caterers, whose avocation was threatened with extinction. The veteran pioneers of trade organisation included many who had gone to their rest. Their bright example lived after them, and the men and women of to-day—the sons and daughters of the grand old men of the past, followed in their footsteps. The work they set out to do twenty-one years ago had been much blessed, and showpeople did well to rejoice and to thank God for the signal success of the trade protection work of the society.

How the Guild preserved the People's Fairs.

The success of the Guild petitions against the abolition of fairs of Greater London was of the utmost importance. The most recent example of its work was altogether most satisfactory and eminently encouraging. Three fairs—those held at Hounslow, Isleworth, and Heston Green, were threatened by the local authorities with extinction. The Guild took care that the people of Hounslow, Isleworth, and Heston Green were roused to a sense of what the District Council was aiming at. Public protest by the people concerned, and the petitions of the Guild won the day against the abolitionists, and the Home Secretary told the District Council that he did not feel justified in abolishing the people's fairs. The whole scope of their now many-sided work was to uplift the showman and to improve the open-air amusements of the people. He asked Mr. Charles Howard, Hon. Guild Solicitor, to move the first resolution.

Mr. Howard's Speech.

He claimed a long acquaintance with the showman trade society. He had been its hon. Solicitor in Manchester now for over twelve years. The more he knew about showmen the prouder he was of their friendship. Their Organising Chaplain and chairman at that meeting had referred to the grand old men and veteran workers in showland. He knew one of these veterans, Richard Newall, very intimately. Mr. Horne had referred to the loss the executive council sustained by the death of such sterling characters He had always found Richard Newall one of the most sincere and trustworthy of men. Referring to the different departments of the Guild's work, he especially commended the religious and educational work that so largely occupied the Organising Chaplain. No work could be more fruitful in permanent results of the highest value than the services on the fair grounds carried on by the Guild. The Parliamentary Defence Work was of undoubted importance to the showmen and traders at the fairs. Year by year about one hundred bills seeking additional powers were brought into Parliament. There was always the danger that somewhere in the bill there might be a prohibitive or restrictive clause dealing with show business. It was the work of the Guild to have all Private Bill legislation closely scrutinised and to vigorously oppose all restrictive proposals. Besides the Parliamentary work there was the active defence of existing fairs when corporations wanted to do away with them. They had just heard from Mr. Horne how successfully the Guild did the work. They did right to rejoice at the growing strength and power of the Guild. He had the greatest possible pleasure in proposing the resolution that

"This meeting heartily approves of the work of the Showmen's Guild."

The Rev. H. Norburn's Address.

One of the good things at the Manchester meetings of the Guild is the bright, cheering address of the senior hon. local chaplain, the Rector of St. Agnes Church, Birch, Longsight. For sixteen years the good Rector of Birch has been closely identified with the work of the Guild, and is senior hon. local chaplain. He commenced his address by expressing his whole-hearted sympathy with the showpeople. His admiration for them had grown with the flight of time. He reminded them that not only had the Church been closely identified with the Guild work through the organising chaplain (Mr. Horne), but that, in his opinion, the Church owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Horne for showing to the world at large the possibilities of trade unionism based upon religious principles, and in definite touch with the Church of God. Here they had in the Guild, he said, a successful example of the highest form of trade combination. The organised showmen, he contended, were an example to all other trade unions. The showmen in their Guild not only protected their trade, but at the same time they provided the ministrations of religion and saw to the education of their children in both religion and citizenship. He instanced the great love of home that was the special feature of van life, and told of his own intercourse with quick-witted youngsters of the caravans on a recent occasion. It was their travel from place to place that made them so bright and so shrewd.

Speaking from his own experience as one of the local chaplains, he averred that in trying to do some little good amongst showpeople when temporarily domiciled in his parish, reflex good had come to him. His own sympathy had been kindled, his charity broadened, and his general view of life sweetened. In stretching out a helping hand to showpeople, he found his hand and heart more ready to go out to other classes in community who, from the singularity of their mode of life sometimes were misunderstood. He found himself taking an interest not only in show van-dwellers when in his parish, but also in gipsy and other out of the ordinary people who located their movable dwellings for a time in his neighbourhood.

He could not sit down upon so memorable an occasion without the expression of the admiration he felt for the work of the organising chaplain whose whole life had been given to his people—the showfolk. The chaplain, by his enthusiasm, by his untiring endeavour, had given them inspiration and confidence. He felt that that work deserved a definite recognition from the Church. This one thing was certain, that Mr. Horne had won the heart of Showland. The Guild, in all its good work, was blessed in the service of such a man. In seconding the resolution of endorsement of the Guild work, it was largely the acknowledgment of Mr. Horne's work, given so fully and so freely for the general good of the showpeople. It gave him great pleasure, therefore, to second Mr. Howard's resolution.

The Rev. Peter Green's Speech.

The Rector of Sacred Trinity, Salford, in whose parish Caxton Hall is situated, was cheered on rising to support the resolution. He referred in most kindly terms to his intercourse with the showpeople on the Flat Iron Market Fairground close by his church. He recounted a humorous incident that marked his settlement six years ago in Salford. He landed, he said, a perfect stranger at the Exchange Station, and asked a cabman to drive him to Sacred Trinity Church. The cabman, with a bewildered look, said, "I don't know where it is, sir." "Oh, it's the church in the centre of the main street of Salford. You can't miss it." "I know where you mean," said the cabman. "You mean the church near the Flat Iron Fairground."

That was a good lesson for him (the new Rector). It taught him that there was something better known and nearer to the heart of the people than the church of the parish. That was the fairground. It was, you see, he pointed out, "the church near the fairground," not the fairground near the church. The Flat Iron Market was the central geographical point, not Sacred Trinity.

He had found nothing on the fairground that in any way called for criticism or rebuke. He confessed that he could not say as much as that for other classes of entertainment. The shows that frequented the Flat Iron had his most hearty approval. He and the assistant clergy had been on the showman's free list for years past. All that they (the clergy) had seen was of the best character. When a movement was set on foot a little time back to do away with the Flat Iron Fair, he was approached by those who desired its abolition. He asked the abolitionists not to attempt to shelter behind him (the Rector) to do their dirty work, for he had no complaints to make against the showpeople. They were no annoyance to him or disturbance of his services. Mr. Horne had asked him to become the hon. local chaplain for Salford. Most gladly he would do so. He was proud of his showmen parishioners, and would do his best in every way to further the excellent work of the Guild.

Mr. Norburn had referred to the high ideals of trade unionism that marked the Guild. He asked the showpeople to remember their honourable distinction and past records as the amusement caterers of the people. It was historically true that from the mummers or wandering actors and minstrels of the ancient world all our modern theatres and music halls had grown. Showmen had a grand history behind them, let them do credit to this well-won reputation and most ancient lineage. Again he asked them to remember how historically true was their link with the Church. It was the mystery plays, like the Chester plays and others, that trained (under the church itself) the early dramatists and actors of our country. The Showmen's Guild was, in that respect, maintaining the noblest traditions of an honourable past. In that endeavour he bade them God speed, and most heartily supported the resolution.

The chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried with acclamation

A hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to the invited speakers, and the afternoon session of the Guild terminated.

The Festive Celebration.

The main object of the Manchester meetings was not to advocate its claims to recognition or to its members' right to full citizenship, but it was rather the pleasant function of rejoicing over the signal success that had marked its twenty-one years of activity. The principal event of the day was therefore the social gathering at 6 o'clock after the general meeting.

The Caxton Hall is admirably fitted for meetings and social gatherings. Mr. Marsh, mine host of the Black Lion, provided an excellent meal, and the tables were beautifully decked by a wealth of choice flowers. The whole scheme of provision for the guests was perfect, and there is a general demand that the social be an annual fixture. Nearly one hundred guests were present, amongst them being P. Collins (president), George Green (acting vice-president), T. Hurst (hon. secretary), the Rev. T. Horne (chaplain), R. Dixon, John Collins, and Marshall Hill (vice-presidents), W. Mitchell (treasurer and trustee), Mr. B. Mitchell (trustee), F. Mellor (hon. treasurer), Messrs. E. Geoghegan, H. R. Hibbert, Wm. Holmes, J. Ingham, J. Jewell, S. Mercer, Wm. Mitchell, H. Shuttleworth, and G. Marshall (members of committee), Mr. and Mrs. J. Ingham, Mr. and Mrs. R. Ingham, Mr. and Mrs. T. Forshaw, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. J. White, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Fred White, Mr. and Mrs. Butterworth, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Sedgwick, the Jewell family, the Hibbert family, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Holmes, jun., Mr. and Mrs. James Norman, Mr. and Mrs. West, Mr. and Mrs. Marsden, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. and Miss Ormerod, Mrs. and Miss Bettany, Mr. H. Shuttleworth, Mr. S. Mellor, Mr. Frank Smith, Mr. F. Mellor, Mr. John Green, Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Beaumont, Mr. George White, Mr. Hill, Mr. W. D. Day, Mr. John Crighton, Mr. J. Proctor, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Alcock, Mrs. Clegg, Miss Lorenzo, Mr. Jones, Mr. Whatton, Mr. Hackett, Mr. Kemp, Mr. T. Smith, Mrs. Gilbert Dixon, and others.

A Brief Business Interlude.

Whilst the hall was being transformed into an impromptu ballroom, a considerable amount of formal business was done. Mr. George Green, vice-president, occupied the chair, the president having left on urgent business before the tea was well over. The proposal of B. Mitchell, seconded by Wm. Holmes, that the annual report on page 29 of the "Year Book" be taken as read and passed, was carried unanimously.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

FOUNDED 1890. *President*—PATRICK COLLINS.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT.

The fact that the Vandwellers' Society, now known as the Showmen's Guild, sprang into being twenty-one years ago, and that the trade society of showland this year celebrates its majority, compels a reference to the great work done by the organised showmen. In the twenty-first annual report the committee feel that the record of the year's work is of such vital importance that its story must not be overshadowed by the details of the work of the past twenty-one years.

The committee have dealt with (in a special report) the Guild's successful and beneficent career, and to that statement they refer the members for the fuller history of the Guild's endeavour. There must of necessity be some reference to it, if it be only to congratulate the whole body of members on the signal success of their enterprise. The committee are proud of the fact that to-day the Showman has fully vindicated his character, despite the calumny and the prejudice of ignorant and intolerant enemies. Public opinion has fully justified the travelling showman. The showmen have claimed, and have won, citizenship and fellowship in the social and industrial progress of the nation. They are not a class separate and apart from the rest of the commonwealth. Their life may seem extraordinary when seen at work, but in all other respects they are just ordinary people, part and parcel of human society, with their place defined in the vast and complex economy of the Empire. Twenty-one years of incessant work has proved their right to recognition as skilled craftsmen in an ancient and honourable industry—the amusement caterers of the people—the entertainers, traders, and workers at our holidays, fairs, feasts, and wakes.

Arising out of this claim for recognition and citizenship, they have had to fight those who would stigmatise and penalise them by special and invidious legislation, such as the various Movable Dwellings Bills that from 1887 to the present year (1909) have sought the sanction of Parliament. Closely allied with this must be placed the pernicious crusade against the popular open-air amusements of the people by public bodies. Various Corporations have tried in private Bill legislation to obtain restrictive and prohibitive powers over the people's fairs in the past twenty-one years.

The organised showmen, in defending their avocation in life, have been the champions of popular rights in holidays and fairs that mistaken zealots would have swept away but for the untiring zeal and the effective work of the Guild. The executive committee refers pointedly to this part of their labour, because the year 1909 was the triumph year of success in this branch of the protective work of the Guild.

The committee hailed with gladness the relegation of the Movable Dwellings Bill of 1909 to a Select Committee of Parliament. For more than twenty years the maligned showmen have had to battle against puritanical fanaticism and the recurent attacks of ignorant zealots who, in spite of all evidence to the contrary, would treat the showman and his family as pariahs, as gipsies, or as tramps of the road.

Showmen have at last had the opportunity of vindicating their character in the most thorough and effective manner before a tribunal that will do justice to the weighty evidence submitted to it.

The Press of the country has given the widest possible publicity to the showmen's case against class legislation. The great departments of State dealing with local goverment have fully corroborated the claim of the showmen for equal law and equal justice with other citizens. It is a veritable triumph of truth against prejudice and calumny. The Guild committee looks forward with every confidence to the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Movable Dwellings Bill, 1909. It is confidently anticipated that that report will fully vindicate the character and for all time determine the status of the showmen and his true place in the national life.

Immediately linked with this great triumph was the signal victory won in the Private Bills Committee of the House of Commons. The important Corporation of Oldham determined—despite all the efforts of the Guild committee to effect a compromise—to persevere in their effort to obtain special retrictive powers—vastly in excess of the ordinary law—over the show business.

The Guild, acting in the interests of the whole body of showmen, opposed the penal clase in the Corporation Bill. The Parliamentary Committee not only threw out the objectionable clause, but also, in order to mark their condemnation of such proposals, ordered the Corporation to pay the whole of the costs of the Guild petition and appearance by counsel and by witnesses against the Bill. This is the second time that the Parliamentary Committee has taken the extremely rare course of condemning a Corporation in costs when seeking additional powers in private Bill legislation. It is to be hoped that public bodies will learn the obvious lesson, and that no more attempts will be made by penal clauses in private Bills to restrict the show business or to interfere with the people's harmless amusements. 1909 was, indeed, on these two counts alone, a year of triumph.

Further, the committee were able, through their executive officials, to open more fruitful negotiations with the Home Office on the question of the Cinematograph Bill, and were instrumental in obtaining extremely necessary and most valuable concessions and amendments in the Bill before it passed into law. The Cinematograph Act, 1909, will be an enduring monument of the work of the Guild in safeguarding the Show business from ill-considered legislation. The section of the Act dealing with portable structures is largely based upon the expert advice, most warmly welcomed by the Home Office, of the Guild executive officials dealing with the question.

With regard to the defence of the People's Fairs whenever threatened, the past year has been one of most gratifying success. Mitcham Fair, for the third year, was held, in spite of the prohibitory notice that "no sites would be let on the Fair green." The London showmen, strong in their faith that the fair will be saved for the people, have determined to persevere in their opposition to the abolition movement. So long as the showmen have the support of their patrons—the people of Mitcham—so long will they continue the struggle. The London committee in this matter are confident of ultimate success.

A significant indication of the determination of the Mitcham showmen tenants to maintain the fair was the starting of a special Mitcham Fair Defence Fund. The Guild was also instrumental in effecting a wise and just settlement of the trouble between the West of England show people and the Corporation of Penzance. The petition of the combined Metropolitan Boroughs for stricter bye-laws with regard to open-air amusements in Greater London was also successfully opposed; and attacks upon showlife in various parts of the country have been effectively dealt with. This part of the Guild's defence work for showland is being more and more appreciated and understood by the general public.

Public meetings, with civic recognition of the Guild, have taken place at King's Lynn, Gloucester, and Rotherham. The annual meetings at London and Manchester continue to receive the warm support and ever-increasing sympathy of the show-loving public.

Meetings of the Guild have been also held at Wrexham, Blackburn, Boston, Leicester, Redruth, Treorchy, Mexborough, Burslem, Greenock, Dewsbury, Mitcham, Cleethorpes, Longsight, Stalybridge, Ayr, and Gloucester. The response has been most gratifying, both as regards attendance at the meetings, members enrolled, and subscriptions received. The financial support, both in ordinary and extraordinary subscriptions, will place 1909 amongst the record years of the Guild's existence. A reference to the subscription list in the "Guild Year Book" and to the detailed statement in the annual balance sheet, will demonstrate the solidarity of the whole showman world in supporting trade defence and advancement. The Guild Chaplain records in his annual report the religious and educational work on the fair-grounds. To that report the executive council points with pride and gratitude, as justifying the Guild's claim to speak for the whole life of showland, both the economic and ethical factors that constitute all human progress.

The Showmen's Guild, in its onward march, has gone from "defence" to "advance." Those two words were emblazoned upon its shield at the beginning of its career, and they remain, after twenty-one years' high endeavour, the proud watchwords of its corporate life—"Advance" as well as "Defence." "Each for all; all for each."

Signed, on behalf of the executive council of the Guild,—

PATRICK COLLINS, President.
GEORGE GREEN, Vice-President.
T. HORNE, Chaplain and Organiser.
T. HURST, Hon. Secretary.

Dec. 31, 1909.

The hon. secretary, Mr. T. Hurst, read the balance-sheet, from which the following financial statement is taken:—

Receipts from all sources, £552 7s. 2d. Expenditure, Parliamentary work, £151 0s. 1d.; expenses of meetings and public propaganda work, £155 4s.; defence of fairs, £83 18s. 11d.; printing, advertising, and stationery, £61 6s. 7d.; 1908 balance due to secretary, £40 5s. 8d.; salaries and wages, £32 2s.; postage and petty cash, sundries, and bank charges, £5 6s.; total £552 7s. 2d.

There are outstanding liabilities of nearly £60. It is confidently anticipated that the annual meeting will not only find that small deficit, but will also provide a good working balance for the Guild funds. Printed copies of the balance-sheet will be sent to members only on application to the Guild secretary after the London meetings.

Proposed by B. Mitchell, seconded by Frank Mellor, that the balance-sheet, as read, be adopted. Carried unanimously.

The secretary read the list of nominations for the executive council and divisional committeemen. The election then took place, with the following results:—

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR 1910.

President: PATRICK COLLINS.

Ex-President and Hon. Life Member:
LORD GEORGE SANGER.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. Anderton, London; H. Ashington, Leeds; Alf. Ball, London; E. H. Bostock, Glasgow; Frank C. Bostock, London; J. W. Bostock, London; John Collins, Liverpool; Geo. Cornwell, Bolton; Robert Dixon, Salford; J. Dooner, Wales; R. Dooner, Wales; E. Farrar, Alfreton; S. Forrest, London; George Green, Glasgow; Wm. Hancock, Plymouth; A. Henderson, Dundee; Marshall Hill, Coaley, Glos.; B. Howden, Boston; G. H. Kemp, Leicester; James Manders, London; W. H. Marshall, Bradford; J. Monte, Stockton-on-Tees; R. Monte, Stockton-on-Tees; Wm. Murphy, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Wm. Pedley, Northampton; T. E. Read, London; T. Rowland, London; H. Strand, Glasgow; H. Studt, Wales; Jacob Studt, Gloucester; John Studt, Wales; Wm. Taylor, London; C. Thurston, Norwich; H. Thurston, London; W. H. Toft, Dublin; G. T. Tuby, Doncaster; D. Turnbull, Belfast; F. Turner, London; A. C. Tyler, Coalville; J. Whiting, Manchester; and J. Wilmot, Glasgow.

Hon. Treasurers: Messrs. Wm. Mitchell, Heywood; F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, London; and F. Mellor, Oldham.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. T. Hurst, Broadhurst Farm, Clifton, Manchester.

Trustees: Messrs. Frank Turner, London; B. Mitchell, Heywood; John Wilmot, Glasgow; Wm. Mitchell, Heywood; and H. Thurston, London.

Solicitors: Mr. T. Watson Wright, 7, Friar-lane, Leicester; Mr. Charles Howard, 33, Princess-street, Manchester; Mr. Albert A. Strong, LL.B., 70, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.; and Mr. R. Johnstone, C.S.C., 45, Frederick-street, Edinburgh.

Parliamentary Agent: Mr. Frederick Millar, 25, Victoria-street, Westminster.

Auditors: Messrs. Halliday, Pearson, and Co., Chartered Accountants, 13, Spring-gardens, Manchester.

Bankers: The National Provincial Bank of England.

Office of the Guild Secretary: The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Organiser and Senior Hon. Chaplain: The Rev. T. Horne, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

DIVISIONAL COMMITTEES.

For the London and Southern Districts: Messrs. A. Ball, G. Beach, W. Beach, W. Biddall, S. Bolesworth, T. Bolesworth, J. Chipperfield, R. Chipperfield, R. Clasper, H. Forrest, S. Forrest, F. Gray, J. Hastings, W. Le-Neve, J. Manders, J. Mayne, T. E. Read, G. Saunders, Wm. Taylor, H. Thurston, C. Thurston, F. Turner, and W. Wilson.

For the Manchester and Liverpool Districts: Messrs. W. Chaplain, J. Collins, G. H. Cornwell, E. Geoghegan, J. H. Geoghegan, W. Gibson, H. R. Hibbert, Wm. Holmes, H. Hughes, J. Ingham, J. Jewell, G. H. Kemp, S. Mercer, B. Mitchell, Wm. Mitchell, S. Plinston, J. Ravenscroft, H. Shuttleworth, M. Whatmore, and J. Whiting.

For the Leeds, Bradford, and Northern Districts: Messrs. H. Ashington, J. Corrigan, W. East, E. Farrar, W. Fisher, J. George, J. Gledstone, J. R. Hancock, J. Hawkey, R. Holdsworth, B. Howden, G. A. Howden, Dunwell Johnson, S. Lock, Wm. Marfleet, G. Marshall, W. H. Marshall, J. Monte, R. Monte, G. W. Newsome, F. R. Oliver, W. Pedley, F. Redfern, J. Relph, S. J. Rostron, J. Seed, C. Shaw, W. Shaw, F. Sheardown, E. Sheeran, W. Steward, W. H. Thomas, E. Thompson, G. T. Tuby, G. T. Tuby, jun., W. Turner, A. C. Tyler, S. Waddington, and G. Wright.

For the Birmingham and Midland Districts: Messrs. G. Bailey, J. Barker, Wm. Chaplain, J. Collins, P. Collins, P. R. Collins, J. Cordwell, H. Cullis, J. Gordon, J. Hastings, H. C. Humphries, S. Jeffries, J. Jewell, S. Mercer, W. Mullett, A. Twidon, J. Westray, and J. Whyatt.

For Wales and the West of England: Messrs. A. Anderton, J. Brewer, J. B. Butlin, James Dooner, R. Dooner, J. Fossett, Wm. Hancock, F. Haywood, C. Heal, Marshall Hill, J. Jones, J. Johnson, J. North, A. Rowland, T. Rowland, H. Scard, H. Studt, Jacob Studt, and John Studt.

For Scotland: Messrs. A. Burton, J. Caddick, jun., Wm. Clark, jun., J. Day, George Green, F. Green, A. Henderson, J. Howard, C. Irvin, W. Irvin, J. McIndoe, T. Paulo, S. J. Rostron, E. Sheeran, H. Strand, Wm. Strand, J. Styles, P. Swallow, James Wilmot, John Wilmot, Walter Wilmot, and J. Wingate.

For Ireland: Messrs. W. H. Toft and D. Turnbull.

Mr. Superintendent Pike announced that the net proceeds of the Bolton Supper and Ball amounted to £9. Mr. Pike, on the motion of the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. T. Hurst, was warmly thanked, Mr. Horne read a resolution of thanks from the last council meeting of Bolton, thanking the showpeople of Bolton Fair for their benefit performance, whereby over £21 was raised for the Bolton charities. The London meeting was duly announced, and the business gave way to dance, song, and music. It was delightful to see the people's entertainers at home and amusing one another. We trust that the social side will not be neglected in the future. During the evening the following telegram was received from the Parliamentary solicitor:—"Sorry only got notice of meeting to-day. Been very ill. Will attend London meetings. Wish you all success.—Watson Wright." Regret was expressed at the cause of Mr. Watson Wright's absence.

New Skatery at Oswestry.

A FINE rink will be opened in Oswestry during the next few days. The promoters of this rink are the directors of the Pudsey-street Rink, Liverpool. Richardson skates will be used exclusively in this rink.

Premier Rink, Luton.

LAST Friday Professor Shaw, the floor-manager, raced F. W. Rickard, holder of the half-mile running championship of Luton. The runner received 40 yards start, but Professor Shaw won by 50 yards. Time, 1min. 37sec.

The Royston Paris.

SUNDAY'S spectacle at the Paris Hippodrome was one impossible ever to forget, comprising as it did the first appearance of the famous Rays, the extraordinary American skaters. Their performance was a succession of the most stirring, perilous, and artistic figures. A huge and enthusiastic crowd applauded the performers to the echo. The whole of Paris will be seen at the Hippodrome. The famous Rays only remain in Paris, in afternoon and evening exhibitions, until Jan. 15.

THE Five M.P.'s provide the attraction at the Alexandra Palace, Morley, and their selections on various musical instruments are much enjoyed. Alfonzo is a marvellous feet equilibrist. Sericomedy and dancing are well represented by Miss Nell Dennis and Miss Daisy Almer, who receive warm appreciation. Last Saturday over 400 children were entertained to a substantial meal, and thoroughly enjoyed the treat.

"CINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT." (The law affecting the same.) By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S. (Barrister-at-Law). Price 6d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

A Night of Nights.
LAST night (Friday) was a night of nights at Earl's Court. The great rink was thronged with merrymakers in every imaginable kind of fancy dress. Possibly one of the best-thought-out costumes was worn by a prepossessing damsel, and represented "the North Pole." If there are such fairy creatures at the North Pole then it is a more desirable place than it has up to now been given credit for. The carnival was at its height when THE *Era* was going to press, and we regret that time did not permit us to stay long enough to ascertain the names of the fourteen prize-winners. The many beautiful and valuable prizes had been on exhibition at the rink for a week or more, and included ladies' and gentlemen's fitted dressing bags, a huge barometer, a case of fish knives and forks, a Doulton dinner service, a kit bag, a marble clock, a solid silver inkstand, a solid silver tea service, and several silver trinkets every lady likes to see in a home.

Manager Izod's Fine Organisation.
THE greatest credit must be given to Mr. Izod, the manager of Earl's Court, for the great care and thought he bestowed on this carnival. To our personal knowledge for weeks past he has pegged away night and day in organising committees, approaching influential people—in fact, he has unceasingly toiled to make the function a triumph. That he succeeded a glance at the rink last night quickly proved, for his quiet organisation made every detail work with a smoothness that was in itself admirable. The official programme and time table was as follows:—8 p.m., All Skate; 8.30 p.m., Rainbow Dance (couples only); 9.15 p.m., Exhibition of fancy skating (W. Stanton); 10 p.m., Grand March, followed by judging of classes; 11.30 p.m., Distribution of Prizes; 12 p.m., Moonlight; couples only (chimes and waltz); 12.15 a.m., Confetti Battle; 12.30 a.m., God Save the King. Mr. Stanton's exhibition was a delight to all who saw it, and got a hearty reception.

The Gavioliphone.
ANOTHER novelty which Mr. P. W. Willard introduced at the carnival at Earl's Court was a perpetual musical programme. The fine band at this rink is now supplemented by a Gavioliphone, in itself a mechanical band, 12ft. broad, 4ft. deep, and 15ft. high. By means of the man-made band and the one made up on human units a constant musical programme was sustained, and we understand that in future this will be one of the features of the Earl's Court Rink. Mr. Willard informed our representative that his company had bought up every Gavioliphone in existence—there are only about fifteen of them. They are in several sizes, and the purchase price ranges from £200 to £1,800 apiece.

Ladies' Rinking Hockey Match.
A LADIES' hockey match will take place at the Earl's Court Rink on Thursday, Jan. 20, at 9 p.m., between the Balham Ladies' Amateur Hockey Club and the Brighton Olympia Ladies' Hockey Club. It may be remembered that a fortnight ago the last-mentioned team met another "representing the Ladies of London" at Porchester Hall, Bayswater, and won an interesting game by two goals to one.

Olympia Barnyard Carnival.
LAST night (Friday) the management of the Olympia Skating Rink held a very successful barnyard carnival. Olympia was turned into a veritable farmyard, with haystacks, pig-pens, &c., but plenty of room to skate. People came in fancy costume as farmer's girls, drovers, dairymaids, &c., or farmyard animals. It was all very amusing.

London Rink Hockey League.
AT the Crystal Palace last Saturday, Goy's gained a decisive victory over Thornsett, but much of the credit was detracted from their success, in that the losers were compelled to play a man short throughout, owing to the absence of their clever half-back, E. R. Young. The game was of a fairly even character during the first period, but Goy's managed to secure a lead of a goal through the medium of Pinkey. The brothers Spence came within an ace of making the scores equal on several occasions, but the splendid defence of Goy's averted a point. Goy's set up an incessant attack after the interval, as Cardin, despite determined efforts, was unable to cope with the speedy attack of Stephens and Pinkey. Schultze kept a very good goal, but was beaten on four occasions by Stephens (2), Pinkey, and Johnson, and H. Spence scored for Thornsett, who were beaten by 5 to 1.

Crystal Palace Skating Carnival.
So tempting an occasion was that of the first fancy dress skating carnival at the Crystal Palace last Wednesday evening that a "record" attendance was reported, both of skaters and visitors. Many of the skaters displayed remarkable grace and certainty in the performance of difficult figures, and their adroitness, added to the great variety of handsome or comical dresses, made the spectacle very fascinating. There were prizes for evening dress and for effective and beautiful costumes as well as for those of original and humorous character. A good deal of invention was shown, and some dresses had a political motive, one lady typifying the "General Election," while a male performer careered around under the motto, "We Want Eight," with a Dreadnought on his head. The entertainment included a display of scientific and trick skating by Syd Martin. The prize-winners in the various competitions were as follow:—Effective and handsome costumes: Miss Wicker and Miss Linden, and Messrs. Baber and Bowyer. Original costumes: Miss O'Connor and Miss Biggs, and Messrs. Malthorpe and F. A. Belton. Advertisement class: Miss Heywood and Mr. Aslett. Burlesque costume: Mr. Hardrup. Ladies' most handsome evening dress: Miss White. Children's class: Misses Schofield and Abbott, and Masters G. Watts and Morley.

C.P. Skating Gymkhana.
THOSE who wish to be thoroughly amused and interested, should visit the Crystal Palace on Saturday, Jan. 29, when a skating gymkhana is to be held there on the great rink. The events include one mile amateur handicap under N.S.A. rules, wheelbarrow race, hurdle race, obstacle race, sack race, and musical chairs. The gymkhanas at the Palace are always a popular feature, and this being the first of the season, a good attendance is expected.

The A.P. Skatery.
AT the Alexandra Palace the skating rink, although one of the finest in the North of London at the present time, is being considerably enlarged, and when completed will take its place amongst the very best in the whole of London. The old orchestra has been removed and new maple wood flooring laid. The other end of the rink is being rounded off and extended to correspond, thus doing away with the square ends and throwing another 3,000 to 4,000ft. into the area of the rink.

Southern Counties Championship.
THE Amateur Rink Hockey Association have completed arrangements for the Southern Counties Championship trophy, and entries close the latter end of the month, when the draw for the first two rounds will be made.

Aero Skates.
THE success of the Aero roller skates for which A. G. Spalding and Bros. are responsible has been phenomenal. They are made of steel, no castings are used, and there is an adjustable cushion to carry heavy weights. Another point in their favour is that they are adjustable as to weight, and the erstwhile popular tank rivetings are conspicuous by their absence, foot-plates being of one piece bent over to include the platform for rubber cushion and swivel blocks. The greatest advantage, perhaps, is that they possess the durability and strength of non-extension skates combined with unique lightness. They are made in many different qualities, ranging in price from 12s. 6d. to 22s.

What a Rink Instructor Earns.
THE earnings at a popular rink are fairly good. The instructor is paid a fixed sum weekly, and in addition takes forty per cent. of the fees he obtains from pupils. At some rinks the arrangements may vary slightly from this, but the total earnings generally come out between £3 and £5 weekly. The chief instructor—known as the floor manager—may take 10 per cent. of the total fees obtained as well as the larger percentage from his own special pupils. These facts are on the authority of *Answers*.

"Independent of Frost."
WHEN did the roller-skating rink first appear in England? There is a boom in rinking to-day, and we know that the Londoner of the late seventies was enthusiastic over the same amusement, but how much earlier that that can the rink date? London, at any rate, seems to have possessed a rink over three-quarters of a century ago, for in 1823 mention can be found of the invention of a skate "for rendering the amusement independent of frost," which was being "practically exhibited at the old tennis court in Windmill-street."

Honour for Curtis.
A YOUNG professional roller skater has just been engaged for a year by a Russian prince who is anxious to be initiated in the art. The lucky fellow is Mr. Curtis, one of the professionals at the Holland Park Rink. He first came under the notice of the Russian nobleman when the latter was taking lessons, and, being desirous of learning fancy skating, resolved to take the young fellow back with him. Mr. Curtis left England on Monday.

Legal Music.
THE proprietors of the South London Skating Rink were summoned at South-Western Police Court on Wednesday for keeping open a building in Varden's-road, St. John's-hill, Battersea, for skating and music without a certificate from the London County Council. It was explained that the Council declined to grant a certificate because certain conditions in the structure of the building had not been complied with. Originally a band was employed, but this was replaced with a mechanical contrivance called an orchestron. Mr. de Grey imposed penalties amounting to £4, with £2 2s. costs.

Moss-Stoll People Investing in Rinks.
IN addition to the small rink now being operated by the Moss-Stoll people at the Panopticon, Cardiff, the same firm is now preparing a rink at Andrew's Hall, Cardiff. Richardson skates are being used exclusively in both rinks.

Racing for Challenge Cups.
THE first of a series of six handicaps for the challenge cups presented by Mr. Alec Flood was decided at the Brixton Rink last Wednesday night, before a very large attendance. S. F. Casey was on scratch. E. W. Bussey won his heat in fine style from the 5yds. mark, but in the final he failed to get near J. F. Harrison, who displayed excellent form, and skated his final heat faster than the backmarker. Officials:—Starter and referee, Mr. A. Flood; timekeeper, Mr. H. G. Brockman. The remaining fixtures at the Brixton rink, so far as at present arranged, are as follows:—Jan. 17, one mile sealed handicap; Jan. 19, inter-club race v. Ilford S.C.; Jan. 26, three-quarter mile handicap; Feb. 9, one mile handicap; Feb. 23, three-quarter mile handicap; March 9, one and a half miles handicap; March 23, one mile handicap; April, one mile club championship scratch race.

Wednesday Next at Brixton.
ON Wednesday next the Brixton and Ilford speed clubs will meet at the Brixton rink in a four-a-side contest over a mile. There will be four heats drawn on the pool system, so that each competitor meets every other, and at the close the total scores will be taken out, and the club with the best aggregate will win. The introduction of inter-club contests into roller racing will do much to arouse enthusiasm among the speed skaters. Next Wednesday's experiment will be watched with more than usual interest by all who follow racing on the rollers.

"One Better" at Ealing.
AT Ealing the Walpole is always "going one better," and on Tuesday evening the great Continental Carnival was one of the best. There were kings and queens of the revels, grand marches of the nations, Berlin cotillons, Viennese flirtations, Parisian serpentines, and innumerable other attractions, which made the time limit of Mr. Byng-Hall's programme very difficult to keep. But the bumper entertainment promised was well carried out to the satisfaction alike of "rollers" and spectators.

"Fun Night" at Ilford.
RECORDS go by the board every week at the Ilford Skating Rink, and the number of rinkers who have patronised this popular rendezvous during the past fortnight has exceeded any previous figure. Free tuition is still a popular feature. The Speed Club hold some exciting races each Wednesday evening. Another "fun night" has been arranged for Tuesday, Jan. 18, and Mr. Fred Leighton, the enterprising manager, is introducing other attractions for the near future.

Walham Green Opening.
THE opening of the great Walham Green Rink has been postponed until the music licence is granted. The licensing committee sit on the 27th inst., and as no opposition to the licence is anticipated, the probable opening will be on the 29th.

Figure Tests at Liverpool and Surbiton.
ALTHOUGH racing is receiving so much attention, still the subject of figure skating is by no means being overlooked, and the test figures which have been set for the International Style Championship are now being circulated, and the competition for the "Richardson" Cup, a magnificent trophy standing 22in. in height, will doubtless be very keen. Figure tests are arranged to take place during the month at Liverpool and Surbiton, and possibly much hidden talent will be discovered.

Richardson Cup coming to London.
THE Richardson cup will be ready in about a week or ten days' time. The trophy will be prominently displayed in some London store. This handsome gift on the part of the donor should have a stimulating effect upon amateur figure skaters in this country.

Highgate R.S.C. Handicap.
AT the Highgate Rink, Holloway-road, last Thursday night the members of the Highgate R.S.C. held a 20-lap handicap, the distance being just over a mile, and there were seven starters. Officials:—Judge and starter, Mr. F. Irvine; timekeeper, Mr. H. Knight (hon. sec.). John Withers, 1¼ laps, 1; H. O'Hagan, scr., 3; A. Gaskin, 1 lap, 3; F. Bailey, 1¼ laps, 4; E. McGee, 1¼ laps, 5. Won by 2 yards; same. Time, 4min. 39sec.

Tilting on Rollers at Eastbourne.
On Wednesday evening a very successful "Cinderella" Carnival was held at the Devonshire Park Rink. The rink was crowded with skaters, whose fancy costumes were well up to the usual high standard of excellence which obtains here. The first prize for ladies was won by Miss Ford, who was dressed as a mermaid (with the necessary modifications). Mr. O. Lerwill won a challenge race against Mr. C. Arnold, an exciting hockey match for ladies on skates was played between Brighton and Olympians, and tilting at the ring, a feather-blowing race, with an egg-and-spoon race, made up a very interesting programme. Mr. Norman Holdsworth is the new floor-manager here.

Wanted for the Continent.
Skating acts of all kinds are wanted at once by the American Roller Rink Co., of 27, Rue de Mogador, Paris. Write to-day, giving full particulars.

Charge of the Light Brigade.
MR. H. J. WHARTON, the energetic manager of the Stourbridge rink, ever on the look-out for novelties, introduced the above competition for gentlemen on Thursday evening, and was rewarded by eighteen entries. The competition, skated off in six heats, caused much fun and amusement to the numerous spectators, and was won by Mr. Rutland. Great preparations are being made for the Children's Carnival on Jan. 22.

Two-Year-Old Skater.
MRS. MEREDITH, mother of Leon Meredith, the cyclist, gave a novel treat to two hundred of her little friends at the Porchester Hall this week, in the shape of a children's skating party. The youngest guest, an enthusiastic and capable rinker, was one year and eleven months old.

Chimp goes Rinking.
A CHIMPANZEE which showed considerable ability as a roller skater, attracted considerable attention last Thursday at the Holland Park Rink.

Goy's II. v. Silverdale.
AT Cricklewood last Thursday evening, in the Second Division of the London Rink Hockey League, Goy's II. beat Silverdale by 1 goal to 0. Nothing was scored in the first half, but immediately after the interval Darnton ran down the left wing and scored for Goy's. The latter club continued to do most of the pressing, but nearing the end several attacks were made on their goal. Parnell cleared, and Darnton, securing the ball, got through again for Goy's, but the point was disallowed for "sticks."

Monohan in Portsmouth.
THE Great Monohan is due at the Empire Palace, Portsmouth, next week.

Bad News for Bertha Doud Mack.
MISS BERTHA DOUD MACK has received a cable from America advising her of the serious illness of her mother, Elizabeth A. Cutter. In consequence Miss Bertha has resolved that unless she hears better news by to-day (Saturday) she will cancel all her outstanding engagements and return to the States immediately. Miss Mack will be at Northampton next week.

Maida Vale Palace to Open Next Month.
THE Maida Vale Roller Skating Palace and Club in Delaware-road, to be opened early next month, is to be the largest permanent rink in the world, we are officially informed. The length of the whole building is to be 495ft. and the breadth 120ft., and the skating surface will be 375ft. by 106ft. No less than £25,000 has been expended on it. Among the conveniences offered to skaters are a restaurant and café capable of accommodating 750 persons, a balcony lounge to seat 250, promenades providing seating room for another 1,500, cloak-rooms, baths, and telephones. A band of fifty performers has been engaged, while during sessions another band will play in the lounge.

Skater v. Runner.
AN interesting event took place at the Premier Skating Rink, Park-street, Luton, on Saturday evening. Mr. F. W. Rickard, a well-known runner and a member of the Luton Athletic Club, challenged Mr. Shaw, the floor manager, to a race of half a mile (6 laps). The skater started scratch and conceded the runner fourteen yards start. The raced proved very exciting, the skater gradually gaining and passing the runner in the third lap. Rickard gave the onlookers the impression that he was "saving himself" and would probably put on a good sprint in the last lap and finish first, but this he failed to do, owing to taking the corners too close, which checked his pace very much. The prize, a gold medal, went to the skater, who won easily by about fifteen yards.

Roller Rink for Stratford.
THE roller-skating boom has reached Stratford, and last Tuesday afternoon a new and spacious rink, erected for Mr. Mullis in Wood-street, was opened by the Mayor (Alderman Deer). The building is 70ft. by 58ft., and nicely fitted up, with specially prepared floor of American maple.

Children's Carnival at Bedford.
A VERY successful children's fancy dress carnival was held at the Castle Rink, Bedford, on the 6th inst., when nearly 200 children took part. During the afternoon prizes were given for a wheelbarrow race and the best costumes, and each child "dipped" in a bran tub. Mr. Corfield's arrangements were perfect. After the usual evening session, dancing was indulged in until 2 a.m.

The Rexos.
ON Monday next the Rexos will have arrived at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, the fourth town on their triumphal tour of the Moss-Stoll tour.

Good Business in Brum.
HABITUES of the Birmingham skating rinks seem to be oblivious of the political storm, and on Monday night Edgbaston Reservoir, Erdington, Lozells, the City rink, Smethwick, and Northfield rinks were exceptionally well patronised. At Lozells and Smethwick hockey matches are advertised to take place shortly, whilst Erdington is putting forward an attractive programme for January 22.

Hess and Chivers at Cowdenbeath.
EMPIRE ROLLER SKATING RINK, Cowdenbeath, opened recently by Mr. Gavin Rawlston, M.P., Unionist candidate for Fifeshire, has evidently fulfilled a want in the town. The attendance has been highly satisfactory. Last week the first gymkhana was held. The well-known skaters, Hess and Chivers have been appearing in their fancy and trick skating; also their famous comedy performance this week.

Gillingham Hippodrome Rink.
A FANCY dress carnival was held here on Thursday, Jan. 6, in celebration of Twelfth Night. The function was a gigantic success. A number of valuable prizes were given for the most original and humorous costumes.

(*For other RINKING GOSSIP, see page 16.*)

FIRST-CLASS
SKATING ACTS
— WANTED —
For the Continent.
WRITE,
AMERICAN ROLLER RINK CO.,
27, Rue de Mogador,
PARIS.

LARGE SKATING RINK or other Building Required, for the months of February, March, April, for the installation and exhibition of the Great Bostock Jungle (at present in operation at the City Exhibition Hall, Manchester). Address full particulars to FRANK C. BOSTOCK, Earl's Court, London.

THE GREAT EMPRESS RINK, EARL'S COURT.
THE RINK OF RINKS.
A World's Record.
A SILENT FLOOR
ABSOLUTELY UNPARALLELED IN THE ANNALS OF RINKING.
IDEAL INSTRUCTORS WHO INSTRUCT. OFFICIALS WHO ARE NOT OFFICIOUS.
WE STARTED THE PRESENT BOOM
AND NATURALLY DESIRE ITS CONTINUANCE. Excessive expenditure will, without doubt, kill the industry, and of course the smaller Rinks first—therefore
A WORD TO THE WISE.
Communicate or interview the Managing Director as above, and he will demonstrate a basis of economic working that will convince and surprise you.
HAVE YOUR FLOOR PUT IN GOOD CONDITION.
We will hire our Wondrous Surfacing Machine (with mechanic) on reasonable terms.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES
BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.
"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."
Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.
FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS.
Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.
Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.
LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.
Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to
M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.
Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.
Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE GREAT MONOHAN
RINK and MUSIC HALL
Week Jan. 10 (Return), Spring Bank Rink, Nelson, Lancs.
Week Jan. 17, Empire Theatre, Portsmouth.
FIRST VACANCY, FEB. 14, 1910.

BERTHA DOUD MACK
AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.
Thanks to All Managers.
THIS WEEK. COUNTY RINK, KINGSTON.
NEXT WEEK, CASTLE RINK, NORTHAMPTON.
Address, Care of "THE ERA."

CUSHION FRAME. ANTI-JAR.
RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.
They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.
STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 90 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.
Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.
Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 28, March 14, 21, April 18, May 2, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, 11,
May 2, 16, 23, June 6, Aug. 8, 15, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, 16, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 31, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 28, March 7, 21, April 11, 18, May 2, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, April 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 28, April 4, 18, May 9, 16, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton, Feb. 28, March 14; Wolverhampton, Jan. 31, Feb. 14; T. R., Leicester, Jan. 17; Huddersfield, Feb. 21, 28.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, onwards.
Address E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 7, 17 (3), 21, 28, &c., Easter.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 21, 28, March 7 (?), 14, Easter (?).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 21 (3 nights), 28 (?), May 16.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
Feb. 28, March 21 (London),
and
March 7, 14, 28, April 4 and 11 (Provinces and Scotland).
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 14 (?) and 21.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 11, 25, May 2 and 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Feb. 28, April 4, 18, 25, and May 2.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Feb. 3 (three nights), March 14, April 4, 11, and May 9.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
Jan. 31 (?), March 28, and on.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Known any Proprietor having Jan. 31 Vacant, wire;
may have a Big Attraction to Offer.
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, First-class Pantomime or Musical Comedies, in Feb. and March.
Must be a very Big Production.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, (through transfer), Dramatic Attraction, for Jan. 24 and Feb. 7.
Address, JAMES ALEXANDER.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, for March 7
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, for above Theatre, for April 25, May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27, July 4, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 15 and 22.
Apply, W. F. CROWE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
Re-decorated, Re-lighted, and Re-heated throughout.
WANTED, Big Attractions, for March 14, May 2, 9, 16, and a few dates, onwards. Address, Mrs. T. CULKEN. Silence a polite negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 21,
April 25,
May 2, 9, 16, 30.
JAMES BELL.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction,
Various dates.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be first-class. Address, MANAGERS.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for Jan. 24 and Feb. 28, onwards, good Drawing Pantomimes and Dramas, twice nightly Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Big Pantomime, Jan. 31; also Big Dramas and Star Variety Companies various later dates. All communications,
SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 2, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, 16, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District. Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; &c., &c.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions,
Feb. 7, onwards,
with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant March 7 14, 21, April 4, 11 (in pencil), 18 (in pencil), and May 9.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 March 7, 14, 21, and Easter (28), April 4 (5 nights), onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Vacant Feb. 7, March 14, 21, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 23, 30.
All communications re Opera House to be addressed there. Others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brother Etharien, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan. Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

GRAND THEATRE,
DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attraction (Musical Preferred). First-class Attraction (Musical Preferred), April 25. April 25.
Bookings at this up-to-date Theatre include:—
Martin Harvey (return),
Ellaline Terriss and Co.,
Carl Rosa Opera Co. (annual visit),
"Our Miss Gibbs,"
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.,
"Merry Widow" (return),
Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and Co. (return),
"The Gay Gordons" (return), &c., &c.
Now Booking for Autumn, 1910.
Now Booking for Autumn, 1910.
First-class Attractions Only.
First-class Attractions Only.
All communications,
J. ALLAN EDWARDES.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
March 7, 21, Easter, April, on,
with exceptions.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives,
JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W

WANTED, First-class Companies, to apply by letter only for the following vacancies.
Recognised Managements only entertained, and in all cases silence a polite negative.
T. R., Aston, Jan. 24 (wire), Feb. 7, 14, 21.
T. R., Woolwich, Feb. 7, 14, 21, March 7, 14.
T. R., Wolverhampton, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, March, and on.
T. R., Chatham, Feb. 7, March 21.

Apply, DAN BARNARD, Elephant Theatre, S.E.

Wire. Wire. Wire.
WANTED, Company, Jan. 24, Theatre Royal, Aston. DAN BARNARD, Elephant Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for March 14 and 21.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

GRAND THEATRES.
CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Something Real, Feb. 28, March 14, 21, on, Chorley; also Feb. 28, March 21, on, Radcliffe. Monday, Jan. 10, £25, the worst night so far. SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical pieces preferred), for March 7 (re-opening week), 14, 21, 28, April 11, 18, Oct. 17, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 21, May 2, 9, and Autumn. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, Companies, Feb. 14 (six nights), March 10 (three nights), and on. Easter Vacant. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28.
Apply, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 24 and 31.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Feb. 14, 21 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, Feb. 10, 11, 12, March 7, 14, 28, and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 4 (?), 25 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21, April 4 (?), 18, May 9, 16 (?), 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24 (?), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE.

Proprietors, The Ramsgate Corporation.
Lessee, THOMAS RICHARD PRICE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions
(Musical preferred),
First-class Attractions
(Musical preferred),
First-class Attractions
(Musical preferred),
First-class Attractions
(Musical preferred),
for Season Dates,
for Season Dates,
for Season Dates,
July, August, September.
July, August, September.
July, August, September.

Big Business Certain for First-class Productions.

Crowded Nightly.
The Theatre for Big Business.

For Vacant Dates only, apply,
WEATHERSBY'S Agency,
3, Bedford-street, London, W.C.

All other communications to
MANAGER, 14, Vale-square, Ramsgate.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.

The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: The Renads, E. R. Abbott's Co., J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl," Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland," "Are You a Mason?" Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Feb. 7, 14, 21 28 on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, Feb. 7, March 14, 28;
COATBRIDGE, Feb. 17 (3 nights), March 21, 28; April 11, 25;
AYR, Feb. 14, March 7, 14, 28 (3 nights), April 18;
FALKIRK, March 2 (4 nights), 31 (3 nights), April 18;
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), 28, and on.
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5590, Gerrard.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical and other Companies.
Feb. 14, 28,
March 14, 21,
April 18, 25,
on, with exceptions.
A Few Bookings:—
F. R. Benson, "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Merry Widow," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Diana of Dobsons."
Address, FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

NEW HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the Year Round.
The Handsomest Place of Amusement in the North.
Autumn and Winter Dramatic Season at Popular Prices.
Dec. 27, Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood."
Jan. 3, "For Love of the King."
Jan. 10, "Sherlock Holmes."
Jan. 17, Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Jan. 24, week.
The Hippodrome is the only Theatre open in the town.
Wire or write to WILLIAM PEACOCK,
Opera House, Harrogate.

NEW THEATRE, WEYMOUTH.
Holds over £120 at ordinary prices.
Special Notice.—The Fleet (over forty Battleships) stationed at Weymouth from end of Oct. to March.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Feb. 28 March 14, April 4, 11, 18, on,
Whit week.
All communications, WALTER R. WALLIS; or, London Represntatives, Messrs. JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

RATLEY THEATRE, BATLEY.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Feb. 14.
Letters, J. EDWARD WHITTY, T. R., Rotherham.

JERSEY and GUERNSEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy Attractions, for Easter and Season Dates; also Vaudeville Combinations, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7.
EDWARD MARRIS, Douglas House, Maida Hill W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, good Pantomime, six or twelve nights, also big Attraction for Easter, Whit week, and intermediate dates, onward.
Address,
CHARLES M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 31 (three or six), Feb. 14 (three), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on. W. E. POTTS.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, suitable Attractions, March 7 and 14 (?), April 25, May 9 and 16, also various Sept., Oct., and Nov. weeks, for recognised London successes only. Silence a negative pro tem.
SIDNEY COOPER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.

Under Entirely New Management.

This Most Magnificent Modern Theatre will Shortly Re-open under the Sole Direction of Mr. CHARLES EVANS
(of Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate).
Resident-Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, or any Big Attraction, for the Re-opening Date, Jan. 31, and onwards.

Also Now Booking for
Spring, Summer Season, and Autumn.
West-End Productions,
Musical Comedies, Operas, and Good Dramas.

This Theatre was recently Re-modelled by Frank Matcham, Esq.,
for
Lord George Sanger
at a cost of £10,000.

The Finest Theatre on the South Coast, and the Only Theatre proper in Ramsgate.

Can Stage Any Attraction. Electric light, every convenience.
First-class Companies only received.

Communicate at once re dates to
HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident-Manager (for Mr. Chas. Evans)
as above.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, from March to Dec., 1910,
8 Leading Attractions, 8.
Dramatic or Musical Comedy.
It will pay Good Companies to play this town.
They can be Billed.
Have Plans out and Seats Booked,
and preliminary Notices in Newspapers
two or three weeks before opening,
the intervening weeks being given to Variety, which in no way interferes with the Legitimate, the Public not being surfeited, are naturally anxious and hungry for good strong drawing attractions; these being so few, are sure of doing good business.
Already booked:
"THE DAIRYMAIDS," Sept. 5.
"THE MERRY WIDOW," Oct. 3.
Managers may refer to above as to how they were treated and the holding capacity.
All coms. to THOS. HOLMES, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, Attractions, March 21, April 11, 18, Whit, May 23, 30 June 13, 20, 27, onwards. Also Variety Combinations and Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first 3 nights Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, onwards. ALFRED MANNERS Empire T., Swindon.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Keswick (English Lakes), Musical Attractions, Comedy or good class Shows, July, Aug., Sept., on. MCKANE, Keswick.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA. Lessees, Rinkeries, 1909, Ltd.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, for Spring Dates. Apply immediately, M. LEOPOLD.

WANTED, Companies, Gaiety Theatre, Musselburgh, N.B., three or six nights, Dramatic, Musical Comedy, or Good Panto. Thanks to Walter Steel, Esq., "Fast Life" Co., for letter, also T. Arthur Jones, Esq., for offer. All coms., HUGH TENNANT.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 24 and Feb. 14, in Wales.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 24.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14 and 21, in various districts.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Feb. 7, 21, March 7, 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, March 21, 28.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Jan. 24, Jan. 24.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Jan. 24.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
New Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
New Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
Established at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, 1891. Admitted by Managers, Press, and Public to be the Best Productions of these Famous Plays seen in this country.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14 (?), 21, March 21, 28, April 4, 11. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, 12 nights.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31.
Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Jan. 17, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, N.B.

MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON
in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, First-class Theatre for Feb. 14.
Address,
MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY,
21, Norland-square, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11 18, 25, and on, with exceptions; now playing to crowded houses at Coronet Theatre. Letters or wires to FRANCIS TREVOR, Coronet Theatre, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
The Great Financial Success.
Last week at
Theatre Royal, Leigh,
Played to Splendid Business.
Saturday night
Broke All Records.
Beating
"Merry Widow,"
"Silver King,"
and all
the Big Money-makers.
This statement is made on the authority and by the courtesy of the Resident-Manager.
Refer
Liverpool, Manchester, Belfast, Bristol, Dublin, Glasgow, Sheffield, London, Burnley, Portsmouth, Southampton, Oldham, Longton, &c., &c.
Will all testify
to
the Great Drawing Powers.
Vacant,
March 21, May 2, 9, June 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION,"
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
The Wonderful Money-maker.
Packing Theatres
Everywhere.
Vacant,
May 9, June 6, 13, 20 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
A Mammoth Production.
A Great Cast.
A Certain Success.
Vacant,
March 21, April 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, March 21, June 6.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Refer last three theatres visited, viz., Gaiety, Houghton, Met., Glasgow, and Methil, then wire for
Jan. 24, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Spring Tour Complete. Booking Autumn.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant Feb. 7, follow Queen's, Dublin.
Wire or write,
This, Gaiety, Methil, N.B.;
Next, T. R., Sunderland.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co., in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, Easter, June 27, July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1, 15,
Oct. 24, and Xmas.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Everything carried. Now booking Spring, 1911.
ARTHUR HINTON,
Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock."
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
WANTED, March 7 (3 nights), 14, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Write or wire,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all Oct.
Address, POLINI, 93 Penge-road London S.E.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Jan. 31 (South or Midlands),
Feb. 14 (Midlands),
Feb. 28 (Midlands or North).
Wire or write, CECIL BARTH,
New Royalty Theatre, London, W.

WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 24, for
"The Christian."
Wire, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-av.., W.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and
MR. PERCY HUTCHISON'S COMPANY.
"MRS. PONDERBURY'S PAST."
Roars of laughter.—Vide London Press.
WANTED, Dates, Spring Tour.
Now Booking.
Address, PERCY BARROW,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

Mr. T. N. WALTER'S COMPANY.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
WANTED, Feb. 7 and 21.
and few Spring Dates.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
All communications to
T. N. WALTER,
133-136, High Holborn, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Dirigible, London."

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT," by F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Feb. 21, between Edmonton and Metropole, Birmingham. Address, HERBERT VERE, Metropole, Birmingham.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Jan. 31, follow Crewe (return), also Easter Week,
either or both Plays.
Wire or write, LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Goole.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO.
with the Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatres, for only Vacant Dates, Spring Tour, March 21, 28, and April 4. Now Booking Autumn.
MARTIN COMSTOCK, G. T., Rawtenstall.

WANTED, for the Comedy Success, "WHERE IS WILLIAM?" Vacant Jan. 31 (3 nights, South), Feb. 14, 21, March 14, April 4, 11, May 16. A few Season's Dates Open. Now booking Autumn. Refer Mr. Savile Perth; H. Robertson (or his manager, G. Stone) Barrow; and Mr. Huddlestone, O. H., Blackpool. A Success Everywhere. CHARLES WINDERMERE, Jan. 17, Theatre Royal, Torquay.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, April 18, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 14, 21, and 28.
FRANK M. THORNE, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

The New Musical Absurdity.
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, March 14, 21, April 11 May 2, 16. HENRY L. OSMOND, New Gaiety Theatre, Houghton, Durham.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Feb. 28, March 14, May 2, 9, Aug. 1.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."

A Terrific Success.
Refer E. H. Page, Esq., Prince's Theatres, Preston and Blackburn. Also J. E. Barnes, Esq., Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Feb. 14, onwards.
Also good Theatre for Easter.

"ALADDIN."
Another Huge Success.
Refer Charles Barnard, Esq., T. R., Woolwich. Wanted, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31.

Re dates, wire or write to
FRED GRANVILLE, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.
N.B. Managers are cordially invited to see these Pantommes with view to production Season 1910-1911.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Next week, Queen's Theatre, Longton.
"ALADDIN."
Next week, Jan. 17, Aldershot.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Drama,
Jan. 24,
Jan. 24,
Jan. 31, Feb. 7.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE, King's T., Edinburgh.

A First-class Attraction.
MR. LOUIS CALVERT'S PRODUCTION OF "SUNDAY,"
as Produced and Played by
Miss JULIA NEILSON and Mr. FRED TERRY
at the Comedy Theatre, London.
One of the Finest Plays
and most complete Productions travelling.
The entire Scenery, Furniture, and Properties Toured.
Miss JANET LIND as "SUNDAY."
Cast Chosen and Rehearsed by Mr. Calvert.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 (between Newcastle and Glasgow), 28, March 14.
Sole English Representative for Mr. Calvert,
WILLIAM GIFFARD,
Wire to-day, O. H., Cork; Jan. 17, O. H., Blackpool.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, Feb. 14, May 2.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, Feb. 21, 28, March 21, 28.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7, Feb. 28.

Wire, KIMBERLEY, Aquarium, Yarmouth; next, Lowestoft.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, and HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
The most novel draw of the season.
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, Feb. 7. Jan. 24, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
Wire, KIMBERLEY,
Aquarium, Yarmouth; next, Lowestoft.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Play.
WANTED, May 9, 23, 30, and June 6.
Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Theatre Royal, Belfast.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

KEITH G. KENNETH'S CO.'S.
"THE WOMAN OF KRONSTADT."
A Powerful Russian Military Play,
by Max Pemberton.
Magnificent Uniforms and Scenery.
Company includes Keith G. Kenneth, Bernard Copping, Montague Lane, Ida Chapman, Betty Fairfax, &c.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (3 nights) Midlands.
Also Feb. 10 (3 nights), Feb. 23, onwards.
Re dates, WM. MARTIN, 415, Strand; or,

KEITH G. KENNETH, Empire T., Southend.

WANTED, the Great New Success, "His Real Wife," Big Theatre, Aug. 1 and few onwards. Address, T. E. WARD, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexboro'.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Feb. 21 March 7, 28.
E. BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."

WANTED, for this Magnificent Pantomime, Jan. 31, Feb. 7,
to follow run of six weeks
at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh.
Refer A. Mascard, Esq.
An "All-Star" Cast.
Managers having the above Dates vacant and wishing to secure a real success, wire or write to FRED GRANVILLE, King's Theatre, Edinburgh. N.B.—Wanted, Good Theatre for Production and run, Season, 1910-11.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 28, March 28, April 11.
MISS ANNIE BELL as Flare-Flare, supported by MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
MR. SCOTT LEIGHTON, and Star Company.
Address, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (follow Leicester) Feb. 7 (precede Scarborough), Feb. 28, March 7, 28,
and on, with exceptions.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON, Hippodrome, Wigan.

"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Feb. 7.
"MOTHER,"
March 7 and 14.
HARRY FOXWELL, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Jan. 17, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, N.B.

MISS MARY NEIL,
in her Latest Successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS"
and
"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, for either Play, March 21, 28.
April 11, 18, and 25.
Coms. to GEORGE KIRK,
This, 59, London-road N., Lowestoft;
Next, Opera House, Treherbert.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A PAIR OF SPECTACLES," or Répertoire, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, and onwards, with exceptions. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIES' PANTOMIMES.
JAMES KIDDIES' PANTOMIMES.
JAMES KIDDIES' PANTOMIMES.
"FORTY THIEVES,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, having large Stage and large holding capacity, for the above.
Stupendous and Gorgeous Pantomimes.
which hold an unbeaten record all along the line.
Open time.
"FORTY THIEVES,"
Feb. 21.
"CINDERELLA,"
Feb. 14, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Feb. 14, and onwards.
Mr. Kiddie thanks the many Managers who have offered dates, but must have Theatres that can take BIG MONEY with my heavy expenses.

These Pantomimes are the most successful on the road at twice-nightly Theatres.

Refer Fred Wilmot, Esq., Thos. Barrasford, Esq., Percy B. Broadhead.

Share or Certainty.

Address,
THOS. SWINTON,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Feb. 23 and March 7,
CULLEN AND CARTHY'S
Enormously Successful Panto.,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

One of the Biggest Drawing Attractions Travelling.

In consequence of the enormous success at Paisley, Hamilton, Greenock, and Queen's, Dublin, and this week at Queen's, Leeds, where our record of last visit has been left behind, we have decided to accept the above dates at First-class Hippodromes, Theatres, &c.

Please refer Mr. Bostock, Glasgow; Mr. Skivington, Greenock; Mr. Watson, Queen's, Dublin; and Mr. Whiteman, Queen's, Leeds.

All coms.,
J. CULLEN, Lyric T., Liverpool.

WANTED, Jan. 24 (3 nights, precede Lincoln), Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, May 2 (precede South Shields), Whit (North or Lancashire or Yorkshire), "The Nihilist; or, A Prince's Secret Wedding." A strong Romantic Drama. Splendidly Staged and Dressed. Every member of the Company has given over 300 performances. Alex. T., Hull, this week; refer George Morton. His opinion after Monday's show: A good sound healthy drama. A few Summer dates open for big towns. Note.—As a twice-nightly attraction the finest touring.
Wires, SILVERSTONE, Alex., Hull.
Coms., T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7 (Midlands preferred), for Gilbert Payne's Enormously Successful Pantomime, "THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT." Forty First-class Artists, including GILBERT PAYNE as DAME TROT. Third week of Tremendous Success at the Metropole, Devonport. Please refer to G. S. King, Esq. Wire for Feb. 7 to GILBERT PAYNE, Metropole T., Devonport.

STEPHEN PRITT'S Magnificent Company, in the Unique Detective Drama, "ALMOST HIS BRIDE," contains exceptionally brilliant Comedy.
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, and Easter.

Wire for 24th, PRITT, Grand, Chorley.

MR. H. HAMILTON-STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Only Vacant Date, Feb. 21.
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD," from Wyndham's Theatre.
WANTED, Theatres, April 18, May 16, 23 (three nights), June 6. Add., T. R., Rochdale.

"NICK CARTER (DETECTIVE),"
by
Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dates, Autumn '10 and Spring '11.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD."
WANTED, Feb. 7, Lancashire or North.
J. EDWARD WHITTY, T. R., Rotherham.

Grand Xmas Pantomime. "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 7, 14, 21, for this Beautiful Production. A Splendid Show; magnificent scenery, gorgeous dresses, Funny Comedians, Splendid Vocalists; brimful of fun, and refined. A First-class Touring Pantomime. Address, BARRETT, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Jan. 31, between Reading and Devonport.
ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIME,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Absolutely a High-class Production.
Proof, return Monday, Palace, East Ham, after two week's absence.
Proprietors in search of a money-maker should see the above.
This, Tottenham;
next, EAST HAM.

WILMOT EDSON'S "ALADDIN" CO. Enormous success, breaking records. Refer to H. Bawn, Esq., Empire, Edmonton; E. Percival, Esq., Empire, Clyde; H. Raymond, Esq., Regent, Salford.
WANTED, for the above Gorgeous Production, Feb. 7, onwards (with exceptions), North or Midlands preferred; once or twice nightly. This, Regent, Salford; next, T. R., Huddersfield.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINES.
The only Organisation of its kind in the World.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly, for these undeniable pay-box attractions, Vac. Jan. 24, Feb. 7, &c.
All coms., SCOTTIE, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to rehearse Jan. 27, experienced Actress for Aristocratic Old Maid, Gentleman for Aristocratic Heavy Part, to combine Acting-Management, Aristocratic Old Man. All particulars, last two references, photographs, terms, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 33, Hosack-road, Balham, S.W.

"MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Spring Tour, commencing Feb. 7
continuing till after Whit.
Two Companies Touring.

FLORENCE BAINES, c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Sketch, one week, Jan. 31 (15 performances), Manchester, rehearse 26th, Barnsley Lady, 5ft. 8in., handsome appearance, for Russian countess, handsome modern walking dress; Tall Gent., for Military part; also Character Actor, small part; two weeks; rehearse Liverpool, 20th; those near Liverpool preferred. Lowest inclusive terms, age, height, refs., photos. J. G. GRAHAME, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, a Lady for Aunt Ophelia, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Photo., age, height, lowest terms, and references, to CHARLES HARRINGTON, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, good smart Young Lady; sing dance, and act well. Tour to start Feb. 14. Box 7,100, "The Era."

WANTED, Soubrette, who is also a good Accompanist, for short Tours. Apply by letter, in first instance, ALBION, 52, New Bond-street, London, W.

WANTED, Clever Amateur Lady and Gentleman to play Small Parts in New Dramatic Sketch by Well-known Author; West-End Production. Letters only. DEVOY, 36, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Robust Heavy Man, Military part, Sketch, willing to give services for trial week (London); long tour if suitable. Box 7,129, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Principals and Choristers, for second parts, for the popular operas. State répertoire and lowest terms for summer. Address MARITANA, Box 7,116, "The Era."

WANTED, Refined Young Ladies, for Musical Comedy; beginners coached and public appearances guaranteed. Apply, MANAGER, The Gaiety Academy, 22, Denmark-street, W.C.

WANTED, good Sopranos. Chorus and Solo; also good Graceful Speciality Dancers (not step). Apply, C. CLAXTON TURNER, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Monday at 2.

WANTED, Choristers, Castellano Grand Opera Company. State voice, répertoire, and terms, to CASTELLANO, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Baritone, Baritone-Comedian, Contralto, and Humorist, Comedienne, for Summer; not Al-fresco. Box 7,147, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedian, for Randell Jackson's Concert Party at Margate, must be smart and refined; extensive répertoire essential. Write Box 7,108, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, The New Francis Club, 425, Strand, W.C. (entrance in Harvey's Buildings). For ladies. Subscription yearly £1 1s., or paid weekly 6d. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d. Use of cosy sitting-room, piano, circulating library. Theatrical papers and address. Dining rooms. Exceptional tariff. Room to let, for rehearsing or interviews. Music and singing lessons by certified Teacher (A.R.C.M.), also Dancing Lessons at reduced fees to Club Members.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Young Light Comedienne, to avoid vacation and wishing to gain all possible experience, requires Small Part in good Sketch or London Theatre at nominal salary; tall, and of excellent appearance. Box 7,146, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements by a Refined Young Lady, Sacred, Sentimental, and Light Comedy Vocalist, Ballad Concerts, Banquets, Concert Party, &c. Press notices and ref. sent. Box 7,146, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Elsa Miller, well-trained Contralto; also Violinist.
82, Trafalgar-street, Camberwell Gate, S.E.

WANTED, by Soprano Vocalist, young, well-trained, sight reader, experienced pianist, Disengaged now, also for Summer. Box 7,132, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, open immediately, Principal Girl, Trio of Dancers, Coon and Acrobatic, five weeks certain. Photos (stamps for return) last two refs., lowest terms, Fit-up Tour, S. Wales. SWARBRECK, Post Office, Treharris.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ew. Selman, is a Great Success as Jerry, in "Hop-o'-My-Thumb," Colosseum, Oldham. Vacant next season. Will buy good, funny songs.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Scenic Artist, steady and reliable, in London or Provinces; best work only; good refs. Terms, £2 10s. Box 7,109, "The Era."

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery; Largest Productions or Single Scenes. Lowest prices, W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil wishes to Communicate with Author prepared to Write High-class Drama, with star part to suit her, containing good light comedy and strong emotional scenes. Preference given to one who can travel and collaborate with her in writing up ideas. Personal interview necessary where not known. For further particulars, write, Miss NEIL, Opera House, Treherbert.

WANTED, smart Advertising Manager, good Organiser, for large district.
Permanency; send refs.

A. PRESTON, Alhambra Theatre, Openshaw.

WANTED, First-class Agent, for Pool and Bosco, Ltd., Irish Tenting Season, commencing March 28, 1910; one who knows country well. Terms, references, &c., Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Stage Carpenter; must assist Billing and Cleaning, &c.; permanency to right man; also Young Man Wanted for Props. and combine Bill Inspector. Write terms and references to CHAS. EVANS, as above.

WANTED, Engagements, Wardrobe Master and Costumier, productions, renovation, cut, make, and trim any description historical or burlesque, resident or tour, many years' London experience; highest refs. W. EASTON, 19, Dorothy-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager, by H. Cormack, late Manager for F. C. Bostock, Esq., Jungle and Arena, Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth, Rinking, Ltd., &c., &c.; undeniable references; security. 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

WANTED, by advertiser, position as Resident or Assistant-Manager, ten years' experience, public school and University education; age 33; might invest small capital in sound Theatre or Music Hall. Box 7,122, "The Era."

WANTED, by Englishman speaking French, German, Engagement as Business-Manager, Apparatus Fixer, Pantomimic or Speaking Parts, &c. 124, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham.

WANTED, by Business Manager, to manage Tour; take financial interest in anything with good sound prospects in London. Box 7,144, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, London Music Hall Manager, of good experience, seeks change, Touring or Provincial Management; good business man; excellent references. Apply, L. H., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Post as Assistant Acting-Manager.
Box 7,115, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting or Assistant Manager, or similar business position, by young man, with first-class business experience. A. HEMPSTEAD, Wattam's Hotel, 8, Aldgate High-st., London, E.C.

WANTED, by an experienced man, Appointment as Acting-Manager, Music Hall; excellent refs. and guarantee. T., Clontart, West Cowes.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman (19), position as Advance Manager with Touring Company; French Shorthand, and Typewriting. Box 7,125, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation as Advance Agent or Interpreter, for Circus, Menagerie, or any important firm in England or the Continent; speaks and corresponds the five principal European languages; first-class references. Address, AGENCE BERLEMONT, 48, Place Colignon, Schaerbeek, Bruxelles, Belgium.

WANTED, Known, Fred Lewis, Circus Advance Agent, America, Great Britain, and Ireland, Disengaged for Tenting, 1910. Address, 39, Earl-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Gentlemanly Young Man, age 23, smart, willing, energetic and sober, of striking appearance and good address, wants work.
The advertiser is not a know-all, but a worker with brains, who is seeking permanency.
Anyone requiring a Smart, Industrious Man, should send their requirements, and the wages they wish to pay for the same, to
E. A. EDWARDS, c/o 40, Lower Dartmouth-street, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Practical Electrician, appointment as chief; just completed large installation, being thoroughly experienced in Theatre and Stage Effects; well acquainted with Bioscope and Lanterns. PARKER, 66, Latimer-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Wardrobe Mistress, resident or tour; well up in all duties; thoroughly reliable; excellent references; Disengaged. Mrs. DAVIES, 281, Lavender-hill, S.W.

WANTED, Situation, in London, by Young Lady, as Dresser or Assistant to Wardrobe Mistress; good needlewoman. Box 7,112, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, as Maid to Professional Lady; useful at Renovating and Millinery; if needed would be Dresser. CHAMARY, 20, Foubert's-place, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Musical Director, Pianist, to take Violin when required; must have good library of up-to-date Music; permanency to steady man. Write lowest terms and references to CHAS. EVANS, as above.

POOL AND BOSCO, LTD., Tenting Season, 1910.
WANTED, Conductor, with double-handed Band. Particulars, terms, refs., &c. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED Wanted, Wanted,
for permanency if suitable,
Good Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies).
Apply,
with photo,
age, and reference,
to
60, Chatsworth-road, Clapton.

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Leader, First or Second Violin, Viola, Flute. Open Jan. 24. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

WANTED, for the Palace Theatre, Reading, a First Violin; must be a good player, and well up in Music Hall Work. Address, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 164, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, for the Cheltenham Town Band, a Good Violin Player. Terms, shares. Address, J. BOYCE, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, good smart First Cornet, to open 24th inst.; must be thoroughly experienced. Lowest terms, &c., to J. MELVILLE GILLIES, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player at once, for the Oswestry Skating Rink, Rehearsal, 2.30, Wednesday. Apply, G. H. JONES, B. M., Oswestry.

WANTED, Harpist, male, thoroughly reliable and competent, must be prepared to travel, good memory for accompaniments.
State salary
and qualifications to
Box 7,126, "The Era."

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASYLUM, CHEDDLETON, LEEK.
WANTED, Flautist, to Act as Attendant. Applicants must be single young men of good character and physique; previous Asylum experience not necessary; permanent situation, and pension to suitable man, with married allowance after three years; salary commences at £33 per annum, with prospect of rise to £60, together with board, lodgings, washing, &c. (emoluments estimated at £40 per annum); after three years' service salary is £43, when £10 rent money is given in addition, if man desires to marry.

Applications, with full particulars, to
THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, owing to indisposition of Miss Jackson, Brilliant Lady Piccolo Soloist. State age, height, experience, with terms and photograph, to JACKSON FAMILY, Grand Theatre, Hanley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, First-cass Pianist, for Pictures and Varieties, permanent to suitable man. Write fully, stating lowest terms, age, &c., to CHARLES DARE, 26, Ivy-lane, London, E.C.

WANTED, Pianist and 'Cellist (male), for Hotel Trio, Solos necessary; Pianist must be refined accompanist; hours 7 to 10.15. Opportunities for extra work in district and Chamber Music Concerts; sound permanency; only thoroughly capable men of sound character need apply. DIXON, 6, Liverpool-street, Dover.

WANTED, Pianist, Orchestral and Accompanist, Twice Daily, from Feb. 4, Municipal Orchestra. Terms, refs., Mr. E. HOLLAND, W. G., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, competent Pianist, single Gentleman of good address and steady habits, for established High-class Entertainment, Touring, open Monday. State age, lowest commencing salary and full particulars, PIANIST, Griffin Hotel, Blaenau Festiniog, North Wales.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Drummer and Effects, must be used to Varieties.
Apply, with full particulars, to
MANAGER, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Double Drummer, to Open Monday, Jan. 24. Apply, W. H. KELLEY, Pavilion Rink, Spennymoor, Durham.

WANTED, Bugler, for Permanent Staff; must be able to play Solo Cornet. Apply with testimonials, GRAY, The Castle, Monmouth, Wales.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM,
COLNEY HATCH, NEW SOUTHGATE, N.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, must be good performers on the Euphonium, Bombardon, Flute, and Piccolo or Oboe; candidates must be single, aged 25-to 35 years; salary £29 a year for first six months, then, if satisfactory, rising to £31 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; after 12 months' service (from date of confirmation) the wages rise by £1 a year to £40 a year; special payments for band practices and performances. Weekly leave one whole day and one half day per week; annual leave, for first 15 months from the date of entering service, 6 days, the following 12 months 12 days, each successive 12 months 14 days. Forms of application can be obtained from THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Colney Hatch Asylum, New Southgate, N.

WHITE STAR MEDITERRANEAN SERVICE.
WANTED, Orchestral Leaders and Solo Violins and 'Cellists, Feb. 21 until Oct., Cunard Mediterranean Service, Jan. 24 until Dec. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. CHARLES W. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Leonard Spohr Tute, the well-known and thoroughly competent Conductor, First-class Permanent Appointment. 18, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin), Liberty; thoroughly experienced, quick Variety, smart, reliable; extensive library; London, Provincial refs. Offers, CONDUCTOR, 3, St. Mark's-terrace, Wrexham.

WANTED, Permanency, Conductor (Piano); also Brilliant Leader; 15 years' experience; steady and reliable. CONDUCTOR, 67, Coalshaw Green-road, Hollinwood, near Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Conductor, Variety Concert, or any business, age 30, total abstainer; reliable in every way; permanency preferred; distance no object. CONDUCTOR, 55, Bournemouth-road, Merton Park, S.W.

WANTED, by a well-known Conductor, Engagement, shortly, in a First-class Music Hall; good references; extensive library. Box 7,133, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lady (Solo Violinist and Pianist), L.R.A.M., and Gentleman (Violinist), open for good summer engagement; experienced in every business; highest references. Apply, Box 7136, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, excellent references, thoroughly competent and reliable. VIOLINIST, 5, Kingston-road, Earlsdon, Coventry.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Tenting Season, Ireland or England, Wm. Duffy, Leader, Solo Cornet, or Drums; also Miss Mayon, Tight Wire, Flying Rings, and Trapeze. Address, Post Office, Moate, Co. West Meath.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Leader, Violin, Variety business; open at once. J. LEONARD, 167, New Cross, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist, Disengaged.
Address, 68, Frobisher-road, Hornsey, N.

WANTED, by W. Wilcock, Engagement as First Violin; could take lead, any business; well experienced. Address, 74, Dorrington-road, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Good Solo, First, or Second Cornet wants Berth, any bus., good Rink preferred; good refs. CORNETTIST, 59, Aylestone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and French Horn Player.
55, Winstanley-crescent, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement by good Cornet Player, with good Orchestral and Military experience. Address, WM. CUTLER, 5, Angrave-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, good Second Cornet, any business, age 24, experienced, thoroughly reliable. CORNET, 31, South Church-lane, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, by Clarionet Player, Engagement, Theatre or Variety, London or suburbs, seeks Start. Box 7,113, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Clarionet, two years in last shop; best refs.
CLARIONET, 399, Evelyn-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Double Bass, at Liberty; thoroughly experienced Theatre, Variety, &c.; any distance. BASSO, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenhays, Manchester.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any Business; good steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by String Bass, good performer, Engagement, can combine Cornet, desires situation in firm where Band is kept. BASSO, 31, Cambridge-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium, experienced, Concert, Dramatic, Variety, Disengaged 24th. Address, W. R. PENN, A.M.U., 31, Vacel-road, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Euphonium, good Rink or otherwise; Orchestral or Military; good refs. JOHN STONE, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Euphonium, good Rink of two Sessions daily, or Varieties; good references. 271, Shoreham-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced French Horn, any business; permanency preferred. ALFRED WARD, c/o Brearley, 271, Bilsland-drive, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, by 'Cello, Engagement, or Deputising, any business, good ref. R. SORTIN, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Lady Flautist, Engagement in good Ladies' Band or Concert Party, town preferred. OLIVE MURRAY, 84, Alderney-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, late H.M. Service; good refs.; sober; any business. FLAUTIST, c/o Miss Whyte, 291, High-street, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, any Business; good references, and reliable. FLAUTIST, West's Pictures, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist (young) experienced, good sight-reader, with First-class Orchestra. OLIVE CLARK, 60, George-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, young, abstainer, brilliant soloist, transpose, compose, and arrange. PIANIST, 3, Alexandra-road, Blackburn.

WANTED, Orchestral or other Engagement, by Pianist, sight reader, excellent refs.; wife pay-box optional; both young, smart, reliable. 54, Crystal-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, Pianist, good sight reader and accompanist. Please address, 91, Taybridge-road, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch. or Self, any business; good reader, steady, reliable, excellent refs. 24, Alexandra-road, Ton Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Known, Double Drummer (Effects) seeks Engagement, Rink, Pictures, or Circus preferred; refs.; Liberty Jan. 24. Address, DRUMS, 69, Audley-street, Reading.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by a good Double Drummer, Engagement, any Business; London or Suburb. W. H. W., Box 7,130, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, steady, experienced, and reliable; any good business. DRUMMER, 11, Leverett-st., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects; thoroughly experienced variety or other business. Rink preferred. Liberty now. 21, Robson-street, Liverpool.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.

WANTED, Managers, Committees, and Musical Directors of Summer Resort Piers, Pavilions, Parks, Theatres, &c., to know that the above Society, consisting only of Musicians of High-class ability, are prepared to provide Full String Orchestras and First-class Military Bands (with or without Conductors), for Season and other Engagements. Individual players at Liberty for same; efficiency guaranteed. Qualified Musicians of repute earnestly invited to join. "Local Centres" (branches) established in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Oldham, &c. For full particulars write the Hon. Secretary, JOSEPH. BALL, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme, Manchester. N.B. — Semi-amateurs are requested to refrain from writing. This class is not admitted.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, C/o "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Easter and Summer, for Poppy Ladies' Orchestras and Singers; now Olympia, London, Altrincham Rink, Pavilon, Wolverhampton. POPPIES, 19, Bedford-place, Brighton

WANTED, Engagements, Nella Ladies' Orchestra, three to any number; just concluded Successful Engagement, ten months, London Hotel. References. 23, Marlborough-hill, N.W.

WANTED, Known, the Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra, now booking; smart uniform. Apply, DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, for Piers, Rinks, Hotels. Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Tubular Bells. Madame BAKER, 114, Woodlands-rd., Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Denton supplies Ladies' Quartettes for Hotels, &c., extensive rep.; pretty costumes. Wire or write, SIMS, Post Office, Raglan-road, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates apply, Madam SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Smart Band shortly at Liberty. Now open to contract for long engagement. Ten reliable Performers, including Harpist, all double-handed, for Orchestral and Military Band; Evening Dress and Uniform for Parades, &c. Offers invited. Address, Box 7,139, c/o. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, with Full Band, Brass or Reed, Circus, Menagerie, Skating Rink, &c.; splendid répertoire; first-class references. Address, Box 7,128. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

STEPHENSON'S COLUMBIA CIRCUS, Touring Ireland. Commencing March 28.

WANTED, for the Tenting Season, Circus Artists, Clowns, Useful People, good Irish Comedian, but all must be New to Ireland; also Band (those with me last year can come again); good Agent write; also wanted, Small Menagerie, about six loads. Long engagement. All particulars, FRANK STEPHENSON, 35, Cumberland-street, Broad-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, for Pool and Bosco, Ltd., Tenting Season, commencing March 28, 1910; also Agent, Tentmaster, Bandsmen, Operator, &c. 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS, CRYSTAL PALACE, LONDON. Proprietor and Manager, FRED J. CONNOR. Now in the zenith of success.

Note.—Mr. Connor is prepared to negotiate with owners of Rinks or other suiatble buildings for the presenting of a First-class Circus Entertainment. Communications to above.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRCUS, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors to Know, The Three Royal Ohmys, the only and original Circus Girls and Acrobatic Bareback Riders, on one, two, three, and four beautiful trained horses. Now the talk of Glasgow. Re-engaged till further notice by Albert Hengler, Esq. Complimented by everyone that has seen this great up-to-date Act, and all say it is the grandest show ever seen in a circus ring. Can be seen at every performance at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow. For vacant dates and particulars address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, as above.

WANTED, Known, The Stephenson Equestrian Family have made the greatest success ever known at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. Complimented and reengaged until further notice by Mr. A. E. Inshaw, Director and Organiser.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good Entrées, vacant Jan. 24; also Tenting. Address, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.

The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 1,300 people. Late of Prince's Court, Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c. Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly; also WORCESTER EMPIRE, Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Comedy Acts, Comedians, Serios, Specialities, Jan. 24, onwards. Lowest terms, Bookings. Gala Acts, May 16, onwards. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Hall small. Say if played Wednesbury. Apply, BEESLEY, 2, Walsall-road, Darlaston.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Monday, Jan. 24, on; Hall small. Absolute lowest. LOUDEN, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

WANTED, New Variety Artists, all Lines, good Comediennes write. No callers. SWINDON and PAUL, 9, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Jan. 24, onwards; good break going North. Hall small. State absolute lowest. J. F. FRANKLIN Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 24, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Kinds, to let me know if you are vacant Jan. 24 and 31. Last week ten Booked simply "Monday next." Anything good, novel, or new I can place with the people you require. RICHARD CASS's Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham. 'Phone Sydenham 1093. Don't call.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Jan. 24, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists for Combinations willing to Share, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, March 14, &c. COMBINATION, 14, Anglesea-road, Woolwich.

WANTED, Artists, Double Turns doing Singles, two weeks, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

POOL AND BOSCO, LTD.

WANTED, Artists of every description, for West Bromwich. F. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists for immediate dates. Write or call, with full particulars, J. W. JOHNSON, Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Galas. Terms, lithos., and permanent address, M. DUCARRL, Caterer, 40, Roseville-terrace, Leeds.

VERNO'S AGENCY, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Jan. 24, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, new to South Wales. Can offer five weeks.

Apply, with full list of bookings, lowest terms, and permanent address, to WATTS's Agency, 10, Thistle-terrace, Ton-y-Pandy. Will Smith and Johnson send address?

WANTED, Artists Known to me (greater the acts the better) to forward terms, lithos., full bookings; can find you work; business im-roving. WILLIAM AINSWORTH, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.

WANTED, for Tour, Artists in all Lines (Dumb Shows excepted). Experienced Artists only need apply. Photos and full particulars, J. H. TOMKINSON, New Theatre, Hawick.

TIVOLI, PENTRE, S. WALES.

WANTED, Known.—Pooles' Theatres, Ltd., hereby give notice that this variety theatre has been leased to Mr. Will Stone as from Jan. 24, 1910, and that all contracts with artists for appearance at the Tivoli, Pentre, after Jan. 22, 1910, are at an end. Mr. Stone may take over some of the bookings. Apply to him. Address, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars, Big Specialities, Big Animal Acts, in fact, anything that is New, Novel, and Sensational, for Easter, March 21, 28, Whit Week, and later. for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c. Send dates, lithos., &c., to WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Warted, Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big. WILL SLEY, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, Big Stars and Specialities, Novelties and New Acts, for immediate and future dates; must be good. Terms, particulars, and perm. address to, Town Hall, Oxford.

F. RASKINET'S VARIETY AGENCY, 25, Rue des Bouchers, Brussels, Belgium.

WANTED, Proprietors and Artists to Know that I Enlarged my Agency by adding to it a "Special Office" for Specialities and Attractions of all Kinds, of which Office Mr. W. Boesnach, the old well-known Amsterdam Impresario, will take the Entire Management. Wanted, for Brussels Exhibition, all kinds of Really Good Turns. Will be glad to hear of old acquaintances.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, One or Two Sound Turns, to support La Belle Lumiere, Jan 31, one show nightly, Lancashire Town. Absolute Lowest, BIRTENO, Palace, Gloucester.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, the Biggest and Best Talent in the Business. Stars through Programme Agents. Artists and others please note.—All applications for engagements at the New Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to BENSON'S Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., Manchester-chambers, 46A, Market-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Bensonia, Manchester."

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential. HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, really Smart Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Big Specialities, Novel Animal Acts, and Anything with Big Drawing Powers, for Jan. 24, 31, onward. Lowest terms, MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.

WANTED, First-class Novelty Act, Jan. 31, Feb. 28, March 7, must be big Attraction. WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts of all Descriptions. WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Acts of al Kinds, for South Wales and district, also Sensations for Birmingham, Monday onward. MARTINO's Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Star Acts of Every Description, good Doubles doing Singles, Sisters, Comedians, and Serios. Full particulars, permanent address, GLOBE Agency, Offices Theatre and Hippo., Heywood. Lessees Theatres, Heywood and Middleton. 'Phone 109.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPOS. AND COMPANIES.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, Comedy Turns, Strong Animal Acts, and the very latest and best attractions; also smart pair of children. Terms and dates, SCOTTIE, Hippo., Hoyland.

WANTED, for Bristol, Rochdale, Huddersfield, Glasgow, S. Wales, Variety Acts all Lines, full Bookings imperative, and state last appearance in above towns. Re Tivoli, Pentre, Jan. 24, the following Contracts taken over by W. Stone, Esq.: Sisters Urma, Woolmer Young, Sam Williams, Cyclinis. Doing my utmost for other Acts booked through this Agency. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol. Telegrams, "Fêtes, Bristol." Telephone 2636 Nat.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, High-class Specialities (Aerial and Ground), for Halls, Circuses, Galas. Full list (odd weeks useless), lithos., permanent, lowest. This week's Contracts: Taylor's Baboons, Four Louberts, Lizette Trio, Morritt, Three Hodginis, Hicks' Clerks, Three Hilberts, and many others. PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

JOHN ADAMS AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Animal Acts, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 31, on.

Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Big Dumb Shows, Animal Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c., Comedians, and Comediennes. Send Photo Lithos and Lowest Terms, JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Combinations for Two First-class Theatres, March 21, April 11, 18, May 23, 30, June 27. Stars with own Companies write, JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Twice nightly.

WANTED, for Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 21, onwards, Variety Combinations and Pantomimes, percentage or certainty. All communications to WALTER BATTY, Baltic Hotel.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.

WANTED, Something Good for March 14 and April Dates. Strong Variety Combinations write. PAREZER, King's Lynn.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY, 38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Top Liners only. Continent and Britain. Real Novelties always welcomed.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 2349 Royal.

WANTED, Big Tops, Jan. 17, 24, and onwards. Also First-class Acts in all Lines. Nothing too Big.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley, Feb. 14 and onwards. Good Tops and Turns of all Kinds.

Full particulars to THOS. HOLMES, Agent, address, Keighley.

CHARLES DARE'S FAMOUS MINSTRELS.

WANTED, Jan. 24 (North), also 31, Big Top or Bottom Bill. Seven Brilliant Comedians and Vocalists. Monday next, Coliseum, Glasgow. Vacant Jan. 24, 31. Address as above, or TOM SHAW and Co.

THE SCARLETEERS Fully Booked 1910.

WANTED, First-class Concert Parties, Easter week, Whit week, and June 20 and 27 weeks, for Kursaal, Sandown, I.W.; only First-class Shows apply; also First-class Comedian-Dancer and Accompanist and Humorist, for thirteen weeks, for "The Planets." CHARLES HINCHLIFF, 16, Netherbury-road, South Ealing, W., lowest terms.

BEACH PAVILION, ABERDEEN. Twice Daily, May to Oct.

WANTED, complete Companies of Entertainers, must be clever and refined. State all particulars and where to be seen working. DAVID THOMSON, 12, Stanley-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Vocalists, Instrumentalists, and Artists in all Lines, to give their services for one night, Feb. 2, at a small Hall in London, S.E. district, which will probably lead to future business. Address full particulars to MANAGER, 68, King's Hall-road, Beckenham, S.E.

Siffleuse.

WANTED, a good Lady Siffleuse, for Vaudeville Stage; a Certainty to really First-class Artist. Apply by letter only to R. FRANK, 53, Sutherland-avenue, Maida Vale, London, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedian for Sketch, Girl that can Buck Dance and Sand Dance and Sing. Black Girl Preferred. Amateurs save stamps.

Apply by letter, OSWALD LUX, 107, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, for the Great Lafayette Show, two Ladies for Pages and Small Parts; also two Chorus Girls. Apply by letter, enclosing photo. (which will be returned) to THE GREAT LAFAYETTE, County Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Smart Girls, over 14; must be good Singers and Dancers; golden opportunity. Photos., &c., add., TROUPE, 42, Fentiman-rd., S.W.

WANTED, smart Knockabout Pantomimists, one able to do Turn, genuine performers only, or useless. Lowest terms, photo., refs., &c., for tour. WYS, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Comedian, Smart, used to Al Fresco, for week Jan. 31, small hall, Bradford. State lowest terms. HAMILTON, 95, Kay-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Boy and Girl Vocalists, for Munroe's Comedy Team. Apply, MUNROE, Empire, Hackney, London, N.

WANTED, Second Mounter, must be a First-class Tumbler, with Eccentric Tumbling, for Comedy Act. State tricks, lowest terms, and full particulars in first letter. Single men preferred. Address, Box 7138, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Boy, willing to learn Acrobatic business; one that can tumble a little preferred; age 14 to 15, height about 4ft. 10in. A good home. Address, JOSH CLIFTON, Palace Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, a good Boy, 14 years of age, to learn Acrobatic business, one with a little knowledge preferred. J. OLRAC, Palace, Nelson; or, 47, Larkhall-rise, Clapham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 24, between Nottingham and Stockport, for The Incomparable VONETTA, Queen of Illusionists and Marvellous Protean Actress. Magnificent Stage Setting and Gorgeous Electric Tableaux. Mammoth Illusions, Bewildering Conjuring, Indescribable Protean Feats. A Certain Draw. Splendid Printing.

Address, T. M. PAUL, Palace, Derby; next week, Hippodrome, Nottingham. Also Vacant Feb. 7 and 14.

WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, 21, by Miss ALICE WINSOME, aged 14, remarkable dainty Child Comedienne, big voice, big songs. Read next paragraph.

WANTED, few immediate dates, for Alice Winsome. An artist with plenty of style and voice. A proved success. Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Oldham.

WANTED, Feb. 28, on, Little Dixie, Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer, New Songs, Com., Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, Lydia Rale (Banjo Queen) will on and after Jan. 21 be known as "La Raledia."

WANTED, Monday, Dainty Dorretta, Acrobatic Sabot Speciality Dancer and Comedienne. Wire, Central Theatre, Amble. A Sure Draw.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ada Claudina Cuffy, a real Black Girl in White Vocalist. Last week, great success, Olympia. Wire, G.P.O., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, to Illusionists, Actress, pretty, model figure, very refined, Singer, Dancer, splendid Pianist, Illusions worked, desires Immediate Engagement; experienced. VENUS, 57, George-st., Walsall.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, by MLLE. KATRINA MARTINA, in her Beautiful Artistic and Classical Poses. Managers wanting a Sure Draw wire or write. C/o Devoy, 36 Florence-st., Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, with Piano, Banjos, Singing, Comedy, Ragtime Dancing, Vacant Jan. 17, 24, Feb. 7. 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers, Jan. 31. Ogers, 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric, wishes to thank Mr. Munro (of the Raymond Picture Company) for obliging Mr. Inshaw (of Curzon Hall, Birmingham) in putting my date back for Palace, Attercliffe. Owing to big success, re-engaged until further notice at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. Dan Gregory is always a success wherever he goes.

WANTED, Monday next (24th), Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive, own colliery pictures. Openshaw. Tel. Add., "Probable, Manchester."

WANTED, Monday, by Barney Noble, Entertainer. Wire, 46, Lower Chatham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian, Chorus Vocalist, and Banjoist. Wire, 4, Sebastopol-terrace, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, by Sergt. Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist, Jan. 24 and 31. Concludes to-night, Empire, Glasgow; next week, Hippodrome, Dumfries.

WANTED, Known, T. E. Johnstone, Actor-Vocalist Vacant Feb. 7 and 14. Address next week (Jan. 17), Borough Theatre, North Shields.

WANTED, Jan. 17, 24, by Hugh Dempsey, Comedian, Top Boot Dancer, Sanger's Animated Pictures, Walla Sanger, Illustrated Songs, and as Serio; together or separate. Wire, Corn Exchange, Much Wenlock.

WANTED, by Will Owen, Ideal Dame Comedian and Comedy Dutch, vacant Jan. 17 and 24. Tiv., Barrow; next, 60, Denmark-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Little Tichbourne, vacant Feb. 28, March 7. This, King's Theatre, Greenock, N.B.; next, Grand T., Falkirk, N.B.

WANTED, Monday, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian; also The Wymans, Novel Comedy Business. Wire one or two Acts, Picturedrome, Longton.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop Juggling, fine speciality for Panto., Vacant Jan. 24 and 31. Hippo., Ilford; Jan. 17, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Managers and Agents, to Know that although Li Chang Hi has not got apparatus worth thousands, he has got Originality; vacant April 11, on. See Card.

WANTED, Known, Basil Scott, Acrobatic Comedian, Disengaged Monday, for any Comedy Act. At present Parisian Circus, Agricultural Hall, London. Per., 9, Wynyatt-street, Goswell-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 17, the Great Kyoto, Sensational Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, Juggler, and his Pug Dog; also Miss May, Geraldine, a Refined Chorus Comedienne and Dancer. Hippodrome, Leek, Staffs, where wire; after Sat., 25, Weymouth-st., C.-on-M., Manchester. Also Vacant Jan. 24, 31, onward.

WANTED, by Eldra and Dog, Monday next and Jan. 24, Original Canine Novelty Act; also Esta Elmar, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire this, 5, Regent-road, Altrincham; next 12, Wynne-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Jan. 31, by The Leonas (Musical Act), Electric Stage Set. This, Tivoli, Manchester (third return); next, Palace, Buxton.

WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, Singles. Coms., Picture Palace, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

WANTED, Jan. 17, on, Colvil and Tate, great Comedy Artists and Dancers. Sure draw for Halls, Pictures. Wire, 4, Springfield-avenue, Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by The Moncktons (Fred and Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, in screaming Farcical Playlets. Jan. 17, Borough Theatre, Wallsend.

WANTED, Monday next, by Edie Le Brun, clever girl juggler and vocalist, assisted by Edgar. Wire, 21, Shirley-street, Hove.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by EILEEN and WILLIE, Juvenile Vocalists and Expert Dancers. All coms., c/o Devoy, 36, Florence-st., Islington.

WANTED, Known, £25 challenge to any other Artist who can work our Act. CARDO and CARLEETE, Jan. 24, Palace, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Jan. 31, on, Cardo and Carleete, Illusionists, in latest Sensational Performance, "The Death Defying Water Escape." C/o Commercial Hotel, Brownroyd, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act, vacant 17th, 24th, 31st. Address, 16 Byron-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Grotesque Comedians, Monday, Jan. 17, Top or Bottom any Bill. Wire, 89, Rusholme, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday next, The Petricks (Geo. and Will), in their Refined Comedy Acrobatic Barrel-jumping and Vaulting Act. Wire, 41 Castle-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo and Castelle, Big Novelty Musical Monkey Act. Thanks for Wires from Widnes, Runcorn, and Normanton; North or Scotland only. Also good Vent. if Required. Wire, Royal, Workington; after Sat., 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Managers and Agents who are not afraid to look up, "The Three Britons," in their New, Novel, and Sensational Act "The Fighting Ambulance Nurse." Now is your chance for a sure success. All coms., 275, Park-lane, Little Horton, Bradford.

WANTED.—The Five M.P.'s have Jan. 24 and 31 open, share or cert., variety, pantomime, or pictures. Miss Daisy Palmer as a laughter-maker. Comedy a big success. Wire, Palace, Morley. Letters, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Beautiful Contortionist; also Rumbo Austin, with his new troupe of Navvies, Jan. 17, 24. Wire, Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known.—Who Requires a good Top or Bottom for Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 21? John Olrac presents the FIVE OLRACS, in a New and Novel Comedy Act, "ACROBATICAL FUNNIOSITIES," from Empire, Palace, Coliseum, and Hippodrome, London. Monday, Palace, Nelson, Thank you.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte Trio, Lady and Gent. Novelty Gymnastic Act, Free Monday onwards. Address, till Sunday, Hippo., Preston; after, Boro' Arms Hotel, Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, Jan. 17, 24, Star Novelty Performance; Skill and Comedy. 54, Upper Sutton-st., Aston Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan 24, and 31, Alex and Jelly, First-class Comedy Triple Bar Act. Just returned from the Continent. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston-hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Walkers, Would-be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality; Success, this, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port; next, Hippodrome, Birkenhead. Screams of laughter at the great Globe Walking Contest. Two good turns for halls or picture shows. Vac. Jan. 24.

WANTED, Jan. 17 and 24, by Valvo, the Great Ventriloquist. A novel act; success sure. Wire, 12, Lapage-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Offers invited. Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Jan. 24, for Scottie's Operatic Waifs and Strays, the cleverest act on the boards, big scene, and all props. carried; also Whizzing the Whirl, the great laughing cyclone. SCOTTIE, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Known, to Music Hall Managers, Messrs Dottridge and Longden are open for offers to Reproduce their enormously Successful Pantomime, "DICK WHITTINGTON," which can be seen at the Regent Theatre, Salford, Jan. 17, week, or they are Open to Produce an Entirely New Pantomime on any Subject, with the same brilliancy as the above. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Jan. 24 and 31, for "Napoleon at Waterloo," Great Military Spectacle. Enormous draw. Fine scenery, dresses, and marvellous battle effects; splendid pictorial posters. SCOTTIE, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Agents, Proprietors, Managers, to book Financial Productions, Produced by Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's famous Trained Lion Show, the most refined of all Shows, tremendous success at the Kursaal, Harrogate, this week; vacant Feb. 7, on, with exceptions. Com. week Jan. 17, Hippo. and Theatre Royal, Bilston, Staff.

WANTED, Known, Tudora's Ponies, Liberty Jan. 31 and on, Prettiest Pony Act on the Variety Stage. Proprietors and Managers, don't miss this. Next, Hippo., Norwich; 24th, Hippo., Ipswich. All coms., TUDORA, Hippo., Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Permane's Troupe of Live Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears. Third week, Curzon Hall. On Wednesday put last turn, to keep the audience in; complimented on doing so. The Only Turn that has been able to do so. Great Success. At Liberty Feb. 7. PERMANE'S TEDDY BEARS, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday next, between Cardiff and Exeter, by Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful and Clever Troupe of Russian Poodles, Great Novelty. Topping Bills Everywhere. Jan. 24, Hippo., Exeter. Thanking W. Stone, Esq., three comfortable weeks; also W. Dalton's Agency, for Contracts. Wire, Monday, Hippo., Tonypandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cycling Act, vacant Jan. 17, on. Wire or write, 1, Broad-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Novelty Bicycle Eccentric; Les Caros, Gentlemen Gymnasts. This, T. R., Leigh; next, Hippo., Todmorden.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lily Leaurence, late of Warwick Sisters, smart Trick Cyclist, good stage appearance. 43, Canning-st., Brighton.

WANTED from Feb. 8, for six or seven weeks in Leading City Halls or Theatres only, share or rental, for the Irish Animated Picture Co.'s Big and High-class Animated Pictorial Entertainment, Musical Répertoire Party and Orchestral Band; now running with great éclat at Rotunda, Dublin. Twice daily, 2½ hours. Can give frequent changes of programme; 7,000ft. to 8,000ft.; entire change daily if necessary. We top record takings for Dublin, Glasgow, Leeds, &c. Reply, JAMESON, 185 Great Brunswick-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, by young, versatile Burlesque Comedian, height 5ft. 6in; can join First-class Show immediately. Offers to Box 7,123. "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Pantomimist, 21, Engagement with Troupe, smart dancer, Comedy Page Speciality; live in. Week's trial given. PANTOMIMIST, 138, Nun-street, Derby.

WANTED.—Youth (17) wishes to join Troupe; Good Step-dancer, three years' stage experience. Write, F., 39A, Morat-street, Brixton.

WANTED, by smart active Youth, berth in Sketch. Box 7,118 ." The Era."

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, Gas or Electric, own machine, house, and films. NEWTH, 36, Leazes Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WORLD'S FAIR, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON, N. Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. READ.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, THE SEVENTEENTH ORIGINAL ANNUAL SHOWMEN'S SUPPER AND BALL will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 1910, at the Royal Agricultural Hall.

President, Rev Thomas Horne; Chairman, T. E. Read, Esq.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Frank Turner; Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Day.

Committee: Messrs. C. Hyatt, W. Wilson, J. Tronson, A. Dashwood, R. Turner, J. Hastings, F. Bibby, W. Slatter, T. Hurst, T. White, W. Taylor, E. W. White, A. Ball, J. Thomas, W. Price, H. Taylor, J. Wentworth, and Mellor.

Supper at 11.45.

Tickets for Supper and Ball, 4s. each, which can be obtained from any of the above. Mr. H. Bloodworth, M.C. "Success to the World's Fair."

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN. President, PATRICK COLLINS.

The United Kingdom Showmen and Van Dwellers' Protection Association.

The TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the FOUNDATION OF THE GUILD.

WANTED, all Showmen to attend A PUBLIC MEETING to commemorate the Coming-of-Age of the Guild. Will take place at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HILL, ISLINGTON, N. (by kind permission of the Lessee, T. R. Read, Esq.), Jan. 19, 1910, at 11 a.m.

The President will Deliver an Address, and other Speakers will be the Organising Chaplain, the Hon. Solicitor, the Parliamentary Agent, and other Friends and Officials of the Guild.

The Annual Business Committee of the Guild will be held at the World's Fair, Islington, at 7 p.m., Jan. 19. T. HURST, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the Next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union Will be Held at the Agricultural Hall, London, on Wednesday Next, Jan. 19, at 2.30 p.m. A good muster of members is requested. Business Important. Signed, THOS. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters, Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.

By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.

Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, for two Good Shops in Bristol, for Monday, onwards. Terms, share. JONES, 32, Old Market-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Punch and Judy Show, First-class, with fine Fit-up, suitable for Side Show in Touring Exhibition. Apply, Box 7,120, "The Era."

WANTED, a Good Palmist for First-class Palmistry Room, for the Summer Season. For particulars apply, MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Engagements for Carnivals, Exhibitions, &c., with the Finest Fairy Fountains ever Built; can be erected anywhere in thirty minutes; guarantee no splash and no leakage. CHRIS HARLAND, O. H., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Le Neve and Jem Mace Troupe of Male and Female Athletes, open 17th, Pickard's, Britannia, Glasgow, where those that want a good draw please write for terms.

WANTED, Known, Bert Hall, late Auctioneer and Manager for Taylor's Auction Mart, is at Liberty. 10, Croft-street, Heckmondwike, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Showman, with Big Cinematograph Booth, write me. Have two complete distinct shows. Share or certainty. DANA, 27, Merchant-street, Bow.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
to Showmen, Stall-holders, and Amusement Caterers, following Feasts, Fairs, &c.

P. COLLINS,
is now open to book First-class Tenants for his well-known Spring and Summer Route of
Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes,
Oswestry, Longton, Cefn, Llangollen, Welshpool, Newtown, Llanidloes, Ruthin, and Wrexham.
Lichfield, Dudley, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath.

Good Easter Fairs.
Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stourbridge, London, and New Brighton.
Ludlow May Fair, Chester Races.

Whitsuntide.
Leicester Fair, which will be one of the biggest events in this year.

I intend having some big outside Free Attractions.
Birmingham Fair,
and a run of Fairs, Feasts, Wakes, Flower Shows, &c., right through the season.

For terms, &c., apply,

P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

Telephone 80 Walsall.

Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, Exhibitions, Deansgate, Bolton, commencing Sat., Jan. 22, Spaces to Let for Novelties, Fancy Goods, also Sweet-making Stall, &c. Applications to SECRETARY, 48, Duke-st., Bolton.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces at the Trades, Foods, and Industrial Exhibition, Chelmsford, for real novelties. Apply MANAGER, Exhibition, Corn Exchange, Chelmsford. Open Jan. 22 to Feb. 2, inclusive.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, in Hull, Auctioneers or Nov., rent £16 per month, or shares, open front. J. BERRY, 44, Whitefriargate, Hull.

WANTED, to Let, Large Distorting Mirrors on hire. Address,
MIRRORS, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, for Season, Hall or Space, for large Historical Painting, seaside preferred; distance no object. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-rd., Leyton, E.

WANTED, Shop in Large Town for Auction Purposes. Swag; also Auctioneer; good commission paid for information if suitable. Apply, AUCTIONEER, 97, High-street, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van, 12ft. by 7ft., nicely fitted, good condition.
KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, oil engine, and dynamo, mounted on wheels, 300yds. cable, switchboard, nearly new, cost £265. NORRIS, 80, Zetland-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Park-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Automatic Orchestraphone, 1d. in slot, plays five different instruments, 10 tunes on barrel. Cost over £50; take £25 cash. Can be seen and heard playing at BARRON'S Automatic Parlour, 233, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, £25 Photographic Studio (Electric), in First-class Touring Exhibition (Syndicate), in full working order, doing P.C. while you wait; business will be taught; a good living for couple; novelty with no opposition in towns visited; retain staff. Box 7,110, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Half-share in New Riding Machine, big moneytaker, £75, genuine. 233, Edgware-road London.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, Good Shuttered Booth. State size, condition, weight, &c., DANA, 27, Merchant-street, Bow.

WANTED, to Buy, Travelling Picture Show, with up-to-date Organ Front, with or without loco and lighting plant. Box 7,135, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, quantity old iron Menagerie Cage Fronts. Apply, with lowest price and full particulars, to Box 7,127, "The Era."

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Large Skating Rink or other Building,
for the months of February, March, April,
for the Installation and Exhibition
of the
Great Bostock Jungle
(at present in operation at the City Exhibition Hall, Manchester).
Address full particulars to
FRANK C. BOSTOCK,
Earl's Court, London.

WANTED, immediately, Acting-Manager for Skating Rink, must be of good appearance, wear evening dress, with knowledge of Rink Carnivals, &c., &c. Reply, enclosing photo and reference, state lowest salary.

W. YATES GREGORY,

Theatre Royal,
Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Lady (Young), as Instructress, for South Coast Town; must be expert, and have had previous experience. Enclose references, &c., and state salary.
Box 7,145, "The Era."

WANTED, for Small Rink in the Midlands, Skating Instructor. Lowest terms to MANAGER, 93, Russell-street, Kettering, Northants.

RINK MANAGER.
WANTED, by a Gentleman, who has designed and supervised the building and organised and trained the Staff of one of the finest and most successful Rinks existing, a position as Manager in London, Paris, or Southern Counties.

Address,
ORGANISER, Box 7,143, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Manager at Liberty, with plenty of new ideas for surprise items out of the common; speciality in Carnivals, Electric Effects, Decorations, Floor Maintenance, and Repairs, Bioscope and Limelight, work Fountains; fourteen years' experience; not afraid of work. Box 7,111, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager Instructor desires change; experienced, combine general management. ERNIE MORRIS, 9, Milner-road, Wisbech, Cambs.

SURPLUS STOCK.
WANTED, to Sell, 200 pairs of Brampton Ball-bearing Extension Skates, ladies' and gentlemen's, in excellent condition, in use for short time only. Will accept 6s. per pair for not less than 25 pairs. Apply, Box 7,121, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 100,000 pairs Roller Skates, from 1s. 11d. per pair, various makes. Apply for list, The FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, Live Agents, to push the new Rapid Floor Surfacer (patented).
It gets there.
THE UNION ENGINEERING CO.,
Rink Specialists, Darwen. 'Phone 270.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Lease, Old-established Theatre in Lancashire; fully licensed (2) bars; some first-class bookings. Principals only. Apply, F. G. WRIGHT, 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Picture Halls and a Skating Rink, Both in Good Towns; or would Accept an active Partner.
Reason of selling, bad health.
Box 7,140, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Theatrical Costumiers' Business, in the North; cheap. Established seven years; good hire connection, large stock, costumes, wigs, scenery, fixtures, &c. No opposition in the district; central position; low rent; one month's free coaching; suit lady or gent; good side-lines; £600. Box 7,124, "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Buildings (wood and iron), Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, Bungalows. F. H. HEATH, LTD., Manufacturers, Department E, Salford, Manchester.

To Costumiers, Theatrical Managers, and Others.
WANTED, Known, Chadwick and Sons will Sell by Auction, on Friday next, at 12, at their Rooms, 44, Long Acre, Drury Lane, W.C., a Large Assortment of Theatrical Dresses, Costumes, Properties, Scenery, &c.
On view. Catalogues had at the Auctioneers' Offices, 43, St. Martin's-lane, Charing Cross, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell or Rent next season, FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Enormously Successful
Brixton Pantomime Production,
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
For Sale or Rental next season.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Pantomime Productions.
Can be seen by appointment.
Now being Played in First-class Theatres.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Oldham.

WANTED, to Sell, at end of Run, First-class Pantomime Production, "Robinson Crusoe." Managers invited to inspect. E. GATES, Grand Theatre, North-road, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, good Fit-up Scenery, consisting four 18ft. wings, landscape cloth, also transparent Garden Cloth. First good offer gets the lot. Apply, SYD E. LYNDHURST, c/o Mrs. Heaton, Moorgate-grove, Rotherham.

WANTED, to Sell, Bioscope, steadiest, and complete outfit; electric and lime apparatus; large quantities of Films, Screen, Combination Exhibition Box, and Stand, £40, worth double. Seen working. F. CHARLIER, Grand T., Aberavon, South Wales.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, 4,600ft. Comic, Sporting, Dramatic Subjects, some coloured, used about six weeks. Accept £12 the lot, or 1d. per ft. Call, and inspect greatest bargain ever offered. HUGHES, 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, new, 2½d. foot; 750 Pathé's Bluebeard; 335 Red Riding Hood; 520 Drama Seville, &c. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Sell, pretty little Midget Shetland Pony, only 27in. high. Price £12, carriage paid. G. STEPHEN, Braehead, Ferryhill, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, leno plain with ruche, 3s. 11d. per doz.; Accordion pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Known, Mourning. Society Lady has some charming Day and Evening Gowns, nearly new, Theatre Coats, Set Sables, slight size. Tel. 2584 Kensington, or write Hon. Mrs. C., Box 7114, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Tip-up Chairs, 54 Red Utrecht Velvet, padded arm-rests, seats, and backs, 8s. each; 256 Polished Birch Woods, 4s. 6d. Box 7,119, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, New, Well-made Ghost Fit-up, complete, except scenes, touring halls. MANAGER, "Pepper's Ghost," Wivenhoe, Essex.

WANTED, to Sell, Papier-maché Armour, Trophies, Weapons, any period made; skating rink decorations a speciality. DYMOND, Flag Maker, Wyndham Arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Xylophones, Marimbas, Resonaphones, Tubaphones, Organ Chimes, Rattles, Tubular Lyres. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Illusions, apparatus, Chair to Portmanteau, 25s.; Goldfish Net, 21s.; Duck Tub, 35s.; and others. 52, Lansdown-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Full Sets (large), Interiors, Exteriors, Cloths, Rostrums. BROOKS, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Several good, thick Stage Carpets, New, colour red, big bargains. SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a State Carriage, in good condition, was used in the Oxford Pageant. Apply for particulars to R., 12, St. Giles, Oxford.

WANTED, to Sell, Own Plays, "A Beautiful Thief," "Come Back to Erin." Stock Plays, Sketches, Duos. HAL COLLIER, King's T., Gloucester.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Serpentine Dress, also Cloths for re-painting, and a Stage Cloth. BARRETT, Theatre, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham.

WANTED, good secondhand Surfacing Machine. Particulars, with lowest price, to
FOX, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, to Buy, Fat Policeman or Fat Boy Dress.
Lowest Price to
GUS LEVAINE, Theatre Royal, Crook.

WANTED, Circus Ring Mat and Fence, in Sections, good and cheap, for cash. Particulars, BRETTLE, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Portable. State size, seating capacity, and condition. Lowest price for spot cash, quick. Box 7134, "The Era."

WANTED, Some Really Good and Original Comic Plots, for Cinematograph purposes.
Write,
CRICKS and MARTIN,
London-road, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, Stirring New Melodrama, with Original Ideas and good Star Part for Leading Juvenile Lady. An opening for a new Author. Script and full particulars to ROBERT GREY, Empire, Edinburgh.

WANTED, good Dramatic, Comedy, or Musical Sketch, with particularly good Young Child's part; splendid chance for new author; scripts and full particulars. ROBERT GREY, Empire, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Comedy Duets (Lady and Gent.); must be good and funny.
CORRI, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Jan. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Rooms, Private. Best accommodation in London. Concert Grand Pianos. Manchester House, 295 Kennington-road.

WANTED, Tenders for Large Grounds attached to Licensed Premises, in important Surrey town, suitable for Pierrot Troupe or Concert Parties, or could be made into fair-sized Skating Rink. No other attractions of the kind in the town. Address, Box 7137, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Paint Room, 40ft. by 20ft., with frame wardrobe, dry storage, Scenery makers. ACKLAND SNOW, Cambridge-rd., Hammersmith.

WANTED, to Let, the Rights for an Advertising Curtain, and also Advertisement portion of the programme of the magnificent ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Under Entirely New Management.
Write offers immediately to
CHAS. EVANS, as above.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-street, W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, the Cheapest in the World. Send for particulars, THE FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, to Let, a Successful Drama, by foremost author, scenery, costumes, printing; in fact, a complete show, without any preliminary expense in any department. Present owner settling down to resident management. Possession after Easter. Can be seen playing till then. Box 7,143, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Fit-up Rights of Walter Howard's "Man and Wife." New plant pictorials (specially cut) recently added. Only responsible managements treated with. Apply, E. VAN BIENE, 22, Howitt-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, to Hire,
Large Skating Rinks, Exhibition, or Drill Halls, from March 26, onwards,
for ROYAL ITALIAN CIRCUS.
All necessary erections carried,
which can be fitted up without nails or screws.
Mat carried, 2in. thick, which covers the entire ring,
thereby protecting the floor from any damage.

Full particulars, with dimensions of hall,
EDWIN GILLEY,
Drill Hall, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Halls, for Cinematograph Shows. The Halls to be Licensed for same.

Address,
GREEN, Frighted Horse Hotel, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, complete Prompt Book of "Madam Angot" Comic Opera.
Address, GERALD HARDING, T. R., Colne.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner with capital, for Picture Palace, going concern, only Picture Show in town of nearly 50,000 inhabitants, chiefly prosperous working class; complies with 1910 regulations; good reason given. Every investigation invited. Genuine offer; splendid opportunity. Principals or their Solicitors only dealt with. Address, Box 7,141, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known Actor, young gentleman, smart, fair height, for Big Music Hall Act; only those able to invest £50 need apply. Box 7,131, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for Comedy Juggling Act. Letters only.
PARENI, 3a, Rectory-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, by Comedian, Lady Partner; must be excellent pianist and singer, for comedy act. Photo., &c., BUCKINGHAM, 16, Waldemar-av., Fulham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. Telephone 2681 Central. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos.,
EDWARD HARRISON,
Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, that we do Post-cards from Photos. in quantities not less than 100 from one Photo.; Memos. also done. SENIOR and Co., Fine Art Printers, Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Band Parts arranged, full or small Orchestra and Piano Copies transposed, any key. JOHN COOKE, 5, Jackson-avenue, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, Parratt's New Book of Humorous Stories and Recitations, splendid selection of Stories and Gags, 1s., post free. PARRATT, Humorist, Ilkley.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors, Managers, and all whom it may concern, that on and after April 18, I will be known as Jaffa, the Jabbering Comedy Enchanter. Final and only notice. Signed, ALAN MCASKELL.

WANTED, by High-class West End Photographer, a Pretty Boy and Girl, age 3 to 5, as Model; must be a good poser. Write, with photograph, which will be returned, to R. N. L., c/o Messrs. Durand, Bennett, and Co., 69, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909.

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.
A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.

Price ONE SHILLING.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
and the
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.
'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address—"The Era," London.

Stanley v. Hale's Tours.

High Court of Justice, Chancery Division.—Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady.

SALE BY TENDER

of the
PATENT RIGHTS, GOODWILL, PROPERTIES, AND EFFECTS.
pertaining to the widely-known business of
HALE'S TOURS OF THE WORLD
(United Kingdom), Limited.

comprising Exhibitions or Properties in Oxford-street, Poland-street, and Estcourt-road, London; Birmingham, Bristol, Newport, Manchester, Blackpool, and New Brighton.

Included in the Sale will be the Working Cars, Stores, Bioscopes; Bioscope Parts, Electric Motors and Appliances, Office Furniture, Stocks of Positive and Negative Films and Accessories.

Full particulars and forms of tender can be obtained gratis on application to Messrs. LAWRENCE, GRAHAM and Co., Solicitors, 6, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.; W. C. PEPPER, Esq., Receiver and Manager, 15, Poland-street, London, W.; and WHEATLEY KIRK, PRICE and Co., Auctioneers and Valuers, 46, Watling Street, London, E.C.

Note.—Tenders must be delivered on or before Monday, Jan. 31, 1910.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENTS.
TENDERS INVITED
from First-rate
ENTERTAINMENT PARTY
for exclusive right of performing during summer on West Parade and in Egerton Park, with use of Park Pavilion and Pergola enclosure.
For conditions, &c., apply Town Clerk, Bexhill.

BOROUGH OF PLYMOUTH.

TO ENTERTAINERS.

TENDERS ARE INVITED
for the use during the Summer Season, 1910, of the BANDSTAND on the HOE (when not required by Corporation Bands) or other site to be sanctioned by the Committee, and the right to make collections and sell sweetmeats, &c.
Tenders to be delivered not later than Wednesday, the 26th day of January, 1910, at 10 a.m.
Conditions can be obtained on application at my office.
J. H. ELLIS,
Town Clerk.
Municipal Buildings, Plymouth,
14th January, 1910.

BOROUGHS OF PLYMOUTH & DEVONPORT AND THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EAST STONEHOUSE.

VICTORIA PARK ENTERTAINMENTS

TO ENTERTAINERS.

TENDERS ARE INVITED
for the use during the Summer Season, 1910, of the Bandstand in Victoria Park for the purpose of giving Entertainments, and the right to make collections and sell sweetmeats, &c.
Tenders to be delivered at my office not later than noon on Friday, tht 21st day of January, 1910.
Conditions of Tender can be obtained on application.
J. H. ELLIS,
Town Clerk.
Municipal Buildings, Plymouth,
10th January, 1910.

THE SPA, SCARBOROUGH.

APPOINTMENT OF
MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

The Committee of Management of the Scarborough Cliff Bridge Company are prepared to receive applications for the position of Musical Director for the season 1910.
Applications to be sent in not later than the 31st instant.
Particulars of the appointment may be obtained from
H. T. CHAMBERS,
Secretary.
Jan. 12, 1910.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.
Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES

SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 17, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"The Arctic," Ruth Vincent, Siems, Triumph of Beauty, Lamberti, Cinquevalli, Charburn's Young Stars, Lottie Bellman, Alaskas, Pictures, Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire Dance," Vanando.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Leonie Dixon, Walker and May, J. A. Wilson, Larry Lewis, The Westwoods, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, J. L. Shine and Co., Olive Lenton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

Adeleyne Boyer, Rita Rhylle, Bioscope, Bert Errol, Millie Engler and Co., Corbin's Dogs, Jack Smiles, Alfred West, The Bensons, L'Incognita.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

The Rawsons, Ross and Lewis, Harry Leybourne, Darnley's "Barnstormers," Musical Jees, Dare's Minstrels, Harry Bedford, Delomes, Bioscope, Lukushimas.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. Austin and Co., in "Parker, P.C.," Bros. Corcoran, Archie Naish, Emil Solbrig's Automatus, Cassie Walmer, Gipsy Woolf, "Billy," Mina Denvil, Bioscope, Sam Mayo.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Motor Chase" Eadie and Rameden O'Gust, Fred Keeton, Coloured Meisters, Miles-Stavodore, Chas. Matthews, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Gobert Belling, De Breans, Ethel James, Harry Merrylees, Rexos, Chas. Santon, Lizzie Glenroy, Bioscope, Albert Marsh's "Chums Till Death," Sebastian Merrill and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The Fair One with the Golden Locks," produced by Stanley Rogers.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lelia Roze, Bert Coote and Co., in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Clown Argo, Bioscope, Sisters Caselli, Amati Sisters, Kramers, Bollingers, Whilbys, Maud and Sydney Wood, Staig's Steeplejacks.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Olga Petronowa's Band, Lillian French, Fayre and Manning, James' Strolling Players, "Dolly's Deception," Ethel Newman, Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, Geo. D'Albert.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Evie Greene, Frank Maura, Carl Lynn, Victor Travers, "Bosun's Mate," Odeyne Spark, Bioscope, Phil Percival, Loyal's Dogs, Park's Boys and Girls.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Jack Lorimer, Vincent, Lancashire Lads, May Henderson, Marquis' Ponies, James Stewart, Mlle. Haydee, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Cruikshank.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Dumont Wrestlers, Cavallotti Bros., O'Malley and Brown, Marno Trio, Ted E. Box, Sarnthaler Troupe, Lester Carey, Bioscope, Jessie Albini, Casey Army.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jewel's "Change," Fatmah Diard, Delevines, Holden's Mannikins, Rossi Ashton, Munroe's Comedy Team, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Tom Clare, Emerson and Baldwin.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Vanando, Lester Bros., Russell and Held, Braatz's Dogs, Bros. Durant, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Gertie Gitana, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt."

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Henry Ainley and Suzanne Sheldon in "Kiddie," Bioscope, Maxey and Pete, Empire Comedy Four, The Craggs, To-To, La Freya, Hubert Connorton, Jennie Hartley, Billy Hobbs, Zona Vevey.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," by arrangement with Fred Karno.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime "Cinderella," by arrangement with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan.

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Van Biene, Taylor Granville's "Hold Up," La Sylphe, Lindon's Vaudevilles, Horace White, G. W. Hunter, Bros. Gaudsemidt, Stanley and Greenop, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Marie Kendall.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Cyril Maude and Elise Craven in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," Slaviansky Russian Choir, Heeley and Meeley, Willette Whittaker and Wilbur Hill, La Tortajada, Pilarica Peasants, Crisps, Mabel Mavis, Maurice, Bioscope Grotesques, Tom Davies Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Harry Clifford, Billie Burford, Gus Garrick, Barnard's Mannikins, Cumberlands, Goggin and Davis, Edna Lyall, Bioscope, Will H. Fox.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Courtice Pounds, Florence Esdaile, Spry and Monti, Harry Grey, Elite Harmony Four, Tate and Tate, Olive Armidale, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Perkins, M.P.," Three Delaries, Daras, Northern Troupe, Gladys Mavius, Marshall and Parr, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Bellclair Bros.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Dacey and Lewis, Arthur Ferris, Lily Burnand, Glenroy Troupe, Grace Merton, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Three Meers.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Clarice Mayne, Mlle. Liane, D'Eve, Mike Nono, The Brennans, Talbot and Pearce, Herbert Shelley, The Athlones, Lil O'Gorman, Bioscope, Nine Kremos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Raymond, Lily Palmer, Harry Anderson, Gitto, Romanis, Paul Barnes, Annie Purcell, Barowskys, Little Miss Muffett, John Macauley, Ernest Shand, Cyril Clensy, in "The Last Chance."

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "Sergeant Longfellow," Kate Butler, Harry May Hemsley, Miller Bros., Mendel, Carney and Armstrong, Sisters Storm, Monie Mine, Bioscope, La Berat.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Will o' the Wisps, Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, Harry Drew, Reichen's Dogs, Mabel Sinclair, J. W. Hall, Miss Henriquette Maude, Clark and Haydon, Madge Osmond, Bioscope, Boisset's "Trip to the Continent."

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Takio, Three Welsh Girls, Selwyn Driver, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, "Humpsti Bumpsti," George C. Doughty, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Geo. Leyton, in "The Roll Call," Cumminger and Colonna.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Arthur Kenny, Henry Helme, Nina Wood, Marjutti, Dan Fraser, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, Lilian Trevellie, Tom Moore, Eida and Falco, Harry Friskey, Sam Dalton, Pictures, Ray and Calden.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Okabe Family, J. C. Scatter, Amelie De L'Enclos, Goltz Trio, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Alf. Maynall, D'Arc's Dolls.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

O Hana San, Rhoda Paul, Four Regals, Ruth Davenport, Alf. Gibson, Addie Dorina, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

W. J. Churchill, Ethel Arundel, Geo. Rae, The Newmans, J. H. Scotland, Musical Silva, Pictures, Tom Bryce, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Arthur Watson and Co., Prof. Dunning, Fred Elton, Stewart and Morgan, Chas. Vincent, Kahn and Kahn, Pictures, Tom E. Finglass.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Sidney Cooper and Tally Ho Trio's Pantomime, "Cinderella."

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lilian Rose, Walter Lawley and Co., Romanoff, Thiessenn's Dogs, Maud Esmond, Leo Dryden, Taree, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Hyde and Cody Trio, Ted Cowan, Leslie's Cadets, Dutch Daly, "The Deputy Sheriff," Lee and Kingston, Minnie Mace, Colonial Septette, Hanlon Troupe, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Dancing Paceys, Harold Heath, Chas. D'Aix and Dog, Katie Cohen, Five Whiteleys, Albert Christian, Jan Rudenyi and Co., Dalvere and Wallace, Aurora Troupe, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Edward Marris' Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—

Haley's Juveniles, Allen Hanbury, Mather and Mayer, Ernest Tilbury, Phinas and Alda, Ethel Mann, The Hodginis, The Korries, L. W. Harris, Pistures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Phil Kauffmann, Cissie Lupino, Denaro Bros., Elsie Athas, "Boy Scout," Fred Godfrey, The Hamiltons, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Julian Ross, Angela Ward, Julia Reeve, Borella Bros., Five Vernons, Sisters Lavender, Marco, Pistures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—

Glennie's Marionettes, Cyril Dane, Nash and Nash, Smith and Gibbs, Jenny Lynn, Jack Rae, May Clarke, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Sisters Towers, The Waltons Bros. Howard, "The Monkey Jockey," Evelyn Taylor, Herbert Sleath and Co., Walter Wade, Bros. Artois, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager—**Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 17.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Baker and Balfe, Brothers Lawrence, Pictures, Seven Wulfranas, Sisters Judge, Grace Dudley, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Lily Denville, The McKinleys, Two Diamonds.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Lew Lake and Co., Tom Bass, Rene Graham, Bertina, Czar Troupe, Dick and Dorothy Trio, Hearne and Palmer, Athelda, The Menzies, Ronny Blair.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Berrington, Florence Raymond, Geo. Marriot and Co., Harry Bent, Esther Phillips, Kitty Leon, Jock McNeil, Glovers, Swan and Latimer, Lauri.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Alfonso Silvano, Morris and Mart, Francis Letty, Phydoras, Pete and Minnie Lee, Blanche Vincent, Adderley Howard and Co.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, Marie Kay, Danton and Norris, Geo. Acre, The Two Ludoes, Dolly and Rosie, Mamie Morris, Frank Hardie and Co., Steve Buckingham, Ajax and George, The Manikins.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Goodwin's Picca., The Fordyces, Baker and De Sales, Estrella, Donnas Trio, Friscari, Amy Anderson and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Signor Arvi, Dan Conroy, Montes Bros., Victor and Louis, Eileen Douglas, Alex Lofton, Achmed Ibrahim Arabs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
E. Edmunds and Co., Ruby Dahl, Chas. Byron, "Motoring," Geoffreys and Benson, The Keppels, Alice Gill, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Marie Santoi and Co., Tom Joy, The Lannons, Lafaille Troupe, Louie Tracy, Margit and Lener, Phillips and Merritt, Five Tritons, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pictures, Norah Stockelle, "East Lynne," Brian M'Cullough and Co.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"His Dishonoured Wife."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Janowsky Troupe, "Slaterstein Ltd.," Francoli Troupe, Minnie Warner, J. H. Greener, Edie Reynolds, Rosie Archer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
James Fawn, J. P. Carroll, Frank Coyle, Les Montaldos, Sisters Melba, Salvino, The Garricks, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
H. C. Lovell and Co., Maro Duo, Bessie Neilson, Akbar, Bella Leaburn, Hersleb Bros., Emma Don, Walter Buxton, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Five X Rays Damerell and Rutland, Norah Desmond, Reg. Ewen, Curtis and Piccs., Farr and Farland, Mona Vivian, Dan Whitley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Leroux's Monkeys, Earle and Godfrey, Geo. Shirley, Sleath and Aldin, Helena Stewart, Fritz Kornau, Johnny Dwyer, Florence Conolly, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"The Eyes of the World."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Babes in the Wood."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Conway and Leland, Edith Chantler, Willie Long, Flo D'Orville, Sim Mores, Terry and Tate, Arthur Woodville, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Heron and Company, Josephine Crooke, Bonnetti and Corri, Les Saletos, Tom Yorke, Enzer and Clarice, Godfrey Price, Palace Perfection Pictures Archie Pitt.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Four Burnells, Wyze and Adna, Stein-Esthor Trio, Beatrice Willey, Webb and Branston, Harry Luck, Carney Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Harry Roxbury's "Sleeping Beauty."

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

FOR PANTOMIME HITS. **NATIONAL** MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

IF YOU INTEND CHANGING YOUR SONG IN THE LAST HALF OF THE PANTOMIME, THESE ARE THE WINNERS.

The Greatest of all Comedy Numbers, suit either Boy, Girl, Dame, or Comedian.

YOU ALL WANT SOMETHING TO CUDDLE.
Sung, with enormous success, by GEORGE ROBEY, TOM FOY, FRED ALLANDALE, and a host of others.

LENA SCHMIDT.
THE FIRST THE ONLY THE ORIGINAL.

THERE'S A GIRL IN BERLIN.
YOU MIGHT SHAKE HANDS.
WON'T YOU COME TO MADEIRA WITH ME.
IS THAT A FACT?
PUT ME UPON AN ISLAND WHERE THE GIRLS ARE FEW.

Professional copies of the above numbers, together with our other successes, will be sent only to ARTISTS holding Pantomime engagements, on receipt of 6d. for postage. State Theatre & Part.

Call any old time and hear them played over.

NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
132, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—3051 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKENHEAD. — Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, 3 Bedrooms; Comb. Piano; w.c.; three min. all amusements.

BLACKPOOL. — Good apartments. Piano; 2 minutes from theatre. Mrs. Ward, 6, Upper Talbot-street. Vacant Sunday.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW. — Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, N.W.—Comfortable bed and sitting room; piano and gas; 2 minutes' from Tube, rail, and 'bus to all parts; very moderate. 79 Leighton-road, Kentish Town.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road. Sitting-room and bedroom, also bed-sitting rooms, for Sunday, 16th.

LONDON, S.W.—To Let, sitting-room and bedroom; extra bedroom if required; piano, bath (h. and c.), every convenience. Mrs. Cope, 53, Holland-road, Brixton.

LONDON, S.W.—75, Drayton-gardens, South Kensington; newly decorated, drawing room 12s. 6d.; parlours 17s. 6d.; bed-sitting 7s. 6d.; small 5s. 6d.; board-residence 15s. Proprietress.

LONDON, W.—Superior furnished Apartments, from 15/-; also Suites, Piano, Bath, quiet street, central. Opp. Tube. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly-circus.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette. Splendid rooms, every attention; piano, bath (h.c.), w.c.; 1 minute from Empire, Opera House, sea.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

DOWN'S PARK COLLEGE
FOR BOYS.
Herne Bay.
Terms moderate.
Entire Charge Taken.
T. AURELIUS, M.A. (Cantab).

TYPEWRITING. Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

PRICE & REYNOLDS'

PANTOMIME "HITS."

BABY'S PARK PARADE.
LITTLE MISS SNOWSHOES.
MAIDIE AND HER LITTLE TEDDY BEAR.
HERE'S TO ALL THE GIRLS.
WALKING ROUND THE BANDSTAND.
OLD JACK FROST. MONTE CARLO.
BOY SCOUT'S SONG.
PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.

41, BERNERS STREET, W.

THE FINEST HAMPERS IN THE WORLD

The "G.P.O." Hamper.

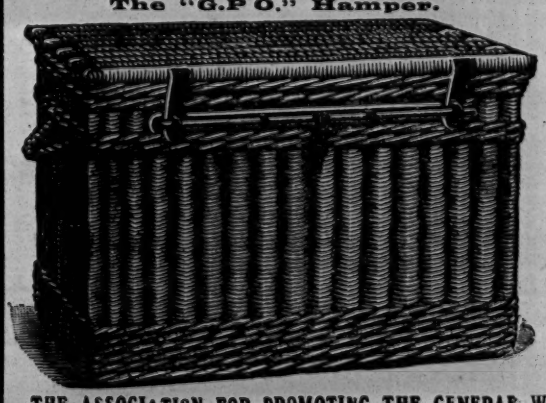

are made by the Blind at 258, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. Give us a call and you will be convinced that we can supply all your wants and execute all your orders promptly.

No. 3.—
33 in. long, 21 in. wide, 21 in. deep,
Price 24/- Tray 4/-

Other sizes at proportionate rates. Made close and very strong. Iron Hinges, Rope Handles, Iron Bands on ends of lid, G.P.O. Iron Bar as shown, Hard Wood Clots, and lined with waterproof cloth. Wheels fitted, 2/- extra.

By placing your orders with us you not only get the best hampers that can be purchased, but at the same time you will be helping to support the Blind.

Terms: net cash with order. Carriage paid.

NOTE ONLY ADDRESS—
THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE BLIND,
258, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON, W.
Subscriptions towards the Pension Fund will be thankfully received by the Secretary, H. E. MULLINS,

---

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED
AT THE BERLIN THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. **£25 nett**

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central. 1581 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

RUFFELL'S

FILMS
FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6665.

THE "EXCELSIOR"

HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH DEFENCE LEAGUE,

Ltd.,

18, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Secretary: H. E. W. POOLE. *Telephone: 3160 Central.*

Formed for the purpose of dealing with the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and all matters arising therefrom.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. H. BROUGHTON, Chairman, 18, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
P. BECK, Alcazar Picture Hall, Shoreditch, E.C.
SIDNEY BACON, 143, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
W. M. BORRADAILE, 20, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
T. EINSTEIN, 23, Charing Cross House, W.C.
G. W. GRANT, Aldwych Mansions, Strand, W.C.
F. R. GRIFFITHS, 1, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
ARCHIBALD HUNTER, 31, Litchfield Street, W.C.
R. T. JUPP, 161, Jermyn Street, W.
W. F. JURY, 142, Long Acre, W.C.
J. J. NEWBOULD, 145, Piccadilly, W.
M. A. PYKE, Dewar House, Haymarket, S.W.
J. ROBARTS, Arena, Villiers Street, Strand, W.C.
HORACE SEDGER, 5, Green Street, Leicester Square, W.C.
A. T. WRIGHT, 23, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
J. D. WALKER, 40, Gerrard Street, W.

All Showmen or Exhibitors are cordially invited to get into communication with the Secretary at once.

Your Interests are at Stake!

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, CERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Extract from letter received from Mr. George P. Fenton, Central Palace, Darlington:—"With reference to Biograph Films, we always go in for this make extensively, experience having taught us that they are of vital importance to keep the programme up to high standard. I have spoken."

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Release Sunday, Jan. 23,
THROUGH THE BREAKERS.
Dramatic. Length 974ft.

Release Thursday, Jan. 20,
THE REDMAN'S VIEW.
Indian drama. Length 971ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Thursday, Jan. 20,
THE FISHERMAN'S BRIDE.
Great marine melodrama. Length 1,000ft.

Releasing Sunday, Jan. 23,
UP SAN JUAN HILL.
Spanish War drama. Length 1,000ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, Jan. 23,
SHE TOOK MOTHER'S ADVICE.
Comic. Length 465ft.

HE WANTED A BABY.
Serio comic. Length 460ft.

IF LOVE BE TRUE.
Drama. Length 975ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

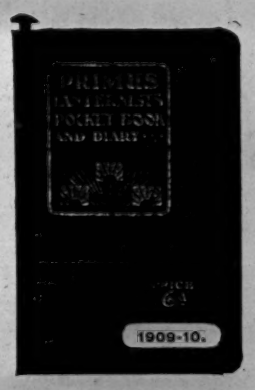

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** *Free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

THE PRINTERS FOR 1910

FOR THEATRICAL AND SHOW PRINTING.

Write for Catalogues.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S

Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS

— FOR —

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price ***3/6.*** *Post free,* ***3/9.***

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.

All the American Theatrical News.

For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

THE BILLBOARD.

AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.

It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.

London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.

Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

MR. FRANK STONE,
Cæsar Cregeen, Lyceum Tour of "Pete." Add., c/o WEATHERSBY; or, Aquar., Gt. Yarmouth.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (sixteenth year), Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY - GOFTON.
The Giant, Theatre Royal, Birmingham. A truly Great Performance.—Vide Press.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Assistant Producer and Stage-Manager, "The Fair One" Pantomime. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. DUDLEY STUART,
Disengaged. Leading Bus. Address, 7, Larkhall-rise, S.W.

MR. RICHARD F. SYMONS,
Towzer, and G.-M., Mr. Louis Calvert's "Sunday" Co. Palace, Newcastle.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
"The Adder's Tooth." Bedford Music Hall, Camden Town, N.W.; or A.A.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. and MRS. TOM J. TAYLOR
(Miss Marie E. Robertson), Comedian and Chamb. Dis. Feb. 7. T. R., Leamington.

MR. ALFRED TERRAINE
Address, 25, St. Alban's-avenue, Bedford Park, W.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE.
(Louise Hampton), Aldwych Theatre, W. Offers, 75, Mount Pleasant-lane, U. Clapton, N.E.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Disengaged, Character Comedy, Eccentric Old Men. 23, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. E. W. THOMAS,
Disengaged until Feb. 7, Grafton-square, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. HOWARD L. TRACY
have resigned Engagement with H. P. Selwyn, and are Disengaged. 137, St. George's-rd., S.E.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL
"The Breed of the Tresham's" Tour. Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MR. F. VERNON TRAVERS,
Leading Business and Management. Disen. Jan. 29. Next week, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MR. R. S. TRELAWNEY,
At Liberty for Leading Business. Castlewich, Callington, Cornwall.

MR. & MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE,
Auguste and Edward van Biene's "Man and Wife" Co. All communications c/o "The Era."

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Hamlet, Shylock, David Garrick. Bandmann Comedy Company, Yokohama, Japan

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN
(Miss Miriam Lewes). Mr. Vaughan at Liberty. 12, Mentone-mansions, Fulham S.W

MR. HERBERT VERE, General Man., Strong Lead or Character; Lib. few Special Weeks. Address, Metropole, Birmingham

MR PERCY H. VERNON
Concluding sixth egagement with Mr. W. W Kelly's Co., as Tallyrand, Lyric Th., Hammersmith.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Ned Drayton, "In the Ranks." Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. ALBERT WARD
Disengaged for Lead. 45, Santley-street, Brixton, S.W.

MR W LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged. 48, Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

MR. A. HAMILTON WARDEN,
General Manager for Mr. Arthur Carlton. Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY.
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand 'Phone, 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER,
Disengaged Spring. 56, Clarence-street, Dover; or, C. St. John, Denton.

MR. CHARLES WEIR,
Disengaged shortly. 45, Powis-square, Bayswater, W.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
"Mr. Hook." L., Sheffield; next, T. R., York.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
At Liberty, to Produce, &c. 236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged, Character, Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manager. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General-Manager, Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). Disengaged. "Little Damozel" Tour. Oxford and Cambridge.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
Disengaged. 31, St. Leonards-road, Hove, Sussex.

MR HERBERT WILLIAMS
Member for Tooting Bec. Hippodrome, Balham, and Metropolitan.

MR LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business. At Liberty. "The Biorenge." Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
At Liberty. 5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
General Manager. Only Address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Evelyn Shaw), R. W., S.-Manager, London Hippodrome. E. S. conc. eng. Garrick T., W.C.

MR. and MRS. JOHN WORTH
(Miss Maude Steeple) "The Love of the Princess" Co., T. R., Colne.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Musical and Farcical Comedy Character. Disengaged. 147, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
Dudley Gore, "Marriages of Mayfair." H. M. T., Aberdeen.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Heavies. Character, Management. 52, Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MESSRS. J. G. and F. SANTE,
"Life of a Showman" Co. Address, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality + Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Just returned from American Tour. Permanent address, 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS Costume Concert Company (Director, George Robins). Booking 1910. Woodbine, Salisbury-rd., Wimbledon

HAYDN, MISS FLORA,
Lady Jockey, Barrasford Tour. Jan. 24, Hippo., Liverpool. Jan. 31, Pav., Newcastle.

MISS SARA SINCLAIR, Soprano
Vocalist and Accompanist. Vacant. Concerts, At Homes, and Oratorios. Terms, 15, Weisbaden-rd, Stoke Newington.

ARTHUR THOMAS, Entertainer
Telephone 445 Lee Green. 111, Silvermere-road, Catford, S.E.

AMY PRY VERTE, Teacher of Dancing, Music, Toe Dancing, Speciality, Variety Entertainer. 129, St. George's-road, Hull.

AUTHORS' COLUMN.

DRURY LANE DRAMAS.
"THE ARMADA," "PLUCK," "HUMAN NATURE," "A RUN OF LUCK," "LIFE OF PLEASURE," "THE DERBY WINNER," "A MILLION OF MONEY," "YOUTH," "THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER," "THE WORLD," "CHEER, BOYS, CHEER," "FREEDOM," "A SAILOR AND HIS LASS," "QUEEN'S EVIDENCE," "THE ROYAL OAK," Other Plays and Operas, the property of the late Sir Augustus Harris. List and particulars, apply to the Executors, 5, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

THE Late HENRY PETTITT'S PLAYS.
All Business communications to A. J. FLAXMAN, the Executor of the late Mr. Henry Pettitt, to be made to the care of H. M. PIKE, 26, Old Burlington-street, London, W., Solicitor.

PLAYS TO LET.
The following Plays are available for the Provinces:—"THE IDLER," "THE BUILDER OF BRIDGES," "DR. BILL," "COLONEL SMITH," "JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR," "MAGDA," "LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN," "LORRIMER SABISTON, DRAMATIST." Particulars in regard to terms, &c., can be obtained on application to Mr. George Alexander's Manager, Mr. C. T. H. HELMSLEY, St. James's Theatre.

Theatrical and Fancy Costumiers, Naval and Military Outfitters. Attendants' Uniforms of all Designs.
L. BENJAMIN & CO.
99, MIDDLESEX ST., BISHOPSGATE, E.C.
'PHONE, 7568 LONDON WALL.
ESTABLISHED 1840.

WHITE'S TIGHTS
50 Years' Reputation.
Postage 3d. per pair.

	s.	d.
Cotton Tights, Flesh, Black, and White	2	6
" All other shades	2	9
Silk Lustre, all shades	3	9
Superior Silk	8	6
Best "	10	6
Stout Worsted	6	6
" Cashmere	7	6

Telegrams: Tights, Bobbers Mill. Send stamp TO-DAY for List & Patterns. WHITE & SONS (Dept E), BOBBERS MILL, near NOTTINGHAM. Telephone 1580
London Agent: Gamage, Ltd., 128, Holborn. Edinburgh Agent: F. A. Lumley, 161, Leith-street

INDISPENSABLE.
RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.
A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.
Price ONE SHILLING.
The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
and the
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.
Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.
'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address—"The Era," London.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Aberdare Public Hall, Theatre and Billposting Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company (South) is spending a week here. A start was made on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Charles Warburton distinguished himself in the title-rôle; Mr. Basil Osborne played well as Prince of Morocco; Mr. Owen Evans was good as the Duke of Venice; Mr. Douglas Rubery was seen to advantage as Bassanio; Mr. Norman Harle was successful as Lorenzo; and Mr. Baliol Holloway was praiseworthy as Shylock; Miss Emil Leslie was a delightful Portia; Miss Marjorie Palgrave as Jessica submitted a capital portrayal. *The Taming of the Shrew, Macbeth, Merry Wives of Windsor,* and *Hamlet* are included in the week's bill.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The New Empire Co., Ltd. (Aberdare); Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Victor Knight.—Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats and gymnasts, are smart as well as humorous; the Sisters Carlton, comediennes and dancers, win deserved applause; Nat Known is a good comedian; and Bert and Dora, in their novel patter and singing act, are well received. The pictures shown on the Bioscope are very interesting.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Company are still delighting all-comers with their inimitable representations of Gilbert and Sullivan opera.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The principal attraction this week is found in the marvellous display of quick-change versatility given by Chanti, the modern Proteus. Others contributing to a well-balanced programme are Harry Morris, character comedian; the Vays, with their comedy sketch, *Life in the Slums;* Alick Lauder and company, in *The Christening;* Charles Erard, pianist and mimic; Elsie Bernard, saucy comedienne; and Frank Hartley, a clever young juggler.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company are paying a welcome return visit here with the dramatic success, *Leah Kleschna.* In the title-rôle Miss Bessie Rignold repeats her performance in a most praiseworthy manner; Mr. William Clayton is to be commended for his powerful and earnest delineation of Kleschna; Mr. Charles Barrett once more gains applause for his clever work as Paul Sylvaine; and a capital portrayal of Raoul Berton is submitted by Mr. Algernon J. Hicks. Mr. Graham Pockett does full justice to the part of Schram; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne is most satisfactory as General Berton and Valantine Favre. Miss Ethel Russell gives a splendid rendering of Madame Berton; and Miss Madge Beresford is all that could be desired as Sophie.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—Mr. Jack Haddon's pantomime, *Robin Hood* is proving immensely popular here. Miss Marie Brayman makes a dashing principal as the famous outlaw, Robin Hood; Miss Mabel Osborne is a most dainty and attractive Maid Marian; the babes are capitally played by the Sisters May; and Miss Carrie Parry is applauded for her number, "Somewhere." Mr. Harry Elliston makes a quaint dame as Euphemia; Mr. Victor Wallace does exceedingly well as the Baron Skeemalot; and he is ably assisted in creating much laughter by August and September as Nobby Tike and Sloppy Sam. Specialities are introduced by the John Lloyd Quartette of vocalists, Madame Teresa's troupe of juvenile singers and dancers, and the Eight Little Pinkies, who appear most delightfully gowned. The chorus is powerful, and the staging most effective.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes: Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The pantomime of *Aladdin* is being presented at two houses a night. Although the well-known story of Aladdin is only lightly touched on, there is a run of humour, singing, and several speciality dances that help to make a good performance. The principal rôles are undertaken by Misses Amy Bellwood, Beatrice Harris, Jeannie Halworth, Messrs. Bert Harrow, Happy Attwood, Bernard and Weston, and Mansell Fane. The band is under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt, whilst Mr. C. A. James is business manager to the company.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould.—Mr. Charles Elderton's pantomime *Aladdin* opened to a large house on Monday night. Miss Maudie Vincent makes a capital Aladdin. As the Princess Miss May Gibson is most winsome, her singing being highly appreciated; the Sisters Terry are both excellent in their respective parts; Mr. Will Beanland as Widow Twanky is most amusing; Mr. Harry Harrop as Abanazar is popular; and Messrs. James and Alexander, the police of the piece, and the Emperor (Mr. James Matchett) are particularly good. The Cameron Quartette of male voice singers is encored nightly; Li Chang Hi, the Chinese magician, deserves special mention; and Morrisley, in his balancing and musical turn, is clever.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Richard Nightingale's *Aladdin* is a very fine production. Both scenically and in dress it is a gorgeous specimen of the Christmas burlesque. There is fun, too, as well as tuneful music. Miss Edna Latonne is a spirited Aladdin, a good singer and dancer, being especially good in the ditty, "Ship Ahoy." Miss Jenny Hackett is a dainty Princess; Pekoe and Caramel are shapely and smart exponents of their respective characters; Miss Amy Pauline Gradwell and Miss Marie Radcliffe as Genius of the Ring and Slave of the Lamp contribute capably to the musical portion of the pantomime. The Abanazar of Mr. Walter Bishop is replete with mystery and comic cunning; Mr. H. Albery as the Widow Twankey is a great factor in the making of mirth; Mr. Arthur Pier is an imposing and humorous Emperor; and Mr. Laurie Oban as Gin Sling, Mr. Joe Perth as Wishee-Washee, Francis and Francis as Flip and Flop, and a host of pretty girls all add to a grand success. The specialities include the Brothers Lloyd in a really fine double bounding cable act; Perth and Oban do smart and expert pedal work; France and Francis give an amusing knockabout act; and Max Merlin, the human crocodile, is astounding.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—At the head of the programme here for the week Ernest Gittens' company figure in the military operatic sketch, entitled *The Daughter of the Regiment.* Notable exponents are Mlle. Adele Prescott, whose Marie is really very fine; and Mr. F. H. Wood, a humorous Sergeant Sulpice. The Phœnix Trio of singers are good in harmony and dancing; the Days have touched the acme in telepathy; the Wedburns furnish, as usual, some good vocal comedy, and they are also expert instrumentalists; Baby Myrtle Grove is a dainty vocalist and dancer; J. P. Ling is a comedian and mimic of ability; the Three Orros, with a silver chain act, are very acceptable; and the Four Mayos give a clever eccentric skating act.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company opened with *Sapho* here on Monday. He himself gives a capital picture of Jean Gaussin, and Mr. Stephen Crossley is a capable Dechelette. Mr. Edward Ouston does well as Flamant, and Mr. Edwin Keene is a good Uncle Cesaire. Miss Ada Abbott makes a fascinating Sapho. *Trilby* is also billed.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—An excellent programme is presented here this week, the chief item being a dramatic sketch given by J. Atkin and company. All the characters were most capably portrayed, and the audience heartily applauded their efforts. The Great Albas gives a remarkably clever tight-wire performance; W. Gregory is a wonderful contortionist; the St. Johns have a capital musical turn; the Sisters Brookland are a pleasing turn; Will E. Stopit is a capable comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*Dick Whittington,* which was produced at Eastbourne at Christmas, was staged on Monday last for a two weeks' run by Messrs. Murray King and Clarke. The pantomime, besides being full of brightness and go, is well staged and prettily dressed, and the songs are quite the latest. Mr. Murray King himself heads the comedians as Idle Jack, and works with all his wonted energy to make enjoyment for young and old, and that he succeeds is beyond doubt. He receives good support from Mr. Tom Walls as the Cook, and Mr. Ardene Linden as Fitzwarren; while two lively gentlemen who add to the general merriment are Mr. Herbert Walton and Mr. Jamie Dallas as Pott and Pann. Mr. T. R. Pinaud, jun., is the delight of the youngsters by his impersonation of the Cat. Perhaps the most popular artist in the cast is Miss Gertrude Gilliam, who as Dick proves herself to be a little lady who can act, sing, and dance with equal success. She has a captivating coadjutor in Miss Norah Dwyer as Alice, who also is a pleasing vocalist and skilful dancer; the majestic presence of Miss Adele Levey is well suited to the Emperor of Morocco, a rôle she enacts with confidence and no little effect; Miss Edith Jefferies is well placed as the Fairy Felma; and Mr. Douglas Cox, in addition to the onerous duties of stage-management, appears in the part of the Demon Rat. The dances introduced by the Lottie Stone Troupe are well executed; and the large chorus enter into the spirit of the pantomime. Mr. Michael Dwyer is the musical-director, the producer and general-manager being Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—James Fawn is as good in song and story as ever; one of the finest turns is that of the Montaldos, whose training of parrots, cockatoos, and macaws is truly wonderful; a charming song-and-dance interlude is that introduced by the Garricks, a quartette of cultured vocalists and dancers; Frank Coyle returns to rattle off three of his latest ditties with success; Luigi Salvino, a young instrumentalist, is making rapid improvement in the profession of his choice; the Sisters Melba once again are heard to advantage as harmonising duettists; one of the best single-handed novelty items seen here for a long time is the tambourine playing of J. P. Carroll. The pictures include interesting and amusing subjects.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*The Flag Lieutenant* has been responsible for a deal of enthusiasm here. The company is that of Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Sidney Cooper, and it would be difficult to find one more capable. Mr. Mark Paton seems made for the part of the Vice-Admiral; Mr. Stanley Groome cleverly impersonates John Penrose; and Mr. Hastings Lynn's rendering of Richard Lascelles could not be easily improved on. Major Thessiger finds a most able exponent in Mr. Frederick Leister; and Mr. Edward Mervyn is natural as the Naval Surgeon. Miss Mabel Rees' performance as Mrs. Cameron is particularly striking; and Miss Rita Johnson very cleverly portrays Lady Hermoine Wynne. Miss Una Venning is good as Viola Hood.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Notwithstanding the success of Mr. Fred W. Warden's pantomime, *Aladdin,* last nights are announced, and the final performance takes place to-night, Saturday. Benefits are the order of the day. On Wednesday Carlton, who has made himself so popular, appealed to his legion of admirers, and last night, Friday, Miss Georgie Corlass, the principal boy, took a well-deserved benefit, when extra attractions were provided.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the comedy drama, *When Woman Hates,* presented by Mr. Bulmer's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar, an accomplished actress, furnishes a clever impersonation of the rôle of Cora Daintry; and Miss Lala Stanhope deserves much praise for her embodiment of Marie Rokeby. Mr. B. H. Davis as General Sir Henry Rokeby furnishes a good impersonation; and the rôle of Lieutenant Fred Rokeby, R.N., was filled with ability by Mr. Lorrie Lingard. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Miss Marie Dalby as Mrs. Sally Potts and Mr. Evans Roland as Patrick O'Brien, the latter furnishing a capital impersonation. Mr. Austin Mortimer fairly earned the anathemas of the crowded audience by his realistic impersonation of the villainous Godfrey Lawton; and Miss M. Lowe Dare furnished a skilful impersonation of Edith Rokeby.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Miss Lottie Lennox, who wins success with her capital rendering of several chorus songs; Mr. Edward Crossland's melody-makers appear to advantage in their phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream;* and the sand dancing of Mr. Frank Weaver is exceedingly smart. Mr. G. W. Blythe's musical scena, *The Toilers,* in which Miss Nellie Brierley appears, and sings several songs with much taste and expression, is undoubtedly one of the best items on the programme; Starr and Leslie are great favourites here, and their speciality act is greeted with enthusiasm; the Sisters Macarte appear in their Japanese scena, and their realistic reception is certainly flattering; and the impersonations of Will Burnand reflect much credit on this capable artist. Also appearing are Maud and Gill, speciality gymnasts; Watson and McQue, comedians; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by Arthur Watson and company, in the musical comedy, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory;* Stewart and Morgan are on a return visit, and delight all with their capitally rendered vocal items; and Prof. Dunning's ventriloquial act gains much approval. Mr. Fred Elton provides an unequalled entertainment at the piano; and the parodies of Mr. C. Vincent are unquestionably funny. Kahn and Kahn's illusions are undoubtedly mystifying; and Miss Dulcie King Lloyd is a charming comedienne with good songs. The Bioscope, with a picture, entitled Scroggin Puts Up for Blankshire, completes the programme.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—C. St. John Denton and Peter Davey's pantomime, *Blue Beard,* has been transferred from Chester for a week's season here, and has done remarkably well. Mr. Tom Seymour enacts the title-rôle with much humour and effect; Miss Ernestine Desborough is an irreproachable Selin; Miss May Hart is a capital Shacabac; Miss Christine Roy is a bewitching Fatima; and Mr. Arthur Royce as Sister Ann, Mr. Max Copland as Mustapha, and Mr. Percy Galins as Swank provide much merriment. Miss M. Sadie is a good Lieutenant Pursey; Miss Thelma Geary is efficient as Miss Silvery Thames; the Golywogs are well represented by Miss G. Mansell and Miss D. Hart; Miss Mollie Geary is the solo dancer; and the chorus and ballet are most effective. The mounting is on a liberal scale. The orchestra is under the management of Mr. Claude B. Yearsley.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Mr. Leslie Harris, a thoroughly clever and amusing entertainer at the piano, is a leading feature; the New York Nippers, in their singing and dancing act, are on a welcome return visit; and the remarkable banjo-playing of Olly Oakley, accompanied by Jan Hurst, pianist, is deservedly popular. Other turns of importance include those of the Hendersons, vocalists and instrumentalists; Tee and Tee, eccentric musicians; George Benson, a capable mimic; Jock Mills, a good Scotch comedian; Nellie Martell, comedienne; Mal Vern, in a novel exhibition; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mysticus, in his interesting show, worthily heads an excellent company, which also includes Miss Dora Hainton's highly-appreciated dramatic sketch, *Her Certificate;* Miss Lena Grey, a smart male impersonator; Charlie Lloyd and Cissie Barwick, vaudeville artists; the Brothers Leo, in an amusing turn; Comical Walker gymnast; Globella, on the revolving globe; Tom Isherwood, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—George Robey is a huge success in *Jack and the Beanstalk* pantomime, and Miss Ada Reeve has a big following. There is a healthy demand for seats, and extra matinées have been arranged.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*Babes in the Wood* pantomime continues to run smoothly, and crowded and enthusiastic audiences assemble at each performance. Mark Sheridan and the Bros. Egbert are popular comedy merchants; and Harry Conlin is a bright and clever dancer. Miss Dorothy Ward is a prime favourite, and Miss Daisy Dormer is a successful principal girl.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*Aladdin* is a popular pantomime, and all previous booking records are being broken.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—After a month's successful season *The Fair One With the Golden Locks* moves on this week.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. H. Taylor.—*Driven from Home* is a popular draw here this week. A notable feature is the clever performance of Miss Ada M. Ryder in the rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh, jun. Mr. George P. Beresford is very popular in the part of Walter Hatherleigh; a fine character is that of the old father, Antony Raybrook, represented by Mr. Felix Pitt; Mr. John B. Shinton is also responsible for a good performance as Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Andrew Emm, in the part of the half-witted outcast Willie, is very popular.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. P. Martin Morris.—*Another Man's Wife* is being presented here by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd. The chief figure is Lucy de Vergas, whose fortunes are portrayed in a distinctly effective manner by Miss Ruby Loncraine. Mr. Alfred D. Adams sustains the character of the villain, Paul Bernstoff with realism; and a clever comedy couple are to be found in Mr. Leonard Marshall and Miss Marion Mayne, who cause much merriment in their respective parts. Miss Beatrice Western displays ability as an adventuress.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann are a great attraction here in *Claudian.* Mr. Maclaren does full justice to the title-rôle, and Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida provides a fine study. Both are frequently recalled; Miss Jean Fergusson, Miss Maud Garth, Mr. Frank Owen Chambers, Mr. C. T. Chaloner, and Mr. Douglas Earle are also prominent in a splendid cast.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Gobert Belling's four-legged comedians are popular with the audiences here, and they have a great reception; Mr. Albert Marsh and his talented company present a thrilling playlet, entitled *Chums Till Death,* in which clever acting is thoroughly appreciated; the Rexos provide a novel exhibition of fancy roller skating; Miss Ethel James is a charming and talented entertainer at the piano; Sebastian Merrill and Co. are sensational trick cyclists; and Charles Santon possesses a wonderful voice. Harry Merrylees, Scotch comedian; Lizzie Glenroy, comedienne and dancer; and the De Breans, Japanese entertainers, also contribute.

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.
The Tempest.
PANTOS.
We are prepared to collect, clean and deliver Panto dresses between shows.
COPY OF TESTIMONIALS.
Mr. Ian Robertson's Tour "The Passing of the Third Floor Back."
To the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co. Jan. 12th, 1910.
The box overcoat sent yesterday has arrived at Bath, and is very satisfactory.
H. C. LLOYD, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Grand Theatre, Walsall
Dear Sir, January 15, 1910.
Many thanks for skirt to hand, and I am very pleased with same.
Faithfully yours, ADA HENDER.
Write for particulars of our NEW RAIN-RESISTING PROCESS as applied by us to Ladies' and Gents' Clothes.
By Special Arrangement TOURING MANAGERS can have their Wardrobes Cleaned between the Shows by the
CHEMICAL CLEANING and DYEING CO.
(T. HARRIS, Manager),
Original Theatrical Cleaners and Dyers,
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.
'Phone: 1911 Gerrard (2 lines).
Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Miss Lelia Rose heads a capital bill in a diverting musical scena, entitled *A Dressing-Room Dream*, and adds considerably to her popularity in Birmingham; Bert Coote and company present a humorous sketch, *A Lamb on Wall Street*; and Annie and Maud Kramer are talented American entertainers. The Four Amati Sisters are singers of musical ability; the Whibys present their magic blackboard; Clown Argo is a clever mimic; the Staigs are daring cyclists; Maude and Sydney Wood are popular duettists and dancers; Les Bollingers manipulate old rags with artistic effect; and the Sisters Caselli are also well received.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Conspicuous in a good all-round programme is Alan Holt and company, who appear in a sensational dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*; Mabel Thorne, the well-known comedienne, is a favourite chorus singer; and Will Netta's Singing Jockeys provide a novelty that is well appreciated. Ted Karno and his team of merrymakers present their farce, *Hotel de Quick*; Les Zannonis give a clever exhibition of juggling and club swinging; the Lauri Brothers are neat acrobats; the Smythson Comedy company keep the audience amused; Addie Adele is a popular actress-vocalist; and Little Abo is a smart juvenile comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—Lovers of good dancing thoroughly enjoy the brilliant performance of Mlle. Alexia in her latest creation, "Au bal Masque"; Austin Rudd, comedian, keeps the audience in a merry mood; the Brothers Pasquali are loudly applauded for tumbling and equilibristic feats; the Gascoignes are clever and amusing jugglers; Adah Payne, vocalist, is well received in several popular melodies; and W. E. Gillin is a smart ventriloquist, whose turn is greatly amusing. Cash and Clair, American "Tanglefoot" boys; Lily Eyton, comedienne; Harry Shaw, comedian; the Croisit Trio; and Natalia and Diana, gymnasts, provide other good turns.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Pantomime again reigns at this popular house, Mr. Jack Haddon's company presenting a delightful version of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Miss Alma O'Brey makes a dashing principal boy, her singing being a good feature; and Miss Ida Brophy as Dora pleases greatly with coon songs. Mr. Gordon Brookes is a never-failing source of humour as the Dame; and Mr. Hal Ford, sen., makes a capital Baron. The Tintos are an immediate success as Dip and Dap, eccentric flunkies; Mr. Bob Baxter is excellent as Silly Billy; and Miss Marie Raynor and Miss Marie Altino as the fairies display great ability. The pantomime is a distinct success from every point of view.

CURZON HALL (AMERICAN AND CONTINENTAL CIRCUS).—Director and Organiser, Mr. A. Edward Inshaw.—There are several novelties in the programme this week, the principal being the sensational act of the Brothers Miranos, one of whom balances a huge pole whilst the other performs daring feats at the top. Captain Frank Taylor's baboons and monkeys give an amusing turn; a pretty serpentine dance on horseback is contributed by Miss Challina; and Miss Martha is an accomplished trapeze artist.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Quite a large house was the order on Monday to witness Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian*. Mr. R. Scrope Quentin gives a capital representation of the Hon. Jno. Storm; and as Horatio Drake all credit is due to Mr. Arthur D. Layland; Mr. Jno. Blake does justice to the part of Lord Ure; Mr. W. Ellis meets with approval as Lord Storm; Mr. Wm. Mallalieu is a tower of strength as Archdeacon Wealthy; and a like remark applies to Mr. Edwin Ling as Father Lamplugh. Miss Muriel Marsden handles the rôle of Glory Quayle in a painstaking manner; and Miss Alice Maude is good as Mrs. Callender.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Ryan and Hall are funny acrobats and wrestlers; Stylo does well in his hoop juggling turn; Mr. J. W. Rowley keeps the house in high spirits; Miss Aida Martini sings with good effect; and a pleasing turn is provided by Wilman in his musical scena; Reno is a great cyclist; and Ike and Will Scott, comedians and dancers, are great fun-makers. An interesting bill is wound up by smart Hipposcope films.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—A most attractiev production is provided here this week by Mr. James Kiddie's company in the pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*, and in seven scenes produced twice nightly there are no dull moments. As Abdallah, captain of the thieves, Miss Rose Pareezer was strong alike in singing and acting, and made a most pleasing impression; Miss Elsie Steadman as Ganem was exceedingly successful, and quite artistic; Morgiana was very prettily played by Miss Lyle Jeffries, and she also sang sweetly; Mr. Percy Curry as Ali Babi is quite a success; Mr. Arthur Behan as Cogia is alike funny and of easy bearing. Other parts are Messrs. Fame and Fortune's Pitchett and Poppit, who cause much merriment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The "Metablescope," an artistic and mystic act, is presented here by Signor Arvi—the turn is successful; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin tumblers are excellent in their equilibristic and tumbling feats, and come in for applause; Montes Bros., in *The Scotchman and the Driver*, are good; and Dan Conroy proves an able comedian. Victor and Louis ably present *The Golfer and the Caddie*; Alex Lofton is a clever coloured comedian; and Eileen Douglas, a musical comedy girl, gives a turn.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is playing *Sunday* again here this week. The title-rôle is excellently played by Miss Janet Lind, and Mr. Pennington Gush very ably depicts Colonel Brinthorpe. Mr. Richard F. Symons as Towzer, Mr. L. St. G. Lowther as Davy, Mr. James Hussey as Lively, and Mr. Geo. Marriott, jun., as Jackey are also actors of sterling ability.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Banager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Nelson, the comedian, is going strong here this week, his suffragette song being especially well received; Richard Fineberg contributes some excellent character studies; My Fancy dances herself into favour; the McConnell Trio sing well; Beattie Bloom is a pleasing serio; Wisper is a comical juggler; Pat Lynch contributes a wooden-shoe dance; the Richards Trio are amusing golfing acrobats; Dusty Rhodes brings down the house with his songs; and Eily Adair is a clever comedienne and dancer.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Messrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's pantomime company opened here on Monday with *Babes in the Wood*. Little Peggy McDonnell and Cissy Wyse submitted delightful performances of the titular rôles; Miss Marie Lumberg was a charming Robin Hood; Miss Winifred Norman a successful Maid Marion; and Mr. Neil Hardy, as the Baron, met with hearty applause. Mr. Jimmie Watson as the Nurse was amusing; the Ruffians as played by Messrs. Graham and Barron left nothing to be desired; and specialities of a pleasing nature were presented by Miss Norman, Messrs. Watson, Graham and Barron, the International Troupe of Dancers, Peggy McDonnell, the Marguerette Quartette of Dancers, Mr. Harry Tullett, and Neil Hardy.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur. The very successful pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* concludes an all-too-brief stay this (Saturday) evening. On Wednesday evening Mr. J. F. Elliston took his thirtieth benefit.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. John F. Preston and his company, including Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, are appearing here in the racing episode *Rogues of the Turf*, and are well received. Variety turns are also given by Arthur Harris, vocal comedian and actor-vocalist; Agnes Tina, mimic and impersonator; Mike Cray, eccentric comedy juggler, and his dog Dooley; Leo Tell, mimic; Mlle. Leoni de Lourois, in living art bronzes and masterpieces; Farrell and Dunn, Caledonian duo; Jan. B. Vanbert, illusionist and sensational painter; Tom Costello, comedian, in "The Old Clown"; and the Premier Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Foremost in this week's bill are Haley's Juveniles, who appear in a pleasing vocal scena; Other items are Miss Ethel Mann, American contralto; the Korries, in their novelty, "The Kirbstone Serenaders"; Mather and Mayer, eccentric comedy entertainers and quaint dancers; the Three Hodginis, aerial gymnastic wonders, in a sensational display in the revolving breakaway ladder; Ernest Tilbury, tenor; Phinae and Aida, in their revolving pedestal; L. W. Harris, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, The Excelsior Co.; Manager, Mr. George Barry.—Mr. Alf. Holt, American mimic, gives a clever entertainment; H. O. Borrie bewilders the audience with his smart feats of juggling; and Mayer and Brown cause a diversion with their refined drawing-room sketch. Mr. P. Collins obliges with a violin solo, which pleases the audience immensely. Other items are contributed by Miss Rose de Mars, a charming comedienne, and the animated pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—A large house assembled on Monday at this theatre to greet Mr. Martin Harvey on his welcome return visit in *The Only Way*. Mr. Martin Harvey's powers as an actor are too well known to need reiteration, and it suffices to say that he has lost none of his old skill in appealing to all that is best in human nature, and that his delineation of Sidney Carton was in every respect masterly. The pathetic little character of Mimi was depicted with winning charm and skill by Miss N. de Silva; Mr. Charles Glenney provided a fine study of Defarge, the stern avenger of his family's wrongs; Mr. Lorry and Mr. Stryver had suitable exponents in Messrs. Percy Forster and Philip Haviland; the character of Dr. Manette received able treatment from Mr. Fred Wright, sen.; Mr. Leonard Craske played the Marquis de St. Evremonde with the requisite lightness of touch; Miss Brenda Gibson made a charming and winsome Lucie Manette; in strong contrast was the character of the Vengeance, played with skill and realism by Miss Mary Rorke. *The World and His Wife* and *A Cigarette-maker's Romance* are also in the week's repertory.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The gorgeous pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* continues to win unstinted admiration from crowded audiences, and roars of laughter greet the quaint humour of Mr. Rowland Hill (Mother Muggles), Mr. Harry Ed. Ray (the Squire), Mr. Marriott Edgar (the Milkman), and Mr. Kit Keen (the Sweep). Miss Nell Emerald's animation and energy as principal boy have won her popularity. The Toreador song from *Carmen* is one of Mr. Cyril Thompson's finest efforts in the character of the Demon, and he shares honours with Miss Annie Schuberth, the gifted vocalist and charming Fairy Queen.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Forty Thieves*, with gorgeous surroundings and no end of fun, are a source of delight to the crowds who throng the theatre, and Mr. Dick Tubb as Ali Baba, Mr. Arthur Gibbons as Cassim Baba, Mr. Fred Spencer as Cogia, Mr. Alf Corri as Hasserac, and Mr. Chris le Brun as the Donkey are prolific fun-producers. Miss Ada Fawn, the principal boy, is a prime favourite; Miss Lesley Gibson, the lainty principal girl, Miss Mabel Mannering, Captain of the Forty, and Miss Patricia Weldon as Selim, have a host of admirers, and undoubtedly the pantomime is assured a long and successful run.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Charles T. Aldrich, the "man of many parts," clever protean actor and mimic, is on a return visit this week eliciting unbounded applause, and in his usual eccentric style Will H. Fox is entertaining at the piano; the Cumberlands give a remarkable acrobatic performance as trick cyclists; and *The Coons' Revelry* is an amusing turn presented by Barnard's Mannikins; Gus Garrick's "dish of music-hall tit-bits" is a very acceptable item of the fine programme, to which Harry Clifford, comedian; Miss Billie Burford, chorus singer; Goggin and Davis, versatile comedy acrobats; Edna Lyall, the Yorkshire nightingale, and the Bioscope contribute with much success.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Plenty of variety marks the programme here, Bonnie Goodwin's Picaninnies, under Miss Lily Vine's direction, furnishing a bright and attractive item; and very acceptable contributions are furnished to the capital evening's entertainment by the Fordyces, comedy artists; Estrella, international dancer; Baker and De Sales, in a sketch, *Much Ado About Nothing*; the Donnas Trio, clever equilibrists on the trapeze; Friscari, amusing top-hat manipulator; Amy Anderson and company in a rollicking comedy act, *The Banana Queen*, and the Palace Perfection pictures.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, is still running merrily here, and continues to attract good houses. Miss May Mars is completely successful in the title-rôle, and wins enthusiastic encores for her artistic vocalisation; Mr. Jimmy Fergusson as Captain Kettle, Mr. Lyons as Corkscrew Bill, and Mr. Dave O'Toole as Mrs. Crusoe provide plenty of fun; and others meriting especial praise include Miss Violet R. Orme (Polly) and Miss Vera Ray (Fairy).

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Theo Boumeester, a clever Protean artist, wins very hearty applause for his smart work in the sketch, *Who's Guilty?* Crib and Crib, tramp comedians, are very entertaining with their quaint songs and patter; the Brothers Matthews are effective in a coon comedy act; Les Melachinis are neat conjurers and illusionists; Charles Wilson gives a capital jumping display; J. W. Ellison is successful as a vocal and light comedian; the Bellam Trio are well received in a novel vocal and dance act; Jessie Lee is a charming comedienne; Martinett and Wallace are clever performers on a variety of instruments; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Percy Honri and company are distinctly successful in the musical fantasy *Concordia*; Wilton Heriot and company are very diverting in the farcical sketch *Father's Footsteps*; the Tourbillon Troupe of cycle acrobats perform some smart and daring feats; the juggling McBanns submit a clever turn; Abel and Welsh are eccentric eccentrics and contortionists; Harriet Rose is a dainty and pleasing singer; the Laure Cabiacs, Parisian comedy acrobats, are well received; Fake White contributes some clever lightning sketches; Ess and Hoey are able comedians; and Harry Sims gives a good comedy turn.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here this week with *Lady Clancarty*.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris gives a fine impersonation of the dashing Irishman, Lord Clancarty; Miss Muriel Dole makes a graceful and charming Lady Clancarty; Mr. Edward S. Petley makes a dignified King; Miss Maud Stonor is a vivacious Lady Betty Noel; Mr. H. C. Lancelly achieves much success as the Earl of Portland; and able support is rendered by Mr. Taylor Vinson (Goodman), Mr. Norman Wrighton (Lord Woodstock), and Mr. J. B. Benson North (Lord Spencer).

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* is popular with all classes, and deservedly so, for the pantomime goes remarkably well. The story is a pretty and interesting one as told by Mr. Hickory Wood, the scenery and dresses are quite up to the high standard expected at the Prince's, and the artists are all clever in their respective parts. Miss Lulu Valli, a smart principal boy, acts excellently as Reggie, and has a new song of a topical character, entitled "I remember you," which goes very well; Miss Alice Pollard is charming as Goody, her songs and dances being appreciated; Miss Sydney Fairbrother continues to improve on her quaint study of Mary; and Mr. G. H. Elliott's specialities of song and dance, combined with his clever acting as Chocolate, have already made him an especial favourite. Mr. Horace Mills acts remarkably well as Mother Hubbard, his songs going capitally; Mr. George Barrett is really amusing as Tacks; and Mr. Charles Harvey avails himself of all opportunities as the Squire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Here also the attendance is highly satisfactory, and everyone seems much pleased with *Robinson Crusoe*. The scenery and dresses are good and appropriate, the artists work hard in their respective parts, and there is a lot of really good dancing introduced by several members of the company. The comedians (Messrs. Charles F. Martell, John R. Bennett, Edwin Garth, and Frank Dunlop) do capitally in their respective parts of Bo'sun, Mate, Dame Crusoe, and Will Atkins; Miss Kitty Upton and Miss Blanche Marion are decidedly clever in their respective parts of Robinson and Polly Hopkins; the Misses Jeannette Albert and Rosie Albert are decidedly smart as Captain Lanyard and Sally; the Misses Rita Emson and Kitty Emson are pleasing as Bob Mainstay and Susie; and all the remaining parts are well done.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas head the bill with their interesting impersonations of characters from Dickens, their entertainment being highly appreciated; the Brothers O'Brien perform very cleverly on the horizontal bars; Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther's company score with their farcical episode, entitled *Barmaids*; Randolph King, in his "one-man programme," presents some excellent impersonations; Camille Feo is an accomplished juvenile dancer; Maise Dene is an expert dancer; Syd Crossley, comedian, is appreciated; Yetta is a really clever wire performer, introducing the cake-walk on the wire; Fred S. Peake and company score with their dramatic sketch, *The Hypocrite*; and animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—The programme is headed by the Riogoku Family of Japanese artists (seven in number), their act including most difficult equilibristic acts, tumbling, vaulting, floor contortion, acrobatic, and risley performances, &c., and the public are invited to inspect their wonderful collection of silk and velvet embroidered Japanese scenery and costumes; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of Australian trick cyclists present a very clever act; Ivo Hayman and Mildred Franklin highly amuse with their patter-and-song act, entitled *The Gossipers*; Phil and Nettie Peters amuse as American-Dutch comedy artists; Gus Barra, described as "the mad musician," does a clever turn; Eddie Martyn is a smart wooden-shoe dancer; Bert Crosbie, comedian and dancer, is appreciated; the Five Singing Gipsies score with their musical scena; and the Carlyles, speciality dancers, are highly accomplished, the "Apaches' dance" being introduced, amongst others. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

COLSTON HALL.—Poole's Myriorama and variety entertainment continues to attract a large attendance at each performance, notwithstanding the excitement of the election.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here with *The Arcadians*. Miss Mysie Devine is a captivating Eileen, and Miss Marion Edwards receives full appreciation for her beautiful singing as Sombra; Miss Katie Yates is a success as Chrysea, and Miss Madge Haines provides much humour as Mrs. Smith; Mr. Ray Sidney as Jack Meadows and Mr. Roy Lorraine as Bobby add to the vocal strength of the cast. The lions' share of the fun falls to Gus Oxley as Simplicitus and to Mr. Frank Collins as Peter Doody, who provoke a constant ripple of laughter. A strong chorus and pretty dances add to the general excellence of the production.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Crowded houses are fully enjoying the programme provided. The Serenaders in a scena *Old Venice* please greatly with delightful operatic singing, and an exceptionally clever ventriloquial act on the wire is provided by Rex Fox; in Fred Poplar, comedian, there is every reason to be satisfied, and the Rene McKays (Jean and Neil) are talented juveniles; Jack and Willie, coloured boy equilibrists, are very good; and Barnes and West provide a smart dancing turn; Mr. Kitty, Fred Poplar and W. H. Downes are also in the bill. The Empire Theatrescope concludes.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Dan Whitley heads the bill here, and his songs and chatter are responsible for frequent laughter; Mona Vivian earns much favour with clever dancing and impersonations, and rollicking tumbling is provided by the Five X Rays; Curtis and Piccs are a charming musical and dancing combination, and Farr and Farland are smart talking comedians; Reg Ewen is highly appreciated for good songs, and Norah Desmond sings illustrated songs sweetly; Damerell and Rutland are good, and the Palace Perfection Pictures win much favour.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Mr. Milton Bode brings a welcome change of fare here this week in the shape of pantomime, *Little Red Riding Hood*. The title-rôle is ably filled by Miss Babs Lloyd, whose dancing is a special feature of her performance; Miss Aimee Roberts, a dashing Boy Blue, sings and acts extremely well; Miss Blanche May (Bo-Peep) and Miss Ruby Wentworth (Tom) are effective in their respective parts; Miss Carda Walker, the possessor of a charming voice, is an ideal Fairy Queen; a quartette of clever comedians are Mr. Laurie Wylie (Squire), Mr. Rolando Martin (Johnny), Mr. Frank Lilliput (Simon), and Mr. J. E. Conan (Dame Trot), who keep the audience in roars of laughter. The Three Marvellous Pattersons, Laurie Wylie and his mimicking mannikins; and Zellini, comic juggler, also prove great attractions. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

BURY (Lancs.).—ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is presenting with every success *Brewster's Millions*. The play is beautifully mounted, the Yacht scene in the third act being particularly fine. As Monty Brewster Mr. Charles Esdale is eminently successful, and meets with well-merited applause; Charlie Harrison is well played by Mr. Gordon Ash; Archie Golding and Joseph McLeod are in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Hampson and Mr. Aubrey Mather respectively; Mr. Robert Forsyth gives a good performance as Mr. Grant; Mr. A. P. Raye is a typical Frenchman as Monsieur Bargie; Peggy is charmingly played by Miss Cicely Stuckey; and the remaining parts capably portrayed by Misses Pauline Straus as Mrs. Dan de Mille, Frances Davie as Janice Armstrong, Dorothy Whittaker as Barbara Drew, May Scton as Trixie Clayton, and Phyllis Stuckey as Miss Boynton. Mr. George Salver as Captain Perry, Mr. A. Andrews as Colonel Drew, and Mr. Otho Hazelwood as Frank Bragden also do good work.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—There is no falling off in the popularity of the Ottograph pictures, and Miss Florence Phillips, a girl with a baritone voice, and the Sisters Brenton afford pleasant relief.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The songs of Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," are proving a source of great delight; Zanora and Berg are expert comedy cyclists; old favourites are seen in the Lovelaces, American song illustrators; the Sages, comedy burlesque artists; Ford and Hanson, musical millionaires; the Five Bohemians, vaudeville entertainers; and Layton and Douglas, in a clever musical act, are also well received.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—*The Woman of Kronstadt* was here for three nights. Mr. Keith Kenneth staged the play well, and presented a good all-round company, specially meritorious performances coming from Mr. Montague Lane (Col. Bonso), Mr. Bernard Copping (Paul Zassoulic), and Mr. H. Colbeck (Baron Muller). Other rôles were well sustained by Mr. Keith Kenneth and Mr. George Gordon. Miss Ida Chapman as Marion Best succeeded admirably in a difficult part, and the Princess was charmingly personated by Miss Betty Fairfax.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. G. Brydon-Phillips was unfortunate to hit Buxton during election week, for politics here always take first place. A really excellent show was given by Mr. Phillips' company. *Sinbad the Sailor* was played, with Miss Hettie Lee in the title-rôle, and a really bright exponent she was; Miss Constance Lait played prettily and sang particularly well as Badoura; and Miss Amy Maple made quite a hit as Zoe, and, in conjunction with Mr. Fred Maple as Hinbad, delighted the audience with their artistic and amazing dances; Miss Claire Farron was a quaint Princess Naggles; Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff were amusing as Jack Bobstay and Ben Bunk; Mr. George Snow was diverting as King Tibbles and Mr. Eldrett Gulson was good as Captain Scuttle and Mr. Harry Rose desires special mention as Mrs. Sinbad. A special matinée is arranged for this afternoon.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*A Message From Mars* is skilfully handled by Mr. Frank Mouillot's company, and is as interesting as ever. Mr. Aidian Lovett is entirely satisfactory as Horace Parker; as the Tramp Mr. Norman Clark is distinctly good; the Messenger is impressively acted by Mr. George P. Polson; Miss Aubrey Ashton and Miss Rose Hellene also give valuable assistance.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*Dick Whittington* continues its unbounded popularity, and notwithstanding the outdoor election attraction, good houses have ruled throughout the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.—*Mother Goose* is achieving a great reputation here. By his energy and hard work Mr. Graham Morrison, the general manager, has considerably raised the status of this theatre during pantomime, and has quickly achieved popularity.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—A very appropriate visit is being paid this week by Fred Karno's company in *Perkins, M.P.* Mr. Fred Kitchen as the labour candidate once more makes a hit, and causes continual laughter. Breathless excitement and interest follows the turn of the Bellclair Brothers, America's greatest gymnasts, who perform wonderful feats of endurance with remarkable ease; Gladys Mavius sings two songs in a pleasing manner; the Northern Troupe of international dancers once again show exceptional dexterity; the Three Delaries, exceedingly clever trapeze acrobats, introduce a novel demon effect to their act; Jennie Alexander, juvenile comedienne and mimic, gives a performance which would do credit to an adult; Daras is a smart impersonator of celebrated composers; Marshall and Parr harmonise well together; and a pathetic film on the bioscope completes.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The ever-welcome sketch, *Saved by Wireless*, is presented most effectively by Mr. Gilbert Heron and company. This turn is an interesting and exciting one, and thoroughly deserves the hearty applause which frequently punctuates the acting. John R. Poole is presenting Mr. Godfrey Price in an original song-scena, entitled *The Trumpeter*; Les Saletos prove a wonderful duo in head and hand balancing; Tom Yorke, character comedian, gets a good hold on his audience by his well-rendered singing; and Enzer and Miss Clarice, the juggler and lady ju-jitsu champion; Josephine Crooke, in illustrated songs; Bonnette and Corri, comedy jugglers; and Archie Pitt, a quaint comedian, all do remarkably well.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—A return visit of Messrs. Polini and Melford's company in *The Silver King* is drawing large and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Fred D. Davis was a tower of strength in the title-rôle; Miss Mildred Surrey, too, was no less successful as Nellie Denver, adding grace and refinement to histrionic ability; it is needless to say that the veteran Mr. Edward J. George as Jaikes is perfection; Miss Hilda Bateman and Master Eric Dene gave intelligent renderings of the children's parts; and "The Spider," in the hands of Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, was, as usual, a most interesting character. Mr. Fred May made a robust Cripps, and Mr. Arthur Wright contributed an excellent character sketch as Coombe. Henry Corket was capitally played by Mr. Ralph Leon; in the thankless part of Olive Skinner Miss Mary Glenbrane made the most of her few opportunities; and Miss Margaret Rooke was an amusing Tabitha.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company with *The Tyrant* occupies the boards. The piece is well mounted and forcibly acted. In the title-rôle Mr. Roy Fortescue is a conspicuous success. In his fine performance he is ably seconded by Miss Marie Robson, who gives a telling impersonation of Tisbe. Homodei is admirably sustained by Mr. Percy Follis; Mr. Edward E. Louis plays Rudolph in a finished manner; Miss Jean Scott plays with sincerity and earnestness as Lady Catherine; Miss Katie Lever is a graceful and amusing Reginella; and Mr. Wilson Summers' efforts as Victor are rewarded with roars of laughter. Mr. Fred Luard also obtains a good deal of humour from the character of Nobbo; Mr. J. P. Lallan presents a bluff and soldierly Lieut. Taska; Enlie is undertaken in a praiseworthy style by Miss Lallah Shelton; while Daphne receives capable treatment at the hands of Miss Emmie Burns. Messrs. J. W. Brookes and Nicola Cavallo give able performances as Angelo's Bodyguard.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H Emerson.—The chief attraction here is Sahib Gustave Fasola, presenting "The Bridal Chamber," and his smart and clever illusions are watched with considerable interest. The Three Brothers Huxter, in a skilful and amusing combination, "Languid Energy," are vigorously applauded; Jack North, an eccentric comedian, scores an immediate success; Little Dot Moss's songs, dances, and banjo solos again take immensely; much appreciated also is Rene, a clever little lady juggler; Drum and Major (Tom and Katie), in an amusing act, "The Broker's Man," make one scream with laughter; Nellie Walton is heard to advantage as a singing mill girl; while Roy Beavis, as a comedy conjuror, receives much approbation. Capital pictures are again being shown by the Loyal Dominion Co.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is in possession here with *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Maud Hildyard as Claire Foster and Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret Rolfe are worthy of much praise, their acting in the third scene being rewarded with abundant applause; excellent work is done by Mr. James Lindsay as Thompson; and the part of Julian Rolfe is in the able hands of Mr. William Kershaw.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Mlle. Dalmere's performing animals prove very attractive; the Three Rochesters scare more particularly in a barefoot sand dance; Arthur Holland pleases with his song-scena; the Borghetti Troupe are skilful and daring acrobats; Hayman and Franklin's Players create heaps of fun with their sketch *Toplitsky; or, The End of the World*. Also appearing are Nellie Shand, comedienne; and the Daimlers in a comedy act.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—The sensation of this week's programme is the Parisian dance novelty, *La Fiance du Dragon*, executed by Les Alex Carangeot; St. George Sylvesta mystifies with his illusory novelties; the singing of the Rhoderick Duo is appreciated; and the programme includes Percy Maye in his speciality; the Four Black Diamonds; Frank Mortimer, with chorus songs; Ruby Roya, neat little dancer; and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*The Little Damozel* pays a welcome visit. Miss Ida Molesworth as Julie Alardy, the heroine, is piquant, pert, spiteful, and alluring by turns—an excellent study; Mr. George A. Brandram is exceptionally good also as Captain Neil Partington; Mr. Frank Lacy is effective as Recklaw Poole; Mr. Townsend Whitling's study of Walter Angel is very good; Mr. Mark Blow is an interesting stage dude as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Sybil Craven is nicely played by Miss Roxby Barton. Minor parts are efficiently sustained by Messrs. Julian Cross, W. J. Stack, E. L. Hocking, and A. Redmond.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company presents *Our Miss Gibbs*. The title-rôle is delightfully interpreted by Miss Kathleen Courtney, whose exquisite voice, finished acting, and enchanting vivacity delight the audience; Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs keeps the house in a roar of merriment from start to finish; the Hon. H. Pierrepoint of Mr. Tom Shelford is a clever and amusing portrayal; Mr. J. E. Stevenson as Slithers does full justice to his tricky part, and Mr. Craufurd Kent capably interprets the love-sick Lord Eynsford. Highly creditable, too, are the character parts of Mr. Ernest Darrell as the Earl of St. Ives and Mr. De Solla as Mr. Beavis. Miss Gladys Ivery gives winsomeness and distinction to Lady Elizabeth, and the graceful figure of Miss Nancy Hervyn as Mme. Jeanne, idealised her portrayal of the merry modiste. Miss Winifred Knightley as the Duchess and Miss Jeannie Richards as Mrs. Farquhar are typical and efficient in their respective parts.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—*The Arcadians*, billed for six nights, is playing to bumper houses. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson as Simplicitas is clever and bright; Mr. Alfred Beers as Peter Doody is exceedingly droll; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald smartly depicts the engaging rôle of Jack Meadows, and as Eileen Miss Gladys May is sprightly and charming. Miss Gertrude Aylward makes a popular Mrs. Smith; Miss Sybil Tancredi sings with culture as Sombra.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The big item this week is *The Boy Scout*, the company comprising Mr. Chas. Geoffrey, Mr. Martin Sands, Miss Josie Beltram, and Miss Crissie Francess. The programme also includes the Hamiltons, comedians; Elsie Athas, speciality comedienne; Denaro Brothers, juvenile hand balancers, equilibrists, and acrobats; Cissy Lupino, speciality dancer; Phil Kaufman, descriptive vocalist; and Fred Godfrey, comedian, with good pictures to conclude.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—*The Sleeping Beauty* occupies the Opera House with great success. Miss Adele Roze as Prince Charming plays in dashing style; as Bo-Peep Miss Nellie Scorey proves very versatile, being a clever flautist and a nimble acrobat; Miss Alyce Wyllyams makes a pretty Princess Beauty. The comic element is well sustained by Mr. Richard Teasdale as King Ruby, Mr. Sidney Godfrey as Selina, Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Bamboozleum, Mr. Edward Hanl

amusing Dame, and keeps the ball of fun merrily rolling; Mr. J. W. Gallagher as Jack is exceedingly funny, and is one of the hits of the evening; the Muggies of Mr. Fred Acton is worthy of special mention; Miss Kitty Russell is a very dainty Jill; Mr. Edgar Martell gives an excellent imitation of the Goose; the Miltons cause much merriment in a comical and clever skating act; specialities are provided by the Eight Sydney Girls, who give an excellent display of dancing, and the Society Quartette, whose singing and dancing is very popular.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—Kirk and Saraski (two ladies), in a very clever aquatic act, richly deserve the hearty reception accorded them; the Six Manchester Lads are a smart combination, and submit a clever dancing speciality, "In the Old Oak Tree," which is well received; the Victors are clever acrobatic barrel jumpers; Syd Garti and Lucky Law provide a popular and humorous turn; Amy Alnutt is a successful chorus singer; the Bros. Graham give a very good comedy and acrobatic turn, which evokes much laughter; the barefoot dancing of Lily Belle is much appreciated; and the animated pictures complete a very enjoyable programme.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*Robinson Crusoe* was presented here by Mr. E. C. Jazon's company. Miss Florence Lewis was loudly acclaimed in the titular rôle; Miss Carlotta Wood as Polly Perkins, created a good impression; and Miss May De Rowse submitted a fine assumption of Tom Bowling; Mark Lane was screamingly funny as Dame Crusoe; a meed of praise must be awarded to Mr. Aldro Lukos, who represented the Monkey. The chorus was tuneful and well-balanced, and included a number of sweet voices. Pleasing specialities were contributed by the Countess, the Eduns, Aldro Lukos, and Messrs. Williams and Warden.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The pantomime of *Dick Whittington and His Cat* concludes here to-night after a very successful run.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—This week finishes the annual opera season of the Moody-Manners Co., Ltd. On Monday *Samson and Delilah* was reproduced before a crowded audience, Mlle. Zelie de Lussan and Mr. Philip Brozel both appearing with great success in their respective parts of Delilah and Samson. *La Traviata, The Bohemian Girl, The Masked Ball, Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci, Tannhäuser,* and *Carmen* are announced for the remainder of the week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay with *Rollicking Rory.* The title-rôle is capably filled by Mr. Chalmers Mackay, who displays considerable ability; Mrs. Mackay submitted a powerful reading of Grace D'Arcy; and Miss Nana Flensburg was pleasing and effective as Rosie. Mr. J. P. MacBride, a capital Desmond, sings capitally.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The attraction here this week is the celebrated comedian Mr. W. J. Churchill, whose funny patter keeps the house in the best of humour; the Newmans perform new and original bicycle feats; Musical Silvo contributes musical selections which are warmly appreciated; and J. H. Scotland's songs are well received; as a Scotch comedian George Roe scores a success; Ethel Arundel, an engaging soubrette, has a host of admirers; in a musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Dude's Wooing,* Mr. Tom Bryce is nightly recalled. The de Rells and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—This week's variety programme here includes: Charles Prelle's Bijou Circus; Sam Richards' Six White Boys; Tom and Neal, burlesque wrestlers; Beatrice Allen, dainty comedienne; Lee and Bentley, in their sketch, *The King's Counsel;* Tom Dean, comedian; Ethel Brailsford, comedienne; Milton and Horton, comedy triple bar artists; Brothers St. Clair, and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here: Warren and Granville, comedy artists; Teddy Lennon, comedian and dancer; George Mack, descriptive vocalist; Marie Woolstan, ballad vocalist; Ted Heaton, comic vocalist; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Pantomime again reigns here under the popular title of *The Babes in the Wood.* Miss Jennie Linwood makes a bright and captivating Robin Hood; Miss Lillian Jeffries a sweet and graceful Maid Marian; and a special feature is the dainty and lady-like representations of the Babes by the young and pretty Misses Elsie Videau and Phyllis Hughes. The fun is kept fast and furious, being contributed by Mr. J. W. Cooper as the Baron, Mr. W. B. Freer as Billikin, and Messrs. Fyne and Hurley as Killem and Eatem; Mr. Alec Godfrey does well as Agnes Lizzie Snowdrop; and Mr. Harold Godwin as Herne the Hunter, and Miss Madge Bell as the Fairy both sang well; Miss Millie Gordon as première danseuse, and the Asturias Troupe of National dancers deserve special praise.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—The Friscos, Continental eccentrics, occupy first position here this week; Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist, performs clever tricks; the Raymond Trio are really good in their musical and dancing act; and the Barrys, character vocalists, are in charming voice; Tom Garland proves himself an expert ventriloquist, and Bert Anderson keeps up a continuel fire of wit during his smart turn as an illusionist; Baby Vi Davis is very much at ease as a vocalist and dancer; the Empire Pictures are both dramatic and amusing.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—The curtain will ring down to-night on Mr. Robert Arthur's admirable pantomime *Cinderella.* On Monday evening Miss Agnes Tandy, the popular principal boy, against medical advice, began the performance, but was unable to continue, and her part was undertaken by Miss Dollie Hook, the second boy, who gave a wonderfully good performance. Mr. Harry Ongar (Dandini) has introduced a new song this week, "One of the girls," which proves a popular item; Messrs. E. Statham Staples and Alfred Clark have added to the comic department, their contributions being in the best vein of pantomime; Cinderella is admirably portrayed by Miss Felicia Firmen; Miss Dorothy Moulton is an exceedingly graceful Fairy Godmother; and Mr. W. Leopold, jun., an agreeable Capers. A word of praise is due to the Lottie Stone Troupe, whose dainty and agile dancing has added much to the attractive nature of the pantomime.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An interesting programme is headed by Cornalla and Eddie, whose act is a capital combination of clever acrobatic work and delicious comedy; James Willard and company receive well-deserved applause for their splendidly acted playlet, *The Ace of Hearts;* Tiny Arnold sings and dances cleverly; Johnny Walker enlivens the house with his rollicking ditties and smart patter; Rowlands and Ford, Welsh and Scotch comedians, are distinctly funny; King Luis and Partner display strength and equilibrium of a remarkable order in a novel turn; Ancie Gerrard renders several flute and piccolo solos in tasteful manner; Kelly and Agnes introduce plenty of humour into their racy act, and several capital films are exhibited by the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is playing to good business here in *The Octoroon.* A fine manly Salem Scudder is found in Mr. C. Harrington; Jacob M'Closky is imbued with due ferocity by Mr. G. Lubinoff; Mr. John Boehm infuses much pathos into the part of Old Uncle Pete; Mr. John Gibson gives an able impersonation of Lafouche; Mr. Reginald Kloof contributes a life-like embodiment of Wah-no-Tee; Paul is smartly enacted by Miss Gem Lloyd; Miss May Vernon is seen to advantage in the rôle of Mrs. Peyton; Zoe is played with appropriate tenderness by Miss Hero Hathaway; Miss E. Turner Elliott does ample justice to the part of Dora Sunnyside; and Grace and Minnie have excellent representatives in Miss H. Johnson and Miss Jessie Green respectively.

KINNAIRD HALL.—Hamilton's Excursions complete a successful season here to-night. Mr. Claude Howell, the genial guide, took a complimentary benefit on Friday evening, when, in addition to the ordinary company, a host of local talent assisted.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—We have here this week Agnes Moreno and company, who are enthusiastically received, in an original scena, *An Old Time Story;* Hinton and Wooton, in their football match on bicycles, as usual, prove popular; and the Lizzette Trio of ladies receive loud applause for a clever acrobatic act; Neumann and Browne, the bachelors, raise hearty laughter; the singing of Helen Martin is worthy of praise; Mark Hanbury is a comedian of merit; and Molly Augarde sings sensible songs. An interesting picture by the Cathedoscope completes.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Rushworth.—Mr. T. N. Walter's company, in the musical comedy, *The Flower Girl,* was to be here from Thursday to Saturday.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is appearing here in *With Edged Tools.* Mr. Hamilton Deane and Mr. Hefry Dunn share honours for their able work as Jack and Guy; Mr. Campbell Goldsmith gives a strong and penetrating performance as the villainous slave-driver Durnovo; Mr. J. D. Geddes gives a sound rendering of the part of Sir John Meredith; Mr. Albert Campbell is a good Maurice Gordon; and in the smaller parts of the doctor and servant Mr. Arles Conway and Mr. Frank Layton do well. Miss Marie Leonhard shows great skill and ability as Jocelyn Gordon; Miss Marion Fawcett does polished work as Lady Cantourne; Miss Marguerite Cellier is a satisfactory Millicent; and clever help comes from Miss Violet Thorbold as Lady Herries and Miss Florence Dulhunty as Marie, the native girl.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—In place of the usual variety bill Mr. Joe Collins' company is appearing here in *Puss in Boots,* as bright and pretty a pantomime as could be desired. Miss Lucia Collins is an attractively charming principal boy, Juan; Miss Eva Ellis sings very sweetly, and acts with grace and cleverness as Princess Carita; Miss Elsie Don is a handsome and striking Lola; Miss Josie Hammersley is a dainty and refined Perditia, the fairy; and other pleasing ladies fill a big cast. Mr. Frank Bertram provides many laughs as the widow Donna Dolores; Mr. Wyn Weaver, in a really funny and characteristic manner, does excellent work as King Komilfo; Mr. Billy Young and Mr. Charles Jackson are a happy pair; Sancho and Pancho, and take a good share in the merriment; Mr. Algenon Lee is an amusing Bilbalio; and Mr. Bryden Currie as the cat, Grimalkin, is one of the best seen here for a very long time. Mr. William Myles is the musical conductor, and he has put some excellent work into the well-arranged and tuneful music. The Six Monte Carlo Girls are very capable dancers; and the Eight Gems give evidence of their ability.

EDINBURGH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M Downie.—*The Dollar Princess,* which Mr. George Edwardes's company is playing here, has undergone some alteration since it was first in Edinburgh, and the attractiveness of the piece is increased by the changes which have been introduced. Mr. Leonard Mackay now plays the part of Freddy Fairfax, with the sound method and careful attention to detail which mark the work of this excellent actor and vocalist; Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, graceful, easy and humorous, is exceedingly happy in the rôle of Harry Q. Conder; and Mr. Eric Thorne is amusing in a part which offers him fewer opportunities than the characters in which he has lately been seen. The charming personality of Miss Clara Evelyn, and the liquid notes of her expressive voice enable her to make a complete triumph in her impersonation of Alice; Miss Norma Whalley, an actress of prepossessing appearance, who is gifted as a singer and has a sense of humour, is admirable as Olga, while Miss Mabel Russell's dainty ways, her delightful singing, and beautiful dancing draw forth the enthusiastic plaudits of the audience. Mr. Paul Plunkett is notably good as John, Earl of Quorn, and a capital bit of work is contributed by Mr. Percy Davison as Sir James McGregor; his duet and dance with Miss Russell being heartily encored. The choruses are sung with precision and effect under the direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, who likewise handled the orchestra in a masterly manner. The mise-en scène is characteristic of Mr. George Edwardes at his best, and the play is assured of crowded houses during its run of a fortnight.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Crowded houses continue to testify to the popularity of *Humpty Dumpty,* which promises to equal any previous record in the long list of Royal pantomimes. Amusing election gags have this week added not a little to the humours of the comedians, whose efforts in the direction of fun-making are exceedingly happy. Songs, dances, and odd jests go with great effect, and the many fine spectacular scenes are justly admired. The leading performers have become firmly established in public favour, the list including, among the ladies, Miss Iris Banfield, Miss Iris Coley, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Zoe Gordon, Miss Radie Hurman, and Miss Clare Hartland. Mr. Ivan Berlyn, Mr. Joe Nightingale, Mr. Jack Lane, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie, Mr. Shaun Glenville, and Mr. Arthur Burgoyne work admirably in their respective human rôles; while Queen and Le Brun find their opportunities as a Cow and a Horse. The Tiller troupe of dancers put much lively and energetic work into several special turns.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager Mr. Amand Mascard.—*The Babes in the Wood* is still holding its own amongst other attractions in the city, and the members of the clever company who are responsible for the success of the production have introduced much new business, and several fresh songs which bear the hall mark of success. The fun of Mr. Will Terry and Mr. Sam Fay as the villains does not stale with repetition, and the vivacity of those excellent actresses Mrs. Mollie Woolstenhulme, Miss Dolly Elsworthy, and Miss Kitty Douglas suffers no abatement as the run of the piece continues. The pretty children, Baby Boden and Miss Vi Wilson, still delight the audiences, and the pantomime goes to the accompaniment of applause and laughter every evening.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The rousing reception accorded to Reano and his fine body of instrumentalists on their return visit to Edinburgh must have been very gratifying to the enterprising conductor and his company. Mr. J. L. Shine and company repeat their striking success in the pleasant domestic sketch *Hogmanay;* the Westwoods give an excellent exhibition of expert cycle riding; Walter and May are among the foremost coloured singers and dancers imported from America; J. A. Wilson with his wonderful dog, Private Towser, form a happy pair of performers; and Olive Lenton, with a full chorus, appears in a tasteful scena entitled *Harvest Home.* The single-handed turns include Leonie Dixon, a smart speciality dancer; Violet Stockelle, a dainty comedienne; and Larry Lewis, who provokes laughter as an eccentric comedian. The American bioscope pictures are up to date.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke; Manager, Mr. Talbot Cooke.—Mr. Cooke has found a strong attraction in *Siberia,* a spectacle which is adapted to the arena with all the well-known skill of the experienced caterer for the public. The scenes in the ring partake of the dash, interest, and variety for which Mr. Cooke's company are remarkable, an especially seasonable and amusing burlesque of an election meeting being received with shouts of laughter. The close of Miss Cooke's charming exhibition of her power in horse-training was on Monday evening applauded to the echo, and the Earl of Haddington, who occupied a box, presented the fair equestrienne with a handsome bouquet.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The concluding week of *Red Riding Hood's* stay in Exeter was entered upon on Monday, and the production maintains its popularity to the last. One or two changes have been made in the cast, Miss Madge Campbell appearing very successfully as Boy Blue, Miss Beatrice Varley impersonating Prince Charming in good style, and Miss Ethel May playing with vivacious charm as Robin Hood.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—An enjoyable programme here has Brinn for its chief attraction. His juggling with heavy guns and other impedimenta of a battleship is greatly appreciated. A very pleasing turn is that of Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie, another excellent item being the appearance of Walter King, the doleful one. Chas. Lewis contributes a ventriloquial act of distinct merit; Burns and Bentley are a smart dancing team, and Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer, is also well received.

FALKIRK.—THE GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Ebbutt.—Messrs. Little and Darcy are responsible for the production of that funny and interesting pantomime, *Dick Whittington,* which attracts large houses each evening. Miss Helen Mohr as Alice displays much versatility in her acting, singing, and dancing; Mr. Sidney T. Russell does well as Idle Jack, and, along with the principal girl, introduces some clever dancing; Miss Jennie Machay takes the part of the Good Fairy, which she impersonates very creditably; while as Dashing Dick Miss Nina Carlton makes a sprightly actress. The Dame is effectively enacted by Mr. Jack McKenzie.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Lewers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company appeared here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in *The Prodigal Son.* Mr. Ernest Owtrimm and Mr. Mark Draper gave excellent representations of the two brothers Magnus and Oscar. Miss Sara Dudley, in the dual character of Thora and Elin, was all that could be desired; and Miss Lily Crammonde was excellent as Helga. Messrs. Chas. Sewell and Arthur Holland gave good character studies of the Governor and Neilsen; Miss Florence Lovell as Anna and Miss Maude Lockyer as the Factor's Sister were equally capable. Scenery and general mounting good. The rest of the week is occupied by *The Cingalee.*

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Councillor H. Arnold.—"Starring" here this week is Alfred Marschall, in a series of wonderful balancing feats; Victor Widdicombe and company, in the comedy episode *Her Devonshire Dad,* are highly successful; Sid Cotterell and his company return to score once more with *The Substitute;* Dancit an American dancing marvel, is accorded flattering praise; Hampton and Bauman, coloured entertainers, merit the applause accorded; Norah Noble is a dainty comedienne; and Harry Harvey, a local comedian, and the Kingscope are other attractive items submitted.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company, in *When Other Lips,* forms the attraction here this week. A manly Ted Daunton is presented by Mr. John Davidson; Basil Cunningham is effectively portrayed by Mr. Juan D'Albert; an amusing Tommy Neccles is done by Mr. Charles Preece; there is much that is good in Mr. Jones's impersonation of Jenkins; Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey makes a capital Dodble Topwash; Miss Marie Daventry gracefully impersonates Ruth Lingley; a telling depiction of Octavia is given by Miss F. Melrose Millett; and other parts are well done.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is again visiting the West-end house in that delightful musical fantasy, *The Arcadians.* Mr. Walter Passmore is leading comedian this time, and as Simplicitas scores with every line; Miss Ethel Erskine again fills the rôle of Sombra, and sings and acts with all her wonted grace and charm; other Arcadians being represented with pleasing effect by Misses Mabel Munro and Margaret Paton, and Messrs. Douglas Phillips, and Dalton Murray; Mr. Oliver J. Round repeats his extremely funny impersonation of the jockey Doody; as depicted by Mr. Harold E. Pearce, Jack Meadows proves a prepossessing lover, the kindred part, Eileen Cavanagh, having a winsome exponent in Miss Billie Sinclair; Miss Veronica Brady makes Mrs. Smith the embodiment of good nature; the Bobby of Mr. Louis Victor is particularly smart; and Mr. Ivan Cleveland bears himself well as Sir George Paddock. The chorus and orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—After another successful run of Mr. Neil Munro's play, *Macpherson,* the Repertory Company on Wednesday revived Sir W. S. Gilbert's amusing comedy, *The Palace of Truth.* Since the play was given here in November one or two slight changes have taken place in the cast, but the humour of the dialogue is as telling as ever, and the public interest in this early example of Gilbertian wit shows that the Repertory Company were well justified in producing it. A new one-act play, *Coming Home,* was given in front for the first time on any stage, and a notice of this will be found in another column.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The rush on *Mother Goose* continues. Needless to say, Neil Kenyon, in the title-rôle, still continues popular, his pawky sallies causing roars of laughter. Jack O'Connor as Jack Goose also wins favour, and his versatility and humorous resource seem unbounded. Of his various skits, the "Boy Scout" convulses old and young. Lily Morris (a great local pet) as Colin, nightly adds to her admirers by her attractive movements and fine singing. As Gretchen, May Moore Duprez, although only joining the company a week or two ago, has already made a wonderful impression, her Dutch business and dancing making quite a hit. Fred Allandale, as the Laird, gives a stylish performance, and has a couple of fine vocal numbers to his credit in "Don't take me Home" and "Someone to Cuddle." Mr. Charles A. East makes a successful Mayor, which remark is equally applicable to R. B. Drysdale in the dual-rôle of King Goose and Lawyer Cantankerous. Joe Arthur as the Goose acts capitally, as also do Messrs. B. Moran and Luke Dawe as the performing horse High Flyer. The Satanic performance of Alex. Davidson as the Demon is meritorious, his rendering of "If I were King of All" being most effective. Rhoda Gordon as Jill Goose, Ray Gordon as Lady Ida, and Howell Hersee as Fairy all make modest but winsome appearances. Lily Edwards is a dashing Erie, and her new song, "I must go home to-night," went well.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* still continues to keep the folks of the South Side in continuous merriment. Miss Jessie Templeton is still the dashing Willie, and her singing is thoroughly appreciated. Miss Venie Clements as Brenda is immensely popular, her juvenile impersonation being one of the hits of the panto. That old Princess idol, Miss Edith Haley, is capital as Teddy. Mr. Harry Levaine has fallen into the part of Muggins with great aptitude, and gets through a lot of excellent work; he is ably supported by Mr. Barry Gilmour, who, as 'Enery, has long since "caught on." Mr. Harry McClelland and Mr. Fred. Ingram as Baron Winkie and Liza respectively, are all that could be desired. Lanky and Swanky are effectively represented by Messrs. Mount Stephens and Harry Rennior. The Sisters Crystal as Rab and Jeannie do excellently in their parts, and their singing and dancing are alike good. The accustomed Scotch character, this year Mac Solder, is entrusted to Mr. Billy Oswald, who makes quite the most of it. The Misses Nybloc and Temple in their respective parts of Silvia and Dr. Mischief are worthy of mention, and a like remark applies to Miss Madge Locke as Robin, and Miss Lily Wright as Polly Primrose.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Evelyn O'Dell and his company are here in *The Old Home,* in which Mr. O'Dell gives a natural delineation of the Rev. Eric Armstrong. Mr. Charles Franmore touchingly portrays the old fisherman Daddy Dean; while Miss Nina Blake-Adams gives an excellent rendering of his "devil-may-care" daughter, Hazel Dean. Mr. Fred L. Conninghame is very amusing as the gruff old braggart Sam Adams, and Mrs. L. W. Braithwaite makes a motherly Bridget Donoghan. Villainy is well expressed by Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Lord Avondale. Mr. Fred. Stone as mine host of the Mariner's Rest, and Miss Ethel Ashleigh as his daughter Polly, are good. A strong cast is completed by Mr. John Ernest as a fisherman; Mr. Harry Dean as the Village Doctor; Mr. Tom Baker as Ned Somerton; and Mr. Frank Vesey as Joe Strong. A fine setting is that of Lord Avondale's Oak room in the third act.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*The Bad Girl of the Family* is attracting large audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Crossley acts her part to perfection; Miss Daisie Cook as Gladys Erskine is also very good; Mr. Rich. A. Greene as Lieut. Marsh, R.N. had also a good reception; Mr. Luke Forster as the wealthy Jewish money-lender was all that could be desired, as also was Mr. Geo. R. Montford as his son Harry Gordon. The comic element, in the hands of Miss Amy Randolph and Mr. Tom May, is capital.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Adeline Boyer, the Californian dancer, tops the bill, and contributes her interesting and well-staged dancing act. *A Princess of Israel.* An excellent reception is given that clever vocalist, L'Incognita. Millie Engler and company cause much fun with their farcical sketch, *Beauty and the Burglar,* in which Miss Engler sings sweetly, and Miss Louie Linsley is very amusing as the servant girl. The Bensons repeat their previous success with their vocal, musical, and comedy turn. Alfred H. West is heartily applauded for his pianoforte selections; Richard Corbin and his dogs again show the perfection to which the training of animals has been brought; Jack Smiles, in his "Months and Months" song and his eccentric dancing, takes well; Bert Errol gives an amusing and clever turn as a lady vocalist; and Rita Rhylie proves herself a dainty comedienne. The Bioscope, with the latest films and the election results keeps the entertainment going briskly.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—One of the cleverest dancing turns seen here for a long time is heading this bill this week—the Four Fords, whose efforts have met with hearty and enthusiastic approval; Arden and Abel once more cause roars of laughter with that intensely funny sketch, *Three of a Kind;* Bellong Bros. give a novel and daring cycling and acrobatic turn; Dave Samuels as a Hebrew delineator is full of quaint touches; Edie Veno is an eccentric comedienne of great originality; Fanny Humber contributes a cleverly diversified musical and dancing turn; Rastus and Banks in song and dance take extremely well; and an ingenious variation in acrobatic turns is provided by the Four Panamas in their pantomime speciality, *The Delineator.*

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry M'Helvie.—George Gray, in his sketch, *The Fighting Parson,* is loudly applauded; an enjoyable diversion is made by the El Tampico Quartette; Bertha De Pas provides a pleasing performance in the low comedy line; Wal Croft makes a hit with his Scotch character sketch *The Last Roll Call,* being ably assisted by Miss Kathleen Naughton; and others who contribute to the entertainment are Daisy Taylor, comedienne; the Spanish Goldinis; Montes and Welma, high leaping act; and Will Leslie, Scotch comedian.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Herbert Darnley's Company of Comedians in *The Barnstormers* is exceedingly amusing; another interesting turn is that provided by the Lukushimas, a clever troupe of Japanese acrobats and balancers; the Benrows, clever musical and vocal specialists, fill the place vacated by Chas. Dares' Minstrels, and are heartily applauded; other notable turns include the Musical Gees in *The Musical Smithy;* the Rawsons, vocal and musical entertainers; Ross and Lewis, eccentric dancers; Harry Leybourne, comedian and mimic; Harry Bedford, character comedian; and the Royal Delomes, dancing specialists, in the *Phantom Clogs.*

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—A strong attraction is provided by Jem Mace, the veteran boxer's troupe of lady athletes, including Miss Nora Sullivan, who displayed wonderful feats of strength; D. J. Pedley is very quaint; Patricia Lind, a clever comedienne with good songs; J. J. Daly, comedian; and the Bioscope with a capital selection of pictures, complete the programme.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—Those clever comedy acrobats, Wild, Willie, and West, are here again, and go better than ever; La Belle Lumière, in electric speciality dances, provides a capital performance; Arthur Melrose, comedian and word whistler, is heartily applauded for a clever turn; and Tony Iveson as the "Ragman at the Piano" is as entertaining as ever; Lillian, trick cyclist, is good; and Terry and Bentley are smart; Woolmer Young, comedian, is quite to the liking of the audience; and Albert St. Clair, double-voiced vocalist, wins applause.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*The Gay Gordons* proves highly popular here. Miss Clarice Lockstone and Mr. William Greene are excellent in the two principal rôles. Mr. Edward Carlton is exceedingly funny as Nat the showman; Mr. W. H. Desmond is quaint and grotesque as Edmund; and Mr. Greville Hayes submits a capital impersonation of the American millionaire. Miss Florrie Groves makes the most of her opportunities as Charlotte; the rôle of Victoria is pleasingly rendered by Miss Mabel Dent; Miss Ada Mellon is a very natural Mrs. McLeod; and Miss Violet Moreme makes a handsome and dignified Lady Millicent. The scenery and dresses are greatly admired.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—John Warren and company, in two clever illusionary acts, "The Conjurer at Home" and "The Magic Carpet," provide the principal turns here; Derenda and Green introduce comedy juggling of a very clever kind; Charles Banks, with the assistance of his well-trained dog, wins favour; Chorley and Conner entertain with their lively patter and humorous songs; and Maud Vera is a pleasing comedienne and dancer.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The bright Dutch musical comedy, *Miss Hook of Holland,* is being very well received. Miss Gertrude Melville gives a really captivating impersonation of Sally, and sings the many songs allotted to her with pleasing charm and taste; Mr. Arthur Ballance as Bandmaster van Vuyt wins much favour for his excellent vocal work; Mr. Wood Mansey as Captain Adrian Paap also sings with fine effect; Mr. Edmond Russell as Mr. Hook leads the comedy, and gives a clever representation of this droll character; Mr. Fred Dark also creates much amusement as Simon Slinks; Mr. George Mudie, jun., gives a breezy representation of Ludwick Schnapps, and sings and dances well; and Miss Laurie Lindsley contributes excellent work in the quaint part of Mina.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Athas and Collins have a comedy speciality that is at once smart and original, and the gentleman partner accomplishes some good eccentric dancing; Keen and Waller are a couple of acrobats, who combine really clever feats with some capital burlesque; the O'Hanlon Trio give a refined entertainment, and the singing of one of the ladies is much admired; Miss Violet Ray is a versatile musician, as she possesses a rich soprano voice, and is also a skilled performer on the violoncello; Colbert shows much ability as a hoop manipulator and club swinger; and Cliff Ryland repeats his former successes here.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—A return is made this week to vaudeville. A funny little playlet is put on by Miss Lily and George Antley; Ray Randall, comedian, and Tony Cooper, comedian, score with their respective efforts; Hugh and High astonish all with their musical act; Harry Maynard makes a hit with his vocal successes; and Buster Brown gives demonstrations in skating.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Max Montesole and Angus McLeod's company has done good business this week with *Pinkie and the Fairies.* Miss Hetty Kenyon is a dainty Queen of the Fairies; Miss Hermione Gingold is a great favourite as Pinkie; Charles Chappell is a happy, natural Tommy; Miss Dolly Sommers makes a pretty Herald; the Misses Aileen Faithful, Pegy Rae, and Kathleen Yorke make sprightly elves; Miss Estelle Theband is very successful as the Sleeping Beauty; and Miss Muriel Alston is good as Molly. Miss Lucy Caine sings and dances admirably as Cinderella; Miss Joan Maitland (Dick Whittington) and Miss Clara Milvain (the Beauty) are both good. Messrs. Cyril Twentyman (Prince Frog), S. Wilkinson (the Cat), S. Williams (the Butcher), T. P. Hayes (Irons, the gardener), R. Haines (Uncle Gregory), Miss Lucy Evelyn (Aunt Caroline), Miss H. Gunn (Aunt Imogen) maintain the humour of the play and are all excellent.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Reg. H. Foster.—Harry Tate's *Motoring* is proving a big draw and a hearty laughter-maker; Albert and Edmunds company are no less successful with *The Tower of London;* the Keppels are operatic vocalists of a high order, and receive a brilliant reception; Alice Gill, vocalist, is very popular; Ruby Dahl, with *The Merry Mannikins,* Charles Byron, character comedian, and the Palace Pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Frank M. Thorne's company is drawing good houses with *Little Phil's Mother,* Mr. Thorne ably taking the part of Sam Perkels. Mr. Percy Ballard is good as Frank Towers; Mr. H. W. Monte does well as Geoffrey Dyne, Mr. T. McInnes makes a typical Scots retainer as Donald Taggerty; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson is a good character study as Bill Brisket; Miss Maud Russell plays with considerable power and emotion as Ruth Towers; Miss Violet Crawford is admirable as Elspeth; Little Gertie Renaud plays her part to perfection as Phil, the crippled boy; Mr. H. T. Booth's Prison Chaplain is a praiseworthy effort.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Rene Clayton.—Pantomime is the fare supplied at the Hippodrome this week, *Dick Whittington and His Cat* being the attraction. Dashing Dick and his winsome sweetheart Alice are admirably rendered by the Sisters Cora. Idle Jock is amusingly rendered by Mr. W. Jones; Mr. Sam Thomson being the Alderman. Mr. Michael Kemble and Miss Connie Eswin sing well in the rôles of Demon and Fairy. Specialties are Lindsay and Harte, Sisters Cora, The Four Killarney Girls, and the Celesta Quartette.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—The funniest and most successful pantomime ever produced in Hanley is Messrs. Dotfridge and Longden's *Robinson Crusoe,* now in its fourth week, and still attracting splendid business. Miss Maude Mortimer takes her benefit on Friday, January 28, when a fine house is assured. Miss Yolande Noble, Arnold Richardson, C. Heslop, H. Flockton Foster, and Elma and Elton are warm favourites.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand. — Fine houses are being drawn to this large building, where the Jackson Family give a musical entertainment of surprising excellence and brilliancy. Frank Lister, the popular London actor, in an Australian dramatic sketch, *The Sundowner,* is vociferously received; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists, evoke much cheering; Thora is a novel ventriloquial act, is successful; Dorothy Dundas, a dainty vocalist, is a hit; and Charles Ulrick, the barrel king, Bert Weston, a comedian, Miss Hanid Alexander, vocalist at the piano, and the pictures are other attractions.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Sm

gave a favourable reception to Miss Hilda Beverley and company in *A Destroyer of Men*. Miss Beverley is powerful and artistic in the part of Olga, being very ably assisted by Mr. H. Kyeland-Leigh as Count Starevitch; Mr. Herbert Pearson, in the triple rôle of Karl Mishla, an exile, Herr Runz, an Austrian detective, and Uno, the Hunchback, scores heavily; Mr. James Jarrett plays Michael Mishla in good style; Mr. Jack Armitage as Fedor, police spy, and Paul Starevitch, the Count's son, is interesting. Mr. Arthur Swaine does full justice to the part of Colonel Limevitch, and Messrs. Leonard Conroy and Tom Slater as General Drakensburg and Sergeant Krauz give valuable assistance; Miss Mary Brammer as Vida gives a sympathetic rendering, and Misses Elsie Schular and Louie Underwood as Vashti and Nadine do full justice to their respective rôles. The comedy element is safe in the hands of Mr. Edward Keith and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY.—Owners, Messrs. Hall, Ainsley, and Co.; Manager, Mr. H. L. Osmond.—This week Messrs. M. H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here in *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Reginald T. Fox as the General and Mr. Matthew H. Glenville as Captain Lubeck both give powerful performances; Mr. Edward Hobart as Sergeant Offenbach meets with much success; Miss Lydia Audre is a delightful Grand Duchess; and Miss Lilian Malvern as the Wise Woman of Gotzberg is successful. The humorous element is cleverly interwoven, and on Monday night Miss Mabel Beriton, Miss Alice Buckland, and Mr. Lewis Gordon kept a crowded house in a merry mood.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.— Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; Gen.-Man., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—*Robinson Crusoe*, presented by Mr. Harry Burns, is being played twice nightly. There is plenty of good clean fun and bright singing and dancing. The cast includes Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, a dashing Crusoe, and a fine singer, with a happy smile; Miss Fanny Harris is a sweet little Polly Perkins; Mr. Arthur Aiston, an always merry Atkins; Mr. Dan Hendy, a clever acrobatic dancer, as Friday; Mr. Mark Stuart, a discreet Dame Crusoe; and Messrs. Tray and Rich, diverting as the Captain and the Mate. A well-trained chorus and some specialities from the Eight Yankee Doodle Girls also deserve notice.

PALACE — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The star turn here is *Slaterstein, Limited*, as presented by Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company. It is full of fun and bustle. Also appearing are: Miss Rosie Archer, an acceptable mimic at the piano; the Netty Janowsky troupe, in a daring acrobatic turn; Miss Minnie Warner, a bright comedienne; J. H. Greener the singing collier; Miss Edie Reynolds, a charming violin player; and the Francoli pantomimists, in a smart and lively turn. The Palace pictures are also good.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Morton.—The election has taken none of the gold from the eggs of *Mother Goose*, who terminates her run to-night (Saturday). Miss Lola Paley as Gretchen still keeps to the fore, and the singing of Miss Romaine (Fairy) is far above the usual heard in pantomime. The Brothers Rich have proved that as comedians they are far above the average.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, Manager.—*A Broken Heart* has caught on at the Alexandra this week. Mr. Harry Cullenford enacts John Barnard; Miss Sheila Walsh plays with great skill the rôle of Mary Barnard. The comic relief is well sustained by Mr. C. Eldred Wood as Tony Tibbets and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally Traverner. The play is received with much enthusiasm.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—Although *The Babes in the Wood* is the third pantomime in three weeks, Messrs. Somers and Saunders' company is being heartily received. The Babes have clever representatives in the Sisters Maudsley, whose songs and dances win many encores; Miss Daisy Astor is a dashing and popular Robin Hood; and Miss Lulu Lord a graceful Maid Marion. Mr. Macallister is a comical Dame, and Messrs. Denby and Dent create plenty of fun as the robbers.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*A Life for a Life* and *The Sorrows of Satan* are being played here by Mr. Chas. H. Lester and company. The former piece was put on on the opening night, when Wee Winnie, a promising juvenile actress, received quite an ovation for her reading of Venetta. As Eulalie Miss Lallah Davies played feelingly; and Mr. Chas. H. Lester's impersonation of Don Leon Farnandes gained marked approval. Miss Dorothy Riddell as Kate Evelyn was quite at home in the part; and Mr. Bert Albert as Kit Oswald was very successful. Mr. Horace Buckley was amusing as Tim McCarthy; and Miss Jennie Clare made a lively Nancy Dorn. Mr. Hugh Travers realised Pedro Li Calci, the evil genius, cleverly.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow*. Miss Phyllis le Grand was a perfect exponent of the part of Sonia, making that personage irresistibly attractive; as the Prince Mr. Robert Needham acted with much ability; and the other serious parts were in admirable keeping. As the highly diplomatic Ambassador of Marsovia Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter was extremely diverting. A special word should be said for the clever dancing of Frou-Frou (Miss Nesta Laurel).

IPSWICH —LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company in *Our Miss Gibbs* is here. On Monday the Hon. Hugh Pierepont was admirably played at short notice by Mr. Frank Sealey in the absence of Mr. Eustace Burnaby through indisposition; Timothy Gibbs, in the hands of Mr. Vincent Erne, is very mirth-provoking; and Lord Eynesford by Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe is a good character study. Mr. A. Gordon Begg as the Earl of St. Ives, Mr. J. S. Durant as Slithers, and Mr. David Miller as the solicitor are excellent. Mary Gibbs is a delightful character as played by Miss Elfie Vincent, modest yet chic, and her singing, especially of the well-known "Yorkshire" song, is charming; Miss Lilian Birtles is Lady Thanet. Miss Amy Singleton is the Duchess of Munster, Miss Florence Hillow is Mrs. Farquhar, and Miss Ellaline Thorne is Madame Jeanne. The three Irish colleens are prettily played by the Misses Mollie Cole, Norah Nelle, and Olga Grey. The numerous minor parts were well filled. The dresses are superb, and the mounting is delightful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Donaldson Brothers' realistic sketch entitled *Sports in a Jungle* heads the bill here, and is deservedly popular. Miss Cissie Curlette is a clever comedienne and mimic; Captain Kettle is an ingenious conjurer; and David Poole, ventriloquist, is above the ordinary. Miss Nora Emerald is good, both in singing and dancing; the Brothers Ford do a pleasing turn, their dancing being especially good; the Whittington Trio deserved the applause they evoked by their comic acrobatic exhibition.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Messrs. C. and F. Renads' company is here in *The Swiss Express*. Mr. Wilford Bailey gives a good account of Dr. Gondimar Gull; Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad are most diverting as the eccentric servants; Mr. Victor Raymond is well placed as Dudley Green; and Mr. James Hawkes is quite at home in the part of Bob Rollingstone, Mr. Harwood Cooper causing much amusement as Jack Gadabout. Miss Dorothy Deakin makes a winsome Virginia Square.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's *Cinderella* is an amusing and pretty production. All the parts are well filled, and amongst those particularly deserving of mention are pretty and dainty Miss Ella Wilmer as Cinderella, Miss Florence Wilton as Prince Charming, Miss Bessie Heins as a bright Dandini, and Miss Maisie Brodribb as a very taking Dolly Varden. Mr. Herbert Colley and Mr. Fred Hutchings cause roars of laughter as the Ugly Sisters; Mr. George Grand is especially funny as the Page; and Messrs. Sandy and Carl add a good deal to the amusement as Nail 'Em and Pinch 'Em. The ballets are well arranged.

KETTERING. — VICTORIA THEATRE.—Managers, Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co.—Mr. Edward Graham Falcon's company is here with *Cinderella*. Miss Cecilia Gold is charming in the title-rôle, and Miss Maud Nicholls is a dashing Prince. The comic element is very strong, and the efforts put forth cause great amusement. Mr. Glen Alva as Buttons, Messrs. Harley and Harden as Slip and Slop, and Messrs. Lesby and Lawrence as the Sisters meet with hearty approval.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Mr. Arthur Carlton is presenting his popular pantomime *Puss in Boots* this week to the great delight of large crowds. Miss Victoria Carmen as Colin has a delightful voice, and her vivacity makes the part go with a swing; Miss Ruby Emmerson as Princess Iris is captivating; Miss Louie Love as Felina contributes some delightful songs; Miss Nancy Renshaw as Pompey introduces some nigger items; Mr. Fred Lyndo as King and Mr. Michael Madden as Queen contribute humour to the play; and the Brothers Hannaway as Rufus and Uriah create unbounded merriment. Mr. Harry Gilmore is most agile as the Cat, and the Fantasia Troupe of Dancers go through some graceful evolutions.

LANCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—An excellent presentment of *Lucky Durham* is made this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy supplies a fine conception of John Durham; Mr. Arthur Leigh plays with artistic realism the part of the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Mr. William Calvert does extremely well as Lord Mountfallon; as Helen Vallerton Miss Florence Tressilian is responsible for a delightful performance; Miss Dorrie Turner is well suited in the part of Margaret Steighton; Miss Frances Wolviston is a distinct success as Lady Mountfallon; and a word is also due to Miss Nellie Bonser for her portrayal of Mrs. Durham.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—The theatre was closed during the earlier part of the week, owing to the election here, but on Thursday re-opened with performances of *A Message from Mars*, by Mr. F. Mouillot's company.

LEEDS.—EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—The Boissets provide plenty of fun in *A Trip to the Continent*; the Will o' the Wisps, in mirth, music, and dances are one of the favourite turns; Clark and Hayden are capital musical comedy artists; interesting stories are related by Henriquette Maude, the plucky New Zealand traveller; J. W. Hall has a great reputation for making an audience laugh, and he is as popular as ever; a capital musical act is given by Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy, creates a good impression; Harry Drew's songs are highly appreciated; and Mabel Sinclair and Reichen's Dogs are also here.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The Paolias go through a graceful athletic act. Lafayette Dewson, a talented pianist; Clare and Pastor, smart instrumentalists; Geo. Hall, comedian and whistler; and Mozzetto, a clever juggler, are also in the bill.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Haines and Borthwick supply a capital premier attraction in a sketch, *Half-a-dollar*; Ryder Slone's songs are much appreciated; Dora Barrington supplies a delightful operatic act; and Alf Onzo, Fred S. Howard, Diamond and Hart, and Archie Glen take well.

THE QUEEN'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Mr. Wm. Watson's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is being presented twice nightly to crowded houses. The Waldrons are prime favourites; Hilda Claremont makes a sweet Pollie, and her remarkable singing gains her much applause; Mlle. De Rose acts spiritedly as Crusoe; J. H. Hawtry satisfactorily sustains the rôle of the King; the Sisters Gaye's dances meet with much approbation; and Miss Ruby Carlton is big favourite as a Mermaid.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—Messrs. Thos. McKenzie and C. St. John Denton's pantomime, *Sinbad the Sailor*, is still going strong here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A first visit is being paid here this week by Miss Dot Stephens's company in the drama, *A Child of the Streets*, in which Miss Stephens, who has achieved great popularity in both theatre and music hall in Leicester, plays the principal part of Doris in a charming manner. She is supported by a capable company.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The big attraction here this week is Olga Petronowa, the Russian conductress, and her military band. At the other end is George D'Albert; Ethel Newman scores a success with her original monologue, *Her Wedding Day*; Sydney James's Strolling Players are a most entertaining turn; John Scott and company are popular in *Dolly's Deception*; Ethel Bourne, contralto, is making a hit; Fayre and Manning are clever dancers; Lilian French dances and sings attractively; and the Bioscope shows Wild Birds in Their Haunts, a really magnificent film.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Mr. Frederic Baugh is presenting Mr. Brien McCullogh (a great favourite with Leicester audiences) and company in the pathetic story of a woman's downfall, *East Lynne*. The only other items in the programme are Nora Stockelle, a dainty soubrette, and the Bioscope, with two good pictures.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in *Her Road to Ruin*, is playing to good houses. Mr. Charles Dickens scores continuously as Frank Temple; the Bishop is ably characterised by Mr. Dane Clarke; Mr. Alex Bradley displays the requisite amount of villainy as Philip Hardy; Miss Ada Champion gives a graceful and emotional representation of the much-wronged Jess Willoughby; Mary Dawson finds an able exponent in Miss Mabel Coleman; Miss Maud Gill makes a natural and charming May Willoughby; Mr. William de Brigord capitally sustains the rôle of Charlie Cholmondeley; Mr. Kendrew Wilson gives a clever rendition of Tom Wells; relief from the exciting incidents is provided by the excellent comedy of Mr. Harry Talbot as Billy Boots, his efforts being well seconded by Miss Grace Emery as Jenny Crackling.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The Bros. Wills, eccentric acrobats, are deservedly applauded; Miss Edie Endon is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Linn and Darius have a refined vocal and musical entertainment; Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, are highly successful; Bostock's trained baboons are exceedingly clever; Les Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists, provide a neat turn; Mr. Jack Martin, actor-vocalist, meets with approval; Sid Bedford and company, sketch artists, are also successful; and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company gave an excellent interpretation of *The Cingalee* on the first three evenings of the week. Miss Florence Watson ably interpreted the name-part, and Mr. Arthur Cartwright admirably played Kercher. Mr. Scott Cullen's Bobby Warren was highly entertaining; Miss Pauline Hague was charming as Lady Pat; Mr. Jack Crichton's Chambhuddy Ram and Miss Ida Ernest's Peggy were the cause of much merriment and were warm favourites; Miss Sadie Simpson was very graceful, and she introduced with Mr Geoffrey Berwick a very cleverly-done version of the Vampire Dance.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are at the head of a very good bill here.

CENTRAL HALL.—A return visit of the Walturdaw Pictures is proving attractive, the subjects being varied and interesting and the pictures clear and steady.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is here this week, Mr. Henry R. Smith having brought a good all round company. Mr. Frank Beresford handles the part of George Thornton with considerable skill; Mr. Charles Brock affords much satisfaction as Captain Darville; the humorous rôle of Bill Muggins is capitally held by Mr. Charles L. Ludlow; Miss Dorothy Milne sympathetically portrays Marian Thornton; a pleasing Barbara Scarth comes from Miss Mabel Cooke; Mr. Edward Beecher does well as John Scarth; and the two "vagabonds" are delightfully impersonated by the Misses Helen Grenville and Ivy Millais.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attractive domestic drama *Only a Little Boy* is here this week, the company presenting it being that of Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher. Mr. Watson plays strongly as the scoundrel Jim Bragstone; Miss Dot Forde is to be commended for her pathetic rendering of Billie; the distressed June finds in Miss Florence E. Florence a really able exponent; Miss Hettie Senior makes a bright and spirited Tag Raga, and earns rounds of applause; and the comedy is in the good hands of Mr. Cecil Raymond (Joshua Snell) and Miss Fanny Olive (Mona).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Her Forbidden Marriage* is here this week, among the principals being Mr. Louis Hector, whose performance of George Addison earns general approval; Mr. W. H. Porter, who presents a powerful Charles Devereux; Mr. T. Macdonald, as his rascally companion, Geoffrey Broughton; Miss Alice Bowes, a sweet Lucy; and Messrs. Fred de Vere (a humorous Timothy), Frank Denis (Sir George Lancaster), James Raymond (Dr. Fenwick), Miss Sybil Hare (Patty), and Miss Grace Lester (Lady Lancaster).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Jack Lorimer is here this week enjoying a rousing welcome from his numerous admirers—his latest pretty Scotch scena, *Jennie McGregor*, is particularly relished; Signor Rosi's Italian ballet, presenting *Uncle Isadore*, remains another week; May Henderson proves as lively as ever and earns rounds of applause; Vincent, the acrobatic table expert has a good turn; Stella Stahl pleases greatly with her songs and dances; Miss Marquis introduces her highly trained ponies; Cruikshank is immensely popular with his funny ways; James Stewart, the tramp pianist, keeps his audience in a merry mood; some capital dancing is executed by the eight Lancashire lads; and Mdlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre proves exceedingly interesting.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The attraction here this week is a well-presented pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, for which Cullen and Carthy are responsible. It is full of fun and go, and the company is very creditable. Miss Bessie Cohen makes a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Maudie Ford as Mair Marian and the Misses Dollie Cullen and Elsie Jordison as the "Babes" are acceptable; Miss Mario Fern pleases as the Fairy Queen; and the humour is well provided by Little Cluley as the Bantam, Arthur Stratton (the Baron), Mr. Tom Drew (Dame), and Cullen and Carthy (Robbers). A number of specialities are introduced by Miss Bessie Cohen, the Granada quartette of lady dancers, Dollie and Elsie, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill this week is Joly Violetta, a famous French dancer, assisted by Signor Arnaud, Brazilian dancer; the Carson Brothers go through some graceful feats of strength; Willie Gardner shows himself to be an accomplished dancer on roller and ice skates; Briff, Braff, and Broff are unique comedy tumblers; Ferguson and Mack make merry with their sketch, *The Dimple Sisters*; as comedy artists the Arthur Gallimore Trio are a capital turn; Godfrey James, the singing collier, finds much favour; Leo and Roland are a smart couple of novelty equilibrists; Elroy, the armless wonder shows remarble deftness with his feet; and also in the company are Mark Leslie (swell coon), Wyllie (tramp musician), and Anna Heath (comedienne and dancer).

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are this week engaged on *The Drama of Life*, in which Messrs. Harry Tresham (Harry Beech), Sydney Grant (Walter Beech), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Sylvia Beech), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Betty Black), and Miss Gertrude Gilman (Lady Jane) are prominent. Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope shows Dottynob's Double.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big thing here this week is a wrestling turnament, in which fourteen heavy-weight champions of the world take part; Ernest Cadle's funny sketch *The Casey Army*, is richly enjoyed; Ted E. Box makes his audience roar with laughter by reason of his humorous stories; the Marno trio of comedy acrobats are an excellent show; the Sarnthaler sextette of lady vocalists and dancers are accorded a most flattering reception; O'Malley and Brown provoke endless laughter with their trifle, *You're Still a Friend of Mine*; Lester Carey has some taking illustrated chorus songs; and contributions also come from the Cavallotti Brothers (instrumentalists and duettists) and Jessie Albani (comedienne).

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the programme here is Fred Karno's lively sketch, *The Bailiff*, which provokes roars of laughter; Edward Platt presents the Child trio of musicians, whose work calls forth much approval; Ted Waite is a comedian well worth listening to; Stanley and Vandyke are a clever comedy duo; Sydney Brandon smartly undertakes characters from Dickens; the Stavordale quintette of instrumentalists render several popular numbers; Les Carmody Trio have a merry juggling and acrobatic mélange; Frank E. Ford does well as a wooden-shoe dancer; and others who appear are Frances Hanlon (refined comedienne and dancer) and Will Walton (comedian).

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following are contributing to a well-varied programme here this week: Miss Harriett Vernon, with some well-sung songs, including her latest success "Emblems"; the Howards, clever instrumentalists; Leslie Race, a successful vocalist; Hammon and Wyatt, in a smart gymnastic act; Barney Vox, a clever and amusing ventriloquist; Kisbey, the call boy; and Miss Ada Spencer, comedienne. The Palace Pictures, with some up-to-date films, complete the bill.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—This week the attraction here is Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, which made a marked success at the Grand Junction Theatre last week, and is still drawing good houses.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—A pleasing entertainment is provided here this week by Cecil Gray, Dora Eastlake, and company, in *The Last Straw*, a weird drama, in one act; Tom Grave, in his sensational new motor act; Ada Oxley, in a bright sketch, entitled *Peggy*; the Rosses, comedians and dancers; Tony Freedman, light comedian; Wilkinson and Layton, in a new comedy sketch; the Hargreaves Trio, in a capital scena; and Les Supriskis, marvellous lady gymnasts.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company are entertaining local audiences for a third week in *Her Love Against the World*, having appeared during the past fortnight at other of the Broadhead theatres, with the usual success.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A capital programme here is headed by George Mozart, the well-known burlesque laughter-maker; while another excellent turn is that of Johnson and Bert, in their novel act, entitled *A Queer Customer*. Will Willis, comedian, is also popular; and Tod Lowen adds an enjoyable act in new words to old melodies. Other pleasing items are the Ten Dixie Girls, in their vocal and dancing act; Hamlet, a comedy acrobatic burlesque; and Herma, gladiator and heavy-weight lifter.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top of the bill here this week is a very amusing turn by Chas. Austin and company, in *Parker, P.C.*, which affords fine opportunities for burlesque humour of an enjoyable kind; Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, is also prominent in popular favour; Cassie Walmer, the eccentric contralto, adds an accomplished comedy turn; and entertaining items are forthcoming by Archie Naish, a smart comedian at the piano; Emil Solbrig's Automatus, in an eccentric act, *A Day Out*; Ginsy Woolf and her Sunbeams in *The Mermaid of Margate*; Billy, the wonderful horse, with the human brain; and Mina Denvil, an engaging vocal comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*The Motor Chase* runs its course here next week: Miss Julietta introduces some wonderfully well-trained sea-lions, which go through an astonishing performance; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette give a delightful musical turn, their songs without singers, a perfect imitation of the human voice on banjoes and harp, being, as usual, greatly enjoyed; Eadie and Ramsden, the musical comedy duo, are highly successful, the former having some exceedingly good and novel business; Chas. Matthews and Another do some smart jumping; the Coloured Meisters score a big success; Fred Keeton is a capital comedian; and last, but not least, O'Gust, the French clown, makes a big hit with his clever imitations.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Mr. Sydney Cooper and the Tally Ho! Trio's pantomime, *Cinderella*, is the attraction here this week. It is a capital show, the scenery, dresses, and dancing being all one can desire. Miss Gladys Soman is a refined Prime Charming; Miss Doris Longden as Cinderella sings nicely and is a graceful dancer; Miss Fay Desmond as the Fairy Godmother pleases greatly with her excellent singing; Miss Bertha Belmore is a dashing Dandini; Mr. Fred Park, although wrestling with a severe cold, does well as the Page; Messrs. Charles Wood and Fred Anderson score as the Ugly Sisters, the latter making a hit with his "I wish I had someone to love me" ditty; and the Tally Ho! Trio as the Baron and the Broker's Men are well received throughout. The Eight Sunrays are good dancers.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—A very laughable farce, entitled *No. 9*, is produced here this week by Lawrence Brough and an excellent company. The performance is excellent throughout, and is a big success. Dainty Ruth Molloy is well received for her imitations of music-hall stars; Joe Belmont scores in a refined singing, whistling, and bird imitation novelty act; Minnie Thornton gives a clever dancing act; Lily Dyer takes well as a bâton-swinger and dancer; Kitty Cameron, comedienne, is a graceful dancer and a nice singer; Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene are successful in *My Lady's Chamber*; and Rose and Wold are smart in a comedy wire act. Picture complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. John Tiller's capital pantomime *Jack and Jill* is playing here to full houses twice nightly, after a highly-successful week at the Queen's Park Hippodrome.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Mr. John Tiller's delightful pantomime *Red Riding Hood* is here this week, and full houses are the rule. Miss Lulu Russell cuts a fine figure as Prince Valiant; Miss May Merry is very pleasing as Red Riding Hood; Miss Zena Benson is a charming Fairy; and Miss Evelyn Warren is successful as Fairy Lightwing. Mr. Benson Kleve as King Lupus scores; Mr. Fred Danvers is very amusing as the Ugly Daughter; the Brothers Hayes contribute some wonderfully clever dancing; and good support is rendered by Mr. Fred Lawrence, Mr. Charles Verno, Miss Chummie La Mara, Miss Dot Henson, and others. Some exceedingly good dancing is done by Tiller's Lotus Troupe and the Mascotte Troupe of Children, and the scenery is excellent.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece.—The week's programme includes the Glennie's Royal Marionettes, which is a good show, and includes the pantomime representation of *The Babes in the Wood*; James Chatham, whistling comedian, has made himself popular, and Nellie Neal has also scored a success as comedienne and dancer; Lang and Pleydell, the comedy duo, have provoked much laughter; and Jenny Lynne, comedienne; Nash and Nash, patterers and dancers, with Jack Rae, comedy gymnast, have individually added their quota to an attractive programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is giving a series of popular operas, and opened on Monday with a grand representation of *Faust*. Mr. John Child delighted his hearers with his fine singing as Faust; and Mlle. Beatrice La Palme gave a charming and artistic interpretation of Marguerite; Mephistopheles, by Mr. Wm. Anderson, was an excellent performance; and Valentine had a good representative in Mr. Graham Marr. Miss Olive Westwood was effective as Siebel; and Miss V. Barry sang well as Martha. The augmented orchestra and an efficient chorus prove a great acquisition. The week's programme also includes *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, *Lohengrin*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Pichel Troupe of acrobats head an attractive bill, and give a good show; Dave Carter, tenor vocalist, secures a hearty reception; Douglas and Gordon are a merry pair of Scotch comedians; and other good turns are provided by Marion Lewis, comedienne; Harl, juggler; and George Morton, comedian; and several interesting films are shown on the Biograph.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Miss Winifred Maude and company are this week presenting *The Sins of a City*. Mr. Victor du Cane in the double rôle of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh gives a fine study of the horse-trainer and Miser; Mr. Arthur Lester as Donald M'Ivor is also a success; Mr. Arthur L. Read as Sandy McDonald is well placed; Mr. Morris Maud gives a good representation of the scheming and villainous Ralph Blackwater; Miss Winifred Maud acts with feeling as Seaweed, afterwards known as Norah Gillmore; Mrs. Lawrence Wingold as Lesbia L'Estrange gives a powerful portrayal; and a great factor in the success is Miss Minnie Millwarde as Midge, whose dancing is specially appreciated.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is this week presenting *His Real Wife*. Mr. Harding Thomas is a dignified Martin Avondale; Herbert Barton is effectively played by Mr. Clifford Rean; Mr. C. W. Spencer capably interprets the rôle of General Barton; Mr. Bernard Elliott makes the most of the part of Randal Meredith; Mr. Charles Yorke cleverly portrays the ex-convict, Colombo; his partner in crime, Alf. Snickers, having an able exponent in Mr. W. Walmesley. Miss Ward plays with her accustomed fervour and pathos as Ruth Avondale; as Lady Sybil Miss Elaine Verner does exceedingly well.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*Jack and Jill* has done record business here. Several new numbers, including vocal and choral items and eccentric dances, have been introduced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and Co. are presenting to capital houses the dramatic romance *For Love and the King*. Mr. Watson, who is the author of the play, appears with marked success as Gerald Meredith, and the part of Edith Meredith is ably sustained by Miss Rosalind Tate. The other characters have been placed with care and discretion.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Les Piccolinos, clever miniature artists, give a very pleasing entertainment; the Marbras, humorists and acrobatic dancers; the Donatos, one-legged clowns; Allis and Cassatti, comedians; St. Ruth and Conyers, duettists; Helm and Cozens, comedy artists; three local discoveries in the persons of Miss Edith Davies, pianist; Master W. A. Tweddle, violinist; and Miss Jessie Elliott, vocalist; and the Empire Pictures, all meet with hearty approval.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—George Lambton, an able swell comedian, and capital pictures are appreciated at the Hip.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—The Bros. Danby star here this week in their comedy act; the Three Van Earles, in harmony and dance, contribute an excellent number; and Deane Hall, descriptive vocalist, is entertaining. Bertha Ward, the crippled vocalist, sings sweetly; and Lillie Vane also receives appreciation.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Edward Marris's company is appearing in *Robinson Crusoe*. In the name-part Miss Maisie Gerrard is distinctly good, singing and dancing in excellent style; Miss Molly Manners is dainty and demure as Polly Hopkins; Miss Nancy Taylor looks particularly well and sings in excellent voice as Wavelet; Mr. Jimmy Danvers is decidedly funny as the Dame, as is also Mr. Harry C. Robinson in the rôle of Will Atkins. Specialties are introduced by Miss Jerrard, Jimmy Danvers, Sisters May, Archie Herbert, George Mumford and Andie March, Little Levite and company. Scenery and effects are excellent, and there is a large and well-trained chorus.

NEATH. — PRINCE OF WALES. — Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson.—The sensational drama *London with the Lid Off* proves a capital draw. Mr. Philip Percy as the Rev. Allan Gordon is excellent; Mr. Leonard Wallace is good as Mr. Templeton A. Jeweller; Mr. Percy Barnett is a capable Sam Rendell; Mr. Leo Main as Percy Plunker causes roars of laughter; as Gratton Gale Mr. H. E. van Gibbon supplies a good study; Mr. Aubrey Norton does well as Collini; Mr. Robert Johnson is successful as Trencher; Mr. Laurance O'Brien as Flickster deserve a word of praise; Miss Sophie Campbell as Madge Rendell acts with precision and judgment; Miss Amy Henley as Astra Dell is all that can be desired; Miss Gertrude Gibson is a clever Sarah Shafto; Miss Gussie Johnson as Dolly keep the audience well amused.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Further capital fare was provided here this week, the bill being headed by Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels, who are well described as "the novelty of the season"; Everhart does some remarkably clever work with his hoop; and a capital ventriloquial sketch is provided by Baddow. Other good turns include Della Lav comedienne; the Lynchs, in American picture song; Jock Barrie, Scotch comedian; the Five Obraes, in their acrobatical funniosities; Jack Clarke, a popular local comedian.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The delightful pantomime *Cinderella* continues its successful career at this popular theatre, and is drawing crowded houses nightly. The popularity of Miss Iris Hoey as Cinderella, Miss Cressie Leonard as the Prince, and Miss Meg Hamilton as Dandini, is now firmly established, and no doubt much of the success of the production is due to these charming art

boy song and dance, and the Brennans, in a dancing act, are very diverting; and Talbot and Pearce, in musical duologue, are well received; Herbert Shelley is always good, and as Dan the Outlaw, excels himself. The Athlones are expert athletes; and Lil O'Gorman, a comedienne who must feel gratified at her encouraging reception. The usual excellent biograph pictures are shown.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Vonetta is creating a sensation here by her wonderful versatility and the gorgeousness of her accessories; Herbert Rule is a clever comedian; Dale and Vale, in song and dance, are entertaining; and Herbert Croxon's mimicry is of the best. George Gregson and company cause plenty of mirth in their comedy sketch, *An Ideal Maid;* and Paulton and Doley deserve mention no less for their humour than their skill. The Faludy acrobats are extremely clever; and Les Belles Americaines are winsome and expert. Marie Stroud, a comedienne of merit, and the usual bioscope pictures complete.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—A capital house assembled to greet Mr. George Dance's company on Monday evening in *The Dashing Little Duke.* Miss Zena Dare appears as the Duc de Richelieu; Mr. Reginald Adair's impersonations of the Chevalier de Matignon is much enjoyed; Mr. Alec Johnstone, as the Abbé, is excellent; and Mr. Jack Grey is very good as Armand; Miss Gertrude Robertson being a charming Duchesse de Bourgogne; Miss Kate Graham-Beck plays cleverly the part of the Duchesse de Noailles; Miss Dolly Castles' singing is excellent; Miss Doris Dickens is a capital Cesarine; and Miss Nellie Dade, as the Baroness, is very good indeed. Mr. Johnny Danvers, as the Baron, causes hearty laughter.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Hop-o'-My-Thumb* concludes a most successful month this week.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Huime.—A season of drama twice nightly was commenced here on Monday, the attraction being Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's company in the romantic play, *The King and the Unknown Woman.* Mr. Wellesley Draper was a manly Prince Loris, and Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan played the part of the despicable Prince Menski in a clever manner. Miss Violet Carlyle acted in dramatic style as the persecuted heroine Zora; Miss Gertrude Herrol was a capital Countess Melveitch; Miss Helen Richmond, a clever Elsie; Mr. W. R. Winning, as General Platz, presented a good study; and Mr. Cyril Harrison made a good Captain Gara; Little Elsie Clarke being capital as the boy Caspar. Miss Cissie Podmore and Mr. J. Terry Dillsen as Schnapps and Corporal Stack, provided good comedy.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Harry Tate's company present the mirth-provoking sketch, *Fishing,* with excellent results. Other attractions are the Tan-Kwai troupe of Chinese in a wonderful acrobatic display; Orpheus in his musical act; Johnny Holland and company in *The Boat Builder;* the Three Langfords, smart dancers; Jennie Reeve, a charming comedienne; James Brady, who is amusing; Gicardo, a smart juggler; and a troupe of well-trained ravens and pigeons exhibited by Melia and Mozambar. The Bioscope concludes.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. C. C. Derrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—On Monday night Mr. George Edwardes' company presented *The Dollar Princess* for the first time here. Needless to state, the company merits the applause so liberally accorded. Mr Leslie Holland is admirably suited as the millionaire Conder; Mr. Alec Worcester, with his excellent singing and bright, incisive acting, is a tremendous favourite as Fairfax; Mr. J. C. Neville is a capital Dick; and Mr. Sidney Lyndon's Earl of Quorn could not be improved on. Mr. Willie Warde, jun., scores well as the footman; and Mr. W. H. Rawlins is vastly amusing as Bulger, the audience never ceasing to laugh while he occupies the stage. Miss Madeline Seymour is a most beautiful and fascinating Olga; Miss Peggy Primrose as Daisy dances in dainty fashion, and her bright acting is much appreciated; and Miss Norah Barry, who was such a favourite here as the Merry Widow, again completely wins all hearts as Alice. The chorus is most efficient, and the handsome dresses and exquisite scenery add to a success which has never been surpassed here.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. H. A. Langlois is this week presenting his pantomime company, including Mr. George Lupino and Miss Marie Beresford, in *Jack the Giant-Killer.* In the title-rôle of Jack Miss Marie Beresford is capital, playing with all the requisite dash and sprightliness, and sings effectively; whilst Mr. H. A. Langlois is as natural as it is possible to be as the Giant. Mr. George Lupino is ideal as the Master; Mr. George Grenville makes the most of the humours of the situation as the Widow; Mr. Tom Ashby does well as Tweedledum; Mr. Tom J. Taylor succeeds in being funny as Buttons; and Happy Harry Ellis is all that could be desired as King Tweedledee. Mr. Bruce Williams is good as Bobby; and Mr. Frank Orchard makes a bombastic Beadle; while Mr. Geo. Small does duty as Blossom, the cow. Miss Cynthia Lupino sings well and is attractive as Princess Blushrose; Miss Tina Langlois is a winsome Molly; and Miss Jeanne Alibert a great success as Prince Rackett. As Doris Miss Marie Robertson is effective; Miss Daisy Beresford is a charming Fairy All-Heart; and Miss Ethel Merica is capital as Dick (villager). Some excellent specialities are introduced by Miss Grace Buckingham, with her performing dogs; Miss Alice Vernon, cornet soloist; the Sisters Florencie, international dancers; and Mr. George Lupino, pirouette dancer, all of whom have a well-deserved and hearty reception.

TOWN HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is again paying us a welcome visit here, and is proving as attractive as ever. The entertainment is greatly strengthened by some excellent variety turns.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Robinson Crusoe* finishes a successful run here this week. Mr. Savile's benefit was announced for Friday evening.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—W. F. Frame, the well-known Scotch comedian, is delighting all here by his humorous songs and deportment; Trova displays wonderful agility as a juggler of heavy-weights; the Four Royal Scots contribute an excellent and altogether charming musical act; prolonged greetings are accorded the Sisters Showell, duettists; the Avolos submit a smart and clever exhibition of double somersaults from perpendicular poles; Marie Powell, waif impersonator and violoncellist, gives a pleasing turn; Shamus and Kitty give a vocal and neat dancing act; and the Hippodrome Bioscope is entertaining.

PEMBROKE DOCK. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Messrs. Joseph Poole's Colossal Myriorama is here for the week. An excellent pictorial tour of the world is provided, Mr. Bert G. Berry being the capable guide and vocalist. Specialities include Miss Frederica's wonderful performing terrier dogs and Dot, the cake-walking pony; funny Johnny O'Rourke, "the tourist"; Eileen and Maynie, Dutch instrumental and dancing duo; Little Francesca, the miniature dancing marvel; the Tissotts, in their marionette entertainment; De Lilo, charming lady bender; and Metz, comedy juggler.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Sole Owners, Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—This is the closing week of Poole's varieties. Some very good turns are presented, including Capt. Ellis and son, expert musicians; the Two Jays, Kwarrelsome Komedians; Gartner and May, in their comedy barrel act; Alpho, the vetriloquial college boy; Blanco White and Emilie Clifford, in their vaudeville act, *Watch the Piano;* the Stein Erretto Troupe, hand-jumping acrobats; and the Tivoliscope.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.— Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The famous prima donna Mme. Alice Esty heads the bill here, and charms all by her excellent work; Ernest D'Almaine, vocalist, gains applause; Blanche and Zena, in their clever cycling act, cause quite a sensation; Ben Jackson proves to be a banjoist of considerable merit; the Spanish Goldini Troupe are clever carpet-spinning acrobats; and the Karnoscope, with new pictures, completes.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Robinson Crusoe* still rattles along merrily to the accompaniment of splendid houses. Miss Lucy Coventry as Polly Hopkins has become a warm favourite, her winsome manners and clever dancing eliciting universal admiration, while Miss Isabel Lait makes a principal boy it would be impossible to beat. The various comedians seem to be perpetually adding little bits of by-play, all of which tend to make the entertainment additionally attractive. On Monday a very amusing scene was introduced by Messrs. Daley Cooper, Woodhouse and Wells, dealing with current political events, and went exceedingly well.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—*Kleptomaniaco* is presented here by Mr. Fred Edwards and Miss Bertha Northam. The Villions, expert cyclists, prove themselves past masters in their particular art; the Bros. Wesmars furnish a mysterious entertainment; the Hulls provide a first-rate musical act; the Lyons supply something new in the pantomime business; Lozeile gives an interesting gymnastic show; and Chas. Denton makes the most of his opportunities as a comedian. Mazie Hobbs (dancer) and the Palascope are the other numbers.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard. This week Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are playing *Cinderella* here. Miss Leila Zillwood is a charming principal boy; and Miss Dela Fredericks is a graceful Cinderella. Miss Lottie Mellor is good as Dandini; as also are the Misses Gertie Russell and Rene as the Fairies. Mr. Carl Fredricks is an excellent Baron; and Messrs. Will Webb and Tod Squires are capital daughters of the Baron; Messrs. Gus Granville and Frank Shepherd cause roars of laughter as the broker's men; Messrs. Gerald Leslie, Harry Gold, and Mark Thompson are good demons; the Misses Linda May, Jennie Kirwin, Edith Winthorne (Prince's retainers), Sisters Nena (Peach Blossom and Blue Bell), Leslie Grandfield and Gladys Kaye are also good. Specialities are given in an excellent manner by Mr. P. J. Durney (rolling globe walker), the May Quartette (dancers), Len Lyvette (instrumentalist), Wyman (trick roller skater), Shepherd and Granville (comedians), La Belle Mascot (silver wire walker), Carl Fredericks (illusionist), and Mlle. Cordelia (electric transformation dancer).

LESSER TOWN HALL.—The Columbia Animated Picture Co. are exhibiting a fine series of pictures to crowded houses.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Bellow and Stocks company of entertainers present The Romps in a refined and dainty musical scena. Steve Bartle is an expert player of the Edeophone and concertina; Three Sisters Urma gives a classical display of gymnastics; the Three Cyclinis, who play football on wheels, are very funny; Horace Wheatley is a capital comedian and dancer; the Daintons, in their cross-talk, make themselves favourites; Ivy Aberdare is a dainty comedienne and expert wooden shoe dancer; and Walter Ellis and company present one of the most laughter-provoking playlets yet seen here, *The Sleepwalker,* which is one continuous roar of laughter from beginning to end. The Palascope presents some excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL —Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—We are now in the last week of Mr. J. F. Elliston's highly successful pantomime, and new songs, appropriate topical allusions, and new business keep the fun at high-water mark. George Goodfellow's rendering of "Months and months and months" is as popular as ever, and his act with Miss Jennie Gregson (Bonne Bouche) is also one of the hits of the evening. Mr. Arthur Reynolds as Queen Algebra is a comedian of versatile talent, and Mr. Chas. Ommaney's Mother Baneful is meritorious; the Donaldson Brothers, in animal masquerade, "Fun at the Zoo," especially amuse the junior element; and the chorus and orchestra respond admirably to the beat of Mr. Clarence C. Corri. Mr. Harold Wagner looks after the comfort of the audiences during *Sleeping Beauty's* reign here.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—A thrilling drama, entitled *For Honour and Revenge,* is the attraction here. Mr. Montague Baudyn gives an excellent reading of the part of James Galston; Miss Irene Stanhope makes a charming heroine; Mr. Edward Danston as the hero displays great ability. The play is well mounted and much appreciated by crowded audiences.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. Pratt.—The chief attraction here this week is the wonderful performance of Monahan, the American roller-skate expert, who gives a marvellous exposition of trick skating. The Georgie Piccaninnies, a troupe of coloured artists, receive loud applause for their pot-pourri of coon specialities. Will Atom and company present a farcical absurdity entitled *Wiggles,* which is productive of much mirth. Will McIvor has a fine tenor voice, which is heard to good effect in a couple of songs. The programme includes Sara Rosebury, the Calcotts, Fred Bamford, Kendrick and Laura, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—A capital musical turn is the presentation by "Ye Colonial Septette" of *An Olde Tyme Halloween,* concluding with some operatic excerpts played with brass instruments. Dutch Daly, with his concertina, is as amusing as ever; Herbert Sleath's company in *The Deputy Sheriff* gives a capital performance; Lee and Kingston provide a laughable turn; Minnie Mace sings and dances; Leslie's Comedy Cadets are well received; and the Hanlon Troupe of Gymnasts, Ted Cowan, Hyde and Cody Trio, and pictures are included in the ample fare.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—Crowded houses have enthusiastically appreciated this week's fine entertainment, which includes Barnold's dog and monkeys in pantomime, *A Hot Time in Dogville;* Miss Beaumont Collins and company, who display clever acting in the sketch *The Leaves of Memory;* Bessie Slaughter, the popular contralto; the daring and sensational gymnastic display by the Two Butterflies; the mystery of Buddha's Blackboard; the eccentric fooling of Bill and Bailey; Ted Moxon Trio, acrobats; Fred Dunstone, comedian; and, not least, Barton and Ashley in farcical sketch, *Adam the Second.*

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Allen-Newton.—J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is attracting good houses. Mr. Edwin Webb as Infernalito, and Miss Emmie Mappin as Sylvania contribute some capital solos and duets; Mr. Brimsley Smith is funny and original as the Wicked Uncle; and Mr. Harry Rousby makes a capital dame, Araminta Koffkake. Mr. Oliver Conroy as Soft Sammy causes much laughter; Conan and Doyle contribute much to the success as Burgling Bill and Gentle George; and Miss Marion Scott as Robin Hood has a fine presence and sings well; Miss Mary Dene is a dainty Maid Marion; Miss Nell Rene a dashing Will Scarlet; Mr. Chas. Cardle as Lord Knowswho contributes some excellent songs, and possesses a good voice; Miss Kathleen Gaggin as Little John and Miss May Barraclough are also sucessful; while Millie and Lillie as Harold and Lucy (the Babes) prove themselves to be a pair of clever juveniles, their dancing being exceptionally good.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson. — Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Midnight Wedding* is here. The company includes Miss Margaret Brodie in the rôles of 2nd Lieut. Karl Helsburg and Princess Astrea, Miss Gwladys Faunce as Rozel, Prudence Lawrence as Marie, and Miss Jessica Black at Kathie. Mr. Alfred Paumier enacts the part of Paul Valmar with distinct success; Mr. John Nesbitt is a capital Crown Prince Leopold; Messrs. Chas. Whitlock as Lieut.-Eugene, A. E. Barnes as Captain Rudolf, Arthur Radford as Sub.-Lieut. Keelman, and Forbes Harrison as Father Gerrard all do well.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—The Original Ten Loonies, the famous mad musicians, are paying a return visit, and have lost none of their popularity. Their sketch, *Dotty* causes roars of laughter; Olive and Owen (Minnie and Bid) have a novel and refined comedietta, *The Roadside Tinkers,* in which they render some pleasing duets; the Zeenas, gymnastic comedians, are a good turn; George Hyatt contributes a good juggling act; Geo. Payne's Wanderers in their Caravan Scene contribute whistling, singing, and dancing interspersed with comedy; Lieut. Chard's Greyhounds perform some remarkably high jumps; and the Sauteron Wonders, comedy speciality artists, introduce some clever spring jumping in a good turn.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessees, Messrs. Geo. T. Santé, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Miss Renee Glendower has a highly creditable company in *What a Man Made Her.* Mr. Edward Rawlinson gives a realistic representation of the Earl; Mr. C. Haftopp does well as Sir Ernest Cavendish; and the part of Dr. Mark Haven has a capital exponent in Mr. J. M. Olivet. The funny sayings of Mr. Barnett Lands as a rich moneylender are highly appreciated; Miss Tessa Myers as Deborah is strong; and Miss Renee Glendower as Janet McAllister displays ability. Miss F. Russel Spiers acts well as Elfrida; and Miss Stella Carmichael deserves a word of praise as Lady Thora.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse. The Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company is here this week with *Temptation.* Mr. Dudley Wynton as Sir Charles Tremaine gave a fine impersonation; and Mr. Norman A. Overton as Hubert Thorne was capable and convincing; Mr. Arthur Traill made an excellent Stepen Rowe; and Mr. Willie Reid as Bob Saunders was very satisfactory. Mr. Charles O. Whyte was successful as the Major; and Mr. Walter Raleigh was an acceptable Mr. Blight. Miss Beatrice Selwyn as Irva Blight played very powerfully; and Miss Olgy Kay as Agnes Rowe was commendable. Miss Nora Carton as Hilda Dundonald was exceptionally clever; and Miss Mattie Crawford was decidedly clever as the twin sisters.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is here this week in the successful comic opera *King of Cadonia.* Miss A. Moffat is a dainty Princess; Miss Olga Marsden an excellent Stephanie; the Duchess is very ably impersonated by Miss F. Leigarde; and Miss M. Keen is highly successful as a singer, actress, and dancer. Mr. J. Warren Foster is a handsome and manly impersonator of the King; Mr. J. Martin is good as General Bonski; Mr. Bertie Wright is exceedingly humorous; Mr. Cameron Carr sings with taste and acts well as Captain Laski.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—This hall has been taken for the week by the Reading Operatic and Dramatic Club, who are presenting *H.M.S. Pinafore.*

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Wrecker of Men* is again here, and on Monday evening a good house appreciated an effective performance. Miss Ruth Zillwood was prominent as the scheming Risca Mallinson; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt was a fine Jim Murley; Guise Strange was ably presented by Mr. Tom Bowron; Mr. E. A. Brooke did well as Pharosaphus; Mr. Richard Bosco was a smart Railton; Mr. Thompson Carruthers cleverly portrayed Ezekial Isaacs and Karnaphus; Miss Gwendoline Talbot was a charming Doris Melville; Miss Gertrude Camp did well as Marion Isaacs; Miss May Hart, as Vavasole Slopper, was very amusing; Mr. H. Dunning as Eric Melville and Mr. Harry Melton as Detective-Inspector Bransmere, gave good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; General Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's panto, *Dick Whittington* forms twice nightly a very bright and amusing entertainment, the porcelain ballet being exceptionally tasteful. Miss Ethel Campbell does excellent work as Dick, her songs, "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly" and "All the nice girls love a sailor," giving much pleasure; Miss Tina Franks also sings well and deserves praise for her "Alice"; Miss Ivy Proudfoot (Viscount Piccadilly) and Miss Phyllis Seymour (Molly) sing catchy songs; Mr. Deane Tribune is a clever comedian, and does excellent business as Jack Idle; Sarah (the cook) is well played by Mr. Albert Williams; Mr. Jack Hodgson is good as the Alderman; Mr. Tom Gilmore makes the most of his opportunities as the Cat; Madame C. Boardman has a good voice, and worthily presents Fairy Sunshine; Miss Ethel Haidee, as the dusky Princess, has a good song, "South Sea Island Maid," and does justice to it; Mr. Geo. Melbah (Emperor of Morocco) and Mr. Leo King (Rat) do their little work creditably; Mlle. Pauline Rivers' troupe of dancers give many pleasing dances. The choruses are good under the bâton of Mr. Herbert Rolinson.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is presented (twice nightly) by Alfred Panmier and Walter Howard's company, who command large houses. Miss Ethel Bracewell has a pleasing presence and voice, and plays Monica with much grace and ease; Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox makes a fine manly Prince Olaf; Mr. Alfred Goddard is an excellent villain as Prince Hildred; a good piece of acting is done by Mr. Victor Rae as Prince Michael; Mr. Vyvyan as Lieut. Karl, and Miss Mona Hall as Viola raise many laughs; Mr. H. Burton furnishes much amusement, and very cleverly portrays Captain Hector; Camiola is charmingly presented by Miss Verity Page; and the dumb servant Nathan is a good study by Mr. Sydney Baylis; scenery and uniforms are excellent.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Robins and Collier top the bill here; Harry Bradshaw, tenor, is popular; Florence Creagh and company appear in a duologue, *Her Return;* Lily Hales, comedienne and dancer, is successful; Ernest Clifford is a clever wooden-shoe dancer; and Harry Wenburn and Harry Rickley are amusing in their respective turns. Other attractions are the Bioscope and the skating rink.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Messrs. Matthew Glenville and Fred Osmond's pantomime *Aladdin* is the attraction here. Miss Hettie Zillwood as the principal boy is distinctly successful; Miss Lou Charlesworth, a charming Princess, sings well; Mr. Clarence Turner and the Brothers Lavelle are responsible for considerable merriment as Mrs. Twankey and the Policemen respectively; and the other parts are all creditably filled. Specialities are given by Miss Hettie Zillwood, Miss L. Charlesworth, the Venester Troupe of dancers, Brothers Lavelle (comedy acrobats), the Sisters Wingrove (expert dancers), Pulo (comedy juggler), Clarence Turner (comedian), and Miss May Wyatt (violoncello soloist).

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is in possession this week, with *The Bondman.* Jason and Michael Sunlocks are played with commendable skill by Mr. Philip Darten and Mr. Stanley Harrison respectively; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith gives a meritorious impersonation of Ham Fairbrother, and Mrs. Fairbrother is well depicted by Miss Madge Lanerton. The dual rôle of Grandfather and Father Ferrati is admirably played by Mr. W. H. Rotherham, who rises to a pitch of high artistic excellence as the priest; Miss Violet Macaree displays great skill and power as Greeba; and the smaller characters are in capable hands. The numerous settings are capitally managed, and the effects are realistic.

SHEERNESS. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—A week's visit was opened on Monday by Mr. G. W. Bowes' company in *The Sign of the Cross.* The virile character of Marcus was strongly rendered by Mr. Leonard Yorke, whose impassioned appeal to Nero was a fine elocutionary effort. The vanity and ferocity attributed to Nero were cleverly realised by Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice; and the cunning and treachery of Tigellinus and Licinius capitally emphasised by Messrs. G. Osmond and Mr. Evan Davis respectively. Mr. Donald McAdam impersonated the bibulous Glabrio; and Mr. Theo Leslie played well as the sensuous Philodemus. Miss Eileen Leoville as Ancaria, Miss Lilian Ward as Dacia, and Miss Gabriel Romero as Berenice all played with dramatic force. Miss Margaret Wall's rendering of Poppæa was very effective; and Miss Florence Maher was an earnest and impressive Mercia.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. George Dance's company began a welcome return visit on Monday in the delightful and humorous musical comedy, *Miss Hook of Holland.* Miss Marie Studholme, a special Lyceum favourite, was cordially received, and she acted and sang with her accustomed charm and vivacity; Miss Maude Kenny made a graceful Mena; Mr. Alfred Wellesley was first-rate in the part of Mr. Hook; the Captain Paap of Mr. Frederick Hobbs was a commendable impersonation; Mr. Frank Crisp gave an amusing character sketch as the Bandmaster; and Mr. Fred. Lyne's Simon was excellent. The chorus was admirable, and the piece was staged in an artistic manner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—The brilliant, spectacular, and humorous annual, *Jack and Jill,* is up to the high traditions of the Royal, a fact which the Sheffield public have recognised in the manner dear to the managerial mind. Miss Ella Retford as Jack is a tremendous favourite with all classes; Miss Josie Delaine is a pleasing Jill; and Mr. Albert Le Fre as Walker and Mr. Charles Norton as the King share the honours as comedy merchants of the first order. The exquisite ballets are loudly applauded.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*Dick Whittington* continues its successful run here to the accompaniment of loud laughter and hearty applause.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A programme full of good items is provided this week, the celebrated conjuror-humorist and "globe-trotter," Raymond, filling the place of honour on the bill; Les Romanis do a very novel act; the popular vocal comedian, Mr. Ernest Shand, causes hearty laughter; and others who successfully entertain large houses are Miss Annie Purcell, musical comedy artist; Mr. Paul Barnes, comic vocalist; Gitto, vocalist; Mr. John McCauley, Scotch entertainer; Mr. Cyril Glensy, protean-actor, and company, in the diverting sketch *The Last Chance;* Mr. Harry Anderson, topical and motto vocalist; Little Miss Muffit, Australian comedienne; the Bioscope, with splendid pictures; and the Barrowskys, acrobats.

THE HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mons. Foot-Gers, the smart Parisian mimic and comique, is well received here; Messrs. Dale and O'Malley have struck quite a new vein of comedy and make-up, and their business is a welcome change to the old-fashioned "Irish comic" absurdities; Miss Leonara Beverley, a graceful ballad vocalist, wins hearty applause; the Davis and Gledhill Trio, in *Cycle v. Motor,* bring down the house; and others who get deserved approbation this week are: Miss Teddy Edmonds' farce company, in *The Lady Jockey;* Mr. C., patterer; Miss Maud Courtnay, vocalist; the "Boys of England" (five gallant young Englishmen), vocalists; Mr. Dan Filmer, comedian and dancer; the Robertsons, dancers, etc.; and the Resas, jugglers. Some artistic bioscope films conclude.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Elections notwithstanding, Mr. Arthur Carlton's superb pantomime *Babes in the Wood* is a highly successful attraction here. Mr. Martin Haley as the Baron is throughout amusing and energetic; Mr. Gus Walker ably seconds his efforts to amuse in the part of Nurse Prettypet, whose topical songs are admirably sung; Messrs. Harley and Melton are a hard-working and capable pair of comedians as Weary Willie and Tired Tim, their knockabout business and songs being praiseworthy; Mr. Bert Lloyd is droll and a diverting singer as Pickles; the Sisters Lang as the Babes merit high encomiums for their pleasing acting and vocalism; Miss Gertrude Douglas is a first-class principal boy as Robin Hood, her songs being rendered with spirit and effect; Miss Verona Philis uses her sweet voice effectively as Maid Marion, and she is an agile dancer; Miss Rene Glynne acts and sings in talented fashion as Allan-a-Dale; Mr. Angus Stong as Will o' the Wisp and also as King Richard performs these parts with care and ability, his songs being among the most meritorious features of the pantomime; Miss Ethel Dancy is a graceful Fairy Fortune; and Effie White contributes a charming serpentine dance. Choruses and tableaux are commendable, and the finale is especially good.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Mouillot's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* has arrived, and, judging by the attendance, it is an undoubted success. The production is under the direction of Mr. J. R. La Fane, to whom the greatest credit is due. Miss Hilda Vining plays the title-rôle with dash, and has established herself a prime favourite. Miss Daisy May is successful as Polly, her breezy interpretation of the part calling forth applause; her "Silvery Moon" song and dance is quite the tit-bit of the show. Messrs. Matt Powell (Dame), Mark Lupino (Billy Crusoe), and Ernest Sefton (Will Atkins) are a capital trio of comedians, and vie with each other in fun-making. Mr. Chas. Resti (Friday) is a versatile artist, scoring alike in song, dance, and conjuring. Miss Mary Pitcairn is a charming Princess Moonshine; Miss Ruby Melbon sings well as the Fairy; and others who prosper are Messrs. Roland Stagg (King), Allandale (Piccalilli), Alfred Drayton (Bumper), Robertson (Davy Jones), and A. Cooke (the Monkey). The animated toy shop introduced by Viviana and company gives great pleasure; and the dancing by the Fedora Quartette is quite a feature of the prformance. The scenery and effects are beautiful, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Ernest Hartmann.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is being presented by Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company. The piece is bright and sparkling and the music infectious. A great deal of good comedy is introduced by Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Hook, Mr. Charles Berkeley as Ludwig Schnapps, and Mr. Edward Kipling as Simon Slinks (a canal loafer); Mr. F. G. Dunn is capital as the Bandmaster, with his fetching Tra-la-la-la-la-la song; Mr. R. Selby submits a good portrayal of Captain Adrian Paap, singing his number, Soldiers of the Netherlands, in good style; and Miss Madge White as Mina and Miss Nan Stuart as Sally, Miss Hook of Holland, are both excellent in their respective parts and in their singing. There is a well-balanced chorus and augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. Harry Richardson.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item is Frank and Jen Latona in music and comedy, who have a good reception; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden contribute a refined comedy act; Falco and Eida introduce by song and dance the subtleties of Ju-Jitsu; and Harry Friskey (American comedy juggler), Tom Moore (character comedian and vocalist), Lilian Trevellie (dainty soubrette), Sam Dalton (vocal eccentric), and the Bioscope complete the programme. A successful picture matinée was given on Wednesday afternoon, at which trial turns appeared of persons who are desirous of adopting the music-hall stage as a profession.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James E. Johnstone.—Miss Rose Moncrieff's company in *Sinbad the Sailor* is the attraction. Miss Moncrieff makes a dashing Sinbad; Miss Christine Comez a charming Sadie; Messrs. Simmonds and Sparkes as Tinbad and Hinbad contribute largely to the success of the show; Mr. Eddie Noble makes a capital Mrs. Sinbad. In the specialities E. Levano gives a marvellous exhibition of side tumbling.

STALYBRIDGE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. K. Stewart McDonald.—*His Dishonoured Wife* is being presented, with Mr. Victor Rae as Frank Lindon, a village blacksmith, in the leading part. Florence Lindon is cleverly portrayed by Miss Belle Tilbury; the villainy is supplied by Messrs. Horatio Sinclair and Edward Brown; and Mr. Harry Tilbury, as an Irish comedian, creates much hilarity; Mr. Fred Owen is a capital Neil Locksley, of Scotland Yard.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and company are here this week in *Who Is She?* Miss Georgette Thierry plays the title-rôle with intense dramatic feeling and great success, and Mr. Hill-Mitchelson has a strong part in Prince Bora, which he presents with much skill; King Vladimir is admirably portrayed by Mr. James Stillwell; Miss Constance Medwyn is a stately Keta Noveitch; Mr. Sinclair Holden (Capt. Arthur Gower) and Miss Alice Barber (Countess Ludovi), have some lively passages, and fill the parts well, while Miss Mabel Ronald makes a pretty boy King. Praise must be accorded to Mr. Bernard Leill for an excellent Chang-Tee. The play is well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker — A wonderfully clever performance is given by George the 1st, the distinguished ape; Seener and Fridkin's Troupe give great pleasure with Russian songs and dances; Janet Hall's marvellous voice wins her high appreciation, and Phil Rees' Stable Lads are worth hearing; Three Alskarno's perform some smart acrobatic feats, and W. B. Roby's songs are well received. Lillie Le Breton is a graceful gymnast.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Brought to Ruin,* capably presented by Mr. Morton Powell's company, has been highly attractive here this week. As the workgirl, Jessie Burton, Miss Isla Garnet-Vane acts with much feeling; Harry Hailing, a sailor, is impersonated in manly style by Mr. Harry Scott; Mr. Edward M. Heanley makes a capital villain, Philip Edge; and Solomon Sleek is amusingly played by Mr. Alaric Burton. Miss Winnie Waters is a pleasing character, admirably portrayed by Mrs. Morton Powell; and the part of Mrs. Annie Burton is filled with ability by Miss K. Eckhart.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—F. Mackinnon's Scotch Meisters, in a comedy vocal act *Ancestral Spirits,* are entertaining harmonising vocalists; the Violas are mystifying mental telepathists; Harry Zetter, vocalist and dancer, is received with favour; very pleasing are the Sisters Desmond, character duettists; Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque present an amusing sketch, *My Lancashire Wife,* with gratifying

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

THE Theatres Committee of the L.C.C. have agreed to receive a deputation from the four Societies who addressed the Home Secretary on the matter of Sunday entertainments on Wednesday next, the same day on which the joint deputation from the Cinematograph Defence League, &c., are to be received. The representatives of the artists, actors, musicians, and employees meet to-day to prepare the statement on their case for the committee.

Fine Warwick Picture.

THE house of Warwick has released a very fine film this week in The Disguised Bridegroom. Mildred is the beautiful daughter of wealthy parents. Her father determines she shall marry a rich but deformed marquis, who is a suitor for her hand, but Mildred, declining to have a husband provided for her, informs her lover, a humble yeoman, of the persecutions of the Marquis. John and some companions kidnap the Marquis, and John dresses up in the latter's clothes, making himself up so successfully as the Marquis that he manages to impose upon all. He plots to impersonate the Marquis at the marriage ceremony which Mildred's father has arranged, and all goes well until the end of the ceremony. As the final signatures are attached to the marriage contract, the real Marquis, having escaped, appears on the scene. Mildred prevails on her father to forgive her lover's stratagem to gain her hand, and all ends happily.

New Subjects from Markt.

THESE include In a Hempen Bag, The Test, On the Little Big Horn, A Corner in Wheat, Jinks the Grounch, If Love be True, and On the Border."

In a Hempen Bag.

THE house cat has become such a nuisance that the mistress decides it shall be drowned. To this end she secures a bag, ties the feline pest in it, and despatches the maid for the old deaf gardener to take it to the river and throw it in. Meanwhile, the mistress has discovered the nurse drunk, and discharges her. The children, finding their pet tied up in the bag, let it out and carry it away to hide. The nurse, perturbed at her dismissal, to get even conceives the idea to hide the baby, and seeing the empty bag, being ignorant of its destination, puts the infant in it and ties it up. The deaf gardener enters and carries the bag off, making his way to the river. On the way he meets a couple of boys with a rifle, who, upon learning the contents of the bag, beg the old man to let them have a shot at it. To this he consents, but the gun jams and won't work, so the man proceeds on his way. At the house there is a panic in the endeavour to find baby until the presence of the cat tells them of the impending danger. By this time the bag is brought to the river, but the boys run up just as the old man is about to throw it over. They have adjusted the rifle, and beg for another chance. The old man tells them he will open the bag and they may shoot as the captive jumps out. You may imagine their surprise when instead of a cat they find a baby.

The Test.

THIS subject presents another episode in the Wright family. Harry gets in bad for a time, but he wriggles out like a trout off a hook and comes up with that perennial grin. Harry is starting on a business trip and Bessie is sad. As he turns to fasten his grip wifey extracts a photo, handing him the closed case. Putting the case in his pocket, he departs. Next we find him at the hotel of another town enjoying convivial society. He does not forget a letter to wifey. He tells her how lonesome he feels, that her picture is now before him. When Bessie reads this, she storms. "What a fib. I thought so." She writes him of the trap she set, and when he looks at the case now for the first time, he is flabbergasted. "Now I'm in for it. Ah, an idea." He telegraphs to his mother to send him at once the photo she has of Bessie. The photo arrives and he starts for home. Of course you may imagine the reception, but when he shows himself possessed of her photo, Bessie pleads for forgiveness for having doubted him. Another victory for Harry.

A Corner in Wheat.

No subject has ever been produced more timely than this powerful story of the wheat gambler, coming as it does when agitation is rife against that terrible practice of cornering commodities that are the necessities of life. Laws are being framed with a view of suppressing such nefarious transactions, and no more convincing argument could be shown than that set forth in this picture. Every phase of the question is illumined, beginning with an animated reproduction of Jean François Millet's masterpiece, "The Sowers." From the barn they start, and with the grain sack hung from their shoulders, the two bent and knotted forms are seen trudging wearily over the ploughed ground, their arms swinging in perfect chronometry with a slight gush of wheat grain pouring forth at each advance of the arm. What a contrast is shown in the office of the Wheat King surrounded by his lieutenants, waiting for the word as he engineers the great corner, whereby he will obtain absolute control of the entire produce, not only of the present, but the future toiling of the poor sowers. Into the wheat pit we go, and there find a struggling mob of brokers with their all slowly but surely melting under the blast of the King's determination. At length the battle is won, and the Wheat King stands majestically amid the debris of wrecked fortunes. There is no vengeance possible here but the hand of God, and one of the sins that cries to heaven for vengeance is denying food to the hungry. This cry is heard, and as the King is showing his friends through the elevators into the bins of which is flowing the steady stream of his golden grain, he trips and falls into one of the bins and is buried.

An Urbanora Joke.

THERE has been a good topical "Urbanora joke" at the Palace this week. The heads of distinguished politicians are literally poured on to the screen in a fluid state and gradually, to a gathering roar of applause—or howl of execration, as the case may be—the face assumes its proper proportions. Then—and here is the symbolism—just as we suppose his position is secure, the face becomes fluid matter again and disappears. It is amusing and very witty. The "joke" has been received amid a tumult each night.

G.N.R. Bioscope Lectures.

THE Great Northern Railway Company has been holding bioscope lectures in the Parish Hall, Great Church-lane, Hammersmith. Places of interest on the East Coast route from London (King's Cross) to Scotland are illustrated and explained by the lecturer.

After Dinner at Prince's.

FOR the convenience of its customers the Prince's Restaurant made special arrangements by which election results were immediately and prominently displayed to those frequenting the establishment during the General Election. Each Sunday night there will in future be a cinematograph performance after dinner in the dining room.

"Fairyland in Nature."

"FAIRYLAND IN NATURE" was the title of a most interesting lecture seen at the Cory Hall, Cardiff, last week, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, by Mr. R. Kearton, F.Z.S., London. It was greatly appreciated by the large audience present. The lecture, which was illustrated with splendid still and moving pictures, was most instructive, and showed a great insight into animal and bird life. The lecturer also remarked upon the great improvement in illustrating natural history. As illustrating his remarks, a view of a solan goose taken from a wooden caricature of two centuries ago was thrown on the screen, and this was followed by a photograph of the same bird taken within the last few years, and which is admitted by competent judges to be the best of some 10,000 natural history photographs which have been taken during that time by the lecturer.

Canadian Cinematograph Views.

AT Caxton Hall last Friday night a new series of moving pictures, illustrative of Canadian life and industry, was shown. Typical scenes from all parts of the Dominion were illustrated, including fishing and hunting trips, farming operations, silver mining, and Indians canoe racing, while other pictures showed the different phases of railway construction in the far west of Canada, where the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway (the new Trans-Continental line) is being completed at the rate of three miles a day. The photographs were all taken by Messrs. W. Butcher and Sons, of Farringdon-avenue.

Charity Picture Show.

THROUGH the courtesy of the directors of the Hemel Hempstead Electric Theatre, the Entertainment Properties, Ltd., and the enterprise of the popular manager, Mr. Manville Morton, the inmates of the Union attended a free show given by the management on Wednesday afternoon. The party consisted of men, women, and children, and were under the control of Miss Marner (sister of Sir Alfred Marner, M.P., Chertsey). Each one was presented with chocolate by way of refreshment.

The "Fifax" Reflectorscope.

UNLIKE the magic-lantern or the cinematograph, this new scientific toy has no limitations, as by its aid picture postcards, photographs, or sketches may be reflected on to a screen with a brilliancy that brings out all the detail of the originals; and as nowadays no home is without a collection of postcards or snapshots, the acquisition of a "Fifax" Reflectorscope will provide a constant source of entertainment.

Death of a Popular Lecturer.

MR. HORACE DAVIS, the popular lecturer and vocalist, of Messrs. A. and H. Andrews' animated pictures, at St. James's Hall, Plymouth, succumbed to a severe attack of pneumonia after a very brief illness, on the 15th inst. Deceased was an entertainer of long experience and great ability in catering for public amusement. Practically born into the business, his father and mother being in the profession, he, at an early age, joined a travelling circus. After five years he became a member of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, along with his brother, with whom he worked later on in a double turn on the music halls, as Davis and Davis, the "Original Golfers." For a long period he took part in Ginnett's and Pink's successful music hall sketches, *Dick Turpin* and *The Hunting Morn*. Later he became business manager of "The Johnstown Flood" and "The Haunted House" shows at the Marine Gardens, Portobello. The funeral, which took place at Plymouth Cemetery on the 17th inst., was attended by the widow and brother and sister-in-law of deceased. Mr. Gilpin, manager of St. James's Hall, representing Messrs. A. and H. Andrews, and the staff, who acted as bearers. There were several beautiful wreaths from relatives and friends, including one from Messrs. A. and H. Andrews and staff. Deceased was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

Living Pictures in Colours.

A NOVEL method of taking photographs in natural colours has been invented by a French scientist named Berthon, which seems likely to prove a solution of the interesting problem of cinematography in colours. He splits up the colours of the object photographed into the three primary colours—blue violet, green, and orange—by means of three narrow-coloured slits in the lens of the camera. In front of an ordinary photographic film he puts a special screen consisting of a great number of very narrow curved celluloid strips, which reproduce images of the coloured portions of the lens over the ordinary photographic image on the film in their complementary colours. What looks like an ordinary photograph results, but when such a picture is thrown on a screen through a lens with the three-coloured slits similar to that used in taking the pictures, the original is seen in its natural colours.

Unlicensed Cinematograph.

THE "G. L." Syndicate, Ltd., occupiers of the Royal Cambridge Music Hall, Commercial-street, Spitalfields, answered a summons, at the Old-street Police-court, on Thursday, under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, for allowing the said premises to be used on four different days in January for an exhibition of pictures or other optical effects by means of a cinematograph for the purposes of which inflammable films were used, without a licence, contrary to the Act. The magistrate said that defendants had deliberately broken the law from Jan. 1, at some risk to the public. He imposed a penalty of £20 and £4 per day for three of the four days named, as on the one day it was admitted that although the transformer had broken down it had been installed. He further allowed 21s. costs, making in all £33 1s.

New Leicester-square Picture Palace.

A SPLENDID new picture palace is now in course of construction in Bear-street, just adjoining Leicester-square. It is hoped that the opening ceremony will take place in less than a month from the present time.

Premier Theatres Enterprise.

A NEW electric theatre is being built by the Premier Electric Theatres, Ltd., on a prominent site in the Leytonstone-road. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co., the well-known theatrical architects. The theatre, which will be of handsome elevation, will be sumptuously decorated and luxuriously furnished, with a seating capacity for upwards of 1,000 persons. Considerable enterprise is being shown by this company, scarcely a week passing without building operations being commenced on additional new theatres.

Bannister Howard's Electric Theatre.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD has secured a site in Westgate-street, Bath, for an electric theatre, and has secured Mr. Bertie Crewe's services to prepare plans. Accommodation for about 400 is to be made, and popular prices to be charged.

New Companies.

NATIONAL ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Jan. 10, £50,000 (98,000 10s. ordinary and 20,000 1s. deferred). To carry on the business of proprietors and managers of biograph or cinematograph performances, theatres, and music halls, photographers, moving and animated picture designers or composers, electricians, &c., and to adopt an agreement with R. G. Hill. The signatories are: F. H. Marsh, 16, Mount-road, New Maldon; G. W. Eastham, 37, Priory Park Road, Kilburn; J. Irwin, 15, Grantbridge-street, Islington, N.; R. W. H. Leach, 26, Madeley-road, Ealing, W.; A. F. Sims, 10, Serjeants'-inn, E.C.; W. S. King, 102, First-avenue, Manor Park, E.; T. R. Wells, 8, Chatsworth-avenue, Wimbledon, S.W. (one share each). Minimum cash subscription, 10 per cent. of the shares offered to the public. First directors (not less than two nor more than five): R. G. Hill (chairman Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.) and W. H. Glanville (director Jequié Rubber Syndicate, Ltd.), £100. £100 each per annum (chairman £200) and 5 per cent. of the net profits in each year when 10 per cent. is paid on the ordinary shares, divisible.

Electric Coliseums, Ltd.

REGISTERED Dec. 31. Capital £3,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To carry on the business of caterers, providers of entertainment and kinematograph pictures, &c. Private company. Table "A" mainly applies. Registered office, Hatwood House, Effie-road, Walham Green, S.W.

ANOTHER series of good films has been seen this week at the Kensington Picture Theatre. The subjects were A Race for Brandy (Lux), a rollicking knockabout comedy; Wrongdoing Brings its Own Punishment (Pathé's), a story of the Riviera; Beauty Spots in Prince Olaf's Land (Wrench), a beautiful travel picture; Ma Goes to Work (Lux); A Woman's Treachery (Hepworth); Capture of Bear Cubs in Ariege, France (Pathé's), a most interesting and educating travel subject; Hot Pickles (Hepworth), being the story of an Indian colonel, who has invented a new kind of pickle, which causes any amount of trouble and fun; and A Midsummer Night's Dream (Le Lion), a magnificent production of Shakespeare's greatest comedy.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—The popularity of the Wide World Pictures is as great as ever, and there is no reason for wonder, when the excellent programmes are taken into consideration. During the first part of the week the following were among the pictures shown:—Auto Heroine (dramatic), Guardian of the Bark (dramatic), The Highway Man (dramatic), Fraternal Jealousy, 'Arry and 'Arriett (comic), Sports in Burmah, and Rifle Bill (dramatic). Amongst the films shown during the last nights of the week were, A Poor Man's Romance, Next of Kin, The Mill Girl, Troublesome Feet, Plucky Little Girl, Electric Hotel, Wet Day, and Peeps into Nature's Realm.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. E. Sims.—The pictures at the Pavilion this week include some stirring phases of life in the mountainous backwoods of Kentucky. The events portrayed are founded on fact. It is entitled The Mountaineer's Honour. Drowsy Dick's Dream is a very funny picture; The Widow's Reward is also a very interesting domestic incident; Poultry Breeding has special interest for those who keep fowls and are attached to poultry breeding; Peddling Patrick Pinches Poultry is a very funny film; Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire is a timely picture of electioneering, specially appealing to the voters of the day; The Pillagers is highly dramatic in story and impressive in its details. There are two other pictures we must not omit to mention. Paper-making—all the processes are seen in working order; The Heir of Clavencourt is a fine, majestic spectacle, somewhat depressing, however, in details. Interlude artists are not numerous. Rosa Backley is introduced as a baritone vocalist of some merit. A lady with a man's voice is something of a novelty. Alan Wright also sings illustrated songs.

THE PICTUREDROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The World in Motion entertainment at this resort is showing to well-filled houses two hours each evening and matinées. The bill for the current week includes pictures:—The Heir of Glavencourt, a picture which secured the gold medal for all-round excellence. It is a striking series of happenings of a romantic and troublous period. The Hunchback Fiddler is one of the beautifully coloured series of films, and the subject has to do with Brittany people, the land of legend and fancies. Funny pictures, produced for laughter, are Mr. Foolshead Steals a Carpet, Bleary Oh! the Village Aviator, A Sticky Proposition. All these films are designed to create laughter, and they succeed. Noel and Legends of Babylon are also fine films which fix attention. The special variety artists engaged for the week are Harry Beasley, an old local favourite, who sings a couple of comic songs, and an expert violinist, Carlos Menard. He played "Carnival de Venice," "Adeste Fidelis," and other selections, with imitations, in first-class style.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks.—The seekers for diversion amongst the community of workers still throng to the cinematograph picture shows at the Oddfellows' Hall. "The Palace of Variety and Pictures" is a high-sounding title, but Mr. Marks endeavours by his spirited catering to justify the designation. The picture heading the programme is entitled Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire. This is opportune at the moment, as the General Eelection is occupying the thoughts and attention of the public. His Laurels is a very good dramatic sketch; The Duchess of Dantzig is a French episode, in which the Great Napoleon and Sans Gene figure. The New Burglar Alarm is a very funny picture. The Garibaldian Boy is a very fine picture. It shows the heroic spirit of an Italian boy for the love of country. His father has been called to arms to support the rising of the patriotic insurgents of Garibaldi, and he enlists and goes to the field of battle, and is slain. His closing moments are most pathetic. The Two Burglars is designed to create mirth. There are other pictures of interest. The artists specially engaged as supplementary performers are a good baritone vocalist, Mr. J. Roberts, who sings "Down the Vale" and "A Soldier's Song," and a comic singer, Mr. Arthur Page, a very good singing comedian.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—Pictures of a highly dramatic character are shown here this week. Lines of White on a Sullen Sea is full of absorbing interest, The Necklace of the Virgin is another series which is received with enthusiasm; Maud Muller and a Motherless Waif are also most interesting. A Magnetic Removal is a clever trick picture; The Haunted Man and From White to Black are of the comic order, and cause hearty laughter. Miss Bessie Hardman, described as the Yorkshire Soprano, is responsible for several well-rendered songs.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The pictures shown here this week are quite up to the usual high standard, the principal one, Duel in Mid-Air, is most thrilling and exciting. Others are Poor Blind Sister, or the Two Orphans; A Kind Employer; No Excitement; The Merry Clown; and Election Humour, which is just the thing at the present time. Mr. Doc Thomas, a smart singing ventriloquist, is paying a return visit, and meeting with the greatest possible success.

BELFAST.—NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures has been provided here, under the direction of Manager Will White, including The Brutal Master, A Story of Circus Life, The Lion's Bride, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Billy Ross and company in their amusing comedy act *Mick Maloney's Troubles*, and Hyman and Gray, talented comedians and dancers, who gain a gratifying reception.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett some capital films have been shown here, including A Gift from Santa Claus, The Bride and the Bridegroom Visit the Zoo, Lucy of Lammermoor, Bill the Billposter, &c. Morris St. Clair, ventriloquist, appears, and his capital entertainment has afforded much pleasure.

BIRMINGHAM.—KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A splendid dramatic subject, depicting the adventures of the detective, Nick Carter, is one of the chief items on an attractive programme of animated pictures. Pantomime pictures are as popular as ever, the subject this week being Ali Baba and His Donkey, and this is followed by an amusing harlequinade by the toy pantomime troupe. Other interesting pictures are The Haunted Man, The Wheels of Justice, and Patent Shaving Powder. The Moxon Brothers are popular jugglers and eccentric dancers.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A new programme is submitted here this week, the pictures including A Mother's Love, Temptation, Ma-in-Law Would Fly, The Gambling Fever, and many others equally exciting and interesting. Hearty applause is accorded the variety turns by Mabel Kington, ballad vocalist; and the Hayes, duettists and entertainers.

NEW BIRMINGHAM PICTURE PALACE.—There has been a further addition to the number of places of amusement in Birmingham. Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd., of London, has taken a commodious shop in Station-street, right in the centre of the city, and the interior has been transformed into a cosy and attractive entertainment hall. Four hundred plush tip-up seats have been installed by Messrs. A. R. Dean, and the length of the place is about 100ft. The charge for admission is 3d. and 2d. There is a continuous performance daily from two o'clock until eleven. The manager is Mr. George Putman, who has had considerable experience of similar entertainment halls in London.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford.—There is a very attractive series of animated pictures exhibited here this week. The Honour of the Alpine Guide and the Escape of Count De la Valletta convey very dramatic stories; The Little Teacher is highly interesting, and much fun is afforded by The Two Burglars and I'll Show You How It Happened. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in artistic style, and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits warm praise for his pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures and songs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert Kent.—A pleasing exhibition of animated pictures is given here each afternoon and evening by the New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd., under the management of Mr. George Aubrey. The story of Tom Thumb is presented in coloured pictures; Empire Day is a patriotic subject; The Girl Detective and The Fool's Daughter are strongly dramatic; The Burglar's Mistake is full of exciting incidents; and The Wrong Valise is very humorous.

CANTERBURY.—ST. MARGARET'S HALL.—The Electric Picture Palace, as it is now called, is securing crowded audiences in spite of a strenuous political fight in the Cathedral city, and certainly the pictures presented are calculated to draw, no matter what counter attractions may also be *en evidence*. The Palace management have added to their success by introducing topical items (animated), including election scenes, with portraits of all three candidates, a scene from the local skating rink, and the Post Office United Football Club at play.

DARWEN.—ALBERT HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Among the fine films shown are Surprise of Professor, The Highwayman, Alpine Echo Drama, Sport in Canada, The Coastguards, Wanted, a Medium, and The Doctor's Sacrifice. Cynoki, Hungarian musician; Van and Lillie Gelder, magicians; and Jack Binns, comedian, are also well received.

DEWSBURY. — INDUSTRIAL HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—A very interesting and amusing series of pictures are being shown here this week. A splendid picture of Indian life, The Gratitude of Red Wing, meets with great approval; The Brothers, a pathetic drama, and A Woman's Repentance, a domestic drama, are also very interesting and realistic pictures; The Diver's Remorse is a picture full of exciting incidents; The Haunted Man and None But the Brave Deserve the Fair are very funny pictures.

DUBLIN.—ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Co. still continues to run successfully here, large audiences being attracted daily by the charming series of films and variety programme provided.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Entertainment Halls, Ltd.—The change of pictures here includes:—1776, or the Hessian Renegade, Nick Carter, Gold Digger's Son, A Cheap Removal, He Wins at Last, Hand of the Victim, Glass of Goat's Milk, Robson's Revolving Heel Pads, &c. Good houses are the order.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The uniform high standard of excellence is well maintained in this week's programme, which demonstrates the wonderful diversity of the pictures at the disposal of the management here. The Old Woodman unfolds the tale of the magic waters of youth in screamingly funny fashion. Adele's Wash-day keeps our risible faculties in good working order, while in Temptation and Forgiveness and The Lady Detective we have a couple of fine, thrilling picture-stories. Many others, along with the ever-popular singing picture, complete a tip top programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Austin.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week, and the audiences are large and appreciative. Mr. Tom Imeson, pianist-lecturer, adds further pleasure to the programme.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred New man; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—The programme presented by Mr. Newman this week is of quite an entertaining character, and gives the greatest satisfaction to the many patrons of this cosy West End house.

EDINBURGH.—OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Among many fine films that of Laddie, a pathetic story of a mother's love, stands out with prominence; Fools of Fate is a tragic drama of the Wild West; and several humorous subjects, of which Foolshead Pays a Visit and Naughty Boys are, perhaps, the most laughter-provoking, are shown. The Bros. Allison, patter comedians and dancers, enliven the programme with their clever turns.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmonds.—The principal film in the programme here this week is a vivid picture of Life in a Circus, and other subjects of a thrilling nature are Entombed Alive, and The Vendean Rebel. There are several humorous films of an entertaining description, and capital turns are given by Zenora, a clever equilibrist, and Mr. Tom N. Mills, Australian comedian.

GATESHEAD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—The programme here this week comprises The Living Doll, The Lamp, Love not to be Trifled With, Cape to Cairo, The Outcast's Christmas, Ma Turns Socialist, First Floor Flat, and The Child Benefactor. Cade Burnett, the actor-vocalist, provides a pleasing interlude.

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Allan and McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. S. Newton.—The bill at this comfortable "house" contains Panther Hunt, Crippled Cyclist, Convict's Revenge, Ingenious Safe Deposit, Wanted a Child, A Gift from Santa Claus, Girl's Cross Roads, Why Jones Couldn't Sleep. The Sisters Parker, singers and dancers, add to the enjoyment.

GLASGOW. — GAIETY, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager Mr. George Dickinson.—The Bioscope is still proving a big attraction here, and the pictures submitted this week are of the usual high standard, and are full of interest. The following are some of the most noteworthy:—The Zoo at Antwerp, The Chinaman's Dream, The Galley Slave, Tempered With Mercy, The Kingdom of Liliput, and Calino Among the Cannibals. There is, in addition, a variety programme, which is sustained by Phil Dave, champion buck dancer, and Millie Fleming, the "dot" vocalist.

GLOUCESTER. — KING'S HALL. — Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The Cinephone and Biodrama continue. The vocalist is Miss Molly Gwynne, for the illustrated songs.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Electric Theatres, Ltd., 1907.—A continuous programme is announced here, the hours being from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. About one-and-a-half hours' good animated pictures are shown, and then repeated.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank L. Clayton.—Good houses are still being drawn by the admirable collection of pictures, humorous and interesting, which are submitted here. This week's selection includes An Episode of Napoleon's War with Spain, Foolshead Steals a Carpet, Ma Turns Socialist, Spartacus, the Last of the Gladiators, A Story of Circus Life, and Come Along Up in the Flip Flap on the cinephone. Little Eddie Maley is well received in an illustrated song, "Sweetheart Days."

GUERNSEY.—RECTORY HALL.—Licensee, Mr. Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. A. Deighton.—Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures are still here, doing good business. This week the films comprise The Scales of Justice, and a beautiful art drama, A Bunch of Violets, appeal to the pathetic; The Dancing Powder and the Uncontrollable Cycle provides much fun; Muggins, V.C., was keenly appreciated; The Golden Spider is a beautifully coloured film; and His Lost Love tells of a love tangle of two brothers. Skating in Australia proved a novelty.

HANLEY. — KING'S. — Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—Fine pictures are splendidly shown, the chief being Blue Beard, a charming pantomime film; The Burglars and the Boy Scouts, very interesting; The Minister's Daughter, very powerful; A Glass of Goat's Milk, a scream; The Doctor's Sacrifice, a domestic drama; Some Fun with a Tiger, &c. Howard Graham, coon comedian, is very successful.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, always popular, continues its attractions this week, when some capital films are shown. One particularly vivid is The Forest Child, a dramatic story of American prairies and camps. A Sister's Devotion and The Scales of Justice are also intensely dramatic, and are followed with the keenest interest. Much merriment is caused by the American Marriage, The One-legged Beggars, and The Smart Burglar; and of a distinctly instructive character are An Obstacle Gun Drill by British Bluejackets and a picture of The Largest Pigeon Farm in the World. Variety to the programme is added by Collin and Irene, exponents of thought transmission and mental telegraphy. They thoroughly mystify their audience.

HASTINGS.—PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Some excellent bioscopic representations of Life in the King's Service, Afloat and Ashore, are being exhibited twice daily in the Pavilion. All the incidents of a sailor's life, from learning to swim until he is paid off, are seen. A variety of military manœuvres, including the reviews on Salisbury Plain in connection with the Army, are shown. Many humorous films are introduced, and Miss Maude Evelyn engages in some patriotic songs in a pleasing manner.

JARROW.—THE GEM PICTURE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. John Weddle and Co.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Clarance.—This week we have quite a change of pictures, which include the following: The Galley Slave, The Lovely Lake Lucerne, Best Man Wins, A Story of Circus Life, Scroggins Puts Up for Parliament, and a most pleasing turn in Mr. Hyman Long.

KETTERING.—VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden. — Excellent business continues, and the management has complied with the rules under the new Act. In addition to constructing a special entrance and exit for the patrons of the grand circle, a comfortable crush room and lounge has been provided. The pictures include A Woman's Repentance, Redwing's Gratitude, and A Flower Girl's Christmas. Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers, and Bert Alden, comedian, provide the turns.

KIRKCALDY.—EXCHANGE PAVILION.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The London Safety Bioscope Company are presenting a most instructive and amusing series of pictures here this week, the most important of which are The Abduction, An Extraordinary Journey, Sold to Thieves, Jack Johnson, Tricksy, the Clever Princess, Roller Skating Mad. Mr. Charles Coll is appearing here.

LEAMINGTON.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Another most attractive programme of animated and coloured pictures is provided this week, in which circus life, the fairy tale Aladdin, and other interesting and amusing subjects are depicted. The variety portion of the entertainment is exceedingly good. Miss Mina Langton still continues to delight the audiences with her illustrated songs, whilst the new artist, Mr. Bert Williams, scores a great success in his clever rendering of Geo. R. Sims's celebrated poem "In the Signal Box," which he recites to illustrations. Miss Maud Hummerston is a capable pianist.

LEICESTER.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The management here continue to put forward most interesting picture programmes. The two outstanding films this week are The Man in the Iron Mask and The Watch Swallower, which are followed by A Railway Hero, A Wonderful Coat, A Lesson to Husbands, The Violet Seller, Matrimonial Shoes, Confidence, Magda, Foolshead as Sportsman, Two Gossips, and Uncle Reuben's Courtship. La Belle Cerise, a dainty vocalist and dancer, is on a welcome return visit.

MEXBOROUGH.—NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—The programme this week includes Brave Orphan Boy, Stag Hunting in Java, Course of True Love, Animated Cotton, Meskal, The Smuggler, Mayor's Holiday, &c.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—This week's programme included Captain Fracasse, a dramatic episode; His Socks, most laughable picture of Bertie and his socks; Gentle Hearts, pathetic story of poverty and a pet dog; Calino at the Seaside, out for a holiday, but asking for trouble; The Cab Runner—the runner has a journey for nothing; Neilson's Clever Boys and Girls, in their scena, entitled an "Impromptu Rehearsal"; "Restoration," a dramatic domestic tragedy, caused through misunderstanding; An Unending Discussion, the greatest talking match ever seen; The Light that Came, a beautiful love story of a blind musician; and Foolshead's Christmas, a screamingly funny picture.

NORTH SHIELDS.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—A very attractive programme has again drawn large and delighted audiences here this week. The Mountaineer's Honour is a fine film, and is immensely popular; The Galley Slave is also greatly enjoyed; and other excellent pictures include Stickphast Paste, The Lady Detective, Poultry Breeding, &c. For specialities Mr. Black introduces Mr. D. W. Watson, post horn player, vocalist, and cornetist, and Mr. T. C. Johnson, actor vocalist, who are both heartily greeted.

HOWARD HALL.—A new and interesting series of pictures are shown here, and include The Mexican's Revenge, Dimetri Dronskoy, Woman's Treachery, &c., &c.

GAIETY PICTURE HALL.—Another good programme is provided here, the chief films being the Duchess of Mesovta, The Mountaineer's Honour, The Magic Pipes, &c., &c. Mr. Richard Smith, the local illustrated songster, appears successfully.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Professional Duty is a capital top-liner, and was much appreciated. Other dramatic films are

JUST OUT.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909,

which came into force January 1, 1910.

Also the

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS

made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation January 1, 1910,

with an APPENDIX concerning

LIMELIGHT

and

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

EXPLANATIONS OF THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act,
The Regulations,
The Explanations,

sent post free four stamps.

Published at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.

also shown, and a good number of amusing pictures includes Mr. Foolshead Pays a Visit, Ma Goes to Work, and Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire. Mr. Don Cameron contributes a song to a good programme.

OSBORNE. — Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—This hall continues to do very good business, the pictures being up to the mark, both in humour and pathos, and duets are given by Messrs. Ripley and Inglesend.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Among this week's films are Nick Carter, Ma-in-Law Must Fly, The Golden Spider, Blind Man, By Rail to Hardanger, Norway, Suicide as a Profession, The Lamp, &c. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings an illustrated song, "Death of Nelson."

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures this week include The Circus Girl, Dragoon's Helmet, Ma Learns to Ride, The Subterfuge, Hercules in the Army, Maud Miller (pathetic drama). Miss Eva Carter, lady baritone, also sings acceptable songs.

STALYBRIDGE.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. W. Llewellyn. — The programme that the above management have provided this week comprises Cupid's Loaf, The Patriot's Daughter, For Her Sake, Watches of the Night, The Cowboy Millionaire, in which we see clever riders giving a show of splendid horsemanship; The Glass-blowing Industry, a pretty picture of interest; The Country of Fiox, a splendid travel picture; In Love with the Picture Girl, An Apish Trick, The Biter Bit provide the audience with plenty of laughter. Illustrated songs are rendered at each performance by Mr. Llewellyn.

FORESTERS' HALL. — Lessees, Bros. Lens; Manager, Mr. Frank Lens.—A really fine programme has been secured by the management of this hall, and among those that seem to go with a swing are: Noel, a striking story of Chrismastide; The Jockey, which deals with the temptation of a young jockey by a rascally bookmaker; A Bad Dream of a Professional Horseman, The Cowboy Millionaire, and Fishing with Dragging Nets. Pseudo Lady's Maid, Ingenious Safe Deposit, The Charming Children, and The Two Mr. Whites cause their fair share of amusement. A splendid turn is provided by James Bindon, the original whistling newsboy.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA PICTURE HALL.—Some capital pictures are shown this week, including Suffer Little Children, The Victim, and Ma Takes to Riding.

SUNDERLAND.—PALACE THEATRE.—Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Some capital humorous and dramatic pictures were shown here to good audiences on Monday night, the New Corn Cure and The Improved Inkstand causing great amusement. Never Despair was a capital dramatic item. Mlle. Rosinni had a good reception, her animals giving every proof of patient training; Zasma was also successful in his scena *Gymnastics on the Lawn*.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Connors. —The management are presenting a capital set of pictures at this popular hall. Each film is quite clear and steady, and seen under the most favourable conditions possible to imagine. The chief picture is The Light That Came, a series of realistic scenes which tell a story of a blind musician, and there are many others of instructional and humorous variety.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—A good programme is again presented by the Martell Vaudeville Company, the house being full in all parts on Monday night. A splendid film is The Suicide Club being Broken Up by Nick Carter. The club consists of men who are tired of all ordinary things, and meet together to draw lots, the one drawing the fatal number being left in the room with a revolver and shooting himself. His body is then taken and cast into some country road, and thus the cause of his death can never be traced. Nick Carter gets into the room disguised as a member of the club, and prevents the suicide and exposes and breaks up the club. Remorse is a fine dramatic picture, a murder being committed and the murderer repenting. The Haunted Hat and The Detective's Bag are laughable comics; while The Slum Waif is very pathetic.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Councillor Everton, formerly proprietor of the Empress Theatre, has with considerable enterprise converted the erstwhile Royal Roller Rink into a comfortable theatre, where he intends presenting the pick of vaudeville and films, and if the audiences which are assembling this week may be taken as a criterion, then success is his. There are on the programme this week the Mysticos, who claim to be the world's greatest experts in silent thought transmission, and their performance is a wonderful one, mystifying beyond description; and Harry Leaton, a chorus vocalist, who is well received, especially in his song "Sinner and Saint." A pretty dramatic story is told in the film The Belle of Brittany. Circumstantial Evidence is also a capital picture, well staged and acted. There are heaps of humorous pictures, amongst which are Animated Cotton, The Strong Arm of the Law, and A Five-story House, which keep the audience in excellent spirits.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Black.—The popularity of Black's pictures increases weekly, and packed houses result nightly at each performance. The list this week is well selected and gives general satisfaction. Particularly good and clear films are The Open Gate, The Heir to Clarancourt, The Heroine, and a local scene of Workmen Leaving the Shipyards. The Brothers Harrison are very good comedians, and Dunco and Langdon provide an amusing comedy sketch.

WHITLEY.—BATHS PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—At the Batley Picture Pavilion Mr. R. L. Grice has a fine array of pictures, dramatic, interesting, instructive, thrilling, and comic. The special production is the great picture, entitled Dimitri Donskoj, a thrilling drama relating in vivid portraiture a tragic episode during the dominion of the Tartans in Russia. An interesting and instructive picture, the Brunettz Dancers, follows, The Pillagers and The Hero's Reward are good. The usual comic series includes The Servant's Revenge, Mrs. Muggin's Fiance, Ma Turns Socialist, and a topical picture brimming over with laughter, Scroggins Puts up for Blankshire. As starring interludes Mr. Grice has provided Xerxes, the champion boy wrestler of the world, and Mr. R. Ratcliff, in his gladiatorial act. The story of Carmen, interesting to all the theatre-going public, is presented each evening; also a fine scenic picture of beautiful natural effects, entitled The Waves of St. Jean de Lux. On Sunday the usual evening concert will be held, when, in addition to talented soloists, a number of special and beautiful pictures will be shown.

WIGAN.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—A splendid programme of pictures is attracting large crowds here this week. The Leopard Queen, a story of a female Robinson Crusoe, and The Mysteries of Paris, an adaptation of the celebrated novel by Eugene Sue, are the two principal films. Another capital film is Love's Tragedy, a romance of the Napoleonic wars. Much amusement is caused by A Sticky Proposition and The Doctor's Monkey. A special variety turn is supplied by Tate's Juveniles (14 in number).

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—An excellent display of pictures is again presented. Most pathetic pictures (dramatised) are Suffer Little Children and A Mexican's Gratitude. A House Under Repair, Romance of Boot and Slipper, and Sleping Pills are very amusing. The Gipsy's Baby and Transporting Logs, and An Egyptian Mystery, are other excellent pictures; and A False Comrade, a most stirring reminiscence of the Franco-Prussian War. The Cinephone and Miss May Macpherson, as usual, have new illustrated songs.

Seacombe Carnival Fair.

MR. P. ROSS COLLINS has held a fancy fair at Seacombe during the past week and with gratifying success. The chief attractions were P. R Collins's electric motor and the twin yachts, shooting ranges by Messrs. Humphreys and Wright; houp-la circles and squares and watch la frames by Messrs. J. Hall, D. Dicks, and W. Kemp, throwing games by Messrs. Humphries, Wright, Hall, Grant, and Fletcher.

A CELEBRATED member of the St. Petersburg imperial ballet, Mlle. Maria Ruthovskaja, has just passed her examinations at the St. Petersburg University preparatory to being called to the Bar.

CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS' MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Cinematograph Operators' Association was held on Tuesday at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. There was a fair attendance. Mr. J. Wood, president, presided. Among those present were Messrs. Catlin, Malcolm, Hutchins, Field, Hughes, Clayton, Holmes, Talbot, Merritt, and Wm. Johnson.

Mr. H. L. Merritt, the hon. secretary, presented his report on the past year's work, which was unanimously adopted, with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Merritt. A summary of the report will be issued to members. The treasurer presented copies of the statement of accounts and the auditor's report. A summary of the accounts is as follows:—

RECEIPTS

	£	s.	d.
Entrance fees	10	7	6
Contributions, General Fund	23	4	0
,, Benevolent Fund	10	15	0
Hon. Members' Contributions	1	1	0
Share, N.A.T.E. Concert, balance	5	0	0
Annual luncheon	3	13	6
Badges	1	1	0
Examination fees	0	18	0
Loan, part repaid	0	15	0
Duplicate certificate	0	1	0
	56	16	0
Balance from 1908	37	0	10½
	£93	16	10½

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Rent of office	3	0	0
Officers and committee fees	12	12	0
Printing	4	19	0
Postage and stationery	4	18	9½
Annual luncheon expenses	4	14	10
Central Fund's dues	3	10	0
General Federation of T.U. and T.C. dues	2	16	8
Benevolent Grant	1	0	4
Loans and sundry items	2	17	7
	40	8	10½
Balance, Dec. 31, 1909	53	8	0
	£93	16	10½

Audited and found correct, Jan. 14. Signed by E. H. Mason and T. G Weedon, auditors. Countersigned by H. L. Merritt (secretary), and Wm. Johnson (hon. treasurer).

The treasurer's statement and auditors' report were adopted.

On the election of officers and committee, Mr. J. Wood and Mr. Edward Catlin (the president and vice-president respectively) expressed the opinion that these offices should be filled by new men each year, so that the honour of these positions might be open to all members. Both these officers received a hearty vote of thanks for their services. The following were elected: President, A. Malcolm; vice-president, E. H. Mason; secretary, H. L. Merritt; hon. treasurer, Wm. Johnson. Committee: Messrs. Field, Weedon, Gilling, Hutchens, Catlin, and Wood. Finance committee and trustees: Messrs. Wood, Malcolm, and Merritt. Mr. A. Malcolm was also nominated for election as a member of the National Committee N.A.T.E. The president and secretary were appointed to act on the joint deputation from the four societies to the L.C.C. Several other important questions were deferred to the next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday.

The rules were thoroughly revised, and some of the more important alterations are as follows:—

"The objects of the Association shall be:

(*a*) To promote and protect the interests of qualified operators, and to raise the status of their profession.

(*b*) To encourage its members to acquire a full knowledge of the science of their business, and to keep them well advised of new inventions and current trade topics and events.

(*c*) To establish a standard of proficiency by qualifying examinations.

(*d*) To secure the recognition of a minimum rate of pay for each class of work.

(*e*) To provide legal advice and (at the discretion of the committee) legal assistance.

(*f*) To keep an employment register and otherwise assist unemployed members to obtain employment.

(*g*) To grant relief, by means of the Benevolent Fund, to any member (as per rules) in distress or temporary need, and such other benefits as may be hereafter agreed upon."

With regard to extra and special services rendered by the operator, the new rule is as follows:—

"11. Members rendering services to artists, or anybody other than their employer (in the way of projecting films or song slides) shall be entitled to ask a minimum pay of 5s. per week for such services from the person to whom the service was rendered. The above clause only applies when the apparatus and operator are provided by an exhibitor. In places where the apparatus is the property of the management, and the operator is on the staff, and in receipt of an inclusive salary, no such demand must be made.

"For services rendered in connection with Sun day concerts, not under the control of his em ployer, the operator shall be entitled to a fee of not less than 10s. 6d. for each concert."

Five hundred copies of the revised rules are being printed, and will be ready for members next week.

Bostock's Jungle at Manchester.

MR. FRANK C. BOSTOCK is at present located in the Liverpool-road district of Manchester, where his unrivalled show is attracting thousands of young and old. This is not merely an exhibition of wild animals; it is an ample and entertaining demonstration of what they can be trained to do under skilful and humane methods of treatment. Mr. Bostock relies on the arenic method, which is not only spacious for the work, but affords the right opportunities for sightseers, who may witness the spectacle of a dozen animals at once under the control of a single intrepid trainer. No fewer than twenty-two different acts are to be seen, and Mr. Bostock's trainers have been selected by him as the most daring and famous of their respective nationalities. The element of humour is well introduced, the animals themselves being made to contribute to the laugh, and a happy feature of the show is the provision of side entertainments for young and old, at no extra charge. Incidentally, entertainment is provided by M. Henri Rey, assisted by "Raffles" and "Martino," and nothing is wanting, even to the rides of children on the elephant's back, to make this visit of the Bostock Arena and Jungle memorable to the juvenile population, to say nothing of its attraction for adults. The show is under the personal direction of Mr. Bostock, who is very ably represented by his courteous manager, Mr. Tudor.

Illness of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dashwood.

WE are very sorry to hear that Mr. Arthur Dashwood business agent for Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, Royal Agricultural Hall, London, has been lying very ill with influenza this last week at his apartments, 11, Cloudesley-place, Islington, and his wife, who has been nursing him through his illness, has now fallen a victim to the malady. We sincerely trust they both will soon recover, and that Mr. Dashwood will soon be back to resume his duties at the World's Fair once again.

KINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT. The Law Affecting the Same. By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address, the Publisher *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

"WE WANT EQUAL RIGHTS."

STRAIGHT TALK FROM MR. W. H. BROUGHTON.

The newly-formed Cinematograph Defence League has a very energetic chairman in Mr. W. H. Broughton, and when *The Era* representative called on that gentleman last Wednesday, he found him with Mr. H. E. W. Poole, the secretary, very busy indeed with the affairs of the League.

Mr. Broughton laughed when the writer commented on this fact, and the pile of provincial correspondence at hand.

"And yet there are people," he said, "who accuse us of not doing enough for the provinces. As a matter of fact, travelling showmen in the country and cinema proprietors in provincial towns get the lion's share of our attention. I have always strenuously advocated looking after their interests since the inception of the League. And we do so. When the League has accomplished what it set out to do, the whole of the interests involved in the cinematograph industry should be solidly combined.

"One great thing I flatter myself the League should congratulate itself upon is the permission obtained from the Home Secretary that picture palaces, for the present, may remain open on Sunday. We feel quite confident that all the suggestions—or nearly all—laid by us before the Home Secretary, will be accepted. In my opinion, had the picture palace proprietors taken the advice of *The Era* right along, a great deal of the present friction could have been avoided.

"Another fact of importance is that the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the L.C.C. is going to receive a deputation from the Trade Protection Society, and also the Defence League on the 26th, and you may depend on it that our arguments will be of the most formidable kind. Another item that is giving us a great deal of work is the organisation of alternate monthly meetings—one in London and then in Manchester, London again, and then Liverpool, London once more, and then Glasgow, and so on. By this method we hope to meet the

[*Photo by Kent and Lacey.*

MR. W. H. BROUGHTON.

convenience of most of our members, and if the country people do not come along, they have only themselves to blame for not being represented.

"The published reports of the two interviews we have had with the Home Secretary is proof, I think, that the intentions of the committee and the League is to get such conditions for the whole business that few harassing restrictions will remain. We want one strong Showmen's League, and every cinema proprietor should join with a view to standing firm on any future crisis that may arise in the industry, such, for instance, as the resisting of any manufacturer attempting to make a corner in films.

"We want equal rights for all kinds of shows. Now I know for a fact that at least three entertainments were given last Sunday—at the Albert Hall, the Queen's Hall, and Covent Garden—and as much as a guinea apiece was charged for seats, and there was no question at all that the proceeds of those entertainments were to be devoted to charity, or even that a percentage was to go in the same direction. Now, why should one set of people be allowed to give entertainments for gain and others be refused the same chance? The L.C.C. take money for seats in the parks on Sunday in the summer from people who want to listen to their bands. Why should they be permitted to do this? What charities get the moneys thus collected? The L.C.C. has before now tried to get an unfair advantage over the commercial entertainment provider by asking powers to engage artists to sing at its park concerts. Up till now it has failed, but the desire to unfairly compete with us is there all the same.

"We don't ask any of our employees to work seven days a week. If they don't want to work on Sundays they need not do so. They are paid at so much per day, just on the same principle as the L.C.C. tramway men are paid, and get their days off by arrangement. As a matter of fact, I have found that my operators and other employees prefer any other day but our deadly dull Sunday on which to have their weekly holiday. One operator when I engaged him stipulated that he should not be called upon for Sunday work. Very well. I placed him at an establishment which did not open on Sunday.

"If the L.C.C. desires it, we are quite prepared to put on a programme made up entirely of historical, scenic, and travel films, but all this humbug about shows being given for charity only must go by the board. Let us be honest. Let the L.C.C. be honest and cease to grant licenses which show everyone a way to evade its regulations. Let us by all means give a percentage of our Sunday takings to charity, but let us cease all this cant about the strict observance of the Sabbath. The L.C.C., as I have already pointed out, is one of the worst offenders itself in disturbing the sanctity of the Sabbath. The running of its tramway service is a necessity, and it makes men work on Sunday to run that service. Our entertainments are necessary on Sunday to keep the people out of the dirty, damp, joyless streets and the public-houses. The day has gone by when the fetish of Sunday is universally worshipped.

"The tone of the cinematograph business during the past twelve months has been considerably raised. Picture palaces by the score, on high-class lines, have been built. They are well seated, well ventilated, and have plenty of exits. As capital has been invested in the business the standard of entertainment has become a very high one, and will probably become even more so. Personally, any advice that I can give to showmen, anywhere, I shall with the greatest possible pleasure, and even quite apart from the working of the League itself. The picture palace has come to stay, and the sooner everyone with the slightest concern in it realises that fact the better. It is and education for the people."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *Her Second Time on Earth*, is doing well here. Mr. L. Meadows gives a good study of Captain Jasper Norman; Jack Carton is admirably undertaken by Mr. Wingold Lawence; Mr. R. Wood plays Guy Brand in a forcible manner; and as Tom Norman Mr. A. Richards is well placed. The Dr. Ridley of Mr. W. Westwood is praiseworthy; Laura Norman is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Doris Whyte; and Miss Marie McAulay scores heavily as Doris Grey. Miss M. Kildare as Kitty Rosebud and Mr. P. Baverstock as Teddy Butterfly provide plenty of humour.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Miss Gladys Maxwell presents a clever sketch, *A Midnight Call;* the Stanley Brothers, comedy cyclists, are well received; Eastman, comedy juggler, is clever; Dainty Daisy gives a good item; Clive Watts and Syd. Kemp also do well. Several good films are shown.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright. —Heading the programme here are Joe Peterman and George Ricketts, in *The Pawnbroker;* Gorman's Juveniles are cleverly trained; the Norman and Lennard Trio of musicians meet with a hearty reception, as does Gena Manon, soubrette and vocalist. Burt Shepard, Leonard and Vereker, and Aggie Nolan are also in the bill, which is wound up by the Empiroscope.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company with *The Country Girl* occupies the boards. Mr. Nelson Hancock as Geoffrey Challoner acts and sings well. Mr. Percy Everard is highly successful as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Joseph Bruce makes an imposing Emperor, and wins applause in topical songs; Mr. Coningsby Brierley introduces much unctuous humour into the part of Barry, his efforts throughout causing great merriment; Mr. C. T. Chapman is well suited as Lord Anchester; and Mr. H. B. Hargreaves acts capably as Douglas Verity. Miss Anna Hickisch makes a distinct hit as Nan, her finished singing giving great delight; Miss Dorothy is very sweet and charming as Marjorie Jay; Miss Myfanny Newell sings prettily as the Princess; and Miss Addie Lennard wins great admiration for her clever rendering of Sophie. Miss Mary Greenhous is a pleasing Mrs. St. Quinton, and Miss Hilda Darrell makes a handsome Lady Anchester. The play is well staged.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*The Devil's Sunday* is excellently presented by Mrs. John Lawson and company. Slippere, the talented blind musician, obtains a well-merited recall; Sterling and Cashem are a smart comedy couple: Henri Bekker, conjurer, assisted by Miss Maie Bekker, provides a popular turn; Miss Edna West, comedienne, wins applause with catchy songs; Fred Hallam, comedian, is amusing with patter; the Three Orleans do some capital dancing; and Little Dando, comedian, wins approbation.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Kraggs, gymnasts, give a fine turn; Curtis Leo introduces a wonderful bantam in addition to a clever conjuring act; Kydd and Kydd, comedians, are amusing; Ross and Grayson are capital in a singing and dancing act; the Cosman Couple, in an acrobatic display, are amazing; Fred Herbert, vocalist, does well; and Rorke, Rook and company, in a musical burletta, *The Prince's Love Affair*, are received with enthusiasm.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. A. Austin is presenting *Cinderella* here. It is a well-produced pantomime, and admirably dressed. Miss Mary Austin is well placed as the Prince; the Cinderella of Miss Maidie Harrison is a refreshing study; Miss Gertrude Bond is charming as the Queen of the Fairies; and Little Miss Gladys Liggett as Woodbine, the principal dancer, is really very clever. Mr. Fred E. Ellis is good as Baron Stoneybroke; and Mr. Tom Read as Pickles, the Baron's page; while the other parts are all well sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—Captain Permane appears with much success here with his wonderful performing bears; Henrie is an equilibrist of ability; Mysto is delightfully funny; and Dudley Hases, "the other Mrs. Brown," provides a most enjoyable turn.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Glanville.—The F. R. Benson company is always sure of a hearty welcome by lovers of Shakespeare in West Hartlepool, and this week the répertoire embraces *King Lear, Hamlet, The Taming of the Shrew, King Richard II.* (by special request), *The Tempest, Macbeth,* and *Twelfth Night*. In the first-named, presented on Tuesday night, Mr. Henry Herbert's acting as the mad King was intensely realistic; Miss Gladys Vanderzee as Cordelia acquitted herself with exquisite charm and grace; as Goneril and Regan Miss Kate Turner and Miss Lily Barclay played admirably; Mr. Cyril Sworder presented a well-studied piece of acting as Edmund; Mr. Sam Cohen showed undoubted talents in his rendering of the part of Edgar; and Mr. Robert Atkin showed great skill in representing the Earl of Gloucester.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The excellent programme submitted here this week is headed by O Hana San and Co., whose performance is a veritable feast of Oriental beauty, the tableaux being superbly effective. The eccentricities of the Leslie Brothers are absolutely irresistible. The personification of muscular strength is to be found in the wonderful strong act. "The Armourers," by the Four Regals. Addie Dorina, the clever protean artist, has been seen here before in her smart sketch *Dr. Spot's Patients*, which goes as well as ever. Operatic singing of a high order is given by Ruth Davenport, and in her graceful song from *Dorothy* her exquisite soprano voice is heard to distinct advantage. Her dress also calls for special praise. Rhoda Paul is a smart male impersonator, and there are some interesting pictures.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—Miss Lena Stanton's capital pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat* is a great attraction here. Miss Lena Stanton is a smart and charming principal boy; Miss Mollie Le Mair's ability is aptly suited to the part of Alice, and she does well; Mr. Owen Hunter makes the most of the part of Alderman Fitzwarren; and Mr. J. Harrington is a successful Idle Jack. Miss Dot Russell is a charming Princess, and Miss L. Fountaine a graceful Fairy Bowbell. Pretty dances are contributed by the Pagoda Troupe and the Sisters Holman.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton Hughes.—George Prince, the crazy comedian, tops an excellent bill here; Clare Aston provides another good turn as a drawing-room entertainer; Dennis and Morris, comedians and dancing experts; and Ward and Davies, in a comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*, are also extremely good. The Empire animated pictures include some capital films.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's principal company is here in *From Convent to Throne*. Miss Mary Fulton acts in an expressive manner as Princess Maritza, while Miss M. Grayson renders excellent service as Rosella. Miss Esmie Malin displays power as Lady Rotha; Miss K. M. Davies is quite adequate as the Mother Superior; and Miss Maie Pretty as the Lady Violetta is all that can be desired. Mr. A. H. Stuart plays with artistic feeling as Maurice; Mr. W. J. Millar is an excellent Baron; and Mr. Graham Woods and Mr. T. C. Vane do well in their respective parts.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—*Alone in London* is being presented here. Miss Nellie Clyde acts remarkably well as Nan; Miss Lena Vernon merits warm praise for her impersonation of Ruth Clifton; Miss Molly Monaghan as Mrs. Maloney would be difficult to excel; full justice is done to the rôle of John Biddlecombe by Mr. Russell Norris; Walter Burnaby is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. Gibbon; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as Old Jenkinson, and Mr. Frank Caffery as Charlie Johnson distinguish themselves.

WISHAW, N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Miss Rose Elliott, in a series of new songs, is proving a big success here; Lieut. Travis, in an exceptionally good ventriloquial turn, is also a big favourite; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Staffordshire box-makers, introduce some excellent singing and comedy work; Winona, the original aerial rifle and pistol shot, is an excellent turn; Donal Macdougal, the lively Scot; and the Bioscope concludes.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Mr. Walter Melville's company with *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is here. Mr. Otto Minster makes a popular hero as Jack Cunningham; Mr. Herbert Morgans acts with ability as Gilbert Lindsay; Mr. Herbert Goddard is especially good as Robert Grimshaw; Mr. Charles Brucester plays creditably as Norman Marsh; Mr. Harry Playfair's Joe Webster is a capital study, and he is well seconded by Mr. Horace Kenny as the Podger. Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Dicky Storm and Miss Daisy Maynard as Tina Torkington cause a considerable amount of amusement. Miss Marie Duncan as Bessie Webster is a quiet but effective heroine; Miss Lily Duncker looks charming as Elsie Cunningham; and Miss Olive Warne does well as Maud Villiers.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Leo Dryden, in his well-known song playlets, was enthusiastically received here on Monday, the audience joining heartily in the choruses of "The Miner's Dream" and "A White Man," whilst his "False Gods" is intensely dramatic. The Brothers Werds, in a clever acrobatic turn, keep the audience in excellent humour; and the same may be said of Ardell and Odell. The remarkable intelligence displayed by Thiessen's fox terriers is a source of wonder; Taree produces marvellous effects on a mouth-organ; Walter Lawley's tenor voice is above the average; Maud Esmond pleases in her songs; Charles Grantley is a particularly happy comedian; and Lilian Rose, a little comedienne, wins much applause with "Somewhere."

THE PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett and Stone.—The Leotards, staircase performers and hand-balancers, top the bill here, and Maud May, comedienne and dancer, and Howard and Wallace in *Taming a Wife* also appear. The principal pictures shown are A Rose of the Tenderlion, The Falling Arrow, and In the Window Recess.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Mr. Ian Robertson and his company are this week introducing to Worcester audiences *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, by arrangement with Mr. Forbes Robertson. Mr. Ian Robertson finds the part of the Passer-by, who exercises such beneficial influence over a strongly-mixed domestic circle, greatly to his liking. He assumes a breadth of benevolence and good nature which is wholly convincing. Miss Helen Parsons' assumption of the part of 'Stasia, the lodging-house slavey, is the more admirable by reason of the restraint she exercises with such telling effect. Miss Jennie Thomas plays the part of the lodging-house-keeper, Mrs. Sharpe, with full appreciation of its opportunities. The other characters are in equally capable hands, as follows: Joey Wright, Mr. W. C. Billington; Christopher Penny, Mr. J. Woodall-Birde; Major Tomkins, Mr. P. Gedge Twynam; Mrs. Tomkins, Miss Lena Delphine; Vivian, Miss Barbara Everest; Jake Samuels, Mr. Stanley Brown; Harry Larkcom, Mr. Herbert Garthorne; Miss Kite, Miss Drusilla Wills; and Mrs. Percival de Holey, Miss B. Ripley.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's *Old Folks at Home* company draws good houses this week. Mr. Frank Liston as Lord Kenilworth plays with spirit; Mr. Geo. Steel makes a typical yeoman as Andrew Ross; and Mr. Vincent Wardle plays the hunchback to perfection. Miss Maud Warburton is a charming Dorothy, and Miss Dorothy Davey gives a good interpretation of Bonita.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The Orchids, a very smart variety duo, top the bill; Joe Atkin contributes good comedy songs; and the pictures are interesting.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack. —Mexican Bill and Before the Mast are sensational films, and very well received. Miss Lizzie Round, male impersonator, and the physical marvel, Paul Cavalli, are the variety attractions.

WREXHAM.—THE EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Herman and Evelyn are a great attraction this week with their refined and daring performances on "the silver thread"; Ryder Davis, a clever comedian, commands plentiful applause by his songs and monologues; Eva Ward is a pleasing burlesque artist; and Crossley fully maintains his unique reputation with his table act. The Bioscope pictures this week include a thrilling representation of The Fall of Rome.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. J. B. Howard's excellent company is appearing, with huge success, in *The Earl and the Girl*. The whimsicalities of Mr. Bert Beswick are exactly suited to the rôle of Jim Cheese; Miss Ada Waugh gives a clever rendering of the part of 'Liza; Mr. Herbert St. John is in every way suited to the rôle of Dick Wargrave; and Elphin Haye has a charming representative in Miss Lily Gullick. Mr. Leslie Downham is a lively Crew Boodle; Mr. E. G. Hall is to the fore as Bunker Bliss; and Miss Ida Stratham is an interesting Daisy Fallowfield.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime *Little Bo-Peep* is merry and bustling in the extreme, and large houses have been the rule during the present week. Miss Eva May Rossiyn is a dashing Boy Blue, singing well and giving a capital performance; Mr. Harry Rex is quaintly funny as the Baron; and Mr. J. W. Groves as Granny Brown revels in a part exactly suited to his quaint style. Miss Lizzie Payne is demure and pleasing in the title-rôle. Little Ivy Francis, a dancer of extraordinary merit, and Cliny and Clancy contribute to the fun.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Bowman.—Excellent films and large audiences are the order of things here. The Postmistress is most exciting; A Talkative Woman causes much amusement; and an excellent conjuring entertainment is provided by the Barries and Lottie Joycliffe.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Flo Leonard is deservedly popular here, where the fine pictures are heartily received nightly. The principal ones this week are A Tale of Circus Life and Free Trade and Tariff Reform. Good business is done.

Calvin Brown's New Enterprises.

JOHN CALVIN BROWN, proprietor of the White City at Manchester, returned to headquarters on Wednesday from a trip to Spain, where he made some contracts along amusement park lines that will interest showmen greatly when the plans are all perfected for public announcement. It is known that Mr. Brown has contracted to build all the principal attractions, such as a water-chute, a scenic railway, and several other like shows for a syndicate of French and Spanish bankers and capitalists, who have just received a Government concession, that will make of their resort one of the most attractive along the Mediterranean shore. Already the syndicate have a magnificent hotel, restaurant, casino, music hall, and other attractions, and the intention is to have everything in the shape of amusement and entertainment for visitors that can well be thought of. Several hundred acres of ground are included in the concession, which is located so close to Barcelona, the manufacturing metropolis of the country, that when an electric railway now under way is completed the place will be easily reached from the centre of Barcelona in fifteen minutes, and at an expense of about twopence or so. Five sulphur springs bubble up on the ground, and it will be made a health as well as pleasure resort. The directors of this company controlling the place visited many places before deciding to entrust the amusement end to anyone, and liking White City, Manchester, and Mr. Brown's shows at the recent International Exposition at Nancy, France, so vitally well, decided to contract with him, and the result will certainly be a pleasure resort, where only the best will be found. While the company will own all the attractions built by Mr. Brown, still there will be room for others, and Mr. Brown will have charge of their selection and installation if he can get the right kind.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT BRIXTON.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Boys and girls of Brixton, as well as the grown-ups, are taking full advantage of the treat offered them at the local theatre, where crowded houses nightly and matinées thrice a week testify to the popularity of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, Mr. Fred Melville's third annual pantomime in the locality. The production furnishes a succession of lively scenes, sparkling with fun and melody. A profusion of pretty sets illustrate the piece, particular attention being attracted by the Realms of Fairyland, a perfect bower of delicate bloom, wherein nymphs sport and tastefully arrayed coryphées flit blithely about the stage. A realistic Sunrise is here depicted, and when at the close golden rain descends upon the picturesque crowd, the effect is quite entrancing.

The principals have the rare recommendation of prettiness and vivacity. Miss Daisy James is a fascinating Jack, and has strengthened her already great popularity in the neighbourhood. Her silken suits become her remarkably well, while the appearance of a principal boy in a "merry widow" hat is distinctly novel. Miss James acts and sings with dash and buoyancy, "Ship ahoy!" going with an irresistible lilt. "Let's all go down the Strand" is another triumph, and causes quite a competition among the audience as to who shall shout the loudest, encores innumerable being exacted. A winsome maiden is the Princess Truelove of Miss Marie Moss, who acts with grace and delicacy, and sings and dances prettily. A particular hit is made with "The clogs and shawl," an exhilarating song, in which the singer has the assistance of a number of typical Lancashire lasses. Miss Moss also gives "My little soldier boy," in which she receives invaluable aid from Little Amy Stuart, a smart comedienne and dancer.

The comic contingent is again led by Mr. Newman Maurice, the author and producer of the pantomime, who makes of Mrs. Jack a florid, flaxen-haired dame, with an amusing simper and a diverting habit of seizing upon the humorous side of a situation, with the result that laughter is always ascendant while he is on the stage. The Schoolroom scene is a prolific source of drollery, and gives rise to a riot of fun. Invaluable work is here done by Mr. Nat Lewis, a comedian of ponderous proportions, who makes a droll fat boy, and as the giant's daughter, Mabel, creates unlimited mirth. A jovial giant and a melodious one is Mr. Pen Armstrong, whose trumpet tones are well suited to the part. His voice is a cultivated one, as is proved by his rendering of "The Bedouin's Love Song," which arouses some of the heartiest applause of the evening. Mr. Chas. Leverton is an eccentric Baron D'Ooffess, with a querulous accent that is very whimsical, and he has strong support from Miss Dorothy Vernon, who confers upon the Baroness "cattish" propensities that add to the levity of the audience.

The "second boy" has the distinction of possessing two sweethearts, and little wonder when he has so smart and dashing an impersonator as Miss Marie York, who is a fascinating Philomel. As Rosetta, his lady love, Miss Dorothy Millar is most attractive, and wins unbounded applause for the song "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing." Similar honours are achieved by Miss Ruby Lester, whose 'Lavender" song is spiritedly sung and artistically worked. The Demon Discord is an awe-inspiring personage in the hands of Mr. Victor Cannon, and fairy spells are pleasantly woven by Miss Grace Rosaire, whose strong and flexible voice is heard with pleasure in "The Garden Enchanted," the upper notes being especially well produced. Miss Dorothy Maurice is a captivating Cupid, and executes a *pas seul*, of which clever and graceful pirouetting is a feature. The Cow is realistically embodied by Messrs. Curds and Whey, who cause boundless fun, the children shrieking with delight at the antics of the animal when it goes on the rampage. Mr. Harry Philipi and Mr. James Philipi add to the fun in a couple of comic characters, and join their brothers in a knockabout act, which keeps the house hilarious, and reveals the performers' strength and skill in hand-balancing and somersaults. In the Schoolroom scene the opportunity is taken of presenting several talented juveniles. The Sisters Arthur sing and dance in entertaining style; Miss J. Mealing wins commendation in the ballad "Beware"; and Miss May Hill, a youngster with a most expressive countenance, sings "Booby-boo" effectively. In *Jack and the Beanstalk* Brixton may certainly be credited with having acquired a record success.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT CLAPHAM.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Passing the early part of her career 'midst the turmoil of political strife, *Goody Two Shoes* was in anything but an enviable position, and it speaks volumes for her attractions that she has battled successfully against the adverse conditions prevailing, and risen to the highest pinnacle of success. It is, however, not surprising, as the rollicking humour and tuneful music of the production, aided by magnificent scenery and dresses, form as delightful a performance as could be imagined, and one calculated to drive dull care away. We have previously given a full account of the story, and have now only to add that, since the opening performance, the piece has been freshened up with new songs, and the comedians having thoroughly worked up their respective parts, the pantomime bids fair to eclipse all previous records.

Of the artists, Miss Queenie Leighton, as Prince Charming, has added fresh laurels to her fame as the best of principal boys. Her gallant bearing and dashing style is magnetic in rousing the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and the success of her songs is accentuated by the hearty manner in which they join in the various choruses. It is not in this respect alone that Miss Leighton excels, as she impresses all with the vigour and force of her acting. Miss Gracie Sinclaire continues to captivate all hearts with her winsome and charming portraiture of Goody, and her dainty personality and pretty singing alone make her a decided favourite. Miss Irene Vernon's reputation is enhanced by her clever embodiment of Baroness Bounder; and Miss Minnie Mulvey as Marjorie is seen to great advantage in song and dance, enacting the rôle with much vivacity. Miss Eva Reed is prominent with a humorous presentation of Jane, and her eccentric dance never fails to elicit an encore. Miss Annie Wallace makes an ideal Fairy Queen, and her excellent singing is greatly admired.

At the head of the fun-makers we find that versatile comedian, Mr. Harry Pleon, who causes roars of laughter by his comical interpretation of the rôle of Baron Bounder. Full of resource and never sparing himself, Mr. Pleon ensures the success of the piece. He is well seconded by that admirable artist, Mr. J. J. Dallas, who plays the part of Widow Niblick with a quiet drollery that always finds its mark. His make-up is really excellent, and he is very entertaining. Equally successful is Mr. Fred Mulvey as Jack. He is always in the picture, and his witticisms keep the ball of fun merrily rolling. A vein of sentiment is struck by Mr. Roland Bottomley, who does full justice to the part of Rupert, and sings magnificently. Mr. Walter Balfour acts the part of the Demon with dramatic force; and Mr. Bert Atherton does well as the Postman. We must not forget to mention the clever and graceful ballet dancing of Mlle. Dolli, which evokes considerable applause. The pantomime concludes with an old-fashioned harlequinade by the Sando troupe. The whole production is under the stage direction of Mr. Ivan Capell, and the comfort of the audience is assiduously attended to by the resident acting-manager, Mr. H. Percival Young, and Mr. Frank Seabrook, the acting-manager for the pantomime company.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE ELEPHANT.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Crowded audiences are the rule at the above house, where Mr. Charles Barnard's tuneful and humorous production still continues to attract. A good many improvements and additions have been made since the opening night, and thanks to the untiring efforts of the artists engaged a really excellent entertainment is provided. In the character of Prince Casimir dashing Miss Mary Ambrose is quite an established favourite, her two principal songs being "Bohemia" and "Ship ahoy!" In the latter number she is assisted by Miss Baby Wolf, a clever juvenile artist, who also sings with much effect "The girl in the clogs and shawl," which she accompanies with a clever dance. Mr. George Newburn as Dandini has made a big hit in his chorus song, "I've a lass in Yorkshire." He introduces a series of clever imitations of well-known artists, perhaps the two best being his impressions of Mr. George Mozart and Mr. Lew Lake.

The two clever comedians, Mr. Freddie French and Mr. Ted Young, in their respective characters of Hercules (Baron) and Tiny (Baroness), work well together to achieve excellent results. One of the most humorous situations by them is an extremely funny scene in which the Baroness doses her spouse with turpentine in lieu of brandy, which the Baron likes too well as a panacea for all his ailments. Outside their house at two o'clock in the morning after the return from the Prince's ball, when they recall reminiscences of their younger days, is another side-splitting episode, and Mr. Freddie French introduces into the Ballroom scene a most amusing "comic drunk." He is particularly successful in his song, "Different styles of dancing," in which he introduces some really good dancing, which is much appreciated. Mr. Ted Young scores in a clever "medley" on popular songs. The characters of the two Ugly Sisters, Araminta and Elvira, are played by Miss Alice Inman and Miss Florrie Haydon, both of whom work hard to bring these two characters into prominence. Miss Madge O'Neill makes an admirable Duke of Whistbridge, singing in fine style a very catchy number, "I do like to be by the seaside." Mr. Tom Poole as the Baron's servant, Capers, is highly successful in his endeavours to amuse. He introduces some good dancing and some excellent tumbling, also a very amusing "racecourse" gag. In the character of a tipster he induces the Baron and Baroness to part with their money over "certs," whose names are "Ice Cream," "Air Ball," and "Good-bye." Needless to add, ice cream melts, air ball bursts, and good-bye wins. When, however, the Baron and Baroness go to draw their winnings they find both tipster and bookie have said good-bye. Mr. Tom Poole keeps the audience in roars of laughter as the Tipster, and he is assisted by Mr. Jack Glynn, who is seen at different times as the Bookmaker, a Wrestler, and the Prince's Flunkey.

Miss Lilian Errol has captured the hearts and affections of both young and old by her charming personality as Cinderella. Her rendering of "Silvery moon" is delightful, and her graceful dancing is greatly admired. A humorous "Parrot" duet, introduced with Mr. Tom Poole, is one of the most successful numbers in the production, the skating verse being extremely amusing. Miss Winifred Rochfort as the Fairy Queen who watches over the destiny of our heroine, is heard to advantage in the very tuneful number "Somewhere." Some good dancing is provided by Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls.

Mr. Will Cutler is responsible for the stage-management, and is to be congratulated upon the excellent arrangements behind. The music is tuneful and the choruses catchy; altogether, the musical arrangements are above the usual pantomime average. Mr. Sydney Barnard is in charge in front, where he has achieved much popularity.

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT" AT THE BROADWAY.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

The pantomime so successfully produced on Boxing Day is still running its course merrily, and crowded houses are the rule at every performance. The entire show is bright and smart, some judicious cuts and clever additions having been made. Miss Mina Green continues her delightful performance of Prince Opulent, and sings her numbers capitally, especially "Let's all go down the Strand" and "I don't care if it snows." Miss Ida Valli is a clever and winsome Jack, her singing of "Ship ahoy!" and "Don't take me home" being warmly applauded. Miss Maidie Scott is a warm favourite as Jill, her songs being heartily encored. Miss Maudie Francis is not only a charming little lady, but a clever artist, and her song, "Old Jack Frost," is excellently rendered. In company with Miss Gladys Nelson (another clever little lady) she appears in a pretty and effective contribution, entitled "Little Miss Snow Shoes," in which both appear to great advantage. Miss Elsie Skilling sings with taste and skill "Somewhere"; Miss Maude Lake is a pleasing and tuneful White Heather; Little Zola is very funny as Father Hubbard, and sings "Whoever would have thought it?" capitally; Mr. Syd Walker is amusing as the Squire, and makes a hit with "Has anybody here seen Kelly?"; the Brothers Oboe are amusing as Ripp and Rapp; Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., is very good indeed as the Cat; and Mr. Fred Emney as Mother Hubbard proves himself in the first rank of pantomime dames.

Miss Lottie Stone's troupe are clever and charming dancers; the chorus is attractive and well trained; the scenery and dresses admirable; and the music exceedingly well arranged. Mr. James Leslie represents Mr. Fred Karno, and Mr. Bertram Iles is the popular resident-manager.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 17, the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled

"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre the Lyceum Theatre version of the play *The Christian*, which has already formed the programme there on several previous occasions, and then, as now, been well received by appreciative audiences. The trying part of the Hon. John Storm, who subsequently becomes the Rev. John Storm, is undertaken by Mr. Henry Wolston, who succeeds in impressing audiences with the seriousness of the character. The woman so closely and dramatically associated with him in the story, Glory Quayle, is impersonated by Miss Gladys Purnell, who makes everyone sorrow with her in her sorrows and rejoice with her in her joys. Mr. John Hastings Batson is a quietly impressive Father Lamplugh, while, as a contrast, the Archdeacon Wealthy of Mr. Charles E. Dering is just sufficiently pompous. Mr. Arthur E. Maskell is a quaint Parson Quayle, and Mr. Royce Milton is a dignified Lord Storm, while Mr. Wilfred Noy as Horatio Drake and Mr. Fred Morgan as Lord Robert Ure impart the necessary interest to those characters. The Mrs. Callendar of Miss Mollie Hayden is rendered an interesting creature, while the Black Meg of Miss Lizette Cardoga and the Mother Kent of Mrs. Harriet Russel are each very praiseworthy character sketches, and Miss Gertrude Maxwell scores creditably as Lady Robert Ure.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Jan. 17, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred C. Somerfield, entitled

"GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE."

Produced at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on June 22, 1908, *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* has since toured the provinces until making her appearance before a metropolitan audience at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday night, when her enthusiastic reception augured well for the future success of the piece. The story is well written, and the many thrilling situations are continued with a sure dramatic touch, while the necessary comic relief is not too obtrusive, and has the advantages of being connected with the story.

Geoffrey Langdon's wife Mary is beloved by Felix Beverley, who pesters her with his unwelcome attentions. Mary's husband, Geoffrey, although very jealous of his wife's honour, has yet contracted a *liaison* with a certain notorious Mrs. Sands, and when he finds Beverley and Mary together he is ready to believe in his wife's unfaithfulness. Angrily he leaves Mary, with the remark that he will go back to the other woman, and the distraught wife, chancing to have a knife in her hand, tries to stab her husband and then rushes from the room. Langdon is not hurt, but the miscreant Beverley returning, the two men fight, and Geoffrey Langdon is killed, chance fixing the crime on a newcomer, Jack Stirling, who enters the room just after Beverley's flight, and is found alone with the body. Jack is acquitted of the murder, and he chivalrously becomes a suitor for Mary's hand, but under the impression that she herself is the guilty party, and also because of Beverley's influence over her, Mary refuses him. This further obstacle in Beverley's way of obtaining his life's desire preys upon his brain, and in one of his morbid soliloquies he is overheard confessing his guilt by Mary's father, Colonel Miles. With this knowledge and the possession of a sleeve-link which Beverley lost in the struggle with Langdon, the Colonel is enabled finally to clear his daughter's good name, and there is a new dawn of happiness for her in her betrothal to Jack Stirling, that remarkable "creature of circumstances," Felix Beverley, taking his life by poison.

Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company, under the direction of Mr. Percy Brown, interpret the piece with much credit, and a word of praise must be bestowed upon the scenery and the appropriate incidental music. Mr. Wilson Coleman in the outstanding part of Felix Beverley acts with much strength and variety, probably exactly conveying the author's intention that Beverley is not utterly bad, but is a strong-willed man whose "love knows no bounds," and who wrecks his life thereby. Mary, in the experienced hands of Miss Amy Ellam, is represented with tact, sympathy, and charm, and the part is exceedingly popular. Mr. John S. Milward is a manly and interesting Jack Stirling; and Mr. H. Cresgh Hunt, though rather too declamatory, is otherwise commendable as the pusillanimous Geoffrey Langdon. Mr. Cyril Grier exactly hits off the affable good-natured Colonel Miles; and Mr. W. Annesley supplies a clever portraiture as Arthur Bellairs. Miss Kathleen Magee brings much ability to bear upon the unthankful rôle of Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel is pretty and pert as Sweet Nancy. Mr. Percy Brown as Thomas is of invaluable service to the lighter side of the piece; and Mr. Will Glaze as Charles is also very amusing. As Detective Banks Mr. Harland Brooks is well placed; and Mr. Charles Drew completes the cast as Inspector Froest.

"ALADDIN" AT THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

This merry pantomime is still doing record business at this popular house, and enthusiasm and laughter are plentiful. Miss Kittee Rayburn has made herself a prime favourite with the audiences, and her songs, both topical and sentimental, win encores, and her lively, sprightly acting is admired. Miss Nancy St. John, too, with sweet singing and dainty dancing, remains a great favourite as the Princess Badroulbadour. Mr. Manitto Klitgaard is an imperious Emperor of China, and Mr. Cecil Clayton causes shouts of merriment as Wishee-Washee. Mr. Harry Morgan's popular Abanazar remains a distinct feature of the panto, and many others in the cast add to the attractiveness of the entertainment. We must not omit the specialities of Victor's Troupe and the Nine Foliettes, while the dancing of La Belle Trio arouses enthusiasm. Mr. Wentworth Croke's pantomime is essentially one to be seen more than once, and we heartily congratulate that enterprising gentleman and his worthy lieutenants, Mr. Thos. Barry and Mr. Fred S. Jennings on the success—financial and artistic—achieved.

MR. PERCY WILLIAMS'S company is at the Aberaman Grand Theatre in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery excelled in the rôle of Howard Wilson; Mr. S. Herbert Humber is a successful Robert Curtis; Mr. Watson Hume is seen to advantage as Peter Schwartz; the Rev. Dr. Laneford is effectively represented by Mr. J. Newton; Miss Leah Marlborough gives a fine portrayal of Cora; and as Mabel Wilson Miss Ethel Kay does some excellent work. Excellent singing is to be heard by the specially trained children.

MR. EDWARD NEVILLE and his répertoire company opened at the Goole Theatre Royal on Monday with *Nana*. Mr. Edward Neville gives a fine representation of the part of Hector; Mr. Walter H. Wilson is an excellent Phillipe; Mr. Frank Wheatley submits a finished performance of Fontaine; Mr. H. Sisto does creditably in the part of George Hugen; and in the title-rôle Miss Rosie Neville is clever and finished. Miss Dorothy Dewhurst is a charming Blanche; and Miss Loie Esmond an excellent Rose Mignon. *Sapho* and *The Sorrows of Satan* are included in the bill.

MESSRS. O. SILVERSTONE AND H. WRIGHT'S company are at the Darwen Theatre Royal in *The Nihilist*. Mr. Geo. Mitchell plays Ivan Nowasky with force and skill; Mr. O. Silverstone, admirably suited as Prince Alexander, is well supported by Mr. C. Newton Buckland as Piertree Petoff; good work is done by Messrs. Cowell Clark and J. Brunelle Harvey as Karl Orioff and Father Gourko respectively; comedy being well sustained by Mr. H. Wright as Bobbie Smart, supported by Miss Jessica Ford as Katrina. Miss Edna Clare gives an excellent rendering of Alexina Orioff; Miss Florry Kelsey is an ideal Princess; and Little Minnie Halstan does well as Little Alexina.

MR. JAMES BELL'S company is presenting *The Idol of Paris* at the Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare plays with much success; Mr. Sidney Arnold is vigorous and convincing as Victor; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee as Philip D'Esterré is resourceful in his ruthless scheming; Mr. C. St. John Medley is good as Gustave Langlois; Mr. Gordon Robey creditably enacts the part of Prince Sergius; Miss Frances Bruce ably depicts Mme. Sancterre; Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas as Tatave is exceedingly droll, being ably seconded by Miss Annie Megson.

MR. CHARLES GODFREY, JUN., is leaving the Spa, Scarborough, after eleven long seasons' engagement as musical director. The only reason given by the directors is that a change might be acceptable to their patrons.

For casts of new plays and important revivals see "The Era Annual," 1910. Price 1s.

DRAMATIC COPYRIGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Now that there is some prospect of a revision being made of the law of copyright, I should like to draw attention to what is probably the point of most importance to dramatic authors, managers, and, indirectly, the theatrical profession generally. The recent report of the committee appointed in connection with the International Copyright Convention appears to contain a reference to the point with which I propose to deal, thus stated in the summary of the report before me: "With regard to choreographic works and entertainments in dumb show, the committee state that British law is now obscure, and probably gives no protection against the performance of works which depend practically upon costume and get-up, and dramatic action, which is not dialogue or music." The language is ambiguous, but we know what is meant.

Now, I am able to remove a great deal of the obscurity referred to, and, in doing so, I hope to make clear what dramatic copyright is, and is not, according to the view of the present law taken by some of his Majesty's Judges; for, as plaintiff in an action for alleged infringement of performing right, I obtained, as recently as May 18 last, the opinion of the Court of Appeal. Without going into details, it is sufficient to recall that the matter in dispute was, primarily, the plot or story, or dramatic fabric, which was an original creation, and, secondarily, certain similarities of dialogue and ideas were cited. The learned Judge in the Court of First Instance read and compared the plays, and thereupon came to the conclusion, and found as a fact, that the one was an infringement of the sole liberty to represent the other. This judgment was reversed by the Court of Appeal, their Lordships laying down what must be taken to be the present law of dramatic copyright, and in doing so they also laid down, for the first time I believe, a rule of law for such cases, which I have attempted to epitomise thus:—

"In cases of alleged infringement of dramatic copyright, in order to determine whether there has been an infringement of the sole liberty of representing a dramatic piece the plot or story embodied in the written words of that piece must not be taken into consideration. The infringement must lie in the similarity between the actual words or dialogue of the two plays, and unless such verbal similarity be shown to exist to a substantial and material degree there can be no infringement of the performing right within the meaning of the Acts relating to dramatic copyright. The plot of a dramatic piece and stage situations, scenic effects, and such matters, can only become material after an infringement of the words has been established, and then solely for the purpose of showing the way in which the copy was taken or the intention of taking it."

If, as I have endeavoured to do from a copy of the full judgments before me, I have correctly set forth above the latest view of the meaning and intention of the Acts relating to dramatic copyright, then there does not seem to me to be that obscurity in the British law which the committee suggest. "The sole liberty to represent" a dramatic piece—that is, performing right—means merely the right to speak particular written dialogue on the stage: it does *not* mean the right to perform by means of dramatic action a particular series of events. From this it is obvious that plays given in dumb show, such as *L'Enfant Prodigue*, are entirely without protection. With them must be classed as non-infringements all cinematographic representations of stage plays, although in Karno *v.* Pathé Frères a learned Judge found to the contrary. But a graver consequence follows from this judgment. Dialogue alone being the part protected by law, it follows that the moment that a play is publicly produced, or privately circulated with a view to production, any persons so minded are now legally entitled to take its scenario, plot, situations, "business," and scenes, wholly and in detail, and after getting new dialogue written—the easiest thing in the world—may perform that play all over the country, or next door to the theatre first producing it, without fear of penalties or injunction.

A judgment which renders such a state of things possible can only be regarded as a literary pirates' charter. Under it the celebrated stagecraft of Sir Arthur Pinero becomes the property of every Tom, Dick, or Harry who can scribble new dialogue to his works, but who could not construct an actable play to save his life. Similarly, the delightful invention and ingenuity of Mr. Barrie are open to all; there is nothing to prevent the wholesale production of rival versions of *Peter Pan* identical with the original in everything but dialogue, and the same applies to every author's plays—produced or to be produced. A recent case affords an example of what is sometimes done in this direction. A leading London manager who had produced a play which was a phenomenal success, applied to the Courts for an interim injunction against a provincial manager, alleging that the latter was touring a play which was a replica of his, but to which new dialogue had been supplied. The interim injunction was granted, but as the provincial manager eventually agreed to discontinue the tour the action was dropped. Now, had the above interpretation of the law been then the established one that provincial manager could have defended his position, relying on the fact that he had taken none of the dialogue.

Most authors, if not all, have hitherto produced their works under the impression that original matter embodied by them in written words was protected with the words embodying it. The original matter in a play—including therein originality of treatment—is generally more valuable than the words. To the construction of a play an author often devotes many months and much hard thinking in an endeavour to invent striking incidents and dovetail the various parts together to form an artistic whole. And there is much justification for supposing that this part of the product of an author's brain was a property duly protected by the law. In the well-known case of Chatterton *v.* Cave, which reached the House of Lords, it was held that two dramatic situations, apart from the dialogue, were protected by the Act of 1833. Now, a plot may fairly be described as a connected series or chain of situations, and it is difficult to see why such a series should not enjoy protection as a whole when two insignificant situations can. In all subsequent cases known to me it appears to have been taken for granted that the plots were protected, and that the plays had to be considered as a whole in determining questions of infringement and not merely the dialogue. I believe that the first case which may or may not be said to point in the opposite direction is Tate *v.* Fullbrook (1908), the headnote to the report of which I quote from "Law Reports":

"The Acts relating to dramatic copyright contemplate, as the subject of protection under them, something which can be printed and published. Therefore, where a dramatic piece in which there is copyright is, as regards the verbal composition, in substance entirely different from another dramatic piece alleged to constitute an infringement of that copyright, the mere fact that accessorial matters, such as scenic effects, make-up of actors, or stage "business," in the latter piece, as performed, are similar to those employed in the performance of the former will not constitute an infringement of the copyright therein, such matters, taken by themselves, not being the subject of protection under the Acts relating to dramatic copyright, though in cases where the verbal composition of the pieces is more or less similar such matters may be regarded as throwing light on the question whether there has been an infringement."

A very important thing to observe is that in the "accessorial matters" named above the plot of a drama is not included. The Court, in fact, were doubtful whether the music hall sketches in question had any plots at all or were dramatic pieces. It was in applying the decision in Tate *v.* Fullbrook to the facts of my own by no means parallel case—for it was not concerned with a mere sketch, but with a complete opera—that the new rule was laid down by the Court of Appeal, definitely excluding plot and everything in a drama but dialogue from enjoying protection. It is interesting to note that this view of the law was not put forward by counsel for the appellants, and consequently was not argued; but it came from the Bench as a surprise to both sides when their Lordships delivered judgment.

That a plot embodied in written words composing a drama can be printed and published all will agree, and it certainly can be performed. Indeed, it is the essential part of drama, the very backbone of most plays, and can exist independently of dialogue. But words cannot be performed! Possibly much of the existing confusion arises from failure to discriminate between "copyright" as applied to printed books and "performing right" as applied to drama, but the difference is readily apparent to those whose business it is to "represent" a play, and must surely have been known to the framers of the Act of 1833. It is significant that in that Act the word "copyright" has been carefully avoided, and in place of it is used the phrase "the liberty of representing, or causing to be represented," a dramatic piece, which is the same as what we now call "performing right" or "playright."

In America there is no obscurity as to there being protection for plots, and I will briefly quote from a reported case which puts the pro-plot point of view much more clearly than I can. The case is that of Daly *v.* Palmer (1868), wherein the plaintiff alleged that a certain sensational railway scene, forming an important part of his drama, had been copied by the defendant, although new dialogue and characters had been provided. In delivering judgment for the plaintiff, Mr. Justice Blatchford said:

"'The sole right also to act, perform, or represent the same, or cause it to be acted, performed, or represented, on any stage or public place' must be held to confer the right to represent in whole or in part. All that is substantial and material in the plaintiff's 'railroad scene' has been used by Boucicault in the same order and sequence of events, and in a manner to convey the same sensations and impressions to those who see it represented as in the plaintiff's play. Boucicault has, indeed, adapted the plaintiff's series of events to the story of his play, and in doing so has evinced skill and art; but the same use is made in both plays of the same series of events, to excite by representation the same series of emotions, and in the same sequence. There is no new use, in the sense of the law, in Boucicault's play of what is found in the plaintiff's railroad scene. The railroad scene in Boucicault's play contains everything which makes the railroad scene in the plaintiff's play attractive as a representation on the stage. . . . The adaptation of such series of events to different characters who use different language from the characters in the first play is like the adaptation of a musical air to a different instrument, or the addition to it of variations or an accompaniment. The original subject of invention—that which required genius to construct it and set it in order—remains the same in the adaptation. A mere mechanic in dramatic composition can make such adaptation, and it is a piracy if the appropriated series of events, when represented on the stage, although performed by new and different characters using different language, is recognised by the spectator, through any of the senses to which the representation is addressed, as conveying substantially the same impressions to, and exciting the same emotions in the mind in the same sequence and order."

To me the above appears to be a commonsense view of what is embraced by "performing right" or "liberty of representation," and unless British law be amended somewhat on those lines so as to afford protection to original dramatic work as well as to dialogue, it will be farcical to pretend that under the terms of the International Copyright Convention British or foreign dramatic authors have any real protection in British countries for their works.

This important subject of dramatic copyright is far too great to discuss adequately in a single letter, and I have had to content myself with outlining some of its many aspects. May I hope that you will, by means of correspondence and special articles, do all that is possible to help to bring about clear legislation giving protection to every commercially and artistically valuable part of a dramatic piece?—Yours faithfully,

W. GUNN GWENNET.

196, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.
Dec. 29, 1909.

MR. EDWARD GRAHAM FALCON is this week staging his pantomime, *Little Bo-Peep*, at the Grand Theatre, Luton. The first word of commendation is due to Mrs. Falcon for the costumes, which are exceedingly pretty. As Bo-Peep Miss Flora Morris is charmingly chic; the Boy Blue of Miss Mabel Kessler is extremely popular, her cornet solo in the Palace scene taking the houses nightly by storm; Prince Pastorelle is well taken by Miss Ruby Carter; and the dancing of Miss Rosie Stevens is full of grace. Baron Budget is in the capable hands of Mr. F. G. Royde; and the eccentrics, Mr. E. Hans, Mr. W. Lux, and Mr. G. Wood, are good laughter makers.

MR. H. LESLIE BELL'S grand comic pantomime *Cinderella* is the attraction at the Batley Theatre. Miss Daisy Silcott as principal boy makes a hit; Miss Lily Pearl as Cinderella is a big success; and Mr. Barry Bond as the Baron is responsible for a great deal of the humour, being ably supported by Gus Davis and Pat Yost as the Ugly Sisters and Mr. Tom Veronique as the Page. Miss Annie Craig is good as Dandini; and Miss Daisy Rhyl fills the rôle of the Fairy in a charming manner. Specialities are introduced by Gus Davis, Lew Towers, and the Kitma Dancing Girls. *Cinderella* has drawn crowded houses.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and Mr. Mark Blow's company is at the Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth, in *Under Two Flags*. Miss Doris Gilham is a capital exponent of Cigarette; Beauty was well played by Mr. Douglas Murray; Barklie Cecil Royallieu was in the capable hands of Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson, and Lord Rockyngham was ably represented by Mr. Pringle Roberts; Miss Elizabeth Dundas was very charming as the Princess; Mr. Walter Rousby played the Rake in a light and happy manner; and other parts were well supported. On Thursday and Friday the same company appeared in *The Luck of Roaring Camp*.

"THE CINGALEE" is being presented at the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company. Mr. Herbert Franklin is successful as Bobby Warren; the flattering reception accorded Mr. Frank Barclay as the Hon Harry Vereker is fully deserved; Mr. Frank Lennard is worthy of praise as Boobhamba; and Messrs. Hylton, Warde, Crafton, Williams, and Frank Crichton are valuable members of the cast. Miss Isa Bowman's Nanoya is heartily applauded. Miss Florrie Greensmith is an able Peggy Sabine and Miss Ray Anderson a striking Lady Patricia Vane. The dancing of Miss Winifred Stone is a decided hit.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, JAN. 12.—Mr. Otis Skinner has made a success at the Garrick Theatre in a four-act play, entitled *Your Humble Servant*, by Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson. Mr. Skinner impersonates a vainglorious and happy-go-lucky actor named Lafayette Towers, and the play treats of theatrical life and theatrical people of the "one-night-stand" class, Towers and his troupe being American cousins to Vincent Crummles and his aggregation of talent. The first act takes place behind the scenes at the Weedsport Opera House during a performance of *The Bandit's Bride*. In romantic garb, Towers comes off the stage with the applause of the audience ringing in his ears. A "barnstormer" all his life, to whom Broadway is the ever-distant goal, Towers has a ward named Margaret Druce, a child of stage parents, whom he evidently regards with the feelings of a lover. But Margaret is in love with Dick Prentice, a stage-struck youth from New York, who has run away from home and is now a member of the company. Dick's father, a millionaire, follows his son and makes vain attempts to coax him to leave the stage. Isidore Blum, the manager, suddenly departs with the takings and the actors are stranded. In the second act they have managed to get back to New York, and the cheerful Towers, with Margaret and Dick, is living in a boarding-house, looking for work and putting off the landlady. The absconding Blum turns up, and by backing the right horse wins a sum of money which he shares with Towers and Margaret. Dick has returned to the home of his rich father in Madison-avenue in the meantime, being tired of stage life, and in the third act we find him there. A "swell" entertainment is being given, and Towers and his ward, having gone into vaudeville, they come on to do a turn without knowing whose house they are in. When Dick and Margaret meet, she deceives him "for his good" by declaring that it is not he whom she loves, but Towers. Dick goes out raving, and Towers comes to embrace his ward, who then has to undeceive him. The last act shows Miss Druce's dressing-room on the occasion of her great triumph as a star. Towers has trained her, and she finally realises that she does love him after all.

Mr. Skinner acts the optimistic Towers to perfection, his clever characterisation undoubtedly saving the play. Mr. A. G. Andrews is very good as Isidore Blum, and the part of Margaret Druce is effectively played by Miss Izetta Jewel.

"OLIVE LATIMER'S HUSBAND," a drama in three acts, by Rudolph Besier, was produced at the Hackett Theatre last week at a special matinée. Miss Mary Lawton appeared as Olive Latimer, Mr. Sheldon Lewis as Sir Charles Weyburn, M.D., and Mr. Verner Clarges as Dr. Morpeth. The play was well acted, but it is too sombre and depressing to please the general public, and is hardly likely to be more successful here than it was in London. The performance of this drama has closely followed the production of *Don*, a comedy by the same author, which has been well received at the New Theatre.

"IF you were in your coffin I believe you'd sit up and flirt with the pall-bearers" is one of the felicitous remarks made in *A Little Brother of the Rich* at Wallack's Theatre, by the divorced husband of Muriel Evers (Miss Hilda Spong), who admits that she "can be happy with any woman's husband but her own."

"DER FLOH IM OHR" (The Flea in the Ear), a lively farce from the French of Georges Feydeau, was recently performed for the first time in this country at the Irving-place Theatre. A young wife tests her husband by sending him a note in which a mysterious woman asks him to meet her at a certain hotel. The wife intends to be there herself, but the husband is proof against temptation, and hands the note to a gay young friend. All the persons in the play, including a fire-eating husband with a revolver in every pocket, meet at the hotel, in which there is a room that appears or disappears with its occupants at the touch of an electric button, and the results are astonishing and diverting.

MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE will appear in Pinero's *Mid Channel* at the Empire Theatre on the 31st inst. The company will include Mr. H. Reeves-Smith, who played Captain Jinks when Miss Barrymore first appeared in the play of that name, and Mr. Charles Dalton.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has acquired the English rights of the farcical play, *Is Matrimony a Failure?* from Mr. David Belasco.

THREE holiday attractions at the Philadelphia theatres had to be postponed on account of the terrible storm that swept over the Eastern States on Christmas Day. *The Arcadians* was a day late in opening at the Forrest Theatre, and the same thing happened to Mr. J. E. Dodson, whose appearance at the Opera House in *The House Next Door* was delayed for twenty-four hours. At the Garrick Theatre Mr. William Collier had to wait till his scenery arrived on the following day. Miss Maxine Elliott braved the storm, however, and gave a performance of *Deborah of Tod's* at the Adelphi Theatre before a large and fashionable audience, but forty-two horses had been tired out when the scenery reached the theatre.

"KITTY GREY," with Mr. G. P. Huntley, has been doing well at the Illinois Theatre, Chicago, and *Herod*, with Mr. William Faversham in the title-rôle, has been produced in Washington and Philadelphia, following a successful run in New York.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Miss Sarah Fennings, professor of the Trinity College, gave a violin recital on Wednesday afternoon. In Bach's Andante and Allegro from his "Double Concerto for Two Violins" Miss Fennings was assisted by Miss Alice Lees, and good results were secured by the two performers. Eight violin solos were included in the programme. Bach's "Sarabande" and "Præludium" came first, Miss Fennings being successful in the great composer's second work. A graceful Menuet of de Bussy and Méhul's Gavotte also greatly pleased the audience. A certain want of freedom and decision in her attack was evident at times, but Miss Fennings' tone was full and round, and her playing expressive. In Wilhelmj's arrangement of Schubert's fine Ave Maria Miss Fennings was at her best. A Canzonetta of d'Ambrosio and a very quaint and pleasing Gavotte of Gossec also brought the performer compliments, and the audience heartily applauded her playing of the Wieniawski "Faust Fantasie," with which the recital concluded.

AT the Grand, Mansfield, Mr. A. E. Smith is breaking records this week with his pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty*. Miss Kathleen Garnon is a dashing Prince Perfect, scoring a distinct success with several good songs; Miss Elsy Denys is a charming Beauty, with a sweet voice and dainty presence; the Sisters Lesmere are pleasing in their musical numbers; and the Sisters Wynstay are two clever dancers. Mr. Billy Taylor, who was a great favourite here last year, is funnier than ever as Beauty's Nurse; Messrs. Foley and Francis as John James and James John, who also made a big hit last year, have a capital reception, the originality and quality of their patter being greatly appreciated. Mr. George Alderman is good as King Sol.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In your issue of Jan. 1 you give the credit of the production of Humpty Dumpty at the King's Theatre to Charles Goss. It should have been yours faithfully, Charles Goff. King's Theatre, Hammersmith, Jan. 15.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS GLADYS FORD-HOWITT.

Belonging to the third generation of an old theatrical family, Miss Gladys Ford-Howitt is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Howitt (Mary Ford), both widely known in the profession. Born in Leicester, Miss Howitt proudly claims Irish descent, being the grandchild of the late Mr. T. W. Ford, who was born in Dublin of Irish parents, her grandmother being Mrs. T. W. Ford (Miss Adelaide Ross). On her mother's side she is the great-grandchild of the late Lady Anne Hewitt and grandniece of the late Rev. Peter Hewitt. In 1904 this little lady made her début at His Majesty's Theatre in Mr. Tree's production of *The Tempest*, appearing as a Nymph, a Gnome, and a Reaper. Owing to her tender age, however, she was most reluctantly compelled to resign her engagement and to retire somewhat hurriedly and ignominiously to the sacred precincts of boarding school—where she remained for three years studying at Beach House College, Ramsgate. Previously she commenced her education at the convent in Nottingham, and is now studying music under Mr. G. W. F. Crowther, A.R.A.M. Miss Ford-Howitt possesses a talent for writing, which was evidenced at the early age of nine, when she wrote a wonderful version of the pantomime *Beauty and the Beast*. In later years many small novels, plays, &c., came from her pen, and a really clever farcical comedy, entitled *The Lady Gymnast*, dealing with physical culture, was evolved. Unfortunately, these early efforts have not arrived at the dignity of print or reached public fame.

[*Photo by Wood-street Studio.*

MISS GLADYS FORD-HOWITT.

Miss Howitt's first leading part was that of Betty Price Cordiner in Mr. H. F. Maltby's comedy *Sir George of Almack's*, produced at the Theatre Royal, Ryde, I.O.W. In this piece she played on tour, and also in *The Youngest of Three, East Lynne, In Holy Orders, The Rivals*, &c. Then came a double engagement with her mother in the modern comedy *John Drayton, Millionaire*, and as Phyllis, originally written for her in *The Power of Lies*. Mr. Leonard Rayne, with whom Mr. Howitt was for many years associated, on his departure for South Africa, presented Miss Howitt with a magnificent diamond ring. She was leading lady and stage-manager (!) in a revival of the late Charles Rogers's drama entitled *The Ladder of Life*, toured for many years by the late Henry Dundas. Miss Howitt fulfilled her second engagement at His Majesty's Theatre in Sir Herbert Tree's recent production *False Gods*. She possesses a very beautiful photograph of Miss Viola Tree, given to her by that charming young lady, bearing the inscription, "Gladys, from Viola Tree." At the termination of *False Gods* Miss Howitt was engaged by Mr. Wm. Giffard for Mr. Louis Calvert's tour of *Sunday*, appearing with marked success in the title-rôle.

MR. WILLIAM H. PERRETTE.

Born in the Army, Mr. William H. Perrette, the talented sketch artist, served two years in the Royal Horse Artillery, sixteen months of the period being passed in India. Through playing with the regimental amateurs, Mr. Perrette acquired stage aspirations, and left the Army to join the profession. His first engagement was at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, where he got his notice because he could not be heard—a statement that anyone who has listened to Mr. Perrette's fine resonant voice will receive with incredulity. He has never had that fault found with him since, and can, he says, be heard all right now, even when asking a pal to partake. Mr. Perrette joined that fine old actor, T. C. King, for utility at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, getting his promotion to juveniles very quickly, and having his first experience of pantomime. After about a year with various stock companies, he was engaged for the Adelphi, under the Gattis. The original contract was for three months; he remained two years and eight months, playing in *Michael Strogoff, Never Too Late to Mend*, &c. He then toured with Chas Reade and Henry Pettitt's company, in *Love and Money*, for twenty-four weeks. After an American season as lead with the celebrated manager, John Stetson, Mr. Perrette visited New York and toured the States, and on his return to this country had a season at the Surrey with Geo. Conquest, as heavy lead and character. He then journeyed to India, China, Japan, Straits Settlements, and the usual Eastern tour with Norville and Crofton, playing lead in their répertoire. Home again, he had several short engagements in London, and afterwards toured England with Miss Marriott, and subsequently her son, Richard Edgar. Visits were then paid to Australia, New Zealand, and India again, Rio Janeiro, and Monte Video, and a tour of South Africa with Captain Disney Roebuck.

[*Photo by Warwick Brookes.*

MR. W. H. PERRETTE.

After this big spell of globe-trotting came a tour at home with Mr. Robert Arthur as Cyril Meredith in *A Mother's Sin;* then three tours with *Alone in London*, playing John Biddlecome, and acting as general-manager for Mr. J. F. Elliston; a stock season with R. Flanagan at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield; then a tour with *The Henrietta* from the Avenue Theatre, London, playing the lead in place of the late W. H. Vernon. Subsequently he joined Mrs. Sara Lane at the "Brit." for lead, and remained there four years. The engagement was a rather peculiar-worded one: he was cast for all leading parts "not in possession," meaning those not played by Algernon Syms, he being juvenile, and Perrette heavy lead. *The Lion's Heart*, from the Princess's, was sent on tour by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden, he playing Rizardo. Then followed a short engagement, playing Louis Calvert's parts when that gentleman joined Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

Mr. Perrette then took a turn in the "halls" with sketches, and for several years appeared in a musical comedy sketch, *Teasing the General*. He subsequently returned to his early love, and claims to be the first English leading actor playing in English in Russia and appearing for a season in St. Petersburg. On a subsequent visit he played Dick Turpin with the well-known and highly-respected circus director, Ciniselli, crossing Siberia to Vladivostock. On returning to England Mr. Perrette played Ghost in the recent production of *Hamlet* at the Elephant, and then came his present engagement with J. Pitt Hardacre as Gouget in *Drink*. Mr. Perrette is now appearing in the revival of *Twelfth Night* at the Queen's, Manchester.

MR. CHARLES ALLAN.

Born at Chislehurst, Kent, and educated at Charterhouse, where he was a schoolfellow of Johnston Forbes Robertson, Mr. Charles Allan first studied for the legal profession, and, passing the necessary examinations, became a qualified solicitor. Eventually, finding the law most unsuitable and uncongenial to his taste, he went on to the stage, and made his debut at the Imperial Theatre with the Vokes Family. Afterwards he joined the German Reed Entertainment, and played all Mr. Corney Grain's parts in the operettas. An engagement offered him in *The Pickpocket* by Mr. Charles Hawtrey drew him away to the Globe, and after the run of that piece he joined Sir (then Mr.) Herbert Beerbohm Tree at the opening of the Haymarket Theatre. With Sir Herbert Mr. Allan remained for over eleven years, making two tours to America and being associated in every production under the distinguished actor's management. Mr. Allan played in the production at the opening night of His Majesty's, and remained there until the end of the season. Since then he has appeared at the Haymarket, Drury Lane, the Duke of York's, the Comedy, the Lyric, and in several plays of R. C. Carton under Mr. Frank Curzon's management. Mr. Allan played Dr. Thornton in *Peril* at the Haymarket Theatre with Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Brookfield, and Sir Herbert Tree. Other notable parts that have fallen to him are the Grave Digger in *Hamlet*, Polonius, Dr. Caius in *The Merry Wives*, Casca in *Julius Cæsar*, the Burgomaster in *An Enemy of the People*, Mr. Kelvill in *A Woman of no Importance*, Beau Nash in *M. Beaucaire*, Mr. Petrie in *A White Man*, Sir Babbington Muller in *Public Opinion* at Wyndham's, and the Bishop of Dromborough in *The Rich Mrs. Repton* at the Duke of York's.

[*Photo by Ellis.*

MR. CHARLES ALLAN.

Mr. Allan has played in three State performances at Windsor Castle under different managements, and once at Balmoral before her late Majesty, when, in company of the other principals, he had the honour of being presented to the late Queen. A souvenir of this performance in the shape of a massive silver cigar-case with an inscription is one of Mr. Allan's most cherished possessions.

MR. HERBERT COLLEY.

Born in Camberwell on Oct. 25, 1870, Mr. Herbert Colley at the age of nine was introduced to wigs, costumes, and paints by Alexandra Knight, who was at that time appearing with Charles Wyndham at the Criterion Theatre. From that time until he was fifteen years of age he used to sing at London concerts as a boy comedian. Then he had to take to life seriously, and was placed on the staff of the *Daily News*. He stayed three years, and then left to take up the stage permanently. He took a partner, with whom he did good business in London under the name of the Two O'Gradys, Irish knockabouts, opening at Lovejoy's, Peckham. They also fulfilled engagements at the old South London (then run by Messrs. Poole and Ulph), the Star, Raglan; Trevor, and Gatti's. Separating from his partner, Mr Colley went to America, and had the pleasure of being stranded at St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada.

"My last engagement abroad," says Mr. Colley, "was with Andrew Robinson, in South Africa, and here I had another lively time. Arriving at Mafeking, I found the Matebele War had broken out, and, being unable to go on any further, I volunteered for service and was accepted, and under Colonel Plumer I had the honour of being on the first maxims leaving Mafeking for Buluwayo. After fighting, starving, and having the roughest time I ever experienced, I arrived, after five months' active service, at Kimberley, along with twelve others, and being sent for by Captain Fuller, of the Cape Mounted Police, District II., we again volunteered, for rinderpest duty. We were placed under Sergeant Ball, a son of old Ireland, and well known in Kimberley, and with him I had one of the happiest times of my life—rough, wild, and dangerous, but free." Leaving the service, Mr. Colley proceeded to Cape Town, where he ran several entertainments at the Good Hope Hall, now the Good Hope Theatre.

Mr. Colley has played principal comedy in comedy, musical comedy, pantomime, drama, and sketch. Amongst his chief impersonations were Sammy Blythe in *When London Sleeps*, Spotwell in *My Sweetheart*, Rae de Pulht in *Master of the Chain*, Mike in *A King of Crime*, Faggles in *Rogues Fall Out*, Bobby Bloom in *A Romany's Revenge*, Paddy O'Quirk in *Parson Thorn*, Patsy in *Klondyke Nugget*, Fergus O'Reilly in *British Empire*, Dolly Briskett in *Queen of the Night*, Obadiah Dawson in *What Became of Mrs. Rackett*, Jim Palfrey in *In Sight of St. Paul's*, Catrouse in *Monte Cristo*, Mortimer in *The Broken Melody*, Joel in *Hester's Mystery*, Roseberry in *The New Housemaid*, and Ugly Sister, Dame, and Baron in pantomimes, acting also as stage-manager for many of the productions. He has just concluded a six months' engagement with Mr. George Kingston at the Pier Pavilion, Lytham, in variety and producing farces, and is now engaged with Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime company. In the spring he goes out with *The Lunatics*, the musical farce by Nita Rae, with which he will tour for the third time.

[*Photo by Payne.*

MR. HERBERT COLLEY.

MISS JOSIE BELTRAM.

An early beginning in her profession was made by Miss Josie Beltram, who fulfilled her first engagement when she was about fourteen years old, appearing in the part of the little cripple girl, Olive, in *Forgive Us Our Trespasses*, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Scarth. Soon after she was engaged by the late Mr. Osmond Tearle for such parts as the little Duke of York in *Richard III.* and Fleance in *Macbeth*. The young actress was very delighted at the opportunity thus offered, for Shakespearean work was always, and is still, the work she likes best. "I used to wish so much that I could have the bigger parts," she said, "and was especially anxious to play Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice*, but I was not old enough then. I stayed with Mr. Tearle for twelve months, then left the company, and had my first pantomime engagement with Mr. Arthur Milton, playing a tiny part in *Aladdin*—the Slave of the Lamp. Then I went on tour with Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company to play one of the boys' parts in *Two Little Heroes*, after which, to my great pleasure, I went back to the Osmond Tearle company, and played Jessica and a pretty round of parts—the Player Queen in *Hamlet*, Phœbe in *As You Like It*, Maria in *The School for Scandal*, &c. Since then Miss Beltram has played only boys' parts. She joined the Hardie and Von Leer company to play Wally in *Two Little Vagabonds*, and after her first tour with that popular play went to one of Mr. Henry Chattell's companies, *Revenge*, in which she played the boy's part (Maurice). Back again to Wally, she represented the rôle for nearly two years, relinquishing it to rejoin Mr. Chattell for Nello in *Her Love Against the World*. After that tour she resumed her acquaintance with Wally last spring, and is now back with Mr Chattell's company playing Nello again. "Once while with *Two Little Vagabonds* the Dick and myself," adds Miss Beltram, "were waiting for an entrance, when one of the stage hands inquired whether we 'travelled with the company.' I think he thought we were two local small boys engaged for the occasion."

[*Photo by Hano.*

MISS JOSIE BELTRAM.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, DEC. 7, 1909.—Miss Nellie Stewart revived, at the Theatre Royal, her fine impersonation of Zaza in the comedy-drama of that name. All the lightheartedness, all the ruthless abandon, and all the touching pathos the accomplished actress brought to bear on an audience which, individually and collectively, loves "our Nellie." The quarrel between Zaza and Florianne (Miss Nellie Strong) was most realistic, and the scene with Toto (beautifully played by tiny Vera Huggett) was full of tender feeling. Mr. Harcourt Beatty once more is the Bernard of the story, full of charm and finesse. Miss Madeline Meredith makes the most of tipsy Aunt Rosa, a type of maudlin dipsomania. Mr. Harry Ashford played "straight" as Cascart, and Mr. Templar Powell was the battered old rake the Duc de Brissac to the life. The rustic epitome of good nature, Natalie, was handled by Miss Harriett Trench with most pleasing results; and Mr. Colin Campbell was the Alcazar's hustling manager. The revival was once more directed by Mr. A. B. Tapping, who is a past master of dramatic detail.

"THE WEDDING RING" was produced at the Palace on the 4th by Mr. George Marlow's dramatic company. Sensation reigns supreme in this play, and the strong company is in its exact element in acting the many strongly-drawn parts. Miss Nellie Ferguson is Mary Ashford, and she depicts the rôle just as one imagines that Benjamin Landeck drew her. The declaration of her marriage was most exciting. Miss Nora Wynne (Violet Foster) and Miss Lilian Booth (the Duchess of Brierly) played effectively. The rollicking maid Johanna was allotted to Miss Ethel Buckley with great judgment; and Mr. Wilton Welch as Lord Robert Chalmers joined her in making the comedy element most acceptable. The hero, Gerald Armstrong, by Mr. Kenneth Hunter, needs no bush. Harry Norman (Parson Darch) and J. P. O'Neill (Allison) were of great assistance.

"HAVANA" at Her Majesty's entered upon its last fortnight, as the Royal Comic Opera Co. opens here on the 18th in new productions. *The Taming of the Shrew* will be followed by representations of *Julius Cæsar*, and the Asche-Brayton Shakespearean "boom" will conclude on Wednesday evening, the 8th inst.

THE Tivoli has a capital new turn in the Apache Dance by the Little Dartos. The Sisters Trapnell and Mlle. de Dio are still prime attractions; and a new juvenile singer, Master Allen Hart, made a most favourable impression. Fanny Powers, the excellent mimic, is here again, and most welcome.

THE National Amphitheatre, West's Pictures, Spencer's Theatrescope, Bijou Picture Theatre, and a host of minor attractions await the Christmas visitors, whose numbers will be diminished on account of the disastrous strike.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS, with his customary generosity, will give his annual Christmas dinners to 1,000 poor folks at the Town Hall. Next Monday, the 13th, a performance will be given to help the fund for this dinner. Tommy Burns and Bob Fitzsimmons (boxers), Mrs. Fitzsimmons, Mlle. de Dio, and the evergreen Harry Rickards will be in the programme.

MELBOURNE, DEC. 14, 1909.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—A crowded house said farewell to *The Lady Dandies* at this theatre on Saturday evening, and the leading members of the company were recalled again and again. The theatre will remain closed until next Saturday, the intervening period being devoted to the very heavy work and constant rehearsal necessary to produce the Christmas pantomime, *Aladdin*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clarke and Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—A magnificent house, which included the Governor-General, Lady Dudley, and suite welcomed Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton on their return to Melbourne on Saturday night, and followed with profound attention the finished acting by the two principals in *Othello*, and the straightforward and painstaking rendering of Iago by Mr. Herbert Grimwood. The rest of the company appeared to advantage in the same characters as they played in the previous rendering of the tragedy in Melbourne. The reception throughout accorded to the performers was heartily appreciative, especially at the conclusion, which was delayed till close on half-past eleven o'clock. *Othello* will be played for eleven more nights, and will then be withdrawn in favour of *The Merchant of Venice*, which will be produced on Thursday evening, the 23rd inst.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Mr. William Anderson's production of *Hamlet* is receiving strong support, the house being packed nightly. Mr. Walter Bentley takes the part of the Prince of Denmark, and Miss Eugenie Duggan is well suited in that of Ophelia. The rest of the company appear to advantage in their various rôles, while the scenery is all that can be desired. On Saturday evening, the 25th inst., Mr. Anderson presents his Christmas pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, for which production he made several important engagements during his recent visit to England.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—The Kremka Brothers still continue to head the bill with their remarkably clever balancing act. Mr. Franco Piper is now an established favourite with his novel and entertaining banjo "turn." Mr. Tom Dawson is back with several quaint ditties to the delight of his numerous patrons; while Hassan (magician), Walter Emerson (comedian), Vaude and Verne (patter comedians), Gwennie Hasto (comedienne and dancer), Post Mason (baritone), Brown and Robinson (harmonists), and a host of other artists all contribute entertaining turns.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—The bill here is very strong just now. Several new items have been added for this week. Harry C. Willis gives a clever and humorous ventriloquial exhibition; and Monnier and Franz, two powerful athletes, make their reappearance. Con Carroll and the Weston Sisters, besides other members of the company, give excellent turns.

MESSRS. LYN HARDING and Sidney Cooper's excellent company is this week presenting *The Flag Lieutenant* at the Opera House, Southport. Mr. Edgar Kent depicted the rôle of Richard Lascelles in a realistic and natural manner, which left nothing to be desired; Mr. Montague Love submits a capital representation of William Thesiger; as Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley-Wynne Mr. George Mallett presents a dignified and clever portraiture; Miss Florence Jackson is a charming and highly-successful representative of Mrs. Cameron; Miss Dorothy Ripley is a praiseworthy and clever delineator of Lady Hermione Wynne; and Miss Winifred Valiant is very good in the part of Viola Hood.

AT the Theatre Royal, Smethwick, a change is provided from pantomime fare this week, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott and company presenting a new drama by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, entitled *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. Charles Draycott makes a powerful Richard Burfield; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield portrays in striking fashion the iniquitous Guy Lowther; Mr. Frank Etheridge as Lionel Heathcote gives a fine interpretation; Mr. Theo Balfour is well placed as Markham Ferrars; Mrs. Charles Draycott is seen to advantage as Pauline Ferrars; Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne admirably delineates the unfortunate Nellie Rayne; and the humour of the piece finds capable exponents in Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green and Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM and Miss Mary Moore appeared in *The Mollusc* at the Comedy Theatre, New York, on Monday, and won enthusiastic praise on all sides. The triumph achieved by the eminent artists is all the more pronounced on account of the fact that the charming comedy was not a brilliant success when first presented in the States.

WE deeply regret to announce the death, on the 20th inst., at 178, Stockwell Park-road, in his 75th year, of Charles James Davies, late of the Admiralty, and for thirty years Secretary of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. Mr. Davies was deeply respected by all the profession. The funeral will take place on Monday at Norwood Cemetery at 12 o'clock.

SIR HERBERT TREE will preside at the annual general meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which will be held on the stage of His Majesty's on Monday, Feb. 7, at twelve noon, when the report of the committee and the accounts for the year 1909 will be considered. The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the fund are invited to be present.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton have enjoyed such a gratifying success in Australia that they have arranged to extend their tour for a further term of six months. Their return to England will be made in the autumn, when they propose to appear at a West-End theatre in the dramatisation, by Mr. Asche himself in association with Mr. Norreys Connell, of Mr. Stanley Weyman's historical novel "Count Hannibal," which was produced at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on March 18 last.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY concludes a remarkably successful visit to the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, to-night, townspeople and visitors having vied with each other to give the popular actor a hearty greeting. On Monday Mr. Harvey is to appear at Oldham Grand Opera House, where *The Breed of the Treshams* will be played during the week with a special performance of *A Cigarette-maker's Romance* on Friday. On Monday week, the Harvey company go to the Grand Theatre, Derby.

MISS JESSIE ROSE, the famous Savoyard, was married on Thursday at the Registry Office, St. Giles, to Major Ford, of Chalfont St. Peter's, Bucks. After the ceremony the party went to the Holborn Restaurant for the wedding breakfast. The bride was formerly the wife of Mr. Percy Elliot, and her decree nisi was only made absolute on Monday last. She has been on the stage between sixteen and seventeen years, and has appeared in many of the Gilbert and Sullivan productions at the Savoy. She was playing Zayda in *Fallen Fairies* until she left the theatre last Saturday.

THE estate of the late Mr. Lionel Brough, who died on Nov. 8 last, aged seventy-three, has been valued for probate at £2,645 12s. 7d. gross, of which £2,317 6s. 1d. is net personalty. The will of the late comedian, which is dated March 4, 1904, reads as follows:—"This is the last will and testament of me, Lionel Brough, of Percy Villa, South Lambeth, in the county of London, actor. I hereby revoke all former testamentary dispositions made by me. I give all my real and personal property whatsoever and wheresoever and whether in possession, reversion, remainder, or expectancy unto my daughter, Mary Bessie Brough, for her own absolute use and benefit."

MR. LEWIS WALLER has selected an able and interesting cast for *The Strong People*, which is to follow *Sir Walter Ralegh* at the Lyric Theatre whenever a successor to that exciting play is needed. Mr. Waller, in the principal part, will be supported by Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Guy Standing, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. S. J. Warmington, Mr. W. Cronin Wilson, Miss Dorothy Dix, and Miss Marjorie Day. The action of the piece is laid at the present time, and passes in Pennsylvania.

THE Actresses' Franchise League have moved into their office, Room 17, Ground Floor, Adelphi-terrace House, Strand, W.C. The office hours are from 10 to 1 o'clock every morning, when the honorary secretary will be very pleased to see all members of the League and all friends of the movement. Badges and literature are on sale, and voluntary workers are badly needed. The first of the "At Homes" of the New Year will be held on Friday, Feb. 4, in the Grand Hall of the Criterion from 3 to 5.

AN ingenious means of catching the public attention during election time has been adopted by Mr. George de Lara, the general-manager of the *Puss in Boots* pantomime company, appearing this week at the Eastbourne Royal Hippodrome. Mr. de Lara took an empty shop and turned it into a committee room for *Puss in Boots*, replete with posters and instructions for returning Puss at the top of the poll. He has also evolved a method of "realising the poster" by driving Puss to the large chemist's shop known as Boots', and on the cat's entry into the stores—well, there you are—Puss in Bo ts'.

THE Follies have revived their amusing "potted pantomimo" at the Apollo, with several up-to-date additions. There are some clever imitations of Mr. Wilkie Bard and Mr. George Graves in *Aladdin* at Drury Lane, and a quaint caricature of the popular Mr. James Glover; and many of the old features of the droll entertainment are preserved, and evoke hearty laughter.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE'S production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* has proved a marked success. Mr. Wilkie has hitherto had a decided leaning towards the tragic plays of Shakespeare, but, bowing to popular taste he has found that the comedies are very much to the palate of the present-day public, and that a judicious blend of tragedies and comedies in most towns undoubtedly makes a strong week's programme.

THE three months' run of uninterrupted success only seems to have mellowed and improved *The Little Damozel* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, and the company—which, with one exception, is the same as on the opening night—work smoothly and harmoniously together. Mr. Charles Hawtrey has far more opportunity as Recklaw Poole than in many of his previous impersonations, and the pathos at the conclusion of the play seems to come to him as easily as his well-known lighter portrayals. Miss May Blayney in the title-rôle is aglow with intelligence and appreciation, and may be regarded as a most valuable acquisition. Mr. A. Vane-Tempest's cleverness is well adapted to the part of the aristocratic waster, the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; and Mr. Arthur Playfair as Walter Angel, the restaurant proprietor, is capital. Miss Gladys Mason's quiet manner is most effective in the part of Sybil Craven, and her short scene is most tellingly rendered. Mr. Leon M. Lion now replaces Mr. Cecil Rose as Abraham, and the play seems good for a run of indefinite length, and is brightly preceded by Mr. George Paston's much-acted *Tilda's New Hat*.

COMPLAINTS having been made by members of the Actors' Association of the non-receipt of voting-papers, they are notified that they can be supplied with the same on application to the secretary *at once*.

MISS VIOLA TREE will give her first concert recital at Bechstein Hall on the evening of Monday, Feb. 21. Miss Tree's melodious and sympathetic voice has oft been heard on the stage of His Majesty's, and she has sung at various concerts recently. The recital next month is bound to attract a large number of people well known in society who are interested in the musical career of Sir Herbert Tree's charming daughter.

MR. J. B. MULHOLLAND is making rapid progress towards the completion of his new theatre at Wimbledon, which it is estimated will be ready for opening in the autumn. The building is designed to accommodate some 3,500 persons, who will all have an uninterrupted view of the stage.

THE new Parliament will have offered for its consideration a Bill proposing the reorganisation of the Crystal Palace company. The scheme provides that from Jan. 1, 1911, the management should be vested in a board of nine members as follows:—One appointed by Board of Trade (chairman), one appointed by City Corporation, one appointed by London County Council, one appointed by Surrey County Council, one appointed by Kent County Council, and four appointed by the company.

THE Palace is to be deemed to be a work on which the Public Works Loan Commissioners are to be authorised to lend £75,000 at 3½ per cent., to be repaid by annual instalments. The company are also to form a sinking fund, which is to amount in fifty years to £250,000, and applied from time to time in the purchase and ultimate extinction of the £250,000 first debenture stock.

THE money received from the Public Works Loan Commissioners is to be applied in (1) paying the costs of the debenture holders' action, (2) the arrears of interest on the first debenture stock to Dec. 31 next, (3) the costs payable in the proceedings for winding up the company, (4) a dividend of 2s. 6d. in the pound to the unsecured creditors, and (5) in necessary repairs to the Palace. All arrears of interest on the £150,000 second debenture stock are to be cancelled, and the company are to create a new second (1911) debenture stock, amounting to £250,000, carrying 4 per cent. per annum, and secured only as a second charge on the property of the company.

THE scheme also provides that the £150,000 second debenture stock is to be cancelled, and an equal amount of second debenture stock substituted. From Jan. 1, 1911, the whole of the £95,000 third debenture stock is to be cancelled, and second debenture stock equal to one-half of the amount issued to the holders. The unsecured creditors, in addition to the 2s. 6d. dividend, are to receive 5s. in the pound in second debenture stock.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" at Fulham has now entered on its last week but one. It has been considerably improved since it began its career, and now runs briskly and smoothly. Mr. Passmore has one or two good new songs, and his headdresses are more curious and effective than ever. Mr. Spry's dry humour keeps its excellent flavour, and his business is as effective as of yore. Miss Hettie Gale and Miss Lillie Lassah repeat their successful songs and dance equally well. In fact, the dancing is one of the features of the show, and in this the Sisters Bartholomew are especially strong. The episode of the motor-bus is capitally worked out, and keeps the house in fits of laughter.

MR. F. M. PAGET, as we have known him for many years in the theatrical profession, now desires to attach to his signature the name of Olver, and in future will be known as F. M. Olver-Paget. Mr. Olver-Paget during his sojourn in Windsor made himself philanthropically popular by assisting the Fire Brigade, the Salvation Army, the Mayor's Soup Kitchens, and presenting to the Constitutional Club an Empire clock that registers the time in all parts of the world. On his return to London he has distinguished himself again by interesting himself in the Poplar Christ's Church Mission by obtaining as an answer to his pleading to Sir William Treloar the admission of Teddy Bawn, a poor Poplar cripple, into the Home at Alton, where he is comfortably and happily ensconced, and the workers in the Christ Church Mission are enthusiastic over Mr. Olver-Paget's efforts and interest.

THE Press of Copenhagen and all the theatrical managers are at daggers drawn, it is stated, because the latter want to compel the critics to write only favourable notices. The contest commenced when the board of theatrical managers forbade the admission of one critic representing a special theatrical paper. The whole Press has now declined to publish anything about the theatres.

THE Elephant Theatre pantomime *Cinderella* still goes merrily, and crowded houses are the rule. Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan are to be congratulated on presenting such a beautiful and humorous production, and Mr. Stanley Rogers, the author-producer, must be keenly gratified at the result of his work. There would appear to be no doubt that this pantomime is beating Mr. Charles Barnard's records of last season.

AT the close of *Where Children Rule* at the Garrick Theatre on Saturday evening the stage staff presented a handsome gold bangle to little Maudie Olmar, the skilful child dancer who proved to be such a brilliant success. Little Maudie was a favourite with everybody connected with the production.

THE Playgoers' Club are entertaining about 2,000 children at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, this (Saturday) afternoon, when the youngsters will also enjoy a meal that will be provided for them. The arrangements are under the direction of the honorary treasurer, Mr. F. S. Hess.

"THE TRAGEDY OF GUIDO FAWKES," written by Dudley J. Symon, the music composed by Fredk. J. Bodilly, was witnessed by large audiences at the St. James's Church Hall, Britannia Row, Islington, on Saturday and Monday evenings. Although this new production was described on the programme as "a Christmas pantomime in three acts," it was more in the nature of a comic opera. A good deal of credit is due to the composer of the music, he being only a young man of 22. Although not distinguished by any striking originality, the setting of some of the solos and choruses showed decided ability on the part of the youthful composer. The story of the Gunpowder Plot was amusingly burlesqued; and the introduction of two or three characters, which were new to the student of history, served to give a humorous interest to the tale of Fawkes and his followers that was greatly appreciated. The most successful songs included "Some long for a wife," "A Conspirator's Life," "Alas! I know not," and a Scotch ditty, entitled "Maggie." The musical piece was excellently played by local amateurs, and an amateur orchestra enjoyed the advantage of being led by the composer, Mr. F. J. Bodilly. The choruses were admirably rendered. It should be mentioned that the Rev. H. J. Watters, vicar of St. James's Church, Prebend-square, N., who took a keen interest in the performance (the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the parish funds) is connected with the Actors' Church Union, he being the chaplain for the Islington district

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN purposes inaugurating his Repertory Theatre at the Duke of York's shortly after his return from America, about the end of the month. Arrangements for the scheme are well forward, and little remains to be done but to start it on its way. On Feb. 22 Mr. Frohman will produce for a series of matinées at the Globe *The Climax*, by Mr. Edward J. Locke.

"THE CLIMAX," in common with *The Mollusc*, has only four characters, chief of whom is a young lady vocalist who is devoted to her art. She is wooed by a doctor, who abhors the stage and uses his hypnotic power to compel her to renounce her career and to marry him. On the day of the wedding, however, he reveals his duplicity, and the girl, released from his influence, returns to her operatic work.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON is concluding his sixth engagement with Mr. W. W. Kelly's *Royal Divorce* company as Tallyrand, having played the part altogether over 800 times. He has been engaged by Mr. Robert Hilton as stage-manager for his season at the Strand Theatre, opening early in February. The first production is Lord Lytton's *Richelieu*

SOME excellent dramatic performances of *The Marriage of Kitty* and *The Idler* were given by Mr. Henry Grierson, of Farnborough, at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, on Tuesday and Wednesday, in aid of the military charities of Folkestone. The performances were under distinguished patronage, including the Mayor of Folkestone, Brigadier-General the Hon. E. G. Montagu Stuart-Wortley, C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., D.S.O., Rear-Admiral Sir Colin Keppel, K.C.V.O., Commanding Cruiser Squadron, Sir Edward Sassoon, Bart., &c., and were attended with the greatest success, the theatre being filled with fashionable audiences. A supper and a ball were given each night.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who was the guest of Mrs. Henry Grierson, took up the part of Travers in *The Marriage of Kitty* at the last moment. His Worship the Mayor of Folkestone presented Mrs. Grierson with a bouquet on Wednesday night on behalf of the Shorncliffe Garrison, and in a graceful speech thanked Mrs. Grierson for the admirable performances, and Mr. Norman V. Norman for the aid he had rendered. Mrs. Grierson and the other ladies received numerous floral tributes at each performance.

"DAME NATURE," at the Garrick, is adorned by a number of beautiful dresses. In one of Miss Ethel Irving's costumes cashmere de soie and cashmere of a beautiful shade of plum are utilised. The cashmere de soie is of so thin and supple a texture that it is used for the bodice draperies, beneath cords that hold the filmy folds in place. Upon the hips it is applied in a most novel manner in the form of puffings and gaugings, over which a modified fishwife drapery is arranged, caught at one side beneath buckles covered with the material. The major portion of the skirt, where it is box-pleated, and also the under-sleeves, are rendered in cashmere, while the guimpe and sleeve cuffs are composed of lace, delicately veined with gold. The introduction of a tiny cravat of pale blue beneath the overturned collar has a very charming effect.

AN example of the new colours is given in the dark-blue sapphire gown worn by Miss Irving, in which a hint of grey is noticeable. There is a reminiscence of the Russian blouse in the scheme of the skunk-trimmed toilette, which has a collarless guimpe made of gold lace and a broad waistband of sapphire blue silk, fastened at one side beneath three gold buttons.

MISS NANCY PRICE wears some magnificent toilettes. Very subtle and elegant is an afternoon robe of elephant-grey chiffon velours, opened over a guimpe, and turned-down collar of point de Venise, finished with a cravat of black silk and revers embroidered to match the velvet. The Princesse corsage and tunic are draped in one, and at the back the tunic is longer than in front, showing two sash-ends, with tassels, which fall at the left side. A large buckle is introduced in the centre of the corsage, and the tunic is finished with silk fringe of a darker shade of grey than the dress.

A BLUSH-ROSE pink satin evening dress is also worn by Miss Price. The drapery is moulded to the figure, and at the back is caught into a huge enamelled ornament. The décolletage is edged with pink pearls, and the sleeves are remarkable, inasmuch as they are diminished to the merest little draperies, passed round the arms and knotted in front. With this gown Miss Price wears an evening cloak of widely-meshed grey tulle Grècque veiling, a foundation of blush-rose tulle slit open at the sides, and bordered with an embroidery of tissue ribbon, formed in the similitude of flowers, in the softest and palest shades of blue, green, and pink, with gold and silver intermingled.

ANOTHER evening cloak worn by Miss Price is made of gorge de pigeon silk, with a collar and sleeves cut in one, and embroideries of opalescent mother-of-pearl. It is the complement of a gown of white chiffon velours, made splendid by means of chain armour, wrought in tiny pearls, with a very deep fringe. Upon the décolletage, shoulders, and sleeves, sparkling diamenté embroidery adds brilliance to the lustre of the pearls and the whiteness of the velvet.

THE Manchester Playgoers' Club have affiliated with their London confrères, and in future the members of the London Club when visiting Manchester are to have full privileges in the local Society, and Manchester members are to have corresponding privileges for periods not exceeding thirty days within any twelve months. As the London Playgoers' Club is a club for gentlemen only, lady members are not included in this arrangement.

MISS JANICE DEANE, who was playing Edith Marsland in Mr. E. C. Stafford's *Private Secretary* company last autumn, has been engaged by Mr. A. Bertram for Louise in Mr. Herbert Sleath's *Woman in the Case* company.

THE wholesome honest fun and the brilliance of the Alexandra Theatre pantomime *Cinderella* (presented by those enterprising managers, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan), have tempted Sir William Treloar to arrange another treat for his cripple children, and the latter have accordingly been invited to witness *Cinderella* this (Saturday) afternoon. The youngsters will be in charge of the Mayor of Stoke Newington and the Aldermen of the Islington Borough Council.

MR. WALTER REYNOLDS has extracted from the Bard of Avon's works some striking and amusing phrases bearing upon the present political situation. Such he considers are examples of Shakespeare's foresight: "Windy attorneys, George profaned."—*Richard III.* "The tribulation of Tower Hill or the limbs of Limehouse."—*Henry VIII.* "Crack the lawyer's voice that he may never more false title plead."—*Timon of Athens.* "That fellow is a fellow of much licence."—*Measure for Measure.* "I cried 'Mum,' she cried 'Budget.' Heavens defend me from that Welch fairy."—*Merry Wives.* "We will not leave one lord."—*Merry Wives.*

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison's actual company and production of *Brewster's Millions*, from Wyndham's Theatre, London, packed the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, last week, despite the never-failing counter election attractions, an overwhelming majority being secured for *Brewster's Millions* nightly. The political fever was thrust aside, the heckler's voice unheard, and suffragettes appeased. There was nothing but enthusiastic applause and laughter from the rise to the fall of the curtain, the wonderful Ship scene being cheered to the echo.

THE council meeting of the Actors' Association was held on Jan. 18 at 32, Regent-street. Present:—Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (solicitor), Messrs. F. Morland, Lewis Casson, F. J. Arlton, Cyril Catley, J. Poole Kirkwood, F. Llewellyn, L. Shepherd, F. Annerley, C. F. Collins, Miss Agnes Imlay, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the meetings held on the 11th and 18th inst. were read and confirmed.

In answer to a letter from Mr. Cecil Raleigh, the secretary was instructed to inform him that voting papers had been sent to addresses appearing in the register, but owing to the neglect of the members to forward permanent addresses, as required by the rules of the Association, authentic addresses in many cases were not procurable. In order to secure the secrecy of the ballot, Mr. Mote has placed a box at the disposal of the Association, which will be kept locked until the day of the election, namely, Jan. 25. It was decided that the scrutineers be asked to begin their work as early as possible, and the secretary was directed to give them all information required as to the members who have paid their subscriptions this year.

THE hon. solicitor reported on three legal matters, and also drew attention to the agreement with the Kitchen Committee, which the secretary was instructed to sign on behalf of the Association.

THE following were elected members:—Gordon Bentley, Maud Bower, Douglas Rowe, Gordon Phillott, Peggy Butler, Geo. Saville, Arthur Baxdendell, Beatrice Smith, J. P. Wilson, Alice O'Dea, Evelyn Shaw, E. Stewart Vindon, and Jessie Thorne; and Cyril Ashford, Leslie Oswell, and Roberta Pulleyne were nominated for election. It was decided that no nominations be accepted unless the accompanying entrance fee and subscription be paid in advance.

THE Council regret that owing to the fact that the letter from the provincial actor was unsigned they could not take official notice of the contents. They will be glad if he would kindly disclose his identity, so that the matter may be referred to the new Council.

MISS GRACE HARLINGTON, who has been deputising for Miss Alice Maydue in Messrs. Moss and Stoll's production of *The Motor Chase* at the Hippodrome, Manchester, has been re-engaged by Mr. Frank Bertram to play her old part of Batty in his forthcoming tour of *The Breed of the Treshams*, of which company Mr. T. R. Gwyn-Richardson will once again be general-manager.

A CONCERT was given in the Theatre Royal, Smethwick, on Sunday in aid of the Crippled Children's Union. The theatre was packed, and it was generally agreed that the concert was the finest ever given in the town. The orchestra of ninety professional musicians included a number of the principal members of Dr. Richter's renowned orchestra. Mr. Wilfrid Hickling, who conducted, was heartily congratulated.

AT the Brighton Grand Theatre on Friday last Miss May Mars (who was celebrating her birthday) was the recipient of many floral tributes, which she, on the following day, took to the Sussex County Hospital for decorations in the various wards.

OWING to the indisposition of Mr. C. W. Somerset, the part of Don Bernadino de Mendoza, the Spanish Ambassador in *Sir Walter Ralegh*, at the Lyric, has been played during the past week by Mr. Hugh B. Tabberer.

THE last night of *Cinderella* at the Crystal Palace Theatre has been fixed for Feb. 5. The pantomime has drawn crowds to the Palace Theatre daily since Christmas Eve. By the way, patrons of the theatre who have missed the genial presence of the manager, Mr. J. E. Sharpe, in front of the house, will be glad to learn that that gentleman returns to the theatre on Monday, Feb. 7.

THE versatile actress and authoress, Miss Vashti Wynne, wife of Mr. Harry Roxbury, is returning to the legitimate theatre. She has been engaged by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter to play Miss Frances Dillon's part in *The Proud Prince*, and will open at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Feb. 7. Miss Wynne has written the sketches and pantomimes which have popularised Mr. Roxbury, and she has been playing with him in her recent successful tabloid musical comedy, *Sergeant Longfellow*, on the Stoll tour.

SATURDAY last saw the finish of the successful pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, prior to its tour in Scotland. Many valuable presents were made to various members of the company, who have been most popular during their month's stay. No less than fifty-seven boxes of chocolates were handed up, and gifts of bouquets and baskets of flowers, presents of jewellery, &c. The company presented Mr. Michael Connolly, musical director of the theatre, with a case of briar pipes. Quite a host of friends journeyed to Euston, despite the early hour, on Sunday morning, to see the company off to Motherwell.

ON the application of counsel for Sir William Gilbert, Mr. Justice Neville on the 14th inst. granted an ex-parte injunction over yesterday (Friday) restraining Mr. Workman from allowing the song "Love rules the world," to be introduced into *Fallen Fairies*, the new Gilbert-German opera at the Savoy Theatre. In the course of the week, however, an arrangement was arrived at by which the defendants would be allowed to reintroduce the song on the following terms: Defendants admitted that they were not entitled to introduce the song without Sir William Gilbert's permission, and they expressed regret for having done so. They acknowledged the plaintiff's courtesy and consideration in permitting the song to be reintroduced, and they undertook to insert in all the house bills words indicating their obligations to Sir William Gilbert in allowing the song to be sung. The injunction was accordingly discharged.

THAT talented little artist Miss Florence Imeson has been re-engaged for another eighteen months by Messrs. Wheeler and George Edwardes for South Africa. If she returns to England next year she will have accomplished a 2½ years' tour. She will fulfil her second four months' season in Johannesburg next April (during which time she appears in *Dorothy* and *The Geisha* with Mr. C. Hayden Coffin). Last Christmas, our readers will remember, Miss Imeson scored a genuinely artistic success as principal girl to Miss Ada Reeve's "boy" at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, and it is owing to Mr. T. B. Davis's courtesy in releasing her from his three years' option that she has been enabled to accept this very "gilt-edged" contract with Messrs. Wheeler and George Edwardes.

MR. W. W. KELLY at his Mersey-side theatres this week has had diverse attractions and uniformly excellent business with both. At Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, Mr. Frederick Melville's company, with *Her Forbidden Marriage*, has drawn deeply interested houses, and a remarkably good all-round performance has received well won plaudits. At the Birkenhead Theatre Royal Messrs. C. St. John Denton and Peter Davey's company playing *Blue Beard*, transferred in its entirety from the Royalty Theatre, Chester, has enjoyed remarkable prosperity. On Monday, at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, Mr. Alexander Leighton's *The Babes in the Wood* company will be the attraction, whilst at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal, Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in *Aladdin*, commences an engagement, Miss Kittee Rayburn appearing in the title-rôle.

FIFTY Welshmen have made a pilgrimage to London expressly to hear their gifted countrywoman, Miss Amy Evans, sing. The party visited the Savoy on Thursday night and were delighted with Miss Evans's singing, as well as with the performance of *Fallen Fairies*. At the close the visitors went behind the scenes and presented Miss Evans with a beautiful bouquet. The excursionists returned to Ton-y-Pandy, Glamorganshire, their native town, at one o'clock a.m. from Paddington.

"TOM THUMB," the pantomime produced by Mr. William Bailey at the West London, is the property of Mr. F. R. Griffiths, who on Monday reproduced it at the Grand Theatre, Forest Gate, where it repeated the success scored at the historic Marylebone house. Mr. Ward Bailey, the versatile son of a versatile father, is directing the musical arrangements of the production. Mr. Bailey, jun., is a clever writer of melodrama, his work in conjunction with the late Mr. Charles Berte having won considerable popularity.

THE annual supper and ball in connection with the Belfast pantomime was held in Ye Olde Castle on Wednesday night last. The guests included Mr. Fred W. Warden (managing-director, Grand Opera House and Theatre Royal, Belfast), Mr. James M. McCann (acting-manager, Grand Opera House), Mr. W. A. Salmond (acting-manager, Theatre Royal), Miss Thelma Raye, Miss Georgie Corlass, Miss Topsy Sinden, Miss Connie Glenabyn, Carlton and Mrs. Carlton, Mr. "Pip" Powell, Mr. Fred Bulmer, Messrs. Geo. H. Brookes and T. Dawes (London), and B. Machlachan. After a *recherché* supper in King's Hall, the jolly party adjourned to the ball-room. Dancing commenced about 1.30 a.m., the music being supplied by Messrs. Quillan, Doherty, and Murphy, and it was five a.m. before the merry throng broke up, having thoroughly enjoyed the very pleasant proceedings. Mr. J. M. McCann, assisted by Mr. W. A. Salmond, was responsible for the entire arrangements, which were perfect.

MISS MARY AMBROSE, who is scoring successfully as Prince Casemir in the Elephant pantomime of *Cinderella*, has been presented by an anonymous admirer with a handsomely-bound copy of Burns' poems. About seventy members of the O.P. Club attended the performance of *Cinderella* on Wednesday evening.

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE" will be revived for a four weeks' season at the Court Theatre next month, under the direction of Mr. Smyth-Piggott. The part of Shylock will be played by Mr. Arthur Phillips, a young actor, lately a member of Miss Lena Ashwell's company at the Kingsway, and Mr. Cyril Keightley will be the Bassanio. Portia will be undertaken by a promising young actress new to London.

THE pantomime *Mother Goose* at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, has broken all records of that Theatre from a pay-box point of view. But despite that fact, unless some arrangement can be come to, the run must be a short one, to allow Mr. Neil Kenyon to take up his future engagements. Mr Kenyon is due to open at the Adelphi towards the end of February.

A WELCOME return visit of Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is drawing good audiences to the Albert Theatre, Brighouse. Miss Florence Carlisle as Crusoe is excellent; Miss Kitty Fiske as Polly Perkins is charming and dainty; Miss Hilda Hemus brings down the house with her songs; Miss Kitty Chester is very good as the Fairy Queen; Mr. Alby Benson as Dame Crusoe is quaint; Mr. Tom Lewis is excellent as Will Atkins; Mr. W. Bland is irresistible as Billy Crusoe; and Mr. J. Randolf Sutton and Mr. Dan Belmore are very capable as the Pirates. Specialities are introduced by Eugene, the Daniels, Dylam and Dole, and Jack Green.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS' *Aladdin* pantomime continues its run at the Leith New Gaiety Theatre, and has secured a large measure of patronage. Miss Mabel Hind and Miss Lily Lonsdale as Aladdin and the Princess have achieved great success; and excellent entertainment is supplied by the Abanazar of Mr. Ernie Myers, who is well supported by Mr. Tom Carrick, Mr. J. G. Aitken, and the Brothers Firman; while Mr. John Darlison, with his troupe of Leith Little Lassies, introduces an interesting fanciful fairy scena.

MR. TREMAIN, a local gentleman, produced his third pantomime at Herne Bay on Jan. 18 for three nights and a matinée, and had the satisfaction of seeing the Town Hall Theatre crowded at each performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. The cast being all local talent, great credit is due to the stage-manager for the way he utilised his material, and the ballet and incidental dances were charming tributes to Miss Lancaster Gaunt's abilities as a teacher. The book, which was the work of the late Mr. R. Planchi, was brought up to date and brightened by the most popular songs. Miss Dolly Redman was an excellent Beast, and was well supported by Miss Amy McMinn as Beauty. Mr. Alf Smith also did some good work as Sir Aldgate Pump, and Mr. Stanley Miller sang with good voice as the Demon King. Since Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the entertainment-manager to the Herne Bay Council, has had the Town Hall Theatre under his charge great improvements have been made in the lighting, advertising, and general arrangements, and, when a few more are completed, it will become one of the most charming little theatres on the South-East Coast.

IN the Westminster County Court on Wednesday Mr. Archibald Selwyn, an actor, and Miss Lena Graham, whose stage name is Miss Margareta Gordon, brought actions for salary against Mr. Harold Smith, whose address was given as the Constitutional Club and his profession as that of theatrical manager. The defendant did not appear, and was not represented.

MR. MOTE, solicitor for the plaintiffs, adduced evidence that Mr. Selwyn played the part of the Rev. Josiah Flewitt and Miss Graham the part of Mrs. Pilling in *The March Hare* on a tour for the defendant. Mr. Selwyn was also stage-manager. At Llandudno they were told that some of the bookings had fallen through, but that there would be another nine nights, and Mr. Selwyn sent the "props" on to the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, but that booking fell through as well. Miss Graham had given a fortnight's notice, but rejoined on the statement that there would be another nine days' engagement. Each claimed for the nine days and a fortnight in lieu of notice, Miss Graham stating that she lost an engagement through rejoining with the defendant. Judgment was given for both plaintiffs, with costs.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The Adventures of Irene.

"I FANCY my earliest misadventure occurred at the Theatre Royal, Margate," writes Miss Irene Vanbrugh in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*. "Like my sister Violet, Miss Evelyn Millard, and a host of other actresses, I commenced my theatrical career in Miss Sarah Thorne's répertoire company, and made several unobtrusive appearances under her guidance at that theatre. The play was a strong melodrama with a military setting, and a star actor, who used frequently to visit Margate, came down to play the star part. I, be it said, was a little drummer-boy. There was a very important moment in the drama, when the star actor gathered his faithful troops about him with the cry: 'Men, come around me!' The play was rehearsed, but the faithful troops, for some reason or other, had deserted the theatre—possibly in search of refreshment—and left me faithful and alone. By and by the cry 'Men, come around me!' rang out, and, to the intense astonishment and annoyance of that star actor, down on to the stage stepped a solitary little drummer-boy! The actor glared, but everybody else shouted with laughter, and 'Men, come around me!' was considered to be a huge joke at my expense for quite a long time afterwards.

Her Son was Safe.

"I was touring with some play or other, and in the course of my travels had arrived at Glasgow. After tramping wearily about all day in search of lodgings, I eventually found a more or less suitable abiding-place in the house of an old Scotchwoman. But my patience was rewarded so very late in the day that I had to rush off to the theatre immediately. I returned after the performance, to find the house in darkness. I knocked at the door, received no answer, and, becoming more insistent, knocked again and again. How long I stood upon the doorstep awaiting admission I cannot say, but at last, after a particularly furious attack with the knocker, a window was flung up on the first floor, and the nightcapped head of the old lady appeared. 'Oh, it's you!' said she, with a sniff. 'Weel, its nae use chappin' at the door; I canna' let ye in.' 'Not let me in!' I gasped. 'No,' said she. 'You lookit so respectable the noo that I didna' ken ye was theatrical. I canna' let you in. Ma son's at hame, and it wadna' dae.' I argued, and I beseeched, but all to no purpose. The old dame was obdurate, and in the end I had to go, luggageless, in search of an hotel for the night."

A Closed Reticule.

"IN *The Gay Lord Quex* I created the part of Sophie Fulgarney, the manicurist. One night my manicure bag refused to open. I struggled desperately with the catch while the audience progressed from broad grins to titters, but still the thing refused to budge. What on earth should I do? 'Ah!' I ejaculated at last, with a sudden inspiration; 'the bag won't open. I'll call the gardener.' And with that I left Lord Quex on the stage and disappeared into the wings, there to get that refractory bag opened by a stage hand."

Her Papers in Disorder.

"I EXPERIENCED quite a disaster once in *His House in Order*. As Nina I used, in the third act, to discover some important letters, which I afterwards secreted in the front of my bodice. As a matter of fact, I had a pocket specially arranged to hold them; but on this dreadful night, no sooner had I tucked them away than I found them scattered all over the stage. I gathered them up as casually as I could, and replaced them in my dress. A few minutes later I was kicking them about with my feet. Again I picked them up and put them away, and again they strewed the stage. It was really too absurd, for Mr. Alexander, who was supposed to know nothing of the existence of these letters, had to avoid seeing them and try to appear unconscious of the fact that every few moments I was stooping to pick one or other of them up. Directly I got out of sight, you may be sure I examined that treacherous pocket, and I found a large hole in it—a hole which existed for a remarkably short period after the fiasco it had occasioned."

A Flying Cat.

"IN *The Thief*, at the St. James's Theatre, the second act was laid in a bedroom, and one night a black cat peeped out from under the bed in the middle of the biggest scene in the play, and—meowed! The audience was vastly amused, but Mr. Alexander and myself felt rather disconcerted—especially as the cat seemed bent on staying with us. At length the time came for me to go into an adjoining room and don a dressing-gown, and Mr. Alexander, taking advantage of this, decided to quiet the audience and scare the cat away at one and the same time. So he called 'Marise!' (the cue for my return) in a voice of thunder. The effect on that cat was remarkable. With one flying leap it left the shelter of the bedstead, cleared the footlights, and landed sheer into the orchestra, whence it disappeared never to be seen again!"

Irving on an Endowed Theatre.

"You were speaking just now of the very right desire for an endowed theatre, and of the schemes for it which people, who have the thing at heart, from time to time propose," said Sir Henry Irving one day to Mr. W. H. Pollock. "Well, there is, now, one such theatre in London; but I say *now* advisedly." For a moment I paused to catch his meaning and he went on: "The Lyceum is an endowed theatre. I make a great deal of money by these tours, in the provinces, in America, might perhaps make as much or more in Australia some day. What becomes of it all? You know how much or how little goes in personal expense. Where do the big sums go? Into the Lyceum Theatre, into my desire to make it what I doubt if the State will ever make any theatre, a playhouse endowed as the best Continental State Theatres are endowed, but naturally free from their inevitable disadvantages."

A Much-needed Umbrella.

"IRVING," says Mr. Comyns Carr, in "Some Eminent Victorians," "more than once told me the story of how he and Bateman paced up and down the Adelphi terrace at midnight debating the possibilities of the success of *The Polish Jew* at the Lyceum. Bateman, as he frankly avowed to the actor, had no faith in the popular appeal of the play, and it was, I suppose, only because he found himself at the end of his tether that he somewhat reluctantly consented to permit Irving to make the experiment. How hardly pressed the enterprising manager must have been at the time was proved by the fact that one evening, when I was walking with him down the Haymarket, he pointed to a corner public-house and said to me, 'The owner of that house once held an umbrella over me in the rain when I most needed it, and I shall never forget it.'"

Fanny Elssler's "Ovation."

"MISS MAUD ALLAN, who is seeking fresh laurels in the United States, can hardly," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "hope for a reception on the scale of that accorded Fanny Elssler, when she crossed the Atlantic in 1840. At Washington it was found necessary, for lack of a quorum, to suspend the sittings of both Chambers on the nights the Viennese dancer performed. When she visited the Capitol, the Congressmen rose in a body and invited her to sit in the Speaker's chair. In many other towns she was the subject of official, as well as popular, ovations; and at New Orleans the warships in the harbour greeted her with a salvo of artillery."

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

The Original Farce in Three Acts, by Charles Marlowe, performed at the Criterion Theatre on Monday, Jan. 17.

Sir Guy de Vere .....MR. JAMES WELCH
Wittle .....MR. GEORGE F. TULLY
Barker .....MR GORDON TOMKINS
Hon. Charles Widdicombe..MR. HENRY J. FORD
Sir Brian Ballymote .....MR H. K. AYLIFF
Isaac Isaacson .....MR. A. CLIFTON ALDERSON
Rev. Peter Pottleberry .....MR. GUY LANE
A Herald .....MR H. AGAR LYONS
Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave ....MISS MABEL YOUNGE
Lady Millicent Eggington ..MISS MAEV O'HEA
Lady Marjorie Eggington ..MISS EVELYN CECIL
Kate Pottleberry .....MISS PEGGY KENNEDY
Miss Sarah Isaacson .....MISS DAISY CORDELL
Alice Barker .....MISS ANNIE CHIPPENDALE
Lady Rowena Eggington ..MISS AUDREY FORD

The success of *When Knights Were Bold* has made its story famous and familiar, and a mere allusion to its idea is sufficient. Since the London production of the piece at Wyndham's Theatre on Jan. 29, 1907, there have been many changes in the cast; and in the company which presented the piece at the Criterion on Monday evening at the commencement of Mr. James Welch's season, only Mr. George F. Tully, Miss Daisy Cordell, Miss Annie Chippendale, and Miss Audrey Ford remained of the original combination. The piece is as screamingly successful at the Criterion as it has been at other theatres and in the provinces, and the performance is one long peal of laughter. Mr. Welch abandons himself entirely to the spirit of the part of Sir Guy de Vere, and is lavishly liberal in gags and business. With the aid of a very effective wig, which he ruffles up at intervals, and great mobility of feature, he is able to excite the hilarity of his audience irresistibly; and to see him imitating the antics of a monkey, spilling whisky and water, and swaggering about the stage with a long sword is excessively provocative of merriment. He is admirably supported. Miss Audrey Ford is a handsome Lady Rowena, and depicts in spirited style the romantic impulses of the lady; and a really excellent and artistic embodiment of Isaac Isaacson is contributed by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, who makes the intriguing Jew a quite possible and natural personage, and does some strong acting in the mediæval part of the play. Mr. George F. Tully's Wittle is an imperturbable and irreproachable valet, and Mr. Guy Lane supplies a very effective impersonation of the pompous but well-meaning Dean. Mr. Gordon Tomkins is decidedly good as Barker; and Mr. Henry J. Ford gives a neat and crisp performance as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe. The important part of Sir Brian Ballymote has a tall and able representative in Mr. H. K. Ayliff, who plays it with energy and ability; and Mr. H. Agar Lyons is efficient as a Herald. The female parts have all agreeable and accomplished exponents, Miss Mabel Yonge as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave being effective; Miss Maev O'Hea making a charming Lady Millicent; Miss Evelyn Cecil playing Lady Marjorie pleasantly; Miss Peggy Kennedy doing good work as Kate Pottleberry; and Miss Daisy Cordell being an attractive and graceful Jewess. Miss Annie Chippendale is seen to advantage in the small rôle of Alice Barker. Mr. Bruce Smith's scenery, especially the very solid-looking "Knight's Room" of the first act, is excellent; and Mr. Percy Greenbank's clever jester's song and Mr. Brigata Bucalossi's appropriate incidental music are greatly enjoyed.

When Knights Were Bold was preceded on Tuesday by a new play in one act, by F. Howell Evans, entitled

"MILLIE'S MOTHER."

Bertie Gaunt .....MR. LEOPOLD PROFEIT
Dr. Joliffe .....MR. HARRY AGAR LYONS
Millie .....MISS MAEV O'HEA
Mrs. Grimston .....MISS MABEL YOUNGE

This short and amusing sketch dealt with the eternal mother-in-law difficulty in a new way. Mrs. Grimston, much to her annoyance, finds herself "buried down in the country" with her newly-married daughter and son-in-law, Bertie Gaunt, and in order to induce him to live in town she makes Millie pretend to talk in her sleep, and express yearnings for the Metropolis. Bertie discovers the trick, and reproaches his wife, who agrees that they shall both seem to sleep on separate sofas, and shall let Mrs. Grimston know their real wishes by feigning to discourse in slumber. The plan answers admirably. The mother-in-law leaves the house in high dudgeon; and the young couple's happiness is assured. Miss Mabel Younge gave a telling performance as the imperious mother-in-law; Miss Maev O'Hea was a pleasing and refined Millie; Mr. Leopold Profeit was smart and satisfactory as Bertie Gaunt; and Mr. Harry Agar Lyons played a young doctor with ease and judgment. *Millie's Mother* evoked much laughter, and well served its purpose as a preliminary piece.

LEONCAVALLO'S new opera *Maia* was performed for the first time at the Costanzi Theatre, Rome, on Saturday night. The libretto is a fascinating love story with passionate passages, which give full play to the composer's melodic temperament. The gifted composer himself conducted, and the work met with a cordial reception from a crowded house. On the following evening the same composer's comic opera *Malbruk* was produced in Rome.

"THE QUEEN OF HEARTS" pantomime at Kennington enters upon the last fortnight of its run on Monday next, the 24th inst., the last performance taking place on Saturday, Feb. 5.

THE Tivoli, Pentre, has been leased to Mr. Wm. Stone, lessee of the Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy, for a period of three years.

THE first anniversary of *Our Miss Gibbs* takes place at the Gaiety Theatre this (Saturday) evening.

THE death of Mme. Meta Illing has resulted in the dissolution of the English Theatre in Germany. At a meeting at Frankfort recently it was decided that the enterprise was too intimately bound up with its foundress to survive her.

THE dramatic reading of *Richard III.* by the British Empire Shakespeare Society, for the first time in Central London, on Thursday evening at University College, Gower-street, was an arrangement of great interest, the cast including Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Halliwell Hobbes, Mr. Frederic Sargent, Mr. Franklyn Dyall, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Nora Lancaster, Mr. Howard Rose, Mr. Thomas Stewart, Mr. George Musgrove, Mr. Trevor Roper, Miss Florence Geere, and Miss Juliet Hardinge.

"A Voice."

THE Americans (we are informed) have fallen in love with Mr. Forbes-Robertson's voice. Many declare that nothing like it has been heard in their country before (which is highly probable); and no fewer than three critics in describing its tones have employed the words "molten golden notes." Thousands of dollars are being offered by competing gramophone companies for a record of a Forbes-Robertson recitation from Shakespeare, the idea being (says Mr. Percy Burton, his manager) that money could be made by selling such an article to schools and colleges and dramatic academies all over the world. Mr. Burton has himself been offered first-rate royalty terms for getting Mr. Forbes-Robertson's "voice" out of him, but the actor, with his customary tact and caution, is thinking the matter over.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"DAME NATURE."

Play, in Four Acts, adapted by Frederick Fenn, from Henry Bataille's *La Femme Nue*, Produced at the Garrick Theatre, on Thursday, Jan. 20.

Robert Bertram .....MR. ERNEST LEICESTER
The Prince de Chabran ..MR. NORMAN FORBES
James Ridgeway .....MR. FRANK COOPER
Paul Garford .....MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE
Henry Greville .....MR. F. KINSEY PEILE
Chaillard .....MR. CHARLES HAMPDEN
Arnheim .....MR. CHARLES DODSWORTH
Rivett .....MR. RICHARD HATTERAS
Certin .....MR. REGINALD WALTER
Ernest Taubman.....MR. H. ASHETON TONGE
Sadler .....MR. BERTRAM STEER
Taylor .....MR. REGINALD EYRE
Roussell .....MR. GEORGE BEALBY
Johnson .....MR. JOHN CASTLE
Harvey .....MR. EDMOND BREON
Princess de Chabran.....MISS NANCY PRICE
Mimi .....MISS MINNIE TERRY
Emma .....MISS VERITA VIVIEN
Mme. Certin .....MISS FLORENCE NELSON
Mme. Moulzi .....MISS WINIFRED HARRIS
Isadora Lorenz .....MISS MABEL HUNT
Suzon Cassagne .....MISS PAMELA GAYTHORNE
Mrs. Garford .....MISS AGNES HEWITT
Lolette .....MISS ETHEL IRVING

Mr. Frederick Fenn, who has so cleverly dramatised M. Henry Bataille's play *La Femme Nue*, has had plenty of experience as a dramatist. He is, perhaps, best known in connection with the libretto of the comic opera *Amasis*, which was produced at the New Theatre in 1906, but a more seriously artistic effort of his was *The Convict on the Hearth*, a realistic one-act play of humble life, which was presented in the same year at the Court. Mr. Fenn has dealt very judiciously with *La Femme Nue*, which was first performed at the Paris Renaissance in the February of 1908, with M. Guitry in the part of Pierre Bernier.

Dame Nature is the tragedy of unsophisticated affection in opposition with worldly craft and sensual corruption. A few alterations have benn made in the names of the characters in Mr. Fenn's adaptation, but the main story has not been much changed. Robert Bertram, a struggling artist, has married his model Lolette. She has shared his poverty and troubles and has been his model for his painting "La Femme Nue"; and when that work receives the gold medal at the Champs Elysées Salon, Robert makes Lolette his wife. A few years elapse. Robert, famous and rich, has become the painter *à la mode*, and then the snob that lurked in him comes to the fore. Whereas at one time he only saw Lolette's qualities, he now blushes for her ignorance; for, whilst he has risen to the lovel of a society man, she has remained the girl of the people. He then falls violently in love with the Princesse de Chabran. He is captivated by her imperious beauty and her aristocratic airs. Yet he ought to have known that these aristocratic airs are anything but genuine, considering that the Princess is the daughter of a rich German financier, and that her husband, an old ruined nobleman, only married her for her immense dowry. The Princess loses her heart to the talented young artist, and Lolette arrives at the inopportune moment when Robert clasps the would-be aristocratic lady in his arms. The Prince is quite willing to let his wife divorce him—for a consideration, of course; and the Princess has made up her mind to marry Bertram, who is only too anxious to rid himself of Lolette. She, however, refuses to part with her husband and to destroy her happiness. She has violent scenes with Robert and the Princess, and tries in vain to awaken better feelings in them. Pitiless because they love, they coolly overlook Lolette's feelings in the affair. In the end, Lolette is vanquished. Not wishing to prove an obstacle in Robert's way, she leaves him to return to a former friend, whom she left when she made Robert's acquaintance.

This story is developed with an agreeable amount of reality. The character of Lolette, a child of nature, is drawn with great fidelity and with almost merciless exposition of the weakness of the temperament depicted. The Prince de Chabran, with his cynical theories of life, his perfect manners, and his mixture of physical senility and mental alertness, is distinct and interesting; and the minor personages are very skilfully sketched. *Dame Nature* is a good acting play, and the success it achieved at the Garrick on Thursday was chiefly owing to this fact, and to the remarkably judicious way in which the parts were cast. That of the painter's wife was played by Miss Ethel Irving in a manner which secured instant and emphatic recognition. The sincere and affectionate character of the woman, her warm heart, and her impulsive emotions were depicted by Miss Irving in the most vivid, winning, and natural way; and she added immensely to her reputation by a performance which thrilled the audience to the core, and carried all before it by its energy, ability, and earnestness. The chief responsibility of the play rested on her shoulders, and she rose to the occasion readily, the ungoverned passions of the unhappy woman being shown with a force and freedom which were irresistible. Miss Irving's treatment of the realistic scene at the end of the second act, when Lolette breaks down in uncontrollable hysterics, was both bold and true, and the thoroughly *naïf* manner in which the discarded wife fought to recover her husband at the conclusion of the third division of the piece was marvellously effective. Altogether Miss Irving has seldom had a rôle which suited her more exactly, and her performance of it was a complete triumph. Miss Nancy Price's Princess de Chabran was a remarkably fine rendering. Miss Price is at her best in a character of this kind, and her embodiment of the pretentious parvenu was sharp, seductive, and bitterly satirical and sarcastic. Miss Price has seldom done anything better than this very effective and incisive interpretation. Mr. Ernest Leicester, in the rather unthankful rôle of Robert Bertram, played with solid force and an almost brutal vigour which carried conviction; and Mr. Norman Forbes's Prince de Chabran was a strikingly clever bit of character-acting—polished, finished, and very delicately handled. Mr. J. D. Beveridge won the heart of the audience completely as Bertram's shrewd, good-natured friend Paul Garford, and a peal of applause was evoked by his fine delivery of a philosophic speech in the second act, and Mr. Frank Cooper endowed James Ridgeway with the dignified courtesy and serene repose of a consummate man of the world. Mr. F. Kinsey Peile gave a neat, crisp, and clever reading of the rôle of Henry Greville; Mr. Charles Hampden was thoroughly satisfactory as Chaillard; and Mr. Charles Dodsworth's Arnheim was worthy of his reputation, Mr. Richard Hatteras being excellent in the small part of Rivett. Amongst the many minor characters Miss Agnes Hewitt's Mrs. Garford stood out by reason of its firmness and bold emphasis; and Miss Mabel Hunt played Isadora Lorenz with a quiet sense of humour that was effective, Miss Minnie Terry enacting Mimi neatly, Miss Verita Vivien doing good work as Emma, and Mme. Certin and Mme. Moulzi having competent representatives in Miss Florence Nelson and Miss Winifred Harris. Mr. Reginald Walter deserved praise for his performance as Certin; Mr. H. Asheton Tonge's Taubman was highly commendable; Mr. Bertram Steer was seen to advantage as Sadler; Mr. Reginald Eyre was efficient as Taylor; and Mr. George Bealby, Mr. John Castle, and Mr. Edmond Breon rendered good service as Roussell, Johnson, and Harvey. Mr. McCleery's interiors were appropriate backgrounds, and Mr. F. de Foss's production of the piece ensured the smoothness of the performance, which was received with enthusiasm, and will doubtless be many times repeated before the public will tire of the play.

"THE BLASÉ BARONET."

Comedy, in Three Acts, adapted by Walter E. Grogan from *Used Up*, Charles Mathews' version of *L'Homme Blasé*, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, on Friday, Jan. 14.

Sir Charles Coldstream, Bart.
.....MR. EDWARD COMPTON
Sir Adonis Leech .....MR. H. CROCKER
The Hon Tom Saville ..... MR. L. MEADE
John Ironbrace .....MR. FRANK ROYDE
Wurzel ..... MR. PHILIP GORDON
Fennel .....MR. J. W. AUSTIN
James .....MR CLIFFORD MARQUAND
Lady Clutterbuck .....MISS MARIE HASSELL
Mary Wurzel .....MISS KATHLEEN LEIGH

The production of a new play by Mr. Edward Compton is always interesting, and a large, fashionable audience assembled on the 14th inst., the anniversary of Mr. Compton's birthday. The story of *Used Up* will bear repetition. Sir Charles Coldstream, the blasé baronet, at the opening of the action is entertaining, for the relief of his utter boredom, two parasitic friends, Sir Adonis Leech, and the Hon. Tom Saville, in a dining room leading from the room set as the principal scene. During the progress of the dinner the dining-room door closed, there enters into the other room Mary Wurzel, who has come to repay a debt owed to Sir Charles by her dead mother; also John Ironbrace, a blacksmith, who has been sent for to fix a guard across the balcony to a window overlooking the river Thames. The blacksmith, formerly a master ironfounder, tells the story of his marriage, and of the loss of his wife, his consequent grief and eventual downfall. These troubles he attributes to the scheming villainy of some fashionable gallant, on whom, if ever discovered, he vows a terrible revenge. Shortly after the blacksmith's departure, Sir Charles and his friends emerge from the dining room. Sir Charles bewails the fact that at the early age of thirty-three he is eaten up with ennui, that life has absolutely nothing more to offer to his jaded palate, and begs his companions to discover for him a new sensation. Leech boasts about his own conquest of a woman: a conquest procured by foul means, and, after running through a long list of methods, all of which are rejected, flippantly suggests to Sir Charles that possibly in the sea of matrimony he may find distraction even sufficient to satisfy his craving for sensation. Offered in jest, Leech and Saville are amazed to find that the suggestion appeals to Sir Charles. Much concerned at this, they now try to dissuade, only to find the idea more firmly fixed. Further remonstrance being worse than useless they take their leave. Shortly after their departure, there is announced a near neighbour of Sir Charles, a certain Lady Clutterbuck, who turns out to be the victim of whom Leech had boasted, the wife of the blacksmith; but having been persuaded to believe him dead, has later been married to the elderly and now deceased Clutterbuck, who had nothing to leave her but his title. Sir Charles, still thinking on his matrimonial idea of proposing to and marrying the first woman he meets, concludes that this well-preserved, middle-aged widow will answer his purpose admirably. He proposes marriage, and after a show of coy hesitation is accepted. The calm and matter-of-fact treatment of the business rather piques the lady. They sit together on a couch to talk over the arrangements, and are thus discovered by the blacksmith, who immediately jumps to the conclusion that Sir Charles is the cause of his wife's downfall. Sir Charles, too bored to deny the accusations of the irate blacksmith, finds the prospect of a fight promises some slight acceleration of pulse, and tauntingly accepts the challenge to combat. They strip, and, coming to close grips, wrestle violently, until, in one of the bouts they approach too near the balcony window, and, losing foothold, suddenly disappear into the river beneath. An outcry is immediately raised, but in spite of all efforts, neither of the two can be found, and they are given up as drowned. This, however, is not the case, each escapes to opposite sides of the river, thinking he has been the cause of the other's death. The blacksmith hides for some time, eventually making his way to the farmhouse of Farmer Wurzel in a famished condition, to seek food and a hiding place. Already Sir Charles has come to the same place and secured employment as a ploughboy, his identity being known to the farmer's niece Mary. Wurzel gives the blacksmith food and hides him in a secret cellar of the house. Sir Charles, who, under the novel conditions of his now strenuous life, begins to find a savour in mere existence, is rapidly falling in love with Mary. Lady Clutterbuck comes to return to Mary the money left in her charge for Sir Charles, and during the interview catches a sight of the assumedly drowned Ironbrace. This knowledge she artfully conceals, and determines to force Sir Charles, whom she has recognised through his disguise, but whom she sees is now in love with Mary, to pay, for his release, such a sum as will reinstate her blacksmith husband in his former position as master founder. Sir Charles, who was Wurzel's landlord, had made a will leaving his estate to Leech and Saville. The pair arrive with a lawyer to dispose of the property, and after some conversation in which their opinions of Sir Charles are expressed with more freedom than politeness, depart with Mary to inspect the farm. During their absence, Sir Charles who has overheard the conversation, enters and in revenge for the insolence of his whilom friends hurriedly adds a codicil to the will, leaving all to Mary in the hope that she will accept him; but Lady Clutterbuck comes in and threatens the disclosure of his identity to the authorities unless he fulfils his earlier promise to her, and compels Mary to release the lover she was about to accept as Joe the ploughboy for fear of his arrest for the blacksmith's murder. The third and last act, which takes place in the evening of the same day, finds Ironbrace being called up from his hiding place to feed, and hear the story of Mary's legacy from the farmer A lively interview ensues, and, footsteps being heard, the blacksmith is hurried into his hiding place, where later Sir Charles is also unceremoniously thrust. The two meet in the dark, sounds of a scuffle are heard, and suddenly Sir Charles emerges with the idea that he has seen the ghost of the drowned man. This error is, however, shortly cleared up, and to the satisfaction of all concerned. Sir Charles and Mary are plighted, Lady Clutterbuck gets the money she desired for her husband's help, the two parasitic friends of Sir Charles are sent to the right about, and all ends happily with the confession of the Baronet that he is no longer blasé.

The play ran with a smoothness which gave evidence of thorough rehearsal, and Mr. Compton, as Sir Charles Coldstream, achieved a personal triumph by the incisiveness of his method and thoroughly appropriate style. Mr. H. Crocker and Mr. L. Meade, as Leech and Saville, did well all that was needed; Mr. Philip Gordon gave a very natural performance as Wurzel, and Mr. Frank Royde put in some fervent work as Ironbrace. Miss Marie Hassell, looking superbly, made every possible point as Lady Clutterbuck, and Miss Kathleen Leigh was sweetly modest as Mary Wurzel. Mr. Clifford Marquand was adequate as the valet, James. The mounting and dressing of the play—in Mr Compton's favourite costume period, were rich, artistic, and accurate.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER WIRRWARR."

Burlesque, in Five Acts, by A. von Kotzbue, Produced at the Hebbel, Jan. 12.

Von Langsalm .....HERR HERZFELD
Frau von Langsalm .....FRAULEIN RICHARD
Doris .....FRAULEIN BROCK
Fritz Hurlebusch .....HERR OTTO
Major von Langsalm .....HERR KAYSSLER
Babet .....FRAULEIN MAYER
Selicour .....HERR LEOPOLD
Nachtwächter .....HERR NISSEN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Jan. 20.—Herr von Kotzbue has been in his grave nearly a hundred years—he was done to death by a fanatical youth, who believed his mission was to stab those whose politics differed from his own; and, though he had only reached the age of fifty, he left a prodigious number of dramatic works behind him. They are not all good, by any means, but *Der Wirrwarr* is very good of its kind. Kotzbue said of his works that he did not think they would live longer than half a century, but he added that they would be imitated for a much longer period. In this he was right; there are few German farce-writers who have not, at one time or other, made use of "Father Kotzbue's" ideas. *Wirrwarr* stands for hurly-burly, and the plot of the piece is hardly discernible. The whole fun is in the comedy—and very wild comedy it is in parts—of the "situations," and the rush of complications and misunderstandings, which will not bear detailing. How merry, happy-go-lucky Fritz Hurlebusch makes a fool of his uncle, the sleepy old Herr von Langsalm, by dressing him up when in a state of somnambulism in a white gown and cap, must be seen to be appreciated. Fritz is destined to marry a wealthy maiden, but is in love with a poor one, and, of course, in the end gains his way. The audience laughed from start to finish, so that a complete success may be recorded.

THERE has been a great paucity of novelties during the past week, but a considerable number will be produced in the next few days. At the New Schauspielhaus to-night *Alt-Heidelberg*, with Herry Harry Walden in the rôle of Prince Karl Heinz, is being revived. The Deutsches produces to-night the four-act comedy, *Der gute König Dagobert*, by André Rivoire, translated and adapted for the German stage by Felix Salten. The next novelty at the Deutsches Chamber Plays—to be given this week—is a five-act comedy, by Herbert Eulenberg, entitled *Der Natürliche Vater*. Dr. Eulenberg is one of the most promising dramatists of the day, and his latest work is being anticipated with a good deal of interest. The next production of the Deutsches Theatre will be Hugo von Hoffmannsthal's new comedy, *Christine*.

"DER GROSSE TOTE," a new grotesque farce, in three acts, by the Danish authors, Julius Magnussen and P. Sarauw, will be produced for the first time on a German stage on Saturday at the New Schauspielhaus. The piece, which the authors term "a merry tragedy," is to be given simultaneously in Vienna—at the Deutsches Volks Theatre. It has already met with a good deal of success at the Court Theatre, in the Danish capital.

ERNST VON WILDENBRUCH'S posthumous play, *Der Deutsche König*, is being given three times a week at the Royal Schauspielhaus, and still proving an excellent draw. Two nights ago the Emperor witnessed it for the third time, besides having been present at a couple of rehearsals. The Empress, the Crown Prince and Princess of Roumania, Princess Victoria Luise of Prussia, and other members of the Imperial Family were also of the party.

A GALA performance at the Royal Opera was given last week in honour of the Imperial Prince Hai Tsun and other members of the Chinese Naval Commission. His Majesty selected the Assyrian ballet, *Sardanapal*, which was also given before their English Majesties during their visit last year. The Emperor, with the aid of an interpreter, was very busy explaining the show to the Celestial guest. The effect of the Emperor's pet ballet is, candidly speaking, soporific.

LEHAR'S delightful operetta *Der Graf von Luxemburg*, has passed its fiftieth performance, and there is not the least decrease of popularity; it will doubtless go on its triumphant way for weeks to come. Leo Fall's *Dollar Prinzessin* has removed to the Thalia, where it is holding the boards nightly to good houses, while the composer's other successful operetta, *Die geschiedene Frau*, is drawing equally well at the Theatre des Westens.

IBSEN'S enigmatical play, *Baumeister Solness*, is being revived to-night at the Lessing with an exceptional cast. Fräulien Orloff is taking the part of Hilda Wangel, and Herr Monnard the title-rôle.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As I understand a motion is to be put at the annual general meeting of the Actors' Association asking for the return of the actor-managers, may I crave a little of your valuable space to put a little of the other side of the question before my fellow-members.

I think the Association should be such that any member should feel quite free and safe to express his views on matters brought to his notice in the association, without any fear of his doing so affecting his chances for engagements. Let us have an association to represent the employed artist without interference from the employer. Personally I should like to see our annual subscription raised to a guinea. Any member who has visited and accepted the hospitality of the Actors' Association in New York must wish we could compare more favourably with them.—Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER.

Manchester, Jan. 20, 1910.

An Acrostic.

THE following acrostic on the anniversary of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's birthday on Sunday last appeared in the New York papers on that day:—

J ust some words of heartfelt greeting, borne by
thought across the sea
F rom the land that binds thee strongest to "the
country of the free."
O ver there success consoles thee; here, thy kindred and thy friends
R ender tribute to thy greatness, waiting till thine exile ends.
B irthday greetings will be many, both expressed and unexpress'd,
E very happiness to wish thee, with increasing comforts blest.
S even years of plenty wait thee, as in old Egyptian tale,
R iches, added fame and honours, for dreams do not always fail.
O n the threshold of the climax to a nobly-lived career,
B rilliant with artistic splendour, without favour, without fear;
E ver looking towards the ideal, always striving for the best,
R eaching onward, upward, forward with the poet-painter's zest.
T hus, now reaping, comes the harvest, thou hast waited all too long;
S pringtime, summer may be passing, but at autumn is life's song
O f the sweetest, truest nature. May the zenith of thy prime
N ow be gladdened by fulfilment of our hopes, the dues of Time!

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Harry Tich	£1 4 0
Bros Webb	1 1 0
Hymack	1 1 0
Gus Elen	1 1 0
Charles Weldon	1 1 0
Harry Fragson	1 0 0
E.	0 10 0

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £4 10s 6d.

Per Miss Marie Lloyd	40	Neta Davies	1
Walter de Frece	20	H. Taft	1
Horace White	3	E. Recco	1
Lady Moss	2½	E. Recco, jun.	1
Sir Edward Moss	2½	T. A. Cook	1
Sisters Marlow	2½	A. Askew	1
Sandsmith	2	Walter de Frece, jun.	1
Yarker	1	J. Weis	1
A Friend	1	J. H. E. Mugge	1
Welsh Girl	1	Thomas Cavilhill	1
Adey Spencer	1	Mrs. E. Recco	1
Daisy Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Violet Keele	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £7 11s. 6d.

R. Thornton	20	Mr. Crossley	1
Mrs. R. Thornton	10	Mr. Depledge	1
Mr. Roberts	10	Dr. Irvin	1
T. and M. Hopkins	10	Mr. Hodgson	1
Mr. Randall	5	Evelyn Black	1
Mr. Messulam	2½	John Lewis	1
Mr. Kenny	2½	W. P. Wells	1
Alace Maple	2½	T. W. G. Gelling	1
Royal Diamonds	2½	T. Gay	1
L. S.	2½	W. H. Behn	1
"Marky"	2½	W. H. Claphan	1
A. F. Buck	2½	J. R. Bell	1
Mr. Wilkinson	2½	J. Robinson	1
Mrs. Black	2½	J. H. Kemp	1
Mr. Jennings	2	M. A. Thornton	1
Mr. Saxby	2	J. A. Dryden	1
Mrs. Brown Potter		Mrs. F. Bolam	1
G. A. Taverner	2	Jack Pellow	1
B. Dillon	2	Austin Devereux	1
S. Smith	2	R. Wrigglesworth	1
C. Triggs	2	J. G.	1
H. Stokes	2	Mr. Taylor	1
Mr. Kullman	2	Hall, sen.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Hall, jun.	1
Mrs. Bradshaw	1	Mr. Dougall	1
H. Hargreaves	1	Mr. Bolton	1
Mr. McNab	1	Mr. McClay	1
Mr. Love	1	Mr. Coddington	1
A Sinner	1	Mr. Walter Griggs	1
V. Kerr	1	H. G. Jenner	1
Mr. Brashaw	1	H. Griggs	1
Mr. J. Haigh	1	John Charnley	1
Mr. Dunville	1	Mr. Jeffries	1
Nellie Lees	1	John Barrington	1
F. Moore	1	Mr. Hymans	1
Mr. Habbijam	1	Walter Blake	1
Mr. Wilkinson	1	Tom Corns	1
Mr. Higgs	1	W. Sebary	1
Mr. Plant	1	R. Standring	1
Mr. Smithers	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 13s.

Leo Fritz	4	Mrs. Cash	1
Harry M. Vernon	2	Harry Taft	1
Bert Howell	2	Rosie Lloyd	1
Morny Cash	2	Herbert Darnley	1
Walter Bentley	1	Ted Marris	1
F. A. K. Hounsell	1	Sam Mayo	1
J. Amery Parkes	1	H. Phillips	1
Ramsey	1	W. Russell	1
Sam Hart	1	S. C. May	1
Athas	1	J. G. R.	1
Chris Horn	1	G. W. Gerald	1
Jack A. Frece	1	David Hart	1
Tom Pacey	1	Gus Elen	1
A. F. P.	1		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £2 7s.

Kittee Rayburn	21	Edouard Jose	1
Palace Girls	4	Edwin Foster	1
Harry Rich	1	Erin	1
Fred Knight	1	A. Anarto	1
Gerald Malvern	1	R. Peuso	1
Charlie Rich	1	L. Anarto	1
Mrs. Hunt	1	D. Gould	1
Mrs Ellis	1	J. Johns	1
Mrs. Spencer	1	Mr. Holmes	1
Cissie Thompson	1	Jack Lotto	1
Elizabeth Rogers	1	Orpheus	1
E. Moody	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. A. Spencer	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 6s.

The Perriers	2	B. Godman	1
For Autograph	2	B. B. Robinson	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Mr Shannock	1
Burt Shephard	1	Mr. Thompson	1
Ting and Mile	1	Joe Winterschladen	1
Terry Sisters	1	G. H. Wallis	1
J. H. Farr	1	A. N.	1
H. B. Farland	1	J. Todd	1
Maxey and Pete	1	Admirer of Vesta	1
Wm. Colin Wara	1	A Friend	1
Boots	1	Success	1
G. D. Clarke	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £1 9s.

Fred Dunning	3	Walter Aubrey	1
Rosa and Kitty Simms	2	Leo F. Daly	1
M. Evans	2	Gwen Davies	1
Bob Morris (Jerry)	1	Welsh Girls	1
Rhoda Paul	1	Jones	1
Local Girl of Hull	1	Bowden Stol	1
Jennie Johns	1	T. Tomlinson	1
Thana Johnson	1	W. H. Lennon	1
G. N.	1	Mabel Sinclair	1
Lambert	1	Victor Travers	1
B. Davies	1	Annie Bidwell	1
D. Davies	1	C. Bennison	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Berry Hope, £1 5s.

P. C. B. Webster	1	Billy Young	1
G. H. Buck	1	N. Leipzig	1
H. Holland	1	Alf. Braham	1
The Golden Lion, Edmonton	1	Jack French	1
Roebuck, Tottenham	1	W. Noegdud	1
Roebuck, High-road, Lower Tottenham	1	Mr. Hall	1
F. J. Golding	1	Mr. Rose	1
Park H., Tottenham	1	J. McDonald	1
Miss Flood	1	L. Levy	1
Miss Penn	1	Angel Jacobs	1
Alec Israel	1	Marie Reeve	1
Hector Munro	1	Bull and Pump	1
		Dover Castle	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Berry Hope, £1 5s. 6d.

Only a few	2½	H. S.	1
Horris Hope	2	Marguerite Ismay	1
Nell Seaton	2	Elsie Hulbert	1
Monti	2	F. Bernard	1
B. C. Titch	2	Nell Lepard	1
Alf. Cull	2	D. Graham	1
John Webb	1	Will Crusha	1
Jimmy Fearless	1	Ted Rollings	1
Eva Silverston	1	E. Alexander	1
Mike Hart	1	Alexander	1
Albert Rodd	1	Pete	1
T. G. Richards	1	Gus Elen	1
Billy Young	1		

Collected by Beresford Hope, £1 8s. 6d.

P., The Eagle	2	Schmidt	1
J. F. Carr	½	Goldstein	1
M. Mufti, The Eagle, Tottenham	1	Maizypop	1
Ted Cribb (Crib and Cribb	1	Anon	1
A. E. Frost	1	Elsie Athas	1
M. C. Shrus	1	Jack Winepress	1
W. Crook	1	Harry Bannister	1
W. Hill	1	Jack Jull	1
J. G. S.	1	Gus Elen	1
B. R., Dover Castle	1	Poor Boy	½
Old Sport	1	Messum	½
Dicky Bird	1	Gladys Miller	½
Isaacstein	1	The Professor	½
		Joe	½
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by May and Ted Hopkins, £1 10s.

Lamberti	2	Hugh Bayly	1
C. T. Aldrich	2	The Kramers	1
Grotesques	2	Dorothy Doria	1
Vere Smith	2	J. A. Watts	1
J. L.	1	Doris Lind	1
Little Georgie	1	Elsie English	1
Big Billie	1	T. A. Cook	1
R. T.	2	Barrington	1
Jack frae Glesca	1	G. Leno	1
Annie Laurie	1	Doc Campbell	1
E. H. Brown	1	W. H. Barber	1
Daly and Lambert	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Hilliard	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £1 12s.

Ted and May Hopkins	5	Sergt. Brennan	1
Jackson Family	4	Madge Osmond	1
Royal Diamonds	2	Ben Albert	1
C. Hayden Coffin	1	Leo Stormont	1
Master Harry Clark	1	Jewel St. Leger	1
Maxmillian Trio	1	Will Probyn	1
Ted Curtis	1	Dan Davies	1
Damerell & Rutland	1	Arthur Lawrence	1
Achmed Ibrahim	1	J. D. MacLean	1
Rosie Archer	1	Harry Burdette	1
Mendel	1	Friend	1
Alf. Meers	1	Gus Elen	1
Nap	1		

Collected by Ted and May Hopkins, £2 8s. 6d.

Courtice Pounds	20	Aunt	1
Pert and Leonard	2½	G. W. Anson	1
Rowlands and Ford	2	A. H. McKay	1
Jack Pleasants	1	G. A. Peace	1
The Tame Author	1	The Duke	1
W. Mowbray Harle	1	Walter Curtis	1
R. Brantz	1	Ferguson and Mack	1
Will Emson	1	B. Comerford	1
Bell	1	Louis Kerno	1
J. H. Walker	1	Gena Manon	1
M. Cressall	1	Albert Jentor	1
Queenie du Val	1	F. Melville	1
Albert Ward	1	Gus Elen	1
Uncle	1		

Collected by Harry Conlin, £2 5s.

Rosie Coleman	5	Jack Stephens	1
Harry Conlin	5	Marie Walker	1
Norman-Leonard Trio	3	Effects	1
M. C. Geraldo	2½	Frank Parker	1
Ray Wallace	2½	Friend	1
Chanti	2½	H. E. Fairbanks	1
Sisters Geretti	2	Rosie Loader	1
Cornalla and Eddie	2	George Rushe	1
Jack Sandiford	2	Squire Day	1
James Cuddihee	2	Percy Johnson	1
Baby Rosie Conlin	1½	Argo	1
Bert Harrow	1	H. P. Milner	1
Tom Butler	1	Gus Elen	1
Mr. Schutz	1		

Collected by Vivian Evans, Wolverhampton, £1 3s.

Billy Williams	1	Rupert Woolley	1
Mark Stone	1	T. Jones	1
The Orchids	1	John Henry Wright	1
W. H. H.	1	Isaac Jones	1
Beatrice Allen	1	Kurkamp	1
Witty Walton	1	Martin Henry	1
George H. Jones	1	F. Fuidge	1
E. B.	1	Trixo	1
J. W. Somerville	1	Sisters Eston	1
Iky Peck	1	H. J. Haddock	1
Percy Nevill	1	Gus Elen	1
John Day	1		

Collected by Seener and Fridkins, £1 6s.

Seener and Fridkins	2	XYU	1
E. H. Granville	1	H. Bee	1
J. M. Fortune	1	Vive La Russe	1
Gilbert Girard	1	G. H. W.	1
Sideslip	1	E. Leopold	1
Geo. Leyton	1	Maud Gill	1
Tom Stuart	1	Malcolm Scott	1
F. L. G.	1	Leo Leon	1
Henry Conits	1	Hyde and Cody	1
T. Peschkoff	1	Gus Garrick	1
J. S.	1	Sadie	1
E. S. Jenkins	1	Gus Elen	1
H. Altnan	1		

Collected by Atroy, £1 2s.

Atroy	10	Will Onda	1
Violi	10	George Prince	1

Collected by Geo. Gulliver, £1 4s.

Wm. Matthews	1	Chas. Senior	1
J. Robinson	1	Norman Gray	1
Mundill and Maude	1	L. Senior	1
J. A. Whitehouse	1	R. Outram	1
Edmund Caselli	1	Denby and Dent	1
Eva Dunville	1	Welda and Wynne	1
Arthur Lauri	1	The Lindos	1
Lauria Lauri	1	Will Harris	1
Benj. Pattison	1	Florrie Delamore	1
H. Renouf	1	Mlle. Hengleur	1
Elaine Grant	1	Lucardo Bros.	1
Geo. Gulliver	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Chandos and Constable, £1 6s.

C. Carlile	2	Ernie Daunton	1
Ivy Chandos	1	Bertha Evelyn	1
Fred H. Constable	1	Carlotta de Yonson	1
Sam Lavelle	1	C. N. Whittle	1
Jack Lavelle	1	Lee Gilbert	1
Bert Rayburn	1	J. H. Lowe	1
May Clarke	1	James Duncan	1
Alice Tremayne	1	G. Douglas Carlile	1
Theresa Moore	1	Mina Greene	1
Marie Knill	1	Gus Elen	1
Alma O'Neil	1	Chas. Hamilton	1
M. C. Berg	1	Ted Hamilton	1
Jim Zanora	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, £1 5s.

Bert Welda	1	Ally Benson	1
Dorothy Welda	1	Alice Benson	1
Baby Welda	1	Winnie Benson	1
Reg Bolton	1	Musical Silvo	1
Sam Laurence	1	Violet Nunn	1
Harry Simms	1	Leipzig	1
Fred Cadwall	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Gustis Laurence	1	Maudie Goodman	1
Boston Twins	1	P. Corrix	1
Cyril Dane	1	Leipzig	1
Walter Aubrey	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Nap	1	Gus Elen	1
Admiral Togo	1		

Collected by Hannaway Bros., £1 10s.

Bros. Hannaway	2	J. Cullen	1
Eli Hudson	2	Percy Currie	1
Bowman and Morton	2	Tom Wild	1
Boris Fridkin	1	Martialo	1
Elias B. Seener	1	Maudie Ford	1
Krakes	1	The Gilbey Sisters	1
Madeline Rossiter	1	Billy West	1
Sisters Edwardes	1	Bert Williams	1
Venturini	1	George West	1
Victor Courtenay	1	Captain Ellis	1
Jack Hayton	1	Phil Bransby	1
Freddie French	1	Zanonis	1
Louis Kerno	1	Gus Elen	1
Albert Brady	1		

Collected by Livesey and Rosebery. £1 5s.

Well Wisher	1	Villion Dandy	1
Fred Sinclair	1	Carl Lynn	1
Harry Elliston	1	Master Syd May	1
George Abel	1	Mr. Charles	1
Albert Bushell	1	Mr. Russell	1
Ted E. Box	1	The Heroine	1
Radena Dey	1	The Hero	1
Tom Shaw	1	The Villain	1
W. Vokes	1	Little Willie	1
W. Armstrong	1	The Would-be Actors	1
Harry Burns	1	Livesey & Rosebery	1
Arthur Alston	1	Gus Elen	1
W. Villion	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ulrich	2	W. F. Frame	1
Jimmy Shields	1	Master Sydney May	1
Oswald and Locke	1	Harry Burdette	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
The Rosses	1	Wilfred Forster	1
James McKimm	1	Franklin Dyall	1
W. Millard	1	Margaret Holland	1
Wylie Watson	1	The Adeles	1
E. D. Hess	1	Danas	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Fred Elton	1
Harry Bailey	1	Lamberti	1
W. Cummings	1	Gus Elen	1
J. Cummings	1		

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
Harry Ford	1	Elsie Roby	1
Will H. Fox	1	Andy McLeod	1
Mrs. Harry Dean	1	Lamberti	1
Fred Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Dandy George	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Chris. Richards	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Cornalia and Eddie	1
Will Lester	1	Alfred Artois	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton	1	Alma Shelley	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley	1
J. Cooke Beresford	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong.

Barney Armstrong	5	Madoline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson	1
Four Royal Scotts	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lynn	1	Will Clement	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Brunton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, 47s.

Hill and Whitaker	2	Lux's Dogs	1
Andy McLeod	2	Marjorie Lawrence	1
Lillian	1	Bertie White	1
Lauri and Beatty	2	Percival	1
Joseph Harvey	1	Dorothy Ward	4
Tommy Clifford	2	Daisy Dormer	2
Boden and Bell	1	Albert Egbert	2
Walter Dowling's "Fantastics"	6	Seth Egbert	2
Sylvester (Ella and Eugenie)	4	Seth's Hoopla	1
Karl Kremo	2	Linda D'Amato	2½
Alma	1	Joan Burton	2½
Sid Francis	1	One of the Bhoys	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman, 3s.

A. Dome	1	Gus Elen	1
Nellie Coleman	1		

Collected by Charles Cardow, 23s.

Arthur Bromley	1	Fred Elton	1
George S. Melvin	1	Dave Laird	1
Ethel Darc	1	Walter Lawley	1
William Darc	1	Siems	1
Pasquali Brothers	1	George Norton	1
Valencia Friend	1	Will Cornish	1
La Belle Linda	1	May Thorne	1
Iris Fox	1	The Cecilias	1
Charles Norton	1	Cruickshank	1
The Gay Deceiver	1	Harry Ray	1
Chas. Cardow	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Cardow	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THAT versatile little lady, Marie Jones, makes her first appearance before a London audience on Jan. 24 at Collins's, in her new protean comedy, *Wanted, the Co-respondent*, written, invented, and acted by herself.

MISS MARIE REEVE, the heroine of many panto mimes, is playing principal boy in Little and D'Arcy's *Forty Thieves* this year with great success, as the presents from her numerous admirers go to testify. Notwithstanding several tempting offers, she has not yet settled for next year. She opens at the Syndicate halls shortly.

MISS LOUISA PEACH made such a big hit at Mr. Raymond's Hall, Walthamstow, with *The Tragedy* a few weeks ago that she returned there last week and this with *The Settler's Daughter* and *The Sin and the Sorrow*, and goes back again on Feb. 7 with another sketch from her répertoire. Miss Peach is supported by an excellent company, which includes Messrs. Charles Daly, E. H. Dobell, Edwin Bennett, and Edmond Sydney.

THIS is the cat presented by Mr. Fred Whittaker with feline grace and comic activity in the production of *Dick Whittington* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. Pussy has been a study for years with Mr. Whittaker, who originates his own dresses and masks, and has played the part for sixteen consecutive seasons. His ecentricities and prancings round the balcony of the house are great features in the success of the pantomime, in which he gives great delight to the kiddies.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Theatres Committee of the L.C.C. have agreed to receive a deputation from the four Societies who addressed the Home Secretary on the matter of Sunday entertainments on Wednesday next, the same day on which the joint deputation from the Cinematograph Defence League, &c., are to be received. The representatives of the artists, actors, musicians, and employees meet to-day to prepare the statement on their case for the committee.

As there appears to be some confusion in regard to the conditions imposed by the L.C.C. the publication of these conditions may be found useful.

ON May 4 the Council discussed the question, and it was decided not to consider any application to give concerts at premises licensed by the Council unless the application is accompanied by an undertaking from some recognised society or organisation, unconnected with the premises concerned, to the effect that:—"(1) The concerts will be properly conducted and not for private gain or by way of trade; (2) the licensee or his servants will have nothing to do with the arrangements for the concerts (*i.e.*, the engagement of artists or employees, &c.) beyond being responsible to the Council for the observance of its regulations; (3) none of the persons employed at the licensed premises on weekdays will have any pressure put upon him or her to assist at Sunday concerts; (4) an audited balance-sheet will be submitted to the Council at the end of each series of concerts; (5) the rules required to be observed on week-days for securing the safety of the audience will be complied with; (6) the heads of the society or organisation will hold themselves responsible for seeing that the assurance given to the Council is adhered to."

AT a meeting of the General Staff Branch of the N.A.T.E. on Wednesday evening the following nominations were approved by the committee and their election to the National Executive Committee recommended at the general meeting of the members of this branch on Sunday week at Terry's Theatre:—President, Mr. J. Cullen, master carpenter, St. James's Theatre; vice-president, Mr. G. H. Dyball, stage-manager, the London Pavilion; general treasurer, Mr. James Atterton, Criterion Theatre; general secretary, Wm. Johnson; for the committee: Messrs. H. Porter, Criterion Theatre; Ed. Stow, Vaudeville; J. N. Hunt, Alhambra Theatre; G. Pickering, Duke of York's Theatre; C. T. Cory, master carpenter, Vaudeville Theatre; and Mr. C. Thorogood, as one of the trustees. Several applications for membership were granted, and it was decided to print 1,000 copies of the branch statement of accounts for the past year. These will be issued to-day.

A MEETING of the Theatrical Carpenters' Branch will be held in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, at 8.30 p.m. on Sunday, when nominations for the committee and officers for the ensuing year will be received and candidates for election to the National Committee will be selected. All members are requested to attend.

MR. H. S. HENBY, a member of the Heads of Departments Association, has gone with Miss Maud Allen to America to act as her stage-manager during the American tour. This association has now three members in New York City.

MR. WILLIAM BARBOUR, electrician at the St. James's Theatre, is, from the latest report, progressing favourably, but he will not be able to resume work for some weeks yet.

AT a meeting of the Edinburgh Branch of the N.A.T.E., held on Sunday last in the Buchanan Temperance Hotel, High-street, a number of new members were elected, and a further meeting will be held to-morrow to elect the officers and committee for the ensuing year.

THE general staff of the N.A.T.E. will hold their seventh annual dinner and smoking concert in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, on Sunday evening, Feb. 13, at 6.30. The number of tickets, price 2s. 6d. each, is strictly limited to eighty, and over fifty have already been applied for. Those wishing to be present should make early application to the secretary, Wm. Johnson, or one of the stewards at the theatres and music halls.

LATE last week the stage hands of the Moulin Rouge, Paris, requested the manager to sign a contract promising to retain them in their present employment so long as he remained manager of the establishment. The manager signed the contract under compulsion, but sought a way out of the impasse in which he was placed.

FORESEEING trouble, he had taken the precaution of engaging extra hands. He decided to discharge the men and retain the non-unionists. But the malcontents refused to accept the two days' wages offered them, and left, taking their effects with them. Five of the discharged men turned up in the evening, but they were not allowed to resume work. Meanwhile, the musicians, who knew that trouble was brewing, threatened to join the movement. Eight of them actually left, but the performance took place all the same.

THERE was also trouble at the Parisiana. The stage hands and the entire orchestra went on strike. A small staff behind the scenes worked very hard in order that the performance might not be interfered with. A pianist took the place of the full orchestra. The strike was a failure. The strikers at the Moulin Rouge informed their comrades at the Parisiana that the movement had not succeeded, and that they could resume work. The men returned to their posts. The public did not take the side of the strikers, and the mutilated performances did not even excite protests.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 24.

ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Leicester.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—T. R., Stratford.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.).—Glasgow.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Hippo., Scarborough.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.—T. R., Dewsbury.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Palace T., Bordesley.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Victoria O. H., Burnley.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Maestag and Bridgend.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—O. H., Coventry.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—T. R., Chatham.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—T. R., Chesterfield.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Belfast.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—O. H., St. Helens.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Hastings and Folkestone.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Met T., Birmingham.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—New T. R., Blyth.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Coatbridge and Motherwell.
CINGALEE (B.).—Corporation T., Chesterfield.
CLAUDIAN.—Star T., Swansea.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Royalty T., Chester.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—Grand T., Swansea.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—O. H., Wrexham.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Grand T., Hull.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—O. H., Kidderminster.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—H. M. T., Dundee.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Empire T., Cradley.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Castle T., Stockton.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Sunderland.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Prince's T., Preston.
FATAL WEDDING.—Sheerness.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Cambridge and Oxford.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—Empire T., Swindon.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ryde.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—H.M. T., Barrow-in-Furness.
FOR AULD LANG SYNE.—T. R., Belfast.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T.R., Middlesbrough.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—King's T., Kilmarnock.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Grand T., Mansfield.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
GREAT AWAKENING.—O. H., Cheltenham.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Junc. T., Manchester.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Grand T., Oldham.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Darwen.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Palace T., Ebbw Vale.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Crown T., Eccles.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Osborne T., Manchester.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—T. R., S. Shields.
KING OF CADONIA.—T. R., Bournemouth.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Chirk and Ruthin.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Grand T., Lancaster.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—T. R., Crook.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Oxford and Cambridge.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Empire T., Oldham.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—T. R., Worthing.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—T. R., Colne.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
MARRIAGES OF MAYFAIR.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
MERRY WIDOW.—T. R., Torquay
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—O. H., Cork.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Preston.
MOTHER.—Grand T., Derby.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—T. R., Whitehaven.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Grand T., Chorley.
OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.—Treherbert.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Grand T., Doncaster.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Dudley.
PETE (S.).—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Metropole, Manchester.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—T. R., Aldershot.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—T. R., Worcester.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Grand T., Luton.
ROLLICKING RORY.—Queen's T., Dublin.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—O.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 6	One Year.....	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months.....	0 16 0
Three Months ...	0 6 6	Three Months....	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER.

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
8, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).

Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

VICTOR H. CRAWFORD.—*The clause referred to is a very unusual one, and in our opinion 90 per cent. of theatrical contracts would not contain such a clause.*

SPINDLES.—*Little Tich's first appearance at a London theatre, so far as we are able to discover, was at the Pavilion, Mile End, E., as King Mischief in the production of* Cinderella *on Dec. 27, 1886. Later he went to Drury Lane, and also to the Garrick in* Lord Tomnoddy.

HARRY BRAHAM.—(1) *Sophie Eyre died of heart disease at Naples on Oct. 29, 1892, and is no doubt buried there.* (2) *Fred Leslie died on Dec. 7, 1892, and was interred in Charlton Cemetery.* (3) *Kate Vaughan died on Feb. 21, 1903, in Johannesburg, where she is buried.* (4) *William Elton—not he who was lost in the Pegasus in 1843—died, we believe, in Sydney, N.S.W., and is buried there.* (5) *Charles Danby died on Sept. 7, 1906, and lies in Paddington Cemetery.* (6) *William Farren passed away in retirement at Siena, Italy, where he was buried.*

CHARLES BARRETT.—*Mr. William Terriss was assassinated when about to open the door of the Royal entrance to the Adelphi Theatre in Maiden-lane, Strand, on the evening of Dec. 16, 1897, previous to the performance of* Secret Service, *in which he was playing the hero. The murderer was a man named Richard Archer Prince, a super, who was sentenced to be confined in Broadmoor Asylum as a criminal lunatic during "Her Majesty's pleasure." The deceased actor, whose real name was Lewin, was forty-nine years of age.*

BOW PALACE.

The good houses which have been experienced here this week are to a considerable extent, no doubt, due to a very interesting set of pictures shown by the Palace Bioscope, dealing with that martyr of miscarried justice, Adolf Beck. The film, which is some 1,600 feet in length, was only obtained after much trouble and great expense, and deals with the arrest, prosecution, imprisonment, and release of the unfortunate man. It is really one of the most stirring stories ever staged for the cinematograph. Another very interesting item, unmentioned on the programme, was the declaration of election results during the evening by genial Mr. Harman, the manager, who has made himself so popular during his régime here.

The chief item in the bill is a miniature melodrama in three scenes, presented by Bernard Mervyn, entitled *Nick Carter*, which positively bristles with sensation. Imagine an old-time Adelphi melodrama potted down to a twenty-minute sketch, and you then have some conception of the intense excitement produced by the wonderful doings of "the man from Pinkerton's." What matters whether the plot is an impossible one, or whether the story be incongruous, or even whether dramatic situations have been too heavily handled, as long as the sketch serves its purpose in rivetting the attention of the audience, and this *Nick Carter* most certainly does. The conception of the name-part by Mr. Bernard Mervyn is certainly an excellent one, his restraint, in a rôle which might have been so easily exaggerated, being most praiseworthy.

Judge's cockatoos, parrots, and macaws were very entertaining, and the manner in which these birds executed tumbling feats, skirt-dancing, and other items showed very careful and patient training. One of the parrots danced quite naturally to the strains of the "Sizilietta" waltz. The Two Diamonds were well to the fore in a medley of harmony. They have a very tuneful number in "Silena." Styled as "Scotland's Representatives," the Bros. Lawrence have little pertaining to "the land o' cakes," excepting their costumes. They are both clever dancers, and were well received for some difficult steps neatly executed. Baker and Balfe are quite a good turn, the male partner being warmly applauded for his xylophone solo, "The Wee Macgregor." Also in the bill were the Seven Wulframs, with their tumbling sketch *Fun in a Café*; Grace Dudley, comedienne; and Lily Denville, in song and dance.

We noted in our last week's issue the immediate success at Collins's of the sketch, entitled *A Million and a Half*, produced at that house under the direction of Miss Lallie Forsyth. The name of the authoress, Miss Rita Carlyle, did not appear on the bill—a regrettable omission. She played the part of Delia Sinclair.

MISS MAY POULTON, a dashing principal boy, who has scored all along the line with Little and Darcy's pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor*, and who has had several tempting offers for pantomime, 1910 and 1911, to undertake the principal boy's part, will, at the termination of her present engagement, appear on the variety stage with a budget of smart up-to-date songs, written and composed specially for her by that well-known author and composer, Geo. Collins. Those who have heard the little lady sing "Ship ahoy," "Seaside," and "Somewhere" in pantomime will look forward to Miss Poulton's début on the halls with keen interest.

MME. YVETTE GUILBERT, as a "highly-taxed singer," states that her highest salary at the Empire was never above £480 for the week of six performances. "Nowadays," she says, "an artist of great reputation, of great popularity, of long years' standing, breaks a record if he commands and receives at the 'halls' a weekly salary of £300. But the joy of drawing high salaries is not unmixed any more, for, as the severe Surveyor of Taxes refuses to make any allowances concerning my travelling and hotel expenses in London, I am paying for my otherwise lovable sojourn of six weeks there annually the enormous tax of about £70, and I am even told that a higher taxation is to be expected if the actual elections will result in a Governmental victory."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BAYLY.—On Jan. 19, at 39, Lupus-street, S.W., to Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Bayly (Miss Katie Johnson), a son.

BOYLE.—Jan. 17, Mrs. W. J. Boyle (Eva Chadwick), wife of W. J. Boyle, manager, Salford Hippodrome, of a daughter.

DUNSCOMBE.—Saturday, Jan. 15, 1910, at 4, Banstead-street, Leeds, the wife of T. W. Dunscombe (Marie Tennant), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

PAYNE—BENNETT.—On Jan. 17, at the Church of St. Mark's, Wandsworth Common, by the Rev. E. J. Welch, cousin of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. J. F. G. Glossop, vicar, Douglas Payne, eldest son of Douglas Payne, Bromley, Kent, to Rosa, youngest daughter of Frederick Bennett, 33, Comyn-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

DEATHS.

BINT.—On Jan. 9, Sidney W. Bint, son of Billie and Kate Bint (one of the Sisters Leamar), Interment at Tooting in family grave. Rest, dear one.—MILLIE.

DAVIS.—Jan. 15, of pneumonia, Horace Davis, the dear husband of Ray Royal.

DAVIES.—Jan. 20, Charles James Davies, secretary of Royal General Theatrical Fund, in his 75th year.

GOOD.—Jan. 11, at Madeira, Dora Caird (Mrs. Graham Good), of consumption (late of "Florodora" company).

OATLEY.—On Jan. 15, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, cancer of heart, Maud Oatley, beloved sister of Alice Oakley, comedienne. Interred at Nunhead Cemetery, Jan. 20.

IN MEMORIAM

ANATO.—In ever-loving memory of Madame Nina Anato, wife of Mr. Walter Melbourne, who fell asleep Jan. 23, 1889.

BLAIR.—In ever-loving and regretful memory of "Haserde," John Joseph Blair, who practically died in harness on Jan. 18, 1908, over 30 years principal comedian and scenic artist at the old Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly. Now resting at Shooter's Hill. Notice inserted by his wife and

[*Photo by Reed.*

THE LATE MR. JOHN JOSEPH BLAIR (J. B. HANSARD).

daughter, Thespian House, 20, Union-crescent, Margate.

HAMILTON.—In loving memory of "Willie," beloved son of the late William Hamilton ("W. Hamilton's Excursions"), who passed away Jan. 25, 1894. Never forgotten by his loving mother.

HARRISON.—In remembrance of Fred L. Harrison of Fred and Lillie Harrison (duettists and dancers), who died on Jan. 9, 1904. "Do not forget me."

KITCHEN.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband Dick Kitchen, who passed away Jan. 21, 1907. Never forgotten by his loving wife HERMANCE.

KITCHEN.—In loving memory of my dear brother, Dick Kitchen, who passed away Jan. 21, 1907. Never forgotten by his sorrowing mother, father, and loving sister LIZZIE. To know him was to love him.

LAWRENCE (Joe).—In loving memory of my father, who died Jan. 24, 1909, Lawrence Barclay. "Gone but not forgotten."

LOCKHART.—In cherished and unfading memory of my beloved husband, George Lockhart, who passed away Jan. 24, 1904. The sweet memories of his true and loving heart remain always.

Oh, for one true tone of other days,
One glance of love like thine.

MELFORD.—In loving memory of Austin Melford, who died Jan. 23, 1908.

FOR SYMPATHY.

VANE.—Miss Ella Vane returns grateful thanks for kindness and sympathy shown her in her sad bereavement. Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Constance Collier—Saturday, Jan. 22.
Kitty Wager—Saturday, Jan. 22.
Rowland Hill—Monday, Jan. 24.
Walter Stanley—Monday, Jan. 24.
Lawrence Barclay—Monday, Jan. 24.
Bertha Kingston—Tuesday, Jan. 25.
Kathleen Cogan—Tuesday, Jan. 25.
Albert Voyce—Wednesday, Jan. 26.
Harry Bedford—Wednesday, Jan. 26.
James Howard—Wednesday, Jan. 26.
James Shields—Wednesday, Jan. 26.
Cecil Raleigh—Thursday, Jan. 27.
Felix Pitt—Thursday, Jan. 27.
Frank Allen—Friday, Jan. 28.
Mabel Mannering—Friday, Jan. 28.

MR. JOHNNY JOHNSTON, the Original Dandy, again gives evidence of his remarkable versatility, playing Dame, in his ninth pantomime as principal comedian, in *The Forty Thieves* for Messrs. Little and D'Arcy. Mr. Johnston has a tempting offer to go to Australia again and another for the States.

SATURDAY next (29th inst.) will be the last day of Connor's great circus at the Crystal Palace. This is the finest circus at the present moment in London, and the many and varied "turns" are extremely clever and refined, the clowns, in particular, being a source of great amusement to the children and the "grown-ups," their absurdities—*The Spanish Bullfight* and the *Costers' Derby*—being excruciatingly funny. The whole show, under the kindly management of Mr. F. J. Connor, goes with a swing, and has proved immensely popular. The performers include two wonderful juveniles—Little Mona and Douglas, daughter and son of Mr. Connor, and for children of such tender years their "turn" is certainly the best yet seen.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Adair, Mr. Frank
Alexander, Mr. C.
Anderson, Sisters
Anderson, Mr. Wm.
Beringer, Miss Esmé
Beere, Mrs. Bernard
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Biddall, Mr.
Bristow, Mr. Harry
Brough, Miss Fanny
Buckenham, Miss Marie
Burke, Miss M.
Burnett, Mr. Robert
Burton, Mr. Percy
Cavania, Miss M.
Cheeks, Mr.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Coffin, Mr. Hayden
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Cordite and Buffelo
Cropp, Miss Katie
Cumberland, Mr. E. J.
Dagmar, Miss Marie
Dale and O'Malley
Davidson, Mr. H.
Day, Mr. G. D.
Deller, Mr. M. K.
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Dornan, Mrs. Fred
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Evans, Mr. E.
Evans, Mr. Nash
Fitzgibbons, Mr. D. H.
Frankford and Maine
Garrick, Mr. Gus
Gerrard, Mr. E. S.
Glennie, Mr. Charles
Groves, Mrs. H.
Gwenn, Mr. Edmund
Hackenschmidt, Mr.
Harrison, Mr. John
Hast, Mrs. Walter
Hebden, Miss Lily
Herman, Mr. Tom
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Hinton, Mr. Chas.
Hopkins, Mr. T.
Homna, Mr. T.
Howard, Mr. Geo.
Howard, Mr. Paul
James, Mr. A. C.
Kearney, Miss Kate
Keeble and Reggies
Ker, Miss E. Innes
Kitchen, Mr. Fred
Kirke, Mrs. F. J.
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kwal Troupe
Kyasyas, The
Ladara, Miss
La Dor Troupe
Lang, Mr. M.
Lauder, Mr. Chas. O.
Leo, King
Leonard, Mr. Bert
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lindsay, Mr. H. W.
Loveth, Mr. Aidan
Lucas, Mr. Wm.
Maritana
Matthews, Mr. R. B.
Matthews (Tennessee G.
Mavius, Mrs. M. S.
McIntyre, Miss Mollie
Millis, Mr. F. W.
Molteno, Miss Agnes
Mortimer, Mr. Leonard
Mortyne, Miss Nellie
Mount, Mr. Lampton
Murphy, Mr. Michael
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Napier, Miss Belle
Norman, Mr. Norman V
Passmore, Mr. W.
Paull, Miss Mab
Paulton, Mr. Tom
Pavis, Miss Cissy
Payne, Mr. B. M.
Pearce, Mr. Albert
Phillips, Mr. Arthur
Phillips, Mr. Tom J.
Phillips, Mr. Wm.
Phinis and Ada
Polini, Miss H.
Polini, Mrs. H.
Pook, Mrs.
Pounds, Miss Louie
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Purchase, Mr. A.
Randall, Mr. Arthur
Rappo and Ella
Ray, Miss Bellie
Reid, Miss Nellie
Rhodehamel, Mr. C. W
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rowland, Mr. F.
Russell, Mr. Scott
Russell-Spiers, Mrs. F.
Scott, Mr. Maurice
Somos, Mr. R.
Sprake, Mr. H. J.
Staley, Mr. Andrew
Stanley, Mr. Walter
Starr, Mr. H.
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Storey, Mr. Fred
Studd, Mr. F. T.
Tarra, Lukio
Thorne, Miss Ellaline
Traill, Miss Kate
Travers, Mr. Nat
Valli, Miss Lulu
Vernon, Mr. Leslie
Walther, Herr Julius
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Weston, Mr. Harry
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Whyte, Dr. Carl
Willard's Sketch Co.
Williams, Mr.
Wilson, Miss Margaret
Yorke, Mr. Philip

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

A SPECIAL extra-turn matinée takes place at the Paragon to-day (22nd) with a view to discovering new talent. Mr. Jack E. Cohen, the hustling manager, informs us that he has a fine programme of budding artists.

THE Mannings, in their living marionette entertainment, made a very successful appearance at an entertainment given at Canonbury Tower Club (King Edward's Hall), and capital turns were also given by Charles Delvos, conjurer, and Finley Dunn, with the "Eton boy." Mr. Walter Dixon also brought along his company, consisting of the Misses Julia Larkins, Nellie Walker, Violet Bamberger, Gertrude Fryett, and little Doris Rex. Mr. Dixon and Miss Fryett were much applauded in their new and original dances, entitled "Valse Arcadia" and "Araby." Very amusing and clever was the dance of the Teddy bear and Doris Rex, a little girl of five.

THE Snow Family (skaters) and the George French Troupe (cyclists) finish to-night a most successful season at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, where they have been delighting large audiences nightly with their clever acts

THE Society Quartette, appearing this week at Dewsbury in Harry Roxbury's pantomime, *Mother Goose*, are undoubtedly a hit. One of them (Miss Bessie Esmond) makes a fine boy, and scores with her song, "Ship, ahoy!" She has received several offers for next season

JOHN CLEMPERT, who is now on a voyage to South America, is enjoying himself immensely on board, joining in every kind of sport, and having a nice sea-bath every morning.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MARIMON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR
FOR THE SKIN
Produces soft, fair, delicate skin, heals all cutaneous eruptions, and insures a lovely delicate complexion to all who use it.
2/3, 4/6, of Stores and Chemists.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5 000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.
To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily. 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts,
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 8.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Twice Daily, at 2 and 7.30.
"ALADDIN."
The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices. The most Magnificent Production and the Funniest Comedians ever seen at the Lyceum.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats. Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FRED MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Four Matinées week commencing Jan. 24, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."
For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
MR ERNEST STEVENS and MR R. C. BUCHANAN
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, Jan. 24, Mr. Peter Davey presents his Successful Pantomime, "BLUE BEARD," twice nightly at 7 and 9; Matinée on Wednesday.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
CONNOR'S CIRCUS.
Connor's Grand Circus, Twice Daily; last performance Sat. next. Panto., "Cinderella," 7.30, Wed., Thur., and Sat., 2.30 and 7.30 p.m. Skating on Monster Rink (3 sessions): Hockey Matches, Weds. and Sats. Giant Tree, Toys for Every Child. Ladies Orchestra, Organ, Zoo, &c.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
Six Bros. Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps," Mons. Foot-Gers, Lil Hawthorne, Hilda Jacobsen, Phœbe Mercer and Co., Four Netherlands, Dora Martini, Burt Shepard, Wilfred Burnand, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Managing-Director, JESSE SPARROW.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
"The Midnight London Express," the Two Anartos, Marie Thecla, Swan and Vesta, Radena Dey, Waldo and Wade, Sadie Simpson, Three Sisters Grovini, Fred Groves, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Armand De Lamar's Indiana Troupe.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Marie Lloyd, Austral Trio, Florence Yaymen, Marie Pera and Co., in "Two Doors and a Passage," Wilfred Burnand, Queenie May, Albert Mackelvin, Chris Van Bern, Ruffell's Bioscope, Lionel Rignold and Co., in "What Happened to Jones."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Jan. 24, 1910:—
Jas. Hare and Co. in "Wrong 'Uns," Louis Taylor and Co. in "Adder's Tooth," Barn and Bardell, Violet Sheeley Trio, The Ellesmeres, Frazer, Iris, and French, Hardy Palm, Grant and Stewart, Harry Zetter, Pictures, Three Romas, Lydia Dreams, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Jan. 24: Fred Maitland and Co., Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Evelyn Beresford and Co., Tom Woottwell, Ralph and Nellie Howard, Hiram Travers, "Cyclumina," Three Favourites, Sadie Simpson, Brian Rochford, Dorothy Dare, Sisters Lawler, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sats. 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Sats. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assist.-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Managers, MORRIS ABRAHAMS and CHARLES HECTOR.
Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10, and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30: Mabel Le Ray, Devon and Earle, Bioscope, Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, Marie Blythe, The Ne wMacs, Syd Crossley, Bros. Horne, Jordan and Harvey, Bert Finton.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
New Patriotic Ballet.
"OUR FLAG."
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
De Biere, Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, Gardner and Stoddard, Ines and Taki, Hills Mitchelson, "On the Heath," Jury's Pictures of the World's Events, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square)
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Clark and Hamilton, Johnson and Hart, Wilma, Webb Bros., Vindabonas, Harry Allister, Ollioms and his Page, Bioscope, Fanny Brough and Co. in a little farce by Malcolm Watson, &c. Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and Co., in new play, "The Knife," by Henry Arthur Jones; Vesta Tilley, Margaret Cooper, Tschin Maa Troupe, Election Results and Topical Pictures on Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme,
Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD
Joe Peterman's Co. present "The Belle of the Orient," Geo. Formby, Arthur Slater, T. E. Dunville, Max Waldon, Ian Colquhoun, Selbo, The Gothams, Jordan and Harvey, Victoria Monks, Rachel Walker, Susie and Protti, Gintaro Japanese juggler, Tom Woottwell, Muriel Harding, Bert Woodward, Sisters Crovini, Bioscope. Open 7.20. Saturday matinées, at 2.15.

TIVOLI.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, T. E. Dunville, Lil Hawthorne, George Formby, Millie Payne, Gus Elen, Sam Mayo, Cris Van Bern, May Fairclough, Les Frasettis, Sisters Carina, Clifton and Wallace, King and Benson, Ida Barr, and the Bioscope.
Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Between Blackfriars and Temple Stations (District Railway).
Estd. and Mangd. by the Corporation of London.
Principal, W. H. Cummings, Mus.Doc., Dub.F.S.A.
Violoncello Scholarship, £75 per annum.
Free tuition and maintenance.
Names of candidates must be sent to the Secretary at the School before Feb. 1.
H. SAXE WYNDHAM, Secretary.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
Students may joint at any time.
Jan. 31. Students' Concert at 5 o'clock.
Admission tickets and prospectus may be had on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building), HIS MAJESTY'S, OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH, OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD., Bombay;
or
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM. — CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 4000.
This Hall
To Let for Various Dates in 1910-1911, Including next Christmas Season.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, or Variety Entertainments.
For terms and conditions, apply, EDMUND W. BEECH, C.A., 37, Temple-street, Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRES.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager. Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE
Proprietors, BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
RE-OPENS,
Monday, March 21, 1910.
Vacant Dates.
April 4, onward, to July 25 (inclusive).
(May 16 and 23 excepted.)
August and September filled in, vacancies onward.
First-class No. 1 Companies only.
Apply to GEO. H. HARROP, as above.
Silence a Polite Negative.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. SCHOLEY.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
Wanted, First-class Attraction for March 7.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England—Sunday Times.
Vacant dates for Light Comedy or Dramas of High-class, March 28 till April 16.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE
Wanted, Companies.
March 7,
April 25,
May 2, and 30.
Autumn dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1910.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. MANAGER

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, lavatories, balcony. Electric light and heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the SUPERINTENDENT.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
First Vacant Date, Feb. 21.
Wanted First-Class Pantomime for 5 or 6 weeks for Christmas, 1910 and 1911.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE, PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of WILLIAM MORTON.
1909-10 engagements: Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Co.; George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in "Merrie England"; Annie Hughes, in "The Chorus Lady"; Robert Courteidge's Company, in "The Arcadians"; Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliot, and Co.; Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; The Moody-Manners No. 1 Co. (two visits); Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c. Pantomime, "Mother Goose," at Christmas, in conjunction with J. F. Elliston.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Feb. 7-28, Easter Week, for Musical Play.
Address, WM. MORTON.

HULL.—Correspondent Required to supply Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street Strand W.C.

KIRKCALDY. — PUBLIC HALLS.
NEW YEAR'S WEEK, 1911.
To Let, for the week commencing Dec. 31, 1910, the Adam Smith Hall, together with Committee Rooms and Appurtenances, except the Refreshment Bar. Tenders, stating the amount of rent offered, to be lodged with the Town Clerk, Kirkcaldy, by Feb. 12, the Tenders being for rent only, the electric light being paid for separately.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Feb. 7, 8, 9 (?). Three Nights, March 7, 21, Six Nights Each.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Feb. 28, onwards, with exception.
Ask Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson his verdict.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
This week, Miss ZENA DARE.
Next week, Mr. MARTIN HARVEY.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Feb. 21, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. DORRILL, Managing-Director, Silence a polite negative.

PECKHAM.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Crown Theatre weekly.—Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Musical Attractions Required for Feb. 7, March 7, April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 25, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded Houses Nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Miss Emma Hutchison and Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Co., "Don," from Haymarket, Criterion Theatres, "The Little Damozel," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Proud Prince," "Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Ellison's Pantomime, &c. No vacant Spring Date.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER (Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALES OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era Weekly"), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND,
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held on the Stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Monday, Feb. 7, 1910, at 12 o'clock noon, to receive the report of the committee and the accounts for the year 1909.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree in the Chair.
The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753, Gerrard.
Complaints having been made of the non-receipt of Voting Papers, members are hereby notified that they can be supplied with the same on application to the Secretary at once.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 5d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Alexander, Miss Fyfe ..... March 27, 1909
Anderson, Mr. William ..... May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Barclay, Miss Lila ..... July 24, 1909
Barratt, Mr. Lester ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred ..... July 3, 1909
Beatrice, Miss May ..... March 27, 1909
Black, Mr. Kenneth ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Dr. Walford ..... April 3, 1909
Bostock, Mr. N. C. ..... April 10, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E. ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Braceweli, Late Mr. Joseph ..... April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Brooke, Miss Decima ..... April 10, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. Lewis ..... March 6, 1909
Brownie, Miss Madge ..... March 13, 1909
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan ..... July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Campbell, Late Mr. Denis ..... March 6, 1909
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Caselli, Sistors ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia ..... May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Charcot ..... Feb. 13, 1909
Clyfford, Miss Kathleen ..... Feb. 6, 1909
Colyer, Miss Kitty ..... June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B. ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Coquelin, Late M. ..... Jan. 30, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W. ..... April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward ..... June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald ..... May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence ..... July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Darling, Jessie ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Davy, Mr. R. H. ..... May 8, 1909
De Frece, Mr. Maurice ..... Feb. 20, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur ..... April 3, 1909
Diamond, Master Cliff ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel ..... May 15, 1909
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Elliott, Mr. G. H. ..... March 20, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Foote, Miss Doris ..... March 6, 1909
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Fullbrook, Mr. William ..... March 6, 1909
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence ..... July 10, 1909
Graham, Mr. J. F. ..... May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie ..... May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George ..... June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles ..... May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Harrison, Late Miss Fanny ..... Feb. 20, 1909
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine ..... June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian ..... July 3, 1909
Hodson, Miss Mildred ..... March 6, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P. ..... July 3, 1909
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert ..... May 29, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida ..... July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie ..... April 10, 1909
Kennedy, Mr. Edmund ..... March 27, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ..... Sept. 25, 1909
Knight, Miss Agnes ..... July 10, 1909
Kyrle, Miss Judith ..... May 1, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard ..... April 24, 1909
Lawrence, Mr. Herbert ..... March 13, 1909
Lee, Mr. James Langdon ..... March 20, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. Philip ..... April 10, 1909
Lester, Mr. Mark ..... March 20, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart ..... May 22, 1909
Lyndon, Mr. Denis ..... March 27, 1909
Lyric, Miss Dora ..... March 6, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Mackney, Late Mr. E. W. ..... April 3, 1909
Manville, Mr. Jerrold ..... May 22, 1909
Matcham, Mr. A. W. ..... June 26, 1909
Matthews, Mr. Cyprian H. ..... March 6, 1909
Mavis, Miss Mabel ..... March 6, 1909
McNeil, Miss Sheila ..... April 17, 1909
Melford, Mr. Austin G. ..... April 16, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Millais, Miss Helena ..... April 3, 1909
Modjeska, Late Mme. Helene ..... May 8, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy ..... July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W. ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh ..... June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Miss Marjorie ..... March 13, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B. ..... April 10, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Noyle, Miss Pearl ..... July 10, 1909
Overton, Mr. Norman A. ..... July 3, 1909
Pass, Miss Dora ..... July 24, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R. ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Pickard, Mr. A. E. ..... Feb. 13, 1909
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Mr. Levant M. ..... May 22, 1909
Rickards, Mr. Harry ..... May 29, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold ..... March 27, 1909
Robina, Miss Fanny ..... July 31, 1909
Rodway, Mr. P. ..... May 22, 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel ..... July 10, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred ..... June 26, 1909
Russell-Davies, Mr. A. ..... May 22, 1909
Salambos, The ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ..... Oct. 16, 1909
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur ..... May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford ..... April 17, 1909
Stanmore, Mr. Frank ..... May 29, 1909
Stuart, Miss Eva ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Studt, Mr. Henry ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Thane, Mr. Edward ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Thompson, Miss Cissie ..... March 13, 1909
Thorne, Miss Ellaline ..... May 29, 1909
Thornton, Miss Maudie ..... March 20, 1909
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite ..... July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Vezin, Mr. Hermann ..... March 20, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta ..... April 10, 1909
Vint, Mr. Leon ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold ..... May 22, 1909
Ward, Miss Maud E. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Warner, Late Mr. Charles ..... Feb. 13, 1909
Warren, Mr. Charles ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E. ..... July 10, 1909
Wilkie, Mr. Allan ..... March 6, 1909
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles ..... July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E. ..... Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Woolf, Miss Gipsy ..... March 13, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H. ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly ..... July 10, 1909
Yole, Miss Patty ..... June 26, 1909

Copies of the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1909; other dates double price.

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era," Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Black Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in Stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. nr. Hippo.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER, The Era" Buildings 5, Tavistock-st. Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1910.

VOTES FOR ACTRESSES.

The Actresses' Franchise League has now moved into its offices in Adelphi Terrace, and the movement numbers amongst its supporters some of the cleverest and ablest of our actresses. It is therefore beyond dispute that the question of votes for women has been taken up seriously by the female side of the profession.

The fact is extremely interesting to the student of contemporary politics. The female franchise movement is a phenomenon which gives one seriously to think. Its manifestations suggest not an opinion held by a few extremists and eccentrics, but a general tendency in the most able and intelligent of a whole sex. The subjection of women has been frequently discussed since JOHN STUART MILL wrote his remarkable book on the subject; but, in the old days, female suffrage was advocated only by an insignificant minority. The class of what was called "strong-minded women" was separate from the great mass of the female population, and was chiefly composed of the elderly, the unmarried, and the unattractive. There was a strong presumption, in many cases, that the attitude towards man of hostility, or any rate rivalry, was the result of disappointment. It was tacitly agreed that the end and aim of every woman was to "catch a husband"; and the spinster was branded with the offensive epithet "old maid," and regarded with pity, if not contempt. The independent woman was an exception; and the liberty now allowed to young girls and their excursions into the male domain of action would have scandalised the matrons of the last generation.

The remarkable part of the female suffrage movement is that while its aims are really generous, its methods are selfish and uncivic. The attitude of the militants is avowedly opportunist. No matter if the safety of the State be imperilled by a proposition, the suffragists are ready to support the party advocating that proposition, provided the party will support their claim to the vote. This somewhat cynical attitude is no doubt the expression of a deep bitterness, a very resolute purposes, and an extremely ardent desire for the vote. There can be no doubt that, rightly or wrongly, the women who earn their own living, the independent and self-supporting women who have escaped from the economic conditions which are really the mainstay of our marriage customs, and have had to leave the safe shelter of domesticity and to go out into the hard battle of the outside world, feel themselves deeply aggrieved at not being allowed to use their voices in the management of the public business.

It is curious, however, that actresses should be exercised in this direction. The artist, as artist, is often an indifferent citizen. There is a certain detachment from the material side of things in the task of distilling beauty, or moral meaning, or sharp significance from life. But the higher grade of artist has not been so much in the thrall of his craft as the lower; and, in proportion as we find the artist rising in social estimation, and becoming more domestic, provident, and considerate, we find him or her taking more interest in social and political questions. The prosperity of the country is of as much importance to the artist as to the man of business; and there is no more reason why he or she should not form opinions on politics than there is against the action of the manufacturer, the tradesman, or the mechanic.

The actress is not, as she once was, sequestrated from the main currents of life. She is emphatically "in the swim," with the advantage that she has more time than most workers have for the study of political and social questions. But her interest in female suffrage is an entirely generous and unselfish interest. The actress, by reason of her favoured position in society, has already conquered most of the advantages which the suffragists demand for the whole sex. She stands on an equality with man in competing for employment. There are as many leading actresses as leading actors; and, in calculating salaries, the *entrepreneur* is not influenced by any fear of inferior work. The defects of temperament which have been noticed by the Post Office authorities, and have somewhat discouraged their employment of female labour, do not affect the art of acting. It is difficult to see how the interests of actresses could be in any way affected by legislation. If the "minimum wage" ever comes into operation, it will be brought about by a combination in the nature of a trade union, not by an Act of Parliament. Perhaps we ought to except from this judgment the alterations in the law of divorce which are demanded in the "woman's charter"; but, on the whole, the actress has a position which is enviable compared to that of many classes of women workers.

It is, therefore, a generous feeling of solidarity with the rest of the sex, a love of abstract justice, and a sympathy with their suffering sisters which has led our actresses to establish a Franchise League. That the women will eventually obtain the vote few thoughtful persons will deny. Their persistence, their earnestness, and their indomitable energy make it certain that, sooner or later, they will induce one or other of our great political parties to assist them to obtain the franchise. And it will be to the credit of actresses as a class that, while themselves needing little improvement in their lot which can be gained by legislation, they were warm-hearted and disinterested enough to join in the demand made by their sex.

"COMING HOME."

A Play, in One Act, by Mary O'Neill, Produced for the First Time at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 1910.

Daniel Braithwaite .....MR. LAURENCE HANRAY
Christopher Talbot ....MR. P. PERCEVAL CLARKE
John Kirkham .....MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Sally Kirkham .....MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON
James Scott .....MR. CECIL BROOKING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is the latest production by the Repertory Company here, and tells in simple but intensely dramatic style the story of a shepherd, Braithwaite, whose wife within a year of their marriage had gone on a visit to her mother and was killed by an accident to the coach on which she was returning to her husband's home among the Fells in the Lake District. The tragic event unhinges the mind of the shepherd to the extent that with each recurring anniversary of the date he makes elaborate preparations for his wife's return, decking out the room with curtains, &c., in the style she had been fond of. Though twenty years have elapsed this simple ceremony is gone through yearly, and several of the neighbours come from their cottages among the hills to take their part in the reception of the young wife as they had been doing on the night she met her death. One of their methods of quieting the mind of the bereaved husband is to administer a sleeping draught in his ale, so that he will not wake till the melancholy anniversary is past, and his mind resumes its normal state. The tragic intensity of the play is shown in greater relief by the young tourist Talbot, who accidentally seeks shelter at the cottage on the night of the "party," and is at a loss to understand the melancholy aspect of the assisting neighbours and the careworn appearance of the shepherd husband as contrasted with the portrait of the young wife, which he proudly exhibits to his visitor. The play was well received, and excellently acted by Mr. Laurence Hanray as the bereaved husband, Mr. P. Perceval Clarke as the tourist visitor, Mr. Campbell Gullan as an elderly and cynical neighbour with a kind heart, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as his daughter, and Mr. Cecil Booking as a friend who comes with his concertina to try to enliven the proceedings.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, JAN. 5. — At the Grand Theatre, Manager Van Eysden revived Moser and Von Schonthan's farce, *Onze Vrouwen* (*Unsere Frauen*), for Christmas, and the New Year's programme consisted of the new three-act comedy from the German, *Het Donkere Punt* (*The Dark Point*). *Onze Vrouwen* is well known, but mention may be made of the careful and tasty mounting, and the excellent acting of Mrs. Van Eysden and Messrs. Poolman, Van der Lugt, Melsert, and Vrolyk. *The Dark Point* is a farce of the flimsiest sort, with an attempt at pathos in some of the scenes, but it made the holiday public merry. The authors are Kadelburg and Presber, and it hails from the Lustspielhaus, Berlin. Messrs. Poolman and De Yong created much fun, and Mr. Vervoorn made a hit as the negro.

Two very interesting performances have been given by the dramatic company, Het Tooneel (The Stage), on off-nights at the Grand Theatre. The first of these was of Bernard Shaw's strong play, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, and the second of *De Vrouw in het Spel* (*The Woman is the Cause of it All*), of Clyde Fitch. Mrs. Caroline Van Dommelen as Vivie gave a sharply defined and powerful interpretation. Mr. Louis Chrispyn as Frank was good; and Mrs. Van Kerckhoven repeated her vivid and successful impersonation of Mrs. Warren. The performance of Clyde Fitch's strong and decidedly clever drama, *De Vrouw in het Spel* was a success; Mrs. Van Dommelen as Claire Forster gave a fine characterisation, both as to make-up and acting; Mrs. de Vries as the loving and devoted wife, Margaret Rolfe, was womanly and full of feeling. Praise must be given to Misses Van Dommelen and De Vries' interpretation of the entire third act. Messrs. Gimberg and Chrispyn were effective as Thompson, the lawyer, and as Julian Rolfe respectively. Clyde Fitch's play promises to be a drawing card for Het Tooneel, and Willem Royaards, its manager, may be congratulated on the success achieved by the production.

THE series of German operas to be given on "off-nights" at the Grand by Manager Otto, of the Elberfeld Theatre, in the course of the season, have been opened by a fine rendering of Wagner's *Siegfried*. The title-rôle was sung by the renowned Dutch tenor Urlus, who gave a masterly creation. The crowded house testified by cheers and applause to the triumph obtained by Urlus and other artists, and cheers were given for Manager Otto, and for Mr. Poutsma, the scenic painter, and co-director of the performance.

HENRI DE VRIES, the Dutch actor, who made himself so popular in England, in *A Case of Arson*, is to pay a short visit to his Fatherland, and to appear again, for a brief number of performances, with the Dutch Dramatic Company, of Amsterdam.

MR. AND MRS. H. B. LEVY AND J. E. CARDWELL'S company is the attraction at the New Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, in *The House that Jack Built*. Miss Daisy Wood is pleasing as Jack; and Miss Jennie Marsden effective as Gretchen. Doyle and Gibson provide the fun as Scraggs and Scraggles, and also appear in a speciality act. The chorus is strong and the scenery much admired.

A SHAKESPEARE READING.

A reading of *Much Ado About Nothing*, under the direction of Mr. Walter Pearce, proved very enjoyable to a large audience at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock-place, W.C., on Sunday evening, when the spreading of the knowledge of Shakespeare through the process of an intelligent and illuminative rendering of the text of the comedy named was undertaken by a number of ladies and gentlemen of the stage, who kindly gave their services by permission of their respective managers. Once more we listened to the war of wits between Signior Benedick and my dear Lady Disdain, who is really fencing her heart round with the irony of epigram to keep out that little intruder, Cupid. Miss Ella Erskine, with charming grace and eloquence made us feel this, though she was always showing us the masculine agility in the use of all the weapons of repartee and banter with which the Bard specially endows this exquisitely-drawn character. Raillery, satire, coquetry are forgotten in the torrent of indignation that fills the breast of sweet Beatrice at the contumely and insult thrust on her gentle kinswoman and friend, Hero, by the much too easily deceived Claudio, and her outburst to Benedick, "Kill Claudio," was given true dramatic effect. Miss Erskine has distinction and style, and in addition to looking the part exactly, would play it with real understanding and charm if we may judge by the way she dealt with the text on Sunday evening. The badinage of Benedick, his severe satire on the married state, and his ready yielding to the insistence of heartfelt devotion were all capitally suggested in Mr. Walter Pearce's reading, and it would be an interesting experience to see this intellectually endowed young actor in the part. Mr. George Fitzgerald caught the light spirit of the character of Leonato in the earlier scenes, which were in excellent contrast to the bitter reflections of the church scene. Mr. Douglas Imbert put plenty of fire into his indignant accusation of Hero, and the suavity of that Shakespearean villain, Don John, was well suggested by Mr. Frederick Annerley, who gave the text with admirable distinctness. Mr. Shakespeare Stewart did double duty by singing prettily and expressively Balthazar's song, "Sigh no more, ladies," and playing with considerable unction the part of Verges. The scenes in which Dogberry and Verges appeared were quite a popular success; and Mr. Stanley Lathbury scored most unmistakably as the irrelevant ass and shallow fool, whose unreason has so much to do with the unravelling of the plot. Mr. C. Leveson-Lane did extremely well as Don Pedro, and a word of praise may be given to Mr. Alan Bellingham and Mr. Patric Curwen for their readings of the parts of Conrade and Borachio; and Mr. Cecil Pearson's deep, sonorous utterances were of advantage in the part of the Friar. Miss Agnes Brayton's voice vibrated with emotion in the poignant protestations of Hero, and the young actress would be ideal in the part. Mr. Dickson Kenwin, Mr. Cyril Percy, and Mr. Rathmell Wilson, who read the stage directions, all did useful work; and the parts of Margaret and Ursula were intelligently interpreted by Miss Isabel Ohmead and Miss Lily Kerr.

KINGSWAY THEATRE.

A small but appreciative audience assembled at the Kingsway Theatre last Monday to enjoy Mr Rudolf Besier's *Don*, which had, prior to this date, made its mark at both the Haymarket and the Criterion. But before the comedy was seen Mr. Harold Montague was called upon to give a humorous pianologue. There are many men, and women, too, who attempt to work at the piano. Few succeed. Mr. Harold Montague is one of the limited number of entertainers at the piano we can listen to with patience. On Monday his thirty minutes' contribution was a delight to everyone. Mr. Montague started by telling us about a new disease which he has labelled "Posteritis." Briefly, it serves as a pretext to weave the titles of many popular commodities advertised on the hoardings into song, and very cleverly it is done, too. The pianologist gets to telling a story about some ladies who had asked him to entertain them. The fair sex present paid not the slightest attention to his ditties, but audibly discussed Baby—what he had done, what he was going to do, and in the middle of conjecturing as to what he might do were disconcerted by the song coming to an end. One brilliant lady saved the situation by exclaiming, "Oh, please do sing again." The pianologist obliged, and the baby chatter was resumed. And of such is polite society. Mr. Montague's "trifle," "The night when the old cow died," is topical and amusing, but not in his best vein. His very next item amply compensates for a trifling lapse from the standard we expect of this artist. This is an attempt to show how a gentleman—a good piano player—would render "The Blue Bells of Scotland" after he has learned to work the typewriter. Mr. Montague contends that there would be no love songs if all girls were ugly. Doubtless he is right. Anyhow, he proceeds to give his own idea of a love lyric set to a hymn tune. Very good indeed, and laughable, too. Our pianologist shows us that he is an "expert conjurer" as well as a good pianist and singer. Mr. Montague does his sleigh-of-hand tricks without the aid of material objects, and the sublime effrontery of this item of his programme "brings down the house," and the curtain as well, when the charms of "Mary McGee" have been recorded. A fine show—short, sharp, and quite the sort of thing to put the grumpiest of audiences into a good temper for anything that may follow.

The reception of *Don* in its new quarters was of the heartiest. Don himself is unselfish and lovable, and if occasionally he fails to convince he at least succeeds in touching the heart of the listener. The comedy is admirably acted by Mr. Charles Quartermaine in the title-part, by Mr. James Hearn as his fussy yet well-intentioned father, by Miss Frances Ivor as Mrs. Bonington, Miss Charlotte Granville as Mrs. Sinclair, Miss Ellen O'Malley as Ann, Miss Christine Silver as Elizabeth Thompsett, and by Mr. Norman McKinnel as a stern and none too lovable husband.

MR. J. W. TURNER'S opera company played *Martha* at the Crewe Opera House on Monday. Miss Sarah Williams, in excellent voice, received quite an ovation for her rendering of Lady Harriet Durham; Miss Jessie Dennis was successful in the rôle of Nancy; Mr. F. J. Hargrave as Lionel was good, his vocal efforts meeting with approval; Mr. Tom Griffiths made a powerful Plunkett; and Mr. George Ridding a capable Lord Tristram. Mr. Arthur Fisher being successful as the Sheriff. The répertoire includes *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Faust*.

MR. GEORGE MUNRO and company are at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Dunfermline. *Hamlet* was performed on Monday. Mr. Munro gives a scholarly interpretation of the Prince; Mr. Charles Kindsley makes a characteristic Claudius; Mr. Ivor Barnard is a commendable Polonius; Mr. Willoughby deserves praise as Horatio; Mr. E. Digges gives an effective interpretation of the dual parts of Laertes and Player King; Mr. W. Laurence is a good Ghost; Miss Doris Horrocks supplies a clever and charming rendering of Ophelia; and Miss Gertrude Littlewood makes a dignified Gertrude. All the other parts are in capable hands, and the piece is well staged. The week's répertoire includes *Othello*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Macbeth*.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA BARRICADE."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Paul Bourget, Produced at the Vaudeville on Jan. 7.

Louise Maíret .....MLLE. YVONNE DE BRAY
Aline Derivière .....MLLE. CORMON
Mme. Gaucheron .....MLLE. ELLEN ANDRÉE
Cécile Tardieu .....MLLE. CARÈZE
Breschard .....M. LÉRAND
Langouet .....M. GAUTHIER
Gaucheron .....M. JOFFRE
Garreau .....M. LEVESQUE
Thibeuf .....M. BARON, FILS
Ph. Breschard .....M. LACROIX
Tardieu .....M. LUGUET
Comte Bonneville .....M. LARMANDIE
Tranchant .....M. VERTIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Jan. 13.—M. Paul Bourget, the well-known novelist, author of *La Barricade*, the new comedy produced at the Vaudeville, is in luck in so far that his may come at an opportune moment. Here, in France, all eyes are centred on the coming elections in England, whilst we, too, are making preparations for the coming fight in May prox. No doubt M. Bourget reasoned that we have been so satiated in recent years with adultery and *ménages à trois*, that, by way of a change, he would give us a work dealing with a social question, or, rather with Socialism. It is not for me to say in how far he was right to use the stage as a rostrum to explain his political creed. But he was certainly wise in the selection of the house that launched his work. In life, everything is a question of attitude. If that piece had seen the footlights in a popular quarter here, say in Montmartre or in Belleville, it would have been received with shrieks and hisses, and an obligato accompaniment of rotten cabbages, which, according to the thrifty Parisian, are even cheaper than addled eggs. But in the fashionable Vaudeville, M. Bourget had nothing to fear. It is frequented by people who pay their rent, their taxes, their tradesmen's bills, and now and then even give something to a poor devil in the streets. As to the title of the play, it is, of course, symbolic, and represents the struggle between Capital and Labour, or, rather, the fight between masters and trade unions. M. Bourget unhesitatingly sides with the employers, and his hero, M. Breschard, is a paragon of virtue. He is a furniture manufacturer, and through hard work and scrupulous honesty has, in the course of years, amassed a fortune. But a virtuous furniture man can also have moments of weakness. Many years ago he adopted a young orphan, gave her a place in his factory, and finally made her his mistress. Be it said in the man's honour that he is anxious to put things straight by marrying Louise; and it is here that the trouble arises. In fact, there are two reasons why he is prevented from carrying out his resolution. The first is that he has a son, Philippe Breschard, engaged to a young lady belonging to a painfully respectable family. These good people are disgusted with Breschard, senior, not because he seduced Louise, but because he wants to marry her. A mésalliance! What would the neighbours say? The second reason is that Mlle. Louise is not at all anxious to become Mme. Breschard. She has fallen secretly in love with Langouet, a good-for-nothing, employed as foreman in the establishment. It is this Langouet, who, on the wrong side of the barricade, and, jealous of his employer, tries to effect the latter's ruin. Langouet tampers with the machinery, and finally organises a strike that will prevent Breschard from carrying out an important order for America. But, according to M. Bourget, all workmen are not bad. There is one exception, bearing the name of Gaucheron, an elderly man, who talks a lot in the piece and acts as a kind of gramophone overflowing with fine sentiments. For all that, he sometimes hits the nail on the head, especially when he tells his fellow-workmen that all this talk about freedom means nothing, inasmuch as there is a worse tyrant than the employer, *i.e.*, the man at the head of the Trades Union, who prevents those willing to work from earning their living. But his beautiful speeches are of no avail. The strike is declared, and when the curtain rises on the third act things look threatening. Gaucheron and a few other men have not joined the strike. They are continuing their work as if nothing had occurred, when the strikers, led by Langouet, enter the workshop, smash everything, and want to set fire to the place, whereupon the frightened Louise, in order to save Breschard, confesses to Langouet her love for him. This pathetic scene came very apropos, for the action was beginning to drag. The fourth act is very weak. Breschard, thus far, was only a good man. Now he has risen to the rank of an archangel, and becomes perfectly sublime. The angelic gramophone-Gaucheron says to him: "You cannot take back your workmen who struck work and damaged your property. Yet, you may not let them starve. You, therefore, must supply them with sufficient funds to start a co-operative factory among themselves!" And Breschard, who considers it a brilliant idea to help his former employees in setting up a rival establishment, proposes to carry out that idea. Master and man then cast admiring glances at one another. "Ah!" calls out our gramophone friend, "if only all masters were like you!" whereupon the archangel replies: "Ah! if only all workmen were like you!" And, whilst they fall into one another's arms the curtain falls. And the sentimental ladies in the boxes and stalls, who know nothing about workmen and masters, applaud vigorously; and as I worked my way through the crowd I heard some of them say: "Why should not all masters and men be like Breschard and Gaucheron? It is a beautiful piece, and gratis performances should be given to the Paris workman." Thus spoke these good ladies, but I would be sorry to try the experiment.

THE Opéra-Comique have given us a magnificent revival of *Phryne*. It is one of Camille Saint-Saëns' well-known works, but, for some unknown reason, was withdrawn from the répertoire. In fact, it has not been produced here since 1893. MM. Augé and Lassus, the librettists, have not dealt with the Phryne, who, arraigned before a tribunal for impiety, threw off her garments, and so impressed her judges by her beauty that they acquitted her on the spot. The Phryne in M. Saint-Saëns's opera was also a courtesan, the mistress of the famous sculptor Praxiteles, who made a statue of her, which was placed in the Temple of Apollo at Delphi. In the opera she has fallen in love with a youth called Nicias, persecuted by his uncle Dicéphile. Phryne bamboozles the latter by making believe she is Aphrodite, and, whilst he is at her feet, calls in Nicias and his friends, who deride him. The work was excellently sung and staged.

"L'ANGE GARDIEN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. André Picard, Produced at Antoine's on Jan. 19.

Thérèse Duvigneau .....MLLE. ANDRÉE MEGARD
Suzanne Trélart ....MLLE. MARGUERITE CARLIER
Mme. Alvarey .....MLLE. OSBORNE
Mme. de Montel .....MLLE. MASSART
Félicie .....MLLE. DINARD
Gounouillac .....M. GEMIER
Frédéric Trélart .....M. COLAS
Georges Charmier .....M. PIERRE MAGNIER
Alvaray .....M. ROYER
De Montel .....M. MAXENCE
Charles .....M. MERET

PARIS, THURSDAY, Jan. 20.—The heroine in the play is Thérèse Duvigneau, a widow of about thirty. She has been married only two years, and during that time she has suffered so much that she has a horror of man, a horror of love, a horror of life in general. We meet her in the opening scene at the house of her cousin, Suzanne Trélart, the wife of Frédéric Trélart and the mistress of the painter Georges Charmier. In that milieu Thérèse feels ill at ease. Everybody in the château except the husband knows of the intrigue between Georges and Suzanne, and all smile indulgently at the loving couple. But Thérèse does not like this intrigue, and becomes, so to say, her cousin's guardian angel, inasmuch as she watches over her, and prevents her as much as possible being alone with Georges. The latter, of course, hates this guardian angel; nor is she sympathetic to the others, with the exception of the simple-minded Gounouillac, who has lost his heart to her. One night Georges and Suzanne are alone in the hall. They promptly turn off the light and fall into each other's arms. Suddenly, for the space of a few seconds, the light is switched on, and the person who did this must have seen them. But who is this person? If it is the husband Suzanne is lost; if it is Thérèse the position is just as critical, for she is capable of anything. The lovers are not long in doubt. The next day Thérèse, after having worried them by unpleasant allusions to the incident of the previous night, frankly confesses that she committed that act, and she tells Suzanne that unless Georges leaves the château that very afternoon, never to return, she will acquaint the husband of what she had seen. Suzanne begs, cries, implores, threatens, all in vain; Thérèse is inexorable, and the heart-broken Suzanne informs Georges that the worst is likely to happen. Georges, however, of a fighting nature, asks Thérèse for a private interview. He knows full well that any attempt to soften her will prove fruitless, but instinct tells him that with a nature like Thérèse's strong measures are necessary, and that this woman has become apparently so ferocious because—she loves. He has studied women for his own purposes, and he tells her bluntly that her own unsatisfied craving for love is the real cause of her indignation. "I could close your mouth instantly!" he calls out. "How?" she asks, sarcastically. "Like this!" he replies, pressing his lips on hers. George's animal instinct has guided him in the right direction. She falls into his arms, and the curtain drops. In the last act—the day after the incident—Suzanne is at a loss to understand why Georges is so certain that Thérèse will not speak, whilst she (Suzanne) is still on tenterhooks. For a few minutes Georges happens to be alone with Thérèse, and he begs her to continue their intrigue that has begun under such curious auspices. Thérèse, however, shakes her head. She repents her momentary weakness, especially as she has never altered her opinion about the despicable character of the man to whom she yielded herself, and she announces her intention to leave the house at once. Whilst Georges is pleading with her Suzanne breaks in upon them and discovers the truth. Unfortunately, the gifted author has not taken advantage of this intensely dramatic situation, and the play ends tamely in Thérèse going away, leaving Suzanne to become reconciled to Georges or to begin an intrigue with Gounouillac. It was excellently acted. M. Gémier modestly contented himself with a secondary part.

THE curtain-raiser, *Le Monsieur au Camélia*, is a parody on Dumas' well-known comedy. The heroine, Marguerite Gautier, is a direct descendant of the luckless "Dame aux Camélias," and by a strange coincidence she has a lover of the name of Armand Duval, whose father has come to town to break off his son's disgraceful connection with this little cocotte. The father is announced. After a few minutes' conversation he falls at the damsel's feet and offers to "make her comfortable for life," an offer which the lady gladly accepts, thus avenging her ancestress. The author parodied Dumas *fils*, and Mlle. Lavigne, who impersonated Marguerite Gautier, parodied Sarah Bernhardt.

I HAVE learnt on the highest authority that a very large number of millionaire Americans have come—and are coming—over to be present at the *première* of *Chantecler*. It is quite true that exorbitant sums are being paid for seats. It is likewise true that nine-tenths of the places reserved for the Press will be given to exotic visitors, and is no use denying the fact that the Porte-Saint-Martin management are going a bit too far in their eagerness to coin money out of the affair. But the comic side of the business is that the wealthy gentleman from across the Atlantic will be terribly disappointed on the first night. I happened to come across one of them, who proudly informed me that he had paid £250 for a seat. "But," he added, 'I do not mind a bit. I have never seen an 'All-Paris' audience, and this time I'll have my fill." Yes, his "fill." That is how he put it, the poor, deluded millionaire! I was charitable enough not to undeceive him, or I might have said to him: "My dear sir, we Parisians are not in the habit of paying such sums for an entertainment before we know whether it is worth that money. *Chantecler* may be a masterpiece, or the reverse of one. I cannot enlighten you on the subject, and even if I could professional etiquette would tie my tongue. But where your terrible disappointment will come in is when you and your good ladies will enter the house in the expectation of beholding a 'Tout Paris' show. You will scratch your head, and say to your wife, 'Are we in Paris or in the States? Why, there are the Smiths from Chicago, and there the Browns from Pittsburg, and there the Robinsons from Philadelphia, and there—— But all these people came over with us on the steamer! and I do not see a blessed Frenchman in the place! Then what did we leave Kansas City for?" And they will stare at a fine gentleman with a gilt chain round his neck, and tell one another that it is M. Fallières, not knowing that this fine gentleman is only the interpreter of the establishment, and that our modest President is not visible to the untrained eye, because he likes to remain at the back of his box, where he may indulge in a harmless nap.

"LE RUBICAON" is the title of a play by M. Bourdet, brought out at the Théâtre Michel. The work is exceedingly clever, but the subject is so "strong" that it is impossible for me to relate it in detail. Sufficient that Germaine and Georges return from their honeymoon trip. Germaine does not wear her orange blossoms, but she might do so with perfect right because the marriage has not been what French law calls "consommé." It is all Germaine's fault, who, pretending to be coy, in reality wanted to remain faithful to a young fool on whom she bestowed her affections. In the end, however, Georges is victorious, and the young fool finds it out at his expense.

THE fifty-first show of the London and Provincial Ornithological Society will be held at the Crystal Palace on Feb. 4, and will remain open until the 8th. All information can be obtained from Mr. J. W. Ramsden, 11, Josephine-avenue, Brixton. It should be mentioned that up to the present moment the number of entries bids fair to exceed all previous years, and a most interesting show may be anticipated.

MESSRS. W. A. SEYMOUR AND ROBERT MACDONALD'S selected company appeared at the New Public Hall, Arbroath, on Saturday evening to a very appreciative audience in *The Gay Gordons*. Angus found an able and manly exponent in Mr. Stafford Dickens; Mr. Sydney Burt, in the comedy part of Nervey Nat, kept the audience in excellent humour; the part of Lord Merstham was played with quiet dignity by Mr. Robertson Macgregor; Miss Denny Fitzherbert was charming, and sang well as Charlotte Siddons; and Miss Leah Howard was a bewitching and dainty Mary McLeod.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS writes under date Jan. 21, concerning the Holborn Empire as follows:—"I can only say that the article in the *Music Hall and Theatre Review* is an utter fabrication from beginning to end. There is not a vestige of truth in it. There have been no negotiations of any kind whatsoever with Moss' Empires or any other firm for the purchase of this property, and I would ask *The Era* to contradict any such statements in to-morrow's issue in the most emphatic manner."

THE New Hammersmith Palace, which has been closed for some months for the purpose of reconstruction, will reopen on Monday under the auspices of the Gibbons circuit. For the plans of the new house Mr. Frank Matcham, the celebrated theatre designer, is responsible, and it is needless to state that under such guidance the auditorium has been immensely improved.

THE chief fault of the old hall was the immense space between gallery and footlights. The distance may have lent enchantment to the view, but it considerably handicapped the entertainer on the stage, and more especially the comic singer. This has been reformed altogether by widening the hall by about 15ft. and utilising the space by forming a wide entrance to the stalls in the old building. Extra exits have been made to comply with the County Council regulations, and also to enable a proper arrangement to be made for carrying on the business of a twice-nightly house. The auditorium will accommodate double the number of the old house.

THE Hammersmith Palace stands partly on the site of the Temple, Hammersmith, which was carried on during the early 'eighties by a Mr. P. Dunn. It was acquired by the late Mr. Acton Phillips, who made very considerable alterations and extensions. With the advent of Mr. J. C. Coe, a prosperous licensed victualler, who had as his first manager Mr. Fred Reeves, the popular agent, the house underwent a further transformation. Mr. Coe retired from proprietorship last year. Mr. Lionel G. Holding will be the resident-manager of the house. He occupied a similar post at the Shoreditch Olympia, another of the Gibbons' Circuit houses.

THE news of the illness of Mr. Fred Russell, V.A.F. chairman, has evoked universal expressions of regret from his numerous friends. Severely indisposed last Saturday, he has been unable to take his place at the London Pavilion all this week. Mr. Russell has been suffering from kidney trouble, and at one time it was thought that an operation would be imperative. This, it is hoped, may be avoided, and it is possible that the popular ventriloquist may be able to resume his engagements shortly.

"THE UMPIRE," Jan. 16, has the following:—"A Manchester mill girl took this story home:—One of the girls told them that a canvasser had called to see about father's vote. As he was absent the mother said she could not tell how he would vote. The man observed, 'Well, if he voted on that side the Empire will go down.' 'Oh, well,' the mother replied; 'that will make no difference to me; my husband works at the Hippodrome.'"

THE popular comedian Mr. Lionel Rignold, who has been delighting audiences at the Oxford, Tivoli, Canterbury, and Paragon with his tabloid version of *What Happened to Jones*, will next week visit Chelsea and Euston Palaces, and following that will make his first appearance in provincial music halls at the Palace, Manchester, where they will doubtless endorse the favourable verdict expressed by the London Press and public on this most amusing sketch.

THE Actors' Orphanage Fund have kindly sent Mr. Joe Elvin a cheque for 25 guineas in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, in recognition of the services that the various music hall artists rendered in *The Arcadians* tent at the theatrical garden-party last June at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park. In view of the large part taken in music hall entertainment by the legitimate actor this donation is very timely, and will further cement the *entente cordiale* that exists between the two branches of the generous-hearted amusement profession in what concerns all mankind—charity.

STILL another dancer at the Coliseum! This time it is Madiah Surith, who is known as "the Star of the Orient." Among her many dances she will introduce an amazing serpent dance. Miss Evie Greene will also return to her scene of former triumphs at the Coliseum. Cyril Maude and Little Elise Craven, in *Jellicoe and the Fairy*, and the Slaviansky Choir and La Tortajada remain.

MR. WAL PINK, the popular author, sketch producer, and comedian, jointed the second contingent of his and Mr. Fred Ginnett's *Claude Duval* company on Wednesday at Southampton. The crowd sailed by the liner New York for the States. Mrs. Wal Pink accompanies her husband, and takes out a company of juveniles.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"I was in Boston on Saturday, and found that cultured and delightful New England city following the example of other American cities by going wild over Miss Adeline Genée. Such wonderful dancing has never before been seen on this side, and America is trying her best to induce the Empire danseuse to remain here permanently."

LADY CONSTANCE STEWART RICHARDSON, who is appearing at the Palace Theatre in a series of classical dances, has been one of the most notable personages in smart society since she made her début. This has been due to the fact that Lady Constance struck what might be termed "a new note" in the life of a society woman. Disdaining frills and fancies, she has devoted herself to physical culture. Culture of the body she considers necessary to secure a strong mind. In order to give practical evidence of her views Lady Constance is dancing at the Palace to procure funds to start a small school for boys, whom she means to practically adopt.

As a sportswoman, in the Himalayas of Little Tibet, Lady Constance hunted ibex and bear over ground whereon no white foot had previously trod. Apropos to her encounters with bears, she tells an interesting story. "In my hall," she says, "stands a red snow bear—a species which is rapidly dying out. They can only be found in regions over 11,000ft. above the sea-level. In camp one of my natives reported that he had seen a she-bear with a cub, and I started out to find it, carrying a light rifle, giving the heavier to one of the men. Mountain-hunting does not seem a bit like walking through Hyde Park at Church Parade. One has to crawl over rough ground, often on ledges with a nice little drop of a hundred or so feet, if you lose your head or your balance. It was whilst thus crawling I met my friend the bear. The gun-bearer promptly bolted with the heavy gun, and left me to my fate. As I had quite sufficient to do to hold on to the face of the cliff, there was nothing but to await the pleasure of the bear. Somehow she could not make me out, and, after a few growls, turned tail. Next day I got on the track of her ladyship, and now she adorns my hall."

MR. HENRY HARE is producing the farcical absurdity, *The Odd Trick*, on Monday next (24th), at the King's Theatre, Southsea.

MANAGERS would do well now the boxing craze is at its height in London, to book Billy Ross and company, with their droll boxing act, *The Hot Member*.

MR. WILL STONE, who has just taken the Tivoli, Pentre, has appointed George Egbert, of 110, St. Martin's-lane, his sole booking agent for his five halls in Wales.

MR. LEIGH, father of the Four Sisters Netherland, recently had a dangerous fall backwards downstairs, splitting open the back of his head. The doctors have every hope of his recovery, and this cheery statement will allay the anxiety of many friends who have, both by telegram and letter, made kind inquiries.

MR. JAMES CARR, a popular member of the Terriers' Association, has been appointed Resident-Manager of the Empire, Douglas, Isle of Man.

MR. CHARLEY HARVEY, the well-known pierrot comedian, has taken the Olympian Gardens, Rhyl, from Adelor, Sutton, and Allandale for the month of June.

THE Spa (Scarborough) directors are by way of appointing a new musical-director for the 1910 season, to succeed Mr. Charles Godfrey, jun. Applications are to be sent in not later than the 31st inst., to Mr. H. T. Chambers, secretary of the Cliff Bridge Company, Scarborough.

MR. REGINALD H. FOSTER is back again as manager of the Palace and Hippodrome, Halifax. The hearty hand-grips and pleasant smiles of welcome Mr. Foster has received during the past week are ample evidence of his popularity with Halifax audiences.

MR. HARRY CHAMBERS, who has been assistant-manager of the Spa, Scarborough, for a number of years, has been appointed manager in the place of Mr. Frank Goodricke, who has resigned after forty years' active service. Mr. Chambers' appointment is a popular one, and he thoroughly understands the requirements of the Spa patrons.

The members of the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, are keen sportsmen. Golf and football are the favourite pastimes. There have been a few exciting contests on the links, and there promises to be keen competition for the handsome silver cup presented by Mr. John Lloyd, the popular stage-manager. Playing the other day, Seth Egbert, of the Brothers Egbert, hit a ball which stuck between two branches of an oak tree.

THE friends of Miss Eva Chadwick, charming vocal comedienne, will be glad to hear that on the morning of the 17th inst. she presented to her husband, Mr. W. J. Boyle, resident acting-manager of the Royal Hippodrome, Salford, her first daughter, and that both mother and child are doing as well as possible. Mr. Boyle has been busy receiving congratulations, as both he and his wife have made many friends since they came into the district.

MR. CHARLES G. REMBGES, the courteous and popular manager of the Empire, Middlesbrough, the principal Teesside variety theatre, was for many years with Mr. J. L. Graydon at the Middlesex, and has held his present position for the past five years. A special interest attaches, therefore, to the complimentary benefit, under the auspices of the directors, to be given him at a matinée at the popular Middlesbrough house named, on Wednesday next, Jan. 26. A special turn in the entertainment will be a presentation to the beneficiaire.

THE Local Government Board inquiry respecting the application of the Bournemouth Town Council for sanction to borrow £77,000 for the purpose of erecting a pavilion or concert hall, reading and assembly rooms, &c., upon the site of the Belle Vue and Pier Hotel and upon land forming part of the Central Pleasure Grounds, was resumed on Tuesday before Mr. H. Shelford Bidwell, one of the Board's inspectors.

THE Town Clerk, Mr. G. W. Bailey, represented the Corporation, and Mr A. Moresby White opposed on behalf of the Local Residents' Association. The Mayor, Councillor G. E. Bridge, was recalled, and admitted that since the adjournment the magistrates had granted a licence for music, dancing, and singing in respect of a large building close by, with the restrictions that no drums and no brass should be allowed in the orchestra. He could not say whether the magistrates would treat the Corporation in a better way when they applied for a licence.

MR. F. W. LACEY, borough engineer, said the cost of the pavilion itself would be £50,000, and a sum of £12,000 was to be expended on the substructure. The income expected from letting the lower parts as public refreshment rooms and otherwise was about £3,500. There was no extravagance about the scheme. Several ratepayers gave evidence in support of the Corporation's proposals, whilst others strongly opposed. The Town Clerk said the opposition to the scheme was simply on the part of a few armchair residents.

MR. FRED REEVES, the variety agent, has been confined to the house during the past three weeks with a bad attack of gastritis and valvular heart trouble. He is now progressing favourably and hopes to be out again during the coming week. Mr. Reeves is deeply grateful to all those friends (including agents, artists, and managers) who have either written, telegraphed, or telephoned wishing him a speedy recovery.

A FAMILIAR note is struck in the name of the manager of the new Cinematograph Theatre at Ealing, of which we noticed the opening in our issue of last Saturday. A son of the never-to-be-forgotten creator of "Champagne Charlie," and brother-in-law of our first great coster comedian, Albert Chevalier, Mr. George Leybourne comes to Ealing with the very best credentials, and all his friends—British and American—will be pleased to hear of his appointment to the direction of one of the most elegantly-appointed houses yet erected for Bioscope display.

DURING his visit to Brighton last week—a visit of domestic privacy and simplicity at the seaside home of his friends, the Sassoons, on the front—King Edward spent the best part of each day motoring to different spots of more or less rustic interest in the surrounding countryside. One bright, sunny morning, the Royal motor whirled His Majesty, with his host and other members of the small house-party, up to the Devil's Dyke, the delightful playground recently "developed" by Mrs. Barrasford on the breezy heights of the Southdown Hills, five miles from Brighton. Quite at his ease and "far from the madding crowd," the King strolled over part of the golf course Mrs. Barrasford laid out a couple of years ago, walked here and there about the estate, and appeared fascinated by the wonderful view presenting itself from the hotel-crowned hill top—an unequalled panorama of hill and vale, farmstead, and pasturage.

FOR the last half-year the directors of the London Coliseum, Ltd., recommend a final dividend of 25 per cent., redeeming £11,137 debenture stock, writing off the balance of preliminary expenses to £2,867, and carrying forward £3,577. Happy shareholders!

THE announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Katie Lawrence (Mrs. George Fuller), who for the second time entered the bonds of wedlock on Thursday at Holy Trinity Church, Gray's Inn-road. Mr. Reginald Gervase is the happy man.

MR. LEO DRYDEN, who is at the Peckham Hippodrome, has been making a hit in the Midlands with that most striking number *False Gods*, in which he makes up very finely as Sir Herbert Tree in that play.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE, after a bad attack of influenza, on Monday resumed her interrupted engagements at Tottenham and the Tivoli. She has repeated at the Strand variety house the great success she made at the London Pavilion three years ago.

MR. GEORGE NEWBURN, the well-known mimic, who is appearing nightly at the Elephant Theatre as Dandini, in *Cinderella*, had a nasty experience on Saturday last. Whilst motoring to the theatre, to avoid running into a child he turned quickly. Owing to the greasy nature of the road, his car skidded and shot round in a circle, finally being brought to a standstill with the back-wheels on the pavement near a shop window. Mr. Newburn was thrown on to the bonnet, and was lucky to escape with a few bruises. His quick action undoubtedly saved the child's life.

MISS RUTH LYTTON, the charming principal boy of Mr. Fred Fredericks' *Babes in the Wood* pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, at the age of seventeen played Dandini at the London Hippodrome with so much success that she was re-engaged for the two following seasons. This was followed by two consecutive seasons at Drury Lane, since which Miss Lytton has distinguished herself as principal boy at Birmingham, Liverpool, and Edinburgh, and in musical comedy at the Gaiety and on tour. For the last two years Miss Lytton has been winning fresh laurels on the variety stage as a Scottish comedienne. Miss Lytton, who hails from Edinburgh, is a linguist of considerable ability.

MR. J. H. MILBURN occupied the chair at the 643rd meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, at the offices on Wednesday. Dr. Gabriel, of Keighley, was appointed a medical officer to the Association. The statement of the week showed thirty-two new members and a cash total of £49 16s.

To oblige Mr. Stoll, Miss Mabel Mavis is being transferred next week from the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, to the Empire, Swansea. This week she is being transferred from the Stratford Empire to the London Coliseum, and the judgment has been amply justified by the reception accorded her at that magnificent theatre.

MR. F. BARFORD has made special arrangements for little Gladys Barnard to create a part in his sketch *Cottage or Palace*, which is to be produced for the first time at the Canterbury on Monday evening. In the afternoons she is appearing as the Dormouse in the production of *Alice in Wonderland*, at the Court Theatre. Mr. Frederick Ross, of the Lyceum, plays the principal part.

LADY CONSTANCE STEWART RICHARDSON, who made her début at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening before a crowded and enthusiastic house, is the daughter of the late Lord Cromartie and a granddaughter of the Duchess of Sutherland. Amongst the dances which she successfully presented were "Au Printemps" (Grieg), Chanson sans Paroles" (Tchaikowski), "Marche Funèbre" (Beethoven), and polka, "Bonne Bouche" (Waldteufel). Lady Constance is most graceful, and her interpretation of the music was delightful. She scored a distinct success, and was warmly applauded.

THE complimentary benefit to Mr. John Alexander, of the celebrated Alexander Family, will be held at the Empire, Camberwell, on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 24. A very special programme is being prepared, which will contain, in addition to a number of star artists, novel sporting contests and several comic novelties. Mr. G. P. R. Burgess, the president of the Terriers' Association, of which society Mr. Alexander has been an honoured member for many years, has consented to become chairman of the grand committee, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, has kindly accepted the position of one of the vice-chairmen. The tickets will be ready on Monday, and can be obtained from any member of the committee.

MISS OLLA HUMPHREYS, a clever young Colonial actress, comes to the Palace Theatre on the 31st, when she will appear in a new version by Mr. Michael Morton of the old comedietta *Je dine chez ma Mère* (Gymnase Paris, 1856), first adapted by Tom Taylor as *A Christmas Dinner*, and performed at the Olympic in April, 1860. Another version, entitled *A Merry Christmas*, was produced anonymously at the old Strand Theatre on Feb. 1, 1897, with Miss Florence Gerard as the actress—a part originally played by Mrs. Stirling in the Olympic production. That at the Strand was by the late Mr. Clement Scott, who wrote dramatic notices for this paper in the seventies.

MR. W. LESLIE GOOCH, the son of the popular Fanny Leslie, and the manager of the Metropolitan, was presented, at the close of Tuesday evening's second performance, with a handsome clock and candelabra by the staff, as a token of esteem, and in celebration of his marriage last December. The presentation was made by Mr. D. M. Trytel, musical-director of the house. Mr. Gooch's father and grandfather were associated with the fortunes of the Metropolitan in the 'seventies.

MISS LOLA LEE on Monday produced an entirely new act at the Poplar Hippodrome, in which she gives imitations of famous dances, which include an Italian Tarantella, a Spanish Bolero, an American Harem Scarem dance, and a French dance eccentric, finishing with a "Valse Moderne." The dresses are most effective and characteristic, and each change of costume is done in full view of the audience, in a dressing-room at the back of the stage. The setting of the act is most artistic and uncommon.

IN her dances of East and West, Miss Lee gave us ample proof of her versatility in her art, and in her new act the contrast is equally great, for she first dances with all the dash and fire of the Italian and Spaniard, and then to a dreamy waltz, with all the grace and sinuous movement of arms and body, which belong to the D'Auban school, and which bring back memories of Kate Vaughan. She concludes with a series of wonderful dip pirouettes equal to those by which Letty Lind first made her name great as a dancer. Miss Lee is the only exponent of this style of dancing now before the public, and she is undoubtedly one of the best dancers on the stage at the present time. She has made a big hit at Poplar, and should certainly be seen shortly at one of the big West-End halls.

MISS FANNY BROUGH will appear at the Empire Theatre on Tuesday evening next in Mr. Malcolm Watson's little play, *Change of Front*. She will be supported by a cast including Mr. E. F. Mayeur and Miss Frances Wetherall. The word "front" has many meanings, both figurative and literal, and in the development of the incidents of the trifle the real significance of the title will be subtly and cleverly emphasised. Miss Brough will be exceedingly welcome on her return to the variety stage, where legitimate comediennes of her calibre are all too rare.

MISS LOIS DU CANE and company in the beautifuly acted sketch *The Russian Princess* will be one of the chief attractions at the Empire, Islington, next week.

MR. T. S. DICKIE (proprietor, Royal Standard, Victoria) and Mr. Charles William Lavell have successfully passed the ballot for membership of the Terriers' Association.

MR. BEN WOODGER occupied the chair at the meeting of the Terriers' Association on Sunday last, in the absence of Terrier W. L. Murray. Hearty congratulations were extended to Terrier Major Gastrell on his election as the Member of Parliament for North Lambeth.

THE London production of the musical-comedy sketch *Charlie's Wedding Day* will be at the Surrey Theatre on Monday next (24th inst.). The principal artists engaged will be Messrs. George F. Ide, Alfred Bennett, Misses Nellie Cozens and Lilian Stanley, with Charles Cleveland as the happy bridegroom.

ON Monday afternoon next commences at the Alhambra the annual wrestling tournament organised by Mr. A. F. Bettinson, of the National Sporting Club. The contests for the wrestling championships will proceed daily, and notwithstanding the very large number of entries received will conclude in any case on Monday, Jan. 31. Prizes amounting to £400 and valuable belts will be given to the winners.

MR. T. W. WRIGHT, the popular manager of the Grand, Gravesend, was the recipient of two handsome presents at the conclusion of Mr. Leslie Bell's pantomime *Cinderella*. On Saturday night Mr. Wright was called on the stage and received a massive silver cigarette case as a slight recognition from the principals and all concerned in the pantomime; also a beautiful silver card-case from the staff and a few friends as a mark of esteem.

SHIRLEY AND RANSOME, who exploited the coster episode *'Arf a Quid*, are appearing this week in their latest success *Jim's Pal* at the Empress and Collins's. So successful has it been, that Mr. W. Grimes has secured them for four return visits through their agent, Will Oliver. The oft-told lodger story has been completely reversed, and *Jim's Pal* will most assuredly be a welcome item in any programme for a long time to come.

THE Five X-Rays are continuing the success they met with in town at every hall in the provinces they have appeared. They have just been round the Macnaghten Circuit, and open on Monday at the Palace, Blackpool. In 1912 they will spend the early part on the Continent, having already signed for three months Vienna, Budapest, and Hamburg. Their London and provincial bookings are very heavy, at which Spot Oliver rejoices.

ROMA AND ROMANI, the classical musicians, who recently concluded their London season at the Oxford, Tivoli, Coliseum, and the Consolidated halls, are now on a long provincial tour. They will return to the Syndicate in October, and in December to the Hippodrome for a month. They have been secured by Mr. Stoll and Mr. Walter Gibbons for forty weeks in 1912, but they will be absent on the Continent for a considerable portion of 1911. The evergreen Spot Oliver is responsible for this state of affairs.

THE usual Twelfth Night gathering at the Chelsea Palace, which was postponed from the orthodox night (to allow one of the principals invalided at the time to participate), was celebrated on Thursday evening, the 13th inst. At the close of the performance the artists, band, and employees were invited to the buffet, and Mr. Lyon, who has performed the ceremony each year since the house has been open, was requested to cut the cake, which he did in his usual able manner.

IN proposing the health of Mr. Henri Gros, the managing-director, Mr. Lyon alluded most feelingly to the sad loss that gentleman has sustained. In the absence of Mr. Gros, Mr. De Groot assured all present that Mr. Gros thoroughly appreciated all their kind wishes, and while having a duty to perform towards those who had placed him in his position as managing-director, he was ever mindful of those under him.

THE healths of Mr. J. N. Berlin, the manager, and Mr. Andrews, the secretary, were proposed and received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Berlin responded, and expressed the great pleasure and satisfaction it gave him to know that the Chelsea Palace had maintained its previous good record. Mr. Andrews also expressed his thanks, and after a pleasant hour the gathering was brought to a close by the wish, briefly but eloquently expressed, that they would all be present at the next Twelfth Night celebration.

ON behalf of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mr. Harold Seyd, solicitor, Regent-street, donation, £1.1s.; Mr. Percy Maye (Gaiety, Chatham), donation, 5s.; and Mr. Alec Barish (Birkenhead) for another lovely parcel of articles comprising men's boots, children's boots, ladies' shoes, parcel of stockings and mufflers, all new, also for his goodness in granting permission for any of the ladies' executive of the Guild to collect for the funds at the concert he is organising in Liverpool on Jan. 27.

WILL ladies and gentlemen please note that the sweepstake for the Motor Rex bicycle given us by Mr. Joe Zarmo (cost £50) will positively take place next week, and those who have tickets for same, sold or unsold, will they kindly return them to Miss May by Monday next (24th) at the latest? The bicycle is now on view at 18, Charing Cross-road. Buy a ticket this week at the Guild, 1s. each. Your last chance to possess this valuable machine for 1s. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

A VERY popular extra turn at the London Hippodrome on Saturday night was Mr. Fred Trussell. A large audience had been regaled with election intelligence earlier in the evening; but just before the presentation of the Polar spectacle, *The Arctic*, a notice was displayed on the screen that no more "results" would be posted until its conclusion. A large audience patiently waited even after the bears had disappeared. Mr. Trussell went into the orchestra and conducted a selection, and the tale of the elections kept the expectant house bubbling over with excitement. When the last return had been given Mr. Trussell briefly announced the fact, and thanked the audience for their kind attention. An enthusiastic stallite immediately rose and proposed a vote of thanks to the courteous gentleman on the stage, a vote that was carried with acclamation at about 12.30. In his brief reply, Mr. Trussell expressed the hope that he would be at their service again on Monday.

JULIUS AND AGNES ZANCIG, the great thought readers, who are at present performing at their own theatre in New York, wish it to be known that they have not been in England since last August, and that they have no association whatever with anyone travelling the provinces and professing to be the Zincigs.

MR. ALFRED MOUL is still making excellent progress towards recovery after his operation, and the invalid is much cheered, not only by the solicitude of his many friends, but by the accounts of the success in Paris of his classic ballet, *Psyche*, for which, it will be remembered, he wrote such delightful music.

MISS GERTIE GITANA will produce shortly a new number, entitled "Down by the old water-wheel," written by Andrew Allen and composed by Florence Cooper, who has had several requests for copies of another song, recently composed by her, entitled "My love awaits me there," now being sung by Miss Margaret Cooper. It will shortly be published.

MME. ALBANI, the famous singer, was sued in West London County Court on Wednesday for £21, commission alleged to be due to Mr. A. F. Maclean, agent, of St. Martin's-lane, in connection with engagements obtained. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

IN announcing the results of the elections each evening at the Empire Theatre the greatest benefit has been derived from the new tape machine installed, which has become such a popular feature at this house. The results recorded by this means have been communicated to the audience on the Bioscope screen many minutes before they have even reached the theatre by telephone from other sources. The enthusiasm from time to time on Saturday and Monday evening has been extraordinarily great, many people standing on their seats cheering and waving their handkerchiefs.

THIRTY-SIX years ago, at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, the late Richard Edgar played the part of the Silly Boy in a pantomime which still holds the record at that theatre for the longest run. For fourteen weeks it occupied the stage. This year, Marriott Edgar, son of Richard, is playing a similar part in *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the same theatre, and it is rather a strange coincidence that he should be the same age as his father was when he played pantomime in Bradford.

ANOTHER thing that is curious. Marriott Edgar ("The Man in Red") finds that he is staying in the same digs, and sleeping in the same room that his father occupied thirty-six years ago, although the house has changed owners in the meantime. Mr. John Hart is advertising this year's production as his biggest success for twenty years.

MR. W. P. SHEEN, the well-known pantomime dame, concludes to-night a most successful engagement as Nurse Gloriana in *The Sleeping Beauty* at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston. The Press has been unanimous in its praise of Mr. Sheen as a comedian, and has pronounced him "the hit of the pantomime," an opinion endorsed by Mr. Peter Davey and the theatre directors. Mr. Sheen returns to the "halls" on Monday, opening at the Paragon with his patter turn "The Merry Widow Wimple."

MISS DULCIE KING-LLOYD (daughter of the late Arthur Lloyd) was wired for on Sunday morning to open at the Empire, Belfast, on Monday in place of Mr. Tom E. Finglass, prevented by illness from fulfilling his starring engagement there. Miss Lloyd, travelling on Sunday night from London, crossed from Holyhead to Greenore in a terrific gale. However, she opened on Monday night, and although her last appearance at the house named was in September, 1909, she filled the breach most successfully.

IT is not the first time Miss Dulcie has rendered valuable service at the Belfast Empire. Three years ago, when appearing there with her sister and brother (the Arthur Lloyd Trio), she came to the aid of the management by taking the important part billed by Miss Lilleth Leyton in her sketch *The Order of the Bath*, that lady having injured her leg. Miss Lloyd at a few hours' notice bravely and successfully played Miss Leyton's rôle twice nightly, in addition to playing in the sketch *Little Charlie; or, The Twin Sisters*.

MUSIC-HALL performers arriving at New York from Europe, says the *Daily Mirror* correspondent, are complaining of the unfair manner in which they are treated by the United States Customs officials regarding the landing of their stage properties. Mr. R. A. Roberts, for example, who plays Dick Turpin's famous ride to York, had to put up a £1,400 cash bond before he could get his effects away from the Appraiser's Stores. The money was paid by the management of the syndicate of music halls, and Mr. Roberts has to pay it off at the rate of £20 per week, deducted from his salary. His engagement in the United States lasts for twenty-three weeks, and on embarking for England from New York he will have to produce every article that he brought over with him.

WHEN Mr. Roberts arrives in England he will have the £1,400 forwarded to him by the Customs officials. This will practically mean that the Customs will have the interest on the sum for six months, which at the ordinary rate of 5 per cent. here amounts to £35. The performer loses the interest and exchange in transferring the money to London by a banker's draft, which will be considerable on such a large sum. At 2½d. in the £ it would amount to £14 11s. 8d.

ACCORDING to the same correspondent Mr. George Lashwood had to pay £20 for his theatrical wardrobe, and Miss Hetty King paid £10 in cash, and said she would sooner let it go at that rather than have all the trouble of signing a bond and having her properties all inspected again and sworn-to before leaving. Mr. Ernest Luck, who had two costumes for his sketch which were so ragged that they had to be held together with pieces of string, to his great surprise had to pay £3 duty on them when he landed in New York with his wife, Miss Hetty King.

SOME humorously cogent reasons are given by, among others, well-known people connected with the profession in answer to the question "Why are you not standing for Parliament?" which appeared in a contemporary a few days since, the query being responded to by Mr. George Graves, Mr. George Robey, Mr. Hugh E. Wright (who so funnily enacts the part of Simpson in the new musical comedy at Wyndham's), and Mr. Herman E. Darewski.

THE last-named answers as follows:—"The reason why I am not standing for Parliament is that I am sitting for pantomime—composing popular songs for next December's productions. You see, quite apart from the fact that for some unexplained reason no division has asked me to figure as its candidate, I consider that after the vital question of Free Trade or Protection, the next most important thing is to cater for the entertainment of the public, and thus cheer the hearts of the beaten party and its supporters. And besides, imagine me carrying a pocket piano, or, more portable, a melodious mouth-organ to my seat, and the delay that would be caused whenever I jumped up in the middle of an important speech to beg the speaker to repeat a phrase whose musical intonation might suggest to me a catchy but elusive refrain!"

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AN outstanding and delightful feature of *Captain Kidd* at Wyndham's Theatre is an interpolated number, archly sung by dainty Miss Elhaline Terriss, assisted by Mr. Seymour Hicks and others, the said number being entitled "I've got rings on my fingers; or, Mumbo Jumbo Jijjiboo J. O'Shea," written by F. J. Barnes and R. P. Weston, with music by Maurice Scott. The item is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

ON Saturday last a large portion of Islington was ringing with an amended version of "Let's all go down the Strand," sung by excited electors, the burden of whose song appeared to be "Let's go—for Waterlow," which tended to show how this, one of the most popular refrains among Messrs. Francis and Day's numerous master-keys to pantomime success, had been seized on by the public at large. Mr. Charles Whittle, who so ably popularised this favourite on the halls, is still at the Tivoli earning the highest encomiums with it, and also with "Come and have a drink with me," which is likewise published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

"KELLY TWO-STEP," by C. W. Murphy, has been found greatly to the liking of the patrons of the Alhambra Theatre, Leicester-square, during the week now ending, and the item sounds splendid on Mr. G. W. Byng's magnificent orchestra. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

IN response to numerous requests, the Star Music Co. have decided to grant a few special music hall permissions for their enormously successful pantomime songs "I've been out with Charlie Brown," "Sea, Sea, Sea," "I'll let the world go by," and "Mister man in the moon." Band parts are published for these numbers. Applications for permits must be made to the Star Music Co.

IN addition to the scores of artists who have made big hits with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's melodious number "Ship, ahoy!" many principal boys have introduced this song since the opening night of pantomime. The very latest recruit is Miss Florrie Gallimore, who telegraphed from Sheffield: "'Ship, ahoy!' enormous hit; many thanks." This is a sample of many wires received from delighted artists. The Star Music Co. issue band parts for this charming song.

MR. GEORGE GRAVES is making a big hit with Jack Smiles' song "For months and months and months" at the Drury Lane Theatre.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured coon, who has the hearts of all Bristol in the hollow of his hand owing to his wonderful gifts as a singer and dancer, and whose song "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" is a triumph of triumphs, has himself lately composed a pretty song, entitled "My Oboe Queen," of which much is expected. The graceful lyric is by Henry F. Greenfield.

THE latest bid for public favour is "Take great care of the baby," written and composed by Alf. E. Rick, of "Swing me higher, Obadiah," fame. This song has been secured for immediate publication by Messrs. Price and Reynolds, and, judging by the favour it has received in the *Hop o' My Thumb* pantomime at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, it bids fair to be echoed in every town in the kingdom. Mr. Rick wishes to call the special attention of all pierrots to this "winner," which cannot fail to be a big selling number.

MR. WILKIE BARD has secured a number which explains the correct way to aspirate an "aitch," entitled "He had his high hat in his hand." It is by Harry Carlton and Terry Sullivan, and has been secured by Messrs. March and Co. for publication.

MISS TESS LILLEY has also secured a fine chorus song my the same writers, entitled "I don't mind waiting for you," which she produced on Wednesday at the South London and Chelsea Palaces with enormous success.

MR. A. ELLERTON, JUN., who as composer has been associated with Mr. A. Ellerton, sen., in song successes for Tom Dunville, Little Tich, Mark Sheridan, Miss Queenie Leighton, and others, made a successful début as musical conductor at the Palace, Greenwich, on Monday last.

"VAN BIENE'S BABY."

A Sketch, in One Act, Produced at the Stratford Empire, on Monday, Jan. 17.

Van Biene .....MR. VAN BIENE
Ethel .....MISS FAVERSHAM
Geo. Rawston .....MR. T. HARTLEY

Described as "a new domestic episode," and "written expressly for him by one who knows him," *Van Biene's Baby* is a felicitous playlet which sees Mr. Van Biene in the rôle of a fond father and husband, as well as serving as a vehicle for his prowess as a 'cello soloist. The curtain rises on the tender picture of a mother rocking her babe, and we hear afar the strains of sweet music. Calling her husband, she leaves him in charge of baby, and he is thus occupied when an old friend from abroad enters, and naturally the conversation turns on old times. Incidentally, the friend learns that Van Biene's wife was his own former sweetheart, and that the occupant of the cradle is the offspring of their union. Rawston bids Van Biene play his beloved 'cello, himself wrapt in thought the while, and afterwards when making his adieux with the wife he hands her a document which is "for baby." After the departure of their visitor, husband and wife open the packet and discover it to be the deeds of their house; and, as Van Biene whimsically remarks, "now baby is our landlord."

The miniature play wins plenty of applause for Mr. Van Biene, who is adequately supported by Mr. T. Hartley as George Rawston and Miss Faversham as Ethel.

MISS ELLA and her performing lions top the bill at the New Royal and Hippodrome, Bilston. Other admirable turns are the Watson Duo, in a singing and patter act; Tom Dewar, character vocalist; and Arthur Richards, comedian. The Hippograph shows some excellent pictures.

MR. TOM OWEN, the well-known Welsh comedian, received a warm welcome in opening a three nights' engagement at the Town Hall, Bridgend, with his variety company in *Welsh Wales*. Mr. Owen kept the audience in a continual titter what time he was on the stage; Miss Jean Lawton's dancing was much admired; a poular item was the musical turn of Mavis and Farran; and Fay and Foy also scored heavily in their musical speciality. Miss Gertie Leno (soprano), Mr. H. B. Pritchard (baritone), and Mr. Harry Vernon (bass), contributed to the pleasure. A laughable farce, *Welshman's Ruse*, was a fitting finale.

BOSWELL'S Stage Circus is proving a tremendous attraction at the Town Hall Theatre, Macesteg. The performances of the wonderfully educated ponies, donkeys, monkeys, and dogs, are well received. Other turns are given by Little Togo in his marvellous top spinning and Japanese diabolo acts. His slide from roof to floor is a most thrilling feat. Luigi does some extraordinary leaping and somersault throwing. The Brothers Austin, comedians, and The Revolving Table are other pleasing items in the programme.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Mr. C. Blyth Pratt is filling a very popular turn at this representative music-hall by reading out the election results, and the hearty welcome extended to him owes not a little to his perfect impartiality, as well as to the excitement of eager partisans. The programme is mostly in the lighter vein throughout, and though many of the Oxford's favourite comedians are now at the theatres, there are just a few left behind to help one to a cheery outlook on life. The vocal character studies of Mr. Tom Woottwell are restricted to an ikey gentleman "without any beastly affectation," who wants everyone to buy a wonderful dog. Another Tom, whose second name is Leamore, gives out some amusing patter concerning a potman's experiences. Still another Tom is that Wyndham and Wyatt combine music and comedy in *The Professor and His Pupil*, an act in which the younger performer's facial play is decidedly clever and funny. Professor and pupil join in the well-established burlesque song "Our hands have met," and the turn is heartily welcomed.

Burlesque also forms a welcome element in the turn of Beattie and Babs, who present a comedy scena entitled *A Pavement Rehearsal*. Both are clever dancers, and Babs is decidedly funny as the prima donna singing "Il Bacio." Mr. Sammy Shields, who is termed the football enthusiast, gives a comic complexion to the experiences of the referee; those favourite Hebrew comedians, Jordan and Harvey, sing a capital duet, "Abraham," with much unction; and that rapidly advancing comedian Mr. George Formby is very diverting as a Lancashire dude, enjoying a night out.

Mr. Joe Elvin is a hardy annual at this house, ever fresh and amusing humourist Dunville, whose strong favouritism at this house is well understood by those who are acquainted with the many droll character sketches he has presented during his many engagements. We have had Hamlet, of Denmark Hill, and now The Policeman comes along to give extracts from a remarkable notebook. There are, however, no grumblings that his lot is not a happy one.

Music, heavenly maid, has a couple of fair devotees in the Carina Sisters. The violinist of the pair plays de Bériot's "Air de Ballet" with much brilliancy, and the flute solo is also greatly enjoyed. Bi-Bo-Bi has an arrangement of bells whereby mellow sounds are produced from a steel instrument which has much the same mechanism as an ancient watchman's rattle. The tone is distinctly good, and the effect decidedly novel On the sleigh bells hung on a large frame the performer gives a medley, in which the chief airs are from *Les Cloches de Corneville* and *Faust*, and no New Year's bill at the Oxford would be considered quite complete without him. His latest vehicle for fun is entitled *Billy's Money Box*, which we have already described at length in these columns. Joe as Tommy Taggles is again a mine of drollery, and his treatment of comic incidents is as successful as ever in provoking laughter; Miss Victoria Monks, another artist who occupies a warm place in the hearts of Oxford frequenters, is responsible for a capital chorus song; and in this form of melody Miss Dora Lyric is *facile princeps*. One enjoys to the full such eccentric dancing as it is in the power of clever Herbert La Martine to give; variety and skill mark the uncommon juggling feats of M. Gintaro; and much astonishment is caused by Bertisch, labelled as America's premier athlete. The sterling comicalities of Mr. Morny Cash, a dialect comedian of resource and originality; the hoop-rolling extraordinary of the Four Juggling Geraldos; and the long-popular entertainment of the Brothers Horne are other attractions in a fine bill, to which the films of Ruffell's Bioscope add interest.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

One can always escape from a troubled world—and the weather—by passing the portals of the Holborn Empire. The smile of Mr. Leslie Conroy, the manager, greets you like a ray of sunshine, and the brilliantly-lit house and comfortable surroundings are the greatest possible inducements to "come in out of the cold." This week immense business has been done here, and small wonder either when a glance through the programme has been taken.

Our old friend Alec Hurley's number consists of one of those pathetic little items, sung in his own inimitable way, for which he has long been famous. It is called "She's a little whipper-snapper," and a tiny girl assists Mr. Hurley to complete the picture of a coster left with his motherless little girl. *A 33 to 1 Chance* is in the Holborn bill this week. Mr. H. P. Selwyn has now got this sketch in splendid working order, and it is interesting to recall the story. Lord Stansfield has matched himself or his nominee against the nominee of Major Maine, one of the conditions being that in the event of either of the combatants or their representatives not entering the ring the one present receives the stake. The Major, who is a despicable scoundrel, intends to win the fight by fair means or foul, and to make it more certain persuades a bookmaker—Solomon Levi—to meet Lord Stansfield and offer him a drugged cigar, little thinking that his lordship has nominated his valet, Bobs, to represent him. In a very realistic scene depicting the National Sporting Club we find boxing in full swing. The most important fixture is about to take place when Lord Stansfield is overcome by the effects of the cigar. The Major immediately claims the stakes, but to his dismay the referee reads a letter in which it is announced that his lordship's nominee is to appear in his stead. We then witness a most exciting three-round contest between Ben Jordan representing England and Young Sullivan upholding the American colours. The Englishman is nearly counted out in the second round, but eventually he succeeds in flooring his opponent and carries off the prize. The Officer's Mess Room scene—presumably that of a Guards regiment—is splendidly mounted, and the dressing is correct in every detail. The huge Holborn audience got quite enthusiastic about it last Tuesday.

The Russian Singers—eleven in number—are very interesting. The solitary lady of the choir has a very sweet voice and looks ditto. The gentlemen are responsible for one amusing number, which, as one cannot understand a word they are warbling about, might be described as a barking match between one and all of them Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Our sympathy goes out to Miss Minnie Paget, concertinist, on the limited time allowed her by the management. It must have been just within the sixty seconds' limit, for she had merely time to announce that she would give an imitation of a church organ and to play thirty-two bars of it, and the next number went up, to everyone's surprise. Minnie was getting along extremely well, and we could have done with more of her efforts. Better luck next time, perhaps. Very fine tumblers are Griffin and Ardel. Griffin, or it may be Ardel, is made up with a perpetual smile, and has a perpetual dance interspersing his acrobatic feats. G and A. keep things lively from start to finish, and we shall be glad to laugh at their antics many more times in the days to come.

"Boiled beef and carrots" has no better champion than Harry Champion. His advocacy of this old English dish would convert a vege'arian. Geo. Gilbey presents the most astonishing policeman ever seen on any beat. "Duffy" is a mirth-maker, and is well liked at the Holborn Empire.

Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and her beautiful lady models in a series of art poses get clear away from the type of "living picture" we have been accustomed to see at the halls. Our greatest painters and sculptors' works are represented. The series is vocally accompanied by Miss E. Maynard. The pictures are eleven in number. We first see "The Sirens," three beautiful maidens strolling by the sad sea waves. Well lit, well grouped, and realistic. "On the Beach" is the second picture, to which Miss Maynard sings "As long as the world goes round." "Curiosity" comes third on the list, and shows us a page peeping through the keyhole of a door at a young lady dressing. It gets a good laugh. "La Source" and "Diana" have been seen on the variety stage time and again, and suffer by comparison. These are atoned for by "The Wave," a superb representation which was deservedly applauded. The picture showed the nude form of a lovely girl stretched at full length on the crest of a huge wave. The colour scheme reflects the greatest credit on the inventor and producer, and no praise is too high for the staging and lighting. With garlands of roses "The Nymphs" came next, followed by "Morning Star," another charming representation of a girl as a star standing just above the fringe of cloudland. "Despair," "The Three Graces," and "The Four Seasons" complete a very artistic and acceptable turn, well devised, well handled, and well put on. Austin and Cowan, Dora Bevis, and Carlisle and Wellmon also get numbers in the Holborn programme this week.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

This popular hall had capital Yuletide and New Year programmes, and patronage has been unstintingly bestowed as a consequence. The principal star was Arthur Roberts, who topped the bill, with his company, in Harry Pleon's sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. It proved to be quite a lengthy and exceedingly humorous sketch, in which the old saying that one lie leads to another was very amusingly proved. Arthur Roberts himself, who played Fitzawful Smith, and eventually donned female attire, easily caused almost a constant roar of laughter, his gags and asides being quite in his own particular style. He received capital support from the Misses Nellie Lamport, Kitty Veine, J. Furneaux, and Jessie Burgwitz, and Mr. Harry J. Worth. The playlet was followed with the greatest interest, and Mr. Roberts was accorded an enthusiastic call at the close.

Kency Kay, billed as the "new original ventriloquist," submitted a particularly clever "spoof" act, his dummy proving to be, at the end of the turn, very much alive. The deception was very smartly effected, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the manner in which they were taken in, there being an abundance of applause. Franco's Midgets proved to be talented conjurers, the final illusion with the birds and the cage gaining them a well-deserved call. The Sisters Julian, a couple of attractive young ladies, were very successful in a vocal number, and concluded with a well-executed dance, their reception being very hearty.

The Royal Tokio troupe, in a juggling, wire-walking, and acrobatic act, made one of the hits of the programme. Their acrobatic items were all very smart, and the top-spinning a revelation in itself. The final feat, that of walking up a rope from the stage to the gallery and then sliding down backwards, made most of the audience hold their breath, and it gained for the troupe many calls. The Camplins, in a double turn, did well, the gentleman being a good comedian and the lady a skilful dancer. The Eight 'Varsity Girls, in a vocal show, scored a success, two of the ladies proving themselves to be the possessors of good voices, and another giving a smart dance. Gus Harris, in an elaborate scena, "'Tis Primrose Day," has a show which has great interest in these exciting times. He contrives to present a remarkably lifelike portrayal of Lord Beaconsfield. The special scenery effects, together with the choir, invest the show with great interest, and the artist's reception was very flattering. Joe Archer scored his usual success, telling any number of funny stories, and singing "Kelly's gone to kingdom come," a song with a very catchy chorus, which was lustily sung by the "gods." On the evening of our visit a little girl, called Dolly England, gave an extra turn, singing a couple of songs with great self-possession, the house giving her a very cordial greeting. The Bioscope was very amusing; and Kathleen Cogan, comedienne, was also in the bill. The orchestra renders invaluable aid, and Mr. B. Adams, the manager, is very courteous and attentive in front.

(For other Variety Theatre Notices, see pages 22 and 23.)

THE attraction at the Hoyland Hippodrome this week is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *A Soldier's Honour*. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis is a manly Captain Jack Dean; and a sinister Henry Thornton is found in Mr. Andrew Money. General Rochester (Mr. Ernest C. Edwards) and Holly (Mr. L. Ernest) are very good; and Mr. Jerrold H. Reed is all that can be desired as Captain Temple. The humorous element is well supplied by Miss Edie Macklin as Jemima Eliza, ably assisted by Miss Zara Leigh as Gwendoline Temple and Mr. Harry Lyndon as Percy Brattle. Miss Ida Lyndon is a sweet and sympathetic Doreen; and as Cora Lee, the adventuress, Miss Lilian Burns displays ability.

ELLISTON AND CO. are at the Borough Theatre, Wallsend, in a sketch, entitled *My Lady Betty*. The Monckton's provide a capital comedy sketch; Harry Licksen's acrobatic dogs show careful training and attention; Owen McGiveney is a clever impersonator of Dickens; the Millwards, in vaudeville act; the Taffies, Welsh entertainers; J. H. Clark and Chas. Torrain, vocalists, complete the programme.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

PHOTO SERIES No. I.

A FEW OF THE CHARMING LADIES WHO ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

WHO ARE THEY? ARE YOU AMONGST THEM?
IF NOT, SEND US A PHOTOGRAPH AT ONCE!!!

THE NAMES OF THE LADIES IN THIS GROUP WILL BE GIVEN NEXT WEEK.

THE ABOVE LADIES ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"TRILBY."

Sketch, Produced at the Willesden Hippodrome on Monday, Jan. 17.

Svengali .....MR. CHARLES GARRY
The Laird (Sandy) .....MR. J. B. GORDON
Taffy .....MR. STEPHEN EWART
Little Billie .....MR. G. SAVILLE
Gecko .....MR. C. BERRIN
Trilby .....MISS GRACE ILLINGWORTH

Willesden has had an opportunity this week of witnessing something of a novelty on the music hall stage. On Monday Messrs. Garry and Gordon's company presented, for the first time, an excellent adaptation of George du Maurier's story *Trilby*. The first scene is laid in the studio of the "Three Musketeers of the Brush," and the second, after the lapse of five years, in the foyer of the Cirque des Bashibasouks, in Paris. The studio banter, the pretty incidents upon Trilby's entrance, Svengali's exercise of his mesmeric arts, and the subsequent annoyance on the part of the Laird, Taffy, and Little Billie are all presented in an artistic manner. Taffy in his love scene with Trilby, who tells him of her love for Little Billie, and Little Billie's departure and subsequent return, only to find that Trilby has disappeared, are excellent point.

After five years the three artists meet again in Paris, in better financial circumstances, at the Cirque des Bashibasouks, where there is appearing a famous singer, billed as "La Svengali." In the foyer, after the singer's first song, Svengali, who is accompanied by Trilby, is met by the three Englishmen. They ask her for a word of remembrance, but, being under the influence of Svengali, she denies, in monotone, all knowledge of them, as does Svengali himself. After Trilby has left the foyer to give an encore the mesmeric effect passes off, and she finds she cannot sing. She returns to the foyer, and, having recovered her natural senses, recognises her three friends and wonders where she is. While this is taking place Svengali, after further speech with the Laird, Taffy, and Little Billie, is overcome by a sudden illness, and falls dead across the table. Little Billie thereupon takes Trilby for his own, and the curtain falls.

The playlet is well written, and all the parts are capitally sustained, special mention being deserved by Mr. Charles Garry as Svengali and Miss Grace Illingworth in the character of Trilby. The music, scenery, &c., are distinctly good, and a long run may safely be predicted for this excellent sketch.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The counter attraction and general excitement of the General Election notwithstanding, good business continues to be done at this cosy South London hall, where once again Manager Nelson Francis has prepared a most appetising bill for his numerous patrons. The *pièce de resistance* is undoubtedly the Vampire Dance, presented by Miss Mildred Deverez and Mr. Tom Terriss. This dance has already been commented upon at some length in these columns. The New Macs in their patter are original and mirth-provoking, and their quaint fooling makes their turn most enjoyable.

The Paul Corrix Trio are responsible for wonderful feats of strength, which they judiciously blend with some capital juggling. Neatness all through is the greatest charm of their turn. The Eight 'Varsity Girls show considerable ability as singers and dancers, each member contributing to the success achieved. Will Crackles has an amusing number in "Are you going to walk about all night," and also sings a funny widow song. Before concluding he demonstrates his ability as a dancer. A dainty little comedienne is Miss Rosie Gaston, who sings prettily a number entitled "She's the latest thing in widows." Afterwards she gives "Would anyone like to take me for a holiday?" which is so naïvely and demurely rendered that its scoring power is greatly enhanced.

An amusing little sketch is *Consulting Counsel*, most capably acted by Madge Lucas and company. A widow, desirous of remarrying, goes to consult a solicitor. Entering unannounced, she finds a man, arrayed in cap and gown, whom she takes to be the lawyer. He is, however, the lawyer's friend, who has merely popped in to see him, and, not finding him in, is killing time by trying on his wig and gown. The widow starts to explain her business and does not give her listener a chance to explain his position. After two or three ineffectual attempts to do so he resigns himself to the inevitable. When she has finished he is able to tell her who he is. She becomes furious, but after awhile regains her calm. He apologises; she accepts; and he will most likely attain the position of "second mate."

Another interesting little sketch is *Jim's Pal*, the latest success of Shirley and Ransome. A man down on his luck is taken in and cared for by an old mate. In return for this kindness he makes love to the good Samaritan's wife. The climax is reached when she tells her husband that either the visitor or she must leave the house at once. The husband, who puts implicit trust in his pal, and suspects nothing, is surprised, and as she advances no ground for her decision there is a little scene. On her departure for the supper beer the husband comes across a hidden letter which explains everything. On the wife's return she finds her husband with the letter in his hand. Now that his eyes have been opened and he has discovered the base ingratitude of the man he has befriended he is all too sorry. Strained relations make way for smoother ones; there is no longer any cause for misunderstanding, and the curtain is rung down to most deafening applause.

Jolly Jimmie Walker scores well in a couple of numbers, viz., "Have you seen my Angelina?" and "Don't forget to bolt the door, love"; and Estelle Collette proves herself to be a capital violinist. Other contributions to a most pleasant evening are the Milton Trio, Pete and Minnie Lee, Sadie Simpson, and Charles Williams. The pictures never fail to amuse. This week special arrangements have been made to give the latest election results. Mr. Francis L. Winchcombe, the popular acting-manager, looks after the comfort of his patrons in his usual capable manner.

MR. GEORGE CASELLI, brother to the Sisters Caselli, the well-known leg-mania dancers, opens on Monday next at the Paragon and the Palace, Greenwich. Mr. Caselli was formerly known as Stanhope Gordon.

MLLE. HELEN DUTRIEU, a Paris music-hall trick cyclist, made her first flight in a Santos Dumont monoplane at Issy-les-Moulineaux on Thursday, and broke the machine in descending. She was unhurt.

MR. JUSTICE WARRINGTON on Saturday granted an interim injunction, restraining Miss Gladys Maxwell and others from producing, at the Crouch End Hippodrome, a sketch, entitled *May Day*, on the ground that it was an infringement of the dramatic representations of the play *Sunday*, which was produced some years ago at the Comedy by Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson. Mr. Luxmore, who applied for the injunction on behalf of the authors of *Sunday*, said that the defendants had taken the first act of the play, and produced it as a sketch, without any alteration at all.

HIS LORDSHIP said that on the evidence before him there was as clear an infringement, not of copyright, but of representation, as one could have. If he let the matter stand over, and the sketch go on for another week, that would probably do very much more harm to the author of the play than it would do to the denfendants if he granted the injunction and it afterwards turned out he was wrong.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS SABLE FERN.

Aptly described as "a singer with a staccato enunciation," Sable Fern has popularised such

Photo by Hana.
MISS SABLE FERN.

famous songs as "What is the use of loving a girl?" "My lily of the valley," and "You can't stop the sun from shining." She usually appears in boy's attire, and for her latest success, "Teach the rising generation," she dons the familiar uniform of the Boy Scout. A copy of the song, it may be added, has been graciously accepted by his Majesty the King.

Miss Fern was born in Birmingham, and when but a schoolgirl in that town she applied and was accepted for a pantomime at the old Theatre Royal. After learning the choruses and attending several rehearsals, the producer, finding too many children had been engaged, told a few they were not wanted, and little Sable was one of them. Quite undaunted, she presented herself at the stage-door of the Gaiety Music Hall in answer to an advertisement of Mr. Selkirk for children for his *Bonnie Scotland* production. Here she met with success, and was given a song to sing. That is a little more than fifteen years ago, and she has been singing ever since.

In the early part of her career Miss Fern was waiting at home in Birmingham for something to turn up when she received the following telegram from Messrs. Oliver and Holmes: "Can you open Monday next at Leicester? Six pounds.—Fidgety, London." "Fidgety, London," was, of course, the telegraphic address, but she knew nothing about telegraphic addresses at that time, and turning to her mother she exclaimed: "Mother, look, they are fidgety; I must answer at once," and she did, thus: "Oliver and Holmes, York-road, London, S.E. 'All right, don't be fidgety; will go to Leicester next week.'"

Some time ago Miss Fern appeared at the London Coliseum as a cowboy, and having to make her entrance on horseback she accepted the invitation of a friend at Mortlake (a jobmaster) to take lessons in the equestrian art. Dressed for the occasion in a pair of cricket trousers, a fur coat, and hat she mounted her steed and commenced operations by cantering round the stable yard. Unfortunately the gate had been left open, and the horse, taking it into his head to find a wider field for the first lesson, gaily trotted out and, before he could be stopped, he was running through the little town of Mortlake with a rider who knew nothing whatever about horses. Fortunately Miss Fern got safely out of her predicament, and was preserved to entertain music-hall audiences with her effective singing.

DAINTY DOLLY CLYFFE.

Miss Dolly Clyffe was discovered a few months ago by Mr. J. Farrow, an Oldham song-writer. When he heard her sing he told her mother that there were great possibilities in the child—she is only fourteen—and if she would give him permission he would fit her with songs and place her on the stage. That permission being granted, no time was wasted, for six weeks afterwards she had been acclaimed a success, having given a trial show at the Royal Theatre, Oldham, to an enthusiastic audience. Mr. Farrow had, in the meantime, apprised Mr. Dottridge of his find, and that gentleman saw the little lady perform. He also decided that she would be a valuable acquisition to the variety stage, and asked Mr. Farrow to allow him to be her sole agent. Mr. Farrow having signed to that effect, Miss Clyffe can boast the experience of a non-stop run from the date of her first engagement to well into next year. At present she sings two songs, namely, "Is there anybody here named Charlie?" and "Blackpool-by-the-Sea," both written and composed by her business manager, Mr. Farrow.

When at Warrington Theatre Royal, Mr. Jack Waters, the manager of that house, asked Miss Clyffe if she would sing for a party of gentlemen at the Conservative Club, to which request the maiden readily assented. At the close of her entertainment she was rewarded with a nice sum of

[*Photo by Wright.*
MISS DOLLY CLYFFE.

money and a large box of chocolates. Her press notices have all been of a flattering nature, whilst her receptions are always good. Miss Dolly says she is sorry she is unable to dance. All she can do, she informs us, is to "wink and pull faces."

MISS LILY BRAMMER is the Maid Marion in Andie Caine's pantomime, which is paying a return visit to the East Ham Palace this week. The little lady has scored another success in "I wish I lived next door to you," followed by a neat step-dance.

FELDMAN SONGS

ARE BEING SUNG IN PANTOMIME BY THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES.

PRELIMINARY LIST.

MISS FANNY ADAMSON.
SISTERS ALBERT.
ALHAMBRA GIRLS.
MISS LILY ALLCHURCH.
ANDY ASCHE.
LAURIE ASTER.

MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
CHRIS BAKER.
MISS IRIS BANFIELD.
FRED BARNES.
BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS.
MISS MAY BEATTIE.
MISS LOUIE BECKMANN.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
MISS MARIE BERESFORD.
MISS NELLIE BINDON.
ROWLAND BOTTOMLEY.
MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN.
MARCUS BOYLE.
MISS MARION BRADSHAW.
MISS EDITH BROAD.
MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE.
MISS WINNIE BROOKS.
MISS MADGE BROWNE.
MISS MADGE BROWNIE.

ANDIE CAINE.
MISS MADGE CAMPBELL.
MISS LOIS CARIS.
CARL AND CARR.
HARRY CARLTON.
MISS NINA CARLTON.
MISS LOU CHARLESWORTH.
MISS HILDA CLAREMONT.
CECIL CLAYTON.
MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.
MISS GEORGIE CORLASS
MISS LUCY COVENTRY.
THE CRYSTALS.

MISS LINDA D'AMATO.
MISS ETHEL DANCY.
MISS ADA DAVIDSON
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
MISS ELSIE DENYS.
MISS ISABELLE DILLON.
MISS MOLLY DOON.
MISS KITTY DOUGLAS.
EWART DRAKE.
MISS LILIAN DRAKE.
MISS FLORENCE DUDLEY.
MISS VERA DUDLEY.

MISS LILLIE EDWARDS.
SISTERS EDWARDS.
LITTLE EILEEN.
MISS DOLLY ELLSWORTHY.
MISS ETHYL ERROL.
MISS JANE EYRE.

MISS NAN FARREN.
MISS ADA FAWN.
LEO FIELDS.
MISS RAY FORD.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
MISS IRIS FOX.
MISS TINA FRANKS.
FYNE AND HURLEY.

MISS KATHLEEN GARNON.
MISS GERTIE GAVAGAN.
MISS MILDRED GELL.
MISS LESLEY GIBSON.
MISS M. GIBSON.
MISS GERTRUDE GILLIAN.

ARTHUR GODFREY.
MISS RHODA GORDON
FRED GRAHAM.
MISS GRACIE GRAHAM.
MISS MABEL GREEN.
MISS GLADYS GUY.

MISS EDITH HALEY.
MISS VIOLET HALLAM.
MISS JENNIE HALLWORTH.
MISS CLARICE HANDEL.
MISS CARRIE HARDING.
MISS PRIMROSE HARDING.
MISS DOROTHY HARRIS.
MISS CLARE HARTLAND
MISS DORA HARVEY.
MISS BESSIE HEINE.
MISS BEATRICE HEWITT.
MISS MAY HILL.
J. W. HOOPER.
MISS ANGELA HOPE.
MISS HOWELL-HERSEE.
MISS PHYLLIS HUGHES.

MISS ELSIE JAMES.
MISS EDYTH JEFFRIES.
MISS DAISY JEROME.
MISS ZONA JOY

LITTLE KEENO
MISS MABEL KEITH.
MANITO KILTGAARD.
MISS EMMIE KING.
MISS VERA KINGDOM.
MISS WINNIE LANE
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
ALBERT LAURENCE.
EDWARD LAURI.
WILLIE LE BRUN.
MISS HETTY LEE.
MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.
JACK LEMSAL.
SISTERS LENNEN.
MISS GERALDINE LE SAGE.
LEWIS LESLIE.
MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE.
WILL LETTERS.
MISS KITTY LISKE.
MISS MINNIE LOVE.
MISS LOWE.
MISS RUTH LYTTON.

DONALD MACKAY.
MISS JENNIE MACKAY.
CHAS. MACNAUGHTEN.
MISS MARJORIE MANNERS.
MISS MAY MARS.
MISS NELLIE MASCOTT.
MAXFORD AND O'NEILL.
MISS NINA MAY.
MISS VERA MAYNE.
MISSES DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLEN.
SISTERS McCOLLA.
MISS MOLLY McINTYRE.
MISS LALLAH MELROSE.
MAT MELROSE.
MISS MAY MERRY.
MISS HELENE MOHR.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.
HARRY MORGAN.
MISS MABELLE MORGAN.
MISS DAISY MORRELL.
MISS FLORA MORRIS.
MISS LILY MORRIS.
TOM J. MORTON.
MISS MARIE MOSS.

MISS MINNIE MULVEY.
FRED MURRAY.

MISS ETHEL NEGRETTI.

MISS MADGE O'NEILL.
TOM O'NEILL
MISS VIOLET ORME.
MISS MAY OTTO.

MISS CARRIE PARRY.
MISS LILLIE PAYNE.
MISS VERONA PHYLLIS.
ARTHUR PIER.
MISS ALICE POLLARD.
MISS MAY POULTON.
MISS MAUD PRENTON.
CHAS. PRESTON.

MISS KITTY RAFFERTY.
HARRY RANDALL.
PHIL RAY.
MISS MADOLINE REES.
MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS HESTER REEVE.
MISS MARIE REEVE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.
RALPH ROBERTS.
MISS WINIFRED ROCHFORT.
FRED ROMA.
MISS VIOLET ROMAINE.
MISS KITTIE RORKE.
MISS EVA MAY ROSSLYN.
MISS CHRISTINE ROY.
MISS MARGARET RUBY.
MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL.
MISS KITTY RUSSELL.
SIDNEY T. RUSSELL.

MISS MARION SCOTT.
W. P. SHEEN.
MISS DAISY SILCOTT.
TOM SINCLAIR.
MISS GRACIE SINCLAIRE.
MISS TOPSIE SINDEN.
MISS EDITH ST. CLARE.
MISS NANCY ST. JOHN.
FRANK SUMNER.
MISS GRACIE SUMNER.
ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
MISS MARIE SYDNEY.
MISS BELLE SYLVIA.

MISS AGNES TANDY.
MISS OLIVE TEMPEST.
MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON.
MISS HAWTHORNE THWAITES.
MISS KITTY TREWHILL.

MISS BERYL VAUDREY.
MISS VENA VELMA.
MISS ELSIE VIDEAU.
MISS RITA VINCENT.
MISS RAY VIVIEN.
SISTERS VOLBECQUE.

MISS MARIE WALL.
MISS ANNIE WALLACE.
JACK WALLER.
MISS GLADYS WARREN.
MISS CISSIE WILLIAMS.
MISS ELLA WILLMER.
MISS IDA WILSON.
MISS NINA WILSON.
MISS DAISY WOOD.
SISTERS WYNESTAY.
MISS MOLLY WYNNE.

Artistes whose names are inadvertently omitted are particularly requested to advise us, so that the omission can be rectified.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

If any man is a good judge of a turn that man is Mr. Jesse Sparrow, who holds sway at the Empire, Camberwell. Mr. Sparrow has to his credit the finding of many an artist who is now a star. Indeed this gentleman claims to be a star-finder and loudly proclaims on his bills that his programmes are not made up of well-known names, but that nevertheless every artist is a gem. Although the current week's menu is an excellent one there is a single name in it that calls for special attention. That name is Graham, and Graham describes himself as a human marionette. He is all that and more. He is an excellent actor and mimic, a good singer, a clever inventor, and unmistakably a fine producer and master of stage craft. We confess Graham has set us a hard task to describe his act, for we have no praise too high for it, and there is just the chance that the reader may think our comments fulsome or extravagant.

The curtain goes up and we find a stage upon a stage. There is a mannikin orchestra of eleven performers, and seated just before it, is a chairman and his admirers, just as we remember him in the music hall of bygone days. This functionary suddenly stands up, raps the table with his hammer, and, in stentorian tones, announces that Mr. Geo. Leybourne will appear. Loud applause from the gentlemen seated at his table. Mr. Graham's head, fitted into the velvet black cloth appears attached to a marionette body, and we get a perfect make-up of the old-time star singing his famous song, "Champagne Charlie." This item is the cleverest piece of mimicry we remember to have seen of its class. Just as the mannikin chairman and his "pals" are vigorously applauding the song, another mannikin makes his appearance from the wings. This individual bears a silver salver, and, as the old-time waiter, demands loudly "Give your orders, gents!" and fetches and carries the beer at every opportunity during the turns in the funniest way imaginable. The wielder of the hammer next announces "Harry Rickards," the tiny conductor waves his baton, and we hear the strains of the famous old love ditty of the early eighties, "Cerulia was beautiful." This is another fine impersonation. In rapid succession we see and hear the stars of other days, faithfully portrayed, both in make-up, environment, and style. The great Vance sings us "Jolly dogs are we," Charles Coborn warbles once more "The man that broke the bank at Monte Carlo," G. W. Hunter tells us that "Nobody knows the trouble that was there," and Pat Feeney obliges with "Where the shamrock grows." One would scarcely have believed it possible that the successful songs of these men would have appealed to a to-day's audience, but the old melodies surely at the zenith of their success were never more heartily applauded than when Graham rendered them at the Camberwell Empire this week. The packed house rose and cheered itself hoarse on hearing songs it had probably read about, but never till now heard.

But if Graham was so successful with his imitations of bygone favourites, how much more so was he in the second half of his programme. There was a blackout after Pat Feeney, and when the lights went up ten seconds later we saw a modern proscenium opening, and Geo. Grossmith, jun., singing his Gaiety success, "Ip-i-addy-i-ay." He was followed by Vesta Victoria telling us that "Now I have to call him father." The concluding item was provided by a mannikin Harry Lauder, and a very faithful rendering of "Stop yer ticklin' Jock." Mr. Graham provides Lauder with a novel curtain to his act. After the song Harry starts to blow up his lilliputian bagpipes, and he distends the bag to such good effect that it explodes and presumably wrecks the show. In a very fine programme, Graham's was undoubtedly the turn of the night. We noted a representative of Marinelli's well after the act, with a view of booking it for Paris, but with all due respect to our Parisian friends it will be a thousand pities if our West End managers permit this excellent, novel, and original turn to leave the country.

Two old friends in the Sisters Jonghmans are another notable number in this bill. Their song "Ginger Brown," is undoubtedly a winner. The sisters are in good voice, are well dressed, and look as bright and bonny as ever they did. The Matt Wilkinson sketch, *The Bumpkins*, is well acted and a great laugh. It dealt with the trials and tribulations of a yokel and his sweetheart when they visit a registry office to get married. The other contributors to this programme are Gladys Scott, Davis and Deane, Kittie Bell (a splendid Scottish dancer), Ellis and Campbell (more Scotch and a very good brand too), Alan Holt's French playlet, *La Gigolette*, Dion Wade, and the Great Mackweys.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

A fine and varied programme is giving great pleasure to the crowded houses at each performance. Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Suzanne Sheldon are appearing with considerable success in a cleverly-written episode by Cyril Twyford. As Mr. and Mrs. Vane, the two clever artists are seen to great advantage, and the audience are pleased to know that all is well with husband and wife when the sketch ends.

Maxey and Pete are very clever indeed as trick cyclists, and their efforts are rewarded with prolonged applause. Charming Miss Jenny Hartley won well-deserved applause for her song and dance; La Freya was greatly admired in her artistic performance, and the effects were novel and capitally worked; Hubert Connorton gave an excellent turn, both clever and amusing, and his ability was warmly recognised; the Mysterious Musician Toto was duly wondered at and applauded as a remarkable piece of mechanism; Billy Hobbs is an excellent coon vocalist and expert clog dancer who received his due share of appreciation and applause; the famous Cragge, whose name is sufficient guarantee of excellence in any turn they present, appeared in their latest acrobatic comedy sketch entitled *Territorials; or, England's Last Hope*; and the American Bioscope exhibited some new pictures, including The Sack Race.

The Empire Comedy Four appeared with success in their clever entertainment, consisting of excellently-rendered part songs and smart dialogue. They gave "Asleep in the deep" and "Take me up with you, dearie" in capital style. Zona Vevey made a great success, and was honoured with many recalls. Her scene *My Lady's Bower* is very pretty, and her entertainment, in which she is assisted by Max Erard, is clever and refined. Mr. C. W. Young is very popular in front of the house, as is his able lieutenant, Mr. H. Percy Parr, while Mr. Walter Smith capably manages the stage and Mr. Forbes Russell conducts the orchestra with skill.

AFTER a short but most successful tour in the provinces the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe again return to town, and open on Monday next at the London Pavilion and Empire, Holborn.

THE death is announced in Brixton from consumption, on the 9th inst., of Mr. Sidney W. Bint, son of Mr. Billie Bint by his first wife, Kate Leamar (of the Sisters Leamar).

THE funeral took place from 12, Burton-road, Brixton, on Friday, the 14th, the deceased being interred in the family grave at Tooting. Beautiful flowers were sent by his devoted wife Millie (Tempest), Billie Bint (father), Alice Leamar, Nellie Leamar, Aunt Carrie, Uncle Charlie, Mr. and Mrs. R. Baggally, Mr. P. Crackles, Miss Flo Morton, Nellie Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. G. Warwick, Mrs. O'Grady, Selina Seaforth, "A Faithful Servant," and many others.

VARIETY ARTISTS' FEDERATION.

FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The members of the Variety Artists' Federation, at their annual meeting held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Strand, on Sunday night last decided to secede from the General Federation of Trade Unions.

Mr. CLEMART, at the commencement of the meeting, announced that Mr. Russell, their chairman, was ill with internal trouble. Mr. Clemart had visited Mr. Russell. He has been examined by means of the X rays, and the doctor had ordered him to remain in bed.

Mr. FRED HERBERT was voted to the chair, and called upon Mr. Clemart to read Mr. Russell's address.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and gentlemen,—Mr. Clemart has probably explained to you the circumstances compelling my absence from the meeting to-night, and whilst deeply regretting my inability to attend, I should not like to pass out of office without a few words to the members, and some reference to the work of the year. I yield to no man in my appreciation of the zeal, ability, and self-sacrifice of my predecessor in this office, and I do not forget that in all he did he acted only as the mouthpiece of his executive committee, whose decisions he carried into effect with a fearlessness every man must admire, although not agreeing with those decisions. I did not agree with the procedure adopted in the Agency dispute, and it was in consequence of my attitude in this matter that when the late chairman resigned his office, so that no obstacle should stand in the way of a settlement, I was urged to take the position. I did so on the definite understanding that we should adopt moderation as our watchword, and give full effect to one of the avowed objects of the Federation, viz., "To promote industrial peace and progress by all amicable methods, and when difficulties do arise to assist in obtaining an equitable settlement by reasonable means." It was made perfectly clear at the outset that moderation did not mean weakness, or that we would relax in the slightest degree our efforts to adjust the legitimate grievances of our members, and we have lived up to that, for in no single instance has the Federation failed to assist its members to the utmost extent of its power. When a member has made a complaint, and attempts at a conciliatory settlement have failed, no effort—legal or otherwise—has been spared to obtain for the member his just dues. We have sometimes failed in the Law Courts, and there have, of course, been cases where the committee had to refuse legal assistance, in accordance with the rules, because our legal advisers had reported that we had no chance of winning. But I repeat, there has been no legitimate case brought before the committee which has not been dealt with to the full extent of our power. I claim that a large measure of success has attended the adoption of the policy of moderation. Several important and mutually satisfactory settlements were arrived at in the beginning of the year, which otherwise might have engendered much bitterness and cost a lot of money; but, generally speaking, there has been no disposition on the part of the proprietors to be "matey." The interpretation placed upon the "occupancy and possession" clause, both by Mr. Askwith and the law when we appealed to it, is an absolute injustice to the artist, and the methods to which some of the proprietors have resorted in order to avoid observing the spirit—as well as the letter—of the Arbitrator's Award, especially in regard to the payment for matinées, have been very discouraging. On the other hand, the settlement arrived at with Mr. Stoll on the Charity Matinée question was, to my mind, an eminently satisfactory solution of a very difficult problem, and the reference to arbitration of the Agency dispute ended in a complete victory for the Federation. The agents, through their association, have shown every desire to work amicably with the Federation. With regard to our membership of the Federation of Trades Unions, my brief experience has convinced me that it is a waste of money on our part. In respect of our membership, the long-drawn-out Agency dispute undoubtedly affected us very adversely. During the year 1908 3,867 blue cards were issued, and about 3,400 members were in actual benefit; but at the end of the year, whilst the Agency trouble was in progress, our books show that the members dropped out in large numbers, and when I came into office at the end of February last only 2,272 brown cards had been taken up. 417 old members subsequently came in, and 288 new members joined, so that our membership now is just nine short of 3,000. Financially our position is even better, and after paying out of this year's accounts £970 owing for last year's legal expenses, and £620 out of the general funds for emergency fund liabilities, incurred by the Agency dispute, and after that fund had been exhausted, we still have a balance of some £600 more than at this time last year, and all our liabilities have been met. There has been no half-crown levy this year, and we do not owe anybody. To me the most discouraging feature of the year has been the apathy of the members—particularly the more influential members—and their apparent lack of interest in the movement, as demonstrated by their absence from the executive and members' meetings. As many of you are aware, I do not propose to offer myself for re-election to the office of chairman, as some of my colleagues have urged me to do. Your chairman does not look for material reward; all he wants is a little appreciation for the very considerable amount of labour involved, and the support of those at whose instigation the duties were primarily undertaken. It has not been my lot to obtain that to any appreciable extent, and I feel that I have a just cause of complaint against those of my colleagues who urged me to take this position a year ago, but who have been conspicuous only by their absence from the deliberations of the executive. I appeal to those who have the welfare of this Federation at heart, whose names stand high on the roll of fame, and who consequently carry some weight, to take a greater interest in the work, and not to let the burden rest solely on the shoulders of the willing few.

The next item on the agenda was the appointment of scrutineers and tellers. They would receive a fee of £3 3s. each for their services. Messrs. George Fredericks, Edie Comet, Fred Dunstan, and R. Wishart were unanimously appointed.

Mr. CLEMART, the general secretary, then presented his report.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The year 1909, with the exception of the earlier weeks in January, has been one of comparative quiet as compared to former years. The opening of the year found the Federation still in dispute with the agents. Negotiations had been commenced under the auspices of the General Federation of Trade Unions, with a view to arbitration, but these negotiations came to a deadlock when the agents, supported by the General Federation of Trade Unions, wished to submit to the arbitrator the question: "Should an artist be permitted to act as an agent?" This the V.A.F. representatives refused to agree to, and the General Federation of Trade Unions withdrew from the matter. A mass meeting was called to consider the matter at Terry's Theatre, London, on Sunday, Jan. 10, and at this meeting Mr. Joe O'Gorman, the chairman of the Federation since its inception, seeing that he was the stumbling-block in the way of a settlement, and not wishing to prolong a struggle which was inflicting great hardship on a number of the members, tendered his resignation. His deed of self-sacrifice undoubtedly saved the Federation at one of the most crucial points of its existence, and at a cost which probably no one has realised. Mr. O'Gorman is still an active member of the Federation. On Jan. 13 the representatives of the Agents' Association and the Variety Artists' Federation met, and the arbitration, which concluded on Feb. 12, was arranged. The official award was published on Feb. 18, and by that award the variety profession was at last released almost entirely from that injustice known to all artists as "the re-engagement clause." There now exists only one condition under which an agent can claim commission on the "next" engagement, and that is on an engagement of eight weeks or less, if made with a management with whom the artist has never previously appeared, and then this right to commission vanishes if the next engagement is not secured for the artist within the next three months. The value of this new condition means thousands of pounds in artists' pockets. The relationship between the Agents' Association and the V.A.F. are at present most friendly, and an arrangement whereby disputes between agents and artists shall be settled by a Board of Arbitration, composed of two agents and two artists, has practically been agreed upon. On April 14, Messrs. Fred Russell, Joe Elvin, and the general secretary were appointed to meet Mr. Oswald Stoll, with a view to coming to an arrangement in reference to charity matinées. It was agreed that the permission of the V.A.F. should be no longer necessary, providing a statement to the effect that the entire proceeds, without any deductions whatever, were to be given to the charity in question. In return, Mr. Stoll agreed to give annually the free use of three of the theatres under his control, one each in London, Liverpool, and Manchester, for the purposes of charity matinées in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. The first of these was held at the London Coliseum, on Dec. 21 last, and realised over £300. It should here be mentioned that charity matinées not run on these conditions are still subject to the old terms, as are anniversaries and benefits. Another of the important events of the year has been the enquiry by a joint Parliamentary Committee into the question of the licensing of theatres and music halls, with the result that that committee has recommended to Parliament "a single licence for all places of entertainment." This recommendation has yet to become law. With a few exceptions managers are gradually settling down to the award. There have been occasional complaints to the arbitrator, chiefly on the evasion, directly or indirectly, of matinée payment. The managements of the Empress, Brixton, the Empire, Shoreditch, the Hippodrome, Wigan, the Pavilion, Glasgow, and the Barrasford circuit were all proved guilty in front of him, of having issued contracts to include matinées without extra payment. The management of the Tivoli and Oxford, London, in several cases did not allow certain of our members to appear at the usual Saturday matinée, on the grounds that they were not "required." A test action was taken by the Federation, and the judge gave a verdict in favour of the artists. We thank the International Artists' Lodge, and its president, Mr. Konorah, through whose instrumentality we are now affiliated to our brother and sister artists in France. Their Association is known as the Union Syndicale des Artists Lyrique de France, and we welcome them, and trust that this new affiliation will be to mutual advantage. We thank the White Rats of America for the great assistance they have rendered to members of the V.A.F. in America. We thank our 179 V.A.F. agents in the provinces, our scrutineers, our 143 members who carry stamps for sale, our solicitor, Mr. Eugene Judge, and we thank Mr. Chas. Doughty, standing counsel to the Federation, who so ably fights for us. We have two awards. We are prepared to abide by them, and we have every right to expect that all parties concerned will honorably and faithfully do the same. In the meantime, evasion of the award, or of the spirit of the award, will be vigorously protested against by every means in our power. All we want is peace with honour. (Prolonged applause.)

The adoption of the secretary's report was proposed by Mr. GEORGE FREDERICKS, seconded by Mr. HARRY MASON, and carried unanimously.

It was stated that last year the Federation had started the year with £1,325, and it was about £620 better off this year. The balance sheet was only up to Dec. 31, since which date about £150 had come in, the assets of the Federation thereby amounting to over £2,000.

Mr. C. C. BARTRAM then submitted the report and balance sheet of *The Performer*, explaining at full length the various details in connection therewith. Mr. ROSSI ASHTON proposed, Mr. VAN BERN seconded, that the *Performer* balance sheet and report be adopted, which was done.

Speaking on the General Federation of Trade Unions, Mr. CLEMART said that last year the Federation found that the agency trouble was getting rather greater than it should have been because the managers had gone in with the agents, and were supporting them. They had asked the General Federation of Trade Unions to intervene, chiefly with the idea that they should use that big moral force they are always cramming down people's throats, and go to the managers and say: If you don't keep out of this fight and leave the artists to fight their battle with the agents, we shall have to say to all our members—when we have investigated it and found that it is true—we shall have to pass the word to the millions of trade unionists whom we control, and ask them not to go to your halls. The G.F.T.U. immediately said, Before we can take any such step as this we shall have to offer the agents arbitration; but we don't think they will have it. Are you agreeable to go to arbitration? The V.A.F. was agreeable to go to arbitration on the points laid down, that is, how much the commission should be; whether it should be collected by the managers; and whether there should be any re-engagement clause or not, and if so what time limit. Those were the points agreed upon. They reported to the V.A.F. about the end of 1908 that the agents were agreeable to go to arbitration.

Mr. CLEMART continued: We met them, either on Dec. 30 to 31 to draw up terms of reference to go before the arbitrator who might be appointed. The same day Mr. Appleton also met the agent's representatives to draw up terms of reference. Mr. Appleton then came along with the suggestion that in addition to those terms we already had agreed upon, we should agree that the question of whether an artist should be an agent should be submitted to arbitration. Our representations agreed that this was introducing new matter, that it was not a question for an arbitrator to decide upon, and was not one of the questions in dispute. Mr. Lee and myself, with Mr. O'Gorman and Mr. Pink, agreed that we would not accept it, and asked why the suggestion was introduced. Mr. Appleton said, "Well, if you don't accept it there the matter ends." I said, "Do you mean to tell me that if we don't agree to go to arbitration upon this that the General Federation, to whom we are paying our subscriptions, will absolutely refuse to have anything more to do with the matter, and will walk out?" He said, "We shall wash our hands of the matter." The General Federation did wash their hands of it, and we had to face the situation ourselves. We went to Arbitration, but we did it all without them. They did nothing but talk, and that is all we ever got out of the Federation of Trade Unions. They cannot understand music hall artists earning £10 or so a week—which is perhaps a fortune to most of them—grumbling. In the autumn, as you know, we found ourselves in a dilemma over the lowering of salaries at the Holborn, in order to make up the matinée payments. We knew perfectly well that we could not go to Mr. Askwith on it. We have had the question before him previously, and Mr. Askwith always tells us that if a manager pays one-twelfth or one seventh of the salary for matinées, in accordance with his contract, that man is not breaking the award, and that he had nothing to do with the fixing of salaries, and if an artist did not like it he should not sign it. You cannot convince Mr. Askwith, because he is a lawyer, and only looks at the legal side of it, that an artist has to sign such a contract for Holborn or else he will not get the rest of the tour. Mr. Gibbons had broken his word, and, therefore, we felt justified in dealing with Mr. Gibbons first. Now, I ask you what do we pay our money for to the General Federation of Trade Unions? We have never, and we never will, go to them for financial assistance; all we ask for is moral support, and that we have always gone without. Twice in twelve months they nearly talked us to death, and then said, "We are sorry, but we cannot go on." I am prepared to answer any questions, and I would like to ask Mr. Blake for his opinion personally of the conduct of the General Federation of Trade Unions.

Mr. ATLAS then proposed that "The Variety Artists' Federation disassociate themselves from the General Federation of Trade Unions." Mr. MOONEY seconded this proposition.

Mr. WINFIELD BLAKE said he was quite with Mr. Atlas and Mr. Mooney, and did not in the least see the necessity of continuing their relations with the G.F.T.U. any longer.

A unanimous vote of condolence to Mr. Russell in his lamentable illness concluded the meeting.

MISS MAUD ESMOND, the original singer of "I've been out with Charlie Brown," is still making an enormous success with this number, having sung it every week for a whole year.

THE
STAR MUSIC Co.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS.

*SHIP AHOY!
*CHARLIE BROWN.
*I CAN PICTURE POLLY (HANGING UP THE HOLLY.)
I CAN'T REACH THAT TOP NOTE.
I'LL SAW HIS SEE-SAW DOWN.
*SEA, SEA, SEA.
WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, GIRLS.
I WANT MR. SCHNEIDER.
*MR. MAN IN THE MOON.
*I'LL LET THE WORLD GO BY.

BAND PARTS 1/. Per Set. State Theatre and Part when writing for copies.

19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Wires, SONGONIA, LONDON Phone, 8446 GERRARD.

FUNERAL OF MICHAEL NOLAN.

The funeral of the late well-known Irish comedian, Michael Nolan, took place on Saturday, the 15th, at Tooting Cemetery. The coffin, of polished oak, had the following inscription:—

MICHAEL PATRICK NOLAN,
Died Jan. 12, 1910,
Aged 42.
R.I.P.

The hearse was drawn by four horses, and there were five coaches, besides private broughams, motors, &c. The chief mourners were Mrs. Nolan (the widow), Herbert Nolan (son), Aggie Nolan (daughter), Mrs. Lee (a sister), and a niece, Mr. and Mrs. Pocock, and Dr. Walker, who had attended him devotedly for six or seven years.

A number of deceased's brother Water Rats formed a semi-circular avenue from the steps of the deceased's residence for some 30yds. or 40yds. down the centre of the road to the hearse.

Amongst others who followed and called at the house to pay their last respects to "poor Mike" were Messrs. Joe O'Gorman, Joe Elvin, Jack Lotto, Ben Brown, J. W. Cragg, Reed Pinaud, Papa Brown, Charles Austin, Fred Kitchen, Bob Leonard, Billy Manning, Percy Delevine, Harry Delevine, Marco, Geo. Leyton, Morney Cash, James Carroll, Syd Francis (Birmingham), Gus Marber, Barrett and Knowles, A. Martinetti, Albert Laurel, Harry Kitchen, Harry Ford, Jack Bland, A. Armstrong, Little Ganty, Alf. Lotto, Ada Cerito, W. P. Carey, T. C. Callaghan, Mike Asher, and Dick and Marie Kendal, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brantford, and Mr. and Mrs. Geraldo.

The funeral arrangements were very ably carried out by Mr. W. Dunkley, Westminster Bridge-road.

The floral tributes—all very beautiful and in all sorts of designs—included wreaths from Agnes (Mrs. Nolan) and Mr. Bert Nolan, and a cross from Aggie Nolan. The Water Rats sent a very lofty lyre; a large wreath from the V.A.F.S.; a cushion, on which was "At Rest," from Mr. and Mrs. George Barclay; a large harp, with broken string, from Joe O'Gorman. Wreaths, columns, crosses, broken hearts, cushions, harps, &c., were also sent by the following:—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Stratton, Brothers Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lotto, Mr. and Mrs. Steve McCarthy (Miss Mary Kendal), Mr. and Mrs. Barney Armstrong, Mr. J. W. Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Chester, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bijou, Mr. and Mrs. Will Poluski, Mr. and Mrs. Papa Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Lotto, Mr. Wal Pink, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Geraldo, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brantford, Mr. and Mrs. J. Brammam, Mr. and Mrs. Syd May, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Darnley, Mr. and Mrs. Will Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Conlin (Birmingham), Mr. and Mrs. Syd Francis (Birmingham), Mr. and Mrs. Joe Waldron (Birkenhead), Mr. Alec Hurley, Mr. Pat Rafferty, Messrs. Drew and Alders, Mr. Mike Asher, Mr. Pat Doherty, the Barclay Family, Mrs. Field and family, Mr. Lew Lake, Mr. Fred Malcolm, Mr. Alec Hurley's Boys and Girls, Mr. Bob Wade, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bland, the Misses Croft, Mr. and Mrs. Uie Bryant (Bristol), Miss F. French, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Pratt, Dr. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Pocock, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Carey, Mr. and Mrs. Ganty, Mr. and Mrs. Sansome, and Mr. and Mrs. Proctor.

Telegrams of condolence were received from the following:—Mr. and Mrs. George Formby, Mr. Mahony, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lennard, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Holmes, Lee and Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seeley, Mr. George Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Young, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Mr. Chalmers Mackey, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Conlin, the McConnells, Mr. Gus Elen, Mr. Dave O'Toole, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. Geraldo, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Will Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. B. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Waldron, Miss Alice Maydue, Miss Kate Carney, the Craggs, Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley (Paddy), Mr. Fred Russell, Mr. Pat Carey, Miss Polly McConnell, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Steve McCarthy, Mr. Mark Anthony, Williams and Warden and Mrs. Williams, Mr. Joe Tennyson, Mr. Johnny Dwyer, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Lotto, Mr. and Miss Johnson, Ross and Grayson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mildare, Miss Egerton, Walter Stanley, the Orchids, Miss Florrie Heywood, Miss Amy Russell, the Smythsons, Mr. Edgar Hayes, Mr. Harry Clifford, Mr. Billy Brown, Miss Harriett Vernon, Mrs. Susan Lee (sister to M. Nolan), Mr. Bill Manning, Papa Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Gunnop, Miss Lily Marney, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Warren, Mr. Jack Lotto, Walter Munroe, and Mr. Bowker Andrews.

Letters of condolence were also received from the following:—Mr. J. W. Nolan, Mr. E. Macnab, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Cyril Pitch, Miss Pattie Blanchard, Mr. Alf. Sansome, Mr. H. B. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Greenholtz, Miss Edna Baugh, Mr. John Redmond, C.B.R.A., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Merrion, Miss F. French, Mrs. Deb Cameron, Mrs. H. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Newman, Mr. P. Rutland (solicitor), Miss Lena Pinaud, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dunning, Mrs. Ripon, Mr. and Mrs. Uie Bryant, Mrs. A. Haikon, card of Memoriam, Mr. and Mrs. Boydon, Ma Taylor, Mr. W. Norman, Miss Kitty Gresham, Slater's Restaurant, M.H.A.R.A. and V.A.B.F., Miss Balfour, Mr. Wallace Whitney, Miss L. Pocock, Mrs. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McKay, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Vendome, Mr. Tom Bowling, Mr. W. Lee, Mr. Todge Taylor, Mr. K. Armstrong (solicitor), Mr. H. Joyner, Misses Wreyford, Mr. and Mrs. H. Woods, Mr. and Miss Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor, Three Aza Boys, Mr. Leslie Reed, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Conlin, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Syd Francis, Miss Bishop, Miss Gertie Gitana, Miss H. Lock, Mr. Mike Asher, Mr. Eric Sisley, Mr. Fred Leopold and family, Mrs. E. Beckwith, Miss Ray Roslyn, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Willmott.

Photo by Luntz, Lambeth.

FLORAL TRIBUTES ON THE GRAVE OF THE LATE MICHAEL NOLAN, AT TOOTING CEMETERY.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PARAGON.

The genial manager, Mr. Jack B. Cohen, has provided an exceptionally strong programme for this week, a special feature being his nightly announcement of the Parliamentary Election results, which are looked forward to with much excitement. A most interesting comedy drama, *The Matrimonial Fee*, is submitted by Harry First and company. Mr. First's impersonation of the Hebrew is a capital piece of acting throughout.

Miss Madge Temple, the winsome Musical Comedy Queen, is quite delightful in her latest success "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," her second item being that popular number of Mr. Lester Barrett's, viz., "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," both choruses being heartily taken up by the major portion of the audience. Mr. Harry Russon, the actor-comedian, opens with a bright and catchy song, "The Idol of Boulogne," after which he recites that well-written barrack ballad, by Rudyard Kipling, entitled "Gunga Din," at the end of which he listens to rousing applause. King and Benson, the popular pair, are retained for another week, their clever and versatile act being greatly appreciated; Mr. Harry Herbert, a new comedian, possesses an extremely good style, and sings smart songs. He should go far. The King's College Boys in "The Students' Concert" are most entertaining, each performer proving himself a first-class singer. Wyndham and Wyatt in *The Professor and His Pupil* win shoals of applause for their bright little act, the funniosities of the pupil being exceedingly laughable. Both gentleman, too, possess voices which blend well in duets.

Miss Ella Shields is as popular as ever in her new numbers. The first relates to a figure from a waxwork show. The other, sung in a smart military uniform, displaying a neat figure, describes the kind of girl required by those in the army. Mr. Harry Taft relates many good Yiddisher stories which appeal to this particular audience, but his special feature is his whistling, which is very powerful. Doone and Donald are a clever comedy couple, the male partner being responsible for some tricky tumbling, and is ably assisted by the lady, whose dancing is decidedly good. Miss Ada Colley, prima donna, assisted by Mr. Penyston Miles at the piano, is in excellent voice, her rendering of "The Child of Spring" and "Dreamland" being quite delightful. Mr. Sam Williams, chorus comedian, has two catchy numbers in "Money speaks all languages" and "I must marry a girl by twelve o'clock to-night," the latter being particularly tuneful. Miss Marie Blythe, contralto, wins much applause for her songs "As long as it is home, sweet home" and "Say good-bye." Jack Hamilton's dancing is particularly good, and Les Frasettis, refined musical speciality artists, are exceedingly popular. Many interesting films are displayed.

THE BEDFORD.

Naturally during the current week all music hall audiences are eager to learn the latest state of the poll, and Mr. B. P. Lucas, in addition to his usual entertaining bill, made arrangements for the latest results, which his genial manager, Mr. Arthur Edwards, announced at frequent intervals throughout the performance, and the audiences were gratified to have the latest information so promptly. The current programme is indeed a varied one, and includes three sketches.

Chief honours in this line undoubtedly fell to Mr. F. Stuart Whyte and company, who present a fine historical drama, *1643*, which deals with an episode in the great Rebellion. It is a capitally written little play, and admirably acted, while the staging is very fine, and the costumes of the period are faithfully reproduced. Lena Pinaud, a bright comedienne, has a good number in "Making eyes," and she finishes off her turn with a good dance. Paul Mill and his delightful company of singers, "The Courtiers," are making a very welcome return visit, introducing an entirely new répertoire, which meets with much approbation, which is richly deserved.

A very much appreciated comic sketch, *Strategy*, played by W. Theodore and company, deals with the attempt of an old uncle to restore harmony in the house of his nephew and his young wife. It is very amusing, and is played in the liveliest possible manner. A new style of living pictures is being presented by Alice Hoodless, who is giving representations of several modern pictures that have made their fame at the Royal Academy. Among the works presented are some by Blair Leighton and Yeend King, and they are all most artistically done, and the lighting effects are a special feature. Ben Albert, a great favourite in Camden Town, is going very strong this week with a couple of good songs. Bradley and Barnes, American comedy artists, sing some pretty numbers and score a success. Staffo, the Juggling Butcher Boy, gives a most diverting turn, his patter being very amusing at times, and he does some clever manipulation of plates. Unita and Paul give a fine acrobatic performance, and their feats of strength with the teeth are astounding, being very daring, but splendidly performed.

A striking sketch entitled *English Slaves* is given by Harold Brough and company, and it deals with the sweating system in the East End. It is written in a very dramatic manner, and is very well received. The Harry Russell Trio provide a quarter of an hour's uproarious mirth with their comic business, it can hardly be described as a sketch, though it borders on it; however, it is really very amusing, and the trio play together well, and keep the fun going. Miss Florry Cooper, always a favourite with her songs here, is deputising this week, and again scored heavily with her popular number, "Which is my mother's star." The Bioscope concludes a very varied and interesting programme.

THE Dulwich Philharmonic Society will give their first concert of the season at the Crystal Palace on Saturday next, Jan. 29, when they will give Sullivan's oratorio, *The Martyr of Antioch*, conducted by Mr. Douglas Rodman. The concert will commence at 7.30.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Darling on Saturday came the action brought by the Palace Theatre, Ltd., for an injunction restraining Mr. Cyril Clenay, music hall artist, from appearing at the Shepherd's Bush Empire and other places of amusement in London. The defendant, under an agreement dated Jan. 4, 1909, appeared at the Palace Theatre for a period of four weeks. He also agreed to renew his engagement early this year and not to perform in London prior to his reappearance at the Palace Theatre. On Oct. 18 last the defendant appeared at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, and an interim injunction was obtained. As no defence had been put in by the defendant, the learned counsel asked that the injunction should be made perpetual. Mr. Justice Darling gave judgment for the plaintiffs for a perpetual injunction in the terms asked for with costs.

A GRAND concert by the Crystal Palace Orchestral Society will be given at the Crystal Palace on Feb. 12 at 8 p.m., Mr. W. W. Hedgcock having arranged a most attractive programme. Verdi's *Requiem* has been chosen for this occasion, and will be personally conducted by Mr. Hedgcock. The society will be assisted by the Crystal Palace choir. The soloists include Miss Edith Evans, Miss Maria Yelland, Mr. Webster Millar, and Mr. Julien Henry. These concerts afford great interest to the music-loving public, and were very popular last year. It might be mentioned, by the way, that Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, who is musical director of the Crystal Palace, very ably conducted the British Symphony Orchestra at the Coliseum on Sunday last.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Successful Annual Meetings.

THE Showmen's Guild of Great Britain had a gloriously successful meeting at the World's Fair, Islington, on Wednesday last, Jan. 19. The Pillar Hall was overcrowded, and many were obliged to hear what they could of the speeches in the crowded passage leading to the hall. The president, Mr. P. Collins, in his opening speech, struck the right note. It was a jubilant one. They were gathered together to rejoice at the manifest success of their united efforts—the grand record of twenty-one years' hard and constant work. The claim for social status and justice and for the full rights of citizenship had been completely vindicated. No longer were showmen to be regarded as "roving vagabonds," but as entertainers of the people and as fairground traders, maintaining, legitimately, the people's popular open-air fairs, feasts, and wakes.

The Pioneers and Founders of the Guild.

AN "In Memoriam" note was struck when in the speeches both the president and the chaplain referred to the dead and gone heroes in Showland. Such names as James Dean, John Barker, Frank Bailey, T. Read, Tyler, Chamberlain, Newall, Randal Williams, Wm. Clark would ever be fragrant with the memory of their great and unselfish work for the good of others.

THE mention of the names of George Sanger, Joe Caddick, Mr. Pedgrift (of *The Era*), Mr. H. C. Stephens (late member for Hornsey), Mr. T. Gibson Bowles (M.P. for King's Lynn), and Earl Wemyss provoked cheers and applause. Then the stalwarts of the present hour—men who, happily for Showland, have maintained the honour and the interests of showpeople during the whole period of the Guild's organised life.

SUCH names as the chaplain, John and Patrick Collins, T. Hurst, John Wilmot, George Green, John, Henry, and Jacob Studt, and a host of others. Here, indeed, was reason more than sufficient for the ringing note of jubilation that marked the gathering.

The Financial Response.

THE generous response to the demand of the Guild for funds was indeed most gratifying. Who could resist the lead that the president gave when he (for his second year of office) gave the munificent subscription of fifty pounds?

MESSRS. R. GARRETT AND SONS, of Leiston, engineers, sent a cheque for five guineas; Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons, of Thetford, engineers, renewed their annual subscription of five pounds; Messrs. W. Foster and Co., engineers, Lincoln, gave two guineas; Mr. Wentworth (agent for Marenghi et Cie, of Paris and London) gave two guineas himself and one guinea for his firm; J. Bibby and Co., Manchester, one guinea; R. H. Mellor and Sons, Oldham, one guinea; the Great Central Railway, one guinea (per Mr. Tom Smith); and J. H. Creber, show printer, Plymouth, one guinea. Amongst the showmen subscribers for five guineas were John Studt, Wm. Haggar, Forrest Brothers, Charles Thurston, H. Thurston and Sons, and Wm. Murphy; subscribers for three guineas included Wm. Taylor, of the Cinema Palace at the World's Fair; Mr. W. Wilson, also of the World's Fair; Messrs. Toft and Turnbull, of Ireland; Messrs. Crecraft Bros., of Wales. Amongst the two guineas subscribers were Mr. T. Hurst, hon. secretary of the Guild; Mr. T. Clarke, of Kidderminster; J. Dooner and Son (Wales and the West); Robert Fossett, of circus fame, gave two guineas for the current year, and the Guild secretary acknowledges now a similar subscription of Mr. Fossett's for 1909. Amongst the guinea subscribers were Messrs. A. A. Strong (hon. solicitor), H. Kinder, Frank Turner, T. E. Read (the lessee of the World's Fair), H. Cariss, J. Johnson (theatre proprietor, Wales), Wm Hastings, and Mr. Andrew Purchase, of the menagerie, gave one pound. The subscriptions under one pound will be found given in the general list of members enrolled in another column. We have mentioned here the larger sums as indicating a healthy sign of growing recognition of responsibility on the part of leading showmen to provide for the protection of their trade and business and to finance a movement so manifestly successful for good in British show-life.

The Supper and Ball.

THE social event of the year is undoubtedly the World's Fair Supper and Ball. To this event crowd all the youth and beauty of showland. What a brilliant crowd it is—worthy of any class or profession in life! At the high table and at cross tables contiguous to it we noted the leading men and women in British show life. Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Studt, Mr. and Mrs. John Studt, Mr. and Mrs. John Collins, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ball, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ball, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. S. Bolesworth, Mr. and Mrs. Crecraft, Mr. and Mrs. Kinder, Mr. and Mrs. G. Forrest, Mr. and Mrs. H. Forrest, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. S. Mayne, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mayne. With the chairman (Mr. T. E. Read) sat the President of the Guild, Mr. P. Collins, the Guild Chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, Mr. Fowler, Assistant Manager of the World's Fair, Mr. Frank Mellor, of Oldham, with many others whose names did not transpire. Other prominent guests included Messrs S. Mellor (Oldham), Fred Bibby (Manchester), T. Hurst (Manchester), G. W. A Norton (Penzance), Marshall Hill (Gloucester), D. Johnson (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Murphy (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Goldthorpe Marshall (Bradford), Mr. E. Geoghegan (Manchester), Mr. and Mrs. H. Wallis (Liverpool), Mr., Mrs., and Misses Taylor (of the World's Fair), Mr. and Mrs Hyatt, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. Irish, Mr. and Mrs. Pettigrove, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, and two hundred more whose names are household words in showland. Indeed, it was necessary to quote the old phrase, a galaxy of "brave men and fair women," with the accent on the word "fair," as specially significant and appropriate.

The Speeches at the Supper.

AFTER the loyal toasts the toast of the evening was the time-honoured one, "Success to the United Kingdom Showmen and Vandwellers' Protection Association." This was proposed, briefly and well, by Mr. T. E. Read, and responded to by Mr. Fred Bibby, the Guild Chaplain, and the Guild President, with whose names the toast was associated. All three speakers testified to the increasing usefulness of the work of the old Vandwellers' Society, now affectionately spoken of as the Guild. Mr. Fred Bibby feelingly referred to his connection with the Society from its commencement at its Manchester centre. He was proud to remember how in its early days of aspiration and struggle he had given all the help in his power, and assured his hearers that he would continue to do in the future what he had done in the past. He warned the assemblage against any relaxation of their efforts to maintain what had been so hardly won. The faddist and the fanatic were still in the land. The enemies of showland were still at work. He had no doubt in the ultimate triumph of the Guild if the showmen and show women were loyal to their own interests and to the society that so strenuously and ably vindicated their cause.

THE Chaplain and the President, in responding after Mr. Bibby, referred in gratifying terms to the well won position of the society in public life as well as before Parliament. Both speakers were convinced of the necessity before British showmen of continuing their trade protection work, and educational and uplifting work of the Guild on the fairgrounds of the United Kingdom.

THE Guild Chaplain in most suitable terms proposed the toast of "The Chairman," Mr. T. E. Read, the host of the evening, and the lessee of the World's Fair.

MR. READ, in responding, said how great was the pleasure to him year by year to meet his showmen friends and colleagues at the World's Fair.

THE World's Fair, he claimed, was this year greater, brighter, and more successful than ever. It stood without its peer in showland. As long as he was able to control its destinies, they could rely on the World's Fair never lowering its standard or ceasing to aspire to even greater heights of endeavour and success. From his heart he thanked them for the great honour the toast had conferred upon him.

THE final toast—"The Chairman and Committee of the World's Fair Showmen's Supper and Ball"—was next honoured, and Mr. T. Hurst responded in well-chosen words.

THE National Anthem brought this part of the festival to a conclusion. The crowds of expectant dancers and the guests invaded the magnificent ballroom, beautifully decked for the occasion. Dancing was kept up until the wee hours of the morning.

LIST of showmen, &c., at the seventeenth annual Supper and Ball:—T. E. Read (lessee), Pat Collins, A. Ball, J. Collins, S. Forrest, W. Hancock, G. H. Kemp, F. Mellor, T. Hurst, J. Manders, J. Moule, W. Murphy, W. Pedley, H. Studt, Jacob Studt, Wm. Taylor, C. Thurston, W. H. Toft, D. Turnbull, J. Whiting, J. Wilmot, Frank Turner, J. Wentworth, H. Whiting, J. Bibby, C. Burrell, W. Foster, S. Mellor (Oldham), F. Mellor (Oldham), H. Thurston, W. Wilson, A. Purchase, G. Beach, A. Powell, H. Taylor, —. Hussey, —. Hussey, G. Taylor, C. Brown, T. White, W. Biddall, J. Manning, E. Hussey, W. Hussey, B. Pickard, A. Saunders, Shippobotham, F. Wombwell, J. Tronson, T. Irish, Hurst. Messrs. C. Hyatt, W. Wilson, J. Tronson, R. Turner, J. Hastings, F. Bibby, W. Slather, T. Hurst, T. White, W. Taylor, E. W. White, A. Ball, J. Thomas, W. Price, H. Taylor, J. Wentworth, F. Mellor presided at the head of the various tables.

Building Bye-Laws and Movable Structures.

A QUESTION of the greatest importance to travelling showmen and other traders using portable structures has come before a London stipendiary magistrate for decision. At the first hearing, after considerable argument, the Magistrate reserved his decision. Up to the time of going to press that decision has not reached us. What we want to point out to our showmen readers and others is that it is probable that some of the local authorities may attempt to read into the new Cinematograph Act powers of using their local Building Bye-laws and enforcing them upon showmen under the new Act.

An example of this kind has already come under our notice. The West Riding of Yorkshire (through its Clerk) has so misread the new Act as to conclude that they may bring all movable structures under the severe constructions of their stringent building bye-laws.

At the London Business Committee of the Guild, Messrs. G. Marshall and J. Proctor submitted copies of the local conditions which the West Riding proposed to enforce under the Act. As those conditions are obviously in excess of the Secretary of State's regulations, the Guild Executive is taking up the matter vigorously. The Guild Secretary has written in to the Clerk to the County Council seeking an interview. The Guild proposes to send as a deputation to the County Council the Rev. T. Horne and Messrs. G. Marshall and J. Procter.

There is an undoubted connection between the case of the travelling auctioneer, with his auction van and tent erection and the case of the showman with movable structures. We give the case of the travelling auctioneer as far as it has proceeded.

Is a Tent a Building?

At East Ham Police Court on Thursday, before the Stipendiary, W. J. Grubbe, Esq., Thomas Harrison, of the Lion Auction Mart, Barking-road, East Ham, was summoned by the East Ham Corporation for erecting and setting up a temporary and movable building without having applied to the Town Council for permission to do so.

The Town Clerk (Mr. Eustace Wilson) prosecuted on behalf of the Corporation; and Mr. George Elliott, K.C., and Mr. Louis Green appeared for the defendant.

The Town Clerk stated that the prosecution had been undertaken under the East Ham Improvements Act of 1898, section 38, which stated that no person should set up a temporary building without first having applied to the Council for permission so to do. In this case no plans had been deposited, although the building consisted of a tent and shed.

Mr. Elliott: I didn't think it was a shed.

Mr. Wilson: Well, we call it a shed.

Mr. Elliott: We can't stop you calling it that. You might call it a hat if you like.

The Borough Engineer gave formal evidence to the effect that no plans of the building had been deposited with the Council. In reply to his Worship, Mr. Campbell said that he should call an ordinary tent with poles resting on the ground a structure.

Mr. J. Birch, Assistant Surveyor, said the building consisted of a caravan on wheels, used as a sale van, with a tent in front of it. There was a wooden flooring, but he did not think it had any foundation.

His Worship: It seems to me that the whole question is whether or not a tent is a building. His Worship added that he had issued the summons, but at the time he did not know it was a tent. He would like to know if the Town Clerk had any legal decision as to what was a building

The Town Clerk: None, beyond what is described as new buildings. If it remains for more than seven days it becomes a building and not a tent.

In defence, Mr. Elliott said the defendant was what was known as a sort of "cheap Jack," and he travelled round the country with a caravan and tent, in which he sold Birmingham hardware and articles of that kind. He had not been to East Ham for six years, his circuit being so large that he did not get round to this favoured district very often. (Laughter.) The defendant had been summoned for setting up a temporary building, but under no circumstances could it be held that this tent was a building. The caravan was on wheels; it was removed from place to place, and was used as a storeroom for the goods to be sold, and nobody ever slept in it.

His Worship: It was a warehouse or ware tent.

Mr. Elliott: Yes. Counsel went on to say that the only object of the canvas was that people might come to the defendant's sale without personal discomfort in the winter time. The intention of the Act was not to deal with temporary buildings or tents of that kind, but buildings which might be inhabited, and in which they would have to consider sanitary and other aspects of the case.

His Worship reserved his decision.

THE SHOWMAN'S GUILD.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

Unique interest was lent to the annual meeting of the Showman's Guild, held at the Agricultural Hall on Wednesday, by reason of the fact that it was the "coming of age" of the Society. The Guild, it may be recalled, was originally formed to combat a fanatical measure introduced into the House of Commons by a misguided member. The Guild emerged from the conflict crowned with victory, and has continued the work with unvarying success to the present day. Its popularity among show people was seen on Wednesday, when a crowded assembly listened with interest and cheered the various speeches with enthusiasm.

MR. PATRICK COLLINS, the president of the Guild, occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. T. Horne, organising chaplain, Mr. T. Watson-Wright, the Parliamentary solicitor, and Mr. John Studt. In opening the proceedings the chairman said—Ladies and gentlemen, it is now the coming of age of the Showman's Guild. It is just twenty-one years ago since its commencement in this very room, with such men as Lord George Sanger, the late Mr. Bailey, the late Mr. Dean, Mr. John Barker, and our old friend Joe Caddick. I am very glad to say we are stronger and better than ever in our lives, and our progress this year has been more rapid than ever. I may tell you there has been a bill brought in by Lord Clifford of Chudleigh on the same principle, but more drastic, than that of Smith of Coalville. When the Bill was brought before the House of Lords those gentlemen really thought we were nothing else but roving vagabonds, but when our Mr. Horne got through he showed to them that we were men of standing, men of principle, and proved that we were not vagabonds, but honest travelling entertainers. My impression is that that Bill, like George Smith's, will reach the waste paper basket. People have an idea that because they see us on a fairground and because we live in caravans that we are aliens. I am inclined to think that 90 per cent. of us are ratepayers and have a Parliamentary vote. (Hear, hear.) A good many of us could go to hotels, the same as Barnum and Bailey did when they came to England, but we would rather be in our own living vans, knowing that we were well catered for and among our people. The reason we have our living carriages is because it is more homely and we are amongst our own people, like our dear old friend, Sanger. (Cheers.) Certain people have the impression that we are rough in our work-a-day clothes and that we are idlers, but I would like to let some of those gentlemen build up and take down and see how they would like it. (Hear, hear.)

The Rise and Progress of the Guild.

The Rev. T. HORNE, who was enthusiastically received, said—Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, it is with peculiar pleasure that I stand upon this platform this year, because I think we have not only attained our majority—not only come to our full age as an organised society—but have reached the most triumphant epoch in our history as a trades union—a society of men and women banded together for mutual benefit and protection. (Cheers.) It is an amazing thing to me to find wherever I go, to hold a meeting, to preach in a church, or to conduct a service in a show-booth on a fairground—how much the people of England know about the Showmen's Guild. Sometimes the "Showman's Parson" moves in really good society. I have been in the most calm and most solemn atmosphere—so solemn that I could have fallen asleep under its effect—the inner sanctuary of the highest society possible in this country—the House of Lords. I can assure you when I was standing the cross-fire of the members of the Select Committee of the House of Lords I did not feel in the least bit more agitated than I feel when I address an assembly like this. They said what they liked in their examination, and I gave them as good as they sent. They are really very delightful people. Radical as I am, if it were a question of voting for that fine company of delightful peers that had me in hand on that occasion I should be inclined to cast a vote in their favour. I say this because I want you to go away with your heads a few inches higher in the air, to feel what jolly good fellows you are, and what a splendid set of fellows I belong to. I want you to feel that you belong to a society that is universally respected, that is able to hold its own in all parts of the United Kingdom. Well, now, why you are able to hold you own is because, laboriously, slowly, but certainly most effectively, you have built up an organisation that is the most valuable thing you possess. It stands to defend you; it stands four-square against all attacks of enemies, not only converting our enemies, but making friends by the thousand. I often feel when I see a show booth crammed from end to end with people who cannot belong to us—an appreciative audience who listen with the greatest possible interest to what we have to say—that it is one of the most potent factors in building up for you and your children not only the patronage of the British public, but respect and admiration for the work we are trying to do.

Where the Guild Originated.

London cannot claim, Manchester cannot claim, Norwich cannot claim, there is no one town in this country that can claim the distinctive honour of being the place of origin of the Showman's Guild. Like all great movements, it started in several places. It was originated in London by that faithful band of showmen champions headed by George Sanger; in Manchester by James Bostock, James Dean, and twenty others, including yourself, sir (the chairman), and your brother; in Norwich by the splendid, almost single-handed, work of the late John Barker, the revered father of Mrs. Charles Thurston, and also supported by such veterans of the road as Henry Thurston and people who travelled that part of the country; in Scotland by men like John Wilmot, George Green, and scores of others. It is difficult to mention individual names, and it is sufficient to state that here in London, there in Manchester, as elsewhere, all were filled with the same desire to defend the character of the vandweller. They were vilified and calumniated by men who did it, I hope, in ignorance; but nevertheless they did it. They were held up to reproach as gipsies and aliens. It was to repel these attacks that the Guild was instituted. All honour, therefore, to Joe Caddick, whose pen has been wielded for us in the Press, and to women like Mrs. Tyler. We have been aided not only by the Press, but in Parliament. Such splendid men as Mr. Gibson Bowles—who, I am glad to see, has regained his seat at King's Lynn—and Mr. Henry Stevens in the House of Commons have defended our interests; in the House of Lords Earl Wemyss did the same. These men were in the front rank of our defenders. And in a little out-of-the-way Yorkshire village a poor insignificant parson, who saw that his friends the showmen were about to be persecuted, came to the front. He got more kicks than ha'pence, but he stood like a rock, and he "got there." And he is here to-day. (Cheers.) We have repelled every attack unjustly made upon the life and work of the travelling showman in those little places where so much mischief is done, where dirty, miserable local papers attacked the travelling showman, and Urban Councils read vexatious conditions into the bye-laws of the town. As soon as they came under our notice we answered clearly and promptly, and showed to the people of England that the showman was proud to hold up his head and claim the full rights of citizenship and of the ordinary laws of the realm.

The Vigilance of the Guild.

We have built up an organisation to defend every interest of yours that is threatened. During the time I have been engaged in this capacity I have endeavoured to keep you from wasting time over little jealousies and cross purposes. You do not pay to this Society to cheapen rents; you pay to this Society that your interests may be defended in Parliament in all parts of the country. If we had wasted our strength and money in little petty differences—which I know to many of you are trials almost insufferable—if the Society attempted to deal with the keen competitive elements, we should have been on the rocks years ago, and the business swept under by repressive legislation. (Cheers.) I want to keep to the moral, the educational, and the religious side of this movement. I showed to the Lords' Committee the photographs of Mrs. Taylor's dear children, upon the back of which she had written, "This does not look like a nomad of the road." That is what the kiddies of the fairground had been contemptuously called by one of the London evening papers, which added that they always escaped the school officer. Their lordships were also shown an album of 200 pictures of genuine showmen, which so interested them that they want to keep the album. (Cheers.) I also showed them pictures of the caravans where the aristocrats of the road dwelt, and explained how our children of the fairground are educated and fitted for the struggle of life. I ultimately placed my immense album before the Lords for their further consideration. (Cheers.) Now, with regard to the religious side of the Guild, which is supported by the bishops of the Church. I have had more meetings in Mr. Collins's shows than in any other on the road, and he can substantiate what I say. I am prepared to take up this position fearlessly, and say this, that nothing I have preached or said or done has ever been the means of unsettling the religious convictions of any man travelling the fairgrounds of this country. I have ministered at the death-beds of showpeople, and seen and heard the soul uplifted towards salvation, and I feel that whatever else may happen to me, God has truly called me to this work, and to this work is my life. I have said enough. There is a resolution to go before the meeting. (Cheers.)

The Resolution of Approval.

Mr. Geoffrey Norton, hon. local agent for the West of England, proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting heartily approves the work of the Showman's Guild." It was the same with the business of the fairground, he said, as with others; combination for trade defence was absolutely necessary. Individually, they had no chance against unjust legislation, but bound together in the Showman's Guild, they could effectually protect themselves.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. MELLOR, who said he heartily appreciated the work done by the Showman's Guild.

Trade Defence Work.

Mr. T. Watson-Wright said:—"Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I think you may indeed congratulate yourselves on the position you occupy in the country as a respectable class of citizens. You remember, when this Society was formed, in 1889, showpeople all over England were looked down upon and misunderstood. They felt that it was absolutely essential for their rights and their privileges as citizens, and, indeed, in the interests of their business, that they should form themselves into a Society. In that year you had to contend with George Smith and his Movable Dwellings Bill. Since then there have been many attempts to interfere with you, especially by County Councils and Borough Councils, who would have become all-powerful after the Local Government Act had come into working order. In 1895 it was seen that they were endeavouring by bye-laws to restrict you, and you would have been compelled to cease carrying on a business which you are legally entitled to. Thus it is that the Guild has taken up the defence, at the cost of a huge sum of money. Members of this Guild have always cheerfully subscribed all that was necessary, and will no doubt do so in the future. Since 1900, when these local governing bodies brought various Bills into Parliament containing clauses restrictive of and preventing you carrying on your business, this Association has dealt successfully with and opposed no less than sixty-five. Twenty-six petitions were laid against Bills, and when these have been brought before the House of Commons we have succeeded in causing the objectionable clauses on all occasions to be eliminated. In the last Session of Parliament you were attacked by a clause which we held to be *ultra vires*, that is, beyond the ordinary powers given to local authorities, that they were unconstitutional, and against the fundamental principles of English jurisprudence and liberty. When Parliament's attention was called to this they took the view they were obliged to take—that they could not permit the clause to become law. If they had succeeded in passing it, can you have the slightest shadow of doubt but that by now those seventy Bills would have been multiplied by five or ten times and created dangerous precedents that would have been copied by all other authorities seeking to get these powers from Parliament? The result of your opposition has been to prevent Parliamentary draftsmen including these clauses because they know there is no possibility of getting them through.

The Oldham Victory.

LAST year Oldham was approached by this Association, but would not withdraw the clauses which would have prevented you carrying on your business; but Oldham had to recognise, as other authorities have had to recognise, that they could not interfere with you in this matter. We opposed this Bill, and in spite of the cleverest counsel in Parliament—we had one equally as clever—the objectionable clauses were struck out. The committee held that the petitioners had been vexatiously treated, and gave costs against the Corporation of Oldham amounting to several hundreds of pounds, I am happy to tell you. What I desire to point out is that but for the work which the executive of this Association has undertaken you would have been absolutely wiped out of the business. In consequence of the efforts of the Rev. Horne and this Association to promote your interests, the House of Lords, the House of Commons, and all classes in the country recognise your claim to rights and privileges in common with all His Majesty's subjects. Instead of being looked down upon and misunderstood, you are to-day as respectable as any body of citizens, and so long as you proceed in the future as you have in the past there is no question that this Guild and its members will continue to prosper and progress. Supposing, for instance, that the Bill promoted by Kingston-on-Thames in the 'eighties had become law, the result would be that during the months of October and November no show booth could be brought into that borough. I never met in all my life clauses so contrary to the fundamental principles of English rights and privileges. The fair at Kingston was held in these months, therefore your rights were entirely abolished. This year so good has the work of the Association been that there have been promoted in Parliament but two Bills which can be said to affect you—one by the Borough of Hambleton, in Lancashire, and the other by Handsworth Corporation. With regard to the Hambleton Bill I think the Parliamentary draughtsman or Town Clerk could not have known that there was an Act passed last year called the Cinematograph Act, 1909, otherwise he would not have been so unwise as to put into a Bill of the Corporation of Handsworth powers to interfere with you in your business. You are fully protected in the Act of last Session, and representations will be made to the corporate body of Handsworth, who will be made to withdraw the objectionable clauses. In the case of Handsworth, they have gone in for the whole of the terrible clauses which we have had to fight from time to time, such as to obtain powers to make bye-laws for prescribing the hours during which any fair may be kept open and to preserve order therein. Then there are many other clauses, all absolutely contrary to the known principles of jurisprudence and law, and which will be opposed if they don't withdraw them. So long as you support the executive council of your Guild I believe that you are safe. Being safe, you will continue to conduct yourselves in such a way as to command the respect of all.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. BULL moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting accords its most sincere thanks to the president and executive officers for their past labours, and heartily thanks Mr. T. E. Read for his kindness in providing for this meeting."

The motion was seconded by Mr. JOHN STUDT, and carried *nem con.*

The hon. secretary, Mr. T. Hurst, read the following letters and telegram of apology for inability to be at the meeting:—

"Bickenham, Bournemouth,
"Wednesday.

"Dear Sir,—The Bishop of London is sorry that he cannot be present at your great gathering on the 19th. The Bishop sends all best wishes for the New Year.—Yours sincerely,

"ERIC HAMILTON (Act.-Sec.)."

"Olympia,
"Jan. 18, 1910.

"Dear Mr. Horne,—I am afraid I shall not be able to attend your meeting to-morrow, as I had been anticipating it with a certain amount of pleasurable interest. The more so, as having watched the growth of the Guild with almost paternal fondness, I rejoice in the fact that it has flourished and thrived through its infancy stage; and now it has attained its majority, I trust it will, with increasing strength, so make its presence and existence felt and acknowledged by the ever-increasing Puritanical faddist faction, whose greatest pleasure seems to be derived from the amount of pleasure they can prevent their fellows from enjoying. I was highly gratified to note the strong constitution of the various local committees, and I would, without any suspicion of egotism, tender a few words of advice to them on their duties. Let them always remember they have been promoted from the ranks, and it is not merely interest in the movement which will carry out our programme; it is enthusiasm and often self-denial that will be necessary to prove that the confidence in them has not been misplaced. Let them remember ours is not a one-man Guild, and it is their loyal duty to win recruits and keep them well drilled and informed on all matters concerning the progress of our work. They will, and do, have opportunities of pushing forward the work that it is utterly impossible for one man to undertake. Only consider the large fairs continually being held, and no one to rouse and foster any interest in the work, but merely letting matters slide until the expected visit of the hon. chaplain and organiser. I would recommend them, for instance, say on Sunday evenings, if no other means present themselves, to call an open meeting to talk matters over amongst the travellers present, and invite all who may consider they have a grievance or wish information on any matter. The committeeman should feel it his duty to investigate and report to yourself, so the executive would then be more in touch with the various phases of thought and suggested action amongst travellers generally. There is still a grand work to be done, and a great amount of prejudice to be overcome. Then, let all take their share and show the country we have thinkers and workers in our ranks marshalled by an energetic, earnest president, an indefatigable organiser, and a coterie of vice-presidents, all hard-headed business men. All that is now required is a strong united rank and file to silence all unfair interference with our legitimate business. Wishing you a grand and united meeting,—I remain, yours fraternally,

"JOE CADDICK.
"Gracechurch-street.

"To Rev. T. Horne, Showmen's Guild, Agricultural Hall, Islington.

"Extremely regret prevented by sudden and important business from being present to-day. Heartiest wishes to the showmen. Please put me down for guinea subscription.—Strong."

"Midland Railway, Leicester.

"To President Showman's Guild, Agricultural Hall, London.

"Wishing you successful meeting. Arrive about 1.40.—Bibby."

In inviting subscriptions to the funds of the Guild, Mr. Horne said that all the accounts that had been presented up to the end of the year had been met, and there was only a deficit of £17 due to the organising secretary, which he had no doubt would be more than covered by contributions at that meeting. He added that the sums would be properly spent, and any *bond-fide* member of the Guild could have a balance-sheet on application to the secretary. Responses to his appeal were immediately forthcoming to the following amounts:—

GUILD SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1910.

Mr. Patrick Collins	£50	0	0
Mr. John Studt	5	5	0
Messrs. Forrest Brothers	5	5	0
Mrs. Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons	5	5	0
Mr. Wm. Haggar	5	5	0
Mr. Wm. Murphy	5	5	0
Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons	5	5	0
Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons	5	0	0
Mr. William Wilson	3	3	0
Mr. William Taylor	3	3	0
Messrs. Toft and Turnbull	3	3	0
Messrs. Wm. Foster and Co.	2	2	0
Mr. Wentworth	2	2	0
Mr. T. Hurst	2	2	0
Mr. T. Clarke	2	2	0
Messrs. J. Dooner and Son	2	2	0
R. Fossett	2	0	0
R. H. Mellor and Sons	1	1	0
Messrs. Marenghi et Cie	1	1	0
H. Cariss	1	1	0
Mr. Alf. Ball	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Beech	1	1	0
W. Hastings	1	1	0
Mr. J. Johnson	1	1	0
Mr H. Kinder	1	1	0
Mr. T. E. Read	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Turner	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Smith	1	1	0
Mr. Tom Smith	1	1	0
Mr. A. Purchase	1	0	0
R. Chipperfield	0	10	6
Harry Hughes	0	10	6
F. Wilson	0	10	6
J. Bullin	0	10	6
S. Bolesworth	0	10	6
T. Butlin	0	10	6
C. Andrews	0	10	6
T. Irish	0	10	6
John Brown	0	10	6
H. Cox	0	10	6
C. Ralph	0	10	6
J. Irvin	0	10	6
Mrs. E. Andrews	0	10	0
G. Harvey	0	5	0
H. Birch	0	5	0
C. Bibby	0	5	0
A. Burgess	0	5	0
Mrs. Jewell	0	5	0
Mrs. F. Beaumont	0	5	0
Mr. T. Manning	0	5	0
Mr. S. Mayne	0	5	0
Mr. A. Traylen	0	5	0

The above list is incomplete; Mr. Frank Turner's subscribers not being included, will be mentioned next week.

A vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to the chairman, who in acknowledgment advised his hearers always to uphold their Guild. He considered that they were banded together in the interests of the show public at large, and that so far as morality went they came out on top.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Election Results at Earl's Court.

MR. P. W. WILLARD was first in the field with election results last Saturday. By arrangement with the *Pall Mall Gazette* not only was a special election edition printed on the great Empress rink, but whilst results were being printed they were also megaphoned to the excited throng of skaters on the floor from the elevated band stand. Rinkers would seem to be Unionist almost to a man, for in the majority of cases Unionist gains were received with the greatest enthusiasm, whilst groans loud and deep greeted a reverse. Such were Mr. Izod's admirable arrangements that but very few minutes were taken up in making the announcements, and thus the rinkers were enabled to be quite up to date whilst still enjoying their favourite pastime.

Rink Hockey at Earl's Court.

ON Thursday night a rink hockey match took place at Earl's Court between the Balham Ladies' R.H.C. and the Brighton Olympia Ladies' R.H.C. It furnished a briskly-contested game, each goal experiencing several narrow escapes. Y. Stevens played well all through for Balham. The first goal came from M. Ratcliffe, who scored for Brighton, but Y. Stevens managed to equalise. Eventually just on time Q. Ashdown scored for Brighton, which team won by 2 goals to 1. The teams were composed as follows:—Balham.—T. Deschamps, F. Malin, E. Malin, I. Stevens, and Y. Stevens. Brighton Olympia.—M. Moore, M. Ratcliffe, Q. Ashdown, D. Freason, and Mrs. Dunn. H. A. Cardin refereed, and E. Young was goal judge. It may here be mentioned that the Balham team was organised by Mr. Izod, the present Earl's Court manager, whilst he was in charge at Balham. The dexterity of the teams reflects the greatest credit to this gentleman's training.

Another Great Day at Earl's Court.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16, is to be another great day in the annals of Earl's Court skating. So successful was last Friday's carnival, and so many applications for another having been received by Mr. Willard, it has been decided to hold the next as soon after St. Valentine's Day as the already existing arrangements of the rink would permit. Accordingly on Feb. 16 a second fancy-dress carnival will be held, at which prizes to the value of £200 will be put up for competition. These prizes are now on view on the rink daily, and include a solid silver candelabra, a solid silver centre-piece, 3ft. wide by 11in. high, surmounted by a model of a tiger in solid silver; a solid silver flower vase, 2ft. high, in chaste design, including water lilies cut in the metal, over which a cascade of water (worked in silver) softly flows; a solid silver rose-bowl; a fine silver set of fish knives and forks; a solid silver gong; a silver tea service; and many more desirable things worth competing for.

More Olympia Revels.

ANOTHER advertisement carnival will be held at Olympia on Friday evening, Feb. 4. Two weeks later, Feb. 18, a grand fancy dress carnival will be given, with 100 guineas in cash prizes.

The Skating Gymkhana.

THE Skating gymkhana, which was billed for to-day (Saturday) on the great rink of the Crystal Palace, has been indefinitely postponed; but, owing to the enormous success of the fancy dress carnival held on the 12th inst., it has been decided to hold another on the 16th of next month. These carnivals at the Palace seem to have become very popular, and, under the management of Mr. F. G. Stumcke, they are well and successfully arranged, while the huge rink gives great facilities for such events.

London Rink Hockey League.

THE match between Thornsett and Sydenham in the first division of the London League was to have been played at Cricklewood on Monday last. Owing to the indisposition of some of their team, however, Sydenham were obliged to scratch.

C. P. Engineers v. Outcasts.

THE Engineers continued their successful career in the first Division of the London Rink Hockey League, when the Outcasts were met and easily defeated at the Brixton Rink last Tuesday night. The Outcasts were completely outclassed, and Jones, the Engineers' goalkeper, had only to clear his charge on one occasion. R. P. Steytler scored twice, and H. A. Steytler and Richards once each before the interval. Result: Crystal Palace Engineers, 5 goals; Outcasts, 0.

Inter-Team Race at Brixton.

THE Brixton Rink was crowded last Wednesday night on the occasion of an inter-team race between the Brixton R.S.C. and Ilford R.S.C. The idea of inter-team matches originated from the National Skating Association with a view to popularising the sport, and already a representative match has been arranged between Birmingham and London, which will be decided shortly at the Brixton Skating Rink. The race was over a mile (14 laps), and ended in an easy win for Brixton. Besides the above event a fifteen-lap relay race was brought off, which was also won by the Brixton team. The contest was decided by points, the lowest aggregate winning. Mr. H. Brockman was referee.

Monohan Comes to Town.

AMERICA'S wizard on skates, the great Monohan, has been topping the bill this week at the Empire Palace, Portsmouth. Next week he will be starred at the Premier Rink, Finsbury Park, London.

Rink Waltzing at Blackheath.

ANOTHER attraction has been added to that popular rendezvous, Blackheath Skating Rink, in the shape of a full military band. Last week the Blackheath Waltzers challenged the waltzers of the Ilford Rink to "measure steps" with them. The event created great interest locally, and the hall was filled, whilst among those present were Mr. Morgan (Managing Director Skating Rinks, Ltd.), and Mr. Schran (Director). The exhibition was of the highest class, and the competition was keen, prizes being awarded to the best dancers in either team. In both waltzing and "two step" the honour of Blackheath was upheld. The prizes were presented by Mr. Reiss, th popular manager at Blackheath. The visitors then exchanged partners with the home team, and the merriment went on until it reached a fitting climax in a confetti battle. Mr. Reiss also presented the Ilford Rink with a four-pillar marble clock bearing the inscription: "Presented by the Blackheath Rink Waltzers to the Ilford Waltzers, Jan. 7, 1910."

Mile Handicap at Catford.

THERE was a large attendance at the Catford Rink on Thursday night, when a mile open handicap was decided. The times were not good, but some close finishes were seen. The rink is seventeen laps to the mile. Judges, Messrs. H. B. Renner, H. Oxley, and W. Hunt; starter, Mr. H. G. Brockman; timekeepers, Messrs. H. G. Brockman and R. Boxer; clerk of the course, Mr. H. B. Renner. Heat 1: F. H. Taylor, Catford S.S.C., 40 yards, 1; E. Clegg, Catford S.S.C., 35, 2. A good race all the way, only 2 yards separating the pair. Time, 4min. 17⅗sec. (Heat 2: H. Colley, Ealing R.S.C., 65, 1; W. J. Pace, Catford S.S.C., 10, 2. Colley led all the way, and won easily. Time, 4min. 24 3-5sec. Heat 3: H. A. Lock, Catford S.S.C., 55, 1; S. G. Nash, Brixton R.S.C., 80, 2. Lock soon passed Nash, and although the former fell, he won easily Time, 4min. 26 2-5sec. Heat 4: E. J. Colley, Ealing R.S.C., 50, 1; R. H. Webb, Ilford R.S.C., 35, 2. Webb fell in the tenth lap or he would have made a close finish. Time 4min., 21sec. Final: (H. Colley, 1; E. J. Colley, 2; F. H. Taylor, 3; E. Clegg (fastest loser), 4. A splendid race, and a close finish, H. Colley leading all the way. Clegg had a fall, but resumed. Time, 4min. 20 4-5sec.

Last Night's Clapton Carnival.

As we were going to press last night a grand fancy dress carnival was taking place at the Premier Rink de Luxe in Lower Clapton-road. This rink is considered one of the best equipped of its kind, and is easy of access from all parts of London, being near Hackney and Hackney Downs Stations, while trams and buses from all parts pass the doors. The number of rinkers who turned up in fancy dress pointed to the function being a huge success.

Hammersmith Opens To-day.

YESTERDAY (Friday) morning one of the prettiest little "turn-outs" seen for a long time drew up outside *The Era* office. It consisted of an elaborate gilt coach, drawn by six of the smallest possible ponies ever seen. A large crowd quickly assembled to admire the pretty little creatures, and from the coach stepped Mr. A. F. Wilson, who had chosen this novel if conspicuous way of driving up to *The Era* Office to negotiate for advertisement space for the opening of the Hammersmith rink, which he controls. The public will be admitted to this rink to-day (Saturday) at 3 o'clock.

Girls on the Rink.

THIS interesting subject is brightly dealt with in last week's *Answers*. "It is a remarkable fact," comments the writer, "that plump girls on skates are always laughing. They wobble round filled with mirth at the sight of the wonderful young man who skates on one toe, and find huge enjoyment in the grave, determined man who stumbles along, causing others to fall, but never falling himself. On the other hand, thin girls are usually sedate and self-centred. They betray no emotion, even though the instructor's skate comes off just as he is showing someone the way to imitate a streak of lightning. Then there is the demure, duty-must-be-done air with which the more expert of the girls on skates allow men friends to put an arm round their waist for the better performance of a feat. There is such a clear indication of 'After all, it's only skating!' in their expressions. That they really rather like a male's arm about their waists is the last thing you would imagine. There are the girls who can skate efficiently but not elaborately. You see them going round and round, ever and anon doing something vague and indefinite with their left feet; this is to hint untruthfully that they really know quite a lot of fancy movements, but do not perform them, for fear folks should think they were showing off. The expert feminine skater, who weaves intricate patterns with her feet as calmly as though she were merely buying a pound of butter, has an air of humility, suggesting that it is perfectly simple to do the 'inside-out edge.' If you speak to a girl amateur expert on skates about the instructress, she will always agree with you that the instructress does skate beautifully—oh, beautifully!—but adds that it is a pity that she does her hair in that funny way."

W. D. Nixon on Rink Scorching.

MR. W. D. NIXON, the late London manager to Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins, of the America Roller Rink Company, is now general manager of the Country Rinks, Ltd. He has been explaining in *Pearson's Weekly* various wrinkles which beginners in roller skaters would do well to bear in mind. Mr. Nixon is undoubtedly one of the finest organisers of skating rinks in the country, and his opinion is very valuable. His views on rink scorchers are very decided: "Skaters should always remember that 'scorching' on rollers is in the worst form. Indeed, in an almost equal degree 'the scorcher' on rollers is as great a nuisance as is the motor fiend, especially in traffic. And, as a general rule, the traffic on a roller skating rink is quite as heavy as it is on our highways and by-ways. In consequence, 'scorching' on rollers should always be avoided."

The Rexos Going Big.

THE Rexos open at the Empire, Leeds, next Monday. During their showing at Manchester a local scribe voiced it as his opinion that nothing seems impossible for Rexo to achieve on wheels, whilst his lady does some graceful interludes of a less thrilling nature. Life with the Rexos pair seems to run on very smooth wheels. One of Rexos' specialities is skates fitted with steel globes—one to each skate. Upon these he performs with great facility. Then reverting to the ordinary rollers he careers around in various extraordinary ways. He goes on one leg, he turns somersaults, he does whirlwind toe-spins, and taking a skate in each hand he goes round balancing on his hands, feet in the air. Finally, comes an imitation of a train, and here his realism is rampant. You only want a booking office and a luggage trolley and you might imagine yourself on a real journey. A cone-shaped semi-circular canvas affair is placed on the stage to represent a tunnel. It is only 16in. high, and perhaps 5ft. long, and when Rexo, representing the train, says he purposes to pass through it you smile. Rexo slides coolly up to it, then suddenly throws his feet out back and front to their full extremity, crouches horizontally until his body is in a recumbent position, and gliding along on the two extreme wheels of his skates passes completely under.

Extraordinary Skating Record

FROM Ballarat, Australia, it is reported that on Dec. 9 W. Ekardt started to beat the existing record of sixty-four hours for continuous skating, and completed his task on Dec. 11, having beaten the record by half an hour. He started early on Thursday morning, and during the two nights over which the skating extended he was constantly attended. The watchers engaged him in conversation in order to keep him awake. At the end of his test he did some fancy skating, and was in fairly good condition.

Fancy Costume for a Shilling.

THE season for fancy dress balls and skating carnivals is at hand. Originality in costume is, of course, a matter of great importance, and is regarded by many as an indispensable feature. The attainment of this puzzles many, and the proprietors of the famous dentifrice, Odol, come to the rescue with a number of suggestions. A good fabric, it seems, on which to work up a design is white taffetas—a dead white, like the opaque glass Odol flasks. The decorative articles, such as cardboard bottles, labels of various colours and sizes, miniature porcelain Odol flasks, and pictorial stamps, will be sent on receipt of letter of request enclosing postal order for a shilling to cover the cost of postage and packing. Address The Manager, Odol Chemical Works, 59-63, Park-street, London, S.E.

The Reign of the Roller.

CAN the Russian public be wooed from the ice to the rinks? That is a question yet to be answered. Anyhow, ubiquitous promoters of skating-rink companies are seeking fresh fields to conquer on the Continent. The invasion has now reached Russia, where the promoters hope to woo the people from the natural ice to the whirling wheels. British instructors from London are being sent to Russia to teach the art of roller-skating, owing to the development of the craze. Three of the best London instructors have been despatched to St. Petersburg. In addition to the rink opened in the Russian metropolis another has lately been opened at Odessa, where the people have enthusiastically welcomed this new pastime, although they have abundant opportunities for natural skating.

Bertha Doud Mack in Mourning.

THE sympathy of all who have met her will go out to Bertha Doud Mack, who received a cable from the States, in the early part of the week, informing here that her mother had died. As was intimated in *The Era* last week, Miss Mack intended to return to the States to see the last of her parent; but, as this is now out of the question, this fine skater will remain in England and fulfil her engagements. Miss Mack opens at the Walpole Hall, Ealing, next week.

Saturdays Only.

THE Ayr Pavilion has closed its daily sessions, but is to re-open on Saturdays from now till the summer.

Lady Havelock-Allan at Bishop Auckland.

THE first masquerade carnival was held at the Bishop Auckland Olympia on Wednesday evening of last week. Lady Havelock-Allan presented the prizes. A really marvellous turn on the skates was that rendered by Mr. Pet. Holland, the rink instructor.

Good Tidings from Bradford.

AT the Manningham Lane Rink, Bradford, a good attendance still continues. At the Towers Hall Rink good business is being done. The Coliseum Skating Rink, Duckworth Lane, the giant rink of the city, finds that even its vast floor space is not too much for its patronage. The Hippodrome Skating Rink, Barkerend-road, has come as a boon and a blessing to that district of the city, which previously had to go considerably further afield to enjoy the pastime.

A New Cardiff Rink.

AN additional roller-skating rendezvous has been opened in Queen-street, an excellently situated centre in Cardiff. The Olympia Roller Rink was opened under the management of Mr. A. Tetlow last Monday. There will be three sessions daily—11 to 1, 2.30 to 5, and 7 to 10.30. A feature of this new rink is that the charges will be fixed and moderate, and there will be no extras. Admission will be free to the morning session, but a charge of 6d. will be made for skates. At the afternoon session ladies will be admitted free, while gentlemen will be charged 6d., and there will, of course, be a charge of 6d. for skates. The skates used will be exclusively Richardson's. Instruction will be given free

Bentley's Success in Douglas.

PROFESSOR BENTLEY went over to the Isle of Man for one of the first nights at the Palace Rink, and has remained manager there until it was closed for the purpose of laying a new floor a week or so ago. Bentley is one of the finest trick skaters in this country to-day. Although only a youth so far as actual years are concerned, he is one of those young men who are lucky in possessing an old head, and throughout last season, when the Palace Rink was crowded, the conduct of the rink was all that could be desired. Mr. Bentley started the Palace Hockey Club, and trained racers who have won prizes in open competition in England. The Palace ring will reopen probably next month, and Bentley will be in charge again.

Eastbourne En Fete.

A "CARNIVAL MASQUE" at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, last Thursday, partook largely of a competitive display of election colours. The rink was thronged with skaters in fancy costumes. Special prizes were given for the prettiest and most original election dresses. A naval and military roller-skating carnival on the Pier attracted a large gathering.

At the Glasgow Zoo.

BUSINESS at the Zoo Skating Rink, where reduced prices for admission now rule, continues lively and brisk. There are already numerous entries for the Two-Step and Waltz competitions arranged at the Zoo Rink for the evening of Jan. 27.

Hockey at Grantham.

LAST Saturday afternoon and evening the Grantham Premier Roller Skating Hockey Club initiated its fixture-list with two home matches against the Boston Premier Roller Skating Hockey Club. In the afternoon there was a crowded audience at the Rink in Wharf-road, and the game witnessed was of a very interesting character. The visitors played a good all-round match, and ran out winners by no fewer than 4 goals to 1. The "locals" were represented by—Kendal, goal; Sanderson, back; Turner (the scorer), centre; Ward, left; and Herbert, right. Mr. T. Peploe, the recently-appointed floor manager, officiated as referee. The evening match was much more exciting, as will be seen from the fact that at the interval Grantham were losing by 3 goals to 1. They improved wonderfully, however, and, chiefly on account of their smartness on the skates, they succeeded in making the score level a few seconds before the whistle sounded the end. The Grantham team at this match was—Holden, goal; Culley, back; Turner, centre; Ward, left; and Ford, right. Turner, Ford, and Ward were the scorers. Mr. R. Sanderson was the referee.

Prize Distribution at Hastings.

DURING last Saturday evening the prizes won by the competitors at the Political Fancy Dress Carnival of the previous Wednesday were distributed to the winners, and all the Election results known were announced from the platform by Mr. Leopold, amidst much enthusiasm. The management will shortly hold a Skating Gymkana.

A Poster Heroine.

A DELIGHTFUL feature of the masquerade carnival at Hove Rink was Miss Dorothy Cullum's splendid exhibition of fancy skating. Dudley Hardy, the well-known poster artist, has made this young lady famous on the hoardings. Miss Cullum may be said to be the last word in graceful skating.

"Barnyard" Carnival for Hove.

THE next carnival at the American Skating Rink, Selborne-road, Hove, has been fixed for Thursday, Feb. 17. It has been designated a "Barnyard"

THE GREAT MONOHAN

American Wizard - on Skates.

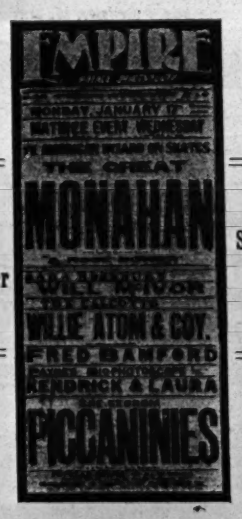

See his Gorgeous Rose-Bower Scenery. See his Spectacular Electrical Effects.

—THIS WEEK.

TOPPING THE BILL AT EMPIRE PALACE, PORTSMOUTH.

WEEK JAN. 24,

PREMIER RINK, FINSBURY PARK, LONDON.

ALL COMS.,
HENSCHEL'S AGENCY, 14, Green Street, Leicester Square, W.C.

THE GREAT MONOHAN

RINK and MUSIC HALL

Week, 17th., Empire Palace, Portsmouth.
Week, 24th., Premier Rink, Finsbury Park, London.

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Thanks to All Managers.

THIS WEEK.
CASTLE RINK, NORTHAMPTON.
NEXT WEEK,
WALPOLE HALL, EALING.
Address,
Care of "THE ERA."

Rink Managers who are desirous of obtaining the strongest and most durable roller skates for their patrons, which are at the same time adjustable, light, and easy running, should write for particulars and prices of the

These skates are made by a leading firm of cycle manufacturers with all the precision and finish of a high-grade bicycle, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction. King o' the Rink Patent Tubular Skates are noted for strength, lightness, and elegance.

BRAMPTON

ADJUSTABLE ROLLER SKATES

A good supply of a dainty booklet, "The Art of Roller Skating," will be sent free for distribution at your rink on receipt of sample order.

The enormous stocks of all well-known roller skates which we carry guarantee you prompt deliveries and lowest prices. Write for quotations.

BROWN BROTHERS, LTD., Great Eastern Street, London, E.C. And 271-273, Deansgate, Manchester.

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

carnival, and as far as possible visitors are asked to attire themselves for that occasion as barnyard characters. To heighten the effect a haystack will be erected in the centre of the spacious skating floor. Mr. Julius Kottaun's military band will be in attendance.

The Limerick Carnival.

THE second fancy masked and evening dress carnival at the Limerick Rink last week was a great success, and in point of brilliancy and attendance even eclipsed the function held immediately before Christmas. The entire scene was extremely attractive to the spectator as he watched the gay and festive throng gracefully gliding along either in the march past or in pairs, to lively music by the band of the Royal Munster Fusiliers. The promenades were crowded. It goes without saying that the rink has proved a great "draw," and certainly nothing is being left undone by the executive to cater for their ever-increasing patrons in a manner which cannot fail to be appreciated, and indeed the great success of the undertaking is an ample proof of the fact. The following is a list of the prize-winners at the carnival, judged by the spectators by means of ballot-cards:—Most Original Costume.—Ladies: 1, Miss K. O'Mara, "Pink Lamp-shade"; 2nd, Mrs. W. Ebrill, "Normandy Queen." Gentlemen: 1, Mr. J. Lynch, "Bottle of Bass"; 2, Mr. R. T. Hartigan, "Puss in Boots." Best Dressed.—Ladies. 1, Mrs. Jas. Goodbody, "Early Victorian"; 2, Mrs. Coogan, "Lady Crusader." Gentlemen: 1, Captain Tynte, "Black Hussar": 2, Mr. de Ros Rose, "Brigand." Most Comic Costume.—Ladies: 1, Mrs. Keays, "Old Woman all the ways from Connemara"; 2, Miss K. O'Mara, "Rinking Improves Figure." Gentlemen: 1, Mr. J. Glazier, "Old-Age Pensioner"; 2, Mr. Desmond Arthur, "Ballet Girl." Most Graceful Couple.—1, Miss K. O'Mara and Mr. Rex Anderson; 2, Miss C. O'Sullivan and Mr. Keating.

Liverpool's Premier Rink.

AT the Premier Skating Rink this week the attraction is the fancy skating performance of the Chilton-Heyes Sisters. These ladies are among the foremost professionals. An excellent exhibition of trick skating and waltz and two-step was given.

Coming Carnival at Mansfield.

EXHIBITIONS of fancy skating are given daily by Mr. Chinn at Prince's Rink, Mansfield, and prizes for speed are given weekly by the management. A fancy dress carnival is one of the tit-bits promised in the near future.

Forthcoming Race at Norwich.

THE interests of roller skaters are to be provided for this year at Norwich Charity Sports on Whit Tuesday (May 17). At this festival, the oldest charity sports in England, there will be a race on a well-banked track of three laps to the mile, and no doubt many of our leading men will take the opportunity to compete.

Doris and Gentil in Sheffield.

A UNIQUE fancy skating exhibition was given at the Empire Roller Rink (Aizlewood-road, Sheffield) last Friday night, by Gentil, the Brazilian champion, and "Little Doris," the wonderful ten-year-old girl skater. The show, which included some daring feats on the part of Gentil, met with marked appreciation. "Little Doris" is remarkably clever on rollers.

Worthing's Outdoor Rink.

THE new outdoor skating ring on Worthing Pier was opened last week. The floor, which is described as the outdoor maple, and has been laid by the "Firmit" Flooring Company, of Blackpool, contains a skating area of nearly 1,000 square yards.

Lady Mostyn's Rinking Party.

LADY MOSTYN gave a most successful rinking party the other day at Wrexham.

EALING HIPPODROME.

When, in 1812, Jakob Ludwig Grimm wrote, in his Fairy Tales, of the Babes in the Wood, he could have had but little idea of how the daring hand of the modern pantomime librettist would make a sort of mincemeat of his pretty story, but so it is, and Mr. Joe Collins, in preparing his two hours of mirth and fun, has availed himself of all the devices that up-to-date stagecraft has placed ready to his hand. His wicked uncle is more comic than he is usually made, the two cutthroats are not abnormally bloodthirsty, while the babes themselves soon show that, wit for wit, they are quite the equal of their would-be abductors.

Beautiful cloths have been painted for the production, the melodies are tuneful, though some of the more modern numbers which we have learnt to expect in a pantomime are absent, the dresses are handsome, and the dancing of the Collins Sextette most graceful. In Scene I, Sweet Auburn, the Village of the Plain, we are introduced to most of the cast. The postman (Mr. Charles Paton) arrives with a notice of eviction for Mrs. Pankake (Mr. Fred Webb), and a chorus of village maidens gives a spirited ensemble of "Hurrah, hurrah, hurrah!" Baron Stoney de Broke now appears, but hearing that the nurse has inherited £50,000, revokes the eviction and proposes marriage. Sammy Nothing (Mr. J. Graydon) and Tommy Less (Mr. B. Lyle), the two villains, hover in the distance, while Maid Marion (Miss Mabel Mignon) warbles prettily of "The boy I pictured in my dreams," and soon Robin Hood (Miss Mildred Bryan) replies in a robust number, "Off to the wars," and, with the entrance of the babes, Herbert and Minnie (the Misses Connie Hasledon and Lulu Clayton), we enter Scene 2, Lover's Lane. Here the Baroness sings of how "Her love is pure," like a celebrated chocolate—and the two villains are heard maturing their wicked plot to abduct the babes, and in Scene 3 the innocent (?) children are seen at a "dame" school. To the school come also Maid Helen (Miss Ethel Lyle) and Llorgie, her sweetheart. Here the song "Good-bye" (Maid Helen) is heard, and, coupled with an expert piece of acrobatic dancing, is most effective, and aroused the first really hearty applause. With a spirited chorus, "Good-bye to school," tuition comes to an end, and the children are carried off.

On the Path by the River, the babes and their captors are seen making their way for "Farthest North"; and in Scene 5, a beautiful "cut," the Pole itself is reached. Tired with their wanderings, the children fall asleep, and while they dream, a gracefully executed skipping-rope dance is given by the sextette. "Who shall wake the babes?" is now asked, and Mister Teddy Bear undertakes the task. With the entry of Robin and his merrie men it is seen that the two villains have failed in their plan of abduction. With Scene 6, the returned wanderers arrive in the neighbourhood of the Baron's Castle. Robin's pardon, reinstating him in his Earldom of Huntingdon, is placed in his hands, and every one prepares their prettiest dresses for the morrow's celebration of the nuptials of the Earl and Maid Marian. Scene 7, The Earl of Huntingdon's Palace, is an effective setting for the procession which brings the pantomime to an end. Mr. W. Meadows is the musical director for Mr. J. Collins and Mr. George de Lara his general manager.

THE Theatres Committee of the L.C.C. have agreed to receive a deputation from the four Societies who addressed the Home Secretary on the matter of Sunday entertainments on Wednesday next, the same day on which the joint deputation from the Cinematograph Defence League, &c., are to be received. The representatives of the artists, actors, musicians, and employees meet today to prepare the statement on their case for the committee.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up." 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 28, March 14, 21, May 2.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2, 16, 23,
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, 16, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Feb. 14, 28, March 7, 21, April 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 21, 28, March 21, 28, April 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON
March 7, 14, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 28, April 4, May 9, 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton; Feb. 28, March 14, 21, Wolverhampton, Feb. 14, 28, March 7; Huddersfield, Feb. 21, 28; Reading, Feb. 28, March 7; Northampton, March 7, 14, 21.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.

Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 14 (?) and 21.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:
March 7 and 28, T. R., EDINBURGH.
March 21, THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW.
March 14 and 21, LONDON.
March 14 and 21, NEWCASTLE.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Pantomime Production, Christmas, 1910-1911.
For three weeks. State where to be seen.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brother Etharien, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan. Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 11, 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 4, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Feb. 3 (three nights), March 14, April 4, 11, and May 9.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, March 7, 14, and at Lyceum, Govan, March 21, 28, April 4
Address,
RICH WALDON, Princess's, Glasgow.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
The Most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 and 28 (Easter), also April 18, 25, May 9 and 16.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, Big Musical and Other No. 1 Companies.
Feb. 28, March 21,
April 18, 25, May 2.
Address,
FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, March 28, April 4, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES, BLACKBURN and PRESTON.
WANTED, Big First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy or Drama, March, April, May, and on, with exceptions. Address for dates, E. H. PAGE, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Entirely rebuilt and enlarged.
WANTED, First-class Companies Only, Feb. 7 10, 14, 17, several dates onward, Easter and Whit; also one or two later dates vacant. All communications to C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, as above.
WANTED, First-class Comedy or Musical Piece,
Chatham, Feb. 7.
DAN BARNARD, Elephant Theatre, S.E.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 2, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, 16, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.

The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: The Renads (return), E. R. Abbott's Co. (return), J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Feb. 14 (?), 21, 28, on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, recseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 7, 21, Easter, April, on, with exceptions.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, Feb. 10, 11, 12, March 7, 14, 28, and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
Seats 1,200.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions and Comedy. Easter, July 21, 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 (inclusive), Sept. 8 and 15 to 26, inclusive. Address, MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, Known, Feb. 28 vacant.
Recognised London success or First-class Attraction.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Various dates.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be first-class. Address, MANAGERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for March 14 and 21.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, good Pantomime, six or twelve nights, also big Attraction for Easter, Whit week, and intermediate dates, onward.
Address,
CHARLES M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 7, 14 and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford. First-class Companies for Feb. 21, 28, March 7, and onwards. Add., E. B. GOULDEN.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for Jan. 24 and Feb. 28, onwards, good Drawing Pantomimes and Dramas, twice nightly. Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London.

WANTED, Companies, Feb. 14 (6 nights), March 10 (3 nights), 14, and on. Easter vacant. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Company, for Prince's Theatre, Horwich, Lancs., Feb. 7, March 7 and 14, Musical preferred. Lessee and Man., CHARLES DURIE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Feb. 14, March 7, 14, 21, 28, onwards.
Wire, HORNER, Victoria, Burnley.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 30, June 13, 27.
Enormous success of Drama, twice nightly.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, something real, Feb. 7 (through breach), 28, March 7, on, Grand, Radcliffe; also Feb. 28, March 14, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Re business refer any manager for the past six weeks SANTE, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, BILSTON.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 31, '10, and on.
Apply, M. MONTGOMERY,
Rotunda Theatre,
Liverpool.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Feb. 14 (three), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on. W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Panto., Feb. 28.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, Attractions, March 21, April 11, 18, Whit, May 23, 30 June 13, 20, 27, onwards. Also Variety Combinations and Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first 3 nights Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, onwards. ALFRED MANNERS Empire T., Swindon.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 4 (?), 25 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21, April 4 (?), 18, May 9, 16 (?), 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30 Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24 (?), Nov 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District.
Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; &c., &c.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions, Feb. 14, onwards.
with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 7, 17 (3), 24 (3), 28, &c., Easter.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 21 (3, with Eastbourne), 28, March 7 (?), 14.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 21 (3 nights), 28 (?), May 16.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, from March to Dec., 1910, 8 Leading Attractions, 8.
Dramatic or Musical Comedy.
It will pay Good Companies to play this town. They can be Billed.
Have Plans out and Seats Booked, and preliminary Notices in Newspapers two or three weeks before opening.
The intervening weeks being given to Variety, which in no way interferes with the Legitimate, the Public not being surfeited, are naturally anxious and hungry for good strong drawing attractions; these being so few, are sure of doing good business.
Already booked:
"THE DAIRYMAIDS," Sept. 5.
"THE MERRY WIDOW," Oct. 3.
Managers may refer to above as to how they were treated and the holding capacity.
All coms. to THOS. HOLMES, Hippo., Keighley.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Recently reconstructed from designs by Frank Matcham, Esq., at a cost of £10,000.
MR. CHAS. EVANS
will reopen this magnificent Theatre under popular and experienced management on Monday, Jan. 31.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, &c., July, Aug., and Sept., also Easter; Good Dramas, Feb. 14, April 4, 11, and onwards.
Holding capacity, £120.
The only Theatre proper in Ramsgate.
Re dates, address, HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident-Manager for Chas. Evans, as above.

PAVILION THEATRE,
ABERTILLERY,
Feb. 7, March 7 (?),
April 11, 18, 19, 20
May 2, 9, 16.
PALACE THEATRE,
EBBW VALE.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 14 (?), 21,
April 11, 28, 29, 30, May 2, 9.
WANTED, the Best Companies.
Apply, E. TILNEY, Abertillery.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Good Dates, Feb. 7, D. P. T., Eastbourne;
Feb. 14, Hastings and Eastbourne (3 each);
Feb. 21, Hastings and Eastbourne (3 each);
Feb. 28, Eastbourne or Hastings.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies, BEXHILL-ON-SEA KURSAAL THEATRE (four miles from Hastings),
unexpectedly vacant Feb. 4, Feb. 14, 21 (either 3 nights), during grand season, Drury Lane Orchestra; Summer Season Easter to Sept.
Already booked: "The Merry Widow," "The Arcadians," The Follies, "The Dairymaids."
Vacant April 4, 11, and onwards.

Address, J. M. GLOVER, Drury Lane Theatre.

GRAND PIER PAVILION,
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
Holding capacity, 2,000. Electric light throughout. Stock Scenery.
19 miles from Bristol, frequent service, 45 minutes (boat) from Cardiff.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, for Flying Matinées, June 27 to Sept. 10.
Apply, J. H. STEVENSON.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical Pieces preferred), for March 7 (re-opening week), 14, 21, and 28, April 11, 18, Oct. 17, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPO., HOYLAND, YORKS.
One of the Largest and Best Appointed Theatres.
WANTED, Big Pantomimes, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 (?), First in (not "Babes"), Musical Comedy, or Drama, Feb. 14 and March 14. Big Star Variety Co.s other dates. Only the Best Entertained. All coms., SCOTTIE.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OAKENGATES.
Lessee, GEO. HARVEY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for immediate and future Dates. Animated Pictures between the acts are run at my entire expense. G.W.R. and L and N.W.R. main line between Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury. All communications, GEO. HARVEY.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham. First-class Pantomime or Musical Comedies, Feb. 21, 28.
Must be a very Big Production.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14, in the following Districts, South, Manchester and Wales.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, March 21, and various Autumn.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, March 7, April 4, 11.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 21 (near London).
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, March 21, 28.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Weeks of March 7 and May 2.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Established at Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, 1891.
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 28, March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25, on, Enormous Success, Theatre, Dundee. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Pal. T., Kilmarnock.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 31 (three nights), March 10 (three nights), South, March 14, 21 (?), 28.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Jan. 24, New Opera House, Wrexham.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, and on, with exceptions; Xmas season at Coronet a great success. Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock." and Prologue depicting the death of Halijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
WANTED, March 7 (3 nights), 14, 28, and on, with exceptions.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all Oct.

Address, POLINI, 93 Penge-road London S.E.

A First-class Attraction.
MR. LOUIS CALVERT'S PRODUCTION OF "SUNDAY,"
as Produced and Played by
Miss JULIA NEILSON and Mr. FRED TERRY
at the Comedy Theatre, London.
One of the Finest Plays
and most complete Productions travelling.
The entire Scenery, Furniture, and Properties Toured.
Miss JANET LIND as "SUNDAY."
Cast Chosen and Rehearsed by Mr. Calvert.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 (between Newcastle and Glasgow), 28, March 14.
Sole English Representative for Mr. Calvert,
WILLIAM GIFFARD,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Feb. 14 (Midlands),
Feb. 28 (Midlands or North).
Wire or write, CECIL BARTH,
New Royalty Theatre, London, W.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A PAIR OF SPECTACLES," or Répertoire, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, and onwards, with exceptions. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Feb. 14 (South), April 14 (3 days, Mid.), May 2 (?), 16.
Apply, J. E. WATSON, 169, S. Lambeth-road, S.W.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Jan. 31 (follow Leicester) Feb. 7 (precede Scarborough), Feb. 21, March 7, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON, T. R., Leicester.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Play.
WANTED, May 9, 23, 30, and June 6.
Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Jan. 24 (Six Nights).

J. PITT HARDACRE. "DRINK."
WANTED, Dates, March 13, 20, on, till Whit Week, T. R., Sheffield.
All communications, Staines.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Theatres, May 9, May 9, May 9, only Vacant Date this Spring. Thanks Otto C. Culling for Contract. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, Jan. 24, T. R., Stratford, E.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, April 18, Sept. 12, 26.

"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 14, 21, and 28.

FRANK M. THORNE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, March 21, June 6.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS,"
Vacant May 2, 9.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Spring Tour Complete. Now Booking Autumn.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
Open to arrange for Stock, June 13 to July 4.
Wire or write.
This, Royal, Sunderland;
next, Gaiety, Worksop.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT," by F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), 14 (?).
Address, HERBERT VERE, Met., Birmingham.

WANTED, Theatres, T. Edward Ward's "His Real Wife," Aug. 1, various onwards. Best Theatres, Best Terms. Only address, T. E. WARD, O. T., Manchester.

WANTED, for the Great Comedy Success, "WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
Feb. 21, March 14, and on, with exceptions.

CHARLES WINDERMERE.
Jan. 24, Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," March 14, May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, Aug. 1.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Corporation T., Chesterfield.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

The Great Financial Success.
All Star Company.
Miss Isla Garnet Vayne as Jessie.
Mr. Harry Scott as Harry Hailing.
Mr. Edward M. Heanley as Philip Edge.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Winnie Waters.
Vacant,
May 2, 9, June 6, 13, Aug. 1.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION,"
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

The strongest Financial Success Touring.
Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Sterling.
Mr. Clifford Earle as Mark Klaw.
Mr. Frank V. Fenn as Guy Warren.

Vacant,
May 2, June 6, 13, 20, Aug. 1, 8.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S
New Play.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
A Mammoth Production.
Vacant,
March 21, April 11, 18, May 2, 9.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

Fourth New Play,
by Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Production
Whit Week.

Vacant,
July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, 22.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

NOTICE.

The above-named Dramas,
together with
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"GREED OF GOLD,"
"WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
and
all other Plays under the control of
MORTON POWELL,
are fully registered and protected.

Any Infringement
of Scenes, Situations, Dialogue, or
ideas
will be dealt with
as the law directs.

Nothing Succeeds like Success,
and
"UNDER THE IRON HEEL"
is an Emphatic Success.

WANTED, March 7 and 14 (Midland),
Easter Week, Whit Week (North),
May 30, June and July Dates,
August Bank Holiday,
and Autumn, 1910, Spring, 1911,
Many thanks to the following astute Managers for Offers and Contracts: Dan Barnard, Esq.; Wm. Forsdike, Esq.; Messrs. Waddington Bros., Wilberforce Turner, Esq.; A. Carlton Esq.; G. Testo Sante, Esq.; H. Snelson, Esq.; A. Jefferson, Esq.; J. D. Swanston, Esq.; J. H. Saville, Esq.; T. W. Rowe, Esq.; Fred Fredericks, Esq.; W. F. Crowe, Esq.; J. Coulson, Esq.; J. C. Imeson, Esq.; T. W. Sylvester, Esq.; Hy. Bowman, Esq.; J. W. Boughton, Esq., &c., &c. Mr. Wilson Howard, Miss Carlotta Anson, and No. 1 Company, in the Great Franco-Russian Play, "UNDER THE IRON HEEL." An Artistic Romantic Drama. Beautiful Scenic Production. Handsome and Characteristic Costumes, and an Excellent Company. Refer F. W. Warden, Esq., Belfast; Walter P. Wright, Esq., Leicester. Write or wire, WILSON HOWARD, Gaiety, Worksop; next, T. R., Colchester.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."

WANTED, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, May 2, one or two Summer Dates for this great attraction. One of the Finest Domestic Plays on the road. Special cast, including Miss Laura Walker, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Mr. Arthur St. John, &c.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7. Excellent Band to parade.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
One of the best Military Plays on the Road. Doing excellent business. Wanted, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 21, 28. Fast Booking Summer and Autumn.
Wire for these Draws to F. G. KIMBERLEY, This, Marina T., Lowestoft; next, P. T., Portsmouth.

MESSRS. E. FAULKNER AND M. DE COURTSEY'S CO.
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS"
(By arrangement with Mr. Wallace Davidson).
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 21, 28, April 4, 18
Feb. 28, March 21, 28, April 4, 18.
Thanks Messrs. Milton Bode, F. W. Warden, W. Coutts, A. E. Abrahams, H. C. Alty (T. R., Bristol), for Contracts.
Address,
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

TWO GREAT PLAYS.
"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb. 7, March 7.
Feb. 7, March 7.
"A BROKEN HEART,"
Feb. 7,
Feb. 7,
HARRY FOXWELL, Grand Theatre, Derby.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 28,
March 28.

Admitted to be one of the Biggest Moneymakers Touring. Miss Annie Bell, supported by Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, Mr. Scott Leighton, and Star Company. Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

MISS MARY NEIL,
in her Latest Successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS"
and
"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Theatres, for either Play,
March 21, 28,
April 11, 18, and 25.
Coms. to GEORGE KIRK,
This, Opera House, Treherbert;
Next, T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.

KIMBERLEY, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, Feb. 7, Easter Week.
Wanted, Feb 7, Easter Week.
The Greatest Novel Play of recent times.
Wire for same to
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
This, Theatre, Lowestoft; next, P. T., Portsmouth.

"A LIFE'S SACRIFICE."

WANTED, Jan. 31 (three nights), Feb. 7 and 14.
"THE REDEMPTION."
WANTED, Feb. 3 and 7.
High-class Drama.

Communications re dates,
LESTER HOWARD, 37, Fairholme-rd., W. Kensington.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
Plays.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11.
"THE BETTER LAND."
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7(and Whit Week.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING"
Wanted, Easter Week, onwards, with exceptions.
Re Dates for these
Successful Attractions, address
FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street,
Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
A Terrific Success.
Broke five records last year, and has already broken three records this year.
Absolutely the funniest Pantomime Touring.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Jan. 31, Jan. 31,
Jan 31,
Jan 31,
Feb. 14, onwards.
Also good Theatre for Easter.
Wire for Jan. 31.
"ALADDIN."
Another success.
Refer Messrs. C. and L. Barnard, Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Wanted, Jan. 31.
Feb. 7, 14.
Wire for Jan. 31.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Granville, care Pagoda, Liverpool."
N.B.—Managers are cordially invited to see these Pantomimes with view to Production Season, 1910-1911.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Next week, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
"ALADDIN."
Next week, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 31
Jan. 31
Jan. 31
and
Feb. 7 and 21.
Feb. 7 and 21.
Feb. 7 and 21.

This brilliant Revival of "Alone in London"
is
Breaking Records all over the country.

For Business and General Excellence of Production refer
J. W. Boughton, Esq., T. R., Portsmouth.
Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star T., Liverpool.
Wentworth Croke, Esq., re Lyric, Hammersmith.
T. W. Rowe, Esq., Palace T., Newcastle.
H. Esden, Esq., re T. R., Sunderland.
R. Flanagan, Esq., Queen's T., Manchester.
Charles Revill, Esq., T. R., Stockport.
Or any Theatre visited.
Specially Strong Company,
including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
who will be remembered for her charming performance of Suzanne de Tournai in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," with
MISS JULIA NEILSON and MR. FRED TERRY.
Wire or write,
CHAS. GIBBON,
This, Hippodrome, Wigan; next, T. R., Leicester.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Feb. 14, Feb. 14,
March 7 and 21,
Easter,
June 27, July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1 and 15,
Oct. 24 and Christmas.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON.
To-day, Clarence, Pontypridd.
Monday, New Theatre, Aberdare.

Mr. T. N. WALTER'S COMPANY.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."

WANTED. Feb. 21,
and March 7.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
All communications to
T. N. WALTER,
133-136, High Holborn, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Dirigible, London."

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

WANTED, Feb. 21, March 28, and
Various, on.
E. BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

WANTED, Feb. 28 and March 7,
CULLEN AND CARTHY'S
Enormously Successful Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

One of the Biggest Drawing Attractions Travelling.

In consequence of the enormous success at Paisley, Hamilton, Greenock, and Queen's, Dublin, and this week at Queen's, Leeds, where our record of last visit has been left behind, we have decided to accept the above dates at First-class Hippodromes, Theatres, &c.

Please refer Mr. Bostock, Glasgow; Mr. Skivington, Greenock; Mr. Watson, Queen's, Dublin; Mr. Whiteman, Queen's, Leeds; and Mr. Arnold, Lyric, Liverpool.
All communications, J. CULLEN.
Next week, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA," the Rage of Paris.

WANTED, Jan. 31 and March 28.
Various Forward Dates.
Beautifully Dressed and Mounted, Perfectly Cast.
The Magnificent Two Manual Pipe Organ
Still one of the Stars.
Many Sincere Thanks to Mr. Adam Seebold, Southend for his strong recommendations to other managers, and so favourably influencing Miss Esmond's Bookings. Wire, to-day, O. H., Harrogate (third visit); Jan. 24, O. H., Crewe (return).

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
Two Solid Successes,
"EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28 (North), various
Summer and Autumn.
"THE SINNER."
Vacant Feb. 28, March 7 (Yorks or Lancs preferred), May 16, various Autumn.
Letters, WILSON BENGE,
Moorland Cottage, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for next Year.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
Now Running at T. R., Plymouth.
"CINDERELLA."
Now Running at Crystal Palace Theatre.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
Now Running at Grand Theatre, Fulham.

N.B.—Any of the above Productions can be sold.
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
Company of Fifty Guaranteed.
The Record-breaking Pantomime.
Three records broken already, in spite of election.

WANTED, Feb. 21, onwards.
Managers are invited to see this Pantomime with a view to arranging Production next year.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Production settled, 1910-11.
Vacant Jan. 2, onwards.
A. AUSTIN, New Theatre, Bargoed.
Jan. 31, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Feb. 14, for First-class Production of "Bo-Peep," Feb. 21, for "Cinderella"; 45 in company. E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

THEATRES WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
"FORTY THIEVES."
"CINDERELLA."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, having large Stage and large holding capacity, for the above.
Stupendous and Gorgeous Pantomimes.
which hold an unbeaten record all along the line.
Open time.
"FORTY THIEVES,"
Feb. 21.
"CINDERELLA,"
Feb. 14, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Feb. 14, and onwards.
Mr. Kiddie thanks the many Managers who have offered dates, but must have Theatres that can take BIG MONEY with my heavy expenses.

These Pantomimes are the most successful on the road at twice-nightly Theatres.

Refer Fred Wilmot, Esq., Thos. Barrasford, Esq., Percy B. Broadhead.

Share or Certainty.

Address,
THOS. SWINTON,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."
"THAT LONDON WOMAN."

WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21,
Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Theatre Royal, Belfast.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, Theatres, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's Cos., "Her Path of Sorrow," by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Success, Success. A Grand Success. A Great Play. Magnificently staged and mounted. A splendid company. Only Vacant Dates, March 7 and 14, Aug. 29, and Sept. 12. Répertoire Co., Répertoire Co. The Attraction that never fails. Everything carried for each play. Vacant Aug. 1 and 8 (?), Sept. 28, Oct. 3, 24, and 31. The Two Biggest Successes ever Toured by One Manager. Apply at once to CHARLES DRAYCOTT, E. T., Cradley Heath.

ANDIE CAINE'S
ANDIE CAINE'S
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

WANTED, Jan. 31.
Wanted, Jan. 31.
Wire, Palace, East Ham.
Next week, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Feb. 7, through
Change of Arrangements, for
"CINDERELLA."
Cast includes:
GEORGE FRENCH,
TOM CONWAY,
and ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
This pantomime ran thirteen weeks at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, and thirteen weeks at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, against the Strongest Opposition Possible.
Wire immediately.
ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.
Telephone 5590 Gerrard.

The New Musical Absurdity,
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."

WANTED, Good Theatres, March 14 (production), March 21, April 4, May 2, 9, and 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND, New Gaiety T., Houghton, Durham.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."

WANTED, Feb. 14 (three nights), to precede Lincoln.
DICKIE CLARE, St. James', Long Eaton (return).

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, Feb. 28, between London and Manchester. FRANK YEARSLEY, Gaiety T., Hastings.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 7 and 14, for this Beautiful Production. A gigantic success, and the prettiest and funniest pantomime on tour. Magnificent scenery, gorgeous dresses, funny comedians, splendid vocalists, big specialities. Thanks for offers; I must have terms as I am on a big expense. Next week, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, twice nightly. Address, BARRETT.

R. NIGHTINGALE'S PANTO., "ALADDIN."
Refer J. Worswick, Esq., re business at Wigan.
WANTED, Feb. 21, Lancs. or Yorkshire, owing to extension of Tour, First-class Theatres only. Wire to-day, R. NIGHTINGALE, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne; next week, T. R., Stockport.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the world.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, and various later. Splendid show. Unequalled Printing. Wire for Jan. 31; distance no object. All coms., SCOTTIE, Queen's T., Glasgow.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Principal Part in the production of a Unique Sketch or One-Act Play (three characters), Actor or Actress of fame, to be brilliant Solo Pianist and able to invest £50 to £100. The principal part will be written according to applicant's special talent, either Dramatic or Humorous; absolutely unique and priceless properties; the essence of the Act ready for inspection, trial, and suggestion. This production will create an Artistic Sensation. Correspondence not entertained, as nature of play cannot be explained except properties are seen. Personal investigation indispensable.
A lifetime chance for the successful applicant. This is not a chance speculation, but a certainty to fame and fortune.
Capital and talent never was better utilised.

In all cases appointments will be made.

Box 7166, "The Era."

WANTED, Company, with exceptions, for short Tour; rehearse Feb. 7. Address, with photo., or useless, HERBERT VERE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"SWISS EXPRESS" CO.

WANTED, to commence Feb. 7 (rehearse week previous), a Lady for Bride's part; a really First-class Singer and Dancer only. Address, with full particulars, including experience, height, recent photo., and lowest terms, to C. and F. RENAD, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Lady; must be possessed of a First-class Trained Voice, to be Starred and Toured under exceptional and unique circumstances through the United States and Canada. Only lady possessing the above voice qualifications and able to pay her own passage to port of landing need apply. Write, in first instance, to Box 7,178, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to play Responsible Parts for a few weeks in Feb. Apply (letters only), NORMAN V. NORMAN, 9, Lower Rock-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Diminutive Child Actress (14), residing in London preferred. Full particulars, Box 7,172, "The Era" Office.

"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, a Thoroughly Experienced Actor, must be intense, for the part of Le Loup. Lowest terms, references, &c., to
F. MARRIOTT WATSON & JAMES USSHER,
Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, Soprano who is also a Good Accompanist, for short Country Tour. Apply, stating terms. Box 7,176, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, tall Gentleman, Short Gentleman, Broken-English parts, play Piano, Sing ("Little Damozel"); tall, pretty, fair Juvenile Lady. Photos., terms, height, references. MARK BLOW, New Theatre, Oxford.

"FLORODORA."

WANTED, two Chorus Ladies and one Gent, with good voices and appearance. Write, with lowest terms, and enclose photo., to C. CONSTANT, 17, Burleigh-mansions, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lena Copping, Balladist, Humorous Songs at the Piano, Accompanist, Disengaged, Easter week, Summer 1909, twenty weeks Brighton. Write, 18, Melody-road, Wandsworth.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE GLASGOW,
Pantomime Season, 1910-1911,
Comedians, Principal Boy, Girl, and Sisters.
Say where appearing for next fortnight.
Address, RICH WALDON,
Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Pantomime. Age, height, photo., references, and lowest terms, to A. AUSTIN, New Theatre, Bargoed.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Dolly Brough, Comedienne and Clog Dancer, with Ted Hopkins, Panto., Vacant April for Halls, Pictures, &c. G. P. O., Tenby, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, E. W. Selman is making a hit as Baron, Happy Jerry, Panto., Regent, Salford. Free next season. Come and see me.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery; Largest Productions or Single Scenes. Lowest prices, W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, &c. Recent Contracts: Clown Barker, full Circus Set; Leslie's Cadets, full Set; new Electrical Theatre, Gateshead (Stock); Picture Palace, Sunderland (Stock); Sandy McNab. T. C. DALY, 31, Hinckley-street, Bradford, Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Resident-Manager; must thoroughly understand the Management of Refreshment Bars, Taking Stock, Advertising; good disciplinarian. Will applicants please take silence as polite negative? Terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, really Capable Manager to take entire charge of mechanical turn for First-class Music Halls (London, &c.). Must know all the leading managers and held similar position. An interest may be purchased at option. State qualifications. Box 7,160, "The Era."

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, immediately, Stage Manager, assist Front of House. Must know Variety Business thoroughly. Apply SHERWOOD & Co.

WANTED, immediately, Young Gentleman, to learn the duties of Assistant-Manager to well-known Company; small capital required; salary paid; good opening (commence Jan. 31). Box 7,181, "The Era."

WANTED, an Assistant, male or female, for a First-class Theatrical and Vaudeville Agency, must be thoroughly experienced in the business; references to bear the strictest investigation. Apply to Box 7,180, "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED, Really Smart Advance Agent, for Company visiting No. 1 Theatres.
Address, letters, Box 7,174, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Shorthand-Typist, with knowledge Book-keeping. Apply by letter, stating age, references, and salary required, to MANAGER, Queen's Music Hall, Poplar, E.

WANTED, Smart Electrician, one who can combine Props or Carpentering, for tour, one month, open immediately. Wires, "Theaterbau, London," or, Address, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, immediately, Good Eelctrician, also able Operator Bioscope. Apply SHERWOOD and Co.

WANTED, Carpenter, immediately; must be able to play some Wind Instrument (not brass). If satisfactory, permanent engagement. Touring. Apply, HERBERT DARNLEY, Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road. Letters only.

"THE COTTON SPINNER."
WANTED, Carpenter, Baggageman, open Jan. 31, Chorley. Full particulars, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 33, Hosack-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, to open immediately,
Resident Carpenter.
Wire, MANAGER, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

CROYDON PUBLIC HALLS.
WANTED, Working Hall-keeper and Stage Carpenter, responsible for and to assist in all cleaning, preparation of Halls as required, setting of Stage at Dramatic Performances, charge of Switchboard, assistance given; hours as required for "Lets"; wages 35s.; permanency to suitable man. Apply in writing, stating age and qualifications, by Tuesday next, to THE SECRETARY, Public Halls, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager, by H. Cormack, late Manager for F. C. Bostock, Esq., Jungle and Arena, Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth, Rinking, Ltd., &c., &c.; undeniable references; security. 24, Hackney-grove, London.

WANTED, Known, London Music Hall Manager seeks change, London or Provinces; thorough knowledge of business; hard worker; excellent references. Bond if required. M. M., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, re-engagement Manager. Owing to sale of Theatre. Advertiser, 36, thoroughly experienced, Theatre, Variety, or Pictures. Highest Testimonials. J. A. WHITEHOUSE, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager or Assistant-Manager, Variety or Pictures; just concluded comfortable engagement with highest refs; can supply fidelity guarantees. A. VALLANCE, 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Young Manager (Londoner), now engaged at Provincial Variety Theatre, desires to improve his position; temperate, energetic, with thorough knowledge all branches of business. Box 7,153, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, Stage-Manager, Bill-Inspector, London experience, twice nightly, or Tour, Sketch, at Liberty; good refs. NICELLI, Stubb's-house, Crosslett-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, by Englishman, speaking French, German, Engagement, as Business-Manager, Apparatus Fixer, Pantomimic or Speaking Parts, &c. 124, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham.

WANTED, Situation as Advance Agent or Bill Inspector, 15 years' experience, 4 years last situation; distance no object; refs. Apply, Mr. G. Clarkson, Manager Opera House, Southport, and the Manager Winter Gardens Co., Ltd., Southport.
E. MARRIOTT, 56, Poulton-road, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Lloyd, Circus Advance Agent, England and Ireland; Disengaged for Tenting, 1910. Address, 141, Samslane, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, Fred Lewis, Circus Advance Agent, America, Great Britain, and Ireland, Disengaged for Tenting, 1910. Address, 39, Earl-st., Belfast.

WANTED, permanent Engagement, by Electrician, practical mechanic, wide experience.
ELECTRIC, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Stage Carpenter, age 32; practicall all-round bench hand; own tools. C. WITHERS, 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Wardrobe Mistress. Disengaged. Fully Capable, Cut, Make, and take Control of Workroom or Tour; was in charge of the recent Cardiff and St. Albans Pageants. Late Ben Greet Co. MRS. PERKINS, 21, Archel-road, West Kensington, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Leader to Take Charge of Small Band; own music. Variety and Pictures. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 20, Jubilee-place, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, at once, for Nine Weeks, two First-class Orchestral Violinists. References, age, and terms to HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Municipal and Opera House Orchestras, Cheltenham. Must be good sight-readers.

WANTED, good Orchestral Cornet, must be good reader, for new Liner. Apply,
BANDMASTER, 87, Darnley-road, Gravesend.

WANTED, thoroughly Experienced Trombone; must be well up in operatic and vaudeville business. Apply, with references and lowest terms for permanency, to REGINALD YORKE, Acting-Manager, New Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, for Great Lafayette Show, Double B Bombardon Player, must be abstainer. Apply by letter, GREAT LAFAYETTE, Hippodrome, Leeds.

WANTED, 'Cellist, Lady or Gentleman, Refined, for Small Orchestra.
Box 7,168, "The Era."

WANTED, exceptionally brilliant Solo Pianist, Lady or Gentleman, good stage appearance and experience, for a Unique Instrumental Virtuoso Act, for Variety Theatres and Concerts, to travel England and Continent, exceptional talent finds splendid future; salary £3 10s. to start, with prosperous increase; fares paid; no investment required. Applicant to be London resident, nationality immaterial. State distinctly previous experience; memorising indispensable; personal interview essential, and only Pianist of perfection entertained. No correspondence, but appointment made for test of ability. Box 7,165, "The Era."

WANTED, for Vint's Electric Palaces, Neath and Kettering, thoroughly competent Pianist, used to pictures and varieties, young, and dress well, sobriety indispensable. Send age, last two refs., and salary expected. Open Jan. 29.
ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Kettering.

WANTED, Good Pianist, for Permanent Picture Show. State Lowest Terms to SANDERSON, Public Hall, Dudley.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Pictures, assist. Open Jan. 31. State lowest, permanent. Temperance Hall and Picturedrome, Skipton, Lessees, Messrs. LANCASTER & HOLT.

WANTED, Double Drums, to open Monday, 24th inst, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy. Wire lowest, CHAS. WELDON, Conductor, as above.

WANTED, Musicians for my British Orchestra of Eight Ladies and Two Gentlemen, for Long Tour in France, Belgium, Germany, &c., good Contra Bass to join immediately, Lady or Gentleman; good playing, behaviour, and appearance essential; indifferent, sleepy, or stolid players save stamps. Répertoire includes big selections of Operas of Verdi, Gounod, Puccini, Meyerbeer, Bizet, Massenet, Weber, Tschaikowsky, Leoncavallo, Donizetti; also operettas of Strauss, Millocker, Zeller Ziehrer, Planquette, Audran, Offenbach, Overtures of Mendelssohn, Suppé, Keler Bela, Weber, Strauss, Rossini, Mozart, &c.; long, comfortable engagement for steady, willing young Artists of real ability desiring to enlarge their experience of best foreign music. Brilliant Young Lady Violinist with temperament also write. Apply, stating age, when free, experience, terms (board, lodging provided), send recent photo., references. No fancy salaries. HUNT, Walhalla, Liege, Belgium.

WHITE STAR MEDITERRANEAN SERVICE.
WANTED, Orchestral Leaders and Solo Violins and 'Cellists, Feb. 21 until Oct., Cunard Mediterranean Service, Jan. 24 until Dec. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. CHARLES W. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Band,
25 Performers,
for South Coast, Summer Season.
Box 7,162, "The Era."

WANTED, for E. B. Gandy's Spectacular Production, Brussels Exhibition, April to November, Clarionets, Saxhorns, Bass, D Drums. Fares paid from London. No fancy salaries. Terms, particulars, BANDMASTER, 7, Stanlake-villas, Shepherd's Bush. Silence polite negative. Last weeks. Applicants please note.

WANTED, First-class Brass Instrumentalist, of the best, others save stamps.
Only men of sound principle treated with.
Will Mr. Hodgkiss (Cornet) write?
Terms, Professor MITCHELL, Pavilion Rink, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age, Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, First Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Piano, Second Cornet, Trombone, and Drums. Must be all first-class Musicians, for Jan. 29, Short Scottish Tour and long Summer Season. Write or wire, BLOME, Turk's Head Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Piccolo, B Flat, Clarionets, and Side Drum, for Pitching, in West End London. Terms, shares. BANDMASTER, 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Cornet, Euphonium, and Clarionet, for Pitching. Terms, Shares. LUDWIG, 5, Irongate Wharf, Paddington.

WANTED, Professional Lady Instrumentalists, to form an Orchestra. Write, stating particulars, to Box 7,175, "The Era."

WANTED, for First-class Tea Rooms in Dublin, String Band, Five Musicians or Party of Musical Entertainers. Apply, stating terms, to X50, c/o Eason and Sons, Advertising Agents, Dublin.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Leonard Spohr Tute, the well-known and thoroughly competent Conductor, First-class Permanent Appointment. 18, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED known, Charles Godfrey, jun., First-class Conductor (also piano). At Liberty. Just finished 11 long season engagements as Musical Director, Spa, Scarborough; both Orchestral and Military Bands. Very highest references. Address, The Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Permanency, Conductor (Piano); also Brilliant Leader; 15 years' experience; steady and reliable. CONDUCTOR, 67, Coalshaw Green-road, Hollinwood, near Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Musical Director, Variety, Concert, any Business; splendid library; age 29; total abs.; highest refs. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 55, Bournemouth-rd., Merton Pk., S.W.

WANTED, by a well-known Conductor, Engagement shortly, in a First-class Music Hall; good references; extensive library. Box 7,133, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Leader (Violin). Address, 25, Tudor-road, Cardiff.

WANTED Known, Miss Ethel Horton, Violinist. Disengaged Jan. 18. Address, 65, Manor-road, Altrincham.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, in London or South Coast, Kate Husband, Violinist, can supply Trio; good répertoire. 18, Grafton-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Situation, by Violinist; young, sober, experienced Variety, Drama, Musical Comedy; good refs. Wire or write, Box 7,151, "The Era."

WANTED, good Permanent Engagement by First-class Violinist, with excellent references. Wire or write, Violinist, 5, Kingston-road, Barlsdon, Coventry.

WANTED Known, Violinist. Lib. Jan. 31, any Business, Excellent References. Total Abstainer, Permanency. HORACE T. V. WALFOLE, 22, Old-street, Ton-y-pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, an engagement by a thoroughly experienced and reliable Violinist. Leader or first, any business. HEAP, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Cornettist, well experienced, would like engagement in Orchestra; good ref. J. A., 44, British-street, Bow, London, E.

WANTED, by well-known London Cornet Player, Permanency, any business, in or near Inverness. Reasons why on joining. Address, KETTLE, Olympia.

WANTED, by Clarionet, permanent or Summer Engagement, experienced Military and Orchestral; good refs. Apply, CLARIONET, 16, Tipping-street, Stafford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, competent, experienced, reliable; good references; permanency preferred; Liberty now. ALF SUNDERLAND, 24, Convent-lane, Hull.

WANTED, by Bass, engagement, any Business. Good, Steady, and Reliable. Good References. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone or Euphonium, experienced Variety Theatres, Military. Good References. Apply, W. K. PENN, 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Euphonium; Varieties, or good Rink of Two Sessions Daily; good references. 271, Shoreham-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any business, reliable; good refs.; join any time. JOHN STONE, 20, Old Orchard-st., Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Bombardon, abstainer, sight-reader, exper.; highest refs.; any business; start immediately. Box 7,159 "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Bombardon (strong), combine String Bass; any Business. Mr. JOHN SALISBURY, 268, Warwick-road, Batley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Known, French Hornist, at Liberty, Theatre, Variety, or Military Band; experienced and reliable musician. 70, Meanley-road, Manor Park, London, E.

WANTED, Known, experienced Lady 'Cellist, now at Liberty, not afraid of work. Miss CHILD, 18, Grafton-street, Brighton; London district preferred.

WANTED, Known, Stanley E. Angless, 'Cellist, Solo and Orchestral. 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton-hill, S.W.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged. Age 23, experienced. 'Cello, 47, Walpole-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED, by First-class 'Cellist, Engagement, from June 11, for four weeks, London, East Coast. BLAZER, 123, Coronation-avenue, Bath.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged, any business, or Solo, age 30. R. SORTIN, 65, Torrens-buildings, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced. Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, or Deputising, Viola. H. OLDFIELD, 21, Ossory-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Oboist, any business; highest references. BROWN, 4, Portland-st., Chatham (late R.M.L.I. Staff Band).

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, late H.M. Service; good refs.; sober; any business. FLAUTIST, c/o Miss Whyte, 291, High-street, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Flute and Piccolo any Business (but no rinks); steady and reliable. FLAUTIST, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Flute and Piccolo, any business. FLAUTIST, 5, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Lady Flautist, Disengaged after to-day, good refs., any business. BESSIE PRATT, Park-st., Chatteris, Cambs.

WANTED, by Lady (Young), Engagement, Pianist or Violinist, Skating, Dancing, Pictures, or Ladies' Band; good musician. MALIN, 17, Cambridge-avenue, Kilburn.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist and Organist. Accompanist. Sight-reader; steady, excellent testimonials, &c. Apply, A. LAY, JUN., School House, Upper Dicker, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Joseph Harvey, Pianist, experienced Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, &c.; excellent refs. Address, 2, North-street Cottages, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Picture-Pianist; extensive library, and can improvise. WYLLARDE, 49, Oxberry-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, at Liberty, reliable and experienced; good refs.; Rink preferred. 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, good Accompanist, Concert Party, Pictures, &c. 39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, by good Double Drummer, Re-engagement, any business; A.M.U. Member, late H.M. Service. Write or wire, DRUMS, 20, Bradshaw-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by reliable Double Drummer, Engagement, all Effects, Variety or Rink. Wire, BENNETT, 31, Musjid-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, Tym., Drums, all effects, excellent references. HARRY WHITFORD, 15, Warth-rd., Warth Fold, Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Drummer and Effects, any business, vacant Sat. 21st. J. RAYNER, 11, Water-street, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement by Drums and Effects, Reliable and Steady, any business; Good References. Liberty now. DRUMS, 69, Audley-street, Reading.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.

WANTED, Managers, Committees, and Musical Directors of Summer Resort Piers, Pavilions, Parks, Theatres, &c., to know that the above Society, consisting only of Musicians of High-class ability, are prepared to provide Full String Orchestras and First-class Military Bands (with or without Conductors), for Season and other Engagements. Individual players at Liberty for same; efficiency guaranteed. Qualified Musicians of repute earnestly invited to join. "Local Centres" (branches) established in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Oldham, &c. For full particulars write the Hon. Secretary, JOSPH. BALL, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme, Manchester. N.B.—Semi-amateurs are requested to refrain from writing. This class is not admitted.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Celebrated Ladies Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia, &c.; scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton. Tel. 4847 Nat.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies; Disengaged Feb. 12. Permanent address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, for Piers, Rinks, Hotels, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Tubular Bells. Madame BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-st., Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty). Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates apply, Madam SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Scarlet, Arcadian Bands supply Rinks and Picture Halls with String, Military, or Brass Bands. Headquarters, American Skating Rink, Merton, London.

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, High-class Circus Acts. Immediate Dates. List of Bookings, Litho. Lowest and permanent to PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for E. H. Bostock's Railroad Circus, to Open at Easter, for the Season, Good Troupe of Japanese or other First-class Attraction. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRCUS, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Known, that the Three Royal Ohmys, Greatest Acrobatic, Bareback Riders, are re-engaged till further notice by Albert Hengler, Esq., at the above Circus, where they have made the Greatest Success ever known, and are now the talk of Glasgow. Thanks for offers, but are not at Liberty till Easter Monday, as they have accepted five weeks' engagement for the Grand Circus, Edinburgh. Address, till further notice, THE ROYAL OHMYS, Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.

The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court, Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c. Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

WANTED, Known, George Danilla Walks and Swings Wire mounted on Stilts; also Devene, Marvellous Trapeze Balancing. Lib. 24th, also for Tenting. Forest View, Waltham Abbey.

WANTED, a Good Boy to learn Acrobatic Business; one that has a little knowledge of Tumbling preferred; age 14 to 15, height from 4ft. 8in. to 4ft. 10in; a good home. JOSH CLIFTON, Palace Theatre, Blackpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly; also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, MANAGER.

YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Every Description.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency, 2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Top and Bottoms, for Monday, and onwards. Lowest terms and full list of bookings, and permanent address, BOARDMAN and FOREMAN, Co-operative-chambers, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Comedy Acts, Comedians, Serios, Specialities, Jan. 31, onwards. Lowest terms, Bookings. Gala Acts, May 16, onwards. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Send list bookings and terms, SWINDON and PAUL, 9, Lower-marsh, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 31, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, to let me know where I can see your Act. If you have anything good that wants seeing, don't forget, I can place it with the best people. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-road, Peckham. Don't call.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for immediate and future Dates, for several Halls in the North. Big Tops for immediate dates. Apply to Signor PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, all lines, coming North, good break. Lowest, LAWSON, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, coming North, Good Break. Lowest, LAWSON, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

VERNO'S AGENCY, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Jan. 31, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of Bookings, lowest terms, and permanent address, lithos. (if any), to THE CELTIC AGENCY, 1, Varna-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists for Immediate Acts. Write or call. J. W. JOHNSON, Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Jan. 31, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time 14 Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durnamlike, London."

NOTICE. TIVOLI, PENTRE, S. WALES.

Mr. Will Stone wishes to give notice to agents Artists, and everybody concerned, that he has taken over the above Music Hall, and that all Engagements entered into by artists with Poole's are null and void.

WANTED, Known, all Applications for future Engagements for Tivoli, Pentre; Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy; Empire, Blaina; Oddfellows' Hall, Dowlais; and Hippodrome, Dowlais, must be made direct to my Sole and Exclusive Booking Agent, GEORGE EGBERT (Maclean's Agency), 110, St. Martin's-lane, London, W.C. (opposite Coliseum).

WANTED, Artists, to Notice, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo.—The above Hall having changed Management, all Contracts must be re-endorsed by present Management, otherwise they will be null and void.—Signed, J. F. FRANKLIN.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars, Big Specialities, Big Animal Acts, in fact, anything that is New, Novel, and Sensational, for Easter, March 21, 28, Whit Week, and later. for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c. Send dates, lithos., &c., to WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted. Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big. WILL SLEY, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Turns, those new to London. Send full dates and terms. I can Book you. HARRY THURSTON, 21, Wardour-street, London, W.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, the Biggest and Best Talent in the Business Stars through Programme Agents. Artists and others please note.—All applications for engagements at the New Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to BENSON'S Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., Manchester-chambers, 46A, Market-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Bensonia, Manchester."

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential. HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Acts, for March 21, 28. March 21, 28. March 21, 28. March 21, 28. March 21, 28. March 21, 28. Robb Wilton please wire address. DALTON'S Agency, 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Really Smart Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Big Specialities, Novel Animal Acts, and anything with Big Drawing Powers, for Jan. 31, Feb. 7, onward. Three days' silence a polite negative. Lowest terms, MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, nothing too big; Good Comedy Acts. State where acts can be seen working. Contracts await Saletos, Gregson Comedy Trio. Send full particulars, TOM DIACOFF, Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Feb. 21, New Acts, Novel Variety Artists, all Lines. State terms (which must be low), also where can be seen working, Manchester District Only. MANAGER, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates. Apply, T. C. RAWES, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts of all Descriptions. WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, High-class Acts, all Lines, Halls, Galas, Picture Shows. List of bookings, lowest, perm. PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Bristol, Rochdale, Huddersfield, Glasgow, S. Wales, Variety Acts all Lines, full Bookings imperative, and state last appearance in above towns. Re Tivoli, Pentre, Jan. 31, the following Contracts taken over by W. Stone, Esq.: Sisters Urma, Woolmer Young, Sam Williams, Cyclinis. GANNON, West-grove Bristol. Telegrams, "Fêtes, Bristol." 'Phone 2636 Nat.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.

WANTED, for two weeks, Scotland, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, First-class Speciality Acts and good Comic Turns. Lowest terms. Public Hall, Arbroath. N.B.

WANTED, Good, Cheap Acts, Comedians, Jan. 31 and on. Morritt wire address. PLOWDEN'S Agency, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, the Biggest Acts in the Market for Immediate Dates. Any Stars wanting odd week North please communicate. Troupe of Lions, Elephants, or anything Startling in Animals wanted for Jan. 31, on. Full particulars in first instance.

CADLE'S AGENCY, 105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Jan. 31 and onward, First-class Acts in all Lines. First-class Acts in all Lines.

HORACE CAMPKIN'S Agency, 14, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Campkin, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1192, Royal.

WANTED, Big Sensational Acts for Galas; also Variety Artists, all Lines. Communicate with full bookings, terms, and lithos.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPOS. and COMPANIES.

WANTED, Star Variety Acts in all Lines, Jan. 31, onwards. Lowest terms and fullest particulars. SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, the Biggest of Attractions, Star Acts, all Lines, Star Acts, all Lines, for Immediate Dates, for all Dates, for towns in Lancashire and Midlands. If vacant Monday write quick, CLIQUOT'S Agency, 18, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

CHARLES DARE'S FAMOUS MINSTRELS.

WANTED, immediately, for Music Hall Tours, First-class Comedians and Vocalists. State experience, age, and salary in first letter to CHARLES DARE, 26, Ivy-lane, London, E.C. 'Phone 2785 Holborn. No interviews without appointment.

WANTED, Wanted, for WILDER'S FETE AND GALA SEASON, 1910, Sensational Novelties, Acrobats, and all other Acts suitable for Outdoor Entertainments, for May 16, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 1 and 8.

Apply, stating lowest terms, and sample lithos., to 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

JOHN ADAMS AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Animal Acts, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 31, on.

Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, Specialities for immediate dates. All particulars, DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

JOHN ADAMS AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Animal Acts, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 31, on.

Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Twice nightly.

WANTED, for Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 21, onwards, Variety Combinations and Pantomimes, percentage or certainty. All communications to WALTER BATTY, Baltic Hotel.

WANTED, at once, for immediate dates, all Top Liners, Middles, and Bottom of the Bills.

I am in a position to Book anything good.

Wire or write, HARRY TAFT, Hippodrome, Peckham, Jan. 24, 1910.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY, 38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Top Liners only. Continent and Britain. Real Novelties always welcomed.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Tops, Novelties, Artists, all Lines. Can place good numbers, immediate dates. CLARK and BOWMAN'S Variety Agency, 10, West-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. Tel., 433 G'head.

WANTED, Big Tops, Attractions, Feb. 7, onwards. Always Vacancies; nothing too big. Send full particulars, lithos., &c., to NEIMAN and BENN, 108, Strand, London.

BEACH PAVILION, ABERDEEN. Twice Daily, May to Oct.

WANTED, complete Companies of Entertainers, must be clever and refined. State all particulars and where to be seen working. DAVID THOMSON, 12, Stanley-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Lady Expert Dancer (Solo), to join Comedian. Write, with photo., COMEDY, 47, Arlington-street, New North-road, N.

WANTED, Comedians, Vocalist Specialities, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, Olympian Gardens, Rhyl. Artists personally known write lowest. CHARLEY HARVEY, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, immediately, Young Man, for Troupe, knowledge of Tumbling, long and comfortable engagement. Apply, with full particulars, LORD JOHN SANGER and SONS, LTD., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, a Second Mounter; must be first-class tumbler, with some eccentric tumbling, for comedy act, single men preferred. State lowest terms and full particulars to Box 7,171, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Boy, 14 to 15 years old, to learn Acrobatic Business; one with little knowledge preferred. Add., J. OLRAC, Queen's, Castleford.

WANTED, a Man Assistant for Conjuring Act. Short. FRED WILKINSON, 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, First-class Operator, for Provinces, permanency, resident; must understand both currents, and be practical electrician. State experience, references, age, and salary required (total abstainer preferred), Box 7,173, "The Era."

WANTED, Operator, for Pathé Machine, permanent situation to suitable man. Send all particulars, state age, experience, salary, &c. Box 7,161, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, really good Bioscope Operator, Electric, one competent to do all electric fixing, &c. SANDERSON, Public Hall, Dudley.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, for Electric Theatre; knowledge of running Picture Shows desirable. Apply fully, DAVIES, 2 and 3, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Walton, the Genuine Lancashire Singing Mill Girl, presenting interior of winding room, with own frame. This, Queen's, Castleford; next, Hippo., Dewsbury. Vac. Feb. 7 and 28. Miss Walton is now showing a Bright Steel Fit-up Machine, at which she works just as she did in her factory days; and as she Delights the Audience with her Charming Singing, Makes Spools and Throws Them Out as a Memento of the Abilities of a Real Mill Girl.

WANTED, Mon., 31st inst. on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion Top Boot Dancer of the World. This week, Palace, Derry. Write or wire, 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 31, onwards (through unexpected termination of Tour), Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer; big success with Milton Bode's Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," Principal Girl. Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Comedienne, Immediate Dates. Offers for this Dainty, Talented Juvenile must be made to DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, Miss Mary Hopwood, Illustrated Vocalist, good voice, Songs, own Slides. Coms., 4, Stanley-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 28, on, Little Dixie, Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer. New Songs. Com., Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday next, Dainty Dorretta, Acrobatic Sabot Queen, and Comedienne. Wire, Victoria Theatre, Sacriston, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Bertha Ward, the Singing Crippled Girl, Liberty Monday and onwards. This week, enormous success Palace, Morley. Write No. 7 Branch, Church-street, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists. Magnificent Silver and Electric Apparatus. Costly Wardrobe. Success everywhere. This week, Gaiety, Clydebank; next, Cooke's Circus and H., Edinburgh; next, Hawick.

WANTED, by Actress, Superb Pianist, work Illusions, Engagement, Continental Artists; experienced, petite, pretty figure; attractive and cultured. NADINE, 57, George-street, Walsall.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lily Laurence, Principal Rider of the late Warwick Troupe, good Double Worker, at Liberty. 13, Wyndham-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, Novel and Refined Speciality Piano, Banjos, Mimicry, Comedy Ragtime Dancing, Vacant Jan. 24 31, Feb. 14, 28, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric. Still appearing with big success at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. An act that always pleases, and re-engaged wherever he goes. All correspondence to the above address.

WANTED, Known, Happy Attwood, Comedian, Vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14 (only vacancies this year. Wire, 37, Lotus-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, that Stanhope Gordon, Light Comedian and Novelty Dancer, will from now be known as George Caselli. This, Paragon, and Pal., Greenwich.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame Comedian and Comedy Dutch, vacant Jan. 24, Feb. 14, 21, 28. This, Hippo., Hyde. Wire, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Barney Stuart, High-class Versatile Entertainer, Monday next, also Feb. 21. Coms., 18, Deacon-st., Everton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Feb. 7, 14, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Popular Collier Comedian. Original Copyrights. Coms., Openshaw, Manchester. 31st, Theatre, Altrincham.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, in the Art of Hoop Manipulation, follow with Success all others. Vacant next three weeks, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 31, by Sergt. Bert Powell, Military Entertainer and Illusionist. Wire, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next (through obliging), also Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, by Ali Cogia, Arabian Magician and Equilibrist. Great success this week, assisted by Abdulla. A real Oriental Novelty. Also Miss Linton, Descriptive and Soubrette. Wire, one or two acts, COGIA, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, by Morimura, the Celebrated Japanese Illusionist, Monday next and 31st. Concludes to-night, Hippodrome, Dumfries; next week, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Jan. 31, on. Cardo and Carleete, Illusionists. Latest Sensational Mystery, The Death-Defying Water Escape. Jan. 24, Queen's Palace, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, on, by the Great Kyoto, Novel, Sensational Japanese Pot-pourri Act, Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer; also May Geraldine, Refined Chorus Comedienne and Dancer; two distinct acts. Wire or write, 25, Weymouth-st, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, and 31st, Various, on, The Monckton, Comedy Duologuists, presenting farcical episodes, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Are Wives Dummies?" "Two in a Flat." Wire, Hippodrome, Wallsend.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Rohde and Roche, the Chameleon and Lady Artist, introducing Contortion, Singing, Dancing, Pot-pourri Act. Wire, 25, Weymouth-st., Rumford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Vandas, Vacant Feb. 28, March 7, 14; second year with E. C. Jazon's Panto. An Act Away from All Others. Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, Jan. 31, to Precede Nottingham, by Fred Erick, Versatile Comedian, and Lois Audrey, mezzo-soprano. This, P., Derby; next, E., Stockport.

WANTED, Known, The Stantos (Maud and Bob), Speciality Artists, only Vacancies this year, March and April. Write, Theatre, Pontypool.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy Act, Gladys a Dainty Singer and Dancer, and Alber the great Comedy Tumbling Comedian, vacant Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14. Address, 16, Byron-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by The Petricks (Geo. and Will), in their Comedy Acrobatic Barrel Jumping and Vaulting Act. 41, Castle-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Jan. 24 and 31, through transferring dates.

DOONE and DONALD, The Undescribable Comedy Couple. This week, Paragon. Agents, or direct.

Permanent add., 15, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-rd.

WANTED, Jan. 31, by the Leonas, Musical Act, Gorgeous Electric Stage Set. This, Palace Theatre, Buxton; next, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, SARNTHALER TROUPE, Big Top. Six Ladies, Two Gents. Big Top. The World's Greatest Tyrolean Singers and National Dancers from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres. Vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and on. Offers invited. Address, week Jan. 24, Birmingham Empire.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylesto, Refined Contortionist, and Rumbo Austin's Comedy Troupe of Navvies, Jan. 24, onwards. Wire, 14, Thompson's-yard, Wakefield; two distinct turns.

WANTED, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, Alex. and Jolly, First-class Comedy Triple Bar Act. Address, Princess Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Lolo May Trio, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists. Magnificent Silver and Electric Apparatus, Costly Wardrobe, Instantaneous Success Everywhere, Press and Public unanimous in their praise. This week, Johnny Cook's Hippodrome, Edinburgh; next week, Hawick. Thanks to Mr. E. H. Bostock for contract. Thanks for other offers, those dates already booked.

WANTED, by the Three Original Hodginis, the Continental Aerial Gymnastic Wonders, return from the Continent. Just commencing Tour of England. Vacant Feb. 21, March 7, with exceptions. Palace, Cork. This, Hippo., Bolton, Lancs.; next two weeks, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, Jan. 24. Star Novelty Performance; Skill and Comedy. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 28, and later in 1910, by Astor, Ventriloquist. Always a success. Barrasford Tour to follow. Principal Agents, or 3, Chapel-row, Carlisle.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Vent. and Conj., "The Money Budget," Monday next. But offer me a living. Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 14, 21, by Gulliver and the Doll with the Laugh. Great Comedy Ventriloquial Act. Monday, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Immediate Dates by Valvo, the Great Military Ventriloquist, a Star Act. Vacant Monday. Wire Direct. 12, Lapage-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Monday, 24th, by Henrym, Whistling Ventriloquist. Two smart acts. Wire offers. Post Office, Burstwick, Hull.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, Hippo., Yarmouth, Saturday; then, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, Harry Keeble, the World's Greatest Ventriloquist, has a few Vacancies in 1910-11. Apply to ANGER and BAUER, or SAM HART.

WANTED, Agents, Proprietors, Managers, to book Financial Productions, Produced by Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy and Specialty Boxing Act. Starring Alhambra, Belfast. Wire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 31, and Feb. 7, for "Napoleon at Waterloo." A Perfect Production. Scenery, Dresses, and Wonderful Dioramic Effects unsurpassed; also Whizzing the Whirl, the world's greatest laughing act. Wire, SCOTTIE, Queen's T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Famous Educated Lion Show, most Refined and Cleanest in the Profession. Vacant Jan. 31 and all Feb. and March, before going on the Continent. Comm. week, Jan. 24, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.

WANTED, Known, Tudora's Ponies, Cleverest Pony Show now travelling the Variety Stage.

Proprietors, Managers, and Agents should not miss this. All comas., Hippodrome, Norwich; next, Hip., Ipswich; Liberty Jan. 31 and on.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Dogs. Vacant Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14. Address, 90, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED known, Hinton and Wooton, originators of act and title, "A Football Match on Bicycles," have the following weeks open in 1910: Feb. 21, 28, March 14, April 11, 18, Aug. 8. Address, Ardwick Empire, Manchester; or DE VERE, SLEY.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 14, on, by Swift Duo, Novel Cycle Act. Write or wire, 1, Broad-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Always a success. This, Palace, Porth; next, Tivoli, Pentre; Vacant 31st, Feb. 7.

WANTED, Engagement, by young, versatile Burlesque Comedian, height 5ft. 6in; can join First-class Show immediately. Offers to Box 7,123, "The Era."

WANTED, by Gentlemanly Young Man, Twenty, Situation as Assistant to Entertainer or otherwise. H., The Rockery, Caversham Heights, near Reading.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Man, Tumbler, and also Tramopline Tumbler; would assist in Comedy or Troupe of Acrobats. Wire or Write, PAUL RICHARD, 40, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Fa mouth-road, London, S.E

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Novelties, Side Shows (refined), Wire King, &c., for Bristol. Open next week, finest position, six weeks certain. Shares or Rental. Hall 120ft. deep. Also Splendid Room for Shooting Range. Write or wire. BEAUTE, 37, Fitzhamon-embankment, Cardiff.

WANTED, Living Novelties of Every Description for Good Shop and Good Position. Lady Palmist write. FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, 150 Hessle-road, Hull.

WANTED, Good Side Show. Good Business to be Done. Write or wire, LESTER, Sports Exhibition, Llanelly, South Wales.

WANTED, a First-class Palmist for the Summer Season, 1910; also Programme and Curtain. Send tenders to MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, a Young Girl knowing Tank Work or Swimming and Diving. Apply to Mr. LATOUCHE, Agricultural Hall, Islington.

WANTED, Planksmen (Comedians), only those used to the business. Lowest terms, open at once. Auction Mart, Malt Shovel Inn, Rugeley, Staffs.

WANTED, Capable Man of Good Appearance to assist in auction rooms. First-class pay and berth to steady worker. Box 7,169, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Le Neve and Jem Mace's Troupe of Athletes, going great. This, Panopticon, Glasgow; next, New Gaiety, Clydebank. Anyone wanting a good thing write for terms as above.

WANTED, Engagement, Miss Georgina Grosvenor, Palmist, Phrenologist, Graphologist, late Bond-street; good Press Notices. 65, Coningham-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
to Showmen, Stall-holders,
and Amusement Caterers, following Feasts, Fairs, &c.

P. COLLINS,
is now open to book First-class Tenants for his well-known Spring and Summer Route of
Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes,
Oswestry, Longton, Cefn, Llangollen, Welshpool, Newtown, Llanidloes, Ruthin, and Wrexham.
Lichfield, Dudley, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath.

Good Easter Fairs.
Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stourbridge, London, and New Brighton.
Ludlow May Fair, Chester Races.
Leicester Fair, commencing Thursday, May 5,
Birmingham Fair,
and a run of Fairs, Feasts, Wakes, Flower Shows, &c., right through the season.

For terms, &c., apply,

P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

Telephone 80 Walsall.

Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.
RIFLE RANGE.
WANTED, Known, the Space for a First-class Rifle Range on the Amusements Ground at this Exhibition is to Let.
Apply, giving rent and percentages offered, to BRUSSELS (1910) EXHIBITION AMUSEMENTS COMPANY. Norwich Union Building, St. James-street, Piccadilly, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Genuine Novelties, Fancy Goods, also Grand Opening for Sweet-making Stall.
Terms and applications to VIVIAN D'ALBY, General-Manager, Olympia Roller Rink, Durham.

WANTED, to Let on Lease, Finest Position in Eng and, for Picture Hall or Rink, Bloom's Fair Ground, centre of West Stanley, 100,000 workers, £52 per year. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Hire, Hall or Space, Season, for Large Historical Painting, seaside preferred, any distance. MANAGER, 23 Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, 12 h.p. engine and dynamo, on wheels, 250 yards cables, &c. Cost £265; sell bargain. NORRIS Co., 50, Zetland-st., Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van, 12ft. by 7ft., nicely fitted, good condition. KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, can make either large or small, 3 compact loads, beautifully lighted, in good condition. Best offer. Auction Mart, Malt and Shovel Inn, Rugeley, Staffs.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Park-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39 Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, cheap, including three dozen Edison Phonographs, two dozen Pictures, Punch Balls, Lifters, Electric Pianos, Pistols (automatic), Electric Rifles, Net Balls, Loop Cannons, Polo, Cup and Balls, Living Pictures, Motors (direct or alternating), Singing Birds, Fairbanks scales, a complete slot Parlour Outfit. Apply letter or call, MANAGER, Sports, 174, High-street, Shoreditch.

WANTED, to Sell, a First-class Roundabout, the Latest Design, Teddy Bears. Everything complete, electric light plant, organ, waggons, &c., as a going concern. Sure fortune to real live people. This machine was a Huge Success at Nottingham and Hull Fairs last season. Particulars, price, and terms P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall

WANTED to Sell, small Reed Organ, 25s.; Winchester rifle, repeater, 20s.; Doll Frame, 50s.; Spirit Writer, 60s. JACKSON, 3, Broadway, Stratford, London.

BROOKLYN CAKE-WALK MACHINE
BROOKLYN CAKE-WALK MACHINE
BROOKLYN CAKE-WALK MACHINE
BROOKLYN CAKE-WALK MACHINE
and
DISTORTING MIRRORS
DISTORTING MIRRORS
DISTORTING MIRRORS
DISTORTING MIRRORS

WANTED, at once.
Advertiser is prepared to pay cash for the above if prices are right.

Send full particulars, with prices and where same can be seen

Address,
F. A. S.,
61, Railway-road,
Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Buy, large Road Living Carriage, Band Carriage, Live Freaks and Animal Cage Fronts. F. SMITH, Beaconsfield Club, Reading.

WANTED, to Buy, A Showman's one-horse Living Van, Must be clean and in good condition State fittings, lowest price, and where same can be seen, to L. H. WOODHOUSE AND Co., West Bridgford, Nottingham.

WANTED, a few Secondhand Automatic Fortune-telling Machines, &c. Apply, Mr. SHARP, 92, Withnell-road, South Shore Blackpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Good-class Automatic Machines, cheap for cash. DOBSON, 87, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings 5 Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, smart experienced Manager, for Skating Rink.
Address, stating experience and salary required, to
Box 7,164, "The Era."

WANTED, Floor Manager, Skate Mechanic, and Instructor, for Skating Rink. Apply, stating full particulars of past employment, experience, and wages required, to SECRETARY, Garw Valley Roller Skating and Amusements Co., Ltd., Pontycymmer, Glam.

WANTED, at once, for Rink in the Provinces, Skating Instructor, must be a clever skater. Apply, with photograph and all particulars, to STEPHEN J. COALES, Solicitor, Wellingborough.

WANTED, at Once, Instructor. State age, height, experience, refs., terms. Enclose photo. HARRY HUNTER, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Expert Trick and Exhibition Skater, Open for Engagements or Permanent Position as Floor Manager. Box 7,163, "The Era."

WANTED, Position, as Floor Manager, experienced and good Skater; can give Exhibitions. Write, H. G. MARTIN, 2, Drill-street, Keighley.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager Disengaged thoroughly experienced; good skater, disciplinarian; Carnivals, &c., a Speciality. DOUGLAS, 163, New King's-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement as Floor Manager, Instructor, experienced; combine General-Management if required. ERNIE MORRIS, 9, Milner-road, Wisbech, Cambs.

WANTED, Known, Smart Skate Mechanic, now Dis., age 23, willing be useful in rink. W. G., 11, St. Mary's-villas, Merton Park, Surrey.

WANTED, to Let, Cheap, London Skating Rink, fine position, small outlay; also Store for Scenery. GLENWOOD, Branksome, Bournemouth.

WANTED, good secondhand Surfacing Machine. Particulars, with lowest price, to Fox, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Live Agents for a Rink Surfacer that leaves a Floor without a Ripple and a Surface as Smooth as Glass. THE UNION ENGINEERING Co., Rink Specialists, Darwen, Lancs.

WANTED TO SELL.

THE HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, to be Sold by Private Treaty, with early possession, the Building now used as a Music Hall or Palace of Varieties, known as
THE HIPPODROME,
Situate at
Church-street, Blackpool.
The following Licences are held in connection with the property:—(1) A Dramatic Licence; (2) a Magisterial Licence for the Season, for Public Dancing, Singing, and Music; and (3) a Licence for the sale of all Intoxicating Liquors, but limited to the periods when the premises are open for the purposes of entertainment.
The land is freehold, free from ground rent. The area is 20,095ft., or thereabouts. The buildings were specially erected as a place of public entertainment, are situate in the heart of Blackpool, about five minutes' walk of the two railway stations and the Promenade, and will hold from 4,000 to 5,000 persons.
For further information, leave to view and to treat, apply, Messrs. PROCTER and SON, Solicitors, 8, Nicholas-street, Burnley; or, RAWLINSON, HARGREAVES, and Co., Chartered Accountants, 12, Exchange-street, Manchester, and 7, Grimshaw-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, THEATRE R., LEIGH, LANCASHIRE. Pardoe's Pantomime broke all records last week. Played to £112 13s. 9d. Saturday Matinée and Night. This week, Frederick Melville's "Her Road to Ruin" Co. Big success. Owing to death in family, the above Theatre for Sale or to Let on Lease. Principals only. Apply, F. G. WRIGHT, 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

THEATRE FOR SALE.
WANTED, to Sell, Good Paying Theatre, in flourishing Northern Town. Half purchase money can remain on mortgage. Address, JOHN ROARK, 24, Guildhall-st., Preston. Principals only dealt with.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Buildings (wood and iron), Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, Bungalows. F. H. HEATH, LTD., Manufacturers, Department E. Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, at the termination of the run, JOHN HART'S GORGEOUS PANTOMIME, "JACK AND JILL." Now playing to Record Houses at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Beautifully painted scenery (fourteen scenes) by George Jackson, R. C. Oldham, and D. G. Hall. Gorgeous dresses from designs by Robert Crafter. Splendid electric fittings and properties, including electric sun. Can be put on any stage. Managers desiring a First-class Production in good condition should see it without delay. Apply, J. E. B. BEAUMONT, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED Known, Magnificent Properties of Amusements. Most Suitable and Best Situated in the Three Countries, all the latest Amusements. Music Hall for Sale Property, &c. very reasonable feu duty. Terms may be arranged by small syndicates of the profession. Apply McDONALD and SON, Estate Agents, 12, Montgomery-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease, Old-established Theatre in Lancashire; fully licensed (2) bars; some first-class bookings. Principals only. Apply, F. G. WRIGHT, 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Theatrical Costumiers' Business in the North; cheap. Established seven years; good hire connection, large stock, costumes, wigs scenery, fixtures, &c. No opposition in the district; central position; low rent; one month's free coaching; suit lady or gent; good side-lines; £600. Box 7.124. "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 20 arc Dickinson Dynamo, in good order, cash price £20; also Pathé's Passion Play Film, in Colours, Cash price £30. ANDERTON AND ROWLANDS, Empire, Chippenham, Wilts.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Dissolving Lantern, suitable for gas or electricity, cost £14, price £2; Two Arc Lamps and Resistances, £3 10s., or sell separate; White's Travelling Hamper, good condition, 15/-; Black Plush Cloths, to go cheap. Apply ELDRA, 12, Wynne-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Performing Animal Act (Cats and Dogs), including new Scenery, Apparatus, Dresses, &c. Existing Contracts will be given to Purchaser. Will suit Lady or Gentleman. Box 7,158, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Trained Chimpanzee, fully dressed, perfect wardrobe, been under training three months. The Whole of the Celebrated Chimpanzees at present performing have passed through my hands.
JOHN HAMLYN,
221, St. George's-street, London Docks.

WANTED, to Sell, the Handsomest Old English Bob-tail Sheepdog living. Clever Performer. No Vice. Sacrifice, £15. CHARD, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, to Sell, ½ horse New Ediswan Electric Motor; would drive organ in Roundabouts or Cinematograph Show. DOBSON, 87, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, the three handsome Electroliers used in "The Devil." ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Boehm Concert Flute, cylinder bore, and case, also silver plated Ballad Horn, by Boosey, and case. Be sold cheap. MUSICIAN, 28, Lorn-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Sell, Gongs, Tubular Bells, Xylophones, Marimbas, Rattles, Resonaphones, Tubaphones, Musical Glasses, instruments resonated. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, plated, complete set, perfect throughout, grand powerful tone, portable stand, regulation key. Bargain, £3 10s. PIANIST, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, White's Basket, large, nearly new. Cost £2 12s. 6d.; accept 25s. THURSTON, 21, Wardour-street, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Illusions, Magical Apparatus. Letters, L. CLARKE, Barley Mow, Chiswick.

WANTED to Sell, New Illusions, Screen changes Lady Taking Bath, Floating, Disappearing Lady, Mid-air, others; bargains. 52, Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Half Interest in Tour of London success, also some Fit-up Rights for disposal. Important Star Part; exceptional chance. Write fullest particulars to Box 7,179 "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Own Plays, "A Beautiful Thief," "Come Back to Erin." Stock Plays, Sketches, Duos. HAL COLLIER, King's T., Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, successful Military Drama, together with Music, correct Uniforms, and Scenery. Toured with success by well-known Manager. Specially cut Printing; Cast of ten. Box 7,155, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, fully licensed modern Variety, in populous Provincial district. Full particulars, in strict confidence, to Box 7,157, "The Era."

WANTED, Kinematograph Camera, Darling's preferred, with lenses and tripod. Apply Box 7,150. "The Era."

WANTED, Blondin Donkey, must be in first-class condition. Particulars and lowest price. Box 7,154, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a modern Box Set Chamber, in good condition, not less than 16ft. high. Full description to Box 7,156, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Good Tenor, silver plated, Saxophone, by Good maker. MUSICIAN, 28, Lorn-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Purchase, two or three Good Clown's Dresses, also Principal Dresses; all must be in first-class condition for ready cash. Address, Box 7.170. "The Era."

WANTED, Fat Policeman (inflated rubber) Costume. Full particulars and lowest price to DAVIES, 2 and 3, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to Buy, Trick Dogs; must be good on hind legs. Full particulars first letter. ELDRA, 12, Wynne-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Authors to send MSS. of Original Farcical or Musical Sketches to ARTHUR ROBERTS, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.C.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

THE HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, to Let, the above Music Hall or Palace of Varieties.
The following Licences are held in connection with the property:—
(1) A Dramatic Licence;
(2) A Magisterial Licence for the Season for Public Dancing, Singing, and Music; and
(3) A Licence for the sale of all intoxicating liquors, limited to the periods when the premises are open for the purposes of entertainment.
The Premises are situate in the heart of Blackpool, about five minutes' walk from the two railway stations and the Promenade, and will hold from 4,000 to 5,000 persons.
For further information, leave to view and to treat, apply Messrs. PROCTER and SON Solicitors, 8 Nicholas-st., Burnley; or, Messrs. RAWLINSON, HARGREAVES, and Co., Chartered Accountants, 12, Exchange-st., Manchester, and 7, Grimshaw-st., Burnley.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Jan. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment Scenery Electric Lighting MANAGER

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160 Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, a very large, light, dry Workshop, in main road. Can be seen any time at 150, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, cheapest in the World. Apply, THE FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-rd., London, E.

WANTED, to Let on Royalty, "Burlesque v. Circus," Farce, Comedy Act, Man and Woman, by Rita Carlyle, Authoress of "Million and a Half." Great Success at Collins's, week Jan. 10. 9, Orange-street, Haymarket.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Gentleman, to join Advertiser in opening a Cinematograph. Interview by letter to W. B., Box 7,152, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, who can play Zither Banjo (not plectrum) to join Advertiser on Halls. Apply, MURRAY, 294, Streatham High-road.

WANTED, to join Partner, by Versatile Comedian (known performer), Patter, Sing, &c. I have something original for double act. Address Box 7,167, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Song-writing Partner, good Pianist essential. Advertiser versatile writer, well known to Artists and Publishers. Address, Box 7,177, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Copland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 355 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. Telephone 2681 Central. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Proprietors of Circuses, that our new Circus and Menagerie Paper is ready for the coming season. Try a £2 10s. or £5 packet of either Circus or Menagerie, and we will give you an assortment without repeating any one kind. Sizes ranging from a double crown to a 56-sheet.
THE DONALDSON LITHOGRAPHING Co., JOHN LEWIS, Sole Agent, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, W. Ring up Gerrard 4194.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., EDWARD HARRISON, Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that we do Post-cards from Photos. in quantities not less than 100 from one Photo.; Memos. also done. SENIOR and Co., Fine Art Printers, Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Professional Ladies and Gentlemen to please Note.
If you want an excellent portrait, size about 20in. by 15in., hand drawn (not a photo), send P.O. for 7s. 6d. with clear photograph, to ARTIST, 28, Brunswick-street, Dewsbury, Yorks.
These Drawings are just the thing for Theatre or Music Hall display. All Clients are delighted by the finely-executed Drawings, which are far above the usual photo enlargements.
All orders executed and forwarded in rotation. Do not delay, the cost is nothing, compared with the value.

BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL'S No. 1 ROYAL MENAGERIE.
WANTED, Known, Arthur Dashwood, Agent, having concluded eight years' comfortable Engagement with E. H. Bostock, Esq., specially engaged by Frank C. Bostock, Esq., until further notice. All communications, Roseberry-rd., Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED Known, Southport Pier Band. Will all applicants for above please accept best thanks. The matter is now decided.

PANTOMIME PRODUCTIONS FOR SALE.

The Entire Production of
CINDERELLA
FOR SALE at the end of the Run. Can be seen at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE, LONDON, where it is playing to enormous business. Might arrange for production next Season.
Also the entire production of
THE FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS
FOR SALE at end of Tour. Can be seen Jan. 24, NELSON; Jan. 31, BUXTON; Feb. 7 and 14, GRAND, NOTTINGHAM.

Address,
Ernest Stevens and R. C Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

TO SHOWMEN AND ENTERTAINERS.

THE PAGEANT OF LONDON,
CRYSTAL PALACE,
MAY 24—JULY 16, 1910.

Applications are invited for . .
SHOW SPACES
upon the eight acres of ground reserved for the
OLD ENGLISH FAIR
to be held in connection with the
PAGEANT AND FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE.

It is estimated that a daily attendance of from 50,000 to 100,000 persons may be expected during this, the most colossal and complete Festival that has ever been organised.

Applications must contain full description of the class and nature of entertainment, and no shows lacking original or up-to-date attractions will be entertained.

For further particulars apply Business Manager, The Pageant of London, 49, St. James's Street, London, S.W.

FIVE HUNDRED REPLIES

IN ANSWER to ONE ADVERTISEMENT in the
WANTED COLUMNS of "THE ERA."

Mr. ALBERT HENGLER, writing from the HIPPODROME, GLASGOW, says:—
MY ADVERTISEMENT IN THE LAST ISSUE OF YOUR PAPER BROUGHT ME CLOSE ON 500 REPLIES.
AN EXCELLENT RESULT.

Particulars of THE PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 24, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"The Arctic," Ruth Vincent, Siems, Lamberti, Cinquevalli, Charburn's Young Stars, Lottie Bellman, Alaskas, Animated Pictures, Alice Ela and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Fields and Lewis, Vanando.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Florence, Bioscope, Henry Helme, Rhoda Bros., Phil Percival, Harry Friskey, Falco and Eida, Darnley's "Barnstormers," Latonas.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

Madame Alice Esty, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Rhoda Paul, Russell and Held, Walker and May, Emil Solbrig's Automatus, James Stewart, The Westwoods, J. W. Rowley, Cavalotti Bros., Leslie Bros.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Helen Donald, Bioscope, Andy McLeod, Herbert Shelley, Casey Army, The Kramers, Hinton and Wooton, Smythsons, Crulkshank.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Alfred H. West, Keen and Waller, Pilarica Troupe, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, J. A. Wilson, Mlle. Haydee, Aimee Parkerson, Bioscope, Miss Marquis's Ponies.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

The Globe of Life, Dacey and Lewis, Bros. O'Brien, Sarnthaler Sextette, Lily Burnand, Walter King, Cumminger and Colonna, Harry Drew, Bioscope, Empire Comedy Four, Laurie's Kindergarten.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Walter Melville's company in "The Beggar Girl's Wedding.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Olga Petronowa's Band, Takio, Rawsons, Glenroy Troupe, Three Thieves, Amelia De L'Enclos, Jack Smiles, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Miss Clarice Mayne, Sisters Caselli, Belchen's Dogs, Fred Keeton, Spissell and Mack, Carl Lynn, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Marsumas, Bioscope, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Savonas, Juliette's Sea Lions, The Brennans, Francis and Alfred, Dion Wade, James's Strolling Players, Annie Purcell, Four Regals, Bioscope, Dot Hardy, Nuttall's Co., in "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Van Biene, O Hana San, Bollingers, Bert Errol, Giovannia Wals, Three Van Dammes, Bioscope, Delomes, Hal Hughman, Motramos, Fred. Earle.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

"Our Empire's Defenders," Maud and Sydney Wood, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Tom Bryce, O'Gust, J. C. Scatter, Jimmy Shields, Bioscope, Kremos, Sebastian Merrill and Co.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle," Will o' the Wisps, Sylvia Du Barry, Ted E. Box, Haines and Borthwick's "Half-a-Dollar," Heeley and Meeley, Henry Speller, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Three Meers.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Cruickshank's Grinning Marble Co., Fatmah Diard, Rossi Ashton, Tom Clare, Delevines, Harben and Jerrold, Munroe's Comedy Team, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jewels' "Change," La Sylphe, Vanando, Lester Bros., Arthur Ferris, Braatz's Dogs, Bros. Durant, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Gertie Gitana, Alice Raymond.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," by arrangement with Fred Karno.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime "Cinderella," by arrangement with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan.

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Raymond, Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan," Billy Hobbs, Stella Stahl, La Freya, Maxey and Pete, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer, Craggs.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Cyril Maude and Elise Craven in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," Evie Greene, Madiah Surith, Slavianaky Choir, Georgia Coons, Bowden and Stol, Whilbys, Jackley Trio, Osnatos, Bioscope, La Tortajada.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Madame Albani, Harry Anderson, John Macaulay, Corbin's Dogs, Barowskys, Gipsy Woolf, Zakwowsky, W. J. Churchill, Great and Good, Lily Palmer, Bioscope.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno in "Perkins M.P." Three Delaries, Mabel Mavis, Marshall and Parr, Daras, Gladys Mavius, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Cornalla and Eddie.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Musical Sylvo, Three Welsh Girls, Tom Stuart, Victor Widdicombe, Melody Makers, Lizzie Glenroy, Bioscope, Emerson and Baldwin.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Grotesques, Olive Armidale, Spry and Monti, Elite Harmony Boys, Northern Troupe, Florence Esdaile, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs, Harry Grey.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Amelia Bingham, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Tom Lloyd, Mabel Sinclair, "The Bosun's Mate," Paul Barnes, Vincent, Chas, Santon, Bensons, Loyal's Dogs.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Taylor Granville's "Hold-up," L'Incognita, Kate Butler, O'Malley and Brown, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Eight Lancashire Lads, Arthur Kenny, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co., in "A Lamb on Wall Street," To-To.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Goggin and Davis, Gus Garrick, Barnard's Mannikins, Cumberlands, Les Romanis, Harry Clifford, Bioscope, Will H. Fox.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Harry May Hemsley, Carney and Armstrong, Miller Bros., Mendel, La Berat, Talbot and Pearce, Bioscope, Rexos, Clown Argo.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," "Dr." Awful Bogie, Horace White, G. W. Hunter, Bros. Gaudsmidt, Stanley and Greenop, Helen Noldi, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Marie Kendall, Florence Tempest and Co., in "At Savoy Mansion."

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Okabe Family, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, Clark and Hayden, "Dolly's Deception," Charles Matthews and Doris Reece, Bros. Corcoran, Odcyne Spark, Larry Lewis, Park's Eton Boys.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Boisset's "Bricklayers," Rita Rhylle, Archie Naish, Victor Travers, Lester Carey, Tiny Wilmot, Pictures, Frank Maura, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Bellclair Bros., George Benson, A Ba-Be's Album, J. W. Hall, Ethel Newman, Ada Martine, Bioscope, Tom Davies' Trio in "Motoring in Mid-air."

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Willette Whittaker and Wilbur Hill, D'Arc's Dolls, Tom Moore, Bioscope, Frank Danby and Co., Olive Lenton, Sisters Storm, Five Manchurians.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Arthur Watson and Co., Kahn and Kahn, Ethel Dunford, Chas. Vincent, Millie Engler, Fred Eiton, Prof. Dunning, Pictures, Stewart and Morgan.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lukushimas, George Rae, Rose Gower, J. H. Scotland, Harry Bedford, Harry Leybourne, Pictures, Ross and Lewis.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Ardell and Odell, Lilian Rose, Juggling McBanns, Alexia, Helen Martin, Herbert Sleath and Co., "Butler's Concert," Chas. Cardow, Gobert Belling, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Earle and Godfrey, Maud Wilton, Hyde and Cody Trio, Ted Cowan, Alsopp and Beckwith, Marie Wilton, Eadie and Ramsden, Peggy Pryde, "Before the Dawn," Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Dancing Paceys, Five Juanitos, Chas. D'Aix and Dog, Rauschelle, Mabel Mignon, "Parker P.C.," Staley's Transformation, Geo. F. Hall, Seven Perezoffs, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Thiessen's Dogs, Walter Stanley, Leslie Cadets, Minnie Mace, Maria Gabalda and Co., Walter Lawley, J. H. Rickaby, Harry Lamore, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

The Waltons, Kate Gourlay, King's College Boys, Jan Rudenyi and Co., Little Ganty, Velanche's Dogs, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—

Harry Roxbury's Pantomime, "Mother Goose."

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Captain Lambart's "Cinderella."

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Tom Carney, Queenie Mayor, Henriette and Selina, Chas. Denton, The Cromwells, The Hamiltons, Nellie Shand, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—

Elsie Athas, Taree, Harold Heath, The Weellhaffs, Geo. Shirley, Julia Reeve, Chas. Geoffrey, and Co., in "His Father's Teacher," Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Cissie Lupino, Denaro Bros., Archie Glenn, Fred. Russell, Ten Dixie Girls, Dalvere and Wallace, Deputy Sheriff, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option,

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager—**Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 24.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Esther Phillips, Sisters Robertson, "The Silver Medal," Yoshii, Zodiacs, Adie Lombard, Swan and Latimer, Lawson and O'Dell, Laurie, Tom Bass.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Captain Ellis and Son, Alfonso Silvano, Nick Carter, Pete and Minnie Lee, Harrington, Teddy Denham, Lily Denville, Flo Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. R. Deane, Billy Pickford.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Four Figaros, Marie Kay, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Jack Warman, "Saved by Wireless," Mamie Morris, Bertini, "Adolf Beck," "East Lynne."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Baker and Balfe, Pictures, Rene Graham, Danton and Morris, Geo. Acre, Florence Raymond, Czar Troupe, "Charlie's Wedding Day," Two Ludoes, Sisters Payne, "The Flood Tide," Dvorak Family.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, George Barrington, Helga and Eric, Geo. Marriott, Brothers Lawrence, Jeannie Hylton, The Menzies, Morris and Mart, The McKinleys, The Glovers, Amy Bathurst.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Ryder Slone, Chas. Gardner, The Zampas, Les Montaldos, Rene, Roy Beavis, Margit and Lener, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
B. Edmunds and Co., Minnie Warner, Leo Tell, Roxborough and Wright, J. H. Greener, Bromley and Fontein, Francoli Troupe, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Morny Cash, Bessie Neilson, John Holland and Co., Baker and De Sales, Beatrice Willey, Arthur Woodville, The Fordyces, H. C. Lovell and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Slaterstein, Ltd.," Sim Moree, Les Saletos, Frank Coyle, Sisters Melba, J. P. Carroll, Wilton Heriot and Co., Walter Buxton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pantomime, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"The Wages of Sin."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Arthur Lennard, Webb and Branston, Dorma Morgan, Cassie Walmer, Donnas Trio, Damerell and Rutland, Johnny Dwyer, Tate's "Motoring," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
The Geraldos, Mabel La Blanche, The Lannons, Phillips and Merritt, Chas. Byron, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Godfrey Price, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Adderley Howard and Co., Dalmere's Animals, Heath and Aldin, Helene Stewart, Terry and Tate, Chas. Coll, Maximilian Trio, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Olga, Elgar, and Ell Hudson, Norah Desmond, Wyze and Adna, Ruby Dahl, Janowsky Troupe, Edith Chantler, Maro Duo, Mlle. Lausanne, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Imperial Russian Troupe, Enzer and Clarice, Minnie Wheaton, R. C. Note, Reg. Ewen, Daisy Davenport, Mona Vivian, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Babes in the Wood" (Barnard).

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Brought to Ruin."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Marie Santoi and Co., Bonnetti and Corri, Nora Stockelle, Carney Bros., Alice Gill, Archie Pitt, Steel and Laing, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Six Buster Browns, Tom Joy, Sisters Carlton, Victor and Louis, Bros. Ford, Josephine Crooke, Stein Esthor Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Amy Anderson and Co., Friscari, The Rosses, Ethel May, Gena Manon, Tom Yorke, Herbert Rule, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Four Burnells, Hary Luck, Emmie Ames, Dan Fraser, Farr and Farland, Harry Bancroft, The Arntes, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.)

London—New York—Chicago,
Have just the songs you want.
AUGUSTE VAN BIENE'S GREAT SOLO,
ROSES AND MEMORIES
By Ted Snyder.
Being played nightly with Enormous Success by the famous 'cellist.
Monday, Jan. 24, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.

Published as Song, Piano Solo, Violin and Piano, 'Cello and Piano, **1/6** nett.
Orchestra and Piano, **2/-** nett.

Other Songs, ALL BIG HITS, are
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY. Sung by Phil Parsons, also by Sadie Stanley.
THE STAR, THE ROSE, AND THE DREAM.
I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I PLEASE.
IT'S THE PRETTY THINGS YOU SAY. Sung by Nina Wood.
SADIE SALOME. Sung by Lowenwirth and Cohan.
IF YOU CARED FOR ME. Sung by The Crown Trio.
and THE GREAT IRISH BALLAD,
WHEN HE SINGS THE SONGS MY MOTHER SANG.

COME AND SEE US,
and get a Practical Demonstration.

Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co.
(Inc.).
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

PRICE & REYNOLDS'

PANTOMIME "HITS."

BABY'S PARK PARADE.
LITTLE MISS SNOWSHOES.
MAIDIE AND HER LITTLE TEDDY BEAR.
HERE'S TO ALL THE GIRLS.
WALKING ROUND THE BANDSTAND.
OLD JACK FROST. MONTE CARLO.
BOY SCOUTS SONG.
PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.

41, BERNERS STREET, W.

THE SPA, SCARBOROUGH.

APPOINTMENT OF MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

The Committee of Management of the Scarborough Cliff Bridge Company are prepared to receive applications for the position of Musical Director for the season 1910.

Applications to be sent in not later than the 31st instant.

Particulars of the appointment may be obtained from

H. T. CHAMBERS,
Secretary.

Jan. 12, 1910.

Stanley v. Hale's Tours.

High Court of Justice, Chancery Division.—Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady.

SALE BY TENDER

of the
PATENT RIGHTS, GOODWILL, PROPERTIES, AND EFFECTS.
pertaining to the widely-known business of
HALE'S TOURS OF THE WORLD
(United Kingdom), Limited.

comprising Exhibitions or Properties in Oxford-street, Poland-street, and Estcourt-road, London; Birmingham, Bristol, Newport, Manchester, Blackpool, and New Brighton.

Included in the Sale will be the Working Cars, Stores, Bioscopes, Bioscope Parts, Electric Motors and Appliances, Office Furniture, Stocks of Positive and Negative Films and Accessories.

Full particulars and forms of tender can be obtained gratis on application to Messrs. LAWRENCE, GRAHAM and Co., Solicitors, 6, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.; W. C. PEPPER, Esq., Receiver and Manager, 15, Poland-street, London, W.; and WHEATLEY KIRK, PRICE and Co., Auctioneers and Valuers, 46, Watling Street, London, E.C.

Note.—Tenders must be delivered on or before Monday, Jan. 31, 1910.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

BY

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
SOLICITOR.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at—
"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

NOW READY.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA,

BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,
The Publisher
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. £25 nett

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London."
"Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central.
1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6635.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH DEFENCE LEAGUE,

Ltd,

18, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Secretary: H. E. W. POOLE. *Telephone: 3160 Central.*

Formed for the purpose of dealing with the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and all matters arising therefrom.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. H. BROUGHTON, Chairman, 18, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
P. BECK, Alcazar Picture Hall, Shoreditch, E.C.
SIDNEY BACON, 143, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
W. M. BORRADAILE, 20, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
T. EINSTEIN, 23, Charing Cross House, W.C.
G. W. GRANT, Aldwych Mansions, Strand, W.C.
F. R. GRIFFITHS, 1, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
ARCHIBALD HUNTER, 31, Litchfield Street, W.C.
R. T. JUPP, 161, Jermyn Street, W.
W. F. JURY, 142, Long Acre, W.C.
J. J. NEWBOULD, 145, Piccadilly, W.
M. A. PYKE, Dewar House, Haymarket, S.W.
J. ROBARTS, Arena, Villiers Street, Strand, W.C.
HORACE SEDGER, 5, Green Street, Leicester Square, W.C.
A. T. WRIGHT, 23, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
J. D. WALKER, 40, Gerrard Street, W.

All Showmen or Exhibitors are cordially invited to get into communication with the Secretary at once.

Your Interests are at Stake!

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, CERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, Jan. 30,
A CORNER IN WHEAT.
A "Change" Drama. Length 953ft.
Releasing Thursday, Jan. 27,
THE TEST.
Comedy. Length 545ft.
IN A HEMPEN BAG.
Dramatic. Length 455ft.

SELIG FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, Jan. 30,
CUSTER'S LAST STAND.
Realistic Melodrama. Length 1,000ft.
Releasing Thursday, Jan. 27,
ON THE BORDER.
Mexican Border Drama. Length 630ft.
IN WRONG SIMMS.
Comic. Length 345ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, Jan. 30.
JINKS THE GROUCH.
Comedy Drama. Length 700ft.
WHEN COURAGE FLED.
Serio-Comic. Length 230ft.
ROMANCE OF THE ROCKY COAST.
A Breton Drama. Length 990ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** *Free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES,
5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd,, 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

THE PRINTERS FOR 1910

FOR THEATRICAL AND SHOW PRINTING.

Write for Catalogues.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Nethertield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.

C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1295 Dalston.

THE

THREE INTERIM AWARDS

AND THE

FINAL AWARD.

Corrected and Revised by

GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH, K.C.

THE

OFFICIAL ARBITRATOR

Appointed in the Music-Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at

"THE ERA" Offices,

Copy, including postage, three-half-pence.

KINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT.

THE LAW AFFECTING THE SAME.

BY

WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.,

BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Price SIXPENCE.

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., LONDON, W.C.

Telephones: Nos. 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE LONDON THEATRES. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

BRIGHTON.—Mrs. Leonard (née Laura Dyson), 2, Hampton-place. Boarding house and apartments, recommended; piano, bath; near Theatres, Music Halls; terms moderate.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road, one or two bed-sitting-rooms, also bedrooms for Sunday, 23rd.

LONDON, S.E.—161, Kennington Park-rd. First-class Apartments, also Combined Room; gas, piano; very central; mod. Miss Lowe.

LONDON, W.—West Kensington. Comfortable house, full or partial board, from 25s. 158, Sinclair-road, close Tube and Shepherd's Bush Empire.

LONDON, W.—Superior furnished Apartments, from 15/-; also Suites, Piano, Bath, quiet street, central. Opp. Tube. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly-circus.

LONDON, W.—21, Wells-st. (few doors from Oxford-street). Large comfortable bed-sitting room; also bedroom.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Splendid rooms, every attention; piano, bath (h.c.), w.c.; 1 minute from Empire, Opera House, sea.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE BERLIN THEATRES. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY,
Exclusively Engaged by Moss' Empires until 1913. Address, Empire, Hackney.

MR. A. RUSSELL - DAVIS,
Arrangements complete.
2 Ivy House, New Church-road, Hove.

MR. VERNON SANSBURY.
Permanent Address,
170, Telford-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Mr. Walter Melville's "The Soldier's Wedding" Co., Ramsgate.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Rehearsing George Fisher in "Are You a Mason?" 123, St. George's-rd., Belgravia, S.W.

MR. CHARLES SEYMOUR,
Dis., Produce, S.M., or Parts.
14, Salisbury-road, Richmond, Surrey.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder). Leading Business. Disengaged Easter. Jan. 31, T. R., Glossop.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor. Disengaged.
15, Rowan-road, Hammersmith, London.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING,
De Beaumont,"
"A Royal Divorce."

MR. W. F. STIRLING,
Char. Actor. At Liberty.
44a, Stanley-road, Halifax.

MR. CHARLES R. STONE,
Play Actor and Producer.
Offers invited for Spring T. R., Exeter.

MR. FRANK STONE,
Cæsar Cregeen, "Pete" (Lyceum Tour).
Jan. 31, Lyceum, Ipswich.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (sixteenth year).
Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY - GOFTON.
The Giant. Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
A truly "Great" performance.—Birmingham Press.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK.
Assistant Producer and Stage-Manager, "The Fair One" Panto. Opera House, Buxton.

MR. DUDLEY STUART,
Disengaged. Leading Bus.
Address, 7, Larkhall-rise, S.W.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR
Business-Manager, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. The Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE
(Louise Hampton), Aldwych Theatre, W.
Offers. 15, Mount Pleasant-lane, U. Clapton, N.E.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Disengaged, Character Comedy, Eccentric Old Men. 23, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. E. W. THOMAS.
Disengaged until Feb.
7, Grafton-square, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. HOWARD L. TRACY
(Miss Babs Stuart). Disengaged.
137 St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. ARTHUR TRAIL,
Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's "Temptation" Co., Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

MR GEORGE TRAILL
"The Breed of the Treshams" Tour.
Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

MR. F. VERNON TRAVERS,
Disengaged till Easter. To-day, T. R., Worthing. Permt., 38, Gladstone-street, S.E.

MR. R. S. TRELAWNEY,
At Liberty for Leading Business.
Castlewich, Callington, Cornwall.

MR. FREDERICK TYRRELL,
At Liberty,
Address, 46, Handforth-road, Clapham-road, S.W

MR. & MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE
Auguste and Edward van Biene's "Man and Wife" Co. All communications c/o "The Era."

MR. CHARLES VANE.
Hamlet, Shylock, David Garrick.
Bandmann Comedy Company, Yokohama, Japan

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN
(Miss Miriam Lewes). Mr. Vaughan at Liberty. 12, Mentone-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. HERBERT VERE, Leading Business, Management; Napoleon in Own Co. "Napoleon the Great." Metropole T., Birmingham.

MR PERCY H. VERNON
Stage-Manager for Mr. Robert Hilton.
Strand Theatre, W.C. (Rehearsing).

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
David Kingsley. "The Harbour Lights."
Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. HAROLD WAGNER and ADA TILLEY. Disengaged for a few weeks
Offers invited. Dalston Theatre, London.

MR. ALBERT WARD
Disengaged for Lead.
45, Santley-street, Brixton, S.W.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Prin. Com., Chambuddy Ram, "Cingalee" Tour. 17, Doris-road, Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE,
Disengaged.
48, Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

MR. A. HAMILTON WARDEN.
Business-Manager, Disengaged Feb. 7.
Theatre Royal, Colchester.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY.
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.
'Phone, 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER.
Disengaged. 94, Tooting Bec-road;
or C. ST. JOHN DENTON.

MR. CHARLES WEIR,
Disengaged shortly.
45, Powis-square, Bayswater, W.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY.
"Mr. Hook."
York; next, T. R., Halifax.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB.
At Liberty, to Produce, &c.
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged, Character, Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manager. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General-Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). Miss Ley Disengaged.
"Little Damozel" Tour, Bournemouth.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
Disengaged.
31, St. Leonards-road, Hove, Sussex.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Busy with the Weights.
Canterbury and Hammersmith.

MR LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business. At Liberty.
"The Blorenge." Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
At Liberty.
5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
General Manager.
Only Address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, The Hippodrome, London.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Musical and Farcical Comedy Character.
Disengaged. 147, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

MR. DUDLEY WYNTON,
Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's "Temptation" Co., Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
Dudley Gore, "Marriages of Mayfair."
H.M. Theatre, Dundee.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Heavies, Character, Management.
52, Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MESSRS. J. G. and F. SANTE,
"Life of a Showman" Co.
Address, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS
on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era"
should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Returned from American Tour. Per., 210, Edgware-rd., Hyde Park.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS Costume Concert Company (Director, George Robins). Booking 1910. Woodbine, Salisbury-rd., Wimbledon

MISS CORA MARRIOTT, Society Entertainer, Humorous and Dramatic Recitals, Irish Monologues, &c.; only First-class offers entertained. Lynbrook, Urmston, Manchester.

ARTHUR THOMAS, Entertainer.
Telephone 445 Lee Green.
111, Silvermere-road, Catford, S.E.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Alexander, Miss Fyfe	March 27, 1909
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beatrice, Miss May	March 27, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Dr. Walford	April 3, 1909
Bostock, Mr. N. C.	April 10, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brooke, Miss Decima	April 10, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. Lewis	March 6, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brownie, Miss Madge	March 13, 1909
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Campbell, Late Mr. Denis	March 6, 1909
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Charcot	Feb. 13, 1909
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Clyfford, Miss Kathleen	Feb. 6, 1909
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Coquelin, Late M.	Jan. 30, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
De Frece, Mr. Maurice	Feb. 20, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel	May 15, 1909
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Elliott, Mr. G. H.	March 20, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Dec. 18, 1909
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Foote, Miss Doris	March 6, 1909
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Fullbrook, Mr. William	March 6, 1909
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence	July 10, 1909
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 6, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harrison, Late Miss Fanny	Feb. 20, 1909
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hodson, Miss Mildred	March 6, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert	May 29, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kennedy, Mr. Edmund	March 27, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Kyrle, Miss Judith	May 1, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Lawrence, Mr. Herbert	March 13, 1909
Lee, Mr. James Langdon	March 20, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. Philip	April 10, 1909
Lester, Mr. Mark	March 20, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Lyndon, Mr. Denis	March 27, 1909
Lyric, Miss Dora	March 6, 1909

Copies of the above can be obtained, price 6d each for any issue 1909; other dates double price

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Man., Mr. B. Richards.—Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is here in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a manly performance of Stephen Armitage; Mr. Fred Kay is good as David Armitage; Mr. Charles Clifford does justice to the part of Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Walter Clarke does good work as Dick Redmayne; Miss Florence Zillwood gives an excellent portrayal of Joan; and Miss Maude Camfield is also effective.

NEW EMPIRE, LTD. — Man.-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Victor Knight.—Top of the bill here are the Fitzroys, who provide a very excellent gymnastic display; Ivey Aberdare, comedienne and wooden shoe dancer, has a good reception; Chas. Sloman, comedian, wins applause; Hazel and Weyman, cross-talk comedians, create genuine laughter; and the pictures are good.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Marriages of Mayfair* is winning the highest commendation, and in an exceptionally heavy cast there is scarcely a weak spot. Notably good work is accomplished by Miss Conyers Radcliffe, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Naomi Neilson, Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes, and Messrs. Dennis Cleugh, Paul Beckett, Duncan Yarrow, Robson Paige, Adam Alexander, and R. C. Harcourt.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —A diversified programme is headed by Mr. George D'Albert. Clever turns are contributed by Vardon, Percy, and Wilber, vocalists, dancers, &c.; King Luis and partner, in a dexterous acrobatic display; Miss Dora Barrington and Miss Leslie Gray, operatic vocalists; Ancie Gerrard, flute and piccolo soloist; the Walonells, comedy gymnasts; and Tiny Arnold.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's company is drawing crowded houses here with *Dick Whittington*. Miss Maud Beaumont sustains the title-rôle with animation and charm; Miss Ena Compton makes a winsome and dainty Alice; Miss Dolly Richardson dances most effectively as the Prince of Morocco; and Miss Amy Salida is successful as the Princess. Mr. Fred Ward as Idle Jack is a great favourite, there being no end to his resources as chief fun-maker; Mr. William Miller as Fitzwarren and Mr. Bob Stephenson as Sarah the Cook, also work hard; Messrs. Justin and Mantell acquit themselves well as the Captain and the Mate; Mr. Jim Vone makes a capital Emperor; and Mr. Willie Vanda is responsible for a clever performance as the Cat. Interesting specialities are introduced by the Vandas, wire performers; Justin and Mantell, acrobatic eccentrics; Pearce and Ward, comedy performers; Salida and Vone, creole performers; and Miss Clara Coverdale's clever juvenile troupe, the Nine Dainty Dots, who have a most enthusiastic reception.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—A capital bill is submitted here, foremost being those brisk and breezy Americans, Barton and Ashley, who win much favour; Mr. G. W. Blyth's musical scena, *The Toilers*, including a harming and powerful soprano, Miss Nellie Brierly, has a vociferous reception; the Sisters Henderson are capital speciality artists; W. B. Raby is a most mirth-provoking comedian; and Marguerite Ismay's Peerless White Coons prove themselves excellent vocalists and expert dancers. Rex Fox submits a daring wire act, introducing a ventriloquial figure and musical instruments whilst balanced upon the wire; Leroux' monkeys perform astounding feats; Janet Hall is a baritone vocalist of much merit; and A Plucky Little Girl depicted on the Bioscope is very entertaining.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin. — After a long absence from Aldershot *The Private Secretary* is again being played by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company. Mr. W. Hargreaves, a clever exponent of Cattermole from India, soon becomes a huge favourite; Mr. Geoffrey Guise is capital as the Rev. Robert Spalding; and Mr. Frederick Tyrell as Gibson is also a great success. Mr. Arthur Claremont (Douglas), Mr. Francis Trevor (Mr. Marsland), and Mr. Vivian Gilbert (Harry) also do well. As Edith Marsland Miss Ailee Barr is successful; Miss Elsie Blythe is capable as Eva; and Miss Cecily Wade (Mrs. Stead) and Mrs. Alfred Davis (as Miss Ashford) leave nothing to be desired.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The boards of the Theatre Royal this week are in the possession of the Ashton Operatic Society, in the comic opera *Merrie England*, on behalf of the local charities. There is a band and chorus of eighty performers, and special scenery has been painted for the production. The leading parts are well sustained by prominent amateur performers and vocalists. The opera was rehearsed and produced under the direction of the professional coach, Mr. Foden Williams, of Manchester.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem. —Here we are enjoying the production of another pantomime, Mr. John Tiller's *Jack and Jill; or, The Hill, the Well, and the Crown*. Of the mortals, Baron Jolliboy, Prince Regent, is in the capable hands of Mr. T. Corry Cotton, who presents an amusing portrayal of the part; Dame Durden is also made laughter-provoking without vulgarity as the foster mother of Jack and Jill by Mr. Bruce Green; Ginger, page to Prince Fearnought, is an extremely comical fellow as portrayed by Mr. Horace Jones; General Biff and Private Baff of the army are presented with all the grotesqueness that makes for mirth by Messrs. F. and H. Le Cren; good work is also done by Miss Ada Davidson as Trim and Miss Adah Le Cren as Fantine. As Jack and Jill, the Children of the Well, Misses Alice Maude and Nellie Grimshaw realise in every detail the ideal one has formed of these nursery characters. In both song, dance, and deportment they win favours. Miss Nellie Rodney as Princess Bountiful, the fair daughter of the Regent, is vivacious and cheery. Miss Harriet Fawn as Prince Fearnought is a capable pantomime boy; Miss Lilian Doris is a charming Fairy; and the Wicked Genius, Carl the Hunchback, is capitally played by Mr. Francis Delane.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime *Babes in the Wood* is here. Mr. Edwin Webb is a capital demon; and Miss Emmie Mappin a graceful Sylvania. Soft Sammy is amusingly played by Oliver Conroy; the villains are admirably enacted by Conan and Doyle; and the Babes (Millie and Lillie) dance finely. Miss Marion Scott is a dashing Robin Hood; and Miss Mary Dene a winning Maid Marion.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. T. N. Walter's company in *The Flower Girl* is here. Miss Lena Brickwell in the title-rôle is bright and vivacious; and Mr. John T. MacCullum is an amusing Joe Wheeler. Mr. Cyril Delevanti is a funny Reginald Rackitt; and the eccentricities of Alphonse and Lizette de Racquet are piquantly portrayed by Mr. Henry Adnes and Miss Elsa Brettingham respectively. Miss Eva Brickwell is capital Miss Greenhill; and Miss Florence Vernon does well as Miss Maisie Flirtington. Mr. J. Burlington Rigg as the hero, the Honourable Billy Greenhill, is a great success.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Will Nella's Singing Jockeys are topping the bill here, and they give a capital performance; Herbert Brothers create roars of laughter with a comedy gymnastic display, and their mechanical inventions are most ingenious; Reno is a comedy trick cyclist of unusual ability; Les Zeloras give a clever equilibristic performance; Fred Horsfall possesses a most flexible voice; Ella Beaumont is an exceedingly pleasing vocalist and dancer; Vernon's Bioscope concludes with some interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Venus, living art tableaux, are highly appreciated. The following capable artists also appear:—Auto Boy, illusionist; the Two Roses, duettists; Morton Wilman, mimic; Dolly Boston, comedienne; Lynn, newsboy vocalist; and Little Rosie, and Alfred Thomas, together with some capital pictures.

BATH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*Dick Whittington* continues for a second week, and now the election fever is practically over playgoers have turned up in large numbers.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Chas. Schuberth.—The Juggling Geraldos, straight from the Oxford, commenced a provincial engagement here on Monday; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor have an amusing act, *The Dancing Master*; the Lannons' dancing is always worth seeing; and Mabel La Blanche is heard in well-sung character songs. Godfrey Price is the happy possessor of a pure basso; Phillips and Merritt present song, whistling, and dancing; Charles Bryon, comedian, also appears. The pictures are good.

BATLEY.—BATLEY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *A Soldier's Honour* is proving a strong attraction here. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis as Captain Deane plays his part as a "soldier and a man" in good style, and is ably assisted by Miss Isa Lyndon as Doreen, Miss Kathleen Clifford as Queenie is sympathetic; Mr. Jerrold E. Reed as Captain Gerald Temple is a capable actor; Mr. Andrew Money is Henry Thornton and Miss Lilian Burns as Cora Lee make the most of the heavy parts; and Miss Edie Macklin as Jemima Eliza creates roars of laughter.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. James Welch's company, in *When Knights were Bold*, is entertaining good houses. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce plays Sir Guy with much zest and humour; Mr. Charles Lloyd furnishes an excellent sketch of Isaac Isaacson; and Sir Brien Ballymote is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Gerald Venning; Mr. Colin Johnston's portrayal of the Rev. Peter Pottlebury is a sound piece of acting; Mr. H. Winton ably sustains the part of the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; and Mr. Lionel Brocknor and Mr. E. R. Holloway are good as Wittle and Barker respectively. Miss Ernita Lascelles presents an artistic study of Lady Rowena; Miss Mabel Young lends distinction to the part of Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave, and much talent is displayed by Miss Isla Glenne as Miss Sarah Isaacson, Miss Elspeth Oliphant as Lady Millicent Eggington, Miss Marjorie Carton as Lady Marjorie Eggington, Miss Peggy Bremba as Kate Pottlebury, and Miss Ethel St. John as Alice Barker.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—After a four weeks' run in Dublin, the Gaiety pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, was transferred to this theatre, and the initial performance on Monday was an unqualified success. The scenery is of the most gorgeous description, and the company play with a zest that is worthy of all praise. The title-rôle is sustained by Miss Kathleen Gray, a charming and dashing young lady, who speedily made herself a favourite. Her capitally-rendered songs, especially "One of the girls" and "Someone," won hearty applause. The principal girl is undertaken by Miss Adela Crispin, whose vivacious interpretation of Alice won all hearts. Miss Daisy Stratton was a fascinating Princess Almida, and Mr. Charles J. Cameron was in every sense excellent as Alderman Fitzwarren. A decided acquisition to the pantomime is Wee Georgie Wood, whose mimetic and comedy talents are really remarkable for so young an artist. He was very successful throughout, and deservedly so. The Emperor of Morocco is in the capable hands of Mr. Jack Cosgrove, and Mr. Julian Mack was most amusing as Selina, his "Top note" song being enthusiastically received. Mr. Percy Cahill—a good comedian—appeared as Idle Jack with a success that must have been gratifying; and the rôle of the Cat was undertaken by Mr. Ernest Selig with great effect. Messrs. Naughton and Gold as Captain Starboard and Ben Bobstay provided much fun, and there was not a dull moment while they occupied the stage. Miss Ethel Mann was an ideal Queen of the Fairies, her vocalism being quite a treat; and Miss Ethel Burns acquitted herself well as Wee Georgie's nurse, Mary. Specialities were provided by Wee Georgie Wood; and a hit of no small magnitude was made by Signor Delirio and Mons. Louis Sans, who presented their clever dances, including the well-known Apache dance. Miss Kate Brandon was responsible for the dances, and deserves a special word of praise, and the efficient orchestra was skilfully directed by Mr. John Moody.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond. —*For Auld Lang Syne*, staged by Mr. Bulmer's company, is drawing crowded houses. The rôle of Hester Leigh is sustained by Miss Chrissie Dunbar in a skilful manner, and praise is due to Mr. Louis Lingard for his clever impersonation of Harold Clifton; Mr. Ernest Dare appears to advantage as Sir Fredk. Clifton, Bart., and Mr. Austin Mortimer is all that could be desired as the villainous Philip Marchmont; Mr. Alex Finlayson is a capital Hon. Gerald Sylvester, and Miss M. Lowe Dare a vivacious and charming Katherine O'Neill. Mr. Evan Roland as George Truscot keeps the audience thoroughly amused; and Miss Mary Dalby is entitled to praise for her interpretation of Nancy Mayne. Miss Lalla Stanhope is natural and convincing as Audrey Vernon; and other rôles are adequately presented by Miss F. Fredericks, Miss S. Haughton, Messrs. Fred Dalby, and R. Brancpeth Nevill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The star here is Mr. Eugene Stratton, who gained a hearty reception; Charles Prelle's bijou circus contains several highly trained dogs; Mr. Frank Lester appears to much advantage in the dramatic sketch, *No. 99*; the Musical Marvels, vocalists and eccentric instrumentalists, quickly instal themselves favourites; Mr. Sydney Brandon, described as "the young Barry Sullivan," submits realistic impersonations with fine effect; and also appearing are Taree, musical Australian bushman; Chris Masters, comedian; Jack Truman, vocalist, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction is supplied by the Lukushimas, a remarkably clever Japanese troupe, whose astonishing feats of equilibrism met with a terrific reception; Mr. Harry Bedford returns with his capitally-rendered comic character songs; and Ross and Lewis are an entertaining American duo, their comedy act being very smart; Mr. George Rae is a droll Scotch comedian with good songs; and the fine bass voice of Mr. J. H. Scotland has been heard to much advantage in several songs. Also appearing are Miss Rose Gower, comedienne; Mr. Harry Leybourne, comedian; and the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Pantomime follows pantomime in rapid succession. This week Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Aladdin* furnishes a most delightful and acceptable entertainment. The title-rôle is admirably filled by Miss Kittee Rayburn, than whom there could not be a smarter or more capable exponent of the part. Mr. Harry Morgan gives a splendid rendering of Abanazar; Widow Twankey is portrayed with irresistible humour by Mr. Fred W. Graham; the Emperor is finely played by Mr. Manitto Klitgaard; Wishee Washee is humorously impersonated by Mr. Cecil Clayton; Mr. Bruce Lindley is a good Grand Vizier; and Carl and Carr, a clever and resourceful pair of humorists, afford much amusement as two Chinese policemen. The important character of the Princess is charmingly undertaken by Miss Nancy St. John, Miss Iris Fox as Pekoe, Miss Violet Dupre as Ni-Cee, and Miss Marie St. Hilary as Saucee are most efficient; and specialities are introduced by La Belle Trio, Mrs. Victor's troupe of juveniles, the Nine Folliettes, and the Three Trees. The chorus is numerous and effective, and the scenic effects and costumes elaborate and in excellent taste. Mr. Ashley Richards directs the orchestral arrangements. The entire show goes with a commendable swing throughout.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Miss Zona Vevey, in her clever and charming vocal entertainment, in which she is ably assisted by M. Max Erard at the piano, is renewing previous successes here; Miss Mary Mayfern's company in the dramatic episode are also a leading feature; and the Norman and Leonard Trio in a musical incident entitled *Ye Squire's Dance* are a decided acquisition. An excellent and liberal programme also enlists the services of Miss Rosie Elliott, with some capital chorus songs; Jack Hayworth, Scotch comedian; Le Hurst, a smart ventriloquist; Tom Lee, light comedian; Harry Simms, comedian; Hillman and Russell, in some operatic selections; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Cullen and Carthy's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is attracting large audiences. There is a sprightly Robin Hood; Miss Maudie Forde is irreproachable as Maid Marion; and the humour is well supplied by Mr. Tom Drew as the Dame, Cullen and Carthy as the villains, Dollie Cullen and Elsie Jordison as the Babes, and Mr. Arthur Stratton as the Baron. The pantomime is liberally staged.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Redway.—Crowded audiences continue to enjoy the excellent pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Mr. George Robey and Miss Ada Reeve are the stars, and the whole company work in harmony for the good of the piece.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*The Babes in the Wood*, in which Mr. Mark Sheridan, Miss Dorothy Ward, Miss Daisy Dormer, and the Brothers Egbert are big favourites, is running smoothly, and the performance on the whole is excellent.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—A fourteen weeks' run may be predicted for *Aladdin*, a pantomime which is breaking all records. The experiment of having a lady as Widow Twankey has proved highly successful in the hands of Miss Millie Doris; Mr. Cull Pitt is back again as Abanazar after a few days' illness; and the performance all round is so full of good things that there is no time for an interval.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward. —Mr. Walter Melville's play, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is proving immensely popular here. Mr. Otto Minster is a good figure as the hero, Jack Cunningham; and Miss Marie Duncan as the beggar girl enlists the sympathies of the audience. Mr. Grebert Morgan gives a realistic portrayal of Gilbert Lindsay, being well partnered by Miss Olive Warne. As the eccentric physician Mr. Charles Barclay is clever; and Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Dicky Storm, and Miss Daisy Meynard, as Tiny Torkington, are responsible for humour.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. H. Taylor.—*A Child of the Streets* is scoring a huge success here, the chief point of interest being the appearance of Miss Dot Stephens, who is a great favourite in Birmingham. She sustains the part of Doris Graham with admirable effect, and delights the audience with her singing. Mr. Norman H. Tracey makes a popular hero; and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam makes the most of the emotional character of Gertrude Graham. Mr. Leonard Aardale is clever as the villain, Laurence Craigie; and Miss Yoxa Summer acts well as Lorna Carstairs. Miss Carlota Blondin and Mr. Charles Tolcher are responsible for the humorous element.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—Patrons of this theatre are thoroughly enjoying Mr. Wentworth Croke's Lyceum version of Hall Caine's play *The Christian*.

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.
The Tempest.

PANTOS.

We are prepared to collect, clean and deliver Panto dresses between shows.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

Opera House, Wrexham, 27th Jan., 1910.
T. Harris, Esq., 6, Argyll Street, Regent Street, W.
Dear Mr. Harris,
Norfolk suit to hand. The work is in your usual style—"EXCELLENT."
Cheque herewith. All good wishes,
Faithfully yours, J. W. CORDINER.

Write for particulars of our NEW RAIN-RESISTING PROCESS as applied by us to Ladies' and Gents' Clothes.

By Special Arrangement TOURING MANAGERS can have their Wardrobes Cleaned between the Shows by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING and DYEING CO.

(T. HARRIS, Manager),
Original Theatrical Cleaners and Dyers,
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.
'Phone: 1911 Gerrard (2 lines).
Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

Mr. Henry Wolston is a fine figure as the Hon. John Storm; and Miss Gladys Purnell is loudly applauded for clever acting as Glory Quayle. Mr. Whitred Noy displays great ability as Horatio Drake; and as Mrs. Callender Miss Mollie Hayden is popular. Mr. Fred Morgan gives a creditable portrayal as Lord Robert Ure; and Mr. Charles E. Dering is good as Archdeacon Wealthy. Miss Gladys Vernon, Mr. J. H. Bateson, Mr. Edgar Hart, Miss Lizette Cardoys, and Miss Gertrude Maxwell also acts cleverly.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Pantomime assumes sway here this week, and crowds of people are flocking to see Mr. H. Leslie Bell's production *Cinderella*. The scenes and dresses are pretty, the gags are smart, and the topical songs prove very popular. Miss Daisy Silcott makes a dashing principal boy; and Miss Lily Pearl is a charming Cinderella. The comedians are Mr. Barry Bond (Baron), Mr. Tom Veronique (Page), and Messrs. Eno Davys and Pat Yost (Ugly Sisters), who make a very successful quartette. Miss Daisy Rhyl as the good Fairy and Mr. Daviet Ronaldson as the Evil Genius are also effective. The other characters are capably filled.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Audiences are being thrilled by the daring performances of Wizard Stone and Irene Stone in *The Globe of Life*; Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten provides a delightful combination of comedy and good singing; the Sarnthaler Sextet are meritorious vocalists and dancers; and Walter King keeps everyone smiling whilst he is on the stage. The Empire Comedy Four are popular part-singers; and Cumminger and Colonna excel as sand dancers. Other good contributions are forthcoming from Lily Burnand, Nellie Lewis, Harry Drew, and the Brothers O'Brien.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—At the top of the bill is Petronowa, whose energetic band-conducting is a revelation; Moran and Wiser mystify everyone with their "boomerang" performance with straw hats; and Amelie de L'Enclos possesses a soprano voice of wonderful range and fine quality. The Glenroy Troupe appear in a clever speciality act; and Takio is an accomplished mimic. A dramatic sketch, *The Three Thieves*, played by Messrs. K. Johnston, L. Booker, and J. Daley is well received; Mike Nono, Irish comedian; Jack Smiles, comedian and dancer; and the Rawsons, drawing-room entertainers, are other good turns.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. A. Bushell.—The chief turn in an attractive programme is furnished by the Tan-Kwai troupe of Chinese jugglers and equilibrists, who perform some astonishing feats with their pigtails; a stirring military sketch, *A Soldier of Napoleon*, is presented by Miss Laurie Deering's capable company; Will Cornish is popular in a pleasing musical performance; and Arthur Anstill excels as a whistling comedian. A clever tumbling act is given by the Almas; and Spry and Austin are a favourite pair of entertainers. Mabel Moss is a talented chorus singer; Bert Weston is an amusing character; and the Gaietoscope is also an acceptable feature.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—A thrilling sketch, entitled *The Red Triangle*, creates intense interest as played by Carlotta Yonson and company; Ferguson and Mack are irresistible humorists as the Dimple Sisters; and Shirley Liggins and company are vocalists of a high order. Willie Gardner is a phenomenal skate dancer; and the Carson Brothers are skilful gymnasts. Much amusement is caused by the Gascoignes, comedy jugglers; and meritorious turns are also given by Mark Leslie, Annie Heath, Billy Haines, and Connie Mascot.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The chief turn is provided by the wonderful cycling ape, George I., who displays almost human sagacity in a wonderful performance; Charles Parker's Society Idols are a capital combination of entertainers; Duncan and Brasque are amusing in a playlet, *My Lancashire Wife*; Charles Ulrick is a clever barrel manipulator; Arthur Gill is a novel vocalist; the Richards Trio are eccentric acrobats; and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, and Maidie Burker, comedienne, are big favourites.

CURZON HALL (AMERICAN AND CONTINENTAL CIRCUS).—Director and Organiser, Mr. A. Edward Inshaw.—The chief feature of the programme here is a representation of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Another success is the aeroplane act of Mons. Duprey and his assistant. Daring jockeys provide a wonderful exhibition of trick riding, and there are several other new acts on the programme.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is drawing crowded houses with *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. C. W. Standing is greatly admired for his effective presentation of Prince Olaf; and similar remarks apply to Mr. Mayor Cooke as Prince Hildred and Mr. Lionel Garsden as Prince Michael. Full of wit and good humour are Mr. Robert Noble (Captain Hector) and Mr. Richard Lane (Lieut. Karl Stromberg). Mr. Ernest Gray is clever as Nathan; Mr. Francis Hawkey good as the Bishop of Illyria; and Miss Ethel Patrick sustains the part of Camiola, the beggar maid, delightfully. Miss Mona Hungerford as Viola is amusing; and Miss Stella Campbell enacts Princess Monica in graceful style.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Humpsti and Bumpsti keep the house well entertained in their funny turn; Miss Madge Goodall is a comedienne of ability; Mr. W. Gregory as a flexible marvel is well received; and Ted Karno and company are worthy of praise for their sketch, *Hotel de Quick*. Johnny Walker is a good fun-maker, as is Harry Bickly, their songs and patter being excellent. The Breans are delightful Japanese entertainers; and the Hipposcope concludes with interesting pictures.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Miss Zena Dare and No. 1 company in *The Dashing Little Duke* is a big attraction here. The company is in every way excellent. As the Duc de Richelieu Miss Dare scores a success; as the Chevalier de Matignon Mr. Reginald Adair sings with great effect; Mr. Johnny Danvers as Baron de Bellechasse is exceedingly funny, and he is ably supported in his comedy efforts by Miss Nellie Dade as the Baroness; Miss Dollie Castles also calls for special comment for her excellent Diane de Noailles.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The Francoli Troupe of silent pantomime artists give a clever and laughable display here in their sketch *The Billposter and His Living Lithographs*; Bromley and Fontein illustrate exaggerated whims and oddities of musical conductors in *The Man Behind the Music Stand*; Albert and Edmunds's company are appearing to advantage in a farce entitled *The Tower of London*; Leo Tell comes in for a capital reception for his mimicry of varied sounds; J. H. Greener, "the premier singing pit lad," sings well, and is a reciter of ability; Roxborough and Wright, in a dancing and singing pot-pourri, go well; and Minnie Warner is pleasing and tuneful.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company is here with *Two Little Vagabonds*. Better exponents of the title-rôles than are provided by Miss Ivy Millais (Wally) and Miss Helen Grenville (Dick) could not be desired. A lifelike portrayal of Maria Thornton is presented by Miss Dorothy Milne, whilst Miss Mabel Cooke carefully depicts Barbara Scarth. The part of George Thornton is ably embodied by Mr. Frank Beresford, whilst Mr. Reynard Lockwood as Capt. Darville and Mr. Charles Ludlow as the Gaffer also give a good account of themselves.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The Five X Kays, aptly termed the mad athletes, top the bill here and provide an extraordinary turn. Kelly and Agnes, the Australian comedy duo, are well received, and J. P. Ling, the versatile entertainer, is always sure of the warmest welcome. Other good turns are provided by Gladys Hooley, violinist; Archie Gervase, comedian; Gala and Norris, comedy artists; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist; Dale and Vale, in song and dance; and Edie Anderson, a diminutive comedienne and dancer of unquestionable ability.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—The St. Joseph's Amateur Operatic Society are giving performances of *Il Trovatore* and *Maritana*, the proceeds of which will be devoted to Bolton charities.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The principal attraction here is Ernest Shand, comedian, who has been well received. The programme also comprises Massona, a clever young juggler; Elsie Earle, versatile artist, in her song-scena, *A Garden of Flowers*; Walter Wade, comedian; Miss Rosie Lloyd, comedienne; the Three Borella Bros., in a clever gymnast act on the silver chains; Carl Muller, expert versatile dancer; Will Mitcham, vocal and musical comedian; the Six Albyns, society entertainers, in their miniature musical comedy *The Squire's Hunting Party*; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime of *Mother Goose* has attracted large audiences. The parts of Mother Goose (Mr. Walter Dale), her son Jack (Mr. J. W. Gallagher), and Muggles (Fred Action) are well sustained; Miss Maude Prenton plays Colin successfully; and Miss Kitty Russell is good as Jill. Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls accomplish clever dances. Specialities are introduced by the Society Quartette of vocalists and dancers; and the Miltons, skating comedians.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, The Excelsior Co.; Manager, Mr. George Barry.—At the Winter Gardens this week Messrs. Wm. De Lacy and Leslie Stanley present their gorgeous pantomime *Babes in the Wood*. The principal characters are ably portrayed by Miss Kate Osborne as Robin Hood, Miss Helena L. Barton as Maid Marian, Miss Louie Fielding and Wee Winnie Warden as the Babes, Mr. Erno Astor as Baron Ooffess, Mr. Will Kirk and Mr. William De Lacy as Bill Byem and Sam Sellem, and Mr. Lionel Yeoman as Belinda Pancake.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROMES, LTD.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—The celebrated actor-violinist Jan Rudenyi is the "draw" here in a dramatic episode entitled *The Power of Music*, and receives repeated applause. Velanche's Football Dogs have been very highly trained, and the football match is watched with great interest. Little Ganty keeps the house in roars of laughter; King's College Boys, in *The Students' Concert*, are very good; Phil Kauffman as a comedian is successful; Kate Gourlay, Scotch comedienne, and the Waltons, eccentric acrobats, deserve mention, and the Hippo. pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The King of Cadonia* holds the boards here. Mr. Bertie Wright as the Duke of Alasia is as bright and clever as ever; Miss Alice Moffat sings and acts in a fascinating manner as the Princess Marie; Mr. J. Warren Foster has a fine manly presence and is particularly good as Alexis; Mr. Jack Martin presents a fine portrayal of General Bonski; Mr. E. Hartley-Summers as Panix, the Secretary, is amusing; Bran (Mr. E. Thirley), Laborde (Mr. Cecil Tresilian), Capt. Laski (Mr. Cameron Carr) are all good representations; Miss Molly Keen plays Militza in vivacious and attractive style, and her songs receive well-deserved applause; the Duchess of Alasia is played in a dignified and natural manner by Miss Florence Lelgarde. The piece is exquisitely staged and dressed, and the chorus is tuneful and energetic.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The run of the delightful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* continues with undiminished success, much applause and laughter greeting the efforts of the clever company, whose resources are unfailing. The lovely ballets and spectacular effects, too, are a source of delight to packed audiences.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Forty Thieves* are having a merry run, and the pantomime grows in popularity, the energy of the company is unflagging, and the beauty of the scenic effects and the pretty dresses are themes of admiration to crowded audiences.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Much interest is centred here in the appearance of Mme. Albani, and the greeting accorded the great songstress is most enthusiastic. Herr Zavosky is a violinist of remarkable executive ability, and his delightful solos are greatly applauded; Great and Good are a pair of clever acrobats, who introduce into their "Bumpity Bump" turn some rare fun; charming Gipsy Woolf and her six pretty Sunbeam Girls in a well staged sketch, *The Mermaid of Margate*, are very bright; John Macaulay submits a capital character song, "The pensioner"; a very remarkable performance (without aid from the trainer) is given by Richard Corbin's clever dogs; many novelties are introduced into a clever and humorous acrobatic entertainment by the Four Barowskys; W. J. Churchill is a most diverting comedian; and the turns by Lily Palmer, comedienne, Harry Anderson, comedian, and the pictures shown by the Bioscope, make up a fine programme.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Ryder Slone, the comedian, is here again, and his songs are as popular as ever; and Charles Gardner, comedian, is responsible for some good broad comedy; the Zampas are smart duettists and bâton manipulators; René, a girl juggler, is expert and clever with her tricks; Roy Beavis is a very smart conjurer and palmer; a pretty and clever entertainment by Les Montaldos, introducing trained parrots and Macaws, wins applause; Margit and Lena are clever and very eccentric acrobats, whose "Wet Paint" turn is entertaining; Elton Foy and company are agile acrobats, and very laughter provoking in their knockabout sketch, *A Carriage Ride*; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are interesting.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. M. Manley.—Mr. Fred Melville's *Married to the Wrong Man* company is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Henry Lonsdale gives a masterly performance of Capt. Jack Gladwin; Mr. George Arthur is smart in his villainy as Captain Deering, being ably seconded by Mr. Leonard Thackeray, who gives a capital study of Jasper Skinner; Mr. Leonard Harrison is an excellent Sergt. Manners; and Mr. Marius St. John is very good as Archie Bird. The honours of the evening undoubtedly fall to Miss Mary Pemberton, who as Ruth gives a finished performance; Miss Cissie Bellamy as Rose O'Connor is very good; Miss May Day makes the most of her part as Dolly Fritter; Nurse Manners is ably undertaken by Miss Irene Archinsoe; Miss Annie Beamish and Miss Una Earlin are very good as Nurse Harmsworth and Mother Snaggs. The scenery and dresses are beautiful.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—A second edition of the pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, is running here and doing excellent business. Miss May Mars as Robinson Crusoe sings delightfully; Miss Violet K. Orme is an engaging Polly Perkins; Mr. Dave O'Toole provides abundance of fun as Mrs. Crusoe; and Mr. George Campbell makes a quaint and humorous Billy Crusoe; while Mr. Jimmy Fergusson as Corkscrew Bill and Mr. Lyons as Captain Kuttle are highly successful with their smart business, jokes, and patter, and their eccentric dancing. The remaining characters are ably impersonated.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime, *Dick Whittington and his Cat*, produced by Mr. E. H. Bertram, is here this week. Mr. Charles Danvers gives a very humorous representation of Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Billy Rex is admirably placed as Julia; the suffragette cook; Miss Dolly Denton makes a charming Alice Fitzwarren; Miss Rosie Sylvester is a vivacious and pleasing Dick; Miss Jessica Brooke is a delightfully winsome Polly Perkins; and other characters are ably represented by Miss Norah Melton, Miss Edie Dawson, Miss Norah Donne, Mr. J. R. Tyrell, Mr. Walter B. Nugent, Mr. Will Manite, Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. Bert Selvidge, and Mr. George Brentwood. Dances by the Misses Manite and Miss Connie Retta are warmly appreciated; and the choruses are well rendered. The scenery, staging, and dressing merit praise.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels provide an enjoyable entertainment; Buddha's Blackboard furnished a very mystifying turn; Horace Hunter and company appear with great success in *Under Suspicion*; the McAleavey Marvels, "the world's greatest all-round jumpers," are well received; Harry Clark is a capital boy dancer and comedian; Bill and Bailey are clever eccentrics; Alec Chentrens is a pleasing Anglo-French comedian; Everhart and company are wonderful hoop manipulators; Lena Wylie, "the Southern Soprano," sings in good style; Dale and O'Malley are a funny pair; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here this week with *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Mr. Ernest E. Norris submits a very fine impersonation of Dr. Wake; Miss Muriel Dole makes a graceful and charming Lady Gerania; Miss Lydia Busch presents a good character study as the Countess of St. Olbyn; Mr. Edward Petley's Duff Wynterden is cleverly enacted; Miss May Norris as Harriet Bronson and Mr. Herbert Lancelly as the Bishop of Selby merit praise; and effective support is rendered by Miss Clara Nicholls and Mr. Taylor Vinson as Mr. and Mrs. Wake, and Mr. J. Benson North as the Earl of St. Olbyn.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* is doing well here, full houses being the rule. All the principals are highly competent in their respective parts, the scenery is quite up to the high standard expected here, and the dresses are appropriate, tasteful, and sufficiently rich. The Electric Ballet is much admired, there is lots of really good dancing, and the numerous songs are all popular.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Robinson Crusoe*, the pantomime here, is very popular, and as it is essentially a "comic pantomime," it just suits the taste of the usual frequenters of this theatre. All the artists are appreciated in their respective parts, the scenery is really good, the dresses are imposing, and the numerous songs and clever dances introduced add much to the effect of the entertainment.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Wild, Willie, and West, comedian acrobats, do some surprising knockabout, tumbling, and acrobatic work; Roma and Romani are exceptionally clever performers on various instruments; the Villons do an admirable turn as trick cyclists, and conclude with a clever "Dance des Apache." Louie Tracy, "the dapper dandy boy," is a pleasing male impersonator; the Belmonts (Hettie and Bessie) are exceptional expert dancers; Ethel Loftus, comedienne, is successful; Bert Williams does a good ventriloquial act; and Mazie Hibbs is applauded for her song and dance. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Lily Hammersley and company are highly successful with their Western American dramatic sketch *Rough Justice*; May Henderson, the "Dusky Queen of Comedy," obtains much appreciation; Wash Evans scores with his American musical-comedy sketch *Paradise Alley*, some very smart dancing being introduced; Alice Hoodless presents a charming entertainment consisting of some exquisitely painted pictures, "Gems of the Royal Academy," in which she poses in artistic style; the Amio Trio do some smart equilibristic work; Milford Brothers entertain as comedians and dancers; Ted Saunders, mimic, obtains applause; Alexander and Linden, "military coons," do some smart step dancing; and Neville Newton, comedian, is appreciated. Empire animated pictures close the entertainment.

COLSTON HALL.—C. W. Poole's myriorama and vaudeville entertainment is nearing the close of the season. The attendance has been very good, and the show on this visit has well maintained the expected excellence of "Poole's."

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Lovers of Shakespeare are amply catered for here this week by Mr. F. R. Benson's North company. A brilliant performance of *The Merchant of Venice* was given on Monday night. Mr. Henry Herbert gave a magnificent study of Shylock; Miss Gladys Vanderzee was particularly charming in the rôle of Portia; and Mr. Chas. Sparrow made a capital personality of Bassanio. Antonio was capably represented by Mr. Robert Atkins; and other rôles were well performed by Mr. Cyril Sworder (Gratiano), Miss Kate Turner (Nerissa), Miss Dorothy Radford (Jessica), and Mr. Sam Cohen (Lancelot). A good attendance on Tuesday evening witnessed *The Taming of the Shrew*, wherein Mr. Herbert repeated his delightful representation of Petruchio and Miss Vanderzee played Katharine. *The Tempest*, *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* are also in the week's bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Much interest is evinced in the Davis-Gledhill Trio, who introduce cycle racing on a miniature track; Charles Mildare proves popular with whistling in "A Day in Birdland"; and "My face is my fortune" is a very funny song by Ed. T. Ford. Carl Howard, the Komikun, in a burlesque on conjuring, produces much laughter; and Signor Persichini pleases with mandoline solos. N. Y. Kioto and C. H. Esa, equilibrists, are exceedingly clever on block pyramids; and Cestria, comedy juggler, receives merited applause. Bleary Oh, by the Empire Theatrescope, is a laughable film.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badeoe.—A turn of very high musical standard is given here this week by Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, their beautiful piccolo, piano, and vocal performance rousing the audience to great enthusiasm. Leoni de Lausanne surprises the house with remarkable rifle-shooting; and a clever acrobatic and ladder act is presented by the Netty Janowsky Troupe. Edith Chantler, girl soprano, has a good voice and pleasing presence; and Ruby Dahl presents her novel mannikins. Wyze and Adna are good in musical comedy; and Norah Desmond entertains with illustrated songs. With a Trawler is a highly interesting film shown by the Palace Pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—*The Forty Thieves*, by Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company, is here this week. Miss Dora Frank Harvey's fine stage presence, added to her capabilities as an actress and vocalist, assures her instant success as Abdallah; the good contralto voice of Miss May Otto is heard to advantage in the songs allotted to Morgiana; and Miss Marie Reeve, a sprightly Ganem, sings and acts extremely well. The premier honours among the comedians fall to Mr. Johnny Johnston, whose originality and quaintness as the Dame cause the greatest fun; he is ably assisted by Mr. Harry Maxam, an exceedingly funny Ali Baba, and Mr. Ted Wootton (Cassim). The droll antics of Mr. Syd Raymonde as the donkey are highly diverting. A really wonderful performance is given by the Hadji-Mohamed-Ben-Medani troupe of tumblers. The scenery and dresses are admirable.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—This week the theatre is given over to variety, and a capital bill is topped by Fred Karno's Comedians in *Early Birds* and *Skating*. Blanch Vincent is a dainty comedienne; in a pot-pourri act; Burge Bros. do some clever work; a marvellous exhibition of jumping is furnished by Charles Wilson; and the Woolhafs, versatile artists, in a comedy act; Brothers Wellman, speciality dancers; and James Basnett, descriptive vocalist, are all acceptable items.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Blanco White and Emilie Clifford are clever dancers; and Dainty Dolly Clyffe shines as a juvenile comedienne. The programme is completed with some capital films shown on the Ottograph.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—George Mozart, the well-known comedian, is attracting large houses here; his burlesques are both clever and original, and his efforts are thoroughly enjoyed. Lawton Bros. appear in an acrobatic act as deputies for Metz and Metz; the Havannas Troupe perform some remarkable tumbling feats; a refined musical scena is provided by Olive and Owen entitled *Roadside Tinkers*; and Will Willis, comedian; Phœnix Trio, harmony singers and dancers; and Miss Diana Hope, supported by Monte Bayly and Chas. Levey in *The Altar of Duty*, complete a good bill.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Messrs. Harding and Cooper's company paid a welcome return visit here on Monday night with *The Flag Lieutenant*. Dicky Lascelles was most happily played by Mr. Edgar Kent; Mr. Montague Love was particularly good as Thesiger; the Vice-Admiral was capitally rendered by Mr. George Mallett; Mrs. Cameron was cleverly given by Miss Florence Jackson; and Lady Hermoine was charmingly interpreted by Miss Dorothy Ripley.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Regret is freely expressed on all sides that the end of Milton Bode and Robert Redford's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is in sight. The last fortnight sees the pantomime running with agreeable swing and ease. Miss Isabelle Dillon, the principal boy, is not likely to be forgotten in the district, her dashing and tactful rendition of the part being greatly admired; Miss Gladys Guy's Alice is the quintessence of grace and vivaciousness, her charming singing and delightful dancing being likely to live long in our memories; Miss Blanche Astley has won distinction by her interpretation of Tommy Trot; and Miss Elsa McIntosh has done equally well as Mary. The comedians are among the cleverest fun-makers we have had in pantomime, their wholesome, smart, and humorous by-play making the production intensely amusing for both young and old. Mr. Phil Smith stands out as the Dame Matilda, being really good; Mr. Mark Lester as Idle Jack, and Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Alderman Fitzwarren also arouse merriment throughout; while Mr. Arthur E. Godfrey (Captain Scupper) and Mr. Arthur Leslie (Bill Oakum) are a quaint couple, who cause irresistible laughter. Miss Minnie Duncan shows histrionic ability as Fatima. The clever antics of Mr. Johnny Fuller as the cat should not be overlooked. The whole production is a credit to the management and the town.

THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—The management of the Theatre Royal have achieved an undeniable success with their pantomime *Mother Goose*, and thoroughly deserve the good business which has been done since the opening performance. Several speciality acts have been introduced, among them being the marvellous cycling exhibition by the Starley Bros., and a sweet scena by Mr. Sylvester Stewart. Miss Lillie Soutter has done remarkably well as the principal boy Lubin, singing her numbers with infinite spirit; Miss Soutter looks particularly smart in the white costume she dons in the second part of the production. Miss Marie Wall is a pretty, attractive, and graceful principal girl, and Miss Marie Elsie is just as suitably placed as Annabel; Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Mother Goose, Mr. Harry Karr as Squire Close, Mr. Walter Kooney as Parchment, and Mr. Mark Henton as Billy, keep the pantomime going from start to finish with a merry swing by their amusing impersonations. Miss Roberta Svendsen as the Good Fairy, and Mr. Jack Weeks as the Wicked Fairy deserve credit; as also does Mr. Fred Cox for his hard work as the Goose.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The famous Chinese magician, Chung Ling Soo, heads the bill with his mysterious performance; Emerson and Baldwin bring down the house by their clever and comic juggling; Edward Crossland's melody makers prove novel and skilful in a phantom scena, entitled *The Burglar's Dream*; Victor Widdicombe and company please greatly in a comedy episode *Her Devonshire Dad*; Tom Stuart's characterisation and mimicry are a treat to witness; and the Three Welsh Girls, in harmonised illustrated numbers, are accorded a hearty reception; Lizzie Glenroy, the wee Scotch singer and dancer, gains applause; Musical Silvo gives an expert display of musical novelties; with the American Bioscope to complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—A fine sketch, entitled *The Girl I Love*, presented by Fred Maxwell and company, heads the Palace programme this week. Mr. Fred Maxwell himself impersonates Max Donovan in a forcible manner, and the sketch is a great attraction. Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns give a smart American vaudeville entertainment; the Brothers Ford stand conspicuously in a singing and extremely talented dancing act; and others who contribute to a varied and strong bill are: Stein-Esthor Trio, comedy hand-jumpers, Victor and Louis, the golfer and the caddie, Sisters Carlton, comediennes, Tom Joy, clever comedian, Josephine Croake, with illustrated songs, and the ever-popular Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are here this week in a répertoire of Shakespearean plays. *The Merchant of Venice* was given on the opening night. As Shylock Mr. Wilkie was quite a success. Forcible, earnest, and holding a firm grip of the character, Mr. Wilkie scored throughout, and was heartily applauded. Special interest centred in the appearance of Miss Carrie Baillie, at one time a popular amateur in the city, whose refined and artistic impersonation of Portia was greatly and deservedly admired. Her reception was cordial in the extreme. As Bassanio Mr. Alexander Marsh contributed a fine performance; Antonio was in the safe hands of Mr. Houston Meharry, and Mr. John Paley's Gratiano was a marked success; Mr. Arthur Keane took every advantage of his opportunities as Lancelot Gobbo, proving himself an excellent comedian; Mrs. Allan Wilkie as Nerissa an Miss Hilda Plowright as Jessica were excellent. *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *As You Like It*, and *Othello* are billed for production during the week.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is this week presenting *With Edged Tools*. Mr. Hamilton Deane secures favour as Jack Meredith; Victor Durnovo is ably represented by Mr. Campbell Goldemid; Mr. J. D. Geddes is one of the most notable personalities of the play in the part of John Meredith; Miss Marie Leonhardt's Jocelyn Gordon is a finished performance; Miss Marion Fawcett has a taking style as Lady Cantourne; Miss Marguerite Cellier is a powerful Millicent; Guy Oscard is capitally undertaken by Mr. Henry Nunn; Mr. Albert Campbell is an acceptable Maurice Gordon; Miss Violet Thorpe a good Lady Herries, and Miss Florence Dulhunty a successful Marie.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The Five Olracs head the bill here as acrobatical funnisities, and their business is both smart and amusing; Troba's juggling with cannon balls, shells, and sentry boxes is marvellous; a clever turn is that of Henry and Tyler, trick cyclists, and the Two Beatrices charm everybody with their chic appearance; Kyd and Kyd are a couple of the funniest of patterers; Tom Isherwood sings in fine style; and Rorke, Rooke and Co., in a musical farce, *The Prince's Love Affair*, are provocative of considerable hilarity. The Simisters are warmly applauded for their refined patter and vocal acts; and animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are as popular as ever.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Harry Desmond, comedian; the Sprees in a bright little scena "The Rustic and the Maid"; Goodall and Knox, speciality artists; May Clark, a vocalist whose choruses are readily taken up; Nash and Nash, with taking patter; W. T. Ellwanger and company creating roars of laughter in *Who Did It?* and the Riogoku Family, who fairly bring down the house.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Ruby Celeste and May Hallatt please immensely with their study in Cockney life entitled *'Enery Brown*; Ray and Calden score in a variety scena, the former's hat manipulation being very neat; Vendome and Chase appeal successfully to lovers of dancing; Clarice Sefton deputises satisfactorily for Radena Ray; the Eight College Girls are making a welcome reappearance; the Four Kellys contribute a daring acrobatic act; J. Beeson, blue-jacket tenor, has a flattering reception nightly; and the Edisonograph reproduces some excellent views.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company presented on Monday *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Kathleen Russell is a powerful and capable Margaret Rolfe; Miss Maud Hildyard is as realistic as could be desired as the revengeful Claire Forster; Mr. William Kershaw is very natural as Julian Rolfe; Mr. James Lindsay gives a remarkably good study of the lawyer Thompson; the good-humoured Jimmy O'Neil is brightly played by Mr. Paul Wynter; Mr. Sydney Palfrey acts with sufficient spirit as Louis Klauffsky; Miss Mary Griffiths displays a neat turn for comedy as the garrulous mother-in-law, Mrs. Hughes; and the Misses Pamela Hope, Joan Temple, and R. Barcham act with natural grace and finish as Mrs. Rolfe's friends. Smaller parts are well played by Mr. W. F. Fletcher, Mr. Frank Mayo, Mr. Charles Saley, and Mr. James Mitchell. *The Deputy Sheriff* is a highly dramatic curtain-raiser.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Compton Comedy Company's visit to Chester is amongst the most welcome theatrical events of the year. *Davy Garrick*, with the inimitable Mr. Edward Compton in the title-rôle, was received on Monday with the usual delight and enthusiasm. Mr. Compton plays with all his old verve, and of him one may truly state that "age cannot wither, nor custom stale his infinite variety." Mr. Frank Royde was a perfect Tallyhaut; and that excellent comedian Mr. H. Crocker portrayed with increasing charm and dignity his old part of Alderman Gresham. The Rumbelow of Mr. Philip Gordon was worthy of so able a low comedian; the Sowerberry of Mr. J. W. Austin and the Simpkins of Mr. C. Marquand were excellent interpretations of these humorous characters; Miss Marie Hassell as Mrs. Rumbelow and Miss Lorraine Stevens as Selina, convulsed the audience in their mirth-provoking rôles; and Miss Kathleen Leigh played with her usual power and exquisite charm the exacting part of Violet Gresham. The curtain raiser *Tom Noddy's Secret* was notable for the first appearance in Chester of Miss Nell Compton, whose Gabrielle was a finished performance, and in all respects worthy of her distinguished histrionic ancestry. The week's bill includes *School for Scandal*, *The Road to Ruin*, *A Reformed Rake*, *The Blasé Baronet*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Wilson Howard and company, in *Under the Czar*, is fulfilling a week's engagement here this week. Mr. Wilson Howard himself, in the rôle of Nicholas Veroslaff, plays in a highly creditable manner; Miss Carlotta Anson as Sonia portrays the character with ability; Miss

Miss Daisy Yates is a great success, and has a charming partner in Miss Olive West, an enchanting Alice; Mr. H. D. Lyndon is a quaint and curious Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Jack Harris keeps the house in roars of laughter as Idle Jack; Messrs. Haverley and Homer are a whimsical pair as the Nuts; and Mr. Dan Thomas, full of life and agility, gives a droll sketch of Betsy. The Olga Belleu are a fascinating troupe.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's delightful pantomime *Aladdin* is playing here to good houses. In the title-rôle Miss Hettie Zillwood sings and acts with much charm; Miss L. Charlsworth makes a pretty Prince; Mr. Frank Sutherland is a clever Abanazar; the Brothers Lavelle as the Police Force are very funny, their acrobat business being very smart; Mr. Pulo as Wishee-Washee is good, and his juggling perfection; the Sisters Wingrove give a fine show; the Venester troupe of dancers are clever; and an agreable feature of the pantomime is a sextette of male vocalists. There are some pretty effects, and the scenery is excellent.

HIPPODROME THEATRES, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Mr. Harry Burns's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is showing twice nightly. It is well staged, and the dresses and effects are in every way up to expectations. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn as Crusoe is very successful; in Miss Fanny Harris is found a charming Polly Perkins; Miss Gertrude Martini and Miss Lillie Hoyes, Miss Nina May, Miss Gwen Wielan, Miss Madge Wood, and Miss Minnie Desmond are good in their respective parts; much amusement is caused by Messrs. Tray and Rich as Captain Cuttle and Captain's Mate; Mr. Mark Stuart as Dame Crusoe is extremely funny; and Man Friday is in the capable hands of Mr. Dan Hendy. With a full chorus and augmented orchestra the panto is going well.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company this week is here in *A Broken Heart*. Miss Sheila Walsh is a sympathetic Mary Barnard; Mr. Harry Cullenford deserves praise for his interpretation of John Barnard; Stephen Raylton is capably presented by Mr. A. J. Holmes; Mr. Ernest Duval does well as Gash Gills; and Mr. Will Beasley as the Curate and Miss Daisy Rochefort as Little May also deserve commendation. The lighter side of the piece rests with Mr. C. Eldred Woodley as Tony Tibbets and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally Travner, whose efforts create much amusement.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime *The Forty Thieves* is proving a great attraction. As Ganem Miss Elsie Steadman does exceedingly well, and possesses a sweet voice; Miss Lyle Jeffries charmingly portrays Morgiana, and her songs are rendered in a very pleasing style; to the part of the Captain Miss Rose Pareezer does ample justice; Mr. Percy Curry as Ali Baba and Mr. Arthur Behan as Cogia introduce much good fun, which is appreciably augmented by Messrs. Fame and Fortune, the policemen; and Mr. Arthur Burton as Cassim Baba also proves himself a droll comedian. A word of commendation should also be accorded Mr. Harry Walker as George Percy, the donkey, and Messrs. Mark Merry (Kaderick), Reg. Amber (Mustaoha), Geo. Melrose (the Caliph) and Misses Cissie and Kittie Behan, Ada Jenner, and Dorothy Wellington. A pleasing feature is the dancing of the Caen Villa Troupe of lady dancers. The remaining characters are all cleverly handled. The chorus and orchestra are under the able conductorship of Mr. John S. Kershaw.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—After a successful pantomimic run, drama is being presented by Miss Annie Bell's company, *The Idol of Paris* forming a strong attraction. As Flare-Flare Miss Bell gives a clever piece of acting; Mr. Cyril Lee provides an excellent study of Phillipe d'Esterre; and Mr. Scott Leighton makes a first-rate Victor Cashelle.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Some beautiful tableaux are presented by Signor Arvi, depicting classical subjects; John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules, performs some astounding feats of strength, raising a whole platform of men; Howe and Ardie entertain with a clever gymnastic and acrobatic display; Fred Dunstone is heard to advantage in song and patter; Gerhardi Moir provides an interesting jumping turn; Percy Harman, baritone, sings in acceptable fashion; and Fred S. Peake and company entertain with a pretty costume sketch, entitled *The Hypocrite*. Camille Feo, in song and dance, is responsible for another fine turn.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Fred Granville's (Productions, Ltd.) pantomime *Beauty and the Beast* is the attraction here. The Sisters Kebbie take the parts of Silver Buttons and Beauty in a clever manner; Miss Hilda de Grey plays the Prince in dashing style; Mr. Sammy Foster is funny as Sammy; Sir Macintosh Winkles is smartly rendered by Mr. Albert Juan; Mr. Frank Daleno causes much laughter as Twitters; Mr. Edward Stream is humorous as Sprindles; and Miss Dollie Barrie is all that can be desired as Sir Electro Plato. Miss Bella Moody is a capital Wilhelmina, and Mr. Meklin Williams as the Beast uses his fine voice to advantage; Fairy Sunlight is cleverly interpreted by Miss Victoria Francis; and Mr. Sidney Milton ably sustains the part of the Witch.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—The Four Piccolo Midgets, in a clever acrobatic and weight-lifting act, have a cordial reception; Lemoi and Quieb make a hit in a novel sketch *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*, in which is introduced a little girl, who astonishes the audience with some smart dancing and feats of contortion; Yangar, the West African wonder-worker, bewilders everybody with his illusions; Les Belles Americaines, a quartette of acrobatic dancers, meet with loud applause; an acceptable musical act is submitted by the Sisters Alndow; and George Prince is a mirth-maker; Al and Lal, in a novel ventriloquial act, are well applauded; Dan Robans sings exceedingly well; and some fine pictures are shown.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—Miss Manners and her clever juveniles occupy a prominent position on the bill here. Joe Belmont, the human bird, gives a bright and interesting entertainment; Allan Hanbury is a meritorious comedian; Wyotti, a clever juggler; and Nellie Walton, the singing Lancashire mill girl, scores a success; Walter Barrett uses his fine baritone to advantage. Some interesting and amusing pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. George Dance's company is here in the musical comedy *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Eustace Burnaby is successful in his representation of the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; a real Yorkshire welcome is extended to Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe as Lord Eynsford; Timothy Gibbs was capably played by Mr. Vincent Verne; Miss Lilian Birtles is a *persona grata* as Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss Ellaline Thorne as Madame Jeanne has a pleasing personality and a capital voice; and the titular rôle, in the hands of Miss Elfie Vincent, is a great success.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Dory.—Following the opera season here we have the pantomime of *Aladdin*, which was produced in Belfast at Christmas. There was a very large and appreciative audience present on Monday night, and the pantomime went with great success. Mr. M. P. Byrne supplied the "local bits," which were particularly smart; Miss Georgie Corlass, in the title-rôle, displayed her abilities cleverly, and sings her songs with great spirit and vigour; Princess En-Chang-Ting is effectively enacted by Miss Thelma Raye, who sing and plays the violin cleverly; Miss Topsey Sinden is a very accomplished artist, and was warmly applauded for her excellent performance as Yu Bu Tree; she is a most artistic dancer and sings very nicely. Miss Florence Foster does exceedingly well as Ah Ling; Miss Gwennie Harcourt is extremely good as Our Mary Ann, her comedy throughout being heartily enjoyed; her rendering of "Now I have to call him father" was warmly encored; Mr. W. H. Powell has plenty of scope to display his comedy business in the character of Widow Twankey, which he does with excellent results; Carlton is a capital Abanazar, and his sleight-of-hand tricks are very entertaining; Mr. Neville Delmar (Pekoe) and Mr. Colin Poop (Emperor of China) do well; Miss Connie Glenabyn (Slave of the Lamp), Miss Jocelyn Hope (Genii of the Ring), Mr. Walter Fairbrother (Amenophis), and Miss Muriel Lennox (Love), are all successful. The scenery is very elaborate, the dresses pretty, and the stage accessories everything that could be desired.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their Shakespearean company commenced a season's engagement here on Monday night, when there was a large audience present to witness a special production of *Macbeth*. Mr. Benson appeared as Macbeth, and gave an artistic and powerful performance; Mrs. Benson was a most convincing Lady Macbeth; Mr. Eric Maxon as Macduff was exceedingly good; the Banquo of Mr. Murray Carrington was very fine; and the King was effectively played by Mr. Guy B. Rathbone. The staging and dresses were admirable. The répertoire for the rest of the week is *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Julius Cæsar*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *As You Like It*.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay's company remain here another week, and on Monday *The Shaughraun* was heartily enjoyed by a crowded house. Mr. Chalmers Mackay's portrayal of Conn was exceedingly good and he made the humorous points with considerable skill; Mr. Fred Charles was most effective in his reading of Robert Ffolliott; Mr. Walter Steele did good work as Corry Kinchela; and the part of Harvey Duff was well played by Mr. Edward Lowrie; Claire Ffolliott was admirably presented by Mrs. Chalmers Mackay; and Father Doolan was in the able hands of Mr. J. P. McBride.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An attractive programme is headed by Arthur Watson and his excellent company in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*; a capital sketch, entitled *Beauty and the Burglar*, is well presented by Miss Millie Engler and company; and Miss Ethel Dunford, comedienne, is popular with all parts of the house; Fred Elton's scena *On Board an Ocean Liner* is most entertaining; and Kahn and Kahn, in a clever illusion act, meet with success; as a ventriloquist Professor Dunning makes a decided hit; Charles Vincent, eccentric comedian, is well received; Stewart and Morgan, in their vocal speciality, win rounds of applause; and the Empire pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The chief place in this week's bill is filled by Pasquali Brothers, the wonderful tumblers and equilibrists; also appearing are the Sisters Macarte, in the Japanese scena *The Land of the Lotus*; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts; Ethel Mann, contralto vocalist; Brothers Dean, the original dancers in white; the Gentrys, the humorous duo, in *Bits*; Brothers Leo, patter comedians; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; and Newman and Knight, in a comedy juggling act; together with the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme here includes: The Three Van Earles, in their novelty act; Chris, the dancing marvel; George Mack, descriptive vocalist; Miss Lorna, ballad vocalist; Will Gay, comedian; Dene Hall, actor-vocalist; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Ian Robertson and his company have caused a sensation here with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Robertson gives a fine performance of the passer-by, and keeps his audience spellbound; Miss Barbara Everest is ladylike and artistic as Vivian; and Miss Helena Parsons, with her quaint humour, as the slavey, is a big success; Miss Jeannie Thomas's Landlady is a well-played and typical part; Mr. W. O. Billington, Mr. J. Woodall Birde, Mr. Gedge Twyman, Miss Lena Delphine, Mr. Stanley Browne, Mr. Herbert Garthorne, Miss Druscilla Wills, and Miss Blanche Ripley are all praiseworthy. There are recalls at every "curtain." The piece is preceded by *Come Here*, which is loudly applauded.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—At the top of the bill are the Olympian team of cyclists, who, in a "football" match, representing local teams, are clever and amusing; Vetter Bros., in a gymnastic display, entitled *Pages' Recreation*, provide an attractive performance; another good performance is that of Zanoni, in a juggling scena; the house is convulsed with laughter at the jokes and songs of Charlie Grantley, a comedian with a style of his own; Vessey and O'Connor are charming musical entertainers; and Nellie Dallwood is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Jack Gilman is a good descriptive vocalist.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A good reception was accorded to the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company from a brilliant house here on Monday evening, when *The Gondoliers* was presented. Miss Everell Spain as Gianetta acted brightly, and treated her music in a thoroughly artistic manner; a delightfully vivacious Tessa was found in Miss Beatrice Boarer, whose sprightly acting, pleasing singing, and graceful dancing combined to make a peculiarly attractive performance; Miss Bertha Lewis must be congratulated for her cultured rendering of the music allotted to the Duchess of Plaza-Toro; Miss Mabel Graham made a very attractive and graceful Casilda; Mr. Fred Billington's Grand Inquisitor was a treat, the grimaces, the easy nonchalance, and the inimitable method of his singing being as usual admirable; Mr. Henry A. Lytton as the Duke of Plaza-Toro was brilliant throughout, his dancing and singing combining most happily for the amusement of the audience; Mr. Henry Herbert as Marco sang very tunefully; Mr. Leicester Tunks was an admirable Guiseppe, his perfect articulation being a noteworthy feature of his singing; Mr. Sydney Granville as Luiz sang well; and praise is also due to the chorus, which was notably bright and tuneful. The play was magnificently staged and dressed, and the augmented orchestra was under the masterly direction of Mr. Francois Cellier. The week's bill has also included *The Mikado*, *Patience*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Trial by Jury*.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An excellent bill of fare is headed by Chanti, who goes through his brilliant performance with an ease, an alertness, and a grace that are exhilarating in the extreme; Alick Lauder had a warm welcome in *The Christening*; *The Devil's Box of Bricks* is admirably acted by James Willard, Jackson Wilcox, and Maisie Everette; Geo. Bernard wins applause for his song dramas; Will E. Stopit, with a quaint individuality, scores a hit; Dancit proves herself a dancer of outstanding ability; Frank Hartley accomplishes new and daring juggling feats in clever fashion; Norah Noble sings and dances in an engaging manner; and some capital pictures are shown by the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, in *A Woman's Passion*, has proved a strong draw here this week. Mr. Arthur F. Dudley's portrayal of the hero, Lord Hubert Normington Vale, is imbued with considerable dramatic effect; Mr. David McFarlane achieves distnction by a polished rendering of Sir Randall Derrick; Miss Louie Peebles fills the rôle of the heroine, Winifred Hamlyn, with grace and ease; Miss Lily Prescott realises admirably the character of Claire Trevenen; Miss Adele Liddon makes a picturesque Gipsy Fortune Teller; Miss Gertrude Purnell and Miss Nellie Hook are excellent in their respective parts; Mr. R. F. Stacey submits a well-defined sketch of Dr. d'Estra; Mr. Stephen Pritt (the author) is seen to advantage as the Jockey Vicary; and Mr. Percy Warlow as Goliath ably looks after the comedy element.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C Rawes.—An entertaining programme is headed by the Saxonia family, who give an expert musical extravaganza; the Three Coopers receive a welcome in a comic vocal scena; *The Henpecked Husband* and *School Chums*; and the harmonious singing of Andrews and Thompson wins admiration. Henri Bekker completely mystifies the audience with clever conjuring; the sketch of the Oxfords is amusing; Bianchi, upside-down juggler, is a capital turn; and Leolin is a master of Indian club manipulation. The Cathedoscope shows A Safe Deposit.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company appeared here on Monday in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Aidan Lovett was an excellent Horace Parker; Mr. George P. Polson an impressive and distinct Messenger; Mr. Norman Clark a realistic tramp; Mr. Alfred Lugg a capital Arthur Dicey; Mr. D. Greene an entirely satisfactory Policeman; Miss Rose Helene an ideal Minnie Templar; Miss Aubery Ashton an able Miss Parker; and minor parts were ably filled. *A Soldier's Wedding*, played by Mr. Walter Melvill's company, was billed for the last part of the week.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—Heading an excellent bill here this week are Mr. Paul Mill and his Courtiers, whose pretty costumes and tasteful singing make up a wholly delightful item; Messrs. Ike and Will Scott dance capitally, and have some funny jokes and business; Mr. Hubert Connorton is humorous in a refined and novel duologue; Mr. George Ellis contributes strong and realistic impersonations; Mr. Gus Barra as a mad musician is amusing; Smith and Gibbs are neat and expert hand-balancers; and Nellie Comber and Alice Floyd are entertaining.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company is presenting *Her Love Against the World*. Mr. Fred Emery as Eric Earl of Strathmere is responsible for a praiseworthy performance; Mr. Oswald Cray in the part of Ulric Prince of Ravensburg proves himself an actor of more than average ability; Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Prince Othmar is to be complimented on his rendering of the part; as Prince Maurice of Saxonia Mr. Henry Hallatt also acts with distinction; Miss Elsie Roberts in the character of Iris Princess of Idalia fully merits the applause with which her performance is received; and Miss Blanche Steele as Shula Countess of Rasselyn makes the most of her opportunities. The production is well staged.

EDINBURGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. George T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The verdict of the audiences at the opening performances of *Humpty-Dumpty* has been heartily and fully endorsed by the crowded houses which are still attracted to the Royal by the clever and amusing pantomime. Miss Iris Banfield's sweet and charming acting and her telling singing have won golden opinions from young and old, and the vivacity of Miss Radie Furman in the part of Gretchen gives an unfailing exhilaration to the many scenes in which this extremely bright comedienne appears. The comedians are a band of admirable burlesque actors, Mr. Shaun Glenville, Mr. Joe Nightingale, Mr. Jack Lane, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie, and Queen and Le Brun work hard and successfully, and the theatre rings with laughter at their droll business. The Music Saloon and Dining Room scenes on the yacht are excellent examples of good wholesome fun. Miss Clare Hartland's expressive voice is heard to advantage in delightful renderings of her numbers, and the gallery takes up nightly with much gusto the refrain of her popular song "Somewhere"; and Miss Iris Colley, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Zoe Gordon, and the members of the Tiller troupe contribute their share to the general success.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager Mr. Amand Mascard.—This, the closing week of the successful *Babes in the Wood* pantomime, has been marked by complimentary benefits to some of the leading performers, who have received neighbourly assistance from artists engaged at other places of entertainment in town to swell the special attractions of the programme. Among others, the comedians Vasey and Ramsey, Mr. W. L. Rowland, of Poole's Myriorama, Talberto and Douglas, from Cooke's Circus, the Lindsay and Austin vocalists and dancers, and the Scottish comedian Mr. Alec. B. Thorne, have helped to swell the bill. The merits of all engaged in the pantomime have been duly recognised during the run of the piece. Mr. Val Morgan's demon Infernalito has come out vocally very strong, and Miss Gracie Sumner has been all through a supernaturally good fairy Sylvania. Of the "Naturals, Sharps, and Flats" (so catalogued in the cast), Miss Dolly Elsworthy and Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme have scored as Robin Hood and Maid Marian; Little John and Merry Mavis have had good representatives in Miss Kitty Douglas and Miss Elsie Maynard; and the comedian element has been well worked by Mr. Johnnie Osborne as the Uncle, Mr. George Brook in a Dame part, Messrs. Will Terry and Sam Fay as the Ruffians, and Mr. Alf Brookes as a Page; while Miss Vi Wilson and Baby Boden have earned distinction as the Babes. Apart from all merely human successes, "Tomato"—an educated ass in his own skin—has secured quite the lion's share of merit amongst the speciality interludes.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The pleasing American artists Frank and Jen Latona head this week's bill with one of their well-known musical acts, which is applauded to the echo, and most favourably received; Signor Rosi's Italian ballet *Uncle Isadore* is another strong item, introducing the two famous dancers Signorina Luisa Patti and Signorina C. Mossetti; Rohda Brothers contribute an original up-to-date gymnastic turn; Phil Percival does some clever and amusing things at the piano; Florence appears with some success as a lady mimic of variety-hall stars; the American Bioscope exhibits an excellent series of pictures; and Herbert Darnley's company produce an imposing farcical sketch in three acts entitled *The Barnstormers*. Most interesting of all, in their different degrees of entertainment, are Henry Helme, the French Alpine vocalist; Falco and Eida, who illustrate in song and dance many of the subtleties of ju-jitsu; and Harry Friskey, who mingles comedy with expert juggling in a unique American fashion.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke; Manager, Mr. Talbot Cooke.—*Siberia* continues to draw good houses to Mr. Cooke's popular place of entertainment; but the enterprising proprietor gives his patrons full measure besides in the various equestrian and acrobatic scenes in the arena. Rosconi, a daring performer, M. Rossini, an expert stilt-walker, whose feats on his high wooden perches are alike dashing and amusing, and Codarno, with his curiosity band, are only a few of the many interesting turns in an excellent programme, which is constantly enlivened by the jests of the clever clowns. Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke, an accomplished equestrian, announces his benefit for Friday, when the performance will be under the patronage of the Scottish Kennel Club.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The boards are occupied by the Exeter Amateur Operatic Society in *The Yeomen of the Guard*. The production is under the stage directorship of Mr. R. Weatherseby, formerly stage director to the D'Oyly Carte Repertoire Company, and is worthy of the best traditions of Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and it is hoped that local charities will benefit very considerably as a result of the performances.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—The top of this week's bill is occupied by the Jackson Family, a quartette of musicians of conspicuous ability; Mdlle. Hengleur's troupe of Russian poodles, supported by other members of the canine tribe, display a remarkable degree of intelligence, and prove extremely diverting and interesting; Curtis Leo is a smart illusionist and juggler; Yetta contributes some clever wire dancing; Eldra has a popular reception with some clever balancing feats; while Eva Brilliant (sand dancer) and Hammon and Wyatt (duettists) add in no small measure to the pleasure of the audience.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Walter Melville's company in *The Soldier's Wedding* is proving a great attraction here. The rôle of Jack Brown is played by Mr. Douglas Cecil in a vigorous and manly style; Mr. Cyprian Matthews enacts Colonel James Graham with good effect; Miss Dorothy Richardson scores a success as Nancy Lee; Mr. W. L. Butler make an interesting villain; and the humorous side of the play is in the responsible hands of Master Albert as Teddy Munroe, Mr. Willie Scott as Tommy Spratt, and Mr. Philip Sefton as David Munroe. Miss Nita Langford as Julie, Miss Bessie Walters at Lizzie Walker, and Miss Dora Pass as Peggy Munroe are also praiseworthy.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE, LTD.—Chairman, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—The chief line in a "bill" of good things at this house is Arthur Breton's company in a laughable sketch named *A Sleepless Night*; Miss Ada Oxley and company have a most amusing little farce named *Peggy*, in which Miss Oxley scores a real success; Harry Talbot and Gladys Clare present a pleasing comedy, *My Wife Wouldn't Like It*, which receives much praise; Kendrick and Laura sing and dance in taking fashion; Allis and Cassati gag and dance with good effect; Agnes Tina is an accomplished young mimic; Reginald Jecks finely renders two ballads; and the Kingscope provides another entertaining item.

METROPOLE THEATRES.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Messrs. F. W. Bolam and John Tiller's pantomime *Jack and Gill* takes rank as one of the best "shows" ever presented here. There is a wealth of good things, and the ballets are such as have made the name of Tiller famous. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote (Prince Fearnought) will always have a warm welcome here by virtue of past triumphs. Her work in this pantomime is quite up to her usual standard, the singing of "I do like to be" and "Baby Bunting" gaining much praise. Miss Moyna Hill is a dainty Princess; Misses Cissy Iris and Nellie Grimshaw as Jack and Jill score a success, Miss Iris making a hit with "I used to sigh." Trim and Prim are excellently done by Misses Florrie Page and Annie Edelstein; Miss Dora Christian is a pleasing Fantine; Miss Ethel Edwards depicts Truth with much grace and sings "Somewhere" in telling style; Mr. Ernest Rees is a droll Dame; Mr. Will Lytton makes use of every opportunity as Ginger; Baron Jolliboy gives Mr. Fred Walmsley an opening for the exhibition of much humour; General Biff and Private Biff are well looked after by a funny pair in Messrs. Stanley Aubrey and Barney Dixon; Mr. Sidney Rennef gives a dramatic reading of Carl. A strong feature is the dancing of the Eight New Cocktails and the Twelve Manchester Mites, the latter combination being great favourites.

GLASGOW.—ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The repertory season continues here with much success, and on Monday another play was given, the novelty this time being Mr. Arnold Bennett's *What the Public Wants*, with its effective character drawing and hits at the all-absorbing newspaper-magazine trusts of to-day. Mr. M. R. Morand once more proved his sterling ability by his performance of the part of Sir Charles Worgan, and Mr. Milton Rosmer was seen in a character of a less romantic type than usual, which afforded him more scope for clever acting, as the eccentric wanderer Francis Worgan. A distinct and emphatic hit was made by Miss Irene Rooke as Emily Vernon, and the audience were heartily appreciative. Mr. Campbell Gullan ably embodied the character of Saul Kendrick; a clever study of Macquoid, the dramatic critic, was given by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering; Miss Lola Duncan made an amusing Henrietta Cleland; and the peppery theatrical manager, St. John, was well acted by Mr. C. P. Cargill. Miss Alice Mansfield as Mrs. Downes, Miss Norah Delaney as Mrs. Worgan, and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Annie Worgan gave well-defined studies of their respective parts. Mr. Cecil Brooking as Brindley, Mr. P. Percival Clarke as his play-writing son, Mr. Lawrence Hanray as a doctor, and Mr. Cyril Griffiths as Cleland all lent due assistance. The play was produced by Mr. Norman Page. Later in the week *Arms and the Man* was given, and for next week a revival of Oscar Wilde's fine play *Lady Windermere's Fan* is announced.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident Manager, Mr. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* is an acknowledged success here, and is running with a smoothness that must be gratifying to all concerned. Neil Kenyon and May Moore Duprez as principals are special favourites, and their gags are responsible for repeated outbursts of laughter. Miss Lily Morris is to the fore with catchy songs and choruses, and Fred Allandale as the Laird contributes several taking songs. Jack O'Connor with his eccentricities is responsible for hearty laughter.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The pantomime *Willie Winkie* goes on the even tenor of its way, and from the burlesque Baron of Mr. Harry McClelland to the extravagant clowning of Messrs. Stephens as Rannior as Lanky and Swankie the fun is fast and furious. The Muggins of Mr. Harry Levaine is an amusing bit of eccentric comedy; the funny business being also ably sustained by Mr. Barry Gilmour as the diminutive Page, by Mr. Fred Ingram as the Dame, and Mr. Billy Oswald in the Scotch part. For the title-rôle the dashing style of Miss Jessie Templeton is well suited. As Brenda Miss Venie Clements makes a principal girl of more than ordinary charm; the singing of Miss Edith Haley (Teddy) is very popular here; and a smart second boy and girl are seen in the Sisters Crystal.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—A return visit of Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company with *The Village Blacksmith* is welcome. Mr. Sam Livesey maintains his high reputation in his playing of John Strong; Miss Maggie Edwards acts with discretion and power as Kate Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Leo gives a realistic impersonation; Mr. Edwin Maydew makes the part of Lucas Marler stand out prominently; Jeremiah Parkins is admirably interpreted by Mr. Thomas E. Marshall; and capital assistance comes from Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins. Miss Pauline Garside submits a fine reading of Harry Strong, and Ruth Parkins has a clever exponent in Miss Cassie Le Grande. The lighter side of the drama is provided by Mr. Fred Haming as Billy Twigg and Miss Rosie Kearne as Martha Mopps.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Harry Benet's No. 1 company is here in *The Lady Slavey*. Mr. Charles F. Clark takes the part of Major O'Neil with great success; Mr. Lister Morrah as Vincent Evelyn presents a fine sketch of the American millionaire; Mr. Tom G. Warren is prominent as Lord Lavender; Mr. Harry Quiningborough as Roberts is responsible for most of the fun; Miss Norra Morra in the title-rôle is vivacious and pleasing; Miss Reydon Dallas acts with spirit as Flo Honeydew; and Miss Kitty Hyde and Miss Blanche Hounsell are charming as the Major's daughters, Maud and Beatrice.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Madame Alice Esty is the star artist here this week. J. W. Rowley gives some amusing patter along with his songs; Walker and May are pleasing singers and dancers; Leslie Bros. give some very fine music on several odd instruments, their performance being punctuated with plentiful fun; James Stewart, clad in picturesque rags, shows great command over the piano and also over the risibility of his audience; Frederick Russell and Lillian Held give a medley of humorous songs and dances; and Emil Solbvig and his automatons are provocative of much hearty laughter. Leonie Dixon is a dainty singer and graceful dancer; Rhoda Paul impersonates young men in a captivating manner; and the Westwoods are expert comedy cyclists.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—A change of programme is given here this week, the boards being occupied by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company in the pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty*. Principal honours in the fun line fall to Mr. Tubby Edlin, who as the Great Unknown has unlimited opportunities of showing his versatile abilities and ably makes use of them. Mr. Willie Black as the Queen, aided by a strong Scotch accent, proves an excellent comedian; and clever business is provided by Mr. Tom Shenton as the King (aided by his clever youngsters), the Three Martinettes in knockabout business, and the Eight Oowana Girls in songs and dances. Miss Lillian Elliott is an attractive Prince Peerless, and sings her songs with dash and style; Miss Ivy Moore is the Princess Beauty, and acts her part well; the cornet playing of John S. Leick and Mabel Keith is one of the most taking items in the pantomime, and was enthusiastically applauded.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—At the head of affairs here is Dave Samuels, the Hebrew comedian. Majilton's company is a guarantee of fun; Austin and Cowan are responsible for a good vocal turn; Maudie Davis is good, and her dancing clever; and another artist whose show touches excellence is Henry Hilton, conjurer. Bains and company have a funny tumbling act; the Ray Hearn Trio are comedy acrobats with excellent qualifications; and Harry Morris, the Lancashire comedian and raconteur, is responsible for a most enjoyable turn. The Palacescope terminates a first-class programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Pantomime reigns here this week, the attraction being Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and Ernest Steven's company in *Cinderella*, after their successful run in Aberdeen. Though condensed to suit two houses, the version is that seen in Glasgow a year ago at the Grand, and proves as enjoyable as ever. Miss Felicia Firmin makes a dainty Cinderella, and is a neat and expert dancer; Miss Agnes Tandy as the Prince speaks her lines well and sings charmingly. The fun is never allowed to flag for one instant with Mr. Alfred Clark as the Baroness, Mr. E. Statham-Staples as Hercules, and Mr. W. Leopold, jun., as Capers. Mr. Harry Ongar is most successful as Dandini, and the two "less attractive" sisters of Cinderella are cleverly played by Misses Ethel Ramsay and Marianne Carozzi. Miss Dollie Hook is excellent as the Duke of Whistbridge, and as the Fairy Miss Dorothy Moulton sings in splendid style. A large and attractive chorus gives animation to the various scenes, and the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers are heartily appreciated.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The leading turn here is Sabino, with his many and varied instruments. Much amusement is caused by Neil Nelson, a Scotch comedian above the average; Lily Almore makes herself a favourite with her catchy songs; Vulcan, the one-legged strong man, gives a capital exhibition of weight-lifting; U. C. Ugo is a clever illusionist; Johnny Quinn in his vocal numbers takes well; and the Bioscope terminates a capital programme.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—*Dick Whittington*, presented by Miss Lena Stanton's company, occupies this theatre. In the title-rôle Miss Lena Stanton is charming, and sings and dances excellently; Little Keeno is a clever boy comedian; the Sisters Holman are clever vocalists and dancers, as are also the Pagoda troupe; Vic Verney is very clever and entertaining with his whistling; and Le Mair and Harrington are a droll comedy couple. The Brothers Hinson and the Zolo troupe of acrobats are two clever turns.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—Verno and Voyce top the list this week, and the bottom of the bill is taken by Randolph King, protean artist. Both do well. The Sivronis, in *Opera Gone Mad*, have a laughable performance; and the Zanfrellas, novelty gymnasts, are a capital turn; Jenny Reeve sings well-known songs; and the Two Jays, comedians, are humorous; Peter Shannon sings coon songs; Bennett and Stirling are clever; Lydia Neilson's Boys and Girls give an entertaining turn; and the Palacescope has some good films.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATR

is good as Philip Christian; Mr. Frank Stone plays well as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. F. Kirkland makes a good Constable Triplightly; Miss V. Malcolm Barrett is excellent as Kate; Miss Lucy Murray charmingly plays Nancy.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—The Markies are topping the bill this week and meeting with great success in their sketch, *The Professor's Studio;* George Norton gives a first-rate act, entitled *The Happy Man;* Weldon and Wynne's comedy juggling act is very popular; Rudge-Whitworth is a clever patter musician; Charlie Jerome's coon songs are much appreciated; and Ned Grayden and Charles Woodward complete a first-rate programme.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Ernest B. Abbott's company opened here on Monday with *Sapho.* Miss Ada Abbott in the title-part handles an exacting rôle very cleverly; Mr. Ernest N. Abbott as Jean Gaussin also proves his capabilities; Mr. Stephen Crossley as Henri Dechelette does well; and as Flamant Mr. Edward Ouston presents a clever character study. The humour of the piece is in the capable hands of Mr. Edwin Keene as Uncle Ceassaire and Mr. Weedon Moss as old Legrand, and they are ably seconded by Miss Ethell Tinsley, most entertaining as Aunt Divonne. *Trilby, Lady Audley's Secret,* and *A Wife's Triumph* are also billed.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is the attraction here. The company includes the Sisters Cora, who appear with charming effect as Dick and Alice; Miss Topsy Johnstone does exceedingly well as the Princess, and Miss Kitty Thomas is popular as Tom; capital amusement is provided by Mr. Sam Thomson as Idle Jack and Mr. George Westland as Fitzwarren's cook; whilst the rôle of the Sultan is ably taken by Mr. J. Mandle Wilson; Mr. Michael Kemble sings well as Bodenta, and Miss Cora Irwin is a bewitching Fairy; Mr. L. C. Young as the Cat is excellent throughout. Entertaining specialities are introduced by Lindsay and Harte, the Four Killarney Girls, and the Celestas Quartette.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The return of *Sherlock Holmes* is a popular booking. It is presented by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company, and Mr. Stewart himself appears as Sherlock Holmes, and gives a capital realisation of the famous detective of fiction; Mr. Charles Brandon is equally good as Professor Moriarty, and draws this grim criminal character in strongly dramatic fashion; Miss A. Bruce-Joy acts with pleasing charm as Alice Faulkner; Mr. Arnold O. Raper gives a vivid representation of James Larrabee; Miss May Beatrice does well as Madge Larrabee; and other important parts are played by Mr. Eric Morden as Doctor Watson, Mr. Ernest Fryer as Forman, Mr. Olly Seymour as Sydney Prince, and Master Thomas Russell as Billy.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The vocal and spectacular specialty *Lucknow,* presented by Mr. George Leyton, is a most interesting and attractive turn, and Mr. Leyton amply sustains his reputation as an actor-vocalist; the Five Cliftons, a troupe of clever acrobats, are making their *début* in England this week, and give a very smart performance; the St. Johns are amusing comedians, and show ability also as dancers and instrumentalists; James Brady is a droll humorist; Jock Mills is a talented Scottish comedian; Elsie Ellis is a dainty comedienne; and the Wellow Glee Singers, a local quartette, give a popular turn.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Babes in the Wood* (J. F. Elliston's company) is at the Royal this week. The pantomime has proved an all-round success. Miss La Belle Morgane as Robin Hood is full of life and go, and sings well; Miss L. Pollard is good as Maid Marion; the Babes are well represented by the Sisters Herbert, who contribute some charming dances; Miss E. Cornish (Little John), Miss D. Ross (Phyllis), Mr. W. H. Howarth (Friar Tuck) are capable; J. S. Woolley and W. Le Brun are humorous as the villains; Ruhart as Slippy, the page, is excellent; Miss Donna Rita is a decided success in the low comedy part of Mary Ellen; the Harvard Sextette are an acquisition; the Lecardo Brothers give an excellent gymnastic display; and the Doreen Girls and the Eight Tiny Tops are excellent dancers.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Reg H. Foster.—Morny Cash, the popular Lancashire comedian, has some new items which bring down the "house"; the Fordyces are repeating their former success here; Arthur Woodville, light comedian and dancer, meets with universal approval; Beatrice Willey is a sweet singer; Bessie Neilson has some good illustrated songs; and H. C. Lovell and company, in *Mam'selle Pom-Pom;* Baker and De Sales, duettists; and Johnny Holland and company, in *The Boatbuilder,* contribute to an enjoyable entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Frank Frayne is a clever juvenile dancer; Les Supriskis are clever and graceful lady gymnasts; Joe O'Gorman meets with a big reception; Irma Lorraine, assisted by Marjah and Mlle. Leoni, have an artistic exhibition of posing and dancing; and Aggie Nolan, the charming comedienne and dancer; Irvie Hayman and company, in *Christmas Eve;* and F. V. Sinclair, the popular comedian, complete a first-class bill.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical Director, Mr. G. Millar.—The Four Royal Scots in their novel musical act are deservedly big favourites here this week; Mr. W. F. Frame, Scotch comedian, is popular; the Avolos give an amazing exhibition of double somersaulting from perpendicular poles; the Sisters Showell, duettists, are extremely popular; the Musical Jees in their act, *The Musical Smithy,* are excellent; Marie Powell, waif impersonator and violoncellist, is clever; and some interesting films on the Bioscope conclude the entertainment.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—This is the last week of *Robinson Crusoe.* On Saturday night Miss Mortimer sang a new song, "When you are married, girls, always wear your Sunday clothes," instead of "Charlie Brown," and she sang it with her customary cleverness and brilliance. Miss Mortimer acts with remarkable intelligence, skill, and effect, and always presents a handsome and dashing presence. She will take away from the Potteries the affectionate admiration of thousands of playgoers of all classes and ages. Mr. Arnold Richardson's Billy Crusoe, with his funny dialogues and his famous "Football" song, will also long be remembered; and Miss Yolande Noble has constantly added to her popularity by her general success as principal girl.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Dan Whitley, eccentric comedian, makes a hit here; Walter Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker* prove very diverting; the McBanns, jugglers, return with their unique show, which is received with great favour; the Simms, dancers and singers, are loudly applauded; Mike Gray, a comic juggler, with his clever dog Dooley, gains loud plaudits; Doran Brothers on the horizontal bars do well; Alma, a comedienne at the piano, is original; and Ryan and Hall are very funny. A film, The Cowboy's Sweetheart, is followed with keen interest.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith. — Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime company is appearing in *Mother Goose.* Mr. Harry Rich's humour and dancing in the title-rôle are excellent, and he keeps the audience in high spirits; Mr. Charles Rich as Jack is excellent; Miss Lola Patey, a big favourite in Harrogate, kept up her reputation; Miss Ethel Hall as Colin did well; Mr. Fred Barnes as Lord Pudsey and Mr. Henri Dore as Wibsey Slack were both good; Miss Vena Velma as Jill danced well; Miss Violet Romaine as the fairy queen, sang "Somewhere" in excellent style. The rest of the characters were in good hands. The production was well dressed and mounted.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—The Cavallere F. Castellano's Italian grand opera company opened a short engagement here on Monday with Verdi's *Il Trovatore,* which gave great pleasure to a large and appreciative audience. *Carmen* was played on Tuesday, and at Wednesday's matinée Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Leoncavallo's *Il Pagliacci* received an artistic rendition; Gounod's *Faust* was played in the evening. Signor Foleo played the title-rôle excellently. He possesses a voice of admirable quality, and won enthusiastic applause; Signora Desio was the Margherita, and her rich voice evoked great admiration from the large audience; Signor Massia, in the character of Mephistopheles, sang and acted admirably; the Valentine of Signor Vail was entirely satisfactory; and in both appearance and voice Signora Rocco was a very pleasing Siebel; Signora Massi as Martha and Signor Quintini as Wagner made up an admirable cast. Signor Wehils directed the largely augmented orchestra, and obtained excellent results. The remainder of the week was filled by Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company in *A Message From Mars.*

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The Pavilion Bioscope exhibits some quite new and original animated pictures; Orville Pitcher is an amusing black face comedian and singer; Wishart contributes a good turn to the bill with his clever and entertaining sleight-of-hand; and the comic effusions of Charles Penrose are thoroughly enjoyed.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company, in *Home, Sweet Home,* is paying a return visit, and met with a very hearty reception on Monday. Owing to Mr. Lindo's indisposition, Mr. Norton Shields undertook the part of Stephen Armitage and achieved a success; Mr. Tom E. Lewis gave a first-rate account of David Amitage; Mr. James Dorey played the Duke of Ancaster to the life; Mr. Leonard Lawrence as the unscrupulous Lucas acted forcibly; Mr. Chas. Olive did full justice to the hare-brained son, the Hon. Percy; Mr. Richard Walsh was a typical specimen of the honest fisher lad, Dick Redmayne; Mr. Harry Belford as the bibulous and vivacious Gaffer scored; Miss Marion Wakeford gave a fascinating and artistic rendering of Joan; Miss Helene Thomson's interpretation of Sybil Fay created roars of laughter; Miss Nellie Benson was an aristocratic Lady Summerton. A special word of praise is due to Little Doris Thomson for her efforts as the child Dora, her enunciation being admirable. A bone solo by Mr. Tom E. Lewis was loudly applauded. Mr. Dene as business-manager looked well after the show.

HOYLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—Yukio Tani, Ju-Jitsu wrestler and champion lightweight catch-as-catch-can wrestler, is appearing to crowded houses, and his bouts are keenly observed; Florence Deighton is a refined ballad vocalist; a clever ventriloquial act is given by Rex Carvell and Annie Dora; East and West, comedy couple, are well received; Alma Doreny, Knoto, Clown Nippo, J. E. Waldow, The Percys, and Jack Calvo are also here. The Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, is a great attraction.

HUDDERSFIELD.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Excellent entertainment is provided by Harry Tate's company in the funny sketch *Motoring;* Miss Cassie Walmer, with humorous skits on the singing of a coon song; Johnny Dwyer, a sound comedian; the Donnas trio of daring trapeze performers; Arthur Lennard, whose finished singing is much appreciated; Damerell and Rutland, a pair of patter comedians of merit; Webb and Edna Branston, singing good-class duets in pleasant style; and Miss Dorma Morgan, a dainty little comedienne with some taking songs. The Palace pictures are also interesting.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Dear Little Denmark* is here. As Ophelia Miss Joan Penrose is quaint and vivacious; Miss Netta Lynde fills the part of Christine with good effect; as the Burgermaster Mr. Tom Redmond, an old favourite, hits the public taste, and Mr. Conway Dixon plays Conrad with striking success.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd., Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Way Out West* is here. As Jack Hamlin, the author has a rôle that fits him well. The Sheriff is appropriately handled by Mr. Harry Bannister, and Mr. Millar Anderson plays the heavy rôle in a thoough-going fashion, as the Chinee, Mr. Wm. Burgess gives a good character study; Miss Alice West plays Helen Masterton with much histrionic skill; and Miss Emmeline Rosselle enacts Miss Arelluisa satisfactorily.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Chairman, Sir H. E. Moss; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—Charles T. Aldrich, with his burlesque juggling, conjuring, and protean changes is a great success here; Will H. Fox gives a clever monologue at the piano; Les Romanis present an instrumental act which is applauded; Barnard's Mannikins are well worked and amusing; Harry Clifford, character comedian, is a favourite; Gus Garrick's impersonations are warmly admired; the Cumberlands are acrobatic cyclists of ability; Goggin and Davis, comic acrobats, create intense amusement.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—The Spanish Goldenis, carpet spinners and electric wonders, are much applauded here; the Zeenas, gymnasts, do extremely well; and the Hyatts, Sadie Sadler, Jack Holland, Joe Humphreys, Walter Aubrey, and Casselle complete an excellent company.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Messrs. Jacobs and Jephson's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is here, the title-rôle being ably sustained by Miss Florrie Curette. Miss Netta Dunville wins much favour as Alice, Miss Millie Seale scores as Captain Cuttle, and Miss Phyllis Eaton as the Fairy is good. Mr. Bobbie Graham (Fitzwarren), Mr Fred Dunville (Idle Jack), and Mr. Dan Jacobs (Sarah, the cook), provide continuous amusement. Messrs. Will Phillips and Will Godfrey find suitable places respectively as the Cat and Rat. The specialities include: The Dunvilles in a clever musical act; the Three Toys, who make a big hit with their novel act, Teddy Bear, Pretty Polly, and Mr. Golliwog; Cyril Jephson, vocalist; Sisters Hibbert, duettists; and Cissie Trent, smart speciality dancer and quick change artist.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime of *Puss in Boots* is being well supported. The company is good all round, the scenery and stage effects excellent. Miss Ruby Emmerson is an engaging Princess, and sings delightfully; as also does Miss Victoria Carmen as Colin; Miss Queenie King sings and dances well as Phyllis; and Miss Nancy Renshaw is an amusing Pomfrey. Miss Louise Love is a graceful fairy; as the Queen Mr. Michael Madden is amusing, and is well supported by Mr. Fred Lyndo in the King's part; Mr. Harry Gilmore is an active and agile Puss; Mr. E. D. Nichols as the Baron, Mr. H. A. Griffiths as Freddy, and the Brothers Hannaway as Rufus and Uriah, and Mr. Wallace Bosco as the Ogre leave nothing lacking in the way of fun. The ballet corps is also extremely good, and the chorus sings well in tune.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Tudor's performing ponies are a favourite turn, their performance being really marvellous; Bella and Bijou have a pleasing and humorous skit on the Suffragette question; Alex. Lukes impersonates well-known characters in a scena, entitled *The Language of History;* Zenany Brothers have a smart acrobatic turn; and Willie Rhodes sings amusing songs. The Gilberts have a novel and clever dancing act; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde's hand shadows of people and animals creates roars of laughter; and the Bioscope concludes an excellent bill.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's *Cinderella* continues to draw crowded houses, and on Saturday afternoon the audience numbered about thirteen hundred. Much of the success of the pantomime is due to the dainty dancing of Miss Ella Wilmer, who gets a very hearty reception at each performance.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Miss Hilda Beverley is presenting her well selected company here in *A Destroyer of Men.* Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh is good as Count Starevitch; Mr. Herbert Pearson ably portrays the characters of Karl Mishla, Herr Kunz, and Uno; Mr. Jas. Jarrett is an excellent Michael Mishla; Miss Hilda Beverley cleverly fulfils the rôle of Olga Mishla, her acting being much admired; Miss May Bremmer is an ideal Vida Ravel. Other parts are well played by Mesdames Dorothy Hildebrande, Elsie Schulto, and Louie Underwood. The play is well staged.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week the popular *The Arcadians* was here on a return visit, and secured great success. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson enlivens the evening by his portrayal of Simplicitas; Mr. Alfred Beers is clever as Peter Doody; as Jack Meadows Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald plays with precision; Mrs. Smith is capably represented by Miss Gertrude Aylward; Miss Gladys May sings sweetly and dances gracefully in the part of Eileen Cavanagh; and Miss Sybil Tancredi shows great ability as Sombra.

LANCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is paying a welcome return visit with *Leah Kleschna,* and is attracting large audiences. Mr. Charles Barrett makes a fine Paul Sylvaine; and in the title-rôle Miss Bessie Rignold early secures the sympathy of her hearers, and achieves a distinct success; Mr. William Clayton still plays the part of Kleschna in a commendable manner; and the Schram of Mr. Graham Pockett is well conceived; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks makes a capital Raoul Berton, Miss Emmie Wallace is a charming Clare Berton, and Mr. Edgar J. Coyne does well as the General; and a sympathetic Madame Berton is Miss Ethel Russell. The staging is all that could be desired.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—An excellent attraction is provided this week by Mr. H. A. Langlois' company, which is appearing to large and appreciative audiences in the Christmas pantomime *Jack the Giant-Killer.* Miss Marie Beresford makes a dashing Jack, and sings very effectively; Miss Tina Langlois is a pretty little Molly; whilst the Princess is charmingly impersonated by Miss Cynthia Lupino. Both are responsible for some excellent songs. Miss Jeannie Allbert is a fascinating Prince Rackett, Miss Marie E. Robertson a vivacious Doris; and Miss Daisy Beresford a dainty Fairy. Mr. George Grenville is excellent as the Widow; whilst others assisting in keeping the ball of fun merrily rolling are Happy Harry Hellis as King Tweedledee, Mr. Tom Ashby as Tweedledum, Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Buttons, and Mr. Bruce Williams as Bobby. Mr. H. A. Langlois gives a very clever impersonation of the Giant, while as the Master Mr George Lupino is also worthy of praise.

LEEDS.—EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley. In addition to Mr. Roxbury's new sketch, which we notice in another column, we have the Renowned Rexos, whose clever skating act meets with appreciation. Mendel's musical abilities win much applause; Harry May Helmsley is a smart child impersonator; and other good turns include Talbot and Pearce, Clown Argo, Carney and Armstrong, Miller Brothers, and Le Beray.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Lafayette is here in modern necromancy; the Croiset Trio appear in a novelty scena, "From the Time of the Crusaders"; Harris Coonie is a coloured dancer of ability; Gibson and Bell are clever in a dancing acrobatic speciality; and the Robertsons are good acrobatic dancers.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Aladdin* is the third of a series of pantomimes appearing here. In the cast are the favourites Robb Wilton and Bob Selvidge. The title-rôle is capitally taken by Miss Bertha Clifton, and Miss Popple Holland sings well.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—*Robinson Crusoe* is a capital production, produced by Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Walters. Miss Flo Carlisle is a smart Crusoe; Mr. Ally M. Benson is funny as the Dame; and Miss Hilda Hewers and Miss Kitty Chester prove effective vocalists. Other favourites include the Tivolo Trio, Walter's ballet troupe of expert dancers, Dytum and Dale, and Tom Lewis.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—General-Business-Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—*Sinbad the Sailor* still remains the attraction here, and is playing to good houses.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—*Alone in London* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Gibbon's company, which includes Miss Nellie Clyde in the part of Nan, which she interprets in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—At the head of this week's programme is Miss Clarice Mayne, a brilliant and versatile lady; at the other end are Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, presenting scenes from Dickens's works, their selections including the meeting of Dick Swiveller and the "Marchioness," Scrooge's transformation in the "Christmas Carol," and the death of poor Jo in "Bleak House," all of which are done in remarkably clever style, Mrs. Lucas as Jo fairly bringing the house down. Carl Lynn, mimic of various animals, makes a hit; the Sistere Caselli are exceedingly smart dancers; Reichen's performing dogs are put through an excellent performance; Fred Keeton is a funny comedian; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins are good in their vocal comedy sketch, *The Piano Tuner;* Spissell Bros. and Mack are clever and humorous acrobats; and the Marsumas, comedians on wheels, do some good tricks. The Bioscope also shows entertaining pictures.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Miss Rose Moncrieff's company is here in *Sinbad the Sailor.* The chief parts are played by Miss Rose Moncrieff (Sinbad), Miss Marie Reynolds (Sadie) Mr. Eddie Noble (Mrs. Sinbad), Mr. Jack Bonny (Vanderdecken), Mr. Will Ewer (Tinbad), Messrs. Leon and May (Daggles and Diggles), Mr. Jimmie James (King Kafoozle), Mr. Cyril Hood (Old Man of the Sea), Miss Violet Bridgeman (Queen Kafoozle), Miss Gloria Lawrence (Fairy Coralie), Mr. Fred Astor (Furioso), and Mr. E. Levano. There are several pretty scenes and many tuneful numbers are introduced. The only other attraction is a couple of fine pictures on the Bioscope, the pantomime being run twice nightly.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison. — The evergreen drama, *The Silver King,* staged here this week by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's touring company, is a most acceptable production. Mr. Fred D. Daviss makes an excellent Wilfrid Denver, and the Nellie Denver of Miss Mildred Surrey is a sympathetic study; Mr. Edward J. George does good service in his old rôle of Daniel Jaikes; the Spider, and his associates, Corket, Coombe, and Cripps, are all well typified by Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, Mr. Ralph Leon, Mr. Arthur Wright, and Mr. Fred May; the parts of Geoffrey Ware and Detective Baxter are carefully handled by Mr. W. Leslie Ellis and Mr. A. Hornby Warburton; Olive Skinner has a capable exponent in Miss Mary Glanbrane; Cissie is nicely played by Miss Hilda Bateman; Miss Mabel Gardener is quite at home as the garrulous Mrs. Gamage; while the oddities of Mr. Parkyn and his village friends, and a couple of rustics, are amusingly sketched by Mr. Percy Storr, Messrs. Binhgam and Hatchway, Miss Margaret Rooke, and Mr. John Randall. The management is to be congratulated on the effective staging of the piece.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery. The attraction here is Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, *Cinderella,* which is receiving much public patronage. Mr. Will Penn is the Baron, a rôle which he plays with a humorous touch; Molly Doon proves a favourite Cinderella; the "sisters" are very amusingly presented by Crosby and Walker; the Carlsons, as the Court Bailiffs, assist with the fun; Miss Vera Mayne is a dashing Prince; Dandini is capitally undertaken by Miss Jeannie Clare; and Miss Pattie Varley fills the rôle of the fairy godmother with every satisfaction. The grand floral and electric ballet is a pleasing feature, and excellent specialities are introduced by the Sisters Varley, the Musical Keiths, Crosby and Walker, and the Carlsons.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg. — Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's popular play, *The King and the Unknown Woman* is doing good business. Mr. Wellesley Draper makes an admirable Prince Loris; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan repeats his particularly good picture of the rascally Prince Menski; Miss Violet Carlyle is seen to great advantage as the persecuted Zora; General Platz is ably handled by Mr. W. R. Winning; Mr. Cyril Harrison does credit to that of Captain Gara; Miss Helen Richmond makes a sweet Else; and rich comedy is provided by Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Corporal Stack and Miss Cissie Podmore (Schnapps).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Pantomime is here again, drawing big crowds. This time it is Mr. Alexander Leighton's *The Babes in the Wood,* which is well put on, having an operatic chorus of fifty voices. Miss Jennie Lynwood makes a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Lilian Jeffries acts sweetly as Maid Marian; Miss Madge Bell looks well as the good fairy; and an immense amount of rollicking fun comes from Messrs. J. W. Hooper (Baron), W. B. Freer (the Page), and Fyne and Hurley (villains). The Misses Elsie Videau and Phyllis Hughes are the Babes; Mr. Harold Godwin is the Demon; and Mr. Alec Godfrey proves a humorous schoolmistress. Specialities are contributed by Miss Jennie Lynwood, Fyne and Hurley, and the Asturias Troupe of National dancers. Miss Millie Gordon is première danseuse.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Van Biene is here with his new sketch, *Van Biene's Baby,* in which the actor-musician, Miss F. Faversham, and Mr. J. Hartley take part. The little play is received with commendation. O Hana San and company present a beautiful Oriental scena, *A Vision of Japan,* into which are introduced well-executed dances; Tom and Marie Motramo delight everybody with their novel musical comedy work; Fred Earle, for his latest songs, is given a flattering reception; as comedy acrobats and tumblers the three Van Dammes would be hard to beat; Giovanni Wals, termed "the Spanish Caruso," renders several numbers in admirable style; Bert Errol, with the phenomenal voice, merits the good reception which is accorded to hm; Les Bollingers present a novel rag-painting act; the Royal Delomes please generally with their smart clog dancing and singing; and Hal Hughman gives some clever imitations of a farmyard collection, &c.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill this week are the Ten Loonies with their screamingly funny sketch, *Dotty;* Cliff Ryland keeps his audience in the best of humours with his droll songs and sayings; the Four Panamas have a very laughable pantomimical speciality, *The Delineator;* Lennard and Vereker please greatly with their pictorial songs; the Devonshaws bring a neat musical comedy duologue, *A Sailor's Wife;* Lillie Le Breton is a lady gymnast of ability and grace; the Alskarno Troupe of Risley comedians are a capital turn; and Ethel Douna is a neat comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Heading the programme is the animal pantomime given by Barnold's dogs and monkeys, whose antics provoke great laughter; a smart vaudeville turn is gone through by Mooney and Holbein; Fred St. Onge and company have a merry sketch, *The Whimsical Wheelman,* which causes roars of laughter; some particularly expert juggling is shown by F. Mozzetto; the Ted Moxon trio of acrobatic eccentrics afford a deal of pleasure; Mr. C sings and talks as smartly as ever; *The Lady Jockey* proves a bright little trifle, presented by Miss Teddy Edmond's company, including Mr. Jimmy Rous; Bessie Mackenzie, the Scotch fisher girl vocalist, has a cordial reception for her popular songs; a pleasing vocal and dancing act comes from the Six White Boys; Clare and Pastor provide a good turn as comedy instrumental and speciality artists; and Maud Courtney, comedienne, also appears.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Priest of the Temple* is being played here by the Royal stock dramatic company, the principal parts being ably undertaken by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Valerius), Sydney Grant (Fronto), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Polita), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Praestantia). Mr. Anthony Brown's bioscope shows What's Your Hurry?

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—A pretty and imposing military spectacle, entitled *Our Empire's Defenders,* presented by Wallace Selkirk, is foremost here. There are a hundred local children concerned in the sketch, which meets with general approval. The Nine Kremos are excellent Risley acrobats, and give an exhibition which is really delightful to witness; O'Gust pleases everybody with his remarkable imitations of sounds; Sebastian Merrill and company have an amusing cycle act, which affords great satisfaction; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged dancer, is appreciated; an artistic and clever instrumental performance is provided by the Miles-Stavordale quintet; Maude and Sydney Wood, duettists and dancers, earn a shower of applause; Tom Bryce submits a neat musical comedy sketch, entitled *A Dude's Wedding;* and J. C. Scatter shows himself to be a very funny comedian.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The big attraction here this week is Tiller's *Red Riding Hood* pantomime, which is being greatly patronised. Miss May Merry pleases in the title-rôle; the Prince is ably handled by Miss Lulu Russel, who earns much popularity; and a deal of capital fun is provided by Fred Danvers (the Ugly Daughter), Douglas Hayes (Boniface), Phil Hayes (the Ostler), Mario Brian (Waitress), Sam Mitchello (Hotel Proprietor), George Matfey (a Waiter), and Charles Verno (Trotters). The Lotus troupe of dancers, the Bros. Hayes, and the Mascotte troupe of children introduce some clever specialities.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week we have the first visit of Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland.* Miss Gertrude Melville in the title-rôle is extremely bright and vivacious; as Mina Miss Cissie Sephton scores in an unmistakable manner, her singing and dancing delighting all; Mr. Edmund Russell's humour as Mr. Hook is irresistible; Mr. Arthur Ballance is excellent as the Bandmaster; Mr. Mansey makes an imposing Captain Adrian; and as Ludwick Schnapps Mr. George Mudie, jun., merits warm praise; Mr. Fred Dark is an amusing Simon Slink.

MAESTEG.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company (South) occupied the boards. On Monday night *The Merchant of Venice* was performed before a full house. Mr. Chas. Warburton was praiseworthy in the title-rôle; Mr. Basil Osborne did full justice to the part of Prince of Morocco; Mr. Baliol Holloway's portrayal of Shylock won for him great applause; Miss Emil Leslie made a capital Portia; Miss Marjorie Palgrave was very praiseworthy as Jessica; and Miss Constance E. Bromley was good as Nerissa.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, The Town Clerk.—Miss Inez Howard's *The Princess and the Beggar Maid* company deserve a good word for their excellent playing on Monday. Prince Hildred is well represented by Mr. Alfred Brandon; Mr. Percy Morton-Wright shows ability in the exacting rôle of Prince Michael, and Mr. Chas. A. Baker is a capital Olaf; Mr. J. Desmond Brannigan and Mr. Lawrence Grove fill well the rôles of Captain Hector and Lieut. Stromberg; Nathan, the Bishop, and Colonel Wellenberg are adequately represented by Messrs. J. Percival Jordan, W. H. Baker, and Theodore Kelly; as Monica Miss Ethel Savill plays with much success; Miss Gladys Moss-Wright is bright as Viola and Miss Nancy York winning as Camiola. The scenery, uniforms, and dresses are particularly good.

MANCHESTER.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—The Christmas production of *Much Ado About Nothing* still holds the stage here, and is being deservedly well patronised. No more beautifully staged achievement need be imagined or desired, while the cast is for the most part well disposed and nicely balanced. Admitting the high quality of the acting all round, it is no injustice to any to add that the Dogberry of Mr. Charles Bibby is the best thing of the evening and is worth going a long way to see.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's play *His Real Wife* is the attraction here.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Still entertaining local audiences, Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company are here this week in their attractive drama, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid.*

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime of *Cinderella* is the attraction here. It is very prettily done; the scenery and dresses are fine, and the electrical silver carriage of Cinderella is a notable feature. Miss Kittie Avey and Miss Edie May are Cinders and the Prince respectively, and Miss Lily Ennis is well placed as Dandini; while much humour is infused by the efforts of the Lisando Brothers, and Messrs. Leslie Hawkins, Harry Bliss, W. G. Wesley, and Harry Huttin. The chorus and ballet add to the effect.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W Meek.—This week we have here Miss Edith St. Clare's successful pantomime *Aladdin.*

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A fine programme here is headed by Reano's Band, whose performance is enthusiastically received; while Cruikshank, "the fool of the family," easily and admirably justifies his prominent position on the bill; plenty of boisterous and eccentric fun is added by the Casey Army; Herbert Shelley is seen once more in his clever Irish protean drama; the Kramers give their amusing comedy act, *Flip Jack Sal;* and Hinton and Wootton create great interest in their football match on cycles; other good turns being the Smythsons, in a comedy act; Andy McLeod, a smart comedy raconteur and instrumentalist; and Ethel Bourne, in illustrated songs.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—A very enjoyable programme here this week is topped by Huntley Wright and a good company in *The Little Father of the Wilderness,* a picturesque and effective drama. Miss Marquis and her trained ponies are also a prominent turn, which is much enjoyed; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is entertaining; Keen and Waller give a smart and funny acrobatic turn; Aimee Parkerson, contralto, sings well; Alfred H. West contributes a musicianly and engaging act; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists are as daring and expert as ever; much interest and enj

Garrod and company, with *A Country Girl in London*, is attracting good houses. The principal rôle is filled in praiseworthy style by Miss Bertha Kingston, and as Gwendoline Gordon Miss Ethel Crawford is very successful. Mr. Garrod's portrayal of Frank Gordon is admirable, and the other characters are in able hands.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—The chief attraction here is Arthur Roberts and company, in a most amusing sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Other turns are supplied by De Wynne Brothers, in a capital athletic performance; Wal Croft and Miss Kathleen Naughton, in *The Last Roll Call*; Fayre and Foray, comedians and dancers; Carta and Mirtziana, speciality artists; Leigh Leicester, comedian; Miss Elsie Jerome, a pleasing comedienne who promises well; and the Empire pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—The Sisters Parker, duettists and dancers, provide a welcome turn, and a number of capital pictures are shown at the Hippodrome.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—The programme includes Douglas and Gordon, duettists and dancers; Jack Crew, comedian; "Shrilla," whistler; Lily Ardeer and Amy Allnutt, comediennes and dancers, who, together with the pictures, are much appreciated.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are here with *For Love and the King*. As Gerald Meredith Mr. C. Watson Mill is really admirable; the villainous Obrenovics have exceptionally excellent exponents in Messrs. Alfred Maurice and Fred. G. Webb; Mr. Stanley Weston cuts a pathetic figure as the King; Usos finding a suitable exponent in Mr. Jack Litchfield; Natila, as played by Miss Joan Ellis, is sweet and unaffected; Miss Marie Danvers Smith being bright and vivacious as Grazia; Edith Meredith has an excellent exponent in Miss Rosalind Tate; as Duke Fernand, Mr. Geoffery Chate is worthy of special mention.

NEATH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson, J.J.M.A.—*The Shadow of a Crime*, the great sensational drama, was well staged on Monday. Mr. Philip Perry as Jim Murdock is everything than can be desired; Mr. Percy Barnett gives a capable representation of Sir Edward Bullington; Mr. Leonard Wallace is a good Harry Bullington; Mr. Evan Gibbon a satisfactory Ralph Esmonds; and most amusing are Mr. Leo Main and Mr. Robt. Johnson as Samuel Brown and Jim Todd. Mrs. Brown is played with distinction by Miss Gertrude Mitchell; Miss Sophie Campbell as Loyale Esmond acts capably; Miss Amy Henley renders a good account of herself as Dora Bullington; and the Sarah Murdock of Miss Gussie Johnson causes roars of laughter.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Sahib Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir and wonder-worker, heads the bill in a series of mysteries and illusions, his performance including some astonishing trick transformations; the Albas, in a clever tight wire act introduces a sensational head slide from the dress circle to the stage; Leo and Loland are among the best equilibrists seen in the district; Ernest Montefiore and company present an incident of the late South African war, entitled *The Little Colonel;* whilst the programme also includes Wm. Barker, champion jumper; and Cœur de Lion, sleight-of-hand and paper manipulator; the Frohmans, in a pleasing musical entertainment, and Roland Brooks, Lancashire collier tenor vocalist.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner.—For the second week in succession pantomime is the attraction here, and capital houses have witnessed the production of *The Fair One with the Golden Locks*. The entertainment is bright, amusing, and well staged, the singing throughout being much above the average. In the title-rôle Miss Madge Brownie is very charming, her dancing and singing being very pleasing. One of her best contributions is "How d'ye do my baby?" Vinaigre, Queen of Fabulosa, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Jas. Chippendale; Mr. Will Letters makes a good Prince Pippin; Taradiddle, his tutor, is admirably treated by Mr. Johnny Leoni; and Mr. Chas. Calvert and Mr. Geo. Hudson as General Slopoff and Admiral Sinker respectively keep the audience in constant merriment. Miss Esme Gordon is a spirited Avenant, whilst as Sauciboy Mr. Victor W. Crawford is an eminent success; Miss Stella Well is a charming exponent of the character of Mizere, and contributes capably to the musical portion of the pantomime, as does Miss Lily Allchurch, the Fairy, who charmingly represents a water lily. Some capital local and topical hits are introduced, and speciality dances are given by the Mayfair Girls. The pantomime is produced on a gorgeous scale.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—A good programme is presented here, Mr. Frank Elliston and company heading the bill with the charming sketch, *My Lady Betty*. Mr. Arthur Croxon, a good mimic; Messrs. Frisk and Johnson, clever dancers; Miss F. Conoily, a delightful vocalist; Mr. J. F. Barrie, smart Scotchman; Stave, funny eccentric turn; Chirrup, boy whistler and bird mimic, are all first-rate in their respective items, and win loud applause.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—After a month's successful run *Cinderella* shows no signs of diminishing popularity, and capital houses are the rule at each performance. The comedy business of Messrs. Alexandre and Hughes, Johnnie Schofield, and Harry Brayne is well maintained; whilst the graceful dancing of the Eight Sunflowers adds to the enjoyment of a splendid entertainment.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A big welcome is being given here this week to Sir Herbert Tree's company in *Pinkie and the Fairies*. Miss Iris Hawkins in the part of Pinkie is a distinct success; Master Philip Tonge is admirable as Tommy; Miss Florrie Lewis makes a dainty and dignified Fairy Queen; and Master Charles Hampden as the Herald is decidedly good. Mr. Ambrose Manning as Uncle Gregory provides plenty of merriment; Mr. Walter R. Greighton's performance as a Teddy Bear meets with a capital reception; Miss. Kate Forster and Miss Augusta Haviland as the aunts are humorous; and Miss Hilda Antony is a charming Molly.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*Sunday*, presented by Mr. Louis Calvert's company, is proving a great attraction here. Miss Janet Lind as Sunday played the character to perfection: Mr. Richard F. Symonds, Mr. L. St. G. Lowther, Mr. James Hussey, and Mr. George Marriot, jun. as the Boys caused no end of amusement; Mr. Pennington Gush in the character of Colonel Brinthorpe is also clever; Mr. Richard Trieve as Tom Oxley gives a notable performance; Mrs. H. Graham Edwins makes a dignified and impressive Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Jessie Stone does well as the Nun.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Large audences continue to gather at this popular house to witness *Little Bo Peep*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—A most pleasing and entertaining programme is this week headed by the Elliott Savonas in their musical act *The Palace of Orpheus*, in which they perform brilliantly on many instruments. The act is beautifully and elaborately set, and was received with the warmest appreciation. Miss Juliette introduced her trained sea lions, which perform a series of remarkable feats. In the matter of weight-lifting by the teeth the Four Regals are an astonishing troupe; and the juggling of Francis and Alfred is exceptionally smart, enlivened by much humorous by-play. Mr. Sydney James's Strolling Players sing harmoniously, and provide a pleasing entertainment; Harold Nuttall's company, including Mr. Martyn Roland, a talented actor, present a sketch entitled *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*; and another smart turn is that of the Brennans in a dancing display. Annie Purcell sings some charming melodies: and other capital items are provided by Dot Hardy and Dion Wade, the Bioscope concluding.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*Red Riding Hood* occupies the boards here for six nights, and is proving attractive. The singing is good and the costumes are exceedingly pretty. Mr. E. W. Avery's Dame Mary Trott could not be improved upon; while the Baron Badlot of Mr. J. Templer Ellis is as clever as it is amusing; Miss Mabel Lamont makes a pretty Red Riding Hood; as Boy Blue Miss Madge Campbell is decidedly effective; and Miss Beatrice Varley as Prince Charming, who has the most successful song of the evening, gives an excellent performance. Other members of the cast deserving of praise are Miss Gertrude Branscombe (Miss Muffitt), Miss Marie Dowsing (Majorie Daw), Miss Ethel May (Tom Tucker), Mr. Dan Seymour (Simple Simon), and Mr. Frank Strathan (Johnny Green), Mr. Joe Clarke (Jimmy Stout), and the Bros. Macluskey (Donkey and Poodle). Miss Emily Lindon's troupe of child dancers did well, and the Apache dance of Mr. Dan Seymour and Miss Marie Dowsing received well-merited recognition.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant, Mr. Wild.—The Grotesques, a clever band of instrumentalists and vocalists, head the bill in a distinctly novel entertainment; in pyramid-building, the Abdullah Arabs win admiration; the Northern Troupe of International Speciality dancers are applauded; and the Elite Harmony Boys, in a high-class vocal act, are accorded a flattering reception; Spry and Monti keep the house in good humour; Florence Esdaile makes good use of a nicely-trained soprano voice; and Harry Grey, the popular comedian, gives some typically humorous selections; while Olive Armidale pleases in her song, which she sings with expression. The Bioscope, showing a tragic episode, The Mill, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeill, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould; Musical-Director, Mr. W. Ashton.—*Only an Israelite* is the title of the episode which heads the bill this week, ably presented by H. G. Brandon and company; Agnes Molteno, assisted by a gentleman and a young lady, is responsible for a charming conception, *A Dolly and a Coach*; the Carlo and Maie Trio give an excellent and varied performance on the wire, &c.; the Michel Brothers are clever head and hand balancers; Lena Pinaud is a comedienne and dancer of ability; the Lindos are a dainty duo; Tom Colbert is an expert club and hoop performer; and comical Walker is also in the bill.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. R. C. Buchanan's pantomime, *Aladdin* (written by Mr. Stanley Rogers) has been greatly enjoyed by large audiences. The book is very amusing, the scenery and dresses pretty, and the company responsible for the production a strong one. Miss Mabel Hind makes a capital principal boy, and Miss Lily Lonsdale is all that could be desired as the Princess, her excellent singing being a special feature of her performance. Mr. J. G. Aitken as the Grand Vizier is an established favourite; Mr. Tom Carrick as Widow Twankay creates much hearty laughter; Mr. Ernie Myers is decidedly clever as Abanazar; and the Brothers Fiman as Bo Bi and Bo Ko are successful funmakers. The Three Warners, in their whirlwind and speciality dances, make a great hit.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Heading the bill here are Alfred Graham's Premier Juveniles, whose scena, *A Concert on the Lawn*, has been much enjoyed by large audiences; Jack Henri, the popular Scotch character comedian, is accorded a flattering reception; the Three Burkes in their gymnastic act perform some very clever feats which gain them loud applause; and Tom Hayes, comedian, and Wills and Worlock,, speciality artists, and the pictures all meet with appreciation.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Fred Granville's company, in the pantomime *Aladdin*, by Mr. Joseph L. Barry, is here this week. Miss Beatrice Harris as the Princess is pleasing in acting, singing, and dancing; Miss Amy Bellwood deserves every praise as Aladdin; Mr. Bert Harrow is a humorous Abanazar; Mr. Happy Allwood creates a deal of fun as the Widow Twankey; and Bernard and Weston as Boose and Wrong 'Un are good.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A choice programme is headed by Madame Ada Mansel and her clever juveniles, in their comedy speciality, entitled *A Concert Rehearsal;* Miss Peggy Lennie and Mr. Walter Hast, with the assistance of Mr. David Urquhart, present with very great success a musical idyll, entitled *The Maid of Polaria*, which is heartily appreciated and loudly applauded; the Three Brothers Huxter are very good in an acrobatic turn, entitled "Languid Energy"; L. W. Harris proves himself a versatile comedian of good class; Bi-Bo-Bi is very clever on his novel instruments, more especially on the sleighbells; Herbert La Martine is a skilful dancer; Ella B.air and her Bowery Boys are heartily applauded for their singing and dancing; while the Haverleys, as American song illustrators, are very successful. The Hippodrome Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Jack and Jill* is rapidly approaching its final nights, but the enthusiasm does not abate one jot, and everything points to a record success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—The last week of *Mother Goose* has been reached, and the manager of the theatre, Mr. Harry Upton, is to be congratulated on the strong attraction he has provided for his patrons. Brightness and fun have predominated throughout.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert C. Duncan.—An interesting performance is submitted by Miss Amelia Bingham, American actress, who displays dramatic force in excerpts from well-known plays; the versatility of the Bensons is well shown; Loyal's trained dogs earn a deservedly good reception; Vaughan and Lawson's company gives a clever rendering of the sketch, *Bosun's Mate;* Paul Barnes "patters" himself into favour; and the great Vincent is seen in a smart acrobatic act. Other items are given by Tom Lloyd, comedian; Charles Santon, vocalist; Jewel St. Leger, vocalist; and the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—*A Society Woman* is being well played by Alan Holt and company; the comicalities of Austin Rudd are a source of endless amusement; Mme. Roma's six juggling girls give an excellent display with Indian clubs; a novelty is introduced by Valvero, with his naval pictures; eccentric dancing by Ritter and Foster, the Gallimore Trio of comedy artists, Alf. Mendies, a musical burglar, Dave Carter, vocalist, Radie Stuart, vocalist, and the Bioscope are also included in the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company is presenting *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Wilson Coleman gives a powerful rendering of the villainous Felix Beverley; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt does well as Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. John S. Millward handles the character of the heroic Jack Stirling with marked effect; Mr. Cyril Grier ably portrays Colonel Miles; Miss Amy Ellan secures much applause by her fine acting in the rôle of Mary; Miss Kathleen Magee successfully fills the unthankful part of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; Mr. Percy Brown as Thomas, and Mr. Will Glaze as Charles, cleverly manage the lighter interludes of the play; Miss Minnie Goepel is attractive as Sweet Nancy; and Mr. Harland Brooks makes the most of his opportunity as Detective Banks.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—Mr. Martin Harvey on Monday made his first appearance here, and had a hearty reception in the part of Lieut. Beresby (the Rat) in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Miss N. de Silva also was the recipient of much applause in the character of Batty. Mr. Charles Glenny acts cleverly as the traitorous Colonel Hungerford; Mr. Philip Hewland as Viscount Dorsington does justice to the part; Mr. Owen Roughwood as Sir Henry is excellent, and Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Colonel Bagshaw, is a bluff old warrior. Mr. Leonard Craske as the impetuous Hon. Francis Tresham gains much applause; Captain Stanhope is well acted by Mr. Edward Combermere; and Miss Brenda Gibson as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford acts capitally; Misses Bessie Elder and Sybil Walsh are equally good in their respective parts. Mr. Harvey responded to repeated calls for a speech in a few well-chosen words at the close.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*From Convent to Throne* is staged here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Miss Mary Fulton as the Princess makes herself a favourite; Mr. Graham Woods is a manly Lieut. Ernest; Lieut. Otto being well acted by Mr. T. G. Vane. Mr. A. F. Stuart as the Prince of Carpathia acts well, and the scheming Baron Strelson lacks nothing in the hands of Mr. Wm. J. Miller; Mr. Wm. Passmore as General von Hapsburg gains hearty applause.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*Little Phil's Mother* is being played here by Mr. Frank M. Thorne and company. Mr. Percy Ballard portrays the hero Frank Towers in a convincing manner; Mr. Thorne in the character of Sam Perkels introduces capital comedy, being ably assisted by Miss Leslie Warner as Julia Woorilove; Miss Maud Russell acts sympathetically as Ruth Towers, and Miss Violet Cranford as Elspeth is forcible; little Gertie Renaud is clever as Phil.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Gwennie Llewellyn is a charming vocalist; the Garricks are a smart set of society entertainers; Thora again demonstrates his powers as a ventriloquist; the Whittington Trio are a smart acrobatic comedy troupe; and Kitty Wager scores in her singing Fred Poplar, Ajax and George, Geo. Young, the blind musician, and Tony Black, Scotch comedian and dancer, are other turns.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—*The Little Damozel* drew a full and highly appreciative house on Monday. Miss Ida Molesworth scored a distinct success in the title-rôle, her powerful acting having ample scope in the many trying situations; Miss Roxy Barton was admirably suited as Sybil Craven; Mr. Mark Blow contributed a capital character sketch as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. Frank Lacy played Recklaw Poole in a powerful, natural manner that was very effective; Mr. G. A. Brandram was an admirable Captain Partington; Mr. Townsend Whitling as Walter Angel hit off the character to perfection; and the parts of Papa Bartholdy, Franz, and Abraham were capably filled by Messrs. Julian Cross, W. J. Stack, and E. L. Hocking. The last three nights of this week the ever-popular play, *The Flag Lieutenant*, is paying a welcome return visit.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is paying a return visit with *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. Herbert Bentone is a robust Stephen Barry, and is a general favourite; Mr. J. D. Clyde portrays Harry Thorne with great power; Mr. Bert Oates makes an impressive villain as Richard Martin; and Mr. Wybert Clive is highly successful as Sir Henry Thorne. Mr. Tom Armitage is amusing as Joe Bushell; Miss Freda Beckett is full of life as Nancy Bray; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd is effectively dignified as Grace Redburn; and Miss Gertrude Morella is quite naturally charming as Ruth.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company in *When Other Lips*. Mr. Juan D'Alberti plays effectively the rôle of Basil Cunningham, and Ruth Lingley is admirably and pathetically sustained by Miss Marie Daventry. Mr. John Davidson makes a manly Ted Daunton; as Phylocrates Jenkins Mr. T. Arthur Jones performs excellently; a humorous presentment of Tommy Needles is submitted by Mr. Charles Preece; a capital character study of Duddle Topwash is given by Mr. F. Thorpe Tracy; and other characters are well portrayed by Messrs. Arthur Prescott, A. H. Clarke, A. A. Felton, Robert Dore, and James Keppell. Miss Florence M. Millett gives a powerful impersonation of Octavia; a vivacious rendering of Kitty is furnished by Miss May Neilson; and as Nancy Miss Emily Wilson is capital.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Leading the bill here are Hayman and Franklin in a very funny entertainment; Sandy McNab and company create plenty of mirth in the sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy;* Ella Deane scores as a comedienne and male impersonator; a capital entertainment is furnished by Hampton and Bauman, coloured artists; as a rifle shot Winona gives a smart and skilful exhibition; McIntosh and Royal are applauded for their artistic dancing; the Three Pirmans submit a clever pantomimic gymnastic act; Gicardo displays expert juggling abilities; and the Hippodrome Bioscope has capital pictures.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. Stone. — An excellent bill of fare is attracting large audiences. Topping the programme are the Five Royal Minstrels, including Bob White, Fred McLean, and Dan O'Conor, who are deservedly applauded. The sensational feats of the Three Sisters Urma, gymnasts, are much appreciated; Sam Williams in his comedy numbers is well received; Gus Hindrell in his vocal scena *Boys Will Be Boys* is also a good turn. A fine series of up-to-date pictures concludes.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—On Monday Mr. Savile presented his tenth Perth pantomime—*Robinson Crusoe*—which scored an immediate success. There is an abundance of fun, and the pantomime is particularly strong in singing, the operatic finale of the first part being uncommonly well sung. Miss Daisie Morrell is again principal boy, and has had a great reception; Miss Maude is a bright Polly Perkins, and sang and danced herself into great favour; Miss Dorothy Harris is a charming Princess Pittising and Miss Phyllis Grey sings delightfully as the Fairy Queen; Miss Margaret Webster is a handsome Spirit of the Storm, and her attendant spirit, the Voice of the Storm, is Mr. Lewis Morgan, who has a fine baritone voice; the comedians—Mr. Harry Farrow, Mr. Tatten Hall, Mr. Dan Maxwell, Mr. Tom O'Neill, and Mr. Harry Arnold—work together with splendid effect; and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers add greatly to the gaiety of several scenes. Mr. Bert Stephens conducts the augmented orchestra with Miss Lucy Wilson at the piano.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.— Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mlle. Ghita Corri, in her song-scena *Character Types*, is the chief turn here, and is highly appreciated; Alf Maynall is a clever comedian; Percy Maye submits capital imitations; Arthur Rose, descriptive vocalist, is well received; Dolly Goldin is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and the Karnoscope is interesting.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—As evidence of the popularity of *Robinson Crusoe* it has been decided to extend the run to seven weeks instead of terminating at the end of the sixth week as originally contemplated.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Leipzig, a conjuror without apparatus, forms the chief attraction here; Fritz von Lisson entertains with realistic animal and bird imitations; Mlle. Jina performs graceful evolutions on the trapeze; the Mexican Lasso Wonders provide a novel and attractive entertainment; Miss Ray Raymond has some tuneful songs; and Maisie Dene performs some pretty dances. The other turns are contributed by Miss Alice Cheshire and company in a sketch entitled *Wanted, a Wife*, and the Cormon Juveniles.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard. — Mr. Wm. Greet's company presents *The Sign of the Cross* here to crowded houses. Dresses and scenery are beautiful, and the acting throughout creditable. Marcus, as played by Mr. W. Lawson, leaves little room for improvement, and the grace of Miss Constance Little's Mercia charms the audience. Mr. W. Mayne Lynton is an excellent Nero; Mr. Chas. Aldred's Tigelinus and Mr. J. Weatherald's Licinius are both capital; Glabrio is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Wood; and Mr. Harry Jones is a good Philodemus. Messrs. H. Thurston Harris and Martin Palmer ably portray Servilius and Strabo. Mr. Harry Raymond is good as Virturius. Poppæa is charmingly played by Miss Beryl Hamilton; Miss Dorothy Lart is good as Berenice; and Miss Esme Lee acts cleverly as Dacia. Miss Mary Newcombe is a capital Ancaria; Miss Winifred Delevanti receives a hearty reception as Stephanus.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—A special attraction here is the famous Pichel troupe of Risley acrobats and tumblers, who are exceedingly smart; Nat Knight is an inimitable light comedian; Terry and Bentley are a smart pair of simultaneous dancers; and the Beautiful Lilian, an intrepid cyclist, has an excellent reception. Petro and Leon are successful as comedy gymnasts. Tommy Clifford is a capital ventriloquist; and Albert St. Clair is a first-class double-voiced vocalist. La Belle Lumiero, a beautiful and charming actress, presents a sensational act and a dance of the Human Butterfly. The Palascope, as usual has excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH. — PRINCE'S. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Luck of Roaring Camp* is being presented here for the first time by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. This vigorous and exciting drama is much appreciated. Miss Elizabeth Dundas as Nell Curtis makes a charming heroine; Will Gordon is admirably portrayed by Mr. Douglas Murray; Tom Barnes, the villain, is realistically rendered by Mr. Charles E. Johnson; and Miss Doris Gillham as Jovita de Sutro is excellent.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The chief attraction this week is the visit of Charles Baron with his highly-trained dogs disguised as wild animals in a menagerie. Another feature of his performance is his remarkable racing cats; the Tourbillons are clever trick cyclists; T. E. Ford quite sustains his right to the title of "the untiring whirlwind dancer"; Surrie Lindon's Vaudevilles are seen to advantage in a miniature musical comedy entitled *Monks at Play;* the Five Musical Tritons present a spectacular musical scena. A strong programme includes Frank Jester, comedian; Crissie Cross, comedienne; Vowles and Bryan; and Payne's Bio-photoscope.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Aiban Newton.—The annual visit of the Moody-Manners Opera Co. is an event eagerly looked forward to by the music-loving public of Preston. The company opened on Monday with Gounod's opera *Faust*. Mr. John Child in the title-rôle gave a most artistic interpretation of the character, and, in spite of a slight cold, rendered his numbers in admirable style. Madame Beatrice la Palme, the Marguerite, possesses a voice of most excellent quality, and displayed fine emotion in her rendition. Mr. William Anderson as Mephistopheles imparted the necessary amount of satirical humour into the part, and his fine bass voice was heard to great advantage. Mr. Graham Marr as Valentine was dramatic, and his powerful baritone was much appreciated. Miss Olive Westwood as Siebel met with unstinted applause, and was recalled for her rendering "When all was young." Miss M. Dennis was a most successful Martha, and Mr. H. Mann equally good as Wagner. The choruses, which were augmented by the Preston Grand Opera Society, were magnificent, and the Soldiers' Chorus had to be repeated. *Carmen, Tannhauser, Samson and Delilah, Il Trovatore*, and *Maritana* are also billed.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Miss Ethel van Praagh and J. Edward Whittly's company in *The Eyes of the World* is the attraction here. Mr. E. Whittly is an excellent Achille Fanfarade; Mr. Chas. O'Connor has an unenviable character to portray as Hector de l'Orme, but is fully successful; Mr. Will Casey is admirably cast for Gaston de Carnac; and Mr. Wilson Wynne is highly successful as his son Octave. Mr. R. Wilton Bedford makes a capital Paul Roqueville; Miss Flora Hastings displays much power as Mme. Esmé de Carnac; Miss Nellie Garside is a vivacious Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure; Miss Elsie Capell is a delightful Avice; Miss Beatrice Hulmet an excellent Antoinette; and Miss Ethel van Praagh in the arduous rôle of Helene de l'Orme succeeds in carrying all before her. Dresses and accessories are exceedingly good.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—A most sensational act is presented by Tom Grave in Whizzing the Wheel and Shooting the Bar in a motor-car travelling at the rate of seventy miles an hour; Billy Williams is a favourite; the Sages (Will and Jenny), comedy burlesque artists, are a good turn, and their duets, both vocal and dancing, go well; Baby Myrtle Grove is a talented juvenile vocalist and dancer; the Lovelaces, American song illustrators, contribute some catchy refrains; Tod Lowen, in "Old Melodies with New Words" is decidedly funny and original; the Sarchoff Troupe of Russian Dancers is a wonderfully good turn; the Days, in mental telepathy, succeed in thoroughly mystifying the audience. A capital film, Dove Eyes Gratitude, is shown on the Bioscope.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.—Mr. William Pardoe's latest pantomime production *Dick Whittington* is presented to enthusiastic audiences and it proves most entertaining. Miss Lottie Holland is excellent in the principal rôle, and her songs are delightfully sung, the most notable being the one in which she introduces her juvenile troupe. Miss Nellie Rose as Alice proves a fascinating and talented artist, and Miss Cissy Loveday as Fairy Bowbelle is most successful, singing several musical turns in a charming manner. Miss Rose Finettie makes a capital Lord Dedbroke; the Misses Elsie Kedward and Beattie Howard as the Princess and Khan Tellum are captivating; Mr. George Hyam as Idle Jack is clever and amusing; Mr. Alfred Grady as Jim is an excellent comedian; Mr. Will Robb is a successful Capt. Binnacle; Mr. Joe Venora is a capital Emperor; and Mr. Tom Hulme most capable as Alderman Fitzwarren. As Sarah Cook Mr. Jimmy Wood is very clever; Mons. Pauli as the Cat is excellent; and Mr. Tom Griffiths as King Rat contributes some exceedingly well-rendered songs. The specialities include the Victor Bros. (acrobats and balancers), the Edengale Trio of Continental dancers (an excellent turn), and Pauletti (acrobatic cyclist).

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Mr. Andie Caine's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, is being played here on the two-shows nightly principle. The Babes are capitally represented by the Misses Dorothy Elliott and Mabel Lucina; Miss Alice Digby makes a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Dolly McCalla is equally "fetching" as Will Scarlett; Miss Lily Brammer is charming as Maid Marion; and Miss Hawthorne Thwaites is a pleasing Fairy Luna, both artists being also good vocalists. Miss Madge McCalla acts with much *chic* and vivacity as Margery Daw, a village coquette, and joins her sister in some graceful dancing; Mr. Andie Caine makes a great success of the part of Dame Anne Chovy; Mr. Wal Kent is amusing as the Wicked Uncle; Miss Maud Whittaker is an attractive Allan-a-Dale; Mr. Bert Albert makes a good Friar Tuck; Mr. Jimmy McGrath is very droll as the Village Postman; and Messrs. Coda and Danton are highly diverting as Bill Busy and Walley Weary. The Frivols Sextette of dancers are well received.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—Carter Livesay and Lilian Rosebery appear with success in their skit entitled *Would-Be Actors*, which creates roars of laughter; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy, gives a smart turn; the Dick and Dorothy Trio introduce a capital combination of harmony, music, and dance, Jean and Josie perform some wonderful contortionist feats; Arthur Melrose is an expert whistler and comedian; Cummin and Seaham, the ragman and postman, provide a funny turn; the Creo Brothers give a good comedy acrobatic turn in the guise of gypsies; and Walter Purvis is a capital comedian.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is proving a welcome attraction here. The scenery and dresses are bright and tasteful, and boisterous merriment prevails throughout. Mr. Charles Cork is a capital vocalist, and fulfils his part of Rodento with success; Miss Maud Leviette makes a graceful Fairy Concordia; Miss Lena Page is a great favourite in the title-rôle, her singing and acting being especially good; Miss Florrie Warner is a charming and winsome Alice; Mr. Dennis McCarthy is well placed as Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Charley Chard scores heavily in the part of Idle Jack; Mr. Tom Gott creates much amusement as Amelia Florence, the Alderman's cook; Clifton and Gibson deserve a word of praise as Silly Peter and Lazy Larry; Miss Annie Broughton makes a smart Captain Navycutte; Miss Florence Hilton contributes a dashing and spirited impersonation of Sir Algernon de Mash; and Miss Edna Francis is very prominent as Mhordee Yzah.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Charles Barnard and company are here this week with *the Babes in the Wood*. Miss Gracie Grahame is a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Violet Nunn a charming Maid Marion; Will Scarlett and Daisy Buttercup are capitally portrayed by the Sisters Du Cane; Miss Georgie Hall does well as Little John; and Miss May Cartwright is seen to advantage as Pansy Bloom. Mr. Dan Daly is a funny Sir Rupert, being ably seconded by Mr. Charles Lilburn as Wilhelmina. Miss Mabel Reeve as Reggie and Miss Ena Corelli as Rose are pretty Babes, and Miss John C. McMilan is deserving of mention as Friar Tuck. Messrs. Nash and Noel as Roger Ralys and Timothy Taxys are clever knockabouts; Mr. Dan Welsh scores heavily as the Demon King; and Miss Ethel Payne sings with great success as the Fairy Queen.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Edgar Fox; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—A good bill is being presented here. Coram is in the front rank of ventriloquists; the Sisters Gerette are wonderful trapeze artists; Ted Gill is deservedly applauded; Two More Boys give a clever vocal and dancing act; Mr. George Abel and Ethel Arden bring down the house with the sketch *Three of a Kind;* the Claymore Trio are seen in a clever club-juggling act; the Three Gelins are an expert troupe of eccentric comedians; and the Keppels are deservedly applauded.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is a powerful combination, and the good old drama *Driven from Home* was well presented to a good house on Monday. Anthony Raybrook is in the safe hands of Mr. Felix Pitt; Mr. P. George Beresford makes a good hero of Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. J. B. Shinton cleverly presents the villainous Geoffrey Waring; Miss A. M. Ryder very successfully portrays Walter and Laura (the heroine); Mr. Henry Helling is a smart Adam Marley; and Mr. Percy Dawsone does well as the outcast, Willie. Much comedy business is contributed to by Mr. Fred C. Imb

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Changes in the Urban Office.

MR. CHARLES URBAN finds that the daily increasing popularity and enthusiastic reception gained by the new departure in cinematography, i.e., cinemacolour, which reproduces the world's events in the hues and tints of Nature, has occasioned such an exceptional demand that its universal exploitation calls for all the time and energy at his disposal. The supply and demand of the cinema-color success are so growingly insistent that the whole of Mr. Urban's resources and powers are necessary for the general adoption and further development of the system. We are authorised to announce that Mr. Urban has now entirely severed all active personal connection with the Charles Urban Trading Company, Limited, London.

"Urbanora House" as Heretofore.

MR. E. H. GUEST also, the able secretary and latterly general-manager of the Charles Urban Trading Company, has placed his resignation in the hands of the directors, that he may assist his principal in the same direction by undertaking the secretarial and managerial duties of the Natural Color Cinematograph Company, Limited, whose registered offices and manufacturing departments will remain, as heretofore, at Urbanora House, where all communications should be addressed either to Mr. Urban or to Mr. E. H. Guest. M. Emile Chêneau, commercial director of the Société Générale des Cinématographes "Eclipse" of Paris, has been appointed to the temporary charge of the affairs of the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

No Intervals Now.

ANOTHER new idea is the increasing use of the cinematograph as an aid in songs, sketches, or ballets on the music-hall stage. The variety theatres have stolen a march on the "legitimate" ones in this respect. In the Empire ballet, for instance, when the authors wish to bring their principal characters quickly from America to Leicester Square, do you think they resort to so bald an idea as to say "an interval of five days elapses"? Never. Instead they turn on the cinematograph, and we see the hero and his friends speeding swiftly o'er the real ocean in a real ship, the Mauretania. The same idea, but carried even further, is also being employed by La Tortajada in her new dances at the Coliseum.

Novel Music-Hall "Turn."

A NEW use has been found for the cinematograph. At the Bedford this week moving pictures bridge a gap in a dramatic sketch in most realistic fashion. A story from the *Red Magazine* "The Adder's Tooth," has been arranged as a play. In it the scene has to change from an editorial office to a garret, with an exciting chase among the characters from one to the other. This pursuit, in which a motor-cab plays a prominent part, could not be represented in real acting. But in the novel plan employed the house goes dark between the scenes, a white screen falls, and a series of exciting incidents connected with the chase are shown by means of specially taken films. Then the scene of the garret follows without any interruption of the action.

Douglas Payne's Enterprise.

ONE scarcely recognises in the Westminster Palace Gatti's old music hall "in the road." It has been redecorated by the enterprising Carpenter family, partially reconstructed, and there is a continuous variety and picture performance carried on between 2 and 5 and 6 and 11 p.m. daily. We find an old friend in Mr. Douglas Payne "in front," and his varied experience in touring musical comedy and the variety theatres not only in England but in South Africa and other parts of the world, should be very helpful to him in the effort he is making to once more bring fame and fortune to this historic house. Mr. Payne, on the night of our visit, took us through all parts of the house, behind the scenes, below the scenes, and above them likewise. The stage has been remodelled, new dressing rooms have been rebuilt, and the cellar accommodation overhauled, for be it known the old refreshment licence has been retained. One of the novelties Mr. Payne is responsible for is that every afternoon, by paying the 6d. admission to the stalls, one can obtain tea, with cake, bread and butter, daintily served, gratis. Our enterprising manager's welcome says: "Come as early as you like and stay as long as you like." Can managerial man say more? The programme you get for your 2d., 4d., or 6d., includes the latest pictures, three or four excellent variety turns, and the efforts of a small, but efficient, orchestra.

Tyler's "Dancing Jack."

IN Dancing Jack Tyler's have a film with a very dramatic little story. A workman living in a cottage makes dolls. One big doll—a clown—is difficult to sell. The workman's son gets fond of it, and looks upon it as a friend. One day a gentleman and his little boy go past, the boy sees the clown doll and persuades his father to buy it. The poor little street merchant, grieved to part with his favourite, bursts into tears, and, the gentleman asking the reason, the lad tells how he loves the puppet, and so he gives it back to him. Some days later there is no food in the cottage, and the workman says the clown doll must be sold. The child thinks of the little boy who was so kind to him, and goes to his house only to find a funeral leaving the door. The boy puts the doll, which is his greatest treasure, amongst the wreaths, and sorrowfully turns away. The father of the dead boy, who is lingering in the graveyard, takes the little fellow home, and cares for him for the sake of the child he has lost.

Enforcing the Act.

THE attention of the Essex County Council has been called to the Cinematograph Hall, Ilford Hill, with a view to such alterations being made as were necessary to meet with the requirements of the Cinematograph Act, 1909.

Excelsior Cinematograph in Bombay.

WONDERFUL business has been done here during the Christmas and New Year holidays, 12,000 people paying for admission on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Sunday. That alone will give some idea of the popularity these trips in Picture-land have attained in Bombay. A prominent feature is the charming alfresco gardens and band attached to the pavilion, which make it an enjoyable meeting-place after dinner. It is now quite a password here, "See you at the Excelsior." Novelties are received from Paris, London, and Italy by every mail. On Monday last the management reserved the whole of the better seats for the European police officers of the city, their wives and children, and afterwards entertained the kiddies to sweets and the elders to refreshments. The Commissioner of Police visited the show, and thoroughly entered into the spirit of enjoyment which prevailed during the evening.

"In Little Italy."

THE newest Markt subject deals with a love romance, In Little Italy. Marie Cadrona, a widowed mother of two small children, is sought in marriage by Victor Ratazzi, a barber, and Tony Guilletto, a labourer. Marie rejects Tony's suit, but hearkens to the love songs of Victor. Tony, upon learning of Victor's acceptance, is determined to be revenged. Several times the opportunity seems to present itself, but just as the fatal blow is about to be given some one appears on the scene. Victor is totally ignorant of the threatening danger. An Italian ball is held, and Victor escorts Marie there. Tony is present. Victor and Marie are dancing, and as they pass Tony Victor drops from a stab wound in the side, inflicted by Tony, who gets away unnoticed. The next morning he visits the corner saloon only to learn that his deed was not fatal. Enraged beyond measure, he makes his way to the widow's house and tries to get into the room where Victor lies on a cot. The door being barricaded, he tries to effect an entrance through the window, but a portable cupboard placed in front prevents him, so kicking in the cellar door he climbs up a ladder to a trap in the floor; on this trap the widow places a heavy trunk, and she and one of the children sit on it to increase the weight, while she dispatches the other child for the constable. Tony soon overcomes this resistance, and forcing his way through the trap is just about to finish the destruction of Victor, when a well-directed shot from the constable's revolver causes the stiletto to fall from his hand. Tony is taken into custody, and Marie, unmolested, attends Victor, looking forward to the day when he will be well enough to make her his wife.

London Cinema Co.'s "Non-Flams."

THE London Cinematograph Company have purchased the British rights of the Lumière non-flam films, and have made special arrangements to supply "non-flam" to their customers with all promptitude.

Electric Theatres.

THE first report of the Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd., is in many ways a satisfactory document. The company, when formed in September, 1908, took over two electric theatres as going concerns and two which had been arranged for. It has since opened fourteen additional theatres and is constructing five others. This is pretty rapid progress and has necessitated the issue of the remainder of the share capital, the last 20,000 10s. shares being successfully placed at a premium of 2s. 6d. per share. The gross takings for the whole period to Dec. 30 last amounted to £40,900 and a net profit is shown of £15,100. Three interim distributions of 1s. per share have been made and a fourth dividend of the same amount is now proposed, which will leave a balance of £700 to be carried forward. The shareholders thus get a very good return on their capital.

More Enterprise at the Palace.

FULL and exclusive bioscope views of the Paris floods were produced by Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre on Thursday night. Most realistic pictures of the scenes in the French capital are presented.

AT the Theatre de Luxe in the Strand this week's programme includes The Open Gate, The Wedding of Coco, Let Bygones be Bygones, Much Ado About Nothing, Beauty Spots in Prince Olaf's Land, The Best Man Wins, and A Trip Round the Lakes of Killarney.

Huddersfield Victoria Hall.

THE seventeenth week of the fifth annual season was commenced on Monday evening at the Victoria Hall before a crowded audience, who showed much enthusiasm over the excellence of one of the best programmes that even Pringle's have submitted to Huddersfield audiences during their now lengthening history. The Two Christmastides was in every way fine, while A Mountaineer's Honour. A Russian Girl's Heroism, Briton v. Boer, The Motor Cyclist, and Schaffhausen were tip-top presentations of animated pictures. The Widow and Ma Learns to Ride, with Jones Eats Kangaroo, were also very enjoyable items. Mr. Wybrow, the manager, intimates that he intends to give his patrons longer programmes.

ALDERSHOT.—ALEXANDRA GALLERY.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Connors.—This week's programme includes many excellent films, the chief one being Comedy and Tragedy, a dramatic story of interest; this series is followed by The Duchess of Masonia, an artistic historical picture; Tempered with Mercy, Almost—A Sticky Proposition, Scriggins Puts Up for Blankshire, The Ferryman's Sweetheart, Family Outing in Luna Park, &c. Miss Mabel Clovelly adds to the excellence of the performance with a couple of well-rendered songs.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—The management here is providing a capital programme. For the first half of the week the following set of films was shown: The Spectre of the Plain, For Honour's Sake, The Corsican's Daughter, Women Chauffeurs, The Tower of London, Scenes in Holland, and Following in Mother's Footsteps. For the last performances of this week the films shown are: Two Brothers, Joan Chroan (a war episode), Persistent Followers, Trip to Scilly Isles, The Locket, The Trooper's Bride, The Reformatory School, and The Dispatch Bearer.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Heading the bill at the variety and picture palace is the great picture Parisina, the details of which the poet Byron wrought into verse. Mr. Sandman's Cure is a specific for the blues. How it works is seen in the picture. Free Thanksgivings is a very fine dramatic picture. Some idea of the varied scenes enacted may be formed when it is known that 1000ft. of film is unwound in its display. No Excitement is a laughter producer, and roars of guffawing are created in the showing of Calinos Fire Extinguisher. Redwing's Gratitude is an Indian squaw's way of showing her appreciation of service rendered and her devotion to the object of her love.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The films at the Pavilion for the week are, as usual, well selected for interest and fun-making. From Kidnapper to Rescuer is a good dramatic adventure. The Kind-hearted Employer is also a strong incident of a master and servant, and, moreover, somewhat rare and touching from its unusual character. Never Despair is a sensational set of circumstances of a domestic character. In humour, that is, pictures prepared with the object of creating diversion, there is The Plumber, who creates ructions in a household; The Calendar, very funny in its details; Delights of the Shoot is most excruciating in its mirth-provoking features. There are two historic pictures of deep interest: Benedict Arnold, a drama of the day of President Geo. Washington of American Independence, and the Death Disc, a sensational incident of Cromwellian days. Adelia's Washing Day is comical. Mr. Alan Wright, the vocalist and lecturer, sings "Off to Philadelphia" and "Pal o' Mine," two songs, illustrated with views by the lantern.

THE PICTUREDROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The World in Motion pictures at this pleasure resort take in a thrilling story of a youth who rose from Cabin-boy to King. That is, after many hardships and adventures he lands upon an island inhabited by savage tribes, and ultimately he wins his way to be the chief or king. The Bootmaker's Revenge shows how a bootmaker finds a customer endeavouring to ingratiate himself into the good graces of the shopkeeper's wife, and in revenge he fixes a pair of shoes upon the Lothario's feet with little wheels attached, and the disasters which follow are very amusing. Foolshead's Christmas is remarkably good; it fully sets out how this eccentric celebrated Christmas. The Duchess of Masovia is a story of love for a discarded child by a false wife and a false friend. Jubilee Celebrations in Yokohama is a fine coloured exposition of a great Japanese festival. Tempered in Mercy is a story of heartless prosecutor and sorely-tempted young thief and a kindly-disposed policeman. Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire, a burlesque on elections, and The Suffragette are comic items. The pictures are interspersed with the recitals of Mr. Albert Sember, a Liverpool actor, in dramatic selections. Bella Knight sings some songs, descriptive and coon, and the pianist introduces a new feature, comprising the choruses of popular songs, the words being thrown on the screen.

AYR.—PICTURE PALACE.—Tragedy bulks largely in the programme here this week. Macbeth and Mexican Bill are star items, and there are also Briton and Boer, A Dash to Death, and a host of humorous films. The two-houses-a-night system is working well at the Palace.

BIRMINGHAM.—QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A new series of pictures here includes a thrilling dramatic subject, The Seventh Day, and the latest comic subject, The Football Craze. There is also a splendid pantomime picture, Blue Beard, which is followed by a harlequinade performance by the Wys Troupe.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy. — An entirely new programme comprises some dramatic and humorous pictures, foremost amongst which is The Little Teacher, the subject being laid in the Wild West; La Camar Go, illustrating the adventures of an Italian bandit; and The Baldheaded Corporal. Excellent vaudeville entertainment is provided by Master Arthur Vereker, Dudley Hayes, comedian, and the Henris, musical duettists.

BLACKBURN. — CENTRAL HALL. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. Arbury; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. W. Page.—The pictures this week at this hall are of the usual high-class order, and include the following: Up San Juan Hill, a dramatic episode dealing with the Spanish-Cuban War; The Pillagers is another dramatic picture dealing with Eastern life, and is very well received; The Magic Pipes is one of those mystifying pictures which are both amusing and instructive at the same time; Baby Bet is a very amusing picture, and deals with the mischievous pranks of a little girl—it is a very popular film with both young and old alike; Left Out is a very high-class dramatic picture dealing with American life—it abounds with thrilling episodes, and the reuniting between father and daughter over the mother's grave is very touching; The Fisherman's Bride and Love's Stratagem are also dramatic; another humorous picture, When We Called the Plumber In, also found favour.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Ferryman's Daughter conveys a powerful and stirring drama; and there are very interesting incidents submitted in Onawanda, Betty's Choice, and The Subterfuge. The films of an amusing character include A One-legged Story and A Gentleman Thief. Mr. Osland Denner's baritone songs are warmly appreciated; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits warm praise for his pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures and vocal selections.

CARLISLE.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—A fine array of pictures is presented here this week, most notable among them being Briton and Boer, The Skull Worshipper, and The Little Detective. Some very good singing pictures are also introduced by the Cinephone.

DARLASTON.—QUEEN'S HALL.—Lessees and Managers, the Manchester Royal Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Beesley.—The management here continue to put forward the best of animated pictures, including the following interesting films: Confidence, A Story of Bagdad, The Heart of a Gipsy, Stickfast, Whimsical People, and Mysterious Thief. A variety turn, Ingram and Irving, in their absurdity, *The new Office Boy*, are extremely good.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The programme presented here this week is of a varied and entertaining order. A very laughable film is Calino's Fire-Extinguisher. Calino is informed by a gipsy that he will perish by fire, and he goes off and buys a fire-extinguisher. On the terrace of a café a gentleman is lighting his pipe, and Calino douches him. He puts out the lights of a motor-car, and, on observing smoke issuing from the chimneys, he jumps on the roof, and has many other comical adventures. The Death Disc depicts the period when England was in a state of excitement during the time of Cromwell. Other pictures shown are A Kind-Hearted Employer, The Cripples' Matrimonial Stakes, and From Kidnapper to Rescuer; while variety is lent by the talking and singing picture Swing Me Higher, Obadiah. Mr. Lunn's new heating installation is being much appreciated.

EMPIRE THEATRE — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Austin.—Since Mr. Bennell took over this house excellent business has been done, thanks to the capital programmes presented and smart up-to-date management.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred New man; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Mr. Newman presents his patrons with many interesting pictures this week, and good business is still the rule here.

EDINBURGH.—OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Among a host of capital films, that of Muggins, V.C., is one of the best; it tells of a country yokel's bravery on the field of battle, thereby gaining his lady-love. Nursing a Viper depicts a thrilling story of the French Revolution. There are several comic subjects, of which one of the funniest is Foolshead Swallows a Crab; while views of Brighton Aquarium are both interesting and attractive. Ben Lomond is a very humorous vocalist.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmonds.—There are a number of beautiful and effective films shown here this week, notably The Best Man Wins, and Comedy and Tragedy, which are high-class pictures of an attractive and pleasing kind. Many other series display views of a varied and amusing type, and the programme is still further strengthened by the clever turns of Harry Fowler, singing shoe-black, and Persugal, Australian ventriloquist and mimic.

GLASGOW.—GAIETY, LTD.; General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A programme of more than ordinary excellence is this week presented by the B.B. pictures. Some splendid films are shown, and variety is lent to the performance by the appearance of Miss May Oliver (a clever child vocalist) and Hank Hanlon (an amusing comedian).

KIRKCALDY.—EXCHANGE PAVILION.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A splendid programme is served up here this week, of which Scroggins Puts Up For Blankshire is top of the bill. This is a very funny picture. Jack Easy, comedian, and Laura Raymond, vocalist, are appearing here with much success.

LEAMINGTON.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Another fine programme of animated and coloured pictures is provided this week. The chief pictures are The Lady Detective, being a combination of excellent scenes and exciting incidents, and Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire, a side-splitting election film. The others include Stick-fast Paste, The Pillagers, Billy's Wedding Day, The Postmistress, The Hen that Laid the Golden Eggs, and the Man and the Doll. Miss Mina Langton again contributes illustrated songs with artistic success, whilst Mr. Bert Williams adds greatly to his previous triumphs by his clever reciting of "The Fighting Parson," a piece written by himself.

LEICESTER.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Good business and good pictures continue to rule at this home of animated photography, the star films this week being A Country Girl's Peril and Dog and Bone. The others include Her Mother's Last Wish, Cowboy's Sweetheart, Good Boy, Hector, Jealousy and the Man, Nick Carter in His Adventure with the Suicide Club, The Receiver's Doom, Sardine Fishing, The Snowman, Adopting a Baby, Mr. Jones's Burglar, and Schubert's Life. Will Glover, descriptive and tenor vocalist, is an extra attraction.

LIVERPOOL.—PALAIS DE LUXE CINEMA.—Voters and others, while waiting for the election results, have been invited to visit the Palais de Luxe Cinema in Lime-street, where they were provided with a most attractive picture entertainment. The new programme contains an excellent selection of the latest films, including those depicting The Horrors of a Strike, The Sleep Walker, Lake Lucerne, Midnight Sons, and The Mustard Plaster. The performance is continuous from 3 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

MEXBOROUGH.—NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—An excellent programme this week includes An Alpine Echo, The Poacher, Foolshead's Christmas, Young Lady Killer, Hunting Adventures, Little Dog Clipper, &c.

NORTH SHIELDS.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—The principal films here this week are Dove Eye's Gratitude, A Visit to the Zoological Gardens, Kind-Hearted Employer, &c. Charles Ouseley, coloured comedian and dancer, and Jim Merry, comedian, are appearing with success.

HOWARD HALL.—The pictures shown here are up to the usual high standard, and include A Day with a Steam Trawler, The Fisherman's Bride, and Her Father's Ransom.

GAIETY PICTURE HALL.—The programme here comprises Through the Breakers, Mother of the Condemned, Saved by His Sweetheart, The Conjurer, &c. Clark and Green, musical comedians, are also under engagement.

NORWICH. — AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr, late of The Gem, Great Yarmouth, opened here on Monday evening for a season with animated pictures, among which are The Pet of the Ranch, From Cabin-boy to King, and others of a choice kind. He is assisted by Miss Bessie Hardman (soprano) and Mr. Tom Taylor (baritone), who render pleasing songs with good voices and with much taste. There are two performances nightly, with matinées on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

CENTRAL HALL, UPPER MARKET.—Lessees, The Goodman Entertainment Co.; Manager, Mr. Syd Goodman.—The instructing and amusing pictures here are very good this week, and include Nero: the Burning of Rome; Deception, sensational drama; The Sack Race; Muggins, V.C.; The Watchmaker's Invention; Good Boy Hector, &c. Miss Flora Macdonald, A.L.C.M., sings some pleasing songs during the entertainment.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital top-liner is Julius Cæsar, a picture well worth seeing. Special mention should be made of another fine dramatic film, The Mother of the Condemned. Much laughter is caused by some smart comics, which include No Excitement, Fickle Fortune, Calino's Fire Extinguisher, and others. Mr. Don Cameron again sings some good songs.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Alterations and improvements have been made at this hall which greatly add to the comfort of the patrons. The principal picture this week is entitled Into the Shadow, and received much applause. The bill also includes several excellent films, both funny and otherwise. A Race for Brandy, Calino Goes Shopping, A Tantalising Young Lady, and others. A fine travel picture is Beauty Spots in Prince Olaf's Land. Mr. King also sings a new song, "Red Wing."

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—This popular picture house is doing excellent business, and some very good pictures are being shown. The Red Man's View is a film of the thrilling order. A Journey to the Middle of the Earth is a fine trick picture, and is much enjoyed. Amongst the comedy films is Hot Pickles, which causes hearty laughter.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent new animated pictures this week include: A Russian Girl's Heroism, Rough Sea at St. Jean de Lutz, The Dwarf Detective, and The Restoration (drama). Mr. Tom Sherlock sings some good illustrated songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Woman Spy, In Goldland, A Duel in Mid-Air, Merry Clowns, Christmas Story, Poor Blind Sister, Election Humour, and Patrick Pinches Poultry are this week's Raymond pictures, interspersed by "Won't you come to Madeira" and "Put Me a Girl Beside," sung by Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

SPENNYMOOR.—PICTURE PALACE.—It may be stated that Mr. Arthur Sleep has taken over the management of this picture hall, and the top of the bill this week is Tom Casey, a vocalist and whistler of wide reputation, who scores freely; and a good supply of films are on view, including Fools of Fate, Message to Napoleon, and Freddie's Little Love Affair.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden. — Large audiences are assembling here this week to witness a good programme of pictures and variety. The Alps is a fine descriptive film, and San Juan Hill a good dramatic item. The hand-balancing feats of the Raffo Brothers are warmly applauded; the vocal items of Ena Baxter gave genuine pleasure; and Dave Summerhill, Scotch comedian, wins favour.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managers, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company.—Into the Shadow is the title of a good dramatic film shown here on Monday night, while The Short-sighted Sportsman is a capital humorous item. The Donatos, one-legged clowns, give a skilful and humorous turn, and the Le Lolme troupe of juveniles presents a smart versatile act.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—Martell's Pictures are drawing crowded houses. A very fine film shows The Making of Paper from start to finish, while Uncle's Will creates roars of laughter; True Love in a Cottage is an amusing comedy, and Medicine By Proxy keeps the audience in a good humour. An enthralling picture of the race-course is A Rogue of the Turf, and Married to a Smuggler is a fine dramatic one. All's Well That Ends Well and It's Only a Dream go to make an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

WHITEHAVEN.—MARKET HALL.—The excellent standard of pictures shown her for the past two years is being well maintained this week. The principal films are The Living Doll, The Poor Outcast, Macbeth, The Stolen Favourite, and a Child Benefactor. Messrs. Douglas and Clark, comedians, and Mr. George Barker, comedian, are also in the bill.

WIGAN.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—An excellent exhibition of pictures is again presented here this week to large audiences. The principal film is the Fall of Rome, showing the burning of the city and the death of Nero. Poultry Breeding is a very instructive picture, having special interest for those who keep fowls and are attached to the rearing of poultry. A story of a doctor's self-sacrifice is depicted in The Doctor's Sacrifice. How the Dog Saved the Flag and The Blight of Sin are two intensely dramatic pictures. Much merriment is caused by A Glass of Goat's Milk, In Love With a Picture Girl, and Under the Mistletoe. A special attraction here is that well-known whistler, Shawlene, who gives a very enjoyable entertainment.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—This new place of amusement opened its doors for the first time on Saturday last. Situated as it is in Queen's-square, the main thoroughfare of the town, it occupies an excellent site. The façade, the work of Messrs. Lewis Barr and and Co., of Harringay, is in pure white, and when lit up at night it has a charming effect. There is an air of luxurious ease about the whole place, for the heavy pile carpets and draperies, snug chairs, and handsomely uniformed attendants, go to show the management have spared no expense to ensure the absolute comfort of their patrons. There is seating accommodation for 400, and the pictures are shown continuously from two o'clock until eleven. There is an entire change of programme twice a week. Mr. Herbert H. Glasing is the architect, and Mr. T. Lindsay Jones, of Wolverhampton, the general contractor. Messrs. Henry Lazarus and Sons have supplied the seating; Messrs. Phillips and Jones, of Wolverhampton, the upholstering; Messrs. John Morris and Sons, of Manchester, the fire appliances; and the Alliance Engineering Co., of Cardiff, are responsible for the electric installation. The films shown at the opening were Nero, or the Fall of Rome, a marvellously realistic picture; Messrs. Pathé's triumph, A Sculptor's Statue; Wedding Amongst the Rag and Bone Merchants; The Motor Cyclist; Fools of Fate, drama; Agra in Bengal, a beautifully-coloured picture; and Dotty Nob's Double, which causes plenty of fun.

YNISHIR. — WORKMEN'S HALL. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—The pictures here are attracting crowded houses. Comedy and Tragedy is a strong picture, full of absorbing interest; The Hero of Pompeii is dramatised by a splendid company of actors and actresses; other pictures are the Professor's Cigarettes, The Right to Love, Tale of a Fiddle, New Shaving Powder, and True Love Never Runs Smooth. A natural history picture is Wild Birds in their Haunts and the latest A.B. picture His Lost Love. Miss May McPherson and the Cinephone, as usual, sings excellent illustrated songs.

YORK. HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Bowman.—Excellent business continues the rule here, all the films being high-class and popular. The Devil Woman, Living Cigar Cutters, and Calino's Fire Extinguishers being the most popular. Chas. Lestree is a clever juggler, and the Renders give deservedly popular illustrated songs.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Coloured films are an attraction this week, drawing large audiences. The Heir to Clavercourt Castle is a fine example of this particular style, as is also *The Pillagers*, an exciting scene. There are several other good items, including Preston Holmes on the bells and the Cinephone.

SUNDAY CINEMA SHOWS.

TWO DEPUTATIONS TO THE L.C.C.

Last Wednesday the Theatre and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council received a deputation representing the Cinematograph Defence League and the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society, composed of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. W. H. Broughton (chairman of the committee), W. M. Borradaile, G. W. Grant, T. Einstein, representing the League, and Messrs. F. R. Griffiths, G. Henderson, W. D. Walker, J. J. Bennell, and E. Raffell, representing the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society.

Mr. BROUGHTON, in addressing the Committee of the L.C.C., said:—"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—We are, as you are aware, a deputation representing the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society and the recently-formed Cinematograph Defence League. These two societies embrace the interests of all the leading cinematograph exhibitors in this country. I hand you a list of the members of the deputation. At the outset of my remarks, I beg to say that on Monday, Jan. 10, a similar deputation, consisting of Mr. Fredk. Mouillot (chairman of the committee), Mr. F. R. Griffiths, Mr. G. Washington Grant, and Mr. Newbould, was courteously accorded a hearing at the Home Office on the question of the recently-issued statutory rules and regulations under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. This deputation was received by Mr. Byrne, the permanent Under-Secretary, and submitted to him certain modifications in the said regulations which would render the working of the Act more easy for the cinematograph showmen, and would lessen its possible hardships on the smaller exhibitors. Mr. Byrne was kind enough to listen attentively to those suggestions, and promised that they would receive the full consideration of the Home Office.

"The objects of the present deputation in waiting on your Committee are:—

"(1) The question of the Home Office Regulations.

"(2) The question of Sunday opening.

"(3) The question of music at cinematograph theatres.

"As our first object is to deal with the regulations, it will be best to follow the points raised by the deputation to the Home Office with possibly a few additions, which have since occurred to our own committees. The cinematograph trade has risen most rapidly in the last few years. I believe I am right in stating that the interests we represent can be valued at least at four million pounds of capital, and the entertainment which we give has also, we hope, become a permanent institution, not only for the pleasure of the upper classes, but also for the education and enjoyment of the masses.

SUGGESTED ALTERATION OF REGULATIONS.

"We do not come to you with any other desire than to ask your body to so regulate the working of the new Act that it will be a protection to all of us who are interested in the trade, and will not press too harshly upon us in some of its details. Many of us have expended large sums of money in the construction and equipment of cinematograph theatres, and to the best of our ability and with the most responsible advice, have made these theatres, as far as possible, fireproof and absolutely safe to the public. We know there may be some theatres which do not comply with ordinary requirements, and, of course, unless these can be brought up-to-date, they will become a source of danger to the public. I am requested to say, however, that this deputation and the interests it represents heartily welcome the Cinematograph Act, and will feel greater security in working under it than, as heretofore, running our entertainment without any sort of licence whatever. Referring to the statutory rules and orders, we think Section 2, Clause A, should read, after 'the enclosure should be of a permanent nature,' we submit that it would be better if the clause from this point ran as follows:—'Such enclosure should be placed outside the auditorium, excepting in such existing buildings already passed by the local authorities,' deleting the word 'building.' Then Clause B of the same rule—'the entrance to the enclosure shall be fitted with a close-fitting door,' instead of 'a smoke proof door,' as our technical experts tell us it is almost a moral impossibility to have a 'smoke-proof door.' Clause C we suggest should read 'a suitable barrier should be placed round the enclosure, or such effectual means be taken to prevent the audience coming in contact with same'—'where the enclosure is not of a permanent nature' to be added. At the end of Clause D we should advise the deletion of 'with a smoke-proof joint,' and the clause finish 'enclosure shall close automatically.' In Clause 2 of Rule 3 we should again advise the deletion of the words 'the building or' after the words 'or should be erected outside,' as it will be practically impossible to place the boxes outside the buildings, as I may illustrate to you, sir, in a great many places they would be overhanging the street if outside the building, which, naturally, would not be allowed by the local authorities; and instead of the words 'licence may,' the word 'shall' be substituted, and we should advise in this clause the exclusion of travelling shows, schools, &c. The only two other clauses which there is any excep-

JUST OUT.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909,

which came into force January 1, 1910.

Also the

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS

made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation January 1, 1910,

with an APPENDIX concerning

LIMELIGHT

and

WHAT THE CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWMAN MUST DO.

EXPLANATIONS OF THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act,
The Regulations,
The Explanations,

sent post free four stamps.

Published at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.

tion to, in our opinion, are Rule 7, Clause 8. Our experts think the maximum for the film-box should be 14in., and not 12in., and in Clause 11 we think that the bucket of dry sand which is asked to be always kept available is quite reasonable, but would like to point out that it is not convenient to keep it *outside* the enclosure, and in the case of a panic it would probably prove an obstacle. We do not think it necessary to have a special attendant for this bucket, but, of course, we should have an attendant specially instructed and specially trained to deal with any accident in the promptest manner possible. These are the points in the regulations which the deputation I have referred to has already mentioned to the Home Secretary, but since that deputation was received we have further considered the regulations, and I am asked to refer to Clause 2, Section A., which requires that the enclosure shall be placed outside the building or auditorium. We would ask you that if you can see your way you will not enforce outside operating-boxes in already existing houses where the said boxes have been passed by the District Surveyor. Also in Clause 3, paragraph 2, we would ask if the words 'direct to the outside air' can be deleted. Where the boxes are so constructed and so ventilated that the smoke does not go into the auditorium, we venture to suggest there will be no need for a ventilation shaft direct to the outside air. We would also like you to state in connection with the ventilating shaft approximately what size the shaft is required to be, as there is no reference to the dimensions in the regulations. Possibly 6in. by 4in. or thereabouts could be regarded as a standard size. In Clause 6, Section C., it is stated 'that no current at a higher pressure than 110 volts shall be used within the enclosure,' and I may say that the deputation to which I have previously referred, which waited upon the Home Secretary, was assured by him that this was only intended to apply to the arc lamp used for projection purposes. It has since come to our knowledge that in several cases exhibitors have been requested to take out a single lamp which they used for lighting purposes in the enclosure which was of a higher voltage than 110 volts. Now, we feel, sir, that there can be no good purpose served by this, and, further, would point out that if it were enforced, it would necessitate the using of gas for lighting purposes in the enclosure, which would, of course, be a source of danger. In concluding our remarks on the question of the regulations, the gentlemen forming this deputation would like to ask you, on behalf of the smaller cinematograph managers who have been closed down by the coming into operation of this Act, and thereby have had their means of livelihood taken away, to give those gentlemen six months' grace, to allow them to put their houses in order, arrange their affairs, or find some other method of finding a living, which the abruptness of this Act has deprived them of. We have been assured of many, many very hard cases, and I am sure, sir, that you will appreciate that large bodies like the London County Council cannot have such a tender heart as an individual, and we beg of you, therefore, to use your influence with the Home Secretary to give these people a chance by giving them a longer notice, which, we understand, is the usual custom.

SUNDAY OPENING.

"Now, sir, I would mention the matter of Sunday opening. This is a matter difficult to approach, but we would ask you to look on the cinematograph, not as a play, but as an education for the masses, who are not able to get innocent instruction and amusement in other ways. It is a question whether it is better for our boys and girls to wander the streets or enjoy their Sunday evening illustrated newspaper. We claim that we are in much the same category as the *Daily Graphic* or the *Daily Mirror* on week-days, and if it is wrong for us to show them the latest events by moving pictures, it must also be wrong to give concerts in hotels, sing songs, play music on piers all over the kingdom, run railway trains, play golf, or row a boat. Of course, we would go on ad infinitum in the cases of Sunday trading, but we claim that we are doing a great good, apart from the question of making a profit out of the running of these halls of photography. In this connection, sir, I would like to mention to you that there are twenty-five dramatic companies giving performances in clubs, which are mostly proprietary; so even the drama is not neglected on Sunday, and I may go further, sir, and say that on two distinct occasions we have had from the Home Secretary's Office the assurance that this was never intended as an Act which should deal in any way with the question of Sunday opening, but is intended for the safety of the public only, and, furthermore, we would point out that this is absolutely proved by the fact that places using non-inflammable films do not require a licence, and could therefore open on every day in the week; and we venture to point out that if it is moral and proper to see pictures on Sunday on non-flam programmes where the public are not safeguarded, it is a great hardship that those who come into line and take out the necessary licence, protecting the public, shall be debarred from opening on Sundays. We trust this question may be seriously gone into, as we see no reference to it in the Act or Statutory Rules and Orders of the Home Secretary, and we would point out the possibility which we consider would be undesirable to everybody getting non-flam programmes, and therefore not be licensed at all, which would put matters back in exactly the same condition as they were before the passing of this Act. You were good enough, sir, to give us your assurance some two or three weeks ago that no action would be taken with regard to Sunday opening pending the receiving of this deputation to-day. We thank you sincerely for that amount of grace, and trust, pending a final decision on this matter, we may be allowed to continue with those same assurances. We believe, sir, that you have been petitioned by some operators and others working in these theatres to close these places on Sunday, so that they may enjoy one day's rest per week. I am requested to inform you that the whole of the interests represented by this deputation which is here to-day, that in all cases the staffs have been given one day a fortnight off in the past, and they are prepared to go further, and say that where any member of a staff should so desire, he shall not be asked to work more than six days per week. I would also point out that the whole of the staffs are employed upon a seven days' contract, and that, therefore, if they should close on Sunday they will be one day's wages out of pocket; but as the matter stands at the moment they receive seven days' pay and one day's holiday every fortnight.

MUSIC IN CINEMA THEATRES.

"The only other question to which this deputation would like to refer is that of music in cinematograph theatres. It apparently has never been quite clear what music is permitted. There is a general understanding existing that so long as the music is limited to a piano, the cinematograph licence will cover it. We would very much appreciate a statement from you on this point, so as to entirely set our minds at rest on the subject. In conclusion, sir, I beg to thank you on behalf of this deputation and the cinematograph exhibitors generally for your courtesy in receiving us to-day, and we all hope that your Committee may favourably consider these various points and grant us a favourable answer thereto."

The CHAIRMAN of the L.C.C. Committee thanked the deputation for bringing the matter so clearly and lucidly before them, and said that they had decided to hold a special meeting of the Theatre and Music Halls Committee next Wednesday, for the purpose of fully discussing the matters put before them, and with a view to making their recommendation to the L.C.C. on the Tuesday following.

A deputation from the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and the National Association of Cinematograph Operators waited on a Sub-Committee of the London County Council last Wednesday in reference to the question of the Sunday opening of cinematograph theatres. These Societies were respectively represented by Messrs. W. H. Clemart and C. C. Bartram; Mr. Leonard Shepherd; Messrs. J. B. Williams and W. E. Fitzgerald; Messrs. Wm. Johnson and J. Reed; and Messrs. H. L Merritt and E. H. Mason.

Mr. W. Johnson read the following statement:—

"THE HARDEST DAY OF THE WEEK."

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—On behalf of the Societies we respectively represent I have to thank you for giving up this opportunity of placing before you our views upon the Council's regulations relating to Sunday entertainments.

"We assume it is the intention of the committee, and of the Council, to treat alike all competitors in the amusement world who are transacting their business on premises licensed by the Council. We strongly urge that no modification of your regulations be made in the interest of the picture theatres. We have been informed by managers of music halls, whose halls are licensed by the Council, that if these picture theatres are allowed to be open on Sundays by way of trade and for personal gain, they will claim the same right to open on Sundays. We are opposed to any such claim by any person whose premises are licensed by the Council for public entertainment. We are sure that if such a claim is allowed it will be detrimental to all sections of employees and the public interest.

"The hours of labour in our business, including the time required for rehearsals, which are an essential part of the work and conditions of success for the artist, actor, musician, and stage employee, in their individual and collective capacity as a 'company,' orchestra, or stage staff, are long enough during six days of the week. If Sunday is to become a period of time available for the usual commercial purposes of the other six days of the week—it will not matter how Sunday work may be qualified by restrictions—work on Sundays will become a condition of employment for the week, and wages will, ultimately, be less in proportion. In all seaside places where Sunday amusements have been developed it is the hardest day of the week, and salaries, inclusive of Sunday, are less.

WAGES LESS THAN FORMERLY.

"The operators' wages are very much less than formerly. As regards the artists and actors, they fear that in a short time managers would force such of them whose performances were at all suitable for Sunday entertainments to accept a seven days a week contract at the same salaries as are now paid for six. Artists do not even now get a complete day's rest during the week, as at least one-half of Sunday is spent in travelling from one place to another. If music halls and theatres were permitted to open seven days a week it would mean that artists would have to make a continual practice of travelling immediately after the Sunday evening's performance.

"In this matter we feel we are voicing the opinions of the great bulk of the artists, actors, musicans, and employees. If such a state of things came to pass in our business we should be merely living to work, instead of, as now, working hard to live.

"We do not wish it to be thought that we are acting in any spirit of prejudice or antagonism to the business of the cinematograph trade. We recognise the exhibitions of animated photography with the kindred invention of the phonograph as useful and attractive additions to public amusements. This comparatively new side of our amusements will, we are sure, develop very largely beyond its present dimensions, but it is, at present, a serious rival, by reason of its cheapness and attractions, to the theatre and music hall. The initial cost of establishing and running a picture theatre is far less than in the case of a theatre or music hall; for instance, the electric piano and the phonograph take the place of the orchestra and the singer; while animated photography (living pictures) takes the place of the artist, the actor, and the stage staff. In fact, the film—at fourpence per foot—gives a representation of a costly production and a talented company. The proprietors of picture theatres use as their main argument in favour of their claim to open on Sundays their desire to draw the people from the street and the public-houses. We submit that the Council's regulations will permit their premises to be used for this laudable purpose, and to help the cause of charity at the same time.

A QUESTION OF PROFIT AND LOSS.

"We suggest that the main reason is as stated by Mr. Matt Raymond, one of the best-known exhibitors, who, we understand, has been before you to-day as a representative of the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society. In an interview, published in *Kinematograph and Lantern Weekly*, the oldest journal in England connected with this trade, Mr. Raymond said, in reference to Sunday opening:—'It is ridiculous to demand as a right what has hitherto been accorded as a privilege; then, again, all the morality talk about opening on Sundays for the good of the people, keeping them off the streets and out of the pubs. Such talk is all twaddle. Why not be honest about it, and say it is a question of profit and loss.' In support of Mr. Raymond's view, I beg to allude to a prospectus issued by the Electric Theatre Palaces (Midland), Ltd., this month. In this prospectus it is stated that:—'Dividends at the rate of from 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. per annum, it is stated, are now being earned by cinematograph (living picture) theatres. Dividends up to 40 per cent. per annum are payable on the preference ordinary shares of this company, and, in addition, the holders are entitled to 50 per cent. of the surplus profits. Interest at the rate of 20 per cent per annum, as hereinafter mentioned, will be payable on March 25 next.' It goes on to say that in a recently established electric theatre shares of the nominal value of 10s. have been quoted at 17s. 6d., or a premium of nearly 50 per cent. The directors of the company issuing the prospectus state that they estimate the profits at over 60 per cent. We are of opinion that this business is not a speculative one. In our country it is much behind America and some of the Continental countries. It is going to be a vast business. We regard it as of the most vital importance to all employed, in any capacity, in theatres, music halls, and picture palaces that the regulations now in force relating to Sunday entertainments shall be retained in their entirety, and enforced without fear or favour upon all licensees of such places under the control of the Council. We urge this because we are convinced it is only by the enforcement of these regulations that the imposition of a seven days' working week in our business can be averted, and we have not the slightest hesitation in saying that a seven days' working week would be a disaster to all employed in this business."

Pictures at the Birmingham Royal.

THE management of the Birmingham Theatre Royal have commenced cinematograph matinées, and these will be held on afternoons other than pantomime matinée days.

THE managers of the theatres and halls in Birmingham have arranged a billiard handicap which will be commenced at the Woolpack Hotel on Tuesday next. The draw for the first round resulted as follows:—Mr. E. Foster (Grand) v. Mr. Collingwood (Alexandra), Mr. J. F. Graham (Prince of Wales's) v. Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Hippodrome) v. Mr. Philip Rodway (Royal), Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire) v. Mr. A. Bushell (Gaiety).

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kierman.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company fills the bill here this week with *A Thief in the Night*. Lord Romilly is carefully depicted by Mr. Hugh Wallace; Miss Irene Chalmers does well as Lady Romilly; Mr. Leyton Cancellor plays strongly as Michael Pagani; as also does Miss Beatrice Homer as Sonia Cleeve. Richard Cleeve is carefully depicted by Mr. Stenson Liddard, and Miss Margery Fane acts excellently as Joan Escombe. Miss Winifred Barton as Happy Christmas and Miss Prudence Ayrton as Little Joan are both good in their respective parts. Miss Mysie Monte causes much amusement as Susan, and the other parts are all in capable hands.

SHEERNESS. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—*The Fatal Wedding* is presented by Mr. Percy Williams's company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery fills the rôle of Howard Wilson with success; Mabel Wilson is in the capable hands of Miss Ethel Kay; and Mr. Herbert Humber is good as Robert Curtis; whilst Miss Leah Marlborough is a capital Cora Wilson; Mr. Harry M. Vernon as Toto and Miss Blanche Huber as Bridget cause amusement. Miss Rosie Sanders is good as Jessie, the little mother.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. J. W. Turner's Opera Company is proving a great attraction. On Monday Mr. Turner appeared as Miles na Coppaleen in Benedict's bright Irish opera, *The Lily of Killarney*, and he gained numerous recalls. Mr. Tom Griffiths appeared to advantage as Danny Mann; Mr. George Ridding was very good as Corrigan; Miss Beatrice Hill as Sheelah. Miss Jeanne Jeune as Elly, Miss Doris O'Brien as Ann Chute, and Miss Grace Parish as Mrs. Cregan all sang and acted well in their respective parts, as did also Messrs. F. J. Hargrave as Hardress Cregan, Harry Reynolds as Father Tom, and Mr. P. Newton as O'Moore. *Maritana*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also billed. The augmented orchestra, under the able conductorship of Mr. T. Lawton, was good, and the mounting excellent.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—Mr. Fred Russell is a gigantic success in his ventriloquial sketch; Archie Glen scores as a comedian and dancer; the Denaro Bros. submit a smart equilibrist turn; the Ten Dixie Girls dance and sing well; Dalvere and Wallace are amusing comedians; Cissie Lupino shows great versatility as a dancer; and Harry Vernon concludes the performance with an excellently-staged sketch *The Deputy Sheriff*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Southend Theatre Company; Manager, Mr. Adam Seebold.—Mr. E. Graham Falcon's company is here with *Bo-Peep*. The company is of all-round excellence, the music is bright, and the dresses and scenery are elaborate. The company includes Miss Flora Morris as Bo-Peep, Miss Mabel Kessler as Boy, Miss Ruby Carter as Prince Pastorelle, and Messrs. F. G. Royde, Ernest Hans, Will Lux, and Gavin Wood. Some very pretty dances are introduced by Miss Rosie P. Stevens.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE.—WINTER GARDENS—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of the fantastical musical play, *The Arcadians*, furnishes a strong attraction here. The part of Simplicitas is successfully filled by Mr. Gus Oxley, whose comedy work is irresistible; Mrs. Smith is capitally depicted by Miss Madge Haines; Miss Marion Edwards presents a delightful impersonation of Sombra; Miss Mysie Devine is a charming and graceful exponent of Eileen Cavanagh; Peter Doody has a highly humorous exponent in Mr. Frank Collins; Mr. Roy Sidney is a very creditable representative of Jack Meadows; Mr. Roy Lorraine is very effective as Bobby; Sir George Paddock is well played by Mr. C. Herbert Hewitson; and other noteworthy characters are impersonated by Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea and Mr. Berkeley Davies as Time.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson with a powerful cast presents *Who is She?* to good houses. The King Vladimir of Mr. James Stillwell is a praiseworthy performance; Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson depicts Prince Bora in good style; Chang Tee is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Bernard Lieli; Mr. Alfred Grenville is good as Sergeant Metroff; Captain Arthur Gower is humorously interpreted by Mr. Sinclair Holden; Miss Georgette Thierry makes the chief part stand out; Miss Constance Medwyn is a forceful Keta; Miss Alice Barber an excellent Countess; and good comedy is extracted from Michael and Sarette by Mr. W. C. Bailey and Miss Mary Collier.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The Boisset Troupe in *The Bricklayers* still maintain their popularity; Frank Maura gives a clever and dexterous performance; Archie Naish is a smart entertainer at the piano; Victor Travers, a quaint comedian, is well received; and the remaining good items are Tiny Wilmot, comedienne; Rita Rhylle, comedienne, Lester Carey, baritone, and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A large assembly greeted Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company on Monday in *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Reginald T. Fox gave a commanding representation of General von Nestolde; Mr. Matthew Glenville acted ably the character of Captain Lubeck; Mr. Edward Hobart won success as Sergeant Offenbach; Miss Lydia Audre gave a finished portrayal of the Grand Duchess of Gotzburg, the heroine; Miss Margaret Frame acted with credit Camille von Nestolde; and Miss Lillian Malvern was very good as Esther. The comedy element was effectively sustained by Mr. Lewis Gardon (Jan), Miss Alice Buckland (Nita), and Miss Mabel Veriton (Ottilie Swartz).

TOWN HALL.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—Heading the bill are the Ashtons (Tiny and Denny), a clever pair of duettists. The pictures of note are Laddie. The Cursed Cage, Comata, and La Grande Breteche.

STALYBRIDGE. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. K. Stewart McDonald.—Excellent audiences are assembling to witness Miss Grace Warner and her company in *The Scarlet Clue*, *Lady Audley's Secret*, and *The Wages of Sin*. Miss Warner presents the different characters with a force seldom equalled, and she is ably supported by talented artists, amongst whom are Messrs. George Gordon, Frank Smith, Frank Hertie, Louis Nanton, Roy Rhind, and the Misses Lizzie Palmer, Lallah Price, Florence M. Daly, and Doris Graham.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Pantomime is again the attraction here, Mr. Richard Nightingale's talented company presenting *Aladdin* and providing abundant fun for large audiences. Chief among the comedians is Mr. Walter Bishop, who is exceedingly funny as Abanazar; Mr. Harry Albery is a very amusing Widow Twankey; and Mr. Arthur Pier makes a capable Emperor of China. Miss Edna Latonne is delightfully pleasing as Aladdin; a captivating Princess is Miss Jenny Hackett; Miss Amy Pauline Gradwell as the Genius of the Ring and Miss Marie Radcliffe as the Slave of the Lamp sing harmoniously; and the Sisters May and Violet Rivers are charming as Bakoe and Caramel. Among the specialities are the Brothers Lloyd in a clever bounding cable act, and Max Merlin, the human crocodile.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—Miss Mabel Thorne occupies the premier position on the bill, and has achieved a gratifying success with her latest effusions. Mr. Joseph B. Montague presents an interesting sketch, *The Bookie Booked*; Cavalli is an amusing ventriloquist; Mr. H. Downs, coloured ballad vocalist, sings ably; Fox and Melville, in illustrated songs, are very successful; the Three Orros perform cleverly in a gymnastic act; Jack Fortin, actor-vocalist, Harry Tomlin, vocal comedian, and Fred Erick, light comedian, win favour; and Jack and Willie are deservedly applauded for their ability as equilibrists.

(*Continued on page 16.*)

A. R. DEAN & SONS
BIRMINGHAM.

A. R. DEAN & SONS are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, and Skating Rink Seatings, Floor Coverings, and complete Furnishings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have for the last thirty years been famed for the soundness of their Goods, either in Chairs, Carpets, or Draperies, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS also are famed for every description of Cabinet Joinery, Bar Fitments, Casement Partitions, Doors, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS are Designers and Manufacturers of every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have during the last thirty years furnished partly or completely upwards of 1,584 Theatres, Halls, and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have completely or partly Decorated during the last fifteen years upwards of 280 Theatres, Halls, and Hotels and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS in the year 1908 completely or partly Furnished or Decorated upwards of 112 Theatres, Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, and Hotels.
A. R. DEAN & SONS this year intend to beat last year's Contracts, which were their record.

A. R. DEAN & SONS Last Year (1909)
EXECUTED OR HAD THE CONTRACTS IN HAND FOR THE FOLLOWING THEATRES, HALLS, &c.:—

1. ROYAL HIPPODROME, BLACKBURN. Complete Decorations and Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
2. NEW PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c
3. NEW EMPIRE, KILBURN. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c.
4. NEW ALHAMBRA, PARIS. Complete Redecoration and Refurnishing, &c.
5. NEW HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
6. NEW HIPPODROME, ILFORD. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
7. NEW PALACE, HAMMERSMITH. Complete Fibrous Plaster Decorations and Draperies, &c.
8. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
9. NEW PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH. Complete Seating, Furnishings, &c.
10. NEW EMPIRE, TON-Y-PANDY, S. WALES. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
11. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. Complete Furnishing.
12. WINTER GARDENS OF THE PALACE HOTEL, SOUTHEND. Complete Furnishings and Carpeting throughout.
13. NEW KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD. Reseating, &c.
14. MECHANICS' HALL, NOTTINGHAM. Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
15. DR. BODIE'S NEW STAGE FIT-UP.
16. THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
17. NEW PALACE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
18. NEW EMPIRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete, Refurnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
19. MONTABELLO LAWNS, ILFRACOMBE. Tip-up Seating, &c.
20. GRAND STAND, AINTREE. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
21. GRAND STAND, CHESTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. THEATRE ROYAL, PAISLEY. Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
23. PIERROTS' PAVILION, SCARBOROUGH. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
24. THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR, S. WALES. Furnishings.
25. NEW TOWN HALL, LANCASTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
26. NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH. Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
27. GUILDHALL, CAMBRIDGE. Complete Reseating.
28. NEW OLYMPIA, EDINBURGH. Complete Seating.
29. NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST. Complete Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
30. NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN. Tip-up Chairs.
31. NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, TRALEE, IRELAND. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
32. THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON. Reseating, &c.
33. TOWN HALL, TWICKENHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
34. CHAPEL, SOWERBY BRIDGE. Tip-up Chairs.
35. THEATRE ROYAL, WEDNESBURY. Complete Decoration, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. NEW CHURCH, TYLDESLEY, BIRMINGHAM. Tip-up Chairs.
37. NEW ARGYLE THEATRE, BIRKENHEAD. Complete Furnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
38. LYRIC, LIVERPOOL. Tip-up Chairs.
39. THEATRE ROYAL, DALSTON. Refurnishing, Seating, &c.
40. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Complete Refurnishing.
41. GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Reseating.
42. THEATRE ROYAL, SMETHWICK. Tip-up Chairs.
43. BARNARD'S VARIETIES, CHATHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Tip-up Chairs.
45. NEW HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD. Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishings, &c.
46. HOLBORN EMPIRE. Recarpeting, &c.
47. GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER. Refurnishing.
48. KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Tip-up Chairs.
49. GRAND THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Furnishings.
50. PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY. Complete Reseating and Refurnishing.

ELECTRIC THEATRES AND PICTURE PALACES.

51. HIPPODROME, HOUNSLOW. Complete Seating.
52. HIPPODROME, ILKESTON. Complete Seating.
53. ALEXANDRA THEATRE, MORLEY. Complete Seating.
54. NEW ARENA, VILLIERS-STREET, STRAND. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
55. MESSINA BUILDINGS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Complete Seating.
56. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Complete Seating.
57. PALACE, LAVENDER HILL. Complete Seating.
58. ELECTRIC THEATRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete Seating.
59. ELECTRIC, WESTERN-ROAD, BRIGHTON. Complete Seating.
60. TEMPERANCE HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
61. BRACKENBURY HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
62. ELECTRIC PALACE, WILTON-ROAD, W. Complete Seating.
63. NEW KING'S HALL, TOOTING. Complete Seating.
64. HOLLOWAY HALL, LONDON. Complete Seating.
65. CARNEGIE HALL, WORKINGTN. Complete Seating.
66. HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS. Complete Seating.
67. CENTRAL HALL, SALFORD, MANCHESTER. Complete Seating.
68. TOWN HALL, BEDMINSTER. Complete Seating.
69. TOWN HALL, ERITH. Complete Seating.
70. ST. JOHN'S HALL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. Complete Seating.
71. WILSON'S PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
72. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
73. PUBLIC HALL, ST. ANNES-ON-SEA. Complete Seating.
74. ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING. Complete Seating.
75. WEST'S NEW PALACE, READING. Complete Seating.
76. NEW CENTRAL, WIGAN. Complete Seating.
77. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, LINCOLN. Complete Seating.
78. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BOLTON. Complete Seating.
79. CASINO DE PARIS, OXFORD-STREET. Complete Seating.
80. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, S.E. Complete Seating.
81. OLYMPIA PICTURE HALL, WIMBLEDON. Complete Seating.
82. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
83. NEW PALACE, WATERLOO, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
84. NEW PALACE THEATRE, HORNSEY, N. Complete Seating.
85. MANOR THEATRE, HACKNEY. Complete Seating.
86. COTTERELL'S THEATRE, MAIDENHEAD. Complete Seating.
87. NEW PALACE, LEWISHAM. Complete Seating.
88. NEW PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, RYE-LANE. Complete Seating.
89. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, PECKHAM. Complete Seating.
90. GAIETY THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD. Complete Seating.
91. PICTURE PALACE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD. Complete Seating.
92. ST. GEORGE'S PICTURE PALACE, LONDON, E. Complete Seating.
93. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY DOCK. Complete Seating.
94. FERNDALE WORKMAN'S HALL, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
95. WORKMEN'S HALL, PONTYCYMMER, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
96. VICTORIA HALL, YORK. Reseating.
97. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CROYDON. Complete Seating.
98. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, DOVER. Complete Seating.
99. NEW FONEGRAPH THEATRE, STRAND. Complete Seating.
100. NEW HIPPODROME, NELSON. Fibrous Plaster Decorations.

A. R. DEAN & SONS point to the above list with pride. These contracts embrace nine out of every ten contracts going.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to draw the attention of the Proprietors of Picture Palaces and Skating Rinks to Specialities for this class of Buildings and Entertainments.
A. R. DEAN & SONS' work is known throughout the World. Their goods always give complete satisfaction.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to call attention to the fact that they only employ first class workman and that every man is paid the full trade union wage. No sweating or alien workmen employed.
A. R. DEAN & SONS will give **five years' guarantee** with all their Chairs and Seating, from the cheapest to the best.
A. R. DEAN & SONS can undertake any contract, from the largest Opera House to the smallest Portable Theatre. All have the best attention, and all results the same, viz., the utmost satisfaction given.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have several New Designs in Tip-up Chairs and Novelties in Pit and Running Seating.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
HAVE ONE ADDRESS,
CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."
Telephone (Show Rooms and Offices): 224 Birmingham.
Telephone (Factory and Stores): 3834 Birmingham.

A. R. DEAN & SONS still retain the services of
Mr. A F. WINDIBANK, as Manager of the Theatre Department.
Mr. C. BARDELL, as Chief Designer and Manager of the Decoration Department.
Mr. L. BECK, Director and Manager of the Works and Factories.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

The crowded houses both at the afternoon and evening performances have been striking testimony to the popularity attained by Mr. J. B. Mulholland's "eighth" pantomime, and a second visit induces regrets that it has to be withdrawn so early as Saturday, Feb. 5, to make way for the Spring season's bookings. Without being boisterously funny, *Humpty Dumpty* has raised laughter all the time from young and old. The beauty of the scenery and the splendour of the dresses have been no inconsiderable attraction, the most enthusiastic applause following the various picturesque tableaux. Mr. J. F. McArdle has elaborated the part of King Sollumm into a creation that compels laughter even from the most blasé of playgoers, and stamps him as a comedian of great ability. The Martha of Mr. Stratton Mills has "caught on" wonderfully well, and while he and Mr. McArdle are in possession of the stage the yells of laughter are continuous.

Mr. Charles Goff's Humpty Dumpty is an excellent characterisation, and Bison Bob finds a humorous representative in Mr. William Rokeby. A pair of clever pantomimists, Toch and Tard, are much approved as Brick and Brack, and Mr. George Fisher's voice is heard to great advantage in the songs allotted to the character of Soaro. The severe weather of last week had the effect of depriving the pantomime of the services of Miss Edna Morgan (who had become a popular favourite here) in the part of Rudolph, but Miss Olivia Eltone, in her place, has made the most of her opportunities and has achieved a most distinct success. Miss Eltone's voice is of excellent quality, and she renders her various songs with much charm. Dainty as Miss Ray Wallace is in the character of the Princess Aurora, it must be confessed that the audiences wait impatiently for her series of impersonations of music-hall stars, which are indeed of marvellous reality.

Minnie Blanchard is now the Prince Spriteley, acting with vivacity, and Cherry is prettily played by Miss Dorothy Vine. Miss May Rawlinson's singing and acting as Claribel are much in favour. The large chorus is composed of a number of very pretty ladies who sing very harmoniously, and the dancers, schooled by Miss Ina Alston, give good accounts of themselves. The full orchestra, under the direction of the King's resident conductor, perform capably. The success of the pantomime has entailed much hard work upon Mr. Norman Walters, the courteous business manager, and Mr. A. Bradshaw, his able assistant, but they have carried out their onerous duties with the utmost care and tact.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Jan. 24, the Play, entitled

"PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES."

By arrangement with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Max Montesole and Angus McLeod's company are presenting W. Graham Robertson and Frederic Norton's musical extravaganza, *Pinkie and the Fairies* at the Coronet Theatre for two weeks. Excellently staged and superbly "dressed," the production reflects great credit on all concerned. Miss Haidée Gunn is excellent as the skittish and juvenile Aunt Imogen of a romantic turn of mind, and the prim, methodical, and intensely proper Aunt Caroline as portrayed by Miss Lucie Evelyn, serves as a good foil to her. Mr. Ribton Haines, as Uncle Gregory, is endowed with a strong vein of quiet humour and quaint comicality. Mr. T. P. Haines is vastly amusing as the old gardener, Mr. Irons, whose talent for facial expression is a valuable asset. Miss Muriel Alston sings very sweetly and acts daintily as the lovelorn Molly. Miss Hermione Gingold is full of vivacity and sprightliness as Pinkie, and in song and dance, and by-play, is equal to any emergency. Master C. Haviland Chappell as Tommy is a wonderfully natural and resourceful young man for his age, dancing well and singing with expression. Their duet, "When I'm a grown-up lady (gentleman)" is repeatedly encored. Little Miss Hetty Kenyon is a delightfully *petite* fairy queen, and her little song and step dance are encored again and again. Miss Lucie Caine contributes a really clever and original silhouette of character as the Cinderella of this story, and her society small talk is only equalled in cleverness by her dashing and tuneful ditty concerning the ways of the heroes and heroines of nursery rhymes. Miss Estell Theband, a really beautiful Sleeping Beauty, supplies a very clever characteristic portrait of the somnolent siren of fairy lore, and besides singing very prettily, her acting is always in keeping with the part, and her by-play with Uncle Gregory is exceedingly diverting and well carried out. Mr. Sam Wilkinson is felinely funny as Dick Whittington's cat, and his burlesque Apache dance with Mr. Laurence Utley as Beauty's (Miss Clara Milvain) beast, the harmless, necessary "Teddy Bear," is delightfully droll and grotesque. Nor must we forget the delightfully perky little herald Miss Dolly Somers, or the three sweetly mischievous elves Pickle, Whisper, and Twinkle, or Misses Aileen Faithfull Peggy Rae, and Kathleen Yorke. Master Cecil Twentyman as Prince Frog, and Mr. S. Williams as the butcher also enter boldly into the plan of campaign. Mr. W. Angus McLeod is general-manager, and Mr. Philip Sanders acting-manager, assisted by Mr. Sam Wilkinson; and Mr. Alfred Rayner is the musical director. A word of praise is due to the chorus.

DALSTON THEATRE.

Mr. J. F. Elliston is presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre the pantomime, written and invented by St. John Hamund, entitled *The Sleeping Beauty and the Mystic Yellow Dwarf*, produced under the stage direction of Mr. Claude Agnew. The story of the pantomime has the distinct advantage of being not only interesting, but decidedly connective, so there is something to attract the attention and admiration of the audience quite apart from the admirable all-round acting of those included in the cast. One realises from the first that King Half-a-crown, assisted by his more than better half, intends to dispose of his daughter, Beauty Allfair, to the very best matrimonial advantage, and the opportunity presenting itself by the arrival of Prince Faithful, all ends happily, but not before many startling adventures inside the royal palace, where not only Beauty, but everyone in the court, sleeps for a hundred years, and outside, among yellow dwarfs, dragons, and other monstrosities. The general presentation of the pantomime is most creditable to all concerned. Miss Dorothy Chard makes the most of a decidedly fine presence as Prince Faithful, and the way in which, in sailor costume, she sings "Ship ahoy," brings down the house. Miss Frances Kapstowne is distinctly pleasing as Beauty Allfair, the Sleeping Beauty, and she introduces several songs, which meet with much favour. The King has a really humorous representative in Mr. George Goodfellow, who, together with Mr. Arthur Reynolds, as the Queen, succeed in keeping the audience in roars of laughter. They are funny in the waking-up-scene, after the supposed century sleep, the Queen asking, with appropriate earnestness, "Have women got the vote yet?" and receiving the reply, "No, they are still waiting for it." It also occurs to her that she must "change the canary's water." It should be added that the sneezing song, after the Prince has aroused all the sleepers by copious contributions from his snuff-box, is cleverly rendered. Later, the Queen has a clever ditty, in which she continually fails to reach the top note, and is finally helped out of the difficulty by a professional visitor. Miss Beryl Vaudrey, as Fairy Godmother, has the advantage of rendering songs which secure flattering demonstrations of approval. Mr. Charles Omanney does remarkably well as the witch, impressing everyone with the uncanny nature of the part. Miss Violet Agnew as Petit-Maitre; Miss Jennie Gregson as Bonne-Bouche, and Miss Ada Tilley as Bon-Bon, a page, are each smart exponents of the parts allotted them. Mr. Hal Bert creates wonder by his surprising agility as the Yellow Dwarf, and the fight between himself and the Prince in front of the Steel Castle, is a feature of the performance. *Fun at the Zoo* is provided by the Donaldson Brothers and Troupe, who appear during the harlequinade. In the matter of scenery, mention must be made of the Palace of Slumber, the Coral Grotto, the Steel Castle, and the Exterior of the Palace. The full chorus and orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Clarence C. Corri.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Jan. 24, the Drama entitled

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Mr. W. W. Kelly's company was warmly welcomed on the occasion of the reopening of the dramatic season at Mr. Wentworth Croke's cosy house on Monday with the perennial favourite *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Keith Fraser is to be congratulated on an excellent portraiture of the great Corsican, his make-up being admirable. Miss Violet Ellicott plays with grace and ability the Empress Josephine; while Marie Louise is capitally enacted by Miss Winnie Tempest. Miss Dorothy Hudson is bright and intelligent as the little King; and Miss Loyale Frere is effective as the Gouvernant. Mr. Percy H. Vernon is at his best as the wily diplomatist Talleyrand; Mr. Charles Stirling realises well the character of the Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. E. J. Collins is good as Augereau. Marshal Murat is well sustained by Mr. Harold Standing; Miss Dorothy Garth is capital as Stephanie; Mr. J. J. Jordan as the drunken Innkeeper causes much amusement; and the other characters are capitally sustained. The play is admirably dressed and mounted.

"CINDERELLA" AT STOKE NEWINGTON.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Despite the counter-attraction of the elections *Cinderella* continues to hold its own at the Alexandra, and has established itself a firm favourite. Dull moments are conspicuous by their absence, and the whole production furnishes a feast of fun and melody which the most fastidious in taste in this kind of entertainment could not cavil at. The principal share of the fun-making falls to the lot of those two admirably contrasted comedians, Messrs. George French and Mr. Tom Conway, who, as the Baron and Baroness respectively play so well into each others' hands and keep the house in thorough good humour in every scene in which they are concerned by their irresistible drollery. Miss Nellie Wigley's handsome presence and spirited style make her an ideal principal boy, and her Prince Casimir is deservedly popular. Miss Dorothy Rundell as Cinderella invests the part with considerable sweetness and charm, and her duet in the Kitchen Scene with Mr. Bobbie Walker, a clever comedian and particularly neat and agile tumbler, who appears as Capers, is among the most popular musical numbers of the pantomime. The amenities of Cinderella's sisters, Araminta and Elvira, are most amusingly set forth by Miss Edith Barwell and Vic Charlton; and as the Duke of Whistbridge Miss Gwen Howard scores heavily with the popular "Ship ahoy!" without which no pantomime this year appears to be complete. Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe brings a considerable amount of spirit to bear upon his impersonation of Dandini, and his songs are all rendered with an abandon and go, especially "By the seaside," that secure for them a most enthusiastic reception. The Fairy Godmother has a graceful and pretty exponent in Miss Kitty Dale.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT THE PAVILION.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Substantial success has rewarded the enterprise of Mr. Alexander Leighton in providing the Pavilion Theatre with a pantomime that may be numbered among the triumphs of that old-established house. All the resources of the vast stage have been employed in the mounting of the work, and many brilliant spectacles delight the eye. Particularly pleasing is the picture of Sherwood Forest, wherein a beautiful daybreak effect is secured, the changing lights from the grey dawn to a brilliant sunrise which gradually illumines the recesses of the forest being very artistic. Picturesque effect is also made out of the Sands, Brightsun-on-Sea, The Garden of Roses, and Poppyland, culminating in the grandeur of the Palace of the Earl of Huntingdon, where an effect of regal splendour is obtained.

The company has been maintaining the prestige secured on the opening night. Miss Winnie Browne continues to lead in fine style as Robin Hood, making as buoyant and dashing an outlaw as could be conceived. Miss Browne sings with capital vigour, gaining her chief effects in "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," in which she has the assistance of a bevy of fair maidens. A high place in favour has been taken by Miss Edith Harmer, as pretty, refined, and vivacious a Maid Marion as one ever beheld. She sings and dances delightfully, and her rendering of "Hanover" with a contingent of Dutch girls proved very exhilarating. The pretty ballad "Somewhere," too, suits her melodious and penetrating voice admirably, and she sings it in a manner that is quite fascinating. The duet with Robin, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," is also highly entertaining The two principals appear in many captivating costumes, those of Pierrot and Pierrette being not the least becoming.

Fun in many varieties continues to be made by Mr. Billy Harman, who is a whimsical Baron Popham. He has unlimited "wheezes," and makes rich comic capital out of his song "Let us go," of which a wordy warfare with the orchestra is a diverting feature. Closely associated with Mr. Harman in the merry-making is Mr. Reg Edwards, who is an irresistibly quaint and gushing female as Agnes Lizzie Snowdrop, arousing laughter by numberless odd tricks. Messrs. Barrett and Knowles as the Robbers are inseparable mirth-makers, the one a bold implacable villain and the other a good-natured easy-going scoundrel. They work together with hilarious effect in a diversified duel, and their duet "What, what, what!" scores repeatedly.

A comely pair of lovers is seen in Miss Gladys Erskine and Miss Vera Sanders, who figure as Will Scarlet and Margery Daw. Both act up to their responsibilities, and sing and dance blithely. The tuneful "Ship Ahoy" falls to Miss Erskine, who endows it with a jaunty air that carries it along successfully. The Babes are charmingly and intelligently represented by Miss Iris Norman and Miss Winnie Myine, who make a pretty and well-spoken couple. The latter as the Girl Babe wins honours by her singing of "Shadowland," the chorus of which is eagerly taken up by the house. Mr. John Sandbrook makes an imposing Herne the Hunter, and sounds some melodious high and low notes in his spirited rendering of "Revenge"; and as Goodheart Miss Vera Vizard exercises her fairy sway agreeably, singing her ballad "Sleep On" in cultivated style, fully deserving of the loud applause it receives. The efforts of Mr. Laurie Aster as the Page and Mr. William Pringle as a Jester are effective throughout. Mr. Arthur Wingrave presents Friar Tuck as the bibulous buffoon of tradition, and among a long cast Miss Jessie McPherson as Allan-a-Dale and Miss Gladys Goldsmid as Little John should be picked out for praise.

Miss Bessie Royce, the première danseuse, accomplishes her work with grace and experience, and the cleverness of the toe dance by Little Sylvia Rose is greatly admired. The Asturias Troupe combine in many manœuvres pleasing to the eye, and the various ballets and processions, the credit for which belongs to Miss Ina Alston, are artistically designed and executed. Some of the music, which is by Mr. B. J. Paterson, is of quite an operatic character, and is rendered as such by the able chorus. The pantomime is in its last week, and gives way on Monday next to Mr. Frederick Melville's play *Her Forbidden Marriage*.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT THE BRITANNIA.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall in his production of pantomime has shown considerable enterprise, and the gratification of seeing the immense theatre crowded to its utmost capacity on many occasions since Boxing Day has been his reward. The fine traditions of Yuletide spectacle have inspired him to worthy effort, and the result is a holiday entertainment in which the indispensable conditions of fun and movement have been supplied without stint. The story of Dick Whittington is the framework of the eleven scenes through which we follow the adventures of the lucky apprentice, and from the time we meet with him at Fitzwarren's stores until we assist at the final triumph in a sumptuous scene at the Guildhall, song, dance, quip, and crank make the time go merrily.

Miss May Beattie, the Dick, is a comely and sweet-voiced principal boy, and plays the part with abundant spirit and excellent humour, and her success is never in doubt. That immensely popular song "Somewhere" finds in her an interpreter of considerable culture, and the melodious phrases ring throughout the big auditorium not only as a solo, but as one big chorus, in which man, woman, and child join. Another great vocal success is that sweet melody "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," associated in the halls with the fame of Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon. The success of "My only friend" is shared with the faithful feline, represented in this instance by Mr. Jack Hurst, whose catlike gambols and sympathetic treatment of the part afford continual delight to the youngsters among the big Britannia crowds. The comic scenes are plentiful, and Mr. Edward Lauri is very prominent in the fooling. A capital actor, an excellent dancer, and a resourceful comedian, Mr. Lauri does immense service in the interests of the fun. He has excellent songs in "Beside the sea," which gods and pit catch up with complete unanimity, and "Charlie Brown."

Miss Ruby Verdi, a coquettish and attractive Alice, wins all hearts by her dancing, which is particularly fetching; Miss Millicent Cooper gives out with dramatic effect the dire threats of King Rat; and the whimsical nature of Mr. George Rapley's ebullitions as the Cook are exactly to the tastes of the house. Mr. Bob Hutt cuts a droll figure as Fitzwarren, and has many funny ways, which are very effective in the concert of fun; and Mr. Will Harris and Mr. Alec Fraser are a diverting pair of mates, dancing admirably, and introducing specialities that never fail to interest or to amuse. They have a loyal co-operator in Mr. Tom Birchmore, a well-known minstrel comedian, who is legitimately amusing as the Captain of the Saucy Kipper, in which the jovial crew voyage, eventually reaching China, where a joyous Emperor is found in Mr. Tom Melbourne, a monarch who, while thinking imperially, does so in the most light-hearted fashion. Mr. J. Willoughby, with nothing to say, sketches very amusingly the part of the boatswain, and is responsible for a very clever speciality in the deck scene, his legmania and table leaping showing great ability and smartness. Master Leslie Perks as a diminutive middy scores a great success in the song "Ship Ahoy"; and "Slumberland" is prettily sung by the Fairy Cat, Baby Evie. The Feast of Wealth (Scene 7) is a vista of chromatropic brilliance, and herein that fine pantomimist Mr. J. M. Jones—who did so much for the cause of pantomime in the eighties and nineties at the old Grand Theatre, Islington—shows a great deal of clever gesture play and agility as Shellac, the Slave of Wealth. The ballets have been arranged by Miss Beatrice Harold, whose eight gipsy girls give a lively hornpipe on board the Saucy Kipper—one of the most spirited dances we have seen in the course of our pantomime experience. The harlequinade presented by the Reed Troupe, who play with any amount of animation and rollicking fun the apprentices in the opening, has much of the old-fashioned fun so beloved by Hoxtonites.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE BOROUGH, STRATFORD.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Mr. Fred Fredericks's latest annual has with time developed into a pantomime which can be fairly described as beautiful, bright and brisk. *Cinderella* is essentially a children's subject, and consequently requires plenty of comedy business; and this has been well provided, although the main threads of the familiar fairy tale are faithfully retailed, and the story is embellished with much picturesque scenery and effects.

In Miss Ethel Ward the juveniles find a winsome and loveable Cinderella, whose charming performance wins general approval, and the elders gain pleasure from the dainty vivacity and grace of her singing and acting. As Prince Charming Miss Madoline Rees cuts a dashing and gallant figure, and is seen to advantage in some very handsome dresses; and her songs go wonderfully well. Miss May Garstang impressed us most favourably at the initial performance; and her impersonation of Dandini has become a "hit" of the pantomime. Her songs "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" and "Come to Madeira" are enthusiastically received. Mr. Barney Armstrong has ripened his Baron Pompolino into a performance of exceeding merit. He is irresistibly droll and entertaining, and introduces much amusing patter and business into his songs "Don't take me home," "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" and "Harry Lauder on the brain" being numbers with which he makes an unqualified success. Much of Mr. Armstrong's good work is done in conjunction with a diminutive confederate called Kelly, and this part is played by Jimmie Steele, who wins very hearty applause. Mr. Fred Lincoln, as Clorinda, one of the Ugly Sisters, is repeating former successes in Stratford pantomime. His equestrian number with the aid of the Unites as the horse, is decidedly funny, and his song "I've got a little job to go to" is one of the best in the pantomime. The other "Sister," Thisbe, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Sidney Young. Mr. Harry Rogerson is an active and untiring Page and scores heavily with his songs and speciality act "A One-man Melodrama." Miss Alys Eden plays the Baroness with much success; and Jeddah, as the cat, contributes a nimble feline impersonation. The Stella troupe of dancers enhance the scenes in which they appear and are a decided acquisition to the pantomime; and the speciality turns of the Unites, and Horace and Olga's table troupe of cats and dogs, are unstintedly applauded. Mr. Will L. Clement stage-manages and is to be complimented on the smoothness of the performance, and for the front of the house the popular Mr. Frank Rothsay is responsible.

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and company are presenting *The Lancashire Lad* at the Marina, Lowestoft, where it is well received. In Act 3 a variety entertainment is contributed to by Bobbie Anderson and Madge Douglas.

"ALADDIN'S" LAST NIGHT.

Amid scenes of boundless enthusiasm, Mr. Wentworth Croke's highly-successful pantomime of *Aladdin* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, concluded its run on Saturday night. The house was densely crowded, and from first to last the whole went with a "bang." The pantomime has beaten all records in connection with this theatre; and at practically every performance throughout the long run it has played to the fullest possible capacity. As a matter of fact, on Saturday night the record was broken for any previous Saturday night in the history of the theatre.

To Miss Kittee Rayburn, whose admirers are legion, the reception may truly be dubbed "Royal"; her topical songs had again and again to be repeated; and the vociferous cheers that greeted the references to Sir William Bull, Hammersmith's newly-elected M.P., plainly showed the trend of political feeling in that part of South-west London. As is well known, Sir William Bull paid a high tribute to Miss Rayburn's talent and sagacity in winning supporters to the Conservative cause by composing a verse in her honour.

In the Palace Scene, the stage was literally covered with bouquets of flowers, boxes of chocolates, and other tokens of respect from admirers, Miss Kittee Rayburn, the favourite principal "boy" of the pantomime, alone receiving seventeen beautiful bouquets, one being an exquisite one with two Union Jacks, in addition to large boxes of chocolates. Mr. Fred Jennings, the popular manager, came forward, and in a few well-chosen words addressed the audience. In referring to the unprecedented success of the pantomime, he stated that that was unfortunately the last night, and they probably thought they must be mad to terminate the run of such a huge success, but they arranged to send the pantomime on tour, and now, although they had tried very hard to cancel their provincial dates, they had been unable to do so. Next year Mr. Croke would produce another pantomime, and would run it on so long as his generous patrons would support them.

In response to loud calls for a speech, Mr. Wentworth Croke, who has done so much for the playgoers of Hammersmith, said that it gave him great pleasure to know and to feel that they were all so pleased with the pantomime, and he hoped they would give him the same generous support next year they had extended to him this year. They might be interested to know that next year the subject of the pantomime would be *Cinderella*. In conclusion, Mr. Croke said: "I should like to take the opportunity of thanking our manager, Mr. Jennings, our dear principal 'boy,' Miss Kittee Rayburn, and the whole of the pantomime company, for the splendid manner in which they have worked together for the success of the show. Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you one and all." (Applause.)

At the conclusion of Mr. Croke's speech, which was received with loud applause, Mr. Cecil Perry, the accountant to Mr. Wentworth Croke, stated that he had been desired, on behalf of Miss Kittee Rayburn, their popular principal "boy" of the pantomime, to make a few presentations on her behalf, as a token of the esteem in which she held those who had been instrumental in making the pantomime such a huge success. He asked Mr. Croke to accept from Miss Rayburn the handsome solid silver salver (suitably engraved) it was his great pleasure to hand to him on her behalf. The second presentation he would make would be to their good old friend and popular manager, Mr. Fred Jennings, who had always been so courteous and considerate in the execution of his arduous duties, and it afforded him very much pleasure in handing to Mr. Jennings from Miss Rayburn a very fine solid silver rose bowl (inscribed) in recognition of his never failing kindness to her and to those connected with the theatre. The third presentation he had much pleasure in making was to someone who did not always get the credit from the public he personally considered he was entitled to, and that was to their hard-working stage-manager, Mr. Thos. Barry, whose acceptance he asked of a handsome travelling clock, also inscribed, from Miss Rayburn. The fourth and last presentation he had pleasure in making on Miss Rayburn's behalf was to their genial musical director, Mr. Ashley Richards, who was most material to the success of the pantomime, and who, they would remember, was unfortunately injured in the recent charity football match with Fulham. In conclusion, he asked Mr. Richards to accept at his hands from Miss Rayburn a travelling clock also, with appropriate inscription.

Responding to repeated calls for a speech, Miss Kittee Rayburn said that she was so delighted at the hearty manner in which they had applauded her efforts during the run of the pantomime, that she scarcely knew how to thank everyone. She only hoped that she had been successful in pleasing the audience with her songs and performance generally, and that she might have the pleasure at no very distant date of appearing before them again. From the bottom of her heart she thanked them one and all. (Loud applause.)

Three cheers were then given by the audience for Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth Croke, Mr. Fred Jennings, and Miss Kittee Rayburn, with an additional one for the pantomime company generally, and after the singing of the National Anthem and Auld Lang Syne by the whole of the audience and the company, the proceedings terminated.

COUNTY, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Jan. 24, the Pantomime, entitled

"BLUEBEARD."

After a successful run at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, the pantomime *Bluebeard* was on Monday transferred to the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, where it has been delighting numerous audiences. The pantomime, which was designed by Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, and was produced under the superintendence of Mr. Buckston Clair, is a bright, witty, and tuneful show, that reflects the greatest credit upon all concerned. All the best of the popular songs are introduced into it, the jokes never fail to tell, and there is a numerous and well-trained chorus. Costumes and scenery (the latter by Julian Hicks, A. G. Betts, and Geo. Miller) are of a most gorgeous character. The audience gave a cordial reception to Miss May Hart, an old Kingston favourite, who plays Shacabac with great success. Miss Christine Roy, who is appearing as Fatima, is also earning many laurels, her vocal efforts, especially a "moon song," being received with unbounded applause. Miss Ernestine Desborough gives a dashing portraiture of a goatherd as Selim; and an equally successful appearance is made by Miss M. Sadie as Lieut. Pride of H.M.S. Merrie England, her song "Ship ahoy!" being well received. Thanks to the efforts of the comedians, there is not a dull moment in the pantomime. Mr. Tom Seymour as Bluebeard, Mr. Arthur Royce as Sister Ann, Mr. Max Copland as Mustapha, and Mr. Percy Galino as Swank, all vie with one another in contributing to the fun of the show, with the result that the audience is kept in an almost continuous roar of laughter. Some clever dancing is introduced by Miss Mollie Geary, and some graceful evolutions are also performed by the Misses Eily McKay, Marjorie Neville, Queenie Lang, and M. Geary as the County Girls; whilst the Misses G. Mansell and D. Hart also acquit themselves well as a couple of gollywogs. The chorus and orchestra are under the experienced direction of Mr. Claud B. Yearsley. Mr. Leslie Fergusson is the acting-manager, and Mr. Percy Galino is the stage-manager.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

Mr. A. Arnott is to be the master carpenter at the Strand Theatre for the new production. Mr. Philip Sheridan will remain in his former position as electrician-in-charge. Friends of Mr. G. H. Dyball will regret to hear that he is to undergo an operation on Monday and may be in hospital for several weeks.

A meeting of the committee of the Dramatic and Variety Theatre Employés' Provident Association was held at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, on Tuesday. Mr. James Cullen presided, and among those present were Mr. C. T. Cory, Mr. A. Palmer, Mr. F. B. Fidge, Mr. Geo. Pickering, Mr. J. Atterton, Mr. P. Sheridan, Mr. Reid, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. Ed. Stow, and the secretary Wm. Johnson. A number of sick claims were considered, and a member fined for being out after hours while on the sick fund. A number of applications for membership were granted.

Mr. Wm. Johnson, general secretary of the N.A.T.E., has been appointed to attend the special conference of trade unions to be held in Newport, Mon., on Feb. 9, and the Labour Party conference on the following two days.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of the General Staff Branch, N.A.T.E., will take place to-morrow evening in Terry's Theatre at 7.30, Mr. Charles Thorogood, branch president, in the chair. The following members have been nominated for election as follows: President, Charles Thorogood; vice-president, James Atterton, Criterion Theatre; treasurer, Edward Stow, the Vaudeville Theatre; secretary, Wm. Johnson. For the committee: H. Bowmer, Gaiety Theatre; Wm. Farrell, Criterion Theatre; J. N. Hunt and Wm. Hall, Alhambra; G. Hooper, Vaudeville Theatre; Geo. Dyer and H. T. Wood, Drury Lane Theatre; F. Hodsell, Lyceum Theatre; G. Pickering, Duke of York's Theatre; and John Phelps, Covent Garden Theatre. Trustees: A. George, Lyceum Theatre; and F. Wilson, Alhambra; auditors: Messrs. James Finnigan and H. J. Kemp.

Tickets for the annual dinner of this branch on Feb. 13 are now ready, and none will be reserved after Monday next. Application for tickets may be made to the stewards or the secretary.

At a meeting of the Cinematograph Operators' Association on Tuesday, eight applications for membership were granted. Mr. Mason was appointed to act on the deputation to the London County Council in place of Mr. A. Malcolm. It was decided to ask the Middlesex County Council to receive a deputation from the committee on the question of certificates for operators. Members are requested to send all available information to the secretary on the new radius agreements now being introduced by some exhibitors, by which operators are bound not to accept similar employment with any other employer within a specified area. A Bill was introduced in the last session of Parliament to make these radius agreements illegal. They practically place an employé signing such agreement at the mercy of their employer, and compel him to contract out of his present right to better his position.

It is interesting to compare the statements made to the Theatres Committee of the London County Council this week with statements made to the writer of these notes by an operator who has been in the employ of a member of the deputation from the Cinematograph Defence League. The operator in question had to work from 2 till 11 o'clock each week day, and from 3 till 10 o'clock on Sundays; he had half an hour off during these hours for a meal and took this time when he could; he was paid £2 per week inclusive and only had one Sunday off in six weeks. This rate of pay is much below the average and considerably less than many operators are getting who are only doing evening shows. It proves the case against Sunday work, and that the more work one does in point of hours, the less, usually, one is paid. It is the opinion of the Operators' Association that an operator should not sign a contract for a seven-days working week without such contract provides a substantial addition to the usually weekly wage.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Jan. 24, the Drama entitled

"RACING LIFE."

The West Londoners followed this stirring little play with unabated interest, for its many exciting incidents appealed most forcibly to their sporting instincts, and when on the cinematograph the favourite was shown winning the race for its popular owner their enthusiasm reached a high pitch. As the jockey, Frank Lyle, Mr. Tom Calden acted admirably, speaking his lines with telling effect; Mr. H. Buxton carried conviction as the "crooked" owner, Mr. Richard Poynter; Mr. C. Ashton performed creditably as the tout, Joe Jackson; Mr. Henry Calden revelled in the low-comedy rôle of Jim Bingham; and Miss A. Luxos pleased everybody with her effective impersonation of Grace Ferrar. During the evening some very good films were screened, notably Ben's Kid, The Lure of the Gown, La Tosca, The Pyrenees, and Lily Boheme. It is pleasing to note how the mingling of pictures and drama has caught on at this old Marylebone playhouse, and all who know Mr. William Bailey—and their name is legion—will wish him an ever-increasingly prosperous career as manager for Mr. F. R. Griffiths. The front of the house is ably controlled by Mr. J. H. Shotton.

Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Two Little Drummer Boys* forms the attraction at the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe. Mr. Ernest Fare plays Capt. Darrell with great credit; Mr. Wm. Vane is a creditable Capt. Carsdale; Mr. Edward Bikker has a fine commanding appearance as Capt. Kingsley; Mr. Will Percy and Mr. Dick Seddon are responsible for the funny parts of Quiney O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer; Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas in the title-rôles are excellent; Miss Violet Langley displays talent as Alma Kingsley, and Miss Violet Ingram is careful as Drunken Meg.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is appearing at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, in *The Prodigal Son*, which is securing liberal support. Mr. Hugh Montgomery is responsible for a strikingly powerful impersonation of Magnus, and in the title-rôle, Mr. S. Herbert Humber scores a signal success. Helga Nielson is admirably portrayed by Miss Betty Castle, and Thora is equally well played by Miss Valerie Crespin. Miss Barbara Gott is well suited as Mrs. Stephenson, and Mr. Ernest Rivars is a dignified father. Miss Marie Harcourt is responsible for a delightful character study as Margaret Nielson, and other parts equally well filled are those of Dr. Olsen by Mr. Chas. Brownlee, Niel Finsen by Mr. Chas. A. Maynard, Director of the Casino by Mr. Fred Manners, and Eric Arnusson by Mr. Arthur Hall.

Mr. Walter Melville's company opened at the Royal and Hippodrome, Bilston, on Monday, with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*. Willie Mason is depicted in characteristic manner by Mr. F. Ronald Adair; Mr. William T. Riley is a successful James Harcourt; Vesta Le Clare is ably depicted by Miss Nannie Mead; Miss Florence Halton does well as Lucy Coventry; Miss Jessie Belmore is well placed as Sophie Coventry; and the comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Bert Agate (Johnny Walker) and Miss Nellie James (Poppy Slater).

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Last Tuesday afternoon the nineteenth annual general meeting of the Actors' Association was held at Terry's Theatre, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Edward Terry. There was a good attendance of members, and, at times, lively debate, the fair associates taking a considerable part in the afternoon's talk.

Mr. FREDK. MORELAND was voted to the chair, on the proposition of Mr. Poole Kirkwood, and the seconding of Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn.

Other members of the council on the platform were Messrs. F. G. Arlton, Lewis Casson, C. F. Collings, Clarence Derwent, Cyril Cattley, Gilbert Esmond, Langford Reed, J. Poole Kirkwood, Cecil Raleigh, Leonard Shepherd, and Fewlass Llewellyn; Misses Agnes Imlay, Marion Lind, and Rose Mathews, with Mr. W. H. Mote (hon. solicitor) and Mr. Duncan Young (secretary). Among those present were: Messrs. Walter Cross, Cecil A. Collins, Monckton Hoffe, G. Bentley, Lionel Bevans, John Mortimer, Creagh Henry, Charles Boult, Raymond Thomas, M. Seaton, E. M. Thomson, W. Russell, Talbot Homewood, L. Lowndes, Henry Bedells, Forestier Harvey, James Gelderd, Edwin Holloway, Archibald McLean, Gordon Philliott, Arthur Dennis, Hampton Gordon, Augustine Symonds, Stanley Roberts, Pat Alexander, Henry Doughty, Sydney Compton, W. Devereux, Avalon Collard, Lionel Braham, Charles Harley, Cecil du Gué, Arthur Curtis, Harold Chapin, Ed. Morgan, Henry le Grand, William Farren, Norman Yates, Wilson Sunning, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Ayliff, Mr. and Mrs. R. Davis, Misses Irene Moncrieff, Blanch de Lorme, May Whitty, Helen Mosley, Stanley Ronalds, Louise Moodie, Agnes Miller, Florence Nelson, Agnes Thomas, Beatrice Whitney, Barbara Fenn, Beatrice Chester, Norah Mahone, Phillis Vaughan, Margherita Gordon, Maude Kirwan, Ethel St. Barbe, Florence Harcourt, Kitty Marion, Hilda Hatton, Cecily Oates, Dorah Lewis, Sylvia Morris, Laura Leycester, Joan Pereira, Ina Rozant, Helena Head, Agnes Knights, R. Mayne Young, Madge Flynn, Ella Dixon, Barbara Allison, Winifred Mayo, Rhoda Beresford, Grace Vicat, Helen Farrington, Vera Leslie, Ada Palmer, Theresa Osborne, Lucy Sibley, Adeline Lester, Vita Spencer, Ada Hatchwell, Beatrice Merryon, Rose Vernon Paget, Kitty Lofting, Kitty Carew, Lucie Verrier, Adah Barton, Irene Ross, Emma Stockley, Judith Kyrle, Valetta Calypal, Lallie Forsyth, Rita Trekelle, Mrs. Gosset, and Miss Inez Bensusan.

After the secretary, Mr. DUNCAN YOUNG, had read the notice convening the meeting, Messrs. Collard, Collins, Mortimer, and Simons were elected as scrutineers to count the votes cast for the election of members of the council for the ensuing year.

The full list of the candidates nominated was as follows:—

Dora Lewis	Frederick Annerley
Kitty Marion	F. J. Arlton
Rose Mathews	Lewis Casson
Murri Moncrieff	Cyril Cattley
Edward Morgan	Rose Cazalet
Frederick Morland	Beatrice Chester
Robson Paige	C. Hayden Coffin
Joan Pereira	C. F. Collings
Henry Pettitt	Mildred Cottell
F. H. de Quincey	Basil Dean
Cecil Raleigh	Clarence Derwent
Langford Reed	Gilbert Esmond
Lucy Sibley	Richard A. Greene
Vita Spencer	J. Poole Kirkwood
Chris. Walker	Henry Le Grand

Mr. CECIL RALEIGH raised a question as to the votes which might be admitted by the scrutineers. In his opinion every vote sent in should be counted, otherwise it would be impossible to obtain the real views of the Association. If the votes of members who had not paid their subscriptions were excluded the real wishes of the Association might be obscured, because it was still very early in the year, and many members might have overlooked payment who would certainly pay before the year was out.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the rules of the Association were clear, that only members who had paid their subscriptions had the right to vote, and it was ruled accordingly.

Mr. CYRIL CATTLEY, in moving that the annual report and accounts be taken as read, adopted, and entered on the minutes, said that the Association had again become self-supporting, and that, with the exception of the remaining debentures, it was practically free from debt. The amount due under this head is now £305, and it becomes payable on March 12 next. The number of members on the books had increased from 796 to 837. The new premises of the Association at 32, Regent-street, afforded greatly improved accommodation, and the expense of removal had been covered by the voluntary contributions of some sixty members. Their offices now included a rehearsal-room, which would be of great advantage to members. At the beginning of last year the council had tried the experiment of abolishing the agency fee, but after a trial it was found advisable to re-establish it, and the receipts from this source would be a considerable asset to the funds. During the year the question of inviting the actor-managers who had retired in 1907 to rejoin the Association had been considered, and in October last the council had passed a resolution expressing a desire that Sir Herbert Tree and the other actor-managers who had left the Association three years ago should rejoin it. No progress, the report continued, had been made during the year with regard to the establishment of a standard contract, as the Touring Managers' Association, the West-End Managers' Association, and the Theatres Alliance had refused to discuss that contract. The four points suggested as essential in the contract were "a week of six performances; engagements to be for tour, season, or run; the right of the artist to be paid for all time devoted to the service of a manager; and the right of the artist to a living wage," but no progress had been made in this matter. Mr. CATTLEY, in the course of his speech, urged the necessity for making arrangements to pay off the remaining debentures, and pointed out that if members would pay 1s. 3d. per week until March 12 they could meet all liability under this head.

Mr. LANGFORD REED seconded the motion.

Following we give the full text of the

ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting the nineteenth annual report of the Actors' Association, the Council have much pleasure in calling the attention of members to the fact that during the year 1909 the Association has again been self-supporting, the income having been sufficient to meet all expenses. On reference to the accompanying balance-sheet it will be found that, with the exception of the debentures, the Association is practically free from debt of any kind.

With regard to the debentures, the Council are pleased to announce that during the year they have paid off £30 (six debentures), by means of the fund raised for that special purpose, and also Miss Clara Stevens generously cancelled the one standing in her name. The members, however, are earnestly requested to face the fact that the remaining £305 are legally due on March 12 next, and though the Council do not definitely state that these sixty-one debentures will be called in, yet they cannot too strongly urge on the members the necessity of being in a position to take up the whole of these debentures if called upon at that date. It may be further pointed out that so soon as the debentures are fully paid off the Association will undoubtedly be able to commence the hopeful work of establishing a much-needed reserve fund.

Owing to a regrettable laxity on the part of a certain number of members in paying their subscriptions, the Council were at last, in the month of October, reluctantly compelled to place the matter in the hands of the London Association for the Protection of Trade, with the result that £27 were received, but the Council earnestly trust that a repetition of this stringent method will not be necessary. They appeal for the hearty co-operation of all the members by prompt payment of subscriptions, so that they may be able to carry out their determination that the Association shall continue on a self-supporting basis.

The Council record the fact that 796 members on the books for 1909 paid their subscriptions; 41 new members have already paid their subscriptions for the current year, thus bringing the full strength of subscribing members up to the eminently satisfactory figure of 837. While there is good reason for gratification at this promising state of affairs, your Council earnestly hope that every member of the Association will make every effort to obtain more members. If this were consistently done, there is no reason why these figures should not be doubled by the end of the year.

The Council are convinced that the members will find the new premises admirably suited to their needs. It is eminently satisfactory that better accommodation in a much more central position has been secured, while the rent and working expenses are actually less than hitherto. It is also gratifying, in view of the discomfort that has been caused by rather frequent removals in the past, that the Council have sealed a lease for three years. Sincere thanks are due from the Association to Messrs. Arlton and Young, and Miss Imlay, who have been mainly instrumental in securing and preparing the new premises.

Thanks to the loyal response to the Council's appeal, the entire expenses of removal have been met by the voluntary contributions of some sixty members.

The Council have taken advantage of the fact that the new premises include a commodious kitchen to make arrangements by which luncheons, teas, and light refreshments will be served at an exceptionally low tariff in a comfortable room specially set apart for the purpose. The catering has been placed in the hands of Miss Mahone and Miss May, who have been constituted a Kitchen Committee: the Council have every confidence in their capacity to carry out the work, and sincerely hope the experiment will meet with the support it so fully deserves.

The attention of members is also called to the fact that among the advantages of the new premises is an excellent rehearsal room.

At the beginning of the year your Council decided to try the experiment of abolishing the agency fee, but after giving the experiment a fair trial, they have recently come to the conclusion that the association gained no advantage, and the original fee was therefore re-instated. Owing to the apparently increasing demands upon the agency, mainly due to the energy which Mr. Young is devoting to this branch of his work, it seems highly probable that the receipts from this source may prove a considerable asset to the funds of the Association.

The Council again have great pleasure in bringing before the notice of members the excellent and successful work which has been accomplished by the Play Actors' Club. The advantages to the Association from the existence of this flourishing club, membership of which is exclusively confined to members of the Association, are so great that the Council would urge all members to place themselves in touch with the Secretary of the Play Actors, so that they may take full benefit of any opportunities the club may be able to offer.

The hearty thanks of the Association are due to the ladies and gentlemen who worked so hard to promote the success of the country fair and fête, held on Sept. 15 at Earlsfield. As a result the sum of £17 10s. 5d. was handed over to the general funds of the Association.

The steps which were being taken to amalgamate with the Actors' Union were unfortunately of no avail owing to the Union ceasing to exist. Under these circumstances your Council felt that the wishes of the members of the Association would be expressed by extending a cordial invitation to the members of the late Union to become members of the Association (without payment of entrance fee up to Dec. 31, 1909, inclusive) which was accordingly done.

Among questions which have occupied the attention of your Council and aroused the interest of your members, is the one as to whether an invitation should be extended to those actor-managers who retired in 1907 to return as ordinary members of the Association. At the Council meeting held on Oct. 19 last a resolution was passed that members should be asked to sign a requisition, which had already been passed by the Council, in the following terms:—

> "That we, the undersigned, wish to express our sincere desire that Sir Herbert Tree and the other actor-managers who resigned three years ago should be asked to resume their membership of the Association."

The Council hope that this matter will be discussed and decided by the members at the annual general meeting.

The Council regret that no further progress has been possible with regard to the standard contract. The Council, after devoting many hours to the framing of a Model Standard Contract, regret to report that the efforts made to induce the Touring Managers' Association, the West End Managers' Association, and the Theatres' Alliance, to discuss that contract, were without avail. They wish, however, to record their opinion that the four points mentioned in the report for last year are essential to the true welfare of the theatrical profession.

The four points are:

1. A week of six performances.
2. Engagements to be for tour, season, or run.
3. The right of the artist to be paid for all time devoted to the service of a manager.
4. The right of the artist to a living wage.

The most important event of the theatrical year has been the meeting of the committee appointed by two Houses of Parliament on the question of the dramatic censorship. At a general meeting of the Association, held in the rooms of the Association on July 28, a resolution was passed: "That the powers of the Censor should be retained and his duties be extended to all dramatic entertainments embracing concert halls and music halls, subject to a Court of Appeal as proposed by the Dramatic Authors' Society," and subsequently Mr. Clarence Derwent was appointed by the Council to attend before the Parliamentary Committee to give evidence in support of the views thus expressed.

The Council wish again to tender on behalf of the Association their sincere thanks for, and high appreciation of, the invaluable services of the hon. medical staff, so generously placed at the service of the members.

The services of the hon. solicitors have again been of great help to a large number of our members, and it may be mentioned that successful action has been taken in many cases. The Council desire in particular to place on record their sincere gratitude to Mr. H. W. Mote, both for the regularity of his attendance at the Council meetings and for the inestimable value of his advice.

In the case of a claim made by a member against a manager, the matter was referred to a court of arbitration, consisting of two members of the Touring Managers' Association and two members of the Council of the Actors' Association, with the result that an award was made in favour of the claimant.

In June last it was found necessary to appoint a new secretary, and the Council have much pleasure in testifying to the present satisfactory work which is being done by the staff under the able and energetic direction of Mr. Duncan Young.

ACCOUNT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1909.

Dr. 1909	Receipts.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1	To Balance brought forward, Dec. 31, 1908	40 11 1
Dec. 31	,, Members' Subscription	576 18 0
,,	,, Life Member's Subscription	10 10 0
,,	,, Entrance Fees	18 0 0
,,	,, Donations	18 14 0
,,	,, Amount received from Trustees of Debenture Fund as Donation towards redemption of Debentures	30 0 0
,,	,, Reinstatement Fees	0 6 0
,,	,, Agency Commission	3 7 6
,,	,, Members' Telephone Calls	5 5 10
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Year Book, 1909	2 3 4
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Year Book, 1910	14 16 8
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Rehearsal Room	0 7 0
,,	,, Excess of Receipts over Payments Removal Fund	4 3 5
,,	,, H. Blount—on account of Suspense	24 16 7
		£749 19 5

Cr. 1909	Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	By Rent		160 0 0
,,	,, Lighting, Firing, and Cleaning		30 13 1
,,	,, Salaries		275 14 3
,,	,, Telephone and Messenger Call Expenses		21 6 0
,,	,, Printing and Stationery		36 7 6
,,	,, Newspapers for use of Members		5 18 6
,,	,, Insurance		2 15 6
,,	,, Advertising		23 10 9
,,	,, Christmas Boxes		6 10 0
,,	,, Debenture Interest		16 16 6
,,	,, Legal Expenses		2 0 0
,,	,, Furniture Bought and Repairs		2 8 0
,,	,, Accountant's Charges		33 17 5
,,	,, Debentures Redeemed		30 0 0
,,	,, Errors debited to Suspense:—		
	H. Blount Telephone Receipts	0 4 1	
	H. Blount Petty Cash	0 2 5	
			0 6 6
,,	,, D. J. Bowen—debited to Suspense		1 3 0
,,	,, Difference in Cash Book to June 24 debited to Suspense		24 19 6
,,	,, Miscellaneous Expenses, including Stamps and Telegrams		56 10 10½
,,	,, Balances, viz.:—		
	At Bank	18 8 6	
	In Hand—Petty Cash	0 11 6½	
	Telephone Calls	0 2 0	
			19 2 0½
			£749 19 5

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Dr. 1909	Receipts.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1	To Balance	136 3 9
Dec. 31	,, Rent	160 0 0
,,	,, Lighting, Firing, and Cleaning	28 15 2
,,	,, Salaries	275 14 3
,,	,, Telephone and Messenger Service	16 5 3
,,	,, Printing and Stationery	75 13 9
,,	,, Newspapers for Members	7 11 11
,,	,, Insurance	2 2 2
,,	,, Advertising	30 6 3
,,	,, Christmas Boxes	6 10 0
,,	,, Debenture Interest	16 16 3
,,	,, Miscellaneous Expenses	50 3 7½
,,	,, Accountant's Charges, 1908 and 1909	26 5 0
,,	,, Depreciation on Furniture 10 per cent.	25 6 5
		£857 13 9½

Cr. 1909	Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	By Members' Subscriptions		592 8 6
,,	,, Entrance Fees		19 5 0
,,	,, Reinstatement Fees		0 6 0
,,	,, Agency Commission		3 7 6
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Members' Telephones		5 5 1
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Year Book, 1909		16 1 8
,,	,, Receipts in respect of Rehearsal Room		0 7 0
,,	,, One Life Member's Subscription		10 10 0
,,	,, Donations		18 14 0
,,	,, Donations on account of Debenture Fund	5 0 0	
,,	,, Grant from Trustees of Debenture Fund	30 0 0	
			35 0 0
,,	,, Removal Account		17 9 3
,,	,, Balance forward		138 19 9½
			£857 13 9½

REMOVAL FUND, CASH ACCOUNT.

Dr. 1909	Receipts.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	To Receipts as per Treasurer's Book	29 12 6
		£29 12 6

Cr. 1909	Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	By Payments as per Treasurer's Book		23 1 3
,,	,, Amount handed to Secretary		4 3 5
,,	,, Balance in Hand		2 7 10
			£29 12 6

BALANCE SHEET, DEC. 31, 1909.

Dr. Liabilities.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Debentures, viz.:—		
Balance at Dec. 31, 1908	340 0 0	
Less cancelled during the year	35 0 0	
		305 0 0
,, Sundry Creditors, viz.:—		
On Open Accounts	62 19 8	
Debenture Interest	4 3 9	
		67 3 5
,, Receipts on account of Year Book, 1910		15 8 3
,, Subscriptions for 1910—Paid in advance		30 18 0
		£418 9 8

Cr. Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at Bank	18 8 6	
,, Cash in Hand	0 11 6½	
Telephone Account	0 2 0	
Removal Fund	2 7 10	
		21 9 10½
,, Office Furniture, &c.		
Balance Dec. 31, 1908	253 13 5	
Additions	2 8 0	
	256 1 5	
Less Depreciation 10 per cent	25 6 5	
		230 15 0
,, Telephone—Proportion paid in advance		5 0 0
,, Insurance—Proportion paid in advance		0 13 4
,, Suspense Account		21 11 8
,, Excess of Liabilities over Assets		138 19 9½
		£418 9 8

DEBENTURE FUND, CASH ACCOUNT.

Dr. 1909	Receipts.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	To Donations as lists furnished by C. Raleigh	31 10 2½
,,	,, Donations received by Secretary	1 0 0
,,	,, Amounts received as counterfoil Receipts' Books but lot handed over to Trustees	2 5 0
		£34 15 2½

Cr. 1909	Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31	By Amount paid to Actors' Association for redemption of Debentures		30 0 0
,,	,, Amount in suspense as per Contra		2 5 0
,,	,, Balance. Cash in Hand		
	Trustees	1 10 2½	
	Secretary	1 0 0	
			2 10 2½
			£34 15 2½

We have examined the above accounts and balance-sheet, dated Dec. 31, 1909, and in our opinion the same are properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Association according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Association.

BARNES, DUNN, AND BOUGHTON,
Chartered Accountants.

52, Gracechurch-street,
London, E.C.
Jan. 12, 1910.

ACTOR MANAGERS INVITED BACK.

Mr. CLARENCE DERWENT next moved, "That this meeting wishes to express its approval of the action taken by members of the Council, that the Actor-Managers who resigned should be asked to again become members of the Association." He mentioned that Sir Herbert Tree had expressed his willingness to rejoin, and had mentioned that he was sure his fellow actor-managers in London would also be willing to again become members of the association. (Hear, hear.) The question really was whether the association was to be conducted on the lines of trades unionism, and as the result of practical experience of actors' organisations, he was convinced that no form of trades unionism could be even approximately applied to the conditions of their profession. (Hear, hear.) In their profession a man might be an actor one day, an actor-manager the next, and another day he might have to join the ranks of the unemployed. There was only one method by which trade union demands could be enforced, and that was by withdrawing labour—a method impossible in the theatrical profession.

Mr. F. J. ARLTON seconded.

Mr. CECIL RALEIGH dissented, on the ground that the Council should do nothing in the matter until they had held a general meeting of the Association on the subject. He thought they should exclude managers from the association, because, if a manager and one of his employés happened to be on the council together it would be difficult for the latter to oppose his employer in any matter where the interests of actors and managers were in conflict. He proposed as an amendment "That this meeting regrets that the council did not defer this question until they had consulted a general meeting of the association."

Mr. MONCKTON HOFFE seconded the amendment.

Mr. WILLIAM DEVEREUX opposed the amendment, and urged the importance of having actor-managers, who were not only actors but men of business, associated with the conduct of the association.

Miss ROSE MATHEWS opposed the readmission of managers to the association, and pointed out that for sixteen years they had managers on the council, and the only result was to run the association into debt. During the three years the managers had been outside the association they had begun to pay their way, and had cleared off most of the debt that had been incurred. She really thought the existence of the association should be counted from the day the managers left it.

Mr. HOFFE complained that London managers tried to keep down the provincial actor, and one of the first essentials was to break down the London corner, which had for its object the prevention of provincial actors getting a chance in the metropolis.

Miss AGNES IMLAY supported the resolution, and declared that after two years on the Council as a provincial actress she came on with a perfectly open mind, convinced that the only way to make the Actors' Association live was to have the representative actor-manager back.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the amendment was really a vote of censure on the outgoing council.

The amendment was rejected, and the original resolution adopted by a majority of the meeting.

Mr. CECIL RALEIGH proposed "That it be an instruction to the Council that in the future the fullest minutes of their proceedings shall be published in the Press, nothing being omitted from such minute, saving any legal matters that the honorary solicitor may desire to be withheld until they are complete, or statements that in the opinion of the honorary solicitor may render the Associaton liable to legal action." This was seconded by Miss LUCY SIBLEY.

AN ACCUSATION AND AN APOLOGY.

During the discussion Mr. ARLTON complained that at a meeting last year the chairman on the occasion (Mr. Raleigh) had kept a letter from a member of Parliament in his pocket which he did not disclose.

Mr. RALEIGH asked who was the member of Parliament.

Mr. ARLTON said it was from Mr. Harcourt.

Mr. RALEIGH denied that he got any letter from Mr. Harcourt, or any other member of Parliament, until months after the meeting in question.

Mr. ARLTON: Well, you had a letter from somebody, for you had the facts of the bill in advance.

Mr. RALEIGH: I had no letter, and the facts were those published in every newspaper in the country. If that is to be construed into a letter from a member of Parliament, we can estimate the value to be attached to Mr. Arlton's statements.

Mr. ARLTON: I am sorry I was under a misapprehension, and I withdraw the statement. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RALEIGH asked for the name of Mr. Arlton's informant that he had received a letter.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that as Mr. Arlton had withdrawn the statement, the discussion should be allowed to cease.

The resolution was rejected.

Miss ROSE MATHEWS proposed: "That the members of the Actors' Association hereby direct their Council not to elect any member associated in any way with theatrical management, to fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur on the Council during the forthcoming year." She said she was strongly in favour of actors governing their own association. It was not the great London actor-managers that she objected to, but the small managers, who cut down salaries and would not pay their employés a living wage.

Mr. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. CECIL RALEIGH.

Mr. KIRKWOOD expressed the view that the resolution was merely another attempt to keep the actor-manager from coming back to the Association.

The resolution was rejected.

Miss LUCY SIBLEY proposed: "That the Council are hereby instructed to again approach the Theatrical Managers' Association, the West End Managers' Association, the Theatrical Alliance, and the Touring Managers' Association, with a view to a discussion with them of the model contract between managers and members of the Association prepared last year." This was seconded by Mr. CECIL RALEIGH and unanimously carried.

Votes of thanks to the auditors, the physicans to the association, and the honorary solicitor, and Mr. Edward Terry for the use of his theatre, concluded the proceedings.

LIST OF COUNCIL ELECTED FOR 1910.

G. F. Collings, 214; Frederick Annerley, 213; Lewis Casson, 208; C. Hayden Coffin, 206; Frederick Morland, 202; F. J. Arlton, 193; Chris. Walker, 171; Cyril Cattley, 170; Clarence Derwent, 170; Rose Cazalet, 161; Henry Pettitt, 159; H. Le Grand, 158; J. Poole Kirkwood, 154; Edward Morgan, 151; Richard A. Greene, 145; Joan Pereira, 145; Vita Spencer, 145; Basil Dean, 144; Beatrice Chester, 144; Langford Reed, 143; Mildred Cottell, 135; Murri Moncrieff, 135; F. H. De Quincey, 132; Robson Paige, 131; Cecil Raleigh, 120. Not elected: Rose Mathews, 117; Lucy Sibley, 112; Gilbert Esmond, 111; Kitty Marion, 90; Dora Levis, 64.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With the exception of the paragraphs, Nos. 5, 7, and 9 of the letter signed by Mr. Cecil Raleigh and other candidates for the Council of the Actors' Association, I am in agreement with them, but not with their manner of trying to carry them out. It is a case of those making the most noise doing the least work, as the following list of attendances at the Council meetings since the last annual general meeting will prove:—Miss Agnes Imlay, 44; Mr. F. J. Arlton, 37; Mr. Hayden Coffin, 30; Mr. Clarence Derwent, 28; Mr. Poole Kirkwood, 24; Mr. Frederick Morland, 23; Mr. C. F. Collings, 23; Mr. Clive Currie, 21; Miss Marion Lind, 21; Mr. Langford Reed, 21; Mr. Gilbert Esmond, 20; Mr. Lewis Casson, 17; Mr. Sebastian Smith, 16; Mr. Fred Annerley, 14; Mr. Jackson Wilcox, 13; Miss Rose Mathews, 12; Mr. Cecil Raleigh, 12; Mr. Cyril Cattley, 10; Mr. Robson Paige, 10; Mr. Chris. Walker, 10; Mr. Richard A. Greene 8; Miss Helen Haye, 6; Mr. Cecil Brooking, 5; Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, 4; Mr. Russell Norrie, 2; Mr. Arthur Applin, 1; Miss Conti, 1.

These show by whom and which party the work of the Association has been done, those who have its true interests at heart and by whom it has been brought to its present desirable position. My policy is, the interests of the members, and once again making the Actors' Association the representative body of the acting profession.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK J. ARLTON.
25, Hamilton-gardens, St. John's Wood, N.W.
Jan. 21, 1910.

MESSRS. ALFRED PAUMIER AND WALTER HOWARD'S company is on a welcome return visit to the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Leigh, with *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes is a capital Paul Valmar; the task of representing the unprincipled Captain Rudolph von Scarbruck is accomplished with credit by Mr. Charles Whitlock; Miss Margaret Brodie displays ability in the dual rôles of Princess Astrea and Second-Lieut. Karl Helsburg; Mr. John Nesbitt is successful as the Crown Prince Leopold; the comic element is well looked after by Messrs. J. E. Page, Wm. Franklin, and Algie Spalding, their efforts being well seconded by Miss Jessica Black as Kathie.

MR. GEO. BRYDON PHILLIPS'S pantomime company is at the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, this week appearing in *Sinbad the Sailor*, and is attracting good audiences. Miss Hettie Lee as Sinbad is excellent, and the singing of Miss Constance Lait (Badoura) is highly appreciated. Miss Amy Maple, too, as Zeo is a great success. The comic element is provided by Mr Fred Maple, whose rendering of the part of Hindbad is a very happy one; Mr. Harry Rose as Mrs. Sinbad and Messrs. Morrin and Cardiff as Jack Bobstay and Ben Bunk, two jolly tars from the *Merry Matilda*, introduce some telling gags and good fun. The principal dancer, Miss Nella Dene, is very clever. Miss Amy Maple and Mr. Fred Maple delight the house with their dancing, their latest "creation," a Japanese cake-walk, or chop-stick dance, being much admired. The whole pantomime is well and effectively staged.

ANOTHER BOOK ON MAKING-UP.—Mr. J. Ainsley Brough's little book on "The Secrets of Making-up," which has just been published by the Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd., is thoroughly practical. We all know how necessary it is for directions to an entire novice in any art to be minute and exact. In this work even the position of the fingers in putting on an artificial nose is shown and described; and the pictorial illustrations are excellent. The essay on "Elocution," by Miss Leah Laurie, is full of good hints, and is very much to the point. The publishers are indebted to Gamage's, Ltd., for the loan of several of the blocks. The price of the book is only 1s.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE'S character in *The O'Flynn*, the production of which at His Majesty's on Tuesday will be the event of the week, is chiefly a comedy part, and moreover will include a song and dance. The O'Flynn is a most volatile personage, and withal a man of extraordinary valour and fascination. He handles the rapier like a D'Artagnan, and is in addition amazingly ingenious. In this respect he may even be considered a second Ulysses. "Indeed," said Sir Herbert, in referring to the hero, "I should not be surprised if he were already known in Ireland as 'The O'Lysses.'"

A FORMIDABLE cast has involved the engagement of many popular players. In addition to Sir Herbert in the name-part, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy will play the Lady Benedetta, with whom the O'Flynn is in love; Mr. W. G. Fay, of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, will impersonate the typical Irish rôle of Conacher O'Rourke, King of Munster and body servant to the O'Flynn; Mr. Edward Sass is to appear as General Van Dronk; Mr. C. H. Croker-King as James II.; Mr. William Haviland as a Williamite spy; and Miss Auriol Lee as Fancy Free, one of "The Riverside Fellowship of Players." Mr. Henry Ainley, as an exquisite of the period, will figure as the villain in the piece.

THE active members of the company exceed a quarter of a century, and, in addition to those referred to above, will consist of Messrs. Sydney Paxton Frank Esmond, Frederick James, Harry C. Hewitt, Scott Craven, J. W. Braithwaite, Edmund Gurney, Henry Morrell, Wilson Gunning, Hubert Carter, Shiel Barry, Jules Shaw, Nigel Playfair, and William Mackintosh, and Miss Elinor Foster, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Hilda Moore, and Miss Hemingway. The action takes place wholly in Ireland in the years 1689-90, and the scenes include the Hall of the O'Flynn's Castle, the Isle of Cyprus Inn, Dublin, In the Trenches before Knockmore Castle, General Van Dronk's Quarters in Knockmore Castle, and the Presence Chamber in Dublin Castle.

THE retirement of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte from theatrical management could not possibly have been permitted to pass without some testimony of the esteem and affection with which she is regarded by her fellow-managers and the profession; and the suggestion that her portrait by an eminent artist should be presented to her on the occasion was received with an enthusiasm which showed how warmly and universally Mrs. Carte is admired and respected. Her career, with all its adventures, achievements, and enterprises, cannot be dealt with in a paragraph, and to enumerate all her well-wishers would cover the whole of one of our pages. Hundreds of friends are interested in the presentation; but some selection of an executive committee had to be made, and Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. George Edwardes, and Mr. Edward Terry have taken the necessary arrangements in hand, Mr. W. F. Fladgate having kindly consented to act as hon. treasurer and receive subscriptions at 2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross. Any balance that may remain over and above the price of the picture will be handed over to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

Two London actor-managers, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. Lewis Waller—both of whom are vice-presidents of the British Empire Shakespeare Society—will take part in the dramatic reading of *Romeo and Juliet* to be given by the Society at the St. James's Theatre (by permission of Mr. George Alexander, also a vice-president) on Tuesday afternoon, March 8. Mr. Waller will be the Romeo and Mr. Bourchier the Mercutio, and the Juliet will be Miss Evelyn D'Alroy. Many prominent Shakespearean actors will be included in the cast. Such an interesting event should be of wide interest.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton have arranged with Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell (under whose direction they are touring Australia) to extend their stay in Australia for a further period of six months. They will confine themselves almost exclusively to Melbourne and Sydney, taking Adelaide and Perth on the homeward journey, where they will present, amongst other productions, their dramatisation of Stanley Weyman's romantic drama *Count Hannibal*. In this play the distinguished artists will make a welcome appearance at a West End theatre in London some time in the autumn.

"RICHELIEU," with which Mr. Robert Hilton will open his season at the Strand Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 10, will be preceded by the wordless playlet *The Dream Flower*. The cast includes artists of well-tried excellence. Mr. Hilton himself will play the title-rôle; Mr. J. H. Barnes, Father Joseph; Mr. Fred Grove, De Berrington; Mr. Gilbert Yorke, Louis XIII.; Mr. Norman Wrighton, Orleans; Mr. Lionel Atwill, De Mauprat; Mr. Frederick Sargent, Baradas; Mr. Reginald Besant, Hugnet; Mr. Hugh Ardale, Claremont; Mr. George Robinson, François; Miss Sophie Baron Harriss, Marion de L'Orme; and Miss Marie Polini, Julie de Mortimer.

THE first of the four acts takes place in and about Paris; Act 2 is confined to Richelieu's Castle; Act 3 represents the Garden of the Louvre, and Act 4 takes place inside the Louvre. Mr. Leolyn Hart is responsible for painting the scenery, which is said to be most effective, and Mr. Russell Phillips has written the incidental music. *The Dream Flower*, a charming play without words, has been written by Miss Aimee Lowther, and the music by Mr. R. Burnham, while Miss Sophie Baron Harriss plays the part of Pierrot. The play will be produced by the well-known Mme. Rosa, of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES will lecture on the subject of "Standardising the Drama" to the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday evening, Feb. 6. Mr. Herbert Trench will be in the chair.

A REWARD of £5 has been offered by Mr. Robert Arthur, for information which will lead to the detection of the person who maliciously damaged the stage costume of Miss Maud Thorne, principal girl in his Liverpool Royal Court Theatre pantomime. About the middle of last week Miss Thorne entered her dressing-room to prepare for a matinée, when she was astonished to find the contents thereof scattered about in all directions, with her best costume, a hat, and other articles, cut and torn in several places.

MR. LETHERIDGE, Sir Charles Wyndham's manager at the Criterion Theatre, has forwarded to the secretary of the A.B.F. a cheque for £213 17s. 9d., the result of the matinée of *The Mollusc*, given at the Criterion on Dec. 16 for the benefit of the fund.

SIR HERBERT TREE has put Beethoven into the bill at His Majesty's for a week pending the production of *The O'Flynn*. We have done such full justice to the finely poetic play that we need not repeat our praises of the piece and its performers. The only alteration in the cast is the substitution of Miss Hilda Moore for Miss Hilda Antony in the part of Giuletta Guicciardi. Miss Moore makes the most of the rather difficult part, and plays it for all that it is worth.

SIR JOHN HARE presided at a meeting of representatives of amateur dramatic societies and clubs in the London area invited to the Mansion House on Thursday evening by the Shakespeare Memorial Committee to discuss the question of assisting in the movement. Among the speakers were Mr. Bernard Shaw, the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, and Mr. Comyns Carr. The delegates expressed by resolution their hearty approval of the scheme, and promised to use their best endeavours to obtain substantial contributions and also to assist in the work of local organisation.

MR. F. R. BENSON has organised a highly elaborate programme, contributed to by foremost actors, for the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-on-Avon. The festival will be opened on Friday, April 22, by Sir Herbert Tree, with a performance of *Hamlet*, given in curtains; and amongst other eminent artists who will take part in the festival will be: Miss Genevieve Ward, as Volumnia and Queen Margaret; Mr. Martin Harvey and Miss N. de Silva, in *Hamlet*; Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, as Benedick and Beatrice; Mr. Otho Stuart, as Clarence and Bassanio; Mr. Henry Ainley, as Marc Antony; Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Winifred Emery, as Benedick and Beatrice; and Mr. James Carew and Miss Ellen Terry, as Shylock and Portia.

AN interesting feature of the festival will be a matinée given by Old Bensonians, when scenes will be presented from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. In the two last-named scenes Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson will be supported by as many as possible of the famous actors and actresses who have at one time or another worked under the Benson banner. The birthday revival play will be *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, which has not been seen at Stratford-on-Avon for many years.

MR. H. B. IRVING will this evening reveal himself to an expectant audience at the Queen's Theatre in his impersonation of the title-rôles of Mr. J. Comyns Carr's adaptation of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. The young actor's support will be strong and numerous, and will include Miss Dorothea Baird, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Charles Allan, Mr. Henry Vibart, Miss Cynthia Brooke, and Miss Tittell-Brune, the Australian artist. Other members of the cast are Messrs. H. Marsh Allen, H. Lawrence Leyton, Alex. Scott-Gatty, Frank Tyars, Arthur Curtis, King Fordham, J. Patrick Curwan, Stuart Musgrove, W. Hemstock, A. Synge, and W. Graham, Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem, and Miss May Holland.

ACT. I. will be devoted to the representation of a library in Dr. Jekyll's house and the laboratory. Act II. represents the drawing-room in the house of Sir Danvers Carew. Act III. will show Hyde's lodging in Soho, and Act IV. will return to the laboratory. Mr. Carr's play will be preceded by *The Plumbers*, an amusing sketch by Mr. Harry Grattan, originally produced at the Tivoli. The parts associated with the title will be taken by the author and Mr. Arthur Williams.

THE success of M. Maeterlinck's exquisite fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, at the Haymarket, is such that Mr. Herbert Trench has decided to continue the two performances daily until further notice. One of the most attractive features of *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket has been the entrancing music specially composed by Mr. Norman O'Neill. Four dances—"The Dance of the Hours," "The Star Dance," "Fire and Water Dance," and "The Mist Maidens' Dance," have now been published by Messrs. Elkin and Co., and can be had either at the Haymarket Theatre or from any music-seller.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH'S first tour of Mr. R. C. Carton's clever farce, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, will commence at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on Monday. For the part of John Bounsall, the senior partner to "Preedy," Mr. Weedon Grossmith has been fortunate enough to secure the valuable services of Mr. Murray Carson and for that of the countess Miss Ruth Mackay. Mr. Weedon Grossmith has arranged for the majority of the Criterion Theatre company to support him on this tour.

THE entire production, including the furniture, as played at the Criterion Theatre, will be travelled, thus enabling provincial playgoers to see the piece exactly as played during its long run in London. During the first two or three weeks of this tour Mr. Weedon Grossmith will produce a new first piece by a well-known actor-author whose name for the present must be a profound secret.

OWING to the indisposition last week of Miss Lilian Bishop, the part of the Grand Vizier in *Aladdin* at the King's, Sunderland, was played at a few hours' notice by Miss Irene Stuart.

MISS JEAN STERLING MACKINLAY and Mr. Harcourt Williams announce their second dramatic matinée for Thursday, Feb. 17, at the Steinway Hall. Austin Dobson's "Proverbs in Porcelain" will again be done in eighteenth-century costume, and a reading of Maeterlinck's "Death of Tintagiles" will be given by Mr. Harcourt Williams, and American dialect poems by Miss Mackinlay. Mr. Frank Cochrane will again sing the part of L'Etoile, and Miss May Congdon will play Ninette.

MISS GRANVILLE will take the chair at the Actress's Franchise League "At Home" on Friday, Feb. 4, in the Victoria Hall of the Criterion. The speeches begin punctually at three o'clock, and the speakers are Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Maud Hoffman, Mr. M. Campbell Johnston, and Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, K.C.B. The doors open at 2.30, and Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley is hostess for the League. All members of the profession will be most welcome.

TUESDAY next will be the 125th night of Mr. Rudolf Besier's brilliant comedy *Don* at the Kingsway Theatre. To celebrate the occasion Mr. Herbert Trench will present to every lady in the audience a beautiful hand-painted "Blue Bird" fan.

THE effective organisation of the several political parties is considered by Mr. Henry Tweedie to confirm his opinion that if touring managers and speculators generally could be persuaded to work upon somewhat similar methods much new ground could be broken. This being the second General Election Mr. Henry Tweedie has taken a prominent working part in, his usefulness as a London or touring representative manager must be very greatly enhanced.

A LARGE audience attended the inauguration of the Norwood branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society on Monday evening at the Crystal Palace. The Benedick and Beatrice scenes from *Much Ado About Nothing* were given by Mr. Acton Bond and Miss Eve Tame; the Closet scene from *Hamlet* by Miss Elsie Fogerty and Mr. Lewis Casson; and a dramatic reading of scenes 1 and 2 of *Henry VIII* (Act 3) by Miss Fogerty (Queen), Mr. Casson (King), and Mr. Bond (Wolsey), assisted by some of the Norwood members. In the interval Mr. Bond spoke as to the aims of the society, and several promises of local membership were received. Miss Prosser, of 28, Thicket-road, Anerley, S.E., is the temporary hon. secretary.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, who underwent a severe operation for appendicitis in a West-End nursing home a fortnight ago, is making satisfactory progress towards convalescence, and will shortly be able to resume active control of his companies and provincial bookings for the spring and autumn. During his enforced absence hundreds of telegrams and letters have reached Mr Hutchison from brother managers and friends, wishing him a speedy recovery.

THE Play Actors' performance, announced for last Sunday, is postponed till to-morrow (the 30th), when all tickets issued for the original date will be available. The performance, as usual, will take place at the Court, and will consist of four one-act plays, *The Decent Thing*, by F. Willoughby; *Augustus in Search of a Father*, by Harold Chapin; *Peg Woffington's Pearls*, by S. Duncan-Jones and Dennis Cleugh; and *His Last Stage*, by H. O. Hughes. The cast will include Messrs. Hugh Tabberer, Philip Knox, Alfred Harris, Chris. Walker, Harold Chapin, Cecil A. Collins, A. S. Homewood, and Cyril Cattley, and Misses Marion Lind, Doris Digby, Lorna Lawrence, Phyllis Relph, Mary Dewerell, Sybil Thorndike, and Frances Wetherall.

MESSRS TAYLOR PLATT AND HARRY P. TOWERS start their fifth tour of Bernard Shaw's comedy *You Never Can Tell*, under the stage direction of Mr. Trevor Lowe, on Monday, Feb. 7, among the numerous towns to be visited being Swansea, Dublin, Edinburgh, Manchester, Liverpool, and Portsmouth. The cast will include Miss Winifred Beech, Miss Sylvia Dawson, Miss Edith Hunter, Miss Ida Southern, Messrs. Bellenden Clarke, Graham Colmer, Claude Haviland, Allan Jeayes, Geoffrey Wilkinson, and J. Edward Pearce. Mr. E. J. Trollope is stage manager, and Mr. Douglas Jefferies acting-manager. *Arms and the Man* will also be played at some of the towns.

MR. W. B. YATES'S morality play *The Hour Glass* will be given for the first time in London at the Newman Gallery on Saturday next in aid of the St. Mary's Nursery College, Hampstead. The Wise Man will be played by Mr. W. Herbert Cox.

"CINDERELLA" at the Crystal Palace Theatre will in two weeks' time bid farewell to her many friends and admirers. Seats for the last night are already being booked up.

The Rehearsal Company will present four one-act plays at the Rehearsal Theatre on Friday next at 2 o'clock. Two original pieces will be *Love's Comedy*, by Frederic Sargent, and *The Final Phase*, by Ursula Keene; and the programme will be completed by *Op o' My Thumb* and *My First Client*. The casts will include Misses Rose Dupré, May Saker, Maud Bowyer, Jean Graeme, Evelyn Vanderzee, Mr. Frederic Sargent and Mr. Clive Currie.

SIR WILLIAM TRELOAR'S cripple fund will this (Saturday) afternoon entertain the children at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, to witness the beautiful and funny pantomime *Cinderella*, presented with such conspicuous success by Moss's Empires, Ltd., by arrangement with Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan. *Cinderella* is still finding hosts of admirers, but, owing to those embarrassing "prior arrangements," must be withdrawn in the height of its success on Saturday next.

MR. GEORGE CAVE, K.C., M.P., the newly-elected member for the Kingston Division of Surrey, paid a visit on the 21st., along with Mrs. Cave and their two little nieces, to the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, and witnessed the performance of the pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*. Mr. Cave received a great ovation from a crowded house, and at the close of the performance, in response to cries for a speech, said he was glad to be able to express thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Davey for organising that delightful evening's pleasure.

"HIS REAL WIFE," the new domestic play, under the directorship of Mr. T. Edward Ward, is outdistancing his most sanguine anticipations and easily proving itself far and away the strongest property Mr. Ward has ever handled.

MR. HARRY BRISTOW was kindly released by Mr. Fredk. Melville from the stage management of the successful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*, at the Brixton Theatre Saturday last, to take up the same duties in Mr. Andrew Melville's *The Diver's Luck* company, the tour commencing Monday next at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

"THE DEADLOCK," a play in three acts, owned by Sidney Pearson Stratton, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on Jan. 18.

NEXT week will be the last week of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's very successful pantomime of *Cinderella* at the Crystal Palace. Matinées of the agreeable entertainment will be given on Wednesday and Saturday.

MR. CHARLES ESDALE, during the indisposition of Mr. Percy Hutchison, has been playing the part of Monty Brewster in *Brewster's Millions*, and has been complimented on his success.

"DICK WHITTINGTON," the pantomime at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, is still playing to enormous business, crowds being turned away at almost every performance. Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall is to be congratulated on reopening the historic house under such favourable auspices. On Tuesday evening next that popular comedian Mr. Bob Hutt (Fitwarren) is to enjoy his complimentary benefit, and many special features are announced for the occasion.

FROM next Whitsuntide onwards the Theatre Royal, Edmonton, will be controlled by the Van Biene Theatres Company, with Mr. Edward van Biene (son of the famous actor-musician) as resident general-manager. It is the intention of the new management to run the theatre as a first-class dramatic house, and negotiations with many leading attractions are already in progress. Popular prices will be the rule, and a feature will be made of "new productions."

THE football carnival arranged by the charitable enthusiasts connected with the Birmingham theatres, music halls, and Aston Villa Football Club, and held on the ground of the latter club on Tuesday, was a huge success. The weather was fine and bright, but very cold. These conditions, however, did not prevent a crowd of over 6,000 spectators assembling. Miss Ada Reeve, principal boy at the Theatre Royal, started the exhibition match between Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion, which resulted in a victory for the Albion by one goal to nil. Then followed an uproarious farce, which was really meant to be a football match between the pantomime artists. Miss Dorothy Ward, the popular principal boy at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, kicked off, and the ensuing antics of the artists created much amusement. Mr. George Robey, the Brothers Egbert, the Brothers Brooks, Mr. Fred Griffiths, Mr. Frank Wier, Mr. Tom Shale, Mr. Harry Conlin, Mr. Barry Lupino, and Mr. Durning Fraser were especially in great form, but what was the result? Mr. Lester Collingwood has offered a prize to the person who solves this problem. The respective theatre managers were present, and credit is due to them, the artists, and the Villa club officials for the success of the carnival, which will result in a substantial sum being handed over to local charitable institutions.

ON Thursday night, the 20th inst., the members of the *Aladdin* pantomime company at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, had their annual supper and dance. Supper was served shortly before midnight. Amongst those present were Mr. Wentworth Croke (proprietor of the theatre) and Mrs. Wentworth Croke, Mr. Fred Jennings (manager), and Miss Kittee Rayburn Aladdin, besides all the principal members of the company and the theatre staff. The theatre band played selections during the repast. After the supper the room was prepared for dancing. An excellent programme had been arranged, and was gone through to the delight of all present.

HAMMERSMITH has suffered a loss by the departure from the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, of Mr. Wentworth Croke's very cheery pantomime. Judging by the crowded houses which were the order of both day and night, it might have run quite easily and profitably for another month. But contracts entered into many moons ago had to be observed, and hence the departure of the show on tour, which has been this week at Birkenhead. No doubt the clever company, with that bright particular star Miss Kittee Rayburn at its head, will be as popular in the country as it has been in town. Miss Rayburn, by the way, ought to make a success in musical comedy. Not only does she sing and act well, but she has a nice sense of humour, and her characterisation is capital.

AT the close of a highly successful month's run at the Bordesley Theatre, Birmingham, members of the *Fair One with the Golden Locks* pantomime company assembled on the stage in front of an enthusiastic audience on Saturday evening to assist at several interesting presentations. Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, the manager of the theatre, spoke in eulogistic terms of the company, and presented a handsome diamond ring to Miss Brownie, the principal girl, she having been declared by the votes of the patrons to be the most popular artist. Mr. C. Besley, the manager of the company, was the recipient of a calabash pipe and tobacco from the front of the house staff, and the stage hands presented a cigarette case to the stage manager. Mr. Will Letters, on behalf of the company, next asked Mr. Woodward to accept a handsome gold-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed, as a token of respect, esteem and thankfulness for kind consideration from the members of the pantomime company.

MR. WOODWARD thanked the artists. They were, he said, thorough ladies and gentlemen on and off the stage. The members then rose, cheered enthusiastically, and sang "For he's a jolly good fellow" to the accompaniment of the orchestra.

MISS NORA CARTON and Miss Beatrice Selwyn commenced their second tour with Russell Vann's drama *Temptation* at Rawtenstall last week with an entirely new company, and made a pronounced success. The company and tour are under the direction of Martin Comstock.

THE success of Miss Ivy St. Helier as the Stewardess in *Captain Kidd* at Wyndham's has elicited sincere congratulations from Jersey and the keenest interest in her future career. This dainty little lady is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aitchison, of St. Helier, Jersey, and, as will be noticed, takes her stage name from the capital of her native island. Miss St. Helier, it is interesting to add, was brought out some little time ago by another native of Jersey, Mr. Seymour Hicks.

THE managers of the theatres and halls in Birmingham have arranged a billiard handicap which will be commenced at the Woolpack Hotel on Tuesday next. The draw for the first round resulted as follows:—Mr. E. Foster (Grand) v. Mr. Collingwood (Alexandra), Mr. J. F. Graham (Prince of Wales's) v. Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Hippodrome) v. Mr. Philip Rodway (Royal), Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire) v. Mr. A. Bushell (Gaiety).

MR WILLIAM LOCKHART has had a busy week, rehearsing in London every day and playing in Bedford every night. Mr. Lockhart finishes his engagement to-night with *When Knights Were Bold* to take up the part of Bloodgood in *Are You a Mason?*

AT the performance of Mr. Wentworth Croke's successful pantomime of *Aladdin* at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, on the 21st inst., a verse was introduced written by the newly-elected local M.P., describing in glowing terms the attractions of Miss Kittee Rayburn, the principal boy, and paying tribute to her topical songs, which it was declared were helpful in securing Sir William's return.

AN English version of Gluck's *Orpheo* will be revived by Mme. Marie Brema in April next. Madame Brema will sing the title-rôle and Miss Viola Tree will be Eurydice. Mr. Michael Balling, of Bayreuth, will conduct.

MR. WALTER VAN NOORDEN has had the enterprise to secure the exclusive English rights of Goldmark's great opera *The Queen of Sheba*, which the Carl Rosa Opera Company will shortly produce. The title-rôle will be played by Miss Doris Woodall, that of Assad by Mr. Walter Wheatley, and Shulamith by Miss Ina Hill. It is a very spectacular opera, and the celebrated impresario is naturally proud of being the first to introduce it to England. The Carl Rosa company, it may be remembered, already possesses the credit of bringing one opera of Goldmark's to this country, namely, *The Cricket on the Hearth*.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison have added yet another to their répertoire of London successes with which to delight suburban and provincial theatregoers, having secured from Mr. Chas. Frohman the touring rights of *Smith*, by Mr. Somerset Maugham. The piece will go out in August.

THE pantomime at the Grand, Nottingham, concludes its run to-night. Miss Maude May Murray, whose beautiful dancing has been one of the chief successes of the pantomime, will long be remembered in Nottingham. Next week she will appear with Mr. Mouillot's company at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

MISS ELLA ERSKINE will be presenting her little comedy *The Typist* (by special desire) and her one-act play *The Friends*, adapted from the German, at the smoking concert given by the English Play Society at the Ritz Hotel on Sunday. In the latter piece she will be associated with Georgiana, Countess of Rosslyn.

MISS ENA MOSS has achieved remarkable success in South Africa. Her performance as Josephine in *A Royal Divorce* has won the highest eulogium in the Johannesburg press.

UNDER the direction of Walter D. Nicoll and Kenneth Rivington, the fifth tour of that remarkably successful American comedy, *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, starts next Monday at Cambridge. The company is almost exactly the same as it has been for the last eighteen months, and includes Mr. Frederick Forrest, Mr. Ernest Ruston, and Miss Rita Carlisle. A new comer to the cast is Miss Sophie Lingwood, who will play the part of Mrs. Wiggs. Until recently this accomplished actress was a member of Mr. Edward Terry's company. The Spring tour will run about fourteen weeks, and after a short vacation will start again in the Autumn.

MISS SOPHIE HARRISS, who has been seen all too seldom on the West End stage of late, will make a welcome reappearance at the Strand Theatre as Marion De Lorme in Mr. Robert Hilton's forthcoming production of *Richelieu*, a part which she played with much success in Australia.

MR. RICHARD A. GREENE, a brother of the celebrated Miss Evie Greene, will take up the part of Lieutenant Dick Marsh in Mr. Frederick Melville's drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, at the Aldwych Theatre on Monday next. Mr. Greene is the possessor of a stalwart physique and a rich voice, and should play the sailor lover to perfection.

AT the Theatre Royal, North Shields, on the 20th inst., Miss Nancy J. Clarke, owing to the illness of the principal, took up the part of Kinkie, the American girl, in *The Eve of Her Wedding*, and although she had never previously played a part, went on after only one rehearsal, and was "letter perfect" at night.

MR. FRANK ROTHSAY, the popular acting-manager of the Stratford Borough Theatre, is to be accorded a complimentary benefit at a special matinée on Tuesday next. In addition to the performance of this year's successful pantomime, *Cinderella*, many professional friends of the beneficiare have promised their services for the occasion.

MISS WINIFRED EMERY makes her début on the variety stage at the Hippodrome on Monday, Feb. 21, when she will portray the part of a celebrated actress in a one-act play of the "powder and puff" period, by Mr. James Bernard Fagan, entitled *The Dressing Room*. Miss Emery has accepted an invitation to go to Stratford-on-Avon during the Shakespeare Memorial Week, to appear as Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*.

MR. H. F. MALTBY, the author of *The Youngest of Three* and that clever comedy *The Laughter of Fools*, is taking a well-earned rest at Eastbourne. Mr. Maltby's idea of holiday-making is a strenuous one, for he is busily engaged on a new three-act comedy entitled *The Woman Who Helps*, which he intends to produce during his autumn tour.

THE example of eminent dramatic artists in crossing over to the music hall is to be followed by famous representatives of the lyric stage. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners (Mme. Fanny Moody), who have carried the banner of opera to the remotest parts of the kingdom, have accepted an engagement at the Hippodrome and the Coliseum, and will open at one of those popular houses in the autumn.

MISS PEARL NOYLE commences her third tour on Monday next with Mr. Andrew Melville's *The Diver's Luck* company at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, playing Peggy, a part she has already played some 314 times. This engagement makes Miss Noyle's seventh under the Melville management.

BY the kindness of the directors of the Grand Opera House, Belfast, a matinée performance of the *Aladdin* pantomime was given on the 19th inst., in aid of the funds of the Ulster Hospital for Women and Children. At the close of the first act, Dr. J. D. Williamson, J.P., came before the curtain, and on behalf of the committee of the hospital expressed the gratitude of the directors to all who had through their support of the pantomime helped to make the matinée a success. He said their thanks were especially due to the directors of Messrs. Warden, Ltd., and he would like to congratulate the managing-director, Mr. Fred Warden, on the triumph which he had achieved in the production of the pantomime.

THE football teams of members of the Theatre Royal and Prince of Wales's Theatre pantomimes, Birmingham, have arranged to play a match at the Mount Pleasure Park, a beautiful country resort within six miles of the city, where there is a specially laid football field.

AT a meeting of the Pembrokeshire Standing Joint Committee at Haverfordwest this week, the question of the granting of theatrical licences came up for consideration. The Clerk reported that with regard to the difficulty about the granting of theatrical licences that the Public Works Committee had resolved to recommend that the application for these licences be not made to the District Councils, but to the magistrates of the county, and that in the case of towns such as Pembroke Dock, Pembroke, Tenby, and Haverfordwest, where there were separate commissions for the peace for borough justices, the county justices be asked to hold a sessions within those towns for the purpose of granting licences.

THE old Theatre Royal in Crown Hill, Croydon, which is fast being pulled down to make room for the new Stoll Hippodrome, was built by a Mr. Solomon, with the Royal Hotel, adjoining. It stood on the site of an older theatre, which was afterwards used as the Literary Institute and a Mr. Paull's school, though a still older theatre stood opposite in Crown Hill which was afterwards used as a store-room by Newbury, a furniture dealer. The theatre which is just disappearing was opened as a circus with a French company, and afterwards altered into an ordinary theatre. The new music-hall which is now to take the place of the old show is to have an entrance from North End.

A PLEASANT little ceremony was performed at the Anchor Hotel, Brighouse, on Saturday evening last. The Albert Theatre having changed hands, Mr. George D. Coe relinquished his position as manager. Though he has occupied the post only a short time Mr. Coe has made himself popular, in proof of which he was presented with a purse of gold by Mr. Major L. Hornsey, the musical director of the theatre, on behalf of a few friends of the recipient. Mr. Coe has been engaged by Mr. John Walters to manage the Court Theatre, Bacup, for a few weeks while Mr. Walters is away touring his own pantomime.

THE twelfth annual meeting of shareholders of the Portsmouth Theatres, Ltd., will be held in the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Thursday next, at noon. In submitting their report and accounts for the year ended Dec., 1909, the directors state that the profits for 1909 were £1,347 more than the previous year. They have no doubt as to the expediency of paying interim dividends at the usual rate on the share capital of the company, and have appropriated from the reserve fund, specially provided for that purpose out of past profits, the sum sufficient to meet the payment of the usual balance dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, less income tax, on the ordinary shares, which they recommend should be declared.

THE Poets' Club held one of their interesting "Garret Gatherings," on Tuesday evening, at the studio of Mr. Philip Streatfeild, the well-known artist. One of the most important events of the evening was the rendering of Oscar Wilde's *Endymion* by Miss Elia Erskine, to music especially composed by Mr. Cyril Scott. Nothing more delightful could be imagined than the way in which this talented actress recited the wonderful lines of the dead poet, and the music of Mr. Scott (who accompanied her) was so imbued with the meaning of the poem that one could not recall the words without remembering the music. It is to be sincerely hoped that Miss Erskine and Mr. Scott will have ample opportunity of repeating their triumph.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Last Resource.

SIR HERBERT TREE (says *Cassell's*) was once prevailed upon in his kindness of heart to engage a servant-girl out of the workhouse. She was desperately untidy, and, after various attempts to teach her method, Lady Tree told her husband that it was no use, the girl must really go. "Oh, try her a little longer," urged Sir Herbert. And she was granted a respite. However, it was all in vain, and to Sir Herbert Tree, as he had engaged the girl, fell the task of getting rid of her. He told her that if she did not mend her ways she must return to the workhouse. "Oh, no, I shan't," she snapped out, rudely, "I'll get another situation." "But I cannot give you a character," returned the actor, "and you will find it very difficult to get another situation without a character." "Perhaps!" was the retort. "At all events, if the worst should come to the worst, I can always go on the stage."

"Any Complaints?"

AT Tolmer's Institute, St. Pancras, on Saturday last, Mrs. H. B. Irving presented a number of prizes to the most promising cooks of the School for Mothers. Over 150 mothers and about fifty rejoicing fathers attended the prize-giving tea party of the cookery class. Mrs. Irving, who wore a large white linen apron, said when she was a little girl of six she remembered hearing her father say, "How is it I can't get a chop cooked decently except at the club?" She determined that when she grew up her husband should never complain that she could not cook. "And," added Mrs. Irving, "although I have been married fifteen years, he never has." There are a great many husbands who never have—complained. But Mr. H. B. Irving never has had cause to.

Resting His Legs.

Mr. FRANCIS WILSON, the American comedian, has confessed that in writing *The Bachelor's Baby*, the comedy that has scored a distinct success at the Criterion Theatre, New York, he wanted the public to forget his legs and credit him with having a little intellect. It should be explained that in a series of comic operas Mr. Wilson's inability to stand still, and his knack of falling downstairs and over things, kept his audience in roars of laughter. Now he says, "I think my legs should enjoy a well-earned rest."

A Great Inducement.

A DELICIOUS story is told in the *Daily Mail* by Mr. Harold Montague, of the "Vagabonds" concert party. "On tour," said Mr. Montague, "one has all sorts of weird communications, and the offers one gets—with inducements—would make your hair curl. Here is a sample: 'Dear Sir,—We are giving a concert next Wednesday in aid of the parish choir outing. The entertainment will consist of glees and solos by members of the choir, but we want a professional soloist to enliven the evening. We can only offer you half a guinea, but, if it is any inducement, we may mention that the gentleman who came down last year married a lady out of the audience.'"

An American Appreciation.

THE New York *Tribune* says: "How lightly the years touch Sir Charles Wyndham! He and his art conquer time. The best that could be wished for young players is that they might have such youth as he has now. Who shall dare hope that they will attain to such art, and mellow it with such experience, as his? There is no greater pleasure for lovers of comedy than the one that comes from Wyndham's acting. All that is best in the art of comedy is beheld in any performance by this famous actor."

No Sky Borders.

Mr. HILTON, who in the course of his Strand Theatre season will produce Mr. Rider Haggard's *Cleopatra*, says in the *Pall Mall*: "It is one of the finest plays, in my opinion, that has been written for some years. It follows very closely the book, and it is going to be quite a big spectacle, though not over elaborate, because I do not believe in that. I believe in scenery that is adequate, and in getting as near nature as possible. The theatrical 'borders,' for example, which often remind one of a clothes-line, I shall get rid of entirely, and have the sky right up." Sky borders have always been a trouble, and Sir Hubert Herkomer's experiment in getting rid of them in an amateur performance at Bushey was not entirely satisfactory. Mr. Hilton's attempt to do so is eagerly awaited.

The Press and the Stage.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—The recent incident at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, when Mr. Arthur Goode, "Our Man" of the *Evening News*, successfully played a small "scene" in Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan's beautiful production of *Cinderella*, was engineered by Mr. W. Scott Phipp, who also wrote and supervised the little scene betwixt "Our Man," Cinderella (Miss Dorothy Rundell), and Capers (Mr. Bobbie Walker), the practical side of the stage-management being in the capable hands of Mr. Augustus Hammond. The experiment was in every way a success, and Mr. Arthur Goode, though he had never been on a stage before, bore his trying ordeal with stolid courage.

Black and White.

AT a recent performance of *Othello* in Port au Prince, Hayti, with the exception of Othello himself, who was impersonated by a European, all the actors and actresses were natives, Desdemona being played by a handsome young negro girl. The scene of the play was transferred from Venice to a prosperous city in the United States, and the jealous lover was made not as a noble Moor but as a thriving American merchant. In the last scene, when the audience beheld the swarthy Desdemona being smothered by her white-faced husband, they protested indignantly, and hurled missiles at the stage. The situation was saved by the manager, who, after requesting the spectators to refrain from expressing their opinions until they had seen the end reserved for Othello, ushered in three natives, who fell on the pale rascal, knocked him down, and trampled on him, amid boisterous cheering from the house.

A Public Box.

FRAULEIN IDA ROLAND, one of the prominent members of the Hebbel Theatre Company, distinguished herself last week by boxing the ears of a well-known Berlin critic, Herr Siegfried Jacobsohn, as he was about to leave the Deutsches Theatre after a first-night performance. The lady's ire had been aroused by some very personal remarks of a private nature recently made in Herr Jacobsohn's paper—a small theatrical organ. Crying "You'll understand what this is for," the actress rushed forward and administered the box, while the crowd of spectators prevented further attack, otherwise Herr Jacobsohn would have probably received another.

Wyndham on Hamlet.

AT the annual dinner of the Theatrical Managers' Association in New York Sir Charles Wyndham, who was introduced by Mr. Charles Burnham, the president of the Association, said:—"We should leave the future of the drama to those critics from Matthew Arnold to Hamlet who knew nothing about it. Look at Hamlet, a raw amateur, having gained his experience by practising on his relatives and friends, as all amateurs do, and he tried to tell experienced actors how to speak their lines. With his assurance in a single month he would have become a single star."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

THE LATE MR. CHAS. J. DAVIES.

AN APPRECIATION BY TOM CRAVEN.

Quietly, impressively, tenderly, in the presence of relatives and friends the mortal remains of Mr. C. J. Davies, for thirty years secretary to the Royal General Theatrical Fund, were given back to Mother Earth on Monday last in Norwood Cemetery. Many of the directors of the Fund, headed by Mr. Edward Terry, to whose invaluable and untiring services in his capacity of hon. treasurer this grand old provident theatrical institution owes so much, attended the obsequies, and one and all gave silent tribute—one and all felt the keenest sorrow at the loss of a friend and comrade whose upright, manly, and genial behaviour as secretary for over thirty years to the Fund they will long hold in affectionate remembrance. Among those present were Mr. Charles Rock, Mr. Dillon Croker, Mr. Craven, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. H. Marriott, Mr. Turner, Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Rabbetts, Mr. C. I. Coltson, Mr. W. Sarjeant, Mr. Arthur Sarjeant, Mr. Spencer Edwards, &c. Very beautiful wreaths were sent by the directors and trustees of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, the directors of Drury Lane Theatre, the Yorick Club, Mr. H. B. Irving, Messrs. Lumley and Lumley, and a large number by his private friends. Before Mr. Davies absolutely succumbed he had three illnesses; but he fought his complaint with admirable pluck and fortitude. He died practically in harness, full of solicitude for the "Old Fund," as he termed it to the last. Tended with touching devotion by his loving wife, he went over to the great majority manfully and resignedly, fortu-

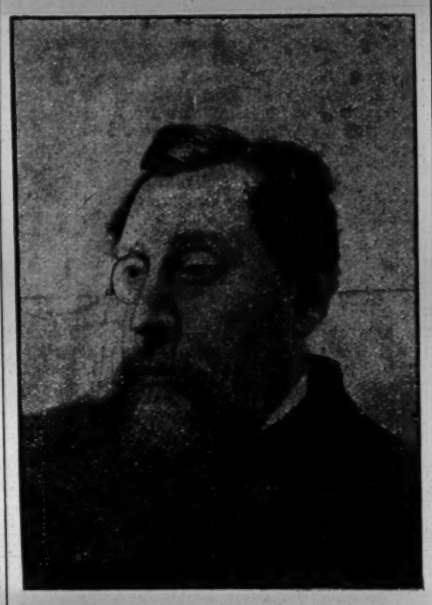

THE LATE MR. CHAS. J. DAVIES.

nately escaping the acute pain which, had he lingered, would have been his lot. Mr. Davies' father was Captain John Davies, of the Royal Navy. Mr. Davies filled, after leaving college, an important position in the Admiralty, and when in middle age he joined the Fund as secretary he gained an enviable reputation for integrity, capability, and assiduity, and a legion of friends for his never-failing good fellowship. The reason of his universal popularity is not far to seek. Ever tolerant, consistent, courteous, and sympathetic, he was an ideal secretary, and held with honour and distinction a post needing no little tact and diplomacy. Under the invaluable guidance of the deeply-respected chairman, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Davies watched over an institution which has made smooth the declining years of so many actors and actresses. Punctilious and reliable in business, Davies had simplicity of manner, and the heart of a child. He was never heard to say an unkind word to or of anybody. Nobility, gentry, and City magnates ever extended towards him a hearty welcome; and seldom did he fail to pleasantly secure their patronage and substantial aid. Unostentatious to a remarkable degree, he did many spontaneous, kindly little acts of philanthropy "on his own," and many needy actors and journalists would have wandered supperless to their attics had it not been for the readily-bestowed bounty of "dear old Charlie." In the giving, he seemed to derive extreme satisfaction, and albeit he must frequently have been the victim of plausible imposition, he never regretted his generosity. He was a man of peculiarly modest tastes and requirements, and found in the society of his wife and cosy, reposeful home the best part of his mild recreation. His pipe, a few old cronies, a game of "31" or "Patience" summed up the list of his dissipations. He was never more in his element than when striving to secure a new subscribor to the Provident Fund. The following is a sample of the inducemnts he would bring to bear when discoursing with a young actor upon the inestimable advantages of becoming a member:—

CHARLIE: I say, my boy, why don't you join our Fund. The younger you are the less you'll have to pay. No life assurance society can offer you such returns for so small a quarterly payment. For a comparatively small sum you could (after subscribing for seven years), if incapacitated entirely through ill-health, draw a yearly annuity of £120. Why don't you buy the Fund's umbrella for the rainy day?

ACTOR (who has previously been talking of his houseboat on the river): Can't afford it, dear boy—things are too rotten—absolutely. I haven't got the stuff.

CHARLIE: Sell the houseboat.

ACTOR: Couldn't live without it—"impos."

CHARLIE: Give up bridge.

ACTOR: Life would be a blank.

CHARLIE: Knock off cigarettes. You must smoke fifty a day.

ACTOR: Why not drown myself?

CHARLIE: Fancy, too, if you keep your health and attain the moderate age of sixty you can draw the £120 a year for the rest of your life.

ACTOR: When I'm sixty—sixty? Good heavens, man, at that age I shall either have a row of theatres or be under the turf. Well, so long. I'm off to golf—eh, what?—

And so on, *ad lib.* But undaunted, Charlie would meet the young actor again and again, and never lose heart, although perhaps he might meet with variable success.

He had a keen sense of humour, and enjoyed a joke. One morning he said to a friend: "Say, old boy, how would you define my position—what is a secretary, really?" "Well," was the reply, "a secretary is a sort of a kind of—'er—exalted amanuensis." "Dickens didn't think so," replied the questioner. "What does he say in 'Our Mutual Friend'?—'We have always believed a "secretary" to be a piece of furniture, mostly of mahogany, lined with green baize or leather, with a lot of little drawers in it.'"

Long and blameless his life, Davies' memory will long remain green in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

GEORGE ALEXANDER'S ANNIVERSARY.

On Tuesday Mr. George Alexander concludes the twentieth year of his management. His career has been phenomenal in its strong sustained rise. Without any obvious effort, he has moved steadily upwards, and it is hard to say at what point of his career he made any remarkable leap or bound. His prosperity is greatly due to the thoroughness and soundness of his early training. Mr. Alexander has been so identified in the imagination of the public with the cool, fascinating, and fashionable hero of "society" plays, that we are in danger of forgetting how varied and valuable has been his experience. He is no carpet knight, but a warrior well-seasoned in dramatic warfare. Born at Reading in 1858, Mr. Alexander is of pure Scotch origin. His mother had never been in a theatre in her life. His father had, but hated the stage intensely. He was a Scotch manufacturer, and ardently desired that his son should succeed him in his mills. But it ended in Mr. Alexander's going against his parents' wishes on the stage. His first engagement was with Mr. W. H. Vernon and Miss Ada Swanborough, who were touring *The Snowball, A Lesson in Love,* and *Cool as a Cucumber,* and he made his first appearance at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, in the autumn of 1879. Then for over two years he played "juvenile lead" with Mr. T. W. Robertson's *Caste* company. When Sir Henry Irving revived *Two Roses* at the Lyceum in the December of 1881, Mr. Alexander was engaged for the part of Caleb Deecie. He was afterwards secured by the Kendals to play the part of Victor Riel in *Impulse;* he took part in Miss Mary Anderson's production of *Comedy and Tragedy* at the Lyceum in 1884; went to America with the Lyceum company in the same year, and appeared as Faust at the Lyceum in 1886. In the series of revivals which preceded Sir Henry Irving's visit to America in 1887, Mr. Alexander played important parts in *The Bells, The Merchant of Venice, Louis XI.,* and *Werner.* Nor was melodrama omitted from Mr Alexander's curriculum, for, in 1889 at the Adelphi, he appeared as the hero of *London Day by Day.*

After this very varied experience of the stage, Mr. Alexander commenced his managerial career by producing *Dr. Bill* at the Avenue Theatre on Feb. 1, 1890. That very funny farce was the first of Mr. Alexander's many successes, but perhaps one of the best remembered of these is *The Idler,* which he produced at the St. James's in the February of 1891. But his status as a manager was very firmly established by that remarkable play *Lady Windermere's Fan,* presented by him in 1892, and by the "crowning mercy" of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray,* in which he appeared as Aubrey Tanqueray, on May 27, 1893. *The Importance of Being Earnest,* produced by him on Feb. 14, 1894, and now being played at the St. James's, was a gem of its kind, and Mr. Alexander's performance of it is a model of quaint and quiet comedy. Among his other notable successes to be remembered are *Liberty Hall, The Masqueraders, Paola and Francesca, The Prisoner of Zenda, The Ambassador, If I were King, Old Heidelberg, His House in Order, The Thief, John Glayde's Honour, The Builder of Bridges,* and two Shakespearean productions, *As You Like It* and *Much Ado About Nothing.*

Mr. Alexander's view of things is essentially practical; and yet he is intensely and instinctively artistic. He thinks the two can be easily combined. There are always well-meaning people in the world who believe it is their mission in life to teach others how to mind their own business. In particular is this so in the theatrical world, where so much common sense is required. Nobody knows but an actor-manager behind the scenes how difficult it is to run a theatre, not to please everybody, but to cater for a certain section of the public to whom you wish to make an appeal.

Mr. Alexander is justly proud of the number of entirely English pieces which he has produced. The literary drama has in him a strong advocate; but not the merely literary. "Not the bookish drama," he says, "which is all tediousness and irrelevant description. With the literary qualities must be the true accompaniments of plot and story, and they are action. Let the literary drama, the polished comedy, and the poetic pastoral be active and not passive, and it will succeed. There is a large public taking to the reading of the printed play. But the public won't buy the printed play that only acts well, and is full of business and sensational episodes. It must be well written, and gems of thought, as in the old dramatists, must not be scattered too scantily."

Mr. Alexander, in the course of his career, has been greatly interested in the unacted author and aspirant to the stage. At one time he used to read quite three hundred plays a year. He doesn't believe in delegating his duties in this respect, which probably accounts for the many successful pieces which he has chosen. He is not fond of relying on the judgment of others. After he had accepted *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray,* he submitted the piece to a clever cultured friend who said, "If you are going to produce this, heaven help the box-office."

Many of the pieces produced by him at the St. James's with success have been much altered and rewritten by the authors at his suggestion. Sometimes they have not taken his advice. A notable example was the case of *Lady Windermere's Fan,* when Mr. Alexander differed from Mr. Oscar Wilde on the subject of revealing Mrs. Erlynne's identity. Mr. Alexander implored the author to alter his plot on this point. Wilde was obdurate, but on the first night every critic saw the fault, and Wilde relented, admitted that Mr. Alexander had been right all through, and altered the play accordingly for the second performance.

On Wednesday evening Mr. Alexander presents to each member of the audience, as a souvenir of his twentieth anniversary, a copy of a special edition of Oscar Wilde's comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest.*

Mr. Alexander is very much indebted to his comrades who have done so much to help him in making history at the St. James's, and in looking round at the various stars in the dramatic firmament he finds nearly all of them have served under his banner at some time or another.

MISS LOIE ESMOND'S company in *The Sorrows of Satan* and *Nana* is at the Crewe Opera House. In the first-named, played on Monday night, Mr. Edward Neville was a pronounced success as the Prince Lucio Rimanez; Mr. Walter H. Wilson was exceedingly clever as Geoffrey Tempest; and Mr. J. L. Flemming gave a good portrayal of the Earl of Elton. Miss Rosie Neville acted with skill and grace the rôle of Lady Sybil Elton; Miss L. Esmond's rendering of Diana Chesney was a finished piece of work; and Miss Dorothy was a charming Mavis Clare.

MR. PERCY NORMAN'S No. 1 company in the Russian military drama *A Woman Worth Winning* is at the Wexford Theatre Royal. Mr. Gilbert Standing does well as Amos Pauloff; Mr. Carl Kirzo is a manly Fergus Lovinsky; Mr. A. B. Mackay a powerful General Borinski; Mr. Jack Corlass an excellent Fedor Petronvitch; and Mr. William Burnett, as the mysterious No. 23, gripped the attention of the audience. Mr. C. W. Black gives a humorous character sketch of a newspaper correspondent, and Mr. Harry Stuart is an amusing Peter Popples, his efforts being ably seconded by Miss Ida Mackay as Katerini Kess. Miss Margaret Noble, in the rôle of Roma Pauloff, acts sympathetically, and Miss Trixie Leighton as Lola is very good.

CLARKSON AND "CHANTECLER."

Chantecler; or, the Drama of Cock-a-doodle-do, the famous bird and animal play, that has vied with the floods in France in its intensity of interest, is likely to be the cause of many law suits. The first of them to be tried in the Parisian law courts in about three weeks from the present time, is of especial interest to members of the profession in this country, for it affects a gentleman known and respected in every theatre—legitimate or variety—throughout broad Britain. We refer to Mr. Willie Clarkson, the famous perruquier and costumier.

When M. Jean Rapoport (Mr. Clarkson's advocate) tells the story in the Parisian law courts there will be, we are promised, one or two dramatic surprises in store for the public concerning French theatrical managers.

The Era representative was told a great deal about the trouble by Mr. Clarkson, who, whilst willing to outline the story, naturally desired to keep the dramatic surprises to himself for the present. It is difficult to condense the many matters that have taken place since, seven years ago, when M. Edmond Eugène Alexis Rostand started to write *Chantecler,* but briefly it may be said that the interest of the play is concentrated on the fact that all the actors appear as birds or beasts. The moral would seem to be that in human life, as in the poultry yard, the animal that crows the loudest gets to the front, and this

[*Photo by Downey.*

MR. WILLIE CLARKSON.

idea came to M. Rostand's mind one day when passing a farmyard where he found pigeons, hens, ducks, geese, and guineafowl, to say nothing of a sleeping cat and a restless dog. Suddenly the cock put in an appearance, and his domineering manner, his appearance of superiority to all the animals that surrounded him, gave M. Rostand his idea. The birds of the night want the cock's life, but the others, fearful that if the cock dies the sun will never be seen again, hesitate to kill him. Once, however, Chantecler oversleeps himself and yet the sun appears.

The first of the series of anticipated dress rehearsals was fixed for February, 1903. Seven years have passed, and during that time the expectation of M. Rostand's play has not waned, but has grown so keen that it has been one of the chief topics at French dinner-tables. From 1903 onwards a succession of "first nights" has been announced. But each in turn has faded away, mirage-like, as the appointed day approached, and the latest date fixed—yesterday—for the last dress rehearsal, which in Paris is really the first night, has been cancelled just as the first was seven years ago. Everything had been prepared for the performance. The house had been sold out for fabulous prices. Now the floods which are paralysing Paris have necessitated a fresh postponement. As now arranged, the curtain will rise on *Chantecler* at the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin on Monday next.

"Now," Mr. Clarkson told our representative, "when M. Coquelin was at His Majesty's Theatre in July, 1908, he called at Wardour-street, and

A CHANTECLER COSTUME, BY M. ROSTAND.

saw some of my animal and bird dresses. These so pleased him that he suggested my making the costumes for the forthcoming performances of *Chantecler.* In a weak moment I undertook to oblige him. Then my troubles commenced, as great difficulty arose in getting the movements of the head, wings, &c., of the cock-a-doodle-do to work correctly, and although several experiments were tried, they were all of no avail.

"So I thought the only thing to do would be to have a real bird and to watch his movements.

"It so happened that one of my men knew a place at Hendon where he could get the breed of cock required, so he went, purchased it, and brought it to Wardour-street. After a very little while the bird got quite used to his new home, and at meal times he would walk round the workrooms picking up all the crumbs without the slightest fear. That bird proved a great help to the working of the costumes, and to his movements I was indebted for many suggestions.

"I met M. Hertz at the Savoy Hotel, and went through the sketches with him. I also saw M. Coquelin, and he explained to me how he wanted the sketches worked out and what his own costume was to be.

"I threw myself heart and soul into the task, and paid many visits to the Savoy as early as eight o'clock in the morning, taking designs and costumes for inspection and approval. Then M. Coquelin returned to Paris, and several times I journeyed across to the French capital laden with costumes and effects. I next went to see M. Rostand at his home at Cambo, in the Pyrenees, taking several assistants at my own cost.

"One of my assistants, who had been chosen because of his likeness to the great Coquelin, put on the costume of the Gallic cock. The whole family went into the garden, where Chantecler strutted on the lawn and under the trees in the rays of the sun, which was brilliant and golden that day. M. Rostand and his wife and children were stirred to cries of enthusiasm, and afterwards the great dramatist sketched out designs for other cocks, which we reproduce.

"I returned next day to Paris, and every evening went to Porte St. Martin Theatre. There I saw the late M. Coquelin, who had just received a letter from Cambo saying how perfect my costumes were, and congratulating him on the great success they would certainly achieve when the play was produced.

"Naturally, I returned to London elated, and got my people—sixty in number—hard at work on the dresses.

"Exactly a year ago—that is, in January last—M. Hertz informed me that he had not definitely decided to have my costumes.

"As I held his contract, and had spent over £400 in travelling and hotel expenses alone, I naturally told M. Hertz that I should hold him to it. He then wrote me suggesting that I should do part of the things. I referred him to my solicitor. My suit is for £2,000, and as I was, acording to my contract, to have done the work for the six Continental towns, you see my loss has been very considerable. M. Jean Rapoport, my advocate, is accounted to be one of the cleverest men of law in France, and that fact, combined with these documents (here Mr. Clarkson waved a bundle of letters above his head) should win me my case, don't you think? Anyhow, wish me luck, won't you?"

For the world's acting rights in *Chantecler* M. Hertz, joint manager with M. Jean Coquelin of the Porte St. Martin Theatre, has paid M. Rostand £10,000 in advance on account of royalties. Immediately after the Paris production he will send out six companies to tour France and Belgium. He has leased out the acting rights for Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, and Scandinavia, and in addition has entered into a partnership arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman for its production in America. The holding capacity of the Porte St. Martin Theatre on ordinary occasions is £400, and the price of stalls

A CHANTECLER HEADDRESS, BY CLARKSON

is 8s. 4d., but for the first two public representations the stalls are fixed at £4 7s. 6d. each, and the holding capacity of the house will be about £3000. For subsequent performances the price at present fixed is £2 for each stall.

THE VOTE AND THE WAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to your leading article on "Votes for Actresses," I should like to make a few remarks. First, is it not time that well-informed writers ceased circulating the pleasing fiction that there is no sex disability in the theatrical profession at large? At the "top of the tree" in town actor and actress may be paid an equal wage for equal work—at any rate, I'll take your word for it that they are. But among the rank and file and in the provinces I have no hesitation in saying that the actress is paid less than the actor in the same line. I make this statement from extensive inquiry and personal experience. If there is not a difference in the treasury envelope the woman has to find endless costumes and other props, while the man finds a stick of grease paint—and often borrows that. This principle flourishes chiefly in classical répertoire companies and in "romantic military dramas," of which there are so many on the road.

I am insisting on the importance of this point because so many people maintain that where work is of equal merit the sex of the worker is not considered in fixing the wage, and they instance our profession as a proof.

No thinking person, of course, believes that the enfranchisement of women will cause an automatic rise in their wages; but we do believe that a vote is the first, if not the only, lever for the overthrow of the system whose foundation principle is to pay a woman less *because* she is a woman—in other words, because she can supplement her income by the mere fact of her sex. This principle meets one at every turn in every corner of the labour market, from the Civil Service downwards; no other explanation of the differential rate of wages will meet all cases. The dominant male won't acknowledge it; the anti-Suffragist thinks it unladylike to mention it. Nothing will upset the system till women have a vote, and even when they have it will take some doing.—Yours faithfully,

PROVINCIAL ACTRESS.

AFTER a season of pantomime at the Empire and Theatre Royal, Hyde, *Her Fatal Marriage* was accorded a hearty reception by a large audience on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. A. Hinton and Mr. Travis Green's company give the piece a thorough interpretation. Miss Hilda Shirley, an actress of sympathetic power, and Mr. Gerald Heather admirably fill the leading parts.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 11.)

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Lovers of opera here have looked forward with the keenest anticipation to the visit of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, and a crowded house witnessed the performance on Monday evening of *Carmen*, with Miss Doris Woodall in the title-rôle. On Tuesday *Faust* was presented. Miss Gertrude Vania, who was heard for the first time in St. Helens, created a great impression as Marguerite. Her acting is full of charm, and her voice is wonderfully pure and sweet. Mr. Walter Wheatley appeared with much success as Faust, and Mr. Hebden Foster gave a fine performance of Valentine. A great favourite is Mr. Arthur Winckworth, and his Mephistopheles was the feature of the production. Miss Annie Van Dyck rendered the part of Siebel most pleasingly, and Miss Douglas Wilson was again welcomed as Martha. The chorus and orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Eugene Goossens, were beyond praise. *Il Trovatore*, *Destiny*, *Rigoletto*, *Tannhäuser* and *Maritana* were to be presented during the week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Mr. Jack Haddon's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is here this week. Miss Marie Brayman is a handsome and dashing Robin Hood, and her songs catch on. Maid Marian is impersonated by Miss Mabel Osborne, who has a very captivating way with her; Eric and Rosa (the Babes) are taken by two charming little girls, the Misses Marie and Elsie May; Miss Dorothy Bruce is a nice Little John; Miss Maud St. John is much applauded as Margery May; Miss Carrie Parry as the Fairy sings well; uproarious mirth is caused by Mr. Harry Elliston (Euphemia Gadabout) and by August and September (Nobby Tike and Sonny Sam), especially in the school scene and the combat; the Eight Little Pinkies perform some pleasing dances; and the John Lloyd Quartette as Robin's men are enthusiastically encored. Mr. Arthur W. Parry has the direction of the orchestra.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here with the delightful musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Bert Beswick makes an amusing Jim Cheese, and keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Herbert St. John as Dick Wargrave is very good, and sings well; Mr. Leslie Owen makes a capital Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Sam Lysons as Downham is excellent; Mr. A. Gordon Law is effective as A. Bunker Bliss; Mr. A. Cassidy as Mr. Talk and Mr. F. Payne Palmer as Mr. Hazel play admirably; Miss Lily Gullick makes a charming and dainty Elphin Haye; Miss Ada Waugh is an amusing Liza Shoddam; Miss Ida Stratham is excellent as Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Beatrice Hayden is an imposing Mrs. Shimmering Black; and Miss Anton Laing is good as Miss Virginia Bliss. The dresses and scenery are elaborate. There is a full chorus and augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. Pierre de Reeder.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—George Gray and company head the bill here with *The Fighting Parson*. The sketch is admirably performed, and elicits great applause from crowded houses. Maria Racko and partner give a clever sensational acrobatic turn; Reg. Beauchamp is a popular comedian; Edie Endon is a dainty comedienne and clever dancer; Fallows and Beaumont give a novel comedy act; Mark Hanbury, comedian, is well received; Fritz Kornau, "the human flute," is very clever with his whistling; and the Bioscope concludes with Bobby, the Boy Scout.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. Nelson Barratt presents here *Cinderella*. Miss Eva Travis as Cinderella is charming, and renders her songs with great ability; Miss George Hawkins takes well as the dashing Prince; Mr. James Mackenzie creates much fun as Peps; and Mons. le Claus and his troupe of dogs are well received. Crowded houses nightly rule.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The principal attraction here is the nautical spectacle *Black-Eyed Susan*, presented by Adderley Howard and company. An amusing equilibristic act is contributed by the Maxmilians; Terry and Tate are neat and effective dancers; a pretty Irish scena is contributed by Sleath and Aldin; and also to be noted are Charles Coll, Mlle. Dalmere, with her performing animals; Helene Stewart; and the Perfection pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre and Palace of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—At the the head here are Messrs. Hurley and Late with a first-class musical turn; C. Ibbotson gives a smart show at the Black Dame; Mr. Geo. Rogers is a comedian of high rank; Miss Vesta Vesey wins constant applause; Mr. Bert Whitman as a negro comedian is a happy selection; and the Lauri Brothers foot the bill with a smart acrobatic turn. The pictures are very good.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—*Dick Whittington* enters upon its second half this week, and is enthusiastically received by well-filled houses. Miss Margaret Ruby makes a dashing Duck, and her rendering of her new interpolation, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" and "Ship Ahoy," is much admired; Miss Gertie Gavagan imbues her part of Alice with much charm and winsomeness, and was warmly applauded for her singing of "Mr. Schneider"; Miss Hilda Playfair adapts herself well to the part of Fairy Bluebell, and renders "Il Bacio" in a clear, ringing voice; Mr. Will Evans as the Alderman and Mr. Dan Crawley as the Cook work admirably together; and together with the Brothers Ethairian and Mr. Chris Baker as Idle Jack keep their audience in the best of humours with their innumerable gags and songs. The recitation entitled "The Workmen's Compensation Act," by Messrs. Crawley, Evans, and Baker, is one of the funniest things of the evening. Mr. Ernest Laws continues to give pleasure as Ahmed, and sings "Asleep in the Deep" in a rich bass voice. Misses Lilian Bishop, Violet Trevenyon, and Constance Clive, as Grand Vizier, Dolly, and Princess Zobeide, also work hard towards the success of the piece. The Lottie Stone troupe of dancers are as popular as ever with their varied and graceful dancing.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dunn.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is here in *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Miss Pauline Nanton, the principal lady, as Mavis Leverton gives a well-studied reading; Renie de Telle has a capable exponent in Miss Annie Hylton; Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a successful George Trimain; and villainy is well portrayed by Messrs. Harry Leyton (Dean Clifton) and Chas. W. Docksway (Paul Cavishaw), both of whom do good work. The lighter vein is in the capable hands of Miss Esmai Ellis (Gwen Younger) and Messrs. Henry Dawson (Dick Leverton) and C. Milley Doyle (Rudolf Earl).

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading a good all-round bill here this week are the Okabe Family of Japanese acrobats, who give as smart a demonstration as could possibly be wished for; Charles Matthews astonishes audiences by his exceptional jumping powers; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls supply an acceptable turn; Larry Lewis, comedian, has a quiet style which catches on; Clarke and Hayden are pleasing in their musical comedy turn; the Brothers Corcoran do well in their musical and quick-change speciality; John Scott's company presents an amusing sketch, *Dolly's Deception*; Odeyne Sparke is applauded for her nimble dancing; and Violet Stockelle is an attractive comedienne.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company in *The Flag Lieutenant* is on a return visit. Mr. Mark Paton gives a careful study of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B.; Mr. Hastings Lyn scores a success as Richard Lascelles; Major William Thessiger is ably impersonated by Mr. Frederick Lester; Mr. Edward Mervyn makes a capital Surgeon Crutchley; Messrs. Geoff. Wilkinson and Guy Lanham are an amusing pair of midshipmen; Mr. W. S. Yeldham deserves mention as General Gough-Bogle; Mr. Richard Dalton is seen to advantage as Michael Palliser; Miss Mabel Rees' portrayal of Mrs. Cameron is excellent; Lady Hermione is gracefully taken by Miss Rita Johnson, Miss Una Venning is a pleasing Viola Hood; Miss Evelyn Robson as the inquisitive Mrs. Gough-Bogle is very good; and Miss Rosalind Rosa does well as Lady Dugdale.

TON-Y-PANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—A pleasing variation is afforded by the engagement of Mr. John A. Thomson's pantomime company, *The Babes in the Wood*. With a strong chorus, clever principals, and good variety acts, the production is highly meritorious. Miss Norah Prendergast is well received as Queen Good Intent; and an admirable foil is Mr. John Vert as Will-o'-the-Wisp. Miss P. McCarthy makes a bold Robin Hood; and Maid Marian is safely entrusted to Miss D. Stone. Allan-a-Dale by Miss Winnie Hypatia is a pleasing assumption; the Bros. Chandos are highly diverting as the Ruffians.

Empire.—Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Heading a strong programme is Volta, "the human battery"; Dusty Rhodes meets with a rousing reception; and Mr. C. M. Daly and company present a smart sketch. Beatrice Allen scores well; and the Sauterons prove clever jumpers; Neville and Morse and the Sisters Tower give good items. The Empiroscope concludes.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Mr. Wm. Heilbronn and company play a clever comedy sketch, *The Devil's Dupe*; Ellis Barrieton wins great applause; Cedar and Elgar are highly amusing; the Three Cyclinis and Bert Beecham swell a fine list; the leading films are An Alpine Echo and A Youthful Hero.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—A welcome reappearance of Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* is being made here. In the title-rôle a capable exponent is found in Miss Sylvia May, whose acting is charming; Miss Ada Thomas as Natalie wins considerable success, her representation being much appreciated; and as Frou-Frou Miss Katie May has a fascinating and dainty manner. Mr. Fred Leslie is exceedingly good as Prince Danilo, his natural and easy style being quite a feature of the performance; Mr. Edward D'Arcy is a quaint Baron Popoff; and Mr. Fred Fowler's Nisch is excelent. Mr. Ripley Evans sings acceptably as Jolidon, and Mr. William Allison is equally well placed as Marquis de Cascada. Mr. Clifford Seyler is an amusing General Novokovitch, in addition to which he carries out the duties of stage-manager.

WAKEFIELD.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Pantomime again holds sway here with Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's company in *Bo-Peep*. Miss Lizzie Payne in the title-rôle gives a dainty and charming rendering; Miss Eva May Rosslyn makes a spirited and tuneful Boy Blue; the dame, Granny Brown, is capably and amusingly undertaken by Mr. J. W. Groves; Mr. Will Shepherd as Johnnie Stout and Mr. Rea Kempton as Jimmy Green work hard, and are responsible for much humour; Mr. Harry Rex is most successful as the Baron; and Mr. Will Harris is droll as Tommy Long; Messrs. Cliny and Clancy cause much merriment as Willy and Timm, and dance well; Mlle. Du Roche is a dashing second boy; and Miss Daisy Cryer is vivacious as Margery Daw; Mr. W. H. Gatty sings well as the Demon; and Miss Elsie Peach also delights with sweet vocalism as Fairy Moonbeam. Clever specialities are contributed by Mr. Albert Kail Stern, coon vocalist; Little Ivy, a capital dancer; Messrs. Cliny and Clancy, duettists and dancers; the Namron Quartette of dancers; and the Hammersley Troupe of lady dancers.

Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Douglas's Jolly Bakers, in a first-class risley performance, are the premier attraction; Miss Zeta Grey and company present funny sketch, entitled *A Lancashire Lass*; Rowlands and Ward provide a popular turn; Drum and Major, comedy artists, are amusing; Stewart and Morris, comedians, are well received for smart dancing; the Brooklands are dainty comediennes and dancers; and Johnson and Devere are clever trick cyclists.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. Bate Maddison's unique vocal spectacle, *The Venetians*, heads the bill, and merits well-deserved appreciation; the Stavordale Quintette, banjo and harp specialists, give an excellent performance; Miss Daisy Mayer, coon singer, is a decided hit; Rappo and Ella are graceful in a novel ladder act; Jackson and Smith, comedians, raise hearty laughter; and Mr. Geo. Antill and Mr. Jack North, comedians, have good receptions.

WALLSEND.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Duffy; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hy. Hearn.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is drawing crowded houses. Miss Ethel Campbell makes a dashing principal boy, and the Alice of Miss Tina Franks could not be improved upon. Miss Phyllis Seymour and Miss Ivy Proudfoot are very charming; Princess Amarynth finds an apt exponent in Miss Ethel Haidee; and the Fairy is in the capable hands of Mme. Benita. Mr. Deane Tribune makes a droll Idle Jack, and Mr. Jack Hodgson is well placed as Fitzwarren. Mlle. Pauline Rivers' troupe introduce some clever dances, which are heartily appreciated.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Clifton Alderson's company is here in the stirring play, *The Coal King*. The scene depicting the coal shaft is a capital specimen of stage craft. Mr. Robert Faulkner makes a manly Tom Roberts; Mr. A. W. Norman's Sir Reginald Hartford is a dignified personage; Mr. Leslie Vyner is well placed in the heavy rôle of Walter Hartford; and plenty of humour is extracted from the part of Jim Williams by Mr. Sam Roberts. Miss Winifred Love is a charming Grace Shirley; and a clever character sketch of Mad Ann is that of Miss Dennis Duncan. Miss Lucy Caton scores as Mrs. Baker; and a chic parlourmaid is Miss Effie D. Crawford.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Capital business is the order here. Amy Anderson and company score in the boisterous sketch, *The Banana Queen*, and the acrobatic feats of one of the members are very fine; Herbert Rule is a droll comedian, and he has made many friends; Tom Yorke's songs are encored, and Friscari is a capital manipulator of top hats and a smart juggler. Gena Manon is a charming vocalist; and Ethel May a dainty comedienne; The Rosses have good patter, and are smart dancers; and the pictures are excellent.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Elsie Malpass is a dainty child mimic; Lang and Pleydell are up-to-date comedians; and Joey Stirling has good songs and racy humour. The pictures are good.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting *For Honour and Revenge*. Mr. Beaudyn takes the part of James Galston with much ability; Mr. D. Pitt is an excellent Sir Gilbert Redville; Miss Irene Munroe a capable Maud Desmond; Miss Phyllis Rae is a good Nancy O'Brien; and Miss Irene Stanhope a charming Mary Galston.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings. There is an attractive programme at this place of amusement. The pictures are clever and up to date; while delightful turns are provided by the Sisters Warner, musical duettists; Yettmah, a clevr conjurer; Jack Minto, with popular songs; and Hicks' Clerks.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and J. C. Wray's company are presenting *Miss Hook of Holland*, which is excellently staged and dressed. Miss Nan Stuart is responsible for the titular rôle, and her dainty style and charming personality gain for her many admirers; humour is judiciously carried through the piece by Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Hook and Mr. Edward Kipling as Simon Slink; Mr. Robert Selby as Captain Papp and Mr. Frank G. Dunn as Van Vuyt are excellent; and Miss Madge White plays the part of Mina in a highly pleasing manner.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—An excellent all-round programme is headed by Millette Whittaker, who, assisted by Wilbur Hill, is pleasing everyone with her musical and plantation selections; the "Harvest Time" vocal scena, by Olive Lenton and her company, is a prettily played performance, in which is introduced some novel electric bell effects; remarkable smartness and precision attends the tumbling by the Five Manchurians; D'Arc's life-like marionettes are always enjoyed, the representations of numerous stars of the variety firmament being clever indeed; Tom Moore, a character comedian, takes well; a comedietta, "Love in a Coffee Shop," as played by Frank Danby, is very successful; and the Sisters Storm earn favourable opinions. Some capital pictures are also shown.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—Widnes playgoers are experiencing a new pleasure this season in a "round of Shakespearean plays." Miss Florence Glossop Harris (daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris) and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., present six, and are supported by an exceptionally strong company. The "round" was commenced with *Othello*, in which Miss Harris proved herself to be an actress of ability and quality. Her portrayal of Desdemona was extremely good, and won the admiration of the audience. Mr. Cellier was distinctly good as Iago; Mr. J. H. Irvine was a typical Othello, the Moor. Other artists who won credit are Miss Ine Cameron, Miss Mary Goulden, Miss Madge Spencer, and Messrs. Arthur Seaton, Gordon Blyth, and James Mason. The company is equipped with effective scenery and rich costumes. On Tuesday a version of *The Merchant of Venice* was given, with Miss Harris as Portia and Mr. Cellier as Shylock. *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Scandal*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Hamlet* are also in the bill.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Another capital programme delighted a packed "house" on Monday. In addition to the Empire animated pictures, variety turns were provided by William's Royal Welsh Minstrels, J. C. McCann (comedian and acrobatic roller-skate dancer), Sterling and Cashen (in the comedy *The New Army*), and Tom Franks (young ventriloquist).

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—Mr. Charles Elderton is presenting his pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*. Miss D. Lawrence plays in dashing style as Robinson Crusoe; Miss Nellie Stuart is charming as Princess Popsy Prettything; and Miss Isa Gibson is capital as Polly Perkins. Effective work is done by Miss Nina St. Elmo as Captain Kettle and Miss Maud Hastings as Fairy Sunbeam; Mr. Teddy Worth extracts much merriment from the part of Billy Crusoe; Mr. J. H. Booth is an amusing Mrs. Crusoe; and Mr. Fred Boulton as Will Atkins, Mr. Theodore Jones as King Ki-Koko, and Mr. Percy Wright as King Neptune play leading parts extremely well. The Lottie Stone troupe are to be complimented upon their graceful and accomplished dances.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—The Lafaile troupe prove themselves to be original and clever acrobats; David Poole is loudly applauded for his smart ventriloquial entertainment; a most enjoyable performance is given by Meila and Mozarabar, who introduce trained ravens and pigeons; the Bros. Artois, in their comedy bar act, have a rousing reception; Rose D'Aubly is greeted with much applause for her vocal selections; while Tom R. Hughes is very amusing. The Three Dixons sing and dance themselves into favour; and others who contribute to an acceptable programme are Ambrose Thorne, comedian, the Prince Milner Trio, and Nellie Lawrence, vocalist.

WISHAW, N.B.—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Messrs. John Warren and company in *The Magic Carpet* are here this week; Will Hawthorne, the popular Scotch comedian, goes well; as does also Mr. F. G. Fenn in an elocutionary scena entitled "Phil Blood's Leap"; Marmaduke is amusing; and Mr. John Warren bewilders his audience by his lightning conjuring act. Some excellent films are shown on the Bioscope.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company, in *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, drew a large house here on Monday night. Miss Agnes Collier as the long-suffering heroine, Alice Walters, successfully elicits the sympathies of the audience; whilst Jack Stonely, who is responsible for all her misery, is well represented by Mr. S. Leigh Courtney. Able support is given by Mr. Hubert Helliwell as the Rev. John Albery, Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell and Miss Florence Delmar as Mr. and Mrs. Walters, Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough, and Mr. Louis Weston as Nebucanezza Mozart.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—*Before the Dawn*, as presented by Mr. George Sheldon's company, is one of the finest sketches yet seen here, and the intensity of its dramatic situations holds the audience spellbound. Praise is due to Mr. F. Rawson Buckley for his fine rendering of Major Stetson, and also to Master Reggie Connor for a faultless interpretation of Dick. Peggy Pryde is again renewing acquaintance with old friends, and making many new ones, in her humorous songs and topical patter; another welcome return visit is that of Edie and Ramsden. Other good turns include Hyde and Cody Trio, eccentrics; Maud Wilton, comedienne; Ted Cowan, comedian; Earle and Godfrey, dancing duo; Allsopp and Beckwith, comedy duo; and Marie Wilton, comedienne.

The Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett and Stone.—The Lizzette Trio, lady acrobats and dancers; Miss Molly Augarde, a singer of sensible songs; and Collin and Irene, thought readers, are appearing here. The principal pictures are Renunciation, Saved By His Sweetheart, The Lady's Scarf, and The Little Violinist.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Messrs. Levy and Card present their pantomime, *The House that Jack Built*, this week. Miss Isa Wilson as the Fairy sings popular songs sweetly and well; Miss Jenny Marsden as Grotchen dances gracefully; Dolly Dodds as Jill is trim and neat; Little Chip as Wee McGregor shows great promise; and the Jack of Miss Daisy Wood is charming.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—There are some good films this week, including a powerful selection from *Les Miserables*. The variety bill is topped by Dunco and Langdon, a clever duo, in clever comedy; Miss Jennie Neilson sings some difficult ballads; and James O'Brian tells good stories.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—Laurie and Leslie have made a welcome appearance here; Jack Belton, comedian, and Minnie Osborne, with Agnes, Dolly, and Maud, and some fine pictures complete a good programme.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge Percy and James Martin's company is here. On Monday *Moths* was presented. Mr. F. Vernon Travers gave a polished impersonation of the character of Prince Sergius Zouroff; Mr. J. C. Lodge Percy was very fine as Lord Jura; Mr. Cecil Kerr did well as the Duke of Mull and Butire; the Boris of Mr. Edward Ashworth was a refined performance; Miss Henrietta Schrier deserves unstinted praise as Fuchsia Leach; Miss Nellie Statham did well as Lady Dolly Vanderdecken; the remaining characters are well placed. On Thursday *Camille* was produced.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington.—The return visit of *Miss Hook of Holland* is proving an immense success. Miss Marie Studholme gives a delightful impersonation of the title-rôle, and her reception has been most cordial. Mr. Alfred Wellesley has repeated his grand representation of Mr. Hook with gratifying results, roars of laughter greeting his efforts. Mr. Fred Lyne has made of Simon Slinks a special study, with the result that a comical and finished performance is seen; Miss Maud Denny gives a bright and merry rendition of Nina; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is again well to the front as Van Vuyt, singing in capital style; Mr. Fred Hobbs makes a dashing Capt. Paap; and Mr. Chas. Ross is lively and amusing as Schnapps.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Simeon the Seer is a remarkable turn, and fairly mystifies large audiences; the Scotch Meisters are accorded a hearty welcome; Steve Bartle, a concertina player of the first rank, is well received; the Luzellas excel on the tight wire; and Lozelle is an acrobat of great merit. The operatic efforts of St. Ruth and Conyers are well received; Alice Blandford is a pleasing vocalist; Newmann and Brown present an amusing scena; and excellent comedians are seen in Mr. Bert Kemble and Mr. Arthur Harris.

Exhibition Hall.—The Royal Italian Circus is paying a welcome return visit, large audiences being the rule. The various novelties introduced by Volpi in ponies, dogs, goats, &c., have been well received; whilst the humorous performances of Nimble Nip, Wee Willie, and Funny Frisks have proved most acceptable. "Jumbo Junior" is heartily enjoyed.

Siegfried Wagner's new opera, *Banadietrich*, was produced on Sunday, at the Grand Ducal Theatre, at Carlsruhe, and was enthusiastically received. A Bohemian version of the Dietrich legend supplies the text of the opera, in the music of which, it is agreed, the composer has abandoned himself completely to his father's style.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY."

At the close of the performance of *The Sleeping Beauty* at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, Mr. Peter Davey, the energetic and enterprising managing-director, who designed the production along with Mrs. Davey, were called on to the stage to receive a parting gift. The presentation was made by Mr. W. P. Sheen, the irrepressible Dame, who suitably expressed the thanks of the company for the kindness and consideration shown to them by the management during the run of the pantomime. Amid a great deal of applause Miss Barbara Babington (principal boy) handed to Mr. and Mrs. Davey, on behalf of the artists, a pair of handsome silver sauce bowls, bearing the inscription: "To Mr. and Mrs. Peter Davey, with affectionate regard from the company, and as a souvenir of the thirteenth annual Christmas pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, Jan. 22, 1910."

In acknowledging the gifts, Mr. Davey said it was difficult to realise that that was the thirteenth successive year he had stood on the stage of the Royal County, surrounded by his pantomime company. Every year he felt it more and more difficult to say good-bye, for during the weeks they worked together many close friendships were made. However, everything was bound to have an end, and his greatest regret was that this year they were concluding the pantomime season a week earlier than usual; but it was of no use to disguise the fact that politics and pantomimes did not run well together, and the powers that be had little regard for theatrical managers when, for the second successive time, they fixed a General Election during the Christmas season.

Mr. Davey thanked his company very sincerely for their charming present, but even more than the gift itself he valued the kindly feeling which prompted it. He expressed his deep obligations to all who had helped to make the pantomime a success, especially mentioning Mr. Hugo Rignold, the *chef d'orchestre*; Mr. Frank Harding, stage-manager; Mr. Betts, who painted the greater part of the scenery; the entire staff of the theatre, and the public for their appreciative support of his efforts to maintain the reputation and prestige of the Kingston annual pantomime. The artists and many in the audience afterwards joined hands and sang "For Auld Lang Syne."

THE LATE ELIZABETH TURNER ELLIOT.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Elizabeth Turner-Elliott, who spent nineteen years of her short life in the profession. Till within a week of her death she was playing in Mr. Chas. Harrington's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company. On the 13th she reluctantly entered Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, where, on the 15th inst. she breathed her last. She was buried at Glossop, Derbyshire, her native town. Her married name was Mrs. Alfred H. Elliott, and she leaves a husband and four boys. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Downs Band, of Glossop.

Miss Turner-Elliott commenced her career as a Shakespearean reciter at the age of fifteen. She first joined Mr. John Lawson's company, and made her début in the part of Marie in *Siberia* at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee. Miss Elliott also played Annette in *The Bells*, Mercedes in *Monte Cristo*, Rose in *After Dark*, and Diana in *The Ruling Passion*, under the same management, and she was the Grace Darling in *Humanity* at the Standard Theatre in 1896, on its first visit after its original production there in 1882. She subsequently fulfilled engagements with Mr. E. C. Matthews, Miss Winifred Maude, Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Fred Benton, Mr. Morton Powell, Mr. Welton Dale, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden, Mr. Louis Cohn, Mr. Hilliard Vox, and in various stock companies.

The current bill at the Lowestoft Hippodrome includes Colin Bryce and company in a funny sketch, *Are You a Socialist?*; Marie Tilley, comedienne; Dave Wallace, comedian; and Harry Hayton. The pictorial subjects are exceptionally good.

Mr. N. A. Knox, the Surrey cricketer, appeared in the chorus of *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's last week, understudying Mr. Basil Foster—another cricketer—who is playing the Earl of Quorn. Miss Edna May's youngest sister, Miss Marguerite May, has also joined the company at Daly's, playing the part of Sadie Von Tromp.

Mr. George Edwardes's company with *The Dollar Princess* is at the Portsmouth Theatre Royal on a fortnight's engagement, and almost every seat in the circle and stalls is booked for this week. Miss Norah Barry repeats her former successes here as Alice, Miss Madeline Seymour makes a charming Olga, and Daisy has a vivacious exponent in Miss Peggy Primrose. Mr. Leslie Holland is irresistible as the millionaire Conder; and laughter reigns when Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Bulger is on the scene.

The second annual Pantomime Supper at the Elephant and Castle Theatre will take place on Tuesday evening next at twelve midnight. The stage will be tastefully decorated, and with the assistance of the stage-manager transformed into a gorgeous dining-salon. An early application for tickets should be made by those artists and friends not directly connected with the theatre, as only a limited number of tickets will be issued. The arrangements this year will be in the hands of Messrs. Walter Bayliss (acting-manager), Will Cutler (stage-manager), and W. Cartwright (resident stage-manager).

Messrs. Little and Darcy are showing their pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat* at the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, this week. Miss Jeanie MacKay is very good as Fairy Silverstone; Miss Nina Carlton is admirable as Dick; and Miss Helene Mohr is successful as Alice Fitzwarren. Mr. Jack McKenzie is screamingly funny as Sarah, the cook; Mr. Sydney T. Russell makes an ideal Idle Jack; Messrs. Tichbourne and Edwards are first-rate comedy merchants; Miss Lillie Luraine is a clever instrumentalist; and Mr. James Stratton, in his impersonation of the Cat, exhibits a nimbleness which is very entertaining.

Mr. Fred Karno's company, with the musical farce *His Majesty's Guests*, fills the bill at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Falkirk. The important part of Sergeant Lightning is filled with the utmost success by Mr. George Hestor. Mr. Charles Usher as Mr. Miffin, Mr. Douglas as Harry, Mr. C. Richardson as Bunkey, Mr. G. Gordon as Mr. Minks, Mr. S. Bolton as Fritz, Mr. E. O. Freshwater as Lord Easem, Miss Edith Ager as Dolly, Miss Annie Wright as Miss Manley, Mr. Harry Howe as Selina, Miss Florence Pragnell as Miss Mackerel, and Miss A. Young as Dora constitute the other principals in a good company.

The pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is at the New Gaiety, Ayr, this week. It is a good show, well presented by Mr. Edward Marris' company. Miss Maisie Jerrard plays Robinson with fine dash, and Miss Mamie Iris as Polly sweethearts daintily with "him." Others in the company are Mr. Heller le Maistre (as Neptune), Miss Nancy Taylor (a Mermaid), the Sisters May, Mr. Jimmy Danvers, Miss Poppy Lytton, Mr. Jack Bland, Mr. Harry C. Robinson, Mr. Geo. Mumford, Mr. Andy Marsh, Mr. Archie Herbert, Mr. Herbert Pearce, Mr. John Frith, Mr. Wm. Greene, and Mr. Ernest Leon. Little Levite and company appear in *The Tandem*.

THE LATE JOHN H. CLARKE.

We regret to record the death at Leamington on the 22nd inst. of Mr. John H. Clarke, after a lingering illness. The deceased gentleman was well-known at Leicester, where he carried out a great number of entertainments on a large scale. The biggest undertaking that the deceased gentleman promoted was the Clarendonia Fête, in which most of the then celebrated entertainers appeared, at that time great favourites at the Royal Aquarium. No less than forty bands were engaged at the opening, each leaving the centre of the town at every fifteen minutes' interval. It was here that the first switchback railway was erected in Leicester, and the sensational performance daily of Mlle. Dare ascending by her teeth attached to a trapeze underneath a balloon took place, which caused so much talk that questions were asked in Parliament on the subject. It ended in a big financial loss.

Mr. Clarke was more successful when he removed to the Floral Hall in Belgrave-gate, where he promoted a large number of trade exhibitions at which the best regimental and other bands appeared. It was at this hall where some of the most sensational aerial shows were given, including Menotti and others. He also introduced the first star quick-change artist here in the person of Signor Pepi, so well known now as a successful music hall proprietor. He was also most successful with his Sunday concerts, at which all the famous bands followed in quick succession, the large hall being always packed at these with many thousands of people. He then turned the hall into a skating rink, which at that time was booming, and held many carnivals and skating races. His interest in the hall was eventually acquired by Mr. Oswald Stoll, who built on the site the Palace Theatre, one of the largest and handsomest vaudeville theatres in the provinces, which was opened in 1901. He afterwards became the acting manager of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, under the lesseeship of Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Winstanley, where he remained some little time.

NEW YORK THEATRES.

Theatre building in New York goes on apace in spite of the oft-repeated assertion that there are too many theatres already. Broadway, from Forty-second-street to the Columbus Circle at Fifty-ninth-street, is undergoing a complete transformation, and this section of the city's chief thoroughfare seems destined to be lined with magnificent amusement houses and palatial restaurants. Broadway and Seventh-avenue run together for a few blocks above forty-second-street, and form the open space known as Long Acre-square. When the late Dan Leno made his American début in 1897 at Olympia (now the New York Theatre), this house was the only place of amusement in the immediate vicinity of Long Acre-square, being set like a huge beacon in a dim and dreary wilderness, while the American Theatre, at the corner of Eighth-avenue was the only playhouse in Forty-second-street.

In the latter thoroughfare now are to be found the New Amsterdam, Liberty, Hackett, Belasco, Lyric, and Hammerstein's. The Hudson and the Stuyvesant, both in Forty-fourth-street; the Hippodrome in Sixth-avenue near by, and the new Lyceum were built but a few years ago. Then it seemed as if the "uptown" movement must stop for a while. But the Astor, and then the Gaiety, were erected at the corner of Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth streets respectively, and during the last fortnight the Globe and the Columbia have been opened within a few yards of the same point. An unnamed theatre is about to be erected just above the Columbia, and Mr. William A. Brady's theatre, to be called The Playhouse, is being built at the corner of Forty-eighth-street.

Mr. George M. Cohan, too, is to have a theatre named after him, and it is now being erected at the corner of Forty-third-street. The Comedy Theatre, opened last autumn in West Forty-first-street, must not be forgotten, for it is only a stone's throw from the centre of activity. Furthermore, the Shuberts have just had plans drawn for their new Forty-third-street theatre, opposite the Lyric, and they will also erect a fine playhouse in Forty-eighth-street, east of Seventh-avenue. This means that three new Shubert theatres will soon be in course of construction, for in Thirty-ninth-street, just opposite the Casino, a new theatre will be opened by these managers in a month or so, this house being situated a few yards from Maxine Elliott's Theatre, the attractions for which are booked by the Shuberts.

This enterprising firm has also obtained a long lease of the American Horse Exchange building, which covers a large plot of ground between Fiftieth and Fifty-first streets, with the intention of erecting a combined theatre and office building there. With the New Theatre recently built by the millionaires at Sixty-second-street, and the Majestic at Fifty-ninth-street, if the theatre-builders seize the intervening space of eight blocks, upper Broadway might be appropriately re-named Theatre-avenue.

The valuable musical library

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 31.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Pavilion T., Abertillery.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.).—Glasgow.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T.R., Belfast.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY (1).—Junc. T., Manchester.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Grand T., Nottingham.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Court T., Wigan.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—O. H., Treherbert.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Hanley.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—T. R., Woolwich.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—T. R., Darlington.
BULMER, MR.—Empire T., Southend.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—O. H., Burnley.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—County T., Reading.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—T. R., Norwich.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—Whitehaven and Kendal.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Greenock.
CINGALEE (B.).—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Grand T., Halifax.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—O. H., Northampton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Gaiety T., Worksop.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Castle T., Stockton.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—T. R., Macclesfield.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Aston.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Royalty T., Barrow.
EAST LYNNE.—Lyceum T., Newport.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—New T., Consett.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
FATAL WEDDING.—Gt. Yarmouth.
FIRES OF FATE.—Grand T., Fulham.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—T. R., Bath.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Ayr and Falkirk.
FLORADORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ryde.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Crown T., Eccles.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Jarrow.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Grand T., Halifax.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—Falkirk and Ayr.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Grand T., Walsall.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Empire T., Southend.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—Empire T., Wrexham.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Grand T., Swansea.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Grand T., Derby.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Pavilion T., Abertillery.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Castleford.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Aston.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Court T., Bacup.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—T. R., Leamington.
KING OF CADONA.—Grand T., Southampton.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Middlewich.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—T. R., Bournemouth.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Osborne T., Manchester.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—T. R., Margate.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—King's T., Gainsborough.
MARRIAGES OF MAYFAIR.—H. M. T., Dundee.
MERRY WIDOW.—T. R., Exeter.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Colosseum, Oldham.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—O. H., Cork.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Preston.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—Cambridge and Bury St. Edmunds.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—T. R., West Stanley.
OLD HOME, THE.—Grand T., Luton.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Prince's T., Accrington.
OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.—Maestag.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Grand T., Oldham.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Shrewsbury and Stafford.
PETE (S.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Tidworth and Stroud.
ROLLICKING RORY.—King's T., Seacombe.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—O. H., St. Helens.
SERGEANT BRUE.—Gaiety T., Leith.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Watford.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—New Hall, Bargoed.
SILVER KING.—Century T., Motherwell.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
SWISS EXPRESS.—County T., Bedford.
TEMPTATION.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
TURNER'S (J. W.) OPERA CO.—O. H., Coventry.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Lancaster and Whitehaven.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—T. R., Barnsley.
TYRANT, THE.—Metropole T., Devonport.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Lyceum T., Govan.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Paisley T., Paisley.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Garrick T., Hereford.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—T. R., Paisley.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Gaiety T., Hastings.
WHO IS SHE?—Metropole T., Glasgow.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—King's T., Gainsborough.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Royalty T., Llanelly.

No fewer than sixty-nine aspirants for the variety stage faced the music at the Paragon on Saturday. The audience were the arbiters of the fate of each novice, and there was a good deal of fun of a kind in the observations of gods and pit.

A VOLUME of reminiscences by Mme. Yvette Guilbert will be published early in the summer by Messrs. Mills and Boon. The original manuscript, in French, will be reproduced in facsimile on one page, with an English translation on the page opposite. This could not be done with many authors, but Mme. Yvette Guilbert writes a very legible hand.

MAXIM BROS., with their Fun Carnival, have just concluded a successful visit to Walsall. Crowds have nightly visited this carnival, and the novelty games and side shows were well patronised. This young and energetic management open to-day for a short season at Burslem.

IN the "Children's" Court at Old-street on Tuesday an application was made to Mr. Cluer by the manager of the *Sleeping Beauty* pantomime company for a licence permitting six little girls, whose ages varied from thirteen to eleven, to take part in some performances at the Dalston Theatre. On reading through the application Mr. Cluer noticed that it said: "To perform from Jan. 24," and asked what had happened the day before. The manager replied that he had written to the superintendent of police for the district, and had been told that the children could appear until nine p.m. without a licence, and they had done so.

"ARE you any relation to any of the children?" asked Mr. Cluer.—"No," was the reply; "merely their manager." "I do not think," said the magistrate, "that there was any intention in the statute that children should be farmed out to men or women who make money from them without working themselves. You were satisfied with nine o'clock on Monday night; be satisfied with it now. I shall grant no licence for any hour after that."

THE death is announced at Heaton Chapel, near Manchester, of Mr. Handel Thornley, an original member of the Halle Orchestra, and for thirty years choirmaster of Manchester Cathedral. He was one of the basses in the picked choir which sang the "Elijah" on the occasion of Mendelssohn's visit in 1847.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

FRANK REED.—*We should say not. But you might write to the manager of the theatre*

"E. V."—*We think there should be no difficulty, but you should apply to the local magistrate for the necessary permission. You could ascertain from his clerk or the local police officers to whom you should apply and the time of application.*

A. H. YATES.—*We have not published a copy of the committee proceedings on the Censor question. The numbers of* The Era *in which the proceedings appear may be had from our publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Try French's, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., for the play you mention. See notice above.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

CAMERON—EDWARDS.—Jan. 22, at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle, J. Moore Cameron (the Cameron Quartette) to Maude A. Edwards.

DEATHS.

BISHOP.—Jan. 20, Alfred Bishop, of Bishop and Vale, variety comedian.

BURNARD.—On Jan. 24, 1910, Frederick Arthur Burnard, infant son of Arthur and Kitty Staples, aged 5½ years. R.I.P.

CLARKE.—On Jan. 22, at 7, Farley-street, Leamington Spa, John H. Clarke, late of the Floral Hall and Theatre Royal, Leicester, after a lingering illness.

EMMETT.—Jan. 21, Nat Emmett, retired variety artist.

HARLEY.—Dec. 25, at Madras, in his 64th year, Prof. Dr. Walter Harley, conjurer and veteran pioneer showman throughout India. Widely known and greatly mourned.

HARROW-HUGHES.—On Jan. 23, 1910, at his residence, Leeds, John Hughes (father of Bert Harrow, comedian), of cancer.

KEATS.—On Jan. 20, 1910, at 4, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham, S.W., Annie Gertrude Keats, the dearly loved mother of Madeline and Gladys Keats.

MCCLELLAND.—On the 23rd inst., at Camberwell, Rosie, only surviving daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry McClelland. "The sufferer rests at last."

SMITH.—Jan. 20, suddenly, Neville Sydney (Vere Smith, of The Grotesques), only son of H. Sydney Smith, 10, St. Leonard's-terrace, Chelsea, aged 26.

TURNER-ELLIOTT.—Jan. 15, at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Elizabeth Turner-Elliott (Mrs. Alfred H. Elliott).

IN MEMORIAM.

AUDREY.—On Jan. 26, 1909, at 17, Borough-road, Birkenhead, May Audrey, R.I.P.—Inserted by her sorrowing mother, Mrs. F. J. BOTTOMLEY, 45, Tottenham-street, Great Yarmouth. "Gone, but not forgotten."

BROOKE.—In fond remembrance, my darling husband, Frederick G. Brooke, author, actor, and sketch producer. Entered God's Kingdom of Peace, Jan. 29, 1909.

BROOKE, FREDK. G.—In loving memory of my son, our brother, my husband, who passed away one year ago to-day. "Fearless, honourable in all actions, suffering greatly through his unshakeable loyalty to his fellowmen." Inserted by his mother, his sisters and his brothers, and his heartbroken wife.

CHAPPELL.—In loving memory of dear father, James Chappell, who passed away Jan. 30, 1907. His loving daughter, SARA LAWTON, and family.

CULEEN.—In affectionate remembrance of James Edward Culeen, who passed away Jan. 30, 1909. Ever dear in the memory of his loving mother and sister.

DONBAVAND.—In ever-loving memory of William Donbavand, who died Jan. 28, 1906. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by wife and children, Stockport.

NELSON.—In tender memory of my dear husband, Harry G. Nelson, who died Jan. 30, 1908.—JEANNIE THOMAS. "Sleep, dear heart, until I wake thee."

TAYLOR.—In ever-loving memory of Will Taylor, who passed away Jan. 29, 1901. Never forgotten by his wife and family.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

George V. Wybrow—Saturday, Jan. 29.
Phyllis Cecil—Saturday, Jan. 29.
Seymour Hicks—Sunday, Jan. 30.
Mme. Ghita Corri—Sunday, Jan. 30.
Mme. Kate Flinn—Monday, Jan. 31.
Vera Beringer—Tuesday, Feb. 1.
Mme. Clara Butt—Tuesday, Feb. 1.
Lily Harold—Tuesday, Feb. 1.
Norman A. Overton—Wednesday, Feb. 2.
Dolores Drummond—Thursday, Feb. 3.
Nancy Price—Thursday, Feb. 3.
Zena Dare—Friday, Feb. 4.

Connor's Circus at the Crystal Palace.

TO-DAY (Saturday) is the last day of Connor's great circus at the Crystal Palace. The success of this circus, which is practically the only one in London at the present moment, once more emphasises the enterprise of the ever-resourceful manager, Mr. Geo. O. Starr, who since the day he undertook the management of that vast building the Palace has done such wonders in increasing the number of entertainments. Certainly Mr. Connor, who is the proprietor of the circus, has brought with him a host of clever artists, the clowns being an entertainment in themselves with their many quaint sayings and antics—indeed, every member of the company has become immensely popular, and it is with reluctance we bid them adieu, at least for a while, for further engagements call them to other towns. At the conclusion of a well-filled programme the intense delight of the children is increased by a visit from Father Christmas, who distributes toys to each little one. This makes a perfect finish to a solid two hours' keen enjoyment.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Alexander, Mr. C.
Anderton and Rowland
Barbor, Miss D.
Barnes, Mr. J.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bliss, Miss Hebe
Bradley, Mr. W. K.
Brough, Miss Fanny
Burke, Miss M.
Burton, Mr. Percy
Cheeks, Mr.
Cherry, Mr. James
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Claff, Mr. Harry
Clarke, Capt. Marcalla
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Cordite and Buffelo
Cummins, Col. F. J.
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Daniels, Mr. Bert J.
Day, Mr. G. D.
Deas, Mr. Henry
Dellar, Mr. M. K.
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Dornan, Mrs. Fred
Douglas, Mrs. G. E.
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Edwards, Miss Esme
Esden, Miss Alice
Evans, Mr. E.
Evans, Mr. Nash
Fitzgibbons, Mr. D. H.
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Gerrard, Mr. E. S.
Glennie, Mr. Charles
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Gregory, Miss M.
Groves, Miss Pattie
Groves, Mrs. H.
Hackenschmidt, Mr.
Halstan, Miss M.
Harrison, Mr. H.
Harrison, Mr. John
Hast, Mrs. Walter
Heathcote, Mr. Robert
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Homna, Mr. T.
Howard, Mr. Paul
Hughes, Mr. Eddie
Keeble and Reggies
Ker, Miss E. Innes
Kerr, Mr. Fred
Kitchen, Mr. Fred
Kirke, Mrs. F. J.
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kwai Troupe
Kyburn-Dellar, Mr. M.
Lake, Mr. Chas.
Lauder, Mr. Chas. O.
Leo, King
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Linden, Miss
Lindsay, Mr. H. W.
Lucas, Miss Flo
Lucas, Mr. Wm.
Luxmore, Miss M. Maritana
Matthews, Mr. R. B.
Mavius, Mrs. M. S.
McIntyre, Miss Mollie
Miles, Mr. A.
Millis, Mr. F. W.
Morritt, Mr. C.
Mount, Mr. Lampton
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Page, Mr. A.
Paulton, Mr. Tom
Payne, Mr. E. M.
Payne, Mr. W.
Pearce, Mr. Albert
"Phantom Ship" Co.
Phillips, Mr. Tom J.
Phillips, Mr. Wm.
Phinis and Ada
Polini, Miss H.
Polini, Mrs. H.
Randall, Mr. Arthur
Reid, Miss Nellie
Rhodehamel, Mr. C. W
Rinonis, Les
Robinson, Mr. H.
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rowland, Mr. F.
Russell-Spiers, Mrs. F.
Santon, Mr. Chas.
Scott, Mr. Maurice
Selbini, Miss Lalla
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Somos, Mr. R.
Starr, Mr. H.
St. Denis, Miss Ruth
Sterling, Mr. Leo
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Terry, Miss Marion
Thorne, Miss Ellaline
Tindell, Mr. Harry
Transfield, Mr.
Valosky, Mr. E. T.
Vane, Miss Edith
Vernon, Miss Harriet
Vernon, Mrs. Cyril
Volpi, Mr.
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Williams, Mr.
Wilson, Miss Margaret

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS. The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London. 91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W., All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m. Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents). 9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents). 459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents). 24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents). 12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only). Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only). ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

DELICIOUS COFFEE, RED WHITE & BLUE. For Breakfast & after Dinner.

BIRKBECK BANK. ESTABLISHED 1851. SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand. 2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book. All general Banking Business transacted. ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE. C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS. SICKNESS. EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY. BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS. Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO. Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000. Claims paid £5,700,000. 64, CORNHILL, LONDON. A. VIAN, Secretary.

Mr. FRANK SIMS is expressly established to make PROMPT & PRIVATE ADVANCES to the profession from £10 to £5,000 at an exceptionally low rate of interest, to be repaid by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Call, write, 'phone or wire, MR. FRANK SIMS, 101, EDGWARE ROAD, HYDE PARK, W. 'PHONE—982 PADDINGTON. TELEGRAMS—"OBTECTED LONDON."

MONEY. £5 TO £5 000. DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone. Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE. SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by MATURING IN BOTTLE, the Natural method, without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES, BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. For Sustaining the Voice. Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS. Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS.

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered. DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS. IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms. The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE. None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp. Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

Rowland's ODONTO, a pure, fragrant, non-gritty Tooth Powder; WHITENS THE TEETH, prevents decay and sweetens the breath. Sold by Stores, Chemists, and A. Rowland & Sons, Hatton Garden, London.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA. The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TYPEWRITING. MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C. PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS. TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES. ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN. SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 286645. Velvet Grip Compress. Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT. Registered Trade Mark No. 304004. Made in England. (Patent No. 16888/08 and under License of Patent 24215/99.) Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button. These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter. They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN. Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off. C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra. *If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory*, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
EVERY EVENING at 8
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.
MATINEES WEDS., THURS., SATS., 2.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 7.30.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.0.
"ALADDIN."

The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
It is dazzling in beauty and almost bewildering in movement and magnificence.—Referee.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FRED MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, Jan. 31, Mr. Peter Davey presents
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
twice nightly, and Matinée on Wednesday.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
"CINDERELLA."
Panto., "Cinderella," 7.30; Wednesdays and Saturdays 2.30 and 7.30. Skating Rink. Hockey Matches Wednesdays and Saturdays 3.30. Ladies' Orchestra, Organ, Bands, &c. Friday next, Feb. 4, Great International Cage Bird Show, closes Feb. 8.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

The Vampire Dance by Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss, Harry First and Co., Sylvia Cavalho and Co., Atlas and Vulcana, Will Driscoll, Henri Cazman, Jack Marks, Chas. Coborn Ida Barr, Julia Reeve, Florence Cooper, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Managing-Director, JESSE SPARROW.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

The Butler-Passmore Company, in "Early Closing, or Half-a-day Off," Walter Munroe, William Heilbronn and Co. in a "Devil's Dupe." Josie Mooney, Ernie Leno, Frank Ashley and Co. in "Washing," Mimi Thorton, The Three Phydoras, Arthur Astill, Jeape's Animated Graphic, F. L. Wylie, and the Max Tourbillon Troupe.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Madge Osmond, Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery in "The Would-be Actors." The Fitzroys, Frank H. Fox, Florence Cooper, Hal Chapter, Amy Marsden, Ruffell's Bioscope, Mai Foot-Gers, the Anglo-French Comedian.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday Jan. 31, 1910:—
"Ronnie Blair," Vera Wootton, Kobe Troupe, Bioscope, Fiying Orenius, Della Ray, Captain Roberts, Gertrude Bibby, Wilson and West, and others.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Jan. 31: G. H. Chirgwin, Norman Partriege and Co., Jack Marks, Pete and Minnie Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard, Elsa Joel, Raymond Dudley and Co., Ina Lorimer, Athlone and Sinclair, Chas. Woodward, Dave Syms, Lily Vane, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Manager, MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10, and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Lockhart's Elephants, Bert Weston, Irene Meldon, Bioscope, Paul Corrix Trio, Grant and Grant, Gilbert Heron and Co., in "Saved by Wireless," the Four Colwyns, Wyndham and Wyatt, Ralph Sands, Lil Elfreda.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

ALHAMBRA.
New Patriotic Ballet.
"OUR FLAG,"
"OUR FLAG,"
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
De Biere, Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, Gardner and Stoddard.
E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, "On the Heath," Jury's Pictures of the Floods in Paris, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
Arthur Roberts and Co., Fanny Brough and Co., the March Hares, Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon.
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Clark and Hamilton, Johnson and Hart, Webb Bros., Vindabonas, Harry Allister, Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in "A Marriage Has Been Arranged," a play in little, by Alfred Sutro, Vesta Tilley, Nelson Jackson, Techin Maa Troupe, Election Results, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme,
Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Joe Peterman's Co. present "The Belle of the Orient," Geo. Formby, Arthur Slater, T. E. Dunville, Max Waldon, Ian Colquhoun, Selbo, The Gothams, Zona Vevey and Max Erard, H. First and Co., The Hiatts, Victoria Monks, Rachel Walker, Gintaro, Japanese juggler, Tom Woottwell, Bert Woodward, Sisters Grovini, Sam Mayo, Bioscope. Open 7.20. Saturday matinées at 2.15.

TIVOLI.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, T. E. Dunville, Bert Coote and Company in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Lil Hawthorne, George Formby, Millie Payne, Sam Mayo, Cris Van Bern, May Fairclough, Les Frasettis, Sisters Carina, King and Benson, Ida Barr, and the Bioscope.
Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Between Blackfriars and Temple Stations (District Railway).
Estd. and Mangd. by the Corporation of London.
Principal, W. H. Cummings, Mus.Doc., Dub.F.S.A.
Violoncello Scholarship, £75 per annum.
Free tuition and maintenance.
Names of candidates must be sent to the Secretary at the School before Feb. 1.
H. SAXE WYNDHAM,
Secretary.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
Students may joint at any time.
Jan. 31, Students' Concert at 5 o'clock.
Admission tickets and prospectus may be had on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD., Bombay;
or
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM. — CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 4000.
This Hall
To Let for Various Dates in 1910-1911, Including next Christmas Season.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, or Variety Entertainments.
For terms and conditions, apply,
EDMUND W. BEECH, C.A.,
37, Temple-street, Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRES.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE
Proprietors, BLACKPOOL TOWER CO., LTD.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
RE-OPENS,
Monday, March 21, 1910.
Vacant Dates,
May 30, onwards.
First-class No. 1 Companies only.
Apply to GEO. H. HARROP, as above.
or to London representative, E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant week this Spring, April 11.
Wanted, bright holiday attraction.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies.
March 7,
April 25,
May 2, and 30.
Autumn dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1910.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. MANAGER

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, lavatories, balcony. Electric light and heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the SUPERINTENDENT.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant March 7, April 25, May 9, 16.
Ask Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Mr. Frank Thorne the receipts and judge for yourselves.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Last week, Miss ZENA DARE.
This week, Mr. MARTIN HARVEY.
Next week, "OUR MISS GIBBS."
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
March 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Musical Attractions Required for
Feb. 7, March 7, April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded Houses Nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Miss Emma Hutchison and Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Co., "Don," from Haymarket, Criterion Theatres, "The Little Damozel," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "Proud Prince," "Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Ellison's Pantomime, &c. No vacant Spring Date.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER (Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLSTON, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held on the Stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Monday, Feb. 7, 1910, at 12 o'clock noon, to receive the report of the committee and the accounts for the year 1909.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
in the Chair.
The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB and TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.
To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NOW READY.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

WHERE WAS THE OLD GLOBE PLAYHOUSE?
By Sir HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CHARITY AND THE PROFESSION.
By F. H. PEDGRIFT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

RHYMES OF SHOWLAND.
By Rev. T. HORNE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"OUT OF EVIL."
By HELENA MILLAIS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JOLLY JACK TAR."
By VESTA TILLEY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AWAY TO THE WEST.
By J. H. BARNES.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE "DANDY" PANTOMIME.
By HENRY NEVILLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOOTLIGHTS.
By Rev. DONALD HOLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

SOME THOUGHTS.
By LOUIE FREEAR.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

I ATTEMPT A STRAIGHT PART.
By DAN ROLYAT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN IRISH EXPLANATION.
By FRED TERRY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE FAILURES.
By RUTLAND BARRINGTON
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "fretted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.—Morning Advertiser, Jan. 20, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.—The Financier, Jan. 20, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
We have received a copy of "The Era" Annual. All who take an interest, business or sentimental, should supply themselves with one. It is pretty full of information, and where that ends entertainment begins.—Sportsman, Jan. 18, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces, there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Will Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.—Sunday Times, Jan. 23, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.—Financial Times, Jan. 24, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"Stories told by well-known people" form an admirable feature. Photographs are numerous.—Evening Standard, Jan. 24, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is the usual interesting publication for all who have anything to do with dramatic and musical affairs. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, stories by, and photos of, many well known artists, all about new plays and revivals in the United Kingdom and some foreign capitals, and all the rest of the useful information generally looked for in it.—Daily Telegraph, Sheffield, Jan. 27, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
Congratulations to our contemporary "The Era" on the excellent year book known as "The Era" Annual. Everything of interest to the entertainment profession which the year 1909 has brought forth is noted in this publication, and it contains besides many valuable contributions from well-known performers and authorities on stage matters, together with directories of useful information. Amongst those who have written stories are Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Messrs. Fred Terry, Henry Neville, Rutland Barrington, John Le Hay, J. H. Barnes, Harry Nicholls, Charles Collette, Alfred Lester, Arthur Williams, Dan Rolyat, and Fred Trussell, Miss Louie Freear, Miss Vesta Tilley, the Rev. Donald Hole (Organising Secretary of the Actors' Church Union), the Rev. T. Horne (Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild), and several others, including Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, who, in dealing with "Charity and the Profession," tells an interesting story of a Nihilist visitor. It is an indispensable shillingsworth.—Performer, Jan. 27.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA." Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1910.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The report of the meeting of the Actors' Association at Terry's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon brings to mind another meeting of the same body which was held at the Playhouse on Feb. 19, 1907, with Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT in the chair, supported on the stage by Mr.—now Sir—HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, Mr. EDWARD TERRY, and other notable actor-managers. The proceedings promised from the first to be somewhat spirited, and when Mr. ACTON BOND rose to give those present some figures in regard to the accounts of the Association, he was sharply "heckled" by Mr. CECIL RALEIGH, Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER, and others.

There was some very smart sparring, and affairs got into a bewildering tangle; but the party led by Mr. RALEIGH and Mr. BARKER made itself felt, and eventually Mr. AUBREY SMITH, who said he "felt as if he were sitting on the edge of a volcano," proposed as a resolution that acting-managers should be eligible for election as members of the Actors' Association. This, on an amendment proposed by Mr. TOPHAM, was referred to the new council for consideration; and they considered it at a meeting at the Criterion Restaurant on March 14, which was presided over by Mr. CECIL RALEIGH. A new set of rules was drawn up, and Rule 6 ran: "Any member of the Union becoming a manager or acting-manager shall, during the period of his management, forfeit his right of vote and cease to hold executive powers in the Union," Mr. RALEIGH explaining that they could not have an association of managers conducting a trades union for actors. "The Union," he said, "must be unmanagerial—for actors and actresses alone."

We ventured, in a leading article which we printed on Feb. 23, 1907, to sum up the situation. "This trouble," we observed, "is caused by the tendency of the drama to become a trade in which master and man are opponents, instead of an art in which there is between them artistic sympathy, personal acquaintance, and kindly assistance. It is the question of what CARLYLE calls the 'cash *nexus*' taking the place of semi-paternal or feudal government. When the bond becomes the cash *nexus*, the connection between master and man is a purely business one; and the interests of the manager, who wants to buy service as cheap as possible, and the artist, who wants to sell service as dearly as possible, are, without rancour, opposed to each other. When this system has become the rule and not the exception, the next step is the formation of unions on the one side and associations on the other." There was, we pointed out, an easy and obvious way in which the Actors' Association might possibly be turned into an Actors' Union, and that was for every actor and actress to join the Association.

Many prophesies were put forth at the time of the financial failure of the Association under the new *régime;* but, in the past three years, it has paid its way admirably. With the exception of the remaining debentures, it is practically free from debt; and the number of members on the books has increased from 796 to 837. The new premises of the Association at 32, Regent Street have been found both convenient and comfortable; and the offices now include a rehearsal room, which can hardly fail to be of use to the members.

It was not, therefore, with any interested motive that, in October last, the council of the Association passed a resolution expressing a desire that Sir HERBERT TREE and the other actor-managers who left the Association three years ago should rejoin it. It was rather that the projects of the extremists of the reform party have been found impracticable, and that the Association has come to the conclusion that they must be laid upon the shelf. The minimum wage, a beautiful but unsubstantial dream, has faded away, as dreams have a way of fading; and the idea of turning the profession into a trade union, with all the necessary results of trade unionism, has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. Mr. CLARENCE DERWENT said on Tuesday, in proposing a resolution for the invitation of the exiled actor-managers to return to the Association: "As the result of practical experience, he was convinced that no form of trades unionism could be even approximately applied to the conditions of the profession." The resolution—which, as the chairman logically pointed out, was really a vote of censure on the outgoing council—was adopted by a majority, a motion to the contrary, proposed by Miss ROSE MATHEWS, being rejected on a division.

We fear that we have often appeared cold and cynical in the various leading articles in which from time to time we have anticipated the recent decision of the Actors' Association. We have been reproved for our frankness, sometimes, perhaps, a little rudely; but any annoyance we may have felt is entirely erased by the action of the Association itself, which is the strongest possible endorsement of the accuracy of our judgment. We congratulate the majority of the Association on their good sense; and we feel sure that the arrangement of the standard contract which they desire will be made easy by the disappearance of that spirit of hostility to managers which has from time to time been expressed by the more extreme of the Reform Party. It is one of the characteristics of actors that they often act upon impulse, and never bear malice; and, now that the hatchet has been buried, and bygones are bygones, the actor-managers may return to the Association, which they will find ready to receive them with open arms, with all the old friendship, and in comfortable new premises.

"THE PARENTS' PROGRESS."

Play, in One Act, by George Paston, Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, on Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Mr. Hoskins ..... MR. GIDEON WARREN
Mrs. Hoskins ..... MISS CLARE GREET
Bert ..... MR. ERNEST THESIGER
Em ..... MISS MARY LESLIE
George Bunning ..... Mr. G. H. ADDISON
Miss Williams ..... MISS RUBY MILLER

Miss E. M. Symonds, better known by her pen-name of "George Paston," the authoress of *The Pharisee's Wife, Clothes and the Woman,* and *Tilda's New Hat,* has written a one-act piece which admirably supplies its purpose as a merry prelude to *The Little Damozel,* which now goes better than ever. The "parents" in question are Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins, a suburban couple, whose children, Bert and Em, modern and pretentious, are impatient at their parents' deficiencies. They complain that Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins do not dress up to date, and that they are behind the times in many ways. The old people take counsel together, and the result is that at a little tea party given by their critical children, the elders appear in extraordinary guise, having dressed themselves in cheap and smart finery belonging to their offspring. They assume a lively and sportive manner, talk slang, feign an exaggerated vivacity, and altogether present such caricatures of smart people that the young ones, sadder and subdued, beg the parents to return to their old clothes and their old customs. *The Parents' Progress* is by no means the crude farce which this scenario may suggest. It is written in a realistic spirit, and the character-drawing is clever and sympathetic. All the personages are sketches, not caricatures, and one of them, a visitor, an affected maiden, a suburban imitation of a fine lady, is simply delightful. The acting was worthy of the piece. Mr. Ernest Thesiger played the sharp, conceited Bert capitally; Miss Mary Leslie did excellent work as Em, the genuine good sense and amiability of the girl being nicely suggested; and Mr. Gideon Warren and Miss Clare Greet were irresistibly funny as Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins, Miss Ruby Miller contributing a really clever little character-study as Miss Williams, the guest at the tea-party. Mr. G. H. Addison was good as George Bunning. *The Parents' Progress* is a most amusing little piece, and the laughter and applause it evoked were thoroughly well deserved.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Wednesday evening commenced with a piano solo ("Moment Musical Schubert") and Chopin's Etude, G flat, both being carefully executed by Miss Daisy Beech. Miss Dorothy Beal was successful in her singing of "Through love to light," by Cuthbert Wynne, and praise must be awarded to Miss Ethel Rudge (a pupil of Madame Waldahoff) for two well-played mandoline solos. Miss Winifred Lensh, who has an excellent voice, sang "A Request" (Woodforde-Findon), and greatly pleased the audience, while Mr. George Sims in Chopin's Third Scherzo, Op. 39, although his touch was somewhat heavy, can be credited with facile execution. Wallace's opera, *Lurline,* sounds rather old-fashioned at the present time, but Mr. Arthur E. J. Dearden, who possessed a small though pleasing voice, sang "Sweet Form" with intelligence, and was heartily applauded. In his violin solo Mr. Sidney A. Smith gave a very creditable performance of Vieuxtemps' "Reverie." At times Mr. Smith was a little timid in his playing; experience, however, will give confidence, while even at present his intonation and expression are most promising. Miss Lucy Evelyn's full rich voice was heard to advantage in Beethoven's "In Questa Tomba," but she was hardly so successful in Brahms' "Sapphische Ode." An able recitation, "The Clock Speaks" (West), by Miss Madge Dangerfield, pupil of Mr. Cairns James, pleasantly varied the programme, and the duet, "May-time," sung by the Misses Edith and Ida Armfield, proved an attractive feature of the concert. Mr. Claude H. Dyer secured good results in his singing of two songs by E. German, "The dew is on the lily" and "My song shall be of the sturdy North," and the concert concluded with an organ solo, First Movement from Harwood's Sonata in C sharp minor, skilfully played by Mr. R. J. Stannard. The accompanist was Miss Jenny Hyman.

MR. NEVILL GRAHAM'S pantomime *Aladdin* is at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds. Excellent comedy is supplied by Miss Harriette Loydall and Mr. Charlie Clarke as the Widow Twankey and Wishee Washee. Mr. George Howard does well as the Emperor; the Astroys are amusing as Sloppa and Koppa. Mr. Wilfred Lyndon making an acceptable Abanazar, Mdlle. Lucrotia is a dauntless Aladdin, and the Princess is nicely played by Miss Lilian Earle. Others contributing to the success being Miss Cirsie Clarke (Pekoe) and Miss Josephine (Nicee Nicee). Miss Dallas Yorke and Miss Jenny Lyndon are graceful Genii of the Lamp and Ring, and the dancing of Sinclair's four Parisian Girls is greatly appreciated. The music is bright and sparkling.

MOODY-MANNERS IN DUBLIN.

"SAMSON AND DELILAH."
MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.
OPINION OF THE PRESS.

The first stage production in English of Saint Saëns' sacred drama was given on Jan. 11 in the Theatre Royal. The honour conferred on Dublin was fully realised, and a crowded, interested, and sympathetic audience attended at the presentation. The instrumental works of the great French composer have been made known to us at the Chamber music recitals and the Orchestral Society's concerts, and much desire was aroused to learn his power in the realm of choral music. "Samson and Delilah" was first produced in 1877, in Weimar, under the Abbe Liszt. The sponsorship of the illustrious virtuoso, who was so instrumental in advancing Wagner's music dramas, might be taken as an indication of the great French composer's merit. In England the stage production was long retarded, owing to the prohibition of the Censor; but it was performed in concert form at Covent Garden on Sept. 25, 1893. Subsequently, permission being given for the stage presentation, the enterprising Moody-Manners Company secured the English rights, and it is to this happy result we owe the performance of last evening. The story of the sacred drama opens in the public square of Gaza, in Palestine. After various incidents Delilah, encouraged by the High Priest, determines to make Samson succumb to her charms. She employs all her arts to allure and ensnare him, as she desires to learn the secret of his power. Her blandishments succeed, and in the end she learns the secret. In the last act Samson, a prisoner, blind and shorn, is seen turning a mill. The Hebrews in captivity mourn their fate and his. Delilah mocks the powerlessness of Samson, and exults in her potency. The rage of Samson is laughed at by the Philistines, and the High Priest directs a child, who leads Samson to the middle of the Temple, so that all may behold him. Samson lifts his voice in prayer to be again given strength to avenge God and to crush the enemy. He grasps the two pillars which support the Temple, and making a gigantic effort pulls down the sacred edifice to ruins.

The cast of the performance was—Delilah, Mlle. De Lussan; Samson, Mr. Joseph O'Mara; the High Priest, Mr. Dever; Abimelech, Mr. Moorhouse; and an aged Hebrew, Mr. Charles Magrath.

A prelude of mournful sighing character introduces the first act, and the chorus of Hebrews, "God of Israel," is heard behind the scene. The lament for their cities overthrown and the profanation of their altars is in vigorous fugal form. Samson (Mr. O'Mara) in a gracefully consoling strain comforts and encourages them to build once again their altars. A singularly melodious solo, with harp accompaniment, "Beseech we Him," is assigned to Samson, leading up to an incitement to war and victory, given with great fire and animation. In the next scene the song of Samson, supported by the chorus, "Israel, burst your bonds," is a well marked and convincing theme. The orchestration is made with admirable skill to reinforce the voice effects. The attack of Abimelech on Samson, and the fall of the former were not accomplished in such a manner as to impress, and the scene ended tamely. Mr. Magrath, as the Aged Hebrew, sang with earnestness the number "He did chastise," which followed the "Hymn of Joy"—a dirge-like measure curiously enough. The greatest scene of the music drama, and one in which very delightful music illustrates the story, was Scene 6, outside the Temple. Mlle. Zelie De Lussan, as Delilah, created from the beginning a wonderful interest, which her accomplished acting and singing sustained all through the scene. The opening aria, "I Come to Render," sweetly sung, was the prelude to a duet with Samson, "O my well beloved." This may be regarded as one of the telling features of the concerted music. In her temptation of Samson her histrionic display was magnificently sustained. At times advancing, retreating, revealing, and concealing, her skill at luring the hapless hero was a most artistic and convincing performance. Her song, "In vain am I burning," was accompanied by graceful orchestration. The concluding number, "I'll wait for the morrow," in which, by loving gestures, she provokes Samson, was sung with striking effect, and the pent-up applause of the audience burst out with great warmth, and fully half a dozen times was Mlle. De Lussan recalled to the stage. In the scene The Valley of Soreck her performance was one succession of triumphs. Her assumption of love for the one whom she loathed and desired to betray was conveyed with high art. Her insistence in the efforts to discover his mysterious power was skilfully depicted in song and orchestration. The duet with the High Priest of Dagon (Mr. Dever), "I crave to satisfy my hate," won a generous meed of applause. The most charming love strains illustrate the scene with Samson, where she discovers his secret. The aria, "Softly awakes my heart," which is ravishingly melodious, was tenderly given, and the beauty of it was enhanced by the orchestration. The storm and lightning, which render tragic this scene, were vividly represented in the instrumentation, and a fine climax is attained where the betrayal of Samson is completed.

In the closing scene Samson is discovered in chains, shorn of his locks, and engaged in turning a mill. The monotony of the task is ingeniously suggested in the orchestration. Mr. O'Mara presented a pathetic picture of Samson, and gave, with great emotion, the prayer, "Look down, O Lord." The poignacy of the grief was intensified by the sob in the voice which this artist employs with moving effect. The scene is composed of tableaux, in the second of which a bacchanalian dance, lively and interesting, is introduced. A quick measure, with quaint percussion effects, is followed by a slow swaying movement, affording display for graceful grouping and posing. The chorus of the Philistines, "Prosper our future," is classically clear in the voice parts, and with the free running accompaniment was an impressive number. Samson is led to the pillars amidst the mocking laughter of the crowd, and as he brings them down and the temple falls to ruins the scene was realistically effective. The audience were loud in their praises of the entire production, which was in every way most successful. The orchestration won the admiration of all. Replete with charm and originality, the varied effects appealed to the listeners as being accomplished without any strain or effort on the resources of the instruments employed. The treatment was picturesque, and the copious demands on the middle and deeper notes gave in the orchestration a warmth of colour in contrast to the brilliancy of the voice parts. Herr Eckhold conducted with customary skill, and was called on the stage to receive the acknowledgments of the house.—*Freeman's Journal,* Jan. 12.

A MOODY-MANNERS DINNER.

A dinner was given on the 20th inst. at the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, by the President and Committee of the Corinthian Club in honour of the Moody-Manners Opera Company. The President, Sir Charles A. Cameron, C.B., occupied the chair, and was supported by a large gathering. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners, the Countess Von Resetas, Madame De Lussan, Colonel Sir Neville Chamberlain, K.C.B.; Major Richardson, D.L., and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. D. Telford, Lady Cowan, Sir Lambert Ormsby, His Honour County Court Judge Todd, K.C.; Miss Kate Anderson, the Very Rev. the Dean of the Chapel Royal, Rev. D. F. R. Wilson, Succentor St. Patrick's Cathedral; Rev. C. W. O'Hara Mease, Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal; Miss Cameron, Mrs. Adamson, Miss Rogers, Miss Harrison, Mr and Mrs. Lewys James, Mrs. Power O'Donoghue, Mr. Charles Magrath, Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, Miss O'Shaughnessy, Mr. Philip Brozel, Miss Rich, Dr. Redmond, Mrs. Redmond, Messrs. Seth Hughes, A. G. Joyce, F. J. Ball, G. D. Mercer, Charles Moorhouse, A. Brouzet, Vice-Consul of France; Mons. Abel Bergeron, and A. C. Fronam.

After the loyal toast had been musically honoured,

The Chairman said he had a toast to propose which needed no eloquence and no sophistry to induce them to receive it with the utmost enthusiasm. It was that of their special guests, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners and their talented coadjutors of the Moody-Manners Opera Company. He had on many occasions proposed an identical toast, and it was never received with a greater degree of enthusiasm than in 1907, 1908, and 1909. He never knew anyone do more than he was able to do, and now they had got to that degree of enthusiasm in welcoming the Moody-Manners Opera Company here that they could attain to no further degree of development. Therefore, their special guests, and those they represented, must not expect more enthusiasm than last year, and they must not expect any more enthusiasm next year than this year, because they could not do any more than they had been doing for some years past. He regretted that his capacity for doing full justice to that toast had not expanded in the same way that the enthusiasm had expanded. The Corinthian Club was composed of ardent admirers of music and the drama, and more especially of the lyric drama. Every year the members of their Club, in common with the people of Dublin at large, anxiously looked forward to the periodical re-appearance of the Moody-Manners Opera Company.

Mr. Charles Manners gracefully acknowledged the enthusiastic manner in which the toast was received. He said they all knew he was an Irishman, and where he came from, and that his ambition, and pleasure, and delight was to know that in Ireland any little thing they did in the musical line was appreciated and honoured by his own countrymen. His ambition had in a great measure been satisfied this season by his production of *Samson and Delilah.* The opera, taken as a whole, was as good as, and, perhaps, a little better than, anything he had done before, and he hoped sincerely that it would not stand at that—he wanted to try to do better still.

An excellent musical programme was carried out by the members of the Corinthian Club, and, much to the delight of all present, songs were also contributed by Mr. Charles Manners, Mr. Philip Brozel, Mr. Lewys James, and other members of the Moody-Manners Company. Mrs. Power O'Donoghue recited during the evening some admirable verses of her own composition appropriate to the occasion.

"THE BARRIER."

The Barrier, a play in four acts, by Eugene Presbrey, has scored a genuine success at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York. It is a dramatisation of Rex Beach's novel of the same name and closely follows the original narrative, the scenes being laid in Flambeau, Alaska. The central character, John Gale, is a "squaw man," which means that he is the husband of a half-breed Indian woman named Alluna. At a trading post on the Yukon he keeps a general store, with a bar, and lives contentedly with his wife and three children. Necia, the eldest, has spent five years at a mission school, and is an attractive "Miss" of eighteen. Gold is found, and the news of its discovery is quickly spread abroad, bringing disreputable characters to the trading post. Captain Burrell of Kentucky, with a detachment of soldiers, is sent to do police work in this locality. Several notorious criminals are "wanted," and he has their descriptions. Burrell falls in love with Necia, and she reciprocates his affection, but when he learns that she is a "half-breed" he stops short of proposing marriage to her. Consequently the miners gossip about them, and Necia's disappointment makes her father angry, for it appears to him that the young army officer is playing fast and loose with the girl. John Gale, it appears, is a fugitive from justice. Fifteen years ago he was accused of shooting another man's wife, she having been his sweetheart. To the trading post comes his old enemy, Dan Bennett, now known as Stark, who married Gale's sweetheart and illtreated her. Stark was the real murderer, but he contrived to fasten the crime on his rival, and Gale had to make himself scarce. The latter escaped with the child and brought her up as his own. The Indian woman is merely her foster-mother, so Necia is not a half-breed as everyone has been led to suppose.

Gale and Stark half recognise each other, but neither is certain. Stark is plainly a "bad man," bent on making trouble. He is accompanied by another scoundrel named Runnion, who falls foul of Captain Burrell at the outset and is shot in the hand. The quick "gun play" in which the Americans excel is in evidence in every scene, and it is most exciting. Stark and Runnion conspire together to cheat Gale. Through Burrell's watchfulness, however, they fail, and the army officer orders the pair of them to depart at a few hours' notice. Positive of Gale's identity by this time, Stark takes his revenge by telling Burrell that Necia's reputed father is wanted for murder. Gale is cleaning his revolver at the time, and it goes off "accidentally" in Stark's direction, the shot just missing him. Gale surrenders himself to Burrell on the old charge, but protests his innocence and Burrell believes him. Stark comes to the army officer's quarters whilst Gale is there, and there is a terrible fight in the dark. The lamp is smashed, the table overturned, and a situation suggestive of "battle, murder, and sudden death" holds the audience spellbound. Stark is mortally wounded, but he is almost at his last gasp before he confesses the circumstances of the murder and clears Gale. Burrell's love for Necia reasserts itself in the meantime, and the "barrier" between them is removed by the disclosure that she is of pure white parentage. The drama is realistically acted, the principal characters being admirably represented. As John Gale Mr. Theodore Roberts gives one of those rugged and forceful portrayals that stir the blood, and his fine performance is largely responsible for the success of the play. Miss Florence Rockwell is a charming Necia, and Miss Abigail Marshall's embodiment of the Indian woman is true to life. Mr. James B. Durkin plays Captain Burrell with a manly earnestness that makes him popular, and Mr. W. S. Hart, in a character similar to the one he assumed in *The Squaw Man,* acts the part most effectively.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL'S company is at the New Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, in the domestic drama, *The Old Folks at Home.* Mr. Frank Lister is well cast as Lord Kenilworth, and Mr. G. Steele acts cleverly as Andrew Ross. Mr. G. Scully is good as Ben Jolly, and Mr. Ian Flemming plays Hugh Lovell in a careful manner. Miss Maud Warburton is successful as Dorothy Robin, and Miss Dorothy Goode acts capably as Bonita Durham.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE is presenting *The Prodigal Son* at the Grand Theatre, Luton. Great credit is due to the acting of Messrs. Mark Draper and Ernest Owtrim as the brothers, well supported by Miss Sara Dudley as Thora and Elin, Miss Lily Crammonde as Helga, and Miss Florence Lovell as the Governor's wife, Anna.

A BUSY ARCHITECT.

Messrs. Matcham and Co.'s plans for the reconstruction of Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, to be named the Tivoli, have received the sanction of the authorities, and building operations will be proceeded with forthwith.

The principal alterations consist of an extra number of exits and entrances, the shop at the side having been acquired for this purpose, also the introduction of large waiting-rooms and the part reconstruction of the auditorium, improving the sight lines and generally bringing the building up to date.

The present circle entrance and foyer will remain, the crush room over being formed into a waiting-room for this part of the house. To the right of the vestibule a wide marble staircase leads through a fine waiting-room, handsomely decorated and furnished, with direct access to the stalls.

The pit is entered to the left of the vestibule through a similar waiting-room, with a staircase leading to the rear of the pit seats.

These waiting-rooms occupy a portion of the unused cellar under the present pit, and will be fitted up with due regard to comfort, lighted by electricity, and well ventilated.

An entire new fireproof staircase occupies a portion of the old shop property, giving an extra exit from the grand circle, and a new exit from the stalls is also obtained here. The old exit from the pit, which projected into the auditorium and took up a considerable amount of the seating, will be done away with and the space floored over and seated. The result will be a fine square pit, which will be comfortably seated and decorated. Another exit is formed at the side of the pit, adjoining that from the stalls, in lieu of the one done away with.

The present exits from the gallery and circle will remain. The number of exits will then consist of no less than ten, each being separate and distinct from the other, all the doors being made so that they give the full width of passage when opened, and all fitted with alarm exit bolts.

Additional retiring rooms will be provided from all parts, and a fine saloon is planned, with easy approaches from the circle and stalls.

The frontage to Guild-street will be improved and handsome polished doors introduced, and the whole brightened up and made attractive with electric light, &c.

It is proposed to erect a verandah along the front to protect the public from inclement weather. It will be found, however, that the greatest improvement is in the auditorium, which, when completed, will compare with any theatre of its size in the kingdom.

The front of the stage, which at present projects considerably into the auditorium, will be set back, and this will give almost sufficient room for the orchestra, the present orchestra being floored over and forming a continuation of the present stalls floor, and will thus increase the seating of the auditorium.

The whole of the private boxes, together with the sides of the circle and gallery, will be cleared away and reconstructed on quite new lines, the columns being removed, and the rearrangement will improve the sight lines and increase the seating capacity.

The present barrier and raised seating between dress circle and upper circle will be removed. The two parts thrown into one grand circle will undoubtedly be a great improvement. The front of the present dress circle will be projected, and although a row of seats at the top will be done away with (and the promenade lowered considerably, allowing of better sight lines and a continuous promenade from side to side obtained), by a clever rearrangement of the seating one more row will be obtained.

The sides of the gallery will also be similarly reconstructed and greatly improved.

The new private-box façade at the sides of the stage are cleverly designed, and contain wall fixtures, the approaches to same by arched arcading, with balustrading, &c., being very unique.

A new side staircase will allow free access between the circle and stalls, this, together with the approach to the stalls from the waiting-room, being attractive features in the auditorium.

The designs show that the decorations will be very artistic, and the furnishing will be of the most sumptuous and at the same time comfortable description. Rich draperies, carpets, and velvet tip-up chairs and upholstered seating is intended in all parts of the theatre, which will be brilliantly lighted, both in front and behind the curtain, by the electric light.

Little alteration is to be effected (nor is it required) to the stage or dressing-rooms, but the comfort and safety of the artists will be studied in every way, and everything that money and the great experience of the firm of theatrical architects the directors have appointed can suggest will be carried out so as to provide Aberdeen with one of the best high-class theatres of varieties in the country.

Building operations in connection with Mr. Walter Gibbons's New Palladium (late Hengler's) are now proceeding. Messrs. Waring and White are the contractors, and it is anticipated that the design of Messrs. Frank Matcham and Company, the architects, will pan out as one of the finest places of entertainment in this country. Everything is to be carried out on a scale of grandeur, together with comfort and safety that these gentlemen can devise, and the design by them of two of the most important places of entertainment in London will lead us to expect something out of the ordinary in the way of theatre building. The New Palladium, it is anticipated, will be ready to receive the public some time the end of the year.

Lewisham is to have one of the largest theatres of varieties in the suburbs of London. The site, which is at the corner of Rushey Green and Brownhill-road, is being cleared and building operations commenced. The designs are by the well-known theatrical architects Messrs. Frank Matcham and Company, and many novel features in the arrangements and design are promised, including large tea-rooms. The new building is intended to be completed by the end of the year.

The Edinboro' Empire is shortly to undergo complete redecoration and improvements under the supervision of Messrs. Frank Matcham and Company, the architects of Messrs. Moss's Empires. New waiting-rooms for stalls and grand circle are to be built, together with a new pit saloon, retiring-rooms, and exits. The whole will be an acquisition to this theatre, one of the first of the luxurious theatres of varieties, and the first of many designed by Mr. Matcham for Moss's Empires.

Messrs. Matcham and Company have also prepared plans for one of the largest and finest rinks in London, to be erected on a corner site in the High-road, Streatham. The scheme embraces, in addition to the rink, a cinematograph theatre, shops, and flats over, the whole constituting a very imposing and extensive building.

The Palace, Hammersmith, opened its doors to the public on Monday last, after entire reconstruction by Messrs. Frank Matcham and Company, and now ranks as one of the finest variety houses in London.

MR. CARR LOATES' company is at the Central Theatre, Northwich, in *At the World's Mercy.* Mr. Bert Leighton is a capital Capt. Frank Manley; Mr. Carr Loates presents a telling delineation of Jabez Barber; Alice Lloyd is well played by Miss Marie Butler; and Miss Cissie Milford in the dual-rôle of Skittles, the stowaway, and Kittie Knott, a music hall star, shines pre-eminently.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has just secured Lady Beerbohm Tree to appear on Monday next at the Liverpool Empire in *The Sirocco*, adapted from the Swedish *Simoon*, by Arthur Scott Craven. During this engagement Lady Beerbohm Tree will hand £100 to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool to be devoted to local charities.

Mr. Scott Craven, the young author of *The Sirocco*, will be playing the part of Lieut. Trusham in *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's on Tuesday evening next. Besides being an actor he is a poet, a volume of verse from his pen, entitled "Poems in Divers Keys," being published by Grant Richards in 1904. He has also written two one-act plays, *His Eightieth Birthday*, produced by Mr. Ben Greet on March 25, 1901, and *The Compleat Angler*, produced at the Lyceum on June 11, 1907.

Miss Winifred Emery has been specially engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll to appear at the London Hippodrome for a number of weeks, commencing Feb. 21, when she will produce an entirely new one-act play called *The Dressing-Room*, written for her by James Bernard Fagan, author of *The Merry Devil*, which was produced at the Playhouse on June 3 last year, with Miss Emery in the part of Madonna Geralda Capponi. Mr. Fagan first secured fame as a playwright in that fine poetic piece *The Prayer of the Sword*, produced at the Adelphi, with Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton in the chief parts; and his name adds considerable lustre to the list of those writing for the variety theatres.

Curtain-raisers generally go to the halls from the theatres, but Mr. Harry B. Irving has reversed the process by securing as a fore-piece *The Plumbers* to precede his production at the Queen's to-night of *Dr. Jekyll*. One has agreeable remembrance of *The Plumbers* at the Tivoli and the Palace, and one calls to mind the two delightfully comic impersonations of Mr. Fred Emney and Mr. Harry Grattan. Mr. Emney's uncle, Mr. Arthur Williams, will be seen in his nephew's part at the Queen's.

The most remarkable sketch that has been produced on the variety stage for many years was seen for the first time at the Bedford on Monday. A strong story has been treated with great skill by the adaptor of *The Adder's Tooth*, and the interest throughout is intense. What is going to be the end is the question one puts when the Bioscope comes into play, and the *denouément* comes as the greatest possible surprise. Such a powerful piece of work should have a long run.

A new generation has arisen since Mr. Maskelyne invented in 1875 that wonderful automaton "Psycho." Indeed, it was one of his most sensational achievements. We have, of course, had many mechanical figures since, but none have attained the popularity of the genial wizard's creation. Psycho "ran" for 4000 performances, and we are glad to hear that "his" revival at St. George's Hall is imminent.

In introducing the automaton's performances Mr. Maskelyne used a stand, which was supported by castors that had porcelain wheels. This stand was put on the stage after having first been examined by the audience. Then a clear glass cylinder was placed on the stand, and the automaton (dressed as an Oriental) having previously been closely scrutinised by the audience, was placed on the cylinder, ready for its work. Psycho was a fine card player, and particularly good at whist. On one occasion Mr. Maskelyne had the three finest whist players in the world at the Egyptian Hall—Dr. Pole, Mr. Cavendish (the great whist authority), and "Trumps," of the *Field*. The trio had a rubber with Psycho, and they complimented the automaton on his play. They even revoked intentionally, but Psycho was not caught napping.

No sooner did the news come through that Paris was rapidly being flooded than Mr. Alfred Butt dispatched a number of Bioscope operators to the city, with the result that on Wednesday evening he was enabled to present on the Urbanora Bioscope a series pictures depicting the terrible distress obtaining in "The Gay City." Large tracts of land under water are shown; people are frantically removing their household goods; firemen pumping water away from threatened houses, and the extraordinary piles of wreckage at the many bridges are produced with terrible reality.

The balance-sheet of the Coliseum Syndicate will be a pleasant and interesting study to the shareholders in this now successful concern, and reflects the greatest possible credit on Mr. Oswald Stoll (the chairman and managing-director) and his colleagues on the board. As will be seen from the figures, the actual profit from the theatre in twelve months is £42,322, which, added to sums received in the shape of interest on deposits and investments, transfer fees and rents, makes a total of £44,075.

"The shareholders meet on Monday next, and," says the *Rialto*, "it is to hoped that they will turn up in force, and not, like so many shareholders, stay at home when they have received a satisfactory dividend. They should take this opportunity of encouraging the directors by expressing appreciation of the result of their efforts." The meeting is to be held in the Coliseum at 12 noon. Twenty per cent. dividend on the year's working speaks for itself.

Charles Coborn set the whole world singing "The man that broke the bank at Monte Carlo," and no doubt some similar lilting refrain from this capable actor and singer will again haunt the world. He has been engaged by the Durham House Syndicate, for a number of their halls, beginning next week with the Euston and Metropolitan. This week Mr. Coborn is gaining fresh laurels by his appearance for the first time at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth. At the same establishment that pretty and charming young banjo expert, Miss Doris Walthew is doing great credit to her tutor, Clifford Essex, and the local Press is loud in her praise.

There is no questioning the popularity of Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, in Bristol. In him the poor children of the city have found a generous friend. For them Mr. Elliott has ordered from Messrs. J. S. Fry and Co. 5000 packets of chocolate, and these he has sent to "Uncle Jack" of the *Times and Mirror* weekly. The packets were exhibited on a special stall at Colston Hall, where other good things sent to "Uncle Jack" were also shown, and later will be given to the poor children. There is a photograph of Mr. Elliott, taken by Messrs. Hana, Ltd., on each packet, and the contents of the wrapper will be thoroughly enjoyed by the kiddies.

Mr. Elliott has addressed the following letter to "Uncle Jack":—"Dear Sir,—It is one of the greatest pleasures of my life to contribute 5000 packets of chocolate (specially made to my order by Messrs. J. S. Fry and Sons) to your store of good things for the children. I have been very happy among the good people of Bristol during this pantomime season. They have been most kind to me, and I want them to accept my little gift to the youngsters as testimony of my warm appreciation. Wishing you, 'Uncle Jack,' and the kiddies long life and happiness, believe me, yours very truly, G. H. Elliott, 'Chocolate.' Prince's Theatre Pantomime, Bristol."

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, since his arrival from Kilburn, has commenced picture matinées on Wednesday at the Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields, at which local aspirants to the music hall stage are invited to compete in trial turns. He is to be congratulated on the success attained.

Mr. Gilbert Payne has had a distinguished visitor to see his very successful pantomime, *The House that Jack Built*, at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, in the person of Mr. Arthur Collins, of Drury Lane, who occupied a box on Thursday, 20th, and was greatly interested in the performance.

Miss Millie Tempest writes:—"In your report of the funeral of the late Mr. Sid Bint, amongst the mourners you mention Miss Millie Tempest (wife). This is an error. We were devoted chums of years standing, not related, though no one regrets his loss more than I."

The eighth annual supper and dance in connection with the pantomime at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, will be held at the Constitutional Hall, Hammersmith-road, on Monday evening next. These annuals have become most popular, and are eagerly looked forward to in the district, enjoyable times being the result of the organising abilities of Mr. Norman Walters, the hon. secretary, and Mr. A. Bradshaw, hon. treasurer.

Mr. H. Kennedy, for two years manager of the King's, Hanley, left on Saturday night to take up a similar position at the Queen's Hall, Birmingham. The staff presented him with a solid silver cigar-case on the stage on the night of his departure. Mr. George de Vauxe made the presentation, Mr. Kennedy suitably responding. In his stead, Captain F. Shaw returns to Hanley as manager, being assisted by Mr. Colin Hazelwood, late of the Queen's Hall, Birmingham.

The staff of the Glasgow Empire held their annual social on Wednesday of last week, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Will Howgate, assistant-manager, on behalf of the staff, presented Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds, resident-manager here, with a handsome gold-mounted cigarette-case, in silver case suitably inscribed, as a token of their respect and esteem.

The directors of the Middlesbrough Empire, being anxious to recognise the untiring and indefatigable services of their manager, Mr. C. G. Rembges, on Wednesday granted him a benefit matinée, and the popularity which Mr. Rembges has gained during his five years for his courteous and tactful behaviour to all was strikingly manifested by the bumper house which gathered to make the event a success. It was undoubtedly a success from every standpoint, and Mr. Rembges is to be congratulated upon having made so many genuine friends during his residence in the North country town.

The matinée was held under the distinguished patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress of Middlesbrough (Lieut-Colonel T. Gibson Poole, V.D., and Mrs. Poole), Sir Samuel and Lady Sadler, and many other prominent ladies and gentlemen. By the kind permission of the directors of the Middlesbrough Empire, Mr. H. Burns (of Stockton), Signor Pepi, Sir Edward Moss, and Messrs. Stoll, R. Thornton, Frank Allen, and W. Boardman, one of the finest combinations of star artists gave their services. They included Mr. Arthur Roberts and company, Mr. Geo. Gray, the Elliott-Savonas, De Wynne Bros., Park's Eton Boys, Miss Elsie Jerome, the Sisters Storm, Tom Moore, Carta and Mirtziana, Fritz Korman, and many others.

At the conclusion of the programme, the last, but not least, interesting event took place in the shape of presentations to Mr. and Mrs. Rembges. The Mayor (Lieut.-Colonel Poole) presented the "favourite of the day" with a massive gold albert and medallion, suitably inscribed, from friends and patrons; and on behalf of the staff Mr. Shewl (a well-known Midlesbrough business man) presented the manager with a silver card-case and Mrs. Rembges with a handsome diamond and gold brooch. His Worship and the other speakers made laudatory speeches of Mr. Rembges for his courteousness, tact, and ability in connection with the management of the Empire.

Mr. Rembges, who was enthusiastically received, suitably acknowledged the gifts in feeling terms, and thanked his colleagues, subscribers, artists, patrons, and all for their exceeding and valuable kindness.

Mr. Geo. Gray, responding for the artists, said not only had he personally, but the whole of the artists who had given their services that day, had done so most willingly because of the personal regard and esteem they held for the worthy manager of that important institution. If Mr. Rembges was given a benefit in twenty years time the artists who knew him would most gladly come, even by aeroplane from distant shores, to support him.

An interesting ceremony took place on Saturday last at the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, where the last performance of Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's *Fair One with the Golden Locks* pantomime was being given prior to its travelling. Mr. Wallace Stranack, the assistant-producer and stage-manager, was publicly presented with a handsome silver cigarette case by Mr. Woodward, the manager of the theatre, on behalf of the local staff. Mr. Stranack suitably expressed his thanks for the unexpected compliment.

Mr. Rowland Hill, who is playing Mother Muggles in *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, was on the occasion of his birthday presented by the boys and girls of the company with a solid silver cigar-case and match-box, both suitably inscribed. After the fall of the curtain Mother Muggles invited the company to a supper and ball at the Masonic Hall, where the fun was kept going until the early hours.

The guests numbered nearly a hundred, and included Miss Nell Emerald, Miss Jose Collins, Miss Ada Fawn, Miss Lesley Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Marriott Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tubb, Mr. and Mrs. Kit Keen, Mr. and Mrs. Cris Le Brun, Mr. and Mrs. John Bramham, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Radford, Miss Lily Black, Mr. Fred Spencer, Miss Minnie Muir, Miss Beanland, Councillor Crawford, Miss Mabel Mannering, Mr. Gus Garrick, Mr. Harry Clifford, Mr. John Alexander, Mr. Cyril Thompson, Mr. Harry Courtin, Mr. Francis O'Flynne, the Valdo Bros., the Lyric Quartette, Mr. Harry Ed. Ray, the Rev. Robert Sedgwick, Mr. Hyman Livingstone, and Mr. Will Turner.

During their stay of four weeks at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, the gentlemen of Mr. Gilbert Payne's *House that Jack Built* company held a billiard handicap. The competition was at the Three Towns Club, and great interest was manifested in it. The final took place last week between Mr. Harry Marvello, acting-manager, and Mr. Louis Elgar, musical director. Mr. Marvello had to concede points all round, and eventually ran out winner by 7 points. In addition to the prize of a box of cigars, Mr. Ernest Yeoman, manager of the club, presented the winner with a handsome silver matchbox inscribed: "Three Towns Club, Panto Billiard Handicap, 1910. Winner, Mr. Harry Marvello."

Miss Topsy Sinden is delighting her legion of Irish admirers by her dancing in the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, which is scoring a huge success, in spite of election excitement.

The little play *Bonnie Prince Charlie*, which Miss Gertrude Bibby has been presenting at the Crouch End Hippodrome, is a protean sketch in which that lady plays no fewer than five characters. She comes to the Bedford on Monday next.

Messrs. Snow and Farron have kindly sent 5s. for the widow of the late John Callan, which amount has been handed to her.

Mr. Tom Leamore returns on Monday next to the Empire, Birmingham, where he is starring. This is his second engagement at the Empire in seven months. We are glad to hear that Mr. Leamore is re-booked with Mr. Stoll at all his halls for some considerable time to come.

Mrs. Lewis Waller will open at the Tivoli on Feb. 7 in a new farcical comedy, adapted from a French farce entitled *Lost, Stolen, or Strayed*. Mr. Leonard Robson will play the principal male part and produce for Mrs. Waller.

Jack Boston has made his son Jack Smiles a present of a diamond collar stud, which he hopes he will wear "for months, and months, and months."

Mrs. John Lawson has been playing to record business this week at the Hippodrome, Peckham, with her invasion playlet, *Supremacy*, the audience being unusually enthusiastic. Next week Mrs. Lawson will be seen at the Imperial Palace, Canning Town, with *The Devil's Sunday*.

A packed house in the merriest of moods listened and laughed at the pantomime of *Aladdin* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, on Friday, the 21st. Mr. Wentworth Croke, standing in the dress circle, seemed to be as much amused as the unsophisticated playgoer, and must have been deeply impressed with the immense popularity of Miss Kittee Rayburn, who has played the title-rôle so successfully during the run of the production, which at the time of writing is at Birkenhead.

During the evening Miss Rayburn was presented in one of the scenes on the stage by Mr. Fred S. Jennings, the popular manager, with a handsome basket of flowers from Sir William and Lady Bull, the recently-elected member for Hammersmith and his wife. Mr. Jennings referred to the presence of Lady Bull in a private box, and said that though he regretted Sir William's absence, they would be glad to know that he was away continuing the good work for his party. Miss Rayburn, in reply, made a graceful little speech. During the evening she sang a topical verse with special reference to the election.

In recognition of the support Miss Kittee Rayburn gave him at the recent election in Hammersmith by her topical song, "If I had a word to say," which she sang each evening as Aladdin in the pantomime at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, Sir William Bull, M.P., has composed the following, which was sung as an additional verse at the pantomime performance referred to above:—

"There's a maid that we're proud of,
And her name's best known to you,
I mean sweet Kittee Rayburn,
She's dainty, tried, and true,
And at this merry panto.,
She takes Aladdin's part,
And tho' a boy, and yet a girl,
She's stolen every heart.
If I had a word to say,
I'd thank her right away,
For she's helped to win a splendid fight
In Hammersmith to-day.
Her songs are always gay,
She's a gracious, graceful fay,
So here's to young Aladdin,
A truly brave Paladin,
If I had a word to say."

Says the *Daily Chronicle*:—"We are aware that the great Constitutional Party has strange allies, but there are few members of it sufficiently naïve and outspoken to make due acknowledgment. 'Sir Billy' is a brilliant exception, and his tribute to Miss Rayburn is an honest attempt to give thanks where they are due."

Mr. Norman Partridge will produce at the Royal Standard on Monday a new sketch entitled *Edmund Kean*, by Louis Cohen, author of *The Drummer of the 76th, La Carmencita, David Garrick, Nelson*, and other sketches. Mr. Partridge will play the part of the famous actor.

Fred Maitland and Co., who recently introduced to London, at the Paragon, *Roots, Rash Chemists*, has this week been causing roars of laughter at the Standard, Pimlico. It is an absurdity, full of originality, and there can hardly be any limit to the fun that this firm can supply. Another of Spot Oliver's winners.

Mr. William John Mackay was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ben Woodger, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Ben Obo, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. The next ladies' concert of the Terriers' Association will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday, Feb. 6.

Mrs. Nolan (Agnes Hazel) desires through our columns to thank all her friends for the many beautiful wreaths sent by them in memory of her deeply-lamented husband, and to express her gratitude for the large number of telegrams and letters of sympathy that she has received, and the great kindness that has been shown her in her bereavement.

Mr. Juan Buonaparte, with his company, is appearing next week at the Holloway Empire in that successful playlet, *Buonaparte's Boy*, by G. R. Sims. It is very appropriate that Mr. Buonaparte should appear as Napoleon, he being a lineal descendant of that illustrious Emperor, to whom he bears a startling likeness in form and feature. Mr. Buonaparte and his playlet are sure to be warmly welcomed by the Holloway folk next week.

The benefit performance for Mr. Johnny Alexander, to be held at the Empire, Camberwell, on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 24, is well in hand. Handsome donations have already been received from Sir Edward Moss, J.P., Miss Ada Reeve, G. H. Chirgwin, and Horace Wheatley, and smaller amounts from a large number of friends. Mr. Arthur Were, 96, Kennington-road, is the hon. secretary, and he will be glad to receive the names of artists willing to appear. Donations should be sent to Mr. Joe Elvin, hon. treasurer, 18, Charing Cross-road.

A return golf match to that at Raynes Park between Variety Artists and Concert Artists, played last month, when the music hall performers won by 5 games to 1, took place on Tuesday. It ended in a tie, each side winning 2 games. For the Variety Artists Mr. George Goodfellow (Goodfellow and Gregson) beat Mr. Ashley Weaver by 5 and 3, and Mr. F. Wildon beat Mr. G. Robbins by 3 and 2. For the Concert Artists Mr. Whitworth Mitton (of *Amasis* fame) beat Mr. H. A. Meymott by 4 and 2, and Mr. Lorne Wallett beat Mr. Hal Forde, the bold, bad robber of the Marlborough pantomime, by 4 and 2.

Owing to the success of Swan and Vesta's latest production, *The Coster's Prize*, they have secured another coster comedy entitled *'Liza's Wedding Day*, which they will produce at an early date.

Frantz's Comedy Five are going on Monday to the Empress, Brixton, where they are putting on a novel acrobatic act, *The Human Taxi*, distinguished by wonderful feats of strength and tumbling accomplished by three young girls.

Mr. Bert Coote reopens at the Tivoli on Monday next in his highly-successful sketch *A Lamb on Wall Street*. Mr. Coote brought the sketch to the Strand house in November last for four weeks, and it so hit the tastes of the audiences there that it has been re-engaged for a further period.

Prominent among the newcomers at the Coliseum on Monday are the Romanis, who introduce many novelties in their musical act; Alexandra Dagmar, who from her handsome presence and Norse origin has been entitled "A daughter of the Gods"; Solbrig's Automatus in amusing mechanical devices; the Courtiers in catchy tunes; and Counsell and Mills.

Mr. George Leonard writes:—"I observe by the current issue of *The Era* that a one-act play by Mary O'Neill was produced at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Wednesday, Jan. 19, and that the same was entitled *Coming Home*. This title I have used for a sketch written by myself and played by my wife and myself almost continuously for the past four years at most of the leading variety theatres."

Miss Marie Jones' clever little comedy protean playlet *Wanted, the Co-respondent*, at Collins's this week, has repeated its provincial success. This little lady's five-second changes and characterisations of totally distinct parts are little short of marvellous. From a boy of fifteen to an old man of four score her artistic rendition is never once at fault. In every character that she plays she seems especially suited.

All that was mortal of the late Mr. Alf. Bishop, of Bishop and Vale, was conveyed to rest on Wednesday, Jan. 26. The interment took place at Stratford Park Cemetery, and the cortège was followed by his sorrowing wife, Miss Lottie Swinburne, and several friends and professionals, including Mrs. W. Marchant and daughter Edie, Miss Ida Hetherington, Mr. Pat Carey, Mrs. and Miss Harrison (sister and niece), Mr. George Monk, Mr. Jack Harris, Mrs. Dennison and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. Duce, and Miss Alston and little Maisie. A large wreath came from friends and neighbours, and wreaths were also sent by all the above-mentioned friends.

The coffin bore the inscription—"Alfred Leak. Died Jan. 20, 1910." Mr. Bishop's partner, Mr. Jess Vale, pre-deceased him only last May. Mr. Pat Carey attended on behalf of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's bright and amusing pantomime of *Aladdin* concluded its run at the Lyric, Hammersmith, on Saturday last, and the whole entertainment has been given most successfully this week at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. Messrs. Carl and Carr, the twentieth-century comedians, who make such a hit as the two Chinese policemen, and whose new song "By the sea," by Mellor and Gifford, is received with roars of laughter, are delighting the Birkenhead public with their clever drolleries.

Mr. Walter Leslie Gooch, who has had charge of the "Met" since the death of the late Mr. J. W. Edgar, has made himself popular with the patrons, and his good qualities are recognised by the profession and the staff. Almost synchronising with his installation as manager in charge of the "Met" was Mr. Gooch's marriage, in connection with which event the happy couple have received numerous presents and congratulations.

Mr. Gooch, who is in every way meeting with much success in his managerial capacity, was formerly at the Walthamstow Music Hall, the Empress, Brixton, and elsewhere. We referred last week to the staff's presentation on the stage, and also to the fact that Mr. Gooch is a son of the late Walter Gooch, at one time proprietor of the "Met," and Miss Fanny Leslie, who is now living in quiet retirement on the Continent.

In our notice of the pantomime of *Babes in the Wood* at the Hippodrome, Ealing, in our last issue, we omitted to mention the scenic artist's name, Mr. Charles Wood, who is responsible for the beautiful scenery which is one of the chief features of the production—a fact that is recognised by the well-merited applause with which it is received nightly. We remember Mr. Wood's artistic successes, "Fairyland," at the Hippodrome, and the "Palace of Orpheus" at the Coliseum. His abilities are worthy all the praise we can bestow.

Mrs. W. B. Fair again solicits the promise of the votes of subscribers to the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, for her two children, Louis William Burnham Blackwell Fair, age two and a half years, and Richard Burnham Blackwell Fair, age ten months. The case is strongly recommended by Messrs. G. R. Sims, Richard Butler, Richard Wake (formerly proprietor of the Royal Standard), and Edward Terry (Terry's Theatre). Proxies will be thankfully received by Mrs. Fair, 6, Wells-street, Gray's Inn-road, W.C., or by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, manager, *The Era*, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

We have received a copy of *The Thalia Diary and Directory for Concert Parties and Entertainers*, which must be quite a necessary desk companion for the large number of professional people connected with seaside shows, *al fresco* or otherwise. There is a directory of pier pavilions, gardens, parks, and other places where pierrots and other popular folk entertain; then there is a handy diary for bookings; and another feature is a list of troupes and the addresses of their managers. *The Thalia Diary* should become a very popular vade-mecum for the pierrot "industry"—if we may so call it—which is rapidly growing.

Miss Melinda May (secretary) on behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mrs. Harry Maynard (subscription) 5s.; Mrs. W. Northern, Northern Troupe, (subscription) 5s.; Miss Flo Banks (collecting) 9s.; Miss Jimson (collected from the ladies and gentlemen appearing in pantomime at the Broadway, Deptford) 5s.; Miss Ernestine Foy (collection) 5s.; the generous-hearted Joe Elvin for cheque value five guineas (donation); Mr. Harry Maynard, clothing; Mr. Alec Barish, another parcel new clothing.

The winning number for the Rex motor bicycle sweepstake by Mr. Joe Zarmo will positively appear in all variety papers next week, Feb. 3rd. Will ladies and gentlemen who have tickets not sold kindly communicate with Miss May immediately? Would Mdlle. Pollo please write? There are just a few remaining tickets. These may be had at the Guild not later than to-day, 1s. each. The £50 machine is still on view at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday from four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

The annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Thursday, Feb. 3.

Mr. Alfred Butt will present Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier at the Palace Theatre in Mr. Alfred Sutro's duologue *A Marriage Has Been Arranged* (originally produced at the Haymarket on May 6, 1902), with Mr. Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in the leading rôles.

Mr. Fred Kitchen will make his first appearance under Herbert Darnley's management in the part of *Private Potts*, the name of the new comicality that Mr. Darnley (the author) is producing at the Holborn Empire on Monday. Other parts in the production are Potts's wicked wife, played by Miss Jessie Cramond, the Colonel by Mr. W. Wilby, the Colonel's daughter by Mrs. Herbert Darnley, and an Indian Princess by Miss Kathleen Denis.

By special arrangement with Miss Alice Lys and Mr. Eric Bert, "The Vampire Dance" will be a special attraction in front of *Are You a Mason?* on its next tour. It is quite a novel idea to place this sort of performance in front of a farcical comedy in place of the ordinary curtain-raiser.

Mr. Fred McLeod's Eight Marvels have been doing wonderfully well at Collins's Music Hall, and so great has been the reception accorded them that they have been instantly booked for a further two weeks to follow on this engagement, and have been given a return date on Oct. 3. Their turn comprises singing, dancing, and mimicry.

The death is announced of Nat Emmett, who passed away on Friday, the 21st inst., at the ripe old age of 82. Nat Emmett's goats amused the youngsters of two generations. Nat was the honoured guest of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund at the recent dinner given to old performers, and we spoke recently of his excellent recitation thereat.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has just added two more important engagements to his ever-increasing list of stars of the theatrical and operatic world. Mr. Charles Manners and Miss Fanny Moody have signed contracts to appear at the Hippodrome in July, and to afterwards appear at the Coliseum. They will appear in short scenes from standard operas.

Mr. Frank Hammonde, an old actor, for many years associated with the stock companies at the Britannia, the Surrey, Sadler's Wells, &c., died on Dec. 31, and was buried in the Actors' Acre, Woking, at the expense of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, on Jan. 5. Mr. Hammonde at one time played in sketches with a partner, and appeared at the minor music halls in the eighties.

Mr. Robert Hilton, the new tenant of the Strand Theatre, is negotiating with Mr. Norfolk Megone, the famous musical conductor, for the leadership of the orchestra, which is to number forty instrumentalists. Mr. Norfolk Megone's concerts at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, were always extremely popular, and he became musical-director of the Royal, Holborn (with a greatly increased orchestra) when that hall came under the management of the late Harry Lundy.

The 644th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert presiding. The agency at the "Three Tuns" Hotel, Sunderland, was transferred to Mr. J. Hall. The weekly financial statement, showing fifty-six new members and a cash total of £58 17s. 6d., was passed.

Miss Madiah-Suriyh, a new dancer, who has appeared at the London Coliseum during the week, scarcely varied the business of dancing after the manner made known by Odette Valery at this house. She performs with a live python coiled round her neck and waist. Kate Vaughan did something like this many years since at the Empire Theatre.

The *Mother Goose* pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, has been one of the greatest successes ever known in the second city of the Empire. The run, however, may have to terminate sooner than anticipated, as Neil Kenyon, who has been convulsing audiences in the name part, must shortly join the company in the coming production of *The Islander*, at the Adelphi.

Miss Josie Beltram, whose photograph and notes on her career appeared in our last issue, has for the nonce abandoned the legitimate stage for the variety, and is appearing, in conjunction with Miss Crissie Frances, in Mr. Charles Geoffrey's successful topical episodes, *His Father's Teacher, The Boy Scout, A Working-man's Choice*, &c. Miss Beltram has for a long time been the Wally to Miss Frances' Dick in *Two Little Vagabonds*.

On Monday, before His Honour Judge Smyly, K.C., and a jury, at Shoreditch, Solomon Kosta and Kate Kosta, his wife, general dealers, of 109, Whitecross-street, E.C., claimed £15 15s. damages from the London Music Hall Co., Ltd., of High-street, Shoreditch, for personal injuries sustained and damage done to an umbrella by being forcibly ejected from the Shoreditch Empire.

A dispute arose on a question of money being returned, plaintiff stating that he had never read the small print at the bottom of the bill, saying, "No seats guaranteed and no money returned." Mr. Hector Munro, the manager, denied that there had been any assault. Mr. Kosta walked out of his own accord in a very excited manner, and the ladies followed as soon as requested by the police. The jury found for the defendants, with costs.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Wat Harley at Madras. Born at Cheltenham in 1846, educated there, and passing his degrees for pathology and other sciences, he entered the profession more for the liking, and soon became famous as an author and composer, and wrote numerous well-known pantomimes, duets, and songs. For several years he exhibited his well-known creations, *Rhoda, Pygmalion and Galatea*, and other optical displays at the Crystal Palace and Westminster Aquarium.

As an accomplished illusionist and conjurer he toured the country, and was known far and wide as "L'Homme de Cent Visages," being a most clever impersonator. In 1864 he toured Southern Europe and appeared before the Sultan of Turkey, the King of Greece, and the Khedive of Egypt. For the last twenty years he toured throughout India, China, Japan, Australia, and the Philippines, and was war correspondent during the Spanish-American War.

He was the first showman to have the honour of appearing before the Maharajah of the Holy City of Benares, and rode his sacred white elephant to escort him from the city on leaving. He was at Pekin during the Boxer rising, and narrowly escaped being murdered. Subsequently he leased the Claremont estates at Darjeeling, and was the pioneer of the rink and cinematograph in India, and was also a freemason of many years' standing. He was known in all his travels as a true type of Britisher, fearless and enterprising—a most generous and charming personality. He leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss, and will be greatly missed by a legion of friends.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

A PRETTY song, entitled "When the lights are low," by A. C. Findon and Hermann E. Darewski, has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day. Miss Lily Lena will feature it in America.

MISS HILDA JACOBSEN'S fine voice has during the week, at the Metropolitan, been heard to the fullest advantage in a new song with a haunting refrain, entitled "Cairo," a song of old Nile, that will take a deal of annihilating. The lyric is by Harry Staunton and Will E. Haines, and Donovan Meher, the cultured musician who gave us "My tiny firefly," is responsible for the music. Messrs. Francis and Day have acquired the song for publication.

MR. BEN ALBERT'S new and funny song, "My inventive kiddie," has been occasioning the greatest hilarity at the Bedford Music Hall, and is a fine example of the art of Alf Ellerton, whose "Inquisitive kiddie" for Mr. Frank Lynne is still, and long will be, remembered as one of the best comic songs extant. Mr. David Day's firm will shortly issue the new ditty.

MANY new songs and pieces will shortly be placed on the market in sheet music form by Messrs. Francis and Day, among them being the following:—"Bertie and Gertie (a muddled courtship)," by J. A. Glover-Kind; "Ninepence" (sung by Frank Lynne), by Alf Ellerton; "When somebody loves you," by Arthur Du Soir and J. Airlie Dix; "Defiance" march, by Donovan Meher; "There goes a vagabond!" (Miss Flora Cromer), by J. P. Long; "To-morrow may be good-bye," by J. P. Harrington, Fred Godfrey, and O. Powell; "My wife's cake" (Will Bentley), by Frank Wood: "One smile from you," by Leonard Cooke and H. E. Pether; "The song they loved the best" (introduced by Miss Billie Burford and Miss Cissie Curlette), by J. P. Long; "Man! man! beautiful man!" (Will Driscoll), by Fred Godfrey and Charles Collins; "Mother put a card in the window" (Miss Maidie Scott), by J. P. Harrington, Charles Collins, and E. W. Rogers; "Somebody stands at an old cottage door," by H. Staunton, W. E. Haines, and Donovan Meher; "I keep on walking" and "Have you got a cigarette picture?" (Bernard Russell), by Frank Wood; and "Plenty of money and jolly good health" (Charles R. Whittle), by Harry Wincott.

JOSEPH TABRAR, whose great comic song for Mr. Jack Smiles "For months and months and months" is still advancing in public favour by leaps and bounds, has written the same singer a ditty which will be published under the title of "Jack Smiles' laughing song." Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the press.

THE bevy of beauty whose portraits adorned Messrs. Francis and Day's advertisement a week since is again reproduced on this page. It comprises the likenesses of a few of the fair artists who are winning renown throughout these Islands by singing the songs of the celebrated firm in pantomime, and has attracted the widest attention. A second selection will be featured next week. The first cluster of cantatrices is made up of the portraits of the Misses Bessie Butt, Lily Black, Winnie Brown, Dorothy Craske, Venie Clements, Daisy Dormer, Maisie Ellinger, Lilian Erroll, Florrie Forde, Radie Furman, Dorothy Firmin, Marie George, Mabel Green, Florrie Gallimore, Rhoda Gordon, Kathleen Gray, Daisy James, Eva Kelland, Queenie Leighton, Violet Loraine, May Lilian Levey, Ruth Lytton, Cressie Leonard, Carrie Moore, Edna Morgan, Ada Reeve, Madoline Rees, Truly Shattuck, Topsy Sinden, Esta Stella, Elsie Steadman, Gracie Sinclair, Ruby Verdi, and Dorothy Ward.

MISS YVONNE LAMOR will feature two of Witmark's publications at the Tivoli on her opening there, viz., "Queenie was there" and "Ou là là."

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"ROOTS, RASH CHEMIST."

A Farcical Sketch, Produced at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday, Jan. 24.

The possibilities of humour in a chemist's shop would appear to be very remote, but in *Roots, Rash Chemist*, which occupies a conspicuous place on the bill at the Standard Music Hall, Mr. Fred Maitland has provided a compound of comicality in which every line is a laugh. The fun arises out of the enterprise of John William Roots, who has established a druggist's shop, from which he dispenses all sorts of quack medicines of his own composition. He does a thriving business, and in quick succession has for customers a lady who wants a "pick-me-up," a nurse with an ailing child, and a boy with toothache. They are all disposed of in a manner better witnessed than described, the child having swallowed a shilling, which, on being recovered with the aid of a pump, is found to have increased to 1s. 4d. Finally the chemist is visited by anarchists, and after being forced at the dagger's point to take an oath of secrecy, is compelled to serve the conspirators with an explosive for the manufacture of a bomb, the infernal machine being deposited in an organ which a ferocious-looking Italian brings into the shop. When the organ-grinder begins to play the bomb explodes and the shop is reduced to ruins, a subsequent scene showing the foreigners soaring in the air and Roots sitting disconsolate amid the débris.

Mr. Fred Maitland makes a most diverting personage of the chemist, and has endless resources for creating merriment. He delivers his lines with a quaintness that is irresistible, and never fails to win laughter, the house at times growing uproarious in their mirth. He is ably assisted by Miss Pauline Walker, who invests the parts of the nurse, the lady, and the female anarchist with characteristic attributes, and the rest of the company are efficient. The sketch is full of ludicrous incidents and nonsensical lines, at which no audience could fail to be amused.

KITTEE RAYBURN AS ALADDIN ON TOUR.

"ALADDIN" AT THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

The well-known favourite, Miss Kittee Rayburn, in the title-rôle.

Miss Rayburn's Aladdin was a spirited and talented impersonation throughout, and she rendered all her songs with delightful piquancy. "It's all over with the men" took extremely well with the audience, and was doubly encored.—Birkenhead News.

Aladdin is undoubtedly the best pantomime that has been staged here for some considerable time. In a cast of exceptional merit Miss Kittee Rayburn, it is almost needless to say, stands out with delightful prominence. Her impersonation of Aladdin is the work of an artist, and with unerring instinct she continues to fit herself perfectly in the picture. She has a charming voice, and her numbers are very quickly taken up by the members of the audience.—Birkenhead and Cheshire Advertiser.

WILL GODWIN, the famous actor-vocalist, is the principal attraction at the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, and his singing of "If those lips could only speak," a song of his own composition, and others equally popular, have commanded liberal applause from appreciative audiences. Another great draw is Empress, "the lady of mystery," who gives some astonishing performances—escaping from a padlocked water-tank, from police handcuffs, &c., in full view of the audience. The other artists include Cissie Carter, a clever comedienne, and Jessie Deane, a charming singer.

"COTTAGE OR PALACE."

Playlet, by Frank Lindo, Produced at the Canterbury on Monday, Jan. 22.

Stephen Armitage .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
David Armitage .....MR. WILLIAM DEMPSEY
Lucas Lyle .....MR. HARRY BARFORD
Solomon Keary .....MR. GEORGE CLAREMONT
Joan .....MISS KATIE NEVILLE
Dora .....MISS GLADYS BARNARD

A more correct description of this playlet "of great heart interest," would have been "melodramatic fragment" as it really consists of an act of *Home, Sweet Home*, a piece by Frank Lindo, which was seen in London at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on July 4, 1904, and has been successful on tour. At the poor cottage of Steve Armitage, a fisherman and captain of the lifeboat crew, his wife Joan in eating her heart out with chagrin at her hard lot. She seems to have been born to better things than to share the rough times and lowly life of a toiler of the sea, and has become more than impatient of the grinding poverty of her position. Even little Dora, the idol of the humble home, does not brighten her outlook on life. Steve, her husband, returns without encouraging news, and again departs without the customary kiss.

It is easy to see that Mrs. Armitage would be quite ready to jump at any prospect of a change, and when a certain Lucas Lyle calls to tell her that the handsome steam yacht in the bay is the property of her father, the Duke of Ancaster, who is on board, she is overjoyed. Lyle's story is repeated on the return of Steve with his father David Armitage, and we learn that Joan was a daughter of the sea, having been saved from the wreck of the Avon Castle by David, who, when questioned in after years, states that none survived the catastrophe. Lyle plays a trump card when he charges the older man with concealment of the real parentage of the now indignant woman, who departs from her home and child and sails away on board the yacht. Steve is left with the child Dora. In a scene full of homely pathos he undresses the little one and carries her to bed, not, however, before she has said a prayer for "mummy" to come back. Steve left by himself re-echoes the child's prayer, and the curtain falls.

All well-constituted lovers of melodrama want to see Steve and his wife reunited, and can have no sympathy whatever for a mother who leaves her only child and her cottage—in which she is placed upon a pedestal of marital devotion—for luxury and leisure. It should be possible, in a second scene, for Steve to rescue his wandering wife by means of the lifeboat, and thus add a stirring, most interesting, and entirely satisfactory finale to a piece that, as far as it goes, grips by its humanity and wholesome sentiment. Mr. Frederick Ross, the popular Lyceum actor, has been specially engaged for the part of Steve, and cuts a stalwart figure as the young fisherman. In the scene with the little one—prettily and intelligently played by Gladys Barnard—he sounds the depths of pathos, and his admirable voice gives full value to every line. Mr. William Dempsey, an actor who did good service in the palmy days of the Adelphi, makes an interesting David Armitage; Mr. George Claremont is helpful in a neat sketch of a fisherman given to gossip; and Mr. Harry Barford, in his short scene, gives the necessary oily touch to the smooth-tongued Lucas Lyle, and is quite effective in the scene where Lucas turns the tables on the erring old fisherman. Miss Katie Neville, in the rather unsympathetic part of the wife, is conventionally effective.

The Canterbury varieties include some capital turns, among them being some excellent dancers, Olive Watts has a fine variety of steps; Mr. G. S. Melvin, who sings doucely and distinctly of "McIntyre," is grace itself in a reel; and Curtis and Pics, more especially the "Pics," give an admirable exhibition of clog dancing, the show being varied by a clever whistler who accompanies himself at the piano; Mr. Bert Danson sings blithely of the "girly girls," and discourses on events, political and otherwise, incidentally introducing references to the "Suffragettes," and generally giving a comic complexion to his remarks.

Miss Rosie Archer, a mimic at the piano, is very successful in realising the voice of such differing personalities as Kate Carney, George Formby, George Elliott, Vesta Victoria, Vesta Tilley, Gertie Gitana, and Marie Lloyd. This young artist comes in for a very warm reception, and rousing cheers greet the song so finely sung by Mr. Ian Colquhoun,

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

PHOTO SERIES No. I.

A FEW OF THE CHARMING LADIES WHO ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

Look Out for No. 2 Group Next Week.

THE NAMES OF THE LADIES IN THIS GROUP WILL BE FOUND IN THE ADJOINING COLUMN.

THE ABOVE LADIES ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"ON THE TRACK."

Sketch, by Harry Roxbury, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Empire, Leeds, on Monday, Jan. 24.

Rose Hasty, sen. .....MISS ADA MASKELL
Rose Hasty, jun. .....MISS MOLLY RAMSAY
Mr. Cross .....MR. RICHARD WILSON
Percy Dreadnought .....MR. OLIVER ROGERS
Major Hasty .....MR. LARRY CLEMENTS
Archibald Longfellow .....MR. HARRY ROXBURY

The opening scene of the sketch is a matrimonial agent's office. Mr. Cross, the agent, has been paid £100 by a young and wealthy lady for the use of this office in which to meet her sweetheart. Her uncle having found this out, and hearing also that the young couple intend to elope, has written to the agent stating that unless he can stop the elopement he will horsewhip him within an inch of his life. In great fear, the agent sends for Detective Longfellow, who, with his assistant, Aubrey Cuthbert, a tall, thin, extraordinary-looking individual, arrives on the scene. He is informed of the position of affairs, and left in charge of the office by Cross, disguised as his office boy. Here he contrives to muddle up everybody's matrimonial affairs, including those of a young dude with more money than brains, from whom he takes a fee, and, on being found out, promises to teach him how to be a detective.

Longfellow then forms a plan by which he will make love to the young lady and try and estrange her from her sweetheart, but unfortunately gets mixed up with another lady of the same name, who is a maiden aunt to the lady who contemplates elopement. The lovers arrive, and beg Longfellow to help instead of checkmate them. He consents to do so, and the scene finishes with the irate Major (the uncle) and disappointed lovers making a set at Longfellow. This takes the form of an effective vocal number, in which all take part.

In the second scene, the Railway Station, Longfellow enters disguised as a porter, and the aunt also arrives and explains to him the facts of the lovers' elopement, telling him she would give £1,000 to anyone who will help them to escape, and that they must catch the train which is nearly due to leave, this being the last train from that station for the day. Longfellow undertakes to do this and so win the £1,000, and then discloses his identity to the maiden aunt. Thereupon the dude arrives disguised as a boy scout, and together they help the lovers to get away before the Major catches them up. In order to do this Longfellow assumes the further disguises of a railway inspector and then a stationmaster, and by means of them is able to detain the Major until the train containing the lovers has gone.

Scene 3—by the seaside—is brightened by a smart and catchy opening chorus of girls in bathing costumes. Longfellow and the dude arrive, still on the track, disguised as strolling players, with the uncle in hot pursuit. Longfellow, thinking he might be recognised, assumes a bolder disguise. Seeing a bathing machine, with ladies' attire, he dons the latter, and immediately afterwards the aunt and Major arrive and sit on the steps of a bathing machine, which happens to be the one containing Longfellow. After some amusing business by the latter, which leads to a quarrel between the Major and aunt, the Major departs in a huff. Then Longfellow emerges from the machine in his female attire, and is mistaken by the aunt for the bathing attendant. This leads to one of the funniest situations in the sketch. In the meantime the Major, having discovered his niece and her sweetheart, and finding the young man is wealthy, agrees to their marriage. After a comic chase, the supposed bathing woman is found to be Longfellow, who explains the situation, and all ends happily.

Mr. Roxbury, who produced his last successful sketch, *Sergeant Longfellow*, for the first time here, has repeated his former triumph in the above sketch, which bids fair to become quite as popular. His Archibald Longfellow gave the liveliest satisfaction, there not being a dull moment whilst this clever comedian, whose style somewhat resembles that of the late Dan Leno, occupies the stage. Mr. Oliver Rogers as Percy Dreadnought makes a capital dude, whilst Mr. Larry Clements makes the most of Major Hasty. Mr. Cross is well taken by Mr. Richard Wilson. There are two ladies prominent in the cast, viz., Rose Hasty, sen. (Miss Ada Maskell), whose clever low comedy business is fully appreciated, and Rose Hasty, jun., whose part is gracefully taken by Miss Molly Ramsay. As in Mr. Harry Roxbury's previous sketch, the book is written by his talented wife, Miss Vashti Wynne, who has provided a really interesting plot. The tuneful music is from the pens of Dudley Powell and O. Walker.

"AT SAVOY MANSIONS."

Sketch, in One Act, by John N. Raphael, Produced at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, on Monday, Jan. 24.

Diana Clutterbuck.....MISS FLORENCE TEMPEST
Vicomte de Soulac .....MR. H. DE LANGE
Smith .....MR. CHARLES CALVERT
Violet Perkins .....MISS SHEILA HESELTINE
Lucy .....MISS ANNIE HILL
James Perkins .....MR. CARLTON HOLT

Mr. John N. Raphael, the author of this sketch, is a well-known journalist, and the brilliant and clever Paris correspondent of two or three London papers. *At Savoy Mansions* is performed by Miss Florence Tempest and a company of excellent players, who do all that is possible for the amusing farce. The action commences with an interview between Miss Diana Clutterbuck and a plumber, during which we hear (and see) that the lady has had fitted in her very pretty dressing-room a bath of a somewhat elaborate type. When not in use it can be hidden from view in the lower part of what appears to be a combined wash-hand stand and dressing-table. Now Miss Clutterbuck, it appears, has been troubled by the amatory effusions of a certain Vicomte de Soulac, and as she is going out to pay a call a gentleman whom she takes for him meets her, and more or less forces his way into the flat. Miss Clutterbuck is naturally very indignant, and as she is endeavouring to persuade the foreign nobleman to retire, friends are announced. The only place to hide the gentleman is in the bath. With the aid of her maid, Miss Diana succeeds in forcing the supposed Vicomte into it, and out of sight. The friends (brother and sister) come in, and the gentleman, being of an inquisitive turn of mind, turns on the taps at the hand-basin, the water descending upon the unfortunate man imprisoned below. After the visitors have left the prisoner is allowed to come out (naturally in a very damp and dishevelled state), and the *dénouement* is brought about by the discovery of the fact that he is a commercial traveller seeking orders for claret, and not a Vicomte at all! Miss Florence Tempest plays Diana Clutterbuck cleverly and vivaciously; Mr. H. de Lange's polish and ease are conspicuous as the Vicomte de Soulac; Miss Sheila Heseltine is good as Violet Perkins; and Mr. Carlton Holt gives an excellent performance as James Perkins.

MR. CHAS HECTOR desires to thank most sincerely all the artists who so kindly appeared on the occasion of his benefit at the Queen's, Poplar.

DURING a performance at a well-known St. Petersburg music hall, the Aquarium, a singer, Mme. Marie Binecchère, was shot on Tuesday by a French artist, M. Bouliko. The woman was only slightly injured, but the man committed suicide immediately. Jealousy is said to have been the cause of his action. Naturally, the outrage caused a panic among the audience.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Veritably "all along the line" Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have been scoring with their unprecedented list of song successes. While "Somewhere" incontestably and justly holds pride of place, quite a large number of other good winners emanate from the famous Arthur-street firm this season, to wit, "I do like to be beside the seaside," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," "I must go home to-night," "Molly O'Morgan," and "Charley Digby," to quote only half a dozen. All of these songs are included in the majority of the pantomimes of the period, and are everywhere successful to a degree. Altogether, a most prosperous New Year has dawned for the wares of this up-to-date and go-ahead firm.

A wire received by Feldman's last week is couched in the following terms: "Josie Delaine doing terrific with 'Pretty little girl from nowhere,' Theatre Royal, Sheffield." This song, by E. W. Rogers and John Neat, has proved one of the big "turn-ups" of the Feldman catalogue this pantomime season. While always considered a "taking" song, likely to "catch on" in pantomime, even the astute song-judges behind the scenes at Arthur-street hardly dared to hope it would turn out such an instantaneous success and rage everywhere as it has become.

That charming singer and dainty dancer Miss Nellie Neil, has been successful to a degree at the Hippodrome, Margate, during the past week with her delightful rendering of Feldman's big "motto" number "Put off all your troubles till to-morrow," and writes the firm in most laudatory terms respecting her success with same.

Miss Ray Ford writes Feldman and Co. from the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, thanking them for their "Picture postcard song," which she states is one of the biggest numbers in the show, taking many encores nightly, and altogether standing out as a "hit—a palpable hit" of the very first water.

Miss Mabel Green, who did so much to help in popularising the great Feldman number "Somewhere," is introducing yet another song issued by the same firm and entitled "I wonder if it's true?" into her part at the Kennington Theatre, where she continues to be one of the prime favourites in the pantomime at that house.

Miss Jennie Wood, at the Canterbury last week, made so decided a hit with Feldman's "Sunbonnet lady" that she instantly got no less than three years' solid work offered her in consequence. Altogether a very satisfactory sequel to her rendition of this catchy song.

Miss Madge O'Neill, in the Elephant and Castle pantomime, still continues to sing "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "Molly O'Morgan," to the accompaniment of thunderous applause and repeated encores. Undeniably these two songs are very big Feldman winners, and Southsiders help the fair singer with the choruses with a spontaniety that gives evidence of their keen enjoyment of the clever words and ear-haunting melodies to which both songs are wedded.

Mr. Bert Feldman while in Edinburgh recently was constrained to personally compliment Miss Gracie Sumner, who, assisted by Frank Sumner, so artistically renders his firm's great song "Somewhere" in the local King's Theatre pantomime. Rarely, if ever, has a publisher had the pleasure of hearing a song of his more delightfully rendered or rewarded with a greater tornado of well-deserved applause. On journeying to Leith a day or two later a similar treat awaited Mr. Feldman, for at the Gaiety Theatre in that town Miss Jeannie Mackay succeeded in capturing the suffrages of her entire audience with the same ear-haunting ballad.

In the Elephant and Castle pantomime Miss Lilian Errol is scoring one of the biggest successes of the production with "Pretty little girl from nowhere," while Miss Carlotta Wood, principal girl in Mr. Edwin Jazon's *Robinson Crusoe*, writes from Pontefract that the same attractive Feldman number is one of her greatest successes. Performers who have not yet sung this song would be well advised to procure a copy without delay from the Arthur-street publishers.

Universally sung as the two great Feldman numbers "Somewhere" and "I do like to be beside the seaside" are in pantomime, by none are they more charmingly rendered than by La Belle Morgane, principal boy in Mr. J. F. Elliston's Theatre Royal, Bolton, pantomime. This cultured Australian singer's lovely voice gives due expression to every note and phrase in both these delightful songs, and the result is the acme of pleasure for all listeners and the last word in applause for the singer.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey have just published a new song with Messrs. Feldman and Co. entitled "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" Mr. Bert Feldman thinks most highly of the number.

The Navy and things naval having had their due share of prominence in this year's pantomimes, it is only fitting that publishers should be looking out for something more than ordinarily striking in which the sister service has a chance of immortalising itself. This latter Messrs. Feldman and Co. feel they have just acquired in the shape of a new semi-martial, but distinctly humorous and "gingery" number, written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington, Fred Godfrey, and Orlando Powell, entitled "Every girl loves a military man," of which much should be heard in the near future.

In conjunction with Mr. Orlando Powell Mr. John P. Harrington has supplied Mr. Arthur Lennard with a new comedy song entitled "This is no place for a sailor"; Mr. Jock Whiteford with three new songs, "Constable McKie," "I do want to be among the Scotch girls," and "Scotch soldier boy"; Miss Marie Lloyd with three new songs, "The Cockney Sultana," "Away went mother's advice," and "Go to mother" (in which latter Mr. Fred Godfrey also collaborated). Also in conjunction with Mr. Fred Godfrey Mr. Harrington has supplied Miss Vesta Tilley with a new song "I want to land in ladyland," and with Messrs. E. W. Rogers and Chas. Collins yet another for Miss Maidie Scott entitled "Mother put a card in the window."

Mr. Fred Barnes has scored another pantomime triumph with Mr. Bert Feldman's two numbers, "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "I must go home to-night." Both these songs have been the rage of Hull ever since *Mother Goose* opened five weeks ago.

Mr. Fred Barnes returns to the London Coliseum in four weeks' time with an enormous song from the pen of Mr. Glover Kind, entitled "I'd rather be beside the fireside," with a beautiful melody and words that contain much more point than the average song. It should be an enormous winner for al fresco and pantomime. It has been secured by the well-known song pioneers B. Feldman and Co. Mr. Barnes is also presenting his song-scena *The Scapegrace; or, The Black Sheep of the Family*, published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

(Continued on page 23.)

THE LATE VERE SMITH.

We regret to have to record the death, from heart failure, of Mr. Vere Smith, which occurred on Thursday night, the 20th inst., upon his return home after he had appeared with The Grotesques in their performance at the Coliseum. The originator and chief member of the group of entertainers known as The Grotesques, he wrote their lyrics, composed their songs, and drilled the company with so much ability that their advance in public favour has been very rapid.

After entertaining for some weeks at the small Queen's Hall, Mr. Vere Smith and his party were secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll, and they made their first appearance under his management at the London Hippodrome, where they became so popular that they were secured for an extended stay. Early in December they returned to Queen's Hall, but at Christmas went to the Coliseum. The deceased gentleman displayed a rich humour in his burlesque of a well-bred but vapidly conventional parson directing a village entertainment in aid of the parish schools. It was, perhaps, the most amusing feature of the entertainment which he did so much to build up.

As a composer of melodious and light-hearted songs, Mr. Vere Smith achieved much success. Several of these are included in the repertory of Miss Margaret Cooper, who easily won favour for the refined and fanciful "Fairy dreams" and "Fairy land," and such tuneful and catchy ditties as "Ma dusky maid" and "Hello, Martha!" A clever and delightful artist, Mr. Vere Smith will be sincerely mourned by a host of friends and admirers. He had only reached the age of twenty-six.

The deceased gentleman was educated at Winchester College, where he distinguished himself as a racquet player, for in 1900 he represented Winchester at Prince's in the Public Schools match; also he founded and organised—before he was 16—the school orchestra. The strange thing about his musical achievements is that since the age of fourteen he had never had a lesson, nor was he ever taught the theory or the ground work in any way, so that all the music he wrote came to him as easily as writing a letter. In June, 1905, *The Dandy Duke*, a burlesque of a musical comedy, the book and music by Vere Smith, was performed twice at the Vaudeville Theatre, Miss Margaret Cooper taking the leading part and singing all the principal songs, of which "Fairyland" and "Little Crimson Rose" have since been most popular. Vere Smith tackled the part of the Duke himself. He then for six months acted small parts in *The Catch of the Season*, and during the temporary absence of Sam Sothern acted the part of Lord Dundreary.

He then rewrote and orchestrated the *Dandy Duke*, which in December, 1906, was produced for one week at the Theatre Royal Brighton, when Miss Margaret Cooper was so kind as to leave the Palace for that week in order to again sing for him in it. In June, 1909, Messrs. Chappell presented Vere Smith's company, "The Grotesques," which in a few months he had got together and rehearsed himself. In this entertainment all the music was composed by him, and he was responsible for the whole show. It was a great success at the Queen's Hall, and was engaged by Moss-Stoll, and went off to the provinces.

Neither in acting, composing, nor orchestrating did he have any training. Besides "Fairyland" and "Little crimson rose," perhaps "To a butterfly" and "The coming of spring" were among the prettiest of his songs, while for go and swing "Ma dusky maid," "The belle and the beaux," "The uz-guz-goosleum," "The musical comedy

[*Photo by Herrett.*

THE LATE MR. VERE SMITH.

girl," "I'll be your gal," "Cosmopolitan wives," and "Hello! Martha," sung by Margaret Cooper at the Palace Theatre, may be selected.

Before he left the theatre on the night of his fatal illness, a peculiar incident happened. Another member of the Coliseum company entering the deceased comedian's room, happened to notice a bottle of ink upset over a postcard. He said, "Spilt ink is regarded in Spain as a fateful omen." And in a few hours the news of his death reached them. The event cast quite a gloom over the company.

FRED KITCHEN'S FAREWELL.

When the curtain fell at the Cardiff Empire last Saturday, the 22nd, Mr. Fred Kitchen terminated his long connection with Mr. Fred Karno, and to celebrate the occasion a sumptuous repast was provided by a few friends, and a most enjoyable and memorable night was spent at Mrs. Rosser's Grand Hotel. Among those present at the dinner were many from both the local pantomimes, including Misses Dillon and Soutter, the principal boys, and Managers Geo. Rowlands and Mr. Morrison, also Tom Sinclair, Phil Smith, Alfred Lester, and many others. Of course the Karno company was strongly represented, as was also the Water Rats in Burt Shepard and Arthur Godfrey, whose wife, Minnie Duncan, was also a guest. We also noticed Mr. Henry Coutts, an invalid who is convalescing on the ocean, but just happened to pop into port at the opportune moment.

Mr. Coutts was voted to the chair and made an admirable speech. In proposing Mr. Kitchen's health, he (the chairman) explained how the happiness of the profession depended on the individualism and character of its members, especially those who had attained to certain success. Fred Kitchen was a type of man who seemed to make everybody with whom he came in contact happy. Of all the farewells that he (Mr. Coutts) had had the fortune, or misfortune, to have experienced in India, Australia, and all parts of the world, he had never witnessed such a touching one as on that evening. It had impressed him deeply, and it was good to see how an artist could endear himself to, and gain the love and affection of, his fellow-workers.

Mr. Arthur Godfrey rose to endorse everything that Mr. Coutts had said, and others spoke. The toast was then drunk deeply and faithfully, and "For he's a jolly good fellow" and rousing cheer after cheer were given.

Mr. Kitchen received a deafening reception on rising to respond. He stated that he had simply done his duty in the past, and although he felt very proud at hearing such nice things said about himself he hardly thought he deserved quite so much praise. He was deeply grieved at leaving his old associates, some of whom had been with him for many years. He would cherish the handsome illuminated address which they had generously presented to him, and from the bottom of his heart he thanked them over and over again, and felt that it was one of the saddest moments of his life to part from them that evening.

A great number remained to see Mr. Kitchen, accompanied by Mr. Burt Shepard, off to London by the 6.15 a.m. train on Sunday, when another rousing send-off was accorded him.

Mr. Frank Marshall, a journalist well known in the entertainment world, who has been ill for some time, has just undergone a serious operation by Mr. John Pardoe. We are pleased to hear that he is as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

FELDMAN SONGS

ARE BEING SUNG IN PANTOMIME BY THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES.

PRELIMINARY LIST.

MISS FANNY ADAMSON.
SISTERS ALBERT.
ALHAMBRA GIRLS.
MISS LILY ALLCHURCH.
ANDY ASCHE.
LAURIE ASTER.
MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
CHRIS BAKER.
MISS IRIS BANFIELD.
FRED BARNES.
BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS.
MISS MAY BEATTIE.
MISS LOUIE BECKMANN.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
MISS MADGE BERESFORD.
MISS MARIE BERESFORD.
MISS NELLIE BINDON.
ROWLAND BOTTOMLEY.
MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN.
MARCUS BOYLE.
MISS MARION BRADSHAW.
MISS CELESTINE BRANDON.
MISS EDITH BROAD.
MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE.
MISS WINNIE BROOKS.
MISS MADGE BROWNE.
MISS WINNIE BROWNE.
MISS MADGE BROWNIE.
ANDIE CAINE.
MISS MADGE CAMPBELL.
MISS LOIS CARIS.
CARL AND CARR.
HARRY CARLTON.
MISS NINA CARLTON.
MISS LOU CHARLESWORTH.
MISS HILDA CLAREMONT.
CECIL CLAYTON.
MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.
MISS ENA COMPTON.
MISS GEORGIE CORLASS
MISS LUCY COVENTRY.
THE CRYSTALS.
MISS LINDA D'AMATO.
MISS ETHEL DANCY.
MISS ADA DAVIDSON
MISS DOROTHY DEAN.
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
MISS ELSIE DENYS.
MISS ISABELLE DILLON.
MISS MOLLY DOON.
MISS KITTY DOUGLAS.
EWART DRAKE.
MISS LILIAN DRAKE.
MISS FLORENCE DUDLEY.
MISS VERA DUDLEY.
MISS LILLIE EDWARDS.
SISTERS EDWARDS.
LITTLE EILEEN.
MISS DOLLY ELLSWORTHY.
MISS ETHYL ERROL.
MISS LILIAN ERROL.
MISS JANE EYRE.
MISS NAN FARREN.
MISS ADA FAWN.
LEO FIELDS.
MISS MIMI FISHER.
MISS RAY FORD.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
MISS IRIS FOX.
MISS TINA FRANKS.
FYNE AND HURLEY.
MISS KATHLEEN GARNON.
MISS GERTIE GAVAGAN.
MISS MILDRED GELL.
MISS LESLEY GIBSON.
MISS M. GIBSON.
MISS GERTRUDE GILLIAN.
ARTHUR GODFREY.
MISS RHODA GORDON
FRED GRAHAM.
MISS GRACIE GRAHAM.
MISS MABEL GREEN.
MISS GLADYS GUY.
MISS EDITH HALEY.
MISS VIOLET HALLAM.
MISS JENNIE HALLWORTH.
CHAS. HANBURY.
MISS CLARICE HANDEL.
MISS CARRIE HARDING.
MISS PRIMROSE HARDING.
MISS DOROTHY HARRIS.
MISS EDITH HARMER.
MISS CLARE HARTLAND
MISS DORA HARVEY.
MISS FRANCES HASKOLL.
MISS BESSIE HEINE.
MISS BEATRICE HEWITT.
MISS MAY HILL.
J. W. HOOPER.
MISS ANGELA HOPE.
MISS HOWELL-HERSEE.
MISS PHYLLIS HUGHES.
MISS ELSIE JAMES.
MISS EDYTH JEFFRIES.
MISS DAISY JEROME.
MISS ZONA JOY
LITTLE KEENO
MISS MABEL KEITH.
MANITO KILTGAARD.
MISS EMMIE KING.
MISS VERA KINGDOM.
MISS WINNIE LANE
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
ALBERT LAURENCE.
EDWARD LAURI.
WILLIE LE BRUN.
MISS HETTY LEE.
MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.
JACK LEMSAL.
SISTERS LENNEN.
MISS GERALDINE LE SAGE.
LEWIS LESLIE.
MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE.
WILL LETTERS.
MISS KITTY LISKE.
MISS LULU LORD.
MISS MINNIE LOVE.
MISS LOWE.
MISS RUTH LYTTON.
DONALD MACKAY.
MISS JENNIE MACKAY.
CHAS. MACNAUGHTEN.
MISS MARJORIE MANNERS.
MISS MAY MARS.
MISS NELLIE MASCOTT.
MAXFORD AND O'NEILL.
MISS NINA MAY.
MISS VERA MAYNE.
MISSES DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLEN.
SISTERS McCOLLA.
MISS MOLLY McINTYRE.
MISS LALLAH MELROSE.
MAT MELROSE.
MISS MAY MERRY.
MISS DOROTHY MILLAR.
MISS HELENE MOHR.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.
HARRY MORGAN.
MISS MABELLE MORGAN.
MISS DAISY MORRELL.
MISS FLORA MORRIS.
MISS LILY MORRIS.
TOM J. MORTON.
MISS MARIE MOSS.
MISS MINNIE MULVEY.
FRED MURRAY.
MISS WINNIE MYLNE.
MISS ETHEL NEGRETTI.
MISS IRIS NORMAN.
MISS MADGE O'NEILL.
TOM O'NEILL.
MISS VIOLET ORME.
MISS MAY OTTO.
MISS CARRIE PARRY.
MISS LILLIE PAYNE.
MISS VERONA PHYLLIS.
ARTHUR PIER.
MISS ALICE POLLARD.
MISS MAY POULTON.
MISS MAUD PRENTON.
CHAS. PRESTON.
MISS KITTY RAFFERTY.
HARRY RANDALL.
PHIL RAY.
MISS MADOLINE REES.
MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS HESTER REEVE.
MISS MARIE REEVE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.
RALPH ROBERTS.
MISS WINIFRED ROCHFORT.
FRED ROMA.
MISS VIOLET ROMAINE.
MISS KITTIE RORKE.
MISS GRACE ROSAIRE.
MISS EVA MAY ROSSLYN.
MISS CHRISTINE ROY.
MISS MARGARET RUBY.
MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL.
MISS KITTY RUSSELL.
SIDNEY T. RUSSELL.
MISS MARION SCOTT.
W. P. SHEEN.
MISS DAISY SILCOTT.
TOM SINCLAIR.
MISS GRACIE SINCLAIRE.
MISS TOPSIE SINDEN.
MISS ELSIE SKILLING.
MISS EDITH ST. CLARE.
MISS NANCY ST. JOHN.
FRANK SUMNER.
MISS GRACIE SUMNER.
ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
MISS MARIE SYDNEY.
MISS BELLE SYLVIA.
MISS AGNES TANDY.
MISS OLIVE TEMPEST.
MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON.
MISS HAWTHORNE THWAITES.
MISS KITTY TREWHILL.
MISS KITTY UPTON.
MISS BERYL VAUDREY.
MISS VENA VELMA.
MISS ELSIE VIDEAU.
MISS RITA VINCENT.
MISS RAY VIVIEN.
SISTERS VOLBECQUE.
MISS MARIE WALL.
MISS ANNIE WALLACE.
JACK WALLER.
MISS GLADYS WARREN.
MISS CISSIE WILLIAMS.
MISS ELLA WILLMER.
MISS IDA WILSON.
MISS NINA WILSON.
MISS CARLOTTA WOOD.
MISS DAISY WOOD.
SISTERS WYNESTAY.
MISS MOLLY WYNNE.

Artistes whose names are inadvertently omitted are particularly requested to advise us, so that the omission can be rectified.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"A CHANGE OF FRONT."

Little Farce, by Malcolm Watson, Produced on Tuesday evening, Jan. 25, at the Empire.

Jane Bassett ..... Miss Fanny Brough
John Bassett ..... Mr. E. F. Mayeur
Alice ..... Miss Sybil Noble
Rosie Nuttall ..... Miss Frances Wetherall

Miss Fanny Brough received a hearty welcome on Tuesday evening at the Empire in a little farce from the pen of Mr. Malcolm Watson, who has, we think, given that favourite comedienne from the theatres a part that affords her excellent opportunities. The plot, too, is quite ingenious. Jane Bassett, intending to journey to Exeter to see a sick sister, misses her train, and, having to wait, seeks refreshment in the station buffet. Here she meets and is recognised by Rosie Nuttall, the barmaid, and a friend of her single days. In the course of conversation Rosie learns of Jane's marriage to a schoolmaster, upon whom his family have turned their back. Rosie is rather dubious about matrimonial happiness, but Jane, naturally, has greater faith in the men, though a letter addressed to her husband and kept from her by him has encouraged some suspicion in her mind.

Rosie's appearance, according to Jane, has undergone some change since they last met. She now wears goggles, and the tint of her hair is lighter. The abundant front tresses, indeed, suggest a real transformation. Presently Jane espies her husband helping a lady out of the train, and notes that he is bringing her towards the buffet. Happy thought! she will disguise herself with Rosie Nuttall's "front" and goggles, and act as barmaid. No sooner said than done, and Mr. John Bassett and the "shameless hussy" are waited upon by the irate wife. After a slight meal the couple make a hurried departure in consequence of the extraordinary attitude of the pseudo barmaid, John, however, returns for his lady's gloves, and finds not the barmaid, but his wife in tears. She pours out a torrent of reproaches; but at last allows him to speak. The lady is his sister Alice, who has come in person to tell the glad news of his reinstatement in the good graces of his people. Everything is forgiven, and the prospects of the Bassetts are at their brightest at the fall of the curtain. Jane declares that her first experience of "a change of front" will be her last.

Miss Fanny Brough handles the part of Jane Bassett with her customary ability; and is particularly droll in her expression of the jealous tantrums of the distressed wife. Mr. E. F. Mayeur is sufficient as the husband, and Miss Frances Wetherall may be highly complimented upon her barmaid. Alice is effectively presented by Miss Sybil Noble. At the fall of the curtain Miss Brough was called twice, and the success of the trifle was never in doubt.

Those very popular musical clowns, the Brothers Webb, return again to the Empire to renew their triumphs in an entertainment which, though it has a familiar aspect, is being always freshened up with novelty.

Clark and Hamilton are newcomers to the house, where their duo is something of a novelty. We note a general improvement of the dialogue, and the song given by Mr. Clark at the piano, which he plays remarkably well, is "extra." The lady's dancing concludes the turn, which has caught on. *Round the World* is going splendidly, and the turns include Johnson and Hart, Miss Olga Tcharna, Francini Olloms and Page, and the Vindabonas.

"THE ODD TRICK."

Sketch, in One Act, Produced at the King's Theatre, Portsmouth, on Monday, Jan. 24.

General Blazeaway ..... Mr. Henry Hare
Angelina Blazeaway .... Miss Frances Rutledge
Edwin ..... Mr. Christopher Steele
Ananias Hustle ..... Mr. Dan Mining.

The above farcical absurdity, produced for the first time on Monday night with every prospect of success, is just the type of entertainment for these hustling times. The scene is laid in the Marriage Registry Office in Bingville, U.S.A., where an eloping couple is hotly pursued by the irate father of the lady, and their efforts to avoid the fiery old gentleman lead to some side-splitting complications. The fun waxes fast and furious when the old gentleman is led to believe that Angelina, disguised as the Registrar's office boy, who for the sake of a handsome fee conspires with the young couple, is so like his daughter that he consents to her personating his daughter and playing a trick, as he thinks, upon Edwin, and consenting to the Registrar performing the marriage ceremony, when he was in reality witnessing the marriage of his own daughter. Once safely married the deception is confessed, and all ends happily by the General bestowing his blessing to the strains of the Wedding March.

The trifle is briskly played by all concerned, and the numerous witty lines and quaint business keeps the audience in the merriest of moods during the fifteen minutes it occupies the stage, and Mr. Hare can be congratulated on his smart little playlet.

"WANTED, THE CO-RESPONDENT."

A Quick-Change Comedy Playlet, Written, Invented, and Produced by Miss Marie Jones, at Collins's Music Hall, on Monday, Jan. 24.

The above sketch is distinctly novel and humorous to a high degree. The story tells of a husband who has an unfortunate mania for tracking down evil-doers. He has an ambition to become a great detective, but, unluckily for him, his wife does not share his enthusiasm, and does all within her power to discourage his efforts. Whilst employed upon the task of finding the co-respondent required to substantiate the evidence in a certain action, the husband's movements are much hampered by his wife, who impersonates in rapid succession several different people, who each contrive to make things rather warm for the husband, and in each case with much success. Fully discouraged at last, the would-be detective determines to give up all idea of ever becoming a criminal investigator, and his wife then unfolds her story, and tells her husband all about the method she has adopted to cure him of his foolishness. Everything ends happily, both in the story and in its representation. In fact, the whole playlet goes extremely well from start to finish, and will, without a doubt, prove equally as successful wherever it is produced.

Miss Marie Jones plays the arduous rôle of the wife with genuine ability. She has fourteen distinct changes occurring in her part, and the quickness with which she changes from one character to another and the mannerisms she adopts suitable to each occasion are greatly to her credit, and much praise is due to her. She is capitally assisted by Mr. Ernest Munroe, who works hard and with conspicuous success as the husband.

Bright variety turns and up-to-date pictures comprised the bill of fare at the Theatre Royal and Hippodrome, Shrewsbury, this week.

Mr. Alf Gibson returns to town on Monday. He commences at the Empire Hackney, and his time on the Moss and Stoll circuit will extend to the middle of August.

Many friends of the variety world will be sorry to hear of Mr. Claude Ginnett, jun.'s, illness since his return from the Continent. His own doctor called in a specialist, and it was feared at one time that he would have to undergo an operation, but fortunately that was avoided, and he is progressing favourably.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 22.*)

THE Craggs, in their new act, *The Territorials* are featuring the brilliant American number, "By right of sword," with great effect.

ONE of the outstanding features of the Brixton pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* is the duet, "I'm looking for a sweetheart and I think you'll do," as sung by Miss Daisy James and Miss Marie Moss. This is the latest American duet published by M. Witmark and Sons, who are strongly represented this year in the duets, "Kiss, kiss," "Can't you see I love you," "Just some one," and "Smile, smile, smile."

MISS ANNIE SCHUBERTH'S beautiful voice is heard to great advantage in the number, "To the end of the world with you," which she is singing with great success in the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Bradford. This number has been acknowledged by all as a worthy successor to "Love me and the world is mine."

MISS KATHLEEN GRAY, the dashing principal boy of the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, has gained many laurels by her singing of "Just some one," which is fast becoming one of the hits of the season. This is a Witmark number.

ONE of the principal numbers that is taking the place of the weeds of the first nights, which the live managers are quickly pulling out, is "Kiss, kiss, kiss," a charming duet as sung by Miss Truly Shattuck, and Nellie Stratton in the Drury Lane pantomime *Aladdin*. Two other artists who have gained laurels with this number are Miss Maude Mortimer and Miss Yolande Noble in the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* at the Theatre Royal, Hanley.

"JUST some one," the song success of New York last year, and which is rapidly repeating its success on this side, has a delightful exponent in Miss Nollie Emerald, the principal boy in the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Bradford. Miss Emerald has a manner of her own in singing this style of number.

MR. WALTER MUNROE has just been fitted with a song by M. Witmark and Sons entitled "They all take off their hats to Mr. Murphy," which, if its success in the States is any criterion, should be one of the biggest numbers he has ever had.

MISS DAISY MAYER will produce shortly a new rag-time poem set to music entitled "Shaky eyes." This is yet another blossom from Witmark's music-tree.

MISS RUBY CELESTE will feature in her forthcoming London season the English adaptation of the enormously successful Parisian song, "La petit' bonn' femme," which will bear the title, "She only said 'Bad boy.'" In securing this number for England and the States M. Witmark and Sons consider they have pulled off a very satisfactory deal.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE is featuring at the Tivoli with great success Witmark's latest chorus number, "Can't you see I love you?"

MR. HARRY RUSSON will introduce into his turn in the course of the next week or so a new American song entitled "I'll have to say farewell to you." This number has been a hit in one of the latest American musical comedies, and should be a big winner for Mr. Russon.

ALL the music in Herbert Darnley and Fred Kitchen's new show, *Private Potts* (in which Mr. Kitchen will star) has been selected and arranged by M. Witmark and Sons.

MISS MERREDITH MERREDRO has just returned from her successful Australian tour and will open shortly at the Tivoli and Oxford. She will feature her successful Drury Lane numbers, "Star of my life" and "Faded rose."

GREAT has been Mr. George Lashwood's success in America, and now Canadian audiences have been acclaiming him the popular idol of the hour. On his opening night recently at the New Majestic, Toronto, fully two thousand people had to be turned away, and the comedian was compelled to give seven songs before the huge concourse of delighted people would allow him to leave the stage, and capacity houses ruled throughout his stay. Mr. Lashwood's new songs, by F. W. Leigh, "There's another fellow looks like me" and "Send for a policeman" went tremendously, as did the comedian's older favourites "In the twi-twi-twilight" and "My latch-key." The singer is due back in England very soon.

A POSITIVE boon for young pianoforte students (and also those of riper years whose playing abilities are backward) is the new series of sixpenny volumes just issued by the Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd., under the name of "My Child's Music Book." Each of the six books contains a dozen popular pieces for young children, very easily arranged and fingered by Frederic Mullen, and they are well printed on stout paper and enclosed in a tinted wrapper. The series is in great request, and is in every way worthy of the demand that it is meeting with. No. 5 is operatic, and includes in its pages the Kermesse music from Gounod's *Faust* and excerpts from *Il Trovatore, The Bohemian Girl* ("I dreamt that I dwelt"), *The Huguenots, La Figlia del Reggimento, Orfeo, Norma, Martha, Tannhäuser* ("O Star of Eve"), *Rigoletto, Der Freischütz,* and *Maritana* ("Let me like a soldier fall").

MR. CHAS. HECTOR'S BENEFIT.

A well-deserved benefit was accorded Mr. Chas. Hector at the Queen's, Poplar, on Friday evening, Jan. 21, on the eve of his departure, after over two years' association with that hall. During Mr. Hector's régime here as manager considerable opposition has had to be met, and it says much for his powers of organisation, his thorough knowledge of the business, and his decided personality that all the different troubles have been so successfully overcome. Mr. Hector was not originally intended for the theatrical profession. Educated at Christ Church, he was trained for the medical profession, but when a very young man, and following on the death of his father, he succumbed to the allurements of the stage, and for the past twenty-two years has practically been closely connected with all the different branches of the profession.

Of this period Mr. Hector has been in London for over seventeen years, and as a manager for most of the time. He was at the London for two years and a half, and then went to Hammersmith, where he was actively employed in rebuilding the old Temple into the Palace Theatre of Varieties. He stayed here three years and a half. Following this, he migrated to Colline's, and was busily engaged for about nine years. Towards the end of this time Mr. Hector took sole control of the three establishments under this directorship, namely, the London, Collins's, and the Cambridge, which he christened the L.C.C. halls.

In addition to Mr. Hector's sterling qualities as a manager, he has won laurels as an author and song-writer, his latest sketch, *My Friend the Thief*, written in conjunction with Mr. Edward Thane, quite reaching to "top notch," and others from his pen are shortly to be launched before the public.

During Mr. Hector's association with the Queen's he has made himself extremely popular with all, and evidence of the manner in which he has endeared himself to his public was found in a house crowded in all parts at each performance, and in the large number of artists who appeared before the footlights on his behalf.

The most decided expression of appreciation was made when the committee, Messrs. B. Hart (chairman), Morris Abrahams (hon. treasurer), George Brown, Vic Wrigglesworth, Walter Bentley, J. Hall, W. Dickinson, J. Chapman, Geo. Pearson, J. Stowe, T. Rice, Geo. Manning, and Ben Abrahams (hon. secretary), who had organised the benefit, took the stage, and Mr. Geo. Brown, after a neat little speech, in which he eulogised the good qualities of Mr. Chas. Hector, presented him with a testimonial and handsome case of cutlery as a mark of appreciation from the proprietors. Mr. Hector walked to the footlights amidst thunderous applause, whilst musical director Hinkinson and his merry men struck up the popular refrain "For he's a jolly good fellow." When Mr. Hector was eventually able to make himself heard he thanked the audience for their loyalty and Messrs. Abrahams for their splendid gift, mentioning that what he had done during his period of management was simply a duty, but that the duty had been made a most pleasant one by the kindnesses he had received at their hands, and wherever he went he would always have memories of a most enjoyable term of office at the Queen's.

This presentation was not the only one, for the staff, wishing to show the esteem in which they have always held Mr. Hector, presented him with a handsome silver kettle, and then, finally, the committee—who had worked so hard for the evening's success—presented Mr. Hector with a large silver cigar-case, with the hope that he would be spared many years to use it. Once again Mr. Hector feelingly replied, once again the orchestra struck up "For he's a jolly good fellow," and then the lengthy variety programme was continued.

The programme contained some ninety-six items, of which the following artists appeared:—Gertie Gitana in her latest successes, Marie Kendal, Katie Lawrence, Flo Yaymen, Gladys Whitton, Peggy Pryde, Arabella Allen, Baby Baker, Vona Clifford, Lil Elfreda, Lily Farrar, Marie Jones, Lily Kirton, Lena Mildred, Eva O'Connor, Ella Shields, G. H. Chirgwin, who received a great welcome, Barney Armstrong, the Anartos, Frank Boyce, Chas. Baldwin and company, Arthur Boyne, Henri Cazman, Will Driscoll, Fred Durban, David and Mariot, Enid Erroll, Harold Endon, Arthur Farrel, Dave Land, Bros. Lawrence, Steve McCarthy, Poole and Maguire, L. J. Seymour, Jimmy Walker, Tom Woottwell, Chas. Whittle, Ed. Thane and company in the dramatic sketch *My Friend the Thief*, Marie Lord, Vendome and Chase, Orduna, and Caselli.

The management of the evening's entertainment was in the able hands of Messrs. Morris Abrahams and Ben Abrahams, who were assiduous in their attentions to the comfort of visitors. Mr. W. Biegen, the resident stage-manager, performed yeoman service, with the assistance of Messrs. W. Bentley, C. Beecham, E. Warner, and Sam Hart. The musical director's chair was occupied by Mr. W. Hinkinson, the orchestra for the occasion being augmented.

MISS DORMA MORGAN is scoring a big success at the Palace, Huddersfield, this week, with a new song, from the pen of Mr. Will Letters, entitled "Any old sort of an English port."

MESSRS. LEVY AND CARDWELL'S pantomime, *Hop-o'-My Thumb*, concluded a most successful run last Saturday at Oldham, and the popular manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood, was the recipient of a solid silver tea service, presented by the producers, and Mr. Sedgewick, the musical director, received a dressing-case from the same source. Mr. H. B. Levy made the presentations, both of the recipients responding in neat speeches.

THE STAR MUSIC Co.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS.

*SHIP AHOY!
*CHARLIE BROWN.
*I CAN PICTURE POLLY (HANGING UP THE HOLLY.)
I CAN'T REACH THAT TOP NOTE.
I'LL SAW HIS SEE-SAW DOWN.
*SEA, SEA, SEA.
WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, GIRLS.
I WANT MR. SCHNEIDER.
*MR. MAN IN THE MOON.
*I'LL LET THE WORLD GO BY.

BAND PARTS 1/- Per Set. State Theatre and Part when writing for copies.

19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Wires, SONGONIA, LONDON. Phone, 8445 GERRARD.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

1291½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Sums already announced, £47 16s. 6d.

Sums since received.

	£	s.	d.
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Charles Clifford, 15s.

Charles Clifford	2	T. Beeman	1
W. C. Burns	2	W. Ryde	1
Dobito and Buxton	2	Louie and Wally	1
The Soring Ellers	1	Annie M.	1
Harry Goodburn	1	Fred M.	1
A. U. Mackinnon	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	W. F. Frame	1
Jimmy Shields	1	Master Sydney May	1
Oswald and Locke	1	Harry Burdette	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
The Rosses	1	Wilfred Forster	1
James McKimm	1	Franklin Dyall	1
W. Millard	1	Margaret Holland	1
Wylie Watson	1	The Adeles	1
E. D. Hess	1	Danas	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Fred Elton	1
Harry Bailey	1	Lamberti	1
W. Cummings	1	Gus Elen	1
J. Cummings	1		

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
Harry Ford	1	Elsie Roby	1
Will H. Fox	1	Andy McLeod	1
Mrs. Harry Dean	1	Lamberti	1
Fred Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Dandy George	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Chris. Richards	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Florence Esdaile	1	Cornalla and Eddie	1
Will Lester	1	Alfred Artois	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton	1	Alma Shelley	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley	1
J. Cooke Beresford	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong, £1 6s.

Barney Armstrong	5	Madoline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson	1
Four Royal Scotts	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lynn	1	Will Clement	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Brunton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, £2 7s.

Walter Dowling's "Fantastics"	6	Karl Kremo	2
Sylvester (Ella and Eugenie)	4	Lillian	1
Dorothy Ward	4	Joseph Harvey	1
Linda D'Amato	2½	Boden and Bell	1
Joan Burton	2½	Alma	1
Daisy Dormer	2	Sid Francis	1
Albert Egbert	2	Lux's Dogs	1
Seth Egbert	2	Marjorie Lawrence	1
Hill and Whitaker	2	Bertie White	1
Andy McLeod	2	Percival	1
Lauri and Beatty	2	Seth's Hoopla	1
Tommy Clifford	2	One of the Bhoys	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman, 3s.

A. Dome	1	Gus Elen	1
Nellie Coleman	1		

Collected by Charles Cardow, £1 3s.

Arthur Bromley	1	Fred Elton	1
George S. Melvin	1	Dave Laird	1
Ethel Darc	1	Walter Lawley	1
William Darc	1	Siems	1
Pasquali Brothers	1	George Norton	1
Valencia Friend	1	Will Cornish	1
La Belle Linda	1	May Thorne	1
Iris Fox	1	The Cecilias	1
Charles Norton	1	Cruickshank	1
The Gay Deceiver	1	Harry Ray	1
Chas. Cardow	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Cardow	1		

Collected by Elton and Elma, £1 5s.

B. Elton	1	Apicanus	1
T. Elma	1	J. N.	1
E. Le Butt	1	Maude Mortimer	1
Arthur Sydney	1	Miss Weston and Miss Longden	1
Royston Rippon	1	Miss Carr	1
Charles North	1	F. Marks	1
George Ess	1	Geo. Bury	1
Bert Rolfe	1	W. T. Peake	1
C. Y. Fixott	1	S. Bailey	1
Aggrippa	1	L. I. Milne	1
Charles Heslop	1	Pauline Rivers	1
Tom J. Dillon	1	Gus Elen	1
H. F. F.	1		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan	1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey	1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Slone	1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz	1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz	1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz	1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey	1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner	1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten	1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown	1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast	1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray	1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz	1		

Collected by Geo. French, £1 13s.

Gimmy Winkle	5	Nick French	2
George French	5	A. Baker	1
H. Poole	5	Fred Bescoby	1
B. Gates	2	Phyllis St. Clair	1
Learto		J. Picken	1
H. Dowsett	2	J. Mason	1
H. French	2	Gus Elen	1
M. Cattaneo	2		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman	3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel	1½	R. E. Wade	1
Michael Nolan	1½	Richard Barclay	1
Aggie Nolan	1	Harry Barclay	1
Bert Nolan	1	Fred Malcolm	1
Olive West	1	G. Barclay, jun.	1
La Belle Linda	1	Joe Hayman	1
Ben Webster	1	Morny Cash	1
Mike Asher	1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Hy. Pocock	1	Gus Elen	1
Thos. Pocock	1		
Michael Nolan's Sister	1		

MISS KITTEE RAYBURN, the popular Aladdin of the pantomime at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, is represented in the above photograph surrounded by the bouquets and baskets of flowers presented to her on the last night of this most successful production, to which we make reference in our "Variety Gossip."

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

FRAME AND BURNS.

Mr. W. F. Frame, who gave "The Immortal Memory" of the Scottish bard on Tuesday night at the Hippodrome, Hamilton, is said to be one of the chief sustainers of the Burns spirit in the Land of the Thistle. Frame says that Robbie's pen has done more to foster the spirit of independence and liberty than all the swords that were ever unsheathed.

The "Hooch-aye" Scotchman has "Framed" his thoughts in the following verse:—

BURNS' ANNIVERSARY.

Long years ha'e passed since Janwar's win'
Brocht handsome, bonnie Robin in,
An' the brichtest star that shines abune—
Oor ain immortal "Rabbie."
The Muse her plaidie rowed him roon,
An' Nature decked him wi' a croon,
An' a' the worl' wi' knee bowed doon—
Peys homage tae oor "Rabbie."
Whan'er is heard the Scottish tongue,
There's praises noo frae auld and young—
For Scotland's bard, oor "Rabbie."
There's no' an airt the win' can blaw
But there you'll find in cot an' ha',
The name that's worshipped by them a'—
Is Scotland's bard, oor "Rabbie."

ON resigning his engagement as musical-director of the Palace, Gloucester, on Jan. 22, the gentlemen of the orchestra presented Mr. Alfred H. Towell with a handsome silver mounted pipe as a token of their respect.

FOR the third consecutive year the wrestling championships (catch-as-catch-can), instituted by the National Sporting Club, are being held at the Alhambra. A commencement was made on Monday afternoon, and progress was accomplished in all three classes. The entries for the light-weights (10st. 6lb. and under) numbered 116, in the middles (12st. and under) forty-nine, and in the heavies thirty. There were three referees at work in succession on Monday, and the arrangements are in the hands of Mr. A. F. Bettinson.

THE SURREY.

Drury Lane drama and miniature musical comedy are both to be found in the current bill at the Surrey, where Mr. Roy Cochrane, the capable manager, has had to bring his administrative abilities into full play, for the audiences at each house have been overwhelming. The more elaborate of the two productions we have alluded to is an excerpt from that stirring "melo-farce" by Cecil Raleigh, entitled

"THE FLOOD TIDE."

Captain Jack Champion ..... MR. R. HAROLD GREY
Lord Sutton ..... MR. FRASER BRUNNER
Dick Champion ..... MR. ARTHUR T. LENNARD
Colonel Sir Russell Corry .... MR. JOHN SARGENT
Lieut. Drummond ..... MR. LESLIE PALMER
Miss Mabel Corry .. MISS MARGARET HARRINGTON

Though no reference is made to the sensational scene which gave the original its title, a capital condensation of the piece has been made by Mr. R. H. Grey, who has brought out its more romantic incidents and presented them in fairly consecutive form. Those who saw the play during its run at the Lane in the autumn of 1903 will remember that the hero is Captain Jack Champion, who has won the Victoria Cross in South Africa, and is given a commission in the Guards. The sketch opens with the return of Jack and his reception at the village inn, of which his father is landlord. Captain Jack, in common with many another who has risen from the ranks, suffers from the taunts of his brother officers led by the spendthrift, Lord Sutton, who is desirous of redeeming his fortunes by a marriage with the heiress, Mabel Corry, daughter of the Colonel of the regiment. Mabel, however, has given her heart to Jack, who is accordingly hated by Lord Sutton. Mabel goes to Jack's quarters to warn him that his confrères are about to pay him a visit with a view of "ragging" him, but before she is able to leave the officers are heard approaching, and Mabel is obliged to take refuge in a cupboard. After a heated dispute between Sutton and Jack, an onslaught is made on the room, the furniture being destroyed piecemeal. When a move is made towards the cupboard, however, Jack draws his sword and defies any of his persecutors to touch it. Fortunately, the Colonel arrives to quell the disturbance, and Mabel explains the reason of her visit, with the result that the Colonel reprimands Lord Sutton and his companions, and bestows his blessing on Jack and his daughter.

The three scenes that illustrate the piece are realistically set—racehorses, huntsmen, officers in dress uniform and ladies in hunting attire all figuring picturesquely. The playlet was thoroughly acted by Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company, the leading part being taken by Mr. R. Harold Grey, the adaptor of the sketch, who, though not quite master of his lines, gave a good rendering of the rôle of the gallant young V.C., Jack Champion, and played to perfection in his scene with the vindictive Sutton. That unscrupulous lordling was cleverly impersonated by Mr. Fraser Brunner, his cynical utterances being delivered with every effect. Miss Margaret Harrington made a gentle and refined young lady of the "daughter of the regiment," and her spirited defence of her sweetheart gained a hearty cheer. The kindly old Colonel was artistically embodied by that widely experienced actor, Mr. John Sargent, whose well-modulated voice enabled him to gain the utmost effect out of his lines. Another sound performance was that of Dick Champion by Mr. Arthur T. Lennard, who won the entire sympathy of the audience by his rendering of a part of sterling sentiment; and Mr. Leslie Palmer gave an earnest portrayal of Lieut. Drummond. The success of the playlet was such as to realise the highest hopes of its promoters.

The second novelty was a musical comedy sketch, written by Chas. Cleveland, with music by W. Snell Robinson, and additional numbers by Frank Leedam, entitled

"CHARLEY'S WEDDING DAY."

Charlie Mashem ..... MR. CHARLES CLEVELAND
Frank Dash ..... MR. ALFRED BENNETT
Simon ..... MR. E. RUTLAND
Zambucjubi ..... MR. GEORGE F. IDE
Maria Hanah ..... MISS NELLIE COZENS
Letitia Lovelawn ..... MISS DOREEN CARR

Droll effects are secured in the above entertainment, in which all the elements of musical comedy are comprised. A merry party of bachelors assemble to give Charlie Mashem a send-off on the eve of his wedding, and get so noisy that the police are attracted, but succumb to the temptations of a drink. On the approach of the inspector, however, the officers of the law realise the necessity of making a capture, and the other members of the party having taken their farewell, arrest the prospective bridegroom. The next morning finds the "best man" and the bride awaiting the arrival of the bridegroom, who presently turns up in his evening clothes and with unmistakable evidences of the night's carouse. His ludicrous attempts at explanation serve only to irritate his betrothed, and Charlie's embarrassments are increased by the arrival of Maria Hanah, a half-breed lady, who claims to be his wife. The opportune entry of a Red Indian, the real husband of Maria, enables reconciliations to be rapidly arrived at and the wedding to proceed.

The burden of the fun rested chiefly upon Mr. Charles Cleveland, who made a comic personage of the bridegroom, and was indefatigable in provoking laughter. He had able assistance from Mr. Alfred Bennett as the "best man"; and quite a quaint character-sketch was that of a Verger by Mr. E. Rutland. Miss Doreen Carr was a prepossessing bride, and sang in cultured style a tuneful ballad with the refrain "Come and dwell with me." As the representatives of the coloured race Miss Nellie Cozens and Mr. George F. Ide acted with spirit and vivacity. A finish to the production is given by an efficient chorus, members of which join in a merry double quartett, after the "Tell me, pretty maiden" pattern, which is much enjoyed; and a couple of eccentric waiters and equally odd policemen add to the mirth-moving qualities of the piece.

THE GIBBONS' CIRCUIT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The liquidation of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society, Ltd., has given rise to many rumours, the most damaging and annoying of such being a suggestion that I personally, with the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., have suffered considerable losses through the termination of the society. A professional organ, published on the 20th inst., is also giving great prominence to a rumour that Moss' Empires, Ltd., has acquired the Holborn Empire. I need hardly say that the suggestion has no foundation in fact, and there have not been any negotiations of any kind whatsoever with Moss' Empires or any other corporation or persons for the sale or purchase of the property.

I would be obliged, therefore, if you would insert this contradiction in your next issue; and, having regard to the fact that your contemporary's article referring to the Holborn Empire, either by accident or design, appears to lay stress upon the fact that the property was at one time in the hands of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society, Ltd., I feel it necessary to publicly and emphatically state that the liquidation of the society has not in the slightest degree embarrassed either myself or my companies, or involved them in any loss.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER GIBBONS,
Managing-Director London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WAL FOR FEBRUARY.

ENGLAND.

3. Congleton (10,706)
5. Blidworth (1,100)
5. Kineton (1,000)
5. Nantwich (7,700)
8. Lichfield (7,902)
8. Longton (36,815)
12. Harrogate (28,414)
12. King's Lynn (18,253)
12. Beaconsfield (1,570)
13. Biggleswade (5,129)
14. Dorchester (9,500)
24. Frome (11,055)

SCOTLAND.

7. Biggar (1,925)

WALES.

7. Maesteg (1,513)

The Showmen's Year Book, 1910.

It has been decided to issue the Year Book to members only of the Showmen's Guild. All applications for the Year Book must be sent direct to the Guild Secretary, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. The Rev. T. Horne's pamphlet, "What the Cinematograph Showman Must Do," will also in future be issued to Guild members only.

The Guild is also issuing official letter forms (with envelopes) in order to comply with the requirements of the Cinematograph Act, and to facilitate the necessary correspondence with the local authorities. These letter forms are issued at cost price for the benefit of the members of the Guild, and will be sent out in packets of 100 each. The Guild secretary, on receipt of a letter (or postcard) from a member will forward a packet of this extremely useful stationery.

All that the show proprietor or responsible manager will have to do will be to fill in the present address of the show, and to indicate in the blank spaces left for that purpose, where it is proposed to open the show and the date of the first performance in the new town.

When properly filled in and placed in the official envelope, the communication is bound to receive immediate attention, and the whole responsibility of carrying out the provisions of the Act then rests upon the shoulders of the local authorities, and the showman has no further duty in the matter.

Parliamentary Defence Work—Sessions 1910.

The Parliamentary Agent of the Showmen's Guild, Mr. F. Millar, has scrutinised all the Private Bill legislation of the coming sessions of Parliament. Contrary to the expectation of the executive council of the Guild, there still remains Corporations who refuse to profit by past experience. It was not an unreasonable expectation that after the severe lesson taught the Corporation of Oldham in the last session of Parliament, that no other Corporation would be found unwise enough to venture restrictive proposals of the same character as those condemned by Parliament in the Oldham Bill.

The important suburb of Handsworth, Birmingham, is attempting to get similar powers to deal with the show business as those refused Oldham and other towns. These extraordinary powers are set out in Clauses 125 and 126 of

THE HANDSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ADDITIONAL POWERS BILL.

Bye-laws as to Shows, Roundabouts, Steam-organs, &c.

125. The Council may make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes (that is to say):

For prescribing the hours within which during any fair or at any other time any show, booth, caravan, circus, or menagerie may be kept open, and for preserving order therein.

For preventing the use of whirligigs, roundabouts, steam-organs, or other similar contrivances, so as to be a source of danger or annoyance to residents or the public.

Prohibitions as to Vans, Tents, &c.

126. (1) The Council may by resolution, passed at a meeting of the Council, prohibit any vans, tents, sheds, or similar structures being erected or placed on any lands in the district where their use for human habitation is, in the opinion of the Council, likely to cause the pollution or fouling of any streams or ditches, and any person who shall be guilty of any act or omission in contravention of any such resolution, and the owner or occupier of any lands on which any such van, tent, or other similar structure shall be so erected or placed in contravention of any such resolution, and who may have knowingly permitted the same, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5, and to a daily penalty not exceeding 20s.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to any tent, van, shed, or structure erected or used by any portion of His Majesty's naval or military forces.

(3) The Council shall cause notice of any resolution under this section to be published once in some newspaper circulating in the district, and to be served on the owners and occupiers of any lands affected thereby.

What the Guild Objects to.

The organised showmen will petition against the injurious Clause of this Bill, because their deliberate purpose is to place travelling showmen under special restrictive and injurious legislation.

One of the earliest fights in Parliament brought to a successful conclusion was against additional powers seeking to determine and fix the hours of business for shows and for the fairground business in general. It was established at the time that the ordinary law of the land governing all trade and enterprise was quite sufficient for the show business. That the butcher, the baker, the tinker, the tailor, and the showman should enjoy just the same liberty to carry on their business without invidious class legislation involving injury and the restraint of trade.

The same argument applies to special powers in excess of the ordinary law of the land for the preservation of good order. The Guild has maintained successfully in Parliament and out that the law of the land is adequate both for conduct and morals. It is too late in the day for the Handsworth Urban District Council or any other council, after the triumphs of Trade Defence in Parliament in the past, to expect that they will obtain (without contest) excessive powers already refused by Parliament to great and powerful Corporations.

With regard to the other part of this Clause concerning the use of roundabouts and organs it would be more honest on the part of the Handsworth Council to put the word "prohibit" instead of "prevent," for that is what the Council really is seeking—"the power of prohibition." There is already ample power at common law to "prevent" such contrivances being either a source of danger or annoyance to either residents or the public. It is an established axiom of British jurisprudence that special legislation against a particular class of traders or a particular kind of enterprise, shall not be granted until it is shown clearly that the general law fails to deal with the evil complained of.

It requires no legal training to know that no one is permitted to erect anything *that is a danger* to public safety. With regard to annoyance (a most uncertain thing to define), surely the Law Courts are open, and any citizen can seek and (if his complaint is a just one) obtain an injunction to restrain the offending party.

It seems ludicrous, when we give the matter connected thought, that local authorities like Handsworth should seek to constitute themselves by special legislation not only a court of first instance, but all the intermediate courts and a final court of appeal rolled into one. Or, to put it in another way, the members of the Urban District Council of Handsworth want to be vested with the judical powers of the Higher Courts, and even the Supreme Court of Judicature, to determine at their own sweet will and option things and causes that the greatest Bench of Judges in the world exists to determine.

See how this works out. According to the powers they are seeking they may over-ride the law of the land, with regard to the time when a man may carry on his business; they seek to fix the hours when he shall open and when he shall shut up his shop. They also seek supplementary powers in excess of those already possessed by the police authorities with regard to good rule and order. They seek to disestablish the Courts of Law, and to determine questions of both law and fact that only a properly constituted judicial tribunal should settle.

Special Powers as to Vans, Tents, &c.

It is a perpetual source of amazement to us, this obvious "pretence" of ignorance on the part of local authorities with regard to existing law. In the Clause numbered 126 in the Handsworth Bill, the Council is seeking powers to prohibit by mere resolution the erection of vans or tents on any land within their district, and to impose upon both the owner of the land or the tenant extraordinary penalties for so using land. This, in effect, means that Handsworth wants (no small demand) a Movable Dwellings Bill on its own account.

If the legal advisers of the District Council have not informed their clients of what Parliament has already done in throwing out similar proposals, then a very grave mistake has been made, and we warn the Council that great will be their enlightenment when they appear before the Private Bills Committee of Parliament.

With regard to the pollution of waters, which is the plausible cover for the attack on the liberty of showmen and property owners, it is more than sufficient to repeat once again—we have already done it a thousand times—that there does exist ample legislation to safeguard the health of the public from any possible pollution of streams or ditches. The Model Bye-laws of the Local Government Board, under the powers of the Housing of the Working classes Act, give local authorities all the safeguards necessary for public health.

It is ludicrous simplicity to imagine that the members of the Urban District Council of Handsworth are in ignorance of the law already in existence, or that they have not heard or read of the failure of Corporations to obtain the powers they are ill-advised enough to seek. There will be, we are certain, a great shock to the self-complacency of the Urban District Council when their appointed witnesses submit to examination before a Committee of Parliament.

The Continued Vigilance of the Guild Executive.

Negotiations will be at once opened with the Handsworth Council, and an exchange of views between the Council and the Guild will, it is hoped, take place. If these negotiations fail to effect a withdrawal of the Clauses a Petition will be immediately lodged against the Bill, and the same efficient and energetic means that were taken with regard to Oldham, Acton, Halifax, Hyde, Colne, Pontefract, Rawtenstall, Eccles, Mansfield, and a dozen other Corporations, will be taken.

Handsworth, like other local bodies before them, will be taught a salutary lesson, and will, in all probability, have to pay for being taught that lesson.

The showmen as lawful traders sincerely regret the necessity of carrying on this Parliamentary warfare. With regard to the towns concerned it is a serious loss of the ratepayers' money; with regard to the showmen it is also a considerable loss of time and money. The principal desire of the showmen of Great Britain is to carry on their business with the greatest possible accord and agreement with local bodies. The showmen recognise that conflict and friction with Corporations is a most undesirable thing.

When the severe lesson was given to the Oldham Corporation in the last session of Parliament the executive officials of the Guild did not anticipate that any other Corporation would have the hardihood to attempt an enterprise in which so powerful a Corporation as Oldham had failed. It is a great disappointment to find that the anticipated peace all round is not yet attained, and that once again the Guild will be put to the arduous work of Trade Defence in Parliament.

The Middleton Corporation Bill.

The vagaries of the Parliamentary draughtsman is again in evidence. One of the most extraordinary clauses imaginable (when we remember that the Cinematograph Act is in full operation) has been included in the General Powers Bill of the Middleton Corporation. In the same way that the Handsworth Council desire a Movable Dwellings Bill of their own, so the Corporation of Middleton wants a Cinematograph Act to itself.

They propose in Clause 117 that the Corporation may make bye-laws for the purpose of controlling and regulating cinematograph entertainments within the borough, and by any such bye-laws may prescribe the precautions against fire and other safeguards and conditions to be adopted and observed by persons holding such entertainments, and may prohibit the holding of such entertainments on any premises except such as are licensed by the Corporation for the purpose, and may provide for the granting of such licences.

This clause is bound to be struck out; it is so obviously unnecessary. The Cinematograph Act gives all Corporations the fullest powers with regard to public safety in cinematograph exhibitions. It is extremely difficult to understand why this most unnecessary clause has been embodied in the Middleton Bill.

There can be only one answer, and that requires a tremendous daring to shape it in words. Perhaps the Middleton Corporation want a Cinematograph Act of their own to over-ride the powers possessed by the Home Secretary to issue regulations from time to time of a reasonable character with regard to cinematograph exhibitions. Is that the additional power that Middleton is seeking? If it is, showmen may rest at ease with regard to the Bill. The Home Office will take care that no Private Bill shall pass into law that seeks to interfere with the powers vested by statute in the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

"Cinematograph Copyright." (The law affecting the same.) By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S. (Barrister-at-Law). Price 6d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE SHOWMAN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

PRESIDENT, PATRICK COLLINS.

Objects of the Guild.

1. To conserve the business interests of all open-air amusement caterers and entertainers, whether menaced by faddist legislation or by public bodies.
2. To vindicate the character and the avocation in life of the showman whenever unjustly maligned or attacked.
3. To defend the fairs and holidays of the people whenever and wherever threatened, and to encourage all legitimate efforts for the uplifting and betterment of the entertainments of the people.

First List of Subscriptions, 1910.

Mr. Patrick Collins	£50	0	0
Mr. John Studt	5	5	0
Messrs. Forrest Brothers	5	5	0
Mrs. Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons	5	5	0
Mr. Wm. Haggar	5	5	0
Mr. Wm. Murphy	5	5	0
Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons	5	5	0
Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons	5	0	0
Crecraft Bros.	3	3	0
Mr. William Wilson	3	3	0
Mr. William Taylor	3	3	0
Messrs. Toft and Turnbull	3	3	0
Messrs. Wm. Foster and Co.	2	2	0
Mr. Wentworth	2	2	0
Mr. T. Hurst	2	2	0
Mr. T. Clarke	2	2	0
Messrs. J. Dooner and Son	2	2	0
Mr. R. Fossett	2	2	0
R. H. Mellor and Sons	1	1	0
Messrs. Marenghi et Cie	1	1	0
Mr. H. Caries	1	1	0
Mr. Alf. Ball	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Beech	1	1	0
Mr. W. Hastings	1	1	0
Mr. J. Johnson	1	1	0
Mr H. Kinder	1	1	0
Mr. T. E. Read	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Turner	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Smith	1	1	0
Mr. Tom Smith	1	1	0
Mr. Fred Gray	1	1	0
Messrs. Smith and Whittle	1	1	0
Mrs. Pettigrove	1	1	0
Mr. John Searle	1	1	0
Mr. A. A. Strong	1	1	0
Messrs. J. Bibby and Co.	1	1	0
Mr. J. H. Creber	1	1	0
Mr. C. F. Rowley	1	0	0
Mr. A. Purchase	1	0	0
Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co.	1	0	0
Mr. R. Chipperfield	0	10	6
Mr. Harry Hughes	0	10	6
Mr. F. Wilson	0	10	6
Mr. J. Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. S. Bolesworth	0	10	6
Mr. T. Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. C. Andrews	0	10	6
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	6
Mr. John Brown	0	10	6
Mr. H. Cox	0	10	6
Mr. C. Relph	0	10	6
Mr. J. Irvin	0	10	6
Mr. C. Ives	0	10	6
Mr. P. Shippobottom	0	10	6
Mr. C. Presland	0	10	6
Mr. C. Cain	0	10	6
Mr. E. Hanneford	0	10	6
Mr. C. Hyatt	0	10	6
Messrs. F. A. Glover and Co.	0	10	6
Mr. F. W. Savage	0	10	6
Mr. J. Thomas	0	10	6
Mr. John Proctor	0	10	6
Mr. C. Simpson	0	10	0
Mr. Harry Taylor	0	10	0
Mr. T. Robinson	0	10	0
Mrs. E. Andrews and Sons	0	10	0
Mr. G. Harvey	0	5	0
Mr. H. Birch	0	5	0
Mr. C. Bibby	0	5	0
Mr. A. Burgess	0	5	0
Mrs. Jewell	0	5	0
Mrs. F. Beaumont	0	5	0
Mr. T. Manning	0	5	0
Mr. S. Mayne	0	5	0
Mr. A. Traylen	0	5	0
Mr. G. Pickard	0	5	0
Mr. G. Hyatt	0	5	0
Mr. J. Hyatt	0	5	0
Mr. E. Beach	0	5	0
Mr. W. Biddall	0	5	0
Mrs. Traylen	0	5	0
Mr. J. Mayne	0	5	0
Mr. W. Hussey	0	5	0
Mr. E. Hussey	0	5	0
Mr. G. Manning	0	5	0
Mr. G. Saunders	0	5	0
Mr. G. Taylor	0	5	0
Mr. W. Hyatt	0	5	0
Mr. E. Elliott	0	5	0
Mr. P. O'Brien	0	5	0
Mr. E. Gilbey	0	5	0
Mr. H. Street	0	5	0
Mr. W. H. Pike	0	5	0
Mr. G. H. Paul	0	5	0
Mr. F. J. Thomas	0	5	0
Mr. C. Bailey	0	5	0
Mr. H. Read	0	5	0
Mr. W. Slatter	0	5	0
Mr. J. Hastings	0	5	0
Mr. T. White	0	5	0

Subscriptions may be sent to the Guild Secretary, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.; or paid to any of the members of the committee. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

The Coming Pageant at Sydenham.

The Festival of Empire and Pageant of London, which is to be held at the Crystal Palace in May, June, and July of this year, has many interesting features from the showman's point of view, as it has been decided to devote eight acres of ground for the purpose of constructing an Old England Fair, and, as will be seen by our advertising columns, showmen are now invited to negotiate for spaces. The Pageant is to be on quite a colossal scale, and some 15,000 performers will be utilised in its construction. The estimated cost of the enterprise is upwards of £50,000, and the great improvements which will be effected both in the interior and exterior of the Crystal Palace should prove a most attractive feature. In addition to the Pageant and Festival there will also be an exhibition on a most extensive scale of arts and inventions appertaining to Great Britain and her Colonies. The old-time stalls and cheap amusements in the interior of the Palace are to be swept away, and many interesting exhibits from at home and abroad will replace them. Mr. Frank Lascelles, who is the Master of the Pageant, claims that this will be the greatest thing of its kind ever attempted.

At the Carmarthen Assembly Rooms.

Boswell's Royal Circus has occupied the rooms for three nights this week—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday—and the company has presented a really first-class entertainment. The stud of educated ponies introduced by Mr. J. H. Boswell are an extraordinarily clever lot; Mlle. Verbena and her trained dogs give a splendid exhibition; Crusoe is most praiseworthy as a foot equilibrist; Little Togo gives a marvellous top-spinning and diabolo act, and his slide from the roof to the floor is sensational; the clowns provoke roars of laughter with their jokes and comical sayings; while Luigi gives a wonderful exhibition of his ability as a jumper, clearing eleven ponies with wonderful ease.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Once more Mr. Chris. Marner has been called upon by Mr. Walter Gibbons to open another of his entertainment palaces. This time it was the new Hammersmith Palace that claimed Mr. Marner's attention, making the fifth theatre that gentleman has opened on the Gibbons' Circuit. Previously we have seen him at Putney, Hengler's, Ilford, and the Camden. On Monday last there was a very brave array of variety world celebrities present for the initial performance, all loud in their praise of a really magnificent building.

"Isn't it a transformation?" said somebody. And that gentleman spoke truly. Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., the architects, have put their best work into the new Hammersmith Palace; the colour scheme is cream and gold, and the upholstering and carpets a rich crimson, and a set of limelights is worked from a gallery built in the sliding roof.

It will be remembered that the old Hall was very narrow, and a few years ago the then proprietors acquired certain property which was utilised as a wide entrance to the stalls and saloons. The main wall between this entry and the Hall has been pulled down, and the whole space thrown into the theatre and stage, thus making the new building about fifteen feet wider. The new auditorium is of greatly increased width. An additional staircase to the new grand circle has been formed, taking up nearly half the width of the old stalls entry, the other half being utilised as an entrance to the new stalls. The former entrance remains with its domed ceiling, but the pay office occupies the centre of this room and pairs of handsome doors are provided, forming it into a vestibule. From here a fine marble staircase leads to a foyer and thence is continued up to the grand circle. The stalls saloon is a handsome decorated room with a recessed bar, the whole decorated and furnished in a light style of Louis XVI. Cloak-room and lavatories are also provided in conjunction. The subway is paved with Mosaic and the walls lined with white and green marble, the ceiling being richly decorated.

The greatest alteration is found in the auditorium, which has been increased to nearly double the original capacity. There is a good raking ground floor containing thirty-one rows of comfortable tip-up chairs divided into stalls and pit, the floor carpeted and walls decorated in rich designs. Over this is a large balcony of fifteen rows similarly seated and furnished, with large promenade at the rear, and over this again is the gallery containing fifteen rows of seats. There are no columns to interrupt the view, the galleries being built on the cantilever system, and the whole constructed of fireproof material. The position of the stage is as of old, but it is, of course, greatly enlarged.

The Hammersmith Palace stands partly on the site of the Temple, Hammersmith, which was carried on during the early 'eighties by a Mr. P. Dunn. It was acquired by the late Mr. Acton Phillips, who made very considerable alterations and extensions. With the advent of Mr. J. C. Coe, a prosperous licensed victualler, who had as his first manager Mr. Fred Reeves, the popular agent, the house underwent a further transformation. Mr. Coe retired from proprietorship last year.

The Era representative was received by Mr. Lionel G. Holding, the resident-manager of the house. This gentleman previously occupied a similar post at the Shoreditch Olympia, another of the Gibbons' Circuit houses. Mr. Holding has for his chief aide-de-camp Mr. Norman Victor, until recently assistant-manager at the Grand, Clapham Junction, and before that secretary for many years to Mr. Fred Trussell, at the London Hippodrome. Both gentlemen are young and energetic workers, with many phases of the business at their fingers' ends, and they can be trusted to quickly get in touch with the right people locally, and to make many friends and patrons for the most luxurious entertainment palace ever built in Hammersmith.

Fred Karno's *Skating* is the outstanding item in the first bill. This favourite pantomimical absurdity has been seen in many quarters of London, and is, as its title suggests, a skit on the popularity of rinking. The principals in it include Jimmy Russell as "Miss Zena Flapper," Syd. Chaplin as "Archibald," Geo. Craig, Jack Royal, Geo. Hoare, Frank Melroyd and company of over thirty artists.

Our old friend T. E. Dunville is in fine form, and his idea of a policeman's duties are very funny. Yet there is no clashing when Geo. Gilbey gives you *his* idea of the same official. Both comedians have original conceptions of a policeman's duties, and both get laughs loud and long, and that is all expected of either. Wyndham and Wyatt's act can be seen a hundred times and enjoyed just as much on the 101st. "The Professor and his Pupil" will always be welcome.

An extra turn—a lady and two gentlemen—would be well advised to cut their singing; they are fine dancers and weaken their act with discordant melodies. Sadie Lundy is a little girl with a very nicely trained and strong voice. Phillip Braham's "March Hares" are three very charming ladies and three gentlemen. They are not in good working order yet, and the get-up of the men spoils the picture. Straw hats and purple suits against the delicate pink dresses and fair tresses of their partners get on one's nerves. The "Entente Cordiale" song is very good.

"Getting Even," Sinclair and Whiteford's popular skit, is just as much a scream to-day as it ever was. Olive Dene, Lilian Elfreda, and Hunter and Maris get numbers in this performance.

EAST HAM PALACE.

Pursuing the policy of presenting the best obtainable entertainment and at the same time studying the tastes of his *clientèle*, Mr. Albert E. Hill, the popular manager of the Palace, has this week engaged a strong array of artists, and better entertainment could not be desired. Quite an important factor towards the success of the programme is the presentation by Mr. W. J. Mackay and company of the great artistic episode *Man and the Devil*, a vivid and soul-stirring drama in five tableaux. The skill of the actor is employed with considerable purpose by Mr. W. J. Mackay as Satan, the arch-fiend, his delineation being superbly dramatic. Mr. Mackay has now played this character over a thousand times, and the amount of realism with which he invests it stamps him as an actor of great ability. The rendition of Paul Halstead, a poor, struggling artist, is excellent, and does credit to the abilities of Mr. Stuart Lomath; whilst the part of Marian Halstead, the artist's faithful and loving wife, could not be better portrayed than it is by Miss Betty Stannard. In the character of Reuben Ransom, a wealthy stockbroker, the father of Marian, Mr. Howard Templeton is well placed. Apart from its grim and doleful side, the play has its humour, which is quaintly rendered by Mr. W. Hayward as Timothy Scud, a broker's man, and Miss Edith Hall as Tilda, a maid-of-all-work.

Eccentricity, cleverness, and humour are all rolled into one in the comedy acrobatic act of Tate and Tate, and much laughter is created throughout their novel performance of *The Barmaid and Her Eccentric Customer*. It is a long time since such sweet singing has been heard at the Palace as that of Miss Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale, and although this beautiful songstress from "down under" was suffering from a rather bad cold, her singing was wonderful, and her fine voice was heard to especial advantage in the two songs "Dreams" and "Skylark."

Another singer who reaped a harvest of appreciation was Mr. John Donald, the famous Scotch baritone, whose deep rich voice did full justice to that old-time ballad "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" and the popular song "Violeta." Beattie and Babe, two juvenile comediennes, provided the audience with a merry and bright scena, *A Pavement Rehearsal*, the eccentricities and funny facial expressions of the one girl in contrast to the lady-like demeanour of the other causing uproarious laughter throughout the presentation. King and Benson, in their musical burlesque *Round the Town*, provide an abundance of light comedy, and maintain their popularity with the Palace audiences. Their singing of the duet "I loved you once" gained for them well-merited applause. Sammy Shields was in his usual convivial mood, and his football songs quite touched the sporting tastes of the audience. Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," was loudly applauded for his very skilful whistling solos, and his imitations of a canary, a skylark, and a dog yelping after being kicked were extremely clever. The amusing boxing act by the Brothers Horne, entitled *The Biter Bit*, kept the audience in a merry mood; and Jolly Jimmy Walker also contributed successfully to the splendid programme, which terminated with some excellent pictures on the Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

In conclusion, we must express our appreciation of the able director of the orchestra, Mr. W. S. Bassett, whose popularity is universal. The comfort of the audiences is well seen to by Mr. D. Wincott, assistant-manager, whose efforts are untiring.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

A strong programme is being presented to full houses at the Putney Hippodrome this week. Very much to the taste of the patrons is *The Last Straw*, described as a tragic emotional play by the Rev. E. S. Edwards. Cecil Gray ably sustains the principal rôle, that of an outcast from the ancestral halls, who returns on the eve of his brother's wedding to "keep his oath." Kind friends in front follow closely the unravelling of the story, and give unstinted applause to the tragic and rather gruesome ending. Miss Dora Eastlake and Messrs. Geo. Ridgway Thorne and Edward Warden in their respective parts afford efficient help.

A welcome relief to the sketch was afforded by Fred Evans in his novel absurdity *Dreaming*. It is certainly a novelty that evokes roars of laughter, and deserves all the applause it receives. Guest and Newlyn indulge in a little singing, patter, and dancing, the last being very much the best part of the turn. The Three Laurels, in their acrobatic and tumbling, contrive to earn considerable applause.

Fred Winn's company in *The Light in the Window*, a powerful dramatic sketch by Frank Dix, holds the audience from start to finish. Mrs. Wishart and her granddaughter are discovered talking over old times, and the grandmother is telling her it chances to be the birthday of her son, who is reported to have been drowned years before, and expressing her confidence that some day before she dies he will return to her. During the conversation Wilson, a warder at the neighbouring convict prison, comes in, and in the middle of making a proposal of marriage to the granddaughter is recalled to duty by the firing of a gun intimating the escape of a prisoner.

He rushes off, and when the women have gone to bed—the old grandmother first laying out food and drink and setting the lamp in the window for her boy should he ever return—there steals into the cottage the escaped convict. One familiar feature about the place and then another force on him the knowledge that he has indeed at last come home, and in the silence his mother comes upon him. She at first does not realise the truth, but when she does the shock is too much and she falls dead. Wilson the warder rushes in and holds up the convict, but realising that the latter is the father of his sweetheart offers to let him go. The convict, however, heartbroken at the sight of his mother, refuses to accept the chance, and goes back to his cell. The little sketch is full of heart interest, and is very well acted. Dora Daly, comedienne, sang "I've got a castle on the Nile" and "Topple you over"; and in addition to the Burton and Franklin Trio, the Carina Sisters, and Chas. Carr, there was the Imperial Bioscope. The music was under the able direction of Mr. Thomas Kearney.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Mr. Foster Marner has a very varied programme on hand at this fine hall for the current week, and we found a very large audience enjoying themselves to the utmost. Fred Karno's company of comedians are presenting a new sketch to this hall, entitled *Spring-Cleaning*, and it proves to be quite as mirth-provoking as others we have previously seen here. The extremely ludicrous antics of the painters and plasterers who are doing up a house cause shrieks of laughter, and keep all in the liveliest of moods.

Rose and Chaloner are a most entertaining couple; the male partner is a very able mimic, as well as a good comedian, while his partner sings delightfully, and, together, give a very bright and acceptable turn. Minnie Paget is described on the programme "at the piano." She did not show her skill as a pianist on the evening of our visit, but instead gave a fine selection on the concertina, which she played capitally, and scored a most emphatic success. Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, has in "The Pensioner" a fine number.

Lalie Brooke gives a clever scena "Past and Present," in which she appears in Early Victorian costumes, alternating with the most modern ones, such as the Gibson and Sandow Girls. It is a clever and interesting novelty, and the changes are very quickly made. The Leonards, in their interlude *The Interview*, are most diverting, and go well. Phil Parsons, comedian, has a very catchy song, "My wife's gone away," which he sings with great gusto, and makes himself very popular. The Five Vernons play a fine selection on the xylophones, and have to accede to a request for an encore. The Two Anartos are a couple of comedians who indulge in much cross-talk, which causes laughter, and finish off with a topical song. Some wonderful conjuring is presented by Oswald Williams, who performs many marvellous tricks. The disappearing box is extremely clever, and his whole show is quite bewildering and most interesting. The Four Amaranths display their skill in the performance of some clever acrobatic dances; and Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, who appears early in the evening, sings "Down the Vale" in a most artistic manner. His voice is very melodious and pleasing. Mr. Sheldon and his admirable orchestra put in some excellent work as usual, and the Bioscope, with election results, which are eagerly awaited, concludes the programme.

Mr. Edwin Barwick has sent 5s. to Mr. Harry Barnard for the Music Hall Home Fund.

Mr. S. Winks, the enterprising manager of the Grand, Halifax, had a novel advertisement out last week. He had sandwichmen parading the principal streets with posters—"Grand Theatre. Last night's result. Grand first. No change."

"Oh! George," a bright comedy sketch that is being played at Collins's this week by Miss Cecile Anson and Mr. Allen Leslie, was written, produced, and copyrighted ten years ago at St. George's Hall, London, by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas when they worked as society entertainers. They have now placed it on the halls, with the above artists under their management. It has been received very favourably, and Mr. Baugh has already secured it for the Surrey for next week.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

N.S.A. One Mile Southern Championship.
THE one mile Southern Counties amateur championship is to be held at the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, on the evening of Feb. 9. Entry forms may be obtained from Mr. W. Stanton, hon. sec., Roller Department N.S.A., 1, Hatfield House, Great Titchfield-street. Entries close first post Feb. 4, the fee being 2s. 6d. Competitors will be allowed to train on the track on the evening of Feb. 5, between 6 and 6.45, and Feb. 7, between 6.15 and 7. The Association's gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded respectively to the first, second, and third men, together with certificates. Time certificates will also be awarded to unplaced competitors doing 3.30 for the distance.

Olympia's Extension of Time.
ARRANGEMENTS have been concluded with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders which enable Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins to continue the roller-skating season at Olympia until the end of February. The big night of the season occurs on Friday, Feb. 18, when a grand fancy-dress carnival will be held, with cash prizes amounting to £115.

Richardson Challenge Cup.
THE Richardson Challenge Cup will shortly be on view in the West-end of London. This cup is being presented by the Richardson Ball-Bearing Skate Company to the National Skating Association, and is for amateur figure-skating. The contest will take place in London, and the venue will be announced shortly.

Gandy Family for Holland Park.
A MOST attractive spectacle has been afforded Parisians by the Gandy family, who have been appearing every day in matinées and soirées at the Hippodrome. These delightful young girls are a veritable poem of grace and charm. As for little Alf (ten years), he is quite astounding. These clever youngsters have been engaged for the Crawford and Wilkins' Circuit, and open in London at the Holland Park Rink on March 7, for one week. Next week it is probable that Walter Stanton, and Dorothy Cullum will give a performance at this rink for the benefit of the Polytechnic Roller Skating Club, whose headquarters are at Holland Park.

Barnes at Holland Park.
MR. E. H. BARNES is now resident-manager of the Holland Park Rink, as well as supervising-manager of the provincial skateries of the C. and W. group.

"Willie" and "Albert" Join Forces.
MR. ALBERT GILMER has arranged with Willie Clarkson to supply his patrons at the Hove Rink, Brighton, with all manner of characteristic costumes for the Barnyard Carnival which will take place on the night of Feb. 17. The partnership of "Willie" and "Albert" should be productive of some fine effects.

The Colonel Back Again.
COLONEL WINSLOW, head of the great roller-skate manufacturing firm bearing his name, is back again in England, and will probably stay here until "the fall of the year," as his countrymen would put it.

Monohan at Finsbury Park.
ON Wednesday another skating rink was opened in North London, the Mayor of Stoke Newington performing the ceremony. Some 6,000 visitors attended. The new rink is in the Stroud Green-road, and adjoins Finsbury Park Station. Erected by the Premier Rinks, it is no less sumptuous than the others opened by the same concern. There are three sessions daily, and a specially reserved rink for learners. Monohan the Great was in fine form, and fully justified the selection of the management in having engaged him to star. Lieut. T. A. Quill, the late manager of the Clapton Rink, is in charge at Finsbury Park. Mr. A. G. Sandiland takes his place as manager of the Clapton Rink.

The One of Fifty.
ADOLF VOORZANGER, late conductor of the Niagara Hall Skating Rink orchestra, has been appointed bandmaster over the large military band which will be installed at the Maida Vale Skating Rink. He was selected from a crowd of fifty applicants.

New Hammersmith Rink Opened.
THE Hammersmith Skating Rink was opened last Saturday, and the the sister rink at Wood Green follows suit to-day, Mr. A. F. Wilson being the general manager. Both rinks are prepared with a view of providing visitors with all the latest improvements as regards floor and skates. The Hammersmith building, off King-street, looked extremely attractive last Saturday, and was thronged with both skaters and spectators. Being almost immediately opposite Ravenscourt Park station, and with cars passing the door, the place is easily accessible. If energy counts for anything in this world—and Mr. Wilson has plenty of it—the Hammersmith rink is already an assured success. Mr. Wilson hopes to get his music licence at an early date.

Maida Vale Rink.
WHEN the Maida Vale Roller Skating Palace opens it will be the largest permanent rink in the world—495ft. is the length of the building and 120ft. the breadth. The skating surface will be 375ft. by 106ft.—equal to 39,750 square feet. The building has cost £25,000 to erect and equip. A balcony lounge to seat 250, promenades providing seating room for another 1,500. A band of fifty performers has been engaged to play in the lounge, so that spectators or non-skaters will be well catered for. The floor is three and a quarter laps to the mile. Professionals will assuredly appreciate this latter for breaking some of the existing records. The rink will be under the management of Mr. H. F. Blackwell, whose experience in the rinking business is so well known. Richardson skates will be used exclusively, no less a number than 3,000 pairs having been ordered.

London Rink Hockey League.
Goys II. met Glendale in the Second Division of the London League at Cricklewood on Thursday night, and gave them a beating—4 goals to nil. Glendale played one man short, and during the first half they devoted their attention chiefly to "packing" their goal. Goys, however, would have scored several times had it not been for poor shooting. Just before the interval Darnton got through, and at half-time Goys led by 1 to nil. In the second half Glendale left their goal more open to attack, with the result that Darnton, Goodricke, and Parnall each scored a point.

Carnival at Leytonstone
THE second fancy dress carnival of the present season at this popular suburban skatery was held on Thursday, and was a huge success. The prizes, valued at £50, evoked keen competition owing to the many elaborate and novel costumes worn by the skaters. Mr. Lerry, the floor-manager, excelled himself in arranging the grand march of the competitors. The judges were Mr. J. Bert. Hancock (*World on Wheels*) and Mr. Herbert Ashton (*The Era*).

Rink Curling.
C. P. CRAWFORD is about to introduce "curling" on his Scottish rinks, having now acquired the rights of some patent "curlers" adapted for use on modern maple floors.

Items from Aberdeen.
AFTER the turmoil of the Election the rinks provide a pleasant "side," and this has been particularly evidenced in the magnificent American rink in Forbesfield-road, which has been liberally patronised by skaters and spectators of all ages. Under the able management of Mr. Basil Burrows, the rink is being conducted in a most business-like manner. The Arcade continues in the forefront of the rinking rendezvous, and the Aberdeen Rink, in the Trades Hall, continues to have an attraction all its own for many skaters and spectators. Like its rivals, the Bon-Accord Rink in Canal-road is putting forth the most strenuous and successful efforts to provide for the enjoyment of its many patrons. Every evening a treacle bun-eating race has been arranged for, and great fun is being provided to spectators and skaters alike. The Olympia continues to boom, and it would be difficult to imagine what Torry would have done during the last few months had it not been for the spacious "Palace." Every evening a series of games and competitions is taking place in the rink, and the handsome prizes offered are an incentive to skaters to enter.

Carnival in Belfast.
MR. J. M. M'CARTNEY continues to make things hum at the Exhibition Hall Skating Rink, of which he is the proprietor. Last Tuesday's carnival was a huge success, and the entire proceeds have been devoted to the City Coal Relief Fund. Special prizes were offered for the most original costumes, and the winners were—Miss Matthews, Mr. Evans, and Mr. W. H. Edgar. The latter was made up as a Chinaman, and attracted considerable attention. In the ladies' musical chairs competition, the prize was secured by Miss Parker. Two special prizes for waltzing were won by Master Charles Gray and Miss Marjory Rolston. The arrangements in connection with the carnival were carried out by Mr. H. Silvani, manager of the Rink.

Cœur de Lion on Wheels.
THERE were over 250 skaters at the carnival which took place at the Olympia Rink, Brighton, on Wednesday evening. It seemed as though a great history book with at least 500 coloured illustrations had been torn in pieces and scattered in the path of a hurricane as those brilliant people whizzed here, there, and everywhere. Yonder was Cœur de Lion in shining ring-mail, and here that lady whom history shall remember from her car-seducing legacy—the "Merry Widow." There were enough clowns to stock a couple of circuses—clowns in costume only, mind you, for all the revellers were expert skaters; there were Spanish girls, Moorish girls, gipsies, and scores of others, all happy and excited. When everybody was beginning to want a short rest Mr. Reed (the manager) brought in the "Little Olympians," the three little girls whom he is training. They are really clever

Limelight in Dublin.
AT the Gymkhana held on Tuesday last at the Rotunda Rink, Dublin, an enormous crowd attended, and the events decided were both humorous and exciting. On Tuesday, Feb. 1, the proprietor, Mr. F. W. Chambers, announces a grand advertisement and fancy costume carnival. There will be numerous prizes offered, amounting in the aggregate to £50. On carnival night there will be special lighting and limelight effects.

Little Wheels in Mineland.
THE New Olympia Rink, Durham, is now in a completed state, and is receiving excellent patronage. On Saturday evening last the entire stock of 750 skates were in use, and a musical chair competition, arranged by the manager, Mr. Vivian D'Alby, proved immensely popular, especially with the male patrons.

Glasgow Items.
BUSINESS at the Zoo Skating Rink continues brisk. The great gymkhana, which was arranged for Wednesday last, was, owing to the General Election, postponed until last evening. Patrons will be glad to learn that Mr. Arbuckle, the popular manager, who met with an accident through falling in Buccleuch-street, has sufficiently recovered to be out again at business. The Cambuslang Rink is in every way in keeping with its contemporaries. The floor and general work of the rink leave nothing to be desired, whilst at the Govan Rink the introduction of hockey on the rollers is proving to be a decided attraction. The Ibrox establishment is drawing its quota of admirers. The management from week to week provides special features in the way of hockey matches. Special inducements are offered by the proprietors of the Dennistoun Rink, in Hillfoot-street, Dennistoun, to followers of the pastime, and those desirous of learning skating, as free tuition is given during the forenoon and afternoon. The rink run in conjunction with the Great Eastern Hotel draws many admirers, and the conditions for enjoying the pastime are of the best. Excellent patronage continues to mark the season at the American Rink in Victoria-road, where ample provision is made for the enthusiast of skating.

Wedding Bells.
MR. W. B. FISHER, the manager of the Beverley-road skating rink, Hull, had a pleasant ceremony to perform last Friday evening, when Miss Nellie Phillips, the lady instructor, was the recipient of a handsome marble clock and a purse of gold, subscribed by the patrons and staff. Miss Phillips leaves for South Shields, where she is shortly to be married to Mr. T. Evans, of that town.

Jarrow's First Skating Rink.
GUS LEVAINE, proprietor of the Empire Theatre, Riddings, and of the *Babes in the Wood* and several other touring pantomimes, has, in conjunction with Alec Payne, the skating expert, secured a splendid site in the above town, and they are forming a company to construct an up-to-date rink. The leading lights of the skating world will appear from time to time.

Kirkcaldy Olympia.
THE Olympia Rink has been taken over by a company of local gentlemen, with Mr. James Hunter as resident-manager. Mr. Hunter was recently married, and the staff met and presented him with many beautiful gifts. Mrs. Hunter is a graceful and accomplished rinker.

Lancs. Amateur Championship.
THE contest for the one mile amateur championship of Lancashire is being organised, and the arrangements are left in the hands of the Manchester Palace Skating Club. It is practically decided to hold qualifying heats at Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Liverpool, Preston, Rochdale, Warrington, and the final at Manchester.

Round the Leeds Rinks.
THE American Rink at Headingley continues to receive its full measure of patronage. The new Palace Rink at Armley has rapidly made a place for itself, and at every session at the Hunslet Rink large crowds of enthusiastic rinkers throng the floor. At the Chapeltown Rink large crowds are still the rule.

An Expensive Demonstration.
OUR Liverpool correspondent reports that a rink now in course of construction for the Vandora Noiseless Skate Company is approaching completion, and will be opened during next month. This rink, we are told, has been erected for the purpose of demonstrating the importance and value of the Vandora Patent Wheel. Richardson skates have been selected, and in place of the ordinary steel wheels the Patent Vandora Noiseless wheel will be used.

The Manchester Programme.
THE severe weather that has prevailed in Manchester has had a generally injurious effect on the attendance at the various rinks. At the White City Rink last Saturday there was one of the best crowds of the season, and something like eleven hundred skaters were present. The Olympia Rink in the Rusholme district of Manchester is another large rink where comfort is assured by the large floor space, and where skaters from that side of the city visit in great numbers. Recently a Ladies' Hockey Club has been organised at the White City, and the young women are in daily practice getting ready for incursions on the preserves of the ladies of other rinks of the North. The Gentlemen's Hockey Club of the White City has recently met with considerable success in their encounters with other teams in the League, and their position has improved greatly in the table of averages. Tuesday night a mile race for the White City medal was won by Kid Maddox beating seven contestants. A big skating dance will be held on Shrove Tuesday night, Feb. 8, and then preparations will be made for a big carnival at Easter. May 7 the rink will be again opened at the sides.

"Come Wheel, come Woe."
THE handsome skating rink erected at Oswestry in the short space of ten weeks was opened on July 20 by the Mayor (Dr. De la Poer Beresford) in the presence of a large company, which included the Mayoress. The introduction of roller skating to Oswestry is due to the enterprise of Mr. A. H. Taylor, of Liverpool, who, after acquiring an excellent site in close proximity to the two railway stations, formed the Oswestry Skating Rink Co., Ltd., of which he is chairman and managing director. The rink is certain to prove a great centre of attraction to large crowds of people scattered over a very wide area. It affords ample accommodation for between five and six hundred skaters. The building is admirably heated, ventilated, and lighted, besides having a café and band stand. The interior was beautifully decorated for the opening on Thursday week, and the whole building presented a delightful appearance. The Mayor, in a happy speech, spoke of the pleasure it afforded him to have the privilege of opening such a magnificent building. Oswestry, he considered, was well to the fore with its gymnasium and swimming bath and now its skating rink, while shortly it would have its public park. Speaking as a medical man, his Worship enlarged on the benefits, bodily and mental, to be derived from roller skating. The Mayor humorously observed that FitzJames, had he fought his duel there, might have been tempted to exclaim, "Come 'wheel,' come woe, this floor shall fly from its firm bed, as soon as I." He hoped the building would last till the crack of doom, and that when the final burst came the rinkers might be able to exclaim with Macbeth: "Ring the alarum bell; blow wind, come rack; at least we'll glide with grace from off the track" The rink manager is Mr. W. Eyre, the assistant manager Mr. A. Pike, and the secretary Mr. R. E. Grainger.

Valosky at Salisbury.
MESSRS. MOULDER AND KINGSTON have secured the services for the week of Valosky, the trick and fancy skater. His best items include some fine toe work through a maze of bottles placed on the floor, and some very fine jumping over chairs.

Notes from Sheffield.
RINKING still ranks high in popularity among the amusements of Sheffield. The patrons of the Alexandra Rink, Hawley-street, witnessed a five-mile race last Wednesday, the contestants being members of the staff. Prizes for this event were given. The management of the Olympia Rink, Bramall-lane, have engaged the services of Miss Bertha Doud Mack for a week, dating from Jan. 31. Large numbers of people flock daily to the Empire Rink, Abbeydale-road, where an annexe for learners is in course of completion.

Bertha Doud Mack at Sheffield.
MISS BERTHA DOUD MACK desires to thank Mr. C. Byng-Hare, through *The Era*, for his great consideration to her during the recent trouble she experienced through the death of her mother. Miss Bertha has a six weeks' contract with that gentleman. Next week she will be appearing at Olympia, Sheffield.

Two Miles Race at Southampton.
THE return match of two miles between A. H. Bear (London) and T. G. Court (Southampton) took place at the Coliseum, Southampton, last Wednesday night before a good attendance. Excitement ran high from start to finish. Court got off the better, and the smallness of the rink troubled Bear, for the local man did most of the leading, and was better at the turns. On entering the last lap Court had a slight lead, but he went wide, and Bear won. Messrs. Whitlock and W. Bulpitt were umpires, and Mr. H. A. R. Norton referee.

St. Valentine's Carnival at Stourbridge.
ON Saturday last the children's carnival at Stourbridge was a great success. Miss Ward took first prize as Peter Pan. She was closely followed by Miss Warr, who took second prize as a little Dutch girl. Master Leeson as a highwayman was well first amongst the boys, while second prize went to Master Young, dressed as a courtier. The rink has now been closed for fourteen days whilst a new floor is laid down. The rink will reopen on Feb. 5, and on Feb. 17 the manager has decided to hold a huge Valentine Carnival.

Tonypandy Gets on Wheels.
ON Friday last the Express Roller Skating Co.'s pavilion was opened at Tonypandy. With the exception of the Cardiff rink this is the largest hall in South Wales. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Owen Jones, President of the Rhondda Chamber of Trade.

Ten Goals to Two.
BATH retains its hockey record as the finest team in the West. The latest victims are Trowbridge, who were defeated at the Empress Rink on Monday last by 10 goals to 2.

Truro to Rink.
TRURO, Cornwall, is one of the latest towns to embark into the rinking business. A commodious rink is now being erected, and will shortly be opened. Messrs. Plimpton and Company, Liverpool, have been entrusted with the order for both maple and skates (Richardson).

At Tunbridge Wells.
WEDNESDAY evening, Feb. 2, has been definitely fixed for the grand farmyard carnival, as a red-letter night for skaters and public alike, at the Palace Rink, Tunbridge Wells.

Little Doris going to Paris.
"LITTLE DORIS," the wonderful ten-year-old girl skater, who has been appearing at the Sheffield Empire Roller Rink, has jumped into prominence at the beginning of her tour with Professor Gentil. She has been secured for the opening of the new American Roller Rink in Paris on Monday next.

Not Real(ly).
A CURIOUS scene took place a few nights ago at one of the fashionable skating rinks in Paris. A pretty, elegantly-dressed woman had been seen leaning for some time across the velvet rail of the promenade watching the revolving couples, when suddenly she uttered a shriek and raised her hands to her throat. Her necklace, a handsome row of pearls, that everybody had admired during the evening, had suddenly disappeared. The string had snapped, and numerous fragments of the necklace were scattered in all directions. The pearls were picked up one by one, but nine were still missing. The lady and her friends went to the Police Commissary, who noted every detail of the occurrence. The following day a friend offered to insert paragraphs in the daily papers promising a tempting reward. At this point the lady blushed and nervously intimated that she did not desire the matter to proceed any further, as the majority of her pearls were—not real.

Jessie Darling in Germany.
JESSIE DARLING is touring Germany. This week she is at Frankfort. Next Monday the dainty little lady will be starred at the opening of the new St. Didier Rink, Paris. A week later London will get the chance to welcome her again.

Rinking in Bombay.
MR. SOUNDY has been wearing a wonderful smile this past month, owing, no doubt, to the wonderful way the rink has caught on. Night after night during the festive season the whole stock of skates have been out on the rink, and we are now seeing some excellent and really expert skating. With a view to still further popularising the rink the management has announced a grand fancy dress carnival at an early date, and, as Bombay folk are great at fancy dress affairs, a huge gathering is anticipated. If this one is as successful as those of yore on the old rink, then we can expect a very crowded attendance.

"THE MAID OF POLARIA."
A Romantic Musical Idyll, Produced at the Hippodrome, Norwich, on Monday, Jan. 24.
Duke of Dainsbury .....MR. WALTER HAST
Antonio (a Gondolier) ..MR. DAVID URQUHART
Princess of Polaria .....MISS PEGGY LENNIE
This pretty, musical playlet, rightly designated "an Idyll," was given by Lennie and Hast on Monday evening last as above. The scene opens on the Grand Canal of Polaria, adjoining the Palace gates. The Duke of Dainsbury (an Englishman) is in love with the Princess, who returns his affection. The Duke bribes Antonio (a gondolier) to obtain an introduction, and to assist his enterprise he determines to assume the garb of a gondolier and take Antonio's place. Whilst putting on his disguise the Princess enters and gives a graceful dance. At the conclusion she questions Antonio as to the identity of the Englishman, and he informs her of the Duke's infatuation and of the plot laid for her. She determines on a counter plot, and also assumes the garb of a gondolier, passing as Antonio's son. She retires to change, and the Duke entering, disguised, sings a charming ballad. The lovers meet and indulge in humorous badinage. The Duke, showing her the snapshot photo of herself he has taken, asks her opinion of the subject. She disparages it. Finally he persuades her to join him in smoking a cigar, the result being that she collapses. The Duke accuses her of deceiving him and insists upon a duel. Foils are produced, but ere they are crossed Antonio enters and charges the Duke with attempting to cross weapons with a Royal personage, announcing her identity as the Princess of Polaria. The Duke declares his title, and as the Princess disappears into the palace he begs her to meet him again. She tells him they dine at the palace at eight. The Duke finishes the scene with a repetition of the refrain of his song.

Mr. Walter Hast gave great pleasure in the song, and was humorous in the dialogue. Miss Peggy Lennie, a charming Princess, gained favour on all sides, and Mr. David Urquhart made the most of the part of Antonio the gondolier. The scenery is remarkably pretty.

THERE will be two grand concerts on Good Friday (March 25) at the Crystal Palace, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock having arranged attractive programmes. Among the artists announced for the afternoon are Sir Charles Santley, Mme. Clara Butt, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Miss Agnes Nicholls, Miss Maria Yelland, and Mr. Charles Saunders, and the London Symphony Orchestra will assist. Nowhere in the kingdom is there a place so famous for its musical treats as the Crystal Palace, and the Good Friday programme will surpass all others. The evening concert programme includes Miss Phyllis Lett and Mr. Herbert Heyner and the Coldstream Guards (conductor, Lieut. Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan). The organist at both concerts will be Mr. F. Holloway, and Mr. A. Fox will be at the piano.

The International Cage Bird Exhibition, which is held annually at the Crystal Palace by the London and Provincial Ornithological Society, opens on Friday next, and will remain open until Tuesday, the 8th. The entries this year number nearly 3,000 birds, and exhibits have been received from Germany and all parts of the United Kingdom.

THE Classical Concert Society have arranged to commemorate the birth of Robert Schumann by a series of three concerts, which will take place during April at the Bechstein Hall. It is intended that the programmes shall be representative of Schumann's pianoforte, vocal, and chamber music.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES
BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.
"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."
Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.
FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS.
Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.
Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.
LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.

Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to
M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.
Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.
Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE GREAT MONOHAN

RINK and MUSIC HALL
Week, 24th, Premier Rink, Finsbury Park.
Jan. 31, Feb 1, 2. Return. Sutton Rink.
Feb. 3, 4, 5, Return, Grimsby Rinkeries.

BERTHA DOUD MACK
AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.
Thanks to All Managers.
THIS WEEK: WALPOLE HALL, EALING.
NEXT WEEK, OLYMPIA, SHEFFIELD.
Address, Care of "THE ERA."

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.
They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.
STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 85 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.
Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.
Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. D. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

"THE ADDER'S TOOTH."

Dramatic Sketch, in Two Scenes, Adapted by Louis Taylor, from a Story in *The Red Magazine*, by T. W. Henshaw, Produced at the Bedford, on Monday, Jan. 24.

James Bannister .....MR. HODGSON TAYLOR
Teddy Maddox .....MR. FRED D. BROMWICH
Kate Bannister .....MISS KATHERINE CAREW
Mary Maddox .....MISS AILSA MAYNARD

Here we have a thrilling and deeply interesting drama in miniature, distinguished by dialogue that is often poetic in conception, and that possesses a literary flavour. James Bannister is interrupted in his editorial duties by the entrance of Teddy Maddox, at one time a journalist. The men have been chums, as we learn from the familiar "Jim" of the intruder, who is a sorry wreck. But their friendship must have evaporated when Maddox not only robbed Bannister of the love of his fiancée, but threw over his sister Kate to marry her. From the look of Maddox one would say that his career had been cursed by the demon of drink. Dipsomania seems to hold him as it were in a vice. Pride, self-respect, every quality of a once vigorous manhood has been sapped. He pleads pitifully to his former friend, but Bannister has tired of his continual applications for help for a starving wife and child, and inspired, perhaps, by a sense of the wrong that has been done him by the wretch now appealing to him, he does not mince his words. After a stormy interview Bannister departs; and his sister Kate enters to recognise the man to whom she was once engaged.

With infinite pity she talks to him—not so much of his past as of his possible future. She had put him on a pedestal in those happier days. Can he not rise from the darkness to the light of better things? No, there is no hope in the outlook of Maddox, but his heart is touched. On his return to the room Bannister announces that he has sent on help in the shape of money to Mary—Mrs. Maddox—knowing that at least it would not be spent in drink. Thereupon Maddox breaks into a paroxysm of fury. He hurls imprecations and threats at Bannister and, smashing the glass panel of the door of the room, makes his escape. Fearful of the consequences of this sudden madness, Bannister and his sister, in a taxi, follow Maddox to his home in the slums of the Borough. For the purpose of showing the exciting pursuit, the bioscope is employed, and the interest of the story is thereby admirably sustained. When Maddox at length faces his judges, the curtain rises on a wretched garret.

We now learn the truth. The man who has been hitherto regarded as a hopeless drunkard is really a martyr. He has been dragged down by his wife, who has become a morphia maniac. He describes the hopeless tragedy of his life. For eight years has he borne the shame and degradation brought upon him by her who had promised to honour him. She lies on the floor, an inanimate creature, stupefied by the drug, which she has been able to purchase with the money that Bannister has mistakenly sent to her. The poison has done its work all too fatally, and at the curtain fall one may hope that Maddox will climb to higher things, helped and encouraged by Kate, whose gentle forbearance will be his sheet anchor.

Mr. Fred D. Bromwich has a strong part in that of Teddy Maddox, and he is both impressive and powerful. As he depicts the terrible fate of a man shackled to a morphia maniac his acting certainly touches all hearts. Mr. Hodgson Taylor is earnest and dignified as James Bannister; and the true, womanly touch is given to the character of Kate Bannister by Miss Katherine Carew. There should be a most successful career for this remarkably interesting and powerful piece of dramatic work.

AGENTS' COMMISSION.

In the Court of Appeal on Tuesday Messrs. Ashton and Mitchell, concert and music-hall agents, appealed against a judgment of Mr. Justice Phillimore in favour of the defendant, Mr. Van Biene, the well-known 'cellist and actor. The action was to recover commission on an engagement, and the defence was that the engagement in question had been obtained by Mr. Van Biene direct.

Mr. Duke, K.C. (with him Mr. S. O. Henn-Collins), said that in 1907 the plaintiffs obtained for the defendant an engagement at £50 a week to go on what was known as the Stoll tour. That engagement, which was made with Moss' Empires (Limited), was for the season of 1908. The contract note which Mr. Van Biene signed stated that 10 per cent. commission on salary received by him was to be paid the plaintiffs, "and the like commission on the salary on the next engagement at the said establishment, or any other establishment under the control of Moss' Empires (Limited)." Mr. Van Biene fulfilled the engagement for 1908, but when the plaintiffs claimed commission amounting to £152, including that on the salary he received from the 1909 tour, he declined to pay, alleging that he had obtained the second season's engagement direct, and that the claim could not be sustained under the contract note. He paid a small sum into court with a denial of any further liability. Mr. Justice Phillimore decided that the plaintiffs were not entitled to the full amount claimed, but gave judgment for them for £17 odd over the amount in court.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: You say that is not enough, and that under the contract note this second engagement was liable to commission?

Mr. Duke: Yes. I think the sum is £103 odd that we claim as balance.

Mr. Holman Gregory, for the defendant submitted that the learned judge had properly construed the agreement, and that the appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, in giving judgment, said that he could not agree with the construction placed on the contract note by the learned judge in the court below. In his opinion the plaintiffs were entitled to commission also on the 1909 engagement. The appeal would be allowed, and judgment with costs would be entered for the plaintiffs for the balance—£103 9s. 10d.—or whatever the sum was which they claimed.

The other lords justices concurred. Judgment accordingly.

LINN AND DARIUS have been presenting with gratifying success at the Hippodrome, Camden Town, this week, an original musical and vocal scena, which goes next week to the Holborn Empire.

AT the Hippodrome and Picture Palace, Ellesmere Port, the Tymes present a very laughable sketch this week, entitled *The Enchanted Clock*; Vera Snowdon creates a good impression as a comedienne and dancer; as an impersonator and mimic Delaware is responsible for an enjoyable performance; Jessie Jess, low comedy artist, is amusing; Harvey and Worth are genuinely funny, and provoke abundant laughter with their patter. Excellent up-to-date films are thrown upon the screen.

WILLIAM HEDGES, Streatham Park, conductor L.C.C. trams, was knocked down and killed by a taxicab when crossing the road at Christchurch-road, Streatham-hill, on his way home on Wednesday morning, Jan. 19. The deceased was well known by all who are frequent travellers on this route, and the poor fellow leaves a wife and four children (ages five to ten years). Management, artists, and staff of the Empress, Brixton, are doing what they can for the widow, and the smallest mite would be acceptable. Contributions may be sent to Mr. W. J. Grimes, the Empress, Brixton.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 14, 21, May 2.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2, 16, 23,
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING
March 7, 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 21, April 11, 18, May 2, Aug. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 28, March 21, April 11, 18, 25, May 16, 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 14, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER
March 28, April 4, May 9, 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton; Feb. 28, March 14, 21, Wolverhampton, Feb. 14, 28, March 7; Huddersfield, Feb. 21, 28; Reading, Feb. 28, March 7; Northampton, March 7, 14, 21.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 17 (3), 28, &c., Easter.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, March 7, 14.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 21 (3 nights), 28, May 16.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:
March 14, 21, and April 4, Newcastle-on-Tyne;
April 18, May 2, 9, 16, Glasgow;
April 4, 11, and 18, Edinburgh;
March 21, April 11 and 18, London.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 14 (?) and 21.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 11, 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 4, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
March 14, April 11, and May 9, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21 and 28.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 and April 25.
Now Booking Autumn Dates,
Sept. 19, onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
March 28, April 4, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 24 and 26 (two nights, one matinée), March 28 (Easter), and various dates onwards; also one or two Season Dates. Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, CARDIFF.
Feb. 21,
March 7, 21, 28,
April 18, 25,
May 9.
Just completing a most successful six weeks' run of "MOTHER GOOSE."
"House full" boards out four nights a week.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
April 25, onwards.

NEW HALL, BARGOED.
March 21, onwards.

GRAND THEATRE, ABERAMAN,
Feb. 14, March 21, onwards.
Apply A. J. WITHERS, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER, Feb. 28,
THEATRE ROYAL, BRADFORD, March 7,
GRAND THEATRE, LEEDS, March 14.
Wire, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for Feb. 28, onwards, good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London. Telegrams, "Twopence, London."

PRINCE'S THEATRE ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Feb. 28.
JOS. B. ORMEROD.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 2, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCRSTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, 16, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Moullot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Feb. 21, 28, March 7, on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, from March to Dec., 1910, 8 Leading Attractions, 8.
Dramatic or Musical Comedy.
It will pay Good Companies to play this town.
They can be Billed.
Have Plans out and Seats Booked,
and preliminary Notices in Newspapers
two or three weeks before opening.
The intervening weeks being given to Variety, which in no way interferes with the Legitimate, the Public not being surfeited, are naturally anxious and hungry for good strong drawing attractions; these being so few, are sure of doing good business.
Already booked:
"THE DAIRYMAIDS," Sept. 5.
"THE MERRY WIDOW," Oct. 3.
Managers may refer to above as to how they were treated and the holding capacity.
All coms. to THOS. HOLMES, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
BEXHILL-ON-SEA KURSAAL THEATRE
(four miles from Hastings),
unexpectedly vacant Feb. 4, Feb. 14, 21 (either 3 nights), during grand season, Drury Lane Orchestra; Summer Season Easter to Sept.
Already booked: "The Merry Widow," "The Arcadians," The Follies, "The Dairymaids."
Vacant April 4, 11, and onwards.
Address, J. M. GLOVER, Drury Lane Theatre.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
WANTED, Companies, March 7 and 28.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 (Passion week, six nights) (?), April 18, May 9, 16 (Whit), May 23, 30.
Address, R. G. ELDER, General-Manager.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical Pieces preferred), for March 7 (reopening week), 14, 21, April 11, 18, Oct. 17, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, good Pantomime, six or twelve nights, also big Attraction for Easter, Whit week, and intermediate dates, onward.
Address,
CHARLES M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, Companies, T. R., Margate; Vic. Pav., Ramsgate, for Sole Season's Bookings. Apply, WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CATLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER.
WANTED First-class Attractions,
Vacant March 3, 17, 31, on (last 3 nights of each week). Apply, MANAGER.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 11, Whit, May 23 30, June 13, 27, on, with exceptions. Also strong Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, on. Coms., ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, for Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction,
Various Dates,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, March 14, April 4 and 11 and 25, also Autumn dates. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
Seats 1,200.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions and Comedy. Easter, July 21, 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 (inclusive), Sept. 8 and 15 to 26, inclusive. Address, MANAGER.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
Feb. 14 (three), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on. W. E. POTTS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 21 (?), March 7 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 4 (?), 25 (?), May 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21, April 4 (?), 18, May 9, 16 (?), 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24 (?), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District. Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; &c., &c.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions,
Feb. 14, 28.
March 14 and Easter.
Only Vacant Dates till Autumn.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

WANTED, First-class Companies only,
GRAND THEATRE,
BLACKPOOL.
Re-opening Monday, March 21.
Dates Vacant,
May 30, onwards.
Exceptional scope for London Successes.
All coms. to
GEORGE H. HARROP, as above;
or London Representative,
E. LOCKWOOD,
5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

THEATRE ROYAL, EDMONTON, LONDON, N.
Under Entirely New Management.
Lessees (from May 9, '10),
THE VAN BIENE THEATRES Co.
General-Manager, Resident, EDWARD VAN BIENE
WANTED, May 14 (7 nights), First-class Opening Attraction; must be really first-class; also really good Stock Co. for Summer, and best Visiting Co's. for Summer and Autumn Dates. Note.—This Theatre, which is situate in the heart of a busy working-class district, will be worked on the most up-to-date business lines, therefore only responsible managements will be treated with. Address, E. VAN BIENE, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, and NOT to the Theatre till May 9. Applicants kindly state when last in Edmonton. An excellent break North to South, and being London, an ideal "production" date.

THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
WANTED, Good Company, non-musical, Feb. 7 (last three nights), Musical Company, March 14 (last three).

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Easter Week open for Pantomime, twice nightly.
Now Booking Autumn, 1910.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant July 25, Aug. 1 and 11, 12, 13.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Panto., Feb. 28.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for March 7, 14, 21, 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 7, 14, 21, 28, onwards.
Wire, HORNER, Victoria, Burnley.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, big Pantomime for March 7; also sound attraction for Whit. The only theatre in Kettering. Apply ALF BAILEY & Co., Managers.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, for the Watford Theatre, Feb. 14.
First-class Attraction,
Not Heavy Drama,
Light Play
or Musical Comedy.
Open to arrange for
Flying Matinées.
Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER,
New Theatre, Watford.

WANTED, Something Real for Feb. 28, March 7, 21, and Spring, Grand, Radcliffe. Also Feb. 28, March 14, 21, 28, and Spring, Grand, Chorley. Good Panto. wanted. Best season ever known both houses. SANTE, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH, LANCS.
Now in full tide of success.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy, March 28, April 25. Bookings include "Midnight Wedding," Little and Darcy's "Sinbad," "The Prince and Beggar Maid," "Christian," Florence Baines, &c. W. HEATH.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Vacant March 21 (five nights),
Vacant March 21 (five nights),
April 18, 25, May 2.
April 18, 25, May 2.
Address, FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
Sole Proprietor, RICHARD THORNTON.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic Attractions, for June and July.
Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Good Dates, Feb. 14, Hastings and Eastbourne (3 each); Feb. 28, Eastbourne or Hastings.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
March 7, 21, Easter, April, on,
with exceptions.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives,
JAY and MANN, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 10, 11, and 12, 24, 25, and 26, March 17, 18, and 19, onwards, with exceptions. Apply S. GOODMAN, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brothers Etharlen, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan. Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, March 28, May 2, 9.
COATBRIDGE, March 21, April 11, 25.
AYR, March 14, 28 (3 nights), April 18.
FALKIRK, March 2 (4 nights), 31 (3 nights).
LEITH, March 21, April 18, 25.
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), 28, and on.
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, and on.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
5, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5590 Gerrard.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Recently reconstructed from designs by Frank Matcham, Esq., at a cost of £10,000.
MR. CHAS. EVANS
will reopen this magnificent Theatre under popular and experienced management on Monday, Jan. 31.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, &c., July, Aug., and Sept., also Easter; Good Dramas, April, May, October, and November.
Holding capacity, £120.
The only Theatre proper in Ramsgate.
Re dates, address HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident-Manager for Chas. Evans, as above.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
The Most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 April 18, 25,
May 9 and 16.
A few Autumn Dates also Vacant.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, Musical Comedies or First-class Attractions, March 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Must be very Big Productions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, Richard Thornton.
The Latest and Most Gorgeous Up-to-date Theatre out of London. Accommodation for 3,000 people. Can Stage the Largest Productions Travelling.
WANTED, for Special Weeks, at intervals, First-class Musical Comedies and No. 1 Dramatic Attractions; also good Pantomime productions can be entertained. Apply, with full particulars, to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Feb. 28,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, Feb. 21 (?),
April 25,
May 2, 9, 16.
JAMES BELL.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION,
RAMSGATE.
Lessee, THOMAS RICHARD PRICE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for few remaining Season Dates.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 28,
Also April 4, 11, May 9, and 16.
Recognised London Successes or First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, First-class Drama, three nights, Feb. 10 or 28; also a few Vacant Dates for Musical Comedy.
W. YATES GREGORY,
Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPO., HOYLAND, YORKS.
One of the Largest and Best Appointed Theatres. (7½ miles from Barnsley, 11 from Sheffield).
WANTED, Big Pantomimes, Feb. 7. First in Musical Comedy or Drama, Feb. 14 and March 14. Big Star Variety Co's. other dates. Only the Best Entertained. All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippo., Hoyland.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Keswick (English Lakes), Musical Attractions, Comedy or good class Shows, July, Aug., Sept., on. MCKANE, Keswick.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14,
in the following districts:
Manchester, Wales, and South.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, March 21, and various Autumn.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, March 7, April 4, 11.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 21 (near London).
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, Feb. 7, March 21, 28.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
weeks of May 2 and 9,
weeks of May 2 and 9,
weeks of May 2 and 9.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, and on, Xmas season at Coronet a great success. Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," March 21, May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, Sept. 5. HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand, Rawtenstall.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
May 2, 9, June 6, 13, Aug. 1.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION,"
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
May 9, June 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Vacant
March 21, April 11, 18, May 2, 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
Redressed and remounted.
Costumes by Messrs. Harrison.
Scenery and properties by Willie Leigh.
WANTED, March 10 (3 nights), South, March 14, 21, 28. April 4, 18.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock," and Prologue depicting the murder of Hallijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Jan. 31, Lyceum, Newport.
WANTED, March 7 (3 nights), 14, 28, and on. Write or wire.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, and 28, June 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 15, Oct. 24.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire, ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, New T., Aberdare; Monday, New Theatre, Ferndale.

Mr. JOHN A. THOMSON'S
Brilliant Pantomime,
"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY."
Record Success.
Now Playing to Crowded Houses.
Full Company of Fifty Artists.
Full Chorus and Ballet.
Full-size Theatre Production.
Only Vacant Dates
for this
Record Success.
WANTED Feb. 21 and 28.
Address,
Metropole, Abertillery.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A PAIR OF SPECTACLES," or Répertoire, Feb. 7, 14, 21, and onwards, with exceptions. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, April 18, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, 28, April 11.
FRANK M. THORNE, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Feb. 21 and 28 (between Scarboro' and Bath), March 28, and April 4 (between Bradford and Swansea), April 25, May 2, 9, and Whit.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON, Pavilion T., Abertillery.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Feb. 21, March 7 and 28. E. BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court, W. 'Phone, 4194 Gerrard.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Feb. 28 (South), April 14 (3 days, Mid.), May 2 (?), 16. Apply, J. E. WATSON, 169, S. Lambeth-road, S.W.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Theatres, May 9, May 9, May 9, Refer Mr. Fredericks replay and company. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, T. R., Stratford, E.; next, Marina, Lowestoft.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S No. 1 CO., including NORMAN A. OVERTON, in the New Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Theatres, March 28 and April 4. Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Easter, onwards, for Miss Fox and Leonard's Co., in the powerful Money Magnet, "Greed of Gold," by arrangement with Mr. T. M. Powell. FOX and LEONARDS, P.O., Loftus, Yorks.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. April 11, May 2, 9.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

Messrs. E. FAULKNER & M. DE COURTSEY'S CO.
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, May 16, June 6, 13, on. Everything carried.
Big Plant of Splendid Printing.
Exceptionally Strong Cast.
Address, WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

CECIL H. WOODHOUSE'S COMPANY, in
"OH! SUSANNAH!"
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14 (South or Midlands), 21 (?), 28, March 7 14, April 4, onwards with exceptions. Address, CECIL H. WOODHOUSE, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MR. H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 21, only Vacant Date this Spring.
Palace T., Watford.

WANTED, for Two Solid Successes,
"EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28 (North), various Summer and Autumn.
"THE SINNER,"
March 7 (Yorks. or Lancs. preferred), May 16, various Autumn.
Letters, WILSON BENGE, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S No. 1 PRINCIPAL COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Feb. 14, April 4, 11, 25 (South). Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

MR. LEONARD BOYNE'S COMPANY.
MR. LEONARD BOYNE'S COMPANY.
"RAFFLES."
"RAFFLES."
WANTED, Feb. 28, March 28 (Easter), First-class Theatres only entertained.
Wire to-day, Mr. A. BINGHAM, 8, Walden-house, Marylebone; or write, The Hippodrome, Colchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
The Record Success.
Absolutely the Funniest Pantomime Touring.
Extending Tour owing to Enormous Success.
WANTED, March 21.
"ALADDIN."
Another Enormous Success.
Vacant through Extension of Tour, Feb. 7.
Wire for Feb. 7.
Also Feb. 14, 21, 28, onwards.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, "Care of Pagoda, Liverpool"

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
Plays.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Drama, Feb. 21, 28.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring.
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING"
Wanted, Good Theatre for Easter.
Re dates, address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, "Care of Pagoda, Liverpool."

MISS MARY NEIL,
in her Latest Successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS"
and
"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, for either Play, Feb. 28, March 7 and 14 (through transferring), March 21, 28, April 11, 18, and 25.
Coms. to GEORGE KIRK, T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14, Easter.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21. Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter
FRED BULMER, Empire T., Southend-on-Sea.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Special cast, including Miss Laura Walker.
WANTED, Feb. 14, May 2, Aug. 1.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"
Wanted, Feb. 21, 28, Feb. 21, 28.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, Feb. 21, 28, March 21, 28.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7, between Newcastle and Liverpool. Wire, KIMBERLEY, this and next, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

MR. T. N. WALTER'S CO.
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
WANTED, Feb. 21 (to precede Burnley).
Feb. 21 (to precede Burnley).
Feb. 21 (to precede Burnley).
"THE FLOWER GIRL."
Letters or wires to
T. N. WALTER,
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Feb. 21 and 28 and
March 28 and April 4.
In spite of General Election, another Big Week at Hippodrome, Wigan. Refer H. J. Worswick, Esq. For business and general excellence of production refer J. W. Boughton, Esq., T. R., Portsmouth; Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star T., Liverpool (Xmas); Wentworth Croke, Esq., re Lyric, Hammersmith; T. W. Rowe, Esq., Palace T., Newcastle; H. Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland; R. Flanagan, Esq., Queen's T., Manchester; Charles Revill, Esq., T. R., Stockport; or any theatre visited. Specially strong Company, including Miss Nellie Clyde, who will be remembered for her charming performance of Suzanne de Tournai in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," with Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry.
Wire or write, CHARLES GIBSON, To-day, T. R., Leicester: next, Pav., Abertillery.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, May 16, 23.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS,"
Vacant March 7 (?), May 2 (?).
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN,"
Spring Tour Complete. Now Booking Autumn.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND,"
Vacant May 9, June 13.
Open to arrange for Stock Season.
Wire or write,
This, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop;
Next, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, Feb. 21, Mar. 14, and April 4, for this Great Money Maker.
DICKIE CLARE, King's, Gainsborough.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal and Gorgeous Pantomimes.
Vacant Dates,
"FORTY THIEVES,"
Feb. 21.
"CINDERELLA,"
Feb. 14, 21.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Feb. 21.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Dates, "Napoleon the Great," by F. M. Thorne. Kate Walfred as Marie. Good Dramatic Theatres, March 14, 21, 28. Address, HERBERT VERE, Metropole Birmingham.

MR. JOHN A. THOMSON'S
SUCCESSFUL PANTOMIME,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
One Verdict:—The best!
Full Chorus and Ballet. Splendid Company of Fifty Artists.
Everything carried.
WANTED, Feb. 7, unexpectedly, through transferring, to follow South Wales.
Wire,
This week, Theatre, Waterford;
Next, Metropole, Abertillery.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 7, 14, 21, and dates on, for this lovely Production; now playing twice nightly at Grand T., Stockton, to crowded houses; everybody delighted. Walter Battey, Esq., says: It's a splendid show, and the best panto. seen in Stockton this season. Magnificent Scenery, Gorgeous Dresses, Pretty Faces, Dainty Dancers, Funny Comedians, Big Specialities. Thanks Proprietors for offers; I must have terms as I travel a big crowd. Address after Saturday night, BARRATT, Princess's Theatre, Horwich, Lancs.

WANTED, Feb. 14 for First-class Production of "Bo-Peep, Feb. 21 for "Cinderella." 45 in company. E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, Silverstone and Wright's Company, "The Nihilist; or, a Prince's Secret Wedding" (3 nights, Feb. 3), Feb. 7, 14, 21, Whit, on. A Standard Attraction. A Record twice nightly Show.
SILVERSTONE, T. R., Lincoln.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the world.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, Feb. 7 and 14 and various later. Splendid show. Unequalled printing. Wire for Feb. 7; distance no object. All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, March 7, for
CULLEN AND CARTHY'S
Enormously Successful Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
One of the Biggest Drawing Attractions Travelling.
In consequence of the enormous success at Paisley, Hamilton, Greenock, and Queen's, Dublin, and this week at Queen's, Leeds, where our record of last visit has been left behind, we have decided to accept the above dates at First-class Hippodromes, Theatres, &c.
Please refer Mr. Bostock, Glasgow; Mr. Skivington, Greenock; Mr. Watson, Queen's, Dublin; Mr. Whiteman, Queen's, Leeds; and Mr. Arnold, Lyric, Liverpool.
All communications, J. CULLEN, Hippodrome, Accrington.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Fairy Play.
WANTED, May 23 and 30, Latter Date Lancs or Yorks.
King's, Seacombe, Jan. 31 (six nights).

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Manchester, Three Responsible Actors, for Jewish Parts, Talmudist Scholars preferred; also Three Responsible Gentlemen, for other parts. No interviews. Mark letters "Miracle." V. C. NEWMAN, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Manchester, Smart, Tall Young Lady, for Chambermaid, no lines. Send portrait, addressed, "Chambermaid." V. C. NEWMAN, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

THE ALLAN WILKIE SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR.
WANTED, Young Shakespearean Actress, for Character Parts, rehearse at once. Add., ALBERT CAVANAH, Jan. 31, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

Messrs. E. FAULKNER & M. DE COURTSEY'S CO.
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
WANTED, Recognised Leading Lady, Rehearse Birmingham, Feb. 14, Long Tour. First-class Baggage Carpenter (with own tools), able to speak a few lines, and other vacancies. Lowest terms, references, and particulars, WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, Gentlemen for Count D'Orelli and Guiseppe, also Juvenile Lady and Gentleman, must be tall and refined. Terms, references, and photographs, HAMILTON STEWART, Palace T., Watford.

WANTED, First-class Declamatory Actor, for Portuguese Part, modern methods, intensely Dramatic.
V. C. NEWMAN, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, a capable Actor, to Play and Understudy Geo. Gray's parts in "Road to Ruin," "Fighting Parson," &c.; must bear personal resemblance to Mr. Gray. Letters, giving full particulars, refs., and photos., &c., to Mr. GRAY, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Clever Versatile Young Lady, good appearance, height about 5ft., age 18 to 22; must have good strong voice, dance well, capable of Comedy; long engagement if suitable; advertiser well known. Box 7,195, "The Era."

WANTED, a very Smart Young Lady; must be a good Speciality Dancer, Acrobatic preferred; must have stage experience. Apply personally, Saturday or Monday, between 2 and 4, EDMUNDS, 9 Cheriton-square, Balham, S.W.

Excellent Opportunity.
WANTED, a Dramatic Dancer, of great ability.
Height over 5ft. 5in.
Box 7,190, "The Era."

WANTED, Handsome Show Ladies for West-End Music Hall Production, slight knowledge of Dancing and Good Figure Essential. Apply (by letter only), with photo and measurements, to SCENA, c/o Beecham and Wheeler, 12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C. No callers seen.

WANTED, Concert Artists, all Kinds, immediately, for Series of Concerts in London and Suburbs. February Programmes not complete. Write first particulars, SECRETARY, British Concert Artists' Association, 459 High-rd., Wood Green, N.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dates for
THE VAMPIRE DANCE.
Miss Alice Lyal and Mr. Eric Bert specially engaged for special weeks with "ARE YOU A MASON?" Co., vacant March 7, 21, April 18, on. All communications, DE FRECE, 12, Cecil-court, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Engagements, by Refined Young Lady, Sacred, Sentimental, and Light Comedy Vocalist. Ballad Concerts, Banquets, Concert Party, &c. Dis. Feb. 15. Box 7,206, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Fellow (18), Beginner, wishes to join Sketch on Music Halls. Write, c/o H., 50 Brent-rd., Canning Town, E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Spring Tour, Artists in all Lines, also Dancers and Clever Troupe of Children. Absolute lowest terms, and where can be seen playing next two weeks, to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Spring Tour of Pantomime, smart Burlesque Actress for Principal Boy. Bright Soubrette for Principal Girl; both sing and dance; Eccentric Comedy Actress for Ugly Sister part (sing and dance preferred); also good Comedians. Absolute lowest terms, and, if playing, where can be seen, to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

SOMERS and SAUNDERS' PANTOS., 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
and
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for next season. Applications must fully state age, height, enclose photo (which will be returned), and where can be seen working next three weeks, to WALTER BELLIAN, General-Manager for Somers and Saunders. Next week, T. R., Bilston.

Wanted, Pantomime Artists, Season 1910-1911.
WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, for next season. State where can be seen playing next three weeks.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Principal Artists, for Pantomime, next year, Principal Boys, Girls, Comedians, &c. Please state where can now be seen working.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 15, Clifford's Inn, E.C.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Useful Man, able to Paint and Touch-up Scenery. PAINTER, V. C. NEWMAN, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, &c. Large Studio and Workshop. Contractor to the Broadhead Circuit. T. C. DALY, 31, Hinckley-street, Bradford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Scenic Artist, First-class, in London or Provinces, reliable and steady. Low terms for permanency. Address, ARTIST, 29, Tadema-road, Chelsea.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Smart Man as Resident Acting-Manager, for Variety Theatre (Midlands); must have had experience, be gentlemanly in appearance and manners, a man of strong character, tactful and resourceful; only those able to refer to a good past record need apply by letter, which will be treated in confidence, stating age, full details of experience, salary required, references, &c. Address,
MANAGER, Box 7,212, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Resident-Manager; must thoroughly understand the Management of Refreshment Bars, Taking Stock, Advertising; good disciplinarian. Will applicants please take silence as polite negative? Terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, by the Merthyr Tydfil Billposting Company, an experienced Secretary and Manager. Apply, with full particulars, to the SECRETARY, not later than Feb. 3.

WANTED, Young Lady or Gentleman Shorthand Typist, with thorough knowledge of Book-keeping. Apply, stating previous experience, age, salary required, and enclosing copies of references, to JOHN H. STEVENSON, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Smart Agents; remunerative employment. Salary and commission. Write, stating age and present occupation, Box 7,193, "The Era."

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, First-class Electrician; must understand three-wire system, Excello flame arcs, able to do repairs, and have had experience in twice-nightly music-hall work; sobriety essential. Refs., full particulars, and salary to WILL A. JACKSON, Manager, Palace, Cardiff.

WANTED, a First-class Electrician, for Big Music-Hall Show, to travel; must be handy with other tools. Also a Good Property Man. Apply to Box 7,208, "The Era."

WANTED, Man to run Engine, Suction plant, one who understands electricity preferred. Apply, SAM DUCKWORTH, Theatre R., Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, First-class Property Maker, for the Chester Historical Pageant, one capable of instructing amateur classes preferred. Apply, stating age, experience, salary required, and three recent references, to BARING BROS., Managers, Pageant House, Chester.

WANTED, for "Temptation" Tour, Smart Baggage Man, Tall, Speak few Lines. Address, MARTIN COMSTOCK, Carlton T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Baggage-man, must be able to play Cornet. Letters only.
TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Resident, Touring, or Stage Manager, Advance Agent, Hall Keeper, Caretaker, or any position of trust; can lecture, sing, and work effects to pictures, twenty years' experience in all branches of show business; tall, good appearance, temperate, energetic, and reliable, excellent refs. FRANK AYLMER, 12, Bridport-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager, by H. Cormack, late Manager for F. C. Bostock, Esq., Jungle and Arena, Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth, Rinking Ltd., &c., &c.; undeniable references; security. 24, Hackney-grove, London.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, Position as Assistant-Manager or Manager, Music Hall or Theatre, six years' experience in largest American Theatres, good organiser and advertiser; can invest to £1,500, Provincial house preferred. Box 7,184, "The Era."

WANTED, by London Manager, Provincial or Touring Engagement, Variety or Theatrical.
Apply, M. M., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, by A. Vallance, Engagement as Manager or Assistant-Manager, Variety or Pictures; highest refs and fidelity guarantees. 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, re-engagement Manager. Owing to sale of Theatre. Advertiser, 36, thoroughly experienced, Theatre, Variety, or Pictures. Highest Testimonials. J. A. WHITEHOUSE, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Known, Electrician seeks Permanent Engagement, competent mechanic, all-round experience. ELECTRIC, Box 7,194, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Carpenter, or Property Master, can make and model, also capable of Scenic Work, twenty years' experience Theatres and Halls; best references; life abstainer; resident preferred, or Tour with First-class Company, capable of refined turn or parts. Box 7,200, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by C. Withers, Stage-Carpenter, Practical All-round Bench Hand. Address, 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Conductor, for Tenting, Ireland; also Bass, Euphonium, Trombone, Clarionet, Cornet, and Drummer; double instruments preferred. References, &c., 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, for Picture Hall, with up-to-date library. State full particulars, lowest salary, letters only, JURY'S, LTD., 142, Long-acre, London.

WANTED, Singing Orchestral Conductor. Extra Good Robust Baritone.
Letters only, TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Musical-Director, for Ton-y-Pandy Empire, must be first-class. Apply, with references, to FRED WILLMOT, 156, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Tour, Good Brilliant Pianist Conductor, must be able to arrange.
Also First Violin and Double Bass.
Only first-class musicians need apply.
Letters only.
Lowest Terms, References, &c., to
LEADER, 17, Lisle-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Leader (Violin), thoroughly experienced and smart in twice nightly; permanency to good sober man; commence Monday next. SYDNEY DAVIS, Conductor, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Good Leader, to Open Monday, Jan. 31, Palace Theatre, Halifax.
Write or wire, WM. LE ROY, Musical Director.

WANTED, for the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, a good First Cornet Player. Duties as Cadet Servant, Naval or Army Pensioner preferred. Wages, £57 a year; uniform found; join Feb. 18.
Apply to
T. H. W. READ, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Good First Cornet for Palace, Walthamstow. Experienced in Variety. A.M.U., or willing to join. PETERSEN, 2, Wilson-st., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Clarionet, good reader, used to Orchestral Work, for New Liner; sail at once. BANDMASTER, 67, Darnley-road, Gravesend.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Double Bass, used to Variety. Apply, with references, at once, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

WANTED, Trombone, to combine B flat Trumpet, for Musical Act. Fully booked. State age, height, references, and lowest terms, to Box 7,214, "The Era."

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
WANTED, a Violoncello Player, permanent Engagement for a good reliable player. Apply by letter, stating lowest terms and references, to M., Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Good 'Cello, open at once. Apply, stating lowest terms, &c., to MANAGER, as above.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, immediately, good Orchestral 'Cellist; only players with Concert experience apply. JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical-Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Harpist, young, improver.
Apply,
Lieut. GEORGE MILLER, Mus. Bac.,
Bandmaster, Royal Marines,
Gosport.

WANTED, Wanted, Harpist,
good reliable man, able to travel;
good memoriser;
good job; good salary to good man.
Box 7,210 "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Smart Young Man, able to play piano and make himself generally useful, light work. State age, full particulars first letter, and salary (lowest), or no notice taken. W. KNIGHT, The Premier Auctioneer, Blackfriars Hall, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Drummer, with Tympanis, for Thunder Effect in Sketch, also Harpist, to play off Stage five minutes each house. MUSICIAN, V. NEWMAN, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Drummer, Lady, for Pictures and Variety; permanent. Terms particulars, to 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

SEASON 1910.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Musicians, Violins, Violas, Basses, Oboe, Clarionet, Bassoon, Horns, Cornets, for Easter (March 21 to April 2), for Whitsuntide (May 14 to 21), and from June 13 to Oct. 2, for the season; flat pitch will be adopted. Only steady and competent Instrumentalists need apply. Applications, stating experience, with references and salary required, for one or two performances daily, to be sent to Mr. JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

THE NEW ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Known, the Committee of the above Society are open to receive applications from First-class Orchestral Players in all departments, for a series of Orchestral Concerts, commencing next season. Full particulars will be forwarded by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. GEO. J. BOWKER, Queen's College, Birmingham. Applications, stating instruments, must be sent in not later than Feb. 9 next.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, First-class Musicians, all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Only those conversant with high-class variety need apply. Good Brass and Drums with Tympani write in. State age, experience, and salary required, to MUSICAL ADVISER, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

QUEEN'S WESTMINSTERS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Instrumentalists,
to join the above Band.
Apply by letter,
E. CAMPBELL, Bandmaster,
12, Undercliff-road, St. John's, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, good steady, reliable, Bombardon, Horn, and Drums; permanency to suitable man. Address, MILLS, Bandmaster, 25, Cloudesley-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, Musicians, for Skating Rinks, London and Provinces. State terms.
BANDMASTER, 53, Philpot-street, E.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, First, Second, and Bass (G) Trombones, for Big Music Hall Show. Only young, first-class, and sober men need apply. Good salary to right people. Address, Box 7,207, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, to commence on Monday, May 16, Third Horn (able to play first in section Military Band); permanent engagement. Apply, with terms and references, to the Musical-Director, Mr. DAN GODFREY, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Leonard Spohr Tute, the well-known and thoroughly competent Conductor, First-class Permanent Appointment. 18, Albany-road, Coventry.

WANTED, by a well-known Conductor, Engagement shortly, in a First-class Music Hall; good references; extensive library. Box 7,133, "The Era."

WANTED known, Charles Godfrey, jun., First-class Conductor (also piano). At Liberty. Just finished 11 long season engagements as Musical Director, Spa, Scarborough; both Orchestral and Military Bands. Very highest references.
Address, The Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, fully experienced and reliable, excellent testimonials, age 30. Wire or write, L. ROGERS, 8, Ranelagh-road, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist, excellent references; competent and reliable; age 30. Wire or write, VIOLINIST, 5, Kingston-road, Earlsdon, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, Variety or Theatre, thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable; good refs.; London pref. Address, VIOLINIST, 33, Harewood-avenue, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lizzie Matthews, experienced Violinist, Disengaged. 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, Conductor. Excellent References. Large Library and Smart Uniforms if required. Any Business. Box 7186, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet; good refs.; any business.
HOYLE, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged after Feb. 5, First or Second, Orchestra or Military (mounted man). CARTER-BROWN, 52, Fortunegate-road, Harlesden, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement for Season 1910 as Solo Cornet in First-class Military or Orchestral Band. Refs., &c. Address CORNETIST, 52, Springlane, Colne, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet. Age 25, in Rink or any Business.
MAC, Cardiff Restaurant, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Solo Cornet, young, steady, and reliable. Highest references. BURKE, 79, Rose-street, Sheerness, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet or Horn, string or brass, any business, London or suburbs only. DINES, 168, Central-street, City-road.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, experienced; good refs.
A. E. RIDER, Sandon-road, Leek, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, thoroughly experienced Variety Theatre; also combine E flat Bass. Ref. Address SMITH, c/o G.P.O., Dewsbury.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bassoon, Disengaged; varied experience, superior tone.
BASSOON, 14, Bushy Park-road, Hampton Wick.

WANTED, Known, Trombone and Euphonium, at Liberty, just finishing Season at Birmingham. Good references. Address, 92, Trevelyan-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, by ex-Army Trombone, Engagement, any business; good references, experienced, sober and reliable. Disengaged. Write DANIELS, 24, Derby-street, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, Engagement, Immediate, any Business. Address, CHARLES GRICE, c/o Greig, 21, University-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by French Hornist, Engagement, any business; experienced and reliable; open for Summer. MUSICIAN, 70, Meanley-road, Manor Park, E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ethel Litolff, experienced Orchestral 'Celliste, terminating Engagement at Olympia, Feb. 12. Address, 16, Sinclair-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, 'Cello. Any Business. Variety preferred.
F. W. WEAVER, 19, Monson-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, or Deputising, Viola.
H. OLDFIELD,
21, Ossory-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by First-class Viola. Address,
VIOLA, 190, South Esk-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, good refs.; just finished two years Hippodrome, Southampton. J. ELDER, Orchestra, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Oboist, any business; highest references. BROWN, 4, Portland-st., Chatham (late R.M.L.I. Staff Band).

WANTED, Known, Orchestral Harpist and Pianist disengaged; experience West End Theatres. HENDRICKS, 2, Rumsey-road, Stockwell.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, late H.M. Service; good refs.; sober; any business. FLAUTIST, c/o Miss Whyte, 291, High-street, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, any business, thoroughly experienced, excellent references. TED EMBLEY, this week, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexboro'; next, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Lady Flautist. Disengaged now. Good refs. Any business. BESSIE PRATT, Park-st., Chatteris, Cambs.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Engagements as Accompanist to Professionals; excellent sight-reader. Terms moderate. C., Elm-grove, Hampton, Middlesex.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, and Pictures. PIANIST, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Orchestral Pianist. Free March 10.
Address M. S., Box 7,199, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Pianist, Pictures. Also Lady Vocalist. Own Slides, Joint or Single. WILLSON, 31, West High-st., Salford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, at Liberty, reliable and experienced; good refs.; Rink preferred. 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Pianist and Organist, Accompanist and Improviser. J. W. LOVETT, Pine Villa, Otterfield-road, W. Drayton.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Clark, Pianist, Euphonium, Trombone. At Liberty.
Wire or Write, 15, Windsor-road, Holloway.

WANTED, by Smart Variety Pianist, Re-engagement, London or Suburbs only. Terms reasonable, reliable. Open Monday. Wire, HARRIS, 2, Cherry Tree-villas, Cherry Tree-av., Dover. Monday, 92, Fortess-road, Kentish Town.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, Orch. or Self; any business, through disappointment; steady, reliable; excel. refs.; good reader; any dis. PIANIST, Post Office, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orch. Pianist, desiring Variety experience, would like to communicate with M.D. who could assist him. Address, Box 7,185, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, by Double Drummer and Double Bass; together or separate; Liberty Monday week; any business. Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.

WANTED, Managers, Committees, and Musical Directors of Summer Resort Piers, Pavilions, Parks, Theatres, &c., to know that the above Society, consisting only of Musicians of High-class ability, are prepared to provide Full String Orchestras and First-class Military Bands (with or without Conductors), for Season and other Engagements. Individual players at Liberty for same; efficiency guaranteed. Qualified Musicians of repute earnestly invited to join. "Local Centres" (branches) established in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Oldham, &c. For full particulars write the Hon. Secretary, JOSPH. BALL, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme, Manchester. N.B.—Semi-amateurs are requested to refrain from writing. This class is not admitted.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in smart uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. MURDOCK, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, White City, &c.; scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton. Tel. 4847 Nat.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-st., Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty). Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, for Piers, Rinks, Hotels, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Tubular Bells. Madame BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, a famous Military and String Band, with large Répertoire of Music, requires Summer Engagement; only First-class Piers, &c., Entertained. For further particulars, address, Box 7,182, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Military or Brass Band (double String if required). Attractive uniforms, up-to-date library. BANDMASTER, 31, Hanover-street, Batley, Yorks.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply,
O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Hippodrome, and Menagerie, Circus Artists in all Lines, a Number of Good Talking Knockabout Clowns, also a good Irish singing clown, to commence March 28, 1910.
Apply Sir EDWARD HANNEFORD,
27, Third-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED, for Robert Scott's Circus, Eldest Son of the late Walter Scott,
Useful People, doing more than one act preferred.
Also Small Band. All communications,
ROBERT SCOTT, Equestrian Director, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.
No slave-driving, but a clean and comfortable show.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Only and Original THREE ROYAL OHMYS,
Engagement, Engagement, from Easter Monday. The Three Royal Ohmys, greatest of all Acrobatic Bareback Lady Riders, on one, two, three, and four horses. Re-engaged by Albert Hengler, Esq. The Royal Ohmys have made the greatest success ever known in Glasgow; the talk of Scotland. Note.—The Royal Ohmys will shortly surprise Edinburgh. For full particulars, address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Bishop and Winkles conclude to-night five weeks' comfortable Engagement Connor's Circus, Crystal Palace. Monday, Royal Italian Circus, York. Thanking Mr. E. H. Bostock for kind offer.

WANTED, Known, that King and Haywood are well-known Clown and Agouste, Burlesque Boxers, Singing Comedians and Trick Dancers. We're aware that you know we are old performers with a new name; better known as F. M. and B. R. Open for tenting season. Letters and telegrams answered by return post. Addresses, 5, Lambart-st., and 36, Richmond-row, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip, Clown and Agouste, concludes a most Successful and Long Engagement with the Royal Italian Circus, Saturday, Jan. 29. At Liberty Feb. 14, and on. All coms., 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by Arthur Hanlon and Mlle. Carle, smart Lady and Gentleman Gymnasts, a first-class tenting season with the following acts: Triple Bar Trampoline act, with competition; also smart Single and Double Trapeze; if two-pole tent, Ariel Flying Trapeze act, including Feet Whirls, Ceiling Walking, and Flying Leaps, no poles required. Apparatus resembles a flying machine. All, ARTHUR HANLON, Boro' Arms Hotel, Newcastle, Staffs.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court, Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, new to West Bromwich; also Turns for Tenting Ireland. F. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Comedy Acts, Comedians, Serios, Specialities, Feb. 7, onwards, Lowest terms, bookings.
Gala Acts, May 16, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday, on. Hall small, absolute lowest.
LOUDEN, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

WANTED, Monday, Feb. 7, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities.
Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, Houghton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
The Bigger the Better.
Send full Bookings, lowest Terms, Photos., Lithos., and all particulars.
'Phone 2549 Royal.
Principal Boys and Girls vacant Pantomime next year send all particulars and where playing.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland.
J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Immediately. Lowest.
LAWSON, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 7, onwards. Hall small; once nightly. Good Break going North. State absolute lowest. J. F. FRANKLIN, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Immediate and Future Dates. Big Tops of Bills for Immediate Dates. Apply to Signor PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Feb. 7, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal.

JOHN ADAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Big Specialities, Animal Acts, Novelties. Perm. Add., Hippo., Scarborough. 'Phone 228.

WANTED, High-class Artists (Halls), Elephants, Acrobats, Aerial Acts, for tenting, Good Gala Artists, Cheap Numbers for various Picture Shows. List of bookings, litho., lowest, PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-st., Wolverhampton.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 7, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, for Galas, Easter, Whitsun, Aug., also June 15, July 11, and Season, High-class Acrobats, Jugglers, Gymnasts, Animal Acts, Cyclists, Comedians, Novelties. Nothing too big. Terms, lithos., bills, memos., TOM WOOD, Caterer, West-st., Bristol.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, for Feb. 21, 28, and onwards, Variety Combinations.
Share or certainty.
All communications to
WALTER BATTY,
Baltic Hotel.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, also
Big Tops for Edinburgh, Glasgow, Birmingham, Durham, Bolton, Burnley, Castleford, Cork, &c.
Nothing too big.
State last appearance in towns mentioned.
Send full list of Bookings and lowest Terms.

Also require for my own Companies, Acts all Lines,
for Farnworth, Wigan, Gainsborough, King's Lynn, Worcester, Swindon, Lincoln, Peterboro', &c., &c.

Call for Monday next,
THEATRE ROYAL, KING'S LYNN:
Mackinnons, Scottish Meisters, Ivy Dene, J. H. Carney, The Gelders, Jack Williams, Evanslo, Belford and Mars, B. Troba, the great juggler, and others.

All communications,
O. MAUS DAYTON,
The Dayton Family,
Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars, Big Specialities, Big Animal Acts, in fact, anything that is New, Novel, and Sensational, for Easter, March 21, 28, Whit Week, and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted. Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Stars willing to Share, Feb. 14 (six nights), also good Artists to support same; salary. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OAKENGATES.
WANTED, really First-class Turns, Doubles doing Singles, also Combinations, immediate and future Dates. GEO. HARVEY.

WANTED, small Variety Turns, to support Combination, Halifax, must be new to town, Feb. 7. Letters, V. NEWMAN, Lyric T., Liverpool.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, NEATH, KETTERING, and BARRY DOCKS.
WANTED, Really Good Turns, from now, onwards. Clever Juvenile Troupes, Funny Comedians, Sketch Parties, and Musical Turns. Address,
ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Kettering.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, the Biggest and Best Talent in the Business Stars through Programme Agents. Artists and others please note.—All applications for engagements at the New Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to BENSON'S Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., Manchester-chambers, 46A, Market-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Bensonia, Manchester."

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, the very Biggest Attractions, Artists all Lines, for Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, for Towns in Midlands and Lancashire. Can book any big act. Those vacant for Monday write quick.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
18, Monton-st., Denmark-rd., Manchester.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
138, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Kinds, Monday onward, for best London and Provincial Establishments

Acts for Wakefield, Feb. 14, for own Company; must be new to town; state when there.

Wanted, Circus Acts, all Kinds, Riders, &c. Letters only, full particulars, above address.

WANTED, Feb. 21, New Acts, Novel Variety Artists, all Lines. State terms (which must be low), also where can be seen working, Manchester District Only.
MANAGER, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates.
Apply, T. C. RAWES, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Gala Acts, all Lines, for Coming Season. Perm. add., lithos., and lowest terms, CHAS. MELLOR'S Agency, 31, Alfred-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

SCOTTIE'S HIPPOS. and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Star Variety Acts in all Lines, Feb. 7, onwards. Lowest terms and fullest particulars. SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Really Funny Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Big Specialities, Novel Animal Acts, and anything with Big Drawing Powers, for Feb. 7, onward. Silence a polite negative. Lowest terms. MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession to send full bookings, terms, lithos.; can find you work. WILLIAM AINSWORTH, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105-106 Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED for Feb. 7 and onward, First-class Acts in all Lines. First-class Acts in all Lines.

WANTED, Specialities, Dumb Acts, Sister Turns. Write, vacant dates, terms, &c., at once. No callers. SWINDON and PAUL, 9, Lower Marsh, London, S.E.

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Sole Proprietor, Richard Thornton.
WANTED, First-class Specialities in all Lines, suitable for High-class Picture Entertainments. Apply, HARRY ESDEN.

WANTED, Wanted, for Wilger's Fête and Gala Season, 1910, Sensational Novelties, Acrobats, and all other Acts suitable for Outdoor Entertainments, for May 16, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 8.
Apply, stating lowest terms, and sample lithos., to 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March, and April, Big Star Tops and Bottoms, for Blackpool, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton, Dublin, Bolton, and other towns.

WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top Liners only. Continent and Britain.
Real Novelties always welcomed.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley,
Good Top, Feb. 14, 21;
Good Top, March 14, 21, 28.
Good Turns can book ahead.
Address, THOS. HOLMES, Hippodrome, Keighley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

To Fête Agents.

GRAND YORKSHIRE GALA, YORK.
GRAND YORKSHIRE GALA, YORK.
June 15, 16, and 17, 1910.

WANTED Wanted, Tenders.
Persons willing to Tender for the Amusements (on stage only) at a cost of not more than £100, and which must include one or two specially attractive features; must send full particulars to the Secretary,
Mr. FRED ARBY,
Davyhall-chambers, York,
on or before
Wednesday, the 9th of February, 1910.
Amusements must run from 2.15 to 5.15, and from 6 to 9 p.m.

SYLVESTER'S GALA SEASON,
Commencing Whit Monday, May 16, 1910.
WANTED, Trick Cyclist, Acrobats, Musical Clowns, Gymnasts, anything suitable for Open-air Performances. Specimen lithos., lowest rock-bottom terms per day (not week), or useless. Letters only. No callers. 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, Concert Parties with vacant time to send full particulars, terms, photos., lithos., &c. Only recognised established Companies write; all others save stamps.
THE STAR AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, Houghton-street, Liverpool.
Mark envelopes "Concert Party."

WANTED, High-class Concert Companies for Olympian Gardens, Rhyl, June 6, 13.
CHARLEY HARVEY, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, Twelve London Girls, Age over Fourteen, Good Voices, with Knowledge of Dancing. Write, D., 45, Lorn-road, Brixton, full particulars.

WANTED, Young Lady Dancer, must be a good mimic. Address,
Address, Box 7,196, "The Era."

WANTED, Hall near London, week March 28. Good Comedy Sketch, Three People; also Good Comedian and Specialities. BRAHAM, Alexandra, Pontefract.

WANTED, Smart Comedy Tumbler, one able to dance preferred.
Write G. W., Britannia T., Hoxton, London.

WANTED, Apprentice Comedy Triple Bar Troupe; everything found; small salary commence; couple crossing tricks necessary; start immediately. Particulars, Box 7,204, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, quick Tumbler, Troupe, well booked.
Particulars, NED, Box 7,201, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a good Boy, 14 years or older, to learn the Acrobatic business; a good home for a good boy; one with little knowledge preferred. J. OLRAC, Hippo., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, for Ireland, must understand electric fixing and work gas or electric, permanency to suitable man. Age, terms, and references, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Walton, Singing Mill Girl. This, Hippo., Dewsbury; next, Hippo., Nottingham. Vacant Feb. 7 and 28.
The scene in which Nellie Walton, in a Lancashire mill-girl's costume, sings is quite novel. It represents the interior of a mill, and the artist stands at a frame on the stage weaving a card of wool, whilst she renders some tasteful vocal selections, her warbling to represent birds in one song being cleverly done.—Castleford Express, Jan. 21.
All coms., F. WILLMOT, Esq., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Constance Juno, Vocal Comedienne and Illustrated Songstress; own lantern and slides. 134B, Kingsland-road, N.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, Mary Hopwood, the Cripple Vocalist, with Illustrated Songs and without, own Slides. 4, Stanley-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Dashing Juvenile Comedienne. few Immediate Dates. Plenty of "go," style, and voice. Terms, and time, Mr. DOTTRIDGE, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday, also Feb. 7, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. Wire, Queen's Theatre; or, 15, Armitage-st., Castleford, Yorks. This week return date.

WANTED, Monday, also Feb. 7 and 14, by Sisters Ely, the prettily dressed and talented duettists. Address, 11, Devon-st., Liverpool, perm.

WANTED, Known, Little Valdo, the famous Clown and Comedian.
Just concluded Eight Weeks with Mr. Hengler, Glasgow.
This week, Empire, Camberwell, London, and a Decided Success. Offers invited.
23, Hazelbourne-road, Clapham Park.

WANTED, Feb. 7, on, by George Franklin, the Quaint Comedian with Quaint Songs.
Coms., c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Bert Danson, The Comedian, vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7. This, terrific success with new Songs, The Canterbury, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Black Comedian and Chorus Singer, also 28th, to follow Jarrow. 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Known, Fred Laurier, Acrobatic Comedian, Legmania and Sand Dancer, Vacant Feb. 7, 14, March 7 (only vacancies this year). Wire, 54, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Feb. 7 and 14, by T. E. Johnstone, Actor-Vocalist. This week, Palace, West Hartlepool; next week (Jan. 31), Palace, Gateshead.

WANTED, 7th, 14th, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Popular Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive, Original Copyrights, 31st, Theatre, Altrincham. Communications, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, and Later, by the Auto-Boy, the Sensation of the Period, the Record Breaker, presented by Mysterious Irving. This, Hippodrome, Barrow; next, 4, Mortimer-st., Birkenhead.

WANTED, for the Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert, Wire Feb. 7, 28, Wire, through obliging Fred Karno, Esq. Wire quick. This week, Empire, Nottingham; next week, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Bugler Carr, Equilibristic Musical Act, Feb. 7 and 14. Wire or write, 7, Standish-road, Hammersmith. Jan. 31, Pal., Plymouth.

WANTED, Feb. 7 (one week), by Sergt. Bert Powell, the famous Military Illusionist.
Jan. 31, Palace Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Jan. 31. Wire, 25, Weymouth-st., Rumford-street, Manchester. The Great Kyoto. Sensational and Comedy Japanese Act. Also May Geraldine, a Singer of Refined Chorus Songs, and Dancer. Two distinct turns. Also Vacant, Feb. 14, 28, onward. Wire or write.

WANTED, Monday, and Feb. 7, various on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting Screaming Farcical Episodes, Wire, Hippodrome, Wallsend.

WANTED, by Whitty and Wyse, Feb. 28 and on, in their Screaming Comedy Sketch, "The Interview." This is one of the Biggest Laughing Hits on the Road. Thanks Victor's Agency for more contracts. Monday, Kino Hall, Clay Cross; or VICTOR'S Agency.

WANTED, Feb. 7, precede Barrow, Harry Hellis, Comedian, Pianist; Grace Buckingham's Dogs; Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Cornettist. Next, Pavilion, Weymouth.

WANTED, Known, Harry Butt and Lydia Ward Refined Harmony Vocal Duettists, Vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7. Wire, 24, Eldon-street, Bury, Lanc.

WANTED, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, by Hope and Ashley, in "The Music Girl," by Fred Bowyer. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham; or DR REEDER'S Agency.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Feb. 7 and 14, by The Leonas (Musical Act). Gorgeous Electric Stage Set. This, Tredegar Hall, Newport; next, Empire, Merthyr.

WANTED, by Lily and Antley, for their Screaming Farcical Duologue, "It," Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 21. 84, Hainault-rd., Clapham Park.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act. Success everywhere. Next week, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Vacant Feb. 7, 14, 28. Address, 16, Byron-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Thorpe and Coe, in "My Burglar," vacant Feb. 7 and March 7 only. Wire, 48, Amersham-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, by Norman and Allan, Comedians and Dancers, Monday, Jan. 31, Bottoming Bill, this, Empire, Aberdare, S. Wales. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, by The Petricks (Geo. and Will), in their Comedy Acrobatic Barrel Jumping and Vaulting Act, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 and 14. 41, Castle-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 14, for one of the Finest Acts of its Kind. Produced by The Britons. Notice.—Miss Briton is an undefeated Lady Boxer. Gold medallist, and Cup owner. Can be worked with or without competition. All coms., 275, Park-lane, Little Horton, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, what a draw, Four Cecilians are Storming Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, this, doing encores; make enquiries. Vacant Monday, 30th, through misunderstanding.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, SARNTHALER TROUPE,
Big Top. Six Ladies, Two Gents. Big Top. The World's Greatest Tyrolean Singers and National Dancers from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres. Vacant Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and on. Offers invited.
Address, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Les De Lolme, Juvenile Troupe, and Electric Spectacle, Monday, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7. The Cleverest, Prettiest, most Gorgeous and Elaborate Troupe extant. Show consists of Electric Monoplane, carrying 75 lights, Garlands, over one mile of beautifully flowered cable, 350 lights, and lights on dresses. Troupe also includes Nobby, the Youngest, Smallest, and Cleverest Boy Comedian, height 3ft. Managers and Agents requiring a big drawing power, wire to DE LOLME, Palace T., Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday, for Walker's Would-be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality. Wire offers. 106, Church-st., Ellesmere Port (Cheshire.

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Great Aerial Gymnastic Sensation. A furore through Scotland. Vacant Feb. 7, 14, and 21. Palace, Normanton, next week.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May Trio, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists, Liberty Jan. 31. Wire, Theatre, Hawick.

WANTED, for Mlle. Sylvesto, Novel Contortionist, and Rumbo Austin's Troupe of Comedy Navvies, Jan. 31, onwards. Wire, 14, Thompson's-yard, Wakefield.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents to take notice if in want of a really great Drawing Card not to forget to secure the Three Original Hodginis, the Continental Aerial Gymnastic Wonders, in their Original Scena, entitled "A Holiday on the Seaside." Vacant Feb. 21 and March 7, with exceptions, Palace, Cork. Enormous Success, this week, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Feb. 7 and 14, by Herman and Evelyn, great Wire Act. Also Casselly, Table Act. Next week, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, The Vandas, in a New and Novel Act, "The Juggling Slavey." Vac. Feb. 28 Mar. 7, 14. Address, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Proprietors and Agents to Notice the Two Phillipi Brothers have given up their Straight Acrobatic Staircase Act, and will now be known as the Four Phillipi Brothers, in their New Comedy Gymnastic Act, entitled, "Sergt. Fearnought and his Raw Recruits."
We are the Original Territorial Acrobats, the Originators, and the first in the field with an Act of this description, produced in London July 19, 1909. At present making a big success Brixton Pantomime, both in parts and our own Speciality.

Managers and Agents, please come and see this big Novelty Act.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), Male and Female, Novelty Acrobats, three acts. Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Known, The Bouncing Peps, Feb. 7, 21, Star Speciality. Up-to-date; splendid scena. Success always. Monday, Queen's T., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Feb. 7, by Gulliver and the Doll with the laugh,
Address, Palace, Camberwell.

WANTED, Feb. 7, between London and Sheffield; also Feb. 28 (precede Derby), by Astor, the Unconventional Ventriloquist. The 1910 Vent. Act with 1910 Gags and Business. 3, Chapel-row, Carlisle.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 31, also Feb. 21, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire for Monday, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Al and Lal, Musical and Ventriloquial Sketch, including England's greatest Lady Vent., Feb. 7, March 7. Mon., E., Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by Ventriloquist, on Music Halls, Concerts, &c.; reasonable salary. Address, S. HICKS, 127, Park Hill-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Pier Pavilions and Gardens, May 16, 23, and 30, by Mr. Fred Boulton's High-class Entertainers, eight artists, absolutely the most versatile party extant. In addition to usual Concert Company, programme includes ventriloquism, conjuring, second sight, dancers, and a répertoire of twelve potted plays. Share or certainty. Send for programme to FRED BOULTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Known, who want a good Top or Bottom for March 7, 14, 21.
John Olrac presents the Five Olracs in a New and Original Comedy Act, "ACROBATICAL FUNNIOSITIES,"
From Empire, Palace, Coliseum, and Hippodrome, London. Always Sure Draw and Success. Monday, Hippo., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Feb. 7 and 14, for "Napoleon at Waterloo." A Perfect Production. Scenery, Dresses, and Wonderful Dioramic Effects; also Whizzing the Whirl, the world's greatest laughing act. Wire, SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by Cambridge's Pantomime Sketch, "The Jolly Millers," by six people; everything carried; one perpetual roar of laughter. Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Agents, Proprietors, Managers, to book Financial Productions, Produced by Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 14, on, Fred Monckton and Company in Latest Farcical Absurdity, "The Man Who Did" (four artists), beautifully staged, perfectly played. Letters, Hippodrome, Wallsend.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Feb. 17, onwards, by Billy Ross and Co., greatest Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act before the Public. Alhambra Palace, Belfast, Wire.

WANTED, Permane's Real Live Troupe of Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears. Owing to big success retained a second week at West Bromwich. For dates, &c., PERMANE, Tivoli, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Famous Educated Lion Show.
Still a few Vacant Dates before starting Continental Tour.
Vacant Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and all March.
Coms., week Jan. 31, Tivoli T., Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, by Mlle. Hengleur's Great Troupe of Russian Poodles. Latest novelty, including Champion Challenge Jumping Hounds. These beautiful and clever animals are the talk of every town they visit. Feb. 7, Tivoli, Pentre. Wire, Hippo., Exeter.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Tudora's Ponies. Liberty Jan. 31, and on. This week, Ipswich, brilliant success. Papers give the highest praise of the ponies in their novel drawing-room performance. Tudora thanks Mr. Bostock for two comfortable weeks' engagement. Wire, Monday next, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Next Week, also Feb. 7, through transferring dates.
CHARD'S Dog Circus, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoo, vacant Feb. 7, 21, and 28. All coms., 47, St. John's-park, Upper Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels; always a success. Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy; vacant 31st, 7th, 14th. Perm., 120, Gaythorpe-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cyclists. Monday next, Hippo., Wigan. Booked by GEO. AYROUN. Vac. Feb. 14 and 21.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, in a Funny and Clever Acrobatic Act on Bicycles. This, Grand, Rawtenstall; next, Eden, Bishop Auckland.

D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
The Act no others have dared to copy.
The Act no others have dared to copy.
Our Originality is our Protection.
Our Originality is our Protection.
WANTED, one week, Feb. 14.
Wanted, one week, Feb. 14.
must be North,
must be North,
to follow Newcastle.
to follow Newcastle.
Must not be within Stoll's Barring Radius.
This week, Empire, West Hartlepool;
Next week, Empire, Cardiff.
Next week, Empire, Cardiff.
I have no exclusive Agent. Prepared to accept Contracts direct, or through Agents.
WILLIAM JOHN D'ARC,
D'Arc's Waxworks, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Youth, 5ft. 2in. in height, at Liberty to join Partner, Acrobatic Troupe or Comedy Sketch Co. GAVIN LE BRUN (Queen and Le Brun), Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement. Used to Stage Boxing, Wrestling, Tumble little. Steady, reliable super-master; travelled Continent; age 28. SMITH, 59, Barker-gate, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Bicycle Polo and Football Player wants Shop.
Box 7,188, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H." "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENS, 74, Fa' mouth-road, London, S.E.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, W. E. Roche, Showman's Painter, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E., all kinds of Showmen's Decorative Work undertaken; Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths, Terms moderate; satisfaction guaranteed.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Proprietors of Gardens, Pavilions, or Pleasure Resorts, Disengaged Monday next, First-class Scenic Artist, Model or Open-air Picture Builder, Artist, &c.; thoroughly understands business; highest reference. Box 7,203, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
the Greatest Sensation of the present Century.
Theatre, Hippodrome, and Circus Proprietors, and Managers please communicate at once
for particulars of
the Flying Aeroplane,
specially invented for interior flying.
This is a real Flying Machine, and flies to any height in any building with two riders, who operate the propellers.
No electricity or other motive power being required.
This machine is the invention of a Birmingham engineer,
and has proved an enormous attraction
and has proved an enormous attraction
this week at the American and Continental Circus, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.
Contracts coming in by every post.
Do not miss this great novelty.
Apply at once,
A. EDWARD INSHAW,
American and Continental Circus,
Curzon Hall,
Birmingham.
Telephone 1573 Midland.
Telegraphic address, "Inshaw, Curzon Hall."

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelty, Freaks, Mirrors, Snake Charmers; Strong Acts do well. Open immediately. MAXIM'S Fun Carnival, St. John's-square, Burslem.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties and Lady Palmists, with good Flash. Jersey Lily and Madame Howard write. 86, Chrisp-street, Poplar.

WANTED, for Monday and onwards, Quick Showing Novelties, for three good shops Bristol. MANAGER, 33, Market-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Sideshows of any Kind.
Apply SHERRY and BRAFF,
17, Lisle-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, a Young Girl knowing Tank Work or Swimming and Diving.
Apply to Mr. LAROUCHE, Agricultural Hall, Islington.

WANTED, Tent Master, for Ireland, commencing March 28. Full particulars, references, &c. 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, smart Young Man, Sell Monograms, in Touring Syndicate, Exhibition. State terms, when vacant. JEFFERY, Exhibition, Assembly Rooms, Bath.

WANTED, Known, Princess Cristina, the youngest and most beautiful Tattooed Lady, the greatest money-taker and hustler travelling, Liberty Monday and onwards, Rent, Shares, or Salary, good flashes. Wire, BELL, 221, Balls Pond-road, London.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Harry Barnsdale, Descriptive Vocalist and Pianksman. 72, Low-town, Pudsey, near Leeds, Yorks.

WANTED, Known. The undersigned has for exhibition a large collection of the Colours, Banners, &c., of the Regiments of the British Army (in miniature), worked in silk embroidery, made in Japan, a novelty, unequalled in Great Britain.
A. BOYD, 41, Victoria-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Wanted, for the best Holiday in London.
Tenders for my Ground in the Alexandra Palace for Sole Right of Hoop-las, Shooters, and Throwing Games, for Easter.
Apply, P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
to Showmen, Stall-holders,
and Amusement Caterers, following Feasts, Fairs, &c.

P. COLLINS,
is now open to book First-class Tenants for his well-known Spring and Summer Route
of
Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes,
Oswestry, Longton, Cefn, Llangollen, Welshpool, Newtown, Llanidloes, Ruthin, and Wrexham.
Lichfield, Dudley, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath.

Good Easter Fairs.
Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stourbridge, London, and New Brighton.
Ludlow May Fair, Chester Races.
Leicester Fair.

By special request of the travellers this Fair will be held the week before Whitsuntide, commencing on Thursday, May 5, for one week. The ground is over 100 acres in extent, and I propose having an Aviation Meeting there. Trips will be run to Leicester from all parts of the country, and this will be the biggest fair ever held in the provinces.

Birmingham Fair,
and a run of Fairs, Feasts, Wakes, Flower Shows, &c., right through the season.

For terms, &c., apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telephone 80 Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

EXHIBITION,
CENTRAL HALL,
CROYDON.
Feb. 15 to Feb. 25, inclusive.
WANTED, Known, a few Spaces vacant for High-class Exhibits only.
Apply,
MANAGER, Exhibition,
Central Hall, Croydon.

WANTED, opened Jan. 22, for Six Weeks, Great Success, Exhibition and Old English Fair. Spaces to let for Wire Worker; also good Slot Machines, Orchestrion will do well. Shares. MANAGER, 99, Deansgate, Bolton.

TOWER AND CASINO, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, to Let by Tender, for Season 1910, about two acres of the Tower Grounds for High-class Side Shows.
Apply to
TOM BRADLEY, General-Manager.

WANTED, opened Jan. 22, great success, Exhibition and Old English Fair, a few Spaces to Let, also Side Show, for good Novelty; Shares. MANAGER, 99, Deansgate.

NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, to Let, Extensive Premises, adjoining New Electric Palace and Palace of Life, with main entrance Milton-street (facing Victoria Station, Nottingham). Public will pass through Palaces to doors of Premises to Let; 382yds. super floor space, 103ft. frontage; suit Automatic Arcade, other Entertainments, Practical Trade Exhibitions, Grand Bazaar, Toys, Sweets, Café, &c. Palace will run eight shows daily. Mass of people at night. Will be the home of amusement. Nothing succeeds like success. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham. Interview only by appointment.

WANTED, to Let, Palmistry Rights, also Good Concert and Variety Companies wanted, from March 26, on shares. MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, to Sell, my new Pullman Car, three months old, and handsomely decorated, with glass mirrors, two rooms, 19ft. long, 7ft. wide. Reason for selling, retiring from the business.
J. BOLESWORTH,
Exhibition Ground, High-street, Stratford.

WANTED, to Sell, a Pulman Living Car, 18ft. 6in. long by 6ft. 6in. wide, built last summer, fitted up inside splendidly, Hostess stove, six tip-up plush seats, &c., &c. Price and particulars, JACK BARRON'S Living Car, Duke of Edinburgh, Caversham, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van, 12ft. by 7ft., nicely fitted, good condition.
KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, a First-class Roundabout, the Latest Design, Teddy Bears. Everything complete, electric light plant, organ, waggons, &c., as a going concern. Sure fortune to real live people. This machine was a Huge Success at Nottingham and Hull Fairs last season. Particulars, price, and terms
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, my well-known Razzle-Dazzle, complete with trucks, go by road or rail; also Electric Light Plant for same (optional), as a first-class going concern. This is a chance of a lifetime. Reason for selling, have too many things to look after. Also a First-class Houp La, cost over £100 to build; also 100,000ft. of Good Films and two Cinematograph Projectors. Each to be sold separate. Apply, RANDALL WILLIAMS, Howcroft Works, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Park-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39 Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Fishpond, complete, best Manchester make, as new; ready to open; great money-taker. Offers. Box 7,191, "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Height and Weight Machine, the only one of its kind, in perfect condition. Can be seen working.
CONNOR, Agricultural Hall, Islington, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Automatic Piano, with drums, cymbals, &c., splendid condition and nice tone. Cost over £50; sacrifice for £25. Can be seen and heard playing at 233, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, to Purchase, Waxwork, Variety, or Animated Picture Business, in any part of the country. A. E. PICKARD, Ashfield House, Glasgow.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Buy, Automatic Working Models. State full particulars and price.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Buy, few Distorting Mirrors, or would Exchange Australian Working Models or Automatic Piano. MIRROR, 108, Upper-st., Islington, London.

WANTED, to Know, the present whereabouts of Mr. J. Chipperfield, Showman.
Box 7,187, "The Era."

SKATING WANTEDS.

BAL BULLIER, PARIS.
WANTED, a Complete Staff.
Full particulars
and lowest terms
in first letter.
FRANK C. BOSTOCK,
Empress Rink,
Earl's Court, S.W.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Gentleman and Lady Instructors, for Truro County Skating Rink.
Send age, experience, and photo.
THOMAS, Palace, Penzance.

WANTED, Real Live Manager, for Skating Rink, must be original and well up in the business. State age, experience, and salary, and give references. Box 7,183, "The Era."

WANTED, Manager, for Important Skating Rink just opening, Belgium; first-class manager; must be thoroughly capable, experienced, and possess undeniable references. Apply, enclosing photo, state salary and full particulars, GREALY, Hotel Metropole, Bruxelles.

WANTED, Artists Skaters, Ladies and Gentlemen, for Long Engagements. Apply, SHERRY and BRAFF, 17, Lisle-street, Leicester-sq., W.

WANTED, for Gloucester Rink, Manager, Skate Mechanic, Floor Manager, full Staff.
Apply,
MANAGER, Skating Rink, Ilford.

WANTED, Position as Rink Manager; at present Manager of well-known Music Hall Act. Next week, W. KOSFORD, 52, George-st., Chesterton, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by Floor Manager, London District; expert figure, &c., Skater; three years' experience as Floor Manager; best references. Box 7,189, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, our Price for Surfacing ½d. (a halfpenny) per square foot.
The best and cheapest surfacer on the market. Surfacing this week Empire, Kettering; New Rink, Glossop; next week, Ardwick Imperial, Manchester.
Live agents wanted.
UNION ENGINEERING Co., Darwen.
'Phone, 270 Darwen.

SKATING RINK.
WANTED, to Sell, as going concern, at a very low figure, Fully Equipped, Maple Floor, Graetzin 5-light lamps, Best Skates, Lavatories, Offices, &c. Good position, large Midland town. Box 7192, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
several hundred pairs of
Winslow Skates for Sale, cheap.
MARKT and Co. (London), LTD.,
6, City-road, Finsbury-square, London, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, 80 pairs Alexandra Skates, ball bearing, only been in use a month; these are as good as new, and my reason for selling is that I am overstocked. For quick sale I will take 5s. per pair.
Apply, P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, the new Skate Dance, "ENCHANTER."
To lovers of music, especially skaters, simple and effective Skate Dance. Originated, written, and composed by Walter Hurst, the great Trick Skater. Pianoforte copies, with full description of Dance, 1s. 4d. nett, post free. W. HURST, Manager, Premier Rinks, Ltd., Boston, Linc.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Buildings (wood and iron), Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, Bungalows. F. H. HEATH, LTD., Manufacturers, Department E, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell,
at the termination of the run,
JOHN HART'S GORGEOUS PANTOMIME,
"JACK AND JILL,"
Now playing to Record Houses at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Beautifully painted scenery (fourteen scenes) by George Jackson, R. C. Oldham, and D. G. Hall. Gorgeous dresses from designs by Robert Crafter. Splendid electric fittings and properties, including electric sun. Can be put on any stage.
Managers desiring a First-class Production in good condition should see it without delay.
Apply, J. E. B. BEAUMONT, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell,
Films.
Johnson and Burns, 500ft., 30s.;
When Lips are Sealed (drama), 300ft., 20s.;
Ma-in-law's Visit, 425ft., 30s.;
Harlequin and Gendarmes, 450ft., 30s.;
Automatic Statues, 450ft., 30s.;
I Never Forget the Wife, 400ft., 30s.
Accept £7.10 lot, excellent condition.
HUGHES, 3 Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to clear, large quantity of Films, all Star subjects, big bargains, Biograph Edison, Vitagraph, Urban, Gaumont makes. Lists ready. JURY'S LTD., 142, Long-acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Animal Act. Cats and Dogs.
Offers, Box 7,197 "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Papier Mâché Armour, Weapons, any period, Rink Decorations a speciality, Flags, Japanese Lanterns, Trophies. DYMOND, Wyndham Arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Magical Apparatus, Coffee Table, produces three ducks, 37s. 6d.; Chair change to Portmanteau, 22s. 6d.; three Feather Plants, in pots, 27in. high, close like opera hat, 25s. lot; Trunk Mystery, 70s. LESTER, Llewellyn-st., Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, quantity of Marionette Figures and Scenery, or exchange for good Bioscope. F. DAY, St. James' Theatre, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Conjuring Apparatus, Tables (Set), Selbit's Magic Pictures, two Vent. Figures, Bargains. Lotters, 134, Fairfax-road, Harringay, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Class A, Besson B flat clarionet, 13 keys, new, cost £6; £3 for cash. Approval. C., 33, Euston-buildings, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Funny Bassoon, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Lyres, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Rattles, Tubaphones, Loudest Xylophones ever heard. Instruments resonated. Lisle's Tunable Resonators, Protected. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Dancing Skirts, with Knickers combined, 6s. 6d.; all kinds of Stage Dresses made and renovated. Miss FISHER, Riviera-drive, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno, Plain with Ruche, 3s. 11d. per dozen; Accordion Pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED TO BUY.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Pantomime of "Cinderella," Scenery, Wardrobe, Book, Music, &c, Sale or Hire. Also send prices for these items separately. State actual lowest price, where can be seen and full particulars to MIME, Dalross, Ltd., 83, Mitchell-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, a Proscenium Front, size wall to wall 27ft. 6in., height 24ft. from ridge of roof to floor, proscenium opening 16ft. by 12ft; also wings and border. Address, Box 7,202, "The Era."

WANTED, to buy Secondhand Bioscope, must be in good condition, with lantern attachment; also Gwyer jet oxygen and hydrogen regulators. State focus of lenses. Write P. 13, Sentinel Office, Hanley.

WANTED, Kinematograph Camera, Darling's preferred, with lenses and tripod.
Apply Box 7,150, "The Era."

WANTED, Cinématograph Machine, complete, with every equipment for travelling and showing. Operator send terms. Letters only. STEWART, 755, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Purchase, Tubular Bells, a Military Set in E flat; also a Military Journal, for cash. E. CAMPBELL, 12, Undercliff-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, Complete Monkey Costume, Gentleman, 5ft. 9in. Lowest Price. McKENZIE, Howegate, Hawick, N.B.

WANTED, to Purchase, Myriorama Scenery, Country Inn Set, and complete Cut Wood Scene. Lowest price, B. HOWORTH, Gaiety Theatre Burnley.

WANTED, by Composer, well known in Germany and Scandinavia, a suitable English Libretto for Musical Comedy. 6, Claremont-house, Lithos-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, a Complete Circus Ring Matting. Full particulars, H. CAZMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, two or three rollers, 32ft. least length, 6in. to 9in. diameter, cheap for cash. Box 7,213, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy,
a Rolling Globe.
State size and
lowest price for same.
SCOTT,
27, Third-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let,
Large Hall, in centre of City of Birmingham, for about Four Months, from June next. Suitable for Electrical Theatre, Minstrel Troupe, or any Novelty Entertainment. The Hall is exquisitely decorated, and has a floor space capable of seating over 1,500. Rent moderate. For full particulars, address Box 42, Mundy's Advertising Offices, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Feb. and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

SOUTHSEA, CLARENCE PIER.
WANTED, Known, the Pier Company invite applications from First-class Concert Parties or Entertainers for renting Pier Pavilion, from now, onwards, to March 24,
Saturdays excepted.
For terms and particulars,
Apply W. CUDDY, Secretary and General.

WANTED, to Let, Theatre, on Rental, for Stock Season or Pictures, from May 23 to Aug. 22. Apply, Box 7,205, "The Era."

ANDREWS' PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.
ADVERTISEMENT DEPARTMENT.
WANTED, to Dispose of the Rights of Advertisement Curtain also Programme, in the following Picture Halls:—Public Hall, Rochdale; Church Institute, Burnley; St. James's Hall, Plymouth; Victoria Hall, Southsea, Hants; Victoria Hall, Colne; Industrial Hall, Dewsbury; Oddfellows Hall, Stalybridge; Temperance Hall, Northampton; King's Hall, Lower Edmonton; Olympia Picture Palace, Todmorden, Lancashire. No interviews unless by appointment. All offers must be made by letter. A. and H. ANDREWS, Motion Picture Specialists, 5, New Compton-street, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, to Let to Responsible Management, Walter Howard's "Mascot" Play, "Man and Wife." Scenery, costumes, wigs, everything ready for production free of preliminary expense. Reason for disposal, the Owner, E. VAN BIENE, undertaking resident-management, Edmonton Theatre. Address, E. VAN BIENE, c/o "The Era." Responsible Managements only dealt with; others kindly not apply. Possession from Easter. Fully booked till then.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, cheapest in the World. Apply,
THE FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-rd., London, E.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for List.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Hire, Hall or Space, now and season, refined entertainment, Seaside preferred; any distance. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

Scenery for "SAN TOY."
WANTED, on Hire, for week Feb. 7. State size and lowest terms to BAKER, 199, York-road, West Hartlepool.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OAKENGATES.
WANTED, to Hire, good Films. State subjects, length, and full particulars. GEO. HARVEY.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £25.
Advertiser has Big Act and Bookings.
Address,
Box 7,211, "The Era."

WANTED, a Partner for Acrobatic Comedy Act. Must be a Good Tumbler and Known Performer. Address, Box 7,198, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Youth, 5ft. 2in. in height, at Liberty to join Partner, Acrobatic Troupe or Comedy Sketch Co. GAVIN LE BRUN (Queen and Le Brun), Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 26, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT Co., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. Telephone 2681 Central. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Millinery made, trimmed, and design copied, Ladies' Materials used or provided. Moderate charges. 39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., EDWARD HARRISON,
Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that we do Post-cards from Photos. in quantities not less than 100 from one Photo.; Memos. also done. SENIOR and Co., Fine Art Printers, Cotham Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

BIJOU THEATRE, WATERLOO.
WANTED, Known.—The above Hall having changed Management, all Contracts are Cancelled unless re-endorsed by the present Management, this being the third notice.
Signed, J. F. FRANKLIN.

FIVE HUNDRED REPLIES

IN ANSWER
to
ONE ADVERTISEMENT
in the
WANTED COLUMNS
of
"THE ERA."

Mr ALBERT HENGLER,
writing from the
HIPPODROME, GLASGOW,
says:—
MY ADVERTISEMENT
IN THE LAST ISSUE
OF YOUR PAPER
BROUGHT ME CLOSE
ON 500 REPLIES

AN EXCELLENT RESULT.

Particulars of
THE PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
FOR
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By OUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 31, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"The Arctic," Ruth Vincent, Loyal's Dogs, Selwyn Driver, Vanando, Lamberti, Cinquevalli, Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Charburn's Young Stars, The Alaskas, Animated Pictures, Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire Dance."

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Reginald Eyre's Co., in "Gentlemen, the King," Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, Four Regals, James' Strolling Players, Victor Travers, Annie Purcell, George Rae, Frank Maura, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Saschoff Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Dacey and Lewis, Rhoda Bros., Henry Helme, Georgia Coons, Harry Friskey, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Spissell Bros. and Mack.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

"Our Empire's Defenders," The Great Roland, Falco and Eida, The Clement Trio, J. W. Hall, J. A. Wilson, Three Thieves, Florence, Bioscope, Rexos.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

O Hana San, Rhoda Paul, Vory's Novelty, James Stewart, Darnley's Barnstormers, Bros. Gaudsmidt, Bert Errol, Cavallotti Bros., Bioscope, Fred Earle.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," Fred Elton, Northern Troupe, Leslie Bros., Olive Lenton, Gwennie Llewellyn, Tom Bryce, Clown Argo, Bioscope, Sebastian Merrill and Co., Nine Kremos.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Tom Leamore, Marie Kendall, Florence Esdaile, Jackson Family, Tom Davies Trio, Mabel Sinclair, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Co., in "The Tower of London," Manning and Gomersal.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Rene Glendower's Co., in "What a Man Made Her."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Bioscope, Rita Rhylle, Frank Hartley, Fred Keeton, Nina Wood, A Ba-Be's Album, Abdullah Arabs, Lottie Bellman, Chas. Lewis.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Boisset's "Trip to the Continent," Corcoran Bros., Tom Lloyd, Talbot and Pearce, Heeley and Meeley, Charles Matthews, Delomes, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Clarice Mayne, Crisps, Keen and Waller, Ethel Newman, Lowenwirth and Cohan, O'Gust, Chas. Santon, Stanley and Greenop, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lady Tree and Co., in "The Sirocco," Mazie Hibbs, Chas. Vincent, The Whibbys, Kramers, J. H. Scotland, Alfred H. West, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens, Prince Milner Trio.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Elliott-Savonas, Carl Howard, The Villions, Amelie De L'Enclos, Addie Dorina, Jackley Trio, Bioscope, Alf Gibson, Rachel Lowe.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

La Sylphe, Juan Buonaparte and Co., Sylvia Du Barry, Olympian Troupe, Ted E. Box, Haines and Borthwick Co., Sisters Storm, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Three Meers.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Dr." Awful Bogie, Van Biene, Fatmah Diard, Rossi Ashton, Delevines, Laurence Barclay, Munroe's Comedy Team, Katie Butler, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Will o' the Wisps, Holden's Mannikins.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," by arrangement with Fred Karno.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Cinderella," by arrangement with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan.

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Jewel's "Change," Frank Cass, Bioscope, Bros. Durant, Braatz's Dogs, Vanando, Lester Bros., Gertie Gitana, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Cyril Maude and Elise Craven, in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," Evie Greene, Madiah Surith, Slaviansky Russian Choir, Les Romanis, Alexandra Dagmar, Solbrig's Automatus, Counsill and Mills, The Courtiers, Bioscope, La Tortajada.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle," Jessie Albini, Bioscope, "Dolly's Deception," Bessie Slaughter, Giovanni Wals, Sammy Shields, Arthur Kenny, Eight Lancashire Lads, O'Malley and Brown, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Musical Silvo, Lester Carey, Tom Stuart, Horace White, Viviana and Co., Bioscope, Victor Widdicombe.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Olga Petronowa and her Military Band, Amelia Bingham, Edith Harmer, Tom Moore, Marsumas, Baby Betty Green, Bioscope, D'Arc's Marionettes, W. J. Churchill.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Bellclair Bros., Dan Fraser, Carl Lynn, Gladys Mavius, Marshall and Parr, Three Delaries, Bioscope, Daras, "The Bosun's Mate."

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno in "Perkins, M.P.," Harry May Hemsley, Carney and Armstrong, Mendel, Siems, Russel and Held, Archie Naish, Alice Maydue, Bioscope, Emerson and Baldwin.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

J. W. Rowley, Lydia Yeamans, Bros. O'Brien, Bioscope, Coloured Meisters, Casey Army, Larry Lewis, Violette Stockelle, Mlle. Haydee's Mannikins, Edie Reynolds, Globe of Life, Cruikshank.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Doff Woolf, Harry Anderson, Paul Barnes, Gipsy Woolf, John Macauley, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Barowskys, Massona, To-To.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Harry Clifford, Arthur Ferris, Barnard's Mannikins, Will H. Fox, Cumberlands, Goggin and Davis, Frank Danby and Co., Bioscope, The Grotesques.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Raymond, Billy Hobbs, Jennie Hartley, Marie Pera and Co., La Freya, Empire Comedy Four, Craggs, Maxey and Pete, Gitto, Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan."

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Willette Whittaker and Wilbur Hill, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Farr and Farland, Gus Garrick, Three Van Dammes, Andrew McManus, La Berat.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Miss Marquis' Ponies, J. C. Scatter, Dot Hardy, Dion Wade, The Brennans, Pictures, Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Lottie Lennox, Chanti, Takio, Vincent, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, "Billy," Cumminger and Colonna, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Bella and Bijou, Sisters Caselli, Great and Good, Waul Langtry, Charles Mildare, Bioscope, Richard Corbin's Dogs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lukushimas, Saxo, The Sprees, Sadie Stuart, Harry Bedford, Rose Gower, Harry Leybourne, Pictures, Ross and Lewis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Dayton Family, Ethel Dunford, Leonie Dixon, Clark and Hayden, The Westwoods, Walker and May, Pictures, Millie Engler and Co.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Thiessen's Dogs, Mather and Mayer, Moxon Trio, Ted Cowan, The Bros. Horne, Josephine Sabel, Lionel Rignold and Co., May Henderson, Five X-Rays, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

D'Almere's Animals, The Hamiltons, Ada Martine, Jan Rudenyi and Co., Dutch Daly, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Waltons, Lillian Rose, King's College Boys, Arthur Croxon, Herbert Sleath, Four Vagabonds, Maria Cabalda and Co., J. W. Rickaby, Gobert Belling, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Maud Wellon, Rauschle, Marie Wilton, Five Juanitos, Little Ganty, "Parker, P.C.," Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Leslie's Cadets, Minnie Mace, Chas. D'Alx and Dog, Liane D'Eve, Geo. S. Melvin, Starley Bros., Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—

Karno's "Dandy Thieves," The Kepples, Violet Beatrice, Matt Wilkinson and Co., Frohmans, Sid Cotterell, The Jackaways, Sisters Macarte, Kioto and Esa, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Raffles."

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Mother Goose."

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—

Edouard José, Julian Ross, Queenie Mayor, Lilian May, Dardinis Trio, Harry Hasto, Hardie Palm, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ardell and Odell, Claude Gardner, W. T. Ellwanger, Eadie and Ramsden, Lily Burnand, "Concordia," Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the **DE FRECE CIRCUIT**, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to **Walter de Frece** at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option,

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terrier Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The Individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON

London District & Booking Manager— **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 31.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Barrington, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Danton and Morris, La Petite Rosa, Sketch, "The Key," Rayburn and Dix, Jack McNeil, The Menzies, Czar Russian Troupe, Brien McCullough and Co., Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Marie Santoi and Co., The Four Figaros, Valdo and Wade, Mamie Morris, Beck Film, Sisters Payne, Will Ambro, Ray Royal, Annie Lombard, John Parrott, Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Baker and Balfe, Rene Graham, Pete and Minnie Lee, "The Silver Medal," Sisters Robertson, Lawson and O'Dell, Tom Bass, Teddy Denham, Simeon the Seer, "The Flood Tide," Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Captain Ellis and Son, Peterman's "Slaterstein, Signor Arvi, Anson and Leslie, Lawrie, Frank Hardie and Co., Bartholomew Girls, Bertini, Morris and Moore, Comedy Meisters, Henry Hilton, Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Ellis and Campbell, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Florence Raymond, Jeannie Moss, May Reginald, Scholly and Scholly, Martell, Dorothy Dare, Lona, The Zodiacs, Esther Phillips and Co., Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Janowsky Troupe, Archie Pitt, Roxboro and Wright, Frand Le Dent, Will Rhodes, Damerall and Rutland, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Five Cliftons, The Fordyces, Stein-Esthor Trio, Dorma Morgan, Ryder Slone, Norah Desmond, Les Zanonis, Herbert Rule, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Harry Roxbury's Pantomime, "Mother Goose."

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Adderley Howard and Co., Josephine Crooke, Escourt, Curtis and Piccs., Luigi Salvino, Victor and Louis, Dan Whitley, Godfrey Price, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
James Willard and Co., Wyse and Adna, Les Montaldos, Bros. Ford, J. H. Greener, Lily Denville, Florrie Connolly, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Forty Thieves."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
The Selbinis, Margit and Lener, Enzer, Four Burnells, Mona Vivian, Friscari, Morny Cash, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Troupe Lafaille, Tom Joy, Helene Stewart, H. C. Lovell and Co., Alice Gill, Sleath and Aldin, Six Buster Browns, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Donaldson Bros., Milton Trio, Johnny Dwyer, Ethel May, Little Dando, Nora Emerald, Willie Long, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Arthur Lennard, Bromley and Fontein, J. H. Greener, Amy Anderson and Co., Tom Yorke, The Francoli Troupe, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Leoni de Lausanne, Gena Manon, The Roxbys, Flo D'Orville, Kitty Willis, Alfred Long, Donnas Trio, Pick of the Picture World, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning."
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Dick Whittington" (Jazon).
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.
PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Imperial Russians, Harry Luck, Les Saletos, Baker and De Sales, J. P. Carroll, Amy Bathurst, Bessie Neilson, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Juggling Geraldos, Sim Moree, W. Heriot and Co., Carney Bros., Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, The Lannons, Mabel La Blanche, Chas. Byron, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Chas. R. Whittle, Rene, Geoffreys and Benson, Roy Beavis, Percy Dalton, Ruby Dahl, Palace Perfection Pictures, Guy Rider.
PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Reg. Ewen, Ambrose Thorne, Beattie Foster, Rooke, Rorke, and Co., Beatrice Wiley, Wallace Whitney, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Tele: 5954 Avenue Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

NOW READY.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.
A VAGABOND'S IDEA,
BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,
The Publisher
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.)

London—New York—Chicago,
Have just the songs you want.
AUGUSTE VAN BIENE'S GREAT SOLO,
ROSES AND MEMORIES
By Ted Snyder.
Being played nightly with Enormous Success by the famous 'cellist.
Monday, Jan. 24, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.

Published as Song, Piano Solo, Violin and Piano, 'Cello and Piano, 1/6 nett.
Orchestra and Piano, 2/- nett.

Other Songs, ALL BIG HITS, are
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY. Sung by Phil Parsons, also by Sadie Stanley.
THE STAR, THE ROSE, AND THE DREAM.
I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I PLEASE.
IT'S THE PRETTY THINGS YOU SAY.
Sung by Nina Wood.
SADIE SALOME. Sung by Lowenwirth and Cohan.
IF YOU CARED FOR ME. Sung by The Crown Trio.
and THE GREAT IRISH BALLAD,
WHEN HE SINGS THE SONGS MY MOTHER SANG.

COME AND SEE US,
and get a Practical Demonstration.

Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co.
(Inc.)
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
SOLICITOR.
PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at—
"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.W.—Apartments vacant. Sitting-room and two Bedrooms, or two Bed-sitting-rooms. Mrs. John Callan, 7, Evandaleroad, Brixton, S.W.

LONDON, W.—West Kensington. Comfortable house, full or partial board, from 25s. 158, Sinclair-road, close Tube and Shepherd's Bush Empire.

LONDON, W.—Well-furnished dining-room floor, extra rooms if required; bath-room; piano; superior house; good cooking; attendance. 75, Shirland-gardens, Maida Vale.

LONDON, W.—Superior furnished Apartments, from 15/-; also Suites, Piano, Bath, quiet street, central. Opp. Tube. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly-circus.

LONDON, W.—21, Wells-st. (few doors from Oxford-street). Large comfortable bed-sitting room; also bedroom.

LONDON, W.—Oxford Circus. A large well-furnished bed-sitting room; bath, electric light. Mrs. Griffiths, 2 Margaret-st.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—Mrs. Lewington, 3, Landport-terrace. 2 sitting-rooms and 6 bedrooms, near Hippodrome and Empire, Theatre Royal, bath room and piano.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Splendid rooms, every attention; piano, bath (h.c.), w.c.; 1 minute from Empire, Opera House, sea.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

ATTRACTIVE LITTLE FLATS to Let, near Stockwell Electric Station, and Trams to all parts; three or four rooms, hall, bath, &c.; well fitted and decorated, rents £29-£36.—Apply to Mr. BOWIE, 38, Atholl-mansions, South Lambeth-road, S.W.

CALL FOR REHEARSAL.
MR. HERBERT SLEATH'S
"A WHITE MAN" Co.,
on MONDAY, 11.0.
DEMOCRATIC CLUB, MAIDEN-LANE, STRAND.

PANTOMIME PRODUCTIONS FOR SALE.

The Entire Production of
CINDERELLA
FOR SALE at the end of the Run. Can be seen at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE, LONDON, where it is playing to enormous business. Might arrange for production next Season.
Also the entire production of
THE FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS
FOR SALE at end of Tour. Can be seen
Jan. 24, NELSON;
Jan. 31, BUXTON;
Feb. 7 and 14, GRAND, NOTTINGHAM.

Address,
Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan,
6 John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

THE THALIA DIARY AND DIRECTORY

for
CONCERT PARTIES & ENTERTAINERS.
Contents:
Directory, with particulars of Concert Parties, Proprietors of Parties, Artists, Pier Pavilions, Winter Gardens, &c. Two-year Calendar, 55-page Diary, Monthly Cash Accounts, Postal Printing, and other useful Information.
No Manager or Artist can afford to be without it.
A FEW OPINIONS.
Your excellent little diary.—JOSEPH BUCKLEY, Esq.
A most excellent little book. — HENRY HUDSON, Esq.
A most excellent and useful book.—ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Esq., Herne Bay Urban District Council.
&c., &c.
Price, 1/-. Post-free, 1/2.
THE THALIA DRAMATIC & PRINTING CO.,
Concert Party Specialists,
93 and 94, Chancery-lane, W.C.

LADIES' LAP DOGS.
Tiny Blenheim, so perfect, he is a winner in keen competition, yet so small he can be carried in a Lady's muff; also equally tiny Ruby dog. Can be seen here by appointment, or shown in London. MANAGER, Windfall Cottage, Pound Hill, Crawley, Sussex.

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

DOWN'S PARK COLLEGE
FOR BOYS.
Herne Bay.
Terms moderate.
Entire Charge Taken.
T. AURELIUS, M.A. (Cantab).

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. £25 nett

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central. 1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6666.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

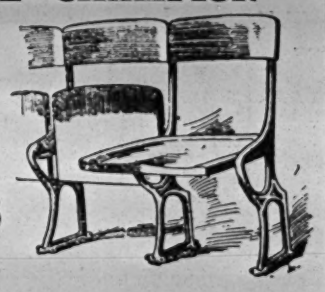

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . .
Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PRINTING—

in modern styles, at the lowest rates for stock or special pictorial or letter-press. Write us.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Nethertield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1895 Dalston.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Released Thursday, Feb. 3.

IN LITTLE ITALY.

Drama. Length 956ft.

Released Sunday, Feb. 6.

TO SAVE HER SOUL.

Theatrical Drama. Length 986ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Released Sunday, Feb. 6.

THE ENGINEER'S DAUGHTER.

Melodrama. Length 1000ft.

Released Thursday, Feb. 3.

AN INDIAN WIFE'S DEVOTION.

A Prarie Story. Length 470ft.

A MILLION DOLLAR MIX-UP.

Comedy. Length 520ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Released Sunday, Feb. 6.

BLISSVILLE THE BEAUTIFUL.

Comedy. Length 830ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

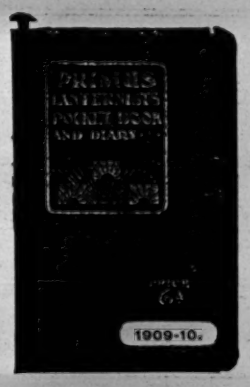

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post SIXPENCE Free.

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES,
5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of THE Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines.

ABDULLAH ARABS, THE 12.
Success Everywhere.
Jan. 31, Grand, Birmingham.

ABEL, LORD, and LORD WELSH,
The Filleted Comedians. Empire, Stockport.

ACHMED IBRAHIM'S GREAT
Troupe of Ten Bedouin Arabs.
The Genuine Success. Pavilion and Putney.

ALBAS, GREAT, in his
Original Head-slide on the Slanting Wire.
Jan. 31, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

ALEXANDER, JENNIE,
The Phenomenal Child Artist.
Jan. 31, Empire, Liverpool. Sole Agent, LEO FRITZ.

ALVA, GLEN, Comedian and Expert
Dancer, Billy, the Page, "Cinderella." T. R., Margate; next, T. R., Canterbury. No Vacancies.

AMANDUS and MLLE. ROSINA,
The Up-to-date Impersonator and Versatile Instrumentalist. Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

AMASIS,
Wonderful Egyptian Conjurer.
Enormous success, Colston Hall, Bristol.

AMEDA, MLLE., the Only Lady
Hand and Foot Equilibrist now on the Continent. Coms., c/o 9, Judge st., Watford.

AMIO TRIO.
This, Empire, Bristol; next, Imperial, Canning Town. Wanted, Feb. 14, 21. Wire.

ARIEL and ASTARTE,
Lady and Gent., Gymnastic Act; free Monday. Wire, Palace, North Shields. After, SLEY.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA TROUPE, Society Athletes.
Metropolitan. Require Feb. 14.

ATTILLA BROS. Vacant Jan. 31,
Feb. 7, through misunderstanding. Wire for a good "Top." Palace, Carnarvon. Wire.

AUBREY, WALTER, Simply a Dancer.
This, Empire, Hull; next, Hipp., Nelson. Vac. Feb. 21.

BADDOW, the Great Ventriloquist.
Refined, Clever, Successful.
Monday, Lyric, Liverpool (return).

BANZAI FAMILY,
Most Novel Japanese Act.
On Tour.

BARNARD'S, DAVE, AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool. Tel., 2349 Royal.
Always open for star artists.

BARNUM'S BEAUTY'S HOME
is
Belmont's Public-house, opposite Palace Theatre, W.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS,
Our most successful Panto.
Engagement closes 29th. 31st, Surrey.

BARTLETT, ROSIE.
Hippo., Peckham.
Address, 12a, Hill-street, Woolwich.

BEANLAND, QUERY,
Widow Twankay.
Next week, Royal, Sunderland.

BEECHAM and WHEELER'S
Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency.
12 and 13, Henrietta-st., W.C. Tele., 1280 Gerrard.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjurer,
assisted by MISS MAIE. This, P., Durham. Coms., 136, Lorrimore-road, Kennington.

BELLA and BIJOU.
At Home.
Telegrams, &c., "Bijou," Southport.

BELROSE and DE VELIN, Parts and
Speciality. "Babes in the Wood" Panto. T. R., Halifax; T. R., Longton, Jan. 31.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY,
168, Brixton-road, S.W. Telegrams, "Yelteb, London." 'Phone 1308 and 1309 Brixton.

BERNARD, GEO., in Song Dramas.
Jealousy can turn a mouse into a lion.
Monday, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank, Glasgow.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR, BLOUNT,
A Popular Comedian.
77, Lavender-sweep, London, S.W.; or HIGHAM.

BLYTHE, MARIE.
Jan. 31 London.
Address, 9, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W.

BODEY BROS., Great Knockabout
American Three-bar Act. Big Speciality for Big Galas. 9, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists. T. R., Wednesbury. Vac. Monday. Woodman Hotel, Wednesbury.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME
Different from all others.
Jan. 31, Alhambra, Paris.

BOULTING, CHARLES, Baritone.
Light Comedian. Will resume work shortly. Add., Cecile Ville, Marlborough-road, Gunnersbury.

BRADY, JAMES.
Eccentric Joker. A fellow the people only laugh at. Monday, return Empire, Hull.

BRAMHAM, JOHN. Professionals'
House of Call in Bradford is the Oddfellows Arms (Saloon Bar Entrance, opposite Palace).

BRENTON, SISTERS.
Empire Palace, Barnsley.
Agent, EDGAR STEBBINGS, Manchester.

BROOKLANDS, THE,
conclude Wakefield. 31st. O. H., Harrogate. Who'd like to adopt us. Feb. 21.

BROOKS, GEORGE H.,
Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent,
36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BURTON, GEORGE, Pantomime
Specialist, Author, Composer, Producer, Gen. Man., "Cinderella." Junction T., Manchester.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105 and 106, Strand.
Telephone No. 1975 Gerrard.

CAINE, ANDIE,
Own Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."
Big success, Hippo., Putney.

CALVERT, MR. CAYLEY,
Sketch Author. 97, Melrose-avenue, Cricklewood, N.W. 'Phone 347 Willesden.

CAMBO and CASTELLE,
on Tour with Hamilton's Excursions.
Perm., 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

CARL and CARR,
Comedians, Chinese Policemen. Vide Referee—They are a priceless pair. Court T., Warrington.

CARLISLE, COLIN,
the Real Light Comedian.
On Tour.

CARNEY, J. H., Comedian.
This, Pal., Shipley; next, Hippo., King's Lynn. Vacant, Feb. 21, March 7.

CASELLI, GEORGE (late Stanhope Gordon), Comedian, Dancer. P., Greenwich, Paragon. Vac. Mon. 16, Harefield-rd., Brockley.

CEDRICS, THE.
Different from all others, Conclude Arbroath; Mon., Town Hall, Glasgow. Exclusively engaged.

CESTRIA,
Comedy Juggler and Acrobatic Waiter.
Jan. 31, Pal., Derby; Feb. 7, Hippo., St. Helens.

CHESTER and LEE'S FANTOCHE.
Monday, Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.
In Music Halls forty years, not forty minutes.

CLARK, MASTER HARRY.
England's Premier Juvenile. Jan. 24, Hippo., Brighton; 31, Granville. BEECHAM and WHEELER.

CLAXTON, TOM, and SON,
Variety Agents, 6, Gordon-mansions, Francis-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

CLEMPERT, THE FAMOUS,
On Tour in South America.
All coms., 107, Glenigal-rd., Streatham, London.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D.,
the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour.
16, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CLIFFORD, ERNEST,
Eccentric Comedian and Dancer.
Monday, Opera House, Harrogate.

CLYFFE, DAINTY DOLLY,
Child Comedienne. Unexpectedly vac. Jan. 31, also Feb. 14. Wire quick, DOTTRIDGE, Oldham.

COLVERD, MISS JOSE.
Full of vivacity and animation. Vide Press. Big success, Walham Green.

CONOLLY, FLORRIE,
(Irish Colleen). Jan. 31. Macnaghten's, Leicester. Require Feb. 14.

CORA, SISTERS, Principal Boy and Girl. Panto., "Dick Whittington. Bonny Scotland. Big success. See next week.

CORNELIUS CHOIR, Ten Skilled
Vocalists. Wanted, Jan. 31, Feb. 7. Wire, Lawless, 69, Carter-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

COWLEY and RICK, "Hop o' My Thumb."
Regent T., Salford; next, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne. Next season settled same firm.

COYLE, FRANK,
the Continuous Comedian.
Monday next, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

CRAGGS, THE,
in "Billy."
Jan. 31, Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG,
A Novelty with Drawing Powers.
C/o "The Era."

CREEDONS, THE.
This week, Empire, Rochdale.
Jan. 31, Royal, Warrington.

CROSSLEY, SYD, the Long Comic.
This, Queen's, Poplar; next week, Jan. 31, Hippo., Lowestoft. Coms., WALTER BENTLEY.

CUMBERLANDS,
the only Successful Cyclists in the World.
C/o "The Era."

CURRY, PERCY,
Ali Baba, J. Kiddie's "Forty Thieves." Palace, Derby; next, Hippo., Stalybridge.

DAHL, RUBY,
in Her Original Act.
Palace, Warrington.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington, Lancs."
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

DALY, MARK,
Prince Hal, "Jack and the Beanstalk."
T. R., Birmingham. Agent, Mr. C. DENTON.

DANIELS, THE TWO,
Black Specialities. Terms and dates, Salisbury-pl., Sherbourne-rd, Birmingham. D.C. Lithos.

DARLING, JESSIE,
America's Premier Roller Skateuse.
C/o "The Era."

D'AUBYN, MINNIE.
Playing Crusoe with Harry Burns' Panto. Co.
Next, King's, Gateshead. Com., BURNS' AGENCY.

DAY, GREAT, Illusionist; also MIZNAHS, Second Sight Act, Gigantic success
Vac. 7th, 14th, 21st. King's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

DAY'S, A., VARIETY AGENCY,
28, Hayter-road, Brixton, S.W. Always Vacancies for Star Turns. Tel., 712 Brixton.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE.
Jan. 31, Tivoli, Dublin.
Free Feb. 7, One Week.

DE FRECE'S AGENCY, LTD.,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
MAURICE DE FRECE, General Manager.

DE PAS, BERTHA, the Luminary of
Low Comedy and Eccentric Dancing. Palace, Blackpool; Rotherham to follow. TOM SHAW & Co.

DE ROSE, Mlle., Hilda CLAREMONT,
Robinson Crusoe. Polly Parkin.
Hippodrome, Sheffield.

DIACOFF, TOM,
General-Manager, Picture Palace, Morley, also Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

DILLONS, BOUNCING.
Bouncing Competition Fully Protected.
12, Gasalot-road, Tooting, London, S.W.

DOLLIE and ELSIE,
Title-rôle, "Babes in the Wood."
Jan. 31, Hip., Accrington.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD,
Staffordshire's Famous Singing Boxmakers.
Monday, B. T., Wallsend. Vacant Feb. 7.

DOUGHTY, GEO. C., and MOLLY LANEY, in "A Woman's Way." Vac. Feb. 7, 21. Olympia, Shoreditch; next, Palace, Reading.

DOUGLAS and GORDON.
Touring Scotland.
C/o Kay, 16, St. Monance-st., Springburn, Glasgow.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians.
Opera House, Workington.
Next week, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

DUNCAN and BRASQUE.
In their Great Comedy Playlet, "My Lancashire Wife." Palace Th., Blackpool. 6 Nights.

DUNNING, KAHN and KAHN TRIO.
Tremendous success. E., Dublin.
Monday, Tivoli, Manchester.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Jackson Withers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archie Ainsleigh.—Miss Mary Neil and Mr. George Kirk's company is here in *Her Luck in London*. Mr. Hugh Carmichael gives a very excellent rendering of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; Richard Lenowen is well entrusted to Mr. J. C. Carlyle; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne makes a very effective Rev. Lionel Strong. Mr. T. Lionel Ellis is successful as Stephen Harborne; Miss Mary Neil acts with charm and grace as Nellie Harborne; Miss Dora Woodberry is an engaging barmaid; and other parts are in good hands.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Victor Knight.—Metz and Metz, top of the bill, delight with their unique speciality act; Lilian O'Gorman, comedienne and dancer, has a good reception; Frank Pope, character comedian, creates roars of laughter; and the Godfreys, in their musical act *The Coon and the Slavey*, are the recipients of loud applause. Some excellent pictures on the bioscope are given.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. George Edwardes' company, with *The Dollar Princess*, has been displaying the charm and allurements of this fascinating lady to susceptible sons of the granite city, who acclaim her to be superb. Amongst those players contributing to the general joy are Miss Ciara Evelyn as the Princess, Miss Norma Whalley as Olga, Miss Mabel Russell as Daisy, Mr. Eric Thorne, Mr. Leonard Mackay, Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, Mr. Percy Davison, and Mr. Paul Plunket.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—In a very fine programme this week, one of the most acceptable turns is that given by Les Marbas, delightfully clever and quaint acrobats; Selbit, the mysterious spiritualist; the Five Vernons, instrumentalists; Will E. Stopit, eccentric comedian; Dancit, a clever lady dancer; Miss Norah Noble, comedienne; Kendrick and Laura, in comedy and dancing act; and Walter King, comedian.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company is presenting the new domestic drama, *Only a Little Boy here*. Mr. Oswald Douglas worthily sustains the part of the hero, Steve Kingdom; Mr. F. Marriott Watson is well suited in the character of Jim Bragstone; Mr. Elton Morgan as Ambrose Pennington displays ability; and Mr. Aubrey Winn distinguishes himself as Sir Philip Meynell. Mr. Cecil Raymond creates laughter as Joshua Snell, being ably assisted by Miss Flo. Norman as Deborah; Miss Florence E. Florence is a capital June; Miss Hettie Senior makes the most of her opportunities as Tag-Rag; Miss Fanny Olive does exceedingly well as Mona; and Miss Mary Ainslie is a capable Lady Mary Meynell. Miss Dot Forde as Billie Bragstone is to be commended.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—Messrs. Cullen and Carthy are presenting their excellent condensed pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, here on the twice nightly system. Miss Bessie Cohen as Robin Hood charms all by her dash and versatility; Miss Maudie Forde is a winsome Maid Marian; and the Babes have capable representatives in Miss Dollie Cullen and Miss Elsie Jordison. Mr. Arthur Stratton puts in some good work as the Baron; Mr. Tom Drew makes up well as Peggy; and much hilarity is caused by Messrs. Cullen and Carthy, assisted by their diminutive companion Little Cluley, as the bold, bad robbers. Miss Marie Fern achieves a distinct success as the Fairy.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Babes in the Wood*, provided by Mr. Clarence Sounes, is one of the best seen here for some time past, and although played under the two-house system, is as attractive as could be desired. Eddie and Ethel's clever act is vociferously re-demanded; and Collins's sextette of dancers are popular. Miss Mildred Bryan is a dashing principal boy, and her charming sangfroid as Robin Hood, and her tuneful rendering of vocal numbers are thoroughly appreciated; Miss Mabel Mignon gives a meritorious conception of the Maid; and Miss Ethel Lyle's Maid Helen is capital. Mr. F. Terry as the wicked Baron Stoney Broke assists to create many funny situations; Mr. Charles Paton is successful as Llorgie Georgie, and also attends to the stage management; as the Dame Mr. Freddie Webb is good; while as the two robbers Messrs. Eddie Lyle and James Graydon arouse much laughter. Mr. Lyle's eccentric dancing is one of the features of the performance. Miss Lulu Clayton and Miss Connie Haselden are the Babes.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The pantomime, *Hop o' My Thumb*, which has been on tour since Christmas, under the direction of Messrs. H. B. Levey and J. E. Cardwell, is being performed here this week *Hop o' My Thumb* is played by little Georgie Harris, a clever juvenile performer, and Mr. Harold Pyott as Tommy, the smallest man in the world, is also a unique figure in the panto. Miss Kitty Trewhitt as the Prince (Jo No is quite a favourite, and gets the ear of the audience with her songs; Miss Kitty Rafferty as Princess Meadowsweet, is full of gaiety, and scores with her singing; Mr. Vivian Wakeman plays Georgina with great success; the humorous Jerry finds in Mr. E. W. Selman a funmaker it would be difficult to surpass; a very comical couple are Messrs. Rice and Cowley as a couple of "sheenies"; Miss Evelyn Major wins great favour as Rupert; some clever juvenile performers are Master Randy Simpson, Master Stanley Annison, Miss Phœbe Crewdson, Miss Jenny Rockliffe, and Master H. Levey. As a sonsie Scotch lassie Miss Gladys Wyse attracts great attention for her precocity of talent; Miss Olive Purcell as Fairy Moonshine is quite satisfactory; and Mr. R. Allan as the Giant Blowhard, well made up, contributes valuably to the fun. The two scenic sets which attract most favour are "The Orchid Forest" and "The Moonland Palace."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The popular burlesque actor, George Mozart, heads the bill and proves a prince of laughter-makers. The Lovelaces (Jack and Marie) are again here; Will Willis is a clever comedian; Miss Diana Hope presents *The Altar of Duty*, the characters in which are vividly presented by Monty Bayly as the doctor, Mr. Chas. Levey as the valet, and Miss Diana Hope as the woman. The spasmodic comedian, Ted Waite, is a very acceptable "turn"; Johnson and Bert present a novel act, *A Queer Customer*; a gymnastic act by Les Supriskis is clever, expert, and daring. The bioscope picture is Dove Eye's Gratitude.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—*For Love and the King*, presented by C. Watson Mill and company, occupied the boards for the first three nights of this week, and drew good houses. Mr. C. Watson Mill himself appears as Gerald Meredith, and his fine forcible acting meets with much appreciation; Miss Joan Ellis pleased by her capable ertatment of the part of Natlia; Miss Rosalind Tate, in the rôle of Edith Meredith, also scores a success; as the Miser, Mr. Alfred Maurice fairly holds his audience by his fine acting; and Mr. F. K. Wicksteed (Prince Uros Dagomir), Mr. Geoffrey Chate (Carl Oppenheim), and Mr. Fred J. Webb (Valdimir Obrenovic) also portrayed their different parts with marked distinction. For the last three nights of the week the attraction was Mr. Seymour Hicks' company in *The Gay Gordons*.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is here. The cast is a very good one, and includes Mr. Frank Beresford as George Thornton, Mr. Lockwood as Capt. Darville, Mr. Charles Ludlow as Bill Mullins, the Gaffer, Mr. Phillip Beaufoy as Dido Bounce, and Mr. Fred Archer as the Cough-Drop, Miss Dorothy Milne as Marian Thornton, Miss Mabel Cooke as Barbara Scarth, and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Mullins. The Two Little Vagabonds are played by Miss Helen Granville as Dick and Miss Ivy Millais as Wally.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—A capital programme is fully appreciated by crowded houses. Coram tops the bill, and proves his cleverness as a ventriloquist, his gags being very smart; Gene Morelle, a musical tramp, gives a screamingly funny show; Melia and Mozarabar, Oriental equilibrists, introduce a novelty in the form of trained ravens; W. R. Raby established himself a favourite—his song, "Sleep," brings down the house; Bros. Clair, the eccentric wheelists, give a clever act; Jules Kiaro, Continental equilibrist, has a neat refined act; the Zaid Trio please in their Oriental speciality; Ethel Thomas, Welsh soprano, renders two songs with great effect; and the Palacescope has entertaining pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company with *The Earl and the Girl* is here. Mr. Bert Beswick is a ludicrously funny Jim Chese; and Miss Lilly Gullick is a charming Elphin Haye; Miss Beatrice Hayden is humorous as Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Aton Laina a pleasing Miss Virginia Bliss; and Miss Ida Stratham a good Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Ada Waugh makes an ideal Liza Shoddam; and Mr. Herbert St. John does well as Dick Wargrave.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's company in *Sindbad the Sailor* is here. Miss Lily Sümmond makes a delightfully dashing Sindbad, and Mr. Fred Warner is an ideal Old Man of the Sea; Miss Lottie Collard wins admiration as Princess Yazora; Miss Ruby Collis does well as the Fairy Good Fortune; Messrs. Rand and O'Ryan are drolly effective as Biz Bad and Quis Bad. Others who do well are Miss Kitty Russell (Irza), Miss Gladys May (Selim), Mr. S. Dean (Mrs. Sindbad), Mr. Dan Lyall (Tinbad), and Mr. W. Melville (Caliph).

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Consul the Great is the chief item here this week, and this almost human animal astonishes all with the intelligence he displays; Tom E. Hughes is a first-class comedian; an exceedingly clean and clever balancing act is given by the Almas; Maggie Rimmer is a dainty comedienne; Mlle. Rosina is pleasing with an instrumental entertainment; Charles Craston is a comedian with some quaint humour and songs.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Tate's Juveniles are giving an excellent entertainment here. Several sketches, clever and humorous, are much enjoyed. Some capital films are also given.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company is paying a return visit in the popular naval play, *The Flag Lieutenant*. The cast contains half a dozen artists who were here before in their respective rôles, namely, Mr. George Mallett (Vice-Admiral), Mr. Montagu Love (Major Thesiger) Mr. Hugh Wakefield (Horatio Hood), Mr. John Wheatman (Michael Palliser), Miss Stella Leigh (Mrs. Gough-Bogle), and Miss Florence Jackson (Mrs. Cameron), and these clever ladies and gentlemen play with all their former success and wonderful freshness. The newcomers include Mr. Edgar Kent as Dick Lascelles, whose breezy and devil-me-care representation appeals at once to the audience; he has charming support in Miss Dorothy Ripley as Hermione Wynne; Mr. George Percy does well as Walter Crutchley; and Mr. Olaf Hytten is suitably placed as Dormer-Lee. Mr. Lionel Isted hits off the part of General Gough-Bogle to the life.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The Troupe Lafaille introduce new and sensational gymnastic and equilibrist feats; Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns meet with a good reception in their vocal and dancing act; H. O. Lovell and Co. are seen in their comedy act, *Mam'selle Pom-Pom*; Tom Joy parodies two of the song hits of the day; Alice Gill warbles her Tyrolean ditties well; Sleath and Aldin perform an Irish duologue, "Under the Shamrock"; and Helene Stewart is heard in illustrated songs. Included in the pictures are Noel and The Young Redskins.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The Gaiety (Dublin) pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, commenced on Monday of last week its run here, and undoubtedly the Belfast public have thoroughly enjoyed the production, especially the unique performance of Wee Georgie Wood, whose imitations of music-hall stars are so remarkably realistic. On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons Mons. Rouraud's company appeared in French classical plays.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the pathetic play *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, presented by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company. Mr. Hubert Helliwell gives a fine impersonation of the Rev. John Alberry, his acting being beyond reproach; the rôle of Alice Walters is cleverly portrayed by Miss Agnes Collier; Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell furnishes an admirable impersonation of Farmer Walters; the rôle of Jack Walters is sustained with no little success by Mr. Percy St. Clair; the humour of the piece is largely in the hands of Mr. Herbert Fuller, who is most amusing as Timothy Slough, and is ably assisted by Mr. Louis Weston as Wagner Mozart; the iniquities of Squire Jack Stonely are luridly portrayed by Mr. S. Leigh Courtney; Miss Lily Fuller is capital as Diana Vanderbout; Miss Florence Delmar is a capable Mrs. Walters; and other rôles are adequately presented by Miss Emily Lewis, Miss M. Courtney, and Messrs. E. Jeffs, P. Byres, H. Jones, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Miss Louie Freear, the clever comedienne, who on Monday gained much favour with her character songs, especially "Twidley Bits"; the act submitted by Les Piccolinos is decidedly novel; the remarkable feats of George the First, introduced by Dandy George, have aroused much enthusiasm; the Brothers Dean furnish a rare treat in their terpsichorean display; Miss Marguerite Ismay's White Coons gain much favour with singing and dancing; the Garricks in their song-scena afford much pleasure; and the Jees in their Musical Smithy are favourites. Also here are Bowden and Stol (novelty acrobats) and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Douglas's Jolly Bakers, comedy acrobats, billed as the star turn, did not put in an appearance here on Monday; Miss Millie Engler and company stage with undoubted success a farcical episode entitled *Beauty and the Burglar*, written by Mr. G. R. Sims; Walker and May gain unbounded applause for their vocalism and dancing; a capital musical sketch is provided by Clarke and Hayden, the vocalism of the lady being especially pleasing; the cycling act of the Westwoods is undoubtedly smart; Miss Ethel Dunford's cultured soprano has been heard to advantage in "Shadowland"; Miss Leonie Dixon sings "Peggy, the pride of the mill," in charming style, and dances neatly; and the programme is completed by Miss Gertie Grace (comedienne) and the Bioscope.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Tunstall.—We have a powerful attraction this week in Messrs. Summers and Saunders' comical pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Olive Astor makes a captivating Robin Hood; the Maid Marian of Miss Lulu Lord is effective; Mr. A. McAllister is droll as Evalean, the dame; Denby and Dent work hard and successfully as Tim and Willie; and some clever and sprightly dances are introduced by the Sisters Mawdesley (the Babes) and the Salonicas.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. James Welch's company is on an initial visit here with the comedy, *When Knights Were Bold*, and presents a thoroughly successful and delightful entertainment. The cast is in every way an excellent one, including, as it does, Mr. H. Langdon Bruce, who, as Sir Guy de Vere, has a part that fits him like a glove; Isaac Isaacson is admirably represented by Mr. Chas. Lloyd; Mr. H. Winton is well suited as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; Mr. Colin Johnston is an excellent Rev. Peter Pottlebury, D.D.; Lady Rowena Egginston is finely played by Miss Emita Lascelles; and the remaining characters are, without exception, in able hands. The little piece, *Millie's Mother*, forms an admirable curtain-raiser.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—A leading attraction in an excellent programme is supplied by Miss Beaumont Collins, who, supported by her able company, appears in an interesting playlet, entitled *The Leaves of Memory*, with distinguished success; Fred Edwards, assisted by Miss Bertha Northam and others, are prominent in their amusing sketch, *Kleptomaniacs*; and Miss Cassie Walmer, a clever contralto vocalist and dancer, is a general favourite. Other capital turns are those of Davis and Deane, comedians and dancers; Miss Bessie Lind, comedienne; Andy McLeod, comedian and instrumentalist; Mark Leslie, comedian, singer, and dancer; the Three Orleans, vocalists and dancers; and the up-to-date pictures of Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. John Tiller's company, in the comic pantomime *Jack and Jill*, has fairly caught on here. The title-rôles are splendidly represented by Miss Nellie Grimshaw and Miss Alice Maude respectively, and the comedians, Mr. Bruce Greene, Mr. Horace Jones, Mr. F. Le Cren, and Mr. H. Le Cren, work hard and successfully. A Scotch ballet is a prominent feature; the Tiller Troupe of dancers are well in evidence; and the Imperial Ballet Troupe execute some pretty dances. The auxiliaries are numerous and effective, and the scenic effects are first-class.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—There are heavy bookings for the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*, in which Mr. George Robey, Miss Ada Reeve, Mr. Barry Lupina, and the Brothers Griffiths are conspicuous for excellent work. The picture matinées are being well patronised.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*Babes in the Wood* pantomime continues to run smoothly, and crowded and enthusiastic audiences assemble at each performance. There is a strong company headed by Mr. Mark Sheridan and Miss Dorothy Ward.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Crowds are flocking to this popular house to enjoy the most popular and up-to-date pantomime ever staged here. *Aladdin* is presented by an accomplished all-round company, and there is not a dull moment from start to finish.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Miss Renee Glendower and her company are scoring a success in the drama *What a Man Made Her*. Miss Glendower in the character of Janet McAllister, an artist's model, has full opportunity of displaying her remarkable talent in a trying rôle; Mr. J. M. Olivert gives a good portrayal of the husband, Dr. Mark Haven; and praise is due to Mr. Edward Rawlinson (Rupert Danescombe), Miss Stella Carmichael (Lady Thora), and Miss F. Russell Spires (Elfrida), who sustain the heavy business. Mr. C. Hartopp also gives a clever character-study; and the other parts are in capable hands.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. H. Taylor.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is presenting *The Luck of Roaring Camp* before large audiences. The story deals with life in the Far West, and Miss Elizabeth Dundas provides an excellent character-study as the heroine, Nell Curtis. Mr. Douglas Murray fills the part of Will Gordon, a manly hero; and three unscrupulous adventurers are portrayed by Miss Doris Gilham, Mr. Chas. E. Johnson, and Mr. Ernest Clarke. The company is an excellent one, and the drama goes with a good swing.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—Audiences here are thoroughly appreciating the drama *Her Path of Sorrow*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company. Mrs. Draycott as Pauline Ferrars and Mr. Draycott as Richard Burfield provide excellent character studies, and their acting is skilful and convincing. Miss Daisy Carlton and Mr. Will Hook work well together in the humorous situations, and other responsible rôles are successfully undertaken by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne, Miss Nellie Freeland, and Messrs. Frank Etheridge, Frank Englefield, Theo. Balfour, and Charles Rayne.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Temptation*, a drama produced by Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company, is proving a great draw, the story being one that appeals strongly to lovers of melodrama. Mr. Dudley Wynton sustains the part of Sir Charles Tremaine with credit, and the two characters portrayed by Miss Nora Carton and Miss Beatrice Selwyn provide an interesting contrast. Mr. Norman A. Overton cleverly fills the exacting part of the villain. Two splendid characters are also represented by Mr. Arthur Trail and Miss Olga Kay. Plenty of humour is introduced by Miss Mattie Crawford, in a dual rôle, and Mr. Willie Reid.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—A well-balanced bill is headed by Tom Leamore and Marie Kendall. The former, a versatile comedian and dancer, is a popular entertainer; and a warm welcome is accorded Miss Kendall, who sings her charming songs in pleasing style. Thrilling cycling feats are performed by Tom Davies and his confrère; an excellent pantomimical absurdity is ably presented by Albert and Edmund's company; W. J. Manning and Louise Gomersal perform cleverly in a comedy duologue entitled *Knocked Out*; quite a musical treat is provided by the Jackson Family; Mabel Sinclair is an up-to-date ventriloquist, her performance being novel and highly entertaining; Florence Esdaile is an accomplished vocalist; and Steve McCarthy is a smart comedian. Bioscope pictures of flood scenes in Paris are watched with keen interest.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Lovers of dancing have a special treat provided by Signoritas Mossetti and Patti and Signor Marcelli, who appear in an Italian ballet entitled *Uncle Isadore*; Miss Lottie Bellman, assisted by Mr. Bay Russell, creates quite a furore in her "Bits of Vaudeville"; a remarkable exhibition of tumbling and pyramid-building, in which feats of strength are prominent, is given by the Abdullah Arabs, twelve Moorish artists; Charles Lewis presents an original ventriloquial sketch; Frank Hartley is an extremely dexterous juggler; A Ba-Be's picture postcard album is an artistic novelty which greatly delights; a pleasing entertainer at the piano is Nina Wood; Rita Rhylle is a charming comedienne; Fred Keeton is a popular comedian; and considerable interest is evinced in the Bioscope pictures of the Paris floods.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—There are many good turns in the programme this week, and the most amusing is a sketch, *The Sleepwalker*, played by Walter Ellis and company, in which the situations are cleverly hit off. Jordan and Harvey, the popular Hebrew character delineators, are also strong favourites; Conway and Leland are amusing in a clever acrobatic performance; and Mi Narom has a good reception in low-comedy business. Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys appear in a smart turn; the Birkenhead family are popular musicians; and Guest and Newlyn, the Oaks Duo, and Fred Kendall also contribute acceptably.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Barrasford's, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—The highly-amusing farce *The Bailiff* is presented by Fred Karno's company, and they succeed in keeping the audience in a constant state of laughter; in French and Brazilian dances, Joly Violetta, assisted by Signor Arnand, is very successful the audience warmly applauding her clever and artistic work; Briff, Braff, and Broff appear in a refined comedy acrobatic turn; Leo and Roland are clever entertainers who perform daring tricks at ladder balancing; Sydney Brandon is responsible for interesting character impersonations; the Resas are warmly applauded for novel juggling feats; and an effective comedy element is supplied by the Arthur Gallimore Trio and Ritter and Foster.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Mme. Albani's appearance has resulted in this popular variety house being crowded at every performance. The famous prima-donna holds her hearers spellbound in several of her favourite selections, and arouses wonderful enthusiasm. She is assisted by Herr Jan Zakovsky, violin virtuoso, and is accompanied by Mr. Harold Craxton. Clever acting by Miss Sidney Hayes and Mr. George Cockburn is a feature of a dramatic sketch, *The End of the Chapter*; the Zanfrellas are daring pedestal equilibrists; Harry Blake, comedian, is immediately popular; Miss Elsie Bernard is an entertaining American comedienne; and Bert Davis, male soprano, and Cavalli, ventriloquist, are other bright turns.

CURZON HALL (AMERICAN AND CONTINENTAL CIRCUS).—Director and Organiser, Mr. A. Edward Inshaw.—A good programme and full houses sum up the week's report of this hall. The Hodginis appear in an amusing sketch entitled *Fun at the Seaside*, and the audience applaud the eccentricities of the Four Miovskys. *Melville's Last Stand* is the title of a dramatic sketch produced by Mr. Fossett, in which clever animal training is a predominating feature. The very best talent is included in the programme, and there are plenty of amusing interludes.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Wm. Pardoe's company is paying a return visit with his pantomime *Dick Whittington*, a good house being present on Monday. Mr. George Hyam keeps the house simply convulsed by his clever jokes and patter; Mr. Tom Hulme as Alderman Fitzwarren and Mr. Jimmy Wood (the Cook) both do well; Mr. Alf Grady (idle Jim) and Will Robb (Capt. Binnacle) are full of good humour; Mons. Paull makes a realistic cat; Miss Lottie Holland in the title-rôle sings in catchy style; Miss Nellie Rose as Alice is charming in every way, and dances cleverly; Mr. Tom Griffitt (King Rat) is very fine, as is also Miss Kedward (Fairy Bowbelle). The chorus is powerful and the scenery good. The specialities include the Victor Brothers, the Edengale trio of dancers, and the Pauletti, trick cyclist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Miss Edith St. Clare is drawing crowded houses with her funny pantomime *Aladdin*. Mr. Fred Russel plays Abanazar very cleverly; and Mr. Bob King as Widow Twankey is very smart. Messrs. Fremel and Fremel cause much amusement; the Sisters Voldecque are good as Prince Hi-to-Nee and Loo-Li-Ah-Tee; as Aladdin Miss St. Clare is very becoming, and her songs are well rendered; Miss Nan Farren as Princess Badroulbadour is admirable. The scenery and chorus are all that can be desired, and the Canton troupe of dancers are very clever.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The Blackpool Amateur Operatic Society is in possession here this week, and under the able direction of Mr. Deane Percival is nightly delighting large audiences with an excellent representation of *Tom Jones*. The original scenery is used in the production, and all the costumes are entirely new.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Humpsti-Bumpsti (Pipifax and Pablo) supply a most diverting acrobatic turn here; James Fawn receives a cordial welcome; trained animals give an admirable performance under the direction of Carl and Mary Ohm; the Brasques are screamingly funny in a sketch; John Cronow gives "Moments with Celebrities"; Madge Goodall is a smart comedienne; Dave Carter is an excellent tenor vocalist; Bertha de Pas is a merry comedienne; and Adelaide Woldorf sings pleasing songs. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The visit of Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and E. Stevens' pantomime company with the ever-popular *Aladdin* proved a pronounced success, full houses being the rule. In the title-rôle Miss Mabel Hind won the heartiest of applause; and Miss Lily Lonsdale, the possessor of a sweet voice, was at once a favourite with her charming rendition of the rôle of the Princess; the Widow Twankay of Mr. Tom Carrick was provocative of much amusement; Mr. Ernie Myers won favour as Abanazar; Mr. J. A. Aitken was much in evidence as the Grand Vizier; Mr. E. R. Beaumont, who is responsible for the production, made up as the Emperor of China; the Brothers Fiman as Bo Bi and Bo Ko created rich and enjoyable fun; and the Three Warners, whirlwind and speciality dancers, were accorded a brilliant reception, their turn being watched with great interest.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—This week we have *The Arcadians* presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. Mr. Gus Oxley as James Smith and Simplicitas was a host in himself; Mr. Frank Collins was a great success as Peter Doody, the jockey; Miss Madge Haines as Mrs. Smith was good; Mr. Roy Sidney made an effective Jack Meadows, and Mr. Roy Lorraine as Bobby was both merry and bright. Miss Marion Edwardes as Sombra is the possessor of a good voice, which she uses to the best advantage; Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea is very neat and pretty; and Miss Mysie Devine as Eileen Cavanagh sings some pretty Irish songs. The augmented orchestra was under the bâton of Mr. Albert Bartlett.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An excellent company here includes the Sutcliffe Troupe of clever Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats; Mollie Edwards, a dainty comedienne; Monty Walker, a Bolton comedian; Alfonso Silvano in pyramid equilibristic feats; the Four Vagabonds, a comedy quartette of harmony-makers; Johnny Holland and company in a farce, *My Friend Boots*; Flake White, lightning artist; George Lawrence, actor vocalist; and Stewart and Morgan, Irish comedians.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Fred Karno's company tops the bill here with *The Dandy Thieves*. Other turns making up a capital programme are the Kepples, operatic vocalists; Violet Beatrice, dainty boy impersonator; the Matt Wilkinson Trio, in their comedy sketch, *The Registry Office*; the Jackaways, in their laughable sketch, *The White Statue*; the Frohmans in a musical act; Kioto and Esa, in their wonderful equilibristic performance; the Three Sisters Macarte, in their novel scena, *The Land of the Lotus*; Sid Cotterell and company in their comedy success, *The Substitute*; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. A. Burdett.—La Belle Parisienne, Mlle Liane D'Eve (from the Casino de Paris) in her original chansons and transformations, with novel picture changes of character, is again paying a visit; Starley Bros., acrobatic cyclists and motor cyclists, are a clever pair; George S. Melvin, comedian, is successful; Chas. D'Aix and his dog Arienne combine in a wonderful exhibition of canine training; George S. Hall, comedian, is good; Leslie's Cadets have a new and original naval scene, *After Lights Out*; and Minnie Mace, eccentric dancer, is successful.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* must rank as one of Mr. Hart's brightest and most successful efforts in the way of pantomime. The audiences are large, and applause and laughter continue to greet the efforts of the clever company.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Hearty laughter prevails during the performance of *The Forty Thieves*, and the efforts of the comedians of the company are unflagging. As a spectacular production the pantomime is undoubtedly Mr. Laidler's finest effort here, and his enterprise is fittingly rewarded.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—In his admirably staged adaptation of *Rip Van Winkle* Mr. Fred Storey (who is exceedingly well supported) is again earning applause for his artistic performance of the reckless, luckless Rip; Miss Juliette's performing sea lions are a wonderful example of animal training; Giovanni Wals, the Spanish Caruso, is a fine, robust tenor; and Jessie Albini is an accepted comedienne; *Dolly's Deception*, a smart and amusing sketch submitted by John Scott and company, finds favour; in her well-rendered contralto songs Bessie Slaughter wins applause; Sammy Shields, the entertaining Scotch comedian; Arthur Kenny, a remarkably clever trick cyclist; the Eight Lancashire Lads, dancers and singers; and O'Malley and Brown, comedians, contribute successfully. Pictures of the Paris floods shown on the Bioscope conclude.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—The Janowsky Troupe of acrobats, in a ladder act of considerable novelty and daring, win applause; Archie Pitt, comedian, contributes in quaint style; and a humorous turn by Damerell and Rutland, with funny patter, elicits much laughter; Frank Le Dent, an expert juggler, does some novel and funny hat tricks amongst other things; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright, with rapid character sketches and good dancing in their turn *Hi Wun*, win favour; Will Rhodes is a vendor of quaint songs; the Baltimore Coloured Quartette entertain with characteristic humour; May Knight, comedienne, submits an acceptable turn; and the Palace Perfection pictures are amusing.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*Robinson Crusoe* is still running here with great success, the new songs, jokes, and dances being very warmly appreciated. Miss May Mars achieves distinct success in the title-rôle, her vocalisation being an especially prominent feature of the enjoyable performances. Miss Violet K. Oram as Polly Perkins dances herself into great favour; Messrs. Jimmy Fergusson and Lyons as Corkscrew Bill and Captain Kuttle provide plenty of fun, and are well supported by Mr. Dave O'Toole (Mrs. Crusoe) and Mr. George Campbell (Billy Crusoe). Last Monday evening about eighty members of local cycling clubs patronised the pantomime.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—The leading attraction here is the performance of Jack Brownson's musical comedy scena *The Romanys*, which is fully noticed in another column; Petro and Leon are smart gymnasts on the aerial trapeze; Stalman and Russell are warmly applauded for their comedy episode *Borrowed Plumes*; Ray Bliss is a pleasing comedienne; Roelcin's performing cockatoos provide an interesting turn; the Warringtons appear in a capital herculean equilibristic act; the Hulls are good in musical comedy; Henry Robinson is a double-voiced vocalist; Maudie Laurel, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, achieves success; Harry Fortman is a refined character vocalist; and an appreciated extra turn is given by the Two Tarrants, comedians and patterers.

The beauty of the whole production, the elegance and richness of the costumes, together with the all-round excellent company, would well account for the great success already achieved. Miss Lulu Valli is a sweet voiced principal boy, and plays her part of Reggie with much vivacity; Miss Alice Pollard is a graceful and attractive Goody, winning all hearts by her dainty style, excellent singing, and pretty dancing; Mr. Horace Mills, an old Bristol favourite, presents a quaint study of Mother Hubbard, and in the scenes in which he is associated with Mr. Charley Harvey (the Squire) the laughter is continuous; Miss Sydney Fairbrother makes a fine part of Mary, a maid-of-all-work, her quiet and somewhat melancholy style being most effective; Mr. G. H. Elliott works hard, and has become a popular favourite as Chocolate, his songs and scenas with the children going particularly well. He is an admirable dancer, and is encored again and again. On Saturday last the principals made collections on behalf of the Lord Mayor's Hospital Sunday Fund, the amount realised being £17 13s. 2d.

Theatre Royal.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Robinson Crusoe* is still attracting full houses. Miss Kitty Upton and Miss Blanche Marion are popular favourites in their respective parts of Robinson Crusoe and Polly Hopkins. The comedians, Messrs. Charles F. Martell, John R. Bennett, Edwin Garth, and Frank Dunlop, all work very hard, and are successful in keeping up the fun "fast and furious." The Misses Albert are pleasing exponents of Captain Lanyard and Sally; the Misses Gonson are very appropriately placed as Bob Mainstay and Susie; Miss Judith Espinosa makes a capital part of Friday, her clever eccentric dancing always being warmly applauded; and Mr. Dave Jenkins (Davy Jones) displays to advantage his fine voice in appropriate songs. Excellent speciality dances are introduced by the Four Sunrays. The scenery and dresses are much admired.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Corman's Juveniles, twelve in number, present a very attractive scena *The Waif*, which is much applauded; John Grun Marx, "the modern Hercules," performs extraordinary feats of strength; Alice Cheshire and company amuse with their sketch, *Wanted, a Wife*; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie entertain with comedy and song; the Four Mexican Lasso Wonders do a smart act; Howe and Ardie are capable comedy acrobats and gymnasts; Fritz Von Liston, operatic siffleur and imitator of birds and animals, does an attractive turn; and Mlle. Tina is a graceful and expert gymnast. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Courtice Pounds and company are highly successful with their musical comedy sketch, *Charles, His Friend*; Lee and Kingston score with their smart absurdity, *A Resourceful Lover*; James Hare and company do well with their episode, *Wrong 'Uns*; Tom Jones, Welsh comedian, obtains considerable appreciation; the Three Romas present some fine gladiatorial feats; Staffo is a smart juggler; Susie Dole is a pleasing comedienne; and the Sprees entertain with their scena, *Twickenham Ferry*.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—This theatre is reopened with Fred Granville's comic pantomime *Aladdin*, written by Joseph L. Barry. It was welcomed on Monday by a large and enthusiastic audience. The comic element is in excellent hands, and the other members do well in their several rôles. Mr. Bert Harrow is a very amusing and clever exponent of the magician Abanazar; Miss Amy Bellwood is a dainty and fascinating Aladdin, with a roguish smile, and full of energy; Mr. Happy Attwood as Widow Twankey is very clever, and his appearance called forth much laughter; Bernard and Weston as the police do a very large amount of clever comic business; Mr. Mansell Fane as the Emperor and Mr. Charles A. James as the Vizier also create much laughter; Miss Beatrice Harris is a charming Princess, and dances very gracefully; Miss Jennie Hallworth as Pekoe and Miss Hilda Zingart as Saucee do some acceptable singing and dancing; Miss Margaret Story (Radia), Miss Eileen Cross (Lumino), Mr. Bert Bernard (Wishee-Washee), and Miss Marion Walker (Lardi-Doo) also deserve praise. The Zingari Troupe of dancers are very smart. The scenery and dresses are pretty. Bert Harrow and Marion Walker are very amusing in the scena, *On the Prom*.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Carl Rosa Opera company is this week presenting grand opera. On Monday evening Bizet's *Carmen* was performed before a highly appreciative audience. The nom-rôle had a delightful interpreter in Miss Doris Woodhall; the singing of Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Don José was greeted with enthusiastic approbation; and a sweet soprano, Miss Beatrice Miranda, did well as Micaela. Mr. Allan Turner did full justice to the rôle of Escamillo; and the chorus sang in excellent style. Special praise is due to the orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Walter Van Noorden. In *Faust* Mr. Wilson Pembroke created an excellent impression; Miss Beatrice Miranda made a charming Marguerite; and the Mephistopheles of Mr. Arthur Winckworth was also highly successful. *Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Destiny*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Il Trovatore* are the other operas announced.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The top place on the programme here is occupied by Netta's Singing Jockeys, who are loudly applauded; a capital musical turn is given by Jessie Miller, cornetist and Dollie girl xylophonist; the Forsythes, in a vocal comedy duo, are funny; and King Luis and partner are smart acrobatic equilibrists. Extremely clever sleight of hand tricks are exhibited by Henri Bekker, assisted by Mlle. Mair; the Burnley Æolian Quartette are capital; Vennie Veldon, dusky male impersonator, possesses a sweet voice; and the Empire Theatrescope illustrates A Day in the Life of a Street Arab.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The ever-popular Arthur Lennard is the bright particular star here this week, and succeeds in gaining much admiration; Bromley and Fontein create roars of laughter; Tom York sings well; and J. H. Greener, singing pit lad, is re-welcomed. The Francolis, with the "Bill-poster and Living Lithographs," gain much applause; Amy Anderson and company raise laughter in their comedy act, *The Banana Queen*; and the Dainties dance in an accomplished manner. A Cattle Ranch and A Ragpicker's Christmas are shown by the Palace Pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—*The Arcadians* appeared here the first half of the week to a crowded house, and met with instant success. Fun ran fast and furious throughout, a state of things for which Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson (Simplicitas) and Mr. Alfred Beers (Peter Doody) were chiefly responsible. Mr. Arthur S. McDonald was a spirited and natural Jack Meadows; and Bobby was nicely played by Mr. Cyril Lane. Miss Gertrude Aylward gave a fine character sketch as Mrs. Smith, who, in conjunction with Simplicitas, caused roars of laughter. Miss Gladys May shone as Eileen Cavanagh, and danced cleverly; Miss Sybil Tancrede was a pleasing Sombra and possesses a fine voice and presence; Miss Muriel Dance also did well as Crysea. The chorus and band were first-class, and the mounting and dressing excellent.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon.—*Cinderella*, Mr. Falcon's own pantomime, is with us this week, and the popular lessee of the local theatre has never given us anything better in the way of pantomimes. Miss Cecilia Gold is a delightful and dainty Cinderella, and sings effectively; Miss Maude Nichols makes a dashing Prince Elegant, and Miss Lilian Drake a charming Dandini; Mr. Jack Waller as the bankrupt Baron is decidedly good, and he makes a great hit with his song, "Miss Goldstein's glass-eye," while he is no less clever as an executant on the violin; Messrs. Wal. Lesley and Albert Lawrence provide immense fun as the ugly sisters, Sweetie and Girlie, and both render some capital humorous songs. Mr. Lawrence also sings the soprano song, "Somewhere," in a rich falsetto voice. Humour of the most irresistible type is provided by Mr. Glen Alva as Billy Buttons, and the buffoonery of Messrs. Harley and Hardon is no less appreciated by the juveniles. These two gentlemen are also responsible for the amusing burlesquinade with which the performance concludes. Miss Beatrice Maude enacts the part of a dairymaid very pertly, and she is a speciality dancer of undoubted ability; as the Demon Mr. Bert Darrell is entirely successful, and he is the possessor of a pleasing voice to boot. Miss Rene Willoughby makes a dainty Fairy Godmother, and Miss Leila Carstairs is no less admired as Fairy Sunshine. The pantomime is being produced by Mr. Albert Evremond.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Regret is keenly felt in Cardiff at the closing down of the finest pantomime ever seen in this district, *Dick Whittington*, which has been a phenomenal success.

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—On Monday night *Mother Goose* entered upon its last week, and from the very commencement nothing but praise for management, principals, chorus, and orchestra has been heard on all sides.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—A visit is being paid to the Empire this week by Miss Amelia Bingham and company, in *Big Moments from Great Plays*. Miss Olga Petronowa, Russian conductress, and her military band, gave selections in a masterly manner; a return visit is paid this week by D'Arc's Marionettes, who present positively lifelike impersonations in miniature of well-known music hall artists; W. J. Churchill, a popular comedian, provides a humorous item; Tom Moore, character comedian and vocalist, is entertaining in his song, "My Last Cigar"; the Marsumas, comedians on wheels, are both funny and clever; Edith Harmer, as a vivandiere, sings daintily; Baby Betty Green, juvenile comedienne; and a bioscopic film of the Paris floods complete a strong and varied programme.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—A really entertaining programme prevails at the popular Palace this week. Wilton Heriot and company present a capital sketch, entitled *Denbigh's Divorce*, in which Mr. Heriot, Miss Jean Gilmour, and Master Jack Coyle make great fun. The world-famous Geraldos "go down" in their wonderful club-swinging act; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor are equally successful with their turn; *The Dancing Master*; Sim Moree, the indiarubber Mahommedan, gives a remarkable display of contortionism; Mabel La Blanche, comedienne; the Corney Bros., duettists; Chas. Byron, character comedian; and the Lannons, expert dancers, are others.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here in *Leah Kleschna*. In the title-part Miss Bessie Rignold had ample scope for her abilities, and her intense and realistic acting created interest and appreciation; as Kleschna Mr. William Clayton played with assurance and skill; Paul Sylvaine was successfully impersonated by Mr. Charles Barrett; an excellent study of Raoul Barton was contributed by Mr. Algernon J. Hicks; and Mr. Graham Pockett's Schram was a clever portrayal. Mr. Edgar J. Coyne, in dual rôles, Miss Ethel Russel, and Miss Emmie Wallace gave excellent support, and the other characters were well placed.

CARMARTHEN.—Assembly Rooms.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Mr. Joseph Poole's No. 1 Myriorama, with a variety company, has paid a welcome visit to the Assembly Rooms this week for three nights. The Myriorama is quite up-to-date, all the latest events being faithfully portrayed, and the animated pictures are of a really entertaining character. The songs contributed by Mr. Bert G. Berry, the able and versatile guide, are well received; Miss Fredericka's performing terriers and "cake-walking" pony give a really marvellous performance; the Sisters Eileen and Maynie, the Dutch instrumental dancing duo, receive rapturous applause for their pretty act; Les Heuris give a fine exhibition in their equilibristic act; and Little Francesca delights with her dancing. Johnny O'Rourke is most amusing as "The Tourist"; and the Tissots (Willie and Marie) are remarkably clever in their living marionette entertainment. De Lilo, the lady bender, and Metz, the comedy juggler, are successful. The band is under the able conductorship of Mr. W. A. Abbey.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company is here in *Her Love Against the World*. Mr. Fred Emery is capital Eric of Strathmere; Miss Elsie Roberts a charming Princess of Idalia; Nello is appropriately played by Miss Rossie St. John; and Miss Blanche Steele acts with commendable care as Shulah. Mr. Oswald Cray shows ability in a clever impersonation of Prince Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallatt plays with earnestness and sincerity as Prince Othmar; Mr. Chas. R. Hann puts feeling and force into the character of General Gessler; and Prince Maurice is carefully represented by Mr. H. Hallatt. Mr. Arthur J. Moss is admirably suited as Kaspar; Mr. Arthur Carruthers and Mr. John Mill as Heinrich and Fritz cause laughter; Miss Amy Hastings as Gretchen is bright and pleasing; and Miss Julie De Esco makes an amusing Katinka.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H Emerson.—A capital programme here is headed by the Five Jolly Bakers, in a comedy acrobatic act; Miss Ciss Cole and company have a clever sketch, *A Naval Manœuvre*; Webb and Edna Branston prove themselves to be artists in several operatic items; Chas. Rowen's songs rouse much laughter; and capital harmony is provided by Williams's original Royal Welsh Minstrels; Bonetti and Corrie's juggling wins warm recognition; Sylvern, as an equilibrist, receives sincere and unqualified praise; and Bert Allen's patter is enjoyed. Capital pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company are popular.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Leroux's cycling monkeys have been cleverly trained; Cecil Gray's company is appearing in a tragic play by the Rev. E. S. Edwards, entitled *The Last Straw*; Bert Crosbie is a comedian whose mannerisms please Barnard's patrons; Ida Howard dances capitally; Arthur Briton's company presents a boisterous production, *A Sleepless Night*; and Vita and Paul, in a gymnastic act, and Rose Everette, comedienne, complete. Lacey's Erascope keeps well up to date.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company is here with *The Sins of Society*. Miss Grace E. Leslie fills the rôle of Lady Marion Beaumont with much success; Mr. C. F. Collings' Noel Ferrers is a praiseworthy performance; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson makes a manly Sir Dorian March; Miss Rosamond Bunton is a dainty Lady Gwendolen; and Miss Cissie Carlton a popular Lady Goldbury. Plenty of humour is extracted from the part of James Hogg by Mr. Maitland Marler; Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair gives a careful rendering of Mr. Morris; and other characters are adequately portrayed.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Here we have Lily Ray, comedienne and dancer; Billy Hubbard, whose elderly dame impersonation amuses all; Tess Lilley, vocal comedienne; the Alberto Troupe of equilibrists, who are heartily welcomed upon their return visit; Joe Cookson, in a neat and novel ventriloquial act; Adele Moraw, who made an immediate hit on Monday evening; the Barton and Franklin Trio, in a popular musical act; and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*Mr. Preedy and the Countess* pay a welcome visit this week. Mr. Preedy is cleverly represented by Mr. Weedon Grossmith; Miss Ruth Mackay invests with personal charm the part of the Countess; Mr. Murray Carson gives a consistent and well-defined impersonation of Mr. Bounsall; Mr. Oswald Marshall is a satisfactory embodiment of dignified senility as Lord Kinslow; Mr. Edward Bonfield is well in the picture as the tolerant, easy-going husband about town; Mr. George Seegar is a perky, fussy Mr. Sidgrave; and his better half is amusingly played by Miss Lydia Rachel; Miss Evelyn Kerry gives a dainty impersonation of Emma Sidgrave; Mr. F. H. Dent plays with much spirit the part of the voluble Reginald Saunders; Mr. A. B. Murray is excruciatingly funny as Mr. Preedy's punctillous valet; and Miss Lynne Fontanne is good as the shrewd lady's maid. The farce is well mounted, and goes merrily from start to finish.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime, *Puss in Boots*, is proving very entertaining. Miss Victoria Carmen and Miss Ruby Emmerson stood out prominently as Colin and Princess Iris respectively, their gaiety being contagious and their songs particularly well received; Mr. Michael Madden, the Bros. Hannaway, Mr. E. D. Nicholls, Mr. Fred Lyndo, and Mr. H. A. Griffiths supplied humour ad lib. Mr. Harry Gilmore made an excellent Puss; Miss Nancy Renshaw quite a hilarious Pompey; and Miss Louie Love a very capable Fairy.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—*Raffles* is here this week, the company being Mr. Leonard Boyne's. In the title-rôle Mr. Reginald Dance achieved a rare triumph, his entry being warmly welcomed, and the final curtain bringing him an ovation; Mr. Edward Irwin portrayed the part of Curtis Bedford with ease and cleverness and a fine sense of U.S.A. smartness; Mr. Oswald Griffiths gave a characteristic delineation of Crawshay; Miss Frances Titeradge was convincing as Gwen; Miss Mollie Tremaine most acceptable as Mrs. Vidal; Mr. Harold West showed ability as Bunny; and Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald was clever as Crowley; Mr. Arthur Willoughby in tone, gesture, and appearance aptly suggested the aristocratic Earl of Amersteth.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Moody-Manners' grand opera company is in its second week here, and repeated *Samson and Delilah*. Mr. Joseph O'Mara's Samson was a pleasing specimen of vocal power and beauty—the air "Israel, burst your bonds" was sung with soul-stirring fervour, and the sorrow-laden music in the second part was admirably expressed; as Delilah Mlle. Zelie de Lussan gave a charming representation, singing her numbers with delightful sweetness and finish; Mr. Dever as the High Priest of Dagon acquitted himself with distinction; Mr. Charles Moorhouse gave an admirable rendering of Abimlech; and Mr. Charles-McGrath as the Hebrew was duly dignified. The orchestra was excellent, and the staging perfect. *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *Aida*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the bill.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Charles Perelle's Bijou Circus is very entertaining, the dogs going through a number of clever tricks; In *The Daughter of the Regiment* Mr. T. H. Wood as Sergeant Sulpice. Miss Nellie Moore (the Countess), Mr. Ernest Chas. Gittins (Bruno), Mr. Percival Harris (Tony), and Mlle. Adele Prescott as Marie give a very pleasing performance; the Brothers Artois, in comedy bar act, are a smart pair; Dome, comedy clay modeller, produces some clever models; Percival, pianist and variety entertainer, supplies a very enjoyable contribution; Nellie Coleman keeps the house in roars of laughter; Bradley and Barns, American comedy duo, and Charles Newman, baritone vocalist, also contribute; and the Palascope pictures are very good.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A warm welcome is extended to Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company, with a well-selected répertoire. On Monday the *Lily of Killarney* was given. Mr. Turner himself appeared as Myles-na-Coppaleen, and scored a success. Miss Jeanne Jeune made a capital Eily O'Connor, her singing being very impressive; Mr. Tom Griffith, who possesses a powerful voice, was responsible for Danny Mann; Mr. E. Macintyre appeared as Hardress Cregan; Mr. Geo. Ridding as Corrigan assisted by a powerful chorus. *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, *Satanella*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also billed.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Crowded houses on Monday witnessed *The Fighting Parson*, by Mr. George Gray's company. The sketch was played admirably by the members of the company. Another good turn was a "Kindergarten" scene by Miss Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, who were encored again and again; the Norman and Leonard Trio, who style themselves "The Itinerants," are very skilful musicians; Richard Walley and his page give a very good juggling entertainment; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley appear in a comedy duologue, entitled *Betsy's Blunder*; Edie Anderson as a comedienne and dancer is very good; as is also Mr. Harry Leaton, character vocalist.

CREWE.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ambrose Fischer.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company is here with *Miss Hook of Holland*. In the title-rôle, Miss Nan Stuart is undeniably clever, and is heard to advantage in several musical numbers; Miss Madge White infuses plenty of "go" into the part of Mina; and Miss Laura Deen makes an excellent old market woman; Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Hook causes endless amusement; Mr. Charles Berkeley makes a big success of Ludwig Schnapps; Mr. Edward Kipling gives a droll rendering of Simon Slinks; Mr F. G. Dunn plays the Bandmaster well; and Mr. Robert Selby is well suited as Captain Adrian Paap. The piece is beautifully dressed and staged, and the tuneful and well-balanced chorus is under the direction of Mr. Richardson.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre. — Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—*The Harbour Lights* is well staged here. Mr. Frederick Victor acts with dramatic effect as Lieut. David Kingsley; Mr. Roland Daniel puts in genuine work as Nicholas Morland; Mr. Ernest Douglas is commendable as Captain Nelson; Mr. Elliott Ball is careful as Mark Helstone; Mr. Alec. Forbes deserves praise as Dick Hockaday; and Mr. Louis Palgrave is amusing in the rôle of Tom Dossiter. Miss Millie Ford is well placed as Lina Nelson; Miss Dorrie Roberts is excellent as Dora Vane; Miss Ethel Landeck is a capital Mrs. Chudleigh; Miss Lilla Norden makes a suitable Peggy Chudleigh; and Miss Hilda Comber is satisfactory as Bridget Malone.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Walter Gibbons and Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—*Old Chinas in China* is causing no end of fun, Mr. Lew Lake as Nobbler and Mr. Bob Morris as Jerry being very droll; the Warsaw Bros. submit a smart musical act; Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and ladies give some artistic classical poses; Dusty Rhodes is a jovial comedian; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden are great in comedy duologue; Morton and Elliott win approval in vocal, musical, and paper manipulating act; Wilson Hallett is a clever child mimic; Bertha Winder's exquisite dancing is applauded; and others worthy of mention are Frances Letty, comedienne; Joe Archer, comedian; and Yvonne Lamor, comedienne.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here with *Brewster's Millions*. Monty Brewster is in the capable hands of Mr. C. Esdale, who gives an excellent performance; Miss Cicely Stuckey as Peggy proves herself an accomplished actress; Mr. Gorden Ash as Charles Harrison is clever; Mr. Harry Hampson as Archie Golden is quite effective; and other parts are well filled. The ship scene is a masterpiece of stage craft.

Hippodrome Theatre, Ltd. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—A capital bill is headed by Alan Holt and company in a dramatic sketch, entitled *A Society Woman*. Other artists are Reg Beauchamp; Terry and Tate, in song, story, and dance; Agnes Tina, mimic vocalist; Leon Hall, dancer; Ugo Nap company, in burlesque; Shrillo, whistler; and Miss Ada Oxley and company in the sketch *Peggy*, together with the Hipposcope.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company is here in *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather is very clever in the exacting rôle of Zaco Malletto, being well supported by Miss Hilda Shirley as Myra Malletto. Wilfred Grey is nicely played by Mr. Colin Heather; Mr. Gerald Byrne is good as the half-witted Paul; and Detective Smart is in the capable hands of Mr. Walter A. Chetham. Mr. Wilton Drury and Miss Amy Maitland are responsible for good comedy as Peter Pimple and Dolly Dimple respectively. Miss Ivy Ross also does well as Lily, the white angel.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Martin Harvey appeared here in *The Breed of the Treshams* on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. As Lieut. Beresby, Mr. Harvey repeated the signal and outstanding success he has made in the part. His gifted wife, Miss N. de Silva, in her original part of Batty, submits a remarkably clever and sympathetic sketch. The veteran, Mr. Fred. Wright, sen., supplies a capital depiction of the old soldier, Colonel Bagshaw; Mr. Philip Hewland gives a dignified rendering of the Viscount Dorsington; Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford is well-played by Mr. Charles Greeney; a masterly sketch is Mr. Leonard Craske's Cornet Tresham, and a soldierly performance is Mr. Owen Roughwood's Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; Miss Brenda Gibson is a charming Margaret Hungerford; and Mr. Edward Combermere as Captain Stanhope, Mr. Alfred Mansfield as Captain Rashleigh, Mr. Denholm Muir as Lieut. Willoughby, Mr. Percy Foster as Cornet Kit Peyton, Mr. George Cooke as Corporal Lumsford, Mr. Richard Neville as Corporal Saxton, Mr. B. A. Pittar as Will Lumsford, Mr. D. Bain as a servant, and Mr. A. Wilson as Jevons, with Miss Bessie Elder as Mrs. Bagshaw, and Miss Sybil Walsh as Helena Pierrepoint are all excellent. On Thursday *A Cigarette-maker's Romance* was given, and for Friday and to-night *The Only Way* was announced.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—The principal attraction this week is Geo. Sheldon and company in their dramatic sketch, entitled *Before the Dawn*. The various characters are all capably handled, and the piece is in every way sucessful. Next on the bill is the Maximilian Troupe of equilibrists, who combine skilfulness with humour in an entertaining manner; the original Cestria, comedy jug gler and acrobat, is well received; Kitty Cameron is a pleasing comedienne and graceful dancer; Harry Maynard is a praiseworthy vocalist; and the same may be said of Wat Tyler in his dramatic scena, *The Deserted Home*; and the Sauteron Wonders are clever comedy speciality artists.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The ever-popular Lotto, Lilo, and Otto again do some brilliant feats of cycling, the culminating item consisting of a football match; Graham's masterpiece marionette show, in which the operator presents stage celebrities of the past twenty-five years, has an enthusiastic reception, which its merits well deserve; Bert Williams supplies an original and witty ventriloquial number; the Calcotts entertain with an amusing wayside sketch entitled *Rags and Tatters*, and prove themselves banjoists of ability; Mlle. Pollo gives an interesting gymnastic exhibition; and Clifford Morgan is heard to advantage in a couple of good songs.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company give a highly-interesting performance of the Venetian drama *The Tyrant*. In the rôle of Angelo Mr. Roy Fortescue does some powerful acting; Miss Marie Robson supplies a highly creditable rendering of Tisbe; Mr. E. E. Louis is a success as Rudolph, Prince de Roma; Mr. Percy Folliss works hard as Hornoldel; and Miss Jean Scott cleverly interprets the part of Lady Catherine.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. James Kiddie is presenting his pantomime *Dick Whittington* here twice nightly. Miss Lena Page as Dick sings well and gives a charming performance; Miss Florrie Warner is a dainty Alice, her singing and dancing winning much applause. Amelia Florence is capably and amusingly represented by Mr. Tom Gott; Miss Flo Hilton as Sir Algernon De Mash proves herself a smart male impersonator and sings well. Mr. Bert Hudson is excellent as the Cat; Messrs. Clifton and Gibson are good knockabouts and cause merriment as Silly Peter and Lazy Larry; Charley Chard as Idle Jack keeps his audience in a merry mood. The part of Captain Navycutte is well sustained by Miss Annie Broughton, and Miss Edna Frances sings and dances well as Mhordee Yyzah. Mr. Charles Cork (Rodenta) and Miss Maude Leviette (Concordi, the Fairy) meet with approval.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Mr. Wm. Holland's pantomime *Aladdin* is the attraction here this week. Miss Bertha Clifton (who is deputising for Miss Helen Charles, who is unable to appear owing to illness) makes a dashing Aladdin, her singing being much admired. Princess Badroulbadour is impersonated by Miss Poppie Holland in a captivating manner, her singing and dancing being smart. The rôle of the Widow Twankey is in the able hands of Mr. Robb Wilton, his quaint sayings and mannerisms evoking roars of laughter; and uproarious mirth is created by Mr. Bob Selvidge, who undertakes the part of Abanazar. The Three Chanters are a trio of good singers, and do well as the Emperor Mi-Ti-Hi and the two Chinese Policemen; Mr. Kennedy Allen extracts much fun out of the part of Wishee Washee; Miss Francis Haskoll is charming as Pekoe. The chorus work well under the bâton of Mr. Caffyn Baxter.

Hippodrome. — General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical Director, R. H. Riley.—The Five Bombays' smart singing and dancing act is exceedingly well received here; Harcourt Mills is a clever actor mimic; the horizontal bar and comical business of the Maro Duo keeps the house in continuous laughter; Harry Tomlin is a singer of ability, and scores well; Leigh Leicester proves himself a versatile vocalist; Mueller and Coyne, in a sketch, *There's No Place Like Home*, do some good acrobatic work; and Aidee Mellor, vocalist, sings exceptionally well. The pictures are very good indeed.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's New Year's pantomime, *Little Bo-Peep*, met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. W. H. Gatty was a realistic embodiment of the Demon Wolf; and in the characterisation of Fairy Moonbeam Miss Elsie Peach was effective. As Boy Blue Miss Eva May Rosslyn was universally popular; and Mr. Harry Rex enacted Baron Hardup with a fine perception of humour. A dainty impersonation of the titular-rôle came from Miss Lizzie Payne.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The pantomime of *Aladdin* has entered on its second week, and large audiences are attracted nightly. Miss Georgie Corlass has become quite a favourite as Aladdin, and her songs are heartily enjoyed; Miss Topsy Sinden is most pleasing, and her grand *pas de fascination*, so gracefully and perfectly executed, wins rounds of applause; as Abanazar, Carlton would be hard to excel, and his conjuring tricks are highly entertaining; Mr. W. H. Powell makes the most of his part (Widow Twankey); and Miss Gwennie Harcourt is scoring a big success in the character of Our Mary Ann.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. F. R. Benson entered on his second week here on Monday with a grand production of *King John*. Mr. Benson's impersonation of the unhappy monarch was magnificent, and he was warmly aplauded after each act; Mrs. Benson gave a clever and impressive reading of Constance and displayed considerable agility; Queen Elinor was admirably portrayed by Miss Elinor Aickin; Miss Mollie Terraine acted the rôle of Arthur with great success; and as Hubert Mr. Edward Harrison acted the part in an excellent manner. The parts of Prince Henry (Mr. Alfred Wild), Lewis (Mr. Guy B. Rathbone), and Philip Faulconbridge (Mr. Eric Maxon) were all capably presented. *Julius Cæsar*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* are billed during the week.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—The sensational drama, *A Beautiful Fiend*, occupies the boards here. Miss Sidney Crowe gives a powerful portrayal of the title-rôle, and as Count Karateff Mr. M. G. Montanini is quite realistic in his impersonation. Miss Netta Mitchell makes an ideal heroine, and the hero is ably presented by Mr. H. Skardon. Mr. Bert Woodin and Miss Madge Palmer are responsible for the humorous situations.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An excellent array of talent is here. Sadie Stuart's songs are most popular, and her clever dancing wins rounds of applause; Harry Leybourn, "a man with many voices," is an entertaining turn; Victoria Dagmar performs some smart and neat gymnastic feats with great success; Harry Redford's songs are well appreciated; Ross and Lewis are accorded applause for their clever dancing; the Lukushimas, in their acrobatic and balancing performance, are quite thrilling; Flo Stanley and company, in an interesting sketch, *The Prince of the Dandies*, are most successful; and Rose Gower, comedienne, and the Brothers Waltman, dancers, also contribute.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—A capital bill of fare is provided here. The Dayton Family give a wonderful Risley entertainment, their feats being particularly smart and clever; Starr and Leslie are most amusing in their novel speciality act; Baby Myrtle Grove, a young vocalist and dancer, scores well; Shang Hai is a clever Chinese magician; Dott and Williams are warmly applauded for their sand dancing; Walter Barrett, a good baritone, is heard to advantage; the Days, in their performance, "The Acme of Telepathy," are well received; Pawson and Robson appear with success in a musical comedy scena; and Professor Norton does well as a shadowgraphist. The Tivoli Bioscope is always up to date.

DUDLEY. — Opera House. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. A. E. Smith's pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, is the best that we have had this season. Miss Elsy Denys is dainty and graceful as Princess Beauty, and a bold and dashing Prince is Miss Kathleen Garnon, who has some good songs; the Sisters Lesmere are a charming couple as Lord de Vere and Dorothy Dimple, and the Sisters Wynstay are exceedingly clever dancers in the parts of the Hon. Reggie and Daisy Buttercup. The comedy is well supplied by Mr. Billie Taylor as the Nurse, Mr. Fred Polay as John James, Mr. Tom Francis as James John, and Mr. Geo. Alderman as King Sol. Miss Mabel Lewin as the Witch and Miss Gertie Leno as Fairy Radient are both successful, the latter being the possessor of a good voice. The dressing and staging are excellent, and the chorus a powerful one.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—The Five Whiteleys have an exceptionally clever wire-walking, musical, and acrobatic act; Delvere and Wallace introduce smart comedy and powerful singing; Lily Magarte, "the girl in the hoop," gives a daring performance; Vaubert, illusionist and smoke painter, is a very acceptable turn; as is also Emie Harlow, character vocalist. Saxo proves a good saxophonist and post-horn soloist; and Rosie Gaston as a dainty comedienne with good songs. The Empire Pictures are always enjoyed.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*The Marriages of M

unabated force, and the audiences show by their laughter and applause their appreciation of the work of the clever company. Mr. Jack Lane's musical interlude is received with tremendous enthusiasm, and the artist is recalled again and again for his admirable performance; Mr. Sham Glenville's droll business as the King is excellent; Mr. Joe Nightingale's Dame retains its qualities of humour without coarseness; and the sprightly acting of Miss Iris Banfield, Miss Radie Furman, and the other ladies of the cast help largely towards the fun; Miss Clare Hartland's fine singing never fails to draw forth enthusiastic applause; and the Tiller Troupe dance with conspicuous charm and neatness.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager Mr. Amand Mascard.—*Dick Whittington* commenced a short season here on Monday with a plentiful sprinkling of Scottish humour and well equipped in the matters of admirable scenery and effective stage setting. The production was received with great cordiality by an appreciative audience. Dick and Alice are attractively represented by the Sisters Cora; Mr. L. C. Young is good as the faithful Cat; and Miss Topsy Johnstone as the Sultan's daughter, as well as Miss Connie Irwin and Helène Garland in fairy rôles, add to the musical merits of the performance; of the comedians, Mr. Sam Thompson makes a hit as Idle Jack, and he has strong aid from Mr. George Westland as Mary Ann, Mr. J. Randle Wilson who doubles the parts of Captain Bailey and the Sultan, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones as Alderman Fitzwarren, and Mr. Michael Kemble as the King of Rats; pleasing speciality turns are introduced by Lindsay and Harte, the Four Killarney Girls, and the Celestas Comedy Quartette of vocalists.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The most notable item in this week's programme is Mr. Campbell Todd's military sketch, *Gentlemen, the King*, produced by Reginald Eyre's company, including Henry Bedford, who creates a pathetic and thrilling effect in the character of old Sergeant McGilliveray; agreeable vocal turns are contributed by Annie Purcell and Ethel Bourne; George Rae and Victor Travers are amusing in their respective lines as Scotch and quaint comedians; and Frank Manra's exhibition of foot equilibrism is a dexterous display; the sketch *The Ghost of Terry Bundler* is made interesting by Harold Nuttall's company; Sydney James's Strolling Players are entertaining in a lively medley of singing and dancing; and the Four Regals appear in quite a sensational strong act; and the Saschoff Troupe of singers and dancers provide one of their energetic Russian scenas. An excellent series of pictures of the Paris floods is shown by the American Bioscope.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke; Manager, Mr. Talbot Cooke.—Saturday will see the closing for the season of this popular place of entertainment, and the present week has been given over to benefit performances of the clever principals of the company. The esteemed proprietor announced his benefit for Friday, when a bumper house was confidently anticipated.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—An enthusiastic welcome has been accorded Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* here this week. Miss Sylvia May as Sonia is dainty and graceful; Mr. Fred Leslie scores a conspicuous success as Danilo; a warm favourite is the Baron Popoff of Mr. Edward D'Arcy; Mr. Fred Fowler, an old Exeter favourite, is accorded a warm reception as Nisch; and Miss Kate May is a most attractive Frou-Frou, her dancing being exceptionally graceful; Miss Ada Thomas is an excellent Natalie; and the Vicomte Camille de Jolidon of Mr. Ripley Evans and the Marquis de Cascada of Mr. William Allison are well sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Leo Merode is at the top of the bill this week in his "looping the loop" on a cycle; Susie and Protti contribute some exceptionally smart dancing; much amusement is caused by Elmo and Rego, quaint knockabouts; Arthur Rose is well received in *The Actor's Last Call*; and Dan Conroy is a comedian above the average; a comedy musical duo by Brull and Hemsley is aptly entitled *Fun in a Music Shop*; Cissy Curlette is a clever mimetic vocalist; and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Seymour Hicks's company opened on Monday with a three nights' engagement of *The Gay Gordons*. As Angus Graeme William Green gave an excellent impersonation; Miss Clarice Lockstone was a taking Peggy; as Nervy Nat Edward Carlton was amusing; Miss Mabel Dent represents Victoria Siddons successfully; and as Mary McLeod Miss Tessa D'Aberti did well. During the latter part of this week Mr. C. Watson Mills' dramatic romance *For Love and the King* was played.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company, in the popular play *A Message from Mars*, drew a full and highly appreciative house on Monday. Mr. Aidan Lovett was the recipient of much applause for the high quality of his acting in the character of Horace Parker, and Mr. George P. Polson gave an effective presentation of the Messenger. A realistic impersonation of a Tramp was given by Mr. Norman Clark, and Mr. Alfred Lugg ably filled the rôle of Arthur Dicey. Minnie Templar had a dainty and excellent exponent in Miss Rose Hellene, and as Miss Parker Miss Aubrey Ashton was all that could be desired. A good study of a Policeman was submitted by Mr. Danelle Greene, and Miss Teresa Vanbrough was quite successful as Polly, the servant. Scenery and electrical effects were exceedingly good.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Mr. Harry Burns's *Robinson Crusoe* has been here. The dancing of Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls is smart; Miss Minnie D'Anbyn is a dashing Crusoe; dainty Miss Fanny Harris is a taking Polly Perkins; and chief among the comedians is Mr. Arthur Alston, who, as Will Atkins, scores a success. Messrs. Tray and Rich as the Captain and his Mate are fun-makers; Mr. Mark Stuart is immensely droll as the Dame; Billy Crusoe is well looked after by Mr. F. Henderson; Mr. Bernard Cox portrays Davy Jones dramatically; Mr. Geo. Harrie in the animal parts deserves praise; and Mr. Dan Hendry as Friday puts in a pleasing performance.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. F. W. Bolam and John Tiller's *Jack and Jill* has been very successful here. During this, its last week, the audiences have been most enthusiastic, Miss Broadfoote (the Prince) and the other lady principals winning warm praise. The comedians, headed by Arthur Rees and Will Lytton, have introduced some topical gags, which have been well received. The dancing of the Eight New Cocktails and the Twelve Manchester Mites has earned well deserved praise.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—A second visit to *Aladdin* amply confirms the good opinion formed of it on its first production, and the reasons for its popularity are not far to seek. Mr. Harry Tate, in his special scenes, keeps the audience in roars of laughter all the time he is on; and another strong favourite is Happy Fanny Fields, whose Gretchen is a most engaging personage. In song, dance, and Anglo-Dutch patter she scores in every scene, and has proved a big hit here. Then Mr. Malcolm Scott as the Widow Twankey has numerous opportunities of imparting his views on men and things to the audience, and as a Gibson Girl, or as Nell Gwynne, or a première danseuse he is equally mirth-provoking. Miss Bessie Butt makes a most versatile and volatile Aladdin, and works like a Trojan all through the pantomime. Messrs. Regan and Ryan are established favourites here, and their comedy business is always welcome. Their special dance, with two young ladies, is worthy of particular praise. Mr. Harry Claff sings well as the Emperor; Mr. George Hirste as the Scotch Vizier gives a clever performance; and the audience heartily enjoy the efforts of Miss Dorothy Firmin as the Princess, Miss Maie Dillon as Pekoe, and Miss Doris Dean as Chee-ki, the latter making a special feature of her dancing.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The success of Mr. Arnold Bennett's play *What the Public Wants* was so decided that the Repertory Company kept it on another week, and postponed the revival of *Arms and the Man* till Thursday of this week, with *Lady Windermere's Fan* to come later.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* is such an attractive pantomime that the attendances are rather on the increase than otherwise. Mr. Neil Kenyon, who is immensely popular, is still quite at home in his part, and his many quaint mannerisms and pawkiness of speech are productive of the most genuine mirth. He works hard, and meets with the success he so well merits. As Colin Miss Lily Morris is all that one could desire. She is admirably suited for the part, and has a cheery breezy style. Her singing is likewise capital, and her choruses are heartily taken up. Mr. Jack O'Connor has been a decided success as Jack Goose ever since the opening performance; he is a capital comedian, and a great favourite with the children. His appearance as a Boy Scout is particularly amusing. Miss Rhoda Gordon as Jill is capital in all she does; Mr. Fred Allandale as the Laird is made for the part, and does admirably; Mr. Chas. East as the Mayor ably seconds Mr. Allandale; Miss Lily Edwards and Miss Ray Gordon as Eric and Lady Ida respectively do well; Mr. Joe Arthur as the goose Priscilla is excellent in all he does; Miss Howell Hersee as the Fairy sings well, a like remark applying to Mr. Alec Davidson as the Demon.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* continues to draw good houses. With comedians such as Mr. Harry Levaine, Mr. Harry M'Clelland, Mr. Mount Stephens, Mr. Harry Rennior, Mr. Barry Gilmour, Mr. Fred Ingram, and Mr. Billy Oswald there is no failure of the mirth-provoking elements; and such charming comediennes as Miss Jessie Templeton, Miss Venie Clements, Misses Nita and Vesta Chrystal, Miss Edith Haley, and others who delight both eye and ear are ever welcome. Some new business and new songs are being introduced, including "Molly O'Morgan" and other melodies equally tuneful.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*Who is She?* a play with a Russian flavour by E. Hill Mitchelson, is here. Mr. James Stillwell imparted the necessary dignity to the part of King Vladimir; as Sergeant Metroff Mr. Alfred Grenville is responsible for a fine sketch of the brave old soldier; Miss Mabel Ronald as the Little King captures all hearts; Miss Georgette Thierry does well as the heroine; and the author is seen to advantage in the character of Prince Bora, the evil genius, being ably assisted by Miss Constance Medwyn as Novitch, Mr. C. H. Henderson as the Spy, and Miss Norma Dumayne as Sarette add a spice of humour to the play.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is on a return visit with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. A touching portrayal of Uncle Tom is given by Mr. J. N. Boehm; Mr. A. Hayes makes a characteristic Phineas Fletcher; and as Mr. St. Clair Mr. Harrington acts with considerable polish. George Harris is played in manly fashion by Mr. David Blair; the parts of Legree and Dan Haley being suitably filled by Mr. Victor Gardon and Mr. E. Leonard. The Eliza Harris of Miss Ethel Vernon is a fine performance; Miss May Turner makes a handsome Mrs. St. Clair; as Aunt Ophelia Miss Helen Douglas does good work. A lively Topsy is seen in Miss Annie Watson; the Little Eva of Miss Gem Lloyd is pathetic; and clever studies are given by Miss J. Green (Aunt Chloe), Miss Mabel Bowman (Dina), and Miss Hettie Johnson (Cassy). An interesting plantation festival is given in the last act by coloured performers.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—A special treat is provided for Empire patrons this week in the powerful short play *The Little Father in the Wilderness*, with Mr. Huntley Wright in his striking personation of the missionary priest Père Marlotte. He is supported by an excellent company. Spissell Bros. and Mack, the American knockabouts, give their clever and amusing acrobatic item; the Georgia Coons excel as step-dancers, and their turn is much enjoyed. Rohda Bros. give an exceedingly clever and daring gymnastic performance; Will Dacey and Nellie Lewis take well in a turn combining song, dance, and acrobatic feats; Mike Nono, in a rollicking Irish song and dance, makes a good impression; Harry Friskey, an American comedy juggler, has quite a lot of clever new business, and keeps the audience heartily amused; Henry Helme, French vocalist, is received with much enthusiasm; and the Paris Floods on the Bioscope prove very impressive.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—Ada Colley tops the bill here, and once again demonstrates the wonderful flexibility of her voice; Sandy McNab and Bessie Arthur return to this city with their excruciatingly funny sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*, and are most heartily received; Hinton and Wooton in their football match on bicycles rouse the enthusiasm of the audience to a great pitch; the Musical Marvels give an enjoyable and artistic musical and dancing turn, which is well received; Tim O'Connor is a smart young dancer, and fully earns his meed of applause; Shamus and Kitty contribute a sketch of Irish character with some neat dancing; and another dancing turn is that of The Arntes, coloured duo. Wilman, an Australian instrumentalist, gives a clever musical turn, and is accorded a good reception.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Dale and O'Malley are a mirth-provoking pair; Mabel Thorne gives a genuine touch of humour to her songs; Fred Maitland, supported by Miss Pauline Walker and company, has plenty of scope in the humorous sketch *Roots, Rash Chemist*, of which the most is made; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; the Sisters Aindaw, talented musicians; Willie Atom and company in the pleasing absurdity *Wiggles*; the Three Stewarts, with wonderful feats in hand-balancing; and Leah Arden, vocalist, also contribute.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The Great Roland, illusionist, is the outstanding feature here, and, despite the frequency of conjuring acts, he keeps his place among the great illusionists of the age. Another interesting item is *Our Empire's Defenders*, a military sketch in which one hundred Glasgow children take part under the guidance and training of Wallace Selkirk. Falco and Eida illustrate the subtleties of ju-jitsu; and the Rexos present a new and original skating novelty. Other turns of note include J. A. Wilson, comedian and dancer, and his wonderful dog Private Towser; the Clement Trio, trapeze performers; J. W. Hall, eccentric comedian; Florence, lady mimic; a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Three Thieves*, by Maurice Vernon; and an interesting Bioscope display depicting the Paris floods.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Harry Wright, extempore vocalist, tops the bill here. The Bros. Garvey, character comedians and dancers; Nellie Elliene, burlesque actress; Jean Kram, the erratic juggler; and May Vernon, comedienne and dancer, are also entertaining. The Bioscope depicts the martyrdom of Adolf Beck.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—Ed. E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, amuses with facial mimicry; the Bomps are a clever troupe of girl singers; the Pichel Troupe are smart Risley acrobats; Ivy Aberdare creates a favourable impression; Stidder and Dunbar make fresh friends; the Three Sisters Urma are clever trapezists; Fred Neiman, ventriloquist, appears with success; and the Bangers, trick and comedy cyclists, are well received. The Palascope concludes.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Percy Williams is presenting *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Edward Lloyd gives a clever portrayal of Howard Wilson; Mr. Cyril Melton ably depicts the villain Robert Curtis; Mr. Harry M. Vernon is very amusing as Toto; Mr. Watson Hume contributes an excellent character sketch of the Janitor; Miss Ethel Kay sympathetically plays Mabel Wilson; Miss Leah Marlborough is excellent as Cora Wilson; and Miss Blanche Huber creates roars of laughter as Bridget. The dances and songs rendered by a troupe of children in Act III., are deservedly popular.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—A fine display of pictures is supplemented by some excellent variety turns. Oscar Wills and company appear with great success in a sketch, entitled *My Friend the Count*, Mr. Chas. Coll's catchy chorus songs are very popular; St. Ruth and Conyers ably render excerpts from well-known operas, and Mr. Walter Foster and company score with their stirring episode, *For the Honour of the Family*.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company, with *The Cingalee*, has had an enthusiastic reception here. Miss Isa Bowman as Nanoya sings and acts delightfully; Miss Florrie Greensmith makes a sweet and attractive Peggy; Miss Winefred Stone wins favour for her dancing; and Miss Ray Anderson lends distinction to the rôle of Lady Patricia Vane. Mr. Frank Barclay scores a well-deserved success as the Hon. Harry Vereker, singing admirably; Mr. Hylton Warde as Chambhuddy Ram causes roars of laughter the Boobhamba of Mr. Frank Lennard is good; and Mr. Grafton Williams's impersonation of Sir Peter Loftus is capital. The chorus and orchestra deserve high praise.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The chief feature of the programme here is provided by Miss Mary Mayfern's company, who submit a strong dramatic sketch, entitled *The Yellow Fang*, which is well received; the Decars combine good comedy with clever acrobatic work in their scena *Off to the Races*; and liberal entertainment is supplied by David Poole, ventriloquist; Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers; Daisy Taylor, comedienne; G. A. Hope, baritone vocalist; and the Dromoscope.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*Our Miss Gibbs* is meeting with an enthusiastic reception on its first visit. It is presented by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Elfie Vincent gives a dainty study of Miss Gibbs, and dances and sings charmingly; Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs leads the comedy, and his drolleries are greatly diverting; he is ably assisted by Mr. Eustace Burnaby, whose impersonation of the amateur criminal, the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, is a capital piece of burlesque; Mr. J. S. Durant smartly realises Slithers, the professional thief; Miss Ellaline Thorne has a nice appreciation of Madame Jeanne, the Scottish-French dressmaker; Miss Amy Singleton acts the pompous Duchess of Minster very cleverly; Miss Florence Hilton displays pleasing vivacity as Mrs. Farquhar; Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe sings well as Lord Eynsford; and others taking prominent parts are Mr. A. Gordon Begg as the Earl of St. Ives, Mr. Frank Sealey as Mr. Toplady, and Miss Lilian Birtles as Lady Elizabeth.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager Mr. F. Verner Walford.—A sensational dramatic sketch, which is very realistically presented, is *Cash*, in which Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company appear; it is very well acted; Lyons and Cullum are a couple of smart American entertainers, and the lady's dancing, and the gentleman's mimicry are especially good; Miss Gladys Hooley is a talented violinist, who presents her business in a novel manner; Spry and Monti are a diverting duo, and combine some good singing with amusing comedy; W. H. Downs, a coloured vocalist, provides a popular turn; Bert Lytton is a comedian with a good style; and Jack and Willie are expert equilibrists.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. George Dance's *Miss Hook of Holland* company has played to overflow business here this week, house-full boards being up each evening. Miss Marie Studholme has undoubtedly been a powerful attraction. She plays Sally very nicely, and has been accorded enthusiastic "calls." Miss Maud Denny is very good as Mina; and Gretchen is well played by Miss Lillian Constance. Mr. Alfred Wellesley is irresistible as Mr. Hook. His humour is so natural he never fails to carry the house with him. Mr. Frank H. Crimp has a part that fits him like a glove in the Bandmaster; Mr. F. Hobbs is good as Captain Paap; Mr. Fred Lyne's Slinks is a masterly study. All the minor parts are well filled.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Reg. H. Foster.—Harry Roxbury's company is giving satisfaction at the Palace this week in *Mother Goose*. Demon Discontent and Fairy Content are well played by Miss Amy B. Ellis and Miss Lois Carr; Miss Kitty Russell is effective as Jill; Miss Marjorie Prenton is a charming Phyllis, and plays nicely; Miss Maud Prenton is a dashing and vivacious Colin; Mr. J. W. Gallagher (Jack) and Mr. Walter Dale (Mother Goose) keep the fun going merrily. The Society Quartette and the Eight Sydney Girls contribute some excellent dances; and the Miltons are successful in a skating act.

VICTORIA HALL.—The Halifax Amateur Operatic Society have this week produced *Iolanthe*. The company has been well trained by the popular operatic coach, Mr. H. C. Bedford, ex-assistant stage-manager at the Savoy.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company opened here with *A Country Girl in London* to good business. Mr. Garrod very ably takes the part of Frank Gordon; Mr. Chas. Halling is a capital Squire of Langdale; Mr. W. Bradford and Mr. O. Remonde are very good as the two villains—Godfrey Clinton and Job Smithers; Mr. Frank Dallas is well suited to the part of Henreich Oppenheim; Mr. S. Terry is excellent in the comedy part of Wilberforce Puddyphat; Miss Ethel Crawford does full justice to the rôle of Gwendoline Gordon; Miss Alice Clarke is successful as Adelaide Puddyphat; and Miss B. Kingston plays with feeling as Marjorie Hamilton. *Are You the Man?* was billed for the last three nights of the week.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, in a highly-amusing farcical skit, *A Suit for Divorce*, are topping the bill here; Horace Wheatley, the original Harrigan, is accorded a warm welcome; Hampton and Bauman, coloured artists, furnish an excellent turn; Winona, in her expert rifle-shooting, is a highly-popular turn; Macintosh and Royal are warmly applauded for their clever dancing; Ella Dean is a popular comedienne; Gicordo is an expert juggler; and the Three Pinmans, comedy gymnasts, and the Bioscope make up an excellent programme.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-chosen company in *The Bondman* is giving a striking performance. Chief honours fall to Mr. Philip Darien whose Jason reveals true histrionic ability; Michael, as played by Mr. Stanley Harrison is a fine piece of acting; Adam (Mr. Wilfred Beckwith) is well suited; Mr. W. H. Rotheram plays Grandfather and Father Ferati with every success; Dr. Boni is well represented by Mr. F. J. Waller; Mr. Chris A. Olgar as the Marshal is very good; Miss Madge Lanerton as Mrs. Farebrother is greatly popular; Mona and Danny, played by Miss Beatrice Maud Hughes and Master Walter Neville, are creditable efforts; Christian Anne is well portrayed by Miss Emelie Mayhew; to Miss Violet Macaree as Greeba too much praise could scarcely be devoted, both elocution and acting being perfect. The scenery is excellent and houses are large and enthusiastic.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Five Manchurians, Russian tumblers, top the bill and prove a great draw; the Four Amaranths are graceful acrobatic dancers; Daisy Mayer is a coon vocalist of the first water; the Four Black Diamonds, comedians and dancers, are very successful; Shirley and Ransome in *Jim's Pal* are very entertaining; Marjorie Russell is a decidedly clever illusionist; The Krags Trio are skilful gymnasts; C. Tamamoto, rope walker, is applauded; and the pictures are much enjoyed.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Variety is the fare provided here this week. The Bellong Bros. are clever and artistic headliners; Earle and Melville are good dancers; and Bert Welda and Dorothy Wynne appear in a juggling act which goes well. Mr. Ernest Clifford is a remarkable dancer; the Brooklands provide an acceptable turn; and Leotard Bros. are wonderful hat throwers. Kirk and Saraski do a clever aquatic turn; Harry Goolburn, dramatic vocalist, and Maidie Barker, complete the bill.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—The first three days of the week the boards were occupied by the members of the Hastings and St. Leonards Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society with *The Gondoliers*. For the latter half of the week Mr. Charles Windermere and company, in *Where is William?* are billed.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The principal features in a variety entertainment are the Bioscopic pictures. These are varied and quite up-to-date, some of them being singularly original. Miss Ivy Lane is a charming comedienne and graceful dancer; and the Brothers Michael excel in their acrobatics

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. H. Barnsley; Managers, Messrs. Martin and Spence.—The return of Miss Grace Warner's company is welcomed by large and enthusiastic houses. *The Wages of Sin* was presented on the opening night. Miss Grace Warner as Ruth Hope excels in her clever acting; Mr. George Gordon as George Brand is an actor of much ability; the Josiah Deane of Mr. Frank Hertle is highly commendable; Miss Lallah Price merits praise as Barbara Dale; Mr. Frank Smith plays Stephen Marler with due appreciation; Miss Florence M. Daly as Mrs. Bloggs acts with rare spirit; Miss Lizzie Palmer as the precocious Miss Bloggs wins hearty approval; Mr. Roy Rhind and Miss Edie Rutland were responsible for the light comedy, to which they did justice; and Mr. Louis Nanton was highly amusing as Ned Drummond.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. Nelson Barrett's company with *Cinderella* opened on Monday to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Miss Eva Travis in the title-rôle was an instantaneous success; Miss Georgie Hawkins played the Prince in fine style; Miss Isa Bernard was a charming Rose; and Miss Vera Leslie a veritable Fairy Queen; Miss Florrie Anderson, an old favourite here, as Dandini the Valet made a conspicuous hit; Mr. Jas. Mackenzie as Pepe created roars of laughter; Mr. Arthur Farren gave a very good impersonation of Baron Limerick; the Ugly Sisters, Lavinia and Jannetta, were faithfully rendered by Messrs. Alf Stokes and Eugene Maccabe; Mr. Harry May and Mr. Dave Anderson, as the footmen, Phil and Garlic, revelled in mirth and frivolity; Mr. Alf. Beverley was a typical landlord as Brewster; Mons. Le Claire's troupe of performing dogs gave a fine show; Le Zenith provided an artistic exposition of kaleidoscopic fire and butterfly dancing; Messrs. Bernard and May, comedy duo in song, dance, and story, were highly applauded.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—GAIETY.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—This week Mr. Charles Constant's No. 1 Company is here with *Florodora*. Anthony Tweedlepunch is in the hands of that excellent comedian, Mr. Arthur Lenville; in the rôle of Cyrus G. Gilfain Mr. Edward Chester gives a clever impersonation; and Mr. Robert Hine as Frank Abercoed Mr. Eric Deane as Captain Arthur Donegal, and Mr. Jack Parker as Leandro add greatly to the success. Dolores finds a good exponent in Miss Daisy Lake.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Charming and artistic living pictures are presented here by Miss Irma Lorraine, assisted by Marjah, a graceful dancer, and Mlle. Leoni, from the Art Academy of Paris; Frank Frayne is a nimble-footed dancer; the Four Louberts do some smart acrobatic work; Miss Helen Martin is a ballad singer of merit; Harry Simms, comedian, contributes a couple of songs; Fred Sinclair and Miss Gracie Whiteford rattle brightly through their sketch, *Getting Even*; and Joe O'Gorman with his Irish humour gets there every time. The pictures complete.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A good bill is topped by the brilliant Selbinis in their comedy and daring trick cycling. Also appearing are Margit and Lener, in a smart acrobatic turn; Enzer and Miss Clarice, in a clever exhibition of sword juggling and ju-jitsu; the four Burnells comedy artists; Miss Mona Vivian, an accomplished young mimic and dancer; Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad who fairly captures the house with his quaint humour; and H. R. Friscari, who does all sorts of funny things with top hats. The Palace Pictures are well chosen.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. George Dana's company, with Miss Zena Dare, is here this week in *The Little Duke*. This charming and vivacious artist makes a good impression and fills the rôle with her accustomed skill; Miss Dolly Castles combines histrionic gifts with her fine vocal powers, and is a delightful Diane de Noailles; Mr. Alec Johnstone has a good voice, which is pleasingly heard in the part of the Abbé; the comic parts of Baron and Baroness could have no better exponents than Mr. J. Danvers and Miss Nellie Dade; Mr. Frank Adair sings with taste. The play is finely mounted, and has proved a big draw in the city.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Pantomime replaces melodrama at this house, and *Robinson Crusoe*, fresh from his triumphs at Hanley, opened here for a three weeks' stay from Monday. Messrs. Dottridge and Longdon have sent with their production a very capable crowd, which includes Miss Maude Mortimer, who fulfils with her customary ability the title-rôle. The corps of comedians are a strong body, and Mr. Andrew Richardson (Billy Crusoe) is already established as a favourite; Miss Yolande Noble is a charming Polly Perkins; Mrs. Crusoe in the hands of Mr. C. Young Fixott is quite safe. With merry music and dainty dances the panto goes with merry swing, and it is safe to predict that its stay will not be a day too long.

PALACE. — Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Chairman, Sir H. E. Moss; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—A programme of unusual excellence is headed by Reano and his band. The Barowskys appear in a smart acrobatic act; Mlle. Lucia presents a mysterious musician; John Macauley is a capable character ballad vocalist; Paul Barnes, a smart comedian and raconteur; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams appear in a new musical production, *The Mermaid of Margate*; whilst amongst other contributors are Doff Woolf, soubrette; Harry Anderson, vocal comedian; Massona, eccentric juggler; and Lily Palmer, comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Here the premier position is occupied by Henry and Tyler, the cyclists, and there is not one dull moment in the act. A turn that takes well is Delvaine's Marionettes, the motor-car sketch being very well done. Other turns are Souplessi, described as the world's premier contortionist and ring artist; the Vanderbilts, in a comedy act; the Smalleys (Nellie and Seth) in a miscellaneous comedy act, introducing song, dance, patter, and feats on the triple horizontal bars; Nellie Duval, a comedienne with a budget of chorus songs; Eugene and Willie, double fiddlers; and last but by no means least in either stature or merit, James Brady, an eccentric singer of comic songs.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Brought to Ruin* is being played here this week by Mr. Morton Powell's company. Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne distinguishes herself in the heavy part of Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott cleverly handles the rôle of Harry Hailing; Mrs. Morton Powell wins favour as Winnie Waters; much laughter is caused by Mr. Sydney Bryant as Jack Jessie and Miss Jeannie Risley as Lucy Lawton; and the villainy of the piece is ably presented by Mr. Edward M. Heanley (Philip Edge), Mr. Alaric Barton (Solomon Sleek), and Miss Kathryn Eckhart (Mrs. Annie Burton).

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. R. Kennedy.—The La Frasers, vocalists, dancers, and patterers are well received; Eva Hamilton, soubrette; Ernest Wybert, comedian; and Ediscope and Barnum's pictures complete.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's No. 1 company are here this week in *Pete*, with Mr. Austen Milroy, a clever actor, in the title part. The honours were shared by Miss V. Malcolm Barnett in the trying part of Kate, Mr. Alfred Gray as Philip Christian, Mr. J. Edward Fletcher as Ross Christian, and Mr. Frank Stone as Cæsar Cregeen, are all well suited. Black Tom is capably played by Mr. Harry Pitt, Jelly by Mr. Chas. Clayton, and the Postman by Mr. Herbert Young. Miss Lucy Murray is a thoroughly humane Nancy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. H. Bostock.—Lady Mansel's Juveniles made their reappearance on Monday, and had a hearty welcome. Their performance is really better than ever. The Brothers Huxter are responsible for a good tumbling and acrobatic turn; L. W. Harris has some catchy songs; Bi-bo-bi is a clever eccentric musician; the Haverleys have a good reception in their American song illustrations; Herbert la Martine is an agile dancer; and Lennie and Hast produce a musical idyll called *The Maid of Polaria*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here with a powerful drama, entitled *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. R. T. Fox gives a good account of the part of General von Nestolde; Mr. Mathew H. Glenville proves himself an excellent actor as Captain Maximilan Lubeck; Mr. Albert Guyon plays with skill and force the part of Baron Maurice Breslaw; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman is well placed as Karl Ludhayre; and Mr. Edward Hobart is quite at home as Sergeant Offenbach. Miss Lydia Audre looks and plays the Grand Duchess to perfection; Miss M. R. Frame gives a first-class rendering of Camille von Nestoldi; Miss Lilian Malvern is well suited as Esther, the wise woman; and Miss Alice Buckland is a neat Nita Constadt. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—A return has been made here to vaudeville. Trixo is a particularly clever man-monkey; Ess and Hoey appear as Canadian ski and skate dancers; Mabel Lester is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Phil Kaufmann renders a couple of songs successfully; Dick Kendall does a clever eccentric dance; the whirling comedians, the Mezzottis, are immensely good in their comedy horizontal bar act entitled "The New Recruit"; whilst the star turn is provided by the Marvellous Howards, who have not been seen here for some years.

KEIGHLEY. — THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—The boards are held this week by the Keighley Operatic Society in *Tom Jones*. This is the first Yorkshire society to undertake this work, although it has been performed by several Lancashire societies. Congratulations must be extended to Mr. Edward Bryan, of the Savoy Theatre, London, who can claim credit for having produced the greatest success yet undertaken by either of the Keighley amateur societies. New and beautiful scenery has been supplied by Messrs. Egerton, Bradford. The performances are under the patronage of Sir James Horsfall, Sir John Brigg, Sir Swire Smith, and Sir James Roberts.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Parcez

Frank Carsdale; Mr. Ernest Fare did full justice to the rôle of Captain George Darrell, and Mr. Vernon H. Vane ably depicted Lieut. Allen Kingsley. The comic element was well sustained by Messrs. Will Percy and Dick Seddon as Quincey O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer. On Thursday and Saturday Louis Calvert's company is announced in *Sunday*, and on Friday *Dolly Reforming Herself*.

LEEDS.—Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The company appearing here this week includes Miss Lily Hammersmith in a sketch *Rough Justice*, the McBanns, Mooney and Holbein, W. E. Gillin, Bessie Mackenzie, Paul Paulton and George Doley, Billy Haines, Amber Austa, and Edie Veno.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—An amusing sketch is presented by the Grotesques, who burlesque a village concert. Will H. Fox, the clever pianist, gives a popular entertainment; Frank Danby, a big local pantomime favourite, is successful in a tabloid sketch; and the acrobatic cycling tricks of the Cumberlands are hugely appreciated. Charles T. Aldrich's lightning change act is one of the best we have seen; Barnard's Mannikins, Harry Clifford, and Arthur Ferries are also here.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Dick Whittington*, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime is appearing here. Miss Ethel Campbell in the title-rôle acts vivaciously, and Miss Tina Franks makes a sweet principal girl; Mlle. Pauline Rivers' troupe of dancers add to the attractions.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Owing to its enormous success Mr. and Mrs. Walters' *Robinson Crusoe* is retained for another week.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—General-Business-Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—The last two weeks are announced of Messrs. Thos. McKenzie and C. St. John Denton's pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor*, which has throughout attracted full houses.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's excellent company, including Mrs. Frank Bateman, Mr. Fred W. Goddard, and Mr. Percy Shaw (the whistling comedian) is here this week. On Monday evening *The Way Women Love* was presented, and is to be repeated to-day (Saturday). On Tuesday and Wednesday *Sapho* was the attraction, and for Thursday and Friday *Camille* was announced.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Heading this week's entertaining programme are the Boissets in *A Trip to the Continent*, a thoroughly amusing and cleverly-worked sketch, which creates boisterous merriment. At the other end is the favourite Scotch comedian, Jack Lorimer, who makes a well-deserved hit, his pretty Scotch scena *Jennie McGregor* being especially popular; the Royal Delomes are well received for their smart dancing; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce are heard to great advantage in their delightful Japanese duologues and song scenas; Heeley and Meeley, eccentric comedians, create plenty of laughter in their cleverly-enacted scena *Two Lucky Tramps*, their acrobatic feats bordering on the marvellous; Tom Lloyd, a first-class comedian, scores with his two songs; Charles Matthews presents one of the cleverest and smartest jumping acts seen here; the Corcoran Brothers are good in their musical speciality and quick-change act; Stella Stahl is a dainty comedienne and smart dancer. The Bioscope realistically shows the havoc caused by the floods in Paris.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The chief attraction here is provided by James Willard and his players in the thrilling dramatic episode *The Ace of Hearts*. Mr. James Willard as John Fairburn; Miss Marie Everette as Lola Vane, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Dick Royston hold the attention of the audience throughout. Bottoming the bill are Les Montaldos, clever equilibrists on the slack wire, who introduce their highly-trained parrots, cockatoos, and micaws; Wyse and Adna are very popular and smart speciality entertainers; the Bros. Ford make a hit with their exceedingly clever dancing. Others in the programme who give entertaining turns are Lilly Denville, comedienne; Florrie Connolly, the Irish colleen; and George Geoffreys, who appears as deputy for J. H. Greener. The Bioscope has the usual fine films, including Wilbur Wright's aeroplane display.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Mr. Fred J. Little and Mr. Fred Darcy's pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor* company is occupying the boards here. Miss May Poulton in the title-rôle makes an attractive principal boy, her songs being much appreciated. Miss Carrie Harding is a captivating Zorilda; Mr. Walter Adams scores a big success as Tinbad; Messrs. Newco and Sullo work hard and successfully as Baccah and Stoppah; Mr. George Collins deserves praise as Mrs. Sinbad; Mr. H. Van Lachterop sings well as Ali Loofa, as does also Miss L. Van Lachterop as Princess Zaider. Specialities are introduced by the celebrated Szarvasi Ferencz troupe of acrobats, Sisters Clare, duettists and dancers, and Newco and Sullo, patter comedians and dancers.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—The principal attraction here is L'Incognita, the masked singer, who gains rounds of applause for her excellent vocalism; the Ellimans appear with success in their musical scena; Ray, Miles, and Ray are smart juggling comedians; Craig, Roze, and Craig contribute a clever gymnastic act; the McAleavey Marvels give a capital exhibition of trick jumping; the Rosses, patter comedians and dancers, are deservedly applauded; the Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians, are highly successful; Gwennie Morgan is a dainty comedienne; and the Bioscope pictures complete a good programme.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The performances of that well seasoned musical comedy *The Lady Slavey* has been successful here this week at the hands of Mr. Harry Benet's No. 1 company. Miss Nora Morra makes an excellent Phyllis, and with Mr. Harry Quiningborough, who is well placed as Roberts, provides a capital burlesque scena; while Mr. Lister Morrah's vocal accomplishments give prominence to his rendering of the American millionaire; Miss Kitty Hyde and Miss Blanche Hounsell are specially attractive as Maud and Beatrice; Miss Reydon Dallas as Flo Honeydew and Mr. Tom G. Warren as the imbecile Lord Lavender quite maintain the traditions of their rôles; Mr. Charles Clark is a genial impecunious Irish major; and Mr. Presano's many old friends are glad to see him once more in his familiar part of Bill.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. George Brydon Phillips has brought us a capital pantomime, admirably acted, beautifully dressed, and effectively staged. Miss Hettie Lee is a dashing principal boy, and sings well; Miss Constance Lait scores heavily with vocal work as principal girl; the Maples are a clever couple who win praise for their singing and dancing, and Miss Nella Dean's *pas de seul* is one of the daintiest things of the evening. Morrin and Cardiff put in a lot of droll work; Mr. Harry Rose, who makes the "Top-note" song go, is a mirth-provoking Dame; and Snow and Farron add greatly to the fun; the Old Man of the Sea, not named on the programme, is dramatically clever, and his make-up is highly artistic.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—The Seener and Fridkin troupe of Russian dancers, in a bewildering series of evolutions, make a great hit; Baker and De Sales have a smart turn; and Harry Luck, Saletos, J. P. Carroll, Bessie Nellson and Amy Bathurst, with the Palace Perfection pictures, complete the programme.

Central Hall.—The Lincoln Amateur Operatic Society are presenting Jakobowski's opera *Erminie* here, and on Monday night opened with much success. Mr. A. Cramer is the coach, and his pupils do him high credit.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The second edition of the pantomime *Red Riding Hood* was presented here this week. The production has been considerably brightened by the introduction of several humorous items, among these being the eviction of the Dame and the taking of an inventory of her belongings, both of which provoke great laughter. Then there is a burlesque on the Territorials and Boy Scouts; and the Poluski Bros. have a motor-car episode which is smartly worked. The quick conversion of the vehicle into a coffee stall and the antics which follow are capital fooling. Included in the newly-introduced songs is "Do you want to buy any lavender?" sung by Miss Anita Edis (Jill). An amusing incident follows the rendering of a popular song "Tell Me." In response to numerous demands for an encore the audience are amusingly astonished to see a motley assortment of comedians, scene-shifters, and stage hands come rushing on with profuse bows. Miss Lily Hill, the sweet Little Red Riding Hood, introduces a fresh ditty, "Bogie Boo," which is of the "Bogie Man" type, and is received with satisfaction. Horace Lane (Squire) finds general favour with his ably-rendered "Let's all go down the Strand," four pretty girls assisting with the chorus; and Phil Ray (Dame) submits an acceptable number, "I really can't reach that top note." Miss Violet Lloyd (Boy Blue) is immensely popular; and Miss Maud Thorne (Miss Muffit) continues to make hosts of friends with her sweet singing and charm of manner.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Big business is being done here with *Dick Whittington and His Cat*, three matinées being necessary to meet the demand. Fresh business is being continually introduced. Miss Carrie Moore, the delightful Dick, was unable to appear on Monday night owing to indisposition, and Miss Frances Earle deputised for her most satisfactorily. Tom Foy's drolleries are going ahead like wildfire; Miss Ethel Negretti pleases greatly with her singing; and Harry Randall is still to the fore as the Dame.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Morton Powell's *A Girl's Temptation* is here this week, drawing large audiences. Miss Gertrude Gilbert holds the part of Kate Sterling, which she presents in capital fashion; Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays strongly as Guy Warren; the rascally Mark Klaw is undertaken in convincing style by Mr. Clifton Earle; Miss Maud M. Powell does excellently as Lady Constance; and other prominent characters are Annie Brown, ably impersonated by Miss Blanch Lee; Sammy Sniggles, very humorously played by Mr. Dan Hardie; and Jemima Jossup (Miss Amy Corallie). The work is put on in Mr. Powell's well-known artistic style.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Her Road to Ruin* is here this week delighting large audiences. Mr. Charles Dickens gives an excellent rendering of the part of the fearless curate, Frank Temple, whose aim is to rescue the fallen ones; Miss Ada Champion deservedly wins applause for her careful acting as the unfortunate Jess Willoughby; Miss Maud Gill submits a nice study of May Willoughby; Mr. Kendrew Milson in the rôle of the poor journalist Tom Wells, acts with discretion; Mr. Alexander Bradley plays strongly as the scheming Philip Hardy; and the comedy is in the able hands of Miss Grace Emery (Jenny Crackling) and Mr. Harry Talbot (Billy Boots).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Home, Sweet Home* is here this week, with Mr. Frank Lindo's capable company. Included in the cast is Miss Wakeford, who undertakes the part of Joan with conspicuous ability and earns commendation from her auditors; Mr. Leonard Lawrence makes an excellent Lucas Lyle; Mr. Lindo repeats his admirable picture of the young fisherman Stephen Armitage; and other worthy supporters are Mr. Norton Shields (David Armitage), Miss Helene Thompson (Sybil Fay), and Mr. Sidney Dench (Duke of Ancaster).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The big item here this week is Lady Beerbohm Tree in a new sketch, *The Sirocco*, which is noticed elsewhere. Moran and Wiser give an exceptionally clever show as boomerang hat-throwers, for which they earn great applause; J. H. Scotland, possessed of a rich basso voice, renders several popular numbers; the Kramers (Annie and Maud) are a capital comedy couple, and receive due recognition; Alfred H. West proves himself to be an accomplished pianist; the Whilbys present a novel and pleasing entertainment with their magic blackboard; Charles Vincent is a lively comedian with good songs and parodies; Jennie Alexander, juvenile comedienne, pleases; and Maisie Hibbs dances in an accomplished style.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The big line here this week is *Humanity*, with the popular John Lawson in his well-known part; Robins and Collier prove exceedingly diverting in *Mrs. Beacon's Easter Egg*; a neat vocal and dancing scena, "Dancing in the Old Oak Tree," is given by the Six Manchester Lads, including Tom Vaughan, all of whom earn rounds of applause; Baddow is a capable young ventriloquist; Tom Lee has some amusing songs; Wallace Lupino, for a boy, dances cleverly; and Harry Taylor, comedian, also appears.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Good business is being done here this week with Mr. Jack Haddon's pantomime *Babes in the Wood*, which is put on in excellent style. Miss Marie Brayman infuses a deal of spirit into the rôle of Robin Hood; Mr. Victor Wallace proves an amusing Baron; the Babes are nicely played by Marie May and Elsie May; Miss Mabel Osborne looks sweet as Maid Marian; Mr. Harry Elliston makes a funny Dame; August and September are the names of the comedians who humorously represent the Robbers; Miss Carrie Parry is a pretty Fairy; and the John Lloyd Quartet are the Foresters. Specialities are introduced by Mme. Teresa's Continental troupe of singers and dancers, the Eight Little Pinkies; and the John Lloyd Quartet. There is a full chorus and ballet, and the pantomime is produced by Mr. Harry Elliston.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The military drama *Starting Price*, by C. A. Clarke, is being given here this week by the stock company, the principal characters being in the hands of Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (Benjamin Greenleigh), Harry Tresham (Gerald Greenleigh), R. Seath Innes (Obadiah), Sydney Grant (Culverstone), Tom H. Solly (Johnny Flaherty), Leo Montgomery (Brush), E. D. Allen (Trumble), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Mary), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Hester), and Miss Gertrude Gilman (Widow Mulvaney). Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope shows Hypnotic Suggestion.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Here this week is Mr. Ernest Stevens's *Cinderella* pantomime, which is full of good singing, spectacular, and funny. It was written by Mr. Stanley Rogers, who produces it. Miss Agnes Tandy is the Prince, which she undertakes in pleasing style; Mr. Harry Ongar makes an acceptable Dandini; Mr. E. Statham Staples causes endless laughter with his Baron; the Cinderella of Miss Felicia Firmin is entirely acceptable; Tiny, played by Mr. Alfred Clark, is very amusing; the Sisters are carefully held by the Misses Ethel Ramsey and Marianne Carozzi; Capers is smartly done by W. Leopold, jun.; and the Fairy Godmother is in the keeping of Miss Dorothy Moulton. Speciality dances are given by the Lottie Stone Troupe; and the Prince Milner Trio introduce a clever pot-pourri act of juggling, hoop-manipulating, wire-walking, &c.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—John Tiller's *Red Riding Hood* pantomime is putting in a second successful week.

LLANELLY.—Royalty Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company with *The Woman Pays* is drawing crowded houses; Roger Marchant is capably undertaken by Mr. Clavering Craig; Mr. Phil Harper as the young fisherman is a warm favourite, and carries out his part with striking success; Mr. Claremont Gaskell as Nathan Moss, a money-lender, acts with skill; Nurse Agnes finds an able exponent in Miss S. Porteous; and Tibatha is in the capable hands of Miss Florence Thorne. Polly Stokes is capitally undertaken by Miss Lily Beverley. The new scenery is painted by Mr. E. Egerton.

MAESTEG.—Town Hall Theatre.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Mr. John A. Thompson's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, is here. Miss Pattie McCarthy is a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Daisy Stone adapts herself well to the part of Maid Marian; Miss C. Williams and La Belle Sylvia (the Babes) are charming; Messrs. C. Ross and L. Ray, as Baron and Page, create roars of laughter; and the Bros. Chandos are amusing as Weary Will and Tired Tim.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The McConnell Trio in *The Airship* head the bill this week, and are very successful in this amusing trifle. The Stavordale Quintette give an artistic rendering of some popular airs on banjos; Miss Clarice Sefton, comedienne and dancer, is deservedly popular; France and Stewart in *100 to 1 Chance* and Charlton, conjuror, do well; Miss Eily Adair, comedienne, and the Palace pictures complete.

MANCHESTER.—Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—An interesting drama of child life, *Little Phil's Mother*, is the attraction here, and is very well played by a company under the direction of Mr. Frank M. Thorne. Mr. Percy Ballard is well placed in the heroic rôle of Frank Towers, the corresponding part of Ruth Towers being equally effective in the hands of Miss Maud Russell. Mr. Henry Earlesmere as the villainous Oscar Titherton gives a good rendering; and Miss Violet Crauford as Elspeth shows plenty of dramatic force; Little Gertie Renaud as Phil is also worthy of great praise; and considerable humour is added to the story by the efforts of Mr. Frank M. Thorne, Mr. J. P. Marsden, and Miss Leslie Warner.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Billy Williams, the popular comedian, tops a good bill here this week, in old songs and new; the Havannas Troupe entertain in a smart tumbling act; the Merrions, vocal and instrumental artists, are very amusing; and some clever somersaulting and cycling on wire is done by James and Jenny Lee. Other pleasing turns are the Phœnix Trio, harmony singers and dancers; the Sages, in their burlesque comedy act; and Ida Kessanly's performing fox terriers.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—A full house here on Monday witnessed with unmistakable enjoyment the performance of Mr. Frederick Melville's latest bid for success, *The Bad Girl of the Family*. The story is interesting, and the parts are in good hands. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves as Lieut. Marsh and Miss Daisy Cook as Gladys Erskine, his sweetheart, worthily figure in the centre of affairs, and Mr. Geo. R. Montford has capital opportunities as the rascally Harry Gordon. Mr. Luke Forster as Barney Gordon is responsible for a very clever character impersonation, and Miss Margaret Tueskie as the spiteful Honour Moore provides a fine contrast to the character of Bessie Moore, the title-rôle, which is neatly filled by Miss Violet Crossley. The humour is capably supplied by Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snazzle, Miss Amy Randolph as Sally Smithers, and Mr. George Belmore as Jerry Holmes.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company, still on the circuit, are entertaining local audiences here this week in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A really beautiful and artistic production here this week is that provided by O Hana San and company in *A Vision of Japan*, the corresponding place of honour on the bill being occupied by Fred Earle, the popular eccentric comedian. Herbert Darnley's *The Barnstormers* is a strong item; Rhoda Paul gives an enjoyable example of male impersonation; Vory's rag-painting novelty is much appreciated; James Stewart, the ragged virtuoso, is smart and amusing; the Bros. Gaudsmidt, clown acrobats, with their two poodles, are excellent; Bert Errol is really phenomenal as a female impersonator; and the Cavalotti Bros. give a nice turn in musical accomplishment. The pictures show the flooding of Paris.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Adolf Salge's beautiful and artistic act, *The Triumph of Beauty*, is a dream of delight, most effectively carried out; Sebastian Merrill and company are exceptionally droll and amusing in a clever cycling act of great merit; the Nine Kremos are Risley acrobats *par excellence*; Gwennie Llewellyn sings wonderfully well and is greatly enjoyed; Fred Elton, as usual, is highly entertaining at the piano, a well-arranged medley being particularly good; the Leslie Brothers make a decided hit as eccentric musical comedians; Olive Lenton charms with a pretty vocal scena, "Harvest Time"; Tom Bryce, ably and charmingly assisted, is good in comedy sketch *A Dude's Wooing*; Clown Argo is a clever imitator of sounds; the Northern Troupe of dancers foot it merrily; and the pictures are exceedingly good.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The Moxon Trio, Continental acrobatic eccentrics, who are here this week have some excellent business, and make a big hit. An outstanding turn is also provided by the Five X-Rays, the "mad" athletes; Lionel Rignold causes no end of laughter in *What Happened to Jones*; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, scores, as usual; Josephine Sabel does well as an international singer of the order eccentric; the Brothers Horne are exceedingly smart in an amusing boxing item; and other highly successful turns are Mather and Mayer, comedy duo, with smart dancing; Thiessen's clever dogs; and Ted Cowan, quaint comedian. Pictures complete.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Ivy Close, the *Daily Mirror* English beauty, is here this week in a pretty scena and several catchy songs; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington are exceedingly good in an episode of Russian Nihilist life, entitled *Olga's Oath*, and are ably supported; Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French comedienne, is deservedly well received; Warde and Jenner are very pleasing in a scena, *The Echo*; Daphne Hope is a charming vocalist; Harry Meegan is a capital comedian, but we should like some new songs; and smart items are offered by the Kahn and Kahn Trio in magical act; and R. K. Dunning in a ventriloquial sketch. The Bioscope pictures are good.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Zanora and Berg, the American comedy cyclists, are prominent here, introducing their burlesque "Fire Rescue." J. P. Ling, the popular comedian and mimic, is also a strong attraction; while the O-K-dians, in a miniature musical comedy presented by Kenneth Lyle and Percy Tarling, is a clever and enjoyable item. Other good turns are Alfred Mendies, the musical burglar; Geo. Payne's Wanderers, in a pretty caravan scene; Tony Freedman, light comedian; the Four Mayos in their entertaining skating speciality; and the Hargreaves Trio, comedians.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Fred Karno's company in *Skating* occupy the chief place here this week, and cause endless amusement; Tod Lowen, comedian, is funny and popular; Ernest Tilbury, tenor vocalist, has a good voice and is well received; Tom Grave is exceedingly smart in his new motor act whizzing the wheel and shooting the bar; Stanley and Vandyke, the comedy duo, are as comical as ever; and Goodall and Knox add a good turn as acrobatic and patter comedians.

MANSFIELD.—Grand, — Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Messrs. Poole are here with the myrioramas and vaudeville entertainment. Mr. Bert Gates eloquently describes the places shown, and makes the capital picture instructive and interesting; the Gulliver family are a clever quartette of acrobats, and introduce a comedy boxing turn, which is very amusing; the Snow family accomplish some graceful skating; the Geo. French Troupe cycle in a marvellous manner; Learto is funny in a musical turn, assisted by his clever dog "Pom-Pom"; and Mr. Harry Dowsett is a comedian of merit.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Cinderella*, presented by Mr. A. Austin's company, opened here on Monday. Miss Mabel Austin is a dashing Prince Charming; Miss Maidie Harrison is an attractive Cinderella; Dandini has a pleasing representative in Miss Phyllis Leslie; and Dubelle has a creditable exponent in Miss Eva Swinbourne; Mr. Fred E. Ellis makes a humorous Baron; and Mr. Tom Read scores as Pickles.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Nelson's Boys and Girls provide a pleasing turn in a singing and dancing scena *An Impromptu Rehearsal*; Marie Terry and J. S. Bentley are appreciated as the up-to-date cadets: Ada Whitton is a pleasing burlesque actress; the Leonas provide a clever musical act; Jerome Howard and Elsie Wallace amuse with their scena *Taming a Wife*; and Marcus Boyle is successful in his vocal numbers. The pictures are amusing and instructive.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—A very welcome visit is once more paid by the delightful D'Oyley Carte Repértoire Opera Company under the able management of Mr. H. E. Bellamy. The opening production was *The Gondoliers*, which met with hearty approval. Marco Palmieri and Guiseppe Palmieri were admirably represented by Mr. Henry Herbert and Mr. Leicester Tunks; and as Gianetta and Tessa Miss Everell Spain and Miss Beatrice Board were very charming. Equally successful was the Duchess of Miss Bertha Lewis and the Casilda of Miss Mabel Graham; whilst as the Duke of Plaza-Toro Mr. Henry A. Lytton was as much at home as ever; his attendant Luiz was in the competent hands of Mr. Sydney Granville; and as the Grand Inquisitor Mr. Fred Billington, the old and valued favourite, was very successful. The singing throughout was fine, the chorus and orchestra—the latter under the bâton of Mr. Francois Cellier—commanding high commendation. During the week *The Mikado*, *Iolanthe*, *Patience*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* have been presented.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company is presenting *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. The part of Monica, Princess of Illyria, is ably portrayed by Miss Stella Campbell; Prince Hildred of Sylvania receives full justice at the hands of Mr. Mayor Cooke; as Prince Olaf Mr. C. W. Standing is most successful, and the character of Prince Michael is competently played by Mr. Lionel Gadsden. The staging is good.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Large audiences nightly enjoy Harry Atkinson in his imitations of musical instruments; the New York Nippers go as well as on former visits; Martinett and Wallace, musical comedians; Rowlands and Ford, amusing comedians; Hyde and Cody trio, speciality artists; Miss Nellie Martell, comedienne; Jack Smiles, dancer; and the Empire pictures.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Claude Bathurst, actor vocalist, and a programme of pictures give satisfaction.

Morecambe.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. Wilmot Edson's bright pantomime *Aladdin* is being much appreciated here. Miss May Faire is seen to advantage in the name-part, and Miss Margaret Geddes is a captivating Princess; Messrs. Matt Kilduff, Tommy Nelidon, and Reg Bolton are capable and entertaining comedians. Specialities are introduced by the Abadaroffs and the Three Jewels. A word of praise is due to the chorus, and the musical numbers have been arranged most effectively by Mr. Leo. Croke.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—*The Silver King* is paying a return visit here with Mr. Fred. D. Daviss in the rôle of Wilfred Denver, and Miss Mildred Surrey as Nellie Denver. Strong support is rendered by an excellent cast and scenery and dresses are good.

NEATH.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. H. and E. Johnson.—*Leah; or, The Forsaken Jewess*, was well staged on Tuesday night.—In the title-rôle Miss Sophie Campbell secured great applause for a clever impersonation; Miss Gertrude Mitchell successfully filled the part of Martha; Miss Kate Wain appeared to advantage as Anna; Miss Gussie Johnson as Rose scored a decided success; Mr. Philip Perry gave a powerful rendering of Joseph; Mr. Percy Barnett sumbitted a good study of Laronge; Mr. H. Evan Gibbon as the Schoolmaster was seen to advantage; Mr. Leonard Wallace was well placed as the Pastor; Mr. Aubrey Norton was a good Abraham; and Mr. Leo Main was responsible for much amusement as Peter.

Gwyn Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. W. Robinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. George.—Messrs Chas. W. Poole present their unique programme, which deserves the highest praise. Contests in the Clouds is illustrated by mechanism and myrioramic effects; a splendid tableau is the North Pole Expedition with Commander Peary. The Royal Banzais, Japanese jugglers, include Little Togo and Tiny Nogi, who give an excellent performance; the Bros. Rees are well received in their unique military act; W. L. Rowland greatly pleases with his mirth-making; Cairo Trio give a clever musical mélange; Sydney Bach scores in his imitation of Mrs. Jones; Inez and Pim give a refined gymnastic display; Mr. John R. Poole is a most entertaining guide.

NELSON.—Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Another capital programme this week is headed by Ivan Tschernoff, with his educated ponies, dogs, and pigeons, their specialities include Marjutti, lady contortionist; the Big Four, vocalists, dancers, and comedians; Elsie Malpas, an accomplished child mimic and dancer; Nellie Nora, a pleasing instrumentalist; and Walter Aubrey, whose skill in dancing is greatly appreciated. In addition, the programme includes Sydney Bannister, a well-known local baritone; and Renson and Waite, Yorkshire humorists.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. T. N. Walter has presented to capital houses this week the musical comedy, *The Flower Girl*. In the title-rôle Miss Lena Brickwell is very charming, her singing being greatly appreciated; Mr. G. T. MacCallum in his original creation, Joe Wheeler, kept the audience in a constant state of merriment; Mr. Jno. Lathom depicts Johnny Wheeler with considerable skill, whilst as Reggie Rachitt, Mr. Cyril Delevanti makes a big hit, Mr. Henry Adnes and Miss Elsa Brettingham are extremely good in their respective characters of Mons. and Mme. Racquet. The company also includes Mr. G. Burlington Rigg, a capital Scotch baritone, in the character of the Hon. Billy Greenhill. Miss Idalia May dances well.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham. The pantomime *Cinderella* has now entered upon the last fortnight of its run, and its popularity is still maintained. The fine work of the principals, Miss Cressie Leonard, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Jessie Jones, Miss Lilian Levey, Miss Meg Hamylton and Messrs. Alexandre and Hughes, Johnny Schofield and Harry Brayne, has done much to making the production a most gratifying success.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The popularity of *Pinkie and the Fairies* is fully maintained during this the second week of its stay, and great praise is due to the various artists responsible for the production.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*Married to the Wrong Man*, presented by Mr. Frank Melville's company, is drawing large audiences here. Mr. Harry Lonsdale is entitled to much praise for his clever impersonation of Jack Gladwin; and the rôle of Ruth (the dumb girl) is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Mary Pemberton. Mr. Leonard S. Harrison submits a good representation of Sergeant Manners; Miss Cissie Bellamy is pleasing as Rose O'Connor; the villainy of Captain Deering receives full illustration from Mr. Geo. Arthur, who is ably assisted by Leonard Thackeray as Jasper Skinner. The comedy in the capable hands of Mr. Syd Clayton as Timothy Clinker and Miss May Day as Dolly Fretter, creates laughter and applause; and Nurse Manners is ably portrayed by Miss Irene Atchinson.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—*Little Bo-Peep* on Monday entered upon the final week of its most successful run. The principal boy and girl, Miss Nancy Hearne and Miss Zena Hay, have proved themselves capable artists, and with the rest of the company have been successful in their efforts to please.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Miss Clarice Mayne's wonderful versatility and delightful style are fully demonstrated in some clever impressions of well-known artists, and even more so in her own songs; O'Gust, the original clown mimic, in his imitations of birds, animals, &c., has had a good reception, and fully deserved the unstinted applause bestowed on him; Barton and Ashley, in their screaming absurdity, *Canal Boat Sal*, evoked roars of hearty laughter and unrestrained appreciation; a most amusing and clever show was provided by Keen and Waller, two comedy acrobats of more than usual ability; Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, carried the "house" with them in a rattling go-ahead patter business and catchy, amusing ditties; Miss Ethel Newman, in an original monologue, *Her Wedding Day*, was successful; and good turns were also presented by the Crisps, in a juvenile dancing scena; Chas. Santon, double-voiced vocalist; and Stanley and Greenop, banjoists; the bioscope concluding.

NORTHAMPTON.—Palace of Varieties, Ltd.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—Sydney Mason and Theresa Moore are topping the bill here with a tragic episode entitled *Dr. Parker, Poisoner*; Trojan, a one-armed athlete, is an expert weight-lifter, and his feats are loudly applauded; Ghita Corri gains a hearty reception for her phenomenal singing. Also appearing are Melba Twins, duettists and dancers; the Brothers Leo, Albert Hall, Harry Russon, and May St. Hilda.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's capable company is presenting *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, which has met with a hearty reception from large audiences. As the Rev. Robert Everton Mr. Joseph Millane handles the character in clever style; Mr. Cecil Mannering in the dual rôle of Jack England and Private Johnson, scores a distinct success; Mr. Richard Ferris proves his sterling abilities by his smart performance of Captain Geoffrey Caversham; Mr. George Dapier is good as James Sutton; and Mr. R. Chester as Detective Weathersby deserves commendation. As Molly Vernon Miss Doris Brookes is as realistic as could be desired; Miss Maggie Hobart carefully depicts Rose Seymour; Miss Lydia Mannington as Marian Franklyn makes the most of her opportunities, and some excellent comedy is introduced by Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Punch and Miss Mamie Thorpe as Isabella Jones.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—An attractive programme is headed by the Brothers Borella with smart feats on the silver chains; Andrews and Thompson, in their vocal scena, *The Rube and the Romany*, are much applauded for their singing; Ethel Wilford, in her comedy monologue, "The Red Sea," has been enthusiastically received; Telka Wyllie, comedy tramp musician, is very entertaining; Bert Kennedy, in humorous songs and stories, goes well; the Lamberts, speciality artists, are worthy of praise; and the Palace pictures are, as usual, interesting.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Miss Maud Western's company, in *Folly's Fortunes*, is here. Ben Burritt is well played by Mr. John Levey; Wilfred Esmond is ably depicted by Mr. Alex Alexander; Mr. Walter Buckstone is a typical Squire Esmond; Mr. Joe Ellis convulses the audience with his humorous delineation of Billy Boyd; Miss Maudie Lambert is well placed as Biddy Boyd; Miss Nellie Lambert is decidedly good as Eleanor Vaughan; Miss Ada Hender is fully equal to the trying part of the Miss

Paumier's company opened here on Monday with *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Paumier as Paul Valmar is a prime favourite; Miss Margaret Brodie acts cleverly as Princess Astrea; and Miss G. Faunce as Rozel is very pleasing. Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes as the villainous Rudolph acts in a capable manner; Mr. Chas. Whitlock as Lieut. Strelsburg submits a good portrayal; Mr. John Nesbitt as the Crown Prince is smart; and Miss P. Laurence as Kathie causes much amusement.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Lancashire Lad* is here on a return visit, being played by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Mr. Harry T. Wood as David Elmore is well placed; Mr. Wilton Reed as Max Carlton is quite successful; and his partner in villainy, Lorna Wincote, is forcibly portrayed by Miss Muriel Inglis. Miss Madge Douglas acts daintily as Jessie Wincote; and Miss Nellie W. Warden is a typical Mother Wardle. Miss Lillian Rignold as Jane Alice Clitheroe causes much amusement; Mr. Bob Anderson as John Willie Wardle is funny in his acting and singing; Mr. J. W. Gadsby as Prof. Napoleon Boulanger furnishes a capital study; and Miss Gertie Anderson as Kitty de Vere and Miss Molly Shine as Trixie Golightly sing and dance well.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—The Eighteen Lancashire Singers are heartily applauded here; Chas. Baron's Burlesque Menagerie, introducing the racing cats, causes much laughter; Sara Rosebury, in her dialect songs and imitations, has a capital welcome; Cole and Rags are amusing as eccentric comedy jugglers; and a deputy (not named) sang well on the night of our visit in place of Louis J. Seymour. Sergt. Bert Powell is smart as a military mystifier; Fayre and Manning dance cleverly; and Allan Hanbury is good in song and patter. The Palace pictures complete.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—There is being presented at this house this week *The Village Blacksmith* by Messrs. Dottridge, Longdon, and Livesey's company. With histrionic ability Mr. Sam Livesey personates the title-rôle; Mr. Joseph Carter gives a well-finished portraiture of Captain Leo; Lucas Marler is capitally acted by Mr. Edwin Maydew; Mr. George Wilton as St. John Harman is praiseworthy; a faithful embodiment of Jeremiah Parkins is submitted by Mr. Thomas E. Marshall; and Mr. Fred Haining is decidedly funny and mirth-provoking in the rôle of Billy Twigg. Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong furnishes a convincing portrayal; an excellent representation of Ruth Parkins comes from Miss Cassie le Grande; a fine character-study of Sal Parkins is submitted by Mrs. T. C. Livesey; and Miss Pauline Garside is conspicuously successful as a child actress in the part of Harry Strong.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—A mystifying performance is given here this week by John Warren (illusionist) and his company; Mr. Warren also contributes some clever conjuring tricks. A dramatic playlet, *A Society Sinner*, is artistically performed by the Forestiers; Guyer and Valli, as American comedy artists, are vastly entertaining; the Vays, in their comedy scena *Life in the Slums*, are heartily applauded; Mamie Iris is a chic comedienne and dancer; as a comedy and dancing duo Irene and Morton are quite successful; Netta Gray proves herself a delightful vocalist; Albert McKelvin contributes a Scotch song; and the Bioscope concludes.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Neville Graham's company is appearing here to good audiences in the pantomime *Aladdin*. Mlle. Lucretia is an admirable exponent of Aladdin; as the Princess Badroulbadour Miss Lilian Earle is highly successful; Mr. Alec Taylor as the Grand Vizier causes much hilarity; Miss Harriette Loydall as the Widow Twankey is very funny; Mr. George Howard does exceedingly well as the Emperor; and Mr. Wilfred Lyndon is good as Abanazar. Specialities are introduced by Sinclair's Four Parisian Girls, The Astrays (in a series of bumps), Mr. Wilfred Lyndon; and Miss Cissie Clarke and Mr. Charlie Clarke in *The Scarecrow*.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The Bouncing Dillons gain considerable applause by their remarkably clever somersaults on the bouncing spring; Harry Hayton, comedian and dancer, is very funny; Dolly Clyffe gives an acceptable turn; Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers, are well received; and a number of interesting pictures are depicted by the Karnoscope.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—For the last fortnight of the run a second edition of *Robinson Crusoe* is presented. Miss Lucy Coventry has a tuneful number, "Her clogs and her shawl," which suits the vivacious little actress admirably; Miss Mabel Lait gives a very pretty rendering of "Somewhere"; and Topsy earns fresh laurels with a first-rate rendering of "Sambo." Mr. Daley Cooper scores brilliantly with some new business; Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells revive an old favourite, "Is everybody happy here?" with great effect; and Mr. Scott Russell's fine baritone voice is heard in an additional number.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Bugler Carr's turn, consisting of balancing feats with regulation bayonets, &c., proves highly entertaining; Velanche's performing dogs show wonderful sagacity, and reflect great credit on their trainer; Miss Ethel Loftus is a first-rate comedienne; Johnnie Cecil and Jock Warman both prove popular; Wild Willie and West, comedy acrobats, are responsible for some hearty fun; and Louie Tracy completes an attractive entertainment.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Harry Benet is here in *Dick Whittington*, which is played to good houses. The piece is acted well, and the scenery and dresses are elaborate. Mr. Benet himself represents Idle Jack, and keeps his audience in roars of laughter from beginning to end. Miss Nellie Dyson is Dick Whittington, and fully deserves the enthusiastic welcome accorded her; in Miss Stella Millar we have a charming Alice, and she, with her partner Dick, is a great favourite; Mr. Bob Stanto as the Cat is excellent; Mr. Cliffe Owen is perfectly at home as Alderman Fitzwarren; and Mr. Denis Lyndon has made a big hit as Mrs. Kelly; Miss Eva Bently is a lively Captain Dunting; and Miss Cissie Ramsay is an effective Firefly; Mr. Ed. Benson is good as King Rat. Entertaining specialities are given by Kloof and Ramsay, musical entertainers; the Delorosas, trapeze artists; San Remo Girls, dancers; Stanto and Greene, tumblers, &c.; and the La Dor Troupe, who give a fine acrobatic turn.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. H. S. Davies and Phillips.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings Mr. Tom Owen, the Welsh comedian, gave an excellent variety entertainment to crowded houses.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Although this is the second week of *The Dollar Princess* the house is packed in all parts every night. Mr. Leslie Holland cleverly enacts the easy-going millionaire Henry Quonder; Mr. Alec Worcester as Freddy Fairfax contributes largely to the vocal success by reason of his rich, powerful voice; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is the embodiment of a fun-maker as Bulger; Mr. Sydney Lyndon is suitably placed as John Earl of Quorn; and Mr. Willie Warde, jun., makes the most of Sir Jas. MacGregor; Miss Norah Barry, well remembered here as Sonia, now repeats her success as Alice, her singing being appreciated; Miss Madeline Seymour, the possessor of a charming stage presence and rich contralto voice, does remarkably well as Olga; a vivacious, chic little Daisy is seen in Miss Peggy Primrose. A smartly-dressed, well-balanced chorus and elegant staging compel admiration.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—A sensational melodrama, entitled *Was She to Blame?* occupies the boards here. This play is replete with exciting episodes and humorous interludes, and is attracting large audiences. It is presented under the personal supervision of Mrs. T. G. Kimberley, the authoress, who herself undertakes the part of Mrs. Kate Roselle with great success. The play is well staged and the characters are in the capable hands of a talented company.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Daisy Jerome, the electric spark, gives three humorous numbers, which are heartily encored; Ida Millais and company present the water sensation, *Blackmail*, which holds the attention of the audience throughout; the effort of Poole and Maguire, musical comedy duo, are much appreciated; the Elite Harmony Boys are effective in a vocal scena, entitled *Messmates Ashore;* the "Stoker" song of Arthur Albert is much applauded. An interesting programme includes Gordon Stretton, Clive Watts, Joan Deering, Henry Herne, and Rayne's Bio-Photoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—An excellent programme includes a powerful sketch *The Littlest Girl*, cleverly acted by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company; Gobert Belling and his highly-trained mule, donkey, bull, and dogs create much laughter; the Four Vagabonds delight with their vocal efforts; J. W. Rickaby is applauded for his songs; Maria Gabalda and her Spanish pantomime troupe present *The Smuggler's Dream;* Iaroe, on a mouth organ, gives capital imitations of bagpipes; some clever impersonations by Arthur Croxton, vocal harmony by the King's College Boys, eccentric feats by the Waltons, and songs by Lilian Rose are enjoyable items.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Austin Rudd is loudly encored for his songs "Grief and pain" and "Marching home"; Dorothy Chard, the principal boy in the local pantomime, is applauded for her songs "Polly and the holly" and "Ship ahoy!"; Everhart and his assistants manipulate hoops skilfully; Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels renew their acquaintance here; Horace Hunter and company are listened to in an exciting sketch *Under Suspicion*. Vocal harmony has exponents in Shirley Liggins and company; Willie Gardner is an expert roller and ice skate dancer; Ferguson and Mack are amusing eccentrics; Annie Heath sings and dances; the Dick and Dorothy Trio likewise win approval in song and dance.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—The Moody-Manners Opera company opened the second week of their engagement with Saint-Saen's *Samson and Delilah*, which was magnificently presented to a distinguished and appreciative audience. Mr. Albert Bowyer, in the rôle of Samson, was admirable, his solos and recitatives being rendered with much feeling; Miss Helen Culver as Delilah both sang and acted superbly; and Mr. William Farmer was heard to advantage as the High Priest, being especially successful in his duet with Delilah; Mr. Graham Marr as Abimelech was no less successful; Mr. William Anderson's magnificent basso was well suited to the musical numbers allotted to the aged Hebrew; Mr. Bartell as the Philistine Messenger has a baritone solo which was well sung. The opera is exceptionally well mounted, the new scenery and effects being admirably consistent. The chorus and orchestra were under the skilled direction of Mr. Cuthbert Hawley.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Clarkson.—Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime *Cinderella* is doing deservedly good business here this week. Will Penn as the Baron, and Crosby and Walker as Arabella and Isabella (the ugly sisters) keep matters lively when on the stage; Molly Doon is a winsome little Cinderella; the Carlsens as Cuff and Collar introduce some clever gymnastic feats; Miss Vera Mayne looks and acts well as Prince Brilliant; Jenny Clare is a sprightly Dandini; Leo Fields is much in evidence as Buttons (the page); and Pattie Varley, an excellent Queen Bountiful, sings duets with her sister. Specialities are also introduced by the Musical Keiths and Crosby and Walker.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank S. Burdett.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime *Little Cinderella* is this week's attraction, and has certainly caught on. Leslie Hawkins is a humorous Baron Shipthalotte; Harry Bliss and W. G. Westley extract big doses of fun from the two ugly sisters; Harry Huthin is clever; Pimples, the Page, and his acrobatic dances are well received; Miss Kitty Avey is a delightful Cinderella, Miss Edie May, a dashing Prince Perfect, and Miss Lilly Ennis an excellent Dandini; Miss Fanny Douglas is a good Fairy Sunbeam in every sense of the word; and Mr. Bert Melrose a successful Malicio; the Lesando Brothers introduce their speciality act.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. George T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's special répertoire company is proving an agreeable change in *A Woman's Passion*. Miss Louie Peebles was an interesting Winifred Hamlyn; Miss Lily Prescott an ideal Claire Trevenen; Mr. David McFarlane as Sir Randall did well; and Mr. Arthur F. Dudley made a good impression as Lord Vale. Mr. R. F. Stacey was good as the Gipsy Doctor, and Mr. Stephen Pritt satisfactory as Vicary. During the week *His Wife No Longer* and *Almost His Bride*, by the same author, have been billed.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—After being closed for some weeks for purposes of cleaning and renovation, the handsome Royal Palace Theatre has been reopened under the sole direction of the enterprising Mr. Charles Evans, who has secured the services of Mr. Henry Bowman (for many years manager of the old Amphitheatre) as his lieutenant. There have been many important improvements effected by Mr. Evans during the time the theatre has been closed, additional arrangements having been made for the comfort of patrons. The pit seating has been extended, considerable expense has been devoted to improving the electric lighting, the front of the house has been much smartened up, and other points have been duly attended to. The reopening booking proved an extremely popular one, for on Monday evening the place was crowded, an enthusiastic audience keenly enjoying the performance of Mr. Walter Melville's dramatic play, *The Soldier's Wedding*. Mr. Douglas Cecil finely assumed the part of the soldier Jack Brown; and Nancy Lee was portrayed with much ability and grace by Miss Dorothy Richardson. Mr. C. H. Matthews played the stage villain to perfection; while plenty of fun was introduced by Messrs. Scott and Albert.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Matthews; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.—We are this week having the pleasure of a première visit from *The Cingalee*, presented by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company. As Harry Vereker Mr. Arthur Cartwright sings well and acts convincingly; as Bobby Warren Mr. Scott Cullen is excellent; Mr. F. W. Ford makes an ideal Sir Peter; Mr. Douglas Munro a finished Boobhamba; Miss Florence Watson as Nanoya sings and acts charmingly; and Miss Pauline Hague is a dignified Lady Patricia. Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy Sabine is sprightly; and she and Mr. Jack Crichton (who as Chambhuddy Ram is clever and amusing) give the brightest and most amusing items.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Cavaliere F. Castellano's Royal Italian Grand Opera company is appearing here. The programme for the week comprises *Carmen, Traviata, Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, Faust, Lucia di Lammermoor*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*. Brilliant performances have afforded a rich musical treat to lovers of opera.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—Walter Bellonini, the renowned juggler, and his comedy assistant Wal head the bill, and give a very expert and amusing display; Martin Henderson, the blind instrumentalist, gives a brilliant performance on the English concertina and piano; Marie Magnus is a prepossessing artist with an excellent voice, and is also an accomplished storyteller; Ted Karno and company create great hilarity in their pantomimical sketch *The Hotel de Quick;* W. S. Hartford displays some fine acting as Old Joe Derrick in a dramatic episode *Trafalgar Day*, and is supported by Miss Eleanor Rose, Miss Emma Averne; Mr. Alfred Read, and Mr. Will George; Kate Gourlay is a smart and effective dancer; the McUlaffs, comedians and dancers, provide an acceptable turn; and Doughty and Laney appear with success in a comedietta entitled *A Woman's Way*.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*. Mr. F. Ronald Adair is a breezy Willie Mason, and Mr. Sidney Scirl is well placed as Bill Slater. Mr. Charles Ashwell scores as Jack Fenton, and Mr. Bert Agate is most amusing as Johnny Walker. Miss Nannie Meade has a strong part as Vesta Le Clere, and Miss Nellie James is very sprightly as Poppy Slater. Miss Florence Halton is pleasing as Lucy Coventry, and Miss Jessie Belmore secures the sympathy of the house by her sympathetic rendition of the part of Sophie Coventry in the title-rôle. The mounting and scenery are highly effective.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Edgar Fox; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's company, with *The Sleeping Beauty*, is here.—Miss Winnie Acton is pleasing as Fairy Benevolent, and Mr. Frank H. Morton as Demon Malevolent sings with general appreciation. Mr. Tubby Edlin is greeted with well-deserved applause as The Great Unknown. Miss Lillian Elliott is a smart Prince Fearless, and Miss Ivy Moore is charming as Princess Beauty. Miss Nellie Valentine scores as Viscount Broadlands, and Miss Eva Bechay is seen to advantage as Clonette. Mr. Tom Shenton is most amusing as King Half-a-Crown, and Mr. Willie Black is funny as Queen Half-a-Crown. Specialities are effectively introduced by the Three Martinettes, Tom Shenton and Chicks, the Eight Oowana Girls, and Messrs. John Leeck and Mabel Keith, who bring down the house with the cornet playing.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant.—A successful three days' visit was commenced on Tuesday by Mr. Arthur Carlton's company in the pantomime *Cinderella*. Miss Ella Wilmer as Cinderella made a very charming appearance, and with Miss Flo Wilton, a handsome Prince, sang in accomplished style. Messrs. Fred Hutchings and Herbert Colley as the Sisters did admirably, and Mr. Harry Maltan made an excellent Baron Shottle. The pantomime was effectively staged, and included some diverting speciality effects. The choruses were well sustained, and an augmented orchestra was under the control of Mr. George Encyl Lewis.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Miss Lena Stanton's company has excellent material in the pantomime *Dick Whittington* to provide over three hours' fun. Mr. Harry E. Joseph is responsible for the book and the lyrics, as well as the mechanical scenes. The scenery and dresses are pretty, and the music and singing are very bright and good. The title-rôle is well represented by Miss Lena Stanton, whose singing is very pleasing; Miss Mollie Le Mair is a charming Alice; Sisters Holman do good work as Lord Bob and Tootsie; Mr. G. Georgie is a most amusing Cook; and Alderman Fitzwarren is well presented by Mr. T. O. Hunter; Mr. E. Floyd Gwynne (Emperor Kopall). Brothers Hinson (Tommy and Billy), Mr. J. Harrington (Idle Jack), Mr. Hector Strange (Cat), and Little Keeno (the Mighty Atom) keep the fun rolling. There are several acceptable specialities by Little Keeno, the clever boy comedian; Sisters Holman, vocalists and dancers; Pagoda Troupe of Dancers; Le Mair and Harrington, comedy couple; Bros. Hinton, comedians and dancers; and the Zola Troupe of Acrobats.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Fishing* heads an excellent variety programme; Yangar, the West African magician, gives a very smart display of talent. Miss Kitty Colyer sings and dances into favour; Neville and Moss sing well and make much laughter with *Both at the Same Game;* acceptable items are also provided by Ronald Brookes, tenor; Agnes Molteno and company in pleasing tableaux entitled *An Old-Time Story;* Harry Vardon, smart ventriloquist; Marie West, refined comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, written by J. L. Barry, draws good houses (twice nightly). Miss Marion Scott is a dashing Robin Hood, and sings well; Miss Mary Dene is a charming Maid Marion, singing and dancing well; Will Scarlet is well sustained by Miss Nell Rene, and she has a couple of catchy songs; the Babes are represented by Millie and Lillie, a couple of juvenile singers and dancers; Mr. Brinsley Smith as the Wicked Uncle. Mr. Harry Rousby as Araminta Koffkake, Mr. Harry Conroy as Soft Sammy, and Gee and Atkins as the two Ruffians, keep the house in roars; Miss Emmie Mappin is a charming Fairy, and with Mr. Edwin Webb as Infernalito some enjoyable singing is given.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Messrs. Baring Bros. are presenting Miss Kitty Loftus, supported by a first-class concert party, at the above hall this week. The famous comedienne had a most appreciative audience, and in her répertoire entitled "Songs of Yesterday and To-day" she was delightful, giving about a dozen varied selections. One of her best was "On the Road to Holloway," a skit on the Suffragettes. Miss Violet Runciman has a good soprano voice and contributed some well-chosen numbers. A word of praise is due to Miss Gladys Cotterell for her tasteful violin solos. Mr. Oldbury Brough introduced some musical sketches and was very successful. Mr. Geo. F. Boyle acted as accompanist, and also contributed several pianoforte solos, which were loudly applauded.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—A welcome change is provided here this week with Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company in the new Irish musical fairy play *Rollicking Rory*. Mr. Chalmers Mackey, in the title-rôle, provides continuous amusement; Mr. St. John Stuart as the principal villain Stephen D'Arcy plays with skill, and his evil machination are ably aided by Mr. Lawrence Sullivan as Shaun Brady. The dual rôle of Mrs. Askleigh and Rosaleen is well worked by Mrs. Chalmers Mackey, and Mr. J. P. McBride is seen to advantage as Desmond. Peggy and the Queen of the Fairies are nicely played by Miss Nellie Delacy. Miss Nana Flensberg gives a sparkling rendering of Rosie, and Miss Jeanette Lyons is a natural and well-balanced Widow Callagan.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are paying one of their welcome visits here this week. On Monday *Hamlet* was staged, and in the title-rôle Mr. Wilkie gained fresh laurels by a masterly interpretation. Mr. Alexander Marsh, an established favourite here, sustained the part of the Ghost with his well-known ability; Miss Carrie Baillie was a delightful Ophelia; and as Gertrude Mrs. Allan Wilkie gained hearty appreciation. The week's repertory has also embraced *Macbeth, The Taming of the Shrew, The Sleigh Bells*, and *David Garrick, Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Richard III*.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's pantomime *Little Bo-Peep* is drawing crowded houses here. Miss Flora Morris is a thoroughly capable Bo-Peep; Miss Ruby Carter a dashing Prince Pastorelle; Miss Mabel Kessler scores as Boy Blue; and as the Baron and Bill Bash Mr. F. G. Royde and Mr. Ernest Hans are a great success. Mr. Gavin Wood is an immensely funny Lemuel Lea, and excellent specialities are introduced by Miss Mabel Kessler, instrumenalist; Flora Morris, soubrette and dancer; Ruby Carter, vocalist and dancer; Dorothy Douglas, vocalist; Rosie Stevens, speciality dancer; Mabel Howe, instrumentalist; Cissie Lenore, soubrette; Harry Howe, comedian; Hans and Luck, knockabouts; and Mr. Gavin Wood, bass.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Lovers of old English comedy have again cordially welcomed Mr. Edward Compton this week. Mr. Compton has again distinguished himself in a round of the famous parts associated with his name, and he has received loyal support from Miss Kathleen Leigh, Miss Marie Hassell, Miss Agnes Williams, Miss Nell Compton, Miss Stevens, the Misses Highgate, Mr. Henry Crocker, Mr. Frank Royde, Mr. Frank Snell, Mr. R. Pass, Mr. J. W. Austin, Mr. C. Marquand, Mr. L. Meade, Mr. Edward Holle, and that experienced "legitimate" comedian Mr. Philip Gordon. The week's bill of the play included *The School for Scandal, The Reformed Rake, The Blasé Baronet, Davy Garrick, She Stoops to Conquer, The Road to Ruin*, and *Tom Noddy's Secret*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—The successful annual *Jack and Jill* continues its prosperous run, and the legend "House full" is nightly hung on the outward walls. Miss Ella Retford, Mr. Charles Norton, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. Jack Chromo, and Miss Josie Delaine are tremendous favourites, and the exquisite ballets are up to the Royal standard.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The pantomime of *Dick Whittington* concludes its successful Sheffield season to-night.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. J. W. Rowley, a well-tried vocal comedian, who is regarded with sincere affection by thousands whose hearts he has lightened by his genial and always healthy humour and his quaint homely touches, is starring here this week and "going great." Miss Lydia Yeamens and Mr. Fred Titus are another favourite pair who are sure of a hearty reception here. *The Casey Army* causes roars of laughter; *The Globe of Life*, presented by Wizard Stone and the graceful Irene Stone, is a clever act; Miss Violet Stockelle is a charming artist; and others who grace the programme are the Coloured Meistersingers, Mr. Larry Lewis, Mlle. Haydee's amusing mannikins, Miss Eddie Reynolds, and that talented and original droll, the "fool of the family," Cruikshank.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. William Watson's company opened to a crowded house on Monday in the lively and spectacular pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. Mme. de Rose was successful in the title-rôle, and her singing of the pretty song "My mother's name was Mary," assisted by Miss Hilda Claremont, the bright representative of Alice, was loudly applauded; the pretty and graceful Sisters Gaye made a hit with songs and dances; the Waldrons (Joe and Ettie) repeated their well-known and amusing eccentricities; Miss Ruby Carlton made a handsome and melodious Mermaid Queen, and her duet with Mr. Cliff Dacre as Father Neptune was enthusiastically encored; Messrs. Lambert and Butler as Friday and Saturday were funny and smart; Mr. Billy Watson was a comically melodramatic "pirate bold" as Will Atkins; and Mr. Phil Lester, the Three Gilberts, Mr. Godfrey James, Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, and the Royal Temple Trio were all very successful. The scenery, dresses, and properties were first rate, and the general production was highly creditable to all.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.—Mr. Arthur Hayes, Miss Gertrude Blanche, and Mr. A. W. Scott, together with a fine series of new pictures, headed by The Hessian Renegade, are pleasing good audiences.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Pictures and variety continue to attract large houses here.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Mr. Ian Robertson and his talented company were here the first three nights of the week with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Ian Robertson played the title-rôle in a most artistic and cultured fashion, his acting being perfect throughout; Mr. W. O. Billington made a capital bookmaker as Joey Wright; Mr. J. Woodall Birdie merited high encomiums as Christopher Penney; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Major Tompkins played with care and ability; Mrs. Lena Delphine acted successfully as Mrs. Tompkins; Miss Barbara Everest made a most effective and attractive Vivian; Mr. Stanley Brown as Jake Samuels was clever in this Hebrew character; Mr. Herbert Garthorne was a bright and capable Harry Larkcom; Miss Drussilla Wills was exceedingly good as Miss Kite; Miss Blanche Ripley acted ably as Mrs. Percival de Hooley; Miss Helena Parsons made a capital slavey as Stasia; and Miss Jeannie Thomas as the landlady, Mrs. Sharpe, performed her part most creditably. *Come Here!* was the entertaining curtain-raiser, enacted by Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Wilson Blake, and Miss Barbara Everest.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy present the pantomime *The Forty Thieves*, a pantomime which both old and young enjoy. There are plenty of pretty songs and ballads, tuneful choruses, pleasing dances and ballets, and no end of rollicking humour. The company is a strong one in all departments. Mr. Harry Maxam is a funny Ali Baba; Mr. Johnny Johnson's originality and quaintness as the Dame cause the greatest fun; Mr. Ted Wootton sings and acts well as Cassim Baba; Miss Marie Reeve is a captivating principal boy, singing and acting extremely well; Miss May Otto is heard to advantage in the songs allotted to Morgiana, a charming slave; the droll antics of Mr. Syd Raymonde as the donkey are highly diverting; Miss Dora Frank Harvey's fine stage presence, added to her capabilities as an actress and vocalist, assure her instant success as Abdallah; Messrs. H. Hughes and J. Carney (members of the band) create much amusement in their boxing act. The chorus is strong, and the dresses and scenery admirable. Specialities are provided by the Hadji-Mohamed-Ben-Medani Troupe of Moroccan tumblers. The principal dancers are Mr. Sydney T. Russell's Acme Quartette.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is scoring a success here with *King of Cadonia*. Mr. Bertie Wright, the chief fun-maker, scores all along the line as the Duke of Alasia; Mr. J. Warren Foster, a capital King, sings well; Miss Alice Moffatt is a fascinating Princess, singing and acting in delightful style; Mr. Jack Martin a dignified General; and others who do well are Messrs. E. Hartley-Summers (Panix), E. Thirlby (Bran), Cecil Tresilian (Laborde), Cameron Carr (Captain Laski), and Miss Molly Keen, a dainty and vivacious Militza. Mr. H. R. Matthews ably directs the orchestra.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—*Black-Ey'd Susan* is the principal attraction here, and is admirably played by Mr. Adderley Howard and company. Godfrey Price is seen and heard to advantage in *The Trumpeter;* Victor and Louis score in their interlude *The Golfer and the Caddie;* Ted Curtis and company appear successfully in a novel dancing act; Dan Whitley is a quaint comedian; and others who do well are Luigi Salvino, Escourt, and Josephine Crooke.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—A capital bill of fare is headed by *Parker, P.C.*, played by Chas. Austin; Ben Albert and Little Ganty, a couple of droll comedians, are loudly acclaimed; Rauschle gives some capital impersonations; Les Juanitos, Spanish acrobats, are popular; and Chas. Erard, mimic, Maud Wellon, and Marie Wilton, comediennes, complete a capital programme.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison.—The second pantomime of the season, *Cinderella*, was presented here on Monday by Mr. Charles Wood, under the supervision of the "Tally Ho" Trio and Mr. Sydney Cooper. The dresses and scenic effects are admirable. As the Prince Charming Miss Gladys Soman combines an attractive personality with vivacious acting and artistic vocalism, her best efforts being "Somewhere" and "By the side of the silvery sea"; the title-rôle had a piquant and winsome exponent in Miss Doris Langden, who was very successful both histrionically and vocally; Miss Bertha Belmore was a volatile and pleasing representative of Dandini; the comedy element was ably sustained by the Tally Ho Trio, Messrs. Ernie Chester, William Doust, and Eric Farr, whose grotesque rendering of the parts of Grabem, Geesem, and Baron Doonaught respectively kept the house in continued merriment; Sprightly, the page, had a versatile and clever exponent in Mr. Frederick Park; the Ugly Sisters had very capable impersonators in Mr. Charles Wood and Mr. Fred Anderson, whose whimsical "business" contributed greatly to the fun; Miss Fay Desmond submitted a charming portraiture of the Fairy Godmother, and her rendering of "Il Bacio" was much admired. Speciality dances were excellently executed by the Eight Sunrays.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell present their pantomime, *The House that Jack Built*, here. Miss Daisy Wood is a dashing Jack, having a good stage presence and a pleasing voice; Jill is charmingly portrayed by Miss Dolly Dodds; Mr. Jack Hayton creates a good deal of fun as Aunt Purdy; the merrymaking is kept up by Walker and Lake as Professor Pills and Squills; Doyle and Gibson as Scraggs and Scroggles; Mr. H. Hillerty as Squire Bounce and Little Chip as Wee McGregor, who is very funny. The large chorus is assisted by an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. J. Johnson.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Miss Marquiss and her beautiful stud of ponies show wonderful training; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are juvenile vocalists of a high order; J. C. Scatter is popular here; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic scores well; the Brennans (May and Will) do a neat dancing act; and Dot Hardy, comedienne, and the bioscope complete a good bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*The Babes in the Wood* pantomime is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company. Specialities are produced by Miss Winifred Norman (Maid Marion), Miss Marie Lumberg (Robin Hood), Miss May Curtiss (Fairy), and little Peggy McDonnell and Cissy Wyne (Babes), Messrs. Jimmie Watson (Babes' Nurse), Harry Tollett (Grinda), Neil Hardy (Baron), Graham and Barron (Ruffians), Levy and Cardwell's troupe of international dancers, and the Marguerite Quartette.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—A treat is provided for theatre-goers here with *The Woman of Kronstadt* for the first three nights of the week and *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* for the remainder. In *The Woman of Kronstadt* Mr. Keith G. Kenneth played the rôle of General Prince in an artistic and convincing manner; as Colonel Bonzo Mr. Montague Lane submitted a fine performance; Mr. Bernard Copping very ably sustained the rôle of Captain Zassonde; and Mr. Harry Colbert was good as Baron

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

L.C.C. and Licences.

The Theatres and Music-halls Committee of the London County Council, to whom have been delegated the council's powers under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, have received 250 applications for licenses under the Act, 101 of which are for premises already licensed for music, dancing, or stage plays. Of these 101 94 have been granted the new licence, and the remaining seven are under consideration. Of the 149 applications in respect of premises not previously licensed, ninety have been granted, ten refused, and the remainder will be dealt with as rapidly as possible after the premises have been inspected. Seven applications have been received for licences under the section which deals specially with movable exhibitions. The committee report that the condition attached to the licences prohibiting the opening of the premises on Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas-day has not been favourably received by the proprietors. The committee have decided in the meantime not to institute proceedings in respect of premises opened on Sundays, and hope to be able to report to the council fully on the matter shortly.

"A Quiet Honeymoon."

The Nordisk Company have just issued an amusing film, The Quiet Honeymoon. The Grand Hotel in a little town is not too well frequented. The hotel proprietor and his waiter are spending their days in peace, quietness, and sleep. Suddenly a young couple arrive, wanting to spend their honeymoon in a very quiet place. The hotel people are out of practice, due to their lack of guests. They try to do their best, but results are clumsy, and instead of the couple spending a quiet honeymoon they have probably the most trying time of their lives.

A Novel Story.

Why They Married is the title of a comic picture to hand from the Vitagraph Co. We are given some intimate glimpses of the married life of different girls. One has married a stockbroker, another a man who has a fondness for good horseflesh and good living. The third matrimonial venture was the result of the feminine belief that marriage will reform a drunkard. How these various lives are worked out is depicted in this very novel film.

A £3,000 Film.

The well-known firm of Pathé-Frères possess a unique film, depicting the Rise and Fall of Napoleon, various outstanding incidents of the Emperor's life being enacted for the occasion by living characters on the actual scenes of history. The film cost £3,000 to produce.

Pictures of Canada.

At the Palace Theatre on Friday in last week there was a private view of a series of animated pictures of scenes and life in Canada, which had been taken by the Charles Urban Company for the Canadian Northern Railway. These included views of wood-cutting, logging, farming, the brick, coal, iron, and paper-making industries, and, in fact, the multifarious work in which the people engage, together with some extremely interesting views of the towns and villages, including water sports and bathing. An outstanding feature of Canadian traffic totally different from anything known in Great Britain is the long haul. It is over 400 miles from Winnipeg to Lake Superior and 827 from Winnipeg to Edmonton, so that the railway, as compared with English roads, has immense distances over which to carry its freight. Regions where a few years ago the Indian was the only neighbour of the buffalo now own their own governmental telephone departments. The Canadian Northern has created over 150 town sites, of which all but about twenty-five have been named by its officers. These pictures have been secured by the railway company with a view to inducing a good class of emigrants to go out to Canada. Young people who are thinking of leaving the old country should certainly see these pictures, for they give a far better idea of the country than any verbal or written description could do.

A Glimpse of the East.

Scenes in Massaua is a Continental Warwick film. Massaua, lying near the Red Sea and surrounded by islands, presents a very varied succession of scenes of great interest. The arrival of camel trains at the harbour, the crude modes and loading and unloading the sailing boats, make a film full of animation. The native market place, the sports of the inhabitants and their quaint customs, and particularly the panoramic views of the scenery, form a series that will be a decided acquisition to any programme.

Forty Per Cent.

Mr. Roland Hill, presiding at the meeting of the Electric Theatres, Ltd., last Tuesday, said there were very few companies which could boast of having paid 40 per cent. in the first year of its existence, and made such progress in the establishment of its business on the sound foundations on which this company stood. The gross takings at the theatres amounted to £40,399, the amount realised from the sale of chocolate was £283, and with other items the gross revenue amounted to £40,876. The working expenses amounted to £22,965. They had paid three dividends of 1s. per share, and were now paying a fourth. The theatres had been opened gradually during the year, and the most important ones only within the last five or six months. They had others nearing completion. At present they were running eighteen theatres, and five would shortly be opened, two of which were in Birmingham. With these new theatres he thought the profits should be still greater next year.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

The pictures shown this week at the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, included:—The Death Disc, Hungry Motor-car, Hunting Red Deer, What the Cards Foretold, The Living Doll, Into the Shadow, Mechanical Husband, and Paris Flooded by the Seine.

Gatti's "Arches."

Mr. W. Hancock, the architect appointed by the Cinematograph National Defence League, has been consulted with regard to the Arena, lately known as Gatti's Arches, to put same in order to fit the requirements of the L.C.C. under the New Act.

Westminster Palace.

The entertainment supplied at the Westminster Palace this week is by half-a-dozen variety turns sandwiched between "picture plays" by the Bioscope. Manager Douglas Payne is confident of the success of the venture. The Gordon Girls' scena *The Porter and the Girls* introduces some good comedy by the porter and singing and dancing by the girls. The baby of the party, a talented juvenile, is a splendid dancer. The pictures are the very latest subjects, and business is very good indeed.

Hunting Wild Deer at Exmoor.

The Kensington Picture Theatre has had a good programme this week. The subjects were:—All through tickling the servant (Warwick); Humble Love (Tyler); Mexican Army (Urban); Marvellous Garlands (Pathé); An Albania Rebellion (Williamson, Dressler, and Co.); and Magical Trees (Urban). A Kineto film, Hunting Wild Deer at Exmoor, is worthy of detailed mention. We see the "meet" by the old Yarn Market of Dunster, with Dunster Castle in the distance. Arrival of the huntsman and whip. The "pack" or main body of hounds are temporarily kennelled whilst the "tufters" (five couples of wiry old hounds) are taken to the woods to "rouse" a stag and make him break away to the open country. The huntsman rides back, unkennels the pack, and the whole "field" is away to where the stag has "broken covert." Huntsman, tufters and pack are joined by the riders; the huntsman "lays the pack on" to the line where the stag left the wood, the Master takes charge, and away they go. The stag leaves the hinds, and the tufters run full cry on his line. The riders pass along a typical Devonshire lane on to the moorland, where they start riding in earnest. The stag dashes down into the water, up and down stream, hounds close on him. The heavy and dangerous fellow turns upon the hounds with his antlers. Keen sportsmen dismount, enter the water, and, at the risk of their lives, catch his antlers and secure him, while the baying hounds are kept back, for they are not allowed to worry the stag.

London Bridge Picture Palace Opened.

With a fanfare of trumpets and a roll of drums from the band of the Queen's Regiment of West Kent Cadets (commander, Major Bennett, of Hoare's Bank), the new and magnificent cinematograph theatre and picture palace at 116-118, High-street, Borough, was opened last Saturday afternoon. The proprietors entertained, in addition to the Queen's Cadets and the Catholic Boys' Brigade, crowds of poor children of the Borough. Pictures depicting scenes in Canada, naval and military episodes, humorous incidents, and historical events were displayed. On Monday at noon Canon Horsley attended and declared the exhibition open.

Wood Green to Re-open.

On Tuesday last Mr. W. Hancock, the architect appointed by the Cinematograph National Defence League, put in an application for the re-opening of the Cinematograph Theatre, Wood Green, which had been closed by order of the Middlesex County Council. The application was presented by Messrs. Rubenstein and Myers and supported by Mr. Hancock. The permission was granted.

ALDERSHOT.—Alexandra Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Connors.—The capital stories told on the bioscope are interesting and instructive, and are as easily followed as if given to the accompaniment of words, for the "people" taking part do everything but talk. Music is discoursed, and an excellent speciality turn is introduced by Norman Holt. The chief pictures shown are Pet of the Big Horn Ranch, a romantic love story; a scenic picture, De Vernazez to Triege; The Girl who Would Grow Up, Love's Strategy, Hot Pickles, The Conjurer, and The Kind-hearted Employer.

Wide World Pictures.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—A good programme is placed before the audience here, the films being clearly shown and highly appreciated. Amongst those shown are the Irish Blacksmith, The Orphans' Christmas, The Runaway Kids, True to His Trust, The Little Mother, The Destruction of Hyderabad, An Episode in the Reign of King Louis, The Two Sisters, How Jones Got a New Suit, French Troopers Crossing River, Thief by Necessity, Votes for Women, Little Merchant, &c.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The New Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sims.—The pictures for the current week have many features of great interest for a variety of tastes. Through the Breakers is a cleverly-constructed series of situations, in which the "Sins of Society" are pictured. Butter-Making in Normandy shows the processes through which the article of diet which forms an important part of our breakfast and tea tables is put in preparation for our consumption. The Two Suitors is a very interesting domestic event, in the domain of love-making. The Conjurer is an exhibition of cunning and deceit. Into the Shadow is a touching, pathetic incident, in which a very good lesson is taught to parents and guardians of the young. Humour is the outcome of the picture A Short-sighted Sportsman; and Mr. Brown's Hustling is another which is most diverting. The Trick That Failed and The Painted Trunk are two other screamers. Mr. Alan Wright, the lecturer and baritone vocalist, sings "Daddy" and a chorus song.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—This palace of variety and pictures continues to secure a fair share of patronage from the picture-loving public. The Lady with the Camelias is a dramatic story which fixes attention. Every movement of the characters is of interest. Captain Fracus is another picture with features that are fraught with stirring and dramatic happenings. From Kidnapper to Rescuer shows how a young man, engaged to steal a child and destroy it, by a vile couple, relents, and, instead of carrying out the purpoee, is the means of preventing others from doing so. A Winter's Tale is a stirring incident, and humour knows no bounds in watching Calino Among the Cannibals and A Family Outing. The Love of an Inventor of an Aerial Torpedo shows some strange happenings in connection with aerial ships, and how he gets his girl at the finish. There are a couple of speciality artists engaged for a break in the picture entertainment, O'Boye and O'Brien, who are very good Hibernian humorists.

The Picturedrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. O. Leckie. — Mr. Leckie, the manager at this popular pleasure resort, continues to furnish good entertainment for his numerous patrons. This week's "bill" is headed with A Story of Circus Life, which narrates in a series of vivid situations how the wife of a clown goes astray from her home, and returns repentant to her husband—a touching domestic scene. The Postmistress is another domestic story, which shows how a woman was saved by a kind-hearted official. There are several other pictures; amongst them, Poultry Breeding, one of the educational series of films, and Teaching a Husband a Lesson is good. Humour is served by A Race for Brandy, and Calino's Fire Extinguisher, which shows the eccentricity of a comical gentleman. Ma Goes to Work is also a "side-splitter." Little Claude has the variety turn to himself. He is a clever juvenile in song, patter, and dance.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Picture Palace.—Lessee Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The management here are providing a most attractive programme this week. The Flower Seller is a picture full of intense and pathetic interest; so also is Good for Evil. Other interesting pictures, grave and gay, are Tartarin the Second, Short-sighted Sportsman, and Our Friend the Plumber. An important factor for enjoyment are the selections ably rendered by the Scarlet Band, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Guest. A pleasing musical speciality act is given by Henriette and Selina, whose playing on various instruments calls forth hearty applause.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—An entertaining programme of pictures is provided here this week the principal one being Up San Juan Hill, a highly dramatic episode of the Spanish-Cuban War. Other dramatic series are The Fisherman's Bride, A Simple Story, The Tragic Idol, and Tommy my Soldier Boy. Of a laughable character are The Biter Bit, The Two Orderlies, and Bobby the Boy Scout. Mr. Leslie Clarke, coon vocalist, is a welcome addition to the "bill."

BELFAST.—New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures has been exhibited here, including The Sign of the Cross, A Dash to Earth, Muggins, V.C., &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Merrilees, capital comedians and dancers, and the Gentrys, in their acceptable and humorous duo, "Bits."

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Many interesting films have been presented here, including The White Slave; Miss Annie Kellerman, in some of her diving and swimming feats; A Christmas Story, &c. Miss Marie Bonner, lady baritone, who is the happy possessor of a fine voice, appears with success at each performance.

BIRMINGHAM. — King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A complete new series of pictures is shown here this week, and the audiences are not lacking in appreciation. The chief subjects on the programme are The Mystery of the Blue Swan Inn, The Child Benefactor, The Gentle Heart, and several excellent humorous pictures. The Haydon Trio, the Hayes and Dudley Duo, and Mabel Kingston, ballad vocalist, provide acceptable vaudeville items.

Queen's Hall. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—This hall continues to be a centre of attraction each evening, and a splendid programme, comprising the best up-to-date pictures and clever music hall entertainment, is provided this week.

BLACKBURN. — Central Hall. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. Arbury; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. W. Page.—The pictures at this hall are the following: A Corner in Wheat, a magnificent film dealing with the Stock Exchange; another strong item was A Woman's Treachery; Calino amongst the Cannibals is a humorous item; Simone, a beautiful coloured film, is of historical interest; amongst the humorous pictures is The Test, Ma Goes to Work, and The Trick That Failed. A very pathetic subject is The Poor Composer. The Galley Slave is the title of a very strong picture taken from Victor Hugo's work, "Les Misérables." During the evening songs were rendered by Master George Butterworth, juvenile vocalist.

Exchange Hall.—Manager, Mr. E. Gray.—Messrs. Raymond's have taken over this popular place of entertainment, and have opened it on the two-houses-a-night system. The pictures include Christmas Eve's Dream (children's picture), John Brown (comic), The Poacher's Revenge (dramatic), The Soldier's Servant and Foolshead the Timid One (comic), Kidnapper Turns Rescuer and The Death Disc were two very interesting films. Beatrice's Big Hat was a very laughable comic, and proved a very interesting study in millinery fashions. Miss Eva Carter, the lady baritone, sang very pleasingly, and Preston Holmes was very good in a musical act. Selections of music were given at intervals by the Scarlet Band.

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALL, GEORGE STREET, HULL.

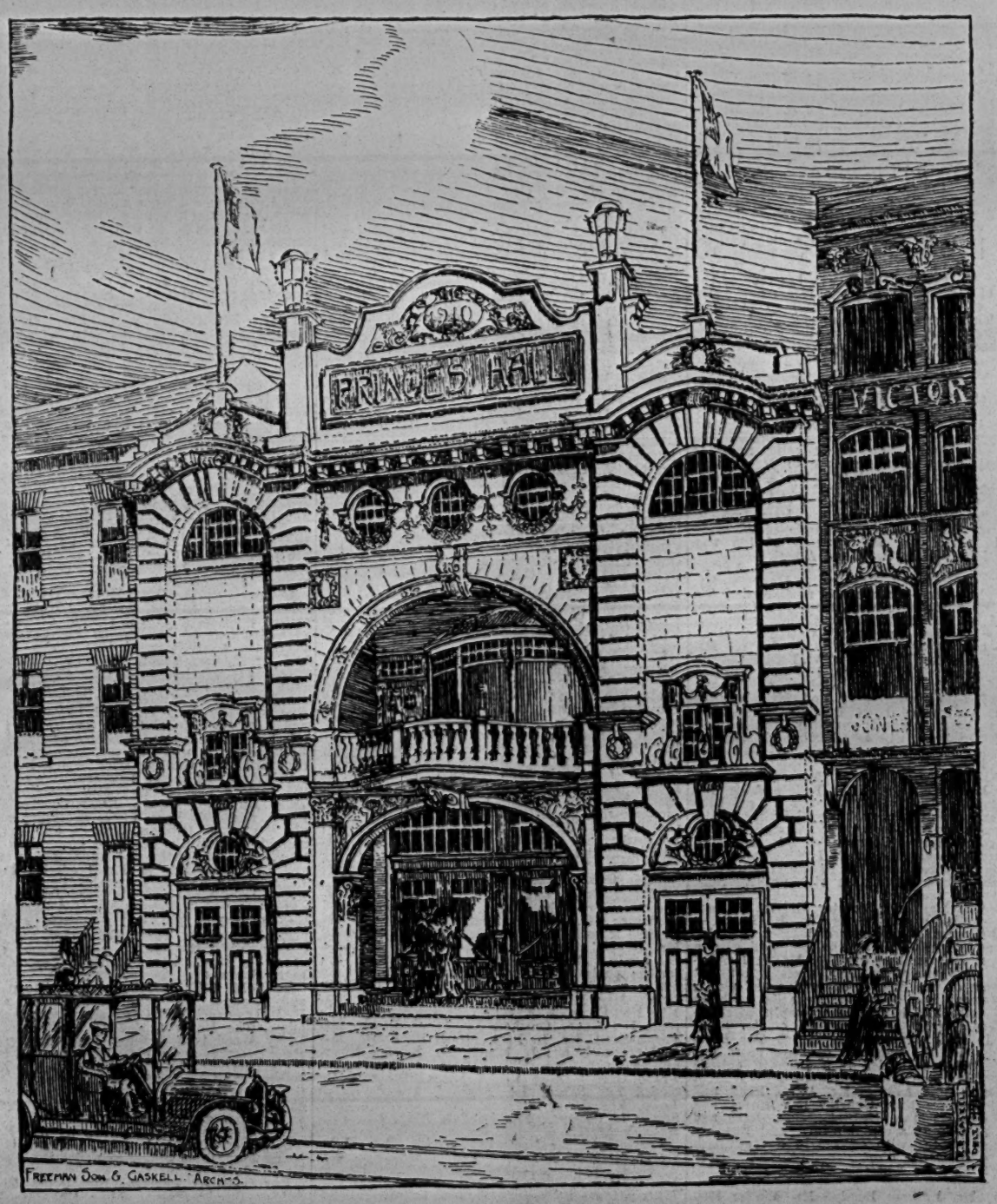

This hall, which is now being erected in George-street, is to be used permanently for cinematograph entertainments. The site is a parallel one, running from George-street to Dock-street.

The building will be approached from George-street and Dock-street. There will be spacious lobbies, booking-offices, and marble staircase at the entrance, fitted with swing doors. The entrance vestibule at the front is 18ft. by 27ft, and is to be decorated and made quite an important feature. The ground floor will measure 70ft. by 37ft., and will have a gangway on either side, and at the back; the main hall measures 90ft. by 37ft. There will be a small platform and orchestra at the southern end with emergency exit and entrance for part of the ground floor. On the first floor will be a large circle and balcony, fitted with tip-up cushioned seats, and adjacent will be a tea and refreshment lounge. The operating box will be fireproof and outside the auditorium.

The floors will be supported on steel girders, and the roof will be of steel construction. The premises will be amply ventilated, lighted, and heated by radiators. There will also be cloak rooms and lavatory conveniences. The new hall will hold about 1,500 persons. The style of architecture will be Renaissance, the front being terra cotta. The architects are Messrs. Freeman, Son, and Gaskell, and the builders Messrs. George Houlton and Son, Hull. The proprietors are The Prince's Hall (Hull) Company, Limited. The hall will be under the management of the Messrs. Morton, of the Grand and Alexandra Theatres, Hull, with whom are associated the New Century Animated Picture Company, Limited, of St. George's Hall, Bradford, of which Mr. Sydney Carter is the managing-director. This hall will be one of the most imposing buildings of the city, and the cost of it £10,000.

BRIGHTON.—Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The animated pictures exhibited here this week prove very attractive. Suffer Little Children conveys a drama of great human interest; Fools of Fate, The Roughs' Capture, and Sweet Revenge comprise stirring incidents; A Journey from Fretien to Vallorane is a fine travel picture; and much amusement is afforded by The Romance of a Boot and Slipper and The Interrupted Marriage. Mr. Osland Denner sings baritone songs in good style.

CANTERBURY.—St. Margaret's Hall.—This picture palace is as popular as ever, and this week the management, in addition to a full programme of dramatic and comical films, are showing nightly The Martyrdom of Adolph Beck. Crowded houses are the rule.

CARLISLE.—New Public Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—Some fine films of the Paris floods are being exhibited here this week, and prove very interesting. The Best Man Wins meets with general approbation. A powerful dramatic story is told in the Mountaineer's Honour; much amusement is caused by A Sticky Proposal and Stick-fast Paste.

DARLASTON.—Queen's Hall.—Lessees and Managers, the Manchester Royal Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Beesley.—Another very attractive programme of up-to-date pictures is being shown here this week, the chief films being The Hand, The Fisherman's Fiancée, The Curse of Money, and Jack Johnson in Training. Variety is given by Alwyn and Fisher, vocalists; and, owing to the success made by Ingram and Irving in their screaming absurdity *The New Office Boy*, they have been retained for another week, and are well appreciated.

DEWSBURY. — Industrial Hall. — Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—The pictures shown here this week are of a high-class order. Amongst the most prominent are The Light that Failed, a splendid dramatic picture. The Child Benefactor is another dramatic episode which is intensely interesting. The Motor Cyclist is a very amusing picture; so also is the one of the Foolshead series. Another excellent film is the one shown. Comedy and Tragedy; and the travel picture, Egypt, is very instructive. The Accomplice is also a powerful cinedrama. Illustrated vocal items are given at intervals.

DUBLIN.—Round Room Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Picture Company conclude their successful Christmas season to-night. A varied and interesting lot of pictures are being displayed this week, and the principal include The Recent Floods in Paris, The Fight Between Summers and Welsh, and a series of new comic pictures which are heartily enjoyed. Mr. Frank M'Grail and Miss Nellie Moore, vocalists, also appear with success.

Volta.—An excellent series of pictures are being shown here. The programme includes How Steel is Welded, Visions, Between Love and Duty, Berlin, concluding with a comic farce.

DUNDEE.—Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—At this popular establishment this week a splendid programme of animated pictures is provided by Mr. Lunn, who, judging by the large attendances nightly, has hit the Dundee public's taste to a nicety. Into the Shadow is the title of a very pathetic picture. When We Called the Plumber In creates roars of laughter. Up San Juan Hill depicts an enthralling and intensely human story of how a young American officer of proved intelligence was entrusted with, and delivered, a message from the late President McKinley, of the United States, to General Garcia, recognising the Spanish insurgent forces in Cuba, and declaring for American intervention.

Newman's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Large houses are still the rule in Mr. Newman's establishment, where this week a capital assortment of films is on view.

EDINBURGH.—Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The Stage Driver is an admirable picture of Russian life; it tells in dramatic fashion how a stern father dealt with a reprobate son. The Broken Gate and The Hunchback Fiddler are both stories of love, which end, as they should, happily. The humorous films, such as Getting Even, are much appreciated; and Fred Collins (comedian) and Lule Bright (comedienne) contribute capital variety turns.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Among many capital films shown here this week, Dimitri Donskoy, which is a beautifully coloured series of pictures of Russian scenes, is certainly the best; Across the Divide is a thrilling story of a gambler's repentance, while The Restoration is a dramatic American love story; The Bootmaker's Revenge and Foolshead Steals a Carpet keep the audience in roars of laughter; Horse Ranching in the Argentine is very interesting and exciting; and the Brothers Allison are very humorous as comedians.

GLASGOW.—Gaiety, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week, for the B.B. pictures have a splendid selection of films which are just the taste of their many patrons. Rosie Dawn evokes applause for her dancing, and Julia Gray, a soprano vocalist above the average, sings several attractive items.

GLOUCESTER.—King's Hall.—Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Some excellent pictures are shown this week, that of an aerial battle being most popular. The cinephone, illustrated songs, and Miss Gwynne, vocalist, make up a good entertainment.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—The Gem.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—The management have brought their programme up to date by exhibiting this week a special film illustrating the Paris Floods. Mr. S. Smith, a local vocalist, is here this week and goes well.

GREENOCK.—Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank L. Clayton.—Among the excellent pictures being shown here this week are The Death Disc, A Kind-hearted Employer, In the Window Recess, The Cripple's Matrimonial Stakes, and A Short-sighted Sportsman. "Swing Me Higher, Obadiah," is given on the Cinephone.

HANLEY.—King's.—The programme here is a lengthy one. The chief films are The Little Teacher, La Camargo, Too Beautiful, The Bold Corporal, The Vanishing Sportsman, and Wide Awake. Miss Linda Arthur is a splendid little vocalist, and is a great hit in vaudeville items.

KETTERING. — Vint's Electric Palace.—Proprietor, Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This popular picture house is still receiving excellent support. The programme this week includes The Minstrel, Sweet Revenge, The Little Milliner, A Royal Outcast, and Circus Life. The Boriskes, Miss Kitty Woodford, and Alf Leonard are the variety artists.

KIRKCALDY.—Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The London Safety Bioscope Company are again in evidence in submitting the very best of films for this week's show, the principal of which are: The Bank Note, Foolshead Gets Married, Children of the East, Fraternal Jealousy, The Tramp's Unlucky Day, Sunshine After Storm. Lenoma Coady tops the bill, and her catchy chorus songs, rendered in her own naïve style, are accorded a most enthusiastic reception.

LEAMINGTON.—Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The programme this week is well up to the standard of excellence. Topping the bill is a picture entitled The Kind-hearted Employer, brimful of dramatic interest, whilst The Miniature is a beautiful film of love and jealousy. Other pictures providing great interest and amusement include Toilers by the Sea-shore, No Excitement, Almost, Will of a Youngster, and An Improved Inkstand. Miss Mina Langton again sings illustrated songs with great artistic merit, whilst the elocutionist, Mr. Bert Williams, who has already established himself a warm favourite with local audiences, gives a very fine rendering of Mr. Geo. R. Sims' famous poem "Fallen by the Way."

LLANELLY.—The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. T. H. Samuel; Manager, Mr. H. B. Parkinson.—This establishment, better known as the Athenæum, is quite a success. The chief picture this week is that of The Life Story of George Washington, the first President of the United States of America.

NORTHAMPTON.—Temperance Hall.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—An excellent series of dramatic and amusing pictures is shown here this week; the principal ones are The Brothers, Redwing's Gratitude, and The Diver's Remorse. Miss Margaret Payne sings very nicely.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black.—The subjects presented here this week include Lieut Rose,

The Painter's Trunk, A Shortsighted Sportsman, Scenes in Massua, &c. The Howards, mystery entertainers, appear, and are heartily greeted.

HOWARD HALL.—The bill of fare presented here is of a varied and entertaining order. The Floods in Paris is a very interesting film, and A Corner in Wheat and The Theft of Diamonds are also greatly enjoyed. The Romance of an Umbrella, What the Cards Foretold, &c., make up a good programme.

GAIETY PICTURE HALL.—Patrons here are again well catered for, Lieut. Rose, On the Border, The Little Violin Player, and other pictures being greatly enjoyed. Miss Iris Smith, ballad vocalist, appears with success.

NORWICH. — AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr continues his interesting entertainment of animated pictures, and has been well patronised. This week the list of films include The Rag and Bone Merchant's Wedding, Trapped by Bioscope, an election skit, Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire, A Mountaineer's Honour, a thrilling Mexican drama, The Señorita, a beautifully-coloured dramatic film, The Hunchback Fiddler, and one of laughs, No Excitement; but the principal and attractive film is The Great Paris Flood, which is admirably depicted and watched with great interest. During the show, in illustrated scenas Mr. Tom Taylor, with much taste, renders "The Skipper" and "Sister"; Miss Bessie Hardman also pleasingly sings "Somewhere," and the duet "Excelsior" by the two artists meets with much approbation.

CENTRAL HALL, UPPER MARKET.—Lessees, The Goodman Entertainment Co.; Manager, Mr. Syd Goodman.—This place of amusement is highly attractive and well patronised. The films this week are The Scales of Justice, An Unlucky Picnic, Peeps into Nature's Realm, The Legend of the Lighthouse, The House under Repair, A Smart Burglar, In the Land of Goldmines, and A Child of the Forest.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—This week the Floods in Paris are drawing good houses, the pictures being quite realistic and clear. Another fine picture, founded on Tennyson's poem of Launcelot and Elaine, is most enjoyable. The Poacher's Revenge is a good dramatic film, as is The Vendetta. A Good Tip is a capital picture. The Conquest is a most comical picture; and another one is Peddling Peter Pinches Poultry. A most amusing film is one entitled How a Parliament Dissolves. Mr. Don Cameron contributes a capital song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lester King. A good bill is provided this week, the pictures including a capital dramatic film, Lieut. Rose and the Robbers of Fingals Cave. The following are also included: Benvenuto Cellini The Airship Destroyer, Fresh Air Fiend, Mr. Giddy's Revenge, The Tempting Necklace, and The Child with the Dancing Jack. "Don't forget to drop a line to mother" is sung by Mr. King.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—The Paris Floods are drawing good houses nightly. The Flower Seller is a fine picture, and is very popular. The Cowboy's Romance and The Poacher's Revenge are very dramatic. The funny pictures include Not What He Expected, Menagerie Let Loose, and a good trick picture, The Mirror of Life.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—Through the Breakers, a drama of domestic life; Comata, the Sioux, a tale of the Wild West; Masterpiece; and Diamond Cut Diamond, are in the bill. A capital series of comic films are included; and a good song is given by Mr. H. Dawson.

READING. — VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE (Broad-street).—A splendid film depicting scenes from the lives of George Grossmith and Edmund Payne and a scene from *Our Miss Gibbs* creates great amusement. An up-to-date film depicts the Paris Floods. Other good films are The Fickle Girl, The Little Violinist, and The Hempen Bag.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE (West-street).—Paris Under Water is the subject of a splendid film, showing the terrible flood calamity. A number of other interesting and amusing films are shown.

ROCHDALE.—EMPIRE AND PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle.—The pictures here continue to attract good houses. Briton and Boer depicts scenes in the Boer war; some pretty scenes are depicted in the story of Lancelot and Elaine; sensational subjects include On the Little Big Horn and Lieutenant Rose, R.N.; and others of humorous subjects, with variety turns by Les Zelovas, acrobats; Newman and Brown, in a musical episode, "What might have been"; and The Mysterious complete a capital bill of fare.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Cycling Honeymoon, Innkeeper's Daughter, Judge Not, Wonderful Coat, Marvellous Mesmerist, Kidnapper to the Rescue, Smart Burglar, Country Doctor, and Delight of the Sport are among this week's Regent animated pictures. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings illustrated songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—This week's Raymond pictures include The Postmistress, Foolshead Among the Savages, A Kind Employer, No Excitement, Coffee Planting Industry, Musical Family, Cabin Boy to King, and Drowsy Dick's Dream. Mr. Gilbert's songs are enjoyed by large houses.

STALYBRIDGE.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. W. Llewellyn.—The above management have secured a splendid programme for this week, and among those that the audience seem to appreciate the best are The Waif, Indian Bill, The Lie, the Corsican's Revenge, and Bobby Wide Awake. Helsingborg to Cape Collen, a very pretty travel subject; The Blunt Knife, The Widow, His Doom, Foolshead, and The Theatre Pass. Mr. M. B. Lees, a local baritone, sings to prettily-illustrated songs.

FORESTERS' HALL.—Lessees, Bros. Lens; Manager, Mr. Frank Lens.—A very pleasing programme of bioscopic films by the above management at this hall. The main pictures are Into the Shadow, a pathetic story of a mother's grief at the supposed death of her youngest child; The Drunkard's Reformation, The Son of a Soldier, A Girl's Noble Sacrifice, The Pillagers, The Gibson Goddess, Love Should Not be Trifled With, The Kids on a Spree in Brussels, and a very funny election picture entitled Scroggins for Blankshire. A witty comedian is found in Bobby Burns.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden.—A crowded audience was assembled here on Monday night, and a good programme was on view. Chief among the pictorial section were His Reformation and The Flower Seller, both fine dramatic items. Sands and Vincent gave a turn which embraced much good comedy and capable vocalism; Leicee Prinella, soubrette, gave a pleasant turn; Wilfred Gregory is a contortionist of high order, and was heartily recalled.

PALACE THEATRE. — Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—A good bill is being well received this week. Dick Donovan is an excellent film, and very popular. The variety was also good. Carelo gives an unusually good juggling act; Yettmar and O-Sasa-San are particularly smart magicians; and a very amusing burlesque act is given by the Hersleb Brothers.

WHITEHAVEN.—MARKET HALL.—The pictures shown here this week are of the usual high-class order, the principal ones amongst them being: Stricken Blind, A Tragedy of Love, Gentle Hearts, The Awakening, and The Subterfuge. Mr. E. J. Sheldon, comedian, is also in the bill.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—This new place of amusement is gaining that success it undoubtedly deserves and the provision of afternoon tea for ladies is a welcome innovation. The pictures this week are quite up to the high standard of their predecessors, and include the following: The Way of the Cross, a descriptive picture full of interest; A Trick that Failed, which causes roars of laughter; Professional Duty; Across the Glaciers, a beautiful travel picture; The Innkeeper's Daughter, a drama of heart and hand affection. Some excellent films are shown of the recent disastrous floods in Paris.

YORK.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bradley.—Through the Breakers is a picture full of interest, The Captain's Misadventure is very funny, The Restoration is also full of merit; the variety company is also a good one, and includes the Three Cymbelines, Fred Sidney, and Carlos Blondell—all clever turns.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Butler.—The Dr. Bodie Pictures are crowding the house nightly; the Floods in Paris are cleverly shown, and The Trick that Failed is also good. Fox and Melville, in their latest successes, are well received.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT (1909).

THE CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO LICENCES.

At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, the Theatres and Music Halls Committee presented an important report containing the conditions to be attached to all licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, the number of applications received, points arising under the Act, &c.

The report was as follows:—

The Council on Dec. 14, 1909, delegated to us its powers under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and on Dec. 21, 1909, approved the form of licence to be granted under the Act. The regulations made by the Home Secretary, a copy of which will be laid on the table, were received on Dec. 21, 1909, ten days before the Act came into operation. No. 3 of the regulations requires that every licence granted under the Act shall contain specific conditions for complying with regulations Nos. 1 and 2, relating to the general arrangement of the building, and also a clause providing for its lapse, or, alternatively, for its revocation by the licensing authority if any alteration is made in the building or the enclosure for the cinematograph apparatus without the sanction of the licensing authority. In the case of licences granted for premises at present licensed for music or dancing or stage-plays, the following conditions have been attached, in addition to the condition prescribed by the Council on Dec. 21, 1909, prohibiting the opening of the premises on Sundays—

(1) That, in the event of any alteration being made in the building or enclosure without the sanction of the Council having been first obtained, the licence will be liable to be revoked by the Council.

(2) That the rules required to be observed when the premises are used under the music licence be complied with.

In the case of licences granted for premises which are not licensed for music, &c., the following conditions have been attached in additions to the condition prohibiting the opening of the premises on Sundays—

(1) That in the event of any alteration being made in the building or enclosure without the sanction of the Council having been first obtained the licence will be liable to be revoked by the Council.

(2) That all the exits be indicated by notices clearly painted to the satisfaction of the Council over the doors or openings at a height of at least 6ft. 9in. above the floor.

(3) That each exit door or opening do have a distinct light fitted over it, such light to be on a different system from the main lighting of the building, to illuminate the exit notice, and that such light be maintained throughout the performance.

(4) That all exit doors, if fastened during the time the public are in the building, be secured during such time by automatic bolts only of a pattern and in a position to be approved by the Council, and do have a notice clearly painted on them indicating the method of opening.

(5) That the management do allow the public to leave by all exit and entrance doors, which must open outwards.

(6) That the seating be set out so that there shall be a space of at least one foot in depth between the front of one seat and the back of the next, measured between perpendiculars, and that where chairs are used they be battened together in lengths of not less than four or more than twelve chairs.

(7) That all curtains covering doors or in passages be hung on sliding rings, and so as not to trail on the ground, and be parted in the centre.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Two hundred and fifty applications have been received for licences under the Act, 101 being for premises already licensed for music, dancing, or stage-plays. Of these 101 applications, ninety-four have been granted, and the remaining seven are under consideration. Except in a few instances, where works required by the Council under the music licence had not been executed, the licences have been granted for a period of twelve months. Of the 149 applications received in respect of premises not licensed for music, &c., ninety have been granted and ten refused. The remainder will be dealt with as rapidly as possible, the procedure being as follows—a preliminary inspection is made of the premises, and if it is found that the premises are not absolutely unsuitable for cinematograph exhibitions a licence for one month is granted. At the same time an intimation is given to the licensee that the time at the Council's disposal has not been sufficient to enable all the facts in connection with the application to be considered, and that the grant of the licence must not be deemed to prejudice any action which the Council may take upon an application for a renewal of the licence. A detailed inspection is then made of the premises as rapidly as possible, and particulars of alterations necessary to make them suitable for cinematograph exhibitions are forwarded to the licensee, with an intimation that the alterations will have to be executed before the expiry of the licence already issued if a renewal of the licence is required.

In a few cases where it was possible for detailed reports on the premises to be made before the issue of the licences, licences have been granted for three months, the special works required to be executed to the premises being endorsed on the licence in the form of additional conditions.

Seven applications for licences under the section of the Act which deals specially with movable exhibitions (sec. 7 (3) (*a*)) have been received. The Act contemplates that yearly licences shall be granted in respect of movable shows; but as some of the applications received appear to raise questions under the London Building Acts, licences for one month only have been granted pending a consideration of these questions.

SUNDAY OPENING OF PREMISES LICENSED FOR CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONS.

The condition attached to the licences prohibiting the opening of the premises on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas Day, has not been favourably received by the proprietors of the premises, and a deputation from the Kinematograph Trade Protection Society, Ltd., and the Cinematograph Defence League, Ltd., has appeared before us and urged that it might be withdrawn. We have also received a deputation representing the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, the National Association of Theatrical Employees (including cinematograph operators), and the Imperial Sunday Alliance, which urged that the prohibition against Sunday opening inserted in the licence should be maintained, and that no relaxation of this prohibition should be allowed except under the same conditions as those insisted upon in the case of premises licensed for music, viz., the conditions laid down by the Council on May 4, 1909 (p. 1037-8). We now have under consideration the representations made by the deputations, and hope to be able to report to the Council on the subject on Feb. 15, 1910, and we have given an assurance to the Kinematograph Trade Protection Society that in the meantime no proceedings will be instituted by the Council in respect of premises being opened on Sundays for cinematograph exhibitions.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings for an infringement of the provisions of the Act have been taken against the proprietor of the Royal Cambridge Music Hall. In this case cinematograph entertainments were given at the premises after Dec. 31, 1909, notwithstanding that the Council's requirements respecting the electric lighting installation had not been complied with, and as failure to comply with these requirements also involved non-compliance with the Secretary of State's regulations, proceedings were taken under the Cinematograph Act. The magistrate inflicted the maximum penalty of £20 and £5 a day for the three days included in the summons, and ordered the defendant to pay one guinea costs.

POINTS ARISING UNDER THE ACT.

We have been advised by the solicitor that, as regards cinematograph exhibitions in club premises, any such exhibition for the purposes of which inflammable films are used comes within the operation of the Act, and a licence in respect of the premises must be obtained if such entertainments are given at the premises on more than six occasions during the year, and if used on fewer occasions the provisions of section 7, sub-section 2, must be observed. We have also been advised that a cinematograph exhibition given to the inmates of a workhouse cannot be regarded as an exhibition in a private dwelling house, and is therefore not exempt from the provisions of the Act.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND LICENCES GRANTED.

The following statement shows the number of applications received and the action taken thereon—

	Places licensed for music, &c.	Places not licensed for music, &c.
Number of applications received	97 for 12 months, 4 for shorter periods	141 for 12 months, 8 for shorter periods.
Licences granted	82 for 12 months, 12 for shorter periods	1 for 12 months, 17 for 3 months, 81 for 1 month, 1 for 1 performance.
Licences refused	——	10
Amount received in fees for licences..	£80 15s.	£24
For transfer of licence	5s.	——
Amount due for licences granted but not issued	£5 5s.	£1 15s.

New Barry Picture Show.

MR. LEON VINT, the well-known entertainer, has now practically completed the work of converting the old Salvation Army hall and barracks, Thompson-street, Barry Docks, Glam., into a first-class picture house, and it is expected to open the place in its new capacity to-day (Saturday). The hall internally has undergone complete alteration. The four formerly bare walls have been tastefully decorated, and a commodious gallery has been erected. It is probable that variety as well as pictures will shortly be introduced into the programme. Mr. Arthur Brogden is to control the concern.

"The Flood" in Bradford.

BRADFORD is singularly well served in the matter of cinematograph pictures, for scarcely any great world event occurs but it is served still topically hot by the managements of the picture shows in the city. The terrible floods in Paris form the subject of a lengthy and excellent film which has been shown at St. George's Hall. Mr. Henry Hibbert, of the Temperance Hall, is also to the fore in dealing with the pictorial presentment of these devastating horrors. Having sent members of his staff, at considerable expense, to take photos, he has obtained some striking results, which were shown last Saturday.

Stoll's Panopticon, Cardiff.

AN enjoyable programme has been presented this week at Stoll's Panopticon, St. Mary-street, Cardiff. The American Bioscope Company have shown Lieutenant Rose, R.N.; or, The Robbers of Fingall's Cave, and the scenery in the pictures is remarkable for fidelity to nature. The Romance of a Cowboy thrills with excitement and provokes breathless interest. Other items include A Menagerie Let Loose, Paris from the Eiffel Tower (a scenic picture of absorbing interest), the beautiful spectacle of The Dance of Fire, and the humorous comedy Not What He Expected.

Hull's New Picture Palace.

THE new picture palace in George-street, Hull, is to have spacious lobbies, booking-offices, and marble staircase at the entrance, fitted with swing doors. The entrance vestibule at the front is 18ft. by 27ft., and is to be quite an important feature. The ground floor will measure 70ft. by 37ft., and will have a gangway on either side and at the back; the main hall measures 90ft. by 37ft. There will be a small platform and orchestra at the southern end with emergency exit and entrance for part of the ground floor. On the first floor will be a large circle and balcony, fitted with tip-up cushioned seats, and adjacent will be a tea and refreshment lounge. The floors will be supported on steel girders, and the roof will be of steel construction. The premises will be amply ventilated, lighted, and heated by radiators. The new hall will hold about 1,500 persons. The style of architecture will be Renaissance, the front being terra cotta. The architects are Messrs. Freeman, Son, and Gaskell, and the builders Messrs. George Houlton and Son, Hull. The proprietors are The Prince's Hall (Hull) Company, Limited. The hall will be under the management of the Messrs. Morton, of the Grand and Alexandra Theatres, Hull. This hall will cost £10,000.

Grand, Rawtenstall, Changes Hands.

WE learn that the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, which was recently leased by Mr. William Matthews, of Darwen, and has since been running under the management of Mr. J. A. Whitehouse, will at this week-end again change hands, Mr. Matthews having sold his lease of the theatre to the Manchester Electric Theatre Co., who take immediate possession and open on Saturday next.

THE Company intend to convert the theatre into a picture palace, producing the moving pictures in natural colours (Smith Urban Patent). The new venture is to be under the management of Mr. William Renshaw, who has been stage-manager of the theatre ever since its opening in 1899.

Todmorden's Enterprise.

THE new Olympia Picture Palace, Todmorden, was opened on Monday evening by Messrs. A. and H. Andrews, the well-known entertainers of New Compton-street, London. The whole of the receipts have been generously given by Messrs. Andrews to local charities. The building was formerly used as a skating rink, and has seating accommodation for 1,250, including tip-up chairs upholstered in velvet for the stalls. There is an orchestra of five, and variety turns are intended to be run as well as pictures. Mr. Charles Tyers has been appointed manager.

New Wolverhampton Picture Palace.

LAST Saturday the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., opened one of their up-to-date Cinema White Theatres in Queen-square, Wolverhampton. Mr. W. Reynolds Benjamin is the general-manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The pantomime *Dick Whittington* as presented by Messrs. Murray King and Clark's company is proving a great attraction here. Miss Gertrude Gillian in the title-rôle is charming; a bewitching Alice is found in Miss Norah Dwyer; Mr. Murray King is irresistibly funny as Idle Jack; Fitzwarren is enacted in capital style by Mr. Ardene Linden; Messrs. Hebbert Walton and Jamie Dallas as Captain Pott and Peter Pann could scarcely be better placed; Mr. Tom Walls makes an admirable Dame; the Fairy Felina of Miss Edith Jefferies is excellent; and Miss Adele Levey, a strikingly handsome Emperor of Morrocco, is highly successful. Mr. T. R. Pinaud, jun., imitates the Cat to perfection.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland* is paying a first visit here. Mr. Edmund Russell wins repeated applause for a talented and humorous impersonation of Mr. Hook; Mr. Arthur Ballance acts and sings well as Van Vuyt; Mr. Wood Mancey as the Captain gives a good impersonation; Mr. Fred Dark is exceedingly droll as Simon Stimks, and Mr. George Mudie jun., is seen to advantage as Schnapps; Miss Gertrude Melville presents a charming exposition in the title-rôle; Miss C. Sephton gives a clever performance as Mina, and earns repeated encores in her vocal numbers; Miss Cissie Garthorne is an attractive Gretchen. There is a strong and efficient chorus.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Edward Crosland's Melodi Makers, in a musical scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, achieve great success in their vocalisms. Little Sophie is a clever juvenile artist; Captain Kettle gives a skilful demonstration of coin palming; Miss Madge Allan, comedienne, supplies a spirited turn; Charles Grantley, comedian, is highly amusing; Bains and company present a laughable act, and Mlle. Sylvesto, contortionist, gains much approval.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Les Marbas, acrobats, give an extraordinary display; Valvero's electrical exhibition, "Naval Bombardment," provides a great attraction; Fred Coyle, comedian, is a popular turn; Gladys and Alba, comedy duo, are a success in smart comedy business; Burley and Green are first-class acrobatic tumblers; Miss Margaret Ogilvie is a dashing comedienne; the Sisters Draycott, duettists, are greeted with much applause, and A. G. Spry is an entertaining comedian.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Duffy; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hy. Hearn.—The Royal Diamonds, one-legged equilibriste and dancers, head the bill, and are accorded a flattering reception; the Monckton score a success in an original sketch entitled *Are Wives Dummies?*; Chas. N. Daly and company are seen to advantage in a comedy sketch; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing box-makers, score in ballads and concerted items; the Danas cause much mirth; and Dot Moss, dancer, &c., Joe Dale, comedian, and pictures complete the programme.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Pantomime again holds sway here, and the visit of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *Aladdin* has been attended with success. Miss Kittie Rayburn, in the title-rôle, makes a dashing principal boy; her singing and dancing alike are excellent, and she has won all hearts here. Miss Nancy St. John is an entertaining Princess; Miss Cissie Esdaile as Pekoe, Maisie St. Hilary as Ni See, and Miss Dorothy Erskine are most efficient. Mr. Fred W. Graham as Widow Twankey is exceptionally successful, and irresistible humour permeates his work throughout. Mr. Maneto Klitgaard as the Emperor scores well, and sings with pleasing effect; Mr. Bruce Lindley is good as the Grand Vizier; Mr. Harry Morgan as Abanazar scores a big success with "Let's all go down the Strand," and proves himself a comedian of the versatile order; Mr. Cecil Clayton is very funny as Wishee Washee; and a pair of smart comedians are Messrs. Carl and Carr as the Chinese policemen. Capital specialities are introduced, and the dancing of the La Belle Trio wins appreciation. Mrs. Victor's troupe of juveniles are decidedly clever; the Nine Follettes and the Three Trees are also worthy of praise. The chorus is well balanced and very effective, and the scenery and dresses are in accord with such a light pantomime. Mr. Ashley Richards wields the baton, and Mr. Jack Parsons is the acting-manager of the company. The entire show goes with a merry swing throughout.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Crowded houses have been the order here. Charles R. Whittle has again had a warm reception; Ruby Babl's Merry Mannikins are well received; Geoffreys and Benson score in the sketch *Romeo and Juliet*, the lady doing effective work as the slavey. Roy Beavis is a smart magician, and Rene a dainty girl juggler. Percy Dalton does well with a speciality dance, and Guy Rider whistles selections from grand opera. The pictures are good.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—The Creedons' comedy sporting act is good; George James is a smart comedian; and Rose Elliot has a bass voice and sings her songs with taste. Frank E. Ford is a clever dancer. The pictures are a choice assortment.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company in *Sherlock Holmes* is drawing good houses, and deservedly so. Mr. Stewart's impersonation of the name-part is too well known to need further reference. Mr. Charles Brandon is a convincing Prof. Moriarty; and Mr. Eric Morden a Dr. Watson in keeping with one's imagination of the part. Mr. Arnold O. Raper (James Larabee), Master Thos. Russell (Billy), Miss May Beatrice (Madge Larabee), and Miss A. Bruce-Joy (Miss Faulkner) are other well-sustained characters. The thrilling play is well mounted.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — EXCHANGE HALL.—Three performances of *The Thief* by the Alban and Bernard Limpus' company were watched with the keenest interest and admiration at the beginning of the week. Mr. Bernard Limpus was very fine as Richard Chelford, and Miss Georgina Wynter as Marise quite confirmed the good opinion of her ability formed on her visit some time ago; Mr. F. Morland's interpretation of Raymond Leyton was first-class; Miss Mary Forrester was distinctly pleasing as Isabel; and Mr. C. W. Lindsey did well as Harry; Prothero had a very suitable exponent in Mr. W. Somerset. The fit-up was most effective.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting the powerful Anglo-Indian drama *A Traitor Prince*, in which Mr. Beaudyn himself takes the part of Prince Reo Dalmiroz with great skill. Mr. G. E. Dunstan fills the rôle of Lieutenant Frank Derrick; Miss Irene Munroe in the difficult part of Vashti, the Indian snake charmer, is excellent; Miss Phyllis Rae is good as Pansy Blossom; and Miss Irene Stanhope's Lola Vane is a charming study; the other parts also being in very capable hands. The play is excellently mounted.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—In addition to the pictures at this place of amusement, which, as usual, are up to date, there are some clever turns provided by Will Hebden, the inimitable; Webberley, Drew and Marshall, and Paulette.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's pantomime *Aladdin* is being presented. The work is beautifully staged, and it is replete with good music and up-to-date songs and patter. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Miss Hettie Zillwood, who does it full justice; Miss Lou Charlesworth is also very sweet and dainty as the Princess; Mr. Chas. H. Gallier, Mr. Fred Osmond, Mr. Clarence Turner (Widow Twankey), Mr. Frank Sutherland, and Mr. Pulo fill their respective rôles well, and the fun is never allowed to flag. The speciality artists include the Bros. Lavelle (quaint comedy acrobats), the Sisters Wingrove (duettists and dancers), the Gando Sextette of male voices, and the Venester troupe of dancers.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—*The Suffragette*, played by Bella and Bijou, is greeted with screams of mirth; Richard Corbin's dogs are intelligent and well trained; Chas. Mildare, whistler and bird mimic, is a great success. Other artists who come in for generous applause are the Sisters Caselli (duettists and dancers), Waul Langtry (dialect comedian), and Great and Good (in an amusing "bumpity-bump" turn). Good Bioscope pictures complete.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. Poole's Myriorama and variety show is paying its annual visit here, and can be said to surpass all previous shows. Mr. J. B. Poole makes an intelligent and interesting cicerone. Amasis thoroughly mystifies his audiences; the Eltemas are received with much favour; the Seven Bramusas are exceptionally smart; Harry Raymond's coon songs are well rendered, and Mr. Geo. Price's illustrated songs are above the average; Willie Dean proves a clever comedian.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques. Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is appearing here in the Lyceum version of *The Christian*. Mr. R. Scrope Quentin submits a powerful portrayal of John Storm; and Mr. Arthur D. Layland cleverly enacts the character of Drake. Mr. John Blake is convincing as Lord Ure; Mr. Edwin Ling makes a dignified Father Lamplugh; Miss Sissie Murdock feelingly enacts the part of Polly Love; and Miss Muriel Marsden is to be complimented on her fine acting as Glory Quayle.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The F. R. Benson (North) Shakespearean Company is here in a series of plays, including *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Richard the Second*, and *Macbeth*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—*Roller Skating*, Fred Karno's latest sketch, causes endless amusement, some clever exhibitions of roker-skating being also given; *The Casuals*, another of Karno's absurdities, is also mirth-provoking; Orpheus is an exceptionally clever musician; Ruby Royal contributes catchy songs, and Barney Stuart proves himself to be a smart mimic; Ellis Barrieton's vocal efforts are successful; and the Long Brothers sing and dance themselves into favour; others who contribute are the Swifts, comedy cyclists; and V. Duovocine, vocalist.

WISHAW, N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Fahndy Troupe of Hungarian acrobats are topping the bill here in a daring and sensational acrobatic act; Tiny Arnold is a very big favourite for so small a person; Paul Cavalli gives a pleasing athletic exhibition; Seely West and Rhodesia are entertaining in a musical juggling turn; Marie Powell, waif impersonator and violoncellist, is an excellent turn; Lytton and Bland, comedians, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Mr. Wilson Howard's company, in *Under the Iron Heel*, is the attraction here. Mr. Wilson Howard plays effectively as Rene de Maupassant; the villainous Otto Marx has an able representative in Mr. W. J. Richards; Mr. John Tafford is good as Father Mirbleau; Mr. Austin H. Longford is an excellent Sergt. Bleucher; and Mr. Carl Vallender is an amusing Schultz. Miss Carlotta Anson pleases as Germaine Mirbleau; Miss Jessie Yatman is particularly good as André; and Miss J. Douglas Hicks is well placed as Maman Goutte.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Jan Rudenyi, the violinist, is starring here this week in *The Power of Music*. Able support is rendered by Miss Hilda Stewart as Eileen Granville and Mr. Drew Mackintosh as Renard Corona. Dutch Daly's humorous patter keeps the audience in one perpetual roar; Mme. Dalmeire's performing animals are interesting; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, show remarkable agility; and other pleasing turns are contributed by the Hamiltons, comedians; Ada Martine, comedienne and dancer; Spry and Austin, comedians; and Fred Hallam, comedian and dancer.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh are presenting *With Edged Tools*. The cast is a strong one, and includes Mr. J. Geddes as Sir John Meredith.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The Evalos, in jocular jugglery, Mr. "E.," with up-to-date jokes, and the Two Lilleys (negroes) all do good turns. Dove Eye's Gratitude, a strong Mohawk picture, wins applause. In the Window Recess is also a very good film.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—Great Scott, a versatile comedian, Muriel Dante, vocalist, Le Wist, ventriloquist, and the sleight-of-hand man Remo, with capital picture novelties, including The Little Rancher, all help to make up an attractive programme.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—On Monday the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* was presented by an efficient company, among whom may be mentioned Misses Lallah Melrose, Vera Dudley, Lucia Edwards, Clara Edwards, Rene Ashley, and Messrs. Matt Melrose, Fred Beck, Phil Inglis, J. E. Cowell, George Tichborne, J. Ebworth, and J. D. Hunter.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Leslie and Player, comedy duettists and patterers, cause roars of laughter; the Wys, in their comic and acrobatic pantomime, create plenty of fun. The other artists include Alf Tristram, descriptive vocalist and clog-dancer; and Tom Maynard. The Bioscope Pictures this week are extra good.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—There is much that is beautiful and funny in Mr. Charles Elderton's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. Miss Dulcie Lawrence looks the dashing Crusoe, and sings with taste; Miss Isa Gibson is smart in figure, a clever dancer, and sings with much grace—altogether a delightful effort; Mr. Teddy Worth as Billy never seems to tire, and has achieved an immense success; Miss Nina St. Elmo is a dashing Captain Kettle; and Miss Ivy Boulton a captivating Polly. A clever impersonation of Will Atkins is given by Mr. Fred Boulton; and a characteristic study of Dame Crusoe is given by Mr. J. H. Booth. Specialities are introduced with much effect by the Three Ellons on the bars; Carson Hicks, a clever dancer; Miss Bartinelli, contortionist; the Marblesque Trio, living statues; and the Lottie Stone Troupe of Dancers.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Abridged operas have proved a huge success this week, crowded houses being the rule. In *Cavalleria* on Monday Mr. J. F. O'Sullivan was heard to great advantage; Mr. Leonard Russell sang with much skill and effect as Turiddu; and the efforts of Miss Toni Seiter (Santuzza), Miss Anna Hope, and Miss Muriel Jeffries were much appreciated. The variety turns are also good. Marie Racko and company give a clever acrobatic performance; May Baskerville sings sweetly; Carl Muller is an eccentric dancer of a high order; the Mars Trio are clever acrobats; and Barnes and West, dancers; Hess and Chivers, skaters; the Carlton and Maie Trio, acrobats; and Shawn Desmond, comedian, all do well.

EXHIBITION HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus remains another week. Fresh turns are introduced, and new comic scenes provide much amusement.

Going to Birmingham.

MR. FLETCHER, manager of the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, is taking up his duties at the Masonic Hall, Birmingham, on Monday next.

A STRONG attraction is provided at the Leamington Theatre Royal by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company, which is appearing with great success in *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Mr. Wolfesley Draper embodies Prince Loris admirably, his manly bearing greatly enhancing the performance, and as the intriguing Prince Menski Mr. Stephen E. Scanlin acts tactfully. As the unknown woman, Zora, Miss Violet Carlyle displays much charm and grace; Miss Gertrude Sterroll gives a very effective portrayal of Countess Melvitch; much amusement is provided by Miss Cissie Podmore, who appears as Schnapps, and Mr. J. Telly Dillsen, who plays Corporal Stack. Other creditable performances are the General Platz of Mr. W. R. Winning, the Captain Gava of Mr. Cyril Harrison, the Keloff of Mr. Fred R. Roper, the General Bralveff of Mr. C. H. Henderson, the Cascar of Little Elsie Clark, the Else of Miss Ellen Richmond, and the maid of Miss Ada Douglas. The piece is elaborately staged and dressed.

"CINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT." (The law affecting the same.) By William

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore began an engagement at the Empire Theatre last Monday, and received a most enthusiastic welcome. They appeared in *The Mollusc*, and repeated the success they made in the same play during their last visit to this city. The fashionable audience that filled the theatre evinced the heartiest enjoyment of the fine performance given by these distinguished artists, and one may learn from a mere glance at the newspapers that Sir Charles Wyndham enjoys the highest degree of favouritism whenever he comes to this country. In fact, his personality is one that has always impressed the Americans most agreeably. At the end of the second act, after numerous recalls, Sir Charles addressed the audience. Six months ago, he said, the welcome he received was as warm as the weather, and he was glad to find just as much warmth in a January reception. When Sir Charles announced that he had arranged to pay an annual visit to America during the next five years there was a round of applause.

"The King of Cadonia" came to Daly's Theatre on the 10th inst. with good recommendations from London, but had a cool reception. Described as a great success "across the water," the piece was "Americanised," according to the announcements, which probably means that it was transmogrified. At any rate, it seemed decidedly tame and ordinary, although the company included several clever players who did their best to be entertaining. Miss Marguerite Clark, who appeared as Princess Marie, was the star, and Mr. William Norris, as the Duke of Alasia, was "featured." Mr. Melville Stewart's fine voice was heard to advantage in several songs, and Miss Clara Palmer made a hit as Militza, her song, "Come along, pretty girl," being a very popular number.

"The Arcadians" scored an instantaneous success last Monday at the Liberty Theatre. The newspapers praise the production unreservedly. The exquisite setting, the beautiful music, and the charm and grace of the lady artists who play the principal parts combine to make this the most attractive entertainment of its kind that the New York stage has seen during the present season. Miss Julia Sanderson, as Eileen Cavanagh, danced and sang delightfully, and was repeatedly recalled. Miss Ethel Cadman, a newcomer, as Sombra, the Arcadian girl, captivated the audience completely. She sang "The Pipes of Pan," "Arcady is ever young," and "Light is my Heart" with exquisite taste and feeling. In the comedy scenes Mr. Percival Knight, as Peter Doody, the lugubrious jockey; Mr. Frank Moulan, as James Smith; and Miss Connie Ediss as Mrs. Smith were highly entertaining. Mr. Knight's droll rendering of Doody's pessimistic ditty, "My Motter," brought down the house. The performance as a whole was remarkable for its grace and beauty.

"The Jolly Bachelors," a musical spectacle in two acts and seven scenes, has won the favour of the public at the Broadway Theatre, being the sort of entertainment that pleases those who seek amusement at the theatre. The book is by Glen MacDonough, the music by Raymond Hubbell, and Lew Fields is the producing manager. The piece is crowded with incidentals, or specialities—call them what you will—that divert the mind and please the eye. The attractions booked by the Shuberts have always excelled in that respect. But the success of the entertainment largely rests on one catchy song—the sort of air that the listener with a "quick ear" whistles and hums for several days afterwards, as if it were the only tune in existence. English audiences know the song, but it has only just reached us. "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" is the name of it, and it is safe to say that the organs will soon be grinding out the question continually. At the Broadway Theatre it is sung for all it is worth by Miss Nora Bayes, and to say that it makes a hit is putting it mildly. The plot is so small that it is in danger of being overlooked. Three young bachelors who have sworn to pass their days in a state of single blessedness stick to their decision until Astorita Vandergould (Miss Nora Bayes) crosses their path. Being an heiress, this young person decides to marry for love and to put her suitors to the test beforehand. In other words, she seeks one "whose heart does not make a noise like a cash register." In pursuance of her plan she takes a situation as a cashier in a drug store. The three bachelors fall head over heels in love with her and spend a good deal of time amongst the medicine bottles. Then a mistake is made in giving a bottle of poison mixed for a refractory elephant to a college student who wants a morning "bracer." The mistake is soon discovered, and the faithful trio are despatched in a hurry by their mutual inamorata to recover the fatal potion. Part of it, however, has fallen into the hands of a German housemaid who has taken ship for the Fatherland. But by means of an airship she is reached before it is too late, and all ends well.

Miss Bayes plays Astorita Vandergould bewitchingly. Mr. Jack Norworth, Miss Stella Mayhew, Miss Elizabeth Brice, and Mr. Al Leech are prominent in the fun-making, and Mr. Walter Percival is conspicuously successful. Mr. Lionel Walsh plays a "silly ass" part amusingly. Another "song hit" with a non-forgettable melody that everyone has learnt by the time the curtain falls is "What am I going to do to make you love me?" Mr. Billie Taylor, too, puts the audience in a good humour at the outset by singing a capital song, with a swinging chorus, called "Tax the Bachelors."

The new Globe Theatre, at the corner of Forty-sixth Street and Broadway, was opened on the 10th inst. by Mr. Charles Dillingham with a brilliant performance of George Ade's comedy, *The Old Town*, in which the favourite funmakers, Dave Montgomery and Fred Stone, made a decided hit. In fact, these frisky farceurs are practically "the whole show," for the piece has very little plot. Two enterprising youths named Archibald Hawkins and Henry Clay Baxter leave home, expecting to make a fortune in a year, and when they find themselves "broke" they try to restore their fortunes with a circus. This gives Stone an opportunity to cut his comical capers *ad lib.*, including a burlesque tight-rope walk and lariat dance that wins a storm of applause. Montgomery, with his broad grin and ready speech, is very amusing, and he sings a Japanese song with a capital chorus. The comedians appear as Swedes, and also introduce themselves as a pair of braw Scotsmen with the usual appurtenances. Whatever they do is diverting, and crowded houses are the rule whenever they appear in this city. Mr. Claude Gillingwater, Miss Ailene Crater, Miss Ethel Johnson, and the Hengler Sisters contribute to the success of the piece by their singing and dancing. The new playhouse is handsomely appointed and up to date in every particular.

"The Goddess of Liberty," a musical farce in three acts, the book by Adams and Hough, and the music by Joseph E. Howard, has had a few weeks' run at Weber's Theatre. Lord Jack Wyngate, an English nobleman, has inherited his father's title through the death of his brother. To restore the family fortunes he decides to marry an American heiress, and succeeds in winning the consent of Hope Butterworth. But Hope has a cousin named Phyllis Crane, and Wyngate falls in love with her. Phyllis reciprocating. By having a telegram sent to him, announcing that the report of his brother's death is untrue, Wyngate succeeds in breaking his engagement to Hope, and his betrothal to Phyllis follows. Mr. Edward Abeles appeared with success as Wyngate, and Miss May de Sousa played Phyllis Crane attractively. Miss Frances Demarest made a hit as Hope Butterworth, and Mr. Charles Aveling as Lord Algernon Banbury played a foppish part amusingly.

Miss Annie Russell is appearing as Lady Teazle in the performances of Sheridan's comedy at the New Theatre. Her interpretation of the part has won the approval of the Press and the public. Miss Russell will play Viola in *Twelfth Night* in the forthcoming production of the Shakespearean comedy at the New Theatre. Mr. Louis Calvert will appear as Sir Toby Belch, Mr. Matheson Lang as Orsino, Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk as Sir Andrew Aguecheck, Mr. Oswald Yorke as Malvolio, Mr. Henry Stanford as Fabian, and Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter as Olivia.

"Love Among the Lions," a new comedy by Winchell Smith, based on a story by F. Anstey, will be produced very shortly by Mr. Charles Frohmann.

Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney, who have been appearing at the Comedy Theatre, New York, in *The Affinity*, were so well received that their engagement was extended for another week. It is announced that Mr. Irving will enter the field of American theatrical management next season in association with the Shuberts. He will appear in a comedy of American life, and will take over several new plays from England that have never been produced in America. These will be staged under the personal direction of Mr. Irving.

Miss Maude Adams has fulfilled her annual engagement at the Empire Theatre, appearing with marked success once more in Barrie's delightful comedy, *What Every Woman Knows*.

The Columbia Theatre, situated at the corner of Broadway and Forty-seventh-street, was recently opened to the public. It is to be devoted to burlesque performances, and the initial attraction is called *The Follies of New York and Paris*. The interior of the new playhouse is designed in the Louis XVI. style. Smoking is permitted.

Mr. R. A. Roberts made a big hit last week at the Plaza Music Hall in his protean sketch *Dick Turpin*, the house being crowded at every performance. His versatility and celerity are wonderful, and by many in the audience his complete changes of personality were viewed with frank amazement. During this, the second week, of his engagement at the Plaza, he presents *Cruel Coppinger*. Mr. Wilfred Clarke and his company, in a farce called *No More Trouble*, are at the same house, their act being received with roars of laughter.

Miss Fannie Ward has been appearing at the Colonial Theatre in an abbreviated version of a play called *Van Allen's Wife*. Miss Ward gives a vivid portrayal of a woman who believes herself a murderess. She is ably assisted by Miss Janet Slater, Mr. John Dean, and Mr. Henry Duggan.

"Ma Gosse," produced last week at the American Music Hall, created a sensation at the popular variety house conducted by William Morris. It goes the Apache dance one better, and is a big drawing card. There is always a good programme at the Morris houses, and the audiences are correspondingly large and appreciative.

Laddie Cliff, whose popularity on this side is firmly established, is at the Fifth-avenue Theatre. His style is original and pleasing, and his songs are well chosen. His "Stop your nonsense" provokes much laughter.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—*The Faith Healer*, a play, in three acts, by William Vaughan Moody, author of *The Great Divide*, was produced at the Savoy Theatre on the 19th inst. Its theme is the power of suggestion upon the sick. Ulrich Michaelis, the Faith Healer, as described by the author, is "a man of powerful frame, and his manner has the freedom and largeness that comes from outdoor life." He is a type of man better known in the Middle West than in the East. At one time in the New England villages such as he vied with the local "bone-setter" in earning a reputation for remarkable cures. Michaelis is a shepherd. Whilst tending his flocks on the mountain side he hears voices, sees visions, and feels within him the growth of a miraculous power. So he goes forth to spread the doctrine of physical and moral redemption among the suffering and sinful. At a lonely farmhouse in Missouri, where the entire action of the play passes, he raises a bedridden woman to her feet and casts a spell over some members of her family. Her husband and sister-in-law are sceptical, however, their attitude being explained by the portraits of Darwin and Spencer that hang on the walls. Soon the neighbours feel the Faith Healer's presence, and the sick follow him. His ministrations bring him in contact with a physician and a preacher, and they discuss theological and scientific questions from their varying viewpoints. Then the Faith Healer tries to revive a dying child, and finds that his powers have left him. The cause lies in his carnal love for Rhoda, his host's niece, who is bearing the secret burden of a sin. He would abandon his mission and dwell with her in worldly happiness, but he discovers in the physician the girl's betrayer, and drives him from the house. Then his infatuation for Rhoda becomes a pure and holy love, and with the change his power to heal the sick returns. The bedridden woman, who has suffered a relapse, is raised again, and the child is cured. Mr. Henry Miller as the Faith Healer was earnest and impressive. The character as conceived by the author was truthfully represented. The critics praised his performance, but found the play too discursive and deficient in dramatic interest.

Mr. Andrew Mack, who used to be seen in Irish plays before he went to Australia, and stayed away from New York for a long period, is appearing at the Hackett Theatre in *The Prince of Bohemia*, a musical play, in two acts, by J. Hartley Manners and A. Baldwin Sloane, the scenes of which are laid in England. Mr. Mack impersonates Dick Conyers, a devil-may-care Irishman, who follows Angela Tritton (Miss Christie MacDonald), whom he loves, to England, Angela being a daughter of Uncle Sam. She is accompanied by her father and brother, and the former disapproves of Conyers. The brother is friendly, however, and with his connivance Conyers impersonates a valet in order to be near the girl he loves. Angela hears of his plan, and, to have a little fun at his expense, she puts on male attire and appears before him as a young English lord very much in love with the American girl and determined to marry her. Posing as a young "sport," she is forced by Conyers to smoke a cigarette and take a whisky and soda, which she does, with amusing results. Angela's father (Mr. W. T. Carleton) is finally won over, and the lovers come to an understanding in a pretty scene at the close of the play. Mr. Mack's humour is diverting, and his songs delight the audience. He is as popular as ever. Miss MacDonald, too, is a great favourite, being a sweet singer and a graceful comedienne. She renders "Gentle river," "Just a little bit of blarney," and several other numbers in an extremely pleasing manner. Mr. W. T. Carleton, Miss Georgie Lawrence, Mr. Harold Crane, and Mr. Henry Norman contribute to the success of the performance. The two scenes represent the palm garden and lounge of a seaside hotel and a lock on the Thames, with a houseboat near by.

Miss Maude Adams is now a yacht owner. Her private signal will shortly be hoisted on the Peter Pan, an 18-foot racing motor-boat, which has won fourteen trophies on Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and Lake Michigan.

Holland has been chosen as the place for Mr. William Collier to disport himself in his new play *A Lucky Star*, produced on the 18th inst. at the Hudson Theatre. In a way it is a "book play," Mrs. Anne Crawford Flexner, who dramatised *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, having constructed the new piece from incidents in a story called "The Motor Chaperon," by C. N. and A. M. Williamson. The play is in four acts, and Mr. Collier appears as Ronald Lester Starr, a bustling American, who does his best to disturb the calm of the phlegmatic Dutch. He hires a motor-boat for a tour of the canals, and the right to use the boat is suddenly claimed by two young ladies, one English and the other American. Starr invites them to accompany him, and telegraphs to Scotland for Lady McNairn, his aunt, to join the party as chaperon. She cannot be found, however, so Starr advertises for an aunt, who must be middle-aged and charming, and speak with a Scotch accent. After interviewing several Dutch applicants, he engages a lady of uncertain age, who wears spectacles, and whose efforts to speak the Scotch dialect prove highly amusing. Starr bears the expenses, and the several couples are soon engaged in love-making. Sir Alec McNairn has read in the society news that his wife, Lady McNairn, is with the boating party, the substitute having taken her name, and is led to suppose that his spouse has eloped. He descends on the party, with the result that the identity of Starr's "aunt" is disclosed. Discarding her wig and spectacles, she proves to be such an attractive young woman that Starr falls in love with her, and with the pairing of the three couples the play ends. Mr. Collier's quick, dry witticisms cause constant laughter, and the fun of the piece is kept at a high pitch. Miss Marjorie Wood makes an excellent chaperon. Mr. Frank H. Westerton, who appears as Sir Alec McNairn, and is also the stage-manager, deserves honourable mention, the other parts being well played. The scenery is quaint and pretty. Gazing at the sky, the chaperon points to her "lucky star," which gives the title to the play.

"Mr. Buttles," a comedy, in three acts, by Frederick Arnold Kummer, was produced last week at Weber's Theatre, with Mr. Henry E. Dixey in the title-rôle. The piece is a dramatisation of the author's own story, which was published in *The Smart Set*. Buttles is an English butler who enters into a co-operative arrangement with the other servants of the household to keep the establishment going, although his master, the Earl of Everdun, is out of funds. The servants, having had to depend on tips in lieu of wages, are naturally much perturbed when the master decides to give up entertaining and is about to apprise his prospective guests. The butler agrees to assume all financial responsibility, and even pay the master a sum of money for the privileges enjoyed. A company is formed called "Buttles, Limited," and the estate is leased during the hunting season, when a considerable income is derived from the genteel blackmail imposed on the guests and dignified by the name of "tipping." By the terms of the agreement the Earl is to receive £1,500 a year, and be a mere figurehead, as usual. But he soon tires of remaining at The Towers, and allows his chauffeur, who is his double, to impersonate him. Ralph Hemingway, alias James Huggins, a London newspaper man, out for a good "story," is the chauffeur. He begins by falling in love with Sally Flighter, an American girl, who, with her mother, is staying at The Towers. All sorts of complications arise. Sir Percy Palmerston tries to elope with Mrs. Bill Flatsaddle, and Captain Flatsaddle plans to do likewise with Sir Percy's fiancée, Miss Dottie Dorrington. Buttles agrees to assist the two men for the usual consideration, and tells each one of the plans of the other. Buttles manages everything. He figures in every adventure and pockets the tip with suavity and despatch. Sally Flighter throws herself at the bogus Earl for the sake of the title, and when the real Earl returns from Paris he has to convince the irate Flighter, president of the Flighter Canned Goods Co., of Chicago, that he is not anxious to marry Miss Flighter. And it is just plain Huggins, the chauffeur, who wins the title-hunting heiress after all. Mr. Dixey's Buttles is a laughable characterisation. Mr. Cyril Chadwick as the Earl of Everdun, Mr. Frank Goldsmith as Huggins, and Miss Minnette Barrett as Sally Flighter help to make the piece amusing. Miss Olive Terry, a niece of Miss Ellen Terry, appears with success as Dottie Dorrington.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WELLINGTON, Dec. 15.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—Messrs. Williamson's dramatic company, headed by Mr. Julius Knight and Miss Beatrice Day, fulfilled a three weeks' season here. The opening play was *The Breed of the Treshams*, with Mr. Knight as Lieut. Beresby, followed in due course by *An Englishman's Home*, which aroused no enthusiasm in an audience largely composed of people unable to appreciate the conditions. Other plays produced during the three weeks' season were *Monsieur Beaucaire*, *A Royal Divorce*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *The Sacrament of Judas*. The leading members of the company were Messrs. Sydney Stirling, Aubrey Mallalieu, Reynolds Denniston, and Leslie Victor. Drama gave place to vaudeville, and Mr. Edward Branscombe's Scarlet Troubadours. The essence of their entertainment is lightness and irresponsibility, which suits Colonial audiences admirably. The choicest items are perhaps Miss Gertrude Parker's songs, "Janie" and "The curate and the maiden," the selections of Mr. Ford Waltham, and Mr. Alfred Cunningham's song, "When bright eyes glance," not forgetting the male quartet, "Lovely Night." Mr. Leonard Griffiths is a very hard-worked accompanist.

AMUSEMENTS IN BOMBAY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, Jan. 7.—The opening of the Novelty Theatre took place on Saturday last, when Mr. Sydney T. Pease presented *For the King*. Bombay theatre-goers were given an exceptionally fine treat, as the staging was first-rate. Mr. Sydney Pease as Oliver Cromwell gave a masterly exposition of the character, and was recalled after each act to bow his acknowledgments. He was ably seconded by Messrs. Rivington, Brampton, Storey, and Sweet. The Sergeant was played by Mr. W. H. Smith, who was loudly applauded for his fine rendering. Miss Dreury soon won her way into the hearts of the local playgoers, and is now a firm favourite. Miss Lilian Lloyd and Miss Osborn have played during the week several dainty parts; and Miss Minnie Rayner, another old favourite, recalls many pleasant evenings in the past. The company is a strong one, and has deserved its successful season. A distinctive feature of the season has been the delightful way in which the plays have been presented. During the visit the company have played *Mrs. Dane's Defence* and *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. Chas. Osbourne is the courteous advance representative.

Pollard's Lilliputians are paying a visit to Bombay, at the Empire Theatre, after many years. Bombay still remembers the former visit with pleasure. These bright and talented "kiddies," all under twelve, throw themselves heart and soul into the spirit of the plays, and act, sing, and dance with a verve and youthful cheerfulness which are delightful.

At the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, *A Destroyer of Men* is presented by Miss Hilda Beverley's company. Miss Beverley as Olga Mishla handles the rôle in artistic style, and accomplishes the task with much distinction; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh is highly successful as Count Starevitch; Karl Mishla has a capable representative in Mr. H. Pearson; Mr. J. Jarrett is an excellent Michael Mishla; Fedor Strellitske is well depicted by Mr. J. Armstrong; and Mr. Edward Keith does well as Coco Tachoski. Miss Mary Brammer gains laurels as Vida Ravel, and Miss D. Hildebrand makes a pleasing Nina Patticake.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, Dec. 21, 1909.—*The Catch of the Season*, by the J. C. Williamson Royal Comic Opera Company, was produced to a very large audience on the 17th at Her Majesty's. The new production was elegantly dressed and daintily scened (the latter by Gordon, Little, and Board), and an augmented orchestra, guided by Mr. Andrew McCunn, heartily welcomed on his return from London. Miss Fanny Dango was the Angela, and she made her saucily dainty. Miss Florence Vie, a newcomer, was Lady Caterham, and a real breezy fairy godmother, too; Mr. Andrew Higginson got all possible good out of the Duke of St. Jermyns; and his mother was in the attractive custody of Miss Alma Vaughan. The stuttering, impossible Dundreary gave Mr. D. B. O'Connor a chance of versatility, and he gripped it readily. Mr. C. Bantock as Sir John Crystal and Mr. Victor Goriet as Mr. Gibson had little to do. Miss Georgie Musgrave (Lady Crystal) and the Misses Lydia Flopp and Nellie Wilson were the stepmother and daughters of poor Cinderellised Angela to the letter. Miss Flopp danced well with Mr. Fred Leslie, who played Higham Montague. A clever young actor, Master Roy Seaton, made Bucket a most laughable part. Miss Minnie Hooper was loudly called for her tuition of the clever dancers. Miss Fanny Bauer, newly returned, came on and sang a song in the drawing-room scene.

The coal strike has seriously interfered with the usual Christmas influx of visitors, but the theatres will have attractive programmes.

Her Majesty's will, in addition to the comic opera at night, have matinées daily of *The Climax*, in which Miss Florence Young and Mr. Reginald Roberts will appear.

Rupert Clarke and Meynell will produce *The Girl Behind the Counter* with a full company. Julius Knight and his coterie will revive *The Corsican Brothers* at the Royal; the Hugh Ward Comedy Company will be at the Palace with *A Bachelor's Honeymoon*; and the Tivoli will have a holiday programme worthy of Harry Rickards' traditions.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 20, 1909.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The Christmas extravaganza *Aladdin* was produced on Saturday evening in the presence of an immense audience. Miss Lily Iris made an ideal principal boy. Tall, shapely, handsome, piquant, and winsome, Miss Iris did full justice to the dainty songs allotted her. The other newcomer, Miss Clara Beck (Princess Balroubadour) has also many recommendations as principal girl. Miss Beck gave a painstaking and conscientious performance. She possesses a fine voice, which resulted in most of her songs being encored. Owing to indisposition, Mr. Harry Phydora was unable to appear in the character of the Widow Twankey, which was taken (at very short notice) by Mr. Victor Loydall, who did full justice to the part, and thoroughly deserved the rounds of cheers the audience gave him. Mr. J. M. Campbell made a most comical Emperor of Japan, his patter being both original and entertaining. Mr. Watson as Ting Ting was highly amusing. A feature of the pantomime was the acrobatic turn introduced by Price and Revost. These artists were recalled again and again for their clever performance. The extravaganza throughout is most lavishly mounted, while the songs and music are of a bright and "catchy" nature. *Aladdin* will run till further notice.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clarke and Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—*Othello*, presented by Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, is only to be played for three more nights. *The Merchant of Venice*, with Mr. Asche as Shylock and Miss Brayton as Portia, a part which should suit her admirably, will be produced on Thursday evening next.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—After a most successful season of two weeks *Hamlet* was produced for the last time last night in the presence of a large house. The theatre will be closed for the rest of the week to allow of special rehearsals being held of the Christmas pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, which will be produced on Monday evening next (Boxing Night).

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Several new artists made their appearance here on Saturday evening. Amongst these were Corrie and Golding, who gave an excellent turn, composed of comedy and dancing; Miss Maud Florance also made her first appearance in a number of startling dances, which won great favour with the audience; Franco Piper gives a clever performance on his banjoes; the Kremka Brothers are now established favourites, with their clever acrobatic act. Other artists appearing on the programme with success include Walter Emerson, Gwennie Hasto, Tom Dawson, Post Mason, Hilda Lane, Will Dyson, Baby Watson, and Eva Hughes. On Saturday evening next the Wille Brothers will make their first appearance in Australia.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Mr. Brennan is keeping faith with his patrons as regards frequent change of programme. On Saturday evening a large house did full justice to the generous bill of fare provided by Hugo Lear, juggler; Joe Lashwood, comedian; Mabelle, champion dancer; Lucy Lavinia, comedienne; the Weston Sisters, Lily Vocker, Nellie Morrison, Addie Barton, James Craydon, and Con Carroll; while a splendid series of pictures were shown on the Miorama.

West's Pictures drew a full house on Saturday evening. A large and varied programme was submitted to an appreciative audience. Among the films presented was one depicting an incident in the life of Napoleon, which was followed with keen interest throughout. Another picture, illustrating scenes from Fennimore Cooper's book, "The Last of the Mohicans," met with great approval. Tait's Pictures at Olympia, World's Pictures at the Bijou Theatre, and Hoyt's Pictures at New St. George's Hall, all continue to do excellent business.

SYDNEY, Dec. 28, 1909.—Royal.—Mr. J. C. Williamson raked up, out of his dramatic muniment chest, *The Corsican Brothers*, to give his chief melodramatic actor, Mr. Julius Knight, a Christmas chance. Certainly the age-crusted story was well told, amid the most elaborate and correct surroundings, and the old ankle twist by which the ghost of Louis Die Franchi crossed the stage, as in the sixties, was no longer to the fore. All was absolutely illusory. Mr. Knight impersonated the brothers Fabian and Louis most effectively, and with weird success. The Chateau Renaud of Mr. Sydney Stirling was sufficiently hate-worthy. Baron de Montgiron showed Mr. Leslie Victor in a congenial rôle, and the cast gained by his inclusion. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu made Aldred de Meynard more important than is usually the case. The innocent cause of all the trouble, Emilie de Lesparre, has never been better played than she is now by Miss Dorothy Grimston; all the old-fashioned courtesy is there, and no lack of naturalness either. The other rôles were well rehearsed and capably interpreted.

Criterion.—Clarke and Meynell staged *The Girl Behind the Counter* on Boxing Night in complete style, scenery, dresses, dancing, and general mounting being very fine. Mr. William Cromwell, Miss Ruth Lincoln, Mr. Harold Thorley, Mr. Edwin Brett, Miss Emmeline Orford, Mr. J. W. Deverell, Mr. Tom Payne (who sprained an ankle, but mended it before curtain-fall), Miss Essie Perrin, Messrs. Harry French and Phil Carlton were all in the cast. Details next mail.

Palace.—By far the funniest production ever staged in Sydney is *A Bachelor's Honeymoon*, as performed by Mr. Hugh Ward's comedy company. Without plot, or any distinctiveness of characters (save that they are dressed differently to each other), the story is a ceaseless flow of joke, complication, and absurdity, just the thing to divert one's mind from the annual balance-sheet and the cruel coal strike. Mr. Ward is a past-master in a fun factory; Miss Grace Palotta is as much grace as Palotta; and Mr. H. H. Wallace displayed his usual care as the comic valet, Joe.

Her Majesty's.—*The Catch of the Season* keeps the box plan busily engaged in filling itself, and will run for many nights to come. As a daily matinée attraction *The Climax* will be produced.

The Tivoli is packed at every performance of Mr. Harry Rickards's big company of vaudevillians. Mr. Franco Piper has astonished his onlookers and listeners by his deftness and versatility; Mr. Bert Terrell sings (and sings well) Chirgwin's "My fiddle is my sweetheart"; we have still Mdlle. de Dio, Fred Graham and Nellie Dent, Fanny Powers, Fred Curran, and a long list of others.

Mr. Herbert J. Bentley and Miss Eva Truman were married at St. Augustine's, Neutral Bay, on the 22nd, by the Rev. G. Northash, M.A., the Thespian's friend.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. H. B. Warner, who has made his mark in several dramas produced in New York during the last five years, has won golden opinions for his sincere and convincing portrayal of a "crook" in a four-act play, by Paul Armstrong, called *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, which has just been produced at Wallack's Theatre and promises to have a long run. Jimmy Valentine, an expert safe-cracker, is "doing time" in Sing-Sing for a crime which he did not happen to commit. His "ten specker in stir," as Jimmy himelf describes it, has been brought about by the false accusation of another criminal whom he threw off a train for insulting a young lady. The scene of the first act is the office of the Warden of the State Prison at Sing-Sing, who is receiving a delegation from a ladies' aid society, the ladies being escorted by the Lieut.-Governor of the State and his niece, Rose Lane. The latter has just related the story of an adventure she met with on a railway train, when she recognises Valentine as the one who protected her from insult. She immediately pleads with her uncle to obtain a pardon for the man, and Valentine makes a good impression when he protests his innocence of the crime for which he has been imprisoned.

In the second act, the father of Rose Lane, a banker in the West, gives Valentine employment in the bank at his daughter's request, she having fallen in love with the reformed safe-cracker. All goes well until two old pals of his, Bill Avery and Red Jocelyn, turn up and persuade him to rejoin them in their burglarious enterprises. Valentine is about to yield when he receives a note from Miss Lane which keeps him in the right path. Enter Detective Doyle, who is willing to keep his hands off the ex-convict if the latter informs on other members of the gang. The cracksman defies Doyle, gives Avery some money to help him along, and goes West with Red Jocelyn, determined to lead an honest life. Three years later, at Springfield, Ohio, Jimmy Valentine has become Mr. Lee Randall, assistant cashier of the bank of which Miss Lane's father is president, and Red Jocelyn is the uniformed watchman. Detective Doyle has lost sight of Valentine, but has kept an eye on Bill Avery, and through following him to Springfield discovers Valentine. The latter receives a telegram from the detective, and decides to brazen it out. He has fortified himself with an alibi for the job in Massachusetts, for which he is wanted by the police, with the aid of a book of newspaper cuttings about his cousin, Lee Randall, now dead; and Bill Avery, now turned photographer, by means of a double negative has produced a picture showing the ex-convict sitting at a banquet at the time when he was really in Sing-Sing. Pending the arrival of the police-officer there is an effective little scene in which the banker's daughter, on hearing of her protégé's profession of undying devotion, throws herself into his arms. The detective scoffs at "Randall's" denial that he is Valentine until he proves his alibi. Then the officer has to admit that he is mistaken. The only way he can account for it is to conclude that Randall is a double of the man he is after. Then comes the big scene of the play, when the apologetic Doyle is taking his leave and Randall is congratulating himself on his victory. Red Jocelyn bursts in, crying "Jimmy!" and announcing that Rose Lane's sister has been accidentally locked in the bank vault. Quick action is necessary, and with his old confederate to help him, the expert cracksman is soon "on the job." Guided by his delicate sense of touch, Valentine works in the dark, manipulating the "combination" to swing back the big steel door. His finger-tips have become unaccustomed to the old work, and he scrapes off the skin with sandpaper to expose the nerves. And as he works his horrified sweetheart stands unnoticed in the doorway, while the detective, with a sardonic grin on his face, stands ready to pounce on the "old hand," whom he has caught red-handed. At last there is a click, the door swings on its hinges, and the child is saved. Lee Randall, alias Jimmy Valentine, is about to be taken away when his sweetheart pleads for his release. And of course the detective's heart is touched. "I guess she needs you more than Massachusetts does" is the way he puts it, and the play ends with Jimmy and his faithful sweetheart locked in each other's arms. Miss Laurette Taylor won high honours as Rose Lane, her grace and naturalness creating a most agreeable impression. The supporting company was excellent, Messrs. Harold Hartsell, Edmund Elton, Frank Monroe, James E. Wilson, and Earl Brown being conspicuously successful in their respective rôles.

"Mother Goose" is proving a capital attraction at the Theatre Royal, Rochdale. Mr. Harry Rich in his impersonation of Mother Goose keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Charles Rich is prominent with a humorous embodiment of Jack; Mr. Fred Barnes makes up well as Lord Pudsey; and Mr. Henri Dore creates amusement as the dude, Wibsey Slack. Miss Ethel Hall wins golden opinions as Colin, and Miss Vera Velma is a charming Jill. Miss Lola Patey is a prime favourite with everyone as the Dutch servant, Gretchen. The traditional parts of the demon Malignum and the good fairy Heartsease are well sustained by Mr. Charles Homer and Miss Violet Romaine. The Goose is realistically presented by Mr. Douglas Campbell, and the Brothers Smart cleverly work the donkey and the horse. Mr. Charles Lee contributes to the success of the performance as the Mayor of Topham.

Mr. Gaston Mayer's company paid an initial visit to the New Theatre, Cambridge, on Monday night, with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Sophie Lingwood was the Mrs. Wiggs, and she played the part in a thoroughly interesting and amusing manner. Miss Rita Carlyle (Miss Hazy) rendered her part very capably. Mr. Frederick Forrest gave a realistic portrait of Mr. Stubbins; Miss Ruhamah Catton was very sweet and charming as Lovey Mary; Mr. Harry G. Wright made an enterprising H. Hunkerdunkus Jones; Miss Miena Connell was good as Tommy; Mr. Ernest Ruston Mr. Wiggs; Miss Beatrix A. Bell Mrs. Eichorn; Miss Maud Trevor Mrs. Schultz; Miss Rhoda Beresford Miss Lucy; Miss Gladys Noble Tina Viney; Mr. Walter Hicks Billy Wiggs; and Mr. Sidney Carlyle Chris Hazy must also be complimented upon their rendering of their respective characters.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY.

Mr. Alfred Wellesley does not come of a theatrical family, and it was merely a financial interest in a friend's tour of *A Woman of no Importance* that led his thoughts in the direction of the stage. Purely in a spirit of devilment he "went on" one night for Lord Alfred Rufford on the above tour, and violent stage fever resulted; he also read up and appeared as Archdeacon Daubeny and Gerald Arbuthnot in the same piece for one week each. Within two months of his first histrionic effort Mr. Wellesley had secured the part of Chamboran in *Proof*, which he played for five months with Messrs. Giffard and Ward. A rather amusing incident marked this engagement. Mr. Neil Kenyon, the Scotch comedian, had settled for this part, and Mr. Wellesley had arranged to play the Count de Leval, the heavy. Mr. Kenyon in those days did not fancy the humorous rôles, and inclined strongly towards "villains," so by mutual arrangement and the concurrence of the management, the two actors exchanged parts!

Tours followed with Mr. Stuart Cleveland as the Lock Keeper in *Queen's Evidence*, with the late Lawrence Daly in *A Woman's Honour*, with Hill and Ayrton as Joe Strawbones in *A Sailor's Knot*, and Moses in *Work and Wages*, &c. He then joined Mr. W. W. Kelly's *Royal Divorce*, playing Grimaud over 1,000 times; and it is a curious fact that he also played Napoleon for seven months with Mr. Kelly's evergreen drama. His pantomime engagements include Fitzwarren with Mr. Pitt Hardacre at the Comedy, Manchester; Dame Crusoe with the Eden Theatre Co., at Brighton; Fitzwarren at Newcastle; and Baron at York and Harrogate.

Mr. Wellesley has played in all (including seven stock seasons) some 170 parts, ranging from light comedy to heavy lead. His first musical comedy experience he gained with the Milton-Rays, creating the Captain in *A Hot Night*, and afterwards playing the Professor in the same piece. He was then engaged by Mr. Louis Calvert for two tours as Sir Gavin Macalister in *The Garden of Lies* and as Farmer Wake in *Dr. Wake's Patient*.

Deserting the theatres for the music halls, Mr. Wellesley's "old man" study of the title-rôle in *The Peacemaker* so impressed Mr. Frank Glenister that he was booked at the London Pavilion for thirty-two weeks. He next produced and toured for over a year his latest sketch, *Uncle's Courtship*. During the recent music hall agency dispute, when dates were uncertain, Mr. George Dance renewed an old offer of Mr. Hook, in *Miss*

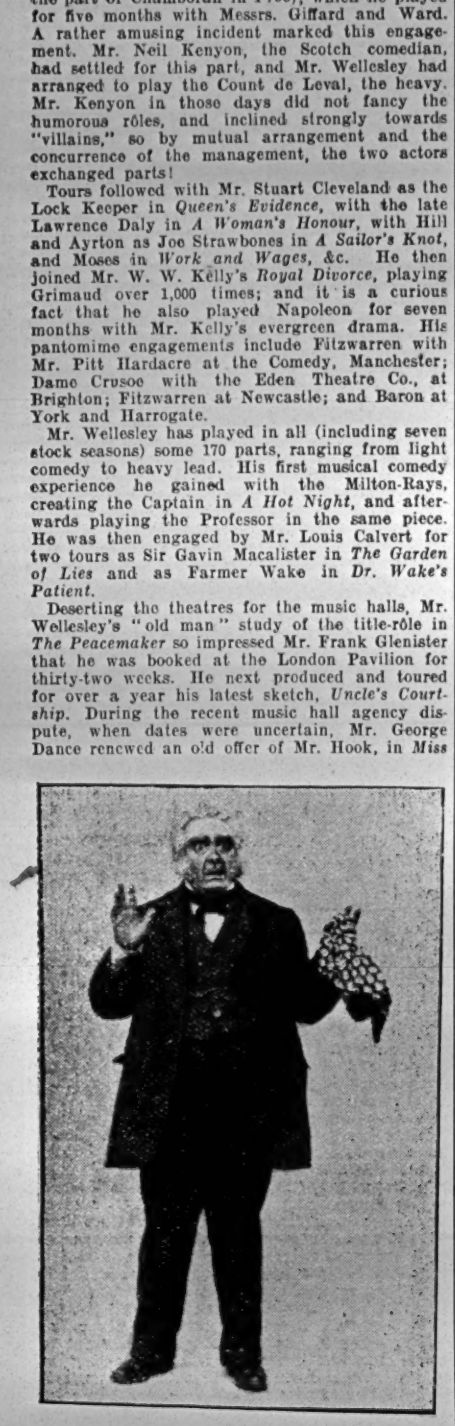

[*Photo by Richard Brown*

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY.

Hook of Holland, and cancelling a few dates in the halls, Mr. Wellesley returned to the theatres and is now playing Mr. G. P. Huntley's part on tour with Miss Marie Studholme.

MR. FREDERIC SARGENT.

Mr. Frederic Sargent has been on the stage ten years. He was educated at the Quaker School, Ackworth, and Durham University, from which he graduated in 1897 with the degree of Bachelor of Letters. Before commencing as an actor he put in a year at journalism on the editorial staff of the *Newcastle Daily Leader*. In March, 1899, Mr Sargent began his theatrical experience under particularly pleasant auspices, being engaged by Mrs. Louis Calvert to play the juvenile parts in *Proof* and *The Lyons Mail*. A six months' tour with Mrs. Calvert was followed by a year with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, with whom he played about thirty parts in a tour of as many weeks. In May, 1900, through the kind offices of Mrs. Calvert, he was engaged by Miss Julia Neilson to play in a suburban tour of *As You Like It*, with herself, Mr. Mollison, Mr. Louis Calvert, and other noted artists. In this engagement Mr. Sargent played Le Beau, the First Lord, and Jaques de Bois. A season at the Haymarket Theatre followed, when he played Mercer in the original cast of *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*. Tiring very much of small parts, he returned to the country to play Tigellinus in Mr. Wm. Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company. Another short season in town followed, Mr. Sargent being in the cast of *Lion Hunters*, when it was produced at Terry's Theatre. Shortly afterwards, Messrs. Edwardes and Frohman engaged him to play one of the juvenile parts in the first tour of *Are You a Mason?*

A chance call on Mr. Ben Greet in the summer of 1902 led to Mr. Sargent being engaged to play Sherlock Holmes, a character he successfully sustained for two lengthy tours. Several special engagements followed, when he appeared as Henri de Flavigneul in *There's Many a Slip*, with Messrs. Morell and Mouillot's company, and Clarence Vane in *Our Flat*. About this time, too, he was a member of Mrs. Patrick Campbell's company, playing Herr Holtzmann in *The Joy of Living* and Morse in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, during a season at the New Theatre. The autumn of 1903 saw Mr. Sargent with Drury Lane drama, sustaining the part of the Boer boy, Paul de Lahne, in *The Best of Friends*. One or two special engagements early in 1904, included a few nights at the Court Theatre, and the successful production of a curtain-raiser, entitled *Love's Comedy*, which he wrote in collaboration with Mr. Leon M. Lion. In March he sailed for South Africa, where he remained for the rest of the year, playing the romantic leads with Mr. Leonard Rayne's company.

Shortly after his return from abroad, in the early spring of 1905, Mr. Sargent was engaged for leading romantic work in Shakespeare and old English comedy. During the summer he played the leading part in the Hon. Mrs. Henniker's play, *The Courage of Silence*, and several other special productions. Further legitimate work followed, and he appeared as Hamlet, Othello, Romeo, Brutus, Orlando, David Garrick, Claude Melnotte, and Charles Surface on a first-class tour. In the spring of 1906 he was engaged by Mr. R. C. Buchanan to play the title-rôle in *Jevan, the Prodigal Son*, when it was produced at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Later on in the year he fulfilled an interesting engagement, playing the Duke of Guisebury in *The Dancing Girl*, and the double, Laroque and Luversan, in *A Man's Shadow*. This was followed by some pastoral work with Mr. Ben Greet's company, and in the autumn of 1906 he sailed for America to sustain a varied round of parts with Mr. Greet, with whom he remained for a long season of forty-two weeks, making a comprehensive tour of the United States, and including four months of pastorals and a season in New York. At the Garden Theatre, New York, Mr. Sargent played Macbeth, Jaques, Cassius, Bassanio, and Sir Charles Pomander (*Masks and Faces*) with great success, and his other parts during the engagement included Orlando, Lysander, Ferdinand, and Feste. On the strength of his performances with Mr. Greet in New York he was engaged by Mr. Frohman to support Mr. Otis Skinner in *The Honour of the Family*, an engagement which lasted for two years and has only lately concluded. In the original production of this comedy, which had a prolonged run at the Hudson Theatre, New York, during

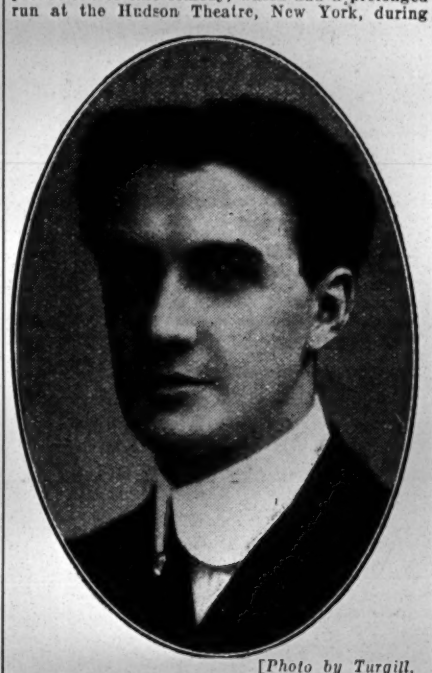

[*Photo by Turgill.*

MR. FREDERIC SARGENT.

the season 1907-8, Mr. Sargent played Captain Potel. Last season he was Mr. Skinner's leading man, playing Commander Max Gilet in the same piece.

MISS AMY LLOYD EARLE.

Miss Amy Lloyd Earle's first appearance was made at the Alhambra Theatre, Leicester Square, as a little girl, playing the Fairy Coral in *The Black Crook*. At the end of the run she went to Glasgow to play Louise in *The Two Orphans*, and afterwards returned to town and went to the Elephant and Castle under Aubrey and Henderson to impersonate Jenny in *The Orange Girl*. Three tours with the celebrated Charles Dillon followed, the young actress getting well grounded in Shakespearean parts. She had the distinction of playing Ophelia to Mr. Dillon's Hamlet at two hours' notice, the great actor patting her on the back and saying she was a clever girl. Subsequently she fulfilled engagements with James Bennet, Henry Loraine, etc., and then went to Sadler's Wells for stock. After several similar seasons in Liverpool and Chester Miss Lloyd Earle started to play lead, being engaged for Jeanie, *Jeanie Deans*, then for tours as

MISS AMY LLOYD EARLE.

Kate McTavish in *Old Soldiers* and Piccolo in *During Her Majesty's Pleasure*. For several years she played lead in the late Frank Harvey's plays, and under the management of the late Henry Percy in the principal provincial theatres. More recently she has fulfilled two tours with *The Village Blacksmith*, playing Sal Parkins, and two tours with *Is Life Worth Living?* Her latest theatrical engagement was with *Master and Man*, which was followed by one with the Kurios for a sketch on the Moss and Stoll halls.

MISS CLARISSA SELWYNNE.

Miss Clarissa Selwynne had the good fortune to obtain her first engagement under the management of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, at the Garrick Theatre. For close upon a year she remained there, playing small parts and understudying practically everything, thus gaining very valuable experience. She next went to the Shaftesbury, in Miss Tita Brand's production of *Othello*. First experiences of touring followed, and the novelty was thoroughly enjoyed—for a time! One of Miss Selwynne's happiest engagements was with Mr. A. B. Tapping's company, in which she spent the next eighteen months, and had the advantage and pleasure of playing many varied and interesting parts, among them Mabel Vane, Sybil Crake, Julie de Noirville, Nancy Roach, and Fuchsia Leach.

At Christmas, 1906, Miss Selwynne joined one of Mr. F. R. Benson's companies to play a round of parts, which, in the course of the tour, included Player Queen, Audrey, Third Witch, and the Nurse. During this engagement she was sent for by Messrs. Charles Cartwright and A. B. Tapping to play Rosa Dartle, in their approaching tour of *David Copperfield*. Owing to the kindness of Mr. Benson in releasing her, she was able to accept the offer. A very happy tour followed, during which *David Garrick* and *The Coping Stone* (by Miss Fay Davis and Mr. Gerald Lawrence) were staged. On one occasion, owing to the absence of Miss Fay Davis, Miss Selwynne was called upon,

[*Photo by Killick.*

MISS CLARISSA SELWYNNE.

at a moment's notice, to play Ada Ingot, to the Garrick of Mr. Gerald Lawrence. At the conclusion of this tour she rejoined Mr. Benson's company, this time in the capacity of leading lady. The plays toured included *The Rivals*, *As You Like It*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Macbeth*. Miss Selwynne always recalls with pleasure the help and encouragement which was afforded her by Mr. Hugh Moss during the long and arduous rehearsals for these important parts. The next engagement was under Miss Lena Ashwell's management, in one of her *Diana of Dobson's* companies, with which Miss Selwynne remained until recently.

MISS DOROTHY RICHARDSON.

"The youngest leading lady on the stage" is a title that seems rightly to belong to Miss

[*Photo by Carbonora.*

MISS DOROTHY RICHARDSON.

Dorothy Richardson, who at the age of seventeen took up last year the heroine of Mr. Walter Melville's drama *A Soldier's Wedding*, a part she is still playing with undiminished success. Miss Richardson began young. At five years of age she played a child's part under Mr. and Mrs. Kendal in *The White Lie*. Later she was with Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's, and subsequently with Miss Marie Tempest at the Prince of Wales' and with Miss Jeannette Steer at the Garrick. Then she toured with Mr. C. W. Somerset and afterwards with Messrs. Polini and Melford in *The Silver King*. After a few terms at a high-class ladies' school in the south, Miss Richardson was sent to a convent in Belgium to finish her education. On her return to the stage she was engaged by Mr. George Dance for his *Catch of the Season* company, with which she remained for two tours. Then came some real good experience as a member of Mr. Arnold Bell's company at the "Brit.," where she played such parts as Paul in *The Octoroon*, Sam Willoughby, Madge Frettleby in *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, the dumb girl in *The Hand of Justice*, and Joyce in *East Lynne*. Afterwards she played May Edwards in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and Madge Lorrimer in *When Rogues Fall Out*.

MR. ERIC H. ALBURY.

Receiving his early education in Germany, Mr. Albury was intended for the medical profession, but at the age of seventeen he entered the Cape Colonial Civil Service, and during the three years thus engaged was a prominent and active member of several amateur societies. He made his first professional appearance at the Opera House, Cape Town, with Messrs. Henry Dallas and Joseph Ashman's company, in May, 1899, as Johnson, in *In His Power*, and, in a varied répertoire of plays. Mr. Albury commenced touring with Mr. Joseph Ashman's répertoire companies, and remained with that manager for several years, playing a varied and extensive round of parts, viz., Charley and Jack, in *Charley's Aunt*; Jack Tempest, *Who's Brown?*; the Spider, *Silver King*; Capt. Hawtree, in *Caste*; Dr. Candy, also Felix Roach, in *The New Boy*; and various others in *The Bells*, *The Sorrows of Satan*, *The Magistrate*, *East Lynne*, *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and in first productions of *A Noble Outlaw*, and dramatisations of Rider Haggard's "Pearl Maiden" and Mrs. L. T. Meade's "Jill." With Messrs. Noble and Pollard's company he visited Buluwayo and other Rhodesian towns, playing in *What Happened to Jones*, *Confusion*, *Turned Up*, *My Friend from India*, &c. He afterwards toured the length and breadth of the South African continent, and during the war experienced many exciting and unique adventures. He was subsequently with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler for two tours, and with the George Giddens' Comedy Company, playing principal parts in *Are You a Mason?* *A Night Out*, *Husbands and Wives*, *On and Off*; *The Sign of the Cross*, *The Marriage of Kitty*, &c.

Returning to England Mr. Albury devoted some time to journalistic and Press work. Engagements with Mr. John L. Shine (Jack Scarsdale, in *Hogmanay*, and in other sketches), and Mr. Chas. Macdona followed; with the latter gentleman he played George Fisher, in *Are You a Mason?* He was next engaged by Mr. Lionel Rignold for the juvenile parts in his comedy répertoire company, and for the German Count in *Why Smith Left Home*, making a distinct speciality of the German dialect and gestures in the impersonation of this character. A tour with Mr. Brandon Thomas's company, in his old part of Jack Chesney, in *Charley's Aunt*, came next, and at the conclusion of this engagement he was re-engaged by Mr. Lionel Rignold, for Tom, in *The Early Worm*, and as stage-manager. Although chiefly impersonating varied characters in farcical comedies for a number of years, Mr. Albury has played many Shakespearean and costume play parts, such as Gratiano, Cassius, &c. He likes Colonial touring for the work entailed in presenting a large number

MR. ERIC H. ALBURY.

of various plays, and is keen on giving attention to detail.

MR. PHILIP DARIEN.

Mr. Philip Darien was born in London and received his tuition for the stage at Mr. Henry Neville's studio. During several years he gained experience by playing small parts and understudying in several London productions. His first engagement was in *The Lackey's Carnival* at the Duke of York's, which was followed by a long run with Sir Charles Wyndham in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Thence he went to the Prince of Wales's with Miss Marie Tempest in *English Nell*. He was subsequently engaged to play Monsieur Beaufremont in *A Queen's Double* at the Garrick Theatre with Miss Janet Steer.

After several summers with pastoral work with Mr. Arthur Grenville Mr. Darien was engaged for a stock season at the Standard Theatre, London, being retained to play the leading parts in his provincial tour by Mr. Fred Melville, under whose management he remained four years. For the past three months he has been with Mr. Wentworth Croke, playing Jason (Mr. Frank Cooper's part) in *The Bondman*. Mr. Darien is an ardent athlete, golf, hockey, and cricket being his favourite games. He has repeatedly been advised to become a professional cricketer, but prefers to wield the willow only as a pastime.

MR. PHILIP DARIEN.

MISS FANNY WENTWORTH.

A long, varied, and productive career is that which stands to the credit of Miss Fanny Wentworth. Intended by her parents for a solo pianist she began her studies at the early age of four, and, until she was fourteen, trained under the best masters, including Sir Julius Benedict, whose favourite pupil she was (to use his own expression), for some years. She first played in public at the age of twelve at St. James's Hall in company with such artists as Mme. Patey, Mme. Lemmens Sherrington, and with Mr. George Grossmith, who did a "musical sketch." She also appeared at Covent Garden Promenade Concerts—always under her own name of Fanny Albert—under the late Mons. Riviere, who remained till his death a few years ago one of her oldest and dearest friends.

At seventeen the accomplished concert artist became "stage struck," and left the platform for the regular boards. Her first manager was Mr. (now Sir) Charles Wyndham, with whom she played Rebecca in *Pink Dominos*, in which she made her professional *début*, and also in the juvenile leading part in Bronson Howard's plays, *Brighton* and *Truth*. She then essayed comic opera, and became in one night a prima donna, playing Serpolette in *Les Cloches de Corneville* in all the big cities in England. Next came a visit to America, where she had a chequered and varied experience for a year or two, playing leading parts in all the comic operas of that time, and during a summer season in Montreal fourteen leading parts in fourteen weeks, a fresh one every Monday night, with eight performances a week. These parts included Patience and Lady Angela in the same opera, Iolanthe and Phyllis in *Iolanthe*, Ruth in *The Pirates*, Josephine in *Pinafore*, the Grand Duchess, Fatinitza, and Boccacio (Suppé's operas), Olivette, and Mascot.

Returning to London, Miss Wentworth made her first appearance on the metropolitan stage in *Kenilworth* at the Avenue Theatre in company with Misses Violet Cameron, Phyllis Broughton, Arthur Roberts, and the late E. J. Lonnen. She played Janet Foster, and made a big hit with the Spanish tarantella she had brought with her from America. Next she toured with Messrs. Van Biene and Lingard's company, playing the title-rôle in *Falka*, and creating the part of Pepita in Lecocq's opera of that name. The new work was produced at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, the cast including Mr. Charles Manners as Bombardos, and Bertie Sims Reeves, Horace Lingard, Louis Kelleher, and Miss Wentworth's sister, Miss Maud Albert. Next came *The Old Guard* at the Avenue, London, again (Murielle); Chopinette in *Paul Jones*, with Agnes Huntingdon on her American tour; and last, but not least, a delightful opera, in which Miss Wentworth again created the title-rôle, *Delia*, by Bucalossi and Frank Desprez. A tour on the Continent as Carmen in the burlesque of *Carmen up to Date*, from the Gaiety Theatre, London, followed, Miss Wentworth's colleagues being Mr. Fred Wright, jun., Mr. Akerman May, Mr. Eric Thorne, and the late Grace Huntley.

It was in 1894 that Miss Wentworth decided to become an entertainer at the piano. She obtained an opening at the Palace Theatre, where she had a two weeks' trial engagement, and was retained as a star turn till the following February—nearly nine months. Since then Miss Wentworth has been with her musical monologues to Australia, America, South Africa (twice), New Zealand, appearing practically in every English-speaking theatre in the world, and always with a most remarkable success. Miss Wentworth writes nearly all her own sketches and music. Last spring she went through the provinces with Mr. Frank Curzon's *Englishman's Home* No. 1 company, entertaining for half an hour at the piano in lieu of a curtain raiser. This was no mean achievement in such large houses as the Theatres Royal, Manchester, Glasgow, Nottingham, &c., in

[*Photo by White.*

MISS FANNY WENTWORTH.

front of a patriotic play, but the audiences were throughout most appreciative.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The programme of the Students' Concert on Wednesday evening commenced with Miss Ada M. Billings' well-played piano solo "Mazurka No. 4" (Godard). In Von Ahn Carse's song "O Happy Childhood" Miss Kathleen Shelley greatly pleased the audience, and a clever boy student of the school, Master Charles Coverman, gave a very promising account of Wieniawski's violin solo "Legende." Sullivan's air "Lord of our Chosen Race," from *Ivanhoe*, was somewhat ambitious, but Miss G. M. Powell, aided by a good voice and excellent training, made a most favourable impression, and the same remark will also apply to Mr. Alfred Steed's able singing of "Sound an alarm," from Handel's *Judas*. The concert was agreeably varied by a humorous monologue, *Mrs. Jones' Christmas Shopping* (Campbell), in which Miss Katrine St. Clair, pupil of Mr. Bassett Roe, gave a very amusing account of a lady buying presents at the stores. Mr. Sydney A. Roe's capitally-played violin solo of De Beriot's Andante and Allegro from Concerto in G. was warmly applauded, while Mr. J. Packer Ramsay deserved much praise for his singing of "Arise, ye subterranean winds!" (Purcell). Miss Emmeline Forster proved herself a skilful executant in her pianoforte solo Allemande, Courente, and Gique, from Suite No. 9 (Handel), and Miss Grace Hawkins, another clever pianist, was very successful in two Studies in F sharp, by MacDowell and Arensky. Denza's song "May Morning" was sung by Miss Edith White, and the programme concluded with a recitation, "The Ballad of Splendid Silence" (Nesbit) by Miss Dinah Freudenheim, a clever pupil of Miss Kate Rorke. Miss Jenny Hyman accompanied.

PANTOMIME is again occupying the boards at the Batley Theatre, and Mr. Richard Nightingale, in *Aladdin*, provides a popular attraction. Foremost in his strong band of comedians is Mr. Walter Bishop as Abanazar, who continually keeps the audience laughing. Mr. Harry Alberry is a success as Widow Twankey; Miss Edna Latonne as principal boy is dashing and vivacious; and Misses May and Violet Rivers are pretty dancers and tuneful singers. Misses Amy Pauline Gradwell and Marie Radcliffe score a big success in the duet, "The moon hath raised." Specialities are introduced by the Brothers Lloyd, Perth and Oban, Francis and Francis, and Max Merlin.

MESSRS. J. MARRIOTT WATSON AND JAMES USSHER'S company is at the Theatre Royal, Crook, in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Chas H. Phelps as Le Loup was powerful; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe's acting in the character of Paul Gouffet was of the best; Miss Clare O'Sullivan made a hit as Marie de Brisson; the part of Lucien Cortier was safely entrusted to Mr. James Williamson; and Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter and Miss Frances Day as Babette were both excellent.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

[Second Notice.]

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's fourth pantomime was a success from the first, and now that a second edition has been inaugurated it has become a firm favourite with the audiences here, many of whom come again and again.

The scenery is unusually elaborate, the fine set scene of Old London being especially good, and the woodland scene, with real deer quietly feeding, its solid trees, and babbling streams, is nightly received with loud applause.

Miss Maisie Ellinger's popularity as the Prince is undoubted, her songs being given with all her accustomed brio, and the number of encores appears to rest entirely with the artist herself, as the audience never tires of redemanding her verses, and she has many telling ones. The coon song, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," with its taking chorus and accompaniment of dance by the Sunflower Troupe, is perhaps one of her best, although "Wake up, ye Britishers," in the Ball Room scene, runs it very close in popularity. One cannot imagine a more dashing Prince Charming.

Miss Dorothea Clark as Cinderella has become a great favourite, and her pretty voice gives sweet effect to her songs and duets. She has conceived her part in all seriousness, and thus is enabled to invest it with reality and interest. A new song, "My dreamland prince," is feelingly rendered by her, as she sadly sits by the traditional kitchen hearth, and the pantomime success, "Somewhere the sun is shining," goes well in the second scene. When dressed for the ball and in the brilliantly illuminated fairy coach, she wins all hearts, and has been the recipient of some especially handsome floral offerings.

Mr. W. H. Kirby as Peter Pepper, the page, has worked up his part tremendously, and now has trained his audiences highly in the art of chorus-singing. He is full of new business, and perhaps "Don't take me home" is the song with which he provokes the most enthusiasm.

Everybody roars at the entry of the genial Paddy Dupres, who makes the Baroness a screamingly funny impersonation, and by quite legitimate means too. His gags are numerous and original, and his treatment of the Baron (Mr. Will May) causes much mirth. Mr. May has a new song, "I must go home to-night," which he delivers with great effect, and co-operates most heartily with the others, and helps to make the fun go merrily enough.

The two broker's men, Bill and Ginger, acted severally by Messrs. Stacey and Williams, are a great acquisition, the climax of their efforts in the song and dance line winning for them rounds of hearty applause, their step-dancing being exceptionally neat and clever.

Miss Cordelia Knight, as the fairy-godmother is something removed from the conventional immortal of the pantomime stage, and speaks her lines with much distinction.

The Fairy Queen, Miss Lillian Mildred, is a very dainty lady, and introduces a new song in the second part, which goes excellently, and is often re-demanded.

Mr. Dutton Nicholls, as the Demon, is an acrobatic dancer of much merit, and his difficult dance in the Kitchen scene, although it makes great demands on his energies, has always to be repeated.

The Sunflower Troupe of dancers are especially finished exponents of concerted dances, and their efforts are freely applauded and much appreciated.

Mr. Leonard Gautier is simply untiring in his attentions as musical-director, and great credit is certainly due to him for the finish and correctness of all the choruses. The X.L. Quartette of glee singers render valuable assistance by the tuneful glees which are appropriately introduced from time to time, and now that the pantomime is nearing its last nights all concerned in it may be heartily congratulated on accomplishing a complete success.

Miss Nellie Sheffield has made the ugly sister Phyllis quite a character part, and her quaint sayings and very capable dancing, are much enjoyed.

THE CORONET.

On Mouday, Jan. 31, the Play, entitled
"PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES."

Pinkie and the Fairies at the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre has been notable during the second week of its run for the substitution of Miss Kathleen Yorke for Miss Hermione Gingold in the part of Eleanor, alias Pinkie. Miss Kathleen Yorke is the charming little actress who has been playing the part of Elf Twinkle, and indeed was the original exponent at His Majesty's Theatre. Besides looking as pretty as a picture in her little pink frock, she acts exceedingly well and sings and dances prettily and skilfully. Her part of Elf Twinkle reverts to little Miss Winnie Goodwin, who is all that could be desired in the part, and by no manner of means strikes one as a novice, acting her rôle with brightness and spontaneity. The piece is really beautifully staged with special scenery by Mr. Hobbs, and tasteful and charming dresses by Miss Jennie Moore, and the lighting effects are exceedingly well-managed. The dances arranged by Miss Elise Clerc, of the Alhambra, are both cleverly and artistically designed and delightfully executed, and the wonderful smoothness of the performance reflects great credit on the rehearsing and stage-management. Miss Estelle Thebaud as Sleeping Beauty, with her sweet singing and clever acting, Miss Lucie Caine as Cinderella, with her vivacity and *espieglérie* and her capital rendering of the good "goey" song of Cinderella's glass slipper, Mr. Sam Wilkinson as the Cat, Master C. Haviland Chappell as Tommy, Mr. T. P. Haynes as the Gardener, and Mr. Ribton Haines as Uncle Gregory, not forgetting dear old Auntie Caroline (Miss Lucie Evelyn), giddy Aunt Imogene (Miss Haidée Gunn), and the dear little Fairy Queen (Miss Kenyon) and her herald (Miss Somers) are all better than ever in their parts.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Play, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Wentworth Croke, in presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre Hall Caine's play *The Prodigal Son*, is providing North Londoners with an entertainment which fully meets their tastes. Acting, scenery, and costumes all claim commendation from the crowds of onlookers which nightly applaud the interesting production. Chief among the cast are Mr. Hugh Montgomery as Magnus Stephenson and Mr. S. Herbert Humber as Oscar Stephenson, the two sons of Stephen Magnussun, the Governor of Iceland (Mr. Ernest Rivarz). The acting of both the brothers in the story is really excellent, the noble nature of Magnus being effectively portrayed by Mr. Montgomery, while Mr. Humber imparts striking interest to the part of Oscar. Miss Barbara Gott is Anna, wife of the Governor of Iceland. The factor, Oscar Nielson, is ably played by Mr. Philip Renouf; and his daughters, Helga and Thora, have extremely attractive representatives in Miss Betty Castle and Miss Valerie Crespin. Miss Crespin wins admiration as Thora, and the attractiveness of Miss Castle as Helga is undisputed. Miss Dorothy Harding is seen to advantage as Lady Slingstone; and several other interesting characters have able exponents, among which should be mentioned Margaret Neilson, the factor's sister, Miss Marie Harcourt; the Sheriff, Mr. Barnard Merefield; Dr. Olsen, Mr. Charles Brownless; Neils Finsen, Mr. Charles A. Maynard; the Pastor, Mr. George W. Hewetson; Director of the Casino, Mr. Fred Manners; Eric Arnasson, Mr. Arthur Hall; Madame Pandher, Miss Gertrude Rose; Marta, Miss Ellen Dee; and John Vidalin, Mr. G. R. Goodfellow. The stage management is excellent and the general presentation in every way efficient.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Play, in Four Acts, by A. Conan Doyle, entitled
"THE FIRES OF FATE."

The Fulham Theatre has resumed its ordinary season with an attractive programme, the opening piece being the powerful drama based on Sir A. Conan Doyle's story, "The Tragedy of the Korosko." The story is a little masterpiece of grim and almost unrelieved tragedy. The play necessarily lacks the direct simplicity of the original, but has been enriched with highly dramatic scenes. Mr. Vedrenne's company is strong at all points. The central rôle of Colonel Egerton is finely played by Mr. Stephen Ewart, who gave an impressive rendering of the man of action, apparently doomed to an early and painful death. Quite as attractive was the sincere and manly representation of the impulsive minister, Roden, by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, while Mr. Charles Francis contributed a thoughtful study of the cautious materialistic physician. Mr. Stanley Logan showed command both of feeling and humour as Cecil Brown; and Mr. E. A. Coventry as Belmont, Mr. Herbert Moule as Mr. Brodie, and Mr. Gerald Mirriclees as Monsieur Fardet, all brought out the several national characteristics of their parts. Mr. Alfred Sandoe was excellent in all phases as the dragoman Abdulla; Mr. Fred Worlock made a characteristic Bimbashi, keen and boyish, and apparently irresponsible, of the type beloved of Kipling. Mr. G. G. Lambert as the spy, Mr. E. Vanderlip as an Arab chief, Mr. Dennis Bryan as another Arab, and Mr. Ansell as the Butler filled their parts well. Miss Lydia Hayward did good work as Mrs. Belmont; Miss Gwendoline Floyd was delightfully American as Miss Adams; while Miss Ruth Bower showed great charm and sincerity of feeling as Sadie Adams.

OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Play, entitled
"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS."

Messrs. Glenville and Elliston's company is paying a visit here this week with Mr. Sidney Grundy's popular play *A Bunch of Violets*, and a good interpretation is given by a well-selected cast, the members of which show much ability and judgment in the portrayal of their various parts. A word of commendation must be bestowed upon the ladies' dresses, which are charming. The prominent character of Sir Phillip Marchant is very ably undertaken by Mr. Whitmore Ledger, who, maintaining a strong hold of the audience, offers a clever rendering, and is successful throughout. Mr. Ross O'Brien evokes considerable laughter as Jacob Schwartz. He handles the part in a very capable manner, and scores highly. Mr. H. Lewis imparts much humour to the rôle of Mark Murgatroyd, and gives a good delineation of this lowbred, though wealthy, Yorkshireman. Lord Mount Sorrell has a fitting representative in Mr. Charles Tempest, who makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. Gerald Shirley is a capital Harker; and Mr. Chas. J. Perry is suitably placed as the Hon. Harold Ingles. Miss Marie de Ross affords much pleasure in her characterisation of Mrs. Murgatroyd, and achieves distinction by a very capable rendering. Violet is sympathetically essayed by Miss Elsie Williams. Miss Enid Edoni does ample justice to the part of Lady Marchant, and supplies a clever portrait. Assistance is also rendered by Mr. Arthur Burroughs and Mr. Percy Speirs.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Romantic Drama, entitled
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

For the current week Mr. Frank Bertram's company is providing very enjoyable fare in the presentation of the romantic drama *The Breed of the Treshams*. The play is admirably mounted and costumed, and an excellent representation is given, and duly appreciated by large audiences, who are not slow in bestowing applause on the numerous points which meet with their approval in the course of the evening. Mr. Sydney Bland is in every way suited to play the difficult part of Lieut. Reresby, known as "the Rat," and around whom the whole story is woven. The varying moods portrayed in this picturesque character are excellently depicted, and an impressive rendering is given which meets with very flattering results, which are entirely deserved. Mr. Alfred Holles does well as Viscount Dorsington, and delivers his lines with good effect; Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford is ably undertaken by Mr. George Butler, who is successful; Mr. George Traill and Mr. L. Lingham both fill their parts well as Col. Sir Henry Curwen and Col. Bagshaw respectively; Mr. S. F. Courtney as Capt. Stanhope and Mr. G. Fitzgerald as Capt. Rashleigh make the most of their opportunities; Mr. Walter Grahame as the impulsive Cornet, the Hon. Francis Tresham, acts with sincerity and conviction; Miss Grace Harlington shows to distinct advantage in the character of Batty, and makes the utmost of her chances; Miss Mildred Hodson gives a satisfactory study of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, and acts in a sympathetic manner; Miss M. Cottier and Miss D. De Lille as Miss Bagshaw and Helena Pierrepont respectively supply pleasing characters; and valuable aid is also rendered by Mr. George Jackson, Mr. Wilfred Kelly, Mr. W. C. Crowley, Mr. Wilson Blakemore, Mr. George Quicke, and Mr. George Scott.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Drama, entitled
"THE DIVER'S LUCK."

This week Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting to his patrons Mr. Andrew Emm's successful production, *The Diver's Luck*. The play is capitally staged and contains some effective situations, besides the addition of a vivid presentation of the bed of the ocean, with real diving apparatus "as used in the latest expeditions." Mr. William Macready realises well the strong part of Martin Faber, and plays it admirably. Mr. Edmond O'Grady is capitally cast in the congenial character of Barney Bawn. Mr. William Dexter's robust acting as Tom Hall adds materially to the success of the play. Snowball is effective in the hands of Mr. William Bristow; and Mr. H. T. Walton is good as Maurice Wyngate, as is also Mr. Chris. Felton as Pedro. Miss Haselton is also useful as Daffodil Bolter, and Mr. Clifford Hamilton as Bolter deserves praise. Miss Pearl Noyle, as Peggy, contributes a capital piece of bright acting; and Miss Maud Mellis, too, must be awarded praise for her excellent portraiture of Helen Wyngate. The performance went with spirit and gave pleasure to Mr. Croke's *clientèle*. Mr. Fred. S. Jennings is, as usual, assiduous in looking after the comfort of visitors to this cosy suburban theatre.

Mr. Frank Elliston and company are the chief attractions at the Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, this week in *My Lady Betty*. Emmie Ames is a decided success in a song-scena *Emmie's Christmas Tree;* Irve Hayman and company appear in a sketch, *Christmas Eve;* Major Arnold is one of the smartest of conjurors; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, has made himself a favourite in his song "Fifty long years ago"; Rose D'Aulby, chorus comedienne, is assisted by her little daughter; and other turns are Queenie Royal, comedienne and dancer; Dan Filmer, comedian and dancer; and the Alexscope.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MR. FRANK ROTHSAY'S BENEFIT.

The Stratford Borough Theatre was well filled at the special matinée on Tuesday, a complimentary benefit to Mr. Frank Rothsay, who has been acting-manager since the opening of the theatre in 1896. Many congratulatory telegrams were received by the beneficiare during the afternoon, including one from Mr. Geo. R. Sims. The programme consisted of the first half of this year's successful pantomime *Cinderella*, in which the members of the company introduced special numbers for the occasion, the second half being taken up by variety turns. In an interval Mr. Frank Rothsay appeared on the stage, and in a fluent and felicitous speech thanked Mrs. Ellis Fredericks for so kindly lending the theatre, Mr. Fred Fredericks (the general-manager), the staffs at the back and front of the theatre, the members of the orchestra, the pantomime company, and those professional friends who were assisting that afternoon. An unrehearsed incident here followed, the principal boy and principal girl coming from the side of the stage and, on behalf of the principals of the pantomime, presenting Mr. Rothsay with a splendidly fitted leather dispatch case, each afterwards imprinting a chaste salute upon the blushing, yet not displeased, recipient ere leaving him, a touch of humour being added to the genial situation by Mr. Arthur Stigant (attired as the Dame of this year's Marlborough Theatre pantomime) then coming forward and doing likewise, to the accompaniment of roars of laughter from the large audience. Another presentation was a handsome silver cigar case, suitably inscribed, from the Stella Girls. Those who contributed to the very long programme included Miss Ethel Ward (Cinderella), Miss Madoline Rees (Prince Charming), Miss May Garstang (Dandini), Mr. Barney Armstrong and Jimmie Steel (Baron and Kelly), Mr. Fred Lincoln (Clorinda), Mr. Harry Rogerson (Page), Mr. Sidney Young (Thisbe), Miss Alys Eden (Baroness), Miss Mabel Gordon (Fairy Queen), the Stella troupe of dancers, Mr. Ernie Mayne and Mr. Hal Forde, who appeared for the nonce as cross-talk comedians and were immensely successful; Mr. Arthur Stigant, who had a very flattering reception for his dame song; Mr. Tom Morton and Miss Maggie Bowman, in their speciality number, which was enthusiastically received; Mr. Harry Pleon, whose sketch was one of the tit-bits of the programme; La Sylphe, who created a furore in her "Diavolo" dance; Miss Jennie Lee, who epecially appeared in her original part of Jo in a scene from Dickens's "Bleak House" and was very cordially welcomed; Mr. J. H. Barnes, in a highly impressive recitation; Master Lloyd Shakespeare, whose fine cornet solo received an encore; Mr. Phil Ward and Miss Agnes Rothsay, who appeared in a clever musical trifle; Miss Ethel Oliver; Miss May Walton; and Mr. Leslie Burgess. The acting-managers were Messrs. Sam Fredericks, Bert Ashton, Percy Briggs, Charles and Ben Webb, S. Silver, E. Fielder, Hughie Felming, E. Stokes, and J. Davis; while Mr. G. N. Finlay was secretary and treasurer. Mr. Ben Barrow (Borough Theatre) and Mr. Ernie Woodville (Marlborough Theatre) were the musical directors; and Mr. Will L. Clement must be congratulated upon the exemplary way in which he stage-managed the matinée.

MR. H. A. JONES AND SIR CONAN DOYLE.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Lady Doyle were the guests of the New Vagabonds' Club at a dinner at the Hotel Cecil on Saturday. The Chairman, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, in proposing the toast of "The Guests of the Evening," said that whatever qualifications Lady Doyle might possess for mixing with vagabonds, he would not be rude enough to inquire, but her husband's qualifications as a vagabond could not be passed over so lightly. He felt he was right in calling upon Sir Arthur to justify his presence. To begin with, he did not look like a vagabond, but then neither did some of the rest of them. The Bishop of Ripon, whom he counted it a great honour to call his friend, did not look like a vagabond, nor did he possess one single claim to be called one, except from the fact that he had honoured them with his company, and that at times he had very courageously and splendidly defended the English stage from its detractors. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle did not look like a vagabond, nor did he look like the creator of Sherlock Holmes. What might they imagine the famous creator of the famous Sherlock Holmes to look like? They would picture him as mysterious, sharp-featured, lynx-eyed, slimly elusive, with a bundle of foot-prints in one pocket, a bunch of keys in the other, with damning proofs of convictions in his hat-lining, and all sorts of clues tucked up his sleeve. Could Sir Arthur Conan Doyle produce a single footprint or one single clue? He would seem to be evading his qualifications and hiding his identity if they did not know him to be the veritable author of the most famous, the most popular detective that ever fiction or the stage had seen. If he were asked to sum up Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, apart from his artistic qualifications, in one brief sentence he would say he was just an Englishman. And if he were asked what sort of Englishman he would say, just the sort of Englishman that keeps the old country together.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, replying, said the chairman had put two questions to him which he had to solve, the one being how he could prove he was a vagabond, and the other being as to the authorship of "Sherlock Holmes." As to the vagabond question, he would only say there was an Act of Parliament not yet repealed by which all players and play-writers were by their very nature rogues and vagabonds. As to the authorship of "Sherlock Holmes" the true fact was that the real author was no other than Henry Arthur Jones, who years ago brought him the manuscripts when he was at the height of fame as a dramatist, and in a weak moment he consented to put his name to it. In order to get an understanding of that dramatic faculty, and that instinct of literature and that tact which told one what to say and what not to say, there must be an inborn characteristic.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Jan. 31,
the Drama, by Walter Howard, entitled
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

After a long and successful season of pantomime, the cosy little Kingston theatre reopened the dramatic season on Monday with that popular drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which was presented by a thoroughly capable company under the direction of Mr. Frank Weathersby. The interest in the play was ably sustained throughout, and it was well received by a numerous audience. Miss Phyllis Orme made a deep impression by her portrayal of Margaret Rivers; and Capt. Carsdale was capitally played by Sidney C. Kearns. A telling piece of acting was that supplied by Mr. R. Barrington Foote as George Darrell; and Miss Roberts Pulleyne gave an effective rendering of Alma Kingsley. The lighter work was in the experienced hands of Mr. Conn Allister as Quincey O'Quirke, Mr. Chris Ainslie as Timothy Trimmer, and of Miss Heba Barlow as Molly Meadows, all of whom succeeded in keeping the audience in merriment; and other parts were well sustained by Miss Nellie Morris and Miss Winnie Webster (the two little drummer boys) and by Messrs. C. A. Chandler, E. Stidwell, and H. Wallerton.

"The Failures," by Rutland Barrington, illustrated by photograph and autograph. See "The Era Annual," 1910.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the first meeting of the new Council, held on Feb. 1, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (solicitor), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. H. De Quincey, F. J. Arlton, Lewis Casson, Edward Morgan, Langford Reed, Chris Walker, F. Annerley, Murri Moncrieff, and Henry Le Grand, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Joan Pereira, and Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, secretary.

The chairman read letters from Mr. Charles Boult advocating the advisability of trying to get a three-quarter concession to all members of the Association for travelling, and the secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Boult's letter and to say his proposal had been before the Council on several occasions, but they had not been able to get the consent of the railway companies. After discussion, it was decided that the correspondence on the subject be looked up by the secretary and a report presented at the next meeting of the Council.

A letter from Mr. Morland was read suggesting certain action with regard to the House Committee and the Social Committee, and his approval of the appointment of a permanent chairman for the year. The consideration of the question of a permanent chairman was referred to the next meeting of the Council. Mr. Morland was thanked for his letter.

The chairman likewise read a letter from Mr. Carnelle Joye, containing many valuable suggestions. The secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Joye's letter, and to thank him for his suggestions.

A letter from Mr. Cecil Raleigh was delivered during the Council sitting in which Mr. Raleigh stated his opinion of certain matters referring to his policy, and tendered his resignation as a member of the lately-elected Council. The secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Raleigh's letter, and say that his resignation was accepted by the Council with regret.

A letter was read from Miss Rose Mathews tendering her resignation of the office of trustee of the Debenture Fund; and on the motion of Mr. Cattley, seconded by Mr. Annerley, the secretary was directed to thank Miss Mathews for her kind letter and to inform her that the Council would feel obliged if she retained her position of trustee of the Debenture Fund, as the fact of her being no longer a member of the Council did not at all hinder her being a trustee of the Debenture Fund.

Mr. Basil Deane wrote expressing his inability to be present on the occasion of the first Council.

Mr. Arlton gave notice of motion to co-opt Mr. Shepherd as a member of the Council in place of Mr. Raleigh. This was seconded by Mr. Cattley.

The chairman read a letter from Richard A. Greene, referred from the old Council, but the suggestions contained therein were not considered practicable.

The secretary was instructed to write to the former vice-presidents of the Actors' Association who resigned in 1907 acquainting them of the invitation to return, which was passed by the members at the annual general meeting at Terry's Theatre on Jan. 25.

The following committees were appointed for the year:—The Finance Committee: Mr. F. J. Arlton, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Cyril Cattley, Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood, and Miss Beatrice Chester. The House Committee: Mr. F. J. Arlton, Mr. Langford Reed, Miss Rose Cazelet, Miss Agnes Imlay, Mr. Murri Moncrieff, Mr. Lewis Casson, and Mr. Walker, with power to add to their numbers. The House Committee was directed to report to the Council once a fortnight. The Social Committee: Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, Mr. Langford Reed, Mr. H. Le Grand, and Mr. Clarence Derwent, with power to add to their number.

The secretary presented a draft of scheme for the new register which was approved by the Council, and directions were given to provide an estimate for presentation at the next Council meeting. In view of the near approach of the date for payment of the debentures it was agreed that a new issue of £1 debentures be made in lieu of the present existing £5 debentures (confined solely to members of the Association), subject to approval and advice of the hon. solicitor.

The hon. solicitor reported on two legal matters. Messrs. Derwent and Cattley were appointed additional signatories for the signing of cheques, and the secretary was instructed to acquaint the bank authorities.

Elections:—H. Carnelle Joye, Roberta Pulleyne, Leslie Oswell, and Cyril Ashford. Nominations:—Ethel Trevor Lloyd, Cora Bush, Dudley Carlton, Blanche Johnstone, Marie Ault, Josephine Middleton, Mabel Leathem, Paul Beckett, and Cicely Wade.

MR. RALEIGH RESIGNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As I put the general good of the actor's calling above their party politics, I have addressed the following letter to the Council of the Actors' Association:—

"Might I venture to ask that you will read this letter to the Council at the earliest possible moment, as, in my humble opinion, a condition of things has arisen which ought to be considered and dealt with by the Council before it passes to the transaction of any ordinary business.

"What I mean exactly is this: Without troubling to consider whether resolutions passed at a general meeting are legally binding on a council or not, and without troubling to analyse the exact distribution of votes at the election, we are face to face with the fact that the views of the members of the Association as reflected at the annual general meeting favour a managerial return, while the votes of the members as expressed in the anti-managerial majority elected to the Council are against a managerial return. Here is a deadlock—the possibility of an angry waste of time and an endless snatching backwards and forwards of party resolutions. Whatever our views may be, I think we should unite in an attempt to put an end to this condition of things.

"At any rate I have made up my mind exactly as to the course I personally mean to pursue. To my thinking two facts are perfectly clear. Although it is true that two of the anti-managerial party were put in at the top of the poll, it is equally true that Mr. Robson Paige and myself were put at the bottom of the poll, that Miss Rose Mathews was left out, and that Miss Sibley was not elected. I assume the result would have been proportionately about the same if every member of the Association had voted. It is impossible, therefore, to deny that those who favour trades unionism, like myself, have only the support of about one-third of the members of the Association. I regret the fact, but I realise it quite completely.

"The second fact emerges from the statement made by Mr. Clarence Derwent to the annual general meeting concerning the utterances of Sir Herbert Tree. Sir Herbert stated quite frankly his acceptance of the £2 minimum, and, what is more, he said of the cardinal points in our standard contract, that every reputable theatrical manager in England would accept them if properly approached. Now, everybody knows that the various managerial societies have been approached and that they have refused to discuss our contract with us. It is evident, therefore, that in the opinion of Sir Herbert they have not been properly approached. Personally I take this to mean that while the managers remained outside the Association they would not deal with it, but that if the trades union barrier were removed they would deal with it, and that Sir Herbert himself would accept, and do his best to make all the others accept, the standard contract, which contains the £2 minimum payment for matinées, payment for rehearsals, payment for cab fares, and so on.

"Now, if I am right—and it is very easy for those who have been in touch with Sir Herbert to ascertain whether I am right or not—we should put the public good before our personal predilections. We should do everything in our power to facilitate securing for the actor's calling, and more especially for the poorer members of that calling, the benefits which would result from such a standard contract as ours, if it could be obtained. Therefore, as I personally cannot conscientiously vote against my trades union principles, I feel that my presence upon the Council will be a hindrance and possibly an obstacle to the developments I have foreshadowed. Consequently, with the utmost regret, I must beg the Council to accept my resignation from their body, a resignation which I tender in the fervent hope that the proper approach to the reputable managers indicated by Sir Herbert Tree will be immediately made, and that with his sympathetic assistance and invaluable influence the standard contract and its £2 minimum will in the space of a few weeks become an established fact."

Might I in conclusion venture to point out that your leader of last Saturday was not quite accurate in its detail. The meeting at which I took the chair on March 14, at the Criterion Restaurant, was the inaugural meeting of the Actors' Union, and not a meeting of the Actors' Association.

I must also take a little exception to your general description of the result that followed the recent A.A. Council election. The result of that election, combined with the annual general meeting, produced a condition of chaos, for the general meeting endorsed one set of views, while the postal vote endorsed the absolute opposite. As an escape from the muddle, I think it would be a very good thing if the managerial party were given a free hand to capture for us, if they can, the minimum wage and the standard contract, on which we set so much store. I personally could not act with the managerial party, because I never like doing anything in secret, but I can stand aside and watch them realise their own poster, which is what for the moment I am perfectly contented to do, a course which I trust will meet with the approval of my fellow members of the Association, in which I shall always continue to take the keenest interest.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL RALEIGH.

2, Brunswick-place, Regent's Park, N.W.
Feb. 3, 1910.

"JOANNA FROM BOOKER'S FLAT."

Play, in One Act, by Arthur Hood, produced at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, on Jan. 31, 1910.

Jack Carruthers ..... Mr. E. Taylor
Vera ..... Miss Traill
Joanna ..... Mrs. Mends-Gibson

Joanna from Booker's Flat should meet with considerable success as a curtain-raiser, for it is full of human interest, and the dialogue is crisp. Jack Carruthers, after a roving life in the Far West, has settled down as an English country gentleman, and married an Earl's grand-daughter. In his past life is a guilty secret, for his first wife, whom he had deserted and left in California, is still living. The conversation between Carruthers and his so-called wife, Vera, turns on a society scandal, and Vera, with decidedly Puritanical views, makes it plain that she has no sympathy with the sinner.

When she leaves the room, Carruthers' meditations are interrupted by a tap at the door. There enters unannounced a handsome woman, flashily dressed—no other than the deserted wife, "Joanna from Booker's Flat." It does not take Joanna long to discover how matters stand, but, womanlike, her anger is directed less at Carruthers than at the girl who has supplanted her. She announces her intention of enforcing her rights, and he implores her to let them face the music and get it over. Vera returns, and taking Joanna for one of Carruthers' "impossible" Californian friends, treats her with freezing politeness. The other woman, stung by the girl's hauteur, is about to declare her identity, when a child's crying in the hall arrests her. Vera goes to her boy, and the husband and wife are left together. The voice of a little child has touched some chord in Joanna's better nature. She sees that Carruthers' love will never be hers again, and that enforcing her claims will wreck his life and that of his child. After a sharp struggle with herself she tells Carruthers that "Jo of Booker's never rounded on a pal yet," and consents to return to California and give him up for ever. Vera comes in time to witness Joanna's departure, and, little dreaming of what the woman "with dreadful clothes and cheap scent" has given up to her, gingerly lifts Joanna's gloves with the tongs, and drops them in the waste-paper basket. Mrs. Mends-Gibson was commendable in the difficult rôle of Joanna; Miss Traill made a refined Vera; and Mr. E. Taylor an acceptable Carruthers.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An interesting concert, and one very creditable to the students, was given in the concert room at the Trinity College on Monday afternoon. Mr. Herry Gray gave organ solos of Fantasia per Organo Pleno, "O quanta qualia," (Ancient), "Plain Song Melody" (C. W. Pearce), and Basso Ostinato, Op. 5, No. 5 (Antoine Arensky, Arr by C. W. Pearce). Mr. Gray played with much intelligence, and greatly pleased the audience. Miss Mabel Hardy was also successful in her singing of Lotti's "Pur decesti." A very fine young pianist, Master Alfred J. Tyler, neatly executed Mozart's Fantasia in D minor, while Mr. Sidney H. Sheppard, who has a voice of good quality and considerable power, sang "The heart so sadly broken," from Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra*, and "The Yeoman's Wedding Song" (Poniatowski) with credit to himself and his professor. Although Miss Dorothy Meallin somewhat dragged the time in the opening portions of Sarasate's difficult violin solo, "Zigeunerweisen," she displayed marked ability, both in execution and tone; and Miss Gertrude Wallis's singing of Giordani's fine air, "Coro mio ben," certainly deserves praise. Miss Constance M. Hatton gave a good account of Von Carse's "Miniature Suite" for pianofore. Other clever students were Mr. Edward S. Mitchell, L.T.C.L., who played Arensky's piano solo, "Sea Sketches," Mr. Joseph Myers, set down for Sullivan's song, "Love laid his sleepless head," and Mr. John A. Tatam, for an organ solo, "Andante con moto, in F," by Henry Smart.

Mr. Wilson Benge's company is at the New Theatre, Consett, in *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a capital George Tremain; Squire Leverton is well played by Mr. Ben Carr; Mr. H. Danson as Dick Leverton is good; Paul Cairshaw is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. Dockwray; Miss Pauline Nanton gives a fine portrayal of Marvis Leverton; and as the adventuress Miss Annie Hylton is clever. Miss Nita Imeson is a success as Gwen Younger.

Potier, the celebrated favourite of the theatre of the Port St. Martin, at Paris, was condemned in 1823 to pay 25,000 francs damages, as an indemnity for the loss sustained by that theatre, in consequence of his absenting himself for ten months, in breach of his contract. The damages were laid at 400,000f., calculated on the average receipts of the house of 60,000f. per month, and considering him responsible for the loss on each representation, in consequence of his defection.

"THE CRIMSON BUTTERFLY."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, Lyrics by William T. Ivory, Music by Eugenio Cappo, produced at the East Oxford Theatre, Oxford, on Monday, Jan. 31

Doctor Sealey ..... MR. HORACE GIBB
Sir Bouncer Buffington ..... MR. GEO. KEITH
Jack Armitage ..... MR. SEN HOLLOWAY
Wedwell ..... MR. OWEN FORD
Horatio ..... MR. HARRY DOUGLAS
Mick ..... MR. JAS. MAILEY
Marjorie ..... MISS KITTY CLARK
Mrs. Dunne Brown ..... MISS NITA MAYEU
Maisie Kissington ..... MISS EVA NELSON
Lizette ..... MISS ROSA MAY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The chief *motif* of the play is created by the endeavours of a wealthy and simple widow (Mrs. Dunne Brown) to secure, through a matrimonial agent, a suitable partner for her second venture. By payment of a double fee she obtains the choice of a twofold selection. Through an unhappy blunder on the part of the agent, Wedwell, an appointment has been made for her to meet both suitors, Dr. Sealey and Sir Bouncer Buffington, at the same time at the Metcecil Hotel. Sir Bouncer Buffington has always been regarded as the prospective husband of the doctor's daughter, Marjorie, but neither of them care for each other. She is in love with Jack Armitage, a captain in the army. Miss Maisie Kissington, a music hall artist known as the "Crimson Butterfly," whom the doctor's son, Horatio, has jilted on account of his "family pride," arrives on the scene burning for revenge. Wedwell, to help himself out of his difficulty, arranges with Maisie to impersonate for the time being Mrs. Dunne Brown. This exactly fits in with her idea of revenging herself on Horatio, as the prospect of his having to look upon her as "mother" if she marries his father will be too much for him. The doctor resents Maisie's advances, whom he easily recognises, but falls in love with the real widow. He arranges a visit to a seaside town—Saltborough—with Mrs. Brown, but Maisie follows, as do most of the others, Horatio included.

At Saltborough, to rid himself of his rival, Sir Bouncer, the doctor tries to get his daughter and Sir Bouncer married by special licence, for which he advances the money; but a conspiracy is formed with Jack Armitage, Sir Bouncer, and Marjorie, which results in Jack and Marjorie being happily united. At last the real Mrs. Dunne Browne, finding that both her suitors appear to be flirting—the doctor with Maisie and Sir Bouncer with Marjorie—in her rage turns to Wedwell, who, to obtain possession of her wealth, finds himself suddenly bound to marry her. Finally Maisie, the Crimson Butterfly, releases the doctor, and having as she thinks sufficiently tantalised Horatio, marries him. The doctor and Sir Bouncer once more join hands in friendship.

The play on the whole was well received, and is pleasing. The musical numbers are tuneful, and were rendered with spirit. The dialogue, which is somewhat commonplace and aimless generally, is probably the weak spot. There is need of more real comedy. Whatever success was attained was largely due to the feminine section of the cast, and of this Miss Eva Nelson as Maisie Kissington, the Crimson Butterfly, was the chief factor. Her acting throughout was of so easy, natural, and winsomely charming a character that she is deserving of the highest commendation; her singing is a delight. Her artistic individuality captivated her audience at her first entrance. Miss Nita Mayeu as Mrs. Dunne Brown was also one of the successes of the evening. Miss Kitty Clark gave a dainty portrayal of Marjorie, and Miss Rosy May was restrained as Lizette. Mr. Horace Gibb did what he could with Doctor Sealey; Mr. Sen Holloway gave effect to Jack Armitage; and Mr. Owen Ford infused plenty of life into Wedwell. Mr. Harry Douglas may be credited with one of the "hits" of the evening, his portrayal of Horatio, though somewhat on the conventional lines of the dude, being very humorous. Mr. Jas. Mailey made a good attempt as the Irish waiter, Mick, though unfortunately there was little low comedy business for him to do.

SUGGESTED MEMORIAL TABLET TO SAMUEL PHELPS.

Mr. Harry Plowman, F.S.A., presided at a meeting of the Islington Antiquarian and Historical Society held at the Central Library, Holloway-road, on Wednesday evening, when Mr. W. H. Pratt read a paper on Samuel Phelps. Mr. Plowman, in introducing the lecturer, gave some interesting personal reminiscences of the distinguished actor-manager. The reason he had been asked to preside on that occasion was because he probably knew more about Phelps than any man now living. He first became acquainted with the famous actor more than fifty years ago, when he was a small boy, for he was the companion of Phelps's youngest son, and the friendship thus formed continued uninterruptedly until the actor's death. He helped to nurse him in his last illness, and was with him when he died. Phelps was a good husband and a fond and devoted father. By nature shy and retiring, he was always uneasy in the company of strangers, but such friends as he had he "gripped to his heart with hooks of steel."

On one occasion, after a supper on the stage of the Lyceum Theatre, said Mr. Plowman, he heard Henry Irving say, in reply to someone who had complimented him on his productions: "The work I've done in this theatre is nothing in comparison with the work done by Phelps at Sadler's Wells." In conclusion, he thanked Mr. Pratt for reviving the memory of one who was so great a credit to the profession which he adopted. After a long experience of the stage he regarded Phelps as the finest actor he had ever seen. It was resolved that an application should be made to the Historical Records Committee of the London County Council, asking them to indicate by a memorial tablet the house, No. 8, Canonbury-square, Islington, where Samuel Phelps resided for many years.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL'S company is this week presenting, at the Crown Theatre, Eccles, the new romantic play entitled *From Convent to Throne*. Mr. Graham Woods, as Lieut. Ernest gives a capital performance; Mr. A. F. Stuart as Maurice Prince of Carpathia proves himself an actor of sterling worth; and in the character of Baron Strelsau Mr. William J. Miller is all that can be desired. Mr. William Passmore as General Von Hapsburg gives a clever character study; Miss Mary Fulton in the difficult rôle of the Princess is a most capable and painstaking actress; Miss Esme Malim as the Lady Rotha plays with artistic restraint; and Miss Dorothy Cecil as Lady Violetta is to be complimented on her rendering of a by no means easy character.

A SHORT dramatic season opened at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, on Monday, with a visit of the Nottingham pantomime, *Mother Goose*, direct from the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. Mr. J. C. MacMillar undertook the title-rôle in a very humorous fashion, while Mr. Jack Lennox was equally successful as the ne'er-do-well son of Mother Goose. Miss Minnie Love as Colin and Miss Elsie James as Jill were an admirable principal boy and girl; while Miss Laura Wright added to the gaiety of the piece by the introduction of a maid-of-all-work of the deutscher type. Messrs. Stevens and Brett were a pair of specially good knockabout comedians; and other characters were ably sustained by Mr. Fred Seymour, Miss Ethel Monks, Miss May Davis, Miss Clara Pierse, Mr. Harry Reynolds, &c. The Berlin Belles gave some specialty dances, and Miss Maud Murray some clever aerial and serpentine dances.

"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER."

New and Original Domestic Play, in Four Acts, by W. Graham Arthurs, Produced at the Gaiety, Musselburgh, on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

Sir Arthur Langley ..... MR. HAROLD HEATH
Capt. Dudley Stewart—MR. W. GRAHAM ARTHURS
Major Ludlow ..... MR. JOHN RILEY
Hon. Herbert FitzHerbert ..MR. FRED BENTLEY
Lazarus Marks ..... MR. DAVID PHILLIPS
Richard Thorpe ..... MR. J. E. McCANN
Brooks ..... MR. J. HERBERT
Judge ..... MR. R. GRAEME
Counsel for Prosecution ..... MR. B. HEATHER
Prison Chaplain ..... MR. JOHN RILEY
Warder ..... MR. J. GRIMM
Policeman ..... MR. A. WRIGHT
Muriel Clifford ..... MISS MABEL LISTON
Grace Beale ..... MISS C. MIDDLETON
Mary ..... MISS PRISCILLA BARNARD
Trixie Mackinlay ..... MISS KATE HUGHES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The plot of this play is as follows:—Muriel Clifford, an orphan and heiress to a rich uncle, secretly weds Captain Dudley Stewart. The latter is an unscrupulous villain, who will do anything to further his own ends. One of his many victims is a certain girl named Grace Beale, whom he has separated from her lover. He has gone through a form of marriage with her, and afterwards ruined and left her. He also contrives to get the lover, Richard Thorpe, dismissed from his position as a coachman. Muriel discovers that Stewart has married her for her money, and breaks off all connection with him. Stewart is ordered to South Africa on active service with his regiment. Six years have passed, and in the second act we find that Muriel has married Sir Arthur Langley, thinking herself free, as a report to the effect that Stewart was killed at Magersfontein had been published. Sir Arthur is in ignorance of her former relations with Stewart. Stewart unexpectedly appears, and, finding Muriel alone, demands certain diplomatic papers, which are in her husband's care. She refuses to give them up, and he is forced to steal them. Muriel visits Stewart's rooms, and gives him money to keep her secret, but they are discovered by Sir Arthur, who, regarding her as faithless, casts her off. In Act III. Lazarus Marks, a money-lender, relates to Sir Arthur the story of Muriel's unhappy connection with Stewart, and Sir Arthur, repenting his hasty judgment, shows his gratitude by paying off the debt due to Marks by Stewart. He resolves to seek and find Muriel and make reparation. While doing this he is arrested for the murder of a man supposed to be Stewart, but who in reality is Richard Thorpe. Thorpe, out of work, had been employed by Sir Arthur as a groom, and in the course of his duties he and Dudley Stewart had met. Thorpe was shot by Stewart, who afterwards changed clothes with his victim. The second scene of the third act introduces us to a London hospital, where Grace and Muriel are engaged as nurses. News comes of the arrest of Sir Arthur for the murder of the supposed Stewart. In the last scene of the act we find Sir Arthur in prison. Here, through the kindness of the chaplain, he is visited by Muriel. Their vows of love are renewed, and they are remarried by the chaplain. The concluding scene of the last act takes place in the court house, where Sir Arthur is on his trial. Stewart himself, disguised as a labourer, gives evidence against the panel, but is thwarted by Marks. The Jew had been a witness of Stewart's crimes, and takes great pleasure in unmasking him. Everything is satisfactorily cleared up, and the finish to a rather exciting melodrama comes with the suicide of Stewart.

For a first night Mr. Graham Arthur's play went very well indeed, and with a little pulling together here and there should do good business for him. In the heavy part of Dudley Stewart the author was quite at home, and was ably supported by the rest of the company. Miss Mabel Liston as the motherless girl acted admirably; and Mr. Harold Heath was good as Sir Arthur Langley. The comedy element was supplied by Messrs. Fred Bentley and David Phillips and Miss Kate Hughes in their respective characters of the dude the money-lender, and the bright American girl.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Brahms' Quintet for Strings in G major, Op. 111, the opening item in the programme of the students' concert on Thursday evening, Jan. 27, was well interpreted by Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Mr. Eugene Goossens, Miss Rebecca Clarke, Miss Janet Macfie, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe, the beautiful Adagio being particularly well played. A young student of the college, Miss Gladys Cawston, gave a capital performance of Glazounow's Prelude and Fugue for piano, and was recalled four times to the platform. In the last instrumental work in the programme, Dvorák's Trio for Piano and Strings No. 2 in F minor, Op. 65, such advanced students as Mr. William Murdoch, Mr. Philip Levine, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe secured excellent results, and were most heartily applauded. To the vocal side of the concert Miss Celia Turrill contributed "Occhi belli," a charming old Italian air, arranged by Lindner. "Occhi belli," with its quaintly florid music, is an admirable exercise for the voice, and Miss Turrill sang it with considerable fluency and purity of tone. Her second song was one of Rubinstein's, in which the young artist was not so entirely successful. Apart from slight nervousness, Miss Hilda Marchand displayed ability in her singing of "Orpheus with his lute" (Sullivan), and will do greater justice to the famous air when she has acquired more experience. A characteristic song of Delibe's, "Mysto," was cleverly rendered by Miss Marguerite Owen, A.R.C.M., the fortunate possessor of a very pleasing voice. All the vocalists had a very hearty reception from the audience. The accompanist was Miss Constance Stockbridge.

"THE LITTLE DAMOZEL" opened at the Bournemouth Theatre Royal and Opera House on Monday, with Miss Ida Molesworth in the title-rôle, and Mr. Mark Blow as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock, the insurance agent; Mr. Frank Lacy presents a clever, natural, and convincing portrayal of Recklaw Poole; Mr. Geo. A. Brandram plays the part of Captain Neil Partington with admirable restraint; and Mr. Townsend Whiteing's study of the Proprietor of the Café Angelique is to be highly commended. The company also includes Mr. Julian Cross as Papa Bartholdy, Mr. Wm. J. Stack as Franz Pepo, Mr. E. L. Hocking as Abraham, Miss Roxy Barton as Sybil Craven, and Mr. Arthur Redmond as a servant. The play is preceded by *Aunt Rebecca*.

THE attraction at the Royal County Theatre, Bedford, this week is *The Swiss Express*, presented by the company of Messrs. C. and R. Renad, who themselves play the parts of the two eccentric servants James and John. Mr. Wilford Bailey is a whimsical Dr. Gondimar Gull; and Virginia Squeeze is charmingly personated by Miss Dorothy Deakin. Mr. Victor T. Raymond is good as Dudley Green; and Mr. James Hawkes cleverly enacts the rôle of Bob Rollingstone. Mr. George Power, a droll Rhino, creates much laughter; and Miss Lottie Stone's Palace quartette of vocalists and dancers give a capital performance.

A SERIES of special matinées of French plays has been given at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, by Rouhaud's Parisian company. On Monday Molière's comedy *L'Avare*, and *Le Voyage De Monsieur Perrichon*, by Labiche were played. Tuesday was devoted to *Les Fourberies de Scapin*, and *Les Précieuses Ridicules*, and *Les Romanesques* and *L'Anglais Tel Qu'on le Parle*.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

JANUARY.

LONDON.

Alias Jimmy Valentine, play, in four acts, by Paul Armstrong (copyright); Playhouse, Jan. 1.

A Child of the Streets, drama, in four acts, by Frank Price (originally produced on Sept. 25, 1909, at the Grand Theatre, Walsall); Theatre Royal, Stratford, Jan. 3.

The Two Courts, Christmas play, by Mrs. G. M. Clibborn (produced by Amateurs); St. Gabriel's Hall, Willesden Green, Jan. 7.

The Revellers, musical entertainment, lyrics and music by Ernest Torrence; Coronet, Jan. 10.

The Princess and the Doll; or, The Golden Comb, fairy play, in three acts, with prologue and epilogue, by George and Dickson Rudert, West Theatre, Albert Hall, Jan. 11.

Captain Kidd, musical play, by Seymour Hicks, adapted from Richard Harding Davis's comedy *The Dictator* (Comedy, May 3, 1905), lyrics by George Arthurs, music by Leslie Stuart; Wyndham's, Jan. 12.

Don, comedy, in three acts, by Rudolf Besier, transferred from Criterion to Kingsway, Jan. 17.

Geoffrey Langdon's Wife, drama, in four acts, by Fred C. Somerfield (originally produced at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on June 22, 1908); Theatre Royal, Stratford, Jan 17.

Millie's Mother, play, in one act, by F. Howell Evans (Mr. James Welch's season); Criterion, Jan. 18.

The Deadlock, play, in three acts, by Sidney Pearson Stratton (copyright); Court, Jan. 18.

Dame Nature, play, in four acts, adapted by Frederick Fenn, from Henry Bataille's play *La Femme Nue* (Paris Renaissance, Feb. 28, 1908); Garrick, Jan. 20.

The Parents' Progress, play, in one act, by George Paston; Prince of Wales's Theatre, Jan. 25.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's novel, in four acts, by J. Comyns Carr; Queen's, Jan. 29.

Augustus in Search of a Father, piece, in one act, by Harold Chapin; Court, Jan. 30.

His Last Stage, piece, in one act, by H. O. Hughes; Court, Jan. 30.

Peg Woffington's Pearls, piece, in one act, by C. Duncan Jones and Dennis Cleugh; Court, Jan. 30.

The Decent Thing, piece, in one act, by F. Willoughby; Court, Jan. 30.

The Strong People, drama, in four acts, by C. M. S. McLennan; Lyric, Jan. 31.

REVIVALS

Henry of Navarre, play, in four acts, by William Devereux (originally produced in London at the New Theatre on Jan. 7, 1909); New, Jan. 3.

Twelfth Night, revived by R. Flanagan; Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Jan. 8.

When Knights Were Bold, farce, in three acts, by Charles Marlowe (originally produced at Wyndham's Theatre, Jan. 29, 1907); Criterion, Jan. 17.

PROVINCES.

The Chimes, dramatic version of Charles Dickens's Christmas story, by E. Clarence Boielle; Jersey Oddfellows' Hall, Jan. 4.

A Shaped End, sketch, in one act, by Godwin Bulger; Balfour Institute, Liverpool, Jan. 8.

Samson and Delilah, sacred lyric drama, by Charles Camille Saint Saëns (originally produced at the Ducal Theatre, Weimar, Dec. 2, 1877; Covent Garden, April 26, 1909) first time in English (Moody Manners Co.); Theatre Royal, Dublin, Jan. 11.

Deidre of the Sorrows, legendary drama, in three acts, by the late John Millington Synge; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Jan. 13.

The Blasé Baronet, comedy, in three acts, adapted by Walter E. Grogan, from *Used Up* (Charles Mathews' version of *L'Homme Blasé*); Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Jan. 14.

Coming Home, play, in one act, by Mary O'Neill; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, Jan. 19.

Joanna from Booker's Flat, play, in one act, by Arthur Hood; Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, Jan. 31.

PARIS.

Noblesse oblige! farce, by M. Hennequin and P. Veber; Nouveautés, Jan. 6.

La Barricade, play, in four acts, by Paul Bourget; Vaudeville, Jan. 7.

L'Ange gardien, comedy, in three acts, by André Picard; Antoine, Jan. 19.

Le Monsieur au Camélia, one act, by Jean Passier; Antoine, Jan. 19.

Flagrant délit, one act, by G. Habrekorn and E. Herbel; Palais-Royal, Jan. 21.

L'Eprouvette, vaudeville, in three acts, by H. Kéroul and A. Barré; Palais-Royal, Jan. 21.

BERLIN.

Der Vize-Papa, three-act farce, by A. Richards; Rose, Jan. 3.

Don Juan's letztes Abenteuer, three-act play, by O. Anthes; Neues, Jan. 7.

Der Wirrwarr, farce, in five acts, by A. von Kotzbue; Hebbel, Jan. 12.

Der gute König Dagobert, comedy, in four acts, by André Rivoire; Deutsches, Jan. 18.

Der natürliche Vater, comedy, in three acts, by H. Eulenberg; Deutsches Chamber Plays, Jan. 21.

Der grosse Tote, three-act comedy, by MM. Magnussen and Sarauw; New Schauspielhaus, Jan. 22.

Der Pfarrar von St. Georgen, play, in five acts, by H. Welcker; Schiller O., Jan. 26.

Der Philosoph von Sans-Souci, play, in four acts, by F. Holm; Neues, Jan. 28.

THE Crystal Palace Orchestral Society and Choir will render Verdi's *Requiem* at the Crystal Palace on Saturday evening next. The work, it is interesting to recall, was composed in memory of Alessandro Manzoni in 1875, and was produced at Milan. For the present performance a strong list of artists have been engaged, including Miss Edith Evans, Miss Maria Yelland, Mr. Webster Millar, and Mr. Julien Henry. The programme will also include overture, "St. Paul" (Mendelssohn), Psalm, in eight parts, "Judge me O God" (Mendelssohn), and "Marche Héroïque" (Saint Saëns). The concert will be conducted by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock.

AT the Theatre Royal, Glossop, Mr. Andrew Melville's company is playing *Driven from Home* to crowded houses. Anthony Raybrooke is finely portrayed by Mr. Felix Pitt; Walter Hatherleigh finds a good exponent in Mr. G. George Beresford; Geoffrey Waring is cleverly presented by Mr. John B. Shinton; in the dual part of Walter and Laura Miss A. M. Ryder is successful; Adam Marley is ably sustained by Mr. Henry Helling; as the outcast, Willie, Mr. Percy Dawsone does well; good comedy business is supplied by Mr. Fred C. Imbert as John Anderson, Miss Susie Beaven as Margaret Bailey, Miss Madge Muriel as Jane, Mr. A. Winters as Tom Mortlake, Mr. Sam G. Hardy as Phineas, Mr. F. Bates as Tim, and Miss A. Williams as Mrs. McCarthy; and in the part of Dick Saunders Mr. E. Finla is very fine.

PREPARATIONS for the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace are being pushed forward with all despatch, and the country is promised one of the most magnificent spectacles of the last fifty years. No fewer than 15,000 persons will take part in the Pageant of London, and contingents of 200 from each colony will figure in the final scene, symbolical of the children gathered round the mother country. The most dramatic scene of the pageant will be that of the Norman Conquest, which will be carried out on the most elaborate scale.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'EPROUVETTE."

Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by Henri Kéroul and Albert Barré, Produced at the Palais-Royal on Jan. 21.

Olga de Brandebourg ..... MLLE. YRVEN
Olympe ..... MLLE. GUITTY
Colette ..... MLLE. DAUSSMOND
Gilberte ..... MLLE. SYLVANE
Julie ..... MLLE. JALABERT
Bridois ..... M. HURTEAUX
Toupin ..... M. MILO
Dr. Thomerel ..... M. RESCHAL
Dubois ..... M. CLEMENT
Gaston ..... M. PALAU
Le Prince ..... M. ROZE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Jan. 27.—The Palais-Royal have given us an amusing farce that is likely to have a successful run. Olympe, a young girl from the provinces, married to Dr. Thomerel, a medical man practising in Paris, receives a number of anonymous letters accusing her husband of not being faithful to her. In the beginning she laughs at these accusations, in the firm belief that her husband is much too serious and too devoted to his profession to lead a fast life. But her friend, Colette Dubois, to whom she confides her doubts on her husband's fidelity, suggests putting that gentleman to the test, a scheme, however, fraught with difficulties. Whilst they are planning a way there is a ring at the bell, and Olga de Brandebourg, a demi-mondaine, enters, and asks to see the doctor for her throat. It so happens that Colette has known Olga when that lady was only a little workgirl; and as Olga has to leave that same day for London, Colette asks, as a special favour, to be allowed to take possession of her apartment for a couple of days. Olga consents, whereupon Colette at once writes a letter to the doctor—signed Olga—asking him to call on her at once. Dr. Thomerel does not know Olga; and as he has never seen Colette, the latter, out of friendship for Olympe, will be able to judge whether the doctor is faithful to his wife or not. So far, things are very simple; but complications soon arise, and these complications are personified by the doctor's nephew, a young hopeful, to whom he wants to give a tutor. Young hopeful, who dreads this kind of surveillance, manages things so cleverly that the tutor—supposed to have been engaged—is put aside, and his place is taken by Toupin, a chauffeur. From this moment there is a series of quid pro quos at Olga's house, especially as that lady's protector is no other than Colette's husband, who has passed himself off as an admiral. A Japanese Prince and a number of other curious people also come on the scene, and help to increase the complications, until, finally, in the last act, there is a general reconciliation, whilst the chauffeur is kicked out. The farce was capitally acted by Mlle. Yrven, a charming Olga, and especially by M. Milo, who, as the chauffeur-tutor, keeps the fun going all the time.

MM. FERNAND NOZIERE AND ALFRED SAVOIR have dramatised Tolstoy's *Kreutzer Sonata*, and the work was brought out at the Théâtre de l'Oeuvre. But a more dismal way to spend one's evening than by witnessing that performance cannot well be imagined. Tolstoy's pessimistic ideas do not come out so strongly in the book, where they spread, so to say, over a large surface. But in the compressed form of a play we have a little too much of them, although the authors have kept away as much as possible of the philosophical side, and made the most of the gruesome story. As a play it is decidedly thrilling; and the nervous tension increases up to the climax at which the hero's suppressed fury breaks out, and he stabs his wife while she, in fear and trembling, embraces him.

THE Comédie-Française has added to its repertoire *Le Mariage d'Angélique*, an old comedy by François Ponsard, which, thus far, has never been produced on a large French stage. The hero in the play is Molière, and the plot is pretty. It is laid in the year 1651, when Molière, then in his thirtieth year, is touring with his company, and is giving performances in Vienne, in the Dauphiné. There he meets Angélique, who tells him that she is anxious to marry Bellerose, a sergeant, instead of young Purgon whom her father wants to force upon her. A comedy is at once improvised wherein Mlle. de Brie, an actress in Molière's company, plays the part of a countess who bamboozles the little Purgon, giving Angélique an opportunity of meeting her beloved sergeant. The two acts met with an excellent reception.

THE Théâtre Shakespeare, in the hands of M. Camille de Sainte-Croix, is making rapid strides to popularity. It will be remembered that the organiser proposes to give twelve representations of the different plays of Shakespeare, following each other at a fortnight's interval, each performance to be preceded by a lecture. To-day we have arrived at the third Shakespearean soirée, having had *A Winter's Tale*, *Troilus and Cressida*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The company is composed chiefly of the pupils of the Conservatoire, many of them showing marked talent and a classical understanding. The charm of the performances is the unconventional treatment of the characters, the youth of the artistes imparting to them more than the stage semblance of truth. The scenery is arranged in an ingenious fashion, simply with a background representing either a castle, a camp, a fairy scene, or whatever may be the requirements of the work. And here in all fairness we must compliment M. Simas, the scene-painter of the Opéra-Comique, who has shown himself once more a consummate artist. For it is he who not only paints the background, but combines the colouring in the costumes to make a complete harmony. In a city like Paris, where the costumiers have such excellent taste, it is not difficult to find costumes for such plays, as already enumerated. But here again, even among Conservatoire pupils, there is the same difficulty to contend with as among full-fledged artists. M. Decaye has a wonderful comic gift, and is sure to make a name. We have seen him in the space of six weeks as Autolycus and Bottom, and in both rôles he created a sensation. Another of the clever actors is M. René Rocher; and among the ladies Mlle. Capazza—daughter of the well-known aeronaut—who was an amusing Puck. M. de Sainte-Croix very ably directs all these young people, and it is to be hoped that he will see his way to give more than one performance of the Shakespearean plays. *Cymbeline* is the next work to be produced.

PARIS, THURSDAY, Feb. 3.—We have had a national nightmare. In the midst of Paris we have passed through half-dark streets turned into ponds, spaces roped off every few yards, the ground crumbling below our feet, houses falling down, and the yellow waters of the Seine threatening to overflow the bridges, tearing along at a wild pace, carrying along a fearful amount of wreckage, including articles of every description. Standing on the Alma Bridge I saw a piano carried away by the wild flood, and in its wake chairs, tables, bedsteads, pieces of timber, barrels, &c. The waters held Paris in their grip. Through the drains they reached up to unexpected levels, overflowing everything, and driving the terror-stricken inmates out of their houses. In the centre of the town the pavement sank in many places, and people asked one another what was going to happen to our beautiful city. Yet, in the midst of this awful disaster, the Parisians behaved with marvellous fortitude and self-possession. Patient and resigned, all helped one another, and, although the damage to property is incalculable, there were hardly any lives lost. The waters are now falling rapidly. The Seine begins to assume its usual aspect, but the visitation has left fearful traces that will take long, very long, to wipe out.

The theatres, of course, have also suffered. The Opéra, Cluny, Michel, and Sarah-Bernhardt had to close their doors for several nights on account of the floods, some on account of the absence of electric light, others because their cellars were filled with water. M. Gaston Akoun, the manager of Luna Park, came generously to the rescue of the inhabitants of the flooded districts by placing at the disposal of the authorities twenty-five boats of his water-chute, which, being flat-bottomed, could navigate in a foot of water, and carry heavy loads without danger. The dress rehearsal of *Chantecler*, announced for Monday last, is only taking place this evening, and many other houses also had to modify their programme. So much money has been lost that it is more than probable that our theatres are not likely to have a good season.

The only novelty this week has been *Mademoiselle Don Juan*, an amusing trifle by M. Antoine Yvan, brought out at the Théâtre Grévin. Don Juan, old, retired from business, feels time weigh heavily on his hands. He knows he has many children scattered about the world, and he orders Leporello, his faithful servant, to unearth one of these—a daughter by preference—on whom he might bestow his paternal affection. To save himself trouble Leporello asks Juanita, a young flower seller, to pass herself off as Don Juan's daughter, a proposal which the girl accepts, especially as she has fallen in love with Don José, Don Juan's nephew. But Leporello wants a reward for having secured her a comfortable home, and he will be quite satisfied if the girl will pay him "in kind." But when he attempts to take his reward by force Don José appears and gives him a tremendous hiding. Don Juan, on the other hand, hearing that his supposed child is in love with his nephew, gives his consent to their marriage. The wily Leporello, however, bent on revenge, informs Don Juan that Juanita is not his daughter, and that the best thing he can do is to marry her himself. The conceited old Don Juan, delighted with the idea, turns Don José out of the house. Leporello rubs his hands with delight, whereupon Juanita makes him believe that she has fallen in love with him, and arranges matters so that he is caught by Don Juan embracing her. Don Juan, mad with rage, wants to kill his servant, who, in order to save his life, swears that Juanita is really Don Juan's daughter, and that the latter, therefore, cannot marry her, and she becomes Don José's wife.

"L'HOMME A DEUX TETES."

Spectacular Play in Four Acts and Twenty-four Tableaux, by M. Louis Forest, produced at the Chatelet, on Feb. 2.

Miss Helena ..... MLLE. ETIEVANT
Miss Primrose ..... MLLE. MORALYS
Sourire d'Avril ..... MLLE. LIZEROLLE
Amoureuse ..... MLLE STELLA
Barclay ..... M. WORMS
Jim ..... M. OLLIVIER
Cricket ..... M. REGNARD
Ralph ..... M. SEVERIN
Frispoulet ..... M. HAMILTON
Comte Sylva ..... } M. JULLIEN
Jack ..... }

At the last moment the Chatelet management decided to launch their new piece, the première of which had been postponed till next week. The hero of the play has that in common with Jekyll and Hyde that he, too, leads a double life. That is to say, in society he is known as the fascinating Count Sylva, whilst to the members of his gang he is Jack, the brigand chief. It is in every way a profitable combination, for as Count Sylva he has every opportunity of preparing the robberies which his other self and his companions carry out. If the police are on his heels, all he has to do is to throw off his false wig and beard and don the garb of clubman. Unfortunately, the author does not tell us which of these two incarnations is the right one and which is the "disguise." But, unlike Mr. Louis Stevenson, the author of *L'Homme à Deux Têtes* does not trouble his head about psychology. All he wants is to amuse us, and in this he more or less succeeded. The story, which plays in Edinburgh, is as follows: Lady Helena, daughter of the late Lord Sullivan, immensely rich, is in love with Ralph, lieutenant in the Scotch Guards, and wants to become his wife. Coveting the lady's millions, Jack decides to get Ralph out of the way, and, under the name of Count Sylva, offers the lady his hand. *Et voilà tout!* In the end the villain is punished as he deserves to be, and Lady Helena marries Ralph. All this, however, does not go without trouble, and the persecuted Ralph would never have triumphed had he not been helped by Frispoulet, a *gamin de Paris*, who acts as Ralph's guardian angel. It is he who is the first to discover that Sylva and Jack are one and the same, and it is on Frispoulet that devolves the honour of killing the villain by a well-aimed revolver shot. The piece was fairly well acted and fairly well staged.

At the last hour the dress rehearsal of *Chantecler*, fixed for last night, was put off till Saturday, with the result that hundreds of motor-cars and broughams drove up whose occupants knocked their heads against the closed doors of the Porte-Saint-Martin. Complaints were numerous and loud, but the Parisian turns everything into fun. Along the pavement were a crowd of men and boys who enjoyed the annoyance of those who had come a long way to see *Chantecler*, and by way of compensation these pavement artists offered the society ladies and gentlemen a gratis performance in the way of an imitation of every bird in a farmyard. It was irresistibly funny, and the disappointed guests drove away roaring with laughter.

THREE large theatres are in process of erection in Berlin with the object of bringing high-class artistic dramatic and operatic productions within the reach of the masses. The "Grosse Oper," which, as its name indicates, will be devoted principally to the production of grand opera, will have seating accommodation for 3,000 spectators, and is to be opened in the autumn of next year.

THE second theatre, to be known as the "Volkskunsthaus," is being constructed by the Neue Freie Volksbühne, Berlin's premier dramatic society, numbering some 38,000 members. This society, which is presided over by Dr. Josef Ettlinger, intends to produce principally modern plays, for which purpose it has meanwhile taken a lease of the old Wolzogen Theater, in the Köpernicker Strasse. The first performance will be Ibsen's *Pillars of Society*, with which the Volksbühne made its *début* twenty years ago.

THE third new building, which Herr Hermann Gura, the famous singer, is having erected on the Schiffbauerdamm, will be known as the "Richard Wagner Volkstheater," for the production, at low prices, of the great composer's operas, the copyright of which expires in 1913. One-half of the available 3,000 seats will be on sale at 3s., 2s., and 1s. respectively. In order to ensure a first-rate orchestra, the budget of the new enterprise provides a sum of £5,000 for a whole year's rehearsals.

A NEW comic opera, called *The Superior Sex*, written by H. D. Banning, and composed by J. H Maunder, will be produced for the first time in the metropolis by the London Operatic and Dramatic Society at the Chippiegate Theatre on Wednesday. The work was originally given at the Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea, last March, and noticed in our subsequent issue.

THE King and Queen, accompanied by Princess Victoria and suite, witnessed the performance of *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's Theatre on Wednesday evening.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE had a representative audience at the first night of *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's on Tuesday. Prince Francis of Teck was seated in the front row of the stalls, Mrs. Asquith was in the stage box with Miss Viola Tree, and other distinguished persons were Lord and Lady Craven, Lady Newborough and Lord Churchill, Sir Melvill Beachcroft, Sir Edward and Lady Clarke, and Mr. Charles Gill. The stage was represented by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Fortescue, Lady Hare and her daughter, and Mrs. George Alexander.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER will again perform a function which is customarily allotted to the chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee of the London County Council, and will formally open the extension of Ruskin Park on Saturday, Feb. 19. This latest addition to London's open space, which is named after the great essayist, is situated on Denmark Hill, Camberwell, where Ruskin for some time resided.

MR. ROBERT HILTON'S production of *Richelieu* at the Strand Theatre on Thursday evening is being anticipated with the keenest interest, inasmuch as that young actor-manager's assumption of the title-rôle will differ materially from that of his many famous predecessors. In a recent interview Mr. Hilton states: "The part, by reason of its enormous possibilities, appeals to me from every point of view. Many actors have made Richelieu merely cruel, cunning, and crafty; but in the many published lives of this remarkable man I have read I cannot find that he was any of these things. His first consideration was for his country, everything else had to go under; whilst underneath his love of state and power there existed the most beautiful affection for the people. In every sense of the word he was a 'human man,' but when country comes into the question, one may use the old quotation, 'The end justifies the means.'"

THE mounting of the play, it is rumoured, will be on a most lavish scale; the garden of the Louvre, with its white marble terraces and background of green poplars, in addition to being an exact replica of the historic scene, will be a triumph of scenic art. Mr. Hilton, who is a Trinity College (Cambridge) man, has had considerable experience in the provinces, where he has made an enviable reputation for himself. His recent success as Richelieu at the Coronet is still fresh in our memories.

DURING his season Mr. Hilton proposes to introduce a number of novelties, the first being a little wordless play, written by Miss Aimée Lowther, with wonderfully descriptive music by R. Burnham. The conception of the piece is at once fanciful and charming, and it serves to give Miss Mabilia Daniell, who plays the Pierrot, opportunity to exhibit her well-known skill as a "mime." The wordless play will precede *Richelieu*, for which special scenery and handsome costumes have been provided.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH presented a very pretty little *Blue Bird* hand-painted fan to each lady of the audience at the 125th performance of Rudolf Besier's brilliant comedy *Don* at the Kingsway Theatre on Tuesday. Some charming postcards have been specially designed by Cayley Robinson for the *Blue Bird*, and are on sale at the theatre. They are very tasteful and attractive.

THE People's Free Theatre Company has been formed with the object of providing free performances of classical drama for the benefit of the working classes. Under the direction of Mrs. Gwendolen Bishop the company furnished on Saturday evening last at Toynbee Hall in Whitechapel a free performance of Euripides' *Electra* in the English translation by Dr. Gilbert Murray. The revival, which was strictly classical in style and costume, was witnessed by a crowded and enthusiastic audience. It is intended to provide performances for other poor quarters of London.

"TANTALIZING TOMMY" is the name selected for Paul Gavault and Michael Morton's new four-act comedy in which Mr. Cyril Maude will reappear at the Playhouse on Tuesday, Feb. 15. Mr. Maude will again have the assistance of Miss Marie Löhr, who will enact the title-part, Mr. Kenneth Douglas will have an important rôle, and interesting additions to the Playhouse company will be Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. John Beauchamp, Mr. H. R. Averell, Mr. John Harwood, Mr. M. Wetherell, Mr. A. G. Onslow, Mr. C. B. Keston, Miss Sybil Ruskin, and Miss Maidie Hope. The scenes will include a cottage in the New Forest and a room in the Colonial Office.

A SOLEMN warning to theatrical speculators in America was uttered by Mr. Hayman, a prominent manager, at a dinner of the Associated Theatrical Managers of Greater New York. That city, he pointed out, with a population of 4,500,000, is asked to support more than 300 performances of grand opera in a season of twenty weeks, thirty-nine first-class theatres, and forty-eight theatres devoted to vaudeville, burlesque, and popular-priced attractions, besides more than 500 theatres and halls licensed for moving pictures. These are more theatres and places of amusement than are possessed by London, Paris, and Berlin combined. Managers and capitalists, added Mr. Hayman, were going theatre mad. A halt must be called, or a colossal amount of money would be lost.

THE second annual pantomime supper given by Mr. Charles Barnard, the proprietor of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, took place on Tuesday. Supper was served on the stage at twelve midnight to a large gathering, nearly 150 being present, the host himself occupying the chair. Mr. Norman Thew gave the toast of "Messrs. Stephens and Buchanan" (who are responsible for the present successful production of *Cinderella*), and regretted the inability of these gentlemen to be present. In acknowledgment Mr. J. W. Bayliss, their representative, thanked Mr. Barnard for the cordial way in which he and the whole company has been received at the theatre.

THE toast of "The Elephant and Castle Theatre and Mr. Charles Barnard" was proposed by Mr. Moss Chapman, who spoke of the many improvements which Mr. Barnard had made for the comfort of his patrons during his first two years there. Replying, Mr. Charles Barnard said he had done his best, as he would always continue to do, for his friends the audience, and they in their turn had shown their appreciation of his efforts by supporting him. He wished to add, however, that his present success at this house could not have been attained but for the good fortune he had experienced in always having a hard-working and loyal staff around him.

THE health of the ladies was proposed by Mr. A. Bird, and responded to in humorous speeches by Miss Mary Ambrose (who plays Prince Casimir in the present production) and Miss Lilian Errol (Cinderella). During the evening Messrs. Dan and Sydney Barnard spoke in very high terms of the staff. Dancing took place after supper, and was continued until the early hours of Wednesday morning. Messrs. J. H. Bayliss, Will Cutler, and Will Cartwright are to be congratulated upon having arranged and carried through a most enjoyable function.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY concludes the fourth week of what is proving to be a very successful tour at the Grand Theatre, Derby, to-night. A feature of the current week has been the huge attendance of Midland Railway workmen, who have given Mr. Harvey and Miss de Silva remarkably enthusiastic greetings. On Monday the Harvey company appear at the Opera House, Southport, which, under Mr. Percy Hutchison's vigorous management, is rapidly becoming one of the most successful houses in the provinces. To-day week Mr. Harvey, in response to many requests, will revive *The Corsican Brothers*.

"RICHARD III." is due at Dublin on April 13, and is expected to prove one of the most interesting performances Mr. Harvey has ever essayed. Months of preparation have been devoted to the production, and Mr. Harvey has had the advantage of consulting some authoritative works, very rarely available, from which he has been able to cull much illuminating material. In Dublin the production is regarded as an event of prime importance.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, it is satisfactory to learn, has so far recovered from his recent operation to warrant his removal next week from the West-End nursing home to his residence in the Finchley-road. Very soon Mr. Hutchison expects to complete all arrangements for the tours of the great London successes, *Don* and *Smith*, both plays being practically cast and the tours booked for spring and autumn.

MR. W. W. KELLY, at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal this week, introduced his audience to *When Knights Were Bold*, which amusing piece had not hitherto been played in the town. Mr. Langdon Bruce gave a capital performance of Mr. Welch's successful rôle; and Miss Ernestine Lascelles also distinguished herself. On Monday *Lucky Durham* will be presented by the Armitage-Leigh combination. At Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, this week, Mr. Frank Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford have drawn crowded houses in *Home, Sweet Home*, and on Monday Mr. R. C. Buchanan takes his successful pantomime *Aladdin* to the Paradise-street theatre, with Miss Mabel Hind in the title-rôle.

THE Grand Opera season to be run by Mr. Thomas Beecham, commences on Feb. 19 at Covent Garden with Richard Strauss's tragic opera *Elektra*. The principals, who have already sung in the opera, include Mme. Edyth Walker, Mme. Frances Rose, Frau von Mildenburg and Herr Weidemann. The orchestra of one hundred performers and the chorus of eighty will be British artists, the special scenery has been designed and painted "at home," and the costumes will also be British made.

THE annual Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-upon-Avon will, for the twenty-second time, be under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson. This year's programme, which will extend to nearly four weeks, bids fair to surpass in interest any yet presented to the pilgrims to the birthplace. A list of the eminent artists who will grace the Festival proceedings was given in our last issue. Sir Herbert Tree will open the celebration on Friday, April 22, with a performance of *Hamlet*, given in curtains.

THE carrying through of the festival will entail much work upon the Benson company, as the programme will include sixteen plays of Shakespeare, Beaumont and Fletcher's *Knight of the Burning Pestle*, and the Prize Play, the latter being the winning play out of the 315 sent in for the recent competition for a prize of £300.

THE Ben Greet Players have been appearing at the Garden Theatre, New York, in *The Little Town of Bethlehem*, an allegorical play, by Katrina Trask, which deals with the story of the Nativity and several important episodes of the same period, bringing out the racial peculiarities and jealousies of the Jews, Greeks, and Romans. Through the play runs the love story of Faustina, a proud maiden of the Roman aristocracy, and Cariston, a Greek poet. Her scornful treatment of Joseph and the Virgin is punished by leprosy, and she becomes a wandering outcast for thirty years. Then she hears of the Healer of Nazareth, and, being cured of her disease, is restored to her lover. Mr. Ben Greet as Cariston and Miss Keith Wakeman as Faustina give excellent representations, and are supported by a capable company. The performance is decidedly interesting.

A PLEASING ceremony took place at the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, last week, when Mr. Claude Seaton, who has for the past few years acted as stage-manager, was presented by Mr. David Collins, the resident-manager, and staff with a timepiece and smoking cabinet. Mr. Collins handed over the presents, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the abilities of Mr. Seaton. The recipient feelingly responded, and stated that the gifts would be highly prized for the remainder of his life, and would bring back happy recollections of his stay at Spennymoor.

NOTWITHSTANDING the heavy fall of snow in Southport last week—the heaviest that has been known for years in the town—the populace, as also the outlying districts, turned out in their hundreds to be at the last representation on the Saturday night of *The Arcadians*. Seldom, if ever, except for the visit of *The Merry Widow*, has such a house been seen, and the enthusiasm over Mr. Robert Courtneidge's magnificent production was unbounded.

AT Trinity College of Music, London, the Maybrick prize for ballad singing (£5 5s.) has been awarded to Eveline Matthews. The following scholarships and free tuition have been awarded for one year, with possible renewal:—Organ: Herbert Dawson. Pianoforte: Edgar S. Mitchell, Briana Prager, Ruth A. Strickland. Free tuition: Jenny S. Russell. Violin: Olga Corrigan, Hazel B. Giles, Constance E. Martin. Singing: Eric R. Cooper, Mabel E. Hardy, Eva K. Sly, Robert A. Strong. Free Tuition: Stanley J. Evans, Leonard van Mentz. Violoncello (free tuition): Kathleen Thompson. Flute (free tuition): Harry Gardner.

MR. H. LOUIS WILSON has been engaged by Mr. F. W. Bolam as business-manager for the Drury Lane drama *The Marriages of Mayfair*.

OWING to the indisposition of Mr. Frank Ridley the part of Colonel Dacre in *The House of Temperley* at the Adelphi Theatre is at present being played by Mr. Archibald Forbes.

A NEW extravaganza, entitled *Robin Hood*, written by Medicus, with music by Mr. C. T. Davis, Mus. Bac., was produced by an amateur society at the Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, on Saturday. The plot proved to be original, and the various parts were generally well performed. Miss Dorothy Britain, in the rôle of Maid Marion, was charming, and displayed decided talent. Mr. Horace Sequeira as Widow Winsome was cleverly amusing, and worthy of praise were Miss I. Sequeira, Miss V. Chapman, Miss H. Harris, Miss H. Burton, Mr. H. C. Chapman, Mr. B. Potter, Mr. S. Sequeira, and Mr. J. L. Fryers. A lullaby sung by Miss Brenda Williams was enthusiastically encored. Great credit must be given to Mr. E. Green, under whose direction the performance was given.

MR. TOM CRAVEN has decided to alter the title of his new farcical comedy. Instead of *It isn't Cricket* it will come to the footlights under the title of *The Family Ghost*, "a piece of fooling in three acts." Mr. Craven is arranging to produce this, his latest effort, early in May. It may not be amiss to add that a play under that title was produced at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, in March, 1881.

"THE WAY THE MONEY GOES," a play, in three acts, by Lady Bell, will be the chief production of the Stage Society at their performance at the Shaftesbury on Sunday, Feb. 13, and the following afternoon. The cast will comprise Miss Agnes Hill, Miss Helen Hayo, Miss May Congdon, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Miss Mabel Adair, Miss Estelle Stead, Miss L. M. Revell, Miss Eily Malyon, Mr. Alfred Harding, Mr. H. Nye Chart, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Miss Evelyn Kirkby, Mr. Guy Heilbrough, Mr. Ernest Cosham, Miss May Kendal, Miss Helen Boucher, Mr. Roland Hope, Mr. Holliday Attlay, and Mr. William H. Brown. The new play, as we have stated, deals with the industrial classes in a large manufacturing town.

PRECEDING the principal piece will be *A Lioness and Her Whelp*, by Fred D. Barker, in which Mr. Rudge Harding, Miss Esmé Hubbard, Miss Florence Lloyd, Miss Evelyn Marthèze, and Mr. Roland Hope will appear. Little notion of the nature of the play can be gleaned from the scene in which it is laid, namely, at MRS. Smith's, in London, Sunday evening.

THE annual supper and dance held in connection with the pantomime at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, took place on Monday at the Constitutional Hall, Hammersmith-road. There was a large assembly, and amongst those present were Messrs. Stratton Mills, Charles Goff, A. J. Nicholls, George Fisher, William Rokeby, Horace Middleton, Norman Walters, A. Bradshaw, and Percy Selby, Mesdames Olivia Eltona, Ray Wallace, Minnie Blanchard, and the Tiller Troupe. Her recent severe indisposition was the cause of Miss Edna Morgan's absence.

ABOUT a hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to a very excellent supper, and after the usual toasts had been moved and carried with acclamation the hall was cleared for dancing, which was kept up until a very late hour. The arrangements were excellently carried out under the energetic supervision of Mr. Norman Walters, the popular manager of the King's, and Mr. A. Bradshaw, his able assistant.

A CURIOUS incident occurred in the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on the evening of the 28th ult., while *Aladdin* was being performed before a large audience. The pantomime proceeded with the usual smoothness until Mr. Harry Tate had contributed his very amusing motor-car turn, when the fireproof curtain descended, and the orchestra played the National Anthem. As there was still a scene to go, there was much speculation among the audience as to the cause of the unusual occurrence. Some concluded that fire had broken out, and quite a number lost no time in getting into the street.

THE explanation of the incident is a simple one. The fire curtain, it appears, is worked by power supplied from the hydraulic station in High-street, and an accident had occurred at the station which caused a diminished pressure at the theatre, with the result that the curtain dropped slowly until it rested on the floor. As the curtain weighs some eight tons, it was absolutely impossible to raise it again, and thus the performance came to an end.

MRS. STAFFORD SMITH, who will be well remembered by playgoers of forty years ago as Miss Mary Parker, a young and very popular actress, passed away at Merton on Thursday, the 27th ult., after two years' suffering. The deceased lady commenced her career with the late Mr. Harris at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, and thence went to Mr. E. D. Davis, at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. When only seventeen years of age she played all the leading parts in a six months' stock season at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, under the late J. F. Young's management.

IT was while acting as leading lady during stock seasons at the New Prince of Wales's Theatre, Rochdale, that Miss Parker was married to Mr. Stafford Smith. On that eventful occasion nearly half the mills of the town closed down, and at the church there were hundreds of the mill girls, who almost worshipped her. She leaves her husband, two daughters—Mrs. Ernest Shand and Miss Mary Stafford Smith—and three sons to mourn her sad loss.

MESSRS. ERNEST STEVENS AND R. C. BUCHANAN'S Elephant Theatre pantomime *Cinderella* is still playing to big business, but must be withdrawn on Saturday next to make way for the commencement of the dramatic season, the arrangements for which were made long since.

"CINDERELLA" at the Crystal Palace Theatre has been meeting with such success that it could very well run for several weeks more, but the management are compelled to withdraw the admirable production in order to make way for the opening of the spring season on Monday next. The attraction will be the great Lyceum drama *Pete*, which will pay its first visit to the Sydenham theatre. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and includes Mr. Austin Milroy as Pete and Miss Violet Barnet as Kate.

"THE LIVING DEAD," a play in four acts, by Lee Wilson Dodd, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre, on Feb. 1.

HAVING recovered from their indisposition Mr. C. V. France (Time), Mr. Rigby (Bread), and Miss Ina Pelly (Water), resumed their parts in *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket on Monday evening.

A FOUR-ACT play, entitled *Pinnacles of the Future*, by Daisy Halling, will be produced at the Pankhurst Hall, Hightown, Manchester, on Feb. 11, by the Pankhurst Hall Amateur Dramatic Society. The authoress will play one of the principal characters, and will thus make her first appearance at the footlights since she retired from the theatrical profession two years ago.

MR. PERCY WOODROFFE, the conductor of the orchestra at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, has composed a new dance, which is being executed in the pantomime by Benn's Dutch Girls and is meeting with much success.

MR. CHARLES LAKE, poducer and stage-manager of the successful pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, was overwhelmed with presents on his leaving on Saturday night last to take up his appointment as general manager of the Lyceum *Pete* (South) company, which is now appearing at the Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich. Among the most costly gifts received by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lake were a purse of gold from the principal ladies and gentlemen of the pantomime, silk hat and case from Mr. Alty (manager of the Theatre Royal) and Mr. Jacobs, a travelling rug with worked initials from the local ladies and children, and a pedestal work-basket, set of hair-brushes, and silver manicure set from the Sisters Albert, Miss Clarence, the local staff, and others.

MESSRS. DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, terminated its five weeks' run at Hanley on Saturday last, after one of the most successful seasons ever known there. On Monday it was reproduced at Mr. Morton's Theatre, Hull, where it was received with great enthusiasm, and its run of three weeks is assured of crowded houses.

THE announcement of the death of Mr. Charles E. Lambert will come as a sad surprise to many members of the theatrical profession. Mr. Lambert and his wife, Miss Louie Walton, belonged to Mr. Morton Powell's *A Girl's Temptation* company, and both were to appear this week at the Liverpool Rotunda Theatre, but last week Mr. Lambert was seized with pneumonia and bronchitis while playing at Mountain Ash, and was laid aside for only five days, when the end came on Wednesday, his loving wife relinquishing her Liverpool engagement to nurse him.

MR. LAMBERT had had a long experience on the stage. About twenty years ago he and his wife were members of the old stock company at the Liverpool Adelphi, in the days when as many as six different pieces were put on each week. When that place closed they joined touring companies, and had several very long runs, Mr. Lambert having alone appeared in *Her One Great Sin* some 1,600 times, Miss Walton being also a member of the company for the same period. Personally, both were held in the highest esteem, and general sympathy will be felt for the widow and two daughters (Nellie and Maudie). The latter are also worthy and accomplished members of the profession in which their parents have spent so many years. Mr. Lambert will be buried at Mountain Ash to-morrow (Sunday) at two o'clock.

OWING to a sudden indisposition, Mr. Freddie French, who plays the part of Hercules, Baron de Debtington, in the Elephant pantomime of *Cinderella*, was unable to appear on Monday last. His part was undertaken at short notice by Mr. Will Cutler, who came through most successfully in both matinée and evening performances on that day.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND" brought its successful season at the Court Theatre to a finish on Saturday night amidst unbounded enthusiasm and every indication that the run might well have been extended for many weeks. All the principal artists were "called" again and again, little Ivy Sawyer coming in for a perfect ovation and receiving floral and other tributes from countless admirers. The proprietors and producer were heartily called for on Saturday night and cheered to the echo by a packed house. Messrs. Stedmans are in negotiation for another West-End theatre to reproduce the charming play on a still more extended scale at Easter.

THE Victoria Theatre, Broughton, has re-opened this week, and there is every indication of a new life of success being attained. It has been leased by Mr. James Cramer, a Manchester gentleman, who has retained as manager Mr. J. Fred Watson, who occupied a similar post during the last few years. It is fully licensed, and the intention is to have the best dramas presented, *Leah Kleschna* being announced for next week.

THE football team connected with Mr. George Dance's *Our Miss Gibbs* company, which is appearing at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Grimsby, played a match with an eleven from H.M.S. Skipjack (stationed at Grimsby) on Tuesday. The *Miss Gibbs'* representative won by four to one.

MR. CHARLES A. W. BROWN, late of *The Devil* company, has been engaged by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter to play William and the Mayor in their *Pete* company (North), opening at the Dalston Theatre on Monday.

MISS CONSTANCE BACHNER has been engaged to play the leading part of Kate in Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's spring tour of *Pete* from the Lyceum Theatre.

THE new musical comedy company which Messrs. Denton, Bode, and McKenzie are working in conjunction with Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Meynell, have sailed on the Orsova, to open in Melbourne on Easter Monday with *The Arcadians*. They have a repertory of six London successes. These firms will also, in conjunction, do a big pantomime at Christmas.

MISS KITTY DALE, now appearing at the Stoke Newington Theatre, has been engaged by Mr. Milton Bode for a principal singing part in musical comedy in the autumn, and also by Mr. Bode as principal boy at Christmas.

MISS MAUD ESMOND, the favourite Dick Whittington and Crusoe of the Brixton Theatre, has been engaged to play principal boy at this theatre in a special production of *Red Riding Hood* on the 14th inst.

OWING to the indisposition of Miss Violet Ellicott, Miss Winnie Tempest played the part of Josephine in *A Royal Divorce*, at the Opera House, St. Helens, on Monday last, and scored a success.

MR. NEWMAN MAURICE will take his benefit at the Brixton Theatre on Tuesday evening, when many of the stars in London will crowd round him to make the night a record.

MR. FRED MELVILLE'S successful pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, will be played for the last time on Saturday, Feb. 12. On the following Monday Mr. Melville proposes to produce *Little Red Riding Hood*, with Miss Maud Esmond as principal boy and Miss Dorothy Miller as principal girl. The remainder of the characters will be undertaken by the present popular company.

MR. HUGH FLEMING, who completes to-night an eight weeks' engagement as manager for Mr. Fred Fredericks' *Babes in the Wood* pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre, has been engaged as press representative by Mr. Robert Hilton for his season at the Strand Theatre.

MISS WARD, who has been seriously indisposed, has, we are glad to learn, quite recovered, and is resuming her old part of Rose Avondale in *His Real Wife*.

WE regret to announce the death of Miss Bella Richardson, who was found dead in bed at Edinburgh on the 26th ult. Miss Richardson played the child in *Green Bushes* and other small parts with Madame Celeste, and later, with Mr. Branson, at the Adelphi, Liverpool, enacted Zoe in *The Octoroon* and Topsy in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. At the Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, she played with W. Anson and Joseph Eldred in Shakespeare and in adaptations from Dickens, and was for years a member of the stock company at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool, under Mr. de Frece's management. She also acted with Messrs. Osmond and Edmund Tearle, with Mr. Edward Terry in Liverpool, and at the Strand under the Swanborough management. The funeral took place on the 29th ult. at the Eastern-road Cemetery, Edinburgh. Among those present were Messrs. Frederick and Ernest Richardson, brothers of the deceased; Mr. Whitehead, manager of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh; Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Mr. Hall, Miss Kitty Douglas (Mrs. Roy Jackson), and Miss Hilda Hatton.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S pantomime *The Forty Thieves* concluded its run on Saturday last at the Fulham Theatre amid scenes of great enthusiasm. The pretty theatre was packed with an audience most of whom had evidently seen the pantomime several times. Miss Hettie Gale (Sisters Bartholomew), Miss Lillah Lassah, Miss Grace Hampton, and Miss Rosa Male had an ovation and the stage in the Palace scene resembled a miniature Covent Garden, while pictures, boxes of chocolate, etc., were presented by admirers.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY MCCLELLAND desire, through our columns, to thank Mr. Waldon, the ladies and gentlemen of the Princess's, Glasgow, pantomime company, and numerous other private friends for the beautiful wreaths, &c., and expressions of sympathy in their recent bereavement.

MISS PHYLLIS RELPH, who is supporting Mr. Derwent Hall Caine in the famous "Betrayal" scene from his father's play, *The Eternal City*, which has been played with considerable success on the Gibbons' Circuit, will be going to the Lyceum presently to play the part of the heroine, Jane Fielding, in the new four-act piece, by E. W. Ferris and B. P. Matthews. The young actress, who comes from a well-known theatrical family—her mother being on the stage—had prepared herself by hard work in the provinces and suburbs, and her experience should stand her in good stead at the house in Wellington-street.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company with *Brewster's Millions* is drawing all Darlington this week, despite the inclement weather in the North. The advance booking for Sunderland promises to be enormous, the entire production opening at the King's Theatre next Monday.

AT the fall of the curtain on Saturday evening last at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, on the termination of Mr. F. Mouillot's successful pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, the principal ladies, Miss Hilda Vining, Miss Daisy May, and Miss Mary Pittcarn, presented the stage-director, Mr. J. R. La Fane, with a solid silver engraved card case. The comedians, Mr. E. Sefton and Mr. Mat Powell, gave him a silver-mounted umbrella, and the Viviand Co. presented him with a travelling thermal flask.

MISS TITTELL-BRUNE, the Australian actress who has recently arrived among us, is handsomely garbed as the faithless Lady Carew in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at the Queen's. One superb dress is a study in black and gold, represented by satin, and long borderings of jet fringe and Indian gold embroidery of a very intricate and effective appearance. A further novelty is a wedge-shaped incision at the side of the skirt above the hem, which discloses the gold shoes worn. Another gown that makes a great sensation introduces the vivid yet dark serpent green colouring that is a striking novelty of the moment, against a black background.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN will this month complete thirteen consecutive years of management. During that time Mr. Norman has run one of the few remaining répertoire companies (in the strict sense of the word), and has produced every type of play from Shakespeare to modern farce. A great number of well-known people have played with Mr. Norman at one time or the other. At present there are over twenty ladies and gentlemen playing in the West-End theatres who have formerly been members of Mr. Norman's company. A great deal of the success of Mr. Norman's productions has been owing to the admirable performances given by his charming leading lady, Miss Beatrice Wilson. During his management Mr. Norman has only had three leading ladies, including Miss Audrey Ford, the wife of Mr. James Welch.

MR. ARTHUR SCOTT CRAVEN, who has so well adapted Auguste Strindberg's play *Simoom* as *The Sirocco* for Lady Tree, is by way of preparing for British delectation other small plays by the Swedish poet and dramatist, whose play, *The Stronger Woman*, was produced in December at His Majesty's Theatre.

"THE FIGHTING CHANCE," a thrilling drama by E. W. Ferris and E. P. Matthews, which is to follow the pantomime at the Lyceum, will bring back to the "popular playhouse" many of its favourite actors. Mr. Matheson Lang is winning fame in America, and a new leading man will replace him in the person of Mr. Robert Minster, a fine actor, who has had wide experience. He has recently been distinguishing himself with Mr. Percy Hutchison's productions on tour, and played Charlie Harrison in that gentleman's revival of *Brewster's Millions* at Wyndham's last year. Mr. Frederick Ross returns to the Lyceum company, and is cast for the part of the hero's uncle, who has his eyes put out by hot irons; and Mr. Eric Mayne will resume the rôle of the villain.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS, who is appearing with such great success in *Aladdin* at the Lyceum Theatre, has been re-engaged by the same management for their next pantomime.

AN "ocean theatre" will be inaugurated by Mr. Charles Frohman when the Mauretania sails for England from New York next week. He intends to present Mr. Edward Lock's three-act play *The Climax*, which is to be seen in London towards the end of this month, and will stage it as effectively at sea as in New York. There will be a fixed charge for seats, and the proceeds will go to the Seamen's Fund.

NEGOTIATIONS are in progress for the erection of a new concert hall near Regent's Park, not far from Queen's Hall and the new St. James's Hall. The new building will have a seating capacity of 3,000, and its shape and general plan will be after the style of the old St. James's Hall.

MR. JOHN MCCORMACK, the Irish tenor, was entertained at a banquet in Philadelphia on Wednesday evening, when 500 admirers presented him with a golden loving-cup, beautifully engraved. Mr. John Murphy, Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, in making the presentation, said:—"Ireland is a land of song. Nearly everything in its history has been sung, and the power of the ancient bards was next to that of Kings. Irish singers make their appeal to the heart, and as long as the heart can be appealed to the world will stand in loving admiration of Tom Moore and John McCormack."

THE Playgoers' Club is this afternoon inviting 4,500 of the poorest children of the Metropolis to witness the pantomimes at the Britannia and the Elephant and Castle Theatres. Thanks to the generosity of their members and the public, the Club has had the pleasure of taking 120,000 children to such a performance, giving them a substantial meal in addition.

ONLY limited success has attended the competition for the prize offered by the Incorporated Guild of Church Musicians in London. Speaking at the Guild's twenty-second annual dinner on Monday, Dr. J. H. Lewis, the honorary warden, said that upwards of sixty compositions had been sent in for the prize, but there were only two awards, some of the compositions being simply dreadful.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Acting Unimproved.

"I scarcely think that the standard of acting can be said to have improved," says Mr. George Alexander, in *The Standard*. "The modern spirit is, of course, responsible for a studied reticence in declamation and gesture; but it is also responsible for a sad deterioration in the art of speech, of enunciation and articulation. Every school has the defects of its qualities, and it is only when the seasoned man—the old actor—catches what is good in the methods of the modern histrion that we come near to the ideal. And nothing, I may add, is more gratifying to me than the alert adaptability of our veterans to the best methods of the hour. Their reverence for tradition has not blinded them to the virtues, even to the fashions of to-day, and the 'old guard' of the theatre are found in the procession smartly stepping with the recruits."

Excellence is Safe.

"EVERY sort of play now is 'safe' if it be excellent of its kind. The serious drama need not be morbid, and realism is not synonymous with pruriency. A play may be born out of its time—and *Guy Domville*, I may, I think, cite as an example of this. It would be interesting, perhaps, to put one's theory to a test, and I may yet revive Mr. Henry James's clever play.

Still Learning.

"ONE thing, however, I can tell you," said Mr. Alexander to a *Mail* man, "with all my experience I feel as much a babe as ever in the conduct of his strange business of the theatre. From talks that I have had with men engaged in business, professions, and the arts, I cannot find evidence of such a glorious uncertainty as curtains this business of the theatre. To be successful in it one has sometimes to neglect its conventions, like Gainsborough, who, when he was told he could not use blue in a certain way immediately set about painting his 'Blue Boy.'

The Fascination of the Footlights.

"I HAVE great faith in the future of the English theatre. Plays are not harder to find than they were twenty years ago, and the proportion of playgoers to the population has greatly increased. Notwithstanding the counter-attractions of the music-halls, there are more people attending the theatres to-day than ever before. For myself the fascination of the theatre is greater than ever. It must be always so for one who got there because he loved it. I know of many actors who cannot get work on the stage. We all do, yet speak to one of them, say to him 'Why not try something else?' and the answer comes back—'No, I cannot.' That is the fascination of our calling."

His Lucky Month.

"I PRODUCED *Lady Windermere's Fan* eighteen years ago—to be exact, in 1892, on Feb. 20. February, I think I may say, has been my lucky month, for it was in February that I began as an actor-manager with *Dr. Bill*, in February that I produced *The Idler*, in February that Oscar Wilde's second success, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, was presented here, in February that Alfred Sutro's *Mollentrave on Women* started upon a profitable career, in February that I had the pleasure of producing Sir Arthur Pinero's *His House in Order*, and it was on Feb. 2 that I have celebrated the twentieth anniversary of my reign at the St. James's.'

Mr. Courtneidge's Experience.

MR. ROBERT COURTNEIDGE, in an article in *London Opinion*, relates an early experience of his with a travelling company at Barnsley. "Here," says Mr. Courtneidge, "fortified solely by hope, we hired an old circular wooden theatre, out of which we were presently turned by the proprietor, a burly and truculent ex-prize-fighter. One might have supposed that with this desperate plight our misfortunes had reached their limit, but privations still more acute were in store. We then secured the public hall and opened up, but the rent swallowed every penny of our meagre takings, and at last things reached—for me at least—the breaking point. For three nights I wandered about or slept in the fields, and during that time tasted no food."

A Hungry Villain.

"THE irony of it. I, the wealthy villain of the piece, was so emaciated that a puff of wind might have blown me down. Upon the fourth night of my fast I crawled to the hall in such a state of exhaustion that I could not go on. So it was agreed that I should take the first money that came in. The scene remains with me vivid to this day: A pallid mummer, leaning his wasted frame against the wall, waiting for the first coin. It came—a threepenny piece, paid at the gallery entrance. I took it eagerly, and walking unsteadily to a neighbouring bun shop ate for five ecstatic minutes. Then, strengthened by new resolution—and old pastry—I returned and played the villain amid the execrations of a small but virtuous audience."

These be Bitter Words.

MR. WILLIAM GILLETTE, at the annual dinner of the Theatre Managers' Association in New York, made a satirical speech, in the course of which he said:—"I am very happy to get in here at last and meet you face to face. Of course, it's perfectly well known to everybody that theatre managers are scoundrels and I'm glad of this chance to tell them so to their faces. There is only one thing that I know of that has gone down lower than you have—the drama itself. I ought to know something about this, because for twenty-five years I have been helping to sink it. The drama has been rapidly and gracefully declining ever since it started seventeen or eighteen centuries B.C. You might imagine that after a while there wouldn't be any place left where it could sink to."

A Merry Monarch.

MLLE. DEMOUGEOT, of the Paris Opera House, and Mlle. Robinne, of the Comédie Française, who recently entertained the Kaiser at the French Embassy, are in raptures at his affability. "The Emperor is delightful," said Mlle. Demougeot to the *Daily Mail* correspondent. "He talked to me for at least ten minutes about art and music, and he asked if the acoustical properties of the Paris Opera are still as poor as when he was in Paris incognito as a young man in 1878. The Kaiser said he was sorry that contemporary composers could not write music like Bach and Gluck and Mozart." Mlle. Robinne's description of the Emperor is even more glowing than Mlle Demougeot's. "Why," she said, "he isn't a bit like the mailed Lohengrin he is always pictured to be. He is a born causeur, and how amiable he is and how heartily he can laugh! He assured us he had not been so amused for a long time."

Almost.

MADAME MAZARIN, the representative of the heroine of Richard Strauss' *Elektra*, at the Manhattan Opera House, told the Press that the theme of the opera was the most awful that any composer had ever undertaken to embody in opera, and at times during the rehearsal, she added, "I seemed to have been almost as insane as Elektra herself."

Running a Risk.

"THERE will be no regular intervals in Mr. Bernard Shaw's new play; 'it will be left to the audience to decide when the curtain shall fall.' This is risky," says the *Pall Mall*. "They might ask to have it down after the first five minutes and refuse to have it up again." The same paper remarks: "We hear of a French actress taking lessons in aviation. The experience thus gained should come in handy for flying matinées."

"THE O'FLYNN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Justin Huntly McCarthy. Produced at His Majesty's Theatre, on Tuesday, Feb. 1.

Conacher O'Rourke ..... MR. W. G. FAY
James II. ..... MR. C. H. CROKER-KING
Richard Talbot ..... MR. SYDNEY PAXTON
Philip Defford ..... MR. HENRY AINLEY
Lord Fawley ..... MR. FRANK ESMOND
Sir George Mayhew ..... MR. FREDERICK JAMES
Captain Scully ..... MR. HARRY C. HEWITT
Luitprand Van Dronk ..... MR. EDWARD SASS
Hendrigg ..... MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND
Lieut. Trusham ..... MR. SCOTT CRAVEN
The O'Flynn ..... SIR HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE
Coln ..... MR. J. W. BRAITHWAITE
Gosling ..... MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Bandy ..... MR. HENRY MORRELL
A Tailor ..... MR. WILSON GUNNING
Burden ..... MR. HUBERT CARTER
Conamur ..... MR. SHIEL BARRY
Winshaw ..... MR. JULES SHAW
Tulpin ..... MR. NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Beggles ..... MR. WILLIAM MACKINTOSH
Mrs. Oldmixon ..... MISS ELINOR FOSTER
Fancy Free ..... MISS AURIOL LEE
Frances Jennings Talbot ..MISS HELEN FERRERS
The Lady Benedetta Mountmichael ..... MISS EVELYN D'ALROY
Lady Belinda Fanshaw ..... MISS HILDA MOORE
Lady Barbara Jarmyn ..... MISS HEMINGWAY

Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy describes his work as a "tale of love and war," and "an original play derived from many sources." It is a free, dashing, breezy, active historical melodrama, with a decided tendency towards Jacobitism, and a leading part which Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree must enjoy playing, that of a dauntless poetical, romantic soldier of fortune. We find The O'Flynn in the first act in his ruined castle, where there is plenty of home-distilled whisky but nothing to eat. He has just returned from the Continent, where he has been serving as a soldier of fortune, and, on his way home, has rescued a beautiful heiress, Lady Benedetta Mountmichael, from the attack of a highwayman. She comes to thank him, and he makes love to her ardently and poetically. She is an earnest supporter of King James II.—the date of the play in 1690—and is betrothed to Phillip Defford, Earl of Sedgemouth. Benedetta believes Defford to be the soul of honour, and regards him as a paragon; but he is really a traitor, in the pay of King William. In order to help James and win Benedetta's favour, the O'Flynn goes to Dublin with a company of strolling players, getting their business man to advance to him the cash necessary for a new suit of clothes on the strength of a story about buried treasure at Castle O'Flynn.

In the second act, at a Dublin inn, the O'Flynn hears Sedgemouth speaking disrespectfully of the Lady Benedetta, and fights a duel with him, in which the Earl is slightly wounded. Lady Benedetta, not knowing the provocation given, bitterly reproaches the O'Flynn, who remains deeply in love with her, and raises a regiment to assist King James. In the third act, in the trenches before Knockmore Castle, which is held by William's general, Luitprand Van Dronk, the O'Flynn, in order to spare Benedetta's feelings, takes upon himself the discredit of an amour with a courtesan called Fancy Free, who is really the mistress of the Earl of Sedgemouth. O'Flynn also obtains admission into Knockmore Castle by pretending to be a deserter, is invited by Van Dronk to sit down to a drinking-bout, drugs the General's wine, and putting on his wig, impersonates him when Sedgemouth arrives on a mission of treachery to King James. After obtaining written evidence of the Earl's duplicity, the O'Flynn pulls up a rope ladder to the window by a string, and admits his soldiers, who seize the castle by a *coup de main*, and arrest the garrison.

In the last act The O'Flynn is in high favour at James's Court at Dublin Castle, and Sedgemouth is conspiring to force James to sign his abdication, and to kidnap him afterwards. This scheme is frustrated by The O'Flynn, who substitutes himself for the King, the conspirators being worsted, and Sedgemouth being disgraced and shot dead by a soldier as he rushes to assassinate the O'Flynn. The Lady Benedetta, correctly informed of the villainy of her unworthy *fiancé*, and of the chivalrous devotion of his rival, confesses that she has always loved the O'Flynn, and is taken by him to his heart.

Sir Herbert Tree as the O'Flynn was the central figure of the variegated stage picture, and he played the part in a style quite in sympathy with its character. His performance was, from beginning to end, a delightful piece of fantastic romance. Making love in verse, fighting a duel and getting drunk at the same time, deluding a Dutchman or dancing an Irish jig in turn, Sir Herbert was always animated, sentimental, picturesque, and vivacious. It was not a part which called for deep study, and Sir Herbert took it as it was written, and treated it in exhilarating style. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy's Lady Benedetta was bewitching in its silvery distinctness and delicate daintiness, in its firm, clear, refined treatment, and in the genuine sincerity and sweetness of its tone. She was exquisitely refined, and yet entirely human and feminine. Mr. Henry Ainley as the Earl of Sedgemouth looked exactly the polished, sly, serene schemer, and, endowed his reading with all the airs and graces of the period. The polished sarcasm of Mr. Ainley's tone was in vivid contrast with the rugged earnestness and eager intensity of Mr. William Haviland's Hendrigg, a strong, resolute, and intense impersonation. Mr. Edward Sass supplied a firm, unctuous, and sturdily individual representation of Luitprand Van Dronk; and Mr. Scott Craven gave a bold, soldierly rendering of the rôle of Lieut. Trusham. Mr. Sydney Paxton's Duke of Tyrconnel was a highly-coloured portrait of a bibulous nobleman of the period; and Mr. Hubert Carter gave an amusing and elaborate representation of the travelling manager, Burden. Very fortunately was Miss Auriol Lee cast for the rôle of Fancy Free. Her features and figure suited the part exactly, and she played it with all imaginable impudence and coquetry. Mr. Shiel Barry gave a smooth and highly finished rendering of the rôle of Conamur; Miss Elinor Foster was amusing as an affected tragedy actress; and the other strollers had clever and competent representatives in Mr. Jules Shaw, Mr. Nigel Playfair, and Mr. William Mackintosh, who had a special round of applause on his first appearance as the business-manager, Beggles. Miss Helen Ferrers was a very aristocratic and imposing Duchess of Tyrconnell; and Lady Belinda Fanshaw and Lady Barbara Jarmyn were charmingly depicted by Miss Hilda Moore and Miss Hemingway. A neat bit of portraiture was supplied by Mr. C. H. Croker-King as James II.; and the Stuart King's aristocratic supporters were well embodied by Mr. Frank Esmond, Mr. Frederick James, and Mr. Harry C. Hewitt; Mr. J. W. Braithwaite and Mr. Edmund Gurney being picturesque'y droll as two process-servers, and Mr. W. G. Fay comical as a shabby Irish servant of royal descent. Mr. Henry Morell did useful work as Bandy; and Mr. Wilson Gunning was commendable as a tailor. The scenery, an important part of the production, was admirably prepared by Messrs. Joseph Harker, Walter Hann, and H. W. Owen, Mr. Harker having the largest share of the work, his view of Knockmore Castle being a masterpiece. *The O'Flynn* had an enthusiastic reception, and will delight all who can enjoy a drama of adventure, sentiment, poetry, and inexhaustible incident, acted with exuberant animation, and mounted with appropriate picturesqueness.

"THE STRONG PEOPLE."

Original Play, in Four Acts, by C. M. S. McLellan. Produced at the Lyric Theatre on Monday, Jan. 31.

Richard Murray ..... MR. LEWIS WALLER
Colonel John Pontifex ..... MR. LYN HARDING
Jack Borinski ..... MR. GUY STANDING
Conrad Borinski ..... MR. A. E. GEORGE
Lieutenant Trench ..... MR. S. J. WARMINGTON
Lieutenant Goodrich ..MR. W. CRONIN WILSON
Judith Grant ..... MISS DOROTHY DIX
Meda Borinski ..... MISS MARJORIE DAY

The weak point of *The Strong People* is its ethics; the effective value of it is in the vivid humanity of its personages and the earnestness of purpose and energy with which they have been endowed by the author. The condition of things at the commencement is that an American manufacturing company, competing with a rival in the city of Minetown, has ruined its opponents utterly. Their works are closed, the men are thrown out of work, and they are not employed at the new factory which has been built by the conquerors. But a similar state of things might have been created by a fire or by a new invention. The plight of the workmen thus disengaged is a painful one, but it does not justify them in an attack on the successful factory, or, indeed, in any kind of violence. Mr. McLellan's sympathies, however, appear to be with the men of Minetown in their lawless action and against Richard Murray, one of the partners in the victorious company; and, perhaps, from a popular playwright's point of view, the author of *The Strong People* is wise. There is now so much indignation felt on both sides of the Atlantic with trusts and syndicates that is is safe to attack them in play or book. To the impartial eye, however, it appears that Murray has merely been fighting the business battle on business lines, and that the men were decidedly wrong in rioting. This is the opinion of Colonel Pontifex, of the United States Army, who is sent to Minetown to quell the disturbance. The leader of the workmen is Jack Borinski, who is eager for a fight, and is quite willing to take the consequences. His father, Conrad Borinski, is an old shoemaker, cautious, shrewd, and moderate, and a prominent person on the side of the people is Judith Grant, formerly secretary to the defeated manufacturer, who has committed suicide in despair. In order to induce her to cease her inflammatory harangues, Pontifex invites her to his headquarters, where she meets Murray, who has come, under the name of Brandon, to see what is going on at Minetown. Presenting himself as a pressman, he gets the entrée everywhere; and Pontifex takes him into his confidence. The Colonel, who holds stock in the successful company, is quite ready to bring on an *émeute;* and, as Jack Borinski is equally eager for the fray, there is certain to be much bloodshed, unless time can be gained for the workmen's passions to evaporate. This time, however, Pontifex refuses to give; and, as a foretaste of the horror of civil war, shows Judith the corpse of her brother, who has just fallen in the street skirmish.

In the second act, Murray goes to Conrad's shop to try and get Jack Borinski to come to terms; but the popular leader is adamant, and sends back an insolent message to the commander of the troops. War to the knife is imminent; and, as the troops have machine-guns and the populace only rifles, there can be little doubt of the result of the struggle, which can only be prevented, Judith thinks, by the death of Pontifex. She goes to the Colonel's headquarters with a knife to kill him, but is prevented from doing so by Murray, who tells her he will deal with the difficulty himself. He does so by defying the Colonel, telling him that he (Murray) has arranged that, in the event of his death, the Colonel's connection with the successful company and his motives in forcing on a combat will be published in all the papers, which it appears will result in the ruin of Pontifex by the force of public opinion. The Colonel "caves in," and postpones his attack on the workmen; and the act ends with the realisation by Judith of the identity of the generous journalist with her *bête noire*, Richard Murray.

The last act is occupied with an argument between him an Judith for and against her marrying him. In the end she is overcome, and consents to be his wife on the understanding that they shall remain in Minetown and watch over the happiness of his workpeople.

The acting of the company was better than the philosophy of the play, which held the audience, on the whole, very firmly, despite the argumentative nature of much of the dialogue. Judith Grant is a difficult character to cast, and Mr. Lewis Waller must be congratulated upon having secured for it an actress so suitable in every way as Miss Dorothy Dix. Her dreamy, mysterious, resolute expression, her grave and serious beauty, and her exquisitely modulated voice were very valuable; and she played in certain scenes with fine passion and power. Mr. Lewis Waller as Richard Murray had a part quite in his line, and he acted throughout in the firm, intense, and powerful style we know so well, his pleading to Judith in the last act being a masterpiece of fervid energy. Mr. Lyn Harding as the massive and overbearing Colonel John Pontifex played the part to perfection, the touches of brutal coarseness being very effective. Mr. Guy Standing gave a subtle, yet strong, study of Jack Borinski, the mixture of bitter revolt and tender sentimentality being quite convincingly shown, and the style and accent being excellent. A remarkable character creation was contributed by Mr. A. E. George as the old shoemaker. It was a work of genuine art, quietly realistic, delightfully natural, and admirably finished. A charmingly fresh and sweet impersonation of Conrad's daughter Meda was given by Miss Marjorie Day; Mr. S. J. Warmington and Mr. W. Cronin Wilson supplied a couple of clever cameos as the Lieutenants; and Mr. McCleery's scenery was entirely adequate and effective. A word of praise is deserved by the orchestra at the Lyric. The selections made by the musical director, Mr. Leonard Chalk, are very acceptable, and are appreciatively applauded.

MR. A. CLIFTON ALDERSON'S company is this week presenting *The Coal King* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Mexborough. Mr. A. W. Norman plays with ability in the title-rôle; Walter Hartford is cleverly presented by Mr. Robert Faulkner; a manly and intelligent conception of Tom Roberts is given by Mr. Henry Deane; Mr. Frank Dalton dramatically interprets the part of Dick Shirley; and Mr. Sam Roberts displays a fund of humour as Jim Williams. Miss Winifred Love plays with grace and charm as the heroine, Grace Shirley; and Miss Dennis Duncan makes the most of Mad Ann.

"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."

Play in Four Acts, Founded by J. Comyns Carr, on the Story by Robert Louis Stevenson, Produced at the Queen's Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 29.

Dr. Jekyll / Mr. Hyde ..... MR. H. B. IRVING
Sir Danvers Carew ..... MR. CHARLES SUGDEN
Dr. Lanyon ..... MR. EILLE NORWOOD
Mr. Utterson ..... MR. HENRY VIBART
Mr. Enfield ..... MR. CHARLES ALLAN
James Wellaby ..... MR. H. MARSH ALLEN
Mr. Ransmead ..... MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Inspector Newcomen ..... MR. ALEX SCOTT-GATTY
Poole ..... MR. FRANK TYARS
Mr. Guest ..... MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Dick Faversham ..... MR. KING FORDHAM
Algée Bertram ..... MR. J. PATRIC CURWEN
Reginald Prout ..... MR. STUART MUSGROVE
Count Valesoff ..... MR. W. HEMSTOCK
Evans ..... MR. A. SYNGE
Monson ..... MR. W. GRAHAM
Laura Jekyll ..... MISS DOROTHEA BAIRD
Lady Hilda Holden ..... MISS CYNTHIA BROOKE
Mrs. Leppery ..... MRS. STANISLAUS CALHAEM
Walters ..... MISS MAY HOLLAND
Lady Carew ..... MISS TITTELL-BRUNE

In 1868, when Robert Louis Stevenson's story was thrilling all readers of fiction with its weird fascination, there were four versions made of it. Two were produced in London; one by Mr. Daniel Bandmann, at the Opera Comique, in the August of the year, and another by T. Russell Sullivan, in the same month, at the Lyceum, with Mr. Richard Mansfield, in the dual rôle. In this latter adaptation, there was a Sir Danvers Carew, but he was the prospective father-in-law of Dr. Jekyll, and was murdered by him in the character of Hyde. On this faint suggestion, and on the incidents of the novel, Mr. Comyns Carr has, with surpassing skill, based a very thrilling and enthralling play. He has used all that is dramatic in the Stevenson story, and has added to it a great deal of his own invention. We presume that the book is still firmly fixed in the memories of our readers, who will recognise the cleverness displayed by Mr. Carr in practically writing a new drama.

The supernatural atmosphere is cleverly created in the first act by a conversation at Dr. Jekyll's house, from which we understand that Jekyll, who is married to a young wife whom he has accidentally blinded in one of his experiments, has in the past engaged in an intrigue with Lady Carew, the wife of an elderly and dissipated diplomatist. Some letters from Jekyll to the lady have been stolen by a discharged butler who has begun to blackmail Lady Carew. In fear of exposure and ruin, she has tried to poison her husband; but the attempt has been discovered by Jekyll's friend, Dr. Lanyon, who has put Sir Danvers, vaguely, on his guard. Jekyll has already commenced the practice of dividing his nature into two persons, and occasionally inhabiting the body of the repulsive Hyde, and the worser nature is trying hard to gain the mastery over the higher, with the result that Jekyll resolves to "remove" both the men who imperil his reputation and that of Lady Carew.

The second act takes place in the drawing-room of her house, where there is a gathering of diplomatists and society people. With the key to the garden door, which he has often used in the course of his amour, Jekyll, in the form of Hyde, obtains admittance to the room after the guests have departed, and, after taunting Sir Danvers with his vicious habits, strangles him and stabs him till he dies.

And here, by a vastly ingenious invention, Mr. Carr makes the wanton who has fascinated Jekyll the means of his detection. Lady Carew caught a glimpse of the murderer as he fled, and recognised him as Hyde, and she sets the police on his track. And now—as in the book—the Hyde begins to overwhelm the Jekyll. In vain does the latter soul struggle against the tyranny, in vain does he send for fresh drugs with which to re-transform himself into Jekyll. In a touching scene, he induces his wife to hand him in, at the window of the room where he has fortified himself, a quick poison taken from his shelves. The police, led by Lady Carew, come hot on Hyde's track. They break open the door, and Hyde rushes out, takes the poison, falls dead, and again becomes the blameless Jekyll, his wife fondly kissing the forehead of the corpse.

The play is one which keeps an audience at the tensest pitch of horrified expectation, and leaves those who have witnessed it overpowered with agitation and awe. Mr. H. B. Irving is remarkably well fitted for the dual part of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. The refinement of his style, his distinguished personality, and the something serene and scholarly about his expression, make him an ideal Dr. Jekyll, and his Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail* partially prepared us for his extraordinary creation of Hyde. Though the requirements of stage contrast demand a certain exaggeration in the make-up of the monster, Mr. Irving's evil genius is by no means a merely melodramatic representation. The expression of the features, the voice, and the attitudes all help to produce an impression of bestial malignancy and inhuman activity. Rising high above the bloodthirsty hate of Hyde in the second act, and his devilish delight at the memory of his evil delights in the third, is Mr. Irving's delivery of the half-exultant speech to Lanyon in the latter act—a speech which Mr. Carr has very finely elaborated from the hint in the book. Altogether, Mr. Irving's Jekyll-Hyde is a performance which it is impossible to forget. It lingers in the memory like a nightmare. Mr. Charles Sugden played the cynical diplomatist with his usual polished ease, dignity, and grace, and a strikingly clever representation of Lady Carew was given by Miss Tittell-Brune, who managed to suggest the voluptuousness of the siren mingled with the resolute spirit of the bold, bad wife. Miss Tittell-Brune is an actress of great promise and may be expected to "arrive"—indeed, she may be said to have done so already. Mr. Eille Norwood was a handsome, manly, and spirited Dr. Lanyon, and played the part with admirable force and judgment; and Miss Dorothea Baird, whose beauty was increased and assisted by her exquisite dresses, was touchingly simple and sincere as Laura Jekyll. The subordinate characters, which were numerous, were all ably sustained. Mr. Henry Vibart was unimpeachable as Mr. Utterson; Mr. Charles Allan was commendably crisp and clear as Mr. Enfield; Mr. H. Marsh Allen as James Wellaby told his little story in the first act capitally; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton gave a neat rendering of Mr. Ransmead; and Mr. Alex Scott-Gatty was sharp and decisive as the police inspector. Mr. Frank Tyars as Poole had a good opportunity for the depiction of deep and earnest emotion in the last act, and took advantage of it with remarkable success; Mr. Arthur Curtis was efficient as Mr. Guest; Mr. King Fordham did well as Dick Faversham; Mr. J. Patric Curwen gave a praiseworthy performance as Algée Bertram, Mr. Stuart Musgrove being all that was required as Reginald Prout, and Mr. W. Hemstock filling the rôle of Count Valesoff satisfactorily. Mr. A. Synge played Evans creditably; and Mr. W. Graham did good work as Monson. A bright and sparkling impersonation of Lady Hilda Holden was contributed by Miss Cynthia Brooke; and Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem as the frowsy, intemperate landlady gave a comic creation of real humour and quaint character. Miss May Holland deserved favourable mention as Walters. The scenery, by G. Sackmann, was excellent. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* created a tremendous effect on the audience, and the expression of their feelings was loud and enthusiastic. It was preceded by the sketch, by Harry Grattan, fully described by us after its performances at the Tivoli and the Palace, entitled

"THE PLUMBERS."

Mr. Saunders ..... MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS
Mrs. Drake ..... MISS EMILY SPILLER
Martha ..... MISS BLANCHE DORIS
"Erb" ..... MR. HARRY GRATTAN

As many of our readers will remember, the sketch depicts the troubles of a female householder at the mercy of a certain type of "British workman." Two plumbers come to mend a leak in a pipe, break it, set the water running copiously, and go off to dinner, on the principle of *après nous le déluge*. The central figure in the sketch is Mr. Arthur Williams, whose make-up and acting as the plausible, conceited, and audacious mechanic, Saunders, are irresistibly funny, and send the house into roars of laughter. He has good support from Miss Emily Spiller as Mrs. Drake, Miss Blanche Doris as a comic servant, and the author as the pale and eccentric assistant, "Erb." The scenic details are thoroughly well done.

MR. ALEXANDER'S ANNIVERSARY.

There was a scene of extraordinary enthusiasm at the St. James's Theatre on Wednesday evening, when Mr. George Alexander completed his twentieth year of theatrical management. Mr. Alexander, on his entrance as John Worthing, J.P., in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, was received with uproarious applause. At the conclusion of the performance he appeared before the curtain and said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply sensible of the honour you have done me in being present here to-night on this my twentieth anniversary. I am bound to say that it seems almost impossible to me that it is the twentieth. It is, I dare say, in a measure owing to your enthusiasm to-night that I still feel the *jeune première*. On looking back on these twenty years my heart is full of gratitude for the many favours you have so continually and so courteously bestowed upon me and the sympathy you have offered me is surely the best reward to any artist, and must be a most delightful recollection. To-night, by your presence, and the messages of many friends who are absent, I have now for the first time in my life felt spoilt by kindness. Amongst the many compliments I have received I attach a great deal of importance to the telegram I now have in my hand, which, with your permission, I will read:—"We present at the meeting of the Dramatists' Club on Wednesday, Feb. 2, desire to congratulate you on the achievement of twenty years of management, during which you have rendered conspicuous service to the interests of modern dramatic literature." This was signed by Arthur Pinero, J. M. Barrie, Sydney Grundy, R. C. Carton, A. Hope Hawkins, H. V. Esmond, W. S. Maugham, J. B. Fagan, Cecil Raleigh, W. S. Gilbert, Alfred Sutro, and G. Bernard Shaw.

"A man who has passed the best years of his life as a manager of a theatre," continued Mr. Alexander, "must indeed be proud to have won the approbation of the greatest dramatist of his time. I hope you are pleased with the souvenir to-night and will have pleasure in reading it. I am delighted to be able to announce my intention to produce in the future still another play from the pen of Mr. Oscar Wilde, a play which will form a vivid contrast to the mirth-provoking comedy you have seen to-night. It has been acted in Germany, and is entitled *The Duchess of Padua*. I am sure you will forgive me if my words have been inadequate to express my gratitude to you one and all."

OXFORD UNIVERSITY DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

In selecting *The Tempest* for their twenty-fifth anniversary the Oxford University Dramatic Society set themselves a difficult task; but, judging by the measure of success attained and the very enthusiastic reception of their efforts, their choice was fully justified. *The Tempest* was played by the Society in 1894, when the cast included many whose names are now well known on the professional boards—Messrs. G. E. Souper, C. H. Croker-King (now playing at His Majesty's Theatre in *The O'Flynn*), N. Playfair, and Miss D. Baird. Special scenery has been painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley for the present production, and the scene representing The Lime Grove, in Act III., was a veritable triumph for artistic effect. The music for the overtures, incidentals, Ariel's song "While you here do snoring lie," and the duet for Juno and Ceres, was drawn from the music to *The Tempest* by Arthur Sullivan, in 1862. The orchestra was under the direction of A. C. Boult (Christ Church), who wielded the bâton with success. The play was produced by G. R. Foss, who deserves great credit for achieving such meritorious results.

Mr. W. Bridges-Adams on the whole sustained Prospero with considerable power and effect; whilst Mr. R. B Pemberton was distinctly good, and in Act III. he thoroughly reached his audience in his love scene with Miranda. As Antonio Mr. R. A. Powell was realistic; and M. de la P. Garsia was full of feeling as Gonzalo; Mr. C. Howard-Smith succeeded in giving a convincing interpretation of the unnatural Caliban; Mr. J. A. Stainton carried himself well as Stephano; and Mr. R. S. Hooper gave evidence of ability to amuse as Trinculo. Mr. J. E. S. Richter appeared a trifle stiff as Alonso; and Mr. G. W. A. Simpson seemed intent on imbuing Sebastian with unnecessary affectation. The spirits were admirably rendered by Mrs. Russell, Miss Dorothy Garratt, and Miss Olive Boult. As Miranda Miss Noël Mackern may be congratulated for a very pleasing and graceful performance; whilst the Ariel of Miss Evelyn Lomax was a charming creation, her rendering of the songs allotted her being excellent. All the minor characters were played with verve by various other members of the society.

A Beautiful Brogue.

A QUAINT story is told of the late John Billington's appearance in Dublin as Patrick Maguire in *The Serious Family*. Billington was a Yorkshireman, particularly when he was playing the Yorkshire squire, John Mellish, in "Aurora Floyd," but he prided himself upon being an excellent Irishman when occasion required, and was accepted as such by many a provincial critic who saw him play with Toole in *The Serious Family*. But a visit to Dublin took the stuffing out of him. In the course of the last act of the play he was informed that a prominent citizen of the Irish capital would like to be allowed to come round to his dressing-room and congratulate him upon his performance. Considerably flattered to think that his Irish had gone down so well with a native, John Billington received the visitor in the most cordial fashion. "I am indeed charmed," he said, "that such an authority as yourself should have been pleased at the way I got over the difficulty of Maguire's Irish brogue!" "Ahr, that's jist it," exclaimed the Dublin enthusiast; "that's where ye were so deloightful! Ye niver attimpted it!"

MR. JAMES KIDDIE and company are presenting the *Forty Thieves* pantomime at the Hippodrome, Stalybridge. Miss Rose Pareezer, a dashing Abdallah, sings prettily; and Messrs. Mark Merry, Arthur Burton, Reg Ambler, Percy Curry, Arthur Behan, Harry Walker, and the Misses Elsie Steadman, Lyle Jeffries, Cissie Behan, Kitty Behan, Ada Jenner, and Dorothy Wellington are amongst the principals of a charming production.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER GROSSE TOTE."

A Merry Tragedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Magnussen and Saraaw, Produced at the New Schauspielhaus, Jan. 22.

Cederlund ..... Herr Arndt
Frau Cederlund ..... Fraulein Wurst
Niels ..... Fraulein Waldoff
Bulmann ..... Herr Retzbach
Due ..... Herr Sibbert
Sarah ..... Fraulein Brandt
Prince Julius ..... Herr Paschen
Marstrand ..... Herr Hartberg
Grosshandler ..... Herr Lippschitz
Assessor ..... Herr Romberg
Bonne ..... Fraulein Marquardt
Wachtmeister ..... Herr Luedicke

(from our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Jan. 27.—This work of two young Danish dramatists may be at once recorded as a success; it is full of bright humour—if we except a brief scene or two where a little pathos is displayed—and the characters have just the right shade of caricature indispensable to a piece of the kind. The audience laughed heartily throughout, and called the authors repeatedly before the curtain. Marten Cederlund is a Danish writer and poet of no very great genius, and who has the utmost difficulty to keep the wolf from the door. His wife, far from being a helpmeet, consoles herself with her husband's friend, and when Cederlund goes on a journey to Africa, to study and explore at his country's expense, nobody is very sorry. Two years having elapsed without any news from the traveller, he is given up as dead, and then his greatness becomes known. So great becomes his fame—aided by those seeing what advantages may be derived from it—that gradually his works are sold at fabulous prices, everything he has handled becomes a priceless relic, and finally a Cederlund museum is opened by a real live prince. On the day of the opening the "great dead" turns up in the flesh, but so aged and changed by the ravages of fever that nobody recognises him at first, and he listens, with mingled feelings, to his own eulogies. When he is recognised, poor Cederlund soon finds he is anything but welcome. His wife is least of all pleased to see him, being about to enter into matrimony with her lover. His best friend advises him to conceal his identity, and pose as a friend of Marten Cederlund's. The pseudo-deceased goes through all sorts of unpleasant adventures, being taken into custody, tried, pronounced insane, and so on. Ultimately he decides upon flight, and returns to Africa, accompanied by his neglected young son Niels and a former sweetheart, who, we conclude, will console him for his wife's hard-heartedness. The interpretation was excellent, and the mounting also.

Siegfried Wagner's new opera—or musical drama—*Banadietrich*, was received with much enthusiasm on its first production at Karlsruhe on Sunday night. It will probably become the most popular of the composer's works. The music is a brilliant copy of his great father's style, and is at times very dramatic; in other parts light and vivacious as an operetta. The book is adapted from an old Bohemian legend, and is particularly whimsical. Dietrich von Bern, the hero—Banadietrich in Wendish—is followed by the Devil, who covets his soul. His Satanic Majesty, in the guise of one Raunerath, promises Dietrich success in battle if he will thrust away his beloved Schwanweiss, who is a species of undine. Dietrich agrees, having had considerable ill-fortune of late, but Wittich—his friend—hearing of the plot, acquaints Schwanweiss, who is deeply grieved. Wittich loves her, but she is faithful to Dietrich, who becomes jealous of the former and stabs him. Schwanweiss, after nursing the wounded man, returns to her home in the waters of the river, while the Devil still tries to gain possession of Dietrich's soul. By a grotesque dance he causes Dietrich to laugh during mass in the cathedral, which incenses the populace against him, and from that time he is the sport of fate—an unhappy wanderer through the spheres. The Devil and Death appear to claim him, but Dietrich slays the latter. A voice from heaven calls him to repent and all will be well, but he neither hears nor heeds, and the same voice condemns him to eternal misery. Then Schwanweiss's voice is heard from the depths, imploring her lover to repent. He listens and obeys. The powers of darkness, waiting to convey him to his doom, are dispersed, and Schwanweiss's white arm draws him down to the cool depths, to the watersprites' home. It will be readily acknowledged that a more fantastic theme could not well be found. We are looking forward to seeing the opera here in a short time.

"Der Naturliche Vater," Dr. Eulanberg's latest play, which was produced at the Deutsches Chamber Plays last week, was a complete frost. It was a comedy, whose wearisomeness and utter lack of wit and humour tried the patience of the audience to the verge of desperation, and the slight attempt at applause was drowned by hisses. It is superflous to detail the piece, as it has already been removed from the bill.

"DER PHILOSOPH VON SANS-SOUCI."

Play, in Four Acts, by F. Holm, Produced at the Neues Theatre, Jan. 28.

Friedrich II. ..... Herr Schmidthassler
Markgrafin von Bayreuth ..... Fraulein Rose
Charlotte ..... Fraulein Jagger
Marquise von Pompadour ..... Fraulein Renier
Fuerst Kanitz ..... Herr Werckmeister
Voltaire ..... Herr Reuss
Signora Barbarina ..... Fraulein Ritter
Noailles ..... Herr Horling
Abbé Bernis ..... Herr Stoeckel
Marquis de Travennes ..... Herr Baskt
Count Algerotti ..... Herr Schwaiger
Baron Poellnitz ..... Herr Andresen
Marshal Schwerin ..... Herr Graeve

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 3.—The unostentatious pseudonym has been adopted by the Countess Leiningen, a lady well known in society, and in a position to collect information relating to the famous bygone days when Frederick the Great played the flute to his friend Voltaire and other admirers in the Sans-Souci Palace at Potsdam. It is not a dramatic play, but rather a series of scenes put together by a very skilful hand, and forming a clever and concentrated sketch of the period. We see all the familiar figures of the great King's Court, but they are not always accurately, and certainly not flatteringly, depicted. This is more especially the case with Voltaire and Madame Pompadour. The former is represented more in the light of a spy, while his characteristic wit is lacking; and the latter is more of a sentimental schoolgirl than the energetic intriguante of history. The other characters, however, are admirably drawn, the interest naturally concentrating itself upon that of the King, who was very finely impersonated by Herr Schmidthässler. After a series of intrigues, when the enemies of Prussia are rejoicing in what seems to them her certain downfall, everything comes right, and the philosopher-king is triumphant. It is a piece which, in the nature of things, interests a Prussian audience, and the reception was extremely cordial. Above all, the mounting was deserving of unstinted commendation. Prince and Princess Eitel were present at the performance.

A very fine performance of the second act of *Rienzi* was given at the Royal Opera on the Emperor's birthday. It was, of course, a gala night, and the house was crowded with a distinguished assembly, with some fifty Royal persons in the Imperial boxes. Herr Rudolf Berger (in the title-rôle) and Fräulein Frida Hempel excelled themselves, and the orchestra, under the capable conductorship of Kapellmeister Blech, played magnificently. Wagner's "Kaiser March" was played during the entrance of their Majesties and their guests.

The Volks-Oper produced August Enna's *Cleopatra* a few nights ago, achieving a complete success. This interesting work of the Danish composer was given for the first time in Germany a number of years ago at the Royal Opera, meeting with a very cordial reception. It was at that time fully described in your columns. The text has been adapted by the Danish author Christiansen from Rider Haggard's novel, and the music is dramatic in proportion. There is little doubt—the interpretation being satisfactory—but that the opera will be given for a long time to come.

A well-deserved success was accorded to a five-act play at the Schiller O. recently. It is entitled *Der Pfarrer von St. Georgen*, and the author's name is Heinrich Welcker, a solicitor in Leipsig. For a first work it is very good indeed, and affords promise for a successful career. The plot is well developed. It depicts a conflict between a broad-minded and somewhat free-thinking organist and the orthodox and very narrow church authorities. Everything is done to get the worthy old man out of his post, but he finds a friend in the young clergyman, whose views are not very different from his own. The two men now stand together and face the enemy, but the clergyman is protected by a liberal-minded minister of state, and his position is therefore unassailable. A love story is effectively woven in with the main theme; the clergyman loves the organist's daughter, and gains her for his wife. The acting was all that could be desired, and the reception was most cordial.

An attempt was made by the Academic Stage Association to revive Halbe's farce *Der Amerikafahrer* recently, the performance being given with a good company at the New Royal Opera. This unfortunate play, it may be remembered, was produced at one of our leading theatres some years ago, and was literally hissed and hooted off the stage. The reception being entirely justified, it was a matter of wonderment that any second attempt should be made. The result was precisely the same at the recent trial, and the sympathies of the audience were with the artists who had expended so much pains upon such a thankless task.

"Tantris der Narr," Herr Hardt's prize-crowned drama, has passed its fiftieth performance at the Lessing Theatre, and is still being given several times in the week.

"THE SIROCCO."

Playlet, Adapted by Arthur Scott Craven from the Swedish *Simoon*, Produced at the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, Jan. 31.

Guimard ..... Mr. Edward O'Neill
Yussup ..... Mr. Charles Goodhart
Biskra ..... Lady Beerbohm Tree

(from our own correspondent.)

There is an immense amount of dramatic "grip" in this little sketch, although the theme is weird and slightly gruesome. It affords the three artists engaged in it opportunities for some fine acting, and the story is one of sustained interest. The scene is laid in Algeria at the present time. Here we find an Arab sheik, named Yussup, lamenting the loss of his first-born, who has been killed by order of Guimard, a French officer commanding troops in the locality. The father fears to revenge himself lest the soldiers should burn his village and slaughter his tribe. But an Arab woman, named Biskra, who is in love with Yussup, comes to his aid, and on condition that he marries her agrees to get rid of the French officer. She accordingly, by telepathic hypnotism, fascinates the man, who has a liking for her, and lures him away from his army through the burning Sirocco to her house. Almost dead from the effects of the scorching sun and hot sand, he falls an easy victim to the wiles of the woman, who persuades him that he is dishonoured through having deserted his men in the hour of danger, that his wife in France is false to him, and that his son is dead. His nerves become so highly strung that he shoots himself.

Lady Tree as Biskra held her audience spellbound by the intensity and naturalness of her acting. She conveyed the true spirit of a vengeful Arab woman, bent upon extorting a terrible penalty from her lover's enemy, and all who witnessed the closing part of the scene were struck by the accomplished actress's wonderfully convincing work. At the conclusion the audience greeted her with an outburst of applause. Her supporters are also entitled to much commendation for their efforts. Mr. Goodhart finely impersonated the grief-stricken chief, and Mr. O'Neill exhibited high histrionic gifts as the bewitched and terrified French officer. The playlet should find hearty favour wherever presented.

The fifth pantomime this season arrived at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, on Monday, this one being Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's *Dick Whittington*, which has been scoring right along the line since Christmas. It met with a very hearty reception from three crowded houses (matinée and twice nightly), the unanimous opinion being that it was one of the best seen at this theatre. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden are to be congratulated on their enterprise in putting on the halls a pantomime in such lavish manner.

John Heminge, joint manager and lessee in old days of the celebrated Globe Theatre, is likewise spoken of as an eminent tragic performer, but as the only character in which he was particularly distinguished is "that king of good fellows" Falstaffe, we may safely infer that tragedy was by no means his forte. He was born in 1566, at the village of Shottery, near Stratford-upon-Avon, and it is highly probable that through his medium, and not by the means generally described, Shakespeare obtained his first introduction to the stage. We find the name of Heminge conjoined with that of Burbage, Shakespeare, &c., in the licence granted by James I. to the Globe company of comedians, authorising their undisturbed representations of dramatic performances, and likewise in the grant of scarlet and velvet, which was allowed every second year by his Majesty (for the purpose of making cloake) to the players; he is also mentioned as a principal performer in that company of comedians, who, on the invitation of the above-mentioned monarch, paid a visit to the Scottish court and capital during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Although he commenced performer only, Heminge soon became, by dint of perseverance and good fortune, a principal proprietor of the Globe, and had entirely relinquished acting some years before his death. Heminge published in conjunction with Condell, a fellow manager, the first complete edition of Shakespeare's plays. William Heminge, son to the subject of the memoir, after the death of his father commenced dramatic poet, and in the year 1640 produced a comedy called *The Mad-cap*. He likewise was author of two other plays, *The Cataract* and *Jew's Tragedy*, both of which was probably lost. Heminge made his "final exit" on Oct. 10, 1634, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and was buried in the church of St. Mary's, Aldermanbury. It is supposed he died of the plague, which about that period raged in London so violently, and on which occasion all the theatres were ordered to be closed.

The Lewin-Martel Duo continue to meet with great success in *Aladdin* at the Lyceum Theatre, their exquisite xylophone playing providing a real musical treat to the many lovers of good music, who nightly applaud them to the echo. Such artistic merit should find a welcome in the West End variety theatres.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

TOURING MANAGERS.

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS.

One of the youngest theatrical managers "on the road," Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins, was originally intended for a commercial life, and served for over six years in the offices of a well-known Liverpool firm. Meeting a professional friend one day, they decided there and then to take out a concert and variety party in the Lancashire and Yorkshire fit-ups, which proved a fairly successful venture, Mr. Gittins acting as accompanist, and playing a part in the sketch which terminated each performance. He next joined Mr. John Lawson in the sketches *Humanity*, *The Shield of David*, &c., and was Mr. Lawson's aide-de-camp for three and a half years, during which time the People's Palace, Tottenham, was opened, Mr. Gittins also assisting in the management. Tired of being resident, he toured again with Mr. Walter Gibbons's animated pictures and phono. bio-tableaux from the Agricultural Hall, and after gaining experience of the business accepted an engagement with the Edison Picture Co. at the St. James's Hall, Manchester.

Mr. Gittins then turned his attention to comic opera, and joined the well-known Milton Rays' forces, appearing in the musical comedies *A Hot Night*, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, also in the pantomimes *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, and *Robinson Crusoe*. From chorus and small parts he ultimately became Mr. Arthur Milton's manager. Drama also claimed him for tours with *Siberia* and Hardie and Von Leer's *In London Town*, in which latter piece he doubled the parts of Joe and Fleming. Mr. Gittins's first engagement in grand opera was with the second tour of the Moody Manners A Company, for which he was secretary (Mr. Gittins is an expert typist and shorthand writer). Since that time he has piloted F. S. Gilbert's Opera Co., the Elster-Grime Opera Co. (Irish fit-ups), and last of all the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co., being with the latter combination nearly six years.

Since resigning with the Carl Rosa Co. Mr. Gittins has devoted nearly all his time to producing condensed operas on the music halls, and the following have been presented during the last two years: *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*,

[*Photo by Garraud.*

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS.

The Daughter of the Regiment, and *The Last Rose*, the latter being adapted from the Kitchen scene of Flotow's charming opera *Martha*.

Prior to sailing for Australia Mr. Gittins acted as business-manager to Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, but is now performing in his own operatic sketches. Mr. Gittins attributes his good position to hard work, his ambition to get to the top of the tree, and the experience gained by commencing at the bottom rung of the ladder. Working in chorus, small parts, as pianist, amanuensis, "in advance," resident and touring management has proved a most valuable school for the arduous duties of an operatic proprietor and manager.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marguerite Broadfoote—Sunday, Feb. 6.
Fanny Wentworth—Sunday, Feb. 6.
Eade Montefiore—Sunday, Feb. 6.
Harry Bristow—Sunday, Feb. 6.
Alfred Bishop—Monday, Feb. 7.
J. W. Rowley—Monday, Feb. 7.
Millie Hylton—Tuesday, Feb. 8.
Mrs. Patrick Campbell—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Miss Fortescue—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Eva Moore—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Lottie Addison—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Anthony Hope Hawkins—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Fred S. Jennings—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
William Felton—Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Ivan Berlyn—Thursday, Feb. 10.
(Miss) Sydney Crowe—Friday, Feb. 11.
Arthur Webb—Friday, Feb. 11.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Henry of Wales visited Drury Lane Theatre on Thursday, and witnessed the performance of *Aladdin*.

Musical eccentricities were amusingly detailed by Dr. Walford Davies, who lectured at the Royal Institution on Saturday on "Music in Relation to other Arts." Dr. Davies remarked that the abuse of music in churches and drawing-rooms was not absolutely due to the performer, but largely to the lack of musical intelligence. The finest music would not always be subjected to indignities in the drawing-room. He had heard of a family who found a delight in laughing together on a common chord. Harmonious laughter of that unique kind might well be cultivated. The reconciliation of musical and poetic design was the great problem of that particular alliance. Any composer who could write a successful double fugue to the glad noisy words "Are we downhearted?" with the choral refrain "No," would richly deserve a university degree.

"The expenses of our large theatres," says a writer in 1823, "are well known to be enormous. Drury Lane and Covent Garden exceed £200 each per night. In 1765 Drury Lane was under £70 a night, and the company consisted of 160 performers, among whom were names of high celebrity. At the head of the company was Garrick, of a salary of per night £2 15s. 6d.; Mr. Yates (the famous Othello) and his wife, £3 6s. 8d.; Palmer and his wife, £2; King (the celebrated Sir Peter Teazle and Lord Ogleby), £1 6s. 8d.; Parsons, the famous comedian, 6s. 8d.; Mrs. Cibber, £2 10s.; Mrs. Pritchard, £2 6s. 8d.; Mrs. Clive, £1 15s.; Miss Pope, the first of chambermaids, 13s. 4d.; Signor Guestinelli (the chief singer), £1 3s. 4d.; Signor Grimaldi and his wife, chief dancers, £1."

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The committee of the cinematograph operators, held on Tuesday at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, Mr. A. Malcolm (president) in the chair, decided to issue 1,000 copies of the secretary's annual report. In his report Mr. Merritt deals with many important matters that have engaged the attention of the society during the past year, and at the present time relating to payment of services to artists, the licensing of operators, Home Office and County Council regulations, the Benevolent Fund, legal advice, radius agreements, the formation of district committees, examination of operators, &c. He concludes his report by reminding operators of the advice given by the Rev. Thomas Horne to the showmen and exhibitors, to unite and stand four square to all the troubles that confront them or may arise. The operators, he says, should take this advice to heart. They have seen their conditions of employment go from bad to worse. He urges them to organise, so that they can provide the means to protect and promote their interests, and get a share of the prosperity of the business which they, the operators, help to make prosperous.

A number of applications for membership were granted at this meeting, and a large number of letters applying for information considered. Among those present were Messrs. Wood, Hutchins, Mayo, Field, Wm. Johnson, Mason, Gilling, and the secretary, Mr. H. L. Merritt. An application for legal assistance to recover wages due was dealt with. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday week.

The Middlesbrough branch of the N.A.T.E. held its annual meeting in the Black Lion Hotel on Sunday evening. The secretary reported that he had had a most satisfactory interview with Mr. J. C. Imeson in regard to the rates of pay for week-day matinées. Mr. Imeson had agreed to pay the regular men 2s. 6d. and the extra men 2s. for these matinées. The result of the ballot for the election of officers and committee was reported as follows:—President, Mr. D. Abbott; vice-president, Mr. B. Swinbank; treasurer, Mr. W. Robinson; secretary, Mr. A. E. Wright; trustees, Mr. B. Tomes, T. Harding, and T. Hobbs. For the committee, Messrs. A. Hall, J. Peake, J. Plant, A. Dunn, A. Mundy, W. Coppinger, and J. F. Dodsworth. Mr. J. G. Hunter was elected the delegate. Mr. John Taylor was elected collecting steward for the Opera House, Mr. A. E. Wright for the Empire, and Mr. G. Coppinger for the Theatre Royal. The relations of the staff with the various managements in this town have now been restored to their former friendly footing.

The general staff branch, London, of the N.A.T.E. held its eighteenth annual general meeting in Terry's Theatre on Sunday evening. In the absence of the president of this branch (Mr. C. Thorogood). Mr. James Atterton, the vice-president, presided. He was supported by Messrs. Hunt, Wood, Bowmer, Farrell, Hall, Hodsell, Porter, and the secretary (Mr. Wm. Johnson).

The chairman expressed his regret at the inability of their president to be present at the meeting and that many other members were absent. In declaring the meeting open, he asked the secretary to submit his annual report. Mr. Johnson read his report, and stated that during the year the committee had held twenty-five meetings, and out of the fourteen members there had been an average attendance of nine at each meeting; the highest number had been thirteen, and the lowest—on one occasion only—six.

During the year 154 applications for membership had been granted, and 649 members had paid the whole or part of their contributions. During the month of January this year over thirty applications for membership had been granted.

The committee were glad to say that no serious dispute with any manager had arisen, and although there had been some difficulty in getting the payment of wages due to members at two theatres, all sums due except one small amount had been recovered, and in both cases the non-members working at these houses had benefited by the action of the branch. At another theatre notice was given to reduce the rate of pay from 2s. to 1s. 6d. per night, but the branch succeeded in securing the withdrawal of that notice. The most difficult case had been that of the Queen's Theatre, Poplar, and as it was admitted that the award was not being observed the matter was placed in the hands of the arbitrator; but so unsatisfactory were the negotiations to induce this management to conform to the award that the committee claimed their right to exercise their liberty of action and apply other methods. He had assumed he could pay what rates of pay he thought fit if he ceased to employ members of the society, and stage operators should note that they have no security for the continued enjoyment of the benefits of the award unless they became members of the society.

The secretary referred to the conferences convened by the General Federation of Trade Unions between the V.A.F., the A.M.U., and the N.A.T.E. on a proposal made by the V.A.F. to take over certain music halls and work them on a co-operative basis. The committee had not seen their way to accept the suggestions made.

The secretary stated that a large number of members of the branch had transferred to "the Dramatic and Variety Theatres Employees Provident Fund" for sick and funeral benefits while retaining their membership in the branch for purposes of trade protection. Many other matters were dealt with in the report, and the secretary concluded by urging every member to do his best to increase the number of members.

The financial statement and the auditor's report was then submitted to the meeting, and the chairman moved the adoption of the report and financial statement (a summary of which has appeared in this column). Mr. J. N. Hunt, of the Alhambra, seconded. The resolution was adopted nem con.

The following were elected to hold the office named and to act on the committee for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Charles Thorogood; vice-president, Mr. James Atterton; treasurer, Mr. Edward Stow; secretary, Mr. Wm. Johnson; committee, Mr. H. Bowmer (Gaiety Theatre), Mr. W. G. Farrell (Criterion), Mr. J. N. Hunt (Alhambra), Mr. Wm. Hall (Alhambra), Mr. Fred Hodsell (Lyceum), Mr. George Hooper (Vaudeville), Mr. George Pickering (Duke of York's), Mr. John Phelps (Covent Garden), Mr. H. T. Wood (Drury Lane), and Mr. George Dyer (Drury Lane); trustees, Mr. A. George (M.C., Lyceum), Mr. F. Wilson (Alhambra), and H. Porter (Criterion Theatre); auditors, Mr. James Finnigan (Empire, Leicester-square) and Mr. H. J. Kemp (Strand).

The chairman moved that the meeting approve the following nominations recommended by the branch committee for election to the National Executive Committee. This was seconded by Mr. G. Mitchell (of the Empire, Leicester-square), and agreed to:—President, Mr. James Cullen; vice-president, Mr. G. H. Dyball; general treasurer, Mr. James Atterton; general secretary, Mr. Wm. Johnson; trustee, Mr. Charles Thorogood; committee, Messrs. C. T. Cory, H. J. Kemp, Ed. Stow, J. N. Hunt, H. Foster, and George Pickering.

The agenda having been disposed of, the secretary addressed the meeting on the Sunday entertainment question, and reported on the statement made to the Theatres Committee of the L.C.C. by the joint deputation. He also made an announcement that his name had been submitted with a view to his adoption as a Labour candidate at the next L.C.C. election, and in the event of an invitation being made to him, officially, he wished to know the feeling of the meeting as to his course of action. It was one entirely for the members. The meeting took a very favourable view of the matter; but in the absence of definite information on the question of finance it was resolved, on the proposal of W. C. Weaver and G. Hooper, that "this meeting has no objection to the secretary contesting a division at the L.C.C. election, subject to the committee incurring no financial responsibility without the consent of the members at a special meeting."

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Terry for lending the theatre was proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. W. G. Farrell, supported by the secretary, and unanimously adopted. The proceedings then terminated.

The following telegram was sent to Mr. George Alexander on Wednesday evening: "The National Association of Theatrical Employees send the best of good wishes for your continued success and many happy returns of the day.—William Johnson, secretary." Mr. Alexander replied by telegram: "Many thanks to you and the National Association of Theatrical Employees for kind congratulation."

The Edinburgh branch of the N.A.T.E. is making good progress. A meeting is being arranged for next Sunday, at which all employees, including "supers," dressers, and attendants will be invited to join. The newly-elected officers are: President, Mr. W. Richardson; vice-president, Mr. W. Lees; treasurer, Mr. D. Wilkinson; secretary, Mr. D. W. Torrance; assistant secretary, Mr. W. Heather; trustees, Messrs. J. Picker, Duncan McLean, and J. Cruikshanks; auditors, Messrs. Kenneth Shires and A. Torrance; committee, Messrs. J. Waterston, A. Royle, R. Bencer, Ed. Donnelly, J. Anderson, and W. Sutherland.

OLD CREMORNE.

Old Cremorne Gardens, which is so frequently referred to in early Victorian literature, was formerly known as Chelsea Farm. A villa was erected there in the early part of the eighteenth century, by Theophilus, Earl of Huntingdon, who died in 1746. The estate belonged successively to Richard, Viscount Powerscourt, who died in 1751; Hannah Sophia, Dowager Countess of Exeter; Sir Richard Lyttelton, who married the Duchess of Bridgewater; and to Viscount Cremorne, who took possession in 1803, after whom it has ever since been named. When the family of the Viscount resigned possession, Mr. Hope, the author of "Anastatius," purchased the property, and in 1830 the mansion, which had been erected upon the designs of Wyatt, became the residence of the Baron de Beranger. The Baron, who had been connected with the famous Stock Exchange Hoax of 1814, and for which Lord Cochrane so severely suffered, was well known to the sporting world by his prowess in all feats of strength and dexterity, and he here instituted "The Stadium," a gymnastic society intended to afford opportunities for learning fencing, shooting, and swimming. The public did not, however, give the design such encouragement as it merited, and Cremorne became recognised chiefly as a place of resort for visitors on Sunday evenings, when the admission was sixpence, for which a refreshment ticket was given. In July, 1843, Mr. Renton Nicholson, then styled "The Lord Chief Baron" and landlord of the Garrick's Head, Bow-street, organised a series of fêtes, which brought the place into some repute as a pleasure-garden. The Baron de Beranger died in 1845, and the lease was then purchased by Mr. T. B. Simpson, of the Albion Tavern, opposite Drury Lane Theatre, Mr. James Ellis becoming manager. In 1846, the Gardens were opened for a regular season, and balloon ascents formed the principal attractions. The grounds, twelve acres in extent, enclosed within a thickly-wooded plantation, interspersed with lawns and flower gardens, and intersected by ornamental walks, became more and more artistically embellished. In 1851, the daylight amusements comprised Franconi's circus, the Bosjesmans, Cantelo's egg-hatching apparatus, called "The Hydro-Incubator," &c.; whilst the "Monstre Platform" for dancing, a capacious theatre for the performance of ballets, supported by Mlle. Theodore, Herr Deulin, Seymour, and Gardiner, and a display of fireworks prolonged the amusements after dark. A series of "Naval Fêtes," in which the river steamboats took part, proved this year highly attractive. The most memorable events connected with the Gardens are associated with the balloon ascents. Mme. Poitevin ascended from Cremorne, and descended by a parachute on Clapham Common, Sept. 6, 1852, and on June 27, 1854, M. Latour was killed in descending with his parachute at Tottenham, after his balloon ascent from the Gardens. On Friday, July 9, 1858, an "Aristocratic Fête" was given at Cremorne by a select committee, who organised the arrangements to give the fashionable world an opportunity of enjoying a grand ball al fresco, and to bestow whatever profits might accrue on certain charities. The weather proved, however, most unpropitious, and the undertaking was a failure in consequence. In September, 1858, a foreigner calling himself "Cristofero Buono Core, the Italian Salamander," attracted some attention by exhibiting himself in the Ashburnham Grounds, in a dress impervious to fire. The "Female Blondin" crossed the Thames on the tight-rope from these Gardens in August and September, 1861. Mr. E. T. Smith became manager, and took possession on July 30, 1861. In May, 1862, the new ballroom, capable of accommodating 3,000 persons, and having an elegant theatre attached, was a prominent addition to the attractions. In June, 1863, the Cremorne "Tournament" was introduced as a novel feature. In the summer of 1864 took place the daring ascents of M. Godard, in his huge Montgolfier or heated-air balloon. In 1865 the building hitherto occupied by the Stereorama was converted into a spacious amphitheatre, and equestrian entertainments were given by Mr. Charles Hengler's troupe. In 1866, the child El Nino Farini, eight years old, went through his gymnastic performances. In 1867, the Belgian gala fêtes were given, and "Natator the man-fish" appeared. The gymnastic exploits of Mlle. Pereira, and an increased display of fireworks, gave importance to the season of 1868. In 1869, the Craddock "life-preserving" apparatus was exhibited on the river, and the Beckwith family went through their swimming performances. In 1870, the entire establishment came into the hands of Mr. John Baum, who effected extensive improvements. The new and capacious "Theatre Royal" was opened with the ballet of *Giselle*, admirably performed and expensively illustrated, whilst the general arrangements were characterised by a combination of taste, judgment, and liberality, which appeared to be thoroughly appreciated by the public.

The King and Queen and Princess Victoria went to see Mr. H. B. Irving's performance of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, at the Queen's Theatre, on Thursday.

ON THE ROAD, FEB. 7.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Empire T., Oldham.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Cardiff.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
ARCADIANS, THE.—Grand T., Oldham.
ARCADIANS, THE (N.)—Midlesbrough.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Osborne T., Manchester.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Century T., Motherwell.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.—Victoria T., Burnley.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Pavilion Theatre.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Dewsbury.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Royalty T., Llanelly.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Nottingham.
BRED OF THE TRESHAMS.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—King's T., Sunderland.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—Grand T., Walsall.
BULMER, MR.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—T. R., York.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—County T., Kingston.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Grand T., Hull.
CHORUS LADY, THE.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—T. R., North Shields
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (N.).—Boro' T., Stratford.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Paisley T., Paisley.
CINGALEE (B.)—T. R., Loughborough.
CLAUDIAN.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
COTTON SPINNER.—King's T., Greenock.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
DASHING LITTLE DUKE.—T. R., Huddersfield.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (No. 1).—Kidderminster and Leamington.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—T. R., Hanley.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., Chatham.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Batley.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—T. R., Darwen.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—O. H., Cork.
EAST LYNNE.—T. R., Aldershot.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Crook.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Batley.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
FATAL WEDDING.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
FIRES OF FATE.—Coronet Theatre, W.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—New T., Cardiff.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—T. R., Smethwick.
FLORADORA (CONSTANT).—Seaham Harbour.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—Empire T., Hyde.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—O. H., Wakefield.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Palace T., Newcastle.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Hippodrome, Stalybridge.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—O. H., Dudley.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Palace T., Watford.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—T. R., Colne.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—O. H., Southport.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—King's T., Longsight
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Batley.
HIS REAL WIFE.—T. R., West Stanley.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—County T., Reading.
KING OF CADONIA.—T. R., Portsmouth.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Winsford and Alfreton.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Victoria T., Broughton.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Junction T., Manchester.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—Empire T., Southend.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—T. R., Halifax.
LUCK OF ROARING CAMP.—T. R., Bolton.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Birkenhead.
MAN TO MAN—Aquarium, Yarmouth
MERRY WIDOW.—Grand T., Southampton.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—O. H., Coventry.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—T. R., Barnsley.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—Hippodrome, Belfast.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—Court T., Warrington.
NEW BOY, THE.—T. R., Woolwich.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—T. R., Glossop.
OLD HOME, THE.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Hippodrome, Scarborough.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Prince's T., Accrington.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Chesterfield and Buxton.
PETE (N.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
PETE (S.).—Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Hereford and Malvern.
RAFFLES.—O. H., Cheltenham.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Grand T., Nelson.
SERGEANT BRUE.—Grand T., Falkirk.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Empire T., Swindon.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Merthyr.
SILVER KING.—T. R., Coatbridge.
SINNER, THE.—Miners' T., Ashington.
SINS OF CITY.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—County T., Bedford.
SWISS EXPRESS.—T. R., Leicester.
TEMPTATION.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Castle T., Stockton.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Workington.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Ashton-under-Lyne.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—H.M. T., Carlisle.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—P. G. T., Folkestone.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., South Shields.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—O. H., Leicester.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—T. R., Loughborough.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—T. R., Aberdare.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Gaiety T., Methil.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Grand T., Swansea.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—King's T., Kilmarnock.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

JAN. 2.—Alfred B. Cross.
,, 2.—Cynthia Preston, aged 11 months.
,, 2.—Mrs. Agnes Booth Schoeffel.
,, 3.—Charles Urquhart, aged 81.
,, 5.—Albert Borée.
,, 8.—Augustine Knight, aged 41.
,, 9.—Sidney W. Bint.
,, 11.—Charles James Maddin.
,, 11.—Mrs. Graham Good (Dora Caird).
,, 12.—Michael Patrick Nolan, aged 42.
,, 15.—Horace Davis.
,, 15.—Maud Oatley.
,, 15.—Elizabeth Turner-Elliott (Mrs. Alfred H. Elliott).
,, 20.—Charles James Davies, aged 74.
,, 20.—Alfred Bishop (of Bishop and Vale), aged 44.
,, 20.—Annie Gertrude Keats.
,, 20.—Neville Sydney (Vere) Smith, aged 26.
,, 21.—Nat Emmett.
,, 22.—John H. Clarke.
,, 23.—John Hughes.
,, 24.—Frederick Arthur Burnard Staples, aged 5½.
,, 23.—Rosie McClelland.
,, 24.—Frederick Arthur Burnard, aged 5½.
,, 25.—Bella Richardson, aged 56.
,, 27.—Mrs. Stafford Smith.
,, 29.—Ramsay Percy Richard Lloyd, aged 23.
,, 29.—T. W. S. Lonsdale, aged 28.

THE "ERA ANNUAL," 1910. The most complete theatrical dictionary of dates ever published. It will also be found to be the most interesting annual of the year, containing, as it does, many stories told by members of the dramatic and musical professions. Illustrated by photographs and autographs. Price 1s., post free. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

PHIL HARLINGTON.—*The lady is in the early twenties, but we have no information on either point.*

P. COLLINS.—*Yes, at Daly's, after Miss Marie Tempest had resigned the part. See notice above.*

J. ROBINS.—*We have made inquiries, and cannot discover the names of the publishers. Address the artist, care of this office.*

MUSICUS.—*We could not insert your letter; but if you take action to recover your one night's salary we will report the case.*

E. ST.—*Your card is anonymous. In all communications the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. See notice above.*

F. NEWMAN.—*We have referred to a Peerage and Baronetage, and no particulars are given of the lady's career. Neither is anything to be discovered concerning her in any theatrical reference book.*

OLIVER THORNTON.—*There is a book on dancing by Reginald Crompton. Send to Denny's, bookseller, Strand, W.C. They can tell you of any standard work and obtain it for you. Teaching from a book seems a bit unpractical, doesn't it?*

F. CUBE.—*We hardly know how to advise you. You might address a letter to the head stage-carpenter of a leading West-End theatre, and he might be willing to give you the information or even to show you plans, but we doubt it.*

W. BYRON PLACE.—*Our records fail us. We have not heard of the piece for over twenty-seven years, and never saw it played. There was a burlesque of it by H. B. Farnie produced at the Adelphi on Boxing Day, 1870. See notice above.*

H. WOODS (*Kilburn*).—*Our lists of sketches for 1908 and 1909 do not include the production you mention. Address to this office a letter to either lady you mention, and you may be able by this means to glean the information you want. See notice above.*

TRAVERS COOKE.—*The piece is still in manuscript, and if you should desire to play it, apply to French's, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C. The men in the cast are as follow:—Prince Maurice of Pannonia, the Hon. Pete Godolphin, Matthew Jannaway, Pink Jannaway, Baron Hertzlein, Shottery, Ambrose Pinning, one of the earlier triumphs of Mr. James Welch.*

REG IRVING.—*According to custom you can claim nothing. The rule is: If engaged in a town—say London—and, after being engaged, are sent away to another town for same employer, fares paid by employer to and from the job away. If applying for a job advertised in another town and accepted, would be expected to convey himself to that town to commence duties and finishing in the same town as commencing. Employer's liability ceases by giving due notice or money in lieu. This is the custom where no stipulations are made. All other cases must be covered by agreement between the parties.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DONALDSON.—Jan. 9, 1910, at 56, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, W.C., wife of Frederick Donaldson, of a son.

WESTWOOD.—Jan. 22, at "La Bohème," Poplar-road, Ashford, Middlesex, the wife of Walter Westwood, of a son, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

CLARE—JACKSON.—Jan. 29, at Dunfermline, Fife, Amy Violet Jackson (Maidie Percival), youngest daughter of William Jackson, Esq., of Liscard, Cheshire, to Thomas Reginald Clare (Stanley Maude), youngest son of John T. Clare, Esq., of West Norwood, London.

CLINTON—WRIGHT.—At Newcastle, Jan. 29, Miss Victoria Wright, daughter of Harry Wright and Nellie Gannon, to Alf Clinton, son of Geo. Jenkinson.

DEATHS.

BARRASFORD.—Feb. 1, at his residence, Middle-street, Brighton, Thomas Barrasford, music-hall proprietor, aged 50.

BISHOP.—On Jan. 20, the beloved husband of Lottie Swinbourne, Alfred Bishop, aged 44 (Bishop and Vale). Interred at Streatham Park Cemetery. Rest in peace, my beloved.

HAMMONDE.—Dec. 31, Frank Hammonde, actor.

LLOYD.—On Jan. 29, 1910, aged 23, suddenly, Ramsay Percy Richard Lloyd, youngest son of the late Delarue Lloyd and brother of Amy Elvira. Rest in peace.

LONSDALE.—Jan. 28, of diabetes, after great suffering, T. W. S. Lonsdale, age 28, son of T. S. Lonsdale, the well-known song-writer, and many years at the Empire, Portsmouth.

RICHARDSON.—Jan. 26, at Edinburgh, in her sleep, Bella Richardson, actress, aged 56.

SMITH.—Jan. 27, at Merton, after two years' suffering, Mrs. Stafford Smith (professionally known as Mary Parker).

STAPLES.—Jan. 24, 1910, Frederick Arthur Burnard, infant son of Arthur and Kitty Staples, aged 5½ months. R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM.

COLVERD.—In loving memory of my dear husband, J. J. Colverd, who passed away Feb. 7, 1903. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family.

PATEMAN.—In ever loving memory of my dear devoted wife, Bella Pateman, who died Jan. 30, 1908. Never forgotten by her sorrowing husband and daughter.—R. P.

REENS.—In affectionate remembrance of my dear wife (Miss Polly Cusick), who departed this life Jan. 31, 1903. May her soul rest in peace. CHARLIE.

SCOTT.—In tender memory of my dear husband, George Scott, who passed away Jan. 28, 1909. Never forgotten by his wife and only son HARRY.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Alexander, Mr. C.
August and September
Barbor, Miss D.
Barnes, Mr. J.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellian, Mr. Walter
Biddall, Mr. W.
Bingham, Miss A.
Blanchard, Mr. Geo.
Bliss, Miss Hebe
Bradley, Mr. W. K.
Bramley, Miss Bee
Brough, Miss Fanny
Burton, Mr. Harry
Burton, Mr. Percy
Chard, Lieut.
Cherry, Mr. James
Claff, Mr. Harry
Clarke, Capt. Marcalla
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Coherney, Mr. Ivan
Conquest, Mr. George
Culley, Mr. M.
Cummins, Col. F. J.
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Dalton, Miss F.
Dando, Capt. W. H.
Daniels, Mr. Bert J.
Danks, Mr. Charles
Dare, Mr. C.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Deas, Mr. Henry
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Dellar, Mr. M. K.
Dignum, Mr. Sydney
Doherty, Mr. Pat
Donaldson Brothers
Dornan, Mrs. Fred
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Earle, Miss Clara
Edwards, Miss Beme
Eeden, Miss Alice
Evans, Mr. E.
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Gambier, Capt. G.
Garrick, Mr.
Gibson, Mr. D.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Graham, Miss Ethel
Groves, Miss Pattie
Hackenschmidt, Mr.
Hales, Mr. Frank
Halstan, Miss M.
Harrison, Mr. H.
Harrison, Mr. John
Heathcote, Mr. G. N.
Heathcote, Mr. Robert
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Hiller, Mr. Wray
Hogan, Mr. Dennis J.
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Howard, Mr. Paul
Inescourt, Miss Elaine
Jakobowski, Mr. E.
Keeble and Reggies
Ker, Miss E. Innes
Kerr, Mr. Fred
Kirke, Mrs. F. J.
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kwai Troupe
Kyburn-Dellar, Mr. M.
Lake, Mr. Chas.
Lauder, Mr. Chas. O.
Leo, King
Linden, Miss
Ling, Mr. E.
Lucas, Miss Flo
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Maritana
Matthews, Mr. R. B.
Maude, Miss Winifred
Mavius, Mrs. M. S.
McIntyre, Miss Mollie
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Miles, Mr. A.
Millis, Mr. F. W.
Morander, Mr. Jack
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Neil, Miss Nellie
Nero, Mons. Michel
Paul, Mr. T. M.
Payne, Mr. R. M.
Payne, Mr. W.
Pearce, Mr. Albert
"Phantom Ship" Co.
Phillips, Mr. Tom J.
Phillips, Mr. Wm.
Phinis and Ada
Polini, Miss H.
Polini, Mrs. H.
Randall, Mr. Arthur
Reid, Miss Nellie
Rhodehamel, Mr. C. W
Rinonis, Les
Robinson, Mr. H.
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Russell-Spiers, Mrs. F.
Santon, Mr. Chas.
Saunders, Mr. Charles
Scott, Mr. Maurice
Selbini, Miss Lalla
Shilston, Mr. R. Benson
Sinclair
Smalley, Mr. Seath
Somos, Mr. R.
St. Denis, Miss Ruth
Stevens, Mr. Victor
Stuart, Miss Marie
Summer, Miss Yoxa
Sutherd, Mr. Dick
Terry, Miss Marion
Thorne, Miss Ellaline
Thurston, Messrs.
Todd, Mr. Leo
Transfield, Mr.
Valosky, Mr.
Van Biene, Mons. Aug.
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Warne, Mr. Tom
Whayman, Mr. W. H.
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Wilson, Miss Margaret
Wilson, Mr. W. A.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is the usual interesting publication for all who have anything to do with dramatic and musical affairs. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, stories by, and photos of, many well known artists, all about new plays and revivals in the United Kingdom and some foreign capitals, and all the rest of the useful information generally looked for in it.—Sheffield Daily Telegraph, Jan. 27, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is the usual interesting publication for all who have anything to do with dramatic and musical affairs. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, stories by, and photos of, many well known artists, all about new plays and revivals in the United Kingdom and some foreign capitals, and all the rest of the useful information generally looked for in it.—Daily Telegraph, Sheffield, Jan. 27, 1910.

ROWLAND'S
MACASSAR OIL
FOR THE HAIR
Preserves, Beautifies, Nourishes it, and Prevents it Falling off or Turning Grey.
Nothing equals it. 120 years proves this fact.
Golden Colour for Fair Hair.
Of Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and Rowland's, 67, Hatton-garden, London.
Sizes—3/6, 7/-, 10/6.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

Mr. FRANK SIMS
is expressly established to make
PROMPT & PRIVATE ADVANCES
to the profession from
£10 to £5,000
at an exceptionally low rate of interest, to be repaid by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Call, write, 'phone, or wire
MR. FRANK SIMS,
101, EDGWARE ROAD, HYDE PARK, W.
'PHONE—982 PADDINGTON
TELEGRAMS—"OBTECTED LONDON."

MONEY
£5 TO £5 000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION
LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s. 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
EVERY EVENING at 8
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"PETER PAN,"
By J. M. Barrie.
MATINEE. WEDS., THURS., and SATS., at 2.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH."
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 7.30.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.0.
"ALADDIN."

The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
It is dazzling in beauty and almost bewildering in movement and magnificence.—Referee.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Last two performances of
Mr. Mulholland's Eighth King's Pantomime,
"HUMPTY DUMPTY."
Monday next, "THE PROUD PRINCE."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T.. N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, 7.45. Matinées Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.
Signor Castellano's Grand Opera Company.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
BIRD SHOW.
Great International Cage Bird Show. In Theatre, "Pete," 7.45; Matinée Wednesday at 3 p.m. Promenade Concerts, 6 p.m.; Eminent Artists. Skating; largest rink. Ladies' and Military Bands, Organ.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.

Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
Mrs. Lewis Waller and Company, in "Lost, Stolen, or Strayed," T. E. Dunville, Bert Coote, and Company in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Mons. Footgers, Beatrice Lindley, Bessie Slaughter, James Stewart, Poole and Macquire, Lil Hawthorne, George Formby, Millie Payne, Cris Van Bern, Les Frasettis, and the Bioscope.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Little Tich, Harry First and Co. in "The Matrimonial Fee," Arthur Aldridge, Les Paulastos, Frank H. Fox, Amy Marsden, Chris van Bern, Madge Osmond, Ten Dixie Girls, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

Lottie Lennox, Five Musical Tritons, Mona Garrick, Spangles and Sawdust, Three Welsh Girls, Florence Yayman, Foster Flagge, Ernest Ball, Pictures, and Arthur Hare and Co., in "The Hanging Judge."

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

George Formby, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene in "My Lady's Chamber," Millie Payne, Hammon and Wyatt, Henri Cazman, Dora Martini, Bernard Crook, Madge Allan, Ruffell's Bioscope, showing Cup Tie Match, Chelsea v. Hotspurs, Joe Elvin and Co. in "Billy's Money-box."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Feb. 7, 1910:—
Herne Herne and Co., in "Colleen Bawn," Walter Ellis and Co., "The Sleepwalker," Six White Boys, Nellie Neil, Bains and Reed, Dora Vanbrugh and Co., Blanche Vincent, Goodfellow and Gregson, Archie Glenn, Zera and Zema, Royal Amio Trio, The Bioscope, Muriel Harding, Achmed Ibrahim Troupe.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Feb. 7: Jerrold Robertshaw and Co., Verno and Voyce, Elsie Robey, Alice Cheshire and Co., Cissie Lupino, Donald and Doone, Percy Hannan, Les Arbras, Royburn and Dix, Marie Blythe, Sisters Slater, Ken Jones, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Manager, MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Fred Maxwell and Co. in "The Last Command," Mabel Evelyn, The Gilberts on the Wire, Arthur Astill, Kate Gourlay, Bioscope, Willie and Johnnie W. H. Downes, Sivronis, Barney Armstrong.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
New Patriotic Ballet.
"OUR FLAG,"
"OUR FLAG,"
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
De Biere, Marco Twins, De Toma Troupe, Vera and Esmé Beringer, Violet Essex, Ridiculous Recco, "On the Heath,"
Jury's Pictures of the Floods in Paris, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
Fanny Brough and Co., the March Hares, Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Clark and Hamilton, Johnson and Hart, Webb Bros., Vindabonas, Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in "A Marriage Has Been Arranged," a Play in Little, by Alfred Sutro, Vesta Tilley, Nelson Jackson, Tschin Maa Troupe, Paris Floods and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8. Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2. Special Paris Floods Matinée, Thursday, Feb. 10, at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
T. E. Dunville (10.30), Geo. Formby (9.15), Victoria Monks (8.35), Sam Mayo, with new song, "Reminiscences of the Old Bailey" (8.50), The Gotham Comedy Four (10.5), Harry First and Co., in "A Matrimonial Fee," Zona Vevey, Gilbert Girard, Martin Adeson's Sketch, "Dr. Maude's First Patient" (8.20), Ida Barr, The Xentrix, Max Waldon, Sid May, Gintaro, the Wonderful Japanese Juggler, Lucy Clark, the Hiatts, Troba, Ruffell's Bioscope, and Peterman's "Belle of the Orient" (10.45). Open 7.15; Saturday matinées, doors open 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Half Term commences Monday, Feb. 21.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time.
Prospectus may be had on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
Principals: CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
President: GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq

Pupils can join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art, Deportment, Elocution, Fencing, Stage Dancing, Singing, Sight Singing. Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy, &c. Foundation Open Scholarship Examination, April 22. Apply, SECRETARY. Tel., Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.

EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."

The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.

Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD., Bombay;
or,
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BATTERSEA.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Battersea Palace. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.

BIRMINGHAM. — CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.

Holding capacity about 4000.

This Hall
To Let for Various Dates in 1910-1911, Including next Christmas Season.

Suitable for Circus, Diorama, or Variety Entertainments.

For terms and conditions, apply,
EDMUND W. BEECH, C.A.
37, Temple-street, Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well-Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. SCHOLEY.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
Vacant Dates end of May and June.

BRIXTON.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Brixton Theatre weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant week this Spring, April 11.
Wanted, bright holiday attraction.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
March 7,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1910.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently Redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. MANAGER.

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram. Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, Lavatories, Balcony. Electric Light and Heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the SUPERINTENDENT.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE, PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Britannia Theatre weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of WILLIAM MORTON.

1909-10 engagements: Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Co.; George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady"; Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliot, and Co.; Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; The Moody-Manners No. 1 Co. (two visits); Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, April 11 and 18, Easter Week, for Musical Play.
Address, WM. MORTON.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant March 21, Five Nights.
April 4 (three nights), April 21 (three nights).
April 25, Six Nights, onwards
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant March 7, April 4, 11, May 16, 23, 30.
Ask Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Mr. Frank Thorne the receipts and judge for yourselves.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Last week, MR. MARTIN HARVEY.
Next week, "OUR MISS GIBBS."
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
March 7, onwards, with exceptions.

Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. DORRILL, Managing-Director, Silence a polite negative.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Musical Attractions Required for April 18, May 2, 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29 (Plymouth races week), Nov. 28 and Dec. 5.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. PERCY HUTCHISON.
Enormous Success of the New Management.
Crowded houses nightly.
Bookings include:—Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Martin Harvey (two visits), Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Evelyn Millard in "Idols," Herbert Sleath in "A White Man," Miss Emma Hutchison and Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Co., "Don," from Haymarket, Criterion Theatres, "The Little Damozel," Edward Terry, Edward Compton, Frank Curzon's Co. in "The King of Cadonia," Robert Courtneidge's Co., in "The Arcadians," Geo. Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Brass Bottle," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Woman in the Case," Moody Manners Opera Co., "Fires of Fate," "Brewster's Millions," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," "The Proud Prince," "The Prince and the Beggar Maid," "The Merry Widow," J. F. Ellison's Pantomime, &c. No vacant Spring Date.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.

Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. A few vacant dates this year.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
NEW HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER
(Dramatic Seasons);
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

WHEREAS by an Order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, made in the matter of the Trusts of an Indenture of Settlement, dated the 1st day of August, 1859, and made between CAROLINE BANKSIA HEATHER, spinster, of the first part, JOHN HEATHER of the second part, FRANCIS HARPER of the third part, and FRANCIS SCHWENCK GILBERT and THOMAS STEPHENS of the fourth part, and in an action Harper v. King-Stephens, 1909, H. 941, and dated the 10th day of May, 1909, an Enquiry has been directed as to what children the said Caroline Banksia Harper had by her marriage with the said Francis Harper, and when the said children were born respectively, and whether they are all living, and if any are dead when they died respectively, and who are the legal personal representatives of such of them as being sons may have died after attaining twenty-one years or under that age, leaving surviving issue, or being daughters may have attained that age or married respectively. And whereas VICTORIA ALICE MAUD HARPER (a daughter of the said Francis Harper and Caroline Banksia Harper), who died on the 22nd October, 1879, at the City of Dublin Hospital, Ireland, is believed to have gone through a form of marriage with one FRED SOLOMON at a private house in Hill-square, Edinburgh, Scotland, in or about the end of September or early in October, 1879. Now the said Fred Solomon is by his Solicitors on or before the 9th day of March, 1910, to come in and prove his claim at the Chambers of Mr. Justice JOYCE, Room 689, at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, in the County of London, or in default thereof he will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Order.

Wednesday, the 16th day of March, 1910, at 12.30 o'clock, in the afternoon, at the said Chambers, is appointed for hearing and adjudicating upon the claims.

Dated this 27th day of January, 1910.
W. O. HEWLETT, Master.

Helder, Roberts, Walton and Giles, 3 and 4, Clement's Inn, Strand, London, Agents for A. J. Puntan, Swansea, Glamorgan, Solicitors for the Plaintiff.

Note.—The said Fred Solomon is believed to have gone to New York some years ago, and to have been engaged at the Casino, New York. It is believed that previous to the marriage above mentioned the said Fred Solomon was married to an actress who was known by the name of Plimsoll.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLSTON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.
To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.
Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thoroughgoing manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

MORNING ADVERTISER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "frotted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.
About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

THE FINANCIER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.

SPORTSMAN, Jan. 18, 1910.
We have received a copy of "The Era" Annual. All who take an interest, business or sentimental, should supply themselves with one. It is pretty full of information, and where that ends entertainment begins.

FINANCIAL TIMES, Jan. 24, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE, Jan. 29, 1910.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree contributes to the new issue for 1910 of "The Era" Annual an article on the old Globe playhouse and its exact position. Sir Herbert seems to have convincingly proved that the old Globe did actually stand in Park-street, Southwark. Among many other well-known folk who have contributed to the pages of the Annual this time is the Rev. Donald Hole, who has something to say about the Actors' Church Union and the work which it is doing.

WEEKLY TIMES AND ECHO, Jan. 30, 1910.
"The Era" Annual has reached us. This valuable work of reference on matters theatrical and musical is compiled with great care and judgment. The photographic illustrations are all excellent. Great attention is now paid to music-hall sketches, and there are many short stories of merit by artists of note.

FINANCIAL NEWS, Jan. 31, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) consists mainly of a most entertaining series of long and short stories written by the "stars" of the theatres and the music halls. It contains also a mass of information concerning, and of interest to, "the profession."

SUNDAY TIMES, Jan. 23, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces, there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Willie Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.

PELICAN, Jan. 27, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is full of interesting matter from cover to cover to all who are in any way connected with the theatrical profession. To familiar "Era" Almanack features are added stories by well-known members of the Profession, and there is a very interesting series of portraits of the many well-known actors and actresses who have died within the past twelve months, starting off with an admirable and characteristic picture of dear old Lal Brough. Mr. Pedgrift is to be congratulated upon a shillingsworth of characteristic excellency.

SPHERE, Jan. 29, 1910.
I have received at the same time "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, a valuable work of reference connected with the more recent history of our stage.

Published at "The Era" Offices:
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1910.

"COCK-A-DOODLE-DO."

The fame of a fine writer is cumulative; and one ought not perhaps to be surprised that the excitement about the production of M. ROSTAND'S forthcoming "fowl play" *Chantecler* has been greater than that which has been aroused by the promise of any of his more serious works. In 1894 M. ROSTAND produced *Les Romanesques;* he presented *La Princesse Lointaine* to the Parisian public in 1896; *La Samaritaine* was seen in 1897; the celebrated *Cyrano de Bergerac* took Paris by storm in 1898; and the Napoleonic drama *L'Aiglon* roused dormant Bonapartist sympathies in 1900. Seven years ago M. ROSTAND was seized with the idea of a play of the poultry-yard; and the result of his notion was *Chantecler*, which will, if nothing happens, be produced at the Porte St. Martin Theatre on—but perhaps we had better not mention a date.

It is, of course, unfair to remark on a work of art which has not been produced, but it seems, from the very nature of the case, that the amount of preliminary puffery which *Chantecler* has had, and the attitude of the French mind on the subject, are both of them a little extravagant. However poetical and humorous M. ROSTAND'S play may be, it cannot possibly equal in interest and importance the great human dramas in which he has shown us the sorrows and joys of our fellow creatures. There is always something imperfect in the attempt to endow animals or birds with human characteristics. At the best the results are but playful travesties. We have no doubt that M. ROSTAND'S play will turn out to be a marvel of poetic fantasy and ingenious humour; but to make its production a matter of national importance seems to show a want of balance and proportion which is almost puerile. Since 1903 we have had *Chantecler* hanging over our heads; and it will at least be a satisfaction to have it produced—we will not add "and done with," for anything with the stamp of M. ROSTAND'S genius upon it is sure to be successful.

The French dramatist is said to have been inspired with the subject of his play by the sight of a farmyard and its occupants; but, as a classical scholar, he is doubtless familiar with *The Birds* of ARISTOPHANES. In that case, however, the avian is not the only interest. Peisthetairus, a typical Athenian citizen, disgusted with his own country, goes to seek his fortune in the imaginary Kingdom of the Birds, accompanied by a comical companion. They are graciously received by the King of the Birds, who readily adopts certain projects of aggrandisement which are suggested by the visitors. The Birds, however, suspicious of the human race, almost rise in revolt; and Peisthetairus has to conciliate them by his eloquence. The slight and absurd story ARISTOPHANES has embellished with some of his best poetry; and doubtless M. ROSTAND, in his *Chantecler*, will emulate the smoothness and grace of the Aristophanic Chorus which FRERE has so charmingly rendered into the following English:

Ye Children of Man! whose life is a span,
Protracted with sorrow from day to day,
Naked and featherless, feeble and querulous,
Sickly, calamitous, creatures of clay!
Attend to the words of the Sovereign Birds,
(Immortal, illustrious, lords of the air)
Who survey from on high, with a merciful eye,
Your struggles of misery, labour, and care.
Whence you may learn and clearly discern
Such truths as attract your inquisitive turn;
Which is busied of late, with a mighty debate,
A profound speculation about the creation,
And organical life, and chaotical strife,
With various notions of heavenly motions,
And rivers and oceans, and valleys and mountains,
And sources of fountains, and meteors on high,
And stars in the sky.

Trouble, accident, and postponement seem inseparable from *Chantecler;* and Mr. WILLIE CLARKSON, the famous perruquier, to whose supreme skill Madame SARAH BERNHARDT has so often borne witness, has suffered from the misunderstanding which dogs this production. The story which we told in an interview last week is an interesting one. M. COQUELIN having suggested that Mr. CLARKSON should make the costumes for *Chantecler*, that gentleman, with his usual thoroughness, resolved to study from nature. A cock was purchased, and made an inmate of the well-known establishment in Wardour-street, so that the living model for the "costume" was always before the designer of the dresses. Mr. CLARKSON warmed thoroughly to his work, and threw himself into it with the enthusiasm and earnestness that have made him what he is. The Channel passage has no terrors for him when his reputation is at stake. Time after time he went to Paris with the costumes; and his meeting with the author of *Chantecler* was intensely interesting. Mr. CLARKSON visited M. ROSTAND at Cambo, in the Pyrenees. There, in the garden of the house where ROSTAND resided, one of Mr. CLARKSON'S assistants put on the costume of Chantecler, and walked about on the grass in it. It must have been a subject for a picture—the immense rooster parading on the lawn, M. ROSTAND and his family exhibiting wild enthusiasm, and the sunshine bathing the scene with its golden radiance.

It was not surprising that Mr. CLARKSON returned to London with elation, and set his little army of costumiers at work on the *Chantecler* costumes. But slips between the cup and the lip are proverbially numerous. This idyllic interview took place in 1908. In January last there was a change. First of all, Mr. CLARKSON was informed that it was not certain that his costumes would be used. Then, apparently as a "softener," it was suggested that he should do part of the dresses. Mr. CLARKSON, as may be imagined, did not for a moment entertain such a proposal. He referred the changeable Frenchmen to his solicitor; and he has engaged M. JEAN RAPOPORT, a very eloquent French advocate, to plead his case. As the matter is *sub judice*, we are not free to express any opinion; but we trust that no patriotic prejudice will prevent the French jury from doing the great English perruquier justice, and that the Gallic cock will not in the end be able to crow over the British lion.

THE ENGLISH PLAY SOCIETY.

A members' smoking concert under the auspices of the English Play Society drew a large and fashionable audience on Sunday last, the 30th ult., to the concert hall of the Ritz Hotel. The lighter side of the drama and music—instrumental and vocal—filled out a programme of a most agreeable character, and the stage-manager, Mr. Arthur Hands, assisted by Mr. Gordon Edwards, saw that there were no waits. A very great success was scored by the little comedy, from the pen of Miss Ella Erskine, entitled

"THE TYPIST."

Mary Lister .....MISS ELLA ERSKINE
The Earl of Dreighton..MR. ALAN BELLINGHAM.
Johnson .....MR. DICKSON KENWIN

The amusing imbroglio of this droll trifle and its smart dialogue kept the house keenly interested during every minute of its progress. Miss Erskine's vivacity and charm were never more alluringly displayed; and had Mr. Alan Bellingham been better acquainted with his lines he would have been everything to be desired as the Earl. He has individuality and style, and promises well. Mr. Dickson Kenwin was an unimpeachable butler.

Though not announced as such on the programme, we may take it that the duologue *From Sixes to Sevens*, by Lyddell Sawyer, is new. It was played by—

Professor Septimus Harleigh..MR. LEVESON LANE
Miss Letitia Simms .....MISS BLANCH STANLEY

A bachelor professor of fifty and a spinster past her prime live next door to each other. The professor has made a decided impression on his neighbour, who has watched him over the garden wall, and for some time has sighed in vain for him. He, like the mere man that goes out dining, "wines" too freely. On his return he mistakes the door of Miss Letitia Simms for his own, and actually enters her bedroom. Mr. Pickwick, of immortal memory, did much the same sort of thing on a memorable occasion. The elderly maiden dresses the old gentleman up in her clothes, fearing to be discovered with a man in her room, and the rest may be guessed. The farcical situation was capably handled by Mr. Leveson Lane as the Professor, and Miss Blanch Stanley, who made as much as possible of the part of the old maid.

The Friends, a one-act comedy adapted from the German by Miss Ella Erskine, was to have been played, but owing to the indisposition of Georgiana Countess of Rosslyn, who had consented to play the part of Mme. Livardeau, the piece was not presented.

In the concert programme Mr. Robert Carr distinguished himself by fine renderings of "O Star of Eve" and "She is far from the land," by Frank Lambert; Miss Florence Shee sang with brilliancy Urbano's well-known solo "Nobil Signor" from *Les Huguenots;* Miss Gladys Moger also sang; Mr. Stanton Rees played violin solos; and Miss Edith Hanson the 'cello. Mme. Rozel Ayres was the accompanist. Mr. Lyddell Sawyer managed the affair with much tact and courtesy.

Her Own Idea.

OUR Paris correspondent informs us of an amusing incident at a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by pupils of the Conservatoire. The young lady who played the rôle of Titania refused to wear the costume allotted to her, on the pretence that it did not suit her complexion, and to the surprise of the audience, on the night of the performance, when Oberon advanced in dazzling robes of iridescent brightness, Titania appeared in a dress wherein she might have been paying an afternoon visit. There was nothing to be done; either the management had to accept the situation or cut out the part. But this is the last we shall have seen of this lady in the Shakespearean venture.

Economical Attire.

ANOTHER oddity of costume occurred in a revival of Ponsard's *Mariage d'Angélique*, at the Comédie-Française. The personages appeared in the costume worn in *Marion de Lorme*, which, as everybody knows, is dated under Louis XII.'s reign. The Comédie-Française management are, of course, aware that Molière lived under Louis XIV., so that we cannot very well accuse them of having committed the crime of anachronism It was only a question of money. Suitable costumes not being at hand, and not wanting to order new ones, the House of Molière settled the difficulty by taking those of a different period. This may have been economical, but it was not quite worthy of the first classical stage of Paris.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LAURENCE IRVING AND ALAN DALE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As a good deal of unanticipated publicity has been given to the remarks I made on Mr. Alan Dale, I would be obliged if you would find room to print exactly what it was that I said at the Comedy Theatre, New York, after the second act of *The Affinity* (*The Incubus*) on Thursday, Jan. 15, 1910. I also enclose a letter which I sent round to the papers here.—Yours faithfully,

LAURENCE IRVING.

Jan. 20, 1910.

THE SPEECH.

"Ladies and gentlemen,—

"If this literally-translated comedy of Brieux's errs in any way, it errs in brevity. Therefore, the alternative has been between a few words from me or a first piece to prolong the programme. And 'that great command which o'ersways the order'—my management—has opted for a few words from me. They do not know that my friends charge me with reckless indiscretion—I call it openness. Anyhow, they can but ring down on me.

"Till to-night I have tried to move my audiences to a keener curiosity than seems to exist here at present as to the dramatic works of the latest member of the Academy Française, Eugene Brieux. I have tried to measure his altitude. But to-night I have set myself an easier task, perhaps a more perilous one; I am going to try and sound a depth. I am going to handle a certain blob of scum—a clumsy and blatant parodist who masquerades, in his protective pince-nez, as a skilled critic. You can guess that I refer to a personage who goes under the name of Dale. There is no doubt that the dirt he flings at actors and actresses is the fare upon which he thrives. So, I dare say in flinging his mud back at him, I am providing him with a good square meal. Let him have it. I believe Dale comes from England . . . forgive us! and he comes from Birmingham. That is fitting, for when in England we say a thing is Birmingham, or Brummagem, we mean that it is spurious, counterfeit; and Dale is a kind of counterfeit Bernard Shaw. I ask Bernard Shaw to pardon me. Subtract from Bernard Shaw his wide culture, his innate kindliness of nature, his power of amusing you even whilst he stings; in fact, make of this great Irish wit a hybrid, a poor jester, and a cad, and you have Alan Dale. . . . Poor, cheap, highly-paid vituperator. Where Shaw brings a case of surgeon's instruments, Dale goes out with a twenty-cent meat chopper in one hand and a dish of salt in the other—of common salt—of kitchen salt. He hacks clumsily, and rubs in his virus. To men he is insolent, and what to men is insolence to women (even though they be mere actresses) is insult. He has levelled all sorts of sneers at me at all sorts of times. Ten years ago, when, in my father's company, I first appeared here, I was wearing tights, and he said that I should never be allowed again to show my legs. They are thin; they are inherited. Miss Ellen Terry's daughter had at that time recently set up as a costumier: he advised me to join her—a kind of fun that in England would not have found its way into *Ally Sloper's Half Holiday*—and so forth and so on. . . . This morning I had an immobile face: I was like a Red Indian or an Arab. He has nothing left to criticise in me but my torso, and that, I confess, is not statuesque. Of course, one should grin at this; but, when one considers the enormous circulation of the celebrated paper in which such remarks appear, it gives one business-qualms. But what I could not stand is that this morning, after a series of dirty finger-marks extending over many years, he at last laid his foul, clammy hand upon the work of my wife. She who, at the end of this act, has often nearly broken down with the strain of her exertions; she, who being a very delicate woman, always struggles bravely to her task; and she, whose performances of Charlotte have not from any critic in New York or London received an unfavourable notice; she who by my father was chosen to follow Miss Ellen Terry amongst you, in the parts of Portia, Margaret, and Rosamond. Now let us hear Dale:—'Miss Mabel Hackney's work was quite ludicrous. Her work was very much like that of an amateur. Only once in the second act did she even suggest the character. Her "moods" were icy. She had no intuition. She had as much whimsicality as an oyster. One could imagine her typewriting or perhaps selling ribbons in a department store—performing even those perfunctory duties with a lack of attractive animation.' And more of the same kind.

"Is this just? Does Dale himself know no better? Well, ladies and gentlemen, Dale has often amused himself at our expense; now I think we have amused ourselves a little at his. Yet I dare say the real spring of his venom lies in his own secret self-contempt. I am sure there is a charitable explanation even of Alan Dale. Let him take off his glasses, cease trying to teach one who spent twelve months as a pupil at the College Rollin in Paris what French professors are like, write better, and be a man."

Mr. Laurence Irving was three times recalled.

THE LETTER.

"Sir,—

"As Mr. Alan Dale and I have come to open logger-heads, I think it is only fair that my position in regard to him, and the nature of the remarks I made, without the sanction or knowledge of anyone but myself, at the Comedy Theatre on Thursday last, should be thoroughly understood. I have aroused a potent enmity. Mr. Alan Dale could hardly find it in his nature henceforward—he never has done so in the past—to view any performance of mine without a feeling of animus. For Mr. Dale and I have at least one thing in common—our human form. This I must expect to be heavily and constantly borne upon by the weight of Mr. Dale's opinions whenever my wife or I appear before a New York public. From Mr. Dale's reply to me in this morning's *American*, it would appear as though my acting, and his unfavourable comments thereupon, were the cause of my bitter remarks. That is not so. The main point of my remarks was this. I am quoting from my words on Thursday:—

"'But what I could not stand is that this morning, after a series of dirty finger-marks extending over many years, he at last laid his foul, clammy hand upon the work of my wife. She who, at the end of this act, has often nearly broken down with the strain of her exertions: she who, being a delicate woman, always struggles bravely through her tasks; and she whose performance as Charlotte has not from any critic in New York or London received an unfavourable notice; she who by my father was chosen to follow Miss Ellen Terry amongst you, in the parts of Portia, Margaret, and Rosamond. Now let us hear Dale:—

"'"Miss Mabel Hackney's work was quite ludicrous. Her work was very much like that of an amateur. Only once in the second act did she even suggest the character. Her moods were icy. She had no intuition. She had as much whimsicality as an oyster. One could imagine her typewriting or perhaps selling ribbons in a department store—performing even those perfunctory duties with a lack of attractive animation."'

"That is what I wish to pin Mr. Dale down to; and I assert that, when he wrote those lines, he was not trying to estimate the capacity of an artist, but he was seeking to render himself conspicuous by following anywhere but in the wake of the mass of enlightened London and New York critical opinion, which had preceded him.

"I also rebut Mr. Dale's insinuation—malicious and mischievous—that *The Affinity* is not *Les Hannetons*. It is a literal translation, with a few trifling excisions, but no kind of re-arrangement or watering-down whatsoever. Anyone who will go to Brentanos can convince himself of this. Furthermore, Mr. Dale makes very free with Hoboken, with Hornsey Rise and Upper Tooting. He seems to expect that a French professor should be something after the style of Victor Dubois, in *Ici on parle Français*. In my youth I spent twelve months as a pupil at the College Rollin, in Paris. I did not find the professors were more 'volatile' and 'butterfly' than most professors of other nationalities. Gaston and Alphonse, of the pleasant *New York Journal* comic supplement, are most amusing gentlemen, but we must not take them as being the counterpart of all Frenchmen. I would like to end this letter, as I ended my few remarks from the stage, on a note of possible concession: 'I daresay the real spring of Mr. Dale's venom lies in his own secret self-contempt. I am sure there is a charitable explanation even of Alan Dale.' I remain, Yours faithfully,

"LAURENCE IRVING.

"Flanders Hotel, New York,
"Jan. 8, 1910."

INTERCEPTED ROYALTIES.

Before Mr. Justice Warrington, in the Chancery Division on Wednesday, extensive frauds amounting to some £28,000 were alleged to have been perpetrated by the late Mr. Arthur John Addison Bright, dramatic author's agent, upon Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. E. W. Hornung, and other popular playwrights. The revelations took place in connection with an action brought by the executors of Mr. Addison Bright against Mr. Arthur Frederick Hardy for an account of partnership profits in a dramatic authors' agency, carried on by Mr. Hardy and Mr. Addison Bright. Mr. Hardy counterclaimed for rescision of the partnership on the ground of alleged fraudulent misrepresentations by his late partner.

Mr. Henry Terrell, K.C., for Mr. Hardy, stated that for some years prior to 1903 Mr. Addison Bright, who had formerly been a dramatic critic, carried on business as a dramatic authors' agency. The dramatic author would write a play, and the agent would proceed to secure contracts from theatrical managers for the performance of the play, the terms generally being the payment of a royalty. The agent checked the theatrical manager's accounts, obtained payment of the royalties, deducted his commission of 10 per cent., and handed the balance to the author. Mr. Addison Bright, who had a very high reputation in the theatrical world, was agent for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Louis Parker, Mr. Ernest William Hornung, Mr. F. Anstey Guthrie, Mr. Stephen Phillips, Miss Constance Fletcher, and other popular play writers, and the profits of his business were considerable. He was a member of the Authors' Club, and he there became on friendly terms with Mr. Hardy, who was also a member. Mr. Hardy had been connected with the theatrical profession, but had also, just before 1903, embarked on a newspaper venture which proved unsuccessful, and he lost a considerable amount of capital. Mr. Bright suggested that Mr. Hardy, who was seeking some occupation, should join him in partnership, stating that it was a thoroughly good business, and that if Mr. Hardy worked hard there were excellent prospects of increasing it.

Eventually an agreement was entered into for ten years, under which Mr. Bright reserved to himself the clients whose names had been mentioned, the partnership only extending to new business. But, in the event of Mr. Bright predeceasing Mr. Hardy before the expiration of the term, the latter was to have the reserved clients and pay a percentage of the profits to Mr. Bright's widow. Mr. Hardy was to pay Mr. Addison Bright £1000 as premium, and to allow another £1000 to accumulate as capital out of the surplus profits after the payment to him of £400 as maintenance.

The new business was not the success anticipated, and there was no accumulation of profits. What happened then was this. In 1906 Mr. Hornung saw in a newspaper that there had been 1000 representations of his play *Raffles* in America. He had received royalties from Mr. Addison Bright for nothing like that number of performances. Just after this Mr. Addison Bright, on May 29, 1906, died suddenly in Switzerland. Mr. Hornung proceeded to look into his accounts, and communicated with Sir A. Conan Doyle and other of the writers, who also investigated theirs. The result was, said counsel, that they discovered that for years past Mr. Addison Bright had been systematically defrauding them. They found that he had not given them credit for a considerable number of performances of their plays for which he had received the royalties. It had since been discovered that the sums fraudulently detained by Mr. Addison Bright amounted to about £28,000. This came out gradually, and the gentlemen who had been defrauded made claims against the estate. Those claims had all been paid by the executors, Mr. Addison Bright having fortunately left a considerable estate.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who appeared to be unwell, stated that on the death of Mr. Addison Bright he looked into his accounts and communicated with the executors, who paid him £2000. The fraud took three forms—the changing of figures, the suppression of figures, and in one case the suppression of a whole tour.

Mr. J. M. Barrie said he knew nothing of the irregularities until the executors communicated with him. He then found that there was £16,000 due to him. He was not a business man, and his solicitors investigated the matter, and made a claim for the amount which the executors paid.

Mr. Hornung stated that he discovered there was £650 due to him as royalties in respect of the run of *Raffles* in America. The executors settled his claim.

Mr. F. Anstey Guthrie, author of *The Man from Blankney's*, which ran in America, said his claim was also paid by the executors.

Mr. Justice Warrington, in giving judgment, said it was impossible to avoid the conclusion that Mr. Addison Bright had acted dishonestly, but Mr. Hardy and his witnesses had failed to prove any misrepresentation.

His lordship dismissed the counter-claim with costs, and ordered Mr. Hardy to pay the executors' costs, except in so far as they had been increased by the claim in respect of the reserved clients, Mr. Hardy's costs in resisting the latter claim to be paid by the executors.

MR. EDITOR,—SIR,—In your report of the Pavilion pantomime this week you state that Miss Edith Harmer sings and dances delightfully, and her rendering of "Hanover" proved very exhilarating. It is, however, my daughter, Vera Sanders (second girl, who has been singing the song at every show—Yours faithfully, LEVESON SANDERS, Station-road, Horley, Surrey.

OWING to the great popularity of the six o'clock promenade concerts given last year at the Crystal Palace, the musical-director of the Palace, Mr. W. W. Hedgcock, has arranged for another series which will be given at the close of the panto. They will commence on Monday next, and the artists for the first week include, on succeeding days, Miss Annie Bartle and Mr. Mostyn Scott, Miss Mildred Guthrie and Mr. A. H. Gee, Miss Agnes Christa and Mr. Ernest Pike, Miss Margaret Holloway (solo violin) and Mr. George Baker, and Miss Vera Moore and Mr. Phillip Ritto. The C. P. Military Band will assist under the conductorship of Mr. Herbert Godfrey, while Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock will preside at the piano.

PLAY-ACTORS AT THE COURT.

A profitable evening was spent at the Court Theatre on Sunday, when the Play Actors produced four new one-act plays, all of which, and one in particular, were sufficiently meritorious to encourage the hope that they would be heard of again. The evening was begun by a piece from the pen of F. Willoughby, entitled

"THE DECENT THING."

Sir George Fladgate.....MR. LEWIS CASSON
Lady Fladgate .....MISS MARION LIND
Blanche .....MISS SYBIL NOBLE
Colonel Challender .....MR. ALFRED HARRIS
Mrs. Meggitt .....MISS DORIS DIGBY
Joe Meggitt .....MR. PHILIP KNOX
Spynk .....MR. POOLE KIRKWOOD

It proved to be an indictment, and a very effective one, of the motor peril, and contained a skilfully blended mixture of pathos and comedy For the second time in his motoring career, Sir George Fladgate, a rich brewer, has met with an accident on the road, by which a life has been lost. The baronet is of a highly sensitive nature, and although the occurrence was as much an accident as such things can be, he is so deeply distressed that he vows never to motor again. He would fain relieve his mind by giving a sum of money to the grandmother of the little boy who had been the victim of the accident, but the old woman scorns to accept money for the loss of her idolised grandchild. Fortunately for Sir George's peace of mind the boy's father, a scamp who had deserted him long ago, has no such compunction, and, indeed, calls with the express purpose of demanding compensation. The baronet pays him £250, and having thus done "the decent thing," goes out blithely to join his wife in a ride. Each part in the little piece was skilfully portrayed. Mr. Lewis Casson, admirably made-up, artistically portrayed the agony of mind undergone by the baronet. The flippant, cynical Lady Fladgate, who thinks that money can pay for anything—human life included—was cleverly depicted by Miss Marion Lind; and the gentle daughter, Blanche, was touchingly played by Miss Sybil Noble. A well-drawn character sketch of the brutal and unscrupulous Joe Meggitt was given by Mr. Philip Knox, who cleverly developed the grim humour of the rôle. Mr. Alfred Harris enacted the friendly Colonel Challender sympathetically; and Mr. Poole Kirkwood's butler was a neat performance.

Second on the programme came a play by Harold Chapin, entitled

"AUGUSTUS IN SEARCH OF A FATHER."

A Night Watchman .....MR. EDWARD RIGBY
Augustus .....MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
A Policeman .....MR. CECIL A. COLLINS

Genuine merriment accompanied the progress of this amusing piece throughout. It tells how a ne'er-do-well, who has returned from America, is given food and warmth by a "crabby" old night watchman at the corner of a London square, where the road is "up." The youth finds out that he is really the son of the old man, who imagines his boy is doing well in the States. A policeman, who has his suspicions, essays to arrest the boy, who, however, gives the constable the slip, and after learning that his mother is dead, bids his father "good-bye," and leaves him in ignorance of the identity of his visitor. The humour of the playlet lies in the various colloquys carried on between the constable and the watchman, and later on with his son. Mr. Edward Rigby was the watchman, and may be said actually to have made the piece. His dry, unctuous delivery was deliciously droll, and hearty laughter followed each line. Mr. Cecil A. Collins was "A1" as the stoical and persevering member of the force, and the author himself realised his hero with every satisfaction. There was a tremendous ovation at the close, when Mr. Chapin had to reappear again and again. The little piece would not be out of place in a theatre bill, but it has just the right material to appeal to a variety audience, and it is impossible to conceive that it could fail to succeed on the music-halls.

The third essay was a comedietta, by C. Duncan Jones and Dennis Cleugh, entitled

"PEG WOFFINGTON'S PEARLS."

Peg Woffington .....MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
Peg Gunning .....MISS PHYLLIS RELPH
Sally Gunning .....MISS MARY DEVERELL
Sal Fortescue .....MISS SYBIL THORNDIKE
Mrs. Maloney.....MISS DORIS DIGBY

An incident of the career of the celebrated actress Peg Woffington is here depicted. At her lodgings in Dublin she is visited by the "beautiful Miss Gunnings" who come to beg the loan of a gown each to enable them to shine at a ball at the Castle. The good-natured actress willingly places her entire wardrobe at their disposal. The young ladies, having obtained their costumes, go off in disdain, quite omitting to thank their benefactress, but their companion, the pretty and demure Sal Fortescue, with whom the actress has made friends, leaves her with a kiss, and Peg, touched by the innocence and purity of Sal, cancels the order for supper for two, which had been given in anticipation of the visit of the Lord Lieutenant. The warm-hearted Peg Woffington was played with suitable buoyancy and high spirits by Miss Frances Wetherall, who cleverly sounded the sentimental note at the close. Miss Phyllis Relph and Miss Mary Deverell well realised the Miss Gunnings, and danced a graceful minuet. Miss Sybil Thorndike made a typical Irish beauty of Sal Fortescue, acting and speaking prettily.

Finally, came a small piece by H. O. Hughes, entitled

"HIS LAST STAGE."

Ned Cotton .....MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Jim Jackson .....MR. CYRIL CATTLEY
Bouncer .....MR. BENEDICT BUTLER
Barbara .....MISS LORNA LAURENCE

Only moderate success attended this little piece, which can boast a number of witty lines, but has little in the way of novelty. A young stoker employed on the Underground Railway is the means of preserving from the "broker's man" the homestead of his sweetheart's father, an old coach-driver, who is bitterly antagonistic to anything connected with the railway. Mr. A. S. Homewood realistically suggested a superannuated old "whip," who plays at driving a coach with a rope attached to the kitchen table—a suggestion, we may assume, of the old man's second childhood. Mr. Cyril Cattley gave an amusing sketch of a young stoker, who applies the methods of locomotive-driving to his courtship, and Miss Lorna Laurence acted vivaciously as the object of his affections.

Two sacred concerts will be given at the Crystal Palace on Good Friday, March 25, when the "stars" of the musical world will meet, Mr. Hedgcock being fortunate in securing the services of Miss Agnes Nicholls, Miss Maria Yelland, Madame Clara Butt, Mr. Charles Saunders, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, and Sir Charles Santley. These artists will appear at the afternoon concert (3.30), when Rossini's "Stabat Mater" will be heard, and a miscellaneous second part. The London Symphony Orchestra will also assist, Mr. Hedgcock conducting. The evening concert will commence at 7.45, Miss Ethel Wood and Mr. Herbert Heyner will sing, and the Coldstream Guards' full band will play (conductor Lieut. Dr. Mackenzie Rogan). The organist at both these concerts will be Mr. F. W. Holloway, and Mr. A. Fox will be at the piano. The Crystal Palace, it would certainly appear, in no way intends to forfeit its title of "The Home of Music."

THE Crystal Palace is famous for its musical celebrations, and arrangements have been made for "The John Farmer Festival" to be held there in March 26 next, when 4,000 performers, under the baton of Mr. Chas. Howes, will render "Christ and His Soldiers." The programme will also include "The Coming of Christ."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Harry Tate has been induced to accept the office of President of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund for the year. Mr. Tate's popularity is great, and he will exercise very broad-minded views in the cause of this excellent charity. His success in obtaining a large increment for the exchequer—largely drawn upon every week—should be pronounced.

The annual dinner of the Music-hall Artists' Railway Association is fixed for Sunday, Feb. 20, at the Criterion Restaurant, and will be in aid of the Music-hall Benevolent Institution. The chair will be taken by Mr. Eugene Stratton, a very popular choice. Mr. Douglas Stuart will forward tickets to anyone sending postal orders or cheques to 18, Charing-cross-road, W.C. The price is 10s. 6d.

Owing to Mr. Cyril Maude's imminent return to the Playhouse to create the part of James Cottenham in *Tantalising Tommy*, the new comedy by Paul Gavault and Michael Morton, his part of Jellicoe in *Jellicoe and the Fairy* will be presented by Mr. J. C. Buckstone at the Coliseum.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, on her return to the Tivoli after an absence of years, had a grand reception on her re-appearance. Her songs, "Can't you see I love you" and "Little maid of Monte Carlo," with a beautiful stage setting of the Casino at Monte Carlo, were greatly appreciated. On her début at the Strand house she was one of the three Sisters Hawthorne, who made a very marked sensation in that pretty production, *The Willow Pattern Plate*.

Lady Beerbohm Tree, whose appearance in vaudeville at the Liverpool Empire this week, is a pronounced success, has expressed her intention of handing to the Lord Mayor of the Mersey city the sum of £100 for the benefit of local medical charities. It will be remembered that on her first appearance in variety, at the Palace Theatre during the Boer War, this favourite actress gave her salary to the fund for the widows and orphans of the Tommies.

Mr. Bransby Williams opened in Chicago instead of New York, and made a great success there, changing his characters almost daily. He was hailed by the Press as something real good, and is naturally very proud of the pedestal on which they have put him. He repeated his triumphs at Indianapolis, where he has been invited to address the scholars of several schools. He is still having offers for the legitimate, but is not accepting them, as he intends to go into the theatres at home as a change from the actors going into the halls. He cannot yet give particulars as to when and where he will appear. He is delighted with his American experiences.

After an absence of eleven years Arthur Roberts made a welcome reappearance at the Empire Theatre on Monday night in his absurdity, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. He had a very hearty reception. Arthur is also a favourite on the other side of the Square, and one remembers his favous song skit on the McDougall campaign, "I'm a highly respectable singer."

"Lost, Stolen, or Strayed," adapted from the French farce *L'Inconnue* by MM. Paul Gavault and Georges Berr, will be played at the Tivoli, for the first time on Monday next at 9 o'clock. The principal part will be sustained by Mrs. Lewis Waller, supported by Mr. Leonard Robson and a strong company. The scene is laid in Whitehall Court, and deals with the sudden and unexpected entrance of an unknown lady into the flat of a young bachelor, who is on the eve of marriage.

The report of the London Pavilion, which recommended a dividend at the rate of six per cent. for the past half-year, in addition to the two per cent. paid for the previous half-year, was adopted at the meeting of shareholders on Thursday, when the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. Hugh Astley, and to Mr. Frank Glenister, the manager.

Among the artists who have volunteered their services for the matinée at the Hippodrome, on Monday, in aid of the Paris sufferers, are Mr. Seymour Hicks, Miss Ellaline Terriss, Mr. H. G. Pélissier and the Follies, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Cyril Maude in *French as She is Spoke*, Miss Evie Greene, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. C. H. Workman, Mr. Wilkie Bard, and Miss Elise Craven. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs and his Excellency M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, will be present.

When Alice Lloyd and her company opened in Spokane, Washington, out West recently, her success was so great that the house was sold out for every performance during the week twice a day, Sunday included. Applications from the townspeople for seats were so great that Miss Lloyd's managers, Joe Muller and Tom McNaughton, resolved to give an extra performance after the regular night show had finished, the third show commencing at eleven o'clock at night till one-thirty. The house was again crowded to excess. The popularity of Alice Lloyd never seems to wane, and as a vaudeville drawing power in the States she stands alone. She is breaking records all along the line.

Miss Claire Romaine sails for New York to-day, per s.s. Baltic, to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Percy Williams, making her fourth season in the States. Miss Marie Lloyd gave Miss Romaine a farewell luncheon at the Hotel Chatham on Sunday last. Amongst the invited guests were several prominent artists, who cordially joined in the good wishes showered on the parting guest. Miss Marie Lloyd presented Miss Romaine with an emblem of good luck in the shape of a solid silver full-sized slipper, of exquisite workmanship. During her voyage across the "pond," the departing guest will have happy remembrances of an evening distinguished by good feeling, the most amiable sentiment, and the tactful expression of both.

Mr. Alfred Moul, who is now on the high road to convalescence after his operation, is throwing himself with his customary energy into the organisation of a matinée of the Alhambra on the 22nd inst. on behalf of the victims of the Paris floods. He has secured the patronage of the French Ambassador, M. Cambon; also of the Ministers Comte de Lastours, Comte de Montholon, Commandant Baron Mercier de Lostende, Vicomte de Felcourt, Colonel Huguet, M. Jean Perier, M. Joseph Knecht, M. A. Fleurian, M. E. Daegelmer, M. de la Begassiere, M. F. Sabatier, and M. Berard.

New songs are always welcome, and the many writers who supply the variety stage continue to worthily maintain the high and important position of their craft. But there are some songs which refuse to grow old in the sense of becoming useless for further production. Amongst these stands out in bold relief "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo," that remarkable effusion which contributed greatly to enhance the popularity both of its author-composer, the late Fred Gilbert, and of its producer, Mr. Charles Coborn, who has revived it during the current week at the Euston and Met. with a degree of success which promises for it another long lease of life.

For the next seven weeks the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, will be run as a variety house, with programmes presented twice nightly.

Jack Smiles is returning to town after a most successful tour, and opens at Camberwell on Monday.

The death is announced at the early age of twenty-three of Ramsey Percy Richard Lloyd, son of the late Delarue Lloyd and nephew of Arthur Lloyd. The deceased gentleman was also the grandson of a Scottish theatrical manager as celebrated in his day as the Wardens of Belfast or the Wyndhams of Edinburgh and Glasgow.

The directors of Moss' Empires, Ltd., have resolved to recommend that the balance of profit for the year 1909 be applied as follows:—In carrying to reserve for redemption of the company's 6 per cent. debentures, £10,029; in paying a dividend for the second half of the year at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, absorbing £14,000; and in carrying forward the balance of £13,361.

Dr. Walford Bodie is having a most successful tour through his native land with his own company of Royal Magnets. Everywhere he is being received with great acclamation, playing to packed houses all along the line. This week he is storming the capital of the Highlands (Inverness), and although it is the Doctor's tenth visit, he is playing to full capacity nightly. He hopes to appear at an early date in London again.

Dr. Bodie's appeal against the decision of Mr. Justice Darling is expected to be heard next week some time. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., are publishing Dr. Bodie's "Hypnotic Stories"—which were such a big success in the "Novel Magazine" under the title of "Harley the Hypnotist"—in volume form. They will be published in a shilling edition, and should command a large sale.

Considerable interest is being manifested in the billiard handicap, in which Birmingham managers are competing, at the Woolpack Hotel. On Tuesday two ties were contested, Mr. Philip Rodway (Theatre Royal), owes 100, beating Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Hippodrome), receives 120, after an exciting game, and Mr. A. Bushell (Gaiety), owes 50, beating Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire), receives 120, by a few points. Next Tuesday Mr. Collingwood meets Mr. Foster, and Mr. Graham will play Mr. Goodwin Woodward.

Monday evening witnessed the anniversary of Mr. Albany Ward's lesseeship of the Jubilee Hall, Weymouth, and the staff took the opportunity of practically showing their appreciation of him as a manager. After the fall of the curtain the entire staff assembled, and Mr. H. G. P. Wells, in a few words, conveyed the hearty congratulations of the employees to Mr. Ward on his success as lessee of the hall and rinks. The speaker warmly eulogised Mr. Ward as an employer, and expressed the hope that they (the staff) would long work under him.

Mr. Linsdell, as the oldest member of the Weymouth staff, presented Mr. Ward on their behalf with a handsome gold horse-shoe pin (for good luck), and alluded in the highest terms to the happy feeling existing between Mr. Ward and his employees. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Ward was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. Ward responded, thanking all present for their loyalty and the interest they had taken in his service.

The funeral took place at Kingston Cemetery on Tuesday morning of Mr. T. W. S. Lonsdale, aged twenty-eight years, the son of Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, the well-known song-writer and author of "Tommy make room for your uncle," sung by the late W. B. Fair. Mr. Lonsdale, sen., was also for many years stage-manager at the Empire Palace, Portsmouth. The deceased gentleman was well known in the town, and of late years assisted his father.

Several friends attended to pay their last respects at the graveside, and among the private mourners were the widow and the deceased's father, mother, and brother. There were a large number of handsome wreaths, one from the Empire Staff, another from Capt. and Mrs. Warren Wright, as well as many from the deceased's relatives and a large circle of friends.

Mr. Oswald Stoll presided at the annual meeting of the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces on Wednesday. He briefly commented on the satisfactory nature of the report. Mr. George Gray, the "Fighting Parson," criticised the figures, and said the position did not appear to be entirely satisfactory. The profits in the last year or two had grown steadily less. The chairman said that there was a very small difference of a few hundreds out of many thousands of pounds, and that alone was easily accounted for by the temporary interest in skating rinks in different neighbourhoods.

Mr. Stoll formally moved:—"That a dividend be declared and paid upon the ordinary shares for the half-year to Dec. 31, 1909, at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, amounting to £5,000, and that the balance of £3,844 6s. 7d. be carried forward, subject to the managing-director's remuneration for 1909." The report was unanimously adopted.

By permission of Moss' Empires, Ltd., a special matinée, in aid of the West Ham and East London Hospital, was given at the Stratford Empire on Thursday, and, judging by the full house, "sweet charity" should benefit considerably. The Mayor and members of the West Ham Corporation were present, and Mr. E. J. Macdermott, the popular acting-manager, had a fine array of talent to submit.

Among those who gave their services were Miss Evie Greene, Monsieur Lamberti, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Miss Maud Neary, Bros. Durant, Mr J. Squire, Miss Gertie Gitana, Braatz's wonderful dogs, Miss Kathleen Kogan, Mr. Billy Hobbs, Miss Lilian Wearing, La Sylphe, Miss Jennie Hartley, Miss Ella Shields, Vanando, the Jewels, Miss Alice Raymond and company, Lester Bros., Miss Victoria Glen, Mr. Frank Cass, Miss Ethel Kemish, Mr. Barney Armstrong and Jimmie Steel, Miss Edith Eatherley, and Mr. Claude Allister. Mr. Albert Whipp, mus. bac., occupied the orchestral chair with marked success, and Mr. J. Pople ('Appy), stage-managed the big programme with his customary ability.

The directors of the Palace Theatre have decided to assist the Lord Mayor of London's Fund to alleviate the distress which has arisen among the poorer citizens through the floods in Paris. A special matinée, therefore, has been arranged for Thursday next under the direct patronage of his Excellency the French Ambassador, the Lord Mayor, and Sheriffs. To the theatrical side of the programme Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. James Welch, and Mr. Lyn Harding will contribute, and on the variety side Miss Vesta Tilley, the Peschkoff Troupe of Russian dancers, Mr. Arthur Prince, and Lady Constance Stewart Richardson. Sir Herbert Tree has very kindly consented to make a little speech announcing the total of the proceeds, as he did at the Emily Soldene matinée benefit held at the same house.

Mr. Harry Randall, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, is giving nine audiences a week a taste of the comedy that amused thousands of Londoners at Drury Lane, at the Grand, Islington, and at the Camden Theatre. As a dame Mr. Randall's confidences are distinctly precious, and his success really remarkable.

After paying a visit to Glasgow—the second within a few months—Mr. Fred Maitland, assisted by Miss Pauline Walker and Co., is appearing on Monday next at the Olympia, Shoreditch, in that laughing hit *Roots, Rash Chemists*, a sketch full of ludicrous incidents and nonsensical lines.

Mr. Tom Leamore, who has just concluded a most successful week at the Empire Palace, Birmingham, goes on Monday next to the Coliseum, Glasgow, with the Argyle, Birkenhead, and London to follow.

Miss Kate Carney's *The Fun of the Fair* has proved an enormous attraction at Shoreditch Olympia, at Rotherhithe Hippodrome, and Camberwell Palace. On Monday next it will be presented at the Willesden Hippodrome, and has been secured by every hall of note in the kingdom.

Mr. Charles Coborn at Wednesday's meeting of the Railway Rates Association, proposed a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Thomas Barrasford, and Mr. J. H. Milburn seconded it. It was also resolved to send a wreath. The committee of the Music Hall Home also desire to convey their deepest regret to Mr. T. Barrasford and family upon the death of the late president of the Music Hall Home.

Mr. Ben Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, conveys the thanks of his committee to Mr. Vivian Evans, Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, for a box collection amounting to £1 14s. 6d., and to Mr. Percy Ford, of the Empire, Camberwell, for a box collection amounting to 6s.

Mr. Edwin Barwick has forwarded 7s. in aid of the Music Hall Home Fund, which he sent to Mr. Harry Barnard. There are now ten old performers being well provided with home comforts. Artists and others interested are invited at any reasonable time to visit the Home at 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell.

Mr. Percy Ashdown has written the striking incidental music to that powerful sketch *The Adder's Tooth*, of which we gave a notice in our last issue.

A goodly gathering is expected this (Saturday) morning at Euston, at 9.20, to bid farewell to Mr. Edgar Romaine and his charming wife, who are off to America again.

Miss Lillie Langtry, the favoured of London, has reached Australia after a very rough passage from Capetown. She landed on Monday morning, Dec. 27, and went from the hotel to the Opera House, Melbourne, for rehearsal, followed by a matinée and then an evening performance. After four songs and a dance in the evening, the popular "electric spark" found the house so enthusiastic that she is able to record a most gratifying success—with the thermometer at 104deg. Fahrenheit, too!

Miss Florrie Robina will shortly produce two new numbers, written by J. P. Harrington and Orlando Powell and Foster and St. John. Both numbers are novel, the music is charming, and the popular comedienne is looking forward to two big successes.

Mr. Martin Adeson and Miss Clara Bernard are producing their duologue, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*, written by Herbert Darnley, at the Oxford, on Monday, for the first time in the West End. They were only able to accept the engagement for one week, as they are booked in the provinces. They return, however, to the Tivoli on March 14.

Mr. Frank Lister and Mr. Fred Kitchen are producing a new sketch at the Canterbury on Monday, entitled *The White Feather*. The partnership will be well remembered by their successful sketches *No. 99* and *The Sundowner*. The latter is booked for the Stoll tour 1911 and 1912.

Mr. Ted E. Box is a prime favourite at the Holloway Empire this week. His two new songs "I'm a soldier" and "That's the time a fellow ought to stop," are indescribably funny. Following the tremendous encore he receives, he whistles a march, introducing startling imitations of different birds—a truly marvellous performance.

Miss Maudie Francis, who is making such a success in *The House that Jack Built* at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, is now in her seventh year with pantomime under Mr. Fred Karno's management, which is certainly a record for one so young. Little Gladys Nelson, Maudie's younger sister, is fulfilling her first pantomime engagement with Mr. Fred Karno, and has deputised three times for Miss Maidie Scott, imitating her "Teddy Bear" song, &c., with great success.

The meeting of the Terriers' Association on Sunday next will commence at 6.45 p.m., and the ladies' concert will start at 8.15 p.m. Tickets for the John Alexander benefit may be had of the secretary, Arthur Were.

Mr. Rolando Martin and Mr. Arthur Victor Raymond Dunne were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ben Woodger, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Ben Obo, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Mr. Lionel Beate has successfully passed the ballot.

There was a good attendance at the meeting of the Terriers' Association on Sunday, when Terriers Burnetti, A. De Brean, E. D'Almaine, Ted Karno, and H. P. Kato received a hearty welcome on their reappearance in the kennel. The officers for February are as follows:—W.T., Terrier Ben Obo; V.T., Terrier Jim Obo; W.D., Terrier Russell Brandow; Y.B., Terrier Ernest D'Almaine; W.I., Terrier C. C. Cornish; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were.

An important newcomer to the London Hippodrome will be Olga Petronowa, the famous Russian conductress, and her band of thirty picked British instrumentalists. Mlle. Petronowa, who is about to make her first appearance in London, is a pupil of the celebrated Wasilie Savonoff, and it was on the advice of Juan Clustine, head of the Russian Imperial Ballet, that she formed a British military orchestra.

This beautiful, stately woman of twenty-five is so gifted a wielder of the bâton that she is said to dominate her musicians and to control them so thoroughly that they play with perfect precision. The band's very varied répertoire embraces pieces ranging from "William Tell" and Tschaikowsky's "1812" to "The Coon Band Contest."

The preparations for the Johnny Alexander Benefit Matinée are well in hand. A large number of donations have already been received. The committee met on Tuesday, and discussed the general arrangements, and will meet again on Tuesday next, at two o'clock, at the M.H.A.R.A. offices. Tickets, now ready, may be had of members of the committee. Artists willing to appear at the benefit are invited to communicate with the honorary secretary, Mr. Arthur Were, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Donations may be sent to the honorary treasurer, Mr. Joe Elvin, at the same address.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday afternoon next, at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road.

The friends of Mr. Fred Reeves will be pleased to hear that he is better. His doctor has ordered him to the seaside for a fortnight to complete his recovery.

Mr. W. F. Frame, "the man frae over the Border," will be seen next week at the Empire, Hackney. The folks in the north-east district will be having some "braw bonnie bricht nichts the noo." Hooch Aye!

Miss Maie Hoey made her appearance in the Palace of Morocco scene in the *Dick Whittington* pantomime at the Empire, Swindon, and brought down the house by her exquisite and graceful Eastern dance. Maie Hoey was a hit, and appears at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne on Monday.

The third annual meeting of the United Varieties Syndicate, Limited, was held on Tuesday, at No. 1, Durham House-street, Strand, W.C., Mr. Henry Tozer (chairman of the company) presiding. The net profit earned for the twelve months ended Dec. 31, 1909, amounts to the net sum of £4,628 1s. 10d. In July last an interim dividend of £5 per cent., less income-tax, was paid.

The directors recommend the payment of a further dividend of £5 per cent., less income-tax, for the period ended Dec. 31, 1909, and a bonus of £2 per cent., also free of tax, together equal to £12 per cent., and carrying forward the balance to the current year's accounts. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Horace Wheatley, the inimitable Irish comedian, was specially engaged by Mr. E. H. Bostock at the Hamilton Hippodrome in place of Yamomoto and Koyoshi, who were prevented from fulfilling their engagement through an accident sustained while roller-skating. Mr. Wheatley, who, by the way, was the original singer of "Harrigan," is a great favourite wherever he goes, and has attracted big crowds to the house named.

The Alhambra directors, in presenting the balance-sheet and accounts for the year ending Dec. 31, 1909, at the annual meeting, to be held at the theatre on Tuesday next, at 12 noon, recommend that an amount of £1,500 be appropriated to the alterations, additions, and improvements account, that a dividend of 8 per cent. (free of income tax) for the year ending Dec. 31, 1909, being £4,800, be now paid, and that the balance, £4,722 7s. 6d., be carried forward to the next account.

The net profit for the year 1909 amounts to £6,277 8s. 3d., which, added to £4,744 19s. 3d., the amount brought forward, makes the net balance £11,022. The dividend will be payable on Wednesday next. The director retiring by rotation is Mr. D. E. Winder, who, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The auditors, Messrs. Chatteris, Nichols, and Co., retire, and also offer themselves for re-election.

Miss Melinda May (secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C.), on behalf of the committee, begs to thank the following:—Miss Lottie Albert, 2s. 6d., donation; Miss Indie Smythson, 6s., result of hoopla competition; Miss Maggie Bowman for kindly giving and collecting 10s. from the ladies and gentlemen at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway; Mrs. James Horne, collecting 2s. 6d.; J. Morris, Esq., jun., donation, 10s. 6d., per Mr. Alec Barish.

Also thanks to the committee of the concert for Hebrew Ladies' Society, organised by Mr. M. Cohen, at Hope Hall, Liverpool, on Thursday last; and Mr. Alec. Barish also obtained permission for the ladies of the Guild to collect as follows: Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), 7s.; Miss Clare (Clare and Pastor), 6s.; Miss John Foy, 4s. 6d.; Miss Ernestine Foy, 4s.; Miss Longdon, 2s.; Miss Hollzhassen, 1s. 6d. Are there any willing workers who would kindly help to do the same at Liverpool, Feb. 23 and March 2? Kindly write to above. Mrs. James Horne, parcel of babies' new underclothing; Virginia Frances, clothing; Miss Lottie Albert, clothing. The Chirgwin doll sent by Miss Lillie Vento realised 12s. 6d., the winner being Miss Addie Adell.

The sweepstake for the Rex motor bicycle given by Mr. Joe Zarmo took place on Wednesday, the winning number being 158. The sum realised was £30 19s. The committee are very grateful to Mr. Zarmo for his generous gift.

Mr. Edward Cranston, in a letter to us, very properly points out that *The Plumbers* is not the first sketch to be transferred from hall to theatre as a curtain-raiser. "About twelve or fourteen years ago," he writes, "when running the racing sketch *Terry; or, True to His Trust*, written by Sutton Vane, I was engaged to produce it as a curtain-raiser at the Duke of York's Theatre, when *Mlle. Nitouche* was running there. In the halls I am still playing the same sketch, which has registered now some six thousand performances.

An action of importance to travellers was tried by Judge Parry in the Manchester County Court last week. Edith and Julio Eroll, music-hall artists, who appear in a comedy and leaping act under the name of The Two Erolls, claimed £10 10s. from the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company as damages due to the non-delivery and wrongful detention of a basket of apparatus. Mr. Frank Rowland was solicitor for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Daniel for the defendants.

The evidence showed that on Nov. 8 the plaintiffs deposited two skips and a basket containing their costumes and apparatus at the defendants' station in Nelson. They had been engaged to appear at the Grand Theatre in that town, but as the theatre was closed the goods were left in the station until Nov. 14, when the plaintiffs had to leave for Manchester, their services being required at an Eccles theatre. When they tendered the cloak-room ticket, however, only the two skips were found, the basket having been carried to London by mistake, and as it did not turn up again until the following Tuesday the plaintiffs lost their week's engagement at the Eccles Theatre.

The Judge refused leave to appeal, because he thought the plaintiffs had been put to quite enough trouble already "without being taken to the House of Lords," and because he could not conceive that the servants of the company would do such a thing again.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, in Scenes from Dickens, have this week been accorded a brilliant reception at the King's Theatre and Hippodrome, Dundee, where they adorn a bill which is a credit to the discriminating taste of Messrs. Rosen and Bliss, who are responsible for the bookings of this palatial and handsome house. Since the King's opened the excellent programmes presented have been the means of attracting people who never before were in the habit of visiting a music hall, while another undoubted attraction is the fine orchestra under the capable direction of Mr. George Mundell. Another big factor in the success of this house is Manager S. McIntosh, who attends in very able manner to the requirements of the establishment.

The "men of the North," it is pointed out in an evening contemporary, have had much to do with the development of the modern music hall. Mr. Thomas Barrasford, whose death is recorded in another column, was a Newcastle-on-Tyne man. Mr. Dick Thornton, of the Moss and Thornton combination, also came from the banks of the Tyne, while his partner, Sir Edward Moss, though born at Manchester, is the son of a Scottish impresario. Moreover, Mr Frank Allen, the chief organiser in these days of the Moss and Thornton business, is a Sunderland man. These men between them are responsible for a great part of the progress of the music hall, especially in the provinces.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, however, who is the strenuous guiding genius of the Moss Empires combination, is an Australian born, although he was educated in Liverpool. It was on the Tyne, too, that the Moss combination had a modest start, and Mr. Barrasford's first venture was at Jarrow, where he opened the Circus of Varieties on Nov. 6, 1893, with Miss Maud Distin, the lady baritone, as the star attraction. His first conspicuous success, however, was at the Tivoli, Leeds, which he opened some ten years since, and which was the forerunner of many other ventures. At the time of his taking it over the Leeds house was the property of the Leeds and Hanley Variety Company.

It has been stated that Mr. Barrasford was the founder of the two-houses-a-night system. The pioneer of that system in London was Robert Fort, who ran the Alhambra, Shoreditch, thirty-five years ago. Bob Fort, as he was called, at one time owned the Foresters and the Theatre Royal, Margate. In more modern days—in the eighties—Mr. George Belmont started two performances nightly at the Sebright Music Hall, Hackney (Aug. 3, 1885), and also ran the Olympic, the Surrey, and Sadler's Wells Theatres on what he euphoniously termed the bifurcated plan.

When Mr. Barrasford started at the Lyceum there was a good deal of Press comment on the lowering of the traditions of a famous house, which had seen so many vicissitudes before the genius of Henry Irving raised it to the pinnacle of fame as a temple devoted to the highest form of drama. At the time, 1904, the deceased gentleman controlled Hippodromes at Brighton, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Glasgow, and houses at Salford, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Manchester, Bristol, and Leeds. But he was ambitious of doing bigger things, and with the purchase of the old Château d'Eau Theatre, a house devoted to minor melodrama, he showed the Parisians the possibilities of a well-conducted English Theatre of Varieties, naming his new property the Alhambra.

This international policy was continued at Brussels, Barcelona, and other Continental towns. The revival of *Excelsior* at the Lyceum did not answer Mr. Barrasford's expectations, and though that famous ballet had won a European reputation in Paris, Brussels, and at Her Majesty's Theatre in the eighties, it was too long, and the experiment was unfortunate. The Lyceum, after a closure of some months, reverted to drama under the ægis of Messrs. Smith and Carpenter.

We regret to learn of the severe indisposition of Miss Marie Loftus, who will not be able to fulfil her engagement on Monday with Mr. Broadhead at Liverpool.

Miss Lois Du Cane is causing quite a sensation by her acting as the Princess Claudia in *The Russian Princess*, by Frederick Maxwell. The exciting sketch will be staged at the Empire, Croydon, next week, with all its elaborate setting and special effects.

A most successful return visit, resulting in record business, was made by Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls on Monday at the Empire Palace, South Shields. They are vocalists of a high order; and Willie Benn, an excellent accompanist, is to be congratulated on his successful training of these clever young people.

What sort of welcome awaits Miss Maidie Scott at the Marlborough on Monday night, when Mr. Fred Karno's *House that Jack Built* is transferred there from New Cross, can be better imagined than described. It looks like a big night at the fine house, for the popular lady is literally idolised in Holloway and the parts thereto adjacent.

Mr. David Hart, who shares with Alan Quartermain the reputation of never going to sleep, has in Miss Ruby Roya a client of exceptional ability, and one who is likely, it is said, to blossom into a star of the first magnitude. The young lady is being booked everywhere by Mr. Hart, and Edgar Bateman and Henry F. Greenfield have been requisitioned to write songs for her. She has been appearing during the week at Wigan.

Miss Burrows, during the performance of *Dick Whittington* at Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Saturday last, and the dear pantomime girls presented Miss Adèle Levey on her entrance as his Imperial Majesty, with a dolly dressed like her attached to a lovely bouquet. Miss Levey naturally felt very proud of the pretty and graceful compliment paid her. Owing to her success, this divinely tall principal boy has had several offers to play Sinbad or Crusoe for next season's pantomimes.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners write that owing to the present conditions under which grand opera has to be given in this country, and seeing no necessity for them to continue singing with their companies, they had arranged not to sing next season; but owing to the munificent offer Mr. Stoll has made them, the promise of easy work, and their voices being still in their prime, they thought it would be foolish not to accept an engagement to appear for thirty-two weeks, commencing on July 25 at the London Coliseum and Mr. Stoll's principal music halls throughout the provinces.

Financially speaking, they have nothing to complain of; on the contrary, giving grand opera has been most satisfactory, and, indeed, with the result that they need not work any more. However, they hope this engagement will at any rate cancel most of the thousands they have lost, principally in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, Liverpool, &c., in trying to popularise grand opera. They inform us that at the completion of this engagement with Mr. Stoll they will again have something to say and do with running their companies in the cause of national grand opera in English.

Mr. Howard M. Hartman, who is the author of "The Sun Worshippers" and "A Prince of Babylon," has just finished a North American Indian tale, which is being published in a sixpenny edition form, profuse with descriptive illustrations, by a well-known artist, by Hammond and Stowe, of High Holborn, W.C. The title of the story is "The Queen of the Seminoles." It is an elaborated version of a miniature musical comedy, which Mr. Hartman intends to produce at an early date. A great surprise is promised in connection with this production. The piece is in two scenes, and will be cast with five principals and a chorus of ten musical comedy ladies and two gentlemen. The lyrics and music are by Mr. Hartman. Several real Indian instruments will be introduced.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

IN the spring the professional's fancy seriously turns to thoughts of new material, and involuntarily she, or he, makes straight for Messrs. Francis and Day's establishment, to see what is toward in the song line. The celebrated firm are now exploiting a huge batch of entirely new songs, suitable for all lines of business, written and composed by the first authors and composers of the day, and the wise ones are already thronging to the department presided over by Mr. Lester Barrett. *Verb. sap.*, which interpreted into plain English means, a "word to the wise."

THAT splendid artist Miss Lil Hawthorne, is again revisiting the scene of many former triumphs, and at the Tivoli has won the highest encomiums for her delightful rendering of Messrs. Francis and Day's "Little Maid of Monte Carlo." A beautiful special scene representing the exterior of the Casino by night is greatly admired.

MISS KATE CARNEY has acquired a new song, by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long, entitled "I'll be waiting in the harbour." The same writers have also just fitted Mr. Phil Parsons with a couple of ditties, entitled respectively "Mixed Melodies" and "Robinson's Motor Car."

THAT fine Romany sketch, *All the Fun of the Fair*, looks like proving a veritable Golconda, and Miss Kate Carney, as Carmen, the gipsy, has at last a part in which she can display the histrionic talents that Paul Pelham, the writer of the scena, in common with other keen observers, knew the lady was possessed of, and Miss Carney's beautifully modulated voice has never been heard to greater advantage than in the song, "A Romany still I'll be," composed by Herbert Rule, who shares with Mr. Pelham the distinction of having supplied the popular lady with a worthy successor to their "Yiddisher Boy" and "Good-morning, Mr. Postman." Mr. George Marriott's splendid rendering of the difficult part of Hagar, the fortune-teller, is a feature of the sketch, as is likewise the lawyer of Mr. Phillips (of Phillips and Terry). The sketch is booked solid a long time ahead.

MISS MADGE OSMOND is going great guns this week at the South London and Chelsea Palaces, in a really funny character skit, entitled *Captain Percy of the Royal Fusees*, written and composed by Fred E. D'Albert.

MISS MAYNE CANNON is scoring a big success with her latest number, "Sam, send a telegram," written and composed by Fred Godfrey and Fred E. D'Albert.

MISS GLADYS HUXLEY is having tremendous success with her song, "Health, wealth, and the girl you love." Miss Huxley holds the exclusive London music-hall singing right of this song, but the publishers, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are willing to grant a few provincial permissions.

MR. HARRY LUCK intends to produce his latest song, "The Funny Old Fellow," at Leicester next week. It is by Chas. Collins and himself.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

THE HIPPODROME.

The melodramatic and zoological spectacle entitled *The Arctic*, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, has completely fulfilled its purpose as the leading attraction of the Yuletide and New Year programme at the Hippodrome; and now that the youngsters have gone back to school it is to be withdrawn. The thrilling episodes, in which seventy Polar bears take part, have gained much in effectiveness since the first performance; and it is a fascinating sight to see the mimic scene of the ice pack animated by the gambols of, what may be termed, an ursine herd. It gives also a realistic touch to the Polar pictures when harnessed Arctic dogs bring on the sledges conveying hero and heroine. The authors give us a conventional story of a villain's baseness, caused by an unrequited passion for the hero's fiancée, played by Miss Edyth Olive with charm and distinctness. Mr. Frank Atherley is a determined and picturesque adventurer, and Mr. Philip Cunningham, who as Ralph Kingston, the explorer, has to experience moving accidents by flood and field, makes a most interesting hero. Mr. Cecil Kinnaird, Mr. Stanley Lathbury, and Mr. Watty Brunton also lend good support. To Mr. Richard Winslow's stage-management the smoothness of the performance is due, and the acme of spectacular effect is reached when, from huge mountains of ice illuminated by the Aurora Borealis the bears slide down into the arena lake, and there gambol about, to the delight of the kiddies.

A welcome return is made by Lamberti in character impersonations of famous musicians. Previous impersonators have often presented lightning-like impressions of departed composers in a way that has been far from artistic; but this gifted musician not only appears—for instance—as the Abbé Liszt in his habit as he lived, but plays as the famous virtuoso might have done when he came over to this country about a quarter of a century since. As Hollman, the famous 'cellist, Lamberti gives a solo on that instrument, and as Joachim—a very fine and realistic make-up—he plays the fiddle with excellent tone and expression. He also conducts as Charles Gounod the band playing the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, and dressed as Paderewski, play a Humoreske by that famous pianist. There is a playful humour in these last two counterfeits that does not escape the audience.

Miss Ruth Vincent, with her rich voice and her delightful methods of vocalisation, has won an immediate success at this house. She has the audience at her feet in such numbers as "Little Princess, look up," from *Amasis*, and "The Old Folks at Home." Varando has an amusing ventriloquial interlude with a chawbacon figure, and the final song brings down enthusiastic applause. Mr. Selwyn Driver, a young entertainer at the piano, shows a coming-on disposition, and though we have heard something very much like his burlesque of a country choir before, he has a decided turn for humour. No juggler sustains his unique position in the entertainment world with greater consistency than Cinquevalli, whose exhibition of seemingly impossible feats prove the power of an indomitable will. No need to describe the doings of this incomparable artist, who, it is pleasant to observe, preserves his marvellous powers, and seems to be gifted with perennial youth. Loyal's trained dogs include a clever somersaulting poodle, who does a turn-over from an elevated spring-board, and literally throws himself into his work with marvellous energy and precision. The clown dog, too, is really funny. Other turns include Leonard Charburn's young stars in their pretty scena "A Picnic Up the River"; the Alaskas, in an amusing pantomime acrobatic act, very smartly and cleverly worked; and Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, in a hurricane dancing act. "The Vampire Dance" is still a strong attraction of the bill, which is under the watchful superintendence of that master of languages, the popular Mr. Fred Trussell, courteously assisted in his managerial duties by Mr. Thomas Miller.

MR. HENRY HERNE and Miss Ida Millais conclude to-night their fourth visit within two years to the Empire, Portsmouth, with the water sensation sketch, *Blackmail*.

JESSIE TEMPLETON, the successful principal boy of the Princess's, Glasgow, takes a benefit on Feb. 14. Mr. Malcolm Scott, Miss Fanny Fields, and Mr. Harry Claff have kindly consented to appear.

"A MARRIAGE HAS BEEN ARRANGED."

A Play in little, by Alfred Sutro, Produced for the First Time on the Variety Stage, at the Palace Theatre, on Monday, Jan. 31.

Harrison Crockstead....MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Lady Aline de Vaux.....MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier have chosen as successor to that thrilling playlet, *The Knife*, a miniature comedy, the first successful piece, we believe, of Mr. Alfred Sutro, the author of the brilliant comedy, *The Walls of Jericho*. *A Marriage Has Been Arranged* is caustic in its satire, unconventional, up-to-date, and always smart. It gave considerable pleasure to a packed house on Monday.

The story of how the comedietta became the property of Mr. Bourchier has a touch of romance about it. The author, anxious for his work to be judged on its merits, sent it anonymously to the manager of the Garrick, who, after his usual fashion, handed it to his reader for criticism. By him it was returned, with a strong recommendation for perusal, together with the remark that the man who could write so clever a playlet ought not to be allowed to "waste his sweetness on the desert air." It was produced at the Haymarket on May 6, 1902.

Harrison Crockstead, to whom is assigned most of the cynicism of this diverting trifle, has strolled from the ballroom at 300, Grosvenor-square, with Lady Aline de Vaux. A multi-millionaire, Crockstead indulges in an almost brutal frankness of speech, and his barbed satire would be quite inexcusable in anyone else but a moneyed magnate. He is so disgustingly rich that he is ready apparently to marry any lady with some pretensions to refinement and position. Lady Aline has evidently interested him, and his attentions to her have been marked by her mother, a marchioness, and by her aunt, who regard the fortune of Crockstead as one at any rate that might with much advantage be acquired by the family. Besides, Lady Aline has been out for eight seasons, and, like the lady in the song, it is about time she was settled in life. Crockstead evidently has no use for tact, and makes it plain to his partner that he knows her friends expect him to propose. He is nothing loth. He bluntly asks her to be his wife; she as bluntly refuses.

Before his declaration, however, he gives her a brief outline of his career. In his early manhood he came to grips with poverty, and suffered hunger, disappointment, and misery. His luck turned when he found a nugget. In camp he had met a woman that he could love—not technically a good woman. She deserted him for another, whom he shot in Texas. Lady Aline sneers at the amour, but the downrightness of the man begins to soften her prejudice against him, and she confesses that she, too, has loved a cousin, but they were too poor to marry. Crockstead, with generous impulse, offers to give this former lover directorships in his companies that will bring in £4,000 a year, and asks for the cousin's address. But he has married a widow with money. Crockstead then begs her to find him a wife, and in speaking of an imaginary woman friend who might marry him, she is really talking of herself. The end is easily guessed. Lady Aline, "saying she would ne'er consent," at length consents to become Mrs. Crockstead. Mr. Bourchier revels in the part of Harrison Crockstead, and the satire of the part gains immensely by his admirable delivery, the actor suggesting quite cleverly, by accent and manner, that though the millionaire lacks the polish of society, he is a very smart man of the world. Miss Violet Vanbrugh, beautifully gowned, enters with rare spirit into the passage of arms between the would-be lovers, and shares the honours of a delightful performance.

Early in the evening Miss Beatrice Allen gives serio-comic selections with some charm; Miss Jennie Johns impersonates a middy in the King's Navee with considerable gusto; and the Palace Girls, with their Tiller training, are always good to watch. They are a most fascinating octet, beautifully dressed and beautifully finished in their every movement. No wonder that they are such immense favourites.

Miss Mary Grey shows culture and musicianly feeling in her selections. She is hard in the upper register, and when forcing her voice, which she is inclined to do, the tone is not agreeable. Her most successful and most artistic selection on the night of our visit was Reynaldo Hahn's pretty aria, "Mai." Mr. Ernest Mills is a humorist with crayon, and burlesques very cleverly the styles of some of our popular caricaturists, like John Hassall and Will Owen. He is modest withal.

Techin-Maa and his Chunchuses are an entertaining crowd, the plate-spinner being quite a

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

PHOTO SERIES No. 2.

A FEW MORE CHARMING LADIES WHO ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

THE NAMES OF THE LADIES IN THIS GROUP WILL BE GIVEN IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

THE ABOVE LADIES ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"EDMUND KEAN."

Sketch by Louis Cohn, Produced at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday, Jan. 31.

Edmund Kean .....MR. NORMAN PARTRIEGE
Ben Lazarus .....MR. WALTER MAYNARD
Tom Spring .....MR. REGGIE BOLTON
Charles .....MISS DOROTHY LESLEIGH
Mary .....MISS IRMA FOLDI

A momentous episode in the career of Edmund Kean furnishes Mr. Bernard Partriege with an opportunity of introducing himself to a music hall audience in various extracts from Shakespeare, of his proficiency in which he has frequently given evidence on the regular stage. The sketch shows Kean in his humble abode, soon after his arrival in London, with his wife and his son, Charles, a delicate lad whose health is rapidly giving way under the privations he has to endure. Kean is to make his first appearance at Drury Lane, and on his success or failure depends his whole future. A Jewish collector comes to demand the rent long overdue, but is reduced to a state of subjection by the arrival of the friendly Tom Spring, the famous boxer, and his dog, who takes an ominous interest in the landlord's lower extremities. At Tom's request Kean gives various specimens of his elocutionary ability, rendering excerpts from the more tempestuous scenes of *Richard III.*, *Othello*, and *Hamlet*, and using the Jew as the object of attack, much to that worthy's discomfort. Eventually Kean departs for Drury Lane, and, after a lowering of the lights, denoting the lapse of a few hours, returns in triumph, the hero of a cheering crowd. Kean's fortune is made, prosperity is before him, and his dearest wish that his son shall go to Eton is sure to be realised. Kean describes the scene at the theatre, how he was coldly received at first, but how the house "rose at him" when he reached the Rialto scene, and delivered Shylock's famous speech, "Hath not a Jew eyes?"

The sketch is skilfully constructed, and the various Shakespearean extracts are connected by effective dialogue. Mr. Partriege portrayed the proud, imperious actor to the life, delivering his lines with impressive effect. His Shylock was particularly striking, the fire and passion infused into the Jew's denunciation being quite thrilling. The chief actor had good support. Mr. Reggie Bolton—in whom we seemed to recognise a well-known and widely-experienced actor—was a bluff and breezy Tom Spring, making all the humour possible out of the part; and a comic Hebrew was the Ben Lazarus of Mr. Walter Maynard. Miss Dorothy Lesleigh well suggested the ailing boy, Charles, and Miss Irma Foldi played sympathetically as the wife.

Another novelty of Mr. T. S. Dickie's current bill is a romantic Irish episode, entitled

"THE CONFESSION."

Connor Fitzgerald .....MR. HERBERT LESTER
Dennis Fitzgerald .....MR. RAYMOND DUDLEY
Father Maguire .....MR. CHAS. CHAND
Nora O'Hanlon .....MISS HARRIETTA POLINI

A grim story of a quarrel between brothers, the death of one, and the remorse of the other, is provided in the above piece, the scene of which is laid in a cornfield in Ireland, with a peasant's cabin close by. Connor Fitzgerald and his brother, Dennis, are both in love with pretty Nora O'Hanlon. Connor is the favoured one and is accused by Dennis of trying to steal the girl's affections. High words ensue, Dennis strikes his brother, and the prongs of the pitchfork which the latter is holding penetrate the heart of Dennis. Terror-stricken, Conn hides the body under a haystack, and informs Nora that Dennis has suddenly gone off to America. His agitation, however, is so great that she advises Conn to go to confession, and sends Father Maguire to him for that purpose. Conn relates the terrible experience, and declares that he had no intention of killing his brother. Convinced of the man's innocence of evil intent, the priest gives him absolution, but equally convinced that judge and jury would not take so lenient a view of the case, he sets fire to the haystack, thus destroying all evidences of the terrible deed.

Mr. Herbert Lester played Conn with force and earnestness, vividly depicting the remorse of the man upon whom the brand of Cain seemed likely to be impressed. Mr. Raymond Dudley gave the proper gloomy and threatening air to the part of the hapless Dennis; Mr. Charles Chand was a typical priest; and Norah O'Hanlon was brightly played by Miss Harrietta Polini. The sketch was listened to attentively and applauded at the close.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

Mr. Albert H. Adams, the manager here, has a good programme to put forward before his patrons who are filling this handsome hall at each performance. The principal place on the programme is filled by Taylor Granville's thrilling sketch, *The Hold Up*, which is as interesting as ever, and further acquaintance with it only serves to convince one completely of the admirable material it contains, and of the capital way in which it is presented by the two actors who play it in such a forcible manner. It is a sketch which holds its audience in a firm grip right through, and its success is always assured.

La Belle Linda, a charming lady cyclist, performs many wonderful feats with grace and agility, and scores a decided success. Maxwell and Francis contribute a melodious turn, singing many delightful numbers, which are well received. Ruby Bijou is a dancer whose talents are well known, and on this occasion she contributes three very clever dances, which meet with much appreciation. Arthur Stacey, a droll comedian, causes laughter with his song, "You do look funny with your hair cut short," and Marion Armitage also adds to the humour of the evening with her Scotch song.

A very amusing interlude is that provided by Messrs. Colin Bryce and company in their sketch, *Are You a Socialist?* which causes roars of laughter, the comedian of the company being particularly funny in his impersonation of the tramp. Les Andres, three fine dancing specialists, give types of dancing of various nations. L. B. Athol scores a hit with his topical songs, which touch on many things now uppermost in the public mind. The Hiatts, instrumentalists of no mean order, give selections on a variety of instruments, which are much appreciated; Fred Evans has a cleverly conceived protean sketch, entitled *Dressing*, introducing a comedy skit of "Oliver Twist," in which he impersonates Fagin and Bill Sikes, making some very quick changes, and introducing some novel entrances and ideas. The Bioscope shows some fine films of the Burns v. Johnson fight. These films are naturally very popular.

LA SYLPHE, the flexible dancer, who achieved such a success at the Alhambra and London Coliseum, will give her famous creations "The Dance of Folly," "Diavola," and an Arab dance—the latter being a life study taken from the dancers in the Bey's harem, Tunis—at the Hackney Empire next week.

MISS ADAH PAYNE, the soprano vocalist, who is so well known through her long connection with the Moody-Manners A company, is delighting Southport audiences on her return visit to the Empire this week, with her lovely costumes and classical singing. Miss Payne re-opens on the Barrasford tour at the Leeds Hippodrome on Monday.

A TURN of much interest appeared at the Hippodrome, Sheerness, on Saturday, when Miss Tina Williams, a daughter of the popular manager, Mr. Ted Williams, made her stage début in the children's scene of *The Fatal Wedding*. The audience was deeply impressed, and recalled the clever little girl with much heartiness.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Two of the funniest songs of this or any other season are those which Mr. George Formby is at present exploiting at the Tivoli, Oxford, and his other London turns, to wit, "Playing the game in the West," by Alec Kendal and George Formby; and "I put on my coat and went home," by William and James Hargreaves. Both are published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., who also have in hand for early publication yet another of the same popular artist's songs, entitled "Since I had a go with my dumb-bells," by Barnes, Weston, and Scott. These numbers are published in Feldman's sixpenny edition form (only).

"Somewhere" seems to weekly increase the measure of its ubiquity. During the current week Miss Mabel Lait, the charming principal boy of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, pantomime, has been reaping fresh laurels by her delightful rendering of this ear-haunting ballad.

Mesdames Phyllis Leslie and Eva Swinborne are achieving a pronounced success at the Theatre Royal, Merthyr Tydvil, with that tuneful Feldman song, "Come along over the garden wall," whilst Miss Phyllis Leslie, in the same pantomime, is cheered to the echo for her rendering of the same firm's striking number, "I can't keep my eyes off the girls."

Miss Violet Beatrice at the Hippodrome, Bolton, made one of the successes of her life with Feldman's great song, "Good-bye, Mr. Teddy Bear," and already the tuneful chorus-melody allied to the irresistibly "taking" words of this quaint little number have caused it to become the property of the "man in the street," from end to end of Bolton.

Miss Ailsa Douglas is singing two of Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s best chorus numbers at all her London and other engagements, to wit: "Somewhere" and "I'm trying so hard to forget you," and is predestined to success, armed as she is with two such irresistible vehicles for the display of her vocal talent.

Miss Primrose Harding, at the Opera House, Porth, continues to win the unqualified approval of all her audiences for her inimitable rendering of that great Feldman number, from the pens of Fred Godfrey and Will Letters, "Molly O'Morgan," and plaudits loud and long are the nightly meed of her artistic rendering of the tuneful song in question.

To hear Miss Ada Reeve's interpretation of the great Feldman song, "Somewhere," may truly be described as little short of a revelation. The audience at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, rise *en masse* to this dainty singer, and to hear the plaudits loud and long with which she is rewarded must, indeed, be a gratification even to an artist so accustomed as Miss Reeve is to receiving the praises of the multitude. At the Grand Theatre, Leeds, with the same intensely human number, Miss Jane Eyre is scoring one of the greatest pantomime triumphs ever known in this town.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, the original singer of "I do like to be beside the seaside," at the Prince of Wales, Birmingham, is making the hit of the pantomime with this great Feldman number, which has been so greatly exploited in pantomime this season, and throughout the length and breadth of Birmingham one cannot go anywhere without encountering the strains of this infectious song.

Miss Carrie Moore is one of the latest exponents of the Feldman songs, and at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, has just produced Godfrey and Letters' catchy chorus song, "Molly O'Morgan," to the accompaniment of a perfect tornado of applause. Miss Dorothy Ward also has the same song in rehearsal for production on Monday next at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, and the same thing applies to Miss Daisy Dormer with regard to Rogers and Neat's instantaneous hit, "Pretty little girl from nowhere."

Mr. Jack Pleasants, the Idle Jack of the Grand Theatre, Leeds, pantomime, has indubitably scored the absolute hit of the show with his delightfully droll rendering of Mark Lorne's funny song, "Fetch John Willie," and Mr. Bert Feldman may certainly be congratulated on his acumen in promptly securing for immediate publication so great a success as the song in question.

During Mr. Bert Feldman's recent visit to Leeds an interesting argument arose between the well-known publisher and one of the principal managers in the city, who shall be nameless, anent the possibilities of Miss Florrie Forde's success, were she to sing the great Feldman song, "Somewhere," in the Theatre Royal pantomime, the manager averring point blank that the song would not be a success, as it was totally unsuited (in his opinion) to Miss Forde's style. Miss Forde promptly dispelled all doubts on the subject, however, by introducing "Somewhere" in her part, and making one of the most colossal successes ever known in Leeds with it; in fact, it now forms a permanent part of the budget of songs she is singing at the Royal, which also includes another Feldman number, "I do like to be beside the seaside."

Miss Pauline Rivers' company at the Alexandra, Hull, still continues to make good with a repertoire of Feldman numbers, chief among which is that tuneful and ear-arresting number, "Come along over the garden wall," which also is a great favourite in many pantomimes of the present season, giving, as it does, such excellent scope for stage effects, dressing, &c.

"BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE."

A Protean Sketch, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, Jan. 31.

Prince Charles
John Lee .....
Jennie Lee ....
Flora McDonald ..... Miss Gertrude Bibby

Miss Gertrude Bibby, who is presenting this sketch at the Bedford this week, is a clever actress, and the rapidity with which she makes her several changes is undoubtedly smart, while her various characters are all well drawn and cleverly acted. The plot of the sketch, as its title betrays, is woven around Prince Charlie and his escape from Scotland after the Battle of Culloden. The story is told of how he takes refuge in the cottage of John Lee, who is tempted to betray the Prince and secure the reward offered for his capture. However, Lee's wife is faithful to the Prince, and calls in Flora McDonald, who aids the Prince in his escape and successfully wards off the soldiers who are on his track. The sketch is capitally mounted, and is very well received.

A pleasing little ceremony took place at the Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, on Monday, when Mr. Vivian Evans, resident-manager, was presented, on the occasion of his birthday, with a handsome diamond ring. In making the presentation Mr. Wilson, on behalf of the staff, spoke in high terms of Mr. Evans.

Councillor T. Jones, speaking for the few friends, complimented him on the fact that although he had not yet been with them twelve months he had made many improvements. Music halls were looked upon with doubt by some, but anyone having once visited the Empire Palace could leave with pleasurable feelings, and this state of things could only be attained by such a manager as Mr. Evans.

"THE ROMANYS."

Musical Comedy Scena, Written and Composed by Jack Brownson, Produced at the Brighton Alhambra on Monday, Jan. 31.

Gipsy Queen ..... Miss Beatrice Edwards
Lemnel ..... Mr. Arthur Edwards
Squire Mansfield ..... Mr. Ramsey Macbeth
Jack Mansfield ..... Mr. Tony Gordon
Leo ..... Mr. John Stafford, jun.
Gipsy King ..... Mr. Geo. Claremont

(from our own correspondent.)

A very hearty reception was accorded *The Romanys* at the Brighton Alhambra last Monday evening. The piece was admirably staged and dressed, and the music was bright and tuneful. When the curtain rises a party of gipsies and their caravan are seen on a portion of Squire Mansfield's estate. The Romanys are peaceable and industrious, and in obedience to the commands of their Queen they refrain from disturbing the Squire's game, though one, Lemnel, who suffers from chronic hunger, seems very desirous of snaring a rabbit or shooting a hare. Jack Mansfield, the Squire's nephew, is deeply enamoured of the gipsy Queen, and serenades her outside the caravan with a pretty ballad. A gun, carried by Leo, one of the tribe, accidentally goes off, the trigger being caught in a bush. The report is heard by the Squire, who is quickly on the scene, and orders the Romanys to leave in half an hour under the penalty of being handed over to the police. He also hints at disinheriting his nephew should he marry the gipsy Queen. Upon this the gipsy King steps forward, and, in a short story, tells his companions that the Squire had married their former Queen and discarded her and their child. The Squire explains that he had legally married their Queen, but in order that his future prospects should not be blighted, the couple had kept their marriage secret. Realising that the young Queen is his own daughter, he consents to her marriage with his nephew.

Miss Beatrice Edwards as the gipsy Queen sang sweetly and with artistic finish; Mr. Arthur Edwards made an amusing Lemnel, and was very effective with a comic ditty; Mr. Tony Gordon as Jack Mansfield showed the possession of a pleasing tenor voice and the gift of artistic expression; Mr. John Stafford, a capital baritone, enacted Leo, and sang admirably; Mr. Geo. Claremont as the gipsy King gave his lines with clearness, emphasis, and point; and Mr. Ramsey Macbeth was well suited as the Squire.

Miss Gladys Hooley, who finishes a successful five months' tour of the provinces at Grimsby this week, comes to the Coliseum on Monday with her scena *Fiddle and I*. Miss Hooley opens her next provincial tour on March 7, at Doncaster.

A FAMOUS BALLET MISTRESS.

MADAME JEANETTE PHILLIPINI.

Terpsichorean triumphs are recalled by the career of Madame Jeanette Phillipini. After visiting the principal Continental cities as a dancer, and appearing at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, under the management of Captain Wombwell, she was engaged by Mr. Geo. Musgrove for Australia as ballet mistress and teacher of dancing. She started the classes at the Princess's Theatre, Melbourne, and on the stage of that theatre all

[*Photo by Talma.*

MME. JEANETTE PHILLIPINI.

the girls and tiny children were taught. The pupils got on admirably, for they simply loved the work, and in a short time many of them became excellent dancers. During Madame Phillipini's stay in the Colonies she arranged the ballets for six pantomimes, the first being for *Red Riding Hood*, at the Princess's Theatre, Melbourne. Mr. Walter Raynham was the stage-manager, and it was with that gentleman that she did so much work, both in pantomime and other plays, *Round the World*, produced at the Lyceum, Sydney, being one of them. In that production, Madame Phillipini arranged the Japanese and an Indian ballet. Her second pantomime season was at Melbourne, with *Beauty and the Beast*, staged by Mr. Frank Emery, Miss Polly Emery being in the cast, with Marie Luella and the Sakers. Other pantomimes with which Madame Phillipini was associated were *Cinderella* and the famous *Djin Djin*, with the Snow and Golden ballets. She also played for a season in Sydney and Adelaide, where she was responsible for several ballets, including the Egyptian flower ballet. Her last pantomime season in Australia was at Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, with *The Babes in the Wood*, Miss Ada Reeve playing principal boy and Miss Carrie Moore one of the Babes. She arranged the ballet also for the operas and comedies.

Madame Phillipini had a delightful time in the Colonies, and made many friends there. The Australians are warm-hearted people, and she met with much kindness everywhere. Although engaged by Messrs. Williamson and Musgrove for twelve months, she stayed over five years. On her return to England she was engaged by Mr. J. M. Chute for the pantomime of *Red Riding Hood*, at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. After that she had two seasons at the Opera House, Leicester, being engaged the following season by Mr. John Hart for the Theatre Royal, Bradford. She then went to the Theatre Royal, Manchester, for three seasons, to arrange the ballets in *Crusoe's Adventures*, *Babes in the Wood*, and *Sinbad*. In 1908 she was at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, whither she returned for the present season, being engaged for the sixth year by Mr. John Hart.

After being on the sick list for three weeks, Jimmy Shields resumed business last Monday at the Hippodrome, Stockton.

A party of about a hundred from the Boys' Charity School, Sheffield, were present at the Thursday matinée at Barrasford's Hippodrome last week, on the kindly invitation of the popular manager, Mr. Frank Poole. The boys heartily enjoyed Mr. Jack Haddon's pantomime of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and on leaving were presented with oranges by Mr. Poole.

Miss Madge Brownie, who won the diamond ring at the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, as the most popular lady in the pantomime, is making rapid headway in the profession. This is the third year she has played principal girl with Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, and next year she goes to the Princess's, Glasgow, her native city, in the same rôle. She played the title-rôle in *Lucky Liza* for nearly four years.

FELDMAN SONGS

ARE BEING SUNG IN PANTOMIME BY THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES.

PRELIMINARY LIST.

MISS FANNY ADAMSON.
SISTERS ALBERT.
ALHAMBRA GIRLS.
MISS LILY ALLCHURCH.
ANDY ASCHE.
LAURIE ASTER.
MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
CHRIS BAKER.
MISS IRIS BANFIELD.
FRED BARNES.
BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS.
MISS MAY BEATTIE.
MISS LOUIE BECKMANN.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
MISS MADGE BERESFORD.
MISS MARIE BERESFORD.
MISS NELLIE BINDON.
ROWLAND BOTTOMLEY.
MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN.
MARCUS BOYLE.
MISS MARION BRADSHAW.
MISS CELESTINE BRANDON.
MISS EDITH BROAD.
MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE.
MISS WINNIE BROOKS.
MISS MADGE BROWNE.
MISS WINNIE BROWNE.
MISS MADGE BROWNIE.
ANDIE CAINE.
MISS MADGE CAMPBELL.
MISS LOIS CARIS.
CARL AND CARR.
HARRY CARLTON.
MISS NINA CARLTON.
MISS LOU CHARLESWORTH.
MISS HILDA CLAREMONT.
CECIL CLAYTON.
MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.
MISS ENA COMPTON.
MISS GEORGIE CORLASS
MISS LUCY COVENTRY.
THE CRYSTALS.
MISS LINDA D'AMATO.
MISS ETHEL DANCY.
MISS ADA DAVIDSON
MISS DOROTHY DEAN.
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
MISS ELSIE DENYS.
MISS ISABELLE DILLON.
MISS MOLLY DOON.
MISS KITTY DOUGLAS.
EWART DRAKE.
MISS LILIAN DRAKE.
MISS FLORENCE DUDLEY.
MISS VERA DUDLEY.
MISS LILLIE EDWARDS.
SISTERS EDWARDS.
LITTLE EILEEN.
MISS DOLLY ELLSWORTHY.
MISS ETHYL ERROL.
MISS LILIAN ERROL.
MISS JANE EYRE.
MISS NAN FARREN.
MISS ADA FAWN.
LEO FIELDS.
MISS MIMI FISHER.
MISS RAY FORD.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
MISS IRIS FOX.
MISS TINA FRANKS.
FYNE AND HURLEY.
MISS KATHLEEN GARNON.
MISS GERTIE GAVAGAN.
MISS MILDRED GELL.
MISS LESLEY GIBSON.
MISS M. GIBSON.
MISS GERTRUDE GILLIAN.
ARTHUR GODFREY.
MISS RHODA GORDON
FRED GRAHAM.
MISS GRACIE GRAHAM.
MISS MABEL GREEN.
MISS GLADYS GUY.
MISS EDITH HALEY.
MISS VIOLET HALLAM.
MISS JENNIE HALLWORTH.
CHAS. HANBURY.
MISS CLARICE HANDEL.
MISS CARRIE HARDING.
MISS PRIMROSE HARDING.
MISS DOROTHY HARRIS.
MISS EDITH HARMER.
MISS CLARE HARTLAND
MISS DORA HARVEY.
MISS FRANCES HASKOLL.
MISS BESSIE HEINE.
MISS BEATRICE HEWITT.
MISS MAY HILL.
J. W. HOOPER.
MISS ANGELA HOPE.
MISS HOWELL-HERSEE.
MISS PHYLLIS HUGHES.
MISS ELSIE JAMES.
MISS EDYTH JEFFRIES.
MISS DAISY JEROME.
MISS ZONA JOY
LITTLE KEENO
MISS MABEL KEITH.
MANITO KILTGAARD.
MISS EMMIE KING.
MISS VERA KINGDOM.
MISS WINNIE LANE
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
ALBERT LAURENCE.
EDWARD LAURI.
WILLIE LE BRUN.
MISS HETTY LEE.
MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.
JACK LEMSAL.
SISTERS LENNEN.
MISS GERALDINE LE SAGE.
LEWIS LESLIE.
MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE.
WILL LETTERS.
MISS KITTY LISKE.
MISS LULU LORD.
MISS MINNIE LOVE.
MISS LOWE.
MISS RUTH LYTTON.
DONALD MACKAY.
MISS JENNIE MACKAY.
CHAS. MACNAUGHTEN.
MISS MARJORIE MANNERS.
MISS MAY MARS.
MISS NELLIE MASCOTT.
MAXFORD AND O'NEILL.
MISS NINA MAY.
MISS VERA MAYNE.
MISSES DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLEN
SISTERS McCOLLA.
MISS MOLLY McINTYRE.
MISS LALLAH MELROSE.
MAT MELROSE.
MISS MAY MERRY.
MISS DOROTHY MILLAR.
MISS HELENE MOHR.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.
HARRY MORGAN.
MISS MABELLE MORGAN.
MISS DAISY MORRELL.
MISS FLORA MORRIS
MISS LILY MORRIS.
TOM J. MORTON.
MISS MARIE MOSS.
MISS MINNIE MULVEY.
FRED MURRAY.
MISS WINNIE MYLNE.
MISS ETHEL NEGRETTI.
MISS IRIS NORMAN.
MISS MADGE O'NEILL.
TOM O'NEILL
MISS VIOLET ORME.
MISS MAY OTTO.
MISS CARRIE PARRY.
MISS LILLIE PAYNE.
MISS VERONA PHYLLIS.
ARTHUR PIER.
MISS ALICE POLLARD.
MISS MAY POULTON.
MISS MAUD PRENTON.
CHAS. PRESTON.
MISS KITTY RAFFERTY.
HARRY RANDALL.
PHIL RAY.
MISS MADOLINE REES.
MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS HESTER REEVE.
MISS MARIE REEVE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.
RALPH ROBERTS.
MISS WINIFRED ROCHFORT.
FRED ROMA.
MISS VIOLET ROMAINE.
MISS KITTIE RORKE.
MISS GRACE ROSAIRE.
MISS EVA MAY ROSSLYN.
MISS CHRISTINE ROY
MISS MARGARET RUBY.
MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL.
MISS KITTY RUSSELL.
SIDNEY T. RUSSELL.
MISS MARION SCOTT.
W. P. SHEEN.
MISS DAISY SILCOTT.
TOM SINCLAIR.
MISS GRACIE SINCLAIRE.
MISS TOPSIE SINDEN.
MISS ELSIE SKILLING.
MISS EDITH ST. CLARE.
MISS NANCY ST. JOHN.
FRANK SUMNER.
MISS GRACIE SUMNER.
ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
MISS MARIE SYDNEY.
MISS BELLE SYLVIA.
MISS AGNES TANDY.
MISS OLIVE TEMPEST.
MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON.
MISS HAWTHORNE THWAITES.
MISS KITTY TREWHILL.
MISS KITTY UPTON.
MISS BERYL VAUDREY.
MISS VENA VELMA.
MISS ELSIE VIDEAU.
MISS RITA VINCENT.
MISS RAY VIVIEN.
SISTERS VOLBECQUE.
MISS MARIE WALL.
MISS ANNIE WALLACE.
JACK WALLER.
MISS GLADYS WARREN.
MISS CISSIE WILLIAMS.
MISS ELLA WILLMER.
MISS IDA WILSON.
MISS NINA WILSON.
MISS CARLOTTA WOOD.
MISS DAISY WOOD.
SISTERS WYNESTAY.
MISS MOLLY WYNNE.

ADDITIONAL LIST.

MISS OLIVE CRELLIN.
MISS MAY DE LA GRANGE.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
MISS EVA ELLIS.
MISS JOSIE HAMMERSLEY.
MISS KIT KEEN.
JACK LANE.
JACK PLEASANTS.
MISS PAULINE RIVERS'S TROUPE.
MARK SHERIDAN.
MISS EVA SWINBORNE.
MISS DOROTHY WARD.

Artistes whose names are inadvertently omitted are particularly requested to advise us, so that the omission can be rectified.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.

BOB HUTT'S BENEFIT.

It was quite a gala night on Tuesday last at the Britannia Theatre. The occasion was the benefit of the popular Bob Hutt. Hoxtonians showed their appreciation of the beneficiare by turning up in thousands, and packing the huge Britannia Theatre from floor to ceiling. They seemed to have brought into the theatre an atmosphere of friendliness, which was emphasised whenever their favourite appeared on the stage. In his song of invitation, "Let's all go down the Strand," the audience appeared quite willing to join in the excursion, and heartily sang the chorus of that popular song. He extracted much fun from the part of the Alderman Fitzwarren, the father of the pretty Alice. There were interludes during the performance of Mr. Humphrey Brammall's successful pantomime *Dick Whittington*, one of the most amusing being a burlesque of the *Corsican Brothers*, played by the entire company, which kept the audience in hearty laughter throughout its performance. Another outstanding feature was the rendering of "Somewhere," by Master Leslie Perks, a lad in his teens. He received abundant and well-deserved applause for his singing of this popular ballad. Miss May Beatty as Dick, the handsome principal boy, continues to charm all hearers by her rendering of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," whilst Alice (Miss Ruby Verdi), in picturesque Alpine costumes, with a chorus sung by mountaineers, also brought down the house. Dick, Mr. Edward Lauri, is a host in himself, and keeps the fun at fever heat. Mr. George Rapley, as the lady hot potato merchant, philosophises in humorous fashion. The crew of the "Saucy Kipper," comprising Mr. Tom Birchmore, Mr. J. Willoughby, the Reed Troupe of pantomimists, and Master Leslie Perks, all worked hard and added to the amusement of the audience. An imposing Emperor of China found an able representative in Mr. Tom Melbourne, and was excellently supported by the Prime Minister, Mr. Percy Stanhope. The mates found able exponents in Mr. Will Harris and Mr. Alec Fraser. The parts of Princess Mi Young Man and the Cook were respectively well played by Miss Millicent Cooper and Miss Eileen Macarthy, and the Fairy Cat by Baby Elvie. No better illustration of puss could be found than Mr. Jack Hurst. Between the acts he prowled about the stage, and eventually mingled with the stalls, who regaled him with buns and chocolates. The veteran Mr. J. M. Jones, the producer of the pantomime, added to his arduous duties as stage-manager a wonderful performance of Shellack, the demon and slave of wealth, coming up through traps like a two-year-old.

During the evening many presentations were made to the principals by Mr. Bob Hutt. The gifts took the form of umbrellas and walking sticks, on each of which was fastened a beautiful bouquet of flowers. In response to demands for a speech, Mr. Hutt stepped forward, and in a few well-chosen sentences thanked the audience for its support and the company for the help given to him to make the benefit night such a great success. At the conclusion of the pantomime the curtain was raised on a side-splitting sketch, entitled

"A WELCOME HOME."

Mother-in-Law ..... Miss Lottie Swinburne
Wife ..... Miss Montague
Servant ..... Miss Ida Hetherington
Decorators ..... Messrs. Keith and Rigby
Husband ..... Mr. Bob Hutt

The scene is Rose Villa, and the wife is telling of the return of her husband. The mother-in-law is very irate, as she intends to have the house turned inside out for the necessary spring cleaning, and resolves to make it so unpleasant that the husband will soon take his departure. The husband returns, and insists on staying and writing letters. Then the fun commences. The poor husband suffers all sorts of indignities, which are heaped upon him as he continues his letter writing. Pots of paint are thrown at him, looking glasses fall upon him, and the finale comes when, in wrestling with the decorators, he falls through a ceiling. The strong-minded mother-in-law is admirably played by Miss Lottie Swinburne, the sympathetic wife by Miss Montague, and Miss Ida Hetherington makes one of the most comical slaveys ever seen. As the decorators Messrs. Keith and Rigby are very funny. Mr. Bob Hutt as the persecuted husband was simply excruciating, and proved himself to be one of our best farcical comedians.

"CHUMS TILL DEATH."

Revised Version of the Sketch adapted from Bartley Campbell's drama *My Partner*, and Produced at the Euston on Jan. 31.

Joe Saunders ..... Mr. Albert Marsh
Ned Singleton ..... Mr. C. Newton
Josiah Venables ..... Mr. W. Brandon
Billy ..... Mr. Maitland Stapley
Bob ..... Mr. A. Philips
Mary Brandon ..... Miss Grace Mortimer

The unfortunate Bartley Campbell, the American playwright, scored the great success of his chequered career when he produced in the States in 1879 his drama *My Partner*. It was hailed as the most representative American piece since Joaquin Miller's *The Danites*, and the critics of the day asserted that it breathed the fresh air of the sierras. It certainly possesses a thoroughly interesting and "human" story, the main points of which have been seized by the writer of *Chums till Death*, the tabloid version being presented this week at the Euston with conspicuous success by Mr. Albert Marsh and company. The affection of the "chums" Joe Saunders and Ned Singleton bids fair to cease when the latter overhears a conversation between Ned and pretty Mary Brandon, who has been the sunshine of Joe's life. He has told her of his devotion, but Ned has been before him, and from Mary's distress it is evident that an immediate marriage is necessary to save her honour. Ned promises that the knot shall be tied the next time the parson visits the mining camp. "Swear it," shouts Joe Saunders in a voice of thunder, producing at the same time a six-shooter. Ned does so.

As the relations between the chums have become so strained Joe thinks it best to part, and comes to the hut, shared for many years by the two, to say "good-bye," and to share the gold owned by the partnership. Having done so, he sorrowfully says farewell. He will not shake hands, however, until Ned has done the right thing by Mary, who has also excited affection of a kind in the sterile heart of the villain of the piece, Josiah Venables. Venables, in an altercation with Ned, stabs him with the knife of Joe Saunders, and leaves him for dead, taking away also the gold belonging to the dead man. Joe returns to take his partner's hand for the last time, and discovering him motionless, raises an alarm. Joe is, of course, accused of the murder, but the comic man, who has been in hiding, peaches on Venables, who is taken out to be lynched. Ned shows signs of life on the return of Mary, and the curtain falls on his partial recovery.

Mr. Albert Marsh has a breezy, man'y style that enables him to score in the fine and interesting rôle of the great-hearted Joe Saunders; and in distinct contrast to his impersonation is the Ned Singleton—a rather unsympathetic part that is carefully handled by Mr. C. Newton. Mr. W. Brandon is a truculent villain; and Mr. Maitland Stapley's Cockney digger is very amusing. The love and regret of Mary Brandon are sweetly suggested by Miss Grace Mortimer, and Mr. A. Philips is quaint as a curt specimen of the miner.

Mr. George Rosey has written a book, which, it is said, contains some startling material. It will be published at an early date.

"PRIVATE POTTS."

Military Comedy Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Herbert Darnley and Fred Kitchen, Produced at the Holborn Empire on Monday, Jan. 31.

Peter Potts .....MR. FRED KITCHEN
An Indian Princess ....MISS KATHLENE DENNIS
Mrs. Potts .....MISS JENNIE CRAMMOND
The Colonel .....MR. W. WILBEY
The Colonel's Daughter MRS. HERBERT DARNLEY
The Captain .....MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS, JUN.
The Bugler .....MR. HARRY LAPPO

The enlistment of Mr. Fred Kitchen under another banner was signalised by success on Monday, when he appeared at the Holborn Empire in a new farcical sketch, produced under the auspices of Mr. Herbert Darnley. In the new production Mr. Kitchen is a military man, and rejoices in the name of Peter Potts, a private in a regiment of Lancers. His adventures are very much of the nature of those of his former assumptions, inasmuch as they keep the audience continuously on the laugh. The regiment is quartered in India, and trouble arises over the complaint of a native prince that a British officer has penetrated his Excellency's harem. It is the son of the Colonel of the regiment who is the culprit, but Private Potts, who was keeping guard for his superior officer, allows himself to be blamed for the occurrence, and has to undergo court-martial. The trial takes place on board ship, and in the result Potts is dismissed the regiment. The vessel, however, is attacked by a foreign man-of-war, and Potts covers himself with glory by picking up a "live" shell and carrying it off under his arm, thus saving the ship. Notwithstanding, the sentence imposed is to be carried out, and Potts takes an affecting, though not unremunerative, farewell of his comrades. Ere long, however, the Captain confesses who it was that committed the deed, and Potts is restored with honours to his former exalted position.

Mr. Fred Kitchen is as inimitable as ever as Potts, and is full of comic resource. He goes far to justify the claim made on the programme that "One touch of Kitchen makes the whole world grin," and certainly he keeps the whole house continuously on the laugh. Potts undergoing court-martial, Potts sitting disconsolate in the barrack yard until he is made the recipient of various donations, and Potts with honours thick upon him is equally diverting, and yells of laughter are the result. Potts has his "stand-by" in a bugler boy, cleverly portrayed by Mr. Harry Lappo, who plays well up to Mr. Kitchen. A name well known to playgoers is found in that of Mr. Arthur Williams, jun., who makes a veritable British officer, delivering his lines with distinction; and the Colonel is the personification of military smartness in the hands of Mr. W. Wilbey. His daughter has a handsome and refined exponent in Mrs. Herbert Darnley, and Potts's designing wife, who aspires to marry the Colonel, is played in fascinating style by Miss Jessie Crammond, while as an Indian Princess Miss Kathlene Dennis is effective. The piece is mounted without regard to expense, the first scene being an elaborate Oriental interior, brilliantly illuminated. The ship is a realistic set, and a brave array is made in the barracks, where a company of Lancers parade in full uniform. Mr. Kitchen received a warm ovation from a closely-packed house, which gave every evidence of delight.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

The fortunes of this favourite resort of South Londoners are progressing by leaps and bounds under the able leadership of Mr. Cecil Paget, whose name has so long been associated with the place. One of the merriest turns in the bill is that presented by Zarmo, a little artist full of quaint humour, and who is, moreover, a deft juggler. Zarmo first appears as a bald-headed Scotch Jew, in a kilt blazing with diamonds, and adorned with a nose of abnormal proportions, which he subsequently sets alight. He afterwards excites abundant laughter by a quick change into the costume of a short-skirted dancer. He has also among his properties a comical picture labelled "Mother-in-Law," at which he every now and then hurls various missiles, such as pots and pans, &c. He also balances a trio of dummy babies, who squall as they are thrown into the air. His turn is all executed in dumb show, and his various juggling feats are very neatly managed, exciting continuous applause and laughter.

Miss Annie Dykes is a soprano vocalist with a voice of much sweetness, and her two songs "Land of Hope and Glory" and "Dear Heart" are very well received. Mr. Henry A. Moore, a very clever mimic, is very successful in his imitations of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and Messrs. Gus Elen, Wilkie Bard, and R. G. Knowles, singing various popular melodies. The well-known comedian Mr. Frank Danby and company appear in a sketch entitled *The Morning after Last Night*, in which Mr. Danby as the gouty and eccentric middle-aged Lord Exes amusingly lectures his valet and chambermaid, who have resolved to get wed, on the disadvantages of the marriage state. Mr. Danby presents us with an artistic and amusing portrait of the Gay Lord Exes, and Miss Edwardes as the chambermaid and Mr. E. Milroy as the precise valet, Bailey, play their respective rôles with much ability. The sketch is very well received, but a song or dance introduced into the turn would undoubtedly strengthen it. Miss Gertrude Gilbert, a tall and prepossessing young lady, appears in a triple rôle, telling humorous short stories, singing the popular "Yipiadyi-ayiay," and performing excellently upon the violin, earning much well-deserved applause.

A very welcome and interesting dramatic turn is the famous "Betrayal" scene from Hall Caine's *Eternal City*, in which Mr. Derwent Hall Caine acts with much realism and artistic force as the Labour Leader, David Rossi. Miss Phyllis Relph makes an attractive and emotional Donna Roma, while Mr. Edward Sorley is excellent as the sinister Prime Minister, Baron Bonelli. Mr. Alfred Harding is impressive as the Chief of Police. The turn is an unqualified success.

The Dinaro Brothers, two youngsters of apparently no more than twelve years of age, prove themselves most expert juvenile hand equilibrists, acrobats, and tumblers, obtaining abundant applause. Ray and Calden, as a lady artist and a dude, give us some amusing patter, winding up with a dance, which is very neatly executed. Mr. Bert Woodward appears as a coloured gentleman, and proves himself, to the great satisfaction of the audience, to be an expert trick cyclist. The first-class entertainment concludes with a dramatic series of films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, entitled And a Little Child Shall Lead Them, which excite much interest. Altogether the two houses a night programme at the Hippodrame is excellent, and the courteous and energetic acting-manager, Mr. H. E. Sawyer, has his work cut out to provide sitting accommodation for his numerous patrons. The very efficient service rendered by the Peckham orchestra under the experienced Mr. Julian Goldsmid is no slight factor in the success of the house.

STERLING AND LOVE (of *Musical Breeze* fame) introduced their new act, *The Masked Musician: or, The Musical Cracksman*, at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, and, judging from its reception nightly, it bids fair to even outshine their always successful *Musical Breeze*.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THOMAS BARRASFORD DEAD.

FAMOUS MUSIC HALL MAGNATE DIES AT BRIGHTON.

With the deepest regret we record the death of Thomas Barrasford, which took place at his residence in Middle-street, Brighton, on Tuesday last, at 4.30 a.m. The funeral takes place to-day (Saturday) at Brighton.

For some time past Mr. Barrasford had been in indifferent health, and the end was more or less expected by his wife and relatives, as he had been suffering from a complication of diseases, including Bright's disease and pleurisy. Although unable to attend at his office since last August, Mr. Barrasford had kept in touch with business until last week.

To the general public Mr. Thomas Barrasford's name is best known in connection with his tenancy of the Lyceum. It was due to his enterprise that the house was turned into a music hall. The programme which he put on was in keeping with the magnificent decoration and proportions of the house, which was almost entirely reconstructed. The chief feature of the first programmes Mr. Barrasford submitted there was excerpts from grand opera, which brought some of the best-known and wealthiest people in town into the stalls. He brought the grand ballet *Excelsior* to the Lyceum, which served to introduce that inimitable première danseuse Maria Bordin and Signor Vincenti to the London public. The venture, however, did not prove a commercial success, and the fine hall was closed before the end of the second year, after the production of a gorgeous ballet had failed to attract the patronage which was anticipated by Mr. Barrasford. Another feature of its programme was that originally two performances a night were given, the two-house system then being an innovation in the West End.

Among the chief attractions of the opening bill at the Lyceum under Mr. Barrasford's management was the Lyceum operatic company, including the following artists of high reputation:—M. Ansaldi, tenor, from the Grand Opera, Paris; M.

THE LATE MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD.

Rey, baritone, from the Grand Opera, Nice; Mlle. Van Parys, soprano, from the Grand Opera, Paris; and Mlle. Dasty, contralto, from the Théâtre la Monnaie, Brussels. Selections from *Rigoletto*, which included the famous dramatic quatuor, "Un di ci ben," one of the finest pieces of concerted music ever written by Verdi, were given.

Another great attraction of the opening performance was Mr. J. P. Harrington's musical sketch dealing with the pathetic story of "Enoch Arden." The title-rôle was played by Mr. George Leyton, the well-known actor-vocalist. The production was in three scenes—the first a seascape, with Arden's cottage in the foreground.

Mr. Louis de Reeder had an orchestra of forty under his bâton, and high-class musical selections were a feature of the programmes. The manager of the Lyceum was Mr. Alfred Selwyn, from the Hippodrome, Glasgow, and the stage director Mr. H. Crocker, from the Hippodrome, Liverpool.

To the profession Mr. Barrasford was known as the managing-director of a chain of halls that could give the artist as many as twenty-one weeks' work every year, and there was keen competition to get on his tour, for it meant a comfortable time, and the money was good. At one period of his career Mr. Barrasford seemed not unlikely to become the most powerful variety manager in Great Britain, for having started in a small way with one theatre at Jarrow, he extended his business until he had variety theatres all over the North of England. The entertainment he provided, at Leeds for instance, was of a higher class than that prevailing at the time, and soon he found that he was creating a new music-hall public and attracting those who never previously sought their amusement in vaudeville. This induced him to extend his enterprise to other towns. Year by year his business grew, until the places in which he possessed music halls included London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Glasgow, Nottingham, Salford, Brighton, Manchester, St. Helens, Leeds, Bristol, and Hull.

In 1904 Mr. Barrasford was one of the leading music-hall magnates, and it was owing to the failure of the Lyceum that he had to take second place to the Moss-Stoll combine, the headquarters of which were in that year established in London. Mr. Barrasford was the first to popularise the "two-shows-per-night" system, though it was really started some thirty-five years ago at Chatham, where it was found that the soldiers could best attend a variety concert between seven and nine p.m. (when they were due back in barracks), and the civilians after that hour, when most of their shops and businesses were closed. Mr. Barrasford first tried the novel idea at Leeds, where it proved so successful that he adopted it throughout his then already extensive vaudeville circuit. Cheaper prices were introduced at the same time, becoming 2d. for the gallery, 4d. for the pit, 6d. for the dress circle, and 1s. for the stalls. He was the first to give a cinematograph display in the country. In no respect has public taste so much altered as in entertainment, and without a doubt this was largely due to Mr. Barrasford. He helped to replace the old, obscure music hall, with its ill-lit interior, jumbled accommodation, and inferior programme, by the present theatre of varieties, which is characterised by attractive architecture, handsome auditorium, and bright, clean, and versatile amusement. Throughout England, and latterly on the Continent, he provided many new lamps for old—new lamps of vastly pleasanter potentiality in securing proficient artists, unique effects, and wholesome laughter on the variety stage. With this object he travelled extensively in search of farceurs, acrobats, singers, and dancers, and introduced many Continental performers to English audiences and English entertainers to foreign vaudeville patrons. His Continental interests at one time included the Alhambra, Paris, the Teatro de Nevedados in Barcelona, the Marseilles Casino, and the Alhambra at Brussels. The only London hall now in the Barrasford circuit is the Britannia, Hoxton. The Hippodrome at Brighton is probably one of the most successful halls in the whole of England.

Last year Mr. Barrasford, who was managing-director of Barrasford, Ltd., formed an alliance with Mr. Walter Gibbons, managing-director of the London Theatre of Varieties, and shared the head offices at Randvoll House, Charing Cross-road.

"I try to leave out the ordinary music-hall features," Mr. Barrasford once said in explaining the methods by which he built up his great business. "I do not allow comedians to banter the conductor or any one in the audience. In all my houses I cater for the family. I must have a large hall, a large orchestra, and good music. With these catering for the public is not a speculation, but a certainty."

Mr. Barrasford was twice married, and leaves a widow and five children. He acknowledged that much of his success was due to the talent of his wife, who was formerly known on the music hall stage as Maud d'Almaine. Mrs. Barrasford made her appearance on the stage when she was eight, and at the age of seventeen took leading parts in *Faust*, *Maritana*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. Mr. Barrasford's eldest son is the proprietor of a music hall at Keighley, and Mrs. Barrasford is the owner of the famous Devil's Dyke Pleasure Grounds at Brighton.

Mr. Barrasford was almost as well known in racing as in theatrical circles. He owned a number of racehorses, and among those which won races for him were Fancy Man, Little Grafton, Mountain Chief, Quick Change, Her Ring, Peopleton, and Helium. "Little Grafton," he once remarked, "I purchased for a song," and this horse won him a number of races in the North some years ago.

It is not too much to say that artists preferred to take engagements from him in preference to Continental managers, for some of the Parisian music hall managers seem to be more concerned with procuring "concessions" in regard to the sale of the programmes, the advertisements on the curtains and elsewhere, and the bars of the establishments to entertaining the audience. "But," said Mr. Barrasford to an *Era* representative at the time he opened the Alhambra, Paris, "it is very difficult to make a profit in France as a music hall proprietor on account of the heavy fees one has to pay to the local officials. All our bills are printed in Leeds, and I have duty to pay on them in France. Each bill has to be sent to the Town Hall and stamped. Then 10 per cent. on the gross receipts has to be paid to the authorities for the supposed benefit of the local poor. We have also to pay excessively for the guards, soldiers, and police sent each night to the theatre. Curiously enough, the firemen, soldiers, and police are changed every night, and if a panic did occur they would be absolutely in the way, for the simple reason that they would not know the run of the theatre."

Mr. Barrasford was president of the Music Hall Home, and did everything in his power to help this charity. In every one of his halls he had collecting boxes placed, and on two occasions, when damages were awarded to him in actions at law, he arranged for the amounts to be paid to the Fund.

Last year Mr. Barrasford celebrated his fiftieth birthday at his Brighton home. The note of sympathy in the congratulations from hundreds of members of the profession were particularly manifest on account of the trying illness that kept him a prisoner in "the Queen of English holiday resorts."

Though an unwilling patient in his doctor's hands, Mr. Barrasford managed to keep in touch with his important responsibilities during the entire time of his long illness. Indeed, the telephone by his bedside constituted the chief distraction of a period of enforced prostration unspeakably galling to a man of his active temperament and formerly strenuous habits.

As a well-known comedian once said, "Tom Barrasford's a man in a thousand. Would there were a few more like him!" The variety world is the poorer by his exit, and his genial figure will be sadly missed.

LOSS OF "PROPS."

An action was heard before his Honour Judge Parry, at the Manchester County Court on Thursday, the 27th ult., which was brought by the Two Erolls against the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co., claiming the sum of ten guineas for negligence and wrongful conversion.

Mr. Frank Rowland, instructed by Messrs. Amery-Parkes, Macklin, and Co., appeared for the plaintiffs, and stated that they were engaged for the week (Nov. 7) in a "leaping and comedy turn at the Grand Theatre, Nelson, Lancs. They were, however, unable to work the week in consequence of the theatre being closed, and accordingly three articles—a basket, a skip, and a spring-board—were deposited at the left-luggage office at Nelson Station for the week. The artists were engaged for the following week at Eccles.

On going to Nelson Station to take up their properties only two of the three articles deposited could be found; the basket which contained the principal articles for the turn was missing, and was subsequently traced to Euston Station. This was returned on Nov. 16, but too late for the plaintiffs to appear at the Eccles Theatre, in consequence of which they lost their salary which they would otherwise have earned.

For the defence it was first submitted that there was no case to answer, but the Judge decided there was, and it was then explained that the basket in question was accidentally forwarded to London together with the properties of a professional skater. It was admitted that it had been taken out of the left-luggage office by a porter who thought it had been put there by an hotel porter, and that he did not receive any ticket for it.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said that the contract was not to give up luggage without a ticket, and this the defendants had clearly broken. The plaintiffs had suffered damage and had had an unpleasant experience, and directed that there must be judgment for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, with costs.

"UNCLE JACK," the editor of the *Bristol Times and Mirror* Children's Corner, wishes us to thank, in our columns, the artists appearing at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, and at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, for their extreme generosity in presenting dolls in costume for sale on behalf of the poor children of Bristol.

AN exhibition of all the dolls sent in was held at the Colston Hall, on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and it was densely crowded. Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort declared the exhibition open, and the crush was so great that the hall was full and a thousand people were unable to gain admission for some time. There were over 4,000 dolls on view, besides heaps of other attractions. The theatre dolls were greatly admired.

IN addition to dolls from the artists, Mr. G. H. Elliott gave 5,000 packets of Fry's chocolates for the poor nippers so well looked after by Uncle Jack and the members of the Children's Corner. During the exhibition all the artists visited the hall, and were delighted. A little later on the Prince's Theatre and the Theatre Royal dolls will be sold by auction in order to endow a cot at Weston-super-Mare. Mention should also be made of Mr. Edwin Garth, who is selling autographed post-cards and doing quite a big trade on behalf of the poor kiddies.

A £250,000 VARIETY THEATRE.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS' LATEST AND GREATEST VENTURE.

It is all broken bricks and dust just now, but in September next the beauty and wealth of London will be meeting there—the Palladium, London.

We all knew Hengler's Circus with, first of all, memory recalls, its wonderful spectacles and clowns, then its real ice skating rink, then Volpi's animal circus, and lastly, that magnificent attempt under the Beketow management, to revive the glories of the bareback rider and the trained animal. To-day there is a yawning gap of 3,000 square yards or so, a huge derrick, a thousand unromantic labourers, carting out the bricks and the mortar that went to make up the old house, the blue sky (the weather clerk kindly permitting) above, Mr. Walter Gibbons and Frank Matcham surveying the progress of demolition—and that is all.

In that great gap will rise the Palladium of to-morrow—London's latest and greatest playhouse. Leslie Conroy, the present broad-shouldered and beaming manager of the Holborn Empire, is to be in charge, and, in these days of keen competition, his personality will assuredly serve the great house in good stead. Together with *The Era* representative Mr. Conroy stood upon a plank at the east side of the chasm and gazed westward upon a million displaced and distorted bricks, which formerly represented the support of the old building. By September, according to contract, that plank will have given place to a 100ft. by 50ft. stage, and those who stand upon it will gaze westward upon 5,000 faces, representing the audience.

"I come down every day," said Mr. Conroy, "to watch the old building disappear and the biggest variety theatre in the world arise."

Most people in the profession know of Mr. Conroy's yeoman service with Mr. Richard Thornton at the Empire, Newcastle, and his six years' magnificent work there. That Mr. Walter Gibbons was well aware of his sterling value is evident

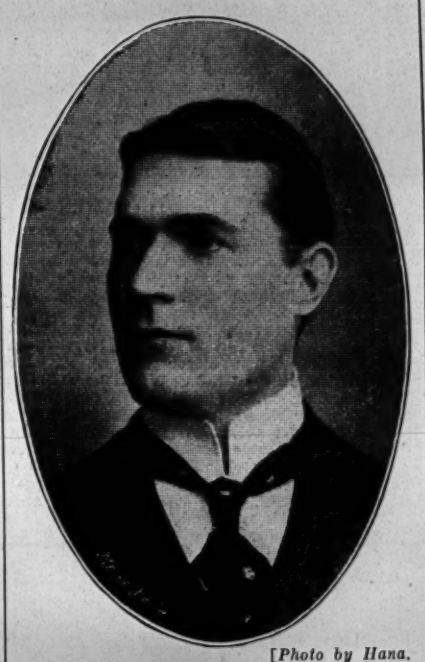

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. WALTER GIBBONS.

from the fact that he enticed him to take the reins at his premier theatre in Holborn, and that after two years' service Mr. Conroy gets the reward that only knowledge of the business and untiring devotion to duty brings.

Mr. Walter Gibbons is the youngest of the great music-hall magnates of the present time. But if he is youthful he has romped past some of the older hands at the game, for to-day he has the greatest London circuit of halls owned by any one individual or combination. In the current calls there are no fewer than eighteen theatres in the Metropolitan area to his credit, and we are threatened with more.

The Palladium is to be erected on an area which in the "good old days" was a labyrinth of wine vaults, and the Waring White Company, the contractors, are now engaged in clearing these out. Where the vaults stood there will be the stage cellar and the stalls. It will be a two-tier house, for Mr. Walter Gibbons believes that the audience gets a better view of the stage, and is better pleased with itself and with the program as a consequence of this arrangement.

The auditorium will be 100ft. wide. The grand circle will be on the street level, with one floor above, and the stalls below it. The classic frontage in Argyle-street, which is believed to be the work of Sir John Soane, will remain, but the rest of the old Circus has been torn right out to make way for a palace of steel and concrete.

Mr. Conroy says that the Palladium is Mr. Walter Gibbons' pet scheme. "To show that this is so I will mention just a few of the bookings for the opening weeks. The captures include more than a score of the big "stars." Harry Lauder is among them, Clark and Hamilton, Joe Elvin, Will Evans, Fred Kitchen, George Robey, T. E. Dunville, George Mozart, the Poluskis, Sam Mayo, Phil Ray, Billy Williams, Gertie Gitana, Maud Duprez, G. H. Elliott, Harry Tate, Whit Cunliffe, J. W. Rickaby, and Maudie Scott. In addition to this array of stars, the Continent is being ransacked for specialities, including big spectacles, and troupes of dancers and great ballets."

Years ago we learnt that "all roads lead to Earl's Court." The same might be said of Oxford Circus, where the Palladium is situated. It is absolutely in the heart of the West End, and will undoubtedly attract many pleasure seekers coming "into town" from both the West and the North, not to mention the East and the South. There are two tube stations at its front doors, and its motto might well be: "Why go further?" The only puzzle to us is that no provision for the great and growing public of the artistic variety hall has hitherto been attempted in a centre of the metropolis to which converge tubes, motor omnibus lines, and streams of street traffic from every point of the compass. But Mr. Gibbons is going to supply that want, or we are greatly mistaken. Some idea may be gained of the proportions and promise of the Palladium from the fact that the auditorium will exceed 100ft. in width, and will accommodate about 5,000 persons; that the stage will extend to 100ft. by 50, that the proscenium opening alone will be 50ft., that one of the various refreshment saloons will be 60ft. by 40ft., and that the abundant exits have been so designed as to render it possible to empty the house in a couple of minutes. These are in Argyle-place, Marlborough-street, and Hill's-place, leading directly into Oxford-street.

Mr. Conroy tells us that fifty performers will be in the band. The scheme of decoration is to be white, gold, and rose-pink, and each performance will be one of four hours' duration.

The architect, Mr. Frank Matcham, has given very special attention to the design of the two cantilever tiers, which will be the largest in any theatre in the world. Mr. Matcham has also provided in his plans a large amount of space for dining- and tea-rooms. Architecturally the structure will be in the classic style. On the two lower floors will be disposed eight boxes.

Whether any limit can be assigned to the enterprise of Mr. Walter Gibbons at the Palladium remains to be seen. He provides luncheon, dinner, and tea-rooms, with accommodation for 1,000 persons. There will be a reading-room, a free library, with tape machines for latest news, and a hairdresser's establishment for either sex. Prices of admission will range from 6d. upwards. One great idea of the place is that ladies shopping in Oxford-street will make the Palladium a rendezvous, a sort of social club, while awaiting the evening's performance.

People will never yawn, we are assured, at the new Palladium. Nothing gruesome, or savouring of it, will be booked. The keynote is merriment and brightness. Scenic grandeur, life, lightness, gaiety, and movement are to be the features of the entertainments to be given every afternoon and evening. Although a constant change of programme is to be the settled policy, a little army of auxiliaries—pretty girls who can sing and dance—will be employed.

One of the happiest features of the building of the new Palladium is that it will employ about 600 workmen nearly every day from next week to within a day or two of the opening.

With two tubes next door, with all the big traffic of Oxford-street and Regent-street rolling by its doors, the Palladium looks like doing big business next winter.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Mr. Pierre Cohen has certainly no reason to be dissatisfied with the amount of patronage that has been bestowed upon this popular place of amusement since he took up the reins of management, and the public has still less cause to complain of either the quality or the quantity of the good things weekly placed before them. Business has steadily increased during these few months, and houses good at all times, and often crowded to the doors, have come to be regarded as the normal state of affairs. The Palace "taps" an extensive and densely-populated area, and the people are fully alive to the fact that with such a good thing in their midst there is no need for going further afield in their search for wholesome amusement.

The substantial item of this week's programme is *The Drums of Oude*, a dramatic episode of the Indian Mutiny, written by Austin Strong, and presented by Mr. A. L. Levering, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman. With an interesting story, cleverly evolved, told in language pointed and forcible, *The Drums of Oude* deals with the danger threatening one of the British outposts from the sepoys in the early days of the Mutiny, and gives a vivid picture of the troubles surrounding our soldiers at that critical time. The piece is capitally acted. Mr. Cecil A. Collins, as Captain Hector Macgregor, plays with repressed force, and is convincing and artistic. His declamation is singularly clear and incisive, and every syllable he utters has its due weight and proportion. Mr. Harry Gerrick is delightfully boyish and impulsive as the young Lieut. Alan Hartley, who proves himself full of British pluck when put to the test. Mr. Lawrence Kitchener is alert and soldierly as Sergeant MacDougal, and Miss Beatrice Whitney is graceful and touching as Mrs. Jack Clayton. Smaller parts are well played by Mr. P. McLean as Private Stewart, and Messrs. Alec Weatherley and Frank Francis as two subtle native servants. The little piece is handsomely staged, and the Highland uniforms are quite "correct." Among the variety turns of the programme, George Formby, the Lancashire comedian, comes in an easy winner, his songs, "John Willie, come on!" and "My night out," provoking roars of laughter. The Rhoderick Duo are a couple of Scottish lassies, whose singing is much appreciated. Charles Banks indulges in some clever patter, and is admirably supported by a well-trained and highly intelligent little dog. A comedian with a peculiarly quaint style is Harry Herbert, whose rendering of "Yes, yes; oh, yes!" is very funny, and his "I've got the best of it, so I don't care," is loudly applauded. Miss Phœbe Mercer and company appear in an original comedy sketch, *The Interviewer*, brightly written by Harry Grattan. Miss Mercer appears as a lady journalist desiring to interview a bashful doctor, which she finally succeeds in accomplishing, in his bath. The little piece is full of fun. Les Paulastos give a sensational comedy act, in which, attired as waiters, they perform a series of the most amazing acrobatic feats; Miss Florence Yayman, "the coon caricaturist," is full of boundless energy, both in singing and dancing; King and Benson appear in a comedy duo, "Around the Town," in which they sing a medley of well-known songs. The gentleman has a delightfully-toned tenor voice, which he uses with great effect, while the lady recites, rather than sings, a piece about "How to be popular girls," with great effect. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures are as good as ever. The orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. H. Petersen, gives an artistic account of the overture to *The Girls of Gottenberg*. The stage-management is carefully and smartly attended to by Mr. Joseph Grant.

THE concert programme presented to the members of the Birmingham Jewish Working Men's Club on a recent Sunday evening had been arranged by Mr. George Robey, the popular comedian, and it proved thoroughly enjoyable. Mr. Lester Collingwood occupied the chair, and he was supported by Mr. Harry Isaacs, Mr. Moss Harris, Mr. F. M. Callisher, and Mr. Ben Peters. Mr. Robey was the "star" of the evening, and his humorous songs created roars of laughter.

MISS ETHEL HAYDON (Mrs. Robey) rendered pleasing songs, and Mr. Austin Rudd proved a popular entertainer; Mr. Tom Shale's songs were greatly appreciated; Miss Gratz, a charming young lady, showed that she is an accomplished vocalist; John B. Woods was warmly applauded for pleasing coon songs; and others who contributed to the programme were Mr. Deutch, 'cellist; Mark Daly, a promising Scotch comedian; Mr. Storey-Gofton, elocutionist; Mr. H. Ford, and Mr. Braime. A "scratch" quartette from the Royal sang splendidly. The usual votes of thanks were accorded, and there was loud cheering when Mr. Robey promised to give a second concert later in the season.

MISS PHYLLIS BEDELLS, by permission of the management of the Empire Theatre, London, gave a flying matinée at the Victoria Rooms, Bristol, on Saturday last. Miss Bedells' programme included a "Skipping Dance" (arranged by Mr. Fred Farren), "Eccentric Dance" (the shoeblack), "Danse Russe," "Flag Dance" (arranged by Mons. Alexander Genée), and "La Danse des Apaches," supported by Mr. Fred Biven

ALL these dances were rendered with charming expressiveness and in most artistic style, and as a final encore Miss Bedells presented a very difficult and attractive ballet dance. All Miss Bedells' efforts were most enthusiastically appreciated by a large audience. Mr. H. Harvey Pinches, Mus.B., Oxon., accompanied at the piano. She was presented with several bouquets, &c. Miss Nell Carter (from the Garrick Theatre, London) very ably recited "Lasca," by Mr. Frank Desprez, and, with Mr. Charles Thomas, amused with a duologue, "The Impertinence of the Creature." Mr. Charles Thomas and others appeared successfully in a costume scena, *Fra Giacome*. The vocalists were Miss Constance Perrin and Mr. Sydney A. Barnett; and solo pianoforte, Miss Eileen Valentine, L.R.A.M. The business arrangements were under the personal direction of Mr. Ernest Crichton, of Clifton.

VARIETY ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund was held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Thursday last.

There was a very meagre attendance, at no time during the meeting more than fourteen members being present. This was to be regretted the more from the fact that the committee had such excellent results of the past year's working to show. The Benevolent Fund has maintained the success of the previous year and is in a good financial position. The total receipts are about £200 less than in 1908, partly owing to no Christmas appeal being issued, and to smaller amounts being received from the M.H.A.R.A. dinner and from the V.A.F. Against the latter, however, must be put the £140 received as part share of the Coliseum matinée, while the extra 1s. on the M.H.A.R.A. membership cards brought in £342 17s., and the sports £77 14s. 10d. The balance carried over for the present year's working is £740. The committee hope to raise enough funds this year to continue to expend £20 in charity weekly. The Fund has either given away or lent to artists in distress the large sum of £2,011 5s. 9d., and during the past twelve months no fewer than 2,470 separate payments for relief were made. The weekly pension list now amounts to over £12. The expenses of administration are only about 15 per cent. In future, loans will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and in smaller sums. The committee is justly aggrieved by the failure of many who have been helped by loans to recognise their obligation to repay when in regular work again. Of the £300 odd granted by loan the first year less than £50 was paid back. Last year over £250 was lent and only a little over £80 was returned. Altogether £445 18s. 5d. remains unpaid, and the committee intend to use legal means to enforce repayment.

Mr. Fred Herbert, in opening, the meeting, said he regretted to see such a small attendance. It showed the amount of apathy in the profession where their own interests were concerned. Events since the last general meeting had gone along in a very satisfactory manner. He was sure that members would thank Mr. Stoll for his very generous action in connection with the Coliseum matinée. It was equivalent to Mr. Stoll giving them £100 out of his own pocket. Mr. Stoll has promised a matinée at Manchester and Liverpool on behalf of the V.A.B.F. Whatever money was derived from these matinées, their very best thanks were due to Mr. Stoll for his kindness. He only hoped it would bring other proprietors into line. Whilst he thanked everyone who had given money, he thought there were more of their own members who might give a regular small annual contribution. There were many old "pro's" who were worthy of their support, and there were many among the applicants who were not. Many cases were refused. He instanced one very impudent application, and wished he could name this and also other individuals. There were a goodly number of old pensioners on the Fund. He asked them not to encourage stage-door cadging. It was hard to turn people away who came with a tale of destitution. In nine cases out of ten these people had themselves to blame for their misfortunes, or they had played the Fund up to such an extent that no more money could be granted them. People who cadged at the stage-door were, in the main, unknown to the committee. The money given in this way was invariably wasted in drink. If they felt disposed to give away a couple of shillings in charity, the money should be sent to the V.A.B.F., and those charitably disposed should take on themselves the responsibility of recommending the applicant. Mr. T. C. Callaghan was their "relieving officer," and he went about his business in an astute way, and he had saved the Fund many a pound that might otherwise have gone to undesirable persons, and the best thanks of the members should be given to Mr. Callaghan for his untiring efforts. He thanked the committee for the way they worked and their courtesy to him as their chairman. He thought they had every reason to be proud of their year's work.

Mr. Herbert then called upon Mr. Douglas Stuart to read the annual report and balance-sheet.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Douglas Stuart said:—The Executive Committee, in presenting this the second annual report, is pleased to be able to state to friends and subscribers that the Benevolent Fund has maintained the success of the previous year, and, as will be seen from the accompanying statement of receipts and payments, is in a healthy financial position.

The committee desires to briefly draw attention to certain items in the statement that are worthy of more than passing notice. The total receipts of the year are, it will be noticed, about £200 less than in 1908, but that is accounted for partly by the fact that no Christmas appeal was issued. It brought in £131 the year before, and the amount received at the last M.H.A.R.A. dinner was less than previously, and, again, the amount obtained from the Variety Artists' Federation is £103 less, but against that must be put the £140 received as part share of the Coliseum matinée. The profit on the dinner was only £2 9s. 2d., as against £26 1s. 11d. On the other hand, the extra shilling on the membership cards of the M.H.A.R.A. brought in the splendid sum of £342 17s., and the net profits on the sports realised £77 14s. 10d.

Turning to the other side, while less money has been granted in loans, a larger amount has been given away in weekly sums, and more has had to be expended on funerals of artists who have died during the year. The expenses of administration have been rigidly kept down to the lowest possible amount, and, as last year, the total amount expended in salaries, printing, postage, and sundries does not come to more than 15 per cent.: in other words, it costs 3s. to give away 20s., an amount that will favourably compare with any similar society in the world.

The amount of balance carried over for the present year's working is £740, but the reason why this amount has been held in hand is because the committee of the M.H.A.R.A. has decided to hold the 1910 dinner jointly in aid of the newly-founded Music Hall Benevolent Institution, and therefore the Benevolent Fund will not receive the entire amount of donations from this source. But with the £350 estimated to be again received from the M.H.A.R.A. cards of membership, the profits on the sports, the half profits of the two matinées (one at Liverpool and one at Manchester) as promised by Mr. Oswald Stoll, a handsome donation of £25 received from Mr. W. H. Broadhead in January, and sundry other donations and collections, the committee hopes to receive, with the continued generosity of the profession, enough funds through the year to continue to expend the same amount in charity weekly—over £20—that has been given during the past two years.

It is interesting to note that during the period of its existence the Benevolent Fund has either given away in grants or loaned to artists in distress the large sum of £2,011 5s. 9d., and that during the past twelve months no fewer than 2,470 separate payments for relief were made.

The weekly pension list has been increased, and now reaches over £12 a week, and the committee, from past experience, feels confident that the greatest good in the way of helping the poor and starving is effected in this way in preference to the loaning of large sums.

Mention of loans leads up to this important question. The committee, after two years' careful experience of the subject, is convinced that it is useless to continue grants of loans on the same scale as in the past, on account of the large number of artists who borrow promising most faithfully to pay when they are in work, and who then forget all about it, and when reminded make excuses or are indignant at being asked to repay. In proof of this are the figures:—The sum granted in loans the first year was £314 9s. 2d., and the amount returned was only £49 15s. 8d. This year £264 6s. 6d. was loaned, and only £83 1s. 7d. returned, which leaves the large sum of £445 18s. 5d. still unpaid. Of course the committee has not the slightest wish to press those artists who are not in a position to pay through having no work, but it does intend to use every possible legal means to enforce repayment of the amounts by those who are constantly in work and who pay up their other debts and disregard their obligations to the Benevolent Fund. The committee also intend to grant loans in the future in lesser amounts and only in exceptional circumstances.

Leaving this unpleasant question of ingratitude, the committee would express its deepest and sincerest thanks to a number of generous charitable friends who during the year have worked so energetically, so enthusiastically in the good cause.

To George H. Chirgwin, the president for the year, sufficient thanks cannot be given for his noble efforts to make his year of office a record one. When the amount received at the dinner was not so gratifying as was expected, owing to so many artists not being present, he sent out, at no little trouble and expense, personal letters to his many friends in the profession and thereby gathered in nearly £150. With his own Benevolent box he has asked and has received all sorts of money, from gold down to farthings, and by the sale of his autographs and permissions to be "mimicked" he has collected considerable amounts. On behalf of every friend of the Fund the committee sincerely thank him. Another splendid worker, who, in spite of his own special institution, has by no means forgotten the Benevolent Fund, is generous Joe—Elvin is his other name—and his grand donation of fifty guineas at the dinner showed how much he is with the Fund, and his frequent attendance at the committee meetings is another sign.

The committee desires also to thank the V.A.F. for £100, received through the 2½ per cent. on benefits and matinées, also for its kindly negotiation which obtained the donation of £25 from Mr. Broadhead. By an arrangement come to between the Federation and Mr. Oswald Stoll, the latter promised, in settlement of the matinée trouble, to consent to three benefit performances at his halls—one in London, one at Liverpool, and one at Manchester. The first of these took place in December at the Coliseum, and resulted in a profit of £281, half of which sum was granted to the Music Hall Benevolent Institution and the other half to the Benevolent Fund. On this occasion Mr. Stoll came forward and, in a most generous manner, granted not only the use of the theatre free, but also the company engaged, orchestra, lighting, staff, and every expense—a gift that may be estimated at £100. The committee feels, indeed, specially grateful to the music hall magnate for his kindness and courtesy.

The annual athletic sports were held at the end of August, and the entire arrangements were placed in the hands of Mr. Albert Le Fre, who with his committee worked very arduously, and his labours were crowned with success, as is proved by the fact that the net profit resulted in over £77.

The only other item of special interest during the year was the inauguration of a little festival—a Christmas dinner to the old pensioners of the Benevolent Fund. This took place at the Dover Castle Hotel on Dec. 28, when Mr. Fred Herbert presided, supported by Mr. Elvin, Mr. Coborn, and others, and when nearly forty old music hall stars of a past generation were entertained to dinner and a concert, and spent, as they all agreed, a most happy time. It is hoped to make this an annual function.

THE FUND'S GOOD WORK.

The committee desires again to let the subscribers know in what different ways their money is disposed of to the benefit and aid of those poor brother and sister artists on whom Dame Fortune has placed her heavy hand, and who have no other resource except this charity or the workhouse.

Through the delegate of the committee, Mr. Fred Herbert, several letters have been obtained from the Hospital Saturday Fund for hospitals and convalescent homes, and those artists in need of the best medical aid or nursing care have obtained what they most required, and have recovered health and strength. Two very popular artists of the eighties are at this present time receiving the benefit of homes on the South Coast, and, it is hoped, will return at the end of their sojourn there greatly benefited by their change of air. Then the Fund often pays the railway fares to enable artists to fulfil their engagements after a long enforced spell of idleness. Fancy the prospect of work to go to, with the blessed salary on the Saturday, and no means of getting to that work! That's when the Fund steps in and helps. Then rent, with the stern, unbending landlord, or the kindly landlady as poor as themselves; the one will not and the other cannot wait. The artist, sometimes with a new-born baby, must pay or go. Where can the money be got from; everything possible, even the winter overcoat, has been pawned? The Fund steps in and pays the rent! A star lady artist, the talk of London not so many years ago, is now eking out a living by making blouses for a sweater. She cannot even pay the hire of the all-necessary sewing machine. The Fund steps in and pays the hire until the machine becomes her own property. In the earliest days of the V.A.B.F. it assisted a certain lady artist for some time, ultimately paying the railway fare, a heavy one, to her friends, who afterwards had to send her to an asylum. Happily, she is now well again, and wrote the other day to congratulate the Fund on the success of the Coliseum matinée. The Fund is contributing £1 a week to the Music Hall Home towards the maintenance of four inmates whom the committee recommended for admission. Unhappily, seven deaths of music hall artists, destitute and without means, have occurred during the year. They would have had to be buried by the parish—an awful thing this, when it is known how they are interred—unless the Fund had stepped in and seen to a decent, respectable funeral. No fewer than from forty to forty-five artists, aged or infirm, receive weekly from the Fund a small grant.

The committee is glad to be able to report that no applicant has ever applied for assistance who is or has been a bonâ-fide, legitimate music hall artist and been refused help in some form; the only cases the committee could not consider were those who had been—to use a colloquialism—"five minutes in the business," or those who had had relief again and again, and still wanted more, and who when in work never repaid anything they owed the Fund. Every case is also strictly investigated, either by Mr. T. C. Callaghan, the officially appointed investigator in London—in whom the committee has the greatest faith, and who no doubt has been instrumental in saving much money for the Fund which might have been given to unworthy persons had it not been for the pains taken by him in investigating—or by one of the committee, unless the artist is well and favourably known to the committee, who sit each Wednesday to adjudicate and administer relief.

The past year has seen the birth of a new charitable variety fund, founded by Mr. Joe Elvin, and called the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, which has been started to obtain sufficient money to erect a home for music-hall artists. The Benevolent Fund committee is working hand in hand with this sister society, for it is of opinion that when this Institution is built it will be a blessing for the poor, poverty-stricken "pro," and instead of granting the few shillings a week they can be maintained at a trifling more expense in comfort and happiness.

THE AMALGAMATION SCHEME.

One other important subject has been seriously considered during the past year, and that was Mr. Joe Elvin's grand scheme for the amalgamation of all the existing music hall charities under one control. Negotiations were opened with the Music Hall Home and Music Hall Ladies' Guild by the committees of the Fund and Institution, but they much regret to state that they have been inoperative, and it would appear that, for the time being, things will have to go on as before.

The committee desires to thank all the honorary officers of the Fund for their generous assistance: Mr. Harry Blake, who, as the treasurer, has proved himself the right man in the right place by his careful attention to all the duties appertaining to that position; Mr. Fred Herbert, the chairman, who has taken the greatest interest in the Fund, when in London by attending all meetings, and in the provinces by investigation of cases; Dr. H. M. Walker, of Camberwell-road, who has been most kind in attending various cases free of any remuneration and Messrs. Tom McKay and F. Slingsby, of Liverpool and Manchester, who have undertaken the investigation of local applications.

The committee desires once again to place on record the good work done by the secretary of the Fund, Mr. Douglas Stuart, who in spite of his other duties has performed all that was required of him with discretion, tact, and ability.

The committee implored the profession in the annual report last year not to relieve those "cadgers" who cry for a shilling at stage doors. Many artists have complied with this request, but some still continue the bad practice. Artists should send such people to the Fund—the large majority of them are undeserving, or else have received large sums from the Society and know they cannot get more.

As it has been decided, for various reasons, to issue no special appeal for funds this year, the committee would here and now ask those who have shown their interest in its welfare to come forward and give of their goods what they can afford, "not grudgingly nor of necessity," but with a good heart, ever remembering that in this life of change and uncertainty the most prosperous may by illness or adversity be forced one day to ask for charity from their comrades in their own profession, and if they have done their share to support the Fund they will then be able to come without shame for that aid and assistance they are certain to receive. The committee would specially plead with much earnestness for annual subscriptions. If artists cannot afford ten guineas a year, surely they can give one guinea or half a guinea. This is not much to donate in twelve months to help their own poor and starving, and if the Fund were certain of 250 annual subscribers at a guinea each, it would mean a weekly £5 5s., which would be of the greatest assistance towards maintaining the pensioners' list. Who will come forward and start and ask their professional friends to follow suit? Oh, for a magic wand to touch the hearts of one and all, and persuade them to continue the good work so nobly started, so magnificently continued up to now. The cases that come weekly before the committee are heartrending. No one except those who regularly attend can believe or realise the acute distress there is to relieve, while the gratitude of those who are helped is more than an ample reward for any trouble expended.

Other professions support their own poor, and the variety world must do the same. Let not the disgrace fall on performers of appealing for outside help when many earn large salaries and can well afford to contribute liberally to support the forgotten favourites of the past, who have nothing to live on but the memories of the days of their popularity—meagre sustenance surely.

In conclusion, the committee thanks all supporters of the Fund, thanks them in its own name and in the name of the distressed, the aged, the out-of work artists, for their generosity, and pleads with them to help them carry on with renewed enthusiasm the greatest work that is given to man to undertake—the sacred cause of charity.

By order of the committee,
C. Douglas Stuart,
Secretary.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1909.

Receipts.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance from last account		494 3 1
,, Donations	610 17 1	
,, Percentages on matinées per V.A.F.	106 19 7	
,, M.H.A.R.A. membership cards	342 17 0	
,, Collections and collecting boxes	73 3 9	
,, Dinner account	2 9 2	
,, Sports account	77 14 10	
,, Coliseum matinée share	140 19 7	
		1355 1 0
		£1849 4 1

Payments.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Grants for relief	733 3 8	
,, Funeral expenses	24 19 6	
,, Hospital Saturday Fund	10 10 0	
		768 13 2
,, Loans advanced	264 6 6	
,, *Less* repaid	83 1 7	
		181 4 11
,, Salaries	106 0 0	
,, Printing and stationery	9 14 9	
,, Postages	17 5 5	
,, Sundry expenses	11 13 3	
,, 200 collecting boxes	8 15 0	
,, Audit fee	5 5 0	
		158 13 5
		1108 11 6
,, Balance—		
Cash at Bank	695 12 7	
,, in hand	45 0 0	
		740 13 7
		£1849 4 1

Harry Blake, *Hon. Treasurer.*
W. H. McCarthy, *Accountant.*
C. Douglas Stuart, *Secretary.*

We have compared the above statement of receipts and payments with the books and vouchers relating to the Fund, and certify same to be correct. With reference to the dinner account there has been produced to us a certificate as to the receipts and payments given by Messrs. C. C. Bartram and T. C. Callaghan (the honorary auditors appointed by the M.H.A.R.A. committee). With regard to the sports account we have seen a minute of the committee agreeing the figure. As to the Coliseum matinée a statement for submission to the committee, audited by Mr. Harry Blake, the honorary treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, has been produced to us.

Jackson, Pixley, Browning, Hurry & Co.,
Chartered Accountants, *Auditors.*
58, Coleman-street, E.C.
Feb. 1, 1910.

Mrs. Geo. H. Smythson, vice-president of the Ladies' Guild, in moving the adoption of the report, said she and the members of the Ladies' Guild were there to take a lesson from the way the V.A.B.F. was worked.

Miss Melinda May seconded the adoption of the report.

Mr. Fred Herbert invited questions concerning the report. They had nothing to conceal or hide, and they courted the fullest publicity.

Mr. W. H. Atlas asked why the sports account amounted to only £77 14s. 10d.

The Secretary explained that the sum really received amounted to nearly £100, and the amount deducted had been paid away to people in connection with the sports for services rendered.

MR. ELVIN'S "BRICK EFFORT."

Mr. Joe Elvin expressed his pleasure at being present, although he regretted the smallness of the meeting. He concluded that to be a great compliment to the committee, as the absent ones evidently thought they could not do better than leave matters in the hands of the present officers and committee. The balance-sheet was splendid. Their best thanks were due to Mr. G. H. Chirgwin whose indefatigable efforts every member of the profession should recognise. He was happy to announce that another good man, Mr. Harry Tate, would be president for the ensuing year. Sir William Treloar had promised to do all he could to help Mr. Tate during his year of office, and that in itself was a good thing. Mr. Eugene Stratton, it was his privilege to announce, would take the chair at a dinner and dance to be held at the Criterion on Sunday, Feb. 20, and he (Mr. Elvin) hoped that all the boys and girls in the profession who were in town that day would rally round his dear old pal "'Gene." But for the efforts of Mr. Herbert and Mr. Young the Fund would not be in the prosperous condition it was. He anticipated the way the "brick effort" was going that they would be able to start building their institution in less than two years. He thanked the members of the Ladies' Guild present for their attendance and the good work they were doing.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Mr. Fred Herbert said that the Fund had been very fortunate indeed in its selection of presidents. They could never get a better president than their first one—Mr. Joe Elvin—but Mr. Geo. Chirgwin had made a most unique collection during his year of office which was a credit to his enterprise and indefatigable efforts. The collection comprised every coin of the realm, from sovereigns down to farthings, and from canaries down to huge tins of coffee. The canaries would be sold, for the benefit of the Fund, by auction, and when those who bought them heard the birds singing it would remind them of the V.A.B.F. and the good work they had assisted in. Mr. Chirgwin was not too proud to receive anything that could be disposed of for the benefit of the Fund. They should all remember that. Mr. Herbert read a telegram from Mr. Chirgwin wishing his successor every good luck during his year of office. Mr. Herbert moved that a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Chirgwin be given for the admirable work he had done during his year of office. This was seconded by Mr. Joe Elvin.

Mr. J. W. Cragg moved the election of Mr. Harry Tate for the presidency of the V.A.B.F. for the ensuing year, and said he was sure his friend would endeavour to do quite as much as Mr. Chirgwin and Mr. Elvin had done.

Mr. Johnny Alexander seconded the proposition, which was carried.

Mr. J. H. Milburn moved that Messrs. Wal Pink, Edwin Adeler, and Geo. H. Chirgwin serve as vice-presidents of the V.A.B.F. for the ensuing year, and said these gentlemen would fulfil every obligation that was expected of them.

Mr. Alf. Herald seconded.

Mr. Harry Wenburn moved that Mr. Harry Blake be elected to the office of treasurer. This was seconded by Mr. Chas. Russell.

Miss Lottie Albert proposed a vote of thanks to the Press, and Mrs. C. C. Bartram seconded the resolution.

Mr. Joe Elvin proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. Fred Herbert, and in doing so remarked that when the Benevolent Fund started Mr. Joe O'Gorman was a very hard worker, and their best thanks were due to him. They all knew what a hard worker Mr. Herbert was, too, and the thanks of all were due to him likewise. He had much pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Herbert.

SOMETHING GOOD IN STORE.

Mr. Atlas, in seconding, said that they had in Mr. Herbert the right man in the right place. He intimated that in the near future some unexpected honour would be accorded Mr. Herbert.

Mr. Herbert thanked the speakers for their kind remarks. He regretted that more of the members did not spare a little time to attend the meetings. But for the regular and consistent attendances of a stalwart band of six he did not know what would become of the Fund, and also the M.H.A.R.A. It was taxing the good nature of those who attended regularly too much. Any man who was elected to office should make it his bounden duty to attend as regularly as possible.

Mrs. Smythson moved a vote of thanks to the V.A.B.F. for the great help it had given the Ladies' Guild, and the proposition having been seconded by Mr. James Horne, was carried by the ladies present.

"OH, GEORGE!"

Duologue, by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas. Produced at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre on Monday, Jan. 31.

The Husband ..... Mr. Allen Leslie
The Wife ..... Miss Cecile Anson

Some amusement was caused by the above trifle, the plot of which has a familiar appearance. It deals with the jealous wife of a certain doctor, who discovers in a bag marked with his name feminine apparel and the photograph of an actress. Her worst fears are confirmed by the arrival of a telegram asking the husband to meet "Kitty" by a certain train. In her despair she drinks from a bottle marked "poison," only to learn when too late that the bag belongs to her husband's uncle, and that the telegram concerning "Kitty" refers to a poodle bearing that name. Fortunately, the poison turns out to be nothing more harmful than a cough mixture which the doctor had labelled in that way in order to preserve it from the servants. Connubial felicity is thus restored, all that the wife can say in answer to her husband's explanations being "Oh, George!"

The little piece was brightly rattled through, as much drollery as possible being made out of the situations. Miss Cecile Anson made an attractive appearance as the irresponsible young wife, and never spared herself in her portrayal of the agonies brought on by the supposedly poisoned draught, from which much laughter resulted. Mr. Allen Leslie played the part of the husband with the necessary buoyancy and good humour, and helped materially towards the favourable reception the sketch obtained.

Little Kinky, a comedian of exceptional ability, heads the bill at the Town Hall, Spennymoor. The pictures are most enjoyable, and includes subjects such as Senorita, Love's Artifice, Good for Evil, and The Convict's Revenge.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your last issue (Jan. 29) you report us as having appeared at the Hippodrome, Margate. This is not so. We were appearing at the Theatre Royal, Bury, for Mr. Fred Karno.—Faithfully yours, The Wollbats.

THE V.A.F. EXECUTIVE.

ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS.

The scrutineers appointed at the fourth annual general meeting of the V.A.F. on Jan. 16 last—Messrs. George Fredericks, Eddie Comet, Fred Dunstan and Wally Scott—announce that the following members have been duly returned to fill the fifty-nine vacancies on the Executive Committee, and are accordingly elected to serve for the next three years, the name being given in the order of votes received. It will be noted that the popular White-Eyed Kaffir heads the poll:

1	Chirgwin, G. H.	31	Hertz, Carl
2	St. Clair, F. V.	32	Monti, B. S.
3	Kenyon, Neil	33	Hallett, Wilson
4	Cragg, J. W.	34	Grace, Wal
5	Sinclair, Fred	35	Latimar, Fred
6	Leonard, Alf.	36	Warren, John
7	Ginnett, Fred	37	Newham, Geo.
8	Pleasants, Jack	38	Wenburn, Harry
9	Vox, Barney	39	Stelling, Harry
10	Costello, Tom	40	Laurel, Sid.
11	Rickaby, J. W.	41	Wills, H. O.
12	Alexandre, Josiah	42	Mooney, James
13	Kellino, James	43	Ashton, Rossi
14	Delevine, Percy	44	Farley, W. H.
15	Hughes, Geo.	45	Cee-Mee, Harry
16	Maple, Fred	46	Halter, Frank
17	Rudd, Austin	47	Wilson, J. W.
18	Freeman, Harry	48	Curran, Fred
19	Godfrey, Arthur E.	49	Barnard, Fred J.
20	Warsaw, Erne	50	Brockbank, Harrison
21	Obo, Jim	51	Raby, W. B.
22	Blake, Winfield	52	Zarmo, J. H.
23	Wallis, W. H.	53	Wilson, J. A.
24	White, Horace	54	Barnard, Julian R
25	Gallimore, Arthur	55	Powell, Pip
26	Goldin, Horace	56	Bright, Thomas
27	Wotwell, Tom	57	Ferguson, Teddy
28	Bandon, Sid.	58	Adeson, Martin
29	Mack, Julian	59	*Brady, Albert
30	Orpheus	59	*Mason, Harry

* A tie. The filling of the last vacancy will be settled at next week's committee meeting.

NOT ELECTED.

The following candidates were unsuccessful, but are eligible in rotation to fill vacancies that may arise in the course of the year:

61	King, Leo	84	Tubb, Dick
62	Hawtrey, J. H.	85	Story-Gofton, E.
63	Laurier, Jay	86	Voss, Richard
64	Edmonds, E. W.	87	Hurt, Wm. Lovell
65	Steen, Charles	88	Fenn, Frank G.
66	Stevens, Charles	89	Lane, Horace
67	Taft, Harry	90	Walmsley, Fred
68	Seener, E. B.	91	Note, R. C.
69	Fridkin, Boris	92	Ralston, Jim
70	Vandyke, Stanley	93	Baker, Arthur
71	Merrion, Harry	94	Pollock, Horace
72	Slippere	95	Pelzer, Josef
73	Helmsley, Arthur	96	Francis, Thomas
74	Harrow, Bert	97	Enzer, John
75	Gilmore, Robb	98	May, Charles
76	Nelson, Harry	99	Johnson, Mike
77	Finman, E. W.	100	Fraser, John
78	Cohen, Chas.	101	French, Harry
79	Hyman, George	102	Foley, Fred
80	Mason, Fred	103	Davis, James
81	Herman, Sid	104	Fulton, Fred
82	Vetter, W. E. O.	105	Carle, Leo
83	Ralston, Joe		

CONTINUING IN OFFICE.

The following members of the Executive Committee continue in office, the period for which they were elected not having expired:

Atlas, W. H.	Herman, Phil
Armstrong, Barney	Hurley, Alec
Atroy, Jas.	Johnson, Will
Adeler, Edwin	Jee, Harry
Bijou, Peter	Kitchen, Fred
Borelli, Signor	Konorah, Max Berol
Bancroft, Harry	Knowles, J. W.
Brooks, Geo.	Le Fre, Albert
Byrne, Bert	Lauder, Harry
Brown, Billy	Maddison, Bates
Barrett, Hy.	Munroe, Walter
Caine, Andie	Millis, F. W.
Cunliffe, Whit	McConnell, Chas.
Conlin, Harry	McConnell, Joe
Coborn, Chas.	McCarthy, Steve
Churchill, W. J.	O'Toole, David
Cash, Morny	Obo, Ben
Clarke, Leoni	Pink, Wal
Carlton, Arthur	Poluski, Will
Chester, Alf.	Phillips, Harry
D'Albert, Geo.	Russell, Fred
Delevine, Harry	Radford, Harry
Dunning, Robt.	Rich, Charles
Delevine, Sam	Schafer, Albert
Egbert, Seth	Stratton, Eugene
Edgar, Marriott	Sanford, George
Foreman, Jas.	Slone, Ryder
Forde, Hal	Tate, Harry
Frame, W. F.	Tennyson, Joe
Geraldo, Maurice	Tribune, Deane
Garrick, Gus	Verno, Arthur
Griffiths, Fred	Wheatley, Horace
Gillen, W. E.	Williams, Bert
Herbert, Fred	

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

Messrs. Edmund Edmunds, Paul Martinetti, and Joe Elvin as the trustees of the Federation are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

A LIBELLOUS LETTER.

An action for damages for libel brought by John Porter, proprietor of the Hippodrome and Opera House, Lancaster, against J. W. Hall, music hall artist, was tried before Mr. Commissioner Avory, K.C., and a common jury on Saturday last in the Nisi Prius Court, Lancaster, the nature of the libel being an allegation in a letter the defendant sent to a theatrical agent, Mr. McAskell, that the plaintiff did not pay his artists. It was written on Jan. 29, from the Hippodrome, Oldham, and stated:—"Dear McAskell,—I have refused Mr Porter many times £20, and told him myself last year £25, so you are taking a liberty to tell him you could get me for £15. Another thing, you have no right to offer anybody, especially if the money is not safe, especially the V.A.F.—Yours truly, J. W. Hall." Mr. Porter telegraphed to Hall at Oldham, "Wire who informed you money is not safe, important, Porter. Reply paid." The reply was "Reported in this week's 'Chairman's Notes,' Hall, Hippodrome, Oldham." On March 9, 1909, Messrs. Clark and Hodgson, Mr. Porter's solicitors, wrote to Mr. Hall as follows:—"We have been consulted by Mr. Porter, of the Hippodrome, Lancaster, with reference to a libel concerning him you wrote to Mr. McAskell with reference to booking you here—'Another thing you have no right to offer anybody especially when the money is not safe,'—therefore implying it was not safe for the artists engaged by our client. We understand in a telegram you say you were informed by the 'Chairman's Notes.' Whether such be the case or not, you are legally responsible. Our client instructs us to issue a writ against you, claiming damages for slander. Unless we hear this week we shall issue the writ without further notice." An answer came from Mr. Priestley, solicitor to the Variety Artists' Federation, to say that service of the writ would be accepted.

The Judge said there was proof that Mr. Porter's business had suffered, and it was for the jury to assess the amount. The jury found for the plaintiff, with £120 damages. Verdict accordingly, with costs.

An excellent variety bill is the attraction at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, this week. The Davis and Gledhill Trio present their wonderful cycle and motor racing exhibition on their own patent track, which thrills and delights the audience. The Lindos are engaging duettists and dancers; Chiko is a smart equilibrist; John E. Conan a good comedian of the quaint style; Gosman Couple are praiseworthy comedy entertainers; and Sam Redfern, the old original black patterer, is a very welcome turn. Zona Joy, a clever comedienne and dancer, and the Bounding Pattersons, in their exceedingly smart trampolin and aerial feats, complete the bill.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

2054½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£20	2	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	2	5	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Cnandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
R.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0

Sums since received.

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £23 1s. 6d.

Joe Elvin	105	John Tiller	20
Wee George Wood ..	21	Ada Reeve	20
Eugene Cremetti ..	20	George Robey	20
Ernest Polden	20	E. Essayan	10
Alfred Butt	20	A. D. Carter	10
Harry Lewis	20	Peter Watson	10
George Essayan	20	F. A. Badman	10
Harvey du Cros, jun.	20	E. J. K. Savage	10
Walter Gibbons	20	E. T. Steyne	2½
J. Amery Parkes ..	20	Fred Sinclair	1
Frank Allen	20	A Friend	1
Herbert Sleath	20	Gus Elen	1
Will Sley	20		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £4 9s.

Margaret Cooper ..	10	E Bryant	2½
Violet Vanbrugh	10	W. B.	2½
Arthur Bourchier ..	10	Frank Damer	2½
Eli Hudson	5	Jack North	2
Olga and Elgar	5	Gibbon and Bell	2
Les Trombetta	5	Victor Brothers	2
Tschin Maa	5	Durants	2
C. S. Richardson	4	Jack Lorimer	2
Nancy St. John	2½	T. Deutsch	2
Barclay Gammon ..	2½	Harry Vardon	1
Albert Mackelvin ..	2½	W. F. Moss	1
E. H. Mills	2½	Gus Elen	1
E. B.	2½		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan ..	1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey	1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Stone	1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz	1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz	1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz	1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey	1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner	1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten ..	1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown	1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast	1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray	1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	—Gus Elen	1

Collected by Charles Clifford, 15s.

Charles Clifford	2	T. Beeman	1
W. C. Burns	2	W. Ryde	1
Dobito and Buxton	2	Louie and Wally ..	1
The Soring Ellers..	1	Annie M.	1
Harry Goodburn	1	Fred M.	1
A. U. Mackinnon ..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	W. F. Frame	1
Jimmy Shields	1	Master Sydney May	1
Oswald and Locke ..	1	Harry Burdette	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
The Roses	1	Wilfred Forster	1
James McKimm	1	Franklin Dyall	1
W. Millard	1	Margaret Holland ..	1
Wylie Watson	1	The Adeles	1
E. D. Hess	1	Danas	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Fred Elton	1
Harry Bailey	1	Lamberti	1
W. Cummings	1	Gus Elen	1
J. Cummings	1		

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
Harry Ford	1	Elsie Roby	1
Will H. Fox	1	Andy McLeod	1
Mrs. Harry Dean....	1	Lamberti	1
Fred Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Dandy George	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Chris. Richards	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Florence Esdaile ..	1	Cornalla and Eddie..	1
Will Lester	1	Alfred Artois	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald ..	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton ..	1	Alma Shelley	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley ..	1
J. Cooke Beresford..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, £2 7s.

Walter Dowling's "Fantastics"	6	Karl Kremo	2
		Lillian	1
Sylvester (Ella and Eugenie)	4	Joseph Harvey.....	1
		Boden and Bell	1
Dorothy Ward	4	Alma	1
Linda D'Amato	2½	Sid Francis	1
Joan Burton	2½	Lux's Dogs	1
Daisy Dormer.....	2	Marjorie Lawrence...	1
Albert Egbert	2	Bertie White	1
Seth Egbert	2	Percival	1
Hill and Whitaker..	2	Seth's Hoopla	1
Andy McLeod	2	One of the Bhoys....	1
Lauri and Beatty....	2	Gus Elen	1
Tommy Clifford	2		

Collected by Barney Armstrong, £1 6s.

Barney Armstrong	6	Madeline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson ..	1
Four Royal Scots .	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lyon	1	Will Clement.....	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Branton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman, 3s.

A. Dome	1	Gus Elen	1
Nellie Coleman	1		

Collected by Charles Cardow, £1 3s.

Arthur Bromley	1	Fred Elton	1
George S. Melvin ..	1	Dave Laird	1
Ethel Dare	1	Walter Lawley	1
William Dare	1	Siems	1
Pasquali Brothers ..	1	George Norton	1
Valencia Friend	1	Will Cornish	1
La Belle Linda	1	May Thorne	1
Iris Fox	1	The Cecilias	1
Charles Norton	1	Cruickshank	1
The Gay Deceiver ..	1	Harry Ray	1
Chas. Cardow	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Cardow	1		

Collected by Elton and Elms, £1 5s.

B. Elton	1	Apicanus	1
T. Elms	1	J. N.	1
E. Le Butt	1	Maude Mortimer ..	1
Arthur Sydney	1	Miss Weston and Miss Longden ..	1
Royston Rippon ..	1		
Charles North	1	Miss Carr	1
George Ess	1	F. Marks	1
Bert Rolfe	1	Geo. Bury	1
C. Y. Fixott	1	W. T. Peake	1
Aggrippa	1	S. Bailey	1
Charles Heslop	1	L. I. Milne	1
Tom J. Dillon	1	Pauline Rivers	1
H. F. F.	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Geo. French, £1 13s.

Gimmy Winkle	5	Nick French	2
George French	5	A. Baker	1
H. Poole	5	Fred Bescoby	1
B. Gates	2	Phyllis St. Clair	1
Learto		J. Picken	1
H. Dowsett	2	L. Mason	1
H. French	2	Gus Elen	1
M. Cattaneo	2		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman	3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel	1½		
Michael Nolan	1½	R. E. Wade	1
Aggie Nolan	1	Richard Barclay ..	1
Bert Nolan	1	Harry Barclay	1
Olive West	1	Fred Malcolm	1
La Belle Linda	1	G. Barclay, jun. ..	1
Ben Webster	1	Joe Hayman	1
Mike Asher	1	Morny Cash	1
Hy. Pocock	1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Thos. Pocock	1		
Michael Nolan's Sister	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 10s.

Roslyn Stuart	10	Fred Evans	1
Woolmer Young	1	Fred Neiman	1
Ted E. Box	1	F. H. Pedgrift	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Harry Gage	1	Fred Murray	1
D. White	1	Charles Hilbury	1
E Myers	1	William Tayler	1
Chas. Norton	1	Dick Southerd	1
Wisper	1	Josie Co.	1
Henry Coutts	1	Gus Elen	1
Arthur Gallimore ..	1		

Collected by Rowland Hill, £1 4s.

Rowland Hill	1	Nell Emerald	1
Little Mamie Hill ..	1	Lily Black	1
Ralph Howard	1	Minnie Muir	1
Nellie Howard	1	Annie Schuberth	1
Eric George	1	Archie McCaig	1
Marriott Edgar	1	Harry Corton	1
Harry E. Ray	1	John Alexander	1
Kit Keen	1	Harry Radford	1
H. Valdo	1	Dick Tubb	1
J. Valdo	1	Alf. Corri	1
Cyril Thompson	1	"Ye Dame"	1
José Collins	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Craggs, £1 11s.

J. W. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cobbin	1
E. T. Cragg	1	Master A. Cobbin....	1
Mrs. E. T. Cragg..	1	Miss V. Cobbin	1
Miss V. Cragg	1	A. Zettel	1
Master A. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Zettel	1
A. Cragg	1	Master J. Zettel ..	1
Mrs. A. Cragg	1	Miss M. Zettel	1
Miss Sala Cragg....	1	Miss Rosie Cragg ..	1
J. H. Cragg	1	Master F. Cragg ..	1
Mr. J. H. Cragg ..	1	Master A. Cragg ..	1
Master J. Cragg	1	Master J. Cragg ..	1
C. Cragg	1	A. Cragg	1
Mrs. C. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cragg	1
A. E. Cragg	1	Miss E. Cragg	1
Mrs. A. E. Cragg ..	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Cobbin	1		

Collected by Ruby Dahl, £1 9s.

Geo. Barratt	2½	H. Gotham	1
Ruby Dahl	1½	Nora Stockelle	1
The Woods	1½	Morris and Moore ..	1
Harry Blake	1	Mayme Cannon	1
A. J. Girling	1	P. T.	1
Mammie Winstone..	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Bella Gordon	1	J. Julian	1
M. B.	1	Alice Gill	1
J. D.	1	Netty Janowsky	1
Harold Finden	1	Eli Hudson	1
A. P. Moeller	1	Carr and Rose	1
K. Girling	1	Gus Elen	1
Edith Keppel	1	T W.	½
Florence, Yaymen ..	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Ran Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Miss Bessie Butt, £1 11s.

Harry Tate	10	A. Tremaine	1
Bessie Butt	5	J. Fenton Walsh	1
F. Fields	1	Maie Dillon	1
Harry Claff	1	George Manton	1
Reginald Hunt	1	Pa Pa	1
George Regan	1	Jack	1
Fred Ryan	1	Ken	1
Dorothy Firmin	1	Gus Elen	1
George Hirste	1		

Collected by Barry Gilmore, Esq., 17s.

Barry Gilmore	1	Beatrice Mina Ingram	1
Mrs. Barry Gilmore...	1		
Barry Gilmore, jun...	1	V. Clements	1
Billy Oswald	1	Jessie Templeton	1
Fred Ingram	1	Mrs. Fred Ingram....	1
Nita Crystal	1	Hugh Boyle	1
Nellie Crystal	1	Mrs. Harry McClelland	1
Mount Stephens	1		
Harry J. Rennior	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Levaine	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

At the Hippodrome and Picture Palace, Ellesmere Port, the Tymes recently presented, with much success, a descriptive song scena, entitled *The Enchanted Clock*.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

AUSTIN AND COWAN.

The popular artists above-named, who are now touring Great Britain, are Australians by birth. They have been very successful in all the principal halls of London and the provinces, and hold contracts until 1912. Miss Cowan (Mrs. Sam Austin) was born in Prahran, Victoria. She is the daughter of the well-known Australian performer, Johnny Cowan, and sister of Joe Cowan, comedian, also well known in Australia. After her first appearance at the Alhambra Theatre, Sydney, then under the management of the late Frank Smith, she made rapid strides in her line of business, "motto and chorus songs," and soon won her way to the front rank. For several years she was the favourite chorus singer of Mr. Harry Rickards' theatres, and at one time she had a

[*Photo by Thirlwell.*

MISS RAE COWAN.

continuous run of two and a half years at the Tivoli, Sydney. Miss Cowan is fond of any outdoor sports.

Sam Austin was born in Adelaide, South Australia. He was always fond of singing, and as a boy at the "Model" schools in Adelaide the teachers used to take him from one class to another to lead the singing. He studied with Mr. James Brierley, Miss Isabella Webster, and Mr. W. J. Turner (of the Melbourne Exhibition concert fame), and was well known in Melbourne and

[*Photo by Thirlwell.*

MR. SAM AUSTIN.

Adelaide on the concert platform. He was engaged from the Melbourne Exhibition by Mr. Harry Rickards, and made his first appearance in variety at the Opera House, Melbourne, where he had a continous run of eighteen months. Miss Cowan and Mr. Austin have been working their double turn, which consists of refined vocal comedy, for twelve years. They have played all the principal halls in Great Britain, Australia, and Africa.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Excellent business is being done at this house, which is now run on the two-houses-a-night principle. *Puss in Boots* is playing to its full capacity at each performance. Genuine enthusiasm greeted the representation on the occasion of our visit. Mr. F. Bertram's comic talents as the Dame, Donna Dolores, are certain to be a sure draw. It is a funny creation, and the mirth with which he convulses his audience is spontaneous and irresistible. His song, "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" goes particularly well, and the chorus is taken up by the house with gusto. Miss Eva Ellis, a neat and most effective Princess Carito, plays her part daintily, and with much ability. She shows vocal ability in her song, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and in her duet with Miss Lucia Collins, "Kalamazoo." Her dancing is also of a high order.

Miss Lucia Collins as Juan, the hero of the pantomime, scores a great success. She delivers her lines with much effect, and sings, dances, and acts with grace and refinement, and brings down the house with "Let's all go down the Strand," which is rendered with skill and piquancy, and is also heard to advantage in the above-mentioned duet, "Kalamazoo." Miss Elsie Don is well placed as Lola, and contributes to the success with her rendering of "If I loved you." Mr. Wyn Weaver is quaint and diverting as King Komillo, and soon becomes a favourite; Messrs. Billy Young and C. Jackson as Sancho and Pancho interpret their parts in a humorous fashion; and Mr. Algernon Lee makes the most of Bilbatio. Miss Jose Hammersley as Perdita, the fairy, sings in good style and pure tone, "Somewhere," the chorus of which is taken up vociferously. The Bull is cleverly enacted by Messrs. Sam Lee and Pat Patterson; and last, but by no means least, the faithful Cat, as depicted by Mr. Haydon Curry, is a source of delight. The chorus numbers some good vocalists; and the Eight Gems and Six Monte Carlo Girls also contribute excellent interludes. The entire production is under the personal direction of Mr. Joe Collins. Mr. George Rhoden Parry, the courteous resident-manager, directs operations in front with his customary tact and discretion.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council resumed its sittings on Tuesday afternoon after the Christmas vacation, Sir Melvill Beachcroft (Chairman) presiding.

EXPLOSIVES.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that during the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1909, explosives and dangerous substances were found to be in use in licensed premises on fifty-five occasions. The arrangements were not in any case found to be unsatisfactory.

INSPECTION.

The expenditure incurred during the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1909, in connection with visits to unlicensed premises to ascertain whether public music or dancing was given thereat, and in connection with reports upon the character of the performances at licensed premises, amounted to £10 13s. 5d.

THEATRE DE LUXE, BRIXTON.

The Committee had considered drawings, submitted by Mr. M. S. Ward, showing the proposed method of complying with certain of the requirements made by the Council for the structural improvement of the Theatre de Luxe, Acre-lane, Brixton. The alterations contemplated include the improvement of the main exit, the formation of a new exit from the northern end of the premises, the construction of an additional exit staircase from the gallery, and numerous minor works. The Committee recommended that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the three drawings submitted with regard to the works proposed to be executed, provided that certain requirements be carried out. Agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Council approved of drawings, submitted by Mr. F. H. Payne, showing the proposed arrangements in connection with the International Aero and Motor-Boat Exhibition to be held at Olympia, Hammersmith, in March next; also of drawings, submitted by Messrs. Hayward and Maynard, showing the proposed arrangements of the fire-resisting curtain to be installed at the new concert hall, John-street, Adelphi; also of drawings, submitted by Messrs. Moscrop-Young and Glanfield and Mr. P. J. Waldram, of the Eltham Parish Hall proposed to be erected in Wellington-road, Eltham. It is intended to apply for a music hall dancing licence for the hall, which will have accommodation for about 600 persons, and subject to certain conditions being complied with the premises appeared to be satisfactory for the purpose for which the licence is required.

The report, it will be seen, did not contain any recommendation, and it was received without comment.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Produced at the Olympia, Liverpool, on Oct. 18, 1909, and played for the first time in London at the Grand, Clapham, on Nov. 22, 1909, the dramatic playlet, in three scenes, by George R. Sims, entitled *Buonaparte's Boy: or Two New Year's Days*, was presented at the Holloway Empire on Monday last to large and appreciative audiences. The cordial reception bestowed on Monday has obtained at each succeeding performance, and this powerful little melodrama should have a long run. Although we believe Mr. Geo. R. Sims makes no pretence to historical accuracy, he has worked up a plot in his playlet that holds the audience in its grip from start to finish. Madame Bernard, the widow of a loyal Buonapartist soldier, Serjeant Lambert, is wooed and won by Pierre Bernard before the action of the piece. In the opening scene, the home of the Bernards, we find the family reduced to abject poverty, owing to the drinking habits of Pierre.

He enters and demands money from his wife, and upon her declaration of not having sufficient to even buy food, in his passion he confesses to being a spy of La Vendee, and his detestation of Napoleon. Jacques, a poor little weakling, writes to the Emperor informing him of the condition they are in and the brutality his mother is subjected to by his step-father, and, in the temporary absence of Pierre and Madame Bernard, who has gone out begging for the sake of her ill-nourished son, Napoleon calls in person at their house. After hearing the boy's story the Emperor shares his lunch with him, and upon hearing of Jacques' desire to follow in his father's footsteps as a soldier, consents to make him a drummer-boy.

In the meantime the mother returns and pleads with the Emperor not to part her boy from her, and he gives her a position in the same corps as Vivandiere. After their departure, Pierre returns in a drunken state and makes an attempt on Buonaparte's life. This is frustrated by one of the Guard, and Pierre is imprisoned, but later, escaping, he joins the Russian army. He plans to take a despatch to the Emperor, on the presentation of which Pierre intends to shoot him; but the plot having been discovered by Jacques, Pierre is prevented from carrying out his nefarious design. He is ordered to be shot on the spot, but by the intervention of Jacques he is pardoned, sent with a dummy despatch through the enemy's lines, and shot by them.

Mr. Juan Buonaparte, a lineal descendant of the great Napoleon, to whom he bears a most striking resemblance, has a most interesting personality and is entirely successful in his clever impersonation of the Emperor, and Mr. E. H. Brooke's character acting as Pierre Bernard is quite convincing. Miss Molly Paget as Mme. Bernard gives a performance full of human feeling and delicate emotion. Jacques Lambert is played with skilful point and emphasis by Miss Ecca Van Leer, and the other characters are capably represented. The scenery is good, and every detail receives the attention necessary to give the finishing touch to an artistic interpretation. The piece is produced by Mr. Chris Walker.

La Sylphe, from the London Coliseum, is among the many excellent artists whose names are on the programme, and her "flexible" dancing, including her creations "The Dance of Folly," "Diavolo," and an Arab dance are most gracefully performed. Sylvia du Barry presents her well-known scena "In Andalusia" very successfully; and the Olympian Troupe of trick cyclists do an enjoyable turn. Ted E. Box is a funny little man who makes you laugh; and another altogether enjoyable turn is contributed by Haines and Borthwick, assisted by the Misses Margaret Damer and Ida Vynall, in a funny sketch entitled *Half a Dollar*. The Sisters Storm take high rank as original duettists and dancers; and Cissie Thompson sings a couple of well-written songs in fine style. The Three Meers are making a welcome reappearance here; their droll antics are provocative of continuous laughter, and their clever performance on the wire is much appreciated. Some capital films are shown on the American Bioscope.

At the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Wednesday, Miss Maie Dillon, who is playing the part of Pekoe, undertook the important rôle of Gretchen, owing to the indisposition of Happy Fanny Fields, owing to the indisposition of Happy Fanny Fields at a moment's notice. It must be added that she acquitted herself with remarkable ability.

Mr. Fred Melville's pantomime, *Mother Goose*, concludes its run at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, to-night, and Miss Maude May Murray, whose beautiful dancing has proved such an immense attraction, has been secured by Mr. Walter Gibbons to open at the Hippodrome, Richmond, on Feb. 28. On Monday next she will make her first appearance at the Hippodrome, Bristol.

ADA REEVE AND HER AGENT.

The action brought against Miss Ada Reeve by Mr. Harry Day, the well-known variety agent, trading as Day's Variety Agency, of Arundel-street, Strand, for £76 15s. commission, which he alleged to be due on engagements procured for the defendant by him at her request at various places, was re-tried before Mr. Justice Channell and a Common Jury, in the King's Bench Division, on Tuesday and Wednesday. The defence was a plea that it was an implied term in the contract between the parties that plaintiff should secure for her the best possible terms, and that he had failed to do so. The defendant counter-claimed for damages in respect of this.

Mr. W. J. Waugh, K.C., Mr. E. F. Lever, and Mr. S. P. Kerr (instructed by Messrs. Roberts Seyd, and Co.) appeared for plaintiff; and Mr. R. J. Atkin, K.C., and Mr. J. Crawford (instructed by Messrs. Cohen and Cohen) were for defendant.

Mr. Waugh, in opening, said the defendant was the wife of Mr. A. W. Cotton, who was her manager in theatrical matters. In October, 1907, Mr. Cotton asked Mr. Day to obtain engagements for defendant. This he did, some of them being on commission and some on a profit-sharing basis. The defendant had cancelled engagements at Warrington and Cardiff, without reference to plaintiff, and Mr. Day also claimed his commission on those.

Mr. Harry Day stated that he obtained engagements for Miss Reeve at various places, which she fulfilled, but he had not received his commission. He understood that some trouble arose with regard to the engagement at Eastbourne, which was on a share basis. With regard to this, Mr. Cotton wrote to plaintiff on Dec. 30, 1907, as follows:

"My wife asks me to send you enclosed cheque for £21 5s., settling your commission account, and to say that she will not pay another commission falling due from that day until you have thoroughly investigated the various breaches of agreement on the part of the resident-manager at your Eastbourne house. . . . Who was responsible for the dishonesty that was rampant in the matter of receipts for payments? . . . At the first house, on the 26th inst., the gallery-door returns were 100 short of the actual number of people who went in by the door. The excuse made for this was the idle one that a window had been wrongly 'tapped.'"

Witness wrote, replying that he had handed this letter to Mr. Winter, the manager at Eastbourne, who would take the matter up, as he (witness) had explained to them that his connection did not carry him far enough to interfere with him. When the Eastbourne engagement was entered into he had nothing to do with the management of the theatre, except the engaging of the artists. It was not until a long time afterwards that he heard that his name was on the bills as manager, and then he had it removed. He knew that in 1906 Miss Reeve obtained an engagement at Glasgow at £300 a week, but there was no comparison with regard to salaries between Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Mr. Sidney Walker Winter, managing-director of the New Eastbourne Hippodrome (Limited), stated that the company bought the assets of an older company in 1906 from the Court of Chancery, and at that time Mr. Day was acting as manager. Afterwards he had nothing to do with the management, nor any share in the profits. Mr. Day, however, engaged artists for them, and he asked witness to book Miss Reeve. Witness did not want to, as he thought she would not suit the Eastbourne people. Mr. Day pressed him to engage her, and he agreed.

Mr. Charles Howard, who was acting-manager at the Eastbourne Hippodrome, denied that there was any pillage or robbery there. Everything was accounted for to the defendant.

Mr. Harry Goodson stated that he was present at the interview between plaintiff and Mr. Ballantyne. Plaintiff did not state that he could secure Miss Reeve's services at a lower sum than that which Mr. Ballantyne was paying her.

For the defence, Mr. Atkin explained that Miss Reeve had paid considerable sums of money as commission to plaintiff, and this case was not a question of money. The real point was that if an agent engaged to do work, he had to do the best he could in the interests of his client. If, as a matter of fact, he betrayed her interests for his own purposes, in order to get a contract out of an influential manager, he was not entitled to any commission at all. The jury would agree with him, added counsel, that if that happened the best service that anyone could render to the public would be to repudiate the claim to commission that such a gentleman made, and to let the facts be made known. It was for that reason that this case was being fought. The dominant point the jury would have to try, though there were others, was this—Miss Reeve said that Mr. Day, in his anxiety to get in touch with Mr. Ballantyne, at Glasgow and Edinburgh, went to him and asked why he did not book her through him, as he could get her at £150 to £200 a week, instead of £300, which they were paying her through another agency. If that was so, it was a most improper thing, and amounted to a betrayal of Miss Reeve's interests. Alluding to the Eastbourne matter, counsel said that when defendant complained to Mr. Day, he never stirred a finger to put the matter right.

The hearing was adjourned till Wednesday, when Mr. Cotton, in evidence, said, when the engagement at the Eastbourne Hippodrome was discussed the plaintiff referred to it as his hall. It was Christmas-time, and the plaintiff said it was a comfortable place, and although they could not pay the salary required, a percentage of the takings could be arranged. It was always understood that no commission was to be paid on engagements that were not fulfilled. The plaintiff agreed to the cancellation of engagements at Cardiff and Warrington. The witness admitted writing with regard to Mi

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

A Shrine of Euterpe.
Our modern rinker must have music all the time, so, to pamper him, the powers that be at Earl's Court have reinforced their band with a tireless musical mastodon "the Gavioliphone." Energised by an electric motor and fed with yards of perforated music-sheets, this self-contained orchestra will waltz you or gavotte you, or play you the merry march or the tuneful two-step, without flagging or complaint. The sackbut, the psaltery, the cymbal, and the dulcimer, the oboe, bassoon, and the pipes of Pan, drums and fifes and a regimental brass band all seem to be embodied in the capacious and highly-ornate "Gavioliphone." 'Tis a veritable shrine of Euterpe.

Next Wednesday at Earl's Court.
At the hockey match which will be held at the great Earl's Court Skatery on Wednesday next we hear that an immense following from the many London rinks sending representatives will be present.

The Season at Earl's Court.
We are authorised to announce that the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, will be kept open for skating until March 31. Two more carnivals will be held, the first to take place on Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Caprara and the Society Dames.
Signor Guidi, as most fahionable rinkers know, is director-general of music for Mr. P. W. Willard, the managing-director of the Empress group of rinks. The signor is himself installed at the huge Zoo Rink, Glasgow, and this season he placed a fellow-countryman, Signor C. Caprara, in charge of the orchestra at Earl's Court. Mr. Caprara wields the bâton to such effect at Earl's Court that he is frequently asked by the Society dames using the rink to play their favourite melodies, and he always obliges with that easy grace and ardour for which the Italian musical enthusiast is noted.

Olympia on Sunday.
At the sitting of the Kensington Licensing Justices on Tuesday last a police inspector said he had been instructed by the Commissioner of Police to bring to the notice of the Justices the fact that Olympia, which was licensed for six days, and was used as a skating rink, was being opened on Sundays. In reply to the chairman, the inspector said that the premises were registered as a club. The chairman thought that the justices had not sufficient grounds to interfere, but the subject might be brought up when application was made to the London County Council for a music and dancing licence.

The Olympia Carnival.
Sir William and Lady Bull, Mr. Louis Napoleon Parker, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Olive May, and Mr. George Graves are among those who have promised to act as a judging committee at the masquerade carnival to be held at Olympia on Friday, Feb. 18. £57 10s. will be awarded in cash prizes for the prettiest ladies' costumes, £42 10s. for the most original or most effective gentlemen's costumes, and a special prize of £5 for any costume of merit. The judging will take place at midnight.

London Hippodrome Claims Rexos.
The Rexos come to town and the London Hippodrome on Monday next. Curiously enough, London has only had the opportunity once of witnessing at the variety halls what a really good skater can accomplish since Reynolds and Donegan were at the Palace. That was when Jessie Darling put in a week's show at the Holborn Empire. With the advent of the Rexos a really remarkable act will be seen.

Before the L.C.C.
At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday the Theatres and Music-halls Committee brought up a report stating that they had considered a drawing submitted by Mr. A. W. Hudson, showing how it is proposed to widen and improve the gallery exits at the Chelsea Skating Rink, King's-road, and Church-street, Chelsea. The Committee recommended that no objection be offered to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted, provided that the usual regulations be complied with. The recommendation was approved.

The Committee had also considered a drawing, submitted by Mr. W. A. Cornell, showing a skating rink proposed to be erected on the northern side of Upper Market-street, Woolwich. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the rink, which will accommodate about 730 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appeared to be satisfactory for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The Committee recommended that, provided that the works shown on the drawing submitted be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawing referred to and the regulations of the Council, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with.

The Committee recommended that no objection be offered to a drawing and specification submitted by Tamplin and Makovski, Ltd., with regard to the proposed electric lighting installation at the Roller Skating Palace and Club, Delaware-road, Maida Vale, provided that the Council's regulations are complied with in all details. The recommendations were agreed to.

N.S.A. Inter-City Team Race.
The N.S.A. has arranged an inter-city team race between London and Birmingham. This will be the first inter-district race arranged under the control of the N.S.A. The race will take place at the Brixton Rink on Feb. 16. The Londoners are a very strong quartette, and among the Birmingham four are men who have shown exceptional form; but the star most distinctly is J. T. Cooper, the Midland Counties champion, who has an undefeated record in scratch races. The selected sides are as follow:—London: J. Price, amateur champion; S. F. Casey, winner of N.S.A. scratch race at Brixton; F. G. Carlisle, winner of Aldwych handicap from five yards' mark; D. M. Swain, third in Aldwych handicap from scratch. Birmingham: J. T. Cooper, Midland Counties champion; A. H. Potter, second in Warwick and Stafford championship; B. Brooks, winner of Erdington handicap; E. C. Mackay.

A Trophy Wanted.
The National Skating Association has at length succeeded in making satisfactory arrangements for the national speed and figure championships. All three events will take place at the Maida Vale Rink. On March 2 the one-mile race will be held, while the figure championship in the international style is fixed for March 16, and the five miles event recently included takes place a fortnight later on March 30. The winner of the mile will hold the Benetfink Challenge Cup, while the magnificent "Richardson" Cup is given in connection with the figure event, but at present the association are without a trophy for the distance championship.

Wedding in Skating Attire.
It was a happy thought of Miss Edith Rawdon, daughter of Canon Rawdon (who was married last Tuesday afternoon, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, to Sir Frederick Fowke, Bart., of Lowesby Hall, Leicester), to attire her bridesmaids in skating costume. True, they were not equipped with roller skates, but in every other detail they were real skating ladies. Their short white cloth skirts were edged with brown fur, and they wore smart little fur-trimmed Russian coats, while their hands were thrust into comfortable white cloth and fur muffs. They were four in number—Miss Dorothea Rawdon, the bride's sister, the Misses Eva and Isabel Fowke, sisters of the bridegroom, and Miss Dorothy Rundall. Canon Rawdon performed the marriage ceremony, and Mr. C. R. Rawdon, of the K.O.Y.L.I., gave away his sister. The guests afterwards met at the Buckingham Palace Hotel, and later on Sir Frederick and Lady Fowke left for a Continental honeymoon tour.

Skating Football at C.P.
The attraction at the Crystal Palace Rink last Saturday night was a football match on skates between the Crystal Palace and the Casuals, which resulted in a draw of two goals all. An ordinary football was in use, into which some water had been injected to prevent it from being too lively. During the first half the only points accrued to the Crystal Palace, through the agency of R. P. Steytler. After change of ends the Casuals, by means of combined efforts, put on a couple of goals by Greene and Heald, while Richards managed a point for their opponents.

C.P. Skating Carnival.
Owing to the great success of the fancy dress skating carnival held a little while back on the huge skating rink of the Crystal Palace, the rink manager has decided to give the second on Feb. 16 (Wednesday). The prizes are numerous and handsome, and include an eight-day china clock and gong, large square mirror and candlesticks, silver rose bowl, carriage clock in leather case, silver-mounted umbrella, electro-plated table lamp, silver inkstand, &c. Competitors wishing to take part should send in their names and addresses as soon as possible, either to the general-manager or G. F. Stumcke, rink manager, Crystal Palace.

Some Excellent Skates.
The enormous popularity which has lately been achieved by roller skating is in great measure due to the "Bab" skates, made by the British Roller Skate and England Company, Ltd., of Birmingham. They are made in five models; all ball bearings are carefully tested; and nothing but the finest material is used in their manufacture. These are some of the points which have made "Bab" skates popular in England, on the Continent, and in the Colonies.

He Understood.
"A young lady wearing a pained expression, entered a crowded tramcar," says "Cassell's Saturday Journal." "'Will you take my seat?' exclaimed the polite young man in the corner. 'Thanks, no,' replied the lady; 'I prefer standing. Have been sitting a good deal lately.' And the polite young man, glancing at the roller skates in her hand, understood."

The Milton Brothers.
The Miltons, well-known skating comedians, have decided to alter their name to Milton Bros., in consequence of others assuming the name. They are at present playing in Harry Roxbury's *Mother Goose* pantomime.

Blackheath's Challenge to Skaters.
The skaters at Blackheath are a go-ahead lot of people. Following a very pretty and graceful set of lancers which was danced there recently, they have issued a challenge to skaters in and around London to dance a set of lancers against them. Instructors and professionals are barred. The offer is open for a month, and the event is to come off at the Blackheath Rink, and the local team will consist of Mr. McKinnell and Miss Rene Bowron, Mr. Newell and Miss Smyth, Mr. Rainer and Miss Slocombe, and Mr. Myhre and Miss Greta Bowron. The manager, Mr. Reiss, is offering valuable prizes for ladies and gentlemen every Saturday evening for novel competitions.

Kogan and St Valentine.
For St. Valentine's Night, Feb. 14, Mr. Kogan, of the Stratford Rink, has a fancy dress carnival on the tapis. The incidental features to be introduced on that occasion are as follows: A half-mile partners' race for a lady and gentleman; a waltzing competition; a backwards graceful skating competition; a two-step partners' competition; and the most original and the prettiest fancy costumes' competition. £20 is the sum set apart for prizes. Serpentine shooting and a confetti battle will bring what should prove a joyous night to a close.

Kingston Gymkhana.
The second gymkhana will be held at the Rink (Central Hall), Richmond-road, Kingston-on-Thames, on Wednesday, Feb. 9. The following is the programme of events:—7.30, all skate; 8.0—(a) one mile handicap (patrons only), two prizes; (b) musical chairs (ladies and gentlemen), one prize for lady and one prize for gentleman; (c) ladies' half-mile scratch race (patrons only), two prizes; (d) one-mile open amateur handicap, three prizes; (e) graceful skating (lady and gentleman partners), one prize for lady and one prize for gentleman; (f) skate boys' half-mile handicap, one prize; (g) hoop race (ladies), one prize; (h) potato race (gentlemen), one prize; (k) balloon race (ladies), one prize. All events will be run under N.S.A. laws. Entries for all events (with the exception of the one-mile open amateur handicap, for which the latest time of entry is Feb. 2) must be received, with remittance, not later than mid-day Tuesday, Feb. 8.

About Maida Vale.
A magnificently appointed rink, to be opened in a week's time, is being erected in Delaware-road, between Sutherland-avenue and Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale. It will have a skating surface of 375ft. long by 106ft. wide. The structure is even larger still, for it measures 495ft. by 120ft., and will comprise, in addition to the rink, cloak-rooms, dressing-rooms, offices and a splendid restaurant, decorated in oak, which will seat 750 persons. The floor is made primarily of 6in. concrete with joists embedded therein. The entire surface is then covered with vulcanite damp-proof about ¼in. thick, and over this a deal floor is put down at an angle of 45 deg., leaving a ¼in. space between each board. Over the deal flooring a vulcanite damp-proofing is next laid, upon the top of which there will be an American rock maple floor, with a 2in. surface. There will be a private box for royalty, and a most comfortable gallery for spectators. The building will be absolutely fire proof.

Rinking-on-Thames.
A piece of ground permitting of a skating rink 100ft. square, with an extensive river promenade, has been acquired on Eel Pie Island. A lava floor is to be laid down, the centre covered over, and the sides left open with garden surroundings and dotted about with tea tables in time for the coming summer season.

Amateur Waltzing at Wandsworth.
On Wednesday next, Feb. 9, an amateur waltzing competition for couples (lady and gentleman) will be held at the Central Hall Skating Rink, Wandsworth. This is the first amateur waltzing competition to be held in London. Prizes will be given.

Two Carnivals at Auckland Rink.
Last Saturday afternoon a large number of children assembled on the rink for the initial children's carnival. On Tuesday evening a pierrot carnival was held, and a very pleasing programme ensued. At ten o'clock the rinkers made a presentation to Mr. Butler for his splendid services as general manager. Dancing and a confetti battle followed.

John Davidson.
Mr. John Davidson is winning golden opinions from Bedford people this week. His performance is an exceptionally good one, the pace at which he travels round the rink and his easy manner being freely commented on.

Hockey at Bedford.
Two excellent hockey matches were played at the Bedford Rink on Saturday. In the afternoon a team of Northampton ladies were beaten by a Bedford team by two goals to nil. In the evening the Northampton boys took up the cudgels, and after a hard and fast game gained a victory over the Bedford hockeyites by two goals to one.

Coming Carnival at Bournemouth.
On Thursday, Feb. 10, a skating gymkhana will be held at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, including a football match on skates, tug-of-war, racing, and other competitions for which prizes will be offered.

Bristol's Latest.
Bristol has a new rink, opened last Saturday, at Carey's-lane, opposite the Empire, Old Market-street. It occupies a commanding position, with a frontage of nearly 150ft. The building has been solidly constructed of brickwork, with a roof of galvanised sheeting, supported on steel principals. The external elevations are relieved with rough-cast panels, and have a plinth of red brick, the panels between piers of the upper part being buff-coloured rough-cast. Internally the walls are coloured in two shades of green, the ceiling being ivory white. A gallery for onlookers is provided, in addition to a promenade on the ground-floor. The controlling interest in the Bristol Olympia Rink, Ltd., is held by the Victoria Pier Syndicate, Ltd., Folkestone, Mr. Robert Forsyth being the managing-director of both companies. This gentleman has had considerable experience in rink management, and promises to run carnivals, gymkhana, and sports from time to time. The secretary is Mr. F. Ryder. The floor manager is Mr. Jack Forsyth, late manager of the Pier Rink, Folkestone.

New Manager at Dewsbury.
The Dewsbury and Batley Empire Roller Rink is now under new management, Mr. W. A. Campbell, late of Liverpool, having succeeded Mr. St. Clair as manager.

In Marmalade City.
At the West End Rink, Dundee, crowded floors are the rule. An outstanding feature here is the tuneful music supplied by the band. Le Grand Bal Poudré is announced for Wednesday, Feb. 9. At the Olympia Skating Palace, Manager J. Adams nightly beams on a brilliant assemblage, not the least enthusiastic of whom is the large contingent of naval officers, who are frequenters of Olympia. At the American roller rink, in Melrose-terrace, Manager Hunnequin continues exceedingly busy.

A Rinking Presentation.
On Wednesday, Jan. 26, Mr. Harry Wamba, musical director at John Henry Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh, was presented with an ebony silver-mounted conductor's bâton, with suitable inscription, as a birthday gift from the members of the orchestra.

The Rexos in Glasgow.
This week the Rexos have been appearing with remarkable success on the Moss tour, at the Glasgow Coliseum. Probably no one in the rinking world to-day has the physical advantage of Mr. E. W. Rexo. Tall—he is 5ft. 11in. in height—of athletic build, hard and muscular, a trained contortionist, a practised hand balancer, of perfect poise, a long applied knowledge of the science of equilibrium, and a roller skater from boyhood, he has the ideal qualifications of a champion rinker. His great spread-eagle and railroad tunnel feats are examples of his powers of contortion, while his corkscrew spin, globe, and hand skating exhibit his wonderful powers of balancing. In his work he is ably assisted by his wife, Miss Winnie Rexo. A clever feat of the lady is gliding on the unicycle, and all her efforts bear that stamp of excellence that only twelve years' constant rinking can give. At the close of the present tour the Continent, chiefly Paris and Berlin, will claim them.

Bessie Butt goes Skating.
Glasgow was the third city of the British Isles to have a roller skating rink when the present boom started two years ago. The most popular is the West-End Rink, particularly so with the profession. Here any day one is almost sure to run across a brother (or sister) artist, and a reference to the autograph-book in the manager's room reveals many well-known names of both the legitimate and variety stage. The proprietor is Mr. Norman M'Leod Allan, and his manager is Mr. Scott Cameron. A jolly and pleasant innovation in "matters rinking" which has been introduced by the pantomime folk at present playing in the city is little informal tea parties or gatherings—"come-one-come-all" sort of idea. Of the many artists who patronise this rink perhaps the most popular is Bessie Butt, who is playing Aladdin at the Royal, and of whom everyone is talking as "one of the most 'pleasing' principal boys Glasgow has had for some time past."

Waltz Competition at Glasgow.
Great interest was displayed in the two-step and waltz competition, which took place at the Zoo Rink, Glasgow, on Thursday evening of last week. There was a large crowd of spectators, and the rival competitors were so nearly equal that the judges had a difficult task in selecting the most deserving. The following are the awards:—Waltzing: 1, Miss G. Hislop and Mr. H. Telfer; 2, Miss Madge Durward and Mr. J. Anderson. Two-step competition: 1, Miss McPhail and Mr. J. Anderson; 2, Miss Frances Bostock and Mr. E. Johnston. Owing to Miss Bostock being connected with the rink it was deemed advisable to award the prizes in this case to the couple coming next in order of merit, viz., Miss Madge Durward and Mr. Paterson. The prizes were presented by Mr. Gus. Bostock.

Zena Dare Skates at Hull.
Miss Zena Dare was a regular visitor last week at the Beverley-road Rink, Hull.

Racing and Hockey at Ipswich.
An interesting programme was in store on Saturday evening for the large number of visitors to the Empress Skating Rink, Ipswich. Considerable enthusiasm was manifested in the two mile race, which provided some excellent skating, the successful competitors being—1 Peake, 2 Duggan. These two contestants were well ahead at the tenth lap. On the last lap Duggan led for a time, but Peake made a special effort, shot by his opponent, and won by about a yard. The mile race for novices was another exciting event, and resulted as follows:—1 Garrick, 2 Ramsey, 3 Ward. The return hockey match between the Ilford and Empress teams was also played on Saturday evening, and resulted in an easy victory for the Essex club by six goals to nil, three goals being scored in each half. A feature of the game was the excellent shooting of Ilford's right forward.

Leicester Items.
The Empress Rink, where Mr. A. E. Court, the manager, has done wonders, beat its own record for attendance on Saturday afternoon and evening last. This rink has been selected for the semi-finals of the International Professional Roller skating races for the Midlands, which will take place in March. Mr. Court will also put in in the summer-time an installation of the game "The American Bowling Alley." At the Boulevard Mr. Ernest Holdsworth has attractions daily, this week a tug-of-war, a hockey match, the final race for the Jesson cup and medals, a basket ball match between the Boulevard Rink and Derby, a football match, and a mile race between T. A. Dunn and G. Keighley for £5 and medal being put forward. At the Belgrave Rink the directors, owing to being handicapped by the magistrates again refusing a further application for a music licence, have decided to offer substantial prizes for competition weekly. This week the events include a club team race, a gentlemen's amateur half-mile three-legged race, a hockey match between Belgrave Rink and Alexandra Rink, Derby, and a tug-of-war on skates.

"Brewster's Millions" on Wheels.
A large company, including many of the Middlesbrough footballers, gathered last Saturday afternoon at the Olympia Skating Rink at Linthorpe, where a team from the *Brewster's Millions* company tried strength against a Middlesbrough seven. This was *Brewster's* first match, and as a result the game was marked by lustiness rather than science. Exciting tussles were frequent, scrimmages common, and bruises many. Finally *Brewsters* had to retire beaten by six to two. A tower of strength to the professionals was Mr. Chas. Esdale (Monty Brewster), who was by far the smartest player on their side. Goals were scored for Middlesbrough by G. Dick and P. Harrison (three each). The former got his in the first half, and the latter coming from back to centre forward after the interval gained his in the second. For *Brewster's* Madgwick scored from a fine effort by Esdale in the first half, and Ash added a second following a corner in the second. The teams were as follows:—*Brewster's Millions*.—Goal, W. Patrick; back, A. Mather; half-backs, H. Swordy, P. Madgwick; forwards, H. D. Greet, C. Esdale, W. Roche. Middlesbrough.—Goal, H. H. Robinson; back, G. Craig; half-backs, W. Walker, H. M. Robinson; forwards, G. Dick, P. Harrison, F. R. Allison.

Bertha Doud Mack at Sheffield.
Billed as the "world's premier lady skate-dancer," Bertha Doud Mack, who is this week giving exhibitions each night at the Olympia Rink, has proved a big attraction. For a year she has been retained by the management of the Broadway Theatre, New York, during which time she has made an enviable reputation as a specialist for dancing in the two-step. Her performance of clog-dancing on skates is well worth witnessing.

Sheffield Rink Sold.
An auction sale of an unusual character took place at Hillsbro' on Wednesday, when, under a sheriff's writ, the contents of the Sheffield Roller Skating Rink, Dodd-street—which, it will be remembered, was wrecked by the snowstorm of Dec. 18 last—were brought under the hammer. Flags, banners, shields, and bunting, heating apparatus, fire appliances, fairy lights, arc lamps, and all the glitter of "the shining floor" were included in the catalogue, and found ready purchasers, though at not very remunerative prices.

(*Continued on page 29.*)

NOW OPEN.

EMPRESS RINK,

EMPRESS HALL, EARL'S COURT,

An Elegantly Appointed Rendezvous for the Elite.

THE FLOOR, the World's Record. Largest! Finest!! Best!!!

The ONLY SILENT FLOOR in the World.

A WORD TO THE WISE

The **only** substitute for a full Military band is

THE GAVIOLIPHONE,

As Installed at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court,
(The largest Span Building in England).

The **only** Instrument yet made that will fill any size Rink. Send your Agents and we will give ocular and auricular demonstrations. We supply these Instruments at half Continental prices, as we have secured the entire Factory's output for 1910-11.

Prices from £200 to £400 (According to amount of decoration).

You save the cost of Instrument in one season and have a valuable asset.

Remember we are experts in Rinking Business and started the present boom, and we know exactly what is required and we have got it. Compare these Instruments with others that are advertised as suitable for Rinks. **Compare**—you cannot, they are beyond comparison. Absolutely Unassailable.

POINTS.

1. Wear for years.
2. No repairs, tuning only every season.
3. No heavy cylinders at enormous ex-
4. Music changed in 10 seconds. [pense
5. Any boy can take charge.
6. Impossible to get out of order.
7. The only suitable Instrument yet made for Rinks.
8. You need one unless you can afford a Band of 15 to 20 performers.

Dont **waste** your money. The Gavioliphone is **the one Instrument most suitable for the purpose.**

THE GREAT MONOHAN

RINK and MUSIC HALL

Week, Jan. 31, Return.
Sutton (Surrey) and **Grimsby.**
We Feb. 7, **Skating Rink, Rotherham**

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Thanks to All Managers.

This Week.
OLYMPIA, SHEFFIELD.
Next Week,
NORTH OXFORD RINK, OXFORD.
Address,
Care of "The Era."

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

LEGAL DECISIONS ABOUT SHOWS.

A HOOP-LA TENT EXEMPTED FROM THE BYE-LAWS.

On Jan. 15, in this column, we recorded the important decision of the Lord Chief Justice (Justices Bucknill and Bray concurring) with regard to show booths and tents. It was an appeal case brought by the District Council of Whitley, in Northumberland, against the decision of the local magistrates, that a hoop-la tent was not a temporary building within the scope of the building bye-laws of the District Council.

Briefly Stated.

The history of the dispute between the proprietor of the hoop-la circle and the District Council is, that the local authorities wanted to bring the hoop-la tent within the powers of their buildings bye-laws, in order to prevent its erection. That is the clear fact that our readers must bear in mind in order to grasp the full importance of the decision of the Higher Court.

The local magistrates refused to convict the showman with the hoop-la frame for breaking the bye-laws, and held that a hoop-la tent, or circle, was not a temporary building within the meaning of the bye-laws. The District Council appealed against the verdict of the magistrates, and carried the case to the King's Bench Division, the Council maintaining their contention that the magistrates should have convicted the showman, and that the hoop-la *was a temporary building within the bye-laws.*

Reasons for Dismissing the Appeal.

In giving the decision of the Court, the Lord Chief Justice observed that if a hoop-la circle, like the one in the sketch plan before him, was a temporary building within the meaning of the statute, then it would follow that tents erected for garden parties were similarly under obligation to obtain sanction from local authorities before erection. He asked the learned counsel for the District Council if that was the claim set up by the local authority? The counsel did not answer. The appeal was dismissed, and the decision of the magistrates upheld.

The Great Importance of the Decision.

No law case of recent years is of so great value and importance as this Whitley Bay case. It touches the liberty of the amusement caterer at its centre. It is at last a charter of liberty to pursue his business without vexatious and illegal interference by local authorities. The nature of the erection is such that common sense ought to have kept the officers of the Whitley District Council from committing the illegality of attempting to prevent the amusement caterer following his business by endeavouring to bring portable tents under building bye-laws, obviously intended for sheds and buildings of a more fixed and substantial kind—such temporary warehouse sheds or houses erected for public works, or the rapid extension of trade and commerce quite properly, for sanitary and other reasons, come under temporary building bye-laws.

The Persecution of Poor Showmen.

We have had to interfere many times during the past few years to help showmen in similar difficulties with local authorities as the one we are now dealing with not always with success, and serious loss has been suffered in several instances, rather than face the enormous cost of an appeal case. The patience of the showman has been at last rewarded; here we have a decision of the utmost importance, yet it has been obtained, not at the cost of the showmen, but at the cost of the poor, suffering ratepayers. It is with the ratepayers that the Councillors and their advisers at Whitley will have to reckon. We have no doubt that the people of Whitley Bay had no objection whatever to the perfectly innocent game of skill known as hoop-la. It was the District Council, that in its superior wisdom tried and failed to stop the people's amusements in Whitley Bay.

Yet Another Case.

Closely linked with the Whitley Bay case is the still more recent one of Mr. Thomas Harrison, travelling auctioneer, at East Ham. Here, as at Whitley Bay, the Corporation claimed that the auction van and the tent attached to it were under the temporary buildings bye-law. Their full claim was that Mr. Harrison ought to have submitted plans, and obtained permission from the Corporation before commencing business.

Mr. Harrison quite rightly resisted this claim, and at his own expense (after consultation with his brother auctioneers in various parts of the country, and with the executive officials of the Showmen's Guild), determined to fight the case.

In our issue of Jan. 22 we fully reported the hearing of the case before the Stipendiary magistrate at the East Ham Police Court. The position taken by the Town Clerk was a most extraordinary one. Had the Court upheld his reading of the law, no show-booth or tent could have opened in East Ham without the permission of the Corporation. East Ham would have become a closed area to the show business.

The magistrate saw the serious nature of this claim, and took time to consider his decision. We quote again as relevant to our argument at this point, the evidence of the Borough Surveyor and the observations of the magistrate and the learned counsel (for Mr. Harrison), Mr. Elliott, K.C.:—

"The Borough Engineer gave formal evidence to the effect that no plans of the building had been deposited with the Council. In reply to his Worship, Mr. Campbell said that he should call an ordinary tent with poles resting on the ground a structure.

"Mr. J. Birch, Assistant Surveyor, said the building consisted of a caravan on wheels, used as a sale van, with a tent in front of it. There was a wooden flooring, but he did not think it had any foundation.

"His Worship: It seems to me that the whole question is whether or not a tent is a building. His Worship added that he had issued the summons, but at the time he did not know it was a tent. He would like to know if the Town Clerk had any legal decision as to what was a building.

"The Town Clerk: None, beyond what is described as new buildings. If it remains for more than seven days it becomes a building, and not a tent.

"In defence, Mr. Elliott said the defendant was what was known as a sort of "cheap Jack," and he travelled round the country with a caravan and tent, in which he sold Birmingham hardware and articles of that kind. He had not been to East Ham for six years, his circuit being so large that he did not get round to this favoured district very often. (Laughter.) The defendant had been summoned for setting up a temporary building, but under no circumstances could it be held that this tent was a building. The caravan was on wheels; it was removed from place to place, and was used as a storeroom for the goods to be sold, and nobody ever slept in it.

"His Worship: It was a warehouse or ware tent?

"Mr. Elliott: Yes. Counsel went on to say that the only object of the canvas was that people might come to the defendant's sale without personal discomfort in the winter time. The intention of the Act was not to deal with temporary buildings or tents of that kind, but buildings which might be inhabited, and in which they would have to consider sanitary and other aspects of the case."

The Decision of the Magistrate.

Taking a week to consider his decision, the magistrate, on Thursday, Jan. 27, said that he had thoroughly gone into the questions at issue. His conclusion was that the wording of Section 38 of the East Ham Improvement Act, 1898, was ambiguous. He held the opinion that something was omitted from the Act when drafted, and that now it *could not possibly apply to a tent, which was the subject-matter before him.* He, therefore, dismissed the summons. Mr. Harrison is to be heartily congratulated on the result, and we trust that his brother auctioneers throughout the country will share the burden of the legal charges, doubtless very heavy, that he has incurred in his plucky fight for liberty to pursue his lawful business without vexatious and unreasonable interference from local authorities.

How Local Authorities Abuse their Powers.

This claim of corporations to control (or prohibit) show business, or similar traders, like travelling auctioneers and itinerant entertainers, is not a new one. Scores of instances could be adduced of persecution of showmen and travelling traders by the threat of bringing actions against them under the local building bye-laws. Faced with the loss of time and money involved in defying such tyranny, showmen—being a long-suffering race—have moved on to another town. Now that Parliamentary defence work is becoming less necessary and less expensive, the Showmen's Guild will be able to give more attention to these cases of local tyranny—for that is what they amount to. With the decision of the Lord Chief Justice in the Higher Court, and the decision of the learned stipendiary in the Lower Court, in the cases under review, to encourage them, the organised showmen will do well to contest all such claims as those of East Ham and Whitley Bay. The preposterous claim that show booths and tents are temporary buildings within the scope of building bye-laws is manifestly unjust, especially when we consider the obvious differences between booths and tents and temporary sheds, warehouses, granaries, and houses for work people on public works. For these latter kind of erections, with necessary drainage and sanitary arrangements, the Borough Surveyor must exercise his office; but for a show booth, an auctioneer's tent, a hoopla circle, or, as the Lord Chief Justice shrewdly put it, for a tent at a garden party, such local control is manifestly an invasion of the liberty of the subject, and in no sense beneficial to the community. Corporations must learn to moderate their ambition; local government is excellent, but only so when it is not abused. Too long have corporations presumed to decide points of law, and, secure in their authority, have thrown the burden of opposition to their misreading of their real legal powers upon the suffering people.

Justice will be Done.

During the extremely important negotiations and interviews at the Home Office with regard to the Cinematograph Act, it became evident that the Home Secretary was not aware that certain corporations did attempt to abuse and overstrain their local bye-laws to injure the show business. In Mr. Horne's evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Movable Dwellings Bill the same point was raised, and the committee were incredulous until Mr. Horne adduced instances—he had several at his command—of oppression and tyranny by local authorities. Instances where the statute law was defied because it protected the showman, and the local power to override the law of the realm was asserted, and the Home Secretary himself set at defiance. Local bodies presume to overstrain their powers and throw upon the showman the expense and burden of legal proceedings. The local authorities have the rates to fight with; the poor showman must risk the hard-earned savings of a lifetime in contesting these outrageous claims. Can we wonder that the average man refuses such a risk, and, however galling to his sense of right and wrong, strikes his tent, and moves on to another town more tolerant of his enterprise.

The Dawn of Better Days.

The Showmen's Guild having successfully stopped in Parliament the increase of oppressive local powers, will, we confidently anticipate, soon be financially strong enough to contest these claims of local bodies in excess of the common law. Showmen know that the courts are open to all citizens, and that justice can be obtained, even against mighty corporations, but showmen, like other traders, have their limitations. For over twenty years they have been engaged in stopping the increase of class legislation, whether by public or private Bills. This work was paramount—nothing could be done until this vital work was a visible success. We see the end of this supreme endeavour in the near future. We are not at all alarmed over Handsworth and Middleton. In fact, we rejoice to say that the Middleton Bill is settled; the corporation consents to strike out the objectionable clause. Handsworth must withdraw or fight a losing game. After Oldham last year, it is madness on their part to persevere. When, therefore, the Guild turns its attention, and can give time and money to these cases of petty persecution and intolerable presumption on the part of corporations and their officials, the organised showmen will receive that courtesy—not to say justice—that they are entitled to receive. Such are some of the considerations arising out of the recent legal decisions affecting show booths and tents.

The Annual Meeting at King's Lynn.

THE Guild meeting will take place at the Town Hall, Lynn, on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 11 a.m. His Worship the Mayor will preside. Alderman Dunn and other gentlemen will be present. The deputation from the Guild will include the president, the chaplain, the hon. secretary, and the Parliamentary solicitor. Important committee meetings will take place the same day, both of the Guild and the British Showmen and Roundabout Proprietors' Union. See advertisements for particulars.

World's Fair.

THE World's Fair at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, terminates its thirty-first consecutive year to-day (Saturday), Feb. 5, after a most successful run of close on seven weeks. So successful has the season been, that it has beaten all previous records, and there have been some good ones to beat. The introduction of the great Parisian Circus, coming over in its entirety direct from Paris, was an entire innovation from all points of view, and Mme. De Roy has proved herself a most capable directress, under whose direction excellent programmes have been arranged. The numerous artists were all new to London audiences, making their first appearance Dec. 23, 1909. The programmes have been varied so there was always something new to bring before the public each week. The various turns included the leading jockey riders of the world—male and female, liberty and haute-ecole acts, daring bareback riders, jugglers, spiral globe ascensionist, grotesque clowns, ring acts, and novelties. The great aerial shows, always a big leading feature here, are again a popular feature in the programme, the Seven Flying Jordans showing to great advantage, the high, well-illuminated roof showing their thrilling acts off to perfection, as also of the marvellous Polar, in his sensational and novel act "Up the Pole." While the mammoth and well-appointed Skating Rink has proved a popular and much-appreciated attraction in the Gilbey Hall, E. H. Bostock and Wombwell's superb menagerie, with dens of performing animals, has been a popular attraction; also the monster monkey house. The various magnificent side-shows, riding machines, and numerous other attractions, also a well-appointed free ball-room, are amongst the numerous other amusements the energetic lessee, Mr. T. E. Read, has popularised this great London annual show at a sixpenny admission.

FAREWELL GUILD SERVICE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Following on the successful establishment of the guilds' chapel at the World's Fair during the winter of 1909, the second session of the guild services in the present year has been a most gratifying success. With his usual kindness Mr. T. E. Reed, the lessee of the World's Fair, placed a large room at the chaplain's disposal. Mr. Frank Turner, Miss Turner, and Mr. William Wilson gave great assistance to the chaplain in the necessary arrangements and the visitation of the vans during the Fair. Starting on the first Sunday in the New Year Mr. Horne attended the chapel at 7 o'clock, and was available for private advice and direction to the members of his flock from that hour until the commencement of the service at 8. This quiet time should be seized upon by those needing advice, when the chaplain would be ready to give any assistance within his power. Showmen in difficulties with regard to their business, and with their own life, took advantage of the opportunity and consulted the chaplain. At 8 o'clock every Sunday evening the guild service, with its severely simple and Congregational form, took place. The attendance was increasingly large, Sunday by Sunday, until, upon the occasion that we are now about to chronicle, the chapel was filled with an attentive and devout congregation. It is quite true to say that the greater number of the heads of families at the World's Fair took advantage of this quiet time for devotion and spiritual instruction. The chaplain took for his subject the Gospel story week by week as given in the Holy Gospels appointed by the Church of England. He carefully applied the lessons of the Gospels, Sunday by Sunday, to the special difficulties and temptations of the showman's life, and his ministry of the Word was most obviously acceptable. It is a matter of the greatest possible satisfaction to the guild chaplain to have this opportunity year by year of definitely instructing his people.

The Social Gatherings.

Immediately following the service were social gatherings. These reunions of show people are probably the most effective means of bringing all sorts and conditions of itinerant entertainers together. Probably, too, it is Mr. Horne's best opportunity of inculcating right and practical principles of religion touching the daily life of showland. A special word of praise must be awarded to Miss Turner, whose devotional accompaniment of the hymns and the singing during the services has been most helpful. Miss Turner was also the chief contributor of sacred songs and melodies during the social part of the evening. A very special feature marked the last of these gatherings. Two of the neighbouring clergy, the Rev. N. J. Watters, vicar, and the Rev. C. E. Sills, curate, of St. James', Islington, were present during the latter part of the service and spoke to the assembled show people at the social gathering. Mr. Watters, in returning thanks for his election as hon. local chaplain for Islington, expressed the great sense of honour he felt at being thus appointed. He was already, he said, the hon. local chaplain to the Actors' Church Union, and he felt that the showmen would realise how deep his sympathies were with those who have to entertain the people. He also averred his readiness at all times to minister to the showmen. He wished them to regard him as a friend, and to make use of him and of his church upon all possible occasions. Mr. Sills (who also was elected as hon. local chaplain) followed in the same strain, and evoked considerable merriment by detailing some of his experiences in the theatres and music-halls of both Paris and London. With regard to London he was proud to state that he had seen nothing that the most fastidious could object to, and he was confident that the upward tendency both in the taste of the people, and in the efforts of the amusement providers, was one of the most encouraging signs of the times in which we live. Mr. George Orton, a member of the St. James' congregation, was called upon to speak, and created considerable interest by stating that he was a life-long friend of Mr. Horne (their chaplain), and that more than thirty years ago, when he himself was a travelling show lad, he was a fellow worker with Mr. Horne, first in a marionette show, and then with a ghost illusion. He could claim to be a showman in more senses than one, for until quite recently he had been a nigger minstrel on the variety stage—in fact, for over twenty-five years he had earned his living on the music-hall boards. He assured them that their chaplain (his life-long friend) was a man of the most devoted character and sterling worth. On the motion of the Rev. T. Horne, votes of thanks were passed to Miss Turner, Mr. Frank Turner, Mr. W. Wilson, and Mr. T. E. Reed. The chaplain, in a brief address, referred to the great satisfaction he had had in being able year by year to meet his people at the World's Fair. Their life was bound to be all the sweeter for this opportunity of gathering together in holy worship, praise, and fellowship. The Church of God was the true home of all God's people, be they wanderers or settled residents in great cities. He looked forward to meeting them again next year.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON, £1 1s.; Mr. R. Williams, 10s. 6d.; Mr. W. E. Roche (hon. member), 5s.; Mr. Jabez Batty, 5s.

Messrs. Savage Bros.' Hospitality.

THE annual dinner of the above local firm at Lynn Mart to their customers and friends in Showland has become the great feature, in a festive sense, of the annual pilgrimage of showmen of the Empire to the Royal Borough of Lynn. The dinner will take place at the Town Hall, on Thursday, Feb. 17.

MR. JOHN F. PRESTON and company is at the Hoyland Hippodrome with *The Rogues of the Turf.* Mr. Dan F. Roe is a manly Arthur Somerton, and Mr. W. Howard Barlow is an excellent Capt. Dudley Clifton. The representation of Joe Flaxman by Mr. John F. Preston meets with approval; Mr. Arthur Hartley as Moses Solomons creates much laughter, and the comedy scenes between Mr. Horace Custens (Sammy Flaxman) and Miss Mabel Fare (Phyllis Wurzel) are very entertaining. A sweet and vivacious Nellie Flaxman is found in Miss Ethel Rainforth, and as Marion Heathcote Miss Mabelle F. Barlow is all that can be desired. Mr. Arthur Wade, Mr. Arthur Lenville, and Mr. Tom Phillips act capably. During the acts latest pictures are given on the Bioscope.

FOR the first three nights of the week Mr. W. Graham Arthurs and company appeared at the Gaiety, Musselburgh, in *The Mockery of Marriage.* Mr. Arthurs was supported by Messrs. Fred Bentley, Harold Heath, David Phillips, and John Riley; Misses C. Middleton, Kate Hughes, and Mabel Liston.

MR. SAVILE'S pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* entered on its last week at the Perth Theatre to a large house overflowing with enthusiasm. The pantomime is one of the best of the many Mr. Savile has brought here. On Friday Mr. Savile took his annual benefit.

MR. FRED CONNOR and his circus company finished up a most successful season at the Crystal Palace on Saturday. During their stay the company made quite a host of friends, and the regrets of departure were only equalled by the hopes of a speedy return.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

(*Continued from page 28.*)

Pageant of the Farmyard.

THE eagerly anticipated Rustic Roller-skating Carnival, to be held on Thursday, Feb. 17, at the American Rink, Selborne-road, Hove, and of which prominent features will be a barn and a big haystack, bids fair to be one of the most picturesque and successful events of the season. Six very handsome prizes—four for costumes having a special bearing on the central idea of the Carnival, and two for other varieties—are being given.

Liverpool Rinking.

THE excellent facilities for roller skating at the Albert Hall, Pudsey-street, continue to be appreciated by large numbers of enthusiastic followers. The Tournament Hall Rink claims to be the fashionable skating rendezvous, and the public flock to this favourite resort in hundreds. The Premier Rink, in Renshaw-street, is also exceedingly popular with "board skimmers." The floor is kept in a capital condition.

Clarke and Morley at Luton.

PROFESSOR CLARKE and Miss Eva Morley were billed at Luton last Thursday, and gave their exhibitions of fancy skating every afternoon and evening. This young couple are very graceful, and delighted everybody. They have been rebooked for another engagement later. Frank R. Sargisson, late manager of the Premier Rink, Grantham, has been appointed manager of the Premier Rink, Luton. A carnival will take place next week.

Gymkhana at Motherwell.

A HIGHLY successful gymkhana was held at the Motherwell Rink on Tuesday evening, an extremely large attendance being recorded. The various events were as follows:—Wheelbarrow race, half-mile race, blind boxing contest, egg and spoon race, musical chairs (ladies), and a half-mile handicap race. Mr. G. Graham Kelly, the courteous rink manager, was clerk of the course, and had the valued assistance of Messrs. W. Dick, R. Cameron (judges), C. Eason (timekeeper), H. Collins (starter), and R. Burns, G. McMillan, T. Robb, R. Stevenson (track stewards). A carnival will be held here a fortnight hence.

Aristocracy at Skating Carnival.

THE Duchess of Portland, Lady Henry Bentinck, Lady Victoria Cavendish Bentinck (the Duchess's daughter), Colonel and Lady Maud Rolleston, and Lady Boot were amongst those present at the skating carnival held last Friday at the Empress Rink, Nottingham. Lady Victoria was one of the merriest, if not the most expert, of the throng of skaters. She is still in the early stages of the art of rinking, but, nevertheless, she succeeded, as few novices in skating can, in preserving grace and dignity, and in her plain evening gown of blue-grey cashmere and silk she was one of the most charming-looking girls on the rink. The Duchess wore a long white fur cloak over her black gown.

Geo. Holt Responsible.

So delighted was the Duchess of Portland with many of the competitors that she added several trophies on her own account. Very interesting to watch was the fancy dancing. The first prize in the two-step competition went to Miss Vera Robinson and Mr. Chapman; that for graceful skating was divided between Miss Green and Mr. Snook, and Miss S. Clayton and Mr. Wallis. The waltzing competition was won by Miss Joyce Edwards and Mr. N. Wallis. From beginning to end the carnival went off splendidly, a result largely due to the efficient arrangements made by Mr. George Holt, the rink manager.

Paisley Gymkhana.

THE Paisley Rink had a most successful gymkhana night on Tuesday, when prizes were awarded to winners in the following events:—Quarter-mile race (ladies), half-mile race (gentlemen), half-mile bicycle v. skates race, balloon race (ladies), quarter-mile race backwards (gentlemen), and a football match on skates between the Glasgow Zoo Rink and the Paisley Rink teams.

Stockton and Sunderland Hockey.

ON Monday last Stockton Royal Rink hockey team journeyed to Sunderland (Cleadon). The first half opened out in favour of the home team, with two goals to none lead at the interval. The visitors were not to be denied, for hardly had they resumed play when they scored, the equalising goal coming a minute later. Play got very exciting, but the visitors held the advantage and scored two more goals. Result: Stockton, 4; Sunderland, 2.

Grand Duke Compliments Skater.

ON an afternoon recently The Skateries, Stoke, was honoured by a visit from the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and the Countess Torby and family. The Grand Ducal party expressed themselves as highly pleased with the rink in every way, and at the special request of the Grand Duke an exhibition of trick and fancy skating was given by Professor Seaton. This gentleman was complimented on his exhibition by the Grand Duke personally.

C.P. Continental Dividends.

THE Crawford Roller Rink at Antwerp has just declared a further dividend of 50 per cent., making in all 83½ per cent. since the opening in October. The Paris Hippodrome has declared a dividend of 30 per cent.

More Rinks, Less Crime.

"THE more skating rinks there are, the less work for police courts." Such, it seems, is the very latest lesson for the social reformer. This great discovery has been made by the Durham magistrate, who, finding that there were no cases for him to try, attributed this happy state of things to the fact that a roller skating rink and a new music hall had been opened in Durham. The Rev. L. B. Currie, chief secretary of the London Diocesan Police Court Mission, says that "nine-tenths of the drinking comes from a desire for social intercourse. People have nothing to occupy their minds. It is the old question of Satan finding work for idle hands; and, if people are not interested in something wholesome, such as roller-skating, they will turn their hands to wrong ends. Every sensible person agrees with the Durham magistrate. Folk who spend their spare time in rinks are far less likely to drift into questionable ways than people who indulge in less desirable recreations. There could be no surer proof of the truth of the Durham magistrate's belief in such counter-attractions than the fact that at the White City, though there were licensed bars, there was not one case of intemperance. There was too much to be interested in for people to commit the 'minor' crime of drunkenness, and from that to drift into major crimes."

MR. ROY COCHRANE has decided to devote the surplus funds from his recent matinée to children and old people at the Surrey to the provision of boots for the poor children of the locality. Of some £100 collected for the occasion there is a balance of about £15, and this Mr. Cochrane intends to offer to the district committee of the various schools in the neighbourhood, so that the money may be properly administered. About 150 packets of tobacco and 100 pipes, which remained after the old people had been provided for, Mr. Cochrane purposes allotting to the Music Hall Home and the Benevolent Fund, while a number of packets of tea will be divided among the Music Hall Ladies' Guild and the Theatrical Ladies' Guild. If such an estimable example were generally followed, it would go far towards keeping our philanthropic institutions supplied with acceptable commodities.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

JANUARY.

A Man and a Woman, dramatic sketch; Royal Standard, Jan. 3.
A Seaside Honeymoon, musical play, in one act, lyrics and music by Bert Danson; Hippodrome, Norwich, Jan. 3.
King Nobbler, farcical sketch, by Lew Lake; Surrey, Jan. 3.
Puss in Boots, pantomime, in seven scenes, by William Myles; Tottenham Palace, Jan. 3.
Sexton Blake in America, detective dramette, in four scenes, by C. D. Carlile; Bedford, Jan. 3.
The Gun, dramatic episode, in one scene, by Percival H. T. Sykes; South London Palace, Jan. 3.
Mr. Jellicoe and the Fairy, fairy playlet, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare; Coliseum, Jan. 3.
The Interviewer, comic sketch, by Harry Grattan; Chelsea Palace, Jan. 3.
The Last Halt, dramatic sketch; Battersea Palace, Jan. 3.
The Russian Princess, dramatic episode, by Fred Maxwell; Empire, Camberwell, Jan. 3.
A Million and a Half, farcical comedy, in one act, by Rita Carlyle; Collins's, Jan. 10.
A Strolling Player, sketch, in one scene, by Beatrix de Burgh; Empress, Brixton, Jan. 10.
At the Masked Ball, musical sketch; Bedford, Jan. 10.
Nick Carter, miniature monologue, by Ivan P. Gore and Bernard Mervyn; Sadler's Wells, Jan. 10.
The Black Angel, dramatic sketch, by Miss Eugenie Magnus; Queen's, Poplar, Jan. 10.
The Changeling, comedietta, by W. W. Jacobs and Herbert C. Sargent (originally produced as a front piece at Wyndham's Theatre, on March 18, 1908); Peckham Hippodrome, Jan. 10.
The Landlady, sketch, produced by Henshall and Forster; Royal Victoria Hall, S.E., Jan. 15.
A Seaside Honeymoon, musical farce; Collins's, Jan. 17.
A Slight Misunderstanding, comedy sketch; Collins's, Jan. 17.
Consulting Counsel, sketch; Empress, Brixton, Jan. 17.
English Slaves, realistic sketch; Bedford, Jan. 17.
Jim's Pal, sketch, produced by Shirley and Ransome; Empress, Brixton, Jan. 17.
Strategy, comedy sketch; Bedford, Jan. 17.
The Sheriff's Gamble, romantic episode, of the Far West; Royal Standard, Jan. 17.
Trilby, sketch, founded on the late George Du Maurier's novel of the same name; Willesden Hippodrome, Jan. 17.
Van Biene's Baby, domestic episode; Stratford Empire, Jan. 17.
A Change of Front, little farce, by Malcolm Watson; Empire, Jan. 25.
At Savoy Mansions, sketch, by John N. Raphael; Shepherd's Bush Empire, Jan. 24.
Charley's Wedding Day, musical comedy sketch, by Charles Cleveland, music by W. Snell Robinson, additional numbers by Frank Leedam; Surrey, Jan. 24.
Cottage or Palace, melodramatic fragment, taken from Frank Lindo's piece, *Home, Sweet Home* (Grand Theatre, Islington, July 4, 1904); Canterbury, Jan. 24.
On the Track, sketch, by Harry Roxbury; Empire, Leeds, Jan. 24.
Roots, Rash Chemist, farcical sketch, by Fred Maitland; Royal Standard, Jan. 24.
The Adder's Tooth, dramatic sketch, in two scenes, adapted by Louis Taylor, from a Story in the *Red Magazine*, by T. W. Henshaw; Bedford, Jan. 24.
The Flood Tide, dramatic and sensational sketch, excerpt of the Drury Lane melo-farce, by Cecil Raleigh (September, 1903), arranged by Mr. R. H. Grey; Surrey, Jan. 24.
The Maid of Polaria, romantic musical idyll; Hippodrome, Norwich, Jan. 24.
The Odd Trick, sketch; King's Theatre, Portsmouth, Jan. 24.
Wanted, the Co-Respondent, quick-change comedy playlet, written, invented, and produced by Marie Jones; Collins's, Jan. 24.
A Marriage Has Been Arranged, play in little, by Alfred Sutro; Palace Theatre, Jan. 31.
Edmund Kean, episode, in one scene; Royal Standard, Jan. 31.
Oh! George, duologue, by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas; Surrey, Jan. 31.
Private Potts, military comedy sketch, in three scenes, by Herbert Darnley and Fred Kitchen; Holborn Empire, Jan. 31.
The Confession, romantic Irish episode, by Raymond Dudley; Royal Standard, Jan. 31.
The Romanys, musical comedy scena, written and composed by Jack Brownson; Alhambra, Brighton, Jan. 31.
The Sirocco, playlet, adapted by Arthur Scott Craven, from the Swedish *Simoon*; Empire Theatre, Liverpool, Jan. 31.

THE COLISEUM.

The second annual general meeting of the Coliseum Syndicate (Limited) was held on Monday at the Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. Mr. Oswald Stoll, the chairman and managing-director of the company, presided, and in moving the adoption of the report, said that the accounts showed the earning powers of the company to be large, and that the credit side of the profit and loss account exceeded the total cash capital by £75. A substantial reduction of the debenture stock, which they were able to provide for, greatly enhanced the capital value of the shareholders' security. The extinction of the outstanding preliminary expenses involved a sum exceeding a 6 per cent. dividend, while their investments and cash in hand indicated a strong financial position.

It was obvious that they had had a good year, but as it was unwise either to be too elated in prosperity or too depressed in adversity, they must subdue any excessive gratification they might feel at such results. They had been fortunate in their attractions and in other circumstances that tended to make the year exceptional. Still, there were two grounds on which they might hope to maintain the standard which they had reached. The first was that the Coliseum unquestionably stood higher than ever before in public favour, and had acquired a reputation, almost European, as a first-class place of entertainment. The second was a more tangible fact, namely, that the business up to now for the present year was considerably better than it was for the same period last year.

Mr. F. W. Wyndham seconded the adoption of the report, which was unanimously adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 25 per cent. for the second half of the year was declared.

The retiring directors (Messrs. H. J. Thomas and Frank Allen) were re-elected, as were the auditors.

Upon the proposition of Mr. I. Vachell, seconded by Mr. McAra, and subject to the approval of the shareholders at a meeting to be called, a sum of 300 guineas was voted to the surviving members of the committee of inspection of the old company, and 50 guineas to Messrs. Gillespie Bros. and Co., the auditors, who had assisted in the reconstruction.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SHAKESPEARE AND SPORT.

"There can be no doubt," says Mr. Walter Raleigh in "Shakespeare," "that Shakespeare was minutely acquainted with all the lore of field-sports—the hunt of the hare and the stag, and the capture of smaller game by the falcon. His knowledge of these things, as Mr. Vice-Chancellor Madden has shown, would have done credit to an old huntsman. It is true that here also he uses his knowledge by way of illustration, and so seems to appeal to an audience well versed in the terms of sport. Even Juliet is perfectly accomplished in the tongue:

Hist, Romeo, hist! O for a Falconer's voice
To lure this tassel-gentle back again!

In her beautiful invocation to Night, the quick flushing of her cheeks, as she waits for the sun to set, suggests a whole parable of hawking, and of taming or 'manning' wild hawks as they 'bate' or flutter on the perch, by the use of a velvet hood:

Hood my unmann'd blood, bating in my cheeks,
With thy black mantle; till strange love, grown bold,
Think true love acted simple modesty.

There is no play of Shakespeare's without some of these allusions, and he is as familiar with the points of a horse and the kinds and qualities of hounds and deer as with the forgotten science of falconry. But it would seem that some part, at least, of his knowledge is the knowledge of an onlooker rather than a huntsman. He is true here to his own wide sympathy, and cannot forget the quarry in the chase—true also, perhaps, to his earliest memories. Two of his most wonderful pictures are, first, the description, in *As You Like It*, of the anguish of the sequestered stag, wounded by the hunters; and, yet more vivid, the picture drawn in *Venus and Adonis* of poor Wat, the hare, standing erect, in a passion of apprehension, listening for the distant cry of the hounds:

Then shalt thou see the dew-bedabbled wretch
Turn, and return, indenting with the way;
Each envious briar his weary legs doth scratch,
Each shadow makes him stop, each murmur stay:
For misery is trodden on by many,
And being low, never reliev'd by any.

Is not this a description of the hunt as it might be seen by a boy playing truant from school, and choosing a brake near a hill-top as a vantage-ground for observation and concealment?

"As for Natural History in the modern sense, Shakespeare knew little about it, and cared even less. The social life of the humbler creatures did not engage his attention. It has been truly said that he was 'curiously unobservant of animated Nature.' The habits of birds and beasts and fishes seem to come immediately under his eye only when they touch the daily interests of average humanity. When he wants an illustration from animal life for the figurative exposition of his thought, he is content, as often as not, to make use of the commodious lies of picturesque tradition. The toad that wears a precious jewel in his head, the unicorn that is betrayed with trees, the basilisk that kills at sight, the bear-whelp that is licked into shape by its mother, the pelican that feeds her young with her own blood, the phœnix of Arabia, the serpent of Egypt, and the Hyrcan tiger—all these he accepts without question for the decoration of his style. When he deals with creatures nearer home he follows the same plan, and adopts all those popular prejudices which have imbedded themselves in the phrases of daily speech. 'Dog'—except when the dog helps in the chase—he commonly uses as a term of vituperation. Cats are 'creatures we count not worth the hanging.' In these usages he is merely taking words as he finds them, and refusing to impoverish the language of abuse by a forlorn protest on behalf of the goose, the ass, the ape, the dog, or the cat. Even Launce's dog, Crab, makes his bodily appearance on the stage, in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, these ancient prejudices are discarded, and the dog is admitted to fellowship with man. But the wild creatures of the fields and the woods, because they have never run the risk of familiarity with slanderous man, are for the most part outside this argument of rhetorical usage; and are oustide the circle of Shakespeare's sympathetic observation. The encyclopædic and naturalist critics have made plentiful assertions to the contrary; Dr. Brandes, accepting the myth, has praised Shakespeare for his 'astonishing store of natural knowledge,' and his inexhaustible familiarity with the habits of animals. The following are the examples invoked for proof: Shakespeare knew that the greyhound's mouth catches; that pigeons feed their young; that herrings are bigger than pilchards; that trout are caught with tickling; that the lapwing runs close to the ground; that the cuckoo lays its eggs in the nests of other birds; that the lark resembles the bunting. Many a city-bred boy knows all this and more. And these statements are cited because, in the main, they are true. Shakespeare's errors would make a longer tale. His nightingale and his cuckoo are creatures falsified out of all knowledge by the accumulated fables of tradition. The famous passage on the bees, in *Henry V.*, is glittering poetry; but 'as a description of a hive,' says a critic of knowledge and parts, 'it is utter nonsense, with an error of fact in every other line, and instinct throughout with a total misconception of the great bee parable.' Virgil knew something of the bee; Shakespeare little or nothing.

"Shakespeare was a master of language, and a profound student of the human mind. His comparative ignorance of Natural History does him no discredit. There is a story of Canning, which John Hookham Frere told one day to his nephew. 'I remember,' he said, 'going to consult Canning on a matter of great importance to me, when he was staying down near Enfield. We walked into the woods to have a quiet talk, and as we passed some ponds I was surprised to find it was a new light to him that tadpoles turned into frogs. Now,' said the teller of the tale, 'don't you go and repeat that story of Canning to the next fool you meet. Canning could rule, and did rule, a great and civilised nation; but in these days people are apt to fancy that any one who does not know the natural history of frogs must be an imbecile in the treatment of men.'

"If Shakespeare made no minute study of the cat, the nightingale, and the bee, he had the quickest eye for the habits of the vagrant, the watchman of a town, and the schoolmster. He has left us a very realistic picture of an Elizabethan Latin-lesson in the scene of *The Merry Wives* where Sir Hugh Evans examines little William on his knowledge of Lilly's grammar. The three headmasters who reigned at Stratford from 1570 to 1580 were Walter Roche, Thomas Hunt, and Thomas Jenkins; and Sir Hugh Evans may perhaps bear some resemblance to the last of these. The more elaborately drawn and pedantic Holofernes, in *Love's Labour's Lost*, and Pinch, schoolmaster and conjurer, in *The Comedy of Errors*, occurring, as they do, in very early plays, probably owe some hints to the schoolmaster whom Shakespeare knew best, and may thus preserve for us a savour of the ideas and apprehensions 'begot in the ventricle of memory, and delivered upon the mellowing of occasion' by Master Thomas Hunt. Holofernes is the complete academic grammarian. But the extreme gauntness of his visage, so boisterously ridiculed by the courtiers, is only one of many indications that Shakespeare had a lean actor in his early company."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 14, 21, May 2.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 24, 31, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2, 16,
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16, Aug. 1, 15, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, April 18, May 2, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 28, April 11, 18, 25, May 16, 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 14, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 28, April 4, May 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 14, 21; Wolverhampton, March 7, 21; Huddersfield, Feb. 28; Northampton, March 14, 21; Reading, March 21, 28, April 4; Dalston, March 21, 28.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for six weeks' run, Xmas next,
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 14 and 21.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 17 (3), 28, March 14, 21, Easter, May 9 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 14 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, March 7, 14.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 28, Easter (?), May 30, June 20.
Apply for all above,
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21 and April 18.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 and April 25.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
Sept. 19, onwards,
Sept. 19, onwards,
Sept. 19, onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Pantomime Production,
Christmas, 1910-1911.
Christmas, 1910-1911.
For three weeks. State where to be seen.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Drama, Five Nights, March 21 (Passion Week); must travel scenery and have good plant of pictorials. Letters only, stating full particulars and quoting absolute lowest, certainty. T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 11, 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 4, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
March 14, April 11, and May 9, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21 and 28.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. Marriott Watson.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
March 28, April 4, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDMONTON, N.
Licensee and Manager, Harry Bawn.
Resident-Manager, F. Alexander.
Chef d'Orchestre, Angelo Asher.
This up-to-date and magnificent Theatre was opened Dec., 1908. It is complete in every respect, well ventilated and lighted, and heated by steam radiators; it is situated in the centre of a populous working-class district, and is run on thoroughly West End ideas. Holding capacity, 2,500; fully licensed; all the Star Attractions Booked.
WANTED, West End Companies, from May 2. Kindly note in applying, barring clause two miles.
Address, Head Office, 18, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 28,
Also April 4, 11, May 16,
Recognised London Successes or First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

THEATRE ROYAL, GLOSSOP.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Feb. 21.
Address, Sydney Spenser.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, May 2, onward,
with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, 16, onward,
with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlson,
Theatre Royal, Worcester
Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for March 21, 28, April 11, May 2, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brothers Etharien, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan. Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, Richard Thornton.
The Latest and Most Gorgeous Up-to-date Theatre out of London. Accommodation for 3,000 people. Can Stage the Largest Productions Travelling.
WANTED, for Special Weeks, at intervals, First-class Musical Comedies and No. 1 Dramatic Attractions; also good Pantomime productions can be entertained. Apply, with full particulars, to Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland.

PIER THEATRE EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 24 and 26 (2 nights, 1 matinée), March 28 (Easter), and Various Dates onwards; also one or two season dates.
Apply G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Companies, for May 9 and 16, also various Autumn.
Sidney Cooper.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Dramas, twice nightly, last three nights of week, Easter, and various dates to Whit Week; now booking Autumn.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Good Dramas, to play twice nightly, Aug. 1, and on, Répertoire preferred, Certainties only.
SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Aug. 1, 11, 12, 13, 29, and Sept. 5.
W. Payne Seddon, New Theatre, Hawick, until Tuesday; then Loughborough.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 7, 21, Easter, April, on, with exceptions.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, Musical Comedies or First-class Attractions, March 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Must be very Big Productions.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
Seats 1,200.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions and Comedy. Easter, July 21, 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 (inclusive), Sept. 8 and 15 to 26, inclusive. Address, Manager.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Various Dates,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, Managers.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES, BLACKBURN and PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April, May, June, with exceptions. All coms., re dates, E. H. Page, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for March 14.
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Company, March 7 (6 nights), Macdona.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to James Kiernan, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 7, May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28 (?), March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, March 28, May 2, 9.
COATBRIDGE, March 21, April 11, 25.
AYR, March 14, 28 (3 nights), April 18.
FALKIRK, March 7 (4 nights), 31 (3 nights).
LEITH, April 18, 25.
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), 28, and on.
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, and on.
R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5590 Gerrard.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Companies, March 7, 21, April 4, 11, 18, and May 9, and Aug., onwards.
MR. JOHN TILLER'S PANTOMIME,
"JACK AND JILL."
Scored a record success this Christmas for one month and ten day performances. Open to negotiate for a big Pantomime Production next Xmas for one month or six weeks.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant dates, March 7, 14, 21, 28 (Easter), April 4 (5 nights), 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Vacant dates, March 21, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 23, 30, and onwards.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there. Others to J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March, on. All communications,
Walter R. Wallis,
or London Representatives, Messrs. Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME, SHREWSBURY.
Lessee and Director, W. Yates Gregory.
Manager, T. Baugh.
WANTED, Feb. 28, March 14, 21, April 18, First-class Drama,
for three nights,
once or twice nightly.
Popular Price. Or any Money-maker.
This week, playing to house capacity nightly. Ian Robertson, "Passing of the Third Floor Back."

WANTED, Good Companies, for Good Dates, Feb. 14, Hastings and Eastbourne (3 each); Feb. 28, Eastbourne or Hastings.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
The Most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21, April 18, 25, May 9 and 16.
Address, Harry Yorke, Managing-Director.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Whit, May 23, 30, June 13, 27, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, on. Alfred Manners.

WANTED, Really Good Dramas, those able to Play Twice Nightly preferred.
Vacant March 7, and on, with exceptions.
R. Nightingale, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

BORO' THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 7.
Apply, Fredericks.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, for Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21.
Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Vacant March 3, 17, 31, on (last 3 nights of each week). Apply, Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for March 7,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, for March 21, April 25, and possibly May 2. Copy of day bill and particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

WANTED, Something Good, Feb. 21 (Panto. first in) this year. Also Feb. 28, March 14, on, Grand, Chorley. Feb. 28, March 7, 21, April, on, Grand Radcliffe.
Address, Sante, Radcliffe.

AQUARIUM, GREAT YARMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Easter (seven nights), commencing Saturday, March 26, Musical Show preferred.
Apply, J. W. Nightingale.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, March 14 (?), April 4 (?) and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Fiorodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 24, 25, and 26, March 17, 18, and 19, onwards, with exceptions. Apply, S. Goodman, Proprietor, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Feb. 14 (three), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on. W. B. Potts.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Panto., Feb. 28.
Wallace Davidson, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, Companies, Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions.
D. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for March 7, 14, 21, 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

THE HIPPODROME, TODMORDEN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, May 2, 16, and 23. Wire or write, R. Dewhurst.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
Proprietors, The Ramsgate Corporation.
Lessee, Thomas Richard Price.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the following Season Dates:—
June 20, 27,
July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1 (?), 18, 19, 20,
Sept. 5, 6, 7, 13, 19, 26.
The Theatre for Big Money.
Everything done to ensure Good Business.
Bookings this season already include:—
"Captain Kidd," "Girls of Gottenburg," "A Royal Divorce," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Gay Gordons," "Country Girl," "Dear Little Denmark," "Havana," &c., &c.
The above are the only Vacant Dates.
Apply direct to the
Resident-Manager,
Councillor Charles Price,
Chandos House, Ramsgate;
or to
William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 7, April 18, May 2, 9, and 16, Edinburgh; April 18, May 2, 9, and 16, Glasgow; March 14, 21, April 4, 18, May 9 and 16, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, through Transferring, Big Attraction, for Theatre Royal, Bolton, March 14, Musical Comedy preferred.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Vacant March 21 (five nights),
Vacant March 21 (five nights),
April 18, 25, May 2.
April 18, 25, May 2.
Address, Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Durie.
WANTED, Companies, March 7, 28, and April 11.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company,
Feb. 21.
Address, Gerald Harding.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Reopened under the direction of
MR. CHAS. EVANS
WANTED, Musical Comedies, &c., Easter week, Aug., and Sept.
Holding capacity, £120.
The only Theatre proper in Ramsgate.
Re dates, address HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident-Manager for Chas. Evans, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
April 25,
May 2, 9, 16, 30,
June 13, 27.
James Bell.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Easter, Whit., and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Feb. 28, March 7, and onwards,
Pantomimes, Variety Combinations, and Dramas.
Please Note.—Twice Nightly.
Share or Certainty.
All coms. to
Walter Batty, Baltic Hotel.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 14, 21, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
Apply, James Kiernan.

WANTED, Companies, March 10 (3 nights), 14, and on; also Musical Attraction for Easter.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Feb. 21, 28, March 7 and 28, on. A. D. Vernon.

ST. ALBAN'S COUNTY HALL.
Holding capacity nearly 1,000.
WANTED, good Companies only, with own Scenery (two nights), weeks of Feb. 7, 28, March 7, 14, good Stage, electric Foot, Top, and Side Lights; Sharing terms only.
Apply A. Rowden.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical Pieces preferred) for March 7 (reopening week), 14, 21, April 11, 18, Oct. 17, 31, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to Brooks' Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction or Pantomime, Feb. 14, 28, March 14, and one week in every month. Other dates open to Variety or Burlesque. Fine Permanent Building, Band, Staff, and everything done to ensure good business. All coms., Scottie.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14 and 21.
Walter Melville,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, March 21, and various Autumn.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, April 4, 11.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 21, Aug. 1, 6.
Andrew Melville, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, 28, April 4, 11.
Andrew Emm, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
Douglas Bruce,
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
Douglas Bruce,
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of May 2 and 16.
Weeks of May 2 and 16.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," March 21, May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, 28, Aug. 8, Sept. 5. Haldane Crichton, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, March 21, 28, April 4, 11, May 2, onwards.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
His Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.

Redressed and remounted.
Costumes by Messrs. Harrison.
Scenery and properties by Willie Leigh.

WANTED, March 10 (3 nights), South, March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 18.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Feb. 7, Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

THE LYCEUM TOURS.
Managing-Director, HENRY R. SMITH.

"PETE,"
by Hall Caine.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, A few Autumn Dates are Vacant for above Attraction.

Entire Lyceum Production.

Application for dates to
Mr. GIFFORD STACEY, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, May 2 and 16, also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker. Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all Oct.

Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Feb. 28 (South), April 14 (3 days. Mid.), May 2 (?), 16. Apply, J. E. WATSON, R.A. Theatre, Woolwich.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 28,
Midland Counties preferred.
Address, CECIL BARTH, Grand Theatre, Hull.

LYN HARDING AND SIDNEY COOPER'S COS.
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."
WANTED, March 14, between London and Prince's, Bristol.
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

Miss DOT STEPHENS,
in
"A CHILD OF THE STREETS."

WANTED, Feb. 14, 28,

to precede and follow Lyric, Hammersmith.
Playing to Enormous Business Everywhere.

Address, GEORGE HAILENHURST,
31, Queen-street, Wolverhampton.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31.

"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, 28, April 11.

FRANK M. THORNE, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A PAIR OF SPECTACLES," or Répertoire, Feb. 14, 21, 28, and onwards, with exceptions. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

A few Autumn Dates also Vacant.
J. PITT HARDACRE. "DRINK."
WANTED, Theatres, from now till Feb. 26.
Address, Woodlea, Ashton-on-Mersey.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Feb. 21, April 4 and 11, Aug. Bank Holiday, Lancs.
DICKIE CLARE, Theatre, Boston.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO.
Including NORMAN A. OVERTON.
"TEMPTATION."
By Russell Vaun. Refer re Company, Play, and Production.
WANTED, March 28 and April 4.
Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Ly. T., Stafford.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS"
and "GUILTY GOLD."
Wanted, March 7th, Scotland.
HORACE STANLEY,
King's Theatre Kilmarnock (return).

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
By F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14 (wire Metropole, Birmingham), March 7, March 28 (?), April 4, on. Address, HERBERT VERE, next, C/o Old Red Lion Hotel, Burnley.

The New Musical Comedy Absurdity,
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, April 4, 13, May 2, 9, 16.
HENRY L. ORMOND, Gaiety T., Houghton, Durham.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO" CO.
WANTED, Feb. 14, and also Feb. 21, unexpectedly vacant through obliging, between Birkenhead and Scotland. The Finest and Most Artistic "Sapho" travelling. Enormous Reception this week at Dundee; Re-booked. Note.—"Sapho" can, if required, be played in conjunction with our Strong Répertoire of Eight Plays. Wire for Feb. 14 and 21. To-day, ABBOTT, Gaiety, Dundee; next, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

Messrs. E. FAULKNER and M. DE COURTNEY'S CO.
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
WANTED Theatres, March 28, April 4, 11, Entire Production carried.
Clear Stage only required.
Magnificent plant of special printing.
Powerful cast, including
Miss EDITH BLANDE as CAMILLE.
Address
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, for Two Solid Successes,
"EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28 (North), various Summer and Autumn.
"THE SINNER."
May 16 Whit, few Autumn.
Letters, WILSON BENOR,
Miners' T., Ashington.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Feb. 21 (between Scarborough and Accrington), March 28, and April 4 (between Bradford and Swansea). April 25, May 2, 9, and Whit.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON, Pavilion T., Abertillery.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Easter, April 4, May 2.
This Play is a Proved Success.
Strongest Dramatic Cast Touring.
C. HAMILTON, Feb. 7, T. R., Chatham.

Mr. LEONARD BOYNE'S COMPANY.

"RAFFLES."
"RAFFLES."

WANTED, Feb. 28,
(Suburban Theatre or Midlands).
Wire to-day, Mr. A. BINGHAM, Hippodrome, Colchester; or write, Opera House, Cheltenham.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Fairy Play.
WANTED May 23, 30 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Address during Lent vacation,
"Ashdale," Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."

Vacant,
May 2, 9, June 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
May 9, June 6, 13, 20.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

Production
Monday next, Feb. 7,
Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Monday Feb. 14,
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

Vacant,
March 21, April 18, May 2, 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production Junction Theatre, Manchester, July 18, 1910.
WANTED, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions. Managers wishing a Strong Attraction should book
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Aquarium T., Gt. Yarmouth.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, Feb. 21.
Wire for Feb. 21.
Also Vacant April 4, May 16, 30.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Aquarium T., Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Feb. 28, for
CULLEN AND CARTHY'S
Enormously Successful Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

One of the Biggest Drawing Attractions Travelling.

In consequence of the enormous success at Paisley, Hamilton, Greenock, and Queen's, Dublin, and this week at Queen's, Leeds, where our record of last visit has been left behind, we have decided to accept the above dates at First-class Hippodromes, Theatres, &c.

Please refer Mr. Bostock, Glasgow; Mr. Skivington, Greenock; Mr. Watson, Queen's, Dublin; Mr. Whiteman, Queen's, Leeds; and Mr. Arnold, Lyric, Liverpool.
All communications, J. CULLEN,
Next week, Hippodrome, Aston.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Now known as the "Path of Profits."
The success of the year, and the best played and mounted production touring.

WANED, March 7 and 14, Aug. 8, 15, 22, and 29.

REPERTOIRE CO.
The Attraction that never fails. Star Cast.
Everything carried.
Vacant Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 24, and 31.

Note.—Owing to enormous success of "Her Path of Sorrow" I have arranged with Mrs. F. G. Kimberley for another grand new play to be produced early 1911.

Apply for dates, all Companies, to
CHARLES DRAYCOTT, T. R., Wolverhampton.

MISS MARY NEIL,
in her latest successes,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS"
and
"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 15, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas,
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Coms. to GEO. KIRK, to-day, Grand T., Aberaman; next, New Hall, Bargoed, South Wales.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company, in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, March 7 and 28,
March 7 and 28
June 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Oct. 24, and Xmas (?). Booking 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, New Theatre, Ferndale, S. Wales; Monday, Opera House, Treherbert.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN and HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Easter, April 4. Refer re Business and Excellence of Play this week. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Prince's T., Portsmouth; next, T. R., Woolwich.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, Easter.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7, Feb. 28. Special Band to Parade. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Prince's T., Portsmouth; next, T. R., Woolwich.

CECIL H. WOODHOUSE'S CO.,
"OH, SUSANNAH!"
From the Royalty Theatre, London.
WANTED, Feb. 28, to follow New Brighton, March 7, 14, 21 (?), and
Easter week.
CECIL H. WOODHOUSE,
Opera House, Torquay.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, May 16 (?), Aug. 1.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Vacant March 7 (?), May 2.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN,"
Now Booking Autumn.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND,"
Vacant May 9.
Open to arrange for Stock Season.
Wire or write,
To-day, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
Next, Century Theatre, Motherwell.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Theatres, May 2, May 9, May 9, Thanks Chas. Barnard, Esq., for Contracts. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, Marina, Lowestoft; next, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
by Charles Darrell.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 28,
April 11.
Admitted to be One of the Biggest Money-makers Touring.

Wire, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

GRAND FAIRY PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 14, 21, March 7, for this Production, a gigantic success, a Pantomime brimful of fun, and refined, splendid Cast of Artists, Funny Comedians, Big Specialities, Dainty Dancers. Wire or write, NELSON BARRETT, Public Hall Theatre, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14, for Miss Edith St. Clare's
Enormously Successful Pantomime,
"ALADDIN,"
Once or Twice Nightly. Share or Certainty.
Wire, Hippodrome, Leeds.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, March 7, April 4 and 11, and on.
E. BERTRAM,
c/o Mrs. Walker, 10, Cornwall-street, Edinburgh.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
The Record Success.
WANTED, through Misunderstanding, Feb. 21. Feb. 21.
Wire for Feb. 21.
Also required, First-class Theatres for production next Season.
"ALADDIN,"
Another Record Breaker.
Manager Fred Watson, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, says: This is the finest and funniest "Aladdin" pantomime ever seen in this theatre.
Wanted, through extension of Tour owing to Enormous Success,
Feb. 14 and 21. Feb. 14 and 21.
Wire for Feb. 14 and 21.
Also required, First-class Theatres for production next Season.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, Granville, Pagoda, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
Plays.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Drama, Feb. 21, 28.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring.
Wanted, Feb. 28, March 7.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING"
Wanted, Good Theatre for Easter.
Re dates, address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, "Care of Pagoda, Liverpool."

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Feb. 21. March 7. Easter.
Vacant Feb. 21. March 7. Easter.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Feb. 14, March 7, 21, Easter. Easter. Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter
FRED BULMER, Lyric Opera H., Hammersmith.

STEPHEN PRITT'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
presenting Original Plays, including the Unique Detective Drama, "ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
Perfect Productions.
WANTED, Feb. 14, follow Empire, Oldham, Easter (South).
Wire, PRITT, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To all Managers of First-class
Pier Pavilions, and other similar places of Entertainment, that
WILLIAM DOWNES
intends touring a High-class Concert Party under the description of
"THE MERRY HUNTERS,"
commencing Monday, May 16, 1910.
Each Artist specially chosen for this particular Tour, and includes the famous versatile lady entertainer,
MISS MENA BRAE.
A Brisk and Brilliant Show, in smart Hunting Costumes. Re dates and terms apply direct to
W. DOWNES, Drury Lane Theatre, London, W.C.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only Organisation of its kind in the World.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, &c., Feb. 14 (?), 28, Easter, and various later. Excellent Show. Unlimited Printing. Great draws. Several tons of Scenery, Props, &c. All coms, SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

FRED BOULTON'S GRAND HIPPO. CO.
WANTED, good Theatres or Halls, for March 14, April 4, 11, and 18. Varieties include Harry Lester's Great Sketch, "What the Butler Knows," Mlle. Bartenelli, Aerial Contortionist, &c., &c. FRED BOULTON, T. R., Darlington.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, First-class Artists for the following parts: Germaine and Serpolette, splendid voices absolutely essential; Comedian for Bailie, Tenor for Grenicheux. Silence polite negative. Full particulars and terms, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Leading Man, ditto Lady, young, dark; Chambermaid, and Light Comedian, both to sing own songs; Gentlemanly Heavy, Tall Heavy Lady, Responsible Old Woman, Carpenter (small part). Age, height, refs., photos., lowest terms, rehearse Feb. 14. Mr. EDWIN, 4, Frenchwood-street, Preston.

WANTED, Tall, Powerful Actress, for Short but Strong Heavy Part and Understudy Lead. Also Small Part Actress. Clever Amateur may write. Address, with full particulars, height, references, photos, &c., to
T. E. WARD,
New Theatre, Stanley, Co., Durham.

WANTED, Attractive Young Actress, for Established Dramatic Sketch Company, that Tours all the year round on the Principal Variety Theatre Circuits in London and Provinces, playing High-class One-Act Playlets; long Engagement at a good salary to suitable Artist; good Figure and Attractive Personality essential. Applicants must send recent photos. (which will be returned), mentioning age, height, recent Engagements, also stating if can play piano, sing or dance at all, and salary required, to (in first instance)
PROPRIETOR,
Box 7,239, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Tall, Refined Light Comedian for Military Part. Terms, reference, photos, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, County T., Reading.

WANTED, immediately Smart Well-educated Young Gentleman, for Small Parts and Understudy in London Company on Tour. Premium required. Address fullest particulars to K., Box 7,248, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, really Clever Versatile Young Lady, good appearance, height about 5ft., age 18 to 22; must have good strong voice, dance well, capable of Low Comedy; join two well-known ladies; long engagement if suitable. Box 7,246, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Harry Lister, Versatile Comedian and Mimic. Middleton Guardian, Manchester, Jan. 29: Mr. Harry Lister is a first-class entertainer. Principal Comedian, The Musicales. Offers invited for Summer, Mus. Com., Al Fresco, &c. Will buy good numbers. Coms., C/o "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Principal Boys, good voice, appearance, and to find own dresses, for "Dick Whittington" Panto.; rehearse at once. Lowest terms, photo., references, to BENET and KLOOF, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd. Monday next, Theatre, Ferndale.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Panto., next season. State where can be seen working. Fullest particulars to R. NIGHTINGALE, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Clever Artists, in all Lines, for Second Edition of Pantomime at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton. Fullest particulars, letters only. HUMPHREY E. BRAMHALL, Carlton House, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, Trio or Quartette Lady Dancers, High Kickers, Cart Wheels, &c. Lowest terms, photos. JEPHSON, "Whittington" Pantomime, Tivoli, Brierley Hill.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Painter, must have good and original ideas. State age and wages, and give particulars of previous work. Box 7,218, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL K. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman with about £150 to invest in First-class Miniature Musical Comedy, one who could take part preferred. Booking assured, every investigation, references. Apply, MANAGER, The Gaiety Academy, 22, Denmark-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Acting-Manager; wife as Manageress of Bars. Lowest terms, references, photos., age, first letter. BOOTHMAN, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, by Amateur Society, to produce "The Cingalee," S.E. district. State terms to E. A. G., 20, Eastcheap, E.C.

WANTED, for Provincial Music Hall, Stage-Manager, Electrician, must be smart and used to working lightning programme. Apply, with refs, and terms, Box 7,251, "The Era."

WANTED, an Assistant, male or female, for a First-class Theatrical and Vaudeville Agency, must be thoroughly experienced in the business; references to bear the strictest investigation.
Address, Box 7,180, "The Era" Office,
5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED, Baggage Man, robust tenor Vocalist, good E to G.
Letters only. TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, good Carpenter, to combine Baggage and play small parts; rehearse Monday. Photo., terms, HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, for a couple of weeks Wardrobe Mistress and Dresser, and Baggage Man; if suitable, will have option of re-engagement. NORMAN V. NORMAN, Broadway Hall, Hammersmith.

WANTED, a Wardrobe Keeper, to take Entire Charge of a Tenting Circus, Wardrobe, able to Cut Out and Make. Apply, TAYLOR, 10, Washington-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager, by H. Cormack, late Manager for F. C. Bostock, Esq., Jungle and Arena, Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth, Rinking Ltd., &c., &c.; undeniable references; security. 24, Hackney-grove, London.

WANTED, Managerial or Secretarial Appointment, Theatre, Music Hall, or Tour; at present Manager of Important Midland Skating Rink; age 24, good address; excellent references. Small salary. Box 7,228, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Assistant-Manager or Bill Inspector; 17 years' good refs. All coms., Mr. JACK DAVIS, 19, King George-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, Known, Experienced London Manager, desiring change, wants Resident or Touring Engagement. Write, M. M., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Resident-Manager, shortly disengaged; strictly sober, honest, and good worker; highest refs. Letters in confidence. Box 7,230, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, Position as Assistant-Manager or Manager, Music Hall or Theatre, six years' experience in largest American Theatres, good organiser and advertiser; can invest to £1,500, Provincial house preferred. Box 7,184, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, Situation as Assistant Manager (resident), Small Premium given, Shorthand, Typist. Good references. Address, Box 7,227, "The Era."

WANTED, by Electrician, permanent situation, competent mechanic, can work bioscope if required. ELECTRIC, 6, Manor-st., Wigan, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement as Biller, Variety or Billing and Effects, Pictures, Brush or Sticks. W. VALLANCE, 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Companion-Secretaryship to Lady, daily or resident; shorthand, typewriting, music, needlework. 28, Landrock-road, Crouch End, N.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady (sister of a Professional) desires a position as Daily Companion to a Professional Lady, bright and cheerful disposition, would make herself generally useful. Box 7,233, "The Era."

WANTED, Berth by Competent Wardrobe Mistress, clever cutter and fitter, can take large productions. Address, Box 7,220, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Barmaid or Moneytaker, Theatre or Music Hall; experienced. L. LEWIS, 7, Delverton-road, Manor-place, Walworth, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Provincial Music Hall, Musical Director and Full Orchestra; evening dress essential. Apply, with refs. and terms.
Box 7,250, "The Era."

WANTED, Singing Orchestral Conductor, Robust Tenor, E to G. Also very fair pretty girl Contralto, 5-4. Letters only, TATE, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Leader, must be well up in Variety business.

Apply,
T. MURGATROYD, Palace, Huddersfield.

WANTED, for Band, Royal Marines, Chatham Division, a Violinist, also a String Bass Player, those able to double wind instrument preferred. Apply sharp, CHARLES HOBY, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster.

WANTED, First Violin, for Palace Music Hall, Reading. Only experienced and competent man need apply. Feb. 14. AUGUSTUS GRECO, Musical Director.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, Variety Business, permanent to competent man. Terms 32s. 6d. Open Feb. 14. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Cornet and Clarionet, for Southend Town Band (permanent). Terms shares. Apply J. H. GIFFORD, Bandmaster, 4, Richmond-avenue, High-street, Southend-on-Sea.

ANDREWS' PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.
ENTERTAINMENT DEPARTMENT.
WANTED, a First-class Clarionettist and Cornet, to open on Monday next, Feb. 7. Call, wire, or write. Also First-class Vocalists and Lecturers required. Please get in touch immediately. No other positions vacant. Please mark envelopes according to engagement required. Only reliable and competent applicants entertained. The right shop to the right people. A. and H. ANDREWS, Motion Picture Specialists, 5, New Compton-street, London, W.C. 'Phone 9488 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Andreora, London."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, to open, Feb. 14, thoroughly experienced First Horn, used to Variety business; Union rate paid. Apply, with latest references, H. F. MILLER, Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, 'Cellist for White Star Mediterranean Service, Feb. 21, until Oct; also First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star and Cunard North Atlantic Service, April to Oct. Applicants state age, experience, and give two refeernces as to character and ability, C. W. BLACK, 14, Castle-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, at Once, Good 'Cello, also Violin. Open Monday.
Used to Variety. No fancy prices.
Wire or write, LUDKEN, Palace, Watford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Harpist, young, improver.
Apply,
Lieut. GEORGE MILLER, Mus. Bac.,
Bandmaster, Royal Marines,
Gosport.

WANTED, Wanted, Harpist,
good reliable man, able to travel;
good memoriser;
good job; good salary to good man.
Box 7,210 "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist and Vocalist, for Smoke Room. State age; terms 15s., live in. WILSON, Eagle and Child, Shambles, York.

WANTED, First-class Pianist for Picture Show. Must read at sight and memorise. Open Monday. GEO. HARVEY, Empire T., Oakengates.

WANTED, Known, Baritone Vocalist, with own portable, requires Tenor or Soprano to play same, for select pitching. Write, WILSON, 16, Cliff-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to Open Monday, Feb. 14 (Special Grand Opera Week),
Good Double Drummer, with Effects, Tympe., &c.
Address, with full particulars, JAMES BELL.

WANTED, Double Drums and Tymps, to open Feb. 14, Three Sessions Daily. Age, refs., &c. COWELL, Mus. Dir., Olympia Rink, Blackburn.

WANTED, Double Drummer and Effects, open Monday. Wire terms. ISRAEL PRICE, Manager, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, First-class Ladies' Orchestra for a Long Engagement in Buenos Ayres.
Return fares paid.
Advance given after contract signed. Apply SHERRY and BRAFF, 17, Lisle-st., Leicester-sq., W.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age, Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Musicians, for the R.M.S. Otway, sailing for Australia Feb. 18 inst., Violin, Piano, Clarionet, and Cornet; character references indispensable; light duties only. Apply, F. C. CANE, Bandmaster, 28, Nelson-street, East Ham, Essex.

WANTED, to Open Monday, London Rink, good Brass Musicians, including Euphonium. Call with instrument to-day, to-morrow, 822, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, Various Instruments, for Turner Grand Opera Season, to open Feb. 14. Apply, with full particulars of experience of Grand Opera, and lowest terms, to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, commencing Easter Monday, March 28, First and Second Cornet, Euphonium, Trombone, and Bass; those doing Military Trainings save stamps. Apply, Mrs. DUFFY, Theatre, Newtownards, Co. Down.

WANTED, Young Man, for Combination all-round Instrumentalist, play Violin, Cornet, Mandoline, and other instruments; must read; reside London. Write, terms, age, &c., Box 7,216, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED known, Charles Godfrey, jun., First-class Conductor (also piano). At Liberty. Just finished 11 long season engagements as Musical Director, Spa, Scarborough; both Orchestral and Military Bands. Very highest references.
Address, The Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, by a well-known Conductor, Engagement shortly, in a First-class Music Hall; good references; extensive library. Box 7,133, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Well-known Music Hall Conductor is at Liberty to accept Engagement in a First-class Music Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. Highest references. Box 7,225, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Conductor (Theatre or Varieties), Composer and Arranger; thoroughly experienced; extensive library. Write for refs., photo., &c., CONDUCTOR, 13, Fairbourne-road, South Tottenham.

WANTED, Known, Cornet Conductor (two seasons, Crawford and Wilkine), and Band if required, Vacant; good library and refs. J. W. DAVIDSON, 5 Arklay-st., Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known First-class Variety Conductor (Violinist), at present Conductor High-class Provincial Hall; highest references, London and Provincial; extensive library. CONDUCTOR, 16, Lady-lane, Norwich.

WANTED, by First-class Conductor, Variety, Concert, &c., age 30, abstainer. Highest references. CONDUCTOR, 55, Bournemouth-road, Merton Park, London.

WANTED, Engagement. Musical Conductor (Piano), London preferred; up-to-date library; thoroughly experienced in Variety Business (not a beginner). Terms, references, Box 7,238, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Bernard Clarke, Mus.-Dir. or Pianist, concluding Panto., Feb. 12, with Messrs. Darcy and Little. Next, Pal, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist, L.R.A.M. (Good Soloist) in High-class Concert Party or as Orchestral Leader. Address, R. C., c/o Newton and Gutteridge, Brigstock-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; also Lady Vocalist, Soprano (gold medallist), brilliant pianist; sight readers, experienced varieties, pictures, &c. FRED BISCOE, 1, Pavilion-st., Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, London or South Coast, by experienced Lady Violinist (Leader); good répertoire. KATE HUSBAND, 18, Grafton-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal Leader and Cornet. Disengaged for Summer. Address till 27th inst., The Colosseum, Essen, Germany.

WANTED, Engagement, as First-class Violin, experienced, age 28. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, Conductor. Excellent References. Large Library and Smart Uniforms if required. Any Business. Box 7186, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged Monday (Leader, Rink), any Business. Wire terms, CORNET, 9 Albany-road, Ashley Hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornettist, in London, young, experienced in Variety, Theatres. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-rd, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged after Feb. 5, First or Second Orchestral or Military (mounted man). CARTER-BROWN, 52, Portess Gate-road Harlesden, N.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Good Second Cornet seeks Engagement, any Business. Age 24, good refs., experienced, reliable. E. W., 11 King-street, Frome, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, good Cornet, any business, string or brass, London or Suburbs only. Dines, 163, Central-street, City-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by young Solo Cornet, experienced and attentive to business; good ref. Mac, Cardiff Restaurant, Regent's-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink; sober, steady, and very reliable; experienced and good refs. Thorne, c/o Thorne's Dairy, Balls Pond-road, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, experienced; good refs.
A. E. Rider, Sandon-road, Leek, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist and Double Bass; Disengaged Feb. 20 to March 5. High-class Concerts, Opera. Metcalfe, Pavilion Concerts, Buxton.

WANTED, by George Woodcock, Clarionet, Engagement any Business; experienced and reliable. Wire or write, 104, Trevethick-street, Merthyr, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Bass, thoroughly experienced and reliable, Theatre or Music Hall. George, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenhays, Manchester.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any business, good, steady, and reliable, good refs. 9, Haigh-st., Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by a steady and reliable Trombonist, Engagemnt, any Business; excellent references. Franklin, 54, King's-road, Portobello, Scotland.

WANTED, comfortable Summer Engagement, by experienced Trombonist, any business; good refs.; young, sober, and reliable. J. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by ex-Army Trombone, Engagement, any business; good references, experienced, sober, and reliable. Disengaged. Write Daniels, 24, Derby-street, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Trombone Player, experienced Concert, Theatre, Variety; good references. Apply, W. R. Penn, 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Trombonist, splendid player, Engagement, Orchestra or Military, in Portsmouth; experienced Variety, &c.; reliable, excellent credentials. Box 7,242, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, Engagement, Immediate, any Business. Wire or write Charles Grice, c/o Greig, 21, University-street Glasgow.

WANTED, by Euphonium, fine performer (ex Band Sergt.), Engagement in good Staff Band, Portsmouth; steady, reliable. Address, Box 7,241, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Good Bombardon, Any Business. First-class Rink or Summer Shop. Wire or write, Harry Woodage, 36, Regent-road, Leicester.

WANTED, by Bombardon-Tuba, both Military and Orchestral, Engagement, Summer Season; Special Heavy Tschaikowski and S. Coleridge-Taylor Concert experience. McLoughlin, Holland Park Skating Palace Orchestra, London.

WANTED, by Horn and Cornet, Engagement, together or otherwise, any business; experienced, reliable. Musician, 70, Meanley-road, Manor Park, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, Viola, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement in London, by First-class Viola. Address,
Viola, 190, South Esk-road, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Oboist, any business; highest references. Brown, 4, Portland-st., Chatham (late R.M.L.I. Staff Band).

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboeist; good references; age 27. Replies to Oboeist, 13, Crondall-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, by Miss Eveline Hall, Solo and Orchestral Harpist, now at Prince's Theatre, Bristol, and Sister of Marie Hall, Eminent Violinist, an Engagement in Theatre Orchestra, London preferred, or provinces. Address, Miss E. Hall, 12, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Orchestral Harpist and Pianist disengaged; experience West End Theatres. Hendricks, 2, Rumsey-road, Stockwell.

WANTED, by Harpist and Pianoforte, experienced Young Lady, Engagement in Orchestra, Café, or other business, Portsmouth district preferred. Box 7,240, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Harpist or Double Bass, any Business. Steady and reliable. Good references, long experience. J. F. Stewart, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, late H.M. Service; good refs.; sober; any business. Flautist, c/o Miss Whyte, 291, High-street, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, Liberty Feb. 14, thoroughly experienced any business; excellent refs. Harry Littler, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, variety, and pictures. Pianist, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, young, experienced, good sight reader, Engagement with First-class Orchestra. Olive Clarke, 80, George-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Young Lady (Diplomée), Engagement as Pianist and Violinist. Pictures, Skating, Dancing, or Ladies' Band. Malynn, 17, Cambridge-avenue, Kilburn.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, as Pianist in London; good sight reader and accompanist. Please address, 91, Taybridge-road, Clapham Common.

WANTED, by thoroughly reliable Pianist and Accompanist, Orchestral Engagement or Deputising. Address, Musician, 108, Kambala-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by N. Robinson, Pianist, through disappointment Orch. or Self, any Bus.; can open at once; refs., steady, any dis. 4, Brookfield-terrace, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Orchestral Pianist. Free March 10.
Address M. S., Box 7,199, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Orch. Pianist wishes to obtain Variety experience.
Address, Box 7,223, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist; experienced and reliable; read MS.; good references. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, by Gilbert Garahan, First-class Pianist, at Lib. Feb. 7, Transpose, Memorise, &c.; any business. 28, Blenheim-mansions, Cosway-street, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, Experienced, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, &c. Good refs. Joseph Harvey, 2, North-street Cottages, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Electric Theatre Pianist (late Maskelyne and Cook's), Dis.; good penman and accountant; could assist management. Frost, Electric Theatre, New Cross Gate.

WANTED, by Good Double Drummer, with all Effects, Engagement, Variety or Rink. Wire, Bennett, 31, Musjid-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, by five Lady Instrumentalists, together or separate, Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Clarionet, and Cornet. Apply, Violinist, 8, Cross-hill, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio and Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates, apply, Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

THE BRITISH
ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY
BAND AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to General-Manager, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number
(String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, White City, &c.; scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton. Tel. 4847 Nat.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-st., Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty), Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, through Disappointment, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Vacant Dates Feb. 13 to March 7, March 17 to 31, April 17 to May 2. Corn Exchange, Chelmsford.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras; also Male Orchestra. Smart Uniforms. Mme. Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers for Whitsuntide, by Signorina de Polo's Ladies' Orchestra, from White City, &c.; Venetian costumes. 12, West Hill-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Known a famous Military and String Band, with large Répertoire of Music, requires Summer Engagement; only First-class Piers, &c., Entertained.
For further particulars, address
Box 7,182, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply,
O. H. Carter, 32 Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS.
WANTED, Artist for Easter (London district), also for the Summer, Autumn Season, in Douglas, commening Monday, July 4. Apply with full particulars, Fred J. Connor
Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road, London.

BURTON'S FETE and GALA AGENCY,
Fargate, Sheffield.
WANTED, Sensational Novelties, Aerial and Ground Acts, for Galas, for Whit Week and on. Send Lithos., Memos, Terms, Vacant Dates, to George Burton, O. H., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, commencing Easter Monday, March 28, all kinds of Circus Talent, nothing too big. Apply, Mrs. Duffy, Star Theatre, Newtownards, co. Down.

WANTED, Circus Company, with own Ring Mat, V's, Brackets, &c., for season commencing March. Shares. Splendid building. No Circus in town for 12 years. Showman, 24 School-street, Radcliffe, Lancashire.

WANTED, a Smart Boy to Learn Acrobatic Business, age 14 to 15, height 4ft. 9in. Will have a good home.
Josh Clifton, Haymarket Hotel, Blackburn.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED.—The Three Royal Ohmys, Wonderful Acrobatic Bareback Riders, with four beautiful trained Horses. The Most Up-to-date Riding Act ever seen in a Circus Ring. Complimented by everybody that has seen this great Act, which is Now the Talk of Glasgow. Note.—The Three Royal Ohmys will be at Liberty Easter Monday. Address till further notice,
The Royal Ohmys,
Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow.
Edinburgh to follow.

WANTED, Mlle. Rosa Montero, now performing with Great Success with her splendid Thoroughbred Horse Haute, Ecole, and Liberty Act, at Curzon Hall, Birmingham; will be at Liberty for the Summer, for Home or Abroad; tenting or otherwise.
Address as above.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, good Entrées, Globe Show, and Agouste; Vacant Jan. 14. Address, Hippo., Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip and Wee Wullie Clowns and Agoustes will be at Liberty Feb 14 and on. All comes., 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Milo, and George Brittain's Most Modern Athletes, the Latest and Greatest for 1910; absolutely the best two in this kind, bar none; the Act that has everything that gets success. Vacant, Tenting. Address, C/o "The Era."

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms. Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists. Single or Double Performance. Captain Mizen, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists
in all Lines,
now and onwards,
with exceptions.
Apply, Manager.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Variety Artists of Every Description, Big Animal Acts, Novelties, Specialities, Pantomimical Sketches, &c., Feb. 14, onward. Kindly say when and where their acts can be seen. Silence a polite negative. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday, Feb. 14, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for the Prince's Theatre, Llandudno, Doubles doing Singles, Sisters, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Specialities, &c., Feb. 7, onwards. Terms must be low. Kara, 8, Chapel-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Monday and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars of Acts, bookings, lowest salary, permanent address. Boardman and Foreman, Variety Agents, Co-operative Chambers, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPOS. and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Feb. 14, 21, onwards.
Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Early Dates. Let me know where you are appearing. Pleased to see any turn. Anything big and new I can place at the best establishments. Dramatic Sketches wanted for London, early date. Richard Cass, 9, Mundania road, Peckham. 'Phone, Sydenham 1093. No callers, please.

WANTED, Gala Artists,
Wanted, Gala Artists,
Wanted, Gala Artists,
in all Lines,
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
Lithos., photos., sample printing indispensable.
James Fioni,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone 1686 Royal.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, Houghton-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
The Bigger the Better.
Send full Bookings, lowest Terms, Photos., Lithos., and all particulars.
'Phone 2549 Royal.
Principal Boys and Girls vacant Pantomime next year send all particulars and where playing.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
Picture and Variety Season.
WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Immediate Dates.
Full bookings and lowest terms,
Geo. Zalva's Agency, 2, St. George's-rd., Yarmouth.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 14, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 7, onwards. Hall small; once nightly. Good Break going North. State absolute lowest. J. F. Franklin, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Feb. 14, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

JOHN ADAMS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Also Big Specialities for Galas.
Perm. Add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, three nights and matinée, Thursday, Feb. 10, near Brierley Hill, Artists all Lines, Hall small, salary likewise. Address, Permane, 37, Pearson-street, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Several Halls in the North. Big Tops for Immediate Dates. Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

THE WARREN AGENCY,
12, College-lane, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, who wish to be Booked at Leading Halls, to send list of bookings, terms, vacant dates, to above. All communications acknowledged. No callers. Appointments letter only.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Halls, Feb. 14, on. Wolverhampton Pavilion, Lady Riders, Aerial Acrobats, Animals, Tenting, Novelties for Galas, cheap Doubles doing Singles, Picture Shows. Efficient Window-billers. List bookings, lithos. Permanent, Percy Victor's Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Wilder's Fête and Gala Season, 1910, all Artists who have answered our Advertisement to accept our thanks; we wish them to write in again, and keep us posted with their dates. We are at all times open to receive particulars of First-class Aerial Attractions and Novelties suitable for Galas for the following dates: May 16, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, also Aug. 1 and 8. Reply, stating lowest terms and sample lithos., to
29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for Easter, March 21, 28,
Whit Week, and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
Will Sley, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars in all Lines, London and Provinces, Early and Later Dates,.
Knockabout Comedian wire for Monday.
Mr. Geo. Aytoun, 61, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

TARRO MYAKE, Champion Ju-Jitsu Wrestler of the World.
WANTED, Turns of all Kinds, for Feb. 28. Write lowest, R. Voss, Manager, 5, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, Novel Variety Turns, all Kinds. State terms, which must be low, also where can be seen working; Manchester district only. Manager, Hipp., Stalybridge.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates.
Apply, T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Acts. Please send full list of all dates, stating open time and lowest price, also permanent address.
Jack M. Drury, Variety Agent,
Warwick Chambers, 20, West Campbell-street, Glasgow.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, a good Comedy Act, to support bill Monday next, Feb. 7. Wire absolute lowest, one house nightly, Saturdays two. Beanland and Emerson.

ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Acts, nine days from March 24 next. Please state nine days' salary, not two weeks. Those suitable may be booked a summer date for season. Apply, Directors, Alhambra, Morecambe.

BURTON'S FETE and GALA AGENCY,
Fargate, Sheffield.
WANTED, Sensational Novelties, Aerial and Ground Acts, for Galas, for Whit Week, and on. Send Lithos., Memos, Terms, Vacant Dates, to George Burton, O. H., Burton-on-Trent

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Feb. 14, 21, 28,
March, and April,
Big
Star
Tops
and
Bottoms,
for
Blackpool, Leeds,
Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton,
Dublin, Bolton,
and
other towns.
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address,
"Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Real Top-liners only.
If you have any open time, write me.
Also First-class Comedians,
for Pantomime, 1910-11.
Star Acts only
for Britain and the Continent.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Big Tops for Immediate Dates. Particulars, &c., in first instance, Charles Dektrich's Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. Phone, 1269, Royal.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
138, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Kinds, Monday onward, for best London and Provincial Establishments.

Acts for Wakefield, Feb. 14, for own Company; must be new to town; state when there.

Wanted, Circus Acts, all Kinds, Riders, &c. Letters only, full particulars, above address.

WANTED, Big Gala Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Cyclists, Novelties, for Whitsun, June 13, onwards. Terms, lithos., bills, memos. Wood, Caterer, West-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Feb. 21, onwards, for Glasgow, Rochdale, Variety Acts and Specialities. Cycle Act for Easter. Full Bookings. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, High-class Variety Companies, must be novel and new to Dunfermline, Feb. 21, on. W. E. Potts.

HORACE CAMPKIN'S AGENCY,
14, Norton-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Big Attractions, for Galas; also Acts of Every Description
for outdoor entertainments.
Communicate immediately,
with bookings, terms, and lithos.

WANTED, Big Star Head Liners, Nothing Too Big. For Feb. 14, 21, 28.

Notice.
Have booked the following Star Tops this week. The Great Everhart Pickett's "Yellow Fang" Co., Minola Hurst's Miniature Marvels.
Big Star Acts. Write quick.
I can book you.
Cliquot's Agency,
18, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, PONTEFRACT.
WANTED, the Cream of the Variety World, for now and future dates; nothing too big. Will the following Artists please wire addresses? Allsopp and Beckwith, Victor and Louis, Marion Scott, Zetta Grey and Co., Kial Stern, Les Montaldos, John F. Preston.

Address,
Tom Diacoff, Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Monday, onward, Cavalry Theatre and other Halls, Aldershot, good Doubles doing Singles, good Serios, &c. Wire or write, Harry Saunders, Grosvenor-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, very smart Comedienne and Dancer (must be absolutely refined and first-class), for 25 weeks, commencing March 21. Call, Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.C., Tuesday next 11.30 to 12.30. Clayton.

WANTED, Young Smart Girl, good Acrobatic Dancer;
Rehearse immediately.
John Leopold, jun.,
538, Caledonian-road, N.

WANTED, Young Comedian, good voice and good Dancer. Apply, Munroe's Comedy Team, Empire, Stratford, E. Also Boy Vocalist wanted.

WANTED, Comedy three bar Performer, long Engagement; must be funny. Particulars and lowest terms. Box 7,247, "The Era."

WANTED, Second Mounter, must be A1 Tumbler, to Open Once, for well-known Comedy Act; long engagement to right party; single men preferred. Send full particulars, with lowest terms Box 7,243. "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, good Tumbler, open Feb. 21, long engagement. Full particulars, Will Douglas, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, Boy, not over seventeen, with some Knowledge of Juggling.
Address,
Box 7,229, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man to Ride Tea-cup Track. Good Shop for Right Man. Lowest terms. E. Gilbert, Cyclist, c/o G.P.O., Birmingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Juvenile Comedienne, Feb. 7, 14, on. Plenty of "Go." Magnificent voice. Wire quick, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Mon., 7th, 14th, on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion of the World and Gold Medallist, "Top Boots." Write or wire, No. 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, vacant March, Loie Prince, Descriptive Vocalist. This, Empire Pictures. Offers, Airedale House, Castleford, Yorks. See Card. Good offers only entertained.

WANTED, Monday Next, onwards, Mary Hopwood, the Cripple Vocalist. With Illustrated Songs and Without. Own Slides. 4, Stanley-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Redfern Sisters, Novel Speciality, Banjoes, Mimicry, Piano, Comedy, Ragtime Dancing, &c. Vacant Feb. 7, 21, March 14. 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED Monday next, 14th, 21st, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Popular Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive. Original Copyrights, Songs, Scenas, Stories, own Illustrated Colliery Pictures. Encored Nightly. Theatre, Altrincham. Communications, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric, just concluded six weeks' comfortable and successful Engagement at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. Next week, Feb. 7, Palace, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, Always a Success, George Franklin, Quaint Comedian with Quaint Songs. Wire, Broad Pavement, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Feb. 21, to follow Barrow, by George Caselli, Light Comedian, Novelty Dancer. Wire, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame Comedian and Comedy Dutch, vacant Feb. 14, also March 7, 14. This, Palace, Blackpool; next, Palace, Kettering.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, by the Famous Comedian and One-legged Dancer, Jimmy Shields. Just signed another 31 weeks with Oswald Stoll, Esq. Address, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, by Happy Attwood, Comedian, Monday next, also Feb. 14. Wire,
37, Lotus-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Feb. 7, by Alf Brookes, Eccentric Comedian. This, Palace, Neath; after Sunday, 1, Northumberland-grove, Tottenham; Wallsend and Manchester to follow.

WANTED, Monday next, Feb. 7, by Ryder Davis, in Song and Monologue; also Eva Ward, Soubrette. 11, Camberwell-grove, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by Sergt. Bert Powell, the famous Military Illusionist, in "Magic of Many Lands." Wire, Palace Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 14, 21, by Ali Cogia, Arabian Magician and Equilibrist, assisted by Abdulla, also Miss Linton, Descriptive. Drill Hall, Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Feb. 14 and 28, onward, the Great Kyoto, Japanese, Sensational Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer, and Clever Pug Dog; also May Geraldine, Refined Singer of Chorus Songs, and Dancer; two distinct and reliable turns. Notice.—If no success will work for nothing. Wire or write offers. Monday, King's Palace, Wellingborough. Inquire, that's all.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, Various, on, The Moncktons (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting Screaming Episodes, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat," &c. Feb. 7, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, on, Fred Monckton and Company in Latest Farcical Absurdity, "The Man who Did" (four artists), beautifully staged, perfectly played. Letters, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, by Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Star Comedienne. Forester's; or 15, Weltje-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 28, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists. An acknowledged success in our beautifully dressed Song Scenas. Good Singles. Six Duets Nightly Hippodrome, Swadlincote. Refer management. Coms., Picturedrome, Stone-road, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy, Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act. Usual success Hippo., Wakefield; vacant 7th, 14th, 28. Address, 9, Meanwood-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Thorpe and Coe, in their great Comedy Playlet, "My Burglar," vacant Monday, Feb. 7. 48, Amersham-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 14, and on, by J. O'Brian, ong Scenas, also Jennie Neilson, Vocalist; two good Turns. 134, Corporation-road, Workington.

WANTED, Feb. 7 and 14, by The Leonas, Musical Novelty Act, Gorgeous Electric Stage Set. This, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, where wire.

WANTED, Known, Six Albyns, Musical Comedy Act, unexpectedly Vacant Monday next, 7th, Big Act. Wire, Grand Restaurant, Fleetwood. After Sunday, 55, Waterloo-road, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next,
by Willard's Merry Mannikins.
Wire, Empire Palace, Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
SARNTHALER TROUPE,
Big Top, Six Ladies, Two Gents. Big Top.
The World's Greatest Tyrolean Singers and National Dancers from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres.

Vacant Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and on.
Offers invited.
Address, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, The Carlsens, Comedy Acrobatic Trampoline Speciality, own Scenery, splendid lithos. Comic Competition on the Bouncing Table; absolutely the funniest of all Competitions. P. O. W., Mexboro'; Feb., Palace, Warrington.

WANTED, March 14, April 4, 11, and 18, by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli; two first-class Acts. Address, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, Feb. 14, by Atlas-Vulcana Troupe, Greatest and Most Beautiful Speciality Extant. 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Le Bruns, Unique Vocal and Juggling Novelty. Wire, 182, Holyhead-road, Wednesbury.

WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, April 4, Share or Certainty, John Olrac presents the
FIVE OLRACS
in a New and Original Comedy Act,
"ACROBATICAL FUNNIOSITIES."
A Sure Draw and Success. Funnier than a Pantomime. From Empire, Palace, Coliseum and Hippodrome, London. This, Terrific Success, Hippo., Leigh; next, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Feb. 7, 14, 28. Wakefield Gazette, Feb. 1, 1910.—Mlle. Sylvesto, a lady contortionist of the very front rank. . . . the positions in which she puts herself are astounding. . . . has to be seen to be believed. Also Rumbo, Austin, Comedy Street Acrobats. Wire, Empire, Kirkgate, Wakefield.

WANTED, Proprietors and Agents to Notice the Two Phillipi Brothers have given up their Straight Acrobatic Staircase Act, and will now be known as the Four Phillipi Brothers, in their new Comedy Gymnastic Act, entitled, "SERGT. FEARNOUGHT AND HIS RAW RECRUITS." We are the Original Territorial Acrobats. At present making a big success Brixton Pantomime, both in Parts and our own Speciality. Managers and Agents please come and see this big Novelty Act. At Liberty Feb. 14.

WANTED, Known, Lolo May Trio, Refined Lady Gymnasts. Next week, E. H. Bostock's Pavilion, Wishaw, Scotland. Feb. 14, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
Thanks for Offers.

WANTED, Known, Lorettes, Double Trapeze, also Mlle. Leoville, Tight-wire; two good Acts Monday, Gaiety, Chatham; Liberty Feb. 21 and 28.

WANTED, Feb. 7, 21, Bouncing Peps, Star Speciality, up-to-date, splendid Scena. Always successful. Wire, Empire Theatre, Fleetwood; after Saturday, see Cards.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), Male and Female, Novelty Acrobats, three acts. Theatre, Aberavon, Wales.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by Rich Taylor, the Whistling Ventriloquist, through obliging manager.
Next week, address, Clitheroe.
Also Vacant April 25.

WANTED, Feb. 21, March 14, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist); two first-class Acts. Offers invited. Institute, Ormskirk.

WANTED, Feb. 14, for Scottie's Great Star House-crammers, "Napoleon at Waterloo," Whizzing the Whirl, and Scottie's Operatic Ballet Troupe; three distinct Acts, playing 65 minutes. Share or Salary, with or without full Company. Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Agents and Managers to know, PICITT AND LIZETTE
have three immediate vacant weeks. Feb. 7, 14, 21,
"THE CRAZY COOK."
A Big Illusion Act, a Big Comedy Act, a Big Animal Act, all in one. From the Palace, London, and Coliseum, London.
Full Scene carried; only clear Stage required.
50 Birds and Animals. 50.

Wire for Monday next, Lithos. ready.
85, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by Cambridge's Pantomimic Sketch, "The Jolly Millers," by six people; everything carried; one perpetual roar of laughter. Theatre, Aberavon, Wales.

WANTED, Dates, from March 7, onwards, for new and refined Musical Sketch. Write, Miss E. and Mr. B., Theatre Royal, York.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lions, Vacant Monday next, Feb. 14, 21, 28, and all month of March, before starting Continental Tour. Communications.
75, Parry-street, Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Permane's Troupe of Live Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears, April 11. Thank Mr. and Mrs. Colin for a most comfortable three weeks' engagement at Brierley Hill and West Bromwich. PERMANE, 37, Pearson-street, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Tudora's Ponies, Liberty Feb. 7, 14, and 21, a Novel Drawing-room Performance, no Ring Fence used. Don't miss this for genuine talent.

All coms., 7, Silent-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's wonderful Troupe of Dogs, including the only Troupe of Prize Russian Poodles on the Variety Stage, an Act that the audience talk about; Speciality this week, Panto., Theatre Royal, Cardiff; next, Tivoli, Pentre; vacant Feb. 14, 21.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats, &c., vacant Feb. 14 and 21, March 14 and 21, Share or Certainty, good Posters and Lithos. by Messrs. Creber, Plymouth, and Berry, Printers, Bradford. Monday, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's famous Fugilistic and Dramatic Dogs, the greatest Spectacle in the World, Liberty Feb. 28. BLACK'S Picture Palace, off Sunderland-road, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Juggling, Balancing, Somersaulting Cyclist, free for Galas, two Acts. This, Bishop Auckland; next, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Cycledians, Football on Wheels, success, always success; Vacant Monday, also 21st, 28th. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cyclists, Feb. 14, 21, and 28. Monday next, Palace, Durham, wire or write.

D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
The Act no others have dared to copy.
The Act no others have dared to copy.
Our Originality is our Protection.
Our Originality is our Protection.
WANTED, one week, Feb. 14.
Wanted, one week, Feb. 14.
must be North,
must be North,
to follow Newcastle.
to follow Newcastle.
Must not be within Stoll's Barring Radius.
This week, Empire, Cardiff;
Next week, Empire, Newcastle.
Next week, Empire, Newcastle.
I have no exclusive Agent. Prepared to accept Contracts direct, or through Agents.
WILLIAM JOHN D'ARC,
D'Arc's Waxworks, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Youth (20), Situation as Assistant to any Act, or otherwise.
H., Rockery, Caversham Heights Reading.

WANTED, Permanent Appointment, by Bioscope Operator, at present working Gaumont Machine, willing to make himself generally useful. Salary required, 35s. Address, WM. HUNTINGDON, Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P," brands, Winchester Repeaters Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Fa' mouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, W. E. Roche (Member of the Showmen's Guild), Showmen's Painter, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E., all kinds of Showmen's Decorative Work undertaken, Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. Terms moderate; satisfaction guaranteed.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

BRAMLEY MAY CARNIVAL.
WANTED, good Outside Novelty Show, for Sat., May 7, 1910. Apply with full particulars and terms, H. D. DRAKE, Hon. Sec., Bramley, Leeds.

WANTED, all Kinds of Novelties, Quick Shows, Palmist and Auctioneers write in, main position. BOUNDS, Foundry-yard, Porth, Rhondda, South Wales.

GOVAN CROSS CARNIVAL, Helen-street, Govan (near Glasgow). Population over 200,000. Covered in and lit by electric light.
WANTED, First-class Novelties, Side Shows, Roundabouts, &c. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, good Novelties, to Open Monday, on shares. Madame Amelia, the Fat Lady, going strong, packed nightly. Apply, JACK BAIRON, Automatic Vaudevilles, 27, Broad-street, Reading.

WANTED, Living Freaks, Novelties, and Performers suitable for Waxwork Exhibition. Lowest terms, lithos, &c., to FREDK. STEWART, Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, open at once, Side Shows, Games, Stalls, large Hall, main road, Newport, Mon. Low rent to good Fit-up (nine weeks, certain). MANAGER, Exhibition, Commercial-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, for Greenwood's Auction Mart, First-class Handseller, Planksman, Pianist, reopen March 1. For particulars address, 157, Everton-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Tank Performers, at once, for long or short Engagement. Write, stating salary. ROCHESTER, Exhibition Hall, High-street, Bristol.

WANTED, a Young Girl knowing Tank Work or Swimming and Diving.
Apply to Mr. LATOUCHE, Agricultural Hall, Islington.

WANTED, Known, Le Neve's and Jem Mace's Troupe of Wrestlers, Weight Lifters, and Boxers, including Jem Mace, the G.O.M. of the Prize Ring, Donald Dinnie, winner of 11,000 contests, and Miss Nora Sullivan, winner of Sandow's Challenge Medal. Managers invited to see this Act; without doubt the only one of its kind in the world. For terms, apply, LE NEVE, Collins's Fun City, Gill-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Fred Pearson, Pianist and Specialities. Disengaged after three years with Taylor's Auction Mart (watchmaker &c.), 174, Ecclesall-road, Sheffield.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.
May 12 to June 25, 1910.
Largest Exhibition held in Manchester since 1887. Great Attractions, including a reproduction of "Old Manchester." This portion will be the liveliest part.
WANTED, to Let, a few Shops for Novelties. Monograms also select Side Shows. Plans and particulars can be had from WALTER STENNING, The International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broadstreet House, London, E.C.

WANTED to Let, Shops on the Victoria Pier, South Shore, Blackpool. Applicants to state their class of business. Address MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Sports, Automatic Exhibition, big profits, fixtures, and Stock, Machines optional; best position. 233, Edgware-road, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS,
FOR FEBRUARY.
ENGLAND.

5. Bildworth (1,100)
5. Kineton (1,000)
5. Nantwich (7,700)
8. Lichfield (7,902)
8. Long'on (35,815)
12. Harrogate (28,414)
12. King's Lynn (18,253)
12. Beaconsfield (1,570)
13. Biggleswade (5,129)
14. Dorchester (9,500)
24. Frome (11,055)

SCOTLAND.
7. Biggar (1,925)
WALES.
7. Maesteg (1,513)

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Wanted, Known, to Showmen, Stall-holders, and Amusement Caterers, following Feasts, Fairs, &c.

P. COLLINS,
is now open to book First-class Tenants for his well-known Spring and Summer Route of
Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes,
Oswestry, Longton, Cefn, Llangollen, Welshpool, Newtown, Llanidloes, Ruthin, and Wrexham. Lichfield, Dudley, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath.

Good Easter Fairs.
Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stourbridge, London, and New Brighton.
Ludlow May Fair, Chester Races,
Leicester Fair.
By special request of the travellers this Fair will be held the week before Whitsuntide, commencing on Thursday, May 5, for one week. The ground is over 100 acres in extent, and I propose having an Aviation Meeting there. Trips will be run to Leicester from all parts of the country, and this will be the biggest fair ever held in the provinces.
Birmingham Fair,
and a run of Fairs, Feasts, Wakes, Flower Shows, &c., right through the season.

Please Note.—Under no consideration will duff or suggestive shows be allowed on any of my grounds.

For terms, &c., apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telephone 80 Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, to Let, Land in Castle-street, Bristol, 100ft. by 50ft., for fortnight, Easter only, building on same afterwards. Apply, JUSTIN, 23, Severn-avenue, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, North of Scotland Trades and Industrial Exhibition, Music Hall, Union-street, Inverness, Feb. 23 to March 10, 1910, inclusive. Royal Roumanian Orchestra. All communications to SECRETARY, 5, Queensgate, Inverness.

WANTED, to Let, Palmistry Rights, also Refreshment Rights and Curtain and Programme Rights for Season. Offers to MELVILLE, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, to Sell, two new Front Waggons, carved front, or will Sell Picture Show complete, with 8 horse power Road Loco, Burrell engine, and large Paper Organ and electric plant, or will exchange for Riding Machine. Apply, FREDK. GRAY, 222, Lavender-hill, Battersea, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van, 12ft. by 7ft., nicely fitted, good condition.
KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, Traction Engine (Showman's), 10 h.p., Wallis Diamond Jubilee, 10 h.p.n. compound Aveling, 2 3-ton Wallis Tractors, 3 i.h.p. overtype Engine and Boiler, suitable for driving Organ, &c, Dynamos, or for Hire, cheap.

WHITE BROS. ENGINEERING AND MACHINERY CO., LTD., Stratford, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, oil engine, dynamo, on wheels, finest set ever travelled. Cost £265; sell bargain, almost new. NORRIS, 80, Zetland-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, one Set of Beech's 16 Boats Aeroplanes, all in good working order, to be sold cheap, or will exchange for anything useful in business. Apply, FREDK. GRAY, 222, Lavender-hill, Battersea.

WANTED, to Sell, easy terms, Bloom's No. 1 Royal Auction Mart, finest in the world; also Road Living Van, perfect. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Gavioli Organ, lately tuned and done up, in splendid condition; also several Patent Oil Lights, and Quantity of Good Films. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Green Hundred-road, Peckham.

WANTED, to Sell, Monkeys for Training, the best place for all kinds of Monkeys and Animals. WRIGHT'S TRADING MENAGERIE, 43, Parkroad, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell a Beautiful Automatic Orchestraphone, Penny-in-slot, suitable for Exhibition or Skating Rinks; plays five different Instruments, nice tone. Cost over £50; sacrifice for £25. Seen and heard playing at Amusement Parlour, 233, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Big Wheel at Olympia, booked for Summer, splendid opportunity. Worth a letter. 233, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Road Living Waggon, 10ft. by 6ft.
S. ANDERSON,
6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, to Purchase, Waxwork, Variety, or Animated Picture Business, in any part of the country. A. E. PICKARD, Ashfield House, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Electric Piano, also Soda Fountain. All particulars, ROWELL, Strand-street, Douglas.

WANTED, to Buy, Automatic Working Models. State full particulars and price.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cheap for Cash, Penny-in-Slot Locks and Door Springs for Lavatories. EDWARD FORTUNE, 16, Amelia-street, Belfast.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Manager, for Important Skating Rink just opening, Belgium; first-class manager; must be thoroughly capable, experienced, and possess undeniable references. Apply, enclosing photo, state salary and full particulars, GREALY, Hotel Metropole, Bruxelles.

WANTED, for Wisbech Corn Exchange Skating Ring, Single Young Man, capable of taking control and instructing. State terms and full particulars. C. GATES, Manager.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Skating Instructors for Various Rinks; must be competent and of good appearance. Write experience, height, &c., CHAS. EVANS, Margate Skating Rink.

WANTED, Rink Staff (manager excepted), Lady Instructress, Band, &c. Usual terms. North. Terms, ALEC PAYNE, Theatre Royal, Goole, Yorks.

WANTED, Position as Floor Manager, Experienced and Good Skater. Can give Exhibitions. Write H. G. MARTIN, 2, Drill-street, Keighley.

WANTED, Known, Smart Skate Mechanic, now Dis., age 23; will be useful in Rink. W. G., 11, St. Mary's-villas, Merton Park.

WANTED, to Sell 445yds of splendid Rock Maple wood, now forming one of the finest Skating Floors in the North of England; also 150 pairs Ball-bearing Roller Skates. No reasonable offer refused. Box 7,224, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Feb. 12, 1,200 Pairs Richardson's Skates, in perfect condition, all sizes; also Eureka Surfacer; as new; also pleased to recommend Instructors, Mechanics, and others.
Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo Rink, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, the new Skate Dance, "ENCHANTER," To lovers of music, especially skaters, simple and effective Skate Dance. Originated, written, and composed by Walter Hurst, the great Trick Skater, Pianoforte copies, with full description of Dance, 1s. 4d. nett, post free. W. HURST, Manager, Premier Rinks, Ltd., Boston, Linc.

WANTED, to Purchase Cheap for Cash, Large Quantity Secondhand Skates, best condition. Particulars, HENRY SILVANI, Manager, Exhibition Hall Rink, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, a new game for Skating Rinks,
Verne's Patent Ball Bearing Curlers,
admirably adapted for Roller Rinks, Club Rooms, Deck Sports, Ashphalte Floors, &c., which makes the "Roarin' Game" as popular in Summer as in Winter. Full particulars on application to T. VERNE, Pavilion Roller Rink, Wishaw, N.B.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, For a Surface, See the Premier Rink, Finsbury Park, London. Live Agents Wanted.
THE UNION ENGINEERING CO., Darwen.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Lease of Theatre (one of the best-known in the country); or would sublet to reliable person; would suit a first-class Picture Firm. Letters, FRED WATSON. G.P.O., Bolton (to be called for).

WANTED, Known, for Sale, Two Halls, seating 500 and 280 respectively; centrally situated in Nottingham. Adaptation of Upper Hall for Cinematograph Entertainments approved by Magistrates. Preference given to purchaser who will retain present Sunday tenants. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Central Hall, Nottingam.

WANTED, to Sell, at the termination of the run, JOHN HART'S GORGEOUS PANTOMIME, "JACK AND JILL."
Now playing to Record Houses at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Beautifully painted scenery (fourteen scenes) by George Jackson, R. C. Oldham, and D. G. Hall. Gorgeous dresses from designs by Robert Crafter. Splendid electric fittings and properties, including electric sun. Can be put on any stage.
Managers desiring a First-class Production in good condition should see it without delay.
Apply, J. E. B. BEAUMONT, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, The New Glasgow Pantomime, "WILLIE WINKIE," Now in height of Success at Royal Princess's Theatre. Simply a Splendid Production.
Ten Scenes Built for Fun, including the Railway Station and Change to Train going Sixty Miles per hour; excited passengers, motor, horse and cart, panorama, full-working engine &c., &c. Such a scene does not exist in any other Pantomime in the whole country and is full of working Fun.
The Whole Production for Sale; or can be divided.
Apply to RICH WALDON, Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, PANTOMIME PRODUCTIONS.
The Entire Production of "Cinderella" for Sale at the end of the run. Can be seen at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, where it is playing to enormous business.
Might arrange for Production next Season.

Also the Entire Production of "The Fair One with the Golden Locks" for Sale at end of run. Can be seen Feb. 7 and 14, Grand, Nottingham.

Address,
ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Full Sets, Cloths, Rostrums, Oddments.
BROOKE, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, two magnificent full Sets used in "The Devil" Production at the Adelphi Theatre, London, one a massive oak room, and the other an elaborate conservatory, both in perfect condition. ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, "At Duty's Call," very Popular Military Play, with scenery, wardrobe, and properties, complete. Letters, JOHN GERANT, 49 Jenner-rd, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, to Sell, a quantity of Scenery and Dresses, nearly new, and in excellent condition. Box 7,235, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Paris Flood Films, Urban, 420ft. and 295ft; Gaumont, 400ft.; price 2d. Dispatch Saturday. TETLOW, Panopticon, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Class A, Besson B flat clarionet, 13 keys, new, cost £5; £3 for cash. Approval. C., 33, Euston-buildings, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 65ft. round White Marquee, almost new, with wallings, poles, ropes, stakes, and everything complete. Box 7,219, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Hand-painted Fancy Dress, "Night," also four Parisian Dancing Dresses, suit Troupe. Can be seen by appointment. Address, Box 7,221, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus, all new, many novelties. MAKER, 52, Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Up-to-date Illusion, complete Fit-up, Patter, marvellous Money Maker. Can be seen working, bargain. Box 7,225, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Two Cabinets, shown empty and isolated from stage, small cabinet is then placed in larger one, when a lady is produced, worked with audience all round, 20 guineas, bargain; Box Mystery, 4 guineas. Exchange entertained. LESTER, Llewellyn-street, Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid No. 5 Blick Typewriter, does beautiful work, proper bargain, 95s. BURGH, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Broadwood Grand Piano. Sell cheap to save storage.
GEO. ZALVA, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, complete set, thickly plated, standard key, powerful tone, beater included, all in tune; £3, bargain. PIANIST, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a Great Novelty Comedy Sketch, five characters, new properties, dresses, wigs, effects, mechanical devices built for our own use, to be placed in the Halls immediately following Pantomime. Owing to having arranged a Long Tour abroad, will sell complete if sold at once, £100, the lowest price, which only covers cost of properties. The Act will Book Itself and Make the Name of its Owner. It is ready to Rehearse and Produce immediately.
Address,
THE SALAMBOS,
Drury Lane Theatre.

WANTED, to Sell, or Let, Dramas and Sketches by best Authors. EDWARD THANE, 15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, London, N.E.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Pantomime Production, suitable for big Theatre. Apply, giving full particulars, number of Scenes, size of cloths, height Wings, number and character of Dresses. Box 7,244, "The Era."

WANTED, Cinematograph Outfit, Complete, or separate, Secondhand, Perfect Condition, cheap. Operator. Write (no callers), MANAGER, 10, Clifford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Kinematograph Camera, Darling's preferred, with lenses and tripod.
Apply, Box 7,150, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Oak Baronial Hall Set, Drawing-room Set, Street and Country Lane Cloths, Stage Cloth. FRED BULMER, Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, to Buy, Breakable Property Motor Car, cheap; also two pairs of Musical Globes. DONEGAL, 7, Drewton-street, Bradford.

WANTED, to Purchase, some Plush Tip-up Seats. Send sample and price to Manor Theatre, Kenmure-road, Hackney.

WANTED, Ash Trays, to fix on seats; also Numerical Sign (electric), for Proscenium. Sample and lowest price, MACDONA, T. R., Colchester.

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, a Complete Circus Ring Matting. Full particulars,
H. CAZMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, Secondhand Hampers, cheap. State price, number, and if lined. Box 7,245, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, really good Songs, suitable for Juveniles, Girl and Boy, also for Girl alone, Illustrated Songs, including Slides; really good Songs only, otherwise save postage.
O. MAUS DAYTON,
The Dayton Family, Tivoli Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, to Buy, Clever and Original Comedy Duologues and Sketches, must be good.
HARRY THORPE, 48, Amersham-road, New Cross.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED Known, to Let, from May 23, for ten weeks, Old-established Theatre, Now Playing to Record Business. Situate in the Heart of the Colliery (Midlands) District. Population (including districts), 60,000. Own electric plant. Can stage anything. Good stock of scenery. Suitable for Pictures, Drama, or Variety. Apply (principals only) in first instance to Box 7,236, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Feb. and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Maiton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. Phone 2948 Mayfair.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
21, Maiden-lane, Strand.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY.

WANTED, to Let, Large Hall, in centre of Birmingham, for about Four Months, from June next. Suitable for Electrical Theatre, Minstrel Troupe, or any Novelty Entertainment. Hall is exquisitely decorated, and has a floor space capable of seating over 1,500. Rent moderate.
For full particulars.
Box 42, Mundy's Advertising Offices, Birmingham.

SEA BEACH, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, to Let, Wooden Building, 30ft. by 40ft.; electric light; best position for Summer Season for any kind of Novel Show. HUMBER, Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for List.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Hire, Hall or Space, now and season, refined entertainment, Seaside preferred; any distance. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, £200 for Half Profits in Musical Play. Trial tour a big success. Fullest details given. Either a Sleeping Partner or anyone with real talent could have a good part.
For interview in town, write to
NARSON, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Partner, about £50, finance established Pierrot, Minstrel Combination; opportunity for young Entertainer, Sing, play Piano, or other instruments; reside London.
Box 7,217, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, to Finance and take half share in big Singing Act, for Music Halls. Preference given to one able to sing in same.
Write, Box 7,252, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, to take Financial Interest in Tour of West-End Success. First-class Management. Active or Sleeping Interest entertained. Fullest particulars by letter to
L. Box 7,249, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, to invest Capital with Well-known Actor and Actress for Provincial Tour; receive third share; experience not essential. Box 7,223 "The Era."

WANTED, really good Song Writing Pianist Partner, plenty of business in hand; splendid opening for smart collaborater. Write, Box 7,231, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for Electric Theatres; advertiser can secure several prominent London positions; no opposition near. Box 7,234, "The Era."

WANTED, by Provincial Actor-Manager, Proprietor of New Drama, Partner (actor or business-manager). CLIFFORD, 23, St. Patrick's-rd., Ramsgate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., EDWARD HARRISON, Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMANN & Co., 4 Pitville-place Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leanderroad, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, Songs. Sole Rights, including Band Parts, 7s. 6d.; Part Rights, 3 for 1s. Call or write, JIM JAGO, 91, Sotheron-road, Watford.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus.

WANTED, Managers interested in Comic Opera to see "The Superior Sex" at Cripplegate Institute, London, E.C. Complimentary tickets on application to J. H. MAUNDER, National Safe Deposit, 1, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

WANTED, good Singer to Sing my "Skating Song." Sure Hit, therefore substantial fee paid. Only those doing London Halls need apply. Box 7,237, "The Era."

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

A Long-felt Want Supplied.
CHAPPELL'S MUSICAL DIARY AND ARTISTS' LIST, for 1910.
Convenient size for pocket, with loop pencil. Containing, in addition, various information indispensable to Conductors and Secretaries of Societies, Concert Givers, and Musical People in general. Now Ready, price 1s. net (by post 1s. 1d.).
CHAPPELL & Co., LTD., 50, New Bond-st., London, W.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
1402 BROADWAY,
AND AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: Sir Edward Moss

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman Oswald Stoll.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 7, 1910.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

"The Arctic," Olga Petronowa and Band, Loyal's Dogs, Lamberti, Les Silas, Humpsti-Bumsti, Rexos, Alaskas, Animated Pictures, Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Chas. Mildare, Selwyn Driver.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," The Brennans, Dot Hardy, O'Gust, Dion Wade, Leslie Harris, Francis and Alfred, Bioscope, Smythsons, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for :—

Amelia Bingham and Co., Frank Maura, Annie Purcell, Jarl Duo, Keen and Waller, Henry Carlton, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley, Hy. Allister.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for :—

Lowenwirth and Cohan, Lottie Bellman, Clown Argo, Four Regals, Bros. Gaudsmidt, Stelling Players, Kramers, J. H. Scotland, Les Bollingers, Bioscope, Tom Leamore.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," "Our Empire's Defenders," Stewart and Morgan, Georgia Coons, Haines and Borthwick's "Half-a-Dollar," Prince Milner Trio, Three Van Dammes, Frank Hartley, Maizie Hibbs, Bioscope, Sammy Shields.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Raymond, Geo. Benson, Dancit, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Gladys Mavius, Corbin's Dogs, Alfred H. West, Bioscope, Bellclair Bros., Ernie Garner.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Fredk. Melville's Co., in "Her Road to Ruin."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

O Hana San, Juan Buonaparte and Co., Cavalotti Bros., Giovanni Wals, Carney and Armstrong, Harry May Hemsley, Bioscope, Dutch Daly, Brinn, Mina Denvil.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Bella and Bijou, Glenroy Troupe, J. A. Wilson, Cumberlands, La Berat, J. W. Hall, Gwennie Lwellyn, Tom Bryce, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Co., in "The Tower of London."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chas. T. Aldrich, A Ba-Be's Postcard Album, Alice Maydue, Farr and Farland, Will H. Fox, Gipsy Woolf, Talbot and Pearce, Florence Esdaile, Bioscope, D'Arc's Marionettes, Witty Watty Walton.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," The Rawsons, Harry Leybourne, La Freya, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Lily Burnand, Millie Engler and Co., in "Beauty and the Burglar," Fred Elton, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Great Roland, Ada Colley, Musical Jees, Three Thieves, Harry Bedford, Ross and Lewis, Rhoda Paul, Little Pam, Bioscope, Lukushimas, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Van Biene, La Sylphe, Chas. J. Johnson, Charles Matthews, Five Manchurians, Motramos, W. F. Frame, Elite Harmony Boys, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Hill and Whittaker.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Clarice Mayne, Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Jackley Trio, Addie Dorina, Alf Gibson, Amelie De L'Enclos, Carl Howard, Lilian French, Bioscope, Villions.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Reano's Band, Sylvia Du Barry, Ted E. Box, Heeley and Meeley, Three Meers, Mike Nono, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Charburn's Young Stars, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

F. W. Bolam's Co., in "The Sins of Society."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Buchanan and Stevens' Co., in "East Lynne."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mr. Albert Marsh's "Chums Till Death," Fatmah Diard, Arthur Ferriss, Rossi Ashton, Delevines, Holden's Mannikins, Munroe's Comedy Team, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, King and Benson.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Elise Craven and Co., in "Jellicoe and the Fairy," Evie Greene, Madiah Surith, Slaviansky Russian Choir, Elliott-Savonas, Oswald Williams, Victor Travers, Maude Edwards, John Scott, Gladys Hooley, Bioscope, La Tortajada.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chanti, Hinton and Wootton, Edie Reynolds, Bros. O'Brien, Colourel Meisters, The Casey Army, Larry Lewis, Mlle. Haydee, Violette Stockelle, Bioscope, Cruikshank.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Herbert Darnley's "Barnstormers," Aimee Parkerson, Whilbys, Dan Fraser, Marsumas, Betty Green, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill, Albert Rees.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Jewels' "Change," Gitto, The Athlones, Fielding and Hull, Les Romanis, Margaret Parker, Billy Hobbs, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chung Ling Soo, Musical Silvo, Tom Stuart, Nina Wood, Bros. Werds, Lester Carey, Bioscope, Olive Lenton.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Reginald Eyre's Co., in "Gentlemen, The King" Dacey and Lewis, Matthews and Cowper, G. W. Hunter, To-To, Great and Good, Ruth Davenport, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Will o' the Wisps, Marie Kendall.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," Rita Rhylle, Royal Delomes, Bert Errol, Rhoda Bros., Horace White, Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," Tom Lloyd, Florence, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan," L'Incognita, Arthur Kenny, O'Malley and Brown, Herbert Shelley, Eight Lancashire Lads, Jewel St. Leger, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Margaret Cooper, Bros. Corcoran, Odeyne Spark, J. L. Shine, Paul Barnes, Barowskys, John Macauley, Harry Anderson, Bioscope, Saschoff Troupe.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Grotesques, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Bros. Durant, Braatz's Dogs, Russell and Held, Vanando, Lester Bros., Elsie Kerry, Gertie Gitana, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt."

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Nine Kremos, Harry Clifford, Bros. Hannaway, Arthur Woodville, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Barnard's Mannikins, Les Voces.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ye Colonial Septette, Goggin and Davis, Caselli Sisters, Ethel Newman, Stanley and Greenop, Chas. Santon, Pictures, Gus Garrick.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Lydia Yeamans, Katie Butler, Reichen's Dogs, Mabel Sinclair, Tom Moore, George Rae, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Cinquevalli, Bert Weston, Lillian, Ruby and Laws, Vi Aster, Bioscope, Park's Eton Boys.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Westwoods, Leonie Dixon, Walker and May, Daisy Hurdle, Clark and Hayden, Pictures, and Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Miles Stavordale Quartette, Harry Friskey, Ethelle Stapley, Eida and Falco, Ambrose Thorne, Percival, Henry Helme, Pictures, Tom E. Finglass.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Owen McGiveney, Chas. D'Aix and Dog, Lee and Kingston, Leo Dryden, Jan Rudenyi and Co., Evelyn Taylor, Vampire Dance, Lawrence Barclay, "Football Match," Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Hardie Palm, Little Dott Moss, James Basnett, Leslie's Cadets, Minnie Mace, J. W. Rickaby, Three Stewarts, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mather and Mayer, Kelly and Agnes, Rosie Sylvester, Bros. Howard, Marie Pera and Co., Liane D'Deve, Arthur Rigby, Donaldson Bros., Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

The Waltons, Clark and Glennie, King's College Boys, Edith Harmer, The Dardinis Trio, Harry Atkinson, "The Bailiff," Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Dick Kendall, The Westbrook Trio, Lilian Rose, Leslie and Stevens, The Falcons, Harry Champion, Four Minars, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for :—

Howard and Harris, Dolly Clyffe, Bros. Lawrence, Jimmy Shields, Walter Barrett, Walker, Globella, Chas. M. Daly and Co., De Lowe Narp, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch"; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Little Damozel."

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

"A Country Girl."

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—

Jimmy Grant, Henriette and Selina, Arthur Rose, Cissie Fredericks, "The Cattle Thief," "Commanders of the World," Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Stowe Bros., Dollie Denton, Les Videos, Ben Albert, Maria Gavalda and Co., Little Ganty, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option,

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
Telegraphic Address
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
Telegraphic Address
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449.

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager—**Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, FEB. 7.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Thorpe and Coe, Signor Arvi, "Uncle from Texas," Ada Tilley and Co., Geo. Geoffreys, Bartholomew Girls, Florrie Connolly, Larry Peate, Sid Kemp, Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
The Kirbys, Colin Mail, Pictures, Laurie, Sim Moree, William Heilbronn and Co., Baker and Balfe, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Rene Graham, "East Lynne," The Zodiacs.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Marie Santoi, La Petite Rosa, Jeanne Moss, The Key, Earle and Godfrey, Czar Troupe, John Parrott, J. H. Brandon and Co., Gladys Witton, Dave Laird.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Teddy Denham, The Courtiers, Ellis and Campbell, The Torontos, Gilbert's Dogs, "Adolf Beck," "A Colonel's Dilemma," "Ronny Blair," The Menzies, Sisters Eston, Ray Royal.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, Puolio and Fiori, Harry Hilton, Lelia Russell, Pete and Minnie Lee, Cissy Hope, Sisters Robertson, The Hulls, Hurley and Hearne, Allen Hart, Percy Ford and Co., Eight Marvels.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Morny Cash, Bonnetti and Corri, Willie Long, Wyze and Adna, Enzer and Clarice, Columbias, Tom Yorke, Webb and Branston, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Five X Rays, Mona Vivian, Ruby Dahl, Amy Anderson and Co., Rauschle, Norah Desmond, Margit and Lener, Charles Vincent, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Four Burnells, Donnas Trio, Ryder Slone, Norah Stockelle, Archie Pitt, Mabel La Blanche, Janowsky Four, Juggling Geraloos, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Bernard Mervyn and Co., Fritz Kornau, The Newmans, Sisters Carlton, Six Buster Browns, Damerell and Rutland, Charles Byron, Winifred Ward, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Harry Luck, "Mme. Pom Pom," W. Whitney, B. Foster, Pictures, Bessie Neilson, Wilton Heriott and Co., J. H. Greener.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"A Country Girl in London."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Roxbury's "Mother Goose."

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Bromley and Fontein, Amy Bathurst, Carney Brothers, Victor and Louis, Stein-Esthor Trio, Josephine Crooke, Conway and Leland, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Forty Thieves" (Kiddie's).

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Harry Weldon, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Steel and Laing, Herbert Rule, Geoffreys and Benson, Milsted-Bell Trio, Lafaille Troupe, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Roxborough and Wright, Edith Chantler, Charles Gardner, The Zampas, Lennard and Vereker, Friscari, John Holland and Co., Beatrice Willey, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Dick Whittington" (Jazon).

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Six Brothers Luck, The Selbinis, and Grand Variety Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Fyck, Tholl, and Taylor, The Lannons, Barrington, Reg. Ewen, Luigi Salvino, Lily Denville, Alfred Long, Phillips and Merritt, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Adderley, Howard, and Co. Leoni de Lausanne, The Wedburns, Alice Lingard, Johnny Dwyer, Imperial Russians, Alice Gill, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
"Sinbad the Sailor" (Little and D'Arcy).

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
"Dick Whittington" (Little and D'Arcy).

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

NOW READY.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA,
BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,
The Publisher
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.)

London—New York—Chicago,
Have just the songs you want.
AUGUSTE VAN BIENE'S GREAT SOLO,
ROSES AND MEMORIES
By Ted Snyder.
Being played nightly with Enormous Success by the famous 'cellist.
Monday, Feb. 7, EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Published as Song, Piano Solo, Violin and Piano, 'Cello and Piano, **1/6** nett. Orchestra and Piano, **2/-** nett.

Other Songs, ALL BIG HITS, are
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY. Sung by Phil Parsons, also by Sadie Stanley.
THE STAR, THE ROSE, AND THE DREAM.
I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I PLEASE.
IT'S THE PRETTY THINGS YOU SAY. Sung by Nina Wood.
SADIE SALOME. Sung by Lowenwirth and Cohan.
IF YOU CARED FOR ME. Sung by The Crown Trio.
and THE GREAT IRISH BALLAD,
WHEN HE SINGS THE SONGS MY MOTHER SANG.

COME AND SEE US,
and get a Practical Demonstration.

Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co.
(Inc.)
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
SOLICITOR.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at—
"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, 3 Bedrooms; Comb.; piano; w.c.; three min. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Sitting and bedrooms, combined, large, pianos, good cooking, near Pier, Theatre, Halls. Vacant Sunday. Mrs. Crean, Vancouver, 21, Margaret-street.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.W.—Front bed-sitting room; good cooking. Mrs. Goodman, 13, Trigon-road, Fentiman-road, Clapham (3min. from Oval).

LONDON, W.—21, Wells-st. (few doors from Oxford-street). Large comfortable bed-sitting room; also bedroom.

LONDON, W.—Kensington. Comfortable house, full or partial board, from 25s. 158, Sinclair-rd., close Tube and Shepherd's Bush E.

LONDON, W.—Sup. fur. apartments from 10s. 6d., suites; bath; room for rehearsal; pianos. 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly (opposite Tube).

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Gray, 36, Booth-st., East Oxford-rd. Cosy front sitting, 2 bedrooms, front combined, bath, w.c., in house.

PLYMOUTH.—12, St. George's-terrace. Comfortable home for Jewish Professionals; private family; bath, piano; central for Plymouth and Devonport.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

LADIES' LAP DOGS.
Tiny Blenheim, so perfect, he is a winner in keen competition, yet so small he can be carried in a Lady's muff; also equally tiny Ruby dog. Can be seen here by appointment, or shown in London. MANAGER, Windfall Cottage, Pound Hill, Crawley, Sussex.

DOLLY ELSWORTHY.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO ALL IT MAY CONCERN.

From this day henceforth I have placed my business solely in the hands of

MR. GEORGE BARCLAY,

To whom all Communications may be addressed.

DOLLY ELSWORTHY.

BOROUCH OF LUTON,

The Council of the Borough of Luton is prepared to
RECEIVE OFFERS
for the privilege of
GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS
from 30th May to 3rd September, 1910, upon a selected site at Wardown Park. Conditions and full particulars may be obtained from Mr. S. F. L. Fox, Borough Engineer.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," addressed to the undersigned, should be delivered at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Luton, before 4 p.m. on Friday, the 18th February, 1910.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the highest or any offer.

BRUCE PENNY,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Luton,
3rd February, 1910.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. **£25 nett**

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central. 1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Released Thursday, Feb. 10.

THE DAY AFTER.

A "Water Wagon" Comedy. Length 460ft.

CHOOSING A HUSBAND.

"Little Sister" Comedy. Length 531ft.

Released Sunday, Feb. 13.

THE ROCKY ROAD.

Drama. Length 990ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Mr. J. Bowden's (Glasgow) opinion of Selig Films:—

I should like to express myself with regard to the invaluable Selig "Topliners" I have had lately, viz., "Boer War," "Witches' Cavern," "Ben's Kid," &c., and I think, without fear of contradiction, this week's "Up San Juan Hill" is one of the most beautiful and brilliant films I have ever shown.

Released Thursday, Feb. 10.

THE INDIAN.

A South-West American Drama. Length 950ft.

Released Sunday, Feb. 13.

PINE RIDGE FEUD.

Melodrama Length 965ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Notification of future releases will be given shortly.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS"

POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

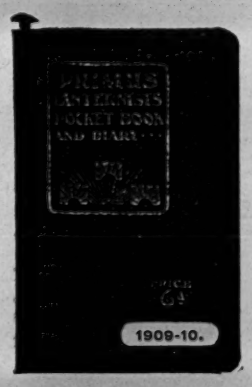

Compiled by

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** Free.

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd., 12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C. (Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London." Telephone: Gerrard 6665.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9

TIP-UPS

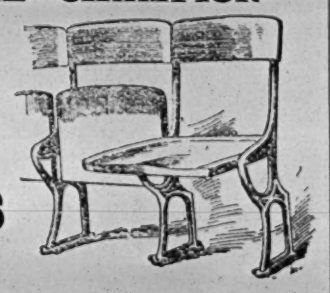

Write for List of Leading Lines. All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS, 21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London." Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, .·. 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER, PAINTING & DECORATING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PRINTING—

in modern styles, at the lowest rates for stock or special pictorial or letter-press. Write us.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Nethertield, Notts.

WILLSON'S Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates. Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD., 45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N. Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c. Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents. Captive Balloons, Airship Flights. Terms upon application. C. G. SPENCER & SONS, 56a, Highbury Grove, London, N. Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons. Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.

Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
BIRMINGHAM.

A. R. DEAN & SONS are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, and Skating Rink Seatings, Floor Coverings, and complete Furnishings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have for the last thirty years been famed for the soundness of their Goods, either in Chairs, Carpets, or Draperies, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS also are famed for every description of Cabinet Joinery, Bar Fitments, Casement Partitions, Doors, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS are Designers and Manufacturers of every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have during the last thirty years furnished partly or completely upwards of 1,584 Theatres, Halls, and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have completely or partly Decorated during the last fifteen years upwards of 280 Theatres, Halls, and Hotels and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS in the year 1908 completely or partly Furnished or Decorated upwards of 112 Theatres, Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, and Hotels.
A. R. DEAN & SONS this year intend to beat last year's Contracts, which were their record.

A. R. DEAN & SONS Last Year (1909)

EXECUTED OR HAD THE CONTRACTS IN HAND FOR THE FOLLOWING THEATRES, HALLS, &c.:—

1. ROYAL HIPPODROME, BLACKBURN. Complete Decorations and Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
2. NEW PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c
3. NEW EMPIRE, KILBURN. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c.
4. NEW ALHAMBRA, PARIS. Complete Redecoration and Refurnishing, &c.
5. NEW HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
6. NEW HIPPODROME, ILFORD. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
7. NEW PALACE, HAMMERSMITH. Complete Fibrous Plaster Decorations and Draperies, &c.
8. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
9. NEW PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH. Complete Seating, Furnishings, &c.
10. NEW EMPIRE, TON-Y-PANDY, S. WALES. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
11. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. Complete Furnishing.
12. WINTER GARDENS OF THE PALACE HOTEL, SOUTHEND. Complete Furnishings and Carpeting throughout.
13. NEW KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD. Reseating, &c.
14. MECHANICS' HALL, NOTTINGHAM. Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
15. DR. BODIE'S NEW STAGE FIT-UP.
16. THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
17. NEW PALACE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
18. NEW EMPIRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete, Refurnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
19. MONTABELLO LAWNS, ILFRACOMBE. Tip-up Seating, &c.
20. GRAND STAND, AINTREE. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
21. GRAND STAND, CHESTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. THEATRE ROYAL, PAISLEY. Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
23. PIERROTS' PAVILION, SCARBOROUGH. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
24. THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR, S. WALES. Furnishings.
25. NEW TOWN HALL, LANCASTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
26. NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH. Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
27. GUILDHALL, CAMBRIDGE. Complete Reseating.
28. NEW OLYMPIA, EDINBURGH. Complete Seating.
29. NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST. Complete Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
30. NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN. Tip-up Chairs.
31. NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, TRALEE, IRELAND. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
32. THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON. Reseating, &c.
33. TOWN HALL, TWICKENHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
34. CHAPEL, SOWERBY BRIDGE. Tip-up Chairs.
35. THEATRE ROYAL, WEDNESBURY. Complete Decoration, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. NEW CHURCH, TYLDESLEY, BIRMINGHAM. Tip-up Chairs.
37. NEW ARGYLE THEATRE, BIRKENHEAD. Complete Furnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
38. LYRIC, LIVERPOOL. Tip-up Chairs.
39. THEATRE ROYAL, DALSTON. Refurnishing, Seating, &c.
40. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Complete Refurnishing.
41. GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Reseating.
42. THEATRE ROYAL, SMETHWICK. Tip-up Chairs.
43. BARNARD'S VARIETIES, CHATHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Tip-up Chairs.
45. NEW HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD. Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishings, &c.
46. HOLBORN EMPIRE. Recarpeting, &c.
47. GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER. Refurnishing.
48. KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Tip-up Chairs.
49. GRAND THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Furnishings.
50. PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY. Complete Reseating and Refurnishing.

ELECTRIC THEATRES AND PICTURE PALACES.

51. HIPPODROME, HOUNSLOW. Complete Seating.
52. HIPPODROME, ILKESTON. Complete Seating.
53. ALEXANDRA THEATRE, MORLEY. Complete Seating.
54. NEW ARENA, VILLIERS-STREET, STRAND. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
55. MESSINA BUILDINGS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Complete Seating.
56. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Complete Seating.
57. PALACE, LAVENDER HILL. Complete Seating.
58. ELECTRIC THEATRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete Seating.
59. ELECTRIC, WESTERN-ROAD, BRIGHTON. Complete Seating.
60. TEMPERANCE HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
61. BRACKENBURY HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
62. ELECTRIC PALACE, WILTON-ROAD, W. Complete Seating.
63. NEW KING'S HALL, TOOTING. Complete Seating.
64. HOLLOWAY HALL, LONDON. Complete Seating.
65. CARNEGIE HALL, WORKINGTN. Complete Seating.
66. HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS. Complete Seating.
67. CENTRAL HALL, SALFORD, MANCHESTER. Complete Seating.
68. TOWN HALL, BEDMINSTER. Complete Seating.
69. TOWN HALL, ERITH. Complete Seating.
70. ST. JOHN'S HALL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. Complete Seating.
71. WILSON'S PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
72. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
73. PUBLIC HALL, ST. ANNES-ON-SEA. Complete Seating.
74. ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING. Complete Seating.
75. WEST'S NEW PALACE, READING. Complete Seating.
76. NEW CENTRAL, WIGAN. Complete Seating.
77. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, LINCOLN. Complete Seating.
78. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BOLTON. Complete Seating.
79. CASINO DE PARIS, OXFORD-STREET. Complete Seating.
80. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, S.E. Complete Seating.
81. OLYMPIA PICTURE HALL, WIMBLEDON. Complete Seating.
82. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
83. NEW PALACE, WATERLOO, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
84. NEW PALACE THEATRE, HORNSEY, N. Complete Seating.
85. MANOR THEATRE, HACKNEY. Complete Seating.
86. COTTERELL'S THEATRE, MAIDENHEAD. Complete Seating.
87. NEW PALACE, LEWISHAM. Complete Seating.
88. NEW PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, RYE-LANE. Complete Seating.
89. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, PECKHAM. Complete Seating.
90. GAIETY THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD. Complete Seating.
91. PICTURE PALACE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD. Complete Seating.
92. ST. GEORGE'S PICTURE PALACE, LONDON, E. Complete Seating.
93. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY DOCK. Complete Seating.
94. FERNDALE WORKMAN'S HALL, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
95. WORKMEN'S HALL, PONTYCYMMER, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
96. VICTORIA HALL, YORK. Reseating.
97. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CROYDON. Complete Seating.
98. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, DOVER. Complete Seating.
99. NEW FONEGRAPH THEATRE, STRAND. Complete Seating.
100. NEW HIPPODROME, NELSON. Fibrous Plaster Decorations.

A. R. DEAN & SONS point to the above list with pride. These contracts embrace nine out of every ten contracts going.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to draw the attention of the Proprietors of Picture Palaces and Skating Rinks to Specialities for this class of Buildings and Entertainments.
A. R. DEAN & SONS' work is known throughout the World. Their goods always give complete satisfaction.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to call attention to the fact that they only employ first class workman and that every man is paid the full trade union wage. No sweating or alien workmen employed.
A. R. DEAN & SONS will give **five years' guarantee** with all their Chairs and Seating, from the cheapest to the best.
A. R. DEAN & SONS can undertake any contract, from the largest Opera House to the smallest Portable Theatre. All have the best attention, and all results the same, viz., the utmost satisfaction given.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have several New Designs in Tip-up Chairs and Novelties in Pit and Running Seating.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

HAVE ONE ADDRESS,

CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."
Telephone (Show Rooms and Offices): 224 Birmingham.
Telephone (Factory and Stores): 3834 Birmingham.

A. R. DEAN & SONS still retain the services of
Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK, as Manager of the Theatre Department.
Mr. C. BARDELL, as Chief Designer and Manager of the Decoration Department,
Mr. L. BECK, Director and Manager of the Works and Factories.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Edward Compton's annual visit is one of the most eagerly-anticipated events of the theatrical season, and on Monday he celebrated the twenty-ninth anniversary of his company by the production of *Davy Garrick*.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—*The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, by Harold Nuttall's clever company, tops the bill this week, worthily upheld by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas in their fine sketches from Dickens. The other turns are contributed by Linn and Darina, and the Lyric Mummers, with fine operatic selections; the sprightly Juvenile Follies; Hampton and Bauman, coloured artists; Harry Merrylees, Scotch comedian; and the Three Pirmans, clever comedians and gymnasts.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company is playing to crowded houses here in *Our Miss Gibbs*. The scenery and dresses have been much admired, and the well-balanced chorus deserves every commendation. Miss Elfie Vincent as Mary Gibbs has a charming presence and a fresh and pleasing voice; Miss Florence Hylton is a satisfactory Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Ellaline Thorne a fascinating Mme. Jeanne; and Miss Amy Singleton wins praise for her cultured portrayal as the Duchess of Minster. Miss Lillian Birtles appears with success as Lady Elizabeth; Mr. Vincent Erne causes laughter as Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Eustace Burnaby brings out the humour of the Hon. Hughie Pierpoint; Mr. J. S. Durant is a capable exponent of the professional crook Slithers; Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe sings and acts well as Lord Eynsford; Mr. Frank Sealey is all that can be desired as Mr. Toplady; and Mr. A. Gordon Begg wins high praise as the Earl of St. Ives.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—The great Faludy Troupe of Hungarian acrobats top the bill here; Starr and Leslie are entertaining in their novelty turn; the Cromwells are capital jugglers; and Arthur Gill is a vocalist of much merit. The Four Garricks are received with acclamation in their refined scena; the Brothers Ford, simultaneous dancers, are vociferously encored; the Aiskarno Trio of Risley performers submit a smart turn; and Harris Croome displays his dancing powers to advantage. The Bioscope, with new pictures, completes.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The evergreen *East Lynne* is being presented by Tom Watt's company, and is as popular as ever. Miss Laura Hansen gives a fine conception of Lady Isobel; Miss Ida Heron as Barbara is well placed; and Miss Isabelle Singleton's Cornelia is an excellent impersonation. Mr. Rayson-Cousens is a clever exponent of Archibald; Mr. W. P. Mansfield as Francis Levison meets all requirements in the heavy lead; and Messrs. Tom Watt, Walter Turnbull, Eric Lugg, Clifford Clifford, Misses Beryl Forbes, Alice Nunn, and Laura A. Pardy are efficient. The humorous element is well sustained by an old favourite, Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock. The play is excellently staged.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is presented by Mr. Henry R. Smith's company. As Marion Thornton Miss Dorothy Milne ably portrays the part; good work is also done by Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Mullins; Mr. Frank Beresford as George Thornton displays power; Mr. Renand Lockwood is sufficiently saturnine as Capt. Darville; Mr. Edward Beecher is good as John Scarth; Bill Mullins, "the Gaffer," is in the safe keeping of Mr. Chas. L. Ludlow; and Messrs. Philip Beaufoy and F. Archer are capable as Dido Bounce and the "Cough Drop." Miss Mabel Cooke is a satisfactory Barbara Scarth; and Miss Katherine Maude is well cast as Sister Randall. Dick and Wally, the two little vagabonds, are impressively played by Miss Helen Grenville and Miss Ivy Millais.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Mr. Wm. Holland's gorgeous version of *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp* is here. Miss Helen Charles as Aladdin is full of vigour, and sings and dances well; Miss Poppie Holland as Badroulbadour is clever in all her business, and a lovable Princess; Miss Beatrice Vere as Yum-Yum is very neat and sweet; while Miss Frances Haskoll as Peko makes an ardent lover and a good singer. Miss Queenie Filbury shines as Electra; Bob Selvidge is a crafty Abanazar, and is responsible for a good deal of fun; Kennedy Allen as Wishee-Washee is also a prime maker of fun. The Comedy Chanters are respectively cast as the Emperor and his attendants, Bo-bi and Bo-ko, and keep the audience in a state of merriment; Robb Wilton as the Widow Twankey is absurdly ludicrous without being vulgar.

AYR.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—*The Village Blacksmith* is being presented here by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. Mr. Sam Livesey in the title-rôle gives an admirable portrayal; Miss Maggie Edward as Kate Strong plays with much feeling; Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Leo, the villain, shows ability; Lucas Marler is well treated by Mr. Edwin Maydew; Mr. Fred Haming as a yokel provides much humour; and a feature of the piece is the realistic wrestling match in the last act, between Captain Leo and John Strong.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting *Miss Hook of Holland*. The cast is a very good one, and includes Mr. Edmond Russell as Mr. Hook, Mr. Arthur Ballance as Bandmaster Van Vat, Mr. George Mudie, jun., as Ludwick Schnapps, Miss Gertrude Melville as Miss Hook, and Miss Cissie Sephton as Mina Minor. The scenery is exceedingly good.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Albertus and Miller present a scene at the fair ground; the Olympian team of trick cyclists do skilful feats; Briff, Braff, and Broff are exceptionally clever gymnasts; the Bros Curran give a funny boxing act; the Raymond Trio have a refined musical show; Dene and Dixon appear in a drawing-room act, *The New Page Boy*; Alf. Holt is a fine mimic; Ida Katrena is a typical Dolly Girl; and the Palacescope displays fine pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *A Girl's Temptation*, is here. Miss Gertrude Gilbert gives a pathetic portrayal of Kate Stirling; and Mr. Frank V. Fenn is an earnest Guy Warren; Mr. Clifton Earle is a sufficiently villainous Mark Klaw; and Mr. C. E. Lambert is a good Basile Warren. Mr. Gerald Nolan makes much of Geoffrey Stirling; and Miss Winnie Donovan is a dignified Lady Constance Heathfield. Mr. Dan Hardie is an amusing Sammy Sniggles; and Miss Amy Carlisle a spirited Jemima Josssp.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Wilmot Edson's pantomime, *Aladdin*, is here. Miss May Fayre is an ideal Aladdin; and Miss Margaret Geddes is a pleasing Princess Badroulbadour. Miss Amy Cooper is a graceful Electra; and Mr. Matt Kilduff is a humorous Widow Twankey. Mr. Bunny Neildon as Wishee-Washee and Mr. Reg. Bolton as Abanazar also contribute to the gaiety of the production. Mr. Charles Clarke as the Emperor of China; and Mr. Cyril Jarvis as the Grand Vizier are both well suited; and specialities are introduced successfully by the Abadorfs and the Three Jewels.

Tivoli.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mr. J. Wright Aitken and company top the bill here with a dramatic sketch, *The Devil's Hand*, all the characters in which are excellently portrayed; Ingram and Irving are very funny in *The New Office Boy*; Carla and Mirtiana give a clever acrobatic performance; Adelaide Waldorf possesses a charming voice and manner; the Three Coopers contribute a musical humorous medley which is very entertaining; Ugo Nap is a quaint comedian; and George Cardle is a good comedian and capital dancer.

New Hippodrome.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Countess Bekoffska is an accomplished artist, her lightning paintings being much appreciated; Maurice Eyre is a really smart conjurer; Vic is good in a ventriloquial entertainment; Vincent Ellesmere is a very capable baritone vocalist; and Kennedy and Barry are amusing comedians.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*Red Riding Hood*, with the imprint of the Dalston Theatre to recommend it, is here for a short run. Mr. J. Templar Ellis (the Baron) and Mr. E. W. Avery (Dame Trott) co-operate in some funny scenes; Mr. Dan Seymour works hard as Simple Simon, and Johnny Green and Jimmy Stout have amusing representatives in Mr. Frank Strathan and Mr. Joe Clark; Miss Madge Campbell puts plenty of vim in to her part of Boy Blue; Miss Gertrude Branscombe is a painstaking Miss Muffet; and Miss Beatrice Varley and Miss Marie Dowling are well to the fore as Prince Charming and Marjorie Daw; the Bros. McCluskey cause endless laughter as the donkey and the poodle; the title-rôle is adequately impersonated by Miss Mabel Lamont, and Mr. Steve Asher enacts the Wolf and makes an admirable clown afterwards; Miss Emily London's troupe of children are appreciated for their vocal efforts and dances.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Bromley and Fontein, in their capital and laughter-creating trifle, *The Man Behind the Music Stand*, and Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, the Stein-Esthor Trio in daring hand-jumping, Victor and Louis, the Golfer and the Caddie, with good vocalism and fun, Josephine Crooke, in illustrated songs, the Carneys, character duettists, and Amy Bathurst, Scotch comedienne and dancer, are the chief attractions here.

Assembly Rooms.—Manager, Mr. W. Lawson Howes.—On Tuesday Miss Kitty Loftus gave two of her recitals, "Songs of Yesterday and To-day" (under the direction of Messrs. Baring Bros.). She was supported by Miss Violet Runciman (soprano), Miss Gwladys Cotterell (violin soloist), Mr. Oldbury Brough (society entertainer), and Mr. George F. Boyle (pianist).

BELFAST.—Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—For this week only, vaudeville here is superseded by grand opera, and to the delight of many admirers the Moody-Manners company opened on Monday a six-nights' engagement with their famous répertoire. *Aida* was the attraction on Monday. In the title-rôle Mme. De Vere-Sapio achieved a triumph, her numbers being exquisitely rendered; Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Radames invested the rôle with fine dramatic fervour; as Amneris Miss Marie Louise Rogers did full justice to the rôle; and a dignified impersonation of Ramfis was furnished by Mr. Charles Manners, whose reception was especially noteworthy. Mr. Charles Magrath as the King of Egypt furnished a really excellent performance; and nothing but praise must be accorded Mr. Lewys James, who appeared to the utmost advantage as Amonasaro. The chorus (as is usual in this opera company) was perfect, and the augmented orchestra was skilfully conducted by Herr Richard Eckhold. On Tuesday evening *Madam Butterfly* was staged, with Miss Fanny Moody in the title-rôle; and during the week *Samson and Delilah*, *The Meistersingers*, *La Tosca*, and *Carmen* have also been presented.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—On Monday a play, entitled *Drawing a Girl to Destruction*, by Mrs. Morton Powell, was produced here for the first time on any stage. Full report will be found in another column.

Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—For this week only, by arrangement with the Belfast Hippodrome, Ltd., a variety programme has been provided here, headed by John Lawson and company in their well-known sketch *Humanity*, which was accorded a big reception; the Brothers Horne present their comedy boxing sketch, which takes as well as ever; and, fresh from local pantomime triumphs, Mr. Julian Mack keeps the audience highly amused. The Eight College Girls appear in their vocal and dancing scena *School-girls at Play*, which is quite a feature of the bill; and the second-sight entertainment of the Days is decidedly interesting. Also on the programme are Ted Cowan, comedian; Baby Myrtle Grove, comedienne; Charles Cardow, comedian; Mr. Tom Lee, comedian; and Bert Davis, male soprano.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Miles Stavordale Quintette, with a first-class musical entertainment; Mr. Tom E. Finglass (assisted by Miss Grace Persee) appears to advantage in his coon melodies, and a hit has been made by Mr. Harry Frisky, a capital comedy juggler. Miss Ethelia Stapley exhibits much ability in her unique entertainment at the piano; and Mr. Ambrose Thorne is a comedian of infinite resource, whom it is a pleasure to listen to. Percival, at the piano, gains deserved approval for his excellent entertainment; and also appearing are Henry Heline, vocalist, from the French Alps; Falco and Elda, in their original act; and the Bioscope under the direction of Mr. J. McGibney.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Under the direction of the popular manager a fine series of pictures have been presented here, including Laddie, Saved by His Sweetheart, Entombed Alive, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Charlie Bignell, one of the best of comedians, and Mr. J. H. Carney, a first-class character comedian with good songs.

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some capital films have been presented here, including Macbeth, His Masterpiece, From Kidnapper to Rescuer, The Widow, Hot Pickles, &c. Mr. Harry Kingswell, comedian, appears at each performance, and his songs have been highly appreciated.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Tunstall.—*The Drama of Life* is being reproduced here by Messrs. Lingford Carson and J. R. Barns' company. Mr. Lingford Carson wins unstinted admiration for his clever portrayal of Harry Beech; Walter Beech is admirably sustained by Mr. Archie Helsby; Miss Pattie Hastings is successful as Sylvia Beech; the manager of the company, Mr. Sidney C. Cranston, is highly diverting as Sir Dobson Wilde, being ably seconded by Miss Alice Oliver as Lady Jane.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, in *Lucky Durham*, are repeating previous successes. Mr. Edmund Kennedy repeats a faultless performance of the title-rôle, and is greatly appreciated by large audiences; the Hon. Reginald Steighton is admirably impersonated by Mr. Arthur Leigh, whose clever exposition denotes a long familiarity with the part; and the rather up-hill character of Lord Mountfallon is artistically rendered by Mr. William Calvert. The important rôle of Mrs. Durham is finely played by Miss Nellie Bonsor, whose performance is worthy of the highest commendation; Miss Florence Tressillian is a charming Helen Valleron, Miss Dorrie Turner an interesting Hon. Margaret Steighton, and Miss Frances Wolviston an excellent Lady Mountfallon. Mr. Valleron is played with commendable incisiveness by Mr. Charles Wemyss; and the remaining parts are, without exception, in able hands.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Mr. Charles R. Whittle is fulfilling one of many return engagements here; an attractive combination also includes Mr. Dave Carter, Irish tenor vocalist; Miss Kitty Colver, vocalist and dancer; Maxwell and Frances, in their vaudeville act; the Eleven Romps, in a musical scena; Phil Parsons, light comedian; Miss Ida Kessanly's highly trained troupe of fox terriers; Mr. Fred Keeton, comedian; Pop Dearly, the dandy coon; and Mr. Walter George's Smart Set (including Miss Georgie Martin, comedienne), in their vocal entertainment. Brown's Royal Bioscope is also an interesting feature.

Hippodrome.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Siey; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company, in a condensed version of Daudet's novel "Sapho," provide a most enjoyable entertainment. Miss Ada Abbott gives a fine rendering of Fanny Legrand, and is excellently supported by Mr. Edward Oriston as Jean Gaussin, Mr. Stephen Crossley as Flament, Mr. John Lester as Caoudal, and the members of the company generally. The Hippodrome pictures diversify the programme.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—This exceptionally large theatre is crowded by an enthusiastic audience at each performance of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and a record run for pantomime is anticipated.

Prince of Wales.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. P. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*The Babes in the Wood* continues to run smoothly, and business has never been better than at the present time.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—As predicted in these columns a fortnight ago, the record-breaking *Aladdin* pantomime will run fourteen weeks, the last night having been fixed for April 2. The bookings continue to be heavy. Cull Pitt, now completely recovered from his throat trouble, has considerably strengthened the comedy business in the rôle of Abanazar, and the Brothers Brookes have introduced new business, which illustrates their versatility and cleverness.

Palace Theatre, Bordesley.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—A strong and capable company is presenting the popular drama, *Her Road to Ruin*, before crowded houses. Miss Ada Champion gives a striking impersonation of Jess Willoughby and Mr. Alex Bradley takes full advantage of his opportunities for fine acting as Philip Hardy. Mr. Charles Dicken as Frank Temple and Miss Maud Gill as May Willoughby also merit high commendation; Mr. Kendrew Wilson is entertaining as Tom Wells; and Miss Mabel Coleman gives an effective representation of a fallen woman; Miss Grace Emery and Mr. Harry Talbot also do good work.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. H. Taylor.—Mr. Frederick Melville's clever drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is delighting good audiences here. Mr. Louis Hector takes the character of George Maddison, the inventor and his acting is characterised by great skill. He has a clever partner in Miss Alice Bowes, who takes the part of Lucy. Mr. W. H. Porter as Charles Devereux gives an excellent representation of the typical villain; and Miss Grace Lester also achieves distinction as Lady Lucretia Lancaster. Other prominent characters are presented by Miss Gladys Newcombe, Miss Sybil Hare, Mr. Fred De Vere, and Mr. T. Macdonald.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. R. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in Hall Caine's play, *The Prodigal Son*. The production is well mounted, and the company is a capable one. Mr. S. Herbert Humber is well suited to the part of Oscar Stephenson; and Mr. Hugh Montgomery does admirable justice to the character of Magnus. Mr. Ernest Rivers is clever as Stephen Magnussum; and Miss Barbara Gott affords a good study as Anna, his wife. Miss Valerie Crespin undertakes the double rôle of Thora and Elin with great credit; and Miss Hetty Castle is effective as Helga. The remaining characters are well sustained.

Carlton Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company, in the musical novelty, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is proving a good attraction. The company is a capable one, and includes Miss Gertrude de Lacy in the title-rôle; Mr. George A. Fox makes a capital hero; and Mr. Robert Gilbert cleverly sustains the heavy rôle; Miss Kathleen Stewart is successful as Ruth Montrose; and Miss Nellie Harcourt and Mr. James Salter introduce plenty of refreshing humour. A feature of the piece consists of several clever speciality turns, which comprise singing, dancing, and comedy.

DONCASTER.

FOR SALE.

The GRAND THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, Station Rd., DONCASTER.

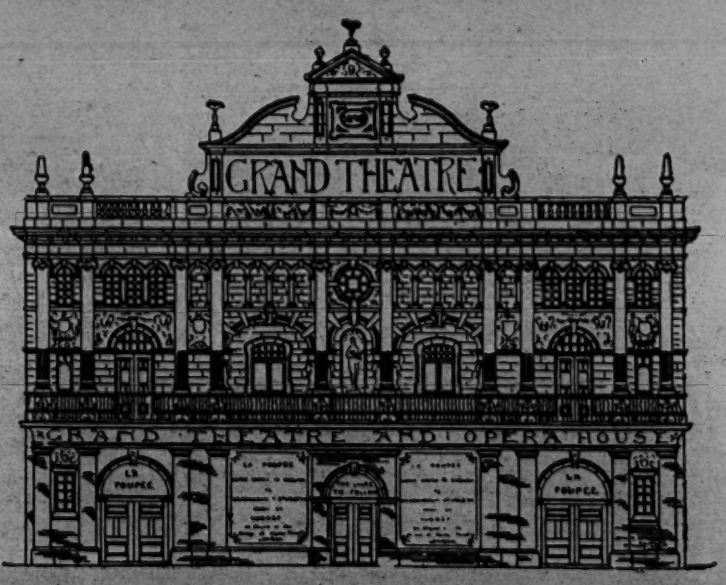

NEW HIPPODROME and PALACE OF VARIETIES; Or ELECTRIC CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.

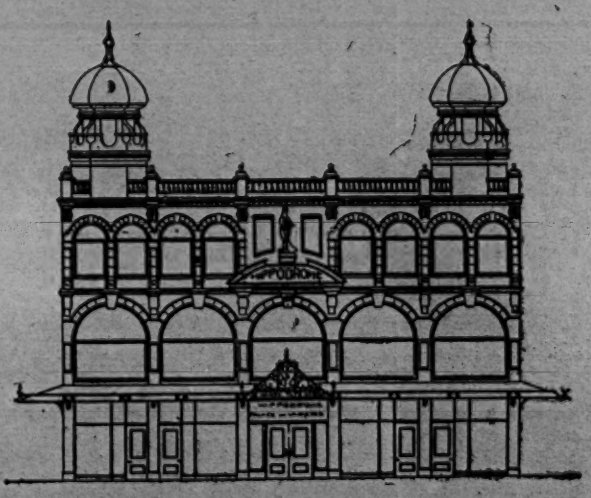

MR. J. W. CHAPMAN, WHO HAS BEEN CONNECTED WITH THEATRICAL ENTERPRISE IN DONCASTER FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS, IS PREPARED TO RETIRE FROM THE BUSINESS IF MUTUAL TERMS CAN BE ARRANGED (BUT NOT WITHOUT), AND TO TREAT FOR THE SALE OF THE GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, A NEW AND UP-TO-DATE THEATRE NEAR THE RAILWAY STATION, SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED ON BY HIM.

ALSO FOR THE FREEHOLD SITE OF A NEW HIPPODROME AND PALACE OF VARIETIES OR ELECTRIC CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE IN ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL STREETS OF DONCASTER (NEAR THE GRAND THEATRE). THE SITE IS AN EXCELLENT ONE, ABUTTING ON TO THREE ROADS. PLANS HAVE BEEN PREPARED AND PASSED BY THE DONCASTER CORPORATION THIS WEEK.

BOTH PROPERTIES ARE FREEHOLD.

A considerable amount of the Purchase Money can remain on Mortgage.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—The Great Raymond heads a strong bill, and loud applause follows each of his mystifying and magical acts; Bellonini, who deputises for the Belleiair Brothers, acrobats, performs some clever and novel juggling feats; Mr. Alfred H. West finds favour with a performance of his famous "Patrol"; a pleasing entertainment is provided by Richard Corbin's dogs; Ernie Garner, a Black Country dialect comedian, is a big favourite; Woods Wells, and Wilkins score in their comedy sketch, *The Piano-tuner;* and a clever and graceful lady dancer appears under the name of Dancit.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The principal feature of a capital programme is *Buonaparte's Boy*, a dramatic playlet, the chief character in which is represented by Juan Buonaparte, a direct descendant of the great Napoleon. A pretty Oriental scena, entitled *A Vision of Japan*, staged by O Hana San and company, is a brilliant success; Dutch Daly is accorded warm receptions; Bruin performs sensational juggling and balancing feats; quaint and versatile comedians are George Carney and Frank Armstrong. Others on the bill are Siems, a smart card and coin manipulator, the Cavalotti Brothers, Harry M. Helmsley, Giovanni Wals, and Mina Denvil.

GAIETY.—General-Manager Mr. Albert Bushell.—Alice Hollander is responding nightly to enthusiastic encores for her delightful rendering of pleasing songs; the Bouncing Dillons are comedy gymnasts, who are responsible for an exceptionally clever performance; a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Fatal Rehearsal*, is ably performed by Helmsley and Ambrose; the Four Black Diamonds contribute largely to the success of the programme; Tennyson and Wallis have some exceedingly funny business; Alf. Chester has an amusing football song; Pim and Benson perform adequately in their comedy act, *Lady Jane;* the Great Cynthia is an interesting turn; and a charming comedienne is Queenie May.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—Mlle. de Vernenil and a company of pretty and graceful ladies appear in a series of artistic poses, and greatly delight crowded audiences; roars of laughter and applause pay tribute to the excellent entertainment provided by Velanche's dogs, their football match being exceptionally funny; James and Jenny Jee perform daring cycling and slack-wire feats; Godfrey James, described as the "singing collier," is an accomplished vocalist; the Paolias are responsible for a clever athletic act; Buddha's Blackboard is a mystery; Bill and Bailey have some clever and up-to-date comedy business; eccentric acrobatic tricks are performed by the Ted Moxom Trio; Osborne and Brooks are humorous entertainers; and C. Colbert gives a smart exhibition of juggling and hoop-manipulation.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—One of the most successful pantomimes seen here this season is being produced by Cullen and Carthy's company entitled *The Babes in the Wood.* These two well-known comedians appear as the Robbers, and introduce plenty of good gags and original humour. Miss B. Cohen is popular as Robin Hood; and Miss M. Ford makes a charming Maid Marian. The comedians also include Mr. A. Stratton, Little Cluley, and Mr. T. Drew, who earn much applause. The Babes are the Misses D. Cullen and E. Jordison. Clever specialities are introduced by Miss Cohen, the Granada Quartette, and others in the cast.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—The boards are occupied here by Mr. Harry Tilbury and Co. in *His Dishonoured Wife.* Mr. A. George Fry is a capital exponent of Frank Lindon; Mr. Fred Owen plays Neil Locksley cleverly; and a good Tom Redman is that of Mr. Edwin Brown. Mr. Tilbury is an amusing Micky Doolan, and Miss Belle Tilbury a fascinating Florence Lindon. On Thursday and Friday nights *My Native Land* was to be presented.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Five Whiteleys give a fine exhibition as acrobats and wire walkers; the two Sovereigns will undoubtedly have a long reign as one-legged equilibrists; J. C. Scatter in his Tyne-side dialect and singing turn is very successful indeed; Steve Bartle is a good concertina soloist; and Harry Simms does well as a comedian. The Northern Troupe provide a most interesting turn, their dancing being excellent; Miss May Newall possesses great vocal powers; and the Hipposcope terminates a capital bill.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Royal and Hippodrome Co., Blackburn; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—*Miss Hook of Holland*, presented by an excellent company, supported by a tuneful chorus, is a deservedly-popular attraction. As Sally Miss Marie Studholme excels. She is very dainty, and comes in for a good reception. Mr. Alfred Wellesley as Mr. Hook is greatly successful, and his humour delightful; Miss Maud Deney as Mina sings very prettily; Mr. Lacey Mills as Van Vuyt and Mr. Frederick Hobbs both act and sing powerfully; and Mr. J. Lyne's interpretation of Simon Slinks, the loafer, is clever.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The Five X Rays give a very amusing athletic turn; Amy Anderson and company are mirth-provoking in their comedy act, *The Banana Queen;* Rauschle presents a clever series of impersonations of great men, past and present; Nora Desmond sings prettily, her songs being illustrated by fine pictures; Mona Vivian is one of the best juvenile artists, and quickly gains favour; Ruby Dahl, in *Merry Mannikins;* Margit and Lener, comedy acrobats; and Chas. Vincent comedian, are successful.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—An excellent and well-varied programme is supplied here by Messrs. Sutton and Raynor's company. *Moths* was the attraction on Monday, when Mr. Raynor gave a capital study of Lord Jura, and Miss Cecilia Dare appeared with considerable success as the Duchess de Sonnaz. Prince Zouroff was creditably enacted by Mr. Clinton Baddeley, whilst Correze found a capital exponent in Mr. Conrad Heywood. Miss Frances Waring as Lady Dolly, Miss Millicent Granville as Vere, and Miss Hilda Blanche as Fuchsia Leach also gave the utmost satisfaction. *The Idler* was played on Tuesday with Mr. Raynor as Mark Cross, a character to which he is well suited. The part of General Merryweather found a skilful exponent in Mr. Joseph B. Montague, whose sterling ability is well known in Blackpool. Another character that stood out for special mention was the Mrs. Glynn Stanmore of Miss Georgie de Lara, who came through a difficult part triumphantly. Miss Cecilia Dare was very good as Lady Harding, and Mr. Milton C. Curtis creditably depicted Sir John Harding. The other parts were in able hands. *Young Mrs. Winthrop* was played during the latter part of the week.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The juggling McBans give a wonderful performance here; Cassie Walmer's eccentric vocal efforts are provocative of admiration; clever turns are also supplied by Austin Temple, magician, Helen Martin, vocalist, Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian, the Zanfrellas, balancers, the Belmonts, dancing stars, and Stella Stahl, comedienne and dancer.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur. — Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here in *The Luck of Roaring Camp*, in which all the characters are well portrayed, special mention being due to Mr. Douglas Murray as Will Gordon and Miss Elizabeth Dundas as Nell Curtis.

GRAND THEATRE (LTD.).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime of *Dick Whittington* is being presented here to two crowded houses nightly. Miss Ethel Campbell admirably plays the part of Dick; Miss Tina Franks is well placed as Alice; Miss Ivy Proudfoot, who acts well as Viscount Piccadilly, is well supported by Miss Phyllis Seymour as Molly; Mme. C. Boardman is a good Fairy Sunshine; Miss Ethel Haidee deserves mention for her part of Princess Amaranth; and the humorous element is in the capable hands of Mr. Albert Williams as Sarah the Cook, Mr. Deane Tribune as Jack Idle, and Jack Hodgson as Alderman Fitzwarren. Mr. Tom Gilmore gives a good representation of the Cat. The Pauline Rivers Troupe and the Merry Mill Girls supply specialities in dances.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, American Comedy Duo, are here in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp.* Other turns include Dainty Dolly Clyffe, child comedienne; Jimmy Shields, one-legged dancer; Walter Barrett, Lancashire baritone; Comical Walker in a knockabout act; the Bros. Lawrence in their vocal and dancing act, *All Scotch;* Globella, on the rolling globe; Les Delomes, troupe of juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Charles M. Daly and company in the miniature comedy, *Men Are Deceivers Ever.*

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROMES, LTD.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. A. Burdett.—Harry Champion receives hearty applause for his humorous songs; the Seven Perezoffs are very interesting in their unique comedy juggling act, *An Animated Supper at Maxim's;* the Falcons are a clever pair of comedy acrobats; Minnie Leslie and Edgar Stevens are successful in their comedietta, *Love Levels All;* Lilian Rose is a popular comedienne; Westbrook Trio in a novelty dancing scena, *Two Little Maids from School*, and Dick Kendall, comedian and eccentric dancer, together with the up-to-date Hippo. pictures, complete.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Large and appreciative audiences continue to patronise Mr. Hart's delightful pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, which grows in popularity at each representation.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. M. Hamilton.—The pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*, is having a merry run here, good houses being still the rule.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Chanti, a protean artist and dancer of exceptional ability, presents a delightful entertainment, introducing many novel and clever mechanical features; Cruikshank is here again with his mirth and music, funny and entertaining as ever; Violet Stockelle, comedienne, contributes in dainty style; the Casey Army (with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey) provide a lot of rough-and-tumble fun with the street urchins' battle in a backyard; the Four Coloured Meisters combine humour with harmony; Hinton and Wooton, in a clever football match on bicycles, win hearty applause; in an eccentric style Larry Lewis sings funny songs, which elicit much laughter; with her "Miniature Vaudeville Theatre" and cleverly manipulated marionettes Mlle. Haydee proves highly entertaining; a clever triple horizontal bar performance, introducing daring and novel tricks, is presented by the Brothers O'Brien; Edie Reynolds elicits hearty applause for her cleverly executed violin solos; and there are some fine pictures shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Wyze and Adma contribute to an excellent programme a capital little operetta; acceptable comic vocalism is submitted by Willie Long and Tom Yorke, comedians; Enzer, the soldier juggler, and Miss Clarice give a fine exhibition in juggling and ju-jitsu wrestling; Webb and Branston contribute vocal duets with success; the harmony of the Columbia Trio is of excellent quality, and their humour very laughter-provoking; Morny Cash is a diverting comedian; Bonetti and Corri elicit roars of laughter with their comic juggling; and the Palace Perfection pictures prove a most acceptable item of the evening's entertainment.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The event of the winter season here has been the four performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, *The Gondoliers*, given by the Bridlington Operatic Society. The artists have been trained by Mr. Tunbridge, and each one gave a creditable representation. The chorus was especially fine, and Mr. Bernard Johnson acted as conductor. The company were rewarded each night with crowded audiences.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*Robinson Crusoe* is still attracting crowded houses here. Miss May Mars, who, by ballot, has been voted a handsome box of chocolates awarded to the most popular artist in the local pantomimes, gives an artistic impersonation of Robinson Crusoe; Miss Violet K. Orme makes a graceful and pleasing Polly Perkins; and the humorous element is delightfully sustained by Mr. Dave O'Toole (Mrs. Crusoe), Messrs. Saunders and Lyons (Corkscrew Bill and Captain Kuttle), and Mr. George Campbell (Billy Crusoe). The performance on Thursday evening was set apart as a complimentary benefit to Messrs. Saunders and Lyons.

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Prominent among the attractions here is *Graham's Masterpiece, or the Music Hall of 1875 and 1910*, a very effective turn, which, with its vaudeville entertainments, is warmly appreciated; Russell Carr, ventriloquist, also merits warm praise; Les Arabellias are smart performers on the wire; Fannie Humbert contributes a refined musical act; the Two Les Terres are well received in song and dance; Charles Sloman is a good character comedian; Reginald Jecks sings in capital style; George Lennard is popular in song and dance; Morris and Mills, comedians, win hearty applause; Nellie Dallwood is a pleasing comedienne; and the Great Mars is a smart comedy gymnast.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Brown.—Harry P. Selwyn's company win enthusiastic applause for their artistic treatment of the condensed version of the Drury Lane drama, *The Flood Tide*; Jack G. McLallan and May Carson are a pair of very smart skaters; Davis and Gledhill submit an exciting cycle race, in which they are paced by a motor cycle; the Tennessee Coloured Guards display remarkable precision in their drill; Elroy, the armless wonder, gives an interesting turn; Bessie Mackenzie, Scotch fisher girl vocalist, is warmly applauded; Brent Hayes is a clever banjoist; the Gascoignes are capital comedy jugglers and equilibrists; Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian, is well received; and Scott and Whaley, coloured comedians and dancers, merit praise. Under distinguished patronage a matinée entertainment was given on Tuesday in aid of the Brighton Police-aided scheme for clothing destitute children, and attracted a crowded audience. By the kind permission of the managements of the Brighton Grand Theatre, Alhambra, and Hipodrome, artists from those houses appeared, and sustained a programme which lasted nearly four hours. The duties of musical-director were shared by Mr. J. Melville Gillies, Signor G. D. La Camera, and Mr. A. Baker. Mr. Harry Clark acted as stage-manager, and the general arrangements were carried out under the direction of Mr. Bertram J. Brown, the resident-manager of the Brighton Hippodrome.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here this week, with *A Cigarette-maker's Romance.* Mr. Ernest E. Norris achieves complete success with his masterly impersonation of Count Skariatine, the cigarette-maker; Miss Muriel Dole gives a charming and refined enactment of Viera; the villainous Anton Skariatine is ably represented by Mr. J. Benson North; Mr. Edward S. Petley merits high praise for his embodiment of Dumnoff; Mr. Herbert Lancely makes an admirable Schmidt; Miss Clara Nicholls is well placed as the "grey mare," Akulina, whose hen-pecked husband, Christian, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Edward Boddy.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Tuesday last was an "extra special" night here, the performance of *Mother Hubbard* being honoured with the presence of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bristol, the High Sheriff, and a number of Aldermen and members of the Corporation and civic officials. The Lady Mayoress was presented by Mr. Chute with a handsome bouquet, and programmes printed on satin were handed to the principal visitors. The house was full in all parts, and the performance went remarkably well.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Full houses continue the rule at each performance, thus evincing the great popularity of this season's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe.* The programme is carried through with remarkable smoothness, and much credit is due to the admirable and hard-working company for the high pitch of excellence attained.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese head the programme with their very clever acrobatic speciality act. George C. Doughty and Molly Laney are highly successful with their comedy duologue *A Woman's Way;* Joan Deering is an accomplished violinist and a charming vocalist, and her character impersonations are really clever; Tom Drum and Kate Major amuse with their comedy skit *The Broker's Man;* Hattie Petro and Pete Leon, comedy gymnasts, perform several sensational feats; Harold Heath, comedian and dancer, is successful; Dolly Golden scores as a speciality dancer; the Two Errols are successful with their novel comedy leaping act; and Walter Wade, mimetic comedian, obtains much approbation. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Whit Cunliffe, light comedian, is highly successful; Gertrude Bibby admirably presents her protean dramatic sketch *Bonnie Prince Charlie*, impersonating five distinct characters with marked ability; the Malcolm Cumming Trio amuse with their comedy sketch *A Tooth for a Bride;* Della Ray, burlesque artiste is successful; Unita and Paul do well with their comedy gymnastic speciality; Nellie Denver is a clever speciality dancer; the Gillings are smart comedy acrobats; Lena Pinaud is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Ike and Will Scott entertain with song, patter, and simultaneous dancing. The performance closes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Leah Kleschna* is here again, presented to a good house on Monday by H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Miss Bessie Rignold is excellent in the title-rôle; Mr. William Clayton skilfully presents Kleschna; Mr. Chas. Barrett succeeds in making Paul Sylvaine a good study; Raoul Berton is well impersonated by Mr. Algernon J. Hicks; Schram is a clever piece of work by Mr. Graham Pockett; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne does well as the General and also as Valentine Favers; Mr. Bert Gunther (Anton), Mr. Bernard Rale (Johann), and Miss Madge Beresford (Sophie) are entrusted with much comedy business. Miss Ethel Russell as Madame Berton and Miss Emmie Wallace as Clare Berton are charming. The elaborate staging is excellently carried out.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*Beauty and the Beast* is doing excellent business here. Mr. Fred Granville's company is a good one, and well selected. Mr. Frank Daleno provokes the greatest mirth with his facial expressions; and Mr. Sammy Foster and Mr. Albert Juan give excellent specialities, interspersed with good fun. Miss Hilda de Grey is a pleasing comedienne; and the Keebles are applauded for song and dance; Mr. Edward Stream also contributes to the general hilarity; and Baby Boden is young and clever.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The outstanding turn here is Maria Racko and partner in a wonderful performance of balancing acrobatics. Miss Mabel Mavis wins much favour for musical glasses and piano solos; and Maud Lordys demonstrates the ability of a clever troupe of dogs. Blanche and Zeyna present a smart trick cycle act; and George S. Melvin is a clever dancer. A pretty scena, full of smart dancing and good songs, is presented as "Haley's Garden of Girls"; and Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is as popular as ever. The Empire Theatrescope concludes.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The turn provided here by the Lafaille acrobats introduces some new and difficult business; the Milsted-Bell Trio provoke roars of laughter with *Three Sharps and a Flat;* and Harry Weldon makes a welcome reappearance with his "Dick Turpentine." Geoffreys and Benson introduce a laughable sporting sketch; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud sing some sweet trios. Lightning songs are given by Herbert Rule; and Steel and Laing are smart dancers and vocalists.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague-Body.—*Cinderella*, by Mr. Chas. Kiddie's company, is drawing good houses. In the title-rôle Miss Kitty Avery is dainty and pleasing; Miss Edie May is a capital Prince Perfect; Miss Lily Evans a great favourite as Dandini; and Miss Ada Tyrroll, Miss Annie Casey, and Miss Pollie Kiddie render valuable assistance, the latter being responsible for some clever dancing. Miss Fannie Douglas is a capable Fairy Godmother; and a quartette of comedians (whose every appearance is the signal for roars of laughter) is composed of Mr. Leslie Hawkins (Baron), Mr. Harry Bliss, and Mr. W. G. Wesley (the Sisters), and Mr. Harry Hutlin (Pimples).

BURY (Lancs).—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Mr. J. F. Elliston's company opened here on Monday with *Mother Goose* to a large and enthusiastic audience. As Colin Miss Ethel Hall is an ideal principal boy, and Miss Vena Valma is a charming Jill; Mr. Harry Rich, a clever and resourceful comedian, is responsible for considerable merriment as Mother Goose, and his efforts are ably seconded by Charles Rich as Jack; Mr. Fred Barnes as Lord Pudsey renders several light numbers in excellent style, and Mr. Henry Dare is to be complimented upon his effective burlesque as Wibsey Slack; Charles Lee as Mayor of Tapham and Charles Homer as the Demon do good work. Miss Violet Romaine possesses a capital voice, which she uses to full advantage in her solos as Fairy Queen; Miss Lola Patey's clever performance as Gretchen is one of the outstanding features of the pantomime. The mounting leaves nothing to be desired. An augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Sydney Shaw.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—A complete change of pictures continues to be well patronised, and in addition excellent turns are given by Elsie Claire, vocalist, and Henri Bekker, conjurer, assisted by La Bele Maie.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Sydney Girls are top turn in a scena entitled *A Garden Party*, in which songs, concerted numbers, and dancing are introduced with complete success; as a light comedian Tony Freedman is well received; Jordan's Simian actors, in an act played by monkeys and dogs, supplies a novel turn; Lena Brunton presents clever impersonations of well-known music hall stars, that of Vesta Tilley being particularly good; Miss Ada Oxley as a factory lass appears to distinct advantage in a sketch entitled *Making a Lady of Her*, in which she is ably assisted by Mr. Philip Orr and Miss Agnes Kingsley; W. B. Raby is a comedian with a distinctive style; Fallows and Beaumont are successful in a vocal comedy act; one of the best and most enjoyable turns is that of the O-K-dians, in a miniature musical comedy under the direction of Kenneth Lyle and Percy Tarling; Misses Hilda Cross and Gertie Howarth, Messrs. Arthur Bravo and G. Speed are all accomplished vocalists, and Percy Tarling supplies the comedy as the Bus-man.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* has drawn large and delighted audiences. Mr. Frederick Forrest plays Mr. Stubbins with considerable skill; Mr. Norman Clifton is quite satisfactory as Mr. Bob; Mr. Walter Hicks and Mr. Sydney Carlyle are well placed as Billy Wiggs and Chris Hazy; Mr. Harry Wright (H. H. Jones), Mr. Robin Shiels (Sheriff), and Mr. Ernest Ruston (Mr. Wiggs) all give good performances. As Mrs. Wiggs Miss Sophie Lingwood could scarcely be improved on; the quaint conceits and lovable traits of the character are done full justice to. Miss Rita Carlyle gives an undeniably clever sketch of Miss Hazy; the same remark applying to Miss Beatrice Bell and Miss Violet Vivian as Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz. Lovey Mary is daintily played by Miss Ruhamah Catton; Miss Rhoda Beresford is pleasing as Miss Lucy; and Asia, Europena, and Australia are an agreeable little trio in the hands of the Misses Marie Stella, Mollie Shiels, and Dutchie Forsyth.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A good reception was accorded *The Flag Lieutenant* on Monday, when Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company began a welcome return visit. Mr. Edgar Kent is the Richard Lascelles, and a particularly bright and breezy portrayal this talented artist succeeds in presenting; Mr. Montagu Love gives the necessary emphasis to the part of Major Thesiger; Mr. George Mallett makes the rôle of Admiral Sir Berkeley Wynne fit him like a glove; and the Irish telegraphist Michael Pallister is enacted very naturally by Mr. John Wheatman. Miss Florence Jackson as Mrs. Cameron is as charming and graceful as ever; Miss Dorothy Ripley is a fascinating Lady Hermoine; Miss Winifred Vallant (Viola Hood), Miss Stella Leigh (Mrs. Gough-Bogle), and Miss Ada Clarke (Lady Dugdale) have characters which they very successfully impersonate. Horatio Hood and Dormer Lee are cleverly undertaken by Messrs. Hugh Wakefield and Olaf Hytten; while praise is due to Mr. Geo. Percy for his Walter Crutchley, and to Mr. Lionel Isted for his General Gough-Bogle.

THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—The management here started the season with the ever-welcome drama *Alone in London*, for which Mr. Chas. Gibbon's company is responsible. Miss Nellie Clyde gives a dramatic delineation of Nan, the flower girl, and a more plausible, prepossessing, and enticing villain than Mr. Gerald Jordan's Dick Redcliffe it would be difficult to find; Miss Lena Vernon is a graceful and captivating Ruth Clifton; Tom Chickweed is pathetically played by Miss Laura O'Neill; Mr. J. Vernon Shaw is dignified as Mr. Burnaby; and capital portrayals are given by Mr. J. Wilkinson, Mr. Chas. Gibbon, Mr. Cecil Renton, and Mr. Russell Norrie. Mr. Frank Caffrey as Charlie Johnson and Miss Carrie Young as Liz Jenkinson are very humorous.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Heading a strong programme is the Jewels' latest spectacular production *The Haunted Castle*, which is a marvel of stage-craft and full of interest. Mr. James Jewel as the Miser and Mr. Herbert Jewel as the sailor Joe Dunn display considerable histrionic ability, being supported by a company of clever artists. A novel turn is submitted by Morgan and Wiser, whose boomerang hat-throwing is marvellous; Miss Margaret Parker presents with considerable success a humorous and sentimental sketch entitled *Lucky Jim*, in which Miss Parker herself impersonates the title-rôle in a very effective manner, capably aided by a strong company; Les Romanis, talented instrumental artists, are to be congratulated upon their unique entertainment; while Annie Fielding and Bert Hall have diverting musical comedy sketches. The Althornes obtain considerable applause for a fine athletic performance; and Gitto, Welsh phenomenon vocalist, gives a good exhibition of his powers. Billy Hobbs, exceedingly smart coon singer; Jennie Hartley, with pleasing songs and difficult dances; and a Bioscope film, are also on the bill.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mr. Adderley Howard is presenting his successful nautical spectacle *Black-ey'd Susan.* Mr. Howard gives a forcible rendering of William, and is supported by a strong company. Seener and Fridkin's troupe of Russian singers and dancers prove to be experts in their particular line; Leoni de Lusanne, lady champion rifle shot, once more gives her marvellously clever performance; while the Wedburns are talented comedians, vocalists, and instrumentalists; Alice Gill, vocalist; Johnny Dwyer, character comedian; Alice Lingard, comedienne; and the usual Bioscopic pictures complete.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—A return visit of Mr. Charles Harrington's company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, is the attraction here, and is evidently as popular as ever. Company, scenery, and effects are excellent, and the variety turns introduced in the Plantation scene are clever and entertaining.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is appearing here in *The Girl who Lost Her Character.* Miss Doris Brookes gives an able portrayal of the title-rôle; as the unscrupulous Capt. Caversham Mr. Richard Ferris is excellent; Miss Lydia Mannington plays with ability as the adventuress Marion Franklyn; Mr. Cecil Mannering makes a manly Jack England; Mr. George Daiper, an effective John Sutton; Mr. Joseph Millane imparts much dignity to the character of the Rev. Robt. Everton; and Mr. Raymond Chester is a typical Detective Weathersby. Miss Maggie Hobart makes a sweet and charming Rose Seymour. Most of the fun centres round the personality of Dick Purvis, well played by Mr. George H. Asquin, whose efforts are ably seconded by Miss Mamie Thorpe as Isabella Jones. Red Cabbage is satisfactorily played by Mr. John Dixon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here is Valvero, who cleverly draws in colours battleships in action; Jack Truman has a tenor voice of excellent tone; Bert Welda and Dorothy Wynne, comedy jugglers and sand dancers, score an unqualified success; as an extra turn Mysticus myetifies the audience with his amusing skit on spiritualism; Jas. Brady raises many a hearty laugh with his funny songs; an agreeable turn is provided by the Lynches with illustrated songs; the Carlo and Male trio, as eccentric knockabouts and tight-rope walkers, are the recipients of loud applause; Edmund Caselli gives some clever selections on the banjo; and the Hamiltons sing duets in a pleasing manner.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—George Leyton tops the bill here, and arouses the utmost enthusiasm by his spirited interpretation of *The Roll Call*, in which scena he is supported by a number of Crimean veterans; Ted Karno and company give a rough-and-tumble sketch, entitled *A Week-end at the Hotel de Quick;* Jim Cheetham's whistling is much admired; Lacey's Erascope has an interesting film in The Veteran's Story. Other turns announced are Siegel and Fields, variety entertainers; Frank Early, comedian; Rastus and Amber, in comedy act; and Alice Dora, comedienne.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Cliff Ryland patters in his old way, to everyone's delight; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, makes a bigger hit than ever; Viviana and company, in their dancing scena, *The Toy Shop*, thoroughly please all; the Loretties contribute an act on the double trapeze; and others appearing are Leoville, lady wire walker; Ernest Clifford, comedian and dancer; and Lilian Durand, ballad vocalist.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Santé.—We have a welcome change here this week in *The Gay Gordons*, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Seymour. Mr. William Greene displays considerable talent as Angus. Mr. Edward Carlton plays Nervy Nat in capital style. Miss Clarice Lockstone gives a charmingly vivacious rendering of Peggy, and Miss Mabel Dent is really capital as Victoria Siddons. Miss Florrie Groves as Charlotte Siddons, and Miss Tessa D'Alberti as Mary M'Leod, are also good in their respective rôles.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in *Whom God Hath Joined* opened a six nights' engagement here on Monday to a bumper house. Mr. Lomath himself played the exacting part of Captain Merritt, and acquitted himself in good style; Mr. Lancelot Usher made a very popular character of the "stonebroke" Digby Trant, notwithstanding his lack of moral sense; Mr. Jack Miller did well as Richard Manley; and as the villain, Major Stevens, Mr. Arthur E. Pringle was acceptable. Miss Helena Walbran did good work as Marian; Miss Amy McNeil creditably depicted Beatrice Trant; and the juvenile parts of Teddy and Frankie were well taken by Miss Ethel F. Greene and Miss Dorothy Booth.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—*Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is doing good business here, the company, under the auspices of Mr. Gaston Mayer being a capital one. Miss Sophie Lingwood as the cheery, optimistic Mrs. Wiggs gave a real good rendering; Miss Rita Carlyle as Miss Hazy was the drollest of characters; Mr. Frederick Forrest gave an exceptionally good portrayal of Mr. Stubbins; Miss Beatrix A. Bell and Miss Violet Vivian were capital as Miss Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz respectively; Miss Ruhamah Catton made a pretty figure of Lovey Mary. The last half of the week is being given over to that charming play *The Little Damozel.*

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. Curdwell's pantomime company is here this week. As Robin Hood Miss Marie Lumberg is a great success; Miss Winifred Norman as Maid Marion is well received; Little Peggy McDonnell and Miss Cissy Wise as the Babes call for the highest praise; and Mr. J. Watson as Nurse Lovejoy and Messrs. Graham and Barron as the Ruffians cause a continual roar of laughter. Interesting specialities are introduced by Mr. Jimmy Watson, Winifred Norman, Harry Fullett, and Neil Hardy.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here in *The Earl and the Girl.* Mr. Bert Beswick as Jim Cheese provokes much laughter; Mr. Herbert St. John as the lover fills the part successfully, his singing gaining great approval; Mr. Arthur Hyde as the Hon. Crew Boodle gives an acceptable rendering; Miss Blanche Kenross as Daisy Fallowfield and Miss Lily Gullick as Elphin Haye, the lovelorn maidens, sing and act well; as Liza Shoddam Miss Ada Waugh is capital. The orchestra, under M. Pierre de Reeder, does its work well.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Premier place is given to Les Piccolinos, midget performers, who go through a number of difficult feats of wire-walking, sharp-shooting, and trick-cycling; Daisy Stratton, comedienne and dancer, is very pleasing; Margaret Ashton, comedienne, also proves a success; Shang Hai, Chinese magician, is original and clever; the Three Brothers Huxter provide a clever acrobatic performance; Cardo's shadowgraphic turn is well received; Victoria Dagmar does a smart gymnastic act; James McBain, Scotch comedian, contributes capital songs; and the Palascope pictures are up to date.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Walter Howard's Lyceum success *The Midnight Wedding* is being presented at this house by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company with great success. Mr. Alfred Paumier as Paul Valmar, the sword-master, is most capable; Miss Margaret Brodie wins golden opinions for her graceful Princess Astrea; Mr. A. E. W. Barnes is distinctly successful as Captain Rudolf; and other well-rendered characters are Mr. C. Whitlock as Lieut. Eugene, Mr. John Nesbitt as the Crown Prince, Mr. James E. Page as Sergeant Mac, Mr. St. George Frere as Corporal Otto, Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobbo, and Miss Jessica Black as Kathie.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—A most enjoyable programme is provided

clever knockabout comedians; and Harry Taylor, the disappointed comedian, is exceedingly droll. The Bioscope concludes.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Pantomime again holds sway at the Metropole, *The Babes in the Wood* being the attraction for a fortnight. The piece is produced by the author, Mr. Andrew Caine, and, in addition to being splendidly mounted, is rendered by a fine array of talent. Miss Alice Digby impersonates Robin Hood with grace and vivacity; Miss Dorothy Elliott and Miss Mabel Lacina make an excellent pair of Babes; and Messrs. Bert Albert and Andie Caine were responsible for plenty of merriment as Friar Tuck and Dame Anne Chovy respectively. Some finished dancing is performed by the Frivols.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Wilson Hallett gives some wonderful imitations of children, humorous and pathetic; Chas. Prelles' Bijou Circus makes an interesting entertainment, the canine members of the company performing various tricks with almost human sagacity; Merrie Marjorie Lawrence is a dainty little comedienne; Tom Joy's parodies on "Somewhere" and "Kelly" respectively catch on immensely; Ted Curtis and company are again popular; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie are musicians and comedians of pronounced ability; and Zasma performs daring evolutions on the horizontal bar. The Hipposcope has a very interesting film depicting the Paris floods.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company (North), under the management of Mr. W. H. Savery, is here, in a répertoire of plays, which includes *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, *King Lear*, *Richard II.*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Macbeth*. On Tuesday evening *The Tempest* was played. Mr. Henry Herbert gave a masterly representation of Caliban; Miss Gladys Vanderzu as Miranda submitted a winsome portrayal; Mr. Robert Atkins is to be congratulated on his clever reading of Prospero; the King of Naples had a worthy representative in Mr. Charles Sparrow; and Mr. H. S. Cohen was a praiseworthy Gonzalo, the honest counsellor. The Ariel of Miss Dorothy Radford was very commendable; Mr. Cyril Sworder ably played the part of Ferdinand; the rôles of Stephano and Trinculo, the jester, are in the capable hands of Messrs. John Cairns and Andrew Leigh; and Messrs. Pat Lewis and John ably sustain the parts of Sebastian and Antonio.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime, *Sleeping Beauty*, is the attraction here. Mr. Tubby Edlin as the Great Unknown is responsible for the bulk of the fun; Miss Lillian Elliott is a dashing Prince Fearless; Miss Ivy Moore a bright Princess; and Mr. Tom Shenton a most amusing King Half-Crown, being well assisted by Mr. Willie Black as Queen Half-Crown; Mr. Frank H. Morton as the Demon uses his fine voice to advantage; and Miss Winnie Acton does good work as the Fairy. Mr. John Leick and Miss Mabel Keith contribute cornet-playing which brings down the house. Specialities are also introduced by Tom Shenton and Chicks, the Eight Oowana Girls, and the Three Martinettes.

HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—The Krags Trio, gymnasts, occupy the principal position here this week; Collin and Irene amaze the audience with their skill as thought-readers; Bu-val is bright and interesting as the Happy Dutchman; Ciss and Will are a couple of smart duettists and dancers; Theo. Leo, and Eadie submit a clever juggling act; Connie Isea is an accomplished vocalist; Syd Herman, Hebrew comedian, meets with approval; and animated pictures conclude.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is winning appreciation. Dignified and well set-up, Mr. Mayor Cook does full justice to the rôle of Prince Hildred of Sylvania, and Prince Michael and Prince Olaf are acted with thrilling effect by Messrs. Lionel Gadsden and C. W. Standing respectively; Mr. Francis Hawley makes a great success of the Bishop of Illyria; Capt. Hector and Lieut. Karl Stromberg are artistically embodied by Messrs. Noble and Richard Lane; with charming grace Miss Mona Hungerford fills the rôle of Viola; and in the titular rôle Miss Stella Campbell proves a fine exponent of many attainments and personal charm.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The pantomime of *Aladdin* is being liberally patronised here, and all the artists are working well. The new attraction this week is Wee Georgie, who made such a successful hit at the Gaiety pantomime of *Dick Whittington*. He does a lot of new business, which was heartily enjoyed.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland. —Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their Shakespearean company entered on their third and last week here on Monday, when they again, by special request, presented *King John* before a large and fashionable audience. Mr. Benson gave a very fine performance of the King; and Mrs. Benson displayed her abilities in an impressive manner in the rôle of Constance. Miss Molly Terraine repeated her success of last week as Arthur. The répertoire for the balance of the week is *The Winter's Tale*, *Richard III.*, *Coriolanus*, and *Macbeth*, Miss Genevieve Ward being specially engaged to appear as Queen Margaret and Volumnia.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—The management here are running a short season of vaudeville performances on the two-houses-a-night system. La Vie, poseuse enchantreuse, in a series of living art panel poses, is warmly applauded; Chas. Bradford receives appreciation as a comedian; Will and Rose, comedy acrobatic conjurers, Le Cafe Magique, are also very good. The remainder of the programme consists of a series of animated pictures, the principal ones being The Paris Floods, The Diver's Remorse, An Escaped Lunatic, and an Indian romance, Onawanda.

EMPIRE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. G. H. Marsh.—The principal item is a realistic and dramatic sketch entitled *Hold Up*, which is capitally staged, with Mr. Paul Lovett as Joe Brandt. Mr. F. Gatenby as Calvert, and Mr. E. Williams as the driver. The Louberts performed an entertaining and amusing acrobatic act; Walker and May receive applause for their songs and dances; a number of clever cycling feats are done by the Westwoods; Leonie Dixon is a pleasing and effective comedienne; Clarke and Hayden are extra good in their musical and comedy performance; Daisy Hurdle, burlesque artist; Gertie Grace, comedienne; George Antill, comedian; and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Murphy.—Callahan and St. George, in their sketch *The Old Neighbourhood*, are excellent, Miss St. George's playing of the Harp being especially enjoyed. Bowden and Stol are a very clever and quaint pair of eccentrics; the Zaid Trio, Spanish Moors, do some really smart business in their Oriental speciality act; Leigh and Laurie are capital comedians; the Dancing Paceys, harmony singers and expert dancers, work hard and receive deserved applause; Rosie Dawn, comedienne, appears with success, as do also Tom Reed, comedian; Charles Cardle, coon vocalist; and Amie Jumel, dancer. The Tivoli Bioscope is always up to date.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James. —The Two Zingaras are a good pair of comedy duettists; Miss Vera Winston sings her songs very well; Jack Danby excels as a society conjurer; and Lieut. Uniquem give a most amusing entertainment as a ventriloquist. Miss Clarice Mignon receives appreciation for her musical turn; and up-to-date pictures are shown.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company is here in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Wilson Coleman's intensity and fervour as Felix Beverley are very marked; Mr. John S. Millard is particularly good as Jack Stirling; Colonel Miles, by Mr. Cyril Grier, is a good honest representation; Thomas and Charles, by Messrs. Percy Brown and Will Glaze respectively, are very droll and amusing; Mr. W. Annesley as Arthur Bellairs is highly diverting; Miss Kathleen Magee acts with abandon and vigour as the Honorable Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel is a captivating Sweet Nancy. Miss Amy Ellan's impersonation of the much-wronged Mary is marked by great ability.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. H. Waters.—The many patrons of this house have had an exceptional treat provided for them this week in the form of The Faust Operatic Company in the Prison Scene from *Faust*, most ably rendered by Miss Addison, Mr. Claude Anderson, and Mr. Arthur Sedgley, all being excellent. The fun is fast and furious during Geo. Antill's stay on the boards; Capt. Ellis and Son, expert musicians, are strong favourites; Akbar submits a clever performance on the silver rings; Ray Beatie is good in song and dance, as also is Iris Yohe, comedienne; Bella Leaburn, comedienne, is successful with good songs; and the Empire Pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—This beautiful house presented a brilliant appearance on Monday evening, when Mr. Robert Arthur, with his customary enterprise, gave his Dundee patrons an early opportunity of witnessing *The Dollar Princess*, to which full justice was done by the thoroughly capable company sent out by Mr. George Edwardes. The play is staged with perfect completeness in every detail. Miss Deborah Volar gives a bewitching portrait of Alice, and whether as actress or singer her success is unequivocal and complete; Miss Mabel Russell as Daisy gives a delightful impersonation of the character, singing and dancing with much sweetness and cleverness; Miss Marjorie Maxwell as Olga looks remarkably handsome, and submits an excellent rendering of her various numbers; Mr. W. Louis Bradfield furnishes a good character-sketch of the multi-millionaire Harry A. Conder; Mr. Leonard Mackay secures much favour as Freddy Fairfax, his magnificent voice being heard to great advantage in his several songs; Mr. Eric Thorne keeps the audience in hearty laughter with the humour he imparts to the character of Mr. Bulger; Mr. Howard Cridland as Dick ably aids in the fun-making; John, Earl of Quorn, is very dashingly played by Mr. Paul Plunket; Mr. Percy Davison is quaintly funny as Sir James McGregor, and also dances very nimbly. The chorus sing and dance admirably, and the augmented orchestra is under the capable direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac. Oxon. Mr. Herbert Ralland is the general-manager for Mr. George Edwardes.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping an excellent bill is a thrilling dramaette, entitled *A Society Woman*, presented in good style by Allan Holt and company; Les Narbas evoke hearty applause in a novel acrobatic dancing act; to *Stiggles*, a farcical absurdity full of rollicking fun, full justice is done by Willie Atom and company; Agnes Tina achieves a success as a mimic; the xylophone selections by the Five Vernons are greatly appreciated; Florence and Rose Showell, duettists, have cultivated voices; Kendrick and Laura contribute a turn consisting of harmony and eccentric dancing; and the Kingscope pictures are as usual excellent.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Miss Winifred Maude's company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane in *The Sins of a City*, has drawn good houses this week. Miss Winifred Maude brings much histrionic ability to bear upon the character of Norah Gillmore; Lesbia L'Estrange is depicted with tact and expression by Mrs. Wingold Lawrence; Mr. Arthur L. Read, who plays with considerable force, shows to much advantage as Sandy McDonald; Mr. Arthur Lester makes the most of his opportunities as Donald McIvor; Mr. Victor Du Cane cleverly doubles the rôles of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh, to which he infuses much dramatic effect; Mr. Morris Maud embodies the villainous Ralph Blackwater, K.C., with a realistic touch; Isaac Levi is humorously enacted by Mr. Fred Chester; and enjoyable comedy is introduced by Mr. Mark Fenton (Jonathan Blyme) and Miss Minnie Millwarde (Midge); while admirable assistance is lent by Misses Mona Leslie and Gipsy Alexander.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The Five Olracs, in acrobatical funniosities, head the bill here this week; the Five Bombays win favour in a singing and expert dancing act; and Ellis Barrieton renders good songs with ability. The athletic act of Ariel and Astarte is warmly applauded; the Swift Duo are clever trick cyclists; Bert and Dora score in patter and singing; Pauline Faro is a smart comedienne; and the Cathedoscope concludes.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. T. Rushworth.—Louis Calvert's company in *Sunday*, with Janet Lind in the leading rôle, is here from Thursday.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—*Dick Whittington*, the lessees' pantomime, which attained such a gigantic success on its production here, is paying a return visit. Mr. King maintains his reputation, and as Idle Jack works cleverly, being the life and soul of the pantomime; Mr. Ardene Linden is a happy and funny cook; Mr. Jamie Dallas dances extremely well, and acts with effect as Peter Pann; he is ably assisted by Mr. Herbert Walton, who is a praiseworthy Captain Pott; and Mr. T. Turner is a good cat. Miss Norah Dwyer, pretty, bright, and charming, and gifted with a sweet voice, is one of the best principal girls seen here for a very long time; Miss May Hart is a smart and smiling Dick; Miss Adele Levey as the Emperor of Morocco is perfect; Mr. H. A. Mather does good work as Fitzwarren; and other parts are well filled. Miss Maie Hoey delights the audience with a couple of classical dances.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. G. Ridley.—Mr. Joe Collins' pantomime company is appearing here in *The Babes in the Wood*. Mr. Fred Terry, a genuinely funny comedian, keeps the fun going merrily as the wicked Baron; Mr. Freddy Webb is a happy laughing Mrs. Pankake; Mr. E. Lyle and Mr. J. Graydon are a decided success as the naughty robbers; and Mr. C. Paton is a satisfactory Georgie. Miss M. Bryon, tall and shapely, sings and acts with much spirit and cleverness; Miss Mabel Mignon is a dainty and pleasing Maid Marion; Miss Ethel Lyle a good Helen; and the Babes are played excellently by Miss Lulu Clayton and Miss Connie Hasledon. A very smart troupe of six clever lady dancers deserve praise. Mr. George de Lara is the courteous general-manager for Mr. Collins.

EDINBURGH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie. —Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's company began a fortnight's engagement here on Monday with *Pinkie and the Fairies*. The theatre was crowded, and the audience was manifestly delighted with the charming entertainment. The piece is acted in the true spirit by the actors, whether children or adults. No more admirable representatives of Tommy and Pinkie could be found than these talented little players, Master Philip Tonge and Miss Iris Hawkins. Their freshness and spontaneity of manner must have been welcome to many a jaded playgoer. Miss Hilda Antony, beautiful alike in face, figure, and voice, acted Molly with the charm and abandon for which she is remarkable; Miss Florrie Lewis, a petite Fairy Queen, was amusingly dignified in her bearing, acted with point and danced with neatness; Master Burford Hampden as the Herald was a droll little figure; and three pretty children, Miss Patty Jacobs, Miss Mimi Crawford, and Miss Olga Hope, were vivacious fairies. Mr. Ambrose Manning as Uncle Gregory gave a performance full of true humour, depicting with artistic touches a character which appealed to everyone. Mr. W. R. Creighton did good work as the beast; and all the other members of the cast contributed cleverly to the general effect. The piece was splendidly staged; the music by Mr. Frederic Norton was pleasant and harmonious; and the appreciation of the large audience was shown by frequent and enthusiastic applause.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The successful *Humpty Dumpty* pantomime in its closing weeks is proving more attractive than ever. Among the comedians, Mr. Joe Nightingale, Mr. Shaun Glenville, and Mr. Jack Lane are unflagging in their diversions; and the last-named performer's piano turn continues to be an outstanding feature in the piece; while Queen and Le Brun, in their animal impersonations, provide much amusement for juveniles as well as grown-ups. Miss Radie Furman and Miss Clare Hartland, also Miss Iris Banfield, with Miss Iris Colley, Miss Maggie Fraser, and Miss Zoe Gordon, add brightness and variety to the many effective scenes; and Mr. Ivan Berlyn, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie, and Mr. Arthur Burgoyne, work well in their respective rôles. The colours and movements of beautifully costumed crowds and dancers equals anything hitherto presented at this house always noted for its pantomimes.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Mascard has made a distinct hit with the pantomime *Dick Whittington*, the house being so full on several occasions that many persons had to be turned away. The great feature of the piece is the briskness which marks the action from first to last. Mr. Michael Kemble's fine voice is of much service in the vocal numbers; and Mr. Sam Thompson is the source of great amusement by his droll impersonation of a Scottish Idle Jack; the Sisters Cora act and sing with charm; Miss Connie Irwin is a graceful Fairy Bow Bell; and others of the actors who distinguish themselves are Miss Helen Garland, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones, Mr. George Westland, Mr. J. Randle Wilson, and Miss Topsy Johnstone. The pantomime is well mounted, and there is plenty of good and popular music. It is worthy of mention that the libretto is from the pen of the late Mr. Fred Lock, always a pleasant writer.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—A long programme is headed by Mr. Arthur Roberts, who, assisted by a company some half-dozen strong, appears in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. The Brennans show much expertness in a display of sand and clog-dancing; O'Gust the original clown mimic, gives his ever-amusing imitations of birds, animals, express trains, and shavings; Mr. Leslie Harris, as a piano entertainer, provides an exceedingly enjoyable turn; and Miss Juliette's school of sea lions proves a class of particularly apt pupils. The Smythsons present a peasant sketch; Francis and Alfred exhibit their skill as jugglers and equilibrists; Dion Wade and Dot Hardy contribute single-handed comedy turn; and bioscope pictures round off the bill.

ELLESMERE PORT. — HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Louie Fuller has a good reception as a comedienne and dancer; Sid and Sadie are favourably received as comedy sketch artists; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer, keeps the audience heartily amused; Miss Sadie Austyn is a charming comedienne and graceful dancer; Laurie and Leslie create continuous fun as duettists and patterers; and a series of well-chosen animated pictures make up an enjoyable entertainment.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. A. Austin Leigh's stock company is appearing here for a short season in a series of high-class plays. The run was inaugurated on Monday with *The Idler*. Mr. Ernest Bodkin skilfully delineated the title-part; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh proved fully equal to the rôle of Simeon Strong; and Mr. Wallis Clarke displayed much ability as Sir John Harding. Miss Kathryn Collier as Lady Harding evinced a deep earnestness, mingled with a degree of pathos that proved very convincing; Miss Belle Travers was a bright and amusing Kate Merryweather. Mr. Gerard Wynne being distinctly successful as General Merryweather. Miss Emmie O'Reilly, Miss Vere Hodson, and Mr. Walter Bannister did well as Mrs. Cross, Mrs. Glyn Stanmore, and Bennett respectively.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—A treat has been afforded Exonians this week by the apnearance of Eugene Stratton, whose coon songs and dances quickly caught on. Another popular member of the programme is Arthur Astill, mimetic and whistling artist; Norman Holt, "a musical lad from Lancashire," wins success; Mamie Morris is a graceful comedienne and dancer; Gladys Revell scores with an excellent vocal contribution; and Fred Hutchings, who appears as a dame comedian, speedily gets on good terms with his audience.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. —Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Harry Benet's No. 1 company in the famous musical comedy *The Lady Slavey* has drawn good houses. Mr. Charles F. Clark makes a rollicking Major O'Neill; Mr. Lister Morrah gives a good representation of the Yankee Millionaire, Vincent A. Evelyn; and Mr. T. G. Warren's Lord Lavender is highly amusing. On Mr. Harry Quiningborough as Roberts and Miss Nora Morrah as Phyliis falls the bulk of the work of keeping the merriment going, and they discharge the responsibility to the satisfaction of all. Other leading parts well filled are Maud by Miss Kitty Hyde, Beatrice by Miss Blanche Hounsell, and Flo Honeydew by Miss Reydon Dallas. The staging and costumes are rich and elaborate, and there is a fine chorus.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—This week Mr. Charles Windermere's company, in the farcical comedy, *Where is William?* forms an undeniable attraction. The rôle of Sir William Gregory is amusingly impersonated by Mr. Charles Windermere, who does full justice to the part; he is ably seconded by Mr. Rule Pyott as William Jolley, and the combined efforts of the pair keep the audience in a continuous roar of laughter; Lady Gregory is ably played by Miss Belle Donaldson; Phyllis is cleverly portrayed by Miss Clare Manfield; and Mr. Wylie A. Thompson is well suited as Harry. General Rubbub is creditably represented by Mr. Leslie Norman.

TOWN HALL.—The Joseph Poole's Myrioramas are attracting crowded houses here this week. A good bill includes Rochez' Circus as the leading feature; and other excellent turns are furnished by Miss Ethel Lorch, contralto; Phil Gerrard, comedian; Wun Hi Lung, illusionist; Frank Allen, quick-change artist; Elsie Verona, comedienne; and Lang and Sheffer, coon vocalists.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Miss Lole Esmond's company is presenting *Nana*, *Sorrows of Satan*, *Sapho*, and *Ticket-of-Leave Man*. In the first-named piece Miss Rosie Neville gave an excellent rendering of the title-rôle, and was well supported by Mr. Geo. Derricke as Philipe and Mr. Frank Wheatley, who played M. Fontaine powerfully. Mr. Edward Neville infused a good deal of humour into the part of Hector, and the other characters were capably filled by Messrs. H. Sisto, J. Le Fleming Banderson, and Percy Forman, and Misses Lole Esmond (Rose Mignon) and Dorothy Dewhurst (Blanche).

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE, LTD.—Chairman, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Pantomime gives way to variety this week, Tarro Miyake, the champion jiu-jitsu wrestler of the world, "starring" on a capital bill. Gus Barra is an accomplished and original musician; the ever-welcome Ray and Calden return in some new comedy business, and make a decided hit; the Three Dixons, lady bâton swingers, banjoists, singers, and dancers are clever and up to date; the Credons score in a boxing, club-swinging, and ball-punching act; Syd Crossley is a comedian who compels laughter; and Lon Hale, skater and dancer, and the Kingscope also provide enjoyable turns.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Messrs. Bolam and Tiller are presenting the pantomime *Little Bo-Peep* here for two weeks. Since Christmas the production has run with considerable success at the Grand Theatre, Byker, and audiences at the "Met." have been large and enthusiastic. Miss Nancy Hearne as Boy Blue is the chief figure, and she has won much praise by her dashing impersonation; Miss Zena Hay is a dainty Boy Blue; Messrs. Harrigan and Holt as Hoppit and Poppit look after the knockabout business with great success; Mr. Harry Kirk as the Baron is very funny; Mother Hubbard is well looked after by Mr. Edgar Driver; the speciality of Hooc and Pauly is one of the strong features; and the dancing and ballets leave nothing to be desired.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphreys.—Mr. Robert Arthur's luxurious pantomime, *Aladdin*, continues to attract large and appreciative audiences at every performance. In this production the leading merrymakers are Mr. Harry Tate, Mr. Malcolm Scott, and Messrs. Regan and Ryan, and right heartily they fulfil their mission. Unfortunately, Happy Fanny Fields was indisposed at the beginning of the week, but a very capable understudy was found in Miss Maie Dillon. The principal boy and girl, Miss Bessie Butt (Aladdin) and Miss Dorothy Firman (Princess), have won a deal of popularity, as also has that charming dancer Miss Doris Dean. Mr. Harry Claff, the Emperor, sings several pleasing numbers; and the Scotch Vizier of Mr. George Hirste is an amusing character.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—The month's run of *The Arcadians* here finishes this week, and the success of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production has been very marked. Mr. Walter Passmore as Simplicitas naturally claims first mention, and this strong Glasgow favourite has gained many new admirers by his excellent performance. Equally good in another way is Mr. Oliver J. Round as the doleful jockey, Doody, and his lugubrious ditty in the third act is awarded half a dozen encores. The sweet singing and charming acting of Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra are also strong attractions; and the genuinely humorous portrayal of Mrs. Smith by Miss Veronica Brady is received with hearty laughter and applause. Mr. Harold E. Pearce as Jack Meadows, Mr. Louis Victor as Bobby, Mr. Ivan Cleveland as Sir George Paddock, and dainty Miss Billie Sinclair as the attractive Irish girl Eileen Cavanagh are the most noteworthy members of a strong cast.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—The latest revival here is Oscar Wilde's play *Lady Windermere's Fan*, and this wonderfully constructed work receives excellent treatment at the hands of the repertory company. Miss Muriel Pope acts with fine effect as Lady Windermere, and portrayed the varying moods of the character with infinite skill; while the Mrs. Erlynne of Miss Irene Rooke was another triumph for this excellent artist. Both ladies were repeatedly recalled during the evening. Mr. P. Perceval Clark as Lord Windermere was slightly handicapped by his youthful appearance, but acted the part with much skill and resource; the Lord Darlington of Mr. D. Lewin Mannering was a performance of undoubted merit; Miss Alice Mansfield gave a broadly humorous rendering of the gossiping Duchess of Berwick; and her demure daughter was amusingly played by Miss Irene Clarke. Mr. Laurence Hanray as Mr. Dumby, Mr. Campbell Gullan as Tuppy, Mr. Cecil Brooking as Graham, and Mr. A. B. Howard as Lord Plimdale effectively differentiated the various types of society men about town. Mr. Milton Rosmer acted well the comparatively minor part of Mr. Hopper; and the various society ladies were cleverly played by Misses Lola Duncan, Dora Harker, and Norah Delaney. The play was produced by Mr. H. Ralph Kimpton, and reflects much credit on that gentleman and the members of the repertory company.

GRAND, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant. —Mr. Fred Karno's pantomime, *Mother Goose*, has achieevd success here. Mr. Neil Kenyon keeps the fun going merrily in the title-part. Another diverting performance must be placed to the credit of Mr. Jack O'Connor, who is responsible for some genuinely funny business as Jack Goose; Miss May Moore Duprez renders with delightful archness the part of Gretchen; and Miss Lily Morris continues her vivacious performance of Colin. Mr. Fred Allandale causes hilarity in the part of the Laird, as also does Mr. Charles A. East as the Mayor. Miss Rhoda Gordon as Gill Goose and Miss Lily Edwards as Eric are much in favour.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Though *Willie Winkie* is drawing excellent houses still, the last weeks of this pantomime are announced. On Monday Mr. Harry Levaine took his benefit, and Mr. Neil Kenyon (from the Grand) once more trod the boards where his earliest successes were made. From the Royal came Messrs. Harry Tate and Malcolm Scott, while the variety houses also lent their star turns. Friday was set apart for the benefit of Miss Edith Haley, and the local popularity of this lady ensured a bumper house.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are here with *For Love and the King*. The author, Mr. C. Watson Mill, gives a strong rendering of the hero, General Meredith; Miss Rosalind Tate is a pleasing representative of the hero's sister; Miss Joan Ellis makes a charming Natila; Mr. Alfred Maurice gives a vivid picture of a miserly outcast; and Mr. Stanley Weston is suitably dignified as the King.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*Robinson Crusoe*, presented by Mr. J. H. Savile's company, is this week responsible for large and appreciative houses. The quaint mannerisms of Mr. Tatten Hall as Will Atkins never fail to create laughter; the burlesque business of Mr. Dan Maxford as Captain Kettle and Mr. Tom O'Neil as the Mate is also very amusing; Mr. Harry Arnold as Willie Crusoe plays an important part, his pawky Scotch manner and frequent local allusions being much enjoyed; as Mrs. Crusoe Mr. Harry Farrow gives a robust impersonation of the "merry widow"; and Mr. Fred Eugene and Mr. John E. West as King Wamba and Friday respectively are very successful. Among the ladies Miss Daisie Morell as Robinson Crusoe is a lively and attractive hero, her catchy songs and choruses being frequently encored; as Polly Perkins Miss Maud Terry plays with charm; as Tom Tug and Bella Brighton the Sisters Sable show considerable ability; and Miss Primrose Harding and Miss Dorothy May score in their parts of Peter Piper and Dolly Dimple. Miss Lottie Stone's clever troupe of dancers contribute several interludes.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The star turn this week is Miss Amelia Bingham, the American actress, who stirs the audience to a great height of enthusiasm in scenes from *La Tosca*, *Sans Gêne*, and *The School for Husbands*; Barton and Ashley once more receive the hearty welcome and equally hearty recall that is reserved exclusively for old and tried favourites, and in *Canal-Boat Sal* they deserve it every time; Keen and Waller are smart and clever in their acrobatic work, and are specially well received; Annie Purcell, despite a severe cold, sings with much of her accustomed skill; Frank Maura's balancing turn is as neat and artistic as of old; Jennie Alexander, a wonderfully clever young mimic, makes a hit in all her various impersonations; Harry Allister portrays the great men of past and present times in realistic style; Henry Carlton, a clever elocutionist, and the Duo Jarl, Swiss dancers, complete a good bill.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Fred Karno's company, in *Skating*, are drawing great crowds to this house, and the laughter is loud and constant during the half-hour the sketch lasts; Emerson and Baldwin are a smart and clever couple of comedy jugglers, with a lot of original business; Tom Clare, at the piano, once again makes a big success with his clever songs, stories, &c.; Terry and Bentley are a clever pair, and their varied business is much enjoyed; Miss Teddy Edmonds' company, in *The Lady Jockey*, provide a lively and enjoyable turn; Lozelle, the wonderful gymnast, with his clever feats and his elaborate apparatus, shows great skill and daring; Les Montaldas give an ingenious turn, combining slack wire business with trained cockatoos, &c., and are well received; and Frank F. Street cleverly imitates R. G. Knowles.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Rose Elliott ("a sensible singer of sensible songs") is the principal of a host of entertaining turns here; Dare Austin, supported by Chas. F. Howard, supplies an interesting comedy duologue, "His Wedding Morning"; and Frank Elliston, supported by Geoffrey Chate and Nellie Stevens, presents the romantic episode *My Lady Betty*. The other artists of note include Will E. Stopit, eccentric acrobat; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, entertainers; Leipzig, a conjurer of parts; and Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, clever vocalists and dancers.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Tom Leamore, that popular eccentric, is singing here in his best style, and his funniosities are really mirth-provoking; Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are with difficulty allowed to go; the Kramers are ever welcome; Miss Lottie Bellman, assisted by Mr. Bay Russell, in "bits of vaudeville," is extremely popular; Les Bollingers are responsible for a quick artistic exhibition of rag painting; Sydney James' Strolling Players, under the direction of and including Mr. Albert Fernie, deserve all credit for their thoroughly enjoyable entertainment; the original Four Regals, in the strong act entitled "The Armourers," give a sensational show; a good acrobatic turn is provided by the Bros. Gaudsmidt, assisted by two well-trained poodles; J. H. Scotland, basso, renders pleasing numbers; and as an imitator of sounds Clown Argo upholds his reputation.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Miss Ella Dean is at the head here; another turn of merit is provided by Syd Myra and his talented dog "Nell"; Miss May Rhoda comes in for a hearty reception; Will E. Nutt provides amusement with his eccentricities; and a smart dancing turn is submitted by Horace Sade. An interesting film is The Martyrdom of the Late Adolf Beck.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr J. A. Campbell presented *The Old Folks at Home* to a good house on Monday. Mr. Geo. Steel gave a forcible representation of Andrew Rose; Mr. Frank Liston was a typical dissolute young nobleman in the character of Lord Howarth Kenilworth; Mr. George Scully and Mr. Donald Gilbert were very droll and amusing as Ben Jolly and Joe Chaff; Mr. Vincent Wardle ably portrayed the character of Jock, the dumb hunchback; Miss Maud Warburton gave a fine rendering of Dorothy Robin; Miss Clara Santley and Miss Ada Frank did very well as Martha and Susan Giles.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole. —Arthur Lennard heads the bill and justifies his position with capital songs; the Stein-Eretto Troupe of acrobats are exceedingly clever; and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard have a good comedy sketch, *Coming Home*. The Fontellas are applauded for their novlety act; and the Three Delaries are exceptionally well received in *The Demon Grotto*. Ruby Norton, comedienne, sings well; and Nat Knoun, comedian and gag-teller, causes much laughter. Ellene and Rose, musicians and vocalists, are versatile performers; and the Palacescope has a good film of the Paris Floods.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The premier attraction here is Fred Storey and his *Rip Van Winkle* company, who pay a welcome return visit, and draw big crowds; Ben Jackson, a trick soloist and banjo humorist, is decidedly clever; Flo Banks is an attractive comedienne; a refined act, entitled the "Tramp and the Girl," is given by Clarke and Clare, who have good voices; the Three Bonheurs, in their speciality dancing and musical act, do well; a good comedian is Harry Bland, who creates much laughter; and the Edisonograph, with some good films, proves very diverting.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company in *A Destroyer of Men* is here this week.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr

their performance is of exceptional merit; the Royal Selbonians, comedy jugglers, are also much appreciated, whilst Barney, vocalist and mimic, Hodgson and Lowther, in an amusing sketch, Swan and Latimer, comedians and dancers, Cade Burnett, actor vocalist, and Jack Clevoner, in a musical act, are well received.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The vivid pictures of American life presented in *A White Man* are causing much interest here. Mr. Guy Hastings gives a fine and forceful representation of the strong part of Jim Carston; Miss Kathleen Maude gives a charming air of distinction to the character of the Countess of Kerhill; Mr. Frank Mayo acts with intense vigour as the lawless Cash Hawkins; Mr. A. A. Brandon is a popular figure as Big Bill, and makes the part highly interesting; Mr. Eric Hudson is impressive as Taby-y-wana, the Indian chief, and his make-up is wonderfully realistic; Miss Hilda Barita shows a nice appreciation of the pathetic requirements of the Indian girl, Natu-ritch; and other prominent parts are taken by Mr. Gerald Valentine as Shorty, Mr. Ernest H. Clark as Andy; Mr. Jay Ellis as Crouchy, Mr. Cecil Bevan as the Earl of Kerhill, Mr. Ray Raymond as Bud Hardy, and Miss Ormonde Wynne as the Dowager Lady Kerhill.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company remain here this week, and are now presenting another dramatic sketch, *The Little Captain*. It is stirringly adventurous, and is well acted. Abel and Welsh are a clever pair of contortionists, and give a turn of quite new features; the Francolli Trio exhibit some smart tumbling and introduce amusing burlesque; Miss Nora Emerald is a comedienne who is establishing herself a prime favourite here; whilst Miss Maud Vera also scores a success as a comedienne. The Six Manchester Lads are a troupe of expert clog dancers, and the Hargreaves Trio provide an entertaining musical and dancing act.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Love of the Princess* is at the Royal this week. Mr. Frank Harvey gives a fine, vigorous rendering of Prince Conrad; Mr. R. Vane makes a typical villain as Count Dacillo; Mr. J. Burton's King of Illarnia is a good performance; Mr. B. Bould is a success as Lieut. Orlando; Mr. J. Worth (Lieut. Zaroff), Mr. D. L. Doyle (Prince Regent), and Mr. T. Searle (Duke Scarfe) are good. Mr. E. Morgan makes the small part of Boris a success; Lady Irene is nicely played by Miss M. Steeple; Miss J. Lee is an effective Constantia; and Miss Dorothy Haigh is a forceful Princess Idalia.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The Four Janowskys are clever gymnasts; the Juggling Geraldos introduce a smart and humorous turn; Mabel La Blanche is a comedienne with good songs; Ryder Slone introduces a good new number, "Boozy Billy"; the Donnas Trio give some marvellous feats of balancing on the trapeze; and Archie Pitt, comedian; the Four Burnells, in *On the Links*; and the Palace Pictures complete.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mrs. John Lawson and company are providing the star turn here with *The Devil's Sunday* and *Supremacy*. Mrs. Lawson is supported by six sterling artists, Arthur Royston, R. Owen, J. S. Boon, Miss Cissie Williams, Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, and Miss Day. The Salamon Trio, in *The Changeling*; Sam Shipley, comedian; and Martin Coyne, vocalist; and Leah Arden, vocalist, also appear.

HANLEY.—Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. G. Elphinstone.—*Dear Little Denmark* is put on in a most elaborate style, the dresses being charming and the effects elaborate. Miss Joan Penrose as Ophelia is responsible for a humorous character impersonation; as Conrad Mr. Conway Dixon sings and acts with great skill; Miss Netta Lynde as Christine has a fine voice and manner; Mr. Henry Kitts as the Duke is a decided success; Miss Claire Lynch is a sweet Xanara; and Mr. Arthur Stoples as Hans Hansen causes continuous merriment.

Grand.—Proprietor and Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Gardiner and Stoddard, American vaudeville artists, head the bill in clever frivolities; Jordan and Harvey are successful in patter and song; Harvey's American boys and girls introduce a remarkable turn; Field and Mansell, lightning picture painters, are loudly applauded; the Sisters Urma are three clever trapeze artists; *Jerks, the Butler*, as played by Vasey and Ramsey, is most entertaining; Otto and Olga have a funny travesty on grand opera; George Prince, comedian, makes a hit; and the Grand pictures show The Floods of Paris.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Pantomime is again to the fore, Mr. Sydney Cooper and the Tally Ho Trio presenting *Cinderella*. Miss Doris Langdon is the sweetest and most dainty of Cinderellas ever seen in the town—she is possessed of a pleasing voice, and dances well; Miss Gwladys Soman is a handsome principal boy; Mr. Fred Anderson as Cordelia, one of the ugly sisters, is a very able comedian; Miss Fay Desmond is a pretty and tuneful Fairy Godmother; and the Tally Ho Trio appeared with great success as the Baron and the two broker's men, their vocal efforts being a feature of the pantomime.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—A welcome return visit is paid by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning's company is *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards realised well the strong part of Jack Frobisher; Mr. Rutland Barrington was capitally cast as the Marquis of Steventon, and was successful throughout; Mr. Russell Barry's robust acting as Hanky Bannister added materially to the general success; Harry Dallas was effectively delineated by Mr. H. Browning; Miss Gwendoline Hay as Lady Alethea Frobisher contributed an excellent portraiture, which was deservedly admired; Miss Hilda Sims acted brightly as Lady Lucy Devenham, and Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd was very effective as Lady Westerby; other characters were ably played respectively by Miss Muriel Locking, Miss Florence Westrop, Miss Doris Digby, and Miss Sylvia Jones. Mr. Russell Barry stage-managed. The comedy was preceded by a sketch by Mr. Rutland Barrington, at the piano, afterwards assisted in a vocal duet by Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd.

HEREFORD.—Garrick Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Barnsley.—*The Little Widow*, with Miss Grace Warner in the title-rôle, is here. This delightful actress is most charming as Mrs. Rattlebrain; Mr. George Gordon as Wilkins Potter keeps the house in one continual roar; as Mrs. Potter Miss Lallah Davies gives a particularly good reading; Miss Florence Daly scores by her highly amusing acting as Sophonisba; Mr. Frank Hertie capably acts the part of Morton; Miss L. Palmer is a pleasing Emily Randel; Mr. Nanton as Bousier evokes much merriment; and Mr. Roy Rhind is quite successful as Arthur Potter.

HORWICH.—Prince's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Messrs. Auguste Van Biene and Son's company is presenting *Man and Wife*, a drama of intense interest which was followed closely on Monday night b yan enthusiastic audience. Mr. Jarrold Ord's Paul Revere was a telling and exciting performance; Mr. Geo. H. Child cleverly depicted Captain D'Esparre as a thorough-paced unprincipled scoundrel; Mr. George Overs as the cripple boy Jean commanded the sympathy of the house; Col. Latour was ably depicted by Mr. H. Compton; Mr. Ambrose Horton gave an excellent impersonation of the manly Sergeant Jacques; Messrs. E. Hall Eldon and Edwin Helm as the twin brothers Bimbo and Bambo created roars of laughter; Mr. Edward Leslie played Father Coupe, the village priest, to the life; Miss Marguerite Thorne gave a pathetic rendering of the aged blind mother, Ruth Revere, which greatly moved the audience; Miss Lucy Fitzroy was a bewitching Rosette; Miss Kate Hallam gave an artistic representation of Marcelle.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Gaiety.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—This week Mr. John H. Tomkinson's No. 1 company is here with much success. It includes the Rizarelis (gymnasts), Elsie Rubina, Wee Winnie (vocalist and dancer), Miss Trixie Howard (soprano), Miss Nellie Hampton (soubrette), Three Recars (acrobats), Arthur Walker (comedian), J. Carr (baritone), George Russell (laughing comedian), Miss Reita (piccolo soloist), Miss Cissie Madcap (acrobat), Miss Mabel Lewis (vocalist), Miss Maud Trainer (solo violinist), Roy Potter, Sisters Hylton (duettists), Tom E. Roma (comedian), and Wilmot Hastings (musical eccentric).

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—One of the chief attractions here is Miss Alice Maude and company in *The Bank Robbery*; Morritt, illusionist, is all that can be desired; Mme. Beulah, in second-sight, is extremely smart; and the Blind Man in feats of memory is a distinct success. Guthrie, Julia Spencer, Nellie Duval, and the Smalleys are also here. Pictures on the Bioscope are very popular.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The London Grand Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. John Halpin, is cordially welcomed. The artists in the combination are such well-known singers as Miss Toni Seiter, Miss Una Bruckshaw, Miss Anna Hope, Mr. Wilson Pembroke, Mr. J. F. O'Sullivan, Mr. Leonard Russell, and Mr. Charles Tilbury. Signor Sapio conducts with skill. Also in the bill are Miss Emmie Ames, comedienne; Harry Bancroft, character comedian; Tee and Tee, musical duettists; Miss Diana Hope, assisted by Monte Bayly and Charles Levey, in a clever one-act play, *The Altar of Duty*; Tamamoto, a Japanese equilibrist; Slippere, the blind entertainer; and Carl and Mary Ohm's wonderful animal circus. The pictures are good.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Harry Roxbury's pantomime, *Mother Goose*, is the fare here. The piece is brightly constructed, and played with unflagging spirit from start to finish by a well-chosen company. Miss Kitty Russell is a fetching Jill; and Miss Maud Prenton looks smart as Colin. Walter Dale as Mother Goose, J. W. Gallagher as Jack, and the Miltons as the Village Constables keep the fun going hot and strong. There is some nimble dancing by the Eight Sydney Girls; the Society Quartette of singers and speciality dancers put in excellent work; and the Miltons do some clever roller-skating.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—That ever-verdant production *Charley's Aunt* is the attraction for the current week, and Mr. Stanley Cooke is very welcome in his old part of Lord Fancourt Babberley, and makes the most of the rôle of the old lady from Brazil; as the ward and niece Miss Ruth Henton and Miss Phyllis Beck fill excellent places, while Mr. T. MacCausland Stewart is an acceptable Colonel; as the Dona Miss Enid Ross has a part for which she is admirably suited; Stephen Spettigue is made acceptable at the hands of Mr. Robert Byford, the famed trio being completed by Messrs. Chas. King and Robert Burnett. *The Colour Sergeant* is likewise in the bill.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—The Dottridge and Longden pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe* is establishing another record for this house. Songs are well selected, the children well drilled by Mme. Pauline Rivers, the costumes are artistic and the scenic side well furnished. The title-rôle is nicely realised by Miss Maud Mortimer, whose refined work has established her as first favourite; Mr. C. Young Fixott is an admirable Dame, and his song "Kelly" is one of the draws; Miss Yolande Noble is a very commendable Peggy; her "Cuckoo" song is beloved of the gods, who take up its chorus in fine fashion.

Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—First and foremost of an excellent company are Alec Hurley and his comedians, in their bright musical comedy *Cockneys in Japan*, which is well received, the catchy airs captivating the audience. L'Incognita is a soprano of extraordinary power and ability; Dusty Rhodes's quaint humour and the comedy act presented by O'Malley and Brown are acceptable items; and the protean drama *Dan the Outlaw* is admirably performed, and involves some remarkably quick changes on the part of Mr. Herbert Shelley. Jewel St. Leger, dramatic soubrette, Jessie Albini, comedienne, and the Eight Lancashire Lads, singers and dancers, have good receptions, and Arthur Kenny's cycle act is greatly daring.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—A strong programme is headed by Eda Blair, described as the "New York Clipper," and her American Bowery Boys, whose dancing and singing are admirable. There are also the Rowntrees (Edna and Bert), in patter and song; the Vanderbilts, a smart comedy couple; the Orchids; the Haverleys, song illustrators; and Dan Filmer, comedian.

INV[illegible]SS.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Mr. George Munro and company are here, and on Monday an enthusiastic audience welcomed *Hamlet*. Mr. Munro ably sustained the part of Hamlet as Ophelia; Miss Doris Horrocks was a great success; and as Gertrude Miss G. Littlewood gained hearty appreciation. As Claudius Mr. Howard Rose was good; Mr. T. Fields as the Ghost and Mr. Lawrence as Horatio both acted well.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. Moncton Hoffe's charming play, *The Little Damozel*, was here the first three nights of the week. The company is an admirable one. Miss Rosy Burton in the part of Julie deserves high praise. She possesses great dramatic power, and the contrasts in the emotional parts are cleverly drawn. Miss Marian Ripley is good as Sybil Craven; Mr. Frank Lacy gives a fine interpretation of Recklow Poole; Mr. Mark Blow as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock proves himself a skilful actor; and Mr. George A. Brandram is successful as Captain Neil Partington. Mr. Townsend Whitling plays Walter Angel; and Messrs. Julian Cross, William J. Slack, and E. L. Hocking are the three members of the orchestra of the Café Angelique. The play is admirably staged. *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* occupies the boards for the remainder of the week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Staleys are very smart in their transformation scene, and the various musical items introduced are novel and well performed; Miss Mabelle May sings and dances daintily; the New Maes are clever and amusing; the Avolos are a clever troupe of artists, their double somersaults from perpendicular poles being very daring; the whistling of Max Laube, who made his first appearance in England, is a revelation; Stuart and Evans are two amusing comedy artists; Rob Rossie, the Manx tenor, is a welcome addition to the bill. The Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—This week we have a visit from Mr. Wm. Pardoe's pantomime company in *Dick Whittington*. Miss Lottie Holland as Dick makes an ideal principal boy; Alice Fitzwarren is carefully played by Miss Nellie Rose; Miss Rose Finettie is well placed as Lord Dedbroke; and Miss Elsie Kedward is a neat Princess Preciosa. Miss Cissy Loveday's singing makes her a favourite; Mr. G. Hyam gives a good account of Idle Jack; and Mr. Joe Venora is quite at home in the part of the Emperor of Morocca. Tom Hulme is a droll Alderman Fitzwarren, and Sarah Cook is in the safe hands of Mr. Jimmy Wood.

KEIGHLEY.—The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. Harry Burne's pantomime has achieved a success. In the title-rôle Miss Minnie Daubyn is seen to advantage; Miss Fanny Harriss is a charming Polly, and her songs are well rendered. The funny element is chiefly in the hands of Mr. Arthur Aiston. Mr. Mark Stuart, and Messrs. Tray and Rich. Evolutions and dances are gracefully executed by Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The first half of the week the boards were occupied by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, who presented *The Dairymaids*. The entertainment is bright, amusing, and well staged, the singing throughout being above the average. Joe Mivens is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Edwin Dodds; Mr. William Spray is a good Lieut. Brudenell; Dr. O'Byrne is admirably treated by Mr. Bernard Vaughan; and Lieut. Frank Meredith by Mr. Herbert Lugg. Miss Edie Martin is an eminent success as Eliza; and Miss Mabel Medrow is a charming exponent of Lady Brudenell.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Mr. Chas. Frohman's company appeared here with much success in *Are You a Mason?* Mr. William Lockhart did well as Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Guy Leigh-Pemberton assumed the rôle of Frank Perry (his son-in-law) with naturalness; Mr. Archie Selwyn made an ideal George Fisher; Hamilton Travers had a capable impersonator in Mr. Arthur Stanley, and as the old farmer, John Halton, Mr. Edward J. Hinge made the most of his opportunities. Mr. Stewart Quartermayne played Ernest Morrison with considerable effect, and the Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood of Miss Agnes Maude was a clever study. For the latter part of the week *The Dairymaids* is announced.

LEEDS.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mr. Hepworth's first pantomime here is beating all records. A second edition was produced on Monday.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Miss Margaret Cooper is packing the house nightly and sings no less than five songs at each performance; John L. Shine and company show wonderful dramatic ability in his popular sketch *Hogmany*; Miss Odeyne Spark is a very attractive and talented comedienne; the Saschoff troupe of singers and dancers are another excellent turn; and Paul Barnes and the Barowskys also appear with success.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Jack Haddon's comic pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* causes plenty of fun, the chief contributors being the Tintos, Gordon Brookes, and Miss Alma Obrey.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Miss Edith St. Clare brings her own pantomime here and takes the title-rôle of *Aladdin* with every success; Miss Nan Farren is good as the Princess; and plenty of fun is provided by Messrs. Bob King, Rob Gilmore, Frank A. Wood, Harry Shaw, and French and French. Miss Adah Payne, a charming soprano vocalist, and Fred Russell, the clever ventriloquist, are also here.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—George Sheldon and company present a dramatic sketch which meets with great applause; Arthur Croxon is an exceedingly smart entertainer; Wilson and West, the stage-struck costers, present a good sketch; Frank E. Ford is a capital dancer; and the Birkenhead family of juveniles are excellent. The Rosses and Grace Merton also gain much applause.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—The dramatic season opened here on Monday evening with the first appearance locally of Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Maud Hildyard is most successful in the part of Claire Forster, and Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret Rolfe also creates a most favourable impression. Mr. William Kershaw as Julian Rolfe and Mr. James Lindsey as Thompson are both excellent, and others whose efforts call for special eulogism are Mr. Paul Wynter as Jimmy O'Neil, Mr. Sydney Palfrey as Louis Klauffsky, Miss Mary Griffiths as Mrs. Hughes, and Mr. W. F. Fletcher as Walters. The play is preceded by *The Deputy Sheriff*.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—After a long absence we are having a welcome return visit of the favourite Renad Bros. in *The Swiss Express*, which seems to have lost none of its mirthful attributes. As usual, Charles and Frederick Renad are the life and soul of the entertainment, being well seconded by Mr. Wilford Bailey as Dr. Gull and Miss Dorothy Deakin as Virginia.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—A first-class programme is headed by that smart couple, Bella and Bijou, who are great favourites here. They are presenting their comedy creation, "The Suffragette," in their own inimitable style, and they are receiving quite an ovation. At the other end are the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, in their side-splitting pantomimical sketch, *The Tower of London*; Gwennie Llewellyn scores a success with her songs; J. A. Wilson, with his remarkable cleverly trained dog "Private Towser," is a great favourite with "Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant"; the Cumberlands, acrobatic cyclists, accomplish difficult feats; J. W. Hall is accorded a hearty reception; La Berat, the mystic grotto dancer, is seen in dance creations; the Glenroy Troupe present a number of characteristic dances in excellent style; Tom Bryce is funny in a musical comedy sketch, entitled *A Dude's Wooing*; and the Bioscope is retained.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Wilton Heriot and company are topping this week's entertaining "show" with the sporting comedy, entitled *Denbigh's Divorce*, an admirably played and enjoyable sketch. At the other end is H. C. Lovell and company in the musical comedietta, *Mam'selle Pom-Pom*, which also proves a great favourite; Wallace Whitney, character comedian; Beatrice Foster, burlesque actress; J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad; Harry Luck, eccentric comedian; Bessie Neilson, in illustrated songs; and the Pavilion Perfection pictures are other attractions.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company is appearing here in *The Coal King*. Mr. Henry Deane gives a fine performance of Tom Roberts; Mr. A. W. Norman is excellent as Sir Reginald; Mr. Robert Faulkner as Walter Hartford submits a finished portrayal of a villain; Miss Winifred Love is a sympathetic and prepossessing heroine as Grace Shirley; Dick Shirley is well played by Mr. Frank Dalton; and Miss Dennis Duncan is highly effective as Mad Ann. The comedy rôles are successfully sustained by Mr. Sam Roberts as Jim Williams and Miss Effie D. Crawford as Araminta Green.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—Top of an excellent bill is the Child Trio of actor-musicians, who are deserving of great praise; Charles Ulric is loudly applauded for his clever manipulation of barrel and cylinder; Stanley and Vandyke, comedy duo, are successful; Harry Bickley, comedian, is deservedly popular; the Three Hodginis are exceedingly clever in their gymnastic and revolving ladder act; Bessie Lind, comedienne, meets with a cordial reception; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists, perform wonderful feats; Harry Drew, bass vocalist, renders his songs effectively; and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Durlison.—Large audiences have welcomed a return visit of *The Merry Widow*, of which Mr. George Edwardes' company gives a very enjoyable and successful rendering. The title-rôle is charmingly filled by Miss Phyllys Le Grand, and Mr. Robert Needham is remarkably happy in his impersonation of Prince Danilo. Other notable characterisations are the Popoff and Nisch of Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter and Mr. Harry Emeric, both of whom are specially entertaining; and the Novakovitch and Jolidan of Mr. Cecil Warwick and Mr. Walter Heal, Olga, Frou-Frou, and Natalia being well interpreted by Miss Eileen Clanford, Miss Neste Laurel, and Miss Mabel Hope; while Cascada, St. Brioche, Khadja, and the Waiter are capably represented by Messrs. Tom H. David, Spencer Lloyd, C. L. Steward, and Clinton Reynald; and Misses Alice Humphrys and Enid Forde as Sylvanie and Prascovia complete an efficient cast.

LIVERPOOL.—Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Good business is the order of the day here, the attraction being Paumier and Howard's stirring drama, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox gains general approval for his admirable handling of Prince Olaf; Mr. Victor Rae also earns much credit as Prince Michael; Miss Bracewell is deservedly popular by reason of her really admirable picture of Monica; Miss Verity Page presents a telling Camiola which brings out rounds of applause; Mr. Alfred Goddard impersonates Prince Hildred with tact; and Mr. Sidney Bayliss makes the most of Nathan. The costumes and accessories are, as usual, of a high order.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*With Edged Tools* is paying a welcome return visit here, and public patronage is great, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's productions being at all times popular in this city. The company includes several artists who have already earned renown in other works toured by the same proprietors, among these being Mr. Hamilton Deane, who again holds the part of Jack Meredith; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, who repeats his moving assumption of the unfortunate Victor; Mr. Henry Nunn (Guy Oscard), Miss Marie Leonnard (Jocelyn), Miss Marguerite Cellier (Millicent), Miss Marion Fawcett (Lady Cantourne), and Miss Violet Thoroid (Lady Herries). Mr. J. D. Geddes makes an admirable Sir John Meredith, and Mr. Albert Campbell does the most with Maurice Gordon.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Pantomime is again here, the attraction this time being Mr. R. C. Buchanan's *Aladdin* from the able pen of Mr. Stanley Rogers. The aim of the author is certainly to make his audiences rock with laughter, and in this he is entirely successful, some of the incidents being excruciatingly funny. In addition the scenery, dresses, and singing are particularly good. Miss Mabel Hind as Aladdin proves a prime favourite; Miss Lily Lonsdale is a pretty Princess, and sings tastefully; and endless fun is caused by Mr. Tom Carrick (Widow Twankey), Mr. Ernie Myers (Abanazar), Mr E. R. Beaumont (Emperor), Mr. Kevan Bernard (Wishee Washee), Mr. J. G. Aitken (Grand Vizier), and the Bros. Fiman (Bo-Bi and Bo-Ko). Mr. J. G. Lowther is the Slave of the Ring, and Miss Margaret Vincent the Genie of the Lamp. Specialities are contributed by the Whirlwind dancers and the Three Warners.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The principal line here this week is the romantic sketch, *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, delightfully presented by Mr. Huntley Wright and company, among his supporters being Messrs. H. A. Saintsbury, Alfred Beaumont, J. R. Cranford, W. R. Staveley and Miss May Taverner; the efforts of the company meet with well-merited applause. Lily Burnand brings her latest, and finds general favour; Harry Leybourne as a comedian and mimic pleases immensely; Maggie and Jack Rawson have a neat and artistic drawing-room entertainment of music, songs, and whistling, the youthful performers earning loud applause; *Beauty and the Burglar*, presented in capital style by Millie Engler and company, including Miss Louie Tinsley, proves very amusing; the Leslie Bros. keep their audience in shouts of laughter with their funny ways; Fred Elton in his scena at the piano, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, introduces with much acceptation "The Butterfly and the Rose"; La Freya has some charming studies, which are appreciated very much; and the Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists perform several astounding feats.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here are Dale and O'Malley, a lively pair of comedians, who cause great laughter; another merry couple are Palles and Cussick, with *The Funny Side of Life*; Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast have a neat poetic fantasy, *The Sea Nymph*; Menotti executes remarkable tricks on the wire; Kioto and Esa have a smart equilibristic performance, introducing a sensational five ladder act; Cissie Curlette has some popular songs; and also in the list are the Sisters Henderson, speciality artists; and Monty Walker, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Karno's *Dandy Thieves*, with George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning, is the big attraction; Paulton and Doley give a fine show as bicycle comedians, for which they earn loud applause; Francini Olloms and Page go through a smart entertainment as jugglers, acrobats, and tumblers; Ritter and Foster are eccentric comedians and dancers; Billy Haines has some good coon songs; Edie Veno proves very diverting; the Hyde and Cody trio create endless laughter with their funny tricks; and Miss Alma, at the piano, pleases generally.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The old English comedy, *A Bird in the Hand is Worth Two in the Bush*, is being given here by the stock dramatic company, among the principals being Messrs. Harry Tresham (Roderick), Sydney Grant (Reginald), Cecil Ravenswood (the Major), Tom H. Solly (Sharke), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Madam Prodigal), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Ellen). Mr. Anthony Brown's bioscope shows Under the Mistletoe.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Miss Ada Colley is here delighting everybody with her charming singing; Roland, with Miss Marjorie Morgan, gives his capital illusions, including the new one, "The Bachelor's Dream," which certainly causes surprise; the Empire Comedy Four present an artistic and funny part-song turn; Rhoda Paul pleases with her male impersonations; Ross and Lewis are a couple of exceedingly amusing comedians; Harry Bedford brings his latest ditties, including the Salome skit, "The Sheep's Head and the Tin-tack"; the Lukushimas find great favour by reason of their clever Japanese act; Little Pam is a neat comedian and dancer; the Musical Jees are as delightful as ever; and also in the bill is a dramatic episode by H. M. Vernon, entitled, *The Three Thieves*.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The big line here is George I., the performing chimpanzee, introduced by Dandy George; the Five Bohemians are gifted vocalists, who provide a capital turn; Mabel Thorne earns great popularity with her latest songs; Luis Hardt has a pretty scena, *In Days of Old*; the Sages are a couple of entertaining comedy burlesque artists; Tod Lowen amuses with his funny songs; Goodall and Knox are diverting acrobatic and patter comedians; a neat combination act of juggling, &c., is given by Redlop and Tilman; and Layton and Douglas go through some smart quick changes while playing instrumental solos.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—*The Fatal Wedding* is drawing large and appreciative houses on its return visit, a capital rendering being presented by Mr. Percy Williams' company. The specialities and choruses by the children are a strong feature, and deservedly applauded.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The bill includes Walter Foster and company, in a dramatic sketch *The Honour of the Family*; Geo. Norton, a clever vocal comedian, in funny songs and patter; Chas. Cole, light comedian; Chas. Jerome, coon comedian; and St. Ruth and Conyers, duettists. The Paris Floods form a striking series of pictures.

MAESTEG.—Town Hall Theatre.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—*Pete* was presented here for the first three nights of the week by Miss Inez Howard's company. The acting of Mr. G. R. J. Austin in the title-rôle was very fine and fully merited the loud applause received; Mr. G. P. Ellis' portrayal of Phillip Christian was exceedingly good; Mr. C. Horlock as Cæsar Cregan was very effective; the rôle of Kate Cregan was cleverly filled by Miss Margaret Savill; Miss Katie Flood was praiseworthy as Nancy. For the last three nights *Home, Sweet Home* is billed.

MANCHESTER.—Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company are here this week in *The Bad Girl of the Family*, which made so marked a success at the Grand Junction Theatre a week ago.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—This week a pleasing change is provided by J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood*, which is attracting good houses twice nightly. Excellent scenery and dresses distinguish the piece, and the cast leaves nothing to be desired. The story proper is capitally supported by Miss Marion Scott as Robin Hood, a dashing figure, and Miss Mary Dene as the winsome Maid Marion; while excellent fun is provided by Messrs. Brinsley Smith as Baron Kelly, Harry Rousby as Araminta, and Harry Conroy as Soft Sammy. Among the immortals, praise is due to Mr. Edwin Webb as Infernalito, and Miss Emmie Mappin as Sylvania for their excellent singing.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—*Little Phil's Mother*, last week's attraction at the Osborne Theatre, is drawing good houses here. The play is under the direction of Mr. Frank M. Thorne.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. William Watson's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is the attraction here, and is repeating the success it achieved at the King's Theatre. A strong feature is the inclusion of the Waldrons in the cast.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A welcome change here is the presentment of Mr. Ernest Stevens's comic and spectacular pantomime *Cinderella*. Elaborate staging and dressing distinguishes the production, and the cast is on a similar level of excellence. The prime honours are carried off by Mr. E. Statham Staples as the Baron, Hercules, whose diminutive figure and accomplished drolleries are employed to the very best advantage; and also by Mr. Alfred Clark as Tiny, his huge wife, who is a capital comic contrast. Mr. W. Leopold, jun., adds some clever work as Capers, the page; Misses Ethel Ramsay and Marianne Carozzi figure ably as the Elder Sisters; and smart impersonations are given by Mr. Harry Carlisle as the wrestling flunkey and Miss Dolly Hook as the Duke of Whistbridge. In the central rôles of the Prince and Cinderella Miss Agnes Tandy as the former and Miss Felicia Firmin as the latter are in every way adequate and pleasing; while Mr. Harry Ongar plays well as Dandini and Miss Dorothy Moulton sings nicely as the Fairy Godmother. Incidentally, some neat dancing is done by the Lottie Stone Troupe.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Signor Rosi's Italian ballet *Uncle Isadore*, including those wonderful dancers Signorina Luisa Patti, Signorina C. Mossetti, and Signor Marcella, is greatly to the front here this week. Sammy Shields, the popular Scotch comedian, scores a big success, as usual; Wallace Selkirk's scena *Our Empire's Defenders*, performed by one hundred Manchester children, is capital; Haines and Borthwick still delight with their capital sketch *Half-a-Dollar*; Frank Hartley does some smart juggling feats; the Georgia Coons give a good Dark Town entertainment; Stewart and Morgan please with their singing; Maizie Hibbs dances prettily; the Three Van Dammes are clever comedy acrobats and tumblers; and the Prince Milner Trio give a surprising performance in juggling, hoop-manipulating, comedy tumbling, and wire-walking.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—An excellent programme here this week is headed by Jan Rudenyi and his London company in *The Power of Music*, a very pleasing item; the Vampire dance, presented by Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss, is also a striking contribution; Fred Karno's *Football Match* adds to the amusement; Lawrence Barclay, the popular comedian, is well received, as usual; and Leo Dryden gives acceptable selections from his répertoire. Other good turns are Owen McGiveney, in Dickens impersonations; Chas. D'Aix and his dog, in a clever speciality; Lee and Kingston, the comedy duo; and Evelyn Taylor, a popular chorus comedienne.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—A capital programme here this week includes an amusing sketch, *Spooner's Baby*, full of humorous situations, well played by a first-rate company, including A

able work as Wanda and Miss Nettie Mitchell was sweetly sympathetic as Nadine. Miss Madge Palmer was excellent in the comedy part of Patty Woodlands.

NEATH.—GWYN HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. W. Robinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. George.—Boswell's Circus provides a good all-round entertainment. Ponies and dogs go through a remarkable performance, and the merry clowns create roars of laughter.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Tom Grave, the local lad, in his sensational feats of "Shooting the Bar" and "Whizzing the Wheel" in a motor-car, is the principal attraction here, and crowded houses nightly have witnessed his daring performances. The company throughout is of a high-class order, and includes Ernest Charles Gittins' company, who give in condensed form *The Daughter of the Regiment* and *The Bohemian Girl*; the Musical Marvels, vocalists and eccentric instrumentalists, are hard to beat; Elmo and Rego do some clever acrobatic work; and Hector and Lauraine are a smart pair of acrobatic comedians. In addition, there is Mahatma, the queen of second sight, assisted by Prof. Steen, and Amy Allnutt, a capital chorus singer.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company occupies the boards here in *A Royal Divorce*. As Napoleon Mr. Keith Fraser acts with much force and dignity; and Miss Violet Ellicott gives a graceful and touching representation of the Empress Josephine. Mr. Charles Stirling makes a good Marquis de Beaumont; and Miss Winifred Tempest's depiction of Marie Louise is all that could be desired. In the character of Talleyrand Mr. J. H. Roberts shows ability; and the rôle of General Augereau is in the capable hands of Mr. E. J. Collins. The staging and dresses are very attractive.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—The programmes submitted here are always excellent and in good taste. The Crisps in a dancing scena have made a big success; and Little Sophie, a clever youngster, has also scored well. The Harrison Bros. cause roars of laughter; and Mr. Mal Vern, in laughing songs; Mr. Colin Carlisle, light comedian; Miss Freda Hardene at piano; Miss and Mr. Zanoni in a juggling scena; and Mr. Edgar Forrest and company in sketch one and all delight the audience and receive enthusiastic applause. The animated pictures are first class.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—After a most successful season, Mr. Robert Arthur's pantomime, *Cinderella*, is to be withdrawn this week.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A brilliant audience assembled here on Monday to welcome Mr. William Mollison and Miss Annie Hughes, in *The Chorus Lady*. Miss Hughes gives a fine rendering of the part of Patricia O'Brien. Whether as the glib-tongued chorus leader or in the more serious scenes in which she is called upon to play, Miss Hughes is equally convincing. Mr. William Mollison has not a big part as Dick Crawford, but he plays it with his usual artistic polish; Mr. Henry Deas as Dan Mallory, the racing man, furnishes an ideal representation; and the rôle of Nora is pleasingly filled by Miss Elsie Vron Neville. Mr. Harold Neville is a very good Patrick O'Brien; Miss Josephine Woodward an admirable Mrs. O'Brien; and Miss Mabel Durrant a clever Sylvia. *A Breezy Morning* precedes.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—This week Mr. J. A. Campbell's company presents the romantic play, *From Convent to Throne*. The part of Lieut. Ernerto von Hapsburg is well interpreted by Mr. C. Wood; Miss Mary Fulton as Princess Maritrya imparts to her performance much intensity; and to Mr. W. Passmore great credit is due for his able representation of General von Hapsburg. The Maurice of Mr. A. F. Stuart is a clever piece of work; Mr. William G. Miller as Baron Streisau does full justice to a disagreeable character; and Mr. T. G. Vane as Lieut. Otto Telson is good.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—A huge success was scored here on Monday, when Messrs. F. W. Bolam and John Tiller's pantomime, *Jack and Jill*, commenced a fortnight's run. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote is a dashing principal boy, whose singing is one of the features of the production; and Miss Moyna Hill is a sweet principal girl. Mr. Will Lytton as the page Ginger proves himself to be a comedian of rare ability; Mr. Fred Walmsley is an excellent Baron; Mr. Ernest Rees a typical Dame; and Miss Cissie Iris and Glady Satchwell are delightful as the Babes.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Chas. T. Aldrich, an American versatile artist, is this week at the head of a fine bill here. Mr. Aldrich's performance is marked throughout by exceptional cleverness. A warm local favourite is Witty Watty Walton, fresh from his pantomime success; and another smart turn is provided by Will H. Fox, the well-known comedy pianist. Other capital items are presented by Florence Esdaile, vocalist; A Ba Bes, picture postcard novelty; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams; Farr and Farland, comedians and patterers; Talbot and Pearce, in Japanese musical duologue; and Alice Maydue, comedienne.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Walter Melville's company has presented here this week the sensational drama, *Her Second Time on Earth*. The part of Dora Grey is well portrayed by Miss Marie McAulay; Captain Jasper Norman is capitally played by Mr. Lonnen Meadows; and Jack Carlton, as played by Mr. Wingold Lawrence, is all that could be desired.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Wilde.—Ching Ling Soo heads the bill here with a mystifying performance that draws big houses; Olive Lenton, in a vocal scena, "Harvest Time," is appreciated; the Brothers Werde are a pair of amusing eccentrics; and Lester Carey, in illustrated songs is acceptable. Tom Stuart, character actor mimic, is deservedly popular; Musical Silvo, with his many musical novelties, is interesting; and Nina Wood, for songs at the piano, wins applause. The American Bioscope, showing a new series of interesting pictures complete the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—An entertaining "olla podrida" of vocalism, juggling, and conjuring is given by M. Escourt; Barron's Burlesque Menagerie is very amusing, and is highly appreciated, as is the gymnastic display of Cara Magdo; T. W. Lenner gives some good comic songs in a quaint style. Other good things are presented by Danton and Morris, Susie Dole, Florrie Wright, Ruby Celeste, and May Hallett, in a sketch, *Enery Brown*, and Sinclair's Mannikins.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company opened here on Monday with the Lyceum version of *The Christian*, which was greatly enjoyed by an appreciative audience. As John Storm Mr. R. Scrope Quentin was responsible for an excellent impersonation; Mr. Arthur D. Layland proved an able representative of Horatio Drake; Mr. John Blake presented a careful study of Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Edwin Ling gave a good rendering of Father Lamplugh; and Mr. Burton Yaldwyn a faithful embodiment of Archdeacon Wealthy. Miss Muriel Marsden in the character of Glory Quayle held the attention of the audience throughout; Miss Sissie Murdoch made an admirable Polly Love; and the remaining parts were all ably sustained.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—An enjoyable programme here is headed by the Kahn and Kahn Trio, in their magical illusionary and second-sight act, which has been heartily greeted; Jack Barie, Scotch comedian and dancer, is a very entertaining turn; the Sisters Lillian, duettists and ballad vocalists, delight all with their vocal efforts; K. Dunning, in a clever ventriloquial act, is warmly welcomed; Martinett and Wallace, coloured musical comedians, are loudly applauded; Wilford Gregory, the flexible marvel, is smart; Katie Ashton, comedienne and dancer, is well received; and the Palace Pictures are, as usual, up to date.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's charming and amusing pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, is here this week, and is being well patronised. Mr. Martin Haley as the Baron is highly amusing; Mr. Gus Walker as Nurse Prettypet creates much fun; Messrs. Harley and Melton as Weary Willie and Tired Tim evoke great laughter in their knockabout business; Mr. Bert Lloyd, a droll Pickles, has taking songs; the Sisters Lang as the Babes deserve much praise; Miss Gertrude Douglas as Robin Hood is a great favourite; Miss Verona Phillis as Maid Marian is charming; and Mr. Angus Strong as Will-o'-th'-Wisp and as King Richard was very successful, his songs being received with approbation. Miss Ethel Dancy is a graceful Fairy; and Miss Effie White is very good in the Fire Queen's dance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Edward Crossland's Melody Makers, in a musical scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, are much appreciated; Coram is well received for his exceptionally fine ventriloquial performance; Harry Russon, the actor-comedian, is greeted with much applause; the Austral Trio are a smart musical and variety turn; Bert Woodward, the bluffless biker, displays wonderful skill; Gicardo is a juggler of great ability; Harry E. Baker and Florence De Sales are amusing in their vocal and comedy turn; and Alice Winsome is a pleasing comedienne. The Hippodrome Bioscope pictures are very good.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The company of Mr. Wentworth Croke is here with *The Bondman*. A strong portraiture of Jason is given by Mr. Philip Darien, and Mr. Stanley Harrison well portrays the irresolute Michael; Miss Violet Macaree makes a thoroughly human Grecba, arousing hearty sympathy; Mr. F. J. Waller plays Dr. Boni in breezy style; Mr. H. Rotheram doubles the parts of Father Ferrati and Grandfather, and minor rôles are played with excellent effect by Misses Beatrice Hughes, Emelie Mayhew, Hilda Grey, Ethel Hartman, and Messrs. Sydney Stephens, C. A. Olgar, and Wilfred Beckwith.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Pantomime again holds sway, *The Fair One with the Golden Locks* being presented. Mr. James Chippendale leads the fun as Vinaigrette, and, assisted by Mr. W. Letters (Prince Pippin), Mr. Johnny Leoni (Taradiddle), Mr. Charles Calvert (General Slopoff), and Mr. Geo. Hudson (Admiral Bunker), contrives to keep the pace warm from start to finish. Miss Madge Brownie makes the Princess Affair, a charming creature, and is surrounded by an excellent number of court officials in Miss Irene Vere (Lord Chamberlain), Miss Mai Eve (Alicia), Miss St. Clair (Victorine), and Miss Lily Allchurch (a Good Fairy). Mr. Victor Crawford is comical as the Squire, and the May-fair Girls dance capitally.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*Gentlemen, the King* is a capital military episode, well portrayed by Henry Bedford, Evelyn Vernon, and an excellent company. A charming vocal entertainment by the Will o' the Wisps obtains the most generous applause; Marie Kendall's vivacious style finds many admirers; Matthews and Cowper are seen in a new sketch, and G. W. Hunter supplies some smart anecdotes and patter; Great and Good are an amusing pair of acrobats; the mysterious musician, To-To, is accorded a warm reception; Dacey and Lewis sing and dance acceptably, as also does Steve McCarthy, and Ruth Davenport is heard to great advantage in a song from *Dorothy*.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Chief interest centres in the elaborately staged *Concordia*, in which Percy Honri shows his marvellous ability for quick change, his numerous gorgeous costumes gaining great admiration. Alice Pierce gives impressions of celebrities in artistic and pleasing manner; The ventriloquial entertainment of Lieut. Travis is always acceptable; Metz and Metz dance themselves into favour; Arthur Reece contributes a new song in pleasant style; and an aquatic item by Kirk and Saraski gains applause. Lillie Belle and Fred Erick are also among the attractions.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—*The Angel of His Dreams* is being presented by Messrs. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company. Mr. De Gray capably depicts the Rev. Christian Esdaile; Mr. Wallace C. Campbell is good as Major Dudley Ferrars; Mr. Charles Arnold effectively portrays Sir Francis Tregarthen; Mr. Robert Hall does well as Roy Ferrars; Mr. May Stanley as Sam Tippett and Miss Etta Turner as Bessie Sparkles provide the humorous interludes of the play; Miss Edna Earl fills the rôle of Milly St. Austell with charming grace; Miss Effie Bartlett in the exacting character of Hilda Revelle is a success; and Miss Ida Thompson makes a winsome Lulu.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company presented for the first time here on Monday the fantastic musical play, *The Arcadians*. Miss Marion Edwards in the part of Sombra is greatly appreciated; Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea acts capitally; Mr. Gus Oxley as Simplicitas utilises to the full his opportunities for mirth-producing; Mr. Frank Collins as Peter Doody is very amusing; Miss Madge Haines as Mrs. Smith causes hearty laughter; Miss Mysie Devine as Eileen Cavanagh is excellent; and as Jack Meadows Mr. Roy Sidney acts well. Mr. Roy Lorraine is capital as Bobby, Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson is a masterful Sir George Paddock, and Mr. Frank Henry as Astrophel, and Mr. W. Dawson as Strephon are capital, Mr. Berkeley Davies as Father Time being worthy of notice.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, played by Mr. Walter Melville's company, is paying a return visit here. Miss Jessie Belmore as Sophie Coventry is interesting; Miss Florence Halton as Lucy is a capable actress; Mr. Chas. Ashwell is satisfactory as Jack Fenton; and James Harcourt is forcibly acted by Mr. William T. Riley; Mr. F. Ronald Adair as Willie Mason is a breezy jack tar; Miss Nannie Meade as Vesta Le Clere also acts very well; and Miss Nellie James as Poppy, and Mr. Bert Agate as Johnny Walker infuse some excellent comedy into their acting; Mr. Edwin Lever as Richard Fenton is capital; and Mr. John Brooks is very good as Bill Slater.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company in répertoire occupies the stage here on Monday evening. *Almost His Bride* was staged. Mr. A. F. Dudley as Philip Rowland acts in manly fashion; Jasper Thorne is ably delineated by Mr. R. F. Stacey; Miss Louie Peebles makes a sympathetic Mona Gilchrist; Miss Lily Prescott as Myra Thorne does well in a heavy part; and Miss Adele Liddon is good as Ruth; Miss Nellie Hook as Emma Baxter, and Mr. Stephen Pritt as Simon Simson are responsible for some capital comedy. The répertoire also includes *A Woman's Passion* and *His Wife No Longer*, both written by Mr. Pritt.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—The Four Royal Scots top the bill in a capital vocal and instrumental comedy act, which is well received; Emil Solbrig's Automatus are very amusing in their act, *A Day Out*; the Paul Kramer Troupe perform some daring feats of equilibrism on the trapeze; Guest and Newlyn are a smart couple as Hebrew and Soubrette; Chas. Pastor is a capable comedian; and Harry Maynard sings well. Nelly Martell is smart in her chorus songs, and the New York Nippers sing and dance in their usual clever style; the Palace Pictures are a capital feature.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—A great attraction is provided in Miss Violet Osmund's company, with *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Alexander Loftus is the life and soul of the piece as Bertie White; he works most assiduously, and there is not a dull moment while he is on the stage. Equally successful is Mr. Chas. Adeson as William White; and Mr. Chas. Sequin does remarkably well as Bonsor. Mr. Leslie Austen makes a robust Captain Loveday; and Mr. E. Sykes is natural as Colonel Claymore. In the title-rôle Miss Madge Prior is sprightly and attractive; Miss Marian Vyner is a capital Mary; Miss Murielo Mascot is good as Mabel; and Miss Vera Grafton portrays Brenda Louth with effect. The songs, which are rendered with great spirit, are well up to date, and there are frequent encores.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Haldane Crichton is presenting *The Cingalee*, the company being under the managership of Mr. Alfred Munro. Mr. F. Barclay distinguishes himself by an excellent embodiment of the Hon. Harry Vereker, his singing being particularly well appreciated; a humorous and entertaining portraiture of Chambuddy Ram is furnished by Mr. Hylton Wards; Mr. Frank Lennard gives a capital characteristic sketch of Boohamba; an admirable study of Sir Peter Loftus comes from Mr. Grafton Williams; Mr. Herbert Franklin essays with considerable success the part of Bobby Warren; and Mr. Frank Crichton is good as Myamgah. Miss Isa Bowman submits a delightful impersonation of Nanoya, singing effectively; Miss Florrie Greensmith is vivacious and enchanting in the rôle of Peggy Sabine; and Miss Ray Anderson is to be complimented on a clever and dignified presentment of Lady Patricia Vane. Others in the large cast all render sufficient and valuable aid, and the chorus is effective.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Premier position on the bill this week is occupied by Flo Stanley and her company in the tabloid musical comedy *The Prince of the Dandies*, in which Miss Stanley as Daisy Highclass and Mr. Arthur Watson as Sprouts give prominent displays; a sketch of a rather amusing nature entitled *The Concealed Bed* is capitally performed by Graham Moffat and company; Rosie Lloyd is a popular comedienne; George Pinder submits a wonderfully clever exhibition with his performing elephant and ponies; Captain Kettle, styled "the mysterious sailor," is entertaining; Tiny Arnold, "the diminutive comedienne," receives a capital ovation; William McNally is applauded for his dulcimer playing; and the Bioscope is both elevating and entertaining.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Miss Kitty Loftus and party were welcomed here in the 4th inst. by an appreciative audience. Miss Loftus is a bright and clever comedienne, and her songs secured much applause. Miss Gwladys Cotterell's violin solos roused the enthusiasm of her audience; Mr. Oldbury Brough kept the house in a merry mood with a couple of musical sketches; songs by Miss Violet Runciman were pleasingly rendered; excellent pianoforte solos were played by Mr. Geo. F. Boyle, who also ably accompanied throughout. The tour is under the direction of Messrs. Baring Bros.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—During the building of the new City Hall Hamilton's Excursion and Variety company are making their annual visit to Perth at the theatre. Under the guidance of Mr. Claude Howell, a most interesting trip round the world is taken. The variety company is quite up to the usual standard at these entertainments. Mlle. Rosini gives a delightful show with her wonderful dogs; and Cambo, the man monkey, is entertaining in his clever musical act; Spiridion is a clever juggler; Lilian Savardo gives a neat performance on the trapeze; and the Dunlops give a cycling act at once daring and amusing.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The Cheers, in an original scene from *Dick Whittington*, introducing their troupe of performing cats, are the chief attraction here, and have provided a most amusing entertainment; Ruby Roya is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; McKie and McKay give an acceptable turn; Maude Wilton has some good songs; the humorous patter of W. P. Sheen, "the Merry Widow Wimple," causes roars of laughter; Maude May Murray, in her electrical aerial dances, gains applause; Carl Lynn is accorded an enthusiastic welcome for his clever animal mimicry; and the Karnoscope shows some new pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Robinson Crusoe's* closing performances are as popular as the opening ones. Miss Topsy, the popular coloured artist, is precluded from appearing owing to indisposition, but Miss Alice King very ably deputises.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Charles Austin and company in *Parker, P.C.* are starred, and furnish a very amusing turn; Taree, the Australian musical bushman, extracts melody from a sixpenny mouth organ and toy harp; Cole and Rags, comedy acrobats and jugglers, perform wonderful feats in which humour and skill are mingled; Florence Kenyon's singing receives a remarkable demonstration of approval; Tom Woottwell does well with his clever character studies; Lilian May is a popular comedienne and dancer; and Walter Aubrey completes a fine programme.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—An excellent programme is provided for the patrons of this hall. Phil Rees' Stable Lads appear in a novel racing act, entitled *Not a Crook*; May St. Hilda, in a song scena, *The Studio*, captivates her audiences; Marguerite Ismay and her White Coons give a pretty vocal and dancing act; Le Diabolo presents a sensational act, "Looping the Devil's Wheel," which he concludes by riding on the outside of the wheel down an incline of 50 degrees into a net. Other turns are The Danbys, comedians; Clarence Sefton, comedienne and dancer; Vincent, acrobatic table tumbler; and the Alexcope.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Wm. Maclaren and company present *Claudian*, which is admitted to be one of the best plays staged at this theatre. The scenery and effects are excellent, and the dresses beautiful. Mr. Wm. Maclaren is a very fine Claudian, and Miss Lily C. Bandban is a charming Almida. Praise is due to all the members of the company.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. H. S. Davies and Phillips.—Mr. C. W. Poole is here with a fine show, and good houses are the order of the week.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The first visit of the *King of Cadonia*, presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's company, both from a spectacular and playgoer's view is an unqualified success. Mr. Bertie Wright as the Duke of Alasia finds ample scope for his native humour, and gravity and romance are embodied in Mr. J. Warren-Foster's rendering of the King; Miss Alice Moffatt, a graceful and charming Princess, in conjunction with the King sings pleasingly some duets. A typical specimen of a comic opera General is seen in Mr. Jack Martin; Mr. Cameron Carr is successful as Captain Laski; Mr. Edward Thirlby imparts considerable humour to the part of Bran; Miss Molly Keen impersonates Militza with brightness and vivacity; and the stern Duchess has a suitable exponent in Miss Florence Lelgarde.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—This week Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company present *The Old Home*. Mr. Charles Franmore gives an excellent reading of the part of Daddy Dean; and Miss Nina Blake Adams as Hazel Dean makes a charming heroine.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Barren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Lilian Rosebery, Carter Livesey, and company are seen to great advantage here in an amusing sketch entitled *The Would-be Actors*; Fred Land, eccentric comedian, sings three songs at lightning speed, and is heartily applauded; Devon and Earle are wooden-shoe experts; and George D'Albert is popular. Other successful turns are: The Five Musical Palmers; Mab Hopwood, soubrette; the Woelhaffs, vaudevillists; Johnny Cecil, comedian; the Dancing Gilberts; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The star turn this week is Mlle. Liane d'Eve, whose dancing, songs, and transformations win great applause; mental telepathy and thought-reading have clever exponents in the Howard Bros.; the Donaldson Bros., in their well-known animal act find favour; Arthur Rigby sings capably as usual; and other favourites are Josephine Sable, Kelly and Agnes, Maria Pera, in her comedy duologue, "Two Doors and a Passage," Rosie Sylvester, and Mather and Mayer.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Top of the bill is Vonetta, a lightning Protean actress, in a local nautical musical comedy, *A Fair Exchange*, is presented by Herbert Dickeson and company; a novel equilibristic turn is given by Kiners-Moulin; Eastbury is expert in clay modelling; the Six Brothers Luck are entertaining in their sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*; and Louie Tracey, Elsie Ellis, Stelling and Love, Nora Beverley, Clare and Pastor, and Mlle. Pollo, and accomplished gymnast also contribute. Mr. Geo. Alexander and company with *The Importance of Being in Earnest*, were billed for Thursday's flying matinée.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. George Dance's principal company, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, is responsible for the notices "House Full" or "Standing Room Only" this week. The company is a remarkably strong one. Mr. Tom Shelford is irresistibly droll as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Ernest Darrella is a most impressive Earl of St. Ives; Mr. J. E. Stevenson an admirable Slithers; and Mr. R. M. Strachan a typical Mr. Toplady. Mr. Crauford Kent is well suited to the part of Lord Eynsford; Mr. Henry de Solla is quite at home as Mr. Beavis; and Mr. Amalfy is capitally portrayed by Mr. Murray Stephen. Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs is very funny throughout; Miss Gladys Ivery is a winsome Lady Elizabeth; Miss Nancy Hervyn sings excellently Mme. Jeanne's song in the first act; Miss Winifred Knightly makes a distinguished Duchess of Minster; Miss Jennie Richards an ideal Mrs. Farquhar; and Miss Hilda Grundy as Mary Gibbs succeeds in bringing down the house by her charming impersonation.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. R. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, is here, Miss Florence Lewis, a fine Robinson Crusoe, and Carlotta Wood as Pollie Perkins are firm favourites; Mayde Rowse is excellent as Tom Bowling, as is also Maisie Dainton as Lieut. Sprite; Bertha Collins secures her full share of applause as Susan; Syd Benson as Will Atkins, Fred C. Fields as Billy Crusoe, and Mark Lane as Dame Crusoe cause endless amusement, as do also Williams and Warden as Nab and Grabham; R. A. Byland does well as the Cannibal King; and the Countess as the Cannibal Queen and Thursday are most successful in their speciality turn. Mr. J. H. Wakefield is a capital Friday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Spessill Brothers and Mack, American eccentrics, in *Scenes in a Café*, are novel knockabouts; Zanora and Berg, American cyclists, prove themselves masters of the wheel; Ted Waite, the spasmodic comedian, is very funny; and Rowlands and Ford, Welsh and Scotch comedians, contribute some catchy duets, patter, and dancing. Dora Barrington, in an opera song-scena, assisted by Miss Leslie Gray, is a most refined turn; and F. V. St. Clair is as popular as ever. Spry and Bently's comedy-drama, *The Terror of Tierney's Rents*, is cleverly rendered.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—At the Royal Palace Theatre during the past week Mr. Graham Falcon's company has been giving keen enjoyment to good audiences with the bright pantomime *Little Bo-Peep*. The story of the proprietress of the missing sheep is well told (with, of course, the usual extraneous wealth of fun and fancy), and the performances are relished not only by the young children, but also by children of a larger growth. Miss Flora Morris is a charming Bo-Peep, and her songs go with a rare swing; Miss Mabel Kesler as Boy Blue not only displays cleverness as a pantomime artist, but also marked talent as an instrumentalist; Miss Dorothy Douglas is charming as Sylvania, the good fairy, her singing being much admired. Mr. Harry Howe as Dame Durden contributes in large measure to the fun of the production; and the humorous element is also capitally sustained by Messrs. Ernest Hans as Bill Bash, Will Lux as Chris Chrash, Mr. F. G. Royde as Baron Budget, and Jack Selway as Simon. Miss Ruby Carter makes a dashing Prince Pastorelle; and Miss Cissie Lenore plays with graceful effect as Marjorie Daw. Mr. Gavin Wood sings particularly well as Lemuel Lea; and the other parts are in good hands. To tuneful music, capable acting, and smart dancing there is a setting of pretty scenery.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here this week in *The King and the Unknown Woman*. The cast includes Mr. Wellesley Draper as Prince Loris, Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson as Prince Menski, Mr. W. R. Winning as General Platz, Mr. Cyril Harrison as Captain Gara, Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Corporal Stack, Mr. Fred R. Roper as Keloff, Mr. C. H. Henderson as General Bralneff, Little Elsie Clark as Cascar, Miss Violet Carlyle as Zora, Miss Gertrude Sterroll as the Countess Melvitch, and the Misses Hella Richmond, Cissie Padmore, and Ada Douglas. The characters are all sustained with ability, and the play is admirably staged.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—Stage-Manager, Mr. Albert Burridge.—Taylor's troupe of elephants go through a wonderful performance in which their docility and high state of training are amply demonstrated; Emie Dainton is a pleasing comedienne; David and Marriott appear to advantage in a clever musical scena; Ward and Davies present a very amusing musical comedy duologue, entitled *Wanted, a Typist*; the Sisters Harcourt, comediennes, are well received; Roze and Calvert as Captain Kettle and his charming Mate provide a good turn; Vendome and Chase exemplify different styles of dancing very gracefully and effectively; the De Wynne Brothers give an excellent athletic display; Jack Hayworth, Scotch character comedian, is very diverting; and a Japanese scene is well depicted on the Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Pantomime fare is again provided for the patrons here, Mr. Charles Barnard's *Babes in the Wood* being the attraction. Fun and jollity prevail throughout, and the whole performance goes without a hitch. Miss Gracie Grahame makes a dashing Robin Hood, and scores with her songs; Miss Violet Nunn is a piquant Maid Marion, her vocalism being much enjoyed; the Sisters Du Cane are prominent as Will Scarlet and Daisy Buttercup; Miss Mabel Reeve and Miss Ena Corelli make a most effective and charming pair of Babes; Codwell and Verne are amusing as Sally Slop and Percy Perkins; and Nash and Noel as Timothy Boxys and Roger Hatys are comedians whose patter and humour keep the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Dan Weldon as the Demon King Envy and Miss Ethel Payne as Fairy Content fulfil these traditional parts with marked success.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here again with the powerful drama, *Who is She?* with Mr. James Stillwell as an admirable Prince Vladimir; the villainous Prince Bora is excellently presented by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan; Mr Charles Rogers carefully portrays the humour of Captain Arthur Gower; Mr. Alfred Grenville is a fine old soldier as Sergeant Metroff; much laughter is caused by Mr. Willie Hicks (Paul), Mr. Bernard Leill (Chang Lee), and Miss Norma Dumayne (Sarette); Miss Georgette Thierry plays the title-rôle with considerable force; Miss Constance Medwyn does well as Keta Noveitch; Countess Laori is impressively sustained by Miss Alice Barber; and the little King has a good exponent in Miss Mabel Ronald.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Joe Peterman and George Ricketts in the sketch *The Pawnbroker*, with their company, keep the audience in roars. *The Married Widow* is also a very amusing sketch, cleverly presented by Fred Moule, Brenda Maxton, Walter Cross, and Dora Fisher. Alfonso Silvano does some very sensational head-balancing. Other acceptable turns are given by George James, comedian; Tom E. Dean, comedian; Whitworth Trio, trick cyclists; Irene Meldon, vocalist and dancer; Clown Paulo and his clever pony, Tiger; Blair and Allen, in song and dance. The Bioscope panorama of Paris under water are very good clear films.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—The Australian comedian, Billy Williams, heads an excellent programme and gets much applause; *Toplitzky, or, the End of the World*, is an amusing sketch under the direction of Hayman and Franklin; the Brothers Hayes do some smart dancing; the Two Kays in novel speciality, J. P. Ling, mimic, Boys of England, in Barrack Room Ballads, Will Rhodes, droll singing comedian, George Hull, comedian and whistler, and Seeley West Rhodesia, in juggling, mirth and music, also contribute plenty of good entertainment.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Miorsky Four, acrobatic musical eccentrics, prove exceedingly diverting; Mr. Tom Child's vocal contributions are greatly appreciated; Kydd and Kydd make a decided hit as patter comedians; Miss Ethel Wilford is distinctly successful in the comedy monologue *That Red Seal*; Martin Remo is a highly entertaining comedian; F. L. Wylie is very amusing; and Melia and Mozarabar are smart equilibrists, who introduce their highly-trained pigeons and ravens.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*Only a Little Boy* is the attraction here. It is well played by Miss Dot Forde in the title-rôle; Mr. F. Marriott Watson as Jim Bragstone; Mr. Oswald Douglas, Steve Kingdom; Mr. Cecil Raymond, Joshua Snell; Miss Hettie Seymour, Debora Pennington; Master Harry Duff, Rag-Tag O'Flynn; and Miss Florence E. Florence as Jane Bragstone.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Business-Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Mr. and Mrs. Rice Cassidy and company are appearing here in *Seaweed*, with Mr. Rice Cassidy as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh; Miss Ada Roscoe, the Duchess Olga; Mr. Tom Royndon, the Duke Sergius Rubinoff; Mr. Villiers Stanley, Allen Armstrong; Miss E. Kay, the Office Boy; and Mrs. Rice Cassidy as Seaweed. The play is well staged and the dresses very good.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kierman.—Miss Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's company is here with the pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor*. Miss Lily Simmons appears to advantage in the title-rôle, her rendering of the various musical numbers being well received; Miss Dolly Andrews is a pretty and attractive Princess Yazora; and Captain Selim is dashingly portrayed by Miss Gladys May; Irza being capably handled by Miss Kitty Russell. Mr. J. Riche gives able assistance as King Kr

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Brought to Terms.

This is a Selig film and a very good one too. Couple by couple, a party of hen-pecked husbands, with their wives, call upon Mr. Brown, another who is domineered by his wife. Upon their entering Brown's residence each overawed husband is likewise overweighted with his muchly multiplied progeny. The object of these ladies calling on Mrs. Brown is to discuss the woman question, and the ways and means wherewith to rule their husbands in a manner even more effective than they have hitherto done. With utter lack of ceremony, our gentlemen friends, still carrying their children, are unceremoniously rushed into a room adjoining that wherein the meeting is to be held. They are dejected at the treatment thus received, and while the wives are in debate as to the proper procedure to further intimidate their spouses, one of the gentlemen conceives an idea whereby, he tells his co-mates, he can subjugate these termagent better halves. His friends are all excitement as he makes his hurried departure through a window. He rushes to the city rat-catcher's place of business near by, and purchases a trap full of rats and immediately returns to his now semi-delighted friends, exhibits his rats, then cautiously opening the door between the two rooms, lets the rats escape from the trap among the still altercating and debating women. Pandemonium results. The wives, horrified, with skirts drawn tight and ankles doing a Comanche war dance, rush to their husbands, beseeching them to exterminate the pests. At first husbands are indignant and refuse, but upon further pleading, they enter the room just vacated by their wives and thoroughly satisfied with the success of their scheme, do away with the rats, and assuming the same domineering attitude towards the women as had hitherto been their own bane of existence, they proceed to their respective homes, elated and contented. But this time the wives carried the children.

The Axenstrasse.

The famous Axenstrasse, from Brunnen to Fluelen, Switzerland, that noted walk, with its mountain galleries carved from the solid rock, on the east bank of Lake Lucerne, is strikingly depicted in the latest Ambrosio film, 296ft. long, to be had from Warwick's. The interest is enhanced by the proximity of the St. Gothard Railway, which adjoins. Amongst the many places shown are Fluelen, the valley of Reuss, and the chapel of William Tell.

Birds on the Bioscope.

New life-motion studies of birds and animals in natural tints will be shown on the Palace Theatre bioscope next week. Mr. Charles Urban will give a demonstration of his system of coloured photography—"Kinemacolor"—before the Fellows of the Zoological Society on Feb. 15.

Aviation Pictures.

The Essanay Co., 4, Rupert-street, W.C., have photographed the whole of the proceedings of the aviation meeting at Los Angeles, California. The first copies will arrive in London on Feb. 16. There is every reason to believe that this picture will be the very best that has ever been taken of the flying men and their machines, for the weather was perfect at the time, and California is one of the finest places in the world for photography. At this meeting Mons. Paulhan beat all the world's high-flying records.

Film House Record.

Messrs. Tylers have sent us a neat little pamphlet, entitled "The Film House Record." As might be expected, it deals with the latest films released by the firms located at this Gerrard-street depôt. "The Film House Record" was decided upon as the easiest way of keeping showmen not in personal touch with "Film House" acquainted with its various productions. Each week advance descriptions will be given of the new films issued by Cricks and Martin (Lion's Head Brand Films), Cosmopolitan Film Co. (British and Colonial, Comerio, and other makes) and Walter Tyler, Ltd. (Itala and Eclair Films), and many other items of news regarding these firms which are likely to interest buyers and hirers of films. The "Record" will be sent post free to any showmen sending a post card to any of the above firms at the Film House, Gerrard-street, London, W.

The Terror and the Terrier.

This is a Cricks and Martin picture, and the release date is Feb. 11. A mischievous boy steals the dog while its rightful owner is enjoying a refresher in a public-house, and, running along the road with it, encounters a policeman. Incited by the boy, the dog gets a good grip of the latter and pulls him to the ground; and further along seizes a long plait of hair hanging down the back of a schoolgirl talking to some friends. Other victims follow in quick succession. By tugging at some sacks in a coster's barrow the animal upsets both the latter and its owner to the ground; and a little further along there is a warm argument with a blind beggar's dog, which ends in the mendicant coming to grief. A serious chase after the two mischief-makers ensues, and there is a very lively time for everybody. The length is 310ft.

County Council Shirks Licensing.

At the Colchester Town Council meeting last week, Alderman Goody moved, and Mr. Baker seconded, a resolution in support of one passed by the Justices to the effect that the powers of the Essex County Council in regard to the granting of cinematograph licences should be delegated to the justices. The resolution was carried.

From Chapel to Theatre.

The old Surrey Chapel in Blackfriars-road, S.E., of which the Rev. Rowland Hill was for fifty years the pastor, is being converted into an electric theatre.

Another New Vint Theatre.

Mr. Arthur Brogden, general-manager for Mr. Leon Vint's Electric Palaces, is leaving Kettering next week to take up his residence at Barry Dock, where he has another of Mr. Vint's new houses to open on the 21st of the present month.

Biograph Theatres, Limited.

The directors announce an interim dividend for the quarter ended Feb. 1 at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, payable on Feb. 11 to all shareholders registered on Feb. 5.

New Companies.

Staffordshire Cinematograph Co. (Ltd.).—Feb. 3. £25,000, in 46,000 Pref. shares of 10s. each, and 20,000 Def. shares of 2s. each.

American Express Film Service, Ltd. (107,148).—Private company. Registered Jan. 26, with capital £1,000 in £1 shares, to carry on the business of hirers, buyers, sellers, and letters to hire of and agents for cinematograph films and lantern slides, &c. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, £25. Registered by T. T. Hull and Son, 22, Chancery-lane, W.C.

Sacred and Educational Animated Picture Co., Ltd. (107,188).—Private company. Registered Jan. 27, with capital £1,000 in £1 shares, to carry on the business of providers of entertainment and animated pictures, &c. G. H. Cricks and A. J. G. Silenzi may each nominate a director while holding 50 ordinary shares. Registered by W. H. Cahill, 22, Basinghall-street, E.C.

New Eldorado, Ltd. (107,134).—Private company. Registered Jan. 25, with capital £2,000 in £1 shares, to carry on the business of theatrical, musical, cinematograph, and general entertainment organisers, managers, and agents, &c. Table "A" mainly applies. Registered by J. B. and F. Purchase, 14, Regent-street, S.W.

Staffordshire Cinematograph Co.—Feb. 3, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £25,000 (46,000 10s. pref. and 20,000 2s. deferred). As title. Minimum subscription, 10 per cent. of shares offered to public.

Hastings and St. Leonards Roller Skating Rinks and Electric Theatres (Ltd.).—Feb. 5. £8,000 in £1 shares. St. Andrew's-buildings, Cornwallis-street, Hastings.

At Westminster Palace.

Manager Douglas Payne has crammed his bill this week with good things. The pictures are the latest and best, and that part of the programme to which various artists contribute is deserving of especial mention. Topping the bill is sweet-voiced Sybil Lonsdale, whom we remember not so long ago as a talented member of the stock company of the London Coliseum. Jack Morris and George Marte give us a lively ten minutes of singing, talking, and dancing. That smart little soubrette Lottie Lee and ditto ditto Connie Duprez, together with Edward Mortimer, are very pleasant numbers to remember. In fact the whole entertainment is of the brightest. It should be recorded that at the last moment Mr. Payne made a special engagement for this week only of the Three Specialities, in their successful vocal harmony act, entitled *The Soldiers and the Nursemaid*. This act was a great hit.

Slight Strand Fire.

Some excitement was created in the Strand late last Tuesday night by a mishap at the "Fonematograph" electric theatre, 53, The Strand. Owing to a film catching fire in the chamber at the back of the screen the place began to fill with smoke. The audience were all safely conducted from the building, and the fire was extinguished before the arrival of the brigade.

Ealing Cinematograph Theatre.

Well within the first month of its opening this well-appointed house has amply justified its existence, indeed, so excellent have been the box office receipts that Mr. George Leybourne, who commands here, has found it necessary to abolish the threepenny seats and rely solely upon his sixpenny and shilling patrons to fill the house. Mr. Leybourne already speaks of "records," and aims at making the fine suite of rooms attached to the theatre a meeting-place, lounge, and club of the first order. Following a now almost universal custom, tea and coffee at moderate prices, and served by prettily-uniformed maids, may be obtained in all parts of the house.

Enfield Empire.

This cosily fitted-up hall has now been open to the public a fortnight, and we understand that the proprietors are extremely satisfied with the amount of patronage already received. The programme is changed twice each week (Mondays and Thursdays).

Birmingham Theatre de Luxe.

The Assembly Room of the Birmingham Masonic Hall has just been opened as a "Theatre de Luxe" for the exhibition of cinematograph productions, under the management of Electric Theatres (1908), Limited. To adapt it for this purpose the hall and its approaches have undergone considerable redecoration, including the blocking up of the windows with ornamental panelling corresponding to the mural design of the rest of the room. The floor is covered with a rich crimson carpet, upon which are placed some 350 tip-up stalls, upholstered in a pleasant tone of green plush. Over the platform is a screen 18ft. by 13ft. 6in., framed in gold, upon which are thrown the illustrations. Two of the latest pattern bioscope machines are used alternately so as to avoid any delay in changing the films. A soft ruby light prevents the room being in complete darkness when the pictures are being displayed, and at intervals it is fully illuminated for a few moments to facilitate the exit and entrance of visitors. Continuous exhibitions are given daily from 2 p.m. till 11 p.m. The resident management of the theatre is in the hands of Mr. Fletcher, who comes from the same company's "Theatre de Luxe" in the Strand, London.

Bradford Mechanics' Institute Lectures.

At the Bradford Mechanics' institute last week Mr. Henry Hibbert gave his second lecture on his travels "Off the Beaten Track Through the Land of the Vikings." A feature of the lecture was a number of most interesting animated pictures which were being shown for the first time. The audience saw the streets of the famous old cathedral town of Trondhjem, for instance, as they appear from the top of a tramcar. At Tromso the lecturer found a store containing a pile of polar bear, fox, and other skins, very tempting to the traveller in search of presents for friends at home. But the storekeeper assured him that the skins all came to her from London, whither in the first place they had been sent. The views included a number of charming seascapes, and particularly fine was an animated picture showing a great number of gulls hovering in the wake of a ship.

Cowdenbeath Picture Palace.

The Picture Palace, under Mr. M'Queen's management, continues to maintain its reputation as a place of entertainment where one is always certain to get a capital evening's enjoyment. The house is crowded nightly. The competitions put forward by Mr. M'Queen prove great sources of attraction. The latest, a beauty show, for which there was an exceedingly numerous entry, was an outstanding success.

Rotunda, Dublin, Closes.

The Irish Animated Picture Co. concluded a most successful season in the Rotunda last Saturday night.

Guildford—West's Pictures.

The cinematograph entertainments at West's picture palace, which have proved so popular since they were started at the beginning of the winter, have been discontinued until further notice in consequence of the licence under the new Act being refused at Kingston, it being stated that the building did not conform with the requirements of the Act. The County and Borough Hall licence was granted to the secretary, Mr. F. H. Elsley, who appeared in person, provided that the cinematograph was erected in the gallery, and the public was excluded from that part of the building.

Aldershot.—Alexandra Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Crocker.—Under the new management of Mr. H. Crocker, who is well-known in theatrical circles, an excellent programme is presented this week. The chief film is Through the Breakers, whilst others equally interesting are The Pretty Violin-Player, Coliono Goes Shopping, A Discussion on Politics, The Mountaineer's Honour, Lily Farrar is successful in a song scena, "Bubbles."

Wide World Pictures.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—For the first part of the week this hall has been closed. On Thursday it opened with a fine selection of films.

Arbroath.—D.E.F. Picture Hall.—Lessee, Mr. George J. Melvin; General-Manager, Mr. Val Del; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hutton.—This place of amusement is crowded every evening. Some very fine pictures were shown on Monday night. A gruesome but very effective picture was The Legend of Ghosts; up to date and realistic were the Paris Floods; very humorous and entertaining were Auntie's Return, The Mad Dogs, and John Smith of New York; very fine and pathetic films were After Twenty Years and A Motherless Waif. At intervals Mr. J. R. McFarlane, a young Scotch comedian, sang some very funny and original songs. A matinée and entire change of pictures are given every Saturday afternoon at three o'clock. The old theatre is doing good business.

Ashton-under-Lyne.—The New Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—There is quite a unique series of films shown here this week of the disaster at Paris, the great overflow of the waters of the Seine. It is a city in flood, and the streets are, like Venice, canals, but, unlike Venice the waters are destructive and have worked havoc. It is something new to see the great 'Change drama, A Corner in Wheat—the avaricious men who make money by the suffering of the people. The Arrest of the Duchess De Berry a French episode of 1832, is a fine drama, and full of interest to the spectator. The Test is a story of absorbing character, and Dick Donovan is another of those exciting detective thrills which are watched with pleasure. Will Willis, comedian; Hermia, novel gladiator and heavy-weight lifter, and Dick Livesey, ventriloquist, are each clever in their specialities.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—This week's bill includes the Roman picture of the Patrician and the Slave, a beautiful costume play. The Vandeen Rebel is also a very fine dramatic series of events. Woman's Treachery is quite a series of thrills. The variety turns are a clever singing comedian, a comical fellow, and Miss Vinnie Beldon, a dusky princess who wins great favour as a young performer in song and graceful motion.

The Picturedrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The manager here has engaged first-class variety talent for this week's business, in addition to the usual quantum of cinematograph pictures. The celebrated Muncaster Company appear in the dramatic episode *False Evidence*, the following enacting the characters with much ability: Miss Nina Vaughton, Miss Louie Heathfield, Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, and Mr. Alfred D. Adams.

Attercliffe.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—An interesting programme of pictures this week include An Indian Runner's Romance, The Country Doctor, The Beggarman's Gratitude, The Love Token, Treacherous Gaucho, Mr. Pokenose, Out With It, and The Explorer's Dream. Mr. George Loukes, a popular local comedian, is meeting with success.

Picture Palace.—Lesse, Mr. Matt. Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The principal pictures here this week are In the Shadow of Death and The Poacher's Revenge. Others of an interesting character are Soldier's Servant, Kidnapper Turns Rescuer, Mother of the Condemned, and another of the Foolshead series. A pleasing interlude is furnished by Mr. Dan Gregory, musical clown and jester.

Ayr.—Picture Palace.—Pictures have caught on here. Prominent among the films shown this week are The Gold Digger's Son, giving a vivid incident of life in the goldfields, The Maid of Saragossa is intensely interesting, and the singing picture, Bravo; Territorials, is a popular item. A complete change of pictures is intimated for the latter half of the week, and will include The French Spy, the famous military picture, The Ordeal, The Calendar, and The Mad Drainpipe.

Birmingham. — King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—There are several excellent pictures on the programme this week, chief amongst them being an exciting subject entitled *The Two Brothers*. Other features include The Restoration, A Midnight Adventure, Arrested for Pleasure, &c. Good variety turns are given by The Neimans, wire-walkers and gymnasts; and Mlle. Epardo, tight-rope artist. The entertainment is enjoyed by crowded audiences.

Queen's Hall. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Audiences here have a splendid programme of up-to-date pictures and vaudeville, one of the best films illustrating the adventures of a Sioux Indian. The comic subjects are a good feature, and include the new picture Mother-in-Law Learning to Ride.

Blackburn. — Central Hall. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. Arbury; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. W. Page.— The pictures this week include the following: Coco's Wedding, Jane Made One of the Family, A Day Off, A Fickle Girl, The Mirror of Life, The Short Sighted Sportsman; A Corsican's Romance is a beautifuly coloured film, and shows the power of circumstantial evidence. The Little Urchin is also a very beautiful film. Building a Transcontinental Railway depicts the Grand Trunk Pacific busily engaged on their coast-to-coast route, from Halifax, N.S., to British Columbia, Canada. The Tough Beef Steak and What Happened to Brown are two laughable comics. To Save Her Soul is a splendid dramatic film, and is reminiscent of a celebrated play of another name. During the evening songs were sung by Mr. James Ainsworth.

Exchange Hall.—Manager, Mr. E. Gray.—The programme this week provided by Messrs. Raymonds includes The Ruse that Failed, Cure for Cowardice, Incorrigible Mary, Cleopatra, 42 B.C., In Little Italy, The Late Guest, Foolshead as a Naughty Boy. Her Sister's Sin is a strong dramatic film dealing with a girl whose sister on her dying bed confesses a sin. Musical selections are given by the Scarlet Band.

Bridlington.—Royal Victoria Rooms.—Manager for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The animated pictures continue to attract large audiences, and the constant change of films gives Mr. Palmer's patrons a regular succession of the best in animated photography. A very fine picture is that of Napoleon and the Priest, and an equally effective one of ancient times is The Pompeiian Martyress. A charming coloured film is entitled the Golden Spider, and the Siren's Necklace is also good. The comic pictures include The Cripple and the Bicyclist, Lessons in Hypnotism (a most laughable film), and Papa's Honeymoon.

Brighton.—Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—Prominent among the animated pictures exhibited here this week is one which vividly represents the Floods of Paris. The Brighton Railway Disaster is also a finely-descriptive film. Dramatic incidents are conveyed by The Expiation and the Brigand's Kindness of Heart; and the amusing pictures included in the programme are Birthday Affairs, How the Landlord Collected the Rent, True Love Never Runs Smooth, The Butcher's Bill, and Mr. Gadabout's Beano. Mr. Osland Denner contributed baritone songs in good style.

Canterbury.—St. Margaret's Hall.—There is no abatement in the interest of the public in the Picture Palace entertainments. This week's great attraction is the splendid film of Nero, and the Burning of Rome. There is a host of other very amusing and entertaining films, one of the most successful being Beethoven and the Blind Girl, A Moonlight Sonata, and How the Cook got Married.

Carlisle.—New Public Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—The Death Disc, a story of the days of Cromwell, is a very powerful and thrilling picture; Arnold the Traitor is another that is very much in favour. Across the Glaciers is full of beautiful scenery and exciting adventures; and a very pretty comedy is told in The Miniature. Humour figures largely in The Wedding of Cocô and The Wonderful Hair Remover.

Croydon.—Electric Theatre.—The week's pictures here are exceptionally good, and are attracting satisfactory audiences. Humorous and serious subjects are blended with care and discrimination, and the management deserve warm congratulations upon the success of their enterprise.

Dewsbury. — Industrial Hall. — Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—An excellent display of pictures is shown here this week. Maud Muller is a picture adapted from the poem by T. G. Whittier; The Story of Circus Life is another picture-drama which is full of interest; The Broken Locket, a pathetic drama, meets with approval; Drowsy Dick's Dream and Found in a Taxi are two very amusing films, which cause much laughter. Illustrated vocal scenas are given at intervals.

Dundee.—Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The programme associated with this popular house is of quite an entertaining order this week, and gives the greatest satisfaction to Mr. Lunn's numerous patrons. A very humorous picture is Adventures of a Smoker, and during the unfolding of the various scenes the house simply rocks with laughter. A Corner in Wheat is a very fine picture, and amongst the others shown are The Dance of Fire, The Cure of Cowardice, and A Day Off. Mr. Lunn by his tact and courtesy has made many friends here.

Edinburgh.—Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Dramatic subjects abound in this week's programme, A Corner in Wheat, a fine American subject, being one of the most popular. But there are others, The Lady Detective and Up San Juan Hill, which are both excellent. Scroggins shows in a comical manner how a candidate had a nasty time while in the throes of the election. Allsopp and Beckwith are capable comedians, and Miss Maude Miller pleases the audience by her charming singing.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Up-to-date, as usual, Mr. Sanders is this week showing all the latest pictures. Dove Eye's Gratitude (by a new American company) is a story of an Indian girl's thankfulness to her rescuer; Through the Breakers represents a thoughtless mother's repentance; and The Smuggler's Daughter shows how a smuggler began a new life. There is no lack of humorous films, which cause hearty laughter, such as A Free Pass to the Theatre, Calinio's Fire Extinguisher, and An Unending Discussion. Mr. David Dunlop, ventriloquist, adds variety to the programme.

Glasgow. — Gaiety. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The picture programme here this week is up to the usual high standard, and the good audiences are maintained. The interesting films presented (among many others) depict Lieutenant Rose and the Robbers of Fingal's Cave, On the Border, The Timid One, Why They Married, Burglary by Airship, and the historical pictorial drama, Lancelot and Elaine. There is, in addition, a variety programme, which is well sustained by Demi and Semi, instrumentalists and vocalists, and Billy Macks, the Boy Scout vocalist.

Gravesend. — New Public Hall.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.— Recently a popular picture palace has been instituted here, and this week the audiences have been highly pleased with the following items:—The Floods of Paris, The Celebration of Yokohama's Jubilee, The Stampede, Princess Nicotine, Restoration, Matthew on the Spree, Cupid's Loaf, and Up the Pole. Alfred Manton as a light comedian receives much applause for his singing and dancing; and Mr. X, the American magician and wonder-worker, gives a fine exhibition of conjuring.

Greenock.—Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank L. Clayton.—The animated pictures here are excellent and up to date, and prove highly attractive. This week's selection includes Up San Juan Hill, dealing with incidents of the Spanish-American War, Through the Breakers, Tsing-Fu, Two Suitors, A Good Lesson, The Fisherman's Bride, and illustrated songs by Eddie Malley.

Hanley.—King's. — Lessees, Messrs. Moore and Kennedy; Manager and Operator, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This is the most popular picture palace in the Potteries, and the enterprise of the management is being well responded to by huge houses. The chief pictures are The Minister's Daughter and The Child Benefactor. Kitty Keyworth sings a couple of charming songs.

Kettering. — Vint's Electric Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—An excellent programme of pictures is submitted this week, and large audiences are crowding each performance. Briton and Boer, From Cabin Boy to King, The Duchess of Masovia, and Digger Stanley v. Walsh are starred. The variety is supplied by The Taffies and Will Owen. Both turns are great favourites.

Kirkcaldy.—Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Interesting, instructive, and amusing are the pictures served up here by the London Safety Bioscope Company this week, and huge audiences pack the building nightly to see A Journey to Jupiter, How the Cook Gets Married, The Heart of a Gauroche, Haunting Melody, Sailor's Honour, Poor Boy, and Foolshead as Wizard. Miss Edna Cragge, a well-known pantomime performer, creates a decided "hit" with several illustrated songs.

Leamington.—Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—A fine programme of animated and coloured pictures is provided this week. The principal picture is one depicting the Paris floods, whilst A Visit to the Zoological Gardens in Antwerp and Scenes in Mexico are two very interesting pictures, showing beautiful colouring. Call the Plumber In provides much amusement, as do also The Adventures of Tantarin the Younger, A Discussion on Politics, The Painter's Trunk, The Short-sighted Sportsman, and many others. Miss Mina Langdon's illustrated song efforts are very much appreciated by the audiences, whilst the elocutionist, Mr. Bert Williams, is as popular as ever.

Leicester.—Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Splendid business continues here. The two star pictures this week are The Policeman and Joseph Sold by His Brethren. The others in a good list include The Vagabond, A Primitive Costume, Exportation of Milk, The Door, Homesick, Nick Carter in the Mysterious Package, The Justifier, The Mended Lute, The Horseshoe, and Your Licence, Please. In addition, Billy Banks, the ragtime dandy, a singing and dancing act, also appears.

Mexborough.—New Picture Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—The "star" film this week is the late Wilson Barrett's great play The Sign of the Cross. Other good pictures are Visit to Bombay, Frances the First, In Old Kentucky, Pig and Thief, Tempestuous Adventure, &c.

Neath.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—In addition to a good series of pictures presented here this week, the Three Musical Warners provide an excellent entertainment, and Louie and Wally, duettists, patterers, &c., favourably contribute towards a first-class programme. Mr. Noice, the manager, arranged two performances for the benefit of the Neath Nursing Association, when the proceeds were handed over to the Mayor, Councillor David Danes.

Northampton.—Temperance Hall.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Strong dramatic subjects are submitted this week under the titles of The Lie, The Waif, and The Corsican Vengeance. The comic items are also very good, and, with the admired singing of Miss Margaret Payne, make an amusing and popular programme.

New Cinematograph Hall.—Mr. J. F. Bentley, of Letchworth, Herts, has secured a site at the corner of Monks Park-road and Wellingborough-road, Northampton, for the erection of a picture palace capable of holding an audience of 600.

North Shields.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—The above management have secured an excellent programme for this week, chief among the pictures being In Little Italy, A Menagerie Let Loose, Too Fond of Cheese, Her Sister's Sin, &c. The variety turns consist of Tom Payne, assisted by Ralph and Carl, in a novel musical, athletic, and comedy act, which has been warmly greeted; and G. Harrison, the dancing pitman, who gains much approval.

Howard Hall.—Patrons here are again provided with a tempting bill of fare, The Red Man's View, The Engine Driver's Daughter, A Quiet Honeymoon, A Ruse That Failed, and other films being watched with much interest.

Gaiety Picture Hall.—This popular hall is still receiving good support, the bill of fare including Lancelot and Elaine, When Knights Were Bold, To Save Her Soul, Lead Us Not Into Temptation, &c. Miss Eva Strauss, the popular songstress, is also under engagement.

Norwich. — Agricultural Hall Assembly Rooms.—Mr. E. V. Barr's animated picture entertainment is still going well here. This week they include The Merry Clowns, The Death Disc, Display of Horse Riding by Cossacks, The Miniature, and others. Miss Bessie Hardman (soprano) and Mr. Tom Taylor (baritone) in their vocal items and song scenas are very good indeed.

Central Hall, Upper Market.—Lessees, The Goodman Entertainment Co.; Manager, Mr. Syd Goodman.—This place is also successful. Among the pictures this week are: The Cowboy Millionaire, a very interesting drama, The Old Horse Carnival at Nice, A Sister's Devotion, A Week's Absence, Othello, and others.

Oldham.—Royal Theatre—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Good business continues here.—The pictures this week are headed by a capital dramatic film, An Alpine Echo. A Corsican Romance is another good descriptive film; A Trip on the Rhine is a very good picture of travel; An Indian's Revenge and A Kind Hearted Judge are also shown. Some very funny pictures include Jones Buys a Birdcage, Romance of Boots and Slippers, the Gas Inspector, and Burglary by Airship, and Mr. Don Cameron sings a well illustrated song.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The pictures shown here continue to be well up to the mark. A capital programme is provided, and A Child's Faith is well worth seeing. The Late Guest, The Right to Love, Hunting Wild Reindeer, The Belgian Army, To Save Her Soul, and a very funny one, Mr. Foolshead Received, are amongst a good list. "Mary of Argyle" is sung by Mr. King.

Brown's Assembly Rooms.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Her Sister's Sin is a pathetic story well received; Three Tramps proves a most exciting picture, and a brilliant story of love and jealousy is shown In Little Italy; some splendid scenery is seen in The Gorges of the Andes. The amusing films include A Poet's Wooing, and Cure for Cowardice.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—A Corner in Wheat is a picture depicting how the Yankee gets rich quickly at the expense of others. A capital film which had a good reception is Love under Spanish Skies, and Saved by his Sweetheart is very touching; The Airship Destroyer is very exciting; Merry Clowns, A Winter's Tale, and A Friend in Need are very amusing films. Mme. Marie Robinson sings well.

Rochdale.—Empire and Pringle's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle.—Scenes depicting the floods in Paris are reproduced here this week, and prove a great attraction; the Three Foresters appear with great success in a dramatic sketch; Cavalli, ventriloquist, is an amusing and clever entertainer; and the Gentrys, in a medley, entitled "Bits" are highly diverting.

Salford.—Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—An excellent series of animated pictures exhibiting Lieutenant Shackleton's South Polar Expedition drew tremendous houses on Monday. There were also the following films: Bandit's Daughter, Jane Made One of the Family, A Brave Boy, Snake Charmer's Revenge, and Willie's Trip to the Pole. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings "To the end of the world with thee."

New Central Hall.—Proprietors, Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—Among the Raymond pictures this week are Squire Romance, Our Friend the Plumber, Good for Evil, Runaway Daughter, Tartarin the Younger, The Flowerseller, The Man-eating Tiger, Short-sighted Sportsman. Mr. A. H. Gilbert sings two acceptable songs.

Shrewsbury. — Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Very up-to-date and interesting moving pictures (exhibited by an entirely new and expensive Bioscope) were among the chief attractions here this week; and an old favourite at the Halls, T. W. Barrett, entertained with some amusing ditties. The entire proceeds of Thursday evening's show are to be devoted to charity. The local dramatic society were for this night allowed free use of the theatre, by the generosity of the management, for the performance of *Jane*. The deserving object was the Shrewsbury Dispensary, and the performance was a success.

Stalybridge.—Oddfellows' Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. W. Llewellyn.—This week's programme: Queen of the Ranch, The Accomplice, Into the Darkness, Comedy and Tragedy (a splendid picture, dealing with the life of an actress and her love for a young soldier), a few scenes of the recent Floods in Paris, The Light that Came, Calino at the Seaside, Before and After, Unending Discussion, and The Diver provides much amusement, Foolshead's Christmas. Mr. M. B. Lees gives a very pleasing vocal turn. Messrs. Andrews have installed at this hall an "effect" machine, which makes every sound, from the clatter of horses to the shaking of money.

Forester's Hall.—Lessees, Bros. Lens; Manager, Mr. F. Lens.—A stupendous programme is shown at this hall, including, with a good variety of other pictures, the set of The Big Horn Ranch, Kind-hearted Employer, From Cabin Boy to King, Mr. Poorluck Gets Married, and about twenty rounds of the great Welsh v. Summers fight, truly a splendid picture. Frank Whiteley proves himself clever and refined in his banjo and bone speciality.

Sunderland.—Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A well-diversified programme is being submitted here this week to crowded houses. Master George Noonan supplies a clever vocal and dancing turn; Geo. Young, blind musician, is warmly applauded for his selections; Warren and Granville give an act which causes much amusement. Among the pictures, Her Sister's Sin and Lieut. Rose, R.N., are the best, and both are well received.

Palace Theatre. — Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—The principal film here this week is a humorous one entitled Why They Married, and causes great amusement. Will Netta's Singing Jockeys prove an exceptionally good turn and are much appreciated. The Sauteron Wonders give a particularly clever gymnastic act.

Todmorden.—Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—A splendid house assembled on Monday evening to witness an enjoyable performance at this new picture hall. The chief film shown this week is The Last of the Mohicans, being an adaptation of J. Fenimore Cooper's famous novel. A splendid scenic film of Delhi (India) is also much appreciated; while amongst others, The Haunted Hat (comic), The Chemist's Bill (comic), Shanghaid (dramatic), and Scratch as Scratch Can (comic) stand out prominently.

Tyldesley.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. W. McNish.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here this week, and good business continues to be done. Chris Masters is a successful actor-vocalist, and Will Challinor wins applause by his singing and dancing.

Miners' Hall.—Manager, Mr. Chris Matthews.—The splendid films shown here this week are being much appreciated by large audiences. William Kingsley, hand-bell soloist, and the Sisters Stuart, duettists and dancers, are welcomed in convincing style.

Wigan.—Pavilion.—Lessees, The U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—An interesting and up-to-date programme is presented here to large audiences this week. A splendid film of the recent floods in Paris is given. Songs were rendered during the evening by Mr. Reg. Garland, the popular actor vocalist.

Wolverhampton. — Electric Theatre.—Proprietors, the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—The splendid film depicting the floods in Paris continues to draw large houses here. The White Sea Fisheries is another fine picture illustrative of life on the North Sea Trawlers; A Patriot's Daughter is a delightful story of heart interest; The Staff Officer of the Emperor is an interesting historical picture, as educational as it is entertaining; Nancy is a fine travel picture of the East of France; A Story of Circus Life is full of Romance; Delights of the Shoot proves very fascinating; whilst plenty of fun is provided by Worried to Death and The Servant's Exaggeration.

York.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bradley.—Carmen is an exceedingly fine picture, which is well received; Two Women and a Man is amusing; The Canadian Northern Railway Construction is instructive; and On the Little Big Horn is a film which is well received. Funny Little Jess presents a neat turn and is an entertaining comedienne; Le Wist is a skilled ventriloquist; and Reno a clever wizard.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Mr. J. H. Humphreys, comedian, is very popular here, and on his return visit is singing some catchy songs with good effect. The Red Man's Views is an exceptionally fine film well received. The Bennettiscope is a novelty which causes wonder, and there are a host of other clever scenes.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera company opened here on Monday with *The Mikado*. Mr. Henry A. Lytton made a quaintly humorous Ko-Ko, and Mr. Fred Billington repeated his amusing performance of Pooh-Bah. A charming and melodious Yum-Yum was revealed in the graceful person of Miss Everell Spain; Miss Bertha Lewis acted and sang with the requisite amount of vocal and dramatic intensity as Katisha; Mr. Henry Herbert was good as Nanki-Po; and Mr. Leslie Tunks did well as the mirth-provoking Mikado. The chorus was first-rate, and the *mise-en-scène* was artistic. The programme for the week was as follows: Tuesday, *Iolanthe*; Wednesday, *The Gondoliers*; Thursday, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Trial by Jury*; Friday, *Patience*; and Saturday, *The Mikado*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. Hart's annual, *Jack and Jill*, with its opera bouffe style of humour, its exquisite ballets, its exhilarating music, and its beautiful scenic effects and groupings à la Watteau, continues to pack the Royal nightly, and the opinion of old playgoers is that Mr. Hart has surpassed even the high standard of the annuals produced under the famous Joseph Eldred régime. The company all work together like a happy family, and Messrs. Charles Marton, Albert Le Fre, Jack Chromo, the Haytons, Miss Josie Delaine, and the pretty, talented, and dashing Jack, Miss Ella Retford, are cheered to the echo.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The dramatic season opened on Monday with *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, a pathetic drama of the always popular Adelphi type, which was excellently represented by Mr. Fuller's company. The principal parts were carefully played by Messrs. H. Helliwell, R. N. Grasswell, Percy St. Clair, Louis Weston, Herbert Fuller, S. L. Courtnay, Edward Jeffs, H. Jones, Will Hood, P. Byres, and Misses Lily Fuller, Emily Lewis, Florence C. Delmar, Madalene Courtney, and Miss Agnes Collier, who gives a graceful and well-considered reading of the character of Alice Walters.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Fred Karno's comic absurdity, *Perkins, M.P.*, was presented to a crowded house on Monday, when the laughable adventures of Mr. Albert Bruno as Perkins almost convulsed the big audience with laughter. All the other characters were well played, and the scenery was realistic. Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," a series of artistic living pictures, were well received; the Rohda Brothers are smart equilibrists and acrobatic posturers; and other clever and successful entertainers this week are Florence, lady mimic; Mr. Bert Errol, phenomenal vocalist; the Royal Delomes, duettists and dancers; Mr. Horace White, ventriloquist; Mr. Tom Lloyd, vocalist and comic parodist; Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, talented vocalists and instrumentalists; Miss Rita Rhylle, ballad vocalist; and the Bioscope pictures.

THE HIPPODROME.—Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The big event here is the looked-for return visit of the versatile artist, the great Lafayette, who, assisted by his company and famous band, kept the large audience on Monday in a delightful condition of thrilling suspense for nearly sixty minutes; the Gallimore Trio fairly bring down the house; the graceful gymnastic act by the elegant artists Natalie and Diana is loudly applauded; and very successful are the efforts of Mr. Sydney Brandon in his fine impersonation of the late Sir Henry Irving; Leo and Roland, in their great ladder act; the Pasquali Bros., equilibrists; Regie Beauchamp, comedian; Mr. Mark Leslie, vocalist; and Mr. Tom Black, entertainer. The Biograph pictures conclude.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. Fred Baugh here presents an up-to-date picture programme, with special orchestral selections. Good business is the rule.

SMETHWICK. — ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E Hewitson.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding's and Sidney Cooper's company, and a capital performance is given. Mr. Mark Paton gives a careful study of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B.; Mr. Hastings Lynn as Richard Lascelles portrays the cheerful, amiable, and good-hearted Dick to the life; Major William Thessiger is ably impersonated by Mr. Ferderick Leister; Mr. Edward Mervyn as Surgeon Crutchley gives a splendid performance; Messrs. Stanley Groome and Guy Lanham are an amusing pair of midshipmen; Mr. Lloyd Pilgrim is good as Colonel McLeod; Mr. W. S. Yeldham and Miss Evelyn Robson capitally present the laughter-making General and Mrs. Gough-Bogle; Mr. Richard Dalton is seen to advantage as Michael Palliser; Miss Mabel Rees portrayal of Mrs. Cameron is excellent; Lady Hermione Wynne is gracefully taken by Miss Rita Johnson; Miss Una Vennins makes a dainty Viola Hood; Miss Rosalind Ross does well as Lady Dugdale. The play is effectively staged.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—A good variety programme is being carried out here this week by Stowe Brothers, acrobats; Dollie Denton, comedienne; Les Videos, skaters; Ben Albert, comedian; Maria Gabalda and her company, in a Spanish pantomime, *The Smuggler's Ocean*; Little Ganty, comedian; and Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, in *Kindergarten*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold.—Messrs. J. G. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company on Tuesday and Wednesday played the society drama *Moths*, the characters being impersonated by Miss Henrietta Schrier, Miss Marie Ramsey, Miss Veronica Clinton, Miss Nellie Statham, Messrs. Andrew Money, J. G. Lodge-Percy, Cecil Kerr, F. Douglas Howard, and Geo. Mercer. *Camille* was played the remainder of the week.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's powerful company opened here with *Othello* on Monday, followed on Tuesday by *The Sleigh Bells* and *David Garrick*. On Wednesday *The Taming of the Shrew* was produced most artistically. Mr. Wilkie as Petruchio portrayed the part in rollicking style; Mr. Alexander Marsh depicted Lucentio in a refined manner; Mr. Eugene Wellesley was good as Tranio; and Mr. Herbert Mansfield and Mr. Stanley Vine were seen to advantage as Hortensio and Vincentio. As Katherine the Shrew Miss Carrie Baillie displayed histrionic talents of a high order; and Bianca was sweetly interpreted by Mrs. Allan Wilkie. Mr. John Paley was good as the Pedant, and much humour was extracted from the part of Grumio by Mr. Houston Meharry. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Jane Shore* are also in the week's bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item of the bill is R. A. Rolfe's production of "Ye Colonial Septette," presenting an "Olde tyme Hallowe'en," featuring Mr. Charles Edwards, America's cornet virtuoso. This is a fine musical item, and much appreciated. Gus Garrick is well received; Goggin and Davis are good acrobats; good banjo work is shown by Stanley and Greenop; and other good items are supplied by the Caselli Sisters (expert dancers), Ethel Newman (in monologue *Her Wedding Day*), Charles Stanton (soprano and double-voiced vocalist), and the Bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Pantomime again reigns here, Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Aladdin* being staged. Miss Kittee Rayburn is an admirable Aladdin. Her bright and charming manner and her sweet, strong voice make her a prime favourite, and gain for her vociferous applause. Miss Nancy St. John as the Princess comes next in favour, with her prettiness and dainty dancing; as the Emperor of China Mr. Manito Klitgaard presents a very effective impersonation; and Mr. Bruce Lindley is an excellent Grand Vizier. Miss Cissie Esdaile (Pekoe) and Miss Maisie St. Hilary (Ni See) are decidedly attractive; much humour is provided by Mr. Fred W. Graham as Widow Twankey; Mr. Cecil Clayton as Wishee Washee and Messrs. Carl and Carr (Ah Bob Bee and Yo Pee Lerr) add to the hilarity; Mr. Harry Morgan is especially funny in the character of Abanazar. Most enjoyable turns are given by La Belle Trio, Mrs. Victor's troupe of juveniles, the Nine Tollettes, and the Three Trees. The scenery is pretty, and the dresses beautiful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—*The Leaves of Memory* is a capital sketch, in which Miss Beaumont Collins shows great talent; Sidney Bedford and company prove very amusing in *The Second Mrs. Chester*; the original Cestria gives agreeable examples of his skill as an acrobat; and the Three Orleans are encored for delightful singing. Ford Williams's songs are enjoyed; Boden and Bell, juvenile dancers and vocaliste, and Harry Morris, Lancashire comedian, provide good turns.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company has presented the pantomime *Hop O' My Thumb*, a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment, to large audiences. Little George Harris fills the title-rôle in excellent style; Miss Kitty Trewhitt makes a delightful Prince U-No; and Miss Kitty Rafferty is exceedingly pleasing as Princess Meadowsweet. As the dame Georgina Mr. Vivian Wakeman is funny, and amuses with his clever imitations; whilst Mr. Alf. E. Rick and Mr. Tom Cowley are a mirthful pair as Silversheen and Goldstein. The scenery is delightful, the dresses costly, and the music bright and sparkling.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. John Le Hay, comedian, supported by Nora Le Hay and Charles Cauntley, in a musical sketch, *Poor Beggar*, has greatly amused the patrons here. Among others appearing are the Two Butterflies, talented gymnasts; Roy Beevis, an able conjurer; Maude Hillman and Maurice Russell, who are entertaining in a vocal comedy duologue "The Somnambulist"; René, a clever little lady juggler; Tom E. Johnstone, a successful topical vocalist; Gwennie Morgan, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Cummin and Seaham, humorous acrobatic comedians, as "The Ragman and the Postman."

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is presenting with great success *Brewster's Millions*. As Monty Brewster Mr. Chas. Esdaile gives a fine performance, and is deserving of the highest eulogy; Charlie Harrison is capably undertaken by Mr. Gordon Ash; Archie Golding and Joseph McLeod have finished readings at the hands of Mr. Henry Hampson and Mr. Aubrey Mather respectively. Mr. Robert Forsyth gives a good portrayal of Mr. Grant; and Mr. A. P. Kaye as Mons. Bargie is a typical Frenchman. Peggy is charmingly played by Miss Cicely Stuckey; and Miss Pauline Straus introduces much personality into the rôle of Mr. Dan de Mille. Miss Frances Davie gives a good rendering of Jamie Armstrong, as also does Miss Dorothy Whittaker of Barbara Drew. Misses Phyllis Stuckey and May Seton do justice to the parts of Miss Boynton and Trixie Clayton. Good work is also done by Messrs. George Salver as Capt. Perry, A. Andrews as Col. Drew, and Percival Madgwick as Frank Bragden. The play is effectively mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Chas. Elderton's pantomime *Aladdin* is repeating its successes of last week and crowded houses are the rule. Misses Maudie Vincent as Aladdin and May Gibson as Princess Badroulbadour please all with their captivating manner, and their singing is among the chief features of the evening. The comedians are all in capital form. Messrs. Will Beanland (Widow Twankey), James and Alexander (Tip Pit and Wot Toe), Harry Harrop (Abanazar), and Billy Melia (Wishy Washy). Excellent specialities are provided by the Cameron Quartette of glee singers; Morissey, a clever balancer and instrumentalist; Claremont and Victor, comedy acrobats; Sisters Terry, vocal duettists; Li-Chang-Hi, illusionist; and Stein and Melia in a comedy dancing act. The Lottie Stone troupe of dancers and the Mimosa troupe of juveniles also do acceptable work.

(*Continued on column 5.*)

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.

Worthing has at last got a temple of Thespis worthy of the town, and one which is not excelled at any place along the South Coast. One has to go so far back as the year 1807 for an account of the first theatre that was built in sunny Worthing, and in the report of the opening proceedings one reads "that no expense has been spared to render the theatre elegant and commodious." The theatre was built to accommodate something like

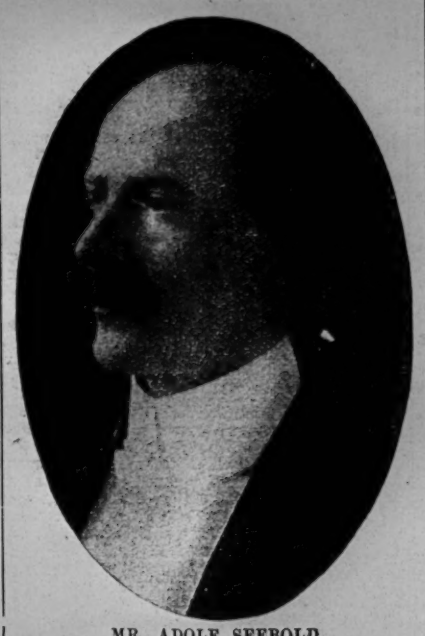

MR. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

five hundred people, and when we mention that the population of the place was only some 2,500 inhabitants and that every night there were to be seen between thirty and forty coroneted carriages outside the theatre one must arrive at the conclusion that the people of those times were inveterate theatregoers. This building, which was kept going for fifty years, was opened with the performance of *The Merchant of Venice*, in which Mr. Siddons, of Drury Lane, appeared in the part of Shylock; this is according to the day bill, a copy of which is still a preserved treasure. At the end of fifty years the town was placed in possession of Assembly Rooms, a gift of the late Sir Robert Loder, and here for a while plays were produced. Some forty years later these were converted into what was really the second Theatre Royal, and in 1897—the memorable year of the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee—the theatre, properly equipped, was opened with the comedy *As You Like It*, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Laurence Irving, and Miss Dorothea Baird being in the cast.

In the year 1904 the theatre was taken over by the present lessee, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, and up to last year he thought that the theatre satisfied all the requirements of the town. But during the last season he found that his idea was a mistaken one, and the building was found not large enough to accommodate all those seeking to gain admittance to witness the latest production that Mr. Seebold had arranged for. It might be here mentioned that during Mr. Seebold's regime most of the first-class artists of the day have graced the boards of the theatre. Amongst those who have played to Worthing audiences we can recall the names of Ellen Terry, Decima Moore, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Annie Hughes, Kate Cutler, Evie Greene, Mrs. Lewis Waller, Kitty Loftus (who is paying a return visit this week), Mrs. Russ Whytal, Mrs. Brown Potter, Mrs. Langtry, Jane Hading, Martin Harvey, Hayden Coffin, Edward Terry, Edward Compton, and George Groesmith. On the occasions of the visits of these artists the management found the seating capacity sorely taxed, and this led to the idea of having the theatre entirely reconstructed.

An agreeable surprise, therefore, awaits all the companies who have arranged for return visits to Worthing, for they will find a really beautiful theatre for them to play in now. The main outline of the alterations are as follows:—Beginning with the stage, it will be seen that this has been lowered to the extent of three or four feet, and other alterations have been made to furnish greater facilities from the mechanical point of view. The orchestra has necessarily been lowered also, and there is a complete alteration of the proscenium front. The lowering of the stage has given the audience a better view, and the same object has been facilitated by the abolition of the several tiers on the floor space. The builders have made an inclined floor, showing a rake from the front of the stalls to the back of the pit of about five feet. Three of the old boxes have entirely disappeared, and the four that now remain have been made veritable stage boxes. In the upper part of the house striking alterations have also been made, and the dress circle has been extended about fifteen feet further towards the centre and each tier has been raised, so that a portion of the house now commands an even better view of the stage than hitherto. An entirely new gallery has also been built, and it has now been raised and brought forward over the greater part of the dress circle. A new and handsome doomed ceiling has been provided with a sliding roof. The theatre has been entirely reseated. Green is the predominant colour, this being also chosen for the handsome and costly carpet with which the floors are covered. At the rear of the dress circle there is a promenade, and in the centre glass doors give immediate access to the lounge, which is exquisitely appointed in every way. The corridor that was on the north side of the circle has been converted into a lounge for ladies. This comprehensive scheme has cost something over three thousands pounds, and the practical effect has been to increase the seating capacity from 800 to approximately 1,300, as well as to add materially to the comfort of all who patronise the establishment.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL—VESTIBULE. [*Photo by Brown.*

The energetic proprietor has had five years' experience of the town, and should by this time know its full requirements—and, from the financial point of view, its capabilities. He is positively certain that, given the right class of show, the people of Worthing will line up at the pay-box in sufficiently big numbers to recompense him for his outlay and make it worth the while of the biggest companies to visit the town. Brighton is very little distant, yet it is far enough to make it almost prohibitive to the ordinary Worthing theatregoer desirous to see a show there, for the midnight train does not appeal loudly to the provincial. On the other hand, its adjacency cannot fail to prove attractive—on the score of fares—to the touring manager mapping out his course. We join sincerely in the wishes which are expressed on all sides for the success of Mr. Seebold's enterprise.

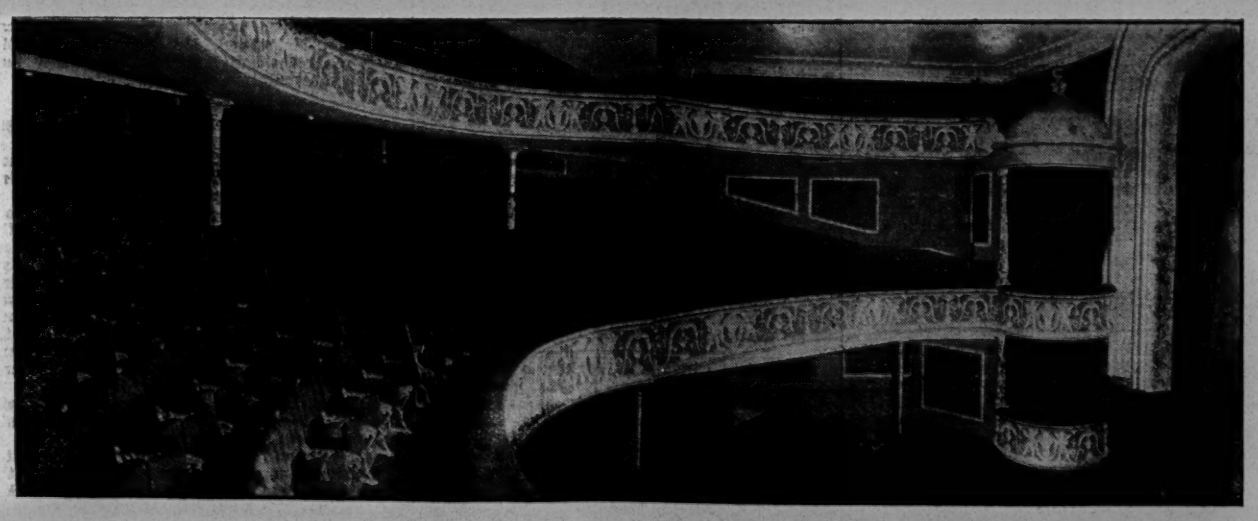

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL. SHOWING INTERIOR AND DRESS CIRCLE. [*Photo by Brown.*

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued.*)

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here with *A Thief in the Night*. Mr. Hugh Wallace makes an excellent Lord Romilly; Miss Mysie Monte is a very taking Susan; Mr. Stanley Redwell does well as Alan Escombe; and Mr. Leyton Cancellor as Michael Paquin; Mr. Stenson Liddard as Richard Cleeve; and Miss Prudence Avrien as Little Joan are equally effective. The setting of the drama is excellent.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell present here their pantomime *The House that Jack Built*. Miss Daisy Wood is an attractive Jack; Mr. J. Harrison is amusing as Aunt Purdy; Little Chip is popular as Wee McGregor; Messrs. Doyle and Gibson are a pair of good comedians and dance well; and Miss Hetty Jones as Gretchen sings some good songs, as also does Miss Dolly Dodds as Jill. Crowded houses rule nightly.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton. — The Six Snanish Juanitos display great skill in an acrobatic turn; Bertha Evelyn sings well; Barnes and West are loudly applauded in a dancing act; Joseph Blascheck, assisted by Mildred Wrighton, is very entertaining at the piano; Alice Hughes and company in a musical comedietta, *The Star of the Bazaar*, cause much laughter; Tom Isherwood, comedian, is very popular; the Martons, in a comedy duologue, with music, *Sweethearts Still*, sings well; and the Bioscope concludes.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company in *The Breed of the Treshams* is here. Lieutenant Reresby finds an accomplished exponent in Mr. Sydney Bland; Mr. A. Holles does well as Viscount Dorsington; the Hon. Clement Hungerford is ably portrayed by Mr. Geo. Butler; Mr. Geo. Traill is suitably cast as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; Miss M. Hodson is eminently successful as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; and Miss Grace Arlington cleverly interprets Batty.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Topping a good bill here is Horace Wheatley, a big success; the Maximillian Trio are clever acrobats; Marshall and Parr score heavily; the Sisters Brenton meet with hearty applause; and Nellie Navette dances cleverly. The leading film, which is excruciatingly funny, is Scroggins for Blankshire.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Miss Harriet Vernon in her song-scena *Emblems* is worthy of pride of place in an extended programme; James Willard and Co. present a clever sketch; Alec Kendal's patter is really very funny; Agustin and Hartley give a smart barrel-jumping act; acceptable items are presented by Leslie Race, G. W. Webber, Stelling and Dog, Bert Williams, and the Devonshaws; and the Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse's company is appearing here in the farcical comedy *Oh, Susannah!* As Dr. Sheppard Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse enters heartily into the spirit of the plot, and is very successful; whilst as Flora, his bride, an excellent impersonation is presented by Miss Frances Carlyle. Mr. Leslie Wardle makes a capital Lieut. Merry, Mr. Arthur Williams assisting him by a clever interpretation of the Hon. Waverley Vane. As Mr. Plant Mr. Alfred Ibberson is very successful; and as his two daughters Miss Mamie Mathews and Miss Ethel Marsden do exceedingly well. Mr. T. Smith makes a very amusing Buttons; Miss Adie Boyne as Aurora the maid is very humorous. The play is preceded by *Dream Faces*, in which the characters are taken by Miss Eve Mansell, Miss Ethel Marsden, Mr. Arthur Williams, and Mr. Alfred Ibberson.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Welton Dale; Manager, Harry Ball.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company in *The Country Girl* is having a successful week's season. Mr. Nelson Hancock gives a capital impersonation of Geoffrey Challoner, and Mr. J. W. Bruce of the Rajah, while Mr. Percy Everard furnishes a most amusing study of Sir Joseph and Mr. H. B. Hargreaves of his son. As Barry Mr. Coningsby Brierly scores a great success, and Mr. T. C. Chapman as Lord Anchester was also excellent. Miss Anna Hikisch as Nan, Miss Dorothy Arless as Marjorie, Miss Hyacinth Barton as the Princess, and Miss Addie Lennard as Sophie formed a quartette to whom most cordial praise must be given for uniformly excellent presentation of the leading rôles amongst the ladies; while praise is also due to Miss Hilda Darrell's Lady Anchester and Miss Melba Sharrott's Nurse. The book has been brought up to date with topical allusions, which were greatly appreciated.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Greville and Osmond's company, in the drama *For Wife and Kingdom*, is here. Mr. R. T. Fox gives a powerful rendering as General Nestolde; Mr. Matthew H. Glenville submits a fine depiction as Captain Maximilian Lubeck; the part of Baron Maurice Breslau is ably filled by Mr. Albert Guyon; Mr. Edward Hobart is well placed as Sergeant Offenbach; and Mr. J. Sutton Pateman is very successful as Karl Ludhayre; Miss M. R. France is seen to great advantage as Camille von Nestolde; Miss Lilian Malvern is admirable as Esther, the Wise Woman; Miss Alice Buckland is a dainty Nita Constadt, and Miss Lydia Andre fills with grace and charm the rôle of the Grand Duchess Marie.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Bellony Brothers head the bill and give a wonderful cycling act; the Four Vagabonds are excellent glee singers; Maro Duo are smart gymnasts; Ernest Montefiore and company present a capital sketch, *The Little Colonel*; Miss Alice Blandford, ballad vocalist, has a good reception; T. H. Lumb, a vocalist, is popular; D. L. Pedley is an amusing comedian; and Harry Russel and company, sketch artists, cause much merriment; and Miss Annie Lang, comedienne and dancer, complete a good programme.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Athas and Collins top the bill and give a clever dancing and comedy act; Orpheus, a talented musician, gives a high-class musical performance; Vette Brothers, spectacular gymnasts, give a good display; the L. V. Trio present a funny acrobatic turn; Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators, provide a novel turn; George Lawrence, comedian, has a good voice, and is well recived; and Miss Gena Mann is a pleasing ballad vocalist.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—The title of the play that occupies the boards at this place of amusement this week is almost sufficient to indicate its human character. The representation here of *The Power of a Wicked Woman* is in the hands of Mr. Montague Beandyn's company. He himself fills with much skill the part of Philip Carey; Mr. G. Edward Dunstan is an excellent Horace Winter; Miss Irene Munroe as Helen Terraire fills the part admirably; Miss Phyllis Rae is an excellent Marie; and Miss Irene Stanhope as Denise Carey is distinctly good.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—Pictures have given way this week at the New Hippodrome to musical comedy, and as this takes the form of *The Cingalee*, a more delightful change could hardly be imagined. Miss Pauline Hague as Lady Patricia is charming; Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram is very clever; Mr. Arthur Cartwright is good as the Hon. Harry Vereker; and Mr. F. W. Ford does well as Sir Peter.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—Mr. A. E. Smith's grand spectacular pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, delighted a packed house on Monday. Miss Elsie Denys made a charming and pretty Princess Beauty, her singing evoking undeniable recalls; Miss Kathleen Garnon was a dashing and handsome Prince Perfect; her songs go wonderfully well. Both principals are well supported by the Sisters Lesmere and the Sisters Wynstay; there is not a dull moment in the pantomime, thanks to the exceptionally good comedians, Messrs. Folay and Francis are the most prominent, and both score positive successes; Messrs. George Alderman and W. Taylor also take effective parts

in the "fooling." The costumes and dresses are smart and elaborate, while the scenery, painted by a former Widnes artist, Mr. James Greenhalgh, are notable specimens of brush-craft.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Leolin supplies a sensational juggling turn; Ray and Douglas are extremely good in the comedy duo, *The Postman and the Girl*; Arthur Harris is a talented actor vocalist and comedian; Davis and Deane are refined comedians and shadow dancers, and the pictures are good.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Crowded audiences assemble here to witness Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *Dick Whittington*. A well-known favourite in Mr. H. O. Wills as Idle Jack causes endless laughter from start to finish; Miss Florrie Gallimore is a sprightly and dashing Dick Whittington; Miss Vera Vere as Alice sings and dances in attractive style; Miss Rose Tilly and Miss Dolly Crown as Viscount Piccadilly and Molly give charming portrayals; Mr. Fred Lloyd creates much merriment as Sarah, the Cook; Mr. J. N. Ellis is capital as the Alderman; and Mr. J. Rallis is very active and expressive as the Cat. Harwood's Juveniles are responsible for several clever choruses and dances.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—The greater portion of the programme here is provided by Mr. John F Preston's company in *Rogues of the Turf*. Mr. Preston does extremely well in the part of Joe Flaxman, and is ably supported by Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Lady Heathcote; Miss Ethel Rainforth as Nellie Flaxman and Mr. W. H. Barlow as Captain Clifton. The remainder of the programme consists of variety turns. The Dandies give a number of vocal selections which are loudly applauded; Rex Fox is a versatile wire performer of much merit; Gibbon and Bell are good in their acrobatic dancing speciality; Millie Howell's songs are well received; and an exceptionally clever and amusing cycle turn is given by Henry and Tyler.

WISHAW, N.B.—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Sandy McNab and company, including Miss Bessie Arthur, keep the house in continual laughter during the run of that droll sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*; Nellie Gannon is heard to advantage; Harry Wright is a capital comedian and vocalist; and the Lolo and May Trio of lady gymnasts and speciality dancers, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—The fact that local playgoers take an almost proprietary interest in Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's works no doubt accounted for the splendid house which gave her latest success, *Her Path of Sorrow*, as presented by Mr. Charles Draycott's excellent company, such an enthusiastic welcome on Monday night. Mr. Charles Draycott's manly and straightforward methods as the hero Richard Burfield made him immensely popular; as Guy Lowther Mr. Frank Eaglesfield was certainly one of the finest of the many stage villains yet seen here; Mr. Frank Etheridge submits an admirable impersonation of Lionel Heathcote; Mr. Theo Balfour in Markham Ferrars has a part which fits him like the proverbial glove; and Mr. Arthur Reyne was good as Farmer Rayne. The comedy element was quite safe in the hands of Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions and Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green. Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne in the trying rôle of Nellie Rayne proved herself an emotional actress of ability, and Mrs. Charles Draycott charmed all by her sympathetic rendering of Pauline Ferrars. Miss Nellie Freeland being a delightfully chic Mam'selle Lucille.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Leslie's Cadets' naval scena *After Lights Out* has the recommendations of distinct originality and excellent singing; J. W. Rickaby causes roars of laughter; the Three Stewarts, acrobats, are quite the last word in dumb shows; Minnie Mace displays agility in an eccentric dance; James Bassett has a couple of taking chorus songs; Dot Moss, a young lady of tender year, gains much applause for her songs and banjo playing; and Hardie Palm is an amusing comedian.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—An excellent variety programme this week includes the Max Tourbillon troupe of trick cyclists, who are amazingly clever, and the Bijou Juvenile Troupe of vocalists, who achieve great popularity; the Denaro Brothers, boy gymnasts, provide a capital turn; and Ernesto's ladder feats find considerable favour; he is also a clever juggler. The St. Johns are responsible for a popular vocal and dancing contribution; Miss Violet Ray is a clever 'cellist and vocalist; and Fred Kendall a comedian of merit.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers. — Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's *Two Little Drummer Boys* occupies the boards this week. Mr. Wm. Vane as Captain Carsdale shows a full appreciation of a somewhat difficult part; the General Kingsley of Mr. Edward Bikker is interesting; the villain of Mr. Ernest Fare leaves nothing to be desired; Messrs. Percy and Seddon do some good funny business with Miss Connorton; and the acting of Misses Langley and Ingram as Alma and Drunken Meg respectively is well worthy of the applause it evokes.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—At this hall Nellie Nora does a clever and refined musical act; Joey Sterling shows his worth as a character comedian; and Miss Pattie Burton has a fine soprano voice. The pictures are good.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—Sheldon, comedian, is a great success; Edward Hope, Welsh prize tenor, is in good voice; and Frank Leicester does some up-to-date patter. Muggins, V.C., is perhaps the most popular of a good set of films.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The top of the bill is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hayes, who appear in an amusing sketch, *The Other Mrs. Brown*; and Arthur Bright has made himself quite a favourite, as a Swiss piper, vocalist, and dancer. Mark Anthony is a quaint singer of comic ditties, story teller, and mimic; and Harry Clive is an entertaining comedian. Bioscope pictures cause a great amount of laughter and applause, and include A Story of Gretna Green, The Boy Scout, and The Young Redskins.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The annual visit of the Carl Rosa Opera Company is eagerly looked forward to, and the theatre has been crowded by delighted audiences. In *Tannhäuser* on Monday Mr. E. C. Hedmont fairly excelled himself. Mr. Alan Turner as Wolfram gave an exceedingly intelligent reading, using his rich voice with fine effect; Mr. Arthur Winckworth repeated his artistic rendering of the Landgrave, and Miss Lawson Taylor in the small rôle of the Shepherd Boy sang sweetly. Miss Gertrude Vania, who appeared as Elizabeth, gave a most artistic rendering of an arduous rôle, her vocalisation being of a high order. *Carmen, Destiny, Faust, Il Trovatore, Cavalleria* and *Pagliacci*, and *Lohengrin* were also announced.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Frank and Jen Latona head the bill, and repeat their clever performance so popular here; Rappo and Ella, styled society gymnasts, give a skilful turn; Lizzie Glenroy is a dainty Scotch comedian; and the Claymore Trio of vocalists and humorists are pleasing; the feats of strength introduced by Trojan are admired; Dan Whitley is one of the most original comedians seen here for some time; Norman Osborn is an up-to-date ventriloquist; Violet Shelly and company, in the sketch *An Ideal Woman*, are well received, as are also the Brothers Arlois in their comedy bar act.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on the 4th inst. a sitting was held for the public examination of Gilbert T. Oliver, who applied to pass on accounts showing liabilities £1,828, and no available assets. It appeared that the debtor had been engaged at various periods as an articled clerk to an architect, in financing a theatrical touring company, making and selling cellular clothing, in farming, and occasionally dealing in horses, and also in carrying on a club, and acting as managing director of a company which took it over. He attributed his present position to liabilities, as guarantor and otherwise, incurred in connection with the last-mentioned company. The examination was concluded.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

MELBOURNE, Jan. 4.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson.—After a week's successful run, *Macbeth*, with Mr. Walter Bentley in the name-part, was withdrawn on Friday evening last in the presence of a packed house. On Saturday evening *East Lynne* was staged for a brief season. Miss Eugenie Duggan appeared in the dual character of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine, and achieved a complete success. Mr. George Cross gave an excellent rendition of the part of Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Rutland Beckett as Sir Frances Levison displayed the villainous characteristics of that polished scoundrel to perfection. Miss Helen Fergus made an ideal Cornelia Carlyle. Other actors deserving commendatory notice were Mr. Maurice Kemp as Justice Hare; Miss Florence Richter as Barbara Hare; Miss Isa Millett as Afy Hallijohn; and little Isa Crossley as Willie Carlyle.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. J. E. Tait.—Delighted audiences nightly greet the performance of the brilliant pantomime of *Aladdin*. In general staging and spectacular effects it is one of the best, if not the best, pantomime seen in Australia for years. It is fair to assume that the man, woman, or child who leaves this theatre disappointed these times is out of sorts. Judging from present appearances *Aladdin* will run till Easter.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Following in the wake of its opening triumph, the pantomime *Babes in the Wood* is proving a powerful holiday attraction. The staging is of a highly efficient and costly character, and the company, embracing such capable performers as Miss Lilian Lea, Nat Clifford, and Foreman and Fannan, fully deserves the lavish praise that has been bestowed upon it. During the current week special holiday matinées will be given.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clarke and Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The revival of interest in Shakespearean drama is still the most striking and most wholesome feature of the theatrical world in these parts. *The Merchant of Venice* is in great vogue here, where the Shylock of Mr. Oscar Asche and the Portia of Miss Lily Brayton win encomiums nightly from multitudes of admirers. Needless to say, the play is staged with careful attention to the smallest detail throughout.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Mr. Harry Rickards is presenting an exceptionally strong bill at present, with the result that "full house" signs are nightly displayed outside this popular theatre long before eight o'clock. The bright particular "star" just now is Miss Lillie Langtry, the vivacious comedienne just arrived from England, who delights the audience by rendering her songs in her own inimitable style. Miss Dolly Harmer has returned for a few nights, and has made a decided hit with two new songs. The highly sensational act performed by the Wille Brothers is a source of wonder to all who witness it; Bertha Stuart, Scottish character vocalist; Fred Bluett, the Australian vocalist; and the Wheelers, trick cyclists, are among other leading performers. The last nights of the Kremka Brothers are now announced. These artists have proved very popular with their clever acrobatic act.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Mr. James Brennan's National Vaudeville Company is enjoying a large measure of popularity, the theatre being crowded nightly. The combination has been reinforced by the arrival of Wise and Milton from America. In addition to the "coloured duo," places are given in the new bill to Pearl Lovell, the Smith Sisters, Frank King, and Ernest Pilcher, who are reappearing.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROME.

(from our own correspondent.)

ROME, Feb. 9.—The author of the translation into Italian of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which was produced at the Theatro Argentina, Rome, on the 1st inst. is Diego Angeli. Among the audience were their Majesties the King and Queen of Italy. The grotesqueness of love-making between Titania and Bottom proved absolutely irresistible, and the house burst forth into unrestrained laughter. In the part of Bottom Signor Farulli gave another proof of what a really fine actor he is, giving full vent to all the whimsicalities of the character, and never overdoing it. La Reinach, too, as Puck, won golden opinions from her audience, and it would be difficult to speak too highly of her impersonation. The *mise-en-scene* was excellent, and the performance was accompanied by Mendelssohn's music.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Mr. Walter Webber's organ solo, Prelude and Fugue in F Minor (Bach) was the first item in the concert on Wednesday evening. Mr. Webber is a pupil of Mr. C. J. C. Boddington, and does credit to his professor. Two Hungarian songs, arranged by Korbay, "Had a horse" and "Shepherd, see they horse's foaming mane," enabled Mr. N. R. Harrison to display an excellent voice, and Miss Hermine L. Hartley played Chopin's Seventh Polonaise in A Flat with care and intelligence. Sullivan's song, "My heart is like a silent lute," was sung by Miss May Davies, and Miss Elaine Dickens' violin solo of Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen" was a great advance on the average student performance of this popular solo. Mr. Donald Maxwell employed his pleasing voice to good effect in "Come, sing my lute," by Hedgcock, and Mr. V. Allen, another clever vocalist, was heard to advantage in "Grey days" (Noel Johnson). In her piano solo, "Whims" (Schumann), Miss Grace Clark received warm applause; while Miss Gladys Roberson sang "Earl Bristol's Farewell" and "See where my love" (Lidgey) with intelligence. Another clever violin student was Mr. Frederic Simmons, who played Hubay's "Hejre Kati"; and the third pianoforte solo in the programme, "L'Ondine," was ably executed by Miss Ada Cue. Two songs, "The Woodpigeon" and "The Yellowhammer" (Lehmann) were well sung by Miss Edith Kyte, and an interesting concert ended with a recitation "Scene from *Merchant of Venice, Act* I., Scene 3," by a talented pupil of Mr. L. Cairns James, Mr. Alec Glassey. The accompanist was Miss Jenny Hyman.

The Playgoers' Club annual treat on Saturday to some of the poorest children of the Metropolis was a huge success. Two thousand five hundred were taken to see *Dick Whittington* at the Britannia Theatre and 2000 to see *Cinderella* at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. The youngsters were selected from all the Council schools in the neighbourhood of each place of entertainment, and among them were a number drawn from the institutions where the education of mentally or physically defective little ones is undertaken. The performers at both theatres excelled themselves in their efforts to enhance the pleasure of their little guests.

Since the first performance of *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's Theatre a few changes have been made and the piece has been played more closely. As a consequence the curtain now rises at 8.15 instead of 8 o'clock, and at the Wednesday and Saturday matinées at 2.15 instead of 2. The play is now given well within the three hours, and the curtain will fall not later than 11.15 in the evening and 5.15 at the matinées.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS

MR. WILL WHITE.

Mr. Will White, the general manager of the Alhambra, Belfast, was born at Bath thirty-five years ago, and entered the profession in 1889, when only a boy, joining the Old Virginia Minstrels. After several tours, he played the part of the Lord Chamberlain in J. Pitt Hardacre's pantomime *Mother Goose* at the Comedy Theatre, Manchester, 1893, afterwards touring with Mr. Hardacre's companies in *Lady Windermere's Fan, East Lynne, Madcap Maris*, burlesque, and being re-engaged for his pantomime *Goody Two Shoes* for stage-management and pantaloon. After a tour with Messrs. Miller and Elliston's *In the Ranks*, he joined Dr. Vint as advertising manager, leaving to take over the stage-management of Messrs. John Tiller and McNeil's Christmas Carnival in Manchester At the end of the run he went to London, to introduce the Cremation Illusion at the Royal Aquarium, and opened later at the Royal Aquarium, Brighton, introducing his hypnotic séance. For two years he starred in the music halls, and in the February of 1897 took a lease of the Circus, Dudley, where he gave a remarkable demonstration of hypnotism, placing a medium under hypnotic control for three days and nights and burying him under six feet of earth.

At the end of the third day the medium was dug up and hung by the neck in full view of the audience for an hour before being cut down and awakened. This amazing experiment was watched by several members of the medical fraternity and Supt. Speake, of the Dudley Police Force. After a run of several months, Mr. White was compelled to relinquish the lease, owing to a severe attack of typhoid fever and pneumonia. On his recovery he was engaged to appear at the Nelson and Naval Exhibition, Manchester, under the management of the late John Hollingshead, and was then engaged for a short season as advertising manager for Norton B. Smith, the horse-tamer, leaving him to take over the management of the Palace of Illusions at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, and then undertaking the advance management of Arthur Jefferson's *London by Day and Night* company. At Christmas he left Mr. Jefferson to fulfil a contract as acting-manager for Eglinton and Little's *Robinson Crusoe* pantomime, produced at the Theatre Royal, Bath, at the termination of which he toured a variety company in partnership with Arthur Saxon, of the Saxon Trio.

Later on he rejoined Messrs. Little and D'Arcy, and acted as general-manager for the *Robinson Crusoe, Aladdin, Forty Thieves, On the Stroke of Twelve*, and the *Executioner's Daughter* companies, undertaking altogether sixteen tours, and being with them for nearly eight years. Mr. White's principal parts were Henry Rutledge in *On the Stroke of Twelve* and the Executioner in *The Executioner's Daughter*. By special arrangements with Mr. Fred J. Little, Mr. White toured his own company in *The*

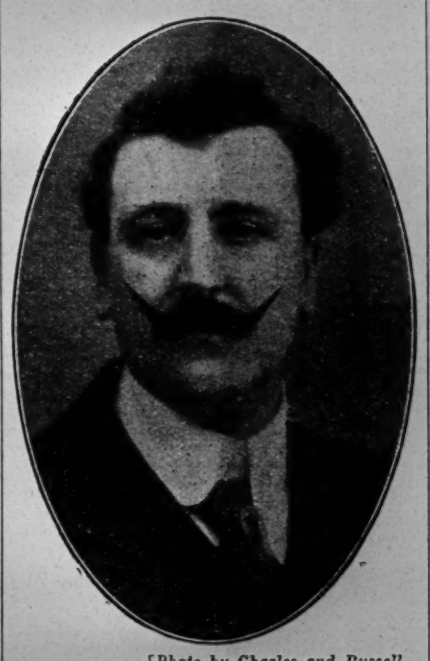

[*Photo by Charles and Russell.*

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.

New World, and after a very successful tour joined Mr. Ralph Pringle as advertising and business-manager. He had four engagements with Mr. Pringle, whose service he resigned to take over his present engagement.

During the first year at the Alhambra, Belfast, Mr. White beat all records for the house, which is the oldest in the city, having been a music hall for thirty-five years. At the end of the year Mr. White was presented with a cheque for £25 and a beautiful illuminated address from the directors of the Belfast Alhambra, Ltd., and with a valuable diamond ring by the staff and friends, including over 200 members of the Royal Irish Constabulary. Mr. White's favourite hobbies are boxing and running. He won the South-West Manchester Harriers' ten mile championship two years in succession, and at the present time is one of the official judges of the Irish Cyclists' Association (Ulster centre), and vice-president of the Woodvale Cycle Club, one of the most flourishing in Ireland.

The Opera Society, which is intended to accomplish for music what the Stage Society is doing for the drama, was instituted on Monday afternoon when a meeting for the purpose was held at Seaford House, Belgrave-square, lent by Lord Howard de Walden, under the presidency of Mr. Frederick Whelen. The following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting of opera-goers decides to form a society under the title 'The Opera Society,' to provide such an organisation as shall be capable of dealing with any opportunities that may present themselves or be created, for the production in London of: Original English operas; foreign operas of distinction; and operas refused by the Censor, which in the judgment of the committee of the society should not be prohibited on the English stage.

The Society will aim at forming a supplement to the existing machinery for the promotion of opera in this country, by giving a hearing mainly to works which, owing to the commercial and censorial conditions prevailing in England, might otherwise be denied such opportunity. A provisional committee was formed consisting of Mr. E. A. Baughan, Mr. Johnson Galloway, Mr. Stanley Hawley, Mr. W. Hector Thomson, and Mr. Whelen (with power to add to their number), was elected to frame a detailed scheme for the conduct of the Society, and to report to a future meeting.

Five hundred drawings and pictures, forming a pictorial history of the stage, were sold at Christie's on Monday. A portrait of Miss Farren, in white dress, seated by the sea shore, realised 180 guineas; Van Bleeck's Mrs. Cibber as Cordelia, 62 guineas; Clint's portrait of J. Fawcett sold at 105 guineas; Zoffany's portrait of Sam Toole as Major Sturgeon was acquired for 50 guineas, and Brigg's portrait of Charles Kemble went for 20 guineas.

THE THEATRICAL MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.

Sir Herbert Tree presided at the annual general meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association at the Tavistock Hotel, on the 4th inst., amongst those present being Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. J. B. Mulholland, Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Mr. S. F. Davidson, Mr. Peter Davey, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl, Mr. Henry R. Smith, Mr. E. Domville, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. Ernest Stevens, Mr. Egbert Lewis, Mr. Sidney Cooper, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. J. F. Elliston, Mr. J. Macready Chute, Mr. W. B. Redfern, Mr. M. V. Leveaux, Mr. F. W. Warden, Mr. Ernest Dottridge, Mr. W. Payne Seddon, Mr. Tom Craven, Mr. H. W. Rowland, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson, Mr. Hugh Turner, Mr. W. Bailey, Mr. John R. Huddlestone, Mr. Edward Marris, Mr. Oscar Barrett, Mr. Philip Hedderwick, and Mr. Herbert Blackmore.

The president (Sir Herbert Tree), the vice-presidents (Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. J. Macready Chute, and Mr. J. B. Mulholland), the honorary treasurer (Mr. J. Macready Chute), and the trustees (Mr. George Alexander and Mr. F. W. Wyndham) were re-elected. Mr. Alexander continues to be a trustee, although no longer a member of the Association.

MR. BLACKMORE'S RETIREMENT.

Sir Herbert Tree read a letter received from Mr. Herbert Blackmore, stating that he regretted to say that he would not seek re-election as secretary, owing to the pressure of his agency work. Sir Herbert spoke in high terms of Mr. Blackmore's work as secretary to the Association.

A committee was appointed to deal with the matter of Mr. Blackmore's successor.

The General Council was formed, to include:—

London.	
Sir H. Beerbohm Tree	Cyril Maude
Arthur Bourchier	Edward Terry
Seymour Hicks	Fred Terry
H. B. Irving	
Suburban.	
Robert Arthur	J. B. Mulholland
H. G. Dudley Bennett	F. Melville
F. Fredericks	Ernest Stevens
Touring.	
Walter Melville	T. C. Wray
M. V. Leveaux	Tom Craven
Provincial.	
T. H. Birch	John Hart
Milton Bode	W. W. Kelly
J. M. Chute	Egbert Lewis
Lester Collingwood	F. Mouillot
Sidney Cooper	W. B. Redfern
Otto Culling	R. Redford
E. J. Domville	H. W. Rowland
E. Dottridge	J. W. Boughton
J. F. Elliston	F. W. Wyndham
Charles Elphinstone	F. Warden

In issuing the report for 1909 the Council conveyed to the president their congratulations on the honour conferred upon him during the year by his Majesty, and at the same time took the opportunity of expressing their appreciation of his devoted and unselfish attention to the interests of the Association.

The following new members have been elected since the annual meeting in 1909:—

Mr. B. Blaiberg, Grand, Croydon.
Mr. Tom Craven (touring manager).
Mr. S. F. Davidson, King's, Sunderland.
Mr. Percy Hutchison, Opera House, Southport.
Mr. J. Charles Imeson, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Mr. Murray King, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.
Mr. F. Laidler, Prince's, Bradford.
Mr. M. V. Leveaux (touring manager).
Mr. Matthew Montgomery, Rotunda, Liverpool.
Mr. J. W. Nightingale, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Mr. R. Nightingale, Royal, West Bromwich.
Mr. W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.
Mr. William Peacock, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.
Mr. Jules Richeux, Royal Artillery, Woolwich.
Mr. W. Payne Seddon, Royal, Loughborough.
Mr. Hugh Turner, Lyceum, Ipswich.
Mr. T. C. Wray (touring manager).

Under the new regulations each of the four sections of the Association elects its own members to the Council, the whole of the members so elected forming the General Council.

In the beginning of last Parliamentary Session the Daylight Saving Bill was introduced, strongly supported by many municipal and commercial bodies. The Council took steps to watch the progress of the Bill, and although the Association did not formally appear before the Committee to which it was referred, the Council was instrumental in supplying evidence and taking other steps in opposition. In the result the Committee reported against the proposal, and the Bill has been dropped.

EXCISE DUTY.

Although the Licensing Bill introduced by the Government in 1908 did not affect theatres, the Finance Bill or Budget of 1909 provided for an increase in the Excise Duty in respect of the sale of intoxicants in theatres from £20 to £50 for all theatres. This proposal was taken up by the Council, a deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and after considerable correspondence and the submission of various details with regard to the sales of liquor in theatres the Chancellor of the Exchequer arranged for a Government amendment to be moved restricting the increase of duty to theatres of a ratable value exceeding £2,000 a year.

The Association expresses thanks to the President, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. Bourchier, and Mr. Elliston for the active interest and energy they showed in connection with this subject.

CENSORSHIP AND LICENSING.

In the beginning of last year the Theatres Bill was introduced, providing for the amendment of the Theatres Act, 1843, by abolishing the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain and transferring to the London County Council the power of licensing theatres at present exercised by the Lord Chamberlain. This Bill was dropped, but in the following April a new Bill was introduced which, in addition to abolishing the censorship of plays, provided for one licence to cover all kinds of dramatic and musical performances, thus doing away with the legal distinction between theatres and music halls. This Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament, and after the evidence of representatives of several bodies interested or concerned in theatrical or musical entertainment and numerous other witnesses had been heard, the report of the Committee was issued in November last. The views of the Association were put before the Committee by appointed representatives. The thanks of the Association were tendered to the president, Mr. Redfern, Mr. Mouillot, and Mr. Savile for their services in this connection. This report is being considered by a Committee of the Association, who will, in due course, report to the General Council.

STANDARD CONTRACT.

The standard form of agreement appears now to have been finally approved, and is recommended to members for adoption.

MUTUAL INSURANCE.

The attention of members is called to the benefits open to them from insuring with the Theatres Mutual Insurance Company. Mr. J. F. Elliston of the Royal, Bolton, the managing director of the company, will give information and answer all inquiries of members contemplating insurance.

The lists of members are as follow:—

London Members.

Arthur Bourchier, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Tom B. Davis, George Edwardes, Seymour Hicks, H. B. Irving, Dr. Distin Maddick, Cyril Maude, W. S. Penley, H. R. Smith, Sir Herbert Tree, Edward Terry, Fred Terry.

Suburban Members.

W. E. Allen, R. Arthur, H. G. D. Bennett, B. Blaiberg, Edward Compton, Wentworth Croke, Peter Davey, F. Fredericks, J. B. Howard, F. Melville, J. B. Mulholland, Jules Richeux (1910), Ernest Stevens.

Provincial Members.

Robt. Arthur, H. G. D. Bennett, T. H. Birch, Milton Bode, J. W. Boughton, E. Oswald Brooks, R. C. Buchanan, J. W. Chapman, J. M. Chute, L. Collingwood, S. Cooper, Wentworth Croke, A. F. Cross, O. Culling, J. H. Curry, S. F. Davidson, Tom B. Davis, E. J. Domville, E. Dottridge, T. A. Edwardes, J. F. Elliston, C. Elphinstone, E. G. Falcon, Harris Fineberg, C. Fox, jun., J. F. Graham, F. Granville, John Hart, J. W. Huddlestone, Percy Hutchison, J. C. Imeson, W. W. Kelly, Murray King, F. Laidler, J. Langdon Lee, E. Lewis, A. McLeod Loader, E. Marris, M. Montgomery, Wm. Morton, Sir H. E. Moss, F. Mouillot, J. W. Nightingale, R. Nightingale, W. Peacock, W. E. Potts, W. B. Redfern, R. Redford, T. Rowe, H. W. Rowland, J. H. Savile, W. Payne Seddon, T. Sergenson, S. Sounes, H. Turner, F. W. Warden, J. E. Whitty, F. W. Wyndham.

Touring.

Tom Craven, M. V. Leveaux, Walter Melville, T. C. Wray.

Honorary Members.

William Bailey, Oscar Barrett, Harcourt Cecil Beryl, E. H. Bull, Lawson Lambert, Walter Melville, Otho Stuart, C. F. Williams.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The Actresses' Franchise League held its first reception of the season in the Victoria Hall of the Criterion Restaurant on the afternoon of the 4th inst. The guests were received by Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley, and Miss Granville presided. The room was filled to overflowing by a most appreciative audience, and the opening speeches of Mr. A. Campbell Johnston (hon. counsel to the A.F.L.) and of Major-General Sir Alfred Turner aroused frequent applause.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in a charming and lucid address, put before the professional women among her hearers the position to-day of working women of all grades, explaining how they were likely to be affected in the future by the present trend of party politics. She declared the question of votes for women to be one of "bread and butter," for the reason that as the various demands of men voters became more and more insistent, women were being gradually pushed out of first one occupation and then another and their prospects of earning a living seriously threatened. Referring to the dismissal of married women teachers from the Council schools, Miss Pankhurst aroused considerable merriment by asking the actresses present how they would like to be compulsorily retired from the stage on their marriage, adding that they retained their positions only because they were indispensable and the theatres could not get along without them.

Miss Maud Hoffman (hon. treasurer), in a graceful little speech, explained that though all friends and sympathisers might not be eligible for membership of the A.F.L., the League was prepared to accept and enrol "patrons," who, while contributing to the funds, would otherwise support its aims and objects. As a result of her appeal many names were sent up to the platform, the amounts promised, together with a collection taken in the room, making a substantial addition to the A.F.L. coffers. There were also present Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Compton, Miss Ellen O'Malley, Miss Sara Brooke, Miss Alice Crawford, Lady Agnew, Mrs. Anstruther, Miss Edith Craig, Mrs. Du Maurier, Lady Beckett, Mrs. Gilbert Samuel, Mrs. Carl Meyer, Mrs. T. Hanson Lewis, Mr. Wolfe Levy, Mrs. Wilmot, Miss Elaine Inescourt, the Misses Dugdale, Mr. A. P. Sinnett, Miss Winifred Mayo, Miss Judith Kyrle, Miss Ethel Seligman, Miss Gladys Courtenay, Miss Beatrice Wilson, Miss Sydney Keith, Miss Alys Rees, Miss Isabel Grey, Miss Katharine Parry, Mrs. Dora Mole, Miss Adah Barton, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Katharine Herbert, Miss Ethel Ingram, Miss Ada Palmer, Miss Stanley Ronalds, Miss Madeleine Roberts, Miss Inez Bensusan, Miss Nella Powys, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Liliane Deane, Mrs. James Anning, Miss Manville, Miss Elizabeth Dexter, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Gwladys Morris, Miss Evelyn Marthege, Miss Ella Dixon, Miss Mary Pearson, Miss Phyllis Relph, Miss Blineta Brown, Miss Clara Elstob, Miss Ruth Parrott, Miss Kitty Marion, and Miss Bessie Hatton.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held at the Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, on Feb. 4. Present: Mr. Wentworth Croke (in the chair), Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. C. Barth, Mr. M. V. Leveaux, Mr. W. Holles, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). A letter from the Society of West-End Theatre Managers, in reference to the appointment of a joint sub-committee, was read.

In answer to a letter from a member, in reference to the exhibition in certain theatres of pictures with stories, by means of the biograph, between the acts, the secretary was requested to send a copy of the letter to the Theatrical Managers' Association, and ask for their views on the subject. Correspondence with a resident manager was submitted by a member in reference to a visit, and the solicitor advised that the member had no case. The solicitor reported that he had served a county court summons on the actor who had broken his agreement with a member. The following were elected members: Messrs. Cecil Woodhouse, Edwin T. Heys, Percy Barrow, and Frank Lindo.

The committee of the Managers' Club held a meeting on Feb. 4. Present: Mr. M. V. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, Mr. W. Holles, Mr. Peter Davey, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. W. Muskerry Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). A discussion took place in reference to the new club premises, and it was decided to insert an advertisement in two papers with a view to getting a suitable place. The following were elected members: Messrs. J. Willoughby Woodward, Charles W. Johnson, Herbert J. Sich, Dudley Stuart, Francis Fowler, T. J. Holmyard, Oliver J. Round, Louis Meyer, Frank Cellier, jun., William Arthur Salmond, Frank Lindo, Frederick Charles Judge, James Kiernan, Harry Tilbury, George Shirley, Maurice F. Raymond, and Henry Byrne Jones.

A Keats-Shelley matinée will be given at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday, June 10, the performance consisting almost entirely of the works of the two poets. The object of the matinée is to complete the equipment of the Keats-Shelley Memorial House, which was opened in Rome last April by the King of Italy.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.), price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"BEFORE THE DAWN."

A Melodrama of the Revolution, from the Russian of Leopold Kampf, Played for the First Time in English at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Sofia Ivanovna ..... MISS EDYTH GOODALL
Mascha ..... MISS MURIEL PRATT
Anton Tlatschoff ..... MR. HERBERT LOMAS
Vasili ..... MR. IAN MACLAREN
A District Inspector ..... MR. CLAUDE BULKELEY
Simon, House Porter ..... MR. JOHN BEECH
Tantal ..... MR. STANLEY DREWITT
Anna Andrejevna Rikanskaja ..... MISS MONA LIMERICK
A Police Inspector ..... MR. B. IDEN PAYNE
Police Officers ..... MR. STAFFORD DAWSON; MR. JOSEPH A. KEOGH; MR. GILBERT CLARKE
Cyril ..... MR. ESMÉ PERCY
A Doctor ..... MR. HENRY AUSTIN
Gregor ..... MR. MONTAGUE ELPHINSTONE
A Banker ..... MR. FRANK DARCH
Arina ..... MISS ADA KING
Erich Kunze ..... MISS BASIL DEAN
Sascha ..... MR. GORDON BLYTH
Mazia ..... MISS HILDA BRUCE POTTER
Barbara ..... MISS EDYTH GOODALL
Tanja ..... MISS IRENE HESLOP
Natalia ..... MISS LOUISE HOLBROOK
Ivan Pavlovitch ..... MR. CHARLES BIBBY
Katia ..... MISS MARIANNE WACHTER
Olga Lianovitch ..... MISS HILDA DAVIES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

To describe this play as a melodrama is a very poor tribute to its quality, for it has as little in common with that kind of theatrical entertainment as it has, indeed, to go to another extreme, with the character-tragedies of Shakespeare. It is drama, and it is tragedy, but of a distinct type. It is wrought of the minds of a people in revolt; it is too large in idea to concern itself greatly about given persons, save in so far as they represent each a type; there is no attempt to move the play along the usual lines of a finite plot; such story as there is is merely drifted along with the changing movement of a spiritual force which mere personal interests, tragic though they be, have no power to control or even to evade. The imagination of an artist is employed throughout to write in or leave out just those positive or negative implications which go to the creation of a desired effect, namely, the effect of atmosphere. The air of the play is impregnated with fear, cruelty, suffering, sacrifice, and the merciless punishment of Tzardom. Even through the windows one sees in the very snow-coldness of the streets a brooding stillness, as if the houses themselves are conscious of the chill death that besets the aspirations of the people. There is an outer scene of a church, and sounds of organ music, like a hint of mockery; it is the scene upon which some of the characters look down from the window of Vasili's lodging, when a long procession of strikers, singing in lilting but dismal unison, are suddenly fired upon by troops until the street runs with blood. The time of the play is the early spring of 1905, and the opening scene is the printing office of *The Light*, where Anton Tlatschoff has his printing machine, and Sofia Ivanovna and Mascha fold the papers for secret distribution. Here Tantal, a hunted and exhausted revolutionary, is in hiding, and here also come Vasili and Anna Rikanskaja, each in unspoken love with the other. Anna, who is the niece of a Government official, brings contributions for the paper and is argumentatively inspiriting; Vasili, brooding apart, is all for action. Haunted by sufferings of his own (there is a hint that he is one who was arrested years before), and desirous of the love of Anna, his mind is in a state of anguish between the yearning and the possibilities on the one hand, and the sureness of the doom that, in the cause of freedom, must come upon him on the other. The end of this meeeting-place, with its sadness and its subterfuges, comes with a visit of the police. Tantal shoots himself (Vasili and Anna have already gone), and Anton and his assistants are taken away for punishment and outrage. In the next scene, Vasili's lodging, other characters are introduced. There are a doctor, a banker, a poet-student, who, like Vasili, is eager for action and less talk, and others, with one of whom, Gregor, Vasili arranges to take upon himself the responsibility of throwing a bomb. This amounts to the acceptance of his doom, and the end of his sentimental aspirations. But there is no room in the Cause for the valuation of a life above itself; all must go for the sake of the freedom to come, through blood and sacrifice, since there is no other way; and even now, before their eyes and ringing in their ears, are the sights and sounds of the butchery of men chanting a dismal song by the church in the street in the cause of justice. Upon Vasili's resolution is built the incidental tragedy of the play. It is in this scene that his love for Anna is uttered and returned; the sequel of which must be Anna's signal to him from a window of her aunt's rooms, by a light at the panes, that certain carriages are about to pass a house in which he is to be ready with the bomb. It is carried out with an anguished submission to fate in both, and only Anna's suffering is seen after the bomb is thrown; there is no more of Vasili. Such are the broad outlines of this impressive picture of Russian life.

The author is a Pole. The play was first prepared for the stage in German at Hamburg, where, however, its performance was forbidden by the police. It met with the same fate in Austria. Subsequently, it was played at the German theatre in New York, and then in French at Paris, where it was phenomenally successful, running for over a hundred nights. The latter company staged it in London about a year ago, under the title of *Le Grand Soir*. In Russia, of course, the play would be impossible.

So far as the acting is concerned there are no sustained opportunities for anyone; but there is an intensity in the character of Vasili which probes the imagination, and which was steadily embodied by Mr. Ian Maclaren; while the other outstanding part of Anna gave Miss Mona Limerick several chances, especially the one at the end of the play, of showing her great capacity for emotional acting. Miss Edyth Goodall as Sofia, and later as Anna's aunt, was notably good; Mr. Charles Bibby as Ivan Pavlovitch infused a dash of character-comedy that was welcome, in spite of its underlying grimness; Mr. Stanley Drewitt as the unhappy Tantal was sincere and impressive; and among other impersonations, all adequate and more or less pertinent to the action, the best chances were in the hands of Mr. B. Iden Payne, Mr. Esmé Percy, Miss Ada King, and Miss Louise Holbrook.

THE ever-popular *Sherlock Holmes* is being presented at the Empire Theatre, Swindon, by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company. Mr. Stewart arouses enthusiasm by his interpretation of Sherlock Holmes; Mr. Eric Morden ably depicts Dr. Watson; Mr. Ernest Fryer does good work as John Forman; Mr. Charles Brandon gives a powerful portrayal of Professor Moriarty; James Larabee is convincingly taken by Mr. Arnold O. Raper; Mr. Olly Seymour infuses the necessary humour into the part of Sydney Prince; and Master Thomas Russell is very good as Billy. Madge Larabee is capably rendered by Miss May Beatrice; Miss Maisie Richardson is a satisfactory Therese; and Miss A. Bruce-Joy's delineation of Alice Faulkner is excellent.

THE manager of the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, Mr. Auguste A. Penleve, took his annual complimentary benefit on the 31st ult., when a crowded audience, largely representing the county, gave evidence of his widespread popularity.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS IDA MACKAY.

Born at Nantwich, Cheshire, Miss Ida Mackay commenced her theatrical career with Mr. Fred Harcourt, playing the part of Abdullah in *At Duty's Call*. A varied experience has been her lot, the portable theatre claiming much of her early attention, where she gained that genuine experience that now stands her in good stead. Pantomimes with the late Mr. C. Hart and the late Mrs. Levey were excellent fill-ins. Soubrettes are her special line, but no part comes amiss; in fact, the only line of business she has not played is heavy. During recent years she has had long tours in the following managements, playing the parts of Susan in H. T. Garland's *Merciless World*, Susie Slack in *The Heart of a Hero*, and Trixie Lucien in *Defending His Honour*, with Messrs. Carson and Granville. She created the parts Freda

[*Photo by Green.*

MISS IDA MACKAY.

and Doris Fane (juvenile leads) in the late F. Bateman's *At War with Women* and *No Wedding Bells for Her* companies.

Mme. Vinard in *Trilby*, Jeanie Brown and Dossie Dick in *A Life's Handicap*, Captain of the Guard (with the rapier duel) in *The Three Musketeers*, Dorothy Vernon in *For the King*, Mary in *What Men Dare*, comprise a range of parts taking in low and light comedy, character and juvenile leads. Her latest part is that of Katerina in *A Woman Worth Winning*, which she has played just over one thousand times. Boating is her special exercise, and her constant companion a beautiful little black "skip," now turning grey, of which she is exceedingly fond.

MISS DOROTHY CLIFTON.

The first engagement fulfilled by Miss Dorothy Clifton was with Mr. Wentworth Croke in *The Christian* (No. 1) company, during which she played various small parts and afterwards understudied and played for several weeks in succession the part of Polly Love, in which rôle she was most successful. Miss Clifton then had a short experience of musical comedy, playing one of the Flower Girls, and understudying Dénise in Mr. George Dance's *Veronique* company. She was then engaged by Mr. Laidler, of the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, to understudy the Fairy Queen and Cinderella. During the illness of the principal she played the latter part, and was the recipient of warm congratulations from Mr. Laidler, Miss Florrie Forde (who was playing the Prince), and many other members of the company. Miss Clifton was then engaged by Messrs. F. and W. Morgan for important parts in stock seasons at Aberdeen and Dundee, at the termination of which she was retained by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Lauderdale Maitland to play the leading part (Grace Shirley) in *The Coal King*, continuing with them until the end of the tour, when the piece changed hands.

For a short time Miss Clifton played Winnie Marshall in *The Girl Who Wrecked His Home*, and then undertook the leading part in Mr. Walter

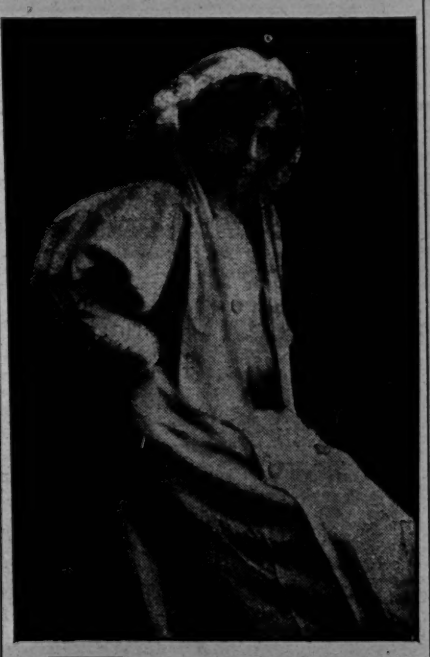

[*Photo by Wood Art Galleries.*

MISS DOROTHY CLIFTON.

Howard's military drama, *Second to None*. Asked by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton if she would take up Miss Leila Zillwood's part in *The Power of the King* until she should recover from her illness, Miss Clifton consented, and remained with them until Miss Zillwood's recovery. A tour with Mr. Gaston Meyer as Miss Lucy in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* was followed by a special week with Miss Flo Irwin and Mr. Ross in an amusing sketch which was played at the Empress, Brixton, entitled *Mrs. Peckham's Carouse*. She has just concluded a tour with the Melodrama Production Syndicate, playing the leading part of Marjorie Lovell in *Sexton Blake*.

Miss Clifton was brought up and educated in France, and speaks the French language fluently. She has played in several French comedies, in the original tongue, with success. She passed Mr. Henry J. Woods' (Queen's Hall, London) examination for violin, and became a member of his amateur orchestra, a membership she was reluctantly obliged to resign when she commenced touring. Added to these accomplishments, Miss Clifton has a well-trained musical voice, is a good pianist, and a skilful dancer.

MR. A. B. MACKAY.

Mr. A. B. Mackay started his theatrical career at the old Opera House, Perth (his native city), in the year 1885, playing the children's parts for Mr. Walter Bentley. Baron Zeigler, then managing the Palace, Dundee, took a fancy to him, and with him young Mackay visited all the principal cities in Scotland. After further Scotch associations with that well-known comedian, the late J. C. Macdonald, he had what he calls the good fortune to fall in with a répertoire company, where work was plentiful and money a very scarce commodity, but declares that the experience gained was well worth all the empty stomachs and heartaches. He spent two very happy years with the late W. T. Rushbury, playing the character parts in *The World's Verdict*, *Tommy Atkins*, and *Jack Tar*. This brings him up to '95, just after the Jameson Raid, when he joined a sketch company to create the part of Dr. Jim. After a twelve months' tour with the late Mr. H. O'Grady, playing the heavies in *The Fenian*, *Famine*, and *The Irish Emigrant*, he was back again in Bonnie Scotland, to play Benson, in *The Shadows of a Great City*, for the Edinburgh Pavilion Theatre Company's tour. The part of Luke Raymond in *The Merciless World* came next, his association with the late Mr. and Mrs. Garland lasting something like two years, during which he sustained the heavy lead and undertook general and stage-management. Read and Davis's *A London Mystery* was his next tour, the part of Mons. Obanoff, the character lead, falling to him, and this was followed by a short tour with Mr. A. L. Baron, as Taffy and the Laird, in *Trilby*, the Cardinal in *The Three Musketeers*; Capt. Clavering, in *For the King*, Messrs. Nerry and Pitt's tour; Jasper Gibbs, in *When George Was King*, Mr. F. Macnaghten's tour; and George Allison, in *At Duty's Call*, with Mr. J. Gerant. He was then engaged by Messrs. Carson and Granville to create the part of Dick Brenton, and stage-manage *The Drama of Life*. Here commenced an association that lasted for nearly five years, off and on, during which time he played the character and heavy part in *The Heart of a Hero* and *Defending His Honour*. The late Mr. F. Bateman was his next manager, and with him he created the dual rôle (lead) in *At War with Women*, and the character part of Horatio Fane in *No Wedding Bells for Her*, also doing the stage management during tours extending over two years. Meanwhile Mr. Mackay was fortunate enough to meet with his present partner, Mr. Percy Norman, and *A Woman Worth Winning* was produced on Sept. 24, '05, and has been continuously toured since. Mr. Mackay has played at different periods the lead, heavy lead, and character parts.

[*Photo by Green.*

MR. A. B. MACKAY.

Svengali is one of his favourite rôles, and it has been his fortune to play it something like 150 times. Varied experience has been his lot as regards a range of parts, but his preference is for character leads. His hobbies are many, but business and strict attention to it is an easy first, his special exercises swimming and boating, and a good game at football his special sport.

MR. TOWNSEND WHITLING.

Born at Oxford, Mr. Townsend Whitling was educated at Cheltenham College. He was intended for the Army, but failed in examinations, and went out to Western America, where he was engaged for some time in ranching. Eventually he became lessee of an opera house in a small Western town, subsequently going on tour with a comic opera company, playing *Erminie*, *Little Tycoon*, *Pinafore*, &c. He then joined a minstrel troupe playing through the West, and was afterwards with a company playing *Jane*, a tour as Taffy in *Trilby* following. He then went to New York, where he obtained an engagement with the late Mr. A. M. Palmer, supporting Henry Miller and Blanch Walsh in *Heartsease*, opening the Great Northern Theatre, Chicago, with it. He was engaged by Margaret Mather to play in *Cymbeline* at Wallack's Theatre, and afterwards went on tour, playing in *Cymbeline*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Tybalt), *Leah*, &c. A Shakespearean tour with William Owen and Rose Eytinge followed, with Mr. Whitling as King in *Hamlet*, Leonato, Tybalt, &c. A summer production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Philostrate), with E. J. Henley and Edmund Lyons, came next, after which he was engaged by Klaw and Erlanger to support the late Maurice Barrymore in *A Ward of France* at Wallack's. An engagement with Elita Proctor Otis for *Oliver Twist*, playing Bill Sikes, was followed by an incursion into vaudeville with Miss Otis in *My Milliner's Bill*. He was next engaged to play in the late Charles Coghlan's production of *The Royal Box*, later going with him to the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, to play in *Citizen Pierre*.

Mr. Whitling's first engagement on returning to England was with Mr. Frank Curzon in *The Cuckoo* (King Kamswaga). He played in stock season in *The Great Ruby*, *East Lynne*, &c., and toured with Mrs. Lewis Waller in *The Three Musketeers* (De Treville), tours in *A Royal Divorce* and *One of the Best* coming afterwards. Various stock work in the suburbs followed—the Deemster, *Ben-my-Chree*; O'Grady, *Arrah Na Pogue*; Kinchella, *Shaughraun*; Legree, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*; McClosky, *Octoroon*; Dalton, *Ticket-of-Leave Man*; *Black Diamonds*, *Streets of London*, &c. He was engaged by Messrs. Henry Dundas and Ernest Leicester for Mark Redburn in *Rising to Win* and by Mr. C. W. Somerset for Jacques in *The Two Orphans*.

A year's tour in South Africa with Rayne and De Jong followed, playing leading parts in *The Prodigal Daughter*, *Talk of the Town*, *Jane*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, *The Masqueraders*, *English Rose*, *Lights of London*, &c. He supported Mr. Joe Elvin at the Oxford (*'Appy 'Ampstead*) and the Tivoli (*To-night's the Night*). He was then retained by Mr. Henry Dundas for tour of *Shadowed Lives*, by Mr. F. Mouillot to play the Messenger in *A Message from Mars* (on two tours), and for Mr. C. W. Somerset's production of *A Stranger in a Strange Land* (Dr. Boller). Then came an engagement with the Hutchison management lasting five years as stage-manager and playing leading parts in *The Money Makers*, *Country Mouse*, *Freedom of Suzanne*, *On the Love Path*, *Peter's Mother*, *Two in a Trap*, &c. He was secured by Messrs. Jay and Mann to play

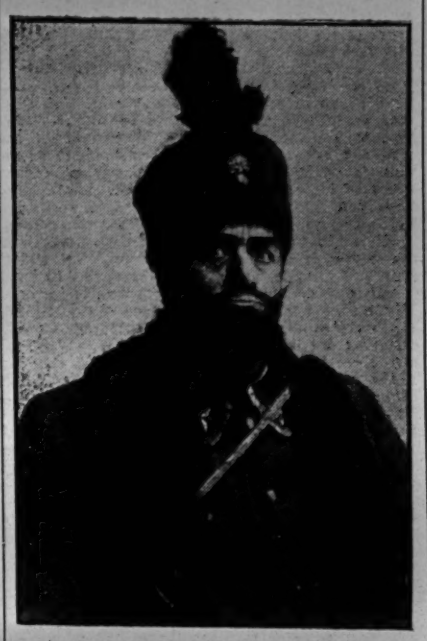

[*Photo by Charles and Russell.*

MR. TOWNSEND WHITLING.

Prince Yoland in *An Englishman's Home* this autumn, combining that part with the duties of stage-director to their two companies. He is now playing Walter Angel in *The Little Damozel* on tour.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE.

The first professional appearance of Mr. Edwin H Wynne was made in the character of Mr. St. George, a "dude" part, in *Nita's First*, with the late Sidney Herberte-Basing's company, touring the small towns in Devon and Cornwall. Mr. Wynne was retained by the same management for the part of the crying baby in the pantomime *Humpty Dumpty*. Then followed a long period in various small touring companies, during which Mr. Wynne played all kinds of parts—from old men to singing boys and dames—in drama, comedy, farce, Shakespeare, musical plays, and pantomime, picking up a lot of useful experience. In the autumn of 1892 he played Tony in *My Sweetheart*, to the Tina of Miss Lizzie Boone; and a tour as the Old Colonel in *Woodbarrow Farm* was followed by a stock season at the Theatre Royal, Margate, with Miss Sarah Thorne.

In the summer of 1893 Mr. Wynne was engaged by Mr. W. S. Penley to be his understudy in *Charley's Aunt*, and remained at the Globe in that capacity close upon two years, during which he frequently played "the old lady from Brazil," at one time for a period of nearly three months. Then he went on tour with Miss Minnie Palmer, as Tony, in *My Sweetheart*, an engagement that was followed by several tours as Charley's Aunt. In the spring of 1899 he was engaged by Messrs. Morrell and Mouillot to create the part of Count Stephan in *The Transit of Venus*, and re-engaged for the same rôle for the autumn tour, and for the Ugly Sister in *Cinderella* at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. Following a spring tour as Gussie in *Little Miss Nobody*, came an engagement with Mr. Arthur Roberts in *On the Move*. Then Mr. Wynne took up *Charley's Aunt* again.

In the autumn of 1901 he was engaged to play Mr. Weedon Grossmith's part in *The Night of the Party*, and was re-engaged for the same part for Christmas and spring tours. Christmas, 1902 and 1903, found him as Mrs. Sinbad at the Theatre

[*Photo by Cousins.*

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE.

Royal, Exeter; and another tour of *The Night of the Party* was followed by his last tour under Mr. Penley's management of *Charley's Aunt*. After this came a tour playing Mr. Weedon Grossmith's part in *The Duffer*, then various sketches in music halls, and an engagement with Mr. William Pool in a revival of *The Good-natured Man*. Mr. Wynne was then secured by Mr. Wilfrid Cotton to play Christopher Podmore in *Butterflies* at the Christmas of 1908 and 1909, and continued on the autumn tour, supporting Miss Ada Reeve, which has recently concluded.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales witnessed the performance of *Dame Nature* at the Garrick Theatre on Monday evening.

"MOTHER TO BE."

A Love Story, in One Act, by Basil Dean, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Jenny Starnes ..... MISS HILDA BRUCE POTTER
Sarah Starnes ..... MISS LOUISE HOLBROOK
Richard Starnes ..... MR. EDWARD LANDOR
Dodd Bartley ..... MR. LEONARD MUDIE
Joe Chastey ..... MR. CHARLES BIBBY

This is not the first attempt of Mr. Basil Dean at the writing of drama, but, so far as our judgment goes, it is, as it should be, the best thing he has done, so far, in his laudable endeavour to add to the good things which Miss Horniman's company (of which he is a member) are apt to give us in the way of new stuff from time to time. It is the kind of thing which is more easily conceived than shaped, more easily "fobbed off" by the ordinary critic than awarded its due; for the simple reason that it demands, not merely the appraisement of the eye, or of the emotions roused by superficial incident, but a sense of character in the beholder, and a psychological appreciation of the author's motive. In other words, it is a very human and delicate piece of work, spun in fine and unobtrusive threads, and coloured with the hues of home. So simple a story would scarcely be attempted by a dramatist who had not the trait of sentiment well developed; it is just the old tale of a woman's preference for a man who has no hope of her until she tells him of her choice; but Mr. Dean's gift of characterisation fills in the picture triumphantly. The value of the work lies underneath the incidents one sees, though the incidents are of necessity characteristic. The action of the play passes at Starne's farm in the West Country, on the afternoon of a June day. We have Richard Starnes, a good-hearted tenant farmer, very fond of his daughter Jenny, and a little impatient of his somewhat shrewish wife; Sarah, the wife in question, who with her unsympathetic asperities outwears the patience of her daughter also, yet who is obviously a good wife in the work-a-day sense of the word; and Jenny, the daughter, a pleasant, marriageable girl, apparently soured by some subtle disappointment. It is time that Jenny was off their hands, says the mother, who is all for the claims of one Dodd Bartley, a tranter, while the father, not wishing to force the point unduly, is, on his daughter's confession, but dubiously tolerant of such an outsider as Joe Chastey, a notorious ne'er-do-well. Joe, however, has a chance of reformation in the fact that he has already given up the drink and has a prospect of becoming gamekeeper on a neighbouring estate. This is the situation upon which Dodd Bartley makes his appearance to prosecute his suit for the hand of Jenny. Jenny will have none of him; but Dodd is amorous and masterful, and, having seized Jenny in his arms, will not release her from his kisses until she has promised to be his wife. Joe Chastey comes by the window in time to witness the embrace, but this has been prolonged by Jenny so that Joe might feel the pangs of jealousy; she has no more object in consenting to Dodd's demand than to ensure her escape when Joe comes into the kitchen. Trouble ensues between Joe and Dodd. Joe has seen his rival in questionable circumstances with another lady only that morning, and demands therefore that no deceit shall be practised on Jenny. Dodd resents the impending disclosure, and the result is becoming decidedly quarrelsome when Jenny, who has overheard, puts an end to the matter by summarily dismissing Mr. Bartley. It is then the task lies before her of opening the eyes of Joe, who is honest but unaspiring, and who cannot see his own virtues shining in the eyes of the woman for whose sake he has already begun the work of self-reform. How she does it may be more pleasantly imagined than described, and the crown of the matter, when Joe realises his good fortune, is the advent of Farmer Starnes with the news that Joe's application for the post of gamekeeper has succeeded. In the circumstances, even Mrs. Starnes is mollified, and nothing else more joyful could be wished for than that.

The play was as admirably acted as it well deserved to be. Miss Hilda Bruce Potter as Jenny added one more to her triumphs in pleasant characterisation; Mr. Charles Bibby as Joe played like the accomplished actor he is; and an absolutely lifelike impersonation of Mrs. Starnes was given by Miss Louise Holbrook. Mr. Edward Landor's Richard Starnes was cleverly done, and Mr. Leonard Mudie put the requisite fervour into his attempt upon Jenny as the unscrupulous Dodd Bartley. The play was particularly well staged, and the author was called at the close.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The College Choir, conducted by Dr. H. T. Pringuer, gave a performance of "Stabat Mater," Dvorák, in the Concert Room of the College, on Tuesday afternoon. The soloists were Miss Florence Griffiths, Miss Edith Davies, Miss Alice Booth, Miss Hilda Felstead, Mr. Malcolm Henderson, Mr. Joseph Myers, and Mr. Sydney Sharvell. Mr. Harry A. Gray and Mrs. James R. Blazey presided at the organ and piano. Dvorák's work is a somewhat heavy task for the choral students of the Trinity College to undertake, as in some respects it is more difficult than Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and as there was a large audience in the room, space was limited, but it must be admitted the young soloists displayed great intelligence in their singing, and the tone of the chorus was generally excellent. The male singers also deserved special praise for their rendering of several difficult solos, and the singing of both soprano and contralto in duets and solos had no little merit. The accompaniments on organ and piano were carefully played by Mr. Harry Gray and Mrs. James R. Blazey, while the frequent applause showed the interest taken in the performance by the large audience.

MEMBERS of the Sheffield School of Art Dramatic Club gave on several evenings last week a highly meritorious performance of the Old English comedy *The Knight of the Burning Pestle* in the Temperance Hall before large and enthusiastic audiences. At the close of the performance on Saturday evening a presentation was made to Mr. J. F. Horrabin (who ably represented the Knight) of a floral design representing a burning pestle, and also a pretty silver statuette of a knight in armour, from members of the Dramatic Club in recognition of his services as hon. secretary.

VERDI'S "Requiem" will be given this (Saturday) evening, by the Crystal Palace Orchestral Society and Choir. This selection was last given at the Palace in 1878, and to-night's concert should prove of special interest to music-lovers. Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, under whose conductorship the work will be given, has secured the services of several well-known artists, including Miss Ethel Wood, Miss Winifred Williamson, Mr. Webster Millar, and Mr Julien Henry. In addition to the "Requiem," the programme includes "St. Paul" and Psalm, in eight parts, "Judge me, O God" (Mendelssohn), and "Marche Héroïque" (Saint-Saëns).

THE Promenade Concerts at the Crystal Palace, which are always such a popular feature of the entertainment there, will be continued until further notice. The artists for next week include: Monday, Miss Florence Barrow and Mr. Tirby Heale; Tuesday, Miss Gladys Reeve (solo violin) and Mr. Alexander Webster; Thursday, Miss Maud Clough and Mr. Robert Carr; Friday, Miss Rosina Beynon and Mr. Gwilym Richards; and Saturday, the Westminster Singers Messrs. George May, Wilfred Kearton, Bertram Mills, and W. H. Brereton. There will be no concert on Wednesday, the 16th inst., owing to the skating carnival.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

"ALADDIN" AT THE LYCEUM.

[SECOND EDITION.]

King Pantomime is being dethroned all over the kingdom, but *Aladdin* at the Lyceum continues on its triumphal way, and this week has run into a second edition. While the best of the pantomime has been retained, new features are apparent, and the fun of the various comic episodes is materially strengthened. One notices in the first part a diverting interlude between the Emperor, so jovially played by Mr. Frank Hemming, and Pitti-Sing, fascinatingly presented by Miss Marie Free. The novelty deals with the doings of "Soldiers in the Park," and arouses some of the heartiest laughter of the evening. Mr. Hemming and Miss Free are still associated in a "quarrelling" duet, well managed by both artists and thoroughly appreciated by the audience. Miss Free's singing of "Mr. Schneider," with its accompanying dance, wins the clever little artist encores.

Miss Dorothy Craske continues to command the admiration of the whole house by her comely appearance, excellent singing, and bright acting as Aladdin. An additional number given to her is the popular "Somewhere," in the ear-haunting refrain of which she has the assistance of a gentleman in the dress circle, who repeats the chorus in a melodious and cultivated baritone, and arouses enthusiasm, a repetition of the last verse being inevitable. Miss Eva Kelland is also given a fresh number, which takes the form of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," to which she gives the utmost value. Miss Kelland's vocal charm is also apparent in "Golden Daffodils," in which she has the assistance of a graceful bevy of ladies. Miss Kelland is a veritable Princess, and her elegant acting and dancing gain great admiration. Miss Simeta Marsden, the bright and buoyant Pekoe, too, has additional effect given to her song "Charlie Brown" by the kind assistance of the orchestra, the members of which take up the chorus in quite harmonious fashion. Miss Marsden's "Ship, ahoy!" remains high in favour.

The comedians have brought their fun-making to high-water mark, and the house is kept hilarious throughout the evening. Mr. Scott Barrie's Widow Twankey is more quaintly ingenuous than ever. A new number that falls to him is "The girl in Berlin," an ingeniously written song which made an immediate hit. Mr. Barrie disports himself in his customary whimsical way, and never fails to score.

Another indefatigable merrymaker is Mr. Arthur Poole, whose Abanazar is genuinely droll and his comic resource illimitable. In "Early in the Morning" he plays effectively on the humorous perceptions of the audience. The original methods of Miss Florence Smithers make her "lady 'elp" Smuttee the oddest of odd persons, and the genuine drollery of her work is irresistible. Her scenes with Mr. Poole are most amusing, and the altercation with the seaside landlady is greatly relished. Mr. Archie Royer's antics as Wishee-Washee cause amazement as well as amusement, so realistic are his falls and tumbling.

Little Miss Marjorie Carpenter is now an accomplished dancer, while her powers as an actress are already beyond dispute. She is quite the daintiest Slave of the Lamp imaginable, and her pretty speeches gain added value from her clear and bell-like expression. The Genie of the Ring is agreeably realised by Miss Victoria Sievers, who is enthusiastically applauded for her singing of "Love makes the whole year June," and the pixy kingdom has fair representatives in Miss Lizzie Ophir as Fairy Heather Bell and Miss Annie Bevington as Queen of the Little Fairies. The Polar Bear of Mr. Harry Gardner, who is also responsible for the excellent harlequinade, remains a masterpiece of animal assumption.

The Lewin-Martel Xylophone Duo still figure at the Garden Party, with the splendours of which they harmonise completely in their elegant costumes. Their instruments are the sweetest in tone we ever remember to have heard, and the remarkable skill of the players enables them to render operatic selections in a manner that could not be excelled. They have made a memorable impression at the Lyceum, and the encores bestowed on the clever pair at every performance are worthily won.

The various scenes, all from the brush of Mr. E. C. Nicholls, delight the eye; the music, composed and arranged by Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke, ravishes the ear; the ballets and evolutions, invented and arranged by Mlle. Rosa, are overwhelming in their magnificence, and Mr. S. Major Jones regulates the stage with an experienced hand. Altogether Mr. Henry R. Smith, the managing-director, has every reason for congratulation on the popularity which the pantomime has attained.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Play by Justin Huntly McCarthy, entitled

"THE PROUD PRINCE."

Longfellow's poem of King Robert of Sicily has been excellently dramatised in Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy's romantic Lyceum play, produced for the first time in Western London on Monday evening at the King's Theatre. A great impression was created, and the crowded house showed its appreciation by numerous curtain calls at the stirring and sensational incidents with which the play abounds. The manner in which the piece is staged calls for commendation, and the selection of the artists shows that the greatest care has been exercised for the play's welfare. In the important part of King Robert of Sicily Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan rises to the occasion, declaiming the fine prose in exceedingly able style, and acting, particularly as the deformed cripple, with consummate ability and skill. Count Hildebrand is played by Mr. J. A. Shannon with considerable power, and Mr. Frank Ward wins much praise for his impersonation of the court fool Diogenes. A painstaking rendering of Theron, the executioner, is given by Mr. Terence O'Brien, and Mr. Ernest Stidwell's delivery of the lines allotted to Hieronymus, the priest, received much favour. Mr. Arthur Wilson as Siguro is good, and the Archbishop of Syracuse is very capably undertaken by Mr. Charles Boult. Mr. Cowley Wright's presentation of the Archangel is a distinct success. Decided promise is shown by Miss Eilleen Kerin in the character of Perpetua. Her portrayal of the girl whose soul remains pure throughout the many attempts upon her virtue is worthy of the highest praise. The Lysabetta of Miss Vashti Wynne is at once vigorous and full of passion, and she achieves a marked success in the strongly-drawn character of the Queen of the Courtesans. Helena and Corinna are respectively played by Miss Edith Miller and Miss Ruby Stone with cleverness. The stage crowds are remarkably well handled. Sumptuous costumes designed by Mr. Karl are much admired, and the scenery is really magnificent. Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke has provided the specially-composed music.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, entitled

"PETE."

Mr. Hall Caine's plays are invariably received with every manifestation of appreciation by Dalston audiences, and *Pete*, which is presented this week, forms no exception to the rule. Excellent acting, effective scenery, and general efficiency serve to make the presentation entirely successful. Mr. Frederick Victor gains sympathy for his effective rendering of the character of Pete Quilliam; Miss Constance Bachner shares Mr. Victor's triumph by her impressive acting as Kate Cregeen; Philip Christian was an able representative in Mr. Alfred Lugg; Mr. Maurice Yorke is Ross Christian; and others providing excellent sketches of character include Mr. Ellis J. Preston as Cæsar Cregeen, Mr. J. Lingard as Black Tom, Mr. Will L. Clement as Jonaique Jelly, Mr. R. A. Robinson as Postman Kelly and Doctor Mylechreest, Mr. Wilfred Edmunds as the Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Henry Brooks as the Mayor of Douglas, Mr. Alfred Davidson as Johnny Dumbell, Mr. Arthur Denn as William, and Mr. William Davis as Adam Quirk. The ladies of the cast include Miss Alys Eden, Miss Alice Dorie, Miss Amy Venimore, Miss Kate Spencer, and Miss Lucy Raymond. The stage and business management is in the able hands of Mr. Ellis J. Preston.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.

They love pantomime in Holloway, so the management of the Marlborough can scarcely be blamed for giving its patrons a second dose this season. At Christmas we had *Babes in the Wood* to start with, and one forgot the passing of the hours in its delightful companionship. After the *Babes* it only seems fitting that *The House that Jack Built* should be selected for presentation, more especially as memory recalls that when Mr. Fred Karno produced it at the Marlborough last year the people wanted more of it. Other bookings at the time prevented this, and the good Holloway folk have had exactly twelve months to wait for their beloved Jack to return to the scenes of his first youthful triumphs. *The House that Jack Built* is to stay a couple of weeks in North London before it is transferred to another locality. In the meantime everybody is making the most of it and the fun it provides. The small boys and girls in the audience recognise an old friend in Miss Maidie Scott (Jill), and when that lady makes her initial appearance the youthful hands get to work and make the reception a very flattering one indeed. Every time this lady sings a song—and there are three of them—the delight of the youngsters is expressed in the usual way. In turn "Everybody works but father," "Teddy Bear," and the inevitable "Yip-i-addy-i-ay" get call after call. Mr. Fred Emney is one of the best Mother Hubbards we ever remember to have seen. He, too, had a place in North London's memory where last year's good work was concerned, and was accorded a very hearty greeting. Father Hubbard has a most amusing impersonator in Little Zola. Peals of laughter greeted almost every sally and antic he indulged in. Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., is a very agile cat, and has, if anything, improved on the study of last year. There are two talented little ladies now included in the cast, these being the Misses Gladys Nelson and Maudie Francis. Both are clever singers and dancers, and should make a name in the profession by and by. Miss Nina Green (Prince Opulent) is a handsome and well-built principal boy. She sings two numbers very well, "The girl in the clogs and shawl" and "Let us all go down the Strand." Miss Ida Valli (Jack) gets into the good graces of the North Londoners as easily as she did when *The House that Jack Built* was produced at New Cross a few weeks ago. Her best number is "Ship ahoy!" with its "free and easy, bright and breezy" refrain. Mr. Syd Walker is quietly funny as the Squire of Whare, and the Brothers Obo give a highly amusing rendering of Ripp and Rapp, described as "gentlemen of leisure." Their "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" with a constant series of interruptions, is the hit of the pantomime. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers are agile, graceful, well-trained children, and the chorus is remarkably strong, both in numbers and ability.

Mr. James Leslie is Mr. Karno's business representative; Mr. W. H. Morgan is the producer; and Mr. Lewis Wigley is a stage manager deserving of every praise for his skilful handling of many magnificent efforts of stage craft.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Play, in Four Acts, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, entitled

"THE FIRES OF FATE."

Anyone who craves excitement and thrilling situations leavened with a little love-making and the discussion of a serious ethical problem should go to see Mr. Vedrenne's company in *The Fires of Fate*. The piece is admirably staged, and the original scenic effects are reproduced on the necessarily smaller scale adaptable to the Notting Hill Gate theatre without any apparent diminution of their effectiveness. The thrilling story is excellently interpreted by all concerned. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is entirely effective in his assumption of the varying moods of the brave man doomed by an incurable malady, and in face and figure, as well as in manner and deportment, is admirably suited to the rôle. Mr. Herbert Vyvyan is most impressive and lovable in the part of the Rev. Samuel Roden, and acts with earnestness and conviction. Mr. Charles Francis is distinctly good as the somewhat egotistical and materialistic Dr. James Roden. Mr. Edward A. Coventry and Miss Lydia Hayward make a brief but quite pleasing appearance as the charming couple, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Belmont, whose honeymoon is so tragically terminated, and Mr. Stanley Logan very commendably portrays the expansion of the character of Mr. Cecil Brown when exposed to the furnace of hardship and privation. Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe as the time-serving dragoman Abdulla acts with a nice sense of character, and Mr. Frederic Worlock as Captain Jack Archer, of the Egyptian Camel Corps, is a great favourite. Miss Gwendolen Floyd as Miss Adams of Massachusetts contributes an effective embodiment, and Miss Ruth Bower as Sadie comes out strongly in the closing scenes. Minor parts are well played by Mr. Gerald Mirrielees as Mons. Octave Fardet, Mr. Herbert Maule as Mr. Brodie of Edinburgh, Mr. G. T. Lambert, Mr. Everard Vanderlip, and Mr. Dennis Bryan as Dervishes, and Mr. Arthur Ansell as Dr. Roden's butler. Mr. George Parrington is general-manager, Mr. Percy Crawford business-manager, and Mr. Frederic Castleman and Mr. Dennis Bryan undertake the duties of stage-management for Mr. Vedrenne.

OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Comedy, entitled

"THE NEW BOY."

For the first three nights of the current week Mr. John E. Watson presented the above laughter-making comedy, the remaining portion of the week being bestowed upon *A Country Mouse*. A capital cast has been selected, every member of which submits an excellent rendering of his or her respective character. *The New Boy*, which was the comedy being played on the night of our visit, runs its course in a very lively fashion, and is thoroughly diverting. The many mirth-provoking situations which follow so quickly one upon the other being made the most of, consequently the ball of fun is kept rolling from start to finish, and the laughter is continuous.

Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Archibald Rennick, the new boy, is unfailingly humorous, and speedily becomes on good terms with the audience, who are not backward in showing their appreciation of the source of much merriment; Doctor Candy, L.L.D., has a good representative in Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone, who plays up to the "points" of the play in a skilful manner, and deserves commendation for an able portrayal; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood offers a painstaking study of Felix Roach, the scheming director, and is in every way successful; Theodore de Brizac is smartly and divertingly impersonated by Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, who scores well; Bullock major is cleverly handled by Mr. Leo. G. Lilly, the bullying propensities of the top-form scholar being aptly pronounced; Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs. Rennick supplies an amusing delineation of this most awkwardly-placed lady, and does ample justice to the part; Miss Evelyn Ormonde, in the rôle of Nancy Roach, acts with charm and vivacity, and meets with emphatic expressions of appreciation. Miss Vera Wallace as Susan and Mr. H. F. Wildy as Stubber make the most of their opportunities. The comedy is preceded by Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, whose funny tales and songs puts everyone into a good humour.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Fairy Play, entitled

"PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES."

That delightful children's play from the clever pen of Mr. Graham Robertson, *Pinkie and the Fairies*, was presented at Kennington Theatre on Monday. The production is under the direction of Mr. Max Montesole and Mr. Angus MacLeod, and their talented company has been rehearsed under the supervision of Sir Herbert Tree. The staging is excellent, the woodland scene being an especially pretty set, the choruses are well sung, the dresses are quaint, and the wonderfully pretty music which Mr. Frederic Norton has composed is faultlessly treated by an enlarged orchestra under the bâton of Mr. Alfred Rayner. Miss Hermione Gingold on Monday gave a brilliant study of the part of Pinkie, representing the little girl to the life and danced very smartly. Master C. Haviland Chappell was quite natural as Tommy with genuine skill. Miss Muriel Alston was a loveable and charming Molly, and the character of the Queen of the Fairies was interpreted with delightful ingenuousness by Miss Hetty Kenyon. A figure which appealed to the sympathies of the audience, both young and old, was that of the diminutive herald—Miss Dolly Sommers, who acted with such quaint solemnity that the effect was irresistible. Master Cecil Twentyman was a good Prince Frog. Among the "grown-ups" the palm must be awarded Mr. T. P. Haynes for his sketch of the gardener Irons, which was a fresh and lively piece of comedy. Miss Lucie Evelyn was a sedate and stately Aunt Caroline, and the Aunt Imogen of Miss Haidee Gunn was clever. Miss Gunn put in some of her very best work in the part. Mr. Ribton Haines was highly successful as Uncle Gregory. Among the fairies Miss Aileen Faithful (Elf Pickle), Miss Peggy Rae (Elf Whisper), and Miss Kathleen Yorke (Elf Twinkle) sustained their respective rôles artistically. A word of praise is due to the excellent vocalisation and dancing of the fairies' chorus. Miss Lucie Caine was well placed as Cinderella, and Miss Joan Maitland was good as Dick Whittington. Miss Estelle Thebaud made an attractive Sleeping Beauty. The cat (Mr. Sam Wilkinson), Beauty (Miss Clara Milvain), the Beast (Mr. L. Utley), and the butcher (Mr. S. Williams) were well performed. Altogether Mr. Robert Arthur and his business-manager at Kennington (Mr. H. B. Brandreth) are to be commended for securing *Pinkie* to follow the panto.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, entitled

"THE SINS OF SOCIETY."

The highly successful Christmas pantomime finished its run on Saturday night, and was replaced on Monday by the famous Drury Lane drama entitled *The Sins of Society*, which was most favourably received by a large and attentive audience. All the points and situations were warmly recognised and the artists greeted with unstinted applause. Miss Grace E. Leslie gave a very fine interpretation of the character of Lady Marion Beaumont and looked most attractive in her tasteful dresses; Miss Cissie Carlton was very good indeed as Lady Goldbury; Miss Mabel Murray was excellent as the Hon. Mrs. Murgatroyd; Miss Janet Hodson was a clever Duchess of Danbury, and Miss Rosamond Buxton a charming Lady Gwendolin Ashley; Mr. C. F. Collings played with his accustomed skill the part of Mr. Noel Ferrers; Sir Dorian March had an excellent representative in Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson; Mr. Thesiger was capitally played by Mr. Edwin P. Gee; Mr. Maitland Marley was decidedly good as James Hogg; and praise was well deserved by Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair as Mr. Morris. Captain Carruthers had a capital representative in Mr. Victor Boggetti; Mr. Sidney Moore was good as the footman; Mr. Arthur Livingstone was a good representative of President Fallières; Mr. G. H. Kersley was a competent Bates; Master Francis Grey was a realistic jockey; Mr. Edwin Palmer was excellent as Parker; Messrs. Mark Turner (Private Bains), Stanley Foreman (sentry), Ernest Stanley (Sergeant Wrangham), James Hood (bugler), James Miles (Captain Thorp), Walter Schonberg (Colonel Gretton), Thomas Urwin (embarkation officer), F. T. Baldwin (postman), George Walters (servant), Edwin Palmer (Rev. Martin Hope), and Claude Allingham as police inspector all worked earnestly and well, and shared in the success of the production. The long cast was completed by the following ladies, who were seen to advantage in their respective rôles: Miss Olive Banton (Polly), Miss Amy Hilton (maid), and Mesdames Elsie Gardner, May Allingham, Lucie Bernard, Mabel Manners, and Lilian Thompson. The scenery, dresses, and appointments were on a lavish scale. Mr. Frank J. Pitt represented Mr. F. W. Bolam, and Mr. Bertram Iles was in his accustomed place ensuring the comfort of patrons of the theatre.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, by Hall Caine, "THE CHRISTIAN."

Saturday last saw the final fall of the curtain on Mr. Fred Frederick's pantomime *Cinderella*, with much éclat, and Monday night ushered in the first week of the dramatic year proper with Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian*, which is renewing acquaintance with local audiences. Its former cordial reception is being well maintained, and the interpretation of the piece is in every way satisfactory. Mr. Henry Wolston has an idealistic character to portray as John Storm, and he acts throughout with earnestness and conviction. Miss Gladys Purnell is always in the picture as the wayward and lovable Glory of the first act, and subsequently, having the advantage of youth and attractiveness, her performance strongly appeals by its sincerity and sympathy. Mr. Fred Morgan portrays the callous and casual Lord Robert Ure with quite the necessary blasé touch; Mr. Wilfred Noy presents the caddish Horatio Drake on approved lines; Mr. John Hastings Batson as Father Lamplugh delivers many tirades against West End wickedness in fine elocutionary style; the smug Archdeacon Wealthy is capitally presented by Mr. Charles E. Dering; Mr. Royce Milton as Lord Storm, Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Parson Quayle, and Mr. Barnard Wilson as Rosenberg are all well placed; Miss Gladys Vernon presents a faithful portraiture of Polly Love; Miss Mollie Haydn is excellent as Mrs. Callender; Miss Gertrude Maxwell does well as Lady Robert Ure; and Miss Florence Harland fulfils all requirements as Liza. Minor parts in a long cast all receive adequate treatment.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, entitled

"EAST LYNNE."

For the opening of the dramatic season at the Alexandra Theatre, the perennial *East Lynne* is presented by Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan's company. The play is produced by Mr. Albert Ward, who also appears as Archibald Carlyle, and, needless to say, the part offers no difficulties to an actor of such experience. A big success is scored by Mr. Fred Eastman, who as P.C. Bullock keeps the audience thoroughly amused the whole time he is before them by his entertaining rendering of this impossible policeman. The villainies of Francis Levison are presented in cool and nonchalant style by Mr. Chas. E. Bedells, and Richard Hare is made fairly interesting as Mr. Fenton Wingate. A characteristic sketch of Cornelia Carlyle is supplied by Miss Bessi Harrison, and to Miss May Congdon is due much praise for her sympathetic and natural portrayal of Barbara Hare. Miss Rosamund Mayne Young, to whom is allotted the all-important part of Lady Isabel, is most successful in the later scenes of the play, in which the former wife of Carlyle masquerades as the governess, Mme. Vine. Little Willie is intelligently played by Miss Gwen Kinross, and smaller parts are adequately filled by Misses Stella Hawleigh, Doris Levis, and Maud Young. Mr. Raymond Holt is an impressive and dignified Lord Mountsevern, and Messrs. Chas. J. Barber and Maurice Drew as Justice Hare and Lawyer Dill respectively lend some lightness to the scenes in which they are concerned. The play has the advantage of adequate mounting.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, entitled

"PETE."

Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's No. 1 company did full justice to Hall Caine and Louis N. Parker's strong drama, the interest of which never fails to hold audiences, and the events of which follow each other so naturally to its happy conclusion. Mr. Austen Milroy as Pete Quilliam was a striking figure, and his powerful frame, resonant voice, and breezy manner made him an especially good exponent of the rough but kindly Manxman. It is a part which makes great demands upon the actor, but Mr. Milroy was easily equal to all its requirements, and he should have been pleased with the hearty reception accorded to him by all. Mr. Alfred Grey gave a finished impersonation of the false friend Philip Christian, and succeeded in enlisting the sympathy of the audience by the clever rendering of a difficult part. His scene with the angry Pete in the last act was excellently done. The cynical Ross Christian was well played by Mr. J. Edward Fletcher, in sharp contrast to the simpler types of the Manx islanders. Mr. Frank Stone as Cæsar Cregeen was forcible and convincing. The stern and bigoted religionist was unsparingly reproduced, and a strong sketch of character was the result. His make-up was also careful and good. Miss V. Malcolm Barnet was excellent as the tearful Kate Cregeen, and although there is nothing but sorrow for her throughout the play, yet her sympathetic manner and truthful acting secured for her quite a triumph, and her recalls were as hearty as they were many. The maid Nancy, with her pert tongue and kindly heart, was brightly acted by Miss Lucy Murray; Miss Minnie Lake as Grannie was appropriately garrulous and decrepit; Mr. Jno. Spicer's sketch of William, the oldest inhabitant, was clever; Mr. Chas. Lake was able to invest the part of the Mayor of Douglas with a humorous individuality during his short stay on the scene; Mr. Herbert H. Young afforded much amusement as the old Manx postman, Kelly; Mr. Harry Pitt as the picturesque fisherman Black Tom and Mr. James Davidson as Johnny Dumbell were good and efficient representatives of island types; Mr. Henry Brooke was a dignified Lord-Lieutenant, with an impressive style; Mr. Geo. Terriss as the Clerk of the Court was good; Dr. Mylechreest was discreetly enacted by Mr. James Williams; Miss Enid Wilde as Mary, a country girl with a song, was pretty and natural; Mesdames Ruth Eyre and Maie Duncan as Meg and Anne, guests at the christening, infused variety into the scene; and Mr. F. Kirkand as Constable Niplightly was a very acceptable custodian of the peace. The entire Lyceum production is presented with all the special scenery and effects, and Mr. J. Bannister Howard is to be congratulated on a very auspicious opening for his spring season. Mr. J. E. Sharpe is again in front after his absence during the pantomime.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. Frank Bateman, entitled

"THE WAY WOMEN LOVE."

Mrs. Frank Bateman and company, in *The Way Women Love; or, The Mother of His Child*, is the attraction this week at the Theatre Royal, and on Monday night it was received with considerable favour. The story concerns the marriage of Captain Howard Tremaine, who becomes enamoured with and marries Verene Alabra, a Mexican adventuress. Marrying in haste and repenting at leisure is the Captain's lot, and he has no qualms when he hears of his wife's supposed death, and in due course again marries. Unfortunately, Verene Alabra is not dead, and in time appears on the scene of Howard's blissful home with his second wife, Violet, and her child; but as Violet's love for Howard is stedfast throughout, and as it is eventually proved that Verene Alabra was already married when she contracted the alliance with Howard Tremaine, there is, after many tribulations, the happy ending of husband, wife, and child re-united. The story is well written and easily followed, and the scenery is handsome and appropriate. Mrs. Frank Bateman as Verene Alabra plays the part with a callous cynicism which is most effective, and wears some beautiful gowns to fine advantage. Miss Camille Treherne is a charming and sympathetic Violet Tremaine; Miss Nellie Fern as the mature maidservant, Lottie Gray, is very popular; and Miss Sadie Underbill contributes a promising performance as little Frank. Mr. Fred W. Goddard is a manly and convincing exponent of Howard Tremaine, and Mr. Kirby submits a powerful exposition of the villainous Leake Lamont. Jose Alaros is portrayed on sound lines by Mr. H. Ainsleigh, and the faithful Dick Palmer has a genial and clever representative in Mr. Percy Shaw. Mr. George Herbert is excellent as John Barryford; Mr. Will White does well as Ben Barcombe; and Mr. Harry Lyons makes an admirable P.C. Robinson.

Messrs. Arthur and Morrison's company is presenting the new musical comedy *The Crimson Butterfly* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing. As Captain Jack Armitage Mr. Len Holloway is good; as is Mr. Horace Gibb as Dr. Septimus Sealey; Mr. Harry Douglas is excellent as Horatio Sealey; Mr. Owen Ford is funny as Augustus Wedwell, and renders some pleasing numbers; Miss Eva Nelson is excellent as Miss Maisie Kissington, a fine presence and a good voice soon installing her a great favourite. The chorus is well balanced.

Edmund Tearle and Kate Clinton's company opened on Monday at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Dunfermline, with *Ingomar*. Mr. Tearle gave a very admirable portrayal of the title-rôle. Mr. Ernest Lodge proved an able exponent of Polydor. Mr. Denis Hogan made an excellent Timach. Miss Kate Clinton was a charming and dignified Parthenia, and Miss Mary Campbell appeared with distinction as Actea. *East Lynne*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Jeanie Deans* complete the week's bill.

This week Mr. C. Watson Mill presents *A Wrecker of Men* at the Gaiety Theatre, Methil. Miss Ruth Zillwood as Risca Mallinson gives a capital representation of the title-rôle; Miss G. Talbot is good as Doris Melville; Mr. Tom Bowron is well placed as Guise Strange; Mr. W. P. Acock as Reggie Verincourt is satisfactory; Mr. Thompson Carruthers in the double part of Ezekiel Isaac and Karnaphus (a mummy) acts powerfully; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt is a capital Jim Murley; Mr. Edward A. Brooke also contributes to the success by his rendering of the part of Pharosaphus; and Mr. Richard Bosco as Railton had a part to which he did full justice.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your notice of the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, last week you say the part of Snowball, in *The Diver's Luck*, was played by William Bristow, instead of by—Yours faithfully, Harry Bristow, stage-manager, *The Diver's Luck* Co.

"WAY OUT WEST."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Junius Booth, Played for the First Time in London at the Fulham Theatre, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Jack Hamlin ..... Mr. Junius Booth
Col. Culpepper Starbottle .. Mr. Walter Kenion
Judge Alpheus Boompointer ..... Mr. Norman Radford
Bat Masterton ..... Mr. Harry Bannister
Abner Byers ..... Mr. J. Sanger
Jim Harkins ..... Mr. Millar Anderson
Ah Foo ..... Mr. William Burgess
Harry Slynn ..... Mr. Fred Lodge
Manuel Garcia ..... Mr. Walter Jarvis
Yuba Bill ..... Mr. W. Huron
Lance Weathersby ..... Mr. Percy Miller
Skinny Hotchkiss ..... Mr. Sam Elton
Tom Clinch ..... Mr. T. Cutler
Whisky Dick ..... Mr. Dee Lang
Jackson Brown ..... Mr. Henry Dilworthy
Shotgun Boggs ..... Mr. John Bennett
Toama ..... Mr. Sambo
Monte Pete ..... Mr. Walter Langford
Five Fingered Charlie ..... Mr. Will Blythe
Helen Masterton ..... Miss Alice West
Miss Arethusa Boompointer Byers ..... Miss Emmeline Rosselle

Mr. Junius Booth's drama, which was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, last September, is redolent of Bret Harte. Our old friends Jack Hamlin and Colonel Starbottle appear, in name at least, and take part in a thrilling story of Western life and adventure, illustrated by some realistic staging.

In a mining camp Jack Hamlin and a number of the other "boys" have been digging unsuccessfully for years, when Jim Harkins, a company promoter, discovers that there is gold in the mine, and secures all the rights in it. With a rascally attorney, one Colonel Culpepper Starbottle, Harkins schemes a plot to get away with the "boys'" money, and bank it in Sacramento. Harkins sends Starbottle to Sacramento, but fearing the coach may be "held up," gives the attorney a dummy packet, retaining the real greenbacks for himself. The coach is stopped by Jack Hamlin, who forces Starbottle to yield up the packet. Hamlin discovers the trick, and, going to the Big Flume Hotel, to which the coach and its passengers have returned, obliges Harkins to hand over the real packet, escaping afterwards by an ingenious trick.

In the third act Hamlin goes to the hut of the Sheriff of the county to ask his advice. Night comes on, the weather is cold, a pack of wolves appear, and Jack fights them single-handed when they endeavour to make their way through a hole in the door. The Sheriff, despite his gratitude to Jack, arrests him for the robbery from the mail, but he is acquitted on his trial, and when Hamlin is re-arrested on the charge of the murder of a prospector, the guilty party is found to be Harkins, who saves himself from the hangman by falling down a chasm and being killed.

Mr. Booth has written a good, strong melodrama, with plenty of life in it, and a very effective sensation in the pack of real wolves. It is played with spirit by a capable company. Mr. Booth himself is excellent as the hero Jack Hamlin, and the villain Jim Harkins is very well played by Mr. Millar Anderson. Mr. W. Kenion as Colonel Starbottle, Mr. N. Radford as Judge Boompointer, Mr. J. Sanger as Abner Byers, Mr. W. Burgess as Ah Foo, help to keep the fun alive in their respective parts, and Messrs. Langford and Blythe and Mr. Walter Jarvis supply lurid pictures of more or less disreputable miners and "road agents," and Mr. H. Bannister is effective as the Sheriff. Miss Emmeline Roselle supplies the humorous element as Arethusa Byers, and Miss Alice West plays with tenderness and feeling as the heroine Helen Masterton. The scenery and appointments are very realistic, and the production gives a realistic picture of life in Western America in the pioneer period.

A COMPTON ANNIVERSARY.

The twenty-ninth anniversary of the Compton Comedy Company was reached on Monday, when Mr. Edward Compton and his company appeared at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, and were accorded the welcome due to old and admired friends. As a souvenir of the interesting event every lady entering the theatre by the early door or occupying a booked seat was presented with a copy of the "Edward Compton" birthday book. *David Garrick*, in which Mr. Compton has won his principal laurels, was appropriately selected for the occasion, and the principals surpassed themselves, rousing the house to enthusiasm.

At the end of the second act, in response to undeniable recalls, Mr. Compton had to reappear several times, and, in acknowledgement of the applause, he addressed the audience as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen,—Twelve moons have waxed and waned since last we met. Your ringing plaudits haunt my memory yet! There don't be afraid, that is all the poetry I am going to indulge in to-night. In simple prose, I thank you with all my heart for your warm and kindly welcome back to Aberdeen. A good beginning makes a good ending; we have begun well to-night, and so I also thank you most sincerely for coming out so loyally to do honour to this auspicious occasion. Twenty-nine years! It's a long time to look back upon. Why, many of you here, and, of course, all the ladies, were not even born or thought of then. Twenty-nine years! What a host of memories they call up, what a load of anxieties, what a mass of work and worry—but what a world of pleasant recollections, what a list of old plays, new plays, and revivals; what a record of good, kind audiences like this one to-night; and, above all, what a gratification to feel that only good work has been done all these years, and that the public and Press all over the country have invariably applauded and approved of it. Ladies and gentlemen, let me leave it at that, and may the little souvenir of to-night, with its hundred or so quotations, convey to you some happy memories of the plays it has been my delight to place before you for so many years, and which, I am proud to think, you are not, even at this distance of time, the least bit tired of. "Age cannot wither, nor custom stale their infinite variety." And your constancy to them and their humble interpreter is "a thing of beauty" which, I hope and believe, will remain to me a joy for ever.

"Babes in the Wood" is being played at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, by the company of Messrs. De Lacy and Stanley. Miss Amy Osborne as Robin Hood is well received; Miss Helena L. Barton scores as Maid Marion; Wee Winnie Warden and Miss Louie Fielding appear as the Babes, the former little artist quickly singing and dancing herself into favour; Miss May Warden is good as the Fairy; Mr. Lionel Yeoman as the Dame is highly successful; and Mr. Wm. De Lacy is a satisfactory Baron.

Many presentations were made at the King's Theatre, Sunderland, on Saturday night at the concluding performance of *Dick Whittington*. The audience was in a good humour, and in the last scene demanded the general-manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow, who came forward and made an appropriate speech. The presence of the lessee and manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson, was also insisted upon, and he, too, acknowledged the compliment. Mr. Will Evans, speaking on behalf of the ladies and gentlemen of the company, made Mr. Townrow the recipient of a handsome silver-mounted flask; and Mr. Barnard, the musical director, was also presented with a massive silver cigar-case. Mr. Evans stated that those on the stage had presented Mr. Sydney Dench with a purse of gold. The principal artists received bouquets, &c., during the performance.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

ANNUAL MEETING AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Last Monday morning the annual meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund was held on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre. The stage was set with the Baronial Hall of *The O'Flynn*. In the absence of Sir Charles Wyndham, the president, Sir Herbert Tree consented to take the chair. Among those present were Lady Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. E. H. Bull, Mrs. Herbert Brookes, Miss Constance Rivington, Mrs. Charles Gay, Miss Edith Blande, Mr. Henry Evill, Mr. A. F. M. Spalding, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Ackerman May, Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. H. W. Mote, Mr. P. de Pinto, and Mr. C. I. Coltson, the secretary.

The Chairman called upon the secretary to read the report for 1909, which was as follows:—

THE REPORT FOR 1909.

The committee, in submitting to the members the accounts for the past year, have to report that the number of assisted cases was 2,023, and the sum distributed in allowances, gifts, and loans £3,968 3s. 1d.; the subscriptions being £778 11s. 10d. An analysis of the Fund's work for the past six years will be found in the annexed Abstract of Report and Statement of Accounts.

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree having for the third time occupied the chair at the Fund's Annual Dinner, the committee tender to Sir Herbert their most cordial and grateful thanks, the result of same being most highly satisfactory, as shown in the Statement of Accounts.

Some months ago a gentleman named G. L. Grant, in his desire to add to the Fund's income, promised the sum of £100, provided that four other benevolent people would each send £100 before the 31st of last December. The committee most gratefully now beg to acknowledge the completion of the sum of £500, as Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, and Miss Mary Moore have each contributed £100.

To the governing bodies of the Marylebone and Surrey Cricket Clubs, who have again given the free use of their grounds for the matches played for the benefit of the theatrical funds, the committee tender their very grateful thanks, and also to the gentlemen organising the matches. Mr. Nye Chart has sent the Fund the sum of £28 15s., on account of matches played. To the managers of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala, who have contributed the sum of £40 to the Fund, the committee tender their most grateful thanks.

The committee again desire to call attention to the collection which is now being made at the theatres throughout the United Kingdom, in the hope that personal appeals may be made to each member of the companies playing, by those gentlemen who are kindly collecting for the Fund.

The following is a list of the local centres:—

Aberdeen.—Her Majesty's Theatre. R. Arthur, Esq.
Blackburn.—Prince's Theatre. E. H. Page, Esq.
Bradford.—Theatre Royal and Opera House. J. Hart, Esq.
Bristol.—Prince's Theatre. J. M. Chute, Esq.
Cardiff.—New Theatre. R. Redford, Esq.
Carlisle.—His Majesty's Theatre. Thomas Courtice, Esq.
Crewe.—Lyceum Theatre. H. Taylor, Esq., J.P.
Dublin.—Gaiety Theatre. Charles Hyland, Esq.
Dundee.—Her Majesty's Theatre. R. Arthur, Esq.
Edinburgh.—Lyceum Theatre. G. T. Minshull, Esq.
Glasgow.—King's Theatre. H. Macfarlane, Esq.
Leeds.—Grand Theatre and Opera House. J. Wynn Millar, Esq.
Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Tyne Theatre. F. C. Sutcliffe, Esq.
Paisley.—Paisley Theatre. J. H. Savile, Esq.
Richmond.—New Theatre. Charles E. Hardy, Esq.
Scarborough.—Londesborough Theatre. W. H. Waddington, Esq.
Sheffield.—Lyceum Theatre. J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq.
Southampton.—Grand Theatre. Arthur Weston, Esq.
Swansea.—Grand Theatre.
York.—Theatre Royal. W. H. Waddington, Esq.

The committee appeal to every actor and actress to contribute to the collection which is now being made throughout the United Kingdom for the benefit of those in the dramatic profession who have "fallen by the way" and are in need of assistance. The sum of £3,968 3s. 1d. has been granted in relief during the past year. A subscription of 10s. carries with it not only a first claim upon the Fund for pecuniary help, but it also gives the power to recommend deserving applicants.

SIR HERBERT'S "MORAL SUASION."

Sir Herbert Tree, in moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, said that in the absence of their president, Sir Charles Wyndham, he was happy to congratulate the subscribers on the position of the fund. It showed that they were able to relieve a larger number of cases than in any previous year of their existence. As a result of the annual banquet, at which he had had the privilege of presiding, they were able to add £1,500 to the fund. (Cheers.) They had not only to thank those who had so generously contributed that sum, but they had also to thank their president, who had given £100 to a special fund. Sir Charles Wyndham had, indeed, a mighty stride. With one foot in England, and the other in America—(laughter)—he was thrice blessed, for not only was he earning golden opinions, but he was raking in the golden guineas—perhaps he should say the golden dollars, if such things existed—(laughter)—and he was blessed because he was the absentee landlord of three theatres, and had not been compelled to brave the slings and arrows of outrageous elections which the dwellers in English theatreland had been forced to endure. (Laughter and cheers.) Not only was it the chairman's duty to thank those who had supported the fund in previous years, but it was also his duty to appeal to their brothers and sisters in the profession to give even more handsomely than hitherto. (Hear, hear.) He would not dwell on any Utopian schemes, because this was a business meeting, but he would touch upon the question of general assurance for actors and actresses. The Austrian Government had intimated to the theatrical profession in Austria that it would be well if they established a fund for such a purpose, and hinted that if they did not do so the Government would step in and enforce such a system. The immediate result of that was that a sum of £13,000 was subscribed. (Cheers.) If something of that system of compulsory volunteering—(laughter)—which might be described as the better part of Socialism were introduced in this country, it would, of course, be a great benefit to all concerned. (Cheers.) In the existing circumstances there could not be a more practical undertaking than the present Actors' Benevolent Fund—(loud cheers)—whose benefits were far-reaching, and which, it was admitted on all hands, was ideally administered. (Renewed cheers.) Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, just before sailing for America, gave a matinée of *The Mollusc* for the benefit of our Fund, and although the result of same could not appear in last year's account, I am happy in being able to tell you that our Secretary has received from Mr. Lethbury, Sir Charles Wyndham's manager, a cheque for £213 17s. 9d., and I am sure our most grateful thanks are due to them for this splendid help. It was a delicate matter for a manager to bring before each member of his company, but he would suggest that the notice issued by the fund should be put up in the green-room or on the stage-door of every theatre, to ensure a yet larger subscription from actors and actresses. (Hear, hear.) They all knew how elections were fought and won—(laughter)—and they should introduce some such system of blackmail—(renewed laughter)—or, perhaps, moral suasion. He thought it would prove highly desirable and successful in many cases. (Laughter and applause.)

MR. ALEXANDER'S "PROPERTY PISTOL."

Mr. Geo. Alexander seconded the motion, and called attention to the fact that last year the professional contributions amounted to £778, and that it cost £729 to distribute their funds. If a larger number subscribed, even in small amounts, the expenses would not increase, and they would know that every penny went to a deserving cause. He had sometimes been struck by the hospitality of the dramatic clubs to actors and actresses, who were feasted and flattered by them and everything was done to make their Sunday evenings pleasant. He thought it would be a good thing to suggest to the Playgoers, the O.P. Club, the Dramatic Debaters, the Gallery First Nighters, and other clubs that their first duty in having the privilege of taking an interest in the drama would be to contribute in some way to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. He ventured to suggest that each member should be asked to subscribe in order to show his interest in the drama. He was glad that Sir Herbert Tree's Socialism did not carry him too far, as he thought their pensions ought to be on a contributory basis. He could only hope that such a step would come into the region of practical politics. In regard to increasing their subscriptions, he would suggest that a lady member of each company should be deputed to go round with the hat. (Laughter and cheers.) An actor-manager or manager could not be expected to hold a pistol, not even a "property" pistol—(laughter)—at the heads of the members of his company and demand contributions. If members of the profession could only peep in at the meetings of the committee on Thursday, and hear the expressions of gratitude from those who were relieved, he felt sure they would be touched, and that they would endeavour to enlarge the usefulness of the fund. (Cheers.) While they did not undertake to pension actors and actresses, yet what they were really doing at present was to give weekly pensions to about 100 people. (Cheers.) The committee did not ask whether those people had contributed to the fund; they only satisfied themselves that the cases were deserving. (Cheers.) There were those who declined to contribute to the fund because assistance was given to people who had not done so in their times of prosperity. To them he would say, "Help the fund now, and raise your objections afterwards." (Cheers.)

When the report and statement of accounts had been unanimously adopted,

Mr. H. B. Irving proposed a vote of thanks to the committee. He had pleasure in informing those present that Lady Tree was giving to the fund £100 of the money she was winning for charitable institutions in the country at the present moment. (Cheers.)

Mr. Edward Terry, responding, said it had been a labour of love to the committee to carry out their duties with impartiality and the greatest possible charity to all brethren who had fallen by the way. The committee's proceedings were strictly secret, and they never refused a deserving case. Unfortunately there were occasions when they had to deny assistance, but then only because it was impossible to help those who would not help themselves. (Hear, hear.)

On the motion of Sir Herbert Tree, seconded by Mr. Edward Terry, Sir Charles Wyndham was unanimously re-elected president of the fund.

Mr. Terry proposed, and Mr. H. B. Irving seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried with great enthusiasm

ABSTRACT OF REPORT.

The following is a comparative analysis of the work of 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, and 1909:—

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Ordinary Cases	1052	1154	1055	1298	1438	1497
Emergency Cases	359	320	437	459	547	526
	1411	1474	1492	1757	1985	2023

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ordinary Gifts	2443 19 6	2516 16 0	2448 5 9	2737 0 3	2686 7 0	2661 14 8
Emergency Gifts ..	126 8 8	129 4 9	151 15 0	161 4 6	163 8 3	169 17 5
Ordinary Loans	651 18 0	675 7 0	651 12 6	726 8 7	937 17 6	901 11 10
Emergency Loans..	128 11 6	165 14 6	148 5 0	175 6 0	267 3 6	234 19 2
	3350 17 8	3467 2 3	3399 18 3	3799 19 3	4054 16 3	3968 3 1

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1909.

Dr. Receipts.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To balance on hand Jan. 1, 1909		1256 3 10
ditto ditto "Betty" Fund		24 15 9
„ Subscriptions and donations, including the Theatre Box Collections		778 11 10
„ Bequests:—		
J. F. Bartlett	25 0 0	
J. R. Anderson	35 0 0	
H. Ewart	153 14 2	
		213 14 2
„ Proceeds of Benefits, &c.—		
Liverpool Theatrical Gala..	40 0 0	
Cricket Matches on Account	28 15 0	
Hull Floral Matinée	2 0 0	
Fancy Dress Association Parade, Glasgow	3 0 0	
Sale of H. and M. Rayne's Date Book	11 5 8	
Gramophone Co., from Sale of Mr. Cyril Maude's Speech Records	5 5 0	
		90 5 8
„ Covent Garden Theatre Fund		1155 15 0
„ The "Betty" Fund		251 2 2
„ Autographs of Actors and Actresses		48 8 5
„ Interest on Investments:—		
Sir Charles Wyndham's Gift	70 14 8	
Helen Faucit Endowment..	60 8 0	
Other Investments	782 2 11	
		913 5 7
„ Net Proceeds to date of 19th Annual Dinner, Sir Herbert B. Tree in the Chair	943 8 0	
„ Arrears on last Dinner, Cyril Maude in the Chair	192 11 0	
		1135 19 0
		£5,878 1 5

Note.

Investments held:—

2½ per cent. Consols	1,490 0 0	
3 per cent. India Stock..	3301 2 11	
3½ per cent. do. A. Account	20418 4 11	
3½ per cent. do. B. Account	1725 19 2	
	£26835 7 0	

Cr. Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Grants and Allowances....		2554 2 1
ditto ditto "Betty" Fund		277 10 0
„ Loans	1136 11 0	
Less repaid	165 18 0	
		970 13 0
„ Medicine		0 3 6
„ National Telephone Co...		8 0 0
„ District Messenger Call ..		1 1 0
„ Salaries		464 16 0
„ Advertising		50 18 10
„ Printing and Stationery....		38 3 5
„ Rent of Offices		50 0 0
„ Miscellaneous Expenses....		52 10 1
„ Housekeeper's Expenses (including coals, &c.)....		24 5 2
„ At Bankers' on Deposit.	500 0 0	
„ „ Current Account	774 8 4	
„ „ "Betty" Fund	8 7 11	
„ In hands of Secretary ..	63 0 0	
		1346 18 3
		£5878 1 5

Audited and found correct,
WESTCOTT, MASKALL AND CO.,
Chartered Accountants, 29 and 30, Broad-street-avenue, E.C.—London, Jan. 13, 1910.

C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.
8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ODOL'S FANCY DRESS COSTUME.

Fancy dress balls and carnivals have increased in popularity. In a fancy dress costume originality is of very great importance, and, in fact, is regarded by many as an indispensable feature. The attainment of this puzzles many a weary head, and the proprietors of the famous dentifrice Odol have come to the rescue with suggestions for the making up of both costumes and headgear. The decorative articles they supply, besides being in themselves most attractive, are such as, when tastefully arranged on the costume as every

MISS ODOL.

lady knows so well how to do, afford the fullest opportunities for animated movement and graceful pose.

There is this further merit about the Odol designs—they suggest the most pleasant and refreshing associations, Odol, the liquid antiseptic dentifrice and mouthwash, being the most universally popular as well as the most beneficial of toilet luxuries.

These articles include miniature china Odol flasks, labels of various size and colours, pictorial stamps, large and small cardboard imitation Odol flasks, picture post cards, tooth brushes, &c., &c.

The illustration here given is representative of many different styles that can be made up with the articles supplied, which include also those required for a very becoming head-dress to wear with the costume. Full particulars for the making-up of the head-dress are given with the decorative articles.

For the dress itself an inexpensive white taffeta is recommended, as it forms a delicate ground-work and resembles the white opaque glass of which the Odol flask is made. But these are only suggestions; the individual taste and judgment of the wearers will be the best guide as to the most suitable style to adopt.

A parcel containing sufficient of the above articles to trim a costume will be sent on receipt of letter of request enclosing a postal order for 1s. to cover cost of postage and packing. Address, the Manager, Odol Chemical Works, 59-63, Park-street, London, S.E.

At the Grand Theatre, Luton, the proprietor is this week staging his very effective pantomime *Cinderella*, and the "houses" are testifying in the usual way their appreciation of something good. As Cinderella Miss Cecilia Gold is dainty and pleasing, and an attractive Prince Elegant is found in Miss Maud Nicholls; as Dandini Miss Lilian Drake is very charming; Fairy Sunshine is prettily portrayed by Miss Leila Carstairs; and the Fairy Queen of Miss Willoughby is equally agreeable. The speciality dancers, Misses Dorina, Langford, O'Malley, and Ray, are well worthy of praise. The comical parts are all in capable hands, whilst the singing of the Demon King, Mr. Bert Darrell is very effective, as are the antics of Mr. Will Telford, "our cat." The dresses and scenery are admirable.

The popular musical comedy *Florodora* delighted a large audience at the New Royal, Seaham Harbour, on Monday, as played by Mr. Charles Constant's company. Mr. Arthur Lenville's Tweedlepunch could scarcely be improved upon; Mr. Robert Hine makes an excellent Frank Abercoed; Mr. Edward Chester as Cyrus Gilfain is entirely successful; a pleasing Arthur Donegal is submitted by Mr. Eric Deane; Miss Daisy Lake is a popular Dolores; and Lady Holyrood is daintily played by Miss Fanny Holmshaw.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Moté (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Lewis Casson, H. Le Grand, Langford Reed, R. A. Greene, Cyril Cattley, E. Morgan, F. Annerley, C. F. Collings, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary read letters from Messrs. J. H. Mote, A. Selwynne, J. W. Lethbridge, George Alexander, F. R. Benson, C. H. Hawtrey, and H. B. Irving, and received instruction as to replies.

With reference to correspondence referring to three-quarter fare concession, the secretary was instructed to write to the Clearing House and ask whether the railway companies would extend to the Actors' Association a similar concession to that enjoyed by the M.H.A.R.A.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan and adopted. The House Committee tendered their report, and made suggestions as to the requirements with regard to the rooms of the Association. The council gave instruction that the recommendation should be carried out, and it was referred to the committee to deal with the matter accordingly. The House Committee were instructed to ascertain exactly the requirements in the rehearsal room, and to report on the subject at the next meeting of the council.

The solicitor read the council's opinion on the original issue of new debentures. As the existing debentures, amounting to £305, must be paid by March 12, the council propose to raise the sum by the issue of new £1 debentures, redeemable in three years, to members of the Actors' Association. Members wishing to take up any of these are requested to make written application to the secretary on or before March 5. Each £1 debenture bears interest at 5 per cent. per annum. The following debentures were applied for by members of the council:—Mr. C. Derwent, £5; Mr. Lewis Casson, £5; Mr. R. Greene, £5; Mr. Cyril Cattley, £5; Mr. C. F. Collins, £5; Miss Vita Spencer, £3; Miss Rose Cazalet, £2; and Miss Joan Pereira, £1.

The hon. solicitor reported that the debts and costs in two cases had been recovered for members of the Association.

In regard to the Agency the secretary was instructed to arrange for someone to visit the different theatres (in the event of his being unable to do so) to see the work of members, and that his expenses would be defrayed.

A suggestion with regard to the formation of a debating society amongst the members of the Association was referred to the Social Committee to arrange and report in a fortnight.

Mr. Clarence Derwent vacated the chair in order to propose an advertisement scheme for bringing the advantages of the Association before the profession at large. This included a council appeal to the provincial actor in the form of a large advertisement in the theatrical Press, and a similar appeal by letter to every actor and actress at present playing in London. Mr. Derwent asked for the sum of £10 to carry out the scheme, and this was voted unanimously. The London appeal is as follows:—

AN APPEAL FROM THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir or Madam,—The council of the Actors' Association, feeling that the time is now ripe for an earnest attempt to carry out some of the reforms of which the profession stands in need urgently, petitions you to enrol yourself as a member of what is now the only official organisation of actors and actresses. The Association, with twenty years' existence to its credit, is now approaching its majority, and the council is anxious to signalise the event by extensive work of a constructive nature. The actor-managers, who resigned in 1907, have now, by a resolution, carried at the annual general meeting, been invited to return; but in order that real reforms may be successfully undertaken, the Association needs your help. It needs not only the numerical strength, but also the weight and experience which your position in the profession would confer upon it. The Association is not appealing for charity. It has done good work in the past, but it must do infinitely more in the future.

The measure of its usefulness to the individual should be of secondary importance beside its incalculable power for good in ameliorating the lot of thousands of your brother and sister artists in the provinces. Moreover, in view of approaching legislation, which will, in all probability, result in the establishment of one licence for theatre and music hall, it becomes more than ever necessary for actors to safeguard their interests. There is no reason why the Actors' Association of England should not be a strong and powerful institution representative of a great profession.

Will you help to make it so? If you are willing, would you kindly sign the enclosed nomination form, and leave it with the stage doorkeeper? It will be called for in the course of a week.

The subscription is 15s. You are urgently begged not to cripple the work of actors' organisation by withholding your support. Should you care at any time to look over the new premises you will be heartily welcome.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Adnam Sprange for his kind invitation to the members of the Association to the different skating rinks with which he is associated.

Elections: Ethel Trevor Lloyd, Cora Bush, Dudley Carlton, Blanche Johnstone, and Marie Ault. Nominations: Kathleen Vereker, Norah Johns, P. Ramsay Forman, Brineta Browne, and C. Lewis Sealy.

Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, and Mr. F. R. Benson have written the following letters to the Actors' Association in reply to invitations to return to it:

"Dear Mr. Duncan Young,—I was very glad to receive your letter. I should be very pleased to be of any service to the Association. The report of your Council seems to be a very satisfactory one, and promises well for the future. I hope the membership will increase rapidly, and that the Association will soon be in a position to pay out of the funds for both legal and medical advice for its members. By this means the profession will be self-supporting and independent of the charity of the doctors and lawyers. This step would certainly add to the dignity of our calling. With all good wishes.—I am, yours truly,

"George Alexander."

"Dear Mr. Young,—I am much obliged for your courteous letter and invitation. If I ask leave to decline it it is not because I do not appreciate the goodwill that prompted it, but because I feel that the Actors' Association should be entirely free from the influence of any managers—big or small. I believe that the Association could do its work better and with a free hand if not hampered by the membership of managers. This is only my own view, and may be extremely foolish, but it is the reason that I have to decline your most kind invitation.—Yours very truly,

"Charles H. Hawtrey."

"Dear Mr. Young,—I shall be very pleased to rejoin the Actors' Association, and I was glad of your letter—provided this does not pledge me in any way to support the trades union policy introduced some three or four years ago. The true Socialism of art in this age is, as Morris said, 'that the artist, like the priest, must be prepared to pay to do his work.' A great deal can be done to remedy the abuses and to protect artists by the Association; but, for heaven's sake, do not let us make the mistake of the political Socialists who, like a faction of the Actors' Association, sacrificed their true interests for a materialistic copybook heading. Do you suppose for a moment that a nightingale would not starve or pierce its breast with a thorn in order to sing? It must; it is the law of its nature. We can protect the nightingale from the financial cat, but as to securing its reward, its chief reward will ever be opportunity for singing, often to the stars and empty benches. Are we going to make the mistake that the Church has made with its priests, and measure our value by the bulk of the loaves and fishes we receive? Still, there are many abuses concerning salary that might be set right, not on the lines sketched by some of your misleaders.

"After this letter, perhaps you may not desire that I shall rejoin the society which I originally helped to form and then ceased to work for, not from lack of interest but from lack of time.—Yours very truly, "F. R. Benson."

"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"

Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Played for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, Feb. 7.

William Clark	Mr. F. G. Kimberley
Capt. George Courtney	Mr. George Keene
John Norman	Mr. Henry Rutland
Frank Roselle	Mr. George Langden
Timothy Swales	Mr. Kenneth Black, jun.
Dr. Forbes	Mr. F. Wilson Lowther
Jim Harford	Mr. A. Smith
Joseph Isaacs	Mr. John Arthurs
P.C. Wilson	Mr. Harry Stone
Alice Firearms	Miss Florence Steyne
Sarah Swales	Miss Nita Owen
Mary Norman	Miss Ellen Beverley
Lillian Norman	Miss Jennie Hastings
Mrs. Kate Roselle	Mrs. F. G. Kimberley

Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (Miss L. Addison), whose prolific pen has given us in the past several noteworthy plays, such as *The Power of the King* and *Two Little Drummer Boys*, again scores in her latest drama, *Was She to Blame?* Although the latter is of an entirely different type to the two mentioned above, it has many good qualities. There is a large amount of comedy introduced, and, judging by the merriment produced, and the keen appreciation shown throughout the four acts, the play should have a long life and a merry one. Messrs. Kimberley, Green, and Hinton's company is a strong one. The drama is liberally mounted, the final set, Exterior of the Church at Beechwood, being very effective and worthy of note.

Lillian Norman, the daughter of John Norman, the vicar of Beechwood, and his wife, Mary Norman, are wealthy people. We discover, on the rise of the curtain, that Lillian's tribulations have already begun, as she informs Captain George Courtney, who is seeking her hand in marriage, that she is already secretly married. It appears that she had become stage-struck, and wedded the scheming actor, Frank Roselle, *alias* Franklyn Harcourt, who, to obtain his ends, promised to place her upon the stage. But she soon repents of her bargain, as her father, becoming aware of the mesalliance, discards his daughter altogether. She finds a friend in Mrs. Kate Roselle, a retired actress, who had also been deceived in the man she married, who turns out to be the same rascal, Frank Roselle. Lillian, who has been sadly treated by her so-called husband, brings her dying child for shelter to the house of Sarah and Timothy Swales, the former, Kate Roselle's maid, and the latter man-of-all-work to the vicar. In this scene amusement is afforded by the return home of Timothy, who is a little weak man, in an advanced state of intoxication. Assisted by his friend, Jim Harford, who is in the same condition, he endeavours with ill-success to assert his rights as master over his much more than better half, Sarah Swales, who is a woman of goodly proportions and well-developed muscles. Kate Roselle brings the news to Lillian that her mother is dying, and desires to see her, but that her father is still unforgiving; but Kate manages matters discreetly, and mother and daughter meet, and the latter is forgiven by her mother, though the vicar still remains obdurate. Kate, becoming aware of the identity of Frank Roselle, offers him a large sum of money, and so rids the country of his pernicious presence. All in turn endeavour to soften the heart of the vicar, but without result, until William Clark, a broken-down actor, forces his way through the library window into the presence of the vicar, and in a pathetic scene intercedes for the daughter. Captain Courtney, having remained true to his one and only love, again offers his hand and is accepted. The last scene, outside the church where the wedding is to take place, is a strong one. Frank Roselle, having returned home, puts in his last appearance in a dishevelled and maddened condition, and endeavours to stop the wedding by murder, but stabs himself to the heart by accident and dies.

Mrs. F. G. Kimberley as Mrs. Kate Roselle offers a clever impersonation, the character being boldly depicted and the performance evoking applause. Mr. F. G. Kimberley is seen to considerable advantage in the character of William Clark, and is accorded a hearty reception. In the rôle of Lillian Norman Miss Jennie Hastings deserves praise for an impressive rendering. John Norman is cleverly embodied by Mr. Henry Rutland, who delivers his lines with excellent effect; Mr. George Langden merits commendation for a very capable rendering of the rascally Frank Roselle; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., is extremely diverting, and Kenneth Black, jun., is extremely diverting, and provokes roars of laughter in the part of Timothy Swales, and he is ably assisted in his endeavours by Miss Nita Owen, who scores highly as Sarah Swales; Mr. George Keene makes a smart Captain George Courtney; Miss Ellen Beverley is suitably placed as Mary Norman; and excellent assistance is also afforded by Mr. F. Wilson Lowther, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. John Arthurs, Mr. Harry Stone, and Miss Florence Steyne.

"The Soldier's Wedding" is paying a return visit to the Royal County Theatre, Bedford, the company being that of Mr. Walter Melville. Mr. Douglas Cecil is all that can be desired as the hero of the piece, and Nancy Lee is charmingly impersonated by Miss Dorothy Richardson. Mr. W. J. Butler is good as Charles Courtney, whose partner in malice and dark design is admirably portrayed by Miss Nita Langford. Humour is supplied by Mr. Willie Scott as Tommy Spratt, Little Albert as Teddy Munroe, and Miss Bessie Walters as Lizzie Walker. Mr. Fred Yarnold presents a perfect study of Nathaniel Lee, and Mr. Cyprian Matthews is a dignified Colonel James Graham. Miss Dora Pass sympathetically plays the part of Peggy Munroe.

Miss Maude Western's company in *Folly's Fortunes* is making its initial appearance at the Crewe Opera House. Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd is exceedingly clever. Mr. Walter Buckstone is a capable Alfred Esmond, and Mr. L. Lawrence is a successful George Foster. Miss Western gives a finished performance of Folly Vaughan, and Miss Maudie Lambert as Biddy Boyd is good. Miss Ada Hender gives a creditable portrayal of Myra Burritt.

At the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, near Manchester, *The Babes in the Wood* is produced by Messrs. Somers and Saunders. Miss Olive Aster, the principal boy, and Miss Lulu Lord, the principal girl, have been very popular. The Sisters Maundsley as the Babes act admirably; Denby and Dent as the ruffians do all that is required of them in the fun-making line; Mr. A. McAllister, the Dame, is also very successful; and another interesting personality is Little John.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM is now engaged in paying a round of visits to the principal towns in the United States and Canada, and is attracting large houses everywhere with *The Mollusc*. Miss Mary Moore, we regret to learn, has been compelled, owing to a severe attack of neuritis, to abandon her American tour with Sir Charles. By the advice of her doctor, Miss Moore is now on her way to Egypt, the invigorating air of which, it is hoped, will speedily restore her to complete health.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER made an excellent speech at the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, in a discussion which took place with reference to the appointment, at a commencing salary of £600 a year, of chief officer of the Parks Department. The Parks Committee had submitted to the General Purposes Committee the names of nine candidates, and to the recommendation that Major C. H. Enthoven be appointed, Mr. Gilbert moved an amendment that it be referred back to the committee on the ground that the best man had not been selected.

MR. ALEXANDER said that, speaking as the Chairman of the Parks Committee, he felt they had a perfect right to consider applications for the appointment from members of their own staff, but the difficulty was that, although they had many good men in the department, there was not one possessed of all the necessary qualifications for this particular post. He supported the General Purposes Committee's recommendations, because he felt sure that if the Council thought proper to appoint Major Enthoven he would prove worthy of their confidence. The amendment was lost on a division, and Major Enthoven was, on a show of hands, appointed to fill the vacancy.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE, who returns to the Playhouse on Tuesday, when *Tantalising Tommy* will be produced, will shortly pursue a former policy by giving at that theatre a series of matinées of special productions. His first venture in that direction will be the presentation of a play by Austin Strong, entitled *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, which will be given on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for three weeks.

AN event of the production of *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* will be the début of Mr. Maude's daughter, Miss Margery Maude, who will play the heroine. Miss Maude is an attractive young lady of eighteen, and is a graduate of the Academy of Dramatic Art. She will have the best wishes of all for a career as brilliant as that of her distinguished parents. Other parts in *The Toymaker* will be played by Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Miss Rosina Filippi, Mr. Shiel Barry, and Master Bobbie Andrews.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S preparations for his production of *Richard III.*, which will take place at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on April 13, are on the most elaborate scale. The dresses have been designed and executed by Miss D. Carleton Smyth, who holds the position of Lecturer on Historical Costume at the Glasgow School of Art. The armour, which will be hand-wrought from hammered steel, is in the hands of Mr. Edwin Stewart, under the supervision of Mr. Charles Whitelaw, who is in charge of the armour section at the Scottish National Exhibition for 1911.

THE Rev. E. E. Dorling, who was responsible for the Heraldry of the Church Pageant last summer at Fulham Palace, has undertaken to arrange all the details of Heraldry which will, of course, play a large part in the production. The incidental music will be composed by Mr. Norman O'Neill, who has provided the entr-actes and incidental music for so many of Mr. Martin Harvey's productions, and whose setting for *The Blue Bird* is a feature of that production. The scenery will be painted by Messrs. W. Telbin and Geo. J. Dodson.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has decided upon Thursday evening, Feb. 24, for the production, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Frohman, of Mr. Somerset Maugham's new play, *The Tenth Man*, at the Globe Theatre. Mr. Bourchier will have the part of a financial aristocrat who possesses a keen sense of humour. He will find excellent support in Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. A. Holmes Gore, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Frank Atherley, Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. George Bealby, Mr. Douglas Imbert, Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Daisy Markham, and Miss Frances Dillon.

MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH is not included in the cast of *The Tenth Man*, the leading feminine rôle of which is unsuited to her. She has accordingly accepted an offer made by Mr. Herbert Sleath to play her original part of Claire Foster in *The Woman in the Case* during an eight weeks' tour of the principal provincial towns, starting at Newcastle-on-Tyne on March 14, and concluding at Birmingham on May 7.

MISS ELLALINE TERRISS'S doctors have ordered her to Egypt for a complete rest, and she will leave for her holiday on Monday. For a very long time Miss Terriss has been continually at work without a rest, which she now will all the more enjoy. We trust she will return restored and recuperated.

MR. LEWIS WALLER is following the example of distinguished confrères, and will go over temporarily to the variety theatre. *The Strong People* will be withdrawn from the Lyric this evening, and on Monday Mr. Waller will appear at the London Hippodrome in Mr. Henry Hamilton's powerful one-act play *Fortune's Fool*. The popular actor returns to the Lyric on April 5 in a new comedy by a well-known author, or in a revival either of *Much Ado About Nothing* or *The Rivals*.

THE Lyric will in the meantime be occupied by the Sicilian Players, who proved such a draw at the Shaftesbury two years ago, Mr. Robert Arthur having secured them for a six weeks' season, beginning on Tuesday, the 22nd inst. The troupe will be headed by Signor Grasso, the leading lady being Marinella Bragaglia, an actress who is credited with powerful emotional qualities. Signor Grasso brings with him his former extensive repertory, the piece selected for the opening night being Guimera's *Feudalismo*, a singularly strong drama which was seen on the company's former visit to London.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH will next week introduce *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* to patrons of the King's, Hammersmith. On Monday evening the diverting farce will be preceded by a new playlet, entitled *A Ball or a Motor?* by Robert Lascelles, the author of *Billy Rotterford's Descent*.

THE cast of the new musical play *The Balkan Princess*, which will be produced at the Prince of Wales's on Thursday, includes Messrs. Bertram Wallis, William Lugg, Ridgwell Cullum, C. Morton Horne, Charles Brown, Lauri de Frece, Norman Blumé, Peter Blunt, Harry Leslie, John Hamilton, Hugh Weyhrance, Vincent Lawson, James Blakeley, and Misses Mabel Sealby, Hazel Dawn, Mabel Green, Miriam Ismay, and Isabel Jay.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP has just terminated an engagement with Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan's London pantomimes, thus completing his second season with that enterprising firm, and is now at liberty. Mr. Scott Phipp is well up in all departments of management, advertising, &c., and his repeated re-engagements with leading firms would seem to imply that he is a thorough worker.

A FORMIDABLE list of new plays and notable revivals has been prepared by Mr. Charles Frohman for his Répertoire Theatre, which opens at the Duke of York's on Feb. 21. Among the new works will be *Justice*, by John Galsworthy; *Misalliance*, by Bernard Shaw; two one-act plays by J. M. Barrie, *The Sentimentalists* (unfinished comedy), by George Meredith, and *The Madras House*, by Granville Barker. The first week will alternate *Justice* and *Misalliance*, the second week the Barrie-Meredith bill with the two others, and so on.

OTHER new plays include *Chains*, by Elizabeth Baker (recently produced by the Play Actors); *The Eldest Son*, by John Galsworthy; a translation of Euripedes' *Iphigenia in Tauris*, and *The Outcry*, by Henry James. Among the revivals are to be included Mr. Barrie's *Quality-street*, *What Every Woman Knows*, and *Admirable Crichton*; Mr. Galsworthy's *Strife* and *Silver Box*; Sir Arthur Pinero's *Amazons*, *Iris*, and *Trelawny of the Wells*; Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Major Barbara*, *Man and Superman*, and *The Doctor's Dilemma*; Mr. Granville Barker's *Voysey Inheritance*; Mr. Laurence Housman and Mr. Barker's *Prunella*; Mr. Haddon Chambers's *Tyranny of Tears*; and Mr. John Masefield's *Tragedy of Nan*.

THE plays will be produced by Mr. Dion Boucicault and Mr. Granville Barker, and the company will be drawn from Messrs. Oscar Adye, Dion Boucicault, Charles Bryant, Leslie Carter, Lewis Casson, Dennie Eadie, E. W. Garden, Edmund Gwenn, Hubert Harben, O. P. Heggie, Whitford Kane, Frederick Lloyd, C. M. Lowne, Gerald du Maurier, Charles Maude, Robert Pateman, Sidney Valentine; Mesdames Lena Ashwell, Mary Barton, Fay Davis, Florence Haydon, Mary Jerrold, Lillah McCarthy, Dorothy Minto, Edyth Olive, Geraldine Olliffe, Sibyl Thorndike, Hilda Trevelyan, Irene Vanbrugh, Penelope Wheeler.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY asks us to aid him in correcting a statement which he understands has appeared, that he intends shortly to fulfil an engagement at a London variety theatre. The statement is entirely without foundation in fact, and Mr. Harvey has not the smallest intention of appearing on the music-hall stage. Not only are his engagements made a long way ahead, but his whole time, apart from performances, is occupied with his elaborate revival of *Richard III.*, which is due at Dublin in April.

MR. HERBERT BLACKMORE'S retirement from the post of secretary to the Theatrical Managers' Association is a great loss to that body and is deeply regretted by its members. Mr. Blackmore accepted the post sixteen years ago, and in the interval he has been assiduous in his attendance at the meetings, and attentive to all the duties of the position. Before his election as secretary he and his brother, Mr. Arthur Blackmore, were joint registrars of the Provincial Managers' Association. Mr. Blackmore's qualifications as a man of business were only equalled by the extent of his practical knowledge of the profession.

"GABRIEL GRANT, GAMBLER," and *The Idol's Eyes*, both by Burford Delannoy, are the titles of two new plays to be produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on Monday. The first-named play is in three acts, Mr. Herbert E. Terry and Miss Jessie Danvers filling the leading rôles. The second piece is written around Mr. Courtice Pounds, who will afford audiences an opportunity of seeing him in a pure comedy part.

A NEW Portia will be introduced during Mr. Arthur Phillips' Shakespearean revival at the Court Theatre in the person of Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, daughter of the well-known dramatic author. Miss Thomas has frequently appeared in her father's companies, and recently created a most favourable impression in a one-act play produced by Mr. Herbert Trench at the Haymarket.

THE first performance of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Court will take place on Saturday evening, Feb. 19, and not on Monday, the 21st, as previously announced. Mr. Phillips himself will play Shylock; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, Gratiano; Mr. Cyril Keightley, Bassanio; and Mr. James Berry, Antonio. Other parts are entrusted to Messrs. Cyril Vernon, Leslie Palmer, Rupert Harvey, E. Stuart Vinden, Richard Fielding, Scott Sunderland, Vernon, Ross Shore, and Arthur Fayne; Miss Dora Hole and Miss Christie Laws.

MR. ARTHUR PHILLIPS is, comparatively speaking, a stranger to London audiences, although he appeared during the run of *The Earth* at the Kingsway, but is favourably known in the provinces, and his conception of Shylock is said to contain sufficient individuality to arouse discussion. New music for the production has been composed by Mr. Ernest Bucalossi, and dances arranged by Mr. Hartley Milburn. The general-manager is Mr. A. S. Pigott. The season will be one of five weeks' duration, after which Mr. Phillips and his company will tour the leading provincial cities.

MR. FRANK CURZON has arranged with Mr. Charles Hawtrey to transfer *The Little Damozel* to Wyndham's Theatre, its original home, on Monday next.

MISS ETHEL BRACEWELL, who is again the Monica in the North company of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* was the recipient of many tokens of goodwill during the return visits to the Broadhead theatres. Flowers, chocolates, an umbrella, and a gold ring were some of the things that came "over the footlights" from admirers of the "beggar maid."

MR. THOMAS BEECHAM will conduct *Elektra* at the opening night of the Covent Garden season on Saturday, and Mme. Edyth Walker will sing the title-rôle. *Tristan* will be performed on the second night of the season. *A Village Romeo and Juliet* will be given with an English cast, with Miss Ruth Vincent as the heroine, supported by Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Dillon Shallard, Mr. Robert Maitland, Mr. Walker Hyde, Miss Betty Booker, Miss Gertrude Lonsdale, Mr. Arthur Royd, and Mr. Albert Archdeacon. Miss Ethel Smyth's *The Wreckers* makes its first appearance at Covent Garden on Saturday, Feb. 26.

MISS DOROTHY FIRMIN, who is playing principal girl at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, wishes it known that she has no relation on the stage by the name of Firmin.

SATURDAY last saw the conclusion of the Stratford Borough pantomime *Cinderella* amidst scenes of enthusiasm. Mr. Fred Fredericks came direct from his other pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre to be in at the finish, and he had a highly popular reception from the artists and the audience. Presentations necessarily caused numerous interruptions to the performance, the principals being inundated with bouquets and gifts. In addition, the stage-manager, Mr. Will L. Clement, was the recipient of a kit bag from the principals, a silver cigarette case from the Stella Girls, a calabash pipe from Mr. Barney Armstrong, a pipe and case from Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rogerson, and a set of gold links from the chorus ladies. Mr. Ben Barrow, musical director, was presented with a silver cigarette box by the principals, and Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, proprietress of the Stratford theatres, presented Jimmy Steele (Kelly) with a watch and chain.

THE anniversary of the birth of Henry Irving was commemorated on Monday, when wreaths were placed on his grave in the Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey. Amongst the floral tributes was a beautiful laurel chaplet, decorated with light-blue ribbon and bearing the following inscription: "In loving memory of Sir Henry Irving, from six old Lyceum Pittites." Another wreath bore the message: "From the Garden of Dear Memories," and a third, which consisted of yellow flowers, had inscribed upon it the lines:—

"I shall remember while the light lives yet,
And in the darkness I shall not forget."

MR. G. E. WILLIAMS, lately manager of Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Bondman* company, was kindly released by that gentleman in order that he might take up the resident-management of the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington for Messrs. Moss and Stoll, and entered upon his duties last week. Mr. Williams, on leaving *The Bondman*, was presented by the members of the company with a handsome set of gold studs and sleeve-links, and also received from Mr. Croke a most kindly letter, written in pencil from a sick bed, wishing him all success and prosperity in his new appointment.

AFTER his lecture at the Public Hall, Hastings, last Friday, Sir Ernest Shackleton made a further discovery by seeing the last act of *Where is William?* at the Gaiety Theatre, and expressed himself as delighted with the latest comedy success. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Windermere and Miss Donaldson were on the P. and O. India when the explorer was on his way to join the Nimrod in New Zealand, and he was very pleased to renew the friendship, going behind after the fall of the curtain to congratulate Mr. Windermere on his new production.

MR. C. H. WORKMAN has a novelty in preparation for the Savoy, and on or about the 10th of next month will produce there a new musical play at present entitled *Two Merry Monarchs*. The libretto is by Arthur Anderson and George Levy, the lyrics by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick, and the music by Orlando Morgan.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE is at present having a most successful tour in his Tyneside stronghold. This week he is paying his fourth visit to the Theatre Royal, South Shields. The extent of Mr. Wilkie's répertoire may be gauged by the fact that on this occasion he is presenting no fewer than four novelties to his South Shields admirers.

MR. H. A. JONES could not have studied the productions of the present week so carefully as he imagined when he said at the O.P. Club on Sunday that "taking the whole of England and Wales, Shakespeare was to be played the following night (Monday) at only two places—Dewsbury and Llanelly." Mr. Jones overlooked the revivals of *Twelfth Night* and *Much Ado About Nothing* at Manchester, besides the Shakespearean plays being performed by the Miss Florence Glossop-Harris company at Colne, and by Mr. Allan Wilkie's company at South Shields. The productions referred to by Mr. Jones are those of Mr. F. R. Benson, who happens himself this week to be out of England, being, in fact, at the Gaiety, Dublin.

THE Theatre Royal, York, was crowded in every part on Sunday last, the occasion being a sacred concert on behalf of the Children's Holiday Fund, given by the principal members of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, by permission of Mr. Walter Van Noorden, and the band of the Green Howards. As the result of the effort the sum of £85 was raised, much to the gratification of the promoters.

THE ladies and gentlemen of Mr. Allan Wilkie's Shakespearean and classical répertoire company presented Mr. Wilkie with a beautifully chased silver card case on Wednesday, the 9th inst., the occasion being his birthday. Mr. Wilkie's powerful combination of artists is delighting South Shields audiences this week with charmingly produced comedies from Shakespeare, including *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

AT the end of the present successful run of Mr. Francis Laidler's superb pantomime *Babes in the Wood*, which is breaking all records at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, it will be for sale. The gorgeous scenery and costumes are practically unsoiled. The production has the advantage of being also available as a *Red Riding Hood* pantomime.

MR. FRED S. JENNINGS, the popular manager at the Lyric, Hammersmith, celebrated his birthday on Wednesday, the 9th inst. A number of his friends and colleagues took advantage of this occasion to present him with a handsome tantalus with cigar and cigarette drawer, in addition to the usual three bottles, as a mark of the esteem they have for him. Mr. J. Allaway made the presentation, which Mr. Jennings acknowledged, expressing his great surprise and sincere thanks. The staff also presented their manager with a gold fountain pen, and presents from several other sources bore token of his popularity in Hammersmith.

BY one of those unfortunate oversights which can never be explained, the name of Mr. Henry Evill was omitted from the list of mourners at the graveside of the late Mr. Charles J. Davies. Mr. Evill was a lifelong friend of the deceased, and although eighty-five years of age, he travelled from Lancaster Gate, W., to Norwood, in order to be present at the last obsequies. Mr. Evill is one of those undemonstrative personages who walk through the world "doing good by stealth and blushing to find it fame." There are many annuitants of the R.G.T. Fund who could tell of favours received, and Mr. C. J. Coltson, the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, could also bear testimony to his liberality.

"MOTHER-IN-LAW," the celebrated farcical comedy by George R. Sims, is shortly to be taken on tour by Mrs. Mark Kinghorne, widow of the late popular comedian. The piece achieved a success on its production at the Opera Comique more than a quarter of a century ago, and having now been brought up to date by the author, would well bear revival. Mr. H. Chiswell Billing will act as general manager for the company.

FOLLOWING on the very successful season that Mr. Brandon Thomas recently repeated at the Royalty Theatre with *Charley's Aunt*, the company started the spring tour after one week's vacation at the Grand Theatre, Hull, last Monday, and the comedy has been received with crowded houses all the week. The company includes Mr. Stanley Cooke as Babs. Mr. Cecil Barth as general-manager for Mr. Thomas is fulfilling his fourth year's engagement with the piece.

MR. J. W. CHAPMAN, who has been connected with theatrical enterprise in Doncaster for over twenty years, is prepared to retire from the business if mutual terms can be arranged, and to treat for the sale of the Grand Theatre and Opera House, a new and up-to-date theatre near the railway station, successfully carried on by him. He would also dispose of the freehold site of a new Hippodrome and Palace of Varieties or Electric Cinematograph Theatre, in one of the principal streets of Doncaster, plans for which have been passed by the Doncaster Corporation this week. Both properties are freehold, and a considerable amount of the purchase money could remain on mortgage.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON inaugurated his tour of *The Chorus Lady* last week at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, where the play was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Mr. Mollison and Miss Annie Hughes, who is playing the title-rôle, both made great successes, and at the end of the performance were not allowed to leave the stage till the curtain had been taken up nine times. The same enthusiasm prevailed at every representation, and judging from the way the piece is being received at Newcastle this week, an artistic and financial success is assured. The play goes to Hull after Newcastle, and will then visit the Coronet and the Kennington, following on to Liverpool, Bradford, Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester, and Wolverhampton.

KINGSTONIANS have this week had the rare opportunity of witnessing and listening to a series of Italian grand operas performed at the County Theatre by one of the best touring companies travelling, viz., that captained by Cavaliere F. Castellano, the company having been engaged at great expense in response to numerous requests by Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director. On Monday night *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were produced, the performance being alluded to during the interval by Mr. Davey, who said it was the greatest musical treat he had ever provided the Kingston public with during the thirteen years the theatre had been open. Besides the two operas mentioned, the company, which with instrumentalists tours eighty strong, also appeared in *Rigoletto*, *Faust*, *Carmen*, and *Il Trovatore*.

MISS MARIE MCAULAY concludes on Feb. 19 at Portsmouth a successful engagement as Dora Grey in Mr. Walter Melville's production of *Her Second Time on Earth*.

MISS EDITH BLANDE has been engaged by Messrs. E. Faulkner and M. de Courtsey for the part of Camille le Blanc in *The Sins of the Fathers*, with which they commence a tour on Feb. 21 at the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, by special arrangement with Mr. Wallace Davidson.

MISS MONA HUNGERFORD was the recipient of a nice present from Miss Stella Campbell and Miss Ethel Patrick on her leaving the *Prince and the Beggar Maid* company.

MISS FANNY WENTWORTH has just returned from Switzerland, where during the past month she has been entertaining, among others, Mrs. Asquith's family, including Miss Tennant, the Bishop of Hereford, Lady Wharton and family, Lord and Lady Lyveden, Lady Helen and Lord Mallis Grahame, Sir John Barron, Sir Robert and Lady Morrant, and many of our most distinguished politicians who were taking their holidays there.

THE performance of Gluck's *Iphigenia in Tauris*, which was to have been given yesterday at His Majesty's Theatre by the Royal College of Music pupils, has been unavoidably postponed till Friday afternoon next. Miss Viola Tree will appear in the title-rôle.

MR. MONTAGUE LANE will commence another repertory season at the Palace Pier, St. Leonards, at Easter. In the meantime, Mr. Lane has been engaged by Mr. Frank Bertram to appear with him at the principal variety theatres.

"THE LITTLE DAMOZEL" is proving an enormous success on tour. So great is the desire of provincial playgoers to witness this great London success that Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow are sending out a second company shortly. The company go to the Opera House, Southport, next week, following on to the Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

MR. FRANK ADAIR'S *Heathen and the Christian* company commences its spring tour at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, on Monday. This successful play was toured for forty-seven consecutive weeks last year. On its present tour the company includes Messrs. Fred Withers, Gerald Shirley, Ellis Carlyle, Fred Barnes, and Herbert Sydney, and Misses Stanley Burt, Eva Reed, and Louie Adair.

MR. FRED FREDERICKS, at the conclusion of the run of the popular *Babes in the Wood* on Saturday at the Marlborough Theatre, presented Mr. Murray Herriot, resident-manager, with a very handsome diamond and sapphire gold horse-shoe scarfpin as a souvenir of the pantomime, and in appreciation of the aid he had given in making *The Babes* a "record" success. This is the seventh successive year in the suburbs that Mr. Herriot's work has been similarly recognised by visiting managers.

THE Britannia Theatre, Torquay, has just been opened for a stock season, under the proprietorship of Mr. Allan M. Johnson. The initial performances have been well received, and there is every prospect of a successful season. Many of the best-known dramas and comedies are being given, including *East Lynne*, *The Queen's Messenger*, *Escaped from Portland*, and *A Noble Brother*. The cast, which is headed by Mr. and Mrs. Allan M. Johnson, includes Miss May Campbell, Miss Maud Nicholls, Mr. F. R. Leslie, Mr. Reginald Bauer, and Mr. Bert Earle.

MESSRS. E. FAULKNER AND M. DE COURTSEY will commence their spring and summer tour of *The Sins of the Fathers* at Carlton Theatre, Saltley, on Monday, Feb. 21. The cast will include Miss Edith Blande. Some excellent dates have been secured.

MISS NORA LANCASTER, the accomplished daughter of Mrs. Lancaster-Wallis, has just added another to the long list of parts which she has been playing with Mr. and Mrs. Benson. With Juliet, Portia, Viola, and other leading rôles she has now to be associated that of Perdita in *The Winter's Tale*, in which she appeared at Dublin this week. Looking remarkably pretty as one of Shakespeare's sweetest heroines, Miss Lancaster played with the utmost grace and distinction, and gained great admiration. The young actress will appear at Stratford-upon-Avon during Mr. Benson's Shakespeare Festival performances.

THE run of the *Babes in the Wood* pantomime at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, will terminate on Saturday, Feb. 26.

MR. BLAKE ADAMS has been engaged by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to play the part of Ginger Stubbs in *The House of Temperley* now running at the Adelphi Theatre, and opens on Monday next.

THE funeral of Mr. Charles E. Lambert, whose death was recorded in last week's *Era*, took place at Mountain Ash on Sunday last. The widow (Miss Louie Walton) received numerous letters and telegrams of condolence from friends in the profession. Among the floral tributes were a beautiful anchor from "The boys and girls" of *A Girl's Temptation* company, and wreaths from Mr. John Coulson (Theatre Royal, South Shields), Mr. and Mrs. Cross, Mr. F. M. Thorne (*Little Phil's Mother* company), Mr. Willie Haggar, Aberdare Cross, &c. Mr. Lambert began his theatrical career as a call boy at the Leeds Theatre Royal, under John Coleman, where he rose to the position of utility gentleman, and afterwards played parts. He then commenced touring in small companies with Pitt Hardacre, E. F. Brady, and Gertrude Norman, being of recent years connected with the *Wages of Sin* company and *Her One Great Sin*, in the latter of which he played with his wife and family for a number of years.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD had a warm welcome on Saturday, the last night of the successful pantomime, *Cinderella*, at the Crystal Palace Theatre, when he went on the stage to make a speech. "For the fourth year in succession," he said, "I have the honour of saying a few words on this, the last night of the pantomime. Unfortunately, this year, we have had a General Election to contend with, which has, perhaps, not helped to make the pantomime the financial success we anticipated, but we can congratulate ourselves upon the fact that we have beaten the record this year as far as the run is concerned, as to-night we register our fifty-ninth performance.

"I TAKE this opportunity of thanking all the principals and the chorus for the loyal way they have worked during the run, and not only do I thank the company, but there are many others who have been instrumental in helping to make this a success. First and foremost there is our author, Mr. Fred Bowyer, who, I am sure, you will all agree has faithfully told the tale. Then, again, our musical-conductor, Mr. Gautier, our wardrobe-mistress, Mrs. Phillips, our splendid band in front, and last, but not least, our hard-working stage-manager, Mr. Paterson."

MR. HOWARD enumerated his spring bookings, which include the Lyceum production of *Pete*, the Italian Opera Company, *When Knights Were Bold*, *Charley's Aunt*, Frank Curzon's company (No. 1) in *The King of Cadonia*, another of Hall Caine's famous plays, *The Prodigal Son*, *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, the Sydenham Hill Operatic Company in *Madame Angot*, and at Easter their own company, playing a farewell visit of *The Belle of New York*. Miss Dorothea Clarke will appear in the title-rôle and Miss Nixon in her old part of Fifi.

WITH regard to the future, Mr. Howard said he was unable yet to say much about the autumn, but he thought it more than probable that they would find *Mother Goose* safely installed by next Boxing Night. He concluded by thanking his hearers on behalf of Mr. Lambert and himself for the liberal patronage bestowed.

THE Crystal Palace Theatre will give hospitality to *The Prodigal Son* next week. Mr. Hall Caine's thrilling play will be well acted and well mounted, Mr. Hugh Montgomery sustaining the rôle of Magnus Stephensson, Mr. S. Hubert Humber that of Oscar, and Miss Betty Castle that of Helga, Miss Valerie Crespin doubling the parts of Thora and Elin. Mr. J. E. Sharpe, the business-manager, is back again at the front of the house. During the week beginning Feb. 21 the celebrated Italian Grand Opera Company will be the attraction, and patrons who attended these operas on the last occasion will be pleased to learn that Signora Gonzaga will again be with the company.

THE new manager of the Royal Hippodrome, Eastbourne, Mr. G. G. Ridley, took up his new duties on Monday. He has seen "active service" at Birmingham, Leamington, and latterly at Chatham, and he is prepared to deal courteously with the largest audiences the Hippodrome will hold.

MR. J. HENRY TWIFORD has just produced for amateurs at Retford, most successfully, *Pygmalion and Galatea*. He will probably produce for them next year *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, and himself play the part of Count Skariatine.

OWING to the sudden indisposition of Mr. John T. MacCallum, the part of Joe Wheeler in *The Flower Girl* company was played at a moment's notice on Monday evening by Mr. Bert A. Hinkley, who continued in the part for the rest of the week.

OWING to the indisposition of Miss Tita Brand, the part of Catherine de Medici in *Henry of Navarre* at the New Theatre was played for five nights last week by Miss Carrie Haase.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" at the Britannia finishes its successful run of nine weeks on Saturday next. On Wednesday next Mr. J. M. Jones, the capable pantomime producer, takes his benefit, and on Thursday Mr. Edward Lunn (laird) and Miss May Beatty (principal boy) take theirs.

MR. NEWMAN MAURICE, the popular manager of the Brixton Theatre, was accorded his annual benefit by the kindness of Mr. Frederick Melville on Tuesday. The theatre was packed by a most enthusiastic audience, including several of the local Councillors and the members of the Carlton Club. In addition to the successful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*, several extra turns were provided, notably Miss Rose Maitland, a clever step-dancer, while Miss Daisy James, the effervescent principal boy, sang an extra song, "Charlie played the big drum," and met with a reception quite equal to that accorded her for "Let's all go down the Strand."

IN the course of the evening many kind remarks were made in praise of the beneficiaire, Mr. Frederick Melville assuring the audience that "he had always found Mr. Newman Maurice one of the most willing and hardest workers he had known, adding that it gave him the greatest pleasure to be there that evening." Presents and bouquets played an important part in the proceedings, the staff in the front of the house giving Mr. Maurice a diamond pin, while from Mr. Frederick Melville came a silver cigarette case. Boxes of cigarettes and cigars were handed up at every opportunity. Mr. W. Bellamy, the ever-courteous assistant-manager, supervised affairs in the front of the house.

MISS ESTHER WHITEHOUSE, who was engaged to understudy Louise de la Vallière in *The Prisoner of the Bastille*, autumn tour, last year, has been re-engaged by the Lyceum management to play Helena and understudy Perpetua in the spring tour of *The Proud Prince*.

THERE was ample evidence the other day that pantomime artists in Birmingham are genuine "sports." The weather was shocking, but teams representing the Theatre Royal and Prince of Wales's defied the elements and were driven out on coaches to the Mount Pleasure Grounds, near Shirley. The players were early covered with mud, but an exciting game was keenly contested to the end. Mr. George Robey assisted the Royal, but the "boys" from the Prince of Wales were in great form, and proved victorious by seven goals to three. Pender scored five goals for the P.O.W. Afterwards an excellent tea was provided, and considerable interest was manifested in the many attractions at this popular pleasure resort. The coaches were generously provided by Mr. Philip Baker, a well-known local gentleman.

CONSIDERABLE interest is being manifested in the billiard handicap being contested by managers of theatres and halls in Birmingham. On Tuesday over a hundred enthusiasts assembled to witness two exciting games, which concluded the first round. Mr. Lester Collingwood (Alexandra) (receives 120) met Mr. E. Foster (Grand) (receives 120). It was a "neck-and-neck" game, and Mr. Collingwood scored a popular victory by 31 points. Afterwards Mr. J. F. Graham (Prince of Wales) (receives 120) defeated Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward (Bordesley Palace) (receives 120) by 20 points. The draw for the semi-final resulted as follows:—Mr. Collingwood (receives 120) v. Mr. F. Rodway (owes 100); Mr. Graham (receives 130) v. Mr. A. Burbell (owes 50).

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Rose without a Thorn.

MRS. KENDAL called her lecture in connection with the Liverpool Ladies' Sanitary Association, at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, on the 4th inst., "Meanderings between Roses and Thorns." "I have hardly a relation in the world," she said, "who has never been on the stage, and I am very proud of the fact that the blood of the Montmorencys, when they speak of their long lineage and ancestry, is not greater than my enthusiasm when I turn and can boast that I belong to the actors of old. I am sorry to say I did not play in the best comedies of my elder brother, T. W. Robertson. We have often heard of his works spoken of as the 'bread-and-butter school.' Ah! think how finely-kneaded the bread and how well-spread the butter! It has always been the better and the purer for the keeping.

On a Single Stem.

"AT the Haymarket I met Mr. Kendal, and I left the theatre the Matron of the Drama, a title I am very proud of. But with that pride goes a feeling of regret at being so conspicuously selected. I have been asked why my husband and I have always acted together, and have never been separated. May I say that when husband and wife become divided in theatrical engagements a shadow may grow up at home that may divide them for ever? It was an expressed wish that we married on the condition that we should never be separated, but always act together. No doubt certain go-ahead people would have preferred it otherwise, and we should have saved more pounds than we have to-day. But there is another section of the public, thank God, who say they like to see us act together, and the very fact of knowing that we are man and wife gives a certain satisfaction which they would not otherwise feel."

Heavy Demands.

MR. BERNARD SHAW has told a representative of the *Daily Mail* that the pressure which has been put on him for some years in Germany to produce his plays there in the first instance, and so avoid the reports of disastrous failure which invariably follow his London productions, has been redoubled. As, according to our absolutely impartial Berlin correspondent, the reception of most of Mr. Shaw's plays in that city has been—to put it kindly—only moderately enthusiastic, the "pressure" is difficult to account for. "One London daily paper," said Mr. Shaw, "described the curtain as falling on *Getting Married* at the Haymarket amid a storm of hisses." As a matter of fact, the first and second acts of that amusing piece went with a laugh from beginning to end.

An Actress's Anecdotes.

MRS. STANISLAUS CALHAEM'S store of personal reminiscences (says *M.A.P.*) is endless. Many years ago, when playing "lead" in John Coleman's company, the actress made the acquaintance of a gentleman who is now one of our leading artists. He had joined the company, and was an enthusiast. On Saturday the play was *Rob Roy*. Like many of the members of Mr. F. R. Benson's company in recent years, notably Mr. Oscar Asche, this gentleman had discarded tights, and had painted muscle, thews, and sinews on his not too brawny legs. When the curtain had fallen the actor-artist sought Coleman and desired to know when *Rob Roy* was likely to be played again. "In three weeks, most probably," returned Coleman. "Is that certain?" the player inquired, earnestly. "I think so," replied the manager. The enthusiastic actor gave a sigh of relief. "Ah, then, if that's the case, I won't wash my legs!"

A Common Curse.

ON another occasion, when Mrs. Calhaem was playing in *Richard III.*, the lady who was cast for the Duchess of York was taken suddenly ill. In those days of stock companies the careful management never engaged more than were actually wanted, so in this emergency the manager's wife was bundled into the part, prompted at the wings by her husband. In the famous cursing scene the good lady forgot her lines. Her irate husband gave her cue after cue, all of which she failed to take up. At last, losing patience, he shouted: "For heaven's sake, curse her and come off!" Whereupon the bewildered Duchess, to the intense enjoyment of the audience, regaled them with several volleys of most excellent Billingsgate until the curtain fell. They order things differently on the stage in these days.

An Actor M.P.

"WHEN Mr. Mason, the dramatist, novelist, and actor—he played a good deal in the Benson and the Bateman companies—retired from Parliament, the new House of Commons looked like being without an actor," says T. McDonald Rendle in *London Opinion*. "This result has been averted through the election of Mr. Francis Neilson, the member for Hyde—not Jekyll. He was in the original London cast of *Held by the Enemy*; he was for many years stage-manager for Charles Frohman in London and America; and he was also, for a long while, the director of the stage during the grand opera season at Covent Garden Theatre. Mr. Neilson is a fine novelist and a very convinced politician of quite exceptional powers. I tell you these things because the writers of stereotyped notices of new members do not appear to be acquainted with them."

Knew He Had a Soul.

A WEALTHY stockbroker was seen coming out of a matinée of *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre the other afternoon. "I never expected to see you here," said a friend who was passing by. "You're the last person in the world I should think would care for a children's play." "It's the most wonderful play I've seen in my life," said the stockbroker. "It's made me believe I've got a soul."

"The Newest Mascot."

THE other day a smart motor-car was noticed outside the Carlton having a "blue bird" mascot in front instead of the Teddy Bear which has been the vogue for some time. "Everyone seems to be suffering from "Bluebirditis," said the managing director of one of our largest drapery establishments the other day. "We are inundated with demands for "Blue Bird" mascots, brooches, charms, hatpins, &c." This is a gratifying testimony to the way Maeterlinck's exquisite fantasy has caught hold of the public.

Politics in Pantomime.

MR. GEORGE GRAVES, one of the principal comedians in the Drury Lane pantomime, sings a song during each performance of *Aladdin* that occasionally makes portions of the gallery rise and howl at him, and (says the *Daily Mirror*) he enjoys the experience. "Two or three people in the gallery sometimes boo the poetry," says Mr. Graves, "but the majority like it. It causes a bit of fun, because the Conservative cheer wildly in opposition to the booers. Shouts of 'It [the Budget] will be passed' and 'No politics' rise up, and I enjoy that, because it is a new experience. Besides, I sooth the troubled ones immediately with a neutral verse. The people who boo are mostly trippers from the provinces, and the bigger percentage of porridge brains you have in the gallery the more they boo. I don't care. I've got some new verses for them. They mean 'For goodness' sake give Tariff Reform a trial.' If the provincial trippers booed the other verse, what will they say to that?"

"RICHELIEU."

Lord Lytton's Drama, in Four Acts, Revived at the Strand Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 10.

Cardinal Richelieu .....MR. ROBERT HILTON
Louis XIII. .....MR. GILBERT YORKE
The Chevalier de Mauprat ..MR. LIONEL ATWILL
Gaston, Duke of Orleans .....MR. NORMAN WRIGHTON
Count Baradas .....MR. FREDERICK SARGENT
The Sieur de Beringhen .....MR. FRED GROVE
Clermont .....MR. HUGH ARDALE
1st Secretary of State .....MR. T. F. NYE
2nd Secretary of State ....MR. GERALD LINDLEY
Captain of the Archers ....MR. C. HARDINGHAM
Groom of the Chamber .....MR. H. MALIGNY
Father Joseph .....MR. J. H. BARNES
François .....MR. GEORGE ROBINSON
Huguet .....MR. R. BESANT
Pages .....MR. CYRIL BRUCE / .....MR. CEDRIC PERCIVAL
Marion de L'Orme .....MISS SOPHIE HARRISS
Juke De Mortimar .....MISS MARIE POLINI

Lord Lytton's play *Richelieu; or, The Conspiracy* was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, under the management of Macready, on Thursday, March 7, 1839, with Macready as the Cardinal, Phelps as Joseph, and Helen Faucit as Julie de Mortemar. Henry Irving, who had made his first appearance on the stage in the small part of Gaston, Duke of Orleans, revived *Richelieu* with great success in the Lyceum season of 1879, and Mr. Robert Hilton, at the Strand Theatre on Thursday, gave modern playgoers, by whom the piece has seldom been seen of late years, an opportunity of estimating its merits. The excellence of *Richelieu* as an acting play, and as a free dramatic version of historical events, is fully established. Some of the speeches in it are world-famous, especially the following, which Richelieu makes to his confidant Joseph, in discussing the plans of their enemies, Orleans and Baradas:—

RICHELIEU: I have them, man, I have them!
JOSEPH: So they say
Of you, my lord:—believe me, that their plans
Are mightier than you deem. You must employ
Means no less vast to meet them.
RICHELIEU: Bah! in policy
We foil gigantic danger, not by giants,
But dwarfs.—The statues of our stately fortune
Are sculptured by the chisel—not the axe!—
Ah, were I younger—by the knightly heart
That beats beneath these priestly robes, I would
Have pastime with these cut-throats!
Reach me yon falchion, François—not that bauble
For carpet-warriors—yonder—such a blade
As old Charles Martel might have wielded when
He drove the Saracen from France.
(FRANCOIS *brings him a long two-handed sword*)
Ah, boy, with this
I, at Rochelle, did hand to hand engage
The stalwart Englisher—no mongrels, boy,
Those island mastiffs—mark the notch—a deep one,
His casque made here—I shore him to the waist!
A toy—a feather—then! (*tries to wield sword and lets it fall.*)
You see a child could slay Richelieu now.
FRANCOIS (*his hand on his hilt*): But *now*, at your command
Are other weapons, my good lord.
RICHELIEU (*about to write, lifts the pen*): True, THIS
Beneath the rule of men entirely great
The pen is mightier than the sword. Behold
The arch-enchanter's wand!—itself a nothing—
But taking sorcery from the master-hand
To paralyse the Cæsars—and to strike
The loud earth breathless!—Take away the sword,
States can be saved without it!

Then there is the spirited reply of the old Cardinal to Baradas, who wants to take away Julie:—

BARADAS: The country is the king!
RICHELIEU: Ay, is it so?
Then wakes the power which in the age of iron
Burst forth to curb the great, and raise the low.
Mark, where she stands—around her form I draw
The awful circle of our solemn church!
Set but a foot within that holy ground,
And on thy head—yea, though it wore a crown—
I launch the curse of Rome!

Full of action, if slightly old-fashioned in parts, *Richelieu* is a fine example of the historical drama of the last generation, and bears revival by no means badly. Mr. Robert Hilton was obviously overweighted as Richelieu, and he has much to learn in the matters of make-up and bearing; but he had evidently devoted care and study to the task of portraying the Cardinal, and his enunciation was distinct and clear. His delivery was apt to be monotonous; but he showed decided intelligence, and acted at times with real power and earnestness. A complete contrast was the Father Joseph of Mr. J. H. Barnes, which was distinguished by perfect ease and accomplishment, firm, clear, and decisive treatment, and the necessary tinge of irony and unctuous humour. The part is not a great one, but Mr. Barnes's performance stood out by reason of its experienced soundness and ripe and mellow technique. Mr. Frederick Sargent, whose appearance as Baradas was excellent, played the part with bitter emphasis and vigorous intensity, and Mr. Lionel Atwill's Chevalier de Mauprat was a sympathetic and spirited performance, distinguished by refinement and sensitiveness, and full of activity and fire. Mr. Fred Grove's comical Sieur de Beringhen was a welcome gleam of genuine comedy; Mr. George Robinson was fresh and natural as François; and Mr. R. Besant made an appropriately grim and sullen Huguet. Miss Sophie Harriss depicted with eloquent facial play and much vivacity and variety the rôle of Marion de L'Orme, and Miss Marie Polini was delightfully animated and charmingly bright and impulsive as Julie De Mortemar. Mr. Gilbert Yorke played Louis XIII. skilfully and well; Mr. Norman Wrighton was excellent as the Duke of Orleans; Mr. Hugh Ardale did well as Clermont; and the Secretaries of State had able exponents in Mr. T. F. Nye and Mr. Gerald Lindley. Mr. C. Hardingham doing effective work as the Captain of the Archers, and Mr. H. Maligny deserving praise as the Groom of the Chamber. Mr. Cedric Percival and Mr. Cyril Bruce were efficient as Pages. Mr. Leolyn Hart's scenery was excellent, and Mr. Norfolk Megone's orchestra lulled the impatience of the audience in some rather protracted waits.

Richelieu was preceded by a wordless phantasy, by Miss Aimée Lowther, music by R. Burnham, played for the first time, and entitled

"THE DREAM FLOWER."

A Sculptress .....MISS VALERIE WINGATE
Pierrette .....MISS MARIE ELLIS
Pierrot .....MISS MABILIA DANIELL

A sculptress, who has just finished a marble statue of Pierrot, lies down and goes to sleep. Pierrot comes to life, leaves his pedestal, and invites a marble Pierrette to come down from hers and play with him. Together they explore the studio. Drawing a curtain, they reveal the sleeping sculptress. Pierrot kneels before her in rapture, bends over her, and kisses her. She begins to awaken, but as she gradually returns to consciousness Pierrot and Pierrette feel their limbs stiffen. They return to their pedestals and become statues once more.

The pretty phantasy was delicately and daintily interpreted by Miss Marie Ellis, a very agreeable and alert Pierrette, and Miss Mabilia Daniell, whose pantomime as Pierrot was graceful, artistic, and expressive. Miss Valerie Wingate gave a creditable rendering of the Sculptress. The acceptable dances which were introduced were ably arranged by Mlle. Rosa.

"CHANTECLER."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Edmond Rostand, Produced at the Porte Saint Martin, Paris, on Feb. 7.

Chantecler .....M. L. GUITRY
Merle .....M. GALIPEAUX
Patou .....M. JEAN COQUELIN
Grand Duc .....M. DORIVAL
Petit Scops .....M. MOSNIER
Chat-Huant .....M. RENOIR
Paon .....M. D'AUCHY
Chat .....M. CHASSERT
Rat .....M. PALLY
Faisane .....MME. SIMONE
Pintade .....MME. LERICHE
Rossignol .....MME. MELLOT
Virille poule .....MLLE. BOUCHETAL
Poule blanche .....MLLE. DERAISY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Too much excitement is harmful. Let us, therefore, be thankful that we have not only the inundations, but also the première of *Chantecler* behind us.

Whence arose all this excitement about the new play? It is difficult to say. M. Rostand is not partial to that kind of cheap advertisement, and his friends, therefore, must be held responsible for this indiscreet flourish of trumpets. Other circumstances, too, helped to keep the work constantly before the public. As will be remembered, the chief rôle was specially written for Coquelin aîné, who spoke of nothing else than of his great part therein. Poor Coquelin positively used to bore his friends with *Chantecler*, and when he died Rostand had to find another exponent. By this time the "farmyard play" was already in everybody's mouth, and half the population on this globe began to watch its career with eager eyes, so that when it was decided that M. Guitry was to impersonate the cock, the fact was telegraphed all over the universe. Then the rehearsals began, and things did not go smoothly. For reasons on which it is not necessary to dwell, M. Rostand and M. Guitry were rather at loggerheads, and Mme. Simone threatened to be on the sick list, with the result that the dress rehearsal was announced and postponed several times, until the public became a bit exasperated. All this, however, is now forgotten, since *Chantecler* made its appearance.

Truth compels me to say that it did not arouse the enthusiasm on which M. Rostand's friends reckoned, for the simple reason that these four acts—without a vestige of plot—are far beyond the reach of the ordinary playgoer. Following his artistic impulse, M. Rostand has put into the mouths of his characters the deep philosophy we find in all his productions, too subtle for the ordinary mind. But a great fault in the play is that the author has introduced therein a certain amount of gall that leaves an unpleasant aftertaste. M. Rostand holds a high, a very high, position in the literary world, and, like all prominent men, he has suffered from petty jealousies, from mean attacks. These have embittered him, and he lays the wounds to his *amour-propre* bare to the world, causing the piece, towards the end, to degenerate into parody, and the last two acts to fall rather "flat." There was even some hooting and whistling at the chorus of frogs, evoking vigorous counter-applause from the stalls, to the cries of "crapauds" (toads), indignantly hurled at the "gods."

When the three traditional raps had been given, heralding the rise of the curtain, M. Jean Coquelin, in evening dress, appeared at the foot of the stage, and recited a witty prologue, describing a farmyard at evening tide. Whilst he spoke the familiar sounds of the farm—clucking of hens, barking of dogs, &c.—came from behind, and at his bidding, "Let the play commence," the curtain rose on a most extraordinary scene. We beheld a poultry yard of extraordinary size, in exact proportion to the enormous cocks and hens that strutted about. With jealous care the same symmetry had been maintained throughout. The hen-coop, the dog-kennel, the set of harness, the rakes—in fact, all the plant was of gigantic proportions, dwarfing the actors into the normal size of the animals they were supposed to represent. All this was done with masterly skill, a skill extending to the costumes of the actors, covered in feathers, with a head mask that exposed their faces to view, their legs encased in gaiters ending in claws.

Presently Chantecler, the cock, walks in—M. Guitry, in a magnificent feather dress, on his head a great red comb. He declaims the famous ode to the sun, which, as will be remembered, was published by two morning papers here—a theft for which the said papers are now being prosecuted. Chantecler, proud and conceited, believes that the whole universe is compassed by his poultry yard, and that the sun cannot rise until he (Chantecler) has, by his crowing, given him permission to do so. A shot is heard, and a pheasant flies in, a charming bird, impersonated by Mme. Simone, in a bright-red feather tunic. She flies to the cock for protection, and Patou, the dog, hides her in his kennel, to screen her from a big retriever that appears at the gate.

Next follows a night scene. The Owls, the Cat, and the Blackbird are hatching a plot against the Cock, whose cry at daybreak drives them into darkness. After much discussion they decide to engage a fighting cock to knock the conceit out of Chantecler, and, if possible, murder him. The moment fixed for that encounter is the day when the Guinea Fowl holds her reception, at which the "pick" of the feathered tribe will be present. Chantecler then appears, accompanied by the Hen Pheasant. Proud of his accomplishments he crows a loud "Cocorico," and, to use his own words, he "crowns the hills with gold." This feat wins him the love of the fascinating pheasant to whom he has lost his heart.

The scene of the Guinea Fowl's reception is remarkably clever, every bird being duly announced by the Magpie. Under the spell of the Hen Pheasant, Chantecler decides to quit the farmyard and follow the lady to the woods, but he seizes the opportunity to attack the fancy cocks—the affected peacock, lionised by the coquettish young hens—and other useless birds. Set upon by the fighting cock, Chantecler at first allows himself to be beaten, but, at the sight of the trembling members of the farmyard, he gathers strength and his opponent is beaten.

Once more we are in the forest at night. Rabbits are peeping out of their holes, and huge toads are all over the place. The mournful song of the nightingale falls on our ear. A shot is heard, Rossignol falls dead, but her chant is taken up by another vocalist, who sings "Je suis la chanson éternelle," and Chantecler forgets the passing of the night. The Pheasant, pointing to the rays of the sun, tells him that his dream is shattered. But Chantecler will not believe it, and thinks that it is the light he summoned the day before. At last, however, he discovers, to his despair that he does not wield the power he fancied. He lets the pheasant depart to his farm, but she falls into a poacher's trap, whilst the crowing of a cock announces that Chantecler has been supplanted.

Unstinted praise can be bestowed on the management, for the manner in which they mounted the work. They had to encounter terrific difficulties, but overcame them with masterly skill. The acting, too, was first class. Despite the long-winded speeches he had to deliver, M. Guitry created a deep impression. Mme. Simone was a fascinating Pheasant, and M. Coquelin as the Dog and M. Galipeaux as the Blackbird imparted much humour to their rôles. The other parts were also well sustained.

HENRY ARTHUR JONES AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones delivered to the O.P. Club last Sunday a lecture on "Standardising the Drama." Mr. Norman McKinnell took the chair in place of Mr. Herbert Trench, who was unable to be there owing to his being present at the first night of *Chantecler*, and amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Algernon L. Collins, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, and the joint hon. secretaries, Mr. J. Davis Smith and Mr. Stanley Greig. A debate followed, in which Mr. J. B. Mulholland, Mr. Alfred Robbins, Mr. Edward F. Spence, and Mr. T. McDonald Rendle took part. A vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Carl Hentschel, concluded the evening.

In the course of his lecture Mr. H. A. Jones said: At present we seem to have no settled type, no settled style of drama. That seems to be inevitable in our confused civilisation. We have many types, and many forms, and many styles, and most of them seem to be lifeless imitations, lifeless copies of the Elizabethan drama, of the romantic cape and sword drama, of the French modern drama, and of the Norwegian drama, while the one thing that we do supremely well, because we do it spontaneously, is the curious entertainment which I have described as "legs and tomfoolery." William Morris used to say that the only style of really living English architecture is the style of the modern corner public-house. That is what we build naturally, easily, spontaneously, with unconscious inspiration. Other and finer buildings do indeed arise in our midst, but for the most part they are comparatively dead—mere copies of other and remote styles of building. But a corner public-house we hold as a symbol and expression of our architectural needs and desires. It is something the same with the drama. While we seem to write comedy and drama laboriously—"with deeficulty," as the Scotchman jokes—and for the most part in a dull, conscientious way, our real spontaneous delight, both as authors and audiences, seems to be in those pieces which, with your permission, I have called "legs and tomfoolery." Well, it is useless to build Gothic cathedrals for a population whose architectural demand is for corner public-houses. But I humbly submit that a nation whose spontaneous impulse and natural standard in building declares itself chiefly in gorgeous public-houses cannot be said to have much care or love for architecture, or much knowledge of it. And I very humbly submit to you that a nation whose spontaneous impulse and natural standard in drama manifests itself in "legs and tomfoolery" cannot be said to have any high regard for its drama, any real care or love for it, any knowledge of what a fine art it is, and what a great power and influence it might become. But here you will say, "Cannot we have all these kinds of entertainments, all these kinds of drama—comedy, tragedy, fantasy, pantomime, burlesque, tomfoolery? Cannot they all flourish in our midst? Will that not be the best general condition of the drama when they are all welcomed and supported?"

Our present civilisation is widely different from anything the world has ever known, more varied, more cosmopolitan, more shifting, more subversive of settled views and schools of art. In such a civilisation will not the drama, and indeed all the arts, be necessarily an aimless olla podrida? Perhaps that may be so, but it is not a comforting prospect to the artist. We have seen that the drama must necessarily be popular in a sense that no other art need be. To some extent it is undoubtedly a question of what proportion mere tomfoolery shall bear to serious comedy and drama. With Falstaff, we may all like "your good sherries sack" and believe in its cheering qualities; but when it comes—as it did in Falstaff's tavern bill—to a ha'porth of bread and half-a-crown's worth of sack we may be quite sure that our tastes are vitiated and our digestion impaired. But, you may say, are the proportions so alarming? Well, look not merely at London, but at the drama throughout the Empire. Take a list of the entertainments that will be played throughout the United Kingdom to-morrow night. Take London. Here, in the height of the theatrical season, there is not a single performance of Shakespeare. Throughout the whole of the United Kingdom to-morrow night there are only four performances of Shakespeare—Manchester, Dublin, Dewsbury, and Llanelly.

Do you call that a satisfactory state of things? Take the entertainments outside Shakespeare. Many of the programmes are very varied and mixed. But if you could really estimate the amount paid to witness true drama and the amount paid to witness "legs and tomfoolery" I do not think you would find the proportions far different from those of the bread and sack in Falstaff's tavern bill. In the provinces the drama may almost be said to be extinct, except for the rare visits of a London manager. Cultivated people in the provinces have ceased to trouble about their local drama; they do not go to the local theatre except when they take their children to the pantomime. The really living entertainment in the provinces is at the music halls, and it may be most cordially recognised that the music halls are gradually improving, and that they are gradually admitting more and more drama into their programmes. It is, then, partly a question what proportion true drama shall bear in the sum of the entertainment provided at theatres and music halls. If you, as lovers and students of the drama, think that proportion is satisfactory, then you are content that whatever drama we have shall be a second-rate thing, quite inferior in influence and popularity to the emptiest and shallowest kind of entertainment. For my own part, I am inclined to think that you cannot have two standards, that when there is any art-energy in a country it generally goes into one distinct and commanding form and style. It is not wholly, however, a question of proportion, it is partly a matter of habit. The latest researches seem to show that our tastes and characters are much more largely a matter of habit than physiologists and philosophers have hitherto supposed. We have certain tastes and habits in the theatre because other people have them, and because we have grown into them without thinking. It is declared that our average brains to-day have quite as much capacity and as many involutions in their cortex as the average Greek brains in the days of Plato and Sophocles. If you had been born in Athens about 500 B.C., and had been fed from your childhood on a diet of Æyschus and Sophocles, instead of questioning and disagreeing from my opinions to-night, as I dare say some of you are doing, you would be wondering how any sensible man could possibly take such an incredibly low and debased view of the functions of the drama as those I am now expounding to you.

Indeed, it is nearly all a matter of habit. Men are far more imitative than monkeys. No playgoer could have laughed for fifteen minutes at a man shouting senseless perversions of his native English language and playing all sorts of tricks with an accordion if he had not been gradually schooled and disciplined into that frame of mind by seeing other people laughing at the same kind of thing and by hearing it constantly praised. I believe that, without great difficulty, a very large body of English playgoers could easily be brought to take a real interest in true drama, to love it, and foster it, and to grow more and more accustomed to seek their pleasure at the theatre in a representation of life, rather than in perversions of words and in meaningless antics.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland opened the debate which followed, and pointed out that the lecturer, in using the catch-phrase "legs and tomfoolery," seemed to be unaware that "legs" had practically disappeared from the lighter forms of entertainment in the theatre any time during the last ten years, and he ventured to think that Mr. George Edwardes, who did this sort of play so well, could tell Mr. Jones that his bill for tights had practically reached the vanishing point; whereas in the music halls favoured by Mr. Jones, tights had become unnecessary, while bare legs and beauty almost unadorned was now the fashion. He deprecated the word "amusement," and preferred the larger word "entertainment," as applied to theatrical performances; but he was afraid that even this could hardly be taken to embrace some of the doleful plays recently witnessed, wherein the authors and actors seemed to enter into a conspiracy of gloom. He also wished that certain high priests of the drama would preach less about high art which in some instances had reached such an altitude as to verge on the putrid. This, he was afraid, had driven large numbers of the entertainment-seeking public into the music halls. But he saw hope for the theatre in the future, because another conspiracy had been entered into by certain leading actors—in one instance with the co-operation of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones. Large doses of unalloyed gloom and horror were being administered to the music-hall audiences, with the result that they might be driven back into the theatres. He endorsed the lecturer's views as to the admirable work being done by Mr. Trench, but was afraid that the spirit of commercialism was even invading the Haymarket, inasmuch as a loudly-heralded répertoire enterprise had recently transferred one of its successes to another theatre so that the much-abused and deadly "long run" might be continued. He disagreed with the lecturer's statement that drama was dead in the country, and, *apropos* of the répertoire theatre, instanced the admirable work done by Miss Horniman in Manchester, by Mr. Waring in Glasgow, and the achievements at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, not to speak of the many excellent touring companies in the provinces. Finally, he expressed the opinion that the domination of London had a most deadening effect upon initiative elsewhere. In America there were many producing centres; on the Continent nearly every large town was a producing centre; but in England it was almost hopeless to tour a play of the better class which had not the cachet of a West-End run. Many London theatres catered for a specialised audience, some of them consisting of "late diners and passive digesters," and the fare suited to such was found to be quite too "thin" when sent into the country. The horizon of the theatrical world was too much bounded by the charméd circle of the half-mile radius from Charing Cross, and until that horizon became widened so as to embrace every part of the country where worthy effort was put forth, the provinces would depend upon the often unsuitable "London success." While the Jeremiahs were proclaiming the drama dead, it was not to be wondered at if the public came to regard it as damned, and he was afraid that in some instances the highest ambition of the theatre star was to twinkle for a short space in the music-hall firmament, at an inflated salary, oblivious of the after effects of their climbing downward experiments.

Mr. Mulholland paid a high tribute to Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's many and varied plays and to the earnestness of his able, if somewhat pessimistic, lecture.

DEATH OF TREVOR LOWE.

We regret to record the death after only a few hours' illness of Mr. Trevor Lowe, who died on Saturday last from cerebral apoplexy at the age of thirty-two. The deceased actor was associated with Messrs. J. E. Vedrenne and Granville Barker during the whole of their memorable management of the Court Theatre from 1904 to 1907, playing, amongst others, the following parts: Peacey in *The Voysey Inheritance*, the Cadi in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, Kennel in *Prunella*, Snow in *The Silver Box*, the Newspaper Man in *The Doctor's Dilemma*, the Lieutenant in *A Man of Destiny*, and George Tesman to Mrs. Patrick Campbell's Hedda in Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*.

Afterwards, when the Savoy Theatre was taken by the same management, he appeared as Burgoyne in Bernard Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*. He was one of the clever young actors Mr. Herbert Trench has gathered round him for his Repértoire season at the Haymarket, and appeared in *King Lear* at that house, and also played the Prime Minister in the curtain-raiser *Might is Right*, put on in front of *Don*.

For some years he had been associated as stage director with Messrs. Taylor Platt and Harry P. Towers' company, touring Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*, and had conducted the rehearsals of this play at the Savoy Theatre right up to a few hours before his death. One of the saddest things in connection with his death is that he had only been married a few weeks, his wedding to Miss Sydney Fairbrother taking place at the Registry Office, Chelsea Town Hall, on Dec. 11 of last year.

An inquest was held at Chelsea on Wednesday, when the mother-in-law of the deceased said he had recently been acting as an understudy at the Haymarket Theatre. He had been married only a few months, and his wife was at present touring in the provinces. Shortly after midnight on Friday he returned home. She heard a crash, and on going downstairs found him lying on the floor. He complained of an injury to his head, and was put to bed. He became sick, and witness gave him a tonic. A doctor was sent for, and he pronounced the case as hopeless. Death occurred about two o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Pett Ridge, the author, said he had known deceased for fifteen years. Mr. Lowe visited him at his house at Hampstead on Friday night. Deceased was very happy and in perfectly good spirits when he left about twelve o'clock, witness accompanying him to the tube station. During the whole of the evening deceased had nothing alcoholic, only a cup of coffee.

Dr. Gregory, of Redcliffe-gardens, said he was called on Saturday morning, and found Mr. Lowe suffering from apoplexy and a stroke of paralysis on the left side. The case appeared hopeless from the first, and the patient died on Saturday afternoon. He had made a post-mortem examination, and found the cause of death was a large clot of blood on the brain, which had set up cerebral apoplexy.

The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

The funeral took place at Kensal Green on Wednesday. Amongst the beautiful floral gifts sent by comrades of the deceased actor—who was warmly loved by his comrades in the profession—was a very handsome wreath from Mr. Cecil Barth and the members of Mr. Brandon Thomas's *Charley's Aunt* company at Hull, the subscribers being Miss Ross, Miss Harding, Miss Henton, Miss Wilson, Miss Back, Mr. S. Cooke, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Compton, Mr. Byford, Mr. King, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Shunn, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, and Mr. Cecil Barth.

IN the Theatre Royal, Darwen, on Saturday afternoon last, the Darwen Amateur Dramatic Society, under the direction of Mr. W. Albert Ainsworth, gave a creditable performance of *As You Like It*, in aid of the funds of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The theatre was lent entirely free by the Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.

THE bow of the famous violinist, Paganini, was recently offered at auction, and was purchased by the municipality of Genoa for £32. It will be preserved with the famous Guarnerius violin which Paganini bequeathed as his favourite instrument to his native town.

THE ENTERTAINMENT MARKET, 1899-1908.

The Table hereunder shows at a glance the business done with limited liability stock on the Stock Exchange and the dividends paid by the respective undertakings during the past ten years. The records are taken from the files of the Stock Exchange lists, and show clearly the highest (h) and lowest (l) price in each year.

NOTE.—Owing to the fact that the "Financial Year" of the Companies hereunder varies as to dates, this List can only be completed to the end of the Financial Year, 1908.

Name.		1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	Present Amount.
												Shares.
Alhambra Theatre £1 Shares	(h)	..	2¼	2	1⅞	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	37/6	37/6	32/6	60,000
	(l)	..	2⅛	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	1 1/16	1⅛	27/6	28/-	26 6	
Dividend % February		..	..	2½	nil	7½yr	10yr	10yr	12½y	12½yr	10yr	
Dividend % August		..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Alhambra Theatre (Atterciffe) £1 Shares	(h)	..	9/9	9/9	..	..	1/6	..	..	2/6	2/-	9,500
	(l)	..	9/6	9/9	..	..	1/6	..	..	2/6	2/-	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 5,000)												
Dividend % March		..	..	2½	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	
Arthur (Robert) Theatres 6% Cumulative Preference £1 Shares (Dividend January, July)	(h)	..	⅝	1⅛	⅝	1⅛	1⅛	⅞	12/-	12/6	15/-	60 000
	(l)	..	⅝	⅝	⅞	⅝	⅝	⅝	½	8/6	6/-	
Birmingham Gaiety Theatre of Varieties 10s. Shares	(h)	..	8/9	7/6	9/9	8/-	7/6	7/6	7/1½	7/-	3/-	50,000
	(l)	..	2/4½	5/-	6/6	6/6	5/6	5/-	6/-	5/9	2 6	
Dividend % July		..	nil	nil	3½	7½	7½	5	5	5	5	
5% Mortgage Debentures, red. May, 1912 (Int. June, December)	(h)	90	..	80	90	80	72	..	80	75½	..	£45,000
	(l)	90	..	75½	81	80	72	..	80	75½	..	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £45,000)												
Dublin Theatre 4½% Debentures, £10 (Int. June, December)	(h)	10	10½	10	9⅜	9⅞	9⅝	9⅝	9⅞	8⅞	8⅞	£25,000
	(l)	10	10	10	9½	9⅝	9⅝	9½	9⅝	8⅝	8⅝	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £25,000.)												
Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces, £5 shares	(h)	..	..	7 1/16	8 1/16	8 5/16	9¼	9	8	7¼	8⅛	10,000
	(l)	..	..	6	7 1/16	7⅜	7 7/16	6⅞	6⅞	6⅞	7⅛	
Dividend % January		..	..	..	..	10	15	12	20	20	25	
Dividend % July		..	..	..	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
6% Cum. Pref. £5 Shares	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	5 1/16	5⅛	5	5	5	9,000
(Dividend, January, July)	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	4⅞	5 1/16	5	5	5	
Howard and Wyndham £5 Shares	(h)	9	8⅛	8	8	9¼	7 1/16	7¼	7 1/16	7⅞	7 1/16	12,000
	(l)	8⅛	7 1/16	7⅞	7½	8¼	5 7/16	5½	5 1/16	6	6	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 3,000)												
Dividend % March		10	10	10	10	15	20	7½	10	6	15	
5% Cum. Pref. £5 Shares (Div. March)	(h)	5⅛	5 1/16	5⅛	5¼	5¼	5⅛	5½	5¼	5	93/-	6,000
	(l)	5⅛	5¼	5 1/16	5	4⅞	5	5	5	93/-	4⅞	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 6,000)												
Leicester Palace Theatre £5 shares	(h)	..	..	8 1/16	8¼	..	7½	6	3½	4⅜	4⅞	6,800
	(l)	..	..	6⅞	7⅛	..	6½	3½	2⅝	3⅝	4½	
Dividend % February		..	..	..	10yr	14	10	nil	nil	2½ yr	10	
Dividend % August		..	..	10	10	10	nil	nil	nil	10	15	
London Pavilion £5 Shares	(h)	7¼	7 1/16	7⅛	7 1/16	8½	7⅞	6¼	5⅛	5¼	97/-	26,000
	(l)	6⅜	5½	6½	7¼	7¼	6½	3⅝	3⅜	4	3½	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 26,000)												
Dividend February		6/-	6/-	6/-	7/-	10/-	8/-	6/-	5/-	5/-	5/-	
Dividend July		3/-	3/-	3/-	3/-	3/-	3/-	nil	2/-	2/-	nil	
Manchester Hippo. and Ardwick Empire	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	..	6⅜	6⅜	6	5 1/16	18,000
	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	5½	5½	99/6	
Dividend % February		..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	10	10	
Dividend % August		..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	10	10	
Manchester Palace of Varieties £1 Shares	(h)	21/-	20/6	19/3	18/9	15/6	15/6	13/-	15/-	17/3	20/-	70,000
	(l)	18/-	18/-	15/6	15/9	12/6	12/-	9/6	12/-	13/10½	6/3	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 70,000)												
Dividend % July		5yr	5yr	5yr	5yr	5yr	6yr	5yr	5yr	7½yr	10	
Dividend % December		..	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	5	5	
5% First Mort. Deb. red. 1919 (Int. May, November)	(h)	..	105	100	102	97½	99	96	..	93½	101	£42,000
	(l)	..	103	95	97½	94½	99	94	..	99	96½	
Moss' Empires Ordinary £5 Shares	(h)	..	10 1/16	9 3/32	8⅜	8 1/16	7⅜	7½	5⅜	5 3/32	5 1/32	112,000
	(l)	..	7⅜	7⅛	7½	7	6 1/16	4 13/16	73/-	4⅜	98/6	
Dividend % February		..	..	15	15	15	10	5	..	10	10	
Dividend % August		..	10	18	10	10	10	5	5	10	5	
5% Cum. Pref. £5 Shares (Div. June, December)	(h)	..	5	5	5	4⅞	4⅞	4 13/16	84/9	4½	4½	95,757
	(l)	..	4⅜	4½	4⅜	4⅜	4½	4 7/16	73/6	3⅜	74/-	
4% Perm. First Mort. Deb. (Int. June, December)	(h)	..	100	97	97½	96	95	94	87	81	87½	£332,855
	(l)	..	95	94½	93	93	93	89	80	75	79½	
North of England Theatres, £1 Shares	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12/-	7,500
	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12/-	
Dividend October		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	/6	
Palace Theatre 10s. Shares, 9s. paid	(h)	..	1½	1 5/16	1 1/16	⅞	¾	¾	13/-	16/10	21/10½	200,000
	(l)	..	1	1 1/16	⅞	¾	¾	¼	8/9	10/7½	14 3	
Dividend % February		..	14	14	14	14	14	10	10	..	10	
Dividend % September		..	36	26	6	16	10	14	nil	12½yr	30	
Sheffield Music Hall £30 Shares	(h)	9¼	6⅞	7½	8½	7½	7½	8⅜	7⅞	8	7	666
	(l)	8¼	6⅞	7½	7½	6½	7	8⅓	7⅞	7½	7	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 666)												
Dividend February		10/-	7/-	7/-	10/-	10/-	12/6	12/6	12/6	12/6	12 6	
Star Theatre of Varieties £1 Shares	(h)	17/6	15/-	14/-	8/-	17/-	14/-	13/-	8 6	5/6	4/6	15,000
	(l)	9/9	8/-	9/-	2/6	16/6	12/3	10/-	5/-	3/6	3 3	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 15,000)												
Dividend August		nil	nil	nil	-/6	1/-	1/-	-/6	nil	nil	nil	
6% Preference £1 Shares (Div. August)	(h)	..	17/6	17/6	..	15/-	14/9	14/3	11/-	11/-	10/-	10,000
	(l)	..	12/6	15/-	..	12/6	13/-	12/6	11/-	9/-	8/	
Yearly Dividend %		..	6	6	6	6	6	6	nil	9	9	
5% £5 First Mort. Deb. (Int. June, Dec.)	(h)	..	4	4	4	4 1/16	4 7/16	4¼	4¼	3⅜	3½	£25,000
	(l)	..	2⅜	3⅜	3¼	3⅜	3⅜	4¼	3⅜	3⅜	3½	
Theatre and Opera House, Leeds, £50 Shares	(h)	50	..	50	..	44	..	43	41½	43	..	492
	(l)	50	..	50	..	43½	..	43	41	43	..	
Dividend % July		5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, £1 Shares, 15s. paid	(h)	1⅜	1⅜	1 7/16	1¼	1 5/16	1 5/16	1¼	26/-	18/1½	18/6	124,000
	(l)	1¼	1⅜	1	1¼	1⅜	1 5/32	1	10/-	8/9	9/-	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 124,000)												
Dividend March		20%	10%	..	1/1¼	1/6	-/9	nil	nil	nil	..	
Dividend September		20%	10%	2/3	1/1¼	1/6	-/9	nil	-/9	-/4½	1/6	
Theatre Royal, Manchester, £10 Shares	(h)	14½	14⅜	13	12⅜	12¼	12¼	8 5/16	..	10½	9 3/4	3,369
	(l)	13½	13	13	12⅜	12	12¼	8 5/16	..	10	9	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 3,369)												
Dividend October		17/6	12/-	10/-	8/-	8/-	6/-	6/-	10/-	11/-	..	
Tivoli, Manchester, £5 Shares	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	3½	2	50/-	32/6	35	7,131
	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	2⅜	1¾	17/6	25/-	25/9	
Dividend June		..	..	..	..	..	6/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	
United Theatres £5 Shares	(h)	8¼	8 3/32	7⅛	7	5 1/16	5⅜	4	52/6	..	..	7,000
	(l)	6 1/16	7	6¼	5⅜	5 1/16	4⅜	3	49/-	..	..	
(Amount, 1899 Shares 7,000)												
Dividend % May		10	10	10	5	10	nil	5	nil	nil	5	
5% Cum. Pref. £5 Shares (Div. May)	(h)	5¼	5	5½	..	..	..	4	..	72/6	67/6	5,000
	(l)	5	4⅜	5	..	..	..	3⅜	..	67/6	57/6	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 5,000)												
Variety Theatres, £1 Shares	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	..	⅜	18/9	14/9	12/9	130,007
	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	..	¼	13/5	12/-	10/-	
Dividend % May		..	..	..	..	..	..	8	8	6	6	
Dividend % November		..	..	..	..	..	..	8	8	8	8	
Warden £5 Shares	(h)	..	..	40/-	57/6	52/6	..	..	25/-	35/-	42/6	7,000
	(l)	..	..	12/6	12/6	27/6	..	..	25/-	32/6	37/6	
Dividend % February		4	nil	nil	nil	4	4	nil	nil	4	4	
5% £5 Pref. £5 Shares	(h)	..	..	2⅜	2⅜	3¼	..	..	..	..	2 1/16	7,000
(Dividend March)	(l)	..	..	2⅛	2⅜	3¼	..	..	..	..	2 1/16	
Wolverhampton Empire	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7/3	6/9	..	32,000
Palace £1 Shares	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7/-	6/9	..	
Dividend % February		..	..	..	..	..	..	2½	2½	nil	nil	

OTHER COMPANIES ALLIED TO ABOVE.

Name.		1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	Present Amount.
												Shares.
Blackpool Pier Consolidated Stock	(h)	..	263	275	..	246½	..	..	239	..	223	£50,000
	(l)	..	263	275	..	246½	..	..	225	..	212	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £50,000).												
Dividend November		£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	£12	
Blackpool South Shore and Pavilion £1 Shares	(h)	18/-	18/3	16/3	15/-	16/6	15/9	16/9	17/-	16/6	15/6	41,833
	(l)	15/-	17/-	14/-	14/-	15/-	13/6	16/-	16/6	15/9	15/-	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 41,833)												
Dividend % November		3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	
Blackpool Tower £1 Shares	(h)	25/6	25/-	23/6	23/3	23/-	21/-	22/6	23/-	23/6	24/6	205,000
	(l)	22/-	22/-	21/3	21/6	20/-	18/6	20/-	21/1½	21/9	22/3	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 105,000)												
Dividend % October		6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	
6% Preferred £1 Shares (Div. October)	(h)	26/3	26/3	26/-	26/-	25/-	23/9	23/9	23/6	23/6	23/9	40,000
	(l)	23/6	24/6	25/6	24/6	24/-	23/3	23/3	23/-	23/6	23/-	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 40,000)												
4½% Mt. Debs., £50, red. March 18, 1910 (Int. June, December)	(h)	52	51⅜	50	..	51⅜	51	..	51⅜	..	51	£70,000
	(l)	51	51	50	..	50	50	..	50⅜	..	50 1/16	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £70,000)												
4½% (Palace Deb.), red. 1910 (Int. June, December)	(h)	..	..	..	..	..	100¼	100	100½	..	102	£100,000
	(l)	..	..	..	..	..	98½	100	99	..	101	
Blackpool Winter Gardens and Pavilion £5 Shares	(h)	4⅛	3⅜	75/-	73/3	91/-	4 1/16	4⅜	87/-	4⅛	4⅛	13,892
	(l)	3⅜	3 1/16	73/9	75/-	78/9	4⅛	4⅜	4⅛	4⅛	4⅛	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 13,892)												
Dividend October		3/-	3/-	3/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	
4% Deb. 6 mos. at 105 (Int. March, September)	(h)	..	95½	93	95	..	95	..	..	93⅜	92⅜	£140,000
	(l)	..	94	93	95	..	92½	—	..	93⅜	92	
Chappell and Co. 4% Mort. Deb., red. January, 1917, at 110% (Int. February, August)	(h)	104	102⅜	102	103	102	102⅜	100	..	96⅜	95½	£56,290
	(l)	101	100	100½	102½	102	102½	99	..	96⅛	94⅜	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £70,000)												
Crystal Palace 3% First (1895) Deb., irred. (Int. January, July)	(h)	92½	..	75½	76	80	70	76½	76	67½	57	£250,000
	(l)	85	..	75	73½	75	65	68	67½	58½	56½	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £118,427)												
Morecambe Pier and Pavilion £1 Shares	(h)	..	9/-	..	..	3/9	..	..	..	..	..	24,000
	(l)	..	9/-	..	..	3/9	..	..	..	..	..	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 24,000)												
No Dividend since December, 1897)		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Novello and Co. 4½% Cum. Pref £10 Shares	(h)	10⅛	10⅜	..	10 1/16	10 1/16	10½	10 1/16	10⅜	10¼	9⅛	9,007
(Dividend March, September)	(l)	10⅛	9⅛	..	9 1/16	9	10 1/16	10 1/16	9½	10	9	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, 9,007)												
Southport Pier Stock	(h)	..	..	..	53	38⅜	..	..	..	..	..	£50,000
	(l)	..	..	..	38½	35	..	..	..	..	..	
(Amount, 1899 Shares, £50,000)												
Dividend November		£4	£2	nil	nil	nil	nil	£2	£2	nil	nil	

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2.—*Twelfth Night* was performed in a highly praiseworthy and enjoyable manner at the New Theatre on the 26th ult. The boisterous comedy scenes, in particular, were delightfully rendered by Mr. Louis Calvert as Sir Toby Belch, Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Mr. Jacob Wendell, jun., as the Fool, and Miss Jessie Busley as Maria. Miss Annie Russell's Viola pleased the audience, if it failed to satisfy the critics. Miss Leah Bateman Hunter appeared as Olivia, and the grace and charm of her embodiment created a distinctly favourable impression. Probably this important character has never before been represented by one so young. Mr. Oswald Yorke's Malvolio was an effective characterisation; and Mr. Matheson Lang's Orsino was a fine portrayal. Mr. Alexander Calvert as Sebastian, Mr. Lee Baker as Antonio, and Mr. Henry Stanford as Fabian, deserve praise for their impersonations. The exquisite beauty and taste of the entire production called forth many expressions of admiration.

Miss Maxine Elliott has scored a signal success at Daly's Theatre in a clever farce-comedy, by Frank Stayton, entitled *The Inferior Sex*. It is the unanimous opinion of the Press and the public that the piece provides Miss Elliott with a rôle that is exceptionally well suited to her, and that she acts it splendidly. The play is all about a young gentleman named Charles Winslow, who confesses that he is a misogynist, and declares that "man is the noblest work of creation, while woman is a regrettable accident." He is so enamoured of his pet theory that he is writing a book on the subject, to be called *The Inferior Sex*. In order to work undisturbed and get away from the women, he starts on a two months' yachting trip, vowing not to touch land until the book is finished. In a dense fog the yacht overtakes a small boat, of which the sole occupant is a beautiful, but much bedraggled young lady, named Eve Addison. In a state of insensibility she is rescued by the crew and carried into Winslow's cabin. The woman-hater fumes and frets, and is extremely ungallant in his behaviour, but is forced to calm down and allow the lady to remain. As a matter of fact, there is no alternative, for he absolutely refuses to make for land. Why should he do this for a perfect stranger, he argues, who had no business to be caught in a storm and upset his plans in this way? How is his book to be written, and where is the lady to sleep? There's the rub. There is only one cabin, and she reminds him that he can hardly expect her to "bunk for'ard" with the crew. Finally, with a very bad grace, he agrees to a "Box and Cox" arrangement. The cabin is to be hers at night and his through the day. During her stay on the yacht there are many interesting and diverting incidents, including a mutiny of the crew, originally planned and instigated by the unwelcome guest to force Winslow to make for land, but carried to an alarming extreme that makes the lady repent of her rashness. The end of the play, however, finds the woman-hater at her feet, his views completely altered, and his affections enslaved.

Mr. Arthur Byron plays Winslow, and his performance is highly creditable to him. He has never done anything better. The burden of the comedy falls on the shoulders of Mr. O. B. Clarence, the well-known London actor, who appears as Winslow's valet, Bennett, and treats the audience to one of the most laughable characterisations of its kind that the writer has seen for a very long time. Bennett is his master's antithesis. He hates the sea and loves the ladies. He has been married three times, and admits that his regard for the fair sex is "a sort of a 'abit." He deplores the lack of female society on the yacht. To him "there is something fascinating about the swish of a woman's skirt." It is utterly incomprehensible to him how a man can be a "misogernist," or whatever it is. If that's the name for a woman-hater, he wants to know what they call a woman that hates the men. "There are so few of them that no one has thought it worth while to find a name for them" is the answer he gets. The first and second acts are laid in the cabin of the yacht, and the last act takes place on the upper deck. The setting is admirable, and throughout the play the illusion is cleverly maintained. Ah Sin, a Chinese cook, is humorously represented by Mr. T. Tamamoto.

"Mrs. Dot," by W. Somerset Maugham, was produced on the 24th inst. at the Lyceum Theatre, with the fascinating Miss Billie Burke in the title-rôle, and a full house gave this sparkling comedy a highly appreciative reception. As the rich widow, Miss Burke completely charmed the audience, and easily upheld her popularity. Mr. Fred Kerr's reappearance on the local stage in this comedy was noted with genuine pleasure by those who had enjoyed his dry drollery and finished execution before. As James Blenkinsop he caused frequent explosions of laughter. Mr. Basil Hallam was quite amusing as Freddie Perkins, and Mr. Julian L'Estrange was very good indeed as Gerald Halstane.

Mr. Chauncey Olcott is fulfilling an engagement at the Academy of Music after an absence of two seasons, and renewing his popularity in the title-rôle of a musical Irish play called *Ragged Robin*, by Rida Johnson Young. The piece is founded on some of the legends of the Emerald Isle, the scenes being laid at Innishannon. Robert Harcourt, known as Ragged Robin, being disinherited by his father, becomes a wandering minstrel. His peregrinations bring him to Innishannon, where he meets and falls in love with pretty Margaret Grattan. Owing to the jealousy of one Martin Darcy and the enmity of Margaret's father, Robin is driven from her home, which angers the fairies, who send a banshee to wail at the window of the Grattan home. Three years later Robin returns as Sir Robert Harcourt, having been reconciled to his father, who has bequeathed to him a vast estate. He finds the people famine-stricken and Grattan reduced to cutting turf in a bog for a living. The fairies lead him across the bog to the cabin of his sweetheart, where he reveals his true rank to her and makes her happy. Mr. Olcott sings several songs, and is warmly applauded at every opportunity.

Last week the entire theatrical world and thousands of playgoers in this city and elsewhere were saddened by the death of Lotta Faust, an attractive and clever comedienne, who made a great success in *The Wizard of Oz*, singing "Sammy," a song that became quite popular in London. Miss Faust was only twenty-nine. She succumbed to an attack of pneumonia after undergoing an operation.

Mr. Joseph Wheelock, jun., a clever young actor, who made a big hit as Mawley, the jockey, in *Lord and Lady Algy* at the Empire Theatre some years ago, and who had subsequently appeared with great success in George Ade's comedy *Just Out of College*, died of tuberculosis in Phœnix, Arizona, a few days ago. He was the son of Joseph Wheelock, a well-known actor, who died suddenly last year.

The King and Queen, with their suite, visited the Kingsway on Saturday, and saw the performance of Mr. Rudolf Besier's comedy *Don*, and on the same evening the Prince and Princess of Wales patronised *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at the Queen's Theatre.

The theatrical traffic on the Great Western Railway has during the past few years so largely increased that it has become necessary for the company to arrange for the construction of some 50ft. covered trucks for the conveyance of theatrical scenery, while it has also been decided to construct some additional 45ft. open trucks. These vehicles will be ready for the autumn tours.

MASONS AT WORK.

The thirty-sixth meeting of the members of the Green Room Lodge was held on the 4th inst. at the Imperial Restaurant. The reigning Master, Mr. Charles Macdona, was supported by Messrs. E. H. Bull, I.P.M., Hubert Willis, S.W., J. H. Ryley, J.W., Charles Cruikshanks, Sec., Blake Adams, S.D., E. Vivian Reynolds, J.D., Rev. W. P. Besley, Chaplain, W. Lestocq, D.C., Edw. Jonce, Org., Frank Vernon, I.G., Fredk. Annerley, 1st S., Douglas Gordon, 2nd S., J. Cooke Beresford, 3rd S., A. E. Rayner, 4th S., and E. J. Nesbitt, Tyler. Messrs. Akerman May, P.M., L.R., and A. E. George also assisted, and Messrs Henry Ainley, J. D. Beveridge, P.M., L.R., Leslie Carter, H. Nye Chart, P.M., Dermot Fitzgibbon, Frank Harding, Lyn Harding, Arthur Hatherton, Luigi Labiache, P.M., L.R., Arnold Lucy, J. W. Macdonald, Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., Ernest H. Paterson, and Spencer Trevor were present. The visitors included Major C. Haldane, Messrs. Arthur A. Coster, W.M. (143), Henry Jno. Burgess, W.M. (3,243), and C. A. C. Jackson, S.D. (143) Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs George Alexander, Alfred Brydone, John Osbourn, Thalberg Corbett, John R. Cranford, Welton Dale, Lytton Grey, Hubert Harben, Robert Loraine, H. D. McCarthy, Gerald Maxwell, P.M., A.G.D.C., Walter Maxwell, Percy Nash, W. S. Penley, P.G.Treas., Charles Rock, Herbert Shelley, and Stephen Wentworth.

Mr. Robert Minster received the benefits connected with the first stage of his initiation, and at the conclusion of the ceremony Mr. Harry Nicholls delivered an eloquent address. Messrs. Cyril Keightley and David John Williams reached the final stage. Mr. Hubert Harben was unable to be present, and his advancement was postponed. It was agreed that a benevolent fund should be founded, and Messrs. Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., J. D. Beveridge, P.M., L.R., and Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., were elected as first trustees, and Mr. W. Lestocq, P.M., as first treasurer. The fund will be governed by a president, the W.M. of the lodge, the trustees, the treasurer, and a committee of the past masters of the lodge, other than a trustee or the treasurer, and seven members of the lodge, who will be elected annually at the April lodge meeting. The by-laws of the "Green Room Lodge Benevolent Fund," as submitted by the committee, Messrs. W. Lestocq, Akerman May, Charles Cruikshanks, J. H. Ryley, and E. Vivian Reynolds, were read and accepted.

"THE FAMILY GHOST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your last issue you were good enough to point out that the above title was used in connection with a play produced at Hanley about thirty years ago. Here is one more instance proving how invaluable to a dramatist are your exhaustive production records.

I now propose re-christening my new farcical comedy *When the Ghost Walks*. This is a ghost which I have often anxiously waited for in my younger days. I was never alarmed if it approached me, but was extremely upset if it did not.—Yours faithfully, TOM CRAVEN.

1, Arodene-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

PHELPS'S GRAVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—There must be a large number of your elder readers who still remember that great actor Samuel Phelps. He now lies side by side with his beloved wife in Highgate Cemetery. Do you know that very tombstone denoting the sacred grave has been attacked by the ravages of time, wind, and weather? The inscription is hardly readable. Can we let this be without an effort and small expense to rectify this shameful scandal? No; surely not! I hope the lettering on the grave may at once be attended to, and if, as suggested, in last week's *Era*, the tablet is erected at 8, Canonbury-square, may the memorial be worthy of so great and good a man.—Yours faithfully, HARRY SIMMS.

Star Theatre, Falmouth,
Feb. 7, 1910.

"BEFORE THE DAWN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The Manchester Press have alluded to a production of a piece of Russian origin at the Gaiety, Manchester, entitled *Before the Dawn*. As I have been playing my own piece of that title continuously since its production in May last year, I may fairly lay claim to priority in the matter.

I have received a most courteous letter on the subject from the management of the Gaiety, Manchester, and I do not think the interests of the two plays are likely to clash; but having played *Before the Dawn* for sixteen weeks in London, and for a longer period in the provinces, and holding contracts for its performance till August, 1912, I consider it only fair that priority in the question of title should be recorded.—Faithfully yours, GEO. SHELDON.

Leeds, Feb. 10, 1910.

"The Watcher," a drama, in four acts, by Cora Maynard, was well received at the Comedy Theatre, New York, on the 27th ult. The theme of the play is the influence of the dead upon the living, and the one scene represents the living-room of the Kent family in a New York flat. The Kents have been wealthy, but are now in straitened circumstances. The family consists of George Kent, his wife Felice, his sister Vivian, and his mother. Before she met Kent, Felice had lived with a man named Joe Worden, and she married Kent because she believed him to be wealthy. Worden becomes prosperous, and falls in love with Kent's sister Vivian, while Kent turns gambler, and is exposed as a cheat. The mother dies, and Felice and her husband drift apart. Vivian tries to draw them together again, but the wife is jealous of her, and to prevent her from marrying Worden not only confesses her former relations with him, but tries to make it appear that the intimacy has been resumed. Worden and Felice are discovered alone together at a late hour, although the former is guiltless of any evil act or intention. Kent seizes a revolver to kill Worden, but the weapon is wrested from his grasp. Worden admits his relations with Felice in the past, but denounces the rest of her story as false. Felice confirms his statement in the last act, admiting that she made him appear guilty to serve her own ends. A vein of spiritualism runs through the play, and Vivian's appeal to her mother's spirit is supposed to save her brother from self-destruction and to harmonise, to a certain extent, the relations existing between the various characters as the play ends.

Presentation.—Mr. Graham Morrison, the general-manager of the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, was on Saturday last the recipient of a massive handsome tantalus and smoker's cabinet from the staff and members of the *Mother Goose* pantomime company, and a diamond and sapphire ring from an anonymous donor. The presentation took place on the stage during the evening, and Mr. Jackson Withers, the managing-director of the theatre, who made it, spoke in flattering terms of Mr. Morrison's work and popularity with both patrons of the theatre and the artists of the company. Mr. Morrison, who was received with much enthusiasm, returned thanks in a brief, but witty speech, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," with hands joined throughout the house and on the stage.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ON THE ROAD, FEB. 14.

Alone in London.—Hippodrome, Scarborough.
Angel of His Dreams.—T. R., Rotherham.
Arcadians, The (No. 1)—Middlesbrough.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
Bad Girl of the Family.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Hastings and Eastbourne.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—O. H., Belfast.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—New T. R., Birkenhead.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Grand T., Aberavon.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Grand T., Luton.
Breed of the Treshams.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Brewster's Millions.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Bulmer, Mr.—Elephant and Castle T.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Castellano's Opera Co.—T. R., Plymouth.
Charley's Aunt.—Grand T., Nelson.
Chorus Lady, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Christian, The (Croke) (N.).—Coronet T., W.
Christian, The (Croke) (M.).—Ripon and Ilkley.
Cingalee, The (A.).—Dunfermline.
Cingalee (B.).—O. H., Kidderminster.
Claudian.—Alexandra T., Widnes.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

H. BELLAMY.—*We are unable to say. Try the Secretary of the M.H.A.R.A., 18, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. See notice above.*

F. NEWMAN.—*We do not answer questions through the post, but if you will look at our paper of last week (Feb. 5) and refer to page 19, you you will find that we have given you all the information at our disposal. We expect correspondents to read our paper.*

MINSTRELSY—*The opening performance of the "only original and veritable legitimate Christy Minstrels" was at St. James's Hall on Monday, Sept. 18, 1862. The bill bore the names of J. P. Crocker, J. Ritter, H. Hamilton, and Pony Moore. Christy founded a troupe called the Virginia Serenaders in 1844.*

O. M. DAYTON.—*We believe the Glasgow Pavilion have paid a dividend over the percentage you mention. The Palace Theatre, London, and the Empire Theatre, London, have also exceeded it. We have endeavoured to procure exact information regarding your statement concerning Moss' Empires, Ltd., but have failed. Speaking from recollection, you have overstated their record. The Empire, Leicester-square, some years ago paid 83½ per cent. dividend.*

R. STUART.—*We can find no production of* The Forty Thieves *either at the Grand Theatre or the Theatre Royal in your town in our notices of the Christmas shows (1907) at those houses, and the name of Poluski is absent from the casts given by us. It is quite probable that the brothers have played in the town, but not at all likely that either has appeared of late years in an animal part, though we believe they did so in their earlier career. There is a Mr. Will Poluski, jun., who plays animal parts. The Poluskis themselves are at Liverpool this year.*

F. H. HENDERSON PORTER.—(1) *Widowers' Houses, by Bernard Shaw, was produced at the Royalty on Dec. 9, 1892. The cast of the piece was as follows: Harry Trench, Mr. W. J. Robertson; Cokayne, Mr. Arthur Whittaker; Sartorius, Mr. T. Wygney Percival; Lickcheese, Mr. James Welch; Waiter, Mr. E. P. Donne; Porter, Mr. W. Alison; Blanche, Miss Florence Farr; and Annie, Miss N. de Silva.* (2) *You might glean some particulars of the young lady's career by writing to her at the Playhouse.* (3) *Miss Christine Silver, who is now playing in* Don, *made her first appearance on the stage at the Grand Theatre, Margate, as Phœbe Throssel in* Quality Street. *First appeared in London, December, 1904, as Nibs in* Peter Pan, *and made her first great success on tour in* The Lion and the Mouse. *She was in Miss Lena Ashwell's company at the Kingsway, and played in* Diana of Dobson's *and other pieces at that house, and at the Playhouse created the title-rôle in* Marjory Strode. *She was the Olive Bruton in* Sir Anthony *at Wyndham's. She is married to Mr. Walter Maxwell.*

THE F. R. Benson Shakespearean Company (South) has drawn crowded houses to the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly. On Monday the ever-popular *Merchant of Venice* was patronised by an overwhelming attendance. Mr. Balliol Holloway's Shylock was a great success; Miss Emil Leslie acted Portia with great histrionic skill. The performance was a capital one throughout. The Llanelly County School students attended in force the matinée performance on Thursday.

MR. ISAAC D'ISRAELI distinguished between the *Mimi* and the *Pantomimi* of the ancients: "The *Mimi* were an impudent race of buffoons who excelled in mimicry, and, like our domestic fools, were admitted into convivial parties to entertain the guests; from them we derive the term 'mimetic' art. Their powers enabled them to perform a more extraordinary office, for they appear to have been introduced into funerals to mimic the person, and even the language, of the deceased. Suetonius describes an archimimus accompanying the funeral of Vespasian. This archmimus performed his part admirably, not only representing the person, but imitating, according to custom, *ut est mos*, the manners and language of the living Emperor. He contrived a happy stroke at the prevailing foible of Vespasian when he enquired the cost of all this funeral pomp? 'Ten million of sesterces!' On this he observed that, if they would give him but a hundred thousand, they might throw his body into the Tiber. The *Pantomimi* were quite of a different class. They were tragic actors, and usually mute; they combined the arts of gesture, music, and dances of the most impressive character. Their silent language has often drawn tears by the pathetic emotions they excited. 'Their very nod speaks, their hands talk, and their fingers have a voice,' says one of their admirers. Seneca, grave as was his profession, confessed his taste for pantomimes had become a passion; and by the decree of the Senate, that the Roman knights should not attend the pantomimic players in the streets, it is evident that the performers were greatly honoured. Lucian has composed a curious treatise on pantomimes."

AT the Ladbroke Hall, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday next, under the direction of Messrs. Lynn and Harding, copyright performances will be given of *A Broken Rosary*, a play in four acts, by Mr. A. W. S. Cross, M.A., and *Goliah Quagg*, a one-act play, by Mr. Walter Parke.

THE "ERA ANNUAL," 1910. The most complete theatrical dictionary of dates ever published. It will also be found to be the most interesting annual of the year, containing, as it does, many stories told by members of the dramatic and musical professions. Illustrated by photographs and autographs. Price 1s., post free. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ANDERSON-HUTCHISON.—Feb. 3, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Anderson Hutchison (née Violet Ennis Lawson), of Morden Grange, Hanigh, Bolton, a son.

DECAR.—On Feb. 8, wife of Jack Decar (the Decars), of a fine big daughter. Both doing well.

GARBOIS.—At 44, Morningside-road, Edinburgh, on Feb. 5, 1910, the wife of W. H. Garbois, of a son.

LAWSON.—Feb. 6, Walter and Vera Maud Lawson (Dot Parez, of the Parez Girls), of Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WILSON—LESLIE.—At Edinburgh, May 4, 1902, Walter H. Wilson, of Woolton, Liverpool, to Flora Leslie, of Harrogate.

DEATHS.

HAM.—Feb. 8, at 11, Landport-terrace, Southsea, Isabella Caroline Ham, daughter of John S. Ham, and sister of Amy Grace (Mrs. Leonard Rayne). South African papers please copy.

LAMBERT.—Feb. 2, at Mountain Ash, Charles Edward Lambert, of bronchitis and pneumonia.

LAWSON.—Feb. 6, Walter, son of Walter and Vera Maud Lawson (Dot Parez, of the Parez Girls), of Victoria Theatre, Stanley, aged twelve hours.

LOWE.—Feb. 5, at 8, Callow-street, Chelsea, Trevor Lowe, actor and beloved husband of Emilie Sydney Lowe (Sydney Fairbrother), age 32.

PASCOE.—Feb. 7, at his residence at Highgate, James, the dearly loved brother of Marie Pascoe, in his 36th year.

WOODHEAD.—On Monday, Feb. 7, at Burnley, W. W. Woodhead, "the one-man band," aged 74 years. Interred Friday, Feb. 11.

IN MEMORIAM.

CLEMMENTS.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, George Clemments (late musical-director Hengler's Circus), who died in Dublin, Feb. 10, 1907.

CRAGG.—In ever-loving memory of my darling wife, Amanda, who fell asleep Feb. 10, 1909. Ever deeply mourned by her devoted husband, J. W. CRAGG and children.

I lov'd her; ah, no tongue can tell
How much I loved her and how well.
God lov'd her too; He thought it best,
To take her home with Him to rest.
R.I.P.

FULLER.—In ever loving memory of my dear father, John Fuller, who died Feb. 10, 1909. How sadly we miss him. Never forgotten by his loving son and daughter.—Alf and Marie Santoi.

JEWELL.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Jess Jewell, who died suddenly in Brooklyn, New York, Feb 10, 1909. May his soul rest in peace.

JEWELL.—In loving memory of our dear father, Jess Jewell, taken from us Feb. 10, 1909. Never forgotten by his children, LILLIE, ADA, JACK, and SADIE.

JEWELL.—In affectionate remembrance of my dear brother-in-law, Jess Jewell who passed away in Brooklyn, New York, Feb. 10, 1909. Deeply regretted by ADA HOLDEN.

NELSON.—In memory of Harold Broughton Nelson, dearly loved brother of Harry Adair Nelson, who died Feb. 16, 1901.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marie Lloyd—Saturday, Feb. 12.
Kathleen Russell—Sunday, Feb. 13.
Russell Norrie—Sunday, Feb. 13.
Edgar Bateman—Monday, Feb. 14.
Auguste Creamer—Monday, Feb. 14.
Vyvian Thomas—Monday, Feb. 14.
Herbert Ford—Monday, Feb. 14.
H. J. Hitchins—Tuesday, Feb. 15.
Minnie Durham—Tuesday, Feb. 15.
Jimmy Wood—Wednesday, Feb. 16.
Lalla Stanhope—Wed., Feb. 16.
Mrs. G. W. Moore—Thursday, Feb. 17.
Arthur Shirley—Thursday, Feb. 17.
J. Farren Soutar—Thursday, Feb. 17.
Charles Brandon—Thursday, Feb. 17.
Emmie Ames—Friday, Feb. 18.
Walter Gay—Friday, Feb. 18.
George Gulliver—Friday, Feb. 18.

THE curtain rang down on Saturday last on the Kennington pantomime *Queen of Hearts*, and a full house assembled to take farewell of the principals who had established themselves warm favourites during the six weeks' run. The proceedings were of an enthusiastic nature, and Mr. Frank Dix, that versatile genius, who writes Mr. Robert Arthur's pantomimes now-a-days, is to be complimented on having once again hit the popular taste. Mr. Julien Wilson, the composer and conductor; Mr. C. F. Parsley, the Kennington treasurer; and Mr. H. Barrett Brandreth, the business manager, also deserve a word of congratulation on the result of Mr. Arthur's Christmas venture.

THE annual meeting of the shareholders of the Eastbourne Pier Company was held on Tuesday. Councillor C. F. Simmons, who occupied the chair, said the past year had been the most successful one the company has experienced since the opening of the new Pavilion, the number of visitors to the pier having increased by many thousands. A dividend of seven per cent. had been declared, and a reserve fund of £10,000 has accumulated during the past seven years. Upwards of £20,000 had been spent on pier improvements, and that had been paid out of the revenue. By Easter the inside maple floor would be removed, and dramatic entertainments and concerts would be again given in the pavilion.

THE Gaiety Rowing Club held their first annual dinner at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, on the evening of the 6th inst. The members are recruited entirely from the engineering, mechanical, and clerical staffs of the Gaiety Theatre, the number of members and visitors at dinner being fifty-three. Numerous congratulatory letters were read from patrons of the club, including Miss Jean Aiwyn, Mr. W. H. Dawes, Mr. Edward Royce, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Robert Hale, Mr. A. J. Evelyn, and Mr. Ralph Roberts. Mr. G. Applebee was in the chair, and in proposing the toast of "The Gaiety Rowing Club," complimented the members on their past season's work, their success in winning the handsome challenge cup for Junior Fours at the N.A.R.A. Thames Regatta being an event they might well be proud of.

"THE VISITORS" was proposed by Mr. C. H. Hodges, and acknowledged by Mr. H. B. Burcher. The toast of "The Officers" was given by Mr. C. H. Cannon, and replied to by Mr. M. Collins, the hon. secretary. In a humorous speech Mr. H. W. Elliott gave the toast of "The Chairman." Several presentations took place during the evening, the chairman being presented with a case of silver plate for his kindness in coaching the various crews. Mr. Collins, the hard-working and popular secretary, was presented with a kit bag. The most successful oarsman's prize, presented by the chairman, was won by Mr. W. Patton.

"Mum"
removes the odor of perspiration and other bodily odors

1/. If your chemist hasn't "Mum" send us his name and one shilling, and we'll send it postpaid.

Thomas Christy & Co.

4 Old Swan Lane, Up. Thames St., London, E.C.
Gen'l Sales Agents Mum Mfg. Co., Phila., U. S. A.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Arnte. Mr. Billy
August and September
Barnes, Mr. J.
Beatrices, Sisters
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellew, Mr. Kyrle
Bellian, Mr. Walter
Biddall, Mr. W.
Blanchard, Mr. Geo
Bliss, Miss Hebe
Booth, Mrs. J.
Bradley, Mr. W. K.
Campbell, Mr. Chas. J.
Cave, Mr. H.
Cherry, Mr. James
Chester, Mr. Edward
Chipperfield, Mr. J.
Claff, Mr. Harry
Clarke, Capt. Marcalla
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Conquest, Mr. George
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Culley, Mr. M.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Cummins, Col. F. J.
Cuthbert, Mrs. J.
Dando, Capt. W. H.
Daniels, Mr. Bert J.
Danks, Mr. Charles
Deas, Mr. Henry
Desmond, Miss Nellie
Doherty, Mr. Pat
Douglas, Mr. R. H.
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Esden, Miss Alice
Evans, Mr. E.
Evett, Mr. Robert
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fulton, Mr. Geoffrey
Gambler, Capt. G.
Gibson, Mr. D.
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Goddin, Mons. H.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Graham, Miss Ethel
Gribben, Mr. Harry
Halstan, Miss M.
Harrison, Mr. John
Heathcote, Mr. G. N.
Hetel, Miss Eni
Hill, Mr. Cliff
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Inescourt, Miss Elaine
Jakobowski, Mr. E.
Ker, Miss E. Innes
Kerr, Mr. Fred
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kwai Troupe
Kyburn-Dellar, Mr. M.
La Martine, Mrs. John
Lane, Mr. Montague
Leo, King
Lilliputian Troupe
Linden, Miss
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Martino, Madam
Matthews, Mr. R. B.
Mavius, Mrs. M. S.
McIntyre, Miss Mollie
McMahon, Mr. W. S.
Michel, Mr. G. E.
Miles, Mr. A.
Millis, Mr. F. W.
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Paine, Mr. G. C.
Paul Brothers
Paul, Miss N.
Paul, Mrs. E. L.
Payne, Mr. B. M.
"Phantom Ship" Co.
Phillips, Mr. Tom J.
Phillips, Mr. Wm.
Phinis and Ada
Pierpoint, Mr. W. H.
Polini, Miss H.
Polini, Mrs. H.
Randall, Mr. Arthur
Reid, Miss Nellie
Rhodehamel, Mr. C. W
Ridgway, Miss Nellie
Rinonis, Les
Romer, Mr. Adrian
Rose, Mr. Charles
Royston, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. S.
Sanders, Mr. Harry B.
Santon, Mr. Chas.
Saunders, Mr. Charles
Saxo
Selbini, Miss Lalla
Sheldon, Mr. George
Shilston, Mr. R. Benson
Siegenberge, Miss Lottie
Smalley, Mr. Seath
Smith, Miss Stafford
Somos, Mr. R.
Sprees, The
St. Denis, Miss Ruth
Stuart, Miss Marie
Tabrar, Mr. Joseph
Terry, Miss Marion
Thurston, Messrs.
Tittel-Brown, Miss M.
Todd, Mr. Leo
Transfield, Mr.
Valosky, Mr.
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warne, Mr. Tom
Warner, Mr. and Mrs. R.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Whayman, Mr. W. H.
Wilson, Mr. W. A.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 5. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

Mr. FRANK SIMS
is expressly established to make
PROMPT & PRIVATE ADVANCES
to the profession from
£10 to £5,000
at an exceptionally low rate of interest, to be repaid by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Call, write, 'phone, or wire
MR. FRANK SIMS,
101, EDGWARE ROAD, HYDE PARK, W.
'PHONE—982 PADDINGTON
TELEGRAMS—"OBTECTED LONDON."

ASTOR, 28, GLASSHOUSE ST., PICCADILLY CIRCUS W.,
ADVANCES MONEY
from £5 to £10,000 upon note of hand or effects without removal, to ladies and gentlemen. Before going elsewhere call or write.
Tel., 9,659 Gerrard.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Barton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual will, as usual, be found full of useful dramatic information, besides miscellaneous reading of distinctly personal interest. Mr. Dan Rolyat, for instance, tells how he once attempted "a straight part."—Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury, Jan. 29, 1910.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine,
is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words
"Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE"
on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 286645.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under License of Patent 24215/99.)
Original Velvet Grip Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Every Evening at 8.30. (Last Weeks.)
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 7.30.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.0.
"ALADDIN."

The great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
It is dazzling in beauty and almost bewildering in movement and magnificence.—Referee.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats.
Box Office 10-10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Feb. 14, Weedon Grossmith and company in
"MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS."
Matinée Thursday, 2.30.

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 o'clock.
Grand Pantomime,
"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

SHAKESPEARE. THEATRE,
CLAPHAM.
Feb. 14, at 7.30 and during the week
(Matinée on Saturday),
"CHARLES—HIS FRIEND,"
and Production of two new Plays by
Burford Delannoy, entitled
"GABRIEL GRANT, GAMBLER,"
and "THE IDOL'S EYES."
Cast includes Courtice Pounds, Blanche Gaston-Murray, Sam Walsh, Jessie Danvers and Herbert E. Terry.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, 7.45. Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.
Feb. 14, "THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE
Theatre, "PRODIGAL SON," 7.45. Matinée Wednesday, at 3 p.m. Promenade Concerts, 6; Eminent Artists. Skating. Ladies' and other Bands, Organ, &c. Wed. next, Grand Fancy Dress Skating Carnival.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.

Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, Doraswami, Mr. Gus Fowler, Mr. Owen Clark, and Mr. David Devant, at every performance.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

SUNDAY EVENING LECTURES
(under the Auspices of the Secular Society, Ltd.)
ST. JAMES'S HALL,
GREAT PORTLAND-STREET, W.
G. W. FOOTE.
Feb. 13, "Shakespeare's Personality" (with special reference to Mr. Frank Harris's New Book).
Feb. 20, "Wit, Wisdom, and Humanity in Shakespeare's Comedies." Chair taken 7.30 p.m.
Discussion invited at all Meetings.
Reserved seats 1/-; Balcony, 6d. Free seats.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Manager, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

The Ten Loonies, Devon and Earle, Stein Esthor Trio "A Society Sinner," MacConnell Trio, Julian Ross, Ethel Donna, Ernest Clifford, Jeapes's Animated Graphic, and the Pender Troupe of Juveniles.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Joe Elvin and Co. in "Paying the Bill," Lyons Trio, Tate and Tate, Frank Lynne, France and Stewart in "The 100 to 1 Chance," Will Godwin, Hanid Alexander, Chas. Banks and his Dog Woof, Ruffell's Bioscope, Lil Hawthorne in Song Scena "Little Maids of Monte Carlo."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Feb. 14, 1910:—
Herbert Darnley's "Brigands of Tarragona," Suzie Dole, Thomas Bentley, Hodgson and Lowther, Manek Shah and Assistant, Morris and Mil's, Varsity Girls, Leslie W. Harris, Three Gellins, Vigoranto Trio, Nora Guy, Bioscope, J. W. Mackay and Co., Comedy Meisters.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One House Nightly (half-time, 9.30). Monday, Feb. 14:—Lois du Cane and Co., Les Xentrix, Cliff Ryland, Eadie and Ramsden, Elroy, Jack Barker, Sara Rosebury, Chas. Penrose, Madge Allan, Florence Phillips, Sisters Condor, Geo. Rapley, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Wilfred Benson and Co., Gladys Ray, Gordon Stretton, Harry Blake, Bioscope, Cole and Rags, La Belle Alva, Allis and Cassati, Arthur Astill, Kelly and Agnes.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG,"
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Mirza Golem Troupe, De Biere, Sebastian Merill and Co., Garcia, Violet Essex, "On the Heath," Jury's Pictures of the Floods in Paris, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Fanny Brough and Co., The March Hares, Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Graham's Marionettes, Scott and Whaley, Clark and Hamilton, Webb Bros., Bioscope &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Vesta Tilley, La Pia, Nelson Jackson, Guyer and Valli, Paris Floods and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Joe Elvin, Geo. Formby, Sam Mayo, Ella Shields, T. E. Dunville, The Gothams, Millie Payne, Gilbert Girard, Fred Keeton, the original Mrs. General Tom Thumb, Max Waldon, Zona Vevey, Troba, Ida Barr, Sid May, Xentrix, Geo. Leyton in new production, "The Wreck of the Birkenhead," The Hiatts, Lucia Collins, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.20. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.
Mr. A. L. Levering's Co. in "The Drums of Oude," Mary Law, T. E. Dunville, Bert Coote and Company in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Mons. Footgers, Beatrice Lindley, Bessie Slaughter, James Stewart Poole and Macquire, George Formby, Cris Van Bern, John Donald, Yvonne Lamor, Joe Peterman's Company, and the Bioscope.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
"The Belle of the Orient" Co.
Mrs. General Tom Thumb and Co., Ella Shields, Bessie Slaughter, Leonard Barry, Duncan and Godfrey, Dorothy Watson, Sisters Gilbey, Master Clark, Fred Wilkinson, Ruffell's Bioscope.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Half Term commences Monday, Feb. 21.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time.
Feb. 17, at 5, Organ Recital by Mr. E. H. Lemare.
Prospectus and Recital Tickets on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and
Most Up-to-date Theatres
in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM. — CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
BIRMINGHAM.—CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 4000.
This Hall
To Let for Various Dates in 1910-1911, Including next Christmas Season.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, or Variety Entertainments.
For terms and conditions, apply,
EDMUND W. BEECH, C.A.
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE.
Proprietors, Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Theatre de Luxe,
Having a money capacity at ordinary prices far in excess of any other theatre in the town.
GRAND RE-OPENING,
Monday, March 21, with London Successes.
Vacant Dates,
for No. 1 Companies only.
April 4, and onwards, with exceptions.
All communications to
Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above;
or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant week this Spring, April 11.
Wanted, bright holiday attraction.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
March 7,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently Redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. Manager.

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram. Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, Lavatories, Balcony. Electric Light and Heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the Superintendent.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240

HAMMERSMITH.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Lyric Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the
TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Britannia Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant March 21, Five Nights.
April 4 (three nights), April 21 (three nights).
April 25, Six Nights, onwards.
Address, E. Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant May 23, 30, all June.
Note.—No free list at this theatre.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
This week, "THE ARCADIANS."
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
March 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for
April 18, May 2 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29 (Plymouth races week), Nov. 28 and Dec. 5.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
No Vacant Spring Dates.
A few Autumn Dates free.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. A few vacant dates this year.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION DEBENTURE NOTICE.
As the existing Debentures, amounting to £305, must be paid by March 12, 1910, the Council propose to raise the sum by the issue of new £1 Debentures (redeemable in three years) to Members of the Actors' Association only. Members wishing to take up any of these are requested to make written application to the Secretary on or before March 5 proximo.
Each £1 Debenture bears an interest of 5% per annum.
By Order of the Council.
Feb. 8, 1910.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB and TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

LEGAL NOTICES.

WHEREAS by an Order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, made in the matter of the Trusts of an Indenture of Settlement, dated the 1st day of August, 1859, and made between CAROLINE BANKSIA HEATHER, spinster, of the first part, JOHN HEATHER of the second part, FRANCIS HARPER of the third part, and FRANCIS SCHWENCK GILBERT and THOMAS STEPHENS of the fourth part, and in an action Harper v. King-Stephens, 1909, H. 941, and dated the 10th day of May, 1909, an Enquiry has been directed as to what children the said Caroline Banksia Harper had by her marriage with the said Francis Harper, and when the said children were born respectively, and whether they are all living, and if any are dead when they died respectively, and who are the legal personal representatives of such of them as being sons may have died after attaining twenty-one years or under that age, leaving surviving issue, or being daughters may have attained that age or married respectively. And whereas VICTORIA ALICE MAUD HARPER (a daughter of the said Francis Harper and Caroline Banksia Harper), who died on the 22nd October, 1879, at the City of Dublin Hospital, Ireland, is believed to have gone through a form of marriage with one FRED SOLOMON at a private house in Hill-square, Edinburgh, Scotland, in or about the end of September or early in October, 1879. Now the said Fred Solomon is by his Solicitors on or before the 9th day of March, 1910, to come in and prove his claim at the Chambers of Mr. Justice JOYCE, Room 689, at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, in the County of London, or in default thereof he will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Order.
Wednesday, the 16th day of March, 1910, at 12.30 o'clock, in the afternoon, at the said Chambers, is appointed for hearing and adjudicating upon the claims.
Dated this 27th day of January, 1910.
W. O. HEWLETT, Master.
Helder, Roberts, Walton and Giles, 3 and 4, Clement's Inn, Strand, London, Agents for A. J. Puntan, Swansea, Glamorgan, Solicitors for the Plaintiff.
Note.—The said Fred Solomon is believed to have gone to New York some years ago, and to have been engaged at the Casino, New York. It is believed that previous to the marriage above mentioned the said Fred Solomon was married to an actress who was known by the name of Plimsoll.

1909. H. No. 2970.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.
CHANCERY DIVISION.
MR. JUSTICE EVE.
Between THOMAS HEFFERNAN, Plaintiff,
and
ERNEST THEUBEREON, MABEL THEUBEREON (his wife), and HUGH C. BUCKLER, Defendants.
To the above-named Defendants,
ERNEST THEUBEREON and MABEL THEUBEREON (his wife).

TAKE NOTICE that this action was on the 26th day of October, 1909, commenced against you, and that the Plaintiff by his writ of summons claims:—
1. An injunction restraining the Defendants, their servants, agents, and workmen from announcing for representation by the circulation of Playbills or otherwise, and from representing or causing to be represented, and from publishing, disposing of, divulging, or making any use of the Plaintiff's play intituled "The Cobra," or any other dramatic piece or entertainment or book of which the words, scenes, characters or incidents are copied or imitated or colourably altered from the words, scenes, characters, or incidents of the Plaintiff's said play.
2. Damages.
3. Delivery up of all copies of or extracts from the Plaintiff's said play, or any such dramatic piece or entertainment or book as aforesaid in the possession of the Defendants.
4. Costs.
And that the Court has by Order dated the 13th day of January, 1910, ordered that the publication by advertisement of the said writ and of the said Order once in "The Era" newspaper and once in the "Stage" newspaper, be deemed good and sufficient service of the said writ upon you, the said Defendants, Ernest Theubereon and Mabel Theubereon.
And further take notice that you are required to appear to the said writ of summons within eight days from the date, inclusive of such date at which the last of the advertisements hereby directed shall appear, and that in default of your so doing the Plaintiff may proceed therein, and judgment may be given in your absence.
You may appear thereto by entering appearances either personally or by solicitor at the Central Office, Royal Courts of Justice, London.
REYNOLDS AND SON,
7, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Plaintiff's Solicitors.

To all whom it may concern.
"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."
The Acting Rights in this Play are vested in
Mr. J. COMYNS CARR
and Mr. H. B. IRVING.
Any attempt at piracy will be proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law.
Longmans, Green and Co.,
39, Paternoster-row, E.C.
H. B. Irving,
Queen's Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.
DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.
Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thoroughgoing manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

THE ROAD, February, 1910.
"The Era" Annual for 1910, illustrated (1s., *The Era* Office), always one of the best theatrical volumes of the year, this time excels itself. It gives a dramatic and musical calendar (each day recalling some event of importance in corresponding years); a number of short stories, each by some well-known actor or acting-manager; new plays and important revivals in London and suburban houses for 1909; the same in the provinces; an alphabetical list of plays, both London and provincial, for the whole year; the casts of new plays; plays produced in New York; new pieces at the Paris theatres; the same at Berlin; principal sketches at London variety houses, and casts thereof; separate lists of theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom; a theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary; and, last and saddest, the deaths of the year illustrated, brought down to so late a date that it includes photos of Mr. E. H. Carpenter, who died on Dec. 23, and Mme. Meta Illing, who died on Dec. 26 last past. It is a veritable mine of information between two covers, and makes us wonder how so many valuable facts can be published at the low price charged for this. Our sincere congratulations to the editor and publisher thereof.

Published at "The Era" Offices:
6, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1910.

MR. H. A. JONES PROTESTS.

Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES has always been fond of philosophising on the drama. Between 1883 and 1894 he periodically published essays, delivered addresses, and wrote letters on the subject. The tone of these effusions has generally been denunciatory and pessimistic. Starting, in 1883, with the enquiry why we have no national drama worthy of the name, he found an answer in the fact that the drama is not merely an art but a popular amusement, that managers and authors have no better beacon to guide them than the restless doubtful flickerings of popular fancy, and that the middle-classes like plays that confirm and flatter them in their own self-content and genial, ignorant self-worship; that the upper classes choose plays that studiously reject everything heroic; and the lower class loves "dramas like the rank raw spirit they drink, which has no nourishment, but gives a rousing hot sensation when swallowed." In 1889 he protested against the first-night judgment of plays, saying: "If the average man cannot be trusted in a mental operation so simple and direct as knowing whether he feels an electric shock or not, how can he be trusted in a mental operation so subtle, so complex, so indefinite, so elusive of demonstration as the formation of an opinion on a work of art?" In 1891 he discussed the science of the drama in the *New Review*, and put into words what he called the dramatic author's perpetual dilemma—viz.: "How shall I, while writing a play which will be sufficiently popular to bring in at least seven hundred pounds a week to cover my manager's expenses, yet preserve that removed attitude which stands quite apart from all passions and prejudices, and contemplates them as something external and objective?" Discussing the literary drama in the *New Review* in 1892, Mr. JONES remarked: "The modern English drama needs to be established on a sound intellectual basis." Addressing the Playgoers' Club, in 1884, he mourned over the scarcity of original modern plays of high excellence and serious import. "Our great need," said Mr. JONES, "is for a school of plays of serious intention, plays that implicitly assert the value and dignity of human life, that it has great passions and great aims." But we need not labour our proof that Mr. JONES has, in theory at least, been always on the side of high art.

At first sight it has sometimes seemed that Mr. JONES's denunciation of contemporary dramatic art was a little offensive to his fellow-dramatists. A comic paper some years since, in a burlesque biography of the proprietor of a popular restaurant, described him, on a certain date, as being wrecked with a crew of Italian galley slaves on the Cornish coast, and shortly after lecturing at Exeter Hall on "What I Suffered for Italy." It would not be difficult to draw a parallel between Mr. JONES's career and that imagined for the late Mr. ROMANO. The statements made by Mr. JONES may or may not have been correct; the curious part of it is that he of all men should have made them.

We all seek in art *recreation*. Playgoers, as VICTOR HUGO said, may be divided into those who think, those who feel, and the populace. The masterpiece satisfies all three. Thus in *Othello* we have a marvellous study of the growth of the passion of jealousy and an analysis of intellectual power without humanity; a play full of joy, sorrow, love, and hate; and a drama of varied and constant incident and "movement." But there are very few people capable of writing masterpieces, and the thinkers have to be thankful for an occasional treat when a play is produced which logically develops a thesis. These plays are generally financial failures, because the thinkers amongst the playgoers are comparatively few. When Sir A. W. PINERO gave complete studies of a tragedy of modern self-indulgence in *Iris*, of the tragedy of genteel slavery in *Letty*, and of up-to-date egoism in *Mid-Channel*, he had to face, if not financial loss, certainly diminished receipts. But, from an intellectual point of view, these were his most interesting and creditable works. He may be said to have "given his proofs" of ambition, and to have made sacrifice to superiority. But it is difficult to discover in any of Mr. H. A. JONES's plays, except perhaps in parts of *The Crusaders*, any desire to "suffer for Italy." It is impossible to discern in his dramas any deep thought or genuine criticism of life. It is equally impossible to gather any from those of other successful dramatists; but then they give Heaven thanks and make no boast. In his lecture to the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion Theatre on Sunday Mr. JONES alluded to the "few very simple rules" which, from time to time, he had affirmed and tried to enforce as the only ones by which we can establish and sustain an English national drama. He denounced "legs and tomfoolery" as in direct antithesis to drama, though he admitted there was a good deal to be said for them as a specific against boredom.

Mr. JONES is scarcely correct in saying that "legs and tomfoolery" are the greatest enemies of the drama. In the first place, legs, as legs, have long ceased to be a stage attraction. There was a period at which the exhibition of the lower extremities was popular; but that time is past. There are only two houses in London which present ballets; and these charm by the general effect of light and colour and not by individual voluptuousness or separate advantages of symmetry and contour. What Mr. JONES stigmatises as "tomfoolery"—by which we suppose he means broad, practical fun and boisterous merriment—is no enemy of the drama at all. The sports of children satisfy the child; and if the child prefers Punch and Judy to *Hamlet*, the puppet-show prepares him for the play. The only thing to do is to take care that the "English national drama" is as good of its kind as the "tomfoolery" is in its particular line. And, far from tomfoolery being the staple of entertainment at popular places of amusement, we see an ever-extending endeavour to introduce serious drama into the programmes of our variety theatres. The fact is, Mr. JONES has said so many different things at different times that, as Falstaff said of Dame Quickly, one knows not where to have him. Why doesn't he, instead of grumbling about the drama, write us a masterpiece?

MR. C. T. HELMSLEY'S ILLNESS.

Everyone will be glad to hear that Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, the well-known acting-manager of the St. James's Theatre, has quite recovered from his recent serious illness. Mr. Helmsley since his start under Henry Irving at the Lyceum in 1882, has been steadily successful, and has increased his popularity and experience with equal steadiness. As business manager of the Compton comedy company, with a company of his own and Mr. Louis Calvert's, as general manager for Mr. John Hare at the Court and Globe Theatres, and finally in his present pleasant position under Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Helmsley has won golden opinions from all sorts of people, and his sporting tendencies have greatly contributed to this result.

Mr. Helmsley was taken suddenly ill on Oct. 19 with pneumonia and pleurisy, and was removed to the Nursing Home, 22, George-street, Hanover-square. The physicians in attendance were Dr. Jackson Lang and Dr. L. E. Shaw. He became rapidly worse, and on Oct. 26 it was decided that an operation must take place at once, although it involved great risk to his life. It was, however, successfully performed by Mr. R. P. Rowlands, of Queen Anne-street. All went well for several weeks, and he was removed to Ventnor. On Dec. 7 he had a relapse, and, as he did not improve, a consultation took place on Dec. 17 between Dr. Jackson Lang, Dr. T. A. Ross (of Ventnor), and Mr. Rowlands, and it was decided that a second operation was necessary. Mr. Rowlands was again successful, and after that Mr. Helmsley steadily improved, and is now quite "fit" again. He returned to his duties at the St. James's on Monday last. He is very grateful to his old friends, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander for their devotion and kindness during the trying time. He is also under the deepest obligation to his valued colleagues Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. D. W. Whitaker, and Mr. A. P. Horne for their great kindness in sharing his duties during his long absence, and he considers it a public duty to mention the great care and attention lavished upon him by his personal physician Dr. Jackson Lang, so well-known in theatrical circles. Mr. Helmsley has received so many letters, telegrams, cards, and telephone inquiries, totalling altogether 905, that he finds it impossible to reply to them personally, so he hopes his good friends will allow him to thank them heartily through the medium of *The Era*.

The *London Gazette* recently contained the following announcement from the War Office under the head of Infantry: 18th (County of London) Battalion London Regiment (London Irish Rifles).—Captain Charles T. Hunt Helmsley resigns his commission, and is granted permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform.

The permission was given in recognition of Mr. Helmsley's efficiency and long service.

MR. GILBERT PAYNE'S pantomime *The House that Jack Built* is proving greatly to the public taste at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield. The rôle of the principal boy is taken by Miss Kathleen Emmett, who plays the part with great vivacity; Miss Fanny Adamson makes a charming Princess; Mr. Gilbert Payne is a humorous Dame Trot; Mr. Fred Fulton an amusing Sir Niggley Grabbe; as Jossem and Jewen Messrs. Lapham and Wallen do good work; Miss Hilda Deacon is a winsome Marjorie Dawe, her dancing being much appreciated; and Miss Ethyl Errol as Tommy Tucker does creditably.

MR. LEIGH LOVEL and Miss Octavia Kenmore are this week presenting two of Ibsen's plays at the Crown Theatre, Eccles. On Monday they produced *A Doll's House*, in which Mr. Leigh Lovel, as Torvald Helmer, gave a meritorious performance. Mr. Kenneth Black as Dr. Rank also proved himself an actor of ability; Mr. Arthur McCulloch as Nils Krogstadt was responsible for an interesting performance; and in the character of Nora Helmer Miss Octavia Kenmore met with great success. Miss Katherine Maynard as Mrs. Linden was all that could be desired; and as Ellen and Anna Miss Daisy Race and Miss Gladys Everard did what little they had to do in a very satisfactory manner. On Friday night the company produced *Hedda Gabler*.

MISS KITTY LOFTUS and party are giving a delightful entertainment at the Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare, this week.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

Play, in Four Acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell, Produced, for the First Time, at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Ruth Wright ..... MISS KATE SYDNEY
Ruby Wright ..... MISS MAUD M. POWELL
Madam De Meral ..... MISS ANNA CORRI
Bessie Betts ..... MISS MAGGIE STEWART
Ned Chipples .... MISS EVA NORMAN SCRATCHARD
Robert Ray ..... MR. CHAS. STAFFORD
Lucas List ..... MR. F. CYRIL LEIGHTON
Octavius Screwe ..... MR. HENRY SCRATCHARD
Billy Broad ..... MR. EDWARD SWINTON
Bobby Broad ..... MR. MACKINTOSH CLYDE
Freddy Feather .... MR. H. WALLACE CURNOCK
Rev. C. Lovett ..... MR. WM. BERSON
Emily Rough ..... MISS RACHEL RHODES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. Morton Powell, who is the authoress of such successful plays as *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*, *A Girl's Temptation*, &c., has given the critical Belfast public an opportunity of passing judgment on her latest production, and from the reception accorded the initial performance, the play is destined to enjoy a successful future, possessing, as it does, all the sensational features that make a popular appeal. The play opens outside the Village School, Myrtledale, where Lucas List, a local magnate and member of the firm of Law, List, and Co., is distributing prizes to the scholars. List has betrayed Ruth Wright, a clerk and typist in his employ, and now seeks to win her cousin Ruby, a school teacher, who is engaged to Robert Ray, mate in the Merchant Service. Robert returns from sea, and announces his intention of marrying Ruby the next day. Lucas List determines to prevent the marriage, and, with the aid of Mme. de Meral, arouses Robert's jealousy. The young sailor is induced to drink, and in a moment of frenzy, finding Ruby in the arms of List, breaks off the engagement, and is induced by Mme. de Meral to offer his hand to Ruth Wright. Incensed at the thought that her cousin Ruby is about to win the love of Lucas from her, Ruth accepts the proposal of Lucas that she (Ruth) should accept the offer of Robert on condition that Lucas shall give up all thoughts of Ruby. Robert and Ruth are hurried off to the Registrar's, and Ruby, learning of the plot to marry the man she loves to the mistress of Lucas, follows, but arrives in time to find Robert and Ruth man and wife. Ruth determines to see Lucas List that night in the bedroom of his cottage at midnight, and is followed by Ruby, who endeavours to save Ruth from dishonour. Robert also learning of Ruth's appointment, goes to the cottage, determined, if he finds his wife unfaithful, to kill her, List, and himself. Entering the room, he finds Ruth, Ruby, and Lucas, and accuses his wife of being unfaithful. She denies the charge, and, in terror, says she came to save Ruby from the arms of Lucas. Ruby, dreading the consequences, accepts the situation, and takes upon her own shoulders the guilt of Ruth.

At a school fête Ruby is about to be crowned Queen of the May, but is accused of being the mistress of Lucas List, and being unable to deny the accusation, is dismissed by the School Board. She leaves the village accompanied by a crippled boy named Ned Chipples, an orphan, whom Ruby has adopted, and accepts shelter in the house of Mme. de Meral in London. Ruby, on retiring to rest, finds the door of her bedroom locked on the outside, but Ned gains an entrance by the fanlight, and they make their escape by the window.

The action of the play is now removed to Mme. de Meral's Bath and Massage establishment, where Robert arrives in search of Ruby, but is knocked down and stunned. Meanwhile, Ruby and Ned have sought refuge in a cellar, and Ruby, determined to end their misery by death, tears down the gas bracket from the wall, places the boy's mouth to the pipe, and wraps his head in her blouse. She is herself about to commit suicide when Lucas List arrives with food, and offers to save the boy's life if Ruby will consent to go with him. Ruby, driven to despair, consents to accompany him to his flat, where Ruth arrives in search of Lucas. Learning from a servant that List and a lady are expected, her jealousy is aroused, and she hides in an inner room as Lucas enters, bearing in his arms the insensible form of Ruby. List plies her with wine, and she is about to enter his bed-chamber, when the cry of the boy Ned falls upon her ear. She essays to go to his assistance, a struggle takes place, and she faints in the arms of List. Ruth enters, and seizing a knife, strikes at Ruby, but List receives the blow and falls dead. Ruby is accused of the crime, and is arrested. Learning that Ruby was not the mistress of Lucas List, Ruth determines to aid her. She, however, is met by Mme. de Meral, and a furious fight occurs, in the course of which the room is entirely wrecked, and both women receive their death blow. Before expiring, however, Ruth writes on the back of a picture in her own blood "I killed Lucas List.—Ruth Wright." Ruby, of course, is acquitted, and, accompanied by Robert, is welcomed home by the whole of her native village.

Mr. Charles Stafford furnished a clever impersonation of Robert Ray, speaking his lines clearly and with much effect. In the difficult rôle of Ruth Wright Miss Kate Sydney scored a success, on which she may be congratulated. Miss Maud M. Powell appeared to advantage as Ruby Wright, her fine emotional acting winning the sympathies of the crowded audience. Mr. F. Cyril Leighton furnished a realistic impersonation of the villainous Lucas List, his acting being free from the slightest exaggeration, and he was ably assisted by Mr. Henry Scratchard, who depicted the iniquities of an unscrupulous school official very vividly. Miss Anna Corri fluidly depicted Mme. De Meral, and is entitled to praise for her portrayal of such a repulsive rôle. Mr. William Berson (the acting-manager of the company) made the most of his opportunities as the Rev. C. Lovett. Comic relief was supplied by Mr. Edward Swinton as Billy Broad; Miss Maggie Stewart was a little too vehement as Bessie Betts, but, nevertheless, gained much approval as the friend of Ruby Wright, the heroine. Mr. H. Wallace Curnock, who is also responsible for stage-management, appeared as Freddy Feather. Miss Eva Norman Scratchard was most capable as Ned Chipples, and minor rôles were adequately presented.

The piece had evidently been well rehearsed, as the initial performance went with a smoothness upon which Mrs. Morton Powell and all concerned may be congratulated.

THE West Newington Conservative Association visited the Elephant and Castle Theatre on Wednesday evening last. The whole of the reserved parts of the house had been booked by the members of the Association, and the house was very gaily decorated throughout. Sir William Dunn, M.P., made a short speech from the stage, in which he thanked Mr. Charles Barnard and Messrs. Stephens and Buchanan for the excellent entertainment they had provided in the pantomime of *Cinderella*.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN WALTER'S pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* at the Hippodrome, Todmorden, is under their personal direction. Miss Florence Carlile in the title-rôle soon gets into the good graces of the audience, and is ably seconded by Miss Kittie Liske as Polly. Ally M. Benson makes a dashing Mrs. Crusoe and pleases the audience immensely. As Billy Crusoe Mr. W. Bland is one of the leading fun-makers. Messrs. Dytum and Dale give us some smart tumbling; and the Tivoli Troupe please with clever dancing and are great favourites.

REHEARSAL THEATRE.

TWO NEW PLAYS.

The Rehearsal company, under the direction of Mr. Clive Currie, produced two new one-act plays at a matinée performance, given at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, Strand, on Friday, the 4th inst.

The first of these, by Ursula Keene, was entitled

"THE FINAL PHASE."

Eleanor Gibson ..... MISS MAY SAKER
Diana Canning ..... MISS CLARICE LAURENCE
Jessie May ..... MISS ADAH DICK
Bridget ..... MISS IRENE MONCRIEFF
Sir Humphrey Canning. MR. CLIFFORD HEATHERLY

Eleanor Gibson is an actress who, after years of hard struggle, has "arrived." She has attained that degree of popularity when actresses find themselves overwhelmed with the letters of admirers, and of theatre-struck young women, who think it is "as easy to get on the stage as it is to get on a 'bus." She lives in a flat with her friend and companion, Jessie May, who assists her in replying to her numerous correspondents. The culinary department is ruled over by Bridget, an Irishwoman who is a sort of domestic despot in regard to the choice of viands for the small household. One of the most devoted admirers of the actress is "little Diana Canning," who has managed to make the acquaintance of the theatrical "star." She is the daughter of Sir Humphrey Canning; but, disgusted with her home life and the severe rule of a maiden aunt, she has run away, resolved to become an actress. She confides in her new-found friend, Eleanor, and in telling the story of her far from pleasant home life, mentions certain matters which reveal to the actress that the girl is her own daughter. Some twenty years previously Eleanor, finding that she and her husband—then known as Humphrey Maitland—did not agree, left him and her infant daughter, and they had never met since, the child as she grew up being told that her mother was dead. Sir Humphrey traces his runaway daughter to the residence of the actress, and Diana, on hearing her father approach, discreetly retires to an adjoining room. On entering he is startled to find in Miss Eleanor Gibson his own wife. At first the couple disagree as in the old days, but the actress is still a good-looking and charming woman. Sir Humphrey acknowledges that in the past he was in the wrong; the actress is quite ready to forgive and forget; and when Diana re-enters she discovers her newly-found mamma in the arms of the visitor, who promises to go to the theatre that evening and to see his wife play her part.

The little piece was well received. Miss May Saker was quite successful in her rendering of the rôle of Eleanor Gibson; and Miss Clarice Laurence proved to be a very bright and pleasing representative of Diana Canning. Mr. Clifford Heatherly was a satisfactory Sir Humphrey, the stern father; Miss Irene Moncrieff was good as the tyrannical Irish cook-housekeeper; and Miss Adah Dick as Jessie May played a minor part efficiently.

The second new one-act play by Frederic Sargent was entitled

"LOVE'S COMEDY."

Hon. Mrs. Roland Walton .. MISS ROSE DUPRE
Mrs. Beresford Revelle .... MISS MAUD BOWYER
Mollie Revelle ..... MISS JEAN GRAEME
Lieut. Kenneth Carson, V.C. MR. FREDERIC SARGENT
Mr. John Brett ..... MR. CLIVE CURRIE

This piece was first produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Feb. 22, 1909. The scene is an ante-room in Mrs. Walton's house in the West Riding of Yorkshire during the progress of a ball. Amongst her guests Mrs. Walton gives a specially warm greeting to Lieut. Kenneth Carson, who has just returned from the South African War decorated with the Victoria Cross for bravery. In the ballroom he catches a glimpse through the open door of Mollie Revelle, with whom he plighted his troth before he departed for the war; but during his absence she has become engaged to John Brett, whose wealth was his recommendation in the eyes of Mollie's avaricious, worldly-minded mother. In an interview with this lady, in the course of which angry words are spoken on both sides, the young officer flatly accuses Mrs. Revelle of keeping back the letters he wrote to his sweetheart while he was in South Africa. Kenneth also obtains an interview with Mollie, who is seeking a lost glove. He produces a soiled one, which he has kept for two years as a memento of his little sweetheart. He is, of course, anxious to discover how it is she has become engaged to the middle-aged Mr. Brett, and in reply to his questions Mollie admits that her mother forced her into the engagement, and not having heard from Kenneth she thought he had forgotten her. But her heart is still faithful to him, and though she liked, she did not love her wealthy suitor. While she is making this confession Brett, who has already obtained a pretty correct notion as to the real state of affairs, enters the room unperceived, and overhears the girl's admission. He at once comes forward and releases Mollie from her engagement to him, and thus the plans of the wealth-seeking mother are hopelessly shattered, and the gallant lieutenant triumphs.

The author of the piece, Mr. Frederic Sargent, did very well as Kenneth Carson; and Miss Jean Graeme was an attractive Mollie Revelle. Mr. Clive Currie deserves commendation for his portrayal of Mr. John Brett; Miss Maud Bowyer ably depicted the self-seeking mother, Mrs. Beresford Revelle; and the Hon. Mrs. Roland Walton had a capital representative in Miss Rose Dupré.

The first item in the programme was the bright little duologue, by Mary Openshaw, entitled *My First Client*, excellently played by Mr. Wilfred Flecher as Jas. Dickson Beverley, and Miss Winifred Howell-Jones as Mme. Yvonne.

The clever play by Fred. Fenn and Richard Pryce, *'Op o' My Thumb*, was also successfully performed by the Misses Ursula Keene, Edith Carter, Grace Richardson, Evelyn Vanderzee, Evelyn Grey, and Mr. Frederick James.

The afternoon's programme was completed by the song "Love is a Slave," pleasingly rendered by Miss D'Auvergne Upcher. Miss Winifred Howell-Jones gave valuable services as pianist; Captain Arthur Morris acted as business-manager; and Mr. Fred Westlake as stage-manager.

AN especially brilliant and popular attraction has been provided at the Queen's Theatre, Longton, Staffs, for a fortnight, by the visit of Mr. J. F. Elliston's company, in *The Babes in the Wood*. It is distinguished by pretty and artistic dresses and fine scenery. La Belle Morgane makes a fine and dashing hero of Robin Hood; and is ably supported by a winsome Maid Marian in Miss Lillian Pollard.

"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW," the attraction at the Cambridge, Spennymoor, is finely presented by Messrs. F. Marriott Watson's and James Ussher's company. Mr. Charles H. Phelps acts in a commanding manner as Lucio Delgado; and in Mr. T. W. Dunscombe is found an able actor as Paul Gouffet; and Mr. Alfred Warne acts well as Henry de Busson. Mr. Haughton Macaulay is a successful Le Blanc; Mr. John A. Stimson a very good Peter Pottleberry; Mr. Arthur Cheeners is prominent as Lucien Cortier; Miss Marie Pemberton plays creditably as La Pinau; and Miss Francis Day as Babette and Miss Clare O'Sullivan as Marie are well placed.

THE Town Hall Theatre, Herne Bay, was well filled on Monday and Tuesday this week by the attractions of *The Sorcerer*, well rendered by the Herne Bay Operatic Society. Money was also turned away on Friday (4th) with Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids*.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"KAVALIERE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Lothar and Sandek, Produced at the Hebbel, Feb. 5.

Princess Anastasia ..... FRAULEIN HARTWIG
Erik ..... HERR NISSEN
Von Flamm ..... HERR WLACH
Von Witgenstein ..... HERR EHRENS
Von Rosenau ..... HERR PRAGER
Von Romisch ..... HERR LUTTJOHANN
Von Rostowski ..... HERR MARLOW
Marquis Lusignan ..... HERR MERTENS
Pracha ..... HERR VON WOLZOGEN
Winter ..... HERR HERZFELD
Mr. Evans ..... HERR OTTO
Barth ..... HERR LEOPOLD
Frau von Bohlen ..... FRAULEIN BERGER
Meier ..... HERR WILBERT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Feb. 10.—The authors have produced a piece which, if not as full of humour as we like and expect in a comedy, is at least entertaining. The audience were apparently well satisfied; they applauded warmly, and called the collaborators several times before the curtain. The plot is as follows: Anastasia, Princess Petrowna Nikotewna, is a Russian aristocrat, with plenty of millions to do as she likes with, and of a haughty bearing, softened, however, by a kind heart and pretty features. That she turns out later to be the daughter of a Berlin publican does not matter at all, and we ask no questions as to how she came by her Prince. The Princess is naturally the centre of a court of "cavaliers," and the one who appears most favoured is Baron von Flamm, a gentleman who has gone the pace to such an extent that the only article of value left to him is his famous racehorse, Comet. Neither can it be said that Comet is his property, it having been proved that three legs of the steed are mortgaged, so to say, to his master's creditors. The Baron now comes into a most awkward predicament. He is accused of having "doctored" a rival horse at Cologne races in order that Comet should come in first. He is brought before a court of honour, and the only thing that can possibly save him from everlasting disgrace is to prove an alibi. This at first appears—for a cavalier—impossible, the Baron having been drinking tea, "Russian" fashion, with the Princess between the hours of nine and midnight. The authors, nevertheless, are poking fun at the "cavaliers" of high life, and Flamm does not hesitate long in clearing his doubtful reputation. Princess Anastasia is naturally indignant at the breach of good manners, and turns her back upon the unfortunate Baron. The man now taken into favour is Flamm's jockey, a certain "Mr. Evans," whose worthy character has long impressed us. It may be mentioned, incidentally, that this good Englishman is a native of Berlin, like the Princess, and the pair soon discover their affinity. The gentleman jockey marries Anastasia, and generously engages his old master as jockey. We see at the close the Baron riding off on Comet to win a great race. The authors have laid the scene of the three acts in unusually interesting places. The action of the first passes in the dining-car of a corridor express, that of the second in the court of honour, the third in a race meeting. This effective placing and the good mounting aided the success of the piece. The acting was uneven; a little more vivacity would have improved it.

CONRAD DREHER, the clever Tyrolean actor, has come with his excellent company to give a season at the Apollo Theatre. This time it is not comedy pure and simple, but operetta in which Herr Dreher is excelling himself. A new work in three acts, *Der Liebeswalzer*, by C. M. Ziehrer, book by MM. Grünbaum and Bodansky, was produced last week, and has been given nightly with a good deal of success. In the postmaster Leopold Führinger Herr Dreher has a rôle that suits his Southern humour down to the ground, and his singing of the songs and couplets allotted to him was capital. The music is bright, and the interpretation all round was excellent.

TALKING of operettas, Léhar's new work, *Zigeunerliebe* (Gipsy Love), will be produced at the Komische Oper to-morrow night. The chief rôles are in the hands of Fräuleins Heide, Peters, Hagen, and Seebold, and Herren Nadolovitch (the leading tenor), Zador, Grünwald, and Kreuder. The booking is brisk.

HERR RICHARD SKOWRONNEK'S merry hunting comedy, *Halali*, has been revived at the Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches Theatre, after an interval of some years. It met with distinct appreciation, and will certainly enjoy a lengthy run. In the good cast Frau Werner-Wagner was foremost for her clever and convincing impersonation of the rôle of Frau Kanzleirätin Schettler.

A NEW four-act farce, *Der Hochzeitstag*, by MM. Wolters and Königsbrunn-Schaup, has been given at the Luisen, achieving well-merited success. While not particularly original as regards plot, the piece is brightly put together, and the dialogue is amusing. It was remarkably well acted, and authors and artists were called several times before the curtain in response to hearty applause.

MR. GEORGE WILBUR REED, leading tenor of the Danzig Stadt Theatre, had a great triumph there last Sunday, when he gave the rôle of Pedro in Eugen D'Albert's tragic opera *Tiefland* for the first time. The house rose at him, shouting "Bravo!" with wild enthusiasm after each act. At the close of the opera Mr. Reed was recalled fourteen times, amidst deafening applause. This is all the more gratifying for the American artist, as the Danzig audiences are proverbially cool and reserved.

MR. CHARLES NORMAND'S VOCAL RECITAL.

On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 5, at Messrs. Broadwood's, King's Room, Conduit-street, W., Mr. Charles Normand, assisted by Miss Helen Blain (the celebrated Scotch contralto) and Mr. Robert Konigsberg (violinist), gave a well-attended recital. Owing to a severe influenza cold Mr. Normand had unfortunately to omit two examples of Verdi—"Ella giammai m' amò" (*Don Carlos*) and "Il lacerato spirito" (*Simon Boccanegra*); but in the concert-giver's singing of Leporello's aria "Madamina," from *Don Giovanni*, it was at once evident that he had a fine rich toned voice and cultivated style. In two Hungarian songs, arranged by F. Korbay, "I'm a horseherd" and "Had a horse," Mr. Normand sang with great spirit in spite of his cold. The refrain of the second song, "More was lost at Mohacs field," refers to the defeat of the Hungarians by the Turks in 1526, and is still used as a proverb at the present day. Mr. Normand was also heard in "Cœur d'Enfant" (Coenen); a dashing song by F. F. Bullard, "The Sword of Ferrara"; and "Dumbledum Day" (Löhr); while he was associated with Miss Helen Blain in a song-cycle "On Jhelum River," by Woodforde-Finden, in which composition the duet "Kingfisher Blue" proved very melodious and attractive. Miss Helen Blain's fine voice was heard to great advantage in Giordani's "Caro mio ben," and she also greatly pleased the audience in "An Emblem" (Thompson) and Cuthbert Wynne's song "My Heart's Song." In his violin solo of Wieniawski's "Mazurka" Mr. Robert Konigsberg produced a beautiful tone and skilful technique; while his performance of "Allegro Brillant" (W. Ten Have), Wolff's "Paraphrase," and his own composition "Le Déluge" were received with warm applause. Miss Lucie Gerrard, L.R.A.M., was the accompanist.

"AN IRISH EXPLANATION," by Fred Terry, illustrated by photograph and autograph. See "The Era Annual," 1910.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Arthur Weir, secretary of the Terriers' Association, will take the chair on Sunday at the thirteenth annual dinner of the Gallery First Nighters' Club, of which he is the president, at Frascati's Restaurant, and will propose the toast of "The Drama," to which Mr. Rudolf Besier (the author of *The Virgin Goddess* and *Don*) will respond. Miss Gwennie Mars, of the Follies, will reply for "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Frank W. Whitworth.

The annual dinner and dance of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association at the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, announced for Sunday, Feb. 20, should be the most popular reunion of the year. The two charities to be benefited are the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, and the appeal on their behalf is to be made by Eugene Stratton, the popular coon, whose eloquence in a good cause will be backed up by Joe Elvin, the founder of the Benevolent Institution. The reception is at 6.30, the dinner at 7, conversazione at 11, and dance 12 to 5.

On Saturday morning last, at Euston Station, Miss Rose Hamilton, Miss Claire Romaine, and Mr. Edgar Romaine, who were departing by the 9.20 a.m. boat express for Liverpool, thence to embark on the Baltic for New York, had a hearty send-off from relatives and friends. Among those on the platform were Miss J. Hamilton, Mr. Jack Hamilton, Mrs. Wood, Miss Annie Wood, Miss Ella Lane, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Miss Marie Lloyd, and Edgar Bateman.

A cheque for £570 8s. 9d. has been forwarded to the Lord Mayor of London by Messrs. Moss' Empires, Limited, the proprietors of the London Hippodrome. This sum represents the entire proceeds of the successful matinée held at that house on Monday in aid of the Lord Mayor's Paris Floods Relief Fund.

Mr. Frank Postlethwaite, having taken possession of the Empire, Camberwell, as debenture holder, desires it to be known that he cannot hold himself responsible for any contracts made between artists and the Camberwell Empire, Ltd., or anyone who acted on its behalf from March 7 next inclusive and afterwards.

The debenture holder has, however, personally accepted the contracts made with the following agents for the remainder of the year 1910:—George Aytoun, Richard Cass, Frank Postlethwaite's agency, and Tom Shaw.

John Lawson opens at the Palace, Manchester, on Monday, with *The Miracle*, for fourteen performances, with entire London cast, scenery, and production. The cast includes Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell as Vachell; Mr. F. Naylor Grimston as Goldstein; Mr. John Cecil as the Antiquarian; the West African tragedian, Mr. G. Bushra, as Wallah; and Miss Lucille Sidney as Ena Leveson.

It will be remembered that there was a mistaken demonstration against this work on its production at the Holborn Empire. The sketch was witnessed by the Rev. Gerald Friedlander, of the Haymarket Synagogue, and several influential gentlemen, who expressed their satisfaction. Some objection was raised to the use of the Torah, and this was immediately discontinued. Exception was also taken to the introduction of the word "Jehovah" in the Synagogue scene, and Mr. Lawson at once expunged it from the sketch.

Mr. Burford Delannoy, the actor-novelist, who played at Sadler's Wells Theatre in the late eighties, has written several thrilling stories, among them being "Nineteen Thousand Pounds," "The Margate Murder Mystery," "M.R.C.S.," and is now turning his attention to writing for the stage. A sketch from his pen, *The Idol's Eyes*, is to be produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, with *Gabriel Grant—Gambler*, another sketch of which he is the author.

The regrettable failure of *The Strong People* to attract audiences to the Lyric has left Mr. Waller momentarily free, and on Monday he goes to the Hippodrome to appear as the fatalist in the dramatic monologue by Henry Hamilton, entitled *Fortune's Fool*, originally produced at the Haymarket on March 25, 1895. It is a powerful but gloomy little piece.

Graham, the human marionette, in his latest creation, entitled *Graham's Masterpiece*, recently noticed by us in these columns, has been secured by Mr. Harry Hitchins on Monday next for the Empire. This ingenious and clever artist has also been engaged by Marinelli at the Olympia, Paris, where he will sustain the spirit of the entente cordiale for eight weeks. He has also forty weeks in America.

The report of the Empire is highly satisfactory. The net profit (including balance of last account) is shown at £24,702, and it is now proposed to pay a dividend in respect of the year 1909 of 3s. on each 15s. paid share, and of 2s. on each 10s. paid share respectively, being at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, absorbing £6,250, and carrying forward to next account a balance of £18,452 16s. 8d. This dividend will, if approved by the shareholders, be paid on or before Feb. 21 instant, free of income tax. The ordinary general meeting of the company is fixed for Friday next, at 12 noon, at the Empire Theatre.

The scene of Mr. J. B. Fagan's playlet *A Dressing Room Dream*, in which Miss Winifred Emery is to make her début at the Hippodrome on Monday, the 21st, is in Peg Woffington's dressing-room, and the play is concerned with Peg and an elderly beau, whom she disposes of in an extraordinary manner.

At the Palace Theatre on Monday next a young lady calling herself La Pia will make her first appearance in London in a "turn" called "The Spirit of the Waves." The stormy sea effects produced are said to be very pretty as well as very sensational, and it is thought that La Pia, who adopts the Loie Fuller fashion of dancing, will rise on the crest of the wave of popularity.

"The Drums of Oude," the playlet by Austin Strong, comes to the Tivoli on Monday next. The piece, originally produced at the Comedy Theatre on April 5, 1906, was played also at the opening of the Playhouse (Jan. 28, 1907) by Mr. Cyril Maude.

Mr. George Grossmith, jun., will be relinquishing for a time the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint in *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety. He will go from London to the Paris Folies-Bergère on March 1 for a month, to appear there nightly in a revue, as an Englishman with some knowledge of French, and without the red side whiskers and check suit that were the chief features of French comic caricature of the "sacrés goddams" before the *entente cordiale*. The favourite of the Gaiety will act two scenes with the comedians, a little act with Mlle. Campion, and the "two-step" that he is doing here with Miss Gertie Millar. He will likewise sing "Yip-i-addy-i-ay" in French. Parisians will buck up and forget all about the Boodle in this rollicking refrain of a Cockney carol.

Mr. Albert Bushell, the popular manager of the Birmingham Gaiety, will have a benefit night on Tuesday, Feb. 22. A strong programme is being arranged.

The Hull Hippodrome has been taken over by a small private syndicate, at the head of which is Mr. Walter Bentley, the well-known London agent, who will be able to secure such companies as have not been seen previously at the house.

The definite date of the reopening is Monday, Feb. 21, and Hull entertainment lovers will, no doubt, be pleased to hear that Mr. Alfred Graham has been retained as resident representative.

Miss Eva Chadwick, charming vocal comedienne (and wife of Mr. W. J. Boyle, manager, Royal Hippodrome, Salford), recommences work on Monday, the 14th inst., opening at the Empire, Stockport.

Messrs. Braudyn and Montanini will, in the autumn, tour a new musical farcical absurdity entitled *Many Merry Muddles*, with a cast already secured of first-class musical comedy artists.

In addition to the Hippodrome which it has been decided to erect in Derby on a site in Green Lane, it is rumoured that negotiations are in progress for a site, not far from the existing Grand Theatre, for an establishment of the picturedrome order.

Miss Dorothy Ward, the popular principal boy at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, was accorded a great reception on the occasion of her visit to the local Jewish Working Men's Club last Sunday evening. A fine concert programme had been arranged by Mr. Ben Peters, and Miss Ward had to contribute three songs and a recitation before she was allowed to leave.

Mr. W. Payne Seddon has leased the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, to Mr. Leon Vint from the conclusion of the present season, to be run as a variety house, and has arranged to book the Town Hall, which is equipped with a good stage and scenery, for a few theatrical companies, which will be booked in conjunction with Lincoln, Gainsborough, Peterborough, and Rugby.

The King's Palace, Wellingborough, a new venture, opened on Monday. The building is the King's Hall, converted into a smart little variety house, which is being run with two shows nightly by a local company. The current attractions are the Walturdaw pictures, of which a good selection is given, other items being contributed by Miss May Geraldine and the Great Kyoto. Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt is the manager.

Recently the Clerk to the Durham City magistrates (Mr. Jos. Mawson), addressing the Chairman, said that as there were no cases to be heard on that morning he had very great pleasure in presenting each of the magistrates with a pair of white gloves in honour of the occasion. The Chairman thought it a very happy state of affairs, and he was of opinion that the Palace Music Hall had had a lot to do with it.

The proprietor of the Palace, Durham, announces that owing to the County Magistrates' refusal to grant him a dramatic licence he has reluctantly been compelled to cancel a pantomime production and a dramatic sketch, both of which would have been very acceptable to the people of Durham, who are very indignant at the decision of the Bench.

Reference to our advertisement columns will reveal the fact that Poole's Theatre, Gloucester, which during the last three and a half years has been run on the twice-nightly plan, is now undergoing another, and important, change. Mr. Will Smithson, of the Empire, Barnsley, has just leased the house from Poole's Theatres, Ltd., and will now run it on up-to-date lines with opera, musical comedy, and drama. The new proprietor has secured the services of Mr. R. T. Rea as resident-manager.

Mr. Rea has occupied the position of acting-manager at the house since the early part of 1905, and has proved himself very popular during his managerial career. In addition to the Palace, he has during the last twelve months also managed, with great success, Poole's Imperial Pictures at the King's Hall, Gloucester, also belonging to Poole's Theatres, Ltd.

At the conclusion of Mr. Leo Dryden's performance last Saturday evening at the Hippodrome, Nottingham, a laurel crown, handed to him over the footlights, had a card attached bearing the inscription: "To Mr. Leo Dryden, as a mark of sincere appreciation from a few Nottingham admirers to an artist for Art's sake and to crown the success of *False Gods*." Mr. Dryden immediately placed the crown on his head whilst in the costume for his song-playlet *False Gods*, and it certainly made a most appropriate finish to the impersonation, which has so deeply interested the townsfolk during the week.

Messrs. Moss and Stoll, ever ready in the cause of charity, have consented to give the Holloway Empire free of all charge for a concert on Sunday, Feb. 20, in aid of the Mayor of Islington's Fund for the wives and children of the local unemployed. Mr. Bertie Ralland (the manager), has arranged a programme of exceptional merit, including as it does such artists as Mrs. Lewis Waller, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fisher-White, Mr. John L. Shine, Miss Violet Essex, Signor Porschini, Mr. Ivor Foster, Miss Hessie Reeve (a younger sister of the famous Ada), Mr. Leonard Ash, and others. The entire staff have volunteered their services for the occasion.

At the Berkshire Winter Assizes on Wednesday, in the claim of F. C. Gooch v. the Reading Palace (Theatre) of Varieties, Ltd., the plaintiff, Mr. Frederick Charles Gooch, an insurance broker, claimed £322, £222 for commission on a loan of £9,000 from the Scottish Metropolitan Life Assurance Co., arranged by him on behalf of the defendants at their request, as agreed, and £100 for damages and loss of commission on life policies for £10,000 arranged by the plaintiff for the defendants in connection with the loan. In the result the jury found for the plaintiff and assessed the damages at £50.

In recognition of the valuable services so often generously rendered by members of the music-hall profession on behalf of Sheffield hospitals and charities, the Sharrow Cycling Club organised a Bohemian smoking concert, which was held on Friday evening, Feb. 4, in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, the proceeds being devoted to the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and the Music-Hall Benevolent Institution. A most attractive programme was largely contributed to by principals from the Royal and Alexandra pantomimes, and artists from Barrasford's Hippodrome and Empire. There was a large company present, and the two charities named will benefit considerably. Much of the success is due to the untiring energy and organising ability of Mr. E. J. Woollen (president of the Sharrow Cycling Club), who so ably discharged his onerous duties as secretary.

Messrs. Fortune and Granville, musical, dramatic, and variety agents, are removing their offices next Wednesday to more convenient premises at 91, St. Martin's-lane.

Miss Gertie Gitana concludes to-night another highly-successful London season, and commences a two months' provincial tour at Birmingham, where she is an enormous favourite.

The date of the next Vaudeville Club Bohemian concert has been postponed from Feb. 20 to March 6, owing to the M.H.A.R.A. dinner and dance being fixed for the former date. Mr. Herbert Darnley is to be in the chair.

In our "Variety Gossip" columns last week we stated that Mr. Robert Fort was the pioneer of the two-houses-a-night system *in London*. Mr. L. B. Barnard writes to say that that system has been worked at Barnard's, Chatham, since 1850.

We regret to hear of the dastardly assault on Mr. Pete Murray, manager of Sadler's Wells, who is ill from the effects and was unable to appear on Monday to prosecute a man now under remand, from Clerkenwell, who had been turned out of the theatre.

Miss Florence Smithers, now appearing with such great success at the Lyceum Theatre, has been re-engaged by the same management for their next pantomime. Shortly after the present *Aladdin* engagement she reopens on the Moss-Stoll tour, in her comedy sketch, *Our Mary Jane*, and is booked by this firm till 1911.

While Miss Daisy James, the principal boy in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, was playing at Brixton Theatre on Thursday night, burglars raided her house in the Sudbourne-road and stole about £250 worth of jewellery. The thieves paid their visit while the maid was shopping. She was only absent a quarter of an hour.

With the conclusion this evening of the run of Mr. Brammall's Britannia pantomime *Dick Whittington*, Mr. George Rapley resumes his music hall engagements at the Granville and Royal Standard. In the part of Eliza the cook Mr. Rapley has added considerably to his reputation in what is termed "dame" parts, and his funny sayings have added much to the store of drollery that has been a feature of the Hoxton theatre's Christmas production.

Mr. Ben Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, desires to thank Messrs. Percy Ford, Ernest Ball, and Roy Cochrane for their kindness shown towards the inmates of the Music Hall Home. "*The Era* Appeal Fund" now amounts to over 2000 shillings. Send along your cards. The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday next at the Empire, Camberwell. Mr. F. H. Kohler, Joiners' Arms, Denmark Hill, has been added to the list of committee-men. Men's old clothes and boots would be very acceptable at all times.

Before Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver the statutory first meeting of creditors was held on Wednesday under the failure of Bernard M'Namee, music hall artist, professionally known as Barney Armstrong, and described as of Bridge road, Stratford, E. The debtor's present position was attributed to liability in connection with a promissory note, to the non-success of a sketch called *The Sultan*, which he jointly produced with other persons, and to illness, which had prevented him from obtaining engagements. The case remained in the Official Receiver's hands, the liabilities being returned at £321.

Mr. George Robey's claim to set aside a contract to perform at the Oxford and two other halls at a salary of £120 a week was ratified by Mr. Justice Joyce in the Chancery Division on Tuesday. His Lordship upheld the comedian's contention that the agreement in question was a personal one with the late Mr. Adney Payne, and that it became inoperative on that gentleman's death in 1907. The Oxford directors have given notice of appeal.

It was at the Oxford that Robey scored his first real success in town. He was secured by Mr. Charles Brighten, the first manager (1893) of the rebuilt Oxford, and for some time appeared at the house as the stock "deputy"—that word being hoisted at the side of the stage when he came on to sing "The Simple Pimple." Anonymity not being altogether in the young comedian's line, he soon went ahead at other halls besides the Oxford, and the name of the new humorist soon became a household word. He was fortunate in escaping the early struggles of such a gifted performer as Dan Leno.

Anent the proposed idea to furnish entertainment on theatrical lines upon the renowned Cunard liners, under the able superintendance of Mr. Chas. Frohman, it is worth while to note that Mr. Will Dalton (of Dalton's Agency) was in communication quite a long while ago with Mr. Alfred Booth, chairman of the Cunard Company, and had suggested to Mr. Booth, while travelling to Lisbon, the possibilities of ocean entertainment on a proper scale. Mr. Dalton has been for some time very desirous of effecting a contract between the Cunard Company and himself, his idea being an entertainment on the high-class plane of the Follies, with portable scenic arrangements.

On Monday last the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Bell, in Gray's Inn-road, was ransacked by burglars during their absence at a dinner party. The thieves were evidently disturbed, as a large quantity of plate and jewellery was left behind, although a fur motoring coat, valued at £40, the property of a guest, was stolen, together with the contents of Mr. Bell's dressing-case. Up to the present the police have been unable either to lay their hands on the stolen property or the marauders. In the meantime rehearsals for Ivan P. Gore's new historical playlet, *Richelieu's Spy*, which Mrs. Bell produces at the Surrey on the 21st, under the direction of her husband, are being pushed forward.

At the Palace Theatre on Thursday at a special matinée for the sufferers in the recent Paris floods the programme was long and varied. Most of the advertised artists appeared, and no time was wasted in long intervals. Among the distinguished artists who performed were Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in *Sixes and Sevens*; Mr. H. B. Irving and Mr. Lewis Waller, both of whom recited; Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson and the Peshkoff Troupe, who danced; Messrs. C. H. Workman, Alfred Lester, and Harry Welchman, and Misses Amy Evans, Vesta Tilley, and Mary Grey, who sang.

The proceeds of the entertainment were announced by Sir Herbert Tree, who in a neat speech spoke of the noble manner in which the French people had borne their misfortune, and added that the matinée had realised about £350, which, even in these days of prosperous music-halls, was a considerable sum. Sheriff Slazenger, who represented the Lord Mayor, stated that he was glad to make his début on the stage in so magnificent a cause; while the Marquis de la Bégassière, on behalf of the French Ambassador, declared the French people's full appreciation of the brotherly assistance rendered by England.

The usual Sunday meeting of the Terriers' Association will not be held on the 20th inst., in consequence of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund Dinner and Ball.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road. The members present were Messrs. Pat Carey (in the chair), H. Jennings (trustee), T. B. Brydge, S. White, T. Carney, and A. E. Drew.

Mr. Pat Carey, the hon. treasurer of the Music Hall Sick Fund, has been presented by Mr. H. Jennings with a pair of cuff links which were once the property of a music hall comedian who flourished a good many years ago. These links are quite unique in their way, and will be valued by the popular Irish comedian as a relic of the time when the great Vance, Jolly John Nash, Arthur Lloyd, and George Leybourne were "stars" in the variety world. Mr. H. Jennings has been a trustee of the Music Hall Sick Fund for many years, and still takes a real interest in the oldest of the music hall provident societies.

The vogue of *Chantecler*, Edmond Rostand's wonderful farmyard play, is upon us, and the place of flowers that do not bloom in the spring as ladies' hat-trimmings will be usurped by the full plumage of the gay rooster. But cocks' combry will not be the only wear; for we are to have toques suggestive of the shy pheasant or the robust blackbird. There will be, too, a "Chantecler" fashion in songs, and W. F. Frame, the canny Scot, has started off with a new number, "Gobble, gobble." This will relate to Turkey, but its title is not to be regarded as a solution of the Cretan problem.

The gifted actress Miss Lois du Cane and her clever company will play *The Russian Princess* at two halls next week—namely, the Camden Hippodrome and the Royal Standard, Pimlico.

Miss Dorothy Grahame who made such a success about this time last year in La Danse des Apaches at the London Pavilion is producing on Monday next an entirely new and original act entitled *Ma Fille*, introducing the Dance of the Hooligans, assisted by Paul Armand and Alex Clifton.

At the 646th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert in the chair, the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Burton-on-Trent, was appointed as the Association's agency in that town. The weekly financial statement showed thirty new members and a cash total of £41 10s. 6d.

Mr. Seymour Hicks, in a recent interview, has stated that he returns to the variety stage at the London Hippodrome in September with a new sketch of his own, entitled *A Flat to Let*, whilst at the Coliseum will be found Miss Maie Ash and Mr. Stanley Brett, brother of the unrestful Hicks, in a condensed version of *Bluebell*.

Mr. A. E. Mayne is about to open at the London halls with a strikingly original condensed version of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, already produced for copyright purposes. The change from Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde and *vice versa* will be instantaneous, in full view of the audience, and without the aid of wig or make-up of any kind.

Miss Louisa Peach is meeting with a most enthusiastic reception this week at Mr. Raymond's Hall, Walthamstow, with her sketch of *East Lynne*, which has proved such a hit that she has decided to add it to her répertoire. Miss Peach is at Collins's next week with her American episode, *The Settler's Daughter*, again supported by Messrs. E. H. Dobell, Edmond Sydney, and Edwin Bennett.

Mr. James Willard, the author and producer of the playlet *The Ace of Hearts*, which is now nearing its thousandth representation, is shortly producing a smart comedy episode, entitled *The Knight and the Garter* (to say nothing of the lady). This will not by any means be Mr. Willard's first attempt at comedy in the variety theatres, for his farcical sketches *Did He Deserve It?* and *The Little Wonder* were each toured with gratifying success a few years ago, in London and the provinces.

Tom Edwards's latest adventure in New York is detailed with harrowing picturesqueness by a New York reporter. On Sunday night, Jan. 23, Tom left the stage door of the Orpheum carrying his props in a hold-all, and got out of a train in the Longacre-square Subway Station. Absorbed in thoughts of his business, he commenced almost unconsciously to imitate the cry of a smothered baby, which is to be a new feature of his act. It was a long wailing cry, and it was immediately located by a motherly-looking woman as coming from the hold-all he carried.

"Kidnapper!" she shouted, and a crowd immediately began to jostle Tom. The men seized him and smashed his hat, and the women grabbed his hold-all. When the dummies fell out they thought for a minute that they had the baby. But a friendly policeman enlightened them, and arrested the sorely-beset ventriloquist, who was charged with disorderly conduct at the night court. The magistrate took in the situation, and let Tom go after advising him to use more discretion in future.

The County Borough of Brighton invite tenders for the hire of a stand on the beach opposite Cannon-place; the Madeira Drive Bandstand and the two lawns immediately adjoining; and the Western Esplanade Bandstand and one of the lawns adjoining, for the purpose of giving entertainments during the summer season of 1910. Sealed tenders addressed to Hugo Talbot, Town Clerk, and endorsed "Tender for Hire of Stand on Beach" or "Tender for Hire of Bandstand," as the case may be, must be left before ten o'clock in the forenoon on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

The sensation created by the Kilties, Canada's representative concert band, some years ago in London will be well within the memory of our readers, who will have agreeable recollections of the harmonious effects produced by this smart combination of musicians. In the meantime, they have been round the world, and have just returned to London after a triumphal tour, embracing the United States, Canada, Hawaii, Ceylon, the Fiji Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Ceylon, India, Burmah, Arabia, and other remote parts of the globe, including also Italy, France, and Spain. During the last twenty months the company has covered some 60,000 miles, putting in over one hundred days at sea. They reached England on Saturday last on the P. and O. steamship India, and open at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, with the Moss and Stoll tour in prospective.

The performances of the celebrated orchestra will be in every respect equal to those for which they are so justly famed. Classical and popular music will be included in their programmes, and special features of the show will be provided by the Clan-Johnstone troupe, whose International dances are universally admired. Conspicuous, too, will be the giant drum-major, over 7ft. in height, who may be said to effect his masterpiece in Tschaikowsky's stirring overture *1812*, in the performance of which the band excels. The manager for the Kilties, it should be added, is Mr. T. P. J. Power.

The Queen and Princess Victoria visited the Hippodrome on Tuesday afternoon.

Mme. Holt's Juvenile Follies, who have been scoring so heavily in Dundee and Aberdeen, are due at the Standard, Pimlico, on the 21st. Among the crowd is a wonderful Scotch boy whom Madame has christened the Pocket Lauder.

Mr. Ernest Shand, out with the rod in Scotland, writes:—"I killed a salmon of 20lb. on Saturday and have landed a quantity of kelts—salmon just off the spawning beds—one weighing 30lb. If it had been a clean fish it would have weighed nearer 40lb. The river is full of them. I must have landed and lost between twenty and thirty. I have contracted a cold which has stopped my fishing, but I hope to be out to-morrow (Wednesday). Weather here very cold."

Charles the First, the latest and most up-to-date Simian, is quite a philosophic ape. Even America has taken to wondering at his marvellous capacity and adaptiveness to human surroundings. He is specially engaged by Mr. Martin Beck for sixty-five consecutive weeks on the Orpheum Circuit, and is owned and educated by Charles Judge. The name of Judge should certainly go down to posterity as one to conjure with in animal and bird acts; and since bird drama is to be the rage in Paris, we ought to be quite prepared on this side of the Channel for a parroted playlet from the pets so cleverly trained by the Sisters Judge. Another Judge is manager for Juliette's educated sea lions—an act without parallel.

One of the most important persons in *Chantecler*, who figures modestly in the cast as the Jay, is M. Harry Geack, a "farmyard imitator," engaged from the Paris music halls. Upon him devolves the reproduction of the cries of birds and beasts in the play heard "off." During the prologue, when the hum of farmyard life resounds from behind the curtain, M. Geack, surrounded by "supers" with sabots, tin cans, and bells to represent human sounds, has to imitate successively the chirping of a bullfinch, the whistle of a blackbird, the cooing of a dove, the chatter of a jay, and the lowing of a cow. Mr. Walter Stanton and Mr. Harry Carsdale have been doing these imitations on the variety stage for many years, and there are others.

We much regret to record the death, at the early age of 34, of Mr. Reginald H. Foster, the manager of the Halifax Palace and Hippodrome. The late Mr. Foster came to Halifax to succeed Mr. Edward Harrison as manager of the Palace on Sep. 1, 1907. He remained here until the opening of the Huddersfield Palace on August 1, 1909, when he was commissioned by Mr. Macnaghten to take charge of the new theatre.

He remained in Huddersfield until a month or six weeks ago, and then returned to Halifax, where he was warmly welcomed back by his numerous friends. Mr. Foster's first engagement under Mr. Macnaghten was as manager of his theatre in Southampton. He was successively manager of the Broadway Theatre, Deptford, and of the Palace at Bradford, where he made a wide circle of friends prior to coming to Halifax.

The remains were interred in All Saints' Cemetery, Salterhebble, on Monday. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. R. H. Douglas, of the Halifax Parish Church. Miss Foster, the deceased gentleman's sister, was unable to attend, having been hastily summoned to return to Bournemouth to attend her mother, who has been taken seriously ill.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten travelled specially from Brighton to attend the funeral. He, together with Mr. E. P. Lawton (Sheffield), Mr. Edward Harrison (Bradford), Mr. B. Garside (Huddersfield), Mr. W. E. Berry (Bradford), and Mr. R. B. Horsfall (Halifax), represented the Macnaghten Houses. The whole of the staff of the Halifax Palace Theatre attended, and six men, attired in the smart uniforms provided by the Palace management, acted as bearers.

Beautiful floral tributes were sent, among others by the following:—Mrs. Foster and Miss Foster (mother and sister), Mr. Frank Macnaghten (London), Mr. E. P. Lawton (Sheffield Office Staff), Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harrison (Bradford), Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Berry and family (Bradford), the Old Boys and Patrons of Bradford Palace Theatre, Staffs Bradford Palace, Huddersfield, Blackburn, Warrington, Burnley, the Halifax Theatres, Messrs. E. and H. E. Eglin (Halifax), Mr. J. S. Taylor (London), "Only little pal Daisy," "Few friends, Halifax," Orchestra Palace Theatre (Halifax), "Jimmy," Mr. and Mrs. John Branham (Bradford), Mr. and Mrs. Stewart MacDonald (Stalybridge), Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Horsfall (Halifax), Boys of the Palace Theatre (Halifax), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Swithenbank (Bradford), Mr. and Mrs. Winks (Grand Theatre, Halifax), Staff Shakespeare Hotel (Halifax), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Scott (Halifax), Staff Theatre Royal (Halifax), Halifax Borough Club, "From the Three Floradoras" (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Barnett (Theatre Royal, Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. N. Hepworth (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Whitelock (Grand Theatre, Halifax), "Respected by all the Staff at the Grand Theatre, Halifax," Mr. Crawshaw, White Horse Hotel; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Greenwood, Shakespeare Hotel, Halifax; Messrs. O. and W. Binns (Halifax), "The Geraldos," Mr. and Mrs. Waly Lingard (Halifax), Miss Rene Douglas (Leeds), and "A few Bradford friends."

Mr. T. C. Rawes, proprietor of the Palace Music Hall, Durham, who already holds a music and dancing licence granted by the city justices, made an application recently for a full dramatic licence. "There were," said Mr. W. H. Oliver on his behalf, "certain little sketches performed on the music hall stage which came within the Dramatic Licence Act, and in order to avoid running any risk, he made application for the granting of that licence. Of course, it was his client's intention to continue to use that music hall as it was being used at present, but he desired to prevent any breach of the law." Mr. Pegge, surveyor to the city of Durham, said he had examined the Palace Music Hall belonging to Mr. Rawes, and had found it a well-adapted structural building. It had no fewer than five exits in case of emergency besides the entrances. The proprietor also gave evidence. After retiring, the Chairman said the Bench had unanimously agreed not to grant the licence.

The Terriers held a most successful Ladies' Concert on Sunday at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington. Terrier Ben Obo was in the chair, supported by Terrier Jim Obo. The following artists appeared with their customary success:—Terrier T. C. Callaghan, "See-Saw Esau"; Terrier Ernest Ball, "Parson"; Mr. Edie Comet, "Family Record"; Terrier Ernest D'Almaine, "I'll live or die for you"; Terrier Chas. Stevens, "Trying to find a match"; Terrier Martin Henderson, concertina solo, "The Lost Chord," and some imitations; Mr. William Waite, "Bedouin Love Song"; Terrier Barney Hyams, "Always in jail" and "Seeing life"; Miss Hooper, "For ever" and "Always"; Mr. Harry Lynne, whistling solo; Mr. Dickson Curwen, dramatic selection selection from Dickens; Messrs. Sweeny and Lyle, mandolin duet; Mrs. Traynor, "You might shake hands"; Terrier Chas. Cornish, "Money" and "The preacher and the bear." Terrier Ernest Ball acted as musical director, and Terrier J. Chas. Moore was the efficient accompanist.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

It is evident from recent newspaper reports that Mr. Lloyd George, whilst holiday-making on the Riviera, had been been studying a new Budget—a Budget that pleases every party, whatever their opinion. It is stated that on Saturday last the right hon. gentleman lustily sang in the pine woods near Cannes golf links Mr. Wilkie Bard's song "She sells sea shells on the seashore," proving that a Budget of Messrs. Francis and Day's admired songs has been well digested by the eminent politician.

A SECOND delectable collection of types of British beauty, showing the features of some more of the ladies who have been singing Messrs. Francis and Day's ditties in pantomime, again beautifies the advertisement of the famous firm in this issue, and the names of the fair artists are given alphabetically as follows:—Misses Ethel Beech, Celeste Brandon, Susie Belmore, Lily Brammer, Marjorie Carpenter, Adela Crispin, Isabelle Dillon, Kitty Douglas, May De Rowse, Queenie Essex, Jane Eyre, Harriett Fawn, Ada Fawn, Iris Hoey, Dorothy Harris, Edith Haley, Gertrude Harrison, Connie Haydon, Violet Lloyd, Lily Lassah, Ouida Macdermott, Phyllis Monckman, Alice Pollard, Ella Retford, Lulu Russell, Nellie Rodney, Ada Secren, Jessie Templeton, Daisy Wood, and Ray Wallace.

AT the Alhambra Mr. Byng's splendid band have nightly revelled in playing Herbert E. Haines' "Frolic" two-step, and at the Globe Theatre Mr. H. R. Grimston's orchestra have finely executed, and will do so during the run of *Arsène Lupin*, the "Belle Jeunesse" valse of Paul Lecomte. Both pieces are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

PERCY EDGAR and Henry E. Pether have again collaborated in a charming song entitled "Yesterday," which Messrs. Francis and Day are producing. The same writer's "Shadowland" is enjoying a record sale.

A SONG from the pens of Charles Wilmott and Herman E. Darewski is always welcome, and their new number, "When you are gone," will commend itself to song lovers. It is in the press, Messrs. Francis and Day being the publishers.

MR. HARRY WOOD, famed throughout Great Britain as one of the pillars of Douglas, I.O.M., has published with Mr. David Day's firm a characteristic composition entitled "Le Carnival des Patineurs."

MISS GERTIE GITANA'S exquisite new ballad "Sweet Caroline," with which she has been evoking the greatest applause at all her engagements, has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Harry Staunton, Will E. Haines, and Donovan Meher. The trio are also responsible for Miss Hilda Jacobsen's "Cairo," which the same house are issuing.

THE new song entitled "I want you always" which is being sung in *The Earl and the Girl*, is by Bert Beswick and Pierre de Reeder. Messrs. Francis and Day are bringing it out shortly.

IT is good hearing for dancers that Mr. Arthur Morris has decided to place his new "Chiming" veleta on the market. Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the prees.

AMONG the multitudinous new items being brought out by Messrs. Francis and Day there may be mentioned "This is no place for a sailor" (sung by Arthur Lennard), by J. P. Harrington and O. Powell; "By the Sea" (the Brothers Carr), by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford; "Wouldn't the world be brighter?" (Miss Flo Banks), by Harry Wenburn; "Ring-a-ding—puff-puff" (Miss Millie Payne), by Harry Castling; "Up, Guards, and at 'em!" by Weston, Barnes, and M. Scott; "I shall blow my whistle!" (Harry Knox), by Charles Collins and F. Murray; "Miss O'Hara in her emerald tiara," by Weston, Barnes, and M. Scott; "We did enjoy ourselves in London," by J. P. Harrington, E. W. Rogers, and John Neat; "Rosy, she's the girl for me" (Alec Hurley), by Fred Godfrey and Orlando Powell; "Our little country cousin," by E. W. Rogers and John Neat; and "It's all for the best, Polly, darling," by Tom Mellor, Chas. Collins, and Harry Gifford.

EDGAR BATEMAN, who "pleads guilty to turning the beam at fifty entire summers on Monday next," having been born on Feb. 14, 1860, has been discovered of late making abstruse calculations in a vain endeavour to discover how far the Old Age Pension will go, taking into consideration the excursion fares to the Essex, Kentish, and Sussex coasts, and the probable current prices of bait for sea-fishing in 1930. He has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day a humorous song entitled "——And just then he fell out of bed!" in which ditty he has had the assistance of Henry F. Greenfield, who composed the melody to the twain's enormously successful sarcastic husband-and-wife duet "Do you remember?—How can I forget!" Every concert entertainer of note will be on the look-out for the new song, which gives great scope to show off a comedian's ability, it being in the same category as that fine number which Mr. George Bastow made popular some years since, and which was entitled "The story of a tin-tack."

THE New York Press has of late devoted much space to Mr. George Lashwood, his songs, and his great success in that city and elsewhere, and the following is an example of the kind of stuff that in some sheets passes current as authentic information:—"Mr. Lashwood has for many years been renowned as the man who dictates the styles and tells the King what to wear. Every morning at 8.44 King Edward 'phones the dressy person—'Aw, that you, George? I say, old chap, what should I wear to-day, y'know? This is Ed.' Mr. Lashwood then looks out of the window, sizes up the weather, and makes response—'Ullo Ed, old top! Well, now it's a bit grayish in the sky, d'ye see? Put on a turndown collar, a red tie with green stripes, y'know, a blue shirt with yellow dots, purple cuffs, silk underwear with golf stockings, d'ye see, werry faint gray trousers with bells on the bottoms, a' course, patent leathers with di'mond buttons, a white weskit with Indian beadwork on the blooming pockets, a red and black checked frock coat, a silk topper, y'know, and a short, green plaid topcoat. Oh, yes—light blue gloves and a malacca cane. Dog? Oh, any colour of dog, y'know, as long as he isn't a Chinese poodle—they're all out of fashion. Got that correct, Ed? Hallri'—see you lyter.'" "Bayard," of our well-known contemporary the Manchester *Sunday Chronicle*, drily remarks: "The American nation is long-suffering, but it likes this sort of thing."

THAT well-known writer for the variety stage Percy Edgar, whose songs have won for him a great reputation among music-loving members of the public, as also with foremost artists and publishers, is now installed at No. 18, Hart-street, New Oxford-street, W.C., hard by the Vienna Café, where, under the style and title of Percy Edgar and Co., he will cater for the wants of those requiring up-to-date material. The new song-writing bureau is on the ground floor, and the offices are sumptuously decorated and furnished, and replete with every convenience. During the week 13162 Central has been continuously rung up by numerous old clients and by confrères wishing Mr. Edgar the success he deserves in his venture.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

THE TIVOLI.

Mrs. Lewis Waller, who, like a large number of prominent actresses, has deserted the theatres for the music halls, presented a novelty in the way of sketches at the Tivoli on Monday. It has been taken from *L'Inconnue*, the French farce, by MM. Paul Gavault and George Berr, produced at the Palais Royal on Dec. 18, 1901. The adapter's name is not given, but the English title is

"LOST, STOLEN, OR STRAYED."

Philip .....MR. GEOFFREY SAVILE
Commissioner of Police .....MR. LIONEL SCOTT
The Doctor.....MR. LESLIE BENNETT
Blithers .....MR. LEONARD ROBSON
Claire.....MISS LILLIAN MATHER
The Lady .....MRS. LEWIS WALLER

It is an unkind fate that pursues Philip, who is "discovered" in the bedroom of his bachelor flat at Whitehall Court. He is to be married that very day to one of the most charming girls in the world, and is toileting himself for the all-important ceremony. As he is putting the finishing touches, a noise outside attracts his attention, and from the bedroom window he witnesses a motor-car accident. He rushes forth, and, with the assistance of Blithers, the valet, helps to carry the unconscious form of a lady into the apartment. On coming to herself the stranger gazes about in a dazed state; the shock to her system has been so great that her memory has entirely deserted her, and her mind is a blank. The advice of the doctor is that the only possible cure for the unfortunate result of her nerve-wracking experience is to go to bed at once. She does so, behind a screen. Of course, Philip's bed is requisitioned, and the anxious and expectant bridegroom's state of mind may be better imagined than described when he is visited by the disappointed bride, who comes to see for herself whether Philip is going to be punctual. Naturally the bride's curiosity is aroused by the sight of articles of lady's attire. In a bachelor's flat, too! The bridegroom has to explain; but *finis* is put to his taradiddles by the strange lady being "discovered." The mention of "police" touches a responsive chord in her waking memory. Seizing the telephone receiver at the bedside, she rings up Scotland Yard, and summons her spouse, who is a bit unreasonable, but the evidence of the doctor puts everything right, and the curtain falls upon the departure of the pair for the wedding. Mrs. Lewis Waller plays the highly-strung lady with considerable force and spirit, but the part is not great. Mr. Leonard Robson as Blithers, the bridegroom's valet, is humorously effective; Miss Lillian Mather looks extremely well, and acts sympathetically as the bride; and Mr. Geoffrey Savile's Philip and Mr. Leslie Bennett's doctor are adequate performances. Among other new turns in the Tivoli programme this week are those of Mr. James Stewart, from the West-End. One remembers Peggy at the Duke of York's as the Slavey in *The Gay Parisienne*, and though this is just a few years ago, time seems to have had no other than a mellowing effect on the comedienne's talent. As a hard-working partner of a husband who goes in for politics and beer Miss Pryde raps out at the sterner sex in such a way as to renew her popularity in the most unmistakable manner.

Miss Millie Payne has the house laughing in her quaint offerings "Ringading" and "The birds were singing," her get-up in the caricatures so admirably drawn by the late Phil May being exceedingly droll. Mr. Dunville's policeman is as funny as ever; and George Formby as a reckless dog determined to spend at least a couple of shillings on a night-out cuts a quaint figure. Cris Van Bern's versatility as a conjurer, patterer, and banjoist is considerable; and Mr. Bert Coote supplies some genuine fun by his dude impersonation in the successful farcelet *A Lamb on Wall Street*. The Frasettis, in a refined musical turn; the Comedy Meisters, who are very much like the Gotham Quartet; Beatrice Lindley at the piano; and Poole and Maguire also add to the gaiety and variety of the bill presented by Mr. Joseph Wilson. Ruffell's Bioscope concludes.

MISS CLAIRE ROMAINE, who sailed to America last Saturday, under contract with Mr. Percy Williams, will make the *piece de résistance* of this, her fourth season in the States, a new song, in which she will assume the character of a girl of the demurest type, entitled "She always had her hymn-book in her hand," by John P. Harrington and Orlando Powell. This song, it is confidently believed, will create a veritable furore in New York. She also has a boy's good song, from the same pens, entitled "Don't mind me," which has every chance of also proving a hit.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

Write or Call for copies of our New Numbers.

A FEW MORE CHARMING LADIES WHO ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

THE NAMES OF THE LADIES IN THIS GROUP WILL BE FOUND IN THE ADJOINING COLUMN.

THE ABOVE LADIES ARE SINGING OUR SONGS IN PANTOMIME.

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"THE WHITE FEATHER."

Sketch, in One Scene, Produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Pride of regiment is the prevailing element in the above little sketch, which is well written and has the merit of being intensely dramatic. If the action lags somewhat at the beginning, it is amply compensated by a thrilling ending which arises quite naturally out of the story. It is a simple tale of an old Scottish pensioner, who is looking forward eagerly to the return from South Africa on the morrow of the Seaforth Highlanders, in which regiment his son David is a private. He has read of the gallant doings of the Seaforths among the Matabele, and his heart swells with pride at the thought of his son's return covered with glory—so different from his other son Alec, who aspires to be a church missionary and devotes all his time to book-reading. David returns earlier than was expected, for when the old man and his wife have retired to rest, and Alec is applying himself to his studies, there steals into the room a ragged figure with shame-faced countenance. It is David, who confesses to Alec that he is a deserter. At the call to arms out in South Africa he had shown the "white feather," and run away, working his passage back to Scotland. Alec, fearful of the shock that the news would give to the old couple, forces upon the refugee a few pounds he had saved, and bids him depart for Canada, carefully concealing the arrival of his brother from his parents. When the Seaforths duly appear a sergeant arrives and informs the veteran that when the roll was called after action David was found to be missing, but hints that the savages had carried off the body, thus leaving the old man in ignorance of his son's cowardice.

Presented by Messrs. Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister's company, the playlet had effective representation. A finished piece of dramatic work was submitted by that experienced actor Mr. Frank Lister, who played both the parts of old Donald Ferguson and his recreant son, a remarkable contrast being obtained between the excited old warrior who puts on his red coat in honour of his boy's return and the downcast David torn with remorse. Mr. Lister had excellent support, and the sketch was well staged, though we think it would be worth while to get a little more realistic daybreak effect. It is a production that ought to be much in demand.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

A season of pantomime here is succeeded by the usual variety bill. This week the programme is quite excellent, and boasts many turns that readily win recognition and approval. As a smart comedienne Sylvia Phillips is bright and vivacious, singing with refreshing naïveté "I like you better than anyone." Sylvia wears gowns that win the admiration of the fair sex in front. Distinctly clever are the feats of Franco's wonderful midget conjurers. With all the assurance of old hands these clever Lilliputians take the stage and astound by their remarkable manipulation. Franco's Midgets are delightful.

Watch the Chalk! is a sketch recalling *Domestic Economy* of long ago. It is the familiar story of the hen-pecked husband and the strong-minded female who wields her power with a strong hand. There is nothing menial that the luckless Brutus is not compelled to do from boot cleaning to scouring the bedrooms. It is during his wife's absence that the father of the crushed one turns up. Taking in the situation at a glance, he recommends Brutus to adopt strong measures. The plot is that the husband shall watch a chalk mark on the black-board and at each new stroke he shall assert his own independence and demonstrate that his wife's reign of terror is at an end. When the lady returns Brutus puts his plans into execution with complete success. The shrew is effectually subdued, and the husband acknowledged as lord and master.

There is no question about the training of Haley's Juveniles. Their energy, coupled with talent, is remarkable. In the course of the carnival there is little these precocious youngsters fail to do well, and they are an object-lesson in juvenile training. Mr. George Bendon, on the night of our visit, deputised satisfactorily with a song dealing with "messenger boys," and was favourably received. It was early demonstrated that what graceful La Belle Linda cannot do in the way of trick cycling isn't worth doing. Many of the feats performed are exceptionally clever, and she is one of the successes of the evening. Linda's costume is distinctly charming. The inevitable coon finds an admirable exponent in Herbert La Martine, a dandy coon and dancer of the approved type. As a dancer he gets in some wonderful steps and may be complimented on a singularly fine performance.

The Last Straw, billed as a tragic, emotional play, is from the pen of the Rev. E. S. Edwards, and marks one step more in the alliance of Church and stage. As it has already been noticed fully in our columns, we need only refer briefly to the wonderful acting of Mr. Cecil Gray as the maniac, and to the excellent support given by Mr. Ed. Warden as a kindly cleric, and by Miss Dora Eastlake, who makes the most of her limited opportunities. *The Last Straw* is capitally staged. The Bioscope, with views of Canadian "logging," is as instructive as ever.

MESSRS. WEEKES AND CO., of 14, Hanover-street, Regent-street, W., have published two very pleasing songs by M. Pierre Mellarde, organist of Halesworth Church, Suffolk. "Wake not, but hear me, love," is a slumber song, with words from *Ben Hur* by Lew Wallace. The accompaniment is written with musicianly skill, and the melody well carries out the sentiment expressed in the verses. M. Mellarde's second song is composed to the famous lines of Thomas Campbell "Ye Mariners of England," and the stirring music does justice to the fine subject. A baritone could hardly find a more effective song.

A. J. MILLS AND BENNETT SCOTT, the popular song-writers, whose songs "Ship Ahoy!" "Charlie Brown," and "Sea, sea, sea" are having such a record success in both London and provincial pantomimes, are busy writing a series of special numbers for the coming season. These will be issued in due course by the Star Music Co. In reply to numberless enquiries, Messrs. Mills and Scott regret it is impossible to grant permissions for "Ship Ahoy!" to be sung at music halls.

ARTISTS returning to the "halls" will find a selection of real big winners ready for them at the Star Music Co.'s offices, where all are welcome. Alfresco artists are also advised to make early application for this firm's new numbers.

MISS FLORA CROMER wishes it to be known that her successful song "I can picture Polly hanging up the holly" (by Rule and Pelham) is not a free song, and must not be sung at music halls. Permissions for pantomime will, however, still be granted by the publishers, the Star Music Co.

MISS MAUD ESMOND, the "Charlie Brown" Girl, has been engaged to play principal boy in a special production of *Red Riding Hood* at the Brixton Theatre, opening Monday next, and will feature her song "I've been out with Charlie Brown," also "I can picture Polly" and "Sea, sea, sea," all published by the Star Music Co. This pantomime will have several other numbers of the same firm.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Feldman's excellent catalogue is constantly having added to it the best and brightest compositions of our leading English authors and composers; Messrs. Feldman also have the exclusive rights of reproducing in this country the cream of the Jerome H. Remick, Chas. K. Harris, and Kerry Mills' catalogues. It may safely be asserted that songs to suit any and every style of professional singer may be readily found at 2 and 3, Arthur-street.

One of the first big "finds" of the Remick catalogue which Feldman and Co. are now placing on the market is the irresistibly "catchy" Irish cowboy song, "Santa Fé," by those famous writers, Williams and Van Alstyne. Many alleged cowboy songs have crossed the Atlantic ere now, but it may truthfully be averred that none of these have had the distinctive excellence or fidelity to the type of human nature depicted in the lines that is so marked a characteristic of "Santa Fé." This is undoubtedly one of this season's predestined "winners." Miss Madge O'Neill, who has made so great a hit in the Elephant and Castle pantomime with "Molly O'Morgan," will, on Monday week, open at the Surrey Theatre with the last-mentioned song, in addition to a special production, in character, of "Santa Fé."

From the same pen that gave the world that "record seller" in popular ballads, "Somewhere," comes an equally beautiful song of the emotions, entitled "I'm longing for one sight of you"; indeed, many who have been privileged to hear this new number doubt whether Mr. Chas. K. Harris has not even eclipsed his former colossal success, if such a thing be possible, in this new offering of his tuneful muse. Some developments will shortly occur in this song. That delightful singer, Miss Lil Hawthorne, will, in a week's time, feature yet another Feldman number, from the other side, "I wonder who's kissing her now?" by Hough, Adams, and Howard, three of America's foremost writers, a special additional verse to which has been written for Miss Hawthorne by John P. Harrington.

There is yet another Feldman ballad on the market just now, also from Chas. K. Harris's pen, entitled "I'm trying so hard to forget you," and ballad singers should certainly avail themselves of the golden opportunity held out to them of acquiring so strong an addition to their répertoires, entirely free of fee. The sentiment of the song is intensely human, and will certainly appeal to all audiences, cultured and middle-class alike. What may be termed the "cosmopolitan" character of Mr. Harris's ballads undoubtedly constitutes one of their chief charms.

Mr. Gordon Stretton, that ideal impersonator of the idiosyncrasies of the "coon," will, on Monday next, at the Queen's, Poplar, present, in a special appropriate stage setting, Messrs. John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey's number, "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" This is one of Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s recent acquisitions, and a charmingly naïve love story is wedded to a simply irresistible melody.

The attention of ballad singers should be specially directed to two charming ballads, published by Feldman and Co., which have already won great success wherever and whenever they have been sung in public. These are entitled "Only," by those famous writers, Messrs. Clifton Bingham and Edward St. Quentin, and "Tell me if ever you forget?" by Gilbert Adair and Horace Milton, and are far above the ordinary in respect to both words and music.

In addition to the scores of artists whose success with Feldman's great song "Somewhere" has already been recorded in these columns, specially deserving of mention is Miss Florence Dudley, for her delightful rendering of this song at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, the same remark anent the same song applying to Miss Ethel Edwardes, at the Grand Theatre, Newcastle, and Miss Violet Romaine, at the Theatre Royal, Bury, with each of whom "Somewhere" is veritably going better than ever.

Mr. Charles Whittle, having given Mr. Jack Smiles permission to sing his fine comedy song "Fish sauce," by Charles Collins and Alfred Davies, this rapidly-rising comedian will at an early date sing this new Feldman song at all his engagements, and fully expects to score a complete and sterling success with same, as the words are screamingly funny, and the music quite in keeping with the theme of the lyric.

Little Ivy Francis is nightly scoring one of the biggest successes of Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Mansfield, this week, with "Sweet little sunbonnet lady," one of Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s publications, and is the recipient of many encores ere her delighted auditors allow her to depart.

That popular comedian, Mr. Billy Merson, is one of the latest well-known artists to rally to the Feldman standard, and his fine new comedy song, "They can't find Kelly!" sung by Mooney and Holbein, has been accepted for early publication by the Arthur-street firm, and certainly promises to be one of the principal comedy numbers of the year, being redolent of wit of the approved Merson quality. Arrangements have been made for the early production of this number by the most popular of chorus singers, Miss Florrie Forde, so in such good hands the possibilities of the song's success is assured.

Messrs. Feldman and Co. are just issuing one of the most delightful ballads that Miss Clare Kummer has ever written and composed, entitled "I wonder if it's true?" The talented pen that gave the world "Egypt" and other ear-arresting melodies, was never more profitably employed than in the present instance, for both words and melody of this new composition are a sheer delight, and Messrs. Feldman are to be felicitated on the possession of so great a potential winner. Miss Mabel Green, whose rendering of "Somewhere" is a thing to be remembered, is singing this latest Feldman gem.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Orlando Powell have during the past week supplied Miss Ray Wallace with two specially-written songs to sing in her act at the London Pavilion and other halls, entitled "Star Duets" and "The Poetry of Motion." The same author and composer have also supplied Miss Marguerite Broadfoote with a new comedy number, "Whew! It's windy!" with which she will open at the Tivoli in March, and have been specially commissioned by the latter lady to write her entire music-hall répertoire.

Mr. John P. Harrington has received a special commission from Mr. James M. Glover to supply the libretto and lyrics of a miniature comic opera, to which the talented *chef d'orchestre* of Drury Lane Theatre will himself compose the music, for early exploitation, and is now hard at work on the scenario, &c.

During the current week at the Islington Empire Miss Aimee Roberts has been achieving a truly phenomenal success with Feldman and Co.'s successful song "Somewhere," and plaudits loud and long have been her reward; while, at the City Varieties, Leeds, in Mr. J. Walter's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*, Eugene, the girl baritone, has also scored heavily with the same number.

BERT FELDMAN IN PANTOMIME-LAND.

Mr. Bert Feldman has returned from his recent four or five weeks' tour through the principal cities where King Pantomime still holds sway, and the popular publisher is as buoyant and enthusiastic as ever.

Mr. Feldman certainly covered some ground in his travels. He started direct from London to Edinburgh, where, at both the King's Theatre and Theatre Royal the songs "Somewhere," "Seaside," and a host of others are the principal vocal offerings, and at both houses the public reception accorded to all his firm's songs certainly left nothing to be desired. This has undoubtedly been the biggest year of success all along the line that his firm has ever experienced, and the Scots, who are nothing if not "canny" where words and music are concerned, whole-heartedly took the firm's numbers to their bosoms and applauded them to the echo.

From Edinburgh he journeyed to Glasgow, Leith, and Paisley. Everywhere, in every theatre in Scotland, the Feldman catalogue occupied pride of place, both in the affections of the producers and artists, as well as in the suffrages of the public.

Bidding "bonnie Scotland" a regretful adieu, he visited, in turn, Newcastle, Sunderland, Hull, Leeds, Bradford, Bolton, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, and Birmingham, and in all these important cities and towns the same flattering tale of Feldman song success was told. Six of the firm's songs, which are literally everywhere, in addition to a host of others of lesser note, are "Somewhere," "I do like to be beside the seaside," "Molly O'Morgan," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and "I must go home to-night." These songs successfully hold their own against any other pantomime numbers of the present season.

Mr. Feldman has found a successor to "Somewhere," and from the same pen too, that of Mr. Chas. K. Harris. The intensely human sentiment of the lines is accentuated by the strikingly-beautiful waltz-time air to which it is wedded. "After the ball," with which the same author-composer ravished the ears of the world some twenty years ago, could not boast a finer melody than this latest *chef d'œuvre* of the gifted American. Mr. Feldman is certain that this will be the present season's biggest "hit" of a sentimental character, and all who have heard the song share his opinion.

Another song of a totally different character to which he is pinning his faith this year is an Irish cowboy song, by those famous American writers Williams and Van Alstyne, entitled "Santa Fe." This song is full of vim and "go," and the chorus is simply irresistible. For singers who like a breezy, typical lilt, full of the very breath of the spreading sierras, "Santa Fe" is an ideal number, and Mr. Feldman will be very disappointed indeed if this chorus is not speedily the property of the "man in the street." It is a noteworthy fact that the two writers themselves sang this song recently at the Colonial Theatre, New York, with such success that they were immediately booked for a solid season. Mr. Feldman sincerely hopes that some of our English singers may sing "Santa Fe" with similar satisfactory results.

[*Photo by Langfier.*
MR. BERT FELDMAN.

Another clever song that America has given us is entitled "I wonder who's kissing her now?" This song, which is written and composed by three of America's leading writers—Hough, Adams, and Howard—is the rage of America, where it is sung in the musical comedy *The Prince of To-night*, and in Mr. Feldman's estimation stands a great chance of duplicating that success in this country when it gets round a little. With the assistance of the best writers of this country and the exclusive rights of reproducing the catalogues of Messrs. Jerome H. Remick, Chas. K. Harris, and Kerry Mills, Mr. Feldman has no fear but that he will even transcend the great successes his firm has hitherto won, and he hopes in a few days to throw several bombs into the vaudeville camp. His first thoughts will be of the artists who had supported him this year with such loyalty, and they may rest assured of finding just "it" in the song line among the many songs contained in the extensive new catalogue of B. Feldman and Co.

MAIDIE SCOTT'S UNDERSTUDY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your "Variety Gossip" of Feb. 5 you say that Little Gladys Nelson has deputised three times for Miss Maidie Scott in *The House that Jack Built* at the Broadway, New Cross. This is quite wrong. Miss Nelson sang Miss Scott's "Teddy Bear" song when she was off, but that is all.

Miss Maidie Scott's part of Jill was very successfully played at very short notice by Miss Millie Gray, who will shortly be seen appearing on the halls.

Miss Gray, I may mention, is a sister of Miss Marie Santoi.—Yours faithfully,

R. G. STOTT.

15, Windsor Road,
Holloway, N., Feb. 7.

Miss Mary Mayfren's company, in a realistic sketch, entitled *The Yellow Fang*, tops the bill at the Royalty Theatre, Chester. Harry Mackenzie is a clever Scotch comedian and dancer; the Reays, marvellous silver-chain acrobats; and Sara Rosebury is a smart Lancashire dialect comedienne. Messrs. Gosling and Merrall's troupe of Australian Bush Boys present a typical camp-life scena; James Curwell, the Liverpool newsboy pianist, is a noteworthy turn; Mollie Watson, a good vocal comedienne, and Hal Bert, an original comedian, complete a varied programme.

FELDMAN SONGS

ARE BEING SUNG IN PANTOMIME BY THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES.

PRELIMINARY LIST.

MISS FANNY ADAMSON.
SISTERS ALBERT.
ALHAMBRA GIRLS.
MISS LILY ALLCHURCH.
ANDY ASCHE.
LAURIE ASTER.
MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
CHRIS BAKER.
MISS IRIS BANFIELD.
FRED BARNES.
BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS.
MISS MAY BEATTIE.
MISS LOUIE BECKMANN.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
MISS MADGE BERESFORD.
MISS MARIE BERESFORD.
MISS NELLIE BINDON.
ROWLAND BOTTOMLEY.
MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN.
MARCUS BOYLE.
MISS MARION BRADSHAW.
MISS CELESTINE BRANDON.
MISS EDITH BROAD.
MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE.
MISS WINNIE BROOKS.
MISS MADGE BROWNE.
MISS WINNIE BROWNE.
MISS MADGE BROWNIE.
ANDIE CAINE.
MISS MADGE CAMPBELL.
MISS LOIS CARIS.
CARL AND CARR.
HARRY CARLTON.
MISS NINA CARLTON.
MISS LOU CHARLESWORTH.
MISS HILDA CLAREMONT.
CECIL CLAYTON.
MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.
MISS ENA COMPTON.
MISS GEORGIE CORLASS
MISS LUCY COVENTRY.
THE CRYSTALS.
MISS LINDA D'AMATO.
MISS ETHEL DANCY.
MISS ADA DAVIDSON
MISS DOROTHY DEAN.
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
MISS ELSIE DENYS.
MISS ISABELLE DILLON.
MISS MOLLY DOON.
MISS KITTY DOUGLAS.
EWART DRAKE.
MISS LILIAN DRAKE.
MISS FLORENCE DUDLEY.
MISS VERA DUDLEY.
MISS LILLIE EDWARDS.
SISTERS EDWARDS.
LITTLE EILEEN.
MISS DOLLY ELLSWORTHY.
MISS ETHYL ERROL.
MISS LILIAN ERROL.
MISS JANE EYRE.
MISS NAN FARREN.
MISS ADA FAWN.
LEO FIELDS.
MISS MIMI FISHER.
MISS RAY FORD.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
MISS IRIS FOX.
MISS TINA FRANKS.
FYNE AND HURLEY.
MISS KATHLEEN GARNON.
MISS GERTIE GAVAGAN.
MISS MILDRED GELL.
MISS LESLEY GIBSON.
MISS M. GIBSON.
MISS GERTRUDE GILLIAN.
ARTHUR GODFREY.
MISS RHODA GORDON
FRED GRAHAM.
MISS GRACIE GRAHAM.
MISS MABEL GREEN.
MISS GLADYS GUY.
MISS EDITH HALEY.
MISS VIOLET HALLAM.
MISS JENNIE HALLWORTH.
CHAS. HANBURY.
MISS CLARICE HANDEL.
MISS CARRIE HARDING.
MISS PRIMROSE HARDING.
MISS DOROTHY HARRIS.
MISS EDITH HARMER.
MISS CLARE HARTLAND
MISS DORA HARVEY.
MISS FRANCES HASKOLL.
MISS BESSIE HEINE.
MISS BEATRICE HEWITT.
MISS MAY HILL.
J. W. HOOPER.
MISS ANGELA HOPE.
MISS HOWELL-HERSEE.
MISS PHYLLIS HUGHES.
MISS ELSIE JAMES.
MISS EDYTH JEFFRIES.
MISS DAISY JEROME.
MISS ZONA JOY
LITTLE KEENO
MISS MABEL KEITH.
MANITO KILTGAARD.
MISS EMMIE KING.
MISS VERA KINGDOM.
MISS WINNIE LANE
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
ALBERT LAURENCE.
EDWARD LAURI.
WILLIE LE BRUN.
MISS HETTY LEE.
MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.
JACK LEMSAL.
SISTERS LENNEN.
MISS GERALDINE LE SAGE.
LEWIS LESLIE.
MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE.
WILL LETTERS.
MISS KITTY LISKE.
MISS LULU LORD.
MISS MINNIE LOVE.
MISS LOWE.
MISS RUTH LYTTON.
DONALD MACKAY.
MISS JENNIE MACKAY.
CHAS. MACNAUGHTEN.
MISS MARJORIE MANNERS.
MISS MAY MARS.
MISS NELLIE MASCOTT.
MAXFORD AND O'NEILL.
MISS NINA MAY.
MISS VERA MAYNE.
MISSES DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLEN
SISTERS McCOLLA.
MISS MOLLY McINTYRE.
MISS LALLAH MELROSE.
MAT MELROSE.
MISS MAY MERRY.
MISS DOROTHY MILLAR.
MISS HELENE MOHR.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.
HARRY MORGAN.
MISS MABELLE MORGAN.
MISS DAISY MORRELL.
MISS FLORA MORRIS
MISS LILY MORRIS.
TOM J. MORTON.
MISS MARIE MOSS.
MISS MINNIE MULVEY.
FRED MURRAY.
MISS WINNIE MYLNE.
MISS ETHEL NEGRETTI.
MISS IRIS NORMAN.
MISS MADGE O'NEILL.
TOM O'NEILL
MISS VIOLET ORME.
MISS MAY OTTO.
MISS CARRIE PARRY.
MISS LILLIE PAYNE.
MISS VERONA PHYLLIS.
ARTHUR PIER.
MISS ALICE POLLARD.
MISS MAY POULTON.
MISS MAUD PRENTON.
CHAS. PRESTON.
MISS KITTY RAFFERTY.
HARRY RANDALL.
PHIL RAY.
MISS MADOLINE REES.
MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS HESTER REEVE.
MISS MARIE REEVE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.
RALPH ROBERTS.
MISS WINIFRED ROCHFORT.
FRED ROMA.
MISS VIOLET ROMAINE.
MISS KITTIE RORKE.
MISS GRACE ROSAIRE.
MISS EVA MAY ROSSLYN.
MISS CHRISTINE ROY
MISS MARGARET RUBY.
MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL.
MISS KITTY RUSSELL.
SIDNEY T. RUSSELL.
MISS MARION SCOTT.
W. P. SHEEN.
MISS DAISY SILCOTT.
TOM SINCLAIR.
MISS GRACIE SINCLAIRE.
MISS TOPSIE SINDEN.
MISS ELSIE SKILLING.
MISS EDITH ST. CLARE.
MISS NANCY ST. JOHN.
FRANK SUMNER.
MISS GRACIE SUMNER.
ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
MISS MARIE SYDNEY.
MISS BELLE SYLVIA.
MISS AGNES TANDY.
MISS OLIVE TEMPEST.
MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON.
MISS HAWTHORNE THWAITES.
MISS KITTY TREWHILL.
MISS KITTY UPTON.
MISS BERYL VAUDREY.
MISS VENA VELMA.
MISS ELSIE VIDEAU.
MISS RITA VINCENT.
MISS RAY VIVIEN.
SISTERS VOLBECQUE.
MISS MARIE WALL.
MISS ANNIE WALLACE.
JACK WALLER.
MISS GLADYS WARREN.
MISS CISSIE WILLIAMS.
MISS ELLA WILLMER.
MISS IDA WILSON.
MISS NINA WILSON.
MISS CARLOTTA WOOD.
MISS DAISY WOOD.
SISTERS WYNESTAY.
MISS MOLLY WYNNE.

ADDITIONAL LIST.

MISS DOROTHEA CLARKE.
MISS OLIVE CRELLIN.
MISS GERTRUDE DE LACY.
MISS MAY DE LA GRANGE.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
MISS ETHEL EDWARDES.
MISS EVA ELLIS.
"EUGENE."
MISS IVY FRANCIS.
MISS JOSIE HAMMERSLEY.
MISS NELLIE HARCOURT.
MISS VIOLET HOLLOM.
MISS KIT KEEN.
JACK LANE.
LUPINO LANE.
JACK PLEASANTS.
MISS PAULINE RIVERS'S TROUPE.
MARK SHERIDAN.
MISS GLADYS SOMAN.
MISS EVA SWINBORNE.
MISS DOROTHY TEMPLE.
MISS DOROTHY WARD.
MISS LULU WILLIAMS.

Artistes whose names are inadvertently omitted are particularly requested to advise us, so that the omission can be rectified.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

THE ALHAMBRA.

Into the programme at the older Leicester-square house was introduced on Monday a dramatic episode entitled—

"SISTERS."

Marie .....Miss Esmé Beringer
Lisa .....Miss Vera Beringer

It should surely be quite possible to so revise and alter this powerful little piece as to make it acceptable, especially with such an excellent swordswoman as Miss Esmé Beringer ready with *riposte*. It will be remembered how cleverly this capable actress played a few years ago in a "fencing" piece at the Palace Theatre. The "sisters" Marie and Lisa, two Servian girls, after a separation of fifteen years, meet under the strangest circumstances. Lisa, the wife of a popular leader who has suffered for "the cause," has been entrusted with a mission of vengeance. She has to kill Count Stanislaus, chief of the police, the official who, it is notorious, knows no mercy. To carry out her desperate purpose Lisa forcibly enters the house of Stanislaus, carrying with her the bomb that is to be hurled at him from an upper window as he approaches the house. Lisa is followed by Marie, and the two recognise each other. Great is the contrast between the two; but Lisa, though dejected-looking and shabby, looks with scorn on the mondaine in silken attire. Marie does not attempt to conceal the fact that she is the mistress of the tyrant Stanislaus, and learns with horror of the purpose of Lisa, who is proud of her mission and of the husband whose martyrdom in the cause of freedom gives a tone of defiance to her utterance. Marie, in a state of alarm, alternately threatens and cajoles, but to no purpose. Lisa is not to be moved from her purpose. Passionate entreaty being of no avail, Marie, in despair, suddenly seizes a sword hanging on the wall and sets upon Lisa, who as speedily arms herself. Marie exerts all her power of attack, but in vain. The bomb is thrown, and with the explosion the curtain falls. Miss Esmé Beringer as Marie acts strenuously and energetically, and fences in very spirited style. Miss Vera Beringer is agreeably effective as Lisa.

Good singing has always been a feature of the variety programme at the Alhambra, and Miss Violet Essex, a new comer, quite sustains the high reputation of the house by her rendering of Charles Marshall's "I hear you calling." De Bière, who appeared some years since at the Tivoli, has made considerable advance as a conjurer, and in smartness and humorous deception quite holds his own. There is plenty of humour in the boxing show between the diminutive Marco Twins, who also do some clever acrobatism. The De Toma Troupe and Ridiculous Recco also add to the attractions of the bill, which is still blessed with the topical divertissement *On the Heath* and the Imperial ballet *Our Flag*.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The chief attraction at Mr. Walter Gibbons's fine hall here this week is Kate Carney's company in a new and original production, by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, entitled

"THE FUN OF THE FAIR.

Carmen .....Miss Kate Carney
The Lawyer .....Mr. Willie Phillips
Hagar .....Mr. Geo. H. Marriott
The Dude .....Mr. Albert Mason
Jim .....Mr. Fred Malcolm
The Showman .....Mr. Percy Moran

The sketch is exceedingly well mounted, and those taking part submit a faithful representation of the typical gipsies as known to us. The story revolves round a foundling named Carmen, who was brought up by the gipsies, eventually becoming queen of the tribe. A lawyer discovering Carmen to be heiress to a large fortune, tries to entice her from the tribe, but the attachment to her adopted people is so strong that no inducement would tempt her to leave them. This resolution is actively backed up by the male members of the tribe, who give the lawyer and his companion a rough five minutes. Miss Carney, in her usual artistic manner, is a great success as the Gipsy Queen, and her song "The Romany" is a striking number, to which she does complete justice dramatically and vocally, and special mention must also be made of the performance of Mr. Willie Phillips as the Lawyer. There is a great deal of fun in the playlet, and several tuneful numbers.

Billie Merson, an artist who has been rapidly coming to the front recently, is a great success with a humorous military medley "My soldier boy"; Bonnie Goodwin and her piccaninnies, in a dance speciality, gain a big reception; Gus Harris, Jewish delineator, is singing his great success, "The Synagogue"; Pat Rafferty keeps the audience in merry mood with his two numbers "The man who had one eye" and "The jolly old Irish pensioner"; Gala and Norris, in an original scene, introduce some good singing and dancing, finishing with an amusing skit on the troubles of rinking novices; Jean Morelle is responsible for clever tricks interspersed with some excellent playing on the saxophone; Fred Evans presents most successfully his diverting protean comedy *Dreaming*, which introduces humorous yet faithful impersonations of Charles Dickens's characters, Fagin and Bill Sikes; and the Warringtons, in an equilibristic act, are extremely neat and clever.

Charles Carr is singing "I wish I had a girl," concluding with a well-executed step-dance; Rosie Lee gives imitations of Victoria Monks and Marie Lloyd and dances; and Ruffell's Bioscope, projecting a humorous film entitled Why Jones Could Not Sleep, concludes. The front of the house is still controlled by Mr. Lawrence F. Maloney, assisted by Mr. Durham, and Mr. Geo. R. Hatley's orchestra continues to render valuable assistance.

A COINCIDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read with lively interest a story entitled "The Silence of His Excellency," contributed by Mr. William Le Queux to the February number of *Nash's Magazine*, and have been much impressed by the resemblance it bears to my one-act drama *Heard In Camera*, which Mr. Eric Mayne is now presenting at various London music halls. Mr. Le Queux favours Sofia and a "happy ending," while I have been content with St. Petersburg and a tragic "curtain," but there the dissimilarity finishes. In both cases (a) the action passes in the private cabinet of the Prefect of Police; (b) the story opens in the same manner; (c) the Prefect's visitor is admitted with the same precaution; (d) the Prefect interrogates her for the same purpose; (e) he learns the secret of her early *liaison* by the same accident; and (f) he endeavours to extort from her the same evidence by precisely the same threat and the same trick. In fact, the characters and plot are the same in "The Silence of His Excellency" as in *Heard In Camera*, the entire scene is conducted in the same manner, and substantial portions of the dialogue in my play might have been lifted bodily from Mr. Le Queux's story. In the circumstances, I trust you will permit me to point out that while the story appears in a February magazine, the play was produced at the Holborn Empire on Dec. 20 of last year, and a notice appeared in *The Era* of the 24th of that month.—Yours faithfully,

GRAHAM HILL.

Yorick Club, Feb. 9.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FUNERAL OF MR. BARRASFORD.

The great esteem in which the late Mr. Thomas Barrasford was held by the general public, no less than by the members of the theatrical profession, was fully evidenced on Saturday afternoon last, when his mortal remains were consigned to their final resting place in the Extra Mural Cemetery, Brighton. A crowd of several hundred people assembled in Middle-street when the coffin was borne out of the deceased's residence adjoining the Hippodrome. The coffin, which was of oak, bore the inscription "Thomas Barrasford, died 1st February, 1910, aged 50 years." Accompanying the coffin was a beautiful cross of arum lilies and heliotrope orchids, bearing a card on which was written "Poor Tom; God rest your soul in peace. From his loving and devoted wife, Maud Barrasford." Another floral tribute bore the inscription "To dear Daddy, from his little boys Patsy and Freddy. Rest in peace."

The chief mourners were Mrs. Maud Barrasford (widow), Patsy and Freddy (sons), Mr. T. Barrasford (son, of Keighley), Mr. Valoni (the well-known juggler) and his wife. The hearse was completely covered with floral tributes, and a second hearse and three carriages were also laden with choice flowers.

In addition to the wreaths sent from Mr. Barrasford's theatres in England and from the various federations and societies, some came from the Continent. Prominent among them was a large basket of bead-work flowers, with an attached purple ribbon bearing the following inscription in gold letters, "A notre regretté patron, Alhambra Stage Staff, Paris." Other wreaths were from the "Orchestre, Alhambra, Paris," "Le personnel de Barrasford's Alhambra de Paris," and another inscription read "Die Internationale Artisen-Loge, Berlin; Unserem All vehrten Directors, Thomas Barrasford."

On the cortège reaching the chapel Mr. Arthur W. Briggs, the pianist at the Court Theatre, Brighton, played an extempore voluntary on the organ. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. F. Bond, and its impressiveness was enhanced by Mr. Osland Denner's singing of Mendelssohn's air, "O Rest in the Lord." As the coffin was being borne to the grave Mr. Briggs played Handel's Dead March in *Saul*.

Among the mourners at the grave were: Mr. Arthur Aldridge, Mr. W. Boardman (Manager, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), Mr. Frank Bast, Mr. B. J. Brown (Manager, Brighton), Mr. J. Brooks (Stage Manager, Alhambra, Paris), Mr. Bauer (Anger & Bauer, variety agents), Mr. Whit Cunliffe, Mr. C. B. Cochrane, Mr. Harry Clark (Stage Manager, Brighton), Mr. A. Coote-Suggit, Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Manager, Birmingham), Mr. Walter Edelstein (agent), Mr. Gideon (Advertising Manager, Alhambra, Paris), Mr. J. Melville Gillies (Musical Director, Brighton), Mr. Albert Gilmer (Manager, Hove Skating Rink), Mr. Walter Hassan (Manager, Hippodrome, Liverpool), Mr. Sydney Hyman (theatrical proprietor, Johannesburg), Mr. S. T. W. Johnson, Lafayette, Miss Leddington (Head Office staff), Mr. Bob Lyons (Lyons Trio), Mr. Frank McNaghten, Mr. Tom Pacey (agent), Mr. Harry Pick (Messrs. Knight and Forster, of Leeds), Mr. Purdy (Southsea), Mr. Amery Parkes, Major E. J. K. Savage (Director of Barrasfords, Ltd.), Mr. Thompson (Manager, Brighton Court Theatre), Mr. Fred Wilmott (Liverpool theatrical proprietor), Mr. J. Williams (Stage Manager, Southsea), and Mr. J. W. Waddington (Leeds). In addition to these there were present the staff and orchestra of the Brighton Hippodrome, and many members of the theatrical and musical professions.

Floral tributes were sent by the following: Messrs. Anger and Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Barrasford (Halifax), Brighton Hippodrome Orchestra, Mr. W. H. Boardman, Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Brown, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Boughton, the Directors of Barrasfords, Ltd., the Artists, Birmingham Hippodrome, Birmingham Hippodrome Staff, Mr. F. C. Bostock, Messrs. Bruff and Sherek, Mrs. C. E. Broadbent, Mr. Fred Baugh, Mr. F. Bast, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bostock, Mr. W. H. Brown, "William Henry and Percy B. Broadhead," Mr. Bob Baxter and Miss Alma Obrey (*Jack and the Beanstalk* Company), Brighton and Hove Wine Company, Court Theatre Staff, Mr. Harry Clark (Stage Manager, Brighton Hippodrome) and Mrs. Clark, "The Carmos," Mr. and Mrs. Coote-Suggit, Mr. Will Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. O. Cattle, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cowey, Mr. C. B. Cochrane, Mr. Whit Cunliffe, "Alex. Carangeot," Mr. George Dance, "Chris. H. Daves," Mr. F. Eley, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Edelstein, Members of the Eccentric Club, Mr. and Mrs. T. Allan Edwardes, "Geo. H. Elliott and Mrs. Elliott," Mr. and Mrs. J. Elvin, "Eight Lancashire Lads," Mr. and Mrs. W. Edelstein, Mr. and Mrs. Walter De Freece, Mr. and Mrs. Freddie French, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibbons, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Genee, Management and Artistes, Grand Theatre, Brighton, Mr. Edwin Gain, Miss Hammersley, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hassan (Liverpool), Staff of the Brighton Hippodrome, the Artists, Brighton Hippodrome, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Herring, "S. T. W. Johnson," Mr. and Mrs. Jackson (of the "Eight Lancashire Lads"), Staff, Hippodrome, Keighley, Miss Leddington, Barrasfords' Head Office, Directors London Theatres of Vaudeville, "The Great Lafayette," E. B. Leena and B. Fridkin (of the Imperial Russian Troupe), Mr. and Mrs. John Lawson ("Dear old Tom, always a pal"), Artists, Leeds Hippodrome, Manager and Staff, Leeds, The Great Lafayette Co., Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, Mrs. Geo. Lockhart, Messrs. W. Miles and Co., Committee and Members, M.H.A.R.A., Dr. Maguire, Pavilion Staff, Newcastle, Directors, Pavilion, Newcastle, "To the memory of a splendid sport, Mr. Henry J. Preston," Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pacey, Mr. J. Amery Parkes (Fleet-street), Mr. Arthur Prince and Miss Ida Rene, Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Will Sley, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Smith, Starr and Leslie, Scott and Whaley and Tennessee Guards Co., King's Theatre, Southsea, Mr. Claude Shayler, H. F. Stirling ("The Major"), Messrs. Stevens and Downs (Baggage Men, Hippodrome, Brighton), Management and Staff, Sheffield Hippodrome, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Miss Thorold, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tich, Mr. Joseph Tiller, Mrs. Jenny Tiller, Executive and Members, V.A.F., The Variety Agents' Association, Mr. and Mrs. Valoni, Mrs. Wills (Box Office), Mr. and Mrs. F. Warner, Mr. Watson's Company, *Robinson Crusoe* Company, Hippodrome, Sheffield, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Waldron.

THE Council of the Borough of Luton is prepared to receive offers for the privilege of giving entertainments from May 30 to Sept. 3, 1910, upon a selected site at Wardown Park. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," should be delivered at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Luton, before Feb. 18.

MR. CHARLES URBAN, F.Z.S., the joint inventor of "Kinemacolor," will, by special invitation, give a demonstration on Tuesday of his system, illustrated by several new natural history films, before the Fellows of the Zoological Society of London, Hanover-square, W.

SOME delightful new life-motion studies of birds and animals in the actual tints of Nature are being added to the "Kinemacolor" animated pictures at the Palace Theatre, including examples from the Washington (U.S.A.) as well as the London Zoo. Specimens which illustrate at its highest value the beauties of the new art are of the lion, leopard, lynx, parrot, and especially of a peacock, with plumes erect, reproducing with great distinctness the vivid colouring and perfectly symmetrical distribution of the "eyes" in the spread "train."

MR. GEORGE ROBEY'S CONTRACT.

In the Chancery Division on Saturday, before Mr. Justice Joyce, a point arising out of a music hall contract was argued in Wade v. the Oxford (Limited). It was an application by Mr. George Edward Wade, known on the variety stage as Mr. George Robey, for a declaration that a contract (dated June 1, 1904) entered into between him and the late Mr. George Adney Payne, managing-director of the defendant company, was void on grounds set forth by his counsel.

The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Simon, K.C., Mr. McCardie, and Mr. Churchill (instructed by J. B. and G. S. Beirnstein); and the defendants by Mr. Younger, K.C., and Mr. Maugham (instructed by Andrew Wood, Purves, and Sutton).

Mr. Simon said the stipulation was that Mr. Robey should appear at the Oxford Music Hall every evening, and also on the Saturday afternoons, during certain periods of twelve or fourteen weeks in 1910, 1911, 1912, and 1913, and that prior to or during those engagements he should not perform at any hall within a mile of the Oxford, except the Tivoli. Then they found this very curious clause:

"Mr. George Adney Payne hereby agrees to find Mr. George Robey two other halls to work in conjunction with the Oxford, for all the within-mentioned periods, at a salary of £120 a week, such salary to be made as Mr. Payne may think fit."

Mr. Payne died in May of 1907 without having personally done anything.

Mr. Robey (examined by Mr. McCardie) said he made Mr. Payne's acquaintance fifteen or sixteen years ago. One night in 1904 Mr. Masters, Mr. Payne's private secretary, came round to him at the Pavilion, where he was performing, and asked him to call and see the "governor." He accordingly called upon Mr. Payne the following morning at his office at the back of the Oxford Music Hall. Mr. Payne said he wanted him to sign a contract with him for a period of years. "He said he would look after my interests financially, as I had been running a bit loose. He said if I made this contract with him he would look after my interests. He said it would be a good thing to have someone to look after me properly, so that I should not get into trouble."

Did he tell you what sort of contract he wanted you to sign?—Yes; he made that clear to me. He said he would give me a contract for four years at a very good salary which I could bank every Monday.

What was said, if anything, as to who the contract was to be with?—It was distinctly arranged that it should be with him.

Was anything said about salary?—Yes. First he said £100 a week. I talked it over with Mr. Masters, who was present, and I said I did not think £100 was enough. Mr. Masters said, "Well, make it £120, £20, one way or the other, does not matter."

What was said about how it was to be paid?—It was arranged that Mr. Payne should pay me. I was not to know how much was being paid by each of the other halls, but Mr. Payne was to make the money up to £120 a week.

Witness said that the Oxford was clearly stated as one of the halls at which he was to appear, and Mr. Payne was to find the other two.

Is the question of the hall at which a performer appears of great importance to him?—Yes, but I knew that Mr. Payne would not put me in a hall which would not suit me.

Asked by his Lordship to explain this point, witness replied: Well, there are "halls and halls."

Mr. McCardie: Explain to his Lordship what you mean by "halls and halls."

Witness: There are what I call first-class halls, mediocre halls, and very bad halls.

What would be the effect of your appearing at a very bad hall?—They would not understand me.

Would your reputation be improved or injured by your appearing at a bad hall?—Injured.

Suppose you appeared at a mediocre hall?—It would be a question of luck how I went there. It would depend upon the temperament of the audience.

Witness said he signed the contract that day, June 1, 1904. At the time he made the contract he had full confidence in Mr. Payne. He was willing to leave it to him to choose for him whatever halls he thought fit.

Mr. McCardie: Would you have entered into such a contract as this with the Oxford Limited?

Mr. Younger: I object to that question.

His Lordship upheld the objection.

Cross-examined by Mr. Younger, witness said that in 1904 he had an engagement with Mr. Payne with regard to the Oxford which did not come to an end until the autumn of last year. His position in 1904 was that he was performing five or six times a night and received about £120 a week.

And was not this what Mr. Payne said to you—that he thought you were wasting yourself singing at so many halls, and he thought it would be better if you did not sing at more than three halls?—Yes.

And he said he was able to offer you a contract wherewith you would get your £120 a week, and would not be bound to sing at more than three halls?—Yes.

Do I understand you to say that the agreement of June 1, 1904, was made by you from beginning to end with Mr. Payne as an individual?—Yes.

It had nothing to do with the Oxford except that Mr. Payne might have told you to sing there?—That is so.

Your price has gone up since 1904?—Yes.

It is the truth, is it not, that you have entered into a new agreement with Mr. Gibbons?—Yes.

Provided that you get rid of this agreement?—Yes.

Witness admitted that the agreement with Mr. Gibbons was for £200 a week for two halls a night, to be selected by Mr. Gibbons.

The hearing was adjourned till Monday, when Mr. Ibbertson, secretary of the Oxford Company, produced a petty cash book showing items of 6d. for "stamping Robey's contract," and "fares to Somerset House" for that purpose, 4d. These amounts were paid by the Oxford and Associated Halls.

The case was resumed on Tuesday, when, without calling upon plaintiff's counsel to reply, his Lordship decided in favour of Mr. George Robey, holding that the contract was a personal one with Mr. Payne, and that on the death of the latter it became unworkable. Under the circumstances, Mr. Robey was justified in entering into an agreement with another person, and there was nothing he need be ashamed of in that. The action, therefore, succeeded, and the counter-claim must fail, defendants to pay the costs. The directors of the Oxford, acting on counsel's advice, have appealed against Mr. Justice Joyce's decision.

MESSRS. A. J. CARTER (manager of the Palace, Manchester) and Thomas Henry Poole, candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association, have successfully passed the ballot.

SCENE: A Manchester variety theatre's dressing-room. Small-part super to super who is hoping for a similar chance: "Have you ever studied elocution?" Second super (very seriously): "No; I only go in for character parts."

AT the forty-seventh annual meeting of shareholders in the Penzance Public Buildings Co., Ltd., a dividend of 1s. per share was declared. The rent for the year from St. John's Hall amounted to £255 6s. 6d., and it was stated that the present financial position of the company would have enabled the directors to have recommended a larger dividend, but they thought it a wise policy to create a fund for the purpose of effecting some necessary improvements to St. John's Hall which they now have under consideration.

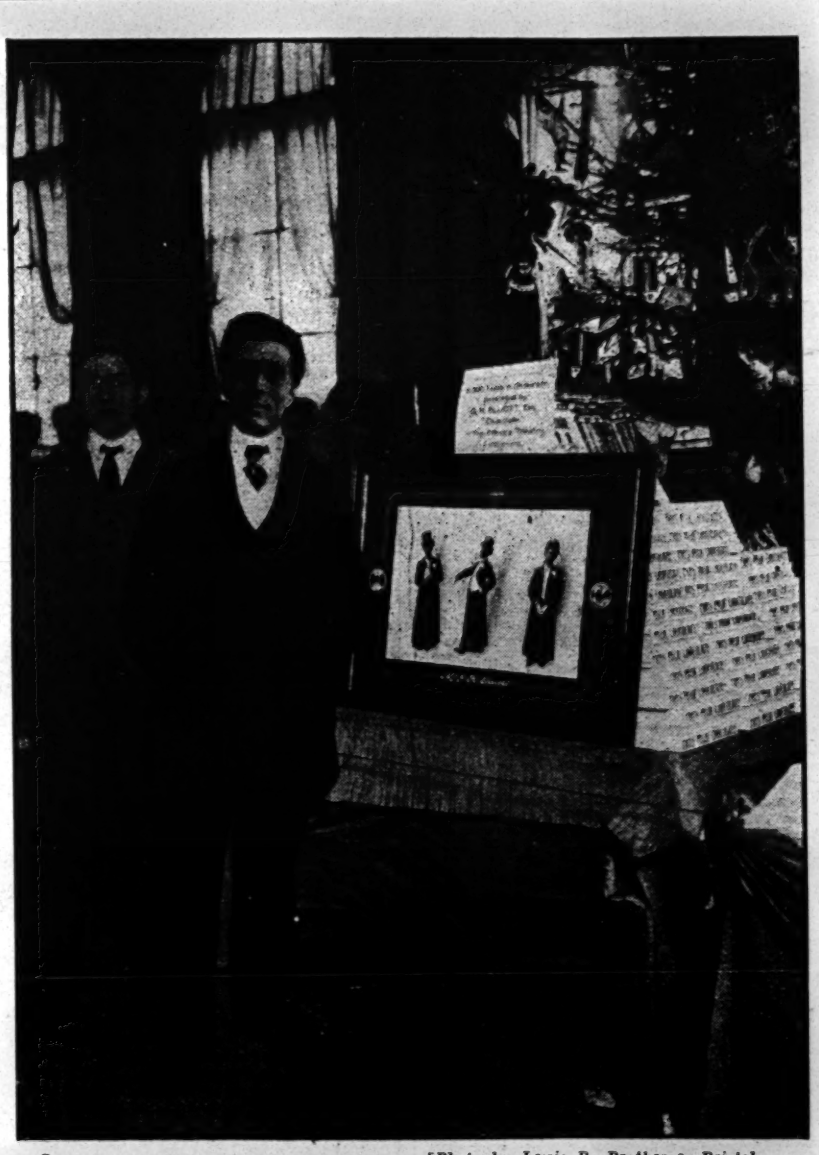

[*Photo by Lewis R. Protheroe, Bristol.*

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, and his friend, Mr. J. C. Inman, at the Chocolate Stall at the Colston Hall Bazaar, Bristol, where an exhibition of dolls was recently held. The artists appearing at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, and at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, with their customary generosity, presented a large number of dolls in costume, which were on sale on behalf of the poor children of Bristol. The theatre dolls were greatly admired. Mr. G. H. Elliott recently gave 5,000 packets of Fry's chocolates for the poor nippers so well looked after by Uncle Jack, of the *Bristol Times and Mirror*, and the members of the Children's Corner. During the exhibition all the artists visited the hall, and were delighted.

MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

In the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division), on the 4th instant, judgment was given by Mr. Justice Joyce in the action the Attorney-General (on the relation of James Lawrence Graydon) *v.* the Walthamstow Urban District Council.

The *Times* of Feb. 5 gives a very full report of this most important action to restrain an alleged breach of a statutory provision that where public baths are let for entertainments comprising music or dancing no money for admission shall be taken at the doors.

The defendant council were in the position of "commissioners" under the Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1899. The relator was the hon. secretary of the Entertainments Protection Association, stated to be an association representing theatrical and variety proprietors and managers in London and the provinces. By virtue of the above-mentioned Acts the defendant council owned, controlled, and were responsible for the letting and user of the public baths at Walthamstow. By section 5 of the Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1878, it was provided that no covered or open swimming bath when closed might be used for music or dancing. That provision was repealed by section 2 of the Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1899, which provided "(*a*) That the commissioners appointed under the Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1899, or any other body for the time being acting in the execution of those Acts, which commissioners or other body are hereinafter referred to as 'such commissioners,' shall, before any such bath is used for music or dancing, obtain such licence as may be required for the use of a place for that purpose under any enactment in force in the area for which such commissioners act, or, if no such enactment is in force, obtain a licence from the county council of the county in which the district of such commissioners is situate. (*b*) That no portion of the premises in respect of which the licence is granted be let otherwise than occasionally to any person or persons, corporate or otherwise, and that no money for admission be taken at the doors. (*c*) That such commissioners be responsible for any breach of the conditions on which the licence is granted which may occur during any entertainment given on such premises by their permission." The defendants had, by their clerk, obtained a licence in respect of the baths for music and dancing from the Essex County Council under the provisions of the Disorderly Houses Act, 1751. The plaintiff alleged that on several occasions the defendant council had let or used, or permitted to be used, their public baths for the purpose of entertainments consisting of music, singing, acrobatic displays, and cinematograph pictures, and on such occasions, in contravention of the Act of 1899, had taken, or permitted to be taken, money at the doors of the said baths for admission thereto. The defendants denied that they had ever taken or permitted to be taken money at the doors of the baths as alleged. They further said that on all occasions on which the defendants had granted any permission or licence to use the baths for any purpose other than swimming it had been on the express condition that no money should be taken at the doors, and if on any such occasion money had been so taken, it had been done in breach of such condition and without the sanction, authority, permission, or knowledge of the defendants; and the defendants did not claim, threaten, or intend so to take or permit money to be so taken. It appeared that on some occasions money had been in fact taken at the pay-boxes which were fixed inside the entrance to the baths, and, upon this being complained of, movable pay-boxes placed upon land belonging to the defendants just outside the building had on other occasions been used for the purpose of taking money for admission to the entertainments. It appeared that the defendants for the purpose of letting the baths for entertainments used a printed form of application to be filled up and signed by intending licensees. The form stated that "having perused the conditions and regulations hereto attached" the applicant undertook "to abide by, and conform to, the same in the event of this application being granted." The attached conditions and regulations included the following:—"14. No money must be taken at the doors," and "24. If any hirer refuse or omit to comply with any of these conditions or regulations or with any instructions conveyed to him by the clerk of the council, on behalf of the council, he and his servants may be excluded until he comply with the same, but without relieving him from his obligations under any contract or agreement.

Mr. Younger, K.C., and Mr. W. Payne, for the plaintiff, contended that the prohibition of the statute was absolute, and the defendants, who had it in their power to prevent the breach of it, were responsible for any such breach. By the form of their agreement with the lessees or licensees they had the power, and were bound to use it, of preventing any breach of the statutory prohibition. As commissioners under the Acts they were responsible for any breach of the conditions under which the music and dancing licence was granted. That licence must be read as if the prohibition against taking money at the doors were inserted in it. The defendants could not get rid of their statutory obligation by merely inserting a condition in their hiring agreements and then allowing the prohibited act to be done by their licensees.

Mr. Hughes, K.C., and Mr. J. Mansfield, for the defendants, argued that a local authority who let their baths with an express stipulation against taking money at the doors were not guilty of any breach of the statute. They could not be compelled to take action against their tenant or to turn them out. There was no ground for an injunction to restrain them from permitting the prohibited act being done.

Mr. Justice Joyce, in giving judgment this morning, said that the defendants were the owners of the public baths at Walthamstow, and they were authorised by statute to let the baths occasionally for the purpose of entertainments with a provision in the Act of 1899 that no portion of the premises be let otherwise than occasionally, and that no money for admission be taken at the doors. No reason for that provision as to taking money at the doors was indicated in the Act, nor did it appear for whose protection it was inserted, although his Lordship was told that it was inserted for the protection of an association of which the relator was the secretary—viz., the Entertainments Protection Association. It was by no means clear why that association should be protected, nor how this provision in fact protected them. No penalty was prescribed by the Act nor was any remedy provided for the breach of this provision. This was an application for an injunction to restrain the defendants from taking or permitting to be taken at the doors money for admission to the baths on the occasions when they were let for the purposes of music and dancing or either of them, and there were allegations in the statement of claim that the defendants had taken or permitted to be taken money at the doors on such occasions. The defendants were not under any contract or covenant not to do what was complained of. Where there was an express covenant not to permit a certain thing to be done an injunction might be granted against permitting it to be done, although where the defendants were not in possession it was not clear what constituted a breach of the covenant. What the defendants had done was this; they had granted a licence for the use of the baths for certain entertainments, and it was said that their licensees had taken money at the doors. It was further alleged that they were now seeking to evade the provisions of the statute by the erection of pay-boxes outside the premises for the purpose of taking money, and it was sought to prevent the defendants or their licensees from acting in contravention of the statute on the assumption that what was being done was in such contravention. If an injunction were granted as asked it might render the defendant council liable to sequestration, or possibly the members of the council, subject to attachment or committal for the misconduct of their licensees or lessees, even although the defendants as a body bona fide disapproved and objected to what was being done. It was sought that the Attorney-General might be in a position to apply for sequestration of the council or the committal of its members. The statute said nothing as to the responsibility of the commissioners under the Act (in this case the defendants) for the acts of their lessees, although it did provide that they should be responsible for any breach of the conditions on which the music and dancing licence was granted. There was no provision that they should be responsible for the acts of their lessees or licensees as to taking money at the doors. It seemed to his Lordship that he was asked to impose this responsibility. In other words, he was asked to add another clause to the statute. He did not doubt that the defendants might be restrained from causing money to be taken at the doors if in fact they were causing that to be done. So also they might be restrained from authorising it if they threatened, intended, or claimed the right to authorise their licensees to take money at the doors. It was not shown that they had done that. At the most it was suggested that they had not been so energetic as they might have been, and had not used their best endeavours to prevent what was complained of from being done. If this Lordship were to make an order he would be imposing upon the defendants a responsibility for the misconduct of their licensees or lessees, and thereby adding to the provisions of the statute. The Attorney-General might take proceedings against the really guilty parties if he chose to do so, but his Lordship could not compel the defendants to take proceedings against their licensees, nor would it be reasonable, and he did not see his way to compel the defendants to exclude their licensees, thus taking the risk of the result of a decision as to whether the use of the pay-boxes outside the premises was an unlawful evasion of the Act. In the result the action failed and must be dismissed.

The solicitors in the action were Mr. P. J. Rutland, 67, Chancery-lane, W.C., acting on behalf of the Proprietors of Entertainments Association, and Cartwright and Cunningham, who instructed counsel appearing for the Walthamstow Urban District Council.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

A students' organ recital was given at the Royal Academy of Music on Monday afternoon. As a recital entirely devoted to the organ might prove somewhat monotonous, the programme included several excellent vocal items and one violin solo. Widor's masterly First Movement from his Symphony in G minor was well executed by Mr. Edward H. Hollingham, and Mr. Horace Perry displayed refinement in his playing of the Choral and Andante of Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 5. In the showy song, "Villanelle" of Eva Dell'Acqua, Miss Dorothy Mostyn received much applause, and the excellent and well-trained voice of Miss Ella Caspers was heard in a very creditable rendering of the air "Have mercy upon me, O Lord," from Bach's Passion Music. The accompaniments on organ and violin were carefully played by Mr. Edward H. Hollingham and Miss Zona Trades. A good account of Guilmant's clever Scherzo from Fifth Sonata (organ) was given by Miss Ellen M. Fulton, and Mr. Alec Rowley was equally successful in his performance of Finale from Sonata in G minor (Piutti). Miss Marion Detmar had a most enthusiastic greeting after a very able interpretation of the Introduction and Finale from Reubke's Sonata in C minor. The last organ solo was Bach's Prelude and Fugue in D, played by Mr. Stuart Duncan. Two attractive songs by Sir Alexander Mackenzie "The first rose" and "Spring is not dead" were cleverly sung by Miss May Purcell, and Mr. Constantine Morris deserved praise for the dramatic expression he gave to Tschaikowsky's "Don Juan's Serenade." Miss Mildred Avis, who has a fine voice, sang "My resting place" (Schubert), while mention should be made of Miss Nellie Fulcher's neatly-executed violin solo "Andante and Rondo Capriccioso" (Saint-Saëns).

CHIEF among the attractions to be seen at the Coliseum on Monday next is Capt. "Joe" Taylor's extraordinary performing elephants, which make their first appearance at this house. Perhaps the most-talked-of member in the crowd is the "Elephant Acrobaticus," which Taylor has trained to stand bolt upright on his head with all-fours off the ground. Another sensation is the dramatic arrest of a mischievous pachyderm by his uncle, dressed as a policeman. Then there is the Elephant's Orchestra, consisting of an organ, a bass drum, cymbals, tambourine, &c., conducted by the trainer.

AT the London Hippodrome on Monday a special matinée was given on behalf of the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers by the floods in Paris. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attended, together with M. Paul Cambon (the French Ambassador), Count Benckendorf (the Russian Ambassador), M. Takaaki Kato (Japanese Ambassador), and the Marquis de Soveral (Portuguese Minister). One of the features of the lengthy and excellent programme was the comedy sketch entitled *French as He is Spoke*, played by Mr. Cyril Maude and company. This was the second time of the production of the farce on the variety stage, as it will be remembered that Mr. Cyril Maude gave it at the Rats matinée last year at the Oxford. Mr. Lewis Waller gave a recitation, and amongst other well-known artists who appeared were "The Follies," Miss Evie Greene, Mr. Seymour Hicks, and Miss Elialine Terriss. There was a very large audience present, and the entertainment realised over £500.

THE result was announced from his box by the Lord Mayor, Sir John Knill, who added that the whole idea of the matinée had come from the management of the Hippodrome, and he was particularly thankful for the assistance thus given to the fund by Mr. Oswald Stoll and the other directors. The French Ambassador, who also returned thanks, said that he saw in what was being done to relieve the sufferers in Paris a mark of deep sympathy between the English and French peoples, and he expressed his gratitude to the Lord Mayor for his noble initiative in starting the Mansion House Fund.

ON Monday an application was made by Mr. William Richardson to the Richmond magistrates for the licensing of four children to appear at the Richmond Hippodrome in Halley's troupe of juveniles. The applicant stated that he fed, clothed, and boarded the children, and allowed them a shilling a week. He pointed out that the children were really apprentices, and were being taught their profession. One girl in the troupe had been taken from absolute poverty in Liverpool, was a bright and intelligent child, and was being taught a profession, in which she would eventually earn a lot of money. The licences were granted, one magistrate, however, strongly objecting, and asking for a note to be taken of his objection.

LETTERS COPIED WHILE WRITING in the Zanetic de Luxe Pen-duplicate Book. Sample, note size, 100 Duplicates printed 2-line address, post free, cash 3/9, from E. B. A. Zanetic, 17, Wellington-street, Leicester. [ADVT.]

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

2063½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£20	2	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	2	5	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0

Sums since received.

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £23 1s. 6d.

Joe Elvin	105	John Tiller	20
Wee George Wood ..	21	Ada Reeve	20
Eugene Cremetti ..	20	George Robey	20
Ernest Polden	20	E. Essayan	10
Alfred Butt	20	A. D. Carter	10
Harry Lewis	20	Peter Watson	10
George Essayan	20	F. A. Badman	10
Harvey du Cros, jun.	20	E. J. K. Savage	10
Walter Gibbons	20	E. T. Steyne	2½
J. Amery Parkes ..	20	Fred Sinclair	1
Frank Allen	20	A Friend	1
Herbert Sleath	20	Gus Elen	1
Will Sley	20		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £4 9s.

Margaret Cooper ..	10	E Bryant	2½
Violet Vanbrugh	10	W. B.	2½
Arthur Bourchier ..	10	Frank Damer	2½
Eli Hudson	5	Jack North	2
Olga and Elgar	5	Gibbon and Bell	2
Les Trombetta	5	Victor Brothers	2
Tschin Maa	5	Durants	2
C. S. Richardson	4	Jack Lorimer	2
Nancy St. John	2½	T. Deutsch	2
Barclay Gammon ..	2½	Harry Vardon	1
Albert Mackelvin ..	2½	W. F. Moss	1
E. H. Mills	2½	Gus Elen	1
E. B.	2½		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan ..	1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey	1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Slone	1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz	1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz	1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz	1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey	1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner	1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten ..	1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown	1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast	1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray	1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz	1		

Collected by Rappo and Ella, 2s.

Rappo and Ella	1	—Gus Elen	1

Collected by Charles Clifford, 15s.

Charles Clifford	2	T. Beeman	1
W. C. Burns	2	W. Ryde	1
Dobito and Buxton	2	Louie and Wally ..	1
The Spring Ellers..	1	Annie M.	1
Harry Goodburn	1	Fred M.	1
A. U. Mackinnon ..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Jimmy Shields, £1 5s.

C. Ullrich	2	W. F. Frame	1
Jimmy Shields	1	Master Sydney May	1
Oswald and Locke ..	1	Harry Burdette	1
Tom St. Clair	1	Lil O'Gorman	1
The Rosses	1	Wilfred Forster	1
James McKimm	1	Franklin Dyall	1
W. Millard	1	Margaret Holland ..	1
Wylie Watson	1	The Adeles	1
E. D. Hess	1	Danas	1
W. H. Chivers	1	Fred Elton	1
Harry Bailey	1	Lamberti	1
W. Cummings	1	Gus Elen	1
J. Cummings	1		

Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers, £1 6s.

Ray Wallace	2	Wm. Moran	1
Alf. Meers	1	Al Wiser	1
Geo. Omo (Three Meers)	1	Pete Wiser	1
Harry Ford	1	Elsie Roby	1
Will H. Fox	1	Andy McLeod	1
Mrs. Harry Dean....	1	Lamberti	1
Fred Dean	1	Chas. King	1
Dandy George	1	Jennie Benson	1
Dorothy Dundas	1	Lottie Lennox	1
Chris. Richards	1	Marquis Doissie	1
Florence Esdaile ..	1	Cornalia and Eddie..	1
Will Lester	1	Alfred Artois	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Herbert Shelley, £1 4s.

Herbert Shelley	5	J. W. Macdonald ..	1
Hayden Coffin	1	Alban Atwood	1
James Welch	1	Douglas Gordon	1
Tom Gallon	1	W. James	1
Harry Nicholls	1	Henry Arncliffe	1
W. Lestocq	1	D. J. Williams	1
Lionel Rignold	1	Sophie Shelley	1
Frederick Norton ..	1	Alma Shelley.....	1
Charles Rock	1	Florence Huntley ..	1
J. Cooke Beresford..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, £2 7s.

Walter Dowling's "Fantastics"	5	Karl Kremo	2
Sylvester (Ella and Eugenie)	4	Lillian	1
Dorothy Ward	4	Joseph Harvey.....	1
Linda D'Amato	2½	Boden and Bell	1
Joan Burton	2½	Alma	1
Daisy Dormer.....	2	Sid Francis	1
Albert Egbert	2	Lux's Dogs	1
Seth Egbert	2	Marjorie Lawrence...	1
Hill and Whitaker..	2	Bertie White	1
Andy McLeod	2	Percival	1
Lauri and Beatty....	2	Seth's Hoopla	1
Tommy Clifford	2	One of the Rhoys....	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong, £1 6s.

Barney Armstrong	5	Madoline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson ..	1
Four Royal Scotts	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lynn	1	Will Clement.....	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Brunton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman, 3s.

A. Dome	1	Gus Elen	1
Nellie Coleman	1		

Collected by Charles Cardow, £1 3s.

Arthur Bromley	1	Fred Elton	1
George S. Melvin ..	1	Dave Laird	1
Ethel Darc	1	Walter Lawley	1
William Darc	1	Siems	1
Pasquali Brothers ..	1	George Norton	1
Valencia Friend	1	Will Cornish	1
La Belle Linda	1	May Thorne	1
Iris Fox	1	The Cecilias	1
Charles Norton	1	Cruickshank	1
The Gay Deceiver ..	1	Harry Ray	1
Chas. Cardow	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Cardow	1		

Collected by Elton and Elma, £1 5s.

B. Elton	1	Apicanus	1
T. Elma	1	J. N.	1
E. Le Butt	1	Maude Mortimer ..	1
Arthur Sydney	1	Miss Weston and Royston Rippon ..	1
Charles North	1	Miss Longden ..	1
George Ess	1	Miss Carr	1
Bert Rolfe	1	F. Marks	1
C. Y. Fixott	1	Geo. Bury	1
Aggrippa	1	W. T. Peake	1
Charles Heslop	1	S. Bailey	1
Tom J. Dillon	1	L. I. Milne	1
H. F. F.	1	Pauline Rivers	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Geo. French, £1 13s.

Gimmy Winkle	5	Nick French	2
George French	5	A. Baker	1
H. Poole	5	Fred Bescoby	1
B. Gates	2	Phyllis St. Clair	1
Learto		J. Picken	1
H. Dowsett	2	L. Mason	1
H. French	2	Gus Elen	1
M. Cattaneo	2		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman	3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel	1½	R. E. Wade	1
Michael Nolan	1½	Richard Barclay ..	1
Aggie Nolan	1	Harry Barclay	1
Bert Nolan	1	Fred Malcolm	1
Olive West	1	G. Barclay, jun. ..	1
La Belle Linda	1	Joe Hayman	1
Ben Webster	1	Morny Cash	1
Mike Asher	1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Hy. Pocock	1	Gus Elen	1
Thos. Pocock	1		
Michael Nolan's Sister	1		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 10s.

Roslyn Stuart	10	Fred Evans	1
Woolmer Young	1	Fred Neiman	1
Ted E. Box	1	F. H. Pedgrift	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Harry Gage	1	Fred Murray	1
D. White	1	Charles Hilbury	1
E Myers	1	William Taylor	1
Chas. Norton	1	Dick Southerd	1
Wisper	1	Josie Co.	1
Henry Coutts	1	Gus Elen	1
Arthur Gallimore ..	1		

Collected by Rowland Hill, £1 4s.

Rowland Hill	1	Nell Emerald	1
Little Mamie Hill ..	1	Lily Black	1
Ralph Howard	1	Minnie Muir	1
Nellie Howard	1	Annie Schuberth	1
Eric George	1	Archie McCaig	1
Marriott Edgar	1	Harry Corton	1
Harry E. Ray	1	John Alexander	1
Kit Keen	1	Harry Radford	1
H. Valdo	1	Dick Tubb	1
J. Valdo	1	Alf. Corri	1
Cyril Thompson	1	"Ye Dame"	1
José Collins	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Craggs, £1 11s.

J. W. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cobbin	1
E. T. Cragg	1	Master A. Cobbin....	1
Mrs. E. T. Cragg..	1	Miss V. Cobbin	1
Miss V. Cragg	1	A. Zettel	1
Master A. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Zettel	1
A. Cragg	1	Master J. Zettel ..	1
Mrs. A. Cragg	1	ss M. Zettel	1
Miss Sala Cragg....	1	Miss Rosie Cragg ..	1
J. H. Cragg	1	Master F. Cragg ..	1
Mr. J. H. Cragg ..	1	Master A. Cragg ..	1
Master J. Cragg	1	Master J. Cragg ..	1
C. Cragg	1	A Cragg	1
Mrs. C. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cragg	1
A. E. Cragg	1	Miss E. Cragg	1
Mrs. A. E. Cragg ..	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Cobbin	1		

Collected by Ruby Dahl, £1 9s.

Geo. Barratt	2½	H. Gotham	1
Ruby Dahl	1½	Nora Stockelle	1
The Woods	1½	Morris and Moore ..	1
Harry Blake	1	Mayme Cannon	1
A. J. Girling	1	F. T.	1
Mammie Winstone..	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Bella Gordon	1	J. Julian	1
M. B.	1	Alice Gill	1
J. D.	1	Netty Janowsky	1
Harold Finden	1	Eli Hudson	1
A. P. Moeller	1	Carr and Rose	1
K. Girling	1	Gus Elen	1
Edith Kennel	1	T W.	½
Florence, Yaymen ..	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Miss Bessie Butt, £1 11s.

Harry Tate	10	A. Tremaine	1
Bessie Butt	5	J. Fenton Walsh ..	1
F. Fields	1	Male Dillon	1
Harry Claff	1	George Manton	1
Reginald Hunt	1	Pa Pa	1
George Regan	1	Jack	1
Fred Ryan	1	Ken	1
Dorothy Firmin	1	Gus Elen	1
George Hirste	1		

Collected by Barry Gilmore, Esq., 17s.

Barry Gilmore	1	Beatrice Mina Ingram	1
Mrs. Barry Gilmore...	1	V. Clements	1
Barry Gilmore, jun...	1	Jessie Templeton	1
Billy Oswald	1	Mrs. Fred Ingram....	1
Fred Ingram	1	Hugh Boyle	1
Nita Crystal	1	Mrs. Harry McClelland	1
Nellie Crystal	1	Gus Elen	1
Mount Stephens	1		
Harry J. Rennior	1		
Harry Levaine	1		

Collected by Sisters Terry, 9s.

Bella Terry.....	1	Will Beanland	1
Minnie Terry.....	1	Billie Mella	1
Dave Czar	1	Gertie Gray	1
May Gibson	1	Gus Elen	1
Phyllis Stean.....	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS JOSIE DELAINE.

A disposition towards the stage was early evinced by Miss Josie Delaine, who is the daughter of that popular artist, Miss Florrie Gallimore. Josie's first appearance was at Blackpool, at the early age of four, when Miss Jennie Valmore took her on with her by way of a joke. The little lady insisted on staying there, so the conductor asked her what she could sing, and she replied, "Oh, Mr. Porter." The band struck up that favourite song, and the audience, entering into the spirit of the thing, threw money on to the stage. Much to the dismay of her mother, Josie would not come off, so they were forced to ring down.

The next appearance of Miss Delaine was at Middlesbrough when seven years of age while on her holidays from boarding-school with her mother. Miss Trixie Gilfain (of Boyd and Gilfain), had engaged a little boy to sing the chorus of her song, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," but the lad was indisposed, and Miss Delaine, who was still ambitious, begged to be allowed to sing the song,

[*Photo by Hana.*
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.

which she did so effectually that she was presented on the last night with a doll dressed exactly like her mother, who played principal girl, Fatima.

Miss Delaine has played principal girl to her mother's principal boy—a circumstance that has seldom occurred in the annals of the profession. This year the two ladies were engaged in friendly rivalry in the same city, Miss Gallimore playing Whittington at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, and Miss Delaine principal girl (Jill) at the Theatre Royal. Miss Delaine has had offers from Mr. Edwardes for *The Merry Widow* and other musical comedies, and no fewer than ten proposals for pantomime this year. She has, moreover, played three seasons at the Palace, in Shaftesbury-avenue, and, although only nineteen, has appeared at nearly all the principal music halls in the United Kingdom. She is booked with the Oxford and Tivoli Syndicate until 1914.

Miss Delaine, it may be added, is the wife of Mr. Langford, of Downes and Langford, who are now appearing in the Drury Lane pantomime.

CHARLES S. KITTS.

Mr. Charles S. Kitts was born in Suffolk in 1871, and comes of an old theatrical family. He made his first appearance with Miss Rose Leclercq as Willie Carlyle in *East Lynne*, when he was nine years of age, and subsequently fulfilled a short stock season at the Rotunda Theatre under Grannell's management, concluding with a children's pantomime. Thence he went into a Christmas juvenile production at Covent Garden Theatre, where he was personally complimented by the late Sir Henry Irving upon his impersonation of that famous actor. In 1883 Mr. Kitts was in the production of *The Palace of Pearl* at the Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, and was then drafted to the house opposite, viz., the then Prince's Theatre, Coventry-street, for the original production of *Alice in Wonderland*. At the conclusion of the run

[*Photo by Parisian Photo Co.*
MR. CHARLES S. KITTS.

he toured with the Children's Opera Company, and finally after many years in the dramatic atmosphere drifted into musical comedy under the managements of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. T. B. Davis, and Messrs. Morell and Mouillot. One of his most notable characters was that of Charlie Appleby in *The Shop Girl*, which he played for over 2,000 performances.

In 1902 Mr. Kitts tried his luck upon the music-hall stage, and, meeting with every success, he decided to remain there. He has played most of the principal variety theatres in the United Kingdom, including the Palace, Coliseum, Tivoli, Oxford, and holds further contracts with Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Henri Gros, &c. His music hall experiences include a tour in America, from East to West, under the banner of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger.

Mr. Kitts is the author of many successful playlets. He is exceptionally fond of golf, yachting, and swimming, and greatly attached to his wire-haired terrier "Skittles," who has many friends in the dramatic and variety world.

CHAT WITH A SKETCH WRITER

MR. CAYLEY CALVERT.

"My first original production," says Mr. Cayley Calvert, the well-known sketch writer, "was at boarding school—to be particular, at Arnold House, Blackpool. It took the form of a burlesque entitled *Toddy Ash, the Funny Policeman*, and was intended to satirise the peculiarities of the author's schoolfellows. There was no censor, but the audience took the matter in hand, getting the offending author into a corner at the conclusion and demonstrating their want of appreciation of his humour by raining blows with sticks, slippers, and anything handy until the timely appearance of a muscular and commanding junior master averted the possible necessity for a coroner's inquest."

Undeterred by this rebuff, further essays in the Theatre Royal Back Drawing Room followed, until in 1885 the youthful wooer of Melpomene nervously left his MS. of a full-blooded drama, *The Vendetta*, at the stage door of Sadler's Wells. The then manager, Mr. George Roberts, called upon the author the next day and arranged to produce the piece, which he did within about a fortnight, and it changed the customary announcement of "for this week only" to "until further notice," to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Mr. Calvert's song-writing began with Mr. Charles Coborn's "But it ain't" and Mr. Ben Nathan's "Not a return," and the writer developed a clientèle amongst the leading stars. The sketch field opening about this time, Mr. Calvert entered with *Cupid-up-to-Date*, in which Misses Sybil and Grace Arundale appeared at the Oxford, Palace, &c. This success he followed up with *Heroes of Our Empire*, elaborately staged by the late Mr. George Adney Payne at the Canterbury, where it had a long run, and whence it toured. Then Mr. George Leyton produced his *Wellington at Waterloo* at three London halls simultaneously, *Robin Hood* followed at the Oxford, and employed a hundred performers. A like number supported Mr. John F. Sheridan in Mr. Calvert's *Shamus O'Brien* at the Paragon. *The Concert of Europe*, a political skit, ending with a fine tableau by Hemsley, had a long run at the London Pavilion. *Napoleon* held its place for seventy nights in the bill of the Tivoli, with Mr. Dennis Macarthy as Napoleon, whilst the same artist was a similar period in the same author's *On, On, On*, at the South London. *The Flower Girl* (written in collaboration with Mr. John M. East) introduced Mr. J. H. Clyndes to Paragon audiences as a "fighting parson," *Jew or Gentile* Mr. John Lawson as a rabbi in old Jerusalem, and *Trafalgar's Eve* Mr. Ashley Page (who had made his variety début in the same author's *Bobs*) as Nelson. The Esther Phillips Combination successively produced *On the Rocks*, *The Matador*, and *A Second Magdalen*, and Mr. Bransby Williams *The Vicar's Christmas Eve* (London Pavilion) and *The Goblin and the Sexton* (Collins's). *Briton Against Boer*

[*Photo by Gardiner.*
MR. CAYLEY CALVERT.

made a great hit at the Canterbury, presented by Mr. Harry Renouf and a strong cast, and among sketches which followed were *Have You Got the £10 Note?* (two companies), *The Belle of the Pacific*, *Dreyfus*, *The Little Dinner*, *Ladysmith Day*, *A Handful of Fellows*, *Hidden Foes*, &c., and more recently *Our Home Defenders*, *A Critical Operation*, *What's Charles Worth?* &c.

Altogether Mr. Cayley Calvert has contributed some two hundred productions to the variety stage. He also wrote Mr. Ellis Brammall's Brighton pantomime *Blue Beard* and the late Mr. Oswald Brand's production *'Endon Way* at the Imperial. He is at present busy on some forthcoming novelties and taking an active part with Mr. George Gray and others in the reformation of the Sketch Artists' Association.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following:—Miss Jessie Star (collecting), £1 2s.; Miss Ada Webb (collecting), 3s.; Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), collecting 4s. at the Palace, Camberwell, last week, out of which Miss Paola kindly contributed 1s. and Miss Daly 6d.; Miss Jimson, collecting from the ladies and gentlemen at the Broadway Theatre, Deptford, 2s. 6d.; Miss Lilian Bayliss, Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, giving and collecting £1; Dr. Walker, Camberwell-road, for his kindness and attention to a case; Mr. Alec Barish, women's boots and shoes (new); Miss Lottie Albert, boots and hat.

Are there any willing workers who could collect for the Guild at Liverpool Feb. 23 and March 2? Please write to Miss May. Will friends, in and out of the profession, please note that a prize will be given to anyone collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months, commencing from Nov. 4 last.

Our heartfelt thanks are due to Mr. Joe Zarmo for giving to the Guild the Rex motor-bicycle, which has realised the sum of £30 19s. The winner is Mr. E. Foote, 29, Market-place, Stockport, who possesses the number 158. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

Before Mr. Registrar Giffard, the public examination was appointed to be held of G. Barrasford, music hall agency manager, 39, Charing Cross-road, W.C. The debtor, however, failed to appear. No statement of affairs was filed, and the assistant-receiver said that the debtor had not attended under the proceedings. It was believed that he had gone to America. His Honour accordingly adjourned the examination sine die.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AT THEATRES AND OTHER PLACES.

The Children's Care (Central) Committee reported to the London County Council Education Committee on Wednesday as follows:

"We reported on July 28, 1909, with reference to the safety of school-children at entertainments or displays held either on the school premises or elsewhere. The Children Act, 1908, which came into operation on April 1, 1909, imposed on the Council as education authority a certain responsibility in cases where the school organisation is used either to promote an entertainment or in some way to cause the pupils to be present thereat. The Committee passed the following resolutions—'(*a*) That no entertainment in which the school organisation is in any way involved be held on the premises of L.C.C. schools or in any other places unless an application for permission to hold such entertainment, and a certificate that satisfactory arrangements have been made, duly filled up and approved by the managers, have been approved on behalf of the Council; and that the Council be recommended accordingly. (*b*) That the attention of the managers of non-provided schools be drawn to the requirements of section 121 of the Children Act, 1908, with reference to the safety of the children at entertainments; that they be informed of their legal responsibility under the Act and of the precautions taken by the Council in respect of the use of the organisation of L.C.C. schools for purposes of entertainments, treats, &c., whether in the schools or public halls; and that they be asked to adopt procedure similar to that referred to in the foregoing resolution (*a*), whenever it is proposed to give an entertainment, treat, &c., to children attending non-provided schools; and that the Council be recommended accordingly. (*c*) That the following rules be approved for the conduct of entertainments in which the school organisation is in any way involved—(i.) Application for permission to hold entertainments must be made to the Council at least twenty-one days before the date fixed for the entertainment, must give full particulars as to the nature of the entertainment, the hall proposed to be used, the maximum number for whom tickets will be issued, and as to the arrangements made for the control of the audience and the proper supervision of the school-children. (ii.) The head teachers of L.C.C. schools and managers of non-provided schools are requested immediately to inform the education officer of any proposal to invite school-children to attend a pantomime or other performance at a theatre, whether within school hours or otherwise. (iii.) The distribution to pupils of tickets of admission to places of entertainment, apart from the cases referred to above where authority has been duly received, is strictly forbidden. (iv.) The procedure set out below with reference to the attendance of children at theatres is to be observed—(*a*) The Clerk of the Council must be consulted as to whether the Theatres Committee are satisfied that the premises are reasonably safe for the reception of the public, and, if so, confirmation must be obtained in writing. (*b*) In the event of a reply in the affirmative, the chief officer of the fire brigade to be informed that children will visit a theatre on a certain date, and to be asked to arrange for a special inspection of the premises to be made immediately prior to the performance to ensure that all the arrangements are satisfactory; and also to allow his officer to stay until the conclusion of the performance. (*c*) The head master or mistress (or, in the case of a non-provided school, the correspondent) is to be informed that no objection will be raised to the attendance of the children at the performance provided (i.) that the consent of the parents or guardians be first obtained, and (ii.) that a sufficient number of the staff of the school are willing to accompany the children and remain with them until the close of the performance.'

"The Committee reported on the subject to the Council on Oct. 12, 1909, but the chairman of the Education Committee withdrew recommendations (*a*) and (*b*), in order that we might consider a statement which had been made by the Theatres and Music Halls Committee in regard to the rules which had been approved by the Education Committee in the foregoing resolution (*c*). In this statement it was pointed out (i.) that in the case of premises licensed by the Lord Chamberlain or the Council it is not necessary for special inspections to be made on each occasion when parties of school-children are present, in view of the fact that such premises are regularly inspected by the Council's officials, and may be considered reasonably safe from the danger of fire; (ii.) that in the event of a panic, the officer of the fire brigade present at the time could not render any more useful service than any other male attendant, and that therefore no purpose is served by the attendance of such officer. We reported thereon on Nov. 10, 1909, and the Committee concurred in our opinion that it was very desirable that reports should continue to be submitted in regard to the safety of any theatre or other place of entertainment to be visited by large parties of school-children, and decided that the Theatres and Music Halls Committee should be asked to continue the practice. The Committee also considered it desirable that the practice of inspecting theatres and other places licensed for public entertainment prior to the attendance of parties of school-children, and of allowing an officer of the fire brigade to be in attendance throughout the performance, should be continued, and agreed to inform the Fire Brigade Committee that if necessary the charges incidental thereto should be defrayed out of the maintenance (elementary education) account.

"We have now had before us the replies of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee and the Fire Brigade Committee. The former Committee have stated that they still adhere to their opinion that the practice of inspecting licensed places of public entertainment prior to the attendance of parties of school-children is unnecessary, as such premises may be considered reasonably safe from the danger of fire. The latter Committee have stated that, while concurring in the view of the Theatres Committee, they are of opinion that the presence of a fire brigade officer would serve no useful purpose, as the danger when such children attend theatres is mainly one of panic calling for the presence of a large percentage of adults, preferably their teachers. We have given the most careful consideration to the statements submitted to us in regard to this matter. We have in no way changed our view as to the desirability of continuing the procedure which we originally proposed. As, however, it is of the greatest importance that the new procedure as to entertainments should be applied at the earliest possible moment, and as a further insistence upon the views already expressed by us might unduly delay the adoption of the scheme by the Council, we recommend—'That rules Nos. iv., (*a*) and (*b*) approved by the Education Committee on July 13, 1909, with reference to the attendance of children at theatres be repealed.'"

The recommendation of the Committee was agreed to without discussion.

Mr. J. H. Winn (Haydée) miniature theatre vaudevilist

THE HIPPODROME.

Besides that wonderfully effective Esquimaux spectacle *The Arctic*, with its splendid assemblage of seventy Polar bears, the programme at the London Hippodrome is immensely attractive at present, containing some specially strong and effective items, several of which are soon to depart. The culminating sensation of *The Arctic* is humorous as well as startling. The avalanche of bears which pours down the "shoots," sometimes head foremost, sometimes the reverse, until the "basin" is full of the happy, hirsute strugglers, is a spectacle of the most novel and diverting character. Long after the conclusion of the descent of the seventy divers, the admiring audience stand round the bears' bath, unwilling to tear themselves away from a sight so extraordinary and so interesting; and the real Esquimaux dogs are a feature of the sketch which is greatly admired. A "big thing" on the programme is Olga Petronowa, who hails from the Imperial Conservatoire, Moscow. She is a handsome and energetic lady who, clad in scarlet costume, standing on the stage with her back turned to the audience, directs the performance of a large orchestra, who are seated in a semi-circle. Inspirited by her vigorous gestures and by the brisk wave of her bâton, the musicians render, in excellent style, such telling selections as "1812," a selection from *William Tell*, and a pot-pourri of national airs, concluding with "Rule, Britannia." The combination of female beauty and orchestral ability is irresistible, and evokes enthusiastic applause. The weird and awful Vampire dance continues to thrill and praise is deserved both by the supple grace and activity of Miss Alice Eis and the dramatic expression of that artist, and by Mr. Bert French as the vampire's victim. Miss Eis's facial play is intensely expressive, and she makes the female blood-sucker most mysterious and intense. Her attitudes are very artistic, and her treatment of the terrible theme is strong, vivid, and artistic. Her performance recalls the descriptions of female vampires given by Mr. Bram Stoker in his nightmarian novel "Dracula." The entertainment supplied by Lamberti deserves warm praise for the thorough and finished manner in which it is carried out in every detail. Lamberti has evidently studied carefully the peculiarities of the composers whom he represents. One of his best impersonations is that of Liszt, but his Joachim is almost equal to it in merit. His Paderewski is intentionally caricatured, but his Gounod is comical without being exaggerated. Lamberti has made himself a favourite at the Hippodrome, and has to respond to a call at the close of his entertainment. Les Silas are two French operatic vocalists who appear first of all as Pilgrims, and afterwards as "incroyables," and sing suitable selections in excellent style; and Pipifax and Panlo make themselves very popular, the one by his activity in turning somersaults, &c., and the other by his screamingly funny knockabout business, in which he becomes entangled in a number of chairs. Their turn goes extremely well, and they win warm applause. Loyal's trained dogs include an animal of wonderful ability, who does a somersault in the air while leaping over various obstacles; Mr. Selwyn Driver's merry monologue is cordially received; and the Rexos do some extraordinary roller skating, the gentleman dashing through a hoop only sixteen inches high, and doing some marvellously clever figure work on the rollers, besides skating on his hands splendidly. The Alaskas with their pantomime acrobatic act win much favour. Mr. Charles Mildare combines imitations of birds with some very neat whistling, and the views of Canadian farming shown by the Bioscope certainly ought to encourage emigration. Mr. F. Trussell presides in front of the house with his wonted courtesy and discretion, and the playing of the fine orchestra is a treat in itself.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

Crowded houses twice nightly here testify to the popularity of Dan Thomas's pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, which has been previously reviewed in our columns, and now goes with a swing from start to finish. As chief mirth-provokers Dan Thomas and Jack Harris are well to the fore, their efforts meeting with decided approval. A pleasing feature is the grand floral ballet, entitled Highgate Hill, performed by Mlle. Lilian and twenty local children. The story of the pantomime follows on the usual lines, and the many different scenes are all well arranged to good effect.

Miss Daisy Yates makes a fine figure as Dick, and gets through a large amount of work in fine style. Her chief songs are "Ship Ahoy!" and "Miss Linda." Alderman Fitzwarren was capably presented by H. D. Lynton, and Miss Olive West made a very dainty Alice. Much amusement was created by Jack Harris as the Idle Apprentice. Mlle. Lilian is heard to advantage in "Sincerity." The Cat was cleverly played by Mr. Pete Almonti, his antics causing much laughter. Mr. Arthur Wade made an imposing Emperor, and sang "Let's all go down the Strand" in very taking style. Messrs. Haverley and Horner are a funny duo, and soon make their presence felt. They are both clever step-dancers. The star of the evening, however, was, without doubt, Dan Thomas as Betsy, and whether singing, dancing, or fooling, keeps a grip on the audience. His catch-phrase "I've found a new mash and got a new hat" was soon taken up. Special mention must be made of burlesques of the Salome and Vampire dances, both being excruciatingly funny.

The costumes are very good, and the whole thing is well produced, Mr. Arthur Wade being responsible. The resident-manager, Mr. Austin Anderson, is never happier than when he is busy, so this week he is particularly cheerful.

Gentil in Paris.

WITHOUT preliminary announcements J. Gentil, a young Brazilian fancy skater, modestly made his bow at the Paris Hippodrome on Sunday last, under the direction of Mr. T. L. Benn. Gentil is a remarkable artist. He performs every variety of step and fancy toe business, his supple figure and hands moving gracefully with the feet movements. His chair jumping, on one foot, is a feature, and the act concludes with a high jump over chairs and flaming fire, a most effective finale. Colonel Winslow, the director of the Winslow Skate Manufacturing Co., was enchanted, exclaiming "Here we have genius. During my thirty years' experience in the rinks I have never seen such a finished artist!" The Colonel subsequently presented Gentil with a £10 note for a special commemorative medal, which is now being struck.

THE HIPPODROME DOGS.

The part which the team of sledge dogs is playing in the Arctic spectacle at the Hippodrome draws attention to an interesting breed of the canine race. Popular opinion associates all sledge dogs with the name Esquimaux, but those at the Hippodrome are Samoyedes, and their natural habitat is North-East Russia and Western Siberia. They are the same kind as have been used on nearly all Polar expeditions which have started from Europe during the last fifteen years, including the expeditions of Nansen, H.R.H. the Duke of Abruzzi, Jackson-Harmsworth, the first Antarctic expedition led by C. B. Borchgrevink, and those of Captain Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton.

The chief occupations of the Samoyedes are raising reindeer, trapping, hunting, and fishing. Reindeer live on a particular moss or lichen which grows in the Arctic regions, and when the moss is eaten off in one place, the Samoyede people pack their tents and other belongings on to sledges and move to a new feeding ground. For this moving dogs are very necessary to "round up" and drive the reindeer, in much the same way as collies "work" mobs of sheep in this country. Reindeer, are, however, more difficult to handle,

Photo by Crown Studio.
MR. KILBURN SCOTT.

and can only be caught with the lasso. Samoyede dogs have been domesticated for so long that they are easily trained, and able to help their masters in tight corners such as are met in polar regions. Eight are usually harnessed to one sledge in four pairs with a main trace rope between, so that the dogs pull from the side. This was the method used by Sir Ernest Shackleton,

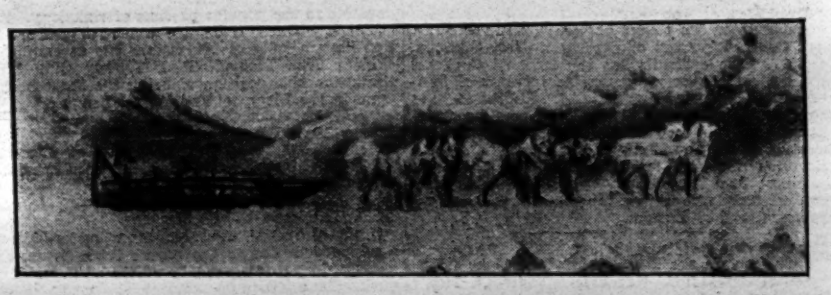

SAMOYEDE DOGS AT THE HIPPODROME.

and it is how the dogs are harnessed at the Hippodrome.

We believe we are right in saying that Mr. Kilburn Scott first suggested the use of sledge dogs in a letter to the Hippodrome management some seven months ago. The great interest which attaches to polar expeditions at the present time, including the Cook business, suggests many possibilities for plays, &c. Indeed, Mr. Kilburn Scott thinks that it would not be difficult to arrange a ballet bringing in Arctic scenes and Russian and Siberian life.

Samoyede dogs are very suitable for stage work because they are about medium size and carry themselves well, with ears erect and tail over back. Large dogs such as Great Danes or mastiffs look unwieldy on a stage, and most of the terrier breeds are too small, besides being very noisy. Naturally, at the rehearsals the dogs wanted to retire precipitately when the shooting began, for they weren't to know the cartridges were blank; but they soon got used to the noise. The only thing that worries them now is the bears, for no doubt they feel themselves at a disadvantage hitched to a sledge in case a few of the seventy-three got loose. Not that Samoyede dogs are afraid of Bruin, for they most distinctly are not. In their native country a Polar bear has very little chance of escaping from a pack of Samoyede dogs. All the expeditions to the North Polar regions have been supplied with bear's meat largely by the vigilance of the dogs and their boldness in attack. The harness of the dogs was made by Messrs. George Parker and Co. to Mr. Scott's design. Each dog has a collar and body belt, and connecting the two is a strap 2in. wide passing down each side and round the dog's chest, the animal therefore pulling from the chest. Coupling chains attached to the collar and the body belt effectually prevent the dog jumping the main trace or turning round. The animals are arranged in pairs, in exactly the same way as adopted on Polar expeditions, with the main trace down the centre, the only difference being that the main trace consists of two ash poles. A rope is too flexible for stage work, especially when bringing the dogs round at the back where there is very little room. The team of dogs shown in the picture includes representatives of two Polar expeditions, namely, that of H.R.H. the Duke of Abruzzi and the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition. The sledge is being shown at the Hippodrome, and it was the first to be used on the Antarctic continent ten years ago. It formed part of the equipment taken by C. E. Borchgrevink in the Southern Cross, and was given to Mr. Kilburn Scott by Sir George Newnes, who financed that expedition.

It is interesting to note that there are Samoyede dogs in New Zealand and Australia. They are descendants from those which C. E. Borchgrevink took out in the Southern Cross in 1898. After his return from the Antarctic some of the dogs were landed on Stewart Island, New Zealand, and it was some of these which Sir Ernest Shackleton used on the last Antarctic expedition. One of the original members of the pack was brought from Sydney last year, and his descendants are now in the kennels of Mr. E. Kilburn Scott at Vale House, Bromley. Captain Scott has arranged to take out a team of Mr. Scott's dogs on the Terra Nova next August, and the rest of the pack are to be obtained from Siberia by Mr. Meares, who will ship them from Vladivostock direct

THE JOHNNY ALEXANDER MATINEE.

THE APOSTLE OF THE RINK.
AN APPRECIATION BY CHARLES COBORN.

Alexander the Great may have been a very clever fellow in his way, but it is doubtful if he was ever half so amusing or contributed so much to "the gaiety of nations" as the subject of these lines. At any rate, one thing may be said with certainty, and that is that he was not the first to introduce roller skating to the British stage, whereas our own particular Alexander—Johnny, of that ilk—was. In these very slippery skating times the fact is worth noting. On the

JOHNNY ALEXANDER.

advice of some of his very numerous friends, our old pal Johnny is going to have a complimentary concert on the afternoon of Thursday, the 24th inst., at the Camberwell Empire, very generously lent by the management for the occasion, and all who have derived pleasure from the exercise of roller skating should "roll" up on that afternoon, if only as a mark of gratitude to the first missionary of the art to our shores.

His first appearance upon the "mimic stage,"

LE PETIT JACKSON HAYNES.

in the early fifties, was very nearly simultaneous with his first appearance at all, as he undertook the leading part of the baby-in-arms in the christening scene in the *Dumb Man of Manchester* when only three months old, and we believe that no complaint was made of his not being perfect in the lines. His next "first appearance" was that under his present name, as a member of the now celebrated Alexander family of actors, singers, dancers, pantomimists,

JOHNNY AS "THE OLD ACTOR."

and everything, as harlequin in the juvenile harlequinade, concluding Nelson Lee's *Buds of Promise* at the City of London Theatre, Norton Folgate, in 1861—a sort of forerunner of the juvenile plays of the present day. We find him again a few months later in a more elevated position being—again as juvenile harlequin—carried on the shoulders of the late Mr. J. L. Toole up and down the platform in front of Richardson's show at the first Dramatic Fête which was held

JOHNNY AS CLOWN.

at the Crystal Palace. The late Sir (then Mr.) Henry Irving did the same office as "bearer" for Johnny's brother Arthur. About forty-three years ago as "le petit Jackson Haynes," he introduced roller skating to the stage, and that fact alone distinguishes him particularly amongst his fellows.

Closer up, a mere twenty-five years ago, he appeared as the old actor in the sketch called *The Actors*, which had a tremendous long run, and contributed greatly to his popularity. In the course of a long and arduous professional career he has performed in almost every part of Europe and experienced many interesting vicissitudes which there is neither time nor space to do more than hint at now. Amongst his many accomplishments he was very fond of swimming, and some of "the boys" have told me how that once at Blackpool, whilst all the others were trying every device to keep out the blizzard which was raging, Johnny came in with his towel round his neck and said that he should have enjoyed his swim in the sea more had it been rather colder!

At a swimming carnival in Brussels, managed by the celebrated Peter Johnson, a young member of the English aristocracy was swimming under water. Johnny thought that he seemed to be rather too long under, and so jumped in with all his clothes on and practically saved the young fellow's life. Instead of receiving a medal or a vote of thanks, or some favourable acknowledgment from the proprietor of the bath, that individual actually threatened to sue Johnny for making the water dirty, which, as Sairey Gamp puts it, was "base ingratitude."

Amongst other important engagements, Johnny was for fourteen consecutive seasons clown at the Pavilion Theatre. It must not be forgotten that our friend has always worked hard, and considerably to his personal cost, in support of almost every institution ever organised in the interests of the music-hall profession. I believe that the Music Hall Home was first started on his suggestion, and on Dec. 6, 1899, he called upon Mr. Pedgriff of *The Era* and proposed the idea of *The Era Shilling Fund*, which has achieved such magnificent results to date, more than £2,000 having been accumulated since its origin.

Some of those circumstances which may befall the most industrious and experienced have convinced Johnny's friends that a good, fat, rousing benefit would not be altogether unwelcome, and so we are setting about it, and hope it will prove a great success. Sir Edward Moss sent a most encouraging telegram, and good old Chirgwin wrote: "Dear Alexander,—Do you a turn? Why, yas! Good luck.—Yours truly, GEORGE." Joe Elvin, Fred Kitchen, and other good boys are taking a lively interest in the affair, and that delightful actress Miss Ada Reeve sent a letter, not so completely full of sympathy and good wishes but that room was left for a handsome donation towards the expenses. By the way, Miss Reeve made her first public appearance as a very tiny child at one of Johnny's benefit performances at the Pavilion Theatre, reciting, "The Cat and the Kitten."

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The recent deplorable fire at Clapham Junction has not been without its effect on local variety-goers, and it is only by dint of the most attractive fare that Mr. Walter Gibbons' hall on St. John's-hill is able to maintain its popularity. Heading a varied bill is Mr. Lew Lake's latest sketch, *King Nobbler*, in which the adventures of Jerry and Nobbler are carried on in a style that reminds one of the thrilling serials that prove so attractive to the boys of England. There is, of course, the added humours of the incorrigible and inseparable pair, not to speak of the diverting Abey, who accompanies them on their hilarious travels. Merriment reigns throughout the sketch, which is mounted in an elaborate and complete style rarely reached by a music hall production.

Less pretentious, but equally effective is the duologue, *Jim's Pal*, presented by Shirley and Ransome. The simple sentiment and homely humour of the little coster episode make a powerful appeal to the house, which is kept pleasantly vacillating between laughter and tears, the former, however, predominating. The playlet is admirably acted, and Jim's song at the close is quite tunefully sung. Essman, who has recently been delighting habitués of the Home of Mystery at Langham-place, brings to the halls his clever display, in which many novel tricks are included. His "juggling waiter" is a marvellous personage, and the audience watch in amazement his manipulation of various household articles from which the element of "fake" is refreshingly absent.

A merry time is spent in the company of Mr. Frank Fort, described as the Johannesburg Jester. One remembers him at Margate, to the gaiety of which popular resort he has for many years ministered. Mr. Fort's chief means of provoking mirth is by his biographies of celebrities, in which quaint accounts are given of famous personages, while comic views on courtship and marriage are expressed in a song set to the tune of "The Campbells Are Coming." Mr. Archie Jervaise is a young comedian of the "swell" type, with a powerful voice and an emphatic method. He has a song with the refrain "I've been looking for you for years and years and years," which is taken up by the gallery, and inspiration for a comic lay is also found in the "Cinematograph Palace," and of a visit thereto. A bright comedienne and an expert dancer is seen in Miss Ivy Aberdare, who is loudly cheered for a smartly-executed wooden shoe dance, in which rare skill is exhibited. The Three Glenvilles give a clever dancing speciality, and other contributors to the bill are Yvonne Lamor, "somewhat different comedienne," and the Warsaw Brothers, Australian musical pair. The subjects on the Bioscope are of the newest. Mr. Fred C. Cockerill continues to act ably as manager, and has a new assistant in the person of Mr. H. J. Campbell.

THE SORE THROAT GAG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The following is an example of the ease with which artists can get doctors' certificates. I am in the habit of running several pantomimes, and towards the end of the run frequently find artists try to take it easy; but I think the following is the limit: We are within ten days of the finish of a run and my conductor had an accident on Thursday, Feb. 3. My manager sent for the theatre doctor to see him. Immediately my principal boy hears that a doctor is on the stage she also demands to see him, with the result that the following certificate is handed to my manager:—"Copy of certificate given Thursday night, Feb. 3. I hereby certify that I consider Miss —— is unable to sing for a couple of nights owing to a relaxed sore throat." This certificate was brought to my office on Friday, Feb. 4, and in reply I sent the following letter to the artist:—"Dear Miss ——, I have received a certificate from Dr. —— informing me that you are not able to fulfil your professional duties on account of your throat. I am sorry, and hope you will soon be all right. However, I consider it best that you have complete rest, and I have arranged for your understudy to play the part for the present. Under the circumstances I must request that you will furnish me with a doctor's certificate before I can allow you to play the part again, as I would not like you to break down on the stage." This letter my manager handed to the artist on Friday night, Feb. 4., and as she was the only one of the company not paid on that night she could see that I intended to stop her salary if she did not appear. The result was that she was at my office on Saturday morning before 10.30 with the following certificate from another doctor:—"Copy of the second certificate. "This is to certify that I have this day examined Miss —— and find that her throat is now quite well, that her present condition of health is very good, and she is quite fit to sing and appear on the stage without any fear of a breakdown."—Yours faithfully, CATARRH.

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD attended the performance of *The Marriage of Kitty* at the Brighton Alhambra yesterday afternoon.

"DR. MAUD'S FIRST PATIENT."

Duologue, by H. Darnley, Presented at the Oxford, for the First Time, on Monday, Feb. 7.

Dr. Maud ..... MISS CLARA BERNARD
Crimpet ..... MR. MARTIN ADESON

This lively little farcette, which is from the pen of Mr. Herbert Darnley, has done excellent service in the cause of laughter in the suburbs and provinces, and its reception at the Oxford during the week has completely justified its reputation. Mr. Darnley, its author, wielding a prolific pen, has a broad view of the exigencies of comedy at the halls. He has no use for subtlety. He knows when to limit the cackle and get to the situations—no one better. Dr. Maud herself is brief and to the point in explanation of her impecuniosity, and the hope raised by the promise of a rich patient afflicted with rheumatism sends joy to her heart. She is expecting every minute to hear the step of Crimpet, the millionaire, and to greet him with warmth as her first patient. There are, of course, two Crimpets. The one with which we are concerned is a gasfitter, who has come to cut off the supply to the meter. Dr. Maud knows that eccentricity has marked down for its own many a millionaire, and it does not occur to her that she is not dealing with a moneyed magnate. At any rate, she proceeds with her treatment, and previous to sounding, or massage, or both, she orders him to remove his coat, waistcoat, and shirt. Plenty of mirth arises from his excited and mock melodramatic protests against the removal of the last garment mentioned. She slaps his chest, and stethoscopes him; and when the diverting business has been carried on for the length of time necessary, Crimpet has to confess to his purpose in coming, and proceeds to cut off the gas. He places her in connection with an electric battery under which he has already writhed, and leaves her squirming in semi-darkness.

Mr. Martin Adeson, a comedian of resource, experience, and excellent quality, plays the gasfitter with a real sense of its farcical possibilities. He gets the audience laughing, and keeps them at it. We have few farce actors now, and Mr. Adeson is certainly one of the best of them. Miss Clara Bernard, engaging and suave, has presence, and makes an admirable foil. The mirth created by *Dr. Maud's First Patient* is quite uproarious.

Another amusing sketch in Mr. Blyth-Pratt's capitally-varied bill is *The Matrimonial Fee*, presented by Harry First and company. This is literally a case of Harry "first and the rest nowhere," as no names of the cast are given on the programme. Still another comic item is put down to Mr. Joe Peterman and company. It is known as *The Belle of the Orient*, and is entitled an Oriental fantasy. Since we noticed its original production at the Oxford a year or two since it has been played successfully on tour. No names are given of the interpreters of this blend of music and farce.

The variety company includes Miss Lucy Clarke, the popular contralto, who makes a welcome return to the scene of her early triumphs; Mr. Syd May, with a capital imitation of Gus Elen; Mr. Tom Dunville, a warm favourite; Miss Victoria Monks, the "Oxford idol" Mr. Sam Mayo, the immobile one; the Hiatts, in musical comedy mélange; M. Gintaro, Japanese juggler and top-spinner; Max Waldon, protean artist; Mr. Gilbert Girard, in animal imitations; Miss Ida Barr, vocalist; Les Xentrix, speciality artists; Mr. Geo. Formby, the Lancashire comic; Troba, juggler; the Gothams, vocalists and comedians; and Miss Zona Vevey, in a pastorale, assisted by M. Max Erard at the piano.

THE GRANVILLE.

In very few districts are the lovers of variety more ably catered for than in Walham Green, at the cosy little hall which is so efficiently managed by Mr. Robert W. Duce.

Mr. T. E. Dunville tops the bill this week, and, needless to say, this peculiarly quaint comedian makes an instantaneous hit. Amusingly programmed as "the long, lean, lorn loon," he certainly carries out the description to a nicety. His first song, "Rub it in," thoroughly tickles the risible faculties of the house, but the success of this number is entirely eclipsed by the next, in which, garbed as an eccentric policeman, he goes at great length to explain, that despite his many more or less startling achievements in the force "They haven't made him sergeant yet." Miss Nellie Wilson, a pleasing comedienne and an accomplished dancer, is always sure of a hearty welcome here. Mr. Gene Brant is a droll comedian with some funny methods, and he renders his two songs "In our home, sweet home" and "Mrs. Dunegan" in a capable way.

Miss Phœbe Mercer and Mr. Frank Harrison figure in a farcical episode smartly written by Zoe Herbert, entitled *Mistakes Will Happen*. Most of the dialogue is crisp and sparkling, the humour of it hinging on the fact that the lady's loss of a pet dog is misconstrued into being laments for the loss of a husband. Miss Lucy Clarke is an experienced vocalist, with an easy style, and very well received are her pretty ditties "Katie" and "Rory O'Moore." Mr. Edward Rose and Miss Dora Challoner are a clever comedy couple with a laughable duologue *The Porter and the Singer*, in which Mr. Rose is very happy in his impersonations of Gus Elen and Sam Mayo.

Mr. Tom Jones is a Welsh comedian entirely with a style of his own, his humour being of that crisp and dry variety that is always so effective, and which finds ample opportunity for an outlet in his up-to-date ditty "Clara ap Morgan." Mr. C. H. Charlton is a conjuror with many mystifying tricks, one of the most startling being the inexhaustible kettle, from which an endless variety of drinks are poured from time to time, according to the wish of any individual, such widely divorsified liquids as milk, whisky, beer, or green Chartreuse being dispensed at will. Miss Jessie Lee also appeared, and some clear films were screened on the cinematograph, which brought a pleasant evening's entertainment to a fitting close. The artists receive every assistance from the band, which is ably controlled by Mr. Frank Thomas.

THE attraction at the Sheerness Hippodrome this week is provided by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company in *David Garrick*. Mr. Norman V. Norman appears in the title-rôle, supported by Mr. Norman Leslie as Simon Ingot, Messrs. Frederick Lock, Alfred Wiltshire, J. Anthony Snaith, Campbell Cargill, and Herbert Alexander, Misses Mabyn Fay, Ethel Coleridge, and Beatrice Wilson.

AT the Palace, Porth, Ed. E. Ford, the "Australian sundowner and president of the face trust," appears with unbounded success; the Rangers present a capital comedy cycle act; Lydia Neilson's Boys and Girls, in their smart and up-to-date scena "A Drawing-room Rehearsal," are favourites; Sam Williams is a first-class character comedian; Godfrey Price, Welsh baritone, is an exceptionally good singer; Madge Cliff and Eveline Vanston, in a comedy duo *An Actress Protégé*, introduce piano, singing, 'cello, and violin with marked success; Howard and Wall's, in *Taming a Wife*, arouse roars of laughter; the Spanish Goldinis do carpet-spinning extraordinary with marvellous electrical effects; and the Palascope supplies entertaining pictures.

BY the courtesy of the management of the Dewsbury Empire, the "old folks" of the district (who attended the annual treat) will be admitted free to the matinée performance to-day of the pantomime *Sleeping Beauty*, the whole of the pit being reserved for this purpose.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

The Earl's Court Carnival.
The Empress, Earl's Court, will be the scene of a grand historical and fancy dress carnival next Wednesday, which should present a spectacle well worth seeing. Manager Izod has been hustling again, with a result that tickets have been selling like wildfire. This is not surprising, for the splendid prize list is a great inducement to compete. As before, skating will start at 7.30 and be continued well into the early hours of the morning. Many members of the profession have promised to "turn up" as early in the evening as their engagements will permit.

Martine for Earl's Court Carnival.
Martine, who gives a very marvellous contorting and acrobatic performance on skates, has been specially engaged to appear at the Empress Hall Rink, Earl's Court, on the occasion of the fancy dress carnival on Wednesday next,

O'Hagan Wins S.C. Championship.
Under the auspices of the National Skating Association, the One Mile Roller Skating Amateur Championship of the Southern Counties was decided last Wednesday evening at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court. There was a capital entry, necessitating six preliminary heats each of 11 laps and 60 yards, which constituted the mile. The final produced a keen race between O'Hagan, of the Empress Club, and Swain and Cocker, of the Lava S.C., whose headquarters are at Denmark Hill. There was a crowded company, and the champion had a very flattering reception. The prizes consisted of gold, silver, and bronze N.S.A. medals. The chief officials were:—Judges, Mr. Guy M. Campbell and Col. G. T. B. Cobbett; stewards, Messrs. H. Taylor, C. More, H. Y. Evans, and S. T. Wood; timekeepers, Messrs. H. J. Rothery and D. K. Hall; standard timekeeper, Mr. Barclay; starter, Mr. H. G. Brockman.

The Final Heat.
Little and Cocker made the early pace, but after a quarter of a mile Cocker, O'Hagan, and Swain became the order, this trio just heading the others. Three laps from the finish O'Hagan came to the front, followed by Cocker, with Swain close up. The pace was not great, but at the bell all three spurted tremendously. O'Hagan led into the straight, but Swain, going for the line with splendid resolution, only just lost the first place by inches—a very close finish indeed. A yard away, Cocker was placed third. Time, 3min. 30 2-5sec. Final heat: H. O'Hagan, Empress S.C., 1; D. M. Swain, Lava S.C., 2; A. W. K. Cocker, Lava S.C., 3. Certificates were awarded to the following competitors, who beat 3min. 30sec. in their heat:—F. E. Barker, H. H. May, R. S. Marston, and F. W. Stent.

A Champion of To-morrow.
To show the great interest taken in this race, it can be recorded that little Master P. J. Twomey, the twelve-year-old son of the Mumbles' piermaster, journeyed to London to take part in the race. This little lad's time at a private trial was 3min. 45 1-5sec. for the mile at Earl's Court, and 3.52 at Brixton. His age was his only disqualification, and the small boy bravely kept back the tears when this fact was announced to him.

One Mile Championship of the World.
Everybody is talking about the chief sporting event in the rinking world—the One Mile World's Championship and a purse of £80—to be run off at Earl's Court during the week of Feb. 20. It will be remembered that some few weeks ago Mr. J. White, on behalf of Mr. Rodney Peters, the champion speed skater of America, challenged the best men in England to race for £100 aside and the best purse, but although £100 was put down at the *Sporting Life* office by Mr. White for Peters, there were no takers, and the money was withdrawn. There seems now, however, to be some likelihood of Mr. Rodney Peters being able to meet our best, and if the offer of Mr. Willard, the managing-director of the Empress Hall, and other Empress rinks throughout the country, be accepted, then we shall have a series of races worth going some distance to see.

What the Colonel Thinks.
Colonel G. T. B. Cobbett has been ice rinking in Switzerland recently. On Wednesday night, when judging the N.S.A. championship, he told the writer that after twenty years' experience on ice and rollers, he considered the floor at Earl's Court to be the finest surface he had ever ventured on.

Last Day the 27th.
The Sunday Skating Club at Olympia comes to an end on the 27th of this month.

Special Prizes for Olympia Carnival.
Lord Crichton, the vice-presidents, and committee of the Olympia Sunday Skating Club, are offering two special prizes to be competed for at the Masquerade and Fancy Dress Carnival at Olympia on Friday evening next by lady members of the Sunday Skating Club only.

Judges for Olympia Carnival.
Sir William and Lady Bull, Kate Cutler, and Phyllis Dare are among those who have promised to act as judging committee at the big masquerade carnival to be held at Olympia on Feb. 18.

Duchess and Daughters Rink.
The Duchess of Devonshire and her two daughters, Lady Maud Cavendish and Lady Blanche Cavendish, the Duchess of Norfolk, Lady Theodosia Acheson, and Lord Winterton have indulged in roller skating at Devonshire Park this week.

Crystal Palace Carnival.
The second Fancy Dress Skating Carnival, which takes place on Wednesday next, bids fair to be a great success. The judging will take place at 8 p.m., and at 8.45 Syd Martin will present his unique and grotesque skating act. At 9 o'clock the prizes will be presented to the lucky winners.

Roller Skating in a Park.
On a specially asphalted piece of ground round the bandstand in Southwark Park scores of youngsters are to be seen daily whirling round on roller skates.

The Silent Floor.
Hitherto the handicaps of the National Skating Association have usually been held on the Empress track at Earl's Court, which gives eleven laps to the mile. Now it is announced that some of the meetings are to take place at the new Maida Vale rink. The London rinks grow more luxurious every week, but only one rink, and that the Empress, Earl's Court, has discovered any means of silencing the noise of the skates.

Mr. Willard's Sporting Offer.
Mr. Willard writes:—"To the Editor of the *Sporting Life*.—Sir,—Some time since an American skater, Mr. Rodney Peters, issued a challenge to any and every English speed skater, unfortunately with no results. It seems to me it is rather a pity we cannot arrange a match for this gentleman, and in the circumstances I am prepared to put up a purse of £80, £60 to go to the winner and £20 to go to the second, providing we can get the five best skaters in England at the present time to compete for this, viz.:—Messrs. Rodney Peters, Allie Moore, Charles Wilson, Bear, and Curtis, and anyone else who has any qualification to take part in a contest of this kind. I know Mr. Peters would jump at this chance, as nothing but the scalp of Mr. Allie Moore will satisfy him, and I have already written Mr. Charles Wilson to meet me. I think if he enters we could bring the match off. I have pleasure in enclosing you my cheque for £80, and would ask you to be good enough to appoint a referee for the match, which, if convenient, shall take place at the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, on the nights of Feb. 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26. It is understood that each man must meet the others in turn in separate heats.—I am, &c., P. W. Willard, Managing-Director."

The Entries.
At the moment of writing five well-known skaters are pledged to enter, and include Allie Moore, who won no fewer than five world's championships in 1908; Rodney Peters, who had a similar record last year; C. Wilson, who as the amateur champion of Great Britain was undefeated; he is also the present professional champion of Great Britain; A. Bear, the British professional champion of 1907 and 1908; and J. Plumridge, regarded as a coming man and a very dark horse indeed in Clubland. With five such men entered within three days of Mr. Willard's offer, and there being no handicap and nobody barred, this event promises to be the greatest struggle that has yet taken place on any rink in this country. Records are evidently going to be badly treated.

Value!
Mr. Alec Payne writes: "I had nearly 200 answers to my advertisement last week, which goes to show that rinkers read their *Era* regularly."

Apache Dance on Skates.
Alec Payne, who produced the Skating Ballet in Mr. Gus Levaine's *Babes in the Wood* pantomime, now in its ninth week, is introducing an Apache dance on skates in conjunction with Miss Flo Blake's act.

Should a Lady Refuse?
At the fashionable skating rinks notices are occasionally put up indicating that partners only may skate for the moment. A correspondent wants to know: Should a lady refuse if a stranger rolls up to her and asks her to skate?

Hurst's "Enchanter."
Walter Hurst, the well-known Continental trick skater, is manager of the Boston Rink, and besides being a skater is a clever musician. Lovers of music, especially skaters, will appreciate the new skate dance he has just composed, and which is now published under the title "Enchanter." It is his ambition to improve and make skate-dancing a great success and a boon to rinks.

St. Valentine on Wheels.
There is quite the ring of the ballroom about the programme that will be submitted at the fancy dress carnival to be held at the Walthamstow Rink on Monday next. At 7.30 a start is made with the march, "Let's be jolly," then follows a two step, a valse (couples only), and two more waltzes, another two step, "The Mosquito's parade." After that we get a grand fancy dress parade, a valse, a two-step competition (couples), another valse, a waltzing competition (couples), a two step, a musical chair competition (ladies), a valse (couples only), and then the prize distribution, and parade of winners. "Yip-i-addy-i-ay" gives the cue for couples only to two-step, and the "Thunderer's march" proclaims the beginning of the confetti battle. Patrons of the rink will be invited to judge.

Coming Catford Carnival.
A Fancy Dress Skating Carnival will take place at the Central Hall, Catford, on Thursday, Feb. 17. Judging will be at 9.15.

Waltzing at Wandsworth.
On Wednesday last the management of the Wandsworth Rink held its first amateur waltzing competition. The competition was watched with a deal of interest by about 200 people. The first prizes, pearl opera glasses (lady) and a calendar clock (gentleman) were eventually won by Miss Olive Trainor and Mr. Martin; the second prizes, a clock (lady) and writing cabinet (gentleman), going to Miss Bright and Mr. R. Pooley

Speed Club for Wandsworth.
On Monday last about twenty patrons of the Wandsworth Roller Skating Rink met together to discuss the formation of a Speed Club. Mr. L. Morley (rink manager) presided, and if the members continue to be as enthusiastic as they were at the initial meeting we shall expect to hear big things about the Wandsworth Speed Club. The following gentlemen were elected as officers:—Hon. sec., Mr. Hunt; Club handicapper, Mr. W. Doland (floor manager); committee, Messrs. L. Morley, J. Lunn, A. Sutton, R. F. Palmer, and J. Hayward.

Wood Green's Latest.
Another rink has been opened at Wood Green. The North London Rink, as it is called, is situated in River Park-road, in close proximity to the Public Library. Measuring 180ft. by 80ft., the floor has a skating area of nearly 15,000 square ft. It is constructed of best rock maple, laid on top of a felt-covered pine floor, under which is a strong foundation of concrete and asphalt. Eight hundred pairs of skates are provided. They are of the well-known "Wolf" make—the same as are used on the famous Earl's Court rink. At one end of the rink is a large balcony, from which an excellent view of the skating can be obtained. Mr. H. G. Boys is the resident manager. He is a member of the International Professional Roller Skating Association, and comes to Wood Green from the well-known Empress Rinks. Gymkanas and carnivals will be held frequently throughout the season. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Carlton Roberts, chairman of the Board of Directors, in the presence of some hundreds of people. Twice—once in the afternoon and once in the evening—exhibitions of fancy skating were given by Professor Carrol. He gave a very clever display, including a leap over ten chairs. At the close ten minutes were devoted to fast skating, gentlemen only being allowed on the rink.

Monohan at Rotherham.
The Great Monohan, the champion trick skater, is the attraction at the Philadelphian Skating Rink, Rotherham, this week. He has had a splendid reception.

Monohan at Sutton.
Life was dull at Sutton, we are told, before the Rinkeries opened there. The management is nothing if not enterprising, and as the Great Monohan made such a furore when he appeared at the opening of the rink, he was then engaged to pay a return visit. The consequence was, the second date having arrived last week the Great Monohan had a magnificent reception. When the floor was cleared Monohan gave the first part of his performance. Then he invited competitors for the medal he proposed to offer for the best imitators of his great feat of skating on a rolling barrel, and the fun (for the majority) started. The medal was awarded to Mr. R. Hindwood, who managed to stay on the barrel for a few seconds. Gentlemen were invited to enter for the two-step skating, and a dozen started off. Monohan chose Mr. Hugh Matthews as the best exponent, and awarded him the medal. Ten ladies came forward for a similar competition, and they gave a splendid exhibition of graceful skating. One little girl skated beautifully, but the grace of her movements were somewhat marred by the fact that she found it hard work. The winner was Miss Goodison. Monohan was accorded a vote of thanks for giving the medals and judging the competitions. On the 18th of this month it is intended to hold a fancy dress carnival at the rink.

The Floor-Manager's Part.
The flowers presented to Bertha Doud Hack at Sheffield last Saturday evening were so numerous and heavy that the floor-manager had to be gallant and carry them off for her. Bertha goes back to Sheffield the last week in March.

Starting Early.
The skating instructor at Prince's makes his little fortune, and the popular teacher at Olympia has his reward. They both have their imitator in the small expert in a side street whom we encountered giving his lesson to a small girl. He charges a farthing a lesson, and the Islington small girls are willing to pay. He is a cautious lad, and has not yet married any of his pupils. But he has banked his farthings, and is dead set on an Easter Monday outing.

Rexo and the Insurance Man.
Edward Rexo, that astounding skater, who is this week starred at the London Hippodrome, writes that "the inclusion of a somersault in my exhibition led a large and influential insurance company to refuse me a policy on my life. Their terms were definite—no somersault if they were to give a policy. After I worked the trick for a number of years without meeting with any mishap I again approached that company. They were, however, as obdurate as before, but I eventually got another company to take me on. Much as amateurs may admire somersaulting on skates, it is a chas of trick work I would not advise them to try unless they are really expert acrobats, as well as good skaters. It has been comparatively easy and safe with me, because before I became a skater I was trained in the hard acrobatic school of the circus. I was not seven when turning somersaults, doing the splits, and hand and head balancing were my natural pastimes, and when my love for the rollers led me to abandon the ring for the rink, introducing on wheels what I had done so long on the sawdust came as a second nature to me."

Law and Roller Skating.
Mr. Hedderwick, London's new magistrate, at North London on Tuesday refused the application of the police for summonses against boys for roller skating in the streets, saying there was no law against the practice, and suggesting that the County Council should make by-laws on the subject.

You Must Have a Gavioliphone.
The cost of a band is a very serious expense to most rinks, more especially as an orchestra to be effective at all must be of not less than twelve instruments, therefore £20 or £30 per week for band is a very heavy item. The Gavioliphone is the finest substitute. This instrument is exactly what is required, and the time can be regulated to the slowest waltz or to a lightning galop. An 89-key instrument is being used at Earl's Court, which is the largest span building in England, in addition to a band of thirty performers, and a Gavioliphone fills this gigantic building even when 2000 skaters are on the floor. Mr. P. W. Willard has a number of these organs, ranging from £150 to £500, in stock. The Gavioliphone's good points are: It will wear for years; no repairs, tuning only every season; no heavy cylinders at enormous expense; music changed in ten seconds; any boy can take charge; impossible to get out of order; the only suitable instrument yet made for rinks; unless you can afford a band of fifteen to twenty performers you must have a Gavioliphone.

Bentley in the North.
Prof. Bentley, who, up to the time of the temporary closing of the Palace Skating Rink, Douglas, was its manager, is at present making a tour of the principal rinks in England, giving exhibitions. Last week he was at the Palace, Manchester, and this week he has been at the "Premier" rink in Liverpool.

Plenty of Fun at Bridlington.
Mr. Lawrence A. Williams, managing the Garden Rink, is supplying his patrons with plenty of novelties in the way of golf matches, juvenile carnivals, and special ladies' evenings. This week a military tournament causes much amusement. The various events, such as tilting at the ring, the Turk's head, tent pegging, and a special series of similar events for ladies, are very novel.

The "Garden of a Thousand Lights."
The application in Bridlington Police-court last Saturday by the Garden of a Thousand Lights Skating Rink Co., Ltd., Esplanade, Bridlington, for the renewal of the licence held for eight years by Messrs. Field and Co., Ltd., aroused keen opposition on the part of the owners and occupiers of the large boarding-houses and private premises adjoining. We shall get the result in a month's time.

"Best Out of London."
Devotees of the rollers are still on the increase, and the management of the Queen-street Olympia, Cardiff, have evidently hit the taste of the local rinkers, since a very appreciable increase of business is to be noted day by day. Radiators have been installed so that the building can be maintained at a comfortable temperture in all weathers. An up-to-date café is in course of construction for the special convenience of lady patrons. The floor is being resurfaced, and many professionals vote this establishment the best to be found out of London.

Skatery for Chichester.
An up-to-date skating rink is about to be established at Chichester. "Chichester Olympia, Ltd.," has been formed for the purpose of erecting, equipping, and conducting a high-class roller skating rink, and an electric theatre or cinematograph exhibition. An admirable site has been secured at Northgate, where a building, already existing, will be converted into what promises to be an ideal rink and electric theatre. The main rink will be a skating area of about 5,000 square feet. There will be a smaller rink for novices. The capital of the company is £4,000 in £1 shares, and it is hoped to open the building in March.

New Rink at Cork.
Another skating rink has been added to the growing number in Cork city, entitled the Cork City Skating Rink. It was formally declared open last week. The rink is replete with every comfort and accommodation for skaters and non-skaters, and contains tea room, ladies' and gentlemen's dressing rooms, and promenade.

Derby Rinker's Success.
Mr. Leonard Innes, of Derby, last week won the half-mile amateur championship of Nottingham at the Empress Rink, defeating by three-quarters of a lap G. Warwick, the holder.

Rink for Dunoon Gardens.
After prolonged negotiations, Dunoon Town Council last week, at a special meeting, agreed to grant Mr. W. W. Morton, Glasgow, permission to erect a roller skating rink in the Castle Gardens. Mr. Morton is to pay £100 a year for the ground on a ten years' lease, the building at the end of that time to revert to the Council. It will be used exclusively for skating purposes.

Pushball at Durham.
At the Olympia Rink here this week pushball has been starred, matches between local gentlemen causing great merriment. When finished the contestants looked more like sweeps than rinkers. On Wednesday night a good match was played between Durham and Bishop Auckland teams, the Durham team winning by five points to three.

Councillor Bostock Closes Zoo Rink.
Councillor E. H. Bostock has decided to shut down the Zoo Rink at the end of this week, and has several plans in contemplation for the future. Of these, one that includes an up-to-date circus, with probably a variety of side-shows, is most likely to be adopted. At the Dennistoun Rink a novel spectacle is in preparation for Monday first, the rinkers to be dressed in characters from the works of Dickens, Scott, and Burns, and with the assistance of the Fancy Dress Association, it is sure to be a hit.

"Dutchland" at King's Lynn.
St. James's Hall Roller Skating Rink presented a charming appearance on Monday evening, upon the occasion of the first Cinderella. The huge building was superbly decorated with fine panoramic views of Dutch life and landscape. The great stage was set with magnificent representation of Marken, one of the skating centres of Holland, and with profile foreground and windmills presented a delightful picture. Other pictures included skating on the dykes, the whole being painted by Messrs. G. M. Bridges and Son. The costumes were mainly Dutch and were in pleasing variety, making the task of the judges most difficult. During the proceedings Mr. W. Winch, the business manager, announced that other spectacles of equal brilliancy would be presented during the season.

Leicester Rinking.
Mr. Court informs our Leicester representative that Mr. A. H. Bear, the well-known professional skater, is to meet Mr. Archie De Board in a one mile race on Feb. 15, for £20 aside, at the Empress Rink. Mr. A. H. Bear caused a sensation in Leicester some time ago by his defeat of Mr. T. P. Blakesley in two races out of three for the championship. At the Boulevard Rink on Monday a football match on skates took place. The Belgrave Rink is, unfortunately, handicapped by being without a music licence. It is a great pity that it should be thus impeded, as the rink is well built, well conducted, and exceedingly well-managed.

Middlesbrough v. Stockton.
On Tuesday last Stockton Royal Rink Hockey Club played their return match at the Olympia, Middlesbrough, and a very keen and exciting game was witnessed. The home team scored the only goal of the match in the first half.

Rhondda Rinks.
A very successful carnival and confetti battle was held at Olympia, Pentre, last Tuesday. The management has decided to hold a Grand Carnival of Nations on St. David's Day, March 1.

Widnes's Rinks.
The number of rinks in the murky chemical town has been reduced from five to three. This does not denote a decrease in the number of devotees to the popular pastime of rinkology. The remaining three rinks are extensive patronised, and the majority of Widnesians are accomplished skaters. The Borough Rink Hockey Club holds the honourable position of being the finest hockey team in the Liverpool and Wirral League.

Harry Hall Goes to Paris.
Harry Hall, late floor manager at Glasgow, Bolton, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been appointed floor manager at a rink in Paris.

C. P. Crawford to the Rescue.
C. P. Crawford used his large motor-boat to good purpose during the recent Paris floods, and he organised a rescue party which did magnificent work. In addition he devoted the whole of one afternoon's receipts at the St. Didier Rink to the American Board of Trade's fund for the sufferers. Both the Hippodrome and St. Didier rinks in Paris are high up, and were out of the reach of the overflow from the Seine.

Paris Hippodrome Carnival.
Although this year the Mardi Gras festivities were considerably curtailed, the customary processions, masquerading, and confetti throwing on the boulevards being abandoned in consequence of the effects of the recent inundations, Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins stepped into the breach and organised a big bal masque at their Hippodrome rink. Throngs of enthusiastic skaters, in every variety of fancy costume, flocked hither, and the huge auditorium was crowded by chanticlers, toreadors, pierrots, Indian chiefs, Apaches, Salomes, male and female impersonators, and scores of other fancy-dress costumes too numerous to mention. The whole scene was of exceptional brilliance. At midnight Mr. George H. Callis, the resident-manager, organised a confetti battle, and serpentine shooting followed. Franc R. E. Woodward was an active master of ceremonies. Attractions are now constantly introduced at the Paris Hippodrome for the entertainment of spectators. W. Curtis, junior, gives frequent exhibitions, and races against Peters and Murphy for big stakes. A six days' racing season, for which all the chief available speed skaters in Europe will be engaged, is being arranged in conjunction with the French journal *L'Auto*.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES
BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.
"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."
Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.
FINEST CONSTRUCTION. Longest Wear at Smallest Cost for Repairs.
Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.
Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.
LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to
M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.
Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.
Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.
Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE GREAT MONOHAN
RINK and MUSIC HALL
Week Feb. 7, Skating Rink, Rotherham.
Week Feb. 14, Castle Rink, Bedford.

BERTHA DOUD MACK
AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.
Thanks to Mr. R. W. Maude
This Week. NORTH OXFORD RINK, OXFORD.
Next Week, CASTLE RINK, BEDFORD.
Address, Care of "The Era."

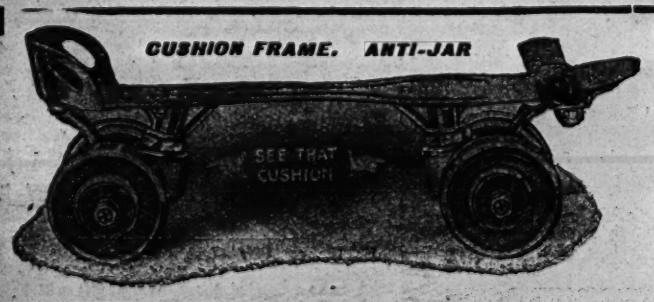

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.
They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.
STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more Independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.
Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.
Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. G. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Lynn Mart.

THE forthcoming meetings at King's Lynn have a special interest, in view of the important matters that must be considered by the executive council of the Guild. The Parliamentary work is of the gravest moment to the showpeople on the great Midland round. If the Handsworth Corporation succeed in their endeavour, it will encourage other public bodies to attempt the same thing, and the show business in one of its most important centres will be seriously injured. Handsworth cannot be permitted to obtain its penalising clauses against the show business without the most strenuous opposition. The petition against the Handsworth Bill (if, in the meantime, the Guild officials do not succeed in their negotiations) must be filed before the 19th of this month.

The West Riding of Yorkshire and Licences.

THE Rev. T. Horne and Mr. Goldthorpe Marshall (representing the Showmen's Guild) had a most useful conference—arranged for by the Guild—with the chief officers of the Council concerned with the issue of licences to travelling shows. A most friendly and frank discussion took place, and the points of objection raised by the showmen were most carefully considered, and ultimately noted for reference to the General Purposes Committee of the County Council for their decision. Agreement was arrived at on various working points of detail that will greatly simplify the working of the Act in the future. It is satisfactory to state that in ever case where the Guild officials have intervened with regard to the Act and its administration the County and County Borough authorities have shown a cordial willingness to work with the organised showmen.

THE points under discussion are in the following copy of the County Council's conditions to be observed by all showman licensees in the West Riding:—

"CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.

"Conditions to be observed when the premises are of a movable character, in respect of which a licence has been granted by the County Council.

"When it is proposed to give a cinematograph exhibition in any building or structure of a moveable character in respect of which a licence has been granted by the Council of the county in which the owner ordinarily resides the following conditions shall be imposed and notified to the occupier in writing, viz.:—

"1. The building or structure shall be erected in an isolated position and at least 30 feet from any building.

"2. The building or structure shall not remain erected upon any one site for a period exceeding three consecutive calendar months.

"3. All doors and barriers must open outwards.

"4. All gangways, passages, and staircases intended for the exit of the audience shall be kept entirely free from chairs or other obstructions, whether permanent or temporary; nor shall persons be allowed to congregate there so as to obstruct the free passage of the audience.

"5. The owner shall prevent the admission of any persons who cannot be accommodated without causing such obstruction or causing undue or inconvenient overcrowding of any part of the building or structure.

"6. The owner shall be responsible for providing a staff of attendants sufficient and competent to secure the safety of the public, particularly at entertainments intended mainly for children and young people.

"7. All doors not ordinarily used for exit, but available as additional means of escape in case of alarm, shall be indicated by painted or printed notices in plain letters not less than 2in. in length.

"8. The owner shall to the best of his ability maintain and keep good order and decent behaviour in the premises during the time of public performance.

"Regulations made by the Secretary of State.

"The owner of any building or structure of a movable character must comply with the Regulations made by the Secretary of State.

"Breach of Conditions.

"For every breach of these conditions or of the Regulations made by the Secretary of State the owner of any building or structure of a movable character is liable to a fine not exceeding £20 on summary conviction."

Rotherham Statutes Fair.

WHILST down in Yorkshire, the organising chaplain arranged for an interview with the Town Clerk of Rotherham. Considerable progress was made with regard to one or two matters in dispute between the Corporation and the organised showmen. There is every prospect of a most friendly agreement being arrived at, and the old Statutes Fair will become more prosperous than ever.

The Date of Bolton Summer Fair.

THE old Whitsun Week fixture at Bolton has been changed, to coincide with the operatives holiday week at the end of June. The date this year will be June 25 to 29 inclusive. This change of date has been arranged after consultation with the executive officials of the Guild and the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

Maesteg Fair, Wales.

THE annual February Fair was held on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Pleasure-seekers were well catered for by Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard, who were in attendance with their Bioscope and variety theatre. Amongst the fine films displayed were the following:—The Floods of Paris, Before the Mast, and The Maesteg Horse Show. The latter caused a deal of interest locally. Variety turns were given by William and Hayes, in *The Prima Donna and the Tramp*, and the Godfreys, in a musical comedy act, entitled *The Coon and the Slavey*. Mr. J. Studt's motor-cars were also in great demand. Hoop-la circles, rifle ranges, and cocoanut shies were supplied by Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard, North, Scott, Butlin, Freeman, and Davies. Other attractions were snake-charmers, phrenologists, &c.

Sale of a Famous French Menagerie.

A REFERENCE to our advertisements will discover the fact that Bidel's Menagerie is to come under the hammer on Feb. 22 at Paris. The sale is owing to the death of the proprietor. The late M. Bidel was the premier animal trainer of France, and the trained animals he left behind will find ready purchasers. The show, judging from the preliminary notice before us, must be a capital one, and up to date in every detail.

Longton Shrovetide Fair.

UNDER the banner of the monarch of British shows, Mr. P. Collins, the famous No. 1 show—Mrs. Flora Collins' Wonderland of Light and Illustration—was the centre of attraction and the money-magnet of the fair. P. Collins exhibited his fine set of racing motor-cars, the electric bikes, and the racing birds; W. Davies, with three-abreast gallopers, the ships in the air, and swings; Wm. Chaplain and N. Wright with juvenile horses, motors, and Teddy Bears; shooting galleries and ranges by Fossett and Wright; hoop-la circles by Powell, Wright and Hart; throwing games in great variety by Humphries, Connor, Cordwell, Wright, Chapman, Powell, Humphrey, Cooper, Thompson, Birch, and others. A good fair, and well patronised by the people of the Potteries.

JACOB STUDT is having a season of private business with his show, &c., at Southall. William Taylor, with the big show from the World's Fair, is at Acton. Forrest Brothers are on their ground at Mile End-road with machines and shows. James Manders, with picture show machine and other novelties, is on the Lillie-road, Fulham, Fairground. The other pitches for shows in London include: High-street, Deptford; High-street, Stratford; Cambridge Heath-road; Lavender-hill; and Arthur Burgess is holding a Fun City at Chelsea.

News from Yorkshire.

Harry Ashington with his show is at Adwalton; with him are W. Bassett, Redfern, and Daley with their fairground novelties and games. At Wombwell is (or was?) John Proctor—perhaps the show is now en route for Lynn. Harrison, with colossal auction van, is at the Broadway, Mitcham-road.

The Showmen's Guild at Lynn.

THE new vicar of Lynn (the Rev. J. C. Vaudrey) has written to the Guild Chaplain to the effect that the arrangement of many years' standing with reference to the showmen's service on the Mart will be carried out as usual this year. The chaplain will be the special preacher at St. Nicholas Church on the Sunday morning at 11, and the choir and clergy will assist at the afternoon service of the Guild.

Shrovetide Fair at Lichfield.

THE Lichfield Shrovetide Fair was held on Tuesday, but under existing arrangements with the City Council, Mr. P. Collins had opened proceedings on Saturday and Monday, the result being that the fair assumed considerable dimensions. The Market-square was well filled with attractions, the chief of which included Collins's splendid cinematograph exhibition, Collins's switchback roundabout, the haunted castle, numerous side-shows, and novelties. The Mayor of Lichfield (Councillor G. R. Benson, brother of the well-known actor and manager, Mr. F. R. Benson), together with Mr.

[Photo by Midland Photo Press.

OPENING CEREMONY OF LICHFIELD SHROVETIDE FAIR.

Sheriff Winterton and the Town Clerk, the members of the Council, the mace-bearers and the cryer, opened the fair with the old-world proclamation, the ceremony being witnessed by a crowd of citizens and a throng of the employees of Mr. Collins, who appeared vastly interested in such an ancient ceremonial. The Mayor dispensed the usual hospitality to his guests and attendants on their return to the Guildhall. The other entertainers at the fair included Devant's hall of fun, shooting galleries and rifle ranges by Messrs. Dobson. The hoop-la circles and throwing games were by Messrs. Mitchell, Harris, Lewis, and other caterers.

The Fight for Mitcham Fair.

GREAT interest attaches to the coming election of the parish council of Mitcham. The people of Mitcham have only one chance of pressing their views upon their representatives, and that is only once in three years at the election. The friends of the Fair, although in a minority on the parish council, have made their power felt on the council. Many efforts have been made by these true friends of popular rights to convince the obdurate majority that the policy of the abolitionists is not acceptable to the great mass of the people of Mitcham. The time has now come (after three weary years of patient waiting) to show the would-be despoilers of the people's amusements that the people want their Fair and mean to have and to hold it.

The Long-Suffering People.

IT is so hard to nurse a grievance for three years, especially when the man who did you the wrong is in many other ways a good fellow. With regard to the Fair rights of the people of Mitcham, the parish council has both by grant of money and by repeated resolutions (some only carried by one vote, it is true) done all it could to destroy the people's Fair. The same council has ignored the expressed will of the people at two properly-convened parish meetings. The question of taking a poll of the people has been shelved—and why? The only honest answer is that a majority of the present parish council want to abolish the Fair in spite of the people's declared will at two parish meetings and at public meetings convened by the Showmen's Guild and other bodies.

What is the Duty of the Electors?

IT is to see that the Fair and its continuance is made a test question at the next election; it is to refuse to vote for the man who would help to rob the people of their old Fair. It is to teach a necessary and most salutary lesson to all those parish councillors who claim to know much better than the people themselves know what is good for Mitcham. That is a lesson that the people of Mitcham can only teach once in three years. The time is close at hand for teaching these arrogant would-be masters and dictators of Mitcham that as regards public matters, parish councillors, and, indeed, all elected persons, are not the masters but the servants of the people who send them in to place and power.

What will the Showmen's Guild Do?

IT was only by a stroke of good luck four years ago that showmen got warning of the movement to abolish Mitcham Fair. It was nearly too late to take action, but action was taken, and with immediate and good effect. The Home Secretary was petitioned, and the Guild petition strengthened the petition of two parish councillors who in the people's cause opposed the council in the matter.

THE showmen won the day; the Fair was held, and has been held every year since. Three years ago a new council was elected, and six Progressives got in. Public interest in the Fair question grew and grew—not only Mitcham but South London became enthusiastic in defence of the old-time Fair. The friends of the Fair on the parish council did their best to bring about a peaceful settlement; the friends of the Fair on the Board of Conservators also did their best, but without avail. The four Mitcham conservators have been opponents of the Fair all the time—sent there by the enemies of the Fair on the parish council. The Four Mitcham conservators are the nominees of the parish council, who, despite two parish meetings, still persist in forcing their will upon the people.

The Guild and the Election.

THE organised showmen will take care that the people do know who are their real friends in the matter. The Guild will not allow the question to go by default, but will work to rouse Mitcham to a true knowledge of its responsibilities and its power. It is at the ballot-box where autocrats find that they can no longer flout the people's wishes. The Guild has had to wait for the opportunity—the constitutional opportunity of helping the people of Mitcham to realise that Mitcham Fair is theirs and their children's annual Fair and local holiday for ever; that to lose so precious an heritage would be a craven thing, and would do despite to those who went before them; and that it would be a base betrayal of those who may follow after. To enter the lists, and to make the people's Fair a real people's question is the work before the Guild, and the many friends of the showmen in and around Mitcham will find the showmen ready to do their part to secure to the people for ever the ancient charter Fair of Mitcham.

British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union.

THE above Society will hold its annual business committee meeting at King's Lynn on Wednesday next, Feb. 16, at 2.30 p.m. For place of meeting see advertisement.

Old-Fashioned Roundabout Engaged for Covent Garden.

AN old-fashioned "merry-go-round," which for generations has been the centre of attraction at English village fairs, arrives to-day at the Covent Garden Opera House. The "merry-go-round" is to take a silent part in Covent Garden opera for one night only, for its quaint steam organ with the moving mechanical figures will not assist with the music. The organ's tune will be played by the orchestra. This is the first time a "merry-go-round" has been introduced at this famous opera house. Together with a shooting gallery, fat man show, gingerbread stalls, &c., it will form the scenery of the Fair scene in *The Village Romeo and Juliet* (Delius) on Feb. 22. The whole of the stage will in this scene be transformed into a most realistic country fair, in which the company will be disguised as showmen, farmers, yokels, &c.

Fair in Music.

SPECIAL attention has been given by M. Delius, the composer, to the music, which even makes allowance for the cracking of rifles and the babel inseparable from a country pleasure fair. How to look picturesque and sing with wonted expression and dignity is puzzling not a few of the artists who will appear as showmen or gingerbread-stall keepers. As a brigand or peasant the matter is easy, but the character of the raucous-voiced caterer of pleasure at country fairs is quite a different matter to Covent Garden professionals. After its "turn" at Covent Garden on Feb. 22, the "merry-go-round" will, under the direction of its proprietor, once more commence a tour of the English villages.

THE veteran Little Thomas will hold his annual grand Bohemian concert at Stanley Hall, Junction-road, N., on March 14. The old Mohawk is sure of a bumper.

MISS ADA TILLEY has scored a success at the Palace, Bow, this week with her farcical sketch *A Call to Arms*. Mr. Walter B. Nugent and Mr. Harold Wagner are supporting Miss Tilley.

OF all the bouquets received by Miss Maidie Scott on the termination of the pantomime last Saturday at New Cross, she felt most flattered by one presented to her by the members of the Broadway orchestra — a real tribute to her popularity.

PRESENTATION.—On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary benefit of Mr. J. F. Elliston, the managing-director of the Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd., occasion was taken by him to present his energetic and popular acting-manager, Mr. John Moncur, with a handsome liqueur tantalus.

THE numerous friends and admirers of Miss Amber Austa will be glad to hear of her complete recovery from her recent illness. The sprightly lady has some surprises in store, and hopes to resume business immediately. Mr. George Bastow likewise is in hopes of getting into harness shortly, and was observed lately darkly conspiring with Fred W. Leigh at Messrs. Francis and Day's, again concocting between them probably yet another "Galloping Major."

MANY members of the profession will be sorry to hear of the death, after a long illness, of Mr. Thomas J. Fishwick, a well-known sportsman, whose fine hostelry The Prince Edward, in Parkhurst-road, N., was the resort of nearly all the stars when fulfilling engagements at the Holloway Empire, and during the strenuous time of pantomime rehearsals sections of the company of the adjacent Marlborough Theatre have been glad to make use of the spacious saloon where "Flat-iron, London," welcomed them year after year. The deceased, who was a bachelor, was interred on Monday at Bow.

Forty-third Year of Publication.

"THE ERA" ANNUAL, 1910.

The Most Complete Dramatic Dictionary of Dates and Theatrical Treasury of Knowledge ever brought before the Public.

The Most Interesting Annual of the Year.

CONTENTS.

WHERE WAS THE OLD GLOBE PLAYHOUSE?
By Sir HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CHARITY AND THE PROFESSION.
By F. H. PEDGRIFT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

RHYMES OF SHOWLAND.
By Rev. T. HORNE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"OUT OF EVIL."
By HELENA MILLAIS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"JOLLY JACK TAR."
By VESTA TILLEY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AWAY TO THE WEST.
By J. H. BARNES.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE "DANDY" PANTOMIME.
By HENRY NEVILLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOOTLIGHTS.
By Rev. DONALD HOLE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

SOME THOUGHTS.
By LOUIE FREEAR.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

I ATTEMPT A STRAIGHT PART.
By DAN ROLYAT.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN IRISH EXPLANATION.
By FRED TERRY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE FAILURES.
By RUTLAND BARRINGTON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A PUNCH AND JUDY FIASCO.
By JOHN LE HAY.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

LEFT BEHIND.
By S. A. COOKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A MOVIN' ON.
By MAY E. LUCAS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"SOMETHING NEW."
By JOHN LAWSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

AN AERIAL ADVENTURE.
By H. J. HITCHINS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE PRICE OF A CHRISTMAS DINNER.
By KITTY LOFTING.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

A HARPIST'S REMINISCENCES.
By CHAS. CLIFFORD.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

TUFFY.
By HARRY NICHOLLS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MENAGERIE.
By CHAS. COLLETTE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

IN SEARCH OF PEACE.
By WILLY CLARKSON.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ODDS AND ENDS.
By ARTHUR WILLIAMS.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE GROWLER'S GRUMBLINGS.
By TOM CRAVEN.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THE MINSTREL BOY.
By FRED GROVE.
Illustrated by Photograph and Autograph.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1909.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE BERLIN THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE NEW YORK THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW PLAYS AND IMPORTANT REVIVALS.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

CASTS OF NEW SKETCHES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICE,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS, MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 14, 21, May 2.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 24, 31, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2.
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 28, April 25, May 2, 16, Aug. 1, 15, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 12,
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, April 18, May 2, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 18, 25, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 14, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 28, April 4, May 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 14, 21; Wolverhampton, March 7, 21; Northampton, March 14, 21; Reading, March 28, Dalston, March 21, 28.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for six weeks' run, Xmas next, OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Please say where can be seen.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 14 and 21.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 21 (3), 28, March, Easter (?), May 9 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, March 14.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Easter (?), May 30, June 20.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21 and April 18.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, March 28, April 4, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, April 11, 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN, April 4, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, May 9, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, March 21 and 28.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Grand Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The Entire Production made for this Theatre only. Great Cast. Will Evans, Dan Crawley, Brothers Etherion, Margaret Ruby, Gertie Gavagan. Bookings at this theatre include: Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, Musical Comedies or First-class Attractions, March 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Must be very Big Productions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
GRAND THEATRE, HALIFAX.
HIPPODROME, HUDDERSFIELD.
THEATRE ROYAL, DEWSBURY.
THEATRE ROYAL, ROCHDALE.
THEATRE ROYAL, BURY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Autumn, also Pantomimes for next Season, once and twice nightly.
Full particulars, OTTO C. CULLING, Bury.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March, on. All communications,
WALTER R. WALLIS,
or London Representatives, Messrs. JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Companies, for May 9 and 16, also various Autumn.
SIDNEY COOPER.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Lessee, WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Feb. 28, and later dates. Address, WILL SMITHSON, Empire Palace, Barnsley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, May 2, onward,
with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant March 28, May 9, 16, onward,
with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in March, 1910.

"CINDERELLA," Feb. 7, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Feb. 7, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." Feb. 14, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.

The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for March 21, 28, April 11, May 2, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Companies, March 14, 21, April 4, 11, 18, and May 9, and Aug., onwards.
MR. JOHN TILLER'S PANTOMIME,
"JACK AND JILL."
Scored a record success this Christmas for one month and ten day performances. Open to negotiate for a big Pantomime Production next Xmas for one month or six weeks.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant dates, March 14, 21, 28 (Easter), April 4 (5 nights), 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Vacant dates, March 21, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 23, 30, and onwards.

All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there. Others to J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
The only Theatre in the Town.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter, Whit, and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

PAVILION THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, March 14, 21, April 11, 28, 29, 30, May 2, 9.

PALACE THEATRE,
EBBW VALE.
Vacant March 7, April 11, 18, 19, 20, May 2, 9.
Pantomimes and First-class Attractions Required.

Particulars, E. Tilney, Abertillery.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions, April 25 and May 30.
Brilliant Business with Brilliant Companies.
Almost everything of note Booked.
Address, Otto C. Culling, Bury.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for March 7, 14, 28, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

EMPIRE THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, Musical Comedies and High-class Companies, Three or Six Nights, for July, August, and September.
Particulars to H. J. Snelson.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to James Kiernan, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, March 7 and 28, on.
A. D. Vernon.

SCARBOROUGH and HARROGATE.
WANTED, First-class Company, March 21, 22, 23 (three nights), Harrogate; and March 24—26 (two nights), Hippodrome, Scarborough.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical preferred, March 7, 14, and 21.
Thos. Courtice, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 14, onwards.
Jos B. Ormerod.

WANTED, Companies, March 10 (3 nights), 21, Easter, and on.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted for Feb. 28, March 7, and onwards, Pantomimes, Variety Combinations, and Dramas. Please Note.—Twice Nightly.
Share or Certainty.
All coms. to
Walter Batty, Baltic Hotel.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Is now permanently opened by the Lessee, Jules Richeux, late of Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. This theatre has been redecorated, reseated, upholstered, and equipped up-to-date.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 7, 21, Easter, April, on, with exceptions.
Re dates, direct to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10 and 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
Seats 1,200.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions and Comedy. Easter, July 21, 28 (3 nights), Aug. 1 to 13 (inclusive), Sept. 8 and 15 to 26, inclusive. Address, Manager.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Mr. WILL SMITHSON, having taken a Lease of the above Theatre, intends working the same on his usual First-class style. Gloucester has had a rest from Opera and Drama for several years.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Feb. 28 and later dates. Address, Will Smithson, Empire Theatre, Barnsley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 7, May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District. Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Walter Melville's productions; Miss Horniman's Co.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions, Feb. 28 (?), March 14, and Easter.
Only Vacant Dates till Autumn.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21 and April 25.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
Sept. 19, onwards,
Sept. 19, onwards,
Sept. 19, onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Pantomime Production, Christmas, 1910-1911. Christmas, 1910-1911.
For three weeks. State where to be seen.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Drama, Five Nights, March 21 (Passion Week); must travel scenery and have good plant of pictorials. Letters only, stating full particulars, percentage, or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
The Most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 21, April 18, 25, May 9 and 16.
Address, Harry Yorke, Managing-Director.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for London, March 14, 21, April 18.
Newcastle, March 21 and 28.
Edinburgh, April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
Glasgow, May 2, 16, and 23.
Aberdeen and Dundee, April 18 and 25.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attractions for Feb. 28, March 21.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, Richard Thornton.
The Latest and Most Gorgeous Up-to-date Theatre Out of London.
Accommodation for 3,000 people.
Can Stage the Largest Productions Touring.
WANTED for Special Weeks at intervals. First-class Musical Comedies or No. 1 Dramatic Attractions; Big Pantomime Production could be arranged for Sunderland and Hartlepool.
Apply, Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, through Transferring, Big Attraction, for Theatre Royal, Bolton, March 14, Musical Comedy preferred.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Feb. 21 Hastings and Eastbourne (three nights each) (?).
Feb. 28, Hastings and Eastbourne (week each), March 14, Hastings (week).
March 21, Eastbourne (week) (?).
Easter Folkestone, and Eastbourne.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
WANTED, Musical Company, March 10, 11, 12, also April 7, 8, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Wanted, good Dramas, twice nightly, last three nights of week, Easter, and on.

W. Payne Seddon,
Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 24 and 26 (two nights, one matinée), March 28 (Easter week), and various dates onwards, including one or two Season dates.
The year 1909 was the most successful year the Eastbourne Pier Company have ever had, the profits being much in excess of any preceding year.
For dates apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Short Plays, Dramatic and Comedy Sketches, Variety Artists. Britannia Theatre, Hoxton.

Humphrey E. Brammall,
Carlton House, Regent-street, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Vacant March 21 (5 nights), April 18, 25, May 2.
Address, Feather,
Theatre, West Hartlepool.

PAVILION THEATRE,
MILE END, E.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for March 21 and April 4.

WANTED, Something to Draw after Monday, March 14, 21, on, Grand, Chorley; also Feb. 23, March 21, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, 24 (three), 28, on.
W. E. Potts.

WANTED, Sound Attraction, March 14 (Pantomime once or twice nightly preferred). Wire, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

COMPANIES WANTED.

RAMSGATE.
ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.
Successfully Re-opened Jan. 31, by
MR. CHARLES EVANS.
Managers when Booking Ramsgate kindly note, this is the only Theatre proper in the town, and also the only building that is run at regular Theatre prices, viz., without a sixpenny pit or one shilling circle, and holds nearly twice as much money as any other in the neighbourhood.

Under experienced and popular management.

Professional Orchestra and entirely new Staff throughout.

WANTED, Musical Comedies, Easter week, Sept. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, and 12, 13, 14; good Dramas, April 11, May 23, Nov., and onwards.

All communications re Dates direct to
Henry Bowman,
Resident-Manager, as above.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, March 21, 28.
May 9, 16, 23, 30.
June 6, 13, 20.
Aug. 1, 8, 15, on.
Only Best Attractions Received,
With Good, Well-acted Plays.
Big Money can be Taken.
Terms no object if attraction right.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, March 28, May 2, 9, 16.
COATBRIDGE, March 21, April 11, 25.
AYR, March 14, April 18, May 2, 9.
FALKIRK, March 2 (4 nights), May 2, 9.
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), April 11, 18, and on.
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, on.
LEITH, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 5590 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Companies only.
GRAND THEATRE,
BLACKPOOL.
Most Commodious Theatre of the Town.

Grand Reopening, Monday, March 21.
Vacant Dates, April 4, and onwards, with exceptions.

Exceptional Opportunity for London Successes.

All communications to
Geo. H. Harker, General Manager
(as above)
or
Mr. E. Lockwood,
5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES,
BLACKBURN AND PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 28, Preston, April, May, June, and on, with exceptions, Share or Certainty. E. H. Page, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies for March 14.
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

JERSEY and GUERNSEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Few Remaining Season Dates. Easter possibly. Vacant for Musical Comedy only.
Edward Marris, 1, Douglas House, Maida-hill, W.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, Companies, March 7, 28, and April 11. Lessee and Manager, Charles Durie.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 25,
May 2, 9, 16, 30.
Wire,
James Bell.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical pieces preferred), for March 7 (re-opening week), 14, 21, April 11, Oct. 17, 31, and on, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Various Dates,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, Managers.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Whit, May 23, 30, June 13, 27, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, 21, 28, on. Alfred Manners.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, March 14 (?), April 4 (?), and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings; "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Panto., Feb. 28.
Wallace Davidson, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedy or Show that will draw money for Whit Week, May 16, Pageant Week, and Yeomanry Camp; also booking autumn dates. Now the only Theatre in town.
Alf Bailey and Co.

WANTED, for Feb. 25, 26, March 11, 12, First-class Fit-up Companies.
J. Sykes, Victoria Hall, Abercarn.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of May 2 and 23.
Weeks of May 2 and 23.

Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

CHARLES HARRINGTON'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and "THE OCTOROON" COMPANY.
Established at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, 1891.
WANTED, Theatres, March 21, 28 (?), April 4, 11, May 2, 16, June 6, July 11, on.
Charles Harrington,
Albert Theatre, Brighouse.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, May 2 and 16, also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker. Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 28,
Midland Counties preferred.
Address, Cecil Barth, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, March 21, 28, Aug. 1, 8, and all Oct.

Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 21 and March 21.
Walter Melville,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, March 21, and various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, April 4, 11.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 31, and various on.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 21, Aug. 1, 8.
Andrew Melville, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, 28, April 4, 11.
Andrew Emm, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 22.
Douglas Bruce,
"Norwood," 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18 May 2, 9, 16.
Douglas Bruce,
Norwood, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, B'ham.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.

Redressed and remounted.
Costumes by Messrs. Harrison.
Scenery and properties by Willie Leigh.

WANTED, March 14, 21 (South). April 4, 25.

All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
Feb. 14, Opera House, Torquay.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock," and Prologue depicting the murder of Hallijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Feb. 14, Royal, Bath. Tremendous Success of Spring Tour. Refer to Sidney Cooper, Esq., Lyceum, Newport.
WANTED, March 7, 28, and on. Write or wire.
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production Junction Theatre, Manchester.
July 18, 1910.
WANTED, Aug. 1, 29, and onwards, with exceptions.
Managers wishing a Strong Attraction should book
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, Feb. 24 (three nights), Feb. 24, also Vacant April 25, May 2, 16, and 30.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Feb. 28 (South), April 14 (3 days, Mid.), May 2 (?), 16.
Apply, J. E. Watson, Theatre Royal, Margate.

WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"THE PRODIGAL SON,"
Vacant Feb. 28 and Easter.
"THE BONDMAN,"
Vacant May 2.
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31.

"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, 28, April 11.

Frank M. Thorne, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

WILLIAM MOLLISON'S COMPANY
in
"THE CHORUS LADY,"
by James Forbes.
From the Vaudeville Theatre, London.
WILLIAM MOLLISON as DICK CRAWFORD.
ANNIE HUGHES as PATRICIA O'BRIEN.
WANTED, April 4 and 11 (?), Aug. 1, 8, and 15 (South).
Address, Archie W. Chappell,
Grand Theatre, Hull.

Messrs. E. FAULKNER and M. DE COURTNEY'S CO.
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."
WANTED, Theatres, March 28, April 4, 18, May 16, on.
Entire Production carried.
Clear Stage only required.
Magnificent plant of special printing.
Powerful cast, including
Miss EDITH BLANDE as CAMILLE.
Address, Wallace Davidson, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

NEVILLE CLAUDE presents
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S,"
by Arrangement with George Dance, Esq.
WANTED, Dates for this Magnificent Musical Comedy; full Cast and Chorus; everything done on First-class Lines. Address, Neville Claude, Corinthian House, Elm Grove, Aberdare.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
By F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Theatres, March 7, April 4, on.
Address,
Herbert Vere,
Next, Central Theatre, Northwich.

"KING AND UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, April 4 11, 18, 25, and onward.

Address, E. Hill-Mitchelson,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

A few Autumn Dates also Vacant.
J. PITT HARDACRE. "DRINK."
WANTED, Theatres, from now till Feb. 26.
Address, Ferndene, Staines.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO., presenting
Russell Vann's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED March 28, only Vacant Spring Date. Thanks Ben Court, Esq., Grand, Brighton, for Offer. Coms., Martin Comstock, Empire, Cradley Heath.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, April 4 and 11 for this Scream.
Dickie Clare, T. R., Lincoln (return).

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," March 21, May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 5. Haldane Crichton, Opera House., Kidderminster.

"OH, SUSANNAH!"
From the Royalty Theatre, London.
WANTED, Feb. 28, to follow New Brighton, March 14 to follow Opera House, Oldham, March 21, and Easter week. Thanks to Calvert Routledge and R. C. Buchanan for offers.
Cecil H. Woodhouse. Wire, Opera House, Torquay.
Next, Lyceum, Stafford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.

An Instantaneous Triumph.
An Instantaneous Triumph.
An Instantaneous Triumph.

Produced on Monday night
at the
THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.
amidst a scene of
Indescribable Enthusiasm.
Indescribable Enthusiasm.

Pronounced
A Great Drama.
A Great Drama.

Held the audience
in a vice
from Rise to Fall of Curtain.
Belfast Management
Belfast Public
delighted with Play.
packing Theatre to see Play.
Belfast Press
pronounce it fine play.

Northern Whig says:—
"Driving a Girl to Destruction" is sure to prove A GREAT POPULAR SUCCESS, as it possesses all the requirements to that end. The plot is ingenious without being over-complicated. The dialogue is crisp and telling, and there is a succession of strong and thrilling situations, while the scenery and accessories are a feature of the production. . . . The unmistakably favourable verdict passed on the play by Belfast is certain to be endorsed in other centres. . . .
The Irish News says:—
There was a big house. . . . and the four acts were followed with a good deal of interest. . .. The plot never lags. . . . The play moves with tremendous rapidity. . . . The company is a strong one. . . . The staging and mounting was on an elaborate scale.
The Belfast News Letter says:—
. . . Her latest work is likely to bring her fresh popularity. . . . The play has plenty of exciting incidents to arrest the attention, and the humorous interludes which characterise it caused much amusement

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
A certain
Great Money-maker
Refer
Fredk. Warden, Esq.
Managers
are cordially invited to witness the play next week, Feb. 14,
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

Vacant,
March 21, April 18, May 2.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Written by
Mrs Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
May 2, 9, 23, 30, June 6.

Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

May 9, June 6, 13, 20.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

Production Whit Week.
Morton Powell, Queen's T, Farnworth, Bolton.

Grand Autumn Production
of
Mrs. Morton Powell's Fifth Play.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5.

Morton Powell, Queen's T, Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell,
and
New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1, 15, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 and 12, and Christmas.
Geo. Kirk, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd (2 weeks).

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, March 28 and April 4 (between Bradford and Swansea), April 25, May 2, 9, and Whit.

Address, Charles Gibbon, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, May 9, Sept. 5 (?), Oct. 10, 31. Playing to exceptional business everywhere. Thursday beat Monday, T. R., Stratford; Thursday beat Monday, Lowestoft. Refer S. Fredericks, Esq., and E. A. Smith, Esq., re the splendid business done at their theatres. Also refer A. F. Cross, Esq., re show and business here. All coms., Geo. A. De Gray. To-day, Nuneaton; next, T. R., Rotherham.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 28,
April 11.
Address,
James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS"
and "GUILTY GOLD."
Wanted, March 7th, Scotland.
Horace Stanley,
King's, Kilmarnock; next, Motherwell (fifth visit).

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, March 21, Aug. 1.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Vacant May 2, 9.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Vacant through transfer, July 11.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND." Vacant May 2.
Wanted, Theatre for Stock in June. Wire or write, to-day, Century T., Motherwell; next, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."
WANTED, a Big Theatre, Easter Week, for this Great Holiday Attraction.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MURRAY KING AND CLARK'S PANTOMIME, "DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, First-class Town, to produce above, for a run next Christmas.
"CATCH OF THE SEASON."
Please send Vacant Dates for Spring Tour of above to Murray King and Clark, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
by
Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Dates, Easter, onwards, for this celebrated Farcical Comedy, which has been written up to date by the Author.
First-class Company and Production.

Coms., H. Chiswell Billing,
17, Crewdson-road S.W.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A PAIR OF SPECTACLES," or Répertoire, Feb. 21, 28, and onwards, with exceptions.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatre, Whit Week, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 26. "THE EVE OF HER WEDDING," Vacant March 7 (North). Easter (Lancs.), also May 23, June 6, 20, 27, Aug. 1, various Autumn.
Letter, P. O. W., Theatre, Mexborough.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for this Colossal Production, No. 1 Theatre next Season.
Production and Run.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, 1910. and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, 1910, and onwards.
Managers note:—
These are three of the most successful Pantomimes ever produced.
Re dates, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PLAYS.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Drama, Feb. 21, 28.
Feb. 21, 28.
Feb. 21, 28.
Wire for Feb. 21, 28.
Also Vacant, April 11.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring.
WANTED, March 7.
WANTED, March 7.
Wire for March 7.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
WANTED, Good Theatre for Easter.
Re dates, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, "Care of Pagoda, Liverpool."

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Easter.
Vacant Easter.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, March 21, Easter, Easter, Easter.
FRED BULMER,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter
FRED BULMER, Lyric Opera H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, for the following Companies:—
"A WHITE MAN,"
May 2, 9, 16 (South).

"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE,"
March 28, various April and May Dates.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS,"
March 7, Midlands, April 4 and 25.

"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING,"
March 28, and various dates to May 16.
Address, BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.
Telegrams, care "Breather, London."

"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
March 7, 14.
March 7, 14.
March 7, 14.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company, in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

Owing to the enormous success of this attraction the piece will be toured right through.
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Easter, Easter, Easter,
April 4 (?), 11 (?), 18, and 25,
May 2 and 9,
June 27,
July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1, 15, and 29 (?),
Oct. 24, Nov. 14, and Xmas.
Now booking Spring, 1911. Everything carried.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Maesteg;
Monday, New Theatre, Aberdare.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, for this beautiful touring Pantomime. Brimful of refinement, beautifully dressed and staged, splendid cast of artists, big specialities, funny comedians. Come and see and judge for yourselves. Now playing at Colwyn Bay. Address, BARRETT, 36, Sidney-street, Melton Mowbray, until Saturday night. After, BARRETT, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Feb. 28, for Cullen and Carthy's Enormously Successful Pantomime,
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Vacant through obliging a Manager.
This show breaks records everywhere.
Among cast is Miss Bessie Cohen, Miss Marian Ford, Cullen and Carthy, Arthur Stratton, Tom Drew, Dollie and Elsie, &c., &c.

Only First-class Theatres or Music Halls, &c., Entertained.

Refer, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Watson (Dublin), Mr. Wilmott, Mr. Broadhead, &c., &c.

Coms., J. CULLEN,
Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool.

"FLORODORA."
The Best and Most Popular Musical Comedy.
WANTED, good Theatres, various dates, July, August, September, onwards. Apply to C. CONSTANT 17 Burleigh-mansions, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, May 2 (North preferred), June 13, 20, Aug. 1. Excellent Cast, New Scenery. Everything done to ensure a great success. Wire.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, March 21, 28, few summer dates. Excellent Cast, including Miss Edie Macklin and Miss Cissie St. Elmo.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, 28th, March 7 (between Shields and Liverpool). Special band to parade. Excellent business.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Vacant March 21, 28, few Summer Dates. Managers needing good, sound attractions wire for the above Plays. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, this, T. R., Woolwich; next, Miners' T., Ashington.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Easter Week, April 4, 11, May 16. Only Vacant Dates until late Autumn. This is absolutely the greatest successful Domestic Novel Play on the Road to-day. Refer re enormous business at Portsmouth last week; also Woolwich, this. Thanks to B. Court, Esq., for one of his best season Dates at Brighton; also Otto C. Culling, Esq., F. Laidler, Esq., &c. Only a few remaining Dates. Excellent Cast, including Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.—Wire for Easter and Whit (vacant) to F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Woolwich; next, Ashington.

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, onwards, First-class Pantomime; can arrange two houses nightly. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

MISS MURIEL GODFREY-TURNER
AND COMPANY, including
MR. THOMAS HOLDING,
in
"CAMILLE" and "THE IRONFOUNDER."
WANTED, March 7, and on, with exceptions.
HOLDING, 129, Holland-road, W.

"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Aug. 1.
FRED BULMER, Elephant and Castle T., S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "The Defence of Lady Rosa," Original Comedy by A. H. Pocock. Now booking Spring. ARCHIBALD and DOHERTY, 9, Old-square, Lincoln's Inn, London. Telephone 187 Holborn.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To all Managers of First-class Pier Pavilions, and other similar places of Entertainment, that
WILLIAM DOWNES
intends touring a High-class Concert Party under the description of
"THE MERRY HUNTERS,"
commencing Monday, May 16, 1910.
Each Artist specially chosen for this Tour, and includes the famous versatile lady entertainer,
MISS MENA BRAE.
A Brisk and Brilliant Show, in smart Hunting Costumes. Re dates and terms apply direct to W. DOWNES, Drury Lane Theatre, London, W.C.

WALTER GEORGE'S
POPULAR VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
"THE SMART SET" ENTERTAINERS.
WANTED, Easter Week (March 28),
Special Scenery and many Novelties.
"THE SMART SET" ENTERTAINERS.
Vacant,
Easter Week, also May 23, 30, June 6.
Address,
THE MANAGER, 6, Grafton-street, Manchester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady, Leading Man, Heavy Lady, Heavy Man, Comedian, Chambermaid, Child Actress, Character Actor (to double), and Eccentric Comedy Old Woman. Rehearse Feb. 21. Terms, references, and full particulars, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists, Spring Tour, one month, New Comedy. State business, lowest terms, references, &c., Box 7,275, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists and Staff, all Lines. Send full particulars. THE OLD STAR DRAMATIC AND STAFF AGENCY, 11, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Actor, for Napoleon, one having played part preferred; also two good Leading Actors for Dashing Generals' parts, one small but important; Lady for Josephine. Music Hall production, London, Feb. 28; rehearse week previous. State full particulars, lowest terms, references, &c. HARRY ANDERSON, Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
WANTED, good Heavy Gent., also Aristocratic Old Gentleman, for Military part; a good Child Actress, to look 10. Absolutely lowest terms, references, photos., HARRY LYNDON, T. R., Batley.

WANTED, for Special Week, March 7, Rehearse Feb. 28, possible tour to follow. Artists for Comedy Sketch, Comedians, Character Old Man; also tall gent. for character part. Apply, by letter only, F. MULVEY, 8, Wilmot-place, N.W.

WANTED, Young and Pretty Soubrette for Sketch, opening in London, Feb. 21. Height about 5ft. 4in, slim figure, look eighteen. Must dress part thoroughly well. Possible vacancy for Comedian. Full particulars and photo, HENRY HARE, 1, Quain-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, W.

WANTED, Small Part, Gent., not less 5ft. 9in, open London, Sketch, Feb. 21. Apply, letters only, lowest terms, photos if possible. MANAGER, Hart's Studios, Latona-road, Glengall-road, Old Kent-road.

WANTED, by Australian Lady Artist, Dramatic Sketch, Partner, good Theatres, or would Sell good Sketch. Box 7,263, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Juvenile (boy) with strong voice; accustomed to Solo work. Apply between 12 and 2 o'clock, 1, Hayter-road, Brixton Hill.

WANTED, at Once, Juveniles (girls). Dancing essential. Apply between 12 and 2 o'clock, 1, Hayter-road, Brixton Hill.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for Good Friday Night Concert, First-class Male Quartette or Mixed Glee Party; must be good Soloists and have extensive Répertoire. Full particulars to HARRY ESDEN.

WANTED, to Rehearse at once, good powerful Baritone, must be young and good appearance, or no use, also clever Pianist. Photo and last two references, or call, G. and L. BLISS, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Managers disappointed or in want of Dramatic Artist, and Staff, should wire OLD STAR DRAMATIC AND STAFF AGENCY, 11, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, 20, Juvenile or understudy; piano if required. L. S., C/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Known, Two Well-known and Versatile Artists, Disengaged for Summer. Sketches, Songs, Monologues, Recitals. High-class work only.—Box 7,290, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

SOMERS AND SAUNDERS PANTO., 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Artists, all lines next Season. Photo, References, and where can be seen working next three weeks.
WALTER BELLIAN, Barton-av., Urmston, Manchester.

WANTED, a smart young Prin. Boy and Girl. Full particulars, photos., ages, heights, refs., state where can be seen working. All coms., LENA STANTON, T. R., Shrewsbury.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Pantomime, 1910-11, by THE RIVERS
(Violet and May).
Principal Boy and Girl. Both got good talking and singing voices, clever Dancers and splendid appearance. Acknowledged by Managers, Public, and Brother and Sister Artists to be two of the prettiest and most effectively dressed ladies on the Stage. May Rivers a dashing and lovely-figured Principal Boy, Violet Rivers a smart, lively, and dainty Principal Girl, introducing Singing, Dancing, and Whistling Specialities. Can now be seen playing with great success, "Aladdin" Panto. Feb. 14, Alex. T., Pontefract, Yorks.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, good Scenic Artist, with own Brushes, &c., for one or two weeks. Address, with refs., to T. E. WARD, T. R., Barnsley.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. ROBERTS, Esq., &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, immediately, Gentleman to Learn duties of Management (recognised company), must dress well; previous experience not essential. MANAGER, 56, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Acting-Manager, young (married preferred). Last references, lowest terms in first letter. Sinecure hunters save stamps. SANTE, Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, for Important Theatre, a Young Gentleman as Assistant Acting-Manager; he would be thoroughly taught all duties of management; premium required, and exceptional references. Box 7,278, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn Business Management with a Touring Co.
Box 7,235, "The Era."

WANTED, Responsible Manager, Menagerie Tour, England; unimpeachable character, sobriety indispensable; also Beastmen and Band. Apply, ANDREW PHELAN, Post Office, Hull.

WANTED, for West-End Variety Theatre, Competent Electrician.
State age and experience.
Address, Box 7,286, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately Electrician, one thoroughly competent to work Bioscope.
Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Empire, Wakefield.

WANTED, Foreman Billposter, to take charge of large staff of men.
Must be a capable man with experience.
Apply, giving copies of discharges from previous employers and wages required, to
Box 7,283, "The Era."

WANTED, a Billposter, to Travel with Circus Agent and look after Horse and Van; good Window-biller. Address, TAYLOR, 10, Washington-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Young Man, as Attendant (do little Bill-posting); wife as Cleaner. State terms (lowest), and forward photo. if convenient.
SMITHSON, Empire Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser willing to invest considerable amount in good Theatre or Picture Hall with view to management. Please address in strict confidence first instance to Box 7,280, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Managerial or Secretarial Appointment, Theatre, Music Hall or Tour; at present Manager of Important Midland Skating Rink; age 24, good address; excellent references. Small salary. Box 7,228, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, Manager (Resident), Theatres, Picture Hall, Rink, Disengaged through Theatre changing hands; highest refs. G. W. COE, Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, by Real Live Manager, Engagement, London, Provinces or Touring; splendid references. Energy, ability and grit. M. M., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Stage-Manager, Musical Comedy or Ballet; experienced; good Dancer and Arranger.
Apply, Box 7,258, "The Era."

WANTED, Position as Assistant-Manager, combine Violin in Orchestra; experienced; excellent testimonials. Address, Box 7,257, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Keen, Practical Business-Manager, Public School man, wishes to arrange all business matters, dates, contracts, interviews, &c., for Actor-Manager, Legitimate or Music Hall.
Thoroughly versed in Press work and best methods of publicity.

Address for interview,
JOURNALIST,
2, Margaret-street, Oxford-circus, W.

WANTED, Known, Clerk, 22, desires Situation in Theatre Manager's Office, 8 years' experience; excellent references. Write, CARLYLE, 77, Boothtown-road, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Lloyd, Circus Advance Agent, at Liberty for Tenting Season, 1910, England or Ireland. Address, 14, Liverpool terrace, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, if you are in want of a Circus Agent for the Tenting Season, I, JAMES LECO, 54, Plains of Waterloo, East Cliff, Ramsgate, Kent, am at Liberty.

WANTED, Engagement Electrician and Operator, experienced both currents, at Liberty Feb. 20; good offers. CHAS. STEELE, 112, London-rd., Carlisle.

WANTED, Perm. Eng. by Stage Carpenter, Theatre Hall, Paint Rooms, Bench Hand, Scenery, Props, own Tools. CARPENTER, 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, N.

WANTED, Berth, by a thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress; Clever Cutter and Fitter; take Large Productions. HARKET, 14, McDowell-road, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, used to Variety and Drama, for
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Terms and recent references,
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

WANTED, Conductor, Violin, Used to Varieties. Permanent Provincial Engagement.
Apply T. HOLMES, 16, St. John's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Band Royal Marines, Chatham Division, Cornet Player, must be good. Apply Mr. CHARLES HOBY, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, open Feb. 21. Terms and references to
A. M. LOADER, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player. Age, references, lowest terms.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for Big Musical Act, Young and Sober Cornet Soloist, Tenor, and G. Trombone, men playing in London preferred on account of attending rehearsals. Apply to Mr. D. GREENWOOD, 23, Oswyth-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, E Flat Clarionet, also Double Drums and Effects, 17 weeks' engagement, Military Band. Write, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Lowestoft Pier.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Good Bass Players, open immediately, wear evening dress and assist with fittings when travelling. J. W. POOLE, Music Hall, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, commencing Easter Monday, Euphonium; must be steady, to make up band. Apply, Mrs. DUFFY, Theatre, Newtownards Ireland.

WANTED.—Vacancies occur for three 'Cellists (ladies or gentlemen) in Mr. Basil Althaus' Professional Training Orchestra; no fees. Address, 54, Great Marlborough-street, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Good 'Cello Player; open at Once. Apply, stating lowest terms, references, &c., to MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, for Rink and Restaurant; must be able to play Solos when required. Terms, £2 a week. Excellent references and age essential. Box 7,269, "The Era."

WANTED, 'First-class 'Cellist, used to Variety. Terms and references, SHEPHERD, Mus. Dir., Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Harpist, young, improver.
Apply
Lieut. GEORGE MILLER, Mus. Bac.
Bandmaster, Royal Marines, Gosport.

A.M.U.
WANTED, Pianist and Flute, for Variety, in the Midlands. Apply M. D., c/o General Office.
Wanted, 'Cello, for Variety, near Manchester. Apply, Manchester Branch Secretary.

WANTED, a Pianist (many years with Maskelyne and Cooke) requires post in Electric Theatre or Rink; can arrange Band Parts. Add., CONDUCTOR, 26, Avonley-road, New Cross.

WANTED, for Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, an Experienced Drummer, with own Tympani. Apply, with references, to MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists, for Summer Season.
None but the best need apply.
Send references to
H. G. AMERS, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Silence after six days a polite negative.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age, Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Ladies, Violins, Violas, 'Cellos, Basses, Brass, Wood, Wind, Drums, and all effects for English Seasides and Buenos Ayres. Write Box 7260, "The Era."

BUFF BILL'S CIRCUS, TENTING IRELAND.
WANTED, to open March 28, Clarionets, Cornets, Saxhorn, Trombone, Euphonium, E Flat Bass; comfortable show. Address, JAMES BAINBRIDGE, 63, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

WANTED, shortly, Musicians for Tenting, Solo and Second Cornets, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon. For terms apply by letter, M. CORBETT, 6, Gomm-road, Rotherhithe, London.

WANTED, for Alhambra, Morecambe, Easter, Whit, and Season, Flute, Bass, Trombone, Drums. Apply, H. STEELE, 3, Henry-street, Warrington.

WANTED, good steady Musicians write again for Rink Military Band; library, uniforms. Lowest terms CARLILE VERNON, Victoria Hall, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, First-class Band, Menagerie and Beast Men, Tour England; also Large Road Living Carriage. ANDREW PHELAW, P.O., Hull.

WANTED, 'Cellists, to send for a copy of Auguste Van Biene's Great Solo, "Roses and Memories," by Ted Snyder. Price 1s. 6d. nett, of the Publishers, TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.), Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED known, Charles Godfrey, jun., First-class Conductor (also piano). At Liberty. Just finished 11 long season engagements as Musical Director, Spa, Scarborough; both Orchestral and Military Bands. Very highest references.
Address, The Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Experienced Musical Director desires an Engagement in a First-class Music Hall, London or Suburbs. Highest references. Box 7261, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Conductor, Variety, Concert &c. Highest refs. Age 30 total abstainer. CONDUCTOR, 55, Bournemouth-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director, also Leader and Pianist, at Liberty, any business; good references. Address, LEADER, Hengler's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mr. H. Mitchell, late Musical-Director (Violin) Avenue T., Sunderland, as Conductor, on Termination of present Engagement with Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's Cos., Third Tour; highest references; at Lib. Feb. 21. This week, New T., Consett; next, T. R., Batley.

WANTED, Known, Engagement by Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist; good references; experienced. Address, 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Lady Violinist.
LIZZIE MATTHEWS, 230, Croxted-rd., Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Violinist. Experienced in Dramatic or Variety Business. Good refs. Apply VIOLINIST, c/o General Post Office, Tonypandy, South Wales.

WANTED, a good Summer Engagement, by a First-class Violinist.
B. R., Box 7,270, "The Era."

WANTED, to Book Re-engagement by First Violin, experienced all lines; thoroughly steady and reliable; good refs. HERBERT PHIPPS, 11, Hood-street, Kilmarnock, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, Conductor. Excellent References. Large Library and Smart Uniforms if required. Any Business. Box 7186, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Evening or Deputy, London, First Cornet, experienced, good reference. MEAD, 42, St. Stephen's-road, Green-street, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business. Address, Sat. and Sunday, COPESTICK, 365, Bramall-lane, Sheffield; Mon., 31, London-rd., Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet. SHARP, Cornet, Empire Rink, Sheffield. Monday, SHARP, 28, Crogsland-road, Chalk Farm, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet.
Apply,
H. RUSSELL, 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Theatre Music Hall, or Rink; steady and reliable. Good refs. SHANAHAN, 320, Foxhall-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, experienced, good references; can join at once.
J. COE, 90, Emmanuel-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Clarionet, any business, good references. Address, CLARIONET, c/o Miss Lacey, 28, Mark-mansions, Westville-road, London.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Lady, experienced any business, Summer Engagement. BARRY, 94, Lymington-avenue, Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement as E Flat Bass and String combined, just finished nine months with Rinks; good refs. J. DELAFIELD, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any Business. Good, steady, and reliable. Good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, any business, reliable and steady; good refs. BASSO, 139, Gladstone-street, Glossop, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Comfortable Summer Engagement, by Trombonist, good, any business, good refs.; young, sober, and reliable. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by thoroughly experienced Trombone through reduction in Orchestra; excellent refs. TROMBONE, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, by good Trombone, Engagement, any capacity, can open at once; distance no object. FRANKLIN, 54, King's-road, Portobello, Scotland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, experienced in any business. Wire or write, J. THOMAS, 21, Queen-street, Irthlingborough, Northts.; per. address, Viaduct Hotel, Workington.

WANTED, by First-cass Euphonium, Engagement, any business, any distance. Wire or write, CHARLES GRICE, 40, Gardner-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Thoroughly Experienced Euphonium, ex-Army, Engagement in Good Rink or otherwise. GEORGE ROBINSON, c/o Barkworth, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by good Euphonium, combine Trombone, Engagement, fully experienced, at Liberty Monday. Write or wire, G. GRUBER, 45, Wynyard-road, Hillsboro', Sheffield.

WANTED, immediately, by really good Euphonium, Engagement, any business, good refs. EUPHO., c/o Imeson, 57, Cloudesley-rd., Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bombardon, at Liberty after Feb. 12; steady and reliable always. F. WALTERS, 29, Stewart-terrace, Gorgie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement as E flat Bombardon, Rink or Stage Band preferred. Experienced and reliable. Good refs. Address, BOMBARDON, 142, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Horn (Tenor Cor.) Soloist, any business. Late of Vorzanger's Hungarian Band. HORNIST, 62, Warriner-gardens, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced.
Address, VIOLA, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, by Brilliant Solo Harpist (lady). Easter and onward, also Summer Season; extensive Répertoire. HARPIST, 61, Beauchamp-rd., Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, by First-class Flautist, Re-engagement, excellent refs. from Manager and Director; young and reliable. 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, &c.; age 38; highest references. C. PAYNE, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Reliable Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés, &c. PIANIST, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Orchestral Pianist. Free March 10.
Address M. S., Box 7,199, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist, can combine Second Violin, young, abstainer, Disengaged Feb. 12, experienced Dramatic, Variety, any business. Box 7,259, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist; Variety preferred; low salary to commence.
Address, Box 7,273, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Pianist, at Liberty, competent sight reader, Pictures a speciality, thoroughly experiecned, undertake or assist Management. 4, Castleview-terrace, Skipton.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch. or Self; can open at once; any business; exper. Var., Drama, Pictures; any distance. 4, Brookfield-terrace, Pwllheli.

WANTED, by Pianist, Re-engagement, Good sight reader and accompanist, steady, thoroughly reliable. Highest references. Experienced; pictures, variety orchestra. Low terms for permanency; willing to assist billing, &c. Good penman and linguist. G. G., 8, Station-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Tympanist, three Tympani, Glockenspiel, and Effects, brilliant Xylophone Soloist; good references. A. WADSWORTH, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Double Drummer, with Effects; Liberty now, or March 21, any business; experienced, reliable. Box 7,271, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, All-round Double Drummer seeks Engagement. All Effects. Rink. BENNETT, 31, Musjid-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, together with Lady Vocalist and Pianiste; own Slides; any business; thoroughly experienced; good refs. S. W. H., 36, Hunter-st., Northampton.

THE BRITISH
ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY
BAND AGENCY.
WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress), high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to GENERAL-MANAGER, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. MURDOCK, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless' Orchestra of Ladies, Disengaged Feb. 25; Vacant Summer.
Permanent address,
61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-st., Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty). Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers, C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, the Royal Navy Ladies' Orchestra. Acknowledged the finest ladies' band before the public. Now playing Crystal Palace. Also special engagements Southport, Easter, and Nursing Exhibition, Horticultural Hall, Westminster, April. Summer season, Worthing Pier (third season. For particulars apply,
FLORENCE SIDNEY JONES, Conductress.

WANTED, Engagement, through disappointment, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, vacant dates, 18th inst. to March 7, 17 to 31, April 17, May 2, after June 4, for season. CONDUCTRESS, Lansdowne, Falkland-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Offers for Whitsuntide, by Signorina de Polo's Ladies' Orchestra, from White City, &c.; Venetian costumes. 12, West Hill-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, and Tubular Bells, for Rinks, Piers. MADAME BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement Ladies' Orchestra. Dis. Feb. 21. Nine months at Aquarium Rink. Any number, uniform, good répertoire. NEWTON, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio and Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates, apply, Madame SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Family Orchestra, experienced any business, four or six performers, Dis. Feb. 12. 94, Lymington-av., Wood Green, London, N.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known a famous Military and String Band, with large Répertoire of Music, requires Summer Engagement; only First-class Piers, &c., Entertained.
For further particulars, address
Box 7,182, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Summer Season 1910, Military or Orchestral Band of Twenty Performers, all Soloists, under the direction of well-known London Conductor. Gorgeous uniforms; extensive library, comprising all the best-known Classic and Popular Works. Genuine offers invited. All coms., Box 7.267, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. CARTER, 32 Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

GEORGE BURTON FETE AND GALA AGENCY.
WANTED, for Whit Week, on, Startling Novelties, Aerial and Ground Acts, &c., for Fêtes and Galas. Terms, &c., to GEORGE BURTON, Victoria T., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, commence Monday, March 28, good Novelty Acts, also Riders Apply, Mrs. DUFFY, Theatre, Newtownards. Those who wrote please write again.

ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS.
WANTED, for Tenting, a Good Speciality Act, with drawing powers.
Address, TAYLOR, 10, Washington-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Circus Company, with own Ring Mat, V.'s and Brackets, &c., for Season commencing March. Shares. Splendid Building. No Circus in town for 12 months. SHOWMAN, 24, School-street, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Useful People, all Lines, for Tenting; also Band and Agent. Long engagement. Tent men and grooms write. Money low, but sure. FOSSETT'S Circus, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Aerial and other Novel and suitable Circus Acts, long Tour. Full particulars to Box 7,276, "The Era."

WANTED, good Agouste (or pair); would like to hear from those with good working dog or dogs for Bullfight, &c., &c. Long Engagement if suitable. Address, Manager TUDOR, The Jungle, Zoo Building, Glasgow.

WANTED, Young Man for Troupe, must have idea Tumbling and Top-mounting. Long and comfortable engagement. Apply, with full particulars,
LORD JOHN SANGER & SONS, LTD.
Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

BOSWELL'S EDUCATED PONIES.
WANTED, two smart young Pony Grooms, to commence Monday, Feb. 21. Wages 25s. per week. Address all next week, FRANK COLVER, Stud Groom, Public Hall, Pontycymmer, South Wales.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Known, that the
THREE ROYAL OHMYS
will be at Liberty Easter Monday, through postponing Engagement on the Continent. The Three Royal Ohmys are now doing the greatest Riding Acts ever seen in a Circus Ring. To-night is the 100th performance at Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow, and still the talk of the town. No Circus complete without the Three Royal Ohmys. For further particulars address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Miss Ida Stoodley,
Trick, Scene, and Double Act Rider,
at Liberty Home or Abroad.
Address,
27, Eden-grove, Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip and Wee Wullie, Clowns and Agoustes, Liberty Feb. 14 on. All coms., 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Tenting, Two Altons, Contortionists, Barrel Experts, also Outside Attraction, Contortion, Teeth Slide, from Ringpole, 6, Victoria Park-road, London.

WANTED, by Arthur Hanlon and Mlle. Carl, First-class Tenting, with the following Acts, Triple Bar Trampoline Act; also Aerial Gymnastic Act. Address, 14, Derby-st., Hulme, Manchester.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.
WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms. Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists. Single or Double Performance. Captain MIZEN, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly; also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Monday, Feb. 21, onwards, Variety Artists all Lines, good Specialities.
Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Variety Artists of Every Description, Big Animal Acts, Novelties, Specialities, Pantomimical Sketches, &c., Feb. 28, onward. Kindly say when and where their acts can be seen. Silence a polite negative. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire Wrexham.

WANTED, artists, all Lines, coming North. Lowest.
LAWSON, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 14, onwards. Hall small. Good break, going North, once nightly. State absolute lowest. J. F. FRANKLIN, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Lancashire and the North. State lowest terms. Interview by appointment only. KAY and KAY, 80, Yorkshire-street, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future Dates, big Tops of Bill, for immediate dates, for several Halls in the North. Address, SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Artists, on Shares, Feb. 21, new to Dunfermline, N.B.
Address, BOUNCING PEPS, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, Artists, All Lines, for Fête, August Bank Holiday. No Fancy Prices.
Apply, A. E. HENLEY, Bury St. Edmunds.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists of Every Description,
Artists of Every Description,
Artists of Every Description,
Artists of Every Description,
Immediate Dates, onward.
Immediate Dates, onward.
Immediate Dates, onward.
Immediate Dates, onward.

Forward, in first instance,
full particulars of Show, where can be seen, together with
full list of Bookings and absolute lowest.

Artists still in Pantomime
wishing to be seen
with view to Engagements
for next year
communicate at once,
HARRY BURNS,
HARRY BURNS,
HARRY BURNS,
Established 1895,
Head Office,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Welburn House, Hartlepool.

Telegrams, "Chosen."

Telephones, 231 and 231A Hartlepool
(NOT West Hartlepool).

THE WARREN AGENCY,
12, College-lane, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, who wish to be Booked at Leading Halls, send list of bookings, terms, vacant dates, to above. No callers. Appointments letter only.

WANTED, May 16, on, for Wilder's Fete and Gala Season, all kinds of First-class Artists, Novelties, Aerial Attractions, &c. Apply, stating lowest terms and sample lithos, to 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Artists for Summer Season (not Al-fresco). Full particulars, terms, &c., Box 7,261, "The Era."

HORACE CAMPKINS' AGENCY,
14, Norton-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Gala Artists, in all Lines, to communicate immediately, with
Terms, Bookings, and Specimen Printing.

WANTED, Gala Artists,
Wanted, Gala Artists,
in All Lines,
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas.
Lithos., Photos, Sample Printing Indispensable.

JAMES FIONI,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1686 Royal.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Feb. 21, on, nothing too big. Send private address to save time. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton London S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Feb. 21, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, New Turns, Wishing to do Trial Show at Empire, Shoreditch, Matinée, prizes given, Feb. 21. Apply SAM HART, 7, Lancaster House, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

WANTED, for Al Fresco (Forfarshire, N.B.). Artists all Lines, abstainers only. Apply, lowest terms, 12 weeks certain, GEO. MELVIN, Theatre, Arbroath, N.B.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
NOTICE.—POOLE'S THEATRES, LTD.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists and Agents to Note that the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, has been leased to Mr. Will Smithson, of the Empire, Barnsley, as from Feb. 28, 1910, and all Contracts are therefore at an end after Feb. 26, so far as the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, is concerned. Contracts for Palace, Porth, hold good.
Signed, C. W. POOLE,
Managing-Director, Poole's Theatres, Ltd.

TEMPERANCE HALL, MERTHYR.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
WANTED, Known, all Artists holding Contracts for the above Hall have been given eight weeks' notice, as per Arbitrator's Award, that such Contracts will be null and void on and after April 4, 1910. Mr. Israel Price will not be held responsible after that date. The Hall is to be controlled by a New Company.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for Easter, March 21, 28,
Whit Week, and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
WILL SLEY, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, Artists in
all Lines, March 14 and 28.
Perm. add., Hippo., Scarborough. 'Phone, 288.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for Feb. 21, and onward, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency,
105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Feb. 28, March 14, Novel Variety Turns. State lowest terms, also where can be seen working. Manchester district. Trial turns for Matinées also required.
MANAGER, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

YARMOUTH AND LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, Talent in all Lines.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Great Yarmouth.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, the Biggest and Best Talent in the Business, Stars through Programme Agents. Artists and others please note.—All applications for engagements at the New Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to BENSON'S Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., Manchester-chambers, 46A, Market-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Bensonia, Manchester."

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Talent, in all Lines. Send terms and all bookings to Papa Brown, the Globe Trotter, Empire, Dudley, all the week. Leoni Clarke, The Three Laurels, Walter Gilby, Ada Cerito, Lotto, Lillo, Otto, Walter Wade, Barney Vox, Bros. Schenk, The Hanlon Troupe, Avolos, Dora Daly, and Mme. Holt's Follies write at once.

WANTED, Talent, for Keighley; Good Tops, March 14, 21, and 28.
Apply, T. HOLMES, Agent, Hippodrome.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, High-class Variety Companies, must be novel and new to Dunfermline, Feb. 21, on. W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Acts for 9 Days, from March 24 next. Also May 16, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5. Lowest price and all particulars,
The DIRECTORS, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates.
Apply, T. C. RAWES, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, for Easter, Whitsun, Aug., and Season good Gala Acts. Lithos., bills, terms. Astella write. WOOD, caterer, West-st, Bristol.

WANTED, two good reliable Acts, Acrobatic or similar, for a town near Newport, March 21, man and wife preferred; also three Novelty Acts, to complete Company, for Northampton, Whit Week, four days, twice daily. Lowest terms, MCASKELL'S Agency, 126, Roker-avenue, Sunderland.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession, Full Bookings, terms, also Combinations, Dramas, twice nightly, Shares or Certainty. WILLIAM AINSWORTH, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbro'.

WANTED, Big Gala Specialities, Ground and Lofty Acts,
Sensational Novelties.
May 16, onwards. Terms, lithos., &c.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone 9261 Central. Tel., "Stebbing."

WILL LUND'S AGENCY,
27, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, Good Comedy Speciality, Top. Artists all lines, onward. Send full list of bookings (essential).

GEORGE BURTON'S FETE and GALA AGENCY.
WANTED, for Whit Week, on, Novelties, Aerial and Ground Acts, &c., for Fêtes and Galas. Vacancies, terms, &c., to GEORGE BURTON, Victoria T., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Novelties for Combination, March 14, New to King's Lynn, on Sharing Terms. Send Daybills, &c. Escourt, Post Office, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
March and April
Big
Star
Tops
and
Bottoms,
for
Blackpool, Leeds,
Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton,
Dublin, Bolton,
and
other towns.
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address,
"Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Wanted, Tops,
and "Tops" Only,
for Britain and Continent.
Also
First-class Artists for
First-class Pantomimes, 1910-11.
Please Note to save time.
Principals Only.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Big Tops for Immediate Dates, also Comedy Acts. Full List of Bookings and Lowest Terms in first instance. All please keep me posted. CHARLES DEETRICH'S Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Big Tops, Specialities, Comediennes, Comedy Musical Acts, Comedians, for Feb. 21, and onwards. Send full list of bookings and absolute lowest terms to J. BROWN & Co., Variety Agency, 58, Chicksand-street, N.E. Tele. No. 1098 City. Clients seen by appointment only.

WANTED, Top and Bottom Liners, London and Provinces, Feb. 28, and on; all Lines, immediate dates, on; also Pantomime Artists, for next season. Full particulars, bookings, and lowest. A few good sketches for town, March, on.
GEO. AITOUN,
61, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, for Monday, Feb. 28, for London Top, Bottom, and Middle. Quote absolute lowest terms, and where can be seen working. BEECHAM and WHEELER, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES.
NEATH, KETTERING, and BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, Juvenile Troupes, Comic, Instrumental Turns, Funny Comedians, and Laughable Sketch Combinations. Address ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager. Kettering till Sunday. Next, Palace, Barry Dock.

Scotch Pipers and Dancers.
WANTED, Scotch Pipers, to open Monday Wire. SELKIRK, Empire, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
a Well-known Music Hall Artist,
for a High-class New Dramatic Dance.
Box 7,254, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Acrobatic Dancers and Singers, for renowned troupe, open at once. Full particulars to Box 7,289, "The Era."

WANTED, Easter, Whit, Trick Cycle Acts and Specialities, Glasgow, Rochdale, Feb. 21, Variety Acts, full bookings imperative. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, really Clever Versatile Young Lady, good appearance, height about 5ft., age 18 to 22; must have good strong voice, dance well, capable of Low Comedy; join two well-known ladies; long engagement if suitable. Box 7,246, "The Era."

WANTED, good Pair of Sisters, for March 14, also for Pantomime next season. Send dates and terms to FRED J. LITTLE, Variety Agent, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Comedian, good Voice and Dancer, 15 to 20 years old; also Boy and Girl Vocalists. Apply, MUNROE, Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Person to supply First-class Boxing and Wrestling Exhibitions, for Hall in Gravesend, two weeks, big business. Wire, Wonderland, Gravesend.

WANTED, a Good Comedy Man, able to tumble well, long run to the proper man.
Full particulars to Box 7,288, "The Era."

WANTED, Boys with good Voices, for New Scena, age about 15, height not above 5ft. F. LEO, 8, Clifden-gardens, Twickenham.

To Bioscope Firms.
WANTED, a real Live Picture Firm, to do ten weeks' season, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, and Opera House, Jersey. Popular prices. Share or would let to firm of repute.
Write, EDWARD MARRIS, 39, Prince's-place, W.

WANTED, Smart Operator, with complete Lime Outfit, for small hall, to act as Operator and Manager. Cash security, £25. Wage, £2.10.
MANAGER, Royal Pictures,
Coxhoe, Durham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Alice Winsome, Dashing Juvenile Comedienne, scoring terrifically at Norwich Hippo. this week. Wants Monday next, twixt Norwich and Scarborough. I have big numbers, and a big voice and plenty of "go." Follow anything. Wire quick, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, and 28, by Nancy Renshaw, Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist. C/o 73, Lee High-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, La Belle Louise, Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, Vacant April 11, onwards, Halls or Circuses. 47, Roman-road, South Shields.

WANTED, Monday, 14th, on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion of the World and Gold Medallist, Top Boots, Clogs a Speciality. Write or wire, 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd, Feb. 21, 28, all March, big success in Pantomime, Principal Girl; good Songs, expert Dancing. Wire, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Monday next, and 21st, Dainty Dorretto, Charming Soubrette and Acrobatic Sabot Dancer. Liberty for Summer. Wire, 19, Church-street, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Gertrude Martin wishes to thank Harry Burns for Contracts, also Re-engagement of same, part at an increase. Brilliant success Second Boy, Harry Burns' "Robinson Crusoe" Co. Hippo., Keighley; next week, Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Monday, La Raiedia (Banjo Queen). Trick Mandolinist. Illustrated Banjo Playing. Last week, Etoile Palace, Paris. Wire, Queen's Palace, West Bromwich (top).

WANTED, Monday, also Feb. 21 and 28, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. This week, a tremendous success, Palace, Londonderry. Save time, wire, 4, Market-street.

WANTED, 14th 21st, 28th, Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive Songs, Stories. Illustrated Colliery Pictures (copyrights). Address, Openshaw. Telegraphic, "Probable, Manchester."

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric, appearing this week at the Palace, Attercliffe, with big success. And the proof, the Management has had a record week. Next week, the Palace, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Andrew McManus. Enormous Success, Empire, Sunderland, Feb. 14, Emp., South Shields, Feb. 21, Emp., Hartlepool. Offers invited for Feb. 28, onward, with exceptions.

WANTED, Feb. 21 and 28, by T. E. Johnstone, the popular Actor-Vocalist. This week, Empire, Stockport (third return); next week (Feb. 14), Hippodrome, Keighley.

WANTED, Known, vacant Monday, also March 7 and 14, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch, Bottom of Bill. This, Palace, Kettering; next, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 21, on, Halls, Galas, &c. Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey. Speciality Acts. Great success Jazon's "R.C." Panto. Offers, Hippo., Stalybridge.

WANTED, Known, Happy Attwood, Comedian. Vacant Monday next. Wire, 37, Lotus-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Jimmy Wood, Eccentric Comedian, specially engaged by Henry Osmond, Esq., as Principal Comedian for his New Musical Comedy Production. Open March 14.

WANTED, Monday next and Feb. 21, by Bugler Carr, Equilibristic Musical Act.
7, Standish-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, March 7, 14, 21, and 28, to precede E. Barnsley, by Li-Chang-Hi, Premier Chinese Conjurer. Next week, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Feb. 14-28, onward, the Great Kyoto and May Geraldine, Two First-class Acts. Wire, King's Palace, Wellingborough; after Saturday, 25, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester. A Sure Draw.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, various, on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologists, presenting screaming farcical episodes. This, Hippo., Yarmouth; next, 14th, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Feb. 21, March 7, 28, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria, Character Duettists, good Singles. Wire or write for 21st, Palace Theatre, Buxton, Derbys.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, by Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Star Comedienne. Bermondsey; or, 15, Weltje-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 21, 28, by Chant and Chant, the Bright, Smart Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire, 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Feb. 21, between Scarborough and Weymouth, Davies and Udall, in "The Grumbler." COLEMAN DAVIES, Aquarium, Scarboro'; or, NIEMAN and BENN, Agents.

WANTED, March 7 (to precede Stalybridge), also 21, 28, The Rivers, pretty Duettists, Dancers, and Whistlers; also John Pardoe, Speciality Wire-Walking and Bending Act; two of the best Acts. Offers for one or two Acts. Alex. T., Pontefract.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Absurdity.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, 26.
BEAUDYN and MONTANINI,
Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Monday next, 14th, by Ryder Davis, in Song and Monologue; also Eva Ward, Soubrette. To break journey Ireland. Wire, 11, Camberwell-grove, S.E. Any distance. Wire.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Renowned Musical Grimaldis.
April 4 and 18, May 2 and 9.
Communications, Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, London, W.C.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act. A Star Turn. Vacant Feb. 21 and 28. Wire, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
SARNTHALER TROUPE,
Big Top. Six Ladies, Two Gents. Big Top.
The World's Greatest Tyrolean Singers and National Dancers from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres.

Vacant Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, and on.
Offers invited.
Address, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Five M.P.'s, the Musical Palmers, vacant Feb. 21, 28. Big success this, Empire, Portsmouth, where wire. Letters, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Monday, for Walker's Would-be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality. Wire offers, 106, Church-street, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, by Jack Alma, the Smart Comedy Triple Bar Act. Wire, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May, refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists. Magnificent silver and electric apparatus. Costly wardrobe. Instantaneous Success Everywhere. Press and Public unanimous in their praise. This week, E. H. Bostock's Pavilion, Wishaw; next, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland. Now booking 1911. Many thanks for immediate offers. All communications, HARRY PLOWDEN.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Acts. Free 14th, 21st. Wire, 14, Derby-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Boneless Wonder. Feb. 14, onwards. Also Rumbo Austin and his Acrobatic Nippers. Wire 14th, Thompson's Yard, Wakefield. Two distinct acts.

WANTED, by the Three Original Hodginis, the Continental Aerial Gymnastic Wonders, in their Original Sketch, entitled "A Jolly Good Time on the Seaside." Vacant Feb. 21, March 7, with exceptions, Palace, Cork, wire, wire. This week, return date, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs. Perm. address, 61, Cooksey-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FROM EARTH TO SKY.
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!
FLY! FLY!! FLY!!!

The Greatest Outdoor Attraction on Earth.
The Greatest Outdoor Attraction on Earth.
The Greatest Outdoor Attraction on Earth.
The Greatest Outdoor Attraction on Earth.
The Greatest Outdoor Attraction on Earth.

LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
LEO MERODE,
on his Full-sized
Blériot Type Aeroplane,
guaranteed Flights,
No disappointments for the Public.
50 horse power Engine.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Secretaries and Managers
for Outdoor Entertainments
who wish to secure this
sure Money-maker to
Apply to
MANAGING-DIRECTOR,
for Open Dates and Terms,
TOM DIACOFF,
Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

Telephone No. 64.

WANTED, Proprietors and Agents to Notice the Two Phillipi Brothers have given up their Straight Acrobatic Staircase Act, and will now be known as the Four Phillipi Brothers, in their new Comedy Gymnastic Act, entitled, "SERGT. FEARNOUGHT AND HIS RAW RECRUITS." We are the Original Territorial Acrobats. Managers and Agents please come and see this big Novelty Act. At Liberty Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7 and 14.
Address, 61, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lorette's Double Trapeze, also Mlle. Leoville, Tight Wire. Finish to-night, Gaiety, Chatham. Monday, Empire, Aberdare. Liberty Feb. 21 and 28.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number). Male and Female, Novelty Acrobats, three acts. Theatre, Ebbw Vale, Wales.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, The Bouncing Peps, First-class Star Speciality, the most Up-to-date Act of the period. Monday, Hippo., Bolton.

WANTED, Feb. 14 and April 18, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe. Athletes and Posing. 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, by Professor Golding, Ventriloquist and Comedy Conjurer, two Acts, Feb. 21, on; could join Picture Show. Perm, 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Feb. 21, March 14, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist and De Lil, Illusionist; two Smart Acts. Offers invited. Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by Cambridge's Pantomimic Sketch, "The Jolly Millers," by six people; everything carried; one roar of laughter. Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Hall or Pavilion, Easter and later, Share or Rental, for Mr. Harry Liston's and Miss Lumley's "Merry Moments." P.O., Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 28, on, Fred Monckton's Company Comedians, in Latest Farcical Absurdity. "The Man Who Did" (Four Artists). Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Speciality Boxing Act before the public. Starring, Lyric, Liverpool. Wire, 20, Greek-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Feb. 14, 21, 28, all March and April.

Coms., 75, Parry-street, Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Capt. George's Wonderful Performing Elephants and Ponies, in their Great, Novel, and Up-to-Date Statue Show. Vac. Feb. 21 and 28. This week, Hippo., Paisley; Feb. 14, Bostock's Hippo., Hamilton, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Miss Tudora's Ponies, Liberty Jan. 14, 21, April 4, and later dates. A good Act for Galas. The Greatest Pony Novelty on the Variety Stage.

All coms., 7, Silent-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Troupe of Russian Poodles, including Champion Challenge Jumping Hounds. An Act that the Audience Talk About. Starring this week, Tivoli, Pentre. Vacant Feb. 14, 21. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats, &c., vacant Feb. 21, March 14 and 21. Share or Certainty, good posters and lithos, by Messrs. Creber, Plymouth, and Berry, Printers, Bradford. Address, Park Hotel, Bletchley.

WANTED, Few Immediate Dates. This act has always been a Big draw. Chard's Canine Circus consists of Clown, Trick Boxing, Wrestling, and High-leaping Hounds, a Smart and Clean Act. 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Famous Pugilistic and Dramatic Dogs. The Show that Always Wins. Liberty March 7, on. Borough T., North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wooton, Originators of Act and Title, "A Football Match on Bicycles," have the following weeks vacant this year, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, April 18, 25, Nov. 21.
Communications Direct.
This week, Empire, Bradford.
Feb. 14, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Success, always success, vacant 21st, 28th, March 7. Next week, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

WANTED, Known, the Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists, and Lillian Sivado, Gymnast.
Vacant Feb. 21, Arcade Theatre, Stirling.

WANTED, Known, Hall and Wilson Trio, Novelty Trick Cyclists. Vac. March 14, 21. This, Gaiety Clydebank; next, Pal., N. Shields. Thanks R. Pringle for further dates. Wire or write.

WANTED, Known, Swift Duo, Novel and Comedy Cyclists. Want Feb. 21 and 28. Monday next, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Eccentric Acrobat on Bicycles. Thanks Messrs. Wilder, Fioni, and Burton. This, T. R., Jarrow; next, T. R., West Stanley.

WANTED, Engagement, with Quartette or Sisters, good Toe and all-round Dancer, England or abroad. RENA WEBSTER, 64, Roxboro'-park, Harrow.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Acrobatic Balancer, Tumbler, Posturer, work, Comedy. CHARLES SCROGGS, Panto., Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Important.
WANTED, Known, Wanted,
that the next Meeting of the
British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union
will be held on Wednesday next, Feb. 16,
at John Langley's Hotel, King's Lynn,
at 2.30 p.m., sharp,
when all Members are requested to attend,
for the transaction of important business.
Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P" brands, Winchester Repeaters Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENS, 74, Fa' mouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, W. E. Roche, Member of the Showmen's Guild, Showmen's Painter, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E., all kinds of Showmen's Decorative Work undertaken, Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths, Terms moderate; satisfaction guaranteed.

WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Everything for the Fair, British Manufacturing Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham. List free. Rifle Range Specialities, Flare Lamps, &c.

GOVAN CROSS CARNIVAL, Helen-street, Govan (near Glasgow). Population over 200,000. Covered in and lit by electric light.
WANTED, First-class Novelties, Side Shows, Roundabouts, &c. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Novelties and Side Shows, for two good Shops in Bristol, Swimming Show write. MANAGER, 32, Old Market-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, to open Mon., 14th, one or two weeks, Sharing terms. Madame Amelia, Fat Lady, finishing to-day, after two weeks' success. Wrestling Show or Midgets preferred. Wire, BARRON, Exhibition, 27, Broad-street, Reading.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Quick-showing Novelties, also Boxing and Wrestling Competitions, Performing Animals, Ghost and other Exhibitions, for hall, stage electric and gas; likewise Juvenile Roundabouts, Hoopla, and all kinds of amusements for enclosed space adjoining. Wire, PROPRIETOR, Gravesend.

WANTED, Good Freaks and Novelties of every description, with paintings or posters, to open Monday, 6, Market-place, South Shields. Others to follow. Shares or salary. Would Jersey Lily wire or write. MANAGER, 6, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Living Freaks, Novelties, and Performers suitable for Waxwork Exhibition. Lowest terms, lithos, &c., to FREDK. STEWART, Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Freaks, any Drawing Novelties, suitable for Shop Exhibition; also Hire of Automatic Slot Machines. SAIBOT, 63, Elswick-row, Newcastle.

WANTED, Side-Shows, Mirrors, Freaks, Shares. Good Shows do Great Business, packed nightly this and last week. Other towns to follow. Wire, open Mon., MAXIM'S Fun Carnival, Burslem.

WANTED, for Greenwood's Auction Mart, First-class Handseller, Planksman, Pianist, reopen March 1. For particulars address, 157, Everton-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, a Young Girl knowing Tank Work or Swimming and Diving.
Apply to Mr. LITOUCHE, Agricultural Hall, Islington.

WANTED, immediately, temporary bookings by Mme. de Para, expert Palmist and Ear Reader. Summer Season Rebooked. Letters, 3, Castle-road, Colchester.

WANTED, Known, Princess Cristina, the youngest and most beautiful Tattooed Lady ever exhibited, vacant Monday, Feb. 21, and onwards. Rent, salary, or shares. We are hustlers and money-takers. BELL, 32, Old Market-street, Bristol.

To be Let.
NEW BRIGHTON.
THE PALACE AND GROUNDS.
The Best Easter Holiday in the United Kingdom.
WANTED, Known, I have room for One Shooter, and 3 Round Houp-las, for which I invite Tenders.
Also spaces for Side Shows, Throwing Games, Square Houp-las, and Refreshment Bar for Minerals and Tea and Coffee.
Apply P. COLLINS, Jun.
Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams, Gondola, Walsall. Telephone 80 Walsall.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.
May 12 to June 25, 1910.
Largest Exhibition held in Manchester since 1887. Great Attractions including a reproduction of "Old Manchester." This portion will be the liveliest part.
WANTED, to Let, a few Shops for Novelties, Monograms also select Side Shows. Plans and particulars can be had from WALTER STENNING, The International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broad-street House, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Premises to Let, Shakespeare-street, Nottingham (next to New Theatre), Milton Shakespeare-street (facing Victoria Station); suit Automatic Exhibition, Tea Rooms, Entertainment Hall, 45ft. by 90ft., 103ft. frontage. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, for Season, Halls or Space, Seaside preferred, for Art Exhibition; also Concerts, any distance. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Sell,
the Himalaya Electric Railway, situate in the Tower Grounds, new Brighton, and consisting of Wrought Iron Bridgework Erection with Steel Rails, Six Cars, and Two Electric Motors. Apply, W. W. TURNER, 28, Chapel-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell,
nearly new Showman's Engine,
Fowler's Compound Road Loco.,
lately used by Mr. Steel Parry.
Apply CHARLES D. PHILLIPS,
Emlyn Works, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Living Car, elaborately fitted up with the latest improvements. All mahogany fittings. Size, 18ft. 6in. by 7ft. wide, road or rail. Cost over £160 3 months ago; good as new now; price £125. Particulars, JACK BARRON, Living Car, Duke of Edinburgh, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, suitable for road and rail, very compact, in good condition, good investment. Can be seen in working order at address Auction Mart, Riddings, Derbys.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Carriage, 18ft. long, separate Bedroom, door in centre.
TURTLE, Fair Ground, Sacriston, near Durham.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van 12ft. by 7ft, excellent condition, showman shape.
KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39 Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand. Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos., Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WOOLMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Mysterious Bezek, the Life-size Figure that breathes messages on blank sheets of paper, 3 guineas. Gipsy Queen, spirit writer, 6 guineas. LESTER & Co., Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Gavioli Organ, lately tuned and done up, in splendid condition; also several patent oil lights and quantity of good Films. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Show Ground, Peckham Rye, London.

WANTED, to Sell, two Novel Specialities for the Japanese Exhibition. Will sell in thousands. G. REDMOND, Sea View, Fishersgate, Sussex.

WANTED, to Purchase, Waxwork, Variety, or Animated Picture Business, in any part of the country. A. E. PICKARD, Ashfield House, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy, Automatic Working Models. State full particulars and price.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy,
Wanted, to Buy,
Wanted, to Buy,
Wanted, to Buy,
prompt cash,
a Fine Riding Gondolas Machine,
a Fine Galloping Horses Machine, complete.
They must have Engine and Electric Light Plant.
A Cake Walk Machine.
Send lowest price and full description to Box 7,264, "The Era."

WANTED, Cheap for Cash, Good Light Living Waggon, good condition essential. JAMES, Hippo., Ealing, London.

WANTED, to Know, the present whereabouts of Mr. John Vigor, Travelling Showman, recently of Brynmawr. Address, Box 7,265 "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, for Bognor Pier Skating Rink, a Competent Instructor.
Apply, with photo, copy of recent testimonials, and salary required (by letter only) to
M. W. SHANLY,
33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, for new Rink, opening middle March, Rink Instructor and Hall Manager combined, must have had similar experience; also Instructress. Full particulars, photo., salary, &c.,
SECRETARY,
Olympic Hall, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Pair of Comedy Skaters for March 7. Letters only.
F. MULVEY, 8, Wilmot-place, N.W.

WANTED, by Well-known Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, at present in engagement, change to a large Class Rink. Continental Rink preferred. Excellent references as to character, ability, &c.
Address,
Box 7,268, "The Era."

WANTED, Position as Manager or Floor Manager, Several Years' Practical Experience. Inquire. All coms. answered.—Box 7262, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Professional Skater and Lady Partner, desire Engagement as Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, First-class Rink only. Write, L., 145, Wellington-road, Heaton Norris.

WANTED, Known, to Rink Promoters, Advertiser, Scotchman, knowing large cities where Rinks unknown and wanted, takings doubled; particulars and help given for salaried position therein, American experience. Scotchman, 23 Bath-st, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, smart Skate Mechanic Disengaged; willing to help in Rink; start at once; ref. G., 11, St. Mary's-villas, Merton Park, Surrey.

RUDYARD LAKE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
WANTED, to Sell, Small, Fully Equipped Roller Rink. A splendid opportunity of acquiring a most profitable summer season rink with small capital. The Rink was opened last July and run most successfully to September. This year commences at Easter. Good reason for selling given. For particulars apply
FELLOWES SMITH, Derby-street, Leek, Staffordshire.

SKATING RINK.
WANTED, to Sell, as Going Concern, at a very low figure, fully equipped, Maple Floor, Graetzin 5-light Lamps, Best Skates, Lavatories, Offices, &c. Good position, large Midland town. Box 7,256, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a quantity of Secondhand Roller Skates. Apply, SECRETARY, Wolverhampton and Walsall Rinks, Limited, Darwall-st., Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, about 400 pairs Union Hardware Ball-bearing Skates, Secondhand, cheap to clear. Address, J. HAVILAND, 66, Lillie-road, Fulham, London.

Roller Skating Rink.
WANTED, to Purchase as going concern, or would Hire Building that could be converted into Rink;
Southern Counties preferred.
Apply, Box 7,266, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Hall, fitted stage, electric and gas, seats about 200, with enclosed space, suitable skating rink; also buildings adjoining; or will accept Partner, or Sell Lease. Hall best position Gravesend. Particulars at interview only by appointment here. PROPRIETOR, Wonderland, Gravesend.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell,
three fully licensed Places of Amusement; £10,500 cash will purchase full interest of seller; some could remain on mortgage; sound business. Reasons for selling explained. Box 7,279, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell (£120), half share in established Bioscope Business, licensed according to New Act; also for Singing and Dancing. Address in first instance (principals only), Box 7,277, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Brighton Railway Disaster Film (B. and C.), released Saturday, Feb. 12, 30s.
MANAGER, Cinema Royal, Redhill.

WANTED, to Sell, Class A, Besson B flat clarionet, 13 keys, new, cost £6; £3 for cash. Approval. C., 33, Euston-buildings, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 65ft. Round White Marquee, almost new, with wallings, poles, ropes, stakes, and everything complete. Box 7,219, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, splendid No. 5 Blick Typewriter, does beautiful work, proper bargain, 95s. BURGH, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, 14 fine Coloured Engravings, unframed, from Shakespeare's Plays, after Hamilton, Fuseli, Northcote, Wheatly Kauffman, Peters, and Miller. Box 7,272, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell,
at the termination of the run,
JOHN HART'S GORGEOUS PANTOMIME,
"JACK AND JILL."
Now playing to Record Houses at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Beautifully painted scenery (fourteen scenes) by George Jackson, R. C. Oldham, and D. G. Hall. Gorgeous dresses from designs by Robert Crafter. Splendid electric fittings and properties, including electric sun.
Can be put on any stage.
Managers desiring a First-class Production in good condition should see it without delay.
Apply, J. E. B. BEAUMONT, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell,
PANTOMIME PRODUCTIONS.
The Entire Production of "Cinderella" for Sale at the end of the run. Can be seen at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, where it is playing to enormous business.
Might arrange for Production next Season.
Also the Entire Production of
"The Fair One with the Golden Locks" for Sale at end of run. Can be seen Feb. 7 and 14, Grand, Nottingham.
Address,
ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell,
a First-class Production of
"CINDERELLA,"
complete,
including Magnificent Coach, costing £80.
Everything in Perfect Condition and Suitable for Big Theatres.
Cloths, 32ft. by 24ft.
Wings, 18ft.
All Drury Lane Dresses.
Can be seen next week,
Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.
Matinées, Thursday and Saturday.
A. AUSTIN.

WANTED, to Sell,
The New Glasgow
Pantomime,
"WILLIE WINKIE,"
Now in Height of Success
at Royal Princess's Theatre.
Simply a Splendid Production.
Ten Scenes Built for Fun, including the Railway Station and Change to Train going Sixty Miles per hour; excited passengers, motor, horse and cart panorama, full-working comic engine, &c., &c. Such a scene does not exist in any other Pantomime in the whole country, and is full of working fun.
The Whole Production for Sale; or can be divided.
Apply to RICH WALDON,
Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, 2 Babes Panto. and some Musical Comedy Wardrobe. Seen in London. L. H., 11, Morledge-street, Leicester.

WANTED, to Sell, the late Fred G. Brooke's Scenery and Effects.
Address, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston.

WANTED, to Sell, Turnstiles, Registering, Iron, little used. Also Fold-up Chairs.
Address, Box 7253, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Rattles, Xylophones, loudest ever heard, Tunable Resonators (protected), Marimbas. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, complete octave, E Flat pitch, handsome stand, new. Bargain, £4.10. PIANIST, 9, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, 300 Tip-up Seats, cheap for cash. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Illusions, the latest and best, also Books and smaller Tricks at bargain prices. A. E. LESTER, Llewellyn-st., Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus, all new, many novelties. MAKER, 52, Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, for Sale, Papier Mâché Armour, any period, weapons, flags, &c., Pageant Properties generally, Masks, &c. DYMOND, Wyndham Arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, the Handsomest Young Pedigree Old English Bob-tail Sheep-dog living. Clever Performer. CHARD, 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Pantomime Production, suitable for big Theatre. Apply, giving full particulars, number of Scenes, size of Cloths, height Wings, number and character of Dresses. Box 7,244, "The Era."

WANTED, Dozen Secondhand Wing Pieces, about 9ft. by 2ft., Trees, Ferns, or Rocks, cheap. CHANDLEY, 41, Fairmead-road, Holloway.

WANTED, Tilt Portable, suitable for Al Fresco Full particulars, size, condition, price for spot cash, DICK SUTHERD, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, to Buy, Breakable Property Motor Car, cheap; also two pairs of Musical Gloves. DONEGAL, 7, Drewton-street, Bradford.

WANTED, two or four Strong Electric Stage Limes complete. M., 66, Devonshire-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, to Buy, Revolving Pedestal or Table, suitable for posing.
JAMES, Hippo., Ealing, London.

WANTED, to Buy, Troupe of Football Dogs, or would engage Trainer to break in for above act. SMITH, Beaconsfield Club, Reading.

WANTED, Known Will Lorenzi is willing to Buy good Songs (Comic), also good Dame Patter Songs (à la Dan Leno).
Now see what you can do.
Coms., LORENZI, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, to Buy. I shall be glad to buy really First-class Comedy Songs, dry, with good chorus. I also wish to buy a First-class Sketch, Comedy or Drama, but must be strong. MARJORIE ASTOR, 2, Margaret-st., Cavendish-square.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Feb. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment Scenery Electric Lighting MANAGER

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.
WANTED, to Let, Manor House Theatre, Dramatic, Variety, or Pictures. Rent or shares. Apply MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Large Hall, in centre of Birmingham, for about Four Months, from June next. Suitable for Electrical Theatre, Minstrel Troupe, or any Novelty Entertainment. Hall is exquisitely decorated, and has a floor space capable of seating over 1,500. Rent moderate.
For full particulars,
Box 42, Mundy's Advertising Offices, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Electric Theatre, Corner Site in Large Town, will be to Let; most central main Thoroughfare; 58ft. by 83ft.; new up-to-date Picture Palace could be erected by arrangement; seat 1500. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Workshop, 38ft. by 18ft., well lighted, suitable for storage of scenery. Rent 8s.
Apply, 23, Goldie-street, Old Kent-road; or of Owner, 197, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARWEN.
WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and Programmes. Visited by best attractions. Coms., G. E. BURNETT.

WANTED, to Let, Paint Room, 40ft. by 20ft., with Frame, Wardrobe; rehearsals; dry storage ACKLAND SNOW, 29, Cambridge-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for List.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Let, Costume Operetta. Suit Kursaal, Pier, or Good-class Town. 3m. 2f. Sketches, Plays, Lyrics for disposal. Ideas dramatised. SKETA, Egerton and Co., 115, Strand.

WANTED, to Rent, Theatre or Hall, with Large Capacity, in town of 50,000 or more population. Full particulars to Box 7,284, "The Era."

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinématograph Shows or Roller Skating. Apply by letter, with full particulars, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Hall, suitable for Picture Show, Manchester, or near, preferred. Must meet Licensing requirements. Electrics, &c. Full particulars first letter. MANAGER, 10, Clifford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, to Hire or Buy, Entire Fit-up, suitable for Variety Show, one near Birmingham preferred. HERBERT REEVES, to-day, Hippodrome, Brighton; next, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Business-Man, and Agent wishes to join forces with Practical Man, if connected with an Agency so much the better, to establish a Variety and Dramatic Agency; correspondence treated honourably and in strict confidence. Write direct to MANAGER, 2, Margaret-st., Oxford Circus.

WANTED, by experienced Manager, Partner (£100) for Autumn Production and Tour of New Musical Comedy Drama. Advertiser invests equally; exceptional opportunity.
Box 7,274, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, writer of Smart, Humorous Songs is desirous of Collaborating with Composer as Partner. B., 125, Malmesbury-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, Known, Violinist desires to meet Gentlemanly Fellow with Pianette, good player, for superior Busking. Box 7,255, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Knockabout Comedian, to join me as Partner, must be a good Tumbler and a little on Rings. NASH, Dooner's Empire, Treherbert, South Wales.

WANTED, Operator (own machine) and Accompanist, to join Advertiser, N. Wales.
Address, Box 7,282, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 28, Coupland-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMANN & Co., 4 Pitville-place Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, John Eden, World's Greatest Sewing Machine Repairer, 61, Watson-st., Hartlepool; millions of shuttles, needles, belts.

WANTED, F. B. Woulfe to communicate at Once with EDWARD MARRIS,
1, Douglas House, Maida Hill, W.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, 3 Bedrooms; Comb.; piano; w.c.; three min. all amusements.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.E.—A bed and sitting room, also one or two bed-sitting-rooms; Sunday, 13th. Mrs. Gatehouse, 123 Kennington-rd.

LONDON, S.W.—Well-furnished apartments, sitting-rooms and bedrooms, pianos; excellent cooking and attendance. Convenient to all parts; terms moderate. 42, Charlwood-street, Victoria.

LONDON, S.W.—Putney. Furnished sitting-room, one or two bedrooms; piano; close to District and S.W. Railway. 37, Disraeli-rd.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior apartments, good cooking and attendance; bath (hot and cold), new piano; trams pass house. 145 Brixton-rd.

LONDON, W.—West Kensington. Comfortable house, full or partial board, from 25s. 158, Sinclair-road, close Tube and Shepherd's Bush Empire.

LONDON, W.—West Kensington. Board and Residence and Apartments. Every convenience, with home comforts; 21s. to 30s. Close Piccadilly tube and district. 42, Baron's Court-rd., W.

LONDON, W.—21, Wells-st. (few doors from Oxford-street). Large comfortable bed-sitting room; also bedroom.

LONDON, W.—Sup. fur. apartments from 10s. 6d., suites; bath; room for rehearsal; pianos. 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly (opposite Tube).

PLYMOUTH.—12, St. George's-terrace. Comfortable home for Jewish Professionals; private family; bath, piano; central for Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—3, Landport-terrace. Mrs. Lewington. Two sitting and six bedrooms; piano and bath-room; near Theatre Royal, Hippodrome, and Empire.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

LADIES' LAP DOGS.
Tiny Blenheim, so perfect, he is a winner in keen competition, yet so small he can be carried in a Lady's muff; also equally tiny Ruby dog. Can be seen here by appointment, or shown in London. MANAGER, Windfall Cottage, Pound Hill, Crawley, Sussex.

Winter Gardens Zoo,
Lord St. and Promenade, facing the Fair Ground,
Southport.

A FEW SPACES for SIDE SHOWS, &c., TO BE LET.

The above property comprises a fully-stocked Menagerie, Ballroom, Promenades, Aviary, Monkey House, &c., and the Empire Theatre, the whole being run as one entire show.
Applications, together with particulars, to W. SIMPSON CROSS, as above, or the Menagerie, Liverpool.

GUIDI'S FAMOUS MILITARY BAND.

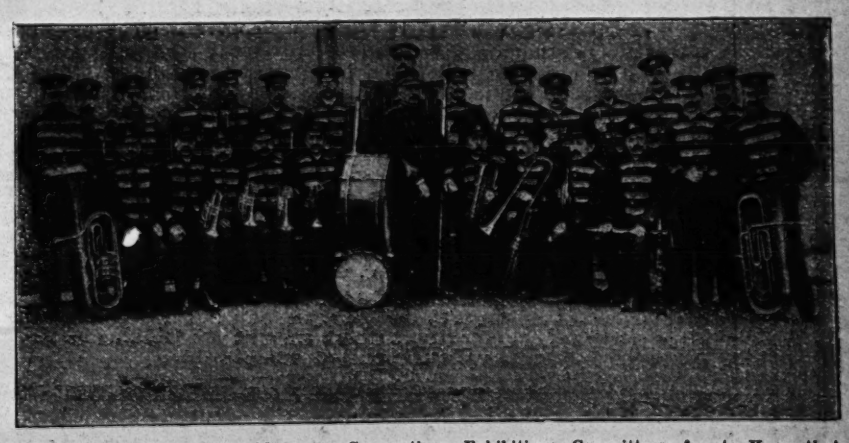

WANTED, Pier Pavilion Managers, Corporations, Exhibitions, Committees, &c., to Know that Guidi's Famous Military Band is open for Season or other Engagement. The Band now playing with great success at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, London, and can be heard until the end of March. High-class and Extensive Library, Smart Uniform, Success Guaranteed. Larger or Smaller Bands also Supplied.
Full particulars to GUIDI, ZOO, GLASGOW.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 14, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Mr. Lewis Waller, in "Fortune's Fool," Olga Petronowa and her Orchestra, Loyal's Dogs, Ruth Davenport, Les Silas, Chretienni and Louisette, De Wynne Brothers, Rexos, Les Marco Belli, Animated Pictures, "The Arctic."

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Amelia Bingham, Sisters Caselli, Charles Santon, Talbot and Pearce, Ethel Newman, Corbin's Dogs, Gus Garrick, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

Jewels' "Change," The Brennans, Sadie Jerome, Thales and Massilia, Dion Wade, Waul Langtry, Frank Hartley, Bioscope, Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," Marco Twins.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Stanley and Greenop, Francis and Alfred, O'Gust, Park's Eton Boys, Olympian Team, Naughton and Gold, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," Produced by FredKarno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Raymond, Mlle. Marjutti, Three Thieves, Ross and Lewis, Harry Bedford, Tom E. Finglass, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Lukushimas, Harry Allister.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Lady Beerbohm Tree and Co. in "The Sirocco," Carney and Armstrong, Lily Burnand, Barowskys, Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Harry Leybourne, Millie Engler and Co., Glenroy Troupe, Bioscope, Will o' the Wisps.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, Charles R. Whittle, Edward Mortimer, Musical Jees, Herbert Sleath's Co. in "The Deputy-Sheriff," Russell and Held, Taree, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Humpsti-Bumsti.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Wentworth Croke's Pantomime, "Aladdin."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Slaviansky Choir, Maizie Hibbs, Bioscope, J. W. Hall, Brothers Gaudsmidt, Vanando, Vincent, Lester Brothers, King and Benson, Leslie Brothers.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Bioscope, Steve McCarthy, Goggin and Davis, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Mabel Sinclair, Gwennie Llewellyn, Two St. Johns, Corcoran Brothers, Craggs, Marie Kendall.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

La Tortajada, Frank Maura, Clement Trio, Strolling Players, Horace Wheatley, John Macauley, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Les Romanis, Lottie Bellman.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lelia Roze, Dutch Daly, Four Regals, Westwoods, Maude Edwards, John Warren, Soho Trio, Walker and May, Katie Moss, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Johnnny Fuller, Rhoda Paul, Clark and Hayden, Abdullah Arabs, Arthur Ferriss, Edith Heron-Brown, Cliff Dixo, Bioscope, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alec Hurley and Co. in "Cockneys in Japan," Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Archie Naish, Adele Moraw, Elite Harmony Four, Charles Matthews, Charles J. Johnson, Alexandra Dagmar, Motramos.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track," Jackley Trio, Addie Dorina, Alf. Gibson, Amelie De L'Enclos, Jackson Family, Carl Howard, Bioscope, Cumminger and Colonna, Villions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Percy Hutchison's Co., in "Brewster's Millions."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

F. W. Bolam's Co., in "The Sins of Society."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Chirgwin, Grotesques, Bioscope, Sisters Storm, Haines and Borthwick's "Half a Dollar," Ted E. Box, J. L. Shine, Sylvia Du Barry, Cissie Thompson, Three Meers.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Evie Greene, Mlle. Fedak, The Bensons, Kramers, Charles D'Aix, Lockhart's Elephants, Alaskas, Harry May Hemsley, Bioscope, Madiah Surith, Carmos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," Rita Rhylle, Bert Errol, Five Manchurians, Paul Barnes, Horace White, Rhoda Brothers, Florence, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Clarice Mayne The Athlones, Fielding and Hull, Reichen's Dogs, Margaret Parker and Co., Billy Hobbs, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Victoria Monks, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Arthur Leslie, "Billy," Tom Bryce, Nina Wood, Rich Taylor, Dan Fraser, Chanti.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Sisters Pine, Marsumas, To-To, Tom Moore, Leonards, Bioscope, Whilbys, W. J. Churchill.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire," Harry Anderson, Bioscope, Barnard's Mannikins, Victor Widdicombe, Cumberlands, Takio, Walter Curtis, Three Welsh Girls, Empire Comedy Four, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Lalonas, Harry Clifford, Bioscope, Stewart and Morgan, Kremo Family, Northern Troupe, Smythsons, Prince Milner Trio, Odeyne Spark, La Sylphe, Donaldson Brothers.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Reginald Eyre's Co. in "Gentlemen, the King!" Clown Argo, Brothers O'Brien, Coloured Meisters, Casey Army, Larry Lewis, Mlle. Haydee, Violette Stockelle, Bioscope, Cruikshank.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Cinquevalli, Gobert Belling, Arthur Kenny, "Dolly's Deception," L'Incognita, Tom Lloyd, O'Malley and Brown, Eight Lancashire Lads, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Fred Storey and Co. in "Rip Van Winkle."

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Van Biene and Co. in "Van Biene's Baby," O Hana San, Munroe's Comedy Team, Louis and Wain, Rossi Ashton, Little Ganty, Delevines, Fatmah Diard, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Russian Singers, Jennie Alexander, Gipsy Woolf, Great and Good, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Laurence Barclay.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Whittaker and Hill, Monnie Emerald, Farr and Farland, Andrew, Macmanus, Alice Maydue, Pictures, Tom Davies Trio, &c., &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Three Delaries, Tom Stuart, Gladys Mavius, Delomes, Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Our Empire's Defenders," Lydia Yeamans, Edie Reynolds, Arthur Slater, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Heeley and Meeley Sammy Shields.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Miles Stavordale Quintette, Ethelle Stapley, Harry Friskey, Percival, Henry Helme, Eida and Falco, Daisy Stratton, Pictures, Ambrose Thorne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Arthur Woodville, Victor Travers, Victoria Dagmar and Clown, Ethel Bourne, Pictures, Mona Garrick, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Minnie Mace, Three Stewarts, Cissie Curlette, Maria Gavalda and Co., Tom E. Hughes, The Okadians, J. W. Rickaby, John Lawson and Co., Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Amber Austa, Will Haines, Owen McGiveney, Harold Heath, Orpheus, Cissie Lupino, Charles Denton, Brothers Horne, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Charles Grantley, Mozetto, Gladys Archbutt, Borghetti Troupe, Spry and Austin, Arthur Prince, Harry Brown, "The Pawnbroker," Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Dollie Denton, Falcons, George F. Hall, Marie Pera, Howard Brothers, Liane D'Eve, Harry Champion, Starley Brothers, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Dancing Paceys, Curtis Leo, Clark and Glennie, Mart and Pep, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Harry Atkinson, Dardinis Trio, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—

George Mozart, Joe Oliver, Charles Vincent, Lee and Kingston, Fenton Cross, Crentoni, Ivey Aberdare, Virto and Venito, Peps, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ardell and Odell, Angela Ward, Harry Hasto, The Hulls, Lily Vine, Crawford and Johnson, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Jack and the Beanstalk."

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—

Brothers Tarrant, Lilian Rose, Mather and Mayer, Dot Moss, Jones, Cranley, and Baker, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Billy Rex, Ruby Rayo, Francini Olloms and Page, Arthur Croxon, Melody Makers, Walter King, Tschernoff's Animals, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager—**Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, FEB. 14.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Marie Santoi, Rene Graham, Ellis and Campbell, Pete and Minnie Lee, Joannie Moss, Brandon's "Light at Last," Gladys Witton, Dave Laird, Bessie Neilson, Cissy Hope.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Josephine Crook.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Torontos, Signor Arvi, Eight Marvels, Peter Gotz, Ray Royal, Harry Bland, Sid Kemp, Dorothy Dare, Will Avis.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Kirbys, Colin Mail, Pictures, Lottie Lennox, Sim Moree, the Great Collett, Henrietta and Selina, Mabel and Rosa, Julian Mack, Dan Lipton's Songland, Mamie Morris.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, Lottie Lennox, Henriquette Maude, La Petite Rose, Adolf Beck, "Uncle from Texas," Gene Morelle, Laurie, Grace Hampton and Co., Little Dando, Sisters Bartholomew.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Four Royal Scots, The Rosses, Herbert Rule, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Beatrice Willey, Billy Merson, The Lannons, Rooke, Rorke, and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Lamberti, Archie Pitt, Geo. Barrington, Donnas Trio, Webb and Branston, Ben Richards, Tourbillon Troupe, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Harry Weldon, Margit and Lener, Les Montaldos, Tom Yorke, Norah Desmond, Bonetti and Corri, Columbia Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Ronny Blair," Thorpe and Coe, Carney Bros., Wedburns, Albert Townsend, The Rangers, Alice Lingard, Conway and Leland, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pictures, Esther Phillips and Co., Madeline Rossiter, Cissie Brand, Jessie Wilton, Janowskys, Willie Long, Frank Coyle.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Robinson Crusoe."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Edmunds and Co., Jack Warman, Amy Anderson and Co., George James, Roy Beavis, Rene, Lafaille Troupe, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Imperial Russian Troupe, Curtis and Pics., Joan Deering, Henry Hilton, Sisters Harcourt, Leoni de Lausanne, Johnny Dwyer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Married Widow," Mayme Cannon, The Showells, Lennard and Vereker, Chas. Leighton, Reg. Ewen, Martin Henry and Co., Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
"The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Ryder Slone, The Zampas, Chas. Gardener, The Simms, Gillin, Enzer, Four Burnells, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
"Motoring," Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Fordyces, Little Frankie, Lily Denville, Geoffreys and Benson, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"The Angel of His Dreams."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Send Him Victorious."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Winifred Ward, J. H. Greener, Victor and Louis, Bert Madison, Gena Manon, Jock McNeil, H. C. Lovell and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
"Nick Carter," Harry Luck, Bromley and Fontein, Fritz Kornau, L. B. Athol, Leroux's Monkeys, Amy Bathurst, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
"Cinderella."

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Morny Cash, Friscari, Roxborough and Wright, Geo. Young, Bros. Lawrence, Dorma Morgan, Alfred J. Long, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.)

London—New York—Chicago,
Have just the songs you want.
AUGUSTE VAN BIENE'S GREAT SOLO,
ROSES AND MEMORIES
By Ted Snyder.
Being played nightly with Enormous Success by the famous 'cellist.
Monday, Feb. 14, E., SHEPHERDS BUSH.
Published as Song, Piano Solo, Violin and Piano, 'Cello and Piano, **1/6** nett.
Orchestra and Piano, **2/-** nett.
Other Songs, ALL BIG HITS, are
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY. Sung by Phil Parsons, also by Sadie Stanley.
THE STAR, THE ROSE, AND THE DREAM.
I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I PLEASE. Sung by Dot Stephens.
IT'S THE PRETTY THINGS YOU SAY. Sung by Nina Wood.
IF I THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T TELL. Sung by George Lashwood.
SADIE SALOME. Sung by Lowenwirth and Cohan.
IF YOU CARED FOR ME. Sung by The Crown Trio.
and THE GREAT IRISH BALLAD,
WHEN HE SINGS THE SONGS MY MOTHER SANG.
COME AND SEE US,
and get a Practical Demonstration.
Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co.
(Inc.)
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.
J. H. SQUIRE, Manager.

NOTICE.

THE
EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL
(LTD.,)
CARRIED ON BY
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE
AS DEBENTURE HOLDER.

The Debenture Holder having taken possession of the above desires it to be known that he cannot hold himself responsible for any Contracts made between artistes and the **Camberwell Empire, (Limited),** or anyone who acted on its behalf from March 7th next inclusive and afterwards.

The Debenture Holder has, however, personally accepted the contracts made with the following agents for the remainder of the year 1910:

Messrs. George Aytoun,
Richard Cass,
Frank Postlethwaite's Agency,
and Tom Shaw.

THE
EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL
(LTD.).

FOR SALE

at the end of present successful run,
FRANCIS LAIDLER'S
SUPERB PANTOMIME PRODUCTION,
BABES IN THE WOOD.

This magnificent production which is BREAKING ALL RECORDS at the THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS, where it was produced on Dec. 23 last, is FOR SALE, only because Mr. Laidler has no use for it next season. The Gorgeous Scenery and Costumes are practically unsoiled.
Owing to the Phenomenal Success of this Pantomime it has been found necessary to put on an extra Matinée each week. There are now Matinées every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
THE PRODUCTION COULD ALSO BE USED FOR "RED RIDING HOOD" PANTOMIME.

The LEEDS MERCURY says:—
The pantomime is superbly dressed and is staged with all the artistic taste in scenic effects that an exacting public expects now from every pantomime of first-class merits. Scenically it is one of the best ever staged at the Royal. The Fairies' Glade is a dazzling dream of floral beauty, and the last scene of all, the Levée at the Palace, is as beautiful as anything seen in Leeds.
The BRADFORD DAILY TELEGRAPH says:—
It is typical of the modern conception of pantomime—wonderful scenery and lovely dresses. The Royal has seen the production of fine pantomimes before, but never a finer than this, and Mr. Laidler may be congratulated on producing an artistic triumph at his first attempt in Leeds. The scenic effects are dazzling. No one who visits the Royal will go away dissatisfied.
Full particulars may be had on application.
FRANCIS LAIDLER, THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

TO MANAGERS OF CONCERT PARTIES, ENTERTAINMENT CATERERS, AND OTHERS.

The Council hereby
INVITE TENDERS
for the Hire of
1. A STAND on the Beach opposite Cannon Place.
2. The MADEIRA DRIVE BANDSTAND and the two lawns immediately adjoining; and
3. The WESTERN ESPLANADE BANDSTAND and one of the lawns adjoining, for the purpose of giving Entertainments during the Summer Season of 1910.

Conditions and forms of tender may be obtained on application at my Office at the Town Hall, Brighton, where sealed tenders addressed to me and endorsed "Tender for Hire of Stand on Beach" or "Tender for Hire of Bandstand," as the case may be, must be left before 10 o'clock in the forenoon on Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1910.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.
HUGO TALBOT, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Brighton, Feb. 7, 1910.

ILFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

OPEN-AIR CONCERTS

IN
VALENTINES and SOUTH PARKS.

The above Council is prepared to
RECEIVE OFFERS
for the privilege of giving open-air concerts in the bandstands in both Valentines and South Parks, Ilford, during next season, from May until September next, as follows:—
(1) For every Saturday.
(2) For every Thursday.
(3) For every Thursday and Saturday.
(4) For alternate Thursdays and Saturdays.

Chairs will be provided by the Council, and the promoters of the concerts will be allowed to charge the sum of twopence each for same, and one penny for programmes, but no collections will be permitted.
The programme on each occasion to be submitted to the Clerk to the Council for approval.
Sealed offers, endorsed "Tender for Open-air Concerts," to be delivered to the undersigned on or before Monday, the 21st day of Feb., 1910.
The Council does not bind itself to accept the highest or any offer.
By Order,
ADAM PARTINGTON,
Clerk and Solicitor to the Council.
Town Hall, Ilford,
Feb. 10, 1910.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
SOLICITOR.
PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at—
"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SALE BY AUCTION

(owing to the death of Proprietor) of the
BIDEL MENAGERIE,
Lions, Lionesses, Royal Tigers, Panthers, Bears, Wolves, Pumas, Monkeys, and the whole of the
WORKING MATERIAL
for the Exhibition; Steam Engine and Electric Light Plant, Cages, Cars, Complete Cinematograph Apparatus, and about 4,000 yards of Films, &c.

The Whole to be SOLD at QUAI D'ASNIERES, ASNIERS (SEINE), near PARIS, on TUESDAY, Feb. 22, 1910, at 1.30 p.m., by Mr. F. LAIR DUBREUIL, Auctioneer, of 6, Rue Favart, Paris, from whom may be had catalogues of the Animals (with particulars concerning their performances), Materials, &c.

Public View, Monday, Feb. 21, from 1·0 p.m. to 5. p.m., and on the day of sale from 9·0 a.m. to 11.0 a.m

TO BE SOLD,

FULLY-LICENSED
POPULAR THEATRE,
in Large Industrial Town in the Midlands.
Population of Town exceeds 30,000, with further 70,000 population within a radius of four miles.
Holding capacity about 1,800.
For further particulars, apply,
"THEATRE,"
care of Messrs. Jordan and Sons, Limited,
120, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. **£25 nett**

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London." "Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central. 1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Mr. J. W. Chapman's opinion of Biograph films:—
I consider your subjects splendid. They are greatly appreciated by my audience, who usually give a good round of applause at the end of each picture. They have excellent drawing powers, especially in Greenwich, and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe your films have helped considerably towards my extraordinary success at this theatre. With all good wishes.

Released Thursday, Feb. 17.

DANCING GIRL OF BUTTE.
Western Romance. 984ft.

Released Sunday, Feb. 20.

HER TERRIBLE ORDEAL.
Dramatic. 952ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Released Sunday, Feb. 20.

HEROINE OF MAFEKING.
Notable War Picture. 1000ft.

Released Thursday, Feb. 17.

BROUGHT TO TERMS.
Comedy. 615ft.

MAKING IT PLEASANT FOR HIM.
Comedy. 330ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Notification of future releases will be given shortly.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS"
POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

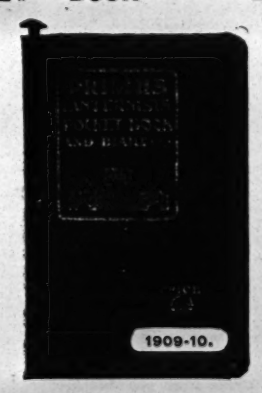

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** *Free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES,
5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any Inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6665.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

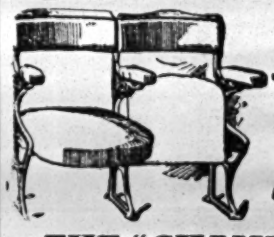

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, .·. 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PRINTING—

in modern styles, at the lowest rates for stock or special pictorial or letter-press. Write us.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.

SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
BIRMINGHAM.

A. R. DEAN & SONS are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, and Skating Rink Seatings, Floor Coverings, and complete Furnishings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have for the last thirty years been famed for the soundness of their Goods, either in Chairs, Carpets, or Draperies, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS also are famed for every description of Cabinet Joinery, Bar Fitments, Casement Partitions, Doors, &c.
A. R. DEAN & SONS are Designers and Manufacturers of every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have during the last thirty years furnished partly or completely upwards of 1,584 Theatres, Halls, and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have completely or partly Decorated during the last fifteen years upwards of 280 Theatres, Halls, and Hotels and Public Buildings.
A. R. DEAN & SONS in the year 1908 completely or partly Furnished or Decorated upwards of 112 Theatres, Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, and Hotels.
A. R. DEAN & SONS this year intend to beat last year's Contracts, which were their record.

A. R. DEAN & SONS Last Year (1909)

EXECUTED OR HAD THE CONTRACTS IN HAND FOR THE FOLLOWING THEATRES, HALLS, &c.:—

1. ROYAL HIPPODROME, BLACKBURN. Complete Decorations and Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
2. NEW PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c
3. NEW EMPIRE, KILBURN. Complete Furnishing, Seating, &c.
4. NEW ALHAMBRA, PARIS. Complete Redecoration and Refurnishing, &c.
5. NEW HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
6. NEW HIPPODROME, ILFORD. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seating, &c.
7. NEW PALACE, HAMMERSMITH. Complete Fibrous Plaster Decorations and Draperies, &c.
8. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
9. NEW PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH. Complete Seating, Furnishings, &c.
10. NEW EMPIRE, TON-Y-PANDY, S. WALES. Complete Decorations, Furnishings, Seatings, &c.
11. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. Complete Furnishing.
12. WINTER GARDENS OF THE PALACE HOTEL, SOUTHEND. Complete Furnishings and Carpeting throughout.
13. NEW KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD. Reseating, &c.
14. MECHANICS' HALL, NOTTINGHAM. Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
15. DR. BODIE'S NEW STAGE FIT-UP.
16. THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
17. NEW PALACE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
18. NEW EMPIRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete, Refurnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
19. MONTABELLO LAWNS, ILFRACOMBE. Tip-up Seating, &c.
20. GRAND STAND, AINTREE. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
21. GRAND STAND, CHESTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. THEATRE ROYAL, PAISLEY. Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
23. PIERROTS' PAVILION, SCARBOROUGH. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
24. THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR, S. WALES. Furnishings.
25. NEW TOWN HALL, LANCASTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
26. NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH. Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
27. GUILDHALL, CAMBRIDGE. Complete Reseating.
28. NEW OLYMPIA, EDINBURGH. Complete Seating.
29. NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST. Complete Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
30. NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN. Tip-up Chairs.
31. NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, TRALEE, IRELAND. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
32. THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON. Reseating, &c.
33. TOWN HALL, TWICKENHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
34. CHAPEL, SOWERBY BRIDGE. Tip-up Chairs.
35. THEATRE ROYAL, WEDNESBURY. Complete Decoration, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. NEW CHURCH, TYLDESLEY, BIRMINGHAM. Tip-up Chairs.
37. NEW ARGYLE THEATRE, BIRKENHEAD. Complete Furnishing, Carpeting, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
38. LYRIC, LIVERPOOL. Tip-up Chairs.
39. THEATRE ROYAL, DALSTON. Refurnishing, Seating, &c.
40. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Complete Refurnishing.
41. GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Reseating.
42. THEATRE ROYAL, SMETHWICK. Tip-up Chairs.
43. BARNARD'S VARIETIES, CHATHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Tip-up Chairs.
45. NEW HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD. Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishings, &c.
46. HOLBORN EMPIRE. Recarpeting, &c.
47. GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER. Refurnishing.
48. KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Tip-up Chairs.
49. GRAND THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Furnishings.
50. PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY. Complete Reseating and Refurnishing.

ELECTRIC THEATRES AND PICTURE PALACES.

51. HIPPODROME, HOUNSLOW. Complete Seating.
52. HIPPODROME, ILKESTON. Complete Seating.
53. ALEXANDRA THEATRE, MORLEY. Complete Seating.
54. NEW ARENA, VILLIERS-STREET, STRAND. Complete Decorations, Seating, and Furnishings, &c.
55. MESSINA BUILDINGS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Complete Seating.
56. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Complete Seating.
57. PALACE, LAVENDER HILL. Complete Seating.
58. ELECTRIC THEATRE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Complete Seating.
59. ELECTRIC, WESTERN-ROAD, BRIGHTON. Complete Seating.
60. TEMPERANCE HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
61. BRACKENBURY HALL, PRESTON. Complete Seating.
62. ELECTRIC PALACE, WILTON-ROAD, W. Complete Seating.
63. NEW KING'S HALL, TOOTING. Complete Seating.
64. HOLLOWAY HALL, LONDON. Complete Seating.
65. CARNEGIE HALL, WORKINGTN. Complete Seating.
66. HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS. Complete Seating.
67. CENTRAL HALL, SALFORD, MANCHESTER. Complete Seating.
68. TOWN HALL, BEDMINSTER. Complete Seating.
69. TOWN HALL, ERITH. Complete Seating.
70. ST. JOHN'S HALL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES Complete Seating.
71. WILSON'S PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
72. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Seating.
73. PUBLIC HALL, ST. ANNES-ON-SEA. Complete Seating.
74. ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING. Complete Seating.
75. WEST'S NEW PALACE, READING. Complete Seating.
76. NEW CENTRAL, WIGAN. Complete Seating.
77. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, LINCOLN. Complete Seating.
78. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BOLTON. Complete Seating.
79. CASINO DE PARIS, OXFORD-STREET. Complete Seating.
80. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, S.E. Complete Seating.
81. OLYMPIA PICTURE HALL, WIMBLEDON. Complete Seating.
82. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
83. NEW PALACE, WATERLOO, LIVERPOOL. Complete Seating.
84. NEW PALACE THEATRE, HORNSEY, N. Complete Seating.
85. MANOR THEATRE, HACKNEY. Complete Seating.
86. COTTERELL'S THEATRE, MAIDENHEAD. Complete Seating.
87. NEW PALACE, LEWISHAM. Complete Seating.
88. NEW PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, RYE-LANE. Complete Seating.
89. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, PECKHAM. Complete Seating.
90. GAIETY THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD. Complete Seating.
91. PICTURE PALACE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD. Complete Seating.
92. ST. GEORGE'S PICTURE PALACE, LONDON, E. Complete Seating.
93. ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY DOCK. Complete Seating.
94. FERNDALE WORKMAN'S HALL, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
95. WORKMEN'S HALL, PONTYCYMMER, S. WALES. Complete Seating.
96. VICTORIA HALL, YORK. Reseating.
97. ELECTRIC THEATRE, CROYDON. Complete Seating.
98. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, DOVER. Complete Seating.
99. NEW FONEGRAPH THEATRE, STRAND. Complete Seating.
100. NEW HIPPODROME, NELSON. Fibrous Plaster Decorations.

A. R. DEAN & SONS point to the above list with pride. These contracts embrace nine out of every ten contracts going.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to draw the attention of the Proprietors of Picture Palaces and Skating Rinks to Specialities for this class of Buildings and Entertainments.
A. R. DEAN & SONS' work is known throughout the World. Their goods always give complete satisfaction.
A. R. DEAN & SONS wish to call attention to the fact that they only employ first class workman and that every man is paid the full trade union wage. No sweating or alien workmen employed.
A. R. DEAN & SONS will give **five years' guarantee** with all their Chairs and Seating, from the cheapest to the best.
A. R. DEAN & SONS can undertake any contract, from the largest Opera House to the smallest Portable Theatre. All have the best attention, and all results the same, viz., the utmost satisfaction given.
A. R. DEAN & SONS have several New Designs in Tip-up Chairs and Novelties in Pit and Running Seating.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
HAVE ONE ADDRESS,
CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."
Telephone (Show Rooms and Offices): 224 Birmingham.
Telephone (Factory and Stores): 3834 Birmingham.

A. R. DEAN & SONS still retain the services of
Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK, as Manager of the Theatre Department.
Mr. C. BARDELL, as Chief Designer and Manager of the Decoration Department.
Mr. L. BECK, Director and Manager of the Works and Factories.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
At Liberty.
5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
At Liberty for Management.
Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw).
R. W., Stage-Manager, The Hippodrome, London.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Musical and Farcical Comedy Character.
Disengaged. 147, Stockwell Park-road.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
Dudley Gore, "Marriages of Mayfair,"
Opera House, Leicester. Disengaged March 20.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
General-Manager, Herbert Darnley's Co.
44, Cranbourne-street, W.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS
on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era"
should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Returned from American Tour. Per., 210, Edgware-rd., Hyde Park.

MISS NELLIE GANTHONY'S ENTERTAINMENT CO., including Mr. Robert Ganthony, Miss Violet Elliot (Contralto), Mr. Harry Alexander, Mr. Douglas P. Stuart, Miss L. Risby. Now Booking Summer Dates. What offers, share or certainty? Address, 16, Edith-rd., W. 'Phone 3551 Western.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers, GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

AMY PRY VERTE, MADAME CARLOTTA VERTE, Variety Entertainers, Teaches Toe-Dancing, Music. 129, St. George's-rd. Hull.

WHITE'S TIGHTS
50 Years' Reputation.

	s.	d.
Postage 3d. per pair.		
Cotton Tights, Flesh, Black, and White ..	2	6
" All other shades	2	9
Silk Lustre, all shades	3	9
Superior Silk	8	6
Best	10	6
Stout Worsted	6	6
" Cashmere	7	6

Telegrams: Tights, Bobbers Mill. Send stamp TO-DAY for List & Patterns. WHITE & SONS (Dept E), Telephone: 1566
BOBBERS MILL, near NOTTINGHAM.
London Agent: Gamage, Ltd., 126, Holborn.
Edinburgh Agent: F. A. Lumley, 161, Leith-street.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 190
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 191(
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 190(
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 190(
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 190(
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 190(
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 190(
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 190(
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 190(
Brand Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 190(
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 190(
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 190(
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 190(
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 190(
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 190(
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 190(
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 190(
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 190(
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 191(
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 190(
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 190(
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 190(
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 190(
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 190(
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 190(
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 190(
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 190(
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 190(
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 190(
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel	May 15, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 190(
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 190(
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 190(
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 190(
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 190(
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence	July 10, 190(
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 190(
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 190(
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 190(
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 190(
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 190(
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 190(
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 190(
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 190(
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 190(
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert	May 29, 190(
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 190(
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 190(
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 190(
Kyrle, Miss Judith	May 1, 190(

Copies of the above can be obtained, price 6d each for any issue 1910; other dates double price

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Martin Harvey, with his admirably equipped company, is presenting selections from his well-known répertoire, including such fine media for the exercise of his versatile genius as *The Breed of the Treshams*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *Hamlet*. In the company supporting Mr. Harvey are Miss N. de Silva, Miss Brenda Gibson, Mr. Charles Glenney, Mr. Owen Roughwood, and Mr. Leonard Craske. The popular actor's engagement has been nothing less than a triumph.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The outstanding feature of the Palace programme this week is the furniture-smashing sketch *A Society Woman*; Willie Atom and company present their comical episode *Wiggles*; and amongst the other turns are George S. Melvin, most versatile of comedians; the Gilberts, wire walkers; Lon Hale, a clever roller skater; Miss Agnes Tina, a versatile mimic; and Irene and Morton, comedy sketch artists.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Messrs. Lingford Carson and J. E. Barnes's company is playing here in *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Lingford Carson gives a meritorious study of Harry Beech; Mr. Archie Helsby as Walter Beech has a strong part, which he plays with distinction; Mr. Sidney Cranston is a mirth-provoking Sir Dobson Wilde; Mr. Marshall Meade plays with ability as Jack Lawton; and Mr. George B. Davies gives an admirable representation of Richard Brenton. Miss Patty Hastings acts with winning grace as Sylvia; Miss Alice Oliver realises the quaintness of the part of Lady Jane Wilde; Miss Beatrice Hudson is successful as Betty Black; and Master Robert Beech finds a capital exponent in Miss Doris Denville.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—Mr. William Watson's company is playing to record business here with *Robinson Crusoe*. Mlle. De Rose in the title-rôle renders some new songs in a pleasing style; Miss Hilda Claremont as Polly has a charming personality; Miss Etty Waldron as Mary is a great pantomime favourite here, and sings and dances prettily; Joe Waldron keeps the house in roars of laughter as John Willie; and Mr. Phil Lester makes a droll dame. Mr. Billy Watson is all that could be desired as Will Atkins, and Mr. Lem Naylor is a capital Capt. Blizzard. Mr. Cliff Dacre as Wreckeros and Miss Ruby Carlton as Wavina win golden opinions for their rendering of "Excelsior." Messrs. Lamber and Butler deserve a special word of praise for their excellent dancing, and are responsible for much fun as Friday and Saturday. The Sisters George as Maudie and Alice are prime favourites, and the singing of the Four Gilberts receives unstinted approbation.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Variety for this week forms a change from the "legitimate." The Frantz troupe accomplish clever acrobatic feats; the Luzellas, two talented young ladies, go through a gymnastic and wire-walking act; the Menzies are amusing in their comedy absurdity *The Suffragette*; Lil Elfrida is encored in her impersonations of well-known artists; the Cecilias please in a musical selection; Lottie Leighton is a clever comedienne and clog dancer; and Frank Mortimer sings three capital songs.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. W. Kelly's company is again here with *A Royal Divorce*. The leading rôles of Napoleon and Josephine are respectively sustained with histrionic discernment and skill by Mr. Keith Fraser and Miss Violet Ellicott; Mr. J. H. Roberts realises the cool, calculating diplomat Talleyrand; Mr. Chas. Stirling is a vigorous Marquis De Beaumont; Messrs. Edwin J. Collins and Harold S. Standing are capable interpreters of General Augereau and Marshal Murat; and Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise fulfils all requirements.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The Six Bros. Luck are here in their latest act *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Olive and Owen (Minnie and Bill) appear to advantage in a novel comedietta *The Roadside Tinkers*; Angus Strong, opera baritone, sings taking songs; Mabel Thorne, comedienne, is "fetching" in song and patter; the Boys of England are taking in barrack-room ballads; and Will Rhodes is droll in song and absurdity; Luis Hardt presents a new scena *In Days of Old*, with pretty scenic effects.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—*His Real Wife* is doing good business, and the piece earns the approval of the audience. The star is Miss Ward, whose effective rendering of Rose Avondale is admired. Mr. Harding Thomas as Martin Avondale is good; Mr. Clifford Rean as Herbert Barton portrays his part excellently. The mounting and dressing is very creditable.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Baron's Burlesque Menagerie is a novelty; the Three Krakes introduce something new in their comedy act, *Electric Car Conductor*; Brothers Montes give a good show; Tom Clifford as a ventriloquist excels; Carlo and Mace Trio cause roars of laughter in their comedy acrobatic scena, *Fun on the Lawn*; Geo. Lawrence is a light comedian; Les Atans, Australian gymnasts, are good; Alice Golding sings sweetly; and the Palacescope shows some good pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime *Dick Whitington* is here. Mr. Charles Cork as Rodento and Miss Maude Leviete as Concordi sing and act well; Miss Lena Page is a capital Dick Whittington; and Miss Florrie Warner is a winning Alice. Mr. Tom Gott as Amelia Florence is very amusing, as are also Clifton and Gibson as Silly Peter and Lazy Larry, while Miss Florence Hilton is a very attractive Sir Algernon de Mash.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*. Mr. William T. Riley makes a capital James Harcourt, and Mr. F. Ronald Adair is a typical tar as Willie Mason; Mr. Charles Ashwell does well as Jack Fenton; and Mr. Bert Agate as Johnny Walker is also good. Miss Jessie Belmore in the difficult part of Sophie Coventry shows much ability and resource.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The top of the bill is occupied by Haley's Garden of Girls, vocalists and dancers, who give a charming entertainment; the Five Jolly Bakers, represented by the Will Douglas Troupe, is a highly amusing and clever acrobatic act; a really expert jumping act is given by the Royal Diamonds; Jock Mills, Scotch comedian and dancer, is popular; Bu Val is entertaining with his concertina; Connie Teca is a pleasing vocalist; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Morritt's entertainment is as popular as ever, and he is supported by the following capable artists: Madame Beulah, with a second sight performance; Miss Ethel Davies, a pleasing comedienne; George Guthrie, a clever instrumentalist; Mr. Gay West, a quaint comedian and dancer; and the Smalleys, triple horizontal bar performers. Some capital pictures are shown.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*East Lynne* once again holds sway here. Mr. Tom Watt's company is here in the well-known Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*. Miss Laura Hansen as Lady Isabel gains general approbation for her skilful handling of the part; Mr. Joe Rowland's popularity as P.C. Bullock is unmistakeable; Archibald Carlyle is played with care by Mr. Rayson-Cousens; and Mr. Wilfred Percy Mansfield is duly hissed for his villainy as Francis Levison. Mr. William Turnbull is quite the best Justice Hare we can remember, and praise is due to Mr. Eric Lugg for the manner he enacts Richard. Mr. Tom Watt himself plays Lord Mounteven; Lawyer Dill is amusingly acted by Mr. Clifford Clifford; Miss Isabel Singleton is funnily fussy as Miss Cornelia; and a pleasing Barbara Hare is found in Miss Ida Heron.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Shuberth.—Leoni de Lausanne heads the bill this week in a sensational rifle-shooting act; Seener and Fridkins Troupe of Russian Singers and Dancers are always sure of a cordial reception; hilarity reigns while Johnny Dwyer holds the stage; a delightful turn is that given by Joan Deering, vocaliste-violinist; Harry Hilton's conjuring is excellent; Ted Curtis and Piccs. shine principally as dancers, though the juvenile of the trio shows promise as an eccentric comedian. The Sisters Harcourt, vocalists and dancers, also appear.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Graham Falcon's company is presenting the pantomime *Cinderella*, and the clever and charming principals, funny comedians, strong chorus, and pretty scenery are much appreciated. Miss Cecilia Gold is a graceful and winsome Cinderella; Miss Maud Nichols plays Prince Elegant in dashing fashion; Miss Lilian Drake is a smart and attractive Dandini; and Mr. Jack Waller is a versatile humorist as Baron Stoney. Mr. Wal Lesley and Mr. Albert Lawrence as the Ugly Sisters are responsible for a deal of fun; and Mr. Glen Alva is very droll as Billy Buttons. Mr. Jack Harley and Mr. Joe Hardon are clever knockabouts; Miss Rene Willoughby is good as Fairy Crystal; and Mr. Bert Darrell is a capital Demon. The speciality dancers are Miss Minnie Dorina, Miss Connie Langford, Miss Norah O'Malley, and Miss Hetty Ray, and Miss Beatrix Maude does some clever toe-work.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company are paying a welcome return visit to this city with a round of Shakespearean plays. On this occasion Mr. Benson has secured the services of that capable actress Miss Genevieve Ward, who appears in *Richard III.* and *Coriolanus*. On Monday the former piece was presented and in the title-rôle Mr. Benson was eminently successful, his acting throughout gaining him enthusiastic admiration; Miss Genevieve Ward's histrionic ability found full scope in the rôle of Queen Margaret; and Mrs. F. R. Benson gave a finished impersonation of Lady Anne; Mr. Murray Carrington deserves to be congratulated upon his fine acting as Clarence, the Dream Scene gaining him a hearty recall; and the part of Earl of Richmond could be in no better hands than those of Mr. Eric Maxon; Mr. Moffatt Johnston was an excellent Duke of Buckingham; and Miss Violet Farebrother was all that could be desired as Queen Elizabeth; Mr. W. W. Caithness was good as Lord Stanley; and other rôles were presented by Miss Elinor Aicken Miss A. P. Nicholson Miss Molly Terraine, and Messrs. E. Harrison Guy B. Rathbone, Nigel Barrie, Fraze Outram and F. Conroy. *Coriolanus*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* are also in the week's bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*A Life for a Life* is presented by Mr. Charles Lester's company. Mr. Lester as Don Leon Fernandes gives a clever impersonation; Miss Lallah Davis acquits herself with distinction as Eulalie; and Mr. Hugh Travers furnishes a powerful portrayal of the villain Pedro Li Calci; Miss Dorothy Riddell appears to decided advantage as Kate Evelyn; and Mr. Bert Albert acts skilfully as Kit Oswald; Miss Winnie Rousby is a charming Venetta, exhibiting much ability for one so young; and the rôle of the Magistrate is done full justice to by Mr. J. Ernstone; Mr. Horace Buckley is decidedly humorous as an Irish policeman; and the Sheriff is in the safe hands of Mr. W. H. Carr. Other rôles are adequately presented by Miss Nell Ingram, and Messrs. Jack Mason, E. Williams, and J. B. Longfellow.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Messrs. Callahan and St. George are paying a return visit here, and their Irish comedy and musical items have been enthusiastically received; Vandy's juggling feats are marvellous; Miss Cecilia Maude, the singing conductress makes a big hit; Palles and Cussick raise much laughter with their comedy act; and Robins and Collier present with much *eclat Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*; Milner and Stoney are clever dancers; and Arthur Gill as a yokel is vastly entertaining. Also here are Lennie and Hast, in their fantasy; Monty Walker, comedian; and the Hippo scope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. C. Laidler.—The Elliott-Savonas top the bill here and gain a gratifying reception for their unique and beautifully staged musical act; Miss Mona Garrick's impersonations are so realistic; Victoria Dagmar and Clown execute some startling gymnastic feats; and Miss Ethel Bourne is a talented vocalist and instrumentalist; Mr Arthur Woodville is a capital light comedian; and Miss Madge Beresford is a dashing comedienne with good songs. Also here are Mr. Victor Travers, comedian, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some capital pictures have been exhibited here, including Dove Eyes Gratitude, A Woman's Treachery, Three Thanksgivings, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. W. Challiner, a capital vocalist and dancer; and Mr. Ellis Barrieton vocalist, who made a terrific hit on Monday with his chorus songs.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett many beautiful films have been shown here, including The Restoration, The Duchess of Masovia, The Pillagers, &c. Mr. Hugh Witt and Miss Queenie Wynne speedily make themselves favourites with their capital entertainment, consisting of mimicry songs, and dances.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company is on its annual visit here, and opened on Monday in *Hamlet*, with Mr. Henry Herbert as the moody Dane. Miss Gladys Vanderzee as Ophelia, Mrs. Charles Sparrow as the Ghost, and Mr. John Hood as Horatio. A large audience was much impressed with an excellent performance. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was played, and the week's productions have included *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *King Lear*, and *Macbeth*. The staging of the pieces has been on a most liberal scale, and the company has well maintained an already favourable reputation in this town.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Keating.—Bella and Bijou, the popular vaudeville artists, are on a welcome return visit, and are received with undiminished cordiality; Wild, Willie, and West are most entertaining acrobatic comedians; and a fine company also includes Tom Leamore, the favourite comedian; Miss Lizzie Glenroy, Scotch vocalist and dancer; Guest and Newlyn, variety artists; Miss Ethel Loftus, a clever comedienne; Fyne and Hurley, burlesque boxers; Frank Boyce, character vocalist; Miss Nance Elder, Tyrolean vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company are appearing twice nightly in *Her Fatl Marriage*, with Mr. Jerold Heather as Zaco, and Miss Hilda Shirley as Myara. Mr. William Drury and Miss Laura Wright admirably supply the comedy element, and the cast is most efficient throughout. Brisk business is the result.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Crowded audiences thoroughly enjoy *The Jack and the Beanstalk* pantomime. We understand the run will terminate at the end of the twelfth week—an extended season which is striking evidence of the success of the production.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Business here is excellent, and *The Babes in the Wood* pantomime is admirably played. Mark Sheridan has introduced two new songs with catchy choruses; Dorothy Ward is the recipient of handsome presents, and a strong programme is arranged for her benefit next Wednesday.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Enthusiastic scenes are being witnessed at this popular house, where the *Aladdin* pantomime is attracting crowded audiences. The special "club nights" have commenced, and the principal artists are the recipients of novel and handsome presents.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company from the Lyric Theatre are presenting the *Aladdin* pantomime to large and enthusiastic audiences. There is an abundance of genuine wholesome fun, the songs are bright and catchy, and the dancing is excellent. Miss Kittee Rayburn makes an ideal Aladdin, and she is a big favourite; a dainty and clever performer is Miss Nancy St. John (the Princess). The comedy business is strong in the hands of Mr. Harry Morgan (Abanazar), Mr. Fred W. Graham (Widow Twankey), and Messrs. Carl and Carr (the Bluebottles). There is an effective ballet, and splendid speciality turns are given by the La Belle Trio, Mrs. Victor's troupe of juveniles, the Nine Folliettes, and the Three Trees.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*Leah Kleschna*, presented by H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is proving that it still wields a remarkable influence over Birmingham theatregoers. The clever acting of Miss Bessie Rignold in the title-rôle arouses much enthusiasm; Mr. William Clayton as Kleschna affords a clever study; and as Paul Sylvaine Mr. Charles Barrett gives an admirable portrayal; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is clever as Raoul Berton; and Mr. Graham Pockett shows much ability as the faithful Schram. The company is a remarkably strong one.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—The drama *Whom God Hath Joined* is meeting with very encouraging success. It is a vigorous play of real life and the joint authors Stuart Lomath and Ellen Owen figure prominently in the cast as Captain Jack Merrick and Kitty Crumpet, giving a very creditable account of themselves. Other important characters are well presented by Miss Amy MacNeil, Miss Ethel F. Greene, Miss Dorothy Booth, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. A. E. Pringle, Mr. Lancelot Usher, Mr. J. Miller, and Mr. Victor G. Payne.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company are presenting the drama *A Daughter of the Sea* to appreciative audiences. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Florrie Green, a young artist who acquits herself with the finish of an actress of much greater experience. Mr. Lewis Gilbert, the author, provides a clever study in the part of an octogenarian scoundrel, and is assisted by Mr. Ashmore Vincent. Mr. Victor Howard is successful as the hero, Ken Moreland; and plenty of delightful humour is introduced by Miss Mattie Everette, Mr. Sydney Deane, and Mr. Johnnie Chippendale.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—An exceptionally strong bill meets with the approval of crowded audiences. Gertie Gitana enjoys a warm reception, fully deserved, for she sings her songs in a delightful manner; Charles R. Whittle is original and his songs are taken up with striking enthusiasm; round upon round of applause pays tribute to the excellence of the performance of Pipifax and Paulo, whose clever and eccentric acrobatic feats are very finished; a sketch efficiently played by Herbert Sleath's company is entitled *The Deputy Sheriff*; and praise for clever acting is due to Mr. J. K. Walton and Mr. H. Wilmot Jackson. Taree, "an Australian Bushman," extracts melody from a mouth-organ and a small harp; Katie Butler is a pleasing character comedienne; Frederick Russell and Lillian Held are successful in songs and dances; the Musical Jees provide a musical treat in their scena *The Musical Smithy*; and Edward Mortimer is deservedly applauded for his sketching act.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The Slaviansky Russian Choir is a great draw here this week in a répertoire of Russian folk-songs. Patrons are provided with an exquisite vocal treat, and the applause is unstinted. King and Benson are extremely popular in a new musical burlesque, *Around the Town*; Vanando gives a novel and successful ventriloquial turn; the Leiter Brothers are brilliant dancers; J. W. Hall provokes much merriment; the Leslie Brothers are popular eccentric comedians; the Brothers Gaudsmidt are amusing acrobatic clowns; the Great Vincent is also an expert acrobat; Maizie Hibbs is a smart dancer; and the Bioscope exhibits interesting pictures.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal item in a varied programme is a clever sporting and dramatic episode entitled *A 33 to 1 Chance*, played by Mr. H. P. Selwyn's company. It is very effectively carried out, and the enthusiasm of the audience is thoroughly aroused. Mike Cray is a comedy juggler who is assisted by a highly-trained dog in an astonishing performance; the Great Albas is a sensational tight-wire artist, who receives well-deserved applause; the Spanish Juanitos prove very entertaining; Barbara Babington is a popular comedienne; Tee and Tee are amusing eccentrics; and much applause is accorded to Pop Dearly, dandy coon, Elsie Ellis, comedienne, and James Basnet, vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasford's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—Audiences here are convulsed with laughter over the eccentricities of the Six Brothers Luck, whose sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, is scoring a huge success. Miss Harriett Vernon is reaping the fruits of her popularity with Birmingham people, and is making a great hit in several new songs; Mooney and Holbein are a smart vaudeville couple whose turn is well received; the Davis and Gledhill Trio give a sensational cycle and motor-racing turn; Mlle. Dalmeri presents a clever troupe of performing animals; Dewson is unusually good at the piano; and other good turns are provided by the Robertsons, Hyde and Cody Trio, Miss Alma, and Leslie Race.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The chief item on a good allround programme is the sensational sketch *The Hold-up*, in which clever and vigorous character studies are provided by Mr. Paul Lovett and Mr. Edward B. Ashby; Miss May Fairclough is a popular contributor in selections from Shakespearean and modern plays; charming songs and dances are presented by the Four Garricks; J. Augustin and Annie Hartley give a clever barrel-jumping display; Irve Hayman and company appear in a striking burglar episode, entitled *Christmas Eve*; the Brothers Ford are smart singers and simultaneous dancers; and other good turns are by the Claymore Trio and Harry Morris, Lancashire comedian.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Capital houses are the order here to witness Mr. Chas. Constant's company in *Florodora*. The Frank Abercoed of Mr. Robt. Hine is effective; Mr. Eric Deane is clever as Captain Arthur Donegal; and the rôle of Cyrus Gilfain is capably portrayed by Mr. Edward Chester. Mr. Jock Parker is a good Leandro, and Mr. Arthur Lenville a successful Anthony Tweedlepunch. The Dolores of Miss Daisy Lake is charming; Miss Fannie Holmshaw is really smart in her presentation of Lady Holyrood; and Miss Josephine Ellis is a fascinating Angela.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—A. C. Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters provide a good turn as a singing quartette; the Sisters Brenton are clever dancers and singers; and Mr. Herbert La Martine is an especially fine dancer. Ingram and Irving's scena in *The New Office Boy* is amusing; and the Athos are well received in their ball and acrobatic display. Mr. Chas. Mildare is a capital bird imitator; and Tom E. Hughes pleases all as a comedian.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—A bright pantomime, nicely staged and well dressed, is the fare here this week, and Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is earning a well-merited success in *Dick Whittington*, presented twice nightly. Mr. Dean Tribune as Idle Jack is a source of much merriment; Mr. Albert Williams as Sarah and Mr. Jack Hodgson as Alderman Fitzwarren ably assist him in sustaining the merriment; Miss Ethel Campbell is a confident and dashing Dick and sings tastefully; as does also Mme. Benita, the Fairy. Miss Tina Franks is very pleasing as Alice, and Miss Ivy Proudfoot as Viscount Piccadilly vivaciously portrays the heavy swell. Mr. Tom Gilmore gives a clever account of himself as the Cat.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—In this, his first visit here, this week, Lamberti makes a very good impression and proves himself a real artist. His impesonations of past great musicians and his quick changes therein are highly appreciated. The Max Tourbillon troupe of acrobatic trick cyclists are also greatly successful; Ben Williams, ex Welsh collier, sings baritone songs in excellent style; Barrington is good in a musical speciality; and Webb and Edna Branston are high-class vocalists. The Donnas Trio, trapeze gymnasts, and Archie Pitt, comedian, contribute. Pictures complete.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Raynor and company are continuing there visit here a second week, and their talented performances of well-known plays are giving the utmost satisfaction. *A Bunch of Violets* was played on Monday, when Mr. Raynor submitted a very fine study of Sir Philip Marchant. Mr. Joseph B. Montague played Jacob Schwartz with great power, and Miss Cecilia Dare cleverly portrayed Mrs. Murgatroyd. The other parts were also in competent hands. *Still Waters Run Deep* and *Jim the Penman* have also been played during the week.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Mysticus tops the bill here this week, and gives a capital entertainment of such a character as the name suggests; J. Wright Aitken and company contribute a capital sketch; Arabella Allen gives clever imitations of Dickens and other characters; Briff, Braff, and Broff are clever and amusing tumblers; Emma Don is a popular male impersonator; Tomato gives an astounding performance on the tight rope; Ide Dorrie is a dainty comedienne; Fields and Mansell are lightning picture painters; and the Daimlers are excellent comedy artists and dancers.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—A large and enthusiastic audience witnessed the opening performance on Monday last of Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Kathleen Courtney is winsome and attractive as Mary Gibbs, dancing nimbly and singing brightly; Mr. Theodore Leonard is a very humorous Timothy Gibbs. Mr. Tom Shelford's singing and acting as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepont are much appreciated; Mr. Crawford Kent, as Lord Eynsford, acts and sings in good style; Miss Gladys Ivery is a charming Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and Miss Nancy Hervyn does well as Mme. Jeanne; Mr. J. E.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Place of honour is accorded to George Mozart who delights the house. Contributions to the bill are also made by Joe Oliver, versatile vocalist; Ivey Aberdare, dainty comedienne and wooden shoe dancer, Virto (assisted by his daughter Venita), in a great musical speciality act; Chas. Vincent, eccentric comedian; Crentoni, mysterious shadowist; Fenton Cross, speciality entertainer; Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston, artistic comedy duo, in *A Resourceful Lover*; the Bouncing Peps, comedy gymnasts, and their performing dog Prince; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodromes, Ltd.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, in *Kindergarten*, receive great applause; Dandini's Trio have a really funny juggling act; Harry Atkinson, the Australian Orpheus, in his marvellous imitations of musical instruments, is well received; Mart and Pep are a pair of remarkable head and hand equilibrists and tumblers; Clark and Glennie are very funny in *The Haunted House*; and Curtis Leo and his Fighting Rooster, in *Fun in a Drawing-Room*, creates roars of laughter. The Dancing Paceys and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* is in the full tide of success. On Saturday last Mr. Hart, with his customary generosity, invited the boys from the Nutter Orphanage to witness the pantomime, and the delighted youngsters were, in addition, regaled with buns and fruit. To each of the boys, on leaving the theatre, Mr. Hart also handed a small bag with a present of money.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Fred Karno's company of comedians are on a return visit here this week in the bustling sketch *Perkins, M.P.*, and in point of humour Albert Bruno proves a worthy successor to Fred Kitchen in the name part; Gardner and Stoddard, in a comedy and musical entertainment on American lines, introduce much that is distinctly novel and particularly enjoyable; and Paul Barnes, too, contributes an American turn as a raconteur and comedian, meeting with much success. There are some highly sensational feats in tumbling performed by the Five Manchurians, agile Russian acrobats; Horace White is a clever ventriloquist and very entertaining; in a fine gymnastic display, Rohda Bros. exhibit exceptional muscular development; Bert Erroll is the possessor of an excellent soprano voice, which he uses to advantage; there are some excellent contributions from Florence (a charming lady mimic), Rita Rhylle (comedienne), and the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in a delightfully amusing sketch, *The Dancing Master*, receive unbounded applause for their clever dancing; Billy Merson, the clever little comedian, elicits roars of laughter with his irresistible humour and capital song "Setting the Village on Fire"; in eccentric style Herbert Rule renders some capital comic songs; Rooke Rorke and Co., in a musical sketch *The Prince's Love Affair*, are humorous and entertaining; the Rosses, comedians, are very smart step-dancers; in charming style Beatrice Willey renders a medley of old-time flower songs; fine vocalism and instrumental music, combined with genuine and hearty humour, render the entertainment of the Four Royal Scots very enjoyable; the Lannons earn merited approbation for clever step and pedestal dancing; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are amusing.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Proprietors, the Albert Hall Co.; Manager, Mr. Martin Manley.—Mr. Charles Harrington and company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, are enjoying a highly successful visit. Mr. Harrington has brought an excellent company, and the piece is well mounted. Mr. J. H. Boehm is very good as Uncle Tom; Mr. David Blair handles the part of George Harris with ease; Mr. Charles Harrington makes a dignified and pleasant Mr. St. Clair; Mr. A. Hayes is also very good as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Victor Gordon gives a good reading of Legree; Mr. John Gibson does excellent work as Mr. Wilson; Mr. Reginald Kloof is very amusing as Marks; Miss Hero Hathaway gives a finished performance of Eliza; Miss Ellen Douglas is an effective Aunt Ophelia; Miss Gem Lloyd deserves praise as Eva; Miss Annie Watson brings down the house with her antics as Topsy; Miss May Turner is very good as Mrs. St. Clair; Miss Hettie Johnson gives a telling impersonation of Cassie; and other parts are well filled by Mr. E. Lenard, Mr. W. Eversleigh, Mr. Edie Roberts, Mr. J. Black Mr. S. Lewis, Mr. J. Martin, and Miss J. Green. Several specialities were introduced into the plantation scene.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*Robinson Crusoe* entered upon its closing week here on Monday, and is still doing excellent business. Miss May Mars, in the title-rôle is distinctly successful with her charmingly rendered songs; Miss Violet K. Orme makes a dainty Polly Perkins; and abundance of fun is provided by Messrs. Sandford and Lyons, Mr. Dave O'Toole, and Mr. George Campbell. A benefit was accorded Miss May Mars on Tuesday evening.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Princess D'Aryaba, charming danseuse, is enthusiastically applauded for her fantastic scena, in which she is assisted by M. Bartlemeny, Russian dancer; Andre Romanoff, an accomplished violinist, also achieves success; J. K. Reynolds and company appear in *Disgrace*, and are warmly applauded; Madge Manley and company are well received in *After the Races*; Athlone and Sinclaire are effective in an athletic and vocal act; the Sisters Allen are pleasing duettists and dancers; Minta and Paul give a clever gymnastic display; the efforts of the Rhoderick Duo, harmony lasses, are cordially appreciated; Bertina submits a refined musical act; and other turns are presented by Bert Crosbie, "the height of eccentricity," and Vi Laurie, comedienne and dancer. On Friday last week the King attended a special matinée performance here of *The Marriage of Kitty*, arranged by Mrs. William James, of West Dean Park, Chichester, for the benefit of the local branch of Queen's Nurses. The title character was admirably sustained by Mrs. James.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh prove a great attraction and are highly amusing in the little comedy *Sizes and Sevens*; the Kiners-Moulin pair perform some smart balancing feats, and are also amusing with their by-play; Mlle. Pollo is a smart and graceful gymnast; Louie Tracey makes an attractive male impersonator; Willie Gardner submits a clever performance on Skates; Anna Heath is a dainty comedienne; the Six White Boys are pleasing vocalists and dancers; and Tom Joy, comedian, is well received.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here with *Where is William?* Mr. Charles Windermere acts with alertness and vivacity as the perplexed Sir William Gregory, whose butler, William Jolley, has a very amusing exponent in Mr. Rule Pyott; Miss Belle Donaldson is a graceful Lady Gregory; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson as Harry and Miss Clare Manifield as Phyllis are a pleasing pair of young lovers; Mr. Leslie Norman submits a clever character study as General Rubbub; and Miss Zoe Davis (Eliza) and Miss Evelyn Shelley (cook) render able support.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* is in a fair way to beat the record of Mr. Chute's pantomimes, for the house appears to be full at each performance. One advantage is that the story is both pretty and interesting, and the members of the company pay their parts so well that it is evidently quite understood and appreciated by the children, who, at the matinées, form a large part of the audience. The scenery, dresses, and staging generally are quite up to the high standard of former years, and the wholehearted way in which all the members of the company work together is decidedly refreshing. Another point which strikes one is the apparent suitability of the various artists to their respective parts, so that, taken as a whole, the performance leaves the impression that no improvement could possibly be effected. Miss Lulu Valli (Reggie), Miss Alice Pollard (Goody), Miss Sydney Fairbrother (Mary), Miss Emmie Gardner (Dorothy), Miss Betty Rutherford (Jack), Mr. Horace Mills (Mother Hubbard), Mr. Charles Harvey (the Squire), Mr. G. H. Elliott (Chocolate), Mr. George Barrett (Timothy Tacks), and Mr. Fred Conquest (Fido), are all very popular favourites; and the clever dancing of Miss Leah Hanman, assisted by Miss Norah Walker, is quite a pleasing feature in the performance. There are numerous bright and taking songs, and the electric ballet is always much applauded.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Robinson Crusoe* continues to attract—in fact, the house is packed at nearly every performance with a very enthusiastic audience. The comedians, Messrs. Bennett, Martell, Garth, and Dunlop, are really funny; Miss Kitty Upton makes a decided hit in the title-rôle; Miss Blanche Marion is pleasing as Polly Hopkins; the Sisters Albert and the Sisters Emson do excellently in their respective parts; Mr. Dave Jenkins sings in good style; and Miss Judith Espinosa acts well as Friday, and her fine dancing is fully appreciated. The staging of the pantomime is excellent, and the dresses are rich and appropriate.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Charles Austin's amusing sketch *Parker, P.C.* is the leading attraction here; it is really very funny, and it is capitally played. King Luis and Partner score with their acrobatic equilibristic novelty; Rowlands and Ford amuse with Welsh and Scotch comedy; Baby Vi Davis is a clever little actress-vocalist; Les Cossets are smart acrobatic clowns; Royburn and Dix amuse with their comedy act *Skits on the 'Phone*; and Walter Aubrey proves himself to be an exceptionally clever dancer. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—B. A. Rolfe's "Colonial Septette" heads the programme with an exceptionally clever and pleasing vocal and instrumental act entitled *An Olde Tyme Hallowe'en*. All the members of the company are highly-trained musicians, and the scenic effects and costumes are appropriate; a dramatic sketch entitled *The Adder's Tooth* is cleverly played by a very competent company, and it is also well staged in two scenes. Williams' Jubilee Singers are pleasing vocalists, their turn obtaining much appreciation; May Lilian Levey, comedienne, is much aplauded for her taking songs; the Flying Orenius score with their sensational aerial act; Cyril Dane, vocal comedian, is successful; Lydia Dreams entertains with a ventriloquial act; Vera Wootton, comedienne, sings pretty songs in good style; and Ben Albert, comedian, obtains applause. Animated pictures conclude an excellent entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime, *Little Cinderella*, was on Monday presented, under the general management of Mr. George Burton, to a large house, which thoroughly appreciated the excellence of the performance and the beauty of the scenery. Mr. Leslie Hawkins does a lot of clever work as the Baron Shiphtalotte; Mr. Harry Hutton is a most amusing Pimples; Mr. Harry Bliss (Ethel) and Mr. W. G. Wesley (Maud) score well as the Ugly Sisters; a dashing Prince Perfect is presented by Miss Edie May, whose songs, "Hanging up the holly," "Clogs and shawl," and "Somewhere," go well; Miss Kitty Avey is a charming Cinderella, singing "Come and be my Teddy bear" and "Please send me a picture postcard"; Dandini gives Miss Lily Ennis opportunities which she takes full advantage of, and makes a hit with "Charlie Brown" and "Seaside." Miss Fanny Douglas as the Fairy Godmother has a pleasing contralto voice; the Lisando Brothers introduce their clever specialities. The ballets are well trained, and the powerful chorus is very creditable under the bâton of Mr. J. E. Machin.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Large audiences are assembling here to witness the performances by Mr. George Dance's company of *Miss Hook of Holland*. The genial Mr. Hook is capitally represented by Mr. Edmond Russell, and Simon Slink is an amusing figure in the hands of Mr. Fred Dark; a pleasing lover is presented by Mr. Arthur Ballance, and Miss Gertrude Melville as Sally is highly popular; Mr. George Mudie, jun., contributes good songs, and Mr. Wood Mansey as Captain Paap has a stirring military number; Miss C. Shepton gives a clever and careful performance as Mina, and the excellent chorus is well directed by Mr. H. A. Dyer.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A miniature pantomime, introducing good comedy, singing, and dancing, is given by the Georgia Coons, and the Dauntons-Shaw Troupe introduce a number of new cycling tricks; A-Ba-Be's Picture Postcard Album is an extremely pretty turn, and Queenie May is loudly applauded for "Days gone by"; the Lombards, athletes, perform a series of smart feats, and Leigh and Lowrie in an absurdity, *The Gay Bohemians*, are very funny; Dacey and Lewis combine equilibrium with singing, and Peddling Patrick is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—At the head of the programme here is *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, capitally played and mounted, in which Mr. Martyn Roland as Hirst does some clever acting; Enzer, smart soldier-juggler, is well assisted by Miss Clarice in demonstrations of Ju-jitsu; Gillin provides a ventriloquial turn which creates roars of laughter; and Ryder Slone is a big favourite with "Sing Sing"; clever bâton swinging is done by the Zampas, whilst Charles Gardner goes well with good songs; good humour is maintained by the Four Burnells in grotesque acrobatics, and the Simms are excellent dancers. The Palace pictures conclude.

BURY (Lancs).—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Mr. C. Watson Mills' company present *The Love of the Princess* with a capital cast. Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad gives an artistic representation; Count Dacillo is played in convincing style by Mr. Richard Vane; Mr. John Burton cleverly depicts King Josef; and Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as Prince Regent of Narava, Mr. Beckett Bonld as Lieut. Orlans, and Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff are all happily placed. As Princess Idalia Miss Dorothy Haigh gives a delightfully artistic performance. Miss Josephine Lee as Constantia and Miss Maude Steeple as Lady Irene are prominent.

Circus of Varieties.—Good turns are given by Millie Howell, character vocalist, and Walter Barrett, baritone. Pictures complete the programme.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Baker.—*The Yellow Fang*, an excellent dramatic sketch, is the principal attraction, and as presented by Miss Mary Mayfren's company is very popular. Miss Violet Campbell is to be complimented upon her perforamnce as Judith Beck, and Messrs. George Pickett, Lawrence Osborne, Leslie Howe, and Francis Annesley render valuable assistance. Herma gives an exhibition of weight-lifting; Tod Lowen is a versatile comedian; the Ten Dixie Girls appear successfully in a vocal and terpsichorean scena; Rennie, with his dog Popsy, gives a clever ventriloquial sketch; and as comedian and mimic J. P. Ling is artistic.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon.—*The Sign of the Cross* is paying one more visit to the local theatre this week, and on this occasion the carefully-selected company of Mr. G. W. Bowes is giving the representations. Mr. Leonard Yorke is a very fine Marcus Superbus and Miss Florence Maber very charmingly enacts the rôle of Mercia. Another good representation is the Stephanus of Miss Effie Dane.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company is presenting *A Message From Mars* in a faultless manner. Mr. F. Vernon Travers in the rôle of Horsace Parker acts with much vigour and earnestness; Mr. Danelle Greene is responsible for the part of the Policeman; power and dignity is imparted to the rôle of the Messenger by Mr. Wm. H. Brougham; Mr. Norman Clark as the Tramp wins the sympathy of the audience; Mr. Douglas Stuart as Dicey deserves credit; Miss Rose Hellene gives a charming interpretation of Minnie Templar; Miss Aubrey Ashton does well as Miss Parker; and Miss Mary Buckstone as Mrs. Clarence succeeds in being very attractive. Miss Estelle Twitchen is a particularly bright and chic impersonator of Bella

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "Larola" Preserves the Skin from the effects of Frost, Winds, and Hard Water. Entirely removes and prevents all Roughness, Redness, Irritations, Chaps, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at All Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Cooling and Refreshing, after Golfing, Cycling, Motoring, Dancing, Tennis, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully Soothing if applied after Shaving. Bottles, 1s. 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here in the stirring drama *The Soldier's Wedding*, which is mounted in exceptional style; Mr. Douglas Cecil makes a particularly fine and dashing soldier hero Jack Brown; Colonel Graham is carefully presented by Mr. Cyprian Matthews and Mr. W. J. Butler as Charles Courtney is exceptionally good; Miss Dorothy Richardson as Nancy Lee is conspicuous for a sweet rendition; Miss Dora Pass in the rôle of Peggie Munroe is both prepossessing and painstaking; as James Fielding, the old farmer, Mr. Fred Yarnold submits a perfect performance; Miss Nita Langford in the part of Julie de Beauvrais could not be improved upon. The comedy is in the capable hands of Mr. Willie Scott (Tommy Spratt) and Miss Bessie Walters (Lizzie Walker).

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Heading a fine programme is the favourite comedienne Victoria Monks in her répertoire of catchy songs; Chanti, the modern Proteus, presents a series of transformation dances which are unique and distinctly clever; Nina Wood, in songs at the piano, is the personification of sweetness and grace; Arthur Leslie renews his popularity as a droll comedian; Tom Bryce, in a comedy interlude entitled *A Dude's Wooing*, proves a versatile artist; a novel ventriloquial performance is given by Rich Taylor; Billy, the human-brained horse, once more demonstrates his marvellous intelligence; Frank Cass sings a good song; and Dan Fraser is a clever Scotch comedian. The Bioscope completes the evening.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Interesting from start to finish was the verdict of the two large audiences which assembled on Monday at the popular Palace to see Bernard Mervyn's company in a detective sketch entitled *Mick Carter*, this hard-worked character being portrayed very cleverly by Mr. Mervyn himself, who is strongly supported by his talented company. Second position is given to Leroux's marvellous performing monkeys, who astound the audience by their wonderful performance; L. B. Athol, the actor-vocalist, appears in his successful scena entitled *Dreamland*; Bromley and Fontein prove capital comedy entertainers in *The Man Behind the Music Stand*; and the items contributed by Fritz Kornau, described as "the human flute"; Amy Bathurst, a taking comedienne; and Harry Luck, a successful fun-maker, share in the success of the entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kim.—A return visit of Mr. Seymour Hicks's company in *The Gay Gordons* is attracting large audiences. Mr. William Greene is a success as Angus; as Peggy Miss Clarice Lackstone makes a dainty and attractive figure. A capital and versatile comedian, Mr. W. H. Desmond has no difficulty in amusing his audience as the showman; Mr. P. J. Gale's dancing is enthusiastically encored, his Jack M'Phrisky being a lively performance; and Charlotte Siddons is amusingly portrayed by Miss Florrie Groves. Miss Mabel Dent sings with taste and skill as Victoria Siddons; and Miss Ada Mellon's clever touch of pathos as Janet McLeod is in agreeable contrast to her lighter shades of comedy.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart* are proving a great attraction. Mr. Harry Cullenford as John Barnard earns much applause for his powerful portrayal; Miss Sheila Walsh as John's wife proves herself an actress of considerable power; Mr. A. C. Holmes is grimly determined as the villainous Stephen Raylton; Mr. Ernest Duval carefully represents Gash Gills, and Miss Louise Millward plays very well as Mrs. Barnard; Miss Helen Lowther submits a charming portrait of Miss Grace Fanshawe, and Miss Daisy Rockefort shows considerable ability as Little May; Mr. Will Beasley is a typical village curate; Mr. Millar Wilson as Tony Tibbets is very amusing; Mr. Geo. Addison causes much merriment by his droll impersonation of Shrimp; Sally Travner is laughably portrayed by Miss Nancy Mitchell.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The chief item here is provided by Fullbrook and company in a laughable sketch, *Astronomy*; August, September, and May are a comical trio; Miss Helen Martin is the possessor of a powerful and effective soprano voice; the Musical Bentleys manipulate a variety of musical instruments; a musical sketch is provided by Fred Carr and Ada Rose, who are well rewarded; Clive Watts sings and dances smartly; Daisy Hicks is pleasing in song, and Mike Shannon wins deserved applause for his sand dances. New and interesting films by the Loyal Dominion Co. are entertaining.

CHATHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Mr. Charles Barnard is this week presenting the Elephant and Castle pantomime *Cinderella*. Miss Lillian Errol is a dainty Cinderella; Miss Mary Ambrose, an imposing Prince Casimir; Araminta and Elvira are amusing in the hands of the Misses Alice Inman and Florrie Haydon; Mr. Tom Poole is energetic and successful as Capers; Mr. Ted Young, an able comedian, scores throughout as Tiny; and able support is given by Mr. Freddie French as Hercules. Dandini is in the safe keeping of Mr. George Newburn, who makes a hit with his imitations of music-hall stars; Miss Madge O'Neill as the Duke of Whistbridge gives a popular performance; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls introduce some excellent dances; and Baby Wolf sings and dances herself into favour.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Tschin-Maa and his band of Chunchuse mountebacks prove a great attraction here; Little Sophie's singing and mimicry are much liked; Harry Knox scores with "I shall blow my whistle if you do"; Kenneth and Kane have a chorus which proves most infectious; Munro interests all with his clay modelling; and E. E. Howard and Co. present a sensational episode entitled *The Fight in the Lighthouse*.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Messrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's pantomime *The House that Jack Built* pays a welcome visit this week. Miss Daisy Wood, whose two best vocal efforts are "Molly O'Morgan" and "Someone," divides the honours with Miss Dolly Dodds, a bright and dainty principal girl, who give several piquant songs and dances; Misses Hetty Jones and Jenny Marsden are great successes as second boy and girl (Colin and Gertchen), the latter's clever clog dances making her a special favourite; Aunt Purdy has an indefatigable representative in Mr. J. Harrison, with whom is associated Wee Macgregor, whose accent and vocabulary are realised capitally by Little Chip. Mr. H. Hillerby as Squire Bounce and Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as his henchmen are keen, hard-working funny men; Messrs. Walker and Lake as Professor Pills and his assistant enact a phrenological skit—quite one of the best things; Mr. J. W. Hamm and Paddy Sloan as motor men, and Phono, the cow with the crumpled horn, assist in the comic turmoil; Miss Isa Wilson is a charming fairy; Miss Vera Weetman is good as the Cat; Mr. Ben Hughes as Sergeant McGinty indulges in lively pranks on the scaffolding of the house, assisted by other comedians. The scenery is pretty and the dresses are pleasing.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Toch and Tard, burlesque comedy artists, give a mirth-provoking show; Joey Sterling is a smart little character comedian; C. H. Charlton, a clever phenomenal conjurer; and the light-comedy couple, Millie and Arthur, deserve a word of praise. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing box-makers, provide a strikingly realistic vocal novelty turn; Terry and Tatten are good comedians and dancers; Jack Martin is a competent actor-vocalist; and Goodfellow and Gregson prove a popular pair.

COLCHESTER.—Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—After a "legitimate" session this hall reverts to vaudeville for one week. Ardell and Odell, American eccentrics, perform clever evolutions; Crawford and Johnson play on wood-wind instruments and dance in good style; the Hills also appear to advantage in a musical show; Angela Ward has some well-written songs; Lily Vine is well received; and Harry Hasto, quaint comedian, appeals to the upper house. Fred Hanlon goes well as a comedian, and the films are good.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarence.—F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company is paying a return visit in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. P. W. Dunscombe is a capital Paul Gouffet; as Lucio Delgado Mr. Chas. Phelps is responsible for some excellent stage villainy; Henry De Brisson is in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Warne; Mr. A. Cheevers as Lucien Cortier is good, and Mr. J. H. Stimson as Peter Pottlebery is a great success. Le Blanc (the mad doctor) is capitally played by Mr. Houghton Macauley; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is a charming Marie; Miss Marie Pemberton an effective La Pinau; and as Babette Miss Frances Day excels.

CO&K.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J Bell.—Messrs. Platt and Tower's company have been here with Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy *You Never Can Tell*, which was well received. As Fergus Crampton Mr. J. Edward Pearce acted admirably; Miss Winifred Beech as Gloria Clandon was very successful; Miss Edith Hunter gave an appealing representation of Mrs. Clandon; as Dolly and Phil, the spoiled children, Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson were excellent; Mr. Claude Haviland was a humorous waiter; as Bohun, K.C., Mr. Bellenden Clarke was irresistible; Mr. Allan Jeayes as Finch McComas, solicitor, was capital.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Raglus, eccentric juggler, performs some difficult and amusing feats; Ruby Norton, comedienne, receives applause; La Vie, in a series of art poses, is very clever; Bert Lytton renders popular songs in pleasing fashion; Daisy Hurdle and Grace Bard are a capital pair of comediennes; the Zaid trio introduce an Oriental speciality act, which includes a gymnastic turn on the rings; Bowden and Stole, a clever pair of acrobats, contribute an excellent turn, and the Palascope pictures continue to please.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, presenting *The Woman in the Case*, had a most enthusiastic welcome on Monday. Margaret Rolfe is represented by Miss Kathleen Russell, who gives an artistic rendering of the highly emotional rôle; Claire Foster is represented by Miss Maud Hildyard, who is a favourite in Coventry, and receives a rousing reception; Mr. James Lindsay makes a capable Lawyer; Mr. Wm. Kershaw is seen to excellent advantage as Julian Rolfe; Mr. Sydney Palfrey makes a good Louis Klauffsky; Mr. Paul Wynter being responsible for Jimmy O'Neil. *The Deputy Sheriff* precedes.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. New some; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Mr. Austin Rudd is the star turn, and meets with a very hearty reception; Chung Ling Hee and his troupe of Chinese magicians give a very fine display of juggling, acrobatic, and equilibristic feats; Miss Beaumont Collins and her company give a capital sketch entitled *Leaves of Memory*, the acting being particularly good; Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, renders a couple of good songs in a good voice. Other artists are Alix Jukos, protean actor; Rosie Gaston, comedienne and dancer; Dale and O'Malley, funny characters; and Baker and Balfe, with selections on the xylophone. Amusing pictures close the entertainment.

CREWE.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager and Scenic Artist, Mr. Ambrose Fischer.—Mr. Fred Granville's company, in *Beauty and the Beast*, drew a good house on Monday. Miss Dollie Barrie made a charming Beauty, and was heard to advantage in several good numbers; Miss Jennie Hallworth infused plenty of dash into her impersonation of Silver Buttons; Miss Hilda de Gray was well suited as Prince Great Heart; Miss Victoria Francis made a dainty Fairy Sunlight; Miss Fanny Wallace was amusing as Wilhelmina; and Miss Florence Milton was a successful Dolly Dimple. Mr. Sammy Foster created roars of laughter in the part of Sammy; Mr. Albert Juan was good as Sir Mackintosh Winkles; Messrs. Edward Stream and Frank Daleno were fun providers as Sprindles and Twitters; and Mr. M. Williams appeared as the Beast. Specialities were introduced by the Royal Quintette of singers and dancers, Baby Boden, Foster and Juan, and Stream and Daleno.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—*Held by the Enemy* is billed here this week. Mr. Roland Daniel is very good as Colonel Chas. Prescott; Mr. Elliot Ball puts in genuine work as Lieut. Gordon Hayes; Mr. James E Manning is satisfactory as Uncle Rufus; Mr. Sydney Faber is commendable as Major-Gen. H. D. Stamburg; Mr. Louis Palgrave is much liked as Thomas Henry Bean; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is a success as Brigade-Surgeon Fielding; Miss Dollie Roberts acts with care and judgment as Rachel; and praise is due to Misses Millie Ford and Roberta Pulleyne as Euphemia McCreery and Susan.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Wash Evans and company in the musical comedy *Paradise Alley* are creating a furore here; Rosie Archer's impersonations of well-known artists are clever; Johnson and Bert are smart in acrobatic comedy act *A Queer Customer*; Fred Earle is a quaint comedian; Pat Lynch is an untiring dancer; the Four Vagabonds give an entertaining vocal and comedy turn; C. Garry, J. B. Gordon, and company make a palpable hit in *Trilby*, Miss Grace Illingworth being excellent in the title-rôle; the Four Amaranths, lady acrobatic dancers, are given a cordial reception; and others worthy of notice are Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers, Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, and Jennie Reeve, comedienne.

Public Hall.—A very enjoyable entertainment was given here on the 11th and 12th inst. by the Rainbows, under the direction of Messrs. Stewart and Lorraine. Norma Russell's singing won approval; Basil Meker's items deserve praise; Marie Craven's numbers were warmly applauded; Lionel Howard's impersonations were commendable; Charles Hutchings had a droll way with him; Dolly Watson sang nicely; and Harry Daunt's efforts were rightly directed. *The Area Belle* and *A Twenty-First Birthday Party* were creditably rendered.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The Moody-Manners Opera Co. is here, and gave a very fine performance of *Samson and Delilah* on Monday before a crowded house. In the title-rôle Miss Helen Culver acquitted herself admirably, her acting and singing being excellent; Mr. Albert Bowyer is a capital tenor, and is very successful in the part of Samson. Mr. William Farmer, who has a bass voice, is effective as the High Priest of Dagon. The scenes are very realistic and the effects striking. *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the week's bill.

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Lady Maud and her juveniles provide the top of the bill here in *A Concert Rehearsal*, the youngsters doing well; Vardon, Perry, and Wilber are clever dancers and singers; Fred Dunstone, comedian, is funny and amusing; Palette, in his pot-pourri, attended by his dog Max, scores effectively; Cash and Clair are good dancers; Alice Hughes provides a comedietta entitled the Star of the Bazaar; and the Creedons are clever jugglers. The Hipposcope shows a picture of the Paris Floods.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. Gilbert Payne's pantomime *The House that Jack Built* is here. Mr. Gilbert Payne as Dame Trot keeps the house in roars, being ably assisted by Mr. Fred Fulton (Sir Niggle Grabbe) and Messrs. Lapham and Wallen (Jossem and Jewem). Jack is nicely played by Miss Kathleen Emmett; Miss Fanny Adamson is charming as Sunshine; Miss Ethyl Errol is a dashing Tommy Tucker; and Miss Hilda Deacon's dancing as Marjorie Dawe is a feature of the show. Speciality dances are introduced by the Godfrey Girls.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Charles Barnard's pantomime company with *The Babes in the Wood* occupy the boards. The principal boy (Robin Hood) has a charming exponent in Miss Gracie Graham, and her songs and dances are very capably rendered. Miss Violet Nunn does ample justice to the part of Maid Marian; the Babes are prettily impersonated by the little Misses Mabel Reeves and Ena Corelli, and their singing and dancing are altogether praiseworthy. First and foremost among the comedians are Nash and Noel, who keep their audience in a continual state of merriment. Mr. Dan Daly as Sir Rupert de Guile scores with his topical songs; and Mr. Charles Lilburn as Wilhemina and Messrs. Caldwell and Verne as Sally Slop and Percy Perkins also deserve commendation. The part of the Fairy Queen is entrusted to Miss Ethel Payne, and her pleasing voice is heard to advantage. The Demon King is capably enacted by Mr. Dan Weldon; and Mr. John McMahon is good as Friar Tuck. The Twelve Damozels provide some capital dancing. The pantomime is exceedingly well mounted and dressed, and the chorus is a strong one.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—As the star turn Howell Webb and company, in a sketch entitled *The Galley Slave*, are scoring a success. The Two Butterflies submit some very clever and daring gymnastic feats; Nellie Brierley, the Lancashire pit-brow soprano, delights her audience with several pleasingly rendered songs; Geo. Hall is an amusing comedian and an accomplished whistler; Max Sterling mystifies everybody with his sleight-of-hand turn; Tom Franks provides a clever ventriloquial entertainment; and the Cosman Couple are creditable comedy entertainers. A comic film on the Bioscope concludes.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Andie Cane's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, still proves popular, judging by the houses it is drawing. The artists know their work thoroughly, with the result that a really attractive evening's entertainment is provided.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—George D'Albert is the leading attraction here; Karsy and his wife entertain with the giant myriophone, from which some lovely music is obtained; Sterling and Love provide a clever little musical number, in which some popular songs and coach-horn and cornet selections are cleverly introduced; Gladys Revell scores with a well-rendered American ditty; Jack Crawley provides a popular military turn, entitled "Lights Out"; and other contributors are Williams and Miles, comedians, and Lila Wilson, comedienne and dancer.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in the drama, *A Thief in the Night*, is here. Miss Margery Fane as Joan Escombe excels with her clever acting; Mr. Stanley Bedwell is commendable as Alan Escombe; the villainy of Michael Pagani receives the fullest illustration from Mr. Leyton Cancellor; who is well assisted by Miss Beatrice Homer, with an able portrayal of Sonia Cleve. Mr. Hugh

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Holt's Juvenile Follies top the bill, and prove a clever troupe of vocalists and dancers; Stowe Bros. give an exceptionally neat performance as equilibrists; Rudge Whitworth is a pleasing entertainer; Della Ray is a charming and powerful vocalist; Edmund Casseill, banjoist, is well received; as also are Jennie Wood, a dainty comedienne; and Bert Groves, eccentric comedian. The Empire pictures are popular.

DUNDALK.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Urban Council.—Mr. A. E. Smith's company is here with *The Sleeping Beauty*. The piece is dressed and mounted in splendid style. Miss Kathleen Garnon is to be complimented upon her fine impersonation of Prince Perfect, rendering several very tuneful numbers. Miss Gertie Leno possesses a beautiful voice, which is heard to full advantage in her solos as Fairy Queen; Miss Elsy Denys makes an excellent Princess, and creates a most favourable impression; Messrs. Foley and Francis are exceptionally funny as John James and James John, introducing some clever up-to-date gags; Messrs. Taylor and Alderman are also responsible for much merriment as Nurse and King Sol; the Sisters Lesmere are the recipients of loud applause for their clever and finished dancing. The music, under the direction of Mr. Hayden Halstead, is bright and sparkling.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Edward Compton and the celebrated Compton Comedy Company on Monday evening presented *Davy Garrick*, the title-rôle being played by Mr. Compton in his own masterly manner, his rendering being an artistic success throughout. Miss Kathleen Leigh's Violet was a performance replete with characteristic charm and histrionic skill; Alderman Gresham was held by that experienced actor Mr. Henry Crocker, who realised the character completely; Mr. Frank Royde's embodiment of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut was a delightfully polished and cleverly carried-out performance; Rumbelow, Sowerberry, and Simkins were judiciously distinguished and individualised by Messrs. Philip Gordon, J. W. Austin, and C. Marquand respectively; while Misses Marie Hassell and Loraine Stevens did full justice to the parts of Mrs. Rumbelow and Selina. The servants' parts were nicely played by Mr. Lawrence Meade and Mr. Frank Snell. *Davy Garrick* was preceded by *Tom Noddy's Secret*, which was notable for the first appearance in Dundee of Miss Nell Compton, who as Gabrielle acquitted herself with distinction, and she was accorded a most flattering reception. *The Rivals*, *The Road to Ruin*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Blasé Baronet*, and *A Reformed Rake* are also in the week's bill.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Heading a capital bill here are the Dayton Family, whose well-worked turn is both novel and skilful. Zeta Gray and company, in a racy comedy sketch entitled *The Lancashire Lass*, keep the audience hugely amused; Syd Crossley makes a decided hit with his song on public-house politics; Heather Belle, a clever Scotch comedienne, scores with her various ditties; Linn and Darius present a charming musical scena which is much appreciated; Shrillo proves himself a smart and tuneful siffleur; the Three Pirmans are experts in the gymnastic line; Lonie Dott and Jack Williams give a fine exhibition of sand-dancing; Harris Coonie is a capital comedian and unusually nimble dancer; and the Kingscope with the newest films completes the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company are drawing good houses here with *Her Life in London*, which is admirably interpreted. Mr. Carlton is particularly good as the young clergyman, the Rev. Allen Gordon, and infuses much force and power into his rendering; Astra Bell is enacted with much sweetness and spontaneity of manner by Miss Ruble Maude; Mr. Claude Agmond is most impressive as the blind burglar Gratton Gale; Mr. Claude Seaton gives a good study of the jeweller Mr. Tempelton; Miss Katie Randolph scores heavily as the Lady detective, her various disguises being cleverly handled; Miss Jenny Bostock as Mrs. Glendale and Miss Evelyn Walton as Sarah Shafto are alike excellent. Mr. John Crondace as Collini shows to advantage; Mr. Willie Vernon as Percy Plunker is responsible for much enjoyable comedy, and he is ably supported by Miss Rene Belle Douglas, a particularly lively Dolly; Mr. Alfred Deane as Cousin Peter; and Mr. Fred Coutts as Flickster. All the other parts are in safe keeping, and the scenery is most effective.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—*The Stowaway* paid a return visit the first part of the week, and was capitally staged and capably acted by Miss Winifred Maude and Mr. Victor Du Cane's company. Mr. Victor Du Cane as Dicky Dials gave a highly acceptable rendering, and Miss Winifred Maude acquitted herself with distinction as Althea Dale, both introducing songs which met with much appreciation. Mr. Arthur L. Reid gave a capital portrayal of Tom Inglis; Mr. Moris Maud created a favourable impression as the villain Charles Etherington; Mr. Walter Ernest was a characteristic Paul Inglis; Mr. Alfred Lester proved a good exponent of Job Hickey; as Chucky Miss Minnie Milwarde is smart in singing and dancing; and Mrs. Wingold Laurence gave a dramatic rendering of Florence Etherington. Mr. Haldane Crichton's principal company, in *The Cingalee*, provides the bill of fare for the last three nights of the week.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The principal turn here this week is the Seven Wulfrunas is a comedy acrobatic speciality, *Fun in a Café*; in singing and patter Spry and Monti give an entertainment full of humour; and the athletic poses and weight-lifting by Attillo Bros. are much appreciated; May Thorne is a spirited comedienne; for a clever gymnastic act Rappo and Elsa win applause; Tony Iveson is successful as "the ragman at the piano"; Tom Casey's singing and whistling proves popular; and the Cathedroscope is showing The Ferryman's Sweetheart.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Rushworth.—*The Gay Gordons* came here on Thursday.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The *Pete* company appeared here for the first three evenings of the week. Mr. Fred Victor, strong, manly and convincing, did excellent work as Pete Quilliam; an able and distinct performance was given by Mr. Alfred Lugg as Philip; Mr. Ellis J. Preston acted capably as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Maurice Yorke was an effective Ross; and Mr. A. A. Robinson did good work as the Doctor. A large measure of praise is due to Miss Constance Bachner for sympathetic and womanly work as Kate; Miss Alys Eden was an animated Nancy; and Miss Alice Dorle did well as Grannie. *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is billed for the remainder of the week.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Resident-Manager Mr. G. G. Ridley. Heading the bill here are Messrs. John Grant and Henry Stewart, who appear with their company in a clever sketch with excellently-worked illusions, *Phantoms of the Wood*. Miss Nellie Coleman is popular with her impersonations; the Malcolm Cumming Trio work a bright sketch *A Tooth for a Bride* very smartly; Dome is a clever lightning clay-modeller; Goodall and Knox are funny comedians and good tumblers; Miss Lena Pinaud is a charming vocalist and graceful dancer; Mr. Harry Lawson supplies laughs as a singing comedian, and new films are shown.

EDINBURGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Tom Clare, the clever entertainer at the piano, is one of the principal attractions here in a programme which contains many admirable artists. Mr. Clare's selections are given with the humour and point that distinguish his style, and he is enthusiastically applauded; Mlle. Eldee, "the girl in a golden frame," supplies a pleasing turn in her presentment of familiar subjects of classical fame; Mr. Sandy McNab, an excellent Scottish comedian, and Miss Bessie Arthur act an amusing sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*, with much humour; Leipzig, a conjurer, who is not only a deft performer, but a comedian with entertaining patter, contributes a performance which is heartily received; Uren and Sadler are seen in a droll extravaganza, "Give Me a Shilling"; Mr. Harry Marylees, a good Scotch comedian, is extremely funny in his selections; Miss Esmie Harlow's performance is delightful, and she dances with much grace; Miss Netty Gray's vocal selections are expressively rendered; and Keen and Waller, capital acrobats, and Mr. Joseph Desmond, a baritone singer who can use his voice well, are also on the programme.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cooke.—This week's head-liner was Miss Amelia Bingham, who, assisted by Mr. Herbert Standing, Miss Beth Franklin, Mr. Lloyd Bingham, and others, contributed scenes from *Madame Sans Gêne*, *La Tosca*, and *School for Husbands*. By means of skilful compression and clever acting the leading motives of these three plays were virtually presented in the space of half an hour, and demonstrative applause greeted the well-directed efforts of the company. Gus Garrick's smart impersonations of diverse kinds of comedians were very entertaining; Jack Lorimer, the popular Scotch comedian and dancer, was quite successful in his new "Jennie McGregor" scena; and Charles Santon displayed special qualifications as a double-voiced vocalist and male soprano. Among the lady artists were the expert dancers Sisters Caselli; Ethel Newman, who gave a pleasing original monologue, entitled "Her Wedding Day"; and Stella Stahl, a bright comedienne and danseuse; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce rendered very delightfully sundry Japanese musical duologues; Richard Corbin and his dogs provided an outstanding exhibition of canine comedy; and American Bioscope pictures were also included in the bill.

ELLESMERE PORT. — HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.— Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The musical turn contributed by Neddy Vokes is well received; Frank Weaver is a smart dancer; Evie Greene as a dainty comedienne pleases immensely; Barney Vox is applauded for his ventriloquial entertainment; the Bros. Maddison score as burlesque boxers; and the Animated pictures are interesting.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford. — The Modern Stock Company entered upon the second week of their season here on Monday, when the successful Sutro play, *John Glayde's Honour*, was presented. As John Glayde Mr. Ernest Bodkin was capital, his impersonation being forceful and dignified; Mr. A. Austen Leigh was extremely good as Trevor Lerode; Mr. Wallis Clarke made an excellent Michael Shurmur; and Messrs. Edward Vernon and Gerard Wynne did well as Howard Collingham and Christopher Branley respectively. Miss Kathryn Collier portrayed Muriel Glayde in polished style; Miss Emmie O'Reilly presented a clever character-study of the Princess de Castagnary; Miss Vere Hodson made the most of her opportunities as Lady Lerode; Miss Gwendolen Wren and Miss Belle Travers also capably filling the parts of Dora Longman and Mrs. Renwick.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—The Boisset troupe head the bill, their funny sketch *The Bricklayers* keeping the house in continuous laughter; Tom Woottwell, who makes his first appearance here this week, speedily established himself a prime favourite; the Five Musical Tritons sing and play on various musical instruments effectively; Frank E. Ford, a clever dancer, has an excellent reception; Barney Stuart, vocalist and mimic, is entertaining; and Edie Anderson proves herself a smart little comedienne and a neat dancer.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Village Blacksmith* is the attraction at the above theatre this week, and the return visit of Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is heartily welcomed. As the Village Blacksmith Mr. Sam Livesey displays ability above the ordinary. The wrestling bouts are greatly enjoyed. Miss Maggie Edwards, in the rôle of Kate Strong, is a clever actress.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Pantomime reigns here, the attraction being Mr. Chas. R. Stone's company in *Red Riding Hood*. The rôle of Boy Blue is sustained by Miss Madge Campbell, a charming and dashing young lady, who has become a favourite; Miss Marie Dowsing is a vivacious Marjorie Daw; Miss Beatrice Varley a fascinating Prince Charming; and Miss G. Branscombe a most efficient Miss Muffitt. Miss Mabel Samont (a child actress) is all that can be desired in the title-rôle; Mr. J. Templer Ellis portrays Baron Badlot with irresistible humour; and Mr. E. W. Avery proves himself an excellent comedian as Dame Trott, their funny songs and patter causing much amusement. Messrs. Dan Seymour, Frank Strathan, and Joe Clark as Simple Simon, Johnny Green, and Jimmy Stout provide much fun. Miss Lily Lamont is an ideal Fairy Glowworm, and Miss Ethel May acquits herself well as Robin Hood. The rôle of the Wolf is undertaken by Mr. Steve Asher with great effect. Specialities are introduced by Miss Emily London's troupe of eight child vocalists and dancers, and a hit is made by Mr. Dan Seymour and Miss Marie Dowsing in the well-known Apache dance. A comic harlequinade concludes.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Here this week are the Seven Perezoffs, in a wonderful juggling act, named "A Supper at Maxim's"; the Francoli Troupe present a most entertaining pantomimic number, in which is shown some clever tumbling; Andie Burns, an amusing comedian and dancer, is one of the successes; Fritz Von Liston strikes a popular note with his imitations of birds and animals and whistling solos; the Arntes make a hit in song and dance; Marie Kay sings sweetly, and dances gracefully; and Florence Raymond, ventriloquist; Sylvene, in an equilibristic act; and the Kingscope also afford amusement.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Messrs Bolam and Tiller's production of *Bo-Peep* has done good business here during this its last week.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—Mr. Robert Arthur's pantomime, *Aladdin*, continues its successful career, and though now in its tenth week, large audiences fill the house nightly.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Unusual interest attaches to the present visit of the Moody-Manners Opera company from the fact that three works new to Glasgow—*Samson and Delilah*, *Maitre Seiler*, and *La Tosca*—are included in the first week's programme. On Monday Saint-Saëns' opera was presented in a most complete and picturesque fashion. Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Samson gave a very touching portrayal; as Delilah Mlle. Zelie De Lussan sang splendidly, and depicted vividly the wiles of the enchantress; Mr. William Dever gave fine dignity to the part of the High Priest; and as an aged Hebrew Mr. Charles Magrath was also impressive. Abimelech had a promising exponent in Mr. C. Moorhouse; and three Philistines were well represented by Messrs. F. Davies, W. Bland, and R. Woollard. *Tannhäuser*, *Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the bill.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* pursues her victorious way here, and up till now there are no signs of her reign coming to an end. The humours of Mr. Neil Kenyon, Mr. Jack O'Connor, and Miss May Moore Duprez continue to draw the crowds, aided as they are by the charming personality of Miss Lily Morris, Miss Rhoda Gordon, and Miss Lily Edwards, to mention only the chief attractions of this lively and enjoyable Karno pantomime.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* is still bringing crowds. On Friday the handsome and dashing principal boy, Miss Jessie Templeton, took her benefit, and the many friends she has made during the run was proved in no uncertain style by the appearance of the house on that occasion.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*A Wrecker of Men* is being presented here by Mr. Thompson Carruther's company. Miss Ruth Zillwood is very successful as Risca Mallinson. She is capably supported by Miss Gwendoline Talbot as Doris Melville; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt as Jim Morley; Mr. Tom Bowron, a capital Guise Strange; and Mr. Edward A. Brooke, a dramatic and interesting Phariosaphus. Mr. Richard Bosco does well as Railton; Mr. Thompson Carruthers is very good both as Mummy and the Jew; the Hon. Reggie Verincourt of Mr. W. Palliser Acock is entertaining; and the Slopper of Miss Lydia Hart is greatly enjoyed.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Govan theatregoers are this week further supplied with panto. This time *Dick Whittington*, from the pen of the late Fred Locke, is produced. The company herein appeared with much success at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, and are now on tour. The Sisters Cora as Dick and Alice are untiring in their efforts, and work admirably together; Mr. Sam Thomson gets through an immensity of clever work as Idle Jack; Mr. George Westland as Mary Ann is clever and witty; Mr. W. Glanmore Jones is admirably suited to the part of Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. L. C. Young as the Cat is responsible for much amusement; Miss Kitty Thomas makes a good Tom Bowline; Mr. J. R. Wilson has a double part as Captain Bayley and latterly as Sultan Bouzican, and performs admirably in each; as Princess Halfid Miss Topsy Johnstone is capital; Miss Rene Wilson creates a favourable impression as Mustapha; while Miss Connie Irwin as Fairy Bow Bell is pleasing. Mr. Michael Kemble as King Rat sings several numbers with good taste. Specialities are provided by Lindsay and Harte, who are excellently received. The Four Killarney Girls, the Celestias Comedy Quartette, and the Sisters Cora are also prominent.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The star turn here this week is that of the Jewels, in their scenic sketch called *Change, or the Haunted Castle*, in which Messrs. James A. Jewel, Herbert Jewel, and Miss Adine Carden play the principal parts; the Marco Twins present their intensely comical sketch, *So Longy and So Shorty*; the Brennans make clog dancing a really graceful art; Adolf Salge's living statues are extremely artistic, whether posing on pedestals or gracefully reclining as illustrations on porcelain; Massilia and Thrales give expression to various emotions in their dancing act, called "Captivation"; Sadie Jerome's monologues "from her own pen" are amusing and instructive; Dion Wade's drolleries keep the fun going on briskly; Waul Langtry's dialectic comicalities add their full quota to the merriment; up-to-date pictures on the Bioscope screen, and Frank Hartley's juvenile juggling complete an interesting bill of fare.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—Canada's famous band, the Kilties, is the star attraction here, and their playing has evoked the heartiest enthusiasm from large audiences. They are assisted by the Johnstone Troupe of dancers and by J. Coats Lockhart as vocalist. The turn provided by Barnold's Animal Actors is a wonderfully clever one, and the limit of animal training seems to have been reached by Dan, the drunken dog, without doubt the most marvellous turn of its kind ever seen here; Rosie Lloyd comes provided with several catchy songs, and is heartily received; Selbo, the favourite Scotch juggler, once more proves his neatness and dexterity in a host of difficult feats; Fred and Lulu Camplin give a smart musical comedy act, and are much enjoyed; Gus Barra, eccentric musician, proves his mastery over a variety of instruments; Pitts and Gould appear in an ingeniously devised song and dance scena, "A Bachelor's Memories"; Ethel Thomas, the Welsh nightingale, in several beautifully rendered songs, and the eccentric acrobatic turn of the Richards Trio complete a well-diversified bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—A good all-round programme is arranged here. The post of honour is occupied by Emerson and Baldwin, American juggling comedians; Les Morbas, humorists and acrobatic dancers, are extremely clever; Rose D'Aulby has well chosen songs; Tom E. Conover is a quaint character comedian; the Six Manchester Lads have a clever vocal and dancing scena; and the Summertons, speciality artists; Alf. Chester, character comedian; Bros. Hannaway, patter comedians and dancers; and Dugie St. Clair, Scotch comedian, are also in the bill.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—That popular comedian, Mr. Arthur Roberts, heads the bill here, and, in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, he finds unlimited scope for his humorous proclivities, and has the assistance of several clever and charming ladies; Miss Juliette's sea lions give a wonderful display of juggling, balancing, and musical talent; the Olympian Team of cyclists create much excitement with their football match on bicycles; Naughton and Gold, two smart Glasgow comedians, earn hearty applause for their really clever dancing and patter turn; Francis and Alfred, in a juggling act, ably combine daring feats with a blend of humour all through; Dot Hardy, an eccentric comedienne with lots of go, is well received; Stanley and Greenop's banjo selections prove most enjoyable; O'Gust, the famous French mimic, is as popular as ever; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls contribute a clever song scena; and the Bioscope gives several of the latest films.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Chief among the variety artists here are Lux and Dux, acrobatic comedians and wrestlers; Cissie Arris is an expert dancer; and other turns include Glen Cairn, eccentric dancer; Sadie Ashby, burlesque actress; and Jimmy Harvey, a champion clog dancer.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, Mr. C. W. Poole.—Consul, the educated chimpanzee, is drawing good houses; the Goldinis, carpet spinners and jugglers, present a clever act; the Kramer Troupe of equilibrists and gymnasts are very smart; Fred Poplar, with topical political song, makes a hit; Kitty Wager has her choruses taken up lustily; Walter Ellis and company in the sketch *The Sleepwalker* cause much amusement; the Three Alskarnos, Risley acrobats, are applauded; Walter Stanley pleases in a couple of good songs; the Sisters Indiana, flexible marvels, give a neat gymnastic turn. A new series of Paris Floods pictures are very interesting on the Palacescope.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here this week in *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt is a powerful Anthony Raybrook; Mr. P. George Beresford ably fills the part of Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. John B. Shinton ably depicts Geoffrey Waring; Messrs. Winters, Hardy, and Bate are amusing as the bell-ringers; Mr. Harry Cornwall gives a clever character sketch of Jabez, the manservant; and Miss A. M. Ryder is a charming Laura Raybrook.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—An excellent house greeted Mr. J. H. Savile's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* here on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Daisie Morrell excels in everything she does, and has an able assistant in Miss Maud Terry as Polly Perkins; Mr. Harry Farrow as Mrs. Crusoe scores on every occasion; and Mr. Tatten Hall works hard as Will Atkins. Mr. Dan Maxford as Captain Kettle and Mr. Tom O'Neill as the Mate provoke much hilarity; and Mr. Harry Arnold as Willie Crusoe is also amusing. Miss Dorothy Harris acts with charm as Princess Pittising; and Miss Phyllis Thornton sings pleasingly as the Fairy Queen. Miss Margaret Webster, the Spirit of the Storm, appears successfully; and as the Voice of the Storm Mr. Lewis Morgan is heard to advantage. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers are very clever, and win well-merited applause. The choruses are all excellently accomplished.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Miss Ethel Arden and company top the bill here with their sketch, *Three of a Kind*, and the many amusing situations appeal to the large audiences; Miss Marguerite Ismay and her peerless white coons achieve success in a vocal and dancing act; as a musical and equilibristic juggler Ernesto is distinctly good; Les Bollingers distinguish themselves as rag-painters; and Bains and Reed, in a speciality act, are good. The Dromoscope shows some fine pictures.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The second pantomime of the season here is Mr. James Kiddie's *Forty Thieves*. Miss Elsie Steadman is a pleasing principal boy as Ganem, and sings several popular songs; Miss Rose Pareezer as Abdallah is a dashing bandit chief, and is also a successful vocalist; Miss Lyle Jeffries as Morgiana is responsible for entertaining work; Mr. Percy Curry as Ali Baba is the principal comedian, and introduces much amusing business; Mr. Arthur Behan as Crogia is a quaint dame; Fame and Fortune present laughable burlesque as the detectives Pitchett and Poppitt; Mr. Mark Merry also contributes largely to the humour; attractive specialities are given by Miss Cissie Behan and Miss Kitty Behan, who are clever duettists and dancers.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Miss Frances Letty's refined musical and dancing entertainment is very popular—she possesses an excellent voice, and is accompanied by a clever pianist; La Freya gives a novel turn, in which pretty limelight and costume effects are introduced; Martin Adeson and Miss Clara Bernard appear in a farcical sketch, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*, which is full of laughable burlesque situations, and is well acted; Edith Harmer is a comedienne with a bright style; Charles Rose is a successful comedian and acrobatic dancer; the Three Borelia Brothers give a smart gymnastic display on the silver rings; and Will E. Stopit is a comedian with an original style of dancing.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director Mr. Wm Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company is a big attraction here with *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Mark Paton as the Vice-Admiral is strong and dignified throughout; Mr. Hastings Lynn in the title-part, Richard Lascelles, is excellent; Mr. S. Groome and Mr. G. Lanham as the two midshipmen, Horatio Hood and Edward Dormer-Lee, are natural and easy; Mr. S. Gatling (Christopher Neal), Mr. F. Leicester (Major Thesiger), Mr. E. Mervyn (the Surgeon), Mr. W. S. Stevenson (Sergeant of Marines), Mr. W. J. Yeldham (General Gough-Bogle), are good; Miss Mabel Rees is capital as Mrs. Cameron; Miss Rosalind Ross's Lady Dugdale is another excellent character; and Miss Rita Johnson's Lady Hermione Wynne is a conspicuous success. Miss Una Venning plays nicely as Viola Hood.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Margit and Lener, eccentric acrobats, captribute some daring tumbling; the Columbia Comedy Trio are excellent humorists; Les Montaldos, in an artistic slack-wire turn, introduce some clever parrots; Harry Weldon, comedian, catches on; and Norah Desmond, with picture songs; Tom Yorke, character comedian; a special juggling turn (deputising); and the Palace pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks. — H. Finberg, in dramatic character studies, gives entire satisfaction; Jan Rudenyi, in a sketch, is well supported by Miss Hilda Stewart and Mr. Drew Mackintosh; J. W. Rowley is as popular and as funny as ever; Celest is a clever wire performer; Blanco White and Miss Clifford have a successful singing and dancing act; Mario, as a juggler, is an artist; Tom Morton and Maggie Bowman are highly popular in *Mixed Pickles*; and Nora Emerald is a nice singer.

HANLEY.—ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Miss Zena Dare, in *The Little Duke*, is proving a powerful attraction. Miss Dare is admirably suited as the Duke, and the whole company is well chosen. The piece is elaborately dressed and skilfully staged.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Saschoff Troupe of Russian singers and dancers are received with great favour; Charles Prelle's bijou dog circus achieves a great hit; Fred Land, eccentric comedian, is popular; Fred Maitland, assisted by Miss Pauline Walker, in *Roots, Cash Chemist*, make a laughter hit; the Three Van Dammes, comic acrobats, are very clever; the Musical Marvels are truly marvellous; Fred. Eaton has an original act; Richard Wally and Page are clever. The Circus Girl is a fine film. Houses are good.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Mr. Alfred Paumier and Mr. Walter Howard are to be congratulated upon their selection of the company presenting *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* here. Miss Stella Campbell as Princess Monica deserves the highest praise for the fervour and dignity with which she invests the part; Miss B. Stuart makes a capital study of the ingenuous girl Viola; Miss Ethel Patrick as Camiola acts with impressive pathos; Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke makes a dashing figure of Prince Hildred; Mr. Lionel Gadsden gives a forceful rendering of Prince Michael; Mr. C. W. Standing as Prince Olaf is debonair and virile; Mr. Robert Noble as Captain Hector exercises artistic restraint, and delivers his lines with incisive elocution. The minor parts are all in capable hands.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Walter Melville's play entitled *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*, held the boards in the early part of the week. The company was headed by Miss Marie Duncan and Mr. Otto Minster. Jack Cunningham, who marries the Beggar Girl, is ably represented by Mr. Otto Minster; and as the Beggar Girl Miss Marie Duncan acts with delicacy and refinement; Mr. Herbert Morgan successfully depicts Gilbert Lindsay; Miss Olive Warne acts naturally as Maud Villiers, a Society lady; Jack Cunningham's sister Elsie is well taken by Miss Lily Duncker; as Robert Grimshaw Mr. Herbert Goddard makes an able outspoken lawyer; Mr. Charles Barclay gives a good character sketch of the eccentric physician; and an amusing undercurrent of love-making is enacted between Davis, Grimshaw's clerk, taken by Mr. B. Elton, and Tina Torkington, represented by Miss Daisy Meynard. The remainder of the week Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company produce Messrs. Hall Caine and Louis N. Parker's domestic drama *Pete*.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here in *The Builder of Bridges*. Mr. Ernest Norris gives a finished representation of Edward Thursfield; as Arnold Faringay Mr. Benson North treats the rôle quite naturally; Mr. Arthur Vezin capably takes the part of Walter Gresham; Mr. Edward Petley as Sir Henry Killick secures the heartiest approbation; Mr. Edward Boddy in the part of Peter Holland is natural; and as Dorothy Faringay Miss Muriel Dole plays with grace and finish; Miss Clara Nicholls brings dignity to bear upon the character of Mrs. Debney.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—A special attraction is provided by Mr. W. V. Garrod and company, in *A Country Girl in London*. The scenery and effects are striking. Mr. Chas. Halling is a typical Squire Hamilton; Mr. W. V. Garrod plays Frank Gordon with fervour, and makes a great impression; Mr. William Bradford has full opportunity as Godfrey Clinton, and uses it to the utmost advantage; Mr. Owen Remonde has a capital part in Job Smithers, a ne'er-do-well, and creates roars of laughter; Mr. Frank Dallas as Heinrich Oppenheim gives a fine exposition of broad comedy; Mr. Edward Ashton as Joe Button looks and plays the part well; Mr. Seymour Perry as Wilberforce Puddyphat has a humorous part, of which he avails himself fully, being ably assisted by Miss Alice Clarke as Adelaide Puddyphat; Miss Ethel Crawford gives a pathetic rendering of Gwendoline Gordon; Miss Bertha Kingston in the title-rôle is artistic and natural, and had to acknowledge the plaudits of an admiring audience.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and on Monday were well received by a packed house. Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie Douglas as the two little Drummer Boys are excellent, and Miss Violet Langley, in the character of Alma Kinsley, meets with much success; Mr. William Vane gives an artistic impersonation of Captain Carsdale; and Mr. F. Walters, in the character of Captain Darrell, gives an ideal performance; Mr. Edward Bikker as Captain Kinsley, V.C., is also praiseworthy; the comic element is cleverly introduced by Miss Patrick Connaughton, Mr. Will Percy, and Mr. Dick Seddon. Successes are also secured by Mr. George Turner and Mr. Frank Cope, and Miss Violet Ingram cleverly enacts Margaret Rivers.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME.— Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A fine example of animal-training is shown by Miss Marquis Dassie with her clever troupe of eight cobs, who go through many and various intricate evolutions. Also appearing are George Drayton, comedian; the Three Sisters Dixon, in a pleasing musical and dancing turn; Niagara and Falls, comedy acrobats; Dunn and Reano, gymnasts; the Three Langfords, clever clog dancers; and Surrie Lindon's refined singing quartette, in the dainty scena, *Monks at Play*. The pictures create plenty of laughter.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Chief place is taken by the well-known Albert and Edmunds' company, in their pantomimic absurdity, *The Tower of London*. There are in the bill, in addition, Miss Amy Anderson and company, in their bustling act, *The Banana Queen*; Rene, a dexterous girl juggler; Roy Beavis, a nimble sleight-of-hand artist; Jack Warman, comedian; George James, comedian; and the Lafaille Troupe of gymnasts and equilibrists, in a brilliantly-executed performance. The pictures are good.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Mollison and Miss Annie Hughes have given Hull an early opportunity of testing the merits of *The Chorus Girl*. Miss Annie Hughes plays the part of Patricia with fine skill; Miss Elsie Vron Neville as Norah gains much merit; the rôle of Crawford has scarcely sufficient possibilities for Mr. Mollison to reveal the wonderful talent we know him to possess; Miss Agnes D'Aragan puts good work in as the Wardrobe Woman. *A Breezy Morning* precedes.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—The Dottridge and Longden pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* has taken a firm hold, and crowded houses have been the rule throughout. Already one has sung the praises of Miss Maude Mortimer as Crusoe, the cleverly-trained children, the old Dame of Mr. Fixott, and the dainty ballets. It is with regret that the patrons of this house will see the curtain fall to-night (Saturday).

PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—The chief feature of the bill here is the military sketch *Gentlemen, the King*, in which Mr. Henry Bedford takes the principal part, supported by a capable company; Cruikshank, the comedian, is again heartily welcomed; and an amusing sketch is given by Will Murray and company, entitled *The Casey Army*; a clever gymnastic display is given by the Bros. O'Brien; the Coloured Meisters have a smart turn; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre has novel features; Clown Argo is an expert imitator of sounds; Harry Lewis, a very entertaining comedian; and Violet Stockelle, a dainty comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Here are the Vays in the humorous and pathetic vocal scena *Life in the Slums*; another feature being Horace Monto, who is described as "the prince of versatility," in a novel pot-pourri act. The other turns are: John Renson and Rose Waite, Yorkshire humorists

sketch *Much Ado About Nothing*; Miss Crissie Cross sings and dances admirably; and Bert Woodward accomplishes some very clever feats in his trick riding on bicycles. The Bioscope concludes a good bill.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is here this week with *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a manly George Tremain; Squire Leverton is in the safe hands of Mr. Ben Carr; to the part of Dick Leverton full justice is done by Mr. H. Danson; Mr. C. M. Doyle is a quaint Rudulph Earle; Mr. A. Keand makes the most of the part of Giovanni; Mr. Harry Leyton plays Dean Clifton with force and skill; Mr. C. W. Dockwray, in the dual rôle of Paul Cairshaw and Hiram P. Younger, is quite equal to his responsibilities; and Mr. H. Hastings plays Jack Herne capably. Miss Annie Hylton is an excellent Renée-de-Telle, an adventuress; Miss Pauline Nanton a charming Mavis Leverton; and Miss Nancy J. Clarke an effective Gwendoline Younger.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. John A. Thompson is paying his annual visit here with the pantomime of *The Sleeping Beauty*, which is quite up-to-date, and goes with a swing from start to finish. Miss Alyce Williams is a delightful Princess, and her singing and dancing is worthy of special praise; Miss Adele Rose has a shapely figure, and scores a success as Prince Charming; Bo-Peep is ably undertaken by Miss Nellie Scorey, who is a fine dancer and contortionist; Miss Emmie King sings and dances prettily as Little Boy Blue; and Miss Ethel Broad as Silver Star proves herself the possessor of an excellent voice. The comedy element is splendidly catered for by Mr. Sidney Godfray as Selina; Mr. Richard Teasdale, a very funny King Ruby; Mr. Joe Monkhouse, who creates roars of laughter as Bamboorleum; Mr. Tom Hanlon as Johnny Green; Mr. Alf. Harlin as Simple Simon; and Mr. Edward Freeling as Tommy Front. The variety turns are particularly good, and include the Four Musical Scoreys, in a musical pot-pourri; Mademoiselle Florence, who is inimitable on the rolling globe; Abex, a perfect pocket Hercules; and last, but by no means least, the Casino Girls, who do some much appreciated and graceful dancing. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Arthur Sheldrake, the scenery is admirable, the big chorus of fifty is splendidly costumed and finely trained, and, altogether, the pantomime may be classed as one of the best ever seen here.

KEIGHLEY.—The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—A well diversified programme here is attracting good business. Mr. John F. Preston and company, in their great racing episode *Rogues of the Turf* have proved an immense draw. The company includes such well-known artists as Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, Mr. Howard Barlow, and Mr. Horace Cusins. Kiota and Esa, in their daring and sensational ladder act, appear with success; Miss Ray Raymond, chorus vocalist, received a flattering reception—her songs are smartly rendered, and she has a charming presence; the Five Bombays, coon singers and dancers, take extremely well; De Lil, illusionist, succeeds in mystifying the audience; and a smart turn is given by Hulbert, ventriloquist. Howard and Harris appear in duologue, "Taming a Wife"; and animated pictures complete a good bill.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—We have a visit this week from Mr. Haldane Crichton's company in *The Cingalee*. Mr. Arthur Cartwright distinguishes himself as the Hon. Harry Vereker and sings with much success; Mr. Jack Crichton is a funny Chambhuddy Ram; Mr. Douglas Munro a capital Boobhamba; and Mr. F. W. Ford's study of Sir Peter is excellent; Mr. Scott Cullen as Bobby Warren and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick as Myangah are respectively good; Miss Florence Watson's impersonation of Nanoya is clever, and her singing pretty; Peggy is vivaciously played by Miss Ida Ernest; and Miss Pauline Hague cleverly enacts the part of Lady Patricia.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Each evening the London Grand Opera Company appears in abridged versions of popular opera in English. On Monday evening *Cavalleria Rusticana* was performed. Miss Toni Seiter gave a passionate and dramatic rendering of Santuzza; the Turiddu of Mr. J. F. O'Sullivan and the Alfio of Mr. Leonard Russell were also excellent; Miss Muriel Jeffreys and Miss Margaret Carter acquitted themselves with considerable distinction. The musical director is Signor Sapio. The variety turns include a clever roller skating display by Hess and Chivers, humorous acrobatic performances by Cummin and Seaham, juggling and dancing act by Welda and Wynne, characteristic dances by Horace Sade, songs by Mr. Charles Woodward and Miss Elsie Bernard, and a smart little play entitled *The End of the Chapter*, by Miss Sidney Hayes and Mr. George Barran.

LEEDS.—The Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Cinderella* is drawing to a close, and Mr. Tom E. Murray, the clever comedian, is shortly to take a well-deserved benefit. Messrs. Edward Lewis, Albert Letine, Jack Pleasants, and Bros. Redmond are big favourites, and Misses Moya Mannering, Jane Eyre, Barry Eldon, and Florence Parfrey shine conspicuously.

Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—The pantomime here, owing to its enormous success, will not finish before the middle of March. Mr. Hepworth is billed for a benefit. Miss Florrie Forde is one of the best principal boys seen here; Miss Susie Belmore has become a great favourite as Maid Marian; whilst the Floradoras, in their speciality act, are one of the hits of the pantomime. Bert Byrne, Will Lindsay, and Burley and Burley are comedians of much merit.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The famous Cinquevalli is adding to his renown as our most talented juggler; Fred Storey and Co. is presenting his clever and dramatic sketch, *Rip Van Winkle*; Gobert Belling does a versatile act with much success; the superb singing of L'Incognita is received with much applause; and other talented artists include Arthur Kenny, John Scott's company, Tom Lloyd, O'Malley and Brown, Jessie Albini, and Eight Lancashire Lads.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Mother Goose*, a bright and sparkling pantomime, is drawing crowded houses; Walter Dale and J. W. Gallagher create much mirth; Kitty Russell ably takes the part of the principal girl; the Miltons give a smart exhibition of skating; and the Eight Sydney Girls appear in a clever dancing scena.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Fred Karno's company, in *Skating*, which includes Johnny Doyle and Charlie Chaplin, is proving a great attraction; Madge Temple meets with a huge reception in some of her latest successes; Kitty Colyer is an expert dancer; and other artists in a good bill include Reg. Beauchamp, G. Colbert, the Hectors, Christie Duo, and Harry Taft.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Perrier is smart in a ventriloquial act; Steel and Lang are talented comedy artists; and Winnie Derson's songs meet with much applause. John Partington, Primrose Quartette, Percy Dalton, and Johnny Cecil are also included in a good all-round bill.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—We are having a return visit of Mr. James Welch's company in *When Knighthood was Bold*, in which Mr. H. Langdon Burnage as Sir Guy De Vere is making a conspicuous success with a very clever portrayal. Miss Ernita Lascelles is also prominent with a delightful impersonation of Lady Rowena. Other parts are exceedingly well played by Mr. Chas. Lloyd as Isaac Isaacson, Mr. H. Winton as the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe, Mr. Colin Johnston as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, Mr. Gerald Venning as Sir Bryan Ballymote, Mr. E. R. Holloway as Barker, Mr. Lionel Brocknor as Wittle, Miss Ethel St. John as Sarah Isaacson, and Miss Una Tristram as Alice Barker. *Millie's Mother* precedes.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., are presenting here *Hush Money; or, The Disappearance of Sexton Blake*.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Free trade being in vogue in the Leicester vaudeville theatres, Mr. Oswald Stoll is enabled this week to present to the patrons of the Palace Mr. Ernest Stevens' fairy pantomime *Cinderella*, a most enjoyable and well-staged "show," which has drawn crowded houses, and has created endless laughter among both old and young. The two principal comedy parts of Hercules and Tiny, the Baron and Baroness, are played by two old pantomime favourites in Mr. E. Statham-Staples and Mr. Alfred Clark, who keep the ball of merriment continually on the move. Mr. Harry Ongar displays great smartness in his dancing as Dandini, and Mr. W. Leopold, jun., as Capers, is also funny and a clever acrobat. Miss Agnes Tandy is a handsome Prince Casimar, with plenty of "go." Miss Ethel Ramsay and Miss Marianne Carozzi fill the parts of the Baron's daughters in a capable manner, and Miss Felicia Firman as Cinderella also deserves a word of praise; the speciality dances by the Lottie Stone troupe are most attractively and cleverly performed. The pantomime has been produced by Mr. Stanley Rogers, and is beautifully dressed and staged, several of the scenes being really gorgeous. The latest songhits are introduced, and the orchestra, always a fine institution at this house, are to be praised for their work under Mr. Ernest Wolfe.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—There is an excellent programme here, at the head of which are the Four Janowskys, who give a really fine gymnastic display. At the other end is Esther Phillips and company in the dramatic episode, being a dark chapter in a woman's life, entitled *An Eye for an Eye*, in which Miss Esther Phillips deservedly scores with a clever portrayal of Margaret Grantham; Mr. H. Denton as Henry Caston and Miss Millie Phillips as Helene Grantham are also very good. A real treat is afforded the "Pav." patrons by the appearance of three of the leading ladies from the recent Opera House pantomime in Miss Madeline Rossiter, a delightful vocalist, and a dancer in the first rank; Miss Jessie Wilton, a dashing burlesque actress, who is full of vivaciousness; and Miss Sissie Brand, an attractive comedienne, who sings well. Frank Coyle, the continuous singing comedian, is a favourite, and Willie Long, a comedian full of humour, are also in the bill. The Bioscope projects the usual entertaining films.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* company is paying a return visit here, and was accorded a hearty reception from a full house on Monday. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox is entitled to high praise for his clever impersonation of Prince Olaf; Mr. Victor Rao gives a creditable account of himself as Prince Michael; and the cynical Prince Hildred is admirably portrayed by Mr. Alfred Goddard; Miss Ethel Bracewell makes an ideal Princess of Illyria, and quickly wins the sympathy of the audience; Captain Hector has a capable exponent in Mr. Burton; Mr. Sidney Bayliss is successful as Nathan, Miss Verity Page displays grace and ability as Camiola; Miss Mona Hall is a dainty Viola, and Mr. Vyvyan as Lieut. Stromberg is satisfactory.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—The Havanas top the bill with a clever acrobatic turn; Canard, comedy contortionist, is a great success; Martin Henderson, blind musician supplies a good turn; Mr. Walter Ainscough has a tenor voice of good quality; W. F. Frame, Scotch comedian sings songs that are richly enjoyed; the Sisters Lindos, singers and dancers, are successful; the Sauteron Wonders supply a clever jumping act; the sketch by Tom and Eileen Melbourne is very acceptable; and the pictures depicting the Paris floods are greatly appreciated.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's interesting dramatic romance *For Love and the King* has been the attraction here this week, and a capable company, furnished with an excellent equipment of scenery, have presented the piece in an admirable manner. Mr. Watson Mill and Miss Rosalind Tate acquit themselves well in the leading rôles of Gerald and Edith Meredith; Miss Joan Elliss is prominent as the peasant girl Natila; and Princess Milania and Grazia Obrenovic are suitably portrayed by Miss Laura Munro and Miss Marie Danvers Smith. Mischief has its due representative in the Vladimir of Mr. Fred J. Webb; a good character-part is found for Mr. Alfred Maurice as Michael, the Outcast; and Mr Oscar Power provides the lighter element in his rendering of Carl Oppenheim. Capable support is further given by Mr. Stanley Weston, Mr. F. K. Wicksteed Mr. Alex. Jones, and Mr. Geoffrey Chate, who respectively impersonates King Kara, Prince Uros, Kosto Murko, and Duke Fernand; and the cast is efficiently completed by Mr. Jack Litchfield as Vitomir Ladie, Mr. Geo. Jones as Captain Krelio, and Mr. D. Adams as Vadoc.

LIVERPOOL.—Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—On its first visit to Liverpool *The Bad Girl of the Family* is being received with much satisfaction. Mr. Frederick Melville has sent an excellent all-round company, with the result that the new play is being presented in pleasing fashion. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves looks the part of the manly sailor Lieut. Marsh, and Miss Daisy Cook, in the rôle of Gladys Erskine, his sweetheart, is particularly pleasing. Miss Violet Crossley works hard and effectively as Bess Moore, showing high qualities as an actress; Mr. Luke Forster makes several strong points with his well-finished character part of Barney Gordon; Mr. George R. Montford is a telling Harry Gordon; Miss Margaret Tueskie does credit to the character of Honour Moore; and plenty of excellent comedy is provided by Mr. Tom May (Sammy Snozzle), Mr. George Belmore (Jerry Holmes), and Miss Amy Randolph (Sally Smithers).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—After its first production at Belfast last week, Mrs. Morton Powell's new play *Driving a Girl to Destruction* is being presented here, and public patronage is great. It is staged in capital style, and played by an able company engaged by Mr. Morton Powell. As the persecuted Ruby Wright Miss Maud M. Powell shows high histrionic powers, and makes an impression upon her audience; Miss Kate Sydney affords much support with her telling portrait of the unfortunate Ruth Wright; Miss Ana Corri handles the rôle of the villainous Mme. de Moral with ability; as the heroic Robert Ray Mr. Charles Stafford earns rounds of applause; Mr. F. Cyril Leighton stands out prominently as the rascally Lucas List, acting with a deal of naturalness; Mr. Henry Scratchard's iniquitous school official Screws is capitally given; Mr. William Berson meets with considerable favour for his naturally presented Vicar; and Miss Eva Norman is a sympathetic crippled boy Ned. There is an abundance of good comedy supplied by Mr. Edward Swinton and Miss Maggie Stewart.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Good business is being done here with a smart pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, brought by Cullen and Carthy. It is presented in good style, and fun is a big feature. Miss Bessie Cohen makes a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Maudie Ford proves a delightful Maid Marion; the Babes are nicely represented by Dollie Cullen and Elsie Jordison; Miss Marie Fern looks exceedingly pretty as the Fairy Queen; and uproarious laughter follows the antics of Cullen and Carthy (the Robbers), Arthur Stratton (Baron), Little Cluley (Bantam), Master A. Cope (Village Idiot), and Tom Drew (Dame). Some smart specialities are brought in by Miss Bessie Cohen, the Granada Quartet of lady dancers, Dolly and Elsie, Cullen and Carthy, and Little Cluley.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The top-liner here is La Tortajada, the celebrated Spanish singer and dancer, whose protean sketch, *The Début of Dolores*, is watched with delight; Lottie Bellman, assisted by Bay Russell, has a neat little trifle, *Bits from Vaudeville*; Les Romanis have a musical turn which provokes loud applause, the cornet playing being especially appreciated; John Macauley renders several ballads with much taste; the popular Horace Wheatley meets with a rousing reception; a pretty Old English pastoral entertainment of song and mirth comes from Sydney James's Strolling Players; some remarkable work on the flying trapeze is performed by the Clement Trio; Frank Maura goes through a smart turn as a foot equilibrist; and Leonie Dixon proves a dainty comedienne and dancer.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Many a laugh follows the antics of Harry Grey, who is here with his "North Pole Scena"; Rex Fox supplies a smart ventriloquial and musical act on the wire; Sid Bedford and company raise endless laughter with their funny sketch, *The Second Mrs. Chester*; a neat comedy act is provided by the Hargreaves Trio; the Three Orleans have a nice turn of harmony and dancing; Cestria pleases everybody with his expert and amusing juggling; and also in the list are Olive Armadale, soubrette, and Bessie Lind, comedienne. The Thursday matinées continue successful.

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here is Paul Conchas with his remarkable exhibition of strength; Fred Winn and company present a smart naval sketch, *Treachery*; Tony Black, Scotch comedian, proves very diverting; the Juggling McBanns are accorded rounds of applause for their really fine work; a graceful athletic act comes from the Paolias; Fred Russell has a cordial reception for his able ventriloquial show; *The Last of the Desmonds* is a telling sketch, presented by a company; Miss Adah Payne, possessed of a rich soprano voice, sings popular ballads to the general satisfaction; and Phil Herman, vocal comedian, and Beatrice Allen, comedienne, also contribute.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Gamester of Metz*, presented here by the able stock company, is proving highly popular. Included among the popular artists are Messrs. Harry Tresham (Baldot), Sydney Grant (Captain Badaire), Leo Montgomery (Louis Badaire), E. D. Allen (Lieut. Herve); Miss Gertrude Gilman (Gwendoline), Miss Lilian Radbourne (Countess Baldot), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Lucia). Mr. Anthony Brown's Bioscope shows The Lazy Boy.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Lelia Roze is delighting everybody with her pretty musical scena, *A Dressing-Room Rehearsal*; the always welcome Dutch Daly has a rousing reception for his fine conecrtina-playing and patter; Barton and Ashley repeat their humorous farce, *Canal-Boat Sal*; the Soho Trio dance and sing in a style which earns for them rounds of applause; Miss Maude Edwards has a cordial reception for her smart ventriloquial turn; a clever and funny cycle act is provided by the Westwoods; John Warren affords general pleasure with his able musical mystery, *The Conjuror at Home*, in which he is assisted by Miss Mollie Wynter, Frank Morton, and F. G. Fenn; Walker and May, coloured singers and dancers, have a good turn; and also in the list are the Four Regals, with an exhibition of strength; and Katie Moss, pianist, vocalist, and violinist.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the bill here is Karno's *Football Match*, with Gilbert Childs as "Stiffy" and Will Poluski, jun., as "Ratty"; *The Daughter of the Regiment*, a military operatic sketch, given by Ernest Charles Gittins's company, is warmly appreciated; an interesting football match, played by Velanche's dogs, meets with applause; Metz and Metz are a couple of comedians with some smart dancing; as horizontal-bar performers Milton and Horton afford much pleasure; Burns and Bentley dance in good style; and Will Willis, comedian, also appears.

MAIDENHEAD.—Town Hall.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company, playing *Miss Hook of Holland*, gave two very successful performances to good houses on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. James Harcourt is excruciatingly funny as Mr. Hook; Mr. H. Hardy Jackson is energetic as Captain Adrian Paap; Mr. Sam Lockridge sings and bears himself well as the Bandmaster; and Mr. Reginald Hunter gives a good impersonation of Simon Slinks. Miss Muff Carew's quaint style takes well with the audience as Mina; and Miss Kathleen Starling is dainty and winning as Miss Hook. The chorus and dances are excellent.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—A good programme is contributed to by Charburn's Young Stars in a vocal and dancing act; the De Breans are clever Oriental jugglers; E. Montefiore and company appear with success in *The Little Colonel*; Ted Karno's company in *The Hotel de Quick* are popular; and Bert Brandon (comedian and dancer), Allsopp and Beckwith, Ruby Emerson, and the Palace Pictures complete the bill.

MANCHESTER.—Prince's Theatre.—Owners, The United Theatres Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in what may be termed the new *Dollar Princess*, is playing to packed houses. It is greatly improved since originally produced in Manchester, and is delightful from start to finish. Miss Clara Evelyn is altogether charming as Alice; Miss Norma Whalley as Olga is highly successful; and dainty Miss Mabel Russell is pleasing as Daisy; Mr. W. Louis Bradfield as Harry Conder plays with his usual distinction; Mr. Leonard Mackay acts, looks, and sings well as Freddy Fairfax; Mr. Paul Plunket is suitably placed as the Earl of Quorn; Mr. Howard Cridland is capital as Dick; and last, but not least, that popular comedian Mr. Eric Thorne is vastly amusing as Mr. Bulger. The singing throughout is of a high standard, the dresses are beautiful, and the scenery exceedingly pretty. A full chorus and augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—*The Silver Box* is played with the success that characterised its production by practically the same company some time ago. It is preceded by *Makeshifts*, the clever one-act sketch by G. L. Robins. Two special matinées are included of Miss Nellie Chaplin's revivals of ancient dances and music, which are representative and entertaining in a high degree.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and Jas. Ussher's company are presenting an effective, emotional drama *Only a Little Boy*. Mr. O. Douglas plays the heroic Steve Kingdom with the requisite ability, and is well assisted by Miss Florence E. Florence as June. On the sinister side of affairs good work is done by Mr. F. Marriott Watson as Jim Bragstone, and Miss Flo Norman as Mona O'Flinn; Miss Dot Forde as Billie Bragstone well sustains the title-rôle; and Miss Hettie Senior as Tag-Rag has a good part. The humour of the play is in the capable hands of Miss Connie Meadows as Deborah, Mr. Cecil Raymond as Joshua Snell, and Mr. J. Abbott as Daniel Dust.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company are still entertaining local audiences with their attractive play *Little Phil's Mother*, which was seen last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—A very pleasing attraction here is *Seaweed*, played by a company under the direction of Mr. J. R. Cassidy. Mr. Cassidy is very amusing as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh, Mrs. Cassidy being seen to great advantage in the title-rôle. Mr. Tom Roydon as Duke Sergius makes good use of his opportunities, and Mr. Villiers Stanley is quite successful as the revengeful Allen Armstrong. Other parts are well handled by Miss Ada Roscoe as the Countess Olga, Miss Isabel Hunt as Maggie Bolton, Mr. William Mervyn as Harry Lortimer, and Mr. David Douglas as Abraham Bolton. The scenery and dresses are pretty.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—An excellent programme is headed by *Tovlitsky*. Hyman and Franklin's successful sketch: the Five Bohemians are prominent also in a nice harmonious interlude; Zanora and Berg, the American comedy cyclists, are much enjoyed; and Bonair and Tess give an excellent quick-change Japanese scena. Other smart turns are Lew Peterman, Hebrew comedian; Alf. Mendies, the musical burglar; Tony Friedman, light comedian; and Stanley and Vandyke, the comedy duo.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The principal turn here this week is provided by Raymond, who presents some wonderful illusions in a mystifying style; Harry Allister, impersonator, is also well received; and other entertaining items are the Lukushimas, in their wonderful Japanese act; Mlle. Marjutti, a pleasing artist; Ross and Lewis, the American comedy duo; Harry Bedford, a quaint comedian; *The Three Thieves*, a dramatic episode; Tom E. Finglass, the coon delineator; and Lily Palmer, a smart comedienne and dancer.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Lady Beerbohm Tree is the chief attraction here this week in a powerful and effective playlet *The Sirocco*, which is followed with great interest; the Will o' the Wisps are excellent entertainers; Carney and Armstrong have some really funny business, and make a decided hit; the Barowskys' acrobatic act is exceptionally smart and full of new tricks; lovely, lively Lily Burnand, the favourite comedienne, is as vivacious as ever; Harry Leybourne scores as a mimic; Millie Engler, Louie Tiss and T. W. Watts are very good in *Beauty and the Burglar*; and the Glenroy Troupe are capital dancers; Signor Rosi's Italian ballet *Uncle Isadore*, with Signorina Louisa Patti and Signorina C. Mosetti, remains a second week with great success. The American Bioscope completes.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The star turn here is *The Miracle*, played successfully by John Lawson and company. Popular also are J. W. Rickaby, the well-known comedian, and the mimetic comedy business of Cissie Curlette. Capital work is added by Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer; the Three Stewarts, acrobatic trio; Maria Gabalda and troupe in *The Smuggler's Dream*; Fred Hastings, comedian; and the O-K-Dians, a miniature musical comedy.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Meredith Meredro, the charming vocal comedienne, meets with a deservedly good reception; *The General's Word*, a dramatic episode of the Napoleonic wars, is well played by a capable company; John Le Hay, supported by Norah Le Hay and Chas. Cautley, is highly successful, as usual, in that capital sketch *Poor Beggar*; whilst other enjoyable items are provided by May Baskerville, soprano vocalist; Bert Smith, an American comedian with smart talk; Jean and Josie, in a clever and sensational contortionist act; Harry Mackenzie, Scotch comedian; and Millicent Marion at the piano. Ruffell's pictures complete.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. William Holland's pantomime *Aladdin* is being played here, having already made acquaintance with local audiences. The production goes with a nice swing, the principal parts being in the hands of Miss Helen Charles (Aladdin), Mr. Robb Wilton as Widow Twankey, and Mr. Bob Selvidge as Abanazar. Good dancing, nice singing, and bright staging distinguish the show.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Spissel Bros. and Mack, American eccentrics, top a good bill here this week; and capital turns are added by the Two Kays, good singers; Johnny Holland and company, comedy sketch entertainers; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, in juggling, mirth, and music; the Society Idols, in up-to-date vocal comedy; Geo. Payne's Wanderers, in their caravan scene; and Dora Barrington, operatic vocalist.

MANSFIELD.—Grand.—Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mr. J. A. Campbell presented *The Old Folks at Home* on Monday. Miss Warburton played Dorothy in a winning and sympathetic manner; Miss Kate Froud tellingly enacted Patricia Bathurst; Susan Giles was well presented by Miss Ada Froud, ably assisted in comedy by Mr. George Scully as Ben Jolly. Mr. Frank Liston was responsible for good work as Lord Kenilworth; Mr. George Steel gave a capital portrayal of Andrew Ross; Mr. Ian Fleming was good as Hugh Lovell; Miss Clara Stanley and Mr. Henry Sainsbury gave a pleasing rendering of the "old folks"; Mr. Vincent Wardle was extremely good in the difficult part of the dumb Hunchback. The scenery was pleasing, and the effects were realistic.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—On Monday evening Mr. John E. Watson's company opened here with *The New Boy*, which was repeated on the two following evenings. Mr. F. G. Thurstans was a most amusing Archibald Rennick, Miss Phyllis Manners a delightful Mrs. Rennick, and Miss Evelyn Ormonde a dainty and vivacious Nancy. Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone played the part of Dr. Candy effectively; and Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood was remarkably good as the unctuous Felix Roach. As the fiery French master, Theodore de Brizac, Mr. Alfred Field Fisher sustained his part particularly well; Mr. Leo G. Lilly was capital as Bullock Major; and Miss Vera Wallace as Susan, and Mr. H. F. Wildy as Mr. Stubber were well placed. On Thursday the company appeared in *A Country Mouse*.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—An exceptionally strong variety programme here is headed by Captain Taylor, with his cleverly trained dog, pony, and baboons; Lilian Rose, comedienne, also proves a good turn; Mather and Mayer, eccentric comedy entertainers and quaint dancers, have been vociferously applauded; the Brothers Tarrant, comedians and dancers, have been amusing; and Dot Moss, the toy comedienne, banjoist, and dancer, has pleasing and successful appearances. A remarkably clever performance has been given by the Keamars, telepathists.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Mother*, presented by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, is here this week. Mr. J. O. Stewart submits an excellent impersonation of Duncan Fairweather; as Frank English Mr. A. J. Haviland is seen to advantage; Mr. Reginald Brown as Stephen Carrington scores a success; Jasper Rawden is well played by Mr. Harry Foxwell; and Mr. Teddy Myles is full of humour as Tommy Noblets. Miss Grace Jones is natural and sympathetic as Nelly; and Miss Amy Wood shows ability as Martha.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Sydney Mason and Theresa Moore head the bill in *Dr. Parker, Poisoner*, and score a success; the Hersleb Bros. are quaint comedians; Musical Sylvio presents a pleasing entertainment; W. C. Webber gains applause for his vocal numbers; and Lilla Morton is well received.

METHIL.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—The attraction here this week is provided by Messrs. Auguste Van Biene and Son's company with *Man and Wife*. Mr. Jerrold Ord as Paul Revere and Miss Kate Hallam as Marcelle sustain the title-rôles in a clever manner; Mr. George Over's portrayal of Jean (a cripple boy) is deserving of praise; Mr. George H. Child as Capt. D'Esparre gives a good study of unscrupulous villainy; Mr. Henry Compton is well placed as Colonel Latour; Mr. Ambrose Horton as Sergeant Jacques shows to advantage; a lighter vein is supplied by Messrs. E. Hall Eldon and Edwin Helm as Bimbo and Bambo, supported by Miss Lucy Fitzroy as Rosette; and Miss M. Thorne as Ruth Revere plays in a capable manner.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents *The Arcadians* to large and delighted audiences. In the character of James Smith Mr. Walter Passmore is irresistibly droll; and equally successful is Mr. Oliver J. Round in the part of Peter Doody; whilst as Jack Meadows Mr. Harold E. Pearce meets with well-deserved approval. Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra scores a distinct success; Miss Billie Sinclair as Eileen Cavanagh is pleasing; and the part of Mrs. Smith is admirably sustained by Miss Veronica Brady. The numerous other characters have been placed with unerring judgment, the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton, command high commendation, and the bright musical comedy is beautifully staged.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty are appearing with much success in *The Eyes of the World*. Miss Praagh is seen to great advantage in the trying part of Helene de L'Orme; as Esme de Carnac Miss Flora Hastings does well; Mr. Charles O'Connor plays Hector de L'Orme with distinction; Mr. Whitty is a praiseworthy Archille Fanfarade; and the Gaston de Carnac of Mr. Will Casey is a capital delineation.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—The wonderfully clever and daring cycle acrobatic performance submitted by the Bellong Brothers meets with unqualified approbation; the Five Vernons are expert xylophone players; J. C. Scatter is an amusing Tyneside comedian; and Ray and Calden, comedians; the Sisters Belmont, dancers; Edmond Morrisey, balancer and musician; Hal Brennan, comedian and dancer; Dare Austin, in his comedy duologue; and the Empire pictures complete a capital programme.

MORECAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. H. Leslie Bell's smart and genuinely funny pantomime *Cinderella* is being greatly appreciated; Miss Winifred Ray makes an ideal Prince Charming, and Miss Lilly Pearl is a dainty Cinderella, singing and dancing with taste and ability; Miss Annie Craig looks well as Dandini; Mr. Barry Bond heads the comedians with first-class business and smart gags, and he is ably seconded by Messrs. Tom Veronique (Buttons) and Eno Davys and Pat Yost (Ugly Sisters); capital speciality and acrobatic dancing is introduced by the Kitina Dancing Girls; praise must be given to Miss Daisy Rhyl as the Fairy Godmother and Mr. David Donaldson as the Demon, these artists having some capital duets, which are well rendered. The chorus is strong and well trained and the entire production is conceived on first-class lines. Mr. Godfrey Whittington is in charge of the orchestra.

MORLEY.—Alexandra Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—The attraction here this week is undoubtedly Judge's cockatoos—a wonderful exhibition of bird training, for which appreciation is unbounded. Another very successful turn is the Bros. Harrison, comedians and dancers; and Mr. Tom Ashby, comedian, causes amusement.

NELSON.—Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, the celebrated Japanese equilibrists, head the bill here this week; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king, adds to his many laurels; and other interesting turns include Williams's Royal Welsh Minstrels, the Whitworth trio of trick cyclists, Maude May Murray in her brilliant electrical dances, and the Redfern Sisters, premier banjo duo. In addition, there are Phil Coleman, a bass singer, assisted by Miss Lydia Alexandra; and Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer; whilst capital pictures are shown by the Palascope.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*Charley's Aunt* is here this week. Mr. Stanley Cooke plays the rôle of the old lady from Brazil admirably; Mr. Charles King and Mr. Robert Burnett as Jack Chesney and Chas. Wykeham, the youthful and boisterous undergraduates, are excellent; Mr. T. MacCausland Stewart makes a gay and dashing Colonel; Mr. R. Byford's Stephen Spettigue is very acceptable; and the part of Brasset is well played by Mr. Sydney Compton. Miss Enid Ross has a part in which she is eminently suited in Donna Lucia; and Miss Ruth Newton and Miss Phyllis Beck are charming as Spettigue's ward and niece.

pany is presenting *Robinson Crusoe* here this week, which has been warmly greeted by large audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Dulcie Lawrence has made a hit; Miss Isa Gibson is a smart Polly; Miss Nina St. Elmo a dashing Captain Kettle, Miss Ivy Boulton a good Dolly Dimple, and Miss Maud Hastings a capital Fairy Sunbeam, her excellent singing being greatly admired. As Billy Mr. Teddy Worth causes much merriment; Mr. Fred Boulton makes the most of Will Atkins; Mr. J. H. Booth is clever as Dame Crusoe; and Messrs. Will and Harry Elton cause much laughter as Dick and Peter. The various specialities include the Three Eltons, comedy bar performers; Miss Bartenelli, contortionist; Mr. Carson Hicks, coon delineator and dancer; the Marbleesque Trio in living statues; and the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The attractions here are Hall and Wilson, trick cyclists, with an excellent exhibition; Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys in their vocal and dancing speciality act; Tom Bassett, the popular actor-vocalist and comedian; Sands and Vincent, a good comedy duo; Charles Lestree, in *Bits and Pieces*; the Kennerleys, comedy singers dancers, and patterers; and the Rinders.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—*Napoleon the Great* is being presented by Mr. Herbert Vere's company. Mr. Herbert Vere gives an artistic rendering of the title-rôle; in the long and trying part of Marie Walewska Miss Kate Walfred scores heavily; Miss Katie Norris plays Leonie Marbœuf in a charming manner; Paul Lasinska is acted in capable fashion by Mr. Edwin Firth; Mr. Chas. H. Lincoln handles the part of Colonel Lavarennes admirably; Mr. Vivian Charles as Colonel Mouron is interesting; Mr. Frederick Biron submits a fine character-study of Sergeant Choupin: and Miss Nancy Roberts makes a dashing vivandière.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company in *The Woman of Kronstadt* is here. Mr. Kenneth excellently presents the part of Colonel Bonzo; Mr. Horace Sinclair is a successful General Nicolai Stefanoff; Mr. Bernard Copping does well as Captain Paul Zassoulic; Miss Ida Chapman deserves much praise as Marian Best; Miss Betty Fairfax is a good Olga; and the same may be said of Miss Isa Billington as Vera. Miss Edith Vogne deserves compliments as Princess Mary of Hesse. *Collaborators* is the curtain-raiser.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Heading a strong programme is Gus Elen, the famous coster comedian, who makes his first appearance here, and is immensely popular; Mendel, now on a return visit, astonishes all with his clever pianoforte playing and marvellous memory; Wilton Heriot and company create much laughter in their sketch *Father's Footsteps*; Edith Chantler is a pleasing soprano vocalist; the Melba Twins as harmonising vocalists have a good reception; Guy Ryder is good both as a whistler and a vocalist; Gladys and Albert are successful in their comedy, singing, dancing, and acrobatic act; and the Hippo Bio exhibits a pleasing selection of pictures.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr continues his pleasing exhibition of animated pictures here. This week the principal ones are Through the Breakers, illustrating the story of the Sins of Society; The Dance of Fire; a comedy film, When We Called the Plumbers In; Arnold, the Traitor; and Judgment. Mr. Tom Taylor and Miss Bessie Hardman please with their vocal items.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Our Miss Gibbs* pays its initial visit, and is drawing huge houses. To the title-rôle Miss Blanche Browne brings a charming presence and sweet voice, her success being assured from the start; Mr. George Gregory has a part in Timothy Gibbs that suits his mercurial nature, and his efforts to amuse are always effective. The duets between Miss Browne and Mr. Gregory are especially clever and droll. Mr. Lionel Mackinder is well suited as Hughie, singing and dancing in a thoroughly appreciative manner; Mr. W. E. Richardson offers a quiet but humorous portraiture of the Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. H. V. Crop makes a capital Eynesford. Miss Marie Wilson looks and acts well as the ingenuous Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss May Martin as Mrs. Farquhar succeeds in her broad comedy; Mr. Robert Nainby as Slithers and Miss Dora Sevening as Jeanne give excellent performances; and Miss Florence Phillips dances gracefully. The chorus numbers are spiritedly rendered.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*The Fair One With the Golden Locks* still continues to draw large audiences, who bestow applause liberally on the various artists.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The weirdness of the "Vampire" dance, with its wonderful setting, is attracting large audiences, and a big reception is accorded the executants, Alice Eis and Bert French; the excellent illusions by Oswald Williams are as startling as they are clever; the Empire Comedy Four sing and fool as smartly as ever; the acrobatic cycling of the Cumberlands gains appreciative applause; Victor Widdicombe and company present a pleasing sketch; Barnard's Mannikins are a source of merriment; as also are Harry Anderson and Walter Curtis, comedians; the Three Welsh Girls sing with charming taste; and an expert mimic is heard in Takio.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The nonchalant manner in which the Pasquali Brothers get through their intricate and sensational acrobatic feats excites the admiration of audiences; Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company present an excellent rendering of the sketch, *Captain Kettle*; a gymnastic turn by Natalia and Diana is much admired; and an amusing production, *The Toy Shop*, is well carried out by Viviana and company. James and Jennie Jee supply a smart act on the tight wire; and other contributions by Mark Leslie, coon singer, the Sages, dancers, Kitty Cameron, comedienne, and Jack McKenzie, comedian, are well received.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.: Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Leonard Boyne's company opened here on Monday evening with a first-rate performance of *Raffles*. Mr. Reginald Dance in the title-rôle plays in a masterly manner, and makes much of the fine opportunities offered him; Mr. Arthur Willoughby puts the necessary feeling of dignity into the character of Lord Amersteth; Mr. Harold West gives an able performance as Bunny; Mr. Oswald Griffiths portrays Crawshay in a realistic and effective manner; the Curtis Bedford of Mr. Edward Irwin is a distinct success, and leaves little to be desired; Miss Mollie Tremaine contributes sound and convincing work as Mrs. Vidal; Miss Frances Titeradge acts successfully as Gwendoline Couran; Miss Marjorie Unett fills the rôle of Lady Ethel with charming grace. The other parts are well represented.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smiley.—Pantomime is staged here this week, Mr. R. C. Buchanan's company appearing in *Aladdin*. Miss Mabel Hind acts the title-rôle in a dashing manner; Miss Lily Lonsdale is charming in the part of the Princess; Miss Evelyn Desa makes a smart Pekoe; and Miss Nita Glen as Hi Toff and Miss Ethel Barton as Chin Chin are both good. Miss Margaret Vincent as Electra has a fine presence, and takes well; Miss Bee Sutherland and Miss Kitty Kennedy as the Maids of Honour are good; Mr. Ernie Myers plays Abanazar cleverly: the Brothers Fiman are smart and amusing as Bo-Ko and Bo-Bi; and Mr. K. Bernard is a capital Wishee Washee. Mr. T. Carrick a droll Widow Twankey, and Mr. R. B. Beaumont as the Emperor Ski Hi is excellent. Mr. J. G. Aitken as So Long sings good Scotch songs, and Mr. J. G. Lowther as Kasrac is a smart Slave of the Ring.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Luck of Roaring Camp* is here, this being the first visit of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mark Blow's company. Mr. Douglas Murray plays the part of William Gordon in manly style; Miss Elizabeth Dundas as Nell Curtis acts cleverly and sympathetically; Miss Doris Gilham as Jovita de Sutro is a forcible adventuress; Tom Barnes is well played by Mr. Chas. E. Johnstone; Mr. Ernest Clarke makes a capital Gonzales; and Mr. Arthur Redmond does well as Old Pard. Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson is a good Sheriff; Baby Audrey as Tommy is most successful; Miss Mary Morrell is an amusing Mrs. O'Flynn; and some smart comedy is introduced by Mr. Harry Benson as Paddy McGinty and Mr. Horace Stewart as Ebenezer.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Good business has been attracted by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company in the pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty*. Mr. Tubby Edlin in the part of the Great Unknown keeps the "house" in good humour; Miss Lillian Elliott is a dashing Prince Fearless; Miss Ivy Moore as Princess Beauty sings capitally; Miss Nellie Valentine is an excellent Viscount Broadlands; and Miss Eva Beechey a charming Clonette. Miss Winnie Acton is a dainty Fairy Benevolent; Mr. Frank H. Morton as Demon Malevolent sings with success; Mr. Tom Shenton and Mr. Willie Black as the King and Queen are a capital pair of comedians; and the King's trumpeters are well played by Miss Mabel Keith and Mr. John Leick, who also introduce cornet duets. Some smart dancing is also seen by Tom Shenton and Chicks and The Eight Oowama Girls. The Three Martinettes are funny in their comedy business, and a capital chorus is well directed by Mr. Forshaw Kershaw.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Charles T. Aldrich tops the bill in his clever protean act, which gains hearty applause; Les Alex. Carangeot appear in clever and artistic novelty dances; Jewel St. Leger sings dainty songs; and Arthur Aldridge scores in his tenor songs. Lillian Neville uses her fine soprano voice with good effect; the Maltons are amusing in a comedy sketch; Tom Kelso and company appear in a funny farcical absurdity; Blair and Allen sing and dance well; and the Palace Pictures complete.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—For the first three nights of this week Frank Curzon's company was here with *King of Cadonia*. Mr. Bertie Wright kept the whole house in a continuous roar of laughter with his irresistibly funny performance as the Duke of Alasia; while Mr. Edward Thirlby was decidedly humorous as Bran. Mr. J. Warren-Foster was all that could be desired as Alexis; Mr. Cameron Carr made a smart Captain Luski; and Mr. Jack Martin an admirable General Bonski. Good work was done by Mr. E. Hartley-Summers as Panix; and also by Mr. Cecil Tresilian as Laborde. Miss Molly Keen made a bright and attractive Militza, and danced with considerable skill; Miss Olga Marsden was a success as Stephanie; and Miss Florence Lelgarde a very stately Duchess of Alasia. As Princess Marie Miss Alice Moffat was a decided acquisition with her graceful performance and attractive singing. On Thursday Mr. F. Hamilton Stewart's company was here with *Sherlock Holmes*.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company is here with *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford gives a powerful rendering of Tom Manly; Mr. J. Summerville does well as William Ferren; and Mr. Polson Turner is a convincing villain as James Hammond. Mr. Rupert Talbot succeeds in being highly amusing as Sam Kidder; and Mr. J. Cameron is natural as David Morris. Miss Clarice Jenna makes a diverting Ruth Manly; Miss Alice Deane is capital as Mrs. Manly; Baby Freda scores a great success as Little Nellie, and sings very effectively; whilst Miss Hilda Baynton shows histrionic skill as Rose Prescott.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Louis Calvert's production of *Sunday* was staged. Miss Janet Lind showed considerable skill in her interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. Pennington-Gush as Colonel Brinthorpe gave a thorough and convincing impersonation; Mr. Robert Borlande played the villainous Arthur Brinthorpe in commendable style; as Tom Oxley Mr. Richard Trieve was impressive; Mr. Richard F. Symons gave a natural portrayal of Towzer; Davy was judiciously treated by Mr. Launcelot St. G. Lowther; an admirable touch of comedy was afforded by Mr. James Hussey as Lively; and Mr. George Marriott, jun., was a manly Jacky; Miss H. Graham Edwins efficiently represented Mrs. Naresby, and Miss Gladys Ford Howitt as a Nun added her quota to the interest of the play. For the remaining three nights of the week Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* was billed.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The chief attraction this week is the Sutcliffe Troupe, Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats, who perform in really smart style; Roma and Romani are in the front rank of instrumentalists, and give the greatest pleasure; Miss Teddy Edmonds' company effectively present a sporting farce, *The Lady Jockey*; J. A. Wilson, comedian, is exceedingly popular, and with his performing dog contributes an excellent entertainment; the Brothers Dean excel in the terpsichorean art; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde submit a clever and interesting exhibition of shadowgraphy; Patty Yole sings and dances satisfactorily; and the Bioscope concludes.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company in *The Thief* opened on Monday to an enthusiastic audience. Mr. Bernard Limpus played the stirring part of Richard Chelford with great power; Mr F. Morland gave a fine interpretation of Raymond Leyton; Mr. Carl W. Lindsey as Harry Leyton was equally successful; Mr. W. Somerset was very effective as Mr. Protheroe; Miss Georgina Wynter gave an admirable interpretation of Marise Chelford; and Miss Mary Forrester as Isabel Leyton was very good.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The top line of an interesting programme is this week occupied by Vesey and Ramsey in the comedy act *Jakes the Butler*; Marie Blythe, contralto, is well received; Louis J. Seymour, a clever chorus singer, makes a decided hit; Jules Kiaro, equilibrist, is applauded; Harley and Melton, comedians, take well in several songs; Henry Bekker, conjurer, gives a smart turn; the Missouris, introducing doubles and twisting somersaults, create much laughter; and the Karnoscope completes, with good films.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Signor C. F. Castellano's company is here. On Monday *Cavalleria Rusticana* was performed. As Santuzza Signora Desio was superb, doing full justice to the part; Signora Massior scored brilliantly as Mamma Lucia; and the representation of Turiddu by Signor Foles held the audience enthralled. On Tuesday *Rigoletto* was performed. Signors Azzolini and Folco as Rigoletto and the Duke of Mantova shared honours, the former being the possessor of a rich baritone voice, and the richness of the tenor voice of the latter evoking universal admiration; Signora Gavlosca as Gilda acquitted herself excellently; and Signora Rocco ably filled the rôle of Maddalena. The repertory includes *Carmen*, *Faust*, and *Il Trovatore*.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Jan-Kwai troupe of Chinese do a marvellous acrobatic and pot-pourri turn here; Petro and Leon's sensational and comic gymnastic business finds great favour; Drum and Major create plenty of fun by their sketch *The Broker's Man*, some fine songs rendering it additionally attractive; Dolly Golden earns high encomiums as a dancer; and the Two Errols are genuinely funny in a leaping act. Other contributors to the programme are Walter Wade (comedian), Josie and Frances Jonghman (a well-trained pair of vocalists), and Harry Leaton (character vocalist).

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—Mr. R. Nightingdale's company is here in the pantomime *Aladdin*. Miss Edna Latonne makes an ideal Aladdin and Miss Jenny Hackett is a charming Princess. The Sisters Rivers as Pekoe and Caramel are a success in the songs "Silvery moon" and "Mr. Schneider"; Mr. Arthur Pier as the Emperor finely renders "Somewhere"; Mr. Walter Bishop is responsible for the part of Abanazar, the Magician; Mr. Laurie Oban as the Grand Vizier and Mr. Joe Perth as Wishee Washee are expert dancers; France and Francis as Flip and Flop perform a clever knockabout act; Mr. Harry Albery as the Widow is a decided success; Miss Amy Pauline Gradwell as the Genius of the Ring and Miss Marie Radcliffe as the Slave of the Lamp render some excellent duets; and the speciality turns include Max Merlin (the human crocodile), the Brothers Lloyd (in a sensational double bounding cable act), and the Alexscope. The piece is well mounted and the dresses are elaborate.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Miss Mary O'Neil and Mr. George Kirk's company is drawing good houses here with *Her Luck in London*, Miss O'Neil taking the part of Nellie Harborne in a capable manner.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—A great attraction is furnished in Harvey's American Boys and Girls, including Miss Daisy Dennis and Mr. Frank Victor in original songs and dance; Stidder and Dunbar, a South African comedy duo, win rounds of applause; Master Sam York presents a smart vaudeville act; the Sisters Williams deputise for Blanche and Diacoff, who are unable to appear; the Mars Trio have a clever military trapeze act; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard in a screamingly funny sketch, *Coming Home*, makes the audience roar; and the Palascope presents the latest pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Another of Mr. Frank Curzon's companies is here this week with the picturesque musical play *Dear Little Denmark*. The chief fun-maker is Mr. Arthur Staples as Hans Hansen, the comic rôle among the ladies being cleverly sustained by Miss Joan Penrose (Ophelia); Mr. Conway Dixon (Conrad) and Miss Netta Lynde (Christine) harmoniously vocalise and forcibly sustain their important impersonations; Mr. Henry Kitts presents a highly humorous rendering of Duke Ernest; the portly Burgomaster is well suited to Mr. Tom Redmond; and a pretty Xandra is seen in Miss Claire Lynch.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here in *Her Second Time on Earth*. Mr. Wingold Lawrence gives a clever reading of the part of Jack Carlton, and Miss Marie McAulay is admirably cast as Dora Gray.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The entertainment here opens with Trixo, "the man-monkey," whose speciality is rope-walking; that amusing comedian Charles Grantley follows; clever jugglery feats are performed by Mozetto, and Spry and Austin amuse with their comedy business. There are some sensational acrobatic feats by the Borghetti Troupe; Gladys Archbutt sings and dances; Arthur Prince is a popular ventriloquist; Harry Brown, a coloured comedian, renews his popularity; and *The Pawnbroker* is presented.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Jock Whiteford heads the bill here. Maud Lordys presents with success her performing dogs; Alfonso Silvano performs sensational equilibristic feats, his hand-balancing on the top of a pyramid of chairs being a marvellous piece of work; Doughty and Laney are successful in a comedy sketch entitled *A Woman's Way*; and other turns in the programme are Ethel Christie, comedienne; Arthur Harris, vocal comedian; the Frohmans, musical entertainers; Barrie and Wood, comedy duo, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Crowded houses testify to the popularity of this week's programme. Prominent is the series of artistically arranged living pictures posed by Mlle. de Verneuil and her assistants. The manœuvres of the Tennessee Coloured Guards and their wall scaling attract keen attention; the singing and dancing of the Sarnthaler Sextette of Tyrolean vocalists are novel; a pathetic sketch is ably presented by Willie Lee and Ellen Bentley, *The King's Counsel*; a wonderful exhibition of roller skating is provided by the McLellan Carson Duo; Bessie Mackenzie admirably renders "Angus Macdonald"; the banjo is expertly manipulated by Brent Hayes; an attractive equilibristic act is submitted by the Alberto Troupe; and an amusing picture is displayed by the Barrascope.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, *The Arcadians*, is doing record business here. Mr. Gus Oxley convulses the house with his drolleries as Simplicitas; Mr. Frank Collins as Peter Doody has to respond to several encores in his song in the last act; Mr. Roy Sidney is good as Jack Meadows; and the Bobby of Mr. Roy Lorraine and the Sir George Paddock of Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson are capital presentations; while Messrs. Frank Henry and W. Dawson are exceptionally good as the two Arcadians, Astrophel and Strephon. Miss Madge Haines is to be congratulated on her clever presentation of Mrs. Smith—a really clever bit of acting; Miss Mysie Devine, a captivating Eileen Cavanagh, sings and dances most tastefully; and as Sombra Miss Marion Edwardes is excellent.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—John Tiller's pantomime, *Jack and Jill*, is here. The Gathering of the Clans ballet, as is always the case with John Tiller's productions, goes with a swing. The principal characters are presented by Harry Colton, Bruce Green, Horace Jones, the Le Crens (F. H. and Adah), Alice Maude, Nellie Grimshaw, Nellie Rodney, and Harriet Fawn. Mention must also be made of Lilian Doris and Francis Delane. Specialities are introduced by the Tiller Troupe of dancers, Alice Maude, the juvenile Vesta Tilley, the Imperial Ballet Troupe, Bruce Green, Harry Colton, and Horace Jones.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—"The Lyceum Tours," under the direction of Mr. Henry R. Smith, are this week producing *Pete* at this house. The company, a strong one, includes Mr. Austen Milroy in the title-rôle and Miss Malcolm Barnett as Kate.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—*The Idol of Paris* is admirably staged by Mr. James Bell. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare acts with power and success, and the villainous Philip d'Esterre is ably personated by Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee; Mr. A. Claude Clark as Victor Cashello makes a distinguished hero, and Mr. H. Vivian Thomas as young Tatave is very entertaining, and is ably supported by Miss Annie Megson as the Quakeress Ann; Mr. Gordon Robey as Prince Sergius Loresky is good; and Miss Frances Bruce as Mme. Sancterre portrays a typical prude.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—There has been a good and popular programme put on at the Palace this week, Mrs. Frank Bateman and company having appeared in the dramatic play *The Way Women Love* on the first three evenings. Mrs. Bateman as the leading lady has demonstrated her capability as an actress of much power, her Verena Alabra being admirable; Mr. F. W. Goddard has played Captain Howard Tremaine in a thoroughly successful manner; and Mr. Percy Shaw (the whistling comedian) has added much to the attractiveness of the show as Dick Palmer. *Sapho* and *Camille* have also figured in the week's répertoire.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company is paying a welcome return visit with *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Edgar Kent acts with much dash and vivacity as the light-hearted and chivalrous Lascelles; Miss Dorothy Riply plays charmingly as Lady Hermione; Admiral Wynne is "admirably" played by Mr. George Mallet; Miss Florence Jackson makes a witty and genial widow in the part of Mrs. Cameron; Mr. Montagu Love is a manly Major Thesiger; and all the other parts are in good hands.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—This week an attractive programme is presented. Walton and Lester, "The World's Worst Wizards," give an amusing "spoof" performance; *An Extra Turn* is the title of a pretty domestic incident which depicts the disappointment of a flower girl at not obtaining a music-hall engagement. In this sketch Miss Maggie Shaw, Mr. Paul Mill, Mr. Lawrence Emery, and Mr. Robert McCaig all act with ability. King and Queen display agility in a comedy act; Harry Maynard and Charles Bignell are good comedians; Radie Stuart appears as a dashing member of the Girls' Brigade; Pueblo and Cropp, American speciality artists, sing well and also execute a clever sand dance; The Courtiers appear in a pretty illuminated scene and give a refined concerted musical performance; and an amusing scene is depicted on the Palace Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Hardy.—Messrs. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company is here in *The Angel of His Dreams*. Mr. George A. De Gray is highly successful as the Rev. Christian Esdaile and Mr. Wallace Campbell is very smart as Major Dudley Ferrars. Mr. Charles Arnold is seen to advantage as Sir Francis Tregarthen, and Mr. Robert Hall scores as Roy Ferrars. Mr. Mayo Stanley is very humorous as Sam Tippett, and Mr. Will Thornton deserves mention as Frank Roberts, Detective Smart being capably enacted by Mr. Charles Wakefield. Miss Edna Earl is pleasing as Milly St. Austell, and Miss Etta Turner is a sprightly Bessie Sparkles. Miss Ida Thomspon is well received as Lulu, and Miss Effie Bartlett makes much of a difficult part.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Edgar Fox; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—James Willard and company have a great reception here with the dramatic episode *The Ace of Hearts*. John Grun Marx gives an extraordinary exhibition, lifting very heavy weights; Les Belles Américaines are clever and finished dancers; Jack Truman is a tenor vocalist of fine scope and power; Ruby Dahl presents an interesting act of imitation life-size marionettes; A. W. Scott is well received as a coon delineator and dancer; J. H. Carney is deserving of mention; Gwennie Morgan is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Cassie Walmer is applauded. The Hipposcope shows some excellent pictures.

KUNCORN.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Enormous business is being done here. The head of the programme is occupied by Slippere, blind musician and entertainer, whose marvellous executive work is rapturously applauded; Barney Murphy is an admirable comedian and mimic; Le Hurst, ventriloquist, is entertaining; and the Three Original Hodgkins have a clever gymnastic sketch, *A Good Time at the Seaside*. The pictures comprise White Slave, Journey to the Middde of the Earth, Sticky Proposition, Wedding Amongst Rag and Bone Merchants, Calino's Fire Extinguisher, and Nick Carter (the Imprints).

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Cotton Spinner* is proving a strong attraction, and on Monday the sight of the crowded house must have been very gratifying to Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. The title-rôle is played by Mr. Edmonds in masterly style, and Miss Austin makes an excellent Mary Prescott; Mr. Wm. Manning is suitably dignified as Lord Northbury; Arthur Northbury is well presented by Mr. G. Porteus; Mr. Frank Stanley is successful as the villainous Foster Cunningham; Miss Ethel Vinroy shows histrionic power as Constance Harrington; Mr. W. H. Dewhurst as Major Stratton and Miss Belle Power as Lady Charlotte Needy arouse roars of laughter; Mr. Dashwood (Nobbs), Miss Nellie Hayes (Smirk), and Mr. Geo. Toft (James) also do well. The staging is excellent. *The Reward* is an acceptable curtain-raiser.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Mme. Alice Esty, with her popular operatic and ballad songs, pleasingly heads a good variety bill; smart acrobatic feats are performed by the De Toma Troupe; Hampton and Bauman give an amusing turn; Terry (Marie) and Bentley (J. S.) entertain; and Laurie Leyton, a young ventriloquist; Beatrice Blanche, comedienne; Charles Rowen, eccentric comedian; and Wilman, smart instrumentalist, also do good work.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*Her Love Against the World*, presented by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company, attracted a good house on Monday, when Mr. Fred Emery played well the part of Eric; Miss Rosie St. John charmingly portrayed Lionel; Prince Ulric was cleverly impersonated by Mr. Oswald Cray; Mr. W. H. Hallatt was a sincere and earnest Prince Othmar.; Mr. Allan Carruthers as Heinric and Mr. Charles R. Hann as Fritz were amusing; Miss Elsie Roberts displayed ability as Iris; Katinka and Gretchen were pleasingly presented by Miss Amy Hastings and Miss Hettie Ferguson. The play was well mounted.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. A. Austin presented the pantomime *Cinderella* for three nights and a matinée, and did good business from crowded houses. Miss Madie Harrison, in the title-rôle, sang several pretty songs, receiving good support from Miss Mabel Austin as Prince Charming; Miss Gertrude Bond as the Fairy Queen was very successful in her number "Somewhere"; and little Gladys Liggett, as a fairy dancer, delighted everyone.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Abel and Welch, comedians, prove highly entertaining here; E. M. Lenaro is a clever comedy juggler; Gertie Gavagan is an attractive comedienne: Coleman, Davies, and company appear with success in the comedy sketch *The Grumbler*; Chas. Hatch is well received; Clifford Morgan finds favour as a vocalist; and George Rae is successful as a Scotch comedian and dancer. Some excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Mr. Chas. Gibbon's company in *Alone in London* is here this week, with Miss Nellie Clyde as Nan, the flower girl; Mr. Russell Norrie, John Biddlecome; Mr. Gerald Jordan, Dick Redcliffe; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Jenkinson; Miss Molly Monaghan, Mrs. Maloney; Miss Lenno Vernon, Ruth Clifton; Mr. J. Vernon Shaw, the rich banker; and Mr. Chas. Gibbon, his nephew. Miss Carrie Young and Mr. Frank Caffrey are responsible for the humorous parts. All the parts are well filled.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Sydney Cooper and the Tally Ho Trio's company is here this week with *Cinderella*, a really clever and enjoyable production. The title-rôle is prettily played by Miss Doris Langdon, a dashing and vivacious Prince Charming being found in Miss Gwladys Soman; Dandini finds a good exponent in Miss Bertha Belmoir, and Cherry is smartly enacted by Miss Blanche Belmoir; Miss Fay Desmond is excellent as the Fairy Godmother, her vocal items being especially commendable; the dry humour of Mr. Fred Park as Sprightly contrasts well with the clever comicalities of Mr. Charles Wood and Mr. Fred Anderson, as Carmelia and Cordelia, the ugly sisters; the Tally Ho Trio, consisting of Mr. Erne Chester, Mr. Wm. Doust, and Mr. Eric Farr, keep the fun going, their concerted vocalisation being as clever as their comic business; the Eight Sunrays provide some smart dances.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company occupy the boards of the Seaham house this week with *Married to the Wrong Man*. As Jack Gladwin Mr. Henry Lonsdale gives a highly efficient interpretation; Mr. George Arthur is a creditable Captain Deering as Sergeant Manners, Mr. Leonard S. Harrison is effective; Timothy Clinker is well played by Mr. Syd Claydon; Jasper Skinner is adequately sketched by Mr. Leonard Thackeray; Mr. R. Marius St. John makes a good impression as Archie Bird; Miss Mary Pemberton proves that the arduous role of Ruth is well within her powers; Miss Cissie Bellamy as Rose is effective; Nurse Harmsworth is capably drawn by Miss Annie Beamish; and as Nurse Manners Miss Irene Atchinson merits praise; Miss Una Earle is a painstaking Mother Snaggs; and as Dolly Miss May Day is satisfactory.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—*The Diver's Luck* is staged here by Andrew Emm's company. Mr. William Macready gives a clever portrayal of Martin Faber; Barney Bawn finds a smart exponent in Mr. Edmund A. Grady; Miss Mabel Bickerstaff acts with skill the part of Helen Wyngate; Miss Pearl Noyle makes a capital Peggy Mahoney; and Mr. William Dexter an unscrupulous stage villain.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—This week a second pantomime has proved a successful venture, Lena Stanton and Harry Josephs company, presented by G. T. Melville, being the attractive fare provided. Miss Lily Simmons, a dashing and thoroughly capable principal boy, made an exceptional Sinbad; Miss Lolly Andrews was a charming Princess Yazora; Miss Gladys May, a particularly attractive and tuneful Captain Selim; and Miss Kitty Russell as Irza acted with grace and ability; of the Immortals Mr. Arthur Carlton made a fine Old Man of the Sea; Mr. George Wilts as the Demon of Darkness merited considerable praise; Miss Ruby Collis was pleasing as Fairy Good Fortune; Mr. Will Payne as the Shipwrecker worked hard and successfully; Mr. J. Riche made a capital Foreign Monarch; Messrs. J. Rand and Hy. O'Ryan, knockabout comedians, were energetic and amusing; Mr. Dan Lyall was droll as Tinbad; Mr. T. Parvin as Grand Vizier fulfilled his part in a very creditable fashion; Mr. Sid Dean was a sprightly and diverting dame as Mrs. Spankfirst Sinbad; and Mr. W. Melville as the Caliph of Bagdad acted admirably. Specialities by the Leglere Troupe of acrobats, Rand and O'Ryan, the Alhambra Girls, Geo. Melville, and Vic Verney, siffleur, contributed greatly to the success of the pantomime.

MUSIC HALL.—Licensee, Mr. V. C. L. Crump.—The "Joseph" Poole's myriorama is here this week, supported by a capable company of entertainers, and the show is, as usual, of the best, varied, refined, and bright. Moving and other pictures are atractive, and the turns are excellent.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Swiss Express* with which the Renad Brothers have achieved world-wide fame, is paying a return visit, and the succession of amusing scenes have been in great favour with a crowded audience. Of course the honours are carried off by Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad, as the two silent yet eloquent serving men, and they have the support of some capital artists; Mr. Wilford Bailey undertakes in able fashion the portr

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The D'Oyly Carte opera company began the second week of its visit on Monday with a fine performance of *The Gondoliers*, which was listened to with enjoyment by a good audience. On Tuesday *Patience* revived delightful memories, and other favourites billed for the balance of the week were *Pinafore*, *Princess Ida*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *The Mikado*. Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Mr. L. Tunks, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Fred Billington, Miss Everell Spain, Miss Bertha Lewis, and the other artists have been warmly applauded, and the chorus and *mise-en-scène* have been up to the D'Oyly Carte standard of artistic excellence.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—*Jack and Jill* continues its successful run, and big business continues to show the public's practical recognition of Mr. Hart's artistic taste, and the talent of the performers.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Wilson Howard's company opened on Monday in the new military drama *Under the Iron Heel*. Miss Carlotta Anson was a graceful and emotional representative of Germaine Mirbleau; Mr. Wilson Howard made a dashing and distinguished army captain as Rene de Maupassant; and other characters were efficiently acted by Miss Douglas-Hicks, Miss Jessie Yatman, Mr. W. J. Richards, Mr. J. Talford, Mr. Fred Elvin, Mr. Gerald Smyth, Mr. R. Meeling, Mr. Carl Verrender, Mr. Austin Longford, Mr. Fred M. Best, Mr. A. E. Rose, Mr. T. H. Winter, Mr. William Scott, and Mr. Carl Vallender. The play was effectively staged.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.: Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—La Syl appeared here on Monday in three elegant terpsichorean scenas, and received unstinted applause; the Kremo Family, in their wonderful display of Risley acrobatism, were applauded to the echo; the Donaldson Brothers and their company in their diverting absurdity *In the Jungle*, again caused roars of laughter; and the Latonas, with pleasing songs, music, and fun, provided a refined entertainment. Other clever artists this week are Mr. Harry Clifford, motto vocalist; the Prince Milner Trio, the Smythsons (Stewart and Morgan) the Great Northern Troupe of Dancers, and Miss Odeyne Spark. The Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, conclude.

The Hippodrome.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.: Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Lafayette presented his Indian sketch *The Lion's Bride*; Mr. Arthur Reece, in his new vocal skit *Good-bye to Bachelor Days*, wins hearty approbation; and the company also includes the Crossett Trio, smart Athletes; Bill and Bailey, comic tumblers and grotesques; Miss Edie Veno, serio-comic; &c. The Bioscope series include a beautiful coloured film, Native Life in India.

Central Hall.—The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.—A good selection of artistic pictures, sandwiched between several amusing vaudeville turns, gave general pleasure to a large house on Monday.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. Fred Baugh's programme of humorous, scenic, and dramatic pictures continues to give instruction and pleasure to big audiences.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Hippodrome. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Mlle. Liane d'Eve scores here with her songs, dances, and quick changes, done in front of the audience; Harry Champion's comic creations are clever; and mental telepathy and thought-reading have smart exponents in the Howard Bros. Dollie Denton is a dainty serio; and others who successfully contribute are:—Miss Marie Pera and Mr. Thos. Kennard, who appear in a duologue; the Two Falcons; Geo. F. Hall, raconteur; and Starley Bros., cyclists.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—*The Dollar Princess* is here, presented by Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company. Miss Norah Barry sings and acts delightfully in the title-part; and Mr. Alec Worcester scores a success as Teddy Fairfax. Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Bulger utilises to the full his opportunities for mirth-provoking, his broad comedy causing hearty laughter; Miss Madeline Seymour is a handsome Olga, and creates a favourable impression; Mr. Leslie Holland is merry and bright as the multi-millionaire; Miss Peggy Primrose is a dainty Daisy; Mr. Willie Warde, jun., is an active footman; Mr. Sidney Lyndon a smart Groom; and Mr. J. Cranston Neville a quaint Dick Conder. The orchestra does well under the baton of Mr. Ernest Vousden.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford present their company in *The Silver King* to good audiences. Mr. Fred D. Davis depicts Wilfrid Denver in good style, and Miss Mildred Surrey makes a charming Nellie Denver; Miss Hilda Bateman and Master Eric Dene are good in the children's parts of Cissie and Ned; the veteran Edward J. George excels in the part of Jaikes; Mr. Arthur H. Rooke submits a good study of The Spider; Miss Mary Glanbrane is good as Olive Skinner, and the same may be said of Miss Lucy Cato-Polini as Susie; Elijah Coombe, Henry Corkett, and Cripps are all well accounted for by Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Ralph Leon, and Mr. Fred May; Mr. W. Leslie Ellis is meritorious as Geoffrey Ware, and Mr. A. Hornby Warburton is good as Baxter. The staging is excellent.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—An enthusiastic welcome is awarded to Will H. Fox, a clever piano monologist, who appears instead of Willette Whittaker and F. Wilbur-Hill; Tom Davies' Trio are popular in their unique cycle motoring in mid-air; Farr and Farland are two quaint comedians; Andrew Macmanus, vocalist, comedian, and dancer, is well received; clever hand-balancing is displayed by Raffo Bros., and other good items are Alice Maydue, character comedienne, Monie Mine, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Choir comes in for a large amount of patronage; the Rizarells are clever gymnasts; Elsie Rubina performs well on the tight wire; the Three Recars, Chinese acrobats, are most successful. Other notable attractions are Wee Winnie, Miss Reita, Maud Tramer, Mabel Lewis, Cissie Madcap, Sisters Hylton, Roy Potter, George Russell, Tom R. Roma and Wilmot Hastings, Jas. Carr and A. Walker, and the Bioscope.

STALYBRIDGE. — Hippodrome. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. K. Stewart Macdonald.—Mr. Jazson's pantomime company is presenting *Robinson Crusoe*, with Miss Florence Lewis in the title-rôle. The cast is a strong one, and in addition to rendering valuable aid in their various parts specialities are contributed by the Countess, Aldro Lukos, Williams and Warden, the Eeduns, and others.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*Two Little Vagabonds* pays a welcome return visit. George Thornton is realistically played by Mr. Frank Beresford and Mr. Renaud Lockwood is well placed as Captain Darville; Mr. Charles L. Ludlow as Bill Mullins and Messrs. Philip Beaufoy and Frederick Archer as his confederates, Dido Bounce and the Coughdrop, provide well-studied characters; as Marion Thornton Miss Dorothy Milne has much heavy work, and does it well; Miss Mabel Cooke as Barbara Scarth is very effective; Miss Helen Grenville makes a capital Dick and Miss Ivy Millais is no less effective as Wally. The staging is in every respect excellent.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Mephisto the Mysterious presents his twelve original illusions, and proves intensely interesting; the Child Trio's delightful performance is wonderfully clever and entertaining; Frank Lister and Fred Kitchen's *99* is exceedingly well acted; the juggling of the Two Cromwells is smart, and Maud and Sydney Wood are pleasing duettists and graceful dancers. Excellent turns are also provided by Wylie (tramp musician) and Fred Erick.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Her Road to Ruin* has proved genuinely attractive here this week, large audiences having witnessed the many exciting incidents and interesting situations in the drama with marked appreciation. Mr. Charles Dickens makes a capable Frank Temple; Mr. Kendrew Milson acts with feeling as Tom Wells; Mr. Alex. Bradley impersonates the villain Philip Hardy with exceptional ability; and Mr. Dane Clarke is effective as the Bishop; Miss Ada Champion acts sympathetically as Jess Willoughby; Miss Mabel Coleman gives a powerful impersonation of Mary Dawson; and Mr. Harry Talbot as Billy Boots, capitally supported by Miss Grace Emery as Jenny Crackling, provides abundant amusement.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Henry Herne and company's dramatic sketch *The Colleen Bawn* has aroused much interest and enthusiasm here this week. An array of varied talent is also appearing, which includes Johnson and Devere, clever and amusing trick cyclists; the Lovelaces, entertaining song illustrators; Raymond trio of instrumentalists and dancers; Joe Humphreys, pleasing vocal comedian; Meade and Wall, amusing comedians; Eva Chadwick, a delightful vocal comedienne; and the McAleavy Marvels, expert trick and barrel jumpers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Castle Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson. — Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime *Mother Goose* is doing excellent business here. Mr. Harry Rich gives a good account of Mother Goose; Mr. Charles Rich makes a humorous Jack; Mr. Fred Barnes as Lord Pudsey renders his songs in excellent style; Mr. Henri Dore is very effective as Websey Slack; Mr. Charles Lee is the Mayor of Tapham, and Mr. Charles Homer as the Demon do well; Miss Violet Romaine is a charming Fairy and possesses a fine voice; Miss Lola Patey makes a capital Gretchen, her singing and dancing being loudly applauded; Miss Ethel Hall is very taking as Colin; and Miss Vena Velma as Jill is responsible for some very clever dancing. An augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Sydney Shaw.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton. — Mr. Harry Burne's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is presented here twice nightly. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is a very attractive Robinson Crusoe, her catchy songs being loudly encored; Miss Fanny Harris is a charming Polly Perkins; Miss Gertrude Martine as Tommy Bolini takes well; Miss Lillie Hayes scores as Bessie Barr; Mr. Arthur Aiston as Will Atkins creates roars of laughter; Mr. Mack Stuart is very funny as Dame Crusoe; Messrs. Tray and Rich as Captain Cuttle and the Mate, Mr. Dan Hendy as Friday, Mr. Couth Griffiths as King Hannibal are very successful. Bert Coote's Troupe of Yankee Doodle Girls contribute several interludes.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Will Netta's Singing Jockeys head the bill, and are well received; Algie is a juggler of rare skill; Martinet and Wallace are a pair of clever musical comedians; the Reays take well in acrobatic feats; Rickaby and Davies, comedians, have some excellent patter; Leigh Leicester, vocal comedian, is very entertaining; the Northcotes, harmonising duettists, are loudly applauded; and Harry Nelson is as popular as ever.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — The Hippodrome. — Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—A pathetic and realistic little sketch, entitled *The Silver Medal*, is capably portrayed by Irene Ross and Martin Henry. The comedy playlet, *The Married Widow*, is presented with success by Mr. Fred Moule and company. Lennard and Vereker place before the public one of the most pleasing and artistic pictorial song acts we have seen; Chas. Leighton's tramp studies and harmony at the piano are witty and well executed; Mayme Cannon is a refined and charming comedienne; and also to be noted are Reg Ewen, Frank G. Street, and the perfection picture depicting Boy Scouts to the Rescue.

STOURBRIDGE. — Alhambra Theatre and Palace of Varieties.—General Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—A good programme includes the Three Cyclinis at the head of the bill—they secure much applause for their Football on Bicycles; Morelli and Moore have a capital speciality which goes well; Miss Lilly Rose has a good voice and sings some sweet songs; Sam Warren is rightly named "The Funniosity"; the Rurals are smart with their Harvest Home; Rita Sylvanie, a comedienne, completes the list.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company is presenting the drama *The Marriages of Mayfair* to enthusiastic audiences here. Mr. Paul Beckett acted with power and earnestness as Jim Callender; Miss Naomi Neilsen was a graceful and sympathetic Bess; Mr. Robson Paige submitted an artistic character study as Lord Adolphus Villiers; Mr. Dennis Cleugh proved himself a capable exponent of villainy as Nigel Villiers; and Miss Conyers Radcliffe gave a faithful impersonation of Dorothy Gore; as also did Miss Mildred Cottell of Lady Villiers.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is presenting *From Convent to Throne* here. Miss Mary Fulton gives a faithful portrayal of Princess Maritza; Miss Katherine M. Davies as the Mother Superior and Miss Dorothy Leal as Lady Violetta both do excellent work; Mr. Graham Woods is well placed as Lieut. Von Hapsburg; and Mr. Wm. Passmore as the General submits a capital performance. Messrs. Wm. J. Millar (Baron Streslau) and A. F. Stuart (Prince Maurice) do well with great opportunities as stage villains. The comic element is in the able hands of Miss Maudie Grayson (Rosella), Miss Lissa Young (Caspar Jessen), and Mr. T. G. Vane (Lieut. Otto Felson).

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading a good bill here this week are "The Russian Singers," who are being warmly received; Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are amusing; Great and Good present a clever acrobatic display, freely interspersed with humorous antics; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams appear to advantage in a pretty song-scena, "The Mermaid of Margate"; Laurence Barclay is an acceptable comedian; and Jennie Alexander, mimic, supplies a turn of much interest.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A large audience gathered here on Monday evening to witness a good programme. Little Lola, dancer and contortionist, gave a clever turn; Harry Angers was very successful in his singing and dancing; and Lola and May supplied a good gymnastic item.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids* is on a welcome return visit. Miss Mabel Medrow does well as the dignified Lady Brudenell; Mr. William Spray puts plenty of "go" into the part of Lieut. Sam Brudenell; a commendable performance of Lieut. Frank Meredith is given by Mr. Herbert Lugg; Mr. Bernard Vaughan makes an excellent Dr. O'Byrne; Mr. Edwin Dodds evokes roars of laughter in his interpretation of Joe Mivens; Eliza finds a capable exponent in Miss Edie Martin; Miss Kathleen Sinico enacts Wilfred in a pleasing manner; Miss Edna Russell is very good as Helen; Miss Kitty Kirwan portrays Miss Penelope Pyechase admirably; and Miss Dorothy Grasdorff charmingly represents Peggy. The smaller characters are in able hands, and the chorus is well balanced.

TODMORDEN. — Hippodrome. — Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is presenting the pathetic play *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. A fine impersonation of the Rev. John Alberry is given by Mr. Hubert Helliwell; Miss Agnes Collier is a realistic Alice Walters; and as her father Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell acts admirably. Mr. Percy Sinclair makes a dashing Jack Walters; and Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough is mainly responsible for the humour of the piece, being ably seconded by Mr. Louis Weston. Mr. S. Leigh Courtenay strikingly portrays the villainous Squire Stonely, and other parts are in capable hands. The management is offering prizes to the public for singing the song "As your hair grows whiter."

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is successfully presenting a romantic Venetian drama *The Tyrant*. Mr. Roy Fortescue is convincing in the title-rôle, and equally successful is the Homodei of Mr. P. Follis; Mr. E. E. Louis is well placed as Prince Rudolph; the careless Victor is ably assumed by Mr. W. Summers; and Mr. F. Luard depicts the worried Nobbs; Miss M. Robson gives a capital representation of Tisbe; and Miss Jean Scott does well as Lady Catherine.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—Tennyson and Wallis score heavily here, as does Randolph King, protean artist; Hicks and Hunter provide a novel turn; Andrews and Thompson do well in a vocal scena; the Sisters Slater are neat dancers. The leading films shows the Paris Floods.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Topping the bill are Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait in a comedy sketch; Ike and Will Scott create a hit; Amy Clevere is a charming comedienne; Tom and Neil provide a comedy boxing act; Nellie Walton meets with favour; and J. P. Carroll and Bert Davies are well received. The programme is concluded by the Empiroscope.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company is paying a return visit here in the musical play *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. The principal rôle of Dorothy Montrose is capably taken by Miss Gertrude De Lacy, whose vocal efforts meet with much acceptance; Miss Kathleen Stewart as Ruth Montrose does very well; and Miss Nellie Harcourt, who appears as Judith, introduces some clever step-dancing; Mr. George A. Fox gives a manly interpretation of the hero, and his rendering of the Territorial song is very popular; Mr. Robert Gilbert is little less successful as the villain, and Mr. Francis Trevor ably assists him as Hawkins; Mr. Dean Cliffe is exceedingly amusing as Featherston Haugh; and Mr. James Salter keeps the house in continuous laughter as Silas Crump.

WAKEFIELD.—Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*The Passing of the Third Floor Back* is presented here by Mr. Ian Robertson and a capital company. Mr. Ian Robertson invests the title-rôle with finish and culture, his acting throughout being of the highest order; Miss Helena Parsons is good as the servant, Stasia; Mr. W. O. Billington is seen to advantage in his natural portrayal of the bookmaker, Joey Wright; Mr. J. Woodall-Birde plays with ability as Christopher Penney, the artist; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is successful as Major Tompkins; and Miss Lena Delphine is admirable as Mrs. Tompkins. The part of Vivian Tompkins is filled with great charm and taste by Miss Barbara Everest; Mr. Stanley Brown does well as Jake Samuels, as does Mr. Herbert Garthorne as Harry Larkcom; Miss Druscilla Willis fills with care and ability the part of Mrs. Kite; Miss Blanche Ripley gives an effective rendering of Mrs. de Hooley; and Miss Jeannie Thomas is exceedingly smart as Mrs. Sharp, the landlady. The play is preceded by an interesting curtain-raiser, entitled *Come Here*, in which Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Wilson Blake, and Miss Barbara Everest successfully appear.

New Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Henri Cazman, protean artist, gives some clever impersonations; Miss Florence Yaymen, coon vocalist and dancer, is very entertaining; Jack Rae, comedy gymnast, is droll and smart; Phinias and Aida give a capital exhibition of hand balancing; Mr. Martin Coyne, comedian; Leon, chorus vocalist; Mr. Arthur Albert, comedian, delight with pleasing items; and Belford and Mars, comedy artists, find much favour.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Cattaneo Troupe of acrobats give a fine performance; Hinton and Wootton play football on cycles, and receive merited appreciation; Driscoll and Beattie and company, in a sketch, *Major McFee*, are popular; Rose and Wold are skilful wire walkers; Mr. Harry Bancroft, comedian, has a good reception; Miss Beattie Bloom is a dainty comedienne; and Wisper, comedy juggler, completes the bill.

WALLSEND.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Duffy; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hy. Hearn.—Ida Kessanley and her troupe of well-trained fox-terriers hold the place of honour this week, and are accorded a hearty reception; Edwards and Ward score in their comedy numbers; Dene and Dixon are seen to advantage in their refined entertainment; Jack Birrell, in dancing act; Lily and Harry Zonanis, in juggling scene; the Martons, in comedy duologue; Mr. E. patterer with pictures; the Evalos, in gymnastic turn; and the Adeles, in second sight and telepathy act, complete the programme.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court. — Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here with *The Arcadians*. Mr. Charles A. Stephenson is very amusing as James Smith, and his versatility is unlimited; Mr. Alfred Beers submits a quaint study of Peter Dooley; and plenty of go is infused into the character of Jack Meadows by Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald; Mr. Cyril Lane is good as Bobby; and dramatic force marks Mr. Wallace G. Court's portrayal of Sir George Paddock; Miss Molly McIntyre acts and sings charmingly as Eileen Cavanagh; and gracefulness is associated with every movement of Miss Sybil Tancredi, her vocalisation winning warm approval; Miss Violet Roberts is well placed as Chrysea; and Miss Gertrude Aylward is distinctly successful as Mrs. Smith. The play is well staged, the chorus evenly balanced, and the augmented band under Mr. Wells Knight does well.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Pantomime is again the order here, and Edwin C. Jazon's company in *Cinderella* have scored well. Miss Molly Doon, in the title-rôle scores well, and her singing and dancing alike are excellent; Miss Vera Mayne is a dashing Prince Bulhunt; and he has a faithful lieutenant in Miss Jenny Clare; Mr. Will Penn scores as the Baron; and as the ugly sisters the Misses Crosby and Walker are seen to advantage; Miss Jessie Jukes is a winsome Dorothy; and a charming fairy is Miss Pattie Varley; as Buttons, the baron's page, Leo Fields scores. The scenery is good, and the specialities by the Sisters Varley, Musical Keiths, Crosby and Walker, and the Coulsons are all good.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* is presented by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company, a very excellent body of artists. Miss Doris Brookes as Molly Vernon has a difficult part, which she fills admirably; Miss Maggie Hobart is good as Rose Seymour; and Rev. Robert Everton is admirably portrayed by Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle. The play is excellently staged.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—There is a return this week to the pictures which, however, are interspersed with some fine turns. A. G. Spr is a versatile comedian who sings well; Mlle. Ogilvie is a clever impressionist; Jack Trevor introduces a smart roller-skating turn; and the Laurie Bros. are clever acrobats; James Browntree sings well; and the Haydn Trio provide a novel musical act.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Mr. Fred Karno's company, in *His Majesty's Guests*, is once more visiting here. Mr. George Hester as Sergeant Lightning keeps his audience in one continued roar of laughter; Miss Winnie Bradfield is excellent in the character of Lady Maud; Mr. E. O. Freshwater is capitally suited in the part of Lord Easem; and some first-class character work is done by Mr. G. Gordon as the Rev. Mr. Minks and Miss Annie Wright as Miss Manley.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—W. Selkirk's company, of some hundred children and pipers, in their performance are thoroughly enjoyed; Lydia Yeamans, ever popular, is adding a host of admirers to her already great number; the performance of the "Lucky Tramps," Heeley and Meeley, contains much that is original; Sammy Shields' football monologue is simply irresistible; Edie Reynolds's violin solos are exceptionally refined; Harry Simms, light comedian, entertains well; Arthur Slater's whistling scena, *Morning, Noon and Night*, is very pretty and effective; and another attraction is the bioscope.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. A. Austin's company is here with *Cinderella*. Miss Mabel Austin makes a dashing Prince Charming; as Dandini Miss Phyllis Leslie excels; Miss Eva Swinbourne is fascinating as Dabette; Miss Gertrude Bond sings with expression as the Queen of the Fairies; Miss Gladys Liggett's terpsichorean efforts as Woodbine (the principal dancer) are really clever; Miss Maidie Harrison makes a dainty Cinderella; Mr. Tom Read is a comical Pickles; Mr. Newhan is extremely good as Seraphine; and equally successful is Mr. Latimer as Bedella. The Baron finds a worthy exponent in Mr. F. E. Ellis.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is appearing here in Sir Arthur Pinero's famous piece *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. Mr. Andrew Money cleverly enacts the character of Aubrey Tanqueray; and Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy makes an easy-going Cayley; Mr. F. Douglas Howard is capital as Sir George Orreyd; and Miss Marie Ramuz is good as Lady Orreyd; Miss Veronica Clinton is a charming Eileen; and Miss Nellie Statham as Mrs. Cortelyon is excellent; Miss Henrietta Schrier appears in the title-rôle, and her performance is of high artistic merit.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—*Claudian* is being presented by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company. Mr. Maclaren's performance in the title-rôle is wholly successful. Miss Lily C. Bandman, the daughter of Mrs. Bandmann Palmer, presented the rôle of Almida with much success.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—An excellent cinematograph and variety entertainment holds sway here, with crowded houses. The artists appearing are Ryde and Beeman, grotesque eccentrics; Carlos Menard, trick violinist; the Tymes, in novel song scena *The Enchanted Clock*; and Alsopp and Beckwith, in comedy duo.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard.—Although this is the third visit to the town of H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company with *Lucky Durham*, a crowded house gave both play and players an enthusiastic welcome on Monday. Mr. Edmund Kennedy gives a remarkably fine portrayal of John Durham, the intensity of his acting at times holding the audience spellbound; Mr. Arthur Leigh is in every way excellent as the Hon. Reginald Steighton, a part with which he has long been associated; Lord Mountfallon and Mr. Vallerton have effective representatives in Mr. William Calvert and Mr. Charles Wemyss; Mr. John Hartt submits a clever character study as Tasker; Mr. W. F. Clitherow plays Ben Vernstein with effect; and Mr. Frank Elton is a success as Arthur Walcombe; Miss Nellie Bonser is simply perfect as Mrs. Durham; Miss Florence Tressilian does full justice to the rôle of Helen Vallerton; Miss Frances Wolvison is good as Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Dorrie Turner is a pleasing Margaret Steighton.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Bros. Horne in *The Biter Bit*; Orpheus proves his versatility as a musician by some excellent instrumental solos, including the new ecclephone; Owen McGiveney is a protean artist of no mean ability; Amber Austa scores heavily with her song, "Oysters," and eccentric dance; Cissie Lupino is a clever transformation dancer; another pleasing saltatory turn of a different type is furnished by Harold Heath; and Charles Denton, comedian, and Will E. Harries, vocal character comedian, are also in the bill.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond present *Aladdin* this week. As Mrs. Twankey, Mr. Clarence Turner is decidedly droll; Mr. Pulo as Wishee-Washee is responsible for some clever juggling; the Brothers Lavelle do some excellent tumbling as Pee Lah and Kopp-all, and Mr. Charles H. Gallier makes an excellent Emperor; Miss Hettie Zillwood is a charming principal boy; the Sisters Wingrove are a clever pair of duettists and dancers; Miss May Wyatt as a 'cello soloist wins applause; and the Venester Troupe of dancers also put in some good work.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The films are a good set, including In Little Italy. The variety is good also, with Harry Harvey, Tyneside comedian; and Cliffe and Vauston, comic patterers.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—Boreskis with comic concoctions, are a clever turn; the Kurious Kenmores make everybody laugh; and Edward Hope, tenor, sings well.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—An exceedingly rich treat was provided during the first three nights of the week and at a matinée on Wednesday, when Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and H. Browning presented their company, including Mr. Rutland Barrington, in the society play *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Barrington delighted audiences as the Marquis of Steventon; Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes gave an admirable impersonation of Jack Frobisher; Mr. F. Bridgeman was excellent in the part of Harry Dallas; and in the rôle of Hankey Bannister, Mr. Russell Barry established himself a favourite; Miss Gwendoline Hay was clever as the Lady Alethea; and Miss Ethel Trevor Lloyd scored as Lady Westerby; the character of Lady Lucy Derenham was in the good hands of Miss Hilda Sims; and Tiny Mornington was acted with skill by Miss Doris Digby. On Thursday evening and during the remainder of the week the same company presented *A Member of Tattersalls*.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The Three Rochesters (Betty, Adolph, and Babs) top the bill here this week and give an entertaining drawing-room performance, in which the smallest barefoot sand dancer in the world, it is claimed, appears; the next biggest attraction is a répertoire and humorous sketch produced by the Vaudevilles, who are well received; Harry Waldon, a versatile comedian, causes considerable amusement; and Miss Gladwys Marion is a dainty comedienne and dancer. The Bioscope pictures maintain the high reputation aimed at by the management in this part of the entertainment.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Still another pantomime, *Aladdin* this time, capitally played by Mr. Chas. Elderton's excellent company. Miss Maudie Vincent is particularly pleasing in the title-rôle, singing with much dash and go; Miss May Gibson gives an artistic rendering of the Princess, using an excellent voice with great effect; the Sisters Terry are great favourites in parts which give ample scope to prove their worth as entertainers; Mr. Harry Harrop gives a distinctly humorous impersonation of Abanazar, indulging in numerous well thought out witticisms; Mr. Will Beanland is immense in every sense as the Widow; Billy Melia is lively and funny as Wishy Washie, dancing cleverly; and Messrs. James and Alexander as the Policement are clever comedians, and make a decided hit, their dancing being of a high order of merit. Special business is introduced by Li Chang-Hi, magician; the Cameron Quartette of male voice singers; Claremont and Victor, comedy acrobats; Stean and Melia, song and dance; the Mimosa Troupe of Juveniles; and the clever Lottie Stone Quartette of excellent dancers.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Ernest Shand's efforts have delighted large audiences; Howard and Harris repeat their clever and amusing sketch; the musical items presented by the Carina Sisters never fail to please; Master Edmund Kershaw uses his fine voice with full effect; Neville and Moss present a popular operatic duo; Les Supriskis are attractive lady gymnasts, who give a startling turn; Rauschles, Duncan, and Brasque, in the burlesque scene *My Lancashire Wife* do well; and Mr. Harry Wenburn's absurdities go well.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—A capital show is presented to large houses. Kitty Hildrew, a charming soubrette is well received; Barry Mills is a taking comedian; Snowball and Mac are humorous; and Freddy Mavis dances himself into favour. Of the pictures, An Alpine Echo and A Corsican Romance are, perhaps, the pick of a fine series.

On Monday night Mr. Clifford Alderson's company, in *The Coal King*, opened to a crowded house at the Hoyland Hippodrome. Mr. Henry Deane is a manly Tom Roberts, and a sinister Walter Harford is found in Mr. Robert Faulkner. Mr. Frank Dalton as Dick Shirley, the villain's unwilling accomplice, is excellent, and as Sir Reginald Mr. Hartford is all that can be desired. The humorous element is introduced by Mr. Sam Roberts as Jim Williams, ably assisted by Miss Effie D. Crawford as Araminta Green. Miss Winifred Love is a sweet and sympathetic Grace Shirley, and Miss Dennis Duncan as Mad Ann is excellent.

On Wednesday afternoon a special matinée was given at the Hippodrome, Southampton, for the Mayor's fund in aid of the sufferers from the Paris floods. A capital programme was supplied by the full Hippodrome company, supplemented by artists from *The Dollar Princess* company, Hippodrome, Portsmouth, and Hippodrome, Boscombe. Excellent pictures of the Paris floods were shown, and the entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by a fashionable and crowded audience, including the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman C. J. and Mrs. Sharp). Over £100 will be handed to the Mayor's Fund as a result of this effort.

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

For nearly three hours at their meeting on Monday the Barry Urban District Council had under discussion the question of permitting Sunday amusements in the district. The matter arose from an application by Col. J. A. Hughes, C.B., solicitor, on behalf of Mr. Sidney Bacon, both gentlemen being in attendance, for a licence for the holding of Sunday cinematograph entertainments at the Romilly Hall, Barry, which building has recently been opened by Mr. Bacon as a cinematograph show. Mr. F. P. Jones-Lloyd, another leading local solicitor, also attended, and made a similar application on behalf of Mr. Leon Vint for the old Salvation Army Hall and Barracks, Thompson-street, Barry Docks, which will be opened as Vint's Electric Palace on Monday (Feb. 21).

At the outset Mr. W. R. Lee (vice-chairman) said that the councillors had visited the Romilly and Thompson-street Halls, and found nothing structurally to prevent them being duly licensed under the Cinematograph Act.

Colonel Hughes thanked Mr. Lee, and asked that permission be also granted for the holding of Sunday concerts. He pointed out that for the past nine Sunday evenings entertainments had already been held at the Romilly Hall, and the attendances thereat had been the greatest of the week. He desired the permission for three months as a trial, and Mr. Bacon was prepared to submit the programme week by week for approval by the Licensing Committee. He (the speaker) had no desire to introduce a Continental Sunday at Barry, but the young people of the district wanted somewhere to go to on Sunday evenings, and these entertainments were certainly more desirable than the political clubs or walking about the streets. The entertainments would be held after the places of worship were closed, and Mr. Bacon was quite prepared to abide by whatever decision the Council came to as to what hours the place should be opened.

On behalf of his client Mr. Jones-Lloyd agreed with everything Mr. Hughes had said.

Mr. C. B. Griffiths proposed that the necessary licence for three months be granted both parties, the programme to be submitted week by week for the approval of the Licensing Committee.

Mr. J. A. Manaton seconded.

Mr. John Williams, chairman of the Committee, moved that the matter be referred back to the Licensing Committee for further consideration.

This was se

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Sunday Picture Shows to Stop.

THE London County Council on Tuesday decided that cinematograph shows should be allowed on Sundays only when given by some recognised society or organisation unconnected with the premises concerned, and then not for private gain or by way of trade. Mr. Montgomery was in favour of allowing premises in respect of which licences are granted under the Cinematograph Act to be open on all days, including Sundays, provided that the employees are given one day's rest in seven. He said there had been a good deal of disappointment in London that the present Council had not thrown off the incubus of Sabbatarianism which had prevailed during the previous life of the Council. He understood that something like 500,000 people patronised these cinematograph entertainments in London on Sundays, and it was quite certain that they could not be there and also in the public-houses. On the moral question he could not grasp the distinction which made it quite proper for people to look at the pictures on the walls at the National Gallery on Sundays and quite wrong to look at moving pictures elsewhere. The Rev. Stewart Headlam was of opinion that there was nothing in the Christian religion to prohibit people from going to see a cinematograph show on Sunday afternoon, but the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett thought the great development of this class of amusement was harmful to the public mind, and damaged the power of serious attention to serious subjects. Mr. W. R. W. Peel said that the Municipal Reformers were determined to do nothing to encourage Sunday labour or weaken quiet and restful observance of the day.

Film House Headlines.

A NOTEWORTHY feature of the month's output of the Film House firms is the strength of the comedy element. There is no need for a showman to deplore the dearth of good laughter-producing films when he has such excellent examples as The Terror and the Terrier, Aspirants to the Hand of Helen, and the "Foolshead" series to choose from. One of the largest buyers of London expressed the opinion, on seeing the first-mentioned film, that it was destined to be the comic success of the month. By common consent "Foolshead" surpasses himself in his current contribution. A record has already been made by this series, by the way. Some thirty odd films have been issued, and yet each new subject is looked forward to with the keenest expectation by public, showmen, and renters alike.

Foolshead at the Ball.

THIS is an Itala film, 640ft. in length. Foolshead assumes the character of an impecunious young man who picks up in the street an invitation to a ball. A call on an artist friend quickly solves the costume difficulty. Foolshead selects an evening suit which has only one drawback—it is white in colour instead of the conventional black. A detail like this does not for long present any difficulties to a gentleman of so inventive a disposition as our hero, and the artist is soon busily engaged in applying a generous coat of black paint to the suit, and Foolshead sets out for the ball a perfect model of a well-dressed man about town. Foolshead knocks accidentally into a butler, and leaves a black smudge on that functionary's irreproachable white waistcoat. Foolshead's painful wrigglings to escape contact with his fellow-guests, his refusal, even at the call of supper, to leave his chair, lest he disclose the black stain he knows his clothes have made on the white upholstery, and his extraordinary behaviour in sticking like a leach to the side of a lady in order to cover the stain he has made on her white costume are among the funniest things even this popular favourite has done. Uproarious laughter will greet the further scene in which, having left a silhouette of his figure on a piece of white tapestry, he is forced to remain with his back against the wall until a number of guests have passed. The responsibility for the black marks on costumes, furniture, and walls is rightly laid at Foolshead's door. Another laugh will greet the last scene, in which he is thrown out of the door and leaves a long black smudge on the pavement.

A Cow as Cupid.

ALL ON ACCOUNT OF THE MILK is a Markt film, and a biograph comedy of a modern Hero and Leander. The Leander of our story is named Hiram Hopkins and Hero, Sophia Simpson. The housemaid at the Simpson villa is taken sick, and Miss Sophia, the young lady of the house, essays to do her work. Donning the maid's long apron, she busies herself amongst the pots and pans of the kitchen. Not far away there is a building in progress, and Hiram is the contractor of the work. That he may the better inspect the progress of the work, he attires himself in a suit of overalls. At noontime he expresses a desire for some milk, and his foreman offers to get it, but he asks the way and goes himself. Here he meets the pretty little Sophia, for it is from Simpson's maid that they have procured milk. Of course, he thinks she is the maid, and she thinks him one of the labourers. He gets the milk habit, coming over for the milk as often as is consistent. He is always sure to be garbed as a labourer for fear of frightening the little maid off, and she is always alert to be attired in the maid's apron, fearing if her labourer-lover knew her station he would be inclined to discontinue his visits. The contractor's mother arrives at the building with a message calling him to the city. Before he goes he must say good-bye to his little housemaid sweetheart, so he calls and tells the gardener, who loves the real housemaid, he wants to see the maid. The maid is called, and, of course, she knows him not, nor does he know her. This is a relief to the gardener, but the mistress, Mrs. Simpson, views him with suspicion, and orders him from the place. As he leaves, Sophia espies him, and rushing into the kitchen, snatches up the maid's apron, putting it on as she chases after him. The gardener from a distance thinks her his sweetheart, dashes up, only to be embarrassingly mistaken. However, while telling the kitchen maid the experience Sophia's mother appears, and, overhearing, at once starts out after her daughter, who she hears is in the arms of a common labourer. Hiram's mother has gotten impatient, and has started out to look for him, coming upon the trio just as Mrs. Simpson is pitching into Hiram. There is at once a mix-up between the two materfamilias until suddenly the two recognise each other as old-time friends. It may be recorded as the first time that a cow has played Cupid.

The Bioscope Novel.

MR. A. G. HALES, whose record as war correspondent and novelist is well known, is to have some of his "Poems and Ballads" reproduced on the Bioscope. The scheme has all the marks of a twentieth-century success. The thing, indeed, has almost been done already: some of the more elaborate French and German Bioscope arrangements are in the nature of short stories. Mr. Erskine MacDonald is acquiring a number of cinematograph theatres in London and the provinces, as an adjunct to his publishing business, and at these picture palaces he intends to publish pictorial representations of novels and poems which admit of illustrative treatment simultaneously with their appearance in print in the ordinary form.

Some Commonsense Remarks.

WRITING to the *Scotsman*, Mr. Wm. J. Hay sensibly remarks that "nothing seems to me more absurd than the clauses of the Act dealing with cinematograph entertainments, by which the operator is to be enclosed in a ponderous and unwieldly structure. It shows that the framers of the Act never had to deal with panic in an audience, for no possible protective isolation can prevent the panic in case of accident, except the coolness of the operator. Should he lose his head for one moment, the catastrophe of a panic would be accentuated by the fact that the audience were in ignorance of what actually was taking place in the event of accident. I had the experience last night of keeping an audience in good humour while trying to repair a leak in an acetylene gas jet. It took close on half-an-hour to get things so that I could proceed with my exhibition of slides. The coolness of my assistant and myself passed the accident off as an unexpected and trivial affair. My advice to all operators is—Work in the open. When they see that you keep cool whatever accident occurs they will be so interested in what you are doing that all thought of personal safety is forgotten, and thus panic is prevented."

Telegraphing Living Pictures.

SOMETHING rather more tangible than television has been devised by a French inventor, Edouard Belin, who is making an apparatus by which a series of photographs can be telegraphed one after the other instantaneously, and reformed so as to give a cinematograph reproduction of an event at any distance away. M. Belin uses a paper photograph of quite an original type as the sending "record." M. Belin's paper records consist of innumerable perforations in a sheet of paper, each hole of a certain size and corresponding to the dots of a half-tone photograph. This is laid on a metal base and drawn along under a set of metal brushes; the wider the hole, the more contact there is between the brush and the metal underneath. By this means the amount of electric current sent to the distant viewing screen is varied. The currents of various strengths are made to illuminate more or less strongly small portions of the viewing screen, each of which corresponds to a perforation in the picture transmitted. By passing a series of cinematograph photographs under the brushes at the transmitting station a reproduction would be seen with all the original life and motion in it. The practicability of the idea has already been tested between a suburb of Paris and a station in Paris itself.

La Pia's Pictures.

A WONDERFULLY fascinating series of dances have been added to the already strong programme at the Palace Theatre this week. These are presented by La Pia, a French dancer of exquisite charm and grace. La Pia's fire dance is one of her most effective achievements, while her last dance of the series, "The Spirit of the Waves," in which she appears bathing in the sea with the waves, admirably reproduced by means of the cinematograph, realistically breaking over her, was deservedly applauded by the crowded audience.

French and Germans.

ALTHOUGH the cinematograph seems to please most persons, the films emanating from French houses seem to be giving offence in Germany. Some of the French pictures depict the war of 1870, and it goes without saying that the German is not painted more beautiful than he really is. The consequence is that patriotic Germans are incensed. They say that these pictures libel the Fatherland throughout the world, so they call upon their countrymen to boycott all French cinematograph establishments.

A Novelty for Picture Palaces.

THE manager of the Shaftesbury Hall, a new palace to be shortly opened in the Kingston-road, Buckland, has hit upon a unique advertisement. Outside the hall is placed one of Mr. Lonsdale's pictures, "Find Who You Know," and across the frame a slip is printed to the effect that a prize will be given to the person who sends in the most names correctly of the artists whose portraits are in the picture.

Cinematograph of Murder.

THE Japanese military photographer, who, prepared merely to record Prince Ito's reception at Harbin railway station, actually cinematographed his assassination, has sold his film for £1,500 to the Japan Press Agency. The film will be shown to the Japanese Imperial Family and Prince Ito's relatives before exhibition in public.

New Companies.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE (LTD.).—Feb. 10. £10,000, in £1 shares. Dewar House, Haymarket, W.

NEW EMPIRE ELECTRIC THEATRES (LTD.).—Feb. 8. £500, in £1 shares.

CINEMATOGRAPH INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (LTD.).—Feb. 11. £2,000, in £1 shares.

CONSOLIDATED CINEMATOGRAPH CO. (LTD.).—Feb. 12 £47,000, in 40,000 10 per cent. Pref. shares of £1, and 140,000 Def. shares of 1s. 5, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, S.W.

SHIPTON ENTERTAINMENTS (LTD.).—Feb. 12. £500, in £1 shares. 26, High-street, Andover, Hants.

KINO HALLS (LTD.), CINEMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINERS.—Feb. 14. £2,000, in £1 shares (50 Def.).

One of the Pike Circuit.

ONE more attraction will be added to the many attractions of London by the opening of a Cinematograph Theatre in Oxford-street, close to the Tottenham Court-road "Tube" Station. The new establishment belongs to the circuit controlled by Mr. Montagu A. Pyke, who already has cinematograph houses at Finsbury-park, Edgware-road, Walham Green, and Ealing. Another house will be opened in Windmill-street, Piccadilly, next week, and it is hoped that the series may ultimately extend to the number of twenty-five. The Oxford-street Theatre, which is under the management of Mr. Lynd-Martin, is a tasteful building in the Renaissance style, decked out in white and gold. Accommodation is provided for an audience of 450. There will be a continuous performance each day from one o'clock till eleven.

The L.C.C.'s Weak Spot.

A CORRESPONDENT suggests that before shutting up Sunday cinematograph shows in order to give employees one day's rest in seven, the L.C.C. should begin with their own staff, amongst whom (particularly the tramway employees) the seven days week is greatly in vogue.

A Fine Travel Film.

AT the Kensington Picture Theatre this week one of the remarkable films presented gave most interesting views of Washington (U.S.A.) and district. It comprised a panorama of the Potomac River front and its traffic; the outskirts of Washington; a coast defence battleship; passenger steamers which ply between Washington and New York; the Capitol, Washington—a grand view of the great Parliament House; the White House, residence of the President, and its grounds; Ford's Theatre, scene of President Lincoln's assassination; the house where President Lincoln died; house of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star-spangled Banner"; panoramic views of Mount Vernon, General Washington's home; and the tomb and shrine of General Washington, first President of the U.S.A.

Picture Palace with Private Boxes.

THE Cinema de Paris, off Leicester-square, opened last Saturday under the management of Mr. Markwell, and has been well patronised since. The hall has been specially built by Mr. Henry Bey, the managing-director of the Casino de Paris in Oxford-street. The hall has a 90ft. throw and seats 400. One of the novel features in its construction is the incorporation of three splendidly upholstered and fitted private boxes. The charge for these is 8s. and 6s. respectively. This latest addition to luxurious "picture palace-dom" is also fitted with sliding roofs, specially contrived to admit air and not light, so that when the balmy summer evenings, to say nothing of hot days, arrive, the place may be as cool as cool can be. Pathé films have been shown this week and are an excellent selection. We wish Mr. Markwell and his directors every good fortune. Their enterprise deserves it.

Pictures for Kingston.

PLANS have been submitted to the Kingston-on-Thames Corporation, and approved, for a picture theatre, which is to be erected without delay upon a commanding corner site on the Richmond-road with a return frontage to Cromwell-road, and exactly facing Kingston railway station. Mr. Walter Phillips, of 48, Bishopsgate-street Within, is the architect, and he has designed a hall which will hold nearly 400 people, and precise regard has been had to the new Home Office regulations. A private company, with a capital of £20,000, is being formed to erect this and several other new picture theatres in Surrey and Sussex.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—There is a capital selection of films at this hall in Station-road, and the management deserve the support, for they are certainly bidding for patronage in a way that will bear fruit, by putting forward a good programme. Several pictures are shown, including dramatic, instructive, and comic, amongst those being: In Memory of His Mother, Servant to an Acrobatic Family, Sold to Thieves, The Gambler's Wife, Ice Industry in Sweden, Braving Death to Save a Child, and Dying of Thirst.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Crocker.—The management reproduce a series of very interesting Bioscope pictures of the recent Paris Floods. Another scenic reproduction of beauty and interest is the film, The Gorges of the Aude, whilst other pictures are The Antiquarian's Tricks, Tickling the Servant, The Death Disc, Simone, &c. Fred Leslie sings and helps in the success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Good business continues to be done by the Messrs. Broadhead with animated pictures. This week's bill begins with a "rib-tickler," What Happened to Brown. If you want a good, hearty laugh, come and see! Her Sister's Sin appeals to the sympathetic and tender emotions. It is a soul-stirring drama. Love and Treason is also a very exciting series of happenings. In the domain of humour there are several very good films. In a Chalk Quarry is, perhaps, rather of the series of films that is informative and educative. The comic section includes the Runaway Stove, very ludicrous; Unlucky Dog and A Quiet Honeymoon are also provocative of hearty merriment. Mr. Alan Wright, lecturer and baritone vocalist, introduces several songs.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks.—This week's films are attractive in various ways. The Russian Girl's Heroism is a familiar story, but it is worth reproducing again and again; it is so full of human nature, and touches humanity at all points. A Case of Cowardice is also a very exciting film—the details arrest and retain attention; The Little Foundling has its touching phases, although on the whole it is a pleasing story; Lancelot and Elaine is a Tennysonian poetical romance of the days of chivalry—King Arthur and his knights. Elaine loves Lancelot, a knight who goes forth to battle and is slain, and Elaine dies from grief. Face to Face is a story which has many hard phases. Mr. Marks has secured as a special vaudeville turn for the week the remarkable-voiced Australian male soprano, whose ballad singing is a real treat.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The leading film for the week at Messrs. Weisker Brothers' Picturedrome is Lieutenant Rose, R.N., and the Robbers of Fingall's Cave. This is a naval subject, picturesque and highly dramatic. It recalls the thrilling adventures of some of the heroes of the Waverley Novels. The Fresh Air Fiend pictures in a very comic way the adventures of a man who would have fresh air. Frances Hanlow, coon singer and dancer of varied styles, won favour; Mme. Angelina, a noted juggler, shows skill with the cup and balls, knives, cannon ball, &c.; two youthful assistants do some clever acrobatic work.

AYR.—PICTURE PALACE.—An excellent programme of pictures is submitted this week. The White Sea Fisheries is wonderfully realistic, and is considered the best film ever seen here. A Mother's Love is a show in itself. For the last three nights of the week The Floods in Paris are to be shown, and should be highly interesting in view of the recent happenings in the gay city.

BIRMINGHAM.—KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Animated pictures are always a big draw at this hall, and in spite of numerous rival attractions, the popularity of the programme is unaffected. There are several first-class dramatic subjects on the bill this week, including A Drama at Sea and The Pet of the Ranch, which excite keen interest. A plethora of amusing films is also a strong feature, the programme in this respect being right up to date. Edie Le Brunn, child juggler and dancer, and Marie Taft, serio, are well received in vaudeville items.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The entertainments given here are of a bright and attractive order, and the hall is still growing in popularity. The best of a good series of pictures shown this week is a dramatic subject entitled Lieutenant Rose. There are also numerous interesting comic films, including An American Marriage, Ma Learns to Ride, and interest is added by clever music-hall turns.

CANTERBURY.—THE PICTURE PALACE.—The great fight between Johnson and Burns is attracting full houses at St. Margaret's Hall, while Thursday's novel competition—guessing the number of the audience present for a real live pig as the prize—caused great amusement. The varied dramatic and humorous films are all good.

CARLISLE.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—Into the Shadow is a picture of great pathetic interest; The Captive is full of stirring incidents; A Tale of the Olden Time also appeals to lovers of adventure. Some good humorous films are A Journey to the Middle of the Earth, and The Short-sighted Sportsman. Other good films submitted later in the week are Mr. George Grossmith and Mr. Edmund Payne in scenes from *Our Miss Gibbs*, The Poacher's Revenge, The Test, and Grandfather's Story.

CHELMSFORD.—THE PALACE.—General Business-Manager, Mr. Charles F. Meadows.—Jury's Imperial Animated Pictures provide an exceptionally good programme this week. The subjects, both grave and humorous, receive continuous and well-merited applause. The pictures deserving of special mention are A Duel in Mid-Air, The Drunkard's Son, Watchmaker's Invention, Bear Hunting in the Arctic Regions, and Father Christmas.

DARWEN.—ALBERT HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Crowded houses are the rule here. This week among the principal films are The Stage Driver, The Garibaldian Boy, Scrogins puts up for Blankshire, and Love of Mother. Jackson and Marte, patter comedians; Stayart, musical specialist; and Tom Bradley, bass vocalist, also appear.

DEWSBURY.—INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—A very interesting series of animated pictures are shown here this week to very good audiences. The principal picture is a very fine one of the Flood in Paris, which is is a very lengthy and attractive film; Senorita is a thrilling Mexican drama; The Acrobat—one of the Nick Carter series—is a fine picture and very popular; Tempered with Mercy is a splendid dramatic picture, and the same must be said of The Mountaineer's Honour, a story of the Kentucky Hills; and a most interesting picture, A Gold Mine Exploited by Hydraulic Pressure, was well received. The Winter's Tale is a laughable comic, and a Sticky Proposition is another one; Best Man Wins is also an amusing film.

DONCASTER.—NEW HIPPODROME AND ELECTRIC PICTURE PALACE.—At the Sanitary Meeting of the Doncaster Corporation last week the plans for the new building in Printing Office-street, at the corner of Pells-close were finally approved. It is proposed to commence building operations at an early date.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The reputation of the B.B. Picture Company is upheld this week by another magnificent programme. The majority of the views depict in realistic manner incidents in the lives of inhabitants of the various parts of the world, and prove both interesting and instructive. A finely coloured film, entitled The Ranchman's Rival, reveals a love-making episode in the Wild West, the showing up of a false suitor for the hand of the ranchman's daughter forming one of the features of this film. Taming Wild Horses in Buenos Ayres is a most exciting picture, showing the hardy horsemen mounting and subduing the fiery steeds of the plains. Other pictures include The Engineer's Daughter, What Happened to Brown, and Choosing a Mother-in-Law.

EDINBURGH.—PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—On the Big Horn is an outstanding film here this week. It is a story of General Custer's last stand, one of the most heroic deeds in America's Indian warfare. Lieut. Rose, R.N., is a strong, effective representation of kidnapping, and To Save Her Soul gives an opportunity for a dramatic series of pictures. The humorous subjects are varied, that of Found in a Taxi being especially funny. Cavalli proves himself to be a smart conjurer, and Miss Nettie Hawthorne sings well.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Mr. Sanders again provides his patrons with a programme, in which the dramatic and humorous are admirably blended. Several of the pictures are as fine as anything to be seen in this class of entertainment, and the musical part of the performance is exceedingly good.

FOLKESTONE.—The Town Hall is filled twice daily by enthusiastic audiences, to witness the fine exhibition of life motion pictures given by T. J. West's No. 1 English company of West's pictures, under the direction of Mr. T. W. Kingston, the operator is Mr. Ernest J. Whiteley, and the capital incidental music arranged by Miss Violet G. Head. The new English violinist, Miss Ethel Mouland has excited universal admiration in the musical circles of the town. The star film is a most realistic series of views of the Floods in Paris.

GATESHEAD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—The principal items on this week's bill are Two Women and a Man and The Cursed Cage. Bell and Lawson, two clever song and dance artists, are also in the bill, and make an entertaining turn.

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Allan and McDonald; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. S. Newton.—Two "strong" pictures, in The Señorita and A Woman's Repentance, together with the "turn" of Jack Barrie, an amusing Scot, are the chief items on "show" here.

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Black; Acting-Manager, Mr. Victor Carter.—A picture of special merit, named To Save Her Soul, has created a great impression here this week. Another dramatic item, Saved from the Sultan, is highly approved also. Capt. Alex Fox ventriloquist, and Olive Lizette, a local songstress provide enjoyable interludes.

GLASGOW.—GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A bright and entertaining programme of pictures, humorous and dramatic, is provided for the patrons of this house by the B.B. pictures. Bessie Lawn, vocalist, and Harry Wright, extempore vocalist, add to the pleasure of the evening.

GLOUCESTER.—THEATRE DE LUXE.—Another good picture show; going well.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—THE GEM.—Managing Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—A very entertaining set of pictures is being exhibited this week. A dramatic subject, entitled In Little Italy, the scene of which is laid in the Italian Colony of New York City, is very stirring; Messrs. Grossmith and Payne appearing in an excerpt from a well-known musical comedy is the subject of a very amusing film. Miss G. Vane contributes two excellent songs.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank L. Clayton.—Some interesting and attractive pictures have been exhibited here, including "A Corner in Wheat, The Dance of Fire, Custer's Last Stand, Adventures of a Smoker, The Cure of Cowardice, The Arrest of the Duchess De Berry, and The Grandfather's Story; while the singing picture, My Rainbow, proves a very popular item.

HANLEY.—KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw.—The pictures shown this week are fine, and include The Two Brothers, A Pair of Shoes for Nothing, His Reformation, The Way to the Cross, After Twenty Years, and A Midnight Adventure. Walter Ford, the popular light comedian, is received with great favour.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxted.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues to provide the sole amusement here, and is immensely popular. Fools of Fate is a splendid picture replete with dramatic interest as also are The Bunch of Violets and The Love that was Lost. There is much to attract in The War of 1912, which suggests many possibilities in warfare. There are many films of a lighter character, principal among which are The Detective's Bag and A Cycling Honeymoon.

KIRKCALDY.—CORN EXCHANGE PAVILION.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. G. Lee.—Ever up-to-date, the London Safety Bioscope Co. are placing before their patrons films of the Paris Floods, which give a most realistic idea of that terrible catastrophe; An Auto-Heroine is a most thrilling picture; Foolshead as Sportsman. The Grafter, Mireille, The White Nigger, Towards the Moon, The Fool's Revenge, are the most important of the other spools. Jessie Star is accorded a most flattering reception at every performance.

LEAMINGTON.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The entertainments here increase in popularity, and again this week we have to record splendid business. A first-rate programme of all-round excellence is provided. A grand dramatic production entitled Lieut. Rose, R.N., provides some thrilling incidents, whilst A Cowboy Romance is also another beautiful film, very sensational and exciting. Other pictures of unusual interest and amusement include The Dance of Fire, Paris from the Eiffel Tower, Into the Shadow, Not What He Expected, and Little Toy's Dream. Miss Mina Langton, who has been most popular whilst here, concludes a successful engagement. She sings illustrated songs, displaying a beautiful soprano voice of wide range and flexibility. Mr. Bert Williams adds to his previous triumphs by his clever reciting of "A Midnight Charge," which he gives with remarkable effect.

LEICESTER.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The Consequences of a Lie and The Road to Love are the two star pictures at this home of animated photography, which are supported by The Street Waif, The Convict's Dream, Picturesque Tiflis, Robson's Heel Pads, The Slave, My Word, if I Catch You Smoking, The Hunting Meet, Left Out, A Pig Chase by Aeroplane, and The Strong Arm of the Law. Tom Desmond, tenor robust, a local turn, is fulfilling a second engagement.

MAIDSTONE.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—This new electric theatre opened its doors this week, and has been attracting large audiences with some up-to-date films, and should prove successful.

NORTH SHIELDS.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—An interesting and up-to-date programme is presented here this week. Pine Ride Feud is a fine picture; An Indian Wife's Devotion is also well received; and Captain Devereux and his clever dogs appear, and win hearty applause.

GAIETY PICTURE HALL.—The management here again provides a good bill of fare, which includes The Ranchman's Rival, The Late Guest, Choosing a Husband, &c. Master Isbister appears in illustrated songs, and is warmly greeted.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital programme is provided, the principal film being a very fine one entitled Adrienne Bertraux. Taming of Wild Horses is a picture full of daring, and a good description is shown of Dutch Types. Thelly's Heart is excellent, and a Good Winning is also very good. Father Milon is a fine picture, as is The Stepmother. Some amusing films are given, Golf Mania being very good, and include several others of merit. Mr. Don Cameron also contributes "Bombardier."

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lester King.—The Blind Farmer is a good dramatic film, as is A Life for a Locket. The Indian is a picture full of life, the subject being well studied; Foolshead Wrestling is very funny; and Juggins at the Photographer's causes amusement. Amongst others are You Will Pay for It, Herring Fishing, The Runaway Stove, and Terror and Terrier. Mr. King sings with success.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Business is very good here. The topliner is a strong dramatic picture, The Madwoman of the Ruined Castle, and The South Before the War is descriptive of the old slavery days. Servants and Masters is a picture full of comedy, and Nick Carter as an acrobat is very funny. Other films are shown with much success.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—The first anniversary of the opening of this hall occurs this week, and the programme is a very good one.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, the Manchester Electric Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—This theatre was opened on Saturday evening last as a "Picture Palace." The exterior and interior of the theatre have been artistically beautified, and now present a most attractive appearance. Both houses on Saturday was excellent, and predicted a successful time for the management. The films shown were: Change of Heart, Little Willie's Trip to the North Pole, The Dragoon's Helmet, A Dangerous Pair, How the Cook Got Married, The Life of the Bee, Dolly's Double, The Paris Floods, and Logging in Canada.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE and ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent new animated pictures this week include A Daughter of Shylock, The Five-Storey House, Leopard Hunting in Abyssinia, The Young Rascal, and Noel (a drama). Mr. Tom Sherlock also sings two popular songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond; Company Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Poacher's Revenge, Soldier Turns Servant, William Radcliffe, The Cowboy's Sweetheart, Incorrigible Mary, Mother of the Condemned Man, Mr. Porlock's Marriage, Foolshead, and the Timid One are among this week's films, interspersed with "She's the queen of the factory," and "You all want something to cuddle," sung by Mr. Gilbert.

SPENNYMOOR.—PICTURE PALACE.—Another good programme is put forth for the patrons of this building during the week, which is highly appreciated by the gatherings. The films of note are Comedy and Tragedy, Red Wing, Gratitude, Sweet Revenge, How Mr. Brown Married, and Woman's Repentance.

TOWN HALL.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The speciality at this place of amusement is undoubtedly the fine display of pictures, which have given general satisfaction. The principal subjects are Story of a Circus Life, Boy Hero, Duel in Mid-Air, and Blind Man.

SUNDERLAND.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Pictures and Variety Company.—Foremost among the pictures here this week are Fenton of the 42nd, and a humorous item, Choosing a Husband. The variety is also of a high order. The Five Olracs, acrobats, perform daring and amusing feats with equal ease; the Millwards give a pleasing novelty entertainment; and the Godfreys provide an acceptable musical act.

SWINDON.—COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—This house, which is undoubtedly an acquisition to the town, was opened by the Mayor of Swindon on Saturday last, and large business has since been done. A high-class cinematograph entertainment portraying all the latest events will be given each week, with an entire change of films on Mondays and Thursdays. The programme for the first portion of this week is excellent, and includes films of Don Cæsar de Bazan, Pygmalion, and New South Wales.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—A fine programme is presented this week by the Martell Vaudeville Company, the house being packed on Monday evening. An instructive film, showing the gold mining industry in all its branches, is shown; A Bunch of Violets is a fine drama; while the Lessons in Wrestling are very humorous. The Troubadour is a beautiful pantomime, the castle scenery being magnificent; a pretty scenic picture of the Valley of the Matterhorn, in Switzerland, is also shown.

WALLSEND.—PREMIER PICTURE HALL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. McDonald.—Excellent business is being done here, and the new gallery recently added to this commodious hall has met with the approval of Mr. McDonald's numerous patrons. Chief among the pictures this week are Building a Trans-Continental Railway, a Butcher film of excentional interest; Three Reasons for Haste (Essany); Hayman and Haughton, comedians, are appearing this week, and on Monday night received a flattering reception.

WARRINGTON.—CENTRAL THEATRES AND ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Lieutenant Shackleton's pictures depicting the South Polar Expedition are proving a great attraction here this week, and they are certainly very instructive. Other views showing The Bandit's Daughter, Father has Gone to Sea, are good films. Capital turns are supplied by the Merrions, versatile entertainers, La Bella Greta, comedienne, and Laurie Leighton, boy ventriloquist.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Black; Manager, Mr. F. G. Hill.—Black's Pictures continue to be a household word here, their popularity is maintained, and ever on the increase. One film this week, Cleopatra, is magnificent in its arrangements and exceedingly artistic; Her Sister's Sin is another excellent picture, which meets with considerable appreciation; Basket Making is a subject of considerable interest and particularly clear; Blissville, Incorrigible Mary, and The Labour Dispute are really funny and well carried out. A picture intensely dramatic and thrilling is The Ranchman's Rival. The Marvellous Howards in a second-sight entertainment, and George Battle, character vocalist, contribute enjoyable variety to the programme.

WHITEHAVEN.—MARKET HALL.—Some really excellent films are being shown here this week, prominent amongst them being Through the Breakers, A Cowboy Romance, A Corner in Wheat, Judgment, the Widow's Reward, and the Best Man Wins. Steve and Dunn, comedy artists, also appear with considerable success.

WIGAN.—PAVILION.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—An excellent display of pictures is shown here this week, the chief one being The Pet of the Big Home Ranch, an American romance; a very interesting picture is The Bride and Bridegroom Visit the Zoo. Others include The Little Teacher, a story of school life in America; The Scarf of the Lady, The Chase for Wealth, and Leather Stocking. The comic films are Grin and Win and The Theatre Cat. Songs are rendered during the evening by that charming vocalist, Miss Freda Hardeen.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—There is another splendid programme here this week, and excellent business is the result. Saved by His Sweetheart is one of the finest dramatic pictures seen here; Toilers by the Sea is full of interest to the spectator; A Russian Girl's Heroism depicts a dramatic story; The Captive is a sensational picture of high-class merit; A Trip Through North Wales proves of more than usual interest to the many patrons; and plenty of fun is provided in Are you John Brown? Suicide as a Profession, and Little Bengy's Hypnotic Influence. Within sixty seconds of the goals being scored at the football matches at Molineux Grounds on Saturday afternoons, the result is shown on the screen here, and during certain intervals during the day the correct time is also thrown on.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr J. W. Bynorth.—An excellent array of pictures is again shown. An exciting and magnificent picture is Western Bandit, a Tale of the Wild West, and The James Boys of Missouri, which shows the outlaws' exciting incidents with great effect; and Onowanda, an Indian Love Picture; a splendid picture is Motor Boat Racing; the amusing element is given by Stolen Favourites, Betty's Choice, and An Uncontrolled Motor Cycle; An Electric Transformation is a beautiful picture. Miss May McPherson and the Cinephone, as usual, have excellent songs.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Farce, by R. C. Carton, entitled

"MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS."

A booking on which the enterprising Mr. J. B. Mulholland can be cordially congratulated is that of Mr. Weedon Grossmith and his carefully-selected company in Mr. R. C. Carton's cleverly-written and droll farce *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and large audiences have this week revelled in the funny situations and witty lines contained in this most mirth-provoking piece. The all-important part of Hamilton Preedy is fortunately undertaken by the creator, Mr. Grossmith, who gives a perfect character-study of the nervous but chivalrous little man who is placed in such an awkward predicament through befriending "the Countess." His impersonation throughout evoked the heartiest laughter, and is quite one of the best this clever comedian has ever given. An excellent selection is that of Miss Ruth Mackay for the difficult part of the Countess, the actress being admirably suited in every way for the rôle of the calm, resourceful woman of the world, and giving an easy and finished performance, on which she can be heartily complimented. The over-bearing, burly Bounsall was an impersonation that could not be improved upon in the hands of that experienced actor Mr. Murray Carson; Mr. Ronald Squire was an aristocratic and admirable Earl of Rushmere; the Hon. Robert Jennerway was amusingly portrayed by Mr. Edward Bonfield; Mr. Oswald Marshall cleverly suggested the senility of the aged Lord Kinslow; and Mr. George A. Seager as the solicitor Mr. Sidgrave was excellent. Mr. Frank H. Denton as Reginald Saunders and Mr. Arthur B. Murray as Preedy's manservant Bilson contributing effective impersonations. Miss Lydia Rachel and Miss Evelyn Kerry made the most of their opportunities as Mrs. Sidgrave and Emma; and the lady's maid Harriett Budgen was cleverly enacted by Miss Lynn Fontaine. The farce was mounted and dressed in quite the West-end manner. It was preceded on Monday by a playlet, seen for the first time on any stage, by Robert Lascelles, entitled

"A BALL OR A MOTOR."

Algy .....Mr. Lyonel Watts
Elfrida .....Miss Marjorie Dore
Filmer .....Mr. Oswald Marshall

This amusing trifle mainly consists of a discussion between a young couple, Algy and Elfrida, as to whether they shall buy a motor or give a ball to their many acquaintances. They are evidently not sufficiently affluent to indulge in both luxuries, and eventually come to the conclusion, somewhat reluctantly, that they will give the ball, and name the many guests to be invited. Being novices at the business, they think it wise to ask the advice of their manservant Filmer, a very superior person, who has been in more aristocratic service, and is continually letting them know it. He sneers at their modest proposals, and the result of his suggestions is that the couple will have to spend at least £500 on their reception and dance instead of the £200 they estimated. Finally they are so irritated with Filmer that they discharge him, and, coming to the conclusion that their acquaintances are not worth the expenditure of such a sum, decide on the motor, and the chauffeur shall look after the car and wait at table. The playlet was admirably enacted by Mr. Lyonel Watts as Algy and Miss Marjorie Dore as Elfrida, Mr. Oswald Marshall contributing a capital study of the suave and superior Filmer.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Four-Act Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled

"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke presents the Lyceum version of *The Christian* at the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre this week, and very excellent fare it is for the commencement of the Lenten period. The piece is well mounted and staged, and in many cases excellently acted. The Hon. John Storm, the warm enthusiast and eventually fanatical preacher of the Gospel of Christian conduct in deed as well as in word, who blows the trumpet and causes the walls of conventionalism and the whited sepulchres of hypocrisy to crumble and fall, is exceedingly well played by Mr. Henry Wolston. He acts with much latent strength and impressiveness, and carries the audience with him in his varying moods and fierce emotions, just as the hero of the novel is supposed to have led captive his converts. Miss Gladys Purnell is equally charming and delightful as the romantic and ambitious girl, Glory Quayle. Mr. John Hastings Batson has a fine attractive part as good old Father Lamplugh, and he makes the most of the part, his fine resonant voice and gentle manner being exactly suited to the part. Mr. Charles E. Dering as Archdeacon Wealthy, the very antithesis of his gentle and conscientious fellow-worker in the vineyard, is entirely excellent in this unthankful part. Mr. Fred Morgan is duly sinister and saturnine as the thorough-paced scoundrel, Lord Robert Ure, and Mr. Wilfred Noy is quite satisfactory as the well-meaning but wild and misled Horatio Drake. Miss Mollie Hayden rejoices in the crisp, incisive strength of Mrs. Callendar's character and utterances, and Miss Alice Leigh is good as Jennie. As poor Polly Love, the victim of baseness and unscrupulous worldliness, Miss Gladys Vernon is pathetically powerful. Mr. Roger Milton as Lord Storm, Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Parson Quayle, and a host of others are efficient in minor rôles. Mr. Frank Brandon is business-manager for the company, acting with Mr. Eade Montefiore, the clever and courteous resident-manager for Mr. Robert Arthur, and Mr. Louis R. Fergusson, who enacts the small part of Mr. Buckley, undertakes the duties of stage-management.

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."

Pantomime, by Newman Maurice, Produced at the Brixton Theatre on Monday, Feb. 14.

Robin Hood .....Miss Maud Esmond
Red Riding Hood .....Miss Dorothy Millar
Granny .....Mr. Newman Maurice
Jack and Jill .....Sisters Yorke
Fairy Bluebell .....Miss Grace Rosaire
The Wicked Wolf .....Mr. King Penrhyn
Lawyer Fox .....Mr. Charles Leverton
Baron Badlot .....Mr. Nat Lewis
Pen and Ink .....Messrs. Cedar and Algar
Margery Daw .....Miss Florence Harriss
Miss Muffet .....Miss Chrissie Higham
Dolly Dimple .....Miss Sylvie Silver

A season of pantomime at Brixton has been succeeded by another, *Little Red Riding Hood* following immediately in the footsteps of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The production is limited to one week, and crowded audiences have hastened to renew acquaintance with their favourites, many of whom are appearing in the present piece. The pantomime is in eight scenes, chief of which is the Elfin Dell in Summer, which is changed with marvellous rapidity to the Dell in Winter, wherein a pretty Snow Ballet is performed amid a cloud of descending flakes. The Village of Rusticano and the Forest Glade are also charming sets, and the Interior of the Palace provides a brilliant spectacle, the stage being thronged with a gorgeously-arrayed crowd, who move in a mazy dance.

The artists who have secured such favour during the recent pantomime were enthusiastically welcomed, Mr. Newman Maurice, who again figures as the Old Woman, coming in for a particularly warm welcome. He was the means of unceasing merriment as Granny, whom he decorated with locks of extreme ginger hue, and his acting, singing and dancing throughout were irresistibly quaint. Miss Dorothy Millar retains her part of principal girl, and her refinement and grace as Red Riding Hood are as agreeably conspicuous as ever. She shared in the success of a lively song and dance with Mr. Maurice, and her solo "I used to sigh for the silv'ry moon" was encored.

A fresh principal boy, but an old pantomime favourite, is seen in Miss Maud Esmond, who received a right hearty welcome. She is a bonnie and blythe Robin Hood, ever alert and vivacious, commanding admiration in many tasteful costumes. Her voice is heard in many songs, "Charlie Brown" early appealing for favour, which is enthusiastically accorded. "Sea, sea, sea" is equally well received, and the melodious refrain "I can picture Polly" so takes the ear of the audience, that it is sung all over the house, and has to be many times repeated. New-comers also to Brixton are Messrs. Cedar and Algar, who are liberally supplied with opportunities for fun as Pen and Ink, and take full advantage of them, with a corresponding access of laughter. The clever comedians have a medley in which the titles of plays are wittily adapted to different meanings, and for their "Forty Years Ago" duet they receive overwhelming applause. Mr. Nat Lewis is again fitted with a part as Baron Badlot in which his individual humour is given full play. He scores repeatedly throughout, and makes a particular hit with his "See-Saw" song, in which aid is lent by a gentleman in a private box, with whom the comedian carries on a diverting conversation. Mr. Charles Leverton is a sly and sinister Lawyer Fox, and gives a droll rendering of "I love to be beside the sea." Miss Grace Rosaire is again the leading spirit of the fairy realm, and once more delights the audience with her singing, rendering "Violets" in cultivated style and with much expression. Mr. King Penrhyn represents the opposing forces as the Wolf, whom he acts with dramatic force. A number of juveniles accomplished in song and dance contribute a series of turns, in the Bedroom scene, which arouse enthusiasm, and a speciality of the Palace set is the remarkable performance of Edward Levano, who turns somersaults with one hand holding a knife pointed to his cheek and the other firing a revolver. It is a thrilling performance, and one that meets with an ovation. The members of the chorus do their work thoroughly, and the music, which is arranged and composed by W. T. Gliddon and Frank Bradsall, is smartly rendered by the orchestra.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 14,

"THE FIRES OF FATE."

That stirring play, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Fires of Fate* has proved a strong attraction at Kennington Theatre this week as presented by Mr. Vedrenne's company. In its representation by the company under the direction of Mr. George Parrington the interest is sustained to the full throughout the four acts. In the part of Colonel Egerton Mr. Stephen T. Ewart makes a distinct hit, his remarkably able impersonation winning the warmest praise; Miss Ruth Bower makes a fascinating and lively Sadie Adams, the heroine; and Miss Lydia Hayward is a bright figure as Mrs. Belmont. Mr. Charles Francis gives a clever sketch of the character of Dr. Roden, the eminent physician; whilst the part of the sturdy, if eccentric, Congregational minister, the Rev. Samuel Roden, who will not palter with his faith either in freedom or captivity, could scare be more vividly portrayed than by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan. Mr. Alfred Sandoe furnishes a splendid study of Abdulla, the philosophic Dragoman; Miss Gwendolen Floyd is well placed as Miss Adams, Sadie's aunt; and Mr. Frederick Worlock is exceedingly effective as Captain Jack Archer, the leader of the rescue party. Mr. Stanley Logan supplies an element of humour as Cecil Brown, in which direction he is supported by Mr. H. Maule as Mr. Brodie, the Scottish tourist, and Mr. Gerald Mirrielees, the excitable Frenchman. Mr. G. T. Lambert interprets the somewhat difficult rôle of Sidi Mohammed, the Dervish spy, with great skill, while Mr. Everard Vanderlip and Mr. Dennis Bryan are imposing and picturesque figures as Arab chiefs. Mr. Arthur Ansell is rather good as the fussy old butler, and Mr. Edward Coventry deserves mention as Mr. Thomas Belmont. There is quite a cloud of Dervishes, Soudanese soldiers, and negroes, whose efforts materially assist in the success.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Drama entitled

"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's full and efficient company worthily presented Hall Caine's powerful drama on its return visit here, and succeeded in giving the greatest point and interest to all its many strong situations. The special scenery and Icelandic dresses gave much local colour to the production. Mr. Ernest Rivarz as Stephen Magnussun, the Governor of Iceland, invested his part with dignity and pathos, and Miss Barbara Gott as Anna, his wife, was able to introduce some pleasing comedy into her acting, especially in her scenes with Margaret Nielson, a peppery yet frisky old lady, ably depicted by Miss Marie Harcourt. Mr. S. H. Humber was quite equal to the rôle of Oscar Stephensson, the prodigal, whose weak yet artistic nature leads him into such sorrow and unhappiness. The virile rendering of Magnus Stephensson by Mr. H. Montgomery was excellent, his fine voice and manly appearance well fitting him for the part; his grief and passion were strong and moving, yet without exaggeration. Miss Betty Castle made Helga Nielson an unprincipled siren, and her by-play and expression were most effective. Miss Valerie Crespin imparted much pathos to the part of Thora Nielson, the wife of Oscar, and her reappearance as the daughter Elin was also a success. Mr. Fred Manners was good as the Sheriff who reads the betrothal contract, and Mr. George W. Hewetson looked well and acted judiciously as the Pastor. Dr. Olsen was cleverly portrayed by Mr. Charles Brownless, and the sinister Director of the Casino was appropriately enacted by Mr. Bernard Merefield. Mr. Arthur Hall gave a weird sketch of Eric Arnasson, the broken-down gambler, and Mr. Fred. Ritchen was natural in the small part of a croupier at the Casino. Miss Beatrice Sinclair made a smart serving-maid in national costume as Gudrun, and Mr. Bertie Murray as Neils Finsen was good. Mr. G. R. Goodfellow as John Vidalin and Mr. Harold Dobson as an American senator did well, and Miss Dorothy Harding was a dashing Lady Slingstone. Mr. J. M. Glover's incidental music was efficiently rendered by Mr. Leonard Gautier's orchestra.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Melodrama, by Walter Howard, entitled

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."

After a week of Italian grand opera there was a return to melodrama at the Kingston playhouse on Monday night, when *The Midnight Wedding* was staged by a capable company under the direction of Mr. Alfred Paumier and Mr. Walter Howard. Melodrama is always to the liking of a Kingston audience, and the house was in consequence well filled, the patronage given being also satisfactory during the rest of the week. The romantic story of the adventures of the dashing young Paul Valmar was followed with keen interest, Mr. Alfred Paumier, who appeared in the part of Paul, making hosts of friends in every part of the house by the fine portraiture he presented of it. Almost equally successful was Miss Margaret Brodie, who presented a powerful impersonation of the Princess Astrea; Mr. A. B. Winnington Barnes acquitted himself with remarkable ability as Capt. Rudolf von Scarsbruck; and a similar remark is applicable to the acting of Mr. Charles Whitlock, who appeared as Lieut. Eugene von Streisburg, and to Mr. John Nesbitt, who impressively portrayed the Crown Prince. Good work is also done by Miss Jessica Black as Kathie and by Messrs. J. E. Page, St. George Freer, and Algie Spalding. The play was admirably mounted in every detail.

DALSTON THEATRE.

Once more patrons of the popular theatre at Dalston are taking advantage of enjoying some of the best-known musical works which are being performed by members of Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company, with full band and chorus, under the direction of Mr. T. Lawson. There was a full house on Monday evening, when *Tannhäuser* was given and much appreciated. The Tannhäuser of Mr. F. J. Hargrave gave the greatest satisfaction, and the fine voice of Mr. T. Griffiths was heard to advantage in his assumption of the part of Wolfram. The Landgrave of Mr. Harry Reynolds and the Biterolf of Mr. George Ridding were also excellent; Miss Jeanne Jeune was Venus, Miss Doris O'Brien was the young shepherd, and that popular singer and actress Miss Sarah Williams was cast for Elizabeth. Balfe's *Bohemian Girl*, which formed the programme for Tuesday evening, proved as popular as ever, Miss Grace Parish appearing as the Gipsy Queen, Miss Beatrice Hill as Buda, and Miss Jeanne Jeune as Arline. The part of Thaddeus was undertaken by Mr. E. McIntyre, Mr. Frank Clarke was Count Arnheim, Mr. George Ridding was Devilshoof, and Mr. P. Newton Florestein. The operas in connection with which Mr. J. W. Turner's name is associated are *The Lily of Killarney*, in which for Wednesday evening he was cast for Miles na Coppaleen, and *Maritana* for this evening, in which the name of the popular tenor is underlined for Don Cæsar. *Il Trovatore* and *Faust* also figured in the week's bill.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Drama,

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."

After a very successful pantomime run Mr. Charles Barnard opened his dramatic season with the above-named drama, presented by a capable company under the management of Mr. Fred Bulmer. Mr. Louis Lingard distinguished himself by a straightforward and manly rendering of the heroic Capt. Frank Julian. Mr. Austin Mortimer imparts a sufficient amount of villainy to the character of Rupert Murdoch; and Mr. Evan Roland provides a good study and causes much amusement in the important character of Adolphus Boomer; Mr. Reg. Oldroyd gives a droll impression of the lackey, James Yellowsocks, and Mr. Ernest Dare as the blind Sergeant John Harvey, V.C., is responsible for a subdued yet interesting performance. Miss Lalla Stanhope plays the part of Violet Harvey in a simple but impressive manner, and Miss Sybil Houghton is to be congratulated upon a good study of the dipsomaniac, Eleanor Merton. Miss Mary Dalby is amusing as Molly Smart; and Miss Chrissie Dunbar gives an excellent performance as Madge Harvey (the girl who went astray). The play is well staged, and the minor characters are well played. The tuneful selections by the orchestra and the animated pictures shown on the Bioscope at the end of the performance form welcome extra attractions. Mr. Sydney Barnard is in command in front.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Musical Fairy Play, entitled

"PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES."

There seem to be still enough clever children about to enable Messrs. Montessie and McLeod to produce a capital replica of Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's successful fairy play. With the new dresses and the remarkably pretty scenery the touring company is handsomely fitted out. Master C. Haviland Chappell as Tommy and Miss Hermione Gingold support the leading rôles with great success, and the latter little lady is a graceful dancer. The Three Elfs are well taken by Miss Faithful, Miss Rae, and Miss Yorke, and tiny Miss Dolly Sommers acts the Herald with delightful gravity, and wins deserved applause. Miss Hetty Kenyon makes a most dignified and gracious Queen of the Fairies, and dances wonderfully. Miss Lucie Caine is good as a very modern Cinderella, and Miss Estelle Thebaud is a charming Sleeping Beauty, while both sing well. Miss Haidee Gunn acquits herself well as Aunt Imogen, and Miss Lucie Evelyn as Aunt Caroline and Mr. Ribton Haines as Uncle Gregory are (appropriately) very much "grown up." Miss Muriel Halston looks well as Molly and acts with charm. Mr. T. P. Haynes is very humorous as Mr. Irons. A word of praise must also be given to the Cat of Mr. Sam Wilkinson and the Beast of Mr. Laurence Utley, while the parts of Prince Frog (Master Cecil Twentyman), Dick Whittington (Miss Joan Maitland), and Beauty (Miss Clara Milvain) were satisfactorily filled. The music was ably directed by Mr. Alfred Rayner.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Drama, entitled

"HERITAGE."

The Marylebone playgoers still keep up a sustained interest in their weekly dramatic fare, so admirably diversified, with a constant change of the latest, instructive, and amusing pictures. Mr. Harry Calden and his efficient company are seen to much advantage throughout the five scenes of *Heritage*, which playlet fairly bristles with excitement from start to finish. As the old nigger, Josephus Orangeblossom, Mr. Harry Calden carries all before him, and his portrayal of the kindly old coon is most praiseworthy. Mr. H. Buxton puts plenty of hard work into his impersonation of Hiram Slowthorn, and his nefarious schemes are ably backed up by his confederate, Moss Cohen, a part suitably handled by Mr. H. Henson in the usual conventional style. Mr. Tom Calden makes a good impression as Ralph Harland; and Miss A. Luxos winningly and sympathetically portrays Ivy Broughton.

Amongst the most popular films screened are A Lesson to Husbands, Uncle Reuben's Courtship, The Little Violet-seller, and Matrimonial Shoes. Appropriate music is played from time to time by the band, under Mr. Ward Bailey's skilful direction, and Mr. J. H. Shotton courteously sees to all in front.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled

"THE SINS OF SOCIETY."

It is no light nor easy matter to adequately present a Drury Lane drama outside the theatre of its original production, for there is no gainsaying the fact that the play is not altogether "the thing," but that scenery also plays a very important part in the series of dramas emanating from the National Theatre. Nevertheless, the difficulties have been skilfully and cleverly overcome in the production of *The Sins of Society*, which is being presented by Mr. F. W. Bolam's company at the Alexandra this week, and those who did not witness the original production can here see the very next best possible to it, for the play is most completely and elaborately staged, and the big effects are graphically and realistically depicted, those representing the Weir and the sinking of the s.s. Beachy Head being, perhaps, the most striking. As Lady Marion Beaumont Miss Grace E. Leslie is to be congratulated on the cleverness with which she handles this by no means easy part. The good-hearted and go-ahead Lady Goldberry has an excellent exponent in Miss Cissie Carlton, who misses none of her many opportunities, and scores all along the line. Miss Rosamund Bunton easily gains for Lady Gwendolen Ashley the sympathy of the audience by her pretty and graceful rendering of the part. As Sir Dorian March Mr. H. Honhote Wilson makes a manly and vigorous hero, and is very much in earnest. An easy and polished performance comes from Mr. C. F. Collings, who makes of Noel Ferrers a most plausible villain, and a neat and finished sketch of Mr. Morris is contributed by Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair. In James Hogg Mr. Maitland Marler has a part in which he evidently revels, and, needless to say, this experienced comedian extracts every ounce of humour from it, and presents it in its most amusing light. The Reverend Martin Hope is impressively played by Mr. Edwin Palmer, and there are many commendable sketches among the minor parts which complete the cast. The play is handsomely dressed, and is equipped with an attention to detail seldom met with in a travelling production.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Drama, entitled

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."

Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' company is presenting *Her Marriage Vow* here this week, and it is proving considerably attractive to patrons of this house. The book is written by Mr. Owen Davis, and the stirring situations, which are numerous throughout the play, are emphasised and appreciated. Nevertheless the comedy portions are in no way neglected, and many merry moments occur in which laughter, both loud and frequent, is heard. The scenic arrangements are all that could be desired. Mr. Edward Avinal depicts the rascally and scheming Gilbert Carlton boldly, and successfully, and meets with suitable recognition. Ned Benton has a capable representative in Mr. Percy Maitland, who acts in a manly style, and who delivers his lines impressively. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles supplies a clever and realistic portrait of Daffy Dan, and does ample justice to this prominent part. Mr. James Skea contributes a fitting impersonation of William Walters, and acts with conviction. Mr. Richard Nugent as Larry Leary supplies the fun of the evening, and makes the most of many favourable opportunities. He is very ably seconded in mirth-provoking by Miss Nancy Lawrence, who as Maggie Clare soon becomes a favourite. Miss Violet Lytton gives a pathetic rendering of the rôle of Kate Walters, and earns much applause. The rôle of Hester Norton is dramatically undertaken by Miss Nellie Shirley, who is seen to advantage in the part. Mr. H. Keith is suitably placed as Jim Burke.

OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Comedy, entitled

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."

On Monday Mr. Norman V. Norman, who is again paying a welcome visit to this theatre, started a week's repertoire by the presentation of the amusing farcical comedy, *The Marriage of Kitty*, a play which has strong claims on popular favour. It is rendered by an excellent cast, every member of which lends admirable assistance to the representatives of the two prominent characters. In *The Marriage of Kitty* Mr. Norman V. Norman is in his happiest vein as Sir Reginald Belsize, and gives an extremely diverting study of the polite and well-groomed aristocrat. He is rewarded with hearty and well-deserved applause. Miss Beatrice Wilson as Kitty maintains her reputation as an amusing comedienne, and is seen to particular advantage in this character, which suits her admirably, and in which she scores successfully. Mr. Frederick Lock imparts much humour to the part of John Travers, and merits commendation. Mr. W. Dillon, Mr. Norman Leslie, and Miss Betty Stannard as Hampton, Norbury, and Rosalie respectively do all that is required of them. The comedy is preceded by a one-act play, entitled *The Man on the Kerb*.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the Comedy, in Four Acts, entitled

"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

Large and delighted audiences have enjoyed this smartly-written and admirably-acted comedy. First honours, of course, belong to Mr. Charles Esdaile, whose Montgomery Brewster was full of life and spirit. He played throughout in a manner which carried all before it. Miss Cicely Stuckey as Peggy was pretty, earnest, and sympathetic. Miss Pauline Strauss was very pleasing as Mrs. Dan de Mille, and her gentle womanly style was very winning. Miss Francis Davie gave a capital rendering of the high-spirited Janice Armstrong. Archie was excellently enacted by Mr. Henry Hampson; Miss Dorothy Whitaker was well suited to the part of Barbara Drew; Miss May Seton played Trixie Clayton vivaciously and well; and Miss Phyllis Stuckey was a satisfactory Miss Boynton. Mr. Frank Hill gave a fine character sketch of Rawles, the butler. Mr. Gordon Ash was a manly and earnest Charlie Harrison; Mr. Robert Forsyth's Mr. Grant was ably acted, and he played with all the ease and effect of long experience. Mr. A. Andrews was a satisfactory Colonel Drew, and Joseph McLeod was well depicted by Mr. Aubrey Mather. Mr. Percival Madgewick was a satisfactory Frank Brogden; Mr. A. Robins made a capable Horace Pettinghill; Mr. H. Douglas Greet gave a good account of Tommy Smith; the rôle of Jack Gardner was in the capable hands of Mr. M. F. Plinge; Mr. A. P. Kaye gave a clever rendering of Monsieur Baye; Mr. George Salven as Captain Perry looked and acted well, and the remaining parts were well handled by Messrs. Green, Harris, Forbes, Richmond, and Yates. The play was admirably staged, and was preceded by *Chalk and Cheese*, in which Miss May Seton, Miss Pauline Strauss, and Mr. A. P. Kaye appeared.

Mr. T. N. Walter brought *The Flower Girl* on a return visit to the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, for the first three evenings of the week, and the event is of special interest, as it was here the piece had its *première* in May, 1908. It has improved considerably, though always bright and attractive. Miss Lena Brickwell is now the exponent of the title-rôle, and fills it very charmingly. Mr. John MacCallum succeeds in constantly entertaining the house as Joe Wheeler, and Mr. Henry Adnes combines direction of the show with an altogether funny performance as Alphonse. Mr. J. Burlington Rigg's dude is clever; Mr. Cyril Delevanti is good as Reginald; and Miss Elen Brettingham is an attractive Lizette; while Miss Eva Brickwell's Suffragette is far more attractive than the average real thing. Miss Idelia May's *pas de seul* is one of the prettiest bits of the evening. *Lucky Liza* finishes the week.

The attraction at the Grand Theatre, Lancaster, is Mr. Chas. Frohman's company, under the direction of Messrs. Williams and Dunn, in *Are You a Mason?* Mr. William Lockhart makes a capital Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Archie Selwyn does exceedingly well as George Fisher; and as Frank Perry Mr. Guy Leigh-Pemberton is all that could be desired. Miss Grace Denbigh-Russell gives a skilful portrayal of Mrs. Perry, and as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood Miss Agnes Maude is very good. Miss Peggy E. Yeoman is to be complimented upon her rendition of Lottie. *My Lady Help* forms a curtain-raiser, in addition to a Vampire Dance by Miss Alice Lyal and Mr. Eric Bert.

Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company, in his own drama, *When Other Lips*, has been well received at the Perth Theatre, Perth. Mr. John Davidson is a gallant Ted Daunton; Mr. Juan D'Alberti an effective Basil Cunningham; and Mr. T. Arthur Jones a quietly powerful Dr. Jenkins; being well supported by Miss Jane Watson as his evil star, A Woman in Black. Miss Marie Daventry plays sweetly as Ruth Lingley; and the humorous element is excellently accounted for by Mr. Charles Preece and Miss Emily Wilson.

"PINNACLES OF THE FUTURE."

Play, in Four Acts, by Daisy Halling, Produced, for the First Time, at the Pankhurst Hall, Hightown, Manchester, on Saturday, Feb. 12.

John Hardy .....Mr. John Donnelly
Ralph Belvedere .....Mr. Eric Crowther
Eric Woodstock .....Mr. Alfred D. Blanks
Mr. Belvedere .....Mr. Sam Kauffmann
Horatio Baldwin .....Mr. Alex. Cochrane
Dr. Udloff .....Mr. Walter Hind
Ned Marks .....Mr. Fred Farnell
Mrs. Belvedere .....Miss Elsie Furlong
Mrs. Martyn .....Miss Annie Pickard
Sarah Marks .....Miss Evelyn Garner
Mrs. Brixley-Taunton .....Miss Daisy Halling

(from our own correspondent.)

"The pinnacles of the future shine through the dawn of a new age." These are the prophetic and inspiring words which John Hardy (otherwise Lord Carthage), the Socialist of the play, writes in the autograph album of Mrs. Brixley-Taunton, in whose drawing-room he has been persuaded by the lady to deliver a short address. Clever and well argued as Miss Daisy Halling's play is, there is something wrong with the idea, which, we venture to think, will scarcely commend itself to the more rational sympathisers with the cause of Socialism as a helpful piece of propaganda.

We are introduced to the chief characters in the shipping office of the wealthy Mr. Belvedere. These are Ralph, the shipper's son, a brainy young man of a sensitive disposition; Sarah Marks, the pretty typist, quiet and self-possessed, whose heart and soul are in Socialism, and among whose acquaintances is the notorious John Hardy himself; and Horatio Baldwin, an amorous old Crœsus of Park-lane, who desires Sarah for a wife. Miss Marks, goaded by the manners and the talk of Mrs. Belvedere, Mrs. Brixley-Taunton, and Eric Woodstock, a dudish aristocrat, involuntarily betrays her politics by a scathing remark; but this by no means prejudices her in the eyes of Ralph, who at the first opportunity enters into intimate conversation with her on the subject of her convictions. As a matter of fact, Ralph is in love with her, and presently makes little ado about asking her, plainly and simply, to marry him. Sarah, however, refuses; all she lives for is Socialism. Ralph, anxious for her sympathy, undertakes to study the subject. In the meantime, a colossal scheme is on foot to acquire a large tract of land in Canada, at a cost of a hundred thousand pounds, for the purpose of a Socialist colony; and it appears that if Ralph were in a position to assure the whole or a considerable portion of this sum for the object in question, Sarah might reconsider her refusal. The discussion is terminated by the advent of Belvedere senior, who strenuously objects to the attitude of his son toward the young lady. Off goes Ralph to buy a parcel of Socialist literature, and the next important thing that happens to the girl he loves is a visit from Mr. Baldwin. This jocose old suitor tempts Sarah with his riches; love for him is out of the question, and it does not take long to settle the matter. For the sake of the cause, she decides to sacrifice herself, and wait for the death of her husband-to-be with what patience she may. The notion is not heroic; it is essentially unfair to both contracting parties, and nothing but dissension and unhappiness could be foreseen in such a resource. The sequel is indeed wretchedness for the woman, for she has now realised that she loves Ralph Belvedere, who has gone abroad in despair; while the torment of her dislike for her husband is increased by the latter's suspicions of her secret preference for John Hardy, who is in the habit of visiting the house on Socialistic business with the lady. A climax arrives in due course. Recurrent fits of apoplexy, accompanied by hallucinations, drive the old man to extremes of jealousy and spite. One day more, and he will baulk his wife's desire for his money by willing it away from her. She, angry and dismayed, follows to his room, and there poisons him. Ralph Belvedere is now once more upon the scene, and it is to him that she makes an immediate confession of her act. Appalled by the upshot, and realising that he has lost her for ever, he eventually adds to the disaster by poisoning himself, having first written a false confession that it is he who has done the old man to death. This writing, however, falls into Sarah's hands, and she destroys it, so that she may confess to the police and take her punishment. The pith of the matter lies in her justification of the act. She has achieved an object which otherwise had been in jeopardy. Her next thought is to go to John Hardy, and justify the thing to him. At first he is revolted, but finally he consents to apply the money that is to come—blood money, as he calls it—to the promulgation of the Colonisation scheme.

The play seems to have been in the hands of no less a personage than Mr. George Bernard Shaw, for the following paragraph is quoted from his opinion of the work:—"It shows a great deal of talent for the stage; there is plenty of fun in it—effective stage fun—and that counts for a good deal. The serious parts are neither false in feeling nor wanting in dramatic force. The different characters are varied, and quite distinctly sketched." Broadly, one may agree with this. As for the acting, Miss Daisy Halling herself sustained the rôle of Mrs. Brixley-Taunton, moving through it with an ease that denoted the accomplished actress. The part, however, is concerned only with the inveiglement of the foolish Eric Woodstock, who found a good exponent in Mr. Alfred D. Blanks. Clever comedy distinguished Miss Elsie Furlong's impersonation of Mrs. Belvedere, while a robust foil to the Socialist element was furnished by Mr. Sam Kauffmann as Mr. Belvedere. John Hardy, a quiet, strong, sympathetic sort of individual, was well delineated by Mr. John Donnelly, the character of the man being further enhanced by the case of Mrs. Martyn, whom he befriends, and whose sorrows were effectively told by Miss Annie Pickard. Mr. Walter Hind played well as Dr. Udloff, and the small part of Ned Marks was acceptably filled by Mr. Fred Farnell. Quite a good performance was submitted by Mr. Eric Crowther as Ralph Belvedere, a clear, crisp, and commendably intelligent impersonation; and this was well matched by the unaffected sincerity and emotional appeal of Miss Evelyn Garner as Sarah Marks. The best dramatic chance, however, was in the hands of Mr. Alex. Cochrane as Horatio Baldwin, and he realised the possibilities of the part, by no means a simple one, with outstanding success.

Mr. Wilson Benge and Co. are presenting *The Sinner* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexborough. Mr. Benge gives a finely-studied rendering of Monk Stretton; the false friend, Edgar Thornhill, is vigorously played by Mr. Chas. Burdon; the nondescript Paul Levaine is cleverly presented by Mr. Alex. Finlayson; Mr. Ulick Burke is a dignified Lord Ewen; Mr. Frank Radcliffe makes a typical fisherman of Bill Stanton; Mr. Jack Kay does well as Chris; Miss Sadie Smith displays dramatic instinct in her treatment of Honor Thornhill; Miss Mona Gray is effective as Meg Thornhill; Miss Jean Wigley makes the most of the part of Vera Ewen; and Miss Dora Ogley cleverly portrays Little Ned.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—Your Grimsby correspondent's report that I was playing the part of the Earl of Kerhill in *A White Man* there last week is incorrect, as I have for some weeks been engaged in Mr. Cyril Maude's company at the Coliseum, and also in *The Arctic* production at the Hippodrome. I played the part mentioned in the last tour of *A White Man*, which probably accounts for the mistake.—Yours faithfully, Cecil Bevan, 12, Durham-terrace, W., Feb. 14, 1910.

"THE EXCELSIOR DAWSONS."

A Comedy of Glasgow, in Four Acts, by R. K. Risk, Produced for the First Time at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, Feb. 14.

John Dawson ..... MR. M. R. MORAND
Mrs. John Dawson ..... MISS ALICE MANSFIELD
Violet Dawson ..... MISS MURIEL POPE
Aunt Mary Dawson .... MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON
Arthur Dawson ..... MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Robert Paterson ..... MR. LAWRENCE HANRAY
Collina Macdiarmid .... MISS IRENE FRANCKLYN
Mrs. Babette Bougon .... MISS NORAH DELANEY
Minnie M'Clintock ..... MISS LOLA DUNCAN
Charlie Sutton ..... MR. PERCEVAL CLARK
Mr. Matthews, K.C. ... MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING
Florence Gordon ..... MISS IRENE CLARKE
Maid Servant ..... MISS EVANS
Vincent Barker ..... MR. CECIL BROOKING
James ..... MR. CYRIL GRIFFITHS
William M'Taggart ..... MR. GEORGE TAWDE
Mrs. M'Clintock ..... MRS. SEPHTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The latest production of the Repertory Company here provided a night's hearty laughter and amusement to a large and demonstrative audience. Of plot, in the ordinary sense, there is little, but the play is full of interesting touches of character. The Dawson family are in comfortable circumstances, and living in the genteel suburb of Pollokshields, but the aspirations of the female members are towards the more aristocratic district of Dowanhill, and the first act is devoted to the task of converting Mr. John Dawson to their views. After much debate he yields, on the sole condition that he will not be asked to give up his "meat tea" for a seven o'clock dinner. Prior to entering on their new home the family spend some time at the Clydeview Hydropathic, and Act 2 shows them meeting a wide variety of people, ranging from a loquacious K.C., and a lady, Bougon by name, who claims to be of Huguenot extraction, to Minnie M'Clintock, a rather vulgar young lady, to whom Dawson's son Arthur had written several affectionate letters in his law student days, when he had been a lodger in the house of Mrs. M'Clintock. Finding that Arthur is now in love with Florence Gordon, the vindictive Minnie tries to set them at loggerheads, and for a time succeeds.

The later acts show the Dawsons in their new home being visited by their numerous acquaintances from the hydro. and by the sharp-tongued Aunt Mary Dawson, whose scathing comments on the art decorations and modern gimcrack furniture are most amusing. The climax is reached when Aunt Mary recognises a former Scarborough landlady in the supposed Huguenot descendant, whose name is not Bougon, but Buggins. The discovery rather spoils the harmony of the Dawson's "At Home" day, and a further exposure takes place in Mr. Arthur's law office when Mr. Matthews, K.C., is forced to acknowledge that he is a retired chemist with an income of 52s. 6d. per week. However, all ends happily. The masquerading K.C. and the Bougon lady pair off, and retire to spend their combined annuities in a giddy round of hydropathics. The tell-tale letters being got rid of, Arthur Dawson is free to marry his later love; and Miss Violet Dawson, who in the earlier acts would have nothing to do with a love-sick plumber, Paterson by name, consents to wed him when she finds he is now an "art plumber." Old Dawson has been approached by a political agent with a view to his obtaining a seat in Parliament, and possibly a baronetcy in the future, on condition of his making a handsome donation to the funds of his political party, and the curtain falls on the Excelsior Dawsons with every prospect of their soaring away from even Dowanhill, Park Lane being mooted as their ultimate resting place.

The new play again provided an excellent part for Mr. M. R. Morand, whose acting as Dawson was convincing and finished to a degree. His quick-witted daughter Violet was cleverly played by Miss Muriel Pope, and Miss Alice Mansfield made a charmingly natural and lovable Mrs. Dawson. The vinegar tones and look of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Aunt Mary emphasised the smart dialogue of the part. Arthur Dawson was made an interesting type of character by Mr. Campbell Gullan, and his fiancée, Florence Gordon, was sweetly played by Miss Irene Clarke. One of the hits of the play was the office-boy of Mr. George Tawde, a grimly-realistic portrayal of the cigarette-smoking youth with a fondness for the reading of "bloods." Mr. D. Lewin Mannering made a clever study of the supposed Matthews, K.C.; Misses Irene Francklyn, Norah Delaney, and Lola Duncan showed three interesting varieties of lady visitors at the hydro.; and as old Mrs. M'Clintock Mrs. Frank Sephton again contributed a clever and pathetic study. Mr. P. Perceval Clark as Sutton, Mr. Cecil Brooking as Vincent Barker, Mr. Lawrence Hanray as Paterson, and Mr. Cyril Griffiths and Miss Evans as servants completed the cast. The play was well staged, and at the conclusion the author was called to bow his acknowledgments of the hearty applause bestowed on his work.

A good reception was accorded at the Theatre Royal, Glossop, to Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. Mr. Edward M. Heanley, in the dual part of Philip Edge and Philip Dare submitted a fine piece of acting; Mr. Alaric Burton made Solomon Sleek a veritable wolf in sheep's clothing; Mr. Harry Scott did justice to the part of Harry Hailing, the lover; and Mr. Julien Mitchell as Mr. Sterling was very good. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne invested the part of Jessie Burton with pathos and power; Mrs. Morton Powell gave a very effective rendering of Minnie Waters; while Miss Addie Cuthbert, in the character of Mrs. Slutt was excellent.

MR. HAMILTON STEWART AND COMPANY paid a return visit to the New Theatre, Cambridge, on Monday, with *Sherlock Holmes*. To the rôle of the renowned detective full justice was done by Mr. Stewart; Professor Moriarty was cleverly played by Mr. Chas. Brandon; Miss Faulkner was sweetly rendered by Miss A. Bruce-Joy; Mrs. Larrabee was effectively given by Miss May Beatrice; Larrabee was well represented by Mr. Arnold O. Raper; Cragin was powerfully impersonated by Mr. G. Potter; Therese was made the most of in a charming manner by Miss Maisie Richardson; Mr. Eric Morgan was also good as the Doctor.

MR. EDMUND TEARLE'S repertoire company is at the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy. In *The Three Musketeers*, given on Monday, Mr. Tearle played the part of D'Artagnan, in his usual accomplished style; King Louis XIII. was well portrayed by Mr. P. P. Millar; Cardinal Richelieu received a fitting interpretation at the hands of Mr. Horace Price; and the intriguing of Count de Rochefort was well done by Mr. Leon Courtville. Athos, Porthos, and Aramis were skilfully represented by Messrs. Stuart Black, Ernest Lodge, and Henry Petitit. Miss Kate Clinton cleverly enacted the rôle of Miladi; Miss Mary Campbell imparted dignity to the rôle of Anne of Austria; and Miss Constantia Brooks was a successful Constance.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. W. Ruddle Brown, general-manager for Mr. F. J. Little's *Forty Thieves* company, was the recipient on the last night of the tour of a handsome case of pipes, tobacco-pouch, and silver match-box from the members of the company, a box of cigars from Miss Marie Reeve, a similar present from Mr. W. B. Parker (musical-director), and a silver match-box from Mr. Harry Maxim and Mr. J. Johnstone.

THE King and Queen, with Prince Henry of Prussia and suite, were present at the performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday evening.

MR. F. R. BENSON AT DUBLIN.

At the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on the 4th inst, readings from Shakespeare's works were given by the members of Mr. F. R. Benson's company and the members of the Dublin Branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, under whose auspices the entertainment was held. Sir Andrew Reed, K.C.B., presided. Those taking part in the readings were provided with seats on the stage. Amongst those present in the boxes were the Dean of St. Patrick's, Captain Bryan Cooper, M.P., and Professor Tyrrell, F.T.C.D.

The chairman said that they who represented the Dublin branch of the Society were honoured with the presence of Mr. Benson and the members of his company, who had come to help them.

Mr. F. R. Benson, who was received with applause, said he appeared before them that afternoon rather as grace before meat; but when he remembered his own inadequacy to fufil his task, he would rather say as a sort of disgrace after supper. Their chairman differed somewhat from another chairman, on a somewhat similar occasion, whom he once heard open the proceedings in the following fashion:—"I don't know much about Shakespeare. I have never read him. I am a busy man, and have not had much time for the likes of that; but my children tell me he is interesting and amusing, and, therefore, I think for anyone who has nothing else to do they might find some profit and a little pleasure in occasionally studying his works." Well, his experience had been different from that chairman, though he believed that in the eyes of the law himself and his company would count as rogues and vagabonds, and when he looked at that house and those reading he was confirmed in his experience that those had most use for Shakespeare who led the busiest lives, whether the lives of statesmen, judges, generals, or merchants; and that, he took it, was one of the reasons why the inauguration of such societies was progressing as it was. He thought that some people might be inclined to say that England, Ireland, and Scotland were not exceptions to what a Frenchman said—that there was no writer of similar prominence, of such admitted prominence as the master writer, whose works were so neglected, and the knowledge of whose writings was so astounding. He was rather inclined to agree with that writer to a certain extent, and that added to one's pleasure at being present on such an occasion. He believed that there was something in that Frenchman's view. When he was passing the theatre on one occasion a man turned to his neighbour and said—"What's on at the theatre?" The other said—"*Twelfth Night*." The first said that he was going, as he saw a play the previous week called *The Eleventh Hour*, and thought it was some sort of sequel or concluding chapter. On another occasion they were going to play *The Merry Wives of Windsor* in a town, and he heard a lady at the box office order a large number of seats, because she loved Shakespeare, and had such pleasure in hearing one of his works called *The Merry Widow*, and she thought it was a preface to that entertaining work. He was talking to a celebrated educationist, a man not unknown in the political world and the educational world, and he hazarded a proposition, with which he (Mr. Benson), for one, ventured to disagree. He said that in Ireland for the next few years people would be busy with the development of a national drama, that they would have no time or attention or thought for Shakespeare. They knew that during the last hundred years many of the best actors and a majority of the best plays had been acted and written by Irishmen. He was aware that this particular age differed from the age of Shakespeare in having become more self-consciousless in Ireland than in England; but, to a certain extent, in this city, they had lost some of the un-self-conscious, free, joyous spirit of life and sympathy with nature. He knew that was the mainspring of Irish literature and Irish poetry, but in many of the problems of to-day, and in a good deal of the philosophy of to-day, a cloud had come between their vision and the sun of that inspiration. He believed in that word "British" Society. They had two things—first, the great benefit and the eternal charm and power of drama, for it enabled them to enter into the life, the thought, and the feeling of pain and joy. It was a joy to him as an Angle to stand before them in that City and take a part, however insignificant, in the study of a man whose books contained the answer to many problems worrying them to-day, and the solution of many political and social difficulties. "The best will predominate," Shakespeare said, and discovered the essence of a highly-specialised type, as a contrast against the exaggeration of one narrow type. That was the type destined to pass away. The type destined to remain was the type which was the most versatile, containing the best points of other types.

Mr. Benson was loudly applauded at the conclusion of his speech.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The programme of the students' concert on Wednesday evening opened with a piano solo of Moszkowski's "Valses in A minor and A Major," carefully played by Miss Edith Ballard. In Landon Ronald's song "O lovely night" and "Au Printemps" (Gounod) Miss Mary Anderson greatly pleased the audience; while Mr. W. J. West was successful in his 'cello solo "Arlequin" (Popper). Gounod's aria "O ma lyre Immortelle!" (from *Sappho*) requires more dramatic treatment than Miss Lilian Maud Allen has at present at her command, but she sang with much intelligence. Miss Jessie Attwell, who proved herself a clever executant in Liszt's Rhapsody No. 12; and Mr. Harold Lopresti sang "Take a pair of sparkling eyes," from Sullivan's *Gondoliers*, with much spirit and admirably clear enunciation. The young vocalist also joined Miss Gladys Scott in the pretty duet of Goring Thomas, "Dear love of mine," a welcome feature in a students' concert, where duets are somewhat rare. The solo violin Allegro Moderato from Second Concerto Op. 22 (Wieniawski) was well played by Miss Olive H. Kershaw and artistically accompanied by Miss Jessie Attwell. A very promising pupil of Mr. B. Soutten, Miss Vera Jones, gave a classic dance with much grace. In the course of her performance Miss Jones slipped on the platform, but the little lady fell as lightly as she danced, and, in no way disconcerted, brought her dance to an effective conclusion. Although the Prologue to *Pagliacci* is rather hackneyed, Mr. Victor Schroeder sang the music in quite the right spirit, and displayed a voice of excellent quality.

The programme was completed by an admirable monologue from *Rebellious Susannah*, given in costume, and cleverly acted by Miss Enid Cummings, a pupil of Miss Kate Rorke.

MR. FRANK ADAIR'S company is at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, with *The Heathen and the Christian*. In the rôle of Lieut. Allendale Mr. G. Shirley displays ability; Admiral Freebold is capably enacted by Mr. G. Turner; Mr. Frank Adair gives a clever representation of the avenger Li; Mr. F. Waring is a capital Joshua Sampson; and Mr. J. Campling as George Berresford does well. Miss Louie Adair acts with power as Mira Sampson; Miss S. Burt as May Beresford deserves praise for her careful rendition; and Miss Eva Reed is decidedly good as Becky Fibbins.

THE KING, accompanied by the Queen and Princess Victoria, went to the Adelphi on Monday, and saw *The House of Temperley*. On the same evening the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite witnessed the performance of *Smith* at the Comedy Theatre.

MR. WILLIAM BARBOUR.

The many friends of Mr. William Barbour in London and the country would regret to hear of his untimely death, which occurred on Saturday, Feb. 5. After an illness of some weeks it was thought that he was quite out of danger, and, on the day he died, had only just written a letter to a friend saying how much better he felt. Half an hour later he was dead.

The funeral took place on Friday, Feb. 11, at Wimbledon Cemetery. Among the large number present were Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. E. V. Reynolds (the stage-manager), Mr. Whitaker (the treasurer), Mr. A. P. Horne (secretary) Mr. E. Arnold (box-office keeper), Mr. James Cullen (master carpenter), and the staff, back and front, at the St. James's. Among many personal friends was Mr. C. T. Cory, master carpenter at the Vaudeville Theatre. The chief mourners were Mr. Barbour's mother and three sisters, Mr. Frank Horne (brother-in-law), Mr. Raphael, scenic artist, Mr. Culen, and Mr. Horne. There was a large number of beautiful wreaths from friends present and absent.

Mr. W. Barbour came of a theatrical family. He had thirty-four years' experience in the profession. His father was gasman at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, for twenty-five years. Barbour senior invented the limelight tank and the medium sliders now used for footlights in place of the old argand burners.

Mr. W. Barbour commenced his theatrical career at thirteen years of age, first as "call boy" and then as gas boy at the Royal Theatre. He was there for six years, and went from that house to the Royalty, where he was gasman for six years. While at the Royalty he got employment with the old Brush Electric Light Co. to learn something of electricity. He left Glasgow to take charge of the electric lights for Howard and Wyndham at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. While at the Lyceum he was engaged by Mr. Loveday to join Sir Henry Irving's staff for an American tour, and was in charge of the lime and electric light effects in *Faust*. He was with Sir Henry about four years. He left the Lyceum to take up his position with Mr. Alexander, with whom he had been nineteen years.

He toured four times with Sir Henry Irving and

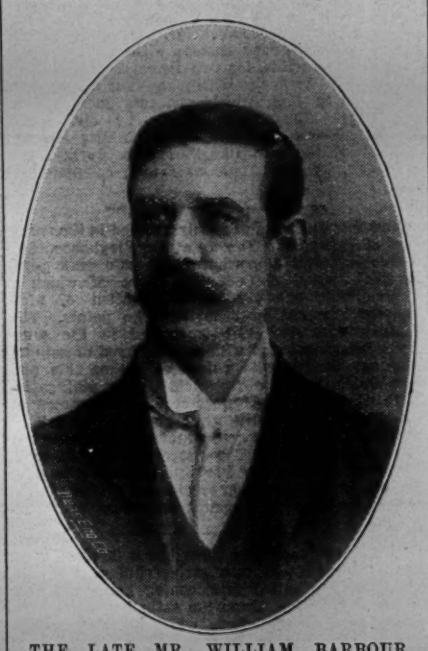

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM BARBOUR.

about a dozen times with Mr. Alexander through the United Kingdom. He was a week at Sanringham with "H. I."; and went to Balmoral with Mr. Alexander. In 1890 he accompanied Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry on an eight weeks' reading tour through the Provinces, when they recited the tragedy of *Macbeth*. The footlights and battens that Charles Dickens used in his tour round the world were used in this tour. On the termination of the tour he received a present from Miss Ellen Terry.

Mr. Barbour was unmarried. A man of considerable practical experience, the scientific and artistic side of his profession strongly attracted him. With the mind of a student he had reached the age of true wisdom, when to know how much one knows is to realise how much there is yet to discover. Amiable and conscientious, in character and disposition he was one of those who reflect credit upon the craft.

Mr. Barbour was the hon. secretary of and one of the founders of the Heads of Departments' Association. He was also one of the founders of the Dramatic and Variety Theatres Employees' Provident Fund and a member of its finance committee. He had also been for some years a trustee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and was a member of its National Committee. He took a great interest in the affairs of these Associations, and also in the Annual Theatrical Sports, of which committee he was a member.

THE LATE WILLIAM BARBOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—

"We are such stuff as dreams are made on,
And our little life is rounded with a sleep."

The Tempest, Act. IV. Scene 1.

All those who had the privilege of knowing William Barbour, and counting him as a friend, will be deeply grieved by his sudden and untimely death.

I myself only heard of it on my return to London on Friday, and though I am but poorly qualified to write this appreciation, still, it was my privilege to be associated with him for some eighteen months, and during that time I learned to respect him as a man and value him as a friend. A reserved, quiet Scotsman, devoted to his art—and with him his work was indeed an art—he was liked and respected by all who came in contact with him, and his death leaves a blank which will not easily be filled.

"Finis" is written to his work here, but his memory will remain for ever green, and we lay upon his grave

"Rosemary—that's for remembrance."

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGUE WIGAN.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S company, with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, is at the Opera House, Burton-on-Trent, this week. Mr. Sophie Lingwood portrays, as to the manner born, the domestic, and altogether lovable character of Mrs. Wiggs, and is frequently recalled; the idiosyncrasies of the depressing Miss Hazy are faithfully repicted by Miss Rita Carlyle; the Lovey-Mary of Miss Ruhamah Catton is a pleasing performance; clever and amusing is Mr. Fredk. Forrest as the typical Yankee, Stubbins; Mr. Ernest Ruston is dignified and convincing as Mr. Wiggs. Other characters are creditably represented by Miss Beatrix A. Bell, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Roda Berresford, Mr. Norman Clifton, Mr. Walter Hicks, and Mr. Sydney Carlyle. A group of clever children are included in the cast.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

"THE SUPERIOR SEX."

A new and clever comic opera of the above title was produced at the Crippiegate Theatre on the 9th and 10th inst. by the London Operatic and Dramatic Society, an extremely capable body of amateurs, whose previous performances have been confined to Gilbert and Sullivan work, and whose excellent productions have very successfully reproduced the Savoy traditions. The new opera is written by H. D. Banning, and composed by J. H. Maunder. The fantastic story, which is set somewhere about A.D. 2000, deals with the possible outcome of the present-day woman question, and the probable eventual relation of the sexes as regards domestic work, &c. The book is interesting and at times very funny, but it wants boiling down, being too verbose and elaborate. The story is well told throughout, and the lyrics have quite a grace of their own, and form the basis of some beautiful numbers. Taken as a whole, and subject to the revision which possibly these performances have already suggested to the author and composer, the work has in it all the elements of a good success. There is a popular ring about the general design, and though this may be commercially an advantage, it has not been attained by a sacrifice of musicianship, for some of the most popular items reflect the thoughts of the artistic composer, and will be admired in this respect by the serious musician. Mr. Maunder's church work, by which he is chiefly known, has a dramatic intensity about it apart from its devotional value, and in this piece for the stage there is the same wedding of the music to the words, and a sympathy of expression which is bound to make its direct appeal to the intelligent listener. The solos especially have much significance for their skilful combination of melody and effect; the concerted numbers are written with a full appreciation of vocal part writing; the clever orchestration is descriptive, often very humorous, and always appropriate. It is, unquestionably, a clever work. The performance was extremely good, and one which must have gladdened the hearts of Mr. Stanley Verde, who was responsible for the production, and of Mr. A. O. Butler, his capable stage-manager. The chorus and orchestra was animated by a fine, earnest spirit of enthusiasm, and really sang and played with a professional efficiency. Amongst the ladies the honours were about equal with Miss Frances Glenister and Miss Rhoda Whiley. Both have beautiful voices, both know well how to make the most of them, and both have a convincing stage manner and diction. Special praise may be offered to Miss Kate Hedges for her useful work as Aurora; to Miss Jessie H. Rose for some capital singing as Daphne; and to Miss Bertha Sandland for a restrained and funny comedy sketch of the Matron. Of the male characters the best impersonation was the Colonel Faddes of Mr. A. H. Phillips. He enacted the irascible and touchy officer to the life, and infused a keen sense of humour into the work that was most successful. Mr. T. J. Cook as an Irishman was also extremely funny, and used a good voice effectively in the concerted numbers. Mr. Cuthbert Sledmere sang with a good deal of finish, and acted well. Mr. Theo. Ager as the fussy Algernon was fairly successful, as was Mr. Stanley Ridout as Private Bill Blogg. But where everybody was working so earnestly for the success of such a plucky affair it is scarcely necessary to go into details. We congratulate Mr. Stanley Verde on putting up so good a show, and the author and composer must have been warmly encouraged by the general excellence of the production. It was creditable to everybody concerned.

GLASGOW THEATRICAL SPORTS.

After having been postponed from the previous week, this interesting event took place on Tuesday, and at first it seemed as if the function was to be honoured with "King's weather," but after the procession had reached Celtic Park, and a number of events had been decided, a severe storm of snow and sleet terminated the proceedings abruptly. The meeting-place was Blythswood-square, and from there the cavalcade made their way through all the principal streets till Celtic Park was reached, an enormous crowd lining all the route, and responding with cheerful alacrity to the smiling requests of the ladies in the procession for contributions to their charity boxes. Several bands gave brightness and animation to the scene with their up-to-date musical selections. Brake-loads of ladies—members of the chorus and ballet in the pantomimes—horses, dogs, decorated lorries, with bands between, passed in regular order. And moving about in the crowds were all sorts of grotesque and comically-attired persons armed with collecting boxes.

All the "stars," of course, were in evidence. Harry Tate was seen at his favourite pastime—motoring, though in more dignified style than usual. Neil Kenyon and Jack O'Connor raked in the shekels from a little wooden hut mounted on a lorry; Miss May Moore Duprez passed smiling in her motor-car. On another lorry the lie was given to both Cook and Peary, for there was a Scotchman, in kilts and glengarry, with a flagon of the wine of the country, seated on the Pole. Mr. Hengler himself drove a splendid team of horses, while behind him came the gaily-dressed members of his staff, followed by horses, dogs, and a troupe of asses. All the theatres were represented, and all were busy working for the cause, plying their collecting boxes assiduously under the direct supervision of the many comic policemen.

In the ideal weather conditions the procession was a great success. There might have been a little more of it, but the promoters were wise in reserving many of their attractions for the sports field, and the large crowds following the procession presaged plenty of business for the turnstiles.

Pleasant weather conditions prevailed when a start was made with the sports programme at Celtic Park. The attendance was most gratifying, and the stands were exceptionally well patronised.

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company present the thrilling drama *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. Arthur himself is seen to advantage in the part of Sir Montague Jephson, alias Dick Kenyon; Seth Pearse, Dick's colleague in villainy, is played by Mr. Fred Bently in a commendable manner; the part of Rose Verham is well acted by Miss C. Middleton; and the part of Alva Kenyon has a capable exponent in the person of Miss Mable Liston. Mr. David Phillips as Toby Wright provides the humour of the piece. All the other parts are in capable hands.

THE inhabitants of Whitchurch, Salop, had a great treat on Monday evening, Feb. 14, when Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company (by arrangement with Mr. George Dance) gave *Miss Hook of Holland*. The room was packed, and the piece was given from beginning to end in a manner that reflected the utmost credit on all concerned, and the audience were delighted.

MR. GEO. EDWARDES'S company makes a welcome return visit to the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Bournemouth, with *The Merry Widow*, with Miss Sylvia May an attractive and successful Sonia. Mr. Fred Leslie is most successful as Prince Danilo; and Mr. Edward D'Arcy makes an excellent and amusing Baron Popoff. Mr. Ripley Evans as Jolidon, with a fine voice, sings his songs with artistic success; Miss Ada Thomas as Natalie is all that could be desired; Miss Katie May as Frou-Frou executes some clever dancing.

THE O.P. Club patronised the successful pantomime *The House that Jack Built* at the Marlborough Theatre on Tuesday. The run terminates this (Saturday) evening.

"SEAWEED."

Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Mrs. L. C. Cassidy, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Scarborough, on Monday, Feb. 7.

John Handsford ..... MR. JAMES KAY
Lortez ..... MR. W. HARTE
Paul ..... MR. J. C. WILSON
Allan Armstrong ..... MR. VILLIERS STANLEY
Seaweed ..... MRS. J. RICE CASSIDY
Duke Sergius Rubinoff ..... MR. TOM RYDON
Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh .. MR. J. RICE CASSIDY
Tommy Bolton ..... MISS E. KAY
Billy Butts ..... BY HIMSELF
Countess Olga ..... MISS ADA ROSCOE
Harry Lortimer ..... MR. CHAS. MARTIN
Maggie Bolton ..... MISS ISABELL HUNT
Abraham Bolton ..... MR. DAVID DOUGLAS
King Olgar ..... MR. ALFRED BOXALL
Michali Ichon ..... MR. EDWARD LOWRIE
Moulet ..... MR. ROLF LESLIE
Marie ..... MISS AGNES DURHAM

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Scarborough is a most appropriate place to produce a new play with a title appertaining to the sea, and possibly this accounts for the launching out of it at the Theatre Royal. The play deals with the career of a young Princess of Slavonia, daughter of Duke Sergius. To avenge his daughter's betrayal by the Duke, Allan Armstrong, an English shipowner, who makes a yachting voyage to Slavonia for the purpose, steals the young Princess. She is handed over to British sailors, taken to England, and placed in a workhouse. The man who stole her, after a term of imprisonment for his crime, wants to make reparation, and traces her to England. Duke Sergius (the heir), failing to trace the lost child, divorces his wife (Duchess Olga), and comes to England disguised as an artist to find a new wife. In this quest he succeeds, and marries the lady to whom "Seaweed"—the long-lost Princess—is acting as handmaid. In the third and fourth acts we see Seaweed in her own home and accepted by the King. Her father, the Duke, in his jealousy, poisons the King, who, with his dying words appoints Seaweed—now Princess Henri—his successor. The Council of Nobles meet. One half vote for the Duke, and the other for Seaweed, who offers to abdicate on condition that her father and mother (Duchess Olga) marry, and live together again. The Duke refuses to accept these terms. The nobles take sides, and civil war follows.

In the last act there is a conspiracy, headed by the Duke, to induce the Nobles to desert Seaweed's cause. They have secretly agreed to divide Slavonia into halves, and have separate rule. The plot is overheard by Seaweed. Lots are drawn for her life, and she enters in the midst of the discussion. She demands that the lottery shall be continued, but that the traitors must take sides and draw for their own lives. Moulet, one of the Duke's minions, finding that his life is to be forfeited, while the Duke goes free, tells the Council, in his fear, that it was the Duke Sergius who poisoned the King's wine, whereupon the Nobles all support Seaweed. As a last effort the Duke tries to kill her, but is himself killed by the man who stole her.

In the title-rôle, and in her work as a whole, Mrs. Cassidy achieved a triumph. The rôle of the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh was excellently filled by Mr. Cassidy. The scenery throughout is very good. The Throne Room is an imposing spectacle, the ladies' dresses being of great beauty. As a whole, the production is an unqualified success.

MASONS AT WORK.

A meeting of the Dramatic Mark Lodge was held at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 10th inst. Mr. W. J. Keen presided, and admitted Messrs. Percy Plowman (Kent Lodge, No. 15) and Albert H. Collings (Eccentric Lodge, No. 2,488) to the privileges of the advanced degree, assisted by Messrs. G. A. Keen, I.P.M., Dr. W. Hotten George, S.W., W. H. White, J.W, Chris Hilton, M.O., Major G. S. Beeching, V.D., acting as S.O., Randulph J. Corbet, acting as J.O., Will Sparks, Secretary, James Powell, S.D., W. H. Roberts (Atlas), acting as J.D., W. Edwyn Holloway, Steward, acting as I.G., Douglas Gordon, Steward, and F. Banchini, Tyler.

The following Past Masters of the Lodge were present:—Messrs. Harry Nicholls, P.G., Std.B., Thomas Fraser, P.G.Treas., E. H. Paterson, the Right Hon. the Lord Athlumney, P.G.W., and Clarence T. Coggin; and also Messrs. Edward Humphrey, William Lawrence, C. Wyndham-Quin, Frank H. Callingham, Stanley F. Fitch, Frank Tebbutt, and Cecil Burton.

Messrs. Arthur W. Doune, Arthur Helmore, and D. Price Powell attended as visitors.

Mr. John Reginald Jewsbury Neild, of the Tuscan Lodge of M.M.M., No. 454, having been proposed as a joining member, was balloted for, and his name inscribed on the register.

At the dinner at the Hotel Cecil which followed an excellent programme was provided, contributions being made by Miss Edith Payne, Major G. S. Beeching, V.D., and Messrs. Frank Callingham, Arthur W. Doune, Arthur Helmore, Chris Hilton, Ed. Humphrey, Harry Nicholls, Percy Watson, Will, H. White, and Frank Tebbutt.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

In Beethoven's Quartet for Strings in E flat, given first in the programme of Thursday evening's concert, Feb. 3, the executants, Mr. Philip Levine, Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe, were very successful in the spirited Scherzando vivace. Mr. E. Norman Collie, who played the organ solo, from Sonata No. 7, in F minor (Rheinberger), deserved great credit for his refined performance of the beautiful Andante. Two vocalists were forthcoming on Thursday evening. Miss S. Gwendolen Allport sang "Death in Love" (R. Vaughan Williams) and "In April," a very pleasing song by Ernest Austin, which Miss Allport rendered with purity of tone and expression. "Death in Love," a musical setting of Rossetti's sombre poem, did not prove so attractive. It might have been through nervousness that Miss Winifred Boult's intonation was not entirely satisfactory in Schubert's song, "Margaret at the Spinning Wheel"; in a less exacting air the young artist would no doubt be heard to greater advantage. The concert concluded with Quintet for Strings, in C major, Op. 163 (Schubert), ably performed by Mr. Sidney C. Bostock, Miss E. Muriel Pickup, Mr. Frank Bridge, Mr. Cedric Sharpe, and Miss Ellen Bartlett. Miss Dorothy Beeman and Mr. Herbert Arnold Smith were the accompanists.

MR. AND MRS. H. B. LEVY and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company opened at the Blyth Theatre Royal on Monday to a full house with the pantomime *Hop o' My Thumb*, which is excellently staged, beautifully dressed, and accompanied by bright and sparkling music. The juveniles gave evidence of much careful training, every part being rendered to perfection. In the principal rôles Little George Harriss, Kitty Trewhitt, and Rafferty were much applauded. Mr. Wakeman as the Dame created much fun. Silversheen and Goldstein were safe in the hands of Messrs. Alf E. Rick and Tom Cowley.

IN consequence of the generous support accorded to the Cavaliere Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames last week, Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, who made a bold experiment in bringing the company to the riverside town, has arranged for its reappearance for another week, commencing on Easter Monday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. George Alexander has arranged to pay a flying visit to Birmingham on Thursday, March 10, when he and his company from the St. James's will present at the Prince of Wales's Theatre *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Miss Madge Titheradge, the charming actress, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine, the popular Don at the Kingsway, are to be married at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-square, on March 8. A charming conceit of the bride-elect is to have for bridesmaids four of the prettiest young actresses that grace the London stage, and for that distinction she has selected Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Stella Patrick Campbell, Miss Beatrice Terry, and Miss Rosalie Toller. Mr. Cyril Maude will give the bride away.

Mr. Martin Harvey and company travelled last Sunday from Southport to Aberdeen, and were welcomed by a crowded house at His Majesty's the following evening, the opening bill being *The Breed of the Treshams*, which was greeted with remarkable enthusiasm. *The Corsican Brothers*, which enjoys the rare distinction of having, at Mr. Martin Harvey's hands, been twice "commanded" by the King, was played to an overflowing house on Wednesday evening. Mr. Harvey will be in Scotland for five weeks in all, and the fact that practically every moment of spare time is being given to *Richard III.* rehearsals augurs well for the perfection of the big revival at Dublin on April 13.

Among the audience at the Playhouse on the production of *Tantalising Tommy* on Tuesday were Sir Arthur Pinero, the Countess of Lathom, the Hon. Mrs. Anstruther, the Hon. Mrs. Bertram Smith, Sir Anderson Critchett, Sir Douglas Straight, Sir Frederick Macmillan, and Lady Maclean.

Mr. Edward Compton played the part of Davy Garrick for the 1,600th time at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, on Monday evening. The celebration was made the occasion of the presentation to all ladies occupying reserved seats of copies of a dainty Compton Birthday Book, and of a speech in Mr. Compton's most graceful style.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their company concluded a most successful three weeks' engagement at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on Saturday, *Macbeth* being given in the afternoon and *Richard III.* in the evening. At the conclusion of the second performance Miss Genevieve Ward, who had assumed the rôle of Queen Margaret, and Mrs. Benson, who had appeared as Lady Anne, were each presented with a beautiful bouquet.

In answer to prolonged calls of "Speech," Mr. Benson said he desired to return sincere thanks, on behalf of Miss Ward, his wife, himself, and his company, for the splendid reception given to them that evening. He did not think it was necessary for him to say that they were always glad to come there, and always sorry to go away; he believed they were all aware of that.

"One of the things that make it pleasant to come to Dublin," continued Mr. Benson, "is the kindliness of the audiences. You step on to the Gaiety stage, feeling tired, perhaps, and not quite at your best, and lo! a friendly invisible hand is stretched out to you, with the result that you play better than ever in your life before." He thanked them for that kindly hand, and he hoped that it would be the privilege of his company and himself to feel its influence again. It was very welcome to the company to find that the people of Dublin had still a corner in their hearts for them, and for the works of the poet that they put before them.

It sometimes seemed in these days that people wanted to emphasise points of difference rather than points of agreement, and it was, therefore, most pleasant to find numbers of people still agreeing with themselves that Shakespeare's plays were still worth playing. Especially was that the case since it was the fashion of some latter-day critics to find a good deal of fault with Shakespeare. He ventured to say that it was with Shakespeare's works, as with most works of art, that when certain critics brought with them certain weaknesses they liked to find equal defects in those they were criticising.

Mr. John Galsworthy's play *Justice*, with which Mr. Chas. Frohman's repertory season at the Duke of York's is to be opened on Monday, will be produced the same evening at the Royalty, Glasgow, by the Repertory Company which is proving such an attraction in the northern city, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Wareing.

Mr. Alfred Brydone underwent a very severe operation for appendicitis just before Christmas, and will not be able to work for some time, but is allowed out for a little while each day. Progress towards convalescence seems slow, but as at first he was hardly excepted to recover at all, Mr. Brydone acknowledges that he has much to be thankful for.

Mr. Charles Frohman had the elements against him in his endeavours to inaugurate a sea-going theatre, and was obliged to abandon the project of presenting Miss Marie Doro and her company in *The Climax* at sea. The following message was sent by wireless telegraphy to New York via the White Star liner Baltic and Cape Race:—"Star ill, also passengers. First performance in London."

Mr. Frohman reached London on Tuesday, and is busy with preparations for the inauguration of his Repertory Theatre, which begins operations at the Duke of York's on Monday with *Justice*. He has by no means abandoned the idea of the ocean theatre, and is endeavouring to arrange with Sir Charles Wyndham, who is returning at Easter, to produce *The Mollusc* at sea under his direction.

The second production of Mr. Frohman's repertory theatre will be *Misalliance*, the new play by Mr. Bernard Shaw, which will be presented for the first time on Wednesday evening. The play is described as "a debate in one sitting." "As the debate is a long one," adds the author, "the curtain will be lowered twice. The audience is requested to excuse these interruptions, which are made solely for its convenience." The cast will consist of Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Mr. Donald Calthrop, Miss Miriam Lewes, Miss Florence Haydon, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Charles Bryant, and Mr. O. P. Heggie.

Mr. Charles Frohman has, in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, decided to put Mr. Edward J. Locke's play, *The Climax*, into the evening bill at the Comedy, in place of presenting it, as first arranged, at a series of matinées. The first performance of the piece will take place next Saturday, with Miss Marie Doro in the principal part.

Mr. Norman V. Norman will not commence another tour before Easter, and is at liberty to make arrangements to play between now and then. Mr. Norman has just been elected a vice-president of the Bournemouth Hockey Club, and is now a vice-president or honorary member of twenty-two clubs in different parts of the country.

Mr. Percy Hutchison, who is now recuperating at Brighton, after his operation, makes his reappearance as Monty Brewster, in that supreme success, *Brewster's Millions*, at the Marlborough Theatre, N., on Feb. 28, and is sure of a huge welcome. Additional pleasure will be evinced also in the fact that Mrs. Percy Hutchison (Miss Lilian Earle), who has been in constant attendance at her husband's bedside during his illness, again takes up the part of Mrs. Dan de Mille.

Mr. Arthur Shirley has again taken up his prolific pen and has written for Miss Madge Crichton a new farcical-comedy called *The Artfulness of Ada*, "a piece of deception in three acts." The first performance will be given at Folkestone on Feb. 28. The company will include Miss Kate Kearney, Miss Valerie Crespin, Miss Nellie Shirley, and Messrs. Tom Sidney, J. Forbes Knowles, and Alec Chumley.

The heroine of the new farce is a London actor-manager's wife, who gets sent to prison as a suffragette (which she does not happen to be) and greatly imperils her husband's chances of knighthood thereby. How *she* gets out of Holloway and how *he* comes into his title forms the plot. The piece claims the distinction that no "legs or tomfoolery" will be found in it, neither will any managerial withers be wrung during its progress. Should it prove successful the play will presently be brought to a West-End theatre.

Mr. Daniel Frohman has disclosed a project which seems to have been conceived in a spirit of rivalry to the New Theatre, New York. A huge building, which will probably cost about half a million dollars, is to be erected in the vicinity of Central Park South, for the purpose of housing under one roof the several charities connected with the dramatic and musical professions. The building will also comprise a "non-commercial" theatre for the testing of new plays and a general booking agency, as well as meeting-rooms for actors and managers, and the business offices of an old-age pension fund. There will also be lecture-rooms, where critics and professors of dramatic literature will be invited to deliver addresses on topics of interest to the profession and the public. In making the announcement Mr. Frohman said: "There will be a stimulus to culture which the New Theatre may affect but cannot attain. It is not, and cannot be, broad enough in its scope. Its appeal is too limited." Mr. Frohman is president of the Actors' Fund of America. Part of the proceeds of the big fair to be held in the spring for the benefit of the fund will be devoted to the carrying out of this vast plan.

The Queen visited the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday evening and witnessed the performance of Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*. Following a practice usually adopted at Drury Lane, a special box was built at the back of the stalls to accommodate the Royal party, who were thus enabled to view the play to the best advantage.

Mr. James Welch will lecture on "Fools" before the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion to-morrow (Sunday) evening. Miss Lottie Venne will occupy the chair.

Mr. James Carew had an exciting experience at his house at 215, King's-road, Chelsea, where he dwells with his distinguished wife, Miss Ellen Terry, on Wednesday. About nine o'clock a servant noticed a man leave the front garden, in the centre of which stood a valuable antique Chinese vase, and afterwards saw him with the bowl of the vase on his shoulder, its great weight somewhat retarding his movement. Mr. Carew was hurriedly called, and rushing after the accused overtook him a hundred yards away still carrying the bronze, and gave him into custody.

The sequel was seen at Westminster Police-court on Thursday, when a Boer named Paul Saunders, aged thirty, pleaded guilty to stealing the flower bowl, a portion of a vase valued at 100 guineas. The magistrate declined to deal with the prisoner until inquiry had been made as to his antecedents, and he was remanded in custody.

Miss Lilian Dod, the manageress of the Ipswich Lyceum, has had the pleasure of receiving from the Editor of *London Opinion* a cheque for £5, being the third prize in an "Echoes" competition. The "echo" was thus neatly constructed: "Love leaves by the lattice when lack of lucre lifts the latch."

Mr. Wallace Stranack concludes to-night his fifth consecutive pantomime season with Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens. He proceeds at once to Southampton to take up his duties as business manager of the Lyceum production of *The Proud Prince*, that management having kindly kept the post open.

A new play, to be performed entirely by children ranging in age from five to nine, will be one of the features of Lila Field's dramatic and musical matinée at the Playhouse on March 3. The piece is a one-act fairy play, named *The Goldfish*, and is written by Miss Field.

At Marylebone Police-court on Thursday Edward Maitland, a powerfully-built young man, was charged on remand with attempting to rob Miss Alice Hornsby of a bag-purse and contents to the value of £3, in Clifton-road, Paddington, on the night of the 9th inst. The prisoner bumped against the actress from behind, and then made a violent tug at her purse, and ran away. She raised an alarm of "Thief!" and after a sharp chase he was tripped up, caught, and handed over to the police. The prisoner was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

The Glossop-Harris Shakespearean Company has been secured by Mr. Peter Davey for the Shakespeare Commemoration Week at the County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames. No less than eight Shakespearean plays will be performed during the week.

Mr. C. Leveson Lane has returned to town from West Dean Park, Chichester, where he has been stage-managing *The Marriage of Kitty* for Mrs. Willie James.

"Lucky Durham," Wilson Barrett's last play, will be presented at Fulham Theatre on Monday for the 1302nd time by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy still appears in the leading part of John Durham, which he has played almost continuously since August, 1905, and Mr. Arthur Leigh repeats that of Reggie; whilst Miss Nellie Bonser will be seen as Mrs. Durham, the part she created with the late Wilson Barrett. The cast also includes Miss Florence Tressilian, Miss Frances Wolviston, Miss Dorothy Turner, Mr. William Calvert, Mr. Chas. Wemyss, Mr. W. F. Clitherow, Mr. John Hart, and Mr. Frank Elton. The hold that *Lucky Durham* retains on playgoers may be estimated from the fact that within the last five years it has visited Liverpool sixteen times, and the other large cities nearly as frequently. The wonder is that it has never been tried in central West-end.

Messrs. Henry R. Smith and Fred Carpenter have decided upon *Cinderella* for their next Christmas pantomime at the Lyceum. Meanwhile *Aladdin* is still drawing prodigious audiences, but will have to be withdrawn on Saturday next in order to make way for Messrs. Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews's four-act play *The Fighting Chance*, which is to be produced on a magnificent scale on March 5. The story is set in a military environment, and stirring scenes will be enacted.

The principals of the new piece have already been enumerated here, but the full cast is to hand, and is found to consist of Messrs. Frederick Ross, Robert Minster, Eric Mayne, Arthur Royston, Halliwell Hobbes, George P. Polson, Cecil Kinnaird, Cecil Saunders, Hastings Lynn, Vivian Gilbert, Hubert Willis, A. V. Bramble, Percy Rhodes, Sidney Vautier, Charles Calvert, Wilton James, Henry Armstrong, and Arthur Stone; and Misses Phyllis Relph, Blanche Stanley, Marjorie Chard, Mary Forbes, and Ruth Maitland.

Mr. W. W. Kelly has secured some attractive bookings for the spring dramatic season at his Liverpool and Birkenhead theatres. The season at the Birkenhead Royal will be opened on Monday by Mr. Ian Robertson in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, closely followed by *The Arcadians*, the Moody-Manners Opera Company, *The Merry Widow*, *King of Cadonia*, *The King and the Unknown Woman*, the Birkenhead Amateur Operatic Society in *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and the local A.D.S. in a new play.

Forthcoming attractions at Kelly's, Liverpool, include *Raffles*, *The Luck of Roaring Camp* (next week's attraction), *Sunday*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *The Gay Gordons*, and a grand opera company, with performances twice nightly.

The One-Act Theatre is shortly to become an institution, and will be inaugurated at Terry's by Mr. H. Holding, the promoter of the enterprise. Every evening five short plays—lasting not more than half an hour each—will be performed.

A feature of the theatre will be the absence of "stars," the company engaged being made up of well-known actors and actresses, all being given equal prominence. Mr. F. D. Bone, who has won conspicuous success with one-act plays, will be responsible for two items of the opening programme—*Smiler's Watch*, a nautical thriller, and *Topside Dog*, which was seen last year at the Court. *The Night Before*, by Mr. Edgar Wallace, *Priest and Man*, by Mr. Henry Murray, brother of the late David Christie Murray, and *The Toy*, by Mr. Augustus Moore, complete the list.

Miss Marie Lohr is daintily arrayed in the name-part of *Tantalising Tommy* at the Playhouse. She makes her first appearance in a pale pink gown of silk spotted chiffon, the bodice of which is quite simple but for an incrustation of pink guipure lace cut in deep Vandyke points. The slightly gathered skirt is treated in the same style, being encircled with a broad band of guipure lace cut in Vandyke points on either side and then finished with a deep hem of pale pink satin. With the costume is worn a long motor-coat of white cloth lined with white satin cut to fall in graceful folds, which are caught in with a stitched strap of the cloth. The wearer's smart toque is of black Tegal straw heavily trimmed with rich crimson roses, and her motor-veil is of flame-coloured mousseline to match the roses.

In the third act Miss Lohr has a lovely confection, in which old rose satin, chiffon, and embroideries are united in charming harmony. Soft veilings of chiffon drape the satin bodice and the upper part of the skirt; while heavy floss silk embroideries appear in the form of bretelles, a high waistband, and as a wide band round the skirt. Soft grey is the chosen tint of the graceful wrap worn with the gown, which is composed of tulle edged with fringe; and in the colour scheme of the hat grey and pink are happily combined in the form of pink roses and grey tulle draperies. Miss Lohr's gown in the last act has a quaint fichu bodice and full skirt of grey ninon, its dainty collar and cuffs being white embroidered lawn.

The part of Huguet in Mr. Robert Hilton's revival of *Richelieu* at the Strand was taken by Mr. Norman Wrighton. Owing to a change in the casting of the play Mr. Wrighton was down for the Duke of Orleans.

Miss Marie Dagmar will have the sympathy of many members of the profession in the loss she has sustained by the death, at the early age of thirty-nine, of her husband, Mr. Fred C. Somerfield. The sad event occurred on Tuesday last at Warrington, the cause of death being cancer and heart failure. Miss Dagmar and Mr. Somerfield, it will be remembered, were married a little over two years ago.

The dramatic reading of *Romeo and Juliet* by the British Empire Shakespeare Society at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday, March 8, will commence at 3.30 instead of 3 o'clock, owing to the engagement of Mr. Lewis Waller (the Romeo) at the Hippodrome. Mr. Arthur Bourchier will be the Mercutio and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy the Juliet. The cast also includes Mr. A. E. George as Friar; Miss Adeline Bourne as Lady Capulet; Mr. Fisher White as Capulet; Mrs. E. H. Brooke as Nurse; Mr. Arthur Wontner as Tybalt; Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Paris; Mr. Athol Stewart as Benvolio; and Messrs. Halliwell Hobbes, J. Henry Twyford, Ross Shore, Maurice Elvey, George Owen, and Tom Heslewood, Miss Dora Josslyn and Miss Mary Webb. The matinée is under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond. Mr. George Alexander has kindly promised to speak at the conclusion of the play.

A number of well-known artists appeared at the Press Club at the monthly house dinner and smoking concert on Saturday evening, when the Hon. Harry Lawson presided. Among the artists who contributed to a well-varied entertainment were Mr. Watkin Mills, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. W. J. Samuell, Signor Percichine (mandoline), Mr. George Snazelle, Mr. Soar, Mr. Edwin Barwick, Mr. Gilbert Girard, Mr. James Chilcot, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. T. Maxwell, Mr. George Buck, Mr. Frederick Frith, Mr. Jackson Potter, Mr. Ronald Greene, Mr. Rome Attwell, Mr. C. Bale, jun., and Mr. Arthur Helmore. Mr. Sinclair Mantell and Mr. Alfred Smythson presided at the piano, and Messrs. J. W. Bickell and H. Jewell were efficient stage managers.

A return visit will be paid by Cav. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company to the Crystal Palace Theatre next week. The company proved an immense success on their appearance in October last, and many will welcome their return. It is interesting to learn that Cav. Castellano enjoys the distinction of having never disbanded his troupe since the commencement of his tour fourteen years ago. The week's programme will be as follows: Monday, *Il Trovatore*; Tuesday, *La Traviata*; Wednesday matinée, *Ernani*; Wednesday evening, *Faust*; Thursday, *Rigoletto*; Friday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*; Saturday matinée, *Lucia di Lammermoor*; and Saturday evening, *Carmen*.

The full cast of *The Tenth Man*, Mr. W. Somerset Maugham's new play, which Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Arthur Bourchier will produce at the Globe on Thursday, will consist of Mr. Bourchier, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. A. Holmes Gore, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. Frank Atherley, Mr. George Bealby, Mr. Douglas Imbert, Mr. Dallas Cairns, Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Daisy Markham, and Miss Frances Dillon. Acts 1 and 2 are laid in the drawing-room of Lord Francis Etchingham's house, in Norfolk-street, Park-lane; and Act 3 in a sitting-room in the Palace Hotel at Middlepool. In the third act the curtain will fall for two minutes, during which twelve hours are supposed to elapse.

The children taking part in *The Forty Thieves* at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, distinguished themselves by appearing in the principal rôles of the pantomime, in which they have hitherto taken only a subsidiary part. Mr. Francis Laidler's experiment proved so complete a success that it was decided that the performance should be repeated at the three remaining matinées, and also on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of next week. The dresses were exact replicas of those worn by the principals, and the children were supported by the usual chorus. The theatre was crowded, and every song was encored, while each diminutive artist was enthusiastically applauded in the final parade.

The honours of the afternoon undoubtedly went to little Lena Booth, who played Ali Baba, and proved herself quite a miniature comedian. Little Alice Pemminton as Ganem, and Marjorie Holmes as Morgiana, the principal boy and girl respectively, made a charming couple, the latter's dancing being especially clever. Minnie Grossman, as Abdallah the captain of the thieves, thoroughly entered into the spirit of the part, and her dramatic scene with Cassim Baba (Amelia Marsden) showed how carefuly the children must have been trained. The remainder of the juvenile cast consisted of Amelia Reynolds, Minnie Clementson, Ellen Forrester, Margaret Beadle, Elsie Thornton, and Doris Hartley. The real principals appeared in the children's song "If you should see a little soldier."

Miss Ellen Terry was among the audience at the Strand Theatre on the opening night of *Richelieu*, and was the victim of a humorous accident. Seated in the stalls, Miss Terry became aware of a sudden descent of chocolates, which rained on her head and face, and fell into her lap and on the floor around her. For a moment Miss Terry was startled; but, realising the humour of the situation, she laughingly shared the chocolates with other occupants of the stalls around her. Taking advantage of the opportunity thus afforded them, a number of her immediate neighbours induced the distinguished actress to sign their programmes as souvenirs.

Miss Ethel Irving, now fully restored to health, will shortly start Saturday matinées of *Dame Nature*. Playgoers will learn with great interest that Miss Ethel Irving intends to appear as Millament in Congreve's *Way of the World* at some special matinées which will be given at the Garrick Theatre during the run of *Dame Nature*.

Miss Miriam Lewes will play Marguerite de Valois for the remainder of the run of *Henry of Navarre* at the New Theatre, Miss Julia Neilson having relinquished the part in consequence of the strain of rehearsals for *The Popinjay*. Miss Lewes, it will be remembered, acted Miss Neilson's parts for a considerable period during her illness some time back.

Through the kindness of Mr. Harris Fineberg, proprietor of the Liverpool Star Theatre, the Jewish Sheltering Home in that city has benefited to the extent of £150. Last week a matinée was given in the popular Williamson-square house, when a host of artists from the pantomimes and variety houses put in an appearance; while Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company played an act of *With Edged Tools*. The event was a big success, a ladies' committee, headed by Mrs. Fineberg, doing valuable work in the direction of selling programmes and sweets.

York City, which has not had a musical festival since 1835, is to revive that form of celebration this year, and will have a two days' festival the third week in July. Sir Edward Elgar has offered to assist the festival and conduct some of his works, whilst promises to take part have been received from Mme. Agnes Nicholls, Miss Phyllis Lett, Mr. Gervase Elwes, and Mr. Herbert Brown, all singers of the first order, and Miss Fanny Davies, the eminent pianist. The chorus will consist of 400 voices.

"Peter Pan" brought its sixth consecutive season to a close at the Duke of York's Theatre on Saturday night amid a scene of great enthusiasm. Thimbles, little bunches of violets, boxes of sweets, and little toys fell on the stage when Peter and Wendy took their "call" at the finish. Miss Pauline Chase and the Duke of York's Theatre company started on Sunday for Newcastle, where they opened on Monday in Mr. Barrie's perennial play.

The Play Actors are producing to-morrow (Sunday) evening at the Court *The Marriage of Columbine*, a four-act play by Harold Chapin, whose one-act piece, *Augustus in Search of a Father*, given on Jan. 30, revealed so much promise, that a more ambitious effort from his pen will be awaited with unusual interest. The play will be produced by Mr. Lewis Casson, and the cast will consist of Mr. A. S. Homewood, Miss Sybil Thorndike, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Ernest Young, Mr. A. L. Burke, Miss Lorna Lawrence, Miss Irene Moncrieff, and Miss Gwladys Morris.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Globe Theatre on Saturday night, and witnessed *Arsène Lupin*.

The engagement is announced of Miss Eleanor Robson, the favourite American actress, and Mr. August Belmont, a well-known banker of New York. The bride-elect, who was born in England, but was taken to America when a child, has paid a few visits to this country, and in 1904 played the heroine when *Merely Mary Ann* was brought to the Duke of York's Theatre from New York. She is the daughter of Mrs. Madge Carr Cook, who popularised Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch on both sides of the Atlantic.

The final competition for free open scholarships in the Royal College of Music took place on Thursday. The following are the names of the successful candidates:—Composition, Elliot R. Thompson; pianoforte, Norah M. Cordwell, Muriel E. Berry, Kathleen I. Long; singing, Alice G. Gear, Lilian J. Burgiss, Thomas G. Walters, William H. Green; organ, Reginald J. Foort, Douglas G. A. Fox; violin, Samuel Nagley, Francis P. Warren, Edward S. De Groot, Dora Garland; violoncello, Helen I. F. Beeching; double bass, James W. Merrett; harp, Catharine M. Johnson; flute, Arthur Hedges; hautboy, Harold G. Foreman; trumpet, Alexander Hall. The Pauer Memorial Exhibition (£7 10s.), for the student of at least one year's standing in the College who attains the highest position among the proxime for the pianoforte, was awarded to Gladys M. Cawston.

"Why Smith Left Home" will be taken on tour at Easter by Mr. Eric H. Albury, by arrangement with Mr. Lionel Rignold. A company of artists of repute has been engaged for the tour, which will continue right through the summer, a considerable number of season dates having already been secured. Novelties are being introduced in the shape of songs and dances particularly appropriate to certain of the scenes of the celebrated comedy. Mr. Albury will repeat his successful impersonation of the German count. The business-manager for the tour will be Mr. W. H. Pierpoint.

Miss Irene Desmond, who adorned the cast of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's, and also appeared in *The Belle of Mayfair* and *Les Merveilleuses*, was married at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Tuesday, to Sir Richard Levinge, Bart., of Knockdrin Castle, Mullingar. Sir Richard is the tenth of his line, and is a descendant of a famous Irish lawyer, Sir Richard Levinge, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland. Lady Levinge will not again be seen on the stage, and will with her husband spend a good deal of time at their place in Ireland.

"The Eve of the Wedding," a one-act play by Fanny Morris Wood, will be produced at the Rehearsal Theatre on Sunday evening. The cast will include Miss Joy Chatwynd, Mr. Warburton Gamble, and Mr. James Gelderd. The programme will also include *Kitty Clive*, by Frankfort Moore, the title-rôle in which will be played by Miss Fanny Morris Wood. Tickets are procurable from the New Frances Club, 425, Strand.

Mr. Charles Frohman intends to duplicate the present Paris production of *Chantecler*, presenting the play in New York, Boston, and Chicago next season. Mr. Frohman has secured the rights of M. Rostand's play for the English-speaking world, in association with MM. Hertz and Coquelin, of the Porte St. Martin Theatre, in Paris. The play, as produced in the principal cities of England and America, will be translated by M. Rostand's son. The first performance of *Chantecler* in English will be given in New York by an entirely American company. The costumes and scenery will be made in Paris.

An application was made to the Worthing magistrates on Wednesday for a stage licence for the St. James's Hall by the secretary of the local amateur operatic society. It was stated that the licence was required for the last week in April, when it was the intention of the society to produce *Olivette*. After giving the matter careful consideration, the magistrates decided not to accede to the request for the licence on the grounds that the lessees had refused to carry out certain alterations which had been previously insisted upon by them, when a former application for a licence was made and refused.

From South Wales comes news of a curious exchange. In opening the former Salvation Army Hall and Barracks, Barry, as a variety and picture house on Monday evening, Mr. Leon Vint has converted a place of worship into a theatre, while in the Cadoxton parish, at the same place, the opposite state of things exists. What was originally built for, and for years used as, the Theatre Royal was last week opened as St. Aidan's Church.

In consequence of Mr. Wm. H. Armstrong, the well-known solicitor and advocate, having been ill for some considerable time recently, certain unprincipled persons have circulated the news that he is still unable to attend to his business. These reports are wholly untrue. Mr. Armstrong is now fully restored to health, and is able to transact business as heretofore, at his two offices at 1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth (opposite the Lambeth Police Court), and at No. 3 Flat, 300, Kennington Park-road, S.E. (opposite Oval Station, City and South London Railway).

Another appreciation of the value of *The Era* as an advertising medium comes from Mr. W. Downes, who writes as follows, from Drury Lane Theatre:—"Dear Sir,—I feel I must let you know how pleased I am with the results of my advertisement in your highly esteemed paper, *re* dates for my 'Merry Hunters' Concert Party. It has only appeared in two issues, and my bookings have increased wonderfully. I am pleased to inform you that both Miss Mena Brae (who will be one of my "Merry Hunters" party) and myself have been re-engaged by Mr. Arthur Collins for next season's pantomime at Drury Lane."

Mr. Edward Marris has arranged with Mr. Frank Weathersby to send a company to the Channel Islands for a short stock season, opening on Monday next with *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which will be followed by *Flying from Justice*.

At the Globe Theatre on Monday a performance was given, for copyright purposes, of a new play in three acts, entitled *Her Husband's Wife*, by A. E. Thomas.

Members of the Woolpack Musical Society occupied the greater portion of the seats in the circle at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on the evening of the 11th inst., the occasion being known as "Woolpack Night." There was a full house, and the performance went with a swing that highly delighted the visitors. During the evening a member of the Society, Mr. Algate, rendered a song in good style, and a highly successful feature was the presentation of baskets of fruit and flowers to leading ladies in the cast, and silver match-boxes to the comedians.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Ashley Richards has now practically recovered from the broken jaw he sustained at the charity match between Mr. Croke's *Aladdin* company and the Fulham Football Club. The pantomime tour finishing to-day, Mr. Richards will return on Monday to his accustomed place as musical director of the Lyric, Hammersmith.

Messrs. Stedman, having been unable to secure a suitable West End theatre, have abandoned their contemplated Easter revival in London of *Alice in Wonderland*, and will instead commence a spring tour of the principal provincial cities on Feb. 28, at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. The admirable production lately seen at the London Court will be sent out complete with additional chorus, dances, &c., the company being headed by clever little Miss Ivy Sawyer. The general-manager on tour will be the veteran H. Cecil Beryl.

Mr. Frank Curzon has finally decided to produce his new musical play, *The Balkan Princess*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre this (Saturday) evening. The curtain will rise at eight sharp.

A wealthy man from the City, dining one day at North End, was every now and then boasting, with all the insolence of prosperity, of his many thousands in the funds, his capital in trade, mortgages, annuities, &c., when Foote cut him short by saying "he was very sorry for the circumstance." "What!" exclaimed his guest, "do you envy me my prosperity?" "No, my good sir," said the other; "but you talk so much of your riches that I am afraid the company (who don't know you as well as I do) will think *you are going to break*."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Not to Crow.

"It has not entered into my thoughts," said Sir Herbert Tree to a *Chronicle* man, "to do *Chantecler* myself at His Majesty's. If I do anything in the matter—though this, of course, is a premature idea I am expressing—I might invite *Chantecler* to come to His Majesty's for a fortnight as he stands, or as he struts. But I am speaking now out of the immediate moment. I might invite *Chantecler* to London, and I might not. One thing is very certain, and that is that I have nothing to do personally with the report that *Chantecler* is going to crow in English at His Majesty's Theatre."

A Witty Mimic.

MR. PERCY FITZGERALD'S biography of Samuel Foote, which has just been published by Chatto and Windus, is entirely readable and amusing. In the chapter on Foote as "Wit and Humorist," Mr. Fitgerald quotes some of Foote's best things.

If he only could.

A MAID came into the room to look for her mistress. "What do you want your mistress for?" asked the master. "Why, indeed, sir, to tell you the truth, she scolds me so from morning to night, I came to give her warning." "What, then, you mean to leave us?" "Certainly, sir," said she, shutting the door after her. "Happy girl!" exclaimed Foote; "I most sincerely wish your poor master *could give warning, too.*"

The Real Complaint.

AN artist was eternally complaining of illness, but could never tell what was the matter with him. At last he married, which being told to Foote, he exclaimed: "I heartily wish him joy, for now *he'll readily find out what's the matter with him.*"

A Mean Observation.

WHEN someone asked why Garrick did not take the beam out of his own eye before finding fault with the mote in another's, "Because he is not sure of selling the timber," said Foote with instant readiness. One night at his theatre Garrick twitted him. "So you have to fall back on one of my farces!" "Why, yes, Davy; I must have some ventilator in this very hot weather."

A Merry Life.

A DULL dramatic writer, who had often felt the severity of the public, was complaining one day to Foote of the injustice done him by the critics, but added: "I have, however, one way of being even with them, which is by constantly *laughing* at all they say." "You do perfectly right, my friend," said Foote, "for by this method you will not only disappoint your enemies, but lead the *merriest life* of any man in England."

Not there.

"THE gentleman in the orchestra stalls," writes M. Maurice Dekobra, in the Paris *Revue*, quoted by the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "would like to applaud eloquent pleading against popular prejudices, and even enjoys the peculiar fun of certain situations and the suggestiveness of certain dialogues. If he were alone, he would applaud; not being alone, having that man and woman on his right and left, he does not applaud, but appears shocked. It is unbelievable that the English public compels its actors to temper the living and picturesque language of Shakespeare. For instance, when Martin Harvey and H. B. Irving play *Hamlet*, they are obliged to cut from the last scene of the third act the forcible language used by the Prince of Denmark to his mother: 'Let this pot-bellied king . . .' Yet the same spectator, who watches so jealously over the morality of his own theatre, is the first, we are told, to laugh and to applaud the vaudeville abroad that he apparently detests at home." Mr. Harvey and Mr. Irving do not cut these words, for very good reason. The words do not occur in the text.

A Suggestion.

MR. HUGH TURNER writes from the Ipswich Lyceum: When at the present time we see the leading actors and actresses appearing on the music-hall stage, the old distinction between a theatre and a music-hall looks like disappearing, and we shall have places of entertainment in the future, call them what you will, only differing in the class they cater for. This being the case, it seems there is room in the provincial theatres for touring companies of, say, half-a-dozen or so educated, clever people who could provide a high-class entertainment on the lines of the Follies and the late German Reeds. I believe the majority of theatre managers, where, perhaps as here, there are a hippodrome and a picture palace catering for a certain class, find it difficult to fill their dates with sufficiently good attractions, who would be glad to book such a company as indicated, and that the innovation would be welcomed by their audiences.

Actors' Hands.

"IT is far from easy to discuss the importance the hands play in any part," says Mr. H. B. Irving in the *Strand*, "for, truth to tell, the hands, after all, merely follow out the dictates of the brain. By this I mean to say that, obviously, every movement of the hands is governed by the brain, and on this account a great deal must depend on the individual reading of a part. For instance, there can be little doubt that half a dozen actors, if left to themselves to study any particular part, will read that part in half a dozen different ways."

Manual Labour.

"To all who will reflect for a moment it must be clear that men and women use their hands in a greater and lesser degree according to the force with which any particular emotion tears at their hearts. That is the actor's difficulty so far as his hands are concerned, for it is very largely by the use of his hands that actually—although they probably do not know it themselves—the most lasting impression of the truth of a reading of any particular character is impressed upon an audience's mind. And probably, as the highest art lies in the concealing of that art, the actor who most clearly realises the real innermost meaning of the words of the author which he is expressing will use his hands to the best advantage."

Correct Behaviour.

"THE hands of the actor can be used in what is really nothing more or less than a downright contradiction to the reading of his brain. But that is bad art. The hands should follow the dictates of the brain; in fact, if the brain clearly grasps the idiosyncrasies of any particular character it may almost be taken as a hard and fast rule that the hands will behave themselves in a manner entirely true to life. On the other hand, if the brain is groping for the author's meaning, the hands, too, will grope for that expression which the author has intended to be represented."

Seriously Scorned.

IT is useless to talk of the glorious and brilliant and witty French stage, writes Mr. Arnold Bennett in the *Chronicle*, and to argue that a play which has so enthralled "the metropolis of dramatic art" must necessarily be a work of commanding genius. I may tell you that the serious young man of to-day in Paris only refers to the modern French stage with contempt. For myself, I went to Paris in 1903 full of beautiful ideas about the French stage. I assiduously followed the activities of the French stage for five years, and in 1908 I left Paris convinced that, broadly, the serious young man was right.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A MEMBER.

Of late the world in general, as well as the profession in particular, has heard a great deal concerning the Actors' Association. We are likely to hear a great deal more of this body in the very near future, for a talk with Mr. Duncan Young, the secretary, reveals the fact that hustling is in future to be the order of things.

Some people imagine that where hustling or energy prevails comfort must vanish. A visit to No. 32, Regent-street dispels any such idea. Here the new quarters of the "A.A." is established. There is another Association with the initials "A.A."—that is the Automobile Association—and its aim and objects are similar to those the council of the Actors' Association would apply for the benefit of its members—both "A.A.'s" are in existence to safeguard the interests of those entitled to display the sign when "on the road," either in town or country.

The Actors' Association headquarters are the cosiest imaginable, and partake of the nature of a club-house rather than official offices. There is a beaming janitor with a marvellous memory "on the door"—or, rather, stairway—and a notice confronts members that it is necessary to record signatures before entering the "A.A." rooms.

Just to the right of the stairway is the Council Chamber. There we find Mr. Duncan Young seated at a business-like table-desk. The room is a triangular-shaped one, but with a "Be Brief" aspect about it that intimates in no uncertain way that the worthy secretary has a lot to do, that he is very pleased to see you on the business of the "A.A.," and to give you every information concerning it; but if you have merely lounged in to kill time, or imagine that yours is the only business he has to attend to, then the sooner you disillusion yourself the better.

That the present secretary is urging things along in no uncertain style is evident from the fact that since June last 102 new members have been enrolled, and he is rather proud of the achievement. In fact, he makes no secret of the fact that a great crusade among the rank and file of the profession has been started, and it is evident from an hour's stay at No. 32 that the "A.A." has a great mission to fulfil, and will play an important part in the destiny of those men and women who belong to it.

Hard by is a "Ladies' Room," a "Silence Room," a smoking lounge, and below a "Gentleman's Room." Nearest the sky is the rehearsal room, a fine, light, business-like chamber to be had for one shilling an hour, gas-heater, gas T piece and all, and what more could actor or actress want?

It is almost inconceivable that anyone exists who does not know the aim and objects of the "A.A."—in fact, all about it. But in case anyone has forgotten the inducements held out by Mr. Duncan Young and his council, it may be wise to remind the reader of a few great points why everybody in the profession should hasten to become enrolled under the banner—if it has one—of the "A.A."

First of all, the entrance fee is merely 5s., and the annual subscription 15s., payable Jan. 1, or 4s. 6d. payable quarterly on Jan. 1, April 1, July 1, and Oct. 1. One gets a free £100 insurance thrown in, and, if one likes to avail oneself of the institution, the services of the Actors' Association Agency, charging the following fees:—5 per cent. or 1s. in the £ on salary received until an amount equal to half a week's salary has been paid. No engagements are negotiated which offer less than £2 per week salary.

The members of the "A.A." get the privilege of being permitted to play over various golf links, either at greatly reduced charges, or else without charge at all. For instance, no charge is made to "A.A." members at Burnley, Cambridge, Sedgley, Bradford, and Eastbourne, and at many other places half fees only are charged.

There are three of the articles of Association that call for especial attention. These contain the information that the "A.A." is established to encourage and promote the art of acting; to establish (if thought desirable) a school where elocution, dancing, calisthenics, fencing, and other accomplishments may be taught; and if thought desirable, to publish a directory of theatres, managers, and actors, and of persons connected with the theatrical profession.

Two appeals—both very fine ideas—will be sent out broadcast by the "A.A." The first is addressed to every actor and actress working to-day at a London theatre. It reads as follows:—

"The council of the Actors' Association, feeling that the time is now ripe for an earnest attempt to carry out some of the reforms of which the profession stands in need, urgently petitions you to enrol yourself as a member of what is now the only official organisation of actors and actresses.

"The Association, with twenty years' existence to its credit, is now approaching its majority, and the council is anxious to signalise the event by extensive work of a constructive nature. The actor-managers, who resigned in 1907, have now, by a resolution carried out at the Annual General Meeting, been invited to return; but in order that real reforms may be successfully undertaken, the Association needs your help. It needs not only the numerical strength, but also the weight and experience which your position in the profession would confer upon it.

"The Association is not appealing for charity. It has done good work in the past, but it must do infinitely more in the future.

"The measure of its usefulness to the individual should be of secondary importance, besides its incalculable power for good in ameliorating the lot of thousands of your brother and sister artists in the provinces. Moreover, in view of approaching legislation, which will in all probability result in the establishment of one licence for theatre and music hall, it becomes more than ever necessary for actors to safeguard their interests.

"There is no reason why the Actors' Association of England should not be a strong and powerful institution representative of a great profession.

"Will you help to make it so? If you are willing would you kindly sign the enclosed nomination form and leave it with the stage doorkeeper. It will be called for in the course of a week.

"The subscription is 15s. You are urgently begged not to cripple the work of the actors' organisation by withholding your support.

"Should you care at any time to look over the new premises you will be heartily welcome."

A similar appeal to that addressed to London actors will be sent to the provinces. It sets out in detail, as can be seen from a perusal of our advertisement columns, a few of the reforms the actor must bring about, and the evils that must be abolished. These include:—The standard contract, payment for matinées, payment for rehearsals, the bogus manager question, and the reduction of railway fares. "America and Germany," says the appeal, "have strong Actors' Associations—why should not England? If only 50 per cent. of the artists at present playing in the provinces would join the Association, it would be a powerful body."

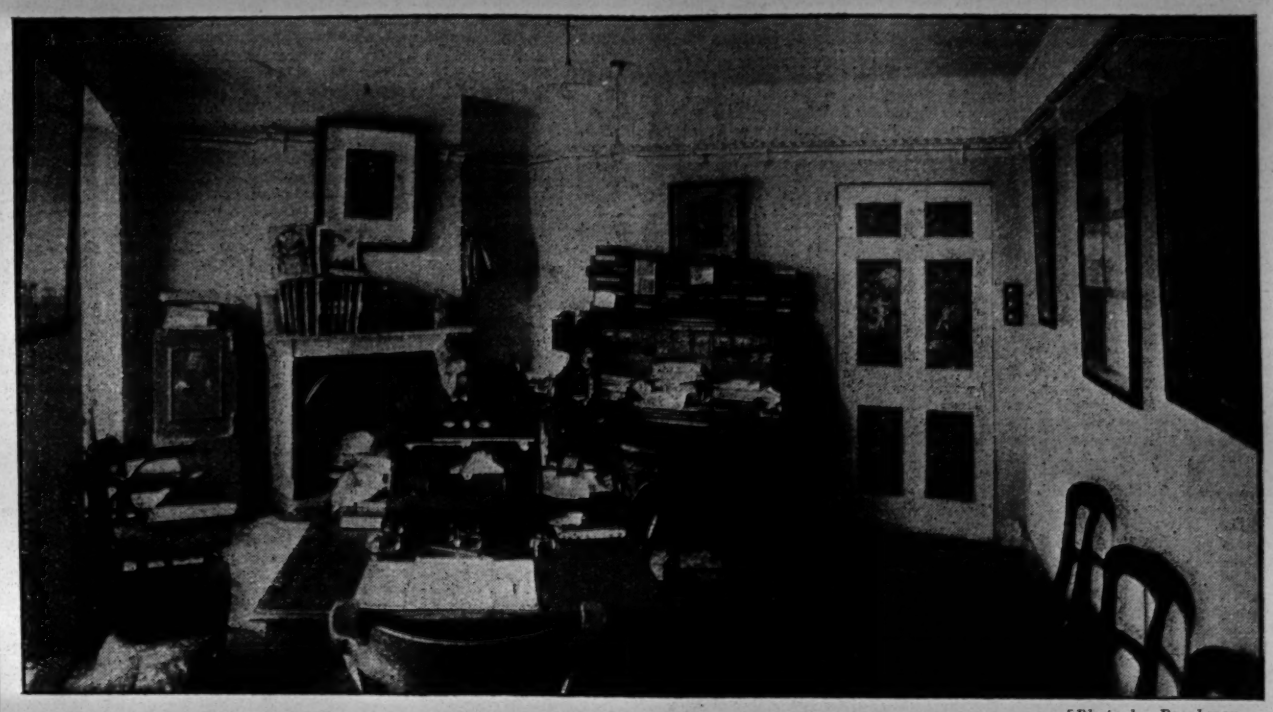

[*Photo by Brookman.*

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Give Mr. Duncan Young a call. He will be very pleased to have a chat with you. And go to-day!

At the Council meeting of the Actors' Association held on Tuesday at 32, Regent-street, there were present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), and Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Langford Reed, F. J. Arlton, H. Le Grand, Lewis Casson, E. Morgan, R. Greene, F. H. De Quincey, Leonard Shepherd, C. F. Collings, and Murri Moncrieff, and Misses Rose Cazalet, Beatrice Chester, Vita Spencer, and Joan Pereira, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Leonard Shepherd was co-opted a member of the Council. The chairman read a letter from Miss Norah Mahone asking their acceptance of a handsome Oriental rug for the lounge in the rooms. The secretary was instructed to thank Miss Mahone very cordially on behalf of the Council, and to say they had much pleasure in accepting her charming gift.

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Arlton, and was adopted. Further applications for debentures were reported as follows:—Miss Chester £5, Mr. Chris Walker £5, and Mr. Arlton £5. The secretary was instructed to see that a circular was prepared drawing attention to the fact that subscriptions for 1910 were now overdue and to have a number ready for dispatch prior to the seventy days' grace.

The chairman drew attention to the disastrous season at the Strand Theatre, and the secretary was instructed to write to all the members of the Association who were connected in any way with the company and to say that the Council deplored the extraordinary result of the season, and ask them to be good enough to give full information, so that a record might be placed in the books of the Association.

Mr. C. Derwent drew attention to the further progress of his advertising scheme, and said that matters were in progress by which all the actors and actresses in town would have the appeal left at the different theatres, and that the appeal to the provincial members of the profession would be in the printer's hands the following day.

The House Committee tendered their report, and it was agreed to accept all the recommendations. Mr. Murri Moncrieff and the secretary were requested to make arrangements towards securing the pianette for the rehearsal room.

The Social Committee recommended that a social be held on March 5. After discussion it was arranged that the date should be altered to Sunday, March 13, and that Mr. W. Devereux be asked to take the chair on that occasion.

The following letters were received from Mr. Bourchier and Sir Squire Bancroft:—

"DEAR MR. DUNCAN YOUNG,—Many thanks for your letter of the 9th inst. I have discussed the matter with Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Irving, and cordially agree with them in their attitude with regard to the question contained in your letter. Like them, I shall be only too pleased if the Actors' Association succeed in numbering us, as well as all the other leading members of our profession, in their Association.—With kind regards, yours sincerely,

"ARTHUR BOURCHIER."

"MY DEAR SIR,—I thank you very cordially for your kind invitation, but my desire now is to lessen rather than add to my obligations; also I am much absent from London, so I cannot see my way to accepting it.—Believe me, with all good wishes, yours faithfully,

"SQUIRE BANCROFT."

Elections.—Josephine Middleton, Mabel Letham, Paul Beckett, and Cicely Wade. Nominations.—Rose Edouin, F. Manning Sproston, Arthur Stanley, Kirsteen Graeme, and Margaret Omar.

The Council of the Actors' Association has issued the following appeal: "The Council of the Actors' Association makes this special appeal to every actor and actress at present playing in the provinces simultaneously with a similar appeal to the members of the profession in London.

"The Actors' Association is now the only official organisation of actors and actresses. It has important work to do, not in the vague future, but here and now. Many reforms must be introduced, many evils abolished. To instance only a few: The standard contract, payment for matinées, payment for rehearsals, the bogus manager question (both in and out of London), reduction of railway fares for A.A. members, establishment of a provincial branch. These are all matters calling for immediate attention.

"It will be seen that a large programme of reform lies before the newly-elected Council—a programme not impossible of attainment, but one which needs unity of purpose supported by numerical strength. It is often urged that the Association does not do enough for the provincial actor, but it is obvious nothing can or will be done until the complainants step inside the ranks and add their numerical strength to the cause instead of incessantly criticising from without.

"If only 50 per cent. of artists at present playing in the provinces would join the Association it would be a powerful body.

"The annual subscription is 15s. For this there is free medical advice throughout the United Kingdom, free legal advice, a permanent address for letters, an agency, free golf links, a spacious club-house next door to the Criterion theatre, in the very heart of theatrical London (eight rooms, including large rehearsal room, and refreshments at popular prices).

"America and Germany have strong Actors' Associations; why should not England? To the hard-working provincial actor and actress the Association makes this appeal. Do not hesitate. Send in your names to the Secretary, and so, by co-operation and enthusiasm help the important work of actors' organisation."

[*Photo by Brookman.*

THE PUBLIC ROOM AT THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Just to the left of Mr. Young's room is the public room. It is a long irregular-shaped apartment, with writing-tables in convenient nooks, large lounge chairs here and there, a small library of the kind of reference books actors require, the latest papers, and even a piano. It is a desirable lounge, the walls of which are hung with rare, and, in some cases, exclusive steel prints of bygone Thespians.

The commissariat department, under the management of Mrs. Cooper, is on the floor above, and adjoining the kitchen is a dining-room, white with napery and perfumed with the fragrance of a choice collection of table flowers. Many old framed play-bills are hung on the walls. There is a Drury Lane day-bill of 1845, one of the Queen's dated 1850, an 1846 Haymarket bill, on which is starred *Lend Me Five Shillings*, a Lyceum bill when under Fechter's management, and a Princess's Theatre announcement of Mr. Phelps. An 1839 Surrey bill stars *Hell's Belles*, and as showing that even these up-to-date cinematograph times could be anticipated sixty years ago, we are informed that the magic-lantern "will throw beautiful pictures upon a screen at every performance."

One of the earliest bills issued by Sadler's Wells is one in which *Richelieu* tops. Macready's Benefit Bill is there, side by side with the signatures of those present at the Ellen Terry Jubilee performance.

CHARLES MANNERS AT BELFAST.

After the curtain fell on *La Tosca*, at the Hippodrome, Belfast, on the 11th inst., Mr. Charles Manners made a speech in response to demands from the big house. He apologised for using instead of the Italian chapel in the first act of *Tosca* the Nuremberg church out of *The Mastersingers*, and explained that the former had been burnt recently, with many tons of his scenery. It would be replaced as soon as possible. He went on to say that if he had been producing musical comedy or comic opera, or something of that sort, he would have felt it an impertinence to address them, but it was different in the case of grand opera. Other forms of entertainment lasted only for a day, but a work like *The Mastersingers* would be a delight for centuries. He felt that those who had attended during the week were at one with him in his endeavour to establish opera on a sound basis. He alluded to the curious fact that Belfast, a city teeming with wealth, could not in the matter of opera compare with Continental towns of one-half or one-quarter its size. A poor country like Italy had 360 operatic companies constantly giving performances, whilst Great Britain had no more than four, and some of those were not very remarkable. They were probably doing as well with the chances they had as with the chances he had. It was a pity that English-speaking people paid so little attention, and took so little interest in grand opera, leaving it entirely to professional travelling managers. If reform was to come it must come from the people themselves. In this connection he would like to point out that during the past few years he had offered to come to Belfast if some committee would take up the matter. He had said he would give free use of his scenery and costumes, the assistance of his wife and himself free, charging only his out-of-pocket expenses, and sustaining a loss, if one were incurred, while any profit that was made was to go to any cause that the committee desired. Unfortunately the project, for some reason or other, had never come to anything. Then at length the management of the Hippodrome stepped in and offered him terms that at the worst would have made his total loss only a few pounds. As it turned out, he was not only making a good profit, but he was delighted to say the proprietors of the Hippodrome were thoroughly satisfied with the result of the week. Naturally he was pleased from a monetary point of view, but he was still more pleased from the point of view of the success of grand opera. He was glad he had been able to produce there six operas, but it was nothing like what he wanted to do, and on his return visit, which would be as soon as he could arrange the dates, he hoped to be able to give them a very pleasant surprise. He trusted that his audiences that week would help them in his efforts. After acknowledging the assistance of the local Press, he said there was one without whom all his work would be unavailing, and he wished to have the pleasure and honour of introducing his wife.

Madame Moody, on coming forward, received an extraordinary ovation.

On behalf of the audience, Sir Otto Jaffe spoke of the keen pleasure derived from that week's performances. Belfast had supported the company in a way that reflected credit on the city. He called for three cheers for Mr. Manners and Madame Fanny Moody, and three rousing cheers were spontaneously given.

A Striking Personality.

THE orchestra is not quite ready, and Mr. Beecham is human, says the *Express* in an account of the rehearsal of *Elektra*. He stretches out his long, lean arms and yawns with a deliberation which is almost ostentatious. Then slowly he draws himself upright in his chair and reveals his personality. He is a remarkable man to look at—tall and slim, with a thoughtful, brooding, ascetic face. His appearance suggests a religious-minded Cavalier. He is instantly reminiscent of Charles I. His head is dome-shaped, and his forehead high and white. Gentle, reflective eyes look out from either side of a strong, hawk-like nose. His thin-lipped mouth is half-hidden by a Cavalier moustache, and his thin, pointed chin is decorated with an imperial. Leaning forward, he bends his reflective gaze on the vast music score which lies gleaming before him beneath the concentrated glare of shaded lights. Then he looks round and seems to count his flock.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

THE SUNDAY OPENING QUESTION.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Melvill Beachcroft (chairman) presiding.

SUNDAY OPENING OF CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS.

The Theatre and Music Halls Committee brought up the following report:—

The Council, on Dec. 21, 1909, decided that the licences granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, should be subject to a condition that the premises should not be opened on Sundays, Christmas Day, or Good Friday. On Feb. 1, 1910, we reported that this condition had not been favourably received by the proprietors of the premises, and that we had under consideration representations made by a deputation from the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society, Ltd., and the Cinematograph Defence League, Ltd., which had appeared before us, and urged that the condition might be withdrawn, and also representations made by a deputation from the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, the National Association of Theatrical Employees (including cinematograph operators), and the Imperial Sunday Alliance, which had appeared before us and urged that the prohibition against Sunday opening should be maintained, and that no relaxation of the prohibition should be allowed except under the same conditions as those insisted upon in the case of premises licensed for music, viz., the conditions laid down by the Council on May 4, 1909. In support of the request that the prohibition should be withdrawn the deputation from the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society and the Cinematograph Defence League urged that cinematograph displays should be regarded not as entertainments but rather as a form of education for persons who were not able to obtain instruction and amusement in other ways, and that it was better that people should spend Sunday evenings in a cinematograph hall than in the streets. On the question of Sunday labour, we understand that the whole of the staff employed by the proprietors represented by the deputation are at present employed at a daily wage under a seven days' contract, and are given one day's holiday every fortnight, but that if the Council permits the premises to remain open on Sunday, the proprietors will allow one day's holiday a week if the employees are willing to forego their wages for one day. The deputation representing the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Union, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, the National Association of Theatrical Employees (including the cinematograph operators), and the Imperial Sunday Alliance in supporting the Council's action stated that if permission were given for cinematograph halls to open on Sundays, similar facilities could not reasonably be withheld in the case of theatres and music halls, and the result would be detrimental to persons employed in the entertainment business and to the public interest. They also expressed the opinion that the proprietors in engaging employees would make Sunday work a condition of employment, and that ultimately wages would be less in proportion.

We have given careful consideration to the representations made by both deputations, and can see no reason for advising the Council to depart from its present policy with regard to Sunday entertainments. If cinematograph halls be allowed to open on Sundays under the same conditions as on week days, many of the theatres and music halls licensed by the Council will no doubt be used for cinematograph entertainments on that day, and the proprietors may reasonably ask to be allowed to use the premises for music also. Having regard to all the circumstances, we think that the condition inserted in the licences granted by the Council should be adhered to, and that the opening on Sundays of premises licensed for cinematograph exhibitions should only be permitted on the same conditions as are enforced with regard to Sunday concerts. We recommend—

That no application for permission to use premises licensed by the Council under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, for cinematograph entertainments on Sundays or other days prohibited by the licence be considered unless the application be accompanied by an undertaking from some recognised society or organisation, unconnected with the premises concerned, to the effect that—(i.) The entertainments will be properly conducted and not for private gain or by way of trade; (ii.) the licensee or his servants will have nothing to do with the arrangements for the entertainment (*i.e.*, the engagement of operators or employees, &c.) beyond being responsible to the Council for the observance of its regulations; (iii.) none of the persons employed at the licensed premises on week-days will have any pressure put upon him or her to assist at Sunday entertainments; (iv.) an audited balance-sheet will be submitted to the Council at the end of each series of entertainments; (v.) the rules required to be observed on week-days for securing the safety of the audience will be complied with; (vi.) the heads of the society or organisation will hold themselves responsible for seeing that the assurance given to the Council is adhered to.

Mr. Greenwood, chairman of the committee, having moved the reception of the report,

Mr. Montgomery moved as an amendment: That the recommendation be referred back to the committee, with instructions to reconsider the resolution (No. 2) of Dec. 21, 1909, with a view to allowing premises in respect of which licences are granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, to be open on all days (including Sundays), provided that the employees are given one day's rest in seven. He said that, in the first place, he wished to state he had no interest in any cinematograph performances whatever. The question he wished to raise was one which seemed to him to be of vital importance to the amusement world of London, and he thought it was a matter for the consideration of the new Council rather than for the Council that was on the eve of dissolution. The proposal he had brought forward would, if carried, have the effect of shelving the question until after the new Council was elected. He felt that the majority of the present Council had been inoculated with the prudishness and the priggishness of its predecessors. Many of them had great hopes three years ago that the present Council would throw off the incubus of Sabbatarianism which had prevailed so long, and it was a grievous disappointment to the people of London that these hopes had not been realised. It was usual for the party he was associated with to be called the friends of the brewer, but he thought they had now an opportunity of proving themselves the enemies of the brewer and the friends of temperance, because he was informed that something like 500,000 people patronised these cinematograph entertainments in London on Sundays, and it was quite certain they could not be there and also in the public houses, increasing the enormous profits of the brewer. He hoped, therefore, that his friends on the left would assist the cause of temperance by supporting his amendment. The staff which had charge of these cinematograph entertainments was quite a small one—the average was about ten per week; and when they considered that one hall sometimes contained as many as 2,000 people on one afternoon he thought that a very good case had been made out for the cinematograph entertainment. But it was necessary to safeguard the interests of the mechanics and other employees. He suggested that if a licence were granted on the lines he proposed a clause should be introduced in it to the effect that if entertainments were given on Sunday a separate staff should be engaged for that day. By this means they would not only safeguard the interests of the employees, but also provide employment for a larger number of people. With regard to the moral question, he could not see the distinction which made it quite proper for people to look at pictures on the walls of the National Gallery on Sundays and quite wrong to look at moving pictures in a hall. The attitude of the Council towards Sunday entertainments was most Jesuitical, for they said in effect, We don't see any harm, or anything wrong or immoral, if Sunday entertainments are given for charitable objects, but if given for personal gain then they come under our ban. There was one more point. Were they to say that of all the countries in the world their own attitude towards Sunday amusements was the correct one? Were they still to maintain the idea that the strict Sabbatarian way of keeping Sunday was the only proper one? He hoped that both the anti-brewers and the so-called pro-brewers on the Council would support his amendment, which he believed would secure the approval of all right-minded men. Many of the members of the Council had privately expressed their approval who would not do so publicly. (Cries of "Name.")

The Rev. Stewart Headlam, who seconded the amendment, accused those who had brought forward the recommendation as being Sabbatarians for political purposes only.

The Chairman: That is rather a sweeping statement.

The Rev. Stewart Headlam: Then I'll withdraw

What I want to make clear is that it is brought forward by people who will not allow golf to be played on our links on Sunday, but take care to play golf themselves. What you want to do is to insist on one day out of seven for rest, and you do a great deal of harm if you insist that that day must be the Christian Sunday. There is nothing in the Christian religion to prohibit us from going to see a cinematograph show on Sunday afternoon.

The Rev. J. Scott Lidgett said he earnestly hoped the Council would adopt the recommendation of the committee. He did not think they should follow the example of the previous speakers and discuss the subject from the point of view of Sunday observance, or Sabbatarianism as it was called. A particular trade interest asked the Council to treat them in a totally different way from the way others were treated. To make an exception in favour of one of these trade interests would, he thought, be contrary to a sound policy. He asked in vain what was their particular claim to this specially favourable treatment. He thought that the great development of this class of amusement was harmful to the public mind and damaged the power of serious attention to serious subjects. He could give evidence that those shows—even those given on religious premises—justified this contention, and he sincerely regretted the vogue for this kind of entertainment. He declined to admit that a case had been made out for any exception to be granted to this particular trade. It was a very significant fact that while two trade protection societies had asked the Council to permit Sunday opening, the societies representing the whole body of employees had opposed. As a matter of fact, it was on the poor wretched people employed by the proprietors of the shows the whole burden would fall. It was said that the proprietors would not employ people more than six days in the seven; but the Council would have no control in regard to the wages and probably no knowledge of what was done. To make an exception in this particular case would be the most short-sighted action the Council could possibly take. He had no desire to force Sunday observance upon people contrary to their own tastes, and he thought that the present arrangements were to the general interests of the people. In conclusion, he appealed to the Council to adhere to a rule which he believed was not only the dignified but also the the safe course to pursue.

Mr. Saunders said he desired to join with Mr. Scott Lidgett in urging the Council to reject the amendment. He was as anxious as Mr. Stewart Headlam that the people should have a day of rest that would allow them to exercise their religious observances and at the same time afford them opportunities for reasonable relaxation. As Mr. Scott Lidgett had already pointed out, whatever might be their religious views with regard to Sunday or any other points of religion one was absolutely sure that keeping Sunday as a day of rest, although it might be dull to people who did not have to work hard for six days of the week, was an exceedingly fine sanitary arrangement, which he did not mean to see disturbed without making a protest. They had been told that a fresh staff would be engaged for Sundays. That one statement was alone sufficient to condemn the proposal, because it meant that if a staff of men were engaged for one day in the week they would also work the other six days. Besides, what right had the Council to give the monopoly of Sunday entertainments to one class of entertainers alone? He held no brief for theatre or music hall proprietors; but to give a monopoly to one of the latest forms of entertainment would not be right on the part of any public body, and he hoped that the Council would follow the advice of Mr. Scott Lidgett and reject the amendment.

Mr. W. Peel said he wished to state, on behalf of his own party, that no party was so determined to keep Sunday free for the workers of all classes. He sympathised heartily with what Mr. Scott Lidgett had said, for he could not see why, if the Council were going to make any exceptions to their rule, that the cinematograph shows should be specially favoured. So far as he was personally concerned, he should offer a vigorous opposition to the proposal, and he believed its supporters in the Council would be extremely few.

Mr. Gosling, speaking on behalf of the Labour Bench, said he feared that if such a proposal as that of Mr. Montgomery were adopted they would next have the workshops, &c., open on Sundays, and they were dead against it. The present policy of the Council with regard to Sunday opening of places of amusement had been decided upon entirely apart from party. A matter of so much importance should not be left to a new Council. When the present Council came into office it was thought that the old Progressive policy on this matter was going to be opposed, and some of them were very pleased to find that they were all practically of one mind in regard to the conditions on which licences to places of amusement were granted. There was all the difference in the world between the proprietors of places of amusement lending them for purposes of charity and letting them for their own gain. He did not want to see the home life of the country upset by too much entertainment, and he believed that in the interests of the profession and of the people themselves it would be better to leave well alone.

Mr. Greenwood said he was rather surprised to find this amendment on the agenda after the acceptance of the recommendation of his committee that the licences of cinematograph halls should be subject to such conditions as were imposed upon all other places of amusement in London. The committee's recommendation did not find favour with certain interested parties, who were invited to come before the committee and state their views. The committee, however, were by no means impressed by the statements made by the representatives of the Protection Society and the Defence League, for their arguments amounted to very little beyond this, that they were desirous of making the best success possible in the enterprises in which they were financially interested. On the other hand, the arguments used by the representatives of the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the Imperial Sunday Alliance impressed the committee very strongly, and they felt that if by any chance the Council removed the restrictions on the Sunday opening of places of amusement they would be doing a very grievous injury to a very large body of people. And, moreover, they felt that if they made an exception to the rule they would be showing an inconsistency that the Council would have every reason to deplore. If this amendment were carried they might have in the future between five hundred and six hundred places of entertainment in London open on Sunday. Although there were some who sneered at the Sunday as being dull, he hoped that the day would be far distant when, by any action on the part of the Council, the restrictions which helped to preserve it as a rest day were removed. He trusted that the Council would uphold the decision of the committee.

The amendment was then put, and only the mover and seconder voted for it. The recommendation of the committee was then agreed to.

DRAWINGS APPROVED.

The committee reported that they had considered drawings with regard to the undermentioned premises. The arrangements shown on the drawings appeared to be satisfactory, and the applicants have been informed that, subject to certain conditions being observed, the Council has no objection thereto:—

Elephant and Castle Theatre.—Installation of new heating apparatus.

Holborn Empire.—Rearrangement of the exit on the prompt side of the stalls and formation of a new refreshment saloon.

Holland Park Skating Rink.—*Daily Mirror* Exhibition, May, 1910.

Shaftesbury Theatre.—Improvement of the sanitary accommodation.

PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE, EARLSFIELD.

The committee had considered drawings and a specification, submitted by Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co., of the Premier Electric Theatre proposed to be erected in Garratt-lane, Earlsfield. The premises will have accommodation for about 780 persons, and it is intended to apply for a music and dancing licence. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired, and the committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings and specification and the regulations of the Council. Agreed to.

THE FIASCO AT THE STRAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I, through your courtesy, offer my sincere and heartfelt apologies to the public and the artists and the staff who so loyally supported me for the sudden termination of my season at the Strand?

It was represented to me with most solemn assurance by one whom I had hitherto regarded as a friend, and on whose word I could place implicit reliance, that I had at least a backing of £14,000, and from sources which I considered were as reliable as though the money was in my pocket. After I had depleted my own resources in providing the necessary preliminary expenses, I found, to my intense despair, that the friend on whose word I had relied had grossly misrepresented the position, and that in respect to the promised capital the statements made to me were practically a tissue of lies. Hence my terrible position and the consequent distress which I have unwittingly caused to my staff and company—a distress which I confidently hope to relieve; and to this end I am now making arrangements which will undoubtedly place me in a position to do in the very near future. Believe me, I shall never know one moment's peace or happiness until all those who have claims on me through this most unfortunate business are satisfied.—Yours faithfully,

ROBERT HILTON.

London, Feb. 16, 1910.

The King and Queen, Princess Victoria, Prince Henry of Prussia, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting witnessed the performance of *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Charles Hartley and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull, who have returned from a long European tour with their entertainment, left Southampton last Saturday by the *Armadale Castle* for Madeira. They appeared in the island on Wednesday and Thursday evening, and yesterday (Friday) set sail for Teneriffe. Santa Cruz, Laguna, Orolara, Las Palmas, Tajira, and Monte will be visited for one night each in the order named. After fulfilling some engagements in Scotland at Easter Mr. Hartley and Miss Paull will visit Australia.

On Tuesday night about sixty members of the Birmingham Athletic Institute visited the Prince of Wales' Theatre, and they had a jolly good time. They heartily sang the different choruses, and during the evening presented about a dozen gifts, including boxes of chocolates and bouquets, to the leading artists.

Mlle. Florence, who is appearing this week in *The Sleeping Beauty* at the Jersey Opera House, on Monday gave a public display by walking on the globe through the streets of the town. She careered jauntily along, attired in a dainty white yachting costume, her progress being witnessed by a big crowd of people.

Master Lionel Bastow, the thirteen-year-old son of the well-known comedian, is a Boy Scout, and was with his patrol in a field adjoining the scene of the Stoat's Nest disaster at the moment of the accident, and he and his companions were conspicuous by their cool aid with their ambulance amid scenes sufficient to make the hearts of full-grown men quail.

At the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, which is one of the latest acquisitions of Moss' Empires, Ltd., *Mother Goose* still continues its remarkably successful career, Mr. Fred Karno's pantomime proving one of the greatest successes ever known at that house. After ten weeks' run, business still continues to be enormous, Neil Kenyon as Mother Goose, May Moore Duprez, Lily Morris, Jack O'Connor, and Fred Allandale all continuing to be prime favourites.

A 'Varsity night, arranged last week by the students of Glasgow University, passed off without a hitch, and was generally voted one of the most successful Students' Nights in the annals of Glasgow. In connection therewith the following letter has been received by the resident-manager:—In a letter of thanks and appreciation received by Mr. Christie Grant, the resident-manager of the Grand, from Mr. R. R. Archibald, president of the Union, the following passages occur:—"I think that the artists, staff, and students can, without fear of contradiction, congratulate themselves on having taken part in the most successful 'Students' Night' that has been held in Glasgow for a very long time. I would specially ask you to convey our special thanks to Mr. Albert Orton, the manager of the company, who left nothing undone, that we might be happy, and also to accept yourself our sincere gratitude."

Mr. Bransby Williams was at Toronto on the 1st inst.—once more under the Union Jack, which he saluted on arrival. He has rejoiced in big receptions and exceptional honour. He has been favoured with a public reception, and was down to address the Dickens Society, who kept the master's birthday on the Saturday because of his presence in the city. The society numbers one thousand. He went to Boston last week, and will be three weeks in New York, coming home again for Easter. One night during his speech of thanks a voice called out "Give us 'The Old Showman.'"

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The programmes at this popular hall continue to represent the high-water mark of excellence, and audiences severely taxing the capacity of the house are the reward of the managerial enterprise. The place of honour this week is occupied by Herbert Darnley's company in his new production *Private Potts*. When it is mentioned that this military character is sustained by Mr. Fred. Kitchen, it will be recognised that there is plenty of amusement provided for the audience. Certainly Mr. Kitchen has a part in which his inimitable comedy finds full play. The audience are kept in a perpetual state of merriment when he is on the stage, and they accorded him a great ovation at the conclusion. Capital support is forthcoming from Messrs. W. Wilbey, Jack Williams, and Harry Lappo, and Mrs. Herbert Darnley and Miss Jessie Crammond both do well in the feminine rôles. The show is very elaborately staged, the three scenes by Sidney E. Pyne and Co. being effective, and the military uniforms worn by the fifty performers completing a bright and animated stage picture. A very long and prosperous run for the production is assured.

Johnny Fuller in his feline act is as entertaining as ever. He reproduces with remarkable fidelity the characteristic attitudes of the animal, and his wire act and acrobatic dance complete a thoroughly entertaining turn. Edith Heron-Brown, the musical slavey, who opened the programme, did well and gained a good reception. Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, made a successful appearance; clearer articulation would greatly add to the merit of her act; the dance, however, with which she concluded, was clever. Clark and Hayden, musical and comedy artists, give a really bright and pleasant show. The lady possesses a soprano voice of great power, and the gentleman is a clever comedian, and a very efficient accompanist. They were speedily on good terms with the house and gained a flattering reception.

The Abdullah Arabs in a pyramid building and tumbling act displayed great agility, the various items in their act calling for both nerve and exceptional skill; they gained several calls. Arthur Ferris, a new character comedian, made quite a hit. He sang two songs, the first in the character of a swell, and the second as a slightly elevated gentleman returning from a Covent Garden ball. In both of these he has some very amusing patter; his methods are original, and altogether he seems to be an artist of whom more will be heard in the future. He gained one of the receptions of the evening, taking some four or five calls. Cliff Dixo, in a couple of songs, was well received.

The bottom of the bill is filled by Alice Raymond and her players in *A Night in Egypt*. This is a capital musical act. Miss Raymond contributes solos on the keyed trumpet, horn and cornet, and displays great ability in each. She has the assistance of a wind instrument quartette, and the selections performed include the Grand March from *Aida*; the *William Tell* overture; and the Soldiers' Chorus from *Faust*. A special word is due to her conductor, who, in addition to his onerous duties, sang with great effect "The Bedouin Love Song." Altogether it forms an admirable addition to any programme, and the Egyptian scenery and costumes add to its stage effectiveness. Miss Raymond had an enthusiastic reception. The Bioscope is, as usual, excellent.

SADLER'S WELLS.

A most enjoyable programme for the most part has been presented at Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Islington house this week, and doubtless the hearts of the artists engaged have been gladdened by the unstinted applause that has greeted their efforts. The patrons of Sadler's Wells to-day are keen critics, but they are just ones, and never fail to recognise true talent, at the same time being just as quick to resent bad showmanship. Although not occupying pride of place in the bill, there can be no doubt but that "The Metablescope" is the finest item. It is clever, artistic, and we do not remember to have seen anything like it before in London. Briefly, it is the living-picture idea presented in a novel way, and reminiscent of the devices employed by the mock monks of Montmartre to delude the unwary British tourist when that individual seek the sensational in Paris. In Signor Arvi's presentation, however, there is nothing that offends. The statuary and famous pictures copied seem to be mysteriously produced from thin air in full view of the audience. Living models are employed, which makes the delusion the more remarkable. There can be no question of trap-doors, cloth coverings, screens, or the hundred and one devices of the stage magician. One sees a shadow at first materialise into a beautiful living woman—there is no mistake about that as the lady steps on to the stage—and afterwards she disappears in just the same uncanny way as she arrived. The illusion is a very remarkable one, and deserves to be seen on the very best stages of the Metropolis. The subjects chosen include "The Bath of Psyche," "Wedded," "Ayesha consumed in real Flames," "Venus la Milo," "Salome," "Bathing," "The Last Shot," "The Soldier's Friend," "Bubbles," "Rock of Ages," "Justice," "Hope," and "Galatea." Signor Arvi and his clever and beautiful assistants were deservedly recalled again and again.

The Eight Merry Marvels are eight vivacious little maids, dressed as baby girls in white. They have improved considerably since we saw them at Collins's some time ago. In their opening chorus they tell us to "Smile, smile, smile—keep on smiling all the while," and we did. And it was because of their youth and their daintiness and the freshness of their young voices—in fact, the act was remarkable for its all-round youthful vigour. The young lady who does the 40-second impersonation of Sam Mayo is especially clever. In direct contrast with these sweet-faced damsels are the Three Torontos, a trio of—if we are not greatly mistaken—Teuton Goliaths, magnificent specimens of men whose every movement was a pleasure to watch. Their feats of strength were cleanly and neatly done, as much with the manipulation of human weights as with the great barbells they handled. Sadler's Wells liked the Three Torontos.

No. 3 was Will Avis, magician. Very smart and clever. The choruses of Ray Royal's illustrated songs were well taken up, and Harry Bland, Dorothy Dare, and Sid Kemp come in for a fair share of appreciation.

CHELSEA PALACE.

It is a striking tribute to the management of this comfortable house of amusement that not only are the cheaper parts of the place crowded at every show, but that a very large proportion of the artistic fraternity for which Chelsea is famous are among its regular patrons. This week's programme is typical of the high standard of excellence maintained. Topping the bill is Joe Elvin, always a favourite with the Palace-goers. With a strong company he presents the sketch *Paying the Bill*, and the house rocks with laughter while Joe plays Bill Buggins, a piano mover, a part which affords him full scope for his wonderful powers as a mirth-provoker. Other parts are taken by Miss Leonora Castelle, Messrs. George Denham and Kenneth Altamont, and the piece goes with a rare swing. Equally funny and enjoyable is France and Stewart's presentation of their American comedy sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*. The scene is laid in Coney Island, and there is an originality and freshness about the item which finds great favour. To the people who love a chorus Lil Hawthorne is all that a music hall artist should be. Her song-scena, "Little Maid of Monte Carlo," is charmingly staged and just as charmingly sung, and there is a haunting refrain about it which finds a lively echo up in the gallery. Miss Hawthorne has been particularly successful this week, and so, too, have been the Lyons Trio, whose dancing display has always aroused much enthusiasm. Charles Banks has had plenty of honours to share with his dog Woof, a clever animal, which does the most amazing things, and Will Godwin's new song, "The King's Reserve," has served to enhance the already high reputation he enjoyed in Chelsea. Hanid Alexander, Tate and Tate, and Frank Lynne, all clever turns of more than average merit, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope complete the programme, and over and above all this there is the first-class playing of one of the best of the London suburban orchestras, and the pleasure of sitting in a house where everything possible is done to study the comfort of the public.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Good low comedy free from vulgarity will always find a welcome place on a variety bill, hence the popularity of Miss Kate Carney's latest mirth-moving scena *All the Fun of the Fair*. What strikes one particularly in this sketch is the strict attention which has been paid to detail and local colouring, in which the fair-ground scene is rich. At the Tottenham Palace this week big audiences, twice nightly, are the rule, and one of the best companies Mr. F. S. Mayne has been privileged to handle here is billed. Reverting to *All the Fun of the Fair*, this number forms the leading feature of the programme. In it we see Miss Carney at her best in the part of Carmen, the queen of her gipsy tribe. The plot has already been detailed in these columns, so that it would be superfluous to report it, but one cannot help recording the fact that many improvements have been wrought in the sketch since its bow a few weeks back. It was then an instantaneous success which brought many congratulations to Miss Carney. She is to be further complimented on her "winner" as it is now presented. The part of the hog is splendidly characterised by one whose name is worthy of mention on the programme. Miss Carney is also running a singing competition here amongst local aspirants.

Another act reminiscent of showman life is vouchsafed by Chas. F. Best. He gets no end of fun out of his tricks and turnings. As a contortionist and equilibrist, too, he shines conspicuously, and his ludicrous "get-up" creates plenty of diversion amongst his audiences, thus helping to gain applause of the right kind. The Mackies stage an elaborate musical set, and work energetically and tunefully round an act which they entitle *The Professor's Studio*. Melodious combinations on the glasses, accompanied by the piano and one-string fiddle, and a *William Tell* overture skilfully performed on ordinary bottles depended in an electically-fitted frame by Mr. Mackie, constitutes a highly acceptable turn. Deputising on the night of our visit for Miss Hilda Jacobsen, that lady being indisposed through a severe cold, Miss Lucy Clark, a vocalist from Erin's Isle, in the rich brogue of her country sang "Rory O'Moore" and "Katie" in pleasing style. My Fancy, ever popular, is a picture in each of her dances; her every step seems to reflect each note of the melody to which she dances. My Fancy is everybody's fancy at Tottenham. Mons. Foot-gers, with his portable piano and stool, hits off his compatriot Fragson to a nicety, and gives a delightful burlesque impersonation of G. H. Elliot. Edie Gray and Coons are strong favourites with their fine vocalism, and Frank H. Fox, though early in the programme, is by no means the least appreciated turn of the evening. He has a catchy song in "What I want's a Girl." The Gothams are also on the bill. Ruffell's Bioscope rounds off the list in fitting fashion.

Mr. Archie Howells, the popular variety conductor, is now recovering from a bad attack of influenza, and will go away for a fortnight's recuperation before returning to his duties.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has secured the services of the Brixton principal boy, Miss Maud Esmond, to play a specially-written part, Dandini, in his next year's pantomime at Hammersmith.

The Sabbatarian cranks and faddists of Bath have failed to prevent the renewal of the licence to give cinematograph exhibitions in the local theatre on Sundays.

At Leeds, on the Market-ground, are Messrs. Jameson, Vanner, Turner, and Guthrie, with hoop-las and other games. At the Mearwood-road pitch are located T. Burgin's steam swings, A. Rhodes' throwing games, and J. W. Burgin's hoop-las and Emma sheets.

Since Thursday (the 10th) Miss Nell Emerald, the sprightly principal boy of the Bradford Theatre Royal pantomime, has been indisposed. Miss Nelly Black, the representative of Percy, however, has proved a most capable understudy, winning hearty marks of appreciation.

Vowles and Bryan make a welcome return to the Hippodrome, Lowestoft, this week in their scena *Song and Story in a Garden*. The Monckton appear in a humorous sketch *A Woman's Curiosity*, and Sergt. Bert Powell provides an illustrated sketch. The pictorial subjects, as usual, are distinctly good.

La Milo and Cruickshank will reopen at the London Pavilion on Monday next. Since she made her début at this house some four years ago, La Milo has visited practically every town of importance in the United Kingdom. She will present on Monday several classical studies for the first time in London.

Mr. Pete Murray, the manager of Sadler's Wells, whom we saw on Monday evening, was, we were glad to hear, not so seriously injured as was at first feared. At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Monday he was able to appear to prosecute his assailant, who, it was remembered, was being removed from the theatre when the assault took place. Mr. Murray gave it as his opinion that the blow was an inadvertent one, and the prisoner was merely bound over.

Before Mr. Egerton S. Grey the creditors met on Thursday under the failure of Jesse Sparrow, music-hall manager, of Love-walk, Camberwell, who returned his liabilities at £629 and his assets at £20. The debtor attributed his failure to living beyond his income, to depreciation in the value of certain securities, and to interest on borrowed money. There was no proposal before the meeting, and, the debtor consenting to an order of adjudication, the estate remained in the Official Receiver's hands.

At the last performance of *The Babes in the Wood* at Norwich Theatre, marking the conclusion of the tour of Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, the conductor was presented with several handsome presents, whilst he in turn distributed choice flowers to members of the company.

Messrs. A. R. Dean and Sons, of Birmingham, who are by far the largest manufacturers in the world of every description of seating, tip-up chairs, &c. suitable for theatres, music halls, picture palaces, skating rinks, town halls, hotels, and billiard saloons, last year executed 134 contracts for theatres, music halls, town halls, picture palaces, and skating rinks, and this year intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion a number of furnishing, seating, and carpentering contracts too numerous to detail. Messrs. Dean and Sons make a special feature of fibrous plaster fronts and decorations for picture palaces and skating rinks, and are at all times pleased to prepare and submit designs and schemes of decorations free of all charge.

ON THE ROAD, FEB. 21.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
ALONE IN LONDON.—O. H., Coventry.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—Sunderland.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Glossop.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Brixton Theatre.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—O. H., Belfast.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Northampton.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Tenby and Pembroke Dock.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Smethwick.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Oxford and Cambridge.
BROKEN HEART, A.—T. R., Rochdale.
BULMER, MR.—Colosseum, Oldham.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—O. H., Cork.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Palace T., Newcastle.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Bedford and Luton.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
CHORUS LADY, THE.—Coronet Theatre, W.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—T. R., Leigh.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (N.).—Kennington T.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Stirling and Hawick.
CINGALEE (B.).—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Bury.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—Broadway T., Deptford.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Yeadon.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Pavilion T., Weymouth.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Grand T., Croydon.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., Colchester.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—Prince's T., Manchester.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—T. R., Nottingham.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Castleford.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—O. H., Southport.
EAST LYNNE.—T. R., Norwich.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Miners' T., Ashington.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Longton.
FATAL WEDDING.—T. R., Peterboro'.
FIRES OF FATE.—County T., Kingston.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—Irving T., Seacombe.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—Victoria T., Broughton.
FOLLY'S FORTUNES.—T. R., Crook.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Alexandra T., Hull.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Bolton.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—T. R., Blyth.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T. R., Yeadon.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—P. O. W., Grimsby.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—New T., Aberdare.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Newport.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Colosseum, Oldham.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—T. R., Huddersfield.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—H. M. T., Dundee.
HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN.—Empire T., Oldham.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Metropole T., Devonport.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Queen's Park, Manchester.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Castleford.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—P. T., Portsmouth.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—Marlboro' Theatre.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Stamford and Oakham.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Hastings and Eastbourne.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Hippo., Scarboro'.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Grand T., Fulham.
LUCKY LIZA.—T. R., Colne.
MAN AND WIFE.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
MARRIAGES OF MAYFAIR.—O. H., Leicester.
MERRY WIDOW.—T. R., Brighton.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—T. R., Bournemouth.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Elephant and Castle T.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—T. R., Stockport.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—King's T., Glasgow.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—T. R., Hanley.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—Chatham.
NEW BOY, THE.—West Pier, Brighton.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—St. James's T., Long Eaton.
OLD HOME, THE.—Prince's T., Accrington.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Junction T., Manchester.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Court T., Wigan.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Grand T., Hull.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—T. R., Birkenhead.
PETE (N.).—Palace T., Bordesley.
PETE (S.).—New Century T., Motherwell.
PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Crown T., Eccles.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—Pavilion T., Mile End.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—County T., Reading.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
SEND HIM VICTORIOUS.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
SERVANT IN THE HOUSE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Torquay.
SILVER KING.—Court T., Warrington.
SINNER, THE.—T. R., Batley.
SINS OF CITY.—King's T., Greenock.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Empire T., Swindon.
TEMPTATION.—O. H., Kidderminster.
THIEF, THE.—Luton and Bedford.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—G. T., Swansea.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—T. R., North Shields.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Grand T., Nottingham.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Royalty T., Barrow.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., York.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Gaiety T., Leith.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—T. R., Sunderland.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Lyceum T., Govan.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—T. R., Bath.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Grand T., Mansfield.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—Cardiff.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—Maidstone and Shrewsbury.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Hippodrome, Aldershot.
WRECKER OF MEN.—T. R., Middlesbro'.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Coatbridge.

MISS ESTHER PHILLIPS, supported by a powerful company, is this week presenting her Egyptian production, *A Royal Rival*, at the Bedford. She is appearing also at the Crouch End Hippodrome in a new sketch of Geo. De Lara's, entitled *An Eye for an Eye*.

MISS MELINDA MAY, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following:—Miss Irma Lorraine, for generous gift of £2 10s.; Mr. Roy Cochrane (manager Surrey Theatre), 5lb. of tea and promise of children's boots; Dr. Goldberg (dentist, Strand), cheque for ton of coals; Miss Edna Branston (Webb and Branston), 7/-, result of Hoop-La competition; Sisters Macarte (collecting), £2 5s. 4d.; Mrs. C. C. Bartram (collecting), from Master Sidney May 2s., Baby Æone Dunville 2s., and Baby Karl Hooper 2s. 6d., Mr. Paul Murray (collecting), 5s.; Mrs. Vernon Cowper (collecting), 3s. 6d.; Miss Indie Smytheon (result of hoop-la), 9s.; Miss Cecilia Macarte (who sold the winning number of bicycle)—namely, 168; Mr. Sam Mayo, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Alec Barish, another parcel new clothing; Mrs. James Horne, baby's new clothing; and Miss McNeill (Edinburgh), clothing. Are there any willing workers at Liverpool who would kindly collect for the Ladies' Music Hall Guild on Wednesday, Feb. 23, and March 2? Will they please communicate with Miss May at once, and oblige?

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 15 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

T. WELSH.—*Tom Traynor died Jan. 14, 1906.*

ROSA BUD.—*The Tivoli was opened on May 24, 1890.*

ELSIE.—*We cannot tell you when the company comes to the London suburbs, but you might inquire of Mr. W. Lestocq, at the Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.*

ROMEO.—*More than one living actress has frequently sustained the part of Romeo, the best-known being Miss Marriott; and a preceding generation loudly applauded Miss Cushman and Miss Vestiali in the character.*

WILL ROSE.—*It is impossible to give information concerning dancing contests at Stockton-on-Tees. The whole subject is beset with misrepresentations. You might, however, write to Mr. Pat Carey, care of* The Era, *5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., who has considerable knowledge of the subject.*

ROSTER (Ipswich).—*A meeting in connection with the Music Hall Artists' Protection Association was held at the Trocadero by permission of the late Mr. Sam Adams, on April 21, 1890. The chairman on that occasion was Mr. Charles Coborn. The Association was called into being by the aggressive attitude assumed by the first London County Council towards the music hall industry.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

PEDGRIFT.—On Feb. 13, at 21, Hillbury-road, Tooting Bec Common, S.W., the wife (Dulcie Dalmar) of F. W. Pedgrift, jun., of a bouncing boy. Both doing well.

YARDE BULLER.—On Feb. 12, 1910, at 13, Somerset-place, Hyde Park, the wife of Captain the Hon. John Yarde Buller, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CRUIKSHANKS—DENTRY.—Feb. 19, 1900, at Trinity Church, Blackpool, Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshanks, of Cautley-avenue, Clapham Common, to Florence Dentry (Lynn).

LEVINGE—PIX.—Feb. 15, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Sir Richard Levinge, Bart., of Knockdrin Castle, Mullingar, to Irene Margaret ("Irene Desmond"), elder daughter of the late J. H. C. Pix, of Bradford, Yorkshire.

DEATHS.

ANTLEY.—Feb. 7 George Antley, after a short illness.

BARBOUR.—Feb. 5, William Barbour, chief electrician St. James's Theatre, aged 47.

PEARSON.—Sunday, Feb. 13, James Pearson, Stage Carpenter, of Grand Theatre, Hull. Buried Wednesday, Feb. 16, Hull Western Cemetery.

RADFORD.—Addy Radford, aged 79, passed away at Rugby. Grandma of Miss Beattie Bloom. God rest her soul. American papers please copy.

SOMERFIELD.—Feb. 15, at Warrington, Fred C. Somerfield, of cancer and heart failure, aged 39 years.

IN MEMORIAM.

AUBREY.—In loving memory of Miss Lizzie Aubrey (Mrs. Chas. Dodsworth), who died Feb. 22, 1900. Never forgotten by her friend, MAUDE STONEHAM.

CAMPBELL.—In ever loving memory of my dearly loved husband, Denis Campbell, who fell asleep Feb. 19, 1909, to the inexpressible grief of his ever-sorrowing wife. R.I.P.

DUBOIS.—In sweet memory of my darling husband, James Dubois, who went to sleep Feb. 20, 1907. "Thy will be done."

DUBOIS.—In unfading memory of our dear brother, James Dubois, who left us Feb. 20, 1907. Never forgotten by Sally and Jim—Les Rallis.

DUBOIS.—In ever loving and cherished memory of my darling brother, James Dubois, who left us to cross the dark waters to the light beyond, Feb. 20, 1907. We all loved him with an everlasting love.—JESSIE.

DUBOIS.—In affectionate remembrance of a very dear friend, Jas. Dubois, who died Feb. 20, 1907.—ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

JONES.—In affectionate memory of E. H. Jones, who died Feb. 13, 1905. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife and family.

LORENZI.—In loving memory of Frank Lorenzi, of Sisters Phillips and Bros. Lorenzi, who was taken from us Feb. 18, 1906. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family.

MAY.—In loving memory of Madam Castaglioni May, mother of Emily Lyndale (Mrs. Tom Woottwell), who departed this life Feb. 22, 1895. Gone, but not forgotten.

VERNO.—In loving memory of Jess, the beloved husband of Lizzie Verno, who passed away Feb. 22, 1908. Death divides, but memory ever clings.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Mme. Adelina Patti—Saturday, Feb. 19.
Gertie Millar—Monday, Feb. 21.
W. V. Garrod—Friday, Feb. 25.
Dorothy Marsdin—Friday, Feb. 25.

THE popular Miss Alexandra Dagmar, at the Hackney Empire next week, will be singing new songs interspersed with a collection of bright and breezy stories.

IN the suit of Mr. Charles Dare, music-hall proprietor, for money due to him from Mr. Daniel O'Connor, at the City of London Court on Thursday, the dispute, which only involved 7s. 6d., turned on the question whether artists or proprietors of troupes paid for band parts.

GUS DANIELS, a member of the profession, testified that it was the rule for artists to supply their own band parts if they were doing a single turn; but if they were performing with a troupe, then the "boss," or proprietor, of the troupe had to provide everything necessary for the show. That was if they were going on tour. Judge Lumley Smith gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Agnew, Mr. Claude
Arnold, Miss Maud
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Ball, Mrs. A.
Barnes, Mr. J.
Beatrices, Sisters
Beaudyn and Mantanini
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellew, Mr. Kyrle
Bellian, Mr. Walter
Billing, Mr. C.
Booth, Mrs. J.
Bradley, Mr. W. K.
Brasque, Mr. Albert
Buckley, Mr. Andrew
Calden, Messrs. T. & W
Campbell, Mr. Chas. J.
Charter, Mr. James
Cherry, Mr. James
Chipperfield, Mr. J.
Claff, Mr. Harry
Clarke, Capt. Marcalla
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Conquest, Mr. George
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Coyne, Mr. Edgar J.
Crawford, Mr. J. R.
Culley, Mr. M.
Cuthbert, Mrs. J.
Dando, Capt. W. H.
Danks, Mr. Charles
Dare, Mr. Cyrus
Deas, Mr. Henry
Doherty, Mr. Pat
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Elaine
Ellis, Miss M. E.
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Esden, Miss Alice
Evett, Mr. Robert
Felton, Mr. Wm.
Ford, Mrs. Max
Forman and Fannan
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss Mary
Fulton, Mr. Geoffrey
Gambier, Capt. G.
Gibson, Mr. D.
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Goddin, Mons. H.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Goodfellow, Mr. and Mr
Graham, Miss Ethel
Grahame, Miss Gracie
Halstan, Miss M.
Harris, Mr. Leonard
Harrison, Mr. John
Heathcote, Mr. G. N.
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Hollander, Miss Alice
Inescourt, Miss Elaine
Jackman, Mr. W. A.
Jakobowski, Mr. E.
James, Mr. Philip
Johnstone, Mr. T. E.
Kerr, Mr. Fred
King, Mr. Randolph
Kresse, Mr. Otto
Kyburn-Dellar, Mr. M.
Lawton, Mr. E.
Le Clair, Mr. and Mrs.
Lennol, Mr. J.
Liliputian Troupe
Linden, Miss
Lindsay, Mr. James
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Martino, Madam
McMahon, Mr. W. S.
Mersano, Mr.
Michel, Mons. M.
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Needham, Mr. Robert
Osborne, Mrs. Edith
Parkinson, Miss M.
Paul Brothers
Paul, Miss N.
Payne, Mr. E. M.
"Phantom Ship" Co.
Polini, Miss H.
Polini, Mrs. H.
Price, Mr. Frank
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Redcliffe, Mr. Ern
Reese, Mr. Ernie
Rhodehamel, Mr. C. W
Rinder, Mr. Arthur
Rinonis, Les
Roberts, Mrs. Annie
Rose, Mr. Charles
Rousby, Mr. E.
Royston, Mr. Harry
Russell, Miss Lelia
Russell, Mr. S.
Sanders, Mr. Harry B.
Saunders, Mr. Charles
Saxo
Selbini, Miss Lalla
Sharman, Mr. John
Sheldon, Mr. George
Smalley, Mr. Seath
Somos, Mr. R.
Sprees, The
St. Denis, Miss Ruth
Stephenson, Mons. Harry
Stuart, Miss Marie
Tabrar, Mr. Joseph
Terry, Miss Marion
Thurston, Messrs.
Transfield, Mr.
Tribe, Miss Maud
Valosky, Mr.
Vesta, Miss Ruby
Walonell, Mr. Jack
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warner, Mr. and Mrs. R.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Wayne, Miss Flo
Western, Mr. Harry
Whayman, Mr. W. H.
White, Miss Maggie
Wilson, Mr. Walter A.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR FOR THE SKIN
Produces soft, fair, delicate skin, heals all cutaneous eruptions, and insures a lovely delicate complexion to all who use it.
2/3, 4/6, of Stores and Chemists.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is Owbridge's WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

Mr. FRANK SIMS
is expressly established to make
PROMPT & PRIVATE ADVANCES
to the profession from
£10 to £5,000
at an exceptionally low rate of interest, to be repaid by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Call, write, 'phone, or wire
MR. FRANK SIMS,
101, EDGWARE ROAD, HYDE PARK, W.
'PHONE—982 PADDINGTON
TELEGRAMS—"OBTECTED LONDON."

ASTOR, 28, GLASSHOUSE ST., PICCADILLY CIRCUS W.,
ADVANCES MONEY
from £5 to £10,000 upon note of hand or effects without removal, to ladies and gentlemen. Before going elsewhere call or write,
Tel., 9,659 Gerrard.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Barton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, *Chartered Accountant.*

Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.

Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily. 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 8.30. (Last six nights.)
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"SMITH,"
a Comedy in Four Acts,
By W. Somerset Maugham.
Last two Matinées, To-day and Wednesday at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 7.30.
Last Matinées, next Wed. and Sat., at 2.
Last Week,
"ALADDIN."
The Great West End Pantomime at Popular Prices.
Admitted by all to be the finest pantomime ever seen at the Lyceum.
Special prices for children to reserved seats at Mats. Box office, 10 to 10. Tels (3). 7617-8-9 Gerr.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.

Feb. 21, Mr. Courtice Pounds and company in a Triple Bill.
Matinée Thursday, 2.30.

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

"KING OF CADONIA."

Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, 7.45. Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.
Feb. 21, "THE FIRES OF FATE."
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

ROYALTY THEATRE.
Lease (55 years) for sale, with possession. Total outgoing, including ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, under £2,000 per annum. Part purchase might remain at 5 per cent. per annum. Theatre holds at ordinary West End prices, £220. Accommodation, 800 persons. Proprietors would give permission for conversion to music hall if purchaser desired. Apply to Tom B. Davis, Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE
ITALIAN OPERAS.
Cav. Castellano's Italian Opera Co., 7.45 each evening; Matinées Wednesday and Saturday at 3 p.m.; Strong Cast. Skating. Ladies' and other Bands. Organ, &c. Wed. next, concert by Norwood Prize Band, &c., 8 p.m.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth." Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
Mr. A. L. Levering's Co. in "The Drums of Oude," Mary Law, Mons. Footgers, Sam Mayo, Espinosa's English Dancers, Winifred Ward, Ian Colquhoun, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, George Newburn, "The Butler's Concert," Beatrice Lindley, Bessie Slaughter, George Formby, John Donald, Yvonne Lamor, the Bioscope.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Kate Carney and Co., in her latest production, "Fun of the Fair," George Formby, Eadie and Ramsden, Winifred Ward, Yvonne Lamor, Edie Gray and Coons, Chas. Banks and Dog, The Markies, Harry Herbert, The Fitzroys, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Manager and Secretary, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

"God Save the King," Carney Bros., Frances Letty, Conn and Conrad, Geo. Antill, Nancy Thornton, Bert Beechaum, Eva Maynard, Jeape's Animated Graphic, "The Colonel's Dilemma."

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Six Brothers Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps," Bessie Slaughter, Rutter's Comedy Dogs, Cribb and Cribb, Duncan and Godfrey, in "The Coster's Christening," Aida Martine, Baker and Balfe, Edward Ind, Ruffell's Bioscope, James Fawn.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Feb. 21, 1910:—
Esther Phillips and Co., Mlle. Yetta, Daisy Mead, May Lilian Levey, Bioscope, Ferguson and Mack, Marjorie Russell, Marty O'Niel, Hurman and Arthur, Ellis and Campbell, Four Vagabonds, Dorothy Grahame, in "Ma Fille," &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. Half-time, 9.30). Monday, Feb. 21, John Lawson (himself) and Co., in "The Monkey's Paw," Juvenile Follies, Julian Mack, The Player Co. in "Sweet Seventeen, Winifred Ward, Ellis Barrieton, Allis and Casatti, Sisters Selwyn, Henry Hare and Co., Gladys Soman, "Zerthus," Fred Douglas, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Marie Santoi and Co., Frank H. Fox, Arthur Farrell, Nell Cotter, Bertha De Pas, Hanvarr and Lee, Bioscope, Gene Morrell, Dancing Gilberts, Les Rubens.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 12.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG,"
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Mirza Golem Troupe, De Biere, Kitty Traney, Sebastian Merill and Co., Garcia, Violet Essex, "On the Heath," Jury's Pictures, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.
Special Matinée Tuesday next, in aid of the sufferers by the Floods in France.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Miss Millie Legarde, Mr. J. F. McArdle in Hullo! London.
Fanny Brough and Co., The March Hares, Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Graham's Marionettes, Scott and Whaley, Carpetti Bros., Webb Bros., Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Ola Humphrey and Co., La Pia, Nelson Jackson, Guyer and Valli, Paris Floods and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.

Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
"Always merry and bright."
Joe Elvin, 8.55, George Formby, 10.45, Ella Shields, Geo. Leyton in "The Wreck of the Birkenhead," Mrs. General Tom Thumb, Millie Payne, Sid Walker, Louis Hardt, Zona Vevey, Jas. Stewert, Maidie Scott, Gilbert Gerard, Lallie Brooke, Fred Keeton, Jack Marks, The Hiatts, Baker and Balfe, Ida Barr, Bioscope, Cherpilod, winner of the National Sporting Wrestling Tournament. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Half Term commences Monday, Feb. 21.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.

Students may join at any time.
Prospectus on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary,
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND
DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
Principals: Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President: George Edwardes, Esq

Pupils can join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art, Deportment, Elocution, Fencing, Stage Dancing, Singing, Sight Singing. Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy, &c. Foundation Open Scholarship Examination, April 22. Apply, Secretary. Tel., Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.

EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."

The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.

Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
This season's bookings, 1909-10, include "The Merry Widow," the Moody-Manners, "The Flag Lieutenant," "Miss Hook of Holland," "When Knights Were Bold," "Tom Jones," "Merrie England," "The Gay Gordons," "Lucky Durham," Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," "An Englishman's Home," "The Dairymaids," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's companies, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's companies, Mr. Douglas Bruce's companies, &c. Vacant March 14, May 9. Also a few dates in October and November.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE.
Proprietors, Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Theatre de Luxe,
Having a money capacity at ordinary prices far in excess of any other theatre in the town.
GRAND RE-OPENING,
Monday, March 21, with London Successes.
Vacant Dates,
for No. 1 Companies only.
April 4, and onwards, with exceptions.

All communications to
Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above;
or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.

Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
Vacant Dates end of May and June.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant week this Spring, April 11.
Wanted, bright holiday attraction.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
March 7,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and a few Season Dates Open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—To Let for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments, and Concerts; recently Redecorated; Proscenium and Drop; Dressing-rooms; Electric Light. Tariff on application. Manager.

GALWAY. — TOWN and COUNTY
HALL. — Largest and Leading Hall in the West of Ireland. Convenient to railway and tram. Holding capacity about 1,000. Available for all High-class Entertainments, &c. Large Stage, Box Scene, and Act-drop. Dressing-rooms, Lavatories, Balcony. Electric Light and Heating throughout. District population, 13,400. Apply to the Superintendent.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S
THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.

The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Britannia Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of William Morton.

1909-10 engagements: Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Co.; George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady"; Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliot, and Co.; Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; The Moody-Manners No. 1 Co. (two visits); Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, April 11 and 18, Easter Week, for Musical Play.
Address, William Morton.

LIMERICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.

The Executor of Robert Foberty, deceased, is prepared to receive offers for the purchase of above theatre, which is the only theatre in Limerick.

Full particulars can be had on application to
F. M. Fitt and Co., Solicitors,
Lower Mallow-street, Limerick.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Sept. 5, onwards.
No free list at this theatre during Dramatic Season.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
March 14, 21, 28.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.

No Vacant Spring Dates.
A few Autumn Dates free.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. A few vacant dates this year.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant May 16, July, also a few dates in October and November.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding capacity £100. Vacant dates March 21, 22, 23, April 4, 5, 6, May 2, 3, 4, several dates onwards. All communications to C. Adolf Seebold, as above.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL
FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

To all whom it may concern.
"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."

The Acting Rights in this Play are vested in
Mr. J. COMYNS CARR
and Mr. H. B. IRVING.

Any attempt at piracy will be proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law.
Longmans, Green and Co.,
39, Paternoster-row, E.C.
H. B. Irving,
Queen's Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.),

CONTENTS.

Act of Paris.
Adaptation.
" copyright in.
Assignment.
Author, meaning of.
Berne Convention.
British Museum.
Composer, entitled to copyright.
Copyright.
" assignment.
" duration of.
" infringement.
" international.
" in United States.
" performance.
" registration of.
" union.
Dance music, registration of.
Dramatic piece, meaning of.
Entry at Stationers' Hall.
" false.
" order to vary or expunge.
Importation of copyright music, unlawful.
Infringement of copyright.
International copyright.
Licence to publish.
Mechanical instruments.
" " The Phonograph and Aeolian.
Musical Compositions Acts, 1882 and 1888.
Notice on music.
Performing right.
" " assignment of.
" " duration of.
" " infringement.
" " registration of.
Publication.
" simultaneous.
Registration.
Stationers' Hall.
Title, registration of.
" right to use.
United States, copyright in.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.

Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thorough-going manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

THE ROAD, February, 1910.

"The Era" Annual for 1910, illustrated (1s., *The Era* Office), always one of the best theatrical volumes of the year, this time excels itself. It gives a dramatic and musical calendar (each day recalling some event of importance in corresponding years); a number of short stories, each by some well-known actor or acting-manager; new plays and important revivals in London and suburban houses for 1909; the same in the provinces; an alphabetical list of plays, both London and provincial, for the whole year; the casts of new plays; plays produced in New York; new pieces at the Paris theatres; the same at Berlin; principal sketches at London variety houses, and casts thereof; separate lists of theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom; a theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary; and, last and saddest, the deaths of the year illustrated, brought down to so late a date that it includes photos of Mr. E. H. Carpenter, who died on Dec. 23, and Mme. Meta Illing, who died on Dec. 26 last past. It is a veritable mine of information between two covers, and makes us wonder how so many valuable facts can be published at the low price charged for this. Our sincere congratulations to the editor and publisher thereof.

MORNING ADVERTISER, Jan. 20, 1910.

"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "fretted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.

About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

THE FINANCIER, Jan. 20, 1910.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.

FINANCIAL TIMES, Jan. 24, 1910.

"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.

EVENING NEWS, Feb. 9, 1910.

"The Era" Annual, issued at a shilling, has been complied with care and is replete with interest for all concerned in the personalities and the events of stageland. In addition to the diaries of theatrical productions, there are short stories and reminiscences by well-known actors and actresses. This section is led by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who raises again the disputed site of the old Globe playhouse. The latter part of the book deals with the deaths of the year, with excellent photographs of the artists who have passed away.

SUNDAY TIMES, Jan. 23, 1910.

"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces; there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Will Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.

PELICAN, Jan. 27, 1910.

"The Era" Annual is full of interesting matter from cover to cover to all who are in any way connected with the theatrical profession. To familiar "Era" Almanack features are added stories by well-known members of the Profession, and there is a very interesting series of portraits of the many well-known actors and actresses who have died within the past twelve months, starting off with an admirable and characteristic picture of dear old Lal Brough. Mr. Pedgrift is to be congratulated upon a shillingsworth of characteristic excellency.

YORKSHIRE POST, Feb. 2, 1910.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (*The Era* Office, 1s.) as usual contains stories and short articles by many well-known people of the stage, in addition to a list of London and provincial productions in 1909, and many other items of interest to the theatrical world.

Published at "The Era" Offices:
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1910.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

A balance-sheet of Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER's celebrated season at the Court Theatre would be a very valuable document bearing on the taste of the British public and the numbers of the minority to whom the kind of entertainment presented at the Court during Mr. BARKER's season appealed. The only fact known to us outsiders about the Court management was that it ceased to exist; and, as it is not usual for a manager to abandon an enterprise while it is profitable, the conclusion which was inevitably drawn was that the experiment was financially a failure. If we have been informed correctly, the only plays which "paid" were those of Mr. BERNARD SHAW. It seems, indeed, that "names" are necessary to attract the public to an artistic or intellectual theatre; and we are glad to see that Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN, for the programme of his Repertory Theatre which opens its season at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday, has secured some very notable dramatists. A repertory which includes Messrs. J. M. BARRIE, GRANVILLE BARKER, HADDON CHAMBERS, GILBERT MURRAY, JOHN GALSWORTHY, LAURENCE HOUSMAN, HENRY JAMES, JOHN MASEFIELD, GEORGE MEREDITH, SOMERSET MAUGHAM, ARTHUR PINERO, and BERNARD SHAW needs no flourish of trumpets. With his accustomed business acumen, Mr. FROHMAN has decided to depend partly on what in the case of Italian Opera is called subscription. The following form is issued, to be filled up by persons who desire to support the enterprise and afford themselves delicate delight at the same time: "Please reserve me a box or —— seats in the stalls, balcony stalls, dress circle, or upper circle for the first or second (cross out one of these) performances of the first ten productions of the Repertory Theatre. I prefer to have Nos. ——. If these are unavailable, let me know how near that position you can place me." Then follow the prices for one private box for ten performances, one stall for ten, one balcony stall for ten, one dress circle for ten, and one upper circle for ten performances.

The only principle on which an art theatre can logically be based is, that if people really want a thing they will always be found to be willing to pay for it. There is a good deal, however, in the way in which payment is required; and the system of guarantee by which we are able to have a season of grand opera at Covent Garden is one equally applicable to an "art for art" theatre. As we have often pointed out, the financial success or failure of a play simply shows how many people were willing to pay money to see it. It does not at all follow that if, by the aid of endowment, the entertainment had been offered to them gratis the attendances would have been any larger. Neither the atmosphere of the average playhouse nor the effect of three hours' confinement in a more or less comfortable seat are sufficiently agreeable to induce an individual to voluntarily come from his happy home to be "bored," even without charge. Pushed to its logical conclusion, the principle of the endowed theatre might lead to paid audiences; a commencement has already been made on the Continent in the shape of the *claque*.

The system on which the Repertory Theatre bill has been arranged also resembles that adopted at Covent Garden. Next week there will be two performances of Mr. JOHN GALSWORTHY's new play *Justice*, then the production of Mr. BERNARD SHAW's *Misalliance*, then two more performances of *Justice*—afternoon and evening—two of *Misalliance*, and one of *Justice*. Thus admirers of the advanced school of drama will be able to go to the Duke of York's twice next week, and to see two new plays—a quite sufficient supply when the intellectual strain of listening to an "up-to-date" drama is taken into consideration.

It is a great advantage to the enterprise that it is in the hands of a manager as well known and as substantial as Mr. FROHMAN. So sudden is the closure in the case of theatrical failure that many would hesitate to put down £30 in a lump sum for a private box for even ten performances under an unknown *entrepreneur*; but Mr. FROHMAN's name is sufficient guarantee that the experiment will have a fair chance and be carried through *quand même*.

It is, indeed, on the *prestige* and stability of such an enterprise that most depends. If once a Repertory Theatre of the sort Mr. FROHMAN projects becomes an established and permanent fact, it will be a rallying-point for all that is original, intelligent, and artistic. The rewards of the artist are not only pecuniary rewards. "You and I are here for one thing," said DISRAELI to JOHN BRIGHT in the House of Commons: "we are here for fame." Without in any way belittling either the interesting productions of the Stage Society or those of Mr. BARKER at the distant temple of the drama in Sloane Square, we may say that to have a play produced at the Duke of York's under Mr. FROHMAN's auspices would be a more famous thing than a production by a private society or under a junior management. Several of the authors whom Mr. FROHMAN has enlisted are world-famous; and a success at the Repertory Theatre would be a crown of laurel which would be competed for eagerly by aspiring dramatists seeking the bubble reputation and desperately desirous of distinction. And so, the demand for intellectual plays increasing with the quality of the supply, and the supply responding in its turn to the demand, we may hope to get as far towards a National Theatre as we are likely to go for some time to come.

"THE GREEN HELMET."

A Play in One Act, by W. B. Yeats, Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, Feb. 10.

Cuchulain ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Conal ..... MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Laegerie ..... MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Emer ..... MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Conal's Wife ..... MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Laegerie's Wife ..... MISS ETHNE MAGEE
Red Man ..... MR. AMBROSE POWER
Laeg ..... MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above play is founded on the same author's work *The Golden Helmet*, only the dialogue of this has been written in ballad metre. The piece was capitally staged, and the audience highly appreciated the author's excellent work. The piece deals with the valiant heroes of the old Irish legends. Conal and Laegerie have forfeited their lives to a mysterious being known as the Red Man, whose head they had cut off a year before, as a sequel to a drunken bet. When the piece opens Conal and Laegerie are discovered awaiting the arrival of the Red Man to claim his due. Cuchulain enters their abode, and to him they tell the strange story. When the Red Man arrives he and Cuchulain have some hot words, and the mysterious one goes away, leaving his green helmet behind for the best man of the trio to secure. A struggle for its possession ensues, in which the followers and the wives of each of the heroes take part. Finally, the Red Man returns, renounces his claim for blood, and places the helmet, which appears to possess some magic powers for good, upon the head of Cuchulain.

In the characters of Cuchulain, Conal, and Laegerie, Mr. J. M. Kerrigan, Mr. Arthur Sinclair, and Mr. Fred O'Donovan acquitted themselves cleverly. Miss Sara Allgood as Emer, wife of Cuchulain, displayed considerable ability; Miss Maire O'Neill and Miss Ethne Magee, as the wives of the other two heroes, were exceedingly good. Mr. Ambrose Power enacted the part of Red Man admirably; and Mr. Sydney J. Morgan as Laeg, Cuchulain's charioteer, did very well.

At the close Mr. Yeats was called before the curtain, and, in response to a very cordial reception, said that he had long wished to put into ballad metre some of the old heroic legends of Ireland, and he was glad to know that his efforts on that occasion had been appreciated.

"JANE SHORE" REVIVED.

On Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, Mr. Allan Wilkie and his powerful Shakespearean répertoire and classical comedy company revived the great historical play *Jane Shore* to a large audience with the most complete success. Mr. Allan Wilkie made a vigorous and thoroughly repulsive Duke of Gloucester; Mr. Alexander Marsh submitted a refined and powerful delineation of William Shore; Mr. Eugene Wellesley was good as King Edward IV.; Mr. Sinclair Neill, Mr. Stanley Vine, Mr. Francis Roberts, and Mr. John Paley were all well cast as Lord Hastings, Sir Richard Ratcliffe, Sir William Catesby, and Joelbert, the Court Chamberlain. Mr. Frank Fay was quaint as Malbouche, a jester; Miss Carrie Baillie gave an admirable and charming portrayal of Jane Shore; and Queen Elizabeth Woodville was cleverly and powerfully depicted by Mrs. Allan Wilkie. The Lady Wargrave of Miss Annie Jones was good; Mr. Herbert Mansfield was a manly John Milverton. The comedy element was well sustained by Mr. Houston Meharry as Peter Buckram, Mr. Arthur Keane as Simon Muckleburg, and Miss Hilda Plowright as Drusilla. The scenery, mounting, and costumes were excellent.

GOOD FRIDAY concerts at the Crystal Palace bear a high reputation, and this year will prove no exception. Two sacred concerts will be held there on Good Friday. In the afternoon, at 3.30 Rossini's "Stabat Mater" will be sung, the artists including Miss Agnes Nicholls, Madame Edna Thornton, Madame Clara Butt, Mr. Charles Saunders, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, and Sir Charles Santley. There will also be a miscellaneous second part, and the London Symphony Orchestra will assist. For the evening concert, Miss Ethel Wood and Mr. Herbert Heyner will sing, and the full band of the Coldstream Guards will play, conducted by Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan. Mr. Fred Holloway will be at the organ for both concerts, and Mr. A. Fox at the piano. The whole of the arrangements will be under the supervision of Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, the musical-director of the Palace.

MESSRS. KIMBERLEY, GREEN, AND HINTON'S company is at the Ashington Miners' Theatre in *Was She to Blame?* Mr. F. G. Kimberley as William Clark is excellent; Mr. Henry Rutland's impersonation of the Vicar of Beechwood is most interesting; Mr. Geo. Keene as Captain George Courtney is good; Mr. Geo. Langden does ample justice to the part of Frank Rosselle; Miss Jennie Hastings as Lillian Norman is a pleasing heroine; Miss Ellen Beverley as Mary Norman, the Vicar's wife, does well; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales; and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales supply the comedy. Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, the authoress, gives a particularly fine performance of the part of Mrs. Kate Rossells.

STAGE SOCIETY MATINEE.

On Monday Afternoon, Feb. 14, at the Shaftesbury Theatre, a New Play, in Three Acts, by Lady Bell, entitled

"THE WAY THE MONEY GOES."

Mrs. Riggs ..... MISS AGNES HILL
Mrs. Holroyd ..... MISS HELEN HAYE
Mrs. Tarlton ..... MISS MAY CONGDON
Slark ..... MR. LEONARD CALVERT
Mrs. Burrows ..... MISS MABEL ADAIR
Mrs. Smithson ..... MISS ESTELLE STEAD
Mrs. Dale ..... MISS L. M. REVELL
Mrs. Malony ..... MISS ELLY MALYON
A Policeman ..... MR. ALFRED HARDING
John Holroyd ..... MR. H. NYE CHART
Vincent ..... MR. DOUGLAS GORDON
Sally Holroyd ..... MISS EVELYN KIRKBY
Jack Holroyd ..... MASTER GUY HELBROUGH
A Hawker ..... MR. ERNEST COSHAM
Mary Ann Jones ..... MISS MAY KENDAL
Mrs. Jones ..... MISS HELEN BOUCHER
Tom Tarlton ..... MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Jim Bates ..... MR. HOLLIDAY ATTLAY
Yock Denny ..... MR. REGINALD DANE
A County Court Bailiff ..... MR. HOLLIDAY ATTLAY
Newspaper Boy ..... MR. WILLIAM H. BROWN

Lady Bell's play is a "slice out of life," a most interesting and touching picture of the proletariat in the factory districts. In addition to drawing attention to the two great evils of betting and dealing with tallymen, Lady Bell has written a drama of humble life which goes to the heart, and her personages are real, human, and well-observed. John Holroyd and his wife are a model couple. John is an honest, industrious, thrifty fellow, with a kind heart, somewhat concealed by his theories of marital superiority. His wife has wanted to start a small shop; but John has told her that this is impossible, at the same time starting secretly to save money for the purpose. Mrs. Holroyd feels the monotony of her life, and is sorely tempted to do as other wives do. One of her neighbours, Mrs. Tarlton, joins with her husband in betting. Another, Mrs. Riggs, buys of a nawker at the door, on the principle of "payment by instalments." There is a very natural and simple scene, in which Mrs. Holroyd, who has set her heart on a showy looking-glass offered by the tallyman, is hurried by him into paying an instalment of one shilling on the article, which subsequently becomes a "white elephant," and has to be pawned to conceal it from the stern eye of her husband. Beginning with a small bet in imitation of her neighbours, Mrs. Holroyd goes from bad to worse, until at last she finds herself in debt for £28 7s., almost the amount of the capital required for the shop. Anxiety makes her ill, and she can hardly bear John's kindness when he announces to her that he can let her have the cash for her little enterprise. A County Court Bailiff serves a summons on John for his wife's debt, and he is terribly agitated and enraged by the shock. At first he is obdurate; but when his employer begs him to give his wife another chance, he consents to do so, and the curtain descends on a hopeful reconciliation. There is a serio-comic scene when the betting couple take their furniture to the pawnshop in order to put the proceeds on a horse, and the domestic details and the local colour are both admirably supplied.

The prominent performance was Mr. H. Nye Chart's John Holroyd. Mr. Chart gave a strong, strenuous, and well-considered impersonation of a self-respecting, affectionate, but slightly tyrannical working-man, and his expression of grief and despair at the news that his wife is a gambler and a debtor was very intense and powerful. A creation touching by its simplicity and truth was Miss Helen Haye's Mrs. Holroyd, which was absolutely natural and real; and a clever character-sketch of a commonplace *prolétaire* was supplied by Miss Agnes Hill as Mrs. Riggs. Mr. Leonard Calvert was excellent as the polite, but pushing betting agent, Slark; and Mr. Douglas Gordon gave a neat rendering of the rôle of the young employer, Vincent. Mr. Ernest Cosham's Hawker was a quaint bit of realistic comedy; and Mr. Arthur Curtis was effective as the silly gambler, Tom Tarlton, Miss May Congdon being very vivacious as Mrs. Tarlton. Miss Mabel Adair, Miss Estelle Stead, Miss L. M. Revell, and Miss Elly Malyon gave distinctive and intelligent embodiments of the other wives; and Mr. Holliday Atlay was commendable as Jim Bates and the bailiff, minor characters being conscientiously rendered by Miss Evelyn Kirkby, Master Guy Helbrough, Miss May Kendal, and Miss Helen Boucher. A special word of praise must be spared to Mr. Alfred Harding for his stolid, ponderous policeman; and Mr. Reginald Dane as Yock Denny and Mr. William H. Brown as a Newspaper Boy were quite satisfactory. *The Way the Money Goes*, which was ably produced by Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, was preceded by a new play, in one act, by Fred D. Barker, entitled

"A LIONESS AND HER WHELP."

Mr. Smith ..... MR. PHILIP KNOX
Mrs. Smith ..... MISS ESMÉ HUBBARD
Mrs. Kent ..... MISS FLORENCE LLOYD
Parker ..... MISS EVELYN MARTHESE
Mr. Kent ..... MR. REGINALD DANE

This proved to be a variation of the well-known saying that one should never interfere between man and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are discussing economics when a "flighty" friend, Mrs. Kent, comes to tell them that she can no longer put up with the deceit and extravagance of her husband, who has married her for her money. Smith readily agrees to protect her against him. Kent is heard at the door, and Mrs. Kent seeks refuge in an adjoining apartment. Smith tells Kent bluntly that he shall not see Mrs. Kent, and adds an uncomplimentary estimate of the "waster's" character, ending by ordering him off the premises, when Mrs. Kent comes in, takes her husband's arm pityingly, tells the Smiths that her acquaintance with them must cease, and goes out, leaving the others in utter astonishment. Miss Florence Lloyd gave a most amusing impersonation of a silly, feather-headed, chattering woman; Mr. Reginald Dane's Mr. Kent was admirably made-up and dressed, and he acted with easy finish; and Mr. Philip Knox and Miss Esmé Hubbard gave sound and clever embodiments of the two Smiths. The piece was carefully produced by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater.

PANTOMIME once more holds sway at the Crown Theatre, Eccles, and Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's company in *The Babes in the Wood* provides a capital entertainment. Robin Hood has a capable representative in Miss Marion Scott; Miss Mary Dene as Maid Morion shines conspicuously by her dainty treatment of the part, her songs and dances being redemanded. Little John and Allan A'Dale are a very handsome pair in the hands of Miss Kathleen Goggin and Miss May Barraclough; Miss Emmie Mappin as Sylvania, the good fairy, is responsible for charming singing; Mr. Edwin Webb as Infernalito proves himself the possessor of a tuneful and powerful voice; Mr. Brinsley Smith, an excellent humorist, as the Baron, is ably assisted by Mr. Harry Rousby as Araminta and Mr. Oliver Conroy as Soft Sammy. Messrs. Gee and Atkins as the Robbers are an amusing couple; and Millie and Lilly as the Babes delight everybody by their unaffected and natural acting and singing.

A GRAND concert will be given at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday evening next, by the Upper Norwood Prize Band. A good programme has been arranged. The Upper Norwood Prize Band Quartette Party and selections will be given by the band itself, conducted by Mr. W. W. Grant.

"TANTALIZING TOMMY."

New Comedy, in Four Acts, by Paul Gavault and Michael Morton, Produced at the Playhouse on Tuesday, Feb. 15.

James Cottenham ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Harry Killick ..... MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS
Thomas H. Pepper ..... MR. FRED LEWIS
Mr. Eustace Tathem ..... MR. JOHN BEAUCHAMP
Lord Enderby ..... MR. ROBERT AVERELL
Jennings ..... MR. JOHN HARWOOD
Jack Mason ..... MR. M. WITHERELL
Frank Ricketts ..... MR. A. G. ONSLOW
Simpson ..... MR. C. B. KESTON
Elsie Tathem ..... MISS SYBIL RUSKIN
Bertha ..... MISS MAIDIE HOPE
Maid ..... MISS EVA ROWLAND
Tommy ..... MISS MARIE LOHR

M. Paul Gavault's comedy, *La Petite Chocolatière*, which was produced at the Renaissance Theatre, Paris, on Oct. 23 last year with Miss Marthe Regnier in the leading female part, bears adaptation well, and Mr. Michael Morton has done his work neatly and judiciously. Though some alterations may have been made, the general idea and the main incidents are identical with those of the play as described by our French correspondent after the Paris production of M. Gavault's piece. *Tantalizing Tommy* is a bright, lively, and amusing play, with plenty of innocent diversion in it, and it receives at the Playhouse the admirable representation which is indispensable to its success. The heroine is a pretty and bewitching young lady, who is used to having her own way in everything, is bored to death by the adoration she receives from everybody, and falls in love with the first man who scolds and bullies her. This revival of the old *Taming of the Shrew* motive is combined with some droll incidents, in which James Cottenham, a rather opinionated clerk in the Colonial Office, figures amusingly. The first scene is a room in a pretty country cottage. Cottenham and his friend Killick, an artist, are preparing for bed, when Tommy's motor-car breaks down outside, and she comes in to rest while it is being mended. Killick, knowing that Tommy is the only daughter of a very rich tea merchant named Pepper, manages, on pretence of repairing the tyre, to injure the others, and make it impossible for her to leave that night. She makes herself very much at home, and occupies Cottenham's bedroom, he having to pass the night on a chair. Next morning, Cottenham's prospective father-in-law, and official superior, Eustace Tathem, arrives on a long-promised visit with his daughter Elsie, a vapid and silly young person, who faints on the least excuse. Meeting Tommy, Tathem takes her for Cottenham's mistress, and indignantly departs, after breaking off the engagement between the Civil Service clerk and Elsie. Cottenham's dislike for Tommy increases with his annoyance, until, at the end of the second act, he bursts out into a violent denunciation of her egoism and wilfulness.

In the third act, Cottenham is in his room at the Colonial Office. By explaining to Tathem in a lengthy document the presence of Tommy at the cottage, he has partially reinstated himself in Tathem's good graces; but his troubles recommence when Tommy, who is now deeply in love with him, calls at the office. Convinced by the artful diplomacy of Killick that "Jimmy" adores her, and is only concealing his passion for fear of being taken for a fortune-hunter, she encourages him in every way, until at last, after a glass of brandy, he goes so far as to swear friendship with her, and kiss her hand. But Tommy's wilfulness spoils all. Cottenham's telephone is "rung up" in his absence, and Tommy answers the Chief of the Department in such impertinent style that Cottenham is called down to the Chief's room, and ordered to send in his resignation. He does so, denouncing Tommy even more bitterly than before. Tathem now casts him off for ever as a son-in-law, but Cottenham has at last fallen in love with Tommy.

In the last act, which takes place at a studio hired by Killick to paint the portrait of the rich tea-dealer—who is so struck by the result that he decides to place a copy of the picture on each packet of his tea—Tommy appears dressed in a nun-like costume, and assumes an air of pious resignation. Killick fancies that he has a chance of winning the heiress, but she and Cottenham quickly come to an understanding, and the usual embrace ends the comedy.

The selection of such a pretty and charming actress as Miss Marie Löhr for the part of Tommy went a great way towards securing the success of the play, and she made the self-willed heiress a very vivacious and captivating personage. Her beauty was embellished by some exquisite costumes, and she acted throughout with delightful animation, archness, and delicacy. Mr. Cyril Maude as the slightly stiff and unimpressionable Cottenham gave a most humorous and natural performance, every detail being carefully studied, and the quaint peculiarities of the personage being indicated with great sharpness and skill. The scenes between Mr. Maude and Miss Löhr evoked hearty laughter, and the piece was practically a "two-part" one. Able support was rendered by Mr. Kenneth Douglas, who, as the ingenious and diplomatic artist, Harry Killick, acted with his usual ease, firmness, and activity. Mr. Fred Lewis gave a solid, unctuous, and very agreeable impersonation of Thomas H. Pepper, and Mr. John Beauchamp was sharp, incisive, and active as the uncompromising Tathem. The part of Tommy's aristocratic fiancé, Lord Enderby, was played very neatly and naturally by Mr. Robert Averell, and Mr. John Harwood contributed a droll sketch of comic character as the chauffeur Jennings. Mr. M. Wetherell and Mr. A. G. Onslow being efficient as Jack Mason and Frank Ricketts, and Mr. C. B. Keston doing useful work as Simpson. Miss Sybil Ruskin gave an intelligent impersonation of the indefinite Miss Tathem, and Miss Maidie Hope showed genuine comic power as the amorous and lackadaisical servant Bertha, whose account of her nocturnal adventure with the chauffeur Miss Hope delivered with real humour and originality. Miss Eva Rowland was commendable as the maid. The piece was admirably dressed and mounted. Mr. Bruce Smith's scenery being excellent, and it was received by a fashionable audience with great hilarity and every expression of keen enjoyment.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN" is finely portrayed at the Marina, Lowestoft, this week by a highly-talented company. The staging, mounting, and dressing adds much to the general success. Chief honours undoubtedly fall to Miss Hilda Beverley (in the title-rôle), who provides a rich dramatic treat.

MR. STEPHEN PRITT'S répertoire company is at the Bilston Royal and Hippodrome. *Almost His Bride* was presented on Monday. Mr. Stephen Pritt was highly successful as Simon Simpson, and Miss Nellie Hook made an entertaining Emma Baxter. Mr. Arthur F. Dudley was good as Philip Rowland; Miss Adela Lidden deserves praise for an artistic portrayal of Mrs. Gilcrist. The pair of scheming adventurers, Jasper and Myra Thorne, were admirably depicted by Mr. R. F. Stacey and Miss Lily Prescott. *A Woman's Passion* and *His Wife No Longer* are also billed.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"GABRIEL GRANT, GAMBLER."

Play, in Three Acts, by Burford Delannoy, Produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Monday, Feb. 14.

Gordon Rochstetter ..... MR. HERBERT TERRY
Elsie Rochstetter ..... MISS JESSIE DANVERS
Gabriel Grant ..... MR. ERNEST K. NELSON
Louise Cerise ..... MISS MARY RABY
Mary O'Connor ..... MISS LULU BOWES
Matilda ..... MISS BEATRICE BRIDE
Harvey ..... MR. FRANK CUNARD
Watson Ward ..... MR. VICTOR HUNTLEY
Susan ..... MISS CHRISTINE DESCHAMPS
Martin ..... MR. PHILIP DENT
Detective Wilson ..... MR. LIONEL YATES

Sensation is conspicuous by its absence in *Gabriel Grant—Gambler*, which was produced at the Shakespeare on Monday. The author has succeeded in furnishing only a thin thread of story, which clearly lacks the links of low comedy and excitement which usually connect the incidents of melodrama. As it was, the intervals of changing the scenes ordinarily filled in by the comic men before a front cloth were occupied on Monday by a dreary repetition, in a dim light, of music chords. With a large infusion of genuine comedy, and an added thrill or two, the piece could be made workable in the provincial theatres. There is one scene of singular dramatic strength early in the piece, when Gabriel Grant, gambler, visits Gordon Rochstetter, millionaire, with the object of blackmail. Grant recognises in him a fellow-prisoner at Dartmoor some twelve years before, both being convicted of forgery. Grant calls upon Rochstetter, who has made his millions in Australia, with the view of obtaining hush money; but is so attracted by the innocence of the millionaire's reputed daughter that he resolves to abandon his nefarious project. As the millionaire will not permit him to go until he has revealed his business, Grant's good resolution vanishes, and he demands a loan of some hundreds of pounds, a request to which Rochstetter, fearful of the stigma that would attach to Elsie, accedes.

An elaborate plan is then put into operation by Grant. Despite the fact that he has a wife already in Mme. Cerise, a West End milliner, on whose earnings he has lived for many years, Grant determines to marry Elsie. He packs his wife off to her beloved Paris, giving out that he himself is going to Australia. Meanwhile, he has managed to win at the gaming tables, and much to Rochstetter's astonishment, repays the borrowed money, with the object of gaining his confidence. Under threat of exposure Grant insists on Rochstetter acknowledging him as a friend, and pays marked attention to Elsie. Grant's money runs short, and he determines to make his proposal at once; but his plans are upset by the appearance of Madame, suddenly returned from Paris. Grant makes a bold move by declaring that the marriage between Louise and himself was a mock one, and the former départs bent on revenge. Rejected by Elsie, Grant brings in detectives to arrest Rochstetter as an escaped convict, but that gentleman coolly informs the officers that he is not Grant's gaol companion, but his cousin, who bore a strong resemblance to Elsie's father, long since dead. Grant's discomfiture is completed by the appearance of his wife, who denounces him, and being also "wanted" by the police on another charge, is taken into custody, while Rochstetter and Elsie, who are devoted to each other, are affianced.

The company producing the piece is headed by Mr. Herbert E. Terry, who made the most of his none too profuse opportunities as Rochstetter. He acted with agreeable lightness of touch, and garnished his lines, in spite of a few lapses of memory, with elocutionary graces that were much admired. In a stronger part in the same line Mr. Terry would undoubtedly be very interesting. As the crafty and unscrupulous Gabriel Grant Mr. Ernest K. Nelson acted and spoke with a deliberation that did not serve to lighten an already heavy part. He was very effective, however, in the flashes of humour which the rôle possesses, and his realisation of the villain was on strict melodramatic lines. The experience which Miss Mary Raby has enjoyed enabled her to invest the modiste, Mme. Cerise, with dramatic effect, and the French accent was kept up with quite praiseworthy fidelity. Miss Jessie Danvers thoroughly suggested the sweet and sincere nature of Elsie Rochstetter, her display of affection towards the man she believes to be her father being quite natural. Miss Christine Deschamps is to be credited with a cleverly vivacious performance as the maid Susan; and an equally bright rendering was that of Miss Lulu Bowes as Mme. Cerise's Irish assistant. Miss Beatrice Bride made quite an oddity of Matilda, a domestic drudge, whose humour, however, in stepping into a pail and getting entangled with ribbons and laces, was too obviously intentional to provoke much laughter. Mr. Philip Dent was a characteristic manservant; and the other parts were efficiently sustained.

The principal piece was followed by a new one-act play, by Burford Delannoy, with music composed by Harold Samuel, entitled

"THE IDOL'S EYES."

Roger Bellingham ..... MR. COURTICE POUNDS
Dr. Richard Grane ..... MR. SAM WALSH
Mrs. Grane ..... MISS MYRTIL BLADES
Mrs. Jenkins ..... MISS B. GASTON-MURRAY
Flash Jim ..... MR. DAVID QUINN
Moll ..... MISS MARY FORBES

Except for the means it affords of introducing the famous singer and comedian, Mr. Courtice Pounds, the above piece is not particularly entertaining. It tells the story of an Indian idol, which boasts two priceless rubies for eyes. An account of the idol, published in a magazine, attracts the cupidity of a burglar, who gets his lady accomplice to call Roger Bellingham, a young professional singer, on the telephone, and get permission late at night to visit his flat in order to view the curiosity. To avoid the attention of the other inmates of the house Bellingham lets the lady in by the window, but she is quickly followed by a burglar, who chloroforms him, and departs with the prize, which, however, does not contain the coveted jewels, as Bellingham has substituted for the idol's eyes a couple of pieces of red glass. Mr. Courtice Pounds played in his own cheery fashion as the young singer, and proved that the quality of his voice is as delicious as ever. His singing of "O mistress mine" was enthusiastically applauded. Miss Myrtil Blades joined him effectively in a duet with a waltz refrain that was much enjoyed. Mr. Sam Walsh as an elderly doctor and Mr. David Quinn as a burglar did efficient work in minor parts.

The programme also includes *Charles, His Friend*, which was produced some years ago at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, and in which Mr. Pounds also appears. It proved the best item of the evening, revealing to the full Mr. Pounds' versatility as a comedian, and giving opportunity of hearing him in those snatches of melody in which he excels, as well as a most artistic rendering of Clay's enchanting ballad, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby." Miss Blanche Gaston-Murray played the rich young widow with irresistible gaiety; and Mr. Sam Walsh acted both the lover and the rustic to perfection, Miss Sheridan making a prepossessing maid.

"HOME, SWEET HOME," excellently interpreted by Mr. Frank Lindo's company, is proving a popular attraction at the Empire and Theatre Royal, Hyde. The dominating feature of the performance is the clever acting of Mr. Frank Lindo as Stephen Armitage; he has an engaging personality which greatly enhances the interest in the character. Miss Marion Wakeford's representation of the heroine Joan merits equal commendation.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

We draw our readers' special attention to Mr. Harry Tate's strong and moving appeal on behalf of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, which we print in another column. Mr. Tate has been elected president of this chief music-hall charity for the year, and he naturally desires to signalise his term of office by creating a record—a most worthy ambition.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the subscriptions announced on Sunday evening will equal the magnificent sum collected at the first dinner in aid of the Fund, two years ago. The growth of the profession is great; the claims on its bounty are yearly increasing; and the more generous the reply to Mr. Tate's petition on behalf of the poor and needy, the greater the honour done to the profession, of which he is a conspicuous ornament.

Mr. Walter De Frece is responsible for the authoritative statement that the Moss' Empires, Ltd., has been notified that the working arrangement between the De Frece Circuit and the Moss' Empires will cease on March 31 next. Immediately after that date changes will arise in regard to certain important variety combinations.

Miss Winifred Emery, for whom there is no part in *Tantalising Tommy*, at the Playhouse, will make her first appearance in variety at the Hippodrome on Monday, in a new, short comedy, *The Dressing Room*. This merry play, especially written for the engagement by Mr. Jas. Bernard Fagan, will show Miss Emery as the fascinating Peg Woffington, who has been a favourite character with our leading actresses ever since Charles Reade and Tom Taylor wrote *Masks and Faces*.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who has arranged for a variety season of three months in the States under the management of Mr. Percy G. Williams, made her début on Monday in a New York music hall in a tabloid Russian melodrama from the pen of Henry Hamilton, entitled *Expiation*. When this powerful playlet was produced at His Majesty's Theatre in front of *Beethoven*, with Mrs. Pat as Sonja—the part she is playing in New York—it was called *A Russian Tragedy*, and is adapted from the German of Adolph Glass. In London she was supported by Mr. Henry Ainley and Mr. Edward Sass.

Mr. George Leyton, who has been responsible for so many stirring descriptive scenas, is this week presenting at the Oxford, where he is such an immense favourite, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*. The verses describe the appalling nature of the disaster and the stoical bravery and coolness displayed by the soldiers and sailors at the time of the foundering of the famous troopship. The melody has a capital swing, and Mr. Leyton's powerful voice and fine sense of dramatic fitness enable him to score a most impressive effect, which is much enhanced by the final scene which so vividly illustrates the theme of the song-scena.

The special matinée for the benefit of the Lord Mayor's Fund for the sufferers from the floods in France takes place at the Alhambra on Tuesday afternoon next, when Mr. Alfred Moul will present an attractive programme, to which many prominent artists have promised to contribute.

Miss Annie Hughes, who is now touring in the title-rôle of *The Chorus Lady*, has been secured by the Syndicate, and will make her *début* on the variety stage at the Chelsea Palace on May 23 in an original sketch, especially written for her. It is entitled *The Belle of the Washtub*, and in that character she should have every opportunity for exhibiting her gifts of comedy and pathos, which we remember so well in *Sweet Nancy* and *A Country Mouse*.

John Lawson gave the first provincial production of *The Miracle* to overflowing houses at the Palace, Manchester, on Monday. On Tuesday night the performance was witnessed by the Rev. Valentine and the Rev. Levin, representatives of the leading Manchester Synagogues. Both gentlemen, after the performance, interviewed Mr. Lawson, and expressed the greatest satisfaction at the work, stating that there was not one word to give offence. On Thursday night the performance was witnessed by the Reverend Simon, of the Hightown Synagogue.

Mrs. John Lawson will produce on March 28 a new episode from the pen of Beddow Scott, a young Australian journalist, whose reviews and novels are well known in the Antipodes; but this is his initial production in England. The title of the new sketch is *A Woman of Yesterday*, and it is founded upon a novel of Mr. Scott's bearing the same title. Mr. Scott's reviews and novels are well known in Australia.

"Hullo! London," by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., is timed for production at the Empire at ten o'clock this evening. Full rehearsals, with scenery painted by McCleery, are now in progress, and everything should be in excellent order for the opening night. The revue will be varied from day to day to keep it abreast of events. Mr. Will Gane, a popular favourite in the provinces, has been engaged, and will make his first West-End appearance in this revue, and Miss Millie Legarde and Mr. J. F. McArdle are provided with good opportunities.

A particularly interesting sketch will be produced by Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre on Monday. This is a comedy in one act, *I Dine With My Mother*, adapted from the French by Mr. Michael Morton, and deals with an episode in the life of the famous singer, Sophie Arnould. The cast includes Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Arthur Wontner, Mr. Frank Woolfe, Miss Jean Harkness, and Miss Olga Humphrey, who will sustain the part of Sophie Arnould. The scene is laid in Sophie Arnould's Boudoir at her house in Paris, and the date is 1765.

Miss Vesta Tilley appeared on Thursday, the 10th, at the Chelsea Town Hall, and sang before an audience of four or five thousand of His Majesty's soldiers. Needless to say, her popular song "Jolly good luck to the girl who loves a soldier" was received with cheers which threatened to raise the roof. As a memento of the occasion, Miss Tilley was presented during her performance at the Palace Theatre on Saturday evening with two magnificent stands of flowers with the following note:—"A few flowers for Tommy's Idol. With the compliment and grateful thanks of all ranks of the Royal Engineers of the 2nd London Division.—Fred R. Pullingford, Lieut. Feb. 12, 1910."

A petition has been presented to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught praying for a charter to be granted for a new Lodge to be called "The Proscenium," for members of the vaudeville and dramatic professions. The petition having been granted, the new Lodge will be consecrated on Tuesday, March 1, by Sir Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., grand secretary, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. The officers designate are: Albert Le Fre, W.M.; Henry Coutts, I.P.M.; W. H. Atlas, S.W.; Frank Hardie, J.W.; Woolfe S. Lyon, treasurer; C. J. Doughty, secretary; Harry Bawn, D.C.; Monte Bayly, S.D.; Andie Caine, J.D.; F. H. Padgrift, I.G.; Ernie Warsaw, organist; and Dan Lipton, John Grant, Harry C. Phillips, and Ben Whitely, stewards.

In our report of the funeral of the late Mr. Thomas Barrasford at Brighton, among those who sent floral tributes omission was made in respect of that from the staff of the Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, one of the Barrasford houses.

Mrs. Barrasford desires to return her sincere thanks for the many expressions of condolence extended to her in her recent bereavement. Though it is impossible to acknowledge them individually, she has been greatly touched and gratified by the hundreds of letters and telegrams that have reached her from all parts of England, from the Continent, and from America as well, with their messages of sympathy to herself and their tributes of respect and regard to the personal character and professional work of her late husband.

Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son are making extensive additions to their Winter Gardens premises at Morecambe. The firm are laying out gardens adjoining the main building, and *al fresco* diversions will be provided here during the ensuing season.

There are two important events in Birmingham next Tuesday. In the afternoon Mr. George Robey's international football team will meet the Aston Villa Cup team in aid of the Birmingham Football Club, which is reported to be in a very bad way financially; and in the evening Mr. Albert Bushell will take a well-deserved benefit at the Gaiety.

At the Dewsbury Brewster sessions recently considerable interest was taken in the application by Mr. Claude Shayler, manager of the local Empire Palace, for a full licence. Mr. C. L. W. Nicholson, for the applicant, urged that the application this year was on a different basis, inasmuch as the building was now complete, and one of the finest in Yorkshire.

Mr. H. R. Holcombe, lay assistant to the united Congregational Church, represented the opposition, and the magistrates' clerk announced that he had received a large number of petitions against the application from various churches, temperance societies, religious bodies, and ministers. The application was rejected.

In connection with the Birmingham Theatrical Managers' Billiard Handicap, the semi-final tie was played at the Woolpack Hotel on Tuesday, when Mr. Lester Collingwood (receives 120) met Mr. Philip Rodway (owes 120). Mr. Rodway was giving a lot away, and despite his brilliant play—he making breaks of 33, 22, and 20—he could not reach Mr. Collingwood, who eventually won by 85.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has secured Mr. Samuel Lloyd (recently of the Pavilion, Glasgow) as one of his managers, and allotted him to the fine theatre the Glasgow Coliseum, one of the largest and best-equipped variety halls on the Moss-Stoll circuit. Mr. Lloyd, quite recovered from his recent illness, has been recruiting for a short time at Brighton, and entered on his new duties on Monday last.

Mr. Frank C. Bostock's Jungle and Arena, from Manchester, enter into possession of the Zoo Rink, Glasgow, this week, and the hum of the whirling wheels gives place to another and more varied concourse of "sweet" sounds.

On Sunday last three train-loads of animals reached Glasgow, and their delivery at the Zoo raised excitement to fever-heat, especially amongst the juvenile population, one boy, in his eagerness to see the animals, getting so near that his face and head were badly mauled by a lioness, and he had to be taken at once to the Infirmary. A private view of the Jungle and Arena took place on Friday, and the public opening is today (Saturday).

Considerable interest is being taken in the special performance at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, next Wednesday, the occasion being the benefit of Miss Dorothy Ward, the popular principal boy. Miss Ward is a Birmingham lady, and her success in the present pantomime has been most striking. Among those who have promised to augment the programme are Mr. George Robey and Mr. Barry Lupino, of the Theatre Royal, and several vaudeville stars, who will appear at the Birmingham halls next week.

At the Hippodrome, Accrington, on Monday evening Miss Etty Waldron, the highly-popular Mary in Mr. William Watson's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*, on the occasion of her birthday was the recipient of many presents from her many admirers in the town and from the various members of the company. The gifts consisted of pretty bouquets, dressing-cases, umbrellas, travelling rugs, chocolate boxes and fruit baskets, &c. The pantomime is having a most successful run, and a large measure of this success is due to the indefatigable efforts of the Waldrons (Etty and Joe).

There was rather an alarming accident at the Grimsby Palace Theatre last week, but it fortunately was not so serious as at first appeared. The Francoli Trio were giving their acrobatic performance, in which they present a bill-posting burlesque. In the course of the turn they climb to the top of a high hoarding, from which they make sensational jumps.

One member of the trio, whilst climbing the ladder, fell to the stage. He was obviously hurt, and the curtain was immediately run down. The artist was picked up insensible, and after recovering consciousness was taken to the Grimsby Hospital. When examined there he was found to have sustained a severe cut over the eye, but, fortunately, no other serious injury. After being medically attended he was able to proceed to his rooms. The other members of the troupe presented the turn at the remainder of the performances during the week, and it was expected the injured artist would be able to resume work this week.

Having carried out very great improvements at the Argyle, Birkenhead, Mr. D. J. Clarke sought to obtain permission to erect a veranda sufficiently long to afford cover, in bad weather, to the large "queues" that assemble nightly, awaiting admission to the theatre. The theatre and the Argyle Hotel form one block. The Justices were willing to sanction the veranda as far as the theatre front was concerned, but not round the portion which was "hotel" pure and simple, although one of the "queues" always extends that way. The application was renewed with fuller cogency on the 9th inst, and by a majority it was acceded to.

It seems only reasonable, having regard to the structure of the premises, that the Justices should have assented. It was urged that, if there was not sufficient veranda protection, waiting people would be inclined to slip off into some hotel bar or other rather than stand in the wet; and doubtless this is true. If a veranda is to be erected at all, commonsense seems to suggest that it should run both ways, as the "queues" always run. Mr. Clarke is so honest and straightforward a citizen and caterer for public entertainment that he may be safely trusted to seek no scrap of advantage from the veranda merely for his hotel.

Mr. George Lashwood returns home on March 5 by the Laurentic, after his enormously successful tour in Canada and the States, opening at Birkenhead on the 14th of that month.

Miss Kittee Rayburn is vastly pleased with the award to her of the *Pelican* Prize Cake for the best principal boy. The cake was presented to her at the Palace, Bordesley, last night (Friday).

Owing to her great success in pantomime at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, and on tour, Mr. Wentworth Croke has engaged Miss Kittee Rayburn to play principal boy during the season of 1910-11 at that house. This will be the popular artist's third year at the same theatre under the same management.

One was glad to hear the resounding cheers that greeted Peggy Pryde at the Tivoli, where she made an enormous hit last week as the hard-worked wife of a working man, who has many funny things to say, and says them in the drollest possible way. Peggy had to bow her acknowledgments no fewer than four times nightly, and we are not surprised that she has a full date book.

Miss Louisa Peach, who is so well known in the north of London, is meeting with a most enthusiastic reception this week at Collins's with her American episode *The Settler's Daughter*.

With respect to the benefit matinée to be given to "Johnny" Alexander next Thursday at the Empire, Camberwell, we have received special intimation that a part of the proceedings will consist of a three-round contest with the gloves between Mr. Charles Coborn and Mr. Fred Kitchen. The greatest excitement has been aroused in variety circles by this announcement.

Admirers of the "noble art" should not fail to be present to witness the desperate combat. Coborn is training this week at Walthamstow, and Kitchen is being put through the necessary preparations at Hackney. Sporting and other papers please copy. Tickets may be obtained by applying to Mr. C. D. Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., and from many other quarters. Miss Vesta Victoria, Miss Peggy Pryde, and a number of other eminent artists have kindly added their names to the already long list of those who will appear.

"Escaped," a dramatic absurdity, will be produced at the Surrey on Monday next by Mr. George Conquest, who will be supported by Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Miss Daisy Gwynne, and Messrs. James Russell, E. J. Carlin, and George Conquest, jun.

After a highly successful month at the Tivoli Miss Millie Payne has joined the Oxford programme this week, where she is repeating her great success. Miss Payne contemplates a short visit to Monte Carlo, previous to opening on her annual Moss and Stoll tour at the end of March.

Owing to the unfortunate indisposition of Mr. Morris Abrahams, who it is expected will be kept from his duties for some time, the entire managerial duties of the Queen's, Poplar, are in the hands of Mr. Ben Abrahams. If artists and managers will kindly note this much inconvenience will be saved.

Both American and English artists have heard with great regret of the loss of Messrs. Derenda and Green, the popular club jugglers, in the wreck of the liner General Chanzy off Minorca. Others believed to have perished in the disaster are Mme. Elise Henry, F. Dufort (French comedian), the Joly Velia duo, Janiot (comic singer), and the Two Stakeleys.

The comedienne in the act of the Sisters Netherland was taken seriously ill last Monday, and was found to be suffering from an abscess in the throat. In consequence, the merry little crowd had to relinquish their engagement for the rest of the week. Thanks to skilled medical attention and nursing the invalid speedily recovered, and the sisters are making a hit this week at the South London.

Miss Lelia Roze, who is playing at Olympia, Liverpool, this week, has introduced another new number into her scena, *A Dressing Room Dream*. The song is entitled "My Guiding Star," and has a waltz refrain, the melody of which is simply ear-haunting. It met with immediate success, and Miss Roze is congratulated on having added another triumph to her list of personally-composed successes.

One of the most remarkable men in variety is Will Oliver, who on Wednesday next will celebrate his fifty-eighth birthday. Time and again his numerous friends have given him up. About six years ago he passed through an ordeal that not one in a thousand could have overcome, but Will is of a cheerful nature and full of energy, and does not easily cry a go.

To-day he appears younger than he did ten years ago, and to use his own words, feels as fit as a fiddle; in fact, he was never better in his life. He is blessed with a good partner, who also takes a deal of business worries off his mind.

Will would be quite interesting for an hour or two on variety houses of the past. He can enumerate scores of halls now demolished and quite unknown to the present variety world. He speaks with a very natural pride of the kindly feeling shown to him by nearly every proprietor and manager in the business. Amongst his own fraternity, he is constantly receiving proofs of their good feeling. On Wednesday he will be again receiving a host of congratulations from all grades of the profession, of which for forty-three years he has been such a popular and always honourable member.

Miss Ruth Maitland, who is to play the heroine in the new piece, *The Fighting Chance*, at the Lyceum on March 5, played the leading female character in *The Sands o' Dee* at the Hippodrome, with Mr. Jack Barnes. She was engulfed by the rising tide of waters twice a day, and this must have been an excellent preparation for her experiences in *Mid-Channel*, Sir Arthur Pinero's play, which is now making such a hit in America.

Graham, the human marionette, is presenting with a success as genuine as it is gratifying, his entertainment at the Empire. He vivifies memories of the past music hall, with its chairman and its waiters, and, better still, presents us with the counterfeits of the lion comiques of the Victorian era. Versatility marks the entertainment from first to last, and one listens just as eagerly to Mr. Graham's George Leybourne as to his Harry Lauder. He has a capital baritone voice, and is interesting every minute of the time he is on the stage.

Miss Ruth Davenport, who has been touring the Moss and Stoll houses with most gratifying success, opened on Monday at the London Hippodrome in a favourite number from that immensely popular opera *Dorothy*. "Be wise in time" was one of poor Alfred Cellier's happily inspired melodies, and Miss Davenport sings it with archness and admirable expression. Greater scope, perhaps, is given to the singer in her delightful rendering of the popular song "Nightingale," in which a prolonged shake brings down the house. A very pretty dress, made in the fashion of the days of Goldsmith and Garrick, is worn by the popular singer.

Tickets for the Terriers' annual dinner and ball, to be held on March 5, can be had upon application to Mr. Arthur Were, 69, Kennington-road, S.E.

Mr. T. E. Bates was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ben Obo, assisted by Terrier Jim Obo. V.T. Terrier W. L. Murray officiated as organist. Mr. Harry Cotton has successfully passed the ballot for membership.

The usual meeting of the Terriers' Association on Sunday (to-morrow) will not be held owing to the M.H.A.R.A. dinner and ball. The banqueting hall at the Three Stags Hotel will be open for the use of Terriers who are unable to attend this function. The secretary of the Terriers (Mr. Arthur Were) desires to express his thanks to Terrier W. L. Murray for undertaking the duties of secretary at the meeting on Sunday last. On that day Mr. Were was presiding over the thirteenth annual dinner of the Gallery First Nighters' Club at Frascati's, where he proposed the toast of "The Drama."

Niblo and his wonderful talking bird have been going big at the Zentral Theater, Magdeburg, Germany. They opened on the 16th at the Walhalla Theater, Halla, A.S.

A new dramatic sketch, written by Mr. Dudley Carlton and entitled *The Mafia*, will commence a week's engagement on Monday at Collins's. The cast includes Miss Eveleen Mills, Messrs. Cecil Bevan, Howard Brennan, Dudley Carlton, and Frank St. Clair (who will stage-manage).

The popular comedian, Sid Cotterell, who has been touring *The Substitute* with enormous success for the last six years, will produce on Easter Monday, March 28, at the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, his latest comedy production *Phyllis*, with special scenery and a special London company.

Miss Henriquette Maude, the "Little New Zealand Travelling Girl," is busy in the preparation of her new act, which may shortly be seen in the West End. The exact date of production depends on the arrival of various costumes and effects from abroad. The "act" may be described as portraying her travelling experiences in an entirely new light, and a distinctly interesting novelty is anticipated.

The world-famous and incomparable Cinquevalli appears at Hackney Empire next week. It is true of him as of no one else that none but himself can be his parallel, and whether it be to witness his wonderful balancing powers, especially when applied to tricks with billiard balls, or the other feats which he accomplishes with such ease and skill, no one should omit this opportunity of seeing the greatest juggler the world has known.

Owing to his unexampled success with Alhambra audiences, De Biere, one of the cleverest conjurers London has seen for a long time, has had his engagement at that house extended for another fortnight. Mirza Golem's Persians, who appeared on Monday night for the first time, caught on at once, their feats as acrobats being wonderful. Among the new-comers next week is Kitty Traney, an old favourite at the Alhambra.

What might have proved a serious accident occurred at the Palace Theatre, Bath, on Friday last week, during the turn of the well-known monopedes, Conway and Leland. While cycling together on one machine they rode too near the footlights, with the result that the machine was caught in the wires, and the bike fell into the orchestra, together with one of the performers.

Fortunately, no harm befell him, but for the moment excitement reigned, and this was heightened by the loud report occasioned by the smashing of an electric lamp, which was dislodged by the fall, but all cause for alarm was soon dispelled. Before he had time to disentangle himself from the medley of music stands and bicycle wheels, the unfortunate artist pluckily commenced a humorous conversation with his colleague, thus allaying the fears of the audience.

The secretary of the Music Hall Home desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank Mr. Deer, Palace, Camberwell, for box collection of 4s.; and Mr. Roy Cochrane, manager of the Surrey, for box collection of £1 7s., and also a quantity of tobacco and pipes which he has kindly given to the old boys in the home. The committee have been pleased to add the name of Mr. Nelson Francis, of the Empress, Brixton, to the list of committee of the Music Hall Home.

The veteran Walter Grace's twenty-eighth annual "Calumetical Concert" which took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday evening, was an enormously successful function, and stage-manager Alf. Bishop, with his tireless celerity, put on no fewer than three dozen turns, while that fine accompanist Miss Maggie Godsmark did excellent service at the Erard. Walter Grace was in great form, and sang "I surrender," "The march of the Cameron men," and "Gone away" with all his old verve and fire.

Mr. Charles Coborn has just purchased two new songs, written and composed by Messrs. James Lorrimore, Oscar Schaller, and Clifford Noble. One is entitled "Nothing but girls," with a catchy waltz refrain, and another retails the distressing story of the charming but elderly lady who lost her heart to the "Prince of Peru," which should take a quick hold on sympathetic audiences. In the latter Mr. Coborn will don feminine attire. His Peruvian Highness is probably closely related to the Abyssinian potentates who have just honoured the British Navy with an afternoon call.

Miss Violet Essex, the new soprano who has captured all hearts at the Alhambra, is the daughter of Alderman John Essex, of Islington. For a year or two past her singing has been a feature at charity concerts in North London, in which district she has enjoyed a growing popularity. Her Alhambra engagement is the first public one she accepted, and on Saturday last her singing of Marshall's "I hear you calling me" and Tito Mattei's "No, no, no" resulted in her engagement being extended for another three weeks.

Mr. Allan McAskell, comedy conjurer, has had a run of unusual luck. He fell at Neath some time ago, spraining his right ankle and wrist; got a severe attack of lumbago a week later at Kettering, and was subpœnaed from his engagement there to Lancaster Assizes in the late case Porter *v.* Hall; was laid up there for sixteen days with rheumatic gout. Travelled to Sunderland last Saturday; his valuable toy terrier died on the journey from gastritis. Though far from well Mr. McAskell resumes business Monday next at the Borough Theatre, Wallsend.

An eccentric elderly little man stepped up to the Cardiff magistrates on Monday at the conclusion of the court and asked Mr. Joseph Howard if he could be given a grant from the poor-box to enable him to leave for Manchester. He informed the magistrate that he was an imitator of animals, and promptly proved his bona fides by placing his ten fingers to his mouth and emitting the whistle of what might have been a Norwich canary. It was checked by Mr. Howard asking him whether he would go direct to Manchester, and upon him giving the assurance he was told his fare would be paid.

The most important judgment that has been pronounced with regard to municipal trading was that delivered by Mr. Justice Joyce on the 4th inst. in the action "The Attorney-General (on the relation of James Lawrence Graydon) v. the Walthamstow Urban District Council, and which we printed in our columns last week. The action was virtually brought by the Entertainments Protection Association to restrain a breach of a statutory provision in the Baths and Washhouses Act, under the terms of which the defendants are able to let their baths for entertainment, but are not allowed to take money at the doors.

His lordship, in the opening of his judgment, said that "no reason for that provision as to taking money at the doors was indicated in the Act." We are quite aware if the construction of a clause of an Act is vague or not clear in its meaning the judge has a right to inquire into the intentions of the Legislature; but in this case, dealing with a clause so worded as to admit of no possible shade of doubt, all that his lordship was concerned with was its administration.

He had been told that it was inserted for the protection of an Association of the proprietors of variety entertainments. To him it was by no means clear why that Association should be protected, nor how the provision in the Act in fact protected them. This statement does not reflect favourably upon the judge's reasoning power. To our mind it seems obvious that the intention of the Legislature was to protect private enterprise from the competition of public bodies with the rates behind them, and also to limit municipal trading.

If this was the Legislature's intention what more natural than the point should be inserted at the instance of an Association which then existed and now exists for the protection of private enterprise. Assuming, therefore, that the insertion of the provision that money must not be taken at the doors was to prevent municipal competition, surely it is only reasonable to hold that municipal bodies which are responsible for breaches by others of terms imposed by the County Council are also responsible for breaches by others of terms imposed by the Legislature itself.

The judge held that to impose such a responsibility would be to read something into the Act which was not there; but with due submission we suggest that it is there by inference. Had the defendants (the Walthamstow Urban Council) let the baths to licensees giving an objectionable entertainment then they would have been liable (in the words of the judge) to sequestration or their members to committal. That much is clear in the statute. Where, then, is the injustice in extending the penalties for breach of these lesser matters to the breach of the greater and all-pervading prohibition imposed by the Legislature itself.

Again, unless one does so, it will render it so easy for municipal bodies in future to evade the Act by letting their baths to all and sundry without comment as to the statutory provision. It is impracticable to suggest in reply that the Association can proceed against the lessees of the municipal bodies, because in the nature of things, and by reason of the provision of the section, these lettings can only be occasional, and the lessees may be irresponsible and difficult to trace, and not worth powder and shot. Besides, the damage would have been done, so far as they were concerned.

Surely the Entertainments Protection Association will appeal. Should they fail to do so, municipal trading in amusements, fortified by such a biased ruling, will crop up everywhere; and in what is the dead season for baths but the busiest season for variety theatres formidable opposition to local variety houses will be rampant on Saturday and Monday nights. Surely music halls are sadly handicapped as it is, without having to fight municipal trading in immense buildings erected and supported by the rates. A great mistake will be made if the proprietors of London and the provinces let this judgment rest. In the interests of their shareholders they are bound to take the case further. There must be no wavering or hesitation in a matter of such unexampled importance to the music hall industry.

Mr. George Elliston and company are at the Empress, Brixton, next week with *That Brute Simmons*. The cast will include Miss Oliph Webb, Mr. Paddy Dupree, and Mr. George Elliston in his original part (on the variety stage) of Bob Ford. The business arrangements are in the hands of Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has concluded an engagement with Mme. Réjane, who will make her début in English variety at the London Hippodrome in the course of the present season. The precise date has not yet been fixed. The celebrated artist is to be seen in a number of little one-act pieces. It would be interesting to see her in a tabloid version of *La Passerelle*, in which she is so piquante in the last act.

Mr. Barney Armstrong and his quaint assistant, "Kelly," are stirring the audience up at the Hippodrome, Peckham, and South London, after their successful pantomime season at the Borough, Stratford. The burlesque on the "simultaneous" dance is really the biggest success Mr. Armstrong has ever had. His fame will be spread at the East Ham Palace next week.

The committee of the Johnny Alexander's complimentary benefit begs to inform his friends in the profession that the subscription list is still open, and they would be glad if intending donors would kindly send on their cheques as soon as possible to Mr. Joe Elvin, hon. treasurer, 18, Charing Cross-road. Amongst those who have already subscribed are Sir Edward Moss, J.P., Miss Ada Reeve, and Messrs. Joe Elvin, Horace Wheatley, F. King (of Brighton), Morris Abrahams, J. Atroy, Will Oliver, James Stewart, Mrs. O'Brien, Harry Bedford, J. Kirkham, J. W. Rowley, Fred Griffiths, Fred Anderson, S. Salter, G. W. Hunter, W. F. Frame, the Renads, J. Lotto, Charlie Pratt, Little Ganty, Pat Rafferty, Sammy Shields, G. W. Hunter, H. Darnley, Ben Hyams, W. Dunkley, H. Cory, Woodrow, Abel and Welsh, Lieut. Albini, Fred Kitchen, Mrs. H. Pounds (Dorset Arms), and many others.

The programme arranged for the Johnny Alexander benefit at the Empire, Camberwell, next Thursday afternoon is a very strong one. Space prevents us mentioning more than a few of the many favourites who will positively appear, but amongst others will be Joe Elvin, Fred Kitchen, G. H. Chirgwin, Vesta Victoria, Peggy Pryde, Charles Coborn, Harry Blake, James Stewart, Ted E. Box, Sammy Shields, John Lawson, and Charles Pond. Patrons are requested to come early. The performance will start at two o'clock prompt, as no seats are reserved excepting a few at 5s. During the afternoon a boxing contest will take place between Charles Coborn and Fred Kitchen, who will thus settle a long-standing dispute. Mr. Geo. Harrington will be the referee. A number of charming ladies have consented to sell the programmes, for which a special design has been drawn for the cover by that eminent draughtsman Mr. Rossi Ashton. We understand that the new Australasian act, called the Colonial Quintette, who had promised to appear, have regretfully been compelled to alter their decision owing to not being in town on the date fixed.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. CHAS. R. WHITTLE has made a great hit in the provinces, notably at the Argyle, Birkenhead, with "He's a naughty, naughty boy." It is by Dan Lipton and Henry E. Pether, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG has just purchased two new songs from Glover Kind. "The melody makes the song go" is the one for Barney, who will introduce some business for his funny assistant.

"WHEN MR. SYMPATHY COMES TO YOUR DOOR" promises to be a big number. Miss Lena Brunton (Mrs. Armstrong) is producing it at the Hippodrome, Barnsley, next week.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY'S extensive and ever-growing catalogue is getting portlier with the years. Among the latest additions to its pages are some fine new ballads, which are the pick of the market. The current week has seen many seaside artists fixed up finally for the ensuing summer, and some of the more lucrative engagements were snapped up by those artists who had taken the trouble to visit the professional department of the great firm and armed themselves for the coming fray.

MR. DAVE CARTER has created a profound impression by his rendering of "If I had the world to give you," a ballad which is getting a great hold on hearers, as is evidenced by the universal inquiries for copies. This is one of Messrs. Francis and Day's finest songs.

To hear Mme. Ada Colley sing that charming song "Some day when dreams come true" is an artistic feast, and though few can emulate the artistry of the great vocalist, at whose voice "e'en flutelike Philomel retires abashed," it will be a number likely to be rapturously applauded on every hand when heard at open-air functions. Messrs. Francis and Day are placing it with the élite of the pierrot world.

MISS FLORENCE ESDAILE'S "Love makes the whole year June" is another ballad which has made its mark, thanks to the voice and charm of the artist largely, and Miss Victoria Sievers' delightful rendering of it has been one of the many triumphs of the Lyceum pantomime, where it has been heard by thousands, and sold accordingly. In common with most of Messrs. Francis and Day's popular numbers it is issued in cheap form, and its sales will help to swell the exchequer of many a "pitch" by the sea, where the selling of copies helps in no small degree to pay the rent.

"WHEN YOU ARE GONE," by Charles Wilmott and Hermann E. Darewski, is a song that will be hailed with satisfaction by all who will have the newest material, and the names of author and composer are sufficient guarantee and a sure index of excellence. Messrs. Francis and Day expect a great vogue for this item.

A FINE march song has, like Halley's comet, been looming ahead for some time past, and was produced with triumphant success this week at Manchester by that fine performer Miss Meredith Meredro, who will shortly produce it at the London Oxford. It is entitled "Betsy," and is by R. P. Weston and F. J. Barnes, with music by Hermann E. Darewski. This is being issued by Mr. David Day's firm.

ANOTHER march song of rare merit, and one that is eminently suitable for seaside work, is the infectious "Have you seen my Johnny in his uniform?" with which those charming ladies the Four Netherlands have been setting throats and feet to work at the South London during the current week. It is by those practised hands Barnes and Weston, and is issued already by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE Anartos have made a great success with Messrs. Francis and Day's new humorous number, "We did enjoy ourselves in London," by E. W. Rogers, J. P. Harrington, and John Neat.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE has expressed her delighted admiration of Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski's new song "'Tis a faded picture," a delightful little cameo of sentiment, and a gem in its way. The talented lady will feature it at Glasgow on the termination of the successful pantomime of which she is the star ornament.

THE stupendous success of the "chocolate-coloured coon" (Mr. G. H. Elliott) at Bristol in pantomime has been as pronounced as it has been deserved, and the four songs of Messrs. Francis and Day in which his fine voice has been heard at all performances have had record sales in the West Countrie. They are Mr. George Lashwood's "One of the girls," "Good-night, Number One," "How d'you do, my baby?" and the enormous hit "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." Mr. George Chapman, the musical director of the Prince's, has been at pains to write a harp obbligato to this renowned number, and it has highly enhanced the beauty of the song when played in the orchestra by Miss Hall, a sister of the great instrumentalist, Miss Marie Hall. It lent an added charm to the beautiful orchestration, and is a feather in the cap of Mr. Chapman, to whom it is a labour of love ever to do his best with and for an orchestra which would give distinction to any theatre.

MANY have been the applications for copies of "—— and just then he fell out of bed!" Messrs. Francis and Day's new humorous song. It is in the press, and due notice of its appearance will be given. This is one of the very best songs of the author of "The 'ouses in between."

SPECULATION has been rife lately as to the probable number of forthcoming *Chantecler* songs on the tapis. For about two years Miss Kathleen Cogan has been singing constantly a fanciful number, entitled "My sweet bird of paradise," which deals with the charming, and ultimate destruction of, a young cock fowl through the machinations of a ventriloquial fox, who tempts the bird from the parental roost. It was written by Edgar Bateman and Henry E. Pether, and published by Messrs. Francis and Day long ago. The same author was also first in the field with a song about the discovery of the North Pole, having, in conjunction with Will Hyde, submitted to Mr. Harry Lauder quite five years ago the song which the well-known Scots comedian has been singing on his present tour throughout the States. It was originally named "The Scotchman always gets there first." It has been published by the same firm some time now under the title of "The American always gets there first."

(*Continued on page 22.*)

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—Your correspondent for the Tivoli, Barrow, last week mentioned that Geo. Cardale, comedian and dancer, made a big success. It should have been, yours faithfully, GEORGE CASELLI, 15, Harefield-road, S.E.

MISS KITTY LOFTUS and party appeared at the Co-operative Hall, Rugby, on Tuesday night, and had a great reception, Miss Loftus rendering her songs with all her well-known cleverness. Miss Gwladys Cotterell is a violinist of remarkable ability, and Miss Violet Runciman is a talented vocalist. Mr. Oldbury Brough gave several musical monologues and sketches, and Mr. G. F. Boyle did excellent service as accompanist and pianoforte soloist.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE COLISEUM.

The production of plays from the theatres is no new thing with Mr. Oswald Stoll, and never, we think, has this policy been more completely justified than in the case of Messrs. Lloyd Osbourne and Austin Strong's most interesting playlet, which was produced originally at the Comedy Theatre on Nov. 21, 1905, and entitled

"LITTLE FATHER OF THE WILDERNESS."

Louis XV. ..... MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY
Père Marlotte ..... MR. HUNTLEY WRIGHT
Frère Grégoire ..... MR. W. R. STAVELEY
Duc d'Albret ..... MR. ALFRED BEAUMONT
Chevalier Frontignac ..... MR. J. R. CRAUFORD
Mlle. Henriette ..... MISS MAY TAVERNER

The central figure of the pretty little piece is the Père Marlotte, an intrepid Canadian missionary who has worked with unflinching ardour among the aborigines of Canada, the period of the play being the reign of Louis XV., when the French were paramount in the Dominion. The devoted little priest has been called home to his king for an audience, and on the opening of the play he is ushered into the reception-room of the Palace, Versailles, carrying thither a basket containing a racoon as a gift to the frivolous monarch. The timid, shrinking little man expects to be honoured by a bishopric; but he is utterly dumbfounded when he learns from the King's own lips that he has been summoned from across the seas merely to settle a bet as to the height of the falls of Niagara. He gives his verdict against the King, who has to borrow the money to pay his wager with the Duc d'Albret. The "little father" drops the coins thrust into his hand in a tremor of dismay. But he is to have his reward. The Chevalier de Frontignac, as Louis' representative in the colony, has an audience. He brings with him Indian chiefs, who immediately do homage to Père Marlotte. His courage and self-sacrifice are now warmly praised by the Chevalier. The King not only apologises, but makes the astonished father Archbishop of Toulouse, and asks for his blessing. With the reverent tracing of the sign of the cross in the air the little play ends.

Mr. Huntley Wright, whom one is accustomed to see in the frivolous rôles of musical comedy, gives us a master-stroke of pathos as Père Marlotte. The expression of utter despair, with scarcely a word spoken, cuts to the heart; and in the opening of the playlet a quaint touch is given to the character by Mr. Wright's mimic rehearsal of his deportment at a reception by the King—a part in which Mr. H. A. Saintsbury is wholly admirable. He displays to the full not only the frivolous qualities of the monarch, but scores most unmistakably in the final passage of the piece by a demeanour of chastened dignity. Mr. Alfred Beaumont makes the Duc d'Albret a gay and callous courtier; Mr. J. R. Crauford is most effective in the short part of the Chevalier; and Miss May Taverner as the King's favourite, Henriette, is sympathetic, Mr. W. R. Staveley completing the cast in an interesting rendering of Frére Grégoire.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

This popular East End hall certainly deserves success, for the management always endeavours to provide patrons with a true variety programme. This week's bill is quite up to the average standard of good quality, and as a result appreciative audiences have filled the house at each performance.

Topping the bill is the dramatic sketch *The Steam-Hammer*, presented in very able fashion by Wilfred H. Benson's company. The reception accorded to it on the evening of our visit was most favourable, the crowded house following the different dramatic incidents and the almost fiendish machinations of the "villainess" with intense interest. Mr. Wilfred H. Benson soon won the sympathies of the house by a manly and impressive delineation of Mad George. The villainous Mrs. Hugh Drayton was powerfully played by Miss Mabel Wynn. Mr. Harry Gilbey, a humorous Dan Myton, provided the necessary comedy. Mr Basil Reynolds as Inspector Watson, Mr. Dan C. Williams as Brooks, and Miss Dagmar Swinton as Dick each played satisfactorily.

A most interesting and entertaining turn is Kelly and Agnes. Kelly keeps the audience in continuous laughter by a burlesque of the Johnson and Tommy Burns contest, and, in addition, gives a clever exhibition of sand dancing. Another good turn is that of Arthur Astill, the whistling comedian, and Minnie. For many years before the advent of Frank Lawton, of *The Belle of New York* fame, the variety stage has had many silflers, but few with such powers of imitation as Arthur Astill. In addition to imitating birds, poultry, animals, and instruments, he gave as a solo the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, an item greatly appreciated and applauded. Arthur should certainly go well ahead. A clever comedy act is that of Allis and Cassati, the male partner being quite a humorist and a smart dancer. His description of how, through marriage, he became the brother of his own son is very amusing. Dainty Gladys Ray pleases all with "Hullo, Mr. Moon, hullo," as well as with her soft shoe dance. Gordon Stretton, who styles himself "The New Coon," works on lines similar to those popularised by Eugene Stratton. He dances and sings well.

The comedian of the evening is Harry Blake, who has two songs suitable to his style in "Suffragette" and "Booze," the latter being a laughable non-temperance lecture. Cole and Rags proved most diverting in their comedy juggling, and the clever fooling of Rags is greatly appreciated. La Belle Alva, a talented International dancer, in her representations of the different styles of dancing peculiar to Spain, Holland, Ireland, and America, is clever and artistic. The orchestra continues to do good work under Musical Director W. Hinkinson, and the stage-management is ably attended to by Mr. Biegen.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Theatre-goers can spend their time in no better way than by a visit to this comfortable theatre once during the week, for the management has surpassed itself in obtaining artists who will please, and every one of the thirteen odd turns is an entertainment in itself. To begin with, we have Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery in their successful skit, *The Would-be Actors*. Many months (one could almost say years) have passed since this sketch made its initial bow to London playgoers, yet it still remains a favourite with everyone, and is as delightfuly humorous as ever.

Then we have Daisy James, fresh from her field of fame, the Brixton Theatre, with her same old irresistible way, and her charming songs. It seems that everyone in Camberwell—as elsewhere—knows the chorus of "Charlie plays the big drum," and the walls of the Palace echo with lusty voices from the "gods" as the gallery boys "help Miss James along." The six Buster Browns in a novel vocal and dancing scena do a turn well worthy of praise. The breezy way in which they sing and dance themselves into the hearts of all proves them at once to be artists of ability. Another turn which pleases the Camberwellites is that of the popular Shirley and Ransome, who give us a new comedy duologue entitled *Jim's Pal*. They illustrate a typical coster couple in the joys and sorrows of humble married life with considerable ability. Harry Lauder is in America, we are told, but the Yankees have not robbed us of all our Scotch comedians. Donal McDougal is here this week, and nightly rolls out his "r's" to the accompaniment of the hearty laughter of his audience.

Another tip-top number is No. 3 on the programme, Gala and Norris. They are decidedly expert dancers, and their imitation of a roller-skating couple evidently learning the new pastime is humorously clever. The other items are equally as interesting. Fred Arthur, a comedian of no mean order, entertains us by his song "In the West, West, West," and Rosie Ring, comedienne, adds much to the already scintillating list of performers. To close the evening Lew Lake and company are presented. The two perpetual pals Jerry and Nobbler are together again in that screaming farce *King Nobbler*, and the irrepressible pair make the occupants of stalls and gallery, circle and pit, leave the theatre with tears of happy laughter still glistening in their eyes.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The mystic element enters largely into the composition of the current bill at the South London, where *Spiritualism* occupies a portion of the evening. The playlet rather taxes the attention of the audience at first, but ends on a startling dramatic note. It seems that Harry Lestrange was beloved by a passionate woman, who killed herself on his refusal to marry her. Harry blames himself for the desperate act, and in a moment of weakness he had sought the aid of a Hindoo spiritualist, who materialised the dead woman. The theory is put forward that the spirit of a suicide if recalled to the mundane sphere absorbs the vitality of the person by whom it is invoked, and Harry has consequently been reduced to a state bordering on madness, towards which the ghostly visitant has declared he is tending. His friend Jack Harringer determines to cure Harry, and to that purpose arranges a mock séance, inducing his sweetheart, Olga Kay, an actress, to impersonate the dead woman and make Harry believe that the statement that he would go mad was a mere invention on the part of the "spirit." The materialisation duly occurs, and Olga, appearing in a filmy shroud, speaks her allotted lines; but Harry, seeing in the living woman evidence of the vitality which she has robbed him of, and determined to lose no more, shoots her dead, being himself immediately shot by his horrified friend.

The sketch, which is presented by Mr. Jose G. Levy's company, introduces still another West End actress and actor to the variety theatre in the prepossessing person of Miss Janet Alexander, who as Olga plays the actress with much charm and with real dramatic intensity at the close, and of Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, who lately figured at the Lyceum, and now portrays a cheery Englishman in breezy fashion. Mr. Gerald Earle gives an impressive study of the nerve-shaken Harry Lestrange, and an awesome personage is made of a Hindoo by Mr. F. Martin Thornton.

Another weird item is the Vampire Dance executed by Miss Mildred Deverez and Mr. Tom Terriss. Miss Deverez completely realises the siren who first fascinates and then kills, and Mr. Tom Terriss eloquently expresses the various sensations of love and terror which the young artist undergoes ere he succumbs and is pinned to the floor by the feminine vampire. Coloured lights are effectively used, the woman being at times made to appear quite ghoulish.

A scena which provides welcome comedy is that of *'Enery Brown*, admirably played by that vivacious comedienne Miss Ruby Celeste and Miss May Hallatt; and in "The shocking tale of a stocking" the possession of parasols enables the Four Sisters Netherland to remove their stockings with all propriety, after which they accomplish a graceful barefoot dance, singing blithely meanwhile. Miss Dora Martini executes expert and graceful feats on the rings and perpendicular rope; Mr. Hal Forde sings the praises of "Girls" and of the thrilling experiences of "A Night Out"; and other contributors to the programme are C. C. Gibbs, the "unbleached American"; Fred Keeton, comedian; and Yvonne Lamor, anecdotal and topical comedienne; Ruffell's Bioscope providing a highly entertaining series of pictures. Mr. William Payne continues to discharge with tact and ability his difficult duties as manager, and derives competent assistance from Mr. William Lynch.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Tiny Town at Olympia having closed down last Saturday, those popular little people the Count and Countess Magri and the baron of that ilk have been able to accept music-hall engagements, and appeared on Monday both at the Oxford and the Metropolitan. The chief novelty presented at the palatial house in the Edgware-road was *The Enchanted Statue*, in which one of the diminutive gentlemen posed first as Mephisto, then as a Dutch peasant woman, and other characters. The audience on the evening of our visit showed a special interest in the Countess Magri, who explained from the footlights at the first house that she had been on the stage for fifty-two years. Many who are now middle-aged remember her well as Mrs. General Tom Thumb, and also the sensation caused by the appearance of herself and her first husband at St. James's Hall. She treasures the recollection of special performances, by command, before the late Queen, and no more travelled lady exists on or off the stage than this lilliputian countess.

An immensely popular turn at the Met. is Miss Ella Shields, who has returned there this week, after an absence of barely two months. Ella looks tall and graceful in a simple white dress; but she is out to conquer in military undress, in which she sings of her preference for the girl in black. Girls in white may look all right, as well as girls in red or blue; but black is the colour to which this smart-looking young Guardsman pins his faith. Miss Shields is very heartily applauded. Mr. Leonard Barry, whom we know as a character comedian with the rare faculty of being funny in French as well as English, has just now a song that is bound to have a great vogue. "You go where Hugo goes" will, if we mistake not, be one of the hits of the year, and it will attain that position by reason of its cleverly-worded chorus. It is not exactly a tongue-twister, though in chortling the refrain it would be easy to trip. But there is no such thing as "halting" with the gods at the Met., who give it a rousing interpretation, being helped by the tracing of the words on the Bioscope sheet.

The Belle of the Orient, described as an Oriental fantasy, in three scenes, occupies the bottom position on the bill. Mr. Joe Peterman is down for the part of Ike Novinski, a Jew who invites a lady in evening dress to dine with him at a café in Paris, and after ordering a bottle of hair oil from the waiter, asks her if she will have fish and chips—so very funny (?) The crude horseplay prevalent in the sketch is relieved by some bright choruses, and the "bevy of harem beauties" is good to look upon. Mr. Frank Lincoln appears as Lord Exmoor, Mr. Charles Hylton as the waiter, and Miss Rosalie Jacoby as the Belle.

Duncan and Godfrey play to a very sympathetic house their sketch *The Coster's Christening*, which goes with a roar; Miss Bessie Slaughter meets with a big reception in well-rendered contralto songs; and Dorothy Watson is responsible for an interesting turn with songs at the piano. Mr. Fred Wilkinson, Master H. Clark, and the Sisters Gilbey, in an attractive musical act, are also on the bill, which is further increased in its attractiveness by the exhibition of films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. Mr. Leslie Gooch is the acting-manager here for Mr. Henri Gros, managing-director.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA.

The above elegant hall is still offering a performance well worthy of every support, and, as has been the rule ever since the opening night, full houses are very much in evidence. Mr. Fred A. Vernall, the courteous and energetic manager, does much to ensure the success of the entertainment, and discharges all his duties with skill and ability. A prominent feature on the programme this week is the pantomime *Dick Whittington*, performed by Mr. Dan Thomas and his excellent company. He has secured the services of an excellent body of supporters, who must be congratulated upon the efficient manner in which they work together. Mr. Dan Thomas as Betsy the cook is the life and soul of the piece. His quaint humour is in evidence right through, and the hard work he puts in is largely responsible for the success of the production. An excellent Dick Whittington is found in Miss Daisy Yates; her lively and boisterous manner at once establishes her as an ideal principal boy. She enacts the well-known rôle with vigour, and materially assists in the unwinding of the popular story. Her rendering of the song "All the nice girls love a sailor" is well received, and is made particularly droll by the adoption of the latest craze, a child singing the chorus from the circle, but in this case the child is no other than Mr. Dan Thomas, who officiates in a very unchildlike manner. Mr. Thomas sings the popular ditty "Molly O'Morgan," and also gives a burlesque representation of both the Vampire and Salome dances, each of which creates roars of laughter.

The well-known and popular comedian Mr. Harry Ford is, as usual, well to the fore with funny songs. His drollery is irresistible, and the inquisitive nature of his ditties is humorous to a high degree. "Now do you see what I mean?" is a contribution which raises a hearty laugh; and his further effort, "Don't you think you've overstepped the margin?" would be enlivening even to the dullest soul. The Three Comerfords are acrobats of no mean order, and they perform many clever and hazardous evolutions, each of which earns well-merited applause. Marshall and Parr appear in a refined vocal comedy act, and blend their voices with exquisite taste in their singing of popular ballads and old and new songs. The cross-talk introduced into their turn is sparkling with fun and is much appreciated. A comedy musical act of a novel description is supplied by the Warsaw Brothers. Although most of their performance is of a burlesque nature, their genuine playing is highly artistic and tasteful. Mr. Charles Penrose scores with his laughing song "That was me," of which appreciation is shown.

The Three Prestons have found a decided attraction in the scena *The Village of Shift 'em*, which on the night of our visit created roars of laughter. In this act special scenery is employed, representing two adjoining fields, one quite bare and devoid of any sign of habitation, and the other containing a few houses, a church, a windmill, and a cow. According to the reading of a certain will two cousins are to become the owners of this property; they are to have one field each. Whilst the most fortunate of the two is bragging of his better possession, the other calmly removes the church, the other buildings, and the cow to his own field, much to the annoyance of his relative, and greatly to the amusement of the audience.

Mr. Harry First is quickly becoming a popular favourite, and he, with his company, are having a hearty reception. They appear in the screaming comedy sketch *The Matrimonial Fee*.

MESSRS. CHARLES W. POOLE'S Myriorama opened at the Town Hall, Bridgend, on Monday, to a crowded house. The panoramic effects are of the usual excellence, and the Bioscope productions are most popular. There is a capital array of variety artists. A star turn is that of the Six Royal Banzais, who perform wonderful juggling tricks, and are equally clever as contortionists; W. L. Rowland keeps the audience in a titter; the Cairo Trio are accomplished musicians; a refined gymnatic performance is given by Inez and Pim; and the Bros. Rees are unique military athletes. A Welsh entertainer, Sydney Bach, naturally proves popular in the heart of Glamorgan. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. F. Mann, enhances the success of the performance.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

Dave Carter's Latest Ballad Sensation.

HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?
FLORRIE FORDE.

I USED TO SIGH FOR THE SILVERY MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT.

LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND.
CHARLES WHITTLE.

FOR MONTHS & MONTHS & MONTHS.
JACK SMILES.

DON'T TAKE ME HOME.
MARK SHERIDAN.

THE GIRL IN THE CLOGS & SHAWL.
CHARLES WHITTLE.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.

The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

LOVE MAKES THE WHOLE YEAR JUNE.
THE PANTOMIME BALLAD of the YEAR.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE.
WHIT CUNLIFFE.

A CORSICAN MAID.
MISS EVIE GREENE.

I'M WAITING HERE FOR KATE.
WILKIE BARD'S DRURY LANE SUCCESS.

I'M LOOKING FOR MR. WRIGHT.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

SOME DAY WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

The Ballad Hit of the Season, sung by Mdme. Ada. Colley.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

During the past week throngs of artists, returning to town after their pantomime engagements, have besieged the Feldman offices in quest of fresh "sinews of war" in the shape of new and up-to-date songs for their forthcoming campaigns on the halls of variety. In no single instance did they go disappointed away, for so magnificent a new catalogue can the Arthur-street firm boast just now that each and every style is catered for and well looked after.

That charming singer Miss Josie Delaine, who has made such an enormous success with two of the Feldman numbers, "Pretty little girl from nowhere" and "Come along over the garden wall," at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, and elsewhere in pantomime, has just introduced a new number, published by the same firm, entitled "Just as the brook flows," which promises to be one of the biggest "hits" with which this clever performer has yet been associated.

Among the biggest successes of the Granville, Walham Green, programme recently were a couple of Feldman numbers, "Hold me just a little bit tighter," by Macdonald and Tate, and "My sweet garden queen," by Harrington, Rogers, and Neat.

Miss Lillie Lassah, fresh from her pantomime triumphs, is about to feature on the "halls" two fine songs published by B. Feldman and Co., entitled "Rain, rain, go away," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and "Ring up, lucky boy, London," by Letters, Lawrance, and Gifford, with both of which she is certain to score very big successes, as they fit her like the proverbial glove.

At the Surrey Theatre and the Battersea Empire during the present week Fred Godfrey and Fred D'Albert's great chorus song, "Put on your old plaid shawl," yet another of the popular Feldman publications, has found thousands of willing singers whenever the chorus was repeated. This catchy song is undeniably one of the present season's big winners.

On Monday next, at Croydon, will be specially featured Messrs. John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey's charming song "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" published by Feldman and Co. She has a certain success.

One of the principal themes of conversation this week in professional circles has been Feldman's new Irish cowboy number, "Santa Fé," by Williams and Van Alstyne, the fame of which has already spread near and far, and many enquiries have been made at Arthur-street respecting this great characteristic song of the prairies. This may be earmarked as this season's greatest song of its kind, the lilt of the ear-haunting chorus being simply irresistible in its catchiness.

That the charms of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's delightful song "Old French bonnet" have not yet waned is evidenced by many letters received by Messrs. Feldman and Co., its publishers, recording the phenomenal success the song is making this week at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. It has been a special favourite.

At the Palace, Plymouth, Harry Leaton is making a most pronounced hit with Wallis and Terry's song "Put off all your troubles till to-morrow," published by Feldman and Co. This is undoubtedly one of the finest motto songs that has been written for some time, and the audience at Plymouth enthusiastically join in the catchy refrain.

An eminently successful Feldman publication is "It's hard lines if you only get a living"; and two excellent vehicles for the vocal and acting powers of a comedienne are to be found in the songs "Have you met a girl named Mary?" by Fred Godfrey and Fred D'Albert, and "Every time the clock goes 'Tick, tock,'" by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, also published by the go-ahead Arthur-street firm.

Messrs. Fred Murray and Chas. Hilbury have written another excellent number, viz., "Chanticler; or, Eggs for your breakfast in the morning," for Miss Millie Payne, who is creating such a sensation in the West-End at the present time. They are the authors of her "Lady Godiva" burlesque and her famous "Directoire" satire, which was so successful.

"THE THREE LIGHT FITTING."

Produced at the Royal Victoria Hall, Tuesday, Feb. 15.

Tom Richards .....Mr. Fletcher Lightfoot
Sarah .....Miss Marion Turner
Prof. Von Heem .....Mr. Wm. Felton

There was a goodly array of booking managers present at "the old Vic" on Tuesday to witness a sketch by Mrs. E. Haslingden Russell and Mr. Percy Fullerton entitled *The Three Light Fitting*. Mrs. Russell is the daughter of an old journalistic friend and dramatist, Mr. J. W. Robertson, and has contrived to give us an interesting little story in which mechanics and love are blended. We would suggest to the joint authors that the title is not a happy one, and does not do justice to the sketch. Tom Richards, in the hands of Mr. Fletcher Lightfoot is a very sympathetic character. He is an inventor, and, like most of his kind he has stuck fast for an idea when an invention of his which is to startle the world is all but completed. Tom has a sister Sarah (Miss Marion Turner), who loves him very dearly, and would do anything to help him to success if she could. Now it so chances that they are to have a guest, Prof. Von Heem, also an electrical engineer, and when that gentleman arrives he is full of talk to Sarah concerning a wonderful new invention of his that is to revolutionise the electrical world, and even goes so far as to show the girl plans of it. Can it be that two great minds have simultaneously conceived the same idea? Thinking this, Sarah determines to steal the plans and does so when the Professor has fallen asleep. When her brother returns and recommences his experiments she contrives to place the plan before him in such a way that he imagines he is working out one of his own. The result is success. Elated with his discovery, when the Professor comes into the room Tom proceeds, with all the ardour of the born inventor, to disclose his discovery to the older man. Von Heem listens attentively, and when Tom unsuspectingly shows him the plan, the Professor denounces him as a thief. An angry struggle takes place between the two men, and Tom gets his hands entangled in the battery in a way which threatens him with slow electrocution. Happily, his sister arrives in time, switches off the current, and confesses that she, and not her brother, is the culprit. But as Von Heem is in love he finds it an easy matter to forgive, and so there is a happy ending unexpectedly. Mr. Felton may be congratulated on having made an earnest study of the Teuton engineer. His broken English is very good, and he held the sketch together several times when it would otherwise have dragged. It was apparent that the three actors lacked rehearsal, and that cohesion which is necessary to make a fifteen minutes sketch bright, brisk, and snappy. There is all that and much more in *The Three Light Fitting*. Much of the dialogue is very humorous and there should be every prospect of seeing this sketch on the big "tours" and "circuits."

The attraction at the Exchange Hall, Wellingborough, this week is Scottie's Variety Combination.

"OLGA'S OATH."

Dramatic Sketch, in One Scene, Played for the First Time in London at Collins's Music Hall on Monday, Feb. 14.

Sergeant Orloff .....Mr. J. G. Grahame
Ivan Petroff .....Mr. J. Montgomery
Capt. Drackovitch .....Mr. W. Thornton
Countess Lavinsky .....Miss Flo Hamilton
Olga Orloff .....Miss Zerlina Harrington

Messrs. Grahame and Harrington have secured in the above a well-written sketch and one of much interest. It is an episode of Russian life among the Nihilists, and the story is full of power and excitement. Olga Orloff and her husband, Sergeant Orloff, are connected in some way with a Nihilistic plot which has been discovered by the authorities, and warrants for the arrest of those implicated have been issued. Sergeant Orloff, to obtain passports to leave the country and to rescue his wife, the woman he loves, from the clutches of the law, turns traitor to the cause, and supplies the police with the names of those connected with the plot. On the fulfilment of these conditions two passports have been granted to him. As the scene opens, Olga Orloff is discovered packing her trunks for the journey, and whilst busily engaged the Countess Lavinsky enters, and Olga mentions her intention of leaving Russia. Suddenly Ivan Petroff rushes in with the news that the authorities are on the threshold with a warrant for the arrest of the Countess. Without thinking of her own safety, Olga gives her own passport to the Countess, who escapes while the soldiers are searching the premises. Satisfied that no one is there, they leave; and Olga swears to be revenged and to kill the person who has betrayed her friends. Little does she know that she has sworn to kill her husband, whom she loves more than life itself. When she discovers that he is the traitor the fight between love and revenge takes place; and in the end love conquers. Ivan, who has overheard the Sergeant's confession, takes it upon himself to put an end to the traitor, and shoots him dead.

Mr. J. G. Grahame plays with force and feeling at Sergeant Orloff, and supplies a capital reading of the rôle; as Ivan Petroff Mr. J. Montgomery does all that is necessary in the part; Mr. W. Thornton scores well as Captain Drackovitch; and Miss Flo Hamilton plays with genuine skill as Countess Lavinsky. Much praise is due to Miss Zerlina Harrington for her capital interpretation of Olga Orloff. She enacts the part with much power, and her efforts are appreciated. The piece is admirably staged, and is applauded with enthusiasm.

Good business is being done at the King's Palace, Wellingborough, Walturdaw pictures being varied with capital turns by the Three Veras.

HARRY TATE AND THE V.A.B.F.

PRESIDENT'S APPEAL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my pleasing duty as your president to bring before your notice the Benevolent Fund of our profession. During the short time this fund has been in existence it has done much good, but there is much more to be done, and the need is urgent.

You who are called upon to help so many charities, and who do so willingly, even at considerable inconvenience, do not need to be pressed. You only require to have your attention drawn to the fact that some of the fathers and mothers of our own profession—some who fought for the privileges which we now enjoy, and who were broken in the struggle—are in need of a little assistance. It is to help those who have been wounded in the fight—artists who have amused us when we were young, who may have inspired us in our present work—unfortunate comrades who may have been on the same bill with us only a few weeks ago—it is to help these that I ask your assistance. Everyone feels that such a fund is necessary, and everyone knows that such a fund is impossible without contributions.

All honour to our big donors. They have made the work possible, but there are many amongst us not able to put their names to big cheques, but who are willing to send a small postal order. By all means send it. It will be gratefully received, and I promise you it will be well spent. It may provide a dinner to a deserving veteran; it may provide a bed to an old pal. I appeal to you, ladies and gentlemen, believing that you will realise your duty to such a worthy fund, and I sincerely trust you will never require its aid.—I remain, yours faithfully,

Harry Tate.

Mr. Eugene Stratton writes:—

"Dear Boys and Girls,—

"At the desire of my dear old friend, Joe Elvin, I have consented to take the chair at the M.H.A.R.A. dinner and dance next Sunday night, at the Criterion, in aid of our two charities, the V.A. Benevolent Fund and the proposed Benevolent Institution. I shall take it as a personal favour if you will strain a point to rally round me on that night, and make it a record in the annals of music hall history. Come yourselves and bring all your friends with you. I'll promise you a right good time, and you will meet all your old pals at this reunion, including Joe Elvin and George Chirgwin, and a host of other 'bhoys' and 'gals.' Write and enclose your half-guinea for tickets to Douglas Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-road, and remember that of that amount 2s. 6d. goes direct to the Fund. It's a good thing. Push it along. Stand on me for a jolly evening.—Genially yours,

"Eugene Stratton."

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. P. Lucas and his able manager, Mr. Arthur Edwards, have a capital programme on hand this week, consequently excellent business is the order of the day. Herbert Darnley's company are presenting the lively musical comedy concoction *The Brigands of Tarragona*, which has had many improvements made to it since we last saw it, and it is funnier than ever and causes the audience endless amusement. Mr. Chas. H. Bell is a host in himself as Pepo, while the rest of the company lend valuable aid in making the success of the piece. That admirable comedian Leslie W. Harris is back again, and increasing his popularity with a couple of excellent songs, especially the one "Oh, send me to China," which is a very catchy number. Hodgson Lowther and company appear with their comic sketch, *Barmaids*, which is of the liveliest description. The waiter is especially funny, and the fun is kept going at a furious pace right along, and the sketch is highly successful.

Some wonderfully clever feats on the rings are given by the Victoria Trio, who are extraordinarily clever athletes, whose business is for the most part of a new and novel description. Morriss and Mills indulge in song and cross-talk, and finish off with a very neat simultaneous dance which earns for them great applause. Nora Guy, a charming young lady, sings delightfully and scores very heavily with her song "Ask her when the band is playing," which has a most taking refrain. Character impersonations from Dickens are always popular, and a new impressionist to us is Mr. Thomas Bentley, who portrays several of the best-known characters from "The Old Curiosity Shop." Mr. Bentley has devised a clever scheme for presenting his show, and his delineations are decidedly clever, though he is inclined to be a little indistinct at times. A word is due to the very young actress who so cleverly assists him in two of the scenes. The 'Varsity Girls are as melodious as ever, and their turn always pleases.

A stirring dramatic sketch, *The Poor of the Streets of London*, is capitally played by the Francis Harrold company. It is full of thrilling episodes, and only needs a little compression to make it more telling. The final scene of the rescue from the burning house is most realistic, and causes much excitement. Miss Suzie Doll, comedienne, and Manek Shah, the illusionist, also contribute to the programme, in addition to which the usual Bioscope pictures are shown. Mr. Josiah Law and his orchestra are deserving of a word of praise for their share in the evening's entertainment.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FELDMAN SONGS

ARE BEING SUNG IN PANTOMIME BY THE FOLLOWING ARTISTES.

PRELIMINARY LIST.

MISS FANNY ADAMSON.
SISTERS ALBERT.
ALHAMBRA GIRLS.
MISS LILY ALLCHURCH.
ANDY ASCHE.
LAURIE ASTER.
MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
CHRIS BAKER.
MISS IRIS BANFIELD.
FRED BARNES.
BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS.
MISS MAY BEATTIE.
MISS LOUIE BECKMANN.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
MISS MADGE BERESFORD.
MISS MARIE BERESFORD.
MISS NELLIE BINDON.
ROWLAND BOTTOMLEY.
MISS MAGGIE BOWMAN.
MARCUS BOYLE.
MISS MARION BRADSHAW.
MISS CELESTINE BRANDON.
MISS EDITH BROAD.
MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE.
MISS WINNIE BROOKS.
MISS MADGE BROWNE.
MISS WINNIE BROWNE.
MISS MADGE BROWNIE.
ANDIE CAINE.
MISS MADGE CAMPBELL.
MISS LOIS CARIS.
CARL AND CARR.
HARRY CARLTON.
MISS NINA CARLTON.
MISS LOU CHARLESWORTH.
MISS HILDA CLAREMONT.
CECIL CLAYTON.
MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.
MISS ENA COMPTON.
MISS GEORGIE CORLASS
MISS LUCY COVENTRY.
THE CRYSTALS.
MISS LINDA D'AMATO.
MISS ETHEL DANCY.
MISS ADA DAVIDSON
MISS DOROTHY DEAN.
MISS JOSIE DELAINE.
MISS ELSIE DENYS.
MISS ISABELLE DILLON.
MISS MOLLY DOON.
MISS KITTY DOUGLAS.
EWART DRAKE.
MISS LILIAN DRAKE.
MISS FLORENCE DUDLEY.
MISS VERA DUDLEY.
MISS LILLIE EDWARDS.
SISTERS EDWARDS.
LITTLE EILEEN.
MISS DOLLY ELLSWORTHY.
MISS ETHYL ERROL.
MISS LILIAN ERROL.
MISS JANE EYRE.
MISS NAN FARREN.
MISS ADA FAWN.
LEO FIELDS.
MISS MIMI FISHER.
MISS RAY FORD.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
MISS IRIS FOX.
MISS TINA FRANKS.
FYNE AND HURLEY.
MISS KATHLEEN GARNON.
MISS GERTIE GAVAGAN.
MISS MILDRED GELL.
MISS LESLEY GIBSON.
MISS M. GIBSON.
MISS GERTRUDE GILLIAN.
ARTHUR GODFREY.
MISS RHODA GORDON
FRED GRAHAM.
MISS GRACIE GRAHAM.
MISS MABEL GREEN.
MISS GLADYS GUY.
MISS EDITH HALEY.
MISS VIOLET HALLAM.
MISS JENNIE HALLWORTH.
CHAS. HANBURY.
MISS CLARICE HANDEL.
MISS CARRIE HARDING.
MISS PRIMROSE HARDING.
MISS DOROTHY HARRIS.
MISS EDITH HARMER.
MISS CLARE HARTLAND
MISS DORA HARVEY.
MISS FRANCES HASKOLL.
MISS BESSIE HEINE.
MISS BEATRICE HEWITT.
MISS MAY HILL.
J. W. HOOPER.
MISS ANGELA HOPE.
MISS HOWELL-HERSEE.
MISS PHYLLIS HUGHES.
MISS ELSIE JAMES.
MISS EDYTH JEFFRIES.
MISS DAISY JEROME.
MISS ZONA JOY
LITTLE KEENO
MISS MABEL KEITH.
MANITO KILTGAARD.
MISS EMMIE KING.
MISS VERA KINGDOM.
MISS WINNIE LANE
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
ALBERT LAURENCE.
EDWARD LAURI.
WILLIE LE BRUN
MISS HETTY LEE.
MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON.
JACK LEMSAL.
SISTERS LENNEN.
MISS GERALDINE LE SAGE.
LEWIS LESLIE.
MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE.
WILL LETTERS.
MISS KITTY LISKE.
MISS LULU LORD.
MISS MINNIE LOVE.
MISS LOWE.
MISS RUTH LYTTON.
DONALD MACKAY.
MISS JENNIE MACKAY.
CHAS. MACNAUGHTEN.
MISS MARJORIE MANNERS.
MISS MAY MARS.
MISS NELLIE MASCOTT.
MAXFORD AND O'NEILL.
MISS NINA MAY.
MISS VERA MAYNE.
MISSES DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLEN
SISTERS McCOLLA.
MISS MOLLY McINTYRE.
MISS LALLAH MELROSE.
MAT MELROSE.
MISS MAY MERRY.
MISS DOROTHY MILLAR.
MISS HELENE MOHR.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.
HARRY MORGAN.
MISS MABELLE MORGAN.
MISS DAISY MORREL.
MISS FLORA MORRIS
MISS LILY MORRIS.
TOM J. MORTON.
MISS MARIE MOSS.
MISS MINNIE MULVEY.
FRED MURRAY.
MISS WINNIE MYLNE.
MISS ETHEL NEGRETTI.
MISS IRIS NORMAN.
MISS MADGE O'NEILL.
TOM O'NEILL
MISS VIOLET ORME.
MISS MAY OTTO.
MISS CARRIE PARRY.
MISS LILLIE PAYNE.
MISS VERONA PHYLLIS.
ARTHUR PIER.
MISS ALICE POLLARD.
MISS MAY POULTON.
MISS MAUD PRENTON.
CHAS. PRESTON.
MISS KITTY RAFFERTY.
HARRY RANDALL.
PHIL RAY.
MISS MADOLINE REES.
MISS ADA REEVE.
MISS HESTER REEVE.
MISS MARIE REEVE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.
RALPH ROBERTS.
MISS WINIFRED ROCHFORT.
FRED ROMA.
MISS VIOLET ROMAINE.
MISS KITTIE RORKE.
MISS GRACE ROSAIRE.
MISS EVA MAY ROSSLYN.
MISS CHRISTINE ROY
MISS MARGARET RUBY.
MISS DOROTHY RUNDELL.
MISS KITTY RUSSELL.
SIDNEY T. RUSSELL.
MISS MARION SCOTT.
W. P. SHEEN.
MISS DAISY SILCOTT.
TOM SINCLAIR.
MISS GRACIE SINCLAIRE.
MISS TOPSIE SINDEN.
MISS ELSIE SKILLING.
MISS EDITH ST. CLARE.
MISS NANCY ST. JOHN.
FRANK SUMNER.
MISS GRACIE SUMNER.
ARTHUR SUTCLIFFE.
MISS MARIE SYDNEY.
MISS BELLE SYLVIA.
MISS AGNES TANDY.
MISS OLIVE TEMPEST.
MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON.
MISS HAWTHORNE THWAITES.
MISS KITTY TREWHILL.
MISS KITTY UPTON.
MISS BERYL VAUDREY.
MISS VENA VELMA.
MISS ELSIE VIDEAU.
MISS RITA VINCENT.
MISS RAY VIVIEN.
SISTERS VOLBECQUE.
MISS MARIE WALL.
MISS ANNIE WALLACE.
JACK WALLER.
MISS GLADYS WARREN.
MISS CISSIE WILLIAMS.
MISS ELLA WILLMER.
MISS IDA WILSON.
MISS NINA WILSON.
MISS CARLOTTA WOOD.
MISS DAISY WOOD.
SISTERS WYNESTAY.
MISS MOLLY WYNNE.

ADDITIONAL LIST.

MISS DOROTHEA CLARKE.
MISS OLIVE CRELLIN.
MISS DOROTHY CRASKE.
MISS GERTRUDE DE LACY.
MISS MAY DE LA GRANGE.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
MISS ETHEL EDWARDES.
MISS EVA ELLIS.
"EUGENE."
MISS IVY FRANCIS.
MISS JOSIE HAMMERSLEY.
MISS NELLIE HARCOURT.
MISS VIOLET HOLLOM.
MISS KIT KEEN.
JACK LANE.
LUPINO LANE.
JACK PLEASANTS.
MISS PAULINE RIVERS'S TROUPE.
MARK SHERIDAN.
MISS GLADYS SOMAN.
MISS EVA SWINBORNE.
MISS DOROTHY TEMPLE.
MISS DOROTHY WARD.
MISS LULU WILLIAMS.

Artistes whose names are inadvertently omitted are particularly requested to advise us, so that the omission can be rectified.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"FORTUNE'S FOOL."

Dramatic Episode, by Henry Hamilton, Performed for the First Time on the Variety Stage at the Hippodrome, on Monday, Feb. 14.

The failure of *The Strong People* at the Lyric has afforded Mr. Lewis Waller some relief for a time from the strenuous cares of actor-managership, and he has been persuaded by Mr. Oswald Stoll to take up a lucrative engagement at the Hippodrome. He is reproducing there the powerful monologue or dramatic episode, from the pen of Henry Hamilton, who has done much excellent work since he wrote that fine play *Harvest*, produced at the Princess's in September, 1886. The recent suicides of Mr. John Davidson and Mr. St. John Hankin, the former a gifted poet-dramatist, and the latter a novelist, dramatist, and satirist of originality and humour, brought into vivid relief the deep sensitiveness of the artistic temperament, and though it is not exactly the despair engendered by unrealised hopes with which Mr. Hamilton endows Philip Challoner, novelist and poet, yet the deeps of morbid melancholy in which he has sunk beyond redemption are only too similar in their overstrain upon a delicate mental organisation. Philip cannot bear the pangs of despised love, and is determined to seek "the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns." George Wither's philosophy, "if she be not fair to me, what care I how fair she be?" for him has no meaning. His heart's idol, the daughter of a viscount, has disappointed him, and consented to a match—approved by her parents—with Lord Amesbury. Challoner confides to an imaginary figure of Death, whom, in his capricious fancy, he admits to his room, and gives him a *resumé* of his career. He has been a medical student who failed in his profession through indolence and extravagance. But—like many another man who has become penniless and is thrown on his own resources—his better nature prevails; he shows grit and pluck, and has climbed the ladder of success as a novelist and journalist. One would think that Challoner, who has borne the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, would take life more philosophically. But, no. Burning her letters and apostrophising her photograph, he sits down at the piano and sings a song of which she was very fond. Then the poison is swallowed. The action of the deadly drug is not instantaneous, and he has time to receive and open a letter from his still adored Mabel announcing that she has only wavered for a moment from her allegiance, and is coming to him immediately. But it is too late. As he falls in the throes of death her knock is heard at the door. The lover lies still on the floor, alone with Death, the King of dry bones and dust.

The difficulty of sustaining so exacting a rôle for so long a time without intermission is in itself almost herculean; but the power, the pathos, the scorn, the satire of the part, are all presented with the perfect finish of a fine actor. The magnetic personality of Mr. Waller counts for much, too, in such a part. He holds Hippodrome audiences at one time by the terse nervousness of his style; at another by its virility and alert energy. It is good to find such art as Mr. Waller's on the variety stage—so all-embracing in its scope.

"BROKEN FETTERS."

Sketch, in One Act, Written by Geraldine Campbell, Produced at the Woolwich Hippodrome on Monday, Feb. 14.

Lord Elton .....Mr. Graeme Campbell
Dick Trench .....Mr. Ronald Bogue
Barbara Hurst .....Miss Hester Newton
Inspector of Police .....Mr. C. M. Hulse
Maid .....Miss Grande

Mr. Graeme Campbell has written a very attractive sketch, which has won for itself a very hearty welcome. The story is of an exciting nature and takes a strong hold of the audience. The cast is a strong one, and every character is well depicted, and the mounting is admirable. The scene is laid in Paris, in Barbara Hurst's flat. Barbara has a very shady past, but she has turned over a new leaf, and under the name of Ester Vaughan has become engaged to Lord Elton, who is secretary at the British Embassy. Barbara, who has been wearing jewels presented by, and heirlooms of, her fiancé, removes them, declaring they are unlucky if worn before marriage; but she had been seen wearing them by her aforetime confederate in crime, Dick Trench, who is now supposed to be undergoing a term of imprisonment.

In the course of conversation Lord Elton, who is totally unaware of any previous intimacy between the pair, mentions that a famous criminal, Dick Trench, has escaped and is at large, and proposes to take charge of the jewels himself; but at that moment he is called away on urgent business, and so leaves the jewels, saying he will call for them later on. In his absence Dick Trench makes his appearance, orders Barbara to hand over the jewels, and endeavours to persuade her to renew their old companionship and fly with him to America. Barbara rejects all his advances, and endeavours to raise an alarm, but is unsuccessful; and Dick Trench, becoming desperate, threatens to inform the police of her past, and eventually possesses himself of the jewels.

When Lord Elton returns he finds Barbara in a high state of excitement. Dick Trench is hiding behind a screen. Lord Elton requests Barbara to give him the jewels, and she refuses; but on Lord Elton insisting, she locks the empty box and hands it to him. But he, becoming suspicious, opens the box by a secret spring, and finds the jewels gone. He thereupon accuses her of theft, and leaves her. Dick Trench comes from his hiding-place and threatens to shoot either Barbara or her fiancé; but during this exciting controversy Lord Elton has entered unseen, and has discovered how matters stand. He is just in time to save Barbara from shooting herself.

Being confronted with Trench, Lord Elton recognises him as a man who saved his life some ten years previously, and on that score forgives him and buys his own jewels back, so that Dick may start life afresh in another country. Barbara, who has been wanted by the police, is recognised by an inspector, who has come in in search of Dick Trench; but Lord Elton assures him that Ester Vaughan is to be his future wife, and thus Barbara is made aware that her past is forgotten and forgiven.

Mr. Graeme Campbell sustains the character of Lord Elton in a dignified and easy manner, and is the recipient of emphatic expressions of approbation. Mr. Ronald Bogue as the escaped convict Dick Trench supplies a powerful rendering, and is quite convincing. Miss Hester Newton is seen to advantage in the rôle of Barbara Hurst, and deserves praise for an impressive study. Mr. C. M. Hulse is also good as the Inspector of Police, and Miss Grande lends useful assistance as the Maid.

Miss Della Ray, who has been scoring a gratifying success this week at the Empire Palace, Dudley, opens on Monday at the Alhambra, Openshaw, in a capital song as a principal boy, for which rôle her neat figure is eminently suited.

Miss Winifred Ward heads the bill with a pleasing turn at the Palace, Lincoln, and H. C. Lovell and company fulfil a thoroughly successful return visit with *Mlle. Pom Pom*; J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, confirms the impression made on his last visit, and Bert Maddison, Jock McNeil, Victor and Louis, and Gena Manon all have something entertaining to offer. The Palace Perfection Pictures are still a big feature.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

2,480 SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£20	2	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Harry Conlin	4	12	0
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1	0	0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £23 1s. 6d.

Joe Elvin 105	John Tiller	20
Wee George Wood .. 21	Ada Reeve	20
Eugene Cremetti .. 20	George Robey	20
Ernest Polden 20	E. Essayan	10
Alfred Butt 20	A. D. Carter	10
Harry Lewis 20	Peter Watson	10
George Essayan 20	F. A. Badman	10
Harvey du Cros, jun. 20	E. J. K. Savage	10
Walter Gibbons 20	E. T. Steyne	2½
J. Amery Parkes .. 20	Fred Sinclair	1
Frank Allen 20	A Friend	1
Herbert Sleath 20	Gus Elen	1
Will Sley 20		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £11 0s. 6d.

A. Oddenino	21	A. Campbell	5
Alec Hurley	21	E. Warner	5
Arthur Prince	20	J. Hamnett	2½
F. Mouillot	20	S. Africa	2½
F. A. K. Hounsell ..	20	E. A. Pickering	2½
S. Solmersitz	20	Stanley Pyke	2½
Peter Lawton	10	S. S.	2½
Isaac Prockter	10	Ernest Pyke	2½
J. Eric Clegg	10	Fred Farren	2½
L. H. Bauer	10	J. H. Adams	2½
Wm. T. Hill	10	S. B. Winter	2½
M. Pyke	10	Gus Elen	1
F. Breakell	5		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £4 9s.

Margaret Cooper ..	10	E Bryant	2½
Violet Vanbrugh	10	W. B.	2½
Arthur Bourchier ..	10	Frank Damer	2½
Eli Hudson	5	Jack North	2
Olga and Elgar	5	Gibbon and Bell	2
Les Trombetta	5	Victor Brothers	2
Tschin Maa	5	Durants	2
C. S. Richardson	4	Jack Lorimer	2
Nancy St. John	2½	T. Deutsch	2
Barclay Gammon ..	2½	Harry Vardon	1
Albert Mackelvin ..	2½	W. F. Moss	1
E. H. Mills	2½	Gus Elen	1
E. B.	2½		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan ..	1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey	1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Slone	1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz	1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz	1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz	1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey	1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner	1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten ..	1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown	1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast	1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray	1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz	1		

Collected by Harry Conlin, £2 3s.

Dorothy Ward	4	Frank Weir	1
Barry Lupino	3	Bob Reed	1
Harry Conlin	3	Jack Sheridan	1
Linda D'Amato	3	Jack Humphrys	1
Bert Wilson	2½	Leslie Ward	1
Seth Egbert	2½	Clarice Handel	1
Bros. Brooks	2	Beatrice Hewett	1
Relf	2	Leslie Graham	1
Ida Brophy	2	Seth and Barry	1
Albert Egbert	2	Films	1
Margaret Monks	1	Barry, Shale, Albert	1
Andy Tinto	1	Gus Elen	1
Cull Pitt	1	Spectacles	½
Tom Pender	1	Ernie Randall	½

Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong, £1 6s.

Barney Armstrong	6	Madoline Rees	1
Rose Elliott	5	Harry Rogerson ..	1
Four Royal Scotts	4	Bessie Herbert	1
Carl Lynn	1	Will Clement.....	1
Arthur Boyne	1	Ethel Ward	1
A Friend	1	Lena Brunton	1
Bingham	1	Gus Elen	1
A. T. Wright	1		

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 10s.

Roslyn Stuart	10	Fred Evans	1
Woolmer Young	1	Fred Neiman	1
Ted E. Box	1	F. H. Pedgrift	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Harry Gage	1	Fred Murray	1
D. White	1	Charles Hilbury	1
E Myers	1	William Tayler	1
Chas. Norton	1	Dick Southerd	1
Wisper	1	Josie Co.	1
Henry Coutts	1	Gus Elen	1
Arthur Gallimore ..	1		

Collected by Sisters Terry, 9s.

Bella Terry.....	1	Will Beanland	1
Minnie Terry.....	1	Billie Melia	1
Dave Czar	1	Gertie Gray	1
May Gibson	1	Gus Elen	1
Phyllis Stean.....	1		

Collected by Geo. French, £1 13s.

Gimmy Winkle	5	Nick French	2
George French	5	A. Baker	1
H. Poole	5	Fred Bescoby	1
B. Gates	2	Phyllis St. Clair	1
Learto		J. Picken	1
H. Dowsett	2	L. Mason	1
H. French	2	Gus Elen	1
M. Cattaneo	2		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman	3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel	1½	R. E. Wade	1
Michael Nolan	1½	Richard Barclay ..	1
Aggie Nolan	1	Harry Barclay	1
Bert Nolan	1	Fred Malcolm	1
Olive West	1	G. Barclay, jun. ..	1
La Belle Linda	1	Joe Hayman	1
Ben Webster	1	Morny Cash	1
Mike Asher	1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Hy. Pocock	1	Gus Elen	1
Thos. Pocock	1		
Michael Nolan's Sister	1		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Rowland Hill, £1 4s.

Rowland Hill	1	Neil Emerald	1
Little Mamie Hill ..	1	Lily Black	1
Ralph Howard	1	Minnie Muir	1
Nellie Howard	1	Annie Schuberth	1
Eric George	1	Archie McCaig	1
Marriott Edgar	1	Harry Corton	1
Harry E. Ray	1	John Alexander	1
Kit Keen	1	Harry Radford	1
H. Valdo	1	Dick Tubb	1
J. Valdo	1	Alf. Corri	1
Cyril Thompson	1	"Ye Dame"	1
José Collins	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Craggs, £1 11s.

J. W. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cobbin	1
E. T. Cragg	1	Master A. Cobbin....	1
Mrs. E. T. Cragg..	1	Miss V. Cobbin	1
Miss V. Cragg	1	A. Zettel	1
Master A. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Zettel	1
A. Cragg	1	Master J. Zettel ..	1
Mrs. A. Cragg	1	iss M. Zettel	1
Miss Sala Cragg....	1	Miss Rosie Cragg ..	1
J. H. Cragg	1	Master F. Cragg ..	1
Mr. J. H. Cragg ..	1	Master A. Cragg ..	1
Master J. Cragg	1	Master J. Cragg ..	1
C. Cragg	1	A Cragg	1
Mrs. C. Cragg	1	Mrs. A. Cragg	1
A. E. Cragg	1	Miss E. Cragg	1
Mrs. A. E. Cragg ..	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Cobbin	1		

Collected by Ruby Dahl, £1 9s.

Geo. Barratt	2½	H. Gotham	1
Ruby Dahl	1½	Nora Stockelle	1
The Woods	1½	Morris and Moore ..	1
Harry Blake	1	Mayme Cannon	1
A. J. Girling	1	F. T.	1
Mammie Winstone..	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Bella Gordon	1	J. Julian	1
M. B.	1	Alice Gill	1
J. D.	1	Netty Janowsky	1
Harold Finden	1	Eli Hudson	1
A. P. Moeller	1	Carr and Rose	1
K. Girling	1	Gus Elen	1
Edith Keppel	1	T W.	½
Florence, Yaymen ..	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Miss Bessie Butt, £1 11s.

Harry Tate	10	A. Tremaine	1
Bessie Butt	6	J. Fenton Walsh ..	1
F. Fields	1	Maie Dillon	1
Harry Claff	1	George Manton	1
Reginald Hunt	1	Pa Pa	1
George Regan	1	Jack	1
Fred Ryan	1	Ken	1
Dorothy Firmin	1	Gus Elen	1
George Hirste	1		

Collected by Barry Gilmore, Esq., 17s.

Barry Gilmore	1	Beatrice Mina Ingram	1
Mrs. Barry Gilmore...	1	V. Clemente	1
Barry Gilmore, jun...	1	Jessie Templeton	1
Billy Oswald	1	Mrs. Fred Ingram....	1
Fred Ingram	1	Hugh Boyce	1
Nita Crystal	1	Mrs. Harry McClelland	1
Nellie Crystal	1	Gus Elen	1
Mount Stephens	1		
Harry J. Rennior	1		
Harry Levaine	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan ..	10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole	5		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham	1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer	1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read	1	H. Cromwell Bush..	1
Elsie Wright	1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips	1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred E. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley	1		

Collected by Miss Florrie Forde, £1 11s.

Anonymous	8	Miss Belmont	1
Florrie Forde	5	Bert Byrne	1
Mr. Badcoe	2	Jessie Pullin	1
Dr. ——, Burnley ..	2	Will Lindsay	1
Burley and Burley ..	2	Jack Hughes	1
Florodoros	2	Ciss Churton	1
Edie Colville	1	Vic. Cross	1
Mac	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich	3	Mr. R. Knaepper ..	1
Mr. Harry Alaska..	1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska	1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun..	1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun. ..	1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio ..	1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph	1	A New Julia.....	1
Mme. Recio	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway	1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway	1	Mr. Hamilton Warden	1
Michael Madden ...	1	Miss Louie Love ..	1
Miss Queenie King	1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls	1	Two Derby Nuts ..	1
Miss Ada Lucelle ..	1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen	1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths	1	Miss May Garry ..	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore	1	The Lady Goldfish..	1
Wallace Bosco	1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson ..	1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter	1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note	1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway	1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen	1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser	1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian	1	Humpsti Bumsti ..	1
W. H. McCarthy ..	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzletov	1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown	1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart	1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 8, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

ALLEGATIONS REFUTED. REPORT ADOPTED.

SIR EDWARD MOSS occupied the chair at the eleventh ordinary general meeting of Moss' Empires (Limited), held on Tuesday, in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh. There was a crowded attendance of shareholders, who included a number of ladies.

The report was held as read.

TRADE DEPRESSION AND SKATING RINKS.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—The past year has not been so satisfactory in its results as we could have wished. In our report we have referred to what we consider to be the chief causes of the fall in our profits—viz., a continuance of trade depression throughout the country and the competition of skating rinks. Both these causes we regard as temporary, and there seem to be already signs both of some improvement in trade and of waning popularity of the skating rinks. It is obvious that when people have less money to spend, and when other attractions are competing, our drawings should suffer, and I may point out that a very slight increase in the weekly drawings of each of our houses will make a very substantial addition to the amount available for dividend, for, after the paying stage has been reached, any increase in drawings is all profit. An extra £1 per night at each of our houses is equal to 1¼ per cent. per annum on our Ordinary share capital, so that with improved times it should not take us very long to get back to a more satisfactory dividend. There are two matters I might mention at this stage. One is that the second half of last year showed better results than the first, and the other, that so far as the present year has gone our results are better than in the corresponding period of 1909. I would draw your attention also to the amount set aside out of last year's profits for the redemption of the Six per Cent. Debentures—viz., £10,029—in itself a small dividend. This affects our dividend-paying powers in the meantime, but you must keep in mind that the result will be that in a dozen years we shall have cleared off the whole of these Debentures out of revenue, which will really form a reserve of £200,000, thereby very substantially improving the position of both Preference and Ordinary shareholders. With regard to the Finsbury Park Empire, I have every confidence that this building will yield a handsome contribution to our profits. It is being erected on an exceptionally fine site, which we acquired some years ago, and we all hope for excellent results from it.

There is one other matter to which I want to refer. Advertisements have appeared in the newspapers—one, an anonymous one, so recently as yesterday—which seem calculated to excite uneasiness and distrust among our shareholders. I do not know whether the anonymous advertisement proceeded from a shareholder or not. If it be a shareholder, he is certainly not a friend to his interests as a shareholder, nor a friend of yours or mine. I do not know what is at the back of such an announcement. It has been suggested to me that some of you desire to appoint some sort of committee. Well, if the result of such a committee were merely to go into the company's affairs, and, as I know they would, report satisfactorily on these, we should all welcome that. But you cannot limit the results of such a step as that. We have our opponents in business, and our enemies, and it would be the best news they have had for many a long day that a committee had been appointed by the shareholders of this company. Such a step, for one thing, would prejudice the value of our shares in the market. That I regard as the least evil that would follow. It would weaken our hands in our dealings with our own employees, and with the artists, and it would have a prejudicial effect upon our business all over the country. I do not want, nor does any of my colleagues want, to remain a day longer than we possess the confidence of the shareholders, and I want to tell you plainly now that we shall regard a motion for the appointment of a committee as tantamount to a vote of want of confidence. I now formally move that the directors' report and the accounts for the year to Dec. 31, 1909, be approved and adopted, and that, in accordance therewith, a dividend be paid for the second half of the year at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of Income-tax.

Mr. OSWALD STOLL seconded the adoption of the report. A 5 per cent. dividend might not be a satisfactory dividend, but all business returns fluctuated. In such a moment unimportant details and idle gossip were given such prominence as to shut out a comprehensive view of the company's affairs. At that juncture it was well to put forward the consideration whether the recent history of the company compared favourably or otherwise with the past. The profits of the company during the past five years had exceeded by nearly £70,000 the profits made in the previous five years, notwithstanding the great increase in the number of variety theatres, the great increase in artists' salaries, the counter-strokes necessary to meet and evade competition, the advent of the picture shows, which were now very numerous in most of the towns, and in 1909 the establishment of sixty-four skating rinks affecting twelve towns where the company had properties. During the last five years a stronger financial position had been created, because there was now no enormous overdraft. Their aim had not been to pay the biggest dividend, but to strengthen the foundations of the company as opportunity offered. They had been dealing one by one with several substantial weaknesses that the company possessed, and, in his view, they had now removed the really material ones, and might look forward to a period of prosperity.

Mr. ABRAHAMS put a number of questions regarding the overdraft and the directors' fees. In 1907 there was a profit of £193,289, and the directors' fees were only £8,008. This year, with a profit of £30,000 less, the directors' fees were more.

Mr. WILLIAM THOMSON, secretary, in the course of his reply, said the fees of the directors were:—Sir Edward Moss, £2,000; Mr. Stoll, £3,500; Mr. Thornton, £500; Mr. Allen, £2,000; and Mr. Houlding, £210. The difference referred to by Mr. Abrahams was accounted for by Mr. Houlding having been added to the Board.

Mr. ABRAHAMS expressed himself as satisfied.

MR. GEORGE GRAY'S ATTACK.

Mr. GEORGE GRAY then moved the following amendment:—"That the report and balance-sheet be suspended pending a committee of investigation of shareholders to be elected by this meeting to inquire into the depreciation of the earnings of this company." He did not do so, he said, with any feelings of indignation, for he had the greatest respect for their directors. He had the greatest respect for all directors. All directors were honourable men. So was Brutus. That amendment would enable him to make a little purview of the circumstances surrounding the Moss' Empires. Proceeding, Mr. Gray enumerated the different companies which had gone to form Moss' Empires, and contended that the profit to the vendors of the original companies was £461,362. Dealing with the co-operative system, he said a director was not allowed to enter into engagements which might conflict with the interests of the company, but they had given their directors power to enter into any other business whatsoever. Whether that was in the interests of their company it was for them to consider. He considered that there were one or two shows in direct opposition and worked inimically to their own. He contended that a profit of £35,000 could be made, instead of being absolutely wasted in gross extravagance at the offices. Enormous offices had been taken, which could have been let, and a profit created of £2,500 per annum. Instead, they had a hundred clerks in extraordinary positions. There was another syndicate outside their own conducted with about eight principals and about six clerks. In their company they had a managers' department, an accountant's department, a stage managerial department, the publicity and Press department, the contract and booking department, the secretarial department, the legal department, and the bioscope department. The manager of each of their halls was absolutely placed in the position of an office-boy. He could do nothing. If a pound of glue was wanted he had to fill up a long schedule and await permission, and by the end of the week a pound of glue at 8d. had cost 3s. 6d. No power was left the manager to alter the programme. That department cost £25,000 per year, and was not at all necessary for the business.

With reference to the engagements of artists, Mr. Gray said he had the proof of many people who went to be booked that they were told they must go through a certain agency. They could draw their conclusions of what he meant by that. That agency did last year £38,000 worth. Another agent told him he had to go to this agency and share commission with them.

A VOICE: Won't you give names?

Mr. GRAY: I have the names, but it would not be fit and proper to give them. The Press department, the singing picture department, and the bioscope department were in turn criticised. Bioscopes, he said, were charged to the firm at £10 per week, and they could be obtained for £20 with all their accoutrement. But they were actually hired from Mr. Tetlow, of Cardiff. The report generally inferred that the depreciation of the profits was in consequence of the popularity of the skating rinks. In Cardiff the skating rinks were under the management of Mr. Tetlow. Giving figures as to possible savings, Mr. Gray contended that on their country accountants they could save £2,200, because they were not needed. The estimated profit on letting the offices as chambers would be £2,500 per annum. If they possessed their own bioscopes, it would work out at £10,576, which they now spent. That made £21,676. Then they came to saving on the staff. He enumerated possible savings, and gave a grand total of £35,126. There were other possible savings. Many directors of companies similar to that worked upon results. If they did not show 10 per cent., they took nothing. He thought that would be a very excellent basis upon which to engage their directors.

Mr. R. W. GARDINER, S.S.C., seconded the amendment. The report, he said, was very disappointing, and from the ordinary shareholders' point of view was anything but satisfactory. It was not in the best interests of the company that Mr. Oswald Stoll was managing director of that company and at the same time managing director of an opposition house. He understood that Mr. Stoll was managing director of five similar establishments. They had heard something of the amount paid to Mr. Stoll. What were the terms of the appointment? Depression in trade and roller skating applied with equal force to the companies which could show a better return than 5 per cent. Some reduction, he thought, could be made on the figure for management. Then, what return was got for the investments entered in the balance-sheet at £30,510? What had the alterations at the Hippodrome cost, and had they been paid for?

Mr. THOMSON, in reply, explained what the position was at the time of the amalgamation. It had been plainly suggested that the vendors made a profit of £400,000, and the meeting was left to infer that the directors, or some of them, pocketed that or a big share of it. The amalgamation was a case of ten separate companies combining to form that company on the footing that the shares they held in the old companies were exchanged for shares in that company, on a certain basis which was put before all the companies and unanimously approved. Not one penny changed hands in connection with the amalgamation arrangements. That was the actual fact of the case, and the suggestion that a big profit was made by somebody or another was absolutely groundless. He hoped that Mr. Gray's other points had been more carefully grounded than that most unwarrantable suggestion.

MR. OSWALD STOLL'S REPLY.

Mr. STOLL, in reply, said that other companies with which he was associated had been referred to. Let him say at once that if they took any but the Coliseum, nobody for one moment would say that they were in any way in opposition. The question of the West End of London was held by him and everybody else in the theatrical and music-hall profession, except Mr. Gray and the other gentleman, to be a distinct area, where they catered for the whole country and the whole of Europe, and it could not be said that the Coliseum and the Hippodrome were really in opposition. He maintained that they could help one another. These charges were directed against him, and with no desire or care for the prosperity of the company. It was a very near thing between himself and Sir Edward Moss who was the largest shareholder, so that his interests were strong with that company.

A VOICE: Perhaps they did not cost you much.

Mr. GRAY: The records say 200 Ordinary shares.

Mr. STOLL (continuing) said his shares were now in the name of a bank. The implication was that he wanted the Coliseum to succeed, and that he did not want the Hippodrome to succeed. The fact of the matter was the Hippodrome as a structure became wholly out of date, but it had now been reconstructed in such a way as to properly accommodate the attractions the people wanted. He said with confidence that both the Hippodrome and the Coliseum had now a double chance of getting attractions. On the question of the bioscopes, Mr. George Gray in his statement practically accused him of being a thief. Mr. Tetlow was merely the machine through which they ran the films to each of their houses each week. The co-operative offices had to deal entirely with the finances of the bioscope. Alluding to Mr. Gray's position, he said it had been considered wise to defer his re-engagement for a certain time.

Mr. GRAY: I am a shareholder.

With reference to the co-operative offices, he was in certain premises the other day in City-road, where a similar organisation for a larger company had three thousand people engaged. It would be quite easy to disband the co-operative offices and incur expenses at the separate theatres, but they would find the expenses infinitely greater. But it was impossible to deal with the garbled account which Mr. Gray had given. They had heard that his statement about the bioscopes was utterly false.

Mr. GRAY: It is not so; the cheques go down to Mr. Tetlow.

THE GLASGOW EMPIRE.

Proceeding, Mr. STOLL said that unquestionably the Glasgow Empire was the most successful theatre in Glasgow. If the profit of the Empire were paid upon the capital of the other place to which he thought they referred, the dividend would certainly not be less.

Mr. GILLESPIE, as a member of the firm of auditors appointed by the company, said Mr. Gray had made a charge against the bioscope department. He was absolutely wrong in what he said. The whole of the bioscopes and the whole of the films belonged to the company.

Mr. GRAY: Since when?

Mr. GILLESPIE: Since the start. I give you my word of honour that to say that the films are not the property of the company or the bioscope instruments is not true.

Mr. MAYBERRY advised that the amendment be withdrawn. The directors, after what had occurred that day, would, he had no doubt, see what reform they could make. It was clear that there had been an honest policy and an honest administration so far as they could make out.

Mr. GARDINER said that after the explanations he had heard he was quite prepared to withdraw from seconding. But he would put it to the chairman and directors whether it would not be in the better interests of the company that it should be controlled by one who would devote his whole time to the affairs of the company.

Mr. GRAY adhered to his amendment, which was seconded in another quarter.

Mr. GRAY said he must ask Mr. Stoll to withdraw the inference that there had been any animus between them. There was no animus whatever. He was merely a shareholder, and entitled to ask questions outside any other business whatever.

Mr. STOLL said he had simply stated the facts. He was quite willing to withdraw any imputation of animus.

THE REPORT ADOPTED.

On a division, about a dozen hands were held up for the amendment, and the report was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

The CHAIRMAN moved the re-election of Mr. Houlding as a director.

Amid laughter, Mr. GRAY seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

AN APPEAL DISMISSED.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, known in private life as Mrs. Ethel Rebecca Thackeray, in the Court of Appeal, on Wednesday, before Lords Justices Vaughan Williams and Farwell, appealed against the verdict of the jury in her action for alleged libel against the *Encore*, Ltd., and others.

The plaintiff is the wife of Mr. Francis Henry Thackeray, a ventriloquist, known as Lieut. Travis. In June, 1908, plaintiff separated from her husband, and on Oct. 15 the following statement was published in the *Encore*:

"Take notice, that Ethel Rebecca Thackeray (professionally known as Ethel Ra-Leslie), the lawful wife of Francis Henry Thackeray (professionally know as Lieut. Travis), of No. 77, Thornton-avenue, Streatham Hill, ventriloquist, is no longer authorised by him to make any purchase or enter into any contract on his behalf, and that he will not be responsible for the performance of any engagements she may enter into or for any debts she may incur after this date, she having left him and being now located in Belfast."

The plaintiff's case was that the statement would be injurious to her in her profession, and would be likely to prevent her obtaining engagements.

Mr. Jellicoe, in opening the appeal, said plaintiff's case before the jury was that the natural tendency of the publication was to convey an impression in the theatrical profession that the plaintiff was a person of doubtful credit. He complained of misdirection and non-direction by Mr. Justice Walton; he also submitted that counsel for the defendants had cross-examined the plaintiff as to a number of facts which must have influenced the jury. Mr. Jellicoe strongly protested against a letter which had been read in the court below before the jury, written by the husband of the plaintiff, in which he made a number of charges against his wife.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, after looking at the letter, said he was of opinion that it ought not to have been read, because it was in such terms that it might very well have secured the verdict. Mr. Justice Walton had expressed the opinion that as the letter was a painful one it was better not to read it.

Mr. Martin O'Connor (counsel for the defendants) said he was not aware of Mr.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

The Richardson Cup.
The Richardson Challenge Cup has just been delivered to Colonel Cobbett, hon. treasurer of the National Skating Association. The cup will shortly be exhibited in one of the West-End stores, most probably Whiteley's.

A Great Business Expert.
A little timely advice has often in the world's history turned a failure into a success. We have to pay for our experience, but if the payment gives us knowledge that leads to success, the money is well spent. Mr. W. D. Nixon, whose fine work at Olympia was responsible for the great success of rinking at that establishment last year, has now established offices at 110, St. Martin's-lane, and may be consulted there with reference to the supervision, staffing, and general management of rinks and picture palaces. Mr. Nixon's experience has been a unique one, and he is a walking mine of information on the subjects in which he is now specialising. Journalist, theatre and rink manager, and financier, his record shows one long series of successes, and those in temporary business difficulties, or needing advice as to the acquisition of sites, cannot do better than consult him.

Revelry at Earl's Court.
Whether or not in imitation of our Continental neighbours' *Mi-carême* habits matters not, but in point of fact the carnival craze is particularly rampant in our midst. Two rink masquerades of the first magnitude, and several others of lesser note, have taken place this week. Last Wednesday the Earl's Court rink repeated, if it did not actually surpass, its success of last month. Prizes to the number of fourteen were offered for sartorial talent in ladies and gentleman. As at the last carnival, competitors did not enter their names till they arrived on the evening of the function. Mr. Herbert Izod and his stewards then issued identification cards. The well-known limelight effects enhanced the beauty of the spectacle. The *Pall Mall Gazette* published a special Rink edition, giving the names of the prize-winners within ten minutes of the judges decisions being made known. Splendid enterprise truly. The revelry culminated in a battle of confetti and serpentines.

The Awards.
During the evening a display of skating was given by Martine, a French-Canadian. His movements were original, and were watched with the keenest interest by the vast assembly. The function was a great success. The judging committee's awards for the various classes were as follow:—Ladies Handsome Costume.—Miss Blake (Forget-Me-Not) 1, Mrs. Uhde (Snowball) 2, Mrs. Snare (Cleopatra) 3. Men's Handsome Costume.—N. Baber 1, S. E. Knapman 2, W. Thorpe 3. Ladies' Original Costume.—Mrs. Isaacs 1, Mrs. Greenfield 2, Miss Samuel 3. Men's Original Costume.—Mr. Draper 1, Mr. Millmaker 2, Mr. Jenkins 3. Ladies' Comic Costume.—No award, all being disqualified. Men's Comic Costume.—Mr. Watts.

Next Week's Racing at Earl's Court.
A match in which several of the leading professional skaters are to take part is arranged for the nights of Feb. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 at the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, S.W. Mr. P. W. Williard, the managing director of Rinking, Ltd., has offered a purse of £80, which has been deposited with the *Sporting Life*, and of this amount £60 is to go to the winner and £20 to the loser. Four heats are to be decided nightly, each man meeting the others in turn, the final being run off on the Saturday. There is little doubt that with men competing who have shown wonderful speed on skates there will be many exciting tussles, and that the heats will draw large crowds to the Empress Rink. The professional champions entered are Allie Moore, Rodney Peters, C. J. Wilson, A. H. Bear, J. Plumridge, and Hal Berte.

Gloucester.
Mr. W. T. Cairns, the manager, who is leaving Gloucester to take up another appointment, was the recipient of several presents from friends in the city.

The Olympia Carnival.
Last night, as we were going to press, there was high jinks at Olympia, the second carnival of the season being in progress. The huge rink was crowded, and some remarkable dresses were to be seen. Miss Dorothy Cullum was in the contingent of skaters that came from Brighton. Many of us have pleasant memories of this lady's graceful gyrations at the Brighton rink before her fame as "the Crawford Girl." Those who witnessed her exhibition of skating with Mr. Walter Stanton had good evidence of the power of roller-skating to embody the very poetry of motion. Olympia's divertissement was a sheer delight to all beholders.

New Sport for "Rinkers."
An invention has been tried at Olympia which seeks to combine cycling with roller skating. Attached to a small cycle wheel, controlled by handle-bars, after the fashion of the bicycle, is a little platform on rollers. In this way the pedestrian can force himself along at a great pace, putting one foot to the ground when fresh impetus is required. A speed of twenty miles an hour can be attained, and rinkers who have tried the contrivance declare that the exercise is most exhilarating. "Fripla" is the name given to the new steerable foot carriage, which is intended for use on rink or road.

Date of Holland Park Carnival.
Mr. E. B. Barnes is a great favourite with frequenters of the Holland Park rink, and just now is busy with the details of a carnival he intends holding there on Friday, March 11. Mr. Barnes is in hopes of inducing many of the patrons of Olympia to transfer their affections to Holland Park when the great Addison Road rink closes at the end of the month. But the Earl's Court management has similar hopes also.

C.P. Skating Carnival.
The second fancy dress skating carnival which took place on Wednesday at the Crystal Palace was an even greater success than the first. The many prizes awarded were both costly and beautiful. That wonderful man on skates, Syd Martin, presented an unique and grotesque skating act.

The Turk to Rink.
Messrs. Plimpton, who control Richardson's interests on the Continent, tell us that they have orders now in hand for the equipment of several important rinks in France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Russia, and numerous inquiries from Turkey, Greece, Italy, and Egypt.

St. Valentine at Walpole Hall.
Mr. Byng-Hall is nothing if he is not original, and his grand surprise of "Love in a car" distributing valentines to the Saints' votaries at the Moonlight Carnival on the 14th proved a magnet to attract a merry crowd of revellers. Rainbow marches and two-step competitions prepared the road for the grand event of the evening, and when at nine o'clock Mr. Wallace Taylor's band struck up a fanfare every roller ceased to burr, while the God of Love in the person of Mr. G. C. Birch made a triumphal round of the rink fluttering valentines into the hands of the gay carnival crowd. Miss Martha Byng-Hall, fresh from her Paris engagement, made a bonnie figure in a two-step display, and the excellent work of the graceful young *patineuse* was greatly admired.

Skates Save Shoe Leather.
American enterprise has brought skates within reach of the youngster. The Yankee has flooded the market with cheap skates, and a skate originally sold at 2s. 6d. is now retailed at 1s. 9d. The juvenile craze found its real opportunity at Christmas, when, as a small suburban shopkeeper delightfully put it, "every mother did her best to put a skate in her boy's stockings." This small shopkeeper alone sold no fewer than 400 pairs for the purpose. The dealer proffered a surprising explanation for the popularity of the roller-skate amongst mothers. "They buy them," he said, "to save shoe leather. When children are on skates they are not wearing their boots out. Metal does not wear so quickly as leather, and a broken wheel or a broken strap can be replaced for a penny."

Dame Fashion at the Rink.
The Princess gown is favoured by many fair rinkers, and this style suits to perfection the slim figure. These dresses have a charming effect on the rink, being accentuated by the graceful movements of the wearer. The short skirt is very popular, being made sufficiently full so as to be comfortable and yet tidy in appearance. Velvet, velveteen, faced cloth, and corded silk are very fashionable materials. Many tailor-made costumes are made with flat, mannish-looking coat sleeves and tight-fitting jackets. Military three-quarter coats are also in evidence, being very heavily braided.

Skating at Sea.
There will be skating rinks provided on the two new White Star liners the Olympic and the Titanic.

The Employment Rinks Give.
It is estimated that nearly 10,000 instructors, male and female, are employed in the existing rinks, not to mention the attendants, doorkeepers, check and money takers, and musicians.

Rubber Rollers.
The Vandora Skate Manufacturing Company have succeeded in obtaining a temporary licence for their rink, about to be opened in Liverpool, although they have to contend with considerable opposition from the different hospital committees, there being no less than three large, important hospitals within the immediate vicinity of the rink in question. The licensing Bench have granted a temporary licence to enable the promoters to prove their assertion that the Vandora skates are absolutely noiseless. We shall watch with interest the progress made by this company, as their skates mark a new development in the rinking world. Their special patent rubber rollers are being fitted to Richardson skates with which the rink will be exclusively equipped.

Meet Me at Finsbury Park.
The new Premier Rink de Luxe at Finsbury Park is already extremely popular, ladies in North London making the rink their rendezvous for meeting their friends and taking tea. A speed and hockey club is being formed, and the number of applications for membership is increasing daily.

Popular Comedian at Finsbury Park.
Amongst the onlookers at Finsbury Park Rink last week was Mr. Edmund Payne. Mrs. Payne was rinking, and, although new to the pastime, she has rapidly become one of the best rinkers at the new skating palace. The popular Gaiety comedian is a good cyclist among other things, and he says that cycling has proved his salvation. Although he is not fit to resume his professional duties, Mr. Payne hopes, after a sojourn abroad, to again appear before the footlights before summer comes again.

Tottenham's Canadian Rink.
Last Monday afternoon the Canadian Rink, High-road, Tottenham, was declared open by Mrs. C. C. Knight, presented by Councillor Lewin. The general-manager is Arthur Granville.

When You Don't Get Wet.
Mr. A. F. Wilson, the general-manager of the Hammersmith and a large number of other rinks, says that rinking at the establishments he controls is "going strong," and that in spite of the cry by editors of some financial City papers that rinks were not a sound investment. Where one hundred persons skated last year one thousand are on the rinks every evening this season. Nothing like the present attendance at rinks has ever been seen before either in the States or England. The people recognise that roller skating is a sport, and a healthful, invigorating sport of the most pleasant type. I myself, after the experience I had at Earl's Court with over 2,000 pairs of Wolf skates, swear by these, and am only one amongst many managers of the same opinion. This season the skating public want something more than continually going round. Half the people who skate can waltz, two-step, and are figure-skaters, whilst many go in for sports. If the rinks are kept interesting, the floors good, the skates good, the place clean and well-managed, it will require one of the wise men to predict the fall of roller skating. We don't get much ice in England now. Well, on the rollers is its equal, if not superior, besides—you don't get wet if you fall."

The World's Largest Skating Palace.
The Maida Vale Roller Skating Palace and Club, of Delaware-road, which is now almost completed, will be officially opened to-day (Saturday), by the Mayor of Paddington. The rink is magnificently appointed, and is the largest the world possesses, for it has a skating area of 39,750 square feet. The structure is even still larger, for it measures 495ft. by 120ft., and comprises in addition cloak-rooms, dressing-rooms, first-aid room, offices, and a splendid restaurant, decorated in oak and mahogany. The catering will be done by French, English, and Continental cooks. The Royal box is situated in the gallery, and is most handsomely furnished. Here a portrait of the king valued at 500 guineas, painted by Doughty, will be hung.

The Reward of Merit.
Owing to the great satisfaction Mr. E. Collini's bands have given at the various rinks, including the one at Highgate, he has been specially engaged to provide and conduct the band for Stamford Hill Rink.

Novel Situation at Kingston.
The sequel to a number of carnivals at the County Rink, Kingston-on-Thames, was furnished at the local Police Court last Wednesday, when Mr. Watson, assistant solicitor to the Surrey County Council, applied for, and was granted, a summons against Mr. C. Byng-Hall, managing director of the Surrey County Rink, for allowing the premises to be used without a licence for public music and dancing. The Court was crowded with those interested in the company controlling the rink, and after considerable discussion on the magisterial Bench, it was decided that the summons should be returnable at the forthcoming Surrey Quarter Sessions.

Aristocratic Rink Party at Windsor.
Among the large company present at the White Hart Rink, Windsor, on Wednesday were: Lord and Lady Edward Spencer-Churchill, Lady St. Leonards and party, Lady Frankland, Lord George Pratt and party, Mr. Oscar Blount, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Benyon, Mrs. E. B. Foster and party, Colonel G. C. and Mrs. Nugent, and Captain and Mrs. Hargreaves.

Higher Prices for Maple.
Messrs. J. C. Plimpton and Co., Lyd., Liverpool, inform us that they are now carrying a very large stock of maple flooring in both prime and No. 1 select grades. We understand there has lately been a serious advance in the price of this material, and even higher prices than those now ruling are freely talked about.

Municipal Rinks.
Municipal skating rinks have been established at Southampton, Bangor, and Yarmouth.

The Belfast Carnival.
A fancy and evening dress ball on skates took place on Monday night last at Cliftonville Skating Rink, Belfast. Valuable prizes were awarded for the most effective, original, and comical costumes for both ladies and gentlemen, and there was also a competition for children. The entire proceedings were very successful, and reflected much credit on the enterprise of the manager, Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Roberts, V.D.

Birmingham Blesses Rinking Boom.
More than 15,000 pair of roller skates are turned out each week from Birmingham factories.

Rinking in a Reservoir.
At a recent meeting of the Cowes District Council it was suggested that an old reservoir, used only for storing water for flushing purposes, might be emptied and converted into a good roller skating rink.

Hot Time for Visitors.
The management of the Derby Alexandra Skating Rink has been busy re-surfacing their floor, and the results obtained are eminently satisfactory. A Farmyard carnival took place last Wednesday evening. Mr. Leonard S. Innes on Monday evening proved his claim as local amateur champion, after beating G. Warwick, of Nottingham. The winner was also successful in lifting a gold medal from Birmingham, where he was adjudged the fastest loser in the Midland Counties Championship. The hockey team maintains its excellent form, and provides a hot time for all visitors.

Earlstown's New Skatery.
A new rink is now in course of construction at Earlstown, near Warrington. Richardson skates will be used.

"Skates off" at Glasgow Zoo.
Saturday saw the close of Councillor Bostock's large and finely-appointed rink, it having been decided to resume some of the varieties of show business with which the building has in the past been associated. A tremendous crowd assembled on the occasion, and the floor was fully occupied all the evening, while the space devoted to spectators was also taxed to its utmost. The closing attractions included a hockey match and a sack race on skates, both of which evoked much interest and the latter unlimited amusement. To the strains of "Auld Lang Syne," followed by "God Save the King," and three hearty cheers from the audience, the concluding session of the Zoo Rink was reached. On the Friday night Mr. Bostock gave the proceeds as a benefit to his staff.

Riess Goes to Gloucester.
Regret is expressed all round at the Blackheath rink at the departure of Mr. Percy S. Riess, who during the time he has been local manager has not only added largely to the popularity of the rink, but has gained the esteem of many of the patrons. Blackheath's loss will be a gain to Mr. Riess and Gloucester—where he is going to open Gloucester Olympia, one of the largest rinks and picture palaces in the provinces, with a floor space of 35,000 square feet.

Conversion of Kettering.
Avenue Theatre.—This house of amusement has been converted into a skating rink, with marked success.

News from Newcastle.
Satisfactory patronage continues to be bestowed on the Grand Stand Skating Rink at each of the three sessions daily. Business at the Exhibition Hall, St. Mary's-place, was very brisk during the past week; in fact, on Saturday night the management were unable to cope with the demand, and many had to be turned away. At the new Central Skating Rink, which has found its home at the Old Infirmary, a special effort is being put forth to encourage beginners. The Cosy, High Bridge, is also the resort of the learner, and at the same time some of the most efficient of skaters are attracted. A new maple strip floor has been laid.

No Good Friday Rinking.
The Sheffield magistrates on Thursday refused to allow the local skating rinks to open on Good Friday. It was pointed out that football matches are allowed on Good Friday, but the magistrates said that was no concern of theirs. They did not grant licences for football matches.

Successful Shirley Rink.
Ever since this splendid rink was opened on Jan. 12, it has been crowded daily with society skaters, and on Wednesday the first big bal masque was a huge success. There were throngs of enthusiastic skaters, in every variety of costume. Mr. Geo. Leo Lloyd is manager of the rink, and organised the carnival.

Russian Royalty Skate at Stoke.
The Grand Duke Michael of Russia and the Countess Torby and family have been frequent visitors to the afternoon session of the Rinkeries, Stoke, for some weeks. To mark their appreciation of courtesies shown, the Grand Duke on Saturday presented Mr. Swain, the manager, with a handsome scarf-pin with the initials "M. M." in rubies and diamonds, surmounted by the Imperial Crown. Mr. Seaton has also received a letter of thanks for his courtesy during their tuition in the art of rinking. This gentleman leaves this week to take up an important position at the new Maida Vale Palace and Club Skating Rink.

A New Floor at Stourbridge.
After being closed for a fortnight, this rink was reopened on the 5th with an entirely new floor (the old one having given way badly). This has now been well used for nearly a fortnight, and is settling down into a perfect skating surface. It is faster than the old one, and gives general satisfaction. The manager, Mr. H. J. Wharton,, has, unfortunately, been very ill with a complication of winter troubles, but is now back at work putting all his energies into preparations for the great masked carnival to be held on the 24th.

The Watford Rink.
The Watford Theatre and Skating Rink Company, Ltd., has been formed to take over, as a going concern, the Palace Theatre, Watford, and the sakting rink, which is being erected upon the adjoining land in Clarendon-road, Watford. The nominal capital of the company is £20,000, divided into 20,000 shares of £1 each. The present share issue covers 8,500 shares of £1 and the debenture issue, 200 debentures of £25 each, bearing interest at 6 per cent. per annum. The skating rink, for which a full dancing and music licence has been obtained, is being so built that it will be available not alone for skating, but for meetings, concerts, dances, exhibitions, games, and such like, and upon this a profit of £2,457 10s. per annum is estimated.

Doing Well at Widnes.
The three Widness rinks are doing exceptionally well. The two principal rink hockey clubs have been seriously engaged with league matches, and on Thursday last the Borough Club achieved a brilliant performance in beating the Albert Hall (Liverpool) Club by 8 goals to nil. The Empire drew with Birkenhead Park, the score being 2 goals each. The Borough at present holds second place on the Liverpool and Wirral League ladder.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., was held on Wednesday at the registered offices of the company, 1, Durham House-street, Strand, W.C., Mr. Henri Gros (chairman and managing-director) presiding.

The secretary (Mr. Ilford Ibbetson) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The chairman said: Dealing with the balance-sheet, and turning to the debit side, you will find that creditors figure for £1,757 4s. 7d., against £4,260 14s. 3d. last year. A further £300 has been spent on additions to the building, and has been added to same. You will recollect, no doubt, that last year I called your attention to the fact that as we had not sufficient liquid assets available, a portion of the building had to be paid out of this year's revenue. This has been done. The amount of £1,757, under the head of sundry creditors, does not represent to any large extent trade creditors, as more than half of this sum consists of apportionments of income-tax and other items which become payable in due course. That we have had to avail ourselves of this large amount for building expenditure out of revenue accounts for the fact that we are not paying you a larger dividend. As the report advises you, we suggest the payment of a dividend of 6 per cent., less income-tax, for the year, and to write £2,000 off from the freehold and leasehold premises account, with your approval. There is very little comment to make on the credit side of the balance-sheet. Fixtures will be reduced by the amount provided out of profit, £570 10s., which you will agree is a liberal allowance. Stock has been reduced. Sundry debtors include the usual provisions. Before leaving the balance-sheet, might I be permitted, even at the risk of repeating myself, to call your attention to the fact that during the ten years of the existence of this company we have paid out of revenue earned £10,934 in rebuilding? We have invested in freehold £2,000 and have reduced the mortgage by £5,600, making a total of £18,534. Beyond all this, we wiped out preliminary expenses, which had been made on transferring the syndicate into a company, and the syndicate shareholders were presented, after twelve months' working, with a bonus of 50 per cent. in shares, raising the share capital from £30,000 to £45,000, on which dividends have been paid to this day. It may seem useless to point all this out to you, but seeing that our shares are quoted at 50 per cent. discount, it may interest you, as proprietors, to know that the reduction on the mortgage and the purchase of freehold of £2,000 stand as tangible assets on your balance-sheet, while the amount of rebuilding expenses represents, at least in my opinion, considerably more in value to your property than the sum expended. While we might have added this fairly justifiably to the building, and spread it over a number of years, we have preferred to pay it out of reserve. Dealing with the profit and loss account, I have taken the twelve months which have just elapsed against the twelve months for 1907, which is a full working year on the one-performance-a-night system, and also a full year on the two-performances-a-night system and as I was the principal culprit in advising that change in view of our near competition I am pleased to report that taking those two years into comparison, the twelve months just elapsed show a profit of 80 per cent. in excess of 1907. (Applause.) Moreover, this is the most profitable sheet we have presented since the year 1904. We have held our own, and I can see signs in our immediate neighbourhood of a circulation of population which will assist the Metropolitan materially. When a tube comes near a West-end house it means, undoubtedly, an increase in the number of visitors and in the profit that it is able to make, because people are drawn from the suburbs to the centre. The Metropolitan is a house easy of access, and, as it is rebuilt, its accommodation and luxurious appointments make it second to none in the metropolis. The manner in which it is lighted is good, the staff is attentive, and the performances are the cheapest in London, for a man can get a stall there for 1s. 6d., and I defy him to get a better stall in the West-end of London for 7s. 6d. I now beg to move: "That the directors' report and accounts for the year ended Dec. 31, 1909, recommending a dividend of 6 per cent., less income-tax, for the year ended that date, writing off the sum of £2,000 from the freehold and leasehold premises, goodwill, and licences account, and carrying forward the balance to the current year's accounts, be, and are hereby adopted."

Mr. Walter Payne seconded the motion.

In reply to a question, the chairman said the amount carried forward, after making every provision and writing off the £2,000 from the leasehold premises, was £4,192. Although the directors hoped to pay a larger dividend in the future, his own idea—and he believed his colleagues agreed with him—was that the main object of the company in the future should be to reduce the mortgage on the premises. Therefore, even though larger profits were earned, he hoped the shareholders would not look for enormous dividends. The board hoped to pay good dividends, but he thought shareholders would agree that this was the policy which ought to actuate the board.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The chairman next proposed the re-election of Mr. Walter Payne, the retiring director. Mr. Payne, he said, joined the board upon the death of his father three years ago, and although not possessed, of course, of the ripe experience of the late Mr. George Adney Payne, he was a man of many qualifications, including accountancy, legal, and commercial knowledge, which made him a valuable member of such an organisation as this.

Mr. W. Millwood seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to, and Mr. Payne briefly thanked the shareholders for this mark of their confidence.

On the motion of Mr. V. C. Vologne, seconded by Mr. S. Anidjah, Messrs. Newson-Smith, Lord and Mundy were reappointed auditors.

Mr. Spill proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff, which was seconded by Mr. Vologne and unanimously adopted, and the proceedings terminated.

That diminutive comedian Jack Marks has introduced a policeman's song for the first time this week at East Ham, and Empire, Shoreditch, where he has scored such successes that Mr. Wyndham has decided to give him more character songs. Young Marks will be singing his policeman's song at the Oxford next week. It is entitled "Stop it, or I'll have to take yer."

THE GREAT MONOHAN
THE GREAT MONOHAN
RINK and MUSIC HALL
Week Feb. 14, Castle Rink, Bedford.
Week Feb. 21, Morley Skating Rink, Morley, Yorks.

W. D. NIXON
(Late London Manager to Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins; Manager, Aldwych Rink, etc.),
110, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—5227 Gerrard.
SKATING RINK SPECIALIST AND PICTURE PALACE EXPERT.
Rinks Supervised, Managed, Equipped, and Staffed.
Sites Viewed and Reported on and all Branches of the Business handled.

BERTHA DOUD MACK
AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.
Thanks to Mr. R. W. Maude.
This Week. CASTLE RINK, BEDFORD.
Next Week, DUDLEY.
Address, Care of "The Era."

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.
They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy, has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.
STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.
Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.
Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool; 36 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

The Proclamation of Lynn Mart.

To an accompaniment of quaint ceremonial, the annual Mart was formally proclaimed at noon on Monday. A large crowd congregated to hear the newly-appointed Town Crier (Mr. R. J. Roy) read the ancient proclamation, which he did in approved traditional fashion, with a string of "Oyez-es" and plenty of bell-ringing.

It runs thus:—"Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! Whereas by Royal Charter and prescription the Corporation of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of King's Lynn, and their successors, are empowered to have and hold in perpetuity within the said Borough one mart or fair yearly on the 14th day of February and for six days thenceforth next, and immediately following with all the accustomed liberties and privileges thereto belonging and appertaining. Now the said body Corporate acting by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen of the said Borough do hereby by proclamation of their Common Crier publish and make known that the said mart or fair, to be holden this year, doth begin on this present 14th day of February at twelve o'clock at noone, and shall continue for the space of six days from henceforth next following, with all the ancient and accustomed liberties and privileges so far as the same will now apply. And that all persons do forbear to put to sale, or show forth wares on the Lord's Day. And further that all such persons as may be justly suspected of evil behaviour do avoid this Borough and the liberties thereof. God save the King. Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!"

THE formality was invested with civic dignity, for the Mayor, wearing his robe and chain of office, attended, and with him were members of the Corporation, borough officials, and the sword and mace bearers. A little speech-making was indulged in, cheers were given, and then the National Anthem, played on the organs attached to the various roundabouts, indicated that the "Fun of the Fair" had begun.

Enoch Farrar's New Enterprise.

IT is no surprise that the great success of the scenic railway at the White City, London, during the last two exhibitions has caused many adaptors and inventors to consider the possibilities of a portable scenic railway adapted to the exigencies of the fair-ground business. Messrs. Savage Bros., the world-famed roundabout makers of King's Lynn, have made (to Mr. Enoch Farrar's order) a machine for fair-ground purposes that we confidently anticipate will be the big star attraction of every town it visits. The scenic railway embodies all the essential ideas of the White City triumph, with numerous improvements and additions. There is a circular switchback track, with mountain scenery. The cars are propelled by electric motors; the energy is self-contained, each car having its own power. The cars are on the White City model, and splendid specimens of mountain climbers. The frame is the most massive and truly imposing structure ever attempted on a fair-ground. We heartily congratulate the enterprising proprietor and the builders on producing this up-to-date novelty, and sincerely wish every success to the venture.

Notes from Wales.—Maesteg.

THE fine programmes submitted at Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard's bioscope and variety theatre this week are the means of drawing big crowds to this popular place of amusement. Some fine films are being displayed, among which are the following:—The Gold Prospectors, A Cold and Its Consequences, Salome Mad, and The Life of Napoleon, the latter being entirely new to Maesteg. Neilson's Boys and Girls, who form part of the variety entertainment, give one of the best turns seen in this town, their dancing and singing being very much appreciated by the large audiences. Mr. W. Jeffries, elocutionist, is also warmly received.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—Under the heading of the "Showman World" in your last week's issue you mention an old-fashioned merry-go-round on the stage of Covent Garden Theatre. May I be allowed to correct this by saying that the roundabout in question is of the very latest and up-to-date pattern as well as one of the most magnificent machines on the road, and that it is supplied to the Covent Garden Opera company, as are also the twelve splendid horses, shooting gallery, side shows, and all the fun of the fair, &c., by yours truly, TOM NORMAN (Silver King).

54, St. George's-road, Southwark, S.E.
Feb. 15.

Concerns Great and Small at Lynn Fair.

NEXT to E. Farrar's mammoth concern stands Barker and Thurston's motor switchback scenic railway, another variant of the same idea, a magnificent set that does great credit to the proprietors; B. Howden and Son's motor-car track, one of the best sets on the road, is out again, thoroughly renovated and made up-to-date. S. Bolesworth's Stadium Club and bicycle track, and the Western Counties motor-car tracks, these constitute the roundabouts at the fair. P. Collins's Brooklyn cake-walk and the haunted castle were well in evidence, and afforded great delight to their patrons.

THE big shows included the galaxy of Picturedom, Farrar and Tyler's two shows, Charles Thurston's grand vaudeville theatre, and John Creghton's animated pictures.

Hoop-las, Shooters, and Stalls.

AMONGST these (a capital display on the whole) were Prince Samonda, with his garden circle hoop-la, George Bond's hoop-la, Bibby, with circular hoop-la, and C. Summer, P. Relph, and others, with square hoop-las and throwing games. Geo. Holmes, John Westrop, H. Westrop, Wm. Westrop, Parkin, Cooper, Wm. Cheeseman, John Holmes, Fendick, H. Parkin, Corten, and J. H. Norman, with shooting ranges and throwing games. The stalls, &c., were Mrs Bond's bazaar, Mr. Suett's pannum stalls, and John Smith's confectionary stall. There were stalls both by traders taking the East Anglian and local caterers. A temperance refreshment pavilion is provided by a local committee of ladies, a much appreciated boon both by showpeople and visitors to the fair.

Guild Service at the Mart.

ON Sunday (to-morrow) the Rev. T. Horne preaches in St. Nicholas Church, near the Fair-ground, at 11 a.m. At 4.30 p.m. a Guild service will be held in Charles Thurston's show, the clergy and choir of the parish assisting. The chaplain will be the preacher.

Increased Tolls at Bury Fair.

THE organised showmen on the great Manchester circuit are determined to refuse the vastly increased tolls of the Bury Corporation for their March Fair. All the three trade societies have united in this refusal, and unless the Corporation will accept the scale of tolls suggested by the organised showmen, the fair will not be visited this year by the bulk of the amusements usually in attendance. We sincerely hope that the Corporation will arrive at a reasonable decision, and let the fair continue as usual. The tenants of the fair are united on the question, and we do not think that the Corporation is justified in its exorbitant demands.

SHOWMEN IN COUNCIL AT LYNN FAIR.

The twentieth annual meeting of the Showmen's Guild at Lynn Mart took place on Wednesday last, Feb. 16, in the Town Hall, at 11 a.m. The large Assembly Room was well filled by representative showmen from all parts of the United Kingdom. The gathering was marked by the greatest possible unanimity and enthusiasm. On the platform were the president of the Guild, P. Collins, the Rev. T. Horne (Guild chaplain), the Rev. R. R. Powell (representing the local clergy), Mr. T. Watson Wright (Guild Parliamentary solicitor), and T. Hurst (hon. sec.). Amongst the prominent showmen present were Messrs. Wm. Murphy, John Murphy, John Studt, Henry Studt, Jacob Studt, J. Monte, B. Howden, Wm. Holmes, C. Thurston, John Crighton, W. H. Marshall, G. Marshall, Marshall Hill, W. Wilmot, H. Wilmot, S. Forrest, W. Wilson, F. Gray, R. Dooner, S. Bolesworth, G. C. Campbell, J. W. Waddington, T. Clarke, John Studt, jun., Marshall Bros., Wm. Mitchell, Mr. H. Wallis, Wallis Bros., and many others. Amongst the hon. members present were Mr. Wm. Affleck (representing Messrs. Savage Bros., Ltd.), Mr. Whattam (representing Messrs. Wm. Foster and Co.), Mr. Brown (representing the Gourock Rope and Canons Co.), and Mr. Whittaker.

A message having been brought by the Town Clerk announcing the inability of the Mayor to preside,

The Rev. T. HORNE said he was sorry to announce that the Mayor was indisposed, and could not be present. He proposed that Alderman Dunn take the chair.

Mr. T. WATSON WRIGHT seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Alderman DUNN said he regretted very much that the Mayor was absent, but, on the other hand, he extended a welcome to the friends he saw before him. He was a great believer in public bodies coming to Lynn, and he thought that anything they could bring to King's Lynn was helpful in every way. He had the greatest pleasure in introducing to them their president, Mr. Patrick Collins, and he asked him to move a resolution. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT proposed, "That this meeting heartily approves of the work of the Showmen's Guild." He said the Guild had now come to its majority. It was twenty years since they started the Guild, and the first men to start it were Mr. John Barker, Mr. Thurston, Mr. J. Caddick, Mr. Studt, and a great many members. They remembered that a Bill was brought in to stop their travelling in caravans at certain times and places, and they got up and defeated that Bill. Then Lord Clifford of Chudleigh got up and said it was a pity that "the poor showmen go about like this. We must protect them." The Bill he brought in was more drastic than G. Smith's Bill, but Lord Clifford of Chudleigh and his supporters counted without their host, Mr. Horne, who was their champion. (Applause.) Mr. Horne looked the matter up, and he went to the House of Lords and showed them the showmen's position and their mode of life, and that they were householders. They had a conference, and Mr. Horne showed that the showmen were not the people that they were represented to be. He now thought that that Bill, like its predecessors, was going into the waste-paper basket. (Hear, hear.) He must say that now they were stronger and their society was stronger and better than it had been for years. In fact, they got stronger every year, and they were respected, and there was not one of them that was not respected throughout the country. In the Bankruptcy Courts they would also find that there were very few showmen going bankrupt. He did not suppose that there was one in ten years. (Alderman Dunn: You will get me to go into the trade directly.) Mr. Collins said that with regard to the life they led, people said that they could do without caravans. Many of them could, but they wanted to be amongst their people. They must be on the fair-ground amongst their own people to attend to their business.

Mr. BENJAMIN HOWDEN, of Boston, seconded the resolution.

Mr. T. WATSON WRIGHT, Guild solicitor, supported the resolution. He said he thought they would agree with him that of all the places they visited, and of all the towns and cities, there was none better or more hospitable than King's Lynn. Let them contrast what they used to get in the large towns with what they got now. They were now respected in all the great cities, and every class of citizen, wherever they went, knew they were respectable, and, indeed, were respected. It was not an uncommon thing to have the Mayor, and to have clergymen and Bishops of the Church of England, to preside over them. In the past they had been subject to persecution, and people spoke evil and slandered them, although probably they did it in ignorance, yet the result was that they had been held up to public calumny and almost contempt, quite undeservedly; but they arose, and a man was found, and in that man, Mr. Horne (applause), who recognised, he was sure they would all agree, that that was unfair treatment, and that these people, although they might have been misguided, had erred through ignorance, and the showmen's position was such that they were not entitled to those things said against them. For their protection they found it necessary to form a united body, and an association, and they were represented there that day. Things went in the direction of injuring them in their legitimate and lawful business, and they had seen that the Movable Dwellings Bill had been thrown into the waste-paper basket. Yet they must not forget that in the session of 1900 proposals were made through private Acts of Parliament to interfere with them again in their lawful business, and it was found that if those Acts had been passed, an end would have come to their lawful business, which would have meant that the fundamental principles of English liberty would have been violated, for it was the inalienable right of every Englishman to move about, and carry on his business, and to be able to look a policeman in the face without fear. If the proposals had been passed into law their business would have been wiped out because other Corporations would have copied their example, and the whole of the local governing bodies, in the course of a few short years, would have adopted those proposals, but when the association was formed, and they appeared in the committee rooms of the House of Commons, the proposals were cut out, and eliminated from the Bills promoted by the municipalities and county councils, and other bodies, because they were *ultra vires*, and were beyond the legitimate powers and the known principles of English jurisprudence. A Bill was proposed in 1882, at Kingston-on-Thames, in which it was enacted that no show vans should be erected there during the months of October and November. It was to prevent them going there under the heaviest daily penalties. It was surely necessary, then, that their association should be formed; but how more necessary was it to-day. There were other Bills promoted at Eccles, Halifax, East Ham, and Macclesfield. They had had over sixty Bills in ten years to petition against in order to protect themselves, and the result had been that in no instance since the association was formed had power been obtained which could be called a hindrance to them. The case of the Bill at Oldham would have bee na lesson, he would have thought. The Chairman of the Committee in Parliament intimate dthat the Committee did not intend to have its time wasted by such an improper proposal as the Oldham Bill, and the Committee unanimously decided that the showmen had been called upon to defend their rights vexatiously and frivolously, and they ordered the Oldham Corporation to pay the costs, amounting to about £200. He wished they had been a little more. There had only been two Bills this year. There was one from Middleton, Lancashire, in reference to cinematographs. Proper representations were made, as they were aware, and the Town Clerk wrote to him, and said that they withdrew the clauses from the Middleton Bill. (Applause.) That left them face to face with the Urban District Council of Handsworth. Although there was some little business done there, there were not many showmen who wen there, but their association would protect the humblest showman or stall-holder where he was unjustly attacked. He was telling them all that inorder to show them that their association was not asleep, but was very much alive to their interests. He desired to say that he was satisfied that they were all serious men and business men, who recognised that but for the work of their association their position would have been very different from what it is to-day. But for Mr. Horne and his great abilities and persistence, their association would not be existing in all its strength for their good as it was to-day. (Applause.)

The Rev. T. HORNE said he agreed with Mr. Wright that until they had taught corporations and the advisers of corporations, and until they had taught Parliamentary draughtsmen that they were doing an injury to their clients by encouraging them to put those injurious clauses into their proposed Bills, they must devote all their power and money and ability to the Parliamentary side of the work. Thank God that the heart of this great country had always been sound towards the travelling showman. The common people loved the show. The people of this country respected and honoured the showman and they welcomed his enterprise. Their great trouble had been not with the common people, but with the men who had arrogated to themselves the right to be the masters of the common people. Those were the people that they had to deal with. Thank God that they were dealing with them successfully. He was only sorry that Mr. Collins and other representative showmen were not called by the House of Lords Select Committee to give evidence on the Movable Dwellings Bill. It would have been a great illumination, and it would have strengthened the position he took as the only one called before the Committee for examination. Their motto was "Advance and Defence," and they, as citizens of the Empire, had the right to go forward, upward and onward—Excelsior—and the goal they were striving for was this, to do and to be in their day, and in their measure, amongst that band of ever-forward soldiers of God, and to go on, and try to leave the world a little merrier and brighter and happier than they found it. He had pleasure in supporting the resolution. (Applause.)

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr. HURST, the honorary secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers.

Mr. MONTE WILLIAMS seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The meeting then concluded.

The enrolment of members then took place:—Mr. John Wilmot, £5; Messrs. Savage Bros., Ltd., £5; Mr. Wm. Affleck, £1 1s.; Mr. A. Henderson (second subscription), £1 1s.; Mr. B. Howden, 10s. 6d.

Mr. J. Monte collected the following additional subscription from Guild members already enrolled:—Mr. W. H. Marshall, 10s.; Mr. Whattam (hon. member), 10s.; Jacob Studt, 10s.; Marshall Hill, 10s.; "Kemplior," 10s.; Monte Bros., 10s.; S. Bolesworth, 10s.; H. Studt and Sons, 5s.; F. Gray, 5s.; S. Forrest, 5s.; W. Wilson, 5s.; R. Dooner, 5s.; Wm. Murphy, 5s.; J. Murphy, 5s.; Mr. Brown, 5s.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

One of the chief attractions of the variety bill which has been presented at this house during the week is

"THE STORM;
OR, JEAN RUSSEAU'S LAST PICTURE.
By Percival H. T. Sykes.

Jean Russeau ..... MR. ROBERT PURDIE
Phillipe ..... MR. VINCENT YOUNG
Father Lascelles ..... MR. HAROLD B. LEWIS
Suzelle ..... MISS HILDA GRAY
Camille ..... MISS GERALDINE MONTROSE

This sketch has been reproduced by Miss Geraldine Montrose and company, and tells a thrilling story of the love and hate of a French artist. The scene opens in Jean's studio. Suzelle, his model, who has grown to love him, is remonstrating with Camille (Jean's wife) on the bad way that she treats her husband. Jean enters in the middle of the colloquy, but his eyes are blinded by love for his wife to such an extent that he will not listen to any accusations made against her honour, and sends Suzelle from the room. Camille is living the life of a demi-mondaine, and on the advice of her lover Phillipe, who passes as her brother, she persuades Jean to invest the larger part of his fortune in a bogus mining company, by which he is practically ruined. He is in hopes, however, of retrieving the disaster by the sale of a picture which has been accepted for the Salon. It is called "The New Madonna," the model for the figure having been Camille, whose shameless career is exposed by a priest—Father Lascelles—who recognises Camille from the painting, and tells Jean that he is committing sacrilege in naming the idealised portrait of such a woman "The New Madonna." Jean is broken-hearted on hearing this, and in a fit of remorse contemplates shooting himself. He is prevented, however, by the opportune entrance of Suzelle, who wrests the revolver from him. He then resorts to absinthe, and becoming a raving maniac, attempts to kill his wife. Camille, however, escapes from his grip and hides behind the picture, which is mounted on an easel in the corner of the room. Failing to find his wife, Jean, in his madness, proceeds to destroy his picture by stabbing it with the knife. In so doing he also stabs Camille, and she falls dead.

Miss Geraldine Montrose plays the part of Jean's wife with much force. Jean Russeau is powerfully rendered by Mr. Robert Purdie, being excellent in the drunken scene. Father Lascelles (Mr. Harold B. Lewis), Suzelle (Miss Hilda Gray), and Phillipe (Mr. Vincent Young)—three small but difficult parts—are very well played. The staging and the storm effects are capital, and a word of praise is due to the stage manager for the preparation of same.

Mr. Fred Le Franc's musical comedy extravaganza *The Flower Girl* is a pretty and clever spectacle, and the audience shows marked appreciation of the dancing and harmony. The *Seal of Confession*, played by Percy Ford and E. C. Webb's company, is a thrilling tabloid drama, received with much enthusiasm by the spectators. Miss Queenie Mayor, the Lancashire fishergirl, assisted by Mr. Tom Smith, scores a decided success in a novel scena, introducing a clever song, entitled "Who'll buy my mackerel?". Maxey and Pete, trick and comedy cyclists, evoke roars of applause by their comical tricks. Mr. Billy Farrell, the dark-skinned entertainer, sings a most interesting number, and by his smart patter greatly amuses the audience. The Warsaw Bros. delight the house in a screamingly funny musical turn. George Bendon, who has deputised for Miss Bertha Winder, sings a cute little song entitled "Send the Photo," and is very well received; Miss Lawrence, deputising for Miss May B. Brilliant, Claude Gardiner (comedian), and Woolmer Young (comedian) also contribute good numbers; and the Bioscope, with new and interesting films, concludes an interesting and diverting entertainment.

THE Gosport Theatre Co., Ltd., has been successful in obtaining a music and dancing licence.

SUNDAY CINEMATOGRAPHS.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE C.D.L.

On Thursday afternoon, at the offices of the Cinematograph Defence League, 18, Charing Cross-road, a special meeting of the members was held, to consider the decision of the L.C.C that picture palaces must be closed on Sundays unless the proceeds of such entertainments were devoted to charitable purposes.

Mr. W. H. BROUGHTON was chairman, and the meeting was a packed one.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said it was the desire of the executive committee that he should place before them what the League had done since its formation on Jan. 5 last. Since that date the executive committee had been meeting incessantly, and as many as three times a day, and had sat as late as 10 o'clock each night. He had pleasure in informing the members that the League had accomplished what it had set out to do. The result of their labours was that now the L.C.C., through the representations that the League had made to them, no longer made it a condition that the box must be outside the building. It was now only necessary for it to be clear of the auditorium. Further, the ventilating shaft clause was not going to be insisted on. He could tell them that the revised regulations would be issued by the L.C.C. shortly. There would be no need to change the existing spools, and one could use a current of 110 volts. With respect of the regulation that at least one fire hydrant must be in each hall—a very serious condition for small men—he had every reason to believe that it would be deleted. Directly the amended regulations were received from the Home Office the committee had resolved that a copy should be sent to every member of the profession. He had heard complaints that the League was not doing enough for its country members. He could tell them that in securing them leave to open for seven consecutive Sundays without interference the executive committee deserved the thanks of everyone, and that one privilege alone was worth the year's subscription paid to the League. The subject of Sunday opening must be taken up by the whole body of people interested in the entertainment business—by music hall and theatre proprietors as well as cinematograph owners. And they must combine. The L.C.C. officials had treated the representatives of the League very nicely. There was no desire, he was sure, on the part of the L.C.C., to close cinematograph halls if there was a loophole whereby they could be permitted to be open.

Mr. BROUGHTON then read a proposition of Mr. G. W. Grant's, which was submitted in the following terms:—"That the League, having exhausted all the means at its command to have the L.C.C. allow cinema halls to open on Sundays without success, and upon an assurance that they would receive the same consideration given to other premises licensed by them at present being conducted under charity, I therefore recommend that we advise all members of the League to secure some charitable institution to take over their halls on Sunday and make their own arrangements individually, and if any member is unable to secure an organisation to do this, the League will give them any help they can in securing same, and recommend that all places should close until this has been accomplished. If they open in defiance of the authorities they will do so at their own risk."

Mr. GRANT went on to say that by fighting they had nothing but a losing game to fight. He thought it would be advisable for everybody to close next Sunday, and they should continue to close until they had got a charitable institution to take over their theatres. Every proprietor had his price, and the charity itself had to apply to the L.C.C. and render its own financial statements to that body. It was not hard to get open provided the entertainment given was for charity, as the L.C.C. approved of such performances.

Mr. F. MOUILLOT said that, being an Irishman, it was the first principle of his nature to want to fight. But the L.C.C. could tread on the tail of his coat as much as it liked before he would fight them. They could, of course, have a legal fight by using non-flam films on Sunday, but it would be only courting more drastic measures being enforced against them if they defied the L.C.C. in this way. In his opinion, against the L.C.C. there was no appeal. They were their masters, and if they fought the L.C.C. must win in the end. They would be well advised not to open next Sunday, or any other Sunday, unless protected by a charity.

Subsequently Mr. Grant's first resolution was withdrawn, and another substituted by that gentleman as follows:—

"Resolved, that the recommendation of the executive committee that the cinematograph theatres conducted by the members of the League close on Sunday, Feb. 20, be accepted, and that their advice to at once arrange for the opening of the theatres on Sundays under charity, in conformity with the regulations of the L.C.C. be and is hereby adopted."

This was seconded by Mr. MOUILLOT, and carried *nem. con.* It was further unanimously resolved that a copy of this resolution should be sent immediately to the L.C.C.

An announcement was made just before the conclusion of the meeting that the first dinner of cinematograph proprietors would be held at the Holborn Restaurant on March 15. It would represent the combined efforts and memberships of the Cinematograph Manufacturers' Association, the Cinematograph Defence League, and the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society. Mr. G. R. Sims had been approached to take the chair. Tickets would be 7s. 6d. each, and the following gentlemen constitute the dinner committee:—Messrs. Bishop and Browne, representing the Manufacturers; Messrs. Jury and Griffiths, representing the Trade Protection Society; and Messrs. Broughton and Grant, representing the C.D.L. Mr. Lovesy is hon. treasurer and Messrs. Brook Wilkinson and H. E. W. Poole are the joint hon. secretaries.

AERONAUTIC DISPLAYS.

The public at present are so keenly interested in aerial flight that every fête and gala programme should include an aerial display.

Messrs. Spencer Brothers, Ltd., of 45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N., have just issued an illustrated list of balloon ascents, parachute descents, captive balloons, and airship flights, a copy of which they will forward to managers and secretaries upon application.

This firm are the oldest-established aeronauts in the world, their first ascent dating back to the days of Vauxhall Gardens, 1837, whilst the apparatus they use is always of the most up-to-date description, reliable, and of the highest standard of manufacture.

SUBSCRIPTION Guild Funds, 1910:—Mr. W. Kemp (hon. member), agent for L. and N. W. R., £1 1s.

Yorkshire Notes.

AT Adwalton, for Ashington's short season, are H. Ashington's marionette theatre and cinema pavilion, two shows in one, doing remarkably good business, crowded houses nightly; Walter Bassett's novelty throwing games and Daley and Redfern's concerns, all going strong. W. H. Marshall is at Bradford, after a most adventureous journey in the snowstorm from Shirebrook. The cinematograph theatre is now at the firm's works, undergoing renovation in preparation for the coming season.

AT Wakefield, on the Corporation Ground, are J. W. Waddington's roundabout, Holdworth, Blake, Peder, Stewart, and Keshow, with novelties and throwing games.

HIPPODROME STAFF DINNER.

THE staff of the London Hippodrome, to the number of over a hundred, held their annual dinner in the Pillar Hall at Lyons' Restaurant at Victoria on Sunday, when Mr. Fred Trussell, the popular manager of the Hippodrome, to whose courtesy and attention to business so much of the success of the establishment is due, took the chair. After an excellent repast had been enjoyed, and the usual loyal toast proposed and honoured,

Mr. FRED TRUSSELL, whose speech was received with enthusiasm, proposed "The London Hippodrome," including the proprietors, the stage staff, the front of the house staff, and the orchestra. He said he held the proud position of manager of one of the largest and finest theatres of the world. They were a concrete body, working together for a splendid theatre. He felt delighted to preside over representatives of all the departments. The directors were honest, upright men anxious for the welfare of the staff. Mr. Stoll was unfortunately unable to be present at the dinner, but he had sent, through the Chairman, a message of goodwill to the assembled staff. He (Mr. Trussell) hoped the day would be long distant when he would have to sever his connection with the London Hippodrome. Dealing with the heads of the different departments, Mr. Trussell warmly praised Mr. Thomas Miller, the assistant-manager, who was popular with everyone; Mr. Richard Winslow, the stage-manager; Mr. J. Galbraith, his assistant; and Mr. H. W. Hawkins, the electrician, specially commending their capable work in the production of *The Arctic*. Mr. J. Higson, the stage carpenter, Mr. Mawby, the advertisement manager, Mr. Charles Richards, who presides over the box-office, Mr. Henry Wild, the treasurer, and the members of the orchestra were all alluded to by Mr. Trussell in favourable and felicitous terms. In his peroration, Mr. Trussell thanked one and all for their efforts on behalf of the Hippodrome, and hoped they would always work for the continued prosperity of the house. The speech was punctuated with loud applause, and at the conclusion there was an outburst of enthusiasm.

Mr. THOMAS MILLER, in response to Mr. Trussell's compliments, said he had never had a better staff to work with, each member being both obedient and intelligent. He was proud to work under Mr. Trussell, and it was a source of pleasure to him (Mr. Miller) to receivt that gentleman's kindly commendation.

Mr. RICHARD WINSLOW assured the extra hands who had been engaged for the run of *The Arctic* that good work was appreciated fully, and that it would secure them further engagements in the future. Mr. Winslow also praised the German visitors who had come over in charge of the bears.

Herr Hagenbeck's manager, who was present, made fitting reply to Mr. Winslow's courtesy.

Mr. Henry Wild, Mr. J. Galbraith, Mr. Smith, the oldest member of the orchestra, and others also spoke eloquently and appropriately.

The speeches were interspersed with an excellent variety entertainment, to which many members of the staff contributed. The platform of the hall had been transformed into a miniature stage with a tasteful act drop and neat fit-up scenery. The principal item was a burlesque in three scenes, by J. Higson, entitled

"THE ANTIC AT TINMAN'S NECK.

Pingston ..... MR. G. BUNYON
Captain Mealy ..... MR. J. INGLEDEW
Arson ..... MR. M. BARKER
Jamrags ..... MR. B. ROOFE
Miss Firefly ..... MISS E. DARVELL

This proved to be a skit on *The Arctic*, with a "screaming" burlesque of the fight between the villain and the hero, a number of "Teddy" bears being sent down slopes into tins of water. The skit evoked roars of laughter, and Mr. Higson was warmly applauded for his work. Mr. J. Ingledew, Mr. B. Roofe, and Miss E. Darvell threw themselves into the spirit of the thing spontaneously, and Mr. G. Bunyon as Pingston and Mr. M. Barker as Arson were also droll and active in fun-making. In the variety entertainment, which was greatly enjoyed, Miss Mace sang "A Corsican Maid" with spirit and success, and others who contributed to the programme were Messrs. H. Holley, G. Billeston, F. Williams, S. Stead, R. G. Dunn, W. Crawford, Martin Barker, Harry Paulo, T. P. Byrne, Fregoli, John Barker, and Miss Darvell. A skit on *Six Little Burglars* was performed with success by Messrs. H. Holley, F. Neville, S. Stead, B. Crawford, G. Billeston, and B. Roofe, and the names of Messrs. Gavin, F. Teers, F. Neville, Alf. Thomas, and W. Keeble were also in the bill. Mr. A. Alexander stage-managed smartly, and he and Mr. T. P. Byrne formed an able entertainment committee. Mr. S. W. Williams accompanied well, and Mr. Fred Trussell sang a song in a style which showed his versatility. The staff dinner of the Hippodrome was a great success.

THE employees of the Pavilion, Glasgow, were extremely pleased at the prowess of their tug-of-war team, who carried off the prize at the Glasgow Theatrical Sports on Tuesday after a most exciting bout with Hengler's.

MR. EDOUARD ESPINOSA and four English girls, the Misses G. Groom, G. Somerset, G. Cone, and R. Dene, from the British Normal School of Dancing, will appear in a series of high-class operatic dances at the Tivoli on Monday.

MISS ROMA MARQUISE, a new recruit to variety, made her début at Collins's on Tuesday in an entirely new descriptive scena entitled "One of the Best in Blue," written for her by Rajah Ram Singh. This charming young soprano is by way of touring the halls in aid of various charities.

THE recent naval hoax has already inspired the music-hall bard, and at the Pavilion, Weymouth, Mr. Medley Barrett has been scoring with a verse sung to the tune of "The Girl I left Behind Me." The last line runs "Then I shouted 'Bunga-bunga.'" Is this to be the watch-word of the Fleet?

THE Ilford Urban District Council is prepared to receive, for the privilege of giving open-air concerts in the bandstands in both Valentines and South Parks, Ilford, during next season, from May until September next, sealed offers, endorsed "Tender for Open-air Concerts," to be delivered on or before Monday next to Mr. Adam Partington, Clerk and Solicitor to the Council, at the Town Hall, Ilford.

LA PIA, an attractive young dancer, made her first appearance at the Palace Theatre on Monday. The general character of her work is after the style of Loie Fuller. The principal scene is particularly attractive and novel. This is entitled "The Spirit of the Waves," and represents a strong sea breaking and dashing on the shore. Bathing in the surf is a nymph—La Pia—who apparently is not disturbed by the fierceness of the storm, which, however, finally engulfs her.

A Suggestion for Sunday Shows.

WITH reference to Mr. W. H. Broughton's suggestion, made at the special meeting of the C.D.L. this week, that cinematograph proprietors should get some charity to take over their Sunday entertainments, it is suggested that the Music Hall Home would be an admirable institution to approach with a view to the funds of that organisation benefiting by Sunday cinematograph entertainments. Applications should be made to Mr. Ben Woodger, 21, Wilson-street, Camberwell.

PROPRIETORS of picture shows willing to give Sunday shows for the benefit of the Music Hall Home should write to Mr. Benj. Woodger, secretary, 31, Wilson-road, S.E.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 14, 21, May 2.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 24, 31, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2.
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 28, April 25, May 16, Aug. 1, 15, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 12,
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 7, 21, April 18, May 2, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 14, 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 14, 21; Wolverhampton, March 7, 21; Northampton, March 14, 21; Reading, March 28, Dalston, March 21, 28.

MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for six weeks' run, Xmas next,
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Also Pantomime for three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 21, 28, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 28, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 14 and 21.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
Feb. 28, March 21 (3 nights), May 9 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
March 14, May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Easter (?), May 30, June 20, July 11, 18, 25 (3 nights).
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.

Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21 and April 18.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, March 21.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
Sept. 5, onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime Production,
THREE WEEKS, CHRISTMAS, 1910-1911.
THREE WEEKS, CHRISTMAS, 1910-1911.
THREE WEEKS, CHRISTMAS, 1910-1911.
State where to be seen.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Drama, Five Nights, March 21 (Passion Week); must travel scenery and have good plant of pictorials. Letters only, stating full particulars, percentage, or certainty. T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 11, 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 4, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
March 28, May 9, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21, April 25, May 2, 9, 16.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
March 28, April 4, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, Musical Comedies or First-class Attractions, March 14, 21, 28.
Must be very Big Productions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, for March 14.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transfer, First-class Attraction, for April 11 week.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, May 2, June 20, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, June 13, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District.
Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Walter Melville's productions; Miss Horniman's Co.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions, March 14 and Easter.
Only Vacant Dates till Autumn.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Companies, March 7 (through obliging), 14, 21, April 4, 11, and 18.
First-class Attractions Only.
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant dates, March 14, 21, April 11, 18, 25.
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CAITLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company.
March 14, 1910.
Address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Companies (Musical preferred), for March 21 and April 4.
Address, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, good Company, March 7 (6 nights).
Wire, MACDONA,
Theatre Royal, Colchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
April 25,
May 16,
June 20,
July, and on.
JAMES BELL.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for three nights, March 17, 18, and 19,
March 21,
March 28,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Dramatic Attractions or Pantomime for Feb. 28, March 14.

Address, JAMES ALEXANDER.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for March 14, 28, April 11, and onwards. Address E. B. GOULDEN.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
The only Theatre in the Town.

WANTED, Really First-class Attractions, Easter, Whit, June, on.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for March 14, Easter, and May 9.
Apply, MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Now Playing to Enormous Business.
WANTED, March 21 (5 nights), April 18, 25.
May 2.

Address, FEATHER,
Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March, on, T. R., Margate. All corerspondence for theatre must be addressed, WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (musical pieces preferred), for March 7 (reopening week), 14, 21, April 11, Oct. 17, 31, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY,
36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
WANTED, Companies, March 7, 28, and April 11. Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
WANTED, Attractions for March 7 and March 28, unexpectedly vacant through cancelling pencilled date.
Address Miss DOD.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPO., HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Big Panto., Feb. 28, and a sound Dramatic Attraction March 14, Easter, and onward; now doing splendid business; stage big enough for Drury Lane Plays. All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Feb. 28, a Pantomime, also big Tops, for immediate dates. Particulars, lowest terms, and list of bookings essential. CHARLES DEETRICH'S Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 28, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 7, May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 21, April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant Feb. 28, March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.

The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for March 28, April 11, May 2, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
"DICK WHITTINGTON," with its star cast of artists, including Will Evans and Dan Crawley, The Ethairiens, &c., concluded a triumphant run of six weeks, on Feb. 5.
Bookings at this Theatre include
Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey,
Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton,
Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians."
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 24 and 26 (two nights, one matinée), March 28 (Easter week), and various dates onwards, including one or two season dates.
The year 1909 was the most successful year the Eastbourne Pier Company have ever had, the profits being much in excess of any preceding year.
For dates apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, for March 28, (Glasgow Spring Holiday.)
Owing to Misunderstanding.
A Powerful Attraction.
Address, RICH WALDON Royal Princess's T., Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First Call Attractions, April 11, May 16, 23, and 30.

Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for March 21, onwards, good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Full particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
WANTED, Powerful Attraction, for Feb. 28, week.
Apply, ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
The most magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction, April 18.
Add., HARRY YORKE, Resident Managing-Director.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Various Dates,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Feb. 28, March 14, 21 (3 Kirkcaldy, 3 Dunfermline), 28, April 4, on. Now booking Autumn. W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Attractions, Feb. 28, March 21, Grand. Radcliffe; also March 14, 21, on, Grand Chorley. Wire SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Something Real, Feb. 28. Through Breach.
Wire, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Companies, March 21, also good Musical Show for Easter and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies (not Drama), Easter and Whitsuntide, 1910. Address, A. WILLOUGHBY

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 28, onwards.
JOS. B. ORMEROD.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
This Theatre has been re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 7 (?), 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good companies, March 14 and 28, on.
A. D. VERNON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Whit, May 23, 30, June 13, 27, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights. Garrison T., Tidworth. May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, March 28, May 2, 9, 16.
COATBRIDGE, March 21, April 11, 25.
AYR, March 14, April 18, May 2, 9.
FALKIRK, March 2 (4 nights), May 2, 9.
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), April 11, 18, and on.
KILMARNOCK, Feb. 28, March 14, 21, on.
LEITH, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
5, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 5590 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following Dates:
March 14, 21, and April 18, London.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 2, and 16 Newcastle-on-Tyne.
April 11, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 Edinburgh.
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Glasgow.
April 18 and 25, Aberdeen and Dundee.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Successfully re-opened on Jan. 31 by
MR. CHARLES EVANS,
and playing to excellent business nightly.
Under experienced and popular management.

WANTED, Musical Comedies for the few remaining Season dates.
Good Dramas, March 14 and May 9.

Address all communications to
HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident-Manager, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, good Dramas (Twice Nightly), last three nights ofe each week.
April 4 and on.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
March 28 (Easter Week), April 18, May 2 and 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Vacant March 10, 11, 12.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted, Dramas, twice nightly, April 4, and on.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre Loughborough.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attractions, for March 21 and May 2.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street W.C.

SCARBOROUGH and HARROGATE.
WANTED, First-class Company, March 21, 22, 23 (three nights), Harrogate; and March 24—26 (two nights), Hippodrome, Scarborough.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, First-class Companies only.
GRAND THEATRE,
BLACKPOOL.
Most Commodious Theatre of the Town.

Grand Reopening, Monday, March 21.
Vacant Dates, April 4, and onwards, with exceptions.

Exceptional Opportunity for London Successes.

All communications to
GEO. H. HARROP, General Manager
(as above)
or
Mr. E. LOCKWOOD,
5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

PALACE THEATRE (late Theatre Royal),
GLOUCESTER.
Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson.
All communications to Empire, Barnsley.
WANTED, First-class Company, March 7, and later dates. This theatre has been re-seated and decorated, and had three years' rest from dramatic business. The inhabitants want theatrical fare. Everything done to ensure big business.
SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, March 14 (?), April 4 (?), and Autumn. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, for March 14, 21, and onwards,
Variety Combinations and Dramas.
Share or Certainty.
Please Note, Twice Nightly.
All correspondence to
WALTER BATTY.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, March 21, March 28.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, March 21, and various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, April 4, 11.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 31, and various on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 21, Aug. 1, 8.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, 28, April 4, 11.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Aug. 8.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Grand Theatre, Aberaman, South Wales.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, 16.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Grand Theatre, Aberaman, South Wales.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success.

Weeks of May 2 and 23.
Weeks of May 2 and 23.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, April 4, 11, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (?), 30 (?), June 6, July 11, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON.
His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow.
Glasgow next.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, May 2, June 27, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seasides only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9.
Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 14 (possibly), March 21.
William Maclaren as Claudian; Lily C. Bandmann as Almida. Thirty-one Artists. Chorus and Principal Dancer. WILLIAM MACLAREN, T. R., Bury.

THEATRES WANTED.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.

Redressed and remounted.
Costumes by Messrs. Harrison.
Scenery and properties by Willie Leigh.

WANTED, March 14, 21 (South). April 4, 25. May 2, 9, 16.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Feb. 21, Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth.
Feb. 28, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Oct. 3, 10.
FRED BULMER,
Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED First-class Theatre, Easter
FRED BULMER, Colisem Theatre, Oldham.

"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Aug. 1.
FRED BULMER, Elephant and Castle T., S.E.

MRS. BROWN-POTTER and NO. 1 LONDON CO., in "MADAME X.," the Great Success from the Globe Theatre, London.
WANTED, through transferring, Easter week, and one or two other dates between Easter and Whit, for the above Enormous Attraction. Apply, Messrs. Baring Bros Montpelier-chambers, Cheltenham.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.

"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
by
Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, for this Celebrated Farcical Comedy, Easter Week, April 4, 11, May 9, 16, and various, onwards.
Company and Production absolutely First-class.

H. CHISWELL BILLING, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

MR. AND MRS. CHAS. DRAYCOTT'S COS.

"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Now known as the Path of Profits. Playing to splendid business at every theatre visited. No finer or better-played production touring. Refer. Unexpectedly Vacant March 7 and 14, Aug. 8, 15, 22, and 29. Wire for March 7 and 14. Wire immediately for March 7 and 14.

REPERTOIRE CO.
The Attraction that never fails. Star Cast. Everything carried.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 24, and 31.
WANTED, Dates, March, 1911, onwards, for grand new Production, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Address,
CHARLES DRAYCOTT, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 28, April 11.
Miss ANNIE BELL
as FLARE-FLARE,
supported by a Star Company.
Wire for March 28. Wire.
JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

"THE NEW BOY."
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 28, May 2, June 27, July 11, Aug. 1, on.
Apply, J. E. WATSON, West Pier, Brighton.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S "DRINK."
WANTED, March 14 (following Alexandra, Hull), Easter, and a few in between them, and Whitsun, T. R., Sheffield.
Address, T. R., Darwen.

"OH! SUSANNAH!"
WANTED, March 14, to follow Oldham, March 21 (?), and Easter week.

Miss ADIE BOYNE as AURORA.

CECIL H. WOODHOUSE,
Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

"THE OLD HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, May 2 and 9.
Oct. 31, Nov. 7.
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Acknowledged the Finest Dramatic Production of recent years.
Mr. CHARLES FRANMORE as DADDY.
Wire, E. A'DELL, Prince's T., Accrington.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Easter, Easter, Easter, April 4 and 11.
May 2.
July 11, 18, 25.
August Bank Holiday.
Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Nov. 14.
Xmas.
Now Booking Spring, 1911. Everything carried.
Refer Will Sley, Esq., &c., &c.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.

Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
To-day, Aberdare;
Monday, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," March 21, May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 5. HALDANE CRICHTON, Alexandra Theatre, N.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres (South), for May 2 and 9. Bookings include Coronet, Kennington, T. R., Brighton, Nottingham, Bradford, Newcastle, Grand, Leeds, Court, Liverpool, Prince's, Manchester, Bristol, T. R., Hanley, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Edinburgh, King's, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Prince's, Bristol, Lyceum, Sheffield, New, Cardiff, and Cambridge.
Entire new Production and all new dresses by Alias.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery) depicting the Murder of Halijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Feb. 21, ROYAL, NORWICH.
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Refer to Sidney Cooper, Esq., Lyceum, Newport.
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates until June 13 are
March 28 April 25, May 9 and 16.
Write or wire.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED March 21, Aug. 1,
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Vacant May 2, 9.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Vacant through transfer July 11.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant March 21.
Wire or write, to-day, T. R. Chesterfield; next, P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for this Colossal Production, No. 1 Theatre, next Season, Production and Run.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910), and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910), and onwards.
Managers Note.—These are three of the most successful Pantomimes ever Produced.
PLAYS.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Drama, Good Theatres, May 2, Whit Week, and onwards.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring. Vacant April 25 (Wales preferred); also Wanted, Good Theatre, for Whit Week.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
Wanted, Good Theatres, for Easter Week, April 4, 11, and May 9. Re dates,
FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Tel. Add., "Care, Pagoda, Liverpool."

Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction, Manchester.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 29, and various on, in Sept. and Oct.
Managers wishing a Strong Attraction should book
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, 28, April 11.
FRANK M. THORNE, Hippodrome, Wigan.

"THE THIEF."
Messrs. ALBAN and BERNARD LIMPUS'S NO. 1 COMPANY.
In consequence of Success of Present Tour, now being Booked for Autumn, 1910.
WANTED, No. 1 Theatres, from Aug. 1, on. Next week, Luton and Bedford, to be followed by Southend, Folkestone, Brighton, Eastbourne, Torquay, Plymouth, Exeter, Worcester, and Cheltenham.
All communications re dates to
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

MISS MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell,
and
New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1, 15, Oct. 10, Nov. 14. Dec. 5 and 12, and Christmas.
Coms. to GEO. KIRK,
This and next, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN, supported by the following well-known Artists, Anna Beaumont, Madge Seymour, Olga Kay, Dudley Wynton, Frank Ayrton, Arthur Trail, David Curtis,
and
Norman A. Overton.
The New Thrilling and Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION,"
By Russell Vaun (part Author of "The Great Awakening"). Refer this week, J. H. Morton, Esq., Empire, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, March 28 (between Dewsbury and London), vacant April 11 (between London and Alex., Birmingham.
All communications,
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Opera House, Kidderminster.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
All previous visits to Nuneaton beaten nightly. Closed to packed Sat. Refer A. F. Cross, Esq., to whom thanks for two future dates. Also thanks to E. A. Smith, Esq., Lowestoft, for two dates 1911.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 9, Sept. 5 (?), Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 21, 28, Jan. 2, 9. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, T. R. Rotherham; next, Prince's T., Blackburn.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
By F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE.
WANTED, Theatres, April 4, 11, 18.
HERBERT VERE,
Next, East Oxford Theatre, Oxford.

"KING AND UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, April 4 11, 18, 25. and onward.
Address, E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Absurdity.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, 26.
BEAUDYN and MONTANINI,
P.O.W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, May 2 (?), 9 (?), and Whit (Midlands or South).
Only Spring Dates Open.
CHARLES GIBSON, O. H., Coventry.

Mr. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
"THE PRODIGAL SON."
WANTED, March 28 (Easter), Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Whit Week, also various Autumn.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant March 7, Easter, May 23, June 6, 27, Aug. 1. few Autumn.
Letters, Batley Theatre, Batley, Yorks.

GASTON MAYER'S NO. 1 COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, April 4, 25, and Autumn.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the Musical Comedy, "THE CRIMSON BUTTERFLY," Feb. 28, follow Llanelly, proceed to Leamington. Wire, Wire, Feb. 28.
Thirty Artists, Everything Carried.
CAMERON, 31, Coram-street, Russell-square.

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, onwards, First-class Pantomime; can arrange two houses nightly. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, April 4, 18, Scotland, May 2, 9, and Whit Week.
HENRY L. OSMOND, New Gaiety T., Houghton, Durham.

WANTED, First-class Theatre only, for Xmas Season, 1910 and 1911, for "Robinson Crusoe" Pantomime, same production as produced at the Lyceum Theatre, London, 1907 and 1908, and Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, 1908 and 1909.
KIRBY, 9, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, April 4, between Ramsgate and London, April 25 and May 2, 9 (South), for this Great Money-maker.
On March 2, at the Opera House, Wakefield, 'Liza will celebrate her 1,000th performance.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., Colne, Lancs.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, March 7, 14, for this Beautiful Pantomime. A Splendid Show. Brimful of Fun. Beautiful Scenery. Dresses. Splendid Cast of Artists. Address, until Sunday morning, BARRETT, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton. After, Theatre Royal, Bilston.

TRAVIS GREEN AND ARTHUR HINTON'S "CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, through Extension of Tour, March 14 (?), 21, and Easter Week. Enormous success. A bright and clean pantomime. Full chorus and first-class artists and specialities. Wire for March 14. TRAVIS GREEN, this and next week, Cambrian Hotel, Aberdare.

WANTED, Theatres, Large Halls, Piers, &c. (the Bigger the Better), for the Walturdaw Animated Picture Co. Write, WOOD, Peonle's Palace, Tottenham.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted. Dates.
Mrs. Morton Powell's
Great Play,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

The Greatest of them all.
The Greatest of them all.

An Instantaneous Triumph.
An Instantaneous Triumph.
A Brilliant Play.
A Brilliant Play.
Produced on Monday, Feb. 7,
at the
Theatre Royal, Belfast,
Theatre Royal, Belfast,
amidst a scene
of
Indescribable Enthusiasm,
Before a
House Packed from Floor to Ceiling,
House Packed from Floor to Ceiling,
House Packed from Floor to Ceiling,
and
Held the vast Audience Breathless
Held the vast Audience Breathless
at Belfast.
at Belfast.

The Theatre Full every Night.
The Theatre Full every Night.
The Theatre Full every Night.

Saturday night
an Early Door Queue,
estimated
to be
a quarter of a mile long,
waiting,
after the Theatre was Filled
in every part.
Refer, Refer,
to
Frederick Warden, Esq.
This, remember, being
the first week in Lent.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION"
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION"
in
Liverpool
scored
a Triumph
a Triumph
at the
Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Received
with Cheer upon Cheer.
with Cheer upon Cheer.

Monday,
House packed in every part.
House packed in every part.
Tuesday,
Money refused everywhere.
Money refused everywhere.
Not a single seat left.
Not even standing room left.
Refer
to
Harris Fineberg, Esq.
Managers are requested
to
communicate with
Frederick Warden, Esq.,
and
Harris Fineberg, Esq.,
and
satisfy themselves as to the truth of these statements.
Read the Press
of
Belfast.
The Ulster Echo, Feb. 8, says:—
. . . . For a considerable time before the hour of opening the theatre was surrounded by large crowds, and those who were fortunate enough to get a seat witnessed
A SPLENDID PLAY
IN THE HANDS OF
A SPLENDID COMPANY.
Mrs. Powell has, by this new piece, proved herself an authoress of good rank. Her drama should have a long and prosperous run before its final ring-down comes on.
The Belfast Evening Telegraph says:—
. . . . It is written by Mrs. Morton Powell in her MOST FORCEFUL AND VIGOROUS STYLE, and is full of exciting and thrilling episodes.

Northern Whig says:—
"Driving a Girl to Destruction" is sure to prove A GREAT POPULAR SUCCESS,
as it possesses all the requirements to that end. The plot is ingenious without being over-complicated. The dialogue is crisp and telling, and there is a succession of strong and thrilling situations, while the scenery and accessories are a feature of the production. . . . The unmistakably favourable verdict passed on the play by Belfast is certain to be endorsed in other centres. . . .
The Irish News says:—
There was a big house. . . . and the four acts were followed with a good deal of interest. . . . The plot never lags. . . . The play moves with tremendous rapidity. . . . The company is a strong one. . . . The staging and mounting was on an elaborate scale.
The Belfast News Letter says:—
. . . Her latest work is likely to bring her fresh popularity. . . . The play has plenty of exciting incidents to arrest the attention, and the humorous interludes which characterise it caused much amusement
The Liverpool Press
equally
enthusiastic.
Full extracts
next week.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Managers
can have
a guarantee.
a guarantee.
The Press says:—
A splendid play.
A splendid company.
A wealth of brilliant scenery.
Manager
Frederick Warden
and
Manager
Harris Fineberg
say,
A Money-maker.
Morton Powell
says,
Book it.
He will
guarantee
the receipts.

Vacant,
March 21, April 18, May 2, 9, 23.
Monday next,
Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Managers cordially invited.
Managers cordially invited.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
This wonderful Play
acknowledged
to be
One of the finest Money-makers
Touring.
Vacant,
May 2, 9, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This Record-breaker
is proving everywhere
what it can do.
Vacant, May 9, June 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
These are the Plays to Book.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
These are the Plays to Draw.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T, Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WILLIAM WATSON'S
WILLIAM WATSON'S
WILLIAM WATSON'S
WILLIAM WATSON'S
Enormous Successful Pantomime,
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
NOTICE.
Owing to the Phenomenal Success of this Record-breaker, a No. 2 Company will be sent out next season in equal merit and strength.
Including BILLY WATSON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Managers with Vacant Dates
to communicate at once or see this
Grand Production next week,
Metropole Theatre, Manchester.
Metropole Theatre, Manchester.
Metropole Theatre, Manchester.
Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD."
WANTED, March 21 (Scotland), April 4 and 11, to follow Grimsby. Only dates till Feb., 1911. Address,
J. EDWARD WHITTY, Metropole T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To all Managers of First-class
Pier Pavilions, and other similar places of Entertainment, that
WILLIAM DOWNES
intends touring a High-class Concert Party
under the description of
"THE MERRY HUNTERS,"
commencing Monday, May 16, 1910.
Each Artist specially chosen for this Tour, and includes the famous versatile lady entertainer,
MISS MENA BRAE.
A Brisk and Brilliant Show, in smart Hunting Costumes. Re dates and terms apply direct to
W. DOWNES, Drury Lane Theatre, London, W.C.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, Large Halls, with or without Scenery (we carry everything), Easter week and onwards, complete new Programme, including Novel Pantomedietta, "Androcles and the Lion." All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, Heavy Man, Heavy Lady, Clever Child Actress, Light Comedy Lady, Comedian, and Responsible Man. Lowest terms, references, &c., to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool. N.B.—Mark envelopes "Drama."

WANTED, Robust Heavy Man, Juvenile Man, Char. Heavy (thin), Char. Old Man, Petite Chambermaid for Soubrette Part (must be young), for Sketch, rehearse London immediately. Photos., absolute terms, imperative, FRED J. LITTLE'S Agency, 4, Arthur-st., New Oxford-st., London.

SID COTTERELL'S COMEDY SKETCH PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Gent, tall, rehearse Feb. 28, Manchester; also for New Production, First-class Young and Pretty Actress, tall, Light Comedy part, two Responsible Gents, Baggage Man, capable of Small Part; rehearse London, March 21. Absolute lowest terms, photos., refs. Amateurs save stamps. SID COTTERELL, 39, Angell-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Refined Artists for June and July. Comedies and Society Plays. Envelope for return of Photos. FRANCIS DELANE, Empire and Hippo., Bolton.

WANTED for the Egyptian Tour, Mystical, Magical Farce, Low Comedienne for Louie Freear part, must be absolutely first-class, to Star; Recognised Leading Light Comedian, extensive Farcical Comedy experience, Production Whit Week; rehearse ten days previous. State fullest particulars, exceptional references essential; Juvenile Leading Man (Drama), Star Heavy Man, for forthcoming Productions. CHA. H. LESTER, Great Heath, Coventry.

WANTED, young or middle-aged Lady Actress; long engagement; must play piano. Send photo. (will be returned). C. H. NEWSTEAD, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Bright, Energetic Young Acting Manager, to play part.
Also First-class Hardworking Carpenter, with own tools.
Terms, references, height, age.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Tall Leading Juvenile Gentleman, used to drama. Terms, height, references, photo., MARK BLOW, Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

WANTED, Known, opportunity occurs for a tall, robust Amateur, in good Company on Tour. Please address, stating full particulars, height, references, age, &c., to Box 7,302, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, for Sketch, Juvenile Man, to Double Character Part, tall; also Chambermaid. Photos., terms, ADDERLEY HOWARD, Palace, Warrington.

"CLAUDIAN" CO.
WANTED, Young Ladies with Fully-trained Voices, Mezzo and Soprano Voices. Age, height, latest references, recent photos., and lowest terms. WILLIAM MACLAREN, c/o 34, Shepherd-street, Bury.

CHORUS.
WANTED, First and Second Tenors, First and Second Basses, Good Voices and Singers absolutely essential. Letters only to REGENT CONCERT DIRECTION, Regent House, Regent-st., W.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist, brilliant voice, good actress. State salary, &c.,
Box 7,311, "The Era."

WANTED, for long engagement, Soprano Vocalist, must be expert Accompanist. For further particulars, see advertisement under "Musicians Wanted." RANDAL.

WANTED, Boys (London only), Age about 15, Height about 5ft., Good Voices Essential. F. LEO, 8, Clifton-gardens, Twickenham.

WANTED, immediately, Troupe Dancers, young and good appearance; also Lady Skaters (roller). Apply, GRAHAM'S, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Eva Reed concluded Gigantic Success in Pantomime, Shakespeare, Clapham; resumed my Original Part of Becky, "Heathen and Christian" Co. This, Macclesfield; next, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagements, High-class only, Concert Party or single weeks, by Entertainer (Lady), songs and imitations at piano; brilliant accompanist. Box 7,296, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by a Little Girl, 14, bright and quick; low salary. No Agents. Miss IVY PERCIVAL, 90, Duncombe-road, Upper Holloway, N.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Harry Barlow, Operatic Barritone, at Lib. Monday; late Scarboro', Filey, Roker Pierrots. Perm., 10, Wellington-st., Stockport. Vacant for Easter, Al-Fresco.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Spring Tour of Pantomime, Principal Boy, Principal Girl, Comedian for Baron, and Pair of Sisters for Second Boy and Girl; all must sing, dance, or have other Speciality. Absolute lowest and, if working, where can be seen.
B. CARPENTER, 60, Blantyre-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Next Season Pantomimes, also Chorus Ladies.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. ROBERTS, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL B. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, for Bright, Effective Scenery, &c. Write T. C. DALY, Contractor to the Broadhead Circuit, 31, Hinckley-street, Bradford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Scenic Artist, steady and reliable; Provinces or London; bright, effective work; good refs.; moderate terms. Add., A. E. A., 29, Tadema-rd., Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Responsible Manager, Menagerie Tour, England; unimpeachable character, sobriety indispensable; also Beastmen and Band. Apply, ANDREW PHELAN, Post Office, Hull.

WANTED, good Smart Agent for Tenting, Ireland. Salary required, age, and references. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Young Man as Door Attendant and Biller, and assist generally. Height about 6ft. Terms, age, height, refs, and photo. ALBANY WARD, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, Young Man, smart, clean cut appearance, as Assistant with well-known Variety Act. Give description, experience, and photo. if possible. Letters only. H. H., care SPARKS, 166, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Stage-Manager, Musical Comedy or Ballet; experienced; good Dancer and Arranger.
Apply, Box 7,258, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Reliable London Manager wants Management in the Provinces, health resort if possible. M. M., 187, North End-rd., London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Man with Good Business Experience, as Acting or Assistant Manager (resident or tour).
A. HEMPSTEAD, 31, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as Private Secretary. Gentleman (26),
to Variety Artist (Lady or Gentleman).
Good accountant; excellent refs.
CYRIL W. HOLMES,
Pointon, Holkingham, Lincs.

WANTED, by Gentleman Well-known and Connected with the Music Hall Agency, position as Provincial or London Representative to firm of Variety Agents. Applicant has been in the business some years and has connection.
Apply Box 7307, "The Era."

WANTED, Known Frank Kearsley, Advance Manager, at Liberty. Advertising Manager for A. Emmott, M.P., and T. Barton, M.P., Deputy Speaker House of Commons, at the Recent Elections. 11, Shore-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Fred Lewis, Circus Agent, Disengaged for Tenting Season, 1910, Great Britain or Ireland. Address, C o Andexser, 39, Earl-street, Belfast.

WANTED, by Competent Electrician, Appointment. Late Chief London Coliseum, Royal Court and Prince of Wales's Theatres, Liverpool. Capable of installing and maintaining any class of electrical work, or manage department for any concern. PARKER, 66, Latimer-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Electrician seeks Situation,
London or Suburban; reliable.
Box 7,291, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by Electrician, Practical Mechanic. Can work Bioscope if required, alterations and repairs. ELECTRICIAN, Box 7,298, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Stage Electrician and Operator, used to any current and motor generators. Liberty Feb. 20. London references. KYFFIN, 31, Lansdowne-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Operator Electrician, Young, Disengaged, Experienced Lime or Electric. Own Repairs. Would combine Billing, resident or good tour. Ref. Moderate wages. F. THURSTING, 43, Russell-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill Inspector, 17 years' refs., Disengaged through change of Management. All communications, Mr. J. DAVIS, 19, King George-st, Greenwich.

WANTED, by Young Man (25), Situation in Theatre, Music Hall, or Travelling Company, highest references. DAY, 96, Army-street, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Known, smart young man, 21, seeks Situation as Limesman or Scene Shifter, in Music Hall or assist in Picture Palace. W., 11, St. Mary's, Merton Park.

WANTED, Position at Resident Caretaker or Superintendent of Hall, Rink, Pier, Gardens or Public Buildings by retired Builder's Foreman. Disciplinarian, reliable, supervise all repairs. Married, good references. BRAUN, 9, Rothbury-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Experienced Wardrobe Mistress, can cut and make, own machine. References, B. MONCRIEFF, 38, East-hill, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Wardrobe Mistress, town or tour, cut, fit, and renovate; excellent refs. Letters, COOMBS, 34, Clapham-road, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Pianist-Conductor, used to Variety; two houses nightly; open Easter Monday, March 28. Terms and recent refs., F. GRAHAM MACDONA, T. R., Colchester.

WANTED, Gentleman to act as Conductor to John Lawson's Sketches. Must be able to arrange. Wire V. NEWMAN, The Palace Theatre, Manchester. After Saturday night, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, commencing March 26, good Leader, to find Band of Seven. SWALLOW, 6, Thornley-st., Wolverhampton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player. Age, references, lowest terms.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, E Flat Clarionet, also Double Drums and Effects, 17 weeks' engagement, Military Band. Write, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Lowestoft Pier.

WANTED, immediately, Contra Bass Player, for Brighton Municipal Orchestra; only first-class players. Apply, JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

WANTED, for Circus (tenting season), Sober and Reliable Bombardon, also Euphonium; 32s. 6d. weekly. Also Second Cornet for Rink. Others write. RICHARDS, 24, Union-street, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for White Star Mediterranean Service, Feb. 21 until Oct.; also First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star and Cunard North Atlantic Service, April to Oct. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. C. W. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to open Feb. 28, experienced 'Cello; accustomed to Operatic and Dramatic bus. Apply with refs. and salary, to MUS.-DIR., H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for long engagement, commencing Easter, Young Lady Vocalist and Pianist, must possess good appearance, good Soprano voice, and be First-class Accompanist and Sight Reader; these qualifications absolutely essential. Stamped envelope, photo (if possible), and terms, RANDAL, 33, Amesbury-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W..

WANTED, for King's T., Manchester, First-class Double Drummer, with Effects, Tymps., &c., open Feb. 28; thorough knowledge of Variety. Age, salary, refs., E. BERNHARDT, L.R.A.M., Musical-Director.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Cavalry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between 19 and 23 years of age, Regiment is shortly moving to Dublin, and will not be going abroad for about nine years. State age and instrument to BANDMASTER, 20th Hussars, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, good Clarionet, Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Double Drummer, own Instruments, for Tenting, Ireland, commencing March 28; 32s. 6d. Apply, with testimonials, to BANDMASTER Belmont, Addison-road, Upper Caterham, Surrey. Messrs. Fraser, Hugh Thompson, and Fred Eagle write.

WANTED, Known, the Clevedon Urban District Council, Somerset, is open to receive offers from Bands, consisting of from Ten to Twelve in number, or Concert Parties and String Bands combined, of about Eight in number, for the Sole Right of Giving Performances during the Coming Season, commencing on July 4, for Ten Weeks.
Applications to be sent to the CLERK on or before the 28th inst.

WANTED, Musicians, for Skating Rinks. State terms. Apply by letter only,
BANDMASTER, 53, Philpot-street, E.

WANTED, Violinists and 'Cellists, to send for a copy of Auguste Van Biene's Great Solo, "Roses and Memories," by Ted Snyder. Price 1s. 6d. nett, of the Publishers,
TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (INC.),
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-st. Pro. copies 1s.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Charles Weldon, Musical Director (late B.M. 1st V.B. Wel. Regt), Solo Violin and Cornettist. Dis. shortly, open to receive offers, home or abroad. Experienced all branches. Only first-class offers invited. Orchestral and Military Bands supplied. Composer and Arranger. Address, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, as Musical Director (Pianist), immediate Engagement, thoroughly experienced, Musical Comedy, Drama, and Variety. Refer E. Graham-Falcon, Esq. (present Manager). Wire, MEREDYTH, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist, Disengaged March 4; good refs.; experienced. 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Lady Violinist. Miss LIZZIE MATTHEWS, 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Violin or Viola, in Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink, in Yorkshire or Lancashire; experienced in all Lines; excellent refs. Box 7,297, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Violinist (combine Cornet), Disengaged Feb. 28, any business, any distance; abstainer. VIOLINIST, 2, Kinver-road, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist or Viola, experienced Variety, Theatre, or Pictures. Young, sober, and reliable. Good refs. POWER, 27, Fixby-avenue, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement by Chas. Croft, Good Violinist, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Six years in one engagement. Can open at once. Hippo., Wallsend.

WANTED, Known, Miss May Pennington, Dis., Cornet and String Bass; experienced, young, tall, and smart. 15, Avon-road, Bournemouth, E.

WANTED, Known, Lillian Smith, Cornet and Vocalist, and Lillian Ter-Poorten, Clarionet, Disengaged, joint or single. 243, Prescot-road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Summer Engagement by Good Solo Cornet; also Good Trombone, together or separate. Good refs. Box 7,300, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Known Solo Cornet, just finishing orchestral tour in Scotland. Address, Box 7,301, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet Player, with Good Experience. Apply W. CUTLER, Mizpah House, York-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, good Cornet, at Liberty, Theatre or Music Hall; thoroughly experienced; just finishing Panto. Apply, BURDICK, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED by Cornet, Engagement, First, Second. Season preferred. Any business. Experienced, sober. E. WOOD, 35, Grasmere-street Leicester.

WANTED, two Solo Cornets, just finished four months' engagement, supply Band for Rink if Required, splendid Library. Write or wire, MUSICAL, P.O., Thornliebank, Glasgow.

WANTED, through Closing, Engagement as First Cornet, any Business. Address, A. ANSTIS, c/o Mrs. Rocca, 1, King's-place, Portobello, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, finishing long Engagement. SHARP, Cornet, 28, Crogsland-road, Chalk Farm, London.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Variety or any business. G. F. EATON, 46, Athelstan-road, off Canterbury-road, Folkestone, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, Experienced, any Business. Reliable. Variety preferred. B. C. W., c/o Mr. Townsend, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Consett.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, Engagement. High class Concert Experience. Can open at once. SMITH, 4, Trinity-street, Newtown, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement Solo Cornet or First; excellent refs.; any business. Write or wire, WORTH, c/o Lindsay, 220, Hope-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Clarionet, any business, good references. Address, CLARIONET, c/o Miss Lacey, 28, Mark-mansions, Westville-road, London.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, just finished Rink Engagement; 26, reliable; good refs. Wire or write, HENRY BAKER, 68, Upper Charnwood-street Leicester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass; steady and reliable; Theatre, Variety, or Military. Basso, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Double Bass, Bass, 1, Lina-villas, St. Swithin's-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Double Bass Player, any business, deputising, &c. Address, Basso, 39, Queen's-rd., Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any Business,; good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, any Business; young, with good experience; Liberty March 1. Colborne, 94, Turner-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by Thoroughly Experienced Contra Bass (combine Tuba if required). At liberty. Address Basso, Osmondale, Gloucester-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, good Trombone, in Variety, Rink, or any other business; good references. Campbell, 567, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by W. F. Corfield, Trombone. Hippodrome Music Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, through Closing, any Business. Refs. if required. F. Burns, c/o Turnbull, 40, Roseburn-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, an Engagement, by a good Trombonist. A. W., 48, Porten-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, through closing, Engagement as Solo Euphonium, Orchestral or Military Band, or Rinks; good references from all parts. J. Anthony, 30, Chatham-place, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Trombonist (good), experienced all Lines, Seaside preferred; good refs.; sober and reliable. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, combine Trombone, Engagement, Summer or Permanent; good refs.; at Lib. Geo. Gruber, 45, Wynyard-road Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, Engagement, any Business, any distance. Charles Grice, 40, Gardner-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class 'Cellist, experienced and reliable; good refs. Howard, 37, Norris-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello at Liberty, any business, first-class references. Address, 'Cello, 39, Cobbold-road, Forest Gate London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, Soloist; fully experienced. Address, Viola, 78, Walton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, or Deputising, Viola. H. Oldfield, 21, Ossory-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Engagement, highest references for ability, sobriety, &c. Wm. R. Morton, 31, Richmond-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Harpist or Double Bass, also Violinist; good reference; steady and reliable; Café, Rink, &c. Address, Stewart, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, Disengaged through Reduction of Orchestra, after 18 months Varieties. Permanency required, any business. Finest refs. Alexander, 40, Bedford-street, Peterborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink; London or Provinces; good refs. Flautist, 37, Claribel-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Flautist, Liberty Feb. 28; thoroughly experienced any business; abstainer; good refs. Harry Littler, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Flautist and Piccolo Soloist. At Liberty. Excellent refs. and ability. Any biz. Alf. Harvey, 113, Ashford-street, Shelton, Hanley, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, Disengaged, any business, Shorthand Typist, French correspondence. Used Agent's office, Theatres, &c. F. C., 67, Park-road, West Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Lady Pianist experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés. Pianist, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Belgian Lady Pianist, Employment, Good Reader, only High-class Music. Letters J. S., 35 Nutford-place, Edgware-road.

WANTED, Engagement by N. Robinson, Pianist. Var., Drama, or Pictures; Orch. or Self. Exper., Steady, Good Reader. Refs. 4, Brookfield-terrace, Pwllheli.

WANTED, by Gentleman, at present engaged as Music Teacher, post as Pianist, Theatre or elsewhere, sight reader, &c. H. D'Eath, 12, Meeting House-lane, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement Pianist, Conductor, any Business. Brilliant Soloist, Composer, Arranger. Address Lennox, 31, Albert-square, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Experienced Pianist and Arranger, Engagement Variety or Dramatic. Good references and testimonials. Percy Hills, Pianist, Hengler's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, First-class Pianist, at Liberty for Summer Engagement. Address, Box 7,293, "The Era."

WANTED, by thoroughly reliable Pianist and Accompanist, Orch. Engagement or Deputising. Address, Musician, 108, Kambala-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WNTED, Engagement, by Pianist, thoroughly reliable and experienced, Rink preferred; good refs. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Rowland Clark, Orchestral Pianist and Bass. Disengaged, London district only. 23, Lebanon-rd., Croydon. 'Phone, 835 P.O.

WANTED, Engagement, by two Ladies, as Mandolinist and Pianist, in Band or High-class Concert Party, &c.; tall, refined. A., 9, Kenton-street, W.C.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Tympanist, three Tympani, Glockenspiel, and Effects, brilliant Xylophone Soloist; good references. A. Wadsworth, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, Tympanist; experienced all Lines; distance no object. Drums, 2, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, any business; good refs. Terms and particulars, Morris, 79, High-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Drummer, Rink or Variety. Liberty at Once. Address, Drums, 89, Havelock-rd., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by a Good Double Drummer, Engagement, any business. Theatre or Hall, London preferred. W., 19, Argyle-sq., W.C.

WANTED, Known, Double Drums, all Effects, Disengaged through closing American Rink, Aberdeen; experienced Variety, Military, Brass. Gillespie, 77, Leslie-terrace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Tympanist and Double Drummer; young, steady; best refs.; any business. Musician, 20, Bradley-st., Huddersfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in Smart Uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required. For particulars, apply, W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

THE BRITISH ORCHESTRAL AND MILITARY BAND AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Corporations, Pier Managers, &c., requiring Bands for Summer Season, the above Agency is now making arrangements to supply First-class Orchestral and Military Bands (in smart uniform or evening dress); high-class up-to-date Libraries. Address for full particulars to General-Manager, The British Orchestral and Military Band Agency, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-st., Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Offers for Whitsuntide, by Signorina de Polo's Ladies' Orchestra, from White City, &c.; Venetian costumes. 12, West Hill road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty), Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, and Tubular Bells, for Rinks, Piers. Madame Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, to Managers.—If you want to make a Hit, Engage Maurits van Yzer's famous Volendam Lassies' Orchestra, in their Quaint Dutch Costumes and Head-dresses; the success of the Earl's Court Exhibition. For terms, &c., apply, Secretary, 51, Richmond-gardens, Shepherds Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Le Petit Quartette or small Orchestra (Ladies), including Solos and Vocalists, Disengaged Easter and Whitsuntide. Miss Maude Johnson, 37, Balfour-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Carlton Orchestra, Piers, Rinks, &c., five upwards; Disengaged Whit or before; magnificent library. Powell, Mus.-Dir., Alhambra, Stourbridge.

WANTED, Town Councils, Pier Companies, &c., to Note, Godfrey Holbeck's well-known London Band (patronised by Royalty) is at Liberty for Summer Engagement; three most successful Seasons at Felixstowe. Highest testimonials and references.

Write, Box 505, Willing's, 73, Knightsbridge, S.W.

WANTED, Known, by Rink Proprietors, Seaside Managers, &c., that Mr. Walter Stanert's Scarlet Military or Orchestral Band (any number) is open for Engagements now or Summer Season; splendid library of latest music. Terms, references, 54, Irvine-place, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagements for Collini's Celebrated Rink Bands, Town, Country. Now running Highgate. Specially engaged Stamford Hill. Call and hear them.

WANTED, Engagements, for a Reed and Brass Band. Apply, O. H. Carter, 32, Tenison street, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WALTER SCOTT AND SONS' CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE, Tenting Season, 1910, commencing Easter Monday, March 28.

WANTED, to complete the Company, for the forthcoming Tour, Circus Artists in all Lines, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Animal Acts, Aerial Acts, in fact anything that can be done in a Circus Ring. Apply, Sir Edward Hanneford, Circus, Strandtown, Belfast.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.

WANTED, Useful Circus People that can Clown, Vault, and do a Principal Turn. to commence Monday, Feb. 28. Lowest Terms and Full Particulars to J. C. Boswell, Grand T., Aberavon, South Wales.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS.

WANTED, Circus Artists all Lines and Troupe of Acrobats, to complete Company for Easter, London District. Apply, Fred J. Connor, Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road, London.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors to Know that THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS, the wonderful Acrobatic Bareback Riders, conclude three months' engagement at Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow; open Monday next at the Grand Circus, Edinburgh; will be at Liberty Easter Monday, with six great Acts and four Trained Horses, which are the talk of every town they have visited. Many thanks for kind offers for abroad, but cannot leave England for a time. For further particulars, lithos., photos, &c., address The Royal Ohmys, Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas, Circus, or Music Halls, full Circus Company, with Own Horses. For terms, G. Proctor, c/o 87, Oldham-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Tenting, The Nettas. New Athletic Speciality, "The Human Crane"; also Bros. Sternol, Gymnasts.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.

The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court, Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c. Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms, Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists, Single or Double Performance. Captain Mizen, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars. General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists all Lines, the bigger the better. State in first instance lowest salary and (if unknown to me) where can be seen working. Good Tops Wanted immediately for First-class Provincial Halls. Silence a polite negative pro tem. W. Lovell Hurt, Variety Agent, Churchgate House, Stockport.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Artists of every description, Artists of every description, Artists of every description, Artists of every description, Artists of every description, Artists of every description, immediate dates onwards.

Forward in first instance full particulars of show, where can be seen, together with full list of Bookings and absolute lowest.

Artists still in Pantomime wishing to be seen with view to engagements for next year, communicate at once.

Harry Burns, Established 1895. Head Office, Welburn House, Hartlepool.

Telegrams, "Chosen."

Telephones 231 and 231a Hartlepool (not West Hartlepool).

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Artists in all Lines for THE HIPPODROME, HULL. THE HIPPODROME, HULL. THE HIPPODROME, HULL. Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians. Good Comedy Act wanted for Feb. 28, onwards.

Vacancies for Tops and Draws.

If known to me the better. Lowest Terms must be Mentioned in All Cases to Avoid Delay.

Also Where and Last Appearance in Hull.

Write or wire, Walter Bentley, 168, Brixton-road, S.W. Tele., "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 1308 Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines Suitable for Picture Shows. Lowest terms, full particulars, &c., to W. Owen's Agency, G.P.O., Castleford.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROMES AND COMPANIES.

WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, big Star Top Liners (Lockhart's Elephants write), Smart Pair of Sisters, Double Comedy Turns, &c., &c., immediate Vacancies. All coms., Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Monday, Feb. 28, onwards. Variety Artists, all Lines, good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Halls, also Picture Halls. Apply, H. A. Jordison, 117, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists of Every Description, for West Bromwich, March 28, onwards. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

THE WARREN AGENCY.

12, College-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists, big Acts all Lines, who wish to be Booked at Leading Halls, send list of Bookings, terms, vacant dates, to above. No callers. Appointments letter only.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Feb. 28, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists and Staff, in all Lines, always Vacancies. Terms, lithos., The Old Star Dramatic, Variety, and Staff Agency, Wilton-st., Manchester.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY.

9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool. 'Phone 2549 Royal.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts. Full bookings, terms, photos., lithos., and all particulars.

WANTED, Gala Artists, all Lines, Double Turns preferred, for the Coming Season. Send terms, memos, &c. Barrett, 566, Queen's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, coming North. Lawson, Victoria Theatre, Stanley.

VERNO'S AGENCY,

15, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Feb. 28, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,075, Royal.

Big Sensational Tops (Comedy Preferred), WANTED, for Feb. 28, March 7, April 25, Artists all Lines, onward. Send full list of Bookings (essential). Will Lund's Agency, 27, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, the Greatest of Sensation Artists, all Lines. Zetta Grey and Co. Allsopp and Beckworth send address. Tom Diacoff, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.

NOTICE.—POOLE'S THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists and Agents to Note that the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, has been leased to Mr. Will Smithson, of the Empire, Barnsley, as from Feb. 28, 1910, and all Contracts are therefore at an end after Feb. 26, so far as the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, is concerned. Contracts for Palace, Porth, hold good. Signed, C. W. Poole, Managing-Director, Poole's Theatres, Ltd.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars, Big Specialities, Big Animal Acts, in fact, anything that is New, Novel, and Sensational, for Easter, March 21, 28, Whit Week, and later, for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c. Send dates, lithos., &c., to Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big. Will Sley, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

CADLE'S AGENCY, CADLE'S AGENCY, 105, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Feb. 28, and onward, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Stars with odd weeks, Artists in all Lines, immediate and on. Permanent address, Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, a good Double Turn, with Patter and good Comic Songs, &c., or Musical Sketch, for three or four, must be sent on approval. Good money for the right thing.

Leano and Luord, Alhambra, Belfast.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY.

9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool. 'Phone, 2549 Royal.

WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Good Small Acts of all Descriptions. Good Comedians and Smart Soubrettes that Dance.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BENSON'S THEATRE ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, the Biggest and Best Talent in the Business, Stars through Programme Agents. Artists and others please note.—All applications for engagements at the New Palace Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs., must be addressed to Benson's Theatre Enterprises, Agency Dept., Manchester-chambers, 46a, Market-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Bensonia, Manchester."

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential. Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Gala Acts of all Descriptions, for all the Leading Fêtes and Galas. Again appointed Caterer to the Great York Gala. James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

MORRISON'S AGENCY.

Telegrams, "Vaudeville, Middlesbrough."

WANTED, Star Acts of all Kinds, the very best, nothing too big. Full particulars, bookings, and lowest to Morrison's Agency, Taylor-st., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts of all Descriptions. Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, First-class Refined Musical Acts, Marionettes, and really Good Novelty Shows. Wire or write, Manager, Picture Palace, Dudley.

WANTED, Comedy Acts, for Feb. 28. J. Lotto, 10, Greek-street, London, W.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates. Apply, T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Big Speciality Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Novel Animal Performances, and anything with Big Drawing Powers, for Feb. 28, onward. State when and where Acts can be seen. Silence a polite negative. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, BARNSLEY.

Managing-Director, Will Smithson.

WANTED, big Drawing Attractions, for March 14, 28, April 25 May 2, 9, 16; must be new to Barnsley.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.

Twenty-second year of continuous Tour.

WANTED, for season 1910-11, commence Sept., First-class Specialities; only those who can accept a long engagement need apply. Full particulars to Tomkinson, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Twice nightly, 7 and 9.

WANTED, Known, First-class Shows entertained, on Share or Certainty. Am open to negotiate for next season's Pantomimes. Communicate, Harry Burns, Head Office, Welburn House, Hartlepool.

Teles., "Chosen." 'Phone 231 and 231a Hartlepool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for March and April Big Star Tops and Bottoms, for Blackpool, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton, Dublin, Bolton, and other towns.

Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Telephone, 9144 Central. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,

38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Tops of Bills only, for Britain and Continent, and Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911.

Silence polite negative pro tem.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, immediate and future Dates. Terms, full bookings, William Ainsworth's Northern Amusement Bureau, 135, Abingdon-road Middlesbrough.

WANTED, a Big Top Liner, for March 21; must be new to King's Lynn. State lowest. Salary or shares. Fred Boulton, Grand, Byker, Newcastle.

WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Feb. 28, March 7, 14. Wire. Wire. Wire. Also Artists in all Lines for Immediate Dates. Send full particulars. We can book you. Barnard's Variety Agency, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill for Immediate Dates for Several Halls in the North. Apply to Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Good Spectacular Display. Royston Flower Show. 45 Miles (G.N.R.) from London.

Apply, Charles Warren, High-street, Royston, Herts.

WANTED, Bank Holiday, Aug. 1, 1910, for Kidderminster Weavers' Monster Fête and Picnic, First-class Aerial Performers, and other Artists; best Talent only. Lithos., Posters, and all particulars as to terms, &c., to be sent without delay to W. H. Cooper, 35, Hoe-road, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Pierrot Troupe, or Summer Band for Pwllheli. Full particulars from and offers to Town Clerk, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Easter, Whit, Trick Cycle Acts and Specialities, Glasgow, Rochdale, Feb. 28, Variety Acts. Full bookings imperative. Gannon, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Several Young Lady Cyclists, with Good Appearance, must thoroughly understand the business and not afraid to travel. Write, stating age and experience, or might be seen personally. Apply Felix Green, Frighted Horse Hotel, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Lady, Age about 18 to 20, with Slight Knowledge of Cycling. State Height and Weight; also send Photo. Apply, Daunton-Shaw, Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, Trick Cyclist, give Tricks Performed. Must be Good Unicycle Rider. Give full particulars first letter; height, age, weight, salary. Address, Jim Zanora, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, a Well-known Music Hall Artist for a High-class Dramatic Dancing Star Turn. Box 7303, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady young and refined, good Dancer, height about 5ft. 5in., to rehearse at once for Dance Fantasy. Appointment only. E. Elliot, Oxford House, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, to Open Monday, really good Comedian and Dancer. Two Special Weeks. Lowest terms to R. Nightingale, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Character Dude, small part; rehearse at once. Particulars, W. H. Farley, 54, Shenley-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, a smart Comedy Page, for Dumb Show. State salaries required. Box 7,294, "The Era."

WANTED, Immediately, Smart Youth for Acrobatic Troupe, must be quick Tumbler and Mount; also Lady Acrobatic Dancer. Particulars, Clarke, Post Office, Abertillery.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED Young Lady, with knowledge of Gymnastics, or girl about 16, to learn. Apply, stating age, height, weight, to Estrella, 118, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Comedians, Humorists, &c., sending address to Foster's Concert Agency, Ashville Mount, Halifax, will hear of something advantageous.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED.—Managers wanting Artist or Staff in case of emergency, wire Old Star Dramatic, Variety, and Staff Agency, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7 and 14, for La Belle Lumiere's Electrical Fairy Grotto, with or without Full Vaudeville Co. Share or salary. Wire or write Monday, 4th return, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Mon., 28th, and March 7, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion and Gold Medallist, Top Boots. This, Britannia, Glasgow, 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, Star Comedienne Expert Dancer, good Songs; just finished two Successful Tours, Milton Bode Pantomime (Principal Girl), and Jazon's Panto., "Crusoe." Vacant Feb. 21, 28 onwards. Wire, Hippodrome, Stalybridge; after Sunday, 154, Bracebridge-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Juvenile Comedienne, Feb. 28, March 7, 14. A sure success. Agent, Mr. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Harvey, Dainty Comedienne, Great Success, this, Pal., Northampton; next, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees; vac. Feb. 21, March 21 and 28.

WANTED, Feb. 28, South Wales District, by Nancy Renshaw, Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist. Feb. 21, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, 28th, March 7th, Raiedia, Banjo Queen, Trick Mandolinist, Illustrated Banjo Playing. Last week, Queen's, Bromwich (top). Wire, 79, Mildenhall-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Dainty Dorretta, Acrobatic Sabot Dancer, to precede Empire, Portsmouth, third return date. Wire, 19, Church-street, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, 14, by Lole Prince, Sweet Singer of Sensible Songs. Now, Empire Picture Co. Wire or write, Airedale House, Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Dainty Instrumental Act, Monday next, through misunderstanding; also Feb. 28. Wire, 16, Ward-st., Salford.

WANTED, March 7, 21, and 28, The Rivers (Vi and May), Harmonising Duettists and Dancers; also John Pardoe, Wire Walking and Bending Speciality. Offers for one or two of the best acts. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers. Offers. 50, Lloyd-st., Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Great Aerial Mystery, Lilith, also Lilian Warren, Pictorial Songstress; two distinct Acts. Wire, 32, Cavendish-street, Manchester.

WANTED Monday, on, exceptions, Theatres, Picturedromes, &c., Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive, Copyrights, extraordinary Colliery Pictures. Coms., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric, appearing this week, Big Success, Palace, Jarrow; next week, Monday, Feb. 21, The Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees. All correspondence, above address.

WANTED, Known, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian, Vacant Monday next. Starring this week, Hippodrome, Dewsbury, and Terrific Hit. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Sam Ello, Quaint Comedian and Dancer, tenth week with John Tiller's "Red Riding Hood." Monday, Opera House, Blackpool. D.C. lithos and photos; vacant Easter.

WANTED, Monday next, by George Caselli, Comedian and Novelty Dancer. Wire, 16, Harefield-road, Brockley, London.

WANTED, Known, Harry Rex, the Longfellow, Eccentric Comedian, Liberty Monday. Wire, St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jack Crew, Quaint Versatile Comedian. Second week, Empire, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Feb. 28 and March 14, by T. E. Johnstone, Actor-Vocalist. This, Hippo., Keighley; next (Feb. 21), Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, next week, also March 14 (follow O. H., Londonderry), Bu-Val, Happy Dutchman (Concertina). Wire, Tivoli, Barrow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Barney Stuart, Actor Vocalist and Mimic. Wire, The Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam Weight Wrestler. Sensational £100 challenge. Vacant Feb. 28, March 7. Wire, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, by Trojan, the Marvellous One-armed Athlete. Competitions big success. Wire, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, Feb. 28, the Great Kyoto, Sensational Japanese Comedy Pot-Pourri Novelty Act. Also May Geraldine, Refined Chorus Comedienne and Dancer. Success Jubilee Hall, Weymouth. Monday, Borough Theatre, Heywood, Lancs. Also vacant March 7.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Star Comedienne. Reasonable offers. 15, Weltje-rd., Hammersmith.

WANTED, by Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch, "The First of April," Vacant April 11, 18, and 25. Wire offers. 39, Gateley-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Two Zets (Harry and Amy), in their Novel Singing, Dancing, and Patter Act, vacant May 2 and 30, North preferred, two good Singers. Thanking Managers for offers. Write for the above dates, 104, Woodbine-avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian, and Ada Whitton, Comedienne. Wire one or both, 39, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, also March 7, follow Pavilion, Weymouth, Davies and Udall, in "The Grumbler." Enormously Successful. Refer here. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, March 7, 28, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas. Good singles. Coms., Hippo., York.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, Vacant Monday next. If you really want a Screamer, wire Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act, vacant Feb. 28. Next, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Known, Cummin and Seaham. Cummin and Seaham. "THE RAGMAN AND POSTMAN." Acrobatic Comedians.

AT LIBERTY, Feb. 28.

This week, Royal Theatre, Leamington. Next, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by Hope and Ashley, Musical Comedy Duo, Feb. 21 and 28. Refer Alfred Selwyn, Esq., Collins's, and Nelson Francis, Esq., Empress, Brixton. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Renowned Musical Grimaldis, April 4 and 18, May 2 and 9. Communications, Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, in their Great Comedy Bar Act, Liberty March 7 and April 4. Monday, Grand Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, March 14, 21, by Louie and Wally, Comedy Duettists, Burlesque Artists, and Funny Patterers. Something to Laugh at. Write, Town Hall, Galashiels, N.B.

WANTED, Monday next and Feb. 28, by AL and LAL, AL and LAL, Musical and Ventriloquial Sketch, introducing England's Greatest Lady Ventriloquist, Picture Shows in want of big Draw, Wire, Co-operative Hall, Widnes. Thanks DE FRECE Agency and GANNON for Contracts.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo. Vacant Feb. 21, 28, March 7. Address, 19 Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, Alex and Jolly, the Clever and Smart Comedy Triple Bar Act. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the bright Vocal Comedy Duo. A sure hit. 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Boon and Bailey, the Comedians, Feb. 28, in their latest screamer, "Stories." This and next, Collins's Music Hall, Islington, N.

A First-class Attraction.
WANTED, Known, Valdo Bros., in their Renowned Funny and Successful Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor-Bus Men." A real funny, clever, and artistic Comedy Speciality. Vacant March 7. Vacant March 7. Coms., Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Feb. 28, March 4, Happy Harry Hellis, Pianist, Comedian; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Cornettist. Ebenezer-row, Dorking.

WANTED, The Five M.P.'s. (the Musical Palmers), vacant Feb. 28 and March 7. "The Village Blacksmith." Wire, Hippo., Hastings. Letters, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 28, by Billy Ross and Co., great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act. Starring, Pavilion, Liverpool. Wire, 16 Greek-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, for Walker's Would-be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality. Wire offers, 106, Church-street, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Great Boneless Wonder Feb. 21, on; also Rumbo Austin, Original Would-be Acrobats. 14, Thompson's-yard, Wakefield.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Act. Free for immediate dates. 21st week, Hippodrome, Nelson.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May Trio, Gymnasts and Acrobatic Dance Artists, magnificent apparatus, costly wardrobe. Big success at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, this week. Thanks for all offers. First Vacancies Feb. 6, 1911. All coms. to HARRY PLOWDEN, 39, King's-st., Southport. Wire Feb. 28, March 7. Wire.

The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, through obliging. Wire quick, this, Grand T., Birmingham; next Empire, Newcastle.

WANTED, Known, Frantz's Comedy Five have Vacant Feb. 28 March 7, 14, 21, 28, through postponing Continental Engagement. This, Hippo., Aldershot; next, Empire, Bristol. Offers invited. Agents or Direct.

WANTED, Feb. 28 and March 7, The Carlsens, Comic Acrobatic Trampoline Speciality. Own Scene, splendid Lithos. Can arrange comic competition on the Bouncing Table. Always a Big Hit. This week, Hippo., Warrington; Monday, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Feb. 28, May 16, onwards, with exceptions, JOHN OLRAC'S FIVE OLRACS, in a New and Original Act, "Acrobatical Funniosities," Screams, Yells, Applause Funnier than a Panto. A sure success and new for Galas. Good printing. Letters, 14, Railway-street, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Lorettes, Double Trapeze, also Mlle. Leoville, Tight-wire, finish to-night, Empire, Aberdare. Monday, Hippodrome, Ipswich; Liberty Feb. 28, March 1.

WANTED, Feb. 28, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number). Male and Female Novelty Acrobats, three acts. Pavilion T., Abertillery.

WANTED, by the Three Original Hodginis, the Continental Aerial Gymnastic Wonders, in their Refined and Sensational Display on the Revolving Breakaway Ladder Act. Vacant Feb. 21 and March 7. Wire, HODGINIS, 33, Egerton-street, Runcorn, nr. Widnes.

WANTED, Monday next also 28th, by Astor, the 1910 Vent., with 1910 Gags and Business. Wire, Town H., Rotherham.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. Hippodrome, Margate.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 28, March 7, 14, and 21, by Phil Rees' "Stable Lads," in a Novel Racing Act, "NOT A CROOK," introducing Dancing, Singing, Acting, Boxing, Whistling, and Everything to make up a good programme. This week, Hip., Poplar. Wire quick to WALTER BENTLEY, or direct to 11, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, the most Refined of its Kind. Vacant Feb. 21, 28 all March and April prior to Continental Tour. Offers invited. 75, Parry-street, Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Miss Tudora's Ponies. Liberty for Monday. Next, Nottingham. Offers invited for April 25, and on. The Cleverest Pony Act now Touring. All coms., TUDORA, 7, Silent-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Mlle. Hengleur, Monday next, with her beautiful Russian Poodles, the only Troupe of its kind on the Variety Stage, including champion Challenge Jumping Dogs. Feb. 28, Theatre, Pontefract. Wire, Tivoli, Pentre.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats, &c., vac. Feb. 14, 21, March 14 and 21, Share or Certainty, good posters and lithos, by Messrs. Creber, Plymouth, and Berry, Printers, Bradford. Address, Park Hotel, Bletchley.

WANTED, by Devereux's Dramatic and Pugilistic Dogs, the most reliable Dog Show; Liberty March 14. Palace Varieties, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Feb. 21, 28, March 14, a Great Reliable Drawing Act. Chard's Dogs. Again the talk of Manchester. Grand Theatre.

WANTED, Known, Hall and Wilson Trio, Novelty Trick Cyclists, vacant Feb. 21, April 11, 25. This, Palace, N. Shields, Topping. Ask about us. Wire or write.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wenton, Originators of Act and Title, "A Football Match on Bicycles." Liberty Monday, also Feb. 28, March 14, April 25. Wire to-day, Hippodrome, Wakefield; after, Market Place, Willenhall, Staffs.

WANTED, the Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; also Lillian Sivado, Gymnast; two big acts, Vacant Monday next, also March 7. Wire, Arcade Theatre, Stirling. Wire after Monday, Blue Bell Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, vacant Monday next, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels. Also 28th, March 7. This, Alhambra, Stourbridge. Perma, 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also 28th, by Swift Duo Novel Cycle Speciality. Wire or write, 3, Thorneyholme-terrace, West Stanley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Eccentric Bicycle Balancing Acrobat, on Tables; Two Acts, for Galas. Big Success this, T. R., West Stanley; next, New Theatre, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, by Refined Versatile Entertainer, engagement with Party for Pier Work, &c. Three Distinct Specialities. Thoroughly experienced. Only first-class offers entertained. Box 7309, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Fellow, age 18, is desirous to join Sketch Company on Music Halls, as beginner. Write, Box 7,295, "The Era."

WANTED, by a smart Youth, Dancer, in any Act, or Baggage; good refs. LEE CLOUGH, c/o Toranos, Hippodrome, Bury.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, .22 Cartridges, "R," "H," "D," "P," Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Globes, Targets, Water Balls. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, W. E. Roche (Member of the Showmen's Guild), Showman's Painter, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E. All kinds of Showmen's Decorative Work undertaken, Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. Terms moderate; satisfaction guaranteed.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, GRAVESEND.
Open Good Friday for whole of Season.
WANTED, Known, to Proprietors of Steam Horses, Shows, Switchbacks, Shooting Galleries, Bazaars, Slip, and any up-to-date Novelties, Tenders are invited for Spaces for above; also Wanted to Purchase or Hire, Beasts, Cake Walk, or any Speciality. Large Hall to Let, easily adapted to Skating Rink and Picture Palace.

LOFTHOUSE PARK, SEASON 1910.
Open Easter to Sept.
WANTED, every kind of Riding Device, Side Shows, Amusements, and Games; Rent or Share. Particulars, LARCHER, 30, Pimlico-rd., S.W.

WANTED, from Monday onwards, for Best Shops in the North, First-class Novelties of all Descriptions with good Flash; good Fat or Midgets would do well. Six weeks' good work certain for good Novelties. Shares or salary. MANAGER, 6, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, First-class Novelties, with Paintings or Posters, for the Best Position in London, for Monday next and onwards. Wire or write, VALLUS, 45, St. John's-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Novelties, Shows, Exhibitions, Auctioneers, shop business, Pepper's Ghost write in, Shops and Halls, South Wales. MICHAEL, 10 The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, for Show, Good Performing Novelties, with painting, and good flash. Apply, STEPHEN BAKER, 5, Queen-st., Milton, near Sittingbourne, Kent.

WANTED, Wanted, Novelties, at once. HUMBER, Waxwork, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Side-Shows, Freaks, Mirrors, for High-class Fun Carnivals. Immediate Dates, Shares. Burslem Carnival crowded nightly. MAXIM'S Fun Carnival, Burslem.

WANTED, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties, sharing terms, open Monday, 21st, Midgets, Wrestling Girls, and Snake Charmers. BARRON'S Exhibition, 27, Broad-st., Reading.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Dahomey Troupe for the Summer Season. Brass Foot please write. HUMBER, Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for Greenwood's Auction Mart, First-class Handseller, Planksman, Pianist, re-open March 1. For particulars address, 157, Everton-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Male Midget, Dwarf or Small, clever boy, immediate, long engagement with well-known Variety Act. State height, age, weight, experience, and lowest salary, all transportation paid. Letters only, with photo. H. H., care SPARKS, 166, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Master Auctioneers to Know. I suggest to them not to employ men who tell their employer's private business—traitors. Men applying to me must have reference from late employer. BLOOM, White Hall, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Planksman, Handseller, and Pianist, Sight-reader, and Accompanist; thoroughly experienced, join immediately; highly recommended. M., 4, Castleview-terrace, Skipton.

WANTED, Known, Charlie O'Brien, only Doorman in Great Britain. Speaks King's English, handles Sticks and Paste-brush. Wants permanent shop. 32, Mary-street, Dublin.

FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
on the Sea Front,
MORECAMBE.
MORECAMBE.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Spaces to Let for HIGH-CLASS ATTRACTIONS.
Apply by letter, HELTERS, LTD., 11, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

SEA BEECH, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, to Let, New Ground to Showmen with Novelties for the Summer. This is the first time that the Corporation of this City has let this ground at the sea front for such a purpose. Terms reasonable to anything novel. Wanted, Aeroplane Roundabout, good class Shooting Range, Cake Walk machine, novel Shows, Games, &c., space limited. Only one of a kind will be allowed. For terms, &c., W. HUMBER, Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Let Spaces for all Kinds of Novelties Side Shows, &c. For particulars, apply, R. ARNOLD, Novelty Exhibition, High-st., Southend-on-Sea.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.
May 12 to June 25, 1910.
Largest Exhibition held in Manchester since 1887. Great Attractions, including a reproduction of "Old Manchester." This portion will be the liveliest part.
WANTED, to Let, a few Shops for Novelties, Monograms, also select Side Shows. Plans and particulars can be had from WALTER STENNING, The International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broadstreet House, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Extensive Premises to Let, standing between two Electric Theatres; suit Auctioneers, Café, Light Refreshments. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Let, Palmistry Rights, Curtain and Programme Rights, Refreshment Rights for Season at Rathbone Gardens, Portobello. Apply, MELVILLE, at above.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Season, Halls or Spaces, for Large Historical Paintings, Seaside preferred; distance no object. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, Known, I will reward anyone who can put me on a good Pitch for a Sensational Side Show. D. GREEN, 10, Montagu-street, S.S., Blackpool.

WANTED, Large Shop Premises, in good position, large town, for High-class Waxworks, state rent, size, or am open to negotiate with responsible Park Amusement Caterers for ensuing season. WILLIAMS, 108, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Bloom's No. 1 Royal Auction Mart, finest in England, Hire-Purchase or Cash; also good Road Living Van. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, suitable for road or rail, very compact, in good condition, good investment. Can be seen in working order at address, Auction Mart, Riddings, Derbys.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Van, 12ft. by 7ft., excellent condition, Showman shape. KNIGHT KENNEDY, Estate, Barking.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, few Automatic Machines, including one weighing machine in position. Apply, J. MORRIS, 3, Seeker-street, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a New Mechanical Theatre, Electric, cost £400. 8 perfect models, 6ft. by 5ft, all in motion. Illusionary and Electric Effects. Worked by the audience. Gas engine and fittings, all complete. Price £100. Splendid show seaside shops or booth. HUMBER, Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks, comprising about 70 Figures, Mechanical Figures, Plots, and all fittings, complete. Cheap for cash. G. GLEVE, 2, Washington-court, Inverness.

WANTED, to Sell cheap, Giant Rats good for Side Shows &c.; Gavioli Organ, new tunes, splendid condition; also patent Oil Gas Lamps. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Peckham Rye, London.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the rail way to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by Advertiser, Rink Management, good Continental and English experience, knows good Continental Sites where Rinks wanted. Address, ERIC CARR, 4, King-street, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Manager of Large Midland Rink, similar appointment in London. Thorough knowledge every department of the business. Old public school boy, age 24, excellent credentials. Box 7306, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, Skating Instructor, well experienced, age nineteen, smart, and good appearance. Apply, GEORGE SHIELDS, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Skating Rinks and Picture Palace Proprietors to Note.—I have a mammoth majestic Orchestrion, specially designed and built for skating rinks, representing a band of fifteen, lovely tone, with or without 1d. in slot. Can be seen and heard playing at Electric Automatic Vaudeville, 27, Broad-st., Reading.

WANTED, Known, 500 pairs assorted Skates for Hire or for Sale, at a very low price, splendid condition.
Write first place to BROWN, 31, Lower Loveday-street, Birmingham.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, three fully licensed Places of Amusement; £10,500 cash will purchase full interest of seller; some could remain on mortgage; sound business. Reasons for selling explained. Box 7,279, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, the Avondale Hall, Hoppers-road, Palmer's Green, Grand Building, suitable Bioscope Theatre, Licensed Music and Dancing. Apply MANAGER.

WANTED, Known, Large Hall can be erected by arrangement at Carrington, Nottingham, about one mile from Victoria Station; large population. There is living-house, shop, on present site 250ft. long, 103ft. frontage. Plan, COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Electric Theatre, Corner Site, about 60 by 83ft. Arrangements could be made for erecting Modern Picture Theatre. Seat 1,500; district 100,000 population. Plans, COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Sell, all the late Fred G. Brooke's Scenery and Effects. Address, BROOKE, 65, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid Gaumont, Warwick and Urban Paris Flood Films, of various lengths, 2d. per foot. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, Floods in Paris (two copies) 500ft 2d. per ft., used one week. HUGHES, Town Hall, Hitchin. Monday, Town Hall, Ware.

WANTED, to Sell, to Song Illustrators, New Electric Lantern, arc. lenses, condenser, travelling case. Bargain to quick purchaser. BAXTER, 29, Fentiman-road, Clapham.

WANTED, to Sell, 65ft. Round White Marquee, almost new, with wallings, poles, ropes, stakes, and everything complete. Box 7,219, "The Era."

To Circus Proprietors and Others.
WANTED, to Sell, World's Greatest Jumping Donkey. Six Years Old. Photographs, &c., can be had from owner, W. PRICE, Cab Proprietor, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, E Flat Circular Bass (brass), Splendid instrument, price 30s. SAWYER, Edenbridge, Kent.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Complete Orchestral Set, E Flat pitch, Plated, Handsome Portable Stand, 5ft. high. Splendid tone; £4. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Xylophones (loudest ever heard), Marimbas, Sleigh Bells, Tubaphones, Rattles. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, the whole of the Apparatus as used by the Three Escaladers, Double Ladder performers, &c., including two Ladders 15ft. high, with all fittings, three pairs of black satin knickers, three ditto satin Coats, three pairs of black leather Acrobatic Boots, with buff soles, six white Waistcoats, &c., all new. Can be seen. Apply, W. EASTMAN, 8, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Magical Apparatus and two Illusions. Send stamped envelope for list to L. CLARKE, Barley Mow, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, to Sell, few Conjuring Tricks, very cheap; famous Phœnix Bag Illusion, 3s. 6d. J. E. EDWARDS, 13, Railway-street, Aylesbury, Bucks.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, on moderate Royalty, the genuinely successful Drama, "A Destroyer of Men," with Scenery, Wardrobe, and Props.; splendid printing, short Cast. Can be seen playing; would entertain experienced lady or gent. as Partner. JAMES HARE, Empire, Rochdale.

NEW MUSICAL COMEDY.
WANTED, Offers; Modern and Up-to-date, strong Low Comedy interest. Apply, Box 7,292, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent Pathos, Comedy Sketch, leading Dramatist, unequalled character part. Bookable best Halls. Box 7,310, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, "The Era," from 1883 to 1900, soiled, unbound, few missing; would separate. Also Strand Magazine, from first year to 1902, few missing. What offers? Letters only. Mrs. H. J. A., c/o 115, Camden-road, N.W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Complete Panto. Production. Full particulars, first letter, HOWELL, c/o Crichton, 53, Sauchiehall-st, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy, Troupe of Football Dogs, or would engage Trainer to break in for above act. SMITH, Beaconsfield Club, Reading.

WANTED, Handsome Oak Chamber, 16ft. 6in. or 17ft.; 10 or 11 pieces. Must be in excellent condition. STEWART, Empire, Southend.

WANTED, to Buy, complete Fit-up, also Lion's Skin and Roman Costumes, also Engine and Dynamo. Full particulars, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, to Buy, Secondhand Hampers, cheap. State price, number, and if lined. Box 7,245, "The Era."

WANTED, to buy, White Opera Hat, State Size and Condition. ARTHUR BLOUNT, 77, Lavender-sweep, London, S.W.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, for June, July, and Aug., spacious Up-to-date Building, Seating capacity over 3,000, with balcony to seat 500. Electric Light, Dramatic Licence. Suitable for any Large Attraction, or could be adapted for Circus or Exhibition. Centre of Populous District of 50,000.
Apply, The MANAGER, The Pavilion, Maidstone.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Feb. and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Mayton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, large Room, with use of Piano. Available daily from 10 till 6. Apply HOUSEKEEPER, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street.

WANTED, to Let, Rent or Share, splendid Site, about 120ft. by 2,000ft., on the Promenade, Blackpool, Troupe or other Shows. Apply, S. TOMPKIN, 202, Waterloo-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for List. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Let, Powerful New Drama, Something striking, refreshingly new. Will make a furore. Fine double lead. Responsible management only. Box 7305, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Costume Operetta. Suit Kursaal, Pier, or Good-class Town. 3m. 2f. Sketches, Plays, Lyrics for disposal. Ideas dramatised. SKETA, Egerton and Co., 115, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, "Bigamy," "The Life that Kills," two popular plays. Printing by Allen. FRED MOULE, 153, Capworth-street, Leyton.

WANTED, to Let, on Royalty, Two Successful Farcical Sketches by well-known Author. Artists or Managers of repute only treated with. Box 7,299, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, or Hire, Theatres and Halls, suitable for conversion into Electric Theatres, required in London and Provinces. Full particulars to "COMPANY," Box 7,304, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Rent, Theatre or Hall, with Big Capacity, in Town of 50,000 or more Population. Full particulars to Box 7308, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, Halls for Class Concerts, also Building or Spaces, to exhibit Large Paintings. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Apply by letter, with full particulars, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, First-class Alfresco Pitches, with Stage, &c. Full particulars to CARL and CARR, Palace Theatre, Bordesley.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Partner, to Finance Musical Comedy, willing to invest £100 (lady or gentleman). Good bookings and financial results assured. In first instance write, E. S., 4, Mornington-road, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Lady Partner, to Assist a Gentleman on the Stage. One that can do a turn preferred. JOHN STUART, c/o Post Office, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Baritone Vocalist, with own portable, requires Tenor or Soprano who can play same, for select pitching. A. WILSON, care of G.P.O., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Tall Comedian, a good Straight Man or Comedy Part in Sketch. Address, HARRY REX, Post Office, Nottingham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 26, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMANN & Co., 4 Pitville-place Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leanderroad, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, Parratt's New Book of Humorous Stories and Recitations, splendid selection of Stories, 1s., post free. PARRATT, Humorist, Ilkley.

WANTED, Known, "Foster's Greatest Gag Book." Praised by nearly 700 performers at home and abroad. Post free 1s. 2d. FOSTER, Author, Ashville, Halifax.

TO PAGEANT DIRECTORS AND OTHERS.
WANTED, Known, Best Quality Split Ring Chain Armour. First-class testimonials. Twenty-seven years armourer Covent Garden Theatre. A. DAVIES, 52, Brownhill-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Will Mr. Arthurs, who was with Miss Dorothy Grahame this time last year at the London Pavilion, kindly communicate re an Engagement in her New Act? Address, 32, St. John's Wood-road, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Known, that the Property of Marie Santoi Co. will be Sold to Defray Expenses if not claimed within seven days. G. BONA, 11, Warwick-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, that the Property of Tom Gilbert and Shepherd will be sold if not claimed within seven days. G. BONA, 11, Warwick-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Authors of Sketches, Scenas, &c., desiring their works produced to write (no MSS.). VAUDEVILLE INTRODUCTION BUREAU, Manchester House, 295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

GUIDI'S FAMOUS MILITARY BAND.

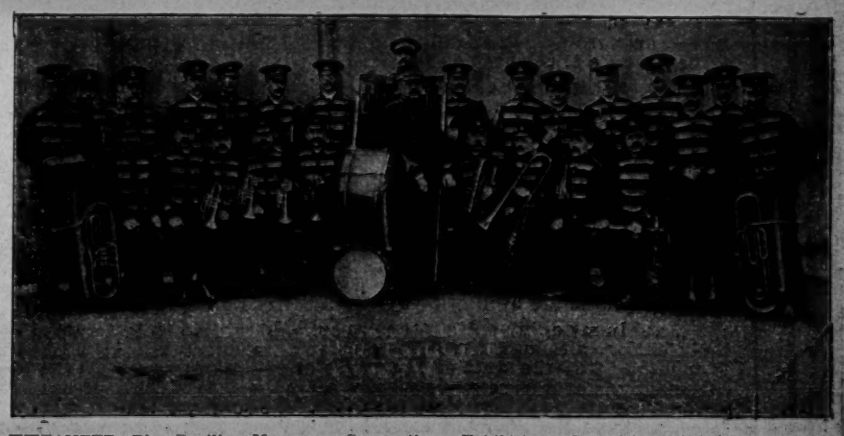

WANTED, Pier Pavilion Managers, Corporations, Exhibitions, Committees, &c., to Know that Guidi's Famous Military Band is open for Season or other Engagement. The Band now playing with great success at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, London, and can be heard until the end of March. High-class and Extensive Library, Smart Uniform. Success Guaranteed. Larger or Smaller Bands also Supplied.
Full particulars to GUIDI, ZOO, GLASGOW.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN
THE BILLBOARD.
AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.
It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates. 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.
London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.
Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

MOSS' EMPIRES LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 21, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Miss Winifred Emery and Co., in "The Dressing Room," Mr. Lewis Waller, in "Fortune's Fool" Olley Oakley, Rexos, Archie Naish, Les Silas, De Wynne Bros., Loyal's Dogs, Ruth Davenport, Les Marco Belli, Animated Pictures, Chretienni and Louisette.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
The Great Lafayette, Florence Esdaile, Stanley and Greenop, Gipsy Woolf, Herbert Shelley, Tom Davies Trio, Alice Maydue, Bioscope, D'Arc's Marionettes.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Lady Beerbohm Tree, Sisters Caselli, G. S. Melvin, Hunt and Thomas, Whilbys, Ethel Newman, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Maizie Hibbs, Bioscope, Great and Good.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Craggs, O'Hana San, Tom Lloyd, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Talbot and Pearce, Maude Edwards, Chas. Santon, Bioscope, Las Romanis, Carney and Armstrong.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW
Moss' Empires Pantomime, "Mother Goose." Produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Lottie Bellman, L'Incognita, Fred Storey's "Rip Van Winkle," Takio, Walker and May, Chas. Vincent, Musical Jees, Westwoods, Frank Danby and Co., Bioscope, James' Strolling Players.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Slaviansky Russian Choir, Chas. Mildare, Frank Maura, Four Regals, Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Barton and Ashley, Henry Austin, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Dutch Daly.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Daisy Jerome, Jackley Trio, J. C. Scatter, Georgia Coons, G. W. Hunter, Clement Trio, Edith Heron-Brown, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins, Gardner and Stoddard.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Smith and Carpenter's Co. in "Pete."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's "Football Match," Daisy Martell, Rossi Ashton, Fatmah Diard, Leslie Harris, Harry Allister Eight Lancashire Lads, Will Johnson, Bioscope, Barrett and Knowles.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Monie Mine, Bioscope, Tom Stuart, Will H. Fox, Millie Engler and Co., Geo. Rae, Jennie Alexander, Humpsti Bumsti.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jewels' "Change," Jack Lorimer, Bioscope, Stella Stahl, O'Malley and Brown, La Sylphe, Vincent, Three Welsh Girls, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Williams and Parker, Chas. Lewis, Olympian Troupe, Marco Twins, Phil Percival, Harry Friskey, Bioscope, Alice Raymond, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another's Man's Wife," Clown Argo, Mlle. Marjutti, Henry Helme, Herbert Sleath's Co., in "The Deputy Sheriff," W. F. Frame, Naughton and Gold, Falco and Eida, Bioscope, Lydia Yeamans.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Cinquevalli, Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Harry Anderson, Ryan and Hall, Barnard's Mannakins, Margaret Parker, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Corcoran Bros., Alexandra Dagmar, The Bensons.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Rhoda Paul, Clark and Hayden, Jack Lane, Avolos, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Florrie Gallimore, Dandies.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Great Raymond, Chas. J. Johnson, Matthews and Reece, Harry Merrilees, Five Manchurians, Motramos, Elite Harmony Boys, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Liane D'Eve.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Bennett and Wray's Co., in "A Country Girl."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE-NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Haldane Crichton's Co., in "The Cingalee."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Mlle. Fedak, J. H. Scotland, Willis Crisford, Paul Barnes, Yamomoto and Miss Koyoshi, Leipzig, Joe Almasio, Tom Bryce, Five Vernons, Bioscope, Madiah Surith.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Latonas, "Dr." Awful Bogie, Odeyne Spark, Bioscope, Stewart and Morgan, Prince Milner Trio, Smythsons, Addie Dorina, Northern Troupe, Nine Kremos.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chanti, Gertie Gitana, "Billy," Frank Cass, Bioscope, Nina Wood, Russell and Held, Cissie Thompson, J. L. Shine and Co., in "Hogmanay," Alf. Gibson.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ada Colley, Van Biene, Sisters Pine, The Leonards, Siems, Syd May, Larry Lewis, Florence Yaymen, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Athlones, Jenny Hartley, Reichen's Dogs, Fielding and Hull, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope, Moran and Wiser.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Grotesques, Gobert Belling, Munroe's Comedy Team, Farr and Farland, La Freya, Vanando, Barowskys, Arthur Kenny, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Victoria Monks, "Dolly's Deception," Ross and Lewis, Three Van Dammes, Harry Bedford, Lukushimas, Carl Howard, Harry Leybourne, Amelie De L'Enclos, Bioscope, Will o' the Wisps.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," Royal Delomes, Bert Errol, Villions, Horace White, Rich and Rich, Rhoda Bros., Florence, Bioscope, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chas. R. Whittle, Salge's "Triumph of Beauty," Katie Butler, Bioscope, Bros. O'Brien, Coloured Meisters, Casey Army, To-To, Mlle. Haydee, Edie Reynolds, Cruikshank.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Sylvia Du Barry, Ted E. Box, Heeley and Meeley, Haines and Borthwick's "Half-a-Dollar," Jackson Family, Sisters Storm, Bioscope, Three Meers, Sammy Shields.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
King and Benson, J. H. Milburn, O'Gust, Gwennie Llewellyn, A Ba-Be's Album, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Carmos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Adam Tomlinson, Two St. Johns, Mabel Sinclair, Cumminger and Colonna, Marie Kendal, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Pictures, Steve McCarthy, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Reano's Band, Bioscope, Harry Clifford, Harry May Hemsley, Cumberlands, Goggin and Davis, W. J. Churchill, Alice Hollander.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Selkirk's "Gathering of the Clans," Fred Elton, Keen and Waller, Delevines, Andrew McManus, Bioscope, Lily Burnand.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Elliott-Savonas, Tiny Arnold, Victor Travers, Ethel Bourne, Arthur Woodville, Pictures, Mona Garrick, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Dion Wade, Francis and Alfred, Mabel Mavis, Brennans, John Macauley, Pictures, Dot Hardy, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harold Heath, Dardinis Trio, Taree, Peggy Pryde, "Before the Dawn," Herbert La Martine, Margaret Cooper, Palles and Cussick, James and Jenny Jee, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Smit and Smit, Harry Hasto, Starley Brothers, Queenie Mayor, Perrier, Geo. Shirley, "Concordia," Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Falcons, Dollie Denton, Stavordale Quintette, Clark and Glennie, Harry Atkinson, Great Four, Alexander and Hughes, Harry Champion, Pictures, Geni Family.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Lucy Coventry, Borghetti Troupe, Walter Wade, Melody Makers, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Spry and Austin, Pictures, "The Hold Up."

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Owen McGiveney, Gladys Archbutt, Carlisle and Wellman, Howard Brothers, Mozetto, Gotham Quartette, Three Panamas, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
"Jack and Jill."

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Edward Marris Trio, George Campbell, Renee Graham, Pussell's Dogs, Brothers Tarrant, Delilro and Sans, Pictures, Chas. Dillon.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Princess D'Arayaba, Glennie's Marionettes, Mather and May, Crawford and Johnson, Dot Moss, Elsie Athas, Johnny Cecil, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Bert Crosbie, Lily Vine, H. Munroe, Jack Binns, Hulbert and De Lil, The Katos, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Whitworth Trio, Rolando Martin, Barnes and Ascott, Muriel Harding, Ten Loonies, Clifton and Gibson, Abdulla Arabs, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the **DE FRECE CIRCUIT**, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to **Walter de Frece** at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
Telegraphic Address
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
Telegraphic Address
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager— **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, FEB. 21.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Harry Hilton, Eight Marvels, Sketch, "His Little Pal," Harry Bland, Amy Bathurst, The Foresters, Chas. M. Daly and Co., Ray Royal, Julian Mack, Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures and Illustrated Songs.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Kirbys, Colin Mail, Lottie Lennox, Sim Maree, Ellis and Campbell, Chris Harland, Dorothy Dare, Francis Campbell and Co., Bartholomew Girls, Sketch, "The Flower Girl," Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Nellie Farrell, "My Uncle from Texas," Bernard Mervyn and Co., George Conquest and Co., La Petite Rosa, Arthur Clifton, Indiana Troupe, Cissy Hope, Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Eva Brilliant, The Key, Marie Dreams, Will Avis, Gladys Witton, Dave Laird, H. G. Brandon and Co., Josephine Crook, Sketch, "Call to Arms," Gertrude Cornelle, Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Lafaille Troupe, Nora Stockelle, Steel and Laing, Dorma Morgan, Jock McNeil, Five M.P.'s, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Eugene Stratton, Frank Coyle, Tom Yorke, Baker and De Sales, Janowsky Troupe, Geoffreys and Benson, Columbia Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Tourbillons, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, L. B. Athol, Rooke, Rorke and Co., Gena Manon, The Lannons, Leick and Keith, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Five X-Rays, Bromley and Fontein, Leoni de Lausanne, Amy Anderson and Co., Johnny Dwyer, Bert E. Edwards, Barrie and Wood, Reg. Ewen, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pictures, Fred Wright, The Unites, Enzer, Maud Garland, Beatrice Willey, Tate's "Motoring," Escourt.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Grand Variety Co.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Clarice Mayne, Neilson's Juveniles, Gillin, Roxborough and Wright, Bonnetti and Corrie, Montaldos, Alfred Long, Wright, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Martin Henry and Co., Harry Luck, Fritz Kornau, Thiesen's Dogs, The Wedburns, Mona Vivian, Thorpe and Coe, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Ronnie Blair," Lennard and Vereker, Webb and Branston, Arthur Harris, Salvino, Maud May Murray, Jack McKenzie, Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Four Royal Scots, Fordyces, Barrington, Ben Richards, Friscari, Maximilians, Jack Warman, Goodwin's Pics., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Moule and Co., Jessie Wilton, Leo, Jessie Starr, Evalos, Mr. E., Dan Whitley, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Tomkinson's Choir."
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning."
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.
PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Geraldos, Mabel La Blanche, Margit and Lener, Chas. Leighton, Harry Bent, The Gelders, Ivy Dene, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Donaldson Brothers, J. H. Greener, Bert Madison, Donnas Trio, Damerell and Rutland, Joan Deering, Nora Emerald, Curtis and Pics., Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Adderley Howard and Co., Archie Pitt, Chas. Gardner, The Zampas, Nora Desmond, H. C. Lovell and Co., Dalmere's Animals, Willie Long, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Harry Weldon, Norman Osborne, Yettmah, Les Zanonis, Mayme Cannon, Alice Gill, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

THE FINEST HAMPERS IN THE WORLD

are made by the Blind at 258, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. Give us a call and you will be convinced that we can supply all your wants and execute your orders promptly.

No. 9.—32 in. long, 21 in. wide, 21 in. deep. Price 30/6. Tray 4/-

Other sizes at proportionate rates.

Made close and very strong with extra wale round body, two straps and automatic lock, hard wood clogs, and lined with waterproof cloth. Wheels fitted 2/- extra.

By placing your orders with us you not only get the best hampers that can be purchased, but at the same time you will be helping to support the Blind.

Terms: net cash with order. Carriage paid.

NOTE ONLY ADDRESS—
THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE BLIND.
258, Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.

Subscriptions towards the Pension Fund will be thankfully received by the Secretary,
H. E. MULLINS.

THE BLIND ASSOCIATION SPECIALITY.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE LONDON THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

NEW PIECES PRODUCED AT THE PARIS THEATRES.
See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.

'Hullo! London!!"—
"MY WIFE'S Gone to the EMPIRE with JACK McARDLE to see the NEW REVUE."

The above Translated means to say that

The Song of the Century—
"MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY! HOORAY!!"
WILL BE SUNG BY
J. F. McARDLE
Every Night in the New Revue at the EMPIRE

To be had of all Music Sellers, 1/6 nett, or from the Publishers, 1/7 post free.

Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co.
(Inc.)
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.
J. H. SQUIRE, Manager.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA,

BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,
The Publisher
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

ILLUSTRATED.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BOROUGH OF ABERYSTWYTH.

TENDERS FOR A TENANCY

of the following from May 13 to Oct. 8, 1910, in one lot, are invited by the Town Council:—

1. PROMENADE PIER and ROYAL PIER PAVILION, with fully licensed Refreshment Bar. The Pavilion is suitable for Theatrical, Musical, and Variety Entertainments, Dancing, &c.

2. TOWN BANDSTAND on the Marine Terrace.

3. Well-established exclusive "PITCH" for PIERROT TROUPE on the Castle Grounds.

The Welsh Division of the Territorial Forces (about 20,000 strong) will encamp this season in the immediate vicinity of Aberystwyth.

Further particulars and conditions of the tenancy may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom Tenders stating rent sealed and marked "Pavilion Tender," are to be sent on or before the 3rd day of March, 1910.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

TOWN CLERK.

Town Clerk's Office, Aberystwyth,
Feb. 18, 1910.

BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE REGIS.

The Amusement Committee are prepared to

RECEIVE TENDERS

for the exclusive privilege of using the Concert Platform known as the "Sea View Concert Platform," situate on the Foreshore within the said Borough for High-class

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS

on WEEKDAYS during the SUMMER SEASON, viz., from May 16 (Whit Monday) to the end of September 1910. The Entertainments must be guaranteed to be of first-class order, and subject to the conditions to be obtained of the undersigned.

Tenders containing not less than two special references as to ability, &c., quoting a sum per week or for the whole season, to be sent to me on or before Feb. 28 1910, endorsed "Tender for Concert Platform."

The Chairs required for the use of the audience must be hired of the Committee at 25s. per 100 chairs per week.

The electric light will be laid on to the Concert Platform and Dressing-rooms, with the necessary fittings at the commencement of the Season. The hirer to pay the cost of the current consumed, and also for the replacing of any fittings which may be broken or damaged. The Committee do not pledge themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

WALTER R. WALLIS,
Secretary Amusement Committee.
Municipal Offices, Weymouth.

FOR SALE

at the end of present successful run,
FRANCIS LAIDLER'S
SUPERB PANTOMIME PRODUCTION,

BABES IN THE WOOD.

This magnificent production which is BREAKING ALL RECORDS at the THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS, where it was produced on Dec. 23 last, is FOR SALE, only because Mr. Laidler has no use for it next season. The Gorgeous Scenery and Costumes are practically unsoiled.

Owing to the Phenomenal Success of this Pantomime it has been found necessary to put on an extra Matinée each week. There are now Matinées every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

THE PRODUCTION COULD ALSO BE USED FOR "RED RIDING HOOD" PANTOMIME.

The LEEDS MERCURY says:—
The pantomime is superbly dressed and is staged with all the artistic taste in scenic effects that an exacting public expects now from every pantomime of first-class merits. Scenically it is one of the best ever staged at the Royal. The Fairies' Glade is a dazzling dream of floral beauty, and the last scene of all, the Levée at the Palace, is as beautiful as anything seen in Leeds.
The BRADFORD DAILY TELEGRAPH says:—
It is typical of the modern conception of pantomime—wonderful scenery and lovely dresses. The Royal has seen the production of fine pantomimes before, but never a finer than this, and Mr. Laidler may be congratulated on producing an artistic triumph at his first attempt in Leeds. The scenic effects are dazzling. No one who visits the Royal will go away dissatisfied.
Full particulars may be had on application.
FRANCIS LAIDLER, THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.

SALE BY AUCTION

(owing to the death of Proprietor) of the
BIDEL MENAGERIE,
Lions, Lionesses, Royal Tigers, Panthers, Bears, Wolves, Pumas, Monkeys, and the whole of the
WORKING MATERIAL
for the Exhibition; Steam Engine and Electric Light Plant, Cages, Cars, Complete Cinematograph Apparatus, and about 4,000 yards of Films, &c.

The Whole to be SOLD at QUAI D'ASNIERES, ASNIERS (SEINE), near PARIS, on TUESDAY, Feb. 22, 1910, at 1.30 p.m., by Mr. F. LAIR DUBREUIL, Auctioneer, of 6, Rue Favart, Paris, from whom may be had catalogues of the Animals (with particulars concerning their performances), Materials, &c.

Public View, Monday, Feb. 21, from 1·0 p.m. to 5 p.m., and on the day of sale from 9·0 a.m. to 11.0 a.m.

TO LET,

ON SHARE OR RENTAL,
that well-known HALL, now open as a Fun Fair, in
GILL-STREET, LIVERPOOL
(right in centre of City),
to Circus, Cinematograph Shows, Athletic Tournaments, Trade Exhibitions, or any good-class Entertainment.
Apply, JOHN COLLINS,
24, Overton-street, LIVERPOOL.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is the usual interesting publication for all who have anything to do with dramatic and musical affairs. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, stories by, and photos of, many well known artists, all about new plays and revivals in the United Kingdom and some foreign capitals, and all the rest of the useful information generally looked for in it.—Daily Telegraph, Sheffield, Jan. 27, 1910.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

FILMS FOR HIRE!
FILMS FOR HIRE!!

HIRE YOUR FILMS FROM

The NEW-BIO

THE WORLD'S FILM-HIRING MAGNATES.

We buy the CREAM of the WORLD'S PRODUCTIONS.

We are successful showmen ourselves, and all our customers are doing well, which speaks for itself.

Why put up with inferior service when you can get house-packing programmes from us?

The Best is not too good for you.

THE

NEW-BIO DREADNOUGHT

£25 nett BIOSCOPE. **£25 nett**

is the FINEST MACHINE ON THE MARKET with all the latest improvements, and Beau Lantern.

THE WORLD'S FILM HIRING MAGNATES,

The NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING CO., Ltd.

1-5, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.,

and 65, Thornton St., Westgate Rd., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Telegrams: "Newbio, London."
"Newbio, Newcastle-on-Tyne."
Telephone: 6473 Central.
1681 Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 5665.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . .
Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians,

25-35, DUKE STREET, ∴
12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,
CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,
TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

NEW IDEAS IN **POSTERS.**

Write for Catalogue for 1910, and estimates for Letterpress.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daydills,
and the general Run of Show Printing
at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.

C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1883 Dalston.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,
BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.. &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.
11.—NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Tip up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.
24.—NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from **4/6** to **75/-** A good Running Seat from **1/-** per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,
CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS,
Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City.

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

LUBIN FILMS.

NEW SAMPLES SHOWING THIS WEEK.

Release dates to be announced shortly.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Released Thursday, Feb. 24.

ALL ON ACCOUNT OF THE MILK.

Rural Comedy. 989ft.

Released Sunday, Feb. 27.

ON THE REEF.

Social Drama. 938ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Released Thursday, Feb. 24.

THROUGH THE HOOD VALLEY

AND ALONG THE COLUMBIA RIVER IN OREGON.

Scenic. 529ft.

A MODERN DR. JEKYLL.

Comic. 471ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

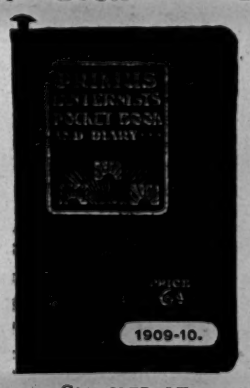

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.
Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post ***SIXPENCE*** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES,
5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* STUDIOS, *Ltd.*,

place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Fred C. Somerfield and Percy Brown's company is here with *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Wilson Coleman as Felix Beverley displays exceptional ability; Geoffrey Langdon is in the capable hands of Mr. A. Greah Hunt; Mr. John S. Milward successfully represents Jack Stirling; Mr. Cyril Grier is seen to advantage as Colonel Miles; Miss Amy Ellam is excellent in the rôle of Mary; and the Hon. Mrs. Sands and Sweet Nancy are assumed by Miss Kathleen Magee and Miss Minnie Goepel with complete success.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Pinkie and the Fairies*, with all its wealth of colour and beauty, holds the boards at His Majesty's this week. Lavish praise is certainly merited by those clever youngsters, Miss Hawkins (Pinkie), Master Philip Tonge (Tommy), and Miss Florrie Lewis (the Fairy Queen); and amongst the "grown-ups" Miss Kate Foster, Miss Augusta Haviland, Miss Hilda Antony, Miss Gwennie Brogden, Miss Dora Rignold, and Mr. Ambrose Manning give excellent support.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The clever Dayton Ramily, in their high-class Risley entertainment, form the chief draw at the Palace this week. Other turns include Heather Belle, a dainty Scotch comedienne; Shrillo, operatic whistler; Francoli Troupe, with their amusing *Billposter* sketch; Louise Dott and Jack Williams, clever dancers; Syd Crossley, the lengthy comic; Harris Coonie, coloured speciality dancer; Jock Mills, the favourite Scotch comic; and Zeta Grey and company, in their sketch *The Lancashire Lass*.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company is here with *The Old Home*. Mr. Charles Franmore gives an excellent and faithful rendering of the old fisherman Daddy Dean; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell acts with distinction as the Rev. Eric Armstrong; Mr. Horatio Sinclair ably impersonates Lord Avondale; and an amusing portrayal of Sam Adams is given by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame. Miss Nina Blake Adams makes a sympathetic Hazel; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite adapts herself capitally to the part of Bridget Donoghan; and Miss Ethel Ashleigh is seen to advantage as Polly.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Mould.—Carl and Mary Ohm's animal circus are at the top of a good all-round bill, and provide an exceedingly smart turn; Fred Land, the popular eccentric comedian, is paying a return visit, and scores heavily; Pawson and Robson present an Irish musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Colleen's Eviction*, with gratifying success; the Maples sing and dance themselves into favour; and a clever comedy juggler is seen in Cestria; Jock Martin is a capital vocalist and Nan Farren a favourite comedienne; Sid Bedford and company, in *The Second Mrs. Chester*, and the bioscope are also in the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Woman Pays*, presented by Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company, is a decided success. Mr. Beresford Innes plays Cyrus Treadgold with excellent results; Mr. Clavering Craig fills the part of Roger Marchant in an acceptable manner; Mr. Phil Harper as Sid Armstrong leaves nothing to be wished for; and Mr. Joseph Magrath supplies many humorous incidents as Mickey. Miss Alice Greenwood is a meritorious exponent of Madge; Miss Kate Blair is capital as Nell; and Miss Lily Beverley and Miss Florence Thorne as Polly and Tabitha are most effective in the comedy parts.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, Jun.—Mr. Frederick Melville's drama, *Her Road to Ruin*, is being presented by a company organised by the author. Miss Ada Champion acts dramatically as Jess Willoughby, and the scoundrel Philip Hardy is enacted in typical style by Mr. Alex. Bradley. Mary Dawson is finely interpreted by Miss Mabel Coleman; Miss Maud Gill is sweet, neat, and amiable as May Willoughby; and as Frank Temple Mr. Charles Dickens is the self-sacrificing, earnest young clergyman to the life. Miss Grace Emery and H. Talbot are responsible for the humorous element.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Spessel Bros. and Mack, American eccentrics, create immense fun in the sketch, *Scenes in a Café*. Tony Freedman is a very acceptable light comedian; Tod Lowen sings old melodies to new words, and parodies in amusing style; the Two Kays introduce a diverting novelty; Mr. Arthur Albert succeeds admirably in impersonations in song; Reno, comedy cyclist, accomplishes some astonishing feats on the wheel; Lew Peterman amuses in song and "sheeney patter"; the Ten Dixie Girls give a lively "turn" of dance and song in *The Silver Coon*. The bioscope pictures are A Duel in the Time of Richelieu, Calino's Fire Extinguisher, and A Wonderful Hair Remover.

BARNSLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell. — Jason's *Dick Whittington* pantomime is appearing here. It is a capital show. Miss Maude Beaumont makes a charming Dick; Fred Ward as Idle Jack excels; William Miller as Fitzwarren causes roars; Miss Eva Compton as Alice is good; and Bob Stephenson is extremely funny as Sarah. The scenery is good, the songs excellent, and the gags clever.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Consul is drawing big houses; Bros. Gaudsmidt, clown acrobats, are exceptionally clever; Bert Weston scores heavily, his jokes being very good; Dacey and Lewis are energetic entertainers; and Lena Burton (clever mimic), Johnson and Devere (comedy and trick cyclists), and Chris Baker (comedian) also contribute to the bill.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's pantomime *The House That Jack Built* is here. Miss Daisy Wood is a typical and Jolly Jack and Miss Dolly Dodds a winning Jill. Mr. J. Harrison is a humorous Aunt Purdy, and also funny is Mr. H. Hillerby as Squire Bunce. Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as Scraggs and Scraggles and Messrs. Walker and Lake as Professor Pills and Squills are responsible for much laughter. Miss Etty Jones as Colin and Miss Jenny Marsden as Gretchen act prettily, and Miss Isa Wilson is a gracious Fairy Twinklestar.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is appearing with *The Octoroon*. Mr. Harrington is singularly successful as Salem Scudder, and Miss Hero Hathaway is a winning Zoe. Mr. Victor Gardom is a sufficiently villainous Jacob McCloski, and Mr. David Blair makes an heroic figure of George Peyton. Mr. John Boehm is a popular Pete, and Miss Gem Lloyde is a good Paule, while the Wah-No-Tee of Mr. Reginald Kloof shows marked ability. Specialities are done by Rich and Moore, Shorty May, the Tennesseans, L. Allen, and James Hodges. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is also billed.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mysticus is the premier turn of a capital programme, and he gives a meritorious quick-changing act; Tom Gott is an excellent comedian; a capital equilibristic exhibition is given by the Reays; Irene and Morton are really expert dancers; the Kahn and Kahn Trio introduce a number of clever sleight-of-hand tricks; Gwen Francis has some catchy songs, and capital pictures are shown by Vernon's Bioscope.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Bliss and Bliss' vaudeville company are here, with an entertainment of mirth and melody by the Five Bohemians, Miss Dara Verna, comedienne, Archie Davies, comedian, Bliss and Bliss, comedians, Louis Kerno, Frank Probin, and the Three Jackaways, sketch artists.

BATH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Farcical comedy holds sway here for a pleasant change, in *Where is William?* presented by the author, Mr. Chas. Windermere, who also appears in the leading rôle; William Jolley is capitally enacted by Mr. Rule Pyott; Mr. Leslie Norman impersonates the peppery General Rubbub in true farcical style; and Mr. F. Westlake does well as Joe Budge. The lovers, Harry and Phyllis, are portrayed by Mr. Wylie A. Thompson and Miss Clare Manifield; Miss Belle Donaldson is good as Lady Gregory; and a quaint sketch is that of Miss Zoe Davis as Eliza. Miss Evelyn Shelley makes a buxom Emily.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mona Vivian, although still young in years, is an expert in the art of entertaining; Thressen's terriers are highly intelligent; Fritz Kolnau, the human flute, fully justifies the title; Martin Henry, assisted by Miss Irene Rose, enacts an interesting episode, *The Silver Medal*; the Wedburns continue to amuse; Harry Luck sings a couple of amusing songs; and another comedian who goes well is Reg. Ewen.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. W. Lawson Howes.—Charles W. Poole's latest Myriorama opened here on Monday for the usual Lenten stay in Bath. The many artists engaged include Amasis, a first-class conjuror; the Seven Bramusas, in their musical scena, *Music Afloat*; the Ettenas, on rolling globes and in a capital skipping-rope dance; Harry Raymond and his clever little daughter renew their acquaintance with local audiences; and Willie Dean causes endless laughter as a comedian. Mr. Robert Tebbit makes an excellent guide, and Mr. A. S. Morrell has charge of the music.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. F. R. Benson commenced on Monday the second and last week of his engagement here, when he and his talented company produced *King John* with every element of success. In the title-rôle Mr. Benson furnished a very clever performance, and aroused much enthusiasm during the course of the piece. Mrs. Benson is also deserving of high praise for her finished impersonation of Constance; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson acquitted himself with distinction as Philip (King of France); Miss Molly Terraine must be congratulated on her fine assumption of Arthur; and Queen Elinor was ably sustained by Miss Elinor Alkin; the rôle of Hubert De Burgh was done full justice to by Mr. Edward Harrison; Mr. Eric Maxon portrayed Philip Fauconbridge with much effect; and Miss Violet Farebrother's impersonation of Blanche of Spain reflected much credit on her. Other parts were skilfully enacted by Messrs. Murray Carrington, W. W. Caithness, Guy B. Rathbone, Alfred Wild, and T. Frazer Outram. During the week *Julius Cæsar*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Students' night), and *Macbeth* have been presented.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is *The Sorrows of Satan*, produced by Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Neville. Miss Rosie Neville gives a charming and delightful impersonation of Lady Sybil Elton, and Prince Lucio Rimanez is skilfully sustained by Mr. Edward Neville, his acting in the weird and mystic scenes creating a profound impression. As Geoffrey Tempest, Mr. George Derricke is all that could be desired; and Miss Loie Esmond as the American heiress Diana Chesney scores a success. The rôle of the Earl of Elton is in the capable hands of Mr. J. Le Fleming; and Miss Dorothy Dewhurst furnishes a sympathetic impersonation of Mavis Clare. Humour is infused into the piece by Miss Cecile Bryne as Mrs. Grimes, the landlady; and other characters are sustained by Miss May Morne and Messrs. Frank Wheatley and Percy Foreman. The sparkling comedietta, *Two Soft*—in which Miss Dorothy Dewhurst and Mr. Frank Wheatley appear to advantage—forms a most acceptable curtain-raiser. *Nana* was billed for Friday evening.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Witty Watty Walton, who creates roars of laughter with his imitations, including Casey at the Goal; Velanche's Dogs, the canine football team, furnish an extraordinary performance; and the dancing of the Bros. Ford is first-class; the barrel-jumping performance of Augustin and Hartley has been enthusiastically received; and the Bros. Hannaway, song and dance artists, gain much favour. Also here are Gesta and Hos, speciality artists; Bowden and Bell, song and dance artists; Chas. Cass, vocalist; Edwards and Ward, comedy duo; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The chief position is held by Miss Rachel Lowe, the charming and accomplished comedienne, who made a big hit on Monday. Mr. Dion Wade's humour is irresistible; the juggling feats of Francis and Alfred are first-class; and the Brennans (May and Will) furnish a clever exhibition of the terpsichorean art; Mr. John Macaulay's rendering of several songs gain him deserved appreciation; and also here are Mr. Pat White, Irish comedian; Miss Dot Hardy, comedienne; and the bioscope.

BILSTON. — ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Tunstall.—*Cinderella* forms the attraction here, and Mr. Nelson Barratt's company is highly successful. The scenes are pretty, the singing sweet and tuneful, and the dances clever and artistic. Miss Eva Travis makes an admirable Cinderella; and Miss Georgia Hawkins a charming Prince. Messrs. Harry May and Dave Anderson are clever comedians, and provide plenty of amusement as the two footmen Phil and Garlic; and Mr. James Mackenkie introduces some droll antics and humorous patter into the part of Peps, the page.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Ian Robertson's company, in the remarkable play *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, has achieved a distinct success on the occasion of this, their first visit here. It is difficult to speak too highly of Mr. Ian Robertson, whose finished playing of the leading rôle is worthy of the highest commendation. Miss Barbara Everest also displays great discernment and ability; and the splendid efforts of Miss Jeannie Thomas, Miss Helena Parsons, Miss Drusilla Wills, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Blanche Ripley, Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, Mr. W. O. Billington, Mr. J. Woodall Birde, Mr. Stanley Brown, and Mr. Herbert Garthorne are fully recognised and appreciated. Mr. Robertson's little play *Come Here* makes an admirable curtain-raiser.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, M. J. Keating.—Mr. George Mozart, a sterling comedian, makes a welcome reappearance after a somewhat lengthy absence, and is received with undiminished cordiality. W. T. Ellwanger and his capable company in the amusing sketch *Who Did It?* are also a leading attraction. Morny Cash, a resourceful comedian, maintains his popularity; and other prominent turns include the Mysterious Marriotts, clever thought-readers; Frank Le Dent, a smart juggler; Arthur Reece, the popular comedian; Alaskas, in a comic acrobatic act; Mike Nono, a really accomplished variety artist and dancer; Miss Amy Sullivan, a charming comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical-director.

HIPPODROME. — Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—A season of dramatic entertainments on the two-houses-a-night principle has attained considerable popularity here. On Monday O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company opened in the sensational play *The Nihilist*, and were cordially received. Mr. Geo. Mitchell is prominent with a telling impersonation of Ivan, a blacksmith; and an excellent cast also includes Miss Edna Clare, an artist of ability.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—"The last three weeks" of the highly-successful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* is the latest announcement, and there continue to be crowded audiences.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—The run of *The Babes in the Wood* pantomime terminates this week, and on Monday Mr. Graham will present *Jack and Jill* pantomime for a fortnight's run.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The *Aladdin* pantomime goes with a great swing, and crowded audiences pay tribute to its excellence. The company work hand in hand, and warm praise is due to Miss Ethel Beech, Miss Molly Wynne, Miss Ray Ford, and Miss Florence Dudley for their individual efforts.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Mr. Ernest Carpenter's version of Mr. Hall Caine's play *Pete* is voted a huge success by crowded audiences. Mr. Frederick Victor plays with great effect in the title-rôle, and Miss Constance Bachner gives an excellent interpretation of Kate Cregeen. Philip Christian is taken with success by Mr. Alfred Lugg, and Mr. Maurice Yorke as Ross Christian shows conspicuous ability. Mr. Ellis J. Preston is well chosen as Cæsar Cregeen, and other characters are admirably rendered.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—High life in the French capital is pictured in realistic colours in the drama, *The Idol of Paris*, which is being presented by Mr. James Bell's company, and is drawing full houses. Miss Annie Bell gives a notable performance as Flare Flare, the music hall star, and is a great favourite. Mr. Cyri Austen-Lee is clever as Philip D'Esterre, the man about town; and Mr. Scott Leighton is a good figure as Victor Cashello. The comedy parts are ably presented by Mr. H. Vivian Thomas and Miss Annie Megson. The piece is well mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is accorded a welcome reception in *A Soldier's Honour*. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis displays ability in his portrayal of Captain Deane; and Mr. Jerrold E. Reed scores well as Captain Temple. Mr. Andrew Money and Miss Cissie St. Elmo undertake the heavy characters with conspicuous success; and other parts are cleverly taken by Miss Iza Lyndon, Miss Isobel Marte, Miss Edie Macklin, and Miss Amy Doby.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Sins of the Fathers* is revived here with remarkable success. It is being presented by Messrs. E. Faulkner and M. de Courtsey, by arrangement with Mr. Wallace Davidson. Mr. Max Coutts gives an effective interpretation of Sir Reginald Moreland, and Miss Edith Blande proves herself a clever actress as Camille Le Blanc. Mr. Victor Howard earns applause for a fine portrayal, and Miss Ethel Wynne Matthews displays ability as Ethel Harmsworth. Miss Dorothy Radford is clever in a dual rôle. Bright humour is supplied by Mr. Ross O'Brien (Justin Thym) and Miss Dorothy West Symes (Polly). The production is well staged and mounted.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Miss Daisy Jerome's popularity in Birmingham is evidenced by the cordial reception accorded her each evening, her songs being taken up whole-heartedly in every part of the theatre; Grant Gardner and Mary Stoddart present a delightful collection of vaudeville frivolities, which earn great applause; and Holden's Mannikins are entertaining in a perfect representation of a miniature music-hall performance. The Clement Trio excel in smart evolutions on the trapeze; G. W. Hunter is amusing in patter and song; the Jackley Trio are favourite humorists; the Georgias give a bright entertainment; and J. C. Scatter, comedian, and Edith Heron-Brown are other notable contributors.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Fred Karno's clever company of comedians head a capital bill with their football travesty, *Midnight Wanderers v. Middleton Piecans*. Mr. Gilbert Childs is a huge success as the central figure, Stiffy, the goalkeeper. Barrett and Knowles are old Birmingham pantomime favourites, and this week's engagement is adding considerably to their laurels; Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, pleases with her wonderful voice; Rossi Ashton is a popular sketch artist; the Eight Lancashire Lads evoke rounds of applause for clever dancing; Leslie Harris entertains with popular songs at the piano; Will Johnson is an up-to-date comedian; Harry Allister appears in remarkable impersonations; and Daisy Martell is a pleasing comedienne and dancer.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—At the head of an attractive company are the Szarvasi Ferencz troupe of Hungarian artists, who have a great reception in a clever exhibition of dancing and athletic exercises. Daisy Mayer is a warm favourite in coon songs and dances; Sinclair and Whiteford present a sketch that provokes endless merriment; and the Brothers Ashley in their comedy boxing sketch are well received. Harry Pleon proves himself an impersonator of decided ability; the Five Bombays are talented vocalists and dancers; and Tom Joy, comedian, and Victor and Louis are other popular artists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasford's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. C. Baldry.—Fred Karno's latest absurdity, *Skating*, strikes a popular note in Birmingham, and it is crowded with original and funny situations that keep audiences in continual merriment. Johnny Doyle and Charlie Chaplin are conspicuous figures. Fred Russell provides a first-class ventriloquial turn with his quaint figure "Coster Joe"; Edie Veno is a vivacious and popular comedian; and Mlle. Pollo has a good reception in a daring gymnastic turn. Kinero-Moulin with Mlle. Kioki presents a series of novel balancing feats; and Dave Carter, the popular Irish tenor, is making many new friends. Brent Hayes is a clever banjoist, and Tony Black an enlivening Scotch comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—We have here Les Piccolinos, a couple of versatile midgets, whose performances include dancing, marksmanship, equilibristic feats, and a daring cycle act. Miss Diana Hope's episode of modern life, *The Altar of Duty*, appeals strongly; and Rastus and Banks furnish a delightful entertainment of song and dance. The Days are well received in an exhibition of telepathy; and the Vays contribute a clever scena, *Life in the Slums*. Baby Myrtle Grove is popular; Fred Erick is responsible for much merriment; and Leslie's Comedy Cadets present an original naval scena.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The visit of Mr. J. A. Campbell's excellent company with *From Convent to Throne* has proved a powerful attraction. The part of Princess Maritza in the hands of Miss Mary Fulton is made prominent; the Mother Superior is well enacted by Miss K. M. Davies; Miss Dorothy Leal gives an excellent interpretation of Lady Violetta; Lieut. Von Hapsburg is satisfactorily presented by Mr. Graham Woods; Mr. Wm. Passmore submits an excellent performance of the General; Mr. Wm. J. Miller and Mr. A. F. Stuart are highly successful as the villains of the piece, Baron Streslau and Prince Maurice respectively. Miss Maudie Grayson, Miss Lissa Young, and Mr. T. G. Vane supply the comedy element in plenty.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Messrs. M. H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here, with *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Reginald T. Fox as General Von Nestolde and Mr. Matthew F. Glenville as Captain Lubeck give powerful performances of their respective parts; Mr. Edward Hobart as Sergeant Offenbach meets with much success; Miss Lydia Audre is a delightful Grand Duchess Marie of Gotsburg; and Miss Lilian Malvern as Esther, the wise woman of Gotsburg, is successful. Miss Mabel Veriton, Miss Alice Buckland, and Mr. Lewis Gordon keep the audience in a merry mood.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F Elliston: Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A strong programme here comprises Mr. Charles T. Aldrich, a versatile artist; Messrs. McEwan and Pollard, in a costume sketch, *Duval Outdone*; the Rosses, comedians and dancers; Chiko, equilibristic contortionist; Miss Jewell St. Leger, comedienne; the Primrose Quartette, harmonising male vocalists, in a Welsh song-scena; Marie Terry and J. S. Bentley, up-to-date cadets; Bert Bowden, comedian; Pat Lynch, the dancing demon; the Four Athos, ball manipulators and novelty acrobats; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—John Tiller's pantomime, *Jack and Jill*, is well patronised here. The principal parts are capably filled. Specialities are introduced by the Tiller Troupe of dancers, Alice Maude (the juvenile Vesta Tilley), the Imperial Ballet Troupe, Bruce Green (Dame Durden), Harry Cotton (Baron Jolliboy), and Horace Jones (Ginger, the page).

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Penningtons; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. H. Young.—*Cinderella*, presented by Mr. James Kiddie, has met with a conspicuous success. The scenic and stage effects are admirable, as it also the singing and dancing. Miss Kitty Avey in the title-rôle soon becomes a favourite, and Mr. Harry Huttin as Pimples, the page, is very amusing. Messrs. Harry Bliss and W. G. Wesley as the two Ugly Sisters; Mr. Leslie Hawkins as Baron Shiphtalotte; and Miss Lily Ennis as Dandini, the Prince's valet, are all successful; and clever acrobatic feats are performed by the Lisando Brothers. Large crowds fill the theatre nightly.

BOURNEMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—*A Message From Mars* is presented here this week by Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's principal company, and draws large houses. Mr. F. Vernon Travers as Horace Parker is excellent; Mr. Wm. H. Brougham as the Messenger is impressive and dignified; Mr. Norman Clark furnishes a very clever and finished study of the Tramp; Mr. Danelle Greene as the Policeman is good; Miss Parker is played naturally and well by Miss Aubrey Ashton, as also is the part of Minnie Templar by Miss Rose Helene. Others who contribute to the success of the piece are Mr. Clifford Lomer as the American and Miss Mary Buckstone as Mrs. Clarence.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Jack and the Beanstalk* is to be withdrawn this week, although enjoying unprecedented prosperity. This year's production has certainly been the most successful of Mr. Hart's efforts in the way of pantomime.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—This is the last week of the reign of *The Forty Thieves*. On Monday last Miss Ada Fawne, the smart principal boy of the pantomime, had her benefit. There was a crowded audience, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress being present, and assistance was rendered in the way of special "turns" by the artists from the Bradford Theatre Royal and Theatre Royal, Leeds.

THE EMPIRE.—The Kremo Family of Nine Risley Acrobats occupy the premier position, and their remarkably clever performance elicits unbounded applause. Addie Dorina, a clever protean artist, presents a smart sketch *Dr. Spot's Patients*; in a pot-pourri entertainment, comprising wire-walking, comic juggling, and hoop manipulating, the Prince Milner Trio are very smart; international dancing by the Great Northern Troupe is enjoyable; Odeyne Spark, comedienne, sings in dainty style; in their Irish duets Stuart and Morgan harmonise well; a funny burlesque presented by Doctor Awful Bogie elicits hearty laughter; in a smart seaside sketch the Smythsons are very amusing; Frank and Jen Latona again present their very clever turn, comprising music and humour, with their accustomed success; and pictures are shown by the American Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—Nora Stockelle, soubrette, contributes in very dainty style; the Lafaille Troupe of clever gymnasts and equilibrists in their novel feats of strength and agility are heartily appreciated; Steel and Laing are smart comedians, who introduce clever acrobatic dancing and funny patter into their sketch; Dorma Morgan is a very charming and chic comedienne; Jock McNeil's Scotch speciality dancing is very smart; an enjoyable musical entertainment is given by the Five Musical Palmers; a remarkable performance, comprising many novel features, is rendered by the Scum-Thuse Troupe of acrobats and jugglers, who are applauded heartily; and there are some amusing Palace Perfection Pictures.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is proving very attractive here. Miss Florrie Green, a promising young actress, achieves distinct success in the title-rôle; Mr. Lewis Gilbert (author of the play) is powerfully convincing as the villainous lawyer; Mr. Victor Howard acquits himself admirably as the crippled hero; and Mr. Edward de Vere submits a good character-study as the old sea captain. Much amusement is afforded by Miss Mattie Everett and Mr. Johnny Chippendale; and others rendering able support include Mr. Sutton Taylor and Mr. Ashmore Vincent.

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Arthur Breton and company achieve great success in the comedy sketch, *A Sleepless Night*; Allsopp and Beckwith are diverting in *His First Lesson in Acting*; Scholey and Scholey are very effective in *Winning a Wager*; Belle Sylvia gains hearty applause for her brightly-rendered songs; Wragg and Wragg are smart swordsmen and athletes; Little Barney, comedian, is highly amusing with his songs and patter; Fred Hanlon contributes songs in pleasing style; Buster Brown is aptly described as a "funny man on skates"; Grace Langley sings and dances herself into favour; and the programme also includes the Alhambra Picture graph.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J Brown.—Bella and Bijou submit a very enjoyable society entertainment; Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and ladies appear in classical art poses; the Pasquali Brothers perform some clever tumbling and equilibristic feats; Richard Wally is a very smart juggler; Godfrey James, a tenor vocalist, sings in good style; Eastbury is a lightning clay modeller; Nora Beverly contributes charming songs; Gladys Ré Vell is a pleasing vocalist; gymnastic and acrobatic acts are presented by Natalia and Diana, the Alberto Troupe, the Waltons and the Ted Moxon Trio; and Mark Leslie is well received in coon songs and dances.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. John E. Watson's company is here, with *The New Boy*. Mr. F. G. Thurstans is very amusing in the title-rôle; Miss Phyllis Manners is admirable as the perplexed Mrs. Rennick; Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone is effective as Doctor Candy; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood gives an excellent portrayal of Felix Roach; Mr. Alfred Field Fisher's Theodore de Brizac merits warm praise; Miss Evelyn Ormonde makes a bright and winsome Nancy Roach; Mr. Leo G. Lilly is a capital Bullock, Major; and able support is rendered by Miss Vera Wallace (Susan) and Mr. H. F. Wildy (Mr. Stubber).

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Miss Alice Pollard, the charming Goody of Mr. Chute's pantomime, closed her engagement here on Saturday, having to take up her part in *Our Miss Gibbs* for Mr. George Edwardes. Miss Pollard had a grand "send-off," bouquets and baskets innumerable being presented to her. Miss Daisy Lloyd Wood now plays Goody. She had a hearty welcome on Monday evening, and introduced several of her most popular songs. She plays the part vivaciously, and her smart dancing is appreciated. The benefit of Mr. Horace Mills (Mother Hubbard) is announced for Friday, March 4.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—The pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is doing remarkably well, full houses being the rule at each performance. Miss Kitty Upton and Miss Blanche Marion are very popular as principal boy and girl; the Sisters Albert and the Sisters Emson are also highly successful; the comedians, Messrs. Martell, Bennett, Garth, and Dunlop, keep up the fun in excellent style; and the rest of the company all do well. Good dancing is introduced by Miss Judith Espinosa and the Lottie Stone Quartette. Scenery and dresses are well up to the mark.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—John F. Preston and company successfully present their fine racing sketch, *A Ride to Win*, three thoroughbred racehorses adding much to the attraction. Richard Karsy's Giant Myriophone is an interesting musical novelty; Ray Raymond is a pleasing and accomplished comedienne; Carl Lynn amuses immensely with his mimicry of various animals, &c.; Elroy, the armless wonder, does many surprising things with his feet; the Sisters Harcourt are capable duettists and dancers; Poole and Maguire, vocal comedy duo, do a really good turn; and Russell Brandow, coloured comedian, is a clever eccentric dancer. Some good animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Alec Hurley and company score with *The Cockneys in Japan*; the Courtiers, vaudeville entertainers, provide a very pleasing turn; the Elvio Trio have a comic sketch, *Jim, the Lady's Maid Burglar*; L. W. Harris, comedian, is successful; the Frantz Comedy Five entertain with their acrobatic act, "Happy Schooldays"; Blanche Vincent is a pleasing chorus vocalist; Zera and Zema perform neatly some difficult hand balancing feats; and Lillie Mount is a clever juvenile comedienne. Animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The charming musical comedy *The Flower Girl* is presented by Mr. T. N. Walter, and well received by good houses. Miss Lena Brickwell is excellent in the title-rôle. Mr. John T. MacCallum is very successful as Joe Wheeler; Alphonse de Racquet is well presented by Mr. Henry Adnes; the Hon. Billy Greenhill is sustained by Mr. J. Burlington Rigg, a good baritone vocalist. Mr. John A. Latham as Johnny Wheeler, Mr. Cyril Delevanti as Reginald Rackett, Miss Elsa Brettingham as Lizette, and Miss Eva Brickwell as the Suffragette keep the fun rolling. Miss Idelia May does some clever dancing. The full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Julian Butt.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Much ability is shown here this week by the excellent cast of *Hush Money*. Mr. C. Barrington Foote skilfully portrays the character of Sexton Blake, and Mr. J. H. Darnley presents a finished performance of the villainous Lord Walgrave; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson is an excellent John Shard, and Mr. Harry Hartley is highly humorous as Tinker; Miss Theresa Osborne is a charming Lady Muriel, and Miss Ida Wilson is very good as Mary Woodford. Pedro, a fine bloodhound, is introduced with good effect.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—David Fuller, a powerful operatic vocalist, greatly pleases with baritone songs, and Frank Hartley gains much favour for cleverly executed jugglery; Emerson and Baldwin, in addition to smart juggling, introduce some good dry humour

instrumental music; Barrington contributes an exposition of trick piano playing and excellent solos, and a pleasing baritone vocalist is Ben Richards; Friscari is a wonderful manipulator of top hats, and a smart equilibristic and juggling turn is presented by the Maximilians; clever dancing is performed by Bonnie Goodwin's Opollo Piccaninnies, with Miss Lily Vine as principal, and the Fordyces dance very well; Jack Warman, a comedian of the shy type, is very successful, and A Magnetic Removal is shown by the Palace Pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve. Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, with *The Dairymaids*, has drawn crowded houses. Mr. Norman Bowyer plays Joe Mivens with genuine humour; Lieut. Sam Brudenell is capitally enacted by Mr. Walter Champney; Mr. Horace Manger is successful as Lieut. Frank Meredith; as is Mr. George Ascot in the rôle of Dr. O'Byrne. Miss Winnie Hall is a vivacious Peggy; Miss May Casson makes Winifred a very dainty creation; Helen is nicely played by Miss Dorothy Vere; Miss Nellie Le Breton is fully equal to the part of Eliza, Lady Brudenell and Miss Pyechase finding stately exponents in Miss Lily Roselle and Miss Julie St. George. The piece is brought up to date with new songs and scenery, and the chorus is excellent.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The house was packed on Monday night to welcome Miss Zena Dare and the other members of Mr. Geo. Dance's company in *The Little Duke*. Miss Dare's reception must have been very gratifying, and she seemed to revel in the part. Miss Dolly Castles as Diane de Noaille not only sang well but gave a very charming rendering; Mr. Reginald Adair has a very good appearance as Chevalier de Malignon, his acting and singing being first class; the Abbé de La Touche has a capital exponent in Mr. Alec Johnstone, his fine voice being heard to advantage; Miss Kate Graham-Beck makes a stately Duchesse; Miss Nellie Dade as Baroness de Bellechasse enters thoroughly into the spirit of the character; Mr. Johnny Danvers is an extremely funny Baron de Bellechasse; Mr. Jack Gray is all that can be wished as Armand Soliveau.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon.—Bright and pretty is the keynote of Mr. J. D. Hunter's pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, which is here. The veteran proprietor makes an ideal Dame Trott, and is as full of vigour and funniosities as ever. He is ably "aided and abetted" in all his pranks and topical skits by Mr. Matt Melrose as the wicked Squire, and the pair keep the house in roars of laughter. Miss Lallah Melrose is a charming principal boy, and in conjunction with the Squire is responsible for a clever double dance on a Venetian blind; Miss Vera Dudley gives a vivacious enactment of Jill (the principal girl); and the Sisters Edwards (Vera and Clara) as Boy Blue and Bo-Peep are two of the prettiest actresses in the show. Rollicking fun comes from Messrs. Fred Beck and Phil Inglis as Johnny Stout and Tommy Green respectively; and Mr. G. E. Cowell is entirely successful as the giant "grim and tall."

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A visit is being successfully paid by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, in the interesting play, *The Woman in the Case*, and large audiences have nightly been attracted. Miss Kathleen Russell gives a highly-finished portrayal of Margaret Rolfe, and has established an enviable reputation; another skilful delineation is that of Claire Forster by Miss Winifred Pearson, the dramatic force displayed by this clever actress gaining great appreciation; Mr. William Kershaw as Julian Rolfe fills the rôle in a quiet and convincing manner; Mr. James Lindsay's portrayal of Thompson stamps him as an actor of exceptional ability; while a clever piece of character-acting is given by Mr. Sydney Palfrey as Klauffsky. Mr. Paul Wynter as Jimmy O'Neil and Mr. W. F. Fletcher as Walters fulfil their responsibilities with ease; and Miss Mary Griffiths imparts the necessary humour to the rôle of Mrs. Hughes without making the part in any way ludicrous. The piece is preceded by *Her Ladyship's Guest*, capably performed by Miss Griffiths, Mr. W. F. Fletcher, and Mr. Mervyn A. Rentoul.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Two full houses on Monday listened with admiration to Miss Ada Colley's singing, which has justly earned for her the title of the Australian Nightingale; Van Biene is here once more, in an entirely new sketch, in which the musician and actor both figure to great advantage; a combination of eccentricities and instrumental solos is given by the Leslie Brothers, who are as humorous in the one as they are clever in the other; as a mimic Syd May excels, his impersonations of the various comedians being perfect; Siems, card and coin manipulator, is baffling to all; Larry Lewis causes continuous laughter with his two songs; and Florence Yayman, coon caricaturist, is among the best in her line. The Sisters Pine introduce smart comedy in their Golf act; the Leonards (Bab and Jennie), in a comedy act, are quite good; Violet Stockelle is a chic comedienne; and an instructive film is also in the programme.

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—The American actor, Mr. Raynor, and company are appearing in a répertoire. On Monday night the evergreen play *Moths* was staged. Mr. Raynor's representation of Lord Jura was exceptionally fine, the languid, complacent, yet dictatorial manner of the English peer being depicted with infinite cleverness; Miss Dora Dench acted with great feeling as Vere Herbert; Miss Cecilia Dare made a charming and effective Duchess de Sonnaz; and Miss Hilda Blanche represented Fuchsia Leach with piquant effect. Mr. Clinton Baddeley was excellent as Prince Zouroff; and Mr. Milton C. Curtis (Duke of Mull) and Mr. Conrad Heywood (Raphael de Corrèze) gave efficient expositions. Miss Frances Waring as Lady Dolly gave a particularly clever rendering of a difficult rôle. The piece was excellently staged, and the costumes elaborate. *Camille* and *Young Mrs. Winthrop* are also in the week's bill.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The Donaldson Brothers and their company present their screamingly funny act, *Sports in a Jungle*; Ted Curtis and Pica introduce a successful vocal and dancing speciality; Bert Maddison, a local comedian, again proves his ability as a humorous Welsh patter artist; the Donnas Trio give a sensational trapeze performance; and Damerell and Rutland are amusing comedians. J. H. Greener, the premier singing pit-lad; Joan Deerino, vocalist and violinist; and Nora Emerald, a pleasing comedienne, also appear. Perfection pictures conclude.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy and J. Martin's company in a répertoire of popular plays commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. On Tuesday Sidney Grundy's comedy *A Fool's Paradise* was the attraction. Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy was quite at home as Sir Peter Lund, and was responsible for most of the laughs; Philip Selwyn was nicely played by Mr. Andrew Money; and Mr. Cecil Kerr appeared to advantage as Lord Normantower. Miss Henrietta Schrier's Beatrice Selwyn was a most interesting performance; and Miss Marie Ramuz effectively represented Kate Derwent. *Camille* and *Moths* are billed for the remaining nights.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott and company are here with Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's new play, *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. Chas. Draycott gives a striking and powerful performance as Richard Burfield; as Pauline Ferrars Mrs. Charles Draycott quite wins her way to the hearts of the audience; as the betrayed Nellie Rayne Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne plays with much force; Mr. Chas. Reyne is a capital Farmer Rayne; and some excellent work is done by Mr. Theo Balfour as Markham Ferrars. Mr. Frank Etheridge gives a capital reading of Pauline's faithful lover, Lionel Heathcote; and Miss Nellie Freeland presents a careful study of Mamselle Lucille. Mr. Will Hook is an amusing Tommy Onions; and Miss Daisy Carlton a humorous Polly Green.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Charles Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Scener and Fridkin's Troupe head the bill here. Their dances are executed with a whirl of energy; Corman's Juveniles have a pretty vocal scena, *The Waif*; Tony Iveson as the Ragman at the piano provides some excellent fun; Flo Chevalier is a charming vocalist; Wal Owen as a silent comedian is loudly applauded; Miss Ruby Dahl and her "merry mannikins" are proving as popular as ever; Horace Monto sings and dances with skill; Zelda delights with clever selections on many instruments; and the Loyal Dominion Co. animated pictures are still in favour.

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's excellent company introduced *A White Man* on Monday to an enthusiastic house. In the central part of James Wynnegate Mr. Guy Hastings acts with feeling and distinction; Mr. Charles Maunsell renders with effect the part of the unhappy Earl of Kerhill; Miss Kathleen Maude plays the emotional part of Diana Countess of Kerhill successfully; Miss Ormonde Wynne gives a neat little sketch of the Dowager Lady Kerhill; and other members of the English patrician group are satisfactorily represented by Miss Dorothy Duncan and Messrs. Harold Richards and V. T. Gerald. Mr. R. A. Brandon presents a strikingly realistic study of Big Bill; the three cowboys of Carson's Ranch are skilfully differentiated by Messrs. Gerald Valentine, Alexander Munro, and Jay Ellis; and other Western types are ably sketched by Messrs. Frank Mayo, Claude Agnew, Ray Raymond, and David Douglas. The old chief, Tab-y-wena, is impersonated by Mr. Eric Hudson, a native Indian, with all the necessary dignity; and a half-caste interpreter is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Cecil Carter. Miss Hilda Barita acts effectively as the ill-fated Natu-rich; and little Hal is delightfully played by Miss Nora Nagle. Humorous are the studies of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Doolittle contributed by Mr. Fred Stone and Miss Janet Stone. The stage-manager is Mr. Harold Richardson.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company, in the drama *The Diver's Luck*, is here. Mr. William Macready appeared successfully on Monday in the part of Martin Faber; as Barney Bawn Mr. Edmund O'Grady was good; Mr. William Dexter made an efficient Tom Hall; the part of Pedro was in the capable keeping of Mr. James Burt; Mr. Harry Bristow worked successfully as Snowfall; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff made a good Helen Wyngate; and Miss Pearl Noyle appeared as Peggy; Mr. H. J. Walton did well in the rôle of Maurice Wyngate; the juvenile character of Winnie Hall was nicely played by Miss Phyllis Spalding.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The top of the bill this week is the Edward Marris Trio, in *The Dandy Doctor*, a farcical sketch; Signorita Delilao and M. Louis Sans, in a series of Continental dances, work with great success; Charles Gilbert's dogs are much admired; Renee Graham sings a couple of songs which evoke applause; George Campbell has a novel style of patter; Chas. Dillon, "the lamb," goes well in his songs; the Bros. Tarrant patter and dance; and the film Nero is excellent.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Twice nightly a capital variety programme is submited here. The Bouncing Peps occupy the top of the bill; Hayman and Houghton are very good in patter and song; the Attilla Bros., weight lifters, are an interesting turn; Miss May Thorne, comedienne, and Prof. Hutchinson are well received; and the Grecian Gladiators are applauded.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in *Can a Woman be Good?* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. The company includes Mr. Josh Milliane, Mr. Harry C. Robinson, Miss Alice Thurne, Miss Nora Melton, Miss Florence Hunt, and Miss Blanche St. Albans.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The star turn of a very entertaining bill of fare is supplied by Wild, Willie, and West, comedy acrobats, who do some clever things and cause great merriment; Robbins and Collier in a pretty scena catch on; Ethel Loftus is an entertaining comedienne; Steve Bartle and Silvo, vocalists and instrumentalists, are a clever pair; Lazern is a skilful magician; Mabelle May, comedienne and dancer, succeeds in pleasing; and the Palascope pictures are good.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The attraction this week is *Alone in London*, played by a company under the direction of Mr. Chas. Gibbon. Miss Nellie Clyde takes the part of Nan, with much ability; Mr. Gerald Jordan portrays Dick Redcliffe in an excellent manner; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson assumes the character of Old Jenkinson; and Mr. Cecil Renton is successful as Spriggins. Miss Laurie O'Neill as Chickweed acts admirably; the other characters are in capable hands; Hetty Hornsby as Little Paul wins the hearts of all.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—An enjoyable programme is put before the patrons this week. The Colonial Septette of musicians, under the direction of Mr. B. A. Rolfe, are encored again and again; Max Waldon is a clever impersonator; a good acrobatic performance is given by the Gotha Trio; and Ivy Leaf is a good comedienne. Harry Tomlin is popular with catchy choruses; Blanche and Powell as Society entertainers are good; W. Fulbrook keeps the audience amused; and Walter King, as a doleful comedian, winds up the evening's entertainment.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company, with pretty dresses, a handsome chorus, and superb scenery, is meeting with success here in *Dear Little Denmark*. Miss Netta Lynde's rendering of Christine reaches a high level of excellence. She sings very sweetly, her style is fresh, and her whole performance is marked by unaffected grace. Mr. Henry Kitts is very droll as the Duke Ernst Von Rasmussen; Mr. J. C. Fagan is well placed as Karl; Dr. Conway Dixon is in good voice as Conrad Petersen; Mr. Tom Redmond is admirable in the rôle of Simon Jorgensen; Mr. Harry Gregory is funny as Jonas Jensen; Mr. Franklyn Davies deserves praise as Sergt. Ohis; Mr. Arthur Staples is quaint and curious as Hans Hansen; and useful work is put in by Messrs. C. B. Williams (Chamberlain), Frank Lewis (Town Crier), and F. Mears (Nells); Miss Claire Lynch as Xandra and Miss Gladys Beech as Adeline are charming; Miss Joan Penrose as Ophelia has a crisp and roguish way of delivering her lines which captivates, and she sustains the part with a brightness and spirit that that are quite exhilarating. Mr. J. A. Robertson cleverly conducts the augmented orchestra.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—*The Last Straw* affords scope for vivid and powerful acting by Cecil Gray, Dora Eastlake and company; Les Andres are smart international dancers; Dave Samuels is a humorous comedian; Edie King sings and dances commendably; the Frazettis are appreciated in musical act; Signor Arvi's scientific mystery, the Metablescope, is applauded; Ina Lorrimer is an untiring dancer; and other interesting items are Phil Bransby, comedian; Frank Bertram and company, in *The Chaperon*; Sylvia Phillips, comedienne, and Bioscope pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre is paying a return visit, after many years' absence, in *Drink; or, Easily Led*. Mr. Hardacre wins much applause for his fine rendering of Coupeau; Mr. Fawcett Lomax is to the fore with a capital character-study of Mes Bottes; Mr. Vincent Harvey is a capable Lantier; and Mr. H. F. Maltby is good as Gouget; Poisson being ably portrayed by Mr. G. K. Ashley. Miss George Hall gives a beautifully sympathetic rendering of Gervaise; Miss Julie Kennard is effective as the scheming Virginie; Phœbe Sage is nicely played by Miss Helen Pendennis; Miss Ada Taylor makes a good Mme. Bosch; and little Bessie Courtney is a charming Nana.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. H. Browning's company are here this week with *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Rutland Barrington in the part of the Marquis of Steventon is a conspicuous success; Jack Frobisher is in the capable hands of Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, whose acting is brilliant; Miss Gwendoline Hay as Lady Frobisher succeeds admirably; and Harry Dallas is well played by Mr. F. Bridgeman. The same may be said of the Hanky Bannister of Mr. Russell Barry. As Lady Westerby Miss Ethel Trever-Lloyd does remarkably well; while Miss Hilda Sims' assumption of the rôle of Lady Devenham is also exceedingly creditable. Mr. Lambert Plummer is excellent as Bertram Hannaford; and Miss Seyvia Jones is quite successful as Miss Wyatt. Miss Doris Digby (Lady Mornington), Miss Eva Westrop (Lady Porchester), Miss Muriel Locking (Duchess of Skye), Mr. J. Tyrral (Wilfred Renton), Mr. Ben Barrett (Lord Drayton), M. H. Browning (Lord Machmont), and Mr. Fred Valder (Peters) are others who should be mentioned. It should be added that in place of the customary curtain-raiser Mr. Rutland Barrington provides a sparkling twenty minutes at the piano.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—*The Devil's Box of Bricks* is being presented here by Mr. James Willard and company. The Zanfrellas provide a novel equilibristic act as daring as it is clever, and their performance altogether is distinctly neat; Maude Vera, comedienne, is a pretty dancer; the Raymond Trio are entertaining in their musical and dancing act; Archie Glen acquits himself successfully as a vocalist and story-teller; Ryder Slone, character comedian, is deserving of praise; and Hal Bert well merits the designation of an "elastic comedian."

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is doing fine business here. As George Maddison, the inventor, Mr. Louis Hecter gives a clever portrayal; Miss Alice Bovey is a first-rate heroine; as Charles Devereux Mr. W. H. Porter is a villain of the approved type; and Mr. Henry Milton is genuinely funny as John Williams.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Madame Albani is starred for the week; King Luis and partner perform wonderful equilibristic feats; Jan Zakoosky plays choice violin selections; Les Cossets go through some skilful acrobat business, being materially assisted by three canine friends; Henry Moore imitates well-known actors and comedians; Rowlands and Ford entertain with humorous patter; and Philip Levard and Miss Lily Gene have some clever illusionist business.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in the drama *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, is here this week. Miss Maud M. Powell gives a first-class rendering of the school teacher, Ruby Wright; Miss Kate Sydney is seen to advantage as Ruth Wright; Ned Chipples is well played by Miss Eva Norman Scatchard; Mr. Charles Stafford makes a capital Robert Ray; the villainy of Lucas List is ably portrayed by Mr. F. Cyril Leighton, who receives able assistance from Miss Ana Corri as Mme. De Meral; the unscrupulous Octavius Screwe is well handled by Mr. Henry Scatchard; and Mr. William Benson as the Rev. Charles Lovett and Miss Maggie Stewart as Bessie Betts ably sustain their parts.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Coram, the ventriloquist, is the outstanding feature of this week's programme; Howard and Le Prince appear in a smart acrobatic act; another good turn is that of Rapoli, in balancing feats; A. W. Scott is a capable singer and dancer; Frances E. Inman, a local contralto, possesses a good voice; the Three Krakes, in their comedy, *The Electric Car Conductor*, amuse greatly; Renson and Waite, Yorkshire humorists, provide an acceptable turn; and Gwennie Morgan, comedienne, and an animated picture display complete.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—The Countess Bekoffoska supplies a very interesting and novel turn here by painting beautiful flowers with great rapidity, and is assisted in her act by Mr. St. Vincent Ellesmere as lecturer; Massona, a clever juggler, amuses with his funniosities; the Sauteron Wonders are a smart couple; Driscoll, Beattie, and company appear successfully in the comedy sketch, *Major McFie, M.P.*; the Barrys are pleasing duettists; Madge Goodall, dancer, deserves a word of praise; and C. Ibbotson, America's black dame, and animated pictures complete.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*Cinderella* is presented by a talented combination controlled by Mr. Edwin C. Jazon. Refined music, ilting songs, and quaint dances are all rapturously received, and pungent and incisive humour makes the production. Mr. Will Penn gives a droll rendering of Baron Crooked; in the titular rôle Miss Molly Doon is as delicious as it is possible to be. The efforts of Messrs. Crossley and Walker, the Ugly Sisters, are applauded to the echo; as Prince Brilliant Miss Vera Mayne must be credited with an unqualified success; and in the rôle of Dandini Miss Jennie Clare displays distinct artistic merit. Miss Pattie Varley as Queen Bountiful is greatly popular. Mr. Leo Fields as Buttons is irresistibly droll.

DOVER. — Royal Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. W. Winter; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—After a week of pantomime the management have returned to vaudeville. Bessie Mackenzie captures all hearts; John Grant and Henri Stewart in *Phantoms of Wood* give a clever and weird performance; and Nellie Coleman as "the man comedian" is decidedly good. The Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels, give an interesting exhibition; Goodall and Knox, comedians and acrobats, win favour; and the same remark applies to Florence Raymond, the lady ventriloquist.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The pantomime of *Aladdin* closes down to-night, after a very successful run. Wee Georgie Wood is appearing this week with new scenes and impersonations, with his accustomed success. On Thursday night W. H. Powell, who has become popular as the Widow Twankey, and Carlton, in his clever creation of Abanazar, took their benefit, and had a bumper house.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards are occupied here by Messrs. Platt and Tower's company, in Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. Claude Haviland, in the character of the Waiter, displayed considerable ability; Miss Edith Hunter was a natural Mrs. Clandon; Miss Winifred Beech an admirable Gloria Clandon; and as Valentine Mr. Graham Colmer acted the part capably. Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Dolly and Philip were both exceedingly good.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—This week we have the Danbys (Charles and Arthur), knockabout comedians and dancers; Gracie Bard is warmly applauded for her coon songs; Albert does well as a ventriloquist; and Mrs. Glenville and company provide a mirth-provoking sketch, *Kitty's Troubles*, in which Mrs. Glenville as Kitty, Mr. Tom Falconer as the Major, and Mr. H. Glenville as Billy appear with success.

Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Topping the bill here we have the Elliott-Savonas, in a magnificent musical performance, which is heartily enjoyed by large and appreciative audiences; Mona Garrick submits clever and impressive scenes from Shakespeare and Dickens; Arthur Woodville is a capital comedian and dancer; Howe and Ardie cause lots of fun in their skit; the songs of Tiny Arnold catch on; Sandy and Carl also appear with success; Ethel Bourne is an excellent vocalist; Victor Travers, comedian, does well; and Hammond and Welby are very good.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles A. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The attractions here this week are J. W. Wilson and Nellie Waring, in their clever American vaudeville act; Douglas Campbell is a capital comedian and dancer; Gertrude Martin sings excellent songs; Phinas and Aida do a marvellous performance on the revolving pedestal; and Mlle. Renee as an instrumentalist is a most acceptable item on the programme. Milner and Storey, in their skit, *Tickets*, are very amusing; Lennie and Hast, in a poetic fantasy, *The Sea-Nymph*, are exceedingly good; W. H. Dawson, "whistler and bird mimic," is well received; Clive and Vera are successful as the comedy duo; and the Bioscope displays some up-to-date films.

World's Fair.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The company here this week consists of Williams and Hayes, comedy duettists; Will Bowman, comedian; Arthur Bright, Milanese piper; May Williams, a pleasing vocalist; Elton Hayes, comedian; and the Cinematograph.

DUDLEY. — Opera House. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*Sexton Blake* is here for the first time, and met with a flattering reception. Mr. Murray York gives a fine representation of the astute detective, and receives unstinted applause, and his pedigree bloodhound, Pedro, is a great favourite. Next honour certainly goes to Mr. Will Glaze as Tinker, who is the embodiment of humour; Mr. Edward Maclean gives an impressive rendering of Roger Blackburn; and Mr. Paul H. Lewers is sufficiently villanous as Randolph Lovell; the elderly part of Squire Lovell is a short but effective piece of acting by Mr. Algernon Syms; Miss Elizabeth Watkins invests the part of Marjorie Lovell with pathetic interest; and Miss Sinna St. Clair as Philadelphia Kate handles the rôle with a highly effective callous touch; and Miss Betty Seymour acts the part of Euphemia Pattacake with spirit and dash.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—A welcome return visit is being paid here by Lee and Kingston, in *A Resourceful Lover*. The performance of La-Vie, in living art panel poses, is both charming and artistic; Sergeant Munford, the soldier in the air, gives a clever exhibition on the slack wire; Joe Cookson, also on a return visit, as a ventriloquial cartoonist, proves more diverting than ever; the Redfern Sisters are experts on the banjo; Zeta Russell is a dainty toe dancer; and a good reception is accorded Charles Denton, comedian. Other good turns are Robt. Bradford, the original "Billy Muggins," and Bob Eldon, comedian. The Empire Pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Martin Harvey and his company are here, taxing the seating capacity of the house to its utmost. *The Breed of the Treshams* was presented on Monday, when a crowded and enthusiastic house showed its appreciation by numerous curtain calls at the end of each act. Mr. Harvey's artistic qualities were shown to perfection in his picturesque and romantic treatment of the character of the Rat, his "merry tale of the German wars" being a perfect masterpiece of elocutionary power and expression; Miss N. de Silva gave a delightfully breezy and finished performance as Batty; the acting of Mr. Charles Glenney as the traitorous Colonel Hungerford was marked by consummate ability and skill; a striking and convincing embodiment of Viscount Dorsington was given by Mr. Philip Hewland; Colonel Sir Henry Curwen was admirably enacted by Mr. Owen Roughwood; a capital study of Colonel Bagshaw was presented by that old and respected actor, Mr. Fred Wright, sen.; Francis Tresham was depicted with skill and effect by Mr. Leonard Craske; Mr. Edward Combermere acted well and with restraint as the cowardly Captain Stanhope; Miss Brenda Gibson played with much grace and expression as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Miss Sybil Walsh as Helena Pierrepoint was deserving of praise; and Miss Bessie Elder was a satisfactory Mrs. Bagshaw. The week's bill also includes *The Corsican Brothers*, *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, and *Hamlet*. Mr. Frank O'Neill is business-manager for Mr. Harvey.

King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A nicely varied and interesting programme is headed by the Seven Perezoffs, who introduce some extraordinary feats into their juggling scena, *A Supper at Maxim's*; the Gilberts' tight wire act, "In the Camp," is a combination of daring, cleverness, and excellent comedy; Fritz Von Liston excels as a siffleur, his imitations of the calls of various birds being remarkably life-like; Sylvene, assisted by Mlle. Florence, submits an altogether charming and clever equilibristic entertainment; Johnny Beveridge, the blind entertainer, is fast coming to the front, his present act being immense; Bessie Lind is a pleasing comedienne with good songs; Marie Kay is a perfect mistress of terpsichore; Lon Hale gives a clever dance on roller skates; and the Kingscope pictures are unusually interesting.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company in *A Girl's Repentance* constitutes a strong attraction here. In the rôle of the bank manager, Paul Earnscliffe, Mr. Carlton scores a conspicuous success, being exceedingly well seconded by Miss Rubie Maude, who gives a telling performance as Stella; Geoffrey Vannock is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Claude Aymond; Mr. John Croudace makes a capital impression as Max Rheinhardt; a performance full of merit is the Glynne Earnscliffe of Mr. Claude Seaton; Miss Rene Belle Douglas and Mr. Willie Vernon revel in their comedy parts. The scenery is elaborate. On Friday evening Miss Rubie Maude was accorded a benefit, when the musical comedy drama *A Secret Wedding* was staged.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Majilton's Comediana, along with the Mazellos, provide the bill of fare twice nightly. The Comediana, in the new farce, *The Gay City; or, Four in the Dark*, and *The Trippers*, produce a mirth-making entertainment of a very attractive order. The old favourite, Mr. Jim Bond, as principal comedian, contributes largely to the success obtained. Mr. C. Majilton is as droll and active as ever; Mr. G. Hunter puts in excellent work; and Mr. Thomas Carrol is highly effective in his respective characters. Miss Maddie Majilton, an old favourite, maintains her reputation; and Miss Nellie Clifford and the other members of the company help valuably towards the evening's enjoyment. The Mazellos give a clever burlesque triple-bar turn.

DURHAM.—The Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—An interesting programme is headed by the Five Whiteleys, whose entertainment is varied and clever; on the perpendicular ladders Les Uniques give an exhibition which is well appreciated; and Rose and Wold in a comedy wire act, *The Sentry and the Maid*, receive loud applause; Sydney Brandon is a successful character impersonator; the burlesque representations by Tom Barrett create much laughter; Probyn and Bates score in a comedy act, *The Dude and the Soubrette*; Edie Endon excels in dancing; and The Squire's Romance is shown on the Cathedoscope.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Henry Miller's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Macdona, is presenting *The Servant in the House*. The curtain had to be raised many times at the end, when Mr. Charles Macdona spoke a few words of thanks to the enthusiastic audience. Mr. Matthew Boulton as Manson, the servant, gave a powerful and deeply-impressive performance, which gripped the audience and interested them to the end; Mr. Walter Gay, in a distinct and individual manner, played the part of the Vicar, William Smythe, with marked ability; Mr. Harry Parker contributed strong, penetrating work in the very finely-played character-part of Robert Smith; Mr. Ernest H. Paterson was an amusing and dignified Bishop; and good service was done by Mr. F Harvey as Rogers. A delightfully natural and girlish representative of Mary was found in Miss Laurie Flockton; and Miss Nellie Hodson did clever work as the Vicar's wife. Later in the week Mr. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company appear in *Leah Kleschna*.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—Miss Flora Cromer, the possessor of a fine and clear contralto voice, is topping the bill here worthily in some taking chorus songs; Bains and company give a clever exhibition of comedy and acrobatic work; Miss Gertrude Bibby is a smart quick-change artist, who acts a complete sketch in a very clever way; Mr. Tom Jones is an able Welsh singer and jovial comedian; singing her songs in fine style, Miss Vera Wootton is a dainty comedienne; Miss Edna James dances well; and Mr. Tom Dunmore is a successful comedian; while new pictures are added.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers. — Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is this week presenting *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox as Prince Olaf gives a performance marked by artistic restraint; Prince Michael has a capable representative in Mr. Victor Rae; Mr. Alfred Goddard as Prince Hildred of Sylvania is seen to advantage; Miss Ethel Bracewell as Monica is responsible for a natural representation; as Camiola Miss Verity Page is interesting; the humorous element is well looked after by Mr. Herbert Burton as Captain Hector, Mr. J. H. Vyvyan as Lieut. Karl Stromberg, and Miss Mona Hall as Viola.

EDINBURGH. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—There is an unfailing charm in Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, and Mr. Charles Frohman's company, which is paying its fifth visit to Edinburgh with the play, drew a crowded audience to the Theatre Royal on Monday last. Miss Pauline Chase repeats her delightfully finished performance of the title-rôle, and the Wendy of Miss Gertrude Long, a newcomer is an interesting and quaint impersonation. Mr. Frohman is fortunate in retaining Miss Sybil Carlisle in the part of Mrs. Darling, which she acts with the tenderness, beauty, and grace that make the character linger pleasantly in the memory. Mr. Fred. Annesley gives to the Pirate Captain the necessary mock melodramatic air, and his work is clever; Smee remains in the hands of that admirable comedian, Mr. Geo. Shelton, and Mr. Charles Trevor is an excellent Starkey. Master Harry Duff is bright as John Napoleon Darling, and Master Herbert Hollow makes a lovable Michael Nicholas Darling. The smaller parts are extremely well acted, notably good performances being contributed by Mr. A. W. Bascomb as Slightly; Mr. Humphrey Warden as Great Big Little Panther; Mr. Edward Sillward as Nana; Miss Tessie Park as Liza; Miss Ninion Dudley as Tootles; Miss Maidie Andrews as Curly, and Miss Margaret Fraser as Tiger Lily. Mr. Maurice Jacobi skilfully conducts the orchestra in the rendering of the incidental music, and the setting of the play is worthy of the book.

Royal Lyceum Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Mr. W. F. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Edward Compton and his company

By Royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

The Original and Genuine WORCESTERSHIRE.

Please note we do not pay for testimonials and that we can show the originals of all letters.

Owbridge's Evidence.

London-road, Kingswood, Bristol.

"We have been using your Lung Tonic for over 16 years and during that time we have never had a pennyworth of anything else for Coughs. I have recommended it to hundreds of people."

GEORGE SMITH.

Garnwen-terrace, Nantyffyllon.

"I have used your Lung Tonic for nearly twenty years whenever needed, and have always found it indispensable for coughs and colds. I have pleasure in bearing testimony to its efficacy."

MARGARET JOHNS.

Brithom Bottom, Cullompton, Devon.

"I am pleased to tell you your Lung Tonic has cured my Bronchitis."

G. W. HOWARD.

Station-road, Brixton, S.W.

"I have been using your Lung T

were warmly welcomed on Monday evening, when their annual visit opened with the ever-green *Davy Garrick*, which was played in excellent style. A graceful Violet appeared in the person of Miss Kathleen Leigh; Mr. H. Crocker and Mr. Philip Gordon were in their old parts of the Alderman and Rumbelow; and the cast otherwise was admirably fitted. Mr. Compton repeated his well-known impersonation of the great actor with all the power and humor with which his admirers are familiar, and had to make his customary speech at the end of the play. *Tom Noddy's Secret*, put on as a curtain-raiser, gave Miss Nell Compton an opportunity of making a promising début before an Edinburgh audience. In addition to the usual repertory of old English comedies Mr. Compton presented *The Biasé Baronet*, an interesting revival, in the form of a new adaptation, of the once-popular *Used Up* of Charles Matthews. *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Road to Ruin*, *The School for Scandal*, and *The Rivals* have completed a goodly week's bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The famous American entertainer Lafayette has attracted large audiences here this week with a very varied and interesting performance, including much that is novel in the way of conjuring, transformations, rapid painting and sculpture, and travesties of musical conductors, which caused unlimited wonder and amusement. The programme in other respects was an exceedingly good one. Florence Esdaile pleased her hearers by her singing of sundry songs; Alice Maydue contributed a character comedy turn; and Gipsy Wolf, with a bevy of damsels, appeared in a bright vocal and dance scena. The Bioscope showed some very interesting pictures of bird life. Stanley and Greenop gave a clever display as banjoists; Herbert Shelley sustained with ability some half-dozen distinctive rôles in an Irish protean sketch *Dan the Outlaw;* the Tom Davies' Trio executed some extraordinary cycling work in mid air; and D'Ares Marionettes introduced some clever representations of music-hall celebrities.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Miss Radie Furman, fresh from her triumphs in the Theatre Royal Pantomime, is a great favourite with the audiences here this week; her singing of Anglo-Dutch songs and her clever dancing are rewarded with enthusiastic applause. Mr. Harry Ford, the well-known comedian, evoked shouts of laughter by his droll rendering of amusing songs. Miss Ada Oxley, in a farcical sketch entitled *Peggy*, proved herself to be an admirable comedienne; Miss Rosie Lloyd's turn was full of humour; and other artists who contributed to an excellent programme included the Belmonts, "the dancing stars"; Tom Haytor's Six Manchester Lads; the Selbornians, expert jugglers; Miss Vio Linn, a pleasing singer; and Mr. Alec B. Thorne, Scotch comedian. The Bioscope films comprised a beautiful series of Alpine views.

ELLESMERE PORT. — HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.— Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Coy; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—This is the second anniversary week, and a lengthy programme is greatly appreciated by packed houses. Fred Ellis is an amusing comedian; Marie Listen is a charming comedienne; Hari is a smart Indian club manipulator; Hand and Hart create much laughter with their songs and patter; Frank Weaver is again heartily appreciated as a coon singer and sand dancer; Bertha Cousins is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Jack Rae is applauded for his funny antics on the rings; the Belmoir Sisters deserve the repeated encores nightly accorded; and up-to-date interesting animated pictures complete.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The well-known drama *The Ticket of Leave Man* was selected for presentation by the stock company at the opening of their third week's stay here. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh sustains the rôle of Robert Brierly with considerable power; Mr. Wallis Clark is an excellent James Dalton; Mr. Gerard Wynne being well placed as Melter Moss. Miss Kathryn Collier is a sympathetic May Edwards; Miss Emmie O'Reilly a delightfully humorous Mrs. Willoughby; Miss Belle Travers and Miss Vere Hodson sustain effectively the parts of Sam Willoughby and Emily St. Evremond; and Mr. Ernest Bodkin contributes a well-studied reading of Hawkshaw.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Premier position on the week's bill is occupied by Maud Lordys, whose dog acrobats and actors prove entertaining; Chris Richards by his antics and eccentricities speedily wins favour; Little Zola more than realises all that is expected of him; Mart and Pep are balancers and tumblers of exceptional merit; Ghita Corri has a voice of unusual merit and range; Amy Clevere sings and dances excellently; and Sid Bandon contributes a song with a fine swinging, popular chorus.

FLEETWOOD.— EMPIRE THEATRE.— Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' powerful company, in *Robinson Crusoe*, is doing tremendous business. Miss Violet Thorn excels as principal boy, and is deservedly encored for her tasteful singing; Miss Kitty Liske as Polly Perkins is very popular; Mr. Ally M. Benson is again a great favourite as the Dame, his songs, jokes, and "business" being irresistible; Mr. W. Bland makes an excellent Billy Crusoe, his volubility creating roars of laughter; Miss Kitty Chester is a clever and winsome Fairy Queen, her songs being extremely well rendered; Messrs. Dytum and Dale are clever comedians; while Mr. T. Daniels is admirable as King One Lung; Eugene, the girl with the baritone voice, scores with "Somewhere"; and Miss Rena Rees and Miss Gladys Walkden both succeed admirably. The scenery is gorgeous, and the costumes perfect.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—This week Mr. Harold V. Neilson is here with a répertoire of four plays nightly, namely: *A Florentine Tragedy*, *The Light that Failed*, *The Topside Dog*, and *Six-and-Eightpence*. Mr. Harold V. Neilson gives an impressive study of Simone, and his Dick Heldar is a really fine piece of acting. Miss Effie Leigh-Hunt, a graceful and emotional actress, impersonates the parts of Bianca and Maisie with ability, and Mr. Dickson Moffat is amusing in the characters of Pensioner Robert Boiler and Cyril in the two latter plays. Miss Ella Thornton is well suited to the parts of Bessie Broke, Mrs. Boiler, and Grace; and Mr. Bartlett Garth is responsible for some excellent work as Guido Bardi, Torpenhow, Jim Bates, and Mr. Crook. The scenery and appointments are excellent.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Messrs. Jacobs and Jephson's pantomime company is here this week with *Dick Whittington*. Miss Florrie Curette is a sprightly Dick; Miss Ida Hibbert a winsome Alice; and Miss Millie Seale (Capt. Cuttle) sings well. The fun is well kept up by Mr. Ernest Adrian as Idle Jack and Mr. Bobbie Graham as the cook. The Paulasto Troupe give a clever acrobatic turn; and other specialities are provided by Cissie Trent, The Toys, Seale and Seale, &c.

GATESHEAD.— KING'S THEATRE.— Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The star item on the bill is a dramatic episode, entitled *A Society Woman*, by Alan Holt and company, which is well received; Alick Lauder and company are seen to much advantage in the Scotch character sketch *The Christening*, in which Mr. Lauder receives able support from Miss Jennie Scott and Mr. George Adair; a pair of eccentric comedy acrobats in Dunn and Reono provide an enjoyable turn; the Cheers, with performing cats, are highly praised; Beattie Bloom is an entertaining serio; and Geo. James, comedian, and the pictures of the Paris Floods depicted by the Kingscope are other capital items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's companies are welcomed here, and this week large audiences have witnessed an excellent production of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. As Prince Olaf Mr. C. W. Standing gives a most enjoyable performance, his soldierly bearing and clear delivery exciting much admiration; Mr. Lionel Gadsen gives a polished portrayal of the stricken Prince Michael; there is much that is good in Mr. Mayor Cooke's Prince Hildred; a handsome Captain Hector is presented by Mr. Robt. Noble; the tasteful comedy relief is well looked after by Mr. Richard Lane (Karl) and Miss B. Stuart (Viola); a dignified Bishop is that of Mr. Francis Hawley; a charming Monica is done by Miss Stella Campbell; Miss Ethel Patrick daintily embodies Camiola; and the other parts are in safe hands.

GLASGOW.— THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—*Aladdin* is to be withdrawn at the end of this week. Big houses still rule. The combination has made a fine impression, and for many a day pleasant memories will linger of the amusing Abanazar of Mr. Harry Tate, in his side-splitting sketches of "Golfing" and "Motoring," the Mrs. Twankey of Mr. Malcolm Scott, the Emperor of China of Mr. Harry Claff, the Vizier of Mr. George Hirste, and the comical manœuvres of Messrs. Regan and Ryan as the Policemen; also the lively and captivating performance of Miss Bessie Butt as Aladdin; the winsome presence and tuneful numbers of Miss Dorothy Firmin as Princess So-Shi; the dainty dancing of Miss Doris Dean as Chee-ki; and the entertaining interludes contributed by Happy Fanny Fields as Gretchen. In all respects the production has proved worthy of the pantomimic traditions of this house. For Friday evening—Mr. Harry Tate's benefit—extra attractions were announced.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The Moody-Manners Opera company entered upon the second week of its engagement on Monday, when *Tannhäuser* was presented to a crowded audience. In the title-rôle Mr. Joseph O'Mara acquitted himself well, his fine tenor voice being heard to full advantage; Mme. de Vere-Sapio's exquisite delineation of Elizabeth evoked loud applause, all the familiar numbers being excellently rendered; as Venus Miss Kate Anderson executed her share of the music in finished and artistic manner; Mr. Lewys James' fine baritone and manly bearing makes him an ideal Wolfram; the Landgrave received adequate treatment at the hands of Mr. Charles Magrath; and the singing of the chorus, augmented by the Glasgow Grand Opera Society, deserves unstinted praise, as also does the orchestra, under the bâton of Herr Richard Eckhold. The remainder of the week is devoted to *Carmen*, *Lohengrin*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Samson and Delilah*, *La Tosca*, and *Maritana*.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* was the first of the Glasgow pantomimes to start this season, and it is going to be the last to finish, the closing being arranged for March 5. Mr. Neil Kenyon, Mr. Jack O'Connor, Mr. Fred Allandale, with Misses Lily Morris, Rhoda Gordon, Lily Edwards, and May Moore Duprez continue to attract great crowds, and both at matinées and evening performances enthusiasm runs high.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Willie Winkie* has now reached its final performances here. This week interest centred round Thursday's performance, for on that night Mr. Waldon's friends rallied round him and gave him a complimentary benefit, at which several novelties were provided in addition to the pantomime. To-night (Saturday) the usual enthusiastic crowd of Princess' patrons will be bidding farewell to their respective favourites, one and all having worked loyally and well for the success of this season's annual.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty are here with *The Eyes of the World*, in which Miss Van Praagh gives a thrilling representation of Melene de L'Orme; while Mr. J. E. Whitty depicts a lively young advocate with much success; M. Hector de L'Orme has a good interpreter in Mr. Charles O'Connor; and Mr. Will Casey gives a strong portrayal of M. Gaston de Carnac; Mme. Esme de Carnac is well played by Miss Flora Hastings; Octave de Carnac is forcibly depicted by Mr. A. Wilson Wynne; a pleasing part is that of Avice de L'Orme, charmingly rendered by Miss Elsie Capell; and Mr. R. Wilson Bedford as M. Paul Roqueville, Miss Nellie Garside as Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure, Mr. Harold Forde as Brigand, and Miss Beatrice Hulment as Antoinette complete an excellent company.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones is making a successful appeal to Govan playgoers with his touching drama, *When Other Lips*. The sailor hero, Ted Daunton, is played with refinement and taste by Mr. John Davidson, and the opposing rôle, Basil Cunningham, has an able exponent in Mr. Juan D'Alberti; the Jenkins of Mr. T. Arthur Jones is a careful study; fine emotional acting is seen in the Ruth Lingley of Miss Marie Daventry; the humorous interludes are cleverly sustained by Mr. Charles Preece as Neccles, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey as Topwash, and Miss May Neilson as Kitty; good character studies are submitted by Mr. Arthur Ross (Lingley) and Mr. Arthur Prescott (Pawnbroker); Miss Florence Melrose-Millett acts with strong effect as Octavia, other parts being well filled by Misses Marion Wells and Jane Watson.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The appearance this week of Lady Beerbohm Tree in *The Sirocco*. The piece is of a fascinating character, and is done every justice to by Lady Tree and her company; in an original monologue, "Her Wedding Day," Miss Ethel Newman appears with much success; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, ever popular here, introduce a new and amusing duologue, "The Wire and the Liar," which is much enjoyed; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette are exceedingly clever banjoists to harp accompaniment; in a clever acrobatic turn Great and Good cause a considerable amount of fun; the old favourites, the Sisters Caselli, are as expert in dancing and high kicking as ever; the Whilbys and their magic blackboard provide a good turn, as likewise does G. S. Melvin, Scotch comedian; Maizie Hibbs, in a speciality dancing turn, is smart; and the Bioscope concludes.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—A complete change of programme is given here, the boards being occupied by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company in the pantomime, *Mother Goose*. Miss Maud Prenton makes a bright and lively principal boy, and lots of fun is provided by Mr. J. W. Gallather as Jack and Mr. Walter Dale as Mother Goose. Mr. Fred Acton as Muggles also adds greatly to the humour; and Misses Bessie Edmond, Kitty Russell, and Marjorie Prenton sing and dance with much animation. Speciality items are contributed by the Miltons, skating comedians, the Society Quartette, and the Eight Sydney Girls.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Mrs. Lillie Williams' pantomime, *Dick Whittington and His Cat*, drew a large attendance on the opening night. The Sisters Cora as Dick and Alice have parts suiting them excellently, their singing being a pleasing feature; as Idle Jack Mr. Sam Thomson's witticisms and by-play are responsible for continual outbursts of laughter; Lindray and Harte, the Celesta Comedy Quartette, and the Four Killarney Girls contribute special items, and have a large share in the success of the pantomime. The scenery and dresses are pleasing and effective.

COLISEUM.— District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The Craggs appear in their new acrobatic sketch, "The Territorials," and, thanks to the irrepressible Billy, provide lots of fun, as well as smart tumbling; Carney and Armstrong are a clever couple who are highly popular here; the Albert and Edmunds Troupe also take well in their "Tower of London" sketch, in which lots of lively knockabout fun is provided; O Hana San, in her Japanese scena, gives a number of beautifully illuminated tableaux, and contributes enjoyable dancing and vocal items; Tom Lloyd has several catchy songs; Les Romanis make a hit with their musical act, which contains several striking novelties; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce, in a "Geisha" duet, sing well; Maude Edwards, the clever lady ventriloquist, and Charles Santon, double-voiced vocalist, complete a well-diversified programme.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Mlle. Rosini is at the head of affairs with her miniature menagerie, and the cleverness of her dogs shows patience and careful training; Mons. de Louie is responsible for a very skilful gymnastic performance; Tom Richards' quaintness is mirth-provoking; Lottie Ross renders her vocal numbers attractively; and Willie Elder proves successful as a Scotch comedian. The Bioscope pictures prove entertaining.

HENGLER'S CIRCUS.— Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler.—After a most successful season the last week is now announced of the equestrian spectacle, *Tally-Ho*, with its amusing incidents and the sensational plunge into the flooded arena at the finish. The special turns include Talberto and Douglas, in their eccentric business; Francisco, a smart juggler with many novel tricks; The Dorians, a clever family of gymnasts; and the Clarkonians, in a number of daring flights in mid-air. Mlle. Amelia Reny, Mr. Claud, Miss Josephine, and the Three Royal Ohmys contribute equestrian items; and Mr. Charles Clark gives a smart juggling act on horseback. The clowns, Doodles and Pimple, provide lots of funny interludes.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Herbert Fuller ably presents the pathetic play *As Your Hair Grows Whiter* to a good house on Monday. Mr. Hubert Halliwell gives a fine rendering of the Rev. John Alberry; Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell's performance of Farmer Walters is well sustained; Miss Agnes Collier as the farmer's daughter is very good; Mr. Percy St. Clair as Jack Walters makes a smart and jolly sailor; Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough is very amusing; Mr. Louis Weston as Wagner Mozart, is highly entertaining; and Mr. S. Leigh Courtney gives a clever portrayal of Squire Stoneley's villainies.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Owners, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Director, C. W. Poole, Esq. —Howard and Harris are good in their comedy act, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp;* Tom Woottwell is one of the most popular turns we have had; and Susan and Protti dance excellently. Messrs. Lee and Bentley, in capital sketch, *The King's Counsel*, cause hearty laughter and applause; the Three Favourites in *Park Pets* are a neat turn; and the Phœnix Trio harmonise well. The Rowntrees are effective in comedy; and Pop Dearly, The Dandy Coon, and Emily Lyndale, burlesque actress, complete the bill.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An excellent picture and variety entertainment is drawing crowded houses. At the top of the bill is G. de Reiwyskow, "champion light-weight wrestler of the world, whose efforts have delighted large audiences; a local wrestling competition is also introduced with great success; Henshall and Forster are very successful in a comedy sketch; Clarice Sefton, comedienne and speciality dancer, is a prime favourite; Elmore and Evans, comedy duettists, keep the house in roars of laughter; Reno is seen in clever sleight-of-hand tricks; and others equally successful are Bert Elmore, comedian; Amy Lloyd, comedienne; Geo. Le Wist, ventriloquist; and Harry Maybee, comedian. The Monarchscope pictures are new and interesting.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —Miss Grace Warner and company are appearing here in *The Scarlet Clue* and *East Lynne*.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—One of the best programmes of the season is being presented this week. Henderson, the blind musician, gives a first-class musical item; Miss Fanny Robina is very popular with selections from her well-known songs; Miss Florence Cooke is greatly admired for her song, "The stars are angel faces"; Mr. Walter Buxton sings some fine patriotic songs; and *Two in a Flat* is also presented by Mr. Fredericks and Miss Monckton.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*The Sins of a City* is well presented by Miss Winifred Maud's company. As Norah Gilmore Miss Winifred Maud proves herself an accomplished actress; Mr. Arthur L. Read is remarkably good as Sandy McDonald; Mr. Morris Maud plays the villain, Ralph Blackwater, K.C., in an able manner; and Mr. Arthur Lester is seen to advantage as Donald McIvor. Mr. Victor Du Cane, in doubling the rôles of Jasper and Joe Woodleigh, submits two excellent studies; as Isaac Levi Mr. Fred Chester plays with good comedy effect; Mrs. Wingold Lawrence admirably portrays Lesbia; Miss Minnie Millwarde amuses greatly as Midge, a servant; Miss L. Carlton does well as Jenny, a Scotch fisherwoman; and Miss Mabel Lane is good as Mrs. Miggs.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—*The Prince of the Dandies*, presented by Miss Flo Stanley's company, is the principal attraction, and provides an abundance of mirth. The Richards Trio achieve popularity with a cleverly executed acrobatic turn; Duncan and Brasque provide a treat in their well-acted playlet *A Society Butterfly;* Rose D'Aulby scores as a vocalist; and we are further entertained by Archie Jarvasse, light comedian; Kendrick and Laura, a clever pair of eccentric dancers; and Andie Burns, an amusing comedian.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Gay Gordons*, presented by Mr. Seymour Hicks' company, is proving very much to the liking of the audiences here. Mr. William Greene as Angus Græme gives a breezy realisation of the genial Highland soldier; Miss Clarice Lockstone, who is well known here, has charmed everyone by her work in the pretty character of Peggy Quainton; Mr. W. H. Desmond introduces clever burlesque as Edmund Siddons; Mr. Edward Carlton also contributes largely to the uproarious fun as Nervy Nat; Miss Mabel Dent plays Victoria Siddons with pleasing vivacity; Miss Florrie Groves, another popular actress here, causes endless amusement as the eccentric Charlotte Siddons; and Mr. Greville Hayes as Andrew Quainton, Miss Tessa D'Alberti as Mary M'Leod, and Miss Ada Mellon as Janet M'Leod also accomplish good work.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The farcical sketch, *Parker, P.C.*, is full of really genuine fun, and Mr. Chas. Austin as the enterprising policeman who sets up a private police station, displays much quaintness of style; the Glenroy Troupe of dancers are clever artists, and also accomplish smart sword and lance drill; George Prince is a versatile comedian with good songs; Metz and Metz are expert dancers, and have a fund of amusing cross talk; Ivy Aberdare dances and sings in pleasing fashion; the beautiful Lillian gives an attractive cycle act; and Les Trippelos are skilled instrumentalists.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Arcadians* is drawing big crowds. Mr. Gus Oxley as Simplicitas keeps the audience amused; Mr. Frank Collins as Peter Doody, in make-up, gesture, and delivery, is excellent; Mr. Roy Sidney is good as Jack Meadows; Mr. Roy Lorraine's Bobby is a conspicuous success; Mr. C. H. Hewetson is well placed as Sir George Paddock; Miss Mysie Devine plays the part of the naive Irish girl, Eileen Cavanagh, to perfection; Miss Marion Edwardes sings well and acts sweetly as Sombra, and she is well supported by Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea. Mr. Frank Henry (Astrophel) and Mr. W. Dawson (Strephon) are good. The scenery and mounting are excellent.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—L. B. Athol, actor-vocalist, contributes an acceptable vocal scena, "Dreamland"; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith, solo cornettists, bring down the house; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, give a clever and graceful dancing act; Miss Gena Manon is a popular vocalist; Rooke, Rorke, and company give an entertaining sketch, *The Prince's Love Affair;* the Lannons are clever step and pedestal dancers, and are well received; the Max Tourbillon Troupe of acrobatic cyclists give a daring and graceful performance; and the Palace pictures complete a first-class bill.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Miss Florence Baines and company are paying another visit with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and playing to packed houses. Miss Baines still impersonates Mary Ellen Thompson in her inimitable style; Mr. Burt Burton is an excellent Moses Goldburg; Mr. P. Fletcher gives a hearty rendering of John Henry Thompson; and Mr. G. Gambier (John Higgins), Mr. S. Holden (Harry), Miss M. Collin (Bertha), Mr. H. Lloyd (Grant), and Miss A. R. Clyde (Mrs. Thompson) are good. Miss Ruby Glyn as Eva Lancashire is an admirable support to Miss Baines.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar. —Sandy M'Nab, supported by Miss Bessie Arthur and company, is topping the bill here in *The Egyptian Mummy*. Roma and Romani evoke the heartiest applause in their refined musical act; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde are excellent in a novel shadowgraph entertainment; J. A. Wilson and his dog Towzer are established favourites; the Bros. Dean are something out of the usual in the way of a dancing turn; the Sutcliffe troupe of pipers, dancers, and acrobats are awarded a warm welcome; Patty Yole is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope concludes.

HANLEY.—GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.

—A brilliant reception is accorded Jan Rudenyi, the actor-violinist, and his company in *The Power of Music*. Prof. Leroux's monkeys are cleverly trained; Ed. E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, is received with favour; the Merrills, cyclists, are really clever; Hampton and Bauman are smart; Blake and Granby, in a comedy duologue, are heartily received; Richard Taylor, as a whistling ventriloquist, is good; and also billed are Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; the Lesters, and the Grand Pictures.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith and company in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* are entertaining large and delighted audiences here. Mr. Grossmith's Mr. Preedy is full of natural quaintness; Miss Ruth Mackay as the Countess is admirably suited for the part. Mr. Murray Carson is a blustering Bounsall; Mr. Ronald Squire as the Earl is excellent; Mr. Edward Bonfield as the Hon. Robert Jennerway is most humorous; Mr. Oswald Marshall plays the old Lord Kenslow skilfully; Mr. George A. Seagar as the solicitor is a great success; and Mr. Frank H. Denton's Reginald is a creditable impersonation. Mr. Arthur B. Murray as Bilson is responsible for much fun. Miss Lydia Rachel as Mrs. Sidgrave is well suited; and Miss Evelyn Kerry as Emma is charming. The principal piece is preceded by *A Ball or a Motor*.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—Capital variety turns are here this week, headed by the De Breans in clever juggling and shadowgraph entertainment; and Trojan, who does wonders with his one arm. Miss Lola Patey scores a success as a Dutch vrouw; Miss Enid Errol and company give a pretty and amusing turn in their dance scena, *Cloudland*. Miss May Baskerville sings with power; and the Canworths have a good banjo and vocal speciality. Les Supriskis, Mr. Harry Wenburn, Mr. Frank Solbey, and August, September, and May, also assist materially.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. C. Scutt.—During the early part of the week (by special arrangement with Charles Frohman), Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company made a welcome return visit in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold endowed the title-rôle with dignity and tenderness; Mr. William Clayton gave a vivid sketch of Kleschna; Mr. Charles Barrett, in the part of Paul Sylvaine, did well; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks acted with natural effect in the character of Raoul Berton; and Mr. Graham Pockett was effective as Schram, the valet. Mr. Edgar J. Coyne made a pompous General Berton; and Clare Berton is admirably played by Emmie Wallace. Mr. Henry Miller's company came on Thursday with *The Servant in the House*.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are producing *David Garrick*. The title-rôle is finely sustained by Mr. Ernest Norris. As Simon Ingot Mr. Benson North takes the part admirably; Squire Chivy is played with good judgment by Mr. Edwards Petley; Miss Nora Craigie's Ada Ingot is altogether attractive; and great amusement is created by Miss Mabel Bishop and Miss Gladys Lloyd in the characters of Mrs. Smith and Miss Araminta Brown.

HOYLAND.—HIPPODROME.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—The attraction here is provided by Mr. Gus Levaine and company in *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Marion Collins is a bold and dashing Robin Hood, her singing being heartily applauded; Miss Lizzie Levaine as Maid Marion is all that can be desired. Miss Edie Levaine as Allan A'Dale, and Miss Vera Levaine as Phyllis, are excellent. Misses Violet and Nellie Harvey, in the rôles of the Babes, are very clever, their singing and dancing being highly appreciated. Mr. Arthur Collins is quite at home as Baron Badlot, the wicked uncle; and Messrs. Will Glenn and Will Freda as Friar Tuck and Chirrup the page respectively, are very good. Messrs. Charlie Towers and Jimmie Goode as Weary Willie and Tired Tim, and Miss Dolly Freda as Dame Durden, keep the audience in a ripple of laughter. Mr. Victor Silvernie is an excellent Demon Darkness; and Miss Ida Conway is a sweet Fairy Snowdrop, her song "Somewhere" being vociferously applauded. The specialities are Raynor and Esto, contortionists, &c.; The Four Dancing Pearls, speciality dancers; Mr. Victor Silvernie, silleur and bone soloist; Mr. Andrew Brownie, character vocalist; and the Grand Skating Carnival, under the direction of Mr. Alex Payne. The mounting is excellent.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager,

LETTERS COPIED WHILE WRITING in the Zanetic de Luxe Pen-duplicate Book. Sample, note size. 100 Duplicates printed 2-line address post free, cash 1/9, from E.R.A. Zanetic, 13, Wellington-street, Leicester. [ADVT.]

Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Appearing here are Frank Elliston and company in the pretty costume sketch *My Lady Betty*; Francis O'Flynn, banjo expert; Miss Marie Dreams, lady baritone; Ted Saunders, comedian; Alix Lukos, an actor impersonator and singer; Rex Fox, a clever wire walker; and Kioto and Esa, a pair of daring Japanese equilibrists. Pictures complete the bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—At the top of the bill is Miss Clarice Mayne, whose charming personality has made her a great favourite; she is very materially helped by the brilliant piano accompaniments and by-play of the gentleman who appears with her. Also in the bill are Bonnetti and Corri, comedy jugglers; Neilson's boys and girls, singers and dancers; Gillin, a ventriloquist gifted with a sense of humour; Roxborough and Wright, in a pleasant little duologue of singing and dancing; Les Montaldos, with a wonderfully well trained lot of parrots, cockatoos, and macaws; and Alfred J. Long, a refined and sweet-voiced male alto singer. The pictures are good.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Our Miss Gibbs* proves itself to be a constant source of entertainment. The principal rôle is cleverly filled by Miss Blanche Browne, who sings and speaks her part with equal facility; a convincing study is that furnished by Miss Dora Sevening as Mme. Jeanne; Miss Grace Wixon as the Duchess of Munster; Mr. George Gregory's Timothy is a piece of acting that will long be remembered for its absolute perfection; Mr. H. V. Oropion is a fine representative of the Peerage. The whole performance is one of exceptional merit.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*For Love and the King* is proving highly acceptable. Mr. Watson Mill gives evidence of his skill as an actor, and he is well received by the house; Miss Rosalind Tate plays Jarval's sister with dramatic force; Prince Yuros is a pleasant contribution by Mr. F. K. Wicksteed; King Kara was invested with all-sufficing dignity by Mr. Stanley Weston; the Duke Fernand falls to Mr. G. Chate, who gives an admirable reading of his rôle. The play is well received.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Bentley; Resident Representative, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Packed houses have been the order since the reopening under this new management. A capital programme is headed by Herbert Rule; Leo Dryden delights the audience with his répertoire of song poems; and the Three Orleans appear in a smart singing and dancing act. Remarkable feats are performed by La Belle Nello, in her bathing scene; comedy is introduced into the programme by Tennyson and Wallis, comedians and patterers; Chas. Stevens, character comedian; the Gregson Trio, in a rollicking comedy act, *The Dummy*; and Willie Atom and company, in their farcical absurdity *Wiggles*. Marie Stroud, chorus comedienne, and the pictures on the bioscope complete.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—Here Fred Karno presents his sketch, *Perkins, M.P.*, the title-rôle being taken by Mr. Albert Bruno. Oswald Williams is assisted by Winifred La Barte, and does several remarkable illusions; the Villions are exceptionally clever as cyclists, dancers, and eccentrics; as a ventriloquist Horace White is distinctly clever; Bert Errol's ideal "woman" causes amusement. Rohda Bros. appear in a clever gymnastic act; and Rich and Rich are effective comedians. Florence is a smart mimic; and the Royal Delomes are expert clog dancers. Coloured pictures are shown on the bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—The tenor songs of Jack Freeman are well received; Lisbon and Barker are entertaining comedians and vocalists; Little Dixie is an attractive child comedienne; and the other turns are Hillet and Hallett, comedians and dancers; Adeline Yohle, vocalist and dancer; Gertie Grace, a comedienne; and Cummin and Seaham, humorous acrobatic comedians.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's *Sleeping Beauty* pantomime is full of fun and melody, the comedians being genuinely amusing, whilst the songs and concerted pieces are admirably rendered. As the Princess Beauty Miss Ivy Moore acts and sings with piquancy and charm; a dashing Prince is Miss Lillian Elliott, who makes herself very popular. Sharing chief honours is Mr. Tubby Edlin, whose natural wit and humour is greatly enjoyed; Mr. Willie Black makes a diverting Queen, and his songs and dances are well received. Mr. Frank H. Morton is a dramtic demon, and his songs obtain well merited appreciation. Special recognition, too, must be given to Tom Shenton and Chicks, the Martinellos, and the Oowanda Girls.

ILKESTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—The programme is made up this week by Miss Winnie Wentworth, Lerio; Keene Harker, eccentric comedian; and the usual pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. John Leopold's company is paying a return visit with *New Frivolity*, preceded by *The Stadium*. Mr. Watson Hume's Oliver Buckwheat is a good performance; and Mr. Jack Leopold is a capital Daniel Teething; Jules Vermiglio is ably represented by Mr. John Leopold, jun.; Samuel Vermiglio loses nothing at the hands of Mr. Harry Ugar; Mr. Bol Otto is suitably cast as Prof. Fumble; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as Madame Cobweb acquits herself well; and Miss Elsie Forster wins favour as Lucy Buckwheat. The Four Kellys are smart tumblers.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company opened on Monday with Max Pemberton's stirring play, *The Woman of Kronstadt*. Miss Ida Chapman as Marion Best, the heroine, shows ability; Miss Betty Fairfax acts cleverly as Madame de Bellegarde; Miss Isa Bellington and Miss Marjorie Armstrong impersonate successfully the daughters of the Governor; Miss Edith Vogue makes a deep impression as the spiteful Princess Marie; as Colonel Bonzo Mr. Keith G. Kenneth is admirable throughout; Mr. Bernard Copping is a capable Paul Zazzoulic; and Mr. Horace Sinclair plays effectively as General Steffanoff. Mr. Taylor Vinson is the secret service agent; and Messrs. Lionel West and Herbert Lessin are two lively British naval officers. The play is excellently mounted. *Collaborators* is an amusing curtain-raiser.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. Gus Elen is paying his first visit to Ipswich this week and attracting large and appreciative audiences. Mendel, the blind pianist, on a return visit, had an enthusiastic welcome; Messrs. Wilton Heriot and company have an amusing sketch called *Father's Footsteps*; Mlle. Leoville is a clever performer on the tight wire; and the Larettes execute some intrepid feats on the swinging trapeze. Guy Ryder is a good society whistler; and Miss Edith Chantler and the Melba Twins sing some catchy songs. The bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's panto company is here with *Hop o' My Thumb*, which is well received. Little Georgie Harris is very good in the title-rôle; Miss Kittie Trewhitt makes a capital Prince Uno, her singing being excellent; Miss Kitty Rafferty as Princess Meadowsweet is simply charming, her vocal powers establishing her quite a favourite. Mr. Vivian Wakeman makes a first-class Dame, and gives some most excellent specialities; Messrs. Cowley and Rick are genuine comedians, and do full justice to the parts of Silversheen and Goldstein; and Mr. Harold Pyott, "the smallest man in the world," causes quite a furore. Miss Gladys Wyse is very fine in the part of Jeannie Macgregor. The dresses and scenery are excellent, and clever dances are executed by a powerful corps de ballet.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is appearing here in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Gerald Kennedy is successful in the unenviable part of Captain George Darrell; Mr. Alec Forbes is good as Captain Frank Carsdale; Mr. R. C. Carlton appears as General Kingsley; Miss Beatrice Shirley is a dignified Alma Kingsley; and Miss Nellie Murray is excellent as Drunken Meg. The two little drummer boys are well played by Miss Nellie Morris and Miss Minnie Webster. The comedy element is supplied by Mr. Conn Allister as Quincy O'Quirke and Mr. Byron Douglas as Timothy Trimmer, who are well supported by Miss Viola March as Molly Meadows. For Friday night a visit of Miss Kitty Loftus and company was announced.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company is here in *Temptation*. Mr. Norman A. Overton ably portrays Hubert Thorne; and Messrs. Dudley Wynton and Charles O. Whyte are respectively good as Sir Charles Tremaine and Major Grant. Mr. Patterson Bradbury as Mr. Blight is very real; Miss Beatrice Selwyn as Dora Blight and Miss Nora Carton as Hilda Dundonald give excellent displays of acting. The play is well staged.

LANCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's pantomime, *Aladdin*, is here. Miss Hettie Zillwood is a spirited Aladdin; Miss Lou Charlesworth a dainty Princess, sings well; the Sisters Wingrove are excellent in their respective parts of Pekee and Cheekee; Mr. Clarence Turner as Widow Twankey is a great factor in mirth-making; the Brothers Lavelle as the Police are most amusing; Frank Sutherland as Abanazar is popular; and Mr. Fred Osmond makes the most of the part of the Vizier. The specialities include the Brothers Lavelle in a really fine acrobatic act; the Venester Troupe of lady dancers; Pulo, comedy juggler; Miss May Myatt, 'cello soloist; and the Gando Sextette.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Miss Violet Osmund's company furnished a great attraction with *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Alexander Loftus and Mr. Chas. Adesm as Bertie White and William White kept the ball of fun merrily rolling. Mr. E. Sykes gave a clever impersonation of Colonel Claymore, and Mr. Leslie Austen made the most of his opportunities as Captain Loveday. Mr. Charles Sequin was a great success as Bonsor, as was also Mr. E. Osborne as James. Miss Madge Prior gave a very attractive portrayal of Ethel Joy, singing with artistic effect, whilst as Dora Heather Miss Beatrice Erle was charming as well as amusing. Another praiseworthy performance was the Brenda Louth of Miss Vera Grafton. Other characters were creditably taken by Miss M. Stead, Miss De Terry, Miss Marion Vyner, and Miss Murielle Mascott. For the latter portion of the week Miss Zena Dare is announced to appear in *The Little Duke*.

LEEDS.—THE GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Cinderella*, after a prosperous career, is finishing to-night (Saturday). On Wednesday Mr. Tom E. Murray, the principal fun-maker, took a well-earned benefit. Mr. Edward Lewis is sustaining his popularity as the Dame, and Mr. Albert Letine as one of the Sisters is all that can be desired. We are glad to welcome back Miss Florence Parfrey, who at the commencement of the pantomime was prevented by indisposition from appearing; Mr. Jack Pleasants has made a most favourable impression as the Page; the Bros. Redmond as the Handy Men are also to the fore in funny business; a skilful impersonation of a dog is done by Mr. Fred Zarinella; Miss Maya Mannering possesses a delightfully sweet voice and acts the title part to perfection; as the Prince Miss Jane Eyre fully justifies the enthusiastic applause accorded her; Miss Barry Eldon's capital voice is one of the most pleasing features of the pantomime; and the others who render a good account of themselves are Miss Olive Crellin as Dandini, Miss Winnie Volt as Phyllis, Mr. Richard Keith as Mr. Chatter, and Mr. Albert Chapman as Father Time; and the charming ballets are greatly admired.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Charles R. Whittle is one of the tops of the bill, and does a smart turn; the living picture entitled The Triumph of Beauty share honours with Mr. Whittle; the Casey Army, with Will Murray in charge, has been altered and improved; Cruickshank is a capital jester, and plays the banjo cleverly; Mlle. Lucia has a novel entertainment which is greatly appreciated; the Coloured Meisters' harmonious voices gain much applause; Mlle. Haydee's marionettes are cleverly manipulated; and others in a capital company include Bros. O'Brien in some smart bar work, Edie Reynolds, and Katie Butler.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Miss Marquiss and her trained cobs head the bill; Cassie Walmer's songs, sung in excellent voice, are very popular; the Eight College Girls submit a capital vocal and dancing scena; Emmie Ames has a nice style; Charles Ulrick provides an exciting turn; Harry Barcroft, Paul Corrix Trio, and the Lovelaces are also good.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Dan and his company of canine actors head the bill; Miss Alma gives a monologue, "Santa Claus," cleverly; the Arthur Gallimore Trio are very smart; the McLellan Carson Duo shine in roller skating; and Buddha's Blackboard is an interesting feature.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Walton and Lester, Millie Howell, May B. Brilliant, The Hendersons, and Bros. Roland are among the good items provided.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company is here with *The Marriages of Mayfair*. Miss Conyers Radcliffe deserves high praise for her portrayal of Dorothy Gore; and other ladies who are also prominent with excellent character sketches are Miss Mildred Cottell as Lady Margaret Villiers; and Miss Naomi Neilson as Bess Bissett; Mr. Robert Paige is very good as Lord Adolphus Villiers; and as Nigel Villiers Mr. Dennis Cleugh makes a conspicuous success; Mr. Paul Beckett is also most successful as Jim Callender. The various other parts in a big cast are capably enacted, and the staging is well done.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mrs. Wybert Clive's company is here in *The Outcast of the Family*. Excellent portrayals are given by Mr. Herbert Bentone, Mr. J. D. Clyde, Mr. Bert Oates, M. Wybert Clive, Mr. Tom Armitage, Miss Freda Beckett, Miss Maud Leslie Cudd, and Miss Gertrude Morella.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The principal attraction is Chung Ling Soo, the smart illusionist and conjurer, whose many elaborate and deftly-worked tricks astound the audience; Humpsti-Bumpsti (presented by Pipifax and Paulo) is a turn that is vastly to the liking of the audience; Will H. Fox, the favourite comedian-pianist, makes a big hit; Tom Stuart furnishes a most enjoyable turn, his mimicry being excellent; Miss Millie Engler and company, including Miss Louie Tinsley, are seen to advantage in the farcical episode, *Beauty and the Burglar*, which creates plenty of merriment; Jennie Alexander is a young and clever comedienne, who impersonates various stars in excellent style; Geo. Rae is an entertaining Scotch comedian, who also shines as a dancer; Monie Mine's story songs and step dances are a feature; and the bioscope is retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—At the head of this week's programme is Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Motoring*, which creates the usual amount of side-splitting laughter; Enzer, the soldier-juggler, is also prominent; and Miss Clarice, the lady ju-jitsu champion, has a clever and versatile turn; the Unites, in their comedy act, are both clever and funny; Estcourt, humorist, mystifier, and juggler, is entertaining. Other turns are submitted by Beatrice Willey, in a medley of old flower songs; Fred Wright, eccentric comedian; and Maud Garland, vocal comedienne. The bioscope pictures are good.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. W. S. Rosie.—A flying visit of Monsieur Roubaud's French company was paid here on Wednesday, when two performances were given. In the afternoon they presented the comedy, *L'Avare*, and in the evening the comedy *Le Voyage de Monsieur Perrichon*, which was followed by the vaudeville *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is occupying the boards here with *The Christian*. Mr. R. Scrope Quentin as John Storm preserves a dignified and manly demeanour throughout, evoking hearty applause; Mr. Edwin Ling gives a striking portrayal of Father Lamplugh; Mr. Arthur D. Layland presents an excellent study of Horatio Drake; Mr. John Blake successfully undertakes Lord Robert Ure; Miss Muriel Marsden fills the part of Glory Quayle with sound judgment; Miss Alice Maude successfully portrays Mrs. Callender.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—Paulton and Doley are to the front in a clever and amusing cycle act; the Quality Quartette are excellent harmonisers; Dancit had a flattering reception for her clever dancing; Ida Dorrie is an attractive comedienne with good songs; the Three Prestons present an enjoyable sketch entitled *The Village of Shift 'Em*; Mr. Harry Morris, vocalist; Mr. Geo. Doonan, comedian; and Cavalletti Bros. are also in the bill, and the Hippodrome pictures conclude.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company present an interesting play by G. Carlton Wallace, entitled *The Village Blacksmith*. A successful rendering of the title-rôle is given by Mr. Sam Livesey; Miss Maggie Edwards makes a hit as the Blacksmith's Wife; roguery is well characterised by Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Leo; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall, Mrs. T. C. Livesey, and Miss Cassie Le Grande appear to advantage as Jeremiah and Sal Parkins and their daughter Ruth; Mr. Fred Haming plays amusingly as Billy Twigg; and pleasant variety interludes have a place in occasional scenes, a strong feature being also made of a wrestling match between the hero and the sinister Captain

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—*When Knights Were Bold* was presented here on Monday by Mr. James Welch's company. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Sir Guy de Vere is extremely funny; Mr. Charles Lloyd's Isaacson was a clever study, as was Mr. H. Winton's Widdicombe. Mr. Colin Johnson ably played the Dean, and Mr. Gerald Venning made his mark as Sir Bryan. Miss Ernita Lascelles was a charming Lady Rowena, and Miss Ethel St. John a good Sarah. *Millie's Mother* precedes. *For Her Husband's Sake*, played by Mr. Millar Anderson's company, is billed for the last three nights.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—The Geraldos present a really smart juggling act; Margit and Lener have a sensational turn, in which the gentleman's somersaulting is remarkably neat. Mabel Le Blanche, Charles Leighton, Harry Bent, the Gelders, Ivy Dene, and the Palace Perfection pictures make up a strong bill.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*Red Riding Hood* finishes here to-night.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—So successful has *Dick Whittington* been that it has been decided to run it until the end of March, a couple of dramatic engagements having been cancelled. There is every probability that the Shakespeare will beat its previous record.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—How often *A Royal Divorce* has been to Liverpool is difficult to say, but certainly well over fifty times, yet at this popular north-end house crowded audiences are the rule. Miss Violet Ellicott sustains the part of Josephine in most creditable fashion; Mr. Keith Fraser makes an ideal Napoleon; the level-headed Talleyrand is capitally presented by Mr. J. H. Roberts; Mr. Charles Stirling proves an able Marquis de Beaumont; as Marshal Murat Mr. Harold S. Standing is eminently successful; Miss Dorothy Hudson plays intelligently as the little King of Rome; and Miss Winnie Tempest admirably suits the rôle of Marie Louise.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Married to the Wrong Man* is attracting big business. Miss Mary Pemberton shows to great advantage in the trying rôle of Ruth; Mr. Henry Lonsdale affords a telling interpretation of Jack Gladwin; as Captain Deering Mr. George Arthur gives the utmost satisfaction; some capital comedy is provided by Mr. Syd Claydon (Timothy Clinker) and Miss May Day (Dolly Fritter); and other parts are capably held by Messrs. Leonard S. Harrison, Leonard Thackeray, R. Marius St. John, Miss Cissie Bellamy, Miss Irene Atchinson, and Miss Una Erle.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—An acceptable presentation of *The Luck of Roaring Camp* is being given here by a proficient company sent by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow. As the light-hearted Nell Curtis Miss Elizabeth Dundas pleases generally, hearty applause being bestowed upon her; Mr. Douglas Murray reflects every credit upon himself with his fine portrayal of Will Gordon; Miss Doris Gilman makes an effective Jovita; and constant laughter follows the work of Mr. Harry Benson (Paddy McGinty), Mr. Horace Stewart (Ebenezer), and Miss Mary Morrell (Mrs. O'Flynn). The rest of the cast do good work.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Heading the programme here is the always welcome Evie Greene, who is having flattering reception for her contributions; Harold Nuttall's company give the popular sketch *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*; Alice Raymond and company please immensely with the musical trifle *A Night in Egypt*; shouts of laughter follow the antics of the Marco Twins; Phil Percival at the piano is a treat, his burlesque on Sexton Blake proving very amusing; the Olympian troupe earn rounds of applause for their clever and amusing football match on bicycles; Chass Lewis gives a smart ventriloquial turn; Williams and Parker have a neat act as Welsh vocal and comedy entertainers; and Harry Friskey has some funny juggling.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Principal here is the dramatic sketch *99*, presented by Frank Lister and Fred Kitchen's company; *The Toilers* is a popular musical scene submitted by G. W. Blythe, Miss Nellie Brierley, the Lancashire pit-brow singing girl, being introduced; Cyrus Dare is a talented vocal illusionist and imitator of children; the Sivronis are smart burlesque artists; Louis J. Seymour has some taking songs; Lillian O'Gorman sings and dances in good style; and Wilf Burnand gives imitations of prominent favourites.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Here this week we have Reginald Eyre and company with the military episode *Gentlemen, the King*, which is received with approval; the Croisit Trio submit a novel sporting scena, *From the Time of the Crusaders*; Kitty Colyer has a hearty reception for her popular songs and smart dances; Harry Taft proves as diverting as ever; Madge Allen sings and dances to everybody's satisfaction; the Christie couple of comedians and loose dancers earn rounds of applause; the speciality comedy act of the Hectors gains warm approval; C. Colbert, as a hoop manipulator and club juggler, shows up well, and meets with much popularity; and Reg Beauchamp, comedian, is also in the list.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Best of Her Sex* is being played here by the stock dramatic company, among the principal characters being Colonel Faringdon, ably presented by Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Philip, in the good hands of Mr. Harry Tresham; Leslie Vernay, well presented by Mr. Sydney Grant; Vera Delorme, which is capably handled by Miss Lilian Radbourne; Ruth Raeburn, undertaken by Miss Gertrude Entwistle; and Peter Jorkins, acted by Mr. Tom H. Solly. The Bioscope shows The Best Man Wins.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Top of the bill here is Arthur Roberts and company with the merry sketch *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; Miss Lydia Yeamans, who is assisted by Frederick J. Titus, has a flattering reception for his songs; W. F. Frame proves as popular as ever; Naughton and Gold keep their audience in the best of humours with their latest, *What Happened at the Hunt*; Henry Helme sings in accomplished style; Mlle. Marjutti pleases greatly with her new act *From Demon to Fairyland*: Clown Argo shows himself to be a clever imitator of sounds; much satisfaction is afforded by Herbert Sleath's capital sketch *The Deputy Sheriff*; and Falso and Eida have an interesting song and dance act illustrating ju-jitsu.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The attraction here, Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime *Babes in the Wood*, is put on in capital style. Miss Marion Scott makes a vivacious Robin Hood; as Maid Marion Miss Mary Dene acquits herself with credit; Miss Emmie Mappin is the Fairy Queen; and plenty of fun emanates from the efforts of Brinsley Smith (Baron), Harry Rousby (Dame), Oliver Conroy (Village Idiot), and Gee and Atkins (Robbers). Capital business is being done.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. T. N. Walter's company is attracting delighted audiences this week with *The Flower Girl*. Miss Lena Brickwell, a charming Lily, gives a most pleasing performance; Miss Elsa Brettingham, in the part of Lizette, is capital; and Miss Eva Brickwell is clever as Miss Greenhill, the Suffragette. Mr. John T. McCallum as Joe Wheeler, the Busman, creates endless fun, and is ably assisted by Mr. John A. Latham as Johnny Wheeler; Mr. J. Burlington Rigg (Scotch baritone) as the Hon. Billy Greenhill introduces some good songs; Mr. Cyril Delevanti as the Piccadilly dude makes a decided hit; and Mr. Henry Agnes as Alphonse de Racquet is most successful. Miss Idalia May's dancing in the Italian Garden scene is much appreciated.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—The drama *Driven From Home* is presented by Mr. Andrew Melville's company. The dressing, mounting, and effects are noteworthy, a steam circular saw being one of the "exciting items" of the play, the chief rôles of which are carefully entrusted to Mr. Felix Pitt (Anthony Raybrook), Mr. Percy Dawson (Willie), John B. Shinton (Geoffrey Waring), and Miss Ada M. Ryder as Laura and Walter.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Coverdale and Huxley's Juveniles present a clever scena, in which a number of smart choruses, solos, and duets, together with excellent dancing, are introduced. Ruby Celeste and May Hallett give an amusing dialogue, *The Other Woman*; T. W. Lenner is good in songs and patter; while Florrie Wright is equally in demand with her chorus songs.

MALSTEG.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd., Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—The Charles W. Poole Myriorama is as up-to-date as ever. The variety programme is a strong one, the star turn being the Royal Banzai Family of Japanese jugglers, contortionists, and equilibrists. Mr. W. L. Rowland is a capable mirth-maker; the Bros. Rees, Welsh military athletes, are a novel turn; Miss Inez and Master Pim are clever on the horizontal bars; Sydney Bach, Welsh comedian, causes roars of laughter; and the Cairo Trio, in an Oriental musical performance, are entertaining. At intervals some fine films are displayed.

MANCHESTER.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—*The Voysey Inheritance*, presented by Miss Horniman's very capable company, was followed on Monday last with the closest attention. Mr. Montague Kiphinstone was highly successful as Mr. Voysey; Miss Ada King quietly effective as Mrs. Voysey; Mr. Frank Darch played well as Edward; Miss Darragh was particularly good as Alice Maitland; Charles Bibby was Major Booth Voysey to the life; and Miss Edyth Goodall played with her usual charm as Beatrice. As Honor Voysey Miss Muriel Pratt made quite a hit; and the remaining parts were ably filled by Messrs. Edward Landor, Leonard Mudie, Stanley Drewitt, Esmé Percy, J. V. Bryant, Henry Austin; Misses Louise Hotbrook, and Hilda Bruce Potter.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—A strong attraction is provided by Messrs. Cullen and Cathy's comic pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Bessie Cohen as Robin Hood is distinctly smart; and Miss Maudie Ford plays very nicely as Maid Marion. Pretty and delightful work is done by Miss Dolly Cullen and Miss Elsie Jordison as the Babes; and Mr. Arthur Stratton makes good capital out of his opportunities as the wicked Baron Toodle. Fine fun is added by Messrs. Cullen and Carthy as the Robbers, who are a great feature of the show; while Little Cluley as Bantam and Mr. Tom Drew as the Dame are also very amusing. Among the specialities, the dancing of the Granada Quartet of ladies is worthy of high praise.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. William Watson's pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, which has been delighting the patrons of other Broadhead halls, is the attraction here this week. The Waldrons are still in the cast.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company is here, after a successful week at the Osborne Theatre, in their domestic drama, *Only a Little Boy*.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company are here in their popular drama, *Her Love Against the World*. A strong cast includes Miss Elsie Roberts, Mr. Oswald Cross and Mr. Fred Emery, the latter in the rôle of Eric. Good houses are the rule.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The prime honours of a capital programme here are shared by Lottie Bellman (capably assisted by Bay Russell), in clever bits of vaudeville; L'Incognita, the wonderful soprano vocalist; and Fred Storey and Co. in a fine performance of *Rip Van Winkle*. Excellent turns are added by the Westwoods, expert comedy cyclists; Sydney James's Strolling Players, the mirthful vocalists; Walker and May, coloured comedians; the Musical Jees, in their smithy act; Frank Danby and Co. in *Love in a Coffee Shop*, a very pleasing sketch; Charles Vincent, comedian; and Takio, the Japanese mimic of sounds.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The Slavinsky Russian Choir are to the front here this week, under the direction of Madame Margaret Agrineff-Slaviansky. The singing is somthing to remember. Dutch Daly has some smart talk, and plays popular selections on his concertina; the Four Regals give a highly finished and artistic strong act; Barton and Ashley score a big success as a comedy duo; Leonie Dixon sings and dances daintily; Frank Maura gives his dexterous and incomparable exhibition of foot equilibrism; Charles Mildare makes a hit as a whistler; and *The Dear Departed*, a most enjoyable comedy by Stanley Houghton, is presented by Henry Austin's company. Signor Rosi's Italian Ballet is here for a third and last week.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The top attraction here is Margaret Cooper, who gives a very refined entertainment at the piano; George Sheldon's company is also promient in the sensational sketch, *Before the Dawn*. Peggy Pryde adds a smart turn in comedy; and James and Jenny Lee give a startling exhibition of acrobatic cycling on the tight wire. Other good turns are Herbert La Martine, a novel and eccentric dancer; Palles and Cussick, the eccentric pair; Harold Heath, coon comedian and dancer; the Dardinis Trio, in a funny juggling act; and Taree, the Australian musical bushman, in a novel act.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Stella Gastelle, the charming musical comedy artiste, is here, assisted by Lena Simkin in a scena from *La Poupée*, and is well received; J. Cooke Beresford and company are excellent in comedy sketch, *Who's the Burglar?* Emma Don scores as a male impersonator; Fred Arthur, in character creations and mimicry, is capital; Edith Harmer, comedienne, provides a very pleasing turn; Henrietta and Selina are clever musical entertainers; and other good turns are contributed by Alice Leyton, comedienne; Emmie Harlow, chic comedienne and mimic; and Wright and Elton, novel comedy artists. Ruffell's Bioscope pictures complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Excellent and well received turns here this week are provided by the Smart Set Entertainers, including Georgie Martin, comedienne; Albert Sember and company in a dramatic sketch, *The Bell-Ringer*; Billy Farrell, of cake-walk fame; and Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, in juggling, mirth, and music. Other acceptable items are those of Olive and Owen, in pleasing comedietta, *The Roadside Tinkers*; Will Rhodes, droll singing comedian; and the Bioscope pictures.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Fred Karno's *Yap Yaps*, with Gus Le Clerq in the cast, tops the bill, and causes roars of laughter; another capital turn is *Toplitsky, or the End of the World*, excellently presented by Hayman and Franklin's Players; the Claymore Trio are exceedingly good in a unique dancing juggling act; and other entertaining turns are offered by Angus Strong, baritone vocalist; Layton and Douglas, quick-change musical artists; Milton and Horton on the triple bar; Dick Livesey, ventriloquist; and Harry Marlow, light comedian.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—*The Sign of the Cross* is being presented here by Mr. G. W. Bowes's company (by arrangement with Mr. Wm. Greet). Mr. Leonard Yorke presents an artistic performance of Marcus Superbus; Mercia is charmingly represented by Miss Florence Maber; Miss Effie Dane plays with resource and expression the rôle of Stephanus; and Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice depicts the sinister character of Nero with much power; and Mr. G. Osmond Tearle as Tigellinus and Mr. Evan Davies as Licinius play their respective parts in a commendable manner.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The programme this week is contributed to by the Katos, living marionettes; Bert Crosbie, comedian and dancer; De Lil, a clever illusionist; Lily Vine, comedienne and dancer; H. Munro, modeller of the faces of great men; Jack Binns, comedian; and Hulbert, ventriloquist.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Mother Goose* is being presented this week by Mr. A. Jackson Withers' company. Miss Lillie Soutter as Lubin, Miss Marie Wall as Daisy, and Miss Marie Elsie as Annabel earn great praise. Their singing, as well as that of the Fairy, Miss Roberta Svendsen, is a feature. Walter Kooney and Harry Karr as Parchment and Close are immensely funny and clever dancers. Mr. Alfred Donohoe is a comical Mother Goose, and Billy has an amusing representative in Mr. Mark Henlon.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—At the head of affairs here are Ike and Will Scott, a pair of merry entertainers that quickly secure hearty appreciation; the Three Herberts, acrobats and bouncing table experts, prov

ALBERT CHEVALIER.

MR. CHEVALIER'S EIGHTH AND LAST WEEK IN NEW YORK.

THE NEW YORK STAR:

With all due respect for the cry of protecting home industries, it cannot be denied that the appearance of such a man as Albert Chevalier is a decided help to the profession in general. Mr. Chevalier is, to-day, more popular and more welcome than he ever has been before.

NEW YORK.

THE MORNING TELEGRAPH:

Possibly the highest tribute to Chevalier lies in the fact that he holds an audience breathless with interest as he shows types his listeners have never seen. To do this a man must have so much human sympathy and sentiment that he breaks down the barrier separating the known from the unknown types. And that's what Chevalier has. He cannot be classed as a mere entertainer. Referring to him as a great actor gives a dignity to the phrase that few may hope even to approach.

THE NEW YORK STAR:

Chevalier is to-day the greatest artist in his line in the world. The keynote in his character is a strong sympathetic touch that magnetically reaches the best that is in his auditors. . . . His reception was tremendous.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS:

Simply wonderful. As years go by, Chevalier develops his art until it has reached the highest pinnacle. His répertoire was appealing in every particular.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE:

It sometimes happens that dramatic art is even better exemplified on the variety stage than in the "legitimate" theatres. There is such an instance now in New York. Albert Chevalier has begun a tour of the "vaudeville" houses. He is now at the Colonial. His acting was the best in all New York last week. It is always high among the best in England and America. Chevalier comes too seldom to this country. He is as much a favourite now as ever he was. He is one of the most remarkable comedians now living, and the public knows it. Wherever he appears there is "standing room only." His variety is astonishing. He understands how to make a programme. Each impersonation is a striking contrast to its predecessor. And he does half a dozen of a night. No better "character acting" is possible.

NEW YORK MAIL:

Chevalier was given an ovation.

NEW YORK JOURNAL OF COMMERCE:

A tremendous success. Albert Chevalier is the greatest character actor of the present time.

THE NEW YORK REVIEW:

He plays April with our emotions—tears trembling on the verge of falling are subtly arrested and touched up quickly with the light of laughter. Only an artist can twang the heart-strings and tickle you in the ribs, and be equally certain in each endeavour. Eight weeks comprise the sum total of Chevalier's New York appearances. It is a pity he cannot stay the season.

THE NEW YORK GLOBE:

Albert Chevalier is the most finished artist playing in vaudeville to-day, and his work has improved with his years, instead of losing any of the delicacy and restraint which, when a newcomer to America, made him unique among vaudeville performers.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE (second notice):

The performance at the Colonial is a virtual reception for Albert Chevalier.

THE NEW YORK CLIPPER:

Albert Chevalier's second week will in all probability result in the largest financial returns in the history of the Colonial Theatre of any European performer.

THE BROOKLYN CITIZEN:

No one individual has achieved so great a success in the portrayal of character. In the last decade he has added much to his répertoire, and while the old favourites were heartily applauded he appeared to better advantage in his newer characterisations. He is no longer only the coster. Now he depicts the broken-down actor, the country lout and other types as well. His "Workhouse Man," perhaps his most effective rôle, draws the audience's sympathy as nothing else on his programme.

THE BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION:

. . . . There is probably no finer bit of acting on the stage to-day than that of Chevalier in "The Workhouse Man."

NEW YORK STAR (second notice):

What an artistic delight that man Chevalier is, to be sure! His art is of the finest, the best we know on or off the vaudeville stage. Mr. Chevalier comes from abroad, but no American player need feel sorry that Mr. Chevalier plays in America. He is a man who is a credit to himself and to the whole craft of players.

4th American Tour.

SEPT. 27, 1909, to FEB. 12, 1910.
(20 WEEKS).

A FEW PRESS OPINIONS.

CHICAGO.

THE INTER OCEAN:
THE ART OF CHEVALIER.

Albert Chevalier's perfect art in characterisation and balladry graces the programme of vaudeville at the Majestic Theatre this week. His coming is an event that adds distinction to the local trend of things theatrical.

Chevalier is a comedian of genius. He has established himself in international fame, and his methods are familiar over the English-speaking world, from hearsay if not first-hand acquaintance, so there is no need to write discursively about his technique. Every one of his selections is a bit of finished interpretation, in mood, in sentiment, and in character detail. . . . In each, his costume and "make-up" was elaborate; and in each he seemed to put on a different individuality. He has a subtlety and brilliance that recalls Coquelin.

THE JOURNAL:

Chevalier's fame is solid, for it is built upon approximate perfection in the most difficult of arts. . . . When he is done you feel he has left nothing to do, and yet he has seemed not to be acting at all. Though he amazes the spectator with the seeming actuality of counterfeited character, he does not dazzle him with a show of technique. His is an art that conceals itself in everything but its result. He really seems to be what he makes believe he is, and appears to radiate character rather than make a mere outward show of it. He sees to it that his impersonation is pictorially accurate, but the wonder of his acting is not of rags, wig, and grease-paint. . . . It is a remarkable understanding of character and a remarkable control of the means of reproducing it that enables Chevalier to get to your heart.

CHICAGO RECORD-HERALD:

Chevalier is a master delineator, a creative artist. He gives you character, and, because he gives you character, both his humour and his pathos have the searching quality of truth. Chevalier has enormous range, and he sounds the notes in that great range with absolute precision. . . . Elaborate study, infinite pains must have been lavished upon these sketches, but there is no elaboration of method discernible. On the contrary, the method seems simple in the extreme. It is a method comparable to that employed by the masters of the short story where a rigid economy is imposed and where every detail that does not tell is excluded. One regrets that such art is not often visible, and that Chevalier comes to Chicago at such infrequent intervals.

Mr. Chevalier has added to the human worth of the theatre.

CHICAGO EXAMINER:

There's a big star at the Majestic this week: Albert Chevalier, a real comedian, an actor who finds your heart without insulting it. Chevalier has the power to, but he forbears from making an unpretty mess of your feelings. His strength as an artist is most greatly manifested in his reserve. There isn't an actor in town who can't learn something from this singer.

Singer? In its modern application that word tells nothing of Chevalier. His songs are little dramas, perfectly enacted. Their character and atmosphere are without flaw. They talk to us in the universal language—just as some wonderful, simple picture talks to every man in his own tongue.

Chevalier, so frequently pathetic, chokes me to silence. I can't even applaud him. He makes a drama of his song, a drama rich in atmosphere and imagination. He makes me see, not only himself, but what he sees. He is subtle. . . . He has found the hearts of two nations. If man ever broke optimism into the very drab of existence, it is Chevalier singing the "Workhouse Man." He is a fellow of infinite tenderness. . . . Chevalier has that final quality, distinction.

CHICAGO AMERICAN:

The moment eternalised, the human lifted out of mortality, immortalised; this is the painter's art. And this is Chevalier's art.

This is Chevalier's art most truly seen in "The Workhouse Man." Like the painter's, Chevalier's art is impersonal. There is no direct appeal; the canvas is finished and hung upon the walls for connoisseurs and fools alike to gaze upon, but the painter is nowhere in sight. There is no one to crave your emotional appreciation; the picture, serene in beauty and truth, does not ask your tears.

If your sympathies are quick and poignant a tear may fleck your eyelashes, but it will dry there without falling. We weep passionately over the passing, over that which goes for ever, over the wounds that will heal; but the moment of pain lifted into hope, the human lifted out of Time's mortality into eternity—this stirs the soul but forbids tears.

PITTSBURG.

THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH:

A revelation of dramatic power.

THE PITTSBURG POST:

Albert Chevalier is an artist in every sense of that much-abused term. It is thirty minutes of intellectual delight while he is on the stage, for his creations—masterpieces—give one something more than mere entertainment.

THE PITTSBURG LEADER:

Albert Chevalier, the famous English character actor, is an artist of rare attainments. His répertoire is strong, varied, and satisfying, surpassing anything ever seen in vaudeville before.

MR. CHEVALIER'S EIGHTH AND LAST WEEK IN NEW YORK.

THE NEW YORK TELEGRAPH:

The word "artist" is the one word properly to convey the greatness of Chevalier. It is often said of a man, that such as he are born only once in a generation. The history of the stage tells nothing of another Chevalier, and future generations will probably not be fortunate enough to know another like him.

BOSTON.

THE BOSTON TRANSCRIPT:

The quick and spontaneous impression of Albert Chevalier as he stepped upon the stage of Keith's Theatre yesterday afternoon, before an unusually large and unusually enthusiastic audience, was that of an actor who had mastered to its fullest and most satisfying sense the delineative and picturesque art of embodying physical characteristics. Then when the actor spoke the illusion was steadily maintained. The mobility of Mr. Chevalier's face, the quickness and sureness of his gestures to point or underscore a meaning, and the admirable restraint that characterised all his work illumined these sketches and made them something that seemed detached and far removed from the work of the ordinary music hall "character" actor.

THE BOSTON GLOBE:

For a number of years Mr. Chevalier's fame as an artist has been widespread, and his visits from the very first have been looked upon as events in theatrical history, worthy of the serious attention of the wisest students of the drama.

THE BOSTON JOURNAL:

Albert Chevalier, who was due at Keith's a fortnight ago, arrived yesterday. He couldn't come before because, according to the theatre announcement, "Chicago wouldn't let him go." Those who have seen him before could easily believe the announcement, and those who greeted him for the first time yesterday couldn't blame Chicago.

THE BOSTON POST:

Chevalier is a remarkable actor. His "Workhouse Man" is a masterpiece.

THE BOSTON ADVERTISER:

Chevalier's work is a revelation. If he chose to rest his laurels on "A Fallen Star" alone he would still be able to claim recognition as a great actor. . . . "A Fallen Star" and "The Workhouse Man" are classics.

THE BOSTON TRAVELLER:

Albert Chevalier came into his "ane countree" yesterday at Keith's, the welcome accorded him being most vociferous and continuous. . . . Recall after recall before the curtain. The great actor from the other side will be in Boston for two weeks, and it is quite safe to predict that his stay will be a constant triumph.

THE BOSTON HERALD:

The actor who recites to a soft piano accompaniment, who brings tears and smiles in quick succession, the hero of unnumbered poems and sketches is Albert Chevalier, the famous English character actor. So seldom are his methods employed in vaudeville that they seemed new. Distinction was given by the finesse and restraint with which they were used. . . . To convey the finer shades of feeling it would be hard to say whether he depended more upon the wonderful mobility of his face or the expressiveness of his hands. A quality which marks Mr. Chevalier a master in suggesting pathos is his restraint. . . . There was a prolonged welcome of applause.

PHILADELPHIA

THE PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN:

A man yesterday played with two big audiences at will. He made them sob, he made them cry, he made them laugh, and then he made them cry again. He transformed himself with a touch or two from a country bumpkin into an old, old man with the frost of many winters touching his hair, and the cares and sorrows of the years showing their tracery in his face. This man was Albert Chevalier, famous character actor. His work is wonderful—that is the only adequate word with which to describe it. . . . His "Workhouse Man" is a masterpiece.

THE PHILADELPHIA ITEM:

A great act. He was accorded an ovation.

THE PHILADELPHIA TELEGRAPH:

To quote from his first number, he "Roused the house to laughter and called forth the silent tear."

To achieve this, to cross and recross the faint demarcation between pathos and humour, and to carry the audience in the traversing—this represents the art of your true comedian at its loftiest estate. . . . Chevalier is a singer whose gesture, whose pantomime, whose facial play, whose very intonation characterise and dramatise. His types are all quick with life, and his hearers are brought, through the force and fervour of his artistry, to ready and sympathetic appreciation.

THE PHILADELPHIA TRANSCRIPT:

Chevalier is the greatest character star that has ever crossed the water.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER:

Chevalier, an artistic triumph.

MANAGERS, PLEASE NOTE!

Mr. Chevalier's Sole Representative is Mr. CHARLES INGLE, 11, Manor Court Road, Hanwell, London, W. No other agent in this country has any authority to negotiate engagements for Mr. Chevalier.

In America, Mr. Chevalier's bookings are arranged by Messrs. Gottschalk and Alpuente, 21, East 20th St., New York City, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Ingle.

All business communications should be sent direct to Mr. Ingle.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 8.*)

NORTHAMPTON.—Palace of Varieties, Ltd.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sameen and McNeil; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—Topping the bill this week we have John Le Hay and company in a farcical episode *Poor Beggar*, in which Miss Nora Le Hay, Mr. Chas. Cantley, and Mr. John Le Hay provide plenty of amusement. The Herald Comedy Four (two ladies and two gentlemen) have good vocal and comic power; Unita and Paul, comedy gymnasts, obtain enthusiastic approval of their agility and fun; the Spadonis, lady duettists and dancers, are well received; Anson and Leslie are funny in a comedy sketch, *Oh, George*; and Ernest Clifford, novelty dancer; Lew Loman, comedian; Eric and Nora, in a musical act; and the Delvaines, with their marionettes, complete a most excellent programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, with *Two Little Drummer Boys*, is heartily welcomed here. Mr. William Vane submits an admirable impesonation of Captain Carsdale; Mr. Edward Bikker makes of Captain Kingsley an excellent study; Mr. Frank Rogers ably depicts Captain Darrell; and Mr. Vernon H. Vane makes the most of Lieut. Kingsley. Miss Maggie English and Miss Maud B. Douglas display considerable ability as the two little Drummer Boys; Miss Violet Langley is much appreciated as Alma Kingsley; and Miss Violet Ingram gives a finished performance of Margaret Rivers. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. Will Percy (Quiney O'Quirke), Mr. Dick Seddon (Timothy Trimmer), and Miss Patricia Connaughton (Molly Meadows).

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The bill here is headed by the Five Olracs, in their act *Acrobatical Funniosities*, which receives well-merited appreciation. Madge Carew and Winnie Russell, assisted by the Avril Juveniles, in their vocal scena *Little Gleaners*, obtain a flattering reception; Tom Casey, the singing and whistling newsboy, proves a good turn; Waul Langtry, Scotch, Irish, and Tyneside comedian, is much enjoyed; and Pauline Zaro, comedienne; the Forsyths, in their musical-comedy act *The Tramps in the Nursery*, and the pictures all find favour.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—It is some time since Shakespearean drama was last staged here; but Mr. George Munro's company has this week presented a few of the most popular plays. On Monday *Hamlet* was performed, and in the title-rôle Mr. Munro gave a skilled and sympathetic interpretation. Cladius in the hands of Mr. Howard Rose was an impressive delineation; and the Polonius of Mr. Ivor Barnard was a highly effective reading. Mr. W. Lawrence gave a clever portrayal of Horatio; Mr. Coniah Rowe left nothing to be desired as Marcellus; Mr. D. Thompson's Rosencrantz was commendable; and Mr. Ernest Digges gave a powerful rendering of the part of Laertes. Miss Norah Vaughan acquitted herself well as the Player Queen; Miss Gertrude Newham did well in the small part of Osric; and Miss Gertrude Littlewood played with nice discretion as the Queen of Denmark; Miss Doris Horrocks was a brilliant and charming Ophelia. The other plays billed for the week were *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *The Sleigh Bells*, and *The Lyons Mail*.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Tom Watt's company in the Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne* is here. Miss Laura Hanson in the character of Lady Isabel excites much sympathy; Mr. Rayson-Cousens is an excellent Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Wilfred Percy Mansfield a good Francis Levison; Mr. Joe Rowland a most humorous Bullock; Mr. William Tunbull deserves praise as Justice Hare; and the same may be given to Mr. Eric Lugg as Richard Hare. Mr. Tom Watt ably impersonates Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. E. Elliott as Mr. Hallijohn and Mr. Clifford Clifford as Lawyer Dill are successful. Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle, Miss Beryl Forbes as Joyce, and Miss Alice Nunn as Wilson deserve praise; Miss Ida Heron is also to be complimented on her Barbara Hare.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The Achmed Ibrahim troupe of Bedouin Arabs (ten in number) give their usual marvellous exhibition as equilibrists; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, create laughter by their eccentricities; Randolph King, the one-man programme, is a versatile artist; the Four Figaros are excellent vocalists and dancers; the Sisters Showell are clever and refined duettists; Maxey and Pete are comedy trick cyclists of merit; Crissie Cross is a smart singer and dancer; and Sam Williams scores as a character comedian. The Hippo Bio pictures are interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The D'Oyly Carte Repertory Company is here. *The Mikado* was staged on Monday to a full house. In the part of Yum-Yum Miss Mabel Graham sang with bright and pleasing effect; while Miss Beatrice Boarer (Pitti-Sing) and Miss Marjorie Stone (Peep-Bo) acted in piquant fashion. Miss Bertha Lewis vocalised impressively as Katisha; Mr. Fred Billington's quiet humour was in full evidence as Pooh-Bah, this general favourite again adding to his popularity; Mr. Henry A. Lytton well brought out the eccentricities of Ko-Ko; and Mr. Leicester Tunks acted with dignity and sang excellently as the Mikado. Nanki-Poo had a fine exponent in Mr. Henry Hebert, who also gave his numbers with taste and expression. Mr. Sydney Granville (Pish-Tush) and Mr. Fred Drawater (Go-To) were an amusing couple; and the chorus numbers went splendidly. Other operas included *Patience*, *Iolanthe*, *Gondoliers*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*Two Little Vagabonds* pays yet another visit here. Mr. Frank Beresford is excellent as George Thornton; and the villainy of Captain Darville is well expressed by Mr. Renand Lockwood. Miss Dorothy Milne makes a sympathetic Marion Thornton; and an effective Barbara Scarth is seen in Miss Mabel Cooke. Miss Marie Pritchard is altogether amusing as Biddy Mullins; Bill Mullins is ably exploited by Mr. C. L. Ludlow; Miss Helen Grenville (Dick) and Miss Ivy Millais (Wally) gain hearty applause; and valuable assistance is rendered by Messrs. Philip Beaufoy, Frederick Archer, and Reginald Key.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The Grotesques are a vaudeville company of exceptional merit; Gobert Belling's well-trained comedy mule, donkey, and dogs cause endless amusement; Ernest Shand again confirms his right to the esteem of audiences; Venando's clever ventriloquial work arouses enthusiasm; and the trick cycle riding of Arthur Kenny well deserves its warm reception. La Freya is the centre of some charming limelight views; laughter is assured by the clever cross-talking of Farr and Farland; and Munroe's comedy team call for commendation. The comic acrobatic feats of the Barrowskys are smartly performed; and capital pictures are given on the Bioscope.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The principal attraction is Miss Harriett Vernon, whose pleasant manner and style is well known; Hayman and Franklin are popular; Bert and Dora, duologue and singing artists, and George F. Hall, American comedian, are good; and a very enjoyable entertainment is that of Francini Olloms and his page, in juggling and acrobatics. Hersleb Bros. and the Donatos occasion much mirth; Ruby Emmerson is both pretty and graceful; and the vocal efforts of Arthur Race are highly appreciated. A wonderful stage spectacle, Maurini's Fountains, and the usual Bioscope pictures conclude the bill.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Smiley.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* holds the boards here. Miss Maude Mortimer plays the title-rôle, and wins hearty applause; Miss Yolande Noble as Polly Perkins ably seconds her, and is very successful; Miss Mildred Carr, a dashing Jack, sings capitally; and Miss Gladys Hicks as Sally is also very good. Miss Marie Longden, a captivating Daisy, Miss Jennie Weston, a smart Dick, and Miss Rita Vincent as Neptune's Daughter contribute to the marked success; and Miss Ray Morgan as the dusky Princess is excellent. The fun is fast and furious, with Mr. Arnold Richardson in the part of Billy Crusoe; Mr. H. Flockton Foster as Captain Cutter causes much amusement; Mrs. Crusoe is smartly acted by Mr. C. Young Fixott; and Mr. Charles Heslop as the bold bad Will Atkins is capital; Mr. Chas. North makes a capital Cannibal King; and Elton and Elma as Bill Starboard and Tom Mainbrace act cleverly. Mr. Oswald Battye is a complete success as Friday; and the Children's Ballet is invented and produced by Mlle. Pauline Rivers.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Girl Who Went Astray*, the attraction here, is being played by Mr. Bulmer's company. Miss Chriesie Dunbar acts in a powerful manner as Madge Harvey; as Violet Miss Lalla Stanhope is sympathetic; and Miss S. Haughton is an excellent Eleanor Merton. Mr. Louis Lingard makes a soldierly Capt. Julian; Mr. Austin Mortimer a cool and cunning Rupert Murdock; Mr. Ernest Dare a good Sergt. John Harvey; and Mr. R. Ashton a capital Dr. Wilson. Mr. T. Carter is a capable General Sir Hugh; Mr. J. H. Lee a most amusing Gussie Seymour; Miss Mary Dalby does well as Molly Smart; and Mr. Reg Oldroyd infuses much comedy into his acting. Mr. Evan Roland as Adolphus Boomer acts cleverly.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Frank Adair and company in *The Heathen and the Christian* opened here on Monday. Miss Louie Adair played Mira Simpson in a forcible manner; Miss Stanley Burt as May Berresford is a dainty actress; Mr. Frank Adair is highly successful as Li; Mr. Fred Withers as Lung Hi is forcible; and Mr. Herbert Sydney as Chung Lu does well. Mr. Harold Garth is an effective Chang; Mr. Gerald Shirley is a fine sailor in the part of Lord Allendale; and Mr. Gerald Turner a capital Admiral Freebold. Mr. Ellis Carlyle as George Berresford and Mr. Fred Waring as Joshua Sampson do well. Miss Eva Reed as Becky Fibbins and Mr. Chas. Luke as Baa Lamb Gentle cause much laughter.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Richard Braatz's Dogs show marvellous training; John Warren introduces his military mystery, "The Magic Carpet"; and Geo. A. Richmond and the Brooklyn Twins are smart paper manipulators. Agnes McKellar, an accomplished ballad vocalist; the Austral Trio, in a capital musical act; Viviana and company, in *The Toy Shop*; Percy Farrimond, with his well-sung songs; and Maud and Sydney Wood, smart duettists and dancers, are also in the bill. The Palace pictures complete.

OXFORD.—New Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here with *Brewster's Millions*, and though this is the fourth visit of the play it is liberally patronised. Mr. Charles Esdale has his heart and soul in the piece as Monty Brewster, and achieves a distinguished success. He is ably supported by Mr. Gordon Ash as Charlie Harrison; Mr. Henry Hampson as Archie Golding; and Mr Aubrey Mather as Joseph McLeod. Mr. Robert Forsyth is good as Mr. Grant; Mr. A. Andrews does well as Colonel Drew; and Mr. A. P. Kaye is very droll as Rawles. Miss Pauline Strauss is a bright Mrs. Dan de Mille; Miss Frances Davie makes an effective Jamie Armstrong; Miss Dorothy Whitaker is natural as Barbara Drew; Miss May Selon makes the most of Trixie Clayton; and Miss Cicely Stuckey imbues Margaret Grey (Pegsy) with grace and charm. The scenery and effects are of great excellence, especially successful being the working of the Yacht scene.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—*Napoleon the Great* is being presented here by Mr. Herbert Vere's company. Mr. Vere portrays Napoleon with some success; Mr. Vivian Charles is well placed as Colonel Jules Mouron; Mr. Chas. H. Lincoln makes a forcible Colonel Lavarennes; and Mr. H. L. Staples is good as Monsieur Fouche. Mr. Edwin Frith gives a powerful rendering of Paul Lacrinska; and Mr. George Millard is a capable Pierrie Pomponnet. Miss Katie Norris is an effective Mlle. Leonie Marbœuf; Miss Maggie De Halle as Mons. Dumont and Miss Lily Mann as Lisette are both good. Miss Nancy Roberts is all that could be desired as Marcelli Choupin; and Miss Kate Walford is dignified as Marie Walewska.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is presenting *His Majesty's Guests*, which is received with roars of laughter. Mr. George Hestor is chiefly responsible for the fun, his study of Sergeant Lightning bubbling over with merriment; Mr. E. O. Freshwater proves himself very capable, both as actor and vocalist, in the rôle of Lord Easem; Mr. Charles Usher is well placed as Mr. Miffin; a clever and versatile performance is given by Mr. C. Richardson as Bunkey; the Mr. Minks of Mr. C. J. Gordon is amusing; Mr. S. Bolton gives a capital portraiture of Fritz; and Mr. Harry Howe does excellent work as Selina. Miss Winnie Bradfield ably represents Lady Maud Eeasem; a pleasing portrayal of Dolly is given by Miss Edith Ager; Miss Annie Wright is well suited in the part of Miss Manley; Miss Eva Ross gives a smart impersonation of Miss Mackerel; and minor characters are capably undertaken by the Misses Maud and Ella Ross, Miss A. Young, Miss Jean Verner, Miss K. Vogel, and Miss F. Vernon.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—At the head of the bill here is Ethel Arden and George Abel's company, in the farcical sketch, *Three of a Kind*, which is responsible for a great amount of mirth; as trick cyclists the Daunton Shaw Troupe deserve much credit, their "show" being exceedingly entertaining; Gus Carrick is a comedian of novel methods, and scores in all that he does; Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, is an artist of distinct merit; and other good turns are the Lyric Mummers (Frank and Lillian) in a vocal and comedy scena; W. B. Raby, comedian; Bert Welda and Dorothy Wynne, comedy juggling and dancing team; Charles Pastor, comedian; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Louis Calvert's production of *Sunday* had a good reception here on Monday. Miss Janet Lind, in the title-rôle, plays with simplicity and naturalness; Mr. Pennington Gush is a dignified Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. Richard Trieve a pleasant Tom Oxley; and the four "boys" are capitally played by Mr. Richard F. Symons, Mr. Launcelot Lowther, Mr. James Hussey, and Mr. George Marriot, jun. Miss H. Graham Edwins is charming as Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Gladys Ford Howitt plays most appropriately as the Nun. On Friday evening, on the occasion of Miss Janet Lind's benefit, *Dolly Reforming Herself* was to be played.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Percy Williams' company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Edward Lloyd capably sustains the part of Howard Wilson; Mr. Cyril Melton exhibits ability as Robert Curtis; Miss Ethel Kay as Mabel Wilson is highly emotional; Miss Leah Marlborough is effective as Cora; Miss Marie Wilson gives a pleasing performance as Jessie, the little mother; Mr. Harry M. Vernon as Toto and Mr. Watson Hume as Peter Schwartz keep the audience in a merry mood; Miss Blanche Huber as Bridget, the lady cook, is good; and Mr. Frank Ashley as O'Reilly and Mr. J. Newton as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford are all that can be desired.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mr. Selbit heads the bill this week, and presents in full light a delightful demonstration; Josie Mooney, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Vendome and Chase, in their humorous act, gain applause; Mark Hall is quaint; the Atans are clever gymnasts; Auto, musician, gives a good turn; and Walter Munroe, Irish comedian, is a great favourite. The Karnoscope completes.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Dollar Princess*, as played by Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company, drew a bumper house on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Norah Barry gives a delightful performance, her singing being of a high order whilst the passages at arms with Freddy Fairfax, a part excellently played by Mr. Alec Worcester, are responsible for roars of laughter; as Bulgar Mr. W. H. Rawlins' portly personality fits the part admirably, whilst the encores following his song nearly reached double figures; Mr. Leslie Holland is Condor, and fully justifies his hearty reception; Miss Madeleine Seymour as Olga is a distinct acquisition to the company, her singing deserving the highest commendation; Miss Peggie Primrose is winsome and attractive as Daisy. The piece is mounted and staged in the manner characteristic of the Edwardes' production.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Lockhart's Elephants pay a return visit, and the wonderful sagacity of the huge beasts, nurtured under the skilful training of Captain Taylor, earns hearty applause; Winfield Blake and Maud Amber are responsible for a first-rate vocal number, whilst their parodies of grand opera and melodrama were particularly amusing; Royburn and Dix provide an excellent comedy act, entitled *Skits on the 'Phone*; Les Xentrix (eight dainty maidens) provide a picturesque little turn, the singing and dancing in various costumes having a very pretty effect; Barnes and West furnish some first-rate American dancing; and Hardy Palm and Arthur Leslie, comedians, are strong contributors to the entertainment.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre.—Manager, Tom Diacoff.—Brinn and his assistant appear in a sensational act, entitled *Pastimes on a Battleship*; Kirk and Saraski give an aquatic display, with gorgeous tableaux; Judge's Cockatoos are the acme of bird training; Fyne and Hurley gain popularity in *The Coster and the Dude*; the Godfreys are very funny in their musical sketch, *The Slavey and the Coon*; the Maro Duo are smart on the triple bars; the Two Ludoes are clever equilibrists and tumblers; and Ethel May is a good comedienne and dancer; the Sisters Brooklyn, singers and dancers, deputise for the Ashley Team of roller skaters. The Alexscope is to the fore with animated pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Miss Mary O'Neil and Mr. Geo. Kirk's company are attracting crowded houses in *From Shop Girl to Duchess*. Miss O'Neil is exceedingly good as Sylvia, and receives an enthusiastic welcome; Mr. Hugh Carmichael is loudly applauded for his performance of Arnold Vivian.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. George Dance's principal company in *Miss Hook of Holland* is attracting record houses this week. Mr. Alfred Wellesley as Mr. Hook is as big a favourite as ever; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is again heard to advantage as the Bandmaster; Mr. Fred Lyne, as usual, brings down the house with his drolleries as Simon Slinks; Captain Adrian Paap finds an able exponent in Mr. Frederick Hobbs; Mr. Chas. Ross is a capable Schnapps; and Miss Hilda Gordon and Miss Lina Imperiali as Freda and Clara are successful. Miss Lilian Constance is a capital Gretchen; Miss Cora Engleton an admirable Old Market Woman; and Miss Maud Denny enacts the character of Mina with success. Miss Marie Studholme is an attractive Sally.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—A very capable company, under the direction of Mr. Vivian Edmunds, is this week presenting *The Cotton Spinner*, which is much appreciated.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—At the top of the bill here is Whit Cunliffe, who meets with a rattling reception; Mabel Thorne, comedienne, is also well received; the Eight Colonial Girls, in *A Garden Party*, contribute well-rendered numbers and execute some clever dances; Herma is an accomplished heavy weight-lifter; and one of the best numbers is the contribution of J. P. Ling, comedian and mimic. Chas. Baron's burlesque menagerie is an exceedingly novel turn; Burns and Bentley are an artistic dancing duo; Will Willis, comedian, contributes some good songs; and the Bioscope concludes.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Sole Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—There have been big audiences at the Palace this week to enjoy Poole's pleasing and popular pictures. The Myriorama never fails to attract at Ramsgate, as elsewhere. The pictorial portion is interspersed with some exceedingly clever variety turns, including Professor Beaumont's miniature circus, Miss Ethel Lorch, contralto; Nat Abait, the excellent guide; Fil Gerrard, facial artist; Elsie Verona, danseuse; Wun Hi Lung, clever Chinese illusionist; Frank Allen, humorous singer; the eccentric Selbys; and Trevor and Ware, comedy artists and dancers. The nightly competition among the audience has aroused a good deal of interest.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton.—Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting the great Drury Lane drama *The Prodigal Son* here this week with new and elaborate scenic effects. Mr. Marcus D. Draper gives a powerful impersonation of Oscar Stephensson; Mr. Ernest Owttrim plays effectively as Magnus; Mr. Charles Sewell plays with dignity as the Governor of Iceland; Mr. Arthur E. Holland is excellent as the Factor; Miss Lily Crammonde gives a splendid study of the part of Helga Neilson; Miss Sura Dudley plays the dual rôles of Thora and Elin with great artistic skill; Miss Una Gilbert as the Governor's wife; Miss Maud Locker as Margaret Neilson, Mr. William Curzon as the Sheriff, Mr. Harold Clemson as Dr. Olsen, Mr. Wilfred Jessop as Neils Finsen all sustain their parts well; and the other characters are all in good hands.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—The Tschin-Maa Troupe of Chinese magicians, conjurers, acrobats, and dancers provide a most novel and entertaining turn; the troupe consists of eight performers, and includes four tiny-footed Chinese ladies. A series of most amazing and clever feats are performed, which are received with enthusiastic applause. Dorothy Sephton is an accomplished comedienne and vocalist; Stalman and Russell present a most amusing comedy episode, *Borrowed Plumes*; the Sisters Geretti perform some daring feats on the double trapeze; Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealand travelling girl, who is working her way round the world alone, gives an interesting description of her travels, illustrated by a series of views of the places visited, and also presents her dramatic scena "Lasca"; Harry Zetter, the "loose man in tights," gives a good turn; Rob Gilmore, comedian, is well received; and Ernest C. Gettins' company gives a capital operatic sketch, *The Daughter of the Regiment*. In this sketch Mr. T. H. Wood appears as Sergeant Surplice and Mlle. Adele Prescott as Marie. One of "Foolshead's" amusing adventures is depicted on the Bioscope, and the Opening of Parliament Procession is also shown.

REDDITCH.—Public Hall.—Messrs. Vale and Edwards are on a return visit with their vaudeville company, and the entertainment is well attended. Erle and Godfrey are a smart couple, and Lawrence Harry is also a favourite. The pictures are very good.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company played to a good house on Monday *The Lancashire Lad*. Mr. Harry T. Wood successfully sustained the title-rôle; Miss Madge Douglas was a dainty heroine as Jessie Wincote; the villainous Lorna Wincote was forcibly portrayed by Miss Muriel Inglis; Mr. Ernest Vaughan did well as Max Carlton; Mr. Wilton Reed submitted a good study as Jem Wincote. Much fun was evolved by Mr. Bob Anderson (John Willie), Mr. G. Stuart (Tum o' th' Swilltub), Miss Lilian Rignold (Jane Alice), and Mr. J. W. Gadsby (Professor Napoleon Boulanger). Miss G. Henderson (Kitty De Vere) and Miss Molly Shine (Trixie) sang and danced well.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Some smart illusions are presented by the Egyptian wonder-worker Rameses; A. U. Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters Comedy Quartette in their vocal extravaganza *Ancestral Spirits* command much applause; Talberto and Douglas do some very comical work; acceptable turns are given by Annie Martin, vocal comedienne; Minnie Wheaton, comedienne and dancer; Starr and Leslie, in their clever act; Revill Hall, humorist and mimic; Queenie May, vocalist; and Ted Gill, tenor vocalist.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Boyle.—Mr. William Holland's pantomime *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp* furnishes an excellent entertainment, full of mirth and catchy songs. The burden of the fun is well sustained by Mr. Robb Wilton as Widow Twankey and Mr. Bob Selvidge as Abanazar, who with Mr. Kennedy Allen as Wishee Washee and the Three Comedy Chanters (as the Emperor and Police) keep the audience in roars. Miss Helen Charles is an ideal dashing Aladdin, and does some excellent child mimicry; Miss Poppie Holland is a charming Princess; Peko is ably presented by Miss Frances Haskoll; Miss Beatrice Vere (Yum-Yum), Miss Bertha Clifton (Li-lo), Miss Queenie Tilbury (Electrica) also do well. Some speciality dances are performed by the Four Fedoras, and the choruses are well under the baton of Mr. Caffyn Baxter. The scenery is very pretty.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Miss Marie Jones tops the bill here with a quick-change comedy playlet, *Wanted, the Co-respondent*, in which she proves very successful; Lauri Bros. are smart acrobats; and Alice Winsome is a pleasing comedienne. The vocal contributions of Edmund Kershaw are received with much applause; as vocalists and dancers the Soho Trio prove very entertaining; J. J. Mannie is well received as a coon delineator and dancer; and Sam Bignell is popular.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*The Love of the Princess*, the attraction here, is being excellently played by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, with Miss Dorothy Haigh as Princess Idalia, Mr. Frank Harvey Prince Conrad, Mr. John Burton King of Illarnia, Miss Maud Steeple Lady Irene, Miss Josephine Lee Constantia, Mr. Richard Vane Count Nicholas Danilo, Mr. Becket Bould Lieut. Orlans, Mr. John Worth Lieut. Zaroff, Mr. Francis Serle Prince Regent, and Mr. Edgar Morgan Duke Boris.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—*Dick Whittington*, presented by Mr. William Pardoe's company, commenced a week's run here on Monday. Miss Lottie Holland, a talented vocalist, wins hearty approval for her impersonation of Dick; as Alice Miss Nellie Rose is charming; Miss Rosie Volbecque is a captivating Lord Dedbroke, and Miss Elsie Kedward an attractive Princess. Miss Cissy Loveday, the Fairy, is a pleasing vocalist; Mr. George Hyam as Idle Jack heads the band of comedians; as Jim Mr. Alf Grady is mirth-provoking; Alderman Fitzwarren is played with originality by Mr. Tom Hulme; Miss Daisy Volbecque supplies a quaint sketch of Sarah Cook; Pauletti submits a smart acrobatic cycle act; the Edengale Trio of dancers win approval; and the Sisters Volbecque earn praise in their comedy duet.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's company opened here on Monday with *The Way Women Love*. Mrs. Bateman gave an artistic impersonation of Verene Alabra; as Captain Howard Tremaine Mr. Fred Goddard was forcible; Miss Camille Treherne invested the part of Violet with sympathy; Leslie Lamond and Dick Palmer were well played by Mr. Harry Aynsleigh and Mr. Percy Shaw; Mr. Herbert Barr did well as José Alaros; and Mr. George Herbert and Mr. Harry Lyons showed ability. Miss Carrie Jones (Granny), Miss Nellie Fern (Lottie Gray), and Miss Sadie Underhill (Frank Tremaine) were satisfactory.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Florodora* is being performed to good houses by Mr. Charles Constant's excellent company. Miss Fanny Holmshaw makes a smart and vivacious Lady Holyrood; Miss Daisy Lake's Dolores, vocally and histrionically, is a pleasing impersonation; and Miss Josephine Ellis is a delightful Angela. Mr. Eric Deane acts and sings with vigour as the dashing Captain Donegal; Mr. Arthur Lenville's Anthony Tweedlepunch is a laughter-provoking bit of acting; and Mr. J. Parker as Leandro and Mr. Edward Chester as Cyrus Gilfain are good. There is an adequate chorus, and the scenery and dresses are artistic.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—The very successful annual *Jack and Jill* finishes its Sheffield run this week.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Bad Girl of the Family* was played for the first time in Sheffield on Monday by Mr. Fred Melville's company. The drama, elaborately mounted and replete with thrilling episodes and humorous incidents, was received with loud applause by an enthusiastic audience. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Crossley acted with grace and intelligence, and other principal parts were in the hands of Miss Margaret Tueskie, Miss Dolly St. Clair, Mr. W. H. Hargreaves, Mr. Geo. H. Montford, Mr. Fred Freeman, Mr. T. May, Mr. C. Eustace, Mr. Luke Forster, and Mr. George Belmore.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The star here is Miss Victoria Monks, who on Monday did four songs and was recalled again and again; Miss Amelie d'Enclos a handsome Parisian with a phenomenal vocal organ, was well received; Mr. Harry Bedford was cordially welcomed; Mr. Harry Leybourne's amusing mimicry was thoroughly enjoyed; and other first-rate performers were the Van Damme Trio, comic acrobats; Mr. Carl Howard, conjuror, &c.; the great Lukushima family, marvellous Japanese tumblers and Risley artists; Ross and Lewis, variety entertainers; the Will o' the Wisps, musical comedy artists; and the *Dolly's Deception* sketch company. *Gadabout's Mishap*, acted by members of the Paris Gymnase company, was the feature of the animated picture series.

Hippodrome.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Little Tich has been a big favourite in Sheffield for over twenty years, and his visits here always mean big business. He had a grand reception on Monday, and again kept the house in roars. Other clever performers engaged are the smart Derrington family, in their daring act; Mooney and Holbein, two welcome favourites; Miss Madge Temple, a pleasing artist; Miss Anna Heath, a clever entertainer; Leigh Leicester, in an original act; Mr. Willie Gardner; and Mr. Austin Rudd, the well-known vocal comedian, in new songs. The Bioscope, with artistic new films, concludes.

Central Hall.—Lessees, the Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.—There is an excellent array of talent this week, and a fine selection of dramatic, spectacular, comic, and fantastic pictures.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's artistic company was here on the first three nights of the week with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Chas. Sims as Mr. Hook was exceedingly droll; Mr. Robert Selby as Captain Adrian Paap played the military part in a praiseworthy fashion; Mr. Frank G. Dunn as Bandmaster Van Vuyt merits high encomiums; Mr. Charles Berkeley, with a fine voice, acted in a conscientious manner the part of Ludwig Schnapps; Mr. F. Bartlett made a capital Old Policeman; and Mr. Richard Rose a creditable Hans Maas. Mr. Geo. Roberts made the best use of his opportunities as Van Eck, and Mr. Edward Kipling looked a picturesque loafer as Simon Slinks, a part which he played in a most satisfactory manner. As Mina, the energetic maid to the Hooks, Miss Madge White, a chic and talented actress, worked hard and successfully; Miss Nan Stuart as Sally was attractive and accomplished; and Miss Mabel Selby made a pleasing Gretchen. Miss Hilda Beverley's company in *A Destroyer of Men* came here on Thursday.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—This week the programme contains the names of the Whitworth Trio, comedy and trick cyclists; Rolando Martin, comedian; Barnes and Ascott, dancers; Muriel Harding, Anglo-French comedienne; Ten Loonies, the mad musicians; Clifton and Gibson, comedians; and the Abdulla Arabs, tumblers and pyramid-builders.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Southend Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company, in *Sherlock Holmes*, is attracting good audiences this week.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's principal company is presenting an admirable all-round interpretation of the popular musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*. The rôle of Jim Cheese was depicted by Mr. Bert Beswick with irresistible humour; Miss Lily Gullick makes a charming Elphin Haye; Mr. Herbert St. John lends capable assistance as the lover Dick Wargrave; the Hon. Crewe Boodle has a distinctly successful representative in Mr. Arthur Hyde; Mr. Sam Lysons is a commendable Downham, Miss Ada Waugh a piquant Liza Shoddam, and Mr. J. M. East a good Bunker Bliss.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Charles Elderton presents *Aladdin* in lavish style to good houses. Miss Maudie Vincent portrays Aladdin in a bright and vivacious manner; and the Princess Badroulbadour is charmingly depicted by Miss May Gibson. They both have good voices, and their songs and duets are well applauded. Good comedy is displayed by Mr. Harry Harrop as Abanazar and Mr. Will Beanland as Widow Twankey. Many specialities are introduced, including Claremont and Victor, clever hand balancers; Li-Chang-Hi, who contributes good conjuring; Stean and Mellin, comedy and dancing act; the Mimosa troupe of juveniles; Morrisey, marvellous balancer and musician; Sisters Terry, duettists; Lottie Stone Quartette of dancers; and the Cameron Quartette of male voice singers, who have an excellent reception. The ballet is well arranged, the chorus good, supplemented by an augmented orchestra under the able direction of Mr. A. Pearson.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item is Adam Tomlinson, who, being local, is immensely popular here; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins are

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

To Legalise Sunday Opening.
THE action of the London County Council in compelling cinematograph theatres to close on Sundays is said to have spread dismay amongst the rank and file of the employees, who realise that as many of the smaller theatres depend upon their Sunday takings for a profit, most of them will in consequence be compelled to close altogether, thereby throwing hundreds out of employment. Therefore a trade union of cinematograph and skating rink employees is being formed, whose objects are: (1) To legalise Sunday opening, after church hours, of cinematograph and skating rinks; (2) to secure a six days' working week for all employees; (3) to obtain trade union wages and conditions of labour. A large percentage of the proprietors of cinematograph theatres are said to have expressed themselves in sympathy with the aims and objects of the union, and a vigorous campaign during the County Council election is being inaugurated.

Buried Alive.
THIS is the title of a very good Selig film. Two old prospectors, John Hanford and Jim Rowe, do their best to accumulate a fortune. Rowe's son Simon is very much in love with Lucy, daughter of Hanford, but she is, as yet, undecided as to the status of her feelings towards her ardent lover. The old partners strike a rich claim, but living in the vicinity are two men of dissolute habits, who believe in the axiom that "the end justifies the means." By name Pete Horner and Jake Rooney, they hear of this "strike," and immediately proceed to scheme whereby they may secure some right or title to it. Horner makes violent love to Lucy, thinking that thereby he may locate just where the claim lies, and she almost reciprocates his pretended affection. Horner and Rooney follow the two miners. On their way they meet a Chinaman "washing gold." Desiring possession of that gold a fight ensues in which the Chinaman is bested. Thinking him "hors de combat" for good and all, the two men proceed farther until they reach the mine. Seeing the entrance thereto, they set dynamite and fuse in hopes of entombing the men within. This done, they turn to leave, and find that the "Chinee" has followed them. Another struggle ensues, in which the Celestial is thrown over a cliff, and the two men proceed to their cabin in hopes that Hanford and Rowe will die within the confines of their own claim. The next day Pete, in order to allay suspicion, goes to the cabin of the two miners. There he meets Lucy, and while endeavouring to assure her of his love for her, is confronted by the Chinaman with axe in hand. It is then that Lucy learns of the treachery and deceit of her pretended lover, and while the Chinaman holds Pete at his mercy, Lucy speeds her way for the rescue of her father. She explains her predicament to the campers near by. At once they go to the mine, and after much labour succeed in rescuing the miners. During the attempted robbery of this claim a Deputy United States Marshal has been searching for Horner and Rooney on other charges. He comes upon the scene and Horner and Rooney are both made prisoners, the Chinaman is given an interest in the mine, and Lucy gives hand and heart to Simon.

Bedford Firm's Claim.
MESSRS. BLAKE BROTHERS, of Bedford, claim that they were the first in the provinces to exhibit pictures of the opening of Parliament by his Majesty the King. The historical function took place at two o'clock on Monday afternoon, and by 7.30 the same evening the pictures recording it were being shown to an enthusiastic audience at the Picturedrome, Bedford.

Effect of Sunday Closing.
THAT large section of the London public which has shown its appreciation of the opening on Sunday of the various "Picture Palaces" where cinematograph exhibitions are given were disagreeably surprised last Sunday to find them closed. These Sunday exhibitions have not prejudicially affected the Sunday League concert attendances, and in such weather as prevailed last Sunday the closing of the "Picture Palaces" has certainly had the reverse of a prejudicial effect on the attendances at other palaces which need not be more particularly specified.

"Take a Broad View."
THE *Birmingham Daily Mail*, commenting on Sunday cinematograph shows, says that the "Bull-street" parade in Birmingham has often been the subject of comment by ministers of religion. Despite all that has been done to lure thoughtless young persons into the sphere of wholesome influences the evil remains practically as pronounced as ever. The animated "picture show" has great possibilities from an educational point of view, and social and religious workers might do worse than consider the attractiveness of such exhibitions in the light of religious effort. Sunday lectures have had unquestionably a refining and ennobling influence. The old narrow type of Sabbatarianism is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, and it is in the best interests of society that a broad view should be taken on such matters.

Savoy Aviation Banquet.
ONE of the most important social engagements for this month is a conversazione and ball, to be held at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday, Feb. 24, which has been arranged by the Motor Union to celebrate the establishment of an aviation section and the incorporation of the Aeroplane Club. The reception committee includes the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, the Earl and Countess of Lonsdale, the Earl and Countess of Mayo, Captain the Hon. and Mrs. Robert Lygon, the Hon. and Mrs. Alistair Hay, C. H. Dodd, Esq., Captain W. G. Windham, and Mr. D. Lewis Poole. A conversazione will follow the reception at 8.30 p.m., and lectures, illustrated by cinematograph pictures, and exact models of the most successful types of flying machines will be in the hands of demonstrators, who will explain their construction.

"Pinched."
THE *Morning Post* agony column is always good reading, and the following spasm culled from its columns is sufficiently romantic to reprint: "PICCADILLY.—Cinematograph Pictures. Will clean-shaven gentleman, with tall hat, who visited pictures on Thursday, 17th, about six o'clock, sat in back row, who unfortunately got pinched, communicate with lady sitting next to him through the front page *Morning Post*?"

Death of George Black.
WE greatly regret to announce that Mr. George Black, proprietor of Black's life-motion pictures, died at four o'clock last Saturday afternoon. He underwent an operation on Wednesday most successfully, but on Friday he commenced to sink fast. He had been ill about four weeks from kidney and heart troubles. Mr. Black was for some twenty years connected with the old Theatre Royal, Birmingham, and was for some years at th Comedy Theatre, Manchester.

Later he bought a gigantic waxwork exhibition and toured most of the towns and cities of the United Kingdom. He was at the time of his death sole proprietor of Black's Picture Palace, Gateshead; sole proprietor of Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool; sole proprietor of Boro' Theatre, North Shields; lessee of Tivoli Palace, High Shields; lessee of Black's Picture Hall, Sunderland; and lessee of Black's Picture Hall, West Hartlepool.

The Royal Procession.
THREE hours after the Royal procession had arrived at the House of Lords the entire pageant —with very clear pictures of the King and Queen —was reproduced on the London Hippodrome screen. In the evening they were everywhere.

Living Pictures at the Mansion House.
AN innovation in Mansion House entertainments is to be made by the Lord Mayor, who has arranged for a cinematograph representation of the Passion Play, as enacted at Ober-Ammergau, to be given in the Egyptian Hall during Holy week.

Fifty Deaths in Theatre Fire.
DURING a cinematograph exhibition at the municipal theatre of Truxillo, Peru, a film caught fire. The outbreak spread rapidly. In the frenzied attempts of the audience to escape, fifty persons were killed, including several well-known residents. The theatre was destroyed.

Closed by the Police.
MR. CHARLES PALMER, the manager of the picture show at the Royal Victoria Rooms, Bridlington, had to close on Saturday last owing to a notice he received from the police under the new Cinematograph Act. The Corporation, however, have accepted a tender for a fireproof room, and Mr. Palmer assured a crowded house on Saturday that he hoped to open again in a fortnight's time with an even better show than had ever been given here.

More Electric Theatres.
"ELECTRIC THEATRES," which have become important features of the entertainment side of London, have already invaded the provinces, but another company has been formed for the purpose of establishing theatres in Manchester, Derby, South Shields, Leicester, and Hereford.

United Electric Theatres.
SUBSCRIPTION lists closed yesterday in respect of an issue by the United Electric Theatres, Ltd., of 106,000 shares of 10s. each at par. The company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring, erecting, and equipping electric or cinematograph theatres. Careful inquiries have been made, and after considering over 100 properties which have been offered, a selection has been made of nine, which were the most suitable for the purposes required, and which were procurable at moderate prices or rentals. The properties selected are in the following towns and places: South Shields, Keighley, Manchester, Derby, Leicester, Dudley, Hereford, Hackney (London), and Mile End (London). The theatre in South Shields is in course of erection, and it is hoped will be completed within a few weeks. The building at Keighley can be opened as soon as some minor alterations are completed. The theatre at Hereford requires only slight alterations, and can be opened almost immediately. Plans of the Derby theatre have been passed by the local authority, and it is intended to commence building forthwith. An agreement has been entered into with Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Syndicate, Ltd., who supply the cinematograph entertainments at a large number of variety theatres, for supply of pictures and management of the entertainments.

The New Premier Theatres.
THE directors of the Premier Electric Theatres, Ltd., have recently signed building contracts for new picture-theatres to be erected at Ilford and Earlsfield. The buildings have been designed by the well-known firm of theatrical architects, Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co., and will be substantial fireproof brick structures, handsomely decorated and furnished, with a seating capacity in each case for over 1,000 persons. This company's new theatre at Harringay is rapidly approaching completion, and will be ready for opening at Easter. Theatres are also to be erected at Leytonstone, Woolwich, Bristol, East Ham, and Chelsea. Full houses are the order of the day at the company's Harlesden theatre. Business has been so encouraging recently that the directors have already instructed their architects to prepare plans for a new balcony in order to provide increased accommodation. It will be interesting to learn that this company (a sister company to the well-known Premier Rinks, Ltd.) will also open a new theatre at Boston, in Lincolnshire, on Easter Monday.

New Companies.
CONSOLIDATED CINEMATOGRAPH CO.—Feb. 12. £47,000 (40,000 £1 ten per cent. pref., and 140,000 1s. deferred). Agreements (1) with the Entertainment Properties, Ltd., and (2) with the New Film Hiring Co., Ltd. Minimum subscription, twenty per cent. of shares offered to the public. First directors (not less than three nor more than seven): A. E. Williams, J. H. Segar, and H. I. Roberts. £100. Remuneration (excepting managing-director), £100 each per annum. Waterlooplace, Pall Mall, S.W.

ANCHOR PICTURE THEATRES AND AMUSEMENTS CO., LTD.—Feb. 6. £2,000 in 1,900 shares of £1 and 2,000 shares of 1s. 534, Oxford-street, W.

GREAT HARWOOD ELECTRIC THEATRE, LTD.—Feb. 15. £2,000, in £1 shares.

WILLESDEN GREEN ELECTRIC PALACE.—Feb. 18, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £1,250. 1,000 £1 preferred ordinary and 5,000 1s. founders'. Agreement with the British-American Trust, Ltd., and A. R. Henderson and W. H. Weil for (inter alia) the assignment by the said trust to the company of leasehold land, with premises thereon, known as 298, High-road, Willesden Green.

BRIGHTON PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Feb. 18. £2,000, in £1 shares. 9, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

GREAT HARWOOD ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Feb. 15, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. £2,000 £1. As title. Private.

PICTURE FILMS, LTD.—Feb. 16. £2,000, in £1 shares. 35, Sackville-street, W.

UNITED ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Feb. 21. £60,000 (10s.). To carry on the business of proprietors and managers of electric or cinematograph theatres, &c., to acquire properties in South Shields, Keighley, Manchester, Derby, Leicester, Dudley, Hereford, and Hackney and Mile End, London, and to adopt three agreements—two with International Electric Theatres, Ltd., and one with Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Syndicate, Ltd.

New East End Theatre.
A NEW electric theatre is to be erected in a prominent position in Mile End-road. This latest of London's cosy little theatres will be equipped with every modern device as approved by the London County Council, and will accommodate 675 people.

Kensington and Knightsbridge Electric.
THE directors announce that the renewal and reserve fund account now stands at £85,464, being an increase of £7,267 over the amount of the account at the end of the previous year. After providing for the amount placed to renewal and reserve fund account and paying dividends on the 6 per cent. first preference shares to June 30, 1909, on the 5 per cent. second preference shares to Sept. 30, 1909, and an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the first half of the year the balance standing to the credit of the net revenue account for the year 1909 is £8,081. Of this sum £1,500 has been appropriated to the payment of the first preference dividend to the end of the year, and £625 has to be set aside to meet the portion of the dividend on the second preference shares accrued to the same date. It is proposed to pay out of the balance of £5,956 a further dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, for the past half-year, making 8 per cent. for the year. This will leave a balance of £1,756 to be carried forward.

Kensington P.T. Open on Sunday.
THE Kensington Picture Theatre in future will be open on Sundays, and the entire proceeds will be given to the London Hospital.

Pictures Popular in Birmingham.
CINEMATOGRAPH halls are springing up all over Birmingham. The Theatre de Luxe (at the Masonic Hall) is the latest, and here excellent pictures are being shown. The Theatre Royal picture matinées are being well patronised, and there is much speculation as to what will happen when the Cinematograph Theatre and Winter Gardens is erected next door to the Royal. The old property on the site has been razed to the ground, and the erection of the building will be proceeded with without delay.

Brinkburn Picture Palace Opened.
THE Brinkburn Picture Theatre was opened yesterday (Friday) in Newcastle-on-Tyne. It has a circle with a seating capacity of 400, and the pit or area accommodates another 600. Tip-up chairs are fitted throughout.

Cardiff—Stoll's Panopticon.
A REMARKABLE dramatic picture has been the chief attraction at Stoll's Panopticon this week, entitled The Grandsire, a thrilling story of the sea by Jean Richepin. A humorous character who has become famous under the name of Foolshead, make a welcome appearance in a laughable sketch entitled Foolshead Goes to a Ball. Other comedy creations include A Suspicious Ma-in-Law, Country Servants, and Max Linder's latest mirth-provoker, entitled A Romantic Young Lady. The entertainers in the programme are Mr. R. T. Chinn, a clever performer on the concertina and the purveyor of peculiar patter; Mr. James Hope, the baritone of excellent quality, in new songs to illustrations; Mr. Fred Dyer, a delightful singer of ballads old and new.

Smart Work at Tunbridge Wells.
SMART work was shown at the Tunbridge Wells Electric Theatre on Monday by producing on the Bioscope the film of the Royal opening of Parliament on the same day as the occurrence.

ALDERSHOT.—WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Golder and B. Sloman.—The management is up to date in having a good local picture as the tit-bit this week, the principal film showing last Sunday's Church Parade, with the soldiers coming from church. The full programme of pictures includes Australian Roughriders, The Slavery of Children, A Roman Drama, The Fisherman's Sweetheart, The Bargee's Daughter, Wanted —a Maid! Mishap of a Baby's Perambulator, A Mother's Fault, Lost in the Snow, Driven from Home, Pick of the Russian Cavalry, and The Mysterious Thief.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Crocker.—A splendid programme is presented here, on Tuesday and following nights the film showing the procession of the King on his way to open Parliament being added, proving that the management here intend being quite up to date. The Naval Pageant, showing the recent manœuvres on land and sea at Spithead, is another marvellous reproduction. Miss Sibyl Lonsdale's descriptive songs are a feature of the performance, "The Boys of the Old Brigade," in which she includes a veteran dressed as a Chelsea pensioner, being a great hit. There are several other bioscope pictures besides those already mentioned, including The Poacher's Revenge, Little Violinist, The Angel's Thread, Nerveless Man, &c.

ARBROATH.—PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. G. S. Melvin; Manager, Mr. Val Dee.—Business is going strong here, and some very fine pictures were shown on Monday evening. Hunting the Panther, Sherlock Holmes, and The Little Shepherd of Gambling Run are good. The picture that recalled a visit to the Oxford Music Hall, London, some time ago was Little Tich, thrown on the screen in several of his most popular characters. Many who have not seen him in life enjoyed his inimitable and original ways immensely. The Redskin's Justice, Lost in the Alps, and The Renunciation were all received with great enthusiasm. One or two variety turns made up an excellent programme.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The Pavilion pictures for the current week are The Rocky Road, a drama of a domestic character, the details of which are painful and the end pathetic; How I Won the V.C., a story told by a veteran of the army, and we see how he achieved the honour in picture; The Two Artists, a very distressing and touching story; and The Gorges of Aude, a film of scenic description which will repay the visitor for the time spent, if he had no other inducement. The two interlude performers are Harry Kimberley, singing comedian, and Spry and Bentley in a one-act comedy-drama, *The Terror of Turney's Rents*. Mr. Alan Wright, the lecturer-vocalist, also contributes a song, "Queen of the Earth."

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The week's pictures are full of interest for the spectator. The dramatic love story Adrienne Bertraux is historic, an exciting episode of the First Empire, and the interest is well sustained. The Tempting Necklace shows how a man, under strong temptation to fall into crime, is saved from dishonour by his child. The humorous films are The Late Guest, a funny situation provocative of hearty merriment; Mr. Foolshead, the eccentric, seen in his latest amusing adventure; and A Good Winning, a side-splitting effusion. Herring Fishing at Boulogne is good as a descriptive picture; while The Beggar Man's Gratitude is both pleasing and pathetic. Lee Hurst, the ventriloquist, with his doll, gives a smart show, and Frank Wilter, actor-vocalist, sings descriptive songs.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The Marriage of Trionville is a very fine picture of a love romance; The Gamekeeper's Daughter shows the cruel manner in which a poor girl is deceived; His Reformation is a really fine example of the amendment of a wrongdoer; Burglary by Airship is novel, of course, but hardly possible; Jones Buys a Birdcage is one of the funny group; and The Day After is a perfect scream of laughter. The variety turns are the Maynards, lady and gentleman, who appear with great success in *The Lady and the Page*, a drawing-room act, in which vocalism, patter, tragi-comedy, and legerdemain are prominent features, and Mr. Fred Buckley, a good singing comedian.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The programme here is heartily enjoyed by large audiences. A Lesson in Charity, The Orphan, The Twin Brothers, and The Sculptor's Statue are picture-dramas full of human interest and pathos. Amongst others may be mentioned The Senorita, In the Window Recess, Young Redskins, Potts Backs a Winner, The Butcher's Bill, and Terror and Terrier. Variety turns are provided by Miss Connie Ruble, vocalist, and Mr. Albert Harrison, comedian.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—Crowded houses twice nightly here testify to the popularity of the programmes provided by the management. One of the latest picture series is a highly sensational and fascinating one, Mad Woman of the Castle; Conscience is a touching story; and others which are well received are Choosing a Ma-in-Law, Escaping the Snapshotters, Family at the Photographers, and Servants and Masters. Mr. Ernest Dalmaine, vocalist, is making a successful appearance, and the selections by the Scarlet Band still continue a popular feature.

BARRY DOCK.—VINT'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—An excellent series of pictures was presented here on the opening of Mr. Vint's new venture. Heading the bill are Hicks' Clerks, clever comedians, vocalists, and dancers; their specialities are well received. Capital amusement is provided by Bert Allden, a comedian of no mean ability. Some splendid films are shown of an attractive and pleasing kind. The popular ones were The Fatal Wedding and Across the Divide.

ROMILLY HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sid Bacon.—A fine programme is presented here this week, of which Geo. Grossmith and Edmund Payne in scenes from *Our Miss Gibbs*, is top of the bill. Many other films of a varied and amusing type are also shown. A special film is billed for to-night, viz., The Driscoll and "Seaman" Hayes fight, which should prove a great attraction.

BELFAST.—NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Under the direction of the popular manager, some capital films have been exhibited here, including Judgment, Smuggler's Daughter, Nick Carter, &c. The variety element is sustained by Meade and Wall, capital comedians, and Happy Atwood, with some humorous parodies and patter.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, a fine programme has been submitted here, including The Little Detective (an amusing and exciting picture), Ruined by His Son, Benedict Arnold, &c. Mr. Chas. Cardle, gipsy vocalist, appears at each performance, and gains a gratifying reception for his latest successes, "Iona" and "My Cairo Queen."

BIRMINGHAM.—KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Pictures of exceptional interest are included in this week's programme, one of which is a pathetic subject, entitled The Open Gate. The film A Corsican's Revenge is a popular tabloid drama, and here is endless variety in humorous pictures. Blythe and Wild, duettists, and Miss Lila Vesta, contribute acceptable vaudeville turns.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Another delightful programme of animated pictures is heartily appreciated by crowded audiences. The management spare no expense in the endeavour to secure the best dramatic and comedy subjects, and patrons are always ensured a first-class entertainment. Clever vaudeville turns give variety to the programme.

BRIGHTON.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—Some very fine animated pictures are exhibited here this week. The State Opening of Parliament is a very fine film; From Cabin Boy to King conveys a pathetic drama; Bear Hunting in the Arctic Regions is highly interesting; 'Tis now the Witching Time of Night is powerfully dramatic; and The Northern Lights Express is full of fun. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in good style.

DARWEN.—ALBERT HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Among a good set of films are Nursing a Viper, Hero's Reward, Mr. Gadabout's Xmas, and The Floods in Paris. Wallace Witney, juvenile comedian; Miss Beattie Foster, comedienne; and George Lightbown, tenor vocalist, are all well received.

DEWSBURY.—INDUSTRIAL HALL.—The Devil Woman is an inteneely sensational dramatic picture depicting love and folly; The Kind-hearted Employer is another very popular dramatic film; Benedict Arnold is a fine historical picture; a thrilling dramatic picture is the one entitled From Kidnapper to Rescuer; Coco Gets Married and The Indiarubber Man are extremely funny comics; and A Visit to the Antwerp Zoological Gardens is another splendid film.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The programmes presented by the manager, Mr. Lunn, constitute quite a feature of the entertainment world in Dundee. There is a host of instructive and interesting pictures shown this week. A beautifully-coloured view entitled The Indian depicts in realistic manner the trials of the settlers in the Far West. The wonderful evolutions and displays of the U.S.A. trick cavalry squad at Fort Meyer are followed with intense interest. Who's Got My Hat? proves a rib-tickler; the antics of a man whose hat, with some banknotes inside, is handed by a maid to a medico in mistake, keeping the audience rocking with laughter. The Hair Restorer also keeps our risible faculties in good working order. To-morrow evening (Sunday) Pathé's series of coloured animated photographs of *The Passion Play* will be presented.

EDINBURGH.—PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Drama is the strong point in the programme here this week, and is well represented in The Cabin-Boy and the Engineer's Daughter; The Test is an extremely humorous subject; and variety is well supplied by several talented artists.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, the films being varied and excellent. The Mountaineer's Honour tells how a false lover paid dearly for his deceit. The Stolen Favourite is a thrilling tale of the turf, while Poultry-Breeding is both interesting and instructive. Humour, however, is not forgotten, as such subjects as Foolshead's Intrigue show. The Acmes are very smart comedy duo and instrumentalists, and are heartily applauded for their clever selections.

GATESHEAD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—This, the pioneer picture hall of the town, continues to enjoy much success. The bill this week comprises: A Corner in Wheat, An Affair of the Heart, Almost! The Diver's Remorse, The Persistent Lover, A Midnight Adventure, Red Wing's Gratitude, and a series of comic and tragic pictures. In addition to the pictures, the Ashtons, pleasing vocalists, are appearing.

RAVENSWORTH PICTURE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. Allan and T. F. McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. T. Newton.—This most comfortable and well-managed hall continues to enjoy good patronage. The list submitted this week includes: Cab Runner, The Mexican's Revenge, Yokohama Jubilee, Papa, Mama, and the Baby, His Reformation, Mr. Sadman's Cure, A Cowboy's Romance, Foolshead, Hero. Fred Lindsay, comedian, adds to the entertainment.

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Victor Carter.—The excellent programmes submitted here week after week have made this hall a most popular rendezvous for all classes of the public. The bill this week includes: The Dancing Girl of Butte and The Fireman's Wedding. The variety turns are above the average, the Howards, second-sight entertainers, and Geo. Batter, character vocalist, submitting most enjoyable turns.

GRIMSBY.—PICTUREDROME.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Adolph Rowella.—Mr. Raymond has been established at this house (formerly the Hippodrome) for three years. A speciality of the performances is the Scarlet Band, which plays incidental music appropriate to each picture. This week the principal picture is The Condemned Man's Mother, a dramatic illustration of an Anarchist plot and its outcome. The Poacher's Revenge is another excellent picture story; The Flower Seller depicts an incident of Parisian life; and among capital humorous subjects are The Soldier and the Servant, Foolshead, The Timid One, Mr. Poorluck's Marriage, &c.

HANLEY.—KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Harlewood.—This week again a magnificent series of films are thrown on the screen. The greatest favourite is The Pet of the Ranch, a very powerful story. A Drama of the Sea is another stirring story. The Paris Floods are clearly shown. The humorous films are Out With It, Gibson Goddess, Out of Sight, and Foolshead Pays a Visit. Phil Terriss, an eccentric patter comedian, makes a great hit.

KIRKCALDY.—CORN EXCHANGE PAVILION.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. G. Lee.—Magnificent pictures are on show here this week, of which The Horror of a Strike must rank as first place. This picture very impressively exhibits how "arbitration rather than force" overcomes trade disputes, to the mutual satisfaction of master and man. Other pictures are: The Princess and the Slave, The Man with the Dolls, Left, Right, Date Industry, The Tramp's Awakening, and Earthly Paradise. Dave Melvin, Scotch comedian and dancer, is appearing here with great success.

NORTH SHIELDS.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Black; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Black, jun.—The Rocky Road is a picture of great interest; Andre Chenier is much enjoyed; and other capital films include A Romantic Young Lady, The Cheesemonger's Dog, The Two Artists, &c. The Mannikins and Randolph Slater (impersonator) appear, and are accorded a flattering reception.

HOWARD HALL.—An excellent series of pictures are again being shown here, and include A Heroine of Mafeking, An Excursion Through Central Italy, The Rocky Road, His Wife's Sacrifice, &c.

GAIETY PICTURE HALL.—The principal picture here is Pygmalion, which is excellent; other enjoyable films include Morgan the Pirate, The Gold Mania, Foolshead Goes to the Ball, &c. Little Miss Lovett, in her songs and dances, appears, and is loudly applauded.

NORWICH.—AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr's entertainment continues to be well patronised here. The pictures include In Little Italy, Grossmith and Payne, Foolshead, and the Opening of Parliament by the King. Mr. Tom Taylor (baritone) has established himself a favourite.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A fine picture in natural colours is the top-liner, and is very interesting. It is entitled Wild Birds in their Natural Haunts. A Western Maid is a powerful dramatic picture. A splendid Biblical film is The Life of Moses, and was very interesting. A Child's Forgiveness earned much applause; and some very laughable pictures include The Turkish Pedlar, The Workman of the Future, The Wrong Cab, and The Hoot Automatic Cycle. Mr. Don Cameron again sings with success.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—A thrilling story of the Boer War is the principal picture here, entitled The Heroine of Mafeking, and the applause was well earned. The Egyptian Maid is well acted, being a fine dramatic episode. A good travel picture illustrates A Cocoanut Plantation in Singapore, and is very educational. Country Servants and A Lesson in Economy are a very funny couple of films, among others. Mr. King sings "The Vagabond."

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—The Life of Moses is the principal film, and The Ranchman's Rival is a dramatic film of interest. A powerful story is The Scales of Justice. Sorry Can't Stop, Midnight Sons, and many others are also in the bill.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—The Grandsire is a good film, and an interesting picture is 'Twixt Red Man and White. Fashions from 1859 to 1910 is very interesting and amusing. The Life of Moses, The Heroine of Mafeking, Misfortunes of a Pedlar, and The Day After are shown.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Manchester Electric Theatres, Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—The films this week are very good, including amongst many enjoyable and interesting series of pictures the boxing contest between Britt-Summers. Additional attraction is the engagement of Mr. George Reeves, "the Phrenologist" (comedian), and Mr. George Ingham, a local vocalist of note, who together fill up a most enjoyable programme.

READING.—THE VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE (Broad Street).—The King's Procession at the Opening of Parliament is the principal feature of this week's programme. A number of other good films are also exhibited.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE (West Street).—Pygmalion, Faust, and a variety of comic and other subjects are being displayed here this week.

BIO PICTURE LAND (King's Road).—A continuous show of excellent films is being given here, there being an entire change of pictures on Mondays and Thursdays.

SALFORD.—OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent new animated pictures this week include The Subterfuge, Ice-breaking in Finland, Choosing a Husband, The Mad Woman of the Castle, The New Chief, The Rocky Road, Sea-lion Hunting, and Runaway Stove. Mr. Tom Sherlock also sings "Daylight."

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include Cleopatra, Cure for Cowardice, The Late Guest, In Little Italy, Love Me, Love My Dog, Wanted, a Child, Foolshead, the Naughty Boy, and His Reformation. Mr. Gilbert's songs were "Dear Old Bow Bells" and "Wait for Me."

STALYBRIDGE.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. W. Llewellyn.—Another fine programme is presented by the above management, and the pictures include Tempered with Mercy, The Heir to Clavancourt, The Mountaineer's Honour, Nick Carter, A Sticky Proposition, The Best Man Wins, a splendid cowboy comedy, Cold Water Massage, Pedding Pat Pinches Poultry, and Gold-mining by Hydraulic Pressure, truly a wonderful picture. Mr. M. B. Lees renders several pretty illustrated songs.

FORESTERS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Beardsworth, Harrison, and Kershaw; Manager, Mr. Frank Lens.—An excellent variety of interesting subjects are shown here this week. The programme includes The Widow's Reward, a touching domestic drama, Cowboy's Romance, The Death of a Brigand Chief, The Miniature, A Woman's Treachery, A Trick that Failed, Whitles' Witless Wanderings.

SUNDERLAND.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company.—The programme here is up to the usual good standard this week. The films Who's Got My Hat and Three Sharps in a Flat were highly diverting. A capital turn is that of Picitt and Lizette, magical pantomimists, in their extravaganza *The Crazy Cook*, in which they introduce some clever productional work.

SWINDON.—COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures here are attractive, and are being appreciated by large houses this week. Prominent among the films are the Johnson and Ketchell fight, The Egyptian Maid, and Niagara.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, the Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Andrew Martell.—On Monday the usual full house again witnessed a varied and instructive programme. The Abduction depicts how a young man gets into a fast set, and while out motoring one day they meet a farmer's pretty daughter, and the young man pretends to fall in love with her, and persuades her to consent to marry him. One of his friends acts as the parson; but the girl believes they are really married. The young man's mother, who has heard of the plot, meets them, and persuades him to stop his deception, and he tells the girl the truth, and sends her home. However, he finds he really loves her, and, running after her, he persuades her to be properly married; and so all ends happily. Hidden Treasure is a fine pantomime picture, and Ambushed is a beautiful coloured film. A very instructive film is one showing the habits of wild birds taken in their native wilds.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—A good house assembled on Monday at this new hall. By Rail to Hardjenkolen is a pretty and instructive travel picture, and How Bridget Served Tomatoes is a roaring comic. Foolshead at the Ball is undoubtedly the finest of the Foolshead series, although they are all laughable. Mr. Sam Travis sings two beautifully illustrated songs in "True Eyes" and "Sweet Maid of Ennis." The last picture, A Fish Trick, leaves a broad grin on the faces of the audience.

WHITEHAVEN.—MARKET HALL.—Continued success attends this popular place of amusement, and the pictures are of the usual high-class order. This week the following are the most interesting series:—Detected by Bioscope, The Negro Burglar, The Senorita, The Cursed Cage, Two Women and a Man, and A Visit to Uncle. Mr. D. W. Watson, post horn player, is a very acceptable turn.

WORTHING.—WINTER HALL.—Lessee, Mr. M. W. Shanly; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. F. Tierney.—An excellent pictorial exhibition has been provided here during the week, and amongst the films that have been shown are The Airship Destroyer, The Lady of the Camelias, adapted from Duma's novel, and The Country Doctor.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The pictures here still attract crowded houses. A Ranchman's Rival, Justified, and The Seventh Day are pictures which are dramatised by a splendid company of artists. Some comical and side-splitting pictures are Macaroni Soup and The Lady's Companion. Others on the bill are A Country Doctor, Their Son's Medal, A Good Action Rewarded, and An American Marriage. Miss May Macpherson and the Cinephone, as usual, oblige with capital illustrated songs.

YORK.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—All the films shown this week are of a high order of merit, each one being well received. The Bridge of Sighs (a wonderful effect), The Child Benefactor, Diversions, and The Lamp are all good, and excellent variety turns are given by Harry Delmore, Joe Green, Doris Sterling, and Capper and Steele. Business good.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Lovely pictures are the rule this week. In Little Italy is brimful of excitement; The Robbery of the Lyons Mail is also exciting; and the doings of those clever entertainers Belford and Mars never fail to please.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 10.)

TODMORDEN. — Hippodrome. — Mrs. Morton Powell's company in *A Girl's Temptation* opened on Monday to a capital house. Miss Gertrude Gilbert gave a touching delineation of Kate Sterling; Mr. Frank V. Fenn proved a powerful Guy Warren, and as Mark Klaw Mr. Clifton Earle acted admirably. Miss Blanche Lee played Annie Brown to the life, and was ably supported by Mr. Fred J. Mace as Jim Judd. Miss Winnie Donovan as Lady Constance Heathfield, Mr. Charles Herbert as Basile Warren, and Mr. Tom Handley as the Hon. Charles Clade also did well. The humour of the piece is well looked after by Mr. Dan Hardie as Sammy Sniggles and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima Jossop.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. William Greet's chief company in *The Sign of the Cross* has been accorded a welcome reception. Miss Constance Little achieves success as Mercia in gaining the full sympathy of the audience; Miss Winifred Delevanti makes a pathetic figure of Stephanus; Mr. W. Lawson Butt is an admirable Marcus Superbus; Mr. W. Mayne Lynton is sufficiently tyrannical as Nero; Tigellinus finds a capable exponent in Mr. Charles Aldred; Mr. H. Thurston Harris and Mr. Martin Palmer do well as Servilius and Strabo; and as Favius and Titus Mr. Walter Fleet and Mr. Henry Raymond capably fill their respective parts.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The Hippodrome season was resumed this week with a strong programme, in which the star turn was the Princess D'Aryaha, in her beautifully mounted fantastic scena, in which her reputation as a clever and beautiful dancer was more than maintained. Other turns included Prof. Glennie's Marionettes; Crawford and Johnson, coon comedians; Dot Moss, the juvenile banjoist; Mother and Meyer, the dancing duo; Johnny Cecil, comedian; and Elsie Athas, comedienne, all of whom had a cordial reception.

WAKEFIELD.—Opera House. — Proprietors Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Stuart Lomath and company appear in the drama *Whom God Hath Joined*. Miss Ellen Owen plays Kitty Crumpet with success; Mr. Stuart Lomath gives a vigorous portrayal of Captain Jack Merrick; Mr. Arthur B. Pringle is a manly Major Stevens; Mr. Lancelot Usher ably undertakes the part of Digby Trant; Mr. Jack Miller is effective as Richard Manley; and Mr. Victor G. Payne is seen to advantage as Watty Cooper. Miss Helena Walbran does full justice to the rôle of Mrs. Merrick; and Miss Amy McNeil is admirable as Beatrice Trant.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The Six Spanish Juanitos are wonderful acrobats; the Five Musical Marvels give a talented and refined turn; Mark Stuart delights with clever patter; Stevens and Brett, comedians, contribute a popular item; Blanche White and Miss Clifford, comedy artistes, find much favour; Miss Bertha Evelyn is a pleasing vocalist; and the Cosmopolitan Male Quartette of Glee-Singers are a decided success.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Child Trio are a wonderful juvenile combination of musicians; Juno Salmo is a marvellous contortionist with electrical effects; Halter and Ray, comedy artists, are greatly appreciated; Vasey and Ramsey are smart dancers; Sam Dalton, eccentric comedian, is amusing; the Czar's Royal troupe of dancers give a clever series of bewildering evolutions; and Miss Lilian Travelli is a charming soubrette.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—After an absence of several years, *The Silver King* is playing a welcome return visit here. Messrs. Polini and Melford's company have had a warm reception, and the play is as popular as ever. Mr. Fred D. Daviss as Wilfred Denver plays naturally throughout; Miss Mildred Surrey scores as Nellie Denver, her rendition of the character being very faithful; Mr. Edward J. George renews his popularity for his delineation of the faithful Jaikes; the children are well represented by Miss Hilda Bateman and Master Eric Dene; Mr. Arthur H. Rooke as Captain Herbert Skinner is a typical specimen of the genteel villain; and smart character sketches are seen of Elijah Coombe (Mr. Arthur Wright), Henry Corket (Mr. Ralph Leon), and Cripps (Mr. Fred May). A charming Olive Skinner is Miss Mary Glanbrane. The staging is very effective.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Mr. Adderley Howard's company head the bill here with the nautical spectacle *Black Ey'd Susan*. Mr. Howard presents a capital impersonation of William, and a charming Susan is Miss D. Mullord. The staging is excellent. H. C. Lovell and Co. score well in the sketch *Mdlle. Pom Pon*; the Zampas are smart vocalists, dancers, and jugglers; Mdlle. Dalmere's entertainment with performing cats, rabbits, dogs, doves, and rats is novel and interesting; Norah Desmond's illustrated songs are much enjoyed; Charles Gardner is responsible for much mirth; Willie Long is a smart comedian; Archie Pitt does well; and the pictures are much enjoyed.

WATFORD.—Palace Theatre.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright. —Mr. Leonard Boyne's company in *Raffles* has this week drawn crowded houses. Mr. Reginald Dance gives a superb performance in the name-part; Gwendoline Conran and Mrs. Vidal have able exponents in Miss Frances Titheredge and Miss Mollie Tremaine; and Mr. Harold West makes a convincing Bunny.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Pantomime provides a welcome change this week, and Mr. John A. Thomson's production of *The Babes in the Wood* is very delightful, the company being an excellent one. Miss Pattie McCarthy is an ideal Robin Hood, and the Maid Marian of Miss Daisy Stone is charming. Mr. Will Chandos and Mr. Geo. Chandos as the Ruffians impart plenty of humour into the piece. Enjoyable turns are provided by Mdlle. Florence (champion globe walker), the Sisters Hypatia (duettists and dancers), Miss Nora Pendergast (soprano vocalist), Abex (the pocket Hercules), and La Belle Sylvia (dancer). The pantomime is beautifully staged and dressed.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—In addition to capital pictures, T. E. Johnson provides some clever songs; Colvil and Tate are comedy artists of considerable ability; Miss Mabel Daubyn is a serio comedienne with a good selection of songs, which she sings well; Mdlle. Tudora creates much interest with her four educated ponies; and the Tymes, with their enchanted clock, is an enjoyable turn.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Messrs. Dotteridge and Longdens' company are presenting twice nightly the migratory pantomime *Dick Whittington*. To Miss Ethel Campbell is allotted the name-rôle, and a pretty and sprightly Dick she is. Alice has a charming representative in Miss Tina Franks. Madame Benita, who plays the part of Fairy Sunshine, possesses an admirable voice. Wholesome comedy is abundantly displayed by Mr. Albert Williams as the Cook, and Mr. Deane Tribune as Idle Jack. The whole production is excellently staged and prettily dressed. The Pauline Rivers Troupe of merry mill girls and dancers introduce some very pretty dances.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Keen and Waller, a couple of eccentric comedians, are exceptionally clever. The Delevines provide a novel turn in their scarecrow dance. Fred Elton's scena at the piano *On Board an Ocean Liner* is well performed. Andrew McManus has established himself a favourite. Lily Burnand is a great favourite. W. Selkirk's juvenile production, *The Gathering of the Clans*, is retained another week, and excellent Pictures are shown.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Lloyd's animated pictures and variety company are here this week. The films are exceptionally good, especially those entitled The Robbers of Fingall's Creek and Following in Father's Footsteps. Miss Bertha Zander possesses a well-trained and powerful voice, which found plenty of scope in "When the heart is young." "The Sailor's Grave" was sung by Mr. Charles W. Wade with much dramatic expression; Mr. Leedam Stanley is a first-class comedian, and produced a very humorous sketch for the first time, entitled *Peers*.

WEYMOUTH. — Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company is here in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. The title-rôle is charmingly represented by Miss G. de Lacy; Ruth Montrose (her sister) is cleverly played by Miss K. Stewart, who renders some dainty songs; Mr. G. A. Fox as Capt. George Fielding wins approval; Mr. R. Gilbert is an excellent Capt. Edward Dudley; Mr. F. Trevor as Hawkins leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Nellie Harcourt wins much appreciation as Judith; Mr. W. Boyce as General Garston and Mr. Deane Cliffe, and Mr. W. H. Troutbeck are good in their respective parts; Mr. J. Salter as Silas Crump keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Iris Elvido and Miss Lily Elvido are accomplished dancers, and with Miss Madge Delta contribute much to the success.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Swinton.—Mr. Kiddie's popular pantomime *The Forty Thieves* is presented twice nightly here. The author is Mr. Harry Corrin, of Runcorn, and the composer of the special music is Mr. Bert Harding, the conductor of the local orchestra. The principals, who do their work well, are Miss Elsie Steadman (Ganem), Miss Lyle Jefferies (Morgiana), Miss Rose Parcezer (Abdallah), Miss Cissie Behan (Calet), and Miss Kitty Behan (Mirza). The comedians are capital fun-providers, and rank as follows: Mr. Percy Curry (Ali Baba), Mr. Arthur Behan (Cogia Ali Baba), Fame and Fortune (Pitchett Detectives), Mr. Mark Merry (Kaderick), Mr. Arthur Burton (Cassim Baba), and Mr. Reg Amber (Mustapha). The chorus do their duty well, and the production is capitally mounted.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—In addition to excellent pictures, Signor Torti, Mr. Frederick Carr and Madame Rose (in their drawing-room entertainment), Miss Gladys Wright (a sweet-voiced soprano), and Messrs. W. Dean and J. Dixon (humorists) help to delight large audiences.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. George Dance's company, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, is here for the first time. Miss Elfie Vincent, a capable artist, acts with much grace as Mary Gibbs; Miss Ellaline Thorne is an excellent Madame Jeanne; and Miss Florence Hylton as Mrs. Farquhar is effective. Miss Lilian Birtles as Lady Thanet causes endless laughter; Miss Amy Singleton is an interesting study as the Duchess; Mr. Eustace Burnaby is exceptionally clever in the part of Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; the character of Timothy is depicted with humour by Mr. Vincent Erne; Mr. J. S. Durant plays Slithers smartly; Mr. A. Gordon Begg is extremely pleasant as Earl St. Ives; and Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe as Lord Eynsford also provides a capital performance.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Charles A. Clarke's company is here in *Little Phil's Mother*. Miss Gertie Renaud as Phil acts the part to perfection; Miss Maud Russell as Ruth Towers and Miss Violet Crauford as Elspeth play effectively; Miss Leslie Warner is good as Julia Worrilove; Frank Towers finds an able exponent in Mr. Percy Ballard; Mr. Henry Earlesmere fills the rôle of Oscar Titherton with credit; and the character of Sam Pukels is ably portrayed by Mr. Frank M. Thorne.

WISHAW, N.B. — Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The genial Horace Wheatley is topping the bill here this week and proving a big favourite. Miss Geddy Edmond's company in *The Lady Jockey* evoke the heartiest laughter, especially good being Mr. Jamie Rous as the Tipster. Fred and Lulu Camplin are alike excellent in their musical comedy act; W. E. Hilton in a Scotch ventriloquial turn is good; and William McNally contributes an unusually fine musical turn upon the dulcimer. Some unusually fine films are shown upon the Bioscope.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. Frank Bertram's company, in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Sidney Bland gives a telling representation of Lieut. Reresby; Mr. Alfred Holles does admirably in the part of Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Geo. Butler is well suited as Colonel Hungerford; and Mr. George Traill as Colonel Curwen, Mr. L. Lingham as Colonel Bagshaw, Mr. S. F. Courtney as Captain Stanhope, and Mr. Walter Grahame as Francis Tresham render excellent support. Miss Mildred Hodson is a charming Margaret; Miss Grace Harlington a capital Batty; and Miss M. Cottier and Miss D. De Lille appear with success as Mrs. Bagshaw and Helena Pierrepont.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mr. Percy Honri merits commendation for his production of *Concordia*, of which his concertina-playing and the solo ballet-dancing of Mlle. Quetta Papucci are the cheif features; the Starley Bros. show expertness as acrobatic cyclists; Perrier presents an original ventriloquial novelty, his three "dummies" subsequently joining him in excellently-rendered excerpts from grand opera. The other artists include Mark Hanbury, comedian; Queenie Mayor, the Lancashire fisher lass; Smitte and Smit, in a comedy bar act; and Harry Hasto, comedian.

WORCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Pantomime is again meeting with considerable favour, and Mr. John A. Thompson's company's presentation of the familiar story of *Sleeping Beauty* is well deserving the liberal support accorded. Admirably staged, gorgeously dressed, and cleverly presented, it forms a delightful entertainment for old and young alike. Miss Alyce Wyllyams is a charming Princess, singing with taste and good expression, and dancing gracefully; and Miss Adele Roze is a dashing Prince Charming. Miss Nellie Scorey is seen to advantage as Bo Peep; and Miss Emmie King is well suited as Boy Blue. As King Ruby Mr. Richard Teesdale scores an unqualified success; and Mr. Henry Warren is very comical as Queen Ruby. Mr. Sidney Godfrey and Mr. J. Monkhouse as Selina and Bamboozleum respectively are highly diverting; and Mr. Tom Hanlon and Mr. Alf Harlin as Johnny Green and Simple Simon are liberal contributors to the fun of the show. Other capable members of the numerous company are Mr. E. Freeling (Tommy Trout), Miss Ethel Broad (Silver Star), Miss Doris Shaw (Dolly Dimple), and Mr. Edward Stanley (Yellow Dwarf). The specialities are numerous, and include some very effective ballets; Albas, the daring wire-walker; the Musical Scoreys; the Canadian Male Quartette Party; the Casino Girls; and Miss Doris Shaw's clever dancing. Mr. Arthur Sheldrake directs the music.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday *The Gay Gordons* came here. As Angus Mr. Stafford Dickens played capitally; the drolleries of Mr. Sidney Burt as Nervy Nat were enjoyed; and Mr. Ernest Pierce showed ability as Edmund Siddons. Miss May Yates as the heroine Peggy Quainton was charming to a degree;; and the Victoria Siddons of Miss Ruby Louis also calls for special mention.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Under the Iron Heel* has done well. Mr. Wilson Howard as Rene de Maupassant plays a strong rôle with much skill; he is ably played up to by Miss Jessie Tatman as Andre; Miss Carlotta Anson is entitled to unstinted praise for her efforts as Germaine; and a very able company renders every assistance.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooks.—Tom Costello's popularity is well maintained, his song-scena "The Old Clown" going remarkably well; Sterling and Love's business is neat, clever, and up-to-date; the Three Dixons give a novel and pleasing entertainment; the Four Mayos, on the skates, prove very amusing; Evelyn and Norrie present a neat sketch; Charles Rowen sings amusing songs; Lilian Rose gives a particularly bright and taking turn; the Creedons present a novel comedy sporting act; and John Partington, the Lancashire singing mill lad, finds hosts of admirers.

Mr. Wilson Benge's company is paying a return visit to the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, in *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton as George Tremain is excellent; Mr. Arthur Keand as Giovanni is exceptionally good; Mr. Harry Heyton as Dean Clifton is capital; Mr. Chas. W. Dockwray as Paul Cairshaw and Hiram P. Younger does able work; and as Jack Herne, the cripple, Mr. Herbert Hastings deserves praise. Miss Pauline Nanton as Marvis Leverton makes a very sweet heroine, and Miss Annie Hylton is an admirable Renie de Telle. The comedy, which is in the hands of Mr. C. Milley Doyle as Rudulph Earle, Mr. H. Danson as Dick Leverton, and Miss Nancy J. Clarke as Gwendoline Younger, is effective.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD.

Commencing her career under the management of Mr. Geo. Edwardes and Mr. Chas. Frohman, Miss Marion Wakeford proceeded with *The Shop Girl* company to America, and, after playing a season in New York visited the chief cities in the United States. Returning to this country she joined Miss Minnie Palmer for a tour of *The School Girl*, opening at the Grand, now Kelly's, Theatre, Liverpool. At the conclusion of that tour she was engaged by the Messrs. Gatti to play in *A Night Out* and *Never Again* at the Vaudeville, afterwards touring in the latter piece under the management of Mr. Geo. Giddens and Miss Agnes Millar. Her next engagement was with the well-known touring actor-manager, Mr. Frank Lindo, to whom she was shortly afterwards married. Since then she has played all the principal rôles in his numerous productions. She created the part of Joan in the now famous drama *Home, Sweet Home*, and, with the exception of one or two nights, has played the part ever since the production—six years ago.

On Mr. Lindo temporarily relinquishing management, Miss Wakeford was selected by Mr. Arthur Collins to play Daphne (juvenile lead) in the suburban and provincial tours of *The Great Millionaire*. Other parts in which Miss Wakeford has appeared with great success during stock seasons in Leeds and Bradford include Rose Maywell in *The Sledge Hammer*, Aima in *Night and Morning*, Pauline in *Called Back* (a favourite part of hers), Lucy in *The Streets of London*, and Laura in Frank Lindo's own dramatic version of *David Garrick*.

Miss Wakeford's only appearance, so far, in Shakespeare was in a special production of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Victoria Theatre, Manchester, where she played Portia to Mr. Lindo's Shylock, and received enthusiastic notices in the Press. Miss Wakeford's ambition is to play other leading Shakespearean rôles, an ambition which she hopes to gratify later on. In December last she created the part of Mistress Beatrice Mortimer in her husband's latest success, *Love, the Conqueror*, in which she has made, perhaps, the biggest hit of her career. Miss Wakeford is particularly popular with the mill girls of Lancashire and Yorkshire, always receiving a hearty welcome at their hands, and very often humble but well-meant tokens of appreciation in the shape of hand-worked gifts and flowers.

[*Photo by James Bacon, Newcastle-on-Tyne.*

MISS MARION WAKEFORD.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mr. Edwin H. Lemare's organ recital at the Trinity College on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 17, attracted a large audience. Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor came first in the programme, and was followed by Mr. G. E. Bambridge's charming Idyll. A clever and very attractive Rondo Capriccio by Mr. Lemare was admirably played by the composer and encored. Mendelssohn's fine sixth and last Sonata was also included in the recital, and in the descriptive note in the programme Mr. Lemare does justice to a truly great work, and as the organist remarks truly, the lovely Andante, the fifth and last movement, "is a perfect gem of beauty and peace." The Sonata was finely interpreted and warmly applauded. After a very short interval Mr. Lemare gave the delightful Canzona della Sera of E. d'Evry, Soutenir (a study on one note), and a brilliant Scherzo from his own Symphony in D minor. The talented organist also gave a clever improvisation on a theme submitted by one among the audience. Mozart's Fantasia in F minor concluded a very interesting recital.

The Ayr Amateur Opera Company have taken the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, for the week, and are performing *Dorothy* to packed houses. Mr. John McTaggart, the musical director, and Mr. Harry Leffler, late of the Savoy Theatre, who this year fills the post of stage-manager, are, along with the members of the company, to be congratulated on the success of the production.

Mr. Allan Wilkie's company opened at the Grand, Mansfield, on Monday, in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Allan Wilkie gave an impressive study as Shylock; Mr. Alexander Marsh was a telling Bassanio; Mr. T. J. Fay was a good Duke of Venice; Mrs. Allan Wilkie a successful Portia; and Miss Hilda Plowright played well as Jessica. The programme for the week also included *Hamlet*, *The Bells* and *David Garrick*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Othello*, and *Jane Shore*.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-chosen company in *The Bondman* is paying a second visit to the Theatre Royal, Smethwick. The part of Jason is well filled by Mr. Philip Darien; Michael, as played by Mr. Stanley Harrison, is a fine piece of acting; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith is well suited to the part of Adam Fairbrother; Mr. W. H. Rotherham gives an admirable performance in the doubled rôles of Father Ferrati and Grandfather; Dr. Boni is well represented by Mr. Fred J. Waller; Mr. Chris. A. Olgar as the Marshal is good; Miss Madge Lanerton gives a creditable performance as Mrs. Fairbrother; Christian Anne is well portrayed by Miss Emelie Mayhew; and Mona and Danny as played by Miss Beatrice Maud Hughes and Master Walter Neville are commendable efforts.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"AHASVER."

Musical Drama, in One Act, by F. Ritter, Produced at the Volks-Oper on Feb. 12.

Karalik	Herr Ruenger
Lubascha	Fraulein Sachse
Petruschka	Herr Zoernitz
Batuschka	Herr Fischoetter
Petrow	Herr Taubert
Kascha	Fraulein Gerhardy
Grossmutter	Fraulein von Firli
Kosakenhauptmann	Herr Roesler

(from our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 17.—A very hearty and well merited reception was accorded to this new work, which is drawn by Herr Raché from a drama by the clever Dutch writer, Hermann Heijermans. The music, although in parts somewhat crude, is in others extremely dramatic, suiting the gravity of the theme to perfection; there is over-much recitative, but the instrumentation betokens great talent, and the composer should certainly do better work still. The action passes in Russia, the word "Ahasver" serving as a symbol for the persecut on of the Jews in that country, and a tragic scene of the pogrom is enacted before us. Karalik and his wife, a poor old Jewish pair, have missed their only son, Petruschka, for some time, and are in great fear that he has fallen a victim to the Cossacks, as his grandfather before him. The youth returns, but the old people have not long in which to express their joy, for the dreaded Cossacks are at hand. Karalik and his good wife, Lubascha, are hounded out of their wretched home, which was dear to them, nevertheless, and their only consolation is that they have Petruschka again. Then the truth becomes known. Petruschka, to save himself from the horrible persecution of his race, has slunk into a church and been baptised. He is therefore allowed to remain—a free man, and is about to order the Cossacks off, when his father curses him for a renegade. The curse is terrible, the youth sinks beneath it, and then the curtain falls. The interpretation was good all round, the best in the cast being Herr Ruenger and Fräulein Sachse. The orchestra did its work admirably under the clever conducting of Kapellmeister Enders, and the mounting of the opera was very effective. There was not a vacant seat in the house.

An event in our theatrical annals was the first production of Léhar's new operetta *Zigeunerliebe* at the Komische Oper last week. The authors of the book—which is poor—are Herren Willner and Bodansky. The scene of the "romantic" operetta is laid in the Roumanian frontier, where Zorika, daughter of a local magnate, runs away with a hot-blooded gipsy on the eve of her marriage, who appears more desirable than the distinguished bridegroom she had promised to wed. Zorika is not happy, and we finally tremble for her reason—which was never very firm—but in the final act we are agreeably surprised to learn it was all a dream, and Zorika's wedding to the rightful man takes place with all appropriate pomp and some delightful dances in the composer's best style. Léhar has written some pretty numbers of a sentimental description, as becomes the text, but he is not so happy in serious music as in the lighter, graceful dance music which has made him so famous. The work was capitally given, and that composer and artists were called times innumerable goes without saying. It will, nevertheless, not rival the composer's first work, the ever-popular *Merry Widow*.

"Christinas Heimreise," the new comedy by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, which was produced at the Deutsches on Friday last, was not altogether a success. The author is one of the cleverest of our modern dramatists, and is best known by his play *Elektra*, which gave Strauss the idea of his famous opera. This is the first time Herr von Hofmannsthal has written a piece in lighter vein. His admirers called him several times before the curtain and applauded warmly, but this manifestation only appeared to increase the opposition, so that at the close hisses and applause were pretty even. The action passes in Venice during the eighteenth century. Christina is a fair peasant maiden who is beloved by a faithful old seaman. She is caught by the wiles of a noted Don Juan, who sees her for a few moments, and determines to gain her favour. After betraying the girl, he goes off in search of fresh conquests, and Christina philosophically accepts the proffered hand of the sailor, who seems to have no qualms about playing second fiddle. Acting and mounting were equally good.

A French farce by MM. Armont and Nancey, entitled *Theodore and Cie*, German translation by Erich May, made a decided hit at the Trianon last week, and has filled the bill since. At the Residenz Theatre another French farce, *Im Taubenschlag*, has passed its seventy-fifth performance, and is still drawing well.

Herr Franz Molnar's new comedy *Verteidiger* met with a most cordial reception at the New Schauspielhaus last night.

"TAIFUN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Melchior Lengyel, Produced at the Berliner Theatre Feb. 19.

Dr. Tokoramo	Herr Clewing
Yoshikawa	Herr Zelnik
Koboyashi	Herr Meinhard
Hironari	Herr Bergen
Omayi	Herr Jungk
Dr. Kitamaru	Herr Picha
Dupont	Herr Botz
Rénard	Herr Heine
Heléne	Fraulein Karsten
Thérèse	Fraulein Sorger
President	Herr Appelt
Anwalt	Herr Grotek
Dolmetch	Herr Behrend

(from our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 24.—The author of this original play is a young Hungarian, who would have had more than the success which fell to his lot—and that was not inconsiderable—had he condensed his work a little more. He has laid the scene in Paris; the principal figures are Japanese. He has provided plenty of sensation, and raises a warning finger against the "yellow peril." The characters, however interesting they may be, are not convincing—at least, to such of those who know anything of the Japanese temperament. We hear a good deal of talk about a secret mission of a number of Japanese in the interest of their Government, but its nature is kept a profound secret from us. We only know that Dr. Nitobe Tokoramo is at the head of it, and indefatigable in its cause. He is a delightful little gentleman, as amiable as he is clever and patriotic, but it seems he can be moved—on occasion—to terrible passion. The Doctor is in love, and the object of his affection is Mlle. Heléne, a fair serpent, whose vices are difficult to equal, even in naughty Paris. To make a long story short, Heléne betrays Tokoramo and laughs him to scorn—we even fancy she has obtained a knowledge of the mission, for the "typhoon" of the title breaks over him, and he, with a skilful jiu-jitsu movement, strangles his false mistress. The devotion of the Japanese to their Fatherland, and their sublime contempt of death is now displayed in striking colours. All Tokoramo's compatriots rally round him, each one eager to take the murder upon his own shoulders, the mission being far too important to be interfered with by such trifles. The lot falls upon a lad of eighteen, Inose Hironari, and we see his trial. The young hero is sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, and although the real murderer declares he is the guilty one, the Court does not believe him. So there is nothing left to the unfortunate Tokoramo but to finish his great work with an aching heart, and afterwards to make his own quietus. The interpretation was an excellent one, the author and artists being called repeatedly before the curtain.

Another novelty which would have improved by cutting was the drama *Neue Jugend*, by the Swedish writer Tor Hedberg. It was produced at the Schiller on Saturday, but the results were not such as warrant a lengthy run. The theme is the persecution of Finnland. A foolish youth is selected to assassinate a high official, but in the course of discussion with his father, hitherto a quiet citizen, the elder man becomes so inflamed, that finally he, and not his son, commits the deed. Neither the characters nor the scenes are convincing, and the applause was freely mingled with manifestations of disapproval.

A broad farce met with a very cordial reception at the New Schauspielhaus last week *Der Herr Verteidiger*, by the Hungarian author, Franz Molnar, who is already favourably known here. The action passes in the wilds of Arizona, where law and equity are but names, and the race is to the fittest scoundrel. To detail the plot would be an almost impossible task; the chief scene is a trial before a caricature court, and the main theme is the competition between the famous barrister, Parker, and his friend, or enemy, as the case and circumstances dictate, Tim Boots, a genius in crime. Vivacious acting aided the success of the piece.

"Mandanika," a new romantic opera, by Gustav Lazarus, was produced at the Volks-Oper on Friday last with much success. The music has been written round an Indian legend; the composer has also written the text, and it is very melodious and pleasing. Herr Lazarus is known as a song-writer of merit, and he may be complimented upon his first operatic effort.

Kadelburg's merry farce, *Der Familientag*, has been revived at the Royal Schauspielhaus, and is drawing well. The Emperor, with the Empress and Princess Victoria Luise, attended a performance one evening last week, and applauded and laughed as much as anyone.

MR. MARK LORNE'S MARRIAGE.

Mr. Mark Lorne, the popular lessee and manager of the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, was married on Tuesday at Sutton Parish Church, the Rev. R. H. S. Curry officiating, to Miss Cecilia Lucas, youngest daughter of Mr. William Lucas, the well-known North Country sportsman. Capt. Clayton, managing-director Mansfield and District Theatres, acted as best man, the bride being given away by Dr. Wordsworth (hon. medical adviser Actors' Association), Mansfield. There was a large attendance, both at the church and at the theatre in the evening, when the happy couple were the recipients of the following presents:—Bridegroom's gift to bride, diamond ring, brooch, and earrings; bride's gift to bridegroom, diamond pin; cheque from Capt. Cecil Clayton, Grand Theatre, Mansfield; solid 18-carat gold watch and bow, Capt. Clayton and the directors of the Mansfield, Sutton, and Districts Theatre, Ltd.; silver cigarette case, barometer, gilt time-piece, Capt. and Fred Clayton; solid 18-carat gold curb bracelet, the Staff and Orchestra, King's Theatre; solid silver cigarette-box, Mr. and Mrs. Minto, St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton; bronze and gold cigarette-case, Mr. Ward, Sutton; silk evening dress, Mr. and Mrs. Badley, Mansfield; silver tea-pot, Mr. and Mrs. Hardwick; Ivory-handle carvers, Mr. and Mrs. Hardwick; silver tea-spoons, the British Goldsmith Co., Mansfield; six pairs of silk hose, Mr. and Tom Mills, jun.; silver-fitted travelling bag, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Poole (Poole's Myriorama).

During the performance of Mr. Stephen Pritt's *Almost His Bride* company, Dr. Wordsworth, in a few well-chosen words, asked Mr. Lorne's acceptance of the following illuminated address:—

"An Appreciation.

"To Mr. Mark Lorne, lessee and manager, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, on the occasion of his marriage, Feb. 22, 1910: We, the undersigned, present our congratulations, together with a purse of gold, value £20, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held, and in testimony of his straightforward good-fellowship, his courtesy and gentlemanly behaviour, and his business abilities, and we wish him much happiness and prosperity in the years that are to come."

The address was numerously signed, and her Grace the Duchess of Portland sent a telegram conveying her heartiest congratulations.

Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company is at the King's Theatre, Seacombe, with *The Flag Lieutenant*, which is mounted and acted to perfection. Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B., is characteristically enacted by Mr. Mark Paton, and Mr. Claude Murray does well as Flag-Captain John Penrose. Mr. Guy Newall scores heavily in the title-rôle, receiving undeniable recalls after each act; Mr. Frederick Leister gets in some capital work as Major William Thessiger; Mr. Edwin Mervyn is fully equal to the demands of the part of Surgeon Walter Crutchley; Mr. W. S. Stephenson as Sergeant Thomas Steel, Mr. William Greyson as Seaman James Sloggett, and Mr. W. J. Yeldham as General Gough-Bogle are all good; Miss Mabel Rees is effective as Mrs. Cameron; Miss Rita Johnson gives an able rendering of Lady Hermione Wynne; and Miss Una Venning as Viola Hood, Miss Evelyn Robson as Mrs. Gough-Bogle, and Miss Rosalind Ross as Lady Dugdale are fully equal to their respective rôles. The orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. Fred Holliday.

At the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is presenting *His Real Wife* in able and accomplished style. The staging of the piece leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Clifford Rean is a fine actor, and throws great enthusiasm into his character as Herbert Barton; and as Martin Avondale Mr. J. W. Evelyn is a great success. Mr. C. W. Spencer as General Barton acts well; Mr. Bernard Elliott gives a capital rendering of Randal Meredith; and Mr. Charles York, along with Mr. Walter Walmesley, causes much amusement as Colombe and Alf. Snickers respectively; and Mr. T. Edward Ward is good as Simon Bietherell. Miss Ward gives a fine rendition as Rose Avondale; and Miss Clarrie Yandell as Betty Tuttlebee is also fine.

Presentations.—Mr. Edward M. Hamilton, the courteous acting-manager of the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, was, on the occasion of his benefit last week, presented by Miss Ada Fawn, the principal boy in the pantomime of *The Forty Thieves*, with a solid silver cigarette-case, as a mark of esteem. From the staff Mr. Hamilton received five pieces of handsome pottery, and a beautiful clock, and he was also the recipient from the company of a beautiful occasional silver tea set. Mr. Francis Laidler, the lessee, spoke in the highest terms of Mr. Hamilton's kindly consideration and business abilities, and the *bénéficiaire* suitably and feelingly responded.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"JUSTICE" AT GLASGOW.

A Play, in Four Acts, by John Galsworthy, Produced for the first time in the Provinces (simultaneous with the London production) at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, Feb. 21.

Robert Cokeson	MR. M. R. MORAND
Sweedle	MR. CYRIL GRIFFITHS
Ruth Honeywill	MISS IRENE ROOKE
William Falder	MR. MILTON ROSMER
Walter How	MR. PERCEVAL CLARK
James How	MR. LAWRENCE HANRAY
Cowley	MR. CAMPBELL FORBES
Wister	MR. BROOKING
Harold Cleaver, K.C.	MR. J. T. MACMILLAN
Hector Frome	MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Mr. Justice Floyd	MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING
Captain Danson	MR. CECIL BROOKING
Wooder	MR. GULLAN
Rev. Hugh Miller	MR. C. F. CARGILL
Edward Clements	MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING
Moaney	MR. GEORGE TAWDE
Clipton	MR. RICHARD PYNE
O'Clearey	MR. V. MACLURE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Repertory Theatre at Glasgow have again placed playgoers under an obligation by their enterprise in staging this new work, and though opinions may differ as to the merits of the play, the interest evoked by *The Silver Box* and *Strife* ensured it a sympathetic hearing. The grim relentlessness with which the tragic story is unfolded held the audience firmly, despite some lengthy waits due to heavy scenic changes. As Cokeson Mr. M. R. Morand again enhanced his reputation greatly by the life-like rendering he gave of the good-hearted old clerk. Equally notable, in quite a different line, was the Falder of Mr. Milton Rosmer, the most convincing characterisation of its kind he has yet given here. The companion picture of hopeless despair shown by Miss Irene Rooke as Ruth was intensely pathetic, her acting in the trial scene and in the final act calling forth the hearty applause of the large audience. Mr. Campbell Gullan gave a very human reading of the part of the Advocate for the Prisoner; and the Prosecuting Advocate was cleverly portrayed by Mr. J. T. Macmillan. The two partners, Walter How and James How, were extremely well played by Mr. Lawrence Hanray as the stern old father, and by Mr. Perceval Clark as his more merciful son. In the trial scene Mr. D. Lewin Mannering made an impressive Judge, and later acted the part of the Prison Doctor cleverly. Mr. C. F. Cargill made a staid and prosaic Chaplain; and clever sketches of three convicts were given by Messrs. George Tawde, Richard Pyne, and V. Maclure. Mr. Cecil Brooking as the Detective, and more particularly as the Prison Governor, gave able support; and Mr. Campbell Forbes was quietly effective as Cowley. The play was produced by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, and reflected much credit on his staging. At the conclusion, the audience, while not unduly demonstrative, were distinctly favourable, and Mr. Alfred Wareing was able to telegraph congratulations to the author, Mr. Galsworthy, at the Duke of York's.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An artistic performance of Gluck's opera, *Iphigenia in Tauris*, was given by the students of the Royal College of Music on Friday afternoon, Feb. 18, at His Majesty's Theatre, by kind permission of Sir Herbert Tree. Sir Charles V. Stanford conducted the college orchestra, which did justice to Gluck's refined and graceful music, while the representation had all the advantage of picturesque scenery, kindly lent by Sir Herbert Tree. It was evident that the opera had been well rehearsed, and under the experienced stage direction of Mr. Richard Temple all went smoothly. The dances were arranged by Mr. B. Sontten, and the chorus-master was Mr. S. P. Waddington. Miss Viola Tree, who impersonated Iphigenia, has had the invaluable advantage of stage experience, and in the pathetic scene where Iphigenia has to decide which of the two friends, Orestes and Pylades, are to be sacrificed, her acting was very expressive. As a vocalist also Miss Tree continues to advance. The fine voice, clever singing, admirably clear enunciation, and intelligent acting of Mr. Jamieson Dodds made the part of Orestes interesting; while Mr. Ivor Walters proved an excellent Pylades. In the contest between the two friends, who each want to give their life for the other, which is so beautifully expressed in Gluck's music, both the young performers greatly distinguished themselves. Mr. George Baker's Thoas, the tyrant King of Taurica, was another good feature in the performance; while the small part of Diana was ably undertaken by Miss Dorothy Webb. The characters of First and Second Priestess and A Greek Woman were adequately filled by Miss Katherine Vincent, Miss Florence Barrow, and Miss Agnes Christa, and the ghostly scene in the second act, where the spirits hover round the sleeping Orestes, was well carried out. As might be expected from a great college of music, the chorus sang finely and with delightful freshness and purity of tone. There was frequent applause during the performance, and at the fall of the curtain all the principal artists had a most hearty greeting.

In the orchestral concert given at the Royal College on Wednesday evening the orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles V. Stanford, gave a refined and finished performance of Mozart's fine Symphony in G minor. Brahms' masterly Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, in B flat major, op. 83, was ably interpreted by the orchestra, and the solo part brilliantly played by Mr. William Murdoch. It was no easy task even for a most experienced pianist, and at the close the delighted audience recalled the talented young performer many times to the platform. Miss Clytie M. Hine sang the scena "Suicidio," from Ponchielli's *Gioconda*, with clear enunciation and a fair amount of dramatic expression, and the orchestra performed for the first time in England Rachmaninoff's symphonic poem, "Die Toteninsel." The Russian composer has founded his symphonic poem on a picture entitled "The Island of the Dead," painted by Arnold Böcklin, representing an island, and a gigantic mausoleum on a glassy, lifeless sea. On the sides of the great cliff are niches or vaults prepared for the reception of the dead. A boat approaches this haven, bearing a white-robed figure with a coffin at its feet. Tall cypresses rise from the centre of this mighty rock, and steps lead from the water to the darkness beneath. This gloomy picture, which it is said the artist has painted and repainted no less than six times, may, no doubt, be suited to the composer's sombre and impressive style, but, from want of light and shade in the music, Rachmaninoff's symphonic poem did not prove an entire success. Surely there are many more beautiful pictures than "Die Toteninsel" that would have served the composer's purpose better for musical illustration?

THIS week Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is at the Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland, in *With Edged Tools*. Mr. Hamilton Deane portrays with striking effect Jack Meredith; Mr. Henry Nunn is in no wise lacking as Guy Oscard; Sir John Meredith is realistically portrayed by Mr. J. D. Geddes; and Mr. Albert Campbell makes the most of Maurice Gordon. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid commendably enacts the part of Victor Durnovo; Miss Marie Leonard is a capable Jocelyn Gordon; and the rôle of Millicent Chyne is well depicted by Miss Marguerite Cellier. Miss Marion Fawcett is a charming Lady Cantourne.

THE King and Queen, Princess Victoria, and Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia visited the Gaiety Theatre on Monday night and witnessed the performance of *Our Miss Gibbs*.

DEATH OF MR. ROBB HARWOOD.

Death has robbed the stage of that excellent comedian Mr. Robb Harwood, who passed away at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Sunday. It seems that he had had a sharp attack of bronchitis, and the journey to Newcastle-on-Tyne to join the *Peter Pan* company must have been taken too soon; for on his arrival in the town he took to his bed, and sank rapidly. He was a kindly-souled Bohemian, and modest withal. Had he been more pushful, Robb would not have had those periods of "resting" which must have been so galling to an artist with such a gift of characterisation. He was a remarkably fine mimic, and his powers of burlesque imitation were appreciated on the variety stage, especially at the Palace, where his appearances were all too short. Robb was the son of Mr. James and Mrs. Lucia Harwood. His father was said to have been the original impersonator of Dick Turpin on the production of that piece as an equestrian drama at Astley's. Later the elder Harwood joined Irving to play small parts at the Lyceum, where his daughters Kate and Florence acted as the children in the revival in 1879 of *Charles the First*. The deceased gentleman's brother, John Harwood, now at the Playhouse, also served as a lad in Irving's Lyceum company.

Robb appeared as a child at the old Holborn Theatre and at the old Queen's, in Long Acre. On arriving at man's estate he had a long provincial experience both in stock companies and on tour, gaining that complete knowledge of technique which was as the breath of life to the budding artist twenty years ago. He first made his mark in London at the Haymarket in the part of Mr. Goldspink in *The Dancing Girl*, in which piece he commenced an artistic association with Sir Herbert Tree that spread over many years. One of his earliest successes was in the part of the old actor in Sydney Grundy's comedy, in five acts, *An Old Jew*, produced by Sir John (then Mr.) Hare at the Garrick on Jan. 6, 1894. The character lived.

Eccles may be said to have been a favourite part with the deceased actor, and though super-

Photo by Ellis and Walery.

THE LATE MR. ROBB HARWOOD.

fine critics thought the impersonation somewhat highly-coloured, there was little doubt of the originality of the conception, the sharpness of its outline, or the humorous nature of the old reprobate's snatches of moral philosophy. Mr. Harwood played the part on tour with Mr. Arthur Bourchier. He was in the cast of *The Last of the Dandies* produced at His Majesty's Theatre on Oct. 24, 1901, when he played so admirably the part of the valet, Octavio; and during the short run of *Em'ly*, an unsuccessful adaptation by T. Gideon Warren and Ben Landeck of "David Copperfield," produced at the Adelphi on August 1, 1903, he was the Uriah Heep—a notable success. He was in the original cast of *Business is Business*, the English adaptation of Octave Mirbeau's play *Les Affaires sont Les Affaires*, creating Professor Gruggh in the production at His Majesty's on May 13, 1905; and one remembers with pleasure the sketch of the Mantalini-like husband in *The Little French Milliner* at the Avenue in 1902. He took the place of Mr. Gerald Du Maurier in the revival (December, 1908) of *Peter Pan*, wherein his striking success as Captain James Hook—his last part—will be a cherished recollection. When the youngsters become greybeards they will still remember the rich humour of this most delightful pirate, so perfectly represented by the deceased comedian.

The funeral took place at Kensal Green Cemetery on Thursday in the presence of a number of relatives and friends. Beautiful wreaths were sent from the Duke of York's Theatre, Mr. Charles Frohman, His Majesty's Theatre, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Courtice Pounds, Mr. Austin, of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, Playhouse Theatre, and Friends of the Savage Club.

GEORGE ALEXANDER AT DENMARK HILL.

Mr. George Alexander, the chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee of the London County Council, formally opened an extension to Ruskin Park, Denmark-hill, Camberwell, on Saturday afternoon. The extension is about 12 acres in area, and is to be used as a playing field. The cost of acquiring the land was £23,685. Half of this was contributed by the London County Council, and the remainder was raised by the Lambeth, Camberwell, and Southwark Borough Councils and by a local committee.

Mr. Alexander, in opening the extension, said he was especially grateful that that honour had been conferred upon him, because he had the great privilege and honour of Professor Ruskin's acquaintance. Ruskin encouraged him very early in his career, while his niece, Mrs. Arthur Severn, and her husband, Mr. Arthur Severn—who he was glad to see present that day—he counted among his oldest and dearest friends. That park was a very fitting memorial to Ruskin, for they could not think of him without remembering his love of nature, his desire that everyone should be within the reach of some of nature's finest lessons and some illustrations of her power. He (Mr. Alexander) asked Mr. Severn on their way down, what was Ruskin's favourite game, and Mr. Severn told him that he thought it was "battledore and shuttlecock." Mr. Severn also told him a story of a visit Ruskin paid to one of the ladies' colleges at Oxford. He asked them many questions as to their work, and then inquired what their exercises were, because he said he thought, if possible, exercises should combine something useful. The young ladies went through a catalogue of their games, and Ruskin said, "They are all very good, but I will tell you a better thing still, and that is, carry coals every day up to the top of the house."

"JUST A WIFE."

Just a Wife, a drama in four acts, by Eugene Walter, was produced on the 1st inst. at the Belasco Theatre, New York, with Miss Charlotte Walker, wife of the author, in the leading rôle. The characters chiefly concerned are a man and his wife and—the other woman. Once again the wife is pitted against the mistress. But in this case the two women are not at daggers drawn for the possession of the man. The author of *Paid in Full* and *The Easiest Way* has given what at first sight appears to be the situation that playgoers know so well a new, or, at least, an unhackneyed twist, and has allowed the wife to view the situation dispassionately, and even to exhibit a sort of sympathy and tolerance towards her rival, while her philosophy does not prompt her to throw herself into her husband's arms "in spite of all." Mr. Walter has written a serious, thoughtful play, in which some of the "problems of the day" are discussed interestingly, if somewhat lengthily and inconclusively.

John Emerson has a wife who wedded him simply for his money, while he married her to hush the scandal which had arisen from his illicit relations with another woman, and which threatened to prove an obstacle to his preferment. Mary Ashby, the wife, was an aristocratic, but impoverished Southern belle, to whom the luxuries of life were a necessity. She understood the nature of the compact which she and John Emerson made, and she has had all that she bargained for. Neither one has intruded upon the privacy of the other, this being the understanding between them. Moreover, Emerson has not discarded his mistress, and his wife knows it. After six years of this sort of existence, the latter is beginning to realise what the situation means to her. The posture of circumstances is disclosed in a conversation between the wife and her younger brother, who rebels at the state of affairs, and wants to help her. They are surprised to receive a visit from Emerson, who has not been "home" for several years. He explains that he is trying to elude some process-servers. As a matter of fact, he is running away from the other woman. And at a moment when the Emersons and their guests are peacefully assembled in the home, and Mrs. Emerson and her brother are singing, Eleanor Lathrop, Emerson's mistress, descends upon the scene like a bolt from the blue. Tense moments these, and the audience holds its breath, while Emerson and his wife stand staring at the intruder. The scene is the strongest of the play, and it is admirably acted by Miss Charlotte Walker as the wife and Miss Amelia Gardner as Eleanor Lathrop. It is the wife that breaks the awful silence. "You are Miss Lathrop," she says. "Let me take your bag and show you to your room." The woman gasps with astonishment and tries to speak; but in these conventional words there is so much dignity and insistence that she obeys without a word. Everyone breathes freely, but Emerson is scandalised and angry. His brother-in-law has to be forcibly restrained from assaulting him, and Mrs. Emerson is the only one who keeps cool. Presently Emerson and his mistress "have it out" with each other. She claims a share in his life because she has helped him in his business. But he declares that the debt has been paid. After that there is a scene between the two women. It is not a violent scene, but just a spirited discussion. The wife is not unsympathetic, but she insists that no matter what her rival claims, no matter what part she may have played in the man's life, the end has come. Mrs. Emerson has been listening and has heard her husband say so. "Don't you believe that talk about intellectual affinity," she says; "there is only one tie between a man and a woman, and that is the tie of sex." When they part there is apparently no feeling of enmity between them. Mrs. Emerson is a dignified and highly intelligent woman, and her eyes have been opened to her husband's point of view. Women are creatures to be bent to a man's will. This domination, he says, in effect, has existed in the general scheme of things from the beginning and will continue to the end. In discarding his companion of many years he betrays a one-sided view of her sex, which she controverts in the discussion which follows. With her clearer understanding has come a softening of the hatred she was inclined to feel towards her rival. Towards the husband, who is now free, she will advance no closer than before. As they part all she says is this: "When you can meet me with love in your heart you may come back. I won't say that I shall be waiting for you, but your chance will be as good as any other man's."

As Mary Emerson Miss Walker bore herself with a womanly charm that was irresistibly appealing, and her embodiment found great favour in the eyes of the audience; Mr. Edmund Breese gave a forceful and dignified portrayal of John Emerson; and Miss Amelia Gardner played the part of Eleanor Lathrop most effectively. Mr. Walter's previous plays were praised for their directness. This one has been criticised because it lacks that quality. On the whole, however, it is a clever and interesting contribution to the drama of to-day, and will doubtless enjoy the success that it deserves.

STEINWAY HALL.

Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay and Mr. Harcourt Williams's second matinée at Steinway Hall on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 17, proved very successful. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay recited two short pieces by James Whitcomb Riley, "Like his Mother used to make" and "Nothin' to say," a widowed father's reflections when his only daughter asks his consent to her marriage. Miss Mackinlay, who delivered both these admirably, was associated with Mr. Williams in "Dialogue from Plato" (Austin Dobson), and the same author's "A Sonnet in Dialogue." Miss Mackinlay also displayed much humour in her own clever little sketch "Cornelia Jane," and for the encore gave a boy's lively remarks on "My Mother." The first part of the programmge concluded with the gloomy work of Maeterlinck, "The Death of Tintagiles," recited by Mr. Harcourt Williams with considerable power and dramatic effect. The second part of the recital was devoted to Austin Dobson's *Proverbs in Porcelain*, in which Miss Mackinlay and Mr. Williams appeared in costumes of the eighteenth century. *The Ballad à la Mode* was cleverly acted by Miss Mackinlay as the Countess, and the Baron (her cousin and suitor) by Mr. Williams. The audience were also greatly pleased with *The Cap that Fits* ("Qui sème d'épines n'aille déchaux"), the three characters of Hortense, Armande, and Monsieur Loyal being brightly acted by Miss May Congdon, Miss Mackinlay, and Mr. Harcourt Williams. In *The Metamorphosis* ("On s'enrichit quand on dort") Mr. H. Williams played the Abbé Tirili, who, unable to find a correct rhyme to his couplet, falls asleep, while Monsieur L'Etoile (Mr. Frank Cochrane) enters, finds the paper, and completes the verse to his own satisfaction, but not the Abbé Tirili, who, on awakening, reads the addition with disgust. Other proverbs enacted were *The Song out of Season*, the vocalist being Mr. Frank Cochrane; *The Secrets of the Heart*, in which Miss May Congdon and Miss Mackinlay appeared; and *Good-night, Babette*, played by Mr. Williams and Miss Mackinlay. Mr. Frank Cochrane sang "The Lute Player" (Frances Allitsen) with ability, and was also heard in "My Captain," a song of Cyril Scott; while Mr. German Reed rendered excellent service as accompanist and at the spinet, which gave quite the old-world spirit to the *Proverbs in Porcelain*.

THE Queen and suite were present at the performance of *The Village Romeo and Juliet* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Tuesday night.

THE LATE FRED C. SOMERFIELD.

We briefly recorded last week the death of Mr. Fred C. Somerfield, which occurred on the 15th inst., at the Warrington Infirmary. The funeral took place on Saturday, from the deceased's home, Fernhead Lodge, where he had lived for the past four years, and he was laid to rest in the little churchyard close by. The respect in which Mr. Somerfield was held was shown by the number of those present at the graveside. The mourners included the widow, his mother, sister Amy, and four brothers, William, Frank, Tom, and George, together with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mason, Mrs. Ormerod (of the Accrington Theatre), Mr. Fair, Mr. Booth, Mr. James Mason, Mr. Will Mason, Mr. Newton, Dr. Bennett, Mr. Howard, Mr. Ludlow, Mr. Charles B. Fountaine (Royalty Theatre, Chester), and Mr. Charles E. Warne (manager *Tyrant* company). The following acted as bearers: Mr. C. B. Fountaine, Mr. C. E. Warne, Mr. Mather, and Mr. James Mason. The coffin was made of solid oak, with heavy brass mountings.

Among many beautiful wreaths was one from Mrs. Somerfield, composed of lilies and violets, made in the shape of a harp with a broken chord. The following also sent wreaths: His mother, Sister Amy and Dick, and his brothers Frank, Tom, George, William, and Lizzie; the *Tyrant* company, *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* company, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mason, Master Eric Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Ormerod, Mr. J. E. Barnes, E. and H. Page and family and Mrs. Clarkson, Mr. McMasters, Mr. Chas. B. Fountaine, Charlie and Alice Warne, Maudie Grayson, J. G. Vane, Mr. and Mrs. C. Whelan, Mr. Paul Beckett, Maud and Z. Horlington, Bobby Coleman, Joe Bernstein and Grace Bernstein, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mason, Dr. Bennett, and a few friends at Padgate.

The late Mr. Somerfield entered the profession nineteen years ago, joining *The Curate*, and playing a minor part for some little time, until he eventually took the leading part. He also fulfilled engagements with the following companies and plays: Rass Chaffis' *Parson Thorn*, *The Maid of the Alps*,

[*Photo by Thorne.*

THE LATE MR. FRED C SOMERFIELD.

Miss Emma Rainbow's plays, *Jack of Hearts*, *The Grip of Iron*, Ronald Grahame's *Mankind*, &c. He joined Miss Marie Dagmar thirteen years ago, playing the lead in *Woman's Victory*, followed by Prince Strogroff in *A Life's Revenge*, and parts in *The Tyrant* and *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. His achievements included that of authorship, and among the many plays that he wrote were *The Tyrant* and *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, which are now on tour. Mr. Somerfield had been far from well during the past few years, and only acted for short periods for some time past. Previous to his death he was in the Sheffield Hospital, and was removed from there to the Warrington Infirmary, where he expired, his wife, mother, and his brother Frank being in close attendance during the latter part of his illness.

MR. BLACKMORE AND HIS CLIENTS.

The following letter, showing Mr. Herbert Blackmore's astuteness and attention to the interests of his clients, was read by counsel in the course of the hearing of the case of Dance *v.* Smith, in the King's Bench Division this week:—

"DEAR SIR,—As you were present in your official capacity as secretary of Waldorf Productions, Ltd., you will recollect I asked Mr. Henry Smith for a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, so that I could find out if they contained any clause as to the minimum sum upon which the company could proceed with the scheme. Consequently, now that I have read the document, and found there is no mention of any stated sum other than the capital, I write this to inform the company of their omission, but to say it is quite good enough for me and all of us to have had Mr. Smith's statement that all contracts entered into *will be carried out by himself should sufficient money not be subscribed by his friends*. And as he made this statement I feel sure he will see the wisdom of my desire being carried out, viz., that you, as secretary, enter in the minutes of the meeting held to-day the fact that he will carry this out. You see I am rather particular that I can in no way be considered to have misled any of my clients as to their contracts being valid. And at the next Board meeting I wish to bring forward a resolution to the effect that I am in no way responsible for any contracts entered into previous to my joining the board. Another item that is necessary for the agenda is that the company recognises the fact that I am interested in making engagements for it, and that I consequently receive commission on their salaries. That is why I only wish to be a temporary director. All this must strike you as too much detail; but from the fact of my always having such voluminous notes to enter in my minute book of the T.M.A., I find that so much trouble is saved when reference to the minute book is necessary, by my having made these correct minutes.—Yours truly,

"HERBERT BLACKMORE.

"To W. McNicol Turner, Esq., secretary, Waldorf Theatre, W.C. Nov. 2, 1908."

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE has engaged Miss Carlotta Zerbini to play Mrs. McTurtle on her forthcoming tour of *Mother-in-Law*.

THE Russian stage has lost its leading lady actress by the death of Mme. Kommisarzhevskaya, who died at Taskkent, while on tour with her company. Death was due to blood poisoning supervening on smallpox. Mme. Vera Fedorovna Kommisarzhevskaya was the daughter of a famous Russian singer, and was born in 1862. She was an accomplished actress, and was credited with a remarkable gift for portraying the subtleties of human psychology. She chiefly distinguished herself in the plays of Ostrofsky and Sudermann.

WALDORF PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Jelf and a special jury, Mr. George Dance sued Mr. Henry Richard Smith for alleged fraudulent representation. The charges were denied by the defendant.

Mr. Rufus Isaacs, K.C., Mr. McCardie, and Mr. St. John Field (instructed by Messrs. Langton and Passmore) appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., and Mr. Holman Gregory (instructed by Mr. W. Vant) represented the defendant, who was manager of the Popular Playhouse, Ltd., which was a company started mainly to carry on theatrical enterprises at the Lyceum. The action was to recover the sum of £3,000, which Mr. Dance said defendant had induced him to part with by making fraudulent representations. In September, 1908, Mr. Ralph Hall Caine came with the defendant to see Mr. Dance. There was some conversation about a theatrical enterprise to be started at the Waldorf Theatre, and Mr. Dance was asked by the defendant to put £3,000 into the concern, the Waldorf Productions, Ltd., and in reply to questions was told that there was at least £3,500 actually found, and that it was expected that Messrs. Chappell, who were interested in a musical comedy called *The Antelope*, which it was proposed to produce, were also expected to subscribe. The capital of the company, the plaintiff was informed, was £10,000, and that it was all working capital, and he found the £3,000 which he was asked to do. Of that sum £500 was for 500 preference shares and £2,500 for certain rights in connection with the bars and refreshments at the theatre. The only money which actually existed to represent the £3,500 mentioned by defendant was £3,000 advanced by him to the company in order that they might pay out what was necessary to start the concern. In order to take up the lease of the Waldorf Theatre from the Law Guarantee Trust Society Mr. Smith had to pay £1,500. That £3,000 was neither subscribed capital nor in any way an asset of the company, but was advanced on the understanding that out of the first moneys subscribed to the company the defendant's advances were to be repaid. Instead of there being £3,500 working capital, as far as could be ascertained the money Mr. Dance put in was intended to be used, and was used, to pay Mr. Smith.

In January, 1909, there was a petition to wind up the company. The only subscribed capital was £52, of which £50 was put into the concern by Mr. Blackmore, who was a director, and £1 each was paid for shares by the defendant and his father, who were also directors.

Mr. George Dance deposed that when the defendant told him that the capital of the company was £10,000, he remarked that it was not much on which to run musical comedy. Defendant replied: "£10,000 is quite enough. When Carpenter and I took the Lyceum we started it on £200 or £300."

The hearing was continued on Wednesday, when Mr. Dance stated that his feelings towards the defendant changed after he had had an interview with Mr. Ralph Hall Caine. What really annoyed him was that he heard from Mr. Hall Caine, two days after he—Mr. Dance—had paid his money over to Mr. Smith that the £3,500 said to be subscribed was a myth.

Mr. Thomas Cecil Wray, theatrical manager, in the employment of the plaintiff, stated that he was present at an interview between the plaintiff and the defendant, and that he heard the latter inform the former that already £3,500 had been subscribed for shares of the company, and that with the exception of £100 or so the whole of the capital of the company would be available for working expenses.

The further hearing was adjourned till Thursday, when Mr. H. Blackmore, theatrical manager, examined by Mr. Isaacs, said he applied for and obtained fifty shares in the Waldorf Productions, Ltd. Defendant told him that the capital of the concern was to be £10,000. On an occasion when he was at the theatre he heard an angry discussion between Mr. Dance and Mr. Smith. He heard plaintiff ask defendant about the amount of capital subscribed, and accuse him of having used his (plaintiff's) money for the purpose of running the theatre. Defendant emphatically denied that plaintiff's money had been used for that purpose, or that in any way he had guaranteed a certain sum.

Mr. William Boosey, managing-director of Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., musical publishers, said he had two or three new comic operas, and Mr. Smith and Mr. Ralph Hall Caine chose *The Antelope* as most suitable for their theatre. He invested £500 in the company a few days before the piece was produced.

The plaintiff's case having closed, and Mr. Marshall Hall having addressed the jury,

Mr. Henry Richard Smith, in answer to Mr. Holman Gregory, said he was managing-director of the Lyceum Theatre. During 1907 he and Mr. Carpenter achieved considerable success at the Lyceum with popular prices, and it struck him that the same might be done at the Waldorf with musical comedy. In running a theatre the letting of the bars was a very important consideration. The rent of £30 a week for the bars at the Waldorf (Mr. Dance paid £2,500 as rent in advance for eighteen months or two years) was very cheap. Witness told Mr. Dance at an early interview that he had no capital in the company, but that when the company was completed he had promises of about £3,000. "Mr. Dance said," defendant went on, "that he was prepared to come in if I got the lease of the theatre for twenty-one years, and if I remained managing-director, as he had confidence in me. He agreed to come in for £2,500 on account of the rent of the bars, and £500 in share capital. When the company was wound up witness found £1,000 under a verbal undertaking to pay the artists.

A settlement was arrived at, Mr. Smith consenting to a verdict for the plaintiff for £3,000, and Mr. Dance withdrawing the charges of fraud.

The jury accordingly entered a verdict for the plaintiff for £3,000, and judgment was entered for that amount with costs.

THE story of Miss Joanna Baillie's play of *De Montfort*, some time since revived at Drury Lane Theatre, is founded on an interesting trial for murder, in the last century, of a gentleman who resided near the sea-shore, and with whom the hapless victim had been intimately acquainted in his youthful days. On the evening of the murder, the gentleman (whose name in regard to his family shall be a secret, and whom therefore I shall call Mr. B.), had been surprised by the entrance of his old comrade, who had been shipwrecked on that part of the coast. Mr. B. welcomed him with apparent cordiality and delight, and invited him to spend a month or two at his hospitable mansion. The guest consented, and next morning was found murdered in his bed. Mr. B. was arrested and tried, but nothing could be proved against him, as he had the gout at the time, until his servant deposed, that, at midnight she heard his door open, and in two or three minutes afterwards, that of the stranger. On this he confessed; and acknowledged, that, what prompted him to commit the horrid deed was that once at school the other had contended against him for a prize and won it. He was executed shortly after.

THE King and Queen and Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia were present at the performance of *Elektra* at the Royal Opera Covent Garden on Saturday night.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

Hardly strong enough for a night's entertainment were the four playlets placed before the King's audiences this week. At the same time, they were useful to show the powers of Mr. Courtice Pounds and his merry little company. First on the programme was *Cox and Box*, the famous triumviretta by F. C. Burnand and Arthur Sullivan. It appears a trifle old-fashioned now, but there are opportunities for some comic acting interspersed with a few songs and choruses. Mr. Sam Walsh made a laughable Cox, the hatter, and Mr. Courtice Pounds developed very comical acting as Box, the printer. As Mrs. Bouncer, the lodging-house keeper, Miss B. Gaston Murray acted with great energy and sang successfully. An interlude—songs at the piano by Mr. T. C. Sterndale Bennett—followed. His songs were enthusiastically received, and we should imagine that a bright career is in store for Mr. Sterndale Bennett as an entertainer. The new playlet, *The Idol's Eyes*, by Mr. Burford Delannoy, with incidental music by Mr. Harold Samuel, was productive of a few thrills, and met with unqualified approval. Mr. Sam Walsh made a bustling Dr. Grain, and Miss Myrtil Blades acted very prettily as his wife. Mr. Garrick Quin as Flash Jim was the traditional burglar, and Moll was vigorously and smartly played by Miss Mary Forbes. Mr. Courtice Pounds rendered Roger Bellingham, the owner of the Idol's eyes, with much capability. His song "On the road to Mandalay" met with demands for repetition. With a view to variety, the Kitchen Scene from *Twelfth Night* was given, Mr. Courtice Pounds repeating his successful performance of Feste, the clown. Rightly played in the spirit of pure farce, the scene occasioned great merriment. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave was excellent as Sir Toby Belch, Mr. Stanley Lathbury as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Mr. Sam Walsh as Malvolio, and Miss B. Gaston Murray as Maria, all proving proficient in their work. In another interlude Mr. Sam Walsh, at the piano, recited Kipling's "Voyage of the Camperdown" with skilful expression. The musical play by Keble Howard, entitled *Charles, His Friend*, which has proved so popular at the variety theatres, wound up the evening's entertainment. Mr. Courtice Pounds's versatility is well shown here in the several characters he undertakes, and it is needless to say that the audience were highly amused. Miss B. Gaston Murray was a fascinating Mrs. Gilliland, while Mr. Sam Walsh was a clever Peter Ward, stockbroker. Miss Mary Forbes made a pert Barbara.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Musical Play,
"KING OF CADONIA."

The pantomime season concluded here on Saturday night last after a most successful run since Christmas. There was a full house on Monday to welcome Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *King of Cadonia*, and it was abundantly evident that the "Marlburians" were completely satisfied with the fare provided for the start of the new season. The play is mounted in lavish style, and beautifully dressed. A long acquaintance with the part of the Duke of Alasia enables Mr. Bertie Wright to extract the utmost humour from it, and his clever dancing adds greatly to the merit of his performance. Nothing could be smarter or more artistic than Miss Alice Moffat's Princess Marie. She is an artist to the finger-tips, and soon becomes an immense favourite, her musical numbers being especially well received, as they deserve to be. Mr. J. Warren-Foster, whose fine, manly presence exactly suits the part of Alexis, is able and natural; Mr. Jack Martin gives a notably clever delineation of General Bonski; and Captain Laski, in the hands of Mr. Cameron Carr, acquires a position of prominence. Mr. Hartley Summers is an amusing Panix; and Laborde is very creditably undertaken by Mr. Cecil Tresilian. Mr. Edward Thirlby displays all the resource of a clever and experienced comedian, and keeps the house in continual good humour as Bran. Miss Molly Keen contributes a vivacious study of Militza, her acting, singing, and clever dancing having delightful freshness. Miss Florence Lelgarde is effective as the Duchess; Miss Olga Marsden is a particularly pleasing Stephanie; and the Misses Nellie Cambray (Nattine), Mabel Hirst (Ottaline), and Winifred Sampson (Fridoline) form a bevy of beautiful ladies-in-waiting to the Princess Marie. Mr. M. C. Forde is the courteous business-manager for Mr. Frank Curzon, and Mr. John Wigley, the capable stage-manager, ably assisted by Mr. Leslie Winter. Mr. H. R. Mathews ably conducts.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

The Lyceum version of this powerful play is being presented at the Kennington Theatre this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke. It is excellently staged and acted, and was received with warm approval on Monday. The outstanding feature of the production is the impressive, attractive, and forcible acting of Mr. Henry Wolston, in the part of the Hon. John Storm. Father Lamplugh is brilliantly played by Mr. John Hastings Batson. He is quite the embodiment of the champion and expounder of real Christian virtues. Miss Gladys Purnell is charming and spirited as Glory Quayle. Archdeacon Wealthy is ably enacted by Mr. Charles E. Dering. Mr. Fred Morgan gives a remarkably strong impersonation of Lord Robert Ure. Horatio Drake is cleverly sketched by Mr. Wilfred Noy. The character of Polly Love is effectively and pathetically sustained by Miss Gladys Vernon. The warm-hearted Mrs. Callendar is well presented by Miss Mollie Hayden. Lighter characters are ably sustained by Miss Harriet Russell as Mother Kent, and Mr. W. S. Carter as Bert. The rôles of Black Meg and her sister Jennie, inhabitants of the "under world," are finely undertaken by Miss Lizette Cardozo and Miss Alice Leigh respectively. The disappointed father, Lord Storm, and the aged Parson Quayle are satisfactorily represented by Messrs. Royce Milton and Arthur Maskell. The minor rôles are also adequately depicted. The business-manager for Mr. Wentworth Croke is Mr Frank Brandon, and the duties of stage-manager are allotted to Mr. Louis Fergusson.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Drama, entitled
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

With King Pantomime dethroned, Mr. Fred Melville inaugurated his dramatic season most auspiciously with one of Mr. Walter Melville's chief successes, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*, and a capital send-off was given on Monday evening. The play has the merit of holding the spectators' attention throughout, and was followed with deep interest. Mr. Otto Minster very ably impersonates Jack Cunningham, who ultimately marries the beggar girl, and in this latter rôle Miss Maggie Duncan shows delicacy and renders the arduous part in an interesting way that demanded warm recognition. Mr. Herbert Goddard is effective as the outspoken lawyer Robert Grimshaw; Mr. Charles Barclay gives us a clever character sketch of the physician Dr. Milbank; and Mr. Herbert Morgan is evidently at home in the part of Gilbert Lindsay. Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Dicky Storm proves himself a prime favourite with the audience. The low comedy element is capitally sustained by Mr. B. Elton as the lawyer's clerk Davis, and Miss Daisy Meynard as Miss Tina Torkington; Miss Olive Warne depicts with great skill the wiles of the society lady Maud Villiers, and Miss Lily Duncker is very engaging as Jack Cunningham's sister Elsie. Miss Anita Playfair, a typical London slavey as Lizzie; Mr. Harry Playfair as Joe; and Mr. Horace Kenny as Dodger deserve notice. Mr. David Cartwright is a stately and impressive Rev. Mr. Melsom. *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is presented with every care, scenery, dresses, and mounting being all that can be desired. Mr. Newman Maurice is the efficient manager for Mr. Fred Melville.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

After two weeks of drama, an acceptable change is made in the programme at the Alexandra Theatre this week by the presentation of the successful musical comedy from Daly's Theatre, *The Cingalee*. The company, under the direction of Mr. Haldane Crichton, works admirably together, and, aided by an excellent chorus, a smooth and level performance results. Mr. Jack Crichton, who has also "produced" the piece, works unflaggingly in the part of Chambhuddy Ram. The vocal contributions of Miss Florence Watson, who appears as Nanoya, meet with considerable favour; and the pomposity of Boobhamba is amusingly presented by Mr. Douglas Munro. As the Hon. Harry Vereker Mr. Arthur Cartwright makes quite an acceptable musical comedy hero, acting as well as he sings; Bobby Warren has an alert and spirited representative in Mr. Scott Cullen; and an entertaining sketch of Sir Peter comes from Mr. F. W. Ford. Miss Pauline Hague appears as Lady Patricia Vane with complete success; and Misses Winnie Murray, Mercy June, Violet Cowen, and Edie Burton deserve a word of praise for their work as the four tea girls. The Peggy Sabine of Miss Ida Ernest is a tower of strength to the production; whether as singer, dancer, or actress Miss Ernest is equally successful, and the all-round excellence of her performance causes it to stand out vividly. The orchestra and chorus are under the direction of Mr. Roland Wood. A dance is introduced in the second act, but its omission would not detract from the attraction of the show.

DALSTON THEATRE.

The second week of the much-appreciated visit of Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company to the Dalston Theatre this season is noteworthy for even larger audiences than the first. The commencing opera was Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, the artists appearing being Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Harry Reynolds, Mr. P. Newton, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Doris O'Brien, and Miss Sarah Williams. A complete success was achieved on Tuesday evening by a most efficient performance of *Maritana*. Mr. J. W. Turner met with a cordial welcome when he appeared in the character of Don César de Bazan, rendering once more the famous song "Let me like a soldier fall" with a degree of really surprising vigour. Mr. Tom Griffiths was a capital Don José. In a duet and for his rendering of "In happy moments" he met with an enthusiastic encore. Mr. Harry Reynolds as Charles II., King of Spain, sustained the dignity of the part, and his singing was cultured. Mr. P. Newton was delightfully quaint as the Marquis de Montefiore, and Miss Grace Parish looked remarkably well as the Marchioness. Mr. A. Fisher was well placed as the Captain of the Guard. Miss Jessie Dennis met with a most friendly reception in the part of Lazarillo, being persistently encored for the ever-popular song "The mansions of the blessed." As Maritana Miss Sarah Williams achieved a pronounced success. The song "The harp in the air" was rendered with artistic taste, and "Scenes that are brightest" secured for the singer quite an ovation. Mr. T. Lawton conducted. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Carmen*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Faust* are also in the repertory.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the comedy entitled
"THE CHORUS LADY."

Visitors to the Notting Hill Gate theatre this week are regaled with the celebrated American play, in which Miss Rose Stahl was "the big screech" at the Vaudeville. Mr. William Mollison, whose company are playing the piece, himself essays the rôle of the unpleasantly heartless libertine Dick Crawford, and he mitigates somewhat its repulsiveness by his bonhomie and *sangfroid*. Miss Annie Hughes enters heart and soul into the part of the vulgar but right-hearted Patricia O'Brien, and her emotional outbursts in Acts 3 and 4 hold the audience spellbound. Her "business" in the dressing-room scene shows a lively sense of the requisities of the lighter side of the character. Mr. Henry Deas is worthy of all praise for his very excellent and convincing performance as Dan Mallery. Miss Elsie Vron-Neville acts with a sense of character as the foolish, wayward, shiftless Nora O'Brien, and Miss Josephine Woodward is delightful as the good, homely, honest, Hibernian matron Mrs. O'Brien. Mr. Harold Neville make much of his small part of Patrick O'Brien, and of the others Miss Agnese D'Aragon is extremely amusing and lifelike in her portraiture of the bibulous wardrobe woman Georgie Adams Coote and Miss Mabel Durrant does well as the show girl Sylvia Simpson. Miss Hilda Donn and others render good service as chorus girls. Mr. Archie W. Chappell is business manager and Mr. Harold Neville stage manages the show.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

The visit here this week of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company in the above play has proved a strong attraction, and excellent houses have been maintained throughout the week. The piece and its exponents have met with signal favour, a fitting result of a brilliant play excellently interpreted. In the title-rôle Mr. Edgar Kent gives an amusing presentation of the man who is never taken seriously, even by himself. He develops the character in the most natural manner, and his acting throughout is always convincing. Mr. George Mallett is responsible for a sound and well thought out delineation of Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley Wynne, and Mr. Vincent Fletcher is a capable John Penrose. Mr. Montague Love enacts Major William Thesiger with a quiet sincerity that is well in keeping with the character, and Mr. George Percy gives an able rendering of Surgeon Walter Crutchley. As the two midshipmen Horatio Hood and Edward Dormer Lee Messrs. Hugh Wakefield and Olaf Hytten give smart and concise impersonations of their respective parts. Mr. Lionel Isted is a quaint General Gough-Bogle, and Mr. John Wheatman does well as Michael Palliser. Minor parts are well played by Mr. John Cross as Christopher Neate, Mr. Edward Christopher as Colonel McLeod, and Mr. Gilbert Prentice as Captain Munro. Miss Florence Jackson as Mrs. Cameron looks well and acts with womanly tenderness and simplicity. As charming Lady Hermione Wynne is seen in Miss Dorothy Ripley, who contributes a graceful portrayal. Miss Winifred Vallant plays the part of Viola Hood with quiet assurance and charm of manner; and Miss Stella Leigh contributes an excellent character study as Mrs. Gough Bogle. Miss Ada Clarke lends a dignified air to the character of Lady Dugdale.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Play, entitled
"LUCKY DURHAM."

This well-acted and handsomely-mounted play will appeal to all those lovers of the late Wilson Barrett, "whose name is legion," and to all who care to see a drama of human interest, strongly played. Mr. Edmund Kennedy, who impersonates the title-rôle, plays with much sincerity and great force. It is an able study of a fine character. Mr. William Calvert acquits himself well in the difficult and thankless part of Lord Mountfallon, and is never other than dignified. As the Hon. Reginald Steighton Mr. Arthur Leigh scores a success. He gives a striking picture of the shiftless youth, and makes his points well. Mr. Charles Wemyss bears himself well as Mr. Vallerton, and gives a good study of the "average man." Mr. F. Elton is satisfactory as Walcombe; and Mr. W. F. Clitherow is very amusing as a type of shady moneylender. Mr. S. Bancroft and Mr. C. Phipps as the Solicitor and Estate Agent are discretion and reliability personified; Miss Dorrie Turner acts with spirit and sincerity as Margaret Steighton; and Miss Francis Wolviston gives a good rendering of her shallow, matchmaking mother, Lady Mountfallon. Miss Florence Tresilian as Helen Vallerton shows tenderness and much dramatic skill; and Miss Nellie Bonser acts Mrs. Durham with quiet and persuasive charm.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Drama, entitled
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."

Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is again presenting this famous drama, which is followed with interest. Mr. Alfred Paumier repeats his original character of the fighting swordmaster Paul Valmar, and is all that can be desired; Mr. John Nesbitt gives a careful study of the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Charles Whitlock makes a good impression as the aristocratic scoundrel Eugene von Strelsburg; Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes is excellent as the brutal Captain von Scarsbruck; Messrs. James E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algy Spalding form a merry soldierly trio as Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobbo; Mr. Forbes Harrison is good as Father Gerard; Miss Margaret Brodie realises well the part of Princess Astrea von Strelsburg, and comes through with flying colours; Miss Jessica Black plays merrily as Kathie of the Golden Dragon; Miss Prudence Lawrence is the adventuress Satanella.

THE BRITANNIA.

With a run of eight weeks to its credit, *Dick Whittington*, the pantomime at the Britannia Theatre, was performed for the last time this season on Saturday evening, before a crowded and appreciative house. With a strong cast, which included that old Britannia favourite Bob Hutt, the whole show went with a swing from start to finish. Packed with songs, smart jokes, and dances, backed up by a full 100 auxiliaries, and aided by the capable pantomimist Mr. J. M. Jones, who appeared as Shellack in the magnificent scene, The Feast of Wealth, the success which attended the pantomime was practically assured from the first day of reopening the theatre on Dec 27. Although on Saturday last the original cast had been somewhat depleted by the absence of Mr. George Rapley, the troupes of dancers, and others, the principals who were left worked hard to keep things going, and were completely successful, as the constant applause indicated. East Londoners notoriously expect plenty for their money, and they get this at Hoxton, for the show lasted from 7 o'clock until close on midnight.

Miss May Beatty makes a splendid Dick, and her renderings of some of the popular pantomime songs were much applauded, the whole house joining in the chorus whenever possible. Miss Ruby Verdi is charming as Alice, and it goes without saying that Messrs. Bob Hutt and Edward Lauri kept the fun going fast and furious as Fitzwarren and Idle Jack respectively. A word must be said in praise of the two "mates," Mr. Will Harris and Mr. Alec Fraser; the former an exceedingly droll comedian, and the latter a smart light comedian, whose song "Don't take me home" was chorussed by the whole assembly. Mr. Jack Hurst as the Cat and Miss Millicent Cooper as King Rat were very popular. Miss Mabel Cameron, in the Scene in China, was much applauded for her excellent singing.

After the interval, Miss May Beatty and Mr. Edward Lauri presented an "operatic protean mélange," entitled *In Her Boudoir*, in which they played eight distinct characters. Here was plenty of scope for the humour of Mr. Lauri, and the singing of Miss Beatty gained great applause. Later in the evening the audience were treated to a sketch, entitled *The Dumb Man of Manchester*; Mr. Bob Hutt played the part of the Dumb Man, and Mr. J. M. Jones took the "heavy lead." The acting, however, was powerful, and received much applause. At the conclusion of the performance Mr. Ellis Brammall, the licensee, in a speech complimentary to the company generally, stated that the theatre would be reopened as a variety house (one house a night), and that he hoped to provide a performance which would combine the three prevailing types of entertainment, viz., the theatre proper, variety, and the Bioscope. He was accorded an enthusiastic reception by the Britannia patrons.

The pantomime was run by the Amusements Development Syndicate, Ltd., with Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall as the managing-director.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Price, entitled
"A CHILD OF THE STREETS."

Sir John Graham .....Mr. John Erroll
Lawrence Craigie .....Mr. Leonard Aardale
Lieut. Jack Ainsley ..Mr. Norman H. Tracey
Robert Wallace .....Mr. Charles Freeman
Oscar van Dam .....Mr. Maurice Jones
Ezra Scroggie .....Mr. George Francis
Pomeroy Smith .....Mr. Charles Tolcher
Constable 214D .....Mr. Lewis Rae
Gertrude Graham..Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam
Lorna Carstairs .....Miss Yoxa Summer
Selina Haddock .....Miss Carlotta Blondin
Little Doris .....Little May Renaud
Doris Graham .....Miss Dot Stephens

All the essentials of a popular drama are to be found in *A Child of the Streets*—an interesting story with plenty of stirring and pathetic situations and incidents and an abundance of really funny comedy relief that especially pleased Monday night's audience at the Lyric, when the play appealed successfully to a delighted audience.

An important engagement for the part of Doris in the latter acts of the play is that of Miss Dot Stephens, the popular musical comedy actress, of *The Belle of New York* and *La Poupée* fame. She had full scope for her vocal abilities in the character of the street singer, her expressive rendering of "Mother's Eyes" and other numbers being loudly acclaimed. She realistically depicted the sufferings of the half-starved and ill-treated girl, the scene where she is provided with such a sumptuous meal being very humorous, and her portrayal throughout an excellent one. Another character that enlisted the sympathy of the audience was that of the long-suffering Gertrude, convincingly undertaken by Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam, particularly pathetic being the scene in the first act where she is shown the forged letter, and also where she has to ask her child to choose between grandfather and mother. Her distinct and well-modulated delivery of her lines especially calls for praise, and her performance altogether is a very creditable one. In the unthankful part of Lorna Carstairs Miss Yoxa Summer carefully refrained from making the designing and disappointed woman appear too base, and looked and played the part admirably; and a like remark applies to Mr. Leonard Aardale, who pursued his career of crime in the nonchalant and easy fashion one expects to find in characters of this description. Mr. Charles Freeman was a manly and sincere Robert Wallace, and skilfully indicated his devotion to Gertrude, looking particularly gallant in his Highlander's costume; and Mr. Norman H. Tracy as the reckless young Lieutenant Ainsley was responsible for an excellent portrayal, the actor scoring heavily in the scene where he befriends Doris. The scoundrelly Scroggie was enacted in a grimly humorous style by Mr. George Francis; and Oscar Van Dam as played by Mr. Maurice Jones was a typical vulgar stage Jew. Chiefly responsible for the many comedy interruptions, always welcome, were Mr. Charles Tolcher as Pomeroy Smith and Miss Carlotta Blondin as Selina Haddock, afterwards Mrs. Smith. Screamingly funny was the scene with the bassinette and baby outside the supper rooms; and the wooing in the first act by Selina of Pomeroy was very mirth-provoking. Mr. Tolcher also scored heavily by his clever rendering of a character sang "The Junior Job Lot Club," and the happily-associated and hard-working couple soon became great favourites. The other parts were adequately enacted, and the play was satisfactorily staged.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Musical comedy is the attraction this week, and *A Country Girl* is meeting with a favourable reception, all the well-known numbers being enjoyed and applauded. The acting is excellent, dresses charming, scenery and effects all that can be desired, and the chorus a good one, well trained, and boasting of much personal attraction. Miss Addie Lennard's rendering of Sophie is worthy the highest praise; besides being a charming singer and graceful dancer, she is also a finished actress. Miss Dorothy Arliss is a very pleasing Marjorie Joy. Miss Anna Hickisch is all that can be wished, vocally and histrionically, as Nan; Miss Myfanwy Newell's fine voice is heard to great advantage, and her performance of the Princess is admirable. Miss Marie Greenhouse is a stately Mrs. St. Quintin, and the same remark applies to the Lady Arnot of Miss Vi Small. Lady Anchester has a charming representative in Miss Hilda Darrell. Miss Melba Sharratt as the Nurse, Miss Ena Hamilton as the Milliner, and Miss Madge Reddin as the Indian attendant, are all highly satisfactory. Mr. Coningsby Brierly carries off first honours among the gentlemen, and is a huge favourite; Mr. Percy Everard is a clever actor, and his Sir Joseph Verity is exceedingly good. Mr. J. W. Bruce is a capital Rajah of Bhong; Mr. H. B. Hargreaves is a pleasing Douglas Verity; Mr. C. T. Chapman is an impressive Lord Anchester; Mr. Tom Sheridan is very good as Mummery; and Mr. H. Brean and Mr. M. Jones are well placed as Rube Fairway and the Indian respectively.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, Verdi's Opera
"IL TROVATORE."

Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian company has had good houses all the week here with a classical selection of operas, including two or three of the more modern school, and the audiences have been both critical and appreciative. The company are especially good, both as vocalists and actors, and the well-known numbers received hearty applause. Signora Esposito's fine contralto voice and most dramatic manner at once made a success of her Azucena, and her several duets with Manrico (Signor Barbato) were loudly redemanded; Signor Barbato is gifted with a telling and robust tenor voice of much power: his fine figure was also a great factor of his success. The Leonora of Signora Protti was conspicuous by the excellence of her vocalisation; her aria in the first act was given in a delightful manner, and in the Prison Scene she took full advantage of the strong situations, and scored a decided triumph. Signor Azzolini, with a powerful and agreeable baritone voice, was a great acquisition as the Count of Luna, acting forcibly, but without exaggeration or effort. The well-known number in the Chapel Courtyard was splendidly rendered and vociferously applauded. Signor Quintana was the Ferrando, and his songs and dramatic recitatives were well rendered. Signora Massia as Inez, the confidant of Leonora, capably rendered the music which fell to her part, and Signor Antonini, in the small part of one of Manrico's followers, bore himself well, and sang very creditably. The "Anvil Chorus" in the Gipsy Encampment Scene and the "Miserere" in the Dungeon Scene were most effectively rendered, and the chorus of retainers, nuns, and gipsies were all that could be desired. Signor Wehils presided over a full orchestra of between thirty and forty instrumentalists, and the entire production was successful in the highest degree. As usual, this company present a different work each night, nine operas being given in all.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Pantomime entitled
"THE BABES IN THE WOOD."

After an interval of a few weeks, the successful Christmas pantomime is now succeeded by another which is being presented by Messrs. Levy and Cardwell, and is entitled *The Babes in the Wood*. The book is by Mr. H. B. Levy, and runs on familiar lines, and the music is by Mr. C. F. Dodds. The story is unfolded in ten scenes, many of which are well executed and effective. The Babes (Leslie and Marjorie) are represented by little Peggy McDonnell and Cissie Wyse respectively, and the noteworthy feature of the pantomime is the clever portrayal submitted by the former, who by her easy and confidential manner proves herself a very engaging and talented little actress. Miss Cissie Wyse also displays ability and is heard to advantage in the Babes duet, "A piece of Dresden china. Miss Marie Lumberg makes a capital Robin Hood, and evokes much applause by her singing of "Do as the soldiers do" and "Seaside." Maid Marion is well undertaken by Miss Winifred Norman, who offers a spirited interpretation, and she is happily suited in the song "Good-bye, Mr. Teddy Bear." Mr. Jimmie Watson as Lucinda Lovejoy is a most diverting Dame, and speedily becomes on good terms with the audience, and imparts much humour to his songs "Tax the batchelors" and "Directoire." Mr. Neil Hardy is also successful as the Baron, and has a good number in "Angel Daddy." Messrs. Graham and Barron are amusing, and cause considerable laughter as the ruffians Willing and Weary; and Miss May Curtis makes a dainty fairy. The cast also includes Mr. A. Hutchinson (Friar Tuck), Mr. Harry Tullett (Grinda), Miss M. Townsend, Miss Annie Brumby, Miss Flo Taylor, and Miss Eva Hopps.

OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Farcical Musical Play, entitled
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Mr. Jules Richeux has this week secured Mr. Robert Macdonald's well-selected company in *The Dairymaids*, and highly-appreciative audiences have thoroughly enjoyed the bright music and singing. Mr. Edwin Dodds as Joe Mivens, A.B., proves himself to be a comedian of excellent capabilities, being thoroughly diverting, and he keeps the house in roars of laughter the whole time he is on the stage. He is generously assisted in the fun-making by Miss Edie Martin, who as Eliza is responsible for much merriment. The duet "The Hay-ride" is greatly applauded, as is the song "Christen me Elizabeth." Another duet, "I'd like to meet your father," also catches the ear of the house. Lady Brudenell has a good representative in Miss Mabel Medrow. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff makes a most attractive Peggy, and scores well in the songs "The Sandow Girl" and "Hullo, little stranger!" the latter being several times encored. The light-hearted and breezy Lieut. Sam Brudenell, R.N., is humorously portrayed by Mr. William Spray, who has strong claims on the popular favour. He works hard, and is highly appreciated, and his song "Sea-serpent" goes well; he is also heard to advantage in the duet "A long, long lane" with Peggy. In the rôle of another young officer, Lieut. Frank Meredith, R.N., Mr. Herbert Lugg finds himself most suitably placed; Dr. O'Bryne, R.N., is well and judiciously characterised by Mr. Bernard Vaughan; Miss Kathleen Sinico as Winifred earns the applause she receives for her rendering of "Boy Blue"; Mr. Harry Cottell as Tim Capus affords much pleasure in the song "Dreamland"; and other valuable members of the cast include Miss Kitty Kirwan, Miss Edna Russell, Miss Kathleen Ronayne, Miss Wynne, Miss Doris Hodgson, Mr. J. W. Duval, and Mr. Robert Caradoc.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Musical Fairy Play,
"PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES."

In his desire to cater for all classes, Mr. Fred Fredericks is succeeding melodrama with *Pinkie and the Fairies* at the Borough Theatre this week, and "juvenile Stratford" will undoubtedly avail itself of witnessing this delightful fairy play. Messrs. Max Monteeole and Angus MacLeod's company is a very efficient one, and the scenery and stage effects are very handsome and appropriate. Among the younger members of the cast Miss Hermione Gingold is a very dainty and sprightly Pinkie, and shows considerable ability; Master C. H. Chappell is boyish, ingenuous, and entertaining as Tommy; the three Elves are very cleverly impersonated by Miss Aileen Faithful, Miss Peggy Rae, and Miss Kathleen Yorke; a funnily pompous Herald is presented by Miss Dolly Summers; and Miss Hetty Kenyon is a prettily dignified Queen of the Fairies. Of the elders, Miss Haidee Gunn plays with artistic drollery as Aunt Imogen; Miss Lucie Evelyn as the prim Aunt Caroline is excellent; and Miss Muriel Alston is a naïve and winsome Molly. Mr. T. P. Haynes's portraiture of the gardener, Mr. Irons, is genial and interesting; Mr. Ribton Haines is admirable as Uncle Gregory; and as the Butcher Mr. S. Williams does well.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

This week Mrs. Ellis Frederick's popular melodrama theatre has forsaken its staple fare for pantomime, Mr. Andie Caine's company in *The Babes in the Wood* being the attraction. That the novelty of pantomime is appreciated at this, one of the oldest continuously-running theatres in outer London, is evidenced by the excellent business ensuing. The pantomime teems with comedy business, has numberless good songs, and the familiar story is embellished with some excellent scenery. Mr. Andie Caine is always amusing as Dame Anne Chovy, and works indefatigably; the Robbers have humorous and clever representatives in Messrs. Coda and Danton; Mr. Jimmy McGarth is very droll as Jimmy Green; Mr. Wal Kent is well placed as Baron Graball; and Mr. Bert Albert is an excellent Friar Tuck. Miss Alice Digby makes a handsome and active Robin Hood; Miss Lily Brammer acts and sings her way into favour as Maid Marion; Miss Dolly Macalla is admirable as Will Scarlet; Miss Madge Macalla is a prepossessing Margery Daw; Aian-a-Dale is well played by Miss Maud Whittaker; Miss Mabel Beaufort is seen to advantage as Dolly Dene; and the Babes are charmingly impersonated by Miss Dorothy Elliott and Miss Mabel Lucina. Speciality dances are contributed by the Frivols, and the chorus and ballet are under the direction of Mr. Louis Beaufort.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Feb. 21, the Drama, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, entitled
"THE FIRES OF FATE."

A hearty reception was accorded to this piece when it was presented at the Royal County Theatre on Monday by a company under the control of Mr. Vedrenne. The stage pictures presented in the course of the play are amongst the finest ever seen in drama at the Royal County. Miss Ruth Bower presents a remarkably fine portraiture of the young American, Sadie Adams, and Miss Lydia Hayward scores a success as Mrs. Belmont. A favourable impression was created by Miss Gwendolen Floyd in the part of Sadie's aunt. A notably fine delineation was that of Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe as the dragoman Abdulla; and a forceful and convincing picture was given by Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Captain Egerton. Other rôles were cleverly impersonated by Messrs. H. Vyvyan, E. A. Coventry, C. Francis, Herbert Maule, S. Logan, G. Merrielees, F. Warlock, A. Ansell, D. Bryan, E. Vanderlip, and G. T. Lambert.

DEATH OF J. E. WILKINSON.

The wide circle of friends of Mr. John Edward Wilkinson will learn with regret of his untimely death, which occurred at Northampton on Sunday last. Starting on the first rung of the theatrical ladder as call-boy to J. L. Toole, "Johnnie" steadily worked his way up to a high position in modern comic opera, playing several of the principal parts in D'Oyly Carte's operas at the Savoy Theatre. In *Morocco Bound* he made a great success as Squire Higgins, which he played for nine years. Another successful achievement in musical plays was his Yarker, the chauffeur, in *Butterflies*. He has also appeared in drama and comic opera at several of the principal London theatres, at Brighton under the late Mr. Carpenter, of the Lyceum, London, and at most of the important provincial theatres. He proved very successful in South America. Of late years he made a great success at the music halls in musical comedy duologue with Miss Nora Layton.

The funeral took place at the Kingsthorpe Cemetery, Northampton, on Wednesday afternoon. The service was conducted by the Chaplain, the Rev. S. Lack. Wreaths were sent as follows:—"To our Darling Father, from Poppy and Daisy," "To my Dear Father-in-law, from Geoffrey Berwick, and "From his beloved Nora." In addition to the family there were present Mr. E. S. Dunkley, of the Black Lion, St. Giles's-street, who has rendered valuable aid in carrying out the funeral arrangements, and Mr. T. Warren, of Boughton. Amongst the numerous telegrams and letters of sympathy received by Miss Poppy Wilkinson (Mrs. Geoffrey Berwick) was one from Mrs. D'Oyly Carte.

Mr. Frank Lindo's company in *Home, Sweet Home* is on a welcome return visit to the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe. As Stephen Armitage Mr. Frank Lindo would be difficult to beat; Lucas Lyle has a strong exponent in Mr. Leonard Laurence; Mr. Bert Tench scores heavily as the Hon. Percy; Mr. Harry Belford renders good service as Gaffer; Mr. Sidney Dench deserves a word as the Duke of Ancester; Miss Marion Wakeford is a tender and emotional Joan; and Miss Helene Thomson a lively and vivacious Sybil.

Auguste Van Biene and Son are presenting *Man and Wife* at the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy. Mr. Jerrold Ord as Paul Revere is satisfactory; Mr. George H. Child makes a capital Captain D'Esparre; and the interpretation of Jean is a capital piece of acting by Mr. George Overs. Mr. Henry Compton is a fitting Colonel Labour; Messrs. E. Hall-Eldon and E. Helm promote great mirth as Bimbo and Bambo; Miss Kate Hallam acquits herself most creditably as Marcelle; Miss Marguerite Thorne is equally good as Ruth Revere; and Miss Lucy Fitzroy as Rosette is very funny.

At the New Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company has fulfilled a three nights' engagement with *The Coal King*. Mr. Henry Deane was well cast as Tom Roberts; and Mr. A. W. Norman acted with force as Sir Reginald Hartford. Mr. Sam Roberts as Jim was good, and the same may be said of Mr. R. Faulkner as Walter Hartford. Miss W. Love made a pleasing Grace Shirley; and minor characters were well represented. *The Gay Gordons* is billed for the remaining three nights.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The King and Queen, Prince and Princess of Prussia, and an enormous audience were present at Covent Garden on Saturday night, Feb. 19, the opening night of Mr. Thomas Beecham's opera season, when *Elektra*, by Richard Strauss and Hugo von Hofmannsthal, was produced for the first time in England. The opera was given in German, and when Mr. Thomas Beecham appeared to conduct his splendid orchestra he was greeted with rousing cheers in recognition of his courage and enterprise. In the whole range of operatic libretti there is nothing more horrible than the story of *Elektra*. King Agamemnon is murdered by his wife Klytemnestra and her lover Aegisthens. Orestes, the son of Agamemnon is banished in fear that he might avenge his father's death, and of the two daughters, Elektra and Chrysothemis, Elektra, like her brother, is determined on vengance. Orestes is reported dead, and the ill-concealed joy of Klytemnestra more than confirms Elektra's suspicions, and her gentle sister, Chrysothemis, then agrees to join Elektra in her scheme. The report of Orestes' death is a ruse, and on his return to Elektra he learns the truth, and the gruesome plot ends by Orestes going to the palace, killing both his mother and Aegistheus, and Elektra dancing herself to death in a perfect delirium of frantic triumph. There is no overture and only one scene, A Courtyard in Mykene, and *Elektra* is given in a single act with no interval. Anything approaching sentiment or charm in such a subject as this opera would be inconsistent, and Strauss, like a true artist, gives us music which, for grim power and passion, is unsurpassed. In the scene between Elektra and Klytemnestra, one of the finest and most dramatic in the opera, the orchestral effects are simply magnificent. There have been sensational statements circulated regarding this orchestra and Strauss's music, but beyond unusual size and power there was nothing grotesque or extravagant in the performance of the orchestra, even at their most stormy moments. How masterly the composer has scored for the orchestra is shown throughout the opera. To every dramatic situation the accompanying music seems a natural outcome, while as the character of Chrysothemis is more gentle and womanly than Elektra, the music allotted to this part is of considerable beauty. As regards the performance on Saturday night all the principal artists deserve great praise. Miss Edyth Walker, a native of New York, nobly sustained the exacting and strenuous part of Elektra. For nearly two hours Miss Walker is acting, singing, and declaiming with immense dramatic power. The physical strain must have been enormous, and it is simply a marvel that her fine voice was not affected, but so far from this being the case, in Elektra's scene with Orestes the composer has written a charming and original air for the heroine, which was beautifully sung by Miss Walker. Frau Von Bahr-Mildenburg proved a superb Klytemnestra, and nothing could be finer than her acting in the great scene, where Elektra almost compels the Queen to a confession of the murder. Excellent also was the Chrysothemis of Miss Frances Rose, and admirable her singing of the music. Herr Weidemann made a dignified Orestes; and the Aegistheus of Mr. D'Oisly also deserves special mention. Mr. Stewart Gardner appeared as the companion of Orestes; and an old and young servant, were ably undertaken by Mr. Veevers and Mr. Byndon-Ayres. The Confidant and Trainbearer were well played by Miss Isabel Bronte and Miss Violet Williams; while the Five Maids were capitally played by the Misses Molly Deane, C. Milestone, Muriel Terry, Gertrude Bloomfield, and Carrie Tubb. The evening was a perfect triumph for Mr. Thomas Beecham, and when all the principal artists were called on over and over again, and a special ovation given to Miss Walker for her heroic efforts, Mr. Beecham and the stage-manager, Herr Wirk, came before the curtain amidst most enthusiastic cheering.

On Monday, the second night of Mr. Thomas Beecham's season, Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* was given in German, and attracted a large audience. Fräulein Fasshender made her first appearance in the part of Isolde, and gave a reading instinct with womanly feeling and poetic expression, even if she partly failed to present the more dramatic side of Wagner's charming heroine. The Tristan of Herr Urlus had no special features beyond careful singing, while his treatment of the character was somewhat cold. Towards the close of the opera, however, both vocalists greatly improved. Although the part of Brangane is seldom sung by a soprano, Miss Perceval Allen's pure toned and sympathetic voice made the part very attractive. An excellent Kurvenal was forthcoming in Herr Weidemann, who proved so successful as Orestes in the performance of *Elektra* on the first night of the season. The Melot of Mr. M. D'Oisly also had many excellent points. Mr. Kaufmann's King Mark was only moderately successful and lacking in dignity. Herr Bruno Walter conducted with intelligence, although at times he allowed the fine orchestra to slightly overpower the vocalists.

The Village Romeo and Juliet, a music drama in six scenes, by F. Delius (in English), produced at Covent Garden on Tuesday night, was the second novelty of Mr. Thomas Beecham's season. The action of the music drama takes place in Switzerland during the nineteenth century, and Mrs. Delius has adapted the libretto from the novel of Gottfried Keller, a Swiss poet. When produced at the Komische Oper, Berlin, in 1907, Mr. Frederick Delius's opera had a fair amount of success. The story is simple, and fully bears out the title, as it is indeed a rustic form of *Romeo and Juliet* with a feud, as in the great original, between the two families. In the Prologue the action takes place in a field near Seldwyla. Manz and Marti are two Swiss peasants, having farm land divided by a field, said to belong to the Black Fiddler, and the children of Manz and Marti, Sali and Vrenchen, play together on this waste land. Unfortunately, both the peasants gradually encroach on the Black Fiddler's ground, and this leads to a long lawsuit, in which both sides are ruined and a feud established. Manz ends by keeping a low-class tavern, and Marti sells up all except his old cottage and garden. Six years elapse between the first and second scene. Sali and Vrenchen have become lovers against their father's commands, and one day they meet again outside the old cottage. Marti discovers them and is furious; in the quarrel Sali, with a stick, knocks him down, and, on the old man coming to, it is found he has lost both reason and memory. The old cottage of Marti is sold to pay his debts, and before the lovers part, as Vrenchen has to go out to service, they agree to have one happy evening together, and they visit a village fair and join in the dancing. After this the lovers go to the Paradise Garden, and here they meet the Black Fiddler. Pretending friendship for the young couple, he unites them by a mock marriage ceremony, and there is more dancing until midnight. Vrenchen and Sali, however, feel that nothing but death can meet their case, and they resolve on drowning themselves. An old boat is found, the lovers embark, and at sunrise their bodies are seen floating on the stream. Mr. Delius is a cultivated musician, and he has treated his music drama in an idyllic manner, which is best suited to such a subject. Although not in the least dramatic, there is much charm in the composer's graceful and flowing themes, and in the duets between the lovers, particularly the one they sing in the scene of Marti's Old Cottage, Delius's music is really beautiful. In the Village Fair, with its swings, shows, merry-go-rounds, and all the bustle and fun incidental to such a scene, the composer never attempts exaggeration in his music; indeed, the whole of the music drama is treated more akin to a symphonic poem than an opera, and the want of some striking finale is somewhat severely felt in the closing scenes of *The Village Romeo and Juliet*.

As regards the performance, Miss Ruth Vincent, who made her first appearance at Covent Garden, has a pleasing and sympathetic voice, of which she made artistic use in the part of Vrenchen, while Mr. Walter Hyde, who has had considerable experience in opera, sang the music of Sali. The duets, which form so attractive and important a feature in the opera, were admirably sung by both these clever young artists. Excellent also was the Black Fiddler of Mr. Robert Maitland. Mr. Dillon Shallard appeared as Marti, and Mr. Harry Dearth, who made his first début on this stage, proved very effective in the part of Manz. Miss Muriel Terry played the child Sali, and Miss Betty Booker successfully undertook the double rôle of the child Vrenchen and the Slim Girl. The parts of the Poor Horn Player and the Hunchback Bass Player were adequately filled by Messrs. Arthur Royd and Albert Archdeacon. Mr. Thomas Beecham, the conductor, got all that was possible out of Mr. Delius's clever score. The scenery is very beautiful. A lovely picture of a Swiss Valley in Harvest Time is shown, and the realistic Fair Scene admirably managed. The King and Queen were present, and the audience at the close called the composer on.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The National Association of Theatrical Employés gave those of their members who had been employed at the Strand Theatre during Mr. Robert Hilton's season legal assistance to recover the wages due to them, and Mr. C. F. Appleton, solicitor, on Monday applied at the Bow-street Police Court for seventeen summonses, which were granted. The hearing is fixed for Tuesday next at 3 o'clock. It appears from a search at Somerset House that "Cleodan, Ltd.," of which company Mr. Robert Hilton was manager, was formed with a capital of £7,000, and the names of the subscribers of £1 each are Miss Mabilia Daniells and Mr. A. C. Sheard, box-office manager. The list of directors and managers is as follows:—The Rt. Hon. Lord Clifford of Chudleigh (Baron), of Ugbrooke Park, Chudleigh, Devonshire; Mr. Alfred Farquhar (described as gentleman), of 11, Belgrave-square, W.; Mr. Robert Hilton, The Cottages, Little Stanhope-street, Mayfair; Mr. W. R. Wilkinson, 21, Hotham-road, Putney; and Mr. E. L. Raphael, of 31, South-villas, Camden Town, also described as a gentleman. Mr. Wilkinson was the general manager of the company.

What steps the Actors' Association and the Musicians' Union are taking remains to be seen, but both these parties will have to proceed through the County Court, as under the Act neither the actor nor the musician can apply as "workmen." This appears to be an anomaly, as under the Workmen's Compensation Act both the musician and the actor are classified as workmen if in receipt of less than £5 per week.

A conference between representatives of the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employés was held on Wednesday to consider what steps may be taken to secure the observance, in the letter and the spirit, of the L.C.C. regulations relating to Sunday Entertainments.

A meeting of the Heads of Departments' Association was held on Monday evening. Mr. Philip Sheridan presided in the absence of the president and vice-president. Four new members were elected. Messrs. Sheridan and F. B. Fidge were appointed as auditors. A resolution was carried unanimously, expressing regret at the untimely death of Mr. William Barbour, the Hon. Secretary of the Association, and the sympathy of the members with the deceased's family. Mr. G. H. Dyball has left the hospital and gone to Herne Bay for a few days. He expects to be able to return to work at the London Pavilion on Monday next.

Mr. Edward Marris's company is at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Falkirk. Miss Maisie Jerrard as Robinson is winsome and graceful; and Miss Mamie Iris as his sweetheart is clever and captivating. Mr. Jimmy Danvers as Mrs. Crusoe is highly diverting; Mr. Jack Bland as John Willie is droll; the singing of Miss Nancy Taylor and Mr. Heller Le Maistre is appreciated; and Mr. Harry C. Robinson is a graphic villain.

ARTHUR COLLINS.

AN APPRECIATION.
BY ONE WHO KNOWS HIM.

Few men can wear a giant's robe without getting it bespattered by mud; fewer still carry it with grace and dignity; but the robe that dropped from the shoulders of poor "Gus" Harris long before it had lost its lustre and quality fell with unerring effect upon Arthur Collins, who has shown us how to preserve and enhance the value of good, legitimate material. Arthur Collins was a remarkably young man to step into shoes that "wanted a bit of wearing." Strangely enough both "Druryolanus" and his brilliant successor came to the throne of the "National" kingdom when in the spring of their "thirties." Harris was a financier, and could have raised money on an iceberg. He was, too, by way of being an actor, therefore he was well equipped from a commercial point of view, and he thoroughly understood the technique of the stage. Arthur Collins not only is gifted with an extraordinary amount of business acumen, but he is an accomplished scenic artist, and what he doesn't know about a stage from fly-rail to mezzanine is not at all worth knowing. Perhaps no living man—I don't care how extensive his theatrical experience—could have so successfully carried the "hodd" laid down by his famous predecessor as Arthur Collins. It is only those who thoroughly understand the "ins and outs" of theatrical enterprise and skilled management who can appraise the enormity of natural skill, labour, patience, and responsibility connected with the sole control of "Drury Lane," a theatre which, in the world's histrionic annals stands alone, and within the walls of which more money is spent and more people employed than in any other four theatres in the kingdom. Perhaps it is not "slinging the hatchet" too far to say that the chief of our National theatre has, in his way, as onerous a post as our Prime Minister, and in the formation of his "cabinet" he has to exercise minute discrimination and foresight, and at the same time be so self-reliant and independent in resource that in the event of losing any member or members of his staff, to be strong enough in himself to keep the vast and complicated "Lane" machinery moving without serious mishap. In this respect the late Sir Augustus once caused me to smile and admire. A certain gentleman in his employ imagined that his services were indispensable, and in vulgar parlance put on "many frills." Harris told him to clear out; but, said the swollen-headed employee, "You can't do without me." "If you dropped down dead," answered the guv'nor, "I should have to do without you." Mr. Collins is to be envied the possession of one managerial asset above all others, and that is his quite extraordinary equanimity of temper, which, even under the most trying circumstances, he contrives to keep as unruffled as his immaculately groomed hair. To produce a Drury Lane pantomime, and not once to let your language descend to the cerulean or your silk hat to the fly-rails is not only a wonderful thing to have to one's credit, but it exhibits a power of self-denial not excelled, perhaps, by any member of the Salvation Army, and in this respect Arthur Collins stands out in striking contrast to many of his predecessors, and could the remaining walls of Old Drury speak we should hear of "sudden temper" and "strange oaths" and of the loss of self-respect as frequently as the loss of money. Here is a wee instance of the "Chief's" placidity. Seven weeks before the production of his pantomime his "principal boy" rung him up very early one Sunday morning (when he was fairly fagged out and in great need of sleep) asking "What coloured wig she was to wear?"

Naturally it is no easy task to corner Arthur Collins or to fix him in a club-room chat, but when he does get a spare moment he is full of good anecdotal matter, and he has the gift of spinning a yarn without putting in too much "embroidery." Speaking about the various and striking sensation scenes which have practically found their origin in his fertile brain, the following may be quoted.

"Another scene that I had had in my mind for a long while was the 'Under the Sea Scene' that was done eventually in *The White Heather*. I mentioned this to Harris and also to Pettitt, but neither of them would entertain it for a moment. Later on, when I was going to produce *The White Heather* I again mentioned the scene, this time to Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, but they were equally sceptical. However, I bided my time, and one day the two authors came to me and said, 'Look here, we've succeeded in effectually losing the marriage certificate, but I'm blowed if we can find it!' 'Where was it the last time you heard of it?' I enquired. 'Sunk in a yacht off the coast of Scotland,' replied Raleigh, and then suddenly, 'Are you willing to risk your pet scene?' 'Yes,' I said, and had it not been for two bewildered dramatists being utterly unable to find a marriage certificate, which the exigencies of their plot had necessitated their losing, that situation might still be waiting for someone brave enough to risk it."

With the information that brilliant Mr. George Graves will prominently figure in *Jack and the Beanstalk* next Christmas and that we may expect "the records to once again be broken," we reluctantly bowed ourselves from the "Monarch of Drury's" engaging presence fully impressed by the notion that we had met a clever, distinguished, and many-sided man, who has done, is doing, and will do much good for a profession he knows and represents so ably.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS. [*Photo by Langfier.*

"THE EVE OF THE WEDDING."

Play, in One Act, by Fanny Morris Wood, Produced at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Sunday, Feb. 20.

Rosalie Benningham ..... Miss Joy Chetwyn
Lennox Clifford ..... Mr. Warburton Gamble
Emma ..... Miss Honor Eliot
Mrs. Benningham ..... Mrs. Kaffin Crosfield
Huggins ..... Mr. Patrick Curwen
Robert Clifford ..... Mr. James Gelderd

Containing many amusing lines, and a dramatic situation that threatens to completely shatter the happiness of the bride and bridegroom of to-morrow, *The Eve of the Wedding* was cordially received by the friendly audience assembled at the cosy little Rehearsal Theatre on Sunday evening. Rosalie Benningham, the evening prior to her marriage, is about to start for a ball when the curtain rises. Her fiancé, Lennox Clifford, is, however, not accompanying her, as he has work to finish up at the office, but he has called to see her off. The light-hearted couple discuss their prospects and their many presents, amongst which is a cheque for £200, which, with a valuable bracelet, the gift of Lennox, is placed in a table-drawer. Lennox confesses that his only worry is concerning his brother, Robert, a rolling-stone of whom he has heard nothing for years, and whom he imagines is abroad. The advent of Rosalie's mother, Mrs. Bennington, to take her daughter to the ball, interrupts any further conversation on the matter, and the trio depart. A policeman has been engaged to guard the valuables, but the kitchen contains metal more attractive for the constable, and the room is left empty and in complete darkness. Then, of course, the enterprising burglar enters by the window, and with wonderful dexterity dodges the furniture, and finds the notes and bracelet. Ere he can depart, however, the lights are suddenly turned on, and Lennox, who has returned, discovers it is his brother Robert who is the thief. Robert is armed, but Lennox manages to get possession of the pistol, and commands his brother to replace the valuables, promising to forward him a cheque in the morning. The ne'er-do-well taunts his brother with always being the fortunate one of the family, and also with marrying money; and boasts that he is glad he has come to that house, and thereby ruined Lennox's prospects of happiness. A motor is heard outside, and Lennox bids his brother hide behind a curtain. Rosalie has returned unexpectedly from the ball, a presentiment that all is not right compelling her to come home early. She is overjoyed when she sees that Clifford is well; but he tells her it will be impossible for him to wed her, and asks her not to press him for the reason. Eventually, Robert comes from his hiding-place and explains all, and Rosalie magnamimously forgives him, tells him she would like him for a brother, and with the prospect that he will make a fresh start in life, and a happy future for Clifford and Rosalie, the curtain falls. Some of the players on Sunday were not quite sure of their lines, but otherwise the piece was admirably enacted throughout. Miss Joy Chetwyn was a natural and sympathetic Rosalie, especially praiseworthy being her acting in the final episode of the playlet; Mr. Warburton Gamble skilfully suggested the anguish of Lennox when he discovers his brother is a thief, and in the lighter scenes his portrayal was excellent; Mr. James Gelderd submitted a creditable enactment of the waster and thief, Robert; and Mrs. Kaffin Crosfield was responsible for an easy and finished portraiture of Mrs. Benningham. The comic rôles of Emma, a knowing parlour-maid, and Huggins, the policeman with an eye to the main chance, were amusingly undertaken by Miss Honor Elliot and Mr. Patrick Curwen.

There were other entertaining items in the programme given by the Francis Club for those that ventured out in the gale on Sunday, but none were more enjoyable than Frankfort Moore's admirably-written and witty playlet, *Kitty Clive*, the title-rôle of which was cleverly undertaken by Miss Fanny Morris Wood, whose portrayal of the difficult part of the delightfully roguish Kitty revealed her as an actress of undoubted ability and versatility. She was excellently supported by Mr. James Gelderd as the conceited provincial actor, Jack Bates. The couple were heartily recalled at the conclusion.

The Loughborough Amateur Operatic Society have given three performances of the ever-popular *Mikado* at the Loughborough Theatre Royal, on behalf of local charities.

Mr. Walter Norman, manager of the King's Theatre, Gainsborough, entertained the old people and children from the workhouse at the pantomime of *Dick Whittington* last Saturday, greatly to their enjoyment.

Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company is at the Empire Theatre, Swindon, in *The Swiss Express*. Mr. Wilford Bailey makes a capital Dr. Gull; Messrs. Charles and Fred Renad are as amusing as ever in the respective parts of James and John; Mr. Victor T. Raymond does well as Dudley Green; Bob Rollingstone finds a capable exponent in Mr. J. Hawkes; and Jack Gadabout is amusingly taken by Mr. Harwood Cooper. Virginia Squeeze is satisfactorily portrayed by Miss Mabel Collins; and Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette introduce songs and dances.

Presentation.—Mr. Fred Benton has completed the term of his engagement with Mr. Milton Bode at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, and on Saturday night, after the fall of the curtain on *The Flag Lieutenant*, Mr. Benton was sent for to the stage, and the staff—much to his surprise—presented him with a beautiful solid leather fitted dressing-case, and dispatch-box.

The King's Picture Theatre, Hanley, was packed on Monday last at its first house, and the record attendance was reached since Messrs. Moore and Kennedy took over the theatre, over two years ago. Great praise is due to the fine management of Captain F. Shaw and Mr. C. Harlewood.

A full-size picture painting by an artist of repute, in oils, on a canvas measuring 8ft. by 5ft., would cost scores of pounds. The difficulty of expense, however, has been done away with by Hana, the well-known photographer, who, by the combination of photography and hand-painting, has produced a likeness equal to any hand-painted picture. It is a life-size picture of Miss Marie George, an oil-painting on canvas, and although its dimensions are 8ft. by 5ft., it folds into half that size for travelling. Artists would do well to visit the studios of Hana, in Bedford-street, and see this picture, which would make an attractive addition to any vestibule.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Feb. 22. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Langford Reed, L. Shepherd, E. Morgan, H. Le Grande, Murri Moncrieff, F. H. De Quincey, Clarence Derwent, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was read from Sir Herbert Tree, and the secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Sir Herbert's letter, and to thank him on behalf of the council for the views expressed therein.

Mr. Clarence Derwent reported upon a communication he had received from Mr. Winston Churchill with reference to the inclusion of actors in the Government insurance scheme. Though the profession, in Mr. Churchill's opinion, is not likely to be included in the original Bill, it is the intention of the Government to extend facilities as soon as practical experience of its working has been obtained. Mr. Derwent also reported an interview with Mr. Philip Carr with reference to the need of the Association being represented on the committee of the National Theatre.

With reference to the "Railway Clearing House" three-quarter concession, the secretary was asked to insert the letter in its entirety in the minutes of the current week. The letter is as follows: "The application, dated 9th instant, for the concession in fares allowed to members of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association to be extended to members of the Actors' Association has now been considered by the Railway Superintendents in conference, and I am desired to inform you that they regret they are unable to see their way to accede thereto."

With regard to Mr. Robert Hilton's season at the Strand Theatre, the secretary read letters from various members of the company, and, on the advice of the solicitor, he was instructed to reply to the following effect: "Letters having been received from various members engaged at the Strand Theatre in reply to the secretary's request for information, and it appearing that the contracts were entered into with a limited company, the council feel that unless it could be shown that the company had any assets, it would be useless to take proceedings, but that further inquiries should be made, and the file of the company searched at Somerset House." The attention of members was also directed to clause 8 in the "Year Book" Legal Advice, which is as follows: "In an agreement with a syndicate or limited company, the actor should be careful to ascertain who are the persons connected with it, the amount of the subscribed capital, and to take the advice of the secretary of the Association before signing it."

With reference to the case for arbitration, the secretary was directed to inform the parties interested that the date fixed for the arbitration was Thursday, March 3, at 2.30 p.m., and that the names of the committee appointed to arbitrate in the case in question were Messrs. F. J. Arlton, H. Le Grande, and Lewis Casson.

The hon. solicitor declared that it would be illegal to make a charge on the occasion of a "social," and that it would be an infringement of the agreement with the landlord to have any meeting of the kind on Sunday. He advised that it would not be advisable to proceed with the matter, and in view of the above opinion the social committee in question withdrew. The secretary was likewise further instructed to write to Mr. Devereux and thank him for his kindness in consenting to act as chairman. The hon. solicitor reported and received instructions in regard to three cases.

The finance committee's report was presented by Mr. Morgan and adopted.

Mr. Arlton reported further on matter concerned with the house committee. Their next meeting was fixed for Tuesday, at twelve o'clock.

A proposal "That a notice be placed on the board asking those members who are willing to become members of a commonwealth company, formed of members of the Association, to hand their names to the secretary at once," was carried unanimously.

The following is the letter from Sir Herbert Tree, alluded to above:—

"Dear Mr. Young,

"I have consulted with several of my brother managers, and I find the general feeling is very much as I hinted in my letter of Dec. 28, to Mr. Hayden Coffin. They share my views as to their willingness to help the Association in any way that may be considered desirable and practical.

"Personally, I feel that it would be my duty and pleasnre to be of service to the Association, but at present I am not clear as to whether we can serve the Association better as members or as outside supporters. I think that we should be a drag rather than a help if it is proposed to conduct the Association as a society in the nature of a Trades Union, which it is perfectly conceivable may be a sound policy. I cannot help thinking that it would be desirable in the meantime that the membership of the Association should be extended, and when the newly-elected council shall have made up its mind as to the precise policy which shall govern its actions, it will then be well to have a straight talk and come to a definite understanding. I am aware that this course may be some time in shaping, but hold myself at all times at the disposal of the Association, to whose deliberations and achievements I wish every success.

"I have just read some statements with reference to a conversation which Mr. Derwent had with me as to the £2 minimum wage. It may be well that I should take this opportunity of dotting the "i's" of this conversation. Mr. Derwent asked whether, in my opinion, there would be objection to a £2 minimum wage. I replied that it did not seem to me that such a proposal would encounter the opposition of managers. In doing this I referred to actors taking speaking parts in London theatres. It appears inevitable, alas! that in any calling there should exist a struggling mass who cannot by the divine right of living ensure to themselves a living wage. This applies equally to the Bar, Medicine, and all other professions and crafts for which apprenticeship is needed. I have just referred to the salary sheet of this theatre, and find that no actor or actress with a speaking part at the present moment here receives less than the minimum named.

"Yours very truly,
"Herbert Beerbohm Tree."

Elections: Kathleen Vereker, Norah Johns, P. Ramsay Forman, Brineta Brown, C. Lewis Sealy, Cicely Barcham. Nominations: Frank B. Crowcott, Enid Baird, Stratton Rodney, Olive Noble.

Presentation.—Mr. Will Cutler, who stage-managed Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's pantomime at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, was the recipient of several handsome presents at the termination of the run last Saturday night at the Theatre Royal, Chatham. The gifts included a silver cigarette case from Mr. George Newburn, a silver-mounted walking-stick from Willie Benn's Dutch boys and girls, and a large travelling trunk from the company.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In noticing the pantomime at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, last week, your representative remarked that the attraction was Mr. Charles R. Stone's company in *Red Riding Hood*. I should feel obliged if you would make it clear that the pantomime was exploited by the Exeter Theatre Co., Ltd., for whom I acted as producer and stage-manager.—Yours faithfully, Charles R. Stone, Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Feb. 21, 1910.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree, who has shown his desire to advance the claims of opera, by giving the hospitality of His Majesty's to more than one important musical work, has decided to advance further in the cause. Accordingly he has arranged with Mr. Thomas Beecham for a season of light opera to be given each year at His Majesty's. The great work which Mr. Beecham is doing at this moment in connection with grand opera at Covent Garden is a sufficient indication of the quality of the entertainment which will be provided under his direction in the Haymarket.

Sir Herbert has written the following letter to the Editor of the *Times*, in which paper it was published on Thursday:—"Sir,—Many will be grateful to you for the outspoken article in the *Times* of to-day on 'Art and the Joy of Life.' Of course, every great artist has this joy of life, though it is often obscured by self-consciousness. Is not this self-consciousness largely due to a false respect for the painstaking pessimism of modern criticism? Earnestness uninformed by humour is the enemy of seriousness. If there is one thing more deadly than religious puritanism, it is irreligious puritanism. The Greeks and the Elizabethans, who were joyous peoples, loved great tragedies. To-day we are shocked by Œdipus and revel in drab misery. All forms of art should be respected. If the study of smells is interesting it should be remembered that perfumes, too, have their uses. If we prefer the passing phase we should be tolerant to the eternal. It is well that we should be reminded that in the drama, as in other arts, Jaeger is not the only wear, nor crape the sole *panache*."

In connection with the proposed testimonial from the West-End managers to Mrs. R. D'Oyly Carte, we understand that there is a strong feeling amongst the provincial managers and others, with whom Mrs. Carte has had so many pleasant business relations, and who are not represented on the committee of the fund, either that they should be permitted to take an equally prominent part in the movement, or should, if it be found desirable, start a separate testimonial. We anticipate that the matter will be taken up either by the Theatrical Managers' Association or by the Theatres Alliance at their ensuing meetings.

Mr. Forbes Robertson is about to enter upon the sixth month of his remarkably successful season in New York, where he will celebrate the 500th performance of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* on Monday, March 7. In the autumn he will embark on a tour, comprising thirty-five or forty weeks in the principal Eastern and Central States.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones will address the National Sunday League on the present chaos in the licensing of theatres and music halls at the Alhambra on Sunday evening at eight o'clock, Sir Herbert Tree has kindly consented to take the chair, and will also address the League. Many other gentlemen of influence will be present on the platform. The usual programme of the Sunday League concert will be given, commencing at seven o'clock, with the full Alhambra orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Geo. Byng, to be followed with songs by Miss Amy Evans, soprano, from the Savoy Theatre, and Mr. H. Lane Wilson.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, held on the 18th inst., Mr. George Bernard Shaw presiding, it was reported that rapid progress was being made with the organisation of the movement by means of local committees throughout the country. In many of the large centres extensive and influential promises of support had been obtained, and meetings would shortly be arranged. Committees were formed or forming in a large number of other centres.

Mr. Martin Harvey's visit to the Opera House, Southport, has been a brilliant success, the house being crowded nightly. At the conclusion of the performance on Saturday evening Mr. Harvey, in response to cries for a speech congratulated Southport playgoers upon having Mr. Hutchison to look after their interests and announced that he was so gratified at the result of his visit that he hoped to make a speedy return.

The annual Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's, which will take place after the present run of *The O'Flynn*, will be given on a more extended scale than in previous years, a number of the leading managers having volunteered their co-operation. Sir Herbert returns to the theatre in the first week of September with a new play by an English author. It is good news for both children and grown-ups that the policy of an annual Christmas production will be followed in the present year.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton achieved another triumph with their adaptation of Stanley Weyman's novel "Count Hannibal" on its production on Jan. 15 at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne. The performance was voted quite the finest ever seen in Australasia, the famous rapier and dagger duel drawing forth shouts of admiration from a wildly-excited pit and gallery. This success, following on that achieved during the short trial trip the play had in the provinces, bodes well for its future in London.

Lord Kitchener graced the occasion, and was accompanied by his staff and a party from Government House. When the news spread that the bronzed face in the dress-circle box was Kitchener's, a roar of applause went up from all parts of the house, and the shrill voice of a galleryite called for three cheers, which were enthusiastically given. The Field-Marshal watched the play, which is full of military details, with keen interest, and frequently applauded. On the conclusion of the performance he was conducted, at his own request, to the green room, where he congratulated Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton on the production.

Mr. C. H. Workman has engaged the following artists to support him in *Two Merry Monarchs*, the new musical play to be produced at the Savoy on March 10:—Miss Mayar Young, Miss Alma Barber, and Miss Daisy Le Hay; Mr. Roland Cunningham, Mr. Lennox Pawle. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., Mr. Leslie Stiles, and Mr. Neville George. The entire production is in the hands of Mr. Austen Hurgon, and the orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Hamish McCunn.

Mr. Charles Frohman will present a triple bill at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, two new one-act plays by Mr. J. M. Barrie, entitled *Old Friends* and *The Twelve-Pound Look*, and an unfinished comedy by the late Mr. George Meredith, entitled *The Sentimentalists*. The following artists will be included in the casts:—Mr. Sydney Valentine, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Dorothy Minto, Mr. Hubert Harden, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Charles Maude, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. C. K. Vernon, Miss Fay Davis, Miss Mary Jerrold, Miss May Whitty, Miss Penelope Wheeler, Miss Sybil Thorndyke, Miss Eva Killick, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Miss Mary Barton, and Mr. C. C. Calvert.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and suite attended on Thursday evening the performance of *The Importance of being Earnest* at the St. James's Theatre.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bannister Howard were amongst the company present on the 18th inst. at the third of the Bath Assemblies, which have lately been revived successfully.

Mr. Cyril Maude will inaugurate his series of matinées with *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* at the Playhouse early next month. It is a three-act comedy, by Mr. Austin Strong, and was given just over three years ago in New York. Mr. Cyril Maude will appear in the title-rôle, and the cast will also include his daughter, Miss Margery Maude—who thus makes her début on the stage—Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Mr. Fred Lewis, Miss Elsie Chester, and Mr. Shiel Barry.

In recognition of the help afforded by members of the theatrical profession to King's College Hospital, a bed in the new hospital at Denmark Hill is, it was stated at the annual meeting of the Hospital Corporation, to be named after Sir Henry Irving. Sir Charles Wyndham has been nominated by the Actors' Benevolent Fund as a life governor of the institution. Dr. Headlam yesterday made a strong appeal for help for the hospital, the income of which last year showed a decrease of £2,426. The ordinary expenditure exceeded the ordinary income by £6,431.

At the thirty-seventh ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Devonshire Park and Baths Co., Ltd., on Monday the report of the directors for the year ending Dec. 31 last stated: The balance (gross profit) at the credit of the general revenue account for the year is £5,712 16s. 6d., as against £5,100 12s. 5d. for the year 1908. Against the gross profit for 1909, £5,712 16s. 6d., and transfer fees, £1 15s., making £5,714 11s. 6d., has to be charged interest on mortgages, &c., and retiring allowance to the late manager, leaving a balance of net profit of £3,656 12s. 1d. for the year, against which is charged the manager's commission for 1909, leaving an available balance of £3,473 16s. The directors recommend that a dividend at the rate of £2 per centum per annum be paid free of income tax, which will absorb £1,446 12s., leaving an amount of £2,027 4s., which the board recommend should be transferred to a general reserve fund.

Mr. Robert Arthur will present at the Coronet Theatre on Monday a revival production of the comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, with new costumes made in Paris and new scenery painted in London. Leading rôles will be interpreted by Mr. Stuart Alexander, Mr. E. St. Alban, Mr. Wensley Russell, Miss Gurney Delaporte, and Miss Vera Darien.

Sir Herbert Tree's contribution to the Shakespeare celebration will not be confined to his own theatre, as he will furnish the leading attraction at the Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, which he opens on Friday afternoon, April 22, with a performance of *Hamlet*. Sir Herbert, of course, will play the moody Dane, Mr. Henry Ainley appearing as Laertes, and Miss Marie Löhr as Ophelia.

Mr. Lewis Waller has decided that his re-appearance at the Lyric in April shall be made as Captain Absolute in *The Rivals*, Sheridan's comedy will be somewhat condensed, and the original five acts compressed into three. After the run of *The Rivals*, we understand Mr. Lewis Waller will appear in a new comedy of the present time.

The next meeting of the Actresses' Franchise League will be held on Friday in the Grand Hall of the Criterion from three to five. The guests will be received by Miss Edyth Olive and Mrs. Carl Leyel. The chair will be taken by Mrs. George Bernard Shaw, and the speakers are Miss Georgina Brackenbury, Mr. Frederick Whelen, and Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G. Miss Decima Moore has kindly consented to recite.

A high school master named Billeter, of Zurich, is credited with the discovery of a manuscript copy of a lost original version of Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister." The copy comprises six volumes of entirely unknown material.

The Royal Academy of Music has recently been the recipient of a most interesting gift in the form of a marble bust of the late Signor Alfredo Piatti. The bust is the work of the young artist, Signor Giacomo Manzoni, of Bergamo, and is a strikingly excellent portrait of the great violoncellist, who was for so many years not only the finest performer on his instrument, but also one of the most eminent professors in the Academy itself. The school owes this notable addition to its treasures to the generosity of the maestro's daughter, the Countess Piatti-Lochis.

Amongst the distinguished audience present at the inauguration of Mr. Charles Frohman's Repertory Theatre at the Duke of York's, on Monday evening, were Lady Esher, Lady Ponsonby, Mrs. Bradley Martin, Lady Lewis, Count Mensdorf, the Marchioness of Ripon, Lady Northcliffe, Lady Bell, Sir Frederick Macmillan, Prince Francis of Teck, Hon. Mrs. Lyttelton, Countess Armin, Lady Allington, Lady Tennant, Princess Hatzfeldt, and Sir Philip Burne-Jones.

The comedy entitled *A Member of Tattersall's*, which was produced at Brighton in October of last year, and was revived at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, last week, with Mr. Rutland Barrington in the rôle of Peter Perks, the bookmaker, will be presented in London at the end of the spring. Mr. Barrington will be seen in his original rôle.

Miss Gertrude Elliott (Mrs. Forbes Robertson) has accepted a tempting offer to "star" in America next season in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, by Mrs. Hodgson Burnett, which has achieved a great success all over America during the past two years. Liebler and Company, by whom Miss Elliott is engaged, are now negotiating for the production of *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, with Miss Elliott as lead, at a London West End theatre early next April.

The Birmingham Theatrical Managers' Billiard Handicap has now reached its concluding stage. The final round will be played off on Tuesday next at the Woolpack Hotel, Birmingham, between Mr. J. F. Graham and Mr. Lester Collingwood, each receiving 120 points in a game of 500 up. In the semi-final round played at the Woolpack Hotel on Monday afternoon Mr. J. F. Graham (receives 120) defeated Mr. Albert Bushell (owes 50). Mr. Bushell failed to display his true form, and never looked like overhauling his opponent.

All records were broken at the Birmingham Jewish Working Men's Club on Sunday evening, when the concert programme was arranged by Mr. Lester Collingwood, the popular proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre. Mr. Collingwood occupied the chair, and was supported by members of the Alexandra pantomime company. Miss Daisy Dormer, who has scored such an undoubted success in the Prince of Wales's pantomime, paid her second visit to the club, and quickly established herself a big favourite. Mr. H. Barnes, chef d'orchestra at the Alexandra, had charge of the musical arrangements. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Collingwood and his able assistant, Mr. Guest.

Sure proof of the success of the Opera House, Southport under Mr. Percy Hutchison's management is given by the fact that Mr. Hutchison has decided to enlarge the capacity of the theatre, as on frequent occasions many hundreds of people have had to be refused admission. Plans have now been drawn up and passed by which additional seating accommodation will be secured, the refreshment bars greatly enlarged and improved, and a new crush-room added.

The apotheosis of the Princess gown is to be found in *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales's. Miss Isabel Jay's costume in the first act is a pink satin Princess gown veiled with soft folds of pink tulle, embroidered with silver, and again with a still more transparent overdress of pink chiffon. The rich, heavily-embroidered court train is of silver tissue, and lined with pale pink chiffon. Another lovely confection worn by Miss Jay is of blue cashmere de soie, veiled with pale blue chiffon.

Similar adornment figures in the gorgeous white and silver gown in which Miss Jay appears in the last act. Also cut in the Princess style, it is of white satin veiled with tulle, with long panels back and front embroidered with silver bugles and white floss silk, and linked together with silver festoons. The only touch of colour is a deep band of blue satin encircling the skirt under the tulle veiling.

Miss Mabel Green looks very charming in a beautiful cloak of blue satin, draped in an elaborate toga fashion, and adorned with a wide band of very heavy old gold embroidery. With this is worn a charming blue turban head-dress, with a falling veil of pale blue chiffon. Another lovely gown is composed of pale mauve satin, with a wonderful falling panel at the back, of net, richly embroidered with gold; while a third creation is of golden yellow crêpe de Chine, with richly jewelled ornaments.

A hockey match played by Mr. F. R. Benson's eleven against Malone at Belfast on Saturday proved very interesting, despite unfavourable weather. The teams were as follows:—Benson's XI.—Charlton, Carrington, Mann, Denys, Conroy, Howell, Caithness, Young, Benson, Roller, and Bulloch. Malone.—Coulter, Crossley, E. Cooke, Young, "Marks," H. Hall, Black, Pollock, Imrie, B. Crossley, and T. Cooke. At half-time the actors had scored only one goal to their opponents' two, but matters were equalised in the second half, Mr. Benson himself scoring with a neat shot from centre.

A reading of *The Taming of the Shrew* was given in the Central Hall, Rosemary-street, Belfast, on Monday, by members of the Belfast branch of the British Shakespeare Society. All the characters were interpreted with an ability which demonstrated the progress made with the study of Shakespeare's works since the extension of the society to Belfast.

Their Majesties the King and Queen, and suite, occupied the Royal box at The Playhouse on Thursday evening.

Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, the producer and stage manager of Mr. Arthur's *Aladdin*, which terminates its successful run of eleven and a half weeks to-night at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, rejoins *The Bondman* at Woolwich on Monday, Mr. Wentworth Croke having kept the position of stage manager open for him.

Mr. Edmund Payne has, after a long and serious illness, taken a turn for the better, and will shortly leave for the Mediterranean to complete his convalescence. On his return in a few weeks' time he hopes to resume with his usual vigour and quaintness his character in *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety.

At the conclusion of the successful run of *Red Riding Hood* at the Brixton Theatre on Saturday, Mr. Newman Maurice, who had an ovation, outlined the programme to be placed before Mr. Frederick Melville's patrons during the ensuing season. These attractions include the J. W. Turner Opera company, *The Cingalee*, *The Geisha*, *Charley's Aunt*, and *When Knights were Bold*.

Four performances of *Faust* as an old German play will be given in Clifford's Inn Hall, Fleet-street, at 3 and 5.30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, March 7 and 8. The profits will be devoted to the Leadless Glaze Exhibition expenses and the Potteries' Fund, which provides nourishment and change of air for necessitous cases of lead-poisoning. This production should appeal to all lovers of Goethe and all interested in the life of the people as depicted in a "folk-play." The performances will be given by members of the Ilkley University Extension Centre, and will be prefaced by a short introductory lecture by Mr. P. H. Wicksteed.

Mr. Fred Benton, who has been resident-manager at the County Theatre, Reading, for close on two years, concluded his engagement last Saturday. The occasion was marked by a presentation by the staff and orchestra, consisting of a handsomely-fitted dressing-case and dispatch-box. Mr. Benton carries with him all good wishes from the many friends he has made during his sojourn in the Royal County.

A case of much importance to theatrical proprietors and licensees came before the Liverpool Stipendiary on Wednesday About a month ago the Shakespeare Theatre people were summoned for employing women on a Sunday to alter and improve pantomime costumes. Mr. John Gaffney, the esteemed manager, pleaded guilty to the charge, but, with a perspicacity that was greatly admired, pointed out that the women did not come within the provisions of the Factory Act, under which he was summoned, because they were not working directly for their employer's gain.

The worthy Stipendiary was evidently impressed with Mr. Gaffney's argument, and, after looking up several law-books, declared himself in agreement with him, and assured the factory inspector that he would have to show a stronger case and more legal reason before a conviction could be procured. The complainant applied for a month's adjournment, and on the case being called again last Wednesday the summonses were withdrawn, costs being allowed. Mr. Gaffney has managed the Shakespeare's affairs for nearly twenty-two years, and it is hoped he is not forsaking that honoured position in order to become a legal advocate!

When the curtain fell on the last performance of Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens' pantomime *The Fair One with the Golden Locks*, Mr. Wallace Stranack, the stage-manager, was presented by Mr. Will Letters, the principal comedian, on behalf of the company, with a very handsome gold pencil case. Mr. Stranack suitably replied to Mr. Letters' very flattering remarks.

Miss Philidda Terson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Terry, to whose charm and talent we paid tribute on her debut some weeks ago, took up the part first played by her mother in *Henry of Navarre* at the New Theatre on Wednesday, and made a decided success. On that evening the play reached its 400th night. It was Mr. Fred Terry's intention to produce *The Popinjay* this week, but the indisposition of Miss Neilson has compelled him to revise his plans, and the conclusion of the run of *Henry of Navarre* will probably see a revival of the perennial *Pimpernel*.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's engagement of Mr. Ian Robertson in Jerome's clever phantasy, *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal, has been remarkably successful, the house having been sold out on Thursday morning. The play has created a great impression in Birkenhead, and Mr. Kelly has received quite a number of letters thanking him for bringing "so noble and unusual a play" to the town. On Monday *The Arcadians* commences a much-anticipated first visit.

At Mr. Kelly's Liverpool theatre business is still maintained at a high level. Next week Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company (with Miss Janet Lind in the title-rôle) forms the attraction.

The British and Foreign Musicians' Society held their eighty-eighth annual meeting on Sunday last, when the annual report and the statement of accounts were under consideration. The society has had a heavy expenditure on account of sickness, deaths, and old age. Thirty-five members who have been on the fund during the year have received £229; thirteen old age pensioners received £274; and £100 was spent in payments at death for four members and two wives. In addition, six widows and two orphans are in receipt of annual incomes from the widows and orphans' fund.

The society was founded in 1822 and its membership consists entirely of orchestral players. It has long been considered that the title of the society is not sufficiently explanatory of its objects, and a resolution was submitted and carried that the title should be changed to that of "The Professional Musicians' Sick and Pension Society."

The Rehearsal Company will give their twelfth performance on Monday, March 7, at the Rehearsal Theatre, at 2 p.m., when will be presented an original one-act play by P. E. Slayton, entitled *The Passing of the Ironside*, in which Messrs. Clive Currie and Frank Lincoln will appear. It will be followed by Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, with Mr. Fred Grove as Sir Toby Belch, Miss May Saker as Viola, Miss Mary Forbes as Olivia, and Mr. Clive Currie as Malvolio. The casts will also include Messrs. Fredk. James, W. Fletcher, C. Heatherley, &c., and Misses Evelyn Vanderzee, Grace Richardson, Ursula Keene, and others.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have given their patronage to the Keats-Shelley matinée at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday, June 10, which is being organised to provide for the complete equipment of the Memorial House in Rome.

The Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, who are ardent theatre-goers, put the manager of a Berlin opera house a few nights ago into a dilemma. Their Imperial Highnesses arrived unexpectedly at the Operetten Theatre to hear *The Count von Luxemburg*, but the august guests could not be provided with seats, as the house was full. Finally, the occupants of a private box loyally vacated it for the benefit of the late-comers, who were profuse in apologies and thanks.

At the Metropole, Devonport, this week, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. F. Melville's company in *Her Forbidden Marriage*, the offer of a 22ct. gold wedding ring to any parties in the house who intended to tie the nuptial knot during the week's run was accepted by a seaman serving on H.M.S. Impregnable. Having fulfilled the required conditions, he was presented with the ring on Friday, the wedding taking place this (Saturday) morning.

The Glasgow "Cinderella" treat to poor children, of which Mrs. Percy O. Humphrys is the able and energetic president, has been in operation for eight years, and over 4,000 children have benefited by this lady's efforts. This year 800 of the poorest little mites in Glasgow were treated on Thursday to an enjoyable variety programme, backed up by "pokes" of pastry, and presents of fruit, &c., to each little visitor. The treat took place in the Theatre Royal.

At the close of the pantomime's remarkably successful eight weeks' run at the Marlborough Theatre on Saturday evening, Mr. James Leslie, Mr. Fred Karno's manager for *The House that Jack Built*, was the recipient of a number of souvenirs. A handsome silver-mounted dressing-case was presented by the company; and a large engraved cigar-case by Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers. Among other gifts were a massive-silver-cased cigar-holder and an inscribed silver card-case from the front-of-the-house staff.

Great enthusiasm prevailed in the Grand Theatre, Brighton, last Saturday night during the final performance of *Robinson Crusoe*. Mr. Ernest Gates, the popular managing-director, stated the pantomime had been a great success. Floral presents and other gifts were plentiful during the evening, Mr. Ben Court, the manager, being the recipient of a handsome silver cigarette-box, subscribed for by the principals of the company.

At the Longsight Public Hall, Manchester, on the 17th inst., a dramatic recital, comprising monologues and a series of character parts from famous plays, was given by Mr. William Podmore, who has given much promise as a member of Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre. Considerable skill and versatility distinguished the performance from beginning to end, and the programme was agreeably varied by the soprano songs of Miss Annie Bayley.

Mr. Gerald Spencer, who for the past two years has been resident-manager at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, and has resigned his position as such to enter the commercial world, said farewell to his many patrons and the stage on Saturday last. Occasion was taken of the event to present Mr. Spencer with a purse of gold subscribed for by the staff of the theatre and his many friends. In making the presentation Mr. Hogg spoke in high terms of Mr. Spencer's ability as a manager, and the esteem in which he was held by the many friends he had made during his stay in Wolverhampton. At the conclusion, Mr. Spencer introduced to the crowded audience Mr. Lewis M. Chapman, from the Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, who has succeeded him as resident-manager.

An engagement which should prove highly attractive at the Crystal Palace Theatre next week is that of Mr. Frank Curzon's great musical success *The King of Cadonia*, from the Prince of Wales's Theatre. The original production, including costumes and scenery, is travelled. The fine company is headed by that talented comedian Mr. Bertie Wright.

Our notice of the production of *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre is unavoidably omitted, but will appear next week.

This afternoon sees the inauguration of the Aldbourne Village Theatre, which has been converted from a big barn into a comfortable playhouse by Mr. Charles McEvoy, the author of *David Ballard* and other clever plays. The promoter describes his venture as the first village theatre for village players in England, and adds that the object of their director is to present a realistic reflection of rural life and manners. Mr. Granville Barker will start the proceedings with an address from the stage at four o'clock, and a quarter of an hour later the curtain will be rung up on *The Village Wedding*, a drama, in three acts, by Mr. McEvoy.

The curtain fell upon the final performance of the Edinburgh Theatre Royal pantomime, *Humpty Dumpty*, last Saturday, amidst a scene of remarkable enthusiasm. During the progress of the piece the action was stopped again and again to present the principal artists with tokens of goodwill from the crowded audience, and in the concluding scene the stage looked like a veritable bower of Flora. Miss Iris Banfield was surrounded with a rampart of lovely flowers, while the comedians had suitable and ingeniously formed bouquets given to them.

At the close Mr. Geo. T. Minshull, one of the managing-directors, stepped upon the stage in response to loud applause, and expressed the thanks of the management and the members of the cast for the magnificent reception which the public had accorded to the pantomime. This was a comet year, and there had been great scintillations on the part of different members of the company. He appealed to the audience whether the pantomime had not been a success. Another burst of applause greeted the speech, and after joining in the strains of "Auld Lang Syne," the audience dispersed.

Miss Winifred Pearson has been engaged by Mr. Herbert Sleath for Claire Foster in *A Woman in the Case*. She is playing this week at the New Theatre, Cardiff.

Lent has not affected the attendance at Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, at the Haymarket, and the bookings extend well into April. Mr. Herbert Trench, it is evident, will not want a successor to the play for many months.

Maeterlinck's poetic idea of "The Blue Bird for Happiness" has been taken up by a number of clever and well-known women in the world of literature, music, and art, who have banded themselves together into a dining club with one object, the Pursuit of Happiness. The rites and ceremonies practised by the "Blue Birds" at their meetings are kept a profound secret, and no man is permitted to join.

A hockey match on skates was played at Perth on Wednesday, by members of the *Sunday* company, against a local team, and a very exciting contest resulted. At first it seemed as if the homesters were to have it all their own way, as they scored two goals within three minutes. The visitors were by no means dismayed, for on the ball being centred, it was immediately knocked into the local net by their centreforward. The game finally ended in a draw of two goals each, the principal events being the scoring of the second goal by the *Sunday* back from his own goal post, and the saving of a critical situation by the goalkeeper sending the ball through a window into a neighbouring street. The *Sunday* team were Richard Triene (centre), Robert Borland (right), L. St. G. Lowther (left), George Marriott (back), and Richard F. Symons (goal).

Mr. Charles Frohman has made two notable additions to the list of playwrights who are to provide dramatic material for the carrying on of his Repertory Theatre, which made such an auspicious start at the Duke of York's on Monday. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones and Mr. Alfred Sutro have accepted commissions to furnish Mr. Frohman with plays, thus greatly enhancing the value of his experiment.

Mr. Robert R. Ashby played the part of Harry Leyton in *The Thief* at the short notice of three hours at the Grand Theatre, Luton. Mr. Ashby only joined the company a few hours previous to his playing the part.

Princess Henry of Battenberg, with her suite and Miss Ellen Terry, were amongst the audience which witnessed the first performance of *La Zolfara*, by the Sicilian players, at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday night. Miss Terry was taken behind the scenes between the first and second acts and presented to Mme. Bragaglia and Cav. Grasso. The latter was so carried away by his feelings that he took the distinguished actress in his arms and kissed her on both cheeks.

The management of the Beecham opera season has concluded a special engagement with Herr Forchhammer, of the Frankfort-on-Main Opera House, to sing the part of Tristran on Wednesday, March 2. *Carmen*, which was originally announced for that date, has been postponed until March 14. There will be another extra performance of *Elektra* on Thursday, March 17, so that Strauss' opera will be given on Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 15, 17, and 19.

Mr. Percy Hutchison having recovered from his operation for appendicitis will reappear in *Brewster's Millions* at the Marlborough Theatre, N., on Monday next, supported by the same company that appeared with him in that successful piece at Wyndham's Theatre.

The suburban and provincial rights of the Wyndham Theatre play *The Best People* have been secured by Mr. Frank Weathersby, who will send a tour out on March 7, starting at West Pier, Brighton. The play is by Frederick Lonsdale, the author of *Dear Little Denmark*, *The Early Worms*, *The Balkan Princess*, &c.

So great has been the success of the pantomime *Mother Hubbard* at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, that a further two weeks have been added to its run, which will terminate on March 12. Mr. G. H. Elliott, who has scored tremendously as Chocolate, will, by the courtesy of Oswald Stoll and Messrs. Elphinstone (who have kindly released him) continue to afford delight to the Bristolians until the pantomime closes its run.

Mr. Graham Morrison, the popular general-manager of the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, was on Wednesday last, the occasion of his birthday, the recipient of a gold-mounted cigar holder, cigarette holder, and cigarette case from the members of his staff.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday application for discharge was made by Mary Adelaide Whytal, described as of Craven-mansions, Lancaster Gate, actress and theatrical manageress. In 1905 debtor formed a theatrical company, and toured in the provinces with the plays *The Cardinal*, *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, *Clancarty*, and *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*. The tour was not successful financially, and judgment was eventually obtained against the debtor in respect of a printing account. His Honour said the debtor could either take her discharge immediately, subject to paying the costs of the bankruptcy proceedings, or it would be granted subject to the minimum suspension of two years.

The case of Mr. H. Scholz, dramatic author, professionally known as W. Gunn Gwennet, also came before the Court upon an application for discharge. Debtor in 1907 brought an action for infringement of copyright against the petitioning creditor and *Amasis* (Limited). He alleged that the play called *Amasis* was founded upon, or copied from, a play written by him called *Son of the Sun*, and claimed £5,000 damages and an injunction. In January, 1909, judgment was given in his favour, with £500 damages, but on appeal that judgment was reversed, with costs. The liabilities were returned at £774. The assets were valued at £703, but had so far realised only 11s. 6d. The order of discharge was suspended for two years.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Opera and Variety.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS has said to a representative of the Glasgow *Citizen*:—"Under the present conditions I find it simply impossible to run grand opera any longer with companies such as are appearing these two weeks. I had intended, unless I could get a little more encouragement from those I have to do business with, to stop the company altogether. Then I had a very munificent offer for what my wife and I think very easy work in Mr. Stoll's principal variety theatres, the engagement to run for thirty-two weeks. I have accepted that offer, and so intend for the present to run only one opera company. That company will not be as large or as expensive as the present one, but I think I can safely say that it will be as large as, if not larger than, any of the other opera companies that may be on the road. When my agreement with Mr. Stoll terminates, which will be about the end of March, 1911, I hope I shall be in even a more independent position than I am now; and then I hope most sincerely to endeavour in a different way altogether to establish national opera."

Shakespeare's Accent.

IF Shakespeare attended a present-day performance of his plays, said Mr. Daniel Jones (lecturer upon phonetics at University College) at the *Times* Book Club on Thursday, he would feel very much as we should feel if we heard Tennyson recited in broad Cockney. Mr. Jones read two passages from *As You Like It*—the "Seven Ages" soliloquy and the song "It was a lover and his lass"—in an Elizabethan accent. The effect was pleasing, the impression being that of a cross between Lowland Scotch and a Frenchman's fairly correct pronunciation of modern English. "This recitation is not given as a mere curiosity," said Mr. Jones. "The original pronunciation of Shakespeare should be cultivated far more than it is if we really wish to appreciate the music of his verse."

Not the Right Note.

A DRAMATIC critic (remarks the *Chronicle*) has been complaining that our most accomplished players cannot reproduce on the stage the "married voice," even when they are married. There is a peculiar domestic note—used at home—which cannot get over the footlights and was never meant for publicity. That critic might have gone further, and asserted that the stage never conveys the married manner, which hotel porters are quick to note in places that are reached by other and swifter means than marriage lines. Even the least observant in the stalls can seldom believe that the married people on the stage have been really married for more than ten minutes.

The National Theatre.

IT has been proved (writes Mr. Philip Gibbs in the *Chronicle*) that there is a demand for a National Theatre. There are butchers and weavers and factory hands and poor clerks and working women and labouring men who, out of their poverty or their savings, would "plank" down a shilling on the board to do something to honour the man who wrote Henry V.'s speech before the Battle of Agincourt and the fairy scenes in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*—the man who gave them their only knowledge, perhaps, of English history and their only insight to the magic world of poesy, when they recited his living words in the elementary schools of their childhood. And if these people would give their shillings, there are others who have had more chance of getting close to the great heart of Shakespeare, and who already have some dim notion as to the value of an English theatre fulfilling the functions of the Théâtre Français, who would surely subscribe their half-crowns or their half-sovereigns.

Facial Play Photographed.

THE *Morning Leader* has been publishing some very interesting reproductions of the separate films of a cinematograph of Miss Dorothea Webb reciting dramatic passages from Shakespeare, which were taken expressly to illustrate a lecture by Prof. Fredk. Mott, of the Royal Institution, on Tuesday, on "The Emotions and their Expression." Prof. Mott said that he had asked Miss Webb to try and feel the emotions she depicted if possible, as he wished to see the alterations of facial expression that occur in the recital of passages embodying some of the principal emotions, such as fear, anger, love, hate, rage, joy, &c. He did not expect her to actually feel those emotions. It did not need any close analysis, however, to show that Miss Webb's delineation of the various emotions was of a most realistic accuracy. Taking "Horror," he pointed out that the protruding eyes, the wrinkled forehead, the drawing up of the eyebrows, the angle of the mouth, which although wide open, was still drawn down, and the drawn, unrelaxed cheek were quite characteristic of horror.

The lecturer went on to show how true, physiologically, were the common expressions representative of the emotions. Such phrases as "Breathing out vengeance," "Fuming with anger," "His blood froze in his veins," "Blue funk," "Rooted to the spot with fear," "Bowed down with grief," "Flushed with anger," "Trembling with fear," "Paralysed with fear," &c., were all accurate expressions of the effect on the body of the emotions.

An Old Cock.

A PRECEDENT for *Chantecler* has at last been discovered. At the Vienna carnival in 1783 there was produced a piece, in two acts, entitled *The Farm Yard Cock*. The scene was laid in a farmyard, and the actors and actresses, attired as cocks and hens, crowed and clucked and flapped. The principal cock in the piece, like Chantecler, sang a hymn to the sun. The success of the production was so great that a similar piece, entitled *A Comedy of Birds*, was produced in the following year. The author was a certain journalist entitled Johann Rantenstrauch, but there is no reason to suppose that M. Rostand has ever heard of him or his play.

Mr. Welch in the Water.

IN his lecture on "Fools" at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, Mr. James Welch related that many years ago he showed another little boy how to dive, the considerations that it was a dangerous bit of rocky coast, that the tide was running out, and that he could not swim a stroke not stopping him. He dived. Eventually he was fished out, and after three or four hours of very hard work was brought round to consciousness. When he was asked how it felt to be drowning he could only recollect that he shouted for help as he was going down, and that he roared with laughter at the funny sound of his voice in the water. Many years afterwards he found that he was then only illustrating an old English proverb, "A fool will laugh when he is drowning." Therefore they might not only write him down a fool, but underline it.

No Female Fools.

"THERE are no fools," he went on, "among the female sex. It is the women who make fools of the men. Shakespeare finds the fools to be always male. Generally vanity in a man produces more foolish results than in a woman. Vanity in a woman leads to the pictorial and the effective, but in a man only to foolishness. It is poor 'Chantecler' who is the fool, and not the hen-pheasant." Mr. Welch said that as an actor he found it difficult sometimes to "suffer fools gladly." One sometimes got a fool in the front row who laughed in the wrong place. Then there was the fool who did not laugh at all, and the type of fool who laughed as though he were hissing.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 21, at the Duke of York's Theatre, a Tragedy, in Four Acts, by John Galsworthy, entitled

"JUSTICE."

James How .....MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Walter How .....MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Robert Cokeson .....MR. EDMUND GWENN
William Falder .....MR. DENNIS EADIE
Sweedle .....MR. GEORGE HERSEE
Wister .....MR. LESLIE CARTER
Cowley .....MR. C. E. VERNON
The Judge .....MR. DION BOUCICAULT
Counsel for the Prosecution ..MR. OSCAR ADYE
Counsel for the Defence ..MR. CHARLES BRYANT
The Clerk of Arraigns .....MR. C. C. CALVERT
An Usher .....MR. TALBOT HOMEWOOD
Foreman of the Jury ..MR. R. OSSULTON-RICHE
The Governor of the Prison
MR. GRENDON BENTLEY
The Chaplain .....MR. HUBERT HARBEN
The Doctor .....MR. LEWIS CASSON
The Chief Warder .....MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
A Warder Instructor ....MR. BENEDICT BUTLER
Moaney .....MR. ROBERT PATEMAN
Clipton .....MR. O. H. HEGGIE
O'Cleary .....MR. WHITFORD KANE
Ruth Honeywill .....MISS EDYTH OLIVE

Mr. Charles Frohman commenced his Repertory Theatre season at the Duke of York's Theatre with a play of stern, gloomy strength by that extremely advanced author Mr. John Galsworthy, the author of *The Silver Box* and *Strife*. Mr. Galsworthy has written a play calculated to wring one's heart if it be made of penetrable stuff; and to witness *Justice* leaves one with a tremendously strong sense of the sadness and suffering which exist, and with a resolve to be more merciful in our judgment on human acts and motives. We may infer a criticism of our present law of divorce in the situation with which the play commences. Falder, senior managing clerk to Messrs. James and Walter How, solicitors, has fallen in love with a married woman named Ruth Honeywill, whose husband is a drunkard and a brutal blackguard. Unable, according to our divorce law, to release herself from him, she consents to elope to America with Falder. Money, however, is required for the purpose, and the young man—he is only twenty-three—commits a forgery to get it, with the idea that on the other side of the Atlantic he will be able to earn and repay the sum he has stolen.

The forgery is discovered, and the two partners of the firm discuss how Falder shall be treated. The junior partner, Walter How, leans to the side of mercy; but his father does not believe in overlooking even first offences, and Falder is sent for trial.

Scenes in courts of justice have always been effective on the stage, and the poignant realism of Falder's trial at assizes, with the speech of counsel, the judge's summing up, and the verdict of the jury create a dramatic agony intense and sustained. In the end Falder is sent to penal servitude for three years. The point, of course, which the author, by the mouth of Falder's counsel, makes is that our adminstration of the law does not sufficiently consider extenuating circumstances such as those which surround Falder's crime. The hardness of the senior partner in refusing to overlook the clerk's first offence is paralleled by the judge's mechanical summing-up and the verdict of a jury insensible to the finer shades of guilt.

Falder goes to prison, and a leaden depression and despair take possession of his soul. The prison system grinds out of him all that is hopeful, resilient, and active. He is set free at the end of the three years, a mere sullen wreck of a man. In the meantime Ruth also has degenerated. After trying hard to earn a living as a sempstress, she has become the mistress of her employer. Falder determines to ask the Hows to take him back, and they agree to do so. But the forgery of a reference by which he obtained a former position has been discovered, and a detective comes to arrest him for it. As Falder is being taken away he throws himself out of a window and is killed.

Justice is a "slice out of life." From the ordinary playgoer's point of view this spoils it as a play. In all probability, if *Justice* were put on at an ordinary theatre in the ordinary way, it would not have a very long run, but the avowed object of a Repertory Theatre is to cater for an eccentric and advanced minority. It is an old saying that what is one man's meat is another man's poison, and the sort of drama which will depress and bore one person will send another into ecstasies of admiration.

Mr. Galsworthy's object, as his title shows, is to draw attention to what he regards as the injustices of our social arrangements. It is an injustice, he says, that a woman should only be able to obtain a divorce for cruelty combined with adultery. It is an injustice that a man who commits a crime in a state of nervous excitement should be treated in the same way as the professional criminal who commits it in cold blood; and it is an injustice that any human being should be condemned to solitary confinement. To deal properly with a play which is practically a social treatise and a plea for general reforms, it would be necessary to introduce essays on these three subjects, to the discussion of which *Justice* is a deliberate challenge. As space will not permit of this, we must content ourselves with praising the manner in which Mr. Galsworthy has put his case in each instance. There could hardly be a stronger plea for a change in our divorce law than the spectacle of this naturally good woman driven to adultery to escape from her husband's ill-treatment, and finally, in sheer despair, sinking into sordid vice. The terrible scene in which the prisoner beats against the walls of his cell, half-crazed by the silence and the solitude, is an "object lesson" on the evils of part of our prison system; and the arguments for the greater consideration of "extenuating circumstances" in allotting punishment are put with telling strength in the speech of the counsel for Falder's defence.

There was not a weak place in the acting of the company, the characters, down to the very smallest, being represented with rare skill and intelligence. Mr. Dennis Eadie played William Falder with admirable perception of the manner in which the part ought to be handled, and, without ever striking a theatrical or melodramatic note, managed to make the weak, unfortunate clerk very dear to the hearts of the audience. Miss Edyth Olive played Ruth Honeywill with a tragic and melancholy intensity which was quite appropriate, and acted with a melancholy pathos that was deeply touching. Mr. Sydney Valentine gave a marvellously natural and well-studied impersonation of James How; and Mr. Charles Maude was admirably natural as Walter How. In the character of Robert Cokeson Mr. Edmund Gwenn acted in his usual artistic and original style, and by his personal power somewhat masked the comparative artificiality of the rôle. One of the most fortunate of the artists, from the point of view of effect, was Mr. Charles Bryant, who as the Counsel for the Defence had one of the most sympathetic and emotional speeches in the play to deliver, and spoke it with great earnestness and feeling. But all the characters in the Court scene were sustained in a way that closely approached perfection. Mr. Dion Boucicault as the Judge, Mr. Oscar Adye as the Counsel for the Prosecution, Mr. C. C. Calvert as the Clerk of Arraigns, Mr. Talbot Homewood as the Usher, and Mr. R. Ossulton-Riche as the Foreman of the Jury, all gave to their performances the subtle touch of individuality so difficult to describe, but so fully felt by an audience. That able and experienced actor Mr. Robert Pateman as Moaney, an old convict, supplied a character sketch of great merit; and the parts of Sweedle, Wister, and Cowley were individualised by Mr. George Hersee, Mr. Leslie Carter, and Mr. C. E. Vernon with a finish and appreciation which were worthy of the warmest praise. Mr. Grendon Bentley as the kindly but routine-ridden Prison Governor, Mr. Hubert Harben as the Chaplain, Mr. Lewis Casson as the Doctor, Mr. Frederick Lloyd as the Chief Warder, and Mr. Benedict Butler as the Warder Instructor, rendered these minor but important characters with all the quiet elaboration which could have been given to principal parts. Mr. O. P. Heggie played Clipton cleverly, and Mr. Whitford Kane enacted O'Cleary carefully and thoughtfully. *Justice* created, as it was intended to do, an effect of serious and thoughtful depression combined with admiration for the great genius of the dramatist. Mr. Granville Barker's production of the play was perfect.

On Wednesday was presented for the first time a debate, in one sitting, by Bernard Shaw, entitled

"MISALLIANCE."

John Tarleton, Junior ..MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Bentley Summerhays ....MR. DONALD CALTHROP
Hypathia Tarleton .....MISS MIRIAM LEWES
Mrs. Tarleton .....MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Lord Summerhays .....MR. HUBERT HARBEN
John Tarleton .....MR. C. M. LOWNE
Joseph Percival .....MR. CHARLES BRYANT
Lina Szczepanowska .....MISS LENA ASHWELL
Julius Baker .....MR. O. P. HEGGIE

The scene of Mr. Shaw's piece is laid in the Villa at Hindhead of Mr. John Tarleton, whose successful manufacture of Tarleton's underwear has made him very rich. John Tarleton, junior, who holds an important position in the firm, is a strong, commonplace person of limited intellect. Tarleton's daughter, Hypathia, is by nature adventurous, amorous, and erratic, and she chafes angrily at her monotonous life and the insipidity of the young men who come courting her. Mrs. Tarleton, her mother, is a motherly, middle-class woman, with reminiscences of early married life on a small income. Hypathia is engaged to a neurasthenic, hysterical young man named Bentley Summerhays. He is the son of Lord Summerhays, a retired Indian official, who, in a moment of passion, has proposed marriage to Hypathia, who has refused him with ridicule.

The action opens with John Tarleton, junior, bullying Bentley, who cries and screams like a child, and brings in Mrs. Tarleton and Hypathia, who carry him out consoling. Two other personages drop into the story, literally "from the skies." They are Joseph Percival, a young man with wealthy connections, and Lina Szczepanowska, a female trapezist and juggler. They have descended into Tarleton's garden on an aeroplane, on which Lina has embarked to keep her nerves in order. Lord Summerhays, in time past on the Continent, made improper proposals to Lina, who is a dashing and attractive personage; and, soon after her arrival, John Tarleton senior, who boasts of his "exuberant vitality," offers to make her his mistress, while Tarleton junior offers her marriage. She scornfully refuses. Then Hypathia makes obstinate and aggressive love to Percival. He resists her overtures for some time, but when she entreats him to "chase her amongst the heather," he yields, and they go out together for that purpose. The conversation between them has, however, been overheard by Julius Baker, a sickly and embittered clerk, whose mother was for some time Tarleton senior's mistress. Baker has been driven half mad by bad health, novel reading, sedentary work, and genteel poverty, and he comes to shoot Tarleton for seducing his—Baker's—mother. The elderly draper treats the matter very prosaically, and points out that it was with the money which he gave to his mistress when they parted that she was able to purchase a husband. This does not pacify Baker, who still threatens Tarleton senior with a revolver; but his life is saved by Lina, who comes in and catches Baker by the wrist, and twists it until he gives up the weapon. Baker, in his bitterness, remarks on the "goings on" of Hypathia and Percival, and the latter, taking high ground, denies everything, and forces Baker, in fear of physical chastisement, to write a confession withdrawing his remarks. Mrs. Tarleton, however, who knew and loved Baker's mother, takes the poor clerk's part, and expresses her belief in the truth of his statements. The blame now falls on Percival, who asks Hypathia to explain that she made overtures to him, which the young lady declines to do. So in the end, therefore, he has to expose her in order to clear his character. Tarleton gives Baker a glass of sloe gin, the effect of which is to make him blatantly aggressive, and to set him talking rabid Socialism about retribution and "the writing on the wall"; and he goes off saying he does not "give a damn" for anyone. Lina denounces the stuffiness of life at Hindhead, and the pre-occupation of the well-to-do with sexuality, and complains that almost every man in the house has made love to her—the weeping Bentley has become her slave since she carried him out by the scruff of his neck when he was in a fit of hysterics. She exalts the advantages of being a trapezist and earning one's own living, and departs, shaking the dust of Hindhead from her feet. Percival consents to be married to Hypathia, if Tarleton senior will "come down" handsomely; and the piece ends.

The story was embellished with a number of arguments, observations, and jokes. The arguments were on the following subjects:—The difficulty of parents explaining sexual facts to their children; the restraint inflicted on middle-class girls by dull respectability; the objections to clerking as an occupation; the gulf in thought and feeling between youth and age; and many other topics too numerous to mention. The jokes were of various kinds and qualities, but most of them elicited laughs or titters, Tarleton senior's trick of referring to some well-known author in illustration of an argument always evoking a responsive roar. Scarcely a minute passed without a laugh, and sometimes the merriment was prolonged for several seconds. *Misalliance* was received with every evidence of success.

The acting was excellent, the piece being cast in the most liberal and judicious way. Mr. C. M. Lowne played the breezy, hearty, sentimental, and rakish old manufacturer with a genial expansion which carried all before it. It was a performance full of warm colour, active, energetic, and amiable; and John Tarleton senior was one of the most popular personages of the play. Mr. Frederick Lloyd as John Tarleton junior depicted density and determination, in firm and solid style, and gave a performance that remains in the memory. Mr. Donald Calthorp made the best of the repulsive rôle of the little whining cur, Bentley Summerhays, and another painfully degenerate character, Julius Baker, was carefully and conscientiously sustained by Mr. O. P. Heggie. Miss Miriam Lewes as Hypathia supplied a picturesque and piquant portrait of a morbid modern girl, restless amid uncongenial surroundings; and Mrs. Tarleton was represented with perfect ease and art by that admirably experienced actress, Miss Florence Haydon. The refined, philosophical, and sensitive Indian official, Lord Summerhays, had a completely charming exponent in Mr. Hubert Harden, and Mr. Charles Bryant as Joseph Percival was much assisted by a fine physique in giving an entirely convincing embodiment of that large and lordly youth. Miss Lena Ashwell as Lina Szczepanowska looked very pretty in a becoming knickerbocker costume, and delivered Lina's indignant tirades and ingenious explanations with all the requisite art and energy. She certainly had one of the pleasantest parts in the cast. *Misalliance*, which was produced by the author, was an undeniable success.

"THE MERCHANT" AT THE COURT.

On Saturday, Feb. 19, Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy,

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

The Duke of Venice .....MR. CYRIL VERNON
Prince of Morocco .....MR. LESLIE PALMER
Prince of Arragon .....MR. RUPERT HARVEY
Antonio .....MR. JAMES BERRY
Bassanio .....MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY
Salanio .....MR. E. STUART VINDEN
Salarino .....MR. RICHARD FIELDING
Gratiano .....MR. E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Lorenzo .....MR. SCOTT SUNDERLAND
Shylock .....MR. ARTHUR PHILLIPS
Tubal .....MR. VERRIL
Launcelot Gobbo .....MR. ROSS SHORE
Old Gobbo .....MR. ARTHUR FAYNE
Leonardo .....MISS ETHEL AMIEL
Balthasar .....MISS REGINA LAURENCE
Stephano .....MISS NITA MINARDS
Clerk .....MR. J. T. BRIGGS
Portia .....MISS AMY BRANDON THOMAS
Nerissa .....MISS DORA HOLE
Jessica .....MISS CHRISTIE LAWS

Mr. Arthur Phillips began his season at the Royal Court Theatre on Saturday night with a revival of Shakespeare's comedy, *The Merchant of Venice*, which proved interesting for more reasons than one. Mr. Phillips has gathered together a band of young actors of more or less repute, imbued with the fire and enthusiasm of youth, tempered by the discretion which comes of training and combining in an excellent whole. The stage management is noticeably good, and this was especially shown in the carnival scene, a picture of light and joy and laughter, which immediately precedes the darkened scene in which Shylock makes his return to his deserted home.

The chief interest of the revival naturally centres in the Shylock of Mr. Arthur Phillips, who plays the part rather on the lines laid down by the late Sir Henry Irving. Mr. Phillips has evidently given much intelligent thought and earnest study to the character of the Jew, and if he be somewhat lacking in the temperament necessary to produce a "great" Shylock, this very lack brings out more forcibly the vindictiveness of the moneylender, which has been neutralised or at any rate condoned, by the strength of a more powerful personality. Mr. Phillips was at his best in Act III. in his outburst of mingled rage and despair at the loss of his ducats and the desertion of his daughter; and in the Trial Scene he was impressive throughout, and made a really fine and effective exit. Mr. Cyril Keightley, who is famous for his depictions of villainy, gave a sound reading of the part of Bassanio. Mr. James Berry imparted to the character of Antonio the benevolence, the gentle philosophy which, according to Mr. Frank Harris in his recent book, "The Man Shakespeare," were the chief characteristics of the great poet himself, whom Mr. Harris believes to have revealed himself as Antonio. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams could not have been better as Gratiano—his gallant air, his easy light-heartedness, his excellent by-play, are all worthy of the highest praise. We do not remember that the part of Gratiano has ever been better played than it is by Mr. Harcourt Williams, who, in addition possesses the natural advantage of a beautiful speaking voice. Mr. Ross Shore acts with much humour as Launcelot Gobbo, and Mr. Arthur Fayne was sympathetic as old Gobbo. That most difficult part the Prince of Morocco, was played with dignity and feeling by Mr. Leslie Palmer, who made a fine figure as a "dusky monarch," and as the second unsuccessful suitor, the Prince of Arragon, Mr. Rupert Harvey also merits commendation. The Lorenzo of Mr. Scott Sunderland was attractive, although a little stiff, particularly in the last act, while the two friends Salanio and Salarino were played with spirit by Mr. E. Stuart Vinden and Mr. Richard Fielding. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas was somewhat handicapped by inexperience in the onerous rôle of Portia, but her freshness and charm atoned for this deficiency to some extent. She was best in the final act, where Portia tormente Bassanio for parting with the ring she had given him, in which she brought out the playful tenderness of Portia very prettily. Miss Dora Hole was an attractive Nerissa, and her performance was satisfactory in every detail. Miss Christie as Jessica made a very favourable impression, her facial expressions and her elocution being particularly good. The other parts were well filled by a capable company.

MISS VIOLA TREE'S VOCAL RECITAL.

At Bechstein Hall on Monday afternoon Miss Viola Tree gave her first vocal recital. A large audience was present, and they accorded Miss Tree a very hearty welcome. The concert-giver was first heard in "Amarilli," a sixteenth-century song of Caccini; the charming "L'Angélus," a Vieux Chanson de Basse Bretagne; and "Silvie la Bergère" (Pierre Guerdon), arranged by Sir Hubert Parry. These three songs were given by Miss Tree with finish and refinement, and she was equally successful in Tosti's "Quando cadran le foglie" and "Colloque sentimental," by Debussy. In a group of English songs Miss Tree received an enthusiastic encore for her dramatic singing of "When we two parted," a musical setting of Byron's verses by Sir Hubert Parry. Miss Tree also greatly pleased her audience in "A Stray Nymph of Dian." Two songs, "Killary" and "A lake and a fairy-boat," accompanied by the composer, Mr. Joseph Holbrooke; "Weep you no more, sad fountains" (Tovey), and Sir Charles V. Stanford's gruesome and dismal song, "A Corsican Dirge," were also given. In a group of German songs, however, Miss Tree displayed her sympathetic voice to the greatest advantage. "Es war ein alter König" and "Tausendschön" (Georg Henschel), Schumann's delightful "Frühlingsnacht" and "Mondnacht," and R. Strauss's "Die Nacht." During the afternoon Miss Tree received many floral tributes. Mr. Jamieson Dodds, who assisted Miss Tree, sang "Vittoria" (Carissimi), Raff's "Mädchenlied," and gave so stirring a version of Schubert's song, "To the Lyre," that he had a most hearty encore. The accompanist was Mr. Harold Samuel.

"Mrs. Warren" in Berlin.

IN a recent paragraph we stated that Mr. Shaw's plays had been only moderately well received in Berlin. Such was our correspondent's description of most of the *premières*. The best test, however, of public opinion is patronage. *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, which was produced at the Central Theatre, Berlin, on Nov. 15, 1907, has been given 276 times in that city. The piece has been for a long time the property of the Hebbel Theatre, and is apparently a favourite with the patrons of that house.

Mr. Harvey Hopeful.

"THERE is no doubt," says Mr. Martin Harvey in an interview, "that we are going through a stiff time; but, in my opinion, the theatres are not being so adversely affected by the success of music halls as by the success of rinks. Rinks have, I believe, hurt the theatres a good deal. That damage, however, I think, will prove to be only of a temporary kind. I believe that trade depression and recent elections, of course, are answerable for most of our troubles, and I am sure that an improvement in matters has already set in."

"THE TENTH MAN."

Play in Three Acts, by W. Somerset Maugham, Produced at the Globe Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 24.

George Winter .....MR. BOURCHIER
Lord Francis Etchingham MR. EDMUND MAURICE
Lord Perigal .....MR. A. HOLMES-GORE
James Ford .....MR. A. E. GEORGE
Rt. Hon. Robert Colby, M.P.
MR. GODFREY TEARLE
Frederick Bennett ....MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Colonel Boyce .....MR. FRANK ATHERLEY
Rev. William Swalecliffe ..MR. GEORGE BEALBY
Teddy O'Donnell .....MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Thompson .....MR. DALLAS CAIRNS
Lady Francis Etchingham
MISS KATE SERGEANTSON
Anne .....MISS DAISY MARKHAM
Catherine Winter .....MISS FRANCES DILLON

Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Arthur Bourchier deserve great credit for presenting Mr. W. Somerset Maugham's play. *The Tenth Man* is not only a strong and effective drama, admirably invented, constructed, and written; it is a piece with a thesis and a moral. The thesis is that while nine men out of ten have their prices, an obstacle in the way of the able and unscrupulous rascal will always be found in the tenth, who is incorruptible. The rascal in Mr. Maugham's play is George Winter, a self-made man who, from being a clerk in a "bucket-shop," has become a great company promoter and speculator. He has married Catherine, the daughter of Lord Francis Etchingham, a foolish old man who fancies he has a genius for finance, and has been taken by Winter into partnership. In the first act Catherine, who can endure Winter's glaring infidelity no longer, leaves him and returns to her father's house. She has fallen in love with a young politician named Robert Colby, and is resolved to divorce Winter and marry him.

But Winter explains that this course is out of the question. He has gained possession of a love-letter from Colby to Catherine; and he threatens, if she enters an action for divorce, to bring a counter action As the seats of both Winter and Colby are held on precarious tenures the scandal which would follow would ruin both. Colby's whole soul is in politics, and he hopes to attain a high position in the Cabinet. So Catherine has to choose between bearing her fate as Winter's wife and spoiling the career of the man she loves. She takes the former course. When a deputation from the provincial town of Middlepool, for which Winter is M.P., arrives to demand from her a direct denial of any intention to divorce her husband, she gives the assurance at once.

The troubles of the Etchingham family are not at an end. Winter, in order to purchase a mine in Central America, has embezzled over £80,000 of Trust Bonds, and has made Lord Francis an innocent accomplice in the crime. The mine turns out to be worthless, and penal servitude stares Lord Francis, Winter, and his subservient clerk, Frederick Bennett, in the face. Lord Francis's first instinct is to go to Scotland Yard, but he is persuaded to keep quiet by Winter, who proceeds to turn the worthless mine into a company.

All these threads of interest are combined in the last act, which takes place in the private room of a provincial hotel, with the sound of trams passing periodically. Winter's election is going splendidly, when a London financial paper finds out that the mine is a swindle, and exposes Winter in a stinging article. A paragraph in this excites the suspicion of a hard, stern provincial man of business, James Ford, who is an exception to the rule that everyone can be bought at a price. He goes to London, looks into matters, and discovers the embezzlement. Winter, by bold "bluffing," has neutralised the effect of the article and has won his election by a narrow majority. When he finds that nothing can alter Ford's resolve, he poisons himself, and so the play ends.

The part of George Winter, a remorseless rascal with a merry, impudent manner and a plausible tongue, suited Mr. Bourchier exactly, and, made up effectively with a beard, he hit off the type with striking skill and spirit. The light, sarcastic, jaunty manner of the man, and the brutal frankness with which he revelled in his rascality were admirably sketched by Mr. Bourchier, whose delivery of the cutting speech in which, in order to frighten Lord Francis, Winter describes the horrors of penal servitude, thrilled the house to the core. Mr. Bourchier's performance in the last act of the piece, when Winter, drunk with delight at winning the election, reels desperately and hysterically under the blow of his ruin, was a fine bit of acting, which held the audience in a firm grip and made the concluding scene of the play very exciting and impressive. Mr. Bourchier's George Winter is a performance that cannot be forgotten. It is one of the best things that he has done. Miss Frances Dillon as Catherine Winter had a part which was not entirely satisfactory, the wife's warm love scenes with Colby somewhat detracting from the interest in her as a martyr to marital infidelity; but she played it from first to last with excellent expression, a delicate yet firm touch, and exquisite grace and refinement. The rôle of the Rt. Hon. Robert Colby also needed very judicious handling, and obtained it accordingly from Mr. Godfrey Tearle, who was the *beau ideal* of a well-groomed, intellectual, ambitious young politician. A clever bit of character-acting was Mr. Michael Sherbrooke's performance as the anxious, energetic little clerk. It was very natural and effective indeed. Mr. A. E. George as James Ford did not get his chance until the last act, when he rose to the occasion, and supplied a very strong and serious rendering of Ford's indignation and distress. Mr. Edmund Maurice was unimpeachable as Lord Francis Etchingham, both in make-up, dress, and characterisation, and it was fortunate that he was available for the part. Mr. A. Holmes-Gore's Lord Perigal was distinguished by a rare polish, sweetness, and elevation, The minor parts were all neatly played. Mr. George Bealby contributed a clever comedy sketch as a hypocritical parson; Mr. Frank Atherley was good as Colonel Boyce; and a young and shallow couple were pleasantly impersonated by Miss Daisy Markham and Mr. Douglas Imbert, Mr. Dallas Cairns being efficient as Thompson. The first scene, by Mr. Harford, was sumptuous, and the second appropriate; and the piece had an enthusiastic reception.

THE sum of £145 13s. 9d. has been distributed among the Liverpool charities as the result of a capital amateur performance of *Jack Straw*, given at the Royal Court Theatre a short time ago.

"THE LITTLE DAMOZEL" registers its 150th performance on Thursday at Wyndham's. The American rights have been secured by Colonel Henry Savage; but, according to present arrangements, Mr. Monckton Hoffe's delightful comedy will not be produced in the United States until the autumn.

SOME speculation has arisen as to the date on which Sir Herbert Tree met with the mishap which caused him to appear on the stage with his arm in a sling—an incident which has figured in a case in the law courts this week. It was on Saturday, Aug. 31, 1895, at the Grand Theatre, Hull, that the distinguished actor sustained the injury alluded to, putting his shoulder out by stumbling over a sill at the wings when making an exit as Loris Ipanof in *Fedora*.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS.—MODIFIED PROPOSALS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Sir Melvill Beachcroft (chairman) presiding.

The Education Committee reported as follows:—We reported on Oct. 12, 1909, that we had considered as to the steps to be taken to secure the safety of school children at entertainments or displays held either on the school premises or elsewhere; that these cases had hitherto been dealt with as they have arisen, and that while the general precautions taken by the Council had in the past been adequate to secure that all ordinary risks were avoided, we were of opinion that the Children Act, 1908, which came into operation on April 1, 1909, offered a suitable occasion for reviewing the existing practice. We accordingly submitted recommendations on the subject, but in consequence of certain representations made on behalf of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, they were withdrawn by our chairman for further consideration. As a result of communications with the Theatres and Music Halls and the Fire Brigade Committees we now submit our proposals, modified so as to meet the views of these committees in regard to the rules which we had framed.

The entertainments under consideration may be divided into two classes, (*a*) entertainments organised locally, which may be sub-divided into (i.) entertainments in school buildings; (ii.) entertainments in local halls; (iii.) performances in theatres; and (*b*) large entertainments organised from the Education offices.

It should be understood that under these heads we deal only with cases where the school organisation is used either to promote the entertainment or in some way to cause the children to be present thereat. For cases outside this category the Council, as local education authority, has no responsibility, but in making this demarcation it will be well to interpret the phrase "school organisation" in its fullest sense, as the Council has a certain responsibility, if in any way its officers or its system contribute to the assembling of children. It may be convenient at this point to quote the provisions of Section 121 of the Children Act, 1908, in order to show the general responsibility of the Council apart from the question of its control of the school system. These provisions are as follow:—

(1) Where an entertainment for children, or any entertainment at which the majority of the persons attending are children is provided, and the number of children who attend the entertainment exceeds one hundred, and access to any part of the building in which the children are accommodated is by stairs, it shall be the duty of the person who provides the entertainment to station and keep stationed, wherever necessary, a sufficient number of adult attendants, properly instructed as to their duties, to prevent more children or other persons being admitted to any such part of the building than that part can properly accommodate, and to control the movement of the children and other persons admitted to any such part whilst entering and leaving, and to take all other reasonable precautions for the safety of the children.

(2) Where the occupier of the building permits, for hire or reward, the building to be used for the purpose of an entertainment, he shall take all reasonable steps to secure the observance of the provisions of this section.

(5) It shall be the duty of the council of the county or county borough in which a building in which any contravention of the provisions of this section is alleged to have taken place to institute proceedings under this section if the building is a building licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, or is licensed by the council of the county or county borough under the enactments relating to the licensing of theatres or of houses or other places for music or dancing, and in any other case it shall be the duty of the police authority to institute such proceedings.

PERFORMANCES AT THEATRES.

The next portion of the report has reference to entertainments in school buildings in local halls, and thirdly to performances at theatres, in reference to which the Committee state:—

Where permission is asked for children to attend theatrical or pantomime performances, the headmaster or mistress (or, in the case of a non-provided school, the correspondent) is informed that no objection will be raised to the attendance of the children at the performance, provided (*a*) that the consent of the parents or guardians is first obtained, and (*b*) that a sufficient number of the staff of the school are willing to accompany the children and remain with them until the close of the performance.

Some difficulty has been experienced in the past in administering these regulations owing either to shortness of notice or inadequate information. It is true that in cases of this type the responsibility of the Council is less direct than in the previous cases. Yet, as the school organisation is brought into play, it is desirable that full particulars of the proposal should be forwarded to the Council.

We are also of opinion that under this category it should be laid down that any distribution of tickets to children for admission to travelling shows and the like should be prohibited.

ENTERTAINMENTS ORGANISED FROM THE EDUCATION OFFICES.

A recent performance at His Majesty's Theatre (1,230 children at each performance) and the opening of Rotherhithe Tunnel (4,000 children) are examples of this class of case. These entertainments are arranged with the greatest care by a specially selected staff at the education offices, and we do not think that any special regulations are necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

We recommend: (*a*) That no entertainment in which the school organisation is in any way involved be held on the premises of L.C.C. schools or in any other places unless an application for permission to hold such entertainment, in the form of a certificate that satisfactory arrangements have been made and approved by the managers, shall have been approved on behalf of the Council. (*b*) That the attention of the managers of non-provided schools be drawn to the requirements of section 121 of the Children Act, 1908, with reference to the safety of children at entertainments; that they be informed of their legal responsibility under the Act and of the precautions taken by the Council in respect of the use of the organisation of L.C.C. schools for purposes of entertainments, treats, &c., whether in the schools or public halls; and that they be asked to adopt the procedure similar to that referred to in the foregoing resolution (*a*), whenever it is proposed to give an entertainment, treat, &c., to children attending non-provided schools. The report was received.

MR. ALEXANDER USES HIS OWN CAR.

A long discussion took place with reference to a letter which appeared in the *Times*, the writer, Mr. Casson, a member of the Council, charging the members of the Municipal Reform Party with making use, at certain public functions, of conveyances provided at the expense of the ratepayers.

The Rev. Stewart Headlam, in the course of some remarks, suggested that Mr. George Alexander, as Chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee, might have used one of the vehicles provided by the Council when he opened the Ruskin Park extension on Saturday afternoon.

Mr. George Alexander: As a matter of personal explanation, I went in my own car.

The Rev. S. Headlam: My friend, Mr. Alexander, thereby showed he is a very wise man.

Mr. W. Reynolds also spoke on the question raised by Mr. Casson's action, which was strongly condemned by members of the party attacked.

MR. J. L. SHINE'S ACCIDENT.

In the King's Bench Division on Monday, Mr. John Lloyd Shine, comedian, sued the Moss' Empires, Limited, to recover damages for personal injuries sustained by him while performing at the Holloway Empire. The plaintiff alleged that the defendants were negligent, which they denied, and pleaded that the plaintiff was negligent. The defendants also said the plaintiff was in common employment.

The counsel for plaintiff were Mr. J. A. Simon, K.C., Mr. Wallace Atkins, and Mr. David White, and for the defendants Mr. M. Shearman, K.C., Mr. E. F. Lever, and Mr. S. P. Kerr.

Mr. Simon said that the defendants owned or controlled about thirty music halls, and Mr. Shine had a contract to appear at some of these halls. The accident happened on Feb. 15, 1909, when he was presenting for the first time at the Holloway Empire his own sketch, entitled *The Actor's Art*, in which he was assisted by four other characters. The plaintiff had to go on the stage through scenery representing a door, and the entrance had to be made in a bustling manner. Across the bottom of the door was a wooden batten, about three inches high, to keep the scenery rigid, and the plaintiff tripped over it and sustained grave injuries to his left shoulder and arm. He endeavoured to go on with his part, but was unable to do so, and the curtain had to be rung down. His injury was attended to at the Great Northern Hospital, and, not to disappoint the public, he gave a recitation or monologue at the second house. X-rays were subsequently applied, and it was found that there was a fracture.

Mr. Shine, giving evidence, said that for upwards of thirty years he had been a member of the theatrical profession, and at one time was lessee of three West End theatres—the Globe, Gaiety, and the Empire. He had also been chief comedian at Drury Lane Theatre. His salary for the sketch was £32 10s. per week. He represented seven characters, including a Scotsman, Irishman, Cockney, and an old Irishwoman.

Mr. Simon: What sort of entrance had you to make?

Mr. Shine: A brisk, impetuous entrance, I fell violently on to my shoulder, and there was a great burst of applause. The audience thought it was a comic entrance, but when I got up I found it was not. My arm was broken. Some acrobats, thinking my arm was only dislocated, tried to pull it into position. The use of wooden battens is not now usual in theatres; they have been superseded by iron battens about a sixteenth of an inch thick. Through the injury I lost about £20 a week for six weeks, and had to pay about £50 in royalties for playing a substituted sketch, in which less energy was required.

Mr. Frank Curzon, lessee of Wyndham's Theatre and the Prince of Wales Theatre, said that he had not seen a wooden batten in a theatre for twenty years. The only one he had seen in his lifetime was at a "fit-up" theatre in the wilds of Wales. Wooden battens were dangerous, because actors when entering the stage could not look at their feet; they must look at the audience.

Sir Herbert Tree said that at one period Mr. Shine was manager of a company in which he was acting. A wooden batten on the stage was old-fashioned, and obviously was a dangerous arrangement. The safe arrangement was an iron, flush with the floor.

Asked whether he had known one of these wooden battens used, Sir Herbert replied, "Thirteen years ago at Hull I came across one."

You "came across it" in more senses than one? Yes; there was a staircase and—I put my shoulder out.

Is this injury calculated to interfere with the engagements an actor may get?—It depends upon the parts he may be called upon to play.

Mr. Shearman (cross-examining): Usually when you go to the provinces you take a play successful in London and then have to take your own scenery?—Not always; in Shakespeare plays I should as a rule.

When you go on tour you go with a stage-manager?—Yes.

And it would be his business to look after the scenery and not yours?—Yes; though I should call attention to anything which was not satisfactory—if I tripped over one of these things, for instance.

You only trip over by accident?—Yes; I should not trip on purpose.

Mr. M. White, F.R.C.S., and Mr. Hunter Richards, F.R.C.S., of Harley-street, gave evidence to the effect that they did not think the plaintiff would recover the full and free use of his shoulder joint.

Other witnesses also gave evidence.

The case was resumed on Tuesday, when Mr. Bertie Ralland, acting-manager of the Holloway Empire, said the scenery for Mr. Shine's sketch was set up in front of the plaintiff's manager.

Mr. Charles Rock then went into the witness-box, and was asked by Mr. Shearman: Is it fair to describe wooden battens, in the words of Sir Herbert Tree, as old-fashioned?—Sir Herbert Tree is very up-to-date, and being a big manager would have the very latest of everything.

Mr. Simon (cross-examining): Has it ever been your experience to make an exit backwards?—Yes. We know that gentlemen whose duty takes them to the Court get great experience in walking backwards, but what do you do? Do you take a sudden skip up?—I step naturally over it.

Mr. Stanley Wade, lately stage-manager at Daly's, thought the wooden batten bore much the same relation to the iron batten as the horse 'bus did to the motor vehicle; but it was still used.

Mr. Bertie Shelton, manager of the stage department of Moss' Empires, said he was formerly stage-manager to Sir Herbert Tree's company for nine and a half years, and he was stage-manager at Hull when Sir Herbert met with his accident.

Mr. Simon: When you were stage-manager for Sir Herbert Tree did he ever trip over an iron sill?—I don't remember a case in which he wanted to trip.

Do you remember him tripping over a wooden batten?—Yes, at Hull, in the first act of the *Bunch of Violets*.

Mr. Shelton: I was not hauled over the coals, and it is no good suggesting I was. Moreover, Sir Herbert did not make a claim in respect to that accident, and he played next week with his arm in a sling.

Mr. Shine, recalled, said that some time ago he was injured in a railway accident.

Mr. Shearman: You got £400 on that occasion?—No, I got £250 without an action being brought.

Judgment having been entered for £1,000 damages, a stay of execution was granted with a view to a possible appeal.

SHINE v. MOSS' EMPIRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Our client, Sir Herbert Tree, gave evidence at the trial of this action last Wednesday to the effect that while playing in *Fedora* at Hull in 1895 he met with a similar accident to that which happened to Mr. Shine.

After Sir Herbert had left the Court Mr. Bertie Shelton was called by the defendant, and he said that the accident happened not in *Fedora* but in *A Bunch of Violets*.

It does not seem to matter in which play the accident occurred, but as we believe much depended on Sir Herbert's evidence, it may be as well for us to state that, after referring to the file of *The Era*, we find that his evidence was correct, and that Mr. Bertie Shelton's statement was incorrect.—Yours truly,

J. D. LANGTON AND PASSMORE.

JOHNNY ALEXANDER'S BENEFIT.

The Empire, Camberwell, was full on Thursday afternoon last, the occasion of a benefit to Mr. Johnny Alexander, and his farewell to active work. During the many years "Johnny" has been in the profession he has made hosts of friends, and as many of these as circumstances permitted were present to say "farewell."

The hit of the afternoon was the "great boxing contest between the two star variety performers Fred Kitchen and Charles Coborn," who were to don the gloves for a three-round contest. Mr. Geo. Harrington was billed as timekeeper and referee. The Man who Broke the Bank came up smiling, but Frederick was nowhere to be found—at least on the stage. So Mr. Coborn claimed the match by default, and was immediately presented with two massive "gold" cups—splendid specimens of the property man's art. And everybody was satisfied.

Johnny Alexander appeared during the afternoon with his burlesque company in the comic absurdity *Actors*, introducing Mlle. Clairette, and Messrs. Fred Percy, Tom Pemberton, and Ray Dunne. The other willing contributors to a fine entertainment were Joe Elvin, Flo Banks, Gilbert Girard, Little Ganty, Tom Leamore, Charles Pond, Sammy Shields, James Stewart, Hyram Travers, Miss Bertha Barnes, Miss Daisy de Roy, Miss Violet Murray, Miss Bertha Norwood, Harry Blake, Ted E. Box, Edwin Barwick, Chirgwin, Charles Coborn, and Pat Carey. The musical directors were Leon Bassett, W. S. Bassett, and Frank Hurst. Charles Coborn managed the stage, and was assisted by William Nutt. Messrs. Ben Obo, Jim Obo, T. C. Callaghan, Charles Cornish, W. L. Murray, Will King, George Harrington, Ben Woodger, Harry Gribbon, George Cooper, and Tom Packer were everywhere, and adorned with stewards' badges. The following ladies were untiring in their efforts to sell programmes: Miss Margaret Radcliffe, Mrs. Hunter, and Miss Molly Shields, and Mrs. Harold Pounds sold flowers. The design on the front of the programme was specially drawn by Mr. Rossi Ashton.

It is understood that a most substantial sum was handed over to Mr. Douglas Stuart as a result of the matinée. As, however, there are many large and small sums on the way to 18, Charing Cross-road from the provinces to add to that amount the total money realised cannot as yet be stated.

At the conclusion of the performance Mr. Johnny Alexander, who was escorted on the stage by Messrs. Were and Stuart, made a brief little speech of thanks to artists, audience, and helpers.

PAUL CINQUEVALLI'S CASE.

At the Shoreditch County Court on Thursday, before his Honour Judge Smyly, K.C., the R.B. Syndicate, Ltd., of 95, High-street, Shoreditch, sued Paul Cinquevalli, of 5, Mostyn-road, Brixton, music hall artist, to recover £50 8s. 4d. By an agreement of Oct. 18, 1907, the defendant agreed to appear in his usual entertainment at the Royal Cambridge Music Hall, at a salary of £64 10s. per week, for one week, commencing on Oct. 19, 1908. Under Clause 4 of the agreement the defendant was transferred to the London Music Hall, to perform there in lieu of the Cambridge, at a reduced salary of £55, that transfer being agreed to on Oct. 12, 1908. The defendant appeared at the first house only at the London Music Hall, on Monday, Oct. 19, and not again during the week. By reason of the neglect and refusal of the defendant to appear at the London Music Hall the plaintiffs alleged they had suffered damage.

Mr. Greenhill Richards, the managing-director of the London Music Hall, said Mr. Cinquevalli's non-appearance had been a very serious matter to them, as he was the "star" turn.

Mr. Paul Cinquevalli deposed that his non-appearance was caused by his assistant breaking down. A doctor ordered a sea-voyage. So he—Cinquevalli—took him to Australia. By so doing he had to forego his contracts with the Tivoli, the Canterbury, the Pavilion, the Brixton Empress, and the Camberwell Palace.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman stated that he was in the bar at the London on the night in question, and saw the assistant. He advised Mr. Cinquevalli to take the boy back to be seen at the London, and rushed off and obtained a substitute.

Mr. Charles Chapman, manager to Messrs. Warner, said he arranged the original contract, which he considered was afterwards cancelled by a letter saying that the place would be shut up. He tried to fill up for the defendant, and almost at the last minute he booked up the London.

Mr. Richards, recalled, said the Cambridge was only temporarily closed, and was now running. The R.B. Syndicate had never been in liquidation.

In giving judgment Judge Smyly said the defendant did not perform wholly and solely because of the illness of the assistant. That reason was justifiable and honourable. He did not try to shirk the work, and there was no doubt the matter had been a great financial loss to him. He thought there had been no breach of contract, but simply a misfortune, and he gave a verdict for the defendant, with costs.

Considerable interest is being evinced in the forthcoming appearance, on March 7, at the Palace Theatre, of Mlle. Polaire, who, it will be remembered, created the character of Ma Gosse in Paris. She will be seen in a little sketch, in which she will have an opportunity of exhibiting her terpsichorean powers.

It is interesting to note that Stylo and Beatrice Bonnie (Mrs. Stylo) have their birthday anniversary on Feb. 28, and that they are of the same age.

The Borough of Weymouth authorities are prepared to receive tenders for the exclusive privileges of using the concert platform known as the "Sea View Concert Platform," situate on the foreshore within the said borough, for high-class musical entertainments on week-days during the summer season, viz., from May 16 (Whit Monday) to the end of September, 1910. Particulars may be obtained of Mr. Walter R. Wallis, secretary Amusement Committee, Municipal Offices, Weymouth.

The special appeal fund in aid of the unfortunate Birmingham Football Club will be considerably augmented by the receipts of a matinée held at the Birmingham Hippodrome on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. P. D. Elbourne, the manager, and his assistant, Mr. H. C. Baldry, had arranged an excellent programme, and there were over three thousand persons in the hall.

Artists in the local pantomimes and at the halls readily gave their services, and the performance went with a rare swing from beginning to end. The following names were on the programme:—Mr. George Robey, Bros. Griffiths, Mr. Tom Shale, Miss Ethel Haydon, Sinclair and Whiteford, Bros. Ashley, Miss Daisy Mayer, Mr. Walter King, Mr. Mark Sheridan, Bros. Egbert, Miss Dorothy Ward, Miss Daisy Dormer, Mr. Harry Conlin, Will Vay's Juveniles, Mr. Fred Karno's company in *Skating*, Mr. Fred Russell, The Rangers, Mr. Brent Hayes, Mr. Dave Carter, Miss Edie Veno, Mlle. Pollo, Mr. Tony Black, Kiners Moulin, Miss Marie Colmore, Master Stuart McMillan, Little Maudie Olmar, and Miss Ray Ford.

During the afternoon the fact was made known that Councillor Marsh, well known in local theatrical circles, had presented a 25-guinea cup to the Birmingham Football Club, to be won in a competition the nature of which it was left to the directors of the club to decide.

DAISY JEROME AND THE CRITIC.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Coleridge and a Common Jury, Mrs. Daisy Cynthia Jerome Fowler, actress and music hall artist, known professionally as Daisy Jerome, claimed damages from Messrs. J. and W. Griffin (Limited), proprietors of the *Walsall Observer and South Staffordshire Chronicle*, in respect of an alleged libel contained in that journal in a criticism of her performance. The defendants denied that there was any libel, and pleaded fair comment. The plaintiff was engaged as principal artist to perform at Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties, Walsall, for the week ending Feb. 20, 1909, and the defendants in their paper published the following:—

"For some weeks past we have had fairly good entertainments at Her Majesty's Theatre, but this week we have had one of another kind. Some of the artists appear to be rather diffident as to the success of their efforts. For instance, Daisy Jerome, who, by the way, without very much provocation, is constrained to give three more than the usual number of songs we get from other artists, wonders whether people 'think her rotten or a funny little elf.' We, too, wonder."

Mr. W. H. Westwood, manager and secretary of Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, said that in February, 1909, plaintiff was engaged to appear for a week at £40 a week. She played at each of the twelve performances, and gave great satisfaction to the audience, by whom she was legitimately encored. She was not in the best of health, and was not anxious to take an encore, but at his request she did so.

The plaintiff and others having given evidence, and her counsel having addressed the jury, Mr. J. A. Cook, on the staff of the *Walsall Observer*, who wrote the criticism complained of, and Mr. Wm. Wheelan, journalist, on the staff of the *Wolverhampton Express and Star*, were examined.

His Lordship, in summing up, observed that music hall performers appealed to the public for applause, and thereby invited public criticism. Comment which would be unjustifiable in private life was not only justifiable, but essential, in public life.

The jury found for the plaintiff, and awarded such damages as would carry with them plaintiff's costs.

His Lordship said that this was equivalent to a verdict for a farthing damages. The jury found that the action was properly brought.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiff, costs to follow the event.

BOHEMIAN CONCERT.

The third annual concert of the London and County Printing Works Staff Association was given at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Monday last. This concert is always a most enjoyable function, and the fare provided by the Music Committee is of the first order. Amongst those who contributed were Miss Gertrude Wood, the possessor of a beautifully rich contralto voice, who sang with much success "Life's morning star." "I had a little garden" was a humorous song, sung by Mr. Will Ballard, who kept the audience in a state of laughter while telling of the wonderful specimens of horticulture which flourished in his little garden. Miss R. Scott Russell recited with dramatic effect the "Jester Dagobert." "Songs of Araby," Clay's well-known song, was sweetly rendered by Mr. Arthur Mortimer. Miss Marie Schulz sang "I am longing," and caused much merriment by applying the words of the song to the bashful chairman (Mr. Mynott). An excellent baritone, Mr. Frederic Gregory warbled "Onaway, awake, beloved" with telling effect. No better entertainer at the piano could be wished for than Mr. Selwyn Driver. His imitations of an amateur choirmaster and choir at a Penny Reading were delightfully funny. Two violin solos by Miss Maude Niner stamped this young artist as a player of great merit. Miss Emilie Hayes sang "The Pipes of Pan" so well as to obtain an encore. A very humorous song, "The business guide," was sung by Mr. James Godden. The character sketches of Mr. Ernest Cherry were extremely good, and served to show that Mr. Cherry had mastered the very difficult art of a quick "make-up." The artists were splendidly accompanied by Mr. Chas. E. Johnson, whose duties were long and arduous. Congratulations are due to the chairman, Mr. Ernest Mynott, and his stewards for the excellent entertainment provided. Mr. Upcott Gill and family and friends were present, and all voted the third annual bohemian concert a great success.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

The councillors of the Borough of Aberystwyth are seeking tenders for a tenancy of the Promenade Pier and Royal Pier Pavilion, with fully licensed refreshment bar; the town bandstand on the Marine-terrace; and the well-established exclusive "pitch" for pierrot troupe on the Castle grounds. Particulars may be obtained from the Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

Pioneers of open-air entertainments are invited by the Borough of Southend-on-Sea to send offers for the privilege of giving entertainments during the coming season on the foreshore opposite Hartington-road, and also from the stand about to be placed on the green at the east side of the main drive at Chalkwell Park. Mr. H. J. Worwood, Town Clerk, Southend-on-Sea, will give further particulars.

"Three Weeks," a dramatic version of Mrs. Elinor Glyn's novel, has been produced at the Girard-avenue Theatre, Philadelphia. The play begins with a prologue that makes plausible the affair of the unhappy Queen with her English lover, and it is said that the three acts which follow hold the attention of the audience, the play being one that appeals to women. There was a disposition to titter, however, at some of the lines.

The Sarnthaler troupe of Tyrolese vocalists (seven in number), who have been at the Weymouth Jubilee Hall this week, have been enthusiastically encored for their rendering of the volkslied of the Tyrolese. The rich peasant airs, with their simple words and rippling, lilting melody, have enchanted large audiences.

"Children on the Stage." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

EALING HIPPODROME.

The Spanish Goldinis, the carpet-spinning acrobats, return again and again to Ealing, and at each visit the carpets they whirl and spin are larger and more splendid than before. The once small member of the troupe is getting a big girl now, and her acrobatics are more daring, and are given with a graceful audacity that makes them more welcome than ever, and in the finale, when she is herself whirled in the air, a thunder of applause, given in no niggardly manner, shows how thoroughly such sterling work is appreciated. A fine setting is staged for the turn, and the addition of a brilliant electric installation adds greatly to the charm of the show.

Miss May Henderson, "the dusky comedy queen," is a packet of vivacity, and from her first step to the footlights until the moment she finally vanishes into the "wings," her merry tongue and twinkling feet are never still. Her "Caroline of China Town" is a screamer, but her triumph is "Tinker Bill; or, Any Knives to Grind." One has to follow her very closely to catch the vim of her witticisms, for they are rattled off with lightning-like rapidity, but they all strike home, and a tumult of laughter is the result. She chaffs the audience, the band, and she does not spare herself, and her success as a favourite is instantaneous. The singing of the 'Varsity Girls is always welcome, the swing of their opening chorus has lost nothing of its sparkle and freshness, while the solos and dancing continue to charm. Doggie, whose "sagacity is almost human," does not belie his character, as he demonstrates in the clever bow-bow display, as presented by "Lux." He counts, he adds, and he calculates, until one wonders how it is all done, and "man's friend" appears to enjoy the game as much as his master. Kenny Kay presents a fine piece of "spoof ventriloquism." How it is managed would be to give the game away; but go and see an excellent example of clever fooling, and then laugh loud and long at the way you have been hoodwinked. In their "Costumes Old and New" the Sisters Burnett, duettists and dancers, hit off some of the costume vagaries of to-day and yesterday; while in their second contribution, "The motor and the donkey-cart," the coster lady proves to the motor dame that her tongue has lost nothing of its cunning. Fred Shepard, in his "Can I help you?" proves himself a most obliging fellow; but his very goodness lands him in all sorts of queer situations, and he is not always as well repaid as he deserves. "The Australian comedy musical act" of the Warsaw Brothers is mirth-provoking enough to make the proverbial donkey laugh, and the house roars from their entry until their exit.

There is plotting, counter-plotting, and murder in *The Case of the Kidnapped King*, as produced by Miss Carlotta de Yonson, and lovers of the sensational will find it in abundance in this episode, which is founded upon the extraordinary "Adventures of Sexton Blake." Miss De Yonson makes a stately Princess Myra; Mr. C. Douglas Carlile as Sexton Blake is ever elusive in his disguises; while the faithful Tinker, Mr. Lee Gilbert, is always "there" to help his master out of a tight corner. On the Bioscope a fine multicolour film showed a Wild West Hold-up, and how the cunning of the American Indian can be outmanœuvred by the sagacity of the trapper. Mr. A. Malcolm Park's band gives every aid in the music incidental to the various turns; while Mr. J. A. Molloy, who is already preparing a budget of novelties for his Easter patrons, keeps a watchful eye after everybody's comfort.

Over 140 telegrams were received at the Hull Hippodrome on Monday from the leading music hall proprietors, managers, and stars, wishing the new management success.

Leo Dryden's song books are on sale in the Hull Hippodrome this week, and the whole of the proceeds, without deduction, will be handed over to the Mayor's Unemployed Fund.

Miss Amelia Bingham, who has been playing the halls in Great Britain since last August, will sail for the States on April 17. She is engaged as stock star for the Suburban Park Company in St. Louis under a five weeks' engagement. Previous to her opening date in St. Louis, she will be fixed for vaudeville for a few weeks in New York.

Mr. Ernest Clifford, who has just bought two big numbers, "Then I started to play my flute" and "Jasper Jenkins," both written by Will Hyde, will produce them on his return to town.

Mr. Wal Lessy, a new character comedian, will shortly be seen on the halls. He has been fitted with songs by Fred D'Albert and Chris Carlton.

The Town Council of Rothesay, on the Clyde, invite offers during the summer for the site for al fresco entertainments, adjoining the bathing places on the West Bay, and measuring about 100ft. by 50ft.. Mr. Robert D. Whyte, Town Clerk, Rothesay, will give all information.

W. C. Burns, the well-known manager and director, has just concluded his tour of seven months with his famed Orient pictures, vaudevilles, and novelty contests, in Staffordshire, which commenced in August amongst the Scottish Border towns. He is now getting ready to pilot, direct North into Scotia, a new International Circus, full of novelties. Mr. Burns has had an experience which few managers can boast of, being successively representative of circuses, travelling zoos, English grand opera, myrioramas, theatre and music hall manager, and ringmaster. Very few men at the age of forty-five can recount an experience such as he. During his earlier career he was dispatch carrier to the late famous war correspondent, Mr. Archibald Forbes—Zululand 1879, South Africa 1881, and Egypt 1882.

During a recent performance at the Grand Theatre, Nelson, a defect in the sprinkler apparatus which is kept above the stage in case of fire allowed the water to escape from the tank. Large volumes of water poured across the stage, and the players made a hurried exit. At the time of the occurrence, singularly enough, the familiar Bath Scene was in progress, the principal comedian being dressed as a water-rat. Considerable excitement prevailed until the cause of the incident was explained.

During the Lenten season the Worthing Theatre will be given over to vaudeville, and the lessee, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, has made special arrangements with the Co-operative Variety Artists' Federation to supply the programme. An excellent start has been made this week, and a really capital entertainment presented. Topping the bill is Andie McLeod, the Irish minstrel, whose diversified programme is much appreciated. The Five Tritons provide a rich musical treat. A popular turn has been that of Tom Haig and Millie Novel, in a refined acrobatic, singing, and dancing act, the former being an excellent acrobat. France and Stewart appear in a capital racing sketch, entitled *The 100 to 1 Chance*; and for their rendering of "The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* The Crown Trio are warmly applauded; Belrose and Develin play selections from opera; and the programme is completed by Valvo, the military ventriloquist, and Len Teel, a quaint personage, who is described as "the suffering dame."

ON THE ROAD, FEB. 28.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Long Eaton.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Accrington.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—Manchester.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Lincoln.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Broadway T., New Cross.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—T. R., Portsmouth.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Wolverhampton.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Milford Haven and Haverfordwest.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—T. R., Woolwich.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—Lincoln and Loughboro'.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Marlboro' T., Holloway.
BROKEN HEART, A.—T. R., Sunderland.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Stratford, E.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Grand T., Aberaman.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—King's T., Edinburgh.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—T. R., Huddersfield.
CHORUS LADY, THE.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—Buxton and Grantham.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (N.).—Grand T., Fulham.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Gaiety T., Leith.
CINGALEE (B.).—County T., Kingston.
CLAUDIAN.—O. H., Southport.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—King's T., Glasgow.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—O. H., Harrogate.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—T. R., Bedford.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—P. T., Portsmouth.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Oxford and Cambridge.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Preston.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., Norwich.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—Grand T., Leeds.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—T. R., Bradford.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Prince's T., Bradford.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—T. R., Edmonton.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
EAST LYNNE.—T. R., Colchester.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Paisley T., Paisley.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Metropole T., Manchester.
FATAL WEDDING.—T. R., Norwich.
FIRES OF FATE.—O. H., Cheltenham.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Borough T., Stratford.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—T. R., Rochdale.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ryde.
FLOWER GIRL, THE.—Victoria T., Burnley.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—T. R., Castleford.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Star T., Liverpool.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—New T., West Stanley.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—O. H., Harrogate.
GAY GORDONS (N.).—T. R., Darlington.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Maesteg.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Devonport.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—T. R., Stratford, E.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—T. R., Peterborough.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Empire T., Swindon.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Grand T., Mansfield.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Bolton.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—Prince's T., Bradford.
HER SECRET LOVER.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
HIS REAL WIFE.—T. R., South Shields.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Elephant and Castle T.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—Crystal Palace, S.E.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Milbourne and Leighton Buzzard.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—T. R., Nottingham.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—Grand T., Lancaster.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—King's T., Seacombe.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Stockport.
LUCKY LIZA.—O. H., Wakefield.
MAN TO MAN.—T. R., Norwich.
MARRIAGES OF MAYFAIR.—T. R., Halifax.
MERRY WIDOW.—Grand T., Croydon.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Borough T., Stratford.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Smethwick.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Worcester.
MR. PEREDY AND THE COUNTESS.—Grand T., Hull.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—Clapham, S.W.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
OLD HOME, THE.—T. R., Ilkeston.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—King's T., Manchester.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—T. R., Dewsbury.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Royalty T., Chester.
PETE (N.).—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
PETE (S.).—T. R., Cambridge.
PINKIE AND THE FAIRIES.—H. M. T., Dundee.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Osborne T., Manchester.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—T. R., Aston.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—T. R., Bath.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—O. H., Northampton.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Plymouth.
SILVER KING.—O. H. St. Helens.
SINNER, THE.—T. R., Macclesfield.
SINS OF A CITY.—Empire T., Oldham.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Grand T., Luton.
TEMPTATION.—T. R., Leith.
THIEF, THE.—Empire T., Southend.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Lyceum T., Newport.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Alexandra T., Hull.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Empire T., Hyde.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Gaiety T., Methil.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—A. T., Woolwich.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—King's T., Greenock.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Bury St. Edmunds.
WHITE MAN, A.—O. H., Torquay.
WHOM GOD HATH JOINED.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Rotherham.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—T. R., Hanley
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Wellingborough.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—O. H., Belfast.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Grace Warner—Saturday, Feb. 26.
J. H. Barnes—Saturday, Feb. 26.
Tom Shaw—Saturday, Feb. 26.
Ellen Terry—Sunday, Feb. 27.
Sidney Cooper—Sunday, Feb. 27.
J. Bannister Howard—Sunday, Feb. 27.
Sir Charles Santley—Monday, Feb. 28.
John F. Preston—Monday, Feb. 28.
Laura Hansen—Monday, Feb. 28.
Winifred Fraser—Monday, Feb. 28.
Ernest Korrie—Monday, Feb. 28.
E. V. Page—Monday, Feb. 28.
Marie Blythe—Monday, Feb. 28.
Stylo—Monday, Feb. 28.
Beatrice Bonnie—Monday, Feb. 28.
Harry Nicholls—Tuesday, March 1.
J. Comyns Carr—Tuesday, March 1.
Rachel Lowe—Tuesday, March 1.
John Sargent—Tuesday, March 1.
Adah Payne—Tuesday, March 1.
Hermann Vezin—Wednesday, March 2.
Richard Temple—Wednesday, March 2.
Albert Le Fre—Wednesday, March 2.
Ada Reeve—Thursday, March 3.
Ada Crossley—Thursday, March 3.
Felice Napoli—Thursday, March 3.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

J. U.—*Mr. Archer's critique of* Monna Vanna *appeared in* The World *of July 2, 1902.*

A. MAIDMENT.—*A letter to the hospital authorities would probably procure you the desired information.*

MRS. KIRBY.—*There is no notice of the company in "On the Road" in our paper or any other, so that we are unable to give any information. See Notice above.*

C. MCMILLAN (Montreal).—*Miss Vesta Tilley was born in the cathedral city of Worcester, England, and as a youngster made successful appearances as the Great Little Tilley, the Pocket Sims Reeves.*

SANTOI.—*As far as we can discover, the opera* Tom Jones *is not on tour at present. Do not know that production under another name. Your other question is not clear. We cannot make any inquiries concerning a lady whose identity we have to guess from initials.*

JOURNALIST (Liverpool).—*Try the librarian of a good public library in your town, or inquire of Denny's, bookseller, Strand, London, W.C., or of any well-known secondhand bookseller. All or either may be able to put you in the way of obtaining information on the subject.*

B. T. HARRISON SNOW.—As You Like It, *entirely played by ladies, was produced under the direction of Mr. Leonard Outram, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, on Feb. 27, 1894. The Rosalind was Miss Frances Ivor, the Orlando Miss Ada Ferrar, and Charles the Wrestler was played by Miss Gladys Ffolliott.*

BELLE D'ARCY.—The Garden of Lies, *romance, in four acts, adapted by Sydney Grundy from J. M. Forman's story of the same title, was produced by Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's Theatre, on Sept. 3, 1904. The cast was as follows: Carol III, Mr. Herbert Dansey; Denis Mallory, George Alexander; Colonel Von Altdorf, Mr. Charles Fulton; Sir Gavin Mackenzie, D.D., Mr. Mark Kinghorne; Creighton, Mr. Leslie Faber; Henri, Mr. E. H. Brooke; François, Mr. Gerald Jerome; Princess Eleanor, Miss Lilian Braithwaite; Jessica Mannering, Miss Corisande Hamilton; Fifine, Miss Margaret Bussè; Dame du Comptoir, Miss Elinor Aickin.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BRUNT.—On Feb. 16, 1910, at Tittensor, Stoke-on-Trent, the wife (Empsie Bowman) of J. Brunt, jun., of a son.

STEVENS.—On Feb. 20, at Trays Hill Hall, Hornsey Lane, London, N., the wife of Ernest Stevens (of the Marlborough Theatre, London), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LORNE—LUCAS.—On Tuesday, Feb. 22, at Sutton Parish Church, by the Rev. R. H. S. Curry, Mark Lorne, Lessee and Manager King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, to Cecilia Lucas, youngest daughter of William Lucas, Esq. African papers, please copy.

DEATHS.

STELLING.—In loving memory of Edwin Foster Stelling, musician, who died Feb. 14, 1910, aged 72 years. Interred at Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting.

WARD.—On Feb. 17, after long illness, Annie Ward, widow of the late James Moor Ward.

WILKINSON.—On Sunday, Feb. 20 1910, at Northampton, John Edward Wilkinson, aged 50.

IN MEMORIAM.

JUDGE.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear father Mr. William Judge (Judge's Cockatoos). Sadly missed by his loving sons, William and Charles.

JUDGE.—In ever-loving memory of our dear father, Mr. William Judge (Judge's cockatoos), who passed away Feb. 24, 1903. Never forgotten by his loving wife and daughters.

NOBLE.—In ever-loving memory of my darling husband, Joseph Vernon Noble, who fell asleep Feb. 26, 1909. Ever in the thoughts of his devoted wife, TINA FRANK. Thy Will be done.

STOCKTON.—In loving remembrance of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Stockton (Ella Stirling), who both died Feb. 27, 1898. At rest.

VANE.—In tender and loving memory of our devoted mother, who fell asleep Feb. 28, 1908.—MAY and ELLA VANE.

WELLS.—In loving memory of Albert Wells, Equestrian, who died Feb. 23, 1909. Never forgotten by his loving son, ADOLF WELLS (of The Cedrics).

NOTICE.

ARTHUR RUSSELL begs to inform the Profession that he has removed from 234, High Holborn, to larger and more convenient offices at 434, STRAND, W.C.
(Nearly opposite Charing Cross Station.)
'Phone, 2587 Central.

Where he continues to lend MONEY at reasonable rates.

MONEY £5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE | SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abcabe,
Agnew, Mr. Claude
Aldin, Mr. Chas.
Anderson, Mr. Claude
Ashton, Miss M.
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Barns and Askot
Batty, Mr. Albert
Beatrices, Sisters
Beaudyn and Mantanini
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellew, Mr. Kyrle
Besley, Mr. C.
Booth, Mrs. J.
Bramley, Miss Bee
Buckley, Mr. Andrew
Calden, Messrs. T. & W
Charter, Mr. James
Cherry, Mr. James
Chipperfield, Mr. J.
Conquest, Mr. George
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Courtenay, Miss Maud
Cuthbert, Mrs. J.
Dainton, Mr. George
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dando, Capt. W. H.
Danks, Mr. Charles
Dare, Mr. Cyrus
Deas, Mr. Henry
Desormes, Mr. Jean
Doherty, Mr. Pat
Douglas, Miss Gertie
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Drury, Miss Lily
Dudley, Mr. Raymond
Dunlo, Mr. W.
Ellis, Miss M. E.
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Esden, Miss Alice
Evett, Mr. Robert
Felton, Mr. Wm.
Ford, Mrs. Max
Forman and Fannan
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss Mary
Fulton, Mr. Geoffrey
Gambier, Capt. G.
Gibson, Mr. D.
Gilmore, Mr. Tom
Ginnett, Miss Tona
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Goodfellow, Mr. and Mr
Gordon, Mr. Phillip
Grey, Mr. Robert
Hall, Miss Edith
Halstan, Miss M.
Hammersley, Miss Dora
Hanneford, Mr. E.
Harrie, Mr. Geo.
Harris, Mr. Leonard
Harrison, Mr. John
Hawkins, Mr. Leslie
Hayden, Mr. Percy
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Hollander, Miss Alice
Holland, Mr. Wm.
Honma, Mr. T.
Inescourt, Miss Elaine
Jakobowski, Mr. E.
Johnstone, Mr. T. B.
Kerr, Dr.
King, Mr. Randolph
Lambert, Captain
Le Clair, Mr. and Mrs.
Lennol, Mr. J.
Liliputian Troupe
Lindens, The
Lindsay, Mr. James
Louie and Wally
Lynn, Miss Jennie
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Malone, Miss Kitty
Mappin, Mr. Walter
Martino, Madam
McCormack, Mr. Mat
McKay, Mr. C.
McMahon, Mr. W. S.
Merlin, Mr.
Mersano, Mr.
Mortimer, Miss Maude
Needham, Mr. Robert
Neilson, Miss Lydia
Parkinson, Miss M.
Paul Brothers
Paul, Miss N.
Payne, Mr. E. M.
Payne, Mr. W.
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Proctor, Mr. C. King
Ra Leslie, Miss Ethel
Rayburn, Mr. Bert
Redcliffe, Mr. Ern
Reese, Mr. Ernie
Rinder, Mr. Arthur
Rita, Signorina
Rose, Mr. Charles
Rousby, Mr. E.
Royston, Mr. Harry
Russell, Miss Lelia
Saunders, Mr. Charles
Saxo
Schaller, Mr. Oscar
Scott, Mr. G. H.
Sheldon, Mr. George
Sivado, Mr. C.
Sleath, Mis Helena
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Somos, Mr. R.
Souter, Miss Lillie
Sprees, The
Stanley, Mr. Frank
St. Denis, Miss Ruth
Stuart, Miss Marie
Tabrar, Mr. Joseph
Thelland, Miss Estella
Tribe, Miss Maud
Valosky, Mr.
Vane, Miss Lily
Vaselicu Troupe
Vesta, Miss Ruby
Vyner, Mr. Leslie
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warner, Mr. and Mrs. R.
Wells, Mr. Gilbert
Whayman, Mr. W. H.
White, Miss Maggie
Whitmore, Mr. Joe
Whyte, Mrs.
Wilson, Mr. Walter A.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri
Yamagata, Mr. Ivan

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine,
is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words
"DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE"
on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.
WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the **Natural** method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MOTHERSILL'S SEASICK REMEDY
SEA-SICKNESS CURED.
Travel in Comfort.
THE ONLY REMEDY tested by the London "Daily Express" on the famous trials across the English and Irish Channels was MOTHERSILL'S SEA-SICK REMEDY. Recommended by distinguished travellers. Used by the Profession. Write for particulars and testimonials. Analysed by Sir Charles Cameron, C.B., M.D.
No Bad After Effects. Invaluable to all Touring Companies. Sold by Chemists, 2/3 and 4/6 per box, or post free direct from MOTHERSILL REMEDY CO., LTD., 19, ST. BRIDE ST, LONDON, E.C.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT,
BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 286645.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening, at 8.30,
CHARLES FROHMAN Presents
"THE CLIMAX."
A Play, in three acts, by Edward Locke.
By arrangement with Joseph Weber.
MATINEE WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Closed until March 5.
When will be produced
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Seats may now be booked.
Box office 10 to 7. Tels., 7617-8-9. Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Feb. 28, "THE PRODIGAL SON."
Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly, 7.45. Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.
Feb. 28, The Charming Musical Comedy,
"THE CINGALEE."
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

ROYALTY THEATRE.
Lease (55 years) for sale, with possession. Total outgoing, including ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, under £3,000 per annum. Part purchase might remain at 5 per cent. per annum. Theatre holds at ordinary West End prices, £220. Accommodation, 900 persons. Proprietors would give permission for conversion to music hall if purchaser desired. Apply to Tom B. Davis, Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE
Open Daily.
In Theatre, "King of Cadonia," 7.45; Mat., Wed., 3; Mammoth Skating Rink, Hockey Weds. and Sats., Ladies' Orchestra, Military Bands, Organ, &c. Thurs., at 8, Police Minstrels' Grand Concert.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.
Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
Karno's "Mumming Birds," George Formby, Mary Law, Mons. Footgers, Sam Mayo, The Zigeuner Quartette, The Rawsons, Violet Loraine, The Three Gascoignes, Winifred Ward, Ian Colquhoun, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, George Newburn, Beatrice Lindley, Bessie Slaughter, the Bioscope.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker, P.C.," Cooper and Lait, McConnell Trio, James Fawn, Jack Smiles, Three Welsh Girls, Eily Adair, Sisters Grovini, Zarmo, Ted Waite, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Manager and Secretary, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Leo Merode, Baines and Reed, Fred Herbert, Amy Marsden, Clare and Pastor, Fred Moule and Co., Cyril Dane, Parker and Bracey, Harry Claymore, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Cameron, Matthews, and Co.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
"The Vampire Dance," by Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss, Meredith Meredro, the Martineke in "The Rag Doll," John Donsid, the Rawsons, Fred Keeton, Ruffell's Bioscope, Will E. Stopit, Beverley York, Herbert Darnley and Co. in "John Jay, jun."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Feb. 21, 1910:—
Joe Peterman's "Belle of the Orient," Fred. Karno's "The Bailiffs," Joey Sterling, Sisters Lindo, Edie Gray, Royburn and Dicks, Kenneth and Kane, Marie Wilton, Charlton, Bioscope, Brayne and Lloyd, La Manola-Gaditanas.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. Half-time, 9.30. Monday, Feb. 28: Ernest Legh and Co., in "Sir Roger de Coverley," Daisy Jerome, Lecardo Bros., Jack Smiles, Cameron, Matthews, and Co., The Hiatts, Harriet Rose, Sisters Lavender, Sisters du Cane, Bros. Weltman, Mark Hanbury, The Frolics, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 504 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Dolly Elsworthy and Co., Doreen Girls, Ethel Peirce, Hughes and Elliot, Madge Osmond, Henry A. Moore, Three Comerfords, Bioscope, Chas. Edwin, Tom Leamore.
Artists please note: Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward Bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG,"
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Mirza Golem Troupe, De Biere, Kitty Traney, Sebastian Merill and Co., Garcia, Violet Essex, Jury's Pictures of up-to-date events, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.
Monday next, New Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
MISS MILLIE LEGARDE, MR. J. F. McARDLE, "HULLO! LONDON."
New Ballet,
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Graham's Marionettes, Scott and Whaley, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, Ola Humphrey and Co., La Pia, Nelson Jackson, Guyer and Valli, Jeffrey Silant, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. "Happy Holland,"
A Merry and Bright Burletta; Joe Elvin, in "Billy's Money-box," Will Evans, Sid Walker and Co., Meredith Meredro, Ella Shields, Geo. Leyton, Maidie Scott, Millie Payne, Jas. Stewart, F. Keeton, Will E. Stoppit, Wilson and Waring, Zieguener Quartette, The Martineeks, F. Land, Lallie Brooke, Luis Hardt's Athletic Scena, J. Marks, Baker and Balfe, Ida Barr, Bioscope. Open 7.15. Sat. Mat. 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Half Term commenced Monday, Feb. 21.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time.
Prospectus on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
This season's bookings, 1909-10, include "The Merry Widow," the Moody-Manners, "The Flag Lieutenant," "Miss Hook of Holland," "When Knights Were Bold," "Tom Jones," "Merrie England," "The Gay Gordons," "Lucky Durham," Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," "An Englishman's Home," "The Dairymaids," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's companies, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's companies, Mr. Douglas Bruce's companies, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1, also a few dates in Oct. and Nov.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE.
Proprietors, Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Theatre de Luxe,
Having a money capacity at ordinary prices far in excess of any other theatre in the town.
GRAND RE-OPENING,
Monday, March 21, with London Successes.
Vacant Dates,
for No. 1 Companies only.
April 11, May 2 23, June 13 and 27, July 4 and 11, Oct. 10, and onwards, with exceptions.
All communications to
Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant Spring dates, May 26, 27, 28, and June 6, 7, 8. Full Term time.
Wanted, bright attractions.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and a few Season Dates Open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Britannia Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah.
Vacant dates, March 9, four nights or three nights (wire), March 21 (three nights), March 28, and on, with exceptions.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant dates for first-class attractions,
March 7 (next week),
March 21, six nights, April 4, three.
April 21, three, April 25, on.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

LIMERICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Executor of Robert Fogerty, deceased, is prepared to receive offers for the purchase of above theatre, which is the only theatre in Limerick.
Full particulars can be had on application to
F. M. Fitt and Co., Solicitors,
Lower Mallow-street, Limerick.

LINCOLN. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.
The first three nights of each week, Musical and Light Attractions Once Nightly, the last three nights, Drama, Twice Nightly.
The average receipts at this theatre, which have steadily increased for the past six years, have during the last three years, under the present management, doubled those of the previous three years.
A new entrance for Circle and Stalls has been erected and prices revised.
Bookings for the present season include:—Once Nightly: "Tom Jones," "Dairymaids" (second visit), "Country Girl" (third visit), "Miss Hook of Holland" (second visit), "Belle of New York" (third visit), "Gay Gordons," "Cingalee" (third visit), "Girls of Gottenburg," "Arcadians," "Merry Widow" (second visit). Pantomime Messrs. Edward Terry, Edward Compton, and F. R. Benson "Third Floor Back," "Toddles," "Flag Lieutenant," "The Thief," "Breed of the Treshams," "When Knights Were Bold," &c. Twice Nightly: "A False Wife," "Man and Wife," "Woman Pays," "Dandy Fifth," "At Duty's Call," "The Old Home," "The Nihilist," "Lucky 'Liza," Walter Melville, Millar Anderson, Thomson Carruthers, &c.
Wanted, good Companies, once and twice nightly, as above, for Autumn.
Gainsborough, Chesterfield, Loughborough, and Rugby may be booked in conjunction, three nights each.
W. Payne Seddon, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Sept. 26, onwards.
No free list at this theatre during Dramatic Season.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
March 14, 21, 28.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29 (Plymouth races week), Nov. 28, and Dec. 5.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
A few Autumn Dates free.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. A few vacant dates this year.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8, also a few dates in October and November.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Vacant March 21, 22, 23, April 4, 5, 6, May 2, 3, 4, several dates onwards. C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
Election of Committee for 1910 and 1911.
All subscribers of 21s. and upwards are entitled to nominate and vote in the election of the Executive Committee for 1910 and 1911, which must be composed of fourteen members of £5 and upwards, and seven members of not less than one guinea.
Gentlemen qualified as above and who are willing to serve on the Committee for 1910 and 1911, are requested to send in their names not later than Thursday, March 17, 1910.
In the event of more than twenty-one candidates consenting to serve, an election will take place on Thursday, March 24, 1910, at 4 p.m., at 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, when the voting papers will be examined and recorded by the scrutineers appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
By Order,
C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.
Offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

To all whom it may concern.
"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."
The Acting Rights in this Play are vested in
Mr. J. COMYNS CARR
and Mr. H. B. IRVING.
Any attempt at piracy will be proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law.
Longmans, Green and Co.,
39, Paternoster-row, E.C.
H. B. Irving,
Queen's Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.
Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thoroughgoing manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

THE ROAD, February, 1910.
"The Era" Annual for 1910, illustrated (1s., *The Era* Office), always one of the best theatrical volumes of the year, this time excels itself. It gives a dramatic and musical calendar (each day recalling some event of importance in corresponding years); a number of short stories, each by some well-known actor or acting-manager; new plays and important revivals in London and suburban houses for 1909; the same in the provinces; an alphabetical list of plays, both London and provincial, for the whole year; the casts of new plays; plays produced in New York; new pieces at the Paris theatres; the same at Berlin; principal sketches at London variety houses, and casts thereof; separate lists of theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom; a theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary; and, last and saddest, the deaths of the year illustrated, brought down to so late a date that it includes photos of Mr. E. H. Carpenter, who died on Dec. 23, and Mme. Meta Illing, who died on Dec. 26 last past. It is a veritable mine of information between two covers, and makes us wonder how so many valuable facts can be published at the low price charged for this. Our sincere congratulations to the editor and publisher thereof.

MORNING ADVERTISER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "fretted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.
About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

THE FINANCIER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.

FINANCIAL TIMES, Jan. 24, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.

EVENING NEWS, Feb. 9, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, issued at a shilling, has been compiled with care and is replete with interest for all concerned in the personalities and the events of stageland. In addition to the diaries of theatrical productions, there are short stories and reminiscences by well-known actors and actresses. This section is led by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who raises again the disputed site of the old Globe playhouse. The latter part of the book deals with the deaths of the year, with excellent photographs of the artists who have passed away.

SUNDAY TIMES, Jan. 23, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces, there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Will Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.

PELICAN, Jan. 27, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is full of interesting matter from cover to cover to all who are in any way connected with the theatrical profession. To familiar "Era" Almanack features are added stories by well-known members of the Profession, and there is a very interesting series of portraits of the many well-known actors and actresses who have died within the past twelve months, starting off with an admirable and characteristic picture of dear old Lal Brough. Mr. Pedgrift is to be congratulated upon a shillingsworth of characteristic excellency.

YORKSHIRE POST, Feb. 2, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (*The Era* Office, 1s.) as usual contains stories and short articles by many well-known people of the stage, in addition to a list of London and provincial productions in 1909, and many other items of interest to the theatrical world.

Published at "The Era" Offices:
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1910.

PROPAGANDA PLAYS.

The production of *Justice* at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday, on the opening of Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN'S Reperotry Theatre season, marks a revival of the play which is produced with the object of attacking an abuse or abuses, exposing a defect in our social system, and creating sufficient public feeling to effect reform. Of all the functions of the drama—to amuse, to instruct, to soften, or to console—there is no higher one than this; and from time to time the stage has been used by propagandists as a medium for their preachments. It is difficult to imagine, but very easy to under-estimate, the influence of the stage in this direction. Of all methods of reaching the public heart, the drama is the most direct, the most exciting, and the most impressive. It appeals to hundreds of people who never read a printed article seriously, and it appeals to them with remarkable force and vigour.

One of the most famous writers of propagandist plays was the late CHARLES READE, who, in his time, immensely assisted in bringing about the removal of abuses. Unfortunately, with the removal of the abuse, the intention of a play is overlooked; and few who witness revivals of *It's Never Too Late to Mend* regard the prison scenes as anything but exaggerated sensationalism. Yet these scenes were firmly founded on fact. In the October of 1851 a certain Lieutenant AUSTIN was appointed governor of Birmingham Gaol. Between the November of that year and the April of 1853 there were no fewer than twelve attempts at suicide, three of which were successful. The original of Josephs was a boy of fifteen years of age named ANDREWS, who had been sent to prison for three months for stealing four pounds of beef. He was set to turn a mechanical crank, and to accomplish the required day's work of 10,000 revolutions it would have been necessary for him to exert force equal to one-fourth of that of an ordinary draught-horse. Failing to perform his task, he was fed on bread and water, and put into a punishment jacket, suffering great pain in his arms, chest, and neck. This was repeated on two occasions, a bucket of water being thrown over him. His bed was taken away, and in despair at his misery, ANDREWS hanged himself. AUSTIN was tried at Warwick, but escaped with only three months' imprisonment. Nowadays, of course, such barbarities are unheard of.

Many of DICKENS'S novels were originally attacks on abuses; and when they found their way on to the stage in the form of adaptations they became propagandist plays. Of these, *Oliver Twist*, which attacked the workhouse system in the person of the immortal Mr. Bumble, is one of the best known, though in the process of dramatisation the interest in the Poor Law was shifted to the fortunes of the unhappy Oliver. This was certainly the case in connection with the adaptation of GEORGE ALMAR, which was produced at the Surrey Theatre in the November of 1838. The following dialogue brought down the curtain:

"Mr. Brownlow: And what is now wanted to complete the happiness of Oliver Twist? Oliver: First that you will erect a small white tablet in the church near which my poor mother died, and on it grave the name of Agnes. There might be no coffin in that tomb; but if the spirits of the dead ever come back to earth to visit spots hallowed by their love, I do believe that the shade of my poor mother will often hover about this solemn nook, though it is a church, and she was weak and erring. Mr. Brownlow: The next request I will make for you, dear Oliver, myself, and will make it here—to you. (*To audience.*) Our hero is but young; but if his simple progress has beguiled you of a smile, or his sorrows of a tear, forgive the errors of the orphan boy, Oliver Twist." This was certainly not the kind of dialogue we are likely to hear at the Repertory Theatre.

Unlike CHARLES READE, DICKENS did not dramatise his propagandist novels, so that he was always more or less at the mercy of others, both in adaptation and production. On one occasion, when TOOLE was playing Caleb Plummer in *The Cricket on the Hearth*, the actress who was cast as the blind girl, Bertha, was taken ill, and was unable to appear; and the stage-manager sent on another young lady to "read" the part. Even though an abuse be a thing of the past, the skilful dramatist, by his thoroughly human treatment of his theme, makes the play itself immortal. Though the barefooted waif has disappeared from our streets, the performance of Miss JENNIE LEE as Jo will never fail to draw tears; and though the Yorkshire schools have long since disappeared, the picture of them in "Nicholas Nickleby," with the horrible portrait of Squeers, is still effective and acceptable.

Coming to recent years, we find IBSEN, in *Pillars of Society*, attacking the abuse of "coffin ships," which we have since been able to reduce in importance by legislation. Of late, the tendency has been, instead of exposing a definite and destroyable abuse, to attack society as a whole. This can do little good. The mere demonstration of the sorrows and sufferings of the world, unaccompanied by any suggestion or hope of improvement, only tends to weaken and depress humanity. It is well that we should have brought before us the faults in our social arrangements which require to be cured; but when, for instance, M. BRIEUX, in *Les Trois Filles de M. Dupont*, depicts the position of women as being equally unhappy whether they marry, take to prostitution, or work for their living, he proves too much. A kind of sloppy sciolism is very apt to take the place of study in authors who only aim at creating an effect. And it must be owned that by selecting such unhappy weaklings as Falder and Ruth Honeywill as equivalents of the average man and woman, Mr. GALSWORTHY in *Justice* allows his pessimism to predominate over his instincts as a playwright. Let us hope, at any rate, that the production of the piece may assist the efforts of those who have long been agitating for certain important alterations in our methods of punishment and our law of divorce.

SICILIANS AT THE LYRIC.

Greeting of the most cordial character was given to the Sicilian actors who are revisiting London, and opened a four weeks' season at the Lyric on Tuesday. All the artists were warmly welcomed by a crowded house in which the foreign element was conspicuous, and it was quite a sight to see Signor Grasso, the lion of two years ago, take the stage and respond to the ovation in which British cheers were mingled with Italian bravos. The enthusiasm thus began was continued throughout the evening, and it is evident that Mr. Robert Arthur's enterprise in bringing our interesting neighbours again to these shores will be liberally rewarded.

For the opening piece reliance was placed on the three-act drama, by Angelo Guimera, entitled *Feudalismo* (*Low Lands*), which was seen during the season of the troupe at the house opposite last February twelvemonth. How a poor, simple-minded Catalonian shepherd marries a pretty peasant girl at the behest of the Squire; how he learns that his wife had been the mistress of the Squire; and how he waits upon that gentleman when he comes to renew his illicit intimacy and kills him by biting his throat is told with many thrills and constant rise and fall of emotions.

The performance proved fresh and fascinating as ever. Cav. Uff Giovanni Grasso—to give the actor his due title—was as picturesque, agile, and intense as of old, and acted with all the resistless energy, the unbridled passion, and the tenderness that distinguished his former appearances. Signor Grasso is without the services of Signora Aguglia, who on the last occasion shared in his triumphs, but that lady has a worthy successor in Signora Marienella Bragaglia, who showed herself to be an actress of unmistakable dramatic power. She has not the tigrish ferocity of her predecessor, but her emotional gifts are highly developed, and every movement is instinct with grace and eloquence. She played the unfortunate Rosa in artistic style, the grief of the woman being made very poignant and her frenzied outbursts unutterably real.

Signor Grasso's support differs in the majority of cases from that of his former visit. The Squire is now played by Sig. P. Florio, who gives a finished exposition of the unscrupulous patrician. Excellent work is done by Signor A. Sapuppo, who makes a humorous miller, and wins more than one round of applause Cav. A. Musco, a comedian of much originality and droll resource, enhances the effect of the performance as a blind itinerant musician. The rest of the company enter with zest into their rôles. Everyone seems to be "spelling for a row," even the musicians at the wedding festivities handling their instruments in an ominous way before adjusting them in position. The intervals are agreeably whiled away by the ladies and gentlemen of Signor Carlo D'Amato's Sicilian mandolin and guitar orchestra.

On Thursday the company performed *La Zolfara*.

FREEMASONRY.

A successful meeting of the Bohemian Lodge, No. 3,294, was held at the Masonic Chambers, 9, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead, on the 18th inst. Amongst those present were Bros. H. R. Romer, W.M.; W. S. Tafner, P.P.G.Std., S.W.; H. Mathison, J.W.; A. J. Thompson, I.P.M., P.P.G.W.; W. Cantle, P.P.G.S., of W. West Lancs.; A. J. Fishlock, P.P.A.G.D.C., West Lancs.; A. Bloom, P.P.G.; D. E. Wighton, Olympia, Liverpool; T. Wrathmall and Jones, of the Olympia Orchestra; Frank Weston, Hippodrome, Birkenhead; R. Goffin, Tower, New Brighton; Walter Hook, manager, Central Theatre, Altrincham; Bro. Daly (Dutch Daly); Barton (Barton and Ashley), A. Warren (illusionist); and J. A. Warton. There was also a large attendance of officers and members. Mr. Frank Lindo, the proprietor of *Home, Sweet Home* touring company, and Mr. Eduard Krause (the Great Roland) were initiated. The after-proceedings were most enjoyable. This lodge meets on the fourth Friday of the months of January, February, March, April (Installation), May, June, September, October, and November at 1.30 in the afternoon. All brethren visiting Liverpool or district during that week are not only invited, but are expected by the Master and members to attend. A very tasty card, containing photos of Bros. Lindo and Krause, was designed, and presented by Bro. Will. Jones, secretary, the well-known theatrical printer.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE MARRIAGE OF COLUMBINE."

Play in Four Acts, by Harold Chapin, Produced for the First Time at the Court Theatre, on Sunday, Feb. 20.

Scaramouche ..... MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Columbine ..... MISS SYBIL THORNDIKE
Tommy ..... MASTER NAGLE
Mrs. La Bolaro ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
Mr. George Salamandro .... MR. H. K. AYLIFF
Alfred Scott ..... MR. ERNEST YOUNG
Bob ..... MR. A. L. BURKE
Annie ..... MISS LORNA LAWRENCE
Mrs. Jollings ..... MISS IRENE MONCRIEFF
Jessie Poole ..... MISS GWLADYS MORRIS

The high opinion expressed of the work of Mr. Harold Chapin at the production a month ago of his comedietta *Augustus in Search of a Father* was in a large measure justified on Sunday evening last, when a four-act piece from his pen was staged by the Play Actors. Though *The Marriage of Columbine* leaves something to be desired in the way of probability, and the author is committed to much that is illogical, his gifts of keen observation, ready wit, and skilful construction are fully established. Neat epigrams are frequent in the piece, which on Sunday was received from first to last with delight by a full house.

A peep is afforded into the family circle of a celebrated clown, Scaramouche by name, who has brought his circus to "an old and respectable town," and is staying at the George Inn. Scaramouche is a model husband and a loving father, doting on his three children, and Columbine who passes as his wife, is devoted to him. Having to hurry off to the circus, Scaramouche is obliged to leave Alfred Scott, a local printer and owner of the *Dunchester Argus*, who has called to interview him, in the hands of Columbine, who speedily gives particulars of "Scary's" career. She tells how they were boy and girl performers years ago, and that "Scary" saved her from the illtreatment of a brutal master, sent her to school, and afterwards nursed her through a severe illness, since when they have lived happily together. No details of any marriage ceremony are given, and Scott learns with horror that none ever took place, Columbine being utterly oblivious of the fact that anything of the kind was imperative. Scott is a "chapelgoer" with strong convictions, and improves the occasion by enlarging on the iniquity of her offence, putting the girl into a state of terror by representing the horrors of hell to which she is hastening. So impressed is Columbine that she sees in an accident to her boy, who is run over by a motor-car, a token of judgment to come, and determines to leave Scaramouche, never stopping to think what suggestions he may have towards a settlement. Columbine asks Scott's advice, and he magnanimously offers to marry her and thus make her an honest member of society. Then it is that Columbine's artlessness becomes overwhelming. She consents to become Scott's wife, and the marriage takes place the following day at a registry office. He takes her to rooms he has engaged in the town, and when he proposes that they shall go away for a month on the honeymoon, Columbine begs that she shall be allowed to journey alone. Scott is just asserting his right to press a kiss on Columbine's lips when Scaramouche bursts into the room, and Columbine flies to his arms. The clown tears up the marriage certificate and carries off Columbine, leaving Scott to face a breach of promise action at the hands of a young lady whom he had jilted to marry Columbine.

The weakness of the play lies in its chief character, deftly drawn as it unmistakably is. Columbine is able to read and write very imperfectly, but it is inconceivable that a woman, however unlearned, should be unaware of the offence of setting up housekeeping without having gone through the formality of a wedding ceremony. Public opinion, which possesses more terrors even than hell fire, would determine the situation. It would be more acceptable if the story were to end when Columbine recognises in the marriage certificate brought by Scott a document exactly like one already in her possession. It would require very little extension of Columbine's ignorance to represent that she went through a marriage ceremony without knowing it. As it is the paper turns out to be Columbine's birth certificate, a circumstance which creates a laugh but does not advance the action, and leaves Columbine in the perplexing position of going back to her lover and children, and leaving behind her a man who is legally her husband.

The characters of the piece are strongly outlined, and were ably realised by the performers. Mr. A. S. Homewood played naturally as the genial and good-hearted clown, and was ready with the necessary force in the powerful little scene at the close. A prepossessing Columbine was found in Miss Sybil Thorndike, who acted with grace, delicacy, and charm, and succeeded as well as could be expected in assuming the appalling innocence of the girl. The exacting part of Alfred Scott, the local printer, was admirably personified by Mr. Ernest Young, who maintained the attitude of the self-righteous young man cleverly to the close.

Two striking personalities of the play were Mr. George Salamandro, an impecunious friend of the family, who is always "dropping in" to tea, and Mrs. La Bolaro, a retired equestrienne, who has a temper and a stock of caustic utterances levelled at George and his propensity for staying to meals. The latter was admirably played by Mr. H. K. Ayliff, who by his hesitating and nervous utterance and varied facial play, completely suggested the author's conception. In the former part Miss Agnes Thomas revealed her talent for caricature at its best, and gave a performance replete with exquisite comedy. Other neat assumptions were the manservant of Mr. A. L. Burke and the hysterical maid of Miss Lorna Lawrence; Miss Irene Moncrieff made really and figuratively a laughter hit as a typical landlady; Master Nagle's rendering of the boy Tommy reflected every credit upon him, and as Jessie Poole, Scott's fiancee, Miss Gwladys Morris made a brief but effective appearance. The play was produced by Mr. Lewis Casson, who secured an effective representation, the hubbub outside the inn after the accident to the boy being strikingly real. At the end of the piece the author was heartily called and congratulated.

"DUVAL OUTDONE."

A Costume Sketch, by Arthur Eckersley, Produced at the Grand Theatre, Bolton, on Monday, Feb. 21.

Sir Charles Gosling ..... MR. WALTER MCEWAN
Lady Betty Carstairs .... MISS LILIAN POLLARD

The sketch was well received on its initial performance. It is a pretty little play and though there are only two characters, each is so true to life and so capably treated that one's interest is held throughout. The time is of the eighteenth century. Sir Charles Gosling, on hearing that Lady Betty Carstairs had laid a wager that nothing would induce her to dance with him, determined to outwit her, and wagered that she shall dance with him, and that within ten minutes of their introduction. Disguised as a highwayman, the baronet emulates Claude Duval, and tries to force the lady to dance with him at the point of the pistol. Lady Betty, however, apprised of his intentions, begs him not to shoot her with an "empty" pistol, knowing the weapon is unloaded; she turns the tables on him and compels him to dance with her instead. The piece ends with the pair joining in a stately gavotte as they enter the ball-room together. Miss Lilian Pollard, as Lady Betty, exhibited all the grace, charm, and dignity associated with the ladies of that period; and Mr. Walter McEwan, as Sir Charles, was equally successful.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"GABY."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Thurner, Produced at the Bouffes Parisiens, on Feb. 11.

Gaby ..... MME. CORA LAPARCERIE
Mme. Seguin ..... MLLE. MARIE LAURE
Françoise ..... MLLE. VERMEIL
Hélène ..... MLLE. BLANCHE GUY
Annette ..... MLLE. REGNAULT
Jacqueline ..... MLLE. LESSEYGUES
Rondet ..... M. DUBOSC
Jean ..... M. ROUSSELL
Dr. Seguin ..... M. HASTI
Joncourt ..... M. ACHARD
Larbinois ..... M. REGNIER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Feb. 17.—We have had several premières this week, but it cannot be said that any of the new works produced present any interesting features. The Bouffes-Parisiens opened the ball with *Gaby*, a play by M. Thurner. Mme. Cora Laparcerie, the new manageress—and herself a very charming actress—started her new tenure of office some time ago with a revival of *Lyssistrata* that had a successful run. The new piece is perhaps a trifle lachrymose, but it had an excellent reception, and is likely to remain on the bill for many weeks. The plot is as follows: Rondet is living with his wife Gaby in a country château. He dotes on her, and things run smoothly until Jean, the son of a neighbouring doctor, appears upon the scene. He and Gaby become great friends, and, having many ideas in common, grow fond of one another's company. When, however, Jean becomes the fiancé of a young lady he has known since his childhood, the truth suddenly dawns upon him and upon Gaby. What they have taken for friendship is love. They fall into one another's arms, and are discovered in that interesting position by Mme. Seguin, Jean's mother. That lady confides the secret to her husband, but the latter, as simple-minded as his friend Rondet, does not see his way out of the difficulty. Mme. Seguin then takes Gaby in hand, and loyally but firmly points out to the young woman the wickedness of entering into an intrigue with Jean, and refers to the duties she owes to her husband and her little child. After this interview Gaby resolves not to succumb, but when, after a while she is alone with Jean their fortitude breaks down and they resolve to flee together. Fortunately, Rondet's guardian angel watches over him. Whilst Gaby has gone into the house to fetch her cloak she overhears a conversation between her husband and Jean. She hears her husband speak of his adoration for his wife and of his fears that possibly one day something might come to mar all his happiness. And he is so tender, so unselfish, so noble, that Gaby can no longer constrain herself. She throws herself into her husband's arms, and, afterwards implores Jean to go home. Jean understands, and the play has come to an end. In the rôle of Gaby Mme. Laparcerie showed herself exceedingly clever, and Mme. Marie Laure supplied a good sketch of the loyal Mme. Seguin.

THE Théâtre Molière has brought out a curious play called *La Femme et le Masque*, by Ferri-Pisani. That gentleman happens to be a direct descendant of the celebrated Georges Sand, for which reason, no doubt, he chose the career of letters. He has still much to learn if he wants to get near his great ancestress. The story he tells us is very simple. Jacques Derval, a novelist, has a mistress, married to a gentleman farmer. One day the latter hears of his wife's infidelity, and at once orders her to leave the house and go to her novelist, who is busy on a novel dealing with his intrigue with that lady. But he soon tires of her, and as his book is ready by that time, he leaves her and seeks another mistress, on whom he can write another book.

THERE will be several festivals in different towns in France, when the works of the great composer Henry Maréchal will be produced. On the 28th inst. at Cambrai, the programme will comprise choruses from some of the master's well-known operas, and two compositions written for chorus, "L'Eternel Chemin" and "La légende de Jumièges." At Douai, on March 13, the two latter works will also be given. At the Théâtre Fémina, in Paris, on May 15, M. Maréchal's sacred drama *Le Miracle de Naïm* and *L'Etoile*, an antique idyll, will be performed with very fine scenery and costumes, and projections by the well-known artist Eugène Frey. Verviers is also anxious to do honour to the talent of the eminent French musician, and announces for the month of May the performance of the entire sacred drama *Le Miracle de Naïm*. This beautiful composition, by the way, was recently performed with great success at Geneva.

CHARITY CARNIVAL AT BRADFORD.

Through the generosity of the artists engaged in the pantomimes at the Theatre Royal, Prince's Theatre, Empire, and Palace, at Bradford, local charities will benefit considerably. A carnival and football match took place on the ground of the Bradford City Football Club last Wednesday. The committee consisted of gentlemen prominent in the city in the cause of charity, and the managers of the various houses of entertainment who organised a procession through the city, including tableaux from the Theatre Royal, viz., "The Royal Laundry," "Sweeps," "The Spanish Bull," "The South Pole," "A Radford Valentine," and ladies and children of the pantomime. "The Toreador" and other effective displays from the Prince's Theatre, the Palace, and the Empire. En route good business was done by the collecting vans, and in front of the Hotel Metropole Mr. Harry Radford, the clever comic juggler from the Theatre Royal, caused no little astonishment by catching on a fork held in his mouth a big turnip thrown from the high roof of the hotel.

Arrived on the ground, an Eleven of the City Players met Eleven of the pantomimists in a "straight" match, which the latter only lost by the odd goal. Dick Tubb, of the Prince's, was captain of the loser's team, and that gentleman, together with Mr. Chris. Le Brun and Mr. Fred Spencer (also of the Prince's) and Mr. Rowland Hill, the Dame from the Royal, were mainly responsible for the fun that followed. There was a comic match, Sweeps v. Bakers. Roars of laughter greeted the Ladies' and the Gentlemen's Hat-trimming Competitions. The children's races and Scene-shifting Competition interested the crowd, and the Tug-of-War was won by a team from the Prince's Theatre.

The ladies from the theatres did a brisk trade in chocolates, cigarettes, &c., and Miss Nell Emerald's flower stall helped to swell the funds materially. In distributing the prizes to the winners of the events during the afternoon, the Lady Mayoress graciously thanked the artists for their generosity in assisting in the cause of the local charities.

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE'S company in *A Thief in the Night* is the attraction at the Crewe Opera House. Mr. Hugh Wallace gives a manly impersonation of Lord Romilly; Mr. S. Bedwell is an effective Alan Escombe; Mr. L. Cancellor is exceedingly good as Michael Pagani; Mr. Stenson Liddard is an excellent Richard Cleeve; Mr. Russell Bogue is a capable Crake; and Mr. P. Crossley appears as the Rev. Chas. Halkett. Miss Irene Chalmers is suitably placed as Lady Romilly; Miss Margery Fane gains favour as Joan Escombe; Miss Beatrice Homer's powerful rendering of Sonia Cleeve is much appreciated; Miss Winifred Barton is bright and vivacious as Happy; and Miss Prudence Ayrton is good as Little Joan.

CHARITY AT HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

An excellent concert was given on Sunday evening at the Holloway Empire, in aid of the Mayor of Islington's Fund for the Relief of the Families of the Unemployed; and in spite of the unfavourable weather there was a good attendance, both the pit and gallery being crowded. The theatre was kindly lent by Messrs. Moss and Stoll free of cost, and there were no expenses in connection with the entertainment, the whole of the artists and staff generously giving their services. Mrs. Lewis Waller had promised to give a recitation, but Mr. Bertie Ralland, the manager of the Empire, read a letter he had received, stating that Mrs. Waller was unable to appear owing to illness, her medical attendant having forbidden her to leave the house. This was the first occasion Mrs. Waller had been unable to keep her promise to appear at a charity performance, but she trusted that the entertainment would be a success, and enclosed a cheque for a guinea.

The long list of artists included Mr. John L. Shine, who recited in fine dramatic style the recitation by Byron Webber, entitled "A Letter from England." In response to a call, the popular actor told an amusing story of his second visit to Ireland. He said he was received with many flattering remarks by the driver of an Irish car and driven to his hotel. When asked his fare, Pat commenced a recital of his family troubles, but suddenly broke off and exclaimed, "There, sorr, I must not worry you." Pressed to state his fare, he replied, "I'll leave it to your honour's honour," but adding that the week previously he drove Mr. Edward Terry to the hotel under precisely similar circumstances, and was awarded with half a crown, and "Bedad," he said, "your honour's a sight better actor than Mr. Terry ever was!"

Miss Violet Essex, the daughter of an Islington Alderman, fresh from her success at the Alhambra, sang with charming effect "The Jewel Song" from *Faust*, and, encored, she gave with equally satisfactory results the tuneful old-time song "Who'll buy my sweet lavender." Miss Hessie Reeve, one of the babes in the Marlborough Theatre pantomime, sang "Somewhere" and "The baby in the bath," both of which were received with loud applause. Miss Janet Reeve, another sister of Miss Ada Reeve, sang "My gel Sal" in good style. Miss Maggie Snow, who appeared by the kind permission of Mr. Robt. Courtneidge, sang "The Waltz Song" from *Tom Jones* with distinct success. Miss Grace Rosaine, another pantomime principal, gave a very pleasing rendering of "The old Green Isle" and "A broth of a boy." Miss Kitty Cavendish made a hit with "She didn't know"; Miss May Simmonds, who sang "When the heart is young," had a flattering reception, and Miss Elsie Bellery, another sweet soprano, scored with "Come Back to Erin." Miss Mabel Kempton scored by her rendering of "The Echo Song," and Miss Ethel Elmes was well received for Gounod's "Far greater in his lowly state." Mr. and Mrs. Fisher White appeared as Benedick and Beatrice in short scenes from Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, and their excellent performance was loudly applauded. Mr. Robert Anthony, a young baritone, who has often been heard in North London, sang "The Sergeant of the Line" in admirable style, and his contribution was much appreciated. Other successful contributors to the programme included Miss Edith Newton, Messrs. F. Raynham, Jack Mallard, C. Ernest Neads, John R. Humphries, Chris Stewart, Signor Persichini, mandolinist, and Miss Olive Melba, the wonderful child soprano. Selections were played by the St. Pancras Prize Silver Band. Mr. C. A. Bayne was the assistant acting-manager, and the stage was under the able direction of Messrs. Fred Wilson, Will Clinch, and F. Reeve. At the conclusion Mr. Bertie Ralland, responding to a vote of thanks moved by Councillor T. H. Dey, to the proprietors of the hall, the artists, the staff, and all who had given their services, stated that although all the higher-priced seats were not occupied, they had been paid for, and as hon. treasurer he believed he would be able to hand over a sum of £50 to the Mayor's Fund.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

An excellent chamber concert was given by the students of the Royal Academy at Queen's Hall on Wednesday afternoon. Allegro ma non tanto and Dumka (Andante con moto), from Dvorák's Quintet for pianoforte and strings, was the opening item in the concert. The executants, Miss Norah Cordwell, Mr. Edwin Quaife, Mr. Willie Davies, Miss Phyllis Mitchell, and Mr. Benno Pitt, gave a good account of the Bohemian composer's music. The novelty at the concert was Three Concert Studies (C minor, F major, and E flat major, MSS.) for pianoforte, by Mr. Sydney Rosenbloom, which proved really excellent and artistic compositions admirably played by the composer, who well deserved his two very hearty recalls. Miss Edith Penville and Miss Nellie Fulcher played Widor's Suite for flute and pianoforte, and a capital performance on the flute was given by Miss Penville in the charming romance. Much applauded also was Miss Elsie Redfern for her singing of recit., "Trahir Vincent," and air, "Mon cœur ne peut changer," from Gounod's *Mireille*. Miss Ella Caspers sang the air "Have mercy upon me, O Lord" (*St. Matthew Passion*), Bach, the organ and violin accompaniment being ably played by Mr. Edward H. Hollingham and Miss Zona Trader. In Dvorák's Allegro con fuoco and Finale (Allegro assai), from Quintet in C, Op. 77, for two violins, viola, violoncello, and double bass, Miss Irene le Brun, Miss Olive Tydeman, Mr. Arthur Quaife, Mr. Benno Pitt, and Mr. Paul J. Stanley were very successful; and Mr. Harry W. Norris displayed no little technical skill in his violin solo, Capriccio Valse (Wieniawski. Mr. Constantine Morris sang "Don Juan's Serenade" (Tschaikowsky) with much ability and effect, while Mr. F. Ernest Osborne's pleasing and well-trained voice was heard to advantage in "Un' aura amorosa," from Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte," and "O Sun that wakenest," a very graceful musical setting of Tennyson's verses by Mr. F. Corder. Sir Alexander Mackenzie's two pretty spring songs, "The First Rose" and "Spring is not Dead," were also included in the programme, and cleverly sung by Miss May Purcell. Mr. Frank Hutchens, the last performer at this concert, was set down for a piano solo, Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue (Bach).

"MADAME X.," produced at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on the 2nd inst., proved a "thriller." The author, M. Alexandre Bisson, used to make his audiences laugh, for it was he who wrote *On and Off* and other mirth-provoking farces. But now he makes them cry. Tears used to flow more freely in the theatre years ago, when playgoers were less sophisticated than they are to-day. But if it requires more cleverness to sway the emotions of a modern audience, it cannot be said that M. Bisson was not fully alive to the fact when he wrote *Madame X*. Such tearfulness as the trial scene caused on the opening night had not been seen in a New York theatre for many a day. The play was splendidly acted. Miss Dorothy Donnelly scored a success of the first magnitude in the title-rôle; and Mr. William Elliott covered himself with glory by his fine portrayal of the son, Raymond Floriot. His impassioned oratory in the Court scene provoked a storm of applause. Mr. W. H. Denny's Perissard was a clever character-study; and Messrs. Robert Drouet, Malcolm Williams, Robert Paton Gibbs, and Harry Bradley distinguished themselves in important rôles. Staged for Mr. Henry W. Savage by Mr. George Marion, the play was performed with remarkable smoothness on the opening night, and there is no denying that it is a huge success.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Alfred Butt, of the Palace Theatre, has announced in New York, according to cabled information, that he has entered into an arrangement with the Orpheum Circuit and the Associated Vaudeville interests there, whereby the Palace Theatre and the company controlling the Barrasford Tour and other interests will have preferential bookings of all American music-hall turns forming the "round the world circuit."

Possibly Mr. Walter de Frece, who casts himself loose from Moss' Empires on March 31, will also join in; and how about Harry Rickards in Australia and the Hyman Company in South Africa? It is expected that the new combine will be able to give international bookings extending for two years.

In America the principal parties concerned are Mr. Martin Beck and Mr. Meyerfeld, jun., general manager and president respectively of the Orpheum Circuit. The proposed arrangement means, says Mr. Butt, the Palace Theatre and the houses which are likely to be associated with it in the controlling company, will have the first call upon all acts booked by the Orpheum Company and the United Vaudeville Circuit—a big combination, which practically controls all music-hall affairs from Mexico to Canada, and the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Mr. Butt sailed for England on Thursday on the George Washington, and seems confident that the Palace shareholders, when he has explained affairs, will be glad to co-operate. He will still keep his connection with the Palace, but would act as European agent for the consolidated interests of what may be called the new international union of vaudeville

"There will be 130 music halls in the syndicate," said Mr. Butt to an American interviewer, "one hundred of them being in America. The syndicate calls for a working agreement among the American music-hall trust, the Barrasford group of provincial music halls, and several others in Great Britain, the Alhambra in Paris, and one in Berlin."

"The Polar Star" is the name of the new ballet divertissement which is to be seen for the first time at the Alhambra on Monday. The scheme of the production will be developed in three scenes, and the *clou* of the ballet will turn on the adventures of an ambitious explorer who seeks to make history in the regions beyond the Arctic circle. The music has been specially composed by Mr. G. W. Byng. Principal parts will be undertaken by Mlle. Britta, Miss Elise Clerc, Miss Julia Seale, and Miss Rita Leggiero.

We give in another page a photo of Miss Vesta Tilley's new Fiat car. What would Jenny Hill, Bessie Bellwood, or Nelly Power have said to such luxury? What an advance on the "pro.'s" brougham, which could scarcely cope now with the twice-nightly system, so firmly established in the distant suburbs. It was Bessie Bellwood who sang a most amusing song on the peculiarities of the "pro.'s" coachman—a character that seems to be threatened with extinction, like the hansom cabby.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones will address the National Sunday League on the present chaos in the licensing of theatres and music halls at the Alhambra on Sunday evening at eight o'clock. Sir Herbert Tree has kindly consented to take the chair, and will also address the League. Many other gentlemen of influence will be present on the platform. The usual programme of the Sunday League concert will be given, commencing at seven o'clock, with the full Alhambra orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Geo. Byng, to be followed with songs by Miss Amy Evans, soprano, from the Savoy Theatre, and Mr. H. Lane Wilson.

Mr. George H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has just secured the music-hall singing rights of a number written by those two American past-masters of successful song-writing, Messrs. Ed. Madden and Gus Edwards, entitled "By the light of the silvery moon." Mr. Elliott, who is undoubtedly *facile princeps* in the art of singing love songs of a semi-coon nature, wedded to melodies of the langorous, ear-haunting type, has been achieving a pronounced success this year at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. He will, on the termination of his present run in pantomime, on March 12, open at all his music hall engagements with "By the light of the silvery moon," which will be his "star" song everywhere.

The "chocolate-coloured coon" is more than delighted with his latest acquisition, to which a somewhat interesting story is attached. Originally published in America by Mr. Gus Edwards himself, the sales speedily leapt into a sale of many thousands of copies. Messrs. Jerome H. Remick, American song publishers, quickly realising the potentialities of the lyric, made various offers for the publishing rights to their lesser rivals, and eventually, after much negotiation, acquired all rights from the original publisher for the truly astounding sum of $7,000!

Feldman and Co., who have the sole rights of publishing "By the light of the silvery moon" in this country, are to be warmly congratulated on the excellence of the number and the talented exponent they have secured for its rendition on the halls of variety. In Mr. George H. Elliott's hands Messrs. Feldman and Co. may rest assured that this song will have as comprehensive a vogue in England as it has already acquired on the "other side."

Mr. John Henry Savile, in the course of a recent speech at the Perth Theatre, where he has produced ten pantomimes, made a most interesting announcement. He said that he had decided to commence at Easter the experiment of running the house as a first-class music hall and variety theatre on the twice-nightly system for seven or eight months of the year. During the remaining four months he will secure the best operatic and theatrical attractions.

Mr. Savile told the recent Committee on Licensing and the Censorship that the authorities North of the Tweed had long since settled the question for themselves of free trade in amusement by the adoption of one licence, and make no distinction between theatre and hall. This freedom enables a manager to vary his entertainment and to make a living profit that enables him to pay his rates and to give employment to artists of the legitimate and of variety.

Albert Chevalier is one of the few comedians whose art is as well understood in one hemisphere as in the other. He is now in America, where he first introduced the poetic coster in the nineties. We seldom have what may be termed historic nights in the metropolitan halls, but we had one when Chevalier first sang "The coster's serenade" at the London Pavilion. There was no booming; but when the lights were lowered, and a quaint figure in pearlies advanced to the footlights to sing to the subdued melody of oboe, clarionet, and strings the love song of the barrow owner, it was felt that a new star had arisen. America confirmed that verdict, and Chevalier's great success across the "pond" only increases with years.

It was a great pity that rain fell heavily in Birmingham up to two o'clock on Tuesday, for the unfavourable weather conditions seriously affected the attendance at the charity football match, arranged by Mr. George Robey, at Villa Park. The spectators numbered over 5,000, and the receipts totalled over £100.

Mr. Robey's football fixtures have been conspicuously successful, for he has had the pleasure of dividing amongst worthy institutions in various towns in England upwards of £5,000. Mr. Robey not only pays the expenses, but provides gold medals and a handsome cup for the winning side.

Mr. Robey's international side pitted against the Aston Villa F.C. Cup team was—Hardy (Liverpool), goal; Morley (Notts County) and Pennington (West Bromwich Albion), backs; Ducat (Woolwich Arsenal), Roberts (Manchester United), and Garraty (West Bromwich Albion), half-backs; Meredith (Manchester United), G. Robey (Manchester United), Hilsdon (Chelsea), Windridge (Chelsea), and Wall (Manchester United), forwards. The game was keenly contested, the result being three goals to one in favour of the Villa. Despite an injury to his leg, Mr. Robey scored the only goal for his side from a penalty kick. After the match the popular comedian entertained his international football friends at the Theatre Royal and the Imperial Hotel.

At this season of the year many claims on behalf of charity are made on the artists appearing in pantomime, and these are, without exception, nobly responded to. In Glasgow this week there have been three such calls. The first was on Tuesday, when Mr. Harry Tate organised a benefit matinée in the Theatre Royal to aid the funds of the Eastpark Home for Infirm Children, and had the loyal assistance of his fellow-artists all over the town.

The second was Mrs. Percy O. Humphrys' annual "Cinderella" treat to 800 poor children, which was also held in the Theatre Royal, and, besides a fine variety programme, included gifts of food, fruit, and toys to each child present.

The third event was a benefit matinée in the Glasgow Pavilion, in aid of local Jewish charities and the Zionist movement. On each occasion, in addition to the cream of the variety and pantomime talent, members of the Moody-Manners Opera Company willingly assisted.

In the new Parliament the Right Hon. John Burns retains his position as President of the Local Government Board. As plain John Burns he had much to say in his old County Council days, when he advocated teetotalism at the halls, and opposed drink licences at every new hall. The non-alcoholic house then was something of an experiment, and the Progressives, who first forced the thirsty drinkers of beer to go outside to the nearest pub. were regarded as cranks, whose policy would be reversed at the earliest opportunity by the Moderates. But nothing of the sort has happened.

Mr. John Burns drew attention, a good many years ago, to the success of Munt's Hall, Clapham, run on compulsory temperance lines by Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell. In an historic speech at a licensing meeting of the Council, John of Battersea said what was good enough for Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell was good enough for him.

Mr. Jack R. Bostock, the young and esteemed manager of the Paisley Hippodrome and Skating Rink, celebrated his coming-of-age on Tuesday. To mark the occasion Councillor and Mrs. E. H. Bostock entertained to supper and a dance a company of nearly two hundred in the Paisley Rink, which was gaily decorated and festooned. Mr. Sam Young, representative of the V.A.F. in the town, presided over the gathering, and he was supported on either side of him by nearly all the members of the Bostock family, while Mr. Fred Coutts, manager of the Paisley and District Tramways, and Mr. D. C. Gribben discharged the duties of croupiers.

After supper numerous presents were bestowed on Mr. Bostock the younger in honour of the auspicious and interesting event, the various gentlemen presenting them eulogising the good qualities and business abilities of the youthful manager. The articles included a gold hunter watch, with monogram engraved, subscribed for by personal friends in Glasgow, Paisley, &c.; a pretty gold fob, subscribed for by the entire staff of the Paisley Hippodrome; a roll-top desk, presented by two admirers; and a cheque for £100, previously promised by his father and given in adherence to precepts faithfully fulfilled. Mr. Bostock suitably, though touchingly, returned thanks. Dancing was indulged in till dawn.

At the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, on Tuesday evening, occurred an interesting ceremony, pleasantly illustrating the good fellowship which exists between amusement managers in the Border City. Mr. Simpson, manager of the house since Mr. Macnaghten's dégime commenced in August last, was the recipient of a silver matchbox and sovereign purse containing the result of a small collection subscribed by his brother managers and a few personal friends. The presentation was made by Mr. Thos. Courtice, of Her Majesty's Theatre. The purse was appropriately engraved with the date and the words, "Lest you forget," a motto used by the Macnaghten Circuit on their bills.

Miss Dorothy Ward will have good reason to remember with the greatest satisfaction her appearance in her native city of Bimingham as principal boy in the *Babes in the Wood* pantomime at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. On Wednesday night she took her "benefit," and the huge theatre was crowded in every quarter, and hundreds were unable to obtain admission. Miss Ward had a remarkable reception, and there was a scene never to be forgotten after she had sung her first success on the stage, "How would you like to spoon with me?"

Bouquets were handed up to her, and soon she was deluged with the floral emblems, which were prettily arranged on the stage by the lady members of the company. A handsome dressing-case was amongst the gifts. Miss Daisy Dormer, who has shared honours with Miss Ward in the pantomime, and Miss Joan Burton were on either side of Miss Ward, and conversed cheerfully with her as she wiped away tears, while the audience cheered and called for a speech.

Miss Ward thanked the audience and the members of the company, and expressed her great pleasure at her receptions during the run of the pantomime in her native city. During the evening the usual programme had, of course, to be altered to allow for the appearance of a number of artists from other places of amusement in the city, who gave their services. Among them were Mr. George Robey (Royal), Miss Ray Ford and Miss Millie Doris (Alexandra), Miss Daisy Jerome (Empire), and Mr. Dave Carter and Mr. Brent Hayes (Hippodrome) In addition, a very interesting and highly successful first appearance on any stage was made by tiny Violet Egbert, the pretty nine-year-old daughter of Mr. Seth Egbert, of the Egbert Brothers.

The general meeting of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, W.C., on Thursday next, March 3, at one o'clock Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

"Bravo, Kittee!" "Three cheers for Kittee!" were the enthusiastic cries of the huge audience at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, on Friday night (18th), after the *Pelican* cake had been presented to Miss Kittee Rayburn.

This charming principal boy stood in the midst of her warm friends, the members of Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Aladdin* company, and she smilingly forced back the tears. She said she was proud to be the recipient of the *Pelican* cake, but another gift, she said, gave her more joy. She had never worked with a more lovable company of artists, and she acknowledged their little present—an address, signed by the leading members, framed in silver—with the warmest thanks.

Loud applause followed, and afterwads the performance was continued. In the absence of the editor of the *Pelican*, Mr. Jack Parsons presented the cake to Miss Rayburn, after delivering a pleasing eulogistic speech.

We regret to hear that Miss Dora Challoner (of Rose and Challoner) had to undergo a serious operation on Tuesday last. She is now a patient in the Golding Ward, Charing Cross Hospital. She would be very pleased to hear from friends.

The mysterious Howards, second sight artists, left England yesterday (Friday) to open with Harry Rickards in Australia. The offer was made on Monday last, the contracts signed, existing contracts postponed by arrangement, and all details carried out in less than five days through the agency of the ubiquitous Tom Pacey.

The election of officers of the Terriers' Association for March will take place on Sunday. Applications for tickets for the annual dinner and ball should be made to Arthur Were as soon as possible. The annual general meeting of the Terriers' Association will be held at the Three Stags Hotel on Sunday, March 20, 1910, at 6.30 p.m.

Miss Maude Alexander, wife of Mr. Walter Adams, lies seriously ill in the Royal Eye Hospital, St. George's-circus, S.E. The specialist who operated on Thursday hopes to save the left eye, though he holds out but little hope of her seeing again with the right one. Any friend who would care to see the patient can do so on Sunday from 2 till 4 p.m.

Miss Millie Payne, the original portrayer of Phil May's guttersnipe characters, is at present singing an attractive and pleasing rooster song at the Oxford. In this number the comedienne wears a striking Chantecler costume. Miss Payne has recently been appearing with much success in a catchy song, entitled "Ring-a-ding, puff-puff!" She has been asked to extend her engagement at the Oxford.

Miss Martina Webb is the twelve-year-old daughter of Mr. Jo-Jo Webb, of the celebrated Brothers Webb, the musical clowns now at the Empire, and the proud father has been highly gratified during the week by the success of his little girl as accompanist at a musical and dramatic recital given at the Constitutional Hall by Miss Eleanor M. Jones and Mr. F. Annis Burrows, who both signed a most complimentary letter to the young pianist.

We have much pleasure in adding another to the many cordial messages sent to Will Oliver during the week:—"Many healthful, fruitful, and beautiful New Years, my dear Will Oliver. May you be on the 'spot' at 88!

"When Will from 'sock and buskin' to the Agency migrated
To win the love of the 'profesh' he rapidly was fated,
Though heavy have his burdens been he's not yet overweighted,
And by his 'pals' when eighty-eight he can't be over-rated."—Tom Craven.

At the meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. on Wednesday, Mr. Harry Blake presiding, the committee confirmed the action of the Emergency Committee in giving the sum of £50 to the V.A.B.F. and the Institution. Mr. Harold Finden proposed and Mr. H. Cee Mee seconded a resolution, which was carried unanimously, to the effect that the amount received from the dinner should be divided in the proportion of 25 per cent. to the V.A.B.F. and 75 per cent. to the Music Hall Benevolent Institution. This was carried unanimously.

Presiding last week at the meeting of the Empire Palace (Limited), Mr. Frederick Hurdle referred to the death of Mr. T. W. Courtenay, one of the directors, which occurred on the 15th inst. Dealing with the accounts, the chairman said that while the company should congratulate itself on the excellent year's trading, yet the shareholders should not lose sight of the great competition in the entertainment business. The reason of carrying so much money to the reserve fund was to have a solid balance to provide against contingencies or other obvious reasons. The report and accounts were adopted unanimously, and it was resolved to send a letter of condolence to the family of the late Mr. T. W. Courtenay. The dividend was 20 per cent.

On Friday evening Miss Florrie Forde was announced to take a well-deserved benefit at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, where she has made such a hit in the successful production of *Babes in the Wood*. Amongst those who are billed were Miss Jane Eyre and Jack Pleasants from the Garrick Theatre pantomime, by kind permission of Mr. John Hart and Mr. Wynn Miller. Mr. Fred Wood was kindly sending Cassie Walmer, Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Walton and Lester, and Fred Hallam; and Mr. Harry Dunford of Barrasford's Hippodrome was sending the Tennessee Coloured Guards, La Belle Morgan; the principal boy of the Bolton Theatre Royal pantomime was also announced to appear. Miss Florrie Forde's successes have included "I do like to be beside the seaside, "If you should see a little soldier," and the immortal "Kelly," all of which she sings with so much vivacity that she has the whole audience from the stalls to the gallery completely under control.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mr. Jackson (Eight Lancashire Lads), donation, 5s.; Mr. Billy Brown, 1s., donation (per Miss Maude Mortimer); Miss J. Coultherd (donation), 1s. (per Mrs. James Horne); Miss Flo Banks (collecting), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Ben Abrahams, Queen's, Poplar (collecting), £1 7s. 2d.; Little Pauline Courtney (collecting), 5s.; Miss Edna Branston (Webb and Branston), 13s. (result of Hoop-la); Miss Irene Rose (collected in sixpences at the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association dinner, Sunday last, the sum of 8s.; and 10s. 6d. donation, from Mr. Alf. Leonard (per Sisters Macarte); Miss Lil Hawthorne, ladies' shoes; Miss Lottie Albert, Mrs. James Horne, and the Sisters Macarte have to be thanked for babies' new clothing; and Mr. Alec Barish for parcel of new stockings. Friends in or out of the profession should please note that a prize will be given to any lady or gentleman collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months, commencing from Nov. 4 last.

Miss Dorma Morgan, the charming vocal comedienne, having been indisposed some weeks, is now better, and recommenced work on Monday last, at the Palace, Bradford.

Miss Bertha Doud Mack's skating act has been going great at Dudley, and for an encore she has been astonishing audiences by picking up four handkerchiefs with her teeth! Packed houses? Why, certainly.

Owing to the success of McEwen and Pollard in *Duval Outdone*, a new comedy sketch of the Georgian period, by Arthur Eckersley, at the Grand, Bolton, on Monday last, at a trial matinée, they were immediately put in the bill by Mr. J. F. Elliston for the remainder of the week.

Miss Alice Hughes was taken seriously ill last Saturday at Darlington, and has in consequence had to give up her present engagements. She hopes, however, to start again at the Argyle, Birkenhead, on Monday, March 7.

Miss Jessie Templeton, principal boy at the Princess's, Glasgow, on Friday, the 18th, had a very successful benefit. Miss Fanny Fields, who appeared, made a very nice speech on her behalf, and Miss Margaret Nibloc also assisted and made a big success.

The next committee meeting of the Music Hall Home will be held on Thursday, March 3. The secretary, on behalf of the committee, desires to thank Mr. Vivian Evans (Empire, Wolverhampton) for £1 19s., and Mr. Sam Jones (City Varieties, Leeds) for 4s., both being box collections. The parcels of men's clothes that have been sent by Peggy Pryde and Pat Carey are also very welcome.

We have had so much so-called classical dancing at the halls of late that audiences have to be reminded occasionally of the brilliant traditions of the famous *pas de quatre* and the triumphs of Taglioni in the thirties and forties.

The fame of this brilliant prima-donna, Cerito, and other dancers of exceptional gifts was based on the Italian school, and as a teacher of that school Mr. Edward Espinosa—who is quite British, you know—is illustrating with his pupils that, after all that has been said and written about Continental dancers, it is quite possible to train English girls who may equal in their attainments the exemplars of the Italian and French schools abroad.

With this object in view he has produced a *petite ballet divertissement* at the Tivoli, and it is quite agreeable to note the hearty reception that is nightly given to what may be termed the Espinosa Quintet, consisting of Edouard himself and four ladies from the British Normal School of Dancing situated close to Victoria Station. The names of these ladies are:—Misses G. Groom, G. Somerset, G. Cone, and R. Dene. The dances establish completely the fact that it is possible to train English artists to the degree of perfection required for classical dancing. The turn is a delightful novelty, the dancing being instinct with grace and skill. There should be a great demand for the services of the quintet.

In his solo work Mr. Espinosa shows wonderful alertness, and can boast of hereditary gifts handed down by his father, the famous Leon Espinosa. He does not regard the prancing of society people to the strains of classical music as dancing in any sense. The craze will pass away, and the public will turn with a sense of relief to the exposition by gifted and trained artists—not necessarily from the Continent—of the real art of dancing.

Miss Gertrude Beams, niece of Miss Gracie Grahame, on Saturday last took up the part of third girl in Charles Barnard's *Babes in the Wood* pantomime at a moment's notice, and was so successful that the management have retained her for the rôle this week at the Grand Theatre, Derby. The triumphant *début* of Ping Pong the Second, Mr. Dan Daly's little toy Pomeranian, also took place at the Grand. He appeared in Miss Grahame's "Sailor" song, which gained a double encore.

A packed house and a most enjoyable programme were features of the fourth annual matinée in aid of the Birmingham *Weekly Post* ("Uncle John") Charities, held at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, last Saturday afternoon. It was gratifying to the promoters and to the artists who gave their services, to learn that all records were broken in the matter of attendance. The audience numbered 3,500 persons, and the total proceeds were about £125.

Several of the principal artists performing in the pantomimes at the Theatre Royal and Prince of Wales Theatre gave their services, and good support was also forthcoming from artists appearing at the local music halls and at halls in neighbouring towns. It was much regretted that Mr. Mark Sheridan, of the Prince of Wales Theatre pantomime, Miss Ethel Haydon, of the Theatre Royal pantomime, and Miss Gladys Mavius were unable to appear owing to colds. The audience, however, were delighted with the contributions of Miss Ada Reeve, Mr. George Robey, the Brothers Griffiths, Mr. Barry Lupino, Mr. Tom Shale (Theatre Royal), and Miss Dorothy Ward, Miss Daisy Dormer, and the Brothers Egbert (Prince of Wales Theatre).

The artists from the variety houses included King and Benson, American comedians; Vanando, ventriloquist; the Great Vincent, acrobatic table expert; Maizie Hibbs, speciality dancer; the Lester Brothers, the "Dancing Demons"; the Musical Jees, in a novel blacksmith shop musical act; Miss Kate Butler, comedienne; Charles R. Whittle, comedian; Pipifax and Panlo, eccentric acrobats; the Leslie Brothers, comedy musicians; Chung Ling Soo, the famous illusionist; the Gaudsmidts, clown acrobats; Russell and Held, vocalists and dancers; and Mr. Willis Crisford, who contributed a refined drawing-room monologue that proved immensely popular. The programme was completed by excellent pictures shown on the Bioscope.

Congratulations are due to the manager, Mr. E. Foster, and his capable staff, and also to the staff of the Birmingham Empire, for the smooth manner in which the entertainment was carried out, the programme being a fine example of successful organisation. In the conduct of the musical part of the entertainment Mr. J. H. Whittaker, the chief of the orchestra, was assisted by Mr. J. W. Clegg, musical director at the Empire Theatre.

Miss Ada Reeve was led back upon the stage by Mr. Foster, the manager, after rendering a song and encore item, and on behalf of her fellow-artists she acknowledged the thanks which he had expressed for their kind services. Mr. Cornish, editor of the *Weekly Post*, offered his acknowledgments of the patronage extended by the audience on behalf of the "Uncle John" Fund, and of the generous help afforded by Moss' Empires (Limited). He congratulated Mr. Foster upon establishing the matinée as the most popular event of the season. Miss Ada Reeve afterwards responded to a warm reception, expressing the delight of her fellow-artists and herself at having assisted in bringing brightness to the lives of the poor children of Birmingham.

Mr. Albert Bushell's large circle of friends heartily responded on his benefit night at the Gaiety, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, and their good wishes were manifested by a number of presentations which took place during an interval in the programme.

The gifts, which were handed to Mr. Bushell by Councillor Marsh, a gentleman well known in local music-hall circles, consisted of cheques for Mr. Bushell and his wife from personal friends, a handsome travelling-bag, a silver cake-basket, and six serviette rings from the staff of the theatre, a gold-mounted ivory-handled walking-stick from Mr. Hample, and a gold-mounted umbrella (anonymous).

Mr. Bushell, amid great enthusiasm, acknowledged the gifts in suitable terms, and presented umbrellas to the musical conductor, Mr. F. Leake, and to the stage-manager, Mr. W. Harris. The artists appearing were Miss Ada Reeve, Miss Dorthy Ward, Miss Daisy Jerome, Miss Ethel Haydon, Miss Molly Wynne, Miss Ray Ford, Miss Lila Vesta, Miss Edie Veno, Miss Alice Hollander, the Six Ontarios, Vay's Juveniles, Geo. Robey, Mark Sheridan, the Bros. Egbert, Tom Shale, Sam Elton, the Bros. Griffiths, Barry Lupino, Mark Daly, Harry Conlin, Jack Sheridan, the Bros. Brooks, Cull Pitt, Herman, Ernie Garner, Bock Pylades, Frank Probin, Rastus and Banks, Leslie's Cadets, Fred Eric, Tony Black, Dave Carter, Brent Hayes, the Lancashire Lads, the Piccolinos, the Bachelors, the Szarvasi Ferencz Troupe, Sinclair and Whiteford, Tom Foy, Victor and Louie, the Five Bombays, the Bros. Ashley, Harry Pleon, and Daisy Mayer.

There was a night of enthusiasm at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Friday (the 18th inst.), the occasion being the visit of the members of the well-known Rocket Club. Established about fifteen years ago for social purposes and the encouragement of musical talent, the members of the club have made it an annual custom to visit one of the principal theatres in the city during the pantomime season, and distribute presents to all the artists.

On Friday night the members (there were about 400 of them) practically took possession of the house. The greatest good humour prevailed, and the evening proved one of the most enjoyable in the run of the pantomime. The men wore the scarlet geranium—the badge of the club—and the ladies rosettes of the same colour. The artists wore similarly coloured rosettes, and the theatre was decorated with red. All the artists came in for a particularly cordial reception, and a member of the club—Mr. William Gardner—delighted the audience with a series of impersonations of well-known performers, singing "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" Mr. Rodway, the general-manager, was loudly cheered when he appeared to acknowledge various gifts.

The midnight concert arranged by the choristers in the pantomime at the Prince of Wales Theatre is one of the "red-letter" events during the winter season in Birmingham. On Friday (the 18th inst.) the large Assembly Room at Ye Olde Royal Hotel was crowded, and striking tribute was paid to the excellence of the programme arranged by Mr. Sydney Langworth and Mr. Henry Matthews, the secretaries.

The chairmen were Mr. Seth Egbert and Mr. Humphries. The leading artists from the Prince of Wales and other pantomimes, and performers at local music halls turned up in strong force, and it would be difficult to equal the fine entertainment provided.

The vogue of *Chantecler* in the halls goes ahead. At the Empire, the final trio between the rooster, the hen pheasant, and the guinea fowl is the most successful number of the new revue, *Hullo . . . London*; and Mr. Gus Elen has a new Chantecler song, which he is about to produce. Miss Millie Payne has already astonished audiences at the Oxford with a wonderful make-up. But where is Walter Stanton? Possibly Jules Guitry, the Chantecler of Paris, might get a few hints from Walter, who has strutted many an hour as a gigantic rooster, with a gamecock as companion.

A movement is on foot in Paris to reform what may be described as the lighter side of Parisian life—the life of the café-concert. It has arisen with a Judge, M. Bonjean, who has invited the divettes of the music hall to unite for the defence of their interests. These popular favourites are urged to leave out of their répertoires songs and stories of a questionable character. M. Bonjean does not want the artists to become austere. He declares that they are themselves tired of the sort of stuff they are expected to present to the public every evening.

In this connection Mme. Anna Thibaud, the celebrated *diseuse*, declares that licence on the stage dates from the suppression of the censorship. She believes that the public find more enjoyment in free and healthy gaiety.

Yvette Guilbert welcomes the new movement, and hopes that artists will give it every assistance. Mme. Louise Balthy suggests that the reformers should start first with the auditors. She affirms that the present form of entertainment is just suited to the moral condition of present-day society.

On the other hand, Mlle. Lanthenay, a divette of note, cordially agrees that something should be done in the direction indicated by M. Bonjean. She hints that it would not be a bad thing for artists if there were fresh song-writers. With good artists and good authors she has no doubt that crowds would flock to the music hall, and that success would be assured. MM. Fragson and Fursy share this view. They have faith in the triumph of the purified café-concert.

The Council of the Festival of Empire entertained on Wednesday a large number of guests to luncheon at the Savoy Hotel. The assembly was brought together in connection with the historical pageant of London, which is to be given by 15,000 performers at the Crystal Palace during the coming summer, under the direction of Mr. Frank Lascelles. It is hardly necessary to point out that "Festival of Empire" is but another name for the London pageant. Sir Edward Moss was one of the guests present.

We regret to learn that Vonetta, the lady illusionist and protean actress, is lying seriously ill at Southsea, after fulfilling a successful week's engagement at the King's Theatre, Southsea. Acting under medical advice, she was taking a week's rest, and gastric hæmorrhage set in. Dr. Fancombe ordered her immediate removal to a nursing home, and it is feared an operation will be necessary. Vonetta's manager, Mr. T. M. Paul, announces that he has arranged to postpone engagements at Weymouth, Tunbridge Wells, Margate, and Southend.

The Master of the Rolls, Lords Justices Moulton and Buckley, sitting as a Court of Appeal on Thursday, dealt with the case of Irving *v.* Bodie, on the appeal of the defendant from a verdict and judgment entered against him last November, in an action brought by Charles Henry Irving, son of a Keswick farmer, who claimed the return of £1,000, which he alleged had been obtained from him by fraudulent misrepresentation. Having heard the appellant's leading counsel state the grounds of the appeal and submit his argument, the Court dismissed the appeal.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY'S professional department during the week now ending has been thronged consequent on the news having been noised abroad that the firm had begun issuing an entirely new selection of songs to suit the all sorts and conditions of artists who must have the latest and best of material.

THE crowds reminded one of the animated scenes that are to be witnessed at the monster drapery emporiums of London, and we may add that Francis and Day's are the Selfridge's of Sensible Song, the Whiteley's of Witty Words, the Peter Robinson's of Popular Rhythm, the Harrod's of Humour, and the Marshall and Snelgrove's of Melodies Saltatorial.

THAT fine cowboy romance "Pride of the Prairie, Mary," with its ear-haunting refrain, will be featured on Monday next and during the week by Miss Nell Emerald at the London Coliseum. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of this universally-admired item.

IN very great demand is Messrs. Francis and Day's "Don't stand there waiting at the gate," the catchy refrain being one that appeals irresistibly to the ear, the consequence being that it gains favour daily with hearers.

THOSE artists in want of a "business" number are voting Messrs. Francis and Day's "You want a sweetheart" the very ideal of what is required.

HERBERT E. HAINES'S new and charming "Coquette" dance, one of the most characteristic compositions of the delightful composer whose "Three Woodland Dances" are becoming great favourites with lovers of music everywhere, has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication, who are also bringing out the "Arcadia Intermezzo," the latter being from the graceful pen of Sydney Churcher, a musician held in high honour in Suffolk. Yet another link in the endless chain of harmony that emanates from the eminent house is Bernhard Fischer's "Les Fleurs des Printemps."

AMONG the newest acquisitions in the song line of Messrs. Francis and Day may be mentioned "Our little country cousin," by E. W. Rogers and John Neat; "It's all for the best, Polly, darling," by Tom Mellor, Charles Collins, and Harry Gifford; "I love my Lazy Lou," by Fred Murray and Charles Hilbury; and "All for you, and only you," by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford.

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD'S laughable policeman song, "Pass along, please!" has just been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by E. W. Rogers, a name that is a synonym for all that is best in song-writing—from "Father's footsteps" up to "Skylark," and a myriad other popular numbers. In collaboration with Herbert Clark (of Clark and Hamilton), Mr. Rogers has just fitted Lennard with an item entitled "I do love you."

ON Monday, at Newcastle, Mr. J. C. Piddock, so long connected with *The Lady Slavey*, and Mr. Frank Danby, one of Mr. George Edwardes's principal comedians, will produce a new sketch entitled *Cupid's Arms*, by Albert E. Ellis, with music by Henry E. Rether.

T. W. THURBAN, whose "Brooklyn Cake-walk" is a classic in its way, has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day "Le Chanticler Caprice," a number that will yet further enhance his already high reputation.

MR. WILSON JAMES, of the Gaieties and Euterpeans, has specially commissioned Henry E. Pether to write an opening chorus for his No. 1 company, which commission has been executed to the entire satisfaction of the well-known entertainer.

THAT fine revue *Hullo! London* has been made even more redolent of the great city by the interpolation of a number of Messrs. Francis and Day's items, including the great "Chanticler" trio, which is a version of the firm's admired "Down in Jungle Town," "I've got rings on my fingers," and "Shine on, harvest moon."

BUT a few hours since and the man who would have said the apparently unattainable was more than a possibility would have been laughed at; but such is the case. Following on "Sue, Sue, Sue" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," Messrs. Lester Barrett and Herman Darewski have written for Mr. G. H. Elliott a song that will help to yet further enhance the splendid reputation of the trio. It so delighted the artist on Thursday, when it dropped from the clouds, so to speak, that he wanted to sing it the same night; but even Darewski cannot do a "set of parts" for so fine an orchestra as that of the Prince's, Bristol, in a few minutes. Messrs. Francis and Day will put the song on the market in the course of a week or so.

MISS MABEL LAURI, the niece of the great pantomimist, held a concert on Thusday night at the Drill Hall, Chenies-street, Tottenham Court-road, when her pupils demonstrated the splendid powers of their mistress as a teacher of the pianoforte. The talented lady had the assistance of a host of professionals.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice for York last week you say "Rauschles, Duncan, and Brasque, in the burlesque scene, *My Lancashire Wife*, do well." In justice to Mr. Rauschles and ourselves will you kindly say in your next issue that our playlet *My Lancashire Wife* has always been played by yours faithfully, CORA DUNCAN and ALBERT BRASQUE.—Hippodrome, Greenock, Feb. 22.

The programme at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, this week is as good as it is varied. Madame Vera gave a creditable thought-reading exhibition; Mr. D. J. Pedley was warmly recalled for his clever singing and dancing; Charles Moritt submitted a performance of legerdemain that caused much wonderment. The pictures are also good, the principal films being The House of Cards and For Valour, two good dramatic items.

MR. A. HAMILTON WARDEN has been engaged by Mr. Arthur Carlton as resident-manager of the New Theatre Royal and Hippodrome, Barry, to be opened shortly. A handsome, up-to-date theatre, capable of holding over 2,000 people will take the place of the former building, which was destroyed by fire the end of last year.

SUFFRAGETTES protested on Monday at the Camden Hippodrome against the performance of the sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, one lady remarking that it degraded women by bustling them about on the stage. She had to make a hasty exit. At the second "house" other Suffragettes made a still more vigorous protest. One of them mounted her seat and waved aloft a Union Jack. She was also ejected. The movement headed by Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Despard has been satirised by many comedians on theatrical and music-hall boards, and though the fun is sometimes a bit rough, our dear sisters may be certain that it in no way injures their cause.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Mr. Leslie Conroy, jovial and smiling as usual, has a magnificent bill again at the cosy, well-patronised Holborn entertainment palace. The house is packed from floor to ceiling, the programme goes with a bang, and the people have not finished laughing even when the show is at an end, and they are once more in damp and dismal Holborn. There are two numbers in the current programme that call for especial mention. One is the Gascoignes' comedy juggling act, the other Mr. Geo. Lestocq's farcical musical episode dealing with the adventures of an A1 lady-killer, and entitled *Very, Very Much Engaged*. To take them in the order mentioned, Mr. Gascoigne affects an eccentric make-up, and is assisted by a prepossessing young lady in conventional stage costume. But there is nothing conventional in his juggling, and his tricks, many of them clever and new—absolutely *new*, mark you—are as far removed from the ordinary as the earth is from the moon. He patters away at a remarkable rate whilst at work, and therein lies Mr. Gascoigne's one weak point. Some of his remarks are extremely apt and witty, but there are others that are poor, and quite unworthy of the excellent show he presents. Revise them, my dear sir, and then you will possess an act second to none on the variety stage. The best of good fortune to you. That Mr. Geo. Lestocq as Percy is "Very, very much engaged" there can be no doubt. Percy is a flirt of the first water, in addition to being a married man, and in some remarkable way is permitted by Mrs. P. to have four weeks' "off" at the seaside. So he spends one week at Lowestoft, another at Dover, yet one more at Folkestone, and the last at another seaside resort. At each place he improves the shining hour by making love and becoming engaged to a young lady, who also is spending a pleasant holiday there. So one month's flirting and "telling the tale," which it must be admitted Percy can do in a way which would be creditable to Ananias himself, equals four promises to marry "directly the guv's permission can be obtained," and as many engagement rings. Some time afterwards, when staying at an hotel with wifey, the four young ladies also are found on the scene, and then the fun commences. Percy is very hard put to it for explanations, but he has a brilliant imagination, and comes out of an awkward corner very creditably—or discreditably; it depends on how you regard matters. Mr. Lestocq has never done anything better, and *Very, Very Much Engaged* should be booked by every manager who wants a big fifteen-minutes' laugh. The curtain would be a much better one if the dance were cut. Little Ganty's burlesque military number is excellent. We do not remember to have ever seen another comedian who can extract so much fun from a "cymbal-and-drum-only-march" as Ganty. Hal Forde is singing well just now, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden's comedy duologue *Settled Out of Court* is particularly good. Mrs. Lewis Waller's little farce, *Lost, Stolen, or Strayed*, first seen at the Tivoli a few weeks ago, is "top" at Holborn. Alice Hoodless, an English artist, presents "Gems from the Academies," a number of fine and very faithfully reproduced living pictures. The act is splendidly received. The remaining numbers are good all-round turns, and include the Stein Erettos, T. E. Bates, Maude Wilton, Narow Bros., Bessie Knight, Dusty Rhodes, and Vory. We hear there is a big surprise in Mr. Conroy's next week's bill, and "The Garden of Eden" has something to do with it.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

One always expects a good programme at the Camberwell Empire, but this week it is even better than usual. The management seems to have gone out of their way to procure talent, and certainly this time they have proved more than successful. In obtaining the services of Nancy Thornton they have found a new star as a centre-piece to the circle of lights billed to appear. Styled on the programme as a charming comedienne, Miss Thornton fulfils to the letter its description, as looking fresh and dainty, though just having driven over from the Paragon, where she is also performing, she charms us with her two pleasant songs, "Come under my umbrella" and "I'd be happy with a chum like you." Conn and Conrad also add considerably to the enjoyment of the evening; they are described as the Aviators in the dash for the Pole, but really they are two very able acrobats in a trick act which, if not absolutely original, has, at any rate, never before been witnessed by the writer. In mid-air they balance a pole across the bar of a trapeze, and perform an astonishing number of somersaults at either end. This act is met with rounds of applause. Mr. Junius Booth and his company, in his original drama *God Save the King*, is also a delightful attraction, and is highly-appreciated by the Camberwell theatre-goers. Another really excellent turn is the Corney Bros., comedy duettists and character vocalists, who, together and separately, have made themselves favourites for all time with the patrons of the Empire. An exhibition of wooden shoe dancing is given by Frances Letty which would put even Terpsichore (if that mythical damsel ever performed in wooden shoes) quite in the shade. A great favourite in Camberwell is Geo. Antill; he is always sure of a hearty welcome, and his funny ways and sayings are a logue and business between the policeman and a burglar being capital. Miss Ella Shields is singing a new chorus song, "If you see Harry," which is very tuneful, and also delights her hearers with her catchy "Military" item, which suits the lady most indubitably.

Tenor and Baritone (Ed. McKeoun and Chas. Childerstone) are possessed with pleasing voices, which are heard to advantage in the ballads "Love makes the whole year June" and "Kathleen Mavourneen." Their harmonising is exceedingly good. Leonard Barry has a rollicking ditty in "You go where Hugo goes," and also gives his most recent success "On a Sunday afternoon," which is much enjoyed. Black and White, two lady acrobats, dressed as their names suggest, perform many extremely difficult feats with perfect ease and daintiness; Alpho, the ventriloquial college boy, in *The Doll's Lament*, proves himself a master of the art, his amusing gags and business being much appreciated; Miss Nancy Thornton, a charming and dashing young lady, sings a good number, "My umbrella," her other item being a little "Love" song well rendered. Mr. G. W. Webber, basso, sings delightfully those popular ballads "Asleep in the deep" and "Loved and Lost"; and Jordan and Harvey, Fred Earle, Ted Cowan, Kathleen Cogan, and Frank Bertram and company, in *The Chaperon*, complete the programme.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The bill at this popular hall is well diversified, and business continues to be exceptionally good. The place of honour is filled by Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company in *The Belle of the Orient*. This proves to be a happy-go-lucky type of show, with some catchy music and plenty of knockabout business. Joe Peterman himself plays Novenski, and causes a good deal of laughter, his efforts being well supported by the two members of the company who play the hotel servants. Walter Williams does well as Lord Exmoor, gaining a big reception for his song "I wonder who's kissing her now?" Miss Rosali Jacobi was successful as the Belle, and a large and well-drilled chorus added to the effect. The three scenes are good, and the show had a cordial reception.

The Buster Browns submitted a capital turn, comprising vocal and dancing items. One of the troupe made a big hit with "Somewhere," and another member gave an excellent display of dancing. Altogether it is an admirable entertainment, and well deserved the enthusiastic reception accorded it. The Brothers Horne are still presenting their well-known boxing act *The Biter Bit*, and its powers of amusing seem as great as ever, the audience according them much applause. Fred Earle is successful in a couple of songs, this artiste being a big favourite here. Lottie Leighton submitted a dancing act of great merit, and gained a good reception. The Amaranths, four lady acrobatic dancers, proved themselves to be very clever, and introduced some novel features into their turn, gaining several calls. Jessie Preston in two songs—the first in a principal boy's attire and the second in a burlesque Scotch feminine dress—speedily got on good terms with the audience, and had to concede a short dance as an encore. Maddison and Webb in a sketch *My Husband* proved very amusing, the lady being a good dancer and the gentleman a capital comedian. Their concluding song and dance was very smart, and the audience were lavish in their applause. David Poole submitted a novel ventriloquial act with some very amusing conversation, and secured a thoroughly well-earnt call.

Geo. Gilbey is making a big hit here in two songs. The first, in the character of a vendor of great stimulent to mirth. Humorous and at the same time clever is the comedietta, *The Colonel's Dilemma*, played by Joseph Harvey's West End company. Each actor and actress in this charming sketch knows his or her business, and performs it with skill. The musical mélange, entitled *The Idlers*, performed with ability by four charming ladies in bewitching costumes, is the first turn after the overture, but though early put on, it is highly artistic, and deserves a better place on the programme.

THE PARAGON.

One is sure of an enjoyable evening when visiting this most comfortable hall in the East End of London, for a good programme is always in evidence. Heading the list of attractions we have Joe Elvin and company, who are playing that old favourite laughter-maker *Touched*, and notwithstanding its familiarity, the many funny situations are received with shrieks of merriment. Mr. Elvin is really funnier than ever in this impersonation of the new Keeper, and his reception should certainly prompt him to occasionally reproduce his early successes. That old favourite comedian Mr. Cliff Ryland is, as usual, well received for his quaint stories, which seem unlimited, and also his humorous songs, which are quite original. A smart turn is supplied by the Tree Children, a trio of clever youngsters, two girls and one boy, who play on the 'cello the popular number "Asleep in the deep." The young ladies also are talented, one in particular giving some capital impersonations of popular stars, amongst them being Miss Marie Lloyd, Gertie Gitana, and Hetty King.

Mr. George Gilbey, billed as the new star comedian, fully justifies the title given, for he is intensely funny. His first item, "The Prophet," is a good patter number, but the second, "Duffy the policeman" causes abundance of mirth, the dialogue and business between the policeman and an improved "Old Moore's Almanack," has some very humorous patter; and the second, as "Constable Duffy," in which he has the assistance of a boy and a gentleman made up as a ferocious burglar, suits his quaint style perfectly. Laughter was loud and continuous, and he took innumerable curtains. The Bioscope is very much up to date, presenting a clear and excellent film of the State opening of Parliament. Charles Carr, comedian, is also in the bill, and the orchestra render invaluable service during the evening. Mr. B. Adams, the popular manager, is very courteous and attentive in the front of the house.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

A fine and well-balanced bill is presented here this week. All the turns are excellent, and the whole constitutes a most enjoyable evening's entertainment. Mr. C. W. Young makes all comfortable and cosy in front, assisted by Mr. H. Percy Parry, while the stage is in the experienced and capable hands of Mr. Walter Smith.

After the capitally-played overture from *Maritana*, skilfully directed by Mr. Forbes Russell, Beaty and Blanche first engage our attention, and these capital duettists and dancers make a decided hit with song and dance entitled "On to sunny Ceylon." Charles Matthews (billed as the world's famous jumper), assisted by Miss Doris Reece, gives his novel entertainment, and issues a challenge to all comers. This turn went very well. The Elite Harmony Boys (Messmates Ashore) introduced some excellent numbers, including "Sons of the brave," "Bright blue moon," "His Majesty," &c., and all joined in well-rendered chorus. The Five Manchurians, Russian tumblers, gave a clever turn, their agility and ease causing them to be loudly applauded. Harry Merrylees made a success with "Wallie," and some Scottish patter was well received.

Mlle. Liane D'Eve's pretty turn was greatly admired and warmly applauded, her chansons and transformations being clever and artistic, and her changes of costume (and character) smartly and pleasingly executed. Tom and Marie Motramo in their novel and attractive musical comedy act were very successful, and their patter is both new and funny. The Great Raymond puzzled and delighted all with his capital entertainment, consisting of "The Hand of Fate," which hand he undertakes shall answer any question with surprising accuracy (certainly that promise was amply fulfilled on the occasion of our visit), "The Enchanted Table," a funny burlesque on superstition, "A Trip to Spookville," which causes roars of laughter, and a clever and mysterious illusion entitled "El Baul Misterioso," and his entire turn was a huge success.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

The man in the street regards Edmonton as a far-away suburb of London City. He has heard of it, but has no particular desire to visit it. And yet, teeming with life, electric tramcars and light, Edmonton Lower, where Harry Bawn's Empire is situate, is a busy, bustling, almost densely-populated place, and when one has recovered from the all-stop thirty-five minutes' train ride from Liverpool-street, one comes to the conclusion that there are worse suburbs to be met with; that the Empire, viewed from the railway station, is very inviting—it is certainly well lighted—and that an old friend, Fred Alexander, is manager there. Again, there is another good comrade to be met in Angelo Asher, the musical director. So one simply enters the portals of the Empire and gets a greeting from both gentlemen second to none in the world. They are really pleased to see you, and don't care if you notice the fact.

Harry Bawn's house, after a year's excellent business, has its regular patrons—from the local Mayor and Councillors to the little boy who patronises the pit—there is no gallery at the Edmonton Empire. And each and every one of them is enthusiastic as to the fare Mr. Bawn provides for them.

Sam Mayo gets premier position on the bill this week, and he is very popular at Edmonton. They want more, like Oliver, after Sam has delivered himself of two ditties in his own quaint way. But so do other people out at Shoreditch and Walthamstow and the Tivoli. Heavens, what a way the Strand seems from Edmonton, and thinking this Mayo's task of doing seven shows nightly and keeping time at each seems stupendous. Sam has, however, done even better than this week's record, for the writer accompanied him on his journeys some seven years since, when he was working nine shows nightly, and singing twenty-two songs in less than 3½ hours.

Just back from Australia, and a delightful time on the Rickards Circuit, comes Nellie Wilson. This lady is simply billed as a comedienne and dancer, but Edmonton is in love with Nellie this week, and is very generous in getting its hands—often big and grimy perhaps—together. As a saucy sailor-boy Miss Wilson has always to our way of thinking been at her best. This week she sings a song with a swing: "We're a jolly lot of fellows in the Royal Navee," with the emphasis on the E, and in nautical rig, and then gives us a first-class hornpipe, too seldom seen in these days of clog, sand, and buck-dancing. We are glad Miss Wilson has returned to England, and we hope to see a great deal of her once more in London.

"His Satanic Majesty, Leo Tell" everyone was delighted to meet again. His Majesty's merriment was infectious, his quips, and puns, and absurdities as laughable as ever, his imitations of cornet, 'cello, whistle, and horse, as good as of yore, and his newest item, an imitation of the vicissitudes of a motor-'bus, really excellent.

Young and Evans deputised for Kenneth and Cane on Tuesday night, and proved to be a couple of out of the ordinary cross-talk comedians. Their make-up is far from being original, but this shortcoming is atoned for by the newness of their gagging. For which relief many thanks. We shall be delighted to laugh at Young and Evans again. The Sisters Gladwin are young and pretty girls—the one garbed in short nickers, blue tights, and a white gold-trimmed doublet, the other in a white and gold film-like dress, sweetly pretty in its simplicity. They dance delightfully, and one is sorry when they change for an Apache dance, a totally unsuitable effort.

A young vocalist, Helen Martin, is one of the bulwarks of the programme under review. A pretty girl, with a big cultured voice, Miss Martin first sang us "Down the Vale," and then a medley of old Irish ballads. It was a sheer delight to listen to this songstress, in our opinion. And Edmonton Lower thought so too.

Charles Wilson claims to be the finest all-round jumper living. We should say that that is so. He cleared 9ft. at a bound on Tuesday night, and we should like to see the man who can do better twice nightly and all the week. The Ted Karno crowd are real knockabouts and quite justify the title of their pantomime sketch, *The Hotel de Quick*. Arthur Rimmer would be very good with better songs.

A first-rate sketch is provided by Vona Clifford's company. It is called *My Friend the Thief*, and tells the story of a young man convicted of thieving, whose sister marries a rich Colonial whilst he is in prison. On the day he is released the thief saves his brother-in-law's life—although he does not know of the relationship—and then proceeds to burgle his sister's house. There is a meeting between brother and sister, and the Colonial believes the brother to be his wife's lover. Some bad shooting follows, and explanations ensue. Nobody is hurt, only frightened. The tabs fall when the men shake hands. The lady should modulate her voice to suit situations, and the Colonial gets well after the accident too quickly. The little sketch is excellent, despite these shortcomings.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.

G. H. Elliott's Latest "Moon" Song.

HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?
FLORRIE FORDE.

LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND.
CHARLES WHITTLE

DON'T TAKE ME HOME.
MARK SHERIDAN.

I USED TO SIGH FOR THE SILVERY MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT.

FOR MONTHS & MONTHS & MONTHS.
JACK SMILES.

THE GIRL IN THE CLOGS AND SHAWL.
CHARLES WHITTLE.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.

The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE.
WHIT CUNLIFFE.

I'M WAITING HERE FOR KATE.
WILKIE BARD'S DRURY LANE SUCCESS.

LOVE MAKES THE WHOLE YEAR JUNE.
THE PANTOMIME BALLAD of the YEAR.

A CORSICAN MAID.
MISS EVIE GREENE.

I'M LOOKING FOR MR. WRIGHT.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

SOME DAY WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

The Ballad Hit of the Season, sung by Mdme. Ada Colley.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Equipped with a huge budget of new and promising songs, the staff at the Arthur-street establishment are being kept particularly busy just now, supplying the wants of the multitudinous array of professional callers, fresh from pantomime honours, and ripe for such striking novelties as Feldman and Co. are able to supply to all and sundry.

"Playing the Game in the West" is undoubtedly far and away the biggest comic song of the present season. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., who publish this number, anticipate very large sales, as the song has already begun to "move" with the trade in a most satisfactory manner.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have just received a telegram couched in the following strain:—"Glorious success of 'Fireside.' Sung by audience as one man after first time of hearing. Many thanks.—Fred Barnes." This very satisfactory telegram refers to the new comedy chorus number, written and composed by John Glover-Kind, the full title of which is "I'd rather be by the fireside," which promises to be one of this year's biggest "hits."

Mr. George H. Elliott, on the termination of his engagement in the Prince's (Bristol) pantomime shortly, will specially produce at all his music-hall engagements Messrs. Madden and Edwards's magnificent number "By the light of the silvery moon," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are issuing, and which everybody who has been privileged to hear it prophesies will be an instantaneous and lasting success as sung by the accomplished "chocolate-coloured coon."

At the Oxford nightly Mr. George Leyton is winning acclaim with his finished rendering of "I do like to be where the girls are," by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey, a very fine sample of these two clever writers' work, published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., with which Mr. Leyton has been very successful at all his other London and country engagements for many months past.

A song that bids fair to be in everybody's mouth in the near future is Feldman's recent acquisition "Won't there ever be any wedding bells for me?" by John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey. The chorus is simple, but distinctly original and arresting, while the tune is melodious. The theme is a love-story, and concerns the doings of a love-sick youth, anxious to wed his pretendedly-reluctant fiancée, who at last consents to marry him, merely, as she herself says, to save him reiterating the interrogation of the title.

That well-known artist Miss Ethel Ra Leslie returns to town after an absence extending over two years, opening at the Britannia Theatre with three of the popular Feldman songs, viz., "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," "Connemara," and last, but not least, "Molly O'Morgan." As all three of these have been stupendous successes with Miss Ra Leslie in the provinces, there is little fear but that they will be equally big "hits" in town.

The demand for permissions to sing Feldman and Co.'s successful "novelty" number "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," by Messrs. Rogers and Neat, which has been sung in upwards of a hundred pantomimes of 1909-10, continues unabated, and it may safely be predicted that this dainty number will be one of this season's principal seaside songs.

Mr. Harry Marlow, descriptive vocalist, has been creating a furore at the Hippodrome, Manchester, this week with two chorus songs from his own pen, "You can do without the money" and "Come for a ride on the tramway car," the refrains being taken up by large audiences in spirited fashion.

Mr. Fredk. C. Leister and Mr. Edward Mervyn have just completed a new Japanese song for Miss Florence Cooper, entitled "A-Mo-San."

Mr. Harry Luck has in study another new song, entitled "That's what I got for three ha'pence," written and composed by himself.

"THE DRESSING-ROOM."

Comedy, in One Act, by James Bernard Fagan, Produced at the London Hippodrome on Monday, Feb. 21.

Peg Woffington .....Miss Winifred Emery
Lord Cuddlem .....Mr. J. Loring Fernie
Tiffany .....Miss Daisy Thimm

Peg Woffington, whose engaging wit and gay rhetoric enslaved so many admirers among the courtiers of the coulisses in the theatres of the eighteenth century, was certainly the most inspiriting of coquettes—a delightful jade indeed. On the lime-twig of her spells she captured age and youth, and her *affaires de cœur* have been the theme of comedy and drama. In the petite comedy by Mr. James Bernard Fagan, produced at the Hippodrome on Monday, her love-darting eyes have inflamed the heart of Lord Cuddlem, an octogenarian. He pesters her with his odious attentions, even follows her to the theatre where she is playing, and while Peg is on the stage enters her dressing-room. Here he finds Tiffany, her maid, mending the star's stockings. The infatuated old fool steals one, and so that the mender shall buy another pair, gives her a couple of guineas, adding six more to ensure her absence from the room as well as possession of the key of the door. On the entrance of Peg the old rake immediately locks the door, and with a leer of triumph pleads his suit. The black boy, the Barbary ape, clothes, jewels, carriages, and horses have no attractions for Peg, who flouts her protector. If she wishes for forbidden fruit she will pick it fresh. Lord Cuddlem from cajolery comes to threats. Peg's reputation will be compromised. There will be most interesting paragraphs in the papers, and what mischief will not mistress Clive make of the story of an actress being locked in her dressing-room with a notorious rake. Peg sets her woman's wit to work. While my lord's back is turned she raps loudly in the region of the door, and imitating the gruff tones of an angry man, feigns trepidation and distress. She explains to the elderly beau that it is Hamilton her lover—a devil of a fellow, a deadly shot, and fine swordsman. If she does not open the door Hamilton will break it down. Cuddlem becomes anxious about his safety, and is concealed behind a screen on which hang Mistress Woffington's petticoats. The key being handed over to Peg, she opens the door and has a most loving interview with the imaginary lover, who will wait for her outside. In mortal terror Cuddlem agrees to cramp himself in a dressing basket and to be carried home. As soon as the basket is fastened down Peg commands two scene-shifters to take the rubbish to my Lady Cuddlem's house, and to tell her that the contents are suffering from senile decay.

Mr. Fagan has provided Miss Winifred Emery with a very fine part, and her indignation, her gaiety, and her raillery provide many delightful moments. The simulated interviews with an imaginary lover are also highly amusing, and the epigrammatic dialogue is delivered with all the *espièglerie* and love of mischief that one would expect from the most adorable Peg. Mr. Loring Fernie makes the absurdities of the gay Lord Cuddlem—why not alter this title?—sufficiently pronounced, and is an admirable foil to the witty shafts of Peg. Miss Daisy Thimm is quite effective as Tiffany.

"HULLO . . . LONDON!"

Revue, in Three Scenes, by George Grossmith, jun., Lyrics by C. H. Bovill, Music by Cuthbert Clarke, Produced at the Empire Theatre, on Feb. 19.

A Military Dramatist ..
Mr. Instead .....
A Caterer .....
Mr. Cody ..... } Mr. J. F. McArdle
Lily Philligabs .....Miss Millie Legarde
The Duke of Streatham
Dr. Bodie ..... } Mr. Davy Burnaby
Chantecler .....
The Hen Pheasant .....Miss Maud Gay
Von Bellow .....Mr. B. Ansell
King Karalonga .....Mr. Will Gane
The Guinea Fowl ....Miss Frances Kapstowne

Mr. George Grossmith, jun., has again supplied one of those frivolous and light-hearted entertainments so dear to the patrons of the Empire, and the category into which *Hullo.....London* may be placed, whether it be labelled revue or extravaganza, is a matter of little moment to those who enjoy its many topical references and laugh at its thinly veiled identities. There is nothing in the way of plot to speak of. Why encumber a scheme of fun with anything so useless?

In the first scene the p. and o.p. sides of the stage are flanked by Sandow's Institute and the shrine devoted to Julia, kept by Mr. Instead. The Duke of Streatham, on his arrival, has, of course, a reference to the House of Lords, and when a figure made up as Mr. Lloyd George crosses the stage, staggering under a big roll with the word "Budget" thereon, he is directed to Mr. Sandow's College for physical culture, in order that he may be made strong enough to carry it. A mysterious individual, Von Bellow, plays on the 'cello a waltz of his own composition, and is sought after by Lily Philligabs, longing for a "dream dance." Lily may be regarded in much the same light as the *commère* of the Parisian revue. Mr. Instead summonses the substantial figure of Julia to visit this terrestrial sphere. Julia burlesques vampire dancing, and really "takes off" a good deal. Another lady, with a chubby figure, turns out to be an aristocratic personage, whose explanation of her scanty clothes is that she dances for charity. She is asked to do so where charity begins—at home! A roving monarch King Karalonga has little to do with the general scheme of things, but he is to visit the City, just to cheer the members of the Stock Exchange.

There are roller-skate girls in mustard-coloured jerseys and short skirts; the Duke of Streatham becomes a military dramatist, who writes pieces for the theatres and sketches for the halls: and we are introduced to the "lion" caterer, who owns the Palace in the Strand. The second scene, a sea-swept shore where a smart contingent of pretty bathers in fetching costumes support a soloist in an introduced tuneful ballad, "Shine on, O seaside moon," is merely a prelude to the final scene in the Café du Monde, belonging to the lion caterer. Here the legend "No tips" is conspicuously in evidence. Cody, who has been aviating, falls through the roof with his machine, and, appearing on crutches, is joined by Dr. Bodie, who, after flashing a little electricity on to an injured leg, joins the aviator in a lively duet, "Said Cody to Bodie," a smart piece of writing by Mr. C. H. Bovill, the author of the lyrics. The final number is a "Chantecler" trio between Chantecler, the Hen Pheasant, and the Guinea Fowl, entitled "Do be true to your cockle-doodle-do." This is undoubtedly the chief hit of the production, and here we may congratulate Mr. Dave Burnaby, Miss Frances Kapstowne, and Miss Maud Gay. The bird costumes by Willie Clarkson are quite perfect, and may be said to be really "chick." We must also set down to Willie's well-known artistic skill the effective wigging.

Mr. J. F. McArdle, in the four parts of a military dramatist, Mr. Instead, a caterer, and Mr. Cody is particularly dry, and his clever notions of burlesque help the drollery materially. He is perhaps more amusing as Mr. Instead than in the other characters he plays. He has a capital song, "My wife's gone to the country." Mr. Dave Burnaby gives us something of the Grossmith manner in his sketch of the Duke of Streatham, and makes a hit as Chantecler. Miss Millie Legarde is piquant and vivacious as Lily Philligabs; and Mr. B. Ansell as Von Bellow and Miss Frances Kapstowne as the guinea fowl add strength to the cast, which is completed by Mr. Will Gane as Karalonga. "Hullo.....London," the exclamation of an aviator, who descries the great metropolis from aloft, is the lively and taking song which gives its name to the revue. The bright music has been arranged and composed by Mr. Cuthbert Clarke, and Mr. R. M. McCleery has painted some excellent scenes.

To the variety programme Graham contributes a turn of great versatility and cleverness as a human marionette. Comic singers, past and present, are presented in a series of most interesting portraits, from Leybourne to Lauder, but Mr. Graham's resonant baritone and real sense of character enable him to do justice to both. The musical clowns, the Brothers Webb, in an infinite variety of melody, produced from customary and extraordinary sources, assert their claim to be regarded as strong Empire favourites. They have had many happy returns to this house, and they always completely justify their re-engagements by the continual freshening up of their act, which is brightened by a pleasant humour.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—Please note an error in your issue of last week in the Tottenham Palace report. We are the Markies, not the Mackies.—Yours faithfully, The Markies.

Last Friday, the 18th was set apart at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, for the benefit of the courteous acting-manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth, when artists appeared from all the local music halls, by the kind permission of the various managers, besides which many artists travelled from the adjacent towns to give a help.

"THE MAFIA."

A Dramatic Sketch, in One Scene, Produced for the First Time at Collins's, on Feb. 21.

Sir Paul Delarey .....Mr. Howard Brennan
Count Bartelli .....Mr. Cecil Bevan
Pietro Modena .....Mr. Dudley Carlton
Tan So .....Mr. Frank St. Clair
Tessa Modena .....Miss Eveleen Mills

A playlet of considerable interest has been found in the above. The action takes place in an opium den in New York, and the story is founded on the doings of the secret society named the "Black Hand." Count Bartelli, a prominent member of the gang, by means of a false message, persuades Tessa Modena, the affianced wife of Sir Paul Delarey, to visit the opium den, and whilst she is there endeavours to force her to marry him. The woman, being a past member of the society, and having since seceded from it, has given Bartelli a certain hold over her. Before the opening of the story she has betrayed a member of the gang to the police, and in consequence the Count gives her a choice of marriage with him, or exposure of her guilt to the "Black Hand" and death. Tessa Modena defies him, and swears never to marry anyone but the man she loves. When the Council of Three meet, the Count gives her one last chance, which she refuses, and he denounces her to the others. Much to his surprise, however, they cast off their hoods, and instead of being members of the gang, as supposed, they are no other than Sir Paul Delarey, Tessa's future husband; Pietro Modena, Tessa's brother; and Tan So, the Chinaman, whom the Count imagined was on his side. When it is made known to Bartelli that every member of the gang except himself is safe with the police, he tries to escape, but Tan So, who has a little grudge of his own to settle, struggles with him, and eventually puts an end to the Count's miserable existence.

The piece is well acted and well received. The part of Sir Paul Delarey is played with skill by Mr. Howard Brennan, and Count Bartelli has a capital exponent in Mr. Cecil Bevan. He imparts to the character a sufficient amount of callous villainy, and is very successful. Mr. Dudley Carlton scores as Pietro Modena, Mr. Frank St. Clair is everything that could be desired as Tan So, and Miss Eveleen Mills plays with ability as Tessa Modena.

Another record has been established at the Empress, Hartlepool, where Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures are nightly attracting audiences, who pack the house in every available part of the building. Thrilling pictures of Life on the Border and The Smuggler's Daughter are followed with considerable interest; they are splendid films. There are many more of varied subjects, which are particularly good, and capital humorous pictures are shown, particularly funny being those of What's Your Hurry? and The Watchmaker's Invention.

"I DINE WITH MY MOTHER."

A Comedy in One Act, Adapted from the French *Je Dine chez ma Mère*, by Michael Morton, and Produced at the Palace on Monday, Feb. 21.

Sophie Arnould .....Miss Ola Humphrey
Prince D'Hauteville .....Mr. Norman Trevor
Peter Didier .....Mr. Arthur Wontner
The Chevalier .....Mr. Frank Woolfe
Marion .....Miss Jean Harkness

Miss Ola Humphrey, a clever young Colonial actress, came to the Palace Theatre on Monday, when was produced a new version by Mr. Michael Morton of the old comedietta *Je Dine chez ma Mère* (Gymnase Paris, 1856), first adapted by Tom Taylor as *A Christmas Dinner*, and performed at the Olympic in April, 1860. Another version, entitled *A Merry Christmas*, was produced anonymously at the old Strand Theatre on Feb. 1, 1897, with Miss Florence Gerard as the actress—a part originally played by Mrs. Stirling in the Olympic production. That at the Strand was by the late Clement Scott. The volatile butterfly Sophie Arnould, the brilliant prima donna and wit, who appeared in the operas of Gluck and Rameau in the middle of the eighteenth century, is the chief character of Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation. The period of the play is 1765, the year that David Garrick visited Paris and pronounced Sophie to be the greatest actress on the French stage after seeing her in Rameau's opera *Castor and Pollux*. We are in Sophie's boudoir in Paris. It is New Year's Day, and the Chevalier is ushered into the apartment to pay his ceremonial visit. Invited to dinner, he is obliged to refuse; he has to dine with his mother. Following him comes the Prince d'Hauteville, who is evidently the greater favourite of this typical Frenchwoman. He, too, receives an invitation to join her at dinner, and gives the same reason for his refusal—he cannot get out of the engagement to dine with his mother. It is not only a custom established by years of observance, but a filial duty. Sophie employs all her arts of cajolery, but to no purpose, and then in a final burst of temper tells the Prince that if he will not accede to her request never to see her more. In her desire for companionship the actress turns to her maid Marion, but she, too, urges the oft-repeated excuse. In a burst of anger Sophie sacks all the servants. Her distress is observed by Didier, the lover of her girlhood, who calls upon her. As he cannot stay to dinner, he does the next best thing by inviting her to join him and his parents at their humble meal. She presents too fine an appearance in her reception robe for the visit, and speedily doffs it to get into one of her maid's gowns in which to hide her identity. But she shrinks from deceiving the old people, and in reflective mood bids Didier depart to fulfil his promise to his parents. Sophie then takes a portrait of her mother, which has been just restored. Gazing at it affectionately she places it on the table, and in a voice full of tenderness says, "I dine with my mother."

Considerable allowance must be made for the natural nervousness of Miss Ola Humphrey as Sophie Arnould; but although she did not sound the various moods of the part, she has distinction and style. Her support was excellent. Mr. Norman Trevor's Prince D'Hauteville had quite the manner of the old noblesse; and Mr. Frank Woolfe played with finesse and dignity as the Chevalier. M. Arthur Wontner made a tender lover of Didier; and Miss Jean Harkness did well as the maid.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S.

A bureau of information seems to have been established by the St. George's Hall magicians, who, having settled the question as to who discovered the North Pole have now set themselves to find out the genesis of *Chantecler*, over the production of which so much excitement has prevailed. The problem is solved by Mr. David Devant, who includes it among a number of new illusions introduced into the programme. Mr. Devant begins by drawing on a sheet of paper the face of M. Rostand, the distinguished author of the play, which is found to be egg-shaped. The sheet being hoisted several feet in the air, the performer slashes at it with a stick, and from among the shreds of paper issues a gigantic egg, from which a chick with an unmistakable comb pokes its head. Thus is the Little Chantecler evolved. Mr. Devant also gives a variant of his Mascot Moth illusion. The gigantic and gorgeous insect with the face of a pretty lady floats gracefully down from the ceiling, and after the performer has made vain attempts to grasp it he sets light to it by a candle, and it vanishes in a puff of smoke, to the utter astonishment of the onlookers. A new item of Mr. Devant's programme is "The Magic Cloak," in which a comely maiden, habited in ordinary attire, having first demonstrated to the ladies in the audience that her dress is fastened in the orthodox way, envelops herself in the folds of a voluminous purple cloak, and in the space of a few seconds emerges therefrom in the costume of a vivandière. Another addition to Mr. Devant's stock-in-trade is a numeral trick wherein the total of a sum arrived at by members of the audience is reproduced by cards which rise up from a box at the bidding of the magician. The diverting egg-producing trick remains a never-failing source of merriment, and Beau Brocade still figures among the cleverest of Mr. Devant's accomplishments.

A warm welcome is extended to Mr. J. N. Maskelyne when that veteran wizard comes forward to perform his sensational feat, "Oh! or, The Mahatmas Outdone." The way in which a man bound to a chair is suddenly wrested from the grasp of two of the audience and spirited away, to return presently from the recesses of the auditorium remains a mystery unsolvable. Mr. Barclay Gammon carries on his "chats" with the audience amidst the customary bursts of laughter. He varies his droll confidences with examples of the methods of Chopin as applied to a popular tune, and of Edward German with the same melody, while his "Three little Suffragettes" ditty is deliciously witty.

Animated photography figures in the programme, an excellent and amusing example being given in Foolshead Pays a Visit, in which are depicted a series of catastrophes that occur as the result of the tricks of a mischievous youth. Mr. Gus Fowler continues to fascinate all with the dexterity with which he produces from nowhere watches and clocks sufficient to stock a store; the imitations on violin and piano given by Doraswami, the Royal Indian Court musician, provoke unlimited admiration, and Mr. Owen Clark executes his conjuring tricks with rare skill, his newest feat, in which a plate, after being broken into fragments, is restored to its original state by the performer merely throwing the pieces on to a board some distance away, being amply recognised. The entertainment at Maskelyne and Devant's thoroughly maintains its prestige, and is enjoyed by crowded audiences twice daily.

Topping an excellent variety bill at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, are the El Tampicos, Mexican troubadors, in a novel instrumental, singing, and dancing act, which charms the audience. Violet Romaine is a pleasing vocalist; Tom E. Dean, a promising comedian; the Lecardo Brothers, smart comedy acrobats and tumblers; Charles Grantley, a novel and surprising comedian; and the operatic duettists, St. Ruth and Conyers, are tuneful and effective vocalists. Two striking turns are Vandinoff, assisted by Mme. Louie, an expert lightning oil-colour artist; and Richard Finberg, who gives clever and faithful character studies from Dickens, Shakespeare, and modern dramatists. The programme concludes with a well-acted up-to-date comedy sketch, *The Bride Elect*, by Harry A. Meymott and company.

FELDMAN'S

PANTOMIME SUCCESS

THIS SEASON

TO BE REPEATED

ON THE HALLS.

ARTISTS CONSULT US IMMEDIATELY

AND

SECURE OUR LATEST AND BEST.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Addres: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"ALGY'S ADVERTISEMENT."

A One Act Farcical Absurdity, by Thos. Brooklyn, Played for the First Time at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome, on Monday, Feb. 21.

Algy Farren .....MR. THOS. BROOKLYN
Ferdinand Fitzroy .....MR. REED PINNARD
Daisy Desmond .....MISS DOROTHY BLACKADER
Cook .....MISS FLO WALSH

We must congratulate Mr. Thos. Brooklyn on having scored a decided success in the above, a sketch full of rich humour. In its opening we have an amusing description of the difficulties of two bachelors in engaging a cook, and it concludes with a pretty love scena. Algy Farren, late officer in his Majesty's army, who spends his time and money in running musical comedies, and his friend Ferdinand Fitzroy, take a flat, and when the scene opens Algy is discovered reading two advertisements that he has put in the morning paper, one for an actress and the other for a cook. He tells Ferdinand that he has advertised for a cook, and that he is shortly expecting the applicants to call. Having previously made arrangements to go to Ascot races with some friends, Algy asks Ferdinand to interview the callers for the place of cook, but forgets to tell him that he has also advertised for an actress as well. Algy starts for the races, and Ferdinand sits puzzling his brains as to how he shall proceed in the engagement of a cook. The first applicant is Daisy Desmond, dressed in the height of fashion, whom Ferdinand treats as an aspirant for the cook's place. He rather disgusts her by telling her that he shall expect her to rise at 6 a.m., and do two hours' work before breakfast. She replies that she is usually called at 11 a.m., has a cup of tea in bed, reads her letters, and breakfasts at 12. This speech draws a good laugh from the audience, and rather startles Ferdinand, who replies that he cannot think of calling her, but he does not mind investing 2s. 6d. in an alarum clock. At this point Algy, who has postponed his intended visit to Ascot, comes home. Ferdinand tells him in an aside that this lady has applied for the post of cook, but Algy thinks that she is much too refined for that position, and persuades her to make love to him. Daisy, thinking that it is a test to see how she can act, falls into the scheme with zest. However, the love-making is abruptly terminated by the entrance of the real applicant for the position of cook, and the scene closes with the proposal and acceptance of Algy's suit.

Mr. Thos. Brooklyn, who, for a number of years has played in Mr. Chas. Frohman's companies, plays Algy Farren in a characteristic manner, and on the night of our visit the audience showed him much favour. Mr. Reed Pinnard is all that is required as Ferdinand Fitzroy, and Miss Dorothy Blackader makes a very charming and winsome Daisy Desmond.

ATTRACTIVE programmes have been prepared for the Good Friday concerts at the Crystal Palace. At the afternoon concert Rosini's "Stabat Mater" will be sung in the first part, with Miss Agnes Nicholls, Madame Edna Thornton, Mr. Charles Saunders, and Sir Charles Santley. The Crystal Palace Choir, augmented to 300 voices, and the London Symphony Orchestra also assist. The second part will be a miscellaneous one, and some interesting items will be included. Madame Clara Butt will sing "Sabbath Morning at Sea," from Elgar's "Sea Pictures," and Sullivan's "Lost Chord." Sir Charles Santley sings "Now Heaven in fullest glory shine" from Haydn's "Creation." A novelty at these concerts will be the "Laudate Dominum" from Cherubini's Fourth Mass, for which Miss Agnes Nicholls and the chorus will be responsible. Mr. Kennerley Rumford's selections will be Sullivan's "Thou'rt passing hence, my brother" and "Ombra mai fu" (Handel), and Mr. Charles Saunders, "The enemy said" (Handel). The whole concert will be under the direction of Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock. At the evening concert a popular programme will be contributed to by the full band of H.M. Coldstream Guards, conducted by Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan, lieutenant and bandmaster, and the vocalists will be Miss Ethel Wood and Mr. Herbert Heyner.

THE Dulwich Philharmonic Society performs Coleridge Taylor's "Hiawatha" in its entirety on Saturday next, in the Concert Room of the Crystal Palace. A good cast of soloists has been engaged, viz., Madame Conly, Mr. Cynlais Gibbs, and Mr. Bertram Mills. The choir and orchestra number 300 performers, and the conductor is Mr. James Brown, Mus.Bac.

THE principal item in this week's programme at the Empire, Aberdare, is the Three Hilberts on the bouncing table—really excellent fun. Mr. Chris Baker is a clever comedian; the Lorettos are good in their line; and the Leovilles entertain in a dainty act.

"HIS LITTLE PAL."

Dramatic Playlet, Produced at the Bow Palace for the First Time on Monday, Feb. 21.

John Norton .....MR. FRANK C. MASON
Nan .....MISS MILLIE HENDERSON
Philip Garston .....MR. PHILIP DURHAM
Sam .....MR. ARTHUR STEVENS
Silas .....MR. RONALD GOODALL

The theme of a husband's friend robbing him of the affections of the wife is no new one, and has been treated in various ways by different authors. In this particular instance the idea has been cleverly unfolded, and although *His Little Pal* does not boast of original situations, the story is so prettily told as to hold the attention from start to finish.

The scene is laid at John Norton's home, Long Gap, Arizona. Nan has just returned from a ride with her husband's friend, Philip, and is radiantly happy, a fact which is not lost upon John on his return from town. After Philip has left, he asks her why when Philip is about she is so different and seems happier; but Nan dispels his illusions, and refutes the idea that the great contrast in life here and London has any effect upon her. Yet it has, for when Philip later informs her that he is leaving the following day for England, she is visibly affected, and he has but to declare his love for her and picture the difference of life on a lonely ranch to the brightness and gaiety of England for her to yearn to return. Seizing his opportunity, he entreats her to leave her husband and go with him; he will have horses ready later if she will only meet him, and they can be far away before anyone knows. The temptation is too strong for her, and she assents. John returns soon after, and discovers a letter to his wife from Philip which quickly explains Nan's absence. Immediately a text in his old Bible comes to him —"If there be shame, let he who can, wipe out that shame"; and fondly playing with his revolver, he speedily calls for his horse, for he is determined to comply with the demand of the text. Then finer feelings come to him, and he sits down to think, and his wife, who regrets her false action, returns, and, kneeling by her husband's side, receives forgiveness, for they both understand.

The sketch was very well produced, the scenery and effects and costumes being excellent. Mr. Frank C. Mason must be praised for a strong, natural, and convincing portrayal of John Norton. Miss Millie Henderson was charming as Nan; whilst Mr. Philip Durham was quite successful in the rôle of Philip Garston. The remaining characters were adequately filled.

The variety programme here this week is quite good, and Manager Gordon Herman has been in his element in dealing with the audiences which have filled the hall at each performance.

Amy Bathurst, looking very charming in kilts, has a good song in "Bonnie Mary," and dances very attractively. A most interesting turn was that of the Eight Marvels, who really seemed to enjoy their efforts every whit as much as the audience; their vocalisation, dancing, and mimicry was clever, and certainly appreciated. The Devona Trio, who deputised for Julian Mack, proved to be very entertaining, their step-dancing especially being particularly good; the programme also included Ray Royal, with illustrated songs; the Forestiers, with their dramatic episode *A Society Sinner;* Harry Biand, comedian; Chas. M. Daly and company, in their comedy skit *I Must Have It;* and the usual excellent Palace pictures.

AT the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, *Ronnie Blair*, a dramatic sketch, is smartly presented by Mr. Vernon Sansbury and Miss Josephine Colonna and company. Webb and Branston charm everyone by their vocal efforts; Lennard and Vereker present a new series of coloured slides in their picture-song speciality; Arthur Harris is an excellent comedian with good songs; Maude May Murray appears in some pretty skirt dances, enhanced by electrical effects; Luigi Salvino is a clever juvenile instrumentalist; and Jack McKenzie and the Perfection Pictures complete the bill.

THE film depicting the Driscoll v. Hayes fight, exhibited for the first time in any Welsh town at Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard's Bioscope and Variety Theatre, Maesteg, proved a tremendous attraction for the first three nights of this week. Another fine film is that of the opera entitled *Carmen*. Uncle Richard is the title of a picture which causes roars of laughter. The Three Van Earls, who form part of the variety programme, are a clever trio of dancers. Their latest dance, entitled the Whirlwind, being very new and smart. Johnny Jones, the boy comedian, is a first-class entertainer. On Friday night the generous proprietors gave the takings to the local football club.

"A ROYAL RIVAL."

A Romantic Episode of Ancient Egypt, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, Feb. 21.

Queen of Egypt .....MISS ESTHER PHILLIPS
Antrexa .....MISS MILLIE PHILLIPS
Natha Ru .....MR. HORACE DENTON
Fa Nador .....MR. JACK FORTESCUE
Court Jester .....MR. E. L. HOCKING

Ancient Egypt has always been a source of inspiration to the writer of romance, and occasionally the dramatist has gone to the land of the Pharaohs for his plot and characters. This week one of the principal attractions in the programme at the Bedford is the appearance of Miss Esther Phillips and company in "a romantic episode of ancient Egypt," in two scenes—The Reception Hall at the Palace, and The Torture Cage. The plot turns upon the infatuation of the Queen of Egypt for a stranger whom she has accidentally met while on a country excursion. She has brought him with her to the Court, and Antrexa, his devoted wife, follows her husband. Here she meets him and her royal rival, whose cruel nature having been temporarily softened by her love for Natha Ru, liberates all the prisoners in the capital. The forsaken wife makes an impassioned appeal to the Queen, who, however, treats her with scorn, and she then appeals to her husband, but without success. The Queen triumphs for the time being, and bids Antrexa begone. The jealous wife returns, and her attempt to plunge a knife into her rival's back is frustrated by her husband, who catches hold of her uplifted arm. The angry Queen, handing him the knife, commands Natha Ru to kill his wife, but he refuses, and the infuriated Queen gives orders for both to be taken to the torture chamber. The second scene gives a faithful representation of a form of torture used in Egypt at the time, the condemned being slowly crushed to death between two huge slabs of stone moved by machinery. Natha Ru and his wife are placed in the terrible torture cage, and both are resolved to die together, although one at least has been offered liberty. But the Queen finds the force of love stronger than her desire for vengeance, and finally she relents, and gives orders for the release of Natha Ru and his devoted wife, who leave the palace to return to their rural retreat. The Queen stabs herself, and on this tragic scene the curtain falls.

Miss Esther Phillips gives an admirable impersonation of the Queen, her impassioned lines being delivered with fine effect. Miss Millie Phillips gives a pathetic representation of the wife, whose love for and devotion to her husband is excellently expressed. Mr. Horace Denton is good as Natha Ru; Mr. Jack Fortescue is a dignified Fa Nador; and Mr. E. L. Hocking is well placed as the Court Jester. The new sketch, which was very favourably received, is most elaborately staged, and the costumes are deserving of special mention. Taken altogether, the sketch deserves, on account of its many merits, a prosperous career.

The programme contains a number of other excellent turns. Miss Daisy Mead, comedienne, sings with much spirit "Hampstead on a holiday," and she meets with a most favourable reception; Siegel and Fields appear with marked success in a comedy and dancing act; Yetta, the dancing girl on the wire, is deservingly applauded for her clever performance; the Four Vagabonds, premier comedy harmony vocalists, introduce some tuneful part-singing; Miss Dorothy Grahame appears in *Ma Fille*, ably assisted by Paul Armand as the Grafter and Alex. Clifton as Jean, and the little piece gives the greatest satisfaction, all the principals being loudly applauded. Miss May Lillian Levey, a clever male impersonator, scores with her songs; Ferguson and Mack, popular comedians, introduce the Dimple Sisters, clever acrobatic dancing girls; Ellis and Campbell, comedians and dancers, are well received, and so also are Hurman and Arthur, in a comedy speciality, and Sam Basso, comedian. The attractive programme also includes the Bioscope with new films.

AN efficient orchestra has been installed at the Hull Hippodrome (just reopened) under the direction of Mr. John Russell, previously conductor for many of the leading London halls.

MR. FRANK LAMBERT, the song composer, who has written so many delightful numbers, was recently severely injured through being knocked over by a taxi-cab, and is at present in a nursing home in Cavendish-square. He will be unable to attend to any professional engagements for a while.

AL FRESCO entertainments are required by the Town Council of Broughty Ferry, who are prepared to receive offers for the right to provide amusement on the promenade and sands for the summer season of 1910. Mr. Edward Cowan, Town Clerk, 4, High-street, Dundee, will give particulars.

Photo by Wakefields, Chiswick and Brentford.

MISS VESTA TILLEY'S NEW FIAT CAR.

40-50 H.P. Cromer Limousine Landaulet, interior upholstered in Rose Du Barry, coachwork by Maythorn, car supplied by Fiat Motors, Ltd., Long Acre.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

2,608 SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

	£	s.	d.
Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£20	2	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Ted E. Box	1	10	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Mears	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
B.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1	0	0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £23 1s. 6d.

Joe Elvin 105	John Tiller	20
Wee George Wood .. 21	Ada Reeve	20
Eugene Cremetti .. 20	George Robey	20
Ernest Polden 20	E. Essayan	10
Alfred Butt 20	A. D. Carter	10
Harry Lewis 20	Peter Watson	10
George Essayan 20	F. A. Badman	10
Harvey du Cros, jun. 20	E. J. K. Savage	10
Walter Gibbons 20	E. T. Steyne	2½
J. Amery Parkes .. 20	Fred Sinclair	1
Frank Allen 20	A Friend	1
Herbert Sleath 20	Gus Elen	1
Will Sley 20		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £11 0s. 6d.

A. Oddenino 21	A. Campbell	5
Alec Hurley 21	E. Warner	5
Arthur Prince 20	J. Hamnett	2½
F. Mouillot 20	S. Africa	2½
F. A. K. Hounsell .. 20	E. A. Pickering	2½
S. Solmersitz 20	Stanley Pyke	2½
Peter Lawton 10	S. S.	2½
Isaac Prockter 10	Ernest Pyke	2½
J. Eric Clegg 10	Fred Farren	2½
L. H. Bauer 10	J. H. Adams	2½
Wm. T. Hill 10	S. B. Winter	2½
M. Pyke 10	Gus Elen	1
F. Breakell 5		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £4 9s.

Margaret Cooper .. 10	E Bryant	2½
Violet Vanbrugh 10	W. B.	2½
Arthur Bourchier .. 10	Frank Damer	2½
Eli Hudson 5	Jack North	2
Olga and Elgar 5	Gibbon and Bell	2
Les Trombetta 5	Victor Brothers	2
Tschin Maa 5	Durants	2
C. S. Richardson 4	Jack Lorimer	2
Nancy St. John 2½	T. Deutsch	2
Barclay Gammon .. 2½	Harry Vardon	1
Albert Mackelvin .. 2½	W. F. Moss	1
E. H. Mills 2½	Gus Elen	1
E. B. 2½		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan .. 1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey 1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Slone 1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz 1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz 1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz 1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey 1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner 1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten .. 1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown 1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast 1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray 1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz 1		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman 3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel 1½	R. E. Wade	1
Michael Nolan 1½	Richard Barclay ..	1
Aggie Nolan 1	Harry Barclay	1
Bert Nolan 1	Fred Malcolm	1
Olive West 1	G. Barclay, jun. ..	1
La Belle Linda 1	Joe Hayman	1
Ben Webster 1	Morny Cash	1
Mike Asher 1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Hy. Pocock 1	Gus Elen	1
Thos. Pocock 1		
Michael Nolan's Sister 1		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina 1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper 1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint 1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White.. 1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas 1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft 1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel 1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy 1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell 1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell 1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen 1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana 1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn 1		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham 1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer 1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read 1	H. Cromwell Bush..	1
Elsie Wright 1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips 1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred E. Ellis 1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley 1		

Collected by Rowland Hill, £1 4s.

Rowland Hill 1	Nell Emerald	1
Little Mamie Hill .. 1	Lily Black	1
Ralph Howard 1	Minnie Muir	1
Nellie Howard 1	Annie Schuberth	1
Eric George 1	Archie McCaig	1
Marriott Edgar 1	Harry Corton	1
Harry E. Ray 1	John Alexander	1
Kit Keen 1	Harry Radford	1
H. Valdo 1	Dick Tubb	1
J. Valdo 1	Alf. Corri	1
Cyril Thompson 1	"Ye Dame"	1
José Collins 1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ruby Dahl, £1 9s.

Geo. Barratt 2½	H. Gotham	1
Ruby Dahl 1½	Nora Stockelle	1
The Woods 1½	Morris and Moore ..	1
Harry Blake 1	Mayme Cannon	1
A. J. Girling 1	F. T.	1
Mammie Winstone.. 1	H. C. Lovell	1
Bella Gordon 1	J. Julian	1
M. B. 1	Alice Gill	1
J. D. 1	Netty Janowsky	1
Harold Finden 1	Eli Hudson	1
A. P. Moeller 1	Carr and Rose	1
K. Girling 1	Gus Elen	1
Edith Keppel 1	T W.	
Florence, Yaymen .. 1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. H. Humberton .. 2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray 1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst 1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis 1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris 1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major 1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter 1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell 1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans 1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley 1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather 1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell..... 1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F. 1	Robert Brown	1
Avory 1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton 1		

Collected by Miss Bessie Butt, £1 11s.

Harry Tate 10	A. Tremaine	1
Bessie Butt 5	J. Fenton Walsh ..	1
F. Fields 1	Maie Dillon	1
Harry Claff 1	George Manton	1
Reginald Hunt 1	Pa Pa	1
George Regan 1	Jack	1
Fred Ryan 1	Ken	1
Dorothy Firmin 1	Gus Elen	1
George Hirste 1		

Collected by Barry Gilmore, Esq., 17s.

Barry Gilmore 1	Beatrice Mina Ingram	1
Mrs. Barry Gilmore... 1	V. Clemente	1
Barry Gilmore, jun... 1	Jessie Templeton	1
Billy Oswald 1	Mrs. Fred Ingram....	1
Fred Ingram 1	Hugh Boyle	1
Nita Crystal 1	Mrs. Harry McClelland	1
Nellie Crystal 1	Gus Elen	1
Mount Stephens 1		
Harry J. Rennior 1		
Harry Levaine 1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan .. 10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole 5		

Collected by Miss Florrie Forde, £1 11s.

Anonymous 8	Miss Belmont	1
Florrie Forde 5	Bert Byrne	1
Mr. Badcoe 2	Jessie Pullin	1
Dr. ——, Burnley .. 2	Will Lindsay	1
Burley and Burley .. 2	Jack Hughes	1
Florodoros 2	Ciss Churton	1
Edie Colville 1	Vic. Cross	1
Mac 1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich 3	Mr. R. Knaepper ..	1
Mr. Harry Alaska.. 1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska 1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun.. 1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun. .. 1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio .. 1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph 1	A New Julia.....	1
Mme. Recio 1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway 1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway 1	Mr. Hamilton Warden	1
Michael Madden .. 1	Miss Louie Love ..	1
Miss Queenie King 1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls 1	Two Derby Nuts ..	1
Miss Ada Lucelle .. 1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen 1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths 1	Miss May Garry ..	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore 1	The Lady Goldfish..	1
Wallace Bosco 1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson .. 1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter 1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note 1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway 1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen 1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser 1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian 1	Humpsti Bumsti ..	1
W. H. McCarthy .. 1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin 1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants 1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzletov 1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown 1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart 1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer 1		

Collected by Carl and Carr, 16s.

Manitto Klitgaard .. 2	Carl and Carr	1
Harry Carr 1	S. J.	1
Max Carl 1	Gus Elen	1
Masie, St. Hilary .. 1	N. Manning	1
D. Scott 1	G. Spirack	1
R Davey 1	Neville Delmar	1
Austen Temple 1	J. R.	1
Washee 1	J. Bishop	1
Kittee Rayburn 1	F. S.	1

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (2nd card), £1 2s.

Geo. Gulliver 2	J. Glenville	1
Bert Williams 1	The Carlyles	1
Geo. Cooke 1	H. Brett	1
Kathleen Moore..... 1	Gus Elen	1
F. C. Craig, sen. 1	Lucy Jim	1
J. C. Faure 1	Tatcho	1
Minnie Wheaton 1	Tom E. Oliver	1
Ward and Davis 1	Peter Piper	1
Harry Paolia 1	Fred Bauer	1
Percy Galino 1	Gene Strauss	1
G. Barclay, jun. 1	R. C. Note	1
Mundill and Maude.. 1	J. Enzer	1
Warren, Northampton 1		

Collected by Little Fred Zola, £1 18s.

Kate Carney 5	Clarence Hotel	1
Marie Lloyd 5	Mr. Tyler	1
Mattison 2½	Flo Dora	1
Fred Emney 2½	Mrs. Fred Zola	1
K O. P. 2	Frank Zola	1
Tom Lee 2	Maudie Zola	1
Stone Troupe 2	Grandma Zola	1
Tom Payne 1	"Zol Zol," the dog..	1
Delome 1	Syd Walker	1
Tom J. Waldron 1	Bros Obo	1
Coverdale 1	Maudie Scott	1
Phillips 1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Theodore Jones, £1 4s.

Harry Laborde 1	Dulcie Lawrence	1
Theodore Jones 1	Isa Gibson	1
Carton Hicks 1	Nina St. Elmo	1
Percy E. Wright 1	Mlle. Bartanelli	1
Teddy Worth 1	Nellie Stuart	1
W E. 1	Maud Hastings.....	1
H. E. 1	Madam Sara	1
E. Blackster 1	Horace Lee	1
Jack Hayton 1	Nettie Ross	1
Allways Ready 1	Ethel Blackster	1
Fred Boulton 1	Charles Elderton	1
The Vic (?), Shields 1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Hayman and Franklin, £1 8s.

Joe Hayman 2	Gus Barra	1
Harriet Vernon 2	George Kempt	1
Frank Poole 1	The Carlyles	1
Edith St. Clare 1	A. Daunton Shaw ..	1
W. B. McMillan 1	Mr. Sid Macaire	1
Bob King 1	H. Wheatley	1
Fred Russell 1	Mrs. Pirman	1
Harry Marlow 1	Hampton and Bauman	1
Vera Vere 1	George F. Hall	1
J. Calder 1	Leslie Race	1
P. Q. 1	Hersleb Bros.	1
Phil and Nettie Peters 2	Gus Elen	1
Eddy Martyn 1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENCE.

M.H.A.R.A. DINNER AND DANCE.

"Buckie!"

"Bill!"

And two men shook hands vigorously. The scene was the reception-room in the west wing of the Criterion Restaurant, the occasion the annual dinner and dance in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and the M.H. Benevolent Institution, and the time last Sunday night.

"Buckie" and "Bill" are two well-known professional men, very old friends, and they had not met for over three years. In the same business their engagements always seemed to have kept them apart. Even this meeting had been brought about by one of them travelling that day from Manchester, and on the Monday he would be in Liverpool. The two old friends resolved there and then that in future years, if their lives were spared, and they were both working anywhere in the British Isles, they would always travel to London on the night of the M.H.A.R.A. dinner, firstly, "to hae a crack," and secondly, to assist at a function that should be dear to the hearts of all variety artists.

It is hard to have to write it, but it must be recorded that last Sunday night's dinner, well attended though it was, could not be said to be representative of the profession. There should have been ten times the number of people present.

A GATHERING OF STALWARTS.

'Gene Stratton said so, and if everyone would in future years "buck up" and emulate the resolve of "Buckie" and "Bill," and no matter where they might be working in the Kingdom on that day, take train to town for the function, there would be no question as to the financial success of the movement. As it was, the same old stalwarts were present, backed by a brave array of the "boys and girls." The Dandy Coloured Coon, Eugene Stratton, was in the chair, and at his right hand was his life-long friend, Joe Elvin. Supporting him were Alec Hurley, Paul Martinetti, Ben Obo, Fred Slingsby, and C. Douglas Stuart. The beaming face of another old friend, G. H. Chirgwin, could be seen to the left of the chair, and hard by the quips of the O'Gorman were to be heard. Frank Glenister, of the London Pavilion, and H. Belcham, of *The Era*, "reminisced" to their hearts' content, and big Ben Brown's broad shoulders were conspicuous at Table C. "The world's greatest lady dancer," "My Fancy," graced the chairman's table, sitting beside her husband, Harry Bawn, of the Edmonton Empire.

Everyone was merry and bright, and the scene was very animated, viewed from the band platform. It was, in fact, a big family party—just what "Uncle 'Gene" had intended it to be, as can be seen from this list of those present, in addition to the names already mentioned:—Joe Elvin, Buchanan Taylor, Geo. Gilbey, Ella Shields, Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin, W. H. Clemart, Percy Honri, Harry Masters, Charles Coborn, Mrs. P. Honri, Wilson Hallett, Sandford and Lyons, Barratt and Knowles, Fred Russell, Harry Weldon, Alec Hurley, Albert Voyce, Ike Rose, Burt Shepard, G. Hughes, Miss E. G. Clarke, Miss Melinda May, Mr. and Mrs. Ashby, Mrs. Bolton, Tom Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. Bartram, A. C. Gardner, Miss Irene Rose, J. Lotto, Mrs. Gilbey, J. Mitchell Langley, L. J. Stewart, Ted Hanley, Fred Russell, Arthur Gallimore, Jack and Evelyn, Ally Leonard, J. W. Knowles, Little Ganty, John E. Nash, Lil Hawthorne, Mr. and Mrs. A. Were, Sisters Macarte, Mr. and Mrs. Tomps, A. W. Verno, Dave O'Toole, Dr. and Mrs. Crippen, Mrs. Martinetti, Frank Lunnon, A. V. Dunne, J. Alexander, J. Reed, E. Allwright, W. Barton, W. Littlejohn, Flo Hastings, Jack Crawley, T. C. Callaghan, R. Tye, Claude Stuart, Mrs. Douglas Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hoyle, G. H. Smythson, Minnie Mace, T. Foxe and Mrs. Foxe, W. H. Bryan, E. Leech, Fred Halliday, T. Wilson, E. Copley, H. Goddard, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Cowey, Valazzi, Tom Joy, H. Cory Woodrow, W. Hargreaves, Harry Blake, E. Garrod, Fred Herbert, G. Garrod, Arthur Hampel, A. Venner, E. Brown, Alf. Lotto, and Richard Judd-Green.

THIRTEEN YEARS' WORK.

After the Royal toast had been honoured, Mr. Charles Coborn proposed the toast of the "Music-Hall Artists' Railway Association," an organisation which, in its thirteen years' existence, had, he said, been instrumental in providing about £4,000 for the charities of the railways and music halls. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast of the M.H.A.R.A. the name of Mr. Fred Herbert.

Mr. Fred Herbert, as chairman of the committee, responded, and told those present that everything connected with the Association was going on in an admirable manner. He made a strong appeal to some of the members of the committee to turn up at the meetings more frequently, if for no other purpose, to lighten the work of the willing ones who were always there.

To Mr. G. H. Chirgwin the toast of "The Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund" was entrusted. "The White-eye'd Kaffir" even then could not resist the chances the toast gave him to pun. He said, amidst much laughter, that they had got him on toast—the toast of the V.A.B.F. To-night they were full of Faith, Hope, and Charity. Harry Tate, Joe Elvin, and 'Gene Stratton were the Fund's Faith and Hope and Charity. During his year of office he had bitten many (y) ears. He was retiring, but they must all be untiring in helping the new president.

Mr. Harry Blake, the hon. treasurer, who responded, warmly thanked the little band of willing workers who were ever ready to work on behalf of the fund. That it was sorely needed was proved by the number of cases they had to consider at one of their meetings. He referred in the warmest terms to the work of Mr. Tom E. Callaghan, whose efforts had saved the Association very many pounds. It was one of their objects in life to strain every nerve to make their old friend Joe Elvin's scheme the greatest of successes.

Mr. Eugene Stratton, to whom a most cordial welcome was extended, submitted the toast of "The Music-Hall Benevolent Institution." No man, he declared, had served a longer or a harder apprenticeship than he had. For twenty years he worked before he gained a salary that enabled him to save a sovereign. Still, he never found that hard work hurt anyone. (Hear, hear.) It was only hard work that would produce anything, and he appealed to all his fellow-professionals to put in some hard work on behalf of the Benevolent Fund. A man who was successful could afford to be generous; and anyone who was successful and could not afford to be generous had no thought at all for others. (Cheers.) He hoped that nobody present would ever require any help from the Institution, but they might. He had seen people who had been very successful in life glad to receive help from the Fund. Nobody knew what was going to happen. Whatever they gave that night they must give from their hearts. They must not give for advertisement.

THE PENNY COLLECTING SCHEME.

Mr. Cory Woodrow announced that during the six months the institution had been in existence no less than £869 had been collected. Mr. Tom Joy started the penny collecting scheme with the most satisfactory results, and their "property bricks" had produced no fewer than 33,608 pennies. (Cheers.) Miniature gold bricks had been awarded to Mr. Tom Joy, Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, and Mrs. Wal Pink, who had collected the three highest amounts.

The main subscriptions and donations received since Aug. 6 are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Joe Elvin	161	17	6
Coliseum Matinée	140	19	8
G. H. Chirgwin	105	0	0
Geo. French	52	10	0
E. Emery (per J. E.)	25	0	0
M Haka	50	0	0
Mr. Broadhead	25	0	0
Actors' Orphanage	26	5	0
H. and M. Rayne	10	10	0
Hymack	10	10	0
Mr. Oppenheim (per J. E.)	10	10	0
Tennyson and Wallis	9	13	0

Other subscriptions from this to 2s. 6d. have been received and figure in the grand total.

The brick collection, consisting of 137 bricks, was started Aug. 6, and called in Dec. 31, for the purpose of awarding three prizes, which consisted of three gold miniature bricks, for the three highest collections.

The prizes were given by Mr. Joe Elvin and won by Mr. Tom Joy, Mr. Geo. Chirgwin, and Mrs. Wal Pink. The entire collection amounted to 3,360⅝ pennies, or £140 0s. 8½d., and individually consited as follows:—

Tom Joy, £8 5s.; Chirgwin, £7 3s.; Mrs. Wal Pink, £5 17s. 10d.; Vaudeville Club, £5 17s. 4d.; The Ventos, £4 5s. 9d.; R. Abel, £3 18s.; Harry Blake, £3 12s.; Gus Garrick, £2 13s.; Victor Widdicombe, £2 10s.; W. Welch, £2 10s.; Bros. Egbert, £2 10s.; Phil Rees, £2 5s. 3d.; Alice Maydue, £2 4s.; Jack Boston, £2; Leo Tell, £1 15s. 10d.; Blanche Key, £1 14s. 6d.; B. Feldman, £1 14s.; F. Sandy, £1 12s. 8d.; Ryder Stone, £1 10s. 9d.; Mrs. C. Pratt, £1 10s. 1d.; Mrs. Smith, £1 10s.; A. C. Gardner, £1 10s.; Charlie May, £1 7s. 3½d.; Eddie Foster, £1 7s. 1d.; E. Platt, £1 5s.; Ada Curry, £1 5s.; Alma Gallimore, £1 0s. 3d.; Artois, £1 0s. 2d.; Walton and Lester, £1; Mrs. Bolton, £1; Syd Walker, £1; Miss Mellor, £1; Roy Cochrane, £1; Jennie Alexander, £1; Kenneth and Kane, 18s. 3½d.; M. Culbras, 18s.; Dome, 17s. 9d.; Rose and Challoner, 17s. 2½d.; R. Duce, 17s.; Pete Murray, 16s. 2d.; W. King, 16s.; Mrs. Pounds, 16s; Kirk and Karaski, 15s.; Wisper, 15s.; J. Cullon, 14s.; Phillips Merritt, 13s. 8½d.; Tom Wright, 13s. 6d.; Ida Perman, 13s. 6d.; T. McKay, 13s. 3d.; T Bradshaw, 13s.; Jessie Albini, 12s. 7½d.; Will Douglas, 11s. 6d.; Wm. Smith, 11s. 6d.; Bogey Green, 11s. 6d.; Cruickshank, 11s.; F. Maslow, 11s.; E. W. Edmonds, 10s. 10d.; Russell, 10s. 8d.; Master Simister, 6s; Molly Doon, 10s.; A. Bushell, 4s.; Norah Stockelle, 2s.; Fred Herbert, 5s.; A. Gardner, 8s. 1½d.; Lasern, 6s. 6d.; Harry Wright, 6s. 6d.; R. C. Note, 2s. 6d.; Geo. Hilton, 10s.; Nathan Jackley, 5s 10d.; Florrie Robina, 7s. 7d.; Sammy Shields, 8s 7d.; Ted Hanley, 9s.; The Brilliants, 6s.; E. Lucas, 10s. 3d.; Ted E. Box, 10s. 6d.; M Adeson, 9s.; F. Minise, 2s.; Bedford, 3s. 6d.; H. Turner, 8d.; McCabe, 10s. 3d.; L. Lewis, 7s.; Wood (Putney), 3s 7½d.; Cluley, 7s.; Geo. Cooke, 6s.; F. I. Little, 8s.; Walter Stanley, 6s.; Da Silva, 8s. 8d.; Kit Kean, 8s.; Pat Yost, 3s. 8d.; A. S. Reaney, 5s.; G. Franklin, 2s. 6d.; Marrelle, 7s. 3½d.; R. C. Note, 6s. 2d.; Grant (E. Ham), 10s.; Wisper (balance), 1s.; Ailsa Douglas, 9s.; Carl Lynn, 8s.; Blanch Key, 3s. 9d.; J. Simpson, 4s; Penfold, 7s. 6d.; May Tyler, 1s. 4d.; Archie Pitt, 8s. 6½d.; A. Schafer, 6s. 6½d.; J Gallagher, 7s.; F. Slingsby, 4s.; *The Performer*, 2s. 5½d.; Bros. Obo, 7s. 6d.; Wilkes (Richmond), 8s.; J. Norman, 3s.; Fred Zola, 9s.; Marion Armitage, 5s.; A. H. Burdette, 6s.; Tony Bryde, 10s.; Davis, 2s. 6d.; G. Green, 6s. 7d.; making a total in hand, Feb. 19, of £869 16s.

Mr. Joe Elvin responded to the toast. His reception was a magnificent one, and for some minutes he was unable to commence his speech. When "For he's a jolly good fellow" had been sung by all present, he started to speak in his characteristic fashion. "Dear Girls and Boys," he said, with just a suspicion of a tremble in his tones; "I am going to make an earnest appeal for £3,000. Surely such a sum is not beyond the capacity of the music-hall profession. The committee are determined to persevere. They have started the Institution, and there is to be no turning back. (Cheers.) We simply have to go on and make the Institution worthy of ourselves and of the profession with which we are associated. But I don't think we are going to get the money we want, and I will tell you why. The profession has not responded as it should have done to our appeal. It is very disappointing. The same old people have responded. They always respond, bless them! but the heads of the profession have not come forward as they should have done. I have to thank the Actors' Orphanage for their cheque. That Institution got £2,500 in one day at a garden party. Why cannot the variety profession do the same? I should just like to recite a little thing, which, I think you will admit, fits the situation, and is understandable of you all. It is entitled

THE CALL.

It always has been the ambition of each "Pro"—
the great or the small,
When his "turn" on "The Green" he has
finished, to take a legitimate "call,"
Not a hurried-up, pinched sort of curtain, but
one unto which he's a right.
Would you learn how to earn such a call? Aye!
You would, then I'll tell you to-night.
As you journey through life's vast profession, rehearse—rehearse well—"*Self-denial*,"
With a stick of "*Benevolent*" grease-paint, on
your phiz place "*Good fellowship's*" smile.
When your job holds a big bunch of "*Contracts*,"
don't put on "the side" nor yet look
Askance at the poor "thirty-bob turn," with
scarcely a date in his book.
You don't know the cause of his downfall; you
can't tell what brought his reverse,
So give him your hand, and, what's better, just
give him a bit from your purse.
Give, and while giving, give freely; it matters not
what the amount,
God sees the gift, and remember, that each trifle
for you will count.
Bid each unfortunate brother look ahead, spur him
on to succeed,
For the best of all friends, old or new, are the
ones that we find in our need.
It's *help*, and not *pity*, that's needed in the hours
of trials and distress,
And it only means one "Scotch and soda," a cigar,
or a couple, the less.
Do to all as you wish to be done by, always acting the part of a friend,
For good deeds, so says the old motto, will bring
their reward in the end.
And when on life's stage your turn's ended, and
there comes the last grand curtain's fall,
You'll hear the great "Manager" saying: "Well
done, old Pro, take a *Call*."

IS A KITTEN A LETTER?

Mr. Douglas Stuart, who proposed the toast of "Railway Companies and their Theatrical Representatives," said it gave him pleasure to propose the toast, for he came in contact with these gentlemen more than anyone. They were always most courteous and obliging, ever ready to do anything to help variety artists, and on behalf of the 7,000 members of the M.H.A.R.A. he thanked them. The committee had recently been asking for a concession from the railway companies for certain pet animals—elephants, to wit. One of the representatives said he considered 1s. a mile not too much, seeing that on a certain journey the elephants had eaten up the straps of the truck in which they were travelling. Mr. Stuart said he had received no complaint as yet from the elephants that they were suffering from indigestion from their meal of South-Eastern straps. The theatrical representatives had also been discussing with the committee the rates for ponies, which, curiously enough, travel at the rate of two dogs, or if particularly fat at the rate of three and a half dogs. There had been a lot of trouble just lately over the charge for cats. Until last December you could take twenty cats at the rate of two dogs; a new regulation was then enforced. Mr. Stuart said that if those present thought that cats were now charged as cats they were quite mistaken. Cats were now charged as parcels, and what he wanted to know was the price for the conveyance of kittens. Were they in the past charged as puppies, and did they now come under the category of letters?

Mr. Eugene Stratton then presented prizes in the shape of tiny bricks of gold to Messrs. Tom Joy, whom he thanked for his hard work on behalf of the Institution; and to Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, to whom he said, "Come on, Cork." Mrs. Wal Pink is to have a similar adornment presented to her for her admirable efforts when she returns from America.

Mr. Harry Bawn said he was sorry that more professionals were not present. The movement deserved the hearty support of every artist, big and small.

Mr. Bartram told how on a visit to the North he was with two pro's, who made a bet concerning the barring clause. He was called upon to hold the stakes. The man who won he persuaded to take a receipt from the Benevolent Fund for the money. Every manager and agent, besides the artists, was in a position to help the good cause, and if all pulled together they would not have to wait two years to start the building of the Institution.

THE WATER RATS.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman told how the Grand Order of Water Rats was originally composed of 80 members. Now it numbered 150. That Order had one ideal—the betterment and advancement of their profession. The members had steadily and strenuously fought to give some relief outside of their own work. It had been stated that the Water Rats consisted only of stars. That was not so. The Order was open to every man who was a man. They cared not whether their members were Irishmen or Scotsmen or Scandinavians. Art recognised no nationality. He was amazed to find so few artists present at a dinner of music-hall artists. He thought it was unfortunate that the Grand Order of Water Rats did not embody the whole of the profession. He took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Frank Glenister for the able management of the Water Rats' matinée at the London Pavilion. There were a number of star artists earning fabulous salaries who were conspicuous by their absence that evening, or by the omission of a cheque to help the poor and needy of their profession. He thought the poverty that existed in the music-hall world was greater than in any other profession he knew of. The average life of a music-hall artist to-day was five years. He had no enmity against his brother and sister artists, but those who could afford it, and who did not come forward and contribute, might one of these days themselves have to appeal to the Fund. They should cease to be selfish, and should assist the willing few to make the fund the success it undoubtedly deserved to be.

Mr. W. H. Clemart stated that a very fair proportion of the income of the V.A.B.F. came from the Variety Artists' Federation. Mr. Broadhead had given £50 to the Fund, and they had got that gentleman's permission to divide the sum equally between the Fund and the Institution. Mr. Broadhead had suggested that his contribution should be credited to Santa Claus, and that suggested the idea that other managers would like to join in. But that excellent example had not been followed as he had hoped it would have been.

Mr. Harry Blake presented a list of donations and subscriptions, including sums handed in that evening.

LIST OF DINNER DONATIONS FOR THE V.A.B.F. AND M.H.B.I.

	£	s.	d.
Eugene Stratton	105	0	0
Joe Elvin	52	10	0
Music Hall Artists' Railway Association	50	0	0
Harry Tate	26	5	0
Wilkie Bard	26	5	0
Geo. H. Chirgwin	20	0	0
Whit Cunliffe, Otto C. Culling, and Arthur Roberts (each)	10	10	0
The Billikin Society	8	8	0
Percy Honri	7	7	0
Happy Fanny Fields, Joe O'Gorman, J. W. Cragg, J. W. Tate, Neil Kenyon, Geo. Mozart, Geo. Gilbey, Marie Kendall, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bawn, *The Era*, *Stage*, *Encore*, Alec Hurley, Cyril Maude, Vesta Victoria, Gilbert Girard, and Marie Loftus (each)	5	5	0
Election bet between Joe Elvin and T. E. Dunville (Elvin lost and paid same to the Charities)	5	0	0
Election bet between Joe O'Gorman and and Geo. Gilbey (Gilbey lost and paid same to the Charities)	5	0	0
Harry Freeman, Gus Garrick, Mrs. Chirgwin, Ella Shields, Mrs. Geo. Lockhart, Cissy Loftus, Walter De Frece, Great Lafayette, and Bros. Webb (each)	5	0	0
Theatrical Representatives of the Railway Companies	3	3	0
Arthur Bourchier and Violet Vanbrugh	3	3	0
Jack Pleasants' and Tom Joy's bricks (each)	3	0	0
Rowland Hill, Sinclair and Whiteford, Kitty Colyer, Jack O'Conor, Chas. Warren, Fred Russell, Paul Martinetti, W. H. Clemart, Harry Blake, Steve McCarthy, "Bill" (per W. Hargreaves), Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Lotto, Jack Lotto, Hackney Furnishing Co., Lil Hawthorne, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bartram, C. D. Stuart, Ritter and Foster, and Dan Crawley (each)	2	2	0
Fred Griffith	2	0	0
Hymack, T. Shaw, G. H. Elliott, W. Bentley, G. Barclay, Somers and Warner, John Lawson, W. C. Judge (Sealion), Yamamoto, Johnson and Bert, Jessie Albini, Abel and Welsh, David Crombie (Bristol Agent), Harry Tomps, J. Cowey (Brighton Agent), Ike Rose, Chas. Coborn, Little Ganty, A. G. George, Mrs. Smythson, Rose and Calvert, Dr. H. H. Crippen, Paul Martinetti (second donation), Mrs. Paul Martinetti, A. C. Williams (Tredegar Agent), Joe McConnell, Frank Lynne, Wilson Hallett, W. F. Frame, Mrs. Egerton, Dave O'Toole, Geo. Sanford, H. Barrett, J. W. Knowles, Jas. Marco, A. W. Verno, Albert Voyce, Victor Kelly, Burt Shepard, Ben Brown, Alf. Leonard, Chas. McConnell, Morny Cash, Dave Carter, Sidney James, Marriott Edgar, W. H. McCarthy, Alf. Cruikshank, Frank Cass, Henry Belcham (*The Era*), Frank Glenister, Harry Masters, W. B. Taylor, C. R. Whittle, Herbert Shelley, "Carlton" (each)	1	1	0
Harry First, Benj. Bellchair, Mike Conway (each)	1	1	0
Frank Haytor, R. Protti, W. J. Churchill, J. M. Langley, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Gilbert, F. A. E. Coombs, Jack Hughes, Percy Pugh, Tom Fox, Mrs. Fox, George Hughes, A. C. Gardner (Oldham Agent), T. Wilson (Stockport Agent), Anon. Giver, Fred Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lucas (each)	0	10	6
A. Laurel, H. Goddard (Reading Agent), Mr. and Mrs. Bartram, F. A. Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. Bolton (Grimsby Agent), John Grun Marx, Carter Livesey (each)	0	10	0
Mamie Morris, "V," Ted Hanley, Mr. and Mrs. P. Stanton, F. A. Hooper (second donation), Tom Joy, H. Webber Green, F. Halliday (Preston Agent), G. Copley (Peterboro' Agent), E. Leech (Crewe Agent), Ben Albert, Chas. Osborne, Percy May, Davis and Dean, Orpheus, Alaskas (each)	0	5	0
Jewel, St. Leger	0	3	0
A. Hampel, Fred Slingsby, W. Littlejohn, Judd Green, Clara Alexander, A. V. R. Dunn, St. Malo and Coombs (each)	0	2	6
George Hurley, Marie Gros (each)	0	2	0
Joe Jay	0	1	0

Total, £603, of which £323 13s. 6d. represents the "Water Rats' List."

A UTOPIAN SUGGESTION.

Mr. Arthur Were, secretary of the Terriers' Association, said that the kindred societies were prepared to extend their sympathy to the scheme so ably originated by Mr. Joe Elvin. Without disparaging in any way the excellent work of the Music Hall Home, he was in cordial sympathy with Mr. Joe Elvin's philanthropic efforts to create a haven of rest for artists whose years of association with the glamour of the footlights had ended in public oblivion and bitter penury. If through the benevolence of Mr. Elvin and his generous friends, any alleviation of the sufferings of the impoverished artist could be effected, he was convinced that all connected with the kindred societies would render every assistance and financial support to so praiseworthy a cause, and the day was not very far distant he hoped, when they would see the opening of the building, which will for ever be associated with its generous founder, Mr. Joe Elvin. With a view to facilitating the consummation of this project, the secretaries of the kindred societies would ungrudgingly devote their services, as far as possible; and now having judiciously paved the way for some suitable recompense for their devotion, for charity began at home, he ventured to bring the following Utopian suggestion before the governors of the institution. The secretaries of the various societies view the prospect of a decrepit old age with grave apprehension, despite the attractions of old age pensions and labour bureaux. They were only buoyed up with the hope that some provision would be made for a cosy bungalow in the institution's grounds, where they can be relegated in their old age to the obscurity they desired. To be free for ever from the terrors of agendas and the perpetual motion of reckless proposers and seconders in a rural retreat where Terriers cease from barking and Water Rats are at rest. Committee meetings then would be painful memories of the past, and they would not be censured for not answering letters that have never been received. Mr. Callaghan's investigations would then be limited to horticultural ones, and their sole occupation would be the daily struggle with their patent pipe fillers. There in the garden of sweet contentment the jaded secretaries of the kindred societies would be able to vegetate, and visitors who can tell the tale so well, will be subjected to the barring clause of the lodge-keeper, and they would not be touched for the dollar that returneth not. The vista of a glorious summer sunset to their lives would lighten their hearts in the winter of their discontent, in those bitter hours when they were silent sufferers of the committee's loquacious eloquence.

After the speechmaking there was a conversazione, and this was followed in its turn by a most enjoyable dance made up of the following sixteen numbers: Barn dance, "Top of the morning"; valse, "Yip-i-addy-i-ay"; Lancers, "Big boom"; V.A.B. Fund valse, "Druid's prayer"; two-step, "Piggy back"; valse cotillon, "Sweet memories"; veleta, "Scarboro'"; M.H.A.R.A. twilight waltz and two-step; barn dance, "Kerry Mills"; valse, "Aeroplane"; Lancers, "Gaiety"; two-step, "Kelly"; valse cotillon, "Dollar Princess"; valse, "Septembre"; Lancers, "Our Miss Gibbs"; valse and galop, "Good-night, last lap." The M.H.A.R.A. orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Groves, was present, and the M.C.s were Messrs. E. Brown and A. Venner.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

An attractive and diversified programme was presented here last week, and as a consequence good business is being maintained. Figuring prominently in the bill was the sketch entitled *Broken Fetters*, which was warmly received. Mr. Graeme Campbell as Lord Elton, Mr. Ronald Bogue as Dick Trench, Miss Hester Newton as Barbara Hurst, Mr. C. M. Halse as the Inspector of Police, and Miss Grande as the Maid all distinguished themselves, and received flattering recognition. Miss Vesta Victoria, it is unnecessary to state, brings down the house in several of her well-known songs, and is heartily applauded for her rendering of "Is there anybody looking for a widow?" and that amusing skit "Skating." Of course the audience are left unsatisfied until "And now I've got to call him father" is rendered. Rose Atherton and company present a most laughable sketch, entitled *Murphy's Affinity*, in which Michael Murphy and his wife Bedelia are caretakers of an old curiosity shop. The action of the sketch is, in reality, a dream of Murphy's, in which he imagines an urn has been left at the shop by two Orientals with instructions not to rub it, as it contains the ashes of Cleopatra. Of course these instructions are not obeyed, so on rubbing the urn Cleopatra appears, and a very amusing time is spent with Cleopatra assuring Murphy that he is her "affinity" and the indignation of his better half. Eventually the urn is again rubbed, and Cleopatra disappears; and Murphy wakes up with much disgust to find he is only caressing his wife. Mr. E. Mullins is most diverting as Michael Murphy, and causes much laughter; Miss B. Armitage is also funny as the wife, Bedelia; Miss C. Kingsley does well as Cleopatra, and looks well in her Egyptian garb; and help is also rendered by Mr. J. Leslie and Mr. B. Tomlinson as Ben Hassan and Ali Wattah respectively. Tom Costello, as usual, keeps everybody highly entertained, and receives a warm welcome, his song-scena entitled "My Home is Far Away" evoking much applause. Sylvia Phillips trills her ditty "What is the number of your front street door?" to everybody's satisfaction; Hiram Travers scores highly in his song "Now I'm living up the West," and his patter catches on; Verno and Voyce prove a popular turn in their racing song-scena *Sporting Luck*, which affords much interest and is well responded to; Kathleen Cogan also contributes a song, which is well received; and the Bioscope concludes the entertainment with the latest subjects.

At the Palace Theatre, Porth, Harry Grey, the Australian Nugget, in his burlesque on the North Pole, meets with success. Violet Armidale is a dainty soubrette; Walter Stanley a capital comedian; the Paul Kramer Troupe are marvellous trapeze artists; the flexible Sisters Indiana give a smart act; Phil Parsons repeats all his latest success; the Deuars Bros. are good hand equilibrists; and the Perfection Bioscope projects all the latest pictures.

THE PARIS FLOODS.

MAGNIFICENT ALHAMBRA MATINEE.

Crowded to its utmost capacity last Tuesday afternoon, the great Leicester-square house presented a splendid spectacle. Tri-coloured festoons hung from the tiers, and Mr. George W. Byng's orchestra was separated from the audience by a floral barrier, itself one of the sights of the afternoon. The occasion was the special matinée in augmentation of the Lord Mayor's Fund in aid of the sufferers by the disastrous floods in France.

The list of patrons was a formidable one, and it says a great deal for Mr. Alfred Moul's popularity and the high-class cosmopolitan nature of the Alhambra audience, when it can be stated that of the Continental celebrities alone who can be recorded interesting themselves in the movement were the Chargé d'Affaires for Servia and Mme. Slavko Grouitch, Chargé d'Affaires for Bulgaria and Mme. Hadji Mischef, Chargé d'Affaires for Italy (M. Alberto Martin-Franklin), Chargé d'Affaires for Norway (M. E. Huitfeldt), Consul for Liberia (Mr. J. T. Grein), M. E. Daeschner (Ministre of the French Embassy), M. A. De Fleuriau (1er Secrétaire), Marquis de la Bégassiere (2ème Secrétaire), Comte E. de Lastours, M. F. Sebastier d'Espeyran (3èmes Secrétaires), Vicomte de Felcourt, Comte de Montholon, M. C. Bérard (Attachés), M. J. Knecht (Secrétaire Archiviste), Commandant Baron Mercier de Lostend (Attaché Naval), Colonel V. J. M. Huguet, M.V.O. (Attaché Militaire), and M. Jean Perier (Attaché Commercial).

The programme presented was an exceptionally brilliant one, even for functions of this kind, and the following artists generously gave their services by consent of their respective managers: M. Harry Abbas in monologues de "Cyrano de Bergerac"; Mr. Henry Ainley in a recitation "A Gentleman of France," by Sam Walsh; the Hon. Mrs. Stuart Anderson; Mr. Wilkie Bard, "I can't reach that top note"; Miss Jessie Broughton and Mr. Dennis Creedon in selections from their répertoire; a play in one act, *Before Sunrise*, Miss Elise Craven and Master Bert Clerc; Mme. Alice Favier, Miss Evangeline Florence, Mr. Vaughan Grey, Miss Daphne Hope, Mme. Blanche Marchesi, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Ina Pelly, Mrs. Brown Potter, Mlle. Pauline de Schönberg, Miss Irene Scharrer, Miss Madge Temple, Prince Tchagadaeff, "The Rodney Stone Fight," Act 3 scene 2 of *The House of Temperley*, Mr. James Welch, and Miss Russ Whytal.

Three of the items call for special mention. The first is the ballet *Our Flag*, beautiful, soft, harmonious, with the ever-delightful Britta as principal dancer. Round her were grouped a brilliant trio—Miss Elise Clerc, Miss Julia Seale, and Miss Julia Reeve. The staging, the scenic distances, the colours, the crowds—all made as fine a display as even the Alhambra has achieved. Mdlle. Britta's graceful little act of tying the French tricolour and the British Union Jack together evoked a storm of applause. The Mirza Golen troupe, a round dozen of Persians, gave an act which was dressed with the utmost splendour. In a series of scenes—opening before a tropical sunset—they presented what may best be described as a wordless pantomime, concluding with an acrobatic display as novel as it was effective. A feature of the turn was the display of huge carpets from the East.

Mr. Wilkie Bard, too, came in for a goodly share of appreciation for his singing of "I can't reach that top note."

But before Mr. Bard made his appearance we had a chance of giving a hearty greeting to our old friend, Mr. Alfred Moul, happily recovered from his recent long illness. He stood in the centre of the stage when the huge tabs went up, pale and obviously weak, and from time to time leaned for support on a small table. But he spoke up bravely and clearly, and having thanked everyone for their assistance, introduced Miss Ellen Terry, who had generously acceded to the earnest request of the organisers of the matinée to appear during the afternoon to deliver a special and appropriate address to the audience.

Miss Terry then made the gratifying announcement that the substantial amount of £400 had been obtained. "Thank you very much for your welcome," said Miss Terry. "Mine is a very pleasant task. Isn't it delightful that we shall have no less than £400 to send to the Lord Mayor's Fund, and thus help to succour in some measure those to whom the invasion of the waters has brought disaster in Paris? I have been asked to give thanks to all those who have assisted to make this occasion a success, and I do so with all my heart. How can I express the gratitude we feel to all who have helped us—to the generous artists, the staff, the musicians, and to the Press! Once more, to one and all, thanks, thanks, and again many thanks."

Then came a few words, couched in a similar vein, from M. Cambon, who occupied a box.

There was a special notice in the theatre that the original framed drawing for the frontispiece of the programme, by the well-known artist, Val Prince, and which was exhibited in the foyer of the theatre, would be sold by auction during the afternoon to the highest bidder, by Mr. Wilkie Bard. Having sung his amusing ditty, "I can't reach that top note," Mr. Wilkie Bard assumed the, for him, novel rôle of auctioneer, inviting offers for Mr. Val Prince's striking picture. After some spirited bidding it was eventually knocked down to Miss Ethel Clinton for the sum of thirty-five guineas.

During the afternoon Mr. G. W. Byng, Mr. Hermann Darewski, jun., Mr. James Glover, Mr. Julian Jones, and Mr. Landon Ronald occupied the conductor's chair.

The honorary stage managers were Mr. Walker Gregory, Mr. Clarence Hunt, Mr. W. W. Keene, and Mr. C. La Trobe, and the following ladies undertook the sale of programmes: Miss Muriel Allen, Miss Lydia Bilbrooke, Miss Daisy Burrows, Miss Daphne Glenne, Miss Violet Graham, Miss Shiela Heseltine, Miss Evelyn Hope, Miss Violet Lewis, Miss Edyth Latimer, Miss Madge Melbourne, Misses MacLaren, Miss Marjorie Michie, and Miss Violet Walker.

Full houses are the order at the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland. The Belong Brothers are wonderful cycle equilibrists; and Gladys and Alber do well in their funny acrobatic turn. Miss Lizzie Glenroy meets with approval in her singing and dancing; and Les Voces are admirable soloists and duettists. Wyndham and Kitty are especially entertaining as wire-walkers and jumpers; and a remarkably clever juggling turn is accomplished by Ernesto. Mr. Harry Nelson's songs and patter are highly pleasing. The Hipposcope continues to provide interesting films.

The attraction at the Victoria Theatre, Kettering, this week is "Scottie" and his variety combine. The following artists contribute to a capital entertainment:—The King's (comedians), Knoto (contortionist), Ivy Cornwallis (comedienne), Dot Irving (dancer), Sandy and Ramsay (comedians), Helen Bourne, and the Merries. Lloyd's Singing Colliers meet with a hearty reception, and Mr. Alexander's sketches *Napoleon at Waterloo* and *The Cry of the Children* are admirably presented.

At the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley produced a screamingly funny duologue, *Mrs. Summerson's Baby*, which is greeted with roars of laughter. Charles Ashdowne, an eccentric comedian and legmania dancer, commands a full share of the plaudits of the audience; Miss Minnie Ray is a charming comedienne; and H. O. Borle a clever and eccentric juggler. The Bioscope pictures are quite up to the usual mark.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

World's Championship Race.
THE series of heats in the great one mile professional race, open to the world, has excited the greatest interest at the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, this week. Undoubtedly speed skating is a big attraction with followers of the sport. The times recorded, however, have not been too impressive, and if the sport is to be encouraged, and the public support maintained, there must be an improvement in this direction. On Wednesday night the *Sporting Life* referee took an important step towards attaining this end by deciding that from that evening any heat that takes longer than 3min. 35sec. would be declared void. Foulger suffered defeat at the hands of Wilson, who took matters rather casually. The same may be said of Moore, for the American has a remarkable reserve of speed at all times. The heat in which Bear and Peters met was well contested. But there was one unfortunate incident in connection with it.

Peters Warned.
PETERS was the faster away, but Bear quickly drew up, and Peters going wide on the second bend, Bear gained the lead. For three laps Bear cut out a smart pace. Coming into the straight at the fifth lap, the American jumped and Bear responded. Nearing the bend Peters crossed his man within inches of his stride, and this brought a caution from the referee. Had Bear protested the referee stated he would have disqualified Peters, for by English rules of racing at least one clear yard must be allowed in passing. An official letter was sent to Peters immediately after the race, informing him that should he repeat the offence he would be disqualified whether a protest was made or not. The final is sure to be hotly contested to-night (Saturday), and an immense assemblage will undoubtedly be present, for the meeting of the two Americans points to a terrific struggle for supremacy and £60.

The Officials.
THE officials were:—Referee, Mr. H. W. Keen (appointed by the *Sporting Life*); Judges, Messrs. L. L. Thomas and G. Thomas; starter, Mr. L. Roscoe; timekeeper, Mr. F. Cost; M.C. and manager, Mr. H. W. Izod.

The Guitry Headdress.
THE Chantecler hat has made its appearance on the rinks. Thirty-five varieties have been seen at Earl's Court, about a dozen at Holland Park, three at Finsbury, and "a large number" at Maida Vale. The Chantecler veil has not yet been observed, but we live in hopes.

Miss Sybil Arundale "Chanteclers."
MISS SYBIL ARUNDALE skated garbed as the Hen Pheasant, the part played by Mme. Simone in *Chantecler*, at the fancy-dress carnival which was held at Olympia last week.

Farewell Night at Olympia.
NEXT Monday is Farewell Night at Olympia.

March 11 at Holland Park.
THE next carnival at Holland Park is to take place on Friday, March 11.

Last C.P. Carnival.
MR. F. G. STUMCKE, the manager of the Crystal Palace Rink, has arranged for a costume and evening-dress carnival, the last of the season, to take place on the evening of Wednesday, March 16, beginning at 6.30 p.m.

Rink Profits 50 per Cent.
MR. CARLTON ROBERTS, presiding on Tuesday at a meeting of the Brixton Skating Rink, Ltd., said that in the first ten weeks they earned a net profit of practically £100 a week, and in the succeeding eight weeks £140 a week. In eighteen weeks they had earned a total net profit of £2,200. In the matter of returns they had created a record which stood second to none in rinking enterprises in this or any other city. During the last four weeks the receipts had gone up from £173 to £225.

Street Skating.
FOR years the side streets in London have known the boy with a single roller skate upon the asphalt. But there was a tradition that a boy on one skate was on one side of the policeman's law, and the boy on two skates on the other. Some years ago it was proposed to put boy messengers on the new skates and send them careering through London. But the law stopped them. From the point of view of the pedestrian and the other traffic of the streets there is much to be said in favour of the skating messenger as against the bicycling boy. Though he goes as quickly and can carry as much, he takes up less room, and can steer himself more easily. And a pair of roller skates is cheaper than a bicycle.

Bertha Doud Mack.
THIS delightful skater has been exhibiting her charms and skating powers at the Dudley Trindle-road Roller Skating Rink this week. In the course of her performance Miss Mack introduced step-dancing, and under very difficult conditions presented some steps that called for exceptional skill and great physical effort. Her fine spectacular skating is also wonderfully clever, and her costumes are exceedingly costly and effective.

Jessie Darling's New Act.
SINCE we shook hands with Jessie Darling last the little lady has been to Paris, Berlin, Hamburg, Hanover, Frankfort, and Paris, and, to use the expression beloved of her countrymen, has "made good everywhere." Jessie has returned to London, and was to be seen "frivvling" with the best of them at the Olympia Carnival the other night. The fair skater has in active rehearsal a new act, in which she is "introducing the classic in roller-skating"—which intimation gives one a throb of expectancy, for imagination conjures up visions of a *première skateuse à la* Maud Allen. We have not been invited to attend rehearsals, so we may be wrong in this supposition, but Miss Darling is bound to send us an invitation for the *première*, after which we can enlighten the section of the public that will be so unfortunate as to be turned down at the box-office.

Rexos Going Well.
THE Rexos' splendid skating act is now in its third week of success at the London Hippodrome, and going as well as ever.

Rinking Championships.
THE National Skating Association has arranged to bring to issue their tests for roller championships at the Tournament Hall, Edge-lane, Liverpool, to-day (Saturday) between five and seven o'clock. Some of the most expert skaters in the country will compete.

Jewish Lady Skating Champion.
SPORTING circles in Budapest are much elated at the success of Fräulein E. Kronberger, the daughter of a Jewish manufacturer, in the world's skating championship, in which she obtained the title of lady champion for the third time. Fräulein Kronberger has been a skater since she was four years of age. When she was twelve years old she had the audacity to compete against some of the finest skaters in the world, and although she was beaten by the Berlin champion, Rendschmidt, her performance attracted a great deal of attention, and the Crown Prince, who was present, expressed a wish to see her skate again. She has twice won the championship of Hungary against male competitors. Fräulein Kronberger is only nineteen, and is able to devote her whole time to her favourite pastimes, as her late father left her a considerable fortune.

Chelsea's New Rink.
A NEW skating rink will be opened on March 8 at Chelsea. It promises to be a very luxurious affair. The appointments include a ladies' reading room, gentlemen's smoking lounge, and a large tea room capable of seating 300 persons. The skating surface is 135ft. by 72ft., and Mr. Walter Power will be the general manager. Under these conditions the welfare of Chelsea rinkers will be well catered for.

Naval Men as Rink-Managers.
COMMANDER LEADBETTER, R.N.R., and Lieutenant Quill (late 23rd Regiment) are the local managers of the Finsbury Park Rink, and are in constant attendance. They are responsible for the management and supervision of the rink, and their manner is enough to inspire respect and secure discipline.

Hampstead Palace Gymkhana.
ON Thursday in last week the spacious skating rink in Cressy-road was devoted to a gymkhana, arranged by the management. There a crowded attendance of spectators. The results were as follows:—Balaclava Melee.—Won by the Hampstead Roller Skating Palace Instructors' team under Capt. J. E. Rendle. Perambulator Race.—1st, Mr. Appleyard; 2nd, Mr. Murphy. Egg and Spoon Race (Ladies).—1st, Miss Henley; 2nd, Miss Emons. Tug-of-War.—Hampstead Palace Skating Club. Faked Skate Race.—1st, Mr. Nicholls; 2nd, Mr. Scull. Punt Race.—Mr. Appleyard. Musical Chairs.—1st, Miss Law; 2nd, Miss Appleyard. Half-Mile Club Handicap, Final.—1st, Mr. Garlick; 2nd, Mr. Brake; 3rd, Mr. Appleyard.

Maida Vale Rink Opened.
THE magnificent skating palace at Maida Vale was formally opened last Saturday afternoon by the Mayor of Paddington (Alderman H. H. Fuller, J.P.). His Worship was supported by the Mayoress, Sir Neville Beechcroft, Messrs. Hayes Fisher, M.P., Arthur Straus, M.P., Guy Campbell, and Aldermen Becker, Handover, Williams, Bannister, Urquhart, Whur, Major Dundas, and Major-General Laurie. Among those skating was Miss Dorothy Cullum, the amateur champion figure skater. The floor management is under the direction of A. A. Lennie, whose experience in rink management has been gained in three Continents. A. Lightfoot and F. Sylvester are the assistant floor managers, and the band is under the direction of Herr Voor Zanger.

River Park, Wood Green.
ONE minute from Lordship-lane terminus is the Wood Green Rink. There a grand fancy and evening dress carnival will take place on Thursday, March 10, when £40 in prizes will be given.

Round the Edinburgh Rinks.
THE over-supply of facilities for roller-skating in Edinburgh was bound to make itself felt in some quarters, and last week saw the closing of one of the largest rinks in the city—the American rink in Russell-road. As a result, the attendance at the Olympia Palace Rink, Annandale-street, showed considerable improvement. A hockey match between the home club and the Marine Gardens has taken place this week. At the Grand, Fountainbridge, matters continue to run smoothly. The Bellevue Rink, in Elm-row, and the Royal Park Rink, in St. Leonard's, receive a goodly number of patrons nightly.

Fine Building for Blyth.
THERE is to be a rink at Blyth, Northumberland, very shortly. A fine building is now in course of construction, and will be completed in about a month's time. The skating area of the building will be about 15,000 square feet. Richardson's have got the order for the skates.

Managing Director Wins Case.
A CLAIM was made at the Bolton County Court, last week, by Chas. Bedworth, of Hanley, and residing at Kidsgrove, Cheshire, in his capacity as managing-director of the Bolton Skating Rink Co., Ltd., Ferns Park, for £74 9s. 3d., as salary, travelling and incidental expenses, and £3 4s. 6d. costs. His services were dispensed with by the other three directors in October, and they had paid him £30 16s. 6d. to cover the September-October salary. It was arranged that the managing-director should attend on two days a week at intervals of not less than two days apart, his salary being £250 a year. There were three other directors, and £300 was to be divided as salary. Mr. Bedworth told the Judge that he had not claimed a quarter-share of that, although he thought he had a right to it. "I was the only one who had expert knowledge," he said, in reply to questions by Dr. Atkinson; "I had the whole of the building, formation, and equipping of the company. The manager of a skating rink requires special knowledge, which I venture to suggest no one outside myself possesses." The Judge said the agreement clearly showed £250 salary, and gave a verdict for plaintiff for £55.

"Enchanter" Skate Dance.
THE patrons of the Premier Rink, Boston, are delighted with the new skate dance, "Enchanter," which is most popular not only in Boston but all over the British Isles. The dance is having a very large sale. As we have already stated, it was originated, written, and composed by W. Hurst, the trick skater, and general-manager of the Premier Rink, Boston.

Evidences of Esteem.
A FIRST-CLASS steamer ticket to New York, a purse of gold, numerous cigar-cases, tobacco-boxes, card-cases, hair-brushes, a shaving-mirror, a writing-case, and a flask have been presented to Mr. H. E. Weaver on his being compelled to resign the management of the American Rink, Bristol, owing to ill-health. He is to take a trip to his home in America to recuperate.

Bury St. Edmunds Carnival.
LAST (Thursday) evening a grand carnival and gymkhana was held at the West Suffolk Skating Rink, Fornham-road, Bury St. Edmunds, and the management are to be congratulated on the success of the affair. The hall was prettily festooned with flags, and every electric light was enclosed in a large Chinese lantern. The whole, with the fancy dresses, presented a sight well worth seeing. Prizes were offered for the most original costumes, and the judges, Mrs. Bennett and Mr. H. Bankes Ashton, decided as follows:—Ladies: 1, Little Miss Hinnell, as "Free Trade"; 2, Mrs. Holloway, as "North Pole." Gentlemen: 1, Mr. Greene, as "Indian Chief"; 2, Mr. Holloway, as "Teddy Bear." There were twenty-two entries in the ladies' competition, and twenty-one gentlemen entered the contest. There were nine entries for the ladies' graceful skating competition, the awards being as follows: Miss Plumpton, Miss Orbell, and Miss Hedges. An excellent and varied programme of sports had been arranged. Roars of laughter were caused by the mishaps to the participators in the potato race and the tug-of-war.

Sir George Collard at Canterbury
THE best local and county families patronised the Charity Carnival recently held at the Pavilion, Canterbury. The prizes were distributed by Sir George Collard.

Bros. Luck Win Hockey Match.
AT the Chesterfield Premier Skating Rink last week there was an amusing and interesting match at hockey on skates, the teams being chosen from the Six Bros. Luck's company and the Chesterfield Premier Skating Club. The artists turned up in the most eccentric costumes, and were victorious by a substantial margin. Sid Bandon refereed.

Skating Rink for Chichester.
THE scheme for providing Chichester with an up-to-date skating rink, together with a cinematograph theatre, has been advanced a further stage. The directors of the company which has been formed for the purpose of carrying out the scheme, Chichester Olympia, Ltd., have received a report that sufficient shares have been applied for to enable the company to proceed to allotment, and contracts have been settled for the erection of the main rink to be started forthwith. The rink will be situated at Northgate.

"Event of the Season" at Durham.
A RECORD was easily established at the Olympia Rink, Durham City, on Wednesday night, the attraction being the first masked fancy dress carnival, which was billed "The Event of the Season." Nothing similar has ever before been held in the old cathedral city, and the occasion drew crowds. Judging was in the hands of the Mayor (Councillor W. H. Wood), Alderman Proctor, and Councillor C. Caldcleugh. Their decisions, giving entire satisfaction, were as follows:—Fancy.—Folly, Miss E. Belshaw; Roman soldier, Mr. J. James. Burlesque costumes.—Old woman, Miss Waite; ancient Briton, Mr. T. Liddle. Original costumes.—Christmas tree, Miss Hodgson; half man and half woman, Mr. Caley. Advertising costumes.—Black and White whisky, Miss Caslew; Maypole Butter Co., Mr. G. Morton. The Mayoress presented the prizes to the winners. An exhibition of fancy and trick skating was given by Messrs. J. Ellis and Nicholson.

New Rink in Glasgow.
HISTORICAL interest is attached to the roller skating rink which was opened in Argyle Street, last week. The new establishment stands on the site of the old Theatre Royal in Dunlop-street. The building has been well planned, and the skating surface, which measures 100ft. by 70ft., has accommodation for 300 skaters. Councillor Cohen declared the rink open.

Evening of Sports.
THE resident-manager of the American Roller Rink in Victoria-road, Glasgow, is arranging an "Evening of Sports" to take place on Thursday, March 3. The Dennistoun Rink, in the old East End Exhibition Grounds, Hillfoot-street, continues to be well patronised, and those attending the various daily sessions testify to the excellence with which this establishment is managed. Business at the West End Rink continues brisk, there being large numbers of skaters at each of the three daily sessions. The floor is maintained in splendid condition. The Ibrox Rink is exceedingly popular with the "rinkers" in that locality.

Hall-by-the-Sea Carnival.
THE third of the season's fancy costume skating carnivals, held at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, last week, was a huge success. The large building was absolutely packed, and Mr. Charles Evans is to be congratulated upon the success which has attended these carnivals. The crowded audience gave added animation to a picturesque setting which has never been excelled in Margate. Among those present were Mr. Norman Craig, K.C., M.P., the Mayor and Mayoress of Margate (Alderman W. H. White, J.P., and Mrs. White), and the judges were the Mayoress, Mrs. T. R. Higgins, Mrs. T. Setterfield, Mr. T. R. Higgins, Mr. Newth, Mr. Paul Mardol, and Mr. Olliffe, chairman. The Band of the G Company 4th Battalion (the Buffs) played an attractive programme of music under the direction of Bandmaster Scott, and the Royal Excelsior Band (Bandmaster Pointer) was also in attendance.

Nottingham Empress Gymkhana.
THE manager of the Nottingham Empress Rink, Mr. George Holt, as the result of the gymkhana and sports which took place on the rink last week, is able to hand over to the Nottingham General Hospital a cheque for £25.

Presentation to Geo. Holt.
MR. GEO. HOLT, manager of the New Empress Rink, King Edward-street, Nottingham, has been presented with a handsome silver cigarette case inscribed as follows:—"Presented to Mr. George Holt by the Committee of the Cripples' Union Carnival, held at the New Empress Rink, Nottingham, Jan. 28, 1910, in return for his kindness and invaluable help."

The Seaforth Rink.
OUR Liverpool correspondent reports that rapid progress is being made in the construction of the new rink at Seaforth, near Liverpool. The rink will have a skating area of 20,000-odd feet, and Messrs. Plimpton have secured the contract for the supply of maple and also laying of the floor. The rink will be equipped exclusively with Richardson ball-bearing skates, as will also the rinks now building at Merthyr Tydfil and Pontycymmer.

Gavotting in Sheffield.
PATRONS of the Empire Rink, Sheffield, have each night this week been instructed in the gavotte by Little Doris and W. L. Arridge. A week of uninterrupted sessional skating is the order at the Olympia Rink. For the following week the management have engaged the expert services of John F. Davidson, who will give performances each afternoon and evening.

Warrington Children's Carnival.
AT the Empire Rink, Warrington, a most successful children's dress carnival was held last week. Fully 300 youngsters, whose ages ranged from four to twelve years of age, participated. The grand march was one of the features of the carnival. For the boy's costume the prizes were awarded as follows:—1, Roy Howard, courtier; 2, J. Parkinson, Dick Whittington. Girls': 1, Miss Parkinson, Spring; 2, Miss Brough, heliotrope fairy. Boys' humorous: 1, Master Boothroyd, Good-night; 2, Master Crossley, golliwog. Girls' historical: Miss Weir, Queen of Hearts. Boys' historical: Duke of Gloucester. Girls' original dress: Miss Smith, Folly; 2, Miss Ada Cooper, Pansy.

Sir W. S. Gilbert as Rink Director.
SIR W. S. GILBERT, of Savoy fame, has accepted a seat on the board of the Watford Theatre and Skating Rink Company, Limited.

Gale Damages Rink.
DURING the severe gale at the commencement of the week a very great deal of damage was done to the Queen's Skating Rink, Clarence-road, West Hartlepool. Preparations were just being made for the commencement of the afternoon session when a strong gust blew in the large semi-circular window at the west end of the building. The heavy glass and framework were blown inwards, and with them, or immediately afterwards, fell a large quantity of the surrounding masonry. The wind blew into the building with tremendous force, and it was not long before a portion of the wooden roof at that end was lifted off for a distance of ten or twenty feet. In its fall the masonry smashed the gallery which ran across the end of the building, whilst a great number of the falling blocks crashed through the skating surface below. A man and boy who were engaged with the large indicator had a narrow escape when the window blew in, the glass and debris falling on either side of them.

Two Hartlepool Attractions.
AT the Pavilion, West Hartlepool, manager Charles McPhail combines dancing with skating. His combined Cinderella and dance was a huge success, and is not likely to be the last one that will take place at this rink. One special attraction during the evening was some very good skating by C. T. Williams, the head of the floor staff. From a spectator's point of view a most successful carnival was held at the Queen's on Wednesday. Prizes to the value of £20 were offered for competition. The ladies' prizes were awarded for Comet, Lady Rancher, Rag Book, Fi Fi, Mercia, and Dutch girl; gentlemen's for Airship, Prehistoric Skater, Indian Rajah, Village Blacksmith, Cerebos, "Lily Elsie" (*Merry Widow*), and "Chirgwin."

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE REXOS.
Extraordinary Success at the LONDON HIPPODROME.
Four Weeks' Engagement.
Pronounced the best Skating Act yet seen in the London Halls.
Everybody talks about the GREAT TUNNEL SENSATION
We are not self-styled World's Champions. We stand on the merits of our Act.
Address, care "The Era."

BERTHA DOUD MACK
AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.
Week Mar. 28, Vacant.
THIS WEEK. Trindle Rd. Rink, DUDLEY.
NEXT WEEK, Empire Theatre, EDMONTON.
Add, C/o "THE ERA."

MISS JESSIE DARLING
PREMIERE SKATEUSE
INTRODUCING THE CLASSIC IN Roller Skating.
LATE SUCCESS AT PARIS, BERLIN, HAMBURG, HANOVER, FRANKFORT, PARIS.
For Vacant Dates—ADDRESS c/o "THE ERA."

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES
BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.
"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."
Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.
FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS.
Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.
Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.
LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.
Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to
M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.
Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.
Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE GREAT MONOHAN
RINK and MUSIC HALL
Feb. 28th to March 12th.,
EDMONTON EMPIRE.

W. D. NIXON
(Late LONDON MANAGER to Messrs. CRAWFORD AND WILKINS; MANAGER, ALDWYCH RINK, etc.),
110, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—5227 Gerrard.
SKATING RINK SPECIALIST AND PICTURE PALACE EXPERT.
Rinks Supervised, Managed, Equipped, and Staffed.
Sites Viewed and Reported on and all Branches of the Business handled.

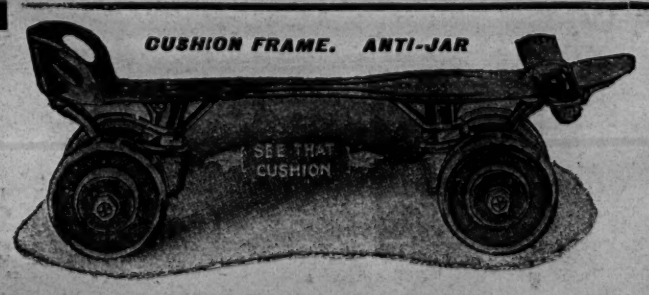

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.
They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.
STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.
Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.
The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.
The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.
Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.
Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool (DEPT. B); 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C. (DEPT. B).

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR MARCH.

ENGLAND.

1. Downham (2,472)
2. Belford (1,280)
2. Oswestry (9,600)
3. Maiden Newton (700)
3. Morpeth (6,200)
3. St. Buryan's (1,300)
5. Alnwick (6,700)
5. Bury (58,038)
5. Odiham (5,200)
5. Wisbech (9,831)
7. Cornhill-on-Tweed (637)
7. Dudley (48,809)
7. Hingham (1,600)
7. Stamford (7,218)
9 Colne (23,000)
12 Stockport (78,871)
14. Grantham (17,600)
14. Wadebridge (2,300)
19. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
19. Malton (4,800)
19. Pickering (3,500)
19. Pontefract (13,400)
21. Gomersall Feast (3,580)
22 Retford (12,339)
22. Wotton-under-Edge (3,200)
23. Lowestoft (29,842)
24. Norwich (124,728)
24. Okehampton (2,600)
25. Bacup (22,505)
25. Cullompton (2,922)
25 Doncaster (28,924)
25. Haslingden (18,600)
25. Henley-in-Arden (1,000)
25. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
25. Todmorden (25,400)
26. Barnard Castle (4,421)
26. Bilston (24,034)
26. Blackburn (127.527)
26. Bridgnorth (6,047)
26. Carlisle (45,478)
26. Chorley (26,850)
26. Clitheroe (11,414)
26. Deptford (110,122)
26. Derby (105,785)
26. Durham (14,641)
26. Godmanchester (2,017)
26. North Shields (50,000)
26. Oldham (137,238)
26. Woodbridge (4,640)
28. Bakewell (2,850)
28. Birkenhead (110.926)
28 Blackheath (21,000)
28. Cheltenham (49,439)
28. Clurdon (5,898)
28. Exeter (46,940)
28. Gainsborough (14,541)
28. Garston (17,389)
28. Halesowen (10,550)
28. Hampstead Heath
28. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (22,450)
28. Hinckley (11,300)
28. Hockham (521)
28. Ilkley (7,755)
28. Jarrow-on-Tyne (34,294)
28. Malvern (16,500)
28. Middlesbrough (91,300)
28. Midsomer Norton (5,811)
28. Morecambe (11,798)
28 New Brighton (10,961)
28 Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
28. Northampton (87,000)
28. Portsmouth (189,160)
28. Richmond (Surrey) (31,667)
28. Rothwell Feast (11,702)
28. Rushden (12,500)
28. Ryde (I. of W.) (11,000)
28. Salford (Trinity Market) (220,560)
28. Silbey (7,780)
28. Shipley Glen Feast
28. Sleaford (5,500)
28. Southport (48,087)
28. South Shields (97,300)
28. Stafford (20,894)
28. Stourbridge (16.302)
28. Torquay (33,600)
28. Tring (4,368)
28. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
28 Wormwood Scrubs
29 Folkestone (12.093)
29. Longton (35,815)
29. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
30. Hitchin (10.072)
30. Tetbury (2,000)
31. Stamfordham (900)
31. Worthen (1,109)
31. Yarmouth (51,250)

SCOTLAND.

1. Jedburgh (2,222)
3. Roxborough (958)
4. Kelso (4,525)
5. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)
11. Haddington (3,726)
16. Dumfries (17.079)
28. Edinburgh (316,522)

WALES.

8. Menai Bridge (1,600)
15. Corwen (1,765)
15. Penmorfa (1,486)
16. Pontardawe (3,327)
18. Cowbridge (1,292)
18. Rhyader (1.215)
25. Holyhead (10,072)
26. Towyn (3,744)
28. Cardiff (164,420)
28. Holywell (2,650)
28. Merthyr Tydfil (69,227)
28. Mold (4,263)
28. Newport (Mon.) (67.290)
28. Pontypridd (14.200)
31. Llanfyllin (1,627)

Frank Bostock at the Glasgow Zoo.

Bostock's Jungle.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank C. Bostock; Manager, Mr. Harry E. Tudor.—On Friday last a private view was given of this new amusement resort, and visitors were astonished at the transformation that has been made in the Zoo Rink during the five days it was closed. Round the walls are the cages of trained animals, with a passage behind to admit of them being taken in their turn to the huge steel arena, 60ft. in diameter, where they are put through their paces by numerous trainers, male and female, representative of America, Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Belgium, and Cuba. These various performances evoked the liveliest interest, and were interspersed with humorous interludes by Raffles and Martino. Lots of side-shows are provided for the amusement of visitors, including the new sport, Turtling, and trick chairs, bagatelle boards, summer-house cage, home of mystery, and other devices for fun and hilarity, abound in every corner. On Saturday the Jungle and Arena were open to the public, and huge crowds thronged the Zoo buildings from the opening hour. Mr. Frank C. Bostock purposes remaining in Glasgow for eight or nine weeks, the programme being varied every week.

New Brighton Tower.—This popular resort on the banks of the Mersey will reopen on Good Friday. A number of new shows are in course of erection, and which are expected to be completed by the opening day. Mr. R. H. Davy, under whose management this concern is making great headway, has just concluded arrangements whereby most of the biggest shows and specialities on the road will show in the amusement park during the summer. Last year's financial result was the best on record, and with the leading railway companies continuing their policy to run special "Tower trips," this season promises to be a great one for all concerned.

The Power of Combination.

We congratulate the youngest of the Trade Defence Societies, the Cinematograph Defence League, on the success of its work. Before the League started that great body of cinematograph exhibitors, the showmen of the permanent picture palace, were without organisation and without a mode of collective expression.

It is well within the memory of our readers that when the regulations of the Home Secretary, under the Cinematograph Act, were published, a tremendous outcry was raised not only at the severity of the regulations but at their impracticable nature. As soon as the Defence League began its splendid work the officials approached the Home Office, and although the immensely important question of the Sunday opening of cinematograph shows is for the present left to the goodwill (or otherwise) of the local authorities, extremely important concessions have been secured by the deputation that waited upon the Home Secretary. The Showmen's Guild, before the Bill was through Parliament, made its wishes and difficulties known to the Government. There can be no doubt that the work of the Showmen's Guild paved the way for the further consideration of the question which, backed up by later experience, the Cinematograph Defence League has obtained. We are quoting from the report of the members' meeting of the League given in our columns last week because we want showmen to understand the value of combination. We also wish all exhibitors of cinematograph films to realise that it is only by the most persevering insistence that justice can be done to the great industry they represent.

"The alterations which the Home Secretary had agreed to make provided that the operating-box would not now be required to be placed outside the building or auditorium. Again, no ventilating shaft would now be required. The removal of that restriction was a triumph, as its imposition would have debarred many showmen from earning a livelihood. So serious had been the effect already that one hiring firm had told him that his business had been affected by it to the extent of many hundreds of pounds per week. That would show them the seriousness of the question, and would also show them the work the League had performed in regard to the Home Office Regulations. When the new regulations were received they would find that they could put their box in the hall in the same place practically as they had it before, except that they must have it properly constructed of fire-resisting material and with a gangway round it to keep the public away. Those were restrictions which no one who had the interest of the business at heart could possibly object to.

Then as to Spool Boxes,

"The Home Secretary, on the recommendation of the League, had agreed to a maximum of 14in. instead of 12in., but when a 12-in. box was used it was provided in the regulations that they should not overcrowd the spool by winding the film over the flanges.

The Question of Voltage.

"As to the electric voltage, the Home Secretary had agreed to alter the regulations on that matter to read in this way—that the 110 shall only apply as across the terminals of the arc when in use. That would not necessarily mean they should not take more than 110 volts from the cable coming into the box, but should not take, when in use, more than 110 volts across the terminals of the arc. Thus, as regarded the lighting of the box, they could have 200 or 250 volts."

The Ground Prepared by the Guild.

Both the questions of the outside position for the operator's box and the size of the spool-box were raised and discussed when the showmen's deputation, consisting of Messrs. Horne, Collins, and Green, discussed the regulations that are now being revised. The showmen expressed a strong opinion that the operator's box should be within the auditorium (under proper safeguard) and that the spool-box should take a 14-in. reel. It was a disappointment to the showmen that when the regulations were issued both these points were not made clearer. In fact, the deputation came away with the impression that certainly portable structures would be exempt from the outside box. A number of County Councils read this intention into the Act, and have already granted licences to showmen with inside boxes. It is gratifying to have this matter cleared up, and the revised regulations simplify the matter for all sorts and conditions of showmen. The spool-box is also a great concession. With regard to voltage, the Rev. T. Horne took care to consult with one of the largest cinematograph film-making firms in London, and he received assurances that a 110 voltage had been considered by the trade, and that it was sufficient for all practical purposes. Our congratulations, therefore, are justly due to the energetic committee and officers of the Cinematograph Defence League.

The Brussels Exhibition.

The forthcoming International Exhibition of Brussels will be the great event of the present year. As showing the tremendous growth of amusement parks and the importance of the side-show arrangements at international exhibitions, the Plaine des Attractions will be a notable example. A reference to our advertisement columns will show that the Brussels Exhibition Amusements Co., Ltd., have still a few sites to let for small shows, bars, tea-rooms, &c. There can be very little doubt that Brussels will be the Mecca of pleasure-seekers during the coming summer and autumn. The Plaine des Attractions will afford that open-air amusement the show-loving crowds of the world desire. We confidently anticipate a signal success for the undertaking so well managed by the Brussels Exhibition Amusements Co.

Notes from Yorkshire.

Harry Ashington's Cinema and Marionette Pavilion continues its successful season at Adwalton. Despite the inclement weather, good houses nightly have been the rule. Messrs. Bassett, Redfern, and Daly, with popular games and other amusements, are associated with the Ashington enterprise. On Wakefield Market Ground there are a considerable number of popular amusements on exhibition for a short winter season. J. W. Waddington's motor-cars set and Messrs. Blake, Holdsworth, Stewart, Wood, Pedder, and Kershaw, with games, stall, &c. On the Market Ground at Leeds the show and other attractions include Harry Hughes' school of boxers, with grand assault-at-arms; Jameson, Hyde, Vanner, and Guthrie, with throwing games; and other amusements. Bailey's novelty circus was prevented opening on Friday last owing to the stormy weather.

Lichfield Amusements.

At the St. James's Hall, Poole's Myriorama and variety company has had a good week's business. Wombwell's National Menagerie visited the ancient city, and were located on the Swan Grounds for Thursday. Excellent business rewarded the enterprise.

White City, Old Trafford.

Mr. J. Calvin Brown has been busy making several alterations and improvements in the grounds, and it is intended to open for the summer season on May 7. During the winter the skating rink and the ballroom have been well patronised. A Model Aero Show, under the auspices of the Manchester Aero Club, has been arranged to be held on March 4 and 5.

Sailor's Brave Rescues.

An exciting scene was witnessed late on Thursday evening on the Fairground at Clapham Junction, close to the scene of the recent big fire at the drapery establishment of Messrs. Arding and Hobbs. A caravan caught fire and quickly became enveloped, the flames threatening to spread to other vans, but, by the help of a number of willing hands, these were quickly moved from the danger zone. Then a woman's cries denoted the fact that her two children were in the burning van, and although by this time it was thoroughly alight from end to end, R. Meymouth, an A.B. of H.M.S. Defence, showing great pluck, climbed to the top of the van and succeeded in rescuing the two children, apparently little the worse for their exciting experience. The ground was crowded at the time, and the sailor was loudly applauded for his brave action.

The bill at the Electric Theatre, Leamington, this week embodies pictures of more than usual interest. The chief film is The Poacher's Revenge, a remarkable dramatic production in twelve tableaux, whilst The Christian proves to be a wonderful adaptation of this remarkable story. The Invasion provides some stirring scenes, and The Brighton Express Disaster gives a realistic description of this awful catastrophe. The new artist, Mr. Harry Lewis, displays a delightful baritone voice, which he uses with wonderful effect. He is a great success. The elocutionist, Mr. Bert Williams, still as popular as ever, gives a masterly interpretation of G. R. Sims' poem "The Lifeboat."

Kinematograph Copyright. The Law Affecting the Same. By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address, the Publisher *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

THE GREAT SHOW OF THE YEAR.

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINE,
"OLYMPIC GARDENS," THE CENTRE OF ATTRACTION.

Apart from the well laid out gardens, lake, and extensive grounds, considerably more than **ONE MILLION DOLLARS** is being expended solely on the beautiful buildings of this **AMUSEMENT SECTION** of the Argentine Republic's Great Centennial Exhibiton.

This Section is to remain open almost the whole year, and to be continued permanently on somewhat similar lines to the "White City" or "Earl's Court" of London.

Buenos Aires is the Paris of the New World, with a population of over 1,300,000 amusement-loving people, and a mild summer climate that lasts practically the whole year round.

The display of luxurious wealth and lavish expenditure in this Great City of the South astonishes and deeply impresses all visitors. These features, due to the amazing development of the country and the stupendous wealth of its marvellously rich and illimitable resources, make it to-day the chief commercial goal of the world.

"OLYMPIA" (originally the Japanese Gardens) is a large natural park located in the heart of the city, and on this unique site there is now being erected a careful selection of all the leading and most successful features of the most famous Amusement Parks of the world.

PROMINENT SPACE IS NOW AVAILABLE for good concessionaires and ***FIRST-CLASS*** attractions. It offers a golden opportunity for manufacturers of novelties. Apply by letter only to THE LONDON AGENT, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS, LTD., OF BUENOS AIRES, 50, GRESHAM ST., LONDON, E.C.

BRUSSELS
UNIVERSAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THIS EXHIBITION WILL OPEN ON
SATURDAY, 23RD APRIL, 1910.

THE
PLAINE DES ATTRACTIONS

Which is reserved for the whole of the Amusements and Side Shows is under the sole control of the

BRUSSELS (1910) EXHIBITION AMUSEMENTS CO., LTD.,
OF NORWICH UNION BUILDING, PICCADILLY, W.

The whole of the sites for large shows in the PLAINE DES ATTRACTIONS have been allotted, but the above Company is still open to receive offers regarding

SMALL SHOWS, BARS, &c.

DINNER TO SHOWMEN AT LYNN.

A special feature of recent years at Lynn Mart is the Festival Dinner given to the leading showmen of the world by Messrs. Savage Bros., Ltd., the well-known makers of roundabouts and show plant. St. Nicholas Works, King's Lynn, is world famous as the home of the mechanically driven roundabout. From these celebrated workshops all the varieties of machine novelties for the amusement of the people go forth year by year. Hardly a year goes by without some novelty, some great improvement, being put upon the market by this enterprising firm—the acknowledged experts in this line of business. The goodly custom of meeting their principal customers at dinner brings the firm and the showmen together once a year in social and friendly intercourse. It is no wonder that the opportunity of furthering the best interests of showland is eagerly embraced, and that the Showmen's Dinner at Lynn Fair is often the occasion for expressing and advancing the cause of trade protection as well as trade advancement.

Mr. Wm. Affleck, managing director of the showman side of Messrs. Savage Bros.' enterprises, occupied the chair. Mr. S. W. Redfearn (director) and Mr. Wilkinson (director) were the other members of the firm present. The guests at the high table included his Worship the Mayor of King's Lynn (Holcombe Ingilby, Esq.), Alderman Dunn (ex-Mayor and Chairman of the Markets and Fairs Committee), the Town Clark, the Chief Constable, the Rev. T. Horne (Hon. Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild), T. Watson Wright, Esq. (Guild Parliamentary Solicitor), P. Collins, Esq. (President of the Showmen's Guild), T. Hurst, Esq. (Hon Sec., the Guild, and Secretary of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union), J. W. Bostock, Esq., M. Denier (Paris), Councillor Skinner (Lynn), Mr. Cox, and other gentlemen. Amongst the prominent showmen present were Messrs. Studt Bros., H. Wallis and Sons, E. Farrar, Mitchell and Sons, Carles Thurston, B. Howden, J. Monte, W. Holmes, J. W. Waddington, Wm. Russell, Murphy Bros., W. Hoadley, J. Brewer, Jacob Studt, jun., H. Studt, jun., H. Wallis, jun., Wm. Pedley, J. Holdsworth, R. Holdsworth, G. C. Campbell, J. W. Rowley, Fred Gray, W. Wilson, S. Bolesworth, J. Barker, Wilmot Bros., A. Henderson, John Crighton, A. C. Tyler, and many others.

Toasts and Speeches.

After full justice had been done to the excellent dinner served (as it was in the beautiful dining room of the Lynn Town Hall), Mr. Affleck gave the toasts in succession of the King, the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the members of the Royal Family. These loyal toasts were received with the utmost enthusiasm.

In proposing the health of the Mayor and Corporation of Lynn Mr. P. Collins said that it was with pleasure that he proposed the health of the Mayor and Corporation of King's Lynn. They all knew (he said) that the Corporation of all towns had to spend a lot of time in public affairs, and that they had to do the very best they could for the ratepayers they represented. The Corporation of Lynn, they knew, did their best for the ratepayers of the town, and in view of the office they held they were, of course, bound to do that. The showmen had met in many places with the greatest courtesy from the Mayors and Corporations in which their business called them, still, there was no Corporation which extended the goodwill and friendly feeling towards the showmen more than that of King's Lynn, and he assured the Mayor that it was very much appreciated by those who were privileged to attend Lynn Fair. He then asked the company to drink the toast in the heartiest manner, with musical honours for the Mayor. The toast was enthusiastically received.

The Mayor, in an excellent speech, referred to the disappointment he suffered by being prevented the day previous in taking the chair at the annual meeting of the Guild in the Town Hall. He rejoiced in the speedy recovery from his cold that permitted him to be with the showmen on the present occasion. He was glad to meet the showmen, and to welcome them once more to Lynn Mart. It was a goodly custom, he thought, for the Mayor and Corporation to closely associate their good old town with the old-time People's Fair, and the annual visit of the shows and showmen to their ancient Fair. Everything that tended to brighten human life had his most cordial approval and support. The Fair was one means of bringing some little brightness and light and joy of life into the life of the people. He referred to the great kindness of the showmen year by year in helping by a benefit night at the Fair the medical charities of Lynn. He, as Mayor, would be asking them again to repeat their charity of former years. He had every confidence of success.

Alderman Dunn was also called upon to respond. In so doing the worthy alderman made one of his characteristic speeches. His keen interest in all good works in a proverb in Lynn, and his sympathy for show life, is well known to every showman visiting the Mart. In responding he said how delighted and honoured he felt in being again with his showman friends. When he presided at the Guild meeting for the Mayor the day before he felt like the Prophet of old as being between the Law and Gospel, for Mr. Watson Wright was on one side of him and Mr. Horne on the other. He could only wish his showmen friends that if ever they fell into the hands of the law that its rigour might be tempered by the mercy of the Gospel. He was honoured in being associated with the Mayor in the toast so kindly accepted. They might take his assurance that King's Lynn ever welcomed the showmen and year by year enjoyed the many amusements they brought to the Mart. Alderman Dunn proposed "Success to the Societies, the Showmen's Guild and the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union," coupled with the names of the President, Mr. Patrick Collins, the Rev. T. Horne, Mr. Watson Wright, and Mr. T. Hurst. It was the highest mark of his fellowship with showlife that the proposition of this toast had been committed to him. With such a president as Mr. Collins—one of the most famous showmen of his day and generation—with such a Chaplain and adviser as the Rev. Thomas Horne, there were no limits to the future possibilities of the industry their societies were formed to foster and to protect. Mr. Watson Wright had told them at the Society's annual meeting how zealous the trade protection societies were in looking after the interests of all showpeople. It was by mutual assistance and by co-operation they would help the interests of the industry they represented. Mr. Hurst, the secretary of both societies, united in his own person all the activities and all the energies necessary for their protection and progress. He submitted the toast with the greatest possible pleasure. The toast was received with musical honours.

Trade Societies in Showland.

Mr. P. Collins, in responding, expressed the increasing delight he experienced year by year in noting the wonderful growth of a right feeling towards the show people on the part of the general public. The showman was no longer regarded with prejudice or suspicion. His work in life as the amusement provider at the people's fairs was better appreciated and better valued. This was largely due to the better understanding that their trade societies had brought about. He strongly urged his brother showmen to be loyal to their societies, and to the interests of the great industry in which they were engaged.

Mr. T. Watson Wright in his response thanked the company for the warmth of their regard towards himself and his colleagues on the executive of the Guild. He referred briefly to the coming struggle in Parliament with the Urban District Council of Handsworth, and pointed out how such proposals must ever be met with the most determined opposition. It was to protect their business and mode of life that the societies were established. He was honoured in being associated with his friends on the executive committee, and most sincerely he thanked them for their hearty reception of the toast with which his name had been associated.

Mr. Hurst, in a brief, bright, and brotherly speech, also thanked his friends for their warm reception of his name in connection with the toast of the Societies. He confessed that he was disappointed that the end of their Parliamentary labours was not yet in sight. Handsworth was trying to get things that Parliament had refused to many powerful corporations. He was glad to be able, in the offices he held—as Honorary Secretary of the Guild and as the Secretary of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union—to bring all the influence and the power possible to bear upon public bodies to secure the just rights and liberties of showmen.

The Guild Chaplain, in an earnest appeal for unity and fellowship in the cause of show life, its defence and its advancement, provoked great enthusiasm. He referred in stirring terms to the rise and progress of the Guild and all that the societies of Showland stood for, and expressed the pride and honour he felt in having had some part and lot in the movement that the societies represented.

The Chairman proposed: "Our Visitors, coupled with the names of M. Denier and James W. Bostock." The toast was received and honoured with great warmth.

Mr. J. W. Bostock, in responding, referred to his varied experiences as a British showman in many lands and on various continents. In both Europe and America he had vindicated the showman's claim for right and justice as well as in the homeland, in the early days of their organised life. His friend and colleague, M. Denier, of Paris, for whom he was responding as well as for himself, purchased this first machine—one of the earliest types of the roundabout ever seen on the Continent—from him (the speaker). M. Denier had splendid up-to-date machines in Paris and in four other great towns in France—such had been the rapid development of show business abroad. He thanked his brother showmen for honouring him and the other visitors at the dinner, and he was deeply moved by the kind reception of his own name.

Mr. Cox, in eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the firm of Savage Bros., Ltd. He made especial reference to the work of the chairman, Mr. Wm. Affleck, and to Messrs. Redfearn and Wilkinson, associated with Mr. Affleck in the management of the firm. The toast was drank with musical honours.

Mr. Affleck, in thanking the company for honouring him, in the way they had done, asked them to remember that the interests of the showmen and the firm were identical. If the showmen prospered the firm would enjoy a share in that prosperity. He was quite sure that all his colleagues would do all in their power to forward their mutual interests.

Mr. S. W. Redfearn and Mr. Wilkinson, director of Savage Brothers, Ltd., also suitably responded, and the extremely pleasant and successful function ended by singing the National Anthem and Auld Lang Syne.

Songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Withers, Wilkinson, A. H. Smith, R. Melton, G. Stannard, and G. A. Dines. Mr. J. J Wright's orchestra played during dinner the following excellent programme of music:—March, "Through Night to Light"; Two-step, "Silver Heels"; Overture, "Caliph of Bagdad"; Valse, "Dollar Princess"; Selection, "The Arcadians"; Descriptive Galop, "A Motor Ride."

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The programme submitted here last week was excellent in every detail, and was cordially appreciated by the rapidly increasing *clientèle* of the house. The premier turn was that mirth-provoking sketch *The Yap Yaps*, by Fred Karno's renowned company of comedians. In addition to a powerful cast, two clever and famous exponents of the art of self-defence are seen in Young Josephs and Harry Chamberlain, who give a very fine exhibition of the fistic art. As usual, there is an abundance of humorous incidents, which cause uproarious laughter throughout.

The reception accorded the Two McKays, two clever juvenile Scotch artists, was very pronounced, the song "There goes the Two McKays" being a very popular number; the smart dancing of the juveniles also came in for hearty applause. Maidie Burker, a dainty young comedienne, sang "If you haven't got the money to spend" in taking style, the audience joining in the refrain quite heartily. Roze and Calvert were well to the fore as fun-makers as Captain Kettle and his charming mate, the shafts of humour being quite original, and keeping the audience in a merry mood. Alfred Graham's Premier Juveniles, in their vocal and musical scena *A Concert on the Lawn*, presented much novelty in singing, their rendering of "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" to the melody of "The Lost Chord" being a very amusing feature.

Drollery is exhibited by Phil Bransby, whose songs, "Hotel de Pentonville" and "But of course it ain't my place to interfere," being extremely funny. Fred Evans, in his protean burlesque *Dreaming*, gave a very novel entertainment, introducing some excellent impressions of Dickens's characters from "Oliver Twist," including Fagin, Bill Sikes, and Nancy. The Three Arza Boys, in their vocal and dancing act, came in for a hearty reception, the song "We are three members of the Won't Work Brigade" and their novel dancing being well received and applauded. Miss Rose Cambry, Australian comedienne, sang two excellent songs with "catchy" choruses, "Come out and sit on the balcony" and "Don't forget your old sweetheart," the latter being most popular with the audience.

The performance concluded with some fine pictures on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. Mr. G. Wells, the amiable manager of the Hippodrome, looks after the comfort of the audience in courteous fashion, and mention must also be made of Mr. Adolphe Wolff, the musical director, under whose able leadership the orchestra is making a pronounced improvement.

Some capital films are shown at the Warrington Royal Theatre of Varieties this week, and those depicting A Daughter of Shylock, Noël, and The Five-Storey House are all excellent. Phil Herman's songs and child stories are much enjoyed; Merrin and Cardiff are smart comedians; and Lille le Main a dainty Lilliputian artist and dancer. Percy Maye's imitations are very good.

Mr. T. J. Weste's Animated Picture Co. continues to provide excellent entertainments at the Town Hall, Folkestone, and there is an entire change of programme this week. The attendances have been very gratifying, and this week's bill consists of the latest and best animated pictures.

Splendid picture programmes are submitted at the Empire, Leicester. The list this week includes A Reckless Life, Foolshead, The King of the Robbers, In Love with a Bearded Woman, Adventures of an Eel, Traitor to His King and Country, A Youthful Hero, Beautiful but Destitute, Monkey's Excursion, Prince and Pauper, A Narrow Escape, and The Missionary and the Maid. Anni Blanchard, vocalist, is also an additional attraction.

HANDSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL (H.L.).

PETITION AGAINST THE BILL PRAYING TO BE HEARD BY COUNSEL.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of the United Kingdom Showmen and Vandwellers' Protection Association sheweth:

1. A Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") has been deposited in the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons intituled "An Act for conferring further powers upon the Urban District Council of Handsworth with reference to their Tramway Undertaking; to authorise the construction of new streets and widenings, and to make further provision with regard to the Health, Local Government, and Improvement of the district; and for other purposes."

2. The promoters of the Bill are the Urban District Council of Handsworth (in the Bill and hereinafter called "the Council").

3. Your Petitioners are an Association founded in the year 1890 for the protection of the interests of roundabout proprietors, showmen, and stallholders. The Association includes a number of persons who, for the purposes of their calling, have habitually resorted, and still do resort, to the Urban District of Handsworth. The property, rights, and interests of such persons are injuriously affected by the Bill, and your Petitioners object thereto for the reasons hereinafter appearing.

4. Clause 125 of the Bill is as follows:—

"The Council may make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes (that is to say):—

"For prescribing the hours within which during any fair or at any other time any show, booth, caravan, circus, or menagerie may be kept open and for preserving order therein:—

"For preventing the use of whirligigs, roundabouts, steam organs, or other similar contrivances so as to be a source of danger or annoyance to residents or the public."

5. By Clause 126 of the Bill it is proposed to enact that the Council may prohibit any vans, tents, sheds, or similar structures being erected or placed on any lands in the district where their use for human habitation is in the opinion of the Council likely to cause the pollution or fouling of any streams or ditches, and any person contravening such resolution, and the owner or occupier of any lands on which any such van, tent, or other similar structure shall be so erected or placed in contravention of the resolution, and who may have knowingly permitted the same, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and to a daily penalty not exceeding twenty shillings.

6. Your Petitioners humbly submit that Clause 125 of the Bill, in so far as it gives power to the Council to prescribe the hours within which shows may be kept open, would, if passed into law, be a most unwarrantable infringement of the personal liberty not only of showmen, but of those persons, chiefly of the working classes, for whom they provide a cheap and wholesome form of amusement. The power to prescribe the hours during which the business of showmen could be carried on might be so used as to entirely extinguish their businesses within the Urban District of Handsworth. Your Petitioners further submit that the portion of Clause 125 relating to the use of whirligigs, &c., so as to be a source of danger or annoyance, is wholly unnecessary, as there is full power under the general law to make bye-laws for preventing any such nuisance.

7. Your Petitioners are apprehensive, in view of the prejudiced and unreasonable attitude of many local authorities towards the business of showmen, that the provisions of Clause 126 of the Bill are sought for other than the merely sanitary reasons which are apparent on the face of the Clause, seeing that the likelihood of the pollution of streams is not a fact to be demonstrated in a Court of Justice, but need only exist in the opinion of the Council. If the object of the Council is to enforce the powers contained in the Clause for sanitary reasons only, the Clause is wholly unnecessary, as the general sanitary law is equally applicable to vandwellers as to other persons.

8. It has been for some years past the settled policy of Parliament not to allow Clauses similar to Clauses 125 and 126 of the Bill to be included in Private Bills, and such Clauses have been rejected on several occasions.

9. The Preamble of the Bill in so far as it relates to the matters aforesaid is unfounded and incapable of proof.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Right Honourable House that the Bill may not pass into law as it now stands, and that they may be heard by their Counsel, Agents, and Witnesses against the Preamble and Clauses thereof, and, in the event of the Preamble being proved, then in support of such Clauses and Provisions as may be necessary for their protection and benefit, and that your Right Honourable House may grant to your Petitioners such further and other relief in the premises as to your Right Honourable House may seem meet.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

For and on behalf of the United Kingdow Showmen and Vandwellers Protection Association.

Patrick Collins, President.
Thomas Hurst, Secretary.
T. Horne, Organiser.

Although the Parliamentary Solicitor is somewhat sanguine that the Handsworth District Council will withdraw the clauses that the Guild objects to, it is necessary to prepare and to lodge a petition setting forth the objections of the organised showmen to the proposed clauses. In any case, so long as local authorities persist in trying to obtain these extraordinary powers, so long will it be necessary for the Guild, in the general interests of showmen, to oppose all such proposals.

It is extraordinary, to say the least that might be said about it, that local bodies never seem to learn by the failures and mistakes of others. The same powers were sought by Mansfield, Eccles, Hyde, Acton, and a dozen other towns, but in each case the clauses were thrown out by the Parliamentary Committees dealing with them. In two cases, Acton and Oldham, the Committee decided to award the showmen their costs. This was done (and it is a most unusual thing for the Private Bills Committee to do) in order to mark the disapproval of Parliament of the efforts of local authorities to obtain powers in excess of the general law of the land in order to penalise a particular class of people or to injure a particular industry.

The Guild Will Ask for Costs.

After the expression of opinion made by the Chairman of the Private Bills Committee last year, the Guild executive will certainly ask for costs. That will, we hope, bring home to the Handsworth Corporation and other Corporations the fact that they cannot persevere in their wrong action without having to pay the cost.

At the Picture Palace, St. Margaret's Hall, Canterbury, the management have announced a beauty competition on sound lines, the audience being allowed to judge and to vote by means of coupons handed to them as they enter the hall. The great fight between Johnson and Burns has been attracting large houses, and this week's bill of fare embraces something to amuse and interest everyone.

"Cinematograph Bill, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SIDE-SHOWS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

A "WHITE CITY" IN BUENOS AIRES.

One of the most notable exhibitions of the many being held this year is the International Centennial Exhibition of Buenos Aires, to run for six months, and opening on or about May 25. Practically every important country in the world is taking part, as the extraordinary wealth, the abundant prosperity, and the rich promise of the rapidly-developing Argentine have attracted the eager attention of manufacturers and exporters throughout the world.

Possibly the most notable feature of this great exhibition will be its amusement section, which is now being organised with great energy and promise. Owing to a curious oversight, the Centennial Exhibition was planned and laid out without any provision for a general scheme of amusements, a vital feature to the financial success these days of any exhibition. This omission was soon rectified by a group of influential citizens of Buenos Aires, who obtained from the municipality a fifteen years' concession of the Japanese Gardens, an admirably situated park of about twelve acres in the centre of the city, who undertook to expend upwards of one million dollars in ornate edifices and picturesque constructional improvements in order that this new feature in the attractions of "Beautiful Buenos Aires" should be worthy of the high reputation that this city enjoys for its great wealth and astonishing progress. As these buildings must be completed within six months from the date of the concession, which was only granted in December, the work is now being actively pushed ahead. A sumptuous Garden Club is well under way, as also are the beautiful entrance gates with side towers, a Roman theatre, a mountain scenic railway, water chute, underground rivers, ornamental lake and canal, and many other attractive features, selected from similar exhibition amusement grounds in this country, the Continent, and the United States. Concessionaires are already in negotiation for sites for side-shows, &c., and many further applications are expected in the course of the next few weeks.

This year the Japanese Gardens will be the amusement section of the Centennial Exhibition, but next year it is hoped to hold a Japanese Industrial Exhibition in the grounds, and the following year a British-Argentine Exhibition. In 1912 some other country will be invited to take part, and each year it is expected that some great manufacturing country will utilise the opportunity by holding an exhibition in the grounds, the permanent buildings and popular amusements assisting in attracting large attendances.

The promoters of the Exposiciones Internacionales, Ltd. (the concessionaires of this "White City" of Buenos Aires), were influenced by the following considerations in carrying out this spirited enterprise:—

Though not tropical, the climate of Buenos Aires may be considered one of perpetual summer, and, consequently, it is proposed to keep these gardens open for at least nine months every year.

There are a great many fiesta days or close holidays, in which all offices, banks, &c., are closed, but theatres and all similar places of amusement are open. Sundays are similarly observed, and, like Paris, are the days on which the great race-meetings are held. Excepting the Zoo, to which admission is charged to an attendance of nearly 40,000 every Sunday, Buenos Aires is notably lacking in anything approaching a "White City" or Earl's Court place of entertainment.

The city has a population of about 1,300,000 people, and no unemployed. Everyone is well paid, and the wealth of the country is fully reflected in the lavish affluence of its capital city. The Argentinians are a pleasure-loving people, and are especially fond of out-door entertainment. The attendance at the Sunday race-meetings, the crowded parks on fiesta days, the flower festivals which run for several days, the very climate and character of the people, all testify to their love of open-air recreation.

It is quite evident that this permanent amusement park in Buenos Aires will supply a great want, especially during the warm nights of the long summer months. Sideshow proprietors and amusement caterers wishing for further information are directed to the advertisement in another column, in which they are requested to apply to the London agent, Exposiciones Internacionales, Ltd., of Buenos Aires, 50, Gresham-street, London, E.C.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

There is a most attractive bill for the current week at this handsome theatre, and Mr. C. Foster-Marner, the popular manager, is able to survey a packed house at each performance. The particular star turn is the version of *Trilby*, which has been prepared for the music-hall stage in sketch form, and a capital piece of work it proves to be. It is introduced by Messrs. C. Garry and J. B. Gordon, who have a most capable company. Mr. Charles Garry himself submits a fine portrayal of Svengali, thoroughly appreciating all the subtleties of the character, and Trilby is delightfully played by Miss Grace Illingworth. J. B. Gordon and Stephen Ewart are seen to advantage in those two fine characters the Laird and Taffy, and Mr. G. Saville makes a decidedly good Little Billie. The mounting is most artistic and the play is cordially received.

The Sisters Draycott are a pair of most charming duettists, whose rendering of "Dear heart" called forth tremendous applause; George D'Albert sings the old favourite "Up and down"; a novel ventriloquial entertainment is provided by George Gulliver, whose boy scout figure keeps the audience in a state of hilarity; *The Would-be Actors*, as presented by Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, has lost none of its attractiveness, and the shouts of laughter it evokes testifies to its great success; Pete and Minnie Lee provide a most enjoyable turn with song and patter, and score heavily with their business; Annie Girard is a most accomplished flautist, while her piccolo solo playing is likewise commendable and meets with much appreciation.

Verno and Voyce appear in the scena *Sporting Luck*, which is very racy and full of sporting allusions which are quickly seized on by the audience; Dolly Warsaw, a dainty comedienne, sings a pretty song and gives a very neat dance, which makes her a great favourite; MacWalton and his partner are a most entertaining duo, who appear in their speciality *Fun in a Studio*, which is very diverting, and they paint pictures with marvellous rapidity, and indulge in all kinds of tricks, which are both novel and funny.

Lew Lake and company are great favourites here, and their doings as Jerry and Nobbler are keenly followed by the Kilburn playgoers in their latest sequel to *My Pal Jerry*, which is entitled *Five Years Later*. We have a further instalment of the life history of this comical couple, and their present excursion into society is most laughable, and Lew Lake and his helpmate score a bigger success than ever in their impersonations. The sketch is most lavishly staged, and the finale very exciting and well worked. The Bioscope concludes. Mr. Sheldon and his orchestra, as usual, are to be commended for their good share in the evening's entertainment.

The chief films at the Temperance Hall, Northampton, this week are The Boy Detective, Circus Life, Maud Muller, and The Pet of the Big Horn Ranch. Miss Margaret Payne is warmly applauded for her illustrated songs "Dear Heart" and "The Wireless Man."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 21, May 2,
Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, 28, April 4, May 16,
June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 28, April 25, May 16, Aug. 1, 15, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 12,
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 21, April 18 May 2, 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
March 21, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Easter Week, at Reading.
Wire or write, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
March 21, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Saturday Night Returns:—
"Prodigal Son," £52; "The Old Home," £51; "The Bondman," £92. Bookings include "The Dairymaids," "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant."
Vacant Easter (certainty only). No cheap dramas entertained. April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
March 7, 14, 28, April 11, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Easter. State Certainty required.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 14 and 21.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.

Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21 and April 18.

Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transfer,
First-class Attractions
for April 11 and May 9.

Wire or write immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
March 21 (3 nights), April 18, May 9 (?), 16 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights), June 6, 13.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Mar. 21 (3 nights), May 30, June 20, July 11, 18, 25 (3 nights).
Apply for all above,
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
April 4.
April 4.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
Sept. 5, onwards,
Sept. 5, onwards,
Sept. 5, onwards,
with exceptions.
with exceptions.
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwards.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
March 28, April 25, May 2.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18 25.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
May 9, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21, April 25, May 2, 9, 16.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. Marriott Watson.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
April 11, 25, May 2, and various Autumn.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.

WANTED, Star Attractions,
Spring, 1911, onwards.

Coms., Arthur Jefferson.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE, OLDHAM.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Attractions, for
June 13, 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 1 and 22.
Apply, Wm. Eastwood.

WANTED, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham, Musical Comedies or First-class Attractions,
March 14, 21, 28.
Must be very Big Productions.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 28 (Easter week), and various dates onwards, including one or two Season dates.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, May 2, June 20, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, June 13, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.

The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for March 28, April 11, May 2, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.
"DICK WHITTINGTON," with its star cast of artists, including Will Evans and Dan Crawley, The Ethairiens, &c., concluded a triumphant run of six weeks, on Feb. 5.
Bookings at this Theatre include
Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey,
Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton,
Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians."
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, for
MOTHERWELL, March 28, May 2, 9, 16.
COATBRIDGE, March 21, April 11, 25.
AYR, March 14, April 18, May 2, 9.
FALKIRK, May 2, 9.
KIRKCALDY, March 9 (4 nights), 21 (3 nights), April 11, 18, and on.
LEITH, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
R. C. Buchanan,
5, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 5590 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following dates: March 14 and 21, London. March 21, April 4, May 2 and 16, Newcastle. April 11, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Edinburgh. April 25, May 2, 16, 23, and 30, Glasgow.
Apply Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Companies, Musical Plays Preferred. Wire for March 21 (5 nights); also vacant April 18, 25, May 2, to follow "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Gay Gordons," &c.
Address,
Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
March 14, 21, 28, and onwards.
Variety Combinations and Dramas.
Note, Twice Nightly.
Share or Certainty.

All communications to Walter Batty.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Easter, Whit, and on.
First-class Attractions Only.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for March 21, onwards, good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly.
Full particulars, Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Companies, for Theatre Royal, Margate, vacant March 7, on. All communications respecting Theatre to be addressed Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st, London, W.C.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, good Musical Show for Easter, also Vacant April 4, and on.
James Elphinstone.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Only Vacant Dates until Winter, April 11, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 3.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, Manager.

PAVILION THEATRE,
ABERTILLERY.
Vacant March 21, May 2, 9.

PALACE THEATRE,
EBBW VALE.
Vacant April 11 (?), May 2, 9.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Particulars, E. Tilney, Abertillery.

WANTED, Really First-class Company, New Royal, Halifax, April 25.
Address, Otto C. Culling, Bury.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 16 (Whit), 23, and 30.

Apply, J. Alban Newton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town and District.
Holds at ordinary prices £80. This amount was exceeded by £7 last Bank Holiday.
Season's bookings include:—
Mr. George Alexander's Co., "Builder of Bridges," "The Thief" (return); "An Englishman's Home"; Mr. Edward Terry; "Toddles"; "The Cingalee"; "The Hypocrites"; "When Knights Were Bold" (return); F. R. Benson (return); "Leah Kleschna" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); "Woman in the Case" "Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Walter Melville's productions; Miss Horniman's Co.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attraction, April 11.
Only Vacant Date till Autumn.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME,
SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the Year Round.
Large Stage, well stocked with new Scenery.
Lighted throughout with electricity.
Upholstered and decorated in sumptuous style.
Tip-up Seats.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North. Popular prices.
WANTED, Touring Pantomime, Xmas.
Enormous success of Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood" and Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
Also Dramatic, Musical Attractions and Variety Combinations Required for May and June.
The Opera House and Hippdrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications to
William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, March 14. Wire, Sherwood and Co.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, May 2, 9, 16, June 20, July 4, 11. Address, Mrs. T. Culeen.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 7 (?), 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford. First-class Companies for March 14, 28 (Easter Week), April 11, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Wanted, Company, Three Nights, March 17, 18, and 19.
Address, Gerald Harding.

WANTED, Big Attractions, now and onward.
Apply to James Kiernan, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, March 14, 21 (3 Kirkcaldy, 3 Dunfermline), 28, April 4, on. Now booking Autumn. W. E. Potts.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.

WANTED, Special Attractions, May 9 and 16, also Sept. Sidney Cooper.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Durie.
WANTED, Known, Vacant March 7, March 7.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy, Easter week, guarantee of £150 given, or £200 to the right show. Apply, Ainsleigh, Grand, Aberaman; or, A. J. Withers, Esq., Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Strong Attractions (Musical Pieces preferred) for April 11, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, and onwards, for Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for March 17, 18, and 19 (three nights), March 21, March 28, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Musical or Dramatic, for April 4, May 2 and 9, and various onward.
Lessee and Manager, A. C. Moody.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, March 28, April 25, May 16, June 20.
James Bell.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.

The first three nights of each week, Musical and Light Attractions Once Nightly,
the last three nights, Drama, Twice Nightly.

The average receipts at this theatre, which have steadily increased for the past six years, have during the last three years, under the present management, doubled those of the previous three years.
A new entrance for Circle and Stalls has been erected and prices revised.
Bookings for the present season include:—
Once Nightly: "Tom Jones," "Dairymaids" (second visit), "Country Girl" (third visit), "Miss Hook of Holland" (second visit), "Belle of New York" (third visit), "Gay Gordons," "Cingalee" (third visit), "Girls of Gottenburg," "Arcadians," "Merry Widow" (second visit), Pantomime, Messrs. Edward Terry, Edward Compton, and F. R. Benson. "Third Floor Back," "Toddles," "Flag Lieutenant," "The Thief," "Breed of the Treshams," "When Knights Were Bold," &c.
Twice Nightly: "A False Wife," "Man and Wife," "Woman Pays," "Dandy Fifth," "At Duty's Call," "The Old Home," "The Nihilist," "Lucky 'Liza." Walter Melville, Millar Anderson, Thomson Carruthers, &c.

WANTED, good Companies, once and twice nightly as above, for autumn. Gainsborough, Chesterfield, Loughborough and Rugby may be booked in conjunction, three nights each.

W. Payne Seddon, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
RAMSGATE.
Proprietors, The Ramsgate Corporation.
Lessee, Thomas Richard Price.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for the following Season Dates:—
June 20, 27,
July 11, 18, 25,
Aug. 18, 19, 20; 25, 26, 27.
Sept. 5, 6, 7; 12, 19, 26.

Everything done to ensure Good Business.

Bookings this season already include:—
"Captain Kidd," "Girls of Gottenburg," "A Royal Divorce," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Gay Gordons," "Country Girl," "Dear Little Denmark," "Havana," &c., &c.

The above are the only Vacant Dates.

Apply direct to the
Resident-Manager,
Councillor Charles Price,
Chandos House, Ramsgate;
or to
William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE.
Proprietor and Manager, B. Pareezer.
Vacant March 7, 21, April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, also a few good season dates. Vacant for big attractions only.

SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, B. Pareezer.
Vacant April 11, 25, May 2, 30, June 13, 20, July 4, 11, for No. 1 attractions only.

SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, B. Pareezer.
Vacant April 11, 25, May 2, 9, 25, 30, onwards, with exceptions, for dramatic, musical, or variety attractions.

KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, B. Pareezer.
Resident Acting-Manager, R. Pareezer.
Vacant April 4, 11, and 25 for dramatic, musical, or variety attractions.

Managers holding contracts for Lowestoft, Southend, and Sheerness, must forward same to B. Pareezer for signature and confirmation at once. All coms. re dates for all four theatres to B. Pareezer, Pro. and Man., Marina T., Lowestoft.

WANTED, First-class Companies only.
GRAND THEATRE,
BLACKPOOL.
Most Commodious Theatre of the Town.

Grand Reopening, Monday, March 21.
Vacant Dates, April 11, May 2, 23, June 13 and 27, July 4, Oct. 10, and onwards,
with exceptions.

Exceptional Opportunity for London Successes.

All communications to
Geo. H. Harror, General Manager
(as above)
or
Mr. E. Lockwood,
5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Known, March 7, 21, Vacant for First-class Attractions Only.
All communications,
J. Chas. Imeson, as above.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
March 14, 21, Vacant.
J. C. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, through misunderstanding, for March 28 (Glasgow Spring Holiday).

Address, Rich Waldon.

WANTED, First-class Companies for PAISLEY THEATRE,
March 21, 28, April 11, May 16.
Address, J. H. Savile, Theatre, Perth.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 14, 21, April 4, May 2, onwards.
Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Attractions, April 4, 11, and 25; also Autumn Dates. Holds £100. Bookings, "Merry Widow," "Florodora," "Dairymaids," "Knights Were Bold," &c. J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Whit, May 23, 30, June 13, 27, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, on. Alfred Manners.

ROYAL PIER PAVILION, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions for 3 or 6 nights, Easter week. Wheatley, Concert Agents, Aberystwyth.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPO., HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Big Panto. or a Sound Dramatic Attraction March 14, Easter, and onward; now doing splendid business; stage big enough for Drury Lane Plays. All coms., Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 18, 25, and May 30. F. B. Woulfe kindly communicate. Address, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Barnoldswick, Ltd., good Dramatic Companies, those playing three and four dramas weekly. Only first-class companies entertained. Address, Geo. Holloway, Manager. Success of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's Répertoire Company, Feb. 14 and week, crowded houses nightly.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, March 21, March 28.
Walter Melville,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, March 21, and various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, for Principal Touring Company, March 28 and Autumn Dates.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, April 4, 11.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 31, and various on.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5.
Andrew Melville, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, April 4, 11, May 2.
Andrew Emm, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, March 14, 21.
Douglas Bruce (Wires to-day), Grand T., Aberaman; T. R., Merthyr Tydvil, Feb. 28.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9.
Douglas Bruce (Wires to-day), Grand T., Aberaman; T. R., Merthyr Tydvil, Feb. 28.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of May 2 and 23.
Weeks of May 2 and 23.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, April 4, 11, May 2, 9, 16, July 11, on.
Charles Harrington,
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
Rehearsed and remounted.
Costumes by Messrs. Harrison.
Scenery and properties by Willie Leigh.
WANTED, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner, Feb. 28, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, May 2, June 27, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seasides only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
WANTED, Big Theatres, March 14, March 14.
"A BROKEN HEART."
April 4, 11, 18, and Whit.
April 4, 11, 18, and Whit.
Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

Mr. WENTWORTH CROOKE'S COMPANIES.
"THE PRODIGAL SON."
WANTED, March 28 (Easter).
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S "DRINK."
WANTED, March 14 (following Alexandra, Hull), Easter, and a few in between there and Whitsun, T. R., Sheffield.
Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN
Supported by the Following Well-Known Artists,
Anna Beaumont, Madge Seymour, Olga Kay,
Dudley Wynton, Frank Ayrton,
Arthur Trail, David Curtis,
and
Norman A. Overton,
Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
Please Refer, O. H., Kidderminster, this week, re Company, Play, and Production.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatre, March 28, between Dewsbury and London; April 11, between London and Alex., Birmingham; also May 2, 9, 16.
All Coms.,
Martin Comstock, T. R., Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 2, 9, 23, June 6, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 5.
Haldane Crichton, County T., Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, and Xmas, for the New Play, "His Real Wife."
Now Playing to Crowded Houses.
Address, T. E. Ward, T. R., South Shields.

"NICK CARTER" (Detective),
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, a Few Big Theatres for Autumn, and on. Fine plant of printing by Allens.
"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
Wanted, March 28 and April 4.
J. Forbes Knowles, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

"WELSH MAID."
WANTED, for the above Musical Drama, March 14, to follow Oxford; also good Theatre, for Easter. Wire or write, Lewis, 34, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W.

Mr. ERIC H. ALBURY'S COMPANY,
in the Great Farcical Comedy Success,
from the Strand Theatre,
"WHY SMITH LEFT HOME,"
by arrangement with Mr. Lionel Rignold.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Easter, Easter, Easter.
April 4 (?), 11, Whit, and onward, with exceptions.
E. H. Albury, 10, Claverton-street, S.W.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S No. 1 COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, April 4, 25, and Autumn.
Coms., Walter D. Nicoll, 106, Strand, W.C.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery) depicting the Murder of Hallijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Feb. 28, ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates until June 13 are
March 28, April 25, May 16.
Write or wire.
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success Sept. 12, 25, Oct. 31.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, 28, April 11.
Frank M. Thorne, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexborough.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for this Colossal Production, No. 1 Theatre, next Season. Production and Run.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910), and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910), and onwards.
Managers Note.—These are three of the most successful Pantomimes ever Produced.
PLAYS.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Drama, Good Theatres, May 2, Whit Week, and onwards.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring, Vacant April 25 (Wales preferred); also Wanted, Good Theatre, for Whit Week.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
Wanted, Good Theatres, for Easter Week, April 4, 11, and May 9. Re dates,
Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic add.: "Granville, Pagoda, Liverpool."

GILBERT PAYNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
The Brightest, Prettiest, and Cleanest Pantomime on the Road.
"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."
Managers invited to witness this show with view to dates next season. Owing to enormous success Tour extended.
"THE MARRIAGE MART."
"THE MARRIAGE MART."
"THE MARRIAGE MART."
"THE MARRIAGE MART."
An Original Oriental Musical Play, by Gilbert Payne.
30 First-class Artists. 30 First-class Artists.
Powerful Chorus. Gorgeous Dresses.
Sparkling Music. Elaborate Scenery.
Exceptionally Strong Cast, including:—
Gilbert Payne as Christopher Crackett.
Gilbert Payne as Christopher Crackett.
WANTED, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
Production April 11, H.M.T., Carlisle.
Only First-class Theatres and Equitable Terms can be entertained for this Attraction.
Address all communications,
Gilbert Payne, Hippodrome, Todmorden.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
3 week's receipts exceed £1,600.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, 10.
Fred Bulmer,
Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Easter
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Aug. 1.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK" No. 2 Co.
WANTED, Oct. 17, between Perth and Whitehaven; Nov. 7, between Lancaster and Liverpool.

"THE THIEF."
Messrs. ALBAN and BERNARD LIMPUS'S NO. 1 COMPANY.
In consequence of Success of Present Tour, now being Booked for Autumn, 1910.
WANTED, No. 1 Theatres, from Aug. 1, on.
Next week, Luton and Bedford, to be followed by Southend, Folkestone, Brighton, Eastbourne, Torquay, Plymouth, Exeter, Worcester, and Cheltenham.
All communications re dates to
W. Payne Seddon,
Theatre, Loughborough.

"THE BEST PEOPLE,"
from Wyndham's Theatre,
by Frederick Lonsdale,
Author of "Dear Little Denmark," "Early Worm," "Balkan Princess."
Provincial and Suburban Rights.
Tour starts March 7, West Pier, Brighton.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Easter on, with exceptions.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, London.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9.
Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

MILTON BODE and JOHN HART'S COMPANY.
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre for April 12, between Leeds and Newcastle.
Wire Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
MISS CARLOTTA ZERBENI
and Specially Selected Company.
WANTED, April 18 (?) and 25 (?), to precede Harrogate;
also Whit, May 30, onwards.
H. Criswell Billing, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

MRS. BROWN-POTTER and No. 1 LONDON CO. in "MADAME X," the Great Success from the Globe Theatre, London.
WANTED, through transferring, Easter Week, and one or two other dates between Easter and Whit, for the above enormous attraction. Apply, Messrs. Baring Bros., Montpelier-chambers, Cheltenham.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "A Pair of Spectacles," or Répertoire, March 7, 14, April 18, and onwards. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Easter, April 4, 11, May 2, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 29, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, and Xmas.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire, Arthur Hinton,
To-day, Tonypandy; Mon., T. R., Chatham.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 28, April 11.
Miss ANNIE BELL
as FLARE-FLARE,
supported by a Star Company.
Wire, James Bell,
T. R., Darlington.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
By Arrangement with George Dance, Esq.
WANTED, Dates, Easter Week, onwards.
Full Cast and Chorus; everything on First-class Lines. All coms., Neville Claude, 2, Andrews' New Theatre, Aberdare.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
Another splendid week at Rotherham. Refer Frank Macnaghten, Esq., re business done at his houses. Thanks W. H. Melton, Esq., for two future dates. Easter, Whit, Aug. 1, and Xmas, 1910, booked. Easter and Xmas, 1911, booked.
WANTED, Big Theatres, March 21 and May 9.
All coms., Geo. A. De Gray.
To-day, Prince's, Blackburn; next, Q. T., Farnworth.

THEATRES WANTED.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.

WANTED, Production Dates,
next Season, 1910-11,
next Season, 1910-11,
next Season, 1910-11,
next Season, 1910-11,
next Season, 1910-11,
next Season, 1910-11,
for
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S

Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,

"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
and
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."

Can be played once or twice nightly.
Can be played once or twice nightly.

Managers invited to see
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
this week,
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL,
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL,
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL,
PAVILION, LIVERPOOL,
where it is playing to record business.
where it is playing to record business.

Only First-class Theatres or Halls Entertained.
Only First-class Theatres or Halls Entertained.

Write,
J. GAR KIDDIE,
Victoria Chambers, Widnes.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED, March 14, 28,
Easter (to precede New T., Cambridge).

Magnificent and Level Business at Belfast.
Magnificent and Level Business at Belfast.
Kindly refer Mr. Fred W. Warden.

Two delightful and attractive Productions.
The exquisite dressing
and
glorious two-manual Pipe Organ
greeted nightly with enthusiasm.

No waiting for a big Saturday night
(though that is always assured),
Every night's receipts being regularly excellent.

Remember,
Miss Esmond has Toured these Plays
in the Best Theatres
continuously for three years.

This is the third visit to Belfast.

Wire,
LOIE ESMOND, to-day, T. R., Belfast.
Feb. 28, Empire, Fleetwood (return).

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Dates for Various Pantomimes during January; also Production date, three or four weeks. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED May 2, June 13 20.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Wanted, March 21, 28.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, March 21, 28.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, April 11, 18.
Wire, KIMBERLEY, T. R., Sunderland; next, Methil.

KIMBERLEY, GREEN, and HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, 11, March 28, March 28.
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Sunderland; next, Methil. N.B.

"KING AND UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, April 4 11, 18, 25. and onward.

Address, E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Elephant and Castle Theatre.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, May 2 (?), 9 (?), and Whit (Midlands or South).
Only Spring Dates Open.

CHARLES GIBSON, PRINCE'S, ACCRINGTON.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 5 and 19, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 14, and Dec. 26.

Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED March 21, between Manchester and Ramsgate.
DICKIE CLARE, Opera House, Wakefield.

WILSON-BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Whit Week, also various Autumn.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant March 7, Easter, May 23, June 6, 27, Aug. 1. few Autumn.
Letters, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MISS MARY NEIL'S
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
By Charles Darrell,
and
New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston), Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 12, and Xmas.

GEO. KIRK, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

The Musical Com., "MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, April 4, 18, May 2, 9.
HENRY L. OSMOND,
Houghton; next, Pier, New Brighton.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatres, March 7, 14, 21, and Easter Week, for this pretty Pantomime. Full of fun and refinement. Big specialities, pretty faces, funny comedians. Who wants a great Easter Pantomime? Address, up to Saturday night, Theatre Royal, Bilston, Staffs. After, NELSON BARRETT, East Theatre, Oxford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted. Dates.
Mrs. Morton Powell's
Great Play,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

The Greatest of them all.
The Greatest of them all.

An Instantaneous Triumph.
An Instantaneous Triumph.
Produced on Feb. 7
at the
Theatre Royal, Belfast,
Theatre Royal, Belfast,

The Theatre Full every night.
The Theatre Full every night.

Saturday night
an Early Door Queue,
estimated to be
a quarter of a mile long,
a quarter of a mile long,
waiting,
after the Theatre was Filled
in every part.
Refer to
Fred W. Warden, Esq.

Read the Belfast Press on
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION"
The Ulster Echo, Feb. 8, says:—
. . . . For a considerable time before the hour of opening the theatre was surrounded by large crowds, and those who were fortunate enough to get a seat witnessed
A SPLENDID PLAY
IN THE HANDS OF
A SPLENDID COMPANY.
Mrs. Powell has, by this new piece, proved herself an authoress of good rank. Her drama should have a long and prosperous run before its final ring-down comes on.
The Belfast Evening Telegraph says:—
. . . . It is written by Mrs. Morton Powell in her MOST FORCEFUL AND VIGOROUS STYLE, and is full of exciting and thrilling episodes.

Northern Whig says:—
"Driving a Girl to Destruction" is sure to prove A GREAT POPULAR SUCCESS,
as it possesses all the requirements to that end. The plot is ingenious without being over-complicated. The dialogue is crisp and telling, and there is a succession of strong and thrilling situations, while the scenery and accessories are a feature of the production. . . . The unmistakably favourable verdict passed on the play by Belfast is certain to be endorsed in other centres. . . .
The Irish News says:—
There was a big house. . . . and the four acts were followed with a good deal of interest. . .. The plot never lags. . . . The play moves with tremendous rapidity. . . . The company is a strong one. . . . The staging and mounting was on an elaborate scale.
The Belfast News Letter says:—
. . . Her latest work is likely to bring her fresh popularity. . . . The play has plenty of exciting incidents to arrest the attention, and the humorous interludes which characterise it caused much amusement
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION"
in
Liverpool.

Brilliant Success
at the
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

The Theatre Full every Night.
The Theatre Full every Night.

Not a single seat vacant
any night.
Standing room
at a
Premium.

Refer to
Harris Fineberg, Esq.

Read the Liverpool Press on
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

The Stage, Feb. 17, says:—
This new piece by Mrs. Morton Powell deserves its success. The author has a decided penchant for depicting the woes of the pretty and innocent woman, and each heroine of hers of this class shows decided signs of being better understood, more near to nature, and more convincing than the predecessor. One begins really to believe in Mrs. Powell's suffering feminine, to have a genuine sympathy for her, and to be held in a closer grip by her fighting for her honour and her freedom. Ruby Wright stands in the literary and dramatic sense head and shoulders above other similar creations of Mrs. Powell, and we congratulate her upon giving us a woman whose simulated sufferings move us with considerable emotion. . . . There is, as may be gathered from this, much vitality in the piece, and time after time the audience on Monday were
SWEPT AWAY IN A VORTEX OF EXCITEMENT.
The Liverpool Courier says:—
"Driving a Girl to Destruction" is the title of a new play that is being presented this week at the Star Theatre. It is from the pen of Mrs. Morton Powell, a lady who has already provided the stage with several popular works of similar character, and when at Belfast last week it was produced for the first time public appreciation was great. A large audience present at the Star last evening also testified to the merits of the play, and followed the unfolding of the plot with deep interest. A very able company has been sent to interpret it. . . . There are several exciting situations in the play, while the scenery and dresses are in Mr. Morton Powell's well-known finished style. A matinée is to be given on Thursday.

The Post and Mercury says:—
And a good all-round combination of artists has been commissioned to present the play. The opening performance was last evening enthusiastically received by an appreciative audience.

Liverpool Echo says:—
. . . . and throughout the scenery and acting are of
SUCH A HIGH-CLASS CHARACTER
that the play is sure of a successful run.

Liverpool Express says:—
. . . . Talented authoress. . . . There are several very exciting incidents in the play, including a great fight to the death between two women in the last act, and the unfolding of the plot was followed with the keenest interest.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By
Mrs. Morton Powell.
A Great
Money-making Play.
Vacant,
April 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30, June 6.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.

This wonderful Play
acknowledged
to be
One of the finest Money-makers
Touring.
Vacant,
May 2, 9, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.

This Record-breaker
is proving everywhere
what it can do.
Vacant, May 9, June 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

These are the Plays to Book.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
These are the Plays to Draw.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T, Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
To all Managers of First-class
Pier Pavilions, and other similar places of Entertainment, that
WILLIAM DOWNES
intends touring a High-class Concert Party
under the description of
"THE MERRY HUNTERS,"
commencing Monday, May 16, 1910.
Each Artist specially chosen for this Tour, and includes the famous versatile lady entertainer,
MISS MENA BRAE.
A Brisk and Brilliant Show, in smart Hunting Costumes. Re dates and terms apply direct to
W. DOWNES, Drury Lane Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Theatre, for Summer Stock Season, commencing May 30, six or eight weeks. Apply, EDWARD MCLEAN, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, Easter week and onwards, complete new Programme, including Novel Pantomedietta, "Androcles and the Lion." All coms., SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Theatres, Large Halls, Piers, &c. (the Bigger the Better), for the Walturdaw Animated Picture Co. Write. WOOD, Peonie's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, Easter, from March 24, with good Sacred Concerts, by Percy Newport's London Entertainers, or the I.D.K. Minstrels.
Apply, 26, Kingsway, Mortlake, S.W.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE GIRL FROM KAYS," Musical Comedy.
WANTED, Principals and Chorus, Ladies and Gentlemen, for above, to rehearse two weeks' time in London. Absolute lowest terms for a long run. State age, height, enclose photos (imperative) and references. Those having played in the show before to have preference.
Write NEVILLE CLAUDE,
New Theatre, Aberdare.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, also Heavy Man, rehearse at once. Particulars, terms, &c., to FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Open Immediately, Artists in all Lines that have played in "East Lynne," Joint or Single; also fit-up to play small part and pianist. Write lowest for tour. No train fares. ROBINSON, Public Hall, Llantwit Major, Glam.

WANTED, a Versatile Stock Company, Four or Five Months, Commencing March 21. Very Lowest Terms and full particulars.—Box 7325, "The Era."

MISS FRANCES DELAVAL'S SKETCH,
"THROUGH THE VALLEY."
Under the Direction of Mr. Cecil Gray.
WANTED, good Character Old Woman and Juv. Lady (not Lead), for Sister of Mercy. F. DELAVAL, 1, Camden-villas, Selsea-av., Herne Bay.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
WANTED, a really good Character Heavy Actor, capable of Irish Comedy, Character, when required. Lowest terms, references (with addresses), to HARRY TILBURY, 10, East-parade, Consett, Co. Durham.

WANTED, tall responsible Gentleman, to rehearse London, Tuesday next. Full particulars, G. CARLTON WALLACE, Pavilion Theatre, E.

WANTED, Known Vacancy occurs in Good Touring Company for Clever Amateur Actor. Must be tall, refined, good voice. Small salary after first two months. Address, with full particulars, references, age, height, &c, to Box 7331, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Pair Good Comedians, Capable Parts. Good price for the right goods. State where working. Give permanent address. Box 7329, "The Era."

WANTED, for First-class Vaudeville, Comedian, able to speak King's English; young, tall. Full particulars, Box 7,342, "The Era."

WANTED, Character Comedian, for Fiery Major part in Sketch; must be over 5ft. 10in. All particulars to SID BEDFORD, Palace, Reading.

WANTED, Several Smart Young Girls, not under 14, good figure and appearance, must have good voices and able to read music, those able to play some instrument preferred. Apply, with full particulars, HARRY ESDEN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Several Smart Young Acrobatic Dancers, Good Figure, Appearance, and Clever. Apply, with full particulars, HARRY ESDEN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Basso Profundo, to Open at Once, Music Halls. State experience. Address, ALEXANDRA, 76, Hyde-road, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Artist's Model, to play small part Working Living Pictures.
Address, Box 7,319, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Genial Joe Redfern, a Comedian and a Vocalist who can act. Dis. Whit, on, for Mus. Com. or Drama. This, Vic., Kettering; next, T. R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Engagement by a Recognised Artist, Dude or Light Comedy.
All coms., RETTUC, 171, Chester-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement by Versatile Young Comedian, height 5ft. 6in. Pageboy or similar part. First-class show only. Box 7320, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, for Spring Tour, Principal Boy, Good Figure and Voice essential. Pair of Sisters and Clever Juveniles. Terms, &c., to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.
N.B.—Mark envelopes "Panto."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Next Season Pantomimes, also Chorus Ladies.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Bluchers-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. ROBERTS, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, First-class, steady and reliable, Engagement in Provinces or London; bright, effective work; good refs. Terms moderate. A. E. A., 29, Tadema-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract Job; late Dalston T. Address, 47, Englefield-rd., Southgate-rd., Dalston.

WANTED, Engagement or Contract by Davies Massey, Scenic Artist. At Liberty March 12. 4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman with £100 to finance production of First-class Costume Sketch. Five characters. Period, Charles I. Only one able to do justice to the part considered.
Box 7346, "The Era."

WANTED, Manager for an Important Suburban Theatre. Must be competent in all branches and thoroughly experienced. Tall and pleasant appearance. Good references required and guarantee for fidelity. State salary.
Apply, by letter, Box 7336, "The Era."

WANTED, smart capable Stage-Manager; one able to touch up scenery preferred.
Apply, with copies of refs., to
CHARLES OWEN, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to Join Established Variety Agency; excellent opportunities for learning the business thoroughly; small premium required, paid in salary.
State full particulars and when vacant to
Box 7,345, "The Era."

WANTED, Competent Manager for Cinematograph Theatre. Must have good references, and thoroughly understand business. State age and salary. Box 7312, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, competent and steady Electrician, practical worker. State references and salary. Good Property Man also write in. Letters only. T. ALLAN EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, a Steady, Smart Billposter, to make himself generally useful.
A comfortable permanent situation (if suitable).
30s. per week.
Send last two references to
J. CHAS. IMESON as above.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, as Acting-Manager, Hall-keeper, or any confidential position, expert accountant, correspondent, and advertising organiser; 15 years' all-round experience in the Show business. Wire, HERBERT H. CULLUM, 75, Woodbine-avenue, Wallsend.

WANTED, thoroughly reliable, young, single, and teetotal Billposter (none other need apply); experienced in tending to horse and waggon, to travel with Circus Agent, Tenting. Address, W. C. BURNS, 21, Park-road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

WANTED, for Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama, Six Competent High Window Billers, commence March 14 at Park Hall, Cardiff. Address, CHARLES E. HERMAN, Advertising Manager, Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Management of Provincial Hall, by experienced London Manager; excellent references. Apply, M. M., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Stage-Manager, Musical Comedy or Ballet; experienced; good Dancer and Arranger.
Apply, Box 7,258, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Gentleman, well educated, seeks position as Private Secretary to Professional Lady or Gentleman; moderate salary. Address, Box 7,315, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, James Leco, Circus Agent, is at Liberty for Tenting Season; knows country well. Address, JAMES LECO, 54, Plains of Waterloo, East Cliff, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, as Biller and Effect Worker; Pictures or Variety. W. VALLANCE, 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musical-Director, open immediate. PERCY HONRI, Empire, Wolverhampton; Monday next, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, a First-class Musical-Director-Pianist, Total Abstainer. Full Particulars and References.
Apply, ISRAEL PRICE, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, experienced Lady Violinist, good Soloist, afternoon Engagement, with board-residence. Write, stating terms, to PIANIST, 20, Hawley-square, Margate.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, thoroughly efficient and experienced Leader. Small permanent orchestra, Midlands. Terms and fullest particulars, Box 7327, c/o "The Era."

CHAS. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, to open March 7, at Aberdare. Must assist with fittings. Age and references to FRED MANN, Poole's Theatre, Treherbert, S. Wales.

WANTED, Cornet, Euphonium, and Horn. Terms, shares.
Apply, ATHERTON, Manor Hotel, Torquay.

WANTED, Cornet, open March 14.
Apply, with lowest possible terms,
SANTE, Skating Rink, Chorley.

WANTED, good String Double Bass and Bassoon, to give services in Amateur Orchestra, London.
Daytime employment offered suitable men.
Residents in or near London preferred.
Apply, stating age (must be under 35) and qualifications, to
Box 7,334, "The Era."

WANTED, immediate, B Flat and G Trombones, Touring, young, clean shaven. State lowest terms. PERCY HONRI, Empire, Wolverhampton; next week, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, to open at once, a Reliable and Experienced 'Cello Player. References and salary to MUS.-DIR., H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen, N.B.

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Good 'Cello, to open Monday, Feb. 28.
Wire, SHERWOOD and Co.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist for Hippodrome, Southend-on-Sea. Send age, references, and salary required to
MUSICAL ADVISER, The Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, Vocalist, for small Picture Hall in Bournemouth. Apply, stating full particulars and lowest terms, MANAGER, Picture Palace, Winchester.

WANTED, a thorough good Pianist for Auction Mart. Must read at sight. Man used to the business preferred.
Apply, Auction Mart, Talywain, near Pontypool.

WANTED, First-class Leader, Violinist, three First Violinists, 'Cellist, and Orchestral Pianist; each of these must combine for Military Band either Second Clarionet, E Flat Clarionet, Second Cornet, First Horn, Second Horn, or Euphonium; for six months, Seaside. Applicants must be absolutely First-class with both instruments. Write, giving references, &c., Box 261, care of BATES, HENDY, and Co., 81, Cannon-street, E.C.

BARNARD'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, Orchestra, open Public Hall, Ipswich, March 7. Terms and references (letters only).
ARCHIE HOWELLS, 15, St. Ann's-road, Brixton, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, to fill a few vacancies in the Band of the
EX BRITISH GUARDS.
Vacancies in several departments which are open only to ex-Guardsmen, Musicians of best character and ability, who have recently retired. Callers at private address positively not seen without appointment. Season May 1 to Oct. State age, late Band, refs., &c., to A. HOLMES-DALLIMORE, "The Era" Office, London, W.C.

WANTED, for the Watford New Roller Skating Rink, opening March 19, First-class Musicians of every description; must be thoroughly competent, and not afraid of work; or would arrange with a First-class Conductor to supply an orchestra of eight musicians. No fancy prices paid. Apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER, Palace Theatre, Watford.

WANTED, Military Band, 18 Performers, Augment to 24 and 34. State instruments and terms. Box 7316, "The Era." Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Lady Orchestra (four performers, two Violins, 'Cello, and Piano), for suburban Tea Gardens, daily from 2 to 5.30 during the summer months. Write, stating terms, Mr. PERRY, 345, Trinity-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Charles Weldon, Musical Director. Dis. shortly. First-class offers only. Any bus., home or abroad. King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, by Benjamin Parks, Engagement as Musical-Director (Violin or Baton), Disengaged after March 5. BENJAMIN PARKS, Conductor, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Hetty Austin and Florence Jay, Violinists and Accompanists; experienced; Disen. March 4. 144, Revelstoke-road, Southfields.

WANTED, an Engagement, by a thoroughly experienced and reliable Violinist, Leader or First, Theatre or Varieties. HEAP, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged,
Miss Ethel Horton, Violinist.
Alveston House, Herbert-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, Liberty March 7, through reducing orchestra, any business. W. CRONIN, Empire Music Hall, Ton-y-Pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, any business, reliable, and well experienced. W. WILCOCK, 74, Dorrington-road, Greaves, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged 27th, Violinist, combining cornet, solo and orchestral experience, excellent references, Leader, Red Viennese Orchestra. Address, 23, Artillery-st., Leeds.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, steady, and reliable, Engagement, Summer or permanent, as Second Violin; any business. JNO. TEMPLETON, JUN., 25, Charlotte-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement; thorough knowledge of all standard works; also Soloist; high-class répertoire; experienced. R., 20, Duncan-terrace, Islington.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, Miss Letty Conolly. Permanent address, Bassano House, Lordship-lane, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet Player, good Military and Orchestral experience. Apply, WM. CUTLER, Mizpah House, York-street, Newcastle.

WANTED, by good Second Cornet, Engagement, any Business; reliable; ex. refs.; age 24. WILLMOTT, 11, King-st., Frome, Somerset.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by Solo Cornet; young, thoroughly reliable, experienced; Military, String; Brilliant Soloist. Highest refs. BURKE, 79, Rose-street, Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet. Last Engagement over Four Years, Variety Business. First-class refs. Apply to Box 7314, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for Clarionet. Address W. E. HARRISON, 14, Rockingham-street, Leeds. Special C clarionet for violin.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Engagement. Good refs. Wire or Write,
CLARIONET, 8, Gap-road, Wimbledon, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, thoroughly experienced, any business; good references; open at once. F. A. MARLEY, 3, Charlton-place, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, any Business; young, with good experience; Liberty March 1. COLBORNE, 94, Turner-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement by Bass, any Business. Good, steady, and reliable. Good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, thoroughly experienced and reliable, Theatre, Variety, Military, any distance. Basso, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ben Morris, Double Bass, at Liberty through disappointment; highest references; experienced all branches; open at once. 29, Leopold-terrace, Chapeltown, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Double Bass, 4 strings, any business. Address, Basso, 88, Cardigan-mount, Kirkstall-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Summer Engagement with good Band, Military or String, by experienced Trombone; good refs.; sober and reliable. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Euphonium (late Guards), Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced all Lines; strictly sober; First-class refs.; at Liberty. 108, Everseligh-road, S.W.

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, Engagement, any business, any distance. CHARLES GRICE, 40, Gardner-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Good E flat Bombardon, combine string, good refs., reliable, at Liberty. J. DELAFIELD, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, at once, by French Horn, Military Band or String, good reference, and reliable. Address, G. RAINFORD, c/o Myers, 76, Richmond-road, West Brompton.

WANTED, an Engagement, by French Horn.
W. PATTISON,
23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Seaside or Summer Engagement, by A. Langerack, 7, Parton-street, London, W.C. (late Principal Horn, Buxton Gardens, Bath Military Band).

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Sexton, Violoncellist. At Liberty, Feb. 27, for Engagements, or Deputising, Experienced, Combine Pianoforte. Address, 10, Connaught-street, W.

WANTED, Season Engagement, 'Cello, Young, Steady, Experienced. Good refs. Any business, 'CELLO, 44, Rockingham-road, Swinton, near Rotherham.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement in Orchestra or Chamber Music; good Soloist; references. Address, 'CELLIST, 31c, Cremorne-mansions, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any Business; first-class references. 'CELLO, 39, Cobbold-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Oboist, experienced, any business, steady, good references. Apply X., 11, Wycherley-road, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by First-class Oboist, Engagement. Highest references, &c. Disengaged March 5 through terminating of Turner's Opera Co., London. Wm. R. Morton, 31, Richmond-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboist, any Business; excellent references; at Liberty March 7. J. Pritchard, 37, Stewart-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Harpist or Double Bass, also Violinist; good ref.; steady, reliable; Café, Rink, &c. Add., Stewart, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, Disengaged through Reduction of Orchestra, after 18 months Varieties. Permanency, any business. Refs. Alexander, 40, Bedford-st., Peterborough.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Flute and Piccolo, experienced, any business, abstainer, good refs. H. Littler, 100, Victoria-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Flautist, Engagement, good Piccolo Soloist. 14, Nevin-street, W. Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Permanency, general experience, including symphony, high or low pitch. G., 17A, Upper Marylebone-st., London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced, any business, military or orchestral. Low pitch if required. Excellent references. Can open at once. J. C. Everard, 3, Charlton-place, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Flautist and Piccolo Soloist. At Liberty. Excellent refs. and ability. Any biz. Alf. Harvey, 113, Ashford-street, Shelton, Hanley, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (A.G.S.M.) as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by expert Accompanist, Pier, Hotel, Al Fresco. State terms. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, S.E. A few vacant dates in March.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés. Pianist, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Var., Drams, Pictures, any Bus.; Orch. or Self; steady, reliable; exper.; refs. Any dis. 4, Brookfield-terrace, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, Pictures only. Experienced, highest refs. Effect player. Willing to make myself useful. 69, Canterbury-road, Kilburn, London.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orch. Pianist and Accompanist, at Liberty, any business, experienced all lines. Address, 108, Kambala-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, by Gentleman, at present engaged as Music Teacher, post as Pianist, Theatre or elsewhere, sight reader, &c. H. D'Eath, 12, Meeting House-lane, Peckham, London.

WANTED, by Gilbert Garahan, Brilliant Pianist, Sight Transposer, Memoriser. Lib. Monday, in or near London preferred. 2s, Blenheim-mansions, Lisson-grove, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by excellent Pianist, young, smart appearance, steady habits; very good Accompanist, Sight-reader, MS., &c.; Vocalist, Song Writer, and Composer; experience on Variety Stage. G. H., 8, Davies-lane, Leytonstone, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Kenneth Lyle, Composer, is open to accept Summer Engagement as Pianist. Letters, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Tympanist, three Tympani, Glockenspiel, and Effects, brilliant Xylophone Soloist; good references. A. Wadsworth, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, through closing, Engagement by experienced Double Drummer and Tympanist; excellent refs.; steady and reliable. Drums, 27, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in Smart Uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required. For particulars, apply, W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, Vacant Feb. 28. Permanent address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED Known, Madame Winter's Blue Viennese Ladies' Orchestra (Novelty). Open for Summer Engagement; brilliant spirited music, immense library, charming costumes, any number of performers. Sure Success. Offers. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, and Tubular Bells, for Rinks, Piers. Madame Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Shikiesimma Band, Ladies' Orchestras, any number supplied, for short periods or for season, in Japanese costume or evening dress. Conductress, Lansdowne, Falkland-rd., Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Le Petit Quartette or small Orchestra (Ladies), including Solos and Vocalists, Disengaged Easter and Whitsuntide. Miss Maude Johnson, 37, Balfour-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Carlton Orchestra, Piers, Rinks, &c., five upwards; Disengaged Whit or before; magnificent library. Powell, Mus.-Dir., Alhambra, Stourbridge.

WANTED, Town Councils, Pier Companies, &c., to Note Godfrey Holbech's well-known London Band (patronised by Royalty) is at Liberty for Summer Engagement; three most successful Seasons at Felixstowe. Highest testimonials and references.

Write, Box 505, Willing's, 73, Knightsbridge, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements by Military Band, eight or any number, Scarlet Uniform, up to date Library, Scotland or North of England preferred. Apply, M.-D., c/o Phono Stores, Coppergate, York.

WANTED, by the Celebrated Aeolian Male Quartette, First Prize winners at all the leading Musical Festivals, 1909; unique Répertoire; Summer Bookings, Seaside. Address, Crewe.

WANTED, Known, Luton Red Cross Silver Prize Band (Champion Band of the South of England) have following dates open for Engagements: Easter Sunday and Monday, Whit Tuesday, Aug. (seaside preferred) 2 to 6. Apply W. Clarke, Sec., Avondale, Reginald-street, Luton.

WANTED, Known, to Band Committees, Pier and Rink Managers, the Royal Bohemian Band Vacant for Summer Season, any number, in smart uniform, good répertoire. Full particulars, references, &c., Wilton Russell, 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, by Rink Proprietors, Seaside Managers, &c., Mr. Walter Stanert's Scarlet Military or Orchestral Band (any number) open now or Summer Season; splendid library. Terms, 54, Irvine-place, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, to Rink Proprietors and Managers. If you want to make a success, engage Mr. J. V. Caine's Band (brass or reed, any number). Immense library of latest up-to-date music. Highest testimonials and references. 22, Roseburn-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagements for Collini's Celebrated Rink Bands, Town, Country. Now running Highgate. Specially engaged Stamford Hill. Call and hear them.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Rink or Season, by small (first-class) Military Band, up-to-date répertoire. Alfred Matthews, Musical Director, Boulevard Rink, Leicester.

WANTED, by Excellent String Band of Four (two violins, piano, and 'cello), Engagement. Up-to-date Library. Only good offers entertained. Box 7321, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

P. COLLINS'S CIRCUS.
Touring season commencing the Saturday before Easter Monday, March 28.

WANTED, to Complete the Company, Acrobats, Horizontal Bar Performers, Gymnasts, Animal Acts, Singing, Talking, and Acrobatic Clowns; also a Double Handed Band, a Press and Advance Agent, and a good Property Man. Apply, stating lowest salary required, and all particulars to P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams: Gondola, Walsall. 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.
WANTED, Useful Circus People that can Clown, Vault, and do a Principal Turn.
Weekly Towns; no Tenting.
Lowest terms and particulars to J. C. Boswell, Metropole T., Abertillery, Wales.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Easter Week, Easter Week, Easter Week, by the Only and Original THREE ROYAL OHMYS, the Greatest Show now before the British Public. Just concluded twelve weeks' successful engagement at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow. Now appearing at the Grand Circus, Edinburgh, and already the Talk of the Town. Everybody who has seen this Act says it is the Greatest and Most Up-to-date Show ever seen in a Circus Ring. No Circus complete without the Royal Ohmys. Address till further notice, The Royal Ohmys, Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good Entrées, Agouste, and Globe Show. Wire offers, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Musical Talking and Knockabout Clown, Comic Entrées; Liberty March 14, 28. Address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Altons, Marvellous Demon Contortionists; also Great Outside Attraction, Teeth, Contortion, Slide from Kingpole. Address 6 Victoria Park-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Netta's Human Cranes are at Liberty for Tenting, two acts. Nettas, 43, Hassell-street, Newcastle, Staffs.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Catcher or Leaper, for Casting Act; experienced in Both.
Box 7,338, "The Era."

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms. Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists. Single or Double Performance. Captain Mixen, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Monday, March 7, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

THE PERTH THEATRE and HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, Twice Nightly; or Strong Combination Companies, with big Star Tops, for March 28, April 4, 11, 18.
Address, J. H. Saville, Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Monday, on; Hall small. Absolute lowest. Louden, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROMES AND COMPANIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, big Star Top Liners (Lockhart's Elephants write), Smart Pair of Sisters, Double Comedy Turns, &c., &c., immediate Vacancies.
All coms., Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, May 16, Variety Artists in all Lines, Animal Shows, &c., Speciality Turns, to work two-day performance at the Shrewsbury Grand Fête, on Whit Monday, and the remainder of the week at the Theatre.

Reply, W. Yates Gregory, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for Scotland, March 7 and 14. Quote lowest combination terms. Horne, Town Hall, Falkirk, N.B.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, suitable for Picture Shows, North and Wales. List of bookings, &c., to W. Owen, G.P.O., Newport, Mon. Schaboo and Alex. Fox write.

WANTED, Artists, Picture Show, Monmouth, last three nights of week during March. Lowest terms, Tom Hay and Co., Gloucester.

WANTED, good and reliable Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future Dates, for several Halls in the North. Apply, Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all lines, March 7, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines having difficulty in getting Engagements, to write. Old Star Dramatic Variety and Staff Agency, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, High-class Artists, March, onwards, for Halls, Galas, Picture Halls. Full bookings, lithos, permanent. Percy Victor's Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
35, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, March 7, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Artists in all Lines for THE HIPPODROME, HULL. THE HIPPODROME, HULL. THE HIPPODROME, HULL. Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians. March 7, 14, 21, 28.

Vacancies for Tops and Draws.

If known to me the better. Lowest Terms must be Mentioned in All Cases to Avoid Delay.

Also Where and Last Appearance in Hull.

Write or wire, Walter Bentley, 163, Brixton-road, S.W. Tele., "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 1308 Brixton.

Wanted. Wanted. Wanted. for HARROGATE, SCARBOROUGH, YORK.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Also Combinations.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool 'Phone 2549 Royal.
WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts. Full bookings, terms, photos., lithos., and all particulars.

THE WARREN AGENCY,
12, College-lane, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Artists, big Acts all Lines, who wish to be Booked at Leading Halls, send list of Bookings, terms, vacant dates, to above. No callers. Appointments letter only.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Novelties, &c., suitable for Fêtes and Galas, from Whitsuntide, onwards. Apply, stating lowest terms, sample lithos, &c., to Wilders, Agents, Great Francis-st., Birmingham. Will Mr. J. Decar send his present address?

WANTED, for Al Fresco, Forfarshire, N.B., First-class Artists, abstainers. Apply, Geo. J. Melvin, Theatre, Arbroath, N.B. Lowest terms, &c., &c.

PARAGON, MILE END, E.

WANTED, Known, Entries to be sent in at once for Great Show Turn Matinée on Saturday, March 5, fifteen Band Parts required.

Send stamped addressed envelope for reply.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars, Big Specialities, Big Animal Acts, in fact, anything that is New, Novel, and Sensational, for Easter, March 21, 28, Whit Week, and later, for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c. Send dates, lithos., &c., to Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Stars in all Lines. Novelties, New Acts. Nothing too Big.
Will Sley, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

CADLE'S AGENCY, CADLE'S AGENCY, 105, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, for March 7, and onward, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool. 'Phone, 2549 Royal.
WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Good Small Acts of all Descriptions. Good Comedians and Smart Soubrettes that Dance.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Acts of all Descriptions. Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates. Apply, T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Easter and Later Dates, Good Gala Acts, nothing too big, nothing too small. Astella write. Wood, Caterer, West-street, Bristol.

WANTED, 28th, March 7, for Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Rochdale. Variety Acts all Lines; Easter, Whitsuntide, for Fêtes, Specialities. Gannon, West Grove, Bristol.

J. R. POOLE'S 1910 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for Gloucester, Week, April 4 Big Speciality Act. Must be totally new to above city. Refinement and Originality Strictly Essential. Apply, J. R. Poole, Opera House, Treherbert.

WANTED, Gala Acts all Lines. Again appointed Caterer to the Peel Park Gala, Bradford; again appointed Caterer to the York Gala.
James Fiori's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines. Send full list of Booking. Lowest Terms, and Permanent Address, to Clive Watts' Agency, 34, Gowlett-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Really Funny Specialities, Pantomimical Sketches, Sensational Novelties, big Animal Acts, and anything with magnetic drawing powers, for March 7 onward. Silence a polite negative. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Specialities, all Kinds, for Northampton, four days, twice daily; must be new to above. Address, McAskell's Agency, 126, Roker-avenue, Sunderland. Edwards and Espinoss send address.

WANTED, Strong Specialities, Suitable for Small Halls and Picture Entertainments. Lowest terms and permanent address, Harry Esden, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, June and July, First-class Music Hall Companies (complete) for the beautiful New Pavilion and Marine Gardens, Rhyl, situated in centre of Marine Parade, right on the front. Only big draws entertained. Apply Baring Bros., Montpellier-chambers, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Variety Companies, Rental or Share, three days weekly, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Apply, Manager, St. John's Rooms, Winchester.

WANTED, Variety Répertoire Dramatic Co., Minstrels, Choirs, also Novelty Tops, Doubles, Singles, March 7, onward. Lesser, Britannia Palace, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley, Top and Bottom, March 14, 21, 28. Apply, T. Holmes, Agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

WANTED, Big Top of Bill, March 7, 14, and 21. Wire. Wire. Wire. Also Artists in all Lines for Immediate Dates. Send full particulars. We can book you. Barnard's Variety Agency, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, March 7 and 14. Can place Stars with odd weeks open. Permanent Address Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone, 288.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for March and April Big Star Tops and Bottoms, for Blackpool, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton, Dublin, Bolton, and other towns.

Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Telephone, 9144 Central. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Tops of Bills only, for Britain and Continent, and Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911.

Silence polite negative pro tem.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.
WANTED, the Biggest Tops in the Market for March 7, 14, 21; nothing too big. List of bookings, lowest terms essential.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, Big Speciality Acts, and Artists, all Lines, for immediate Vacant Dates. Send full particulars, list of bookings, &c., Day and Irving's Agency, 18, Gerrard-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C. 'Phone 2884 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Dayhur, London."

WANTED, Pierrot Troupe, or Summer Band for Pwllheli. Full particulars from and offers to Town Clerk, Pwllheli.

WANTED, complete Concert Parties and Artists suitable for Summer Seaside Pavilions. Particulars and terms to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Smart Comedians, Sisters, Good Double Comedy Acts, and Specialities, that can work on small stage. Percy Johnson wire address. Call for Monday, Feb. 28, for Fox and Melville, Pulo, Carl Osmond, Clarice Sefton, and Len Field. Rehearsal 1 o'clock. Arthur Izon, Palace, Morley.

WANTED, Star Comedians, Comediennes, Sketches, &c., Africa, London, and Provinces, early and late dates. Geo. Aytoun, 61, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E. Burge Bros. and Swifts send addresses.

WANTED, good Comedian, must be able to Dance and used to Black Face business, for W. J. Churchill's Happy Valley Minstrels, Llandudno; also Pianist, Cornet, and Violin; one week Rehearsal to be given free. All letters, Empire, Sheffield, Feb. 28.

WANTED, for High-class New Dramatic Dance, a well-known lady music hall artist, Star Turn. Box 7,337, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady, for Illustrated Songs, with own Slides; must be young and have good voice; open March 7; also Refined Variety for later dates. Absolute lowest to Manager, "New Era" Pictures, 72, Cheetham-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Bright Page Girl, Good Figure, Smart Appearance; Two Small Acrobats, capable of working in Comedy Act; Experienced Musical Director (pianist), capable of writing and arranging Orchestrations. Only clever, willing people not afraid to work need apply. Sobriety indespensable. Address Box 7318, "The Era."

WANTED, One or Two Smart Young Men for New Act, First-class Tumblers and Used to Comedy Work. State Tricks and Full Particulars, with Lowest Terms, to Josh. Clifton, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, Young Lady, with knowledge of Gymnastics or girl about 16 to learn. Apply, stating age, height, weight, to Estrella, 118, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, for Summer Season, commencing March 24, clever young Lightning Sketch Artist who is able to make good likenesses in a few minutes; one used to Pastel work preferred.

State age, wages, specimen, G. W. P., 9, Edelston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Operators and Electricians who thoroughly understand their business. Also First-class Piano Player, who can lecture to pictures and sing to illustrated slides. To have good appearance and make himself generally useful. Apply, World-on-Wings Animated Picture Co., The White House, 260, Chapel-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, smart young Operator, gas and electric, open March 7. Age, terms, and particulars to Manager, New Era Pictures, 72, Cheetham-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Smart Young Man to work Pictures and make himself generally useful. Open March 7. Full particulars, F. Verner Walford, General-Manager, Palace, Grimsby. Mark letters, "Bioscope."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Conolly, A Gem from the Emerald Isle. Feb. 28, Macnaghten's, Bath.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Smart Juvenile Comedienne, March 14, 21, big voice and big songs. Agent, Mr. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, March 14, on, follow Wakefield, by Victoria Cross, Scotch Comedienne, in Kilts and Komedy Songs. Big success here. Coms., T. Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, Feb. 28, on, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Dancer. Expert; just finished Panto., Principal Girl. Wire, 154, Bracebridge-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Redfern Sisters (Rubie and Elsie) unexpectedly vacant Monday, with Piano, Banjos, Comedy, Ragtime Dancing, &c. This, E., Dudley; next, 60, Denmark-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, April 4, onwards, Sisters Roze, Instrumentalists, Comedy Artists, and Dancers. This, Hippodrome, Swadlincote. Perm. add., 9, Linden-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

WANTED, Monday, also March 7, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Original and Only Famous Singing Boxmakers. Wire, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, J. A. Wilson and Private Tower, at Liberty one week, Monday next, March 7, through Hippodrome, Middlesbrough, changing hands. Wire best offers to Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric. This week, appearing with big success at the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees; Monday, Feb. 28, Exchange Hall, Blackburn. Vacant for Easter, March 28. This act always pleases.

WANTED, Known, Vacant next Monday, T. E. Johnstone, Actor-Vocalist. Success, Hip., W. Bromwich. Wire, save time, 15, Chapman-st., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, Liberty Monday, New Songs. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Percy Maye has March 14 open, owing to postponing Empire, Hyde. Last success greater than ever. Starring return Queen's, Shipley. This, Warrington; next, Salford. New songs, dresses, and fit-up, "Modes à la Français." Scott and Mills; "Syren of Spain," Alf Ellerton. Communicate early for an Attraction. Regent, Salford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Carson Hicks, Singing and Eccentric Dancing Act, vacant March 14, between Newcastle and London. Metropole T., Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Sam Ello, Dame Comedian and Dancer, 11th week with John Tiller's "Red Riding Hood." Monday, Palace, Halifax. D.C. Lithos and Photos. Vacant Easter.

WANTED, April, onwards, Dan Ashton, Empire's Famous Collier Comedian, Hippo., Hasingden. March 7, Liverpool; 14th, Ashton-under-Lyne; 21st, Loughborough; 28th, Bedford-Leigh.

WANTED, Bert Danson, Comedian. Vacant March 7, 14, and 28. Big success in new songs. Next, Paragon.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian and Chorus Singer. Wire, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, the Ludicrous Comedian. The Laughing Hit of the Bill. Palace, Reading. Wire.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, by the Great Li Chang Hi, Premier Chinese Conjurer. Wire, Theatre Royal, South Shields; Monday, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Wire Feb. 28, March 7, Wire.
WANTED, by the Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert, Feb. 28, March 7, through obliging. Wire quick, Empire, Newcastle; after Saturday, 129, Linaker-street, Southport.

WANTED, Feb. 28, onward, Kyoto, Japanese Contortion, Pot-Pourri Act; also May Geraldine, Chorus Vocalist and Dancer. Boro' Theatre, Heywood, Lancs.

WANTED, by Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch, "The First of April," Vacant April 11, 18, and 25; offers invited. 39, Gateley-road, Brixton, S.W. March 7, Granville, Walham Green; 14th, Queen's, Leeds; 21st, Hippodrome, Aston; 28th, Lyric, Liverpool; April 4, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.
Wire or write for above vacancies.

WANTED, March 21 28, also April 11, to follow Hull, The Rivers, Harmonising Duettists, Whistlers, and Dancers; also John Pardoe, Speciality Wire Walking, Bending, and Tumbling Act. Offers for one or both. Hip., West Bromwich.

WANTED, March 7 and 28, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas. Singles. Wire or write for 7th, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Arnold and Margot present "The Messenger Boy," an Up-to-date Comedy Act, teeming with Fun and Original Property Gags. Vacant March 14 and 21. Coms., 51, Sandhurst-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7, Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Welis, Star Comedienne. Reasonable offers, 15, Weltje-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Monday next, also March 7, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie and Edgar), in their great Vocal and Juggling Speciality. Wire, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, by The Tymes, in Song Scena, "The Enchanted Clock," Monday next, also March 7 and 14. A big Success. Wire, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday next and March 7, various, on by The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting screaming farcical episodes. Bottom Bill. Wire, This, Hippo., Yarmouth (return).

WANTED, March 7, 14, Davies and Udall, in enormously successful Comedy Sketch, "The Grumbler." Refer W. Kitchingman, Scarborough; Coleman Davies, Pavilion, Weymouth.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, by Al and Lal, Musical and Ventriloquial Sketch, introducing the World's Greatest Lady Vent. Write, Hippo., Birkenhead. Refined Novelty.

WANTED, Monday, by Erle and Godfrey, Comedy Sketch including Musical Act; also Laurence Harvey, Swell Comedian; two distinct acts. Wire, Public Hall, Redditch.

WANTED, Monday, by Hylton and Wallace, Patterers and Dancers, clean, refined, funny, and well dressed. A hit, Westminster Palace. Wire, 47, Aubrey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo, Feb. 28, March 7, 14. 97, Cambridge-street, Normanton; next, 19, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, April 4, 18, May 2, 9, July 11. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Valdo Bros., Renowned Funny and Clever Acrobatic Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor-'Bus Men." Vacant March 7. Vacant March 7. Conclude to-night Theatre Royal, Bradford. Feb. 28, Queen's, Castleford.

WANTED, Feb. 28, March 7 and 14, by Will and Roze, Comedy Contortion and Clever Conjuring Act. Wire, Palace, Denton. After, See Card.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the Real Comedy Vocalists and Patterers. Wire, 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, also Later Dates, Picitt and Lizette, Illusionists and Pantomimists, in their great magical extravaganza, "THE CRAZY COOK," from the Coliseum, London; Palace, London; and the Principal Continental Theatres. Original illusions worked like lightning. A big comedy act. A big illusion act. A big animal act—all in one. Fifty Birds and Animals. Everything carried, including the most realistic Hotel Kitchen Scene ever staged. Clear stage only required. See the Act. Alhambra, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, March 7, follow Ringwood, Harry Hellis, Pianist, Comedian; Grace Buckingham, Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Cornettist. Ebenezer-row, Dorking.

WANTED, Monday next, for Walker's Would be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality, two good turns. Wire, offers. Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, Feb. 28, onwards, by Mlle. Sylvesto, an Anatomical Wonder, and Rumbo Austin's Would-be Acrobats. Wire, 14, Thompson's-yard, Wakefield.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Acts, Feb. 28. Wire, Hippo., Nelson; after, 14, Derby-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, SARNTHALER TROUPE, Big Top. Six Ladies. Two Gents. Big Top. The World's Greatest Tyrolean Singers and National Dancers, from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres. Vacant Feb. 28, March 7, and onwards. Offers invited. Address this week, Weymouth Jubilee Hall. Perm. address, 242, Kennington-rd., London.

WANTED, Known, the Brothers Lloyd, the only Double Bounding Cable Act in the World; own Naval Scenery; now featuring in Panto. Vacant March 7, onward.

This, Grand, Nelson; Next, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, Greatest of all Knockabout Triple Bar Acts; Liberty March 7. Monday, Grand Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Feb. 28 and March 7, The Carlsens, Comic Acrobatic Trampoline Speciality. Own scenery. Splendid lithos. Comic Competition on the Bouncing Table, the Funniest of All.—Vide Press. Wire or write, G. T., Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday, also March 7, Maro Duo, Quaintest and Funniest Three-Bar Comedians. Wire, Alexandra, Pontefract. After, 126, Porter, Hull.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Pepa, March 7, 14, and Easter week, the Star Comedy Act of the Period. Great Value for Money. Everything of the Best. Owing to our Success and Draw, return after five months. Monday, Palace, Jarrow. Salary, shares, own company.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

KEEN and WALLER,
Leading Novel Eccentrics,
acknowledged to be the Funniest and
Most Original Comedy Act
before the British Public.
Now Starring with Great Success,
Moss and Stoll Tour, Bottom of Bill.

WANTED, Wanted Known,
KEEN and WALLER
KEEN and WALLER
have the following Vacancies:
March 7, 21, 28,
also April 4.

Managers requiring
Good Top or Bottom of Bill
wire
KEEN and WALLER,
this week, Empire, West Hartlepool;
next week, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Post Office, Abertillery.

WANTED, Monday, Feb. 28,
by Rich. Taylor,
the Whistling Ventriloquist.
Letters and Wires to Grand, Hanley.
The Greatest Novelty in Vent. Acts.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Offers invited. Town Hall, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Immediate Music Hall Dates for Henry Austin's successful Domestic Comedy Sketch, "DEAR DEPARTED," by Stanley Houghton. Now playing Hippodrome, Manchester. Next week, Empire, Liverpool. Six in cast. Huge success this week.—Vide press.
Write or wire,
AUSTIN, Arts Club, Manchester.

WANTED, Agents and Proprietors, Managers, to book Financial Productions produced by Professor SELKIRK, 55, Southdean-gardens, Southfields.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Monday next, all March and April. Offers invited.

All coms.,
75, Parry-street, Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Tudora's Ponies. Offers invited for April 25 and May 2. The cleverest Pony Act now Touring. This, West Bromwich; big success. Next, Hippo., Nottingham.
Booking fast.
All coms., TUDORA, Hippo., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats &c. Vacant March 14, 21. Share or certainty. Good posters and lithos, by Messrs. Creaber, Plymouth, and Berry, Bradford.
Monday, Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, next week, also March 14, 21, 28, the Greatest Act yet known with Dogs.
CHARD, 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Eccentric Acrobat on Bicycles; Les Caros, Gymnaste on Silver Frame. This, T. B., Seaham Harbour; next, M. Theatre, Ashington.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wooton, Originators of Act and Title, "A Football Match on Bicycles." Vacant Monday, March 7, April 18, Nov. 21.
Wire, Market Place, Willenhall, Staffs.

WANTED, Monday next, also March 7 and 14, by Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cyclists.
Wire, 1, Thorneyholme-terrace, West Stanley.
After Sat., 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Hall and Wilson Trio, Novelty Motor and Trick Cyclists, April 25, and on; clean, clever, and original. Last week, Hit of Bill, Palace, N. Shields; this and next week, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists, Football Match on Wheels, Vac. Mon. next, also March 7, 14, Easter. Always a success; reasonable terms.

WANTED, Known, vacant Monday, also March 7, 14, Easter, Cyclinis Trio, Cycledians, Football on Wheels, Great Act for Galas. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
a Gentleman interested in a
really Clever Artist is willing to invest
some money to assist her in obtaining a good
position at one of the leading West-End Halls.
Box 7,333 "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Good Pantomimist. Knockabout Tumbler, &c., good Comedy Worker. Address, Box 7335, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Operator, Fully Experienced Either Current, with or without Butcher's latest Fireproof Machine. Best Machine money can buy. Moderate salary.—Box 7323, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen, Fairkeepers, &c., to note Guns, Cartridges, Glass Balls, Targets, Wood Balls, Iron Heads, Sticks, Rings, Cocoanut Balls, Pegs. See our Flare Lamps. Guaranteed 10 per cent. cheaper than elsewhere. BRITISH CO., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, GRAVESEND.
Open Good Friday for whole of Season.
WANTED, Known, to Proprietors of Steam Horses, Shows, Switchbacks, Shooting Galleries, Bazaars, Slip, and any up-to-date Novelties, Tenders are invited for Spaces for above; also Wanted to Purchase or Hire, Beasts, Cake Walk, or any Speciality. Large Hall to Let, easily adapted to Skating Rink and Picture Palace.

WANTED, Side Show or Mirrors, two Spaces, for Palmist and Novelty, for Carnival, Market Hall, Audley, Staffs; open Monday. Wire, MAXIM, Burslem.

WANTED, Good Quick Novelty Shows and Entertainments, used to shop business, for South Wales, starting point. MICHAEL, 10, The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, several reliable men, sobriety indispensable. Apply, PRINCE SAMOUDA, Post Office, King's Lynn; Wisbech to follow.

Albert Alexander wire address.

WANTED, Lecturer, accustomed to Show Business. State age, experience, salary required, and references to
A. E. PICKARD,
American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Greenwood's Auction Mart, First-class Handseller, Planksman, Pianist, re-open March 1. For particulars address, 157, Everton-road Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let in Large Arcade at Popular Seaside Resort for Sweet Making, Monograms, Jewellery, Plating, Photos, Sketch Artist, Palmist, &c. 14 weeks' Season. Splendid position; reasonable terms. Address, Box 7328, c/o "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
on the Sea Front,
MORECAMBE.
MORECAMBE.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Spaces to Let
Spaces to Let
for
HIGH-CLASS ATTRACTIONS.
HIGH CLASS ATTRACTIONS.
HIGH-CLASS ATTRACTIONS.

Apply by letter,
HELTERS, LTD., 11, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.
May 12 to June 25, 1910.
Largest Exhibition held in Manchester since 1887. Great Attractions, including a reproduction of "Old Manchester." This portion will be the liveliest part.
WANTED, to Let, a few Shops for Novelties, Monograms, also select Side Shows. Plans and particulars can be had from WALTER STENNING, The International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broadstreet House, London, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, Extensive Premises, between two Electric Theatres, near corner Milton, Shakespeare-street, Nottingham, suit auctioneers, vaudeville, 45ft. frontage, 90ft. deep. Plan, COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, Large Shop Premises, in good position, large town, for High-class Waxworks. State rent, size; or am open to negotiate with responsible Park Amusement Caterers for ensuing season. WILLIAMS, 108, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, for Exhibition of Large Historical Paintings, Halls, Spaces, Buildings, now and Season, Seaside preferred. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Sell,
two Road or Rail Living Carriages,
one 16ft. by 7ft. and one 15ft. by 7ft.,
all fitted up for use;
also a good Truck, 15ft. long; and a good Sideshow, 20ft. front, 30ft. back, tilt and all complete, shutter sides, new, built last year.
A small Motor Car to carry three is to be sold also, cheaply. Mr. A. BALL, Bioscope Show, Mortlake-rd., Freemason's-rd., Custom House, Plaistow, E.

WANTED, to Sell
Burrell's 8 h.p. Double-crank Compound Showman's Road Loco., long awning, brass pillars, and dynamo plates; also Foster Compound Steam Motor Tractor, with all Showman's Fittings both ready for immediate use.
GRAVEN, Ely, Cambs.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, suitable for road or rail, very compact, in good condition, good investment. Can be seen in working order at address, Auction Mart, Riddings, Derbys.

WANTED, to Sell,
a Motor Racing Track for Amusement,
occupying a space of 50yds. square, with a run of 350yds. each track; gauge 2ft. 6in. The cars, which are well upholstered, and have own 3 h.p. motors, are capable of carrying four people each.
The current is supplied to the rails from a power house attached having two motor generators of 16 h.p. each by Morris Hawkins, Ltd., which can be worked singly or conjointly.
The track is at present at a popular seaside resort, and could be available by the purchaser for the coming season.
Cards to view to bona-fide prospective purchasers on application to G. E. McCANLIN, Incorporated Accountant, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Shuttered Booth, in good condition; everything for opening. Bargain £20 cash or near offer. Postage. Box 7,341, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Mammoth Orchestraphone, representing a band of 15 musicians, with or without 1d. in slot action. Arrived from Paris three months ago. Come and hear this. Price and particulars, with photo. PROPRIETOR, Automatic Vaudeville, 27, Broad-street, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Engraver, new, in splendid polished brass case, 25s., sure money-maker, neat machine. ELECTRICIAN, 14, Clifford-road, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, for Easter Week, Expert Exhibition Skaters and other Rink Novelties. Apply, giving full particulars, testimonials, and Press Notices, and salary required, by letter only, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W. No Agents.

WANTED, Live Managers for Rinks, Electric Theatres; must be up to date and able to make things hum. Good salary to the right men. Apply by letter only to Box H., c/o Ainsworth's Advertising Offices 34, Norfolk-st., London, W.C.

WANTED, for the Watford New Roller Skating Rink, opening March 19, First-class Floor Manager, Lady and Gentleman Instructors, and General Staff; all must be workers. Kid-glove gentlemen may save stamps. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Palace Theatre, Watford.

WANTED, Floor Manager and Instructress.
Apply by letter,
The Rink, Central Hall, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Instructor, ten years' experience, First-class Rinks only; abstainer and non-smoker; gentlemanly appearance; graceful and expert skater; can give exhibition if required. Offers invited.

NORMAN H. BARGER, Pembroke Dock.

WANTED, Known, Well-known Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, fine exhibition skaters, at present in engagement, desire change, must be class rink, Continent preferred. Excellent references.
Box 7330, "The Era."

WANTED, Rink Management, good Continental and English experience, knows good Continental Sites where Rinks wanted. Address, ERIC CARR, 4, King-street, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager. Disengaged. Would accept instructor's position. Finished Skater. Smart Appearance. Splendid References.—Apply, Box 7324, "The Era."

WANTED, by Smart, Experienced Young Manager, re-engagement. Combine floor if required. Educated. Excellent references. Own typewriter. Provinces or Continent preferred. MANAGER, 31, Chantry-road, Stockwell, London.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager and Instructress require Re-engagement, First-class Skaters; wide experience; excellent refs.; or could take charge. C. D., 2, Peckett-st., W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, 500 pairs assorted Skates for Hire or for Sale,
at a very low price, splendid condition.
Write first place to BROWN,
31, Lower Loveday-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, 300 Pairs of Winslow Skates, cheap, condition as new. Sell together or separate. Offers wanted. Box 7313, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a quantity of Secondhand Roller Skates. Apply, SECRETARY, Wolverhampton and Walsall Rinks, Limited, Darwall-st., Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, 500 square yards of best Rock Maple Wood, now one of the finest Skating Floors in England; also 130 pairs of Union Hardware, Ball-bearing Extension Skates. Box 7,340, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell Alfresco Gardens and Pavilion, complete Acetylene Plant, chairs, and Café fit-up, going concern. S. Wells, Masonic Club, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, complete London Production of "Aladdin," consisting of Dresses, Scenery, Properties, &c. Offers invited.
Box 7,351, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell,
the Thrilling Dramatic Episode,
"A TEST OF FRIENDSHIP," by Percy Ford. Founded on a story by Major-General Baden-Powell. Full set of scenery and all props. Present proprietor cannot give personal attention. A Sure Success. Box 7,347. "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Great Auction Sale of Wade and Son's Stock, comprising Bioscope, Films, Accessories, Lenses, Iron Houses, Lantern Slides, Elevators, Screens, and Miscellaneous Goods. Two Days' Sale, Tuesday and Wednesday, at 12, March 8 and 9, Without Reserve. Removed from Walworth-road, for convenience of sale, to 12, Newgate-street, London. Catalogues of the 1,000 lots from the auctioneer,
J. THEOBALD, Albemarle House, Hounslow.
On View March 7.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's King Opening Parliament, Feb. 21, 1910, 200ft., price 25s. Can be sent Saturday night. Address, MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Animal Act (Cats and Dogs), bargain.
LEON, 98, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, handsomest blue and white Old English Bobtail Sheepdog ever seen. A living picture, a walking advert., and clever performer. CHARD, 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Dog, Old English Terrier, age 18 months, good trickster and guard. Price, £3. 3s.
GAY'S, Westminster Bridge-road, London.

In consequence of illness,
VONETTA
VONETTA
VONETTA
VONETTA
VONETTA
will not fulfil any engagements for at least a month from this date,
and thanks Managers for postponing engagements at Weymouth, Tunbridge Wells, Margate, and Southend.

When VONETTA is thoroughly strong, she will appear in an ENTIRELY NEW ACT, more beautiful and bewildering than either of the preceding Specialities.

WANTED, to Sell, complete Illusion Act, with Scenery and Props, as recently used by Vonetta; a fine turn ready for smart performer. Also various separate Tricks and Illusions to be Sold cheap.

Address all communications to
T. M. PAUL,
15, Brougham-road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

WANTED, to Sell Cheap, Two Aga Illusions, Blackboard Mystery, Disappearing Lamp, Rolling Globe, New Appearing Fish Bowl, on table, Net and Rod, Pagoda and Duck Tub, quantity of Feather Bouquets, Coffee and Milk trick, two Small Tables, Glass Casket and Ball trick. Apply, WARREN, 32, Cavendish-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Levitation Illusion, latest make, couch, &c., large hamper, several good conjuring tricks, two portable tables, £3; also three Winchester Repeating Rifles and Targets, £5 the lot. DIXON, Photographer, 87, Hill-town, Dundee.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap for cash, complete New Illusion, "Galatea," suitable for Stage or Side-show, full fit-up, good money-taker. Particulars DENTON, 39, St. John's-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity new Stage Illusions and Apparatus, Several Novelties, half price to clear. 52 Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Rattles, Xylophones (loudest ever heard), Resonaphones, Macaronis, Glockenspiels, Organ Chimes, Tunable Resonators (protected), Gwyer Jet, perfect condition. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Set Plated Tubular Bells, Folding Stand, splendid ringing tone, £3 10s. Also Besson silver plated cornet, in case, £3. PIANIST, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, 400 Tip-ups, Upholstered in Blue Velvet.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Conjuring Apparatus, Tables (set), Illusion, Boy, Girl Knee Figure, new and secondhand. 134, Fairfax-road, Harringay.

WANTED, to Sell, Ventriloquial Figures, Old Man, Woman, and Nigger, cost £5, take £1 10s. WILL CORNER, 59, Church-road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, big Musical Act, Novel and Sensational (suit four or five Brass Players), £50 to £60 weekly obtainable; cause, ill-health and retirement; terms moderate. On view. L. C., 17, Salisbury-road, Richmond, Surrey.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN,"
by Chas. Darrell and G. T. Sante.
WANTED, to Sell, this Magnificent Spectacular Circus Drama; everything quite new; good stock of printing. Address, DERBVE, for Bros. Sante, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

NEW MUSICAL COMEDY.
WANTED, Offers; Modern and Up-to-date, strong Low Comedy interest.
Apply, Box 7,292, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Typed Stock Dramas, Comedy and Dramatic Sketches, Duos, Dramas and Sketches written up. HAL COLLIER, T. R., Goole.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, Lease of Good Theatre or Picture Hall, or will entertain Partnership. Sound opportunity for lessee to extend operations. Address, strictest confidence, first instance, Box 7332, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, Dresses for "Cinderella"; must be good, being for a First-class Theatre. Address, Box 7,339, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Costumes, Mephistopheles, Fairy Queen, Court Page, Butler, Lackeys, Servants, Dragon, and other Fantastic Costumes, suitable for Pantomime; must be finest make, good condition, prices right. Address, Box 7,317, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a good Black Turpin Mare, performing Circus Horses, and Ponies.
Apply, stating lowest price, and enclosing photos., P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Small Pet Dog (pedigreed, house broken). Describe fully, stating age, price. Address, GELDA, Empire, Holloway.

WANTED, Small Brindle Bulldog, broken for Stage Work.
Address, BURT, Empire, Holloway.

WANTED, Two Well-broken Bull Terriers or Good Watch Dogs.
Apply, RAYMOND, Empire, Holloway, N.

WANTED, a plain Modern Chamber, height 17ft., depth 12ft., width 27ft., sash window, door-piece, fireplace, no centre opening, good condition. Lowest cash price. Address, H. AUSTIN, Arts Club, Manchester.

WANTED, from 20 to 100 Cinematograph seats, and brackets, lowest price for spot cash.
JOHN COLLINS, 24, Overton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Buy at Once, Small Teacup Track. Wire, lowest price,
BROWN, 21 Park-road, Sutton Coldfield.

WANTED, to Buy, complete Fit-up, also Lion's Skin and Roman Costumes. Full particulars,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, buy Good Sleigh Bells,
Must be up to pitch.
KELLY, Poole's Myriorama, Tamworth.

WANTED, to Buy, Strong Ordinary Bicycles, about 40in. Send lowest, DUNLOPS, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues, &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, for June, July, and Aug., spacious Up-to-date Building,
Seating capacity over 3,000, with balcony to seat 500.
Electric Light,
Dramatic Licence.
Suitable for any Large Attraction,
or could be adapted for Circus or Exhibition.
Centre of Populous District of 50,000.

Apply,
The MANAGER, The Pavilion, Maidstone.

WANTED, to Let, Theatre, on Rental, from May 23 to Aug. 22. Stock Season or Pictures. Address, Box 7,344, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, on 99 years' lease, Corner Site, 58ft. by 83ft., most central, commanding corner in district of 100,000; suit electric Theatre.
COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Lady Singer, as Partner, for good Concerts Speculation; willing to invest £50 or so. Write, Box 7,348, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Everybody in the Cinematograph Business to know that the World-on-Wings Animated Picture Company have opened a shop and works in Chapel-street, Salford, where you can buy from a screw to the finest machine in the market. Films for sale cheap, and films for hire from 10s. to 15s. per 1,000 feet. Good comics, tragedies, and dramas that you require in your hall every week. Apply for full particulars, WORLD-ON-WINGS ANIMATED PICTURE CO., The White House, 260, Chapel-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Scenery or Properties.—If you require any new or secondhand, Hire or Purchase; estimates free. Fit-ups for Hire. CHARLES SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-rd., S.E. Tel. 497 Hop.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, genuine Photo Post Cards, not substitutes, 12 1s. 6d., 100 6s. 6d.; best work; reduction quantities. Sample stamp. BURDEN and Co., 23, King's-terrace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMANN & Co., 4 Pitville-place Bristol.

GUIDI'S FAMOUS MILITARY BAND.

WANTED, Pier Pavilion Managers, Corporations, Exhibitions, Committees, &c., to Know that Guidi's Famous Military Band is open for Season or other Engagement. The Band now playing with great success at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, London, and can be heard until the end of March. High-class and Extensive Library, Smart Uniform, Success Guaranteed. Larger or Smaller Bands also Supplied.
Full particulars to GUIDI, ZOO, GLASGOW.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Malden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Rent or Share, splendid Site, about 120ft. by 2,000ft., on the Promenade, Blackpool, Troupe or other Shows.
Apply, S. TOMPKIN, 202, Waterloo-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, for Hire, small Cars, suit Music Hall Artist; very moderate terms. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND
WANTED, to Let, by Tender, the Rights of Advertising Curtain and Programme of this most popular Theatre, now in the height of success.
Address, with full particulars, to
MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Let, Costume Operetta. Suit Kursaal, Pier, or Good-class Town. 3m. 2f. Sketches, Plays, Lyrics for disposal. Ideas dramatised. SKETA, Egerton and Co., 115, Strand.

WANTED, in Town or Country Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Apply by letter, with full particulars, to M. W. SHANLY,
33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead N.W.

WANTED, Good Alfresco Pitch, with Stage, &c., or Pavilion. Rent or Share.
CADETS, Tivoli Theatre, Blackpool.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, immediately, for two First-class Plays on Tour; excellent parts or management offered. Fullest particulars by letter to Box 7,349. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Comedy Speciality Performer, or Partnership with an Act Booked. Excellent references. Coms., Box 7,322, "The Era."

WANTED, by Comedy Gymnast, join with another for Bar or Ring Show. Everything ready. Good straight or Comedy Man write.—Box 7326, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Experienced Portable Player, Baritone, to join High-class Tenor, London suburb; Shares. EDWARDS, 5, Overstone-rd., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, Motor Driving, 12 lessons for £3 3s. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. H. IRVING wishes to thank his numerous friends for their congratulations upon the successful termination of the case Irving v. Bodie. It is quite impossible to thank individually. His address is still 20, Thornton-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
Besides the dramatic and musical calendar, and the list of pieces, places, and performers enumerated in it, this annual gives also particulars of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres and in the provinces, with their casts, and also lists of plays produced in New York, new pieces produced at the principal Paris theatres, new plays and important revivals presented at the principal Berlin theatres, and an alphabetical list of the principal sketches produced at the London and provincial variety houses. Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree contributes an interesting article entitled "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" and there are close on thirty stories told by well-known people and illustrated by photographs and autographs, as well as a miscellaneous lot of information connected with the stage, and an illustrated obituary of the year.—Cork Examiner, Feb. 12, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual will, as usual, be found full of useful dramatic information, besides miscellaneous reading of distinctly personal interest. Mr. Dan Rolyat, for instance, tells how he once attempted "a straight part."—Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury, Jan. 29, 1910.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.** Departmental Superintendents: W. S. GORDON MICHIE & ALAN W. YOUNG.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 28, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Miss Winifred Emery and Co., in "The Dressing Room," Mr. Lewis Waller, in "Fortune's Fool," Rexos, Cruikshank, Amelie De L'Enclos, De Wynne Bros., Chrettenni and Louisette, Les Marco Belli, Harry Leybourne, Animated Pictures, Woodward's Seals and Sea Lions.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Jewel's "Change," Will o' the Wisps, St. Johns, Geo. S. Melvin, Marie Kendall, Gwennie Llewellyn, Mabel Sinclair, Steve M'Carthy, Bioscope, Craggs, La Sylphe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Bioscope, Edie Reynolds, Williams and Parker, Chass Lewis, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Tom Davies Trio, Gipsy Woolf, Ray Wallace, D'Arc's Marionettes.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
The Great Lafayette, Florence Esdaile, Mlle. Marjutti, Korries, Alice Maydue, Bioscope, Herbert Shelley, Little Zola.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW
Last week of Moss' Empires' Pantomime, "Mother Goose," produced by Fred Karno.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Phil Ray, Chas. R. Whittle, Bioscope, Tiny Arnold, Venie Clements, Henry Helme, W. Fullbrook, Sutcliffe Family, Falco and Eida, Kathleen Gray, Holden's Mannikins.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Will Johnson, Ruth Davenport, Farr and Farrland, Marco Twins, Richard Corbin, Harry Friskey, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Saviansky Russian Choir.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Victoria Monks, Channings, King and Queenie, Ike and Will Scott, La Freya, W. F. Frame, Hal Hughman, Billy Hobbs, Carmos, Driscoll v. Hayes Fight on the Bioscope.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred C. Somerfield's Co., in "The Tyrant."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
La Tortajada, Daisy Dormer, Rhoda Paul, Naughton and Gold, Barton and Ashley, Delevines, Lawley and Gallifant, Emma Don and Co., Bioscope, L'Incognita.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ernest Shand, Moran and Wiser, Athlones, Mlle. Haydee, Four Regals, Eight Lancashire Lads, Harry Clifford, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Takio, Walter Curtis, Bros. O'Brien, Heeley and Meeley, Lily Burnand, Cumminger and Colonna, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Herbert Sieath's Co., in "The Deputy Sheriff."

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire," Keen and Waller, Dusty Rhodes, Henry Austin, Russell and Held, Anna Chandler, Arthur Woodville, Minnie Mace, Bioscope, Elliott-Savonas.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Amelia Bingham, Annie Purcell, Arthur Ferriss, Great and Good, Victor Travers, Ethel Newman, G. W. Hunter, Bert Marsden, Bioscope, Fantastics.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Liane D'Eve, Grotesques, Phil Parsons, Lillie Lassah, "Dolly's Deception," Spry and Monti, Marsumas, Chas. Robinson, Bioscope, Kellinos.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Great Raymond, Corcoran Bros., Harry Anderson, Ryan and Hall, Barnard's Mannikins, Margaret Parker and Co., Albert Rees, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Cinquevalli.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Clark and Hayden, Cavallotti Bros., Victor Widdicombe, Jack Lane, Avolos, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Florrie Gallimore, Dandies.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Walter Melville's Co., in "The Beggar Girl's Wedding."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Leonard Boyne's Co., in "Raffles."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Elite Harmony Boys, Charles Matthews, Marie Pera and Co., Chas. J. Johnson, Minnie Saunders, Sammy Shields, Tom and Marie Motramo.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Haley's Garden of Girls, Barrett and Knowles, Helen Trix, Les Silas, Jack Pleasants, Braatz's Dogs, Colini-Clarions, Leo Tell, Fred Barnes, Bioscope, Mlle. Fedak, Rameses.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ada Colley, Gobert Belling, Fred Elton, Three Van Dammes, Harry Bedford, Tom Lloyd, Ross' and Lewis, Bioscope, Lukushimas.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Van Biene, Sisters Pine, Leonards, Siems, Larry Lewis, Florence Yaymen, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, Leslie Bros., Bensons.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Whit Cunliffe, Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Adey Spenser,, Sisters Storm, Barowskys, Reichen's Dogs, Barrington, Kisbey, Bioscope, Courtiers.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chanti, Gertie Gitana, Monie Mine, Will H. Fox, Arthur Kenny, Frank Cass, Bioscope, J. L. Shine.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chas. T. Aldrich, Frank Bertram, Albert Letine, O'Gust, Romanis, Ted E. Box, Gladys Mavius, Goggin and Davis, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Lancashire Singers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Frank Maura, Chas. Vincent, Millie Engler and Co., W. J. Churchill, Glenroy Troupe, Three Delaries, Tom Clare, Harry Allister.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Frank and Jen Latona, Empire Comedy Four, Northern Troupe, Stewart and Morgan, Prince Milner Trio, Smythsons, Witty Watty Walton, Odeyne Spark, Bioscope, Nine Kremos.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," A Ba-Be's Album, Bert Errol, Alice Hollander, Ernie Garner, Horace White, Rohda Bros., Florence, Bioscope, Lockhart's Elephants.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fragson, Jackley Trio, Addie Dorina, Loyal's Dogs, Alf Gibson, Goodfellow and Gregson, Carl Howard, Dolly England, Bioscope, Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track."

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Ernest Stevens.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
W. Selkirk's Spectacle, Rossi Ashton, J. J. Mannix, Les Reubens, Illustrated Song, Pictures, O'Malley and Brown, &c., &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Humpsti Bumsti," Five Manchurians, Bertha Winder, "Bosun's Mate," J. A. Wilson, Fatmah Diard, Bioscope, Vanando.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Paul Barnes, Hunt and Thomas, Royal Delomes, Coverdale, Talbot and Pearce, Westwoods, Henriquette Maude, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Phil Percival.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Rachel Lowe, John Macauley, Brennans, Dot Hardy, Francis and Alfred, Mabel Mavis, Pictures, Dion Wade, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
James' Strolling Players, Chas. Santon, Mabel Mignon, Stanley and Greenop, Caselli Sisters, Pictures, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Starley Bros., Ivey Aberdare, Leslie and Stevens, The Great Four, Chung Ling Hee Troupe, Clark and Hamilton, Jock Whiteford, Cissie Lawson and Co., in "Supremacy," Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Sergeant Mumford, Flo Cecil, Clark and Glennie, Henriette and Selina, Julia Reeve, The Cromwells, Harry Champion, Mart and Pep, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Three Panamas, Lucy Coventry, Hersleb Bros., Medley Barrett, Leipsic, Melody Makers, Marie Loftus, Little Ganty, Three Stewarts, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Owen McGiveney, Carlisle and Wellman, Gladys Archbutt, Butler's Concert, Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, Gotham Quartette, Three Laurels, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Zellini, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Stavordale Quintette, Coram Flora Cromer, Palles and Cussick, Borghetti Troupe, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
Alice Raymond and Co., Adele Lincoln, Conan and Doyle, Chris Baker, Pichel Troupe, Flo Chevalier, Pete Rhodes, Gaudschmidt Bros., Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Dot Moss, Blanche and Zeyna, Harold Heath, Dolly Denton, Tokio Troupe, Mather and Mayer, Glennie's Marionettes, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hayes, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Campbell, Renee Graham, Bros. Tarrant, Chas. Sloman, Perrier, Jack Rae, Abdullah Arabs, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
The Vampire Dance, Ina Lorrimer, Will Ambro, Crawford and Johnson, Litz Bros., Chas. Garth, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Three Romas, Taree, Leo Dryden, Maurice, George the First, Peggy Pryde, Hanvarr and Lee, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
Telegraphic Address — "CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
Telegraphic Address — "MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General—
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit—
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative—
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary—
Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager— **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, FEB. 28.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Kirbys, Edna Barrett, Lottie Lennox, Chris. Harland, Will Avis, Chandos and Constable, Dick Cruickshanks and Co., Harry Bent, Ray Royal, Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Bessie Neilson.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Rosie Gaston, Geo. Geoffreys, Geo. Conquest and Co., Nellie Farrell, Chas. M. Daly and Co., "My Uncle from Texas" Josephine Crook, Archie Pitt, J. P. Carroll, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Marie Santoi and Co., Clive and Clancy, F. Lush, Sketch, "The Key" Eight Marvels, Dave Laird, Gladys Witton, Julian Jover, Francis Campbell and Co., Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Colin Mail, Sim Maree, Sable Fern and Co., Marie Santoi and Co., Dancing Gilberts, Gladys Scot, "Queen of Sheba," Alf J. Long, Vaudeville Trio, Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Blake and Amber, Lennard and Vereker, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Two Unites, Lausanne, C. D. Reekie, Mabel Thorne, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Clarice Mayne, Chas. Gardner, the Zampas, Maximilians, Will Rhodes, Fyne and Hurley, Gillin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Tiller's Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
The Piccolinos, Harry Luck, the Darntons, Woodhouse and Wells, Leick and Keith, Daisy Silcott, Walter Barrett, Martin Henry Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Alice Lingard, Pictures, Rene, Roy Beavis, A. Howard and Co., Amy Bathurst, Eight Sydney Girls, the Two Ludoes.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Fields and Lewis, May Knight, Sam Shipley, Arthur Page, Vesta Nixon, Baby Ivy, Pick of the Picture World, Sisters Maynard, &c.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Tourbillon Troupe, Mr. and Mrs. G. Wilde, Rauschle, Viviana and Co., Gwen Francis, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Yettmah, Carney and Armstrong, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Columbia Trio, Bert Maddison, Webb and Branston, Florence Conolly, Amy Anderson and Co., J. H. Greener, Geoffreys and Benson, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Ronnie Blair," Chas. Woodward, Les Zanonis, Tom Bass, Damerell and Rutland, Joan Deering, Roxboro' and Wright, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Margit and Lener, Bonnetti and Corri, Baker and De Sales, Johnny Dwyer, Dorma Morgan, Les Montaldos, Six Buster Browns, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Five Bombays Norah Desmond, May Poulton, the Menzies, Hern and Palmer, Louie Tracy, Jack Warman, Pick of the Picture World.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Allan Wilkie and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Tomkinson's Choir.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Cassie Walmer, L. B. Athol, Madge Allan, Cavalli, Beatrice Willey, Frank F. Street, Curtis and Piccs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Virto, Leo and Roland, Reg. Ewen, Ben Richards, Rooke, Rorke, and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
Ryder Slone, Steel and Laing, Luigi Salvino, Bromley and Fontein, the Lannons, Phillips and Merritt, Norah Stockelle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Edmunds and Co., Willie Long, Neilson's Juveniles, Leo and Jerry, Jessie Starr, Cash and Clair, Enzer and Miss Clarice, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, **Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E.** Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE GREAT SALAMBOS

SLAVES OF THE LAMP,
IN
ALADDIN,
DRURY-LANE THEATRE, LONDON, W.C.

Also doing their great **Electrical Speciality** in the
GRAND PALACE SCENE.

Success of an excellent Act in an unbounded successful production.

Any Manager producing "Aladdin" next season should not fail to secure an act that more than fills the part of a most impressive Slave of the Lamp.

Managers of Music Halls that want novelty and a bright showy act please address as above or through any agent.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909.

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

ILLUSTRATED.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.E.—High-class Professional Apartments, one or two Bed-sitting-rooms for Sunday next.—Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, W. — 21, Wells-street (Few Doors from Oxford-street). Large, comfortable bed-sitting room.

LONDON, W.—Kensington. Full or partial board, from 25s. 158, Sinclair-rd., close Tube and Shepherd's Bush Empire.

LONDON, W.—Sup. fur. apartments from 10s. 6d., suites; bath; room for rehearsal; pianos. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly (opposite Tube).

LONDON, W.C.—Single and double bed-sitting rooms, drawing-room; billiards, piano; board optional; moderate; recommended. 43, Coram-street, Russell-square.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 Minute from E., O. H., Sea; Piano, Bath (h., c.), w.c.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

ELPHINSTONE'S "THE BEDFORD,"
4, Southampton-buildings, Holborn.
Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c., of superior quality.
Professionals cordially invited.
Stage and The Era taken.

FREEHOLD HOTEL (Surrey)
For Sale
Licensed throughout
Contains elegant theatre, with superior seating accommodation, large handsome ballroom, extensive catering facilities, splendid buffet, and several bars, beautifully decorated billiard room, with seven tables, various other large rooms.
Would be sold outright on very advantageous terms to buyer, or certain gentleman would co-operate with others in forming a syndicate to take it over.
Well worth the best consideration of the profession.
Reply by letter,
Accountant, Box 7343, "The Era."

TYPEWRITING.
Miss ALICE JOSEPH, 71, PRINCE'S-SQ., BAYSWATER, W.; MSS., literary work, plays, &c., promptly and accurately copied. Orders by post quickly executed.
Terms on application; highest references.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C,

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to
MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.

All the American Theatrical News.

For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 618 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

Mr. J. Bowden writes:—"The A.B.'s are also a 'pet line' with me, and take a lot of beating, especially from an intensely human point of view. The one I show this week, 'Through the Breakers,' is a story with a splendid moral, beautifully set and acted."

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing Thursday, March 3,

THE CALL.

Circus Life Story. 989ft.

Releasing Sunday, March 6.

THE HONOUR OF HIS FAMILY.

Drama. 988ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, Feb. 27.

BURIED ALIVE.

Gold Mine Story. 1000ft.

Releasing Thursday, March 3,

DAUGHTER OF SIOUX.

Western Nebraska Indian Tale. 985ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Release dates of the Subjects from New Studio will be announced next week.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

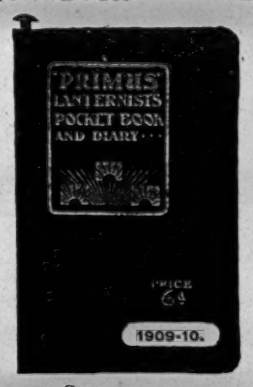

Compiled by

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd., 12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C. (Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London." Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

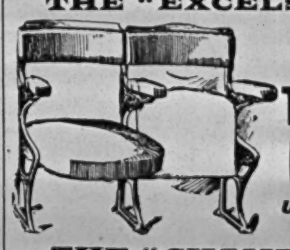

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

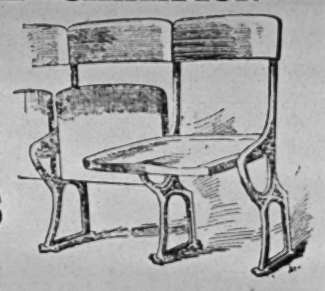

Write for List of Leading Lines. All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,

21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London." Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, .·. 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER, PAINTING & DECORATING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

NEW IDEAS IN POSTERS.

Write for Catalogue for 1910, and estimates for Letterpress.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Netherfield, Notts.

WILSON'S

Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates. Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N. Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons. Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp. SPENCER BROS., LTD., 45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N., Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c. Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights. Terms upon application. Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—**NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.**
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—**NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).**
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—**NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—**ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.**
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—**NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—**THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—**RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.**
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—**RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.**
11.—**NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.**
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—**NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.**
Tip up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—**NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.**
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—**NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.**
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—**NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.**
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—**NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—**NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.**
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—**NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.**
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.**
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—**NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.**
24.—**NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.**
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path or that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best ttention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will eceive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from **4/6** to **75/-** A good Running Seat from **1/-** per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

BURGH OF BROUGHTY FERRY.

AL FRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS

The Town Council of Broughty Ferry are prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

for the right to provide Al Fresco Entertainments, Shows, &c., on the Promenade and Sands for the Summer Season of 1910. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of entertainments will receive special consideration.

Particulars of site available, terms of occupancy, and other information required can be had from the Subscriber, who will receive sealed tenders marked "Offer for Entertainments" up to twelve o'clock noon of March 12, 1910.

EDWARD COWAN, Town Clerk.

4, High-street, Dundee. Feb. 18, 1910.

COWES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

COWES VICTORIA PIER.

The Council are prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

for taking over and working the sole rights of:—

(*a*) **ADVERTISING ON THE PIER.**
(*b*) **PLACING AUTOMATIC MACHINES THEREON.**
(*c*) **CONCERT RIGHT IN THE PAVILION.**
(*d*) **ROLLER SKATING RIGHTS IN PAVILION**

for the year ending the 31st March, 1911, or (by arrangement) for a term of years.

Offers may be made for all the above-mentioned Rights in their entirety or separately for any one or more of them.

The Contractor would be required to pay an annual Rent by quarterly payments (in advance) and to enter into an Agreement to be prepared by me.

Further particulars may be obtained on application at my Office. Sealed Tenders marked "Tender, Victoria Pier," must be delivered at my Office not later than Tuesday, the 8th March next.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest, or any Tender.

H. C. DAMANT, Clerk to the Council.

67, High Street, Cowes, I.W. 16th February, 1910.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS ON BEACH.

The Corporation

INVITE OFFERS

for the privilege of GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS on the FORESHORE opposite Hartington-road (east of the Pier), in the said Borough, during the coming season.

Particulars and conditions of the licence may be obtained upon application to me.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments, East of Pier," stating amount offered and nature of entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesday, the 2nd March.

By Order, H. J. WORWOOD, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office, Southend-on-Sea, 21st February, 1910.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS CHALKWELL PARK.

The Corporation

INVITE OFFERS

for the privilege of GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS during the coming season from the STAND about to be placed on the GREEN at the east side of the main drive at Chalkwell Park.

Particulars and conditions of the licence may be obtained upon application to me.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," Chalkwell Park," stating amount offered and nature of entertainment, must be sent to my Office not later than 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesday, the 2nd March.

By order, H. J. WORWOOD, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office, Southend-on-Sea, 21st February, 1910.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

ENTERTAINERS.

STANLEY H. BELL, Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism. Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND, the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer. Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

CHARLES DUDLEY, Refined Humorous Songs and Stories. Moderate Fees. Town or Country. 86, Keslake-road, Kilburn, N.W.

ELITE CONCERT PARTY of Singers, Comedians, and Dancers. Easter Monday wanted. FRANCIS ROLFE, 126, Barrows-rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Returned from American Tour. Per., 210, Edgware-rd., Hyde Park.

MISS NELLIE GANTHONY'S ENTERTAINMENT CO., including Mr. Robert Ganthony. Miss Violet Elliott (Contralto). Miss Louie Risby. Mr. Douglas Stuart. And a Baritone, &c. Whit Week Vacant. Wanted, Aug. 1 and 6 (South), 8, 9, 10 (North), Shares or Certainty. Address, 16, Edith-road, Kensington. 3551 Western.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers, GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

WILSON JAMES, Humorist. Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans. Address, 108, Sumatra road, West Hampstead, N.W. Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

ADELE LEVEY. Little Tales and Recitations. 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly, W.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Dunbar, Miss Ethel	May 15, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Glossop-Harris, Miss Florence	July 10, 1909
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Humber, Mr. S. Herbert	May 29, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Kyrle, Miss Judith	May 1, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. Philip	April 10, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Manville, Mr. Jerrold	May 22, 1909
Matcham, Mr. A. W.	June 26, 1909
McNeil, Miss Sheila	April 17, 1909
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Modjeska, Late Mme. Helene	May 8, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

Chief Office: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Sixty-first Annual Meeting, held on 3rd March, 1910.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was **76,087**, assuring the sum of **£7,044,603**, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of **£415,015**. The Premiums received during the year were **£4,710,107**, being an increase of **£93,770** over the year 1908. The claims of the year amounted to **£3,018,981**. The number of Deaths was **8,375**, and **17,629** endowment Assurances matured. The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was **882,804**.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were **£7,171,770**, being an increase of **£246,015**. The Claims of the year amounted to **£2,877,978**, including **£176,401** bonus additions. The number of claims and surrenders, including **4,545** Endowment Assurances matured, was **382,233**. The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those policyholders of five years' standing and upwards, who desired to discontinue their payments, was **151,865**, the number in force being **1,506,408**. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was **41,386**.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was **18,375,229**; their average duration exceeds eleven and a half years.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance-sheet, after deducting the amount written off securities, are **£74,201,701**, being an increase of **£2,242,842** over those of 1908.

The Directors are pleased to announce an increase in the rate of bonus of both Branches of the Company as follows:—

In the Ordinary Branch a reversionary bonus at the rate of **£1 14s.** per cent. on the original sums assured has been added to all classes of participating policies issued since the year 1876. This is an increase of two shillings per cent. over the rate declared for the past three years.

In the Industrial Branch all policies of over five years' duration which become claims either by death or maturity of endowment from the 4th of March, 1910, to the 2nd of March, 1911, both dates inclusive, will participate. This bonus will be paid by way of addition to the sums assured of:—

£5 per cent. on all policies becoming claims upon which at least five but less than ten years' premiums have been paid;

£10 per cent. on all policies becoming claims upon which at least ten but less than fifteen years' premiums have been paid; and

£15 per cent. on all policies becoming claims upon which at least fifteen years' premiums have been paid.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Ltd., being the Summary of both Branches, on the 31st December, 1909

LIABILITIES.

Shareholders' Capital	£1,000,000	0	0
Life Assurance Funds	71,328,318	14	9
Reserve Funds	1,625,000	0	0
Claims under Life Policies admitted	157,480	12	8
Balance of bonus under Life Policies Reserved for Distribution	90,902	3	6
	£74,201,701	10	11

ASSETS.

British Gov. Securities	£2,997,703	18	3
Indian and Colonial Govt. & Provincial Securities	6,604,314	8	4
Railway & other Debentures & Debenture Stocks, & Gold & Sterling Bonds	11,090,547	13	0
Loans on County Council, Municipal, & other Rates	14,859,330	17	7
Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	4,934,552	13	2
Freehold & Leasehold Prop.	3,908,493	10	7
Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom	9,488,680	11	1
Railway, Gas, Water Stocks	6,799,751	12	9
Suez Canal Shares	160,217	7	7
Telegraph and other Shares	100,889	15	4
Leasehold Ground Rents	8,153	11	11
Met., London County Consolidated & Port of London Authority Stock, & City of London Corporation Bonds	253,696	1	5
Met. Water Board Stocks	435,263	10	7
Bank of England Stock	203,724	2	11
Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Corporation Stocks	2,980,960	14	4
Foreign Government and Provincial Securities	3,138,078	3	11
Reversions & Life Interests	1,372,361	10	10
Loans on the Co.'s Policies	2,967,472	15	0
Rent Charges	312,084	12	4
Outstanding Premiums and Agents' Balances	494,838	6	6
Outstanding Interest & Rents	596,891	9	3
Cash—In hands of Superintendents	34,754	13	3
Do.—On Deposit, on Current Accounts, and in hand	458,939	11	0
	£74,201,701	10	11

FREDK. SCHOOLING, A. C. THOMPSON, *Joint Manag.*

D. W. STABLE, J. SMART, *Joint Secretaries.*

H. A. HARBEN, *Chairman.*

THOS. C. DEWEY, W. E. HORNE, *Directors.*

We report that with the assistance of the Chartered Accountants as stated below we have examined the foregoing accounts and have obtained all the information and explanations that we have required, and in our opinion such accounts are correct, and the foregoing Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Company.

PHILIP SECRETAN, W. H. NICHOLLS, *Auditors.*

We have examined the Cash transactions (receipts and payments) affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1909, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1909.

DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS, & CO., *Chartered Accountants.*

February 14th, 1910.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The famous Moody-Manners Opera Company occupies the boards of His Majesty's this week. At every performance crowded and enthusiastic "houses" have greeted the efforts of Mr. Manners' brilliant company, and by Saturday night, when the engagement closes with *Faust*, a record is likely to be set up that will take some beating. The operas for the week are—*Samson and Delilah, Aida, Tannhäuser, Carmen, La Tosca, Maitre Seiler*, and *Faust*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The marvellous Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats, jugglers, &c., are making all beholders sit up this week with their astounding feats; Jack Lorimer, the popular comedian, makes a welcome return; Miss Ada Oxley's company does well in *Peggy*; and Fritz von Liston, silheuse and mimic, Sylvene, equilibrist, Miss Marie Kay and Miss Stella Stahl, comediennes, and Andie Burns, comedian, are also among the attractions.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Charles Gibbon and his company are here with *Alone in London*. Mr. J. Vernon Shaw makes a dignified and convincing representative of the banker. Mr. Burnaby, and Walter, his son, is admirably enacted by Mr. Charles Gibbon; Mr. Gerald Jordan as the scoundrel, Dick Redcliffe, acts with marked ability; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson presents a most excellent character-study of old Jenkinson; and Mr. Cecil Renton is seen to advantage as Spriggins. Charlie Johnson is played with irrepressible humour and verve by Mr. Frank Caffrey, and is ably assisted in creating much hilarity by Miss Carrie Young as Liz Jenkinson. Miss Nellie Clyde invests the part of Nan with pathetic interest; Miss Laurie O'Neill as Tom Chickweed gives a very touching portrayal, and Miss Molly Monaghan is deserving of praise as Mrs. Maloney. Miss Lenna Vernon makes the most of her opportunities as Ruth Clifton, and Miss Hettie Hornsby scores a great success as Little Paul.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Bella and Bijou, the famous society entertainers, are receiving vociferous applause, their latest skit, *The Suffragette*, being a tremendous success; the Four Burnells, in the comedy sketch *On the Links*, are extremely popular, and the illustrated songs of Helen Guest are very much enjoyed. Monty Walker is received with the heartiest applause in three new songs; the Calcotts are instrumentalists of merit, and Guest and Newlyn are capital exponents of Hebraic humour. Wat Moor extemporises successfully, and the new pictures depicted by the Bioscope are very entertaining.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company is appearing here with success in *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The leading juvenile rôles of Jack and Jill are excellently portrayed by Misses Lallah Melrose and Vea Dudley; and the Sisters Lucia and Clara Edwards give charming impersonations of Boy Blue and Bo-Peep, winning favour for their singing and dancing. Mr. J. D. Hunter is a capital dame, and provides much fun; and Mr. Hall Melrose is excellent as the Squire, and is heartily received. Others who do well in prominent parts are Misses Rene Ashley and Dolly Clyde; and Messrs. Fred Beck, Phil Inglis, J. E. Cowell, and George Tichborne.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—During the week a capital selection of films was shown at the Masonic Hall. Besides the picture of the Church Parades in Wellington and Queen's Avenues, were: A Gentleman's Son, dramatic; A Rustic Visitor, dramatic; Farmer Jones Goes To Market, comic; Sunshine After Storm, dramatic; A Brave Child, sensational; High Furnaces, instructive; Horse Stealers, sensational; An American Does London in Ten Minutes, comic.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Crocker.—A good programme is being presented this week. The Legend of Apollo and Daphne, Dramatic Episode of Pine Ridge, Singapore Plantation, The Stove With Life, and A Dramatic Conversion are the principal items. W. H. Downs makes a big hit with two well-rendered songs.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould.—Mr. William Pardoe's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, is paying a welcome visit here. Miss Lottie Holland as Dick is a great favourite; Miss Nellie Rose is a dainty Alice Fitzwarren, and her dancing is excellent; Miss Cissie Loveday as Fairy Bowbelle sings pleasingly; Mr. George Hyam as Idle Jack keeps everybody in good humour, being ably assisted by Mr. Alf. Grady as his "Assistant" and Miss Daisy Volbecque as Sarah Cook; Mr. Tom Griffit as King Rat is good, his fine singing being a special feature; Mr. Tom Hulme as Alderman Fitzwarren and Mr. Joe Venora as the Emperor of Morocco are excellent; Mons. Pauli as the Cat is very natural; the Edengale Trio of dancers give an attractive performance; and Pauletti is a smart acrobatic turn.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Musical comedy is the fare here for the week. It is the first visit to Ashton of *Miss Hook of Holland* since she started on tour of the provinces. Miss Gertrude Melville is sweet and neat and quaintly vivacious as the Belle of the Zuyder Zee; Miss Cissie Sephton as Mina is full of sparkle and humorous sallies; Mr. Hook was embodied with rare skill by Mr. Edmond Russell whose grotesque dancing is irresistible; Mr. Geo. Mudie, jun., is a diverting Schnapps; Captain Adrian Paap uses his bass voice to advantage; Mr. C. F. Hewitt as Lieutenant de Coop is also successful.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Heading the bill here for the week is Fred Karno's celebrated company of comedians, in *The Football Match*—the Cup-tie final. The contestants are The Midnight Wanderers and Middleton Piecans. Gilbert Childs is Stiffy, the goalkeeper. Laughter was uproarious all through the game. Miss Ruby Roya, a piquant comedienne, sings sweetly; Purvis and Partner appear in an amusing musical sketch, *The Postman's Knock*; Fred Hutchings fetches the audience as a dame comedian with unlimited "gab"; Salida and Vone (Amy and Jim) are a good turn as rag-time dancers; a clever acrobatic table expert is seen in the Great Vincent; and Les Rallis, the artist, and his monkey also entertain.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—In vaudeville artists, Staffo, the comedy juggler, is remarkably expert in sleight-of-hand tricks; Alf Mendies is clever as the musical burglar; the Hargreaves Trio are capital singing and dancing experts; and the lecturer and baritone vocalist, Mr. Alan Wright, appears in a dramatic monologue, *The Game of Life*. The pictures shown by the bioscope are, as usual at the Pavilion, capital of their kind. The Heroine of Mafeking is a very interesting reminiscence of the Boer War. A Child's Forgiveness is a pathetic incident which wins the tender-hearted; A Day with Our Soldier Boys is a very fine military review; 'Twixt Red Man and White takes us to the American prairies.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The pictures for the week are To Save Her Soul, a dramatic incident in which a young girl is concerned. Burglary by Airships is a familiar film, but if that is the way we are to be burgled in the future it is a very unpleasant outlook for our descendants. No Excitement is also a very funny picture; and laughter is evoked by the strange doings of the Nerveless Man. Taylor and Scott are swell vocalists and twin dancers, neat and clever artists; Little Rose Pink sings "Molly O'Morgan"; she was encored, and did some smart dancing.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The management has arranged another attractive programme here for the week. The leading dramatic film, A Terrible Ordeal, is a very striking circumstance, which the spectator watches with deep concern and strong feelings stirred. Juggins Family at the Photographer's should be seen. For fun it is one of the best exhibited for some time.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*The 10.30 Down Express* has been running here every night this week. The company is Mr. Horace Stanley's, and that gentleman makes an admirable Sam Wagstaffe, and is accountable for the mirth of the piece. Mr. T. Arthur Plummer gives a creditable exposition of Jack O'Malley; as also does Miss Cora Linda as Bessie Leigh. Mr. George Gaisford as James Inderwick has a difficult part, but performs it with success; Mr. Walter Carr and Mr. T. B. Brabazon do well; Miss Kate Kilpack, Miss Ida Fane, and Miss Lelia Drummond give every satisfaction.

AYR PICTURE PALACE.—The management is to be congratulated on the success of this entertainment. Everything up-to-date in the way of films is procured, and the public is showing its appreciation by crowding to the Palace nightly.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company in *The Coal King* is here. Mr. Henry Deane is quite a distinguished Tom Roberts, and in the title-rôle Mr. A. W. Norman is wholly successful; Mr. Robert Faulkner makes a sufficiently scheming Walter Hartford and Mr. Frank Dalton a capital Dick Shirley; Mr. Sam Roberts is a comic Jim Williams and Miss Winifred Love a graceful and attractive Grace Shirley; Miss Dennis Duncan does well as Mad Ann, and Miss Effie D. Crawford is a winsome Araminta Green.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Cecil Woodhouse's company in *Oh, Susannah!* is here. Mr. Woodhouse does exceptionally well as Dr. Shepherd, and Miss Eve Mansell is good as Mrs. Susannah Shepherd; Lieut. Merry and Waverley Vane are lightly acted by Messrs. Edgar J. Hocking and Eric Williams respectively; Mr. Alfred Ibberson is a capable W. Plant, and Miss Frances Carlisle as Flora is good; Miss Ada Boyne as Aurora is excruciatingly funny, causing much laughter.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Two Lettys are the premier turn here, in an equilibristic and gymnastic act; the Original Cestria gives a most amusing comedy acrobatic act; a pleasing vocal item is given by the Two Northcotes; Reid and Power are capital in a sketch, *The Chambermaid*; Winona and King are marvellous shots with rifle and pistol; Tom Reid is exceedingly amusing with his songs; and Palette gives a capital display of lightning picture drawing.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—One of Mr. Wentworth Croke's companies is paying a return visit in *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Chas. Sewell is sound and sincere as Stephen Magnussun, and his two sons Oscar and Magnus are enacted with due regard as to difference of temperament and style by Mr. Marcus D. Draper, and Mr. Ernest Owtrim. Mr. Arthur E. Holland makes a satisfactory Oscar Neilson, his two daughters—again so different in character—being impersonated with conviction by Miss Lily Crammonde (Helga) and Miss Sara Dudley (Thora). The elder ladies, Anna Magnussun and Margaret Neilson, find careful, and in the latter case amusing, representatives in Miss Una Gilbert and Miss Maud Locker. The rest of the long cast all have adequate exponents. Mr. Harry W. Lumley is the business-manager for the touring company.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The vocalism of the Columbia Comedy Trio, from either an artistic or a humorous standpoint, is highly clever and enjoyable; laughter reigns while Geoffreys and Benson, sketch entertainers, occupy the stage, a like remark applying to Amy Anderson and her associates in their well-known comedy act *The Banana Queen*. Bert Madison causes endless hilarity with his songs and burlesque recitations; sweet singing is given by Florence Conolly; also by Webb and Branston, duettists, who are on a return visit, as is J. H. Greener, the popular singing pit lad. The pictures are always worth witnessing.

BATLEY.—THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—The attraction is provided by Mr. Millar Anderson's company, in his own four-act drama, *For Her Husband's Sake*. Mr. Walter Domoney as Lieut. Jack Seymour, R.N., has a good part, which he makes the most of; Mr. F. B. Woulfe as Herbert Grey acts to perfection; and Mr. Charles Williams as Joseph Dene could scarcely be improved upon. Mr. Cyril Jarvis, Mr. Raymond, Mr. Jack Mercer, Mr. Walter Long, and Mr. Grace Dene, in their respective parts, are all worthy of mention. Others who complete the powerful company are Miss Josephine Richards, Miss Woulfe, and Miss Alice Defoe, the latter winning loud applause for her strong acting. The piece is well staged.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is presenting *The Dairymaids* this week, this being the third visit of this musical comedy. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is a captivating Peggy and Miss Kathleen Sinico a charming Winifred, both ladies possessing pleasing vocal talents; Mr. Wm. Spray is a lively Lieut. Sam Brudenell; and Mr. Bernard Vaughan a jovial Dr. O'Byrne. Mr. Edwin Dodds is decidedly clever and amusing as Joe Mivens, and is loyally supported by Miss Edie Martin as Eliza.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Messrs. Platt and Tower's company opened here on Monday with *You Never Can Tell*, which met with a great reception. The cast is an excellent one, success being achieved by Mr. Claude Haviland as the Waiter; Mr. J. Edward Pearce was capital as Fergus Crampton; and Miss Edith Hunter must be congratulated on her clever assumption of the rôle of Mrs. Clandon. As Gloria Clandon Miss Winifred Beech had a rôle that fitted her like the proverbial glove; and the parts of Dolly and Philip Clandon were done full justice to by Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson. Mr. Bellenden Clarke was all that could be desired as Bohun; and Mr. Allan Jeayes was in every sense capable as Finch McAnnas. The cast is completed by Miss Sylvia Dawson as a Parlourmaid.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Saimond.—The attraction here is the Anglo-Indian play, *Passion of Life*, presented by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company. Miss Agnes Collier appears with much success as Nita O'Neal (Princess Nita); and Mr. Herbert Fuller presents a fine character-study as Dan Sprouts, a cockney, and must be congratulated thereon. Miss Madeline Courtney was charming as Alice Kenny; and Mr. R. Nelme Grasewell would be difficult to excel as Captain Horace O'Neal. Capital character impersonations of the Scotchman (Fergus McKenna), the Englishman (Jack Kenny), and the Frenchman (Ralph Flint) were presented by Messrs. Percy St. Clair, Hubert Helliwell, and S. Leigh Courtney; and the difficult rôle of Abdullah, the Indian, was skilfully sustained by Mr. Louis Weston. Miss Florence Delmar was good as Belle O'Neal; and Miss Emily Lewis was a vivacious Tilly Tripp.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading position here is occupied by Pip Powell and Katie Vesey, who appear with much success in their comedy duologue; Horace Wheatley, the clever comedian and raconteur, returns, and his reception has been terrific; the Casey Army appear in their well-known entertainment, consisting of songs, patter, and dancing; and Mr. Cyrus Dare's mimicry of children is certainly first-class. The Society Idols speedily make themselves favourites with their delightful vocal items; and Mr. Jock Walker is a droll Scotch comedian with good songs. The Three Rochesters gain much approval for their clever Continental speciality act. Also here are Miss Nan Farren, comedienne, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is Sidney James' Strolling Players, who, under the direction of and including Mr. Gilbert Fernie, furnish a capital entertainment, consisting of delightful vocalism and dancing; the banjo performance of Stanley and Greenop gains a gratifying reception, thoroughly deserved; and the male soprano, Mr. Charles Santon, has certainly a wonderful voice. The high-kicking of the Caselli Sisters is quite extraordinary, and their dancing is very clever; Miss Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer, gains many admirers; and the Vanderbilts, comedians and dancers, are a decided acquisition to the programme. Mr. Joe Dale, light comedian, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White. Some beautiful films have been exhibited here, including The Reformation, A Clerk's Downfall, Dick Donovan, &c. The variety element is sustained by Hughes and Carney, capital boxing comedians and dancers; and Hether Belle, Scotch vocalist.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—The Last Muster, The Miniature, The Lamplighter, A Sticky Proposition, The Wedding of Trouville, are the principal pictures here. Mr. Alf Warren, humorist and instrumentalist, appears at each performance, and makes a hit. Mr. H. Rogers, the manager, arranged a grand Veterans' Night in aid of the necessitous Belfast veterans a day or two ago, and it was attended with gratifying success, the hall being filled to overflowing. The special programme provided included capital selections by the fine band of the King's Own Scottish Borderers.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Tunstall.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *The Lighthouse Robbery*. The drama is nicely staged, and the different parts are creditably sustained.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Arthur Hart's company with *The Arcadians* have drawn crowded houses. Mr. Charles A. Stevenson sustains the rôles of James Smith and Simplicitas with much humour and ability; Mr. Alfred Beers is a great success as Peter Doody; and Jack Meadows is finely played by Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald. Miss Gertrude Aylward is an admirable Mrs. Smith; Eilean Cavanagh is cleverly represented by Miss Molly McIntyre, and the important rôle of Sombra is artistically filled by Miss Sybil Tancredi. The remaining parts are adequately rendered, and the staging is on an elaborate scale.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Mr. Mark Sheridan, the popular comedian, is fulfilling one of many return engagements here, and is received with all accustomed cordiality. Mr. Albert Whelan, the clever Australian entertainer, is also on a welcome return visit, and Mr. Max Waldon, an accomplished female impersonator, is a favourite turn. A strong combination likewise includes the Three Sisters Sprightly, vaudeville artists; Mr. Walter King, the doleful comedian; Mr. Arthur Harris, a good actor-vocalist; Gilbert's circus of educated cats and dogs; Robins and Collier in *The Lady and the Porter*; Dale and O'Malley, amusing comedians and patterers; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Minola Hurst and her Miniature Marvels are a leading attraction, as also is Everhart in his manipulation of hoops; Torti, the Italian tenor vocalist, is popular; and other items of the bill are those of Al and Lal, vaudeville artists; the Havannas troupe of acrobats; the Sisters Maynard, dancers; Michael Madden, comedian; Barney Murphy, mimic; Devie and Dixon, comedians; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The successful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* enters upon its last week on Monday. Mr. Rodway takes his benefit on Monday, and Mr. Robey later in the week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*Aladdin* pantomime continues to attract crowded audiences.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The romantic Venetian drama *The Tyrant* meets with the appreciations of crowded houses, the production being capably presented by Miss Marie Dagmar's company. Miss Marie Robson as Tisbe is seen to advantage in a character which appeals to the sympathies of everyone, and Mr. Roy Fortescue provides a fine interpretation of

'Phone: 1911 Gerrard. Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

On their Garments not a Blemish,
But Fresher than before.—THE TEMPEST.

SPRING TOURS.

By Special Arrangement,

TOURING MANAGERS

can have their Wardrobes Cleaned between Shows

BY THE

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

(T. Harris, Manager),

Original Theatrical Cleaners & Dyers,

6, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

Angelo, the Tyrant; Miss Jean Scott is admirable as Lady Angelo, and Mr. Edward E. Louis is a manly figure as Rudolph; Mr. Percy Follis is responsible for good work as Homodei, the avenger; and the light comedy parts are capably represented by Mr. Wilson Summers, Mr. Fred. Luard, and Miss Katie Lever.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Herbert Vere's company is presenting *Napoleon the Great*, in which Mr. Vere depicts the central figure with more than usual skill. The cast is a strong one, Miss Kate Walfred being responsible for a clever study of Marie Walewska, and Miss Katie Norris makes a charming Mlle. Leonie Marboeuf. Mr. Vivian Charles displays ability as Colonel Jules Monron, and Mr. Charles H. Lincoln portrays the heavy character of Colonel Lavarennes with true melodramatic style. Humorous interludes are cleverly sustained by Miss Nancy Roberts (Marcella Choupin), and Mr. George Millard (Pierre Pomponnet).

Aston Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. Martin Morris.—The drama *The Way Women Love* is proving a draw here in the hands of a powerful company. Mrs. Frank Bateman, the authoress, portrays the character of Verone Alabra with much skill, and Mr. Fred W. Goddard takes a leading part as Captain Howard Tremaine. Miss Camille Treherne earns applause for a careful rendition of the part of Violet Tremaine, and Miss Amy Manfree is well chosen as Lottie Gray. Miss Sadie Underhill is clever in the character of a boy. On Friday evening there was a large audience to witness a performance of *Sapho*, Mrs. Bateman assuming the title-rôle and Mr. F. W. Goddard playing as Jean.

Carlton Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The musical comedy drama, *At the World's Mercy*, presented by Mr. Carr Loates' company is scoring a well-deserved triumph. The outstanding feature of the production is the clever performance of Miss Cissie Milford as the Stowaway and a music-hall star. Mr. Bert Leighton is clever as the hero, Captain Frank Manley, and Mr. Carr Loates portrays the principal heavy character with realism, being well partnered by Mr. G. D. Knight and Mr. F. Overton. Miss Margaret Butler proves herself a capable heroine, and other good artists are Mr. W. H. Irving, Miss Vera Raynor, and Miss Alice Hunter.

Empire. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Vivacious Victoria Monks is as popular as ever in her catchy chorus songs; the Channings have a delightful series of vocal and instrumental items; and La Freya provides a pleasing spectacle in a brilliant posing scena; the Carmos are up to date and popular jugglers; W. F. Frame, Scotch comedian, is an immediate success in quaint patter and songs; Ike and Will Scott are an amusing pair of comedians; Frederick King and Marie Queenie are versatile comedy artists; and Billy Hobbs is a coon impersonator.

Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—La Tortajada is paying a welcome return visit; Daisy Dormer is proving a wonderful favourite after her big success in pantomime, and sings and dances with charming effect; L'Incognita, the masked soprano singer, pleases audiences with her remarkable vocal accomplishments; Barton and Ashley cause roars of laughter in an American comedy sketch, *Canal Boat Sal*; Emma Don and company present a clever scena, laid on the Thames embankment; Lawley and Gallifant appear in a pretty musical comedietta; the Delevines are amusing in their comedy act, "Flipp, Flopp"; Rhoda Paul is a great favourite; and Naughton and Gold present some good Scotch humour.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—A scenic pantomime novelty, entitled *A Piece of Dresden China*, presented by Howard and Collinson company, is an effective feature of this week's programme, and is accorded hearty appreciation; Seener and Fridkin's troupe of Russian singers and dancers are also popular contributors, and they are a talented combination; Maud Lordys introduces a troupe of trained dogs, who display great cleverness in a little canine drama; the Four Netherlands are singers and dancers of unusual merit; Harry Conlin, a local pantomime favourite, has a big reception; Sterling and Lowe give a pleasing vocal act; Blair and Allen are capable vocalists and dancers; Frank E. Ford is a smart dancer; Neville Delmar is an up to date comedian; and Jenny Wood, comedienne, is also well received.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Barrasford's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elborne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—A romantic sketch entitled *The Last of the Desmonds* arouses the interest of audiences to a high pitch, Miss E. Thornton and Mr Phil Herman being responsible for some very clever acting; the El Tampico quartette of Mexican Troubadours are a great attraction, and appear in a charming and tuneful entertainment, in which singing and dancing play a prominent part; Paul Couchas is a muscular equilibrist who performs astonishing feats with consummate ease; Francini, Olloms, and Page are an exceedingly clever pair in knockabout musical business; the Three Orleans are talented singers and step dancers; the Six White Boys are a popular and gifted combination; and the Waltons, Chinese acrobats; and Evelyn Taylor, comedian, also earn well-deserved applause.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The chief feature of a good bill is a dramatic sketch, *The Bellringer*, which is effectively produced by Albert Sember and company. Mr. Sember's acting of the leading part evokes enthusiasm. The Whittington Trio keep audiences in continual merriment with their acrobatic absurdity; the Carina Sisters have a big reception in a refined musical act; the Sivronis are popular burlesques; Lieutenant Travis is a ventriloquist of unusual merit; May Raymond is a captivating vocalist; L. J. Seymour is an entertaining comedian; Milner and Storey are a talented couple; and Dolly Goldin is a pleasing dancer.

King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Patrons are thoroughly enjoying a splendid programme, arranged with the usual completeness of the management. The chief dramatic pictures are entitled A Tale of the West and A Chase for Wealth, both of which arouse intense interest. The humorous subjects are well chosen, and provoke hearty laughter. Lomas, the man-monkey, gives a clever turn on the rope and swinging pole; Maud Ethelda is a popular vocalist and dancer; and the Mays are clever burlesque duettists.

Queen's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A striking picture of Roman history, entitled Nero, is attracting great attention. Popular vaudeville contributors are Hermann and Evelyn, acrobats on the slack wire, and Clowe Harley, ventriloquist.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Two packed houses marked the opening on Monday night. Perci Honri and his talented company are prominent, in their wonderful production, *Concordia*. Mr. Honri was in fine voice, and his songs and concertina solos were admirably rendered. Mlle. Quetta Papucci's charming dances are very effective. Messrs. W. Ellis and company give a very amusing sketch, *The Sleepwalker*; and Mr. W. G. Walber is a refined bass vocalist. The Reays have a smart weight-lifting act; and an exciting scena is provided by the Ashley Brothers in their boxing turn. The Three Sisters Dixon are very convincing in their bâton-swinging, banjo, and dancing act; and an interesting film showing Perci Honri's dressing-room was supplied by the Hopposcope.

Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is on a return visit, in *A Wrecker of Men*. Mr. Arthur S. Pitt gives a masterly portrayal of Jim Morley; and Mr. Tom Bowron is in his right place as Guise Strange. Mr. W. Pallister Acock depicts the Hon. Reggie Verincourt in excellent style; and the Ishma of Mr. Henry M. Mecrees has the desired effect. Miss Ruth Zillwood is a fascinating Risca Mallinson; and a charming Doris Melville is that of Miss Gwendoline Talbot. Miss Gertrude Camp is a clever Marion Isaacs; and Vavasole Slopper is pleasingly carried out by Miss Lydia Hart. The scenery is good.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "LAROLA" Preserves the Skin from the effects of Frost, Winds, and Hard Water. Entirely removes and prevents all Roughness, Redness, Irritations, Chaps, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at All Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Cooling and Refreshing, after Golfing, Cycling, Motoring, Dancing, Tennis, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully Soothing if applied after Shaving. Bottles, 1s. 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham. —[Advt.]

BLACKBURN.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Miss Florence Baines and company, in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, are here. Miss Baines, who is a local lady, as Mary Ellen is a huge success; and Captain Gerald Gambier as John Higgins, Mr. Sinclair Holden as Harry, and Miss Mary as Bertha all share in the success.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Miss Clarice Mayne's impersonations of well-known singers and her own numbers are delightful; Gillin is a clever ventriloquist; and the Zampas are talented bâton-jugglers. The Maximilian Trio of comedy equilibrists make a favourable impression; and Fyne and Hurley, "the coster and the dude," take as well as formerly. Will Rhodes has some clever parody songs. Chas. Gardner, comedian, also adds to the attractions.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Are You a Mason?* once again forms the attraction here, and Mr. Charles Frohman's company is to be congratulated on a very successful performance of this amusing comedy. Mr. William Lockhart gives a good account of Amos Bloodgood; whilst George Fisher and Frank Perry are handled with credit and distinction by Mr. Archie Selwyn and Mr. Howard L. Tracy respectively; Miss Agnes Maude gives a capital portrayal of Mrs. Bloodgood; and the daughters are very charmingly impersonated by Misses Grace Denbeigh-Russell, Edna Godfrey-Turner, and Lilian Gabriel. *My Lady Help* serves as a curtain-raiser, and this is followed by the Vampire Dance, cleverly executed by Miss Alice Lyal and Mr. Eric Bert.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The excellent and well-varied programme provided here this week is attracting big audiences. Pasquali Bros. are marvellous tumblers; Harry Weldon is a favourite comedian; Mona Vivian sings and dances well; Lennie and Hast provide a capital sketch; Ernest Tilbury is a good tenor vocalist; Tom Gott is a Yorkshire comedian; and the Two Errols provide a comedy and leaping act.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Penningtons; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Stanley S. Gordon and Miss Nina Vaughton, with their company, pay a welcome return visit to the Muncaster with *The Boom of Big Ben*. Miss Nina Vaughton makes a charming Marjorie Galloway; whilst Mr. Stanley S. Gordon fulfils his part of Tom Battleby in his own inimitable style. Mr. Gordon is ably assisted by his company, and the principal characters are played by Mr. H. Hesslegrave as Capt. Jo Galloway, Mr. J. Campbell as Gilbert Galloway, Mr. M. Nugent as Tony Preble, Mr. C. Hunter as Danby Wisk, Miss Louie Heathfield as Olive Lorette, Miss Kate Fisher as Lottie Leverette, and Miss Sassie Evelyn as Judith Galloway.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—The great ventriloquist Coram, with his inseparable friend Jerry, is exceedingly good, and receives great applause; the Borghetti Troupe, in a series of marvellously sensational acrobatic feats, are keenly watched, and receive hearty applause; Palles and Cussick are extremely funny in their comedy act *The Funny Side of Life*, introducing their great burlesque boxing act; Flora Cromer, the celebrated contralto comedienne, also receives a good round of applause; the Stavordale Quintette are much appreciated for their banjo and harp speciality, introducing their marvellous imitations of the human voice. Dolby and Madge McCalla also are very interesting in song, story, and dance; Zellini, comedy juggler is funny and causes much laughter; and the Up-to-date pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Dunbar.—With an excellent company and fine scenery *The Proud Prince* opened here on Monday night, and played with great success to an appreciative house. Mr. E. Vassell-Vaughan has the difficult part of the King of Sicily, which he handles with great ability; Miss Eileen Kerin presents a fine performance of Perpetua; Count Hildebrand is in the very capable hands of Mr. Fredk. Sergent; Miss Vashti-Wynne is to be congratulated on her clever representation of Lysabetta. Other parts which contribute to the success are those of Mr. Chas. Boult as the Archbishop, Mr. Frank Ward as Diogenes, Mr. Terence O'Brien as Thereon, and the Misses Georgina Milne and Miss Doris Reynolds as Court Ladies.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The usual hearty demonstrations marked the final performance of Mr. Hart's highly-successful pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* on Saturday evening last, the crowded and enthusiastic audience joined in the songs, lovely bouquets in profusion were handed over the footlights to the principal ladies of the company, boxes of chocolates and money were showered upon the children, and to the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" the curtain fell. On Monday night the D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company commenced the regular dramatic season with *The Mikado*. There was a large audience, and a very cordial reception greeted the performance of the opera. Once again Mr. Fred Billington afforded great pleasure as Pooh-Bah, and in the title-rôle Mr. Leicester Tunks scored a genuine success. Mr. Henry A. Lytton was a delightful Ko-Ko; very charmingly Mr. Arthur Rousby sang and filled the part of Yum-Yum; Miss Beatrice Boarer played Pitti-Sing delightfully; and Miss Bertha Lewis was really excellent as Katisha. *Iolanthe* was the opera on Tuesday night, and *Patience*, *The Gondoliers*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* are billed for representation during the week.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—The nine weeks' uninterrupted successful run of Mr. Laidler's excellent pantomime *The Forty Thieves* terminated on Saturday night last, amidst great enthusiasm. The hilarity was remarkable, and the applause which greeted the principals was very great, the gifts were numerous and charming, and Mr. Chis. Le Brun, who trained the clever children in the pantomime, was the recipient of a special mark of favour at the hands of the juveniles. Monday night saw the beginning of the dramatic season, with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company in the stirring drama *Her Path of Sorrow*, which was well received. Mr. Draycott gives a capital performance of the part of the young farmer Richard Burfield, and Mr. Frank Eaglesfield plays the villain Guy Lowther with effect. Mrs. Draycott as Pauline Ferrars acts with intense feeling; the betrayed Nellie Rayne affords Miss Fay Garnet Vayne fine opportunities, of which she takes excellent advantage; as Lucille, a French maid, Miss Nellie Freeland is bright; adequate support is also given by Miss Polly Green, Mr. F. Etheridge, Mr. T. Balfour, Mr. C. Reyne, and Mr. Will Hook; and the play is finely staged.

The Empire. — Moss Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — The Wonderful Lukashimas, Japanese equilibrists and acrobats, contribute a performance of remarkable skill and excellence; the Three Van Dammes, in a grotesque acrobatic display, are clever, humorous, and agile; Gower Belling, with his singing donkey and other animals, presents a droll performance which keeps the audience in roars of hearty laughter; Miss Ada Colley, the Australian Nightingale, possesses a voice of remarkable range and power, and her vocalism is much applauded; Fred Elton at the piano is very entertaining; Harry Bedford's character comedy is excellent; there is much humour in Tom Lloyd's well-rendered songs; and some interesting pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Mlle. Leoni de Lausanne, a very remarkable rifle shot, is astonishing the audiences here with her skill and daring feats; Lennard and Vereker's pictorial songs are received with favour; Beattie Foster is a bright comedienne; capital comic songs are rendered by Wallace Whitney and by C. D. Reekie; the comedy tumbling by the Unites is clever and amusing; Mabel Thorne, comedienne, contributes with much success; an amusing burlesque of drama and opera by Blake and Amber (Winfield and Maude) elicits laughter; and the Palace Perfection pictures are a source of interest.

BRIGHOUSE. — Albert Theatre. — Proprietors, the Albert Hall Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Martin Manley.—This week at this popular playhouse we are having a welcome return visit of Miss Mary Austin, E. V. Edmonds, and company in *The Cotton Spinner*. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives an excellent character study of John Prescott, the cotton spinner; Mr. William Manning makes an aristocratic and dignified Lord Northbury; Arthur Northbury is ably sustained by Mr. George Porteous; Mr. W. H. Dewhirst is excellent as Major Stratton; Mr. Frank Stanley gives an artistic performance as Foster Cunningham; Miss Mary Austin holds the chief place of honour in her excellent study of Mary Prescott, her acting throughout being particularly fine; Miss Ethel Vinroy is an excellent Constance Harrington; and Miss Belle Tower an amusing Lady Charlotte Needy.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—A company under the direction of Mr. George Kirk opened here on Monday with *From Shop Girl to Duchess*. Miss Mary Neil gave a very artistic representation of the shop girl, Sylvia Grey; Mr. Hugh Carmichael submitted an excellent impersonation of Arnold Vivian, Duke of Baynum; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis was well suited as Sir Morris Maitland; and admirable enactments were submitted by Miss Georgie Haddrick (Dowager Duchess of Baynum), Miss Ella Vane (Lady Delamere), Miss Daisy Carr (Countess of Normantowers), and Miss Louie Hale-Davise (Lady Portcullis); and much amusement was afforded by Miss Lizzie Chambers as Tilly Dobson and Mr. Will Smith as Tommy Tinkler.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Miss Alice Hoodless appears in a series of tableaux representative of masterpieces by English painters, and wins very hearty applause; Parks and Price give a much-appreciated musical performance; the Three Trees are charming singers and dancers; Thomas Brooklyn and company are highly diverting in the farcical sketch, *Algy's Advertisement*; Felix and Fisher, smart gymnasts and dancers, provide an abundance of fun; J. C. Laurie is a pleasing comedian; Lilian French is a capital comedienne and dancer; Mabel and Rosa dance themselves into favour; Fred Lester is a good comedian; and Alec Lawson, comedy acrobat, is well received.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—The Five X Rays, "the mad athletes," are very novel and smart tumblers; Alexandre and Hughes are capital patterers and performers on the concertina; Mr. C is very entertaining with song and talk; Edie Veno, comedienne, evokes hearty applause with her eccentricities; Amy Clevere is a charming comedienne and dancer; Chris Richards is a quaint comedian; Maud Courtney is a smart American comedienne; Iris Fox is well received in her latest successes; Ben Albert is a very droll comedian; Mooney and Holbein, the "advanced vaudevillians," are humorous and clever; Bert Coote, J. C. Aubrey, and Ada Russell are highly successful in the Stock Exchange sketch, *A Lamb on Wall Street*; the Paolias display feats of strength; and Professor Welsen is a smart gymnast and equilibrist on the Swedish bar.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here with *Leah Kleschna*. Mr. William Clayton gives a masterly impersonation of Kleschna; Mr. Charles Barrett's Paul Sylvaine merits high praise; Miss Bessie Rignold submits a very artistic enactment of Leah Kleschna; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks displays finished acting as Raoul Berton; Mr. Graham Pockett is an admirable Schram; and Mr. Edgar J. Coyne is successful in the two rôles of General Berton and Valentine Favre; while satisfactory support is rendered by Miss Ethel Russell (Madame Berton) and Miss Emmie Wallace (Clare Berton).

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Mother Hubbard* is still packing the house at each performance. Mr. Horace Mills, the popular Mother Hubbard, was to have a benefit on Friday evening, for which special attractions were announced. Mr. G. H. Elliott has a benefit on Tuesday, the 8th inst.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty. — Miss Kitty Upton and Miss Blanche Marian, the popular Robinson Crusoe and Polly Hopkins of this pantomime, had a joint benefit on Tuesday evening last, when the house was packed with a very enthusiastic audience. There were many extra attractions, including Mr. G. H. Elliott, who sang "I used to sigh for the silvery moon"; Mr. K. Scott-Barry, from the London Lyceum, who gave "Berlin" and "Call round any odd time"; Miss Elsie La Barte, who sang "Mr. Schneider" and "Dutch Dame"; Mr. Frank Dunlop, with a humorous recitation; and Miss Violet Maude, from the Prince's, sang the popular "Thora." Miss Upton and Miss Marian both sang additional songs, and were presented with numerous floral offerings.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Harry P. Selwyn's company is here with the military episode *The Flood Tide*. Real horses are introduced, and the sketch is well staged in three scenes. S. W. Wyndham and Horace Wyatt amuse with "The Professor and His Pupil"; Wisbart, illusionist, scores with his sensational escape from the "Giant Bottle" and his "Double Box"; the Five Vernons, xylophone artists, present a fine turn; Barnes and West score with their American dancing novelty; Hardy Palm, comedian, is successful; Marie Williams and Teddy Miles do well as comedy duettists; and animated pictures conclude. Thursday's matinée performance was for the benefit of the Marine Ambulance, extra atractions being announced.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Tschin Maa and his band of Chunchuse mountebanks, magicians, and jugglers present a very fine performance; Les Xentrix, in their scena, "The Garden of Terpsichore," do some very clever and attractive speciality dancing; Vigoranto Trio are skilful gymnasts; Goodall and Knox amuse as burlesque comedians; Dome, clay modeller, is appreciated; Nora Guy is a pleasing comedienne; and Nellie Coleman scores with her comedy act. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Another Man's Wife* is presented here by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., and the excellent performance was closely followed with interest by a large audience on Monday. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is excellent as Carlos; Miss Ruby Loucraine is well suited as the sorely-tried wife, Lucie De Vergas; the villain, Paul Bernstoff, is vigorously played by Mr. Alfred D. Adams; Miss Lillian Radbourne makes the most of her opportunities as Inez de Castro; and much fun is caused by Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles, Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy, and Miss Marion Mayne as Tibby. Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland successfully presents the doctor, Gilbert Eardsley. Colonel Matterson and Maisie Matterson are excellent Yankee studies by Mr. Edwin Davies and Miss Hilda Brewster; little Miss Phyllis Spalding is a clever Lucy; and Mr. Fred Forde (Count Pallikoff) and Mr. Wm. Diary (Wilson) also do their short work well.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — Mr. T. N. Walters's company makes its appearance here in a musical comedy, *The Flower Girl*. The excellent vocal efforts of Miss Lena Brickwell bring forth much applause, and the Joe Wheeler of Mr. John T. MacCallum is brimful of sparkling fun. Mr. Henry Adnes as Alphonse is very droll. Good songs are contributed by Mr. J. Burlington Rigg as the Hon. Billy, and Mr. Cyril Delevanti is excellent as Reginald. Miss Eva Brickwell is also pleasing as the Saffragette, and other rôles are well played.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Big crowds are attracted here, the head of the bill being occupied by Tom Costello, who alternates grave and gay in song with effect. Plenty of fun is obtained from the turn of Emil Solbrig and company in a collection of pantomimical novelties. The Lewin Martel Duo are loudly applauded for excellent xylophone duets, and Lister Reekil evokes much laughter with the zodiac. Florence Kennedy, soprano, sings very sweetly, and Alice Winsome, comedienne, is good. Stuart and Evans are highly diverting, and the Empire Theatrescope concludes with "Diver-sions."

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—A series of clever illusions are presented here by Yanger, who is received with popular approval; Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns, in an American vaudeville entertainment, are a pleasing turn; and *Wet Paint* is the subject of much fun at the hands of Margit and Lener. Les Montaldos are smart equilibrists and introduce some highly-trained parrots and cockatoos. Johnny Dwyer, comedian, proves successful in a couple of original songs, and Bonnetti and Corri afford considerable amusement in comic jugglery. Dorma Morgan, comedienne, and Baker and De Sales, pavement patterers, are excellent turns. The Palace pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edc Hague Body.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company is here with *The House that Jack Built*. Miss Daisy Wood is an ideal Jack, singing in good style and working hard throughout; Jill finds a clever little representative in Miss Dolly Dodds, whose sweet voice soon wins favour; Miss Isa Wilson (Fairy Twinklestar) also does well. A good set of comedians are to be found in Messrs. Doyle and Gibson, Mr. J. H. Hamm, Paddy Sloan, Messrs. Walker and Lake, and Mr. J. Harrison, who keep the house in a continuous roar. Other parts are nicely played by Little Chip (Wee McGregor), Mr. H. Hilderby (Squire Bounce), Miss Hetty Jones (Colin), and Miss Jenny Marsden (Gretchen). The dressing and mounting are first rate, and a good chorus under the bâton of Mr. J. W. Johnson adds considerably to the success attained.

BURY (Lancs).—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—*Our Miss Gibbs* is proving a big success, presented by Mr. George Dance's principal company. Miss Kathleen Courtney has a natural charm which enables her to make of Mary Gibbs a captivating and delightful character. The Hon. Hughie is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Tom Shelford; Mr. Ernest Darrell is a dignified Earl of St. Ives; Mr. J. E. Stevenson makes a clever study of Slithers; and Mr. Crawford Kent is prominent as Lord Eynsford, his fine baritone voice being heard to distinct advantage. As Timothy Gibbs Mr. Theodore Leonard is particularly well placed, and proves a comedian full of resource, merriment being continuous during the time he is on the stage. Miss Nancy Hervyn gives an artistic representation of Madame Jeanne, her French accent being decidedly good. Miss Gladys Ivery is a sparkling Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and some good work is done by Miss Winifred Knightly. Others who appear to advantage are Mr. R. M. Strachan as Mr. Toplady; Mr. Murray Stephen as Mr. Amalfy; and Miss Jennie Richards as the impecunious Lady Farquhar. Mr. Cecil Klein is the manager for Mr. Dance, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Pictures still hold sway with every success. Bert Woodward is a clever coon trick cyclist; and Gertrude Blanche, an able vocalist and dancer.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Tom E. Finglass, the "Cowboy Coon," meets with a flattering reception, his songs being artistically rendered; Spry and Bentley appear in a dramatic episode; Sidney Bandon, in a representation of "Matthias," is clever; Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies create considerable amusement with their dancing; and Wash. W. Evans presents a miniature musical comedy, into which some good singing and dancing is introduced, entitled *Paradise Alley*. Pictures on the Bioscope complete a good bill.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Chas. Windermere, in the farcical comedy *Where Is William?* opened here on Monday. Mr. Windermere, the author of the piece, also enacts the principal character, which is certainly amusing; Mr. Leslie Norman is a satisfactory General Rubbub; Mr. Rule Pyott as the Butler William Jolley is good; Mr. F. Westlake is an excellent Joe Budge; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson and Miss Clare Mansfield gave capital impersonations of the lovers, Harry and Phyllis; Miss Belle Donaldson is a natural Lady Gregory; Miss Zoe Davis, an amusing Eliza; and Miss Evelyn Shelley a cheery Emily.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*A Country Girl*, on a return visit, is well presented by Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company. A charming and tuneful rendition of Marjorie Joy is given by Miss Dorothy Arliss; Miss Anna Hickish as Nan is a host in herself, her Devonshire dialect being cleverly assumed; Mr. Coningsby Brierley acts and sings with characteristic energy and resource, and takes full advantage of the many opportunities for humour in the part of Barry; Mr. Nelson Hancock is a smart and dashing officer as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity gives a capital delineation of the jovial country Squire; and Mr. Joseph Bruce enacts the Rajah of Bhong to perfection. Sophie has a vivacious exponent in Miss Addie Leonnard, and Miss Myfanwy Newell sings with much expression, and acts ably as Princess Melaneh. The chorus is well balanced, and the ladies display their beautiful gowns to much advantage.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Whit Cunliffe is one of Cardiff's greatest favourites, and on Monday night his songs further enhanced his popularity; Mlle. Irma Lorraine, in her classical living statuary, has created a sensation; as clever acrobats the Barowskys are deserving of high commendation; a pleasing musical comedy mélange is presented by the Courtiers (under the direction of Paul Mill); Reichen's Dogs are among the most interesting and highly-trained of canine performers, and show marvellous sagacity. The dual dancing of the Sisters Storm well merits the approbation accorded them. Barrington, musical genius at the piano, Adey Spencer, comedienne and dancer, Kisbey, clever patter comedian, and the Bioscope conclude a varied programme.

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Assistant Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company appear with great success in *Mother*, a pretty domestic play staged with considerable care. Mr. J. O. Stewart is seen in the important rôle of Duncan Fairweather, and the part could not be in better hands; as the sailor hero Frank English, Mr. A. J. Haviland is distinctly good; while the villainies of Stephen Carrington receive careful treatment at the hands of Mr. Reginald Brown. Miss Grace Jones, in the sympathetic character of Nellie Fairweather, submits a clever delineation, and Miss Phillis Vaughan as Vesta L'Estrange is another who also deserves praise.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The *pièce de résistance* here is a short representation of *East Lynne*, by Mr. Frederic Baugh's company, of which Mr. Brien McCullough, Mr. Sanderson Moffat, Mr. W. S. Hartford, and Miss Edith Lewis are prominent members. Leo and Roland, novelty equilibrists, introduce their sensational ladder feat with conspicuous success; a capital musical speciality act is given by Virto; Rooke, Rorke, and company prove a great attraction in a farcical burletta entitled *The Prince's Love Affair*; while others who add to the success of the bill are Ben Richards, baritone vocalist; Reg Ewen, light comedian; and Minnie Wheaton, comedienne.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green are presenting *Her Fatal Wedding*. The company is a strong one, and the staging remarkably effective. In the heavy rôle Mr. Jerrold Heather is a marked success; Mr. Colin Heather gave a quite impressive sketch of a rural parson; Mr. Gerald Byrne's impersonation of the half-witted Paul was well conceived and convincingly played; Mr. Walter A. Ohetham's detective was smart—in fact, much above the typical stage type; as the heroine Miss Hilda Shirley gave an interesting and sympathetic portrayal of a by no means easy character; Mr. Wilton Dury and Miss Ivy Ross were responsible for most of the comedy scenes, and caused no end of laughter; Miss Laura Wright, Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock, and Mr. Sam Edwards also contributed creditable performances.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—A capital company brought by Mr. C. Watson Mill are entertaining audiences here with *For Love and the King*. Mr. C. Watson excels as Gerald Meredith, effectively overcoming all the obstacles of an exacting rôle. Miss Rosalind Tate gives a convincing and well-drawn study of Edith Meredith. Mr. Alfred Maurice deservedly merits praise for the clever manner in which he plays Michael Obrenovic. Mr. Fred. J. Webb makes a gentlemanly villain as Valdimir Obrenovic. Mr. Stanley Weston is most satisfactory as King Kara. Mr. Geoffrey Chate infuses much humour into the part of Duke Fernand. Mr. F. K. Wicksteed renders excellent service in his impersonation of Prince Uros Dragomir; and Mr. Oscar Power as Carl Oppenheim keeps the house in roars of laughter. Miss Joan Ellis makes a pathetic and convincing figure of Natila, while as Grazia Miss Marie Danvers Smith is distinctly attractive. Kosto Marko has a successful exponent in Mr. Mat Stone; Mr. Jack Litchfield makes a capital Vitimor Ladis; and Mr. Geo. Jones does well as Captain Krello.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The Poluskis top the bill, and cause continual merriment; Geo. Rapley patters to everyone's delight; Gladys Revell contributes a well-liked chorus song; Grant and Stewart mystify and amuse with their comedy of illusions, entitled *Phantoms of the Wood*; Charles Geoffrey and company arouse enthusiasm with their sketch, *The Boy Scout*; and also appearing are Carney Brothers, duettists; and the Hulls, in their musical act. Lacey's Erascope interests with a series of films, including Leather Stocking.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Cultured and serious playgoers are indebted to the management for the opportunity to witness Jerome's thought-compelling play, *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. In the principal rôle Mr. Ian Robertson proved himself a consummate master of histrionic art; Miss Helena Parsons as the Slavey deserves the highest praise for sympathetic characterisation; and Miss Barbara Everest as Vivian is an actress of great emotional powers and mental adaptability. The remaining characters were all admirably sustained by Miss Jeannie Thomas, Miss Drusilla Wills, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Blanche Ripley, Mr. Gedge Twyman, Mr. W. O. Billington, Mr. J. Woodhall-Birde, Mr. Stanley Brown, and Mr. Herbert Garthorne. Mr. Ian Robertson's pretty curtain-raiser *Come Here* is acted with artistic finish.

CHORLEY.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar Dereve. —Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* was enthusiastically received on Monday, fine scenery and beautiful dresses greatly enhancing the production. As Robinson Crusoe Miss Violet Thorne at once won popularity, and Polly Perkins in the hands of Miss Kittie Liske was charmingly rendered, Miss Florence Parkinson capitally undertaking Mid

comedienne; Gladys Nelson, child mimic; and Ruby Norton, comedienne.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Seymour Hicks's company, in *The Gay Gordons* is playing here to full houses. Mr. William Greene as Angus Græme gives an excellent performance; Clarice Lockstone is a dainty and sweet Peggy Quainton; Edward Carlton is good as Nervy Nat; Mr. W. H. Desmond as Edmund Siddons is capital; Miss Tessa D'Alberti shows well as Mary McLeod; Miss Violet Morene as Lady Milicent plays with zeal.

HIPPODROME THEATRES, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—A good bill is topped by Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company, in a dramatic episode, entitled *33 to 1 Chance*, which is full of go, and pleases everybody; the Three Pirmans in their gymnastic act, score; and other good turns are the Cheers, with performing cats; Harry Morris, comedian; Drum and Major, comedy artists; Maisie Dene, dancing expert; and Blanche and Powill, society entertainers, together with the Hipposcope, with new pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is here. Little Peggy McDonnell and Cissy Wyse establish themselves favourites as the Babes; Miss Marie Lumberg is a fine dashing Robin Hood; and Miss Winifred Norman a winsome Maid Marion. Miss May Curtis sings well as Fairy Dewdrop; Phyllis, Dolly Warden, Little John, and Allen-a-Dale are parts well filled by Misses M. Rafferty, Annie Brumby, Flo Taylor, and Eva Hopps respectively. Mr. Neil Hardy is a capital Baron; Mr. Jimmie Watson a comical Nurse; and much fun is produced by Messrs. Graham and Barron as Willing and Weary, assisted by Mr. Harry Tullett as the Miller and Mr. A. Hutchison as Friar Tuck.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Charles Constant's company is presenting *Florodora*. As Professor Tweedlepunch Mr. Arthur Lenville, a comedian of great capabilities, scores all through, and his impersonation is highly appreciated; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores is to be heartily commended, and the various numbers allotted to her are sung in a very pleasing manner; Miss Kate Lester's Lady Holyrood is a clever assumption throughout; and Miss Josephine Ellis as Angela Gilfain sings and dances very prettily. As Frank Abercoed Mr. Robert Hine does well, and his fine voice gains him hearty approval; Mr. Jos. R. Tate gives a good portrayal of Cyrus Gilfain, and the same may be said of Mr. Johnnie Junior as Captain Donegal, whose Apache Dance with Miss Josephine Ellis is one of the features of the performance. Mr. Jack Parker is capital as Leandro.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes. —*A Society Woman* is submitted by Allan Holt and an excellent company, whose efforts meet with well-merited success. Walter Stanley, with clever song parodies, fully maintains his reputation; Stidder and Dunbar are a musical comedy duo of great ability; Pat Lynch is a remarkably neat dancer; the Nicholsons, comedy artists, are both amusing and up to date; Clivetto gains deserved applause for smart juggling feats; and Radie Stuart is a bright comedienne with a budget of catchy and tuneful songs. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, of good variety.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, is drawing splendid houses to the Met. during the week. Miss Ethel Griffies gives a wonderful, and at the same time touching, representation of the young bride who takes to drink, the delirium tremens scene being splendidly done; Mr. Norman Cannon works hard as Jack Livingstone; Mr. Harry Cane is a great success as Farmer John Meadows; Mr. Fred Hodson is a born comedian as Toby Turvey; and Miss Muriel Dean is an attractive Constance Correll.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Mr. Powis Pender's company, in *The Revellers*, gives an excellent musical comedy number, the principal contributors being Mr. Pinder, who is the possessor of a cultured baritone voice; Miss Ruth Thorp, a pleasing soprano; and Miss Dorothy Frostick, a dancer of undeniable ability. Some wonderful feats of strength are performed by the Three Torontos, who are fine specimens of manhood, two of the trio lifting fourteen men with their legs; Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws provide a very entertaining number, the birds performing a number of tricks, bearing striking testimony to the patience of their trainers; Doughty and Laney are responsible for a clever little sketch, entitled *A Woman's Way*, which receives much flattering appreciation; Archie Glen has a down-to-date song dealing with the boy scout movement, whilst his patter is first-class; Russell Brandon, described as the "Brownie in Brown," displays wonderful dancing ability; and Vera Rochdale is also a skilful performer in the same department.

DEWSBURY.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—The bill is headed by Mr. Charles Prelles' Bijou Circus, which is a unique example of skill in animal training; Mendel, the blind pianist, delights everybody with his wonderful playing; G. W. Blythe's musical scena *The Toilers* evokes rounds of applause; the singing of Miss Nellie Brierley, the possessor of a wonderful soprano voice, is greatly appreciated; Selby and Myers, patterers and simultaneous dancers, are highly successful; Jennie Hartley contributes lively songs and dances; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Meymott, in a sketch *Semi-detached*, are very successful; Master Geo. Doonan, comedian and dancer, is very smart; Geo. Hall is a good light comedian and whistles cleverly; Annie Lang, comedienne and dancer, and a display of animated pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—At the head of the bill here are the Newmans, who perform remarkably clever feats on cycles and unicycles; Bennett and Stirling are much applauded for their singing, dancing, and xylophone playing; Tom E. Dean, described as "the evening shadow," evokes much laughter; Carlotta Wood, chorus singer, goes very well; Leigh and Lawrie keep the audience mirthful in their absurdity *Bohemian Knights*; Evelyn Geldard, versatile artist and entertainer, pleases everybody; Fred Horsfall, comedian, is a very acceptable turn; and Marjorie Lawrence sings and dances very well. The Bioscope is as popular as ever.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning* is well received here. The fine manly bearing of Mr. F. Ronald Adair is well suited to the rôle of Willie Mason; Bill Slater is effectively played by Mr. John Brooks; a particularly good embodiment of Jack Fenton is submitted by Mr. Charles Ashwell; James Harcourt receives artistic treatment from Mr. William T. Riley; Miss Florence Halton enacts Lucy Coventry with womanly charm; and the titular rôle, as assumed by Miss Jessie Belmore, is full of human interest.

DOVER.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Atlas and Vulcana, with the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, the society athletes, are the principal attraction; the performance is extremely interesting, and is enthusiastically received. Miss Gertrude Bibby, the clever quick-change artist, appears in a sketch, *Bonnie Prince Charlie*, all the characters being impersonated by herself; Vera Wootton is an irresistible comedienne; the Four Zodiacs are warmly received for their fine dancing speciality; and Tom Jones is a popular favourite in Welsh songs and humour. Billy Rex and Harry Knox are also very amusing. A fine series of pictures conclude.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—This week we have here *Under Two Flags*, put forward by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow. The vivandière is exceedingly well portrayed by Miss Agnes Verity; Mr. Douglas Murray has ample scope to display his abilities as Bertie Cecil Royellieu; Mr. Francis Curtis plays the part of Berklie Cecil Royellieu capitally and as Lord Royellieu Mr. Charles Brooke is interesting; Lord Rockingham is ably played by Mr. Charles Bedells; and as Rake Mr. Harry Benson does extremely well.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred'k. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Here we have the Hippodrome season on, the centre of attraction being that famous and well-known boxer, J. L. Sullivan, who gives a capital display with an old friend, Jake Kilrain. The Cataneo company present a skilful acrobatic performance; the Amio Trio receive applause for their equilibristic act; Frank Le Dent presents an excellent juggling performance; and Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard have a clever and entertaining item. "Vaudeville Frivolities"; the dexterity displayed by Johnson and Hart in their hoop performance is capital; Hampton and Bauman win rounds of applause for their excellent coon songs, and the Bioscope shows interesting pictures.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. O. F. Wright.—The vaudeville company here this week is extra good. The Dunvilles, in their pot-pourri act, prove themselves capable artists; the duets and dances by the Sisters Lloyd meet with a good reception; Miss Connie Isca is a good vocalist; Bu Val, "the Happy Dutchman," in his "Concertinacalities," brings down the house.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. G. H. Marsh.—A capital programme is provided here this week. Miss Rachel Lowe, with her clever songs, has a style of her own which catches on; Dion Wade's songs are heartily enjoyed; Miss Mona Garrick, who remains over from last week, does some good scenes from *The Bondman* and *The Bells*; a capital juggling turn by Francis and Alfred is well received, and the dancing act by the Brannans is attractive; Miss Mabel Mavis gives a very pleasing and effective musical performance, and John Macaulay is most successful as a vocalist; Dot Hardy and John Free are also in the bill.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles A. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Andos Troupe of Japanese performers top the bill here, and do a really smart and clever performance. A sketch, *Wait for the Finish*, by Guyer and Walle, is particularly good; Miss Ida Kessauly's troupe of fox terriers is an item of special merit; the Bros. Lawrence are amusing in songs, dances, and patter; Lillie Hale is an excellent vocalist; Harry Vardon is a very good ventriloquist; and the Boston Twins, Edwards and Ward, and Dolly Ross, comedienne, also appear with success.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James. —The following artists are appearing here this week:—Alliston and Arthur, comedy duettists; Will Bowman, comedian; Eva Alliston, ballad vocalist; Arthur Allan, eccentric comedian; and the Falconers, sketch artists.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*Pinkie and the Fairies*, admirably presented by Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's company, was received with every appreciation by a large audience on Monday. The woodland scene is one of the most effective and pretty sets ever seen on this stage. In the rôle of Pinkie Miss Iris Hawkins created quite a furore, speaking her lines with delightful clearness and point, and dancing nicely; Master Philip Tonge's Tommy was quite an excellent study for such a young artist; Miss Hilda Antony was a fascinating Molly, her acting being marked by great charm of manner, and she also scored vocally; Master Burford Hampden acted with much quaint pomposity as the Herald; the Queen of the Fairies was ingeniously enacted by Miss Florrie Lewis, a dancer of remarkable ability; Miss Patty Jacobs (Elf Pickle), Miss Mimi Crawford (Elf Whisper), and Miss Olga Hope (Elf Twinkle) sutained their rôles artistically; Mr. Ambrose Manning's finished and amusing study of Uncle Gregory kept his audience merry; as Aunt Imogen Miss Kate Forster's fine voice was heard to advantage; Miss Augusta Haviland as the sedate Aunt Caroline was thoroughly amusing; and Mr. Walter R. Creighton was responsible for a deal of merriment as the Gardener Mr. Irons. Cinderella had a charming exponent in Miss Gwennie Brogden; Miss Doreen Wayliss was a dashing Dick Whittington; Sleeping Beauty and Beauty were agreeably realised by Miss Dora Rignold and Miss Margaret Latilla respectively. The augmented orchestra and chorus, under the bâton of Mr. Arthur Spittle, contributed largely to the success of the production.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr S. McIntosh.—The leading feature of a sparkling programme is Signor Arvi's artistic mystery "The Metablescope," a clever and novel act; Jock Mills, Scotch comedian, scores a hit; Teddy Edmond's company in *The Lady Jockey* provides a pleasurable item, Jimmy Rouse as the Tipster being a veritable *tour de force*; much diversion is caused by the Francoli troupe in a comedy acrobatic pantomime entitled *The Billposter and His Troupe of Comical Living Pictures*; Maisie Hibbs' pedestal dancing is a combination of skill and grace; the Credons in their comedy sporting act are a decided success; George James, a comedian with some original ideas, gets a hearty welcome; the Zanfrellas are decidedly clever equilibrists; and a series of films by the Kingscope completes the bill of fare.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company, which was conspicuously successful here a few weeks ago in *Sapho*, makes a welcome return with *A Wife's Triumph*. Mr. Edward Ouston renders the rôle of Frank Wilton in a telling manner; Miss Ada Abbott uses her excellent talents with dramatic effect as Bessie Dewhurst; Miss Florence North imparts a great deal of charm to the character of Alice Wilton; Miss Gladys Armice shows to advantage as Little Frank; a capitaly study ably depicted is the Squire Dewhurst of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott; Mr. Stephen Crossley realises the character of Ellis Jordan completely; and Julius Hartman is cleverly hit off by Mr. Weedon Ross. Mr. Edwin Keene, who invests the part of Ben Bradford with much droll humour, is ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Marjory Tennant as Margery Crib.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—At the head of a good bill here is Stylo, whose hoop manipulations are wonderful; the Four Janowskys evoke the heartiest applause in their pot-pourri act; and the singing of Williams's Royal Welsh Minstrels is well appreciated. T. W. Barratt is a popular comedian; Vasey and Ramsey amuse greatly in *Jerks the Butler*; Beatrice Bonner, comedienne, receives a welcome; and the Forsyths are successful comedy artists. The Floods of Paris on the Cathedoscope is an excellent picture.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Rushworth.—Mr. John A. Thomson presents the pantomime *Sleeping Beauty*, which is staged and dressed in lavish style. Miss Adele Roze as the Prince sings with charm; Miss Alice Wyllyams (the Princess) is an excellent singer and dancer; Miss Nellie Scorey makes a graceful Bo-Peep and Miss Emmie King an admirable Boy Blue. As the King Mr. Rich Teasdale is capital; Mr. Henry Warren makes the Queen a most laughable part; Mr. Joe Monkhouse (Bamboozleum) and Mr. Sydney Godfrey (Selina) are the cause of much merriment; and the parts of Johnny Green and Simple Simon are in the capable hands of Mr. Tom Hanlon and Mr. Alf Hailin respectively. The specialities include Mlle. Florence on the rolling globe, the Casino Girls, Abex, the pocket Hercules, the Musical Scoreys, and the Canadian Quartette. The music is directed by Mr. Arthur Sheldrake.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr Norman V. Norman and company are here in *Caste* and *David Garrick*. In the former Miss Beatrice Wilson was as charming and natural as ever as Polly; and Miss Madge Trenchard did sympathetic work as Esther; Mr. H. Alexander gave a good account of the part of George D'Alroy; Mr. Norman repeated a successful performance of Captain Hawtree; Mr. Norman Leslie was a satisfactory Eccles; Mr. F. Lock an amusing Sam; and Miss Betty Stannard as the Marquis, with Mr. W. F. Dillon as Dixon, lent capital aid.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford.—At the top of the bill here is Mr. Marriott Edgar, the man in red, who is smart, refined, and stylish in his excellent songs; the Five Singing Gypsies are deservedly popular in their cultured singing; the Four Flying Orenius have a daring aerial and contortion act; Miss Marie Blythe is making a welcome re-appearance in chorus songs; Messrs. Ellis and Campbell are able dancers; Miss Florence Raymond introduces a novel ventriloquial act; Miss Bessie Williams is a bright comedienne and dancer; and new pictures are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager Mr Albert Rogers.—This week Mr. John Tiller's company is presenting the pantomime *Jack and Jill*. The production from start to finish is carried through with a rare swing, the grand Scotch ballet calling forth well-merited applause. Miss Harriett Fawn as Prince Fearnought sings and acts delightfully, her song "I do like to be beside the seaside" fairly bringing down the house; the part of Princess Bountiful has a capable representative in Miss Nellie Rodney, who scores with her dainty songs and dances; Miss Ada Davidson as Trim the Prime Minister sings "Somewhere" with plenty of spirit; Miss Alice Maude and Miss Nellie Grimshaw as Jack and Jill are fascinating in their singing and acting. The comedians, a jovial band, are headed by Mr. Bruce Green, a droll Dame Durden; Mr. Harry Cotton is a most amusing Baron; and Mr. Horace Jones does well as Ginger. Mr. F. Le Cren and Mr. H. Le Cren as General Biff and Private Biff are responsible for many aching sides.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The second week of the visit of Mr. Charles Frohman's company with *Peter Pan* has been even more successful from a box office point of view than the first week. Crowded houses of adults and children have testified their appreciation of the delightful acting of Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Gertrude Lang, Mr. Fred Annesley, Mr. Geo. Shelton, and the other members of the cast. It is worthy of note that on Thursday evening Miss Pauline Chase played the name-part for the 700th time.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie. —Mr. Martin Harvey and his company opened their engagement here with *The World and His Wife*, not hitherto seen in Edinburgh. The piece gave Mr. Martin Harvey an opportunity of staging a production differing from the character of work with which his admirers are familiar, and the experience was in every way successful and interesting. Mr. Harvey's rendering of Don Ernesto and the Teodora of Miss N. de Silva were admirable studies; Don Julian and the sinister Don Severo found excellent characterisation at the hands of Mr. Owen Roughwood and Mr. George Cooke; Captain Beaulieu was very happily represented by Mr. Philip Hewland; Mr. Percy Foster made a good Pepito; the stern Mercedes was safe in the hands of Miss Mary Rorke; and auxiliary parts were all ably filled. *The Conspiracy* preceded, Mr. Harvey and the principal gentlemen of the company all appearing in a finished interpretation of this telling episode. During the week *The Breed of the Treshams* and *The Only Way* have had a place in the bill, produced, as usual, with all the completeness and effect which makes Mr. Harvey's visits so attractive and enjoyable.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Messrs. James and Herbert Jewell's compressed melodrama, *The Haunted Castle*, is the headline in this week's bill, and the authors assisted by an efficient company, give due effect to the weird situations and transformations which the piece affords. The Will o' the Wisps, under the direction of S. Sherrington China, provide a pleasant vaudeville entertainment; the St. Johns display considerable skill as bell-ringers and dancers; and the Craggs contribute their latest acrobatic conception under the name of "The Territorials." Of the single-handed turns Marie Kendall takes the lead among the vocalists with some of her recent successes; Gwennie Llewellyn proves herself the possessor of a wonderful voice; Mabel Sinclair comes in an easy first among lady ventriloquists; and La Sylphe shows marvellous flexibility in her several dance creations, "The Folly," "Diavolo," and "The Harem." The comedian element is supplied by Steve McCarthy and Geo. S. Melvin, the latter a bright Scottish singer and dancer; and Bioscope pictures complete a long programme.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—This house is occupied by the Carl Rosa Opera company, which has presented an attractive series of performances, including Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung*, a venture deserving of an extended notice, which is given in another column.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is presented here by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh's company. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh submits a powerful study of Prince Lucio; Mr. Ernest Bodkin gives an excellent interpretation of Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. Wallis Clark as the Earl of Elton and Mr. Gerard Wynne as Nonus Neil are also exceedingly good. Miss Kathryn Collier as Lady Sybil displays dramatic power which is very convincing; Miss Belle Travers is a pleasing Mavis Clare; Miss Vere Hodson is well placed as Anna Chesney; while Miss Emmie O'Reilly attains a high degree of excellence during her short appearance as the Countess of Elton.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Crowded houses at the two nightly performances this week testify to the popularity of the bill of fare. A great attraction is that of Fred Karno's own conception, *The Yap Yaps*, the artists including Gus le Clerq as the Hon. Charlie Chinn, who is extremely smart, and who, with H. V. Surrey, keeps the house merry from start to finish. The Donatos, one-legged acrobatic clowns, give a marvellous performance; Hilda Marcott has a hearty reception; Jennie Alexander, the child comedienne and mimic, is pleasing; Henri Bekker, comedy conjurer, assisted by Miss Maie, astonishes the house with his smart tricks; and Fred Kendall, described as the Hebrew comedian, is deservedly popular.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. —Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—The patrons of this place of entertainment had a musical treat on Monday and Tuesday, when the famous Carl Rosa Opera Company produced *Carmen* and *Faust*. On both occasions there was a crowded and distinguished audience, who fully appreciated the efforts of the talented company. The cast included such well-known vocalists as Miss Doris Woodall, Miss Ina Hill, Miss Beatrice Miranda, Mr. Edward Davies, Mr. Alan Turner, Mr. Walter Wheatley, and Mr. Arthur Winckworth. The entertainment for the remainder of the week was provided by the World-in-Motion Picture and Variety Co.

FLEETWOOD. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Miss Loie Esmond's company is paying a welcome return visit in a répertoire of popular plays. On Monday, Tuesday, and Friday *In the Gloaming* was staged, *Sapho* on Wednesday, *The Sorrows of Satan* on Thursday, and the ever-popular *Ticket-of-Leave Man* is announced for to-day (Saturday). The company is a powerful one, and the pieces are all well staged.

FOLKESTONE.—TOWN HALL.—T. J. West's pictures, under the direction of Mr. T. W. Kingston, are drawing good houses. Between the pictures Miss Gertrude Hember, the well-known West of England contralto, sings a couple of songs. She is the possessor of a beautiful, highly-trained voice. She is a type of artist far above the ordinary class heard at picture shows.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The company here consists of Labelle Lumiere, an artistic kaleidoscope dancer; Zanora and Berg, who give a clever turn on bicycles; the Vanderbilt Comedy Duo; Will Emerson (humorous singer); Layne and Valroy, and the Gregson Trio.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock have a delightful little playlet, entitled *Cupid's Arms*, in which there is some excellent comedy and appreciable singing; the Three Krakes are immensely funny in the knockabout act, *The Electric Car Conductor*; Herbert La Martine is a wonderfully clever dancer; Stewart and Morris also present some tasteful dancing; Lunn and Darius are seen to advantage in a high-class vocal and musical scena; the Four Mayos are accomplished roller skaters; the Gilberts score with a tight wire act; Geo. Lawrence sings two songs in taking style; and the Kingscope completes the list.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Chas. Elderton's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* occupies the stage here. A dashing Crusoe is presented by Miss Esme Gordon; and an admirable Polly Perkins is found in Miss Isa Gibson. The company is rich in comedy talent; Mr. Teddy Worth, as Billy, causing much laughter; Mr. Will Boulton making the most of the opportunities afforded in the part of Will Atkins; and a genuinely funny dame being Mr. J. H. Booth: Friday gives Mr. Carson Hicks an accepted chance to score; and the Eltons as Dick and Peter are responsible for much of the mirth. Specialities by the Three Eltons, Carson Hicks, Miss Bartenelli, Marblesque Trio, and the Lottie Stone Troupe of dancers are strong features of the production.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphreys.—The pantomime being now at an end, the theatre is this week in possession of amateurs, that clever local combination, the Orpheus Club, appearing in *The Rose of Persia*, on behalf of Glasgow charities.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Brilliant crowds are gathering here nightly to greet Mr. Edward Compton and his comedy company in old English plays. On Monday *Davy Garrick* was presented, in which Mr. Compton gave his usual graceful rendering of the famous actor; Miss Kathleen Leigh was an excellent Violet Gresham; Mr. Henry Crocker was a dignified Alderman; and Mr. Philip Gordon as Rumbelow, Mr. J. W. Austin as Sowerberry, and Mr. C. Marquand as Simkins, were amusing. Miss Marie Hassell as Mrs. Rumbelow and Miss Lorraine Stevens as Selina Sowerberry did well; and the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut had an effective rendering at the hands of Mr. Frank Royde. The comedy was preceded by *Tom Noddy's Secret*, in which Miss Nell Compton gave a charming impersonation of Gabrielle. *She Stoops to Conquer* was given on Tuesday, *The Road to Ruin* on Wednesday, and *The School for Scandal*, *The Blasé Baronet*, and *The Rivals* are also in the bill.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The repertory company gave their first performance of *Candida* on Monday, and, as has been the case with other Shaw productions here, success was assured from the start. Miss Irene Rooke seemed to realise the author's conception of the title-part; as the poet Marchbanks an ideal representative is found in Mr. Milton Rosmer; Mr. Laurence Hanray's portrayal of the Rev. Mr. Morell was most convincing; in the way of a character study the Burgess of Mr. M. R. Morand was excellent; Mr. Percival Clark was well suited as the Curate; and the Typist had a clever exponent in Miss Norah Delaney. The comedy was preceded by an exceptionally good one-act play entitled *'Tilda's New Hat*.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—*Mother Goose* on Monday entered on its last week here, and tonight the theatre will be given over to the enthusiasm which marks the close of a record run.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdock.—The pantomime season having finished, Miss Maude Western and company are presenting the new musical comedy-drama entitled *Folly's Fortunes*. Miss Western gives a faithful representation of Folly Vaughan; Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd, comedian, dancer, and acrobat, finds plenty of scope. Other notable parts are well filled.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Charles Harrington and company are on a return visit here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. St. Clair is admirably suited to Mr. Charles Harrington, and Mr. J. H. Boehm acts with earnestness the part of Uncle Tom; Mr. David Blair as George Harris and Miss Hero Hathaway as Eliza sustain their respective parts with good effect; Mr. A. Hayes is a powerful Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Victor Gardom skilfully depicts the character of Legree; and Mr. E. Leonard is a successful Dan Haley; Mr. Reginald Kloof as Marks and Miss Annie Watson as Topsy contribute agreeably in the comedy line.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Edward Thane's drama, entitled *The Mockery of Marriage*, is presented here by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company, with that gentleman in the part of Dick Kenyon, afterwards Sir Montague Jephson; Mr. Fred Bentley as Seth Pearse is a very busy rascal indeed; Mr. Harold Heath acts well as the gallant young Jack Stanley; Mr. Frank Masters both as Old Pete in the prologue and as Joseph Verham in the drama is well suited; Miss Mabel Liston in the rôle of Alva Kenyon does good work; Miss C. Middleton is a sympathetic Rose Verham; and there are capital comedy interludes between Mr. D. Phillips as Toby Wright and Miss Kate Hughes.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Signor Rosi's ballet in one scene, entitled *Uncle Isadore*, occupies the position of honour this week. Included in the piece are Signorina C. Mossetti, principal travesty dancer, and Signorina Luisa Patti, who each impersonate four unique characters; Harry Nuttall's company is responsible for an amusing playlet, entitled *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, on a return visit, present their vocal comedy sketch, *The Piano Tuner*, to the enjoyment of all present; Tom Davies' cycling trio are well received in their mid-air motoring; and quite a nice little turn is provided by D'Arc's Marionettes, which are quite lifelike. Ray Wallace is also included in the company; that charming light comedy queen, Gipsy Woolf, with her Six Sunbeams, comes in for a royal welcome in the vocal and dance scena, *The Mermaid of Margate*; Edie Reynolds is a violinist very much above the average; and Chass Lewis in a ventriloquial entertainment is clever. Williams and Parker, comedy entertainers, are well received, and the latest Bioscope films are of an interesting nature.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—Bessie Butt, fresh from her pantomime successes at the Royal, tops the bill here, and enhances her popularity by her tuneful songs and neat dancing; Harry Levaine, the principal comedian from the Princess pantomime, is also a decided hit here, his songs and patter being smart; Walton and Lester, "The world's worst wizards," are very amusing in their burlesque conjuring and their house-boat scena; the Dayton Family of Risley acrobats give a wonderful performance; Nelson's Newsboys contribute some excellent harmonised songs; Thomas and Taylor take well in their quick-change business, entitled *Fun on the Midland*; radiant Radie Furman is a smart dancer, and is well received; Paulton and Doley give an extremely smart comedy bicycle act, introducing several very clever feats; Harry Letter, eccentric comedian, completes a varied and attractive bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—This huge hall has been taxed to its utmost last week and this by the audiences clamorous to see the *Dick Whittington* pantomime presented by Mrs. Lillie Williams and her talented company, which has proved a sensational hit. The leading artists from the *Willie Winkie* pantomime at the Princess's have been added to the bill here, and Edith Haley, the Two Crystals, Oswald and Locke, &c., have added their quota to a lengthy and enjoyable programme.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Benneh.—This week patrons of this show have been treated to an exceptionally good entertainment. All tastes have been considered, and as a further proof of enterprise the management have introduced two excellent variety turns in Nannie Shaw, comedienne and dancer, and the Musical Millers, in their speciality *The Skipper and His Son*. The films include Her Terrible Ordeal, graphically depicting the horrible suffering of a young lady locked in a strong room. The laughs were provided by Revenge of the Thief, A Pair of Slippers, A Good Winning, Calino Goes Travelling, Poor Pa Pays, and The Unlucky Horseshoe. Also on the programme were some rare seascapes entitled The Waves at Fontarbic.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—America's famous entertainer, the Great Lafayette, is here on a two weeks' engagement, and is giving a bewildering variety of business, comprising conjuring, quick-change, impersonations of musicians and famous people, and concluding with a series of musical items by his band, the most notable being his burlesque overture, "1912," after the style of Tschaikowsky. The result of this engagement is that the Coliseum is taxed to its utmost twice nightly. In addition, enjoyable turns are given by Little Zola, in eccentric songs and dances; Florence Esdaile, descriptive vocalist; Mlle. Marjutti, a clever and agile contortionist; Herbert Shelley, in his protean play, *Dan, the Outlaw*, which is well played and heartily appreciated; Alice Maydue in comedy turns; and the Korries, in their musical items.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The Sisters May are vocalists and dancers of considerable merit; the club juggling of Jack Bolano is much enjoyed; Kail Stern, coon comedian, is most amusing; and Myra Craig, in illustrated songs; Fred Denvers, light comedian; and the Bioscope, with a series of pictures, all go to make up a good performance.

JUNGLE AND ARENA.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank C. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Tudor.—The New City-road resort, which presently houses houses the Bostock Jungle and Arena, continues to prove a tremendous draw. The collection of animals is indeed wonderful, and it is safe to say that never before has such a large and valuable zoological collection been in Glasgow at the one time and under the same roof. Much amusement is caused by "Blondin," the educated elephant, and to Scholz, its trainer, is due great praise for the result of his tuition. A great favourite is Captain Peter Taylor, with his little bears. His entertainment is most amusing. Mlle. Louise, with her panthers, is a lady of courage; a grand performance is put forward by Tallon, America's youngest lion trainer. Enough cannot be said in praise of Mr. Bostock's enterprises, and his management of the stupendous concern is indeed remarkable.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—*Sinbad the Sailor*, presented by Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Josephs, is the attraction here. Miss Lily Simmons makes a smart and dashing Sinbad; Miss Dolly Andrews a charming and vivacious Princess; Miss Ruby Collis a sweet and attractive Fairy; Miss Gladys May as Captain Selim wins hearty applause; Messrs. J. Rand and Henry O'Ryan are two clever comedians; Mr. Dan Lyalls is a droll Sinbad; Mr. Sid Dean a mirth-provoking Mrs. Spankfirst Sinbad; Mr. W. Melville a fine Caliph; the Alhambra Girls are a clever troupe of dancers; and the Leola Troupe also add to the success.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Messrs. Cullen and Carthy's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, opened here on Monday. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley provide a lot of the fun as the two Robbers and the last-named as Bantam; Miss Bessie Cohen makes a dashing principal boy; Miss Maudie Forde is an effective Maid Marion; and Baron Toodle, in the hands of Mr. Arthur Stratton, is an extremely laughable personage. Mr. Tom Drew as Dame Peggy contributes in no small measure to the general fun; the Babes are neatly enacted by Miss Dollie Cullen and Elsie Jordison; Miss Marie Fern sings well as the Fairy Queen; and the Granada Quartette introduce an Apache Dance.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworthy.—Excellent business is being done. The Vaudevilles head the bill with a capital comedy sketch, *Taming a Suffragette*; the Smalleys cause roars of laughter; Nellie Duval sings and dances daintily; Adelina, facial impersonator, gives a very clever exhibition; and the Monarchscope pictures

romantic comedy sketch, *My Lady Betty*, which is of considerable interest, and is well played; Bob Hamilton, a favourite Scottish comedian, is repeating his former successes here; the Villions have a comedy act that presents novel features; Miss Lena Verdi is a pleasing comedienne and clever mimic; Ciesie Lupino displays ability as a speciality and character dancer; and Dower and Denville give a smart comedy dancing act.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt. Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—A fine historic and romantic picture is Cleopatra, the scenes realising admirably the fascinating story. Mr. Maxwell Edwardes contributes illustrated songs.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—F. W. Bolam's company is here with *The Marriages of Mayfair*. Mr. George Tempest is admirably suited to the part of Lord Adolphus Villiers; Mr. Paul Beckett's Jim Callender is a creditable performance; Mr. D. Cleugh (Nigel Villiers), Mr. D. Yarrow (Dudley Gore), Mr. P. Marmont (Duke of Exmoor), Mr. R. C. Harcourt (Percy Hosfield), Miss C. Radcliffe (Dorothy Gore), Miss M. Cottell (Lady Margaret Villiers), Miss D. Monkhouse (Mrs. Bissett), and Mr. F. F. Lloyd (Captain Carlyon) are all good; Miss A. G. Clyndes is seen to advantage os Lily de Mario; and Miss Naomi Neilson's Bess Bissett is a praiseworthy portrayal.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—John Tiller's pantomime, *Red Riding Hood*, is at the Palace this week. Miss May Merry is a sweet and dainty Red Riding Hood; Mr. Benson Kleves as King Lupus delivers his lines with telling effect; Miss Lulu Russel is a vivacious Prince Valiant; Fred Danvers (Pretty Pet), Newco and Sullo ('Erbert and 'Arry), Sam Mitchello (Joseph), George Malfent (Fritz), Fred Lawrence (Dr. Dignum), and Charles Verno (Trotters), are comedians who never let the fun lag. The Lotus Troupe dance with wonderful precision, and Newco and Sullo also contribute a clever dance.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Tarro Miyake, ju-jitsu wrestler, is proving a big draw. He is ably assisted by Mr. Taka. Corrix Bros. give a wonderful exhibition of strength; David Fuller is an artistic baritone; Shawlene, a master whistler; and Will Capner and Victoria Steele, character duettists, give every satisfaction. Davis and Deane, shadow dancers and comedians, and Flo Banks, comedienne, complete a good bill.

HAMILTON, N.B. — Hippodrome. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Ethel Arden and George Abel's company, in the funny, farcical sketch, *Three of a Kind*, the cast including Miss Adrian Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton, is topping the bill; Cissie Curlette is an exceptionally clever and dainty mimetic vocalist; the Daunton Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists are smart and clever; Gus Garrick, in his funny business, "Music Hall Tit-bits," is a great favourite; W. B. Raby is a comedian who possesses an excellent singing voice; the Lyric Mummers furnish a refined vocal comedy scena; Bert Welda and Dorothy Wynne are an interesting comedy juggling and dancing turn; and Charles Pastor, comedian, and the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co.,Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*The Woman in the Case* is presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company. As Claire Foster Miss Winifred Pearson is superb, her stage presence being perfect, and her elocution excellent; Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret gives a telling portrayal of a very difficult rôle; Mr. James Lindsay as the lawyer, Thompson, is very effective; Mr. William Kershaw as Julian Rolfe is responsible for a well-played part; Mr. W. F. Fletcher as Walters is worthy of great praise for a well studied character sketch; Miss Mary Griffiths is a clever Mrs. Hughes; Miss Pamela Hope is a beautiful Elsie; Miss Joan Temple a delightful Dora; and Miss R. Barcham as Louise is good. Messrs. Paul Wynter, Sydney Palfrey, Mervyn A. Rentoul, Charles Saley, and James Mitchell all do well. *Her Ladyship's Guest* is well played by Miss Pamela Hope and Messrs. W. F. Fletcher and M. A. Rentoul. Business is good.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Excellent business is the result of a capital programme, which is headed by Dan Crawley, a great favourite here; Emerson and Baldwin, juggling comedians, are rapturously received; the Brothers Roland, equilibrists, are clever and artistic; Les Auberts, dancers, are delightful; Vory's novelty painting with rags, is very interesting; the Scottish Meisters, in "Ancestral Spirits," are enthusiastically received; Ross and Grayson, in a mélange are smart; the Grand Pictures depict novel scenes.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw.—Magnificent business is being done here again this week. The great attraction is Baby Sophie, a marvellous child, in song and dance. The pictures, too, are a great treat: That Devil-Woman is most thrilling, The Open Gate, The Lady Detective, a fine story of Monte Carlo, A Sticky Proposition (very comical), Annette Kellerman (very interesting), and The Infernal Machine (very funny). On Wednesday the Mayor of Hanley and most of the leading gentlemen of the district visited the King's, and were delighted with the entertainment.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the week Mr. W. V. Garrod and company appear for the first three nights in *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. W. V. Garrod is well suited as Frank Gordon, and the same may be said of Mr. Bradford as the heavy lead—Godfrey Clinton. Mr. Owen Redmonde as Smithers, a ne'er-do-well, is sympathetic, and Mr. Frank Dallas is a satisfactory Oppenheim. Miss Ethel Crawford is an excellent Gwen Gordon and Miss Bertha Kingston a good Marjorie. For the last three nights of the week the same company appeared in *Are You the Man?*

St. James's Hall.—The New Century Animated Picture Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—The head-liner here in the way of pictures is a powerful dramatic one—In Little Italy. The Lady-Detective is an exciting picture, as is also Entombed Alive. Valvo, a ventriloquial turn, goes well. Mr. Boden has lately been appointed as manager here from Liverpool.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—The principal film here is The Heroine of the Wild West. It is a fine dramatic story, splendidly illustrated. Other capital dramatic films are Only a Stepdaughter, The Coastguard, and Through the Breakers. A trick comic, Beneath the Gas, causes endless merriment. The usual do-as-you-please competition is being run very successfully.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. John E. Watson's company is here in *A Country Mouse*. Angela Muir is charmingly represented by Miss Evelyn Ormonde; Mr. F. G. Thurstans is exceptionally good in the part of the Duke of St. Kitts; Miss Phyllis Manners acts well as Mrs. Cropper; as Lord Robert Wyckham Mr. Leo Lilly is natural; Mr. Weldon Atherstone takes the character of John Bowlby, M.P., very effectively; as the Hon. Archibald Vyse Mr. Alfred Field Fisher's impersonation is of high merit; Miss Vera Wallace cleverly depicts a womanly character in the part of Violet Aynsley; and a graceful exposition of the part of Lady Sylvia Bowlby is given by Miss Madeline Du Val. Preceding the play, Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, assisted by Miss Vera Wallace, introduces a selection from his entertainment répertoire, including the sketch *An Afternoon Call*.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. H. B. Boyd; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing.—A well-varied programme is opened by Harry Burden, who sings with excellent scenic effects; Miss Edna Payne is a clever male impersonator; W. P. Dempsey receives great applause; a laughable sketch *Mistakes Will Happen*, is well played by Messrs. Phillip Martin, Harry Roy, and Miss Pauline Emeric; Leigh Green is successful as a comedian; some graceful dancing and vivacious singing are given by the two lady Zongaras; Alf. Holt is clever with his bird imitations; and *Hester's Mystery* is well acted by Messrs. Horace Pollock, P. Long, Percy, and Mrs. Lincoln, and Nita Ramanges.

Disappointment is bound to be the lot of users of Pendup'icate books who do not insist upon Zanetic ink paper being supplied with them. It makes all the difference between toil and ease, between faulty copies and perfect ones, between illegible copies and clear, permanent ones. Zanetic paper ensures perfect satisfaction. Samples free from Zanetic, Leicester. [Advt.]

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Ernest Mansell's animated pictures are the attraction here. The various scenes are cleverly represented. Between the films the ventriloquist, Mr. Harry Hardy, introduces his living marionette entertainment.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—This week Miss Lena Stanton's company is here in *Dick Whittington*. The principals are Miss Lena Stanton, Mlle. Le Mair, Sisters Holman, Miss Ray Darrell, Miss Edie Hylton, Mr. T. Owen Hunter, Mr. G. Grogie, Mr. E. F. Gywnne, and the Bros. Hinson. Specialities include the Zota Troupe of acrobats, Little Kneeno, Sisters Holman, the Pagoda Troupe of dancers, Le Mair, T. Harrington, Bros. Hinson, and the Carrie Bros.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—G. de Relwyskow (the light-weight champion of the world), wrestler, is making his first appearance here this week, and his wrestling is highly appreciated. The Royal Welsh Glee Singers are heartily applauded; Mr. Tom Lloyd, tenor, is all that can be desired; and the Bioscope is an attraction.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—King and Benson, a pair of lively comedy duettists, head the bill; also appearing are Bert Williams, a ventriloquial humorist; Tennis and Laune, duettists and dancers; Charles Ulrick, an expert in the use of his feet; Gibson and Bell, in a clever acrobatic and dancing speciality; Hess and Chivers, a pair of accomplished roller skaters; Miss Lily Lenton, a young comedienne, who is assisted by a troupe of local boy scouts; and Charles Mildare, in his mimicry of birds, in which he is assisted by Miss Edna Werner.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—An attractively varied entertainment includes the brilliant Max Tourbillon troupe of daring trick cyclists and acrobats; Viviana and company, in the dancing speciality, "The Toy Shop"; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde in shadowgraphy; Miss Gwen Francis, comedienne; Rauschle, in his lifelike impersonations; Carney and Armstrong, comedians; Yettmah and O-Sass-San, illusionists; and Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in a smart singing and dancing act.

HULL.—Grand Theatre. — Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith and his company have made a huge success here with *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Nothing can be finer than Mr. Grossmith's conception of the obliging and gallant little man; there is not a phase of the character overlooked, and Preedy carries the house with him. Admirably seconded are his efforts by Miss Ruth Mackay, whose insouciance, coolness, and tact are all displayed with a charm that delights all who witness her efforts. Mr. Murray Carson makes the very best that can be made of the commercial Bounsall, and outlines cleverly the failings of this mercenary lover. As Bilson, the servant, Mr. A. B. Murray furnishes an admirable study. Words of praise are due to Misses Evelyn Kerry, who plays sympathetically the fiancée Emma, and Lynor Fontaune, who is cast as the lady's maid. The latter's reading of the rôle caught the full favour of the house. *A Ball or a Motor?* is the *lever du rideau*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Once more Hull is welcoming the *Two Little Vagabonds*, and big houses are nightly sympathising with Misses Helen Granville and Ivy Millais, who sustain the name-parts. Mr. Frank Beresford is well cast as Thornton, while as the wife Miss Dorothy Milne is equally successful. The other rôles are pleasingly portrayed. The Vagabonds will be welcome whenever they come Hull way again.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Bentley; Resident Representative, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Here is B. A. Rolfe, "Ye Colonial Septette," presenting *An Olde Tyme Hallowe'en*, the feature being Mr. Charles Edwards, America's cornet virtuoso. Another item of more than ordinary note is provided by the Five Olracs, in an act entitled *Acrobatical Funniosities*; Wilton Heriot and company present a new sporting comedy, *Denbigh's Divorce*. One Billy Farrell, described as the man who made the cake walk, appears in a coon comedy concoction, entitled *The Becky's Masquerade*, while Young and Evans, Hebrew comedians, play *Humanity* with the English language. Other turns are Nellie Dellwood, serio comedienne and dancer; Oliver Conroy, comedian; and the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Here prominence of position is given to Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, in their scena *Gipsy Revels*, another good vocal and dancing act being provided by the Three Van-Earles, a speciality "whirling clogs" being introduced. Rozel, described as "Le Roi de L'Air," thrills with his gymnastic feats, whilst Harry Bancroft is a favourite especially in the song "Fifty long years ago." Other turns are Emmie Eames, in *Emmie's Christmas Tree*; Will Candlish, the black Scotchman, a musical comedian; and Milton and Horton, triple-bar artists.

Palace.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—The programme here leaves little to be desired. The top turns and that of the Kremo Family are of exceptional merit. Frank and Jen Latona present a very popular turn, the lady artist's musical ability being greatly appreciated. Linked with them at the top of the bill is the Empire Comedy Four, who are no strangers to Hull. The Kremo Family are a marvellous troupe of acrobats; Witty Wattie Walton is as popular as ever, even though many of his jokes are now threadbare. A smart set of dancers are seen in the Great Northern Troupe, and the Prince Milner Trio are adepts at hoop manipulating and wire-walking. Stewart and Morgan's Irish songs captivate the audience, and the Smythson's sketch and Odeyne Spark's song and dance are favourably received. The Bioscope winds up a good show.

ILKESTON.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—Ediscope and Barnum's pictures, George Edney, comedian, and Frank Brown, vocalist, provide the amusement here.

Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Old Home* is being played here by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company. Miss Nina Blake-Adams appears as Hazel Dean, a part which she works out with great skill; Mr. A'Dell acquits himself well as the Rev. Eric Armstrong; Mr. Charles Franmore gives a fine impersonation of Daddy Dean; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is quite at home as Bridget Donoghan; Sam Adams finds a capital representative in Mr. Fred L. Connynghame; and Miss Ethel Ashleigh is a suitable Polly Pop. Mr. Horatio Sinclair gives a careful study of Lord Avondale. The piece is beautifully mounted.

INVERNESS.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Burrows.—An attractive bioscopic and vaudeville entertainment opened here on Monday evening. The pictures are varied and amusing, and evoked the appreciation of the audience. Mr. Ben Lomond, a capable comedian, was encored for his singing. Two entertainments are given nightly, with matinées on Saturday.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company is here with *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr. Hamilton Stewart's impersonation of the great detective is all that could be desired; Professor Morarity is well played by Mr. Charles Brandon; James Larrabee is in the capable hands of Mr. Arnold O. Roper; Mr. Eric Morden is a good Dr. Watson; Mr. Ernest Fryer plays creditably as John Forman; Mr. Henry Littlejohn is a good Sir Edward Leighton; and Sidney Prince is well played by Mr. Olly Seymour. Miss A. Bruce Joy, in the part of Alice Faulkner, is altogether satisfactory; Miss May Beatrice, in the difficult part of Madge Larabee, also acts well.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The strong bill here this week is headed by Achmed Ibrahim's Troupe of Bedouin Arabs whose feats of skill are startling in their wonderful agility; Randolph King, the "original one-man programme," is really a host in himself; the Sisters Shewell are accomplished duettists; the Figaros sing excellently in their Swiss, Spanish, and Dutch impersonations; the merry monopedes, Conway and Leland, create loud laughter by their skilful antics on bicycles; Crissie Cross both sings and dances well; Maxey and Pete are skilful trick cyclists; and Sam Williams is a refined comedian. Some good films on the Bioscope conclude.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. F. Granville's pantomime company is here with *Beauty and the Beast*. Miss Hallworth is well placed as Silver Buttons; Miss De Gray does full justice to the part of Prince Great Heart; Miss Dolly Barrie is neat as Beauty; Miss Victoria Francis makes an ideal Fairy Sunlight; Miss Fanny Wallace an excellent Wilhelmina; Mr. Albert Juan is good as the village squire; and Mr. Sammy Foster causes amusement as Sammy; Mr. Micklin Williams does full justice to the part of the Beast.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Frank Weathersley's company is giving Mark Melford's *Flying from Justice*. As Haldane Gully Mr. Alec Forbes proves himself an excellent stage villain; Mr. Bert Ellis wins the sympathy of the audience as John Larcarsey; Mr. Byron Douglas appears as Charles Bearing; Mr. Conn Allister is capital as Major Parkes; and Mr. R. C. Carlton is good as Woodruff. As Mildred Parkes Miss Minnie Webster's winning manner wins much admiration; Miss Nellie Murray is well suited as Mrs. Bearing; and Miss Viola March shows ability as Winnie Bradley.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Alfredo Marschall is the principal attraction, and gives a marvellous performance; Sarah Rosebury renders songs, and tells stories in the Lancashire dialect, and is a great favourite; Mlle. Dalmere, with a troupe of performing cats, rabbits, dogs, &c., gives an interesting and pleasing turn; Willie Atom and company, in a smart sketch, entitled *Wiggles*, prove very diverting; the Lovelaces, in illustrated songs, are popular; Alf. Chester is a comedian of merit; and Hicks and Hunter, skate dancers, are decidedly clever. Benson and Waite are also successful in song, dance, and patter.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Miss Violet Osmund's company presents here this week the musical comedy entitled *The New Barmaid*. Captain Lovebury is well enacted by Mr. Leslie Austen; Mr. C. Sykes is good as Colonel Claymore; Bonsor is capably played by Mr. Chas. Sequin; Mr. Alexander Loftus funnily portrays the character of Bertie White; and Miss Murielle Mascot as Mabel sings and acts prettily.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—After being closed for a short season, Hippodrome performances are being given twice nightly. A strong variety company includes A. G. Spry, a favourite comedian with Lynn audiences; Victor Brothers, the American equilibrists; Billy Richardson, stump orator; the Mosaics, in a comedy duo; Bert Crosbie, comedian and dancer; Maud Mathey and Margaret Ogilvie, vocalists; and a screaming absurdity *Who Did It?* by W. T. Ellwanger's variety company.

KIRKCALDY.—New King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah.—*The Village Blacksmith* is presented here with great success. In the rôle of Jack Strong, "the smith," Mr. Sam Livesey submits a clever portrayal; Captain Leo is admirably handled by Mr. Joseph Carter; Mr. Edwin Maydew is very good as Lucas Marler, and Mr. George Wilson is an apt exponent of St. John Harman. Mr. Fred Haming as Billy Twigg keeps the house in good humour. Kate Strong is effectively interpreted by Miss Maggie Edwards, and Miss Cassie La Grande performs creditably as Ruth Parkins. The wrestling bout in the last scene is a strong attraction.

Corn Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Sir Ernest Shackleton's Dash to the South Pole is shown on the screen here this week. Other good pictures are: An Ignored Tragedy, A Woman's Repentance, Artful Dentist, The Two Burglars, and A Tragical Love. Messrs. Donaldson and Emslie, comedians and dancers, give an excellent turn.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—The attraction this week is Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and Jas. Martin's company, in a round of plays, including *Moths*, *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and *Camille*. The first piece was presented on Monday evening to a fairly good house, and the drama was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Andrew Money made a capital Prince; Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy appeared to special advantage as Lord Jura; and as Duke of Mull, Mr. Cecil Kerr was commendable. Miss Henrietta Schrier was a charming Fuschia Leach; Miss Veronica Clinton did well as Vere; and the rôles of Duchess de Sonnaz and Lady Dolly were ably presented by Miss Marie Ramuz and Miss Nellie Statham.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax. — Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is presenting to appreciative audiences the romantic play *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. C. W. Standing gives a robust and manly impersonation of Prince Olaf; the Prince Michael of Mr. Lionel Gadsden, and the Prince Hildred of Mr. G. Mayor Cooke are two very effective studies. As Captain Hector, Mr. Robert Noble is exceedingly good, and Mr. Richard Lane makes a dashing Lieutenant Karl Stromberg. Miss Stella Campbell makes of Monica a very charming figure. Miss B. Stuart plays Viola in a judicious manner; and Miss Ethel Patrick as Camiola gives a very effective performance. The piece is well staged, and the scenic effects are excellent.

Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager Mr. Harry Plant.—The chief pictures are: The Children's Doctor, an exceedingly pretty story in twelve tableaux, and The Emigrant's Progress, which provides an enthralling illustration of emigrant life in Canada; A Trip Through Jersey is an interesting travel picture; whilst much amusement is caused by Servants and Masters, Burglary by Airship, Choosing a Husband, A Late Guest, and Juggins' Motor Skates. Mr. Harry Lewis, the baritone, is in fine voice.

LEEDS.—The Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miltar.—*The Dollar Princess* is the opening engagement for the spring season. Mr. Leonard Mackay as Freddy Fairfax sings and acts the part to perfection; Mr. Eric Thorne is well to the fore as the mirth-provoking Mr. Bulger; Miss Clara Evelyn as Alice scores a distinct success; and Mr. W. Louis Bradfield makes the most of the millionaire character. The chorus, magnificent dresses, and pretty scenery help towards a successful visit.

Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*The Babes in the Wood* is closing here this week after a most successful run. Miss Susie Belmore, the talented and pretty Maid Marian, was to be accorded a benefit on Friday. Miss Florrie Forde is as popular as ever; the Florodoras are big favourites; the funny business finds capital exponents in Bert Byrne, Will Lindsay, and Burley and Burley; and Reski and Raski, Tom Isherwood, and Denaro Bros. complete a good bill.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Fred Karno's company, with Albert Bruno as the leading comedian, is highly successful and amusing; Miss Alice Hollander's superb voice gains her much popularity; Bert Erroll is a clever female impersonator; Florence, the lady mimic, makes a big hit; Horace White, the ventriloquist, appears again after a long absence; and Lockhart's Elephants, A-Ba-Be's Post Card Album, Ernie Gardner, and Rhoda Bros. complete a good company.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Fred Maxwell presents a thrilling military scena, *The Last Command*; Godfrey Price gives a song-scena, *The Trumpeter*; Wilbert and Lealand are clever gymnasts; Massona is a smart juggler; Syd Crossley's songs are very funny; and other entertainers include Mayme Cannon, Little Frankie, and Rich and Rich.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts present their amusing sketch *The Pawnbroker*, which is full of funny incidents; Pitts and Gould appear in a nice vocal and dancing scena, *Bachelor's Memories*; Beatrice Allen is a comedienne of refined style; Charlie Carr makes a quick and welcome reappearance; a sensational cycling act is provided by the Derrington Family; and other good turns include those of Mlle. Pollo, Bill and Bailey, the Three Cunards (in some clever dancing), and Geo. Prince.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Zeta Gray and Co. make a big hit in *The Lancashire Lass*; Herbert Rule has rapidly come to the front as a favourite; and the Fordyces are good dancers and vocalists.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—A first visit is being paid here of Mr. George Dance's company in *The Little Duke*. Miss Zena Dare looks splendid and acts exceedingly well as the Duc de Richelieu; Mr. Johnny Danvers maintains his reputation as a first-rate comedian in the part of Baron de Bellechase. Others in the cast who also shine are Miss Nellie Dade (Baronne de Bellechasse), Mr. Reginald Adair (Chevalier de Matignon), Mr. Alec Johnstone (Abbé de La Touche), Miss Dolly Castles (Diane de Noaille), Miss Kate Graham-Beck (Duchesse de Noaille), Miss Doris Dickens (Césarine de Noce), and Miss Gertrude Robertson (Duchesse de Burgoyne). Miss Nina Terri introduces a clever dance in the second act.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A welcome return visit of Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in *Who Is She?* is attracting well. The title-part is effectively played by Miss Georgette Thierry, and others who do full justice to their parts are Mr. James Stillwell, Mr. Stephan E. Scanlan, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. Alfred Grenville, Mr. Willie Hicks, Mr. Bernard Leill, Miss Constance Medwyn, Miss Alice Barber, and Miss Mabel Ronald.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Ernest Shand, who is aptly billed as the pink of comic smartness, is meeting with a very flattering reception here. His trun is brimful of new business, which keeps the audience in one continual roar of merriment. A clever turn is submitted by Moran and Wiser, whose sensational boomerang hat-throwing is a great feature; Lowenwirth and Cohan (Sam and Charles) are thoroughly amusing Jew comedians, who have some good patter; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is finely worked, and introduces a novelty in a conjuring figure; the Four Regals exhibit remarkable feats of strength and endurance in "The Armourers"; Cissy Thompson, a vivacious comedienne, goes well with her songs, "Danger on the Line" and "Riding in a Motor-car"; the Eight Lancashire Lads, vocalists and clog-dancers, are favourites; the Athlones are two finely-developed athletes, whose cleanly and finished performance arouses much enthusiasm. Harry Clifford also entertains with a capital song. The Bioscope still remains a feature of the programme.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—At the head of a good programme are Mr. Adderley Howard and company in the well-staged nautical sketch *Black-Ey'd Susan*, which proves very popular. At the other end are the Eight Sidney Girls, who are delightfully entertaining in their smart musical, vocal, and dancing scenas, "Miss Snowshoes" and "The Soldier Boy." The Two Ludoes (May and Edie) are amongst the best contortionists and tumblers; Alice Lingard, comedienne, renders her songs in good style; Rene is a capital lady juggler, and Roy Bevis a magician of merit. Amy Bathurst, Scotch comedienne and dancer, is on a first visit. The pictures include The Young Redskins, Noel, and Dream of a Would-be Congressman.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Large audiences show their delight with the excellent programmes of animated pictures that are submitted here. The two star pictures this week are The Wife's Ordeal and Their Son's Medal, a couple of really fine films. The other noteworthy ones include Princess Nicotine, Up the Pole, Matthew on the Spree, The Celebrations of the Yokohama Jubilee, How the Cook Got Married, A False Accusation, By Rail to Hardanger, The Young Lady-killer, Professor Wise Brains Injector, and The Boyhood of Vidocq. A splendid reception is being accorded Charles Relph, a very good chorus vocalist, who is on a return visit.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. W. Heath.—Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company is here with *Temptation*. Mr. Dudley Wynton is a manly and convincing Sir Charles Tremaine; Mr. Norman A. Overton gives a clever portrayal of the scheming Hubert Thorne; Miss Nora Carton makes a charming and sympathetic Hilda Dundonald; Miss Beatrice Selwyn shows ability as the adventuress Iva Blight; Mr. Walter Raleigh is effective as Mr. Blight; Mr. Paul Forrester is successful as the Tramp; and the comedy is in the safe hands of Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders and Miss Madge Seymour as Emily Eighteen.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—At the head of a capital bill is Miss Mary Mayfren's company in the dramatic sketch *The Yellow Fang*. Mr. George Pickett presents an excellent character study of Hung-Kow, and as Judith Beck Miss Violet Campbell is successful. Gulliver presents a smart ventriloquial act; Miss Vera Mayne is a neat and dainty comedienne; the Taffies, duettists, are well received; Shirley and Ransome in *Jim's Pal* make a great hit; the Fimans in a comedy sketch are very successful; Frank Weaver, coloured dancer, merits praise, as does also Mr. Frank Coyle, comedian; and the Hippodrome Pictures are, as usual good.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Musical comedy has been attractively presented here this week by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company in an excellent production of *The Cingalee*. Miss Iza Bowman, a popular favourite with Leith playgoers, acts and sings with great spirit and charm as Nanoya; Miss Ray Anderson is happily cast as Lady Patricia Vane; Miss Winifred Stone, as Miss Pinkerton, introduces some graceful dances; the Peggy Sabine of Miss Maudie Ray and a long list of auxiliary feminine rôles are all pleasing representations. The part of Harry Vereker is ably sustained by Mr. Frank Barclay, an excellent vocalist; Mr. Hylton Warde's study of Chumbhuddy Ram is most pleasing and effective; Mr. Frank Lennard gives due stateliness to the rôle of Boobhamba; Grafton Williams and Mr. Frank Crichton are successful as Sir Peter Loftus and Myamgah; and Mr. Herbert Franklyn makes full use of his opportunities as Bobby Warren.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The spring season commenced here on Monday with *Alice in Wonderland*, the London Court Theatre company presenting in charming manner Mr. Savile Clarke's picturesque version of Lewis Carroll's fairy stories. The central figure was undertaken by Miss Ivy Sawyer, a dainty little lady who delighted everybody with her pleasing singing and particularly skilful dancing. Her Alice won all hearts. Mr. Franklyn Vernon deserved every praise for his really admirable portrait of the Mad Hatter; Mr. Tom Graves came out with great credit as Mock Turtle and Tweedledum; the Gryphon and Tweedledes of Mr. Ronald Henry proved altogether satisfactory; Dan Leno, jun., was an eccentric caterpillar and also held the part of Red King; and Miss Girlie Le Clair filled all requirements as the Cheshire Cat. The scenery called forth many expressions of admiration, the dresses were exquisite, and Mr. Walter Slaughter's music delightful.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Dick Whittington and His Cat* continues to attract packed audiences, and the pantomime will run to at least the end of the month. Harry Randall, Tom Foy, and Miss Carrie Moore have certainly made the show a big success.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—A capital presentation of *Pete* here this week is resulting in good business. Mr. Frederick Victor handles the title-rôle with striking effect, and makes an impression; Miss Constance Bachner plays Kate Cregeen with much tenderness, quickly earning the sympathies of her audience; Mr. Alfred Lugg does full justice to Philip; Mr. Maurice Yorke is well placed as Ross; and other creditable rôles are Cæsar Cregeen (Mr. Ellis J. Preston), Black Tom (Mr. J. Lingard), Grannie (Miss Alice Dorie), and Anne (Miss Lucy Raymond).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*For Wife and Kingdom* is here with Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. The rôle of General Nestolde is capably undertaken by Mr. Reginald T. Fox; Mr. Matthew H. Glenville plays with much credit the strong part of Captain Lubeck; Mr. Edward Hobart makes a capital Sergeant Offenbach; Mr. Albert Guyon thoroughly grasps the intention of the Secret Service agent, Baron Breslaw; Miss Lydia Audre is very pleasing as the Grand Duchess; Miss Lilian Malvern deserves thanks for her well-thought-out portrait of the wise woman Esther; and some rich comedy is provided by Mr. Lewis Gordon (Jan), and the Misses Alice Buckland (Nita) and Mabel Veriton (the fat cook).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Sunday* is drawing large audiences here, Miss Janet Lind delighting everybody with her sweet assumption of the heroine. The "boys" are admirably impersonated by Messrs. Richard F. Symons, Launcelot St. G. Lowther, James Hussey, and George Marriott, jun.; Mr. Pennington Gush makes a convincing Colonel Brinthorpe; the character of Arthur Brinthorpe is well handled by Mr. Robert Borlande; Mr. Richard Trieve gives satisfaction as Tom Oxley; Mrs. Naresby is carefully presented by Miss H. Graham Edwins; and Miss Gladys Ford Howitt is the Nun. The production is well put on.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The leading line here this week is the "Vampire" dance, given by Alice Eis and Bert French; those musical marvels the Elliott-Savonas have a cordial reception for their accomplished musical turn, and evoke enthusiastic applause. Anna Chandler, American comedienne, pleases with her songs; Frederick Russell and Lillian Held have a most acceptable turn as song and dance artists, accompanied by some quaint humour; Dusty Rhodes is as funny as ever, and keeps his audience in the best of spirits; Henry Austin has a laughable comedy act, "The Dear Departed"; Keen and Waller cause endless laughter with their eccentricities; and also in the list are Arthur Woodville, light comedian and Minnie Mace, dancer and comedienne.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill here are James Edie and Cissie Ramsden with the funny trifle *Charlie's Visit*; Mlle.

as Damœtas, and Mr. Louis Victor for his smart dancing as Bobby.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—A triple evening bill here comprises two new short plays (special notices of which appear elsewhere), and a performance of Mr. M. A. Arabian's *Trespassers Will be Prosecuted*, a bright and entertaining problem play, in which the chief successes are achieved by Mr. B. Iden Payne as Oscar Eckersley, a very well studied impersonation; Miss Muriel Pratt as the conventional and innatured aunt; Mr. Henry Austin as the pliable husband; and Mr. Charles Bibby as the swagger but impecunious Sir Laud Duncomb. Miss Mona Limerick as the erring Christophera has also a good part.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is still doing good business on the Broadhead circuit with their attractive drama, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Messrs. Ernest H. G. Cox and Victor Rae are excellent as the brothers Olaf and Micheal; and Miss Ethel Bracewell plays with nice feeling as the Princess Monica. All the other parts are well filled.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—A weird attraction is here in the shape of Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Haughton Macaulay gives a forcible rendering of Lucio Delgado, "the Wolf"; a smart impersonation of Paul Gouffet is given by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; and interesting impersonations are contributed by Mr. Charles H. Phelps as Lucien Cortier, and Miss Clare O'Sullivan as Marie de Brisson. Humour is capably added by Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter Pottleberry and Miss Frances Day as Barbette.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Sensational fare is offered to the patrons here in *Hush Money*, which purports to tell the story of the disappearance of Sexton Blake, the well-known detective of fiction. Mr. C. Barrington Foote does well in the central rôle of Blake, and a strong rendering of John Shard is given by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson. Good parts are also in the hands of Mr. J. H. Darnley as Walgrave, and Messrs. John Lowther and William Stevens as a couple of burglars; while comic relief is capably supplied by Mr. Harry Hartley, Mr. Frank Watts, and Miss Agnes Paulton.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The principal turns here are the Six Brothers Luck in their laughter-maker, *Lift 'ems, Limited*, and H. O. Wills, a capital comedian. Geo. Payne's Wanderers provide a novel caravan scena, which is much enjoyed; the Claymore Trio give an entertaining club juggling act; and other good turns are Karl Czynski, the one-man band; the Two Kays, in a speciality scena; and Dick Livesey, ventriloquist.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An excellent programme here is headed by Phil Ray, the popular comedian, whose humour is much enjoyed; Chas. R. Whittle is equally prominent in a series of his latest successes; and Holden's Mannikins are seen in a clever vaudeville entertainment. Smart turns are added by Tiny Arnold, a juvenile comedienne; Henry Helme, an accomplished Alpine vocalist; W. Fulbrook and company in their Astral comedy, *Astronomy*; the Sutcliffe Family, Scottish acrobats, pipers, and dancers; Falco and Eida, in an original ju-jitsu act; and Kathleen Gray, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The evergreen comedian, Arthur Roberts, tops the bill here in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; while prominent also is the Slaviansky-Russian Choir, in a répertoire of national folk-songs; Harry Friskey, an American comedy juggler, is very amusing; the Marco Twins provide enjoyable Continental eccentricities; Farr and Farland, cross-talk patterers, keep the fun going; and other entertaining items are Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; Ruth Davenport, the operatic vocalist; and Will Johnson, the popular comedian.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The star turn in a good programme here is supplied by Cissie Lawson and company, in an effective dramatic episode, entitled *Supremacy*; Clark and Hamilton, in their wayward conceits, are well received; the Chung-Ling-Hee Troupe do some fine conjuring and acrobatic varieties; the Starley Bros. are expert acrobatic cyclists; Leslie and Stevens' comedietta, *Love Levels All*, is enjoyed; W. Jousie presents the Great Four, entertaining comedy humorists; some smart comedy is added by Jock Whiteford, the Scot; and a nice turn is given by Ivy Aberdare, vocalist and sand dancer.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles B. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—*The Ballad-Monger* is excellently presented here by Messrs. E. Shiel-Porter, Edwin Garth and company, including Miss Gladys Morris; Maisie Ellinger, a very charming musical comedy artist, sings taking songs in good style; Fred Cary, a capital comedian of the eccentric order, scores a big success; the Crown Trio of vocalists are deservedly well received; the Four Rosebuds are first-rate dancers; and other enjoyable items are offered by Cossett and Partner, in smart acrobatic act with dogs; Horace Lawson and Dolly O'Dell, in singing and dancing act; Reuben Miller, vocal comedian; Douglas Campbell, comedian; and a series of interesting pictures.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company is doing good business with the appealing domestic drama, *Only a Little Boy*, which was seen last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Billy Merson tops the bill this week, and is very entertaining with his comic novelties; Walter George's Smart Set Entertainers give an excellent drawing-room act; Arthur Albert is heard to great advantage in light comedy vocalism; Kirk and Saraski are remarkable aquatic performers; and other capital items are the Rosses, comedians and dancers; the Wedburns, comedians and instrumentalists; Harry Lawson, a clever eccentric comedian; and the Boys of England in barrack-room ballads.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—*Caste* has again been presented here this week by Mr. Frank Weathersby's company. The characters have been ably presented by Mr. Escott Robson as Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr. Elliott Ball as Captain Hawtree; Mr. Louis Palgrave as Eccles; Mr. Arthur Dennis as Sam Gerridge; Miss Ethel Lodge as Marquise de St. Meur; Miss Roberta Pulleyne as Esther Eccles; and Miss Florence Harcourt as Polly Eccles. The piece has been remarkably well played.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—Charles Garth, the man in black and white, although well known as a concert artist, has made his first appearance at the halls this week, and has been accorded a very good reception as a raconteur and as a singer of topical songs; Ina Lorimer, Scotch comedienne and dancer, made a remarkably good impression as a fascinating singer and a clever dancer. Crawford and Johnson, in their coon comedy and instrumental act, gave a clever performance. The other turns include Will Ambro, comedian and dancer; Litz Bros., comedy cyclists; Athlone and Sinclair, in a sketch.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley and company are here with *Was She to Blame?* Miss Constance Laurie as Lilian Norman evokes sympathy; Mrs. Kimberley receives warm appreciation for her Kate Rosselle; Miss Ellen Beverley is an exceedingly good Mary Norman (the Vicar's wife); Mr. Kimberley as Billy Clark is realistic; John Norman (the Vicar), as portrayed by Mr. Henry Rutland, is successful; Mr. George Keene is a manly Capt. Courtney; Mr. George Langdon as Frank Rosselle is a good representation of stage villainy; and the lighter vein is introduced by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., and Miss Nita Owen as Mr. and Mrs. Swales.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is presenting *Little Phil's Mother*. Mr. Percy Ballard is a manly and effective Frank Towers; Mr. Hy. Earlesmere makes the character of Oscar Titherton the acme of despicableness; Mr. H. J. Monte presents a fine study of Geoffrey Dyne; Donald Taggerty and Bill Brissett are capital character studies in the hands of Mr. J. P. Marsden and Mr. J. E. Tomlinson; Mr. F. M. Thorne imparts a fund of humour to the part of Sam Perkles; Miss Maud Russell is deeply sympathetic as Ruth Towers; her bête noir, Rispeth, is powerfully played by Miss Florence Dalton; and Miss Gertie Renaud cleverly plays the cripp.ed boy, Phil.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chaito.—Mr. George Dance's company is this week delighting large audiences with *Miss Hook of Holland*, in which Miss Marie Studholme appears with pronounced success as Sally. As Nina Miss Maud Denny deservedly meets with warm approval. Mr. Hook is most capab y delineated by Mr. Alfred Wellesley; as Bandmaster Van Vuyt Mr. Frank H. Crimp does excellently; Mr. Charles Ross is a capital Ludwig Schnapps; and the part of Simon Stinks is ably portrayed by Mr. Fred Lyne. The chorus and orchestra under the direction of Clement Lockrane are deserving of much praise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Miss Renee Glendower and company this week appear with success in the society play *What a Man Made Her*. As Jane McAllister, an artist's model, Miss Glendower is seen to advantage; Miss Stella Carmichael as Lady Thorn is quite successful; Mr. C. Hartopp does justice to the part of Sir Ernest Cavendish; the character of Dr. Mark Haven is well sustained by Mr. J. M. Olivert; and Mr. Barnett Lando creditably fills the rôle of Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Large and appreciative audiences this week welcome the Seven Perezoffs in their capital *pot pourri* act; the Five Whiteleys, speciality artists; Tom Moore, vocal comedian; Ronald George, instrumentalist; Lieutenant Albini, illusionist; Miss Eileen Poole, comedienne and dancer; Bake and Granby, in a sketch *The System*; Bert Lytton, comedian; and the Empire Bioscope pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—A programme of Pictures draws well at this large and comfortable hall.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Mr. H. Leslie Bell's pantomime *Cinderella* is here. Winifred Ray, who is the possessor of a fine stage presence, sings and dances neatly, and makes an ideal Prince Charming; Miss Lily Pearl is dainty and clever as Cinderella; Dandini is aptly rendered by Miss Annie Craig; Miss Alice Leon sings sweetly as Fairy Sunshine; Messrs. Eno Davys and Pat Yost are a couple of excellent comedians, and as the Ugly Sisters score a decided success. Mr. Barry Bond and Mr. Tom Veronique are successful as the Baron and his Page Buttons; the Kilina Girls are a troupe of excellent dancers.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—The Bellong Bros., cycle equilibrists, perform some very daring feats; the Lizette Trio are accomplished lady acrobats, dancers, and singers; and a capital comedy sketch, entitled *Kissing Belinda*, is presented by Mrs. Greenwood-Croft and company. Mrs. Croft, who was formerly lessee of the Grand Theatre, had a hearty reception on Monday, and at the close was presented by her old staff with a beautiful bouquet. The bill also includes the Saxonia Family in a high-class musical extravaganza, Maggie Powell and her mannikins, Tennyson and Wallis (comedians), Little Spencer (a versatile clog dancer), and Stanley and Vandyke (comedy duo).

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Mr. John Leopold's company is here in the musical absurdity *New Frivolity*. The company is a strong one, and includes the original Leopolds. Mr. Watson Hume is a successful Oliver Buckwheat; Mr. Jack Leopold acceptably presents Daniel Teething; and as Vermiglio, the deserted husband, Mr. Fred Leopold, jun., shows much ability; Samuel Vermiglio is well depicted by Mr. Harry Ugar; and as Prof. Tumble Mr. Bob Otto scores a distinct success. Miss Kathleen Cavanagh makes an admirable Madam Cobweb; and in the character of Lucy Buckwheat Miss Elsie Foster is all that could be desired; Miss Violet Keand is charming in the rôle of Nita Gordon; and Miss Rita Kola makes a vivacious Manenette. A capital acrobatic performance is given by the Four Kellys. An athletic comedy, *The Stadium*, makes a good curtain-raiser.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is here with *Our Miss Gibbs*. As Miss Gibbs Miss Alice Pollard supplies a most delightful personation, fresh and alluring. Miss Pollard has a sweet voice, which she uses to advantage. In Timothy Gibbs Mr. George Gregory has ample opportunity to display his well-known ability as a comedian, and in this he succeeds to the utmost. Mr. Lionel Mackinder as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepont is quite at home in the part, and causes genuine amusement in his desire to become a "daring" criminal. Slithers, a professional crook, is cleverly caricatured by Mr. Robert Nainby, and Mr. H. V. Crofton gives a manly performance as Lord Eynesford. Miss Marie Wilson as Lady Elizabeth Thanet, Miss Dora Sevening as Madame Jeanne, and Miss May Maston as Mrs. Farquhar play their respective rôles with fine effect. The chorus is strong and well balanced; several smart solo dances are given by Miss Florence Phillips.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*Cinderella* has entered upon its last week. All the principals have become great favourites. Miss Nellie Wigley, Mr. George French, and Mr. Tom Conway have been largely concerned in the triumph. Miss Dorothea Clarke has won all hearts as Cinderella. Messrs. Arthur Sutcliffe, Bobbie Walker, Chas. Kean, and Miss Ethel Oliver have been responsible for a large share of the merriment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy and company is here in *Seaweed*. Mrs. Cassidy is excellent in the leading part, of which she gives a most artistic study. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy acts with excellent effect as the Hon. Algernon, and the performance of Mr. Tom Roydon as Duke Sergius is strong and convincing. Mr. Villiers Stanley is responsible for a clever study of Allen Armstrong, and Miss Ada Roscoe plays Countess Olger with care and finish. Commendable work is also done by Mr. William Melvyn as Harry Lortimer, Mr. David Douglas as Abraham Bolton, Mr. Alfred Boxall as King Olger, and Miss Isabel Hunt as Maggie Bolton.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Another of Mr. Charles Elderton's pantomime successes, *Aladdin*, is the attraction here this week, and is drawing capital houses.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—The great conjuror and illusionist Chung Ling Soo is here. His performance is undoubtedly one of the finest, and wins a hearty reception. Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *The Deputy Sheriff* scores a decided success. A clever turn is that of Takio, Japanese imitator of sounds, and some exceptionally good dancing is done by Cumminger and Colonna. The Brothers O'Brien in a horizontal bar act win acknowledgment for their brilliant display, and the Sisters St. Julian prove entertaining duettists and dancers. Lily Burnand in a series of good character songs goes well, and an amusing show is provided by Mr. Walker Carter. The Bioscope completes.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—The programme here this week includes Cecil Gray and company in *The Last Straw*; the Croiset Trio of French acrobats; Benson and Rose, who are bright, brisk, and breezy; Charlie Craston, comedian; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne; Walter Aubrey, a good dancer; Madge Brownie, a dainty comedy artist; the Arthur Gallimore Trio in a comic act; and the Palace Pictures.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Frank Lyndon.—Some fine dramatic films are shown this week, including Senorita, a Mexican love drama; The Heir of Clanvancourt; The Mountaineers' Honour, a tale of the Kentucky hills; a good comic film, Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire, is a very amusing election skit.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company, with the pantomime *Hop o' My Thumb*, is attracting large and delighted audiences here. In the title-rôle Little Georgie Harris makes a hit; Miss Kitty Trewhitt as Prince U-No sings several popular songs in capital style; Miss Kitty Rafferty makes a charming Princess Meadowsweet; Miss Gladys Wyse as Jeannie McGregor is a great favourite; Miss Olive Purcell proves a sweet Fairy Moonshine; and Miss Evelyn Major is good as Rupert. Mr. Vivian Wakeman makes an entertaining Dame; Mr. E. W. Selman an amusing Jerry; Silversheen and Goldsteen are cleverly impersonated by Messrs. A. E. Rick; and Tom Cowley and Mr. Harold Pyott (the smallest man in the world) as Tommy causes much hearty laughter.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—At the head of the programme here we have the Five Musical Palmers in *The Village Blacksmith*, which has been warmly greeted. An interesting turn is provided by Jordan's Simian Actors, consisting of dogs and monkeys; Daisy Palmer, character comedienne, scores a big success; and Mumford and Mard, knockabout comedians and dancers; Madge O'Neill, character vocalist; The Rumins, speciality artists; and some excellent pictures contribute successfully to a good bill of fare.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Messrs. Poole's myriorama and variety combination provide the attraction here this week. In addition to a series of up-to-date pictures there are some first-class variety turns, including Captain Permane's live Teddy bears, a clever show; the Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters; Harry Dowsett, comedian; Bert Gates, ventriloquist; the George French troupe, acrobatic and comedy cyclists; and Learto and his clever little dog, Pom-Pom, in an original comedy musical act.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Percy Williams' excellent company in *The Fatal Wedding* makes another welcome visit, and meets with success. Miss Ethel Kay gives an earnest and sympathetic portrayal of Mabel Williams; Miss Leah Marlborough is excellent as Cora Wilson; Miss Marie Wilson is good as Jessie; and Miss Blanche Huber is a humorous Bridget; Mr. Edward Lloyd is excellent as Howard Wilson; Mr. Cyril Melton is successful as Robert Curtis; Mr. Harry M. Vernon as Toto and Mr. Watson Hume as Peter Schwartz cause amusement; and Mr. Frank Ashley as O'Reilly and Mr. J. Newton as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford ably fill their respective rôles.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is headed by Mr. Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie, which is most entertaining; Sandy McNab and his company, assisted by Miss Bessie Arthur, in their sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*, cause endless fun; Roma and Romani give their delightful entertainment on a variety of instruments; the Kahn and Kahn Trio, in their sleight-of-hand tricks, mystify the audience; Mr. R. Cumming is a clever and amusing ventriloquist; Brown and Ascot are good dancers; Mr. Ted Gill, the Yorkshire tenor, sings with much taste; Miss Dorothy Gould is a favourite comedienne; and the Hippo-bio pictures are good.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr's animated pictures this week include The Terror and the Terrier, The Hempen Bag, The Building of a Transcontinental Railway, The Corsican's Romance, To Save Her Soul, The Delights of the Shoot, Choosing a Husband, The Kind-hearted Employer, and A Journey to the Centre of the Earth. Mr. Tom Taylor sings very well.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Little Damozel* is being excellently played by a capable company. As Julie Alardy Miss Ida Molesworth plays with real sincerity; Mr. Frank Lacy gives a finished touch to his portraiture of the reformed rake, Recklaw Poole; Mr. Townsend Whiting adds a breeziness to his interpretation of Walter Angel that is distinctly refreshing; Captain Partington is well depicted by Mr. Geo. A. Brandam; and Mr. Mark Blow supplies an amusing contribution as Fitzroy Lock. Miss Marion Ripley gets the most out of her small part as Sybil Craven; and Batholdy is an effective character sketch in the hands of Mr. Julian Cross.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Patrons are again treated to pantomime fare in *The Sleeping Beauty*. The vivacity of Miss Lilian Elliott is well employed as principal boy, and Miss Ivy Moore makes a dainty and effective principal girl. Mr. Tubby Edlin's comicalities are a source of amusement. He is capitally supported by Mr. Tom Shenton (King), Mr. Willie Black (Queen), and Newsboy and Lennan (Woodcutters).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The varied accomplishments of Chas. T. Aldrich make him an excellent entertainer; Les Romanis are clever on a number of instruments; the Eighteen Lancashire Singers give pleasing renderings of glees and choruses; and the smart imitations by O'Gust are as amusing as ever. Ted E. Box adds to the hilarity; and a humorous sketch is given by Frank Bertram and company. The programme is further enlivened by Goggin and Davis, acrobats; Albert Letine, female impersonator; Gladys Mavius, comedienne; and Jessie Albini, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The dramatic episode, entitled *The Drums of Oude*, by Mr. A. L. Levering's company, in which Mr. Cecil A. Collins and Miss Beatrice Whitney do some excellent work, is the principal attraction, with Leoni Clarke's 200 trained cats, dogs, rats, mice, &c., as a good second. A very clever and pleasing turn is that of Alma at a piano; and two most expert trampolinists are seen in Hayes and Merritt. Madge Temple sings well and looks charming; Gwennie Morgan is a dainty comedienne; Tony Black is a funny Scotchman; Tudora's ponies exhibit a high degree of equine docility; Les Saletos are equilibrists of no little skill and attractiveness; and the programme is completed by the usual pictures.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company is here with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Charles Sims makes a capital Mr. Hook; Mr. Robert Selby is a good Captain Paap; Mr. Frank G. Dunn is an effective Bandmaster Van Vuyt; Mr. Frank Attree a satisfactory Ludwig Schnapps; and Mr. Edward Kipling a highly amusing Simon Slinks. Miss Biddy O'Brien makes an attractive Miss Hook; Miss Madge White does exceedingly well as Mina; and Miss Mabel Selby is a successful Gretchen.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Smiley.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime company finishes its second week's stay here, and *Robinson Crusoe* has proved a popular success. Miss Maude Mortimer as Robinson makes a dashing principal boy, and is a prime favourite; Miss Yolande Noble invests the part of Polly with much vivacity, and Miss Mildred Carr as Jack and Miss Gladys Hicks as Sally are most successful; Miss Marie Longden is clever as Daisy; Miss Jennie Weston as Dick being equally smart; Miss Rita Vincent and Miss Ray Morgan as Neptune's daughter and the Dusky Princess are excellent; Mr. Arnold Richardson is the life and soul of the panto, hearty laughter greeting his every effort as Billy; Mr. Flockton Foster as the Captain is very smart, and Mr. C. Young Fixott makes a capital Mrs. Crusoe; Mr. Chas. Heslop (Will Atkins), Mr. Oswald Battye (Friday), Elton and Elma, and the other members of the company combine to win success. "A Merry Winter Time" is a capital juvenile act, embracing good singing and smart dancing, by Mlle. Pauline Rivers. The Pauline Sextette and Bert Rolfe's Quartette also appear with success.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Two Little Drummer Boys* occupy the boards here, and Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley have a capital company to interpret the popular drama. Miss Maggie English and Miss Madie B. Douglas in the parts of Eric and Jack respectively act cleverly; Miss M. Townsend plays in a forcible manner as Alma Kingsley, and Miss Violet Ingram gives a good study of Margaret Rivers; Mr. Frank Rogers is a manly Capt. Frank Carsdale; and Mr. Polson Turner is sufficiently venomous as Capt. George Darrell; Mr. Edward Bikker makes a fine soldier as General Kingsley, and Mr. F. Walters is smart as Lieut. Allen Kingsley; Mr. George Turner as the Rev. John Rivers does good work; Miss Patricia Connaughton as Molly Meadows, Mr. Will Percy as Quincey O'Quirke and Mr. Dick Seddon as Timothy Trimmer, in the comedy parts, cause much amusement.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Sins of a City* is being played here by Miss Winifred Maude and company. Miss Maude as Seaweed acts in sympathetic and finished manner; Mrs. Wingold Lawrence is a capable Lesbia L'Estrange, the partner in crime of Ralph Blackwater, a part well acted by Mr. Morris Maud; Mr. Arthur L. Reed makes a smart Sandy M'Donald, and Mr. A. Lester is capital as Donald M'Ivor; Mr. Victor Du Cane plays the dual rôle of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh in a masterly manner; Miss Minnie Millwarde as Midge causes merriment, and sings and dances capitally; Mr. Fred Chester does well as Isaac Levi; Misses Mona Leslie and Gipsy Alexander as Flo Barton and Kit Marshall act cleverly, and Mr. L. Carlton is very good as Jenny.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Sandford and Lyons are prime favourites in their well known song and dance act; Gerald Mount is excellent and successful in his burlesque scena; Harry Tate's *Motoring* is as funny and amusing as ever; the Georgia Coons provide a song and dance scena, and the Three Favourites are excellent in their speciality, Park Pets; Bowman and Parker are amusing in their musical comedy act; and Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas are smart in a refined comedy acrobatic turn; Irene Rose sings acceptably, and the Palace Pictures conclude.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge.—The pictures here are popular and very interesting. A new version of Red Riding Hood is very interesting, and The Duality of Man is an intensely dramatic film. The Gorge of the Andes is a very good travel picture. An Unexpected Shower-Bath is amusing. Mr. Don Cameron contributes "A message from home, sweet home."

HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Heart of a Cowboy is a film of the thrilling order. Pine Ridge Fiend is a dramatic film much appreciated. A Modern Dr. Jekyll, Mr. Foolshead's Crime, The Witch's Kiss, and The Last Cook are among the funny pictures. An amusing singing competition is being held, the prize for which is a donkey.

OSBORNE PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes. — Custer's Last Stand is the principal picture. Mme. Street sings some good songs.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *Dear Little Denmark*, and met with a very cordial reception from a well-filled house. Mr. Arthur Staples sustains Hans Hansen admirably, and his popularity increases as the play progresses; Mr. Henry Kitts, as the Duke Ernst von Rasmussen, is irresistibly quaint; as Conrad Petersen, Mr. Conway Dixon is good; Mr. J. C. Fagan sings and comports himself well as Karl; and Mr. Tom Redmond is what he should be as Simon Jorgensen; Mr. Harry Gregory is restrained enough to be sufficiently humorous as Jonas Jensen; Mr. C. B. Williams fulfils the duties of Chamberlain quite adequately; Miss Joan Penrose is very bright and a general favourite as Ophelia, and is the recipient of hearty encores for her admirable rendering of her topical and fascinating songs; Miss Claire Lych is duly dignified as 'Xandria; Miss Netta Lynde is very graceful, and looks quite a charming Danish maiden as Christine. The setting of Act II. is magnificent. The choruses are all well rendered.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Nelson Barrett's company is presenting here the pantomime *Cinderella*. Miss Eva Travis makes a very effective Cinderella; Miss Georgie Hawkins is a smart Prince Charming; Miss Florie Anderson is agreeably prominent as Dandini; and Miss Isa Bernard does well as Rose. Mr. James Mackenzie works commendably as Peps, and helps to make things move considerably; Mr. Arthur Farren is a typical Baron Limerick; Mr. Alf Stokes is good as Zarmier; and Mr. Eugene Macabe is successful as Janetta. Interesting specialities are contributed by La Zenith, kaleidoscopic dancer; Bernard and May, comedy duettists; Miss Flo Banks, clog dancer; Mr. Arthur Farren; and Mons. Le Clair's canine gallery, the dogs being admirably trained.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*The Eyes of the World* has proved a draw here, being well presented by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss Van Praagh plays Helene de L'Orme, and gives a refined and scholarly reading; Mme. Esme de Carnac is extremely well impersonated by Miss Flora Hastings; Miss Nellie Garside gives a vivacious and delightful embodiment of Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure; and Avice is charmingly portrayed by Miss Elsie Capell. Mr. Charles O'Connor gives a convincing rendition of M. Hector de L'Orme; Mr. Will Casey as M. Gaston de Carnac is admirable; Mr. A. Wilson Wynne plays Octave in telling style; M. Paul Roqueville is given a capital rendering by Mr. R. Wilton Bedford; and an extremely humorous portraiture of M. Achille Fanfarade is submitted by Mr. J. Edward Whitty. Miss Beatrice Hulment as Antoinette and Mr. Harold Forde as Brigard successfully sustain their respective parts.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Harriet Vernon, burlesque artist, heads an interesting programme, and she has a cordial reception for her capital songs; the Faludy Troupe are smart and skilful acrobats; Dan Whitley is an eccentric comedian, whose singing and patter are well worth listening to; Bert Weston, comedian, provides a most acceptable turn; Leslie Race renders several songs in a manner that wins applause; Dorothy Dundas is a pleasing vocalist; Fred and Lulu Camplin present an up-to-date musical comedy act; William McLerie gives a good exhibition of club swinging and ball punching; and the Hippodrome Bioscope is entertaining.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The theatre is occupied this week by a company of local amateurs in the nautical comical opera *Billee Taylor*. Mr. Savile has not only staged the opera beautifully, but has very kindly superintended the final rehearsal, and the piece goes with a fine swing. The entire proceeds are to be handed to a local charity.

PETERBOROUGH.— HIPPODROME.— Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—A good programme is drawing crowded houses here. Alec Hurley and company, in their latest musical comedy sketch, *Cockneys in Japan*, gain the utmost approval; Brothers Obo, the popular laughing comedians, score a great success; Enid Errol and company, in a fantastic dancing episode, *The Magic Vase*, evoke much applause; Victor and Lewis, in *The Golfer and the Caddy*, provide much fun; Gertie Rex is a dainty comedienne; Edgar T. Hayes introduces his remarkably well-trained horse Billy, and the turn is warmly appreciated. Karnoscope completes.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The always popular *Sign of the Cross* is again in the West, and is doing good business. Mr. Lawson Butt furnishes a brilliant rendering of Marcus Superbus; Miss Ethel Hope supplies a sympathetic study of Mercia, which has a pronounced effect; Mr. Charles Aldred works hard as Jigelinus; and Mr. Frank Wood relieves the heavier situations with a refreshing vein of comedy as Glabrio. Mr. Mayne Lynton is well placed as Nero; and Mr. Dorothy Last is a popular Berenice.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The leading item is supplied by Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and ladies, who furnish a series of poses depicting classic art, the most popular being "Diana," and "Morning Star," some well-rendered vocal efforts by Miss Ella Maynard forming an acquisition to the turn; the Three Bros. Huxter, American leapers and tumblers, provide a very exciting number; Elroy, the armless wonder, gives a truly remarkable demonstration of the use a man can be even when bereft of both arms; Thiessen provides a miniature entertainment with some highly trained dogs; Carl Lynn, animal mimic, pays a return visit, and receives a warm welcome; and Dave O'Toole does well as a comedian. The remaining turns are supplied by Rod. Bowden, eccentric comedian, and Carlotta Levey, vocalist.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Manager, Tom Diacoff.—Ted Karno and company, four in number, appear in the funny pantomime sketch *Hotel de Quick*. Mr. J. W. Hall, the Yorkshire comedian, has become a decided favourite with his original patter and songs. Mlle. Hengleur's troupe of Russian Poodles are well trained, and together with the leaping dogs give a good show. The Dancing Paceys are harmony singers and expert dancers. The Dunlops appear in a humorous cycle act. Lilian Sivardo is a charming lady gymnast. Carvel and Dora appear in a novel act introducing a ventriloquial item. The Alexscope depicts the Paris floods; and Miss Russell, banjoist and dancer, is deputising for the Victoria Troupe of instrumentalists.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—William Leo and Helen Bentley are presenting here a playlet of parody and sentiment, entitled *The King's Counsel*; the Phœnix Trio of harmony singers and dancers are given a warm reception; Emily Lyndale is a unique dancer; Susie and Protti give a good dancing act; that fine comedian Tom Wootwell sings his songs with great success; and Pop Dearey, the Three Alskarnos, and Minnie Love are also in the bill.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A welcome return visit by Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson is attracting an appreciative and intellectual audience. They opened on Monday with an excellent presentation of *The Taming of the Shrew*, and successively *Julius Cæsar*, *Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Winter's Tale*, *As You Like It*, and *Richard III.*, with Miss Genevieve Ward as Queen Margaret, have been billed.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. J.

the onlookers with his wonderful tricks, and is very popular; a novelty here are the comedian baboons introduced by Capt. Taylor; Valoni's highly-trained pigeons and juggling rivet attention; the Bijou Juvenile Troupe display their dancing abilities; Kitty Marion, Stevens and Brett, Two Nevarros, Fred E. Ellis, Maggie Nolan, and pictures gratify the audience.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Raynor's company, in répertoire, is paying a welcome return visit with *Moths*, *Jim the Penman*, and *Young Mrs. Winthrop*. On Monday *Moths* was staged. Mr. Clinton Baddeley gave a characteristic rendering of Prince Zouroff; Mr. Raynor made a hit as Lord Jura; Mr. Milton C. Curtis was an acceptable Duke of Mull; Mr. Conrad Heywood was again seen in his old part of Correzé, which he sustains in his usual able manner; Miss Cecilia Dare gave a clever rendition of the Duchess de Sonnaz; Miss Francis Waring was an interesting Lady Dolly; Miss Dora Dench was a natural Vere Herbert; and Miss Hilda Blance an excellent Fuschia Leach.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company, in *A Destroyer of Men*, is here this week. Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh as the rascally Count Starevitch, imbues the part with the necessary amount of villainy; Mr. Herbert Pearson, in the triple rôle of Mishla, Herr Runz, and Uno, has a heavy part, but emerges with much success; Mr. James Jarrett is also to be complimented on his portrayal of Michael Nirshla; Mr. J. Armitage sustains the dual rôle of Fedore Strellitzke and Paul Starevitch most capably; the comic relief is well supplied by Mr. Edward Keith as Coco Tatchoski, ably supported by Miss Dorothy Hilderbrand, a vivacious Nina Patticake. Mr. Arthur Swaine is a good Col. Limevitch; and Messrs. Leonard Conroy and Tom Slater as General Drakensburg and Sergeant Kranz are both successful. Miss Mary Brammer as Vida Ravel plays with feeling throughout; and Miss Elsie Schular as Vashti and Miss Louie Underwood as Nadine are deserving of praise.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Mr. William Holland's pantomime, *Aladdin*, is this week's attraction, and nothing has been stinted in the production; the dresses, scenery, and accessories are good, whilst the chorus and special music by Caffyn Baxter is not the least of the attractions. Miss Helen Charles is an excellent Aladdin, and her specialities are deservedly well appreciated; the Three Comedy Chanters as the Emperor and Bo-Bi, and Bo-Ko (the Royal policemen) render excellent service; Miss Poppie Holland is a bewitching Princess; Miss Beatrice Vere a capital Yum Yum; and Mr. Robb Wilton as Widow Twankey, an excellent dame, is funny without the least vulgarity; Miss Francis Haskoll is a dashing Pekoe; and Miss Queenie Tilbury and Bertha Clifton as Electrica and Lilo respectively are most successful. The fun is materially assisted by the whimsicalities of Bob Selvidge as Abanazar and Kennedy Allen as Wishee Washee.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Playgoers are again favoured with a welcome visit of Mr. George Munro and his specially selected company. In the comedietta, *Delicate Ground*, on Monday, Miss Doris V. Horrocks as Pauline displayed much talent, and Mr. Ernest Digges as Citizen Sangfroid was seen to advantage. *The Sleigh Bells* was performed in excellent style, Mr. George Munro leaving nothing to be desired as Matthias, while Mr. E. Digges as Christian did excellent work. Mr. W. Lawrence as Hans and Mr. Ivor Barnard as Father Walter rendered valuable assistance, and Miss Doris V. Horrocks was a charming Annette. During the week *David Garrick*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, and *Macbeth* are billed.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the Sole Direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—*The Sign of the Cross*, by Mr. G. W. Bowes' company, has done good business at the Palace this week. Mr. Leonard Yorke is a fine manly Marcus Superbus; Miss Florence Maber plays with grace and power as Mercia; Nero has a brilliant exponent in Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice. On Friday night, to celebrate the 21,000th performance of the play, the management decided to present each lady in the audience with a souvenir portrait of the late Wilson Barrett, the creator of the part of Marcus.

Marina Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Under the popular *régime* of Mr. Attack the Marina Picturedrome reopened its door on Monday with many improvements. Capital varieties are supplied by Stave (comedy artist) and his amusing dog Spot.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees Manchester Electric Theatres, Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—The programme this week is an exceptionally enjoyable one, the pictures especially interesting, including as they do An Egyptian Maid, Curse of a Wandering Minstrel, A One-legged Story, Paris from the Eiffel Tower, For Valour, The Merry Clowns (an exceptionally good one), A Trip up the Rhine, Redwing's Grititude, and In Love With a Picture Girl. Variety turns are given by Miss Lucy Lynd, who is certainly one of the best artists in her line. Mr. Harold Hughes has good songs.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's principal company is appearing here successfully in the popular musical comedy, *The Girls of Gottenburg*. The company is under the able management of Mr. Cyril Leonard. The piece is admirably staged, and the costumes and uniforms are exceedingly tasteful and smart. Mr. Phil Smith works hard as Max Moddelkopf, and gives a vastly humorous impersonation; Mr. Murray Moone acts capitally as Prince Otto; Mr. Percy Clarke is a good representative of Captain Albrecht; Mr. Charles Berkeley plays amusingly as the Sergeant of Hussars, and also dances with agility; Mr. Ralph Forster gives an excellent character-sketch as the stolid Burgomaster; Mr. A. Galloway as the Innkeeper, Mr. George Robertson as Adolph, the Town Clerk, Mr. Lionel Yaldwin as the General, Mr. James Cook as the Policeman, and Mr. Jones Spencer as Corporal Schmidt all sustain their parts effectively. Miss Hilda Vining is very pleasing as Meitzi; Miss Nan Stuart is a charming Elsa; and Miss Nellie Laurence is well suited to the character of the Burgomaster's Daughter. Mr. William Paterson is an efficient conductor, and has the full chorus and augmented orchestra well in hand.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—McWalten and Partner appear in *An Artist's Home*, in which they do some amusing tricks and produce some clever lightning sketches; J. P. Ling, who makes a welcome reappearance, is an accomplished comedian and mimic; Arabella Allen, who has also been here before, displays great dramatic ability in her character-sketches from famous authors; Ruby Dahl, with her merry mannikins, gives a very clever living marionette performance; Sid Bedford and company create great hilarity in their farcical comedy, *The Second Mrs. Chester*; the Three Coopers, comedy and harmonising vocalists, give a good musical turn; Frank Couch and Miss Kitty Meredith appear in an amusing comedy interlude; Irene Meldon, comedienne, is well received; and the Santeron Wonders display great skill and agility in vaulting and other feats. Pictures of the Italian naval manœuvres on the Bioscope complete an acceptable programme.

ROCHDALE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is finely staged, and holds the audience interested throughout. Mr. Mark Paton admirably sustains the part of Vice-Admiral Wynn; Mr. Guy Newall plays the hero, Dick Lascelles, with freshness and vigour; Mr. Frederick Leister portrays with stirring effect the part of Major Thesiger; Miss Mabel Rees acts with power the rôle of Mrs. Cameron; and Miss Rita Johnson charmingly enacts the part of Lady Hermoine Wynne.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are here this week with a repertory, including *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Sleigh Bell*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Mr. Allan Wilkie gives scholarly renderings of Hamlet and Shylock; Miss Carrie Baillie as Ophelia and Portia displays histrionic ability; Mr. Eugene Wellesley as Laertes has a strong part; and Mr. Alexander Marsh is seen to advantage as the Ghost. The other parts are capably and effectively enacted, and the mounting and scenery are elaborate.

Hippodrome, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollande.—Miss Marquess with her highly-trained ponies is delighting the house here; the Selbinis are an exceptionally clever troupe of expert cyclists and acrobats; Cliff and Kean are smart comedy artists; Marie Francis is a pleasing comedienne; Dan Robans does a finished vocal turn; Mary Golding is a good ballad vocalist; the Langley Trio receive well-deserved applause; and the Arntes do a capital song and dance act.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Drama of Life*, by Lingford Carson, with that gentleman as the hero, Harry Beech, drew a good house on Monday. The heroine was successfully presented by Miss Patty Hastings; villainy was well presented by Mr. Archie Helsby as Walter Beech; and Mr. Marshall Meade as Jack Lawton, Mr. Sidney C. Cranston as Sir Dobson Wilde, and Miss A. Oliver as Lady Jane Wilde supplied most of the comic element. A number of good character studies were given by Mr. Vernon Daily, Mr. Geo. B. Davies, Mr. G. Byrne, Mr. Alf Kitson, Mr. Cal Hunt-Mortlake, Miss B. Hudson, and Miss D. Denville.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Miss Juliette's highly-trained sea lions give a clever performance; "La Fiancée du Dragon" is the title of a smart acrobatic terpsichorean act by Les Alex Carangeot; Adele Moraw, French comedienne, is a captivating dancer and singer; Sergt. Bert Powell is an expert magician; acceptable business is also done by Jack Holland, eccentric comedian; Rellabo Brothers, artistic gymnasts; Allen Hanbury, patter comedian; George Benson, comedian and mimic; and Percy Maye, clever female impersonator and graceful dancer.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Mr. Wm. Watson's *Robinson Crusoe* is a bright, pretty, and funny panto, and the result is enormous houses (twice nightly). An ideal Robinson Crusoe is provided by Mlle. de Rose, whose voice is well suited to the catchy solos which she sings; the Waldrons (Joe and Ettie) as the twins, John Willie and Mary Crusoe, leave the audience very little breathing time between the laughs they cause; Mrs. Crusoe has an exponent in Phil Lestor, who does not overdo the part; Billy Watson does well as Will Atkins; Lambert and Butler are two comic policemen; Cliff Dacre as Wreckeros and Ruby Carlton as Wavina sing very well; an excellent King Guzzlem is well presented by Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, who also has a good voice; Bendene as the Crocodile and Dick Nash as the Dog do some clever work; Miss Hilda Claremont is a charming Polly; Miss Rene Ralph is a smart Jack, and the Cannibal Queen is well sustained by Mme. Louie Gilbert; the Sisters Gaye are charming dancers; the Three Royal Temples are much applauded for their singing; the choruses and ballet manœuvres show excellent training; the scenery is realistic and pretty.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond.—Suspicious Ma-in-Law and Country Servants are two comical films. Among the other pictures are Cowboy Millionaire, Bear-hunting in the Arctic, Egyptian Maid, Her Terrible Ordeal, and Two Mr. Whites. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings "Is there no message from England."

New Central Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include The Unfortunate Lover, An Ingenious Safe Deposit, On the Border, Comato the Sioux, Choosing a Mother-in-Law, Foolshead on Temperance, The Grand Sire, and Servants and Masters. Mr. Gilbert's songs are "For he's a jolly good fellow" and "For months and months and months."

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Miss Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company gave two admirable performances of *Miss Hook of Holland* to crowded houses. A capital study of Mr. Hook was given by Mr. James Harcourt, who provides abundant mirth; Mr. Reginald Hunter as Simon Slinks was excellent; and the same must be said of Mr. R. Harvey as Ludwig. Mr. Sam Lockeridge as the Bandmaster looked very smart, and his catchy songs made him popular; Mr. H. Jackson as Captain Adrian Paap was well placed, and his song "Soldiers of the Netherlands" was very fine; Miss Kathleen Starling in the rôle of Miss Hook was most successful with her bright manner and dainty singing; and as Mina Miss Muff Carew was very clever. Mr. Geoffrey Blackmore conducts.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bench.—Harry Nelson, comedian, occupies premier position here, and is heartily applauded; Nora Doone is well received; Les Trippellos are responsible for a very agreeable musical turn; and the Society Quartette execute clever dances. Edie Endon is a smart high-kicker and dancer; Ted Saunders is successful; and Carpos Bros. give an excellent acrobatic display.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Tully.—The attraction here is *Easily Led*, in which Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre takes the part of Coupeau, Mr. H. F. Maltby that of Gouget, Mr. V. Harvey Cantier, with Miss Julie Kennard as his accomplice, and Miss G. Hall as Gervaise, the loafer being well portrayed by Mr. F. Lomax.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—The romantic play, *The Love of the Princess*, is here this week. Miss Dorothy Haigh, as Princess Idalia plays the part with distinction; Mr. Frank Harvey gets in some good dramatic work as Prince Conrad; and Mr. Richard Vane as the traitor, Count Nicholas, succeeds in evoking general detestation. Mr. John Burton as the profligate King Josef is responsible for some good work; as also is Mr. Beckett Bould at Lieut. Orlans and Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff. Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as Prince Regent of Narava and Mr. Francis Serle as Duke Scarfe are both equal to their respective parts, the comic relief being introduced by Mr. Edgar Morgan as Boris. Miss Josephine Lee touches a sympathetic cord as Constantia; and Lady Irene is piquantly played by Miss Maude Steeple.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is being successfully presented by Mr. Wilson Benge's company. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a worthy successor to Mr. Benge in the character of George Tremain; Squire Leverton is faithfully drawn by Mr. Cecil A. Melton; Mr. H. Danson (General-Manager) submits a powerful conception of Dick Leverton; an amusing study of Rudolph Earle is contributed by Mr. C. Miller Doyle; Dean Clifton is strongly interpreted by Mr. Harry Leyton; Mr. Chas. W. Dockwray is capital in the dual rôle of Paul Carstairs and Hiram P. Younger; Mr. Robert Hastings is a popular Jack Hearne; Miss Pauline Nanton excels in her portrayal of Marvis Leverton; Miss Annie Hylton plays skilfully as Renie de Telle; Miss Nancy J. Clarke as Gwendoline Younger is a smart interpretation; and as Edith Trevanion Miss Amy Milstrad wins praise. The scenic effects are admirable.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Earl and the Girl* was played to a good audience on Monday by Mr. Bannister Howard's excellent company. The dresses and scenery were first rate, and there was a well-balanced chorus. Mr. Bert Beswick appeared to revel in the rich humour of Jim Cheese, and his comic business and dry remarks caused great mirth. Other characters were cleverly represented by Miss Lily Gullick, Miss Ada Waugh, Mr. J. M. East, Mr. Arthur Hyde, Mr. Sam Lyssons, and Mr. Herbert St. John.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—The spring season opened on Monday with the laughable musical absurdity *His Majesty's Guests*, well played by Mr. Fred Karno's company. Mr. George Hester was amusing as Sergeant Lightning; Miss Winnie Bradfield was a prepossessing Lady Maud; and the fun was kept up by Miss A. Wright as Miss Manley and Mr. G. Gordon as Mr. Minks. The songs and concerted numbers were well received.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Bad Girl of the Family*, played by Mr. Fred Melville's company, concludes a very successful two weeks' engagement to-night.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The admired and accomplished vocalist Miss Evie Greene made her first appearance on the local music-hall stage on Monday, and scored an immediate and genuine success with three songs and a humorous dialect recitation; Mr. W. J. Churchill, a pantomime favourite here, caused great laughter; and the programme also included the Three Delaries, in a finely-staged gymnastic spectacle, *The Demons of the Grotto*, which was loudly applauded. Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder; Mr. Tom Clara, vocal entertainer; Miss Minnie Engler and company, in a comic sketch; Mr. Charles Vincent, comedian; Miss Leonie Dixon, comedienne; the Glenroy troupe of dancers; the Bioscope, with comic pictures; and Mr. Harry Allister, with lifelike impersonations of political celebrities.

The Hippodrome.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. Fred Karno's burlesque company opened on Monday in the lively knockabout absurdity *Skating*, which kept the crowded house in roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Russell, accompanied by "Coster Joe," is a popular favourite; Miss Kitty Collyer's vivacious contributions to the programme are well received; and other successful entertainers this week are Hector and Loretta, in a novel act; Ritter and Foster; Mr. Brent Hayes, banjo expert; and the Christie Duo. The clever illusion "Buddha's Blackboard" and the Bioscope pictures are also pleasing.

Central Hall.—Lessees, the Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.—The new-comers on Monday were the talented Dudley Girls; Farrell and Dunn, Caledonian duettists; Miss Vera, vocalist; and Mr. George Bernard, comedian. The Opening of Parliament and other artistic new pictures were deservedly applauded by a crowded house.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's capable and hard-working company is here this week with *The Lancashire Lad*. Mr. Harry T. Wood is a manly and conscientious hero as David Elmore; Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Max Carlton, the villain, acts with considerable ability; Mr. Wilton Reed merits high praise as Jem Wincote; Mr. Bob Anderson is droll and capable as John Willie Wardle; Mr. Geo. Stuart is a picturesque and amusing character as Tom; Miss Madge Douglas is an attractive Jessie Wincote; Miss Muriel Inglis as Lorna Wincote plays creditably; Miss Lilian Rignold as Jane Alice Clithero acquits herself admirably; Miss Gertie Henderson as Kitty de Vere is deserving of considerable praise; Miss Gertie Haye as Florrie Mayfair acts with spirit and success; Miss Molly Shine as Trixie Golightly makes the best use of her opportunities; and Miss Nellie Warden is successful in the dialect part of Mother Wardle. Miss V. Hayden makes a typical mill girl as Maggie Ramsden; and Miss Louise Norden as Mary Ann Burns, another mill girl, gives a good interpretation.

SMETHWICK.—Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is again presenting *The Midnight Wedding*, which is followed with interest. Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes gives a splendid portrayal of the dashing Swordmaster, Paul Valmar; Mr. John Nesbitt impressively portrays the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Charles Whitlock acquits himself with remarkable ability as Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck, and a similar remark is applicable to the acting of St. George Frere, who appears as Lieut. Eugene von Strelsburg. Mr. Forbes Harrison is good as Father Gerard. Messrs. James E. Page, Wm. Franklin, and Algie Spalding cause roars of laughter by their impersonation of Max, Otto, and Bobo. Miss Jessica Black plays merrily as Kathie; Miss Gwladys Faunce acquits herself creditably in the difficult part of Satanella; Miss Margaret Brodie as the Princess Astrea von Strelsburg makes a decided hit. The play is well mounted in every detail.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company is appearing in *The Sins of Society*. Miss Grace E. Leslie repeats her fine impersonation of Lady Marion, and looks charming; Miss Cissie Carlton is excellent as Lady Goldbury, and her efforts in the comedy line are well seconded by Mr. Maitland Marler as James Hogg. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is a capital Sir Dorian March; and Mr. C. F. Collings gives a satisfactory rendering of Noel Ferrers. Miss Rosamund Bunton (Lady Gwendolen) and Mr. Sidney C. St. Clair (Mr. Morris) are also seen to advantage.

Hippodrome.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Joe Peterman and company are presenting *The Butler's Party* with conspicuous success; the Gotham Quartette are, as usual, loudly acclaimed; and the Three Laurels excel in a smart acrobatic act. Benn's Dutch boys and girls are exceedingly popular; and a novel music act is introduced by G. H. Carlisle and W. H. Wellman, who score an emphatic success. Gladys Archbutt, comedienne, and Owen McGiveney, character impersonator, also add to an attractive bill of fare.

Empire Theatre.—Lessees, the Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Auguste Denton.—An interesting programme of pictures is given twice nightly, and good houses rule. On Wednesday night a special concert was given in aid of the Needy Children Fund. The performance was a success.

Philharmonic Hall.—Lessees, the Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. F. Boustead.—The animated pictures here are excellent and up to date.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann's capable company, in the powerful Roman play *Claudian*, forms the attraction at the Opera House this week. Mr. W. Maclaren submits an ideal and striking impersonation of the title-rôle, which he depicted throughout in a manner worthy of his high histrionic reputation; Miss Lily C. Bandmann is an admirable and charming representative of Almida, the part being enacted with artistic skill, both in its lighter and stronger phases; the treacherous Tetrach had a highly-commendable delineator in Mr. Frank Owen Chambers; Mr. Douglas Earle did full justice to the part of Agazil; the comedy parts were well sustained by Mr. Chal. T. Chaloner and Miss Maud Garth as Belos and Edessa respectively. Other prominent characters were ably portrayed by Mr. Weston Hubbard (Alcares), Mr. George Roberts (the Holy Clement), Mr. Franklyn Bellamy (Theorus), Miss Amy Hardcastle (Serena), and Miss Jean Fergusson (Clia). The Cymbal Dance was excellently executed by Mlle. Stella Dorin.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. T. Edward Ward presents *His Real Wife* to good houses. Miss Ward is charming and emotional as Rose Avondale; Lady Sybil Welton is powerfully portrayed by Miss Ella C. Turner; Mr. J. W. Evelyn submits a fine characterisation of Martin Avondale; Herbert Barton is well represented by Mr. Clifford Bean; the rascally Colombe is cleverly depicted by Mr. Charles Yorke. The comedy is well sustained by Mr. T. Edward Ward as Simon Bletherell, Miss Clarrie Yandell as Betty, and Mr. Walter Walmsley as Alf. Snickers.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Les Rubens, the fortune-tellers, have an excellent reception; Rossi Ashton does some clever sketching; W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, "Our Empire's Defenders," demonstrates the excellent training of the children employed; O'Malley and Brown are popular comedians. The remaining items are J. J. Maunix, the coffee-coloured coon; May Thorne, comedienne; and Ena Baxter, vocalist. The two last named have been engaged for the Moss and Thornton tour as a result of the Wednesday trial matinées organised and carried on by Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the manager. The Bioscope complete the programme.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The attraction here consists of Mr. Morton Powell's company in *A Girl's Temptation*. Mr. Frank V. Fenn is a powerful Guy Warren; Miss Gertrude Gilbert makes herself a great favourite as Kate Stirling; Mr. Clifton Earle is a success as Mark Klaw; Mr. Charles Herbert is a capital Basile Warren; Mr. Gerald Nolan acts creditably as Geoffrey Stirling; Mr. W. A. Crande as Moss Isaacstein is effective; Mr. Tom Handley as the Hon. Charles Clade does well; Mr. Fred J. Mace as Jim Judd is a success; Miss Blanche Lee does justice to the rôle of Annie Brown; Miss Winnie Donovan as Lady Constance Heathfield, Miss Louie Walton as Mrs. Stirling, and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima Jossap also act capably.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The principal item of a fine variety programme is Consul, the almost man, a remarkable specimen of animal training; Mlle. Rosina gives a smart musical act; the illustrated patter of "Mr. E" is diverting; Harry Drew is an accomplished baritone vocalist; the impersonations of Amandus are wonderfully realistic; Rosie Gaston is a chic comedienne with catchy songs; the Evalos give a good entertainment, comprising flying rings, comic juggling, and hoop manipulating; and the ventriloquial turn by Fred Neiman is well received.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. M'Leod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is here in *The Silver King*. Wilfred Denver is taken in a most able manner by Mr. Fred D. Daviss; Miss Mildred Surrey portrays Nellie with power and feeling; a capital Daniel Jaikes is Mr. Edward J. George; as Capt. Skinner, Mr. Sidney Lynn is excellent; and Elijah Coombe and Henry Corket are equally well done by Mr. Arthur Wright and Mr. Ralph Leon. Miss Mary Glanbrane as Olive Skinner deserves praise; and Miss Margaret Rooke makes an amusing Tabitha Durden.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The London Grand Opera Company is presenting here abridged versions of the more popular operas, a pleasing representation of *Faust* being given on Monday evening; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls do well in song and chorus; N. T. Kioto and C. H. Esa perform some daring balancing feats; and the Maples' turn is enjoyed. Guy Ryder whistles beautifully; and Will Burnand is good at impersonation. Lil O'Gorman sings and dances well.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A distinct treat is provided habitues here in the visit of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company presenting *Lucky Durham* to large audiences. As John Durham Mr. Edmund Kennedy acts with much power and effect; Lord Mountfallon is capably impersonated by Mr. William Calvert; Mr. Arthur Leigh makes a highly satisfactory Hon. Reginald Steighton; and Mr. Charles Wemyss acts ably as Mr. Vallerton. As Mrs. Durham Miss Nellie Bonser plays with sympathetic feeling; Florence Tressillian charmingly portrays the part of Helen Vallerton; Lady Mountfallon is acceptably portrayed by Miss Frances Wolviston; and Miss Dorrie Turner acquits herself meritoriously as the Hon. Margaret Steighton.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The Three Meers, clever and amusing wire performers, head the bill here; and among others appearing are Ford and Hanson in their pleasing musical act; Adelaide Waldorf, a delightful soprano vocalist; Juno Salmo, whose performance is weird and wonderful; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard in a very laughable sketch, *Coming Home*; Joe Cookson, an entertaining ventriloquist; Burns and Bentley, smart simultaneous dancers; and Morton Coyne, a successful comedian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Messrs. John Tiller and J. Chas. Imeson's pantomime *Jack and Jill* commenced its second week's run here on Monday. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote makes a dashing Prince; Miss Moyna Hill is very chic; and Miss Cissie Iris and Miss Gladys Satchwell are well liked as Jack and Jill; Mr. Ernest Rees, Mr. Will Lytton, and Mr. Fred Walmsley keep the audience in high good humour. The charming dresses and beautiful scenery are greatly admired.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—One of the most successful pantomimes yet produced is Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's *Dick Whittington*. Miss Ethel Campbell wins hearty approval for her impersonation of Dick; Miss Tina Franks as Alice is charming; Miss Ivy Proudfoot is a captivating Viscount Piccadilly; Miss Ethel Haidee is an attractive Princess; Madame Benita, Fairy Sunshine, is an excellent vocalist; Mr. Deane Tribune as Jack Idle is a fine comedian; Mr. Albert Williams supplies a comic turn as Sarah; Mr. Jack Hodgson makes a good Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Leo King as King Rat is good; the part of the faithful Cat is admirably played by Mr. Tom Gilmore. Pauline Rivers's troupe of Merry Mill Girls is a speciality, clever and attractive. The pantomime throughout goes with a swing, and the singing is excellent.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The melodrama *The Better Land* is presented here by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Mr. Paul Lovet is a great success as Philip Radcliffe; and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe appears with distinction as Hubert Radcliffe; Miss Margaret Trevosper fills the rôle of Doris creditably; and Miss Madge Trevelyan gives a good portrayal of Mercedes. The piece is well attended.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Another series in *The Adventures of Ronnie Blair* is presented this week by Mr. Vernon Sansbury, Miss Josephine Colona, and company. These sketches are capably presented, and the scenery used is most effective. After a long absence, Roxborough and Wright pay a return visit in their musical pot-pourri; Joan Deering's violin solos are well rendered; and Les Zanonis are smart in a club-juggling act. Damerell and Rutland are topical up-to-date cross-talking comedians; and also here are Chas. Woodward, Tom Bass, and the Perfection pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Palace of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Morritt, illusionist, is the starring engagement, and draws full houses twice nightly. The Three Veros foot the bill and give a smart dancing turn. Keane Harker is a capital comedian; Karl is an expert juggler. The Blind Man with the marvellous memory puzzles his hearers. George Vere is a capital dancer and comedian, and some good Pictures complete the show.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. John Tiller's pantomime *Bo-Peep* is being played here by an excellent company. Miss Nancy Hearne is the principal boy, and as Boy Blue gives much pleasure by her captivating performance; Miss Zena Hay in the title-rôle wins favour by her sweet singing; Mr. Fred Eastman in the rôle of Mother Hubbard keeps the audience merry with his many eccentricities. Messrs. Harry Harrigan and Will Holt as Hoppit and Poppit contribute much rollicking humour; and Mr. Harry Kirk as the Squire, Fred Warwick the landlord, and Miss Gertrude Harrison his wife, all get the very utmost out of their parts. The Diamond Troupe of dancers and the Twelve Pretty Primroses contribute acceptable specialities. The scenery is excellent.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is playing *A Broken Heart* here. Miss Sheila Walsh is the principal lady, and as Mary Bernard she gives a meritorious performance. Mrs. Barnard is well done by Miss Louis Millward; Miss Helen Lowther is excellent as Grace Fanshaw; and Miss Daisy Rochefort gives much promise as Little May. Mr. Harry Cullenford gives an exceedingly fine rendering of John Barnard, and Messrs. A. C. Holmes (Stephen Raylton) and Ernest Duval (Gash-Gills) are first-class representatives of villainy. The lighter vein is in the able hands of Miss Nancy Mitchell (Sally Travner) and Mr. Millar Wilson (Tony Tibbetts).

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Ernest Stevens presents *Cinderella* twice nightly here. Mr. E. Stratham Staples as the Baron is popular, and with the Baroness (Mr. Alfred Clark) has many funny scenes. The two work capitally together. Much humour comes also from Mr. W. Leopold, junr., as the page. Miss Felicia Fermin presents a dainty and attractive Cinderella; Miss Agnes Tandy makes a dashing Prince; Miss May Sheridan is in the rôle of the Fairy, and pleases all with her sweet voice. Miss Hollis Hook is a stylish Duke, and Mr. Harry Ongar as Dandini contributes much good singing and clever dancing. The Lottie Stone troupe of dancers are also worthy of praise for their graceful work.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A good programme is drawing correspondingly good audiences. The Sisters Lillian are having a cordial reception for their pleasing vocal duets; Belford and Mars present a capital vocal comedy scena, *The Lady from Cook's*; Ted. E. Bond is deserving of praise as a comedian. The pictorial part of the programme is equally as good. The Heart of a Cowboy and A Blackleg's Conversion being the principal films.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Fred Melville's company is here in the stirring drama *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. Louis Hector gives a manly impersonation of George Maddison; Mr. W. H. Porter is effective as the scoundrel Charles Devereux; his accomplice Geoffrey Broughton is ably rendered by Mr. T. Macdonald; Mr. Fred De Vere causes endless fun as Timothy Tuttutt; Mr. Frank Denis is well placed as Sir George Lancaster; Miss Sybil Hare is very good as Patty; Lucy finds a charming exponent in Miss Alice Bowes; Miss Grace Lester is excellent as the scheming Lady Lucretia; and Miss Gladys Newcombe portrays the Mother Superior in a sympathetic manner.

County Electric Pavilion — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures here continue to be popular. The films shown this week include The Grand-Sire, 'Twixt Red Man and White, A Visit to Berne, The Life of Moses, Jealous

Miss Marian Ripley is a charming Sybil. Recklaw Poole is played by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde to perfection; and the same remark applies to Mr. Wynn Weaver (Hon. Fitzroy Lock), Mr. J. Henry Twyford (Captain Partington), Mr. Walter Matthews (Walter Angel), and Mr. Charles R. Stone (Papa Bartholdy).

WELLINGBOROUGH. — EXCHANGE HALL. — *The Woman of Kronstadt* was smartly played here by Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company, from Monday to Wednesday. Miss Betty Fairfax made a charming and accomplished Marion Best; the Colonel Bonzo of Mr. K. G. Kenneth was an admirable piece of acting; and Mr. Bernard Copping was decidedly meritorious as Captain Zassulic; Mr. Horace Sinclair put any amount of vigour into the blustering General Stefanoff; Madame de Bellegarde was ably taken by Miss Rosamond Thompson; and a satisfactory Princess was found in Miss Edith Vogne.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Scottie and his variety combine are providing the attractions here, with the military episode, *Napoleon at Waterloo*, played on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Mr. Scott Alexander was a capitl Napoleon; and Miss Kitty Caen was delightful as Kathleen O'Moore. The same evenings *Trapped by Sexton Blake*, a fine detective incident, was staged.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—Pantomime takes the place of pictures and variety at this place of amusement. Mr. R. Nightingale's *Aladdin* has been warmly received. It is an excellent company, Miss Edna Latonne in the title-rôle being very charming. Mr. Harry Albery as Widow Twankey is delightfully funny; Miss Jenny Hachett as the Princess and Miss May Rivers as Pekoe are also clever; and the Cin Sing of Mr. Laurie Oban is a smart performance.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville.—*The Idol of Paris* is drawing large audiences. The rôle of Flare-Flare could not be in better hands than those of Miss Annie Bell, who makes the most of the intense dramatic situations; Mr. Scott Leighton is capital as Victor Cashells; and Mr. Alec Alexander most capably interprets the rôle of Philip D'Esterre. The humour of the austere character of Mme. Sancterre is well brought out by Miss Frances Bruce; and none of the drollery of Anne and Tatave is lost by Miss Annie Megson and Mr. H. Vivian Thomas, who are great favourites.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Hill.—Renee and Wallis, in their comedy and dancing duo, are taking well. Their humour is good and their dancing neat. The Mannikins, living marionettes, also provide a turn which is novel and smart. The chief picture is illustrative of the playlet A Child's Forgiveness; the Adventures of Foolshead are also good; and the travel picture, showing the Fjords of Norway, is exceptionally fine.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Phil Percival, a clever entertainer with a ready wit, takes his audiences by storm; the breezy style and capital patter of Paul Barnes, American comedian and raconteur, also appeal to all; whilst the humour of Coverdale keeps everyone in a constant ripple of merriment. *The Wire and the Liar* is the title of a delightful little comedy duologue, in which Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas keep the patrons of the house well entertained; Henriquette Maude, the New Zealand travelling girl, tells the story of her travels in a very interesting manner; and the Royal Delomes are good in their novelty speciality, *The Phantom Clogs*. Talbot and Pearce are very charming in their pretty Japanese duologues; and the Westwoods, comedy cyclists, execute some clever feats. Katie Butler as a comedienne is dainty and good. Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company is engaged here in *A Life for a Life*. As Don Leon Mr. Lester is excellent, and Mr. Hugh Travers works hard as Pedro. Mr. W. Carr is well cast as the Sheriff, and Mr. Harold Kinton is good as Bunker Ben. Miss Dorothy Riddell scores as Kate, and Miss Lallah Davies is pleasing as Eulalie. A clever child study is that of Little Winnie Warden as Venetta.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Swinton.—The irresistibly funny farce, *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, is presented here by Miss Florence Baines' strong company. Miss Madge Grey as Mary Ellen Thompson scores a richly deserved success. Mr. Gerald Gambier is effective as John Higgins; and in the parts of the son Harry and daughter Bertha, Mr. Allan Servington and Miss Mabelle Clinton are good; Miss Ruby Glyn is a charming and sweet heiress; Messrs. Arthur Henry as Herbert Fox, Londen Meadows as John Henry Thompson, Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Mrs. Thompson, and Mr. Sam C. Leslie as Moses Goldburg are distinctly funny, their antics creating much diversion; Mr. Henry Lloyd gives a good character study of Mr. Higgins' butler, and at intervals shines as a violinist of merit. The music is of a refreshing character, while the scenic effects are good. The orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Bert Harding, do their work in finished style. Amusing films on the bioscope are thoroughly appreciated.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The following artists do well in their respective spheres: Mr. Gene Morelle, musical humorist; the Echos; Wilson Blackledge, society entertainer; and the Quality Quartette, harmonising humorists. The films presented are distinctly good, and include Dove Eyes' Gratitude, Dancing Tabloids, In Love with a Picture Girl, Poultry Breeding, Papa, Mama and Baby, and Muggins V.C.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co. — Crowded audiences assemble here to witness Mr. F. Melville's drama *Married to the Wrong Man*. Miss Mary Pemberton as the heroine acts with exceptional power; Mr. Harry Lonsdale is a hearty and manly Jack Gladwin; Mr. George Arthur plays Deering with great skill; Mr. Leonard Thackeray is distinctly clever as Jasper Skinner; and excellent service is rendered by Mr. Leonard Harrison as Sergeant Manners.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Premier position is occupied by Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, who are heartily encored for their singing and dancing; the Olympian team of trick cyclists are smart; Lily Lonsdale's vocal selections are well received; Alex Lukos' impersonations are very skilful; Neville and Mars are loudly applauded for their operatic singing; and the Lesters dance themselves into favour. Terry and Bentley give a most entertaining performance; Ernie Myers is an amusing comedian; Mlle. Telka causes quite an ovation with her illustrated songs; and Chris Cunard, a legmania performer, is good.

WISHAW, N.B. — PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The tabloid musical comedy *The Prince of the Dandies*, with Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley in the cast, is topping the bill; Minnie D'Aubyn, chorus vocalist, is warmly applauded; Regan and Ryan are a couple of excellent comedians; the Brooklyn comedy Four are musically excellent, besides being decidedly funny; Kendrick and Laura are a couple of pleasing singers and clever dancers. Some excellent films on the Bioscope conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—The visit of Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is always looked forward to here, and a large house witnessed the performance of *The Merchant of Venice* on Monday. Mr. Henry Herbert gave a strikingly original study of Shylock, and was recalled again and again; Mr. Charles Sparrow made an ardent lover as Bassanio; Mr. Robert Atkins was excellent as Antonio; Lorenzo was admirably enacted by Mr. Pat Lewis; Mr. John Cairns ably portrayed the Prince of Morocco; Mr. Andrew Leigh was particularly good as the Prince of Arragon; Mr. H. S. Cohen was a droll Launcelot Gobbo; Salanio, Salarino, and Gratiano found admirable exponents in Messrs. Joseph O'Dowd, John Hood, and Cyril Gworder; and Mr. Eric Snowdon did well as Tubal. Miss Gladys Vanderzee was responsible for a decidedly clever rendering of Portia; Miss Kate Turner did well as Nerissa; and there was no fault to find with the Jessica of Miss Dorothy Radford. For the remainder of the week *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, and *Macbeth* are billed.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Harry Champion, comedian, heads the bill here; the Cromwells give a unique and novel juggling act; Clark and Glennie, in "The Haunted House," are as popular as ever; Henriette and Selina, refined instrumentalists, provide an acceptable item; Mart and Pep, hand balancers and tumblers, win much applause; Julia Reeve, comedienne, has a capital song in "The Lady Billposter"; Sergeant Mumford contributes a clever performance on the slack wire; and Flo Cecil is a pleasing comedienne and dancer.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, W. Reynolds Benjamin.—The pictures shown at this comfortable hall maintain the high standard which marked their inception. Her Sister's Sin and The Rocky Road are dramas of a domestic nature; Temptations and Forgiveness appeals strongly to the audience; and included in a lengthy programme are Pygmalion, Sue at Antwerp, A Lesson in Wrestling, The Professor's Cigarettes, A Bad Sixpence, An Interrupted Wedding, Herring Fishing, Amorous Billy, The Poacher's Revenge, A Day Off, Mr. Giddy's Revenge, and Mochet's Washing Day.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Evans.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company has been playing to big houses throughout the week, their répertoire including *Samson and Delilah*, *Faust*, *Tannhäuser*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Carmen*, and *Maritana*. The successive casts have included Madame Beatrice La Palme, Miss Helen Culver, Miss Lilian Matthews, Miss Grace Nicoll, Miss Rita Wallace, Miss Mary Norton, and Miss Rosa O'Farrell; Messrs. Albert Bowyer, Dudley S. Marcus, John Child, Graham Marr Wm. Anderson, and Wm. Farmer. With a numerous and well balanced chorus, full corps de ballet, and a considerably augmented orchestra under Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, the operas have been produced under the best possible auspices.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers. — This week Mr. Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford are here on a welcome return visit, with *Home, Sweet Home*. As the hero, Stephen Armitage, Mr. Frank Lindo plays with true histrionic talent, and is ably supported by Miss Wakeford as Joan; Mr. Norton Shields as Armitage the elder and Mr. Sidney Dench in the character of Duke are well placed.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Among a sensational set of pictures perhaps The Rocky Road is the best. The variety list is headed by Bert Alden, comedian; Leicee Prinella, singer and dancer; and D. W. Watson, soloist on the posthorn.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—The Ashleys, trick skaters, make a welcome first appearance; Mr. Albert Lawrence, vocalist; and Marcus Boyle, comedian, also give a good account of themselves.

WORKSOP.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. S. Goodman.—The boards of this theatre have been occupied during the whole of this week by Messrs. Jacob and Jephson's pantomime *Dick Whittington*. Miss Florrie Curette is well cast for the name-part, and specialities by the Dunvilles, Cyril Jephson, Cissie Trent, the Toys, and Seale and Seale are very taking. Messrs. Ernest Adrien and Robbie Graham are responsible for much hilarity as Fitzwarren and Sarah, the cook. The music is bright and sparkling, and the dresses and scenery all that could be desired.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—An excellent programme is provided here this week by the Co-operative Variety Artists' Federation, and the attractions have been greatly appreciated. The chief turn on the bill is that of John Warren with the musical military mystery *The Magic Carpet*; it is a glimpse of Eastern wonders, and the appearances and disappearances in this mimic drama are astounding. Orpheus in a high-class musical act also delights his hearers; Athas and Collins present their original comedy act, of which singing and dancing are prominent features; and Elvio, Ross, and Elvio are also popular turn in their absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*. Clarke and Mostol find favour with their songs and patter; and Fannie Humber, instrumentalist and dancer, and R. C. Note, vocal comedian, complete.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Matt Wilkinson Trio cause immense amusement by their original comedy sketch, *What Every Woman Wants*; Bob Stephenson is a clever dancer and funny comedian; U. C. Ugo, in his magical scena *Mirthful Mysteries*, in which he introduces "the enchanted tree of India," provides a most acceptable entertainment; and Miss Violet Beatrice is a dainty boy impersonator. The Bioscope pictures are excellent.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—The pictures here are still attracting crowded houses, all the latest being shown. The King's State Opening of Parliament, Fantine, a notable creation of the great novelist Victor Hugo, Evil Men Do, and Joseph Sold by His Brethren are the leading pictures. Miss May Macpherson sings illustrated songs.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Arcadians* is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful productions before the public, and the excellent company sent out by Mr. Courtneidge is doing splendid business this week. Miss Marion Edwards is particularly pleasing as Sombra, singing with great taste and acting delightfully; Miss Mysie Divine as Eileen Cavanagh stands out prominently, her impersonation being marked by much grace; Mr. Roy Sidney is at once a success as Jack Meadows, giving a merry rendition of a popular rôle; as Mrs. Smith Miss Madge Haines is at once a distinct success, the part in the hands of this clever lady having full justice done to it; Mr. Frank Collins is quaintly funny as Peter Doody, and never misses an opportunity of raising a laugh; Mr. Roy Lorraine is lively as Bobby; Miss Katie Yates a fascinating Chrysea; and, lastly, Mr. Gus Exley fairly delights all by his extremely funny efforts. For genuine comedy he would be hard to beat. The mounting and general ensemble are beyond praise.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—The visits of Queenie Leighton are eagerly looked forward to, and during this week the receptions accorded her have been most cordial, and large audiences have been the rule; the Miles Stavordale Troupe give a splendid musical turn; as gymnasts the Krags Trio have few superiors; Reg. Bolton presents a popular and funny scena; and Beddow is a ventriloquist of much merit, who goes well. Chas. Cardew is a very popular comedian; Bonair and Tess appear with success in a quick-change scena. The Rent Brothers, acrobats; Ernest Clifford, dancer; and Dene and Douglas, vocalists, complete a clever list.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The pictures at this popular house continue to be of great excellence. The Sleep-Walker, Almost His Bride, and A Quiet Honeymoon are all good. Phil Terris, comedian, and J. E. Waldow present neat turns, and large audiences attend.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Irish episodes in the career of Nick Carter are causing enjoyment; A Noble Sacrifice is a fine film; and Taming Wild Horses has been appreciated. Mappin and Webb in their business are excellent.

AT the Cripplegate Institute Theatre on Tuesday evening a company of amateurs, under the direction of Mr. Sydney H. Strong, will, in addition to performing George Arliss's popular farce *There and Back*, produce a new one-act play entitled *Double Dummy*, from the pen of Mr. B. Macdonald Hastings.

THE North Bristol Concert Party and Dramatic Society Cricket Club (*mixed*) under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hare, will be pleased to play theatrical companies. Matches will take place on Clifton Downs on Saturday afternoons from April 3 till Sep. 24, 1910 (also on Good Friday. Date of visit should be sent to Mr. Harry Hare, 35, Salisbury-road, Redland, Bristol.

THE Grand Theatre, Blackpool, is undergoing reconstruction and redecoration at the hands of the new proprietary, who are having the work done thoroughly, every part of the interior, from the entrance to the flies, being re-dressed. The theatre reopens on the 21st inst., with Mr. George Edwardes's London company in *The Dollar Princess*.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, FEB. 9.—Miss Ethel Barrymore has won new laurels in Pinero's *Mid-Channel*, produced at the Empire Theatre on the 31st ult., on which occasion she appeared before a New York audience for the first time since she became Mrs. Russell G. Colt. She received an enthusiastic welcome, the friendly demonstrations of the audience delaying the commencement of the play for several minutes, and at the close of the third act she was repeatedly recalled. Miss Barrymore's embodiment of Zoe Blundell showed a complete grasp of the character, and her performance has evoked a chorus of praise. But the entire company was good, and Mr. Pinero's play received a representation that, from all points of view, was really admirable. Mr. Charles Dalton as Theodore Blundell gave a lifelike portrayal of the rough-and-ready husband; Mr. H. Reeve-Smith's impersonation of the Hon. Peter Mottram was a finely finished performance; Mr. Eric Maturin did full justice to the rôle of the "tame robin," the caddish Ferris; Miss Nina Sevening contributed a clever characterisation as Mrs. Annerly; the Misses Phœbe Coyne, Louise Rutter, and Marianne Thurber acted minor parts well.

Mr. Pinero's play has been reviewed and discussed at considerable length in the newspapers. One and all pronounce it powerful, but depressing.

"NONE SO BLIND," an American play in four acts, in which Mr. John Mason is appearing at the Hackett Theatre, was written by Ernest Poole, a new author, as far as the stage is concerned, but known to magazine readers as a writer of short stories. The drama is described as an exposition of the dangers of too great attention to a single purpose. It tells the story of John Howe, a civil engineer, who neglects his wife for a wonderful railway bridge he is building across a chasm 2,000ft. deep in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Egotistically intent upon his constructive theories, and insensible to fatigue, Howe labours night and day until he suddenly loses his eyesight. Even with this dread handicap he refuses to give up his work, but presses his wife Anne into his service, and Billy Locklin, his uneducated but practical and devoted assistant. He drives them as he has driven himself, unmindful of everything but the completion of the bridge, having staked his professional reputation upon the success of the undertaking. This goes on for nine months, during which period he makes several trips to Denver for the ostensible purpose of consulting another engineer, but in reality to be treated by an oculist. In the meantime, Frank Knowlton, a lifelong friend of Mrs. Howe, comes from New York to the Rockies for the benefit of his health. He learns that she has written a book called "The Top of the Mountain," of which she has said nothing to her husband, because the blind engineer cares only for books on the construction of steel bridges. Beginning with an interest in the book, Knowlton becomes deeply interested in the writer, and the two are constantly together. A letter from a publisher, in which a brilliant literary future is predicted for Mrs. Howe, spurs Knowlton to denunciation of her cold, hard, unsympathetic existence as the wife a man who thinks in geometry, and whose songs are sung by a pneumatic drill. Knowlton makes it plain that he is in love with her, and urges her to leave her husband. Whilst the woman is pondering over Knowlton's words, her husband returns from one of his trips to Denver, and is greeted by the faithful Billy, whom he amazes with the news that his eyesight has been restored to him. Billy advises his "boss" to pretend that he is still blind and to observe what is going on about him. Acting upon his assistant's advice Howe sees that his blindness has been mental as well as physical. His view of the matter is that his consuming ambition is a form of selfishness which has almost estranged his wife, and the companionship that he has withheld she has naturally sought elsewhere. While bewailing his fate he makes no attempt to regain his wife's affection, but takes it for granted that she is utterly lost to him, although there has been nothing in his wife's conduct to justify such an extreme view. He even makes arrangements for her to accompany Knowlton when he leaves for New York. The play ends, however, as one foresees that it will, with a reconciliation. The final scene discloses a magnificent view of the Rocky Mountains at daybreak. The mists disappear gradually, and John Howe is discovered seated on a high rock, gazing into the distance. He has climbed the heights, figuratively to see things as his wife sees them, he declares—in reality, to escape the ordeal of her departure. There, after a hard climb, Anne finds him. Her eyes, too, have been opened. She realises that her place is beside her husband and comes to tell him so.

So much fault has been found with the play that it is hardly likely to have a long run. Mr. Mason does all that an accomplished actor can do under the circumstances, and is ably assisted by Miss Mabel Roebuck, Mr. Walter Hale, and Miss Ivy Troutman.

"THE HEIGHTS," a drama in three acts, by William Anthony McGuire, has had a short run at the Savoy Theatre. The scenes of this play are laid in a London boarding-house and a hut in the Italian Alps. One of the principal characters is a girl who has preserved her ideals and still believes in the possibility of perfection in man. Although everyone she meets turns out badly, or far below her standard of goodness, she persists in the belief that some day she will find her ideal personified. The other character is a man who has lost his belief in his fellow-men and has become the personification of all the primitive passions and impulses of humanity. The one woman he loved has proved unworthy of him. He and the girl meet, and her purity and idealism lead him to the conclusion that his own weakness caused him to find nothing but badness in the world, while the girl learns that her goodness was also within herself, and that she has been expecting too much of humanity.

Georgia Warren thinks she has realised her ideal in Richard Sidney, whom she believes to be a perfectly good man. He disappoints her, however, and she wonders where true manhood may be found. The second act shows the hut of Joe Moreau, a cosmopolitan Alpine guide, whose faith in the goodness of women has been destroyed by an unfortunate love affair in Paris. During a snowstorm Georgia finds her way to the hut, and Moreau tries to make love to her. Her attempt to kill herself rather than submit to his embraces makes him understand that she is a good woman, and he goes out into the storm, leaving her to occupy the cabin alone. In the last act the repentant Sidney comes seeking her, and Georgia, having come to the conclusion that all men are human, goes away with him to be married. Moreau, supposed to be transformed by this experience, is left to climb "the heights" alone. In the dialogue there are many similes and epigrams. Mr. Frank Keenan appears as Joe Moreau, and depicts the character of the man realistically. Miss Willette Kershaw as Georgia Warren and Mr. Frank Mills as Sidney acquit themselves well; Mrs. Charles G. Craig is amusing as Granny Melton, who keeps the boarding-house; and Miss Hilda Keenan as Nellie Barnum contributes a capital character-sketch of a slangy chorus girl. Mr. J. Harry Benrimo gives an excellent portrayal of an Italian guide.

MR. FRANK DARCH, who, since his return last September from America, where he had been touring with Mr. Ben Greet, has been playing with Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, will be married on Monday to Miss Luey Edith Hare, the youngest daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Hare, of Blair Logie, Menstrie, N.B.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, JAN. 11.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait).—Crowded houses nightly assemble to witness Mr. Williamson's gorgeous pantomime *Aladdin*. All the members of the company have now settled down into their various rôles, and the fun is kept merrily going from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The pantomime is brimful of good songs, set to bright and catchy music, while the mounting throughout is on a very lavish scale indeed.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessees, Messrs. Meynell and Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy).—Shakespeare's delightful comedy *The Merchant of Venice* entered on Saturday upon its last six nights. The comedy has drawn full houses since the opening night. Next Saturday *Count Hannibal* will be staged, for the first time in Melbourne, with Mr. Oscar Asche in the name-part. The booking for the opening performance is very heavy, so a bumper house is assured.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Mr. William Anderson's pantomime *Babes in the Wood* draws crowded houses nightly, and has proved itself a most popular pantomime. Miss Lilian Lea and Messrs. Nat Clifford and Foreman and Fannan give excellent turns, while the dialogue is interspersed with a number of excellent songs. Special matinées for the "kiddies" are given on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Mlle. de Dio, who has recently been appearing with great success in Sydney, made her first appearance here on Saturday evening, and at once established herself as a genuine favourite with the audience. Mlle. De Dio appeared in a number of novel and decidedly interesting dances, and at the conclusion of her turn was accorded an ovation from a packed house. As a *danseuse* Mlle. De Dio thoroughly understands her business, and fully deserved the success she achieved on Saturday evening. Other artists appearing here with success at present include Fred Curran, Miss Lillie Langtry, Bertha Stuart, Fred Bluett, the Two Bells, the Wheelers, Post Mason, Hilda Lane, Baby Watson, Fanny Powers, Browne and Robinson, and the Wille Brothers.

BIJOU THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. George Marlow.—The last nights of the sensational melodrama, *Married to the Wrong Man*, are announced. The drama has drawn excellent houses since its opening night. On Saturday next the evergreen drama *East Lynne* will be staged for the seven nights.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Mr. Brennan's National Entertainers provided a new programme on Saturday. Among new arrivals may be mentioned the Medoras, comedy sketch artists, who appeared in a laughable skit, entitled *Fun in a Studio*; while other excellent turns were presented by Wise and Milton, Pearl Lovell, Frank King, the Smith Sisters, Lulu Eugene, Mabelle, Ernest Pitcher, Lucy Lavinia, Con Carroll, P. J. Knowles, James Craydon, Lily Vockler, and many others. Excellent pictures were shown by the Miorama.

MELBOURNE, JAN. 18.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—Entering on its fifth week the gorgeous pantomime *Aladdin* promises to be as popular as other pantomime productions of Mr. J. C. Williamson of recent years. Saturday saw a packed house at both matinée and evening performance. Miss Lily Iris has established herself a great favourite with Melbourne playgoers.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clarke and Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—After a successful season of four weeks *The Merchant of Venice* was produced for the last time on Friday evening last, in the presence of a packed house. Saturday evening saw the first production in Australia of the romantic play *Count Hannibal*, adapted from Stanley Weyman's novel of the same name. Needless to say, there was a crowded house, amongst those present being Lord Kitchener and staff. The gallant soldier received an ovation upon taking his seat in the manager's box. Mr. Oscar Asche gave a powerful, breezy, and commanding rendering of Count Hannibal; while Miss Brayton fills entirely to the satisfaction of the eye the somewhat sombre character of Clothilde. Mr. Kay Soupar was well placed in the character of Tigonville; while Mr. C. A. Doran can be congratulated on a performance of La Tribe, the Protestant minister. Count Hannibal's troopers are hit off to the book life by Messrs. Athol Forde and Fritz Russell; and Mr. Caleb Porter makes a finished study of the sinister Father Pezelay. Minor characters were admirably portrayed by Miss Constance Robertson (Mme. Carlot), Mr. R. F. Anson, Mr. Tripp Edgar, Mr. Ian Penny, Mr. F. Pollard, Mr. Ewan Brook, Mr. George Relph, and Miss Muriel Hutchinson. The costumes are admirable, and the scenery, especially the gold and white ante-room in the Louvre, and at the Riverside, Angers, worthy examples of the painter's art and stage resources. *Count Hannibal* will be the last production of the present Oscar Asche-Lily Brayton season.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederick Aydon.—A particularly strong bill is being presented here at present. The chief attraction is Mme. De Dio, the charming French dancer, who is now an established favourite with Opera House patrons. Those exceptionally clever acrobats, the Wille Brothers, gain loud applause nightly for their skilful and interesting "turn"; Miss Lily Langtry is a great favourite with her bright and catchy songs and smart dancing; Fred Curran sings his quaint ditties in his own inimitable style; an amusing turn is presented by the Two Wheelers (trick cyclists); Fred Bluett is back with a budget of new songs; Miss Fanny Powers gives a series of excellent imitations of well-known artists, while other pleasing items are furnished by Bertha Stuart, Brown and Robinson, Baby Watson, Hilda Lane, and Post Mason.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—New artists are continually being added to the programme at this popular place of amusement. Saturday evening saw the first appearance of the Driscoll Brothers, patter comedians, who instantly established themselves as popular favourites with their amusing turn. Mr. Tom Tepuni, Maori vocalist, is also a newcomer who is likely to prove a strong draw here. He is possessed of a fine voice, which he uses to good advantage in several pleasing ballads. Other artists appearing with success include Frank King, the Smith Sisters, Wise and Milton, the Medoras, Pearl Lovell, Lulu Eugene, Con Carroll, James Craydon, Ernest Pitcher, and Addie Barton. Excellent pictures are shown by the Miorama.

SYDNEY, JAN. 18.—Mr. J. C. Williamson revived *The Merry Widow* at Her Majesty's Theatre on the 15th, the Sonia being Miss Florence Young. Miss Young is, first and foremost, a very fine singer, and she made the music her great feature. She was vivacious and forceful, and her performance hit the public, as everything does when undertaken by the deservedly popular Australienne. Miss Elinor Knight, a beautiful newcomer from London, took a front place in playgoers' esteem as Olga; and Miss Nellie Wilson once more made a success as Natalie. Miss Fanny Dango, indisposed, is resting, and so Miss Tilly Woodlock is seen as Fi Fi. Mr. Andrew Higginson adds another excellent portrait to his stage art gallery as Prince Danilo. Mr. Victor Gouriet is Baron Popoff, and that means all that the part can accomplish. Mr. Arthur Hunter as the Waiter is good; and Mr. Reginald Roberts, Mr. Claude Bantock, and D. B. O'Connor are in their old places. Mrs. George Lauri made her first appearance since her husband's death, and her Paaskova was an item in the general success. Mr. Arthur McCunn conducted the orchestra.

THE Clark and Meynell rendering of *The Girl Behind the Counter* is still booming, and no hint is heard or seen of her successor.

MR. JULIUS KNIGHT and Miss Beatrice Day are drawing Royal houses to see them in *A Royal Divorce*, but next Saturday *The Lion and the Mouse* will be staged, with Miss Katharine Gray in the leading female rôle.

MR. HUGH J. WARD and his clever companions in fun manufacture have crowded houses to see and hear *A Bachelor's Honeymoon*, the most laughable farce in their répertoire.

THE Tivoli has a splendid new turn, given by the Brothers Martine, whose acrobatic work is marvellously clever and seductive. The comic portion is unusually attractive. Franco Piper, who juggles with banjo, mandoline, and cognate instruments, keeps Harry Rickards' patrons in a state of wild enthusiasm. Mrs. Robert Fitzgerald is a vivacious and cultured soprano, and, like her pugilistic husband, very popular. Fred Graham and wife (Nellie Dent) are at all times most artistic in their sketches—not one dull moment during their stage tenure.

WEST'S PICTURES, at the Glaciarium, now include several taken by Pathé Brothers, by arrangement with the Commonwealth Government, as also every new subject on arrival from London.

SPENCER'S Theatrescope at the Lyceum now gives a series of films taken during Lord Kitchener's visit to this state. These are capitally taken by Mr. Spencer himself, and interest those who did, or did not, see the great War Lord on his visit of inspection.

PROFESSIONALS who have visited Sydney will learn with regret of the death of Mr. Philip Sheridan, manager of the famous Sydney cricket ground. He died on the 14th, aged 77.

SYDNEY, JAN. 25.—The event of the week has been the Williamson production of *The Lion and the Mouse* at the Royal. It is far and away the cleverest written play of the decade, and the crowded house was held in thrall by the intensity of its interest. Mr. Julius Knight, hitherto engaged in portraying romantic heroes, exhibited an unexpected element of forceful finesse, which lifted him up many rungs in the thespian ladder. The autocratic money king, John Burkett Ryder, requires all the resources of the actor's art. His remorseless crushing of all obstacles—human or otherwise—to his nefarious greed, his love for his own kith and kin, and his acknowledgment of a rival keen intellect, these make opportunities, and Mr. Julius Knight seized, used, and revelled in them all. Companioned to him is a new American actress, Miss Katharine Grey, who leaped in one night into the playgoers' affections, and has made the box-office busy. Miss Grey depicts Shirley Rossmore very perfectly. Miss Katharine Grey has won the praise of the Press, the applause of the men, and the love of the women, who waited outside the theatre to crave flowers from her splendid floral tributes. A new English actor, Mr. Langford Kirby, was the financier's son and the heroine's *fiancé*. His *début* in Australia was a decided success. Mr. Leslie Victor is the victimised Judge; and Miss Alma Vaughan is his beautiful wife. Miss Susie Vaughan distinguishes herself as John Burkett Ryder's wife; Miss Bessie Major is an interesting maidservant; the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, an English aristocrat, who is Ryder's private secretary, is capitally done by Mr. Sydney Sterling; and a strident character is made by Mr. Winter Hall of Senator Roberts.

MELBOURNE, JAN. 25.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—Full houses nightly follow Mr. Williamson's gorgeous pantomime *Aladdin* with keen enjoyment. Several new songs have been introduced since the opening night, and all the actors has settled down into their various parts and keep the fun merrily going.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Mr. William Anderson's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, has now been running for five weeks, but it is still drawing well.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Meynell and Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—There has been no doubt about the success of *Count Hannibal*, in which Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are appearing. Saturday evening saw a packed house, who followed every exciting incident in this highly romantic play with keen interest. *Count Hannibal* will be the last production of the present Oscar Asche-Lily Brayton season.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—"Boom" conditions rule here at present. Mlle. De Dio is undoubtedly a great attraction, her pretty entertainment satisfying the most exacting patron. This performance is divided into four sections, and each meets with approbation. The Wille Brothers' thrilling act also is just to the taste of lovers of perfection in acrobatics. Other "star" performers are Miss Lily Langtry, Mr. Fred Curran, Messrs. Brown and Robinson, and the Wheelers; while excellent turns are given by Ted Anderson, Post Mason, Fred Bluett, Fanny Powers, Baby Watson, and Hilda Lane.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Excellent business is being done at this theatre. A generous programme is provided just now by the Hedleys, Driscoll Brothers, the Medoras, Lulu Eugene, the Smith Sisters, Frank King, Pearl Lovell, Lucy Lavinia, Ernest Pitcher, James Craydon, Addie Barton, and Will Wynand. Excellent pictures are shown by the Miorama.

WEST'S Picture Palace is nightly thronged by large crowds, who thoroughly enjoy the fine series of pictures displayed. Excellent music is provided by West's Military Band.

MESSRS TAIT should feel highly gratified with the business doing at the Glaciarium, where they are presenting an exceptionally fine series of moving pictures. On Saturday evening there was a complete change of programme, which was fully appreciated by full houses.

HOYT'S Pictures at St. George's Hall and the World's Pictures at the Bijou Theatre, continue to attract good business. A feature of the former show is the fine music provided by an efficient ladies' band.

THERE have been many notable "last nights" at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, but none can have surpassed in heartfelt enthusiasm of the last performance of *Jack and Jill* on Saturday. Big receptions were extended to all the clever performers, and loud cheers were given at the close for Mr. John Hart and the popular Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont. Mr. Henry Dean, the veteran musical conductor, who has officiated here since 1876, was not forgotten. Miss Ella Retford, the dashing principal boy, Miss Josie Delaine, the piquant and graceful Jill, and all the other ladies whose charm and talent have brightened the pantomime received presents and beautiful bouquets, and the ladies and children of the well-trained corps de ballet had chocolates showered upon them. Mr. Charles Norton, the débonnair King and talented mimic, was greeted with uproarious applause and shouts of "the old firm!" on his entrance, and received tangible expressions of esteem and regard from some of his local admirers. The smart and resourceful

"THE ARTFULNESS OF ADA."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Shirley, Produced at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, on Monday, Feb. 28.

Ada Byron Bruce ..... Miss Madge Crichton
Robt. Byron Bruce ..... Mr. Frank Tennant
Mrs. Glynne ..... Miss Valerie Crespin
Mrs. Googlie ..... Miss Kate Kearney
Lucy ..... Miss Ethel Hart
Fred Spencer ..... Mr. J. F. Knowles
Tom Senoakes ..... Mr. Alick Chumley
Jopling ..... Mr. Thomas Sidney
McClosky ..... Miss Nellie Shirley
Colonel Duval ..... Mr. Stanley B. Farbridge

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The first act of this play opens in the home of Mr. Byron Bruce, a London actor-manager with an excitable little wife, Ada, who, going out of curiosity to see a Suffragette "raid" on the Government Offices in Downing-street, has been accidentally arrested by the police in place of a militant member of the "Votes for Women" contingent, and formally charged with breaking the Prime Minister's windows. This she well knows is likely to prove disastrous to her husband's chances, as he is expecting to be knighted by the King, and the authorities could scarcely recommend a celebrity to the notice of his Majesty at the very time his wife was standing in the prisoners' dock. Realising the awkwardness of her position, the artful Ada resorts to a mild deception that, merely entailing a few fibs at first, ultimately brings down upon her head an avalanche of disasters, mostly comic in their effect but dreadfully distressing for her to bear. A self-satisfied lady friend, one Jane Googlie, has secretly undertaken to bail out the offender, who has had the foresight to give a false name at the police court, and when the curtain rises the unlucky Ada finds herself under the necessity of surrendering that morning to her bail, with the probability of getting at least a month's imprisonment "without the option" for her escapade. Not daring to tell her indulgent husband the truth, she invents a plausible story of being invited to go away on a motor run through Spain, and at the end of the first act departs with forced gaiety, ostensibly to take a pleasant trip, but really to spend a month in gaol unknown to her husband or her friends.

In the second act we find the artful Ada incarcerated in Holloway Prison, where the head matron happens to be a "first-nighter," a matinée idol-worshipper and ardent admirer of Mr. Byron Bruce, the celebrated star actor, and darling of all the ladies. Mr. Senoakes, a persistent adorer of Ada's sister, penetrates within the precincts of the prison, and is promptly detained there for his pains, and the horrified Ada is put on "bread and water" for insubordination. In Act 3 the now desperate wife of Byron Bruce being released, returns to her home, and, of course, has to dilate upon the joys and beauties of Spain, a country she has never visited, and thereby weaves a further net of falsehood, not only arousing her husband's suspicions, but finally enmeshing herself hopelessly in an endless net of prevarication and deceit. The ridiculous manœuvres of her zealous but stupid friend, Jane Googlie, to cover up the foreign trip fraud merely serve to precipitate the denouement until the final crash comes, when, after an open confession to her husband, pardon is granted, and the longed-for title opportunely comes to settle the difficulties of the excitable Ada, a series of most amusing situations that succeed each other with unexpected rapidity.

Miss Madge Crichton made the most of Ada Byron Bruce, and extracted all the fun possible out of the part. Miss Crichton is to be congratulated on the personal success she made, her charming and vivacious acting calling forth continual outbursts of applause, and the enthusiasm that followed the final descent of the curtain was due to her spirited performance rather than to the author of the play. Miss Crichton is supported by an efficient cast, who make the very best of the poor parts created by the author.

The Artfulness of Ada was received with hearty laughter and applause. The piece was admirably acted. Miss Madge Crichton as Ada Byron Bruce played the part for all that it was worth, and made a decided success; Miss Kate Kearney as Mrs. Googlie gave a really funny rendering, and created much laughter; Miss Valerie Crespin as Mrs. Glynne was worthy of warm praise; Miss Ethel Hart as Lucy gave a charming performance; Miss Nellie Shirley as McClosky hit off the characteristics of that individual cleverly; Mr. Frank Tennant as Robert Byron Bruce put plenty of energy into his rendering; Mr. J. F. Knowles as Fred Spencer was full of smartness and spirit; Mr. Alick Chumley gave a humorous impersonation of Tom Sennoaks; and Mr. Thomas Sidney and Mr. Stanley B. Farbridge as Jopling and Colonel Duval filled those parts most satisfactorily.

Before Mr. E. Leadam Hough, senior official receiver, on Tuesday, the first meeting of creditors was held under the failure of Frederick Hewson Coppin, comedian, formerly of Richmond Park-road, Kingston-on-Thames. Although the debtor filed his own petition, it appeared that he had not yet attended upon the official receiver, as he was engaged in the provinces. He was believed to have no assets, and consented to an order of adjudication. The case remained in the official receiver's hands.

Mr. James Welch was the only one to remember—or, at any rate, to remark on—the parallel between the belief of Chantecler in M. Rostand's piece that the sun's rise depended on his morning song, and the quip quoted by a character in "Adam Bede" as having been spoken by the immortal Mrs. Poyser—"that Craig is like a cock who thinks the sun gets up every morning to see him crow." Mr. Welch introduced this observation into his lecture on "Fools" at the Criterion Restaurant last Sunday week. Mr. Welch is a warm admirer of George Eliot, whom he considers far superior to most modern novelists.

Mr. Neil Kenyon writes from the Grand Theatre, Glasgow:—"Re my friend Mr. Jack O'Connor's challenge, published to-day, my argument was on the buoyancy of sea and fresh water. I still insist that the match should be swum in the sea, but if Mr. Jack likes, and the authorities allow it, I will swim the match in the Clyde, from Jamaica Bridge to Clyde-street Ferry. As I am informed the river will soon permit of salmon fishing, this will suit his fresh-water ideas. Apart from joking, I suggest that the match be swum at the Red Rocks, Fort Matilda, at an early date."

In the production of *Ivanhoe* at Covent Garden on Tuesday the Ashby-de-la-Zouch tournament will be realistically represented. Twelve horses take part in it, and there will be a realistic conflagration in the scene showing the attack on the castle. So heavy is the first set of scenery that a hundred extra hands have been engaged. The production has cost £5,000. When the curtain goes up on the tourney scene the audience will see a careful reproduction of the tournament held in honour of Prince John at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The oaks and elms of Sherwood Forest stretch far away in the distance, and in front is the dais of the Prince, decorated in the Royal colours, a blaze of gold and scarlet. Opposite is the richly-decorated tent of Font de Bœuf and the tents of the Knights Templar. The horses will really gallop at each other, and the shock of the combat will be startling. The hall in Cedric's house in Act 1, which is painted by Mr. Harry Emden, will be a marvel of apparent solidity.

MR. FRED CARPENTER.

Mr. Fred Carpenter, whose portrait appears below, is chairman of Popular Playhouses, Ltd., the lessees of the Lyceum Theatre, and is also chairman of Carpenter's Theatre, Ltd., which owns the Theatre Royal, Bristol, and several other places of entertainment.

He is the sole surviving brother of the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter, who had such a great deal to do with the success of these various theatres. Mr. Carpenter's family has been interested in the stage for a great many years, and Mr. Fred Carpenter has always been closely associated with his brother and financially interested in their various enterprises.

He has had a long and varied business experience, having been director of several large concerns in the Midlands, in addition to the theatrical ventures above-mentioned; but since the Lyceum Theatre started he has been drawn more and more into the theatrical world, and has now many enterprises on his hands. He is still, however, associated with other business, being chairman of Carpenter and Warren, Ltd., the well-known advertising agents at Kingsway.

The wide field covered by Mr. Carpenter's many enterprises compels him to be ubiquitous. One day he may be found at the Lyceum, another at the Westminster Palace, next at his Aldwych advertising business, or perhaps at the Theatre Royal, Bristol. For instance, on Thursday last, the Theatre Royal, Bristol, was visited in state by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Mr. Sheriff and Mrs. Riseley, and many other members of the Corporation, the occasion forming a notable landmark in the history of the

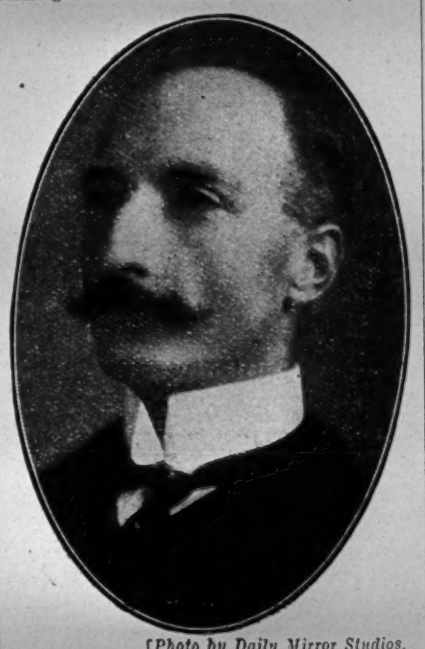

[*Photo by Daily Mirror Studios.*

MR. F. W. CARPENTER.

old theatre, and a tribute to the success attained by this year's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. The visitors were received on arrival by Mr. Fred Carpenter. At the close of the performance they expressed their thorough enjoyment of the whole show. During one of the scenes Mr. Fred Carpenter made a short speech, welcoming the Chief Magistrate of the City and his colleagues, in which he said that the occasion added to his pride in the old theatre and the great associations connected therewith. He also announced that next year's pantomime would be *Dick Whittington*, and that one of the strongest companies ever seen in the theatre had been engaged, including several old favourites.

"LA FETE CHEZ THERESE."

Ballet, in Two Acts, by Catulle Mendès, Music by Reynaldo Hahn, Produced at the Paris Opéra, on Dec. 16.

Mimi ..... Mlle. Zambelli
La Duchesse ..... Mlle. Aida Bona
La Folie ..... Mlle. Meunier
Arkequine ..... Mlle. Johnson
Carlotta Grisi ..... Mlle. Urban
Théodore ..... M. Gilles
Gilles ..... M. Aveline
Arelquin ..... M. Ricaux
Beltrava ..... M. Cleret

When the curtain rose on *La Fête chez Thérèse* and the first notes of M. Reynaldo's score were heard, the audience looked decidedly happy. Nor was it surprising. We have had the new art movement that gave us crooked and distorted furniture. We have had the impressionist school of painting that sent many of us into a madhouse. We have had plays without a vestige of plot, and as to the "music of the day," whence the slightest melody is severely expunged, the poor public has been asking itself for a long time past how many more months it is going to last. If I make those remarks it is because the above ballet was preceded by *La Forêt*, by M. Savard, and described in the bill as a two-act musical legend. Anything more dreary, more dull cannot be imagined. The composer had centred his whole attention on the orchestration, which, indeed, was masterful, yet did not compensate for the endless tirades that sent the public to sleep. It was "modern music" in all its dismal glory! Fortunately, M. Reynaldo Hahn struck another chord. His score is melodious, full of charm, and the good people in the house heaved a sigh of relief. For once they had what they would call a "tune," and they felt happy. The story, too, is pretty. In the opening tableau, in the shop of Mme. Palmyre, a dressmaker, the work-girls—all in the quaint 1830 dress—are busy at work. Enters Carlotta Grisi, the famous dancer. At the request of the girls she not only dances a *pas seul*, but teaches that step to Mimi, one of the employees, who dreams of joining the ballet. In the second tableau we see a fête at the house of the Duchesse Thérèse. That lady has fallen in love with Théodore, Mimi's sweetheart. Mimi is heartbroken, but she musters up courage, and implores the Duchesse not to rob her of Théodore, whereupon the Duchesse magnanimously induces her admirer to return to Mimi. The ballet was magnificently staged, and Mlle. Zambelli as Mimi scored a huge triumph.

Mr. F. R. Benson, as most actors are aware, is a keen athlete. He was on tour once, and wanted a certain actor in London to play the part of Rugby in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, so he wired: "Can you play Rugby? If so, come at once." In a few minutes came the reply: "Arrive at 4 p.m. Played half-back for Stratford."

Mr. Henry George Hibbert, the editor of the *Music Hall* and the London correspondent of the *New York Clipper*, has contributed to the finely illustrated number which that paper published on its fifty-seventh anniversary last month, a scholarly article on "The Circus in England." The information it contains ranges from Banks's performing horse to the enterprises of Hengler and Howes and Cushing; and the essay is embellished with four excellent blocks.

SACRED CONCERTS.

Before Mr. Justice Bucknill and a Common Jury in the King's Bench Division on Wednesday was heard an action brought by Mr. Henry Bernhardt, concert conductor, of Regent-street, against the Popular Playhouses (Limited) to recover damages for alleged breach of contract, under which the plaintiff said that the defendants agreed to let him have the use of the Lyceum Theatre on the evening of last Good Friday for the purpose of holding a sacred concert. The defendants denied liability.

Mr. E. F. Lever appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Holman Gregory represented the defendants.

Mr. Lever, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said that his client put himself into communication with the defendants' managers and offered £50 for the use of the Lyceum Theatre for last Good Friday evening. The defendants accepted Mr. Bernhardt's offer, provided that the concert was of a distinctly sacred character, and that it would not interfere with the terms of their lease. Mr. Bernhardt did not care for the reference to the lease, and he wrote to the defendants, who replied that he could have the theatre for the evening for £50, on condition that the concert was of a sacred character. Mr. Bernhardt then proceeded to engage a number of well-known artists, including Miss Marie Tempest, Mrs. Lewis Waller, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Hortens Paulsen, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Bransby Williams, and Mr. E. Hedmont, and to have posters printed and circulated.

Shortly before Good Friday, said counsel, Mr. Bernhardt received a letter from the defendants stating that they had only consented to let the theatre for a sacred concert, that by engaging Mr. Lionel Brough and Mr. Bransby Williams Mr. Bernhardt would place them and their property in a very serious position, and that the arrangement to let the theatre must be considered at an end. The objections to Mr Lionel Brough and Mr. Bransby Williams being engaged for a sacred concert were absurd. The former was well known to the public as a reciter of Shakespeare, and the latter as a reciter of Dickens, and both could give entertainments to which the absolute purist or the strictest thinker could not take exception. Later the defendants stated that the concert could not be regarded as of a strictly sacred nature, that the Lord Chamberlain's licence prevented the theatre being opened on Good Friday, and that in the circumstances it would be illegal to hold the entertainment. Mr. Bernhardt hurriedly took the Crown Theatre, Peckham, and arranged that certain of the artists should appear there. Miss Marie Tempest, who received 50 guineas for two songs, went to the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, and Miss Constance Collier, who was paid 20 guineas, agreed to go to the Pier Theatre, Brighton.

Mr. Bernhardt gave evidence in support of counsel's opening statement. He added that he paid Miss Marie Tempest 50 guineas, Miss Constance Collier 20 guineas, Hortens Paulsen 15 guineas, and Mr. Hedmont 10 guineas. Mr. Hedmont's fee was 15 guineas, but he took 10 guineas as he would not appear at any place but the Lyceum. He estimated his general damages at from £250 to £300.

Mrs. Lewis Waller gave evidence, and said that she was engaged for this performance at the Lyceum.

Mr. Lever: You know Mr. Brough and Mr. Williams. Are they capable of giving performances satisfactory for audiences in England to hear on Good Friday.—Mrs. Waller: Oh, positively.

His Lordship observed that he saw by the bill announcing the concert that Mrs. Waller was going to perform, and he inquired what she was going to do.

Mrs. Waller: I was going to give "How Harry won the Victoria Cross."

Mr. Richard Temple gave corroborative evidence. He said that Mr. Brough was a character-actor, and a good low comedian. The witness had heard Mr. Bransby Williams recite serious pieces in evening dress and at a variety theatre put on costume to add to the effect.

What were you going to do?—I proposed to recite one of the Psalms of David. It is one I have done with great success. I think it is Psalm 51. It is the one known as the "Miserere."

Mr. Gregory, for the defendants, submitted that there was no case to answer here. He submitted that the contract was unenforceable, as the defendants had no licences for concerts on Sundays. It was only a theatre, and they had no power to let it for Sunday performances.

The case was resumed on Thursday, when Mr. H. R. Smith, the managing-director of the defendant company, described the result of a visit he and Mr. Ernest Carpenter paid to the Lord Chamberlain's office. They were told the Lord Chamberlain only granted permission for the opening of the theatre on Good Friday, Christmas Day, and the Lord's Day on the following conditions: That the proposed entertainment was a bona-fide charity, and not for profit or gain in the ordinary way of business; also that two representatives of the charity should enter into a bond with the Lord Chamberlain to have all the accounts properly audited and to abide by these rules. The theatre was closed on Good Friday, and the company had lost the £50 which the plaintiff was prepared to pay for the use of the theatre.

Mr. Lever: Did you think it was wrong that Mr. Bransby Williams and Mr. Lionel Brough should appear?—No. My partner (the late Mr. Carpenter) took a much wider view. These are all first-class artists, and it was only the fact that we were afraid they would jeopardise our licence.

When the plaintiff wrote asking for the theatre for a sacred concert, the defendants replied that they were thinking of something of the kind. Witness now explained that had reference to a religious service to be given by the West London Mission. The Lord Chamberlain had allowed them to let the theatre for a purely religious service.

Mr. Frederick Carpenter, chairman of the company, also gave evidence, and questions were put to the jury by his lordship and answered as follows:—

(1) Did Mr. Carpenter tell the plaintiff before the letter of March 19 that everything was in order about the lease?—Yes.

(2) Or about the Lord Chamberlain's licence?—No.

(3) Did plaintiff know that the Lyceum, being a theatre, was not licensed for a concert on Good Friday?—No.

(4) Was it agreed that the Lord Chamberlain's consent should be a condition precedent to the contract?—No.

(5) Damages?—£110.

His lordship adjourned the arguments upon these findings.

Opera is to make further advances at His Majesty's, where on April 12 Miss Marie Brema revives Glück's *Orpheus* (in English) for six matinées. Miss Brema, who is renowned for her impersonation of the title-rôle in London, Paris, and Brussels musical circles, will appear as the grief-stricken lover, and Miss Viola Tree will be the Eurydice. Miss Margaret Morris, of the Isidor Duncan school, will execute the Hellenic dances, besides training the ballet in the lovely classical movements which are a feature of the immortal work. Miss Morris, by the way, also made the sketches for the scenery from Miss Brema's plans, and the costumes are being copied from Greek works of art. Michael Balling, the famous Beyreuth conductor, will direct the orchestra.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. JAMES CARR.

The present resident-manager of Mr. Charles Dare's Empire Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, Mr. James Carr, has had an adventurous career. Born at Tunbridge Wells, and educated in England, he and his family hazarded their fortunes in the States. Success as a soloist in the choir of the principal Catholic church in New York, suggested the lyric stage as a career. On Miss Mary Anderson's return to America from her first English triumphs Mr. Carr was engaged for the quartet in the revival of *As You Like It* at the Star Theatre, New York. This led to an engagement in one of the first productions of Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's *Mikado*. Then came a long tour with the J. M. Hill Opera Company and an interlude as a member of the Star Trio.

A new departure was a successful appearance as Side Dobbe in the musical comedy *Muggs' Landing*. Then Mr. Carr came to England again with the Christiana Minstrels, opening at the Comedy Theatre, Manchester. An important engagement as interlocutor ensued with Moore and Burgess, and was followed by a long tour with the Greater New York Comedy Four, and a never-to-be-forgotten association with Messrs. Barnum and Bailey as stage-manager of the concert department during a European and Transatlantic itinerary.

In fact, Mr. James Carr "knows the ropes." He has few foibles besides his profession; perhaps he prefers pedestrianism to any other pursuit. He has only been a short time in Douglas, but in that brief period he has made many friends, and is *persona grata* to the large *clientèle* who frequent the Empire Theatre during the dreary winter

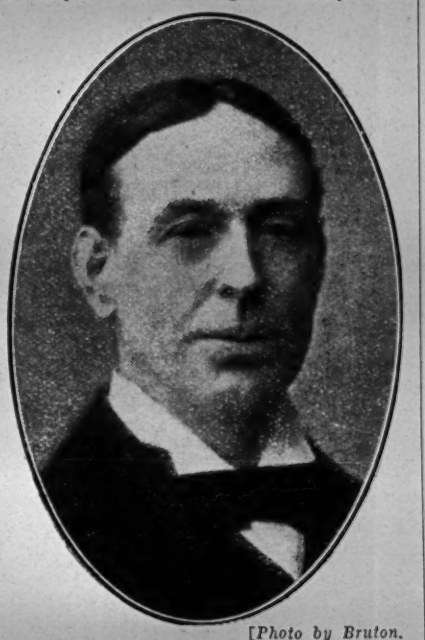

[*Photo by Bruton.*

MR. JAMES CARR.

months in Douglas. Mr. Carr has been associated with Mr. Charles Dare in various artistic enterprises for many years, including a special visit to Vienna.

"JACK AND JILL" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Early in the year reports reached Birmingham that the *Jack and Jill* pantomime at Sheffield was breaking all previous records in the cutlery city. Mr. J. F. Graham, of the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, was delighted with the production, and Messrs. Howard and Wyndham having made arrangements to withdraw *The Babes in the Wood* last Saturday after a successful nine weeks' run, he decided to bring *Jack and Jill* to Birmingham for a fortnight. His enterprise has already been fully justified, the theatre having been packed at every performance this week.

Jack and Jill is full of life and "go" from beginning to end. There are several very pretty scenes, and a feast of genuine wholesome pantomime fun is provided. The songs are well chosen and excellently rendered, dances are gracefully executed, and the costumes are exceptionally smart. The company, without exception, is an excellent one. As Jack Miss Ella Retford is a performer full of vivacity and resource. She looks exceedingly pretty in her various costumes, and she sings and dances with remarkable skill. She has several catchy songs, including "Molly O'Morgan," and she appears to advantage in a duet, "I like your way," with Jill (Miss Jessie Delaine). Miss Delaine also sings and dances prettily, and is highly successful in her number "The little girl from nowhere." Miss Connie Haydon is a pretty and attractive young lady, and makes an admirable Prince; and the rôle of Patty, the Princess's maid, is ably sustained by Miss Winnie Haytor. The "funny men" work well together, and a striking success is scored by Mr. Albert Le Fre. His Walker is excellent, and an inimitable piece of fooling. He is a quaint character, and the audience simply roar with laughter at his funny stories and eccentricities. One could not wish to see a better Dame than Mr. Jack Cromo. He presents the exaggerated dress fashions with great effect, and his Dame is a masterpiece. The Haytors as the King's handy men are responsible for some smart comedy business, and keep the audience in merry mood. Warm praise is due to Mr. Charles Norton, who makes a very animated King. In the racecourse scene he is repeatedly encored for his clever impersonations of Joe Elvin as the bookmaker, and other well-known "stars" who appear to make hits. Miss Nellie Bindon is a winsome Fairy, and her song "Love rules the world" is one of the outstanding features of the production. Mr. Fred Hudson, the Demon, sings "Revenge I cry" with excellent effect. The ballet is splendidly arranged under the direction of Mme. E. Louie.

The thirty-ninth annual general meeting of the corporation of the Royal Albert Hall was held on Monday, with the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery (the president) in the chair. In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said that, after wiping off £2,144 for depreciation, renewals, &c., the revenue account showed a credit balance of £432. The expenditure on repairs during the year had again been very heavy, amounting to £1,972, whilst the deposit on rentals for 1910 amounted to £301. The total estimated expenditure for the year had been £7,825, which included £5,975 for the maintenance of the hall. Towards the expenditure the council recommended a seat rate of £2 per seat, which amounted to £2,682. During the past eight years the very large sum of £13,968 had been expended on various works, in addition to the ordinary cost of efficiently keeping the hall in repair. It must be remembered that the hall was opened thirty-nine years ago, and they had now come to the time when they began to feel the effects of wear and tear. Mr. Ernest De la Rue seconded the adoption of the report, which was unanimously adopted. At a statutory meeting held subsequently a seat rate of £2 per seat for 1910 was approved.

"Scene Painters of the Past" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE ALDBOURNE VILLAGE THEATRE.

The charming village of Aldbourne, which lies sheltered by the Wiltshire Downs, is the proud possessor of a theatre, thanks to the enterprise and kindness of Mr. Charles McEvoy, a gentleman who resides at Aldbourne, and is the author of several plays.

The theatre, which was formerly a disused malt-house, adjoins Mr. McEvoy's residence, and has seating accommodation for about 150 persons. The stage is substantially built, and has been fitted up with proscenium, drop curtain, footlights, roomy wings, &c. Provision has also been made for scenic and limelight effects. The orchestra seats are so arranged that the musicians do not obstruct the view of the audience, and access to the orchestra is made through an entrance under the stage.

The opening of the theatre took place on Saturday afternoon last, when, in the presence of a large and influential company, Mr. Granville Barker (with whom was seated on the stage Mr. Bernard Shaw and Mr. McEvoy) in a graceful speech declared the theatre open.

This pleasing ceremony was followed by the performance, by the Aldbourne village players, local ladies and gentlemen, of a new cottage drama in three acts, from the pen of Mr. McEvoy, entitled

"THE VILLAGE WEDDING."

Sarah Picter ..... Miss Mabel Hedges
Robert Beal ..... Mr. Charles Martin
Daisy Picter ..... Miss Alice Cook
Fanny Picter ..... Miss Edith Palmer
Polly Saunders ..... Miss Lilian Lake
Lizzie Beal ..... Miss Agnes Stroud
Dick Strong ..... Mr. Edward Hawkins
William Picter ..... Mr. George Jerram
George Hicks ..... Mr. Charles Tucker
Albert Black ..... Mr. John Orchard
A Tramp ..... Mr. William Freemantle

The scene of the drama is Robert Beal's cottage, and the action opens with the assembling of villagers preparing to depart for the church, where a wedding between Lizzie Beal and George Hicks is to be solemnised. Whilst the wedding is taking place Robert, who has been left behind owing to his infirmity, is soliloquising, and a tramp named Albert Black calls, asking for help, and eventually is admitted. Beer is partaken of freely, and the wedding being the topic of conversation, Robert tells the tramp the story of one Dan, who has been in Canada many years, but previous to his going had buried his wife, and had left his suit of black clothes in Robert's care. Black finds out where these clothes are kept, and whilst Robert is dozing, owing to his imbibing too freely, the tramp fetches them and makes a hasty exit.

In the evening the wedding party are keeping up the festivities; and in the midst of the proceedings, Black turns up dressed in the stolen suit, introduces himself as a relative of Dan's from Canada, and is made welcome. At the breaking up of the party, George's friends persuade him to go with them for a midnight ramble in the woods in search of birds; and Black being invited to join them, Lizzie is left at home in an unhappy frame of mind.

At three o'clock next morning Black returns, and finding Lizzie, who has been waiting up, alone, informs her that her husband and his friends have been arrested for poaching. Taking advantage of the situation, he tries to kiss her. Her father, who had retired to rest early in the evening, hearing screams, comes downstairs with a rifle in his hands, and threatens to shoot Black if he moves. Black, putting up his hands, is kept in that position until the arrival of George and his friends, who had been released because of their help in putting out a fire, and they proceed to deal with the intruder, ultimately giving him a minute to change the clothes and get away, which he does. Lizzie and George become good friends again, and the piece ends.

Great praise is due to Mr. McEvoy, to the stage-manager, Mr. William Freemantle, and his assistant, Mr. G. Notley, for their efforts, and also for the admirable cottage setting and effects, which were very realistic. The Aldbourne Village Band occupied the orchestra, and gave some pleasing selections during the intervals. At the conclusion the author was called, and thanked the audience for their kind reception of the drama.

THE RICHELIEU FIASCO.

At the Bow-street Police-court on Tuesday Mr. Robert Hilton was summoned, before Mr. Marsham, for not paying the wages due to seventeen stage hands engaged at the Strand Theatre during the "run" of *Richelieu*, which only lasted a few nights. Mr. Appleton appeared for the complainants; Mr. H. Curtis-Bennett and Mr. Edward Duke watched the case on behalf of interested parties. The defendant was not present. Mr. Appleton asked the magistrate to allow the cases to stand adjourned for two reasons. In the first place the summonses had not been served. His second reason for making the application was that since he applied for the summonses, he discovered that for the purpose of producing *Richelieu* at the Strand Theatre a company was formed called Cleodan, Ltd. It was registered on Feb. 2, and it is a proprietary company formed under table A, with certain exceptions. There are two signatories—Miss Mabilla Daniels and Mr. Arthur C. Thread, who is described as a box-office manager—and they each hold one £1 share.

There was, said Mr. Appleton, a document filed at the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, which gave a list of the directors and managers as follows:—Lord Clifford of Chudleigh; Mr. Alfred Farquhar, of Belgrave Square; Mr. Robert Hilton (the defendant), The Cottages, Little Stanhope-street; Mr. Harry Robert Wilkinson, of Hotham-road, Putney, theatrical manager; and Mr. Harry L. Raphael, of South Villas, Camden Town. That company being on the file, and an authentic return having been made of responsible persons, Mr. Appleton said he would have to reconsider his position with regard to the proceedings on behalf of the men. There were claims against the defendant by musicians, who were engaged at the theatre, and by actors, supernumeraries, and others. Mr. Marsham said Mr. Appleton would have to take action in a civil court.

Mr. Curtis-Bennett said he wished to say that until Feb. 25 Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, on whose behalf he attended the court, had no idea that his name had been connected in any way with this company. If his name appeared on the file at Somerset House it had been put there by someone without his sanction. He had nothing whatever to do with the company, and on receiving a letter from Mr. Johnson, the secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, telling him that his name appeared as a director, he wrote back at once saying that he knew nothing about the company, and desiring that that should be made known at the earliest possible moment. If he had been connected with the company he would, of course, have met his liabilities. Mr. Appleton said the return was signed by the defendant as manager. Mr. Marsham marked the register "summonses not served," and said Mr. Appleton might mention the matter to him again if necessary.

Signor Grasso and Madame Bragaglia, of the Sicilian players, will hold a reception on the stage of the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, when they will receive a number of their personal admirers. The company will wear native costumes, and a picturesque and animated assembly may be expected.

"THE PURSE OF GOLD."

A Comedy in One Act, by J. Sackville Martin, Produced for the First Time on any stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 28.

Mr. Tom Naylor .....MR. LEONARD MUDIE
Mrs. Naylor .....MISS HILDA DAVIES
Mr. Astley .....MR. MONTAGUE ELPHINSTONE
Mr. Barker .....MR. STANLEY DREWITT
Mr. Gregory .....MR. EDWARD LANDOR
Mr. Thompson .....MR. GILBERT CLARK
Mr. Miller .....MR. FRANCIS HOPE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Dr. J. Sackville Martin, who has contributed quite a number of small successes to the répertoire of the Gaiety Theatre company at Manchester, shows considerable shrewdness and observation of character in his latest, *The Purse of Gold*. The scene is the office of Mr. Astley, a young solicitor, who has invited Mr. Barker and Mr. Gregory to wait upon him at a given hour. Barker is the first to arrive, and Astley explains to him the details of a scheme he has in hand for the benefit of one Tom Naylor, who has fallen on evil days through illness and misfortune, and who is about to leave the town to try his luck elsewhere. The scheme is in the form of a purse of gold, to which already about £20 has been subscribed by a number of friends and sympathisers. Astley's idea is to make it ninety, and he therefore proposes that Barker and Gregory shall each add £5, this being the amount he has himself contributed. Barker is rather dubious about giving quite so much, but eventually yields to persuasion. When Gregory comes, the same argument is gone through, and he also yields, rather more freely than his friend, until Astley, having for a few moments left the room, and the subscription list being put into the second-comer's hands, the latter observes that Mr. Miller is down for a sovereign only. Gregory's remarks upon this are curiously natural and amusing to hear; both he and Barker feel they have been victimised to the extent of £4 each, or that Miller should have contributed the same as themselves. On the score of Mr. Astley's generosity, however, they are agreed. It is a fine thing for Astley to have done, considering that he is already a heavy loser by Tom Naylor, having bought a £70 debt against him from a third person, previous to the change in his fortunes. When Astley reappears there is some discussion as to who shall make the presentation speech, which is eventually relegated to Barker, who has a style with him; and as the gift is to be made at once the requisite preparations are made. The next arrivals are Messrs. Thompson and Miller, the former looking like a derelict undertaker, and the latter loud-toned, vulgar, and self-confident. The passages between Gregory and Miller, insinuative of the latter's parsimony and undue importance in the matter compared with the larger subscribers, are richly humorous, and the argument is still going on between them when the four are bundled into a room until Astley shall call upon them, following his reception of Tom Naylor and his wife, who are now due. It is obvious that the latter couple are in a bad way. Naylor looks consumptive, and his wife is heavily laden with anxiety. Both think that Astley has called upon them to come and make some arrangement about the £70 debt. Their surprise and pleasure when the truth is made known effects a great change in their outlook, and when the deputation is called in, and Barker announces the form and extent of their friendly recognition, Naylor can scarcely find words to thank them and the many others they represent. The deputation goes, and Astley leaves husband and wife together for a short time to realise their good fortune and to talk it over. The passages between the couple are intimate and affecting, until, unable to stand the joy of this great kindness any longer, Mrs. Naylor departs, while her husband remains for a few last words with Astley. Now comes the sequel. In response to Naylor's renewed expressions of gratitude, Astley merely remarks that he thought that the object of his solicitude might like to "straighten things up a bit" before going away for good. Naylor, wondering for one brief moment, takes the hint. The revulsion from the prospect of five minutes ago embarrasses his tone and manner. "I don't want you to feel obliged to do it," says Astley; "but if you would like to——" Naylor's feelings leave him no choice. So long as he would like to, therefore, Astley makes him out a receipt for £83, the amount of the old debt with interest; and Naylor, with a balance of £7, dejectedly takes his departure, leaving the empty purse behind him. "Poor chap!" comments Astley, as he places the bulk of the subscriptions in his cash-box.

A very natural and incisive rendering of the solicitor was given by Mr. Montague Elphinstone; Mr. Stanley Drewitt was especially good in making the presentation as Barker, some clever interpolation of cross humour being notable between the speaker and Gregory, who thought to prompt him now and then; in the last-named rôle Mr. Edward Landor showed something of his fine resource as a comedian, and caused plenty of laughter throughout; while Mr. Francis Hope stood out well as the pugnacious Miller, and Mr. Gilbert Clark added to the amusement as Thompson. In the rôles of Naylor and his wife, Mr. Leonard Mudie and Miss Hilda Davies both acted with the right feeling and contributed much to the realism of the play, which, as a whole, may be written down, in spite of the unpleasing issue, as a success.

"THE PRODIGAL'S WELCOME."

A Play, in One Act, by Annie Möller, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Darwen, on Friday, Feb. 25.

Jacques .....MR. J. PITT HARDACRE
Adolph .....MR. H. V. HARVEY
Marguerite .....MME. ANNIE MOLLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A most absorbing story, graphically told. The scene is a lonely cottage on the Brittany coast. Jacques and Marguerite are in great pecuniary trouble, and the next day are to be turned out of their home. After a vain attempt to borrow money, Jacques returns, covered with snow, and drenched to the skin, and dreads to face his wife with the news of his failure. She is a second wife, and she reviles him for dragging her into poverty. In the midst of her recriminations a knock comes at the door. It is a sailor who has been caught in the storm, and who seeks a night's lodging. He foolishly displays his savings, and Marguerite immediately conceives the idea of murdering him. She gives him a drug, and on the lad's retiring, Marguerite forces her husband to do the terrible deed. On the counting of the money, a locket is found, and the discovery is made that Jacques has murdered his own son. In a fit of frenzy he attacks his wife with the knife with which he has just committed the murder; but the excitement is too great, and he falls dead. The authoress played Marguerite with a fine appreciation of the varied emotions of the part; and Mr. H. V. Harvey as her stepson looked and acted the young sailor to the life. The ripe experience of Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre enabled him to impart great interest to the character of Jacques, and he rose to a height of tragic excellence at the end of the play, which brought down the curtain amidst loud and prolonged applause. The success of the piece was undoubted.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your favourable notice of *The Football Match* at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, last week you state that Stiffy, the goalkeeper, was played by Gilbert Childs. The was played (and will be in future) by Yours truly, WILL POLUSKI, JUN."

"THE TALLYMAN."

Comedy, in One Act, by Edward A. Parry, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 28.

Charlotte MacIntyre .....MISS EDYTH GOODALL
Mrs. Gutterage .....MISS ADA KING
John MacIntyre .....MR. CHARLES BIBBY
Angus Grant .....MR. LEONARD MUDIE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A special interest attaches to this latest achievement of Judge Parry, who is well-known to theatre-goers as part-author of *What the Butler Saw*, in that his knowledge of the subject has been derived from his experience on the Bench, and that therefore the play may be taken as embodying more than a little of the truth. It does not, however, ring true in all particulars. One cannot quite believe, for example, in the engine-driver, who is apparently in all other respects a sensible man, desiring that his wife shall do nothing all day but dress finely and read trashy novels about the aristocracy, while the work of the house is done by other women; nor does it seem feasible that a wife who can consent to practice such a life should have it in her to rise to the point which the circumstances of the play prescribe for her at the end. We are shown the wife, Mrs. MacIntyre, smartly attired, reading by the fireside, while Mrs. Gutterage, a typical charwoman drawn from the life, is engaged upon some ironing at the table. Much of the preamble is devoted to sheer comedy characterisation, which is remarkably well done and full of entertainment; but the carking influence of the tallyman soon betrays itself in the allusions of both women to the circumstances of the home. MacIntyre thinks that the dress his wife is wearing has been bought out of household savings, and his wife dare not tell him the truth, though Mrs. Gutterage advises her to do so, and make an end of her secrecy and anxieties. There are other things besides, such as a fan and a watch and chain. Presently the husband comes home, bringing news that he has to attend a meeting of the directors of the railway at one o'clock. It appears likely that this is in view of a possible appointment to drive the royal train on a forthcoming journey; but the sophisticated playgoer knows that it has more to do with MacIntyre's failing eyesight. During his presence in the house Angus Grant, the tallyman, makes a call, and MacIntyre, without ceremony, sends him about his business, following it, unobservant of the embarrassment of his wife, with a homily on the evils of the packman's trade, which induces silly women to run their husbands into debt. Later, however, Grant returns, and gives what one must take as a fine exhibition of the methods of his fraternity in temptation, accommodation, and the general humouring of a possible customer. Even Mrs. MacIntyre, who is already heavily in debt to him, he almost persuades into further speculation; but, finally, she brings these business overtures to an end. There is something ugly in the eye of Angus Grant when he realises that his prey is anxious to escape from his toils. Mrs. Gutterage he has sent out for a jug of beer; and now he brings pressure to bear upon the silly woman who thinks to repudiate him. He soon gets to his point. His desire is to come to see her, whether he does business or not; and if she is agreeable, he will there and then write "Settled" across his account against her. It is to her credit that she casts his suggestion back upon him, and resists him strenuously when he seizes her in his arms. The engine-driver returns at this juncture, floors the transgressor, and afterwards kicks him out. The author shows how easily such a scene might be misinterpreted by a husband; and the idea in MacIntyre's mind is not dissipated until the whole story, with proofs, is placed before him. Then he sees his folly, and his wife begins to see redemption for herself in this clean breast of things. To add to the value of her resolutions, MacIntyre confesses that his eyesight has been tested and found wanting by a medical man before the Board, and he is now to be considered out of employment. On the whole, it seems that the circumstances are likely to make a woman of Mrs. MacIntyre, not the dressed doll of the fireside; and one of the first symptoms of reformation is the discharging of Mrs. Gutterage from the house, save in the capacity of a friend.

Really fine acting distinguished the performance. Miss Ada King as Mrs. Gutterage gave a lifelike impersonation, full of natural touches and apparently unconscious humour; it ranks, in fact, as one of the best things that this gifted comedy actress has done. As Charlotte MacIntyre, Miss Edyth Goodall displayed her usual cleverness; and a capital delineation of John MacIntyre was added by Mr. Charles Bibby, to whom nothing comes amiss; while Mr. Leonard Mudie as Angus Grant played with excellent spirit and effect.

OPERATIC FESTIVAL AT EDINBURGH.

Herr Ernst Denhof, a well-known musician and entrepreneur in Edinburgh, has, in conjunction with the Carl Rosa Company, entered upon an enterprise this week at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, which is worthy of all praise, having arranged to present, for the first time out of London, Richard Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung*, alternating the four music dramas of the cycle with operas from the repertory of the Carl Rosa Company. It is satisfactory to be able to record that *Das Rheingold*, with which the fortnight's season opened on Monday, attracted a crowded and representative audience. A highly-satisfactory rendering was given of Wagner's work; principals, chorus, and orchestra alike striving to make the performance a brilliant success.

Herr Balling, a promising young German conductor, has been engaged to conduct the series of the *Ring* performances; a number of the members of the Scottish orchestra, under the leadership of that admirable musician, Mr. Verbruggen, are responsible for the instrumental part of the work, and the vocalists comprise many of the foremost singers of the day. Mr. Frederic Austin as Wotan, Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, who is also stage-manager, as Loke, Miss Marie Alexander as Tricka, Miss Florence Easton as Freia, Mme. Edna Thornton as Erda, Mr. Wm. Bolland as Froh, and Mr. Thomas Meux and Mr. Sidney Russell as the two Gnomes completed a singularly fine cast of the *Rhinegold*, while the chorus, supplemented by various local musical societies, sang with power and effect. *The Valkyrie* was played on Tuesday, *Siegfried* on Friday, and the fourth drama of the cycle, *The Twilight of the Gods*, will be given this afternoon. Among other operas which have been produced this week was *Carmen* on Wednesday, when Miss Doris Woodall contributed a fine performance, dramatically and vocally, of the title-rôle, and had artistic support from Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, Mr. Alan Turner, and Miss Beatrice Miranda. Mr. Walter Van Noorden conducted in masterly style. *Don Giovanni* was announced for Friday night, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for this (Saturday) evening.

AT the performance of *The Masque of Comus* at the Caxton Hall, on March 8 and 9, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, for whose ancestor, John, first Earl of Bridgewater, the Masque was written, will be present as patrons. Sir Frederick Bridge's arrangement of the original music will be performed for the first time in public. Mr. Gordon Cleather, Miss Beatrice Spencer, and Miss Ethel Henry Bird will be supported by an orchestra and chorus. The Masque will be produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Stevens, who will himself enact Comus.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. J. H. BATSON.

A sketch of the career of Mr. John Hastings Batson appeared in *The Era* of Aug. 11, 1900, but a supplementary account of the work of so experienced an actor may not be unacceptable. Mr. Batson is an Englishman by birth, his father being a well-known architect in England and Australia. When quite a youth Mr. Batson developed a taste for the stage, and took to the boards in Christchurch, New Zealand. His first three parts were Lord Tinsell in *The Hunchback*, Francis Osbaldiston in *Rob Roy*, and Sheila in *The Colleen Bawn*, and he acted with many of the great English stars who visited Australia. In 1870 he visited India, and made a hit in Calcutta by his performance of Hamlet. Subsequently he undertook a recital tour through the country, playing in Madras, Bombay, and all the principal hill stations. His travels may be said to be world-wide, for he visited the Straits Settlements, China, and Japan, and later on South Africa. He did not return to England until July, 1881, when he found himself a stranger in the land of his birth. Mr. Batson has fulfilled an imposing list of parts, including those of Prince Arthur, *King John*; Bassanio, Antonio, Old Gobbo, the Duke, and other parts in *The Merchant of Venice*; Biondello in *The Taming of the Shrew*; Amiens in *As You Like It*; the title-rôle and heavy parts in *Hamlet* and *Richard III.*, and Baradas in *Richelieu*. Mr. Batson, indeed, has played in almost all Shakespeare's plays, and has appeared in tragedy, comedy, and burlesque.

In 1884 he visited South America, where he did admirable work, and was a big success. He returned home in 1885, and since that date has had the honour of being in the original cast of *The Dancing Girl* at the Haymarket, with Sir (then Mr.) H. B. Tree; in the original cast in *The Struggle for Life*, with Mr. George Alexander, at the Avenue Theatre (now the Playhouse); in *The Panel Picture* at the Globe, with Lady Monckton in the leading part; and was under the management of Lady de Bathe at the Haymarket. Later he played Sir John Garnett in *The Great Ruby*, with Miss Marie Illington as Lady Garnett, under

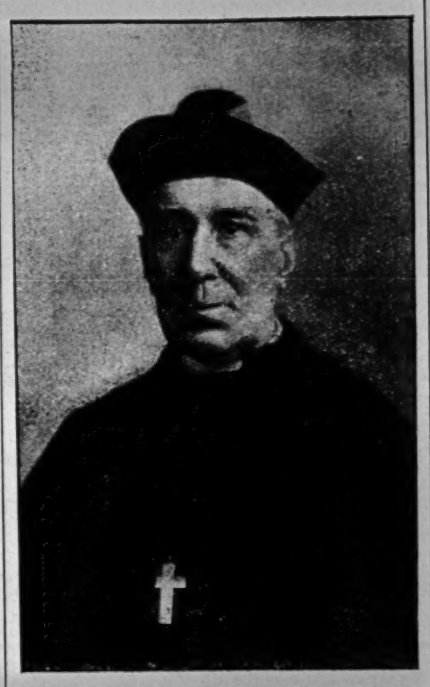

[*Photo by Simnett.*

MR. J. HASTINGS BATSON.

the management of Mr. Ben Greet. He was also engaged for Sir John when Mr. Dundas sent the play out. He acted in *The Flood Tide*, *The Great Millionaire*; played Mr. Havisham in *The Real Little Lord Fauntleroy*; and went on tour with Miss Haidee Gunn. Among recent successes have been Lord Dachet in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, with Miss Mabel Love in the cast, under the management of Mr. Percy Hutchison; the Duc de Brissac in *Zaza*, with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden; Father Lamplugh in *The Christian*; and Elijah Coombe in *The Silver King*, under Mr. Howard's management.

Some years back, it may be recalled, Mr. Batson made a great hit in the part of Beau Brummell, in a clever one-act play, *A Packet from England*, by W. Outram Tristram. He has also produced plays for that gentleman, for Mr. Walter Helmore, and Mr. Eden Phillpotts. Two years ago Mr. Batson recited *Everyman* at Croydon, and achieved a marked success.

MR. BENSON AT BELFAST.

Students' Night in connection with Mr. and Mrs. Benson's annual visit to Belfast was celebrated on the evening of the 25th ult., when the Queen's University students attended in force at the Grand Opera House. Arrayed in all kinds of fantastical costumes representing soldiers, jesters, Kaffirs, Boy Scouts, negroes, nurses, dairymaids, Chinamen, &c., they paraded the principal streets ere taking possession of the Opera House gallery, where they provided a musical programme of surprising excellence. On this auspicious occasion Mr. and Mrs. Benson and company produced *The Merry Wives of Windsor* with gratifying success, every rôle being cleverly sustained. During the course of the piece Mrs. Benson was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers, which was let down by a wire by the students amidst a scene of enthusiasm.

Mr. Benson (who has always been a great favourite with the students) came forward, and in response to loud calls said he would like to thank their friends the students for the good cheer and kindly gifts that they had sent them by wireless telegraphy. He assured them that during—he would not say how many years—they had learned to value their friendliness, the friendliness of their noble institution and the good fellows connected with it, very highly. He would also like to congratulate the students on the establishment of the new University, which would give them greater scope for their abilities. At the conclusion the students raised cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Benson and the members of the Scottish Rugby team, who occupied seats among the crowded and fashionable audience in the dress circle.

BARONESS VON GARIES, who, as Mme. Fanny Gardoza, was a popular singer at Milan and Covent Garden as long ago as the early forties, has died recently at Raynes Park. She knew Mme. Patti as a beginner, and sang with Jenny Lind, Mme. Albani, and other leading vocalists. Alexandre Dumas wrote and Gounod composed for her, and on several occasions she sang before the late Queen Victoria.

A DRAMATIC performance in aid of the Ladies' Work Society will be given this evening at the Royal Albert Hall Theatre, under the patronage of Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll. The programme will consist of *A Privy Council*, by Major W. P. Drury and Richard Price, and *The Looking Glass*, by Major Philip Trevor.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'IMPREVU."

Play, in Two Acts, by Victor Margueritte, Produced at the Comédie-Française, on Feb. 21.

Denise Vigneul .....MLLE. LECONTE
Hélène Ravenel .....MLLE. CERNY
Mme. de Serrières .....MLLE. ROBINNE
Colette .....MLLE. PROVOST
Nanon .....MLLE. LEHRSAY
Pierre Vigneul .....M. DUFLOS
Jacques d'Amblize .....M. DESSONNES
Nauroy .....M. GRANDVAL
De Serrières .....M. LE ROY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Feb. 24.—Some twenty years ago, if anyone had predicted that works by Courteline and Tristan Berhard would be produced at the House of Molière, the person making such a rash statement would at once have been transferred to a padded cell. Yet the impossible has come to pass. These two witty, observant playwrights have entered the sacred portals of the Comédie-Française, although it must be owned that their realistic comedies appear strangely out of place in that classical atmosphere. The evening's entertainment began with the above work, which did not prove very satisfactory. The story is as follows. Jacques d'Amblize, a bachelor, and Dr. Vigneul are neighbours, their country houses being separated only by their two gardens. Jacques is the lover of Denise, the doctor's wife. One night Denise, taking advantage of her husband's absence, comes to see Jacques. She throws herself into his arms, but all at once utters a faint scream, and her head drops on his shoulder. She is dead. Half mad with grief and fright, Jacques sends for Hélène Ravenel, a young widow, Denise's great friend. Whilst the two are discussing, not knowing what course to take, the doctor suddenly enters. He has returned home earlier than he expected, and not finding Denise, he has become suspicious. When he sees his wife's body his suspicions are confirmed, and he is certain that Denise is the mistress of the man at whose house she has expired. Although Pierre Vigneul did not love his wife very much, he is shocked at this discovery, and his eyes betoken his mental anguish. A curious transformation then comes over Hélène. She, the upright woman, discovers at that moment that she loves Pierre, and in order to allay his sufferings she takes an heroic resolve. She says that she is Jacques' mistress, and that Denise, at her request, accompanied her as she (Hélène) wanted to break off with Jacques. As she pours out her tale Pierre is horrified, for it dawns upon him that Hélène's confession hurts him more than his wife's supposed infidelity, and he realises the fact that he loves Hélène. Jacques, however, will not allow Hélène to compromise herself for her dead friend, and he tells Pierre the truth. And Pierre is appeased, almost happy. Denise's treachery does not weigh much on his mind, since he knows that he can now marry Hélène. This end did not please the audience, especially as the final scene was treated in a needlessly brutal fashion.

The curtain next rose on Courteline's immortal *Boubouroche*, brought out some fifteen years ago at the Théâtre Libre, then managed by M. Antoine. Played in a masterly manner by Pons-Arlès, by Gémier, and Irma Perrot, the work at the time created a tremendous impression, and at once made Courteline celebrated. Unfortunately, the Comédie-Française is ill suited for realistic scenes, and it is to be regretted that M. Claretie added these to his répertoire. The famous comedy seemed dwarfed there, and the actors appeared at sea. *Boubouroche* is a satire on the eternal deceit of woman and the immortal credulity of man. In true Molieresque style the author shows us his heroes—Boubouroche and Adèle—as two jolly types, who have a horror of tears and try to avoid all complications of life. In the opening tableau we are in a café, where Boubouroche, a retired tradesman, is playing his nightly game of cards. He has a comfortable income, he is a bachelor, he is good-natured, and his sole ambition is to see everybody happy around him. For this reason he does not mind being exploited by his friends and acquaintances, who pocket his money when they win at cards, and allow him to settle the score when they lose. But Boubouroche does not mind that. He is thoroughly happy, thanks to Adèle, his little mistress, with whom he has had a liaison for close upon eight years. On the evening in question Boubouroche's friends have all left the café, and, as usual, he is paying the waiter for their drinks, when an old gentleman walks up to his table and informs him that Adèle has for the last few years deceived him with a youth, whose voice the old gentleman—whose apartment is just below Adèle's—can hear the moment Boubouroche has turned his back. In the next act we are at Adèle's. The old gentleman has spoken the truth. There is her lover, a youth, and every time they hear a suspicious ring at the bell, the youth disappears in a cupboard, wherein, thanks to a lamp and a collection of books, he can while away the time until the enemy has left. To Adèle's surprise Boubouroche rushes into the room, and, having accused her of infidelity, begins searching the place. A streak of light through a crack of the cupboard betrays the visitor, whom Boubouroche drags forth from his hiding place. Having shown the youth the door, Boubouroche turns upon Adèle, but to his surprise, she looks at him indignantly. "I don't know that man," she says, "and you cannot accuse me of deceiving you with a man who is a stranger to me. As to his presence in that cupboard, it is a family secret; and unless you want me to break faith with those who trusted me I may not divulge to you who he is!" Adèle, then, in a severe tone, tells him that since he suspected her, the only thing she can do is to leave him for ever. Poor Boubouroche is crushed. He begs Adèle to forgive him, and, on his promise never to doubt her again, she magnanimously gives him her hand. Boubouroche, however, is not satisfied. Adèle has been maligned, and she has to be avenged. He therefore rings at the door of the old gentleman, his neighbour, drags him before Adèle, tells him he is a liar, and then kicks him out of the room. M. Silvain was too heavy for the rôle of Boubouroche, and Mlle. Lara was a far too serious and sentimental Adèle.

The third play produced was *Le Peintre Exigeant*, a farcical comedy in one act, by M. Tristan Berhard, a trifle too much spun out, but intensely funny. M. and Mme. Gamois, parvenus, have made the acquaintance of M. Hotzeplotz, who is to paint their portrait. Hotzeplotz is a genius. He does not do much painting, but he is raving about Art. He is a slave to Art, and poor M. and Mme. Gomois also become slaves. Hotzeplotz reigns like a despot, and all tremble before him. He has started making a portrait of Lucie, the young daughter of the house. On that portrait she is smiling. When Hotzeplotz discovers that his young model looks sad because her parents will not allow her to marry the man of her choice, he orders the parents to give at once their consent to the match. How can he make the portrait of a smiling girl if the smile has gone? And the parents give way, and even say nothing when he bundles them out of the house so that they should not interfere with his work. It must not be believed that this artist is a humbug. The man is perfectly sincere, but his ideas are too big for his limited brain, and he not only suffers in consequence, but makes others suffer as well. These types are by no means uncommon, and M. Tristan Bernard portrayed that character with consummate skill. M. Berr, the best comic actor at the Comédie-Française, impersonated Hotzeplotz with great success.

"UNE FEMME PASSA."

Play, in Three Acts, by M. Romain Coolus, Produced at the Renaissance on Feb. 25.

Simone .....MLLE. MARTHE BRANDÈS
Suzette .....MLLE. DE MORNAND
Alice .....MLLE. LAUGIER
Mme. Grivard .....MLLE. DELYS
Mme. Lavigne .....MLLE. SABRIER
Jean Darcier .....M. TARRIDE
Hériez .....M. CAPELLANI
Charlines .....M. BURLIER
Bourland .....M. BERTHIER

PARIS, THURSDAY, March 3.—There is a certain analogy between *La Vierge folle* and the above work. As in M. Bataille's play, a woman has passed into the life of Jean Darcier, a great nerve specialist, who, after years of toil has arrived at the pinnacle of fame. Ladies are flocking to his consulting-room; and Jean, for the first time in his life, begins to realise that he has left off to care physically for his unselfish wife, Simone. At that psychological moment Suzette passes, and Jean loves her with all the ardour of the man of middle age. Simone suffers terribly from that estrangement which, she feels, she is powerless to prevent. Fortunately for her, chance comes to her assistance. Suzette, "la femm qui passe," is an unworthy creature. She is married, and Jean has not even the satisfaction of knowing that he alone is the "amant de cœur"; and this fact is brought home to him in a curious fashion. Among Suzette's lovers is Hériez, who worships her despairingly, and to whom she gives as many hours as she can spare. But Hériez has found a letter proving to him that his lady-love is anything but faithful, and, broken-hearted, he goes to consult a physician, who is no other than Jean. The latter gives the patient a prescription written in a feigned hand and hurries him out. When Suzette comes, he upbraids her and turns her away. But, owing to the agonised cross-examination of Suzette, Hériez has learned the truth, and, calling on the doctor, he forces him to show his real writing. Satisfied by the comparison with the letter he holds, he leaps at his rival's throat. Darcier, however, overcomes him at first physically, and then morally, by telling him the state of his own feelings, whereupon Hériez falls into a fit. Whilst he attends his patient Simone comes in and implores Jean to stand by her and his work, and turn his back on that worthless woman. Jean promises to stay with her when Suzette is announced. Again Jean falters, and it is only when Simone seriously threatens to leave him for ever if he goes to her rival, that he tells the butler to say that he has left Paris. Suzette leaves without a word, and the curtain falls whilst Jean goes to nurse his rival back to health. The work was superbly acted by M. Tarride, who gave a perfect representation of the strong, self-controlled, masterly man. M. Capellani was also highly impressive as Hériez. Mlle. Brandès showed herself the great artist in the difficult rôle of Simone, and Mlle. De Mornand gave a good account of the part of the flighty Suzette.

"LA FLAMME" is the title of a three-act play brought out at the Théâtre Réjane. It is signed Dario Niccodemi, a fact that did not surprise anybody, considering that for a long time past that gentleman seems to be the only author considered worthy of writing plays for Mme. Réjane. This is all the more to be regretted as M. Niccodemi, although talented, has not sufficient scenic vision to produce a dramatic work unaided. There are only four personages in the piece: Vigier, a banker; Geneviève, his daughter by his first wife; Farnçoise, his second wife; and Antoine, Geneviève's husband. Vigier married Françoise, a penniless girl, on account of her beauty, and, Geneviève, his daughter, lost her heart to Antoine, a youth without a cent, and made him her husband. Vigier has gone to Paris on business, leaving Françoise and his daughter and son-in-law at his country house in Taormina, in Sicily. Antoine and Françoise fall in love with one another whereupon the jealous Geneviève, who has watched them all along, sends a telegram to her father: "Come back at once. My husband in love with your wife." Vigier, a sexagenarian, does not see much harm in this affair, which he thinks will never go far. He would willingly have left things alone, but the infuriated Geneviève leaves him no peace. Terrible scenes follow. The house becomes a hell on earth, whereupon Françoise at last consents to elope with Antoine. Everything is arranged for their flight, but as they leave the house we hear a shot, and Françoise falls dead, killed by Geneviève.

"LE PECHE DE MARTHE."

Play, in Five Acts and Seven Tableaux, by M. Emile Rochard, Produced at the Ambigu on Feb. 26.

Marthe .....MLLE. LAURENT
Jeanne-Gilberte .....MLLE. BERENGERE
La Parigotte .....MLLE. HUART
La Marquise .....MLLE. FRANQUET
Olympe .....MLLE. COLAS
Chinchilla .....MLLE. WALTER
Florestan .....M. COOPER
Pastouret .....M. TREVILLE
Olivier .....M. ETIEVANT
Bourguignon .....M. FUGERE
Jacques .....M. REUSY

M. Rochard, the former manager of the Ambigu, has given us a stirring play, the scene of which is laid during the Franco-Prussian war. A Prussian bullet has killed Gilbert de Rocheaigue before he could carry out his promise to marry Marthe, although the last thing he did was to legitimise his child. Marthe, seeking refuge with her relatives in besieged Paris, where they have a café concert, is denounced as a spy by her cousin, whose advances she rejects, knowing him to be seeking the inheritance due to her child. She dies from the shock in the open street, leaving her little Gilberte to the care of old Florestan, the stage-manager of the music hall. But, thanks to "the long arm of coincidence," Gilberte comes into her own property, despite the dark machinations of the cousin who caused her mother's death; and she falls into the arms of young Jacques de Rocheaigue, her father's nephew. The amusing, healthy play met with an excellent reception.

AN attractive programme has been arranged for the St. Patrick's night concert at the Crystal Palace. The vocalists are Miss Agnes Christa (a young artist who is rapidly making her way to the front), Miss Rosina Beynon, who has done such sterling work with the Moody Manners Opera company, and Mr. George May, Mr. Wilfrid Yearton, Mr. Bertram Mills, Mr. W. H. Brereton, and the Westminster Singers. Irish songs, old and new, will alternate with humorous Irish part-songs and National airs. The musical director of the Crystal Palace, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, will be at the piano, and the Crystal Palace Band, under Mr. Herbert Godfrey, will play.

THE Good Friday concerts at the Crystal Palace will, assuredly prove decidedly attractive. Particulars of the programme have already been given, but it may be well to repeat that the artists will include Miss Agnes Nicholls, Mme. Clara Butt, and Mme. Edna Thornton, Mr. Charles Saunders, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, and Sir Charles Stanley. The London Symphony Orchestra, and the Crystal Palace Choir and Military Band will officiate. At the afternoon concert the programme will include Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and the "Laudate Dominum" from Cherubini's Fourth Mass. At the evening concert a popular programme will be contributed.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

A warm welcome awaited the return of *The Prodigal Son* to the King's on Monday, Mr. Hall Caine's celebrated play meeting with a magnificent reception. Mr. Wentworth Croke's company give evidence of having been carefully chosen, and deserve much credit for their impersonations of the numerous parts in the play. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives a sound and intelligent representation of the much-maligned hero Magnus Stephensson, and fully earns the hearty applause which greets him at the fall of the curtain. In every respect satisfactory is the rendering of Oscar Stephensson by Mr. S. Herbert Humber, whose impassioned acting quickly appealed to the audience. Mr. Ernest Rivarz makes a capable Stephen Magnussen; and the Factor, Oscar Nielson, is capitally rendered by Mr. Philip Renouf. Mr. Fred Manners embodies the Sheriff in good style; and Dr. Olsan is nicely played by Mr. Charles Brownless. Mr. Bernard Merefield is convincing as the Director of the Casino; and Mr. Henry Denton acts well as the Agent of the Bank of Denmark. In the dual rôle of Thora and Elin Miss Elsie Wood gains appreciation for her sympathetic and earnest acting; as Helga Nielson Miss Betty Castle rises to the occasion in her passionate declarations to Oscar, and scores satisfactorily; Miss Barbara Gott is a charming and highly successful Anna Magnussen; and much laughter is caused by the humorous impersonation of Margaret Nielson by Miss Marie Harcourt. A number of small parts are ably played, and the scenery is highly artistic.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Comedy entitled
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, direct from Wyndham's Theatre, is playing here this week in *Brewster's Millions* to appreciative audiences. The play is staged in a highly-creditable manner, and everything that the careful stage-management of Mr. A. P. Kaye can do to ensure success has been done. Great credit is due to Mr. Percy Hutchison for his exceptionally fine portrayal of Monty Brewster. The difficulties of the part are of more than ordinary character, but he skilfully overcomes them and achieves a conspicuous success. Mr. Gordon Ash gives a praiseworthy performance as Charlie Harrison; Mr. Henry Hampson displays distinction as Archie Golding; Mr. H. Douglas Greet is an amusing Tommy Smith; and Messrs. Aubrey Mather (Joseph McLeod), Charles Esdale (Frank Bragdon), Otho Hazlewood (Horace Pettinghill), and N. F. Plinge (Jack Gardner) all adequately present their respective rôles. Mr. A. Andrews supplies a commendable performance as Mr. Grant; Colonel Drew is ably delineated by Mr. A. Andrews; Mr. George Silver is good as Captain Perry; Mr. A. P. Kaye is vastly diverting as Monsieur Bargie; Mr. Frank Hill gives a characteristic representation of the butler, Rawles; Miss Cicely Stuckey contributes a pleasing embodiment of the rôle of Peggy; Miss Lilias Earle acts with distinction as Mrs. Dan de Mille; Miss Dorthy Whittaker is a clever Barbara Drew; Janice Armstrong is admirably performed by Miss Francis Duvie; and Miss Pauline Straus and Miss May Seton meet every demand as Miss Boynton and Trixie Clayton. The Deck scene is a novel and ingenious achievement in the way of scenic illusion. Preceding *Brewster's Millions*, the one-act play by Eille Norwood entitled *Chalk and Cheese* is admirably acted by Mr. A. P. Kaye, Miss Pauline Straus, and Miss May Seton.

THE CORONET.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Comic Opera entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Success bids fair to attend the enterprise of Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart in securing a first-rate company to produce on a lavish scale the evergreen operetta *Les Cloches de Corneville*, with its sparkling melodies by Planquette and the romantic and amusing lyrical and comical dialogue by H. B. Farnie and R. Reece. The piece is excellently mounted and staged, and goes with great freedom and vivacity. Miss Vera Darien has a very pretty voice and a charming personality, and wins golden opinions as Germaine; Miss Gurney Delaporte is very dainty and chic as the saucy Serpolette, but she should impart more vigour into her rendering of the "Just look at this" ballad, and we would like to see more of her dancing. Mr. Stuart Alexander does justice to the beautiful music allotted to his part of Henri, Marquis de Corneville, and acts with animation; Mr. E. St. Alban is very fine as the old miser, Father Gaspard, and secures quite an ovation for his realistic acting in the scene where he is surprised fondling his gold in the château. Mr. Wensley Russell revels in the part of the cowardly fisherman Grenicheux, in which he is seen to the fullest advantage. Mr. Mark Lester as the Baillie and Mr. Alfred Selby as his shadow Gobo are entirely excellent, and ably sustain the traditions of the parts for quaintness and comicality. Miss Lucy Kipling is good as Christophe, and a word of praise is due to the efficient chorus. Mr. George Rowlands is business manager, and Mr. George McCloskie stage manager for the company.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Play entitled
"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."

The attraction here this week is the above-named play, presented by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and a well-selected company. Mr. E. Wellesley Draper cuts a manly figure as the heroic and tender-hearted Prince Loris, and is responsible for an excellent performance; Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson gives a stirring portrayal of the villainous Prince Menski; and the character of General Platz is played in a straightforward and effective manner by Mr. W. R. Winning. Mr. Cyril Harrison infuses a good deal of comedy into the part of the somewhat easy-going Captain Gara and Mr. J. Telly Dillsen is humorous as Corporal Stack. A good study is provided by little Elsie Clark as the boy Caesar; and Miss Gertrude Sterrol does well as the Countess Melveitch. Miss Helen Richmond makes the most of the opportunities offered in the character of Else, and comes through with flying colours; and Miss Cissie Podmore endeavours to make the character of the maid Schnapps amusing. The rôle of Zora (the unknown woman) is played by Miss Violet Carlisle, who gives a most excellent performance; her acting throughout is natural, her pathetic scenes being particularly convincing. All the minor characters are in safe keeping, and the play is well staged. Mr. W. Stephenson has returned to his old position as *chef d'orchestre* after a tour with pantomime.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, Balfe's Opera,
"SATANELLA."

The last week of the present season's return visit of Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera company to the Dalston Theatre is proving as successful as the preceding weeks. On Monday evening Balfe's tuneful opera *Satanella* drew to the theatre a large and appreciative audience, who applauded every item to the echo, and, wherever possible, secured an encore. The choruses were all particularly well rendered, especially that occurring during the scene representing a street in Tunis. The part singing of the Pirates in the second act was admirable; and Mr. Frank Clarke's singing of a rousing song was rewarded with an emphatic recall. Mr. J. W. Turner was once again seen and heard at his best as Count Rupert. He acted admirably, and all the songs falling to his share were rendered with vigour and tunefulness, the ever-popular tenor meeting with a rousing reception from his friends. His song in praise of the enlivening qualities of champagne gained the inevitable encore. Miss Sarah Williams, in the title-rôle of Satanella, practically carried all before her. The melodiousness of her voice was undoubted, and her acting most effective. She was specially recalled at the close of the second act. The Arimanes of Mr. Tom Griffiths was one of the dramatic features of the performance, and the duets with Satanella were remarkable, each eliciting an encore. Mr. P. Newton was a success as Karl, rendering some pretty songs with care; Mr. George Ridding was acceptably humorous as Hortensius; and Mr. S. Appleby made an excellent Vizier. Miss Doris O'Brien, in the character of Lelia, was the personification of innocence, and the possession of a sweet singing voice enhanced her performance. Miss Jessie Dennis made a spirited Stella, singing with her customary tunefulness; and Miss Grace Parish was quite satisfactory as Dame Bertha. *Tännhauser*, *Maritana*, and *Carmen* have been repeated during the week by special request.

BRIXTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Farce, in Three Acts, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Once again the dear old lady from Brazil, "where the nuts come from," is paying this popular playhouse a visit, and meeting with the usual gratifying success. Indeed, throughout the week business has been capital. Mr. Brandon Thomas, the author, has again selected a very capable company, with the result that during the evening incessant fun and laughter prevail. Mr. Stanley Cooke is a most diverting representative of Lord Fancourt Babberley, his effervescence being infectious; as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart is very good; Stephen Spettigue finds a capital exponent in Mr. Roy Byford, a thoroughly amusing and amorous lawyer; Mr. Sydney Compton is again at hand with his clever study of the lugubrious Brasset; Charles Wykeham is pleasantly played by Mr. Robert Burnett; and Jack Chesney is bright in the hands of Mr. Charles King. As Donna Lucia Miss Enid Ross is graceful and wins admiration, as also does Miss Bertha Wilson as Ella Delahay. Miss Ruth Henton (Kitty Verdon) and Miss Phyllis Back (Amy Spettigue) are typical and charming representatives of English girls.

Charley's Aunt is preceded by a capital one-act play, written by Mr. Brandon Thomas, *The Colour-Sergeant*. *Charley's Aunt* is well staged and dressed, and was received with much enthusiasm. Mr. Cecil Barth, so long associated with *Charley's Aunt*, is still acting as the general-manager for Mr. Brandon Thomas.

THE SHAKESPEARE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

Mr. Gaston Mayer's company is on a return visit to the Shakespeare this week with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, and the homely theme of the play, amusingly developed, appeals to the audience by reason of its simplicity. The interpretation of the piece is in the hands of a well-balanced cast, foremost amongst whom is Miss Sophie Lingwood, who in the title-rôle is in every respect admirable. Her delineation of the philosophical and charitable Mrs. Wiggs is highly entertaining. Miss Rita Carlyle makes a droll appearance as Miss Hazy, cleverly depicting the eccentricities of the character and scoring a decided hit; the antagonism of Miss Eichorn is ably portrayed by Miss Beatrix A. Bell; and Miss Violet Vivian as Miss Schultz renders good support. Miss Ruhamah Catton adequately sustains the rôle of Lovey Mary; and Miss Rhoda Beresford is a pleasing Miss Lucy, Miss Marie Stella a precocious Asia; and Miss Mollie Shiells, Miss Dutchie Forsyth, Miss Meina Connell, and Miss Florence Mitchell are all efficient in their respective parts. Mr. Frederick Forrest contributes a highly amusing impersonation of Mr. Stubbins; Mr. Ernest Rutson is responsible for an earnest sketch of Mr. Wiggs; and Mr. Norman Clifton's Mr. Bob is a sound performance. The matrimonial agent, Mr. Hunkerdunkus Jones, is played in breezy fashion by Mr. Harry G. Wright; and Mr. Robert Shiells does well as the Sheriff. Mr. Walter Hicks works hard as Billy Wiggs; and Mr. Sydney Carlyle as Chris Hazy is acceptable. The remaining parts are well filled, and the whole production is thoroughly enjoyable. Mr. Walter D. Nicoll is general-manager (in advance) for Mr. Gaston Mayer; and Mr. H. Percival Young is acting-manager for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Comedy, entitled
"THE CHORUS LADY."

That striking American comedy *The Chorus Lady*, from the lively pen of Mr. James Forbes, occupies the boards at the Kennington Theatre this week, and as presented by Mr. William Mollison's clever and well-balanced company makes a tremendous hit. The play gives an interesting and entertaining view of American stage-life, being full of humour; but, withal, there is a serious under-current of pathos which, developing, as it does in the third and fourth acts, into a series of highly dramatic situations, enthrals the attention of the audience. There is not much room for stage effects, but the dressing is effective, and the second act furnishes a pretty faithful representation of a theatrical chorus-room. That talented actress, Miss Annie Hughes, sustains the title-rôle with pronounced success. The part of Patricia, with her varying moods of light-hearted gaiety and deadly earnestness, is one which calls for the exercise of histrionic powers of a high order; and Miss Hughes proves she possesses these in abundance. She rises to the occasion when called upon to circumvent Dick Crawford, and wins an ovation. That character is sketched with vividness and power by Mr. William Mollison. It is not a pleasant part to enact, but Mr. Mollison interprets it with grim realism that is irresistibly effective. Nora O'Brien, the wayward, self-centred, and superficial girl, is graphically drawn by Miss Elsie Vron-Neville, who is responsible for quite a brilliant piece of stage-portraiture. Sylvia Simpson, the shallow-natured show girl, is acted with great effect by Miss Mabel Durrant, a lady of queenly carriage. Mr. Henry Deas gives a carefully conceived and attractive study of the warm-hearted Dan Mallory, Patricia's lover; while Mr. Fred Marston is a very good Patrick O'Brien. Mr. Eric Dane is well placed as Rogers, the taciturn servant of Crawford; and Messrs. E. Kendrick and Calender make a couple of breezy stable-boys. Miss Josephine Woodward furnishes an admirable delineation of Mrs. O'Brien, the overfond mother; Miss Agnese D'Aragan is quite a picturesque relic of former theatrical glory in the rôle of Georgie Coots, the wardrobe woman; and the parts of the chorus damsels are taken by the following bevy of pretty and fascinating ladies: Misses H. Oliver, V. Role, H. Donn, J. M'Gwerin, K. Trevare, and F. Lang. Mr. Archie W. Chappell is a tactful general-manager for Mr. Mollison.

THE WEST LONDON.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Dramatic Playlet entitled
"THE MISER'S HOARD."

An excellent interpretation of this well-written playlet was given bly the members of Miss Lena Penrose's small but capable company. As Michael Rawke Mr. W. Buckland was seen to the greatest advantage, and he depicted the various emotions of the old miser with faithful fidelity; Mr. Edmund Sydney gave a manly impersonation of Stephen Blake; Mr. W. Rossiter was light and easy as Tom Shrimp; Miss Phyllis Brent was decidedly pert and piquant as the maid Betty; and Miss Lena Penrose enacted Mary Rawke in a painstaking and convincing way. During the evening the Weimars contributed a pleasing musical speciality, and some particularly clear films were shown on the Cinematograph, the best being The Interrupted Rendezvous, The Surgical Operation, House under Repair, Little Jim, and The Pretty Fisherwoman. Mr. J. H. Shotton is the acting-manager for Mr. F. R. Griffiths.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

"Luke's going to give him one directly—you wait!" That was the remark of a small boy to his parents whilst seated in the stalls of the Lyric, Hammersmith, one night this week and when witnessing the progress of Mr. Frank M. Thorne's fine human play *The Woman Pays*. The observation was made in a suppressed, passionate manner, at the end of the third act, when, it will be remembered, Nell Morland, the victim of the diabolical steward of Treadgold Manor, rushes from a sick-bed whilst still in night attire to stop the infamous marriage of Madge Armstrong with the scheming Roger Marchant. The youth had followed the fine acting throughout the piece with every eagerness, and, truth to tell, his elders were scarcely one whit less anxious as to the fate of the lovely daughter of Squire Treadgold and the handsome and ill-used young fisherman Sid Armstrong. "You see, sir," one of the parents explained to the writer on seeing his slightly amused glances at the lad's knowledge of what was to come, "Harold came to see *The Woman Pays* over a year ago, when it was here before. He came by himself, and has worried us this week to see the piece. Indeed, he has always talked about it since he first saw it. He has been through it—line by line—from beginning to end, dozens of times. And he is right. It *is* fine; there's no mistake about that!" Criticism of this kind is of more value than the studied utterances of the *blasé* critic, and we will let it suffice as our opinion also on the occasion of the return visit to London of *The Woman Pays*.

The cast is a good one. Mr. Phil Harper as Sid Armstrong looks every inch a sailor and is an ideal hero. But if that is so, Mr. Raymond Thomas's interpretation of the part of Roger Marchant, the slimy steward, is equally excellent. He is a first-class monster, and what villain can hope for better praise? The rolling stone, Micky Moloney, is made a very laughable character by Mr. Joseph Magrath; and Miss Lily Beverley aids and abets him remarkably well in the humorous corners of the play, when, dressed in maidservant's black or print dresses, she assumes the character of Polly Stoke. Squire Treadgold is a dignified member of the aristocracy, and Mr. Beresford Innes in this part looks and acts the character to the life. Of the remaining folk we are introduced to, all are excellent in their respective ways, Luke Morland calling for the most attention. Mr. Dunlop Stewart handles the old nondescript fisherman-sailor in a highly praiseworthy way. He never forgets the dual rôle he is called upon to enact. One does not know quite when to admire him the more—as the drunken, rum-soaked seaman, or as the father of a dearly-loved daughter, dearly loved possibly as much because she is a fallen woman and all his world knows of the fact, as that when it had been in his power to help her when she had first gone astray he had turned her away—and that then he had repented and loved his lass more than ever. A very fine character-study, Mr. Stewart. Miss Kate Blair undertakes the trying part of the steward's victim, Nell Morland, but she gets through with it in splendid style.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.
On Monday, Feb. 29, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"RAFFLES."

Mr. Leonard Boyne's company is appearing here this week in *Raffles*, and although it is not the first appearance of the amateur cracksman in Stoke Newington, there seems to be many anxious to either make or renew acquaintance with the attractive scoundrel whose name gives the title to the play. Although comparisons are said to be odious, Mr. Reginald Dance has little to fear from comparison with his predecessors in the part, and his performance of "A. J.," if inclined to err a trifle on the melodramatic side, is, nevertheless, a thoroughly interesting one. Another excellent piece of work is the Bunny of Mr. Harold West, who cleverly indicates Manders' supreme faith in and devotion to his old schoolfellow. Mr. Edward Irwin is duly incisive as the detective, Curtis Bedford, and plays with all the necessary sang-froid. The Crawshay of Mr. Buckstone Clair is a strong and vigorous character-study that leaves its mark upon the production; and an entertaining little sketch of Viscount Crowley comes from Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald. Miss Frances Titheradge is particularly well placed as Gwendoline Conran, her graceful and sympathetic style admirably suiting the character; and in the none too pleasant part of Mrs. Vidal Miss Lilian Hallows is to be congratulated on the admirable restraint she exercises in handling it, and on avoiding the temptation to make the character that of an ordinary melodramatic adventuress. A neat and finished study of the French maid Marie is contributed by Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald; and Messrs. Oswald Griffiths, Allen, Booker, and F. Drake, and Misses Agnes Knights and Marguerite Unett in other parts add their share to the general success. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* is played as a curtain-raiser by Miss Titheradge and Mr. West.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Drama entitled
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Melville drama always draws crowded houses here, and this week proves no exception to the rule, for large and delighted audiences have gathered nightly to applaud *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*. The comedy scenes are excellent, and are capitally played by all concerned, notably by Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Dickey Storm and Miss Daisy Meynard as Tina Torkington. Mr. Otto Minoten plays with force and ability the trying part of Jack Cunningham; Mr. Charles Barclay gives an excellent portrayal of Dr. Milbank; Mr. Charles Brucester is a clever and convincing Norman Marsh; Mr. George Vernon is a capable Police-constable Phillips; Mr. David Cartwright cleverly sustains the enthusiasm and clerical dignity of the Rev. Mr. Melsom; and other male parts are well acted by Messrs. C. Brown, B. Elton, H. Morgan, Hy. Playfair, Horace Kenny, Hubert Goddard, H. Stewart, and C. Smith. Miss Marie Duncan gives a pleasing and sympathetic rendering of Bessie Webster (the beggar girl); Miss Anita Playfair is a capital Lizzie; Miss Olive Warne is a clever and attractive Maud Villiers; and Miss Lily Duncan is a competent Elsie Cunningham. As is the rule with Melville productions, the piece is lavishly mounted Mr. Bertram Iles makes all welcome, and his popularity continues to increase.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Drama, entitled
"THE BONDMAN."

Particularly attractive fare is provided for the current week, as Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is presenting the great Drury Lane success *The Bondman*, by Hall Caine, and large audiences are the result. The mounting of the play is excellent, and characteristic of all Mr. Croke's productions. The cast is a good one throughout, and all, working well together, obtain most satisfactory results. Mr. Philip Darien supplies a powerful rendering of Jason, a character particularly suited to his abilities, and his pathetic portrayal creates a forcible impression and wins hearty plaudits. Michael Sunlocks is capitally represented by Mr. Stanley Harrison, whose sincere and convincing study holds the rapt attention of the audience throughout, and congratulations are worthily bestowed upon his efforts. Mr. Wilfred Beckwith does well in the character of Adam Fairbrother; and Mr. W. H. Rotherham is equally successful in the dual rôle of the Grandfather and Father Farrati. Dr. Boni is ably depicted by Mr. Fred J. Waller. Mr. Sidney Stephens and Mr. Cecil H. Ford are suitably placed in the parts of Governor Testa and the Marshal of Police respectively. Miss Violet Macree does ample justice to the character of Greeba, and is accorded a warm reception. Miss Madge Laverton supplies a clever portrait of Mrs. Fairbrother, which is greatly appreciated. Miss Emelie Mayhew is also successful as Christian Anne. Lily Callow and Dora Callow have able representatives in Miss Dorothy Radcliffe and Miss Florence Owen; and Mona and Danny are capably essayed by Miss Beatrice Maud Hughes and Master Walter Neville.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Comic Opera, entitled
"THE KING OF CADONIA."

This is undoubtedly the most complete and successful engagement so far made here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, and, despite bad weather, the audiences have been most encouraging. The dresses, scenery, and the entire production are the same as at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and the artists selected by Mr. Frank Curzon most capably fulfil their parts. Mr. Bertie Wright as the Duke of Alasia is the success of the evening, having plenty to do, and doing it well. He scores heavily with his many songs, and his resemblance to his brother, who created the rôle, is agreeably evident. Mr. J. Warren-Foster as Alexis, the King of Cadonia, is excellent, his commanding presence, easy manner, and artistic acting securing immediate recognition. He is an ideal monarch and lover, and his striking costumes become him well, especially in the last scene, when he appears in coronation robes. Mr. Jack Martin is appropriately stern and unbending as General Bonski, looks well in his handsome uniform, and gives a realistic touch to the part, which is very convincing. Mr. Cameron Carr makes a soldierly figure of Capt. Laski, and gives a most intelligent interpretation of this important part. Mr. E. Hartley Summers as Panix is inimitably droll as the secretary, a very clever make-up enhancing the effect of the performance. As Laborde Mr. Cecil Tresilian renders the part of the conspirator with much realism. Bran, Capt. Laski's comic servant, is quite safe in the experienced hands of Mr. Edward Thirlby, and the many merry scenes with Miss Molly Keen, who plays the pert waiting-maid Militza, are thoroughly enjoyed by all. Special mention is due to Miss Keen's clever acting and dancing and general vivacity. Miss Olga Marsden as Stephanie is appropriately sympathetic; and Miss Florence Lelgarde as the Duchess of Alasia is a stately figure and well becomes her handsome gowns. Miss Alice Moffat as Princess Marie, the heroine, is charming, her singing being excellent, and her love scenes with the King admirably carried out. Messrs. Leslie Winter and R. Saker are smart and soldierly as Lieut. Jules and Lieut. Saloff; and Mr. W. J. Meade as Corporal Polski is the non-com. to the life. Miss Nellie Cambray, Miss Mabel Hirst, and Miss Winifred Sampson as Nattine, Ottaline, and Fridoline make a charming trio of ladies-in-waiting; and Miss Marjorie Coleman and Miss Mary Brougham figure as two smart little pages in the Coronation scene. A full orchestra is under the direction of Mr. H. R. Mathews, and an efficient chorus of gardeners, soldiers, &c., makes the stage quite a bouquet of colour, the uniforms and dresses being of an elaborate and gorgeous nature.

OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, Feb. 28, the Farce, entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

The management certainly gauged the public taste by the engagement of that popular and amusing farce *When Knights Were Bold*, and the members of Mr. James Welch's company should feel highly gratified by the reception accorded to them by a Woolwich audience. The artists carried through their impersonations with a light hand, to the accompaniment of continuous laughter. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce, in the rôle of that irresponsible and irrepressible aristocrat Sir Guy de Vere, is a host in himself, and his well-sustained humour and drolleries keep everyone in excellent spirits. Mr. Charles Lloyd achieves distinction as Isaac Isaacson, and does ample justice to the part; Mr. H. Winton cleverly portrays the character of the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, and is the source of much merriment; Mr. Colin Johnston presents an admirable portrait of the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, D.D.; Sir Brian Ballymote is capably undertaken by Mr. Gerald Venning; Lady Rowena has a handsome representative in Miss Ernita Lascelles, who puts force into her acting, and displays much ability; Miss Isla Glynne is seen to advantage as Miss Sarah Isaacson; while Lady Millicent, Lady Marjorie, and Kate Pottlebury are charmingly impersonated by Miss Elspeth Oliphant, Miss Marjorie Carton, and Miss Peggy Brember respectively. Wittle and Barker are admirably undertaken by Mr. Lionel Brocknor and Mr. E. R. Hollway respectively. Miss Adelaide Grace as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave makes the most of her opportunities; and Miss Ethel St. John is an attractive Alice Barker. Mr. Herbert Ranson as the Herald completes the cast. The farce is preceded by an amusing sketch entitled *Millie's Mother*, in which appear Mr. H. Winton, Miss Elspeth Oliphant, Miss Adelaide Grace, and Mr. E. R. Hollway.

Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, the producer and stage manager of Mr. Arthur's *Aladdin* at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, which terminated its run of 11½ weeks last Saturday, was the recipient of no fewer than nine presentations from Happy Fanny Fields, Maie Dillon, Malcolm Scott, Harry Tate, Harry Claff, Regan and Ryan, London chorus ladies, chorus gentlemen, and the ballet. In a few well-chosen words he thanked the company for the manner in which they had worked for the success of the pantomime.

Mr. Edward Eden Peacock, of Thornilie, Redhill, manager of the *Morning Post*, and hon. secretary of the Savage Club, left estate of the gross value of £4,437, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £4,150. The testator left practically the whole of his property upon trust for the benefit of his wife during widowhood, and for the education and maintenance of the children of his second marriage, and in the event of his wife's re-marriage he left to her £100. Subject to his wife's interest, he left the ultimate residue of his property, on the youngest of his children obtaining majority, to all of his children, in equal shares.

Favourable reports are to hand regarding the progress of the Green Room Club in Melbourne. It has an extensive membership, the funds are in a very satisfactory condition, and the governing board are considering the advisability of taking larger premises to accommodate the increased demands. Visitors from all parts are welcomed by members. Social gatherings are held every fortnight, when the best professional talent is engaged, and on two occasions special ladies' nights have been given with the utmost success. With a view of establishing a benevolent fund, arrangements have been made for a matinée at one of the Melbourne theatres.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council held on Tuesday, March 1, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. W. H. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Lewis Casson, Cyril Cattley, F. H. De Quincey, R. A. Greene, F. J. Arlton, Leonard Shepherd, Edward Morgan, M. Moncrieff, H. Le Grand, Langford Reed, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed.

In reply to a letter from Miss Liza Coleman, suggesting that the Council should take action in regard to bogus managers, the Secretary was instructed to reply to Miss Coleman to the effect that in future the names of bogus managers should be posted in the rooms of the Association.

With reference to a complaint *re* a member of the Association, it was decided that the member be asked to give an explanation or to attend the Council meeting on Tuesday next.

The Secretary reported the result of inquiries with regard to Cleodan, Ltd., and Robert Hilton, and Mr. Mote was instructed to write to the different gentlemen whose names were mentioned as directors of that syndicate.

In view of the recent constantly recurring instances of bogus management, the Secretary was instructed to inquire of the West End Managers' Association, the Touring Managers' Association, and the Theatrical Alliance, whether they would unite with them all in their endeavours to prevent by legislation, or other means, a continuance of the evil. In answer to a letter from the Orchestral Association, the Secretary was directed to thank them for their letter, and to say that the Council would be very glad to arrange to send a representative to a meeting for the purpose of bringing about legislation with regard to bogus management.

The Secretary submitted the report of the conference of the A.M.U., and after discussion certain deletions were agreed to. Mr. Casson was appointed delegate to attend the next meeting of the associated committee, together with the Secretary.

The Finance Committee's report and the House Committee's report were submitted by Mr. Arlton and adopted. Miss May presented the Association with a charming valance for use in the lounge, which the Council accepted with grateful thanks. The Hon. Solicitor reported three interviews and recovery of £2 12s. 6d. for a member.

Mr. Derwent tendered his final report as to the appeal, which was warmly received by the Council. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Derwent for his labours, and the excellent results that are likely to accrue was carried unanimously.

The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of invitation to Signor Grasso and his company, inviting them to make use of the rooms during their stay in London.

A sub-committee for inspection was appointed, consisting of Miss Rose Cazalet, Mr. Edward Morgan, and Mr. F. J. Arlton, with power to add to their numbers.

The following letter was received from Mr. James Welch:

"In response to your circular, no one regrets more than I do the exclusion of actor-managers from the list of members, and I had always been an active supporter of the Association, until the fatal day came when I had my notice given to me as a manager.

"I am only too delighted to return to the fold at your instigation, and ask you to re-enter my name in the list of members. It is only reasonable to expect that actor-managers, being excluded so deliberately, would not utilise the services of the agency. However, I shall be only too delighted in future to put anything in your way that I can.—Yours faithfully, James Welch."

Elections: Rose Edouin, F. Manning Sproston, Arthur Stanley, Kirsteen Graeme, Margaret Omar, Delisse St. Audrie, and Madge Trenchard. Reinstatements: George Alexander, James Welch, Elsie Davison, and Percy Mormont. Nominations: Alfred Wiltshire, Enid Edoni, Marie Leonhard, Frank K. Cooper, Barbara Violet Mendl, Cuthbert J. Harron, and Francis Holland.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Miss Marie Doro, in *The Climax* at the Comedy, wears a blue and white muslin, simply made, with the skirt gathered into a band and trimmed at the bottom with two frills edged with Valenciennes lace. The corsage is draped from the shoulders, and the folds crossed just above the waist; and it is finished with a V-shaped chemisette of white tucked chiffon. The sleeves only reach to the elbow, and are there finished with a frill of Valenciennes lace.

Another dress of Miss Doro's is of crêpe-de-chine in a dark shade of wine colour. The bodice is arranged with cross-over bands of the material tucked into a waistband of satin. The skirt is charmingly designed, with a tunic edged with folds of the crêpe-de-chine, and opening both back and front to show the plain skirt below it. The tunic is caught up at the back and held in place by a rosette of crêpe-de-chine, and another rosette decorates the band at the left side of the waist.

Miss Doro wears a bridal dress of white chiffon veiling white satin in the last act. The corsage is of white lace and chiffon, fitted with short sleeves of the chiffon opening over a second pair of white net. The skirt is arranged with a tunic of the chiffon inserted with lace and caught up at the back with a knot of white roses and a pretty bow of white satin ribbon; and from here also falls a long cord of twisted white chiffon to be trailed to the edge of the skirt. This tunic is sufficiently short to show the under-skirt and train of white chiffon, which is quite devoid of trimming or decoration of any kind.

The customary prosperous state of affairs is revealed in the report—the sixty-first—of the Prudential Assurance Company, which gives particulars of the year ending Dec. 31, 1909. The number of policies issued in the Ordinary Branch was 76,087, assuring the sum of £7,044,603, and producing a new annual premium income of £415,015. The premiums received were £4,710,107, being an increase of £93,770 over the year 1908. The claims of the year amounted to £3,018,981, the number of deaths being 8,375, and 17,629 endowment assurances maturing. The number of policies in force at the end of the year was 682,204. In the Industrial Branch the premiums received were £7,171,770, an increase of £246,015. The claims of the year amounted to £2,877,978, including £176,401 bonus additions. The number of claims and surrenders, including 4,545 endowment assurances matured, was 382,233. The total number of policies in force at the end of the year was 18,375,229, their average duration exceeding eleven and a half years. The assets of the company, in both branches, after deducting the amount written off securities, are £74,201,701, being an increase of £2,242,842 over those of 1908. The total surplus of the Ordinary and Industrial branches is £3,002,068, which is disposed of as follows: £265,000 has been added to the Investments Reserve Fund of the Ordinary Branch, and £50,000 to the reserve fund of the Industrial Branch; £1,674,937 will be distributed among participating policyholders in the Ordinary Branch, policyholders in the Industrial Branch, the shareholders, and the superintendency and agency staff, leaving £812,131 to be carried forward. In the Ordinary Branch a reversionary bonus at the rate of £1 14s. per cent. on the original sums assured has been added to all classes of participating policies issued since the year 1876, an increase of two shillings per cent. over the rate declared for the past three years.

ONE LICENCE FOR ALL.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES' VIEWS.

On the occasion of the National Sunday League concert at the Alhambra last Sunday, a most interesting address was given by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones on "The Licensing Chaos in Theatres and Music Halls."

Sir HERBERT TREE presided, and before the address was read there was a most enjoyable concert. Miss Amy Evans was in excellent voice for "Oh, love that rulest in our land," and "Robert, toi que j'aime"; whilst Mr. H. Lane Wilson gave "When the Almond Blossoms Fall" and "Yo San." As usual, Mr. G. W. Byng's splendid orchestra was a delight to listen to. The selections rendered by them included Allegro Marcia, *Henry VIII.*; Overture, *Mignon*; Selection, *Pagliacci*; Suite, *Egyptian*; Overture, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; Scenes Napolitaines, 5th Suite; and Grand Finale, "Reminiscences of Tschaikowsky," introducing "1812" Overture.

Sir HERBERT TREE made a remarkable announcement regarding the Censorship. He said: "At one time I myself was of the opinion that the theatre and the music-hall should be kept apart, but the public have shown that they would prefer it otherwise, and I am now heartily in agreement with the recommendation of one licence. The managers, I think, have for the most part also come to the conclusion that there should be one licence for all."

MR. H. A. JONES' ADDRESS.

Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES on rising said: This meeting to-night reminds me of a meeting in old St. James's Hall in the autumn of 1889, when I addressed the National Sunday League on behalf of the opening of the National Gallery and the National Museums on Sundays. Perhaps one or two of you may remember that meeting. At that time there seemed little hope of our obtaining a rational Sunday in England; but so quickly did things move that in a few years our national collections of pictures were thrown open so that their owners (the English people) might have the privilege of looking at them for one or two hours on the only day in the week when many of them have the leisure and freedom to enjoy the contemplation of works of art. I never addressed a more enthusiastic meeting than that meeting twenty-one years ago. I want to address you to-night on a kindred question, one that is, I believe, of almost equal importance: the evening amusements of the people of England. That is our theme to-night. Think how much it means! Consider the millions of our English citizens living, for the most part, sedentary, monotonous lives. The great majority of us are toiling during the day at desks, at looms, in shops, in warehouses, and offices at some quite routine task which, instead of quickening the powers of our minds, rather tends to clog and deaden them. Well, after the dreary routine of the day is over, millions of our population go out in search of relaxation and amusement. To-morrow night, at this hour, this building will be occupied by a very different audience from that which has assembled here to-night. At least, that audience will come here in the hope of getting a rather more lively entertainment than I fear I can promise you in my lecture. And this building is only one of many hundreds throughout England where, to-morrow night, at this time, vast audiences will be assembled in the hope of being entertained and amused. I will ask you to enlarge the spaces of your imagination until they contain seating capacity for hundreds of thousands. Try to conceive all those vast audiences to-morrow night in all the theatres and music halls of England; summon them before you, multiply row after row, tier upon tier, crowd upon crowd listening, watching, laughing, weeping, hushed, applauding; here catching a moment of rapture from some heroic sentiment, there grinning and chuckling perhaps at some half-veiled indecency; here, a few of them tasting the fine flavour of some choice Shakespearean passage; there rolling and roaring over some piece of stale buffoonery; here awed by the tricks of the scene-shifter; there startled and impressed by some searching flashlight into the human heart; here being stupefied, coarsened, and vulgarised; and there being charmed, exhilarated, humanised, vitalised. I want you to conjure up in your mind these millions of amusement seekers, to put your finger on their millions of beating pulses, and I want you to consider how enormous, how far-reaching, how operative—not only upon manners but upon conduct and character—must be the effect upon them of what occupies their evening hours of leisure. For the great majority of them the hours of day are dull and lifeless, with mechanical labour. It is only in their two or three hours of evening leisure that nine-tenths of our population can be said to live at all.

THE PEOPLE'S AMUSEMENTS.

Well, I maintain that the character of the amusements of our people is a matter of supreme importance in our national economy; in fact, outside the great permanent concerns of Government, the defence of the country, the guarding of the national finances, the enforcement of law—outside a few such great matters as these, I cannot see what question has more intrinsic importance, or could so fittingly engage the attention of legislators as the question of the amusements of the people. I want you to feel with me how very important it is that any attempt to raise the character and quality of those arts should not be interfered with by and useless restrictions, akin to those restrictions which a few years ago shut the doors of our museums and picture galleries on Sunday. I want you to feel that this is a question of the same kind; that it is quite related to that other question which the National Sunday League spent many years to settle on the only firm and reasonable basis. How was the opening of the museums and picture galleries carried and established? By an appeal to common-sense and to fair play all round. There were many people in England who wished to go to church on Sundays; there were many other people who wished to go to a public-house; there were many other people who wished to see their National collection of pictures, and to hear fine music. There were many others who wished to do some two or all three of these perfectly reasonable things. Well, in the end, it was found that the people who wished to employ their Sunday leisure in these reasonable ways could not be thwarted and restricted and denied without the risk of great and increasing disturbance. It suddenly occurred to the Government that there was a very simple way out of the difficulty, and that was to allow those people who wanted to go to church to go there; those people who wanted to go to a public-house to go there; and those people who wanted to see our collection of pictures to see them. That was the only solution. It was the simple solution of common-sense and fairplay all round. Well, now, let us again take common-sense and fair play all round as our guides, and apply them to the regulation of the people's amusements on their week-day evenings.

Inasmuch as theatres and music halls are places where intoxicating liquors are sold; inasmuch also as they are places where large crowds assemble and there is danger of fire and crushing; inasmuch also as they are places where possibly indecent exhibitions may be held; for all these three reasons it is necessary that there should be a licence to regulate them so that the manager may be held responsible for anything taking place there which is indecent or dangerous, or harmful to the general body of their frequenters. I say that there is no doubt that a licence—a set of regulations is necessary. We are all agreed upon that. But surely this licence ought to be framed with the idea, and in the intention of not stopping or thwarting any amusement that is not dangerous or harmful or indecent. Our two rules in framing this licence ought to be these:—"Let any citizen who provides amusement for his fellow-citizens have the right to give them whatever amusement he thinks they want, providing only that it is not dangerous, harmful, or indecent. Let every citizen who wants amusement have the right to go where such amusement is provided. That seems to me to be the only way in which a licence can be framed according to the very plain dictates of common-sense and fair play. Instead of licences being framed and issued in accordance with that very simple rule, we have at the present moment a bewildering and mischievous chaos of stupid restrictions. I will not attempt to describe that chaos to you, for I should only keep you here till to-morrow morning, and then I could not give you any clear idea of the endless and futile absurdities that cramp and thwart the managers of theatres and music halls, and prevent them from giving, and the average citizen from getting, the harmless or intellectual amusement that he is asking for. If I do not tax you beyond endurance I will instance a few of them. There are thirteen varied forms of licensing:—

1. A Patent Theatre. The origin of this licence was that a number of citizens said to the authorities "We have a very respectable company who wish a very respectable play, and we should like the King to permit our theatre to have the Royal patent." The only remaining patent theatres in England are Covent Garden, Drury Lane, the Theatre Royal, Bath, and the Theatre Royal, Margate.
2. Lord Chamberlain's licence for stage-plays only, and for the sale of drink, but no smoking.
3. L.C.C. licence for plays, but no drink.
4. L.C.C. for plays and drink.
5. L.C.C. licence for plays and drink and smoking.
6. L.C.C. licence for variety entertainments, and smoking without drinks, and without plays of any kind.
7. L.C.C. licence for variety entertainments and drinking and smoking.
8. Provinces, similar licenses, with the occasional privilege of holding three distinct kinds of licences granted by the local authorities
9. Dublin, under the approval of the Lord Lieutenant.
10. The rest of Ireland under the approval of the local magistrates.
11. Isle of Man. A licence from the House of Keys.
12. In Glasgow the theatres are licensed with no sale of drink after ten. Judging from the national character this seems to be a distinct encouragement to the audience to miss the earlier acts and get drunk while they have time.
13. The Oxford and Cambridge Theatres are controlled by the University authorities.

The Court Theatre is the only West-End house not under the Lord Chamberlain, because it happens to be outside a boundary line, therefore it has a licence from the L.C.C.

A man may build a perfect playhouse, such as the Scala, and under the Lord Chamberlain's licence he is helplessly restricted to stage-plays, while a theatre like Covent Garden, to the good and gain of the manager and of the public, may be at any time either

A Circus,	A Concert Hall,
A Playhouse,	A Variety House,
An Opera House,	A Dancing Saloon.

Is that common-sense? Is that fair play?

THE COMMON INFORMER.

The Camden Theatre was opened as a theatre, and, like most theatres in these bad days, it did not pay. So it was sold to a music hall syndicate. They opened with a variety performance. A common informer sought the parish constable of Camden Town, who is, it seems, the legal authority to institute proceedings. He could not find the parish constable. The case was, however, tried and the theatre closed. It was reopened with a cinematograph and an electric piano. Down again came the common informer and said, "You are not licensed for music." The manager said an electric piano was not music, but this plea did not serve. He was fined 40s. and was told he ought to be fined £400. And again the theatre was closed. Is that common sense? Is that fair play? Hengler's Circus was able for some time to present many varied forms of entertainment, but the Princess's and Scala, a few yards away, remain closed because they may only produce stage-plays.

A touring pantomime found it possible to give a complete performance in a music hall; the following week in another hall they had to cut it up into variety turns to conform to music hall licence. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

The Coliseum, about four years ago, held the Lord Chamerlain's licence, and therefore could not legally perform variety entertainments. They, therefore, dished up all the music-hall turns into some semblance of a play by supposing an Uncle Gregory to be giving a party, and Uncle Gregory had to invite the elephants to entertain the children. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

The Aldwych was forced to have a play written at five minutes' notice to cover the performance of a famous American band. The Scala, under the management of the Variety Artists' Federation, had to provide a play to introduce a succession of music-hall stars, who, under this subterfuge, could give their ordinary performance. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

The Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, can only produce stage-plays and must prohibit smoking. At the Crouch End Theatre, a short distance away, which happens to be outside the Lord Chamberlain's boundary, there you may smoke and give any kind of entertainment, play or varieties. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

Now you know that it is quite illegal for music halls to produce any stage play, but under the illegal agreement between theatre managers and music-hall proprietors, which was condoned by our chairman (I am grieved to point him out as a law-breaker)—under this illegal agreement Oscar Wilde's *Florentine Tragedy* and Shakespearean scenes are performed at music halls, but theatres may not introduce songs or dances unless they are part of the play. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

A sketch recently seen in the music halls is now played at a West-End theatre, and several one-act plays recently seen at West-End theatres are now given at the halls. Both performances are illegal. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

In a well-known seaside town the local entertainment provider, both at theatres and other playhouses, is a most important property-owner in the town, and has no difficulty in presenting any form of amusement, whereas a stranger wanting to build a new place of amusement would probably experience great opposition. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

In Blackpool you may combine a circus, concert-hall, theatre, dancing-hall, restaurant, and general amusement building, as at our Crystal Palace; at other places the theatre and therefore the drama is handicapped by being able to present only stage-plays. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

In Harrogate the ratepayers have built their own concert-hall and theatre, and voted themselves a free licence to give any sort of programme; but the Opera House may only give stage-plays. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

Music-hall managers are everywhere giving performances of plays not exceeding thirty minutes, and not having more than six characters; these performances are illegal and they are liable to prosecution if any common informer brings an action against them. They are, however, tolerated by the authorities. But if any dramatic author produces a play lasting thirty-five minutes and with seven characters, he would be prosecuted by the authorities themselves. Is that common sense? Is that fair play?

"BLIND, WILFUL IMBECILITY."

On the other hand, if Sir Herbert Tree wished to give a high-class entertainment at His Majesty's—say, an entertainment consisting of a troupe of five dancers, a song by a prima donna, a solo by a violinist, and a play of an hour in the middle—if Sir Herbert wished to give a high-class variety entertainment, and you may judge what a high-class artistic variety entertainment Sir Herbert would give you—if he did that, he would be liable to prosecution. Is that common sense? Is it fair play? Is it anything but sheer blind wilful imbecility? Is it not putting handcuffs on artistic and intellectual amusement? These are some of the features of this confusion worse confounded that prevails throughout the amusement world all over the country.

I want to know what you citizens of London would say if next Sunday morning, when you take a walk across Hyde Park, you found that the authorities had stuck up barbed wire enclosures all across the main paths and thoroughfares; if you wanted to go from the Marble Arch to the Serpentine you found these rings of barbed wire in your way, and a policeman stationed at each of them warning off any peaceable citizen who wanted to walk along the public path.

"You can't go down that path. Take your wife and family the other way."

Well, you take them another way round, and you find the same barbed wire stuck all across another path, and you find another policeman, saying:—

"You can't go along there. Come off that path."

And you say "Why? It is a public path, is it not?"

"Come off that path!"

"Why?" you peaceably ask.

"Well, the authorities have rigged it up with barbed wire and you cannot go across."

"But why have the authorities put up that barbed wire?" you ask. "What is the reason?"

"They have not got any reason; they've put up the barbed wire. Come off, that is what you've got to do!"

If that took place in Hyde Park I think the citizens of London could very soon make short work of that barbed wire and those fences. I do not think it would be there the next Sunday morning. But the result of our present system of licensing amusement is quite as obstructive to the ordinary rights of the citizens. All across our evening hours of leisure—the only time when we may be said to live—all across these evening hours of leisure they have stuck the barbed wire of senseless and indefensible restrictions. If you ask for the reason, there may, indeed, be some sort of a reason why perhaps the barbed wire fence was once put there, but there is no reason on earth why you should not pull it down and use your own public way.

Many of these needless and indefensible restrictions have grown up from the fact that our music-halls and theatres had an entirely different origin. Our English drama had its origin in the period of the Renaissance, and came, as you know, from the old morality plays and from the mummeries that grew round Church feasts and Church holidays. It is not certain at what date the Lord Chamberlain first began to exercise a censorship over stage-plays; but the records of his office show that as early as 1628 the Lord Chamberlain either personally or through the Master of Revels, licensed theatres, and closed them, and exercised a general supervision over the work of the dramatist. These powers sprang from the Royal prerogative, but in 1737 the censorship became a statutory function of the Lord Chamberlain. Our great Henry Fielding had been writing political plays, and had put on the stage political personages. This became so offensive to Sir Robert Walpole that he brought in a law which constituted the Lord Chamberlain licenser of theatres within the city and liberties of Westminster, and wherever the Sovereign might reside. That law empowered the Lord Chamberlain to prohibit, at any time and anywhere in Great Britain, a performance of any play, and it imposed heavy penalties on those who should perform any play in an unlicensed theatre, or any prohibited play, or any new play, without the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain or of letters patent from the Crown. Ever since then our plays all over the country have been licensed and played according to the judgment, or mercy, or caprice of the Lord Chamberlain, according as he liked to open his eyes or to close them.

Now, the music-hall entertainment arose in quite a different way. Before 1751 there was no regulation of entertainment outside the theatre. To show how the regulations for our present London music halls arose I cannot do better than quote to you the preamble to the Act of 1751, which was the date when they became subject to legal supervision. The preamble to that Act reads as follows:—

"AND WHEREAS the multitude of places of entertainment for the lower sort of people is another great cause of thefts and robberies, as they are thereby tempted to spend their small substance in riotous pleasures, and in consequence to put on unlawful methods of supplying their wants and renewing their pleasures; in order, therefore, to prevent said temptation to thefts and robberies, and to correct as far as may be the habit of idleness, which has become too general over the whole kingdom, and is productive of much mischief and inconvenience, be it enacted 'Any house, room, garden, or other place kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind in the City of London or Westminster, or within twenty miles thereof, without a licence, had for that purpose from the last preceding Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be holden for the county in which said house, room, garden, or other place is situate, as signified under the hands and seals of four or more of the Justices there assembled, shall be deemed a disorderly house or place, and every person keeping such house, room, &c., without such licence as aforesaid, shall forfeit the sum of £100 and be otherwise punishable as the law directs in the case of disorderly houses."

You will see from this that until within the last generation there was a very definite line between the theatre and the music hall. Until then there was a legal line of demarcation, which gave the theatre the absolute right to the performance of stage-plays. There was a further line of demarcation in the character of the entertainments given at music halls, which were generally of a rather low, disreputable, and sometimes indecent character. There was also a pretty general line of demarcation between the audiences who attended the theatre and the music hall respectively. So that, until about a generation ago, there was a reason for the separate licensing and the separate regulation of the theatre and the music hall.

Now there is a very great deal to be said for the legal reservation of the theatre as the sole place where stage-plays can be performed. I can well understand and sympathise with our leading London managers who still hold that the theatre should be the only place where stage-plays shall be performed, and that the dignity of the drama will be best upheld if the theatre alone has the legal right to the performance of stage-plays. I say there is much to be said for that view of the whole question.

SIR HERBERT TREE'S BROAD VIEWS.

I suppose until a few years ago Sir Herbert Tree would have been one of the first to claim this reservation and distinction of the theatre. I think it says much for his broad-mindedness and for the liberal way in which he looks at the question generally, that he is found taking the chair to-night with a view of breaking down all barbed wire restrictions between the music hall and the theatre. I hope we are all agreed that the dignity of the English Drama is one of the first considerations that should guide us. Nobody living has done more to uphold that dignity than Sir Herbert Tree, and if he is here to-night to support my argument for breaking down these restrictions and barriers between the theatre and the music hall, you may be quite sure that it is not from any lax views about the dignity of the drama, and about the necessity of upholding it as a fine art, and as an instrument of refinement and civilisation in England to-day. You may be sure that he has thoroughly weighed the whole matter, and it is not from any wish to degrade the English theatre or to lower its influence that to-night he is found to be expressing different views from those he held, under different circumstances, a few years back, and different views from those held by the majority of his brother West-End managers at the present time.

There is much to be said in favour of reserving the theatre as the only place where stage-plays can be performed. There is also very much to be said for the Feudal System. The main argument against it is that it is quite unworkable in the present condition of England. Equally unworkable is the enforcement of the law which still exists, that licensed theatres are the only places to-day where stage-plays can be legally performed.

Gradually, during the last generation, the music halls have more and more raised the character of their entertainments, and have drawn a more and more respectable class. During that time they have more and more illegally encroached on the rights and reservations of the theatre.

The improvement of the music-hall entertainment took place when music halls began the illicit performances of sketches and little plays. I believe that that improvement (a very surprising improvement when we remember what music halls were thirty years ago) is largely due to their performance of stage-plays. You know that, at first, these sketches being illegal, were prosecuted, and the managers of the music halls were heavily fined. These prosecutions were instituted until it became very evident that they were powerless to prevent the performance of sketches in the music halls. If these prosecutions were continued, it is estimated that at the present time there would be 150,000 of them annually. The law-breaking has become so frequent and so respectable that it is quite useless to continue proceedings against the law-breakers. Upon this point the recent report of the Censorship Committee contains these very significant words:—

"The performance of sketches in music halls is a practice too firmly established to be uprooted, nor is there any reason why the public which frequents music halls should be deprived, by force of law, of the pleasure of witnessing whatever form of entertainment those who cater for their amusement are able to provide.

"We believe, and we are supported in this belief by the evidence given before us by many of those best qualified to speak in the interest of the serious drama, that the competition of the variety stage is not likely, appreciably, to affect the well-being of those forms of British drama which are entitled to solicitude."

Let us go back for a moment to our rule of common sense and fair play. What common sense and fair play indicate is the only simple way of meeting our difficulties. It is that indicated by the report of the Censorship Committee, namely, to abolish the present legal differentiation between the theatre and the music hall, and to allow each to present whatever form of entertainment it desires. I believe that whatever differences of opinion there may have been about other points, the Censorship Committee were unanimous in coming to the conclusion that there is no other way out of the present entanglement. There is no other way of allowing each provider of entertainment to give to his various patrons the best that he can provide. There is no other way of allowing you, as citizens, to get the kind of amusement that you wish for.

CLASSICS SEEN THOUGH SMOKE.

For many years past I have advocated that music halls should be allowed to give their patrons whatever kind of entertainment those patrons desired. I have urged music-hall managers not to rest until it is legal to produce *Hamlet* and *The School for Scandal* in every music hall of the kingdom. I do not suppose there are many music halls that would produce *Hamlet*, but it has been done in a small way, and there is no conceivable reason why you should not be allowed if you wish to see *The School for Scandal* and to smoke your pipe at the same time. Well, that is how the affair stands at the present moment; but recently another aspect of the question has been presented to us. The music-hall managers who have been illegally prevented from giving sketches and plays and have been claiming the right to do so, seem now to be protesting against the only common-sense and fair-play settlement of the difficulty, namely, one uniform licence for theatre and music hall, with permission to the manager to allow smoking if he thinks it advisable. The music-hall managers object to that. They wish to have the right of producing plays of thirty or forty minutes or an hour's duration, but apparently they do not wish that the theatres should have the right of producing dances, songs, and other items of high-class variety entertainment. The music-hall managers have not, so far as I am aware, given any valid reason for their opposition to the one and uniform licence. Such reasons as they have given seem to me to be wholly vague and unsustainable, and wear the aspect of being dictated by considerations of their own personal profit. Of course, if the music halls could still be protected in doing their little plays, and if the theatres could be prevented from giving a high-class variety entertainment, that would undoubtedly be a great thing for the prosperity of the music halls; but would it be in accordance with our rule of common sense and fair play? Would it be best for the public? That is the consideration that must guide the settlement of this matter. The music-hall managers must be very firmly asked to state their reasons why they are so anxious that there should be one licence for the music hall to give it the right to do short plays, and another licence for the theatre, apparently designed to restrict it in competing with the music-hall entertainment. Now the Theatre Royal, Dublin, is licensed by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and is allowed to present to the public whatever entertainment the manager may find advisable and profitable, that is to say, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Dublin, is allowed to present to his patrons any kind of entertainment that is not dangerous or harmful or indecent. Why should not the manager of every music hall and every theatre in the Kingdom be allowed an equal privilege. Did I say "privilege"? I meant to say why, in the name of common sense and fair play, is any music-hall manager, and theatre, to be any longer hedged in by these useless barbed-wire restrictions!

A COMMON-SENSE ARRANGEMENT.

I will tell you the result of this common-sense, fair-play policy in Dublin. I was speaking to the managing-director of that theatre a few days ago. He tells me that this common-sense arrangement has allowed him to give a dramatic season of high-class plays at a time of the year when his patrons wanted them. It has allowed him to give a variety entertainment when his patrons asked for a variety entertainment; it has allowed him to give a hippodrome entertainment in the summer when that form of entertainment was most suitable to the weather and to the tastes of his patrons. The result of this common-sense arrangement has been that the drama has prospered in Dublin, the theatre has paid, and he has secured a handsome dividend for the shareholders. I can only ask again, why this common-sense arrangement should not be in practice in every music hall and theatre in the kingdom.

Our drama is virtually dead in the provinces owing to the enormous popularity and prosperity of the music hall entertainment. Those of us who wish to see the dignity of the English drama upheld do not propose to curtail or to thwart the music-hall proprietors in their presentation of any stage-play that they may wish to produce. But, obviously, this also implies that the music-hall managers must not endeavour to kill the legitimate art of the drama by enforcing upon it unnecessary restrictions and disabilities.

I will make a very strong appeal to music-hall managers. I will say to them: "Look at the enormous success and prosperity of your music halls! Well, they deserve it. They have given the English people the amusement they have asked for; they are rightly successful."

The entertainments in music halls are certainly on the up grade. There is no doubt there is much to be deplored, much that one would not call very intellectual, very high class, but it is mainly harmless and amusing. But are you sure that the great body of English playgoers and amusement-seekers are not ready for a still greater advance, a still higher quality of amusement, a still greater development of the dramatic part of your entertainment? I am sure that many of you do not consider yourselves as mere shopkeepers just to supply that kind of stupid, coarse, or even demoralising amusement that there may be a passing demand for; I am sure many of you take a higher view of your position and your responsibilities. Will you not class yourselves as managers of licensed houses where the great and noble art of the drama may be found to flourish, more and more; flourish, as I believe, to your pecuniary profit, and to the intellectual profit and well-being of your audiences? That is the appeal I will make to the music-hall managers, and I still demand from them some valid, some reasonable argument why the one uniform licence should not be made general throughout the kingdom.

I think, also, that I may ask the National Sunday League to keep an eye on this question, and, so far as possible, to make it a plank in their platform.

I have confined myself to-night to the question of the one licence because it would be very easy to pass a short Act of Parliament legalising all stage-plays in music halls and legalising all kinds of entertainments in theatres. Of course, the matter is complicated with the Censorship question. I have not touched on that to-night, but perhaps at some fututre time I may ask you to give me half an hour to explain to you what the censorship of plays really means.

The question of the one licence is also deeply complicated with the question of Sunday recreation generally; that also is a matter which we cannot touch upon to-night. But, seeing that it is involved with your own Sunday question, I will ask you not to rest until the licensing matter is settled in the only way that it can be settled in conformity with our rule of common sense and fair play all round. I ask you not to rest until every theatre and every music hall in the kingdom has Letters Patent from you as playgoers to give and perform whatever entertainment the manager may choose and the audiences may wish to see, the only restriction being that that entertainment shall not be indecent, or dangerous, or harmful to the general public.

Sir HERBERT next expressed the hope that "the gilded pill of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's eloquence" would be swallowed by the authorities, in accordance with the obvious desire of the audience. At one time he had himself thought that a theatre should be a theatre and a music hall a music hall; but he was in the minority, and the public preferred that it should not be so. The evidence given before the Censorship Committee showed that one licence would be better, and he hoped the address to which they had listened would strengthen the hands of those in favour of the proposed legislation.

THE Rev. Montague Fowler, in one of his dinner-time lectures on the "Morality of Social Pleasures," at All Hallows, London Wall, on Wednesday, said the principal reasons brought against theatre-going were (1) that the theatre is the ante-chamber of the devil and ought to be avoided like a plague-stricken dwelling; (2) that plays have an immoral tendency; and (3) that the majority of the theatrical profession are godless and immoral. These views were not those of a superannuated Scotch Calvinist only; they occupied a place in the minds of some Nonconformists, and such narrow-minded bigotry was to be found in Anglican ranks.

SUCH a bigoted condemnation of the theatre was unworthy of serious consideration by sensible people. He entirely agreed that if a play with an immoral tendency was produced, it was the duty of Christian people to avoid it. But at the present day such plays were rare. The censorship exercised a reasonable amount of discretion, and was it fair to condemn theatres wholesale because of one offender in this respect? The majority of the pieces now running were full of fun or had an historical interest. In suburban melodrama vice was unmasked and virtue triumphant when the curtain fell, and the applause showed that the moral had gone home.

THOUSANDS had been impressed by Mr. Forbes Robertson in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, and the lesson conveyed by *The Sign of the Cross* had been powerful for good. The theatre could be a strong factor in the promotion of enlightenment. In spite of the difficulties of Sunday travelling, the percentage of actors and actresses who attended church compared favourably with that of other classes. He would not advise a flighty girl to go in for musical comedy, nor a father to take his young daughter to see a problem play.

THE Classical Concert Society announces three concerts, to take place on April 13, 20, and 27, to celebrate Schumann's centenary. The programme will be representative of Schumann's pianoforte, vocal, and chamber music. On Dr. Arne's 200th birthday will be given a performance of many of his best-known songs by the Sunday Concert Society, and "Rule, Britannia," scored by Mr. Henry J. Wood, will be a feature of the concert. The vocalist will be Miss Amy Evans.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree announces with every satisfaction that owing to the success of *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's Theatre the run of that play will be continued until the annual Shakespeare Festival. The manager of His Majesty's has been greatly gratified by the proffered co-operation in this festival of nearly all the leaders of the English stage.

Sir John Hare has consented to unveil Mr. Thomas Brock, R.A.'s, statue of Sir Henry Irving, and at a meeting of the Irving Memorial Committee which took place on Wednesday morning at the St. James's Theatre, it was settled that the statue on which Mr. Brock has been at work for about three years should be erected in July. At the invitation of the committee, Mr. H. B. Irving's name was enrolled among the number of the members.

Mr. Lewis Waller will present *The Rivals* at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, the 28th inst., opening with the revival in London on Tuesday, April 5. Mr. Waller's Jack Absolute is sure to be a vivacious and virile conception; much interest centres in Mr. Robert Loraine's Bob Acres; and for the excellence of the Lydia Languish of Miss Kate Cutler and the Sir Anthony of Mr. C. W Somerset the reputation of those two artists is sufficient guarantee.

Mr. Hermann Vezin, who celebrated his eighty-first birthday on a bed of sickness, received many congratulatory letters and telegrams, principally from members of the theatrical profession. He wishes us to ask the senders all to accept his sincere thanks. He has, while confined to his bed, managed to make many translations of plays from the French and German.

The movement to present Mrs. D'Oyly Carte with a testimonial in the shape of her own portrait painted by a distinguished artist is progressing favourably, and Mr. W. F. Fladgate, at 2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross, has already received many subscriptions, including cheques from Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Chappell and Co., Mr. George Edwardes, Messrs. A. and S. Gatti, Mr. William Greet, Lord Kilmorey, Sir J. Runtz, Mr. Samuel Samuel, Mr. Edward Terry, Sir Herbert Tree, and Sir Charles Wyndham. The subscription is open to all theatrical managers and also, it should be noted, to any members of the general public who may desire to show their affectionate esteem for Mrs Carte.

Mrs. Carte, we are sorry to hear, has been again unwell, and has been confined to her room with a bad attack of influenza, but she has not allowed her own sufferings to prevent her remembering the wants of others. Mr. C. I. Coltson, the popular secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, has received from her the following letter: "Dear Mr. Coltson,—I am afraid from what you write me that the distress is very great indeed this year, and I gather this also from the many letters I have myself received. I am, therefore, sending you an extra subscription of £50 to the fund." Mrs. Carte is arranging for a recuperative holiday on the South Coast.

Mr. James Welch had a gratifying testimony to the amusing qualities of *When Knights were Bold* at the Criterion on Tuesday. Prince Henry of Prussia, who occupied a private box, was convulsed with laughter during the performance; and at the conclusion he sent round for Mr. Welch, complimented him very graciously on his performance, and expressed the intense gratification and amusement which he (the Prince) had derived from the play.

Mr. Cyril Maude will produce *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* at the Playhouse in the afternoon of March 15 for a series of Tuesday and Thursday matinées. Mr. Maude will impersonate the old toymaker, and additional interest will be given to the production by the fact that his daughter, Miss Margery Maude, will make her début on the stage. Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. A. Holmes Gore, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Daniel McCarthy, Mr. A. G. Onslow, Master Bobbie Andrews, Miss Emma Chambers, and Miss Elsie Chester will complete the cast.

Lady Beerbohm Tree has sent a special gift of £100 to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith and his company, which includes Mr. Murray Carson, Miss Ruth Mackay, and the members of the Criterion Theatre company, met with an enthusiastic reception at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, last week. At the fall of the curtain on the opening night there was thundering applause, and Mr. Grossmith was not allowed to leave the stage until he had addressed the vast audience, and given them a promise to return to them at the earliest opportunity. This week Mr. Grossmith and his company are arousing similar enthusiasm at the Grand Theatre, Hull.

Sir Herbert Tree, while His Majesty's Theatre is being occupied by Mr. Thomas Beecham, intends to go on a six weeks' tour to some of the principal provincial towns. His repertory will include *The Merchant of Venice*, *Trilby*, and *The O'Flynn*, which will doubtless prove very acceptable to the playgoers of Dublin, where a whole fortnight will be spent.

Mr. Charles Allan, who will be one of the cast of Mr. Austin Strong's *Toymaker of Nuremberg*, which Mr. Cyril Maude will shortly present at a matinée at the Playhouse, is one of the most experienced actors on our stage. He made his first professional appearance at Brighton in 1884, and has since appeared in hundreds of leading rôles, both with Sir Herbert Tree and others. Mr. Allan has been engaged by Mr. Maude, by permission of Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Allan's present manager.

Mr. Charles Frohman, at the Duke of York's Theatre on Wednesday, will present *The Madras House*, a comedy in four acts, by Mr. Granville Barker, with a cast including: Mr. E. W. Garden, Miss Florence Haydon, Miss Ada Marius, Miss Elizabeth Chesney, Miss Joy Chatwyn, Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Sybil Thorndyke, Miss Nell Carter, Mr. Charles Bryant, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Miss Fay Davis, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Miss May Whitty, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Miss Mary Jerrold, Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss Mary Barton, Miss Geraldine Olliffe, Mr. Charles Maude, and Mr. Donald Calthrop.

The following artists are in the cast of the new musical play, in two acts, entitled *Two Merry Monarchs*, written by Arthur Anderson and George Levy, lyrics by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick, and music by Orlando Morgan, which will be produced on Thursday next at the Savoy Theatre:—Messrs. C. H. Workman, Robert Whyte, jun., Lennox Pawle, Roland Cunningham, Leslie Stiles, and Neville George, and Misses Daisy Le Hay, Alma Barber, Mayne Young, Aileen Peel, Marie West, Laurie Opperman, Joan Adair, Betty Heaps, and Adeline Waterlow.

Mr. Charles Frohman left London for Paris on Wednesday. He will return in about a week, doubtless having acquired some important rights of French plays, and will superintend the rehearsals of the new American play *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, in which the leading parts will be played by Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Miss Alexandra Carlisle.

An elaborately set-out programme of the Shakespeare Festival, which will be given under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, has been issued. Sixteen plays of Shakespeare will be presented, including the Histories, *Richard the Second*, *Henry the Fourth* (part 2), *Henry the Fifth*, and *Richard the Third*. The programme will also include *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, by Beaumont and Fletcher, The Prize Play, and scenes from *The School for Scandal*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, &c.

The festival will be opened by Sir Herbert Tree on Tuesday afternoon, April 22, with a performance of *Hamlet*, to be followed by a succession of plays afternoon and evening for four weeks. Among the distinguished actors and actresses who will appear for Mr. Benson are also Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. De Silva, Mr. Otho Stuart, Miss Genevieve Ward, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. James Carew, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Nora Lancaster, Miss Mary Rorke, and Mr. Charles Glenny.

The Old Bensonian matinée is to take place on the afternoon of May 3, when scenes will be given from *The Merchant of Venice*, *The School for Scandal*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Shylock and Petruchio will be acted by Mr. F. R. Benson, and Portia and Katharina by Mrs. Benson. Amongst Old Bensonians who have promised to appear are the Misses Jessie Bateman, Lilian Braithwaite, Elsie Chester, Frances Dillon, Elizabeth Kirby, Jean McKinley, Frances Wetherall; Messrs. Henry Ainley, Alfred Brydone, J. B. Fagan, George Fitzgerald, A. E. George, H. R. Hignett, Herbert Jalland, Charles Quartermaine, Otho Stuart, V. Stenhouse, E. Lyall Swete, Henry Vibart, E. A. Warburton, Arthur Whitby, Harcourt Williams, and Christopher Wilson.

Beaumont and Fletcher's comedy, *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, will be produced on Tuesday evening April 26, and Thursday afternoon, April 28. The Birthday Revival play will be *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, which will be given on Saturday evening, April 23, Tuesday evening, May 3, Thursday afternoon, May 5, with Mrs. F. R. Benson as Julia, Mr. Eric Maxon as Proteus, Mr. F. R. Benson as Duke of Milan, Miss Nora Lancaster as Silvia, and Mr. Murray Carrington as Valentine.

On April 5 will be given the first performance of a prize play, selected from among 315 for an award of £300, which will be publicly presented to the author. On the afternoons of the 6th and 7th *The Merchant of Venice* is to be the attraction, with Miss Ellen Terry as Portia, Mr. Otho Stuart as Bassanio, and Mr. James Carew as Shylock. On Monday evening, the 9th, *Much Ado About Nothing* will be repeated, Miss Winifred Emery playing Beatrice, Mr. A. E. George Dogberry, and Mr. Lewis Waller Benedick. The festival will terminate on the evening of the 14th with a revival of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, in which the characters will be sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Benson and the members of their Shakespearean company. On the afternoon of Tuesday, April 26, Mrs. Leo Grindon will deliver a lecture on "Some Overlooked Points in the Text of *Hamlet*."

The celebration this year will be on an extended scale, including decoration of the town, music, singing, processions, Old English games, &c. The Memorial Lecture Room will be set apart during the Festival as a reading-room and rendezvous for visitors to the town. A collection of paintings and drawings will be exhibited. An exhibition of arms, armour, and heraldry, illustrating Shakespeare's history plays, is being arranged at the Grammar School. The floral procession to Holy Trinity Church will take place, as usual, on April 23, from the Birthplace, and the Old English sports, folk dances, and games will be held on Thursday, May 12, in the Theatre Gardens.

Mr. Augustus Belmont, banker, racehorse owner, and the wealthiest widower of New York, was privately married on Sunday last to Miss Eleanor Robson, the well-known American actress, who was born at Wigan, Lancashire. Except the bride's mother, Mrs. Madge Carr Cook, none of the bride's associates on the stage was present at the wedding, which took place at Miss Robson's residence in 77th Street.

Mr. Belmont and Miss Robson obtained the licence by special arrangement on the night of the 26th ult., when the marriage licence bureau was kept open after hours for their convenience. The front drawing-room of Miss Robson's house was beautifully decorated with white lilac, yellow jonquils, and palms. Beneath a floral marriage bell Mgr. Lavelle, assisted by Father Byrde, performed the ceremony. The bride wore a gown of heavy white silk made with Princess effect.

The draped skirt was fastened on one side by hand embroidery, which was also used for the Dutch neck and the elbow sleeves, while the bodice was trimmed with old lace. The age of the bridegroom was given as fifty-seven and that of the bride as thirty-one.

Miss Robson has a most engaging personality and is highly regarded by all sorts and conditions of playgoers in New York and elsewhere. Her high intelligence and individuality were duly noted when she made her first appearance in the metropolis as Bonita Canby in *Arizona* at the Herald-square Theatre in 1900, and during the last ten years she has steadily advanced herself in the esteem of the public by her excellent work in such plays as *A Gentleman of France*, with Mr. Kyrle Bellew; Zangwill's *Merely Mary Ann*, in which piece she fulfilled a London engagement at the Duke of York's Theatre in 1904; *Nurse Marjorie*, another Zangwill play; Paul Armstrong's American drama *Salomy Jane*; and *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, in which she appeared with great success as the optimistic street-waif Glad. Miss Robson is the daughter of Mrs. Madge Carr Cook, who achieved a conspicuous success in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. She was born in Lancashire in 1880, but has lived in America since her infancy. Mr. August Belmont is a "multi-millionaire." He financed the New York subway system. He is fifty-seven years old and a widower.

The Academy of Dramatic Art will give one of its interesting public performances at the St. James's Theatre on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 5, when the third acts of *The Admirable Crichton* and *The Gay Lord Quex*, with scenes from *Love's Labour Lost* and an extract from Molière's *Ecole des Femmes*, in French, will be presented. There also will be a demonstration by Miss Earle of the Delsarte system of gesture, which she will give in Florentine Renaissance costume. Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft's gold medal for the best dramatic performance will again be presented; and Sir Arthur Pinero, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Louis D'Egville, M. Felix Bertrand, Miss Gertrude Burnett, and Mlle. Jeanne Laurent, of the Nouveau Theatre, Paris, have signified their intention to be present. Mr. George Alexander, who is a member of the Council of the Academy, is lending the theatre, and many other accessories.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard is introducing some Chantecler dresses into his *The Earl and the Girl* and *The Belle of New York* companies, and the new costumes should prove a great attraction. A new number has been written to include the Cock, the Hen Pheasant, and the Guinea Fowl. It will be sung for the first time at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on Monday next.

Sir John Tenniel, the King of Cartoonists, celebrated his ninetieth birthday on Monday. Amongst the telegrams received was the following from Mr. George Grossmith, sen.: "God bless you, good friend of the public, live on."

Mr. Cyril Maude's great naval success *The Flag Lieutenant* will be performed at the Coronet on Monday, and that excellent actor Mr. Lyn Harding, whose managerial venture it is, has taken care that the production shall be a replica of that at the Playhouse, and has engaged a very bright and clever company.

The successful run of *The Whip* at Drury Lane will be resumed on the 26th inst, and there will be a special matinée on Easter Monday and morning performances every Wednesday and Saturday. Mr Arthur Collins has been fortunate in being able to re-engage every member of the original company. The principals in the cast are, therefore: Messrs. Basil Gill, Cyril Keightley, Vincent Clive, Charles Rock, Arthur Bucklaw, Cecil Cameron, and George Barrett, and Misses Fanny Brough, Nancy Price, Madge Fabian, and Jessie Bateman.

The long and successful run of *Henry of Navarre* at the New Theatre will end on Wednesday, and on Saturday *The Scarlet Pimpernel* will be put on for a few weeks, with Mr. Fred Terry as Lord Blakeney. Miss Miriam Lewes will appear as Lady Blakeney, by arrangement with various obliging managers. The cast will also include Mr. Horace Hodges, Mr. Alfred Kendrick, and Mr. Malcolm Cherry. The new three-act piece by an unknown author, Mr. Carroll, will be produced about April, with Mr. Terry and Miss Lewes in important parts.

Sir H. Beerbohm Tree writes:—"It will be remembered that the Select Committee of the Houses of Parliament recommended a single licence for theatres and music halls. That recommendation was supported at a public meeting on Sunday by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones. As chairman of the meeting I stated that I was entirely in favour of such legislation, which seemed to be demanded not only by the public, but also by the interests of theatres and music halls. At the same time, I should like to make it clear that the majority of London managers (of whom I am one) desire that we should remain under the control of the Lord Chamberlain."

The cast of the dramatic reading of *Romeo and Juliet*—to be given by the British Empire Shakespeare Society at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon next—is now complete, and is as follows: Romeo, Mr. Lewis Waller; Mercutio, Mr. Arthur Bourchier; Capulet, Mr. Fisher White; Friar Laurence, Mr. A. E. George; Tybalt, Mr. Arthur Wontner; Benvolio, Mr. Athol Stewart; Paris, Mr. Godfrey Tearle; Prince, Mr. Halliwell Hobbes; Montague, Mr. J. Henry Twyford; Peter, Mr. Edward Rigby; Gregory, Mr. Ross Shore; Sampson, Mr. Herbert Alexander; Abraham, Mr. Leonard Calvert; Watchman, Mr. Walter Armstrong; Apothecary, Mr. Tom Heslewood; Balthazar, Mr. Maurice Elvey; Nurse, Mrs. E. H. Brooke; Lady Capulet, Miss Adeline Bourne; Lady Montague, Miss Mary Webb; Page, Miss Dora Jesslyn; and Juliet, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy.

Mr. Ernest Hendrie has resumed his part of the Dog in Maeterlinck's exquisite fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, at the Haymarket Theatre, having quite recovered from his recent indisposition.

When the German version of *When Knights were Bold* is produced in Berlin, Mr. Welch's part will be played by a very clever German comedian named Baselt, who is as great a favourite in the German capital as Mr. Welch is in London.

Mr. Percy Hutchison has been paying a first visit with *Brewster's Millions* at the beautiful Marlborough Theatre this week, and judging by the big business on Monday evening last is captivating the North Londoners completely. There were no less than sixteen curtain calls on Monday after the wonderful ship scene.

Members of the Actors' Benevolent Fund who are willing and entitled to serve on the committee for 1910 and 1911 are requested to send in their names to the secretary, Mr. C. I. Coltson, at 8 Adam street, Adelphi, not later than the 17th of this month. The committee will be composed of fourteen members of £5 and upwards, and seven members of not less than one guinea. All subscribers of 21s. and upwards are entitled to nominate and vote.

"Vom andern Ufer," a series of three plays by Felix Salten, will constitute the next production of the Incorporated Stage Society.

Theatrical managers in Birmingham have figured in many exciting scenes, but Mr. J. F. Graham, of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and Mr. Lester Collingwood, of the Alexandra Theatre, experienced more "thrills" on Tuesday afternoon than they have done for many years. These two gentlemen figured in the final of the Theatrical Managers' Billiard Handicap at the Woolpack Hotel. The game was 250 up, and both started off the 120 mark. It was a neck-and-neck contest for the first half an hour, when Mr. Collingwood came to the front, and the figures in his favour read 221—199. But Mr. Graham went ahead, and ran out a winner by 250 to 236.

Owing to the indisposition of Miss Violet Macaree the part of Greeba, in Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Bondman* company, was successfully played by Miss Lilian Mayne at short notice on the 25th and 26th ult. at the Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

Mr. Lewis A. Long, the acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Bath, is to be given a benefit on Saturday, March 19, when the Bath Amateur Operatic Society and other local amateurs will provide the attraction.

The King and Queen and suite witnessed the Charles Frohman and Arthur Bourchier production of Mr. Somerset Maugham's new play *The Tenth Man* at the Globe Theatre on Tuesday evening.

Mr. Andie Caine's pantomime *Babes in the Wood* concluded its tour at Stratford last Saturday. A farewell dance was held on the 25th ult. at Essex House in the Broadway, when a merry time was spent from 11 p.m. till 4.30. The entire *Babes* company and the whole of the *Cinderella* company were present from the Stratford Empire, in addition to 250 guests. Mr. Caine's conductor, Mr. Beaufort, supplied an excellent orchestra, who varied dreamy waltz melodies with lively dances, and a banjo band of eight performers kept things going with the wild rag-time music of the Sunny South. A café chantant held in one of the side rooms provided much amusement, over thirty different numbers being performed in the course of the four hours. The evening was engineered and stage-managed by Misses Dolly and Madge McCalla, who attended to the whole of the arrangements on behalf of Mr. Andie Caine, who was congratulated by all present on a most successful and enjoyable gathering.

A fillip to theatrical progress in Preston is to be given by Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son, who have decided to erect on the site of the Empress Rink a magnificent building with winter gardens and aviary combined, by which access to a theatre will be gained. The auditorium will be arranged after the style of the Royal Hippodrome, except that a double frontage of boxes is proposed. The stage will be sufficiently spacious to enable the management to do full justice to the largest and best of productions. The proposed name of the new theatre is the New King's Opera House, and the management may be relied upon to cater cleverly for the wants of the people.

Important changes have recently taken place in connection with the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, the building having passed into the hands of Mr. B. Pareezer, a gentleman of excellent credentials, who enjoys a wide experience of matters theatrical, and who has under his control various other similar successful ventures in different parts of the country. The new proprietor has taken over the whole of the bookings entered into by the Lowestoft Theatre Company, and many first-class musical, dramatic, and variety companies are promised during the season. The licence was formally transferred to Mr. Pareezer at the Borough Police-court on Monday.

Mr. F. R. Gwyn-Richardson terminates to-day his third engagement as general-manager of Mr. Frank Bertram's *The Breed of the Treshams* company. He leaves to take up, for the third season, a similar position for Messrs. Helters, Ltd., at their Figure 8 Park at Morecambe.

Mr. Allan Wilkie has been secured by Mr. Bennett for this year's annual Easter Shakespearean and Old English Comedy Festival week at the Opera House, Coventry. The programme for the week will be as follows:—Monday, *The Sleigh Bells* and *David Garrick*; Tuesday, *Macbeth*; Wednesday, *Merry Wives of Windsor*; Thursday, *Taming of the Shrew*; Friday, *School for Scandal*; Saturday matinée *As You Like It*, Saturday evening *Othello*. Mr. Wilkie opens on Monday his second visit to the Grand Theatre, Derby.

"When Knights Were Bold" will figure as the attraction at the Crystal Palace Theatre next week, when the famous glasshouse at Sydenham may be expected to resound with laughter loud and long. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce will play Sir Guy de Vere, a part in which he is seen to great advantage. The rest of the company have all been personally chosen by Mr. Welch, and the piece will be staged exactly as in town. The demand for seats at the Palace is sure to be great.

Mr. Payne Seddon's lease of the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, terminates at the end of April. On the 27th of that month a benefit performance will be given to Mr. and Mrs. Seddon, and a company of amateurs will present the comedy *My Wife*.

Miss Helen Graham Edwins terminates at Easter a long and successful engagement extending over three years with Mr. Louis Calvert and Mr. William Giffard, playing in stock at the Broadway Theatre, and on tour as Mrs. Naresby in *Sunday*, Peters in *Dolly Reforming Herself*, and Mrs. Boiler in *The Topside Dog*. Miss Edwins, it may be added, comes of an old theatrical family, being the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Edwins (Helen Graham).

Messrs. Murray King and Clark will at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, at Easter give an elaborate reproduction of that highly successful musical comedy *The Catch of the Season*. Everything will be new for this production, which, after its visit to Eastbourne, will go on tour. It is interesting to note that every available spring date was taken up the moment this revival was announced.

Mr. Percy Hutchison, having now recovered from his recent illness, travelled from Brighton to Cambridge on Saturday last, and appeared as Monty Brewster in that great success, *Brewster's Millions*, before a full house of 'Varsity men, who gave him a warm welcome, the cheering and applause being spontaneous and prolonged. This successful actor-manager has always been much appreciated by the patrons of the New Theatre, and is a universal favourite with the undergraduates.

Mr. C. C. Dorrill, of the New Theatre, Oxford, having found the experiment of producing a pantomime at Christmas so successful, has determined to repeat the same next season, and has again arranged with Mr. Brydon Phillips to produce it.

Messrs. Glenister and Ingram have acquired the entire touring rights for the autumn of *The Fires of Fate*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and will send out a first-class company, visiting all the principal towns with the original London production.

"The House of Temperley," the great melodrama of the ring, by Arthur Conan Doyle, will be sent on tour in the autumn by Messrs. Glenister and Ingram, who will visit all towns in the United Kingdom with the exception of the limited number already booked by the London company. A production in every respect equal to that at the Adelphi Theatre will be travelled.

Miss Florence Baines—the girl who made London laugh—who returned last autumn from a tour round the world with her mirth-provoking farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, has received so many offers of dates that she has organised a second company, which is playing at Manchester this week. Miss Madge Grey (Miss Baines's sister) plays the part of Mary Ellen Thompson. Miss Baines herself is appearing as the Lass fra' Lancashire with her A company at Preston next week.

The title-rôle of Mr. George Edwardes's *Merry Widow* company, which is at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, this week, is played by Miss Daphne Glenne, who makes a very charming widow, singing and acting artistically. Her voice has greatly improved since we heard her last. We understand she has been studying under Mme. Kate Flinn, who thinks very highly of her pupil.

Mr. Oswald Cray has made arrangements with Mr. T. Morton Powell to tour Guy Thorne's remarkable play *When It was Dark* from Easter onwards. Mr. Cray, we are informed, has already booked a very fine tour right through the summer. Everything will be done in first-class style, and no expense will be spared to ensure success.

Mr. Courtice Pounds and his company, in the charming Viennese musical play *A Merry Peasant*, by Victor Leon and Leo Fall, will commence their spring tour on March 14 at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, with Newcastle, Birmingham, Manchester, &c., to follow. A strong cast is engaged to support Mr. Pounds, who will appear in his original part, in which he was so delightful in the London production. The revised version, by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, plays very smartly, and the dialogue is as sparkling as the music. Little Mary Glynne, the sweet little child actress, who was such a success at the Strand, will be seen in her original part of Rosalie. The mounting and dressing will be on the same lavish scale as that of the West End production. Mr. Sidney Watson is producing and stage managing, and Mr. Fred W. Crellin is general manager for the tour.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's principal company, including Mr. Graham Woods and Miss Mary Fulton, in *From Convent to Throne*, visits Manchester again next week, making the seventh visit to Cottonopolis within nine months. This sumptuous production has lately been delighting crowded houses in Newcastle, Sunderland, and other Northern centres. The magnificent scenery and costumes are on a scale never before attempted with a romantic drama. The tour terminates Easter week at Warrington, and re-opens August Bank Holiday at the Lyceum, Newport, Mon., being is booked to visit the principal dramatic theatres in the kingdom. Mr. Campbell's latest play of the domestic order, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, will be produced on July 25 at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, for two weeks, and is fully booked for the present year.

Princess Henry of Battenberg saw *Dame Nature* at the Garrick Theatre, for the second time, on Tuesday evening.

Miss Lydia Donovan's many friends will be glad to hear that she has recovered from her recent very serious indisposition and is now allowed by her doctor to resume work.

Mr. Harry Bristow has secured the rights of *The Pin and the Pudding* (which was produced at the Comedy Theatre, London) from Mr. Barton White, and intends touring it during the summer months with a powerful cast and Miss Pearl Noyle as Tamsie.

Little Marie Wilson at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, this week completed her 600th performance of Jessie (the Little Mother) in *The Fatal Wedding*.

"The Bad Girl of the Family" will celebrate the 100th performance at the Aldwych Theatre on Friday, March 11. On this occasion Mr. Fredk. Melville will present a special photographic souvenir of the play to every member of the audience. The booking for the play is still going strong; three matinées are given weekly—Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; in addition to these a special matinée will be given on Easter Monday at 2.30.

Mr. J. Forbes Knowles will restart shortly his tour with *Her Marriage Vow*, and in the autumn Messrs. Shirley and Landeck's drama *Nick Carter (Detective)*, which Mr. Knowles will present on a liberal scale. Meantime, he is supporting Miss Madge Crichton in the new comedy, *The Artfulness of Ada*, which was produced on Monday at Folkestone, and in front of which he is appearing in his one-act play *Auld Robin Grey*, which is proving very acceptable. Mr. Alic Chumley and Miss Valerie Crespin support him in the *lever de rideau*.

The annual ball given by Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe, manager of the Tyne Theatre, recently took place in the Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge, Newcastle. There was a large attendance. The music was provided by the Tyne Theatre orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. E. J. Rogers. The majority of the artists appearing in *Cinderella* at the Tyne Theatre attended, together with the members of the *Our Miss Gibbs* company appearing at the Theatre Royal, amongst whom were Miss Alice Pollard and Mr. George Gregory. Mme. Maud Santley and Mr. Malcolm Scott were also present. Messrs. W. H. Boardman, George French, Tom Conway, T. Bryne, M. Abrahams, H. Sutcliffe, and Charles Campbell acted as M.C.'s.

"The Little Damozel" registered its 150th performance at Wyndham's Theatre on Thursday night. Mr. Vane Tempest, who has been out of the cast through illness, resumed the rôle of the Hon. Fitzroy Locke, one of the best character sketches this clever actor has yet given us.

The King and Queen and suite witnessed the performance of *Dame Nature* at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday night.

"The Man Who Knew," the new play by H. Brinsley Hill, will be produced on March 21. The company already includes Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. Aiden Lovett, and Miss Jessica Waters. The locale of the play is in Paris and London. The scenery is by Mr. Edmund Banks. The play is being produced by the author.

Mr. Walter Reynolds writes:—"Mr. Henry Arthur Jones advocates equal licensing treatment of theatres and music halls. I am pleased to say that at least one of what he describes as the senseless restrictions connected with stage licensing seems likely to be removed at last. On June 15, 1909, as a result of the unanimous adoption of my notice of motion, the London County Council resolved to make application to Parliament in the session of 1910 for power to enable the Council to grant music and dancing licences at any time of the year.

"Following on this, on Friday last the draft of a Bill was issued, entitled 'The Music and Dancing Licences Act, 1910, a Bill to amend the laws as regards Music and Dancing licences in London.' The main object of the Bill is to enable the London County Council to grant a licence to a music hall at any time of the year, instead of being limited as now to the one licensing sessions held annually in November.

"So many complications exist and so many interests are concerned in the licensing of amusements that the County Councils are compelled to make haste slowly. Still, if through the passing of the Bill even only one of the imbecilities can be got rid of, some little will, at any rate, have been done to reduce the bewildering, mischievous chaos which so exasperates Mr. Henry Arthur Jones and everybody else concerned."

A four-act play in verse, called *1812*, by M. Gabriel Nigond, has been brought out at the Théâtre Antoine, Paris, describing the horrors of the Russian campaign in 1812. Following in the footsteps of Erckman-Chatrian, the author portrays, not the beauties, but the misery of warfare. Some of the tableaux are thrilling, especially the one showing the passing of the Berezina during the retreat of Napoleon's army from Moscow. It is a meritorious work, and special attention is bestowed on the mounting.

Paul Friest, a Dutchman, was charged on remand, before Mr. Francis, at Westminster, on the 26th ult., with the theft of the bowl part of an antique Chinese bronze, valued at 100 guineas, from the front garden of the residence of Miss Ellen Terry, in King's-road, Chelsea. The prisoner was further charged with disobeying an order for expulsion from the country. The husband of Miss Terry—Mr. James Carew—deposed that prisoner, lifting the heavy bronze—nearly a hundredweight—on to his shoulders, succeeded in carrying it a hundred yards from the house before witness overtook him, and gave him into custody. Detective-sergeant Farrent, D Division, proved that prisoner, in June last, was convicted of representing himself as a detective at Howland-street, Tottenham Court-road, and stealing £100 worth of jewellery from a safe. An expulsion order was then served on him. The prisoner said he had no money to leave the country, and Mr. Francis sentenced him to six months' hard labour—three months on each charge.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Crime and Punishment.

MR. JOHN GALSWORTHY has explained in the *Pall Mall* his views in connection with modern Justice. "I yield to none," he says, "in my admiration of the fine qualities of our judges. I believe that our prison officials, as a body, are animated with a high sense of duty and conscientiousness. I regard the police with respect. I am convinced that the public of this country is, on the whole, the most humane in the Western world.

"But what I have felt is, that Justice is a machine divided into four departments: the department of circumstances before crime, crime itself, and prosecution; the department of trial and conviction; the department of punishment; and the department of life which follows punishment.

"Each of these departments is in different hands—public and police; counsel and judge; prison officials; and again public and police. Those responsible for each of these departments of the machine are naturally concerned only with their own departments; and are naturally unable to see and gauge the cumulative effect of the whole process. I have tried to sum up this process, to give such a picture of it as will bring the business into proportion, and enable people to see the workings of the entire machine, and the effect of these workings. Whether I have succeeded is beside the point, here.

"It is a mistake to suppose that the bulk of our criminals are congenitally vicious. The bulk of them are, or have been, merely ordinary people deficiently endowed with powers of resistance to the pressure of life. They are raw material when they enter the machine of Justice, and are transformed by the various departments of that machine into the finished article.

"They are so transformed because the public does not realise what it is doing when it prosecutes, because the judge, following the line of least resistance to the great pressure on his faculties, usually observes precedent; because the prison official administers a system which, also following the lines of least resistance, tends to become cast-iron; because again the public do not realise the difficulties of a man who has once been in prison, and the police, as servants of the public, are only concerned with protecting the public."

The Tenth Play.

"'THE TENTH MAN' is the most brilliant piece I have ever had the pleasure of appearing in," says Mr. Bourchier in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. "There is not a character in it you might not meet anywhere. Mr. Maugham is absolutely Mr. Pinero's successor, if, indeed, he is not a greater author, because he takes a broader view. Only about one play in ten becomes really a big success. Others may go very well indeed, but it is only the tenth that is a huge success like *The Walls of Jericho* and, let us hope, *The Tenth Man*."

Catching a "Corker."

MR. BOURCHIER mentions that when Mr. Maugham read his play to some friends, one thought the lover should have been the tenth man, for it is difficult to see at the outset who the tenth man will be. But that, he pointed out, would not have done at all. He recalled with what skill the author led up to the crucial situation, and how, in the second act, long before the decisive moment when George Winter is outmatched, James Ford is described as a "corker" to deal with. "There is, of course," he went on to remark, "always a tenth man, although one has never thought of it in this light before."

Killed by Kindness.

As to the ending of the play, Mr. Bourchier maintained that suicide is the only way when once the tenth man has crossed George Winter's path, and he pointed to a subtlety which audiences will notice for themselves when they see the play. "If it was not," he said, "for the one little act of kindness that he shows his old father-in-law, in sending him off to bed after a tiring day, George Winter would have been saved. It is that one kind act that kills him, for Lord Etchingham knows the thing that saves those who have been mixed up in his criminal finance, and would have saved him."

Elegant Epigrams.

SOME of the lines in the late George Meredith's unfinished play *The Sentimentalists*, which was produced at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, are quite Meredithian. "Praise of beauty lodges in my ear," says the heroine. "I would believe a poet though he praised me to my face." She has faults, but they "draw one to her, like dancing maids with garlands." She delights in the devotion of lovers, but does not "leap to the thought of a debasing marriage." Professor Spiral's oratory has "the beat of wings," and he is "a thinker and gives women their due." Old men are "voraciously constant." Others, while they express "pious agreement with the dame, are conspirators behind their masks"; they "do homage to her principles, but look like dogs at the forbidden bone." "I am strong to resist," she says to her confidante, "but I have no strength to move." "I see," answers Lyra, "the sphinx of ages!"

Mr. Harvey on Mounting.

"IN real life," says Mr. Martin Harvey in an interview in the *Dundee Advertiser*, "the crowd at once fixes its attention on the victims of a railway accident rather than on the attendant spectacle of sinister-looking débris; but reproduce the accident on the stage, and the wreckage will, in nine cases out of ten, assume the first importance. The reason is plain. In the reality human nature is immediately responsive to the needs of human nature, and the spectator is aware only of the urgent requirements of the wounded and dying. Surroundings are not considered. But in the stage accident, however realistic the acting, the spectator is not touched in the same inward and agonising way, and the eye, rather than the mind or heart, is the more deeply impressed.

"THE modern stage has made too much of realistic settings, to the detriment of critical perception applied to the living interest of drama. And, curiously enough, while it has boasted of its success in realism, it has been strangely backward. Its 'realism,' in many instances, has taken in only the attractive aspects of historical spectacle. It has not, for instance, shown us a Macbeth feasting in a hall strewn with old, malodorous rushes, thick with the bones cast to prowling dogs by ladies who shuddered not when the castle slops were carried through their midst.

"WHEN I did *Hamlet* originally my great care was to reproduce the period of the eleventh century in Denmark, with all the details as archæologically correct as possible. But I think that was inviting a closer attention to the points of archæological and historical accuracy and architectural and decorative detail than was right under the circumstances. Therefore, in my present production I have tried to direct the mind, first of all to the play itself, and, secondly, to the decorative background, which ought never to be allowed to obtrude itself."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

Mr. Charles Frohman presented, at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday evening a bill fit for an epicure. There was a new one-act piece by Mr. J. M. Barrie, a new unfinished comedy by the late George Meredith, and another one-act piece, a new comedietta by Mr. Barrie, to conclude the evening's enjoyment. It was an ideal entertainment for the thoughtful, fastidious, and analytic mind, and its success was certain. Mr. Barrie's first item was entitled

"OLD FRIENDS."

Stephen Brand	MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Mrs. Brand	MISS LENA ASHWELL
Carry	MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Rev. J. Carroll	MR. HUBERT HARBEN

This was a gruesome and impressive dramatic homily on heredity, and the descent of the sins of the fathers upon the children. Stephen Brand, now sober and prosperous, was at one time a moderate, but steady, drinker. A clerk in an office, he knew exactly how much he could take without preventing him from turning up at 9 a.m. with a clear head for work; and for years he thus cultivated the vice of alcoholism until it had entered into his blood. The result is that his daughter Carry has in her an irresistible desire for drink; and when Brand locks up the liquor in a cabinet in the hall Carry comes downstairs in her nightdress, steals the keys from her father's pocket as he sits asleep in his armchair, and is about to procure drink when Brand wakes up and discovers her. After trying in vain to screen herself by lying, Carry confesses to an irresistible craving for drink. Mrs. Brand, who knows all about Brand's past intemperance, has concealed it from her daughter; but Brand insists that Carry shall know all. He declares that he has conquered his vice; but Mrs. Brand tells him, rather cruelly perhaps, that he deceives himself—his vice left him instead of his vanquishing it. However, they agree to watch Carry night and day in the hope that her tendency may be overcome.

There could not have been a better selection for the part of Stephen Brand than Mr. Sydney Valentine, an intellectual actor of great power and insight, whose restraint is one of his most valuable qualities. Mr. Valentine played the part with a stern, sad resolution and decision which were very impressive; and the depth and earnestness of his performance were very remarkable. Mr. Hubert Harben was a bluff, shrewd, and solid Clergyman; and Miss Lena Ashwell made the most of the part of Mrs. Brand, Miss Dorothy Minto contributing a representation of the unhappy dipsomaniac which was absolutely faithful and very touching and pathetic. *Old Friends* was followed by an unfinished comedy by George Meredith, entitled

"THE SENTIMENTALISTS."

Homeware	MR. DENNIS EADIE
Arden	MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Swythin	MR. HUBERT HARBEN
Osier	MR. LEWIS CASSON
Professor Spiral	MR. C. E. VERNON
Astræa	MISS FAY DAVIS
Lyra	MISS MARY JERROLD
Dame Dresden	MISS MAY WHITTY
Virginia	MISS PENELOPE WHEELER
Winifred	MISS SYBIL THORNDIKE
Lady Oldface	MISS EVA KILLICK

George Meredith's style is better suited to the printed book, in the perusal of which it is possible to pause and appreciate the quaint felicities of expression, than to the acted play in which the rapid continuation of the delivery of the author's lines causes much of the literary merit to be lost. The delicate flavour of the piece was quite perceptible, but one could not help feeling that a "book of the words" or a slower delivery, and even an exaggerated distinctness of enunciation would have revealed even more of the beauties of the text. The "vehicle" of the stage performance seemed, somehow, inadequate in the case of an author of so much *preciosité*. Arden, a poetical and ardent young man, is in love with the beautiful widow, Astræa, who is inclined to remain faithful to her husband's memory. Arden pleads his suit earnestly, and the comedy is created by the contrast between the artificially high plane on which she keeps the discussion and the natural and quite feminine feelings which eventually, so we are led to hope, will secure the success of Arden's suit, one of the most effective influences to that end being the fact that the company at the country house where she is staying have seen her and Arden in attitudes suggesting loving converse. *The Sentimentalists* had every justice done to it; and if at times the author's intent proved elusive, it was not the fault of the artists. Mr. Dennis Eadie as the cynical philosopher Homeware spoke his lines with clearness, point, and pleasantry; Mr. Charles Maude put a great deal of passion and spirit into his delivery of Arden's amorous rhapsodies; and Miss Fay Davis daintily and delicately expressed the fastidious refinement and elegant intellectuality of Astræa. A vivacious young wife of an elderly uxorious philosopher was brightly and amusingly portrayed by Miss Mary Jerrold. The remaining personages had little to say and less to do; but they were represented without flaw or failing by Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss May Whitty, Miss Penelope Wheeler, Miss Sybil Thorndike, and Miss Eva Killick, Mr. C. E. Vernon being slightly prominent and entirely effective as Professor Spiral. The pretty garden scene was designed by Norman Wilkinson and painted by W. T. Hemsley.

The concluding play, which was by Mr. J. M. Barrie, and was produced by Mr. Dion Boucicault, was in one act, and was entitled

"THE TWELVE-POUND LOOK."

Sir Harry Sims	MR. EDMUND GWENN
Lady Sims	MISS MARY BARTON
Kate	MISS LENA ASHWELL
Tombes	MR. C. C. CALVERT

The Twelve-Pound Look was both humorous and sarcastic, and was heartily enjoyed. Sir Harry Sims is a succesful man of business of the brutal type. When the play commences he is rehearsing, with his submissive wife, the ceremony of knighthood, which honour is about to be conferred on him as a rich and influential personage. He is completely self-satisfied, dense, and narrow-minded. He has ordered a type-writer to come to the house, to prepare copies of a letter which he is sending out saying how unexpected was the honour which he has received, and Lady Sims, after a talk with the "young person," leaves her and Sir Harry together. Sixteen years since there was an episode in Sir Harry's life which he has almost forgotten. His wife, Kate, the daughter of a country clergyman, left him suddenly and mysteriously in circumstances which allowed him to divorce her. It was never known with whom she had eloped, and Sir Harry is still in ignorance when she turns up with her typewriter to make the copies. After ridiculing him merrily, Kate tells him that she went off, quite by herself, in sheer weariness of the life led by him and his rich, dull associates. For some time, she explains, she wore a "twelve-pound look," as she had resolved that only when she had earned that sum by her own labours could she take the step of leaving her husband. Sir Harry is enraged at being "chaffed," and is still less pleased when his present wife, whom he keeps in a state of sad subjection, seems to envy the typewriter her cheerfulness and liberty. Mr. Edmund Gwenn as Sir Harry Sims gave a graphic and forcible picture of a thick-headed, stubborn, overbearing vulgarian, and his Sir Harry Sims was an effective foil to Miss Lena Ashwell's sharp and brilliant rendering of the rôle of Kate. Miss Mary Barton sketched Lady Sims with a few adroit touches; and Mr. C. C. Calvert was satisfactory as Tombes.

"THE CLIMAX."

Play, in Three Acts, by Edward Locke, Performed for the First Time in England at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 26.

John Raymond	MR. GUY STANDING
Luigi Golfanti	MR. RUSS WHYTAL
Pietro Golfanti	MR. EFFINGHAM PINTO
Adelina Von Hagen	MISS MARIE DORO

The Climax, which Mr. Charles Frohman presented at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday evening, is hardly strong enough to draw the London public, especially as Miss Marie Doro is a stranger to them; but it is surprising how much interest is created from the simple and rather scanty theme by the author's realistic and sincere treatment, and by the artistic acting of the performers. Mr. Edward Locke's play deals with the opposition between the domestic affections and the artistic temperament. Adelina von Hagen is a young girl from an American country town, who has "a voice," and is ambitious of operatic fame. She is living with an elderly teacher of music, Luigi Golfanti, and his son Pietro, a composer, in a shabby flat in New York. All three are poor; but Adelina is happy, for her hopes of success are strong. A young doctor named Raymond has fallen in love with her; but, engrossed in her dreams, she treats his affection as lightly as she does that of Pietro, who adores her hopelessly. A touch of originality is given to the piece in the fact that Adelian's singing-lessons are actually heard. Miss Marie Doro has an agreeable voice, and she cleverly mimics the errors and improvements of an earnest pupil. *The Climax* is altogether more realistic than most pieces of its kind, the representative of Pietro being a skilled pianist.

There is something the matter with Adelina's throat, and an operation is inevitable. Now Dr. John Raymond is absolutely convinced that the musical stage is no place for a good girl, and he implores Adelina to relinquish the object of her life, and marry him. She refuses to do anything of the kind; and the young doctor descends to deception. In the second act we find Adelina, after the operation, not allowed to talk, but anticipating a great improvement. But when she tries to sing, she finds that her high notes have "gone," and the doctor, deceiving her, leads her to believe that her voice is ruined permanently. She is so deeply distressed that she is going to stab herself, when she is prevented by Luigi.

In the last act Adelina has consented to marry Raymond, and is about to start for the church in her bridal dress, when she tries to sing, and finds that her voice is better than ever. She is rapturously delighted; and when Raymond confesses his deception, and is cursed by Luigi—and almost assassinated by Pietro—she refuses to marry the doctor. He goes out sorrowfully; but it appears from Adelina's reception of Luigi's remarks about the preciousness of love that a compromise may be arrived at.

Miss Marie Doro is very pretty, and her Adelina von Hagen is a bewitching and charming personage—capricious, self-willed, affectionate, and humorous. Her performance as the young singer was delightfully vivacious and sincere, and she sang very nicely, indeed. It was impossible for the audience to resist her winning ways and her dainty, impulsive method, and her depiction of tearless despair was very intense and thrilling. Mr. Guy Standing was just the representative required for the sturdy, straightforward Philistine, John Raymond, and played the part perfectly well; and Mr. Effingham Pinto hit off the peculiarities of the struggling composer, Pietro Golfanti with tact and decision. Mr. Russ Whytal's Luigi Golfanti had all the necessary flexibility and refinement, combined with a certain artistic dignity. The piece was well mounted, and interest in it was maintained to the close. It was preceded by that ever-popular artist, Mr. Barclay Gammon, whose genial chat and playful performances "with a piano" were, as usual, immensely enjoyed.

MR. MORTON ON AMUSEMENT.

Mr. William Morton, of the Grand and Alexandra Theatres, Hull, in a speech at a recent local church bazaar meeting said: "This is a novel position for me to occupy, but I am glad to fill it, if for no other reason than it brings the Church and Stage nearer together—a very desirable object. The Committee of the Salem Chapel Bazaar did a courageous thing in sending me the invitation, and in all probability their conduct will not be applauded in some quarters. Why, indeed, should not the Stage and Church endeavour to help each other? I am not going to say that the two organisations are running on parallel lines, but they are helpful to each other in the great work of christianising the world. It may be that the Church is what the stone or masonry is to an edifice, and the Stage merely the mortar, but neither is indispensable to the stability of the structure. It cannot be denied that morality is next door neighbour to righteousness, and I contend, the stage properly controlled is an education in morality, and the frequenters, to a considerable extent, are non-churchgoers, and more especially this may be said of the working classes. Where would many of these slaves of labour be at night if not at places of amusement? Is it too much to assume—in the public-houses or promenading the streets.

"Then, surely the theatre is the better place. Although I am not an advocate for the parsons being so much in favour of the stage as to read the play bill from the pulpit with the notices of the mothers' meetings, I censure them when they go out of their way to preach against play acting and warn their flock not to go to see it. Within my experience more than one minister of the Gospel have been so desirous of witnessing a particular play that they sought an interview with me, suggesting that I should smuggle them in, as it were, through the keyhole of the back-door, and then hide them behind the drapery in a private box. On the other hand, I could name others of the same cloth and denomination who have stood boldly at the front door until opening time, and then gone in with the sinners. That's the class of man I applaud—men not afraid of their actions. Conduct that would even be admired by the sceptics. Another thing which surprises me is that the one denomination which has shown itself to be most hostile to theatres and music halls is unblushingly using the same methods to attract an audience, and moreover, under an unfair commercial basis, inasmuch as their spacious halls, being licensed as places of worship, are exempt from paying rates."

MR. WILLIAM ARCHER delivered a lecture on Monday evening at Highbury Quadrant Church Hall on the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. Mr. Fredk. Newton presided. Mr. Archer supplied details of the recent movement to establish a national theatre, and said that at a meeting of the General Committee, held at the Mansion House on March 28, 1909, it was announced that an anonymous donor had contributed £70,000 towards the estimated sum required for the establishment of a national theatre. A series of lantern views of the municipal theatres and opera houses in Continental cities and of the new repertory theatre in New York were shown.

AN interesting Chamber music concert will be given at the Hampstead Conservatoire of Music on Thursday, the 10th inst., at 8.30 p.m., in aid of the Scholarship Fund. The programme will include the first performance in England of a Piano Quintet by Kaun, and Mr. Charles Fry will give his popular recitation of Poe's "The Bells" with music by Stanley Hawley.

"LA VIERGE FOLLE."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Henry Bataille, Produced at the Gymnase, Paris, on Feb. 25.

Fanny Armaury	MLLE. BERTHE BADY
Duchesse de Clarance	MLLE. DARCOURT
Diane de Clarance	MLLE. DELZA
Lucy	MLLE. COPERNIC
Marcel Armaury	M. DUMENY
Duc de Clarance	M. CALMETTES
Gaston de Clarance	M. MONTEAUX
Abbé Roux	M. BOUR
Secrétaire d'Armaury	M. BOUCHER
Fabien	M. BERTHAULT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

French audiences as a rule are undemonstrative, but the elegant crowd that witnessed the first performance of M. Bataille's *La Vierge Folle* shrieked itself hoarse with "bravos" when, according to custom, at the end of the performance the author's name was officially announced. Nor was the audience wrong in its estimation of the new work. It certainly is the finest dramatic production that has come our way for a long time past. But, by a curious coincidence, on that same evening another play, by an equally well-known dramatist, was given at the Renaissance, also dealing with the supreme unselfishness of the wife, who sacrifices her own feelings and happiness for her husband, who is infatuated with another woman.

At curtain rise we are at the house of the Duc de Clarance, and, from a conversation between the Duc and the Abbé Roux, we gather that a calamity has befallen the house of Clarance. The Duc and the Duchesse have just discovered that their eighteen-year-old daughter, Diane, has a guilty liaison with Marcel Armaury, a married man of about forty, a barrister. In order to avoid a public scandal, the Abbé advises the parents to place Diane in a strict convent in Belgium until her twenty-first year. This advice is accepted, and the parents then send for the young culprit, who, having reluctantly given a few details concerning her liaison, finally consents to be cut off from the world for a number of years. The Duc has also sent a note to Mme. Armaury requesting her to call. The lady arrives, and in a brutal manner the Duc hands her her husband's letters to Diane, which have been discovered in Diane's secret drawer. Fanny Armaury staggers under the blow, but she promises to do all she can to have that unfortunate affair kept hidden from the world.

But Diane has not the slightest intention of becoming a nun; and she only consented to the arrangement in order to gain time that she and Armaury might elope. In the second act she has come to her friend's chambers, and everything is arranged for their departure, when Fanny, warned by a servant, arrives. She tells her husband that she is aware of his plans, and begs him to listen to reason; but he refuses to acknowledge that she is right until she shows him the key of a small room which she has locked up whilst he was absent from the room for a few minutes. It is to this room that Diane has flown, and the husband then owns himself beaten. There is a ring at the bell, and Gaston, Diane's brother, arrives. He also has been warned by a servant, and he has come to see whether his sister is there. To save her husband and the young girl from disgrace (for the Duc has not told his son of Diane's liaison) the wife plays comedy, pretending that she has been with her husband all the afternoon, and that it is impossible that he should have made arrangements to flee without her knowledge. Then she displays her nobility of character by giving her husband the key, telling him to act as his conscience prompts. But she is ill-rewarded for her generosity. Her infatuated husband leaves the room, releases the girl, and flees in the automobile waiting downstairs. When the distressed wife discovers her husband's treachery she is frantic with grief, and in a flow of tears tells the astounded Gaston all that has occurred, adding that she will help the Clarance family to regain possession of their daughter.

The runaway couple are in a hotel in London. Armaury refuses to see Gaston, whereupon the Abbé Roux appears upon the scene. The good priest tries to appeal to the man's better feelings, but, as was to be foreseen, his arguments, based on religion and morality, fail to have any effect on the love-sick, free-thinking Armaury. To Armaury's surprise Fanny then enters the room. The moment Fanny sees her husband her anger vanishes. She loves her husband, and she realises that arguments and threats will not cure him of his infatuation. "Do you really love Diane with all your heart?" she asks. "Yes," replies Armaury. "But," says the woman in heart-rending accents, "if by some unforeseen event you and Diane were to separate, what would you do?" "I would return to you!" replies Armaury. "I swear it!" This promise is Fanny's sole comfort, but her self-sacrifice has given her strength. Hope is not dead in her heart. Something tells her that her erring husband will return to her one day, and she decides to defend him against the anger of the Clarances. The latter ask her to divorce Armaury that he might marry Diane, thus mitigating the scandal, but she refuses; she will remain Armaury's wife; and when the Clarances darkly hint at murder to avenge their wrongs Fanny swears that she will watch over him.

Fanny keeps her word. In the final act Armaury and Diane are in their room in the hotel. It is past midnight. Suddenly there is a discreet knock at the door, and Fanny enters. She tells Armaury that Gaston de Clarance is at that very moment walking up and down the corridor. Unheeding Fanny and Diane's supplications, Armaury opens the door wide and Gaston walks in. He carries a revolver, but, obeying his sister's command, he deposits the weapon on a table. Fanny then takes Gaston in hand, and urges him to follow her example and accept the inevitable. Gaston, however, does not share these sentiments. His feelings are intensely human, and he is thirsting for revenge. But during this discussion it dawns upon Diane that she is far below Fanny. This idea maddens her, and, seizing the revolver, she kills herself, for she has realised the fact that Fanny's love is purer and higher than the one she can offer Armaury. And, as the title of the play implies, the foolish little virgin, who squandered all the oil in her lamp, never saw the bridegroom.

The weight of the play rested chiefly on the shoulders of Mme. Bady, who showed herself a perfect actress. She scored a great and well-deserved triumph. Mlle. Delza, too, may be congratulated on the manner in which she impersonated Diane. The men's rôles were less important. In the hands of a less clever actor the part of Armaury might have become grotesque, but M. Duménу, with his customary skill, avoided all the pitfalls. A special word of praise is also due to that great artist M. Armand Bour for the admirable sketch he supplied of the Abbé Roux.

La Vierge Folle has entered upon a long and successful career.

Too Much Frivolity.

MR. J. T. GREIN, lecturing to the Manchester Playgoers' Club on Saturday at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, on the question "Are We Progressing?" deplored many modern tendencies. "There was," he said, "too much amusement, too much running after the spirit of the times, too little introspection, too little seriousness. The mission of the theatre was not to amuse or to entertain, but to edify." He proposed that £500 should be guaranteed to cover the cost of production by a "Manchester Independent Theatre" of five plays of universal literary interest, and offered to contribute one-tenth of that sum himself if the rest were forthcoming. The meeting expressed its cordial appreciation of Mr. Grein's offer.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER HOCHZEITSTAG."

Farce, in Four Acts, by MM. Wolters and Königsbrunn-Schaup, Produced at the Luisen Theatre on Feb. 18.

Dr. Schmidt	HERR ELSER
Frau Schmidt	FRAULEIN STROMBERG
Dr. Klemm	HERR STUENKEL
Frau Klemm	FRAULEIN BODE
Fritz	HERR KRISCHEWSKY
Müller	HERR PAULI
Schreiber	HERR ANZLEWSKY
Zierbalg	HERR BLUMENREICH
Else	FRAULEIN KAHLENBERG
Frau Schmalz	FRAULEIN SCHULZ
Von Meinhold	HERR SCHAEFER
Dienstmann	HERR VOIGT
Anna	FRAULEIN FISCHBACH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, March 3.—This merry little piece, the work of two popular collaborators, is more of a burlesque than a farce. It has been given with success on several provincial stages, and on its reception here met with an equally cordial reception. Plot there is very little, the chief fun being in the broad fun of the "situations," and in the absurd complications and misunderstandings. Dr. Hans Schmidt, a barrister whose speciality is divorce cases, lives in perfect harmony with his own wife, and is about to celebrate the anniversary of his wedding day. Dr. Klemm, a medical man, is less happy. His better half, after seeing Ibsen's *Doll's House*, believes herself a second Nora, and runs away from the spouse who treats her as a doll. The third couple are Fritz von Rauendorf and Else—the former a young lawyer, the latter a friend of Frau Schmidt, and the two are betrothed lovers. The demon of Jealousy soon commences his reign among all these young people. Each believes his or her affinity is unfaithful. A perfect hailstorm of errors and misunderstandings break upon the hitherto peaceful horizon, which last through three acts, the final act, of course, clearing everything up. The men find their wives again, the lovers are reunited. It was a storm in a teacup. The acting was very bright all round, and there is every probability of the piece enjoying a lengthy run.

Two interesting revivals, both of which have attracted the personal attention of the Imperial family in no small measure, took place last week—Hebbel's powerful tragedy *Judith* at the Deutsches and *Der Prophet* at the Royal Opera. The latter opera has not been given for a number of years, and the greatest pains were expended upon the revival, costumes and scenery being new for the occasion. The Emperor attended the dress rehearsal, and was present with the Empress and several members of their family on the opening night. Dr. Strauss conducted, the cast was particularly fine—including Fräulein Hempel, Frau Goetze, and Herr Berger—and the work was superbly staged.

FOLLOWING his Imperial father's example, the Crown Prince is showing a liking for attending rehearsals. He and the Crown Princess went to the dress rehearsal of *Judith*, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, complimenting the manager—Prof. Reinhardt—at the close. The cast was admirable, the mounting, as it always is at the Deutsches, being very effective. It is not in the nature of the work to become popular, but it will run some time at intervals, and be witnessed by many lovers of the old classics.

HERR GEORGE ENGELS, the well-known and esteemed playwright, has given his latest work to the Court Theatre at Hanover this time, instead of Berlin according to his usual custom. It is a four-act comedy entitled *Der scharfe Junker*, and its reception is reported to have been extremely cordial, so that we shall certainly see it here before long. The scene is laid in the country, the principal figure being a gentleman farmer named Baron Malte von Büngelwitz. He is a typical "feudal" landowner, as understood in this country—very conservative, very thorough in all he undertakes, a little rough and arrogant, but generous and kind-hearted to a degree. How the Baron meets the woman of his life, and how he overcomes her prejudices to himself, occupy three acts, but the scenes are reported to be interesting and amusing throughout.

AT the Rose Theatre a three-act farce, *Der Eisenbahnräuber*, by Fritz Groebert, made a decided hit. The hero is an elderly tradesman from Berlin, who is taking a holiday on the Baltic with his wife and family. He leaves them for a season to shake a loose leg on the quiet at Ostend, but is mistaken on the journey for a long-wanted railway thief. After some unpleasant adventures in consequence, he returns to his family a better and a wiser man. The acting was vivacious.

HERR LENGYEL'S drama *Taifun*, recently described in your columns, is being translated into Japanese for production at the theatre in Tokio. The action passes, it will be remembered, in Paris, the chief persons being Japanese Commissioners of the Government.

INDIGNATION has been caused by the action of Bishop Hermogen in prohibiting a service which it was proposed to hold in Saratoff Cathedral, St. Petersburg, in memory of Mme. Kommissarjefskaya, an actress of great popularity, who died recently at Tashkend while on a professional tour in Central Asia. The Bishop insists on making inquiries at Tashkend concerning the cause of the actress's death, her religion, and her keeping of Church observances.

The German Actress's Life.

A PARLIAMENT of actresses was held in the Philharmonic Hall, Berlin, on Wednesday night. Fräulein Hübner, of the New Theatre, said the expenses of actresses were out of all proportion to their emoluments. In the second- and third-class theatres, and these are the vast majority, the salaries paid during six or seven months of the season worked out at from £21 a year for subordinate performers to £100 for leading players. Out of these sums the actress had to pay agency fees, travelling and other expenses, and to provide all her dresses. It sometimes happened that in the course of a single month, during which her earnings were from £3 10s. to £12 10s., she had to furnish as many as ten separate costumes.

FRAU ROSA BERTENS, another well-known figure on the Berlin boards, complained that the profession was overrun by women who had met with misfortune or ill-luck in other walks of life. Formerly, she said, when a girl had an unhappy love affair she retired into a convent. Now she went on to the stage. The teacher left her class and the student her books to try her fortune as an actress.

FRAULEIN GALLE, a young actress, next narrated the difficulties the novice had to contend with. Success, she said, always went to the candidates with the smartest frocks. If an actress had no pretty dresses she was kept back, while if she had them people inquired who her protector might be. If she married she was dismissed at once.

HERR WAUER propounded the view that the "life of the artist is necessarily a martyrdom." "If," he added, "you eliminate privation from the conditions of the actor's life you will undermine his art, for it is only through affliction that one can mature to a great artist." The proceedings were brought to a close by a resolution calling upon the Federal Council and the Reichstag, which was represented by a number of deputies from different parties, to remedy the grievances of the dramatic profession by legislative action.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The last meeting of the London County Council elected in March, 1907, was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Sir Melvill Beachcroft (chairman) presiding.

THE ALDWYCH SITE: AN OLD PROPOSAL REVIVED.

The Improvements Committee presented a report, stating that on April 23, 1907, the Council agreed to grant to M. Ernest Gerard, on certain conditions, an option to take a lease of the central portion of the crescent site between Aldwych and the Strand. The resolutions provided that a payment of £5,000 should be made within fourteen days from that date. Certain extensions of time for the completion of the agreement were allowed, but finally on Oct. 15, 1907, the Council rescinded its resolutions in the matter. M. Gerard now asks that an option may be granted to him on the terms that were agreed to in 1907. In their previous report on the subject the committee stated:

"The site has an area of about 124,000 square ft., and lies between Aldwych and the Strand, being bounded on the east and west by the 50ft. approaches which it is proposed to form between the Strand and Aldwych. It has frontages of about 636ft. to Aldwych, about 413ft. to the Strand, about 236ft. to the approach on the west side of the site, and about 231ft. to that on the east side. The proposal has been made by M. Ernest Gerard on behalf of a syndicate who have prepared a scheme for developing the site as a whole. M. Gerard offers to make a deposit of £5,000, which is to be forfeited in the event of a building agreement not being entered into for a lease of the site at a rent of £55,000 a year within six months of the date of the provisional agreement.

"Preliminary sketch plans have been submitted which show a scheme for the erection of shops with offices above fronting on to the Strand, the two side thoroughfares and a part of Aldwych. On the central portion of the site, with a frontage to Aldwych, it is proposed to erect a stone building of commanding architectural features. This building will contain large galleries for use in connection with a permanent exhibition of arts and manufactures; it will also contain a theatre, a concert hall, and a restaurant, with courts around. We are informed that since the sketch plans were submitted, negotiations have been entered into by the promoters which may lead them to modify the scheme in the direction of erecting a different class of building in the Strand. This would materially assist in the development of the remainder of the Council's land, and would give even greater security for the ground rent than would be afforded by the erection of shops.

"The minimum amount to be spent in the erection of these buildings is to be £500,000, and the buildings are to be completed within four years of the date of the signing of the agreement. The plans, elevations, and specifications of all the buildings will be entirely subject to the Council's approval.

"The promoters make their offer dependent upon their being permitted to apply for a licence for the sale in the café, restaurant, and courts of beer, wines, and spirits to be served at tables by waiters, who will also serve other refreshments, but no bars are desired in connection with this part of the scheme. In the theatre such facilities for refreshment will be provided as are usually allowed in theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. The lease will provide that these facilities will be afforded only while performances are being given in the theatre, and that they will be in strict accordance with the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain governing such cases. The part of the site to which the sale of alcoholic liquors is restricted will be defined on the plan attached to the lease when granted. The requirements in the matter of licences will not be greater than those agreed to by the Council in the case of the letting sanctioned on March 20, 1906, to the syndicate of which Mr. L. Wormser was secretary."

We are of opinion that, with such variations as the circumstances necessitate, the Council should grant the option on the terms it agreed to on July 23, 1907.

The committee accordingly recommended that an agreement be entered into with M. Ernest Gerard upon the terms mentioned.

The recommendation was passed without discussion.

JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

In a supplementary agenda paper issued during the evening, the General Purposes Committee reported that the Council had been invited to furnish an exhibit at the forthcoming Japan-British Exhibition, descriptive of the London public services. The committee were strongly of opinion that this is an occasion on which the Council should provide an exhibit worthy of the Council's position as the greatest municipal authority in the world, and they were further of opinion that a comprehensive exhibit illustrated by means of models, diagrams, maps, &c., of the several services of the Council should be prepared. For an expenditure of £1,000 a suitable exhibit could be provided, and the committee recommended that as a matter of urgency they should be authorised to arrange, at a cost not exceeding £1,000, for the provision of such an exhibit.

On the motion of Mr. Edward White the recommendation was unanimously agreed to.

SUNDAY OPENING OF CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:

The Council on Dec. 21, 1909, decided that the licences granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, should be subject to a condition "that the premises shall not be opened under the licence on Sundays, Christmas Day, or Good Friday." On Feb. 15, 1910, the Council refused a request made by the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society and the Cinematograph Defence League that the condition should be withdrawn, and decided not to consider any application to give cinematograph entertainments on Sundays or other days prohibited by the licence, unless the application be accompanied by an undertaking from some recognised society or organisation, unconnected with the premises concerned, to the effect that—(1) The entertainments will be properly conducted and not for private gain or by way of trade; (2) the licensee or his servants will have nothing to do with the arrangements for the entertainments (i.e., the engagement of operators or employees, &c.) beyond being responsible to the Council for the observance of its regulations; (3) none of the persons employed at the licensed premises on week days will have any pressure put upon him or her to assist at Sunday entertainments; (4) an audited balance sheet will be submitted to the Council at the end of each series of entertainments; (5) the rules required to be observed on week days for securing the safety of the audience will be complied with; (6) the heads of the society or organisation will hold themselves responsible for seeing that the assurance given to the Council is adhered to.

This decision was communicated to the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society and the Cinematograph Defence League, and we have been informed that with few exceptions the premises licenced for cinematograph exhibitions were closed on Sunday last. As regards the places that were kept open, we hope in some cases to be in a position to take proceedings under the Cinematograph Act for a breach of the conditions of the licence granted by the Council. In two cases, however, we are informed that the proprietors alleged that non-inflammable films were used, and therefore that the premises were not kept open under the licence. We think therefore that the condition on the licence should be altererd to make it clear that except under the conditions laid down on Feb. 15, 1910, the Council will not allow premises licensed for cinematograph exhibitions to be kept open on Sundays for such purposes, even though non-inflammable films be used. We recommend:

(*a*) That the resolution (No. 1) of Dec. 21 and 22, 1909, prohibiting the keeping open on Sundays of premises licensed for cinematograph exhibitions be rescinded.

(*b*) That, except where a licence is granted for a particular day or days and the condition would be inappropriate, the licences granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, be subject to a condition that the premises shall not be opened on Sundays, Christmas Day, or Good Friday for cinematograph exhibitions.

The Chairman: The question is that Recommendation 1 (*a*) be agreed to.

This was agreed to.

The Chairman: The question is that Recommendation 1 (*b*) be agreed to.

Mr. Jesson (Walworth): I want to move an amendment on that, sir. It is to add the following words to the recommendation:—

"and that the conditions upon which the Council, on Feb. 15, 1910 (p. 208), decided to consider applications for permission to give cinematograph entertainments on Sundays and other days prohibited by the licence be supplemented by conditions to the following effect, viz.,

"(1) That a copy of the agreement between the proprietors of places of amusement and the societies or organisations which have been given permission to organise Sunday entertainments shall be supplied to the Council; and

"(2) that an approximate balance-sheet of the entertainments be presented to the Council monthly."

Mr. C. Jesson said: In moving this, I desire, on behalf of the four organisations representing the profession, to thank Mr. Greenwood for the kind way in which he has assisted us in this matter.

We have no desire in any way to curtail the people's pleasures if they desire Sunday entertainments, but what we do desire is to see that, if this question of Sunday entertainments is going to develop at all, it will not develop upon lines which will cause hardship to those engaged in the entertainment profession. We do not desire to see the same conditions spread about in this country as obtain in America. The Federation of Variety Artists, Actors, and Musicians, and everyone associated with the entertainment profession in America, are protesting against the seven days' labour forced upon them by people popularising Sunday entertainment. They do not object to Sunday entertainments, but they desire that entertainments, so far as they are concerned, shall not be compulsory.

Mr. Greenwood: For the convenience of the Council I may say that I am quite prepared to accept the amendment.

The Chairman: Who seconds it?

Mr. Frank Smith (Lambeth): I second.

The Chairman: I understand the Chairman of the Committee is prepared to accept that; the whole of it?

Mr. Greenwood: Yes, sir; the whole of it.

Mr. F. L. Dove (Islington, North): This seems rather involved, and I should be glad if the Chairman of the Committee would give us some further explanation. If this is only a back-door way of opening these places on Sunday, I shall vote against it.

Mr. Greenwood: It is by no means a back-door way. It is, rather, a more extensive safeguard that the Council will have to see that these concerts are only given under the regulations which govern Sunday entertainments.

The Chairman: The amendment is moved. Does the Council agree?

This was agreed to.

The Chairman: The question is that recommendation (*b*), as amended, be agreed to.

This was agreed to.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME.

The committee reported: The Council on Dec. 1, 1908, approved, subject to certain conditions, drawings showing a music hall to be known as the Lewisham Hippodrome, and to be erected on a site in Rushey Green and Brownhill-road, Catford. Further drawings have now been submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a proposal to construct the premises on a slightly modified site. The music hall will have accommodation for about 3,300 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be satisfactory. The committee recommended that, provided that the works shown on the drawings submitted be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to and the regulations of the Council, &c.

PROPOSED CINEMATOGRAPH HALL.

The committee reported that they had considered drawings and a specification, submitted by Mr. R. E. Clarke, showing a proposal to convert premises at Nos. 246 and 248, Kentish Town-road, into a cinematograph hall. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the hall, which will have accommodation for about 500 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be satisfactory for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The committee recommended that, provided that the works be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of the building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings and specification and the regulations of the Council.

Agreed to.

ELECTRIC THEATRES, &c.

The Committee also reported with reference to drawings submitted by Mr. M. S. Ward, showing alterations proposed to be made to a mission hall in Praed-street, Paddington, in order to convert the premises into an electric theatre. The premises will have accommodation for about 450 persons. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the hall.

Also with reference to drawings submitted by Messrs. Lovell and Bulman, showing a skating rink and a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected on a site abutting on High-street, Putney, and Brewhouse-lane. The skating rink is shown to accommodate about 1,820 persons, and the cinematograph hall 1,060 persons. It is intended to apply for a music and dancing licence for the two halls.

Subject to the usual conditions being complied with, the committee recommended that certificates be granted.

The committee also recommended approval of a drawing, submitted by Messrs. Norfolk and Prior, showing alterations proposed to be made to the Catford Central Hall Picture Palace, Sangley-road, in order to comply with certain of the requirements made by the Council to render the premises suitable for a music licence.

Agreed to.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

With reference to drawing submitted by Mr. F. A. Tugwell showing a proposal to provide a new dressing-room on the prompt fly at the Shaftesbury Theatre, the committee recommended approval of the arrangements.

Agreed to.

The Music Committee of the City of London Corporation has received a legacy from the late Mr. Alfred Morten of £5,000 Cambrian Railway Fourth Preference stock for the Guildhall School of Music, in order to found two scholarships. The committee recommend that the City seal be affixed to the declaration of trust in connection with the bequest.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MR. HARRY RUSSON.

A Londoner, Mr. Russon had the privilege of being tutored, encouraged, and placed on the first rung of the ladder by Mr. Albert Chevalier, a privilege he appreciates more and more as he realises how important a good start is. Previous to his entry into the profession Mr. Russon was a sailor in the merchant service, and afterwards was in business in a big London warehouse, where by playing Cis Farringdon in an amateur performance of *The Magistrate* and Rupert Slater in Conan Doyle's *Halves*, he discovered his particular talent.

He then joined Mr. Thomas Sydney, playing in *Green Bushes* and *Dr. Bill*, afterwards appearing as Guppy in Miss Jennie Lee's company of *Jo*, Billy in *Trilby*, Charley in *Charley's Aunt*, Fidgety Phil in *Shock-headed Peter* at the Garrick Theatre, &c. Mr. Russon then went in for musical comedy, playing Comte de Fleury in Mr. George Edwardes' *Messenger Boy* company; two tours of *The Toreador* company followed, and after this Mr. Russon played Lord Plantagenet in *Kitty Grey* for a tour, and stage-managed two tours of *The Three Little Maids*. After managing a concert party, entitled The Red Cavaliers, Mr. Russon went into partnership with Mr. Henry J. Corner in The Dandies, with whom he remained three years. At the end of the engagement of the Dandies in the Coliseum Revue, in which Mr. Russon played an Eton boy in the Zoo scene, a County Councillor, and a Cook's Guide, he dissolved partnership with Mr. Corner and started as a single turn on the halls. Within three weeks of his commencement as a music-hall artist he was booked by Messrs. Glenister, Gibbons, Barrasford, Payne, De Frece, Elliston, Clarke, Bostock, &c., for five years' solid work.

Mr. Russon does not confine himself to any particular style on the halls, as his répertoire consists of light comedy, character comedy, and dramatic work. His favourite number is Mr. Rudyard Kipling's "Gunga Din," and some of his most successful songs have been "The workhouse pauper," "In the days of good King Charlie," "There's always room for a girl," "The stage-door keeper," and "Thoroughbred." His latest effort, which has proved a tremendous success, is a song-scena, entitled "The Last of the Cabbies." In this Mr. Russon uses the scene of a cab rank, with cab shelter at the entrance to a park, horse and four-wheeler, and has the assistance of a lady "fare" and a cab rank "runner." He recently had a most tempting offer to go to America, but owing to his bookings he is unable to leave England for some time.

[*Photo by Lafayette.*

MR. HARRY RUSSON.

The annual Bohemian concert arranged by the choristers of the Theatre Royal pantomime, Birmingham, was held after the performance at the Grand Theatre on Tuesday evening. Mr. George Robey occupied the chair, and he was supported by Mr. Harry Lewis. Members of the pantomime company and performers at the local music halls contributed to an excellent programme, and the affair proved a huge success.

Mr. George Grossmith, jun., made his French début in a revue at the Folies-Bergère on Tuesday, and had a very hearty reception from a crowded house. Appearing first as a Government expert on female beauty, he was surrounded by a bevy of charming English girls, and sang the famous "Yip-i-addy-i-ay" in boulevard French. At his third encore he gaily improvised a line in English: "I don't understand a word that I say." Later in the evening he gave a "skit" on the English elections with Miss Campton, an English comedienne, which was heartily applauded.

Harry Ross, thirty-five, tailor, of Gibson-square, Islington, was charged at Clerkenwell last week with being concerned in breaking and entering 16, Furlong-road, Islington, and stealing three diamond rings, a diamond pin, and bracelets, value £150, the property of George D'Albert, music-hall artist. The prosecutor said that he left his house about 5.30 in the evening, his wife being at home. On his return just after midnight he found that the front door had been broken open, and a quantity of jewellery had been stolen. The case was remanded.

The Electric Picture Palace, Canterbury, fills well every evening. Among the best pictures this week may be numbered a patriotic film entitled For Her Country's Sake; a doll-maker's dream, called Blessington's Bonny Babs; a realistic drama, entitled Poor Mother; a dog story, Dear Old Dog; a humorous item, Those Awful Matinée Hats; an appreciative tale of a jolly Jack Tar, under the title of One of the Bulldog Breed; and a dramatic story of a crime, called The Detective's Son. A beauty show took place on Thursday.

A very attractive series of pictures is exhibited at the Court Theatre, Brighton, this week. The Children's Doctor conveys a powerfully effective story, The Squire's Romance is very dramatic, and the films of an amusing character include Calino goes Shopping, Wouldn't it Tire You? Imps of the Bottle, Stickfast Paste, Terror and the Terrier, and When We Called the Plumber In. Mr. Osland Denner contributed baritone songs, which merit high praise.

"Scene Painters of the Past" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

MASONS AT WORK.

CONSECRATION OF THE PROSCENIUM LODGE AND INSTALLATION OF THE FIRST MASTER.

Tuesday last was a red-letter day in the variety world, for yet another Masonic coterie was called into existence, having for its object the ingathering of those whose inclinations may lead them to wish to enter the fraternity or join a body of men whose avocations of necessity bring them into the closest intimacy, and in many instances the most cordial and lasting comradeship.

The prosperity of the Chelsea Lodge, which was consecrated some few years ago, has been so great that some of its members joined together in a petition to the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, for the establishment of a new Lodge, to be called the "Proscenium," with Mr. Albert Le Fre as W.M. Designate, Mr. W. H. Roberts (better known as Atlas) as S.W. Designate, and Mr. Frank Hardie as J.W. Designate; and the prayer of such petition being favourably received and a warrant of constitution granted, the day was fixed for the consecration, and on Tuesday last a large and representative gathering of members of the fraternity who were interested in matters concerning the variety world and its ways assembled at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, to witness the beautiful and interesting ceremony, which was carried out with dignity, solemnity, and perfection of detail by Sir Edward Letchworth (the Grand Secretary of England) as W.M., Mr. James W. Mathews, the first Master of the Chelsea Lodge, A.G.D.C., as S.W., Mr. Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., as J.W., and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., as I.G. Mr. Henry Sadler, the Grand Tyler of England, having charge of the consecrating vessels, was also present.

Many of the Founders were present to receive the benefits of the ceremonial and to witness the due constitution of their Lodge. The full list of Founders was as follows:—Messrs. Albert Le Fre Henry Coutts, W. H. Roberts, Frank Hardie, W. S. Lyon, C. J. Doughty, Monte Bayly, Andie Caine, Harry Bawn, Ernest A. Warsaw, F. H. Pedgrift, Dan Lipton, J. T. W. Grant, Cecil H. Phillips, B. J. Whiteley, W. H. Hitch, Gilbert Girard, Chas. Norton, Harry Bancroft, W. A. Stone, E. A. Bedford, Fred Keeton, G. A. Keen, H. J. Kisby, E. M. Myers, E. E. Brook, Stanley Palmer, George Mozart, Frank Fort, and R. B. Bradshaw. The Rev. J. Farrington Downes, P.A.G.C., officiated as Chaplain, and delivered an eloquent oration; while Mr. J. S. Granville Grenfell, M.A., D.G.D.C., undertook the arduous duties of Director of the Ceremonies.

The consecration being ended by the pronouncement of the patriarchal benediction, Sir Edward Letchworth installed the first Master, Mr. Albert Le Fre, and that gentleman then proceeded to appoint his officers—investing such as were present—as follows:—Messrs. G. H. Cobly (Henry Coutts), Hon. I.P.M.; William H. Roberts (Atlas), S.W.; W. J. Wells (Frank Hardie), J.W.; Alfred B. J. Bayly (Monte Bayly), S.D.; Ernest Taylor (Andie Caine), J.D.; A. W. H. Beale (Harry Bawn), D.C.; F. H. Pedgrift, I.G.; and Wm. J. Mundy (Dan Lipton), J. T. W. Grant, Cecil H. Phillips, and Benjamin J. Whiteley as Stewards.

The election of Treasurer being left in the Master's hands, his choice fell upon Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R., the Treasurer of the Chelsea Lodge, and Mr. J. H. McNaughton was elected by the brethren as Tyler of the Lodge. The Master was pleased to appoint Mr. Charles J. Doughty, the Secretary of the Chelsea Lodge, as his Secretary, and the appointment was highly approved by the Founders as a well-deserved and distinguished honour.

The consecrating officers were asked to accept honorary membership of the Lodge and commemorative jewels, and Sir Edward Letchworth, in replying for himself and those who had rendered him such invaluable assistance, accepted the kindly invitation and the handsome gifts, and expressed the hope that the Proscenium Lodge would have a long and prosperous existence, and that he and those associated with him in the delightful task of forming the Lodge might in the future often have the privilege of being present at their assemblies.

Throughout the proceedings Mr. W. J. Waterman, Mus.Bac., G.O., presided at the organ, and, with the assistance of Messrs. Herbert Tracy, Percy Watson, E. C. Ashford, and Frank Tebbutt, rendered the musical portions of the service with telling effect.

Messrs. Henry Neville, P.A.G.C., and John Worth, P.G.P., were present as visitors; and also Messrs. A. W. Morgan, Lionel Carson, S. C. Montague Austin, Harry E. Gosling, Percy J. Scale, C. D. Weston, Herbert Chenery, Pete Murray, W. Douglas Carlile, H. H. Sadler, A. W. Samwells, E. H. Granville, James W. Fortune, W. E. Lincoln, A. J. Robbins, Arnold W. Phillips, L. M. Frytel, Eric Strae, E. Ashton, Fred W. Banning, and Aleck George, amongst whom were several Provincial Grand Officers.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from several whose professional engagements in various parts of the United Kingdom precluded the possibility of their being present, nor did the pressure of engagements rest with the absent ones alone, for the Master (Mr. Albert Le Fre) himself was obliged to hurry away after the closing of the Lodge in order to catch an afternoon train to the Midlands to enable him to reach his destination in time for the evening performance. With luck, he could do it with a few—a very few—minutes to spare.

The brethren reassembled in the Dome Room of the "Connaught" suite, and under the able presidentship of Mr. Harry Coutts, who deputised for the absent Master, a right royal time was spent. A good dinner was followed by good speeches and a good programme of music, song, &c., and the occasion will long be remembered as a joyful one. The various toasts were duly honoured. That of "The Grand Officers" drew from Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, the Treasurer, a very interesting account of the rise of the Proscenium, which was an offspring of the Chelsea Lodge, which was itself an offspring of the Earl's Court Lodge, and recounted his connection with the three, and in the name of the members of the Proscenium tendered the Grand Officers their cordial thanks and good wishes. The toast was enthusiastically received, and Sir Edward Letchworth and Messrs. James W. Mathews and Harry Nicholls each, in the happiest manner, replied. Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, having an engagement elsewhere, had left, and was unable to express his thanks. The toast of "The Master" was cordially received, and a telegram of congratulation was sent to him. "The Officers" brought eloquent replies from Messrs. W. H. Roberts (Atlas) and Frank Hardie, as S.W. and J.W. respectively.

When the final stage was reached and the brethren were cogitating as to how and where they would spend the evening, it was announced that Mr. Frank Glenister had invited them all as his guests to the London Pavilion, and many availed themselves of the kind invitation.

The Town Council of Broughty Ferry are prepared to receive offers for the right to provide al-fresco entertainments, shows, &c., on the promenade and sands for the summer season. Mr. Edward Cowan, Town Clerk, 4, High-street, Dundee, will give all particulars to applicants up to March 12.

A special feature in the programme at the Palace, Camberwell, this week is the first appearance there of Miss Maude May Murray, who presents an enchanting spectacular dance act, with wonderful lighting effects. She appears in a blaze of light from start to finish, and is greeted with storms of applause.

GEORGE ROBEY AND THE OXFORD, LIMITED.

In the Court of Appeal on Monday, before the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton and Lord Justice Buckley, the Oxford, Ltd., appealed against the decision recently given by Mr. Justice Joyce in the case brought against them by Mr. George Edward Wade (Mr. George Robey), in which he asked for a declaration that a contract entered into between him and the late Mr. George Adney Payne, managing-director of the defendant company, was a personal agreement, and lapsed when Mr. Payne died in May of 1907.

Mr. Justice Joyce held that the contract was a personal one with Mr. Payne, and that on his death it became unworkable, and that in the circumstances Mr. Robey was justified in entering into an agreement with another person.

In the appeal Mr. Younger, K.C., and Mr. Maugham appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Simon, K.C., and Mr. McCardie for the respondent.

Mr. Younger, K.C., in stating the case for the appellants, said he thought the Court would come to the conclusion on the evidence that the particular right which Mr. Payne had to exercise was such as Mr. Robey could not have intended to be exercised by one particular person.

Lord Justice Moulton: Is your contention that the Oxford are bound to carry out this agreement?

Mr. Younger: Certainly.

Do you admit that you were liable for the whole of the £120?

Mr. Younger: Certainly.

Mr. Simon, K.C.: Not only has there been a doubt about it, but it was not the view of the judge.

Mr. Younger: We have always admitted the liability.

Lord Justice Moulton: I am not clear that it makes them liable for the £120.

Mr. Younger: There is no doubt what the words mean.

Lord Justice Buckley: You have no words defining that the Oxford must pay the salary, but you have words that the salary is to be made up as Mr. Payne "thinks fit."

Mr. Younger: It has to be paid by the Oxford.

Lord Justice Moulton: If Mr. Payne had to find two other halls, it looks conclusive that that was a personal undertaking on his part to find the halls.

Mr. Younger submitted that the Oxford were to have the exclusive services of Mr. Robey for £120, and were entitled to require him to sing at three halls. The Oxford was one of the associated halls, and was able to secure the others to take up this contract and let Mr. Robey have the opportunity of performing.

The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday, when Mr. Younger, K.C., argued the case on behalf of the defendant company. He contended that Mr. Payne was acting as managing-director of the Oxford.

Lord Justice Buckley thought there were words in the agreement which enabled Mr. Payne, as distinguished from the Oxford, to introduce variations that would affect the contract as between the Oxford and Mr. Robey.

Lord Justice Moulton said Mr. Payne agreed to find Mr. Robey two other halls to work, in conjunction with the Oxford, at a salary of £120 a week, such salary to be made up as Mr. Payne might think fit.

Mr. Younger remarked that this sum was to be paid for Mr. Robey performing at three halls.

The Master of the Rolls said he was not satisfied that the Oxford was liable for the whole £120.

Evidence taken in the Court below was read, and counsel, on behalf of the appellants, submitted that it was not the duty of the Court to allow a person to get out of his bargain when he was not injured by being kept in it.

On Wednesday the Master of the Rolls said it was impossible to say that there was any complete contract between the Oxford (Limited) and Mr. Robey in the first part of the document. In the second part, which was signed by Mr. Payne, without binding the Oxford (Limited), there was no trace of the salary which Mr. Robey was to receive for appearing at the two additional halls, and he was clear that it was of a personal character as between Mr. Payne and Mr. Robey, as distinct from Mr. Payne acting for the Oxford and Mr. Robey. He was impressed by the fact that Mr. Payne was a gentleman of great influence in the music-hall world and a personal friend of Mr. Robey, and that Mr. Robey treated himself as contracting with Mr. Payne alone. Mr. Payne was dead, and the £120 had never been apportioned between the three halls, and no human being could say what was the proportion of the salary which the Oxford was liable to pay. He saw no ground for saying that the Oxford was to pay the whole £120. The appellants said that that did not matter; they were willing to pay the £120, and make such arrangements as they thought fit. The answer was that that was not the obligation which Mr. Robey entered into. He was unable to see that it was anything else than a case in which the essential parts of the contract were left to be settled by a gentleman who had since died without performing that duty. Even if it were held that the second part of the contract was to be treated as between the Oxford (Limited) and Mr. Robey, that would not get over the difficulty, because there were still things to be done by Mr. Payne as an individual. In his view the contract had come to an end, and was no longer binding, and the appeal must be dismissed.

The lords justices concurred, and the appeal was accordingly dismissed.

The Two Falcons, comedy acrobats, sail on Friday next by the P. and O. Mooltan to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards in Australia, made by Tom Pacey.

Miss Edith Courtney and Miss Florence Wilton have been successfully exploiting at the Canterbury during the week a musical duologue, entitled *A Marble Flirtation*.

Frank Hartley, the boy juggler, made a big success at the Palace, Shaftesbury Avenue, where he opened on Monday last. He has been booked at that house by the energetic Tom Pacey.

Lee and Arden have arranged to supply the al-fresco entertainments at Leven. This will be their first season on the East Coast. They have opened up all the principal Clyde resorts, and are generally recognised as the pioneers of high-class al-fresco entertainments in Scotland.

At the New Brighton Winter Gardens this week a fine programme is being presented, including Master Harcourt Mills, a wonderfully clever boy-actor; the Raymond Trio, refined dancers and instrumentalists; the Carlo and Maie Trio, comedy acrobats; Mr. and Mrs. F. Shelley, sketch artists; Miss F. Ormonde, vocalist; Mr. W. Mosford, a fine baritone; and Mr. A. Fagan, comedian.

Mr. Benj. Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to thank Mr. Vivian Evans (Empire Palace, Wolverhampton) for box collection of £1 19s.; Mr. Sam Jones (City Varieties, Leeds), 4s.; Mr. Herbert Raymond (Regent Theatre, Salford), box collection, £2 11s.; and Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland, has sent a cheque for £2 to the Home Fund. Many thanks also for parcel of men's clothes received from Pat Carey and Peggy Pryde; and to Ernest Ball, Harry Blake, and Harry and Lillie Vento (Clacton-on-Sea) for parcel of books and magazines for the inmates of the Home. The secretary would be glad to receive men's old boots and clothes, which would be very acceptable at all times.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 7.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Bath.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—Manchester.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Middlesboro'
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Prince's T., Bradford.
BAINES, FLORENCE.—Prince's T., Preston.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Grand T., Brighton.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Grand T., Southampton.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Court T., Warrington.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Carmarthen and Brynamman.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—West Pier, Brighton.
BETTER LAND, THE.—T. R., Bury.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—Grand T., Fulham.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—O. H., Cheltenham.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—King's T., Hammersmith.
BROKEN HEART, A.—T. R., South Shields.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—Metropole T., Devonport.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Woolwich.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—T. R., Merthyr.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—King's T., Edinburgh.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—T. R., Halifax.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Pavilion T., Mile End.
CHORUS LADY, THE.—Court T., Liverpool.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE) (M.).—County T., Bedford.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Kilmarnock.
CINGALE, THE (B).—T. R., King's Lynn.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Rochdale.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—King's T., Greenock.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Batley.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Grand T., Luton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Tidworth and Salisbury.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—T. R., Nottingham.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—King's T., Sunderland.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., Norwich.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Grand T., Leeds.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—Empire T., Southend.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Tyne T., Newcastle.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—O. H., Perth.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Grand T., Manchester.
FATAL WEDDING.—Broadway T., New Cross.
FIRES OF FATE.—Cambridge and Oxford.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ryde.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Star T., Liverpool.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
FRIVOLITY.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Queen's Park, Manchester.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T. R., Batley.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—T. R., Portsmouth.
GIRLS OF GOTTENBURG.—T. R., Plymouth.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—T. R., Woolwich.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS.—T. R., Ilkeston.
GUILTY GOLD.—O. H., Dunfermline.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—King's T., Glasgow.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Alexandra T., N.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
HER SECRET LOVER.—O. H., St. Helens.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Grand T., Newcastle.
HUSH MONEY.—Osborne T., Manchester.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Elephant and Castle T.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—T. R., Chatham.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Bicester and Basingstoke.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—T. R., Worcester.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Sheffield.
LODGE-PERCY AND J. MARTIN.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
LUCKY LIZA.—Hippodrome, Stalybridge.
MAN TO MAN.—Broadway T., S.E.
MARRIAGES OF MAYFAIR.—T. R., Bolton.
MERRY WIDOW.—Royalty T., Chester.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Borough T., Stratford, E.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Aston.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—P. O. W., Salford.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—T. R., Manchester.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—T. R., Blackburn.
NEW BOY, THE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
OH, SUSANNAH!—Grand T., Oldham.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Hippodrome, Salford.
OLD HOME, THE.—Grand T., Mansfield.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Crown T., Eccles.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—T. R., Barnsley.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Southport.
PASSION OF LIFE.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
PETE (N.).—T. R., Blackburn.
PETE (S.).—Grand T., Falkirk.
PETER PAN.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—T. R., Smethwick.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE) (M.).—Abertillery.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
SEXTON BLAKE.—Court T., Wigan.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Palace T., Watford.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Portsmouth.
SILVER KING.—T. R., Preston.
SINS OF A CITY.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
SINS OF THE FATHERS.—T. R., Leicester.
STILL ALARM.—O. H., Hammersmith.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
TEMPTATION.—Grand T., Chorley.
THIEF, THE.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Grand T., Nelson.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—O. H., Harrogate.
TYRANT, THE.—T. R., Sunderland.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Rotherham.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Century T., Motherwell.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—T. R., Belfast.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Metropole T., Glasgow.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Grand T., Nottingham.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—T. R., Rotherham.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Hippodrome, Scarborough.
WHITE MAN, A.—Empire T., Swindon.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Grand T., Derby.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—Grand T., Hull.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—T. R., York.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—T. R., Stratford.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Grand T., Houghton.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—T. R., Newcastle.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—O. H., Dunfermline.

MISS LOUIE TRACY, the dapper dandy boy, is topping the bill at the Pier Pavilion, Southport, singing no less than four songs at every performance. All the songs are by Harry Carlton and Carlton and Sullivan, and it would be hard to find four songs to beat the following: "That's a nice little girl over there," "The Earl of the Esplanade," "Where's the girl who doesn't love the soldiers?" and "I'm bidding good-bye to the boys."

MR. EDWARD THANE is busy rehearsing a new dramatic sketch entitled *The Mask Torn Off*, written by Ward Bailey and himself. Miss Helena Millais, who has been so successful on tour in the part of Kate Cregeen (*Pete*), will run it in the halls, starting from the Empress, Brixton, on March 14.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

WILL CHATTERTON.—*An answer to your question will appear next week.*

HOPE.—*We should suggest an advertisement in our Authors' column, for which rates can be sent you on application to our publisher.*

SETON BERNARD.—*It is certainly necessary to get permission if you are giving any verses of their songs, which we may conclude is your intention. Besides, courtesy should count for something in the relations between one professional and another.*

MISS STICKLAND (Ealing).—The Beloved Vagabond, *the play based on W. J. Locke's play of the same name, was produced at the Dublin Theatre Royal on Oct. 10, 1907, and afterwards at His Majesty's Theatre on Feb. 5, 1908. It ran to the end of March of that year. See notice above.*

F. T. P. (Watford).—*Miss Lottie Collins sang "Ta-ra-ra Boomdeay" at the Tivoli in the first week of November, 1891, and appeared on Boxing Night in the same year at the Grand, Islington, as Alice Fitzwarren in Geoffrey Thorn's pantomime* Dick Whittington, *in which the success of the number was repeated.*

T. W. Y.—*Have you had any training in elocution, gesture, or deportment? Have you any special gifts that impel you towards the stage? These are the first questions we would ask you before any advice can possibly be given. The theatrical profession is, as you know, overcrowded, and even actors and actresses of experience find it most difficult to obtain engagements. There must be something more than desire—there must be fitness, there must be personality, and there must be magnetism if success is to be won.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

GRIFFITHS.—Feb. 25, the wife of R. L. Griffiths (Daisy Mottley) of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

EVERED—PATERSON.—On Feb. 22, 1910, at Portsmouth Parish Church, by the Rev. E. S. Prideaux Brune, Rector of Rowner, assisted by Rev. F. E. Parsons, Curate of Portsmouth Parish Church, Fred Evered, of Balham, to Amy Mugford Paterson, of Laira Villa, Brockhurst, Gosport; by licence.

STIGANT—RAYNHAM.—Saturday, Feb. 26, 1910, at Brentford, by licence, Arthur Stigant to Jessie Raynham (professionally known as Dolly Tree, of The Three Trees).

DEATHS.

CLIFTON.—Feb. 27, of paralysis, Harriet Clifton, aged 63.

HARWOOD.—Feb. 20, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Robb Harwood, aged 40.

KIRBY.—Feb. 28, at 14, Gladstone-street, London, S.E., Hartwell J. Kirby, of Bright's disease, after much suffering.

IN MEMORIAM.

BROWN.—In loving memory of Henry Brown (Shakespearean jester), who died March 4, 1902. Never forgotten by his widow and family.

LARKIN.—In loving memory of Harriett Larkin (Miss Harriett Clifton), who passed away at 6, Albion-terrace, Dalston, on Feb. 27, aged 63.

LEYTON.—In cherished memory of my only and beloved son, Sydney Leyton, who died of pneumonia, at Liverpool, on March 5, 1909. Born April 11, 1870. "Jesu, mercy."

NOYLE.—In ever loving memory of our darling mother, Olga Kate Noyle, who passed peacefully away Feb. 28, 1899. Ever mourned by her devoted daughters, Louise, Katie, Ruby, and Pearl. "There is a God of Pity, and Love, He knows best. Leave all to His compassion, and rest, my dear one, rest."

THORNE.—In ever-loving memory of our darling mother, Sarah Thorne, who passed away Feb. 27, 1899. Always missed.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Fewlass Llewellyn—Saturday, March 5.
Harry Bawn—Saturday, March 5.
Arthur Slater—Sunday, March 6.
Will Bishop—Sunday, March 6.
Charles Cartwright—Monday, March 7.
Florence St. John—Tuesday, March 8.
James Skea—Wednesday, March 9.
David Collins—Thursday, March 10.
Edward Terry—Thursday, March 10.
Basil Gill—Thursday, March 10.
Joseph William John Webb—Friday, March 11.

MME. ELLA RUSSELL, the famous operatic prima donna, who is making her first appearance on the variety stage, is the principal newcomer to the Coliseum on Monday. Although America has not produced many great composers, that country at least has given us many sweet singers, of whom Mme. Russell is assuredly the most popular.

A NEW turn at the Empress, Brixton, this week is the Romantiques, a quartet of refined vaudeville entertainers who give practically what may be considered an excerpt from a musical comedy. Three gentlemen in court costume and refined appearance support Miss Dorothy Evans, a lady who sings charmingly and dances rhythmically. Miss Evans sings "The man in the moon," which is accompanied by her companions with an earhaunting humming refrain; then Mr. Reginald Thomas, a capable young baritone, gives "You and the girl you love," and Mr. Harry Lea (comedian) follows with "I'm running after Nancy." The song is amplified by the members of the quartet giving a kind of running chorus; this is the finale to a very successful act. Mr. Carlton Lee gives excellent support.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abcabe,
Agnew, Mr. Claude
Albert, Mr. Arthur
Albury, Mr. Eric
Aldin, Mr. Chas.
Anderson, Mr. Claude
Arnte, Mr. Billy
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Barns and Askot
Barson, Mr. Alf
Beatrices, Sisters
Beaudyn and Mantanini
Bellew, Mr. Kyrle
Bentley, Mrs. Walter
Booth, Mrs. J.
Bramley, Miss Bee
Buckley, Mr. Andrew
Burns, Mr. W. C.
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Calden, Messrs. T. & W
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Chard, Lieut.
Chard, Miss Dorothy
Charter, Mr. James
Cherry, Mr. James
Colena, Miss Fanny
Conquest, Mr. George
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Courtenay, Miss Maud
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Cuthbert, Mrs. J.
Dainton, Mr. George
Dalton, Miss F.
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dare, Miss Zena
Dare, Mr. Cyrus
Desormes, Mr. Jean
Dickson, Mrs. M. E.
Dillon, Mr. Charles
Doherty, Mr. Pat
Douglas, Miss Gertie
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Drury, Miss Lily
Dunlo, Mr. W.
Durland, Mr. Fred
Edwards, Miss Esme
Ellis, Miss M. E.
Escourt, Mr.
Evett, Mr. Robert
Felton, Mr. Wm.
Foldi, Miss Irma
Ford, Mrs. Max
Forman and Fannan
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss Mary
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Fulton, Mr. Geoffrey
Gambier, Capt. G.
Gilmore, Mr. Tom
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Gordon, Mr. Phillip
Granville, Mr. T.
Grey, Mr. Robert
Hall, Miss Edith
Halstan, Miss M.
Hammersley, Miss Dora
Harrie, Mr. Geo.
Harrison, Mr. John
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hayden, Mr. Percy
Helmsley, Mr. C. T.
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Holland, Mr. Wm.
Hollander, Miss Alice
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houp'la, Mr. R.
Howard, Prof. Tom
Hybert, Mr. Josh
Inescourt, Miss Elaine
Jakobowski, Mr. E.
James, Mr. Philip
Johnstone, Mr. T. E.
Kalo, Mr. James
Lambert, Captain
Lauri, Mme. F. V.
Le Clair, Mr. and Mrs.
Leicester, Mrs. G. F.
Liliputian Troupe
Lind, Miss Letty
Lindens, The
Lindsay, Mr. H. W.
Lindsay, Mr. James
Loftus, Mr. Harry
Lumley, Mr. Harry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lynn, Miss Jennie
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Lytton, Mr. B.
Malone, Miss Kitty
Mappin, Mr. Walter
Marriott, Mr.
Martino, Madam
Martyn, Master Paul
McKay, Mr. C.
McMahon, Mr. W. S.
McMillen, Mr. W. L.
Merlin, Mr.
Mersano, Mr.
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Mone, Mr.
Mumford, Mr. G.
Needham, Mr. Robert
Neil, Mr. S.
Nevada, Mme.
Parkinson, Miss M.
Paul Brothers
Paul, Miss N.
Pierpoint, Mr. W. H.
Pitman, Mr. Will
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Proctor, Mr. C. King
Ra Leslie, Miss Ethel
Ray, Miss Belle
Rayburn, Mr. Bert
Redcliffe, Mr. Ern
Reese, Mr. Ernie
Rinder, Mr. Arthur
Rita, Signorina
Rose, Mr. Charles
Rousby, Mr. E.
Royston, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Sidney T.
Saxo
Sharman, Mrs. J.
Sheldon, Mr. George
Simosa, San
Sleath, Mis Helena
Sloane, Mr. Harry
Smalleys, The
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Somos, Mr. R.
Sothern, Mr. E.
Souter, Miss Lillie
Steel, Mrs.
Tabrar, Mr. Joseph
Tilbury, Mr. Walter
Tribe, Miss Maud
Tweddell, Mr. George
Ulph, Mrs. Harry
Valosky, Mr.
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vaselicu Troupe
Vesta, Miss Ruby
Vezin, Mr. Hermann
Vyner, Mr. Leslie
Walton, Mr. Fred
Ward, Mr. Dudley
White, Miss Maggie
Whitmore, Mr. Joe
Wilson, Mr. Walter A.
Wylie, Mr. Lauri
"Yanger"

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
1402 BROADWAY,
AND AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD HERE.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

Rowland's ODONTO,
a pure, fragrant, non-gritty Tooth Powder;
WHITENS THE TEETH,
prevents decay and sweetens the breath.
Sold by Stores, Chemists, and A. Rowland & Sons, Hatton Garden, London.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, *Chartered Accountant.*

Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9,
CHARLES FROHMAN Presents
MISS MARIE DORO in
"THE CLIMAX."
A Play, in three acts, by Edward Locke.
By arrangement with Joseph Weber.
Preceded at 8.30 by Barclay Gammon and a Piano, by permission of the Palace Theatre Company.
MATINEE WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS at 2.30.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.

March 7, "BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
Matinée Thursday, 2.30.

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Miss MARIE STUDHOLME in
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES
Monday, March 7, VARIETIES. Twice nightly. Star Programme. Popular Prices. Smoking.
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

ROYALTY THEATRE, London, W.
Lease (55 years) for sale, with possession. Total outgoing, including ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, under £2,000 per annum. Part purchase might remain at 5 per cent. per annum. Theatre holds at ordinary West End prices, £220. Accommodation, 800 persons. Proprietors would give permission for conversion to music hall if purchaser desired. Apply to Tom B. Davis, Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE
Open Daily.
In Theatre, "WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD," 7.45; Matinée Wednesday. Mammoth Skating Rink. Hockey: Wednesdays and Saturdays. Ladies' and other Bands, Organ, &c., &c. March 8, 9, 10, South of England Badminton Championships.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES,
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Clock, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Chas. Reekie, Sterling and Love,
Ernie Mayne, May Fairclough,
Mlle. Olga Petronowa,
George Newburn, Hammon and Wyatt,
T. E. Dunville,
Henri de Vries, Bioscope, Five X Rays.

TIVOLI.
Karno's "Mumming Birds," Burt Shepard, Mary Law, Mons. Footgers, The Zigeuner Quartette, Dent and Harris, Queenie Essex, Lyster and Cooke, Charles Reekie, The Rowsons, Violet Loraine, The Three Gascoignes, Winifred Ward, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, George Newburn, the Bioscope.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Manager and Secretary, PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Farr-Farland, Charles Lilburn, Will Harris, Helene Roberta, Humphries' Educated Monkeys, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Lily Ray, Basil Horsfall's company in "Queen of the Fair," Alman, Marjorie Ward, and The Five Hunters.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's Co., in "The Belle of the Orient," Black and White, Andie Caine, The Markies, Russell Brandow, Savori Three Dixons, Dan Fraser, Bros. Dean, Ruffell's Bioscope, The Selbinis.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, March 7, 1910:—
De Biere, The Fitzroys, Dome, Will Godwin, Nash and Nash, Nellie Coleman, Jessie Carle, Jay Barrie, Blake and Granby, Florence Raymond, Bioscope, Henry Herne and Co., "The Merry Widower," &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—Half-time, 9.30. Monday, March 7: T. E. Dunville, Dora Lyric, Vona Clifford and Co., Maud Esmond, Four Sisters Gilby, Geo. Geoffrey's Co., Tate and Tate, Zeta Russell, Myra Stansfield, Allen and Austin, Sisters Wickenham, Will Harmony, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Miss Beaumont Collins and Co., in "The Leaves of Memory," Harry Luck, Bioscope, Montague Biggs, Ada Parker, Chris Van Bern, Wilman, Daisy Royal, Spry and Austin, Ian Colquohoun. Artists please note.—Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Mirza Golem Troupe, Kitty Traney, Sebastian Merill and Co., Garcia, Daphne Hope, Jury's Pictures of up-to-date events, &c.
New Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."

Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE.

"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Graham's Marionettes, Scott and Whaley, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Mlle. Polaire in "Le Visiteur," Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson, La Pia, Nelson Jackson, The McBanns, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.

Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. "Happy Holland,"
a merry and bright burletta, 10.20, Joe Elvin 8.46, Dent and Harris 8.30, Henri de Vries 9.25, Wilson and Waring 7.55, Martineks 9.10, Millie Payne 9.5, Meredith Meredro 8.40, Zieguener Quartette 8.20, H. Pleon, Flora Cromer, Selbinis, F. Keeton, Will E. Stopit, Sinclair and Whiteford, Jack Marks, Lily Eyton, Queenie Essex, Three Royal Dreadnoughts, F. Land, Bioscope. Open 7.10. Saturday matinées at 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Half Term commenced Monday, Feb. 21.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.

Students may join at any time.
Prospectus on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.

EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."

The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.

Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd., Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
This season's bookings, 1909-10, include "The Merry Widow," the Moody-Manners, "The Flag Lieutenant," "Miss Hook of Holland," "When Knights Were Bold," "Tom Jones," "Merrie England," "The Gay Gordons," "Lucky Durham," Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," "An Englishman's Home," "The Dairymaids," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's companies, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's companies, Mr. Douglas Bruce's companies, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1, also a few dates in Oct. and Nov.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
THE GRAND THEATRE,
Under the entirely new proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Prettiest Playhouse.
THE MOST POPULAR AND THE RECORD MONEY-TAKING THEATRE AT ORDINARY PRICES IN BLACKPOOL.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910, with Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year (for supreme No. 1 Companies only), May 2, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, and Oct. 10, 17, 24.
All communications to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager (as above), or Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
Vacant Dates, beginning of June.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Only vacant Spring dates, May 26, 27, 28, and June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attractions. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and a few Season Dates Open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.

1909-10 engagements: Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Co.; George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, May 2, 9, and 23, June 6 and 27, Aug. Bank Holiday, for Musical Play.

Address, William Morton.

LIMERICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Executor of Robert Fogerty, deceased, is prepared to receive offers for the purchase of above theatre, which is the only theatre in Limerick.

Full particulars can be had on application to
F. M. Fitt and Co., Solicitors,
Lower Mallow-street, Limerick.

LINCOLN. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.

THE FIRST THREE NIGHTS OF EACH WEEK,
Musical and Light Attractions,
ONCE NIGHTLY;
THE LAST THREE NIGHTS, Drama,
TWICE NIGHTLY.

The average receipts at this theatre, which have steadily increased for the past six years, have during the last three years, under the present management, doubled those of the previous three years.
A new entrance for Circle and Stalls has been erected and prices revised.
Bookings for the present season include:—
ONCE NIGHTLY: "Tom Jones," "Dairymaids," (second visit), "Country Girl" (third visit), "Miss Hook of Holland" (second visit), "Belle of New York" (third visit), "Gay Gordons," "Cingalee" (third visit), "Girls of Gottenburg," "Arcadians," "Merry Widow" (second visit), Pantomime. Messrs. Edward Terry, Edward Compton, and F. R. Benson "Third Floor Back," "Toddles," "Flag Lieutenant," "The Thief," "Breed of the Treshams," "When Knights Were Bold," &c.
TWICE NIGHTLY: "A False Wife," "Man and Wife," "Woman Pays," "Dandy Fifth," "At Duty's Call," "The Old Home," "The Nihilist," "Lucky 'Liza," Walter Melville, Millar Anderson, Thomson Carruthers, &c.

Wanted, good Companies, once and twice nightly, as above, for Autumn.
Gainsborough, Chesterfield, Loughborough, and Rugby may be booked in conjunction, three nights each.

W. Payne Seddon, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant weeks in June and July, Oct., on No free list during Dramatic Season.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. Dorrill, Managing-Director, Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for April 18, May 23, 30, Aug. 15, 29 (Plymouth races week), Nov. 28, and Dec. 5.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700. Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.

Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.

Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
A few Autumn Dates free.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. A few vacant dates this year.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8, also a few dates in October and November.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Vacant March 21, 22, 23, April 4, 5, 6, May 2, 3, 4, several dates onwards. C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
Election of Committee for 1910 and 1911.

All subscribers of 21s. and upwards are entitled to nominate and vote in the election of the Executive Committee for 1910 and 1911, which must be composed of fourteen members of £5 and upwards, and seven members of not less than one guinea.
Gentlemen qualified as above and who are willing to serve on the Committee for 1910 and 1911, are requested to send in their names not later than Thursday, March 17, 1910.
In the event of more than twenty-one candidates consenting to serve, an election will take place on Thursday, March 24, 1910, at 4 p.m., at 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, when the voting papers will be examined and recorded by the scrutineers appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
By Order,
C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.
Offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

To all whom it may concern.
"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."

The Acting Rights in this Play are vested in
Mr. J. COMYNS CARR
and Mr. H. B. IRVING.

Any attempt at piracy will be proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law.
Longmans, Green and Co.,
39, Paternoster-row, E.C.
H. B. Irving,
Queen's Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS.
FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.
Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thoroughgoing manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

THE ROAD, February, 1910.
"The Era" Annual for 1910, illustrated (1s., *The Era* Office), always one of the best theatrical volumes of the year, this time excels itself. It gives a dramatic and musical calendar (each day recalling some event of importance in corresponding years); a number of short stories, each by some well-known actor or acting-manager; new plays and important revivals in London and suburban houses for 1909; the same in the provinces; an alphabetical list of plays, both London and provincial, for the whole year; the casts of new plays; plays produced in New York; new pieces at the Paris theatres; the same at Berlin; principal sketches at London variety houses, and casts thereof; separate lists of theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom; a theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary; and, last and saddest, the deaths of the year illustrated, brought down to so late a date that it includes photos of Mr. E. H. Carpenter, who died on Dec. 23, and Mme. Meta Illing, who died on Dec. 26 last past. It is a veritable mine of information between two covers, and makes us wonder how so many valuable facts can be published at the low price charged for this. Our sincere congratulations to the editor and publisher thereof.

MORNING ADVERTISER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "fretted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.
About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

THE FINANCIER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.

FINANCIAL TIMES, Jan. 24, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.

EVENING NEWS, Feb. 9, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, issued at a shilling, has been complied with care and is replete with interest for all concerned in the personalities and the events of stageland. In addition to the diaries of theatrical productions, there are short stories and reminiscences by well-known actors and actresses. This section is led by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who raises again the disputed site of the old Globe playhouse. The latter part of the book deals with the deaths of the year, with excellent photographs of the artists who have passed away.

SUNDAY TIMES, Jan. 23, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces, there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Will Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.

PELICAN, Jan. 27, 1910.
"The Era" Annual is full of interesting matter from cover to cover to all who are in any way connected with the theatrical profession. To familiar "Era" Almanack features are added stories by well-known members of the Profession, and there is a very interesting series of portraits of the many well-known actors and actresses who have died within the past twelve months, starting off with an admirable and characteristic picture of dear old Lal Brough. Mr. Pedgrift is to be congratulated upon a shillingsworth of characteristic excellency.

YORKSHIRE POST, Feb. 2, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (*The Era* Office, 1s.) as usual contains stories and short articles by many well-known people of the stage, in addition to a list of London and provincial productions in 1909, and many other items of interest to the theatrical world.

Published at "The Era" Offices:
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1910.

MR. JONES ON LICENSING.

Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES means well and speaks well; but he is apt to be unpractical. On the platform he is most persuasive, but he is inclined to be a theorist, not a practical politician. In England we are fond of discussing things; the only trouble is that so often nothing follows the discussion. "I thought he had said what he ought to have said, and I com'd away," says TENNYSON'S Northern Farmer of the parson's sermon; and the same delight in rhetoric and dislike to acting up to logical conclusions distinguish the whole of the Anglo-Saxon race. We discuss the abolition of the Censorship, but the Censorship remains unabolished. We proclaim in impassioned words the advent of a National Theatre; but, without prejudice or any desire to throw cold water on a grand idea, we must confess that it is "a long time coming." It would almost seem that the more a matter is talked about the more likely it is to remain unchanged.

The intellectual temperament cannot be content with anything less than logic and symmetry; and the English are the most illogical and unsymmetrical nation on earth. The British Constitution is a mass of inconsistencies and absurdities; but, to judge by the recent elections at any rate, at least half of the population are averse from altering it. Our laws affecting the licensing of amusements are most complicated. Mr. JONES enumerates twelve different forms of licensing; but many years ago Mr. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD exhausted all his eloquence on the obvious absurdities of the system. Yet who suffers, and who cares?

Said Mr. JONES in his speech: "If Sir HERBERT TREE wished to give a high-class entertainment at His Majesty's—say, an entertainment consisting of a troupe of five dancers, a song by a prima donna, a solo by a violinist, and a play of an hour in the middle—and you may judge what a high-class artistic variety entertainment Sir HERBERT would give you—if he did that, he would be liable to prosecution." But the point is that Sir HERBERT TREE does not want to give a variety entertainment at His Majesty's. He is in a similar position to the scholar in the garret, who, when told that there was not room in the apartment to swing a cat, replied that he never desired to do so. Mr. JONES'S speech was a model of eloquence, but he "gave the whole show away" when he touched on the only really important matter: the opinions of the theatrical and music-hall managers. The idea that the general public is interested in this question is utterly without foundation. The general public is perfectly content with the present state of things. If a demonstration in favour of a single licence were announced to be held in Hyde Park, the grass would show no signs of trampling on the morrow. The theatrical managers, as Sir HERBERT says, desire to remain under the control of the Lord Chamberlain; and, as Mr. JONES admits, the music-hall managers are opposed to the single licence. To quote from Mr. JONES'S address: "The music-hall managers seem now to be protesting against the only common-sense and fair-play settlement of the difficulty, namely, one uniform licence for theatre and music hall, with permission to the manager to allow smoking if he thinks it advisable. The music-hall managers object to that. They wish to have the right of producing plays of thirty or forty minutes' or an hour's duration, but apparently they do not wish that the theatres should have the right of producing dances, songs, and other items of high-class variety entertainment. The music-hall managers have not, so far as I am aware, given any valid reason for their opposition to the one and uniform licence. Such reasons as they have given seem to me to be wholly vague and unsustainable, and wear the aspect of being dictated by considerations of their own personal profit." We fail to see why the reasons of the music-hall managers should *not* be so dictated. The business of amusement is like any other business—playwriting, for instance; it is carried on for profit. If the music-hall managers do not want the single licence, and the theatrical managers are not asking for it, and the artists are uncertain, and the general public is absolutely apathetic, the only conclusion to be drawn is that suggested by Lord MELBOURNE'S celebrated query, "Can't you let it alone?" Who would be free themselves must strike the blow; and it is useless to endeavour to talk people into wanting what they do not want, or to agitate them about something to which they are indifferent. The theatrical managers, as a body, do not want smoking and drinking in their auditoriums; the music-hall managers know very well that the popularity of their entertainments is based on their disconnected and various character; a *modus vivendi* has been arrived at, and Box and Cox appear, on the whole, to be satisfied. "The music-hall managers," says Mr. JONES, "must be very firmly asked to state their reasons." Mr. OSWALD STOLL and Mr. HENRI GROS have already done so, and we need not weary our readers by recapitulating the excellent arguments of these important and representative gentlemen. Indeed, it appears that, for the present at least, discussion of the question might as well be dropped. It seems pretty certain that no drastic legislation will take place in connection with the matter for a long time. The *vis inertia* which is the distinctive quality of the race, except when roused to indignation and excitement, and the practice of "shelving" which is usually followed in the case of independent Bills unless strenuously and generally supported, may be trusted to keep things *in statu quo* for years to come.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

M. Debussy's *L'Enfant Prodigue*, in French, was produced for the first time in England at Covent Garden on Monday night, being followed by Humperdinck's opera *Hänsel and Gretel*. M. Debussy's charming little "scène lyrique" was composed in 1884, gained the Prix de Rome, and some twenty years after heard as a cantata, and sung at the Sheffield Festival. Although not to be compared to the esteemed French composer's *Pelleas et Mélisande*, there is some pleasing and graceful music in *L'Enfant Prodigue*. Eastern in local colouring, and thoroughly French in feeling and treatment, the little work, barely lasting an hour in performance, closely follows the beautiful original story. Azael is the prodigal son, and Simeon and Lia the father and mother. Mr. M. D'Oisly successfully undertook the part of Azael, and Miss Perceval Allen sang Lia's music with expression, charm, and sentiment; while Mr. Alfred Kaufmann as the Father did all that was possible for the character. The scenery was effective, and the orchestra played Debussy's music with refinement. The revival of Humperdinck's delightful fairy opera, *Hänsel and Gretel*, is a very welcome feature of Mr. Thomas Beecham's season, and the performance (in English) on Monday night proved excellent. Miss Muriel Terry made an ideal Hänsel, and sang and acted with great spirit. Admirable also was Miss Ruth Vincent as Gretel, and well suited in the music of the part. Mr. Harry Dearth made a capital Peter, alike good in his acting and the skilful use of a really fine voice. Miss Christine D'Almayne played the Mother; and Miss Carrie Tubb as the Witch displayed marked ability by her grotesque and weird performance of this character. As the Sandman Miss Rosina Benyon deserved hearty praise for her singing; and the little part of Dewman was ably undertaken by Miss Betty Booker. The beautiful scene in the forest where the angels descend and group themselves round the sleeping children proved as impressive as usual. Mr. Percy Pitt conducted both operas, and the large audience gave an enthusiastic welcome to *Hänsel and Gretel*.

Miss Ethel Smyth's opera *The Wreckers* was performed at Covent garden for the first time on Tuesday night. When produced at His Majesty's Theatre last summer Miss Smyth's opera aroused considerable interest, and one performance was given by command of the King. The subject of the libretto is quite English, and deals with the old Cornish wreckers on the coast luring, by means of false beacons, ships to their destruction on the wild, rocky shore of Cornwall. At the time of its performance at His Majesty's Theatre, many of the scenes proved unduly long, and Miss Smyth was, by all competent judges, strongly advised to curtail and condense her plot, and so make the opera more dramatic. On Tuesday night, however, nothing seems to have been done in this direction, and the large stage of Covent Garden only made the need of condensation more apparent. In the chief scene, where the hero, at the risk of his life from the enraged wreckers, lights a true beacon to warn passing ships, operatic as well as dramatic effect would have greatly gained by unsparing cuts, and the last act of the opera, when the lovers are locked in the cave to perish by the rising tide, made far more impressive by the same treatment. By her clever scoring for the orchestra, Miss Smyth displays great talent, and the music on several occasions is admirably fitted to the dramatic situations. The performance was generally excellent. Miss Edyth Walker, as might be expected, made a splendid Thirza, while M. Koubitzky sang the music of Mark with purity of voice and considerable charm. Herr Weldemann proved a very impressive Pascoe, and Miss Edith Evans was excellent in the part of Avice. Mr. Dilion Shallard's Lawrence was effective, and Miss Betty Booker gave a capital performance of the boy Jack. Harvey and Tallen were played by Mr. Frederick Ranalow and Mr. Byndon-Ayres. The chorus sang finely, and the conductor, Mr. Bruno Walter, did all that was possible for the score. At the close the composer was called on and well received.

They Would Laugh.

"How can any play be decently performed," says Mr. Bernard Shaw in the *Daily Mail*, "when the actors have to wait for two minutes between every sentence while the audience makes a disturbance? Of course, one likes to see them enjoying themselves; but they lose a great deal by it. In the modern drama, laughter and tears come together; if you guffaw at a joke, you may profane a deep stroke of pathos. In Berlin, where my plays are an institution, the audience sits in silence."

"ACTORS need no encouragement by applause. They are serious artists doing serious service to the community, and practising a high profession. Bishops preach without applause. Barristers plead without applause. I can write a play without applause. Do you think actors cannot act it under the same conditions? Applaud as much as you like when the curtain comes down, and show your sincerity by coming again; but don't interrupt a work of art like the performance of a play any more than you would interrupt a symphony or a church service."

"THE BALKAN PRINCESS."

Musical Play, in Three Acts, by Frederick Lonsdale and Frank Curzon, Lyrics by Paul A. Rubens and Arthur Wimperis, Music by Paul A. Rubens, Produced at the Prince of Wales's on Saturday, Feb. 19.

Grand Duke Sergius	MR. BERTRAM WALLIS
Count Boothy	MR. WILLIAM LUGG
Captain Radomir	MR. RIDGWELL CULLUM
Lieutenant Varna	MR. C. MORTON HORNE
Max Hein	MR. CHARLES BROWN
Blatz	MR. LAURI DE FRECE
Lounger	MR. NORMAN A. BLUME
Emil	MR. PETER BLUNT
Hermann	MR. BARRY NEAME
Henri	MR. JAMES BLAKELEY
Magda	MISS MABEL SEALBY
Olga	MISS HAZEL DAWN
Sofia	MISS MABEL GREEN
Paula	MISS MARGARET ISMAY
Tessa	MISS MADGE KIRKHAM
Carmen	MISS PEGGY LORRAINE
Margherita	MISS BABS CAPELLE
Teresa	MISS SYLVIA BERESFORD
Cashiers	MISS MARJORIE BLYTHE, MISS ALETHEA ALLARDYCE
Princess Stephanie	MISS ISABEL JAY

The atmosphere of that newly-discovered country Balaria is exhilarating indeed. Here most of the inhabitants seem to consider themselves favoured rather than otherwise by the "rule absolute" of that pretty tyrant, the Princess Stephanie. She is not in any way harsh or capricious when we first see her—only pensive, and wondering at the outcome of the strange decree that is to determine her future. Love has not yet entered her heart, yet she has to choose a husband by midnight on a certain date or abdicate. There are restrictions, too, in her choice. She must find a partner among the six tallest dukes who own her sway. When ordered up for inspection one of them is missing. This is Sergius, who heartily sympathises with the proletariat, and thinks his chief offence is "rank." At any rate, his writings have fostered discontent, and being something of a revolutionary—like his father, who was banished from the Court—he objects to be trotted up for inspection. The quintet of aspirants to the hand of the Princess in turn boast of their wealth and advantages, but she is curious to meet the Duke Sergius. He interests her, and she determines that he shall not escape her fascinations.

In the second act we find her in very mixed company at the Bohemian Restaurant, where she is dining incognita. It is unnecessary to say that Sergius, on seeing her, is at once enslaved by her charms, and engages himself to her for every dance in the adjacent ballroom. Sofia, a former sweetheart of Sergius, becomes jealous of her rival, is determined to put an end to her lover's infatuation; and, learning the identity of the new favourite, suggests to the Duke that he shall drink the old toast, "Down with the Princess Stephanie!" Just as he is about to do so, the Princess declares herself, and in a flash of indignation orders his arrest. This forms an excellent finale to the second act. In the last it only remains for the lovers to come together. But she signs away the throne, and thus once again becomes the simple girl with whom Sergius fell in love at the restaurant. Such self-sacrifice appeals to him, and he is more than ever infatuated. He tears up the deed of abdication; Stephanie no longer resists the promptings of her heart; and the two will rule together. There is an under-plot that concerns the escapades of Max Hein, who calls himself Prince Boris of Matalia, and his confederate, Blatz, who plot with the Palace charwoman, Magda, to steal the Princess's jewels. Magda's long-lost husband turns out to be the comic waiter, Henri, who is so much in evidence in the Restaurant Scene.

Of the beauty of the new Princess's entourage there can be no question, and her fascinations and vivacity are bound to increase nightly. Mr. Frederick Lonsdale, the author of *King of Cadonia* and *The Early Worm*, whose name is bracketed with Mr. Frank Curzon, has invented an ingenious plot, which is not lost sight of, as is customary in musical plays, and his dialogue is often smart. He contrives, too, a really dramatic situation at the end of the second act, by far the strongest of the three. Mr. Paul Rubens, a past-master of tuneful jingle, is responsible for a capitally-written finale to the first act, and two numbers stand out from the rest by their engaging qualities, and these are "A wonderful world" and "When a man is a man." Mr. Arthur Wimperis, we shrewdly suspect, is responsible for the verses of the topical song that comes almost at the conclusion. It is entitled "A hard life," and is sung with immense success by Mr. James Blakeley, who, as the waiter, Henri, may be said to provide fun *à la carte*, with a capital choice of entrées. Mr. Lauri de Frece, who secured a position as a West End low comedian by his capital performance in *Amasis* a year or two since, plays the part of Blatz, a variant of the famous character Jacques Strop, and a replica almost of the character of Cadeau in *Erminie*, though more up to date. Blatz has an innocent partner in his larcenous intentions in Magda, the char lady who cleans out the room where the jewels are kept, and the association with Magda, as the palace cleaner is called, leads to a piquant duet and dance in the second act, "Lady and Gentleman," in which Miss Mabel Sealby, delightfully defiant and dainty, scores one of the hits of the evening, the final dance with Mr. de Frece being enthusiastically encored. Mr. Charles Brown as that most plausible humbug Max Hein plays in a gay, light-hearted fashion that is most effective. Mr. Bertram Wallis and Miss Isabel Jay, as in *King of Cadonia*, are again hero and heroine. Both are happily placed. Miss Jay is duly imperious and agreeably sarcastic in her manner in the interview in the first act with the rejected grand dukes, but in the second shows unmistakably the subtle influence of love on Stephanie's woman's heart. She sings with her customary charm "Wonderful world" and other numbers allotted to her. Mr. Bertram Wallis as that most reckless of Bohemians, Duke Sergius, sings with insouciance and abandon the number "You dear, delightful women." He becomes more serious in "When a man is a man," which has a fine swing and an inspiriting melody. Mr. William Lugg as the Balarian Prime Minister has the grace of a courtier and the *savair faire* of a diplomat. Miss Mabel Green expresses with a vein of seriousness the affection of Sofia for the fickle Duke Sergius, her clever acting adding to the effect of the dramatic situation at the end of the second act. Miss Hazel Dawn makes an attractive Olga. Mr. Ridgwell Cullum is a smart, soldierly Captain Radomir; Mr. C. Morton Horne, Mr. Norman Blume, recently one of the Follies, Mr. Peter Blunt, and Mr. Barry Neame, play small parts with considerable cleverness; and Miss Margaret Ismay, Miss Madge Kirkham, Miss Peggy Lorraine, Miss Babs Capelle, and Miss Sylvia Beresford add to the gaieties of the scenes at the Bohemian Restaurant. Mr. Joseph Harker is responsible for the beautiful garden set of the last act, in which the stage, overarched with the hanging blossoms of laburnum, becomes a dainty pleasaunce. The uniforms and dresses, designed by Percy Anderson, are strikingly handsome. Mr. I. de Orellana ably conducts the music, and Mr. Fred Farren has arranged the dances.

MISS FRANCES ALDA, the *fiancée* of Signor Gatti Casazza, the director of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, was seized with internal pains while singing in *Otello* on Monday evening. After the curtain fell she was carried to her room, and at three o'clock on Wednesday morning an operation for appendicitis was performed.

MISS LILA FIELD'S MATINEE.

Miss Lila Field gave her second dramatic and musical matinée at the Playhouse on Thursday. The programme included a new comedietta in one act by Lila Field, entitled

"PLAIN FARE."

Lady Vane-Rivers	MISS MARIE ILLINGTON
Wyorne	MISS ERNESTINE BOWES-LYON
Hector Graham	MR. F. KINSEY PEILE

This playlet, we understand, had only previously been represented at a drawing-room performance. The scene is Lady Vane-Rivers' boudoir in her house at Kew. Staying with her ladyship is her niece Wyorne, and her aunt, a widow, is extremely anxious that the young girl should not miss any chance of getting married. Wyorne, however, informs her aunt that she has not yet met her ideal in husbands—he must be a man who allows her to have her own way. She is not inclined to marry Hector Graham, who is middle-aged, and prefers a substantial dinner at home to dining at fashionable and crowded restaurants. The conversation is interrupted by the arrival of the gentleman. Wyorne does not favour him long with her company, as she is going out to pay a call, and leaves the visitor and her aunt together. She frankly gives him to understand that she is anxious to find a husband for her niece, as Wyorne is one of some half-dozen nieces whose mother relies upon her to get them comfortably settled in life. Mr. Graham just as frankly admits that he has no intention of asking the girl to marry him, and describes the kind of woman whom he would choose for a wife. And then, without receiving any encouragement from the widow, but rather the contrary, he makes it plain that it is she who realises his ideal of a wife, and the lady finally approves his preference for plain fare. Miss Marie Illington was delightfully natural and piquant in her embodiment of the widow who has long since left behind the age of romance, Miss Ernestine Bowes-Lyon was a pleasing and attractive Wyorne, and Mr. F. Kinsey-Peile did well as the middle-aged Hector Graham.

There was also produced a new one-act fairy play by Lila Field, entitled

"THE GOLDFISH."

King Star Fish	MISS IRENE VALERIE HYMAN
King Gold Fish	MISS JULIA LANDAU
Queen of the Anemones	MISS ALMA SAMUEL
Amber Fairy	MISS MARGARET LANDAU
Sea Nymph	MISS NELLIE BLACKFORD
Pearl Fairy	MISS RENE MAYER
MORTALS.	
Kitty	MISS MAXINE HYMAN
Dolly	MISS VERA LE FLEMMING

Miss Field's fairy play served as a medium for the introduction of a series of songs and dances by well-trained little girls. The story itself was not easy to follow, but with the exception of two all the characters were fairies, sea nymphs, and other "immortals," and on an August afternoon at sunset these beings disport themselves on a secluded portion of the beach at Little Sunny Cove, a seaside resort. But the first arrivals here are two little girls, Kitty and Dolly, who have managed to escape from the custody of their French teacher, who has, it seems, a great admiration for the conductor of the band on the promenade. There are a King Star Fish and a King Gold Fish, a Queen of the Anemones, an Amber Fairy, a Sea Nymph, and a Pearl Fairy, and they spend their time in singing and dancing, until the revels are interrupted by the return of Kitty and Dolly. Miss Maxine Hyman, a very little girl, was quaint and amusing in the part of Kitty, and spoke her lines with remarkable distinctness; Miss Vera Le Flemming was excellent as Dolly, sang sweetly, and danced in dainty style; Miss Rene Mayer also made a favourable impression as the Pearl Fairy, and Misses Irene Valerie Hyman as King Star Fish, Julia Landau as King Gold F'sh, Alma Samuel as Queen of the Anemones, Margaret Landau as the Amber Fairy, and Nellie Blackford as Sea Nymph all did well, considering their extreme youth. The play was produced by Miss Lila Field and Mr. Clarence Derwent.

Earlier in the afternoon Mr. F. Kinsey Peile's comedietta, *Money and the Girl*, was played. The author was good in the part of Jack Trefusis; Mr. David Darrell did well as Charley Constable, and Mr. Sidney Buckland represented the butler, Simpson. In a "dance idyll," by Newman Harding, music by G. W. Byng, Miss Christine Helga as a Greek girl and Miss Elise as a Greek boy gave a graceful display of dancing. Miss René Mayer was also applauded for a pas seul, "Danse de Feu," and Miss Christine Helga for a fascination dance, "Caressante." Miss Bertha Scholefield sang "a second sheaf of little songs" by Robert Coningsby Clarke, accompanied by the composer, and later she gave three songs by Herbert Bunning, each of her contributions being received with applause. The programme opened with a selection by Mr. Harold Robertson Grimston's orchestra. Mr. P. Mavor-Ibbs acted as accompanist at the piano.

"Strife" in the Provinces.

MR. FRANZ BENTZ writes to the *Daily News* with reference to Mr. Frederick Whelen's interesting lecture, entitled "An Optimist on the Theatre": "I fully and freely admit there are those who thoroughly enjoy a Shakespearean play—we have had ample evidence of this during the run of *The Merchant of Venice* here—but the great public do not seem to exhibit any overwhelming desire to see Shakespeare acted, despite the care and expense devoted by Mr. Arthur Phillips to its revival.

"CAN Mr. Whelen explain this? Nearly twelve months back Mr. John Galsworthy's wonderfully fine play *Strife* took London by storm. I had the good fortune to go on tour with it in the provinces, and in every town, without exception, we lost money, and lost heavily: the provincials would not look at it. It is a pretty long jump from William Shakespeare to John Galsworthy; but both playwrights, I have no doubt, have written with the object of elevating public taste, and the lamentable fact—yet to be faced—is that the public do not desire elevating: it is quite satisfied at being amused."

Rachel at Windsor.

MLLE. VALENTINE THOMSON, the latest of Mme. Rachel's biographers, has published in her new book some interesting letters of Rachel's. In one of these the actress says:—"Oh, my triumph at Windsor! At nine at night a beautiful carriage came to convey me the short distance from my hotel to the Castle. Windsor, it is a palace of the Arabian Nights. There was a dinner of a hundred guests. So I spent the interval in wandering about the galleries. At ten the Queen was announced. Entering slowly, she glanced with a charming smile at every side of the assembled company, and sat down. After they were all seated I awaited Her Majesty's orders.

Queen and Actress.

"A TALL, lean man came up to me. He was the Chamberlain, who whispered to me, in indifferent French, that the Queen wished me to begin. I was seized with stage fright, but it was a case of do or die. And so I started with the second act of *Bajazet*. The last piece I played during the brilliant evening was from the third act of *Marie Stuart*, which charmed the young Queen exceedingly. She herself, sending for me, told me so, and there and then presented me with a very pretty bracelet, with her own name and the date engraved upon it."

OUR correspondent for Gateshead last week, in noticing the King's Theatre, omitted the name of Wisper, the Comedy Kid Juggler.

SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

THE "SUNDAY DEFENCE COMMITTEE."

The four Societies which recently addressed the Theatres Committee of the London County Council on the question of their regulations affecting Sunday entertainments have lost no time in completing an organisation for the protection of the interests of their members and to avert the development of entertainments on Sunday.

The situation is somewhat peculiar. The L.C.C. committee are relying upon the public and societies interested to protest against an abuse of their regulations. Already a large number of picture theatres are open, ostensibly for the benefit of some society or fund, but the representatives of the "Sunday Defence Committee" are of opinion that the regulations are not being observed in the letter or the spirit. For instance, it is contended that an arrangement by which a society secures a percentage, suggested at 25 per cent., of the gross takings, is not in accordance with the regulations, but rather indicates a co-partnership between the management and the society. Such an arrangement cannot effectively give the society the control in the selection of the staff required, their number, or their remuneration, or give any satisfactory guarantee that members of the staff employed on week-days are not subject to pressure to work on Sundays.

On Wednesday afternoon representatives of the Variety Artists' Federation (Messrs. Clemart and Coborn), the Actors' Association (Mr. Duncan Young, secretary), the Amalgamated Musicians' Union (Messrs. J. B. Williams and C. Jesson), the National Association of Theatrical Employees (William Johnson), and the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund Committee, met at the Musicians' Union Club, 9, Great Newport-street, to consider certain proposals that had been submitted to their various executive committees. Mr. W. H. Clemart, the newly-elected chairman of the Variety Artists' Federation, was elected chairman. It was decided to form a joint committee, to be known as the "Sunday Defence Committee," and its objects, as agreed to, are as follows:—

1. To secure the strict observance of the L.C.C. regulations relating to Sunday entertainments on premises licensed by the London County Council, where entertainments of any character are given on a Sunday, by whomsoever such entertainments may be organised.

2. To urge the licensing authorities throughout the United Kingdom to adopt and enforce regulations similar to those of the L.C.C. as a condition of a licence for premises used for dramatic or variety performances, the exhibition of animated pictures, or any other class of entertainment.

3. To urge that the L.C.C. and all other licensing authorities shall demand, before permission is given, that a copy of any agreement between any manager of such licensed premises and any society giving an entertainment on Sunday, a statement of accounts for any such entertainment, or series of entertainments, shall be supplied monthly to such licensing authority, and be open to the inspection of the public.

4. To take steps to secure the incorporation of these regulations into any Act of Parliament affecting the licence of any place of public entertainment.

5. That each society represented on this joint committee shall give an undertaking not to give, organise, or support any entertainment on a Sunday on licensed premises contrary to the L.C.C. regulations, or under conditions detrimental to the interests of the members of any of the above societies.

6. That it be agreed none of the above societies shall give Sunday entertainments before reporting same to this committee.

7. That in order to avert developments that may tend to create a demand for Sunday entertainments or the evasion of the L.C.C. regulations, it shall be one of the objects of this committee to make thorough inquiries into the *bond-fides* of any society whose name is used in connection with Sunday entertainments.

Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, of 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., was elected hon. secretary to the "Sunday Defence Committee."

It has been decided to invite eminent representatives of the Church, the Legislature, the dramatic and variety professions, and others to become vice-presidents of the committee.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, at twelve o'clock, in the Board Room of the Musicians' Club, 9, Great Newport-street. The committee will be glad to have information as to the entertainments given on Sunday in any part of the United Kingdom.

A circular letter has been addressed, on behalf of the Joint Committee, to all candidates seeking election to the London County Council, asking them, if elected, if they will support the regulations now in force affecting entertainments on Sundays on licensed premises. A large number of favourable replies have been received by Mr. Wm. Johnson.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An interesting concert was given on Wednesday evening by the students of the Guildhall School. Miss Dorothy Axtell played two piano solos, Chopin's Nocturne in F sharp and "Merry-making" (Home Scenes), a lively and pleasing composition by Mr. J. F. Barnett. In "I am a roamer," from Mendelssohn's "Son and Stranger," Mr. Sidney Peck displayed no little talent, and Miss F. Blaikley can be warmly commended for her singing of Lully's "Bois épais." Hearty applause and three recalls were given to Miss Pattie L. Norris for her clever performance of Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 14 (Liszt), while Miss Jessie Willis, another pianist, played MacDowell's "Nautilus" and the spirited "Aufschwung" of Schumann with much ability. Mr. Reginald Crawford, the school (tenor) prize winner, sang "Moon and sea" (Phillips) and "The first farewell" (Thomson) with excellent expression and clear enunciation, and was evidently able to do justice to far more difficult music, but the young artist should avoid mannerism in his singing. The Rita Mandoline Quintett, pupils of Mme. Waldahoff, appeared in picturesque costume, and played Persechini's "Remembranzi de Fiori" with capital execution and tone, and the audience were greatly pleased by Miss May Harding's rendering of "O flower of all the world" (Finden) and Löhr's lively song "The little Irish girl," in which Miss Harding was particularly successful. The only violin solo in the concert, Concerto No. 7 in G (De Beriot), was well played by Miss Mimi Brennand, a youthful violinist of the school. A comedietta in one act, *A Woman Triumphant*, by Mrs. Edward Norton, afforded variety to the programme, being well acted by Miss Dorothy Lucas and Miss Georgina Darby (pupils of Mr. George Cruikshanks), who appeared as Mrs. Arabella MacCaller and Mrs. Jack Soonert, the subject of the little sketch, of course, dealing with the faults of mere man. Miss Jenny Hyman was the accompanist.

THE Marseilles Municipal Opera House had to close its doors on Tuesday night on account of a strike of the musicians and scene-shifters. The musicians demand an increase of 10d. a day in their salaries, and, among other things, claim that no performance should last more than four hours. On Monday negotiations had been begun, but no agreement had been reached. The performance that night only took place thanks to a concession made by the strikers. On Wednesday negotiations fell through, and in the evening the opera house was closed.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Alfred Butt returned to England, home, and the Palace Theatre late on Thursday evening. He is full of new projects, and we may expect to hear very shortly further interesting particulars of the preferential bookings and interchange of attractions with the Orpheum Company and the United Vaudeville Circuit of America. There is, however, no truth in the rumour that the name of any new combine is to be "Hemispheres, Unlimited."

Mr. Alan Young, who has relinquished his position at the Moss and Stoll bureau at Cranbourn Mansions, has been replaced by Mr. Llewellyn Johns, the representative of the interests of the firm in the States. Mr. Johns, who was formerly private secretary to Mr. Oswald Stoll, has entered upon his new duties.

Mr. Fred Russell's term of office as honorary chairman of the Variety Artists' Federation expired on Monday. Chosen at one of the most stormy periods of the existence of the Federation, Mr. Russell has done much by his diplomacy and tact since taking office to lessen the width of the breach between proprietors, managers, and artists.

At the recent dinner in aid of the V.A.B.F. and the Benevolent Institution Mr. Joe Elvin referred to the magnificent sum that was secured for the Actors' Orphanage at the Theatrical Garden Party last summer. But that result was only obtained by the co-operation of every actor-manager in London with the members of the profession. At the principal music-hall functions nowadays proprietors are conspicuous only by their absence, and they contribute little or nothing to music hall charities. Mr. Oswald Stoll has led the way to a new *entente*; Mr. W. H. Broadhead has followed; Mr. Harry Bawn, proprietor of the Empire, Edmonton, is in practical sympathy with any charitable scheme for the poor variety artists; and it is hoped yet to have the co-operation between artists and proprietors to a much greater extent than is now the case.

Mr. Walter Gibbons's eventful career has been shortly reviewed in this week's *London Opinion*. Walter says he has been "cornering" artists—some of whom he has secured until 1920. This "corner" is, of course, only secured by handsome payments and square deals. He has his trusted experts scouring the provinces, the Continent, and the States, with special centres at Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Scotland, and Paris, all on the *qui vive* for new talent.

"Everything at my forty halls," he says, "is worked from my central offices, Randvoll House, 39, Charing Cross-road. For instance, we plan there, to within a minute or two, the exact time for the appearance of each of the turns at each of the houses. They say the entertaining business is highly speculative. Well, it may be so. But, assuming normal weather, I could tell you to within £20 the exact takings which will occur at each of my forty halls, and if there is any other business more steady and regular than that I should like to know of it."

It is announced that Adeline Genée—our Adeline—who has conquered at least several Empire cities by the grace of her pirouettes, is to be married to Mr. Frank Isitt, a personal friend of the Duke of Newcastle, in London during the first week in June. Mlle. Genée will close her American tour at St. Louis on May 21, and will go direct from St. Louis to London. She will return to America next August for a farewell tour, which will extend from New York to San Francisco, and then retire permanently from the stage.

Messages have been flashed across the Atlantic during the past few days with the view of persuading Adeline to put off the wedding ceremony until a later date than that now fixed, so that, if only for a week or two, she may delight her London admirers with an exhibition of her exquisite art.

Miss Louie Freear will make a notable re-appearance in London on Monday at the Hippodrome, at which she entertains for the first time. Miss Freear, who is in excellent voice, will appear in costume, to sing some of the clever, merry ditties which brought her world-wide fame.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon has become such an immense favourite in Bristol that crowds follow him from the theatre and cheer him on his journey home. He has been organising successful entertainments at the workhouse and hospital, and appeared at the Theatre Royal at the benefit given there to Kitty Upton and Blanche Marion, the principal boy and girl. He had an enormous reception after singing "I used to sigh for the silvery moon"; but could not stay to do more as he had to get back to the Prince's.

Mr. Will Collins has launched a theatrical and variety exchange at Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, W., to which is attached a sumptuous reading and writing room for artists. Mr. Collins promises his clients that every detail as to their future, be it in England, on the Continent, in the Colonies, or elsewhere, will be made clear, and much friction between artists and managers thereby avoided. Mr. Collins's telephone number is Gerrard 9839.

Sir Herbert Tree writes:—"It will be remembered that the Select Committee of the Houses of Parliament recommended 'a single licence' for theatres and music halls. That recommendation was supported at a public meeting on Sunday by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones. As chairman of the meeting, I stated that I was entirely in favour of such legislation, which seems to be demanded, not only by the public, but also by the interests of the theatres and music halls. At the same time, I should like to make it clear that the majority of London managers (of whom I am one) desire that we should remain under the control of the Lord Chamberlain."

Exactly. That will be the difficulty of the one licence. Who is the licensing authority to be—the London County Council or the Lord Chamberlain? Is it to be either or neither? The L.C.C. have gained the confidence of the public by their administration founded on an experience of twenty-one years, and the beneficent rule of the Lord Chamberlain over the theatres is so generally acknowledged, that it need not here be insisted upon. With a statute embodying the principle of the double licence, both the L.C.C. and L.C. could deal as experts with theatres and halls in Central London. Licensing legislation in this form, too, would have the immense advantage of simplicity.

The Salambos will look back with immense pleasure to their engagement at Drury Lane Theatre, which terminates on Wednesday next, after 110 performances. Their wonderful electric act, with its clever *diablerie* has given the most original turn to the part of the Geni of the Lamp; and the uncanniness of Mr. Salambo's doings has been instrumental in realising the miraculous atmosphere of the immortal story of the gamin of Pekin. The Salambos sail for America on March 23. During their absence Mr. W. H. Armstrong, their solicitor, of 1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, will look after their English business.

Eastham Ferry Pleasure Gardens and Hotel, on the Mersey are for sale. Particulars may be obtained by writing to George N. Dixon and Son, 89, Andover-street, Liverpool.

Mr. T. Gerald Morton, the district-manager of Yorkshire in the Moss-Stoll interests, was specially honoured at a farewell concert last week. He is relinquishing his position in May.

Mr. J. D. Askew, who has filled the post of stage-manager at the Palace, Carlisle, since it was first opened four years ago, has been appointed by Mr. Macnaghten to the general-managership, and now controls the whole house. Mr. Askew's never-failing courtesy, geniality, and business tact are freely acknowledged by the "Border City" playgoers, as well as the members of the profession.

At the adjourned annual licensing meeting for the city of Wakefield on Wednesday, Mr. H. Chalker applied on behalf of Mrs. Fanny Sherwood for an intoxicating drink licence in respect of the Empire, which was erected last year in Kirkgate at a cost of about £11,000. Two petitions, signed by a large number of people, favoured the application.

On behalf of the lessee of the Hippodrome it was contended that there was no necessity for a liquor licence, as in close proximity to the Empire were twenty-six public-houses. It was also pointed out that Mrs. Sherwood already had a drink licence in respect of the Wakefield Opera House. The Licensed Victuallers' Association also opposed, and in the result the Bench refused the application.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair appeared at the annual concert of the Whitchurch Church Lads' Brigade on Monday last, and was again given a cordial reception. He sang a special song composed by himself for the occasion, the lads appearing on the stage with him, and singing the chorus. The programme was carried out and managed by Capt. Lambert, D.S.O. Many of the aristocracy of the county were present.

After setting aside a sum to capital redemption fund and providing for depreciation and preliminary expenses, the directors of the Tynemouth Palace Co., Ltd., will recommend to the shareholders at the annual meeting a dividend of five per cent., free of income tax, for the year ending Dec. 31 last. The Palace Theatre and Skating Rink were opened in May of last year, and the company has thus been trading seven months.

Mr. Julius Simpson, from the Palace, Carlisle, has taken up the duties of management at the Palace, Halifax. Mr. Simpson is a well-known business manager, and has been several years under the Macnaghten banner. Amongst other places, he has had the management of the Macnaghten houses at Burnley, Bath, West Hartlepool, and Saddler's Wells. His varied experience will stand him in good stead with Yorkshire audiences.

After running successfully for more than two months *The Babes in the Wood* pantomime at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, terminated on Saturday night. During the interval on Saturday Mr. J. F. Graham, the manager, expressed his thanks to the public and the artists. An interesting presentation ceremony followed. Mr. M. Bernsten, the proprietor of *Midland Amusements*, announced that the competition conducted in his paper, the public voting for their favourite artist, had been won by Miss Dorothy Ward, the principal boy.

The prize was a handsome diamond ring, and this he handed to Miss Ward amidst great enthusiasm. Mr. Seth Egbert, of the Bros. Egbert, on behalf of the company, presented to Mr. W. Southworth, the musical-director. A smoker's cabinet and outfit and reading lamp; to Mr. J. Lloyd, the stage-manager, a splendid travelling companion and Gladstone bag; and to Mr. Humphries, the manager of the company, a set of silver-backed brushes.

Mr. Leslie Ward, who has made a capable assistant stage-manager, received a silver cigarette case from Mr. Egbert on behalf of the company, a silver-handled walking-stick from Mr. Lloyd, and a present from Mr. Fred Wyndham, who complimented him upon the efficient manner he had discharged the duties of stage-manager during the absence of Mr. Lloyd owing to illness. Little Violet Egbert, the little daughter of Mr. Seth Egbert, who made her début as a toe dancer during the run of the pantomime, gave a box of cigars to Mr. Southworth.

At the monthly meeting last week of the Gourock Town Council—Provost Duley presiding—Judge Brown, in submitting a motion in favour of open-air entertainments during the summer months, stated that all the other leading places on the Firth had such entertainments. Mr. Guthrig asked if it was intended to have the music-hall type of concerts. Judge Brown, answering the question, remarked that there was now hardly such a thing as a music hall. They were called variety theatres, where they, their wives, and daughters could spend a pleasant evening.

Mr. Campbell moved that there be no concerts this year. Mr. Guthrig seconded the amendment because he understood that the entertainment proposed was of the music-hall type, and Bailie Johnstone had no hesitation in supporting the amendment. He had taken occasion during August of last year to open his window in the evening to hear what kind of entertainment was going on, and he must say that what he had heard was far from edifying. Much of it was indescribably silly.

Perhaps the Bailie expected lectures on the differential calculus, with a musical accompaniment. Was it not Robbie Burns who wrote: "Wo frisk away like schoolboys, scorning cold-pausing caution, to joy and play"? Scottish Gradgrinds, please note.

"Students' Night" was celebrated at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Tuesday, when this fine theatre was practically taken possession of by several hundred students from the University. The pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* should have been performed, but the students provided a pantomime of their own. The "boys" were attired in all manner of costumes, and they spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Their voices filled the place, and the good-natured artists entered into the programme of pleasure with great enthusiasm.

After Mr. George Robey had sung the first verse of "We all want something to cuddle" six girls came on to repeat the chorus, and after the second verse six students came on and gave their version of the chorus. Later in the evening one of the students was deputed to make presentations to Mr. Philip Rodway (manager), Mr. Guy Jones (musical director), Mr. Robey, and others. The last-named, accepting a present for his wife (Miss Ethel Haydon), explained that Mrs. Robey was unable to be present on account of a serious illness.

The annual dinner and ball of the Terriers' Association will be held to-morrow (Sunday) at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, at 9.30 p.m. Application for tickets should be made at once to Arthur Were, secretary.

Mr. Herbert Sprake, son of dear old Herbert, who did so much for the purity of variety entertainment in the old Collins's days before the existence of the London County Council, has taken up the general management of that hall.

Ernie Mayne, who has made such a hit as the Simple Robber in *The Babes in the Wood* at the Marlborough Theatre, has been inundated with offers for next Christmas, and is engaged at his own terms by Mr. J. M. Chute, for the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. He commences on Monday a London season at the Gibbons halls and Oxford, &c. &c.

The decision of Mr. Justice Joyce in favour of Mr. George Robey in the action Wade v. the Oxford, Ltd., was upheld in the Court of Appeal on Wednesday. Mr. Robey claimed that his agreement was a personal contract between himself and the late Mr. George Adney Payne, and that it had lapsed through Mr. Payne's death.

Miss Lily Langtry is experiencing very hot weather in Melbourne, where the height of the thermometer is typified in the warmth of her receptions. She has just finished five weeks at the Opera House in that city, and confesses to a strong liking for Australia—a liking that is quite mutual. Miss Langtry returns to Melbourne after the fulfilment of a Rickards' engagement at Sydney.

Miss Geraldine Montrose and her full West End company have been doing splendid business with *The Storm*. The new magnificent scenery, real rain, and special electrical effects have proved very effective, and the piece was immediately booked by Mr. Walter Gibbons.

Miss Kitty Rayburn has been honoured by Lord Grey accepting the dedication of her new colonial song "Westward Ho!" ('Neath the dear old Union Jack), written by Percy Edgar, and published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. Miss Rayburn also rejoices in the successful production of "The girl in the Chantecler hat," and in her re-engagement for the third year by Mr. Wentworth Croke to play principal boy, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, next Christmas.

Miss Millie Payne has been retained yet another week specially to sing "Chantecler" at the Oxford. Miss Payne is the first variety artist to produce a song on this latest craze, and intends singing it in the principal towns on the Moss and Stoll tour, where she is under contract to appear shortly.

The next ladies' concert, under the auspices of the Terriers, will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday, March 13, at 8.15 p.m. Terrier Tom Packer has been appointed musical-director.

To-day Mr. George Lashwood is announced to sail from the States, after a most successful engagement. He will have as companion Mr. R. A. Roberts, who has been presenting *Dick Turpin* and *Cruel Coppinger* to New Yorkers and others.

The officers of the Terriers' Association for the month of March are as follow: Terrier George Cooper, W.T.; Terrier Harry Bent, V.T.; Terrier H. Cee Mee, W.D.; Terrier T. C. Callaghan, Y.B.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; Terrier Arthur Were, organist.

Miss Dolly Harmer will arrive to-day per s.s. Orvieto, after an enormously successful engagement in Australia with Mr. Harry Rickards, and a second unprecedentedly successful engagement in South Africa with Mr. Sydney Hyman, who has made her an offer to return.

The 649th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, with Mr. Fred Herbert in the chair. The Manchester representative's report on the past year's working in that city was read by the secretary. The weekly financial statement, showing a cash total of £53 5s. 6d., was passed.

Miss Dorothy Ward, the delightful principal boy of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, pantomime, whose success has been so gratifying, will appear again on Monday before her legion of Brum admirers at the Gaiety. She will feature the song "Wouldn't you like to be the bridegroom?" written by C. W. Murphy, and published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

Mr. Julian Mack was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Friday, 25th ult. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ben Obo, W.T., assisted by Terrier Jim Obo, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Mr. Tom Nelldon, a candidate for membership of the Terriers' Association, has successfully passed the ballot. He is requested to forward his present address to the secretary, Mr. Arthur Were, 69, Kennington-road, S.E.

The following additional donations have been received on behalf of the Benevolent Fund and Institution since the Music-Hall Artists' Railway Association Dinner:—Already acknowledged, £603 12s. 6d.; Ralph Pringle, £20; Chas. Austin, £10; W. J. Pettitt, £5 5s.; the Kellinos (on behalf of English artists in America), £2 10s.; Barney Armstrong, £1 1s.; George Formby, £1 1s.; Jas. Kellino, £1 1s.; Fred Eustace, £1 1s.; Tom Stuart, 10s. 6d.; total amount to date, £646 2s.

Mr. Johnny Alexander desires us to express his most sincere thanks to all the artists who appeared on the occasion of his benefit at the Empire, Camberwell; also to all the subscribers to the testimonial, as well as the committees who organised the matinée, and especially to Mr. Arthur Were (the secretary) and Mr. Douglas Stuart (assistant hon. treasurer) for their hard work in connection with the same.

The committee of the Johnny Alexander Testimonial wish to inform intending subscribers that the list will be closed at the end of next week, so will they kindly forward their donations to Mr. Joe Elvin, the hon. treasurer, at 18, Charing-cross-road, as soon as possible?

Many of the "old brigade" of music-hall artists will regret to hear of the death of Mr. "Jack" Matthews, one of the oldest London music publishers. He placed upon the market some of the best-remembered songs of vocalists whose memory is still preserved through the yet-remembered refrains of ditties that were the "Silvery moons" and "Let's all go down the Strands" of a bygone day, when Howard and Co., Great Marlborough-street, was a veritable Rialto of professionals.

Many of Mr. James Fawn's earliest admired songs emanated, we believe, from his office, and, if we mistake not, Miss Marie Lloyd's first-published ditty, "Wink the other eye." The deceased gentleman, who was well on the road to four score years, died from cancer on Thursday in last week, at Brighton, where he had lived in retirement for some years, and was buried at Patcham on Wednesday.

Mr. William Bailey, who is so well known to the vast majority of our readers, on Monday next takes up the position of manager of the Metropolitan music hall—the big home of variety in the Edgware-road so ably controlled by Mr. Henri Gros.

In renewing his acquaintance with this hall it is interesting to note that Mr. Bailey was previously sole manager there for nearly thirteen years for Mr. H. G. Lake, a former proprietor, and his return after an absence of nineteen years is a somewhat noteworthy incident in the variety world. We feel sure that all our readers will join us in wishing him many years of prosperity and good health in his latest position.

It is a good many years since Mr. Bailey left home to act in minor stock companies, in which salary was light and experience heavy. Nevertheless he speaks of his early days as an actor with much thankfulness, as the parts he played "knocked off the corners" and enabled him to score no little success as a comic singer.

Then came an offer from Mr. Edwin Villiers of the position of chairman and manager at the Canterbury, where he did a turn occasionally, as was the custom in the days of old. Mr. Villiers followed the late Charles Morton at the Canterbury. After the Canterbury engagement, Mr. Bailey went to the Metropolitan with the late Water Gooch, and was promoted to the management of the hall by the late Mr. George Speedy, the appointment being confirmed by Mr. H. C. Lake, under whose proprietorship Mr. Bailey remained many years.

Amid the regret of a host of friends he left the Metropolitan after a stay of fourteen years, to take up the management of the Alhambra, Leicester-square. He also acted as expert adviser for six months at the Alhambra, Brighton, on the opening of that hall. In the early nineties he took over the West London (the old Marylebone) Theatre in partnership with Mr. A. E. Oliver, and for many years ran it with great success.

In municipal life Mr. Bailey is also well known. He represented his division of Marylebone on the Borough Council and old Vestry for nine years, and filled the position for three years of a London County Councillor for the division of West Marylebone. Such is the high opinion entertained of Mr. Bailey's administrative ability by his friends and neighbours, that he was asked to stand for Parliament—a very high compliment indeed. Mr. Leslie Gooch, a son of Mr. Bailey's old governor, will retain his position as assistant manager of the Met.

Snatching at the purse of a demure-looking young lady near the Gare St. Lazare, Paris, an "apache" had a rude surprise (telegraphs the *Daily Mail* Paris correspondent) when the damsel, who was a dancer from the Folies-Bergère, without a moment's hesitation, set off in pursuit, easily overtook the thief, held him by the collar, and gave him a good shaking until help in the shape of two cyclist policemen arrived.

An application to alter and enlarge New Brighton Winter Gardens was considered at the Wallasey Petty Sessions on Monday. Mr. Rigby Swift appeared on behalf of the lessees of the establishment, Messrs. Jones and Douglass, and explained that the applicants had held a singing and dancing licence since October, 1907. No intoxicating liquor was sold upon the premises, and the accommodation had been found quite inadequate, the stage itself being also too small.

It was proposed to lower the floor to the level of the street, which would permit the addition of a balcony and give greater height in the wings without raising the centre-roof. The additional accommodation would raise the seating capacity of the theatre from 900 to 1,350. It was proposed to take in the adjoining house in order to obtain further accommodation for the artists, and also to provide for the construction of emergency exits. The whole of the alterations were estimated to cost about £4,000. The theatre would then be fully equipped, sanitary, comfortable, and safe from fire. The Bench granted the application.

Scenes of great enthusiasm were witnessed last Saturday at the conclusion of the pantomimes at the Theatre Royal and the Princess's, Glasgow. At the former Miss Bessie Butt and Miss Dorothy Firmin received several handsome floral tributes, and Miss Fanny Fields had, amongst other trophies, a floral horseshoe and a huge sabot, decorated with flowers, and lettered on the side "Happy Fanny Fields." Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, stage-manager, and his assistant, Mr. W. R. Percival, were rewarded with such gifts as a cruet-stand, travelling-rug, cigarette-case, &c., by the chorus, ballet, and principals. Mr. Ernest Carpenter, musical director here, was presented with a handsome watch and chain, the presentation being made by Mr. Malcolm Scott in a humorous speech. Mr. Percy O. Humphrys was also the recipient of several valuable presents. At the final scene tartan ribbons were let down from the boxes to the stage, and the audience and the company, taking hold of these, joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," in which Messrs. Harry Tate, Malcolm Scott, Harry Claff, and Regan and Ryan joined lustily.

At the Princess's, Glasgow, the enthusiasm was equally marked. Mr. Harry Levaine was presented with a travelling-case, Mr. Fred Ingram with an umbrella, Miss Jessie Templeton and Miss Venie Clements with flowers, chocolates, and dolls innumerable; and Miss Edith Haley, in addition to similar tributes, was extolled in extempore verse by the boys and girls in the gallery in most friendly and affectionate terms.

Mlle. Polaire, who, it will be remembered, created the character of Ma Gosse in Paris, comes on Monday next to the Palace Theatre, where she will be seen in a little sketch, *Le Visiteur*, in which she will have an opportunity of exhibiting her powers as a mime in tragedy and comedy and as a dancer. M. Georges Baud and Mlle. Dinard will support her.

She is said to have the smallest waist of any actress in Paris, but what is more important from the point of view of her art is that she is a most original and expressive dancer.

Her dramatic triumph was secured when she played Estrella in the production of *La Maison de Danses* in November last at the Paris Vaudeville. This comedy, in five acts, adapted by MM. Nozière and Ch. Muller, was only a *succès d'estime*, but Polaire's impersonation will remain a memory with playgoers in *la ville lumière*.

In the final scene Estrella faces the three men whom she has duped with her heartless promises. They wait for her, knife in hand, but when the girl stands before them and defies them to strike, the murderous weapons drop from their hands. They stand humbled before her. She derides them, and declares that she intends to live according to her own fancy. She knows that she will leave blood and tears behind her, but no matter—*vive la joie!*

Mlle. Polaire is better remembered by variety audiences in Paris by her conception of the Apache Dance, which duly became popular in this country. She will present at the Palace a new creation "La Danse des Faubourgs." Will this have a flavour of Montmartre?

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon next at four o'clock.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the "chocolate-coloured coon," is having some busy times in Bristol. Despite extra pantomime matinées at the Prince's Theatre, he is finding time to appear at charity concerts and benefits, but one of his most interesting engagements was at the Barton Regis Workhouse, where he was the leading spirit on the occasion of the visit of the pantomime artists to entertain the inmates.

Mr. Elliott acted as stage-manager, and the accompanist was Mr. Hay. The artists included Miss Lulu Valli, Miss Alice Pollard, Miss Betty Rutherford, Miss Gardner, and Messrs. G. H. Elliott, C. Harvey, Uzelli, and Leighton. Mr. Elliott opened the concert and was repeatedly encored, and warm appreciation was shown of the remainder of the turns. The entertainers were formally thanked at the close, and refreshed with tea. Mr. Elliott also showed kindly thoughtfulness by giving a £5 note for extras for the inmates. The Bristol Guardians have thanked Mr. Elliott and his friends for their kind entertainment.

Mr. Fred Eustace, of *Amber Light* fame, has just returned after a six months' trip to Ceylon, Egypt, &c. He will resume work in a few weeks, when he will produce a new sketch, written for him by Mr. Chris Davies.

The Walton-on-the-Naze Urban District Council are prepared to let beach space for refined beach entertainments during the summer season of 1910. All offers are to be sent in writing on or before March 21, 1910, to Mr. T. W. Wilson, Clerk to the Council, Town Hall, Walton-on-Naze.

The Entertainment Committee of the Gravesend Town Council invite tenders for the sole right of supplying musical entertainments on the promenade during the forthcoming summer season. Tenders, marked "Promenade," must be delivered not later than March 13 to Mr. H. H. Brown, Town Clerk, 147, Windmill-street, Gravesend.

It is announced by the *Morning Leader* Paris correspondent that Dranem, of the Paris music-hall stage, whose name in private life is M. Ménard, will be among the candidates for a Paris constituency at the coming General Election. The district which Dranem hopes to represent in the Chamber is the 10th Arrondissement, that of St. Martin, where the music-hall element is very strong.

It is not known whether, when M. Ménard quits the Chamber in the evening, he will do a turn at the halls as Dranem. If so, his opportunities for making topical hits should be illimitable. His salary as a deputy of £600 a year would, of course, be far inferior to what he makes on the stage. All that is known for certain is that the popular comedian is a strong Radical-Socialist and a strong partisan of co-operation. If Dranem stands and is elected he will probably be the first member of "the" profession who has ever sat in the Palais Bourbon.

Edward Rexo's remarkable skating act at the London Hippodrome has provided a great deal of talk in variety circles lately. His most astounding item is that of unexpectedly doing the splits, doubling his body forward, and, like a flash gliding on the toe and heel wheels through a long tunnel 16in. high. Nobody but a trained acrobat—and readers of *The Era* know Mr. Rexo to be one—could even attempt this feat with the faintest chance of success. It is not surprising to learn that it took Edward Rexo ten years' hard work to master this particular movement.

Another of this expert's most remarkable feats is to skate in an upside down position. Even after practising this "stunt" for seven years Rexo is unable to lift either hand in order to thrust the skate further forward. "I did it once," he remarked to the writer, "and cracked my skull, so I'm not trying any more."

The popular impresario, Frederic Melville, has just returned from an extensive tour of Central America, including such places as Nicaragua, Bogato, Boco del Torres, Jeremie, Hayti, West Indies, and Kingston, Jamaica, and has brought back with him Señor Zelaya, the son of President Zelaya, who recently has been brought into prominence by ordering two Americans—Cannon and Grose—to be shot for interfering with the revolution that was taking place in Greytown. The younger Zelaya is a most wonderful pianist, and is said to have all the great masters, such as Liszt, Chopin, and Schumann, at his fingers' ends, though he never learned a note of music in his life. Mr. Melville will shortly introduce him into American vaudeville at a very large salary. The young pianist's father, now the ex-President of Nicaragua, is threatening to sue the United States Government for 250,000 dollars for taking away his country.

Already a number of topical introductions have been made to the most successful of all Empire revues, *Hullo! London*, and this policy of constant changes will be carried out throughout its run. A success second only to that of Mr. J. F. McArdle as Mr. Lyons, Miss Millie Legarde as Lily Philligabs, is that achieved by Miss Frances Kapstowne as the Guinea-fowl in the *Chantecler* skit. The delightful ballet *Round the World* is now being revised by Lieut.-Col. Newnham Davis and Mr. C. Wilhelm, and will shortly be presented to Empire audiences, under the new title of *East to West*. In the new version, the action will start in Japan and finish in Moscow. Graham, the popular human Marionette, with his new entertainment "Graham's Masterpiece," is engaged to appear for another two weeks, so successful has been his turn.

Miss Florrie Forde opens at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, after finishing a sensationally successful pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Leeds. On her benefit night Miss Forde received some most magnificent presents.

From Mr. Laidler and the members of the company came an old Sheffield fruit epergne; Mr. Laidler, a substantial cheque; Francis, Day, and Hunter, cheque; B. Feldman and Co., cheque; Mr. C. W. Murphy, cheque; Miss Susie Belmore (principal girl), silver manicure set; Old Pal, Markie Abrahams, silver cake tray; Mrs. W. Thomas, Dorothy bag; A Friend, silver belt; Mrs. Macgregor, real lace doyleys; Mr. and Mrs. Woolf, gold bangle; Miss Halliwell, photo in frame; A. Fallowfield, real lace handkerchief; Mrs. Groves, life-size photograph of self; L. Barnett (Miss Forde's husband), aluminium lunch basket; Mrs. Hitchin, hand-worked table centre; Mr. and Mrs. Stead, antique cut glass jug, filled with choice flowers; Miss Mabelle Morgan, cut-glass tube filled with choice flowers; Emmie and Woolfie, art vase filled with choice flowers; Miss Jane Eyre (principal boy), Grand Theatre, magnificent basket of flowers; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Laidler, basket of choice flowers five feet high; and numerous boxes of chocolates. Miss Forde also received forty-three telegrams wishing her success, for which she desires to thank her friends.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

JUST as, according to a vast number of the British public, there are only two seasons in the year—humorously defined by a pair of well-known Hebrew comedians as Cricket and Football—so to a very large section of the profession there are also but a couple of seasons in a twelvemonth—viz., Pantomime Time and Pierrot Time—and it is acknowledged by everybody that each of these periods, without the aid of those good fairies Messrs. Francis and Day, would be a cycle of calamity. But not alone for Christmastide feasts of fun or seaside symposiums of song at holiday autumntide does the big house cater. No matter the month, week, or day, the time or occasion, the firm has ever something in the song line to seasonably suit, and that something is always new. That it is of the very best goes without saying.

AND so it is that with the approach of St. Patrick's Day all good Irishmen—which, to coin an Hibernianism, includes the ladies—look to Messrs. Francis and Day for a good new "chune." Nor will they be disappointed. Fred W. Leigh, whose great success "Molly, I love you" still lingers pleasantly on the memory, has again apparently, in lieu of a pen, dipped a shillelah in a drop of "the cratur," and the result is a lovely Irish ballad entitled "Come back to Mallow, Molly," which will be largely in evidence on the 17th inst., and which is already on the market, as is also "I'm coming back to Erin and to you;" a most charming Irish song, by Arthur Lynch and Herbert E. Haines, with which Miss Evie Greene has been delighting multitudes.

MISS KITTIE RAYBURN is nothing if not up to date, as is evidenced by her continually giving her countless admirers something fresh to talk of and marvel at. Her latest song, "The girl in the Chantecler hat," is a case in point. It is by J. P. Harrington, Frank Brighten, and Orlando Powell. Messrs. Francis and Day have acquired the publishing rights.

MR. JACK PLEASANTS has been working double tides during the week, and both at the London Coliseum and New Cross Empire has been the cause of outbursts of merriment such as are rarely heard nowadays. At the moment of going to press we hear that Messrs. Francis and Day have acquired the two ditties which, in conjunction with his inimitably humorous delivery, have so tickled the vast audiences at the houses mentioned. They are "I'll be a bad lad, 'Liza Ann," written and composed by C. W. Murphy, and "I'm shy, Mary Ellen, I'm shy," by Charles Ridgwell and George Stevens. The firm also publish Mr. Pleasants' "I shall sulk!" and his fine "dame" number, "For fourteen and sixpence a week."

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm are publishing a pretty song, written and composed by George Ross (of the talented duo Ross and Grayson), entitled "The love that I beat for you."

THOSE well-known writers Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford have placed with Messrs. Francis and Day a charming song fully up to the character they have earned for originality and melodiousness. It is entitled "You do look pretty in your old Dutch dairy."

MR. SAM DODWELL (Bernard Phelps), whose great reputation as a writer of dance music is fully deserved—his "Choristers," "Convent Girls," "Old Belfry," and "St. Sebastian" waltzes having sold in tremendous numbers, as was expected from their very inceptions—has again published with Messrs. Francis and Day a waltz which is certain to rank with its compeers. It is entitled "The Snake Charmer."

THE chocolate-coloured coon (Mr. G. H. Elliott) has acquired from Bert Lee and Alf J. Lawrance a characteristic coon number entitled "Little Luna Lou." It will bear, when published, the imprint of Messrs. Francis and Day. Mr. Lawrance, in collaboration with F. W. Leigh, has placed with the same house a rarity nowadays in the shape of a good motto song, to be known as "The stepping stones of life."

MR. HARRY RUSSON'S latest comedy song is yclept "Bluff," and is by Harry Adams (of "On Guard" fame) and Ernée Woodville. Messrs. Francis and Day will produce it in sheet music form directly.

MISS HELEN TRIX has at the London Coliseum been singing with great *éclat* "Isn't that like a man!" by Paul Mill and J. Airlie Dix, and "Miss Boodle and her poodle," a song in which smart words are wedded to a tuneful melody, it having been written by Leonard Cooke and composed by Henry E. Pether. This latter item will be in great request among Pierrettes who desire a song of an arch nature. Messrs. Francis and Day have published both items.

HUNTLEY TREVOR'S opening choruses and special lyrics for entertainers promise to be quite a feature of the coming seaside campaign. His clever lines, so ably set to music by Henry E. Pether (Messrs. Francis and Day's musical editor), which will be a prominent item with Mr. Wilson James's company, the Gaieties, have been pronounced first class by those most able to judge, and he has just completed, both words and music, a special opening chorus for Mr. Finlay Dunn's Dandies, who will again this year occupy the Pier Hill Bandstand, Southend-on-Sea. Himself a humorist of parts, Mr. Trevor will throughout the summer at all his engagements feature several of Messrs. Francis and Day's songs—notably Henry F. Greenfield's "And just then he fell out of bed."

(*Continued on page 24.*)

"M. AND MADAME POM."

Sketch, in One Scene, Produced at the South London Palace on Monday, Feb. 28.

A succession of ludicrous incidents are contained in the sketch *M. and Madame Pom*, which is the novelty of Mr. William Payne's bill at the South London. They are enacted in a newly-opened riding-school, of which a property horse with an effective hind kick is the chief article of furniture. A French couple come to take lessons in the equestrian art, and meet with a peculiar reception at the hands of an eccentric groom, Madame being subjected to much indignity. She requires a nice, easy-going pony, and there is immediately trotted forth a volatile donkey, who attacks the groom vigorously and chases the visitors right and left. Some dissatisfaction being expressed, a pony is produced, with little better results, the lady being speedily thrown. After being carried off by a practicable airship and dropped unceremoniously to the ground, both Madame and her husband are given the choice of riding home in a pannier, but the baskets placed astride the horse give way, and leave their occupants gracefully dangling their legs through the apertures.

Most of the comic effect gained is due to the groom, who negotiates the butting donkey and the kicking horse with much effect, also taking leaps over the heads of the visitors with agility. Some of the fun, however, is of a primitive character, and the author should lose no time in realising that the pulling away of a chair just as a lady is about to sit down and the dropping of candle-grease on another's head can no longer be relied upon to arouse laughter. The sketch is enacted by Mr. Jimmy Holloway and company with indefatigable energy.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Happy Holland has a breezy, cheery sound that gives earnest of irresponsible doings on the stage to the music of laughter in the house. We think Mr. Jake Friedman became acclimatised many years ago to the impersonations of the merry Dutchmen who are supposed to have their dwellings by the Zuyder Zee, and who speak a stage *patois* of which the origin is, like the birth of Thackeray's Jeames, "wropt in mystery." Mr. Friedman is the head and front of this sketch, which is described as a "Dutch burletta," and it is full of *sauce Hollandaise* and blessed with a series of bright numbers in the way of song, dance, and concerted items. We are in a fishing village near Rotterdam when the curtain rises, and become interested in the fortunes of Jackey Oodlevasal, who, trusting to the "skirts of happy chance," returns to his birthplace and to his Gretchen. He disguises himself as a mature lady guide, and the mystery thickens with the arrival of Sam Slick, an American detective; but the main purpose of the trifle is frank jollity, and this is furnished in plenty by Mr. Friedman in the dual character, to which he imparts much quaintness; Mr. George Fairhurst, as the American detective; Mr. Leigh Ellis, as Alphonse, a French tourist; Mr. Charles Mavern; Miss Ada Dale, as Sadie, sweet on physical culture; and Miss Florence Hunter, a lively and entertaining Gretchen, also assist ably in the scheme of fun.

That stalwart actor and descriptive vocalist Mr. George Leyton is presenting *The Wreck of the Birkenhead* with fine dramatic effect, the back cloth, with the troops massed on deck, adding to the poignancy of the harrowing scene, which is so graphically depicted by the singer.

ments are played by a pianist, violinist, and 'cellist. The lady singer opens with Gounod's "Ave Maria"—the melody composed to a prelude of Bach's—which is sung off. The instrumentalists then show the excellent quality of their playing in a Hungarian rhapsody, and the interlude winds up with the soloist singing the popular song "Because."

Mr. Will Evans's "Villain of the piece" increases in drollery at every performance, and the "number" chorus is sung in all parts of the house. The popularity of Joe Elvin in *Billy's Money-Box*, one of the drollest of his many productions, does not wane; there is plenty of laughter for Wilson and Waring in Yankee vaudeville; the Martinckes have a clever show in *The Rag Doll*; and Mr. Fred Keeton's "Simple Simon," Mr. Fred Land's comic edition of nursery rhymes, and the wonderful acrobatic dancing of Will E. Stopit are all features of an excellent bill, to which Miss Ella Shields, a most fascinating chorus songstress; Baker and Balfe, versatile xylophone soloists; Mr. James Stewart, the amusing tramp at the piano; Miss Ida Barr, and Mr. Luis Hardt also contribute. Miss Maidie Scott was unfortunately absent through indisposition on the night of our visit, the fact being duly advertised at the box office by Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt, the manager. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents some capital pictures.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

On visiting this handsome theatre this week we found the energetic manager, Mr. Albert H. Adams, hard pressed to find room for all his would-be patrons who were eager to enjoy the excellent bill of fare put forward. Three dramatic sketches of the most varied character are the big lines of the programme. The best of these in the sketch *The Storm*, a play of much interest. The story of the artist who is so deceived in his wife and the sensational end of the unhappy woman is well told and well acted, especially by Mr. H. W. Scaddan, who gives such a finished portrayal of the artist, Jean, and Mr. H. B. Lewis, who as the priest opens the misguided man's eyes to the truth. Miss Geraldine Montrose gives a vivid picture of the adventurous Camille. The play is well staged, and the introduction of a real storm of rain, which is cleverly effected, causes much astonishment. The Bioscope, with some interesting pictures, concludes.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Large audiences were present at this popular house at both "houses" on Monday, when the curtain was rung up after an inspiriting overture performed under the direction of Mr. Fred Camp. A prominent item in the bill is provided by Miss Margaret Parker, who, with an efficient company, appears in a dramatic episode entitled *Under the Seal*. Mr. John Herbert shows artistic restraint in his handling of the part of Father David; and Mr. Frank Hawthorne makes a realistic ruffian in the rôle of Isaac Fogdale. Miss Margaret Parker takes the part of the "slavey" Bet, and moves her audience to laughter and tears, showing histrionic powers of no mean order; Miss Lily Palmer, a dainty comedienne and dancer, sings "Hannah," a coon ditty, concluding with a pretty and graceful dance; Barnard's Mannikins provide a variety entertainment in themselves, and meet with a flattering reception. The cake-walk and coon dance in their little sketch, *The Coon's Revelry*, are quite up to date, and there is an old-fashioned Grimaldian flavour about the pantomime fun which concludes their entertainment.

A lively and diverting duo are Ryan and Hall, two comedians of an acrobatic turn; and Harry Anderson scores with "There you are again" and "Man, man," a humorous contribution that greatly pleases the audience. The Concoran Bros., clever instrumentalists, present a novel naval and military quick-change act, and have a reception of the most flattering description; that incomparable juggler Cinquevalli is also here with his attractive, clever, and interesting series of tricks, his act being humorously supplemented by his new assistant, an apt disciple of the late-lamented "Walter." Raymond "the Great" is also starring here this week, and contributes a very novel and highly-amusing entertainment, including the "Hand of Fate," "The Enchanted Table," and "A Trip to Spookville." It is an entertainment of the Maskelyne type, and is one of the treats of the programme. Owing to the sudden indisposition of Mr. Albert Rees he was unable to give his well-known drawing-room entertainment on the night of our visit, and the programme concluded with a display of animated pictures.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

A discriminating audience gave a cordial welcome on Monday to the bill provided here for the week. Collett and Keith give quite a fine display of heavy-weight juggling, and contrive to impart humour to their performance. The troubles of "moving" are indicated by droll Tom E. Conover, who confides his condition to the audience with comic effect. "What is the use of the front-door key?" is the query propounded by the comedian, when he admits "he doesn't know where he lives." His second contribution as a Sundowner of the Socialist order further evidenced the vocalist's ability. As a social reformer one is inclined to think Tom has a great future. Miss May Fairclough from a somewhat varied répertoire wins unanimous approval for her impressions of the characters of Juliet and Claire Foster in the popular play *A Woman in the Case*. With considerable sweetness the Sisters Draycott duettise with a melodious theme anent "The Southern Queen." The "Captain Kettle" incident, so admirably represented by Frank Calvert in the title-rôle, with Joey Rose as his "charming mate," is one of the successes of the evening. The sketch goes with a snap from start to finish. Calvert as a medico diagnosing a complaint with Joey Rose as the patient must be seen to be appreciated. Harry Rogerson's "drama in five minutes" is not without considerable merit, and wins great approbation. The Bioscope scenes of the St. Stephen's show and the orchestra are alike excellent.

In a new and original production, entitled *The Fun of the Fair*, by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, Miss Kate Carney as Carmen is well supported. As the gipsy queen the queen of coster comedians is the life and soul of the show, and never for a second does she let the fun flag. She sings, dances, and acts with astonishing energy and no little skill. A clever bit of character-acting is the witch, Hagar, of Mr. G. M. Mariott; Mr. Percy Morgan is excellent as the showman; Albert Mason as the dude is deliciously comic; and good work is also done by Mr. Fred Malcolm as Jem the Romany. The sketch is mounted with scrupulous care.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

This popular South London hall, over the fortunes of which Mr. Cecil Paget so ably presides, has a programme this week which has filled the house at each performance with appreciative audiences. After an overture, which is well rendered by Mr. Julian Goldsmid's talented orchestra, the ball is opened by Miss Madeline Rossiter, a tall brunette, who gains loud applause for her song and dance. Mr. Albert Mackelvin, described as a "Scotch monologist," is amusing in a dialect song with some humorous patter; the Three Langfords (two gentlemen and one lady) give an exhibition of skilful dancing which rouses the house to the utmost enthusiasm; Miss Aidi Martini renders an attractive chorus song, "Mr. Man in the Moon," and she follows this up with a very graceful dance, her efforts being warmly applauded.

A cordial welcome is given by the Peckhamites to our old friend Cliff Ryland, who in his inimitable dry manner sings "Don't," and causes uproarious laughter with his droll patter. The Bros. Erard, one made up as an Irish bricklayer, while the other appears in evening dress, exhibit considerable skill both as acrobats and musicians. They play the violin, one gentleman standing all the time upon the head of the other, and the famous Prison Duet from *Il Trovatore* is very well rendered upon one string. A very bright item on the programme is the performance by Lawrence Brough and company of *No. 9*, a sketch by Sir Francis Burnand, which is evidently a boiled-down version of the amusing comedy *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Lawrence Brough as the mercurial Dick Whortles rattles through his rôle in splendid style; while Miss Olga Esme is very charming as his aggrieved young wife. Mr. Arthur Bawtree as the volatile Frenchman, Mr. Lionel Braham as the Prize Fighter, Mr. Percy Marshall as old Cadbury, and Miss Clara Nicholls as Mrs. Cadbury, all render loyal assistance. The sketch goes with a bang from start to finish, and the curtain has to be raised several times at the conclusion in response to the universal applause.

Mr. Arthur Leslie is successful with his song "Has anyone seen a sixpence?" later on giving a most artistic imitation of Mr. Wilkie Bard in his rendering of "You, you, you." The Hayman and Franklin's Players present the entertaining sketch *Toplitsky; or, The End of the World*, which is very favourably received. Mr. Frank Bernard as the irritable but good-hearted Jew Abraham Levy makes a great hit, and he is ably assisted by Mr. Frank H. Dale as Sam and Miss Edith Martyn as Esther. The excellent programme concludes with some beautiful coloured films illustrating A Trip Across the Isle of Ceylon. The energetic acting-manager is Mr. H. E. Sawyer.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

Since this outer metropolitan hall was opened at the latter part of last year many good programmes have been submitted to its patrons, and last week's attractions reached a degree of excellence. At the top of the bill was Vesta Victoria, the "people's idol" and a universal favourite, in her latest successes, including "Skating" and "The simple life." These numbers carried the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and no less than two encores had to be responded to. Miss Victoria's selections, "Is there anybody here looking for a widow?" and "He used to come and court his little Mary Ann," created increased amusement, and the plaudits of the audience were loud and prolonged until she had bowed several times in acknowledgment.

The reception of Miss Beaumont Collins and her strong company in *Leaves of Memory* was as hearty as it was deserved. Undoubtedly this is one of the finest episodes of real life at present appearing on the halls, and the interpretation is very realistic and cleverly given by the several artists. Miss Beaumont Collins is an actress of considerable ability, and as Ruth Challoner she is able to give of her best talent. She invests the character with an atmosphere of intensity which adds to the dramatic effect of the presentation.

Wyndham and Wyatt, in *The Professor and His Pupil*, contributed a very humorous sketch, and some excellent singing was also heard. The audience were very appreciative of both these items. The popular descriptive vocalist Frank Harwood added to the amusement of the audience, his song "All about the girls" being a very "taking" number, and his monologue on "The Burglar and the Old Maid" caused much laughter. Mons. Carloti, in the protean Parisian play *The Apache*, came in for a hearty reception. The character of the Apache was cleverly portrayed by Carloti, sen.; and the other characters, which included that of the Apache's sweetheart, a gendarme, and several others, were smartly rendered by Carloti, jun.

My Friend the Count, an amusing sketch by Miss Louie Counsell and company, was well received, as also was the comedy duo, Manson and West. Miss Kitty Clinton, comedienne, and Miss Marion Armitage, the comedy girl, were also excellent turns.

THE BALHAM HIPPODROME.

Snugly placed at the foot of Balham Hill, Mr. Gibbons' pretty hall affords an alluring prospect to the inhabitants of that thriving suburb, and Mr. W. E. Hancorne James makes such careful provision for the comfort and amusement of his patrons that they make the house a place of weekly resort. Heading an attractive bill this week is the sketch *King Nobbler*, in which the adventures of Jerry and Nobbler are carried a stage further. There is no end to the fun while Lew Lake and Bob Morris as the precious pair are on the scene, and their comic antics never fail to create laughter. Their efforts are "Abe-ly" seconded—if we may perpetrate a pun—by Dave Bentley as the cheery Hebrew; and Harry Lavers as a cannibal chief, H. Roberts as his minister, and G. Thursby as a bluejacket, are prominent among a picturesque throng.

Travesty has always been the forte of Mr. Harry Pleon, and as The Bad Girl of the Family Journal he displays that species of volatile humour in which he is specially effective. His make-up as the typical heroine of fiction is drolly realistic, and the quaint perversions of the familiar dialogue arouse much laughter. Mr. George D'Albert secures a hearty reception, and maintains his reputation as a light comedian, singing "Only one girl at a time" and "Do what you like with me" in the bright and breezy fashion for which he is famous. Miss Edie King, who may always

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.

G. H. Elliott's Latest "Moon" Song.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.
DAVE CARTER.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

BLUE FEATHER.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.

The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

ON A MONKEY HONEYMOON.
FEATURED in all JOHN TILLER'S PRODUCTIONS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SOME DAY WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

The Ballad Hit of the Season, sung by Mdme. Ada Colley.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

Little Jack Marks, described as the youngest Hebrew comedian in the world, is gifted with the precocity of his race. He is a born actor, as one easily detects by his policeman song—a most amusing contribution. Miss Lalie Brooke raises considerable interest by the presentation of a most original scena entitled *Girls Past and Present*. Among the young ladies of the twentieth century Miss Brooke chooses the Directoire and the Salome girl, and the crinoline girl with a pork-pie hat and a diminutive parasol is a figure of the sixties that excites a deal of laughter. The turn is well conceived, cleverly worked out, and heartily applauded. A satire of the latest vogue in plays is presented by Miss Millie Payne, who appears as Chantecler—a capital make-up—and "crows salutation to the morn," much to the amusement of kind friends in front. As a preface to her latest novelty Miss Payne proclaims her excellence in a gutter-snipe character modelled on the caricatures of the late Phil May.

Miss Meredith Meredro has a capital song in "Betsy, the pride of Battery B." It is one of those melodies with an irresistible swing with which Mr. Herman Darewski, the composer, has so familiarised us. We feel quite sure Betsy is an interesting heroine; but Miss Meredro's enunciation did not enable us to glean as many particulars of her career as we should have liked. The best bit of legitimate comedy in the bill is the impersonation of "The Debt Collector" by Mr. Syd Walker. He walks round a specially-constructed stage set, in which the exteriors of the workhouse and a pawnshop are conspicuous. His interviews with the various debtors or their representatives are drolly written, and his experience with the "delicate" husband sets the house in a roar. Mr. Walker's acting stamps him as an excellent comedian.

A musical turn of considerable charm is presented by the Zigeuner Quartette. The accompaniundoubtedly is *The Pride of the Regiment*, a capital little drama, which has already made its mark in the West End Theatres. It is being presented by Mr. Neville Graham and company, who act in the most telling manner possible, and the story of the young fellow who finds the army life distasteful and his subsequent quarrel with his over-ambitious father is keenly followed by the audience, who are not slow in showing their appreciation of the play and its players.

Belle Braham provides an entertaining turn with her illustrated song-sheet and its funny pictures; Roland Hill, "Ye Dame," is a very welcome comedian, whose song "My dear John" goes splendidly; Farlie, Rennie, and company provide a laughable turn with their act *The Terrible Tailors*, in which they indulge in many antics which cause laughter; Miss Burley and her assistant are a most entertaining couple, performing many clever acrobatic feats; the assistant is a most expert tumbler and a comedian as well. Kitty Clinton scores with her song "I'll let the world go by," which she sings with much charm; Frank Fort, comedian, sings and talks of everything imaginable in a most comic manner, and makes a hit; Ivan Coherney's company appear in a very thrilling episode, entitled *The Tempter*, which is well played by the company engaged in presenting it, and they keep the interest and excitement at a high pitch throughout, making a most emphatic success; Charles Grantley provokes merriment with his song "You'll pardon me"; and Rappo and Ella give an exhibition of balancing and feats of weight-lifting with the teeth which are very clever. Kloof and Ramsey, musical entertainers, have a very novel act, with which they make themselves big favourites, and their success is well merited. Russell Carr, ventriloquist, with his soldier lad accomplice, is very smart indeed, and has some capital cross-talk between himself and the figure.

Miss Geraldine Montrose and company appear

be relied upon to give a touch of originality to her work, sings and dances in entrancing style. Her illustrations of a Spanish fandango, a vampire dance, and the pas de seul of a premier danseuse, each effort being accompanied by a characteristic song, are a delight to the eye and ear.

Impressions of children are cleverly conveyed by Mr. Wilson Hallett, whose "baby" seance elicits shrieks of merriment; and mirth is also stimulated by the Moxon Family, who give an entertainment in which somersaults and Risley feats are varied by a sand dance on the hands and much amusing work; Cliff Diamond, boy comedian and dancer, is accurately described as a marvel; the Bioscope depicts The Man Who Swallowed the Sponge with diverting results; and the programme is also contributed to by Queenie Essex, a dainty comedienne; Bi-Bo-Bi, Parisian eccentric musician; and the Four Amaranths, lady acrobatic dancers. The orchestra is skilfully directed by Mr. Lawrie Owen.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The great attraction here is John Lawson and company in his new production *The Secret of the Talmud*. This proves to be a very elaborate and interesting production, dealing with the Jewish colonisation of East Africa and the plots against the successful consummation of the scheme consequent on the discovery of gold and diamonds on the site of the proposed settlement. This leads to a series of very exciting episodes throughout the seven scenes in which the plot is developed.

Mr. John Lawson himself as Joseph Emmanuel acts with great dignity, and presents a capital study of the blind leader of what may be termed Jewish Nationalist aspirations. He is conspicuously good in the scene where, alone in Jerusalem, Joseph regains the use of his eyes. The support accorded him is also distinctly above the average. Mr. F. Joynson Powell, who is well remembered here for his work in the stock seasons at the old "Grand," is excellent as Vachell. Another capital performance is forthcoming from Mr. F. Naylor Grimstone, who enacts the rôle of the apostate Jew, Goldstein, with intensity and success. Mr. George Bushra as Wallah, the native Prince, presented a convincing performance that deserves great praise. Miss Lucille Sidney as Ena acts with power in the later scenes, and is altogether admirable. A very large number of auxiliaries are engaged, and they have been thoroughly drilled. The scenery, by Messrs. Charles Mannon and Frank Seddon, is very effective, particularly the first scene depicting an East African Forest, which has been designed and carried out by Mr. M. Guggenheim. The playlet was received with great enthusiasm, Mr. Lawson and the principal members of his company all taking calls, and there is no doubt that it will form a very successful addition to Mr. Lawson's productions.

Maud Wilton, vocal comedienne, does well in one song. Pat Rafferty, in two songs, "We've all got a world of our own" and "The Irish Pensioner," is scoring a distinct hit, the latter song especially gaining a great reception. Gilbert Girard submits some clever imitations, and his genial style makes him a favourite. Dave Samuels, who is very popular here, sings several parodies, and indulges in some of his extraordinary dancing, his act gaining great approbation. Graham's Premier Juveniles prove to be a talented crowd of juvenile entertainers, whose contribution to the programme is much appreciated. Hayman and Franklin, in "A Matrimonial Agency," caused a great deal of laughter, and gained several calls. Sylvia Phillips, comedienne, is well received in her one song. Fioretti and Elly, spade and barrel jumpers, present a skilful turn, the feats of the gentleman securing great applause. Sam Mayo is running a singing competition this week, and the efforts of the seven competitors provoked some of the greatest hilarity on the evening of our visit. Others in the bill are the Hyde and Cody Trio and Lily Esplin. The Bioscope is good; and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. T. Gray, adds to the attractiveness of the evening. Mr. B. Adams, the popular manager, is attentive and courteous in the front of the house.

EAST HAM PALACE.

With such well-known and popular "stars" as Marie Lloyd and George Formby appearing at the top of the bill, it is only natural that immense audiences are flocking here at each performance. Miss Marie Lloyd, who came in for a hearty reception on Monday evening, sang no fewer than four of her most popular songs, especial favourites being "I lives in hopes" and "She's the next best thing." Geo. Formby maintains his popularity with the "Palace" audiences, and as a laughter-maker he is irresistible. Uproarious mirth is caused by his songs "John Willie, come on!" and "Playing the game in the West," which he sings in his quaint characteristic style, with occasional shafts of droll humour.

An extremely funny sketch is *Fun in a Music Shop*, by Brull and Hemsley, who are bright and original in their humorous rendering. Chas. Banks and his wonderful dog "Woof" provide excellent entertainment, and the remarkable way in which the dog does several things immediately its master mentions them is warmly applauded by the audience. The Scotch comedian, Dan Fraser, gained hearty applause for his popular number, "Glengarry"; and Leonard Barry kept the audience in excellent humour with "You go where Hugo goes" and "Think I'd marry a girl," two songs with choruses just to the right tastes of the audience. The Markies, in their vocal, comedy, and instrumental scena, *The Professor's Studio*, delighted everyone, and loud and prolonged applause was given for the several musical items. Especial features of this entertainment were the playing on glasses of "Alice, where art thou?" and the difficult overture from *William Tell*, which was played on ordinary bottles with wonderful precision and perfect tone.

The Three Cape Girls make a welcome re-appearance, and come in for their usual hearty reception, a speciality of their act being some clever long-boot dancing. Madge Osmond, a vivacious young comedienne, scores heavily with her two numbers, "It's all over with you" and "Captain Percy of the Fusiliers." The performance also includes many excellent and humorous pictures on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.

An excellent programme is being placed before the patrons of the above hall this week. Josie Colverd, a comedienne with a winning style, sings with taste "How would you like me to sit next to you?" and is deservedly applauded, and the Donnas Trio perform some really clever feats on the trapeze, and prove themselves gymnasts of no mean order. Ernie Mayne, a comedian well known for the peculiar style of his simple songs, causes considerable merriment with his "Have a banana?" ditty, and his medley of popular songs blended in a clever manner takes well, and is responsible for much hearty laughter.

Mr. Fred Winn and company appear in a dramatic episode entitled *Treachery*. Captain Osborne, an officer in the Navy, has in his charge the plans of a certain battleship, and the story tells in an exciting manner of the efforts of one Emile Elvach, a German spy, to become possessed of them, and how his endeavours are eventually thwarted by Lieutenant Ripley and Lady Mary Osborne. The latter part is undertaken with skill by Miss Marion Ling, who plays with feeling throughout. Lieutenant Ripley is ably represented by Mr. John Dennis, and the rôle of Captain Osborne is presented with distinction by Mr. Edward S. Betley. Mr. Fred Winn as the German spy, Emile Elvach, makes a capital villain, and plays with force.

Mr. Tom Bryce, with the assistance of a young lady, scores a success in a musical comedy sketch named *The Dude's Wooing*. A certain dandy is in love with a young lady, who fancies she would prefer a German or a Scotchman as a husband. The young man, on hearing this, disguises himself in turn as each of the above, and raises many a laugh by his drollery. The duologue is well received.

The Westbrooks appear in a novel scena, *Two Little Maids from School*, in which they introduce a Dutch dance and various other steps, which they execute with neatness and precision. Ferguson and Mack, a couple who are irresistibly funny, greatly enliven the proceedings of the evening. Their mock drama is particularly droll, and their impersonation of the two Sisters Dimple is humorous beyond description. The American comedienne, Miss Wish Wynne, proves a conspicuous success. Her song "Swank" is good, and her other numbers are equally praiseworthy. Her efforts are much appreciated, and she is forced to oblige again and again. Mr. C. E. Stelling has a small fortune in his clever dog which appears with him. The creature seems to understand every word spoken to it, and obeys without any other sign whatever. The Primrose Quartette supply some excellent music. Their voices harmonise beautifully, and their rendering of a "Fishing" song and "Asleep in the deep" is tasteful to a degree. Mr. Frank Fox does extremely well in his song, and Leonard Charburn's Young Stars give considerable pleasure in their scena *A Picnic up the River*, singing their various numbers in a capable manner. Mr. Sam Mayo, the popular comedian, is also here.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

The popularity of Mr. Harry Fragson seems to be greater than ever, and six songs at each performance do not serve to satisfy the crowded audiences that are being attracted to the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week. At the close of the sixth song applause and cries of "Encore" fill the theatre, and it is only after taking several calls that Mr. Fragson is allowed to retire. Amongst the songs from his répertoire that this clever entertainer is singing this week are "My Aeroplane," "The Employment Agency," "Billy Brown," "John Bull's Budget," and "The Bandbox Girl."

The Jackley Trio of comedy acrobats (including George, the irrepressible page) supply an excellent turn; and Alf. Gibson sings a couple of excellent humorous songs, one entitled "The Old Brigade," the other an excellent burlesque of "Let me like a soldier fall." An excellent "dog turn" is that known as Loyal's Trained Dogs—one of the most amusing and clever we have seen for many a day. Carl Howard, the "Komic 'Un," assisted by Miss Lily Foy, the "vanishing lady," performs some most amusing tricks, and his act is the cause of great laughter. Another turn of real merit is that contributed by the popular comedy artists George Goodfellow and Jennie Gregson. They give a duologue of the medley description, but their dialogue and business are unusually funny, and gives them excellent opportunities of showing their undoubted talent. Addie Dorina, the protean actress, appears in her new and successful production *Dr. Spot's Patients*, in which she impersonates six widely-different characters. The changes are complete in every detail, and are performed in a wonderfully short space of time. Miss Dorina is certainly a clever actress. Dolly England, the juvenile male impersonator, provides a very attractive turn; and the programme, as usual, includes the American Bioscope, with a new series of up-to-date subjects.

Another turn of considerable prominence is that provided by Mr. Harry Roxbury, who is appearing in a new musical absurdity, in three scenes, entitled *On the Track*, of which the book and lyrics are by Miss Vashti Wynne and the music by Dudley Powell and Oastlere Walker. *On the Track* provides Mr. Roxbury with a very excellent comedy part in Archibald Longfellow, a policeman and private detective of a very farcical kind, and his company affords him very excellent support. The little play is well mounted and dressed, and its progress is punctuated with roars of laughter. A really funny item. Mr. Lewis Vincent is the popular acting-manager, and he has a courteous assistant in the person of Mr. Herbert Mack.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Heading a very attractive bill this week is Miss Vesta Tilley, who is paying a return visit to Stratford with new songs, as well as clothes which are at once the admiration and envy of those who aspire to the "correct thing" in dress. Miss Tilley is right at the top of her form, and in "Sydney's Holidays" she has a number among the very best in her répertoire, Sydney belonging to that particular type of cheap youth to whom the annual vacation is the event of the year, and requires eleven and a half month's preparation; but Miss Tilley's caricature is so genial and clever that Sydney himself would not be hurt thereat. "Come and be one of the boys" relates of a rollicking young "sport" bent on a good time, and the song is rendered in immaculate style; while "Give it to father" is a gem of a number dealing with youthful precocity. Miss Tilley's success is so pronounced that a fourth song is clamorously demanded, and she responds with the popular "Jolly good luck to the girls who love the soldiers."

Charles Matthews would appear to be the successor of the fictional Spring-heeled Jack, for his jumping feats are remarkable. Leaping in and out of tubs with tied feet, clearing a series of chairs with a piano at the end, and doing a record distance in two succeeding standing jumps, are deeds accomplished with rare skill and ease, and which elicit unstinted applause.

Sammy Shields, the football enthusiast, is highly entertaining as a raconteur, and his powerful voice stands him in good stead in making himself heard above the loud laughter and applause he provikes. The audience are completely carried away by his vivid description of the local team, West Ham United, in an important match, though the remarks of the spectators are much too rich not to have been of the singer's own creation.

Tom and Marie Motramo are a clever duo, who perform with considerable fluency on various instruments, their act being interspersed with comedy business, much of which is very amusing, though jokes are introduced which have well borne the stress of time. Charles J. Johnson is a dusky singer and dancer possessed of considerable ability, and his turn finds plenty of favour. Miss Marie Pera, assisted by Mr. Thomas Kennard in a smartly-written comedy duologue by Russell Vaun, *Two Doors and a Passage*, provides a very pleasant interlude, and the couple are deservedly applauded. Beatty and Blanche are clever and prepossessing duettists and dancers; the vocal act of the Elite Harmony Boys, introducing songs and dances, proves a very popular item; and Miss Mirrie Saunders makes a successful appearance.

The clearly-shown Bioscope pictures are, as usual, a strong attraction, and early comers are regaled by the selection "Welsh Airs," by the very efficient orchestra under the guidance of Mr. Alfred Whipp, Mus.Bac. Mr. E. J. Macdermott is courteous and energetic in his managerial capacity, and he has an able lieutenant in Mr. A. E. Barnes.

"WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am informed by a correspondent that certain parties are using the title of *When the Cat's Away* for a comedy sketch. I should esteem it a favour if you will kindly give publicity to the fact that I produced a sketch under this title at the Camberwell Empire on June 12, 1909. I would beg managers and others to note also that this title being claimed by Mr. W. C. Carter (W. C. Bland), the same was purchased by me from him.

As I have this sketch booked in England for the coming autumn there may be some confusion, and it behoves managers and agents to see that when buying goods they are getting the real thing.—Yours faithfully,

HUBERT BARTLETT
(Muir and Bartlett).

Hathaway Theatre, Lowell, Mass., U.S.A.
Feb. 16.

Mr. Fred Day, of that foremost Anglo-American music-publishing concern Messrs. T. B. Harms and Francis, Day and Hunter, of 1431-3, Broadway, New York, who has been on a visit to the Old Country, is returning to the United States this (Saturday) morning, leaving Waterloo at 10 a.m. for Southampton, thence to embark on the s.s. Minniewaska, of the Atlantic Transport Line.

"Have a banana" is a catch-phrase for which credit is due to Ernie Mayne, and a song of that title by Alf. Ellerton was exploited last week by the popular comedian at Middlesbrough. At the conclusion of his engagement there on Saturday night a large stalk, tied with pretty ribbon and with some four dozen bananas hanging to it, was handed up to him.

FELDMAN'S

PANTOMIME SUCCESS

THIS SEASON

TO BE REPEATED

ON THE HALLS.

ARTISTS CONSULT US IMMEDIATELY

AND

SECURE OUR LATEST AND BEST.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Addres: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

King Pantomime has not yet entirely relinquished his sovereign sway in these islands, and some of the hardy "annuals" still flourish like the green bay tree. Without a doubt, an important factor in the longevity of most of these productions has been the interpolation of so many of the Feldman "winners," which everywhere occupy pride of place. This season has seen no more successful songs than "Somewhere," "Beside the seaside," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," "Alpine dress," and a number of others from the Arthur-street catalogue of good things. Many of these great pantomime "hits" are already the assured summer successes of the near future.

The vocal hit of the London Coliseum this week is undoubtedly Mr. Fred Barnes's really magnificent rendering of John Glover-Kind's fine new comedy chorus song, "I'd rather be by the fireside," which is received with acclaim at every performance, and has firmly established itself as first favourite with the cultured audiences of this fine palace of varieties, to whom the subtle wit of the verses seems to irresisitbly appeal. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on this excellent successor to "Seaside," from the same fluent pen.

Miss Florrie Forde, principal boy in the Theatre Royal, Leeds, pantomime, records the gratifying fact to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. that the two greatest hits of her pantomime engagement have been "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "Somewhere," which she has sung constantly, to an accompaniment of vociferous cheers and nightly recalls *ad libitum*, and the sales of copies in Leeds have in consequence been simply enormous. This talented artist will shortly produce on the halls as her principal number a new song, published by the same firm, and written and composed by Billy Merson and Mark Lorne, entitled "They can't find Kelly," which is predestined to be among this year's biggest hits, especially in the Isle of Man, where Miss Forde is again appearing this summer.

At the London Pavilion, during the current week, that golden-voiced tenor Mr. Arthur Aldridge has been winning golden opinions from all his auditors for his truly magnificent rendering of "Garden of Roses," by Dempsey and Schmid, and this delightful song bids fair to become one of the present season's favourite waltz-time ballads in Mr. Aldridge's accomplished hands. Messrs. Feldman and Co. are certainly to be felicitated on the possession of a number far above the average, both in words and music.

That inimitable performer Mr. George Formby is as successful at the Paragon this week as he is at the Tivoli, evoking screams of merriment and thunders of applause from the denizens of Mile End for his mirth-provoking rendering of his latest and greatest success, "Playing the game in the west." Another Feldman publication that is going very big at the Paragon also is "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," which Miss Edith Arundel sings with a dainty charm that wins the hearts of all her auditors.

That petite vocalist and dancer Miss Maidie Harrison has been eminently successful in pantomime this season with Feldman's three songs, "Sweet little sun-bonnet lady," "Just like the dear old swing," and "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and is repeating them with great success at the Palace, Plymouth, this week. She will sing all three popular numbers in the halls for many months to come.

The ballad that has "come to stay" this year is indubitably Chas. K. Harris's latest and greatest effort, "I'm longing for one sight of you." The ear-arresting melody and intensely human sentiment enshrined in the verses entitle this number to a high niche among this season's song productions, and Feldman and Co., the publishers of this latest gem from the pen that gave us "After the ball," have undoubtedly found the legitimate successor therein to their truly phenomenal success "Somewhere," the pantomime rage of 1909-10.

"By the Light of the Silvery Moon," by Madden and Edwards, is now being actively rehearsed by that favourite "coon" delineator Mr. George H. Elliott, for production at all his music-hall engagements as soon as pantomime terminates at the Prince's, Bristol, and this clever performer daily waxes more enthusiastic anent the certainty of success awaiting this new number with which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have just equipped him.

At the London Pavilion this week Miss Violet Loraine has been eminently successful with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s latest acquisition, "I wonder who's kissing her now?" by Hough, Adams, and Howard, her rendering of which was received with vociferous acclaim by the entire audience, and in this number Miss Loraine certainly possesses one of the finest songs she has yet sung on the variety halls. This song should be much in evidence this season at the seaside, and altogether a most prosperous career seems assured for this latest Anglo-American offering of the famous Arthur-street firm.

Miss Madge Temple, the popular artist, who has been specially engaged for the Barrasford tour, on which she is now appearing, has eclipsed all her previous successes. The *Nottingham Daily Express*, speaking of this charming artist's success, says: "Miss Madge Temple's two songs were not nearly sufficient to satisfy the audience."

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the famous chocolate-coloured coon, for whom Messrs. Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, jun., wrote the two great successes, "Sue, Sue, Sue," and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," has secured an even finer number from them, entitled "There's a little black Cupid in the moon." Mr. Elliott will produce the number directly he finishes his pantomime engagement at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, where his song, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," which he sings in his own inimitable style, is one of the features of the pantomime.

"Betsy," by Weston and Barns, and music by Hermann E. Darewski, jun., has proved an instantaneous success, both at the Oxford and the Chelsea Palace.

Miss Florrie Forde, the queen of chorus singers, will produce her new number, entitled "'Tis a faded picture," by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, jun., at the Pavilion, Glasgow, following on the conclusion of her pantomime engagement. Miss Forde considers the number one of the finest she has had.

The whole of the music trade learnt with regret a day or two since of the death of Mr. Stanley Mullen, who had been associated with the business side of music from his earliest days. He was for long the London representative of the John Church Company, and later became secretary of the Musical Copyright Association, doing yeoman service as a foeman to the music pirates. He went to Australia two or three years since for the benefit of his health, pulmonary trouble giving his friends anxiety, and for a while he looked after the interests of several English music publishers "down under," and ultimately founded the Sydney house of Stanley Mullen and Co. He succumbed to consumption there on Thursday in last week at the early age of thirty-six.

"THE POLAR STAR."

Ballet Divertissement, Scenario invented and Dances arranged by Elise Clerc, Music by George Byng, Produced at the Alhambra on Monday, Feb. 28.

Susan ..... Miss Elise Clerc
Geoffrey ..... Miss Julia Seale
His Mother ..... Miss Louie Bryant
His Father ..... Mr. Tom Coventry
His Chum ..... Miss G. Edwards
Page Boy ..... Master Bert Clerc
Baby Penguin ..... } Miss Rita Leggiero
Young Eskimo ..... }
Stella's Father ..... Mr. R. Vallis
Stella ..... Mlle. Britta

Since the intrepid deeds of Shackleton and Peary astonished the world, scenes from the immediate neighbourhood of the Poles have been the vogue in burlesque, melodrama, and spectacle; but it has been left to the Alhambra management to give a fanciful twist to the subject, and for the purposes of ballet to treat the Arctic circle as a realm ruled by the benign influence of the "Polar Star."

This fairy spirit, exercising her gracious sway, turns the snow wastes into regions of pleasure. From out the depths of solid hummocks emerge ice queens—all of them high priestesses of Terpsichore—who foot it deftly and merrily in the close companionship of the quaint penguin and the philosophic white bear. The little story which is a prelude to this really enchanting scene concerns the love affair of Geoffrey and Stella. Youth and maid have plighted their troth at a ball; but as Geoffrey has no particular purpose in life except to advance his *affaire de cœur* and to make Stella his bride, her parents apparently are not satisfied with their daughter's prospects, and make it clear to him that he must distinguish himself. Geoffrey thinks things out; and while doing so sees in a vision a radiant figure—the "polar star," who beckons him northward. A lively dance by housemaids and footmen concludes the scene.

In the next, Geoffrey has become the Arctic explorer, and is in sore straits; but the polar star fairy cheers him onward, and in the final scene—in the regions of the aurora borealis—where he is followed by the *dramatis personæ*—there are high jinks shared by the fairies in silver sheen and by the humble Eskimo. So much for the scenario of the divertissement, which is, however, not entirely sentimental in its aspect, for Miss Elise Clerc, who is quite a Nelly Farren of the ballet, and Master Bert Clerc, a budding Fred Farren, give us comic manœuvres and eccentric dances that bring down the house. Then there is little Rita Leggiero, who doubles the parts of a penguin and an Eskimo, to once more astonish us with her gifts as a dancer, and to show us that the juveniles at the Alhambra are promising enough to assure the maintenance of the fine terpsichorean traditions of that house. As the Polar Star Mlle. Britta has some delightful soli, and one cannot help remarking that she seems to grow more like Genée every day. Miss Julia Seale shows her customary cleverness as Geoffrey.

The scenery is from the brush of Mr. E. H. Ryan, who has reproduced a subtle sense of atmosphere in his Arctic scene, and the lighting effects will be even more wonderful still when the mechanical devices are better controlled. The dresses display great taste, and the penguins are amusingly realistic in plumage and shape. Mr. G. W. Byng's music is both gay and melodious, and he very rightly shared the honours of a "call" with Miss Elise Clerc. Mr. Alfred Moul also appeared in answer to the enthusiastic applause on Monday. The popular manager's friends were evidently glad to see him again, but they hope he will not overtax himself after the fine recovery he has made from his operation.

The rich environment of the Mirza Golem Troupe in the way of carpets and lighter fabrics gives a cachet to their really versatile act; but the work on poles erected at the back of the stage in the shape of a star shows a prehensile activity that is more than remarkable. Sebastian Merrill and company not only make light of the most difficult feats on bikes, but introduce a quaint Yankee comedian, who twists funny tricks on the audience in a way that keeps the house laughing all the time. The race is a most effective bit of fooling, and in the way of seriousness there is the feat of man and bike reaching the summit of a pedestal by jumping up narrow ledges, and then leaping to the ground. Garcia, shadowgraphist, is quite a humorist, and introduces an amusing farce in silhouette in which rival lovers, a lady, and a dog figure with comic results.

Miss Kitty Traney, in an elaborate rose-bedecked toilette and quite the sweetest thing in hats, drives a pony and small dogcart on to the stage. After unharnessing the animal, she supports the vehicle on her chin. Kitty then balances a small column of champagne bottles, the top one opening and disclosing a small terrier. Boldly removing her skirts, she shows her figure to advantage in tights, and presents a series of interesting feats with a clever fox terrier, who somersaults.

The patriotic ballet *Our Flag* is placed early in the programme, and evokes much enthusiasm. Miss Violet Essex, vocalist, and De Biere, conjurer, are other attractive turns on the bill.

The Elite Concert Party, under the direction of Mr. Francis Rolfe, a popular eccentric comedian, have arranged a fine répertoire of original songs, duets, trios, concerted items, farces, musical comedy selections and pianoforte solos, and their popularity, already great in the Midlands, is extending rapidly.

Miss Lois du Cane and her clever company go to the Hippodrome, Coventry, next week with the stirring success *The Russian Princess*, by Fredk. Maxwell.

"SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY."

A Sketch, by Ernest Legh, Produced at the Standard on Monday, Feb. 28.

Sir Roger de Coverley ..... Mr. Ernest Legh
Rev. Mr. Gray ..... Mr. Geo. T. Greig
Captain Sentry ..... Mr. E. E. Deans
Mr. Will Wimble ..... Mr. C. H. Pullen
Mistress Prudence Ingle .. Miss Sheila O'More
Mistress Constance Steele
Miss Stella St. Audrie

Miss Irene Delisse, Miss Aline Andrews, Miss Violet Varcoe, Miss Maud Willey, Mr. Manning Sproston, and Mr. James Cregan.

Mr. Ernest Legh, in his pretty and quaint sketch, tells the love-story of a seventeenth-century celebrity, whose kindness of heart and fondness for dancing make the hero sadly out of a period that usually presents nothing but a swaggering military aspect. At the Standard we get a sight of Sir Roger's home, a fine old English interior, in which it is easy to see that detail and the recognised authorities have been studied. It is a fine setting, and the care with which the dresses have been designed reflects the greatest credit on Messrs. Sheridan and Benjamin. We are kept waiting too long for the curtain to go up on the opening scene. It is over much to expect an audience to sit through the air "Sir Roger" and a repeat, and then to get a long-drawn-out introduction as well, before commencing the story. Start with "Sir Roger" once through by all means, and then we should have a bright, brisk introduction to put us in good humour with what is to follow. That, however, will doubtless be done, and then we shall have as pretty a sketch as is to be seen to-day. There is not much of a story after all. Captain Sentry, Sir Roger's nephew, is in love with sweet Mistress Prudence Ingle, a young widow, and so also is Sir Roger. The Captain, in arrogant fashion, declares his passion, and is "turned down" by the young lady in brisk style. Then his fuming threatens to upset the Christmas revels. Sir Roger, as was the wont of gallants in those times, finding himself in love, takes to bad verse-making of the "Mistress Prue, I worship you, would die for you" order. The verses he shows to the Rev. Mr. Gray, his chaplain, a character very well played by Mr. Geo. T. Greig. But as that worthy has had no love experiences he is unable to advise his patron as to the best way of proceeding to win the young widow's affections. It takes Sir Roger quite a week to offer his heart and hand, and New Year's Eve arrives before he screws his courage up sufficiently to make his declaration. That his suit is successful goes without saying, and the curtain descends with everyone happy except the Captain, and a very spirited "Sir Roger de Coverley" dance in progress. Mr. Legh as Sir Roger was very good, and his awkward attempts at love-making were most amusing. Mr. E. E. Deans as Captain Sentry is scarcely forceful enough. Miss Sheila O'More as Mistress Prudence is pretty, coquettish, well dressed, and always very welcome. Her confidante, Mistress Connie Steele, is a good character in the keeping of Miss Stella St. Audrie. Altogether, the cast is a good one.

There is another sketch in the current Standard bill, entitled *No Other Way*, played by Cameron Matthews, Jessamine Newcome, and Arthur Stratton. It deals with the misdeed of a young fellow who has stolen a sum of money from his firm in order to get married. Everything is found out, of course, after the wedding-day, and the villain of the piece makes suggestions that the hero should hand his bride over to his (the villain's) tender mercies in return for evidence against him being destroyed. In getting the better of his wife's would-be betrayer the unfortunate young fellow loses his dear one's love, and when she sends him away from her he commits suicide, for there seems to be "no other way." The little piece is intensely and well played by all concerned, and our only regret is, in a week of new sketches remarkable for invariably dismal, suicidal, or murderous endings, that the author has not seen his way clear to find "some other way" out for a well-intentioned young man, who has been guilty of nothing worse than badly floundering in life's deep waters.

Jack Smiles's "smile" is bigger than ever. It is the Boston brand, and impossible of imitation. His reception is also big, and deservedly so. Jack's ditty "He won't be able to do it again for months, and months, and months" is beloved of the gods. His "smile" makes everyone smile, too, and the "smile" broadens into a grin, and the grin goes to a guffaw, and it is a sight to watch "the house" rock at Jack ('s) Smiles and sallies. And what a dancer! Jack gives us a Lancashire clog dance—the *real* thing, mind you—"smiling" and sallying all the time. Quite a good thing is his imitation of a man with a stiff leg doing a step-dance. Fifteen minutes of Smiles is one of the best tonics we know of to-day.

Daisy Jerome sang three songs, and in the same bill are the Sisters Du Cane, the Brothers Weltman, the Frolics, the Sisters Lavender, the Hiatts, Harriet Rose, Mark Hanbury, and the Lecardo Brothers, excellent as tired acrobatic bakers.

Owing to the popularity of the Extra Show Turn matinée, another one will take place at the Paragon to-day. An innovation will be the addition of animated pictures, accompanied by a full orchestra.

The Five Hunters, with a high provincial reputation, make their bow to London audiences on Monday at the Camberwell Empire in their musical comedy act entitled *Auntie's Visit*. Managers on the look-out for an original and refined show should see this act.

A DARE-DEVIL DIVER.

"Death-Defying, Danger-Deriding, Dare-Devil Diving Cormack." Such is the arresting and alliterative description that Cormack, the highest of high divers, has won for himself during an eventful career. A man of varied accomplishments, Mr. Cormack for three months last year acted as manager of the Jungle at the Marine Gardens, Portobello, Edinburgh, where also his high diving furnished the season's attractions. Mr. Cormack is an Irishman, but has spent most of his time in Australia, where he has performed with celebrated aggregations, including those of Prince's Court, Melbourne, Wirth's Greatest Show on Earth; the Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; and Christchurch Exhibition, New Zealand.

A collection of photographs in his possession shows Cormack diving from dizzy heights, watched by enormous crowds of people. He figured, it will be remembered, at the Crystal Palace on Variety Artists' Federation Day, when he effected the highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, in the presence of 13,000 people. On that occasion Mr. Cormack was fully convinced that he was diving to his doom, and when he emerged from the tank safe and sound nobody was more surprised than himself.

Mr. Cormack has a fine physique, being 6ft. 1in. in height, 14st. 9lb. in weight, and 45in. round the chest. He, nevertheless, never goes lower than 4ft. in the water, and seldom feels any shock.

DIVING CORMACK.

When there is a wind, however, he sometimes strikes the water at a wrong angle, and jars his chest slightly. Once when the wind was extra strong, he struck the edge of the tank, and dislocated his shoulder, a circumstance that necessitated a suspension of the feat for several days. Mr. Cormack, it should be added, holds a diving championship, beating thirty-seven other competitors from all over the world.

Mr. Cormack's newest sensations are the "Monte Cristo" dive, in the course of which he is enveloped in a sack, which is set on fire, the performer freeing himself when he reaches the water, and the "Circle of Death" dive, consisting of a dash through a fire-bound space, 4ft. square, into a tank from a height of 80ft. The latter feat was originated by Professor Peart, who lost his life in the attempt in Sydney, Australia, in 1902.

An exciting incident, of which Mr. Cormack was the hero, occurred during his term of management at the Marine Gardens Jungle. One of the young lady animal tamers was escorting a couple of panthers from their cages to the arena, when the brutes suddenly sprang at the girl, lacerating her breast, tearing a thigh, and inflicting a severe wound on the scalp. With great courage Mr. Cormack rushed to the assistance of the lady, and by firing his revolver, which was loaded with blank cartridge, succeeded in beating off the infuriated animals at no inconsiderable danger to himself. Another example of Mr. Cormack's pluck and readiness was furnished a few years ago, when he dived into 40ft. of water and saved a man from drowning. One of the events of Mr. Cormack's managership of the Jungle was the visit of Mr. George Alexander, the distinguished actor, who performed the ceremony of christening a couple of lion cubs. Another interesting occasion which Cormack recalls is that of officiating as "best man" at a wedding celebrated in a lion's den, the function passing off with the utmost *éclat*, despite the fact that the principals were surrounded by a half-score of lions, who regarded the proceedings with interest.

Cormack's intrepid feats provide an unequalled attraction for parks, piers, exhibitions, &c., and the coming season should find his services largely in demand.

SHINE v. MOSS' EMPIRES.

Sir Herbert Tree had stated that the play in
  which he tripped and fell
And hurt his nether branches was *Fedora*; he
  remembered well.
Now Shelton says the drama was *A Bunch of
  Violets* instead,
But from *The Era's* file 'tis plain the piece was as
  Sir Herbert said.
    And so, you see,
    Sir Herbert Tree
  May still march on with head erect,
    But thoughtless Bert
    Is greatly hurt
  To find he's wholly incorrect.
Some years ago, we understand that Bertie Shel-
  ton used to be
Employed as acting-manager to Sir (then Mr.)
  Herbert Tree.
But as his services are now no longer used where
  Tree's about,
It would appear Sir Herbert Tree can gently jog
  along without.
    And though it may
    Be best to say
  That this must be an oversight,
    We quite agree
    Sir Herbert Tree
  In this affair is also right. S. L. J.

Mr. Geo. Dickinson, the courteous acting-manager at the Glasgow Gaiety, is to have a benefit on Tuesday, March 29, when special attractions are promised.

Mr. Fred Edwards and Miss May Edouin left England on Saturday for South Africa, where they open on the 26th inst. at the Opera House, Cape Town. It will be a tour round the world. The company includes Miss Bertha Northam, the Mystic Weimars (telepathists), and Mr. Green.

Miss Evelyn O'Connor (of Jack and Evelyn) occupied a box at the Grand, Glasgow, on Monday, and was an appreciative spectator of the fun provided in *Mother Goose* by her brother, Jack O'Connor, and Neil Kenyon, Fred Allandale, and the other members of a clever company.

Miss Bertha de Pas is unfortunately suffering from a severe cold contracted through the severe weather in the North, in consequence of which she is unable to fulfil her engagements in South Wales. The various managements have kindly postponed her dates for two or three weeks through the representations of her agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

"A MEDICAL MUDDLE."

Farcical Sketch, in One Scene, by Edward Marris, Produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, on Monday, Feb. 28.

Teddy Granmere ..... Mr. Edward Marris
Bertie Westminster ..... Mr. Walter Nugent
Maudie Maybud ..... Miss Ethel Ward

A highly amusing trifle in the entertainment at the Canterbury is the above-named sketch, which proves to be an excerpt from *The Dandy Doctor*, a musical burlesque, with which its author, Mr. Edward Marris, has toured the theatres successfully for a number of years. It exactly suited the tastes of a music-hall audience, who found the adventures of a racing man in a doctor's surgery very diverting. The genial "sport" calling upon the owner of the surgery to transact some racing business, is mistaken for the doctor himself, and enters whole-heartedly into the fun occasioned thereby. His dosing of a dude who comes to him for relief is very laughable, a voluminous book containing remedies for all the ills that flesh is heir to furnishing a fruitful source of mirth. Among the applicants for medical advice is a music-hall artist suffering from an injury to the knee, who affords the sporting man opportunity for further droll exploits, while the lady herself is induced to prove the efficacy of the treatment undergone by indulging in a lively dance.

The mirth of the playlet is maintained at high pressure by Mr. Edward Marris, a genuine comedian, whose resources for creating laughter are unlimited. As the breezy "sport" he keeps the house in high spirits, and reaps a rich harvest of laughs. He is ably supported by Mr. Walter Nugent, who is possessed of a remarkably penetrating voice, making a most amusing dude, and Miss Ethel Ward a dainty and fascinating Maudie Maybud, full of vivacity and charm. An elaborate set, in which every detail of a surgery seems to be reproduced, is carried. The experiment was decidedly successful.

As an extra turn on Wednesday evening a new duologue, entitled *A Marble Flirtation* was submitted. The story is simplicity itself, and shows how a young married sculptor, who favours the attire of a pantomime principal boy, falls in love with a statue. The wife, however, is a practical person, and scoffs at his devotion to the marble figure, but when the young man expresses in song his readiness to accompany it to "the end of the world," she determines to assert her rights, and changes places with the statue. She makes so presentable an appearance on the pedestal that the erring husband's love for her revives, and when the wife declares herself, he vows he will ever remain true.

The duologue was acted by Miss Edith Courtney and Miss Florence Wilton, the former playing the lover gallantly and singing very tunefully. Miss Wilton made a comedy part of the wife, and was the cause of much laughter, her acting during the singing by her companion of "Ah! che la morte," from *Il Trovatore*, being particularly quaint. She has some witty lines to deliver, as for example when she calls upon Lloyd George to help her, because the statue "taxes" her strength and she can't "budge it." The ladies worked unremittingly, and well won the applause bestowed on them.

Mr. Godfrey Hemsley of *From Scotland Yard* fame, has safely arrived in Melbourne, en route for Sydney, after a very successful run with his sketches *A Father's Love* and *A Living Lie*.

KITTEE RAYBURN

("Bright and Amusing."—*Vide Press.*)

Has been honoured by Lord Grey accepting the dedication of Her New Colonial Song

"WESTWARD HO!"

('Neath the dear old Union Jack).

Published by F., D., & H. By Percy Edgar.

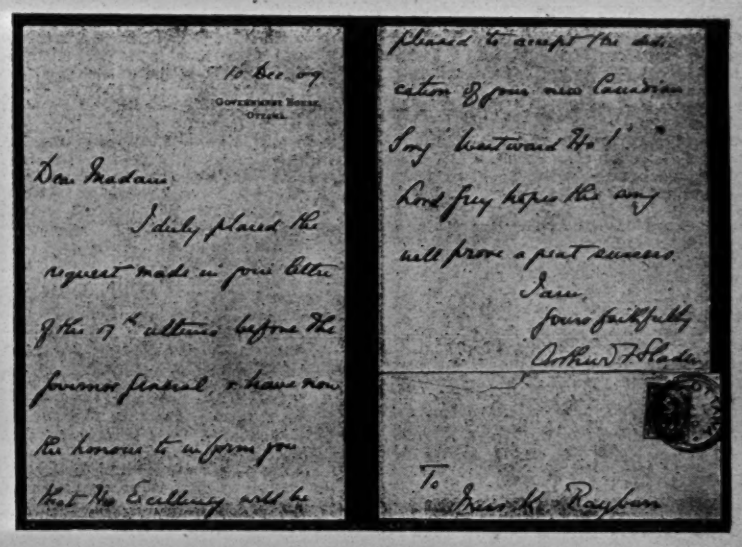

Also successful production of

"THE GIRL IN THE CHANTECLER HAT."

By J. P. Harrington, Frank Brighten, & Orlando Powell.

Published by Francis, Day, & Hunter.

KITTEE RAYBURN

RESTING.

MARCH 14 ... REGENT THEATRE, SALFORD.

Agents: Somers and Warner and Tom Claxton.

Re-engaged for Third Year by Wentworth Croke, Esq., to play Principal Boy, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, Xmas 1910/11.

Tele: GERRARD 9839.

THE
Theatrical
AND
Vaudeville Exchange.

Director-General—
MR. WILL COLLINS.

THIS Exchange is under the sole and personal control of Mr. Will Collins, who was recently General Manager for Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Thomas Barrasford's Enterprises, and also "The Syndicate Halls." Its object is to operate a perfect system of international booking for Theatrical and Vaudeville artistes of first grade only. To carefully guide Clients as to their engagements in every detail. Artists have the benefit of instruction as to travelling facilities, and their advertising wants arranged, &c. Their advance press and publicity matters are undertaken by an expert Press Agent. No detail is neglected in making every engagement lucid and thoroughly workable.

A sumptuous Reading and Writing Room is furnished for the use of Artistes, stocked with all the World's Theatrical Literature. Enquiries will be answered courteously on all matters concerning International Theatrical and Variety business.

ONLY ADDRESS:

BROADMEAD HOUSE, PANTON STREET, HAYMARKET, W.

VARIETY ARTISTS' CURLING MATCH.

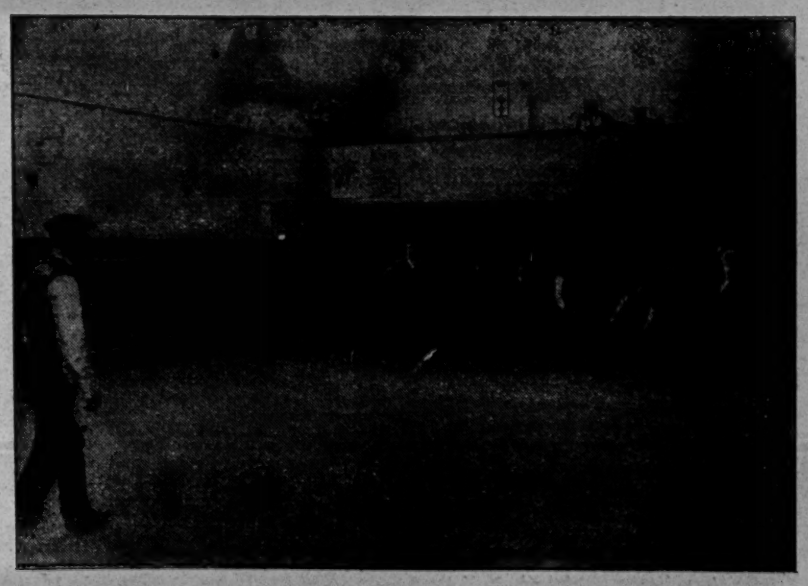

The above illustration is of a Variety Artists' Curling Match last week at the Roller Rink, Wishaw. The single figure in the foreground is that of T. Verne, and the figures immediately opposite—reading from left to right—are F. Meteor, D. Thomson, J. Rous, F. Camplin, Horace Wheatley, F. Nimso, H. Crawford, J. McKie. Verne's patent ball-bearing curlers were used.

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD

THIRD GENERAL MEETING.

There was a very good attendance at the third general meeting of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, on Thursday afternoon last.

Mrs. George Smythson was in the chair, and in the course of her opening remarks suggested that their annual general meeting should be held as near the 23rd of September as possible instead of being postponed from time to time as had hitherto obtained. They had no teas or any refreshments now from the Guild—the committee paid for their own refreshments entirely. Presentations were made from the private purses of every lady on the committee. Miss Melinda May, the Secretary, read the report and statement of accounts, as follows:—

REPORT FOR 1908-10.

The Executive Committee have pleasure in presenting this its third annual report and balance-sheet up to date, and wish to draw attention to the fact that it is the postponed general meeting which was originally intended to take place on Nov. 21, 1909, at the Oxford Music Hall. The committee, however, discovered that the majority of its working members could not be present on this date. It will be noticed that the committee list is greatly increased, and that a great many of the leading and influential members of the music hall profession are now giving their active support, helping in many ways to swell the funds. It is very gratifying to know that so many earnest supporters are appreciative of the good work, and the committee hope that many more will join and assist during the coming year. Several special collections have been made, in one instance to bury a poor dear little baby, in another instance to send a poor consumptive to a sanatorium for four months, which was paid for during the whole of the time, and she completely recovered her health. One poor man was in an asylum in the country; the committee looked after the wife in this instance. When, unfortunately, the poor man died the committee brought the wife to London and obtained her a good situation. In another case a home and employment was found for a whole family. The parents of another case are here in London, their children are being looked after in the provinces, the Guild helping to maintain them at school. The poor father, whose health is failing, has been assisted into a hospital; we hope soon to hear of his complete recovery.

THE L.G. OLD AGE PENSION.

The committee wish to draw special attention to maternity cases, for which they find doctor, nurse, nourishment, lending all linen and long clothing for a time, and then giving two full sets of shortening clothes as a gift. Most of these garments are made by the willing hands of the committee and members. During the first year we have had no less than nineteen maternity cases all of which we have helped. Another special feature of our work has been our endeavours to obtain, by writing and investigation, the probability of obtaining the old age pension for some of our poor and aged applicants. Another feature is to place deserving poor and unfortunate cases into homes for the blind where possible and visiting the sick. Although nothing definite has yet been done in reference to combining with Mr Joe Elvin's scheme—the "Variety Artists' Benevolent Institution"—the committee hope to work in harmony in the noble efforts to help the poor and needy. In the absence of Mrs. Fred Ginnet, our worthy president, the committee wish to express their appreciation and thanks for her untiring efforts on behalf of the Guild, who, although so many miles away, kindly sent a cheque for boots to be given to our poor pensioners and their children at Christmas time. Thanks are also due to Miss Maude Mortimer, the retiring vice-president, and also to Miss Belle Elmore, honorary treasurer, for her hard work during her year of office and organising the dinners, which, with the help of the committee, proved such an unqualified success, the first having realised a profit of £23 10s. 9d., the second, a vast improvement, showing a profit of £94 1s. The committee desires to state the work by the secretary of the Guild, Miss Melinda May, in investigating cases, coupled with her other duties, has been performed with ability, tact, and discretion.

Summary of Receipts and Payments, July 1, 1908, to Feb. 22, 1910.

Receipts.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To balance in hand July 1, 1908		141 8 10
Donations—		
M.H.A. Railway Association, £50 and £25	75 0 0	
Mr. Fred Sinclair	5 5 0	
Mr. Joe Elvin	10 10 0	
Mr. James Nelson	5 0 0	
Mr. Phil Ray	5 0 0	
Sundry persons	61 15 2	
		162 10 2
Subscriptions, Members' Fees, and Executive Members' Fees		69 11 6
Collections		94 7 4
Sales of Work, &c.		63 12 10
Badges		6 11 0
Christmas Tree Donations		42 5 2
Dinners—		
Sept. 6, 1908:		
Receipts 35 8 0		
Expenses 6 17 3		
	28 10 9	
Sept. 26, 1909:		
Receipts 103 1 0		
Expenses 14 0 0		
	94 1 0	
		122 11 9
		£702 18 7

Payments.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Stationery and Printing	36 7 3	
Newspapers and Advertisements	9 11 7	
Secretary's Fares	4 0 5	
" Salary	124 7 6	
Rent (one year)	31 0 0	
Gas and Electric Light	2 9 11	
Removal Expenses	1 17 6	
General Meeting Expenses	1 12 0	
Postages and Telegrams and General Expenses, including Teas	62 7 7	
Badges	4 16 0	
		278 9 9
Food, Clothing, and Assistance to poor Artists		135 8 11
Christmas Tree Treat and Dinner to Poor Children		35 19 0
Balance at Bank Feb. 22, 1910		253 0 11
		£702 18 7

Audited and found correct,
Hyland and Riches,
Chartered Accountants.
31, Cannon-street, London, E.C., Feb. 26, 1910.

THE COMMITTEE'S GRATEFUL THANKS.

The committee of the Guild return grateful thanks to all those kind friends who have helped us in our noble charity:—The Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund for kind co-operation, in no case having refused their assistance; to Dr. Walker, Camberwell-road; to Dr. Burroughs, City-road; to Dr. O'Dwyer, Hackney-road; to Dr. Loudon Gordon, Edmonton; to Dr. J. J. Oakman, Battersea; to Nurse Baxter, Streatham; to the seventy medical gentleman in the provinces who have so kindly and generously promised to attend to all Guild cases in their districts free of charge; to the Rev. Arthur Brinkman and the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund for letters to enable us to place patients in hospitals and homes; to the clergy; to Messrs. Roberts, Seyd, and Co., Regent-street, honorary solicitors; to the M.H.A.R.A. for their generous donations; to Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, Waterloo-road, and Mr. Morris Angel, Shaftesbury-avenue, costumiers, for many kindnesses received from them; to the gentlemen of the Press; and to Mr. Joe Zarmo for his splendid gift of a motor bicycle, which realised the handsome sum of £30 19s.

Mrs. Smythson said: I can only speak of the work of the committee from the experience of a very few months, though I have from the commencement been a member of the Guild. But during the brief period I have been privileged to assist the committee I have seen much excellent work accomplished and much progress made. Our finances have now been put upon a sound business basis. A weekly financial statement of income and expenditure is placed before the committee which enables us to know exactly how we stand at any moment. And our books are kept in a business-like manner, and I wish to take this opportunity to express our hearty appreciation and thanks to our accountants, Messrs. Hyland and Riches, who have spared no pains to assist us in this direction. If the ladies of the profession generally only knew the great number of necessitous cases we have to deal with weekly, I feel sure a greater number would assist us in this necessary work.

Mrs. C. C. Bartram, in support, said: No incident has impressed me as has the Christmas tree and treat given to the children of the poor of the profession at the Horns, Kennington, last Christmas week. How their little faces brightened with joy when they saw the great Christmas tree laden with pretty toys and the tables heaped with good cheer. What a happy afternoon they had! It was more than recompense for the work of the committee just to see the sunshine it brought into the usually dull lives of the poor little mites. Several of these little children were brought to the treat almost in rags, and painfully few even of those. They were stripped and entirely reclothed, and sent away warm, happy, and comfortable. And now, in conclusion, I want to urge the ladies of the profession to give us more help. I want you to tell as many as you can how much we need their assistance, until all are lending a helping hand. Make a resolution to-day to devote a little time to the Guild work every day, even if only fifteen minutes, and during that time to collect a few coppers, or do some fancy or plain sewing for us. Carry that resolution into effect to-morrow and every morrow of the year. If every lady of the profession would do this, we would not only soon have all the cash we so urgently require, but from the accumulated fancy work we would be able to hold an annual bazaar for the sale of these goods, which, I am sure, would be well patronised, and would gladly assist our funds. Woman's work is many-sided, but the greatest of that work must always remain—Charity. We, therefore, want every woman in the profession to give a helping hand to the Ladies' Guild. If you do not know just what to do to help us, come up to 61, New Oxford-street, any Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock, and we will be glad to tell you. You are always welcome.

Mr. Fred Herbert moved the adoption of the report. He said he had presided over many general meetings, but it was the first time he had been present at a meeting presided over by a lady. It was a very hard matter for a body of ladies to do all the things that were absolutely right. He had very great faith in the way the work was carried out on behalf of the Ladies' Guild. The Ladies' Guild had done everything possible in the cases the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund had sent them. Variety artists get large salaries—at least, some of them did—but the vast majority of the artists were in struggling circumstances, considering the expenses that had to be taken out of a weekly salary. Therefore the artists knew that in the event of falling on evil times the Guild was an institution on which they could fall in times of trouble. They got a great deal of abuse from undeserving people who did not get help from the V.A.B.F., and he supposed the Ladies' Guild would get their share of such treatment. He congratulated them upon the good assembly present, and hoped it would not be the last meeting he should be invited to attend.

Mr. Douglas Stuart seconded the report, and thanked Miss May for her assistance to the V.A.B.F. during the past year. He knew how hard Miss May worked.

"FOR CHARITY'S SWEET SAKE."

Miss Lil Hawthorne then read an appeal from the committee.

"The committee of the Guild earnestly ask the reader to remember this truthful text: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive,' and to follow its implied advice by assisting them to carry on the good work of relieving the destitute, feeding the hungry, and clothing the poorly clad. Surely it is a blessing to feel that one has been able in some small measure to lighten the sorrowful burden of the poor.

"The ladies of the Guild will attend to the administration of all that is donated and promise that it will be given only to the deserving. The reader has to do so little, just to post a cheque or an order. Think of the recompense—the reward and certain consciousness of well doing! Would that we could touch your hearts, and bring home to you the unhappy knowledge of the distress that should be, and must be, relieved every day the whole year through, with food, clothing, coal, medical attendance during illness, and the necessity of obtaining engagements for unemployed artists, which involves providing new stage costumes and properties, and even paying fares to get to their various engagements.

"One of our great events is the happiness brought into the lives of the dear little children at Christmas time, when we provide a huge Christmas tree, dinner, tea, concert, and games of all kinds, which would gratify the hearts of the givers did they but know. We had a real Santa Claus in costume, who sang and played to the children, distributing the toys from the huge Christmas tree, filled to its utmost capacity by the ladies of the committee, who worked from early morn till late at night, endeavouring to give the children a real happy Christmas. To quote the remark of our visitor, 'Ladies, it is worth all the trouble you have taken.'

"Those who live in the provinces are never forgotten; each year a parcel containing clothing, toys, sweets, &c., is posted to the children with a money order to enable the parents to have a large joint of English beef and plum pudding for their Christmas dinner.

"Beef, pudding, and clothing were also distributed at the Guild Rooms the day before Christmas to nearly forty families, so that everyone had a bright and happy Christmas. The parents have told us that the little mites have never ceased to speak of it, and look forward the same as ourselves to the great joy given by sending them home with arms filled with new clothing, boots, sweets and fruits. We beg of you to give from the depth of your heart, and you will not only have our gratitude, but the blessings of those whom we help through you."

Miss Lottie Albert said they did not give a lot of food away, but what they did give was good. She was present at the distribution last Christmas, and the sight she saw went to her heart. They were only ladies, and they needed a lot of help.

The Rev. Donald Hole said that a small meeting very often roused more enthusiasm than a large one. He had always found that in the former cases the members were the harder workers. The Actors' Church Union did not bar the Ladies' Guild, and the Ladies' Guild did not bar the Actors' Church Union. The work of the Ladies' Guild was a very great work, and he could not speak too highly in respect of the work of the ladies present. It would be a great thing if they could induce clergymen in many of the provincial towns to join with and help them. He congratulated them on the past year's results.

Miss Cecilia Macarte proposed a vote of thanks to the Press.

Miss Melinda May (secretary), on behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mr. Alec Barish, Liverpool, for arranging with the committee and Mr. Carasov, hon. secretary of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, for a collection to be made, which resulted in 35s., as follows:—By the ladies who so kindly gave their services: Mrs. John Foy, 8s.; Miss Ernestine Foy, 5s.; Miss Hollyhassen, 7s. 6d.; Miss Agnes Zambuhl, 5s. 6d.; Miss Elise Gardner, 5s.; and Mrs. Naughton (Naughton and Gold), 4s. Mrs. Terriss, collection 2s. 6d.; Mr. Roy Cochrane, manager, Surrey Theatre, six pairs of boys' new boots; Mr. Coombs (Castle Hotel, Tredegar), at the M.H.A.R.A. dinner, per Mrs. Fox, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Paul Martinetti, collection at the M.H.A.R.A. dinner, 10s.; Miss Indiana Smythson, at Empire, Bradford (result of hoop-la competition), 10s.; Mrs. Vernon Cowper's 2s. 6d. collection last week was from Mr. Austin Rudd; Mrs. Zola gave and collected 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Kitty Carson (founder of Theatrical Ladies' Guild), letters for hospital; two useful parcels of gentlemen's clothing, anonymous; Miss Lottie Albert, babies' new woollen jackets; and Mrs. Fred Slingsby, for kindness in visiting our cases in Manchester.

"THE ODD TRICK."

Farcical Absurdity, Produced at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday, Feb. 21.

General Blazeaway ..... Mr. Henry Hare
Angelina ..... Miss Frances Routledge
Edwin ..... Mr. Christopher Steele
Ananias Hustle ..... Mr. Geo. Martin

Full of funny lines and farcical situations and business, *The Odd Trick* kept Monday night's audience continually on the laugh during the quarter of an hour or so it occupied the stage. Angelina Blazeway, the fascinating daughter of an American millionaire, and Edwin, a dude, are determined to wed, but Blazeway strongly objects to the union, and the couple come to implore the assistance of Ananias Hustle, a registrar of marriages. After they have explained matters he promises to marry them for a consideration; but the irate Blazeaway is heard outside, and Edwin and Angelina beg Hustle to protect them. He tells the girl to go into an adjoining room and disguise herself as a young man, and Edwin dons a smock and wideawake hat, mounts a ladder and assumes the character of a painter. The fiery Blazeaway, armed with a six-shooter, demands to see his daughter and the scoundrel who has lured her away from home, and, of course, Hustle denies all knowledge of the young couple. Edwin slaps the paint-brush in Blazeaway's face when he becomes too inquisitive, and although he sees in the dapper office-boy a striking resemblance to his daughter, he has no suspicion as to the "boy's" identity. When Blazeaway has departed Edwin breathes freely once again, but the millionaire is soon heard returning, and Hustle then tells the dude to hide in a huge box. Safely hidden in this he manages to perpetrate many indignities on his prospective father-in-law by popping out when the latter's back is turned, and the angry Blazeaway accuses Hustle of fooling him. The astute matrimonial agent, who is determined to marry the young couple and get the dollars, then tells the General of a ruse whereby the young man can be made to think he is marrying Angelina. His plan is that the office-boy (really Angelina) shall dress up as a girl and wed Edwin. The millionaire thinks it an excellent joke, and pictures Edwin's discomfiture when he finds out how he has been fooled. When Edwin and Angelina are man and wife, Blazeaway is made aware of the trick that has been played on him, and also compelled at the pistol's point to give them his blessing, confessing he has been beaten by "an odd trick."

The farce was played with a briskness and a bustle essential in a piece of this description, Mr. Henry Hare being very funny as the fiery and firearm discharging General Blazeaway; Mr. Christopher Steele submitting a humorous enactment of Edwin, the dude with an inane giggle; Mr. George Martin contributing largely to the success of the farcelet by his droll portrayal of the wily Ananias Hustle; and Miss Frances Routledge portraying the fair and fascinating Angelina admirably, especially laughable being the incident when, dressed as a boy, she has to imitate the walk and deportment of a girl.

"THE DUD OF THE FAMILY; or, THE WORST WOMAN IN THE PROFESSION."

Burlesque Melodrama, Written by Harold Montague, Produced at the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, Feb. 27.

John Smith ..... Mr. Fred Stephens
Emily Smith ..... Mr. Alfred Thomas
Gladys Smith ..... Mr. Walter Walters
Harold Hardup ..... Mr. Robert Dennant
William Posada ..... Mr. George Robins
Gertrude Uphenphum ..... Mr. Wilson James
Bill Bashem ..... Mr. Harry Ruming
Walter Jones ..... Mr. Harry Briden
Richard Marsh ..... Mr. Harold Montague
Waiter ..... Mr. Bret Hayden

This piece, which was dedicated with due humility to the members of the Concert Artists' Benevolent Association, shows how Gladys Smith, known as the "Dud" because she has "only booked fourteen benefits since Christmas," falls in love with Harold Hardup. They plan an elopement, which is frustrated by William Posada, a villain. William shoots a waiter at a concert because he will only supply one syphon of soda water in the artists' room. Harold is accused of the crime and sentenced to death. Of course, all comes right in the end, and Harold and Gladys fall in to one another's arms, surrounded by the dead bodies of the rest of the cast. The burlesque, which was produced in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Concert Artists' Benevolent Association, contained many sly hits at the profession, and the spectacle of a comic singer trying to get into Dartmoor Prison—on his card—in order to get away from the annual benefit season was hilarious in the extreme. A notice "Love One Another," hung up in the artists' room at the Frocadero Restaurant, where the second act takes place, caused much amusement.

The entire cast was excellent in every way, and Mr. William Sparks, the energetic chairman for the evening, announced that the fund would benefit to the extent of £50, including donations from Mr. Fred Terry, Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Queenie Leighton, Mr. James Welch, Miss Isabel Jay, Mr. Ernest Devereux, and others.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

2,635½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

	£ s. d.
Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley	20 2 0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6 15 0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5 10 6
Collected by Berry Hope	4 5 0
Collected by Geo. French	1 13 0
Collected by The Craggs	1 11 0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1 11 0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1 10 0
Collected by Ted E. Box	1 10 0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1 7 0
Collected by Scener and Fridkins	1 6 0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1 6 0
Collected by Welda and Wynne	1 5 0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1 5 0
Collected by Jimmy Shields	1 5 0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1 5 0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1 5 0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1 4 0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1 4 0
Harry Tich	1 4 0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1 3 0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1 3 0
Collected by Atroy	1 2 0
Bros Webb	1 1 0
Hymack	1 1 0
Gus Elen	1 1 0
Charles Weldon	1 1 0
Harry Fragson	1 0 0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore	0 17 0
E.	0 10 0
Ralph Pringle	0 10 0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0 9 0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0 3 0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0 2 0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1 0 0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £23 1s. 6d.

Joe Elvin	105	John Tiller	20
Wee George Wood	21	Ada Reeve	20
Eugene Cremetti	20	George Robey	20
Ernest Polden	20	E. Essayan	10
Alfred Butt	20	A. D. Carter	10
Harry Lewis	20	Peter Watson	10
George Essayan	20	F. A. Badman	10
Harvey du Cros, jun.	20	E. J. K. Savage	10
Walter Gibbons	20	E. T. Steyne	2½
J. Amery Parkes	20	Fred Sinclair	1
Frank Allen	20	A Friend	1
Herbert Sleath	20	Gus Elen	1
Will Sley	20		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £11 0s. 6d.

A. Oddenino	21	A. Campbell	5
Alec Hurley	21	B. Warner	5
Arthur Prince	20	J. Hamnett	2½
F. Mouillot	20	S. Africa	2½
F. A. K. Hounsell	20	E. A. Pickering	2½
S. Solmersitz	20	Stanley Pyke	2½
Peter Lawton	10	S. S.	2½
Isaac Prockter	10	Ernest Pyke	2½
J. Eric Clegg	10	Fred Farren	2½
L. H. Bauer	10	J. H. Adams	2½
Wm. T. Hill	10	S. B. Winter	2½
M. Pyke	10	Gus Elen	1
F. Breakell	5		

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £4 9s.

Margaret Cooper	10	E. Bryant	2½
Violet Vanbrugh	10	W. B.	2½
Arthur Bourchier	10	Frank Damer	2½
Eli Hudson	5	Jack North	2
Olga and Elgar	5	Gibbon and Bell	2
Les Trombetta	5	Victor Brothers	2
Tschin Maa	5	Durants	2
C. S. Richardson	4	Jack Lorimer	2
Nancy St. John	2½	T. Deutsch	2
Barclay Gammon	2½	Harry Vardon	1
Albert Mackelvin	2½	W. F. Moss	1
E. H. Mills	2½	Gus Elen	1
E. B.	2½		

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley, £1 5s.

B. G. Maclachlan	1	Tom Pacey	1
Tom Pacey	1	W. Edelsten	1
Ryder Slone	1	John Lawson	1
Leo Fritz	1	Sam Hart	1
Leo Fritz	1	E. Edelsten	1
Leo Fritz	1	Joe Peterman	1
Tom Pacey	1	Josephine Sabel	1
Ernest Warner	1	Leo Fritz	1
Willie Edelsten	1	Dave Cohen	1
Papa Brown	1	Felice Napoli	1
Walter Hast	1	Papa Goode	1
Paul Murray	1	Gus Elen	1
Leo Fritz	1		

Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan, £1 5s.

Joe O'Gorman	3	Michael Nolan's Neice	1
Agnes Hazel	1½	R. E. Wade	1
Michael Nolan	1½	Richard Barclay	1
Aggie Nolan	1	Harry Barclay	1
Bert Nolan	1	Fred Malcolm	1
Olive West	1	G. Barclay, jun.	1
La Belle Linda	1	Joe Hayman	1
Ben Webster	1	Morny Cash	1
Mike Asher	1	Irma Lorraine (Mrs. O'G.)	1
Hy. Pocock	1	Gus Elen	1
Thos. Pocock	1		
Michael Nolan's Sister	1		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robins, £1 5s.

Fanny Robins	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham	1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer	1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read	1	H. Cromwell Bush	1
Elsie Wright	1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips	1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred R. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley	1		

Collected by Rowland Hill, £1 4s.

Rowland Hill	1	Neil Emerald	1
Little Mamie Hill	1	Lily Black	1
Ralph Howard	1	Minnie Muir	1
Nellie Howard	1	Annie Schuberth	1
Eric George	1	Archie McCaig	1
Marriott Edgar	1	Harry Corton	1
Harry E. Ray	1	John Alexander	1
Kit Keen	1	Harry Radford	1
H. Valdo	1	Dick Tubb	1
J. Valdo	1	Alf. Corri	1
Cyril Thompson	1	"Ye Dame"	1
José Collins	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ruby Dahl, £1 9s.

Geo. Barratt	2½	H. Gotham	1
Ruby Dahl	1½	Nora Stockelle	1
The Woods	1½	Morris and Moore	1
Harry Blake	1	Mayme Cannon	1
A. J. Girling	1	F. T.	1
Mammie Winstone	1	H. C. Lovell	1
Bella Gordon	1	J. Julian	1
M. B.	1	Alice Gill	1
J. D.	1	Netty Janowsky	1
Haroid Finden	1	Eli Hudson	1
A. P. Moeller	1	Carr and Rose	1
K. Girling	1	Gus Elen	1
Edith Keppel	1	T W.	
Florence, Yaymen	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan	10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole	5		

Collected by Miss Florrie Forde, £1 11s.

Anonymous	8	Miss Belmont	1
Florrie Forde	5	Bert Byrne	1
Mr. Badcoe	2	Jessie Pullin	1
Dr. —, Burnley	2	Will Lindsay	1
Burley and Burley	2	Jack Hughes	1
Florodoros	2	Ciss Churton	1
Edie Colville	1	Vic. Cross	1
Mac	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich	3	Mr. R. Knaepper	1
Mr. Harry Alaska	1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska	1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun.	1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun.	1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio	1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph	1	A New Julia	1
Mme. Recio	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway	1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway	1	Mr. Hamilton Wardden	1
Michael Madden	1	Miss Louie Love	1
Miss Queenie King	1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls	1	Two Derby Nuts	1
Miss Ada Lucelle	1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen	1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths	1	Miss May Garry	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore	1	The Lady Goldfish	1
Wallace Bosco	1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson	1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter	1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note	1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway	1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen	1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser	1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian	1	Humpsti Bumsti	1
W. H. McCarthy	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzletov	1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown	1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart	1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer	1		

Collected by Carl and Carr, 16s.

Manitto Klitgaard	2	Carl and Carr	1
Harry Carr	1	S. J.	1
Max Carl	1	Gus Elen	1
Masie, St. Hilary	1	N. Manning	½
D. Scott	1	G. Spirack	½
E Davey	1	Neville Delmar	½
Austen Temple	1	J. R.	½
Washee	1	J. Bishop	½
Kittee Rayburn	1	F. S.	½

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (2nd card), £1 2s.

Geo. Gulliver	2	J. Glenville	1
Bert Williams	1	The Carlyles	1
Geo. Cooke	1	H. Brett	1
Kathleen Moore	1	Gus Elen	1
F. C. Craig, sen.	1	Lucy Jim	½
J. C. Faure	1	Tatcho	½
Minnie Wheaton	1	Tom E. Oliver	½
Ward and Davis	1	Peter Piper	½
Harry Paolia	1	Fred Bauer	½
Percy Galino	1	Gene Strauss	½
G. Barclay, jun.	1	R. C. Note	½
Mundill and Maude	1	J. Enzer	½
Warren, Northampton	1		

Collected by Little Fred Zola, £1 18s.

Kate Carney	5	Clarence Hotel	1
Marie Lloyd	5	Mr. Tyler	1
Mattison	2½	Flo Dora	1
Fred Emney	2½	Mrs. Fred Zola	1
K O. P.	2	Frank Zola	1
Tom Lee	2	Maudie Zola	1
Stone Troupe	2	Grandma Zola	1
Tom Payne	1	"Zol Zol," the dog	1
Delome	1	Syd Walker	1
Tom J. Waldron	1	Bros Obo	1
Coverdale	1	Maudie Scott	1
Phillips	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Theodore Jones, £1 4s.

Harry Laborde	1	Dulcie Lawrence	1
Theodore Jones	1	Isa Gibson	1
Carton Hicks	1	Nina St. Elmo	1
Percy E. Wright	1	Mlle. Bartanelli	1
Teddy Worth	1	Nellie Stuart	1
W E.	1	Maud Hastings	1
H. E.	1	Madam Sara	1
E. Blackster	1	Horace Lee	1
Jack Hayton	1	Nettie Ross	1
Allways Ready	1	Ethel Blackstor	1
Fred Boulton	1	Charles Elderton	1
The Vic (?), Shields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Hayman and Franklin, £1 8s.

Joe Hayman	2	Gus Barra	1
Harriet Vernon	2	George Kempt	1
Frank Poole	1	The Carlyles	1
Edith St. Clare	1	A. Daunton Shaw	1
W. B. McMillan	1	Mr. Sid Macaire	1
Bob King	1	H. Wheatley	1
Fred Russell	1	Mrs. Pirman	1
Harry Marlow	1	Hampton and Bauman	1
Vera Vere	1	George F. Hall	1
J. Calder	1	Leslie Race	1
P. G.	1	Hersleb Bros.	1
Phil and Nettie Peters	2	Gus Elen	1
Eddy Martyn	1		

Collected by Cullen and Carthy, £1 1s.

J. Cullen	5	T. Drew	1
A. Carthy	5	H. Cluley	1
Bessie Cohen	2	Kearns and Vasey	1
Maudie Ford	1	May and Leslie	1
Dolly Cullen	1	A. Stratton	1
Elsie Jordison	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by the Michel Bros., 3s. 6d.

Michel	1½	Gus Elen	1
Dort-Leonard	1		

Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby, 12s.

Sue R. Lewis	1	Lonie Formby	1
Maud Westwood	1	George Formby, jun.	1
Frank Westwood	1	Francis Formby	1
Leo Derenda	1	Another Formby	1
George Formby

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Peters Lifts £60.

THE final of the one mile roller-skating professional tournament, open to the world, was held at Earl's Court last Saturday evening. The huge rink was packed to capacity limit. Prior to this, however, the dead heat of Friday night between C. J. Wilson and A. H. Bear was run off, and resulted in favour of Wilson by six yards in 3min. 20sec. The final was contested by the two competitors who had scored most wins during the week, and these were the Americans, Allie Moore and Rodney Peters. After several false starts, Peters got off with the lead, and at the end of the first lap was two or three yards to the good. In each circuit Moore made efforts to get level in the straights, but Peters kept ahead, and won by five yards, in 3min. 12 1-5sec., the fastest time recorded throughout the meeting. The first prize was £60, and the second £20.

Concerning Rodney Peters.

RODNEY PETERS, who has just won the mile roller-skating championship of the world, has had a brilliant career. He has only been racing seriously for three years, and in the last two has carried all before him. The present boom in the States brought him to the front, and having won five world's championships in his own country, he came to England to meet our best. Among seven competitors for the prize at Earl's Court five were Englishmen, who did not seriously trouble the winner, and he had to meet Moore in the final, whom he readily defeated.

A Fine Record.

PETERS is twenty-one years of age, so he has time in front of him to win everything the world has on offer. Last year he won world's championships at Pittsburg, Chicago, and Indianapolis. He also held the Harmon Cup in the States. Trying for the mile record he did it in 2min. 46 2-5sec., but afterwards failed to obtain official recognition for it. Peters has a wonderful turn of speed, and, added to his impetuosity, he makes fast times. If he has anything in hand over an opponent he goes all out and wins by a distance. Restraint is an unknown quantity to him. His style is perfect when going round a track. With his hands folded high up his back, and bending low, he gets over the ground with a machine-like ease. To win his race he unfolds his hands, and with a flying stride astounds spectators with his speed.

Will Harloy Davidson meet Peters?

IT is to be hoped that a match can be arranged between Peters and Harley Davidson—who is on his way here from America—for a purse which the Empress Rink will put up. On this side Harley Davidson has done a mile in 2min. 50sec.

Last Day at Olympia.

LAST Monday saw the finish of the present roller-skating season at Olympia.

Liane de Lou.

MR. BARNES, Holland Park's energetic manager, is doing his utmost to eclipse the Olympia carnival with his big event of Friday, 11th inst. The prize list insures a very large number of competitors. One of those already entered is the famous Parisian beauty, Liane de Lou, who made such a great sensation with a startling Oriental costume at Ostend last summer. The fair Liane will be attended by six Moorish maidens.

Last Skating Carnival at C.P.

NEXT Wednesday the last fancy-dress skating carnival of the season will be held at the Crystal Palace. The programme will be as follows:—6.30, general skating; 8, judging of costumes; 8.45, award of prizes; 9 till 10.15, general skating. Handsome prizes (which are on view in the Centre Transept) will be awarded to the successful competitors.

Why Not Open-Air Rinks?

THE White City is a place of vast spaces, therefore the *Star* suggests: "Why not asphalt one of the vastest, and make a great open-air skating-rink, for the summer months when it is too warm to skate indoors? Earl's Court might very well follow suit. Asphalt instead of the present gravel would convert the present Empress Court into an ideal rink, with a bandstand ready in the middle. There is money in the idea—and it would undoubtedly appeal to the public."

The Richardson Trophy.

THE Richardson Cup, which will be competed for in the figure championship on March 16, is now on view at Maida Vale, and is one of the finest trophies ever presented to a sporting association. Every figure skater of repute has promised to compete, and as tests are being held by the N.S.A. at Liverpool, probably more talent will be discovered.

John Davidson's Latest.

AT the Worcester Roller Skating Rink last week John Davidson, attired in a striking blue costume, trimmed with fur, gave a very clever turn. Davidson jumped the height of 3ft. 10in., and gave a very amusing imitation of a beginner's first essay in the art.

"Silent Ice Floors."

NEW SKATING PALACES, LTD., has been formed to construct roller-skating rinks and electric theatres, and it is proposed to erect one of each kind at East Dulwich-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.; one of each kind at Brixton Hill, Brixton, London, S.W.; and also one of each kind at Burnt Ash Hill, Lee, London, S.E., and to acquire and construct roller-skating rinks and electric theatres in other districts as and when favourable opportunities are offered. The company has secured, on most favourable terms, the sole rights for Great Britain and the whole of Europe for Alexander Macgregor's process for making silent imitation ice-floors, which yield a skating surface almost equal to real ice.

Coming Catford Carnival.

A MASKED fancy-dress skating carnival will be held at the Central Hall, Catford, on Thursday, March 17, 1910. Valuable prizes will be awarded.

Committed for Trial.

MR. CHARLES BYNG HALL, managing-director of the County Skating Rink, Kingston, has been committed for trial on a charge—brought under the Disorderly Houses Act—of keeping the rink open and allowing a band to perform in it without having a music and dancing licence.

Phillips at Kingston.

CHARLES D. PHILLIPS, the "champion free skater of Great Britain," has been giving displays at 4.30 and 9 each day this week at the Central Hall, Kingston. Phillips claims to be the leading exponent of the international style of figure skating, and has won many trophies for his skill.

Empress Rink Champion Wins at Maida Vale.

IT remained to be seen how the visitors to the N.S.A. One Mile Championship, held at Maida Vale Rink on Wednesday last, would fare in competition with such experts as are to be found in the ranks of the Lava S.C., one of whose members, D. M. Swain, succeeded in lowering the one mile amateur record of 3min. 24 3-5sec., set up by C. J. Wilson, by 7sec. in the London *v.* Birmingham tournament at Brixton a fortnight ago. With the Southern Counties champion, H. F. O'Hagan (Empress), who in the event at Earl's Court on Feb. 9 only worsted Swain by inches in a very fine race, J. T. Cooper (the Midland Counties champion), and J. Price (Lava S.C.) (the holder of the N.S.A. mile championship and Benetfink Cup) among the competitors, some very fine racing was anticipated.

Maida Vale Track.

THE track is 7½ laps to the mile, and the event gave one an idea of the abilities of the Midland Counties champion, J. T. Cooper, for in his heat he had nobody good enough to extend him, and he romped home an easy winner by about 40yds. in 3min. 17 1-5sec., which was 2-5sec. better than the previous best for the distance. One of the surprises of the evening was the defeat of the holder of the championship, J. Price (Lava S.C.), in his heat by his fellow-member, S. F. Casey. Price qualified for the final by reason of being the fastest second, and H. O'Hagan (Empress S.C.) was successful in his heat. It was anybody's race until after the bell, but spills put Cooper and two other competitors out of the running, and a great race between O'Hagan, Price, and E. W. Bussey (Lava S.C.) in the straight saw the first-named successful by inches only from the holder.

The Officials and the Final.

Officials:—Judges, Messrs. G. M. Campbell, A. March, and Colonel G. T. B. Cobbett; starter, Mr. H. G. Brockman; timekeepers, Messrs. H. J. Barclay, and D. K. Hall; lap-scorer, Mr. J. C. Poole.

FINAL.—H. F. O'Hagan, Empress, 1; J. Price, Lava, 2; E. W. Bussey, Lava, 3; D. M. Swain, Lava, 4; S. F. Casey, Lava, 0; J. T. Cooper, Birmingham, 0; C. Wiedhoff, Ilford, 0. Casey, Price, Cooper, and O'Hagan were the leaders at two laps, and just later Price went up, only to be displaced by O'Hagan, who led at the bell, followed by Price and Casey. A spill had put Cooper out of the running, and a great finish resulted in O'Hagan's favour by the merest shade. Time, 3min. 19 1-5sec.

Maida Vale Carnival.

THE first fancy-dress carnival at the Maida Vale Skating Palace will be held on Wednesday next, when £100 in cash will be awarded in prizes. A full military band will be in attendance. Competitors' tickets (including use of skates) can be obtained at the rink, price 5s. each. Over 4,000 skaters can be accommodated on the Maida Vale rink.

Eighty-two Shillings.

GEORGE FREDERICK MORGAN, of the Queen's Hall Rink, Peckham, was summoned for having on Dec. 21, Feb. 8 and 19 unlawfully kept open for the purpose of public entertainment without having obtained the grant of a certificate from the London County Council. Mr. Thomas Chilvers, appearing on behalf of the Council, said that the defendant applied to the Council in November last for a music and dancing licence, and he had also on more than one occasion submitted plans for approval of the Council with a view to obtaining a certificate. The Council refused to grant a music and dancing licence. The Council had granted him a provisional licence. Up to the present time the defendant had not completed the hall in accordance with the plans which he submitted to the Council. Since Nov. 23 the defendant had been using the hall for the purpose of skating. The music was supplied by an orchestrion. Answering a question by Mr. Philip Conway, who defended, Sub-divisional Inspector Lee said that the defendant was well known in public life in Peckham, and was a member of the Borough Council. Penalty 40s. and 42s. costs.

For Lady Amateurs.

THE Peerless Roller Skate Company, Ltd., 14, Great Smith-street, S.W., are prepared to put up for competition a handsome silver cup, to be competed for on a date and rink to be arranged. The competition is open to young ladies over the age of fourteen, the distance to be one mile. The *Sporting Life* will appoint the referee.

Jumped and Saved Himself.

ON Saturday last the Wandsworth Speed Club held their initial race, a mile handicap. The prize was a gold medal, given by Mr. Rowley, president of the club. Ten members took part, including J. Lunn, scratch; A. Sutton, 5yds.; S. E. Hunt, 10yds.; B. Botting, 15yds.; Hayward, Bartlett, and Campbell were limit, each receiving three-quarters of a lap. Everybody got off the mark in fine style. At the first lap Hunt fell, and Sutton, who was following, made an exceptionally fine jump, and managed to clear the fallen man. At the seventh lap Lunn was leading everybody with the exception of Hayward, who was going in fine style. The race now rested with these two, and, after a very good race, Hayward eventually won by 2yds. Mr. Doland, the floor-manager and club handicapper, is to be congratulated on the arranging of the handicap.

Wood Green's First Carnival.

ON Thursday next, March 10, a fancy-dress carnival will take place at the North London Skating Rink, Wood Green. Mr. A. F. Wilson, the general-manager, has arranged to give prizes for handsome costumes. Sergeant Lightning, of Earl's Court fame, and his full force has promised to be present, consequently, the fun should be fast and furious. Mr. H. T. Boys, the local manager, is having the rink decorated. This will be Wood Green's first carnival.

Ayr Pavilion.

PROBABLY in no town in Scotland is rinking more popular than it is in Ayr, and the Saturday opening of the "Pav." is much appreciated by devotees of this exhilarating pastime.

Rinking Popular at Ballsbridge.

AT Olympia Rink, Ballsbridge, there were either competitions or other attractions every evening during last week. On Monday night the "Team Race" was started, which was run off in relays during the week, and was the source of great interest to skaters and spectators alike, resulting in a victory for Mr. Anslow's team by half a lap. First prize was gained by Miss Ada Bell and Mr. A. H. Allen. Saturday afternoon gatherings at Olympia have now become quite a recognised feature in Dublin social life, and the reunion there last Saturday was quite as largely attended as ever. Lady M'Donnell, Miss M'Donnel and party, Sir Henry Lynch-Blosse and a large party of friends, Colonel, Mrs., and Miss Denis MacCarthy, the Misses Blakeney and friends, the Misses Carter, Miss Falkiner, Captain Bolton, Captain and Mrs. Robinson, Captain and Mrs. De C. Wheeler, the Misses Nixon and party, Miss Cooper-Ormsby, the Misses Lyons, Miss Strickland, the Misses Bell, and Mrs. and Miss Gore Browne were present.

Extension of Time at Batley.

MR. W. A. CAMPBELL, manager of the Dewsbury and Batley Empire Roller Rink, applied to the magistrates on Friday last for an extension of time for the rink to be open, the alteration being that the rink should close at 10.30 p.m. instead of 10 o'clock. The application was granted.

Pictures on Wheels.

BURNLEY'S largest skating rink has been granted a cinematograph licence, and other rinks are now asking for the same privilege.

Skating at Cardiff.

GOOD-NATURED rivalry in the exercise of roller-skating on a fine maple floor is daily to be witnessed at the American Roller Skating Rink in Westgate-street, Cardiff. The three sessions at the rink continue to be well patronised. Patrons of the Central Roller Rink, on the Hayes, had their first masked and fancy dress skating carnival last Wednesday night. Increasing attendance is daily seen at the Olympia Rink in Queen-street. The management are at present paying attention to the re-surfacing of the floor.

Dundee Notes.

THE Olympia Skating Palace, under the management of Mr. J. Adams, is still booming. Week after week Mr. Adams provides additional attractions of an irresistible order. At the West End Rink a hockey match, Edinburgh University *v.* Home Team, was announced for Friday evening.

Rink and Picture Palace at Folkestone.

THE large lawn at the entrance to the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, is to be converted into a first-class open-air lava rink, measuring 175ft. by 60ft. Building contracts have been settled, and the rink will be open to the public just before Whitsun. The Pier Pavilion, which has been used throughout the winter as a roller skating rink, will be converted into a comfortable picture palace, to open at the same time as the open-air rink.

Gateshead Olympia.

OLYMPIA, Gateshead's first skating rink, was opened on Wednesday, when the promoters and their friends had a trial spin. A company, with the title Olympia (Gateshead), Ltd., is running the hall, which is situate next the King's Theatre in Sunderland-road. The floor space is 3,762 square feet, and only white slip maple has been used, making the "top" one of the finest in the North. Mr. A. V. Elliott, late of the Tynemouth Palace and Wellingborough rinks, is manager.

Round the Glasgow Skateries.

THE American Roller Rink in Victoria-road is doing good business. The carnival just held was a success, both from a financial and social standpoint. An "Evening of Sports" took place last week. The programme consisted of a half-mile race for amateurs, obstacle race, balloon race for ladies, egg and spoon race for ladies, &c. There are large attendances at the various sessions at the Dennistoun Rink, too. In the western section of the city there is now only one large enclosure—the West-End Rink—and that establishment is well patronised. Since Mr. Mungo Anderson's initiation as manager at the King's Park rink everything has set off with renewed vigour. The hockey club created more than a favourable impression among the patrons of this rink. The international masquerade and carnival held recently at the Govan Skating Rink proved a great success, there being about 2,000 spectators present.

Gloucester Olympia.

THE newly-erected Olympia Skating Rink, Gloucester, was opened to the public last Monday evening. The building is composed of brick and steel stanchions and girders, and the floor is supported on birch piers on a concrete foundation. The skating surface is 198ft. by 72ft. The floor will be governed by Mr. W. T. Cairns, who has made himself so popular during his term of office as manager of the India House Rink. Mr. Allie Moore has been invited to come to Gloucester at an early date, when people will have an opportunity of witnessing his unique performance.

Gosport's First Skating Rink.

THE Gosport Olympia Roller Skating Rink was formally opened last Wednesday afternoon by Mrs. George Churcher, wife of the chairman of directors, who was the recipient of an ornamental silver key as a memento. There was a crowded attendance of shareholders, skaters, and spectators.

New Game at Ipswich.

MR. W. BARRELL, the secretary of the Empress Club, has introduced a novel game called goal-tennis, and a match was played at the Empress Rink last Saturday evening. The game consists of ten players, five each side, and is played with tennis racquets, small football, and goals. The game was thoroughly enjoyed both by the spectators and players, who are looking forward to a return match. This is the first game of goal-tennis ever played on a roller skating rink.

Leicester Items.

FINE business continues to be done at the Leicester rinks. At the Belgrave Rink Mr. L. H. Cockram has still to combat against the absence of his orchestra. On Saturday the race of a mile between C. Burgess, of the Belgrave Rink, and Upton, of Nottingham, ended in favour of the former. The first grand moonlight carnival and confetti fête took place on Thursday, when fourteen valuable prizes were offered. There are also other attractions announced for this week. Mr. Ernest Holdsworth is another live manager who keeps well to the front at the Boulevard.

AT the Empress Rink Mr. Court continues to make headway. A great feature here is the Elite Club, which has a special session on Friday afternoons, at which most of the prominent people and finest skaters of the town assemble. Another carnival is announced to take place on March 17.

Coming Events at Limerick.

ON March 10 a half-mile race handicap for gentlemen and a quarter-mile race for ladies, will be held at the Limerick rink, and, later on, March 17, a grand fancy carnival is announced.

Figure Tests at Liverpool.

ON Feb. 26 the Roller Department of the N.S.A. held a figure test meeting at the Tournament Hall, Liverpool. Ten competitors presented themselves for the third International test and nine for the third English test. Of the former, Miss M. Baile, J. D. Harris, A. C. Lemer, J. D. Massey, and A. L. Bray were successful. Miss Baile exhibited an extremely good conception of the methods of International style. Of the English style contingent, the Misses E. M. and N. Anderson, Miss G. M. Cleaver, A. A. Davies, J. D. Massey, H. Gaskell, Wilberforce, and Dr. Musson were successful. The best style was exhibited by Wilberforce, who skated the tests most steadily and in extremely good form. He, however, was run very closely by Musson and the three ladies. The standard reached by these contestants was very high, and all had evidently practised very assiduously. A large crowd viewed the proceedings with great interest, and showed their appreciation of the best of the skating in a very hearty manner. The judges were Mr. T. T. Harley, of Dublin, and Mr. W. Stanton, the hon. secretary of the Association.

Lady Desborough Opens Maidenhead Rink.

THE temporary roller-skating rink at the Pavilion having proved so successful, Mr. George Gude has erected a splendid new building in the adjoining pleasure grounds. The floor, which is of rock maple, provides a skating area of 9,000 square feet. The opening ceremony on Monday last was to have been performed by Lord Desborough, but urgent public business prevented his attendance. Lady Desborough, however, acted for his lordship, and discharged the duty in a very charming manner. Introduced by Mr. J. W. Walker, J.P., she made an effective little speech, and, performing a "tug of war" with a ribbon stretched across the rink, opened the way for a large number of skaters, who were ready to "take the floor." Later, a remarkably clever exhibition of trick and figure skating was given by Mr. Leonard Young, who was afterwards called up and highly complimented by Lady Desborough.

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Week Mar. 28, Vacant

THIS WEEK. and NEXT WEEK, Empire Theatre, EDMONTON.

Add, C/o "THE ERA."

MISS JESSIE DARLING

PREMIERE SKATEUSE INTRODUCING THE CLASSIC IN Roller Skating.

LATE SUCCESS AT PARIS, BERLIN, HAMBURG, HANOVER, FRANKFORT, PARIS.

For Vacant Dates— ADDRESS c/o "THE ERA."

MAIDA VALE SKATING PALACE AND CLUB.

DELAWARE ROAD, W.

Between Elgin and Sutherland Avenues, only Five Minutes' Walk from Maida Vale. General and Vanguard Motor-'buses (Service No. 6), Great Eastern Co's. Motor-'buses (Services Nos. 8 and 18), and all the West Kilburn Horse 'Buses and Harrow-road Trams Pass within two minutes of the Rink.

THE LARGEST AND MOST LUXURIOUS RINK IN THE WORLD.

The Directors have pleasure in announcing the FIRST

GRAND FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL

Will take place on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9th, at 7.30 p.m.

The Rink will be reserved exclusively for Competitors in Fancy Costumes or Evening Dress.

PRIZES, £100 IN CASH.

Ladies' Cash Prizes of £20 First; £12 Second; £8 Third; £4 Fourth; £2 Fifth.

Gent.'s Cash Prizes of £20 First; £12 Second; £8 Third; £4 Fourth.

TWO SPECIAL PRIZES of £4 each will be awarded for Costumes of exceptional merit not securing prizes.

One special prize of £2 will be awarded to gentleman for costume of exceptional merit not securing one of the above prizes.

Prizes will be awarded by the Patrons of the Rink by Ballot. On entering the rink each person will be provided with a voting ticket to fill in for the different prize winners.

The Charges for this night will be as follows:— Admission 2/6. Reserved Seats, 2/6, 5/-, 7/6.

Use of Floor and Skates, 2/6.

The Grand March Past for judging will take place 12 p.m. No Masks will be permitted unless part of costume.

Patrons are requested to make early application for tickets as there are a limited number.

Suppers will be served in the Luxurious Restaurant connected with the Rink. Special Carnival Supper, 5s. Tables can be reserved.

COMPETITORS' TICKETS (including Skates and Admission), 5/-

Further attractions will be added during the Season.

Prof. VOORZANGER and his famous Military Band will give special selections of music during the evening. Carriages 2.30 a.m.

FULL MILITARY BAND.

RESTAURANT, WITH LADIES' ORCHESTRA, AND SEATING CAPACITY FOR 750. Table d'hôte Luncheon from 12.30 to 2.30, 2s. Table d'hôte dinner, from 6.30 to 9 o'clock, 3s. Restaurant open during and between each Session.

SESSIONS.—Morning, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission 6d. Skates 1s. Afternoon, 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Evening, 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Admission 1s. Skates 1s. Books of Family Tickets (containing 30 Admission or Skate Tickets, 25s.; 60, £2 10s

Chairman and Managing-Director, LOUIS N. SCHOENFELD. Telephone: 3540 Paddington.

T H.H.

NORTH LONDON SKATING RINK, LTD., WOOD GREEN.

(Next to Tramway Terminus.)

1st GRAND CARNIVAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 10th.

£40 IN PRIZES.

LADIES' Most Handsome, 1st—GOLD WATCH.
GENT.'S ,, ,, , 1st—GOLD WATCH.
14 Different Awards.

Passengers from any part of London book on the Underground to Finsbury Park and take car to Wood Green.

Skaters Tickets (inclusive) - 2s. 6d.
Onlookers Admission - - - 1s.

Re HOVE BRIGHTON SKATING RINK CO., LTD.

IMMEDIATE OFFERS

are invited for the premises situate in SELBORNE-ROAD, HOVE, lately used by the above company for the purposes of a ROLLER SKATING RINK. The land is held subject to two leases, both dated March, 1909, for a term of ten years, with the option to the company to terminate at the end of five, one lease being at a rent of £120 per annum, increasing in 1914 to £160 per annum, and the other at a rent of £50 per year.

The owners are also prepared to dispose of the loose fittings and effects, quantity of high-class roller skates, and other effects of the rink.

For full particulars, apply to the Secretary of the company, 9, Cook-street, Liverpool.

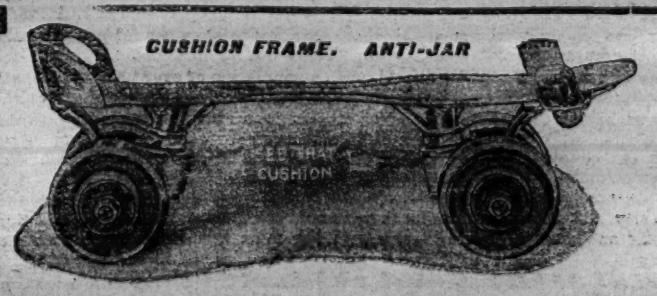

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more Independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool (DEPT. B); 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C. (DEPT. B).

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

P. Collins's New Enterprise.

It is no surprise to those who know the man to find that the monarch of British showmen, P. Collins, has determined to add a first-class circus to his aggregation of popular shows. We hope that more of the ever-popular shows will come into vogue again. It has been forced upon our attention lately at many of our big fairs that more variety in shows would be a great advantage. The recent development of permanent cinematograph palaces in all our towns has largely discounted the attractiveness of cinematograph shows at our fairs. Four or five picture shows all in a row at one fair does not give the show-loving public much choice. Why not a revival of some of our standard shows—the circus, the marionettes, the mechanical show (with modern lighting effects, &c.). Mr. Collins, we imagine, recognises this, and with quick decision proceeds to lead the van.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield and Andrew Purchase, Jun., at *The Era* Office.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Mr. A. H. Faulkner, 1 guinea; Mr. F. M. Barber, 10s. 6d.; Mr. W. Marfleet, 5s.; Mr. Richardson, 5s.

Guild Service at King's Lynn.

Mr. Charles Thurston's cinematograph theatre was well filled, despite the stormy weather, on the Mart Sunday afternoon. The clergy taking part in the service were the Guild Chaplain and the senior curate of St. Margaret and St. Nicholas. The singing was well maintained by the St. Nicholas choir. The Guild Chaplain conducted the service and preached. The attention of the congregation was marked, and the whole service created a lasting impression.

Plucky Young Lion Tamer.

An exciting incident occurred a little before two o'clock last Saturday morning in the arena of the Frank C. Bostock Jungle, at present being shown in the Glasgow Zoo.

Herr Falkendorf, one of the trainers, had taken three members of his "group," a lion and two lionesses, into the steel arena for his customary practice, and while his attention was directed to one of the latter, the lion Vendredi, without even a warning growl, sprang upon him, bore him to the floor of the arena, and seized the left leg above the knee, burying both his upper and lower teeth in the flesh. Falkendorf, taken so suddenly off his guard, momentarily recovered his presence of mind to draw and fire his revolver, and cause Vendredi to release his hold of the limb.

Trainer Martino, who had previously occupied the arena with a number of bears, was at the moment of the attack signing the Jungle training report sheet. Seizing the emergency revolver and an iron cage-scraper, he rushed into the cage just as the lion was about to make another attack upon Falkendorf, who had lost consciousness, and was lying on the arena floor. Using the scraper as a guard, Martino rapidly fired six blank cartridges into the face of the lion, and succeeded in driving him past the safety gate to the back of the arena, from whence he rushed through the narrow passage to his cage.

Falkendorf, on being carried from the arena, recovered consciousness and refused to be taken to hospital. He was removed to his rooms and attended by Dr. Dinwoodie, who had in the meantime been called in, and who adopted measures likely to prevent the setting in of blood poison, and dressed the wounds. A bad laceration made by one of the lower incisors in penetrating the flesh is regarded by the surgeon as the most serious.

The action of Martino, a young trainer scarcely out of his teens, adds one more to the long list of daring deeds that the "Jungle" trainers have self-sacrificingly done when their comrades have been in danger. Herr Falkendorf is a German by nationality. He is known in America as "Fearless Falkendorf," on account of his apparently unlimited nerve and daring in the training of tigers, a number of which figure in the "group" he presents. It had been arranged that he should appear in next week's arenic programme, but his accident will not permit of this.

Vendredi is a lion of a "bad" type. About two years ago he badly mangled his former trainer, Herr Konigsdorfer, in the Bostock Jungle at Coney Island, New York.

Memories of Old Bristol Fair.

In an interesting note in a Bristol contemporary a correspondent muses thus of old Bristol Fair:—"I remember the time when children, yes, and grown-up people too, counted on the fair from one year to another. What shows there were in those days! Fat ladies, lovely as Venus—or at least we children thought them so—tiny dwarfs, depicted on the canvas outside as "small enough to go into a teapot," but sadly disappointing when seen in reality, though what they lost in size they usually made up in ugliness. Huge giants, as a rule tall enough, but frequently very thin and inclined to be knock-kneed. Lions, tigers, performing pigs, and, as the flaming posters used to say, 'Curiosities brought from the four quarters of the Globe.' I wonder how many people recall the fairs of Bristol with just a little feeling of regret? They were noisy, perhaps vulgar, and certainly not particularly elevating, but we enjoyed them for all that, and nothing quite seems to have taken their places. How well I remember the plays which were performed in a booth called 'The Theatre Royal,' and in which there were invariably two or more murders and a corresponding number of ghosts. Vice was always severely punished in the long run, and virtue came off triumphant. I do not think they ever did us any harm and we certainly enjoyed them tremendously. Bristol was always celebrated for its Fairs. There was St. James's Fair, which began on Sept. 1, and was held in St. James's Churchyard and the adjacent streets, and which was the largest of the Bristol fairs. The second largest was Temple Fair, and here everything imaginable was sold. Cloths of all sorts and kinds, carpets, rugs, blankets, and stockings. Cotton stockings from Tewkesbury, hardware from Birmingham and Sheffield, lace from Nottingham, dresses and trinkets from London, and worsted from Norwich. Then there were 'Flying coaches, waxworks, wire dancing, tumbling, balancing, puppets, Punch and his wife Joan, sea fights, conjuration, magic, and mummery of all sorts recommended by merry andrews, buffoons, drums, trumpets, French horns, fiddles, rattles, and vociferation'—to quote an old writer. It took a month to prepare this fair, and more leather was sold there than at any other fair in England. The shops and standings were built of wood, and in some cases remained permanently. Fifty years ago Bristol fairs were flourishing as vigorously as ever—to-day there are no more fairs. Merchants, performers, and showmen have passed into the land of shades, and our children hardly know what the word fair means."

Pictures Popular in Dundee.

Mr. J. J. Bennell, proprietor of the Palace, Dundee, has opened up the Empire Theatre in the same town as well. A change of programme is given twice weekly, and there have been crowded houses and absolute success ever since the opening.

FILM GOSSIP.

The New Regulations.

New regulations have been published in the *London Gazette* for cinematograph shows. They provide, among other things, that no building is to be used unless it be provided with an adequate number of clearly indicated exits, so placed and maintained as readily to afford the audience ample means of safe egress. Fire appliances are to be provided, and in a building used habitually for the purpose of cinematograph or other similar exhibitions they are to include a sufficient number of hand-grenades or other portable fire-extinguishers.

Love's Stratagem.

The Woman From Mellon's is a Markt film, and a story of love's stratagem. Harry Townsend, a young stockbroker, is in love with the pretty daughter of James Petersby, a Wall Street magnate, and as Harry is a very promising fellow, he gives his consent to the match. Harry, however, is hard hit by a panic, and loses practically all, so the young lover is forbidden the wealthy man's house. Despairing, he goes to look for employment, and in answer to the "ad." of a detective agency, he finds the chief an old friend of his, and gets the job. Petersby writes a letter to the Mellon Detective Agency to send to his house a reliable strong woman as guard and companion for his daughter, whom he suspects is bent on eloping. This happens to be the agency with which Harry is connected, and he prevails upon the chief to be allowed the assignment. He then procures the wardrobe, and shaving off his moustache, appears at the Petersbury mansion. Mary is rebellious, and the fact of being watched is extremely repugnant, so she avows that no woman shall watch over her, but she cannot help herself for she cannot stir without having the lady from Mellon's at her side. Finally she bursts into tears of anger, and then Harry discloses his identity. They, however, carry on the little farce, and the father becomes quite smitten with the fair stranger. Besides flirting with him he gives out valuable stock tips, which Harry makes good use of and recoups his fortune. Thus far, everything goes well, but the old gentleman is getting serious, and suggests that they elope. "Good heavens!" So Harry exclaims to Mary, "Hurry up! If you don't elope with me, your father will." So away they go, just as papa enters ready to fly with the fair charmer. Learning of their departure, he follows and traces them to Harry's rooms, where he is prevented from entering while the marriage ceremony of his daughter and her lover is performed. There is nothing left but to make the best of it, which he does, realising what a fool he has made of himself.

The Warwick Boatrace Film.

The Warwick Trading Co. is taking a picture of the University boat race. Views of the Blues as they dash past will be snapshotted from several advantageous spots. The length of the picture they estimate will be about 180ft. Showmen should place their orders at an early date for this important topical subject.

Gaumont's Sole N.Z. Agents.

Messrs. John Fuller and Sons have been appointed sole New Zealand agents of the Gaumont films, both for exhibiting and selling.

Weisker's Picture Palaces.

Weisker's Picture Palaces, Ltd., has been formed for the purpose of acquiring, as a going concern, and further extending the business of Messrs. Weisker Brothers, cinematograph specialists, engineers, and electric theatre proprietors, with offices, photographic studios, and mechanical workshops, including electrical and full developing and printing plant, capable of making all accessories necessary to the bioscope business, situated at 4, 6, 8, and 10, Wilde-street, Liverpool. The directorate is entirely composed of gentlemen intimately, successfully, and actively connected with the company's business. The price to be paid by the company for the business, theatres, and halls acquired, including leases, underleases, and agreements, stock, and other assets connected with the business is £40,000, payable as to £25,000 in cash, £14,000 in 14,000 fully-paid preferred participating ordinary shares, and £1,000 in deferred shares. The lists are now open, and will close on or before March 8.

Sunday Shows for A.B.F.

Mr. Frederick Mouillot, one of the directors of Electric Theatres, Ltd., has, on behalf of that company, arranged with Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Mr. Cyril Maude, that the profits of all the cinematograph theatres open on Sundays owned by this—the largest of all biograph concerns—shall be devoted to the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage.

An Election Leaflet.

From a leaflet which has been circulated by the Imperial Sunday Alliance to all voters in the L.C.C. elections this week, we quote the following passages:—"If the proprietors . . . are allowed to give entertainments on Sundays by way of trade and for personal gain (as they desire, and claim the right to do), an invidious preference would be given to them; . . . and we are certain that managers of theatres and music halls would, in self-defence, immediately make an effort to secure the same right. If this came to pass, we should have Sunday amusements all round, with seven days' compulsory service for all engaged in places of amusement. These places of amusement are already earning from forty per cent. dividends and upwards during six days a week. There is no necessity for them to be opened on Sundays. Vote only for the candidate who will secure fair play all round by keeping Sunday free from all unnecessary business. Safeguard your Sundays."

Adventures of Dr. Nikola.

An interesting film of the adventures of Dr. Nikola has been shown at many provincial halls this week. It will be remembered that the first of this series was shown a week or two ago, when Dr. Nikola obtained a magic cane from a Chinaman. This week Dr. Nikola makes use of the cane, and by its "magic" he gains admission to the Chinese Convent of Lama in Tibet. After the secrets of the monks and mysteries of the convent have been disclosed to him, his disguise is discovered, and he is condemned to death, but escapes.

At the Jap. Exhibition.

Sir Henry Trueman Wood, as president of the Japan-British Photographic Section, states that the display on the British side will be the finest yet placed before the public, especially as regards the loan collection. This will be shown in a separate room in one of the exhibition palaces. In an adjoining apartment will be all the most up-to-date scientific results in colour photography. Here will also be demonstrated the system of long-distance electric picture-taking, while from all over the provinces the best photographers are, for the first time, being given the advantage of showing their work each on separate screens.

Training Doctors by Cinema.

The cinematograph is being introduced into American scholastic life as a serious aid to study. Long ago now, Professor Doyen, one of the most amazingly rapid and sure of the French surgeons, had records made of his own operations as he actually performed them. His professional brethren frowned on his methods, partly because it was thought they smacked of advertisement, and partly from the conviction that the quick operating necessary was dangerous to the patient; they even hinted that Dr. Doyen might "sew-up in a hurry" and jeopardise the success of the operation, only to have a clean record in the limited time possible to the cinematograph. *American Medicine* says that the cinematograph lecture will give the country a great school of surgeons. "Heretofore, medical men desiring to acquire facility with any particular method have been obliged to make pilgrimages to the clinic or hospital of the recognised expert. Soon this will be unnecessary, for each medical school can have its own collection of films showing classical operations by the world's master surgeons. Every student will thus be able to study and observe first-hand. Every physician knows how unsatisfactory are the practical surgical courses in many colleges. With, however, a series of films properly selected at the outset and added to as opportunity offers, the smallest and most unpretentious school can train its students as well in surgical technic as its most successful metropolitan competitor."

I.S.A. and a Weekly Rest Day.

The chairman and executive of the Imperial Sunday Alliance are drawing the attention of municipal electors to the importance of supporting those candidates only who will use their best endeavours to secure (1) the six days' working week—with one day's rest in seven—for all employees of the L.C.C.; and (2) the refusal of Sunday licences to cinematograph or other public entertainments opened for purposes of trade or for personal gain. In urging these reforms, the Alliance claims to be voicing the earnest plea of the employees, including those engaged in the amusement industry, and is supported by ratepayers of all classes. The principle of a weekly day rest is indeed already recognised as the normal standard for L.C.C. industrial employment; and its impartial application to all grades and ratings of the employees is desired by men of all parties on the Council. How directly this sound and simple principle bears upon the unemployment problem—by distributing the seventh-day "overtime" among the unemployed—is readily seen from the case of the London Police, the recently granted Weekly Rest Day providing regular employment for some 1,400 "new" policemen.

Italian Political Riots.

The latest Ambrosio film shows how Pauli, the famous conspirator and leader of the rioters, escapes from his imprisonment in the Three Towers, but followed by the prison guards, has a hard struggle to hold his advantage in the chase which ensues. Well nigh exhausted with his efforts, he manages to mount the wall of a castle, and is almost over when a shot from the soldiers strikes him as he falls into the grounds of what proves to be the Duke of Cesena's castle. Here he is discovered by the owner, to whom he tells the facts of his escape, and of the proximity of the soldiers. The Duke agrees to assist him in baffling the search party, and taking him to a mask ball taking place in the castle, he borrows the Duchess's domino and covers Pauli just before the soldiers appear. Pauli plays his part right beneath the eyes of his would-be captors. Pauli recovers from the effects of his wounds, and an attachment springs up between the Duchess and her patient. During the Duke's absence one evening the pair, oblivious to all surroundings, indulge in expressions of affection, but the light from the lamp throwing the shadow of their forms upon the curtains, gives silent evidence to the astonished Duke. Petrified almost by the revelation of a fact he had not suspected, he is at first tempted to break in upon the pair, but stifling his anger, determines to seek redress by other and more certain means. Informing the Government of the presence of the notorious Pauli, plans are duly laid by the Duke for the visit of the military guards to take him prisoner. The appearance of the soldiers alarms the Duchess, and she hastily runs indoors to warn Pauli of his danger. Pauli attempts to make a bold stand, but in the firing which takes place, a shot finds its mark in the person of the Duchess. Taking one brief look at his companion as she measures her length upon the pathway, Pauli turns his pistol upon himself, and drops beside her, raising himself in his last moments to imprint a dying kiss upon her lips.

Wilful Walter.

The worst boy in the school is Wilful Walter, and his adventures are shown in an Ambrosio film. Walter is always late, and a source of trouble to parents and schoolmaster alike. Along the street to school his mother has to push and goad him, and it is not until they have brought down vegetable stalls in their struggles that the mother gives up her task. Offering the boy some money as an inducement, she extracts a promise from him to go without further trouble, and leaves him. No sooner is her back turned than the spirit of mischief suggests an investment in some fireworks. Having made his purchase he proceeds to the school-house, and whilst the master's attention is devoted to a lesson on the blackboard, he fixes a large fire-wheel to the side of the desk and sets it going with a splutter. Walter is for the moment the hero of the school. The young rascal indulges in a number of other equally laughable and mischievous escapades. Length 320ft.

400 Miles of Picture Films.

The immense development of the cinematograph industry in France has placed the officials of the National Library in a dilemma. In accordance with law a copy of the scenario of every play produced by the cinematograph has to be deposited at the library, and last year over 3,000 of these scenarios were received. The library has also accumulated nearly 400 miles of cinematograph films. The authorities are at a loss to know what to do with them.

New Companies.

Greenwich Cinema De Luxe, Ltd.—Feb. 24. £2,000, in £1 shares. 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

South East Record Co. (Ltd.), Talking Machine Manufacturers, &c.—Feb. 26. £5,000, in £1 shares 2,500 10 per cent. Pref. 9, Hart-street, W.C.

Weisker's Picture Palaces, Ltd.—Feb. 25. £50,000, in 49,000 Pref. Participating Ord. shares of £1 and 20,000 Def. shares of 1s.

Eldorado Cinematograph Theatre Co., Ltd.—Feb. 26. £3,090, in 2,600 Pref. shares of £1 and 9,800 Def. Ord. shares of 1s. 22, Queen-street, E.C.

Palais de Luxe Cinema Co., Ltd.—Feb. 28. £10,525, in £5,000 Preferred shares of £1 each and 10,500 deferred shares of 1s.

Mr. Pyke's Disclaimer.

Mr. M. A. Pyke, managing-director of Recreations (Limited), Cinematograph Theatres (Limited) (Pyke House), 19, 21, 23, Oxford-street; Finsbury Park Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Walham Green Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Shepherd's Bush Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Ealing Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Piccadilly Circus Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Hammersmith Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Clapham Junction Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), Cinematograph Film Hiring Company (Limited), and Elephant and Castle Cinematograph Theatre (Limited), disclaims any connection with a cinematograph company just formed and registered under the title of Pyke's Picture Palaces (Limited).

A film of The Blue Bird, as produced at the Haymarket Theatre, has been shown this week at the Kensington Picture Palace, by arrangement with the Gaumont Co., Ltd., the holders of the exclusive rights. We print the plot, as it may be of general interest. Christmas Eve—Mytil and Tyltyl put to bed.—Their dream begins.—Entrance of the Fairy Berylune.—The Fairy explains her mission, bidding Tyltyl find the Blue Bird. She presents him with a cap adorned by a magic diamond, which makes the souls of things visible.—"Turn the diamond once round, and then——" The hours issue from the Clock.—Loaves from the Bread-pan.—Fire comes out of the Hearth.—Milk and Sugar, Cat and Dog, all have "Souls," which appear on the scene.—The Dance of Fire and Water.—Fancying he hears his parents coming, Tyltyl turns the diamond to disperse the "Souls."—Alas! he turns it too quickly!—Several of the Souls fail to disappear and follow the children in their search for the Blue Bird (The Symbol of Happiness). In the Palace of Berylune.—Led by the Cat, the Souls conspire to get rid of the children, but the Dog will not hear of it.—Bread cuts a slice of himself, and Sugar breaks off pieces of his fingers to refresh the children.—The Land of Memory.—Welcomed by their Grandparents, long departed.—Grandpa measures the children to see if they have grown since he left them.—Tyltyl asks for the Bird which is "A Blue Black Bird."—The children have supper with their departed brothers and sisters.—The children return, but as they have stayed over their time, the bird's colour is changed.—Tyltyl's disappointment at finding the Bird black. The Forest.—The Cat turns traitor and incites the trees and animals, which all have souls, to kill the children.—The plot frustrated by the faithful Dog.—"Light" also comes to the rescue, and the animals disperse. The Kingdom of the Future.—Unborn children awaiting the call of Father Time.—Father Time arrives to take to Earth those who are due to be born.—Future Inventors, Mechanics, &c., yet unborn.—The parting of the Lovers, who will meet again on Earth. The Palace of Night.—In spite of "Night's" warning, Tyltyl opens the doors from which issue the "Horrors."—The faithful Dog protects them from pestilence.—The Dance of the Stars.—Tyltyl opens the Garden of the Blue Bird, and all escape with Blue Birds, which die.—The return home. Leave-taking with the Souls.—The grief of the faithful Dog, the last to leave. The Awakening in the Wood-cutter's Cottage.—The children think their dream has been true, and their mother thinks them ill.—She sends for their Father.—Father announces them well.—Tyltyl describes their travels and adventures in search of the Blue Bird. Looking for the "Hours."—The children present their Blue Bird to a kindly neighbour who has a sick child, and all is well.—"Thank you."

Strand Theatre De Luxe.

This week's programme at the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, includes the following pictures:—Three Thanksgivings, In Southern Tunis, Choosing a Mother-in-Law, The Lord and the Gypsy, Tobacco Mania, The Training of Horses in Buenos Aires, and Foolshead at the Ball.

Lewisham P.P.'s Noble Visitors.

The Electric Palace, High-street, Lewisham, was visited on Wednesday last by the Duchess of Marlborough, Lord Percy, and Lady Blandford, who expressed themselves to Mr. Jess Smith, the manager, as being delighted with the pictures

Death of Adolphus Rowella.

After only a short illness, Mr. Adolphus Rowella, the manager for Mr. Matt. Raymond at the Picturedrome, Grimsby, died on Sunday last. He was attending to his duties until within a few days of his death, and it was only the previous Sunday that he was taken ill. A violent attack of influenza was the cause of death. Mr. Rowella had been in the theatrical profession since boyhood, his first situation being with Mr. Richard Warner, the variety agent. Then he was appointed secretary of the Star, Bermondsey, and ultimately became the manager, his connection with that house extending over twenty-two years. Mr. Rowella next held posts at Hoxton and the Queen's Park Hall. In June last he came to Grimsby to manage the Picturedrome for Mr. Raymond.

Yorkshire Manager's Benefit.

Mr. Arthur Izon, manager of the Alexandra Picture Palace, Morley, Yorks, takes his second annual benefit on Thursday next.

At the Albert Hall, Darwen, a good set of films include The Postmistress, Anne of Masovia, Capture of Bear Cubs, and An Easy Job. Varieties are introduced by Hector and Lauraine, upside-down comedians; Hope Jones, Welsh tenor; and Arthur Bright, Swiss piper.

Two exceedingly interesting pictures are shown at the Operetta House, Edinburgh, this week, namely, The King on His Way to Open Parliament and A Visit to the London Zoo, which are very enjoyable. The Poacher's Revenge and The Stolen Necklace are both films of no little dramatic merit. A Cure for Cowardice keeps the audience in continuous laughter; while Mr. Neil Nelson, comedian, contributes the variety part of the entertainment.

A Spanish Girl, The House of Cards, and When the Plumbers Called are the principal films shown at Pringle's Picture Palace, Edinburgh. The variety entertainment is contributed to by Earl and Melville, comedians, and Mr. W. E. Hilton, "the Scottish Valentine Vox."

The Picture Hall, Falkirk, opened a fortnight ago, is doing very good business. The pictures are educative and interesting, and these are interspersed with variety. This week illustrated songs are being given by Mr. Ralph Goggin.

On Monday evening Mr. J. Cummings, of picture fame, opened a several weeks' engagement at the Town Hall, Falkirk, with a capital show. An excellent programme of variety turns was provided by the Royal Selbonians, comedy jugglers; the Sisters Hall; the Richards' Trio; and Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque.

In its demand for animated pictures the public has become fastidious, but its taste may be fully gratified by the liberal assortment of films always provided at the Palace Theatre, Dundee, by Mr. Lunn. The Heroine of Mafeking portrays the siege in realistic manner—the attack on the trenches and the astounding bravery of a titled lady in conveying water to the thirsty "Tommies."

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A meeting of cinematograph operators will be held on Tuesday next at 10.30 a.m. in the Rehearsal Room at the Musicians' Union Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C. (near the London Hippodrome). Mr. A. Malcolm, President of the National Association of Cinematograph Operators, will preside. Among the list of speakers are Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., Mr. William Johnson, Mr. H. K. Merritt, secretary of the N.A.C.O., and Mr. Edwin Catlin. All operators are urged to attend, as several important matters will be laid before the meeting.

A meeting called by a new union called the "National Union of Cinematograph and Skating Rink Employees" was held at the London Bridge Picture Theatre on Sunday evening. There was a very small attendance. Mr. E. S. R. Smith, formerly secretary to the National Society of Operative Printers' Assistants, and of the "One-and-All Assurance Society," presided. Mr. Smith admitted that the new union had not yet drawn up its rules, or fixed its entrance fee or contributions, and, apparently, he and the organiser were the only members of the new union present. It was reported that a circular had been sent to all candidates seeking election to the London County Council, asking them, if elected, if they would permit places of amusement being open on Sunday by way of trade, and two replies, not altogether favourable, were read. The attendance at the meeting did not indicate the alleged discontent of the employées of picture theatres with the action of the London County Council. It was pointed out by Mr. Wm. Johnson that the proposed new union had no justification for its existence, having regard to the fact that there were already in existence unions to which these employées could belong, and even if the new union was formed it would not be recognised in the Labour movement, as the national organisations had decided not to recognise any union formed in any trade or business already covered by existing unions. Mr. Smith said he did not know of the existence of the N.A.C.O. The operators whom he seeks to organise know that the N.A.C.O. is in existence, and know what it has done and aims to do for them.

A meeting of the committee of the Cinematograph Operators was held on Tuesday, when a number of applications for membership were granted and a report of members attending the meeting mentioned above was considered. It was decided to send the following letter to the Chairman of the London County Council:—

The National Association of Cinematograph Operators,
29, Wellington-street, Strand, London.
March 1, 1910.

The Chairman, Theatres Committee,
London County Council, Spring Gardens.

Dear Sir,—I am instructed by my committee to draw your attention to the fact that the London Bridge Picture Palace, 116 and 118, High-street, Borough, S.E., was open on Sunday evening last, and that an announcement appeared on a sheet of paper posted at the doors that the theatre was open for the benefit of the "Bioscope Operators' Benevolent Fund." On the same announcement appears the "National Union of Cinematograph and Skating Rink Employees."

With regard to the "Bioscope Operators' Benevolent Fund" we question whether there is any other such fund in existence except the fund under the control of my committee.

We also wish to draw your attention to matters affecting the *bona fides* of the "National Union of Cinematograph and Skating Rink Employées." At a meeting held on Sunday evening on the premises of the London Bridge Picture Theatre, Mr. E. S. R. Smith, presiding as the chairman of this organisation, stated that the rules had not been drawn up; that the entrance fee and contributions had not been fixed; and, without avail, invited nominations for the committee from the meeting. Several members of our committee were present to protest against the proceedings. We were also informed that communications in the name of this union had been addressed to all candidates for election to the London County Council, asking them to agree to Sunday opening by way of trade and personal gain, and this request was made, ostensibly in the name of employees yet to be secured as members of that organisation.

We doubt if one employee other than our members was present at this meeting on Sunday last, and we protest that that organisation has no claim to be recognised by your Committee.

We trust your Committee will ask for the rules showing how the funds of any charitable funds are being utilised by societies who obtain permission from your Committee to give entertainments on a Sunday, as otherwise the regulations will be ineffective. Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. L. Merritt,
Secretary.

At a meeting of the General Staff branch of the N.A.T.E., held on Wednesday evening, the Secretary gave a report of the proceedings taken on behalf of members affected by the action of Mr. Robert Hilton. As Mr. Hilton had left the country the summonses issued by members could not be served. The committee decided to take counsel's opinion as to the right of action against the directors of Cleodan, Ltd., which had apparently been formed to finance Mr. Hilton at the Strand Theatre. The committee also decided to advance the amount due to the members from Mr. Hilton, as a loan from the funds, pending a settlement of the case.

Mr. Johnson had written to Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, whose name appeared on the list of directors, and his Lordship had replied to say he had no responsibility in the matter, and that his name had been used without his knowledge or consent, and he thanked Mr. Johnson for drawing his attention to the matter. The committee are determined not to let the case drop if anyone can be made responsible for the matter.

THE GREAT SHOW OF THE YEAR.

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINE,
"OLYMPIC GARDENS," THE CENTRE OF ATTRACTION.

Apart from the well laid out gardens lake, and extensive grounds, considerably more than **ONE MILLION DOLLARS** is being expended solely on the beautiful buildings of this **AMUSEMENT SECTION** of the Argentine Republic's Great Centennial Exhibiton.

This Section is to remain open almost the whole year, and to be continued permanently on somewhat similar lines to the "White City" or "Earl's Court" of London.

Buenos Aires is the Paris of the New World, with a population of over 1,300,000 amusement-loving people, and a mild summer climate that lasts practically the whole year round.

The display of luxurious wealth and lavish expenditure in this Great City of the South astonishes and deeply impresses all visitors. These features, due to the amazing development of the country and the stupendous wealth of its marvellously rich and illimitable resources, make it to-day the chief commercial goal of the world.

"OLYMPIA" (originally the Japanese Gardens) is a large natural park located in the heart of the city, and on this unique site there is now being erected a careful selection of all the leading and most successful features of the most famous Amusement Parks of the world.

PROMINENT SPACE IS NOW AVAILABLE for good concessionaires and ***FIRST-CLASS*** attractions. It offers a golden opportunity for manufacturers of novelties. Apply by letter only to THE LONDON AGENT, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS, LTD., OF BUENOS AIRES, 50, GRESHAM ST., LONDON, E.C.

NEW REGULATIONS UNDER THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT.

By the courtesy of the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, the president and council of the Showmen's Guild have received official copies of the new Statutory Rules and Orders issued by the Home Secretary under the Cinematograph Act, 1909.

It is with great satisfaction that we place the new regulations *in extenso* before our readers. It will be remembered that *The Era* took an active part, before the Act had secured the full approval of Parliament, in rousing to a proper sense of the impending danger that the Cinematograph Bill, as originally drafted, threatened the whole of the film-making and film-using industry.

We can all be wise after the event, but it is obvious that if the various threatened interests had taken counsel together before the Bill was through Parliament, a great many of the difficulties would have been avoided that since the Act came into operation so seriously endangered the business and enterprise in all its branches of cinematography.

Valuable Definitions and Concessions.

Our first reading of the new regulations impress us with the important truth that a great many of the practical difficulties of the cinematograph exhibitor in public halls, with touring companies, panoramas, &c., have been met by the Home Office.

We have received scores of letters from exhibitors following this line of business. In every case we have advised our correspondents to form into line and join the Cinematograph Defence League, and so obtain an official expression of their grievances through their Trade Union at the Home Office.

The concessions obtained by this class of exhibitor using public halls are of the utmost value. With the new regulations before us we repeat with greater warmth, and particularly our appreciation, of the most excellent work done by the executive officials of the Cinematograph Defence League.

Indeed, it is not too much to say that if, apart from the particular class of film-users we have specifically dealt with, there had been no other advantage gained but clearer definition that the redrafting of the regulations give, it would have been ample reward for the labours of the Defence League executive.

There are, however, as we have already indicated, great modifications and important concessions that will materially benefit all cinematograph exhibitors. These we briefly indicate :—

(1) The abolition of the ventilating shaft from the operator's box to the roof.
(2) The removal of that terrible bugbear of inspecting officials—the smoke-proof box.
(3) The 14in. spool box.
(4) The clearer option given to the licensing authority to dispense with the necessity for the operator's box being outside the building.
(5) The dropping out of the regulations of a number of tiresome requirements that only tended to fret and worry the cinematograph exhibitor without securing any practical advantages.
(6) The removal of the voltage limit fixed at 110 meets a great practical difficulty with regard to public halls and where the supply of electricity is from public sources.

Having thus indicated the importance of the modifications and concessions of the new regulations, we ask our readers now to carefully compare the old regulations issued by authority on Dec. 20, 1909, with the new regulations under date Feb. 18, 1910, and to bear in mind that the old regulations are null and void; that all kinds of cinematograph exhibitors are under the new regulations. It now remains for the local authorities to fulfil their duties in a liberal and practical manner, having regard to the importance of the industry that cinematography has brought into being.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS, 1910.
No. 189.
CINEMATOGRAPH, ENGLAND.

Regulations, dated Feb. 18, 1910, made by the Secretary of State under the Cinematograph Act, 1909 (9 Edw. 7, c. 30).

In pursuance of the power vested in me by the Cinematograph Act, 1909 (9 Edw. 7, c. 30), I hereby make the following regulations :—

GENERAL.

1. In these regulations the word "building" shall be deemed to include any booth, tent, or similar structure.

2. No building shall be used for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions to which the Act applies, unless it be provided with an adequate number of clearly indicated exits so placed and maintained as readily to afford the audience ample means of safe egress.

The seating in the building shall be so arranged as not to interfere with free access to the exits; and the gangways and the staircases, and the passages leading to the exits shall, during the presence of the public in the building, be kept clear of obstructions.

3. The cinematograph operator and all persons responsible for or employed in or in conection with the exhibition shall take all due precautions for the prevention of accidents, and shall abstain from any act whatever which tends to cause fire and is not reasonably necessary for the purpose of the exhibition.

FIRE APPLIANCES.

4. Fire appliances adequate for the protection of the building shall be provided, and shall include at least the following, namely : a damp blanket, two buckets of water, and a bucket of dry sand. In a building used habitually for the purpose of cinematograph or other similar exhibitions they shall also include a sufficient number of hand grenades or other portable fire-extinguishers.

The fire appliances shall be so disposed that there shall be sufficient means of dealing with fire readily available for use within the enclosure. Before the commencement of each performance the cinematograph operator shall satisfy himself that the fire appliances intended for use within the enclosure are in working order, and during the performance such appliances shall be in the charge of some person specially nominated for that purpose who shall see that they are kept constantly available for use.

ENCLOSURES.

Regulation applying in all cases and to all classes of buildings.

5.—(1) (*a*) The cinematograph apparatus shall be placed in an enclosure of substantial construction made of or lined internally with fire-resisting material and of sufficient dimensions to allow the operator to work freely.

(*b*) The entrance to the enclosure shall be suitably placed and shall be fitted with a self-closing close-fitting door constructed of fire-resisting material.

(*c*) The openings through which the necessary pipes and cables pass into the enclosure shall be efficiently bushed.

(*d*) The openings in the front face of the enclosure shall not be larger than is necessary for effective projection, and shall not exceed two for each lantern. Each such opening shall be fitted with a screen of fire-resisting material, which can be released both inside and outside the enclosure so that it automatically closes with a close-fitting joint.

(*e*) The door of the enclosure and all openings, bushes, and joints shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent, so far as possible, the escape of any smoke into the auditorium. If means of ventilation are provided, they shall not be allowed to communicate direct with the auditorium.

(*f*) If the enclosure is inside the auditorium, either a suitable barrier shall be placed round the enclosure at a distance of not less than two feet from it, or other effectual means shall be taken to prevent the public from coming into contact with the enclosure.

(*g*) No unauthorised person shall go into the enclosure or be allowed to be within the barrier.

(*h*) No smoking shall at any time be permitted within the barrier or enclosure.

(*i*) No inflammable article shall unnecessarily be taken into or allowed to remain in the enclosure.

Regulations applying only to specified classes of buildings.

(2) In the case of buildings used habitually for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions the enclosure shall be placed outside the auditorium; and in the case of permanent buildings used habitually as aforesaid the enclosure shall also be permanent.

Provided, with regard to the foregoing requirements, that, if the licensing authority is of opinion that compliance with either or both of them is impracticable or in the circumstances unnecessary for securing safety and shall have stated such opinion by express words in the licence, the requirements or requirements so specified shall not apply.

LANTERNS, PROJECTORS, AND FILMS.

6. Lanterns shall be placed on firm supports constructed of fire-resisting material, and shall be provided with a metal shutter which can be readily inserted between the source of light and the film-gate.

The film-gate shall be of massive construction and shall be provided with ample heat-radiating surface. The passage for the film shall be sufficiently narrow to prevent flame travelling upwards or downwards from the light-opening.

7. Cinematograph projectors shall be fitted with two metal film-boxes of substantial construction, and not more than fourteen inches in diameter, inside measurement, and to and from these the films shall be made to travel. The film-boxes shall be made to close in such a manner, and shall be fitted with a film-slot so constructed, as to prevent the passage of flame to the interior of the box.

8. Spools shall be chain or gear driven and films shall be wound upon spools so that the wound film shall not at any time reach or project beyond the edges of the flanges of the spool.

9. During the exhibition all films when not in use shall be kept in closed metal boxes.

LIGHTING.

10. Where the general lighting of the auditorium and exits can be controlled from within the enclosure, there shall also be separate and independent means of control outside and away from the enclosure.

11. No illuminant other than electric light or limelight shall be used within the lantern.

Electric Light.

12.—(*a*) Within the enclosure the insulating material of all electric cables, including "leads" to lamps, shall be covered with fire-resisting material.

(*b*) There shall be no unnecessary slack electric cable within the enclosure. The "leads" to the cinematograph lamp shall, unless conveyed within a metal pipe or other suitable casing, be kept well apart both within and without the enclosure and shall run so that the course of each may be readily traced.

(*c*) Cables for cinematograph lamps shall be taken as separate circuits from the source of supply and from the supply side of the main fuses in the general lighting circuit, and there shall be efficient switches and fuses inserted at the point where the supply is taken, and in addition, an efficient double-pole switch shall be fitted in the cinematograph lamp circuit inside the enclosure. When the cinematograph lamp is working, the pressure of the current across the terminals of the double-pole switch inside the enclosure shall not exceed 110 volts.

(*d*) Resistances shall be made entirely of fire-resisting material, and shall be so constructed and maintained that no coil or other part shall at any time become unduly heated.* All resistances, with the exception of a resistance for regulating purposes, shall be placed outside the enclosure, and, if reasonably practicable, outside the auditorium. If inside the auditorium, they shall be adequately protected by a wire guard or other efficient means of preventing accidental contact.

The operator shall satisfy himself before the commencement of each performance that all cables, leads, connections, and resistances are in proper working order. The resistances, if not under constant observation, shall be inspected at least once during each performance. If any fault is detected, current shall be immediately switched off, and shall remain switched off until the fault has been remedied.

Limelight.

13.—(*a*) If limelight be used in the lantern the gas cylinders shall be tested and filled in conformity with the requirements set out in the Appendix hereto. The tubing shall be of sufficient strength to resist pressure from without and shall be properly connected up.

(*b*) No gas shall be stored or used save in containers constructed in accordance with the requirements contained in the Appendix.

LICENCES.

14. Every licence granted under the Act shall contain specific conditions for the carrying out of regulations 2 and 5 (1) (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*), (*e*), (*f*) in the building for which the licence is granted, and may, in accordance with regulation 5 (2), contain an expression of opinion on the matters referred to in the proviso thereto.

15. Subject to the provisions of No. 16 of these regulations, every licence granted under the Act shall contain a clause providing for its lapse, or, alternatively, for its revocation by the licensing authority, if any alteration is made in the building or the enclosure without the sanction of the said authority.

16. Where a licence has been granted under the Act in respect of a movable building, a plan and description of the building, certified with the approval of the licensing authority, shall be attached to the licence. Such a licence may provide that any of the conditions or restrictions contained therein may be modified either by the licensing authority or by the licensing authority of the district where an exhibition is about to be given. The licence and plan and description or any of them shall be produced on demand to any police constable or to any person authorised by the licensing authority or by the authority in whose district the building is being or is about to be used for the purpose of an exhibition.

17. The regulations dated Dec. 20, 1909, made under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, are hereby repealed, provided, nevertheless, that any licence granted prior to such repeal shall remain valid for the period for which it was granted without the imposition of any more stringent condition than may have been imposed at the time of the grant.

Given under my hand at Whitehall this eighteenth day of February, 1910.

H. J. GLADSTONE,
One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

APPENDIX.

LIMELIGHT.

The gas cylinders shall be tested and filled in conformity with the requirements set out below, which follow the recommendations of the Departmental Committee of the Home Office on the Manufacture of Compressed Gas Cylinders [C. 7952 of 1896] :—

Cylinders of Compressed Gas (Oxygen, Hydrogen, or Coal Gas).

(*a*) *Lap-welded wrought iron.*—Greatest working pressure, 120 atmospheres, or 1,800lb. per square inch.

Stress due to working pressure not to exceed 6½ tons per square inch.

Proof pressure in hydraulic test, after annealing, 224 atmospheres, or 3,360lb. per square inch.

Permanent stretch in hydraulic test not to exceed 10 per cent. of the elastic stretch.

One cylinder in 50 to be subjected to a statical bending test, and to stand crushing nearly flat between two rounded knife-edges without cracking.

(*b*) *Lap-welded or seamless steel.*—Greatest working pressure, 120 atmospheres, or 1,800lb. per square inch.

Stress due to working pressure not to exceed 7½ tons per square inch in lap-welded, or 8 tons per square inch in seamless cylinders.

Carbon in steel not to exceed 0.25 per cent. or iron to be less than 99 per cent.

Tenacity of steel not to be less than 26 or more than 33 tons per square inch. Ultimate elongation not less than 1.2in. in 8in. Test-bar to be cut from finished annealed cylinder.

Proof pressure in hydraulic test, after annealing, 224 atmospheres, or 3,360lb. per square inch.

Permanent stretch shown by water jacket not to exceed 10 per cent. of elastic stretch.

One cylinder in 50 to be subjected to a statical bending test, and to stand crushing nearly flat between rounded knife-edges without cracking.

Regulations applicable to all Cylinders.

Cylinders to be marked with a rotation number, a manufacturer's or owner's mark, an annealing mark with date, a test mark with date. The marks to be permanent and easily visible.

Testing to be repeated at least every two years, and annealing at least every four years.

A record to be kept of all tests.

Cylinders which fail in testing to be destroyed or rendered useless.

Hydrogen and coal gas cylinders to have left-handed threads for attaching connections and to be painted red.

The compressing apparatus to have two pressure gauges, and an automatic arrangement for preventing overcharging. The compressing apparatus for oxygen to be wholly distinct and unconnected with the compressing apparatus for hydrogen and coal gas.

Cylinders not to be refilled till they have been emptied.

If cylinders are sent out unpacked the valve-fittings should be protected by a steel cap.

A minimum weight to be fixed for each size of cylinder in accordance with its required thickness. Cylinders of less weight to be rejected.

Accompanying the official copy of the new Regulations was an explanatory letter dealing with the causes that had led the Home Office to issue the new Regulations, and also referring to point by point the variations between the two sets of Regulations.

The letter is as follows :—

Home Office, Whitehall,
Feb. 25, 1910.

Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of the amended Regulations, dated the 18th instant, which he has made under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in substitution for the Regulations of December 20 last.

The new Regulations are for the most part in substance the same as those which they repeal, but the experience already gained has led the Secretary of State to introduce amendments on several points on which practical difficulties have arisen or modifications are required to meet the varying circumstances in which cinematograph and other similar exhibitions are given. At the same time the opportunity has been taken to make certain alterations in the drafting and arrangement of the Regulations, with a view to greater clearness.

I am to draw attention to the following points. Reference is made by the numbers in brackets to such of the old Regulations as are replaced or amended by the new provisions, to which attention is drawn.

Fire Appliances. Regulation No. 4. [*11.*]

The requirements as to fire appliances have been considerably amplified, so as to indicate what appliances should, according to the class of building, be available in every case. As regards the distinction drawn between buildings habitually used for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions and buildings not habitually so used, it is not intended that the latter class should be confined to buildings which come within Section 7 (2) of the Act.

The appliances must be so disposed that sufficient means of dealing with fire may be available for use within the enclosure, and some person specially nominated for the purpose is required to be responsible for the appliances being kept constantly available during the performance. As thus modified, the rule allows of some appliance, *e.g.*, the bucket of dry sand, being kept within the enclosure, if this is considered desirable; and while it requires an attendant to be specially nominated to the duty of keeping guard over the fire appliances, it does not require this to be his sole duty, if that is not reasonably practicable.

Enclosures. Regulation 5. [*2, 3, 9, 10,* and *13.*]

All the provisions relating to enclosures have been brought together under one head, and arranged in two sections, (i) applying in all cases and to all classes of buildings; (ii) applying only to specified classes of buildings.

1. As regards amendments on particular points, I am to say that, as the term "smoke-proof" lent itself to too strict an interpretation, the word "close-fitting" has been substituted wherever it occurred, and a new clause 5 (*e*) added, explanatory of the sense in which the door, openings, bushes, and joints are required to be close-fitting. It was also found that it was difficult or impracticable to comply with the requirement as to ventilation direct to the outside air in many cases where the enclosure was not of a permanent nature, particularly in the case of travelling shows exhibiting in public halls, &c. The object aimed at, viz., to prevent, in the case of fire, the escape of smoke into the auditorium, will be sufficiently attained, the Secretary of State thinks, by the provision that, if means of ventilation are provided, they shall not be allowed to communicate direct with the auditorium. I am also to draw attention to the altered requirements with regard to a barrier round the enclosure (Clause 5 (*f*)). A barrier need be placed only where the enclosure is inside the auditorium, and must be at a distance of not less than two feet from the enclosure.

2. The conditions of the repealed Regulation 2 (*a*), requiring that the enclosure should be "outside the building or auditorium," were satisfied if the enclosure was outside the auditorium, but, as this has not been clearly understood, the words "building or" have been omitted. While it is desirable that the enclosure should be placed outside the building where reasonably practicable, it is physically impossible in very many cases that it should be so placed.

What constitutes the auditorium must of course vary in different buildings, and from time to time in the same building. The enclosure may be regarded as outside the auditorium, if outside the limits to which the audience is allowed to extend during the performance. For example, the enclosure may be placed in a gallery from which the public is for the time being excluded.

Under the old Regulations it was necessary to obtain a licence in the case of a building used for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions exceptionally and occasionally only, and on not more than six days in any one calendar year, if it was desired to have a temporary enclosure inside the auditorium. Under the new Regulations the requirements that the enclosure shall be permanent and shall be placed outside the auditorium do not apply except in the case of a building habitually used for cinematograph or other similar exhibitions.

Lanterns, Projectors, and Films. Regulations 6, 7, and 8. [*4* and *8.*]

With reference to the rule that lanterns shall be placed on firm supports of fire-resisting material, I am to explain that this does not necessitate the use of supports constructed of metal, *e.g.*, a stand with a teak or other hardwood top is permissible.

Experience has shown, the Secretary of State thinks, that in place of allowing 14-inch film boxes in the case only of an exhibition for which a single film is used, the general use of film boxes of this size may safely be permitted, subject to the new provisions (i) that all film boxes shall be chain or gear driven, and (ii) that films shall be wound upon spools, so that the wound film shall not at any time reach or project beyond the edges of the flanges of the spool.

Lighting. Electric Light. Regulation 12. [*6.*]

Words have been added in Clause 12 (*b*) so as to allow (*e.g.*, in the case of an alternating supply) both leads to the lamp being taken within the same pipe or casing, a course to which there is no objection provided that the pipe or casing is of metal or other suitable material.

I am also to draw attention to the last sentence in Clause 12 (*c*), which makes it clear (i) that it is only when the cinematograph lamp is working that the pressure of current inside the enclosure is not to exceed 110 volts, and (ii) that this limitation applies only to the pressure across the terminals of the double-pole switch in the cinematograph lamp, and not to any pilot light in the enclosure.

Clause 12 (*d*), which deals with resistances, is to a large extent new. It specifies the overheating of resistances as the danger to be particularly guarded against, and places upon the operator the responsibility of seeing before the commencement of a performance that resistances, cables, &c., are in proper order.

The rest of the changes in the Regulations are mainly of a drafting nature.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
EDWARD TROUP.

The Rev. T. Horne,
Chaplain and Organiser,
the Showmen's Guild.

* *E.g., they should not become so heated that a piece of newspaper placed in contact with any part of the resistance would readily ignite.*

"RICHELIEU'S SPY."

By Ivan P. Gore, Produced at the Surrey Theatre, on Monday, Feb. 28.

Count Arderre .....MR. FRANK POWELL
The Abbot of Bonne .....MR. WATKIN WYNNE
The Executioner .....MR. CALVIN CLARKE
Blanche de Brugonne ....MISS FRANCES CAMPBELL

If one remembers all the ladies who are credited by various authors with having intrigued and spied for the famous political priest Richelieu, the number is legion. Dumas doubtless started a fashion when he immortalised Miladi, and as all Japanese sketches include a British naval officer and a tea-garden scene, after the manner of the famous musical comedy *The Geisha*, so all Richelieu sketches seem bound to have a D'Artagnan kind of hero and a Miladi kind of heroine. *Richelieu's Spy*, by Mr. Ivan P. Gore, produced at the Surrey this week is very carefully treated on the conventional lines. Count Arderre (Mr. Frank Powell) is very much in love with his mistress, Blanche de Brugonne (Miss Francis Campbell), but as he is a fighting man as well he is likewise very much away from home. So the lady passes the time pleasantly by intriguing for the Cardinal. But as she is an escaped Nun, for some time past the Abbot of Bonne (Mr. Watkin Wynne) and his minions have been on her track. When, therefore, the Count leaves his fair charmer to go on a military mission, enter four men—one the public executioner. Blanche tries to wheedle and cajole the Abbot in vain, and after accusing her of many crimes, she is branded on the shoulder with the fleur-de-lys, even as Miladi was, that all men might know her as an excommunicant. She is still moaning with pain when the Count unexpectedly returns. Blanche learns from him that he possesses certain papers, and determines to drug him. But the Count is suspicious and feigns to be asleep, after making a pretence of swallowing the wine. Blanche appropriates the papers, and talking aloud, says sufficient to show the soldier that he has been this woman's dupe. There is a very good and powerful scene now between accuser and accused. In the end the Count strangles his mistress. The acting of Mr. Powell and Miss Campbell is sufficiently good to make one feel creepy. The murder by slow process of a beautiful woman is never good to see, and we could wish that Mr. Gore had found a pleasanter curtain.

Another sketch in the same programme with a gruesome ending is *The Key*, capitally played by Mr. Gilbert Heron, Mr. Victor Huntley, and Miss Jessie Danvers. *The Key* is the story of an old friend who steals the love of his chum's wife. The chum suspects and returns home suddenly. The wife hides her lover in a big safe, and her husband, suspecting how matters stand, locks the door and puts the key in his pocket. In an attempt to save her lover from suffocation, the wife confesses her guilt, but her husband determines that his false friend shall pay with his life for his treachery. When, with a sardonic laugh, he flings the safe key at last to his wife, she opens the door, and the dead body of her lover falls at their feet.

Turning from this double dose of tragedy with a sigh of relief to Cline and Clancy, we get a pair of patterers and dancers of A1 brand. Their turn is bright, brisk, new, and very welcome. So is that of the girl contralto, Gladys Witton. This young lady first gives us an Irish ditty, and then sings of Scotland very nicely. But we winced a little, Gladys, when your song-writer thought it necessary to rhyme "Allanah" with "Banner," and in another "Scotland" with "Hot Land."

Marie Santoi's "Japanese Tea Garden by Night" is a very pretty act and now in fine working order. The lady is in good voice just now. But the British naval officer should not be in full dress. A naval warrant officer sitting near the writer remarked : "If that fellow were to do such a thing in real life, he'd lose his ship, and serve him right for being such an ass." The interest in the remainder of the programme is well sustained by Dave Laird, Eight Marvels, Les Five Jover, and Flush.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

(*Continued from page 27.*)

To Follow Mi-Carême.

THE great building of the Paris Hippodrome has now been transformed into roller floors. The entire space on the ground level has been got into shape for the purpose, and the galleries on each side, which can accommodate thousands of spectators, have been turned into beautiful promenades. There will, of course, be buffets, cinematograph, and other side-shows, and several orchestras. The great building is to be opened anew shortly after the Mi-Carême festivals, and the premises will be given over entirely to the joys of dry skating and the sounds of popular bands.

Roller-Skating Royalties.

THE roller-skating craze has now reached the Quirinal. The Throne Room has been converted into a rink, which was used last week by a party of skaters invited by Queen Elena. The party numbered thirty, and included Princess Helena of Servia. The mosaic floor of the Throne Room lent itself to the pastime, and the skating-party was so successful that Queen Elena has arranged several more.

Carnival at Motherwell.

MOTHERWELL RINK held its first fancy-dress carnival on Thursday in last week, and, as a result, a record attendance was attained.

Geo. Holt's Benefit.

MR. GEO. HOLT, manager of the Nottingham Empress Rink, is to be given a benefit performance by his directors This function will be held on the night of Thursday, April 14.

Stockton's Double.

THE first team of the Royal Rink Hockey Club journeyed to Ferryhill on Wednesday, Feb. 23, and were victorious with 6 goals to 3. The second team played Middlesbrough second, and also won by 1 goal to nil.

Valentine Carnival at Stourbridge.

A VERY successful carnival was held at Stourbridge on Feb. 24. Spectators numbered about 500, and skaters nearly 200. The costume that stood out above all the others was that of the Wedding Cake, worn by the *Era* correspondent, Mr. C. E. Evason. The idea was well carried out with wreaths of flowers, sugar, and tinfoil. Mr. Evason secured the first prize. This is the third carnival at Stourbridge, and Mr. Evason has secured the first prize for the most original costume each time.

Speed Events at Ton-y-Pandy.

AN exceptionally attractive gymkhana was held at the Pavilion Rink, Ton-y-Pandy, on Friday. Included in an extended programme were two speed events, the first in South Wales. Exhibitions by Mr. J. E. Peach were highly appreciated. The ladies' and gentlemen's hockey clubs are doing well.

The Only One.

OF the Widnes rinks, alas! only one now remains, but of five tip-top rinks the Borough Rink has become the only popular and fashionable "skatery" in Widnes, and, as will be expected, business is booming. Attractions are supplied by the energetic management in galore, but hockey matches rule as prime favourites. The Borough possesses eight fine teams, and the "leading lights"—the Borough champions—top the Liverpool and Wirral Rink Hockey League.

THE wedding of Mr. J. H. Tinney, of Truro, to Miss Harriett Henderson, niece of W. C. and S. Hancock, and adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hancock, took place at Stoke Church, Devonport, on Feb. 21. The bride was given away by her father, Mr. W. Hancock, and the best man was Mr. C. Hancock. The bride wore a travelling dress of brown face cloth, with hat to match. The bridesmaids were Miss Sophia Barrett, niece of the bride, and Miss Amy Locke, and wore white silk Empire dresses. The guests were Miss W. Hancock, Miss S. Hancock, Mr. M. Tinney, Miss P. H. Kneebone, Mr. and Mrs. Spinney, Mr. T. Woodley, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. A. Locke, Mrs. and Miss Hamlin, Master Albert Young, and George Locke. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. R. St. John Mitchell, of Dawlish, the appointed minister for the travellers in the West of England during the months of August and September. The Bridal and Wedding March was played at the church by the organist, Mr. Harris. The bride and bridegroom left by the 3 55 train for Cornwall to spend the honeymoon. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tinney desire to thank their many friends through this paper for their numerous presents.

THE principal pictures at the New Public Hall, Carlisle, this week are The Opening of Parliament by the King, and an intensely dramatic film, Cleopatra; another dramatic picture which is very popular is To Save Her Soul. Amongst others are two good humorous films, The Lieutenant's Orderly and A Late Dinner Guest. Packed houses are still the usual thing.

VERY good audiences are the rule at the Dewsbury Industrial Hall this week, and there are some very delightful pictures. The Yellow Devil is a very exciting one.

Oswestry March Fair.

MRS. FLORA COLLINS No. 1 Wonderland show was the chief attraction at this fair. The principal machines were provided by Mr. P. Collins, who exhibited the No. 1 motor-cars, the fine set of four abreast galloping horses, and the twin ships in the air, and racing bicycles. The rifle ranges, shooting galleries were provided by Messrs. Fossett and Wright. The houp-la circles by Messrs. Mills, Birch, Lewis, and Cordwell. Throwing games in great variety by Messrs. Humphreys, Jones, Farrell, Mills, and other caterers. There were numerous stalls and other amusements, the whole forming an excellent fair.

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH
PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.,
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 21,
Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, May 16, June 6.
Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 28, May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 1, 15, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 12,
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
April 18, May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 11, 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for May 2, 16, at Reading.
Wire or write, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Saturday Night Returns:—
"Prodigal Son," £52; "The Old Home," £51; "The Bondman," £92. Bookings include "The Dairymaids," "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant."
Vacant Easter (certainty only). No cheap dramas entertained. April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
March 14, 21, 28, April 11, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Grand Theatre, Luton, Easter. State certainty required. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Easter (three nights). Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.

Phenomenal Success of this Magnificent New Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25 and May 2.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transfer,
First-class Attractions
for April 11 and May 9.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attraction, March 28,
May 9, 16, June 13, 20, Aug. 1, on.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
March 31, April 1, 2 (three nights), and various on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following dates:—
Fulham Theatre, March 14 and 21.
Glasgow, May 2, 16, 23, and 30.
Edinburgh, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.
Newcastle, March 21; May 2, 9, 16, and 30.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
April 11, 25, May 2, and various Autumn.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for March 17, 18, 19, three nights, also April 4.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 4.
April 4.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
Sept. 5, onwards,
Sept. 5, onwards,
Sept. 5, onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, July 4, 11, Aug. 8.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, Strong, Money-making Dramas, April 18, May 3, 23, 30, and June 13; also First-class Attraction for Aug. Bank Holiday week.
Address, R. G. ELDER, General-Manager.

JERSEY AND GUERNSEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction, Easter (biggest week of the year), July 25, Sept. 5 and 12.
EDWARD MARRIS, 39, Prince's-place, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 21, May 2, 23, July 4, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, June 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
A few Autumn dates available for First-class Theatres only.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 15, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company, in "Edged Tools," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), &c., &c.

WANTED, First-class London Successes, for April 11, May 9, 16 (Whit), 23, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THREE PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Only Theatre Now Open in Eastbourne.
March 21 (3 nights), April 18, May 9 (?), 16 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights), June 6, 13.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Mar. 21 (3 nights), May 30, June 20, July 11, 18, 25 (3 nights).
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Successfully reopened Jan. 31 by
MR. CHAS. EVANS,
under Experienced and Popular Management.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only (Musical Comedies, &c.), for the few remaining Season Dates. Also November, Xmas, and onwards.
All communications, address
HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (musical preferred).
Wire for March 21 (5 nights).
Also vacant April 25, May 2, 23, 30.
To follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.
Address, FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
May 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21, May 9, 16.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 28 (?), April 25, May 16, June 20, and on.
Enormous Success with Drama, Twice Nightly.
JAMES BELL.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Easter and Whit.
Two of the Best Weeks in the Season.
Wire, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford. First-class Companies for March 14 (?), 28 (Easter Week), April 11, and onwards.
Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Good Musical Comedy Dates in May, March 7, 10, three nights. Vacant through disappointment. HEATH, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Big Attractions, now and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, March 14, 21 (3 Kirkcaldy, 3 Dunfermline), 28, April 4, on.
Now booking Autumn. W. E. POTTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Easter week (Musical preferred), and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Aug. 4, 5, 6, 29, and Sept. 5 (3 nights).

THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
WANTED, Special Attraction, for Race Night, April 18, and April 7, 8, 9. Only vacancies.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Vacant May 2, 3, 4, and 9, 10, 11 (once nightly), April 14, 21 (3 nights), and 25 (twice nightly).

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant last three days from April 4, on, twice nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Wanted, Good Drama, twice nightly, May 2 and 9.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Loughborough.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for March 21, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, April 11, 18 (?), May 2, 30, and on.
Apply M. MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction for April 11, May 2.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant April 4 (5 or 3 nights), 18, 25, and May 2.
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the Year Round.
Large Stage, well stocked with new Scenery.
Lighted throughout with electricity.
Upholstered and decorated in sumptuous style.
Tip-up Seats.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North. Popular prices.
WANTED, Touring Pantomime, Xmas.
Enormous success of Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood" and Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
Wanted, No. 1 Musical Comedy, May 16 (Whit week), vacant through obliging manager.
Also Dramatic, Musical Attractions and Variety Combinations Required for May and June.
The Opera House and Hippodrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications to
WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions for the following First-class Consecutive Dates:
Ayr, March 14,
Coatbridge, March 21.
Motherwell, March 21 (3 nights), and on.
Leith, April 25, and on.
Wanted, First-class Attractions for Autumn.
Wire or write,
R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone, 5590 Gerrard.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, March 21, Three Nights and Matinée. Suitable for trial of London Production.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THE CHORLTON THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS,
CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY,
NEAR MANCHESTER.
Proprietors, THE CHORLTON ENTERTAINMENTS, LTD.

This place of amusement is situated in the most popular residential district of Manchester, and has been closed some little time for extensive alterations. The Theatre has been greatly enlarged and reseated, and is now splendidly equipped both in front and behind. Lighted throughout by electricity and delightfully heated by the latest system of radiators, and will be reopened on Easter Monday next.
WANTED, Companies, Easter (opening) week (?) and onwards with exceptions.
Only Musical Shows, Farcical Comedies, and Drama with London reputation entertained.

Re dates,
FREDK. J. REECE.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, for March 21.
Apply, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Only Vacant Dates until Winter,
Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, and Oct. 3.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

LEIGH GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LANCASHIRE.
A Popular Theatre at Popular Prices. Run on First-class Lines. The Leading and Finest Theatre in the town and district.
WANTED, Musical Comedies and strong Theatrical Companies, May 2, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Nov. 21, and Dec. 12 and 19, 1910.
Apply, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Leigh.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for April 4; only Spring Date; Autumn rapidly filling.
Address, RICH WALDON, as above.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only Fully Licensed Theatre in the District.
WANTED, Musical and Farcical Comedies, and other Attractions, April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17. JAMES KIERNAN.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for March 17, 18, and 19 (three nights), March 21, March 28 (Easter week), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, First-class Drama, Opera and Burlesque, April and Autumn dates vacant.
Apply, WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, March 14.
Wire, SHERWOOD and Co.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical, Dramatic Attractions for March 21, 28, April 4, 25 (for one of the best musical attraction tours in the North. Grand, Chorley. Also April 18, 25, May 9, 16. The Dramatic Town, Grand, Radcliffe. Now booking Aug., on, with exceptions, both towns. Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, May 2 (unexpectedly vacant), also May 16 (Whit), 23, and 30,
First-class Attractions only.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Supreme No. 1 Companies only,
THE GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910.
With Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year, May 2, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, and Oct. 10, 17, 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CATLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
"DICK WHITTINGTON," with its star cast of artists, including Will Evans and Dan Crawley, The Ethairiens, &c., concluded a triumphant run of six weeks, on Feb. 5.
Bookings at this Theatre include Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey, Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton, Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians."
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few Vacant Dates for 1910.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, Companies, Theatre Royal, Margate, Vac. March 14, on (exceptions). All letters respecting theatre must be addressed, WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, March 14, unexpectedly Vacant.
Apply, WRIGHT BROS., King's Theatre, Greenock.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.
Proprietor and Manager, B. PAREEZER.
WANTED, Known, Vacant March 21, April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16, July 4. KING'S LYNN THEATRE, Vacant April 4, on, with exceptions. SOUTHEND and SHEERNESS THEATRES. All communications re the above to Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
March 14, 21, 28, and onwards.
Variety Combinations and Dramas.
Note, Twice Nightly.
Share or Certainty.

All communications to WALTER BATTY.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Star Variety Companies, March 28, April 4, 18, onward. All coms., SCOTTIE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the Garrison Theatre, Bordon, Hants, March 14, 21, 28, and on (3 or 4 nights).
MAY, The White Hart, Binsted, Alton.

WANTED, Good Attractions for March 14, 21, April 7, 14, 21, May 4, 9, 16, 23, onwards.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Musical or Farcical Comedy, or Panto., Easter (3 nights). West End Success can do good business. BELLERBY, King's Hall, Ilkley.

NEW OLYMPIC HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, two nights, July, Aug., and Sept., onwards; holding capacity 900; twice the size of any licensed building in the town and neighbourhood. Big Attraction wanted for opening, July 11, but must be big.
Apply, G. E. REDMAN, Theatrical Manager.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, March 21 and 28.
WALTER MELVILLE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 26, and on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, Nov. 28.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, April 4, 11, May 2.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Oct. 31.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
New Hall, Bargoed, South Wales.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 9, 16, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
New Hall, Bargoed, South Wales.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of May 2 and 23.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, April 4 (?), May 2, 9, 16, July 11, on, Aug. 1, Christmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
WANTED, April 3, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
March 7, G. T., Tidworth (3); C. H., Salisbury (3).

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Written by Mrs. Morton Powell.
The Sensational Success.
May 2, 9, 23 (?), 30, June 6 (?), 13 (?), Aug. 8,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, for this Great Money Magnet.
May 9, June 6, July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, for this Proved Powerful Play.
May 2, 9, 23, 30, July 25, Oct. 10, 17 (?).

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Plays to Book are
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
The Plays to Draw.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
3 week's receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Oct. 3, 10.
FRED BULMER,
Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, May 2, June 27, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seasides only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 18, 25, May 2 and 9, Oct. and Nov.
Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR,
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
MISS CARLOTTA ZERBINI and Specially Selected Company.
WANTED, April 18, 25 (precede Harrogate), May 23 (follow Portsmouth), 30, and June.
H. CHISWELL BILLING, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Dates, April and May, for First-class Company.
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Feb. 6, for Pantomime, to be produced at New Theatre, Oxford. Only Vacant Date. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Christmas, for "Sinbad," three or four weeks, or longer; last season at New Theatre, Oxford. Refer C. C. Dorrill, Esq also successful previously at Dalston, Brixton, West London Theatres, &c. Willing to let and produce same on royalty for any manager desiring a first-class money-making production. BRYDON-PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

MILTON BODE and JOHN HART'S COMPANY.
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre for April 11, between Leeds and Newcastle.
Wire MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
By Arrangement with George Dance, Esq.
WANTED, Dates, Easter Week, onwards. Full Cast and Chorus; everything on First-class Lines. All coms., NEVILLE CLAUDE, 2, ANDREWS' New Theatre, Aberdare.

The New Play, "HIS REAL WIFE," by Chas. A. Clarke.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 5, Christmas and Spring, 1911. Address, T. E. WARD, G. T., Newcastle.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 2, 9, 23, June 6, 20, July 4, 25, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 5.
HALDANE CRICHTON, T. R., King's Lynn.

MR. HARRY BRISTOW and First-class London Company, including MISS PEARL NOYLE as TAMSIE, in "THE PIN AND THE PUDDING," by Barton White, direct from Comedy T., London.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 23 (?), 30, various June and July. HARRY BRISTOW, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

"KING AND UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, April 4 11, 18, 25, and onward.
Address, E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
March 7, Elephant and Castle Theatre.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, April 25, South, May 2, precede Lowestoft.
DICKIE CLARE, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

"THE CATCH OF THE SEASON."
MURRAY KING and Full Musical Comedy Co.
WANTED, May 9, between Wolverhampton and Hastings. Address, KING, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

"DESTROYER OF MEN," vacant March 14, owing closing.
WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Wire for March 14.
BEVERLEY, Prince's, Preston.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, April 4, 25, and Autumn.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

"THE MAN WHO KNEW."
WANTED, Theatres, March 28 (three nights), precede Worthing; April 11 (follow West Pier, Brighton), April 25.
GEORGE WATERS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions.

"THE BEST PEOPLE."
"THE BEST PEOPLE."
"THE BEST PEOPLE."
By Frederick Lonsdale. From Wyndham's Theatre.
Author of "Dear Little Denmark," "Early Worm," "Balkan Princess."
Provincial and Suburban Rights.
Tour starts March 7, West Pier, Brighton.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Easter on, with exceptions.
WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, London.

SILVERSTONE and WRIGHT'S CO.,
"THE NIHILIST;
OR, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
WANTED, Theatres, vacant Wales (3 nights), March 10, 11, 12, March 31 (3 nights), April 18 (?), 25 (?) North. Big Theatre for Whit. Every Holiday a Record Broken. Big Theatres June 6, 13, 27, Sept. 5, on. Acknowledged the finest Twice Nightly Attraction Touring. Wire, SILVERSTONE, Ton-y-Pandy; next, Ferndale.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
Thursday again best Monday at Blackburn. Refer E. H. Page, also T. Morton Powell, who said: "The finest show I've had in my theatre for twelve months."
WANTED, Big Theatres, March 21 (North), May 9, Sept. 5 (North), Oct. 24, 31. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, To-day, Q. T., Farnworth; next, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

WANTED, for this Colossal Production, No. 1 Theatre, next Season. Production and Run.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910-1911), and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Theatre, Christmas (1910-1911), and onwards.
Managers Note.—These are three of the most successful Pantomimes ever produced.
PLAYS.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Drama, Good Theatres, May 2, Whit Week, and onwards.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring.
Vacant April 25 (Wales preferred); also Wanted, Good Theatre, for Whit Week.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
Wanted, Good Theatres, for Easter Week, April 4, 11, and May 9. Re Dates,
FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic Address,
"Granville, Pagoda, Liverpool."

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."

WANTED, through obliging,
March 28,
March 28.
Wire for March 28.
Wire for March 28.
Refer E. H. Page, Esq., re show.
Refer E. H. Page, Esq., re drawing powers.
Thanks F. Laidler, Esq., for contract, Bradford.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, to-day, Prince's Theatre, Preston; next week, Empire T., Fleetwood.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.

WANTED, Aug. 8, to follow Stratford; also vacant Spet. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
Empire Theatre, Fleetwood.

"THE THIEF."
Messrs. ALBAN and BERNARD LIMPUS'S NO. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8 (South), Sept. 19 and on (North).
Bookings include:—Next week, Folkestone, Brighton, Eastbourne, Portsmouth, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Worcester, Cheltenham, Cambridge, Yarmouth, &c.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
Herbert C. Lloyd's Co.
Vacant Nov. 7 (between Lancaster and Liverpool) and Nov. 21.
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
Mr. Percy Tyler's Company.
Wanted, No. 2 Theatres, Oct. 17 and on.

Address (re dates only),
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED, March 14, follow Leamington; Easter week, precede New, Cambridge.

Last week, third visit to Belfast.
Receipts beat both former dates.
A magnificent and level week.
Friday, £38 15s. 5d., Saturday nearly double.

Kindly refer Mr. Warden.

Wire, LOIE ESMOND, Empire, Fleetwood (R.).
March 7, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Easter, Easter, Easter,
April 4 and 11,
May 2,
July 11, 18, 25,
August Bank Holiday,
Nov. 14, and Xmas.
Various Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Refer Thos. Courtice, Esq., &c., &c. Everything carried.
Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
T. R., Chatham; Monday, T. R., Edmonton.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.

WANTED, May 9 (?), and Whit (Midlands or South).
Only Spring Dates Open.

CHARLES GIBBON, Theatre Royal, Bath.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 28,
April 11.
Playing to record business everywhere.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Supported by an all-round Star Company.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."

WANTED, Theatres, Whit Week, also various Autumn.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
Vacant March 7, Easter, May 23, June 6, 27, Aug. 1, few Autumn.
Letters, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MURRAY KING AND CLARK'S NEXT YEAR'S XMAS PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, good Theatre, "Dick Whittington" (from Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne), for the Season. "Cinderella," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, and 30. Address, M. KING, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."

WANTED, for this Huge Success April 18, Sept. 12, 26, and Oct. 3.

"THE WOMAN PAYS," March 21, April 4 and 11.

FRANK M. THORNE, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Comedy.
A three hours' laugh.
Cast of First-class Artists. Troupe of Dancers.
Pretty Scenery. Attractive Printing.

WANTED, Sept. 12 (?), 19, Oct. 3, 24.
BEAUDYN and MONTANINI,
Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN
Supported by the Following Well-Known Artists,
Anna Beaumont, Madge Seymour, Olga Kay,
Dudley Wynton, Frank Ayrton,
Arthur Trail, David Curtis,
and
Norman A. Overton,

Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."

Please Refer
re Company, Play, and Production.

WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatre, March 28, between Dewsbury and London; April 11, between London and Alex., Birmingham; also May 2, 9, 16, August Bank Holiday, onwards.
All Coms.,
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

KIMBERLEY, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, Easter Week,
April 4, 11, April 4, 11.
Easter, Easter, Easter.
The Play of the Year. Thanks to F. Laidler, Esq., for contracts Leeds and Bradford, including one of the best holiday dates in the year. The most novel play on tour, and the most successful. Wire for Easter to F. G. KIMBERLEY, Gaiety Theatre, Methil, N.B.; next, Metropole, Glasgow.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.

WANTED, Production Dates,

Christmas, 1910-11,
Christmas, 1910-11,
Christmas, 1910-11,
Christmas, 1910-11,
Christmas, 1910-11,
Christmas, 1910-11,
for
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
J. GAR KIDDIE'S
Gigantic
Gigantic
Gigantic
Gigantic
Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,
Pantomime Productions,

Most expensive Combination of Pantomime Artists Touring.

These Pantomimes
NEVER FAIL to do big business.

"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
and
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."

Can be played once or twice nightly.
Can be played once or twice nightly.

Thanks many Managers for offers, but must have Big Theatres, capable of taking money.

Write,

J. GAR KIDDIE,
Victoria Chambers, Widnes.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
Pleases the Public. Result, Business Good.
Refer, or come and see it.
Next week, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, July 11 (follow Broadhead Theatres), Aug. 1, 15.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Cast, production, &c., perfect. Result, business good.
Refer McLeod Loader, Esq., Warrington.
Vacant May 9. Vacant June 13 (South only).

"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
The Acme of Perfection in Human Plays.
Vacant Sept. 19, 26.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
The "East Lynne" of Military Dramas.
Vacant July 4.
Wanted, Theatre for Stock, June or July.
Wire or write. To-day, Court Theatre, Warrington.
Next, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."

WANTED, Easter week. Easter week, Special Cast, including Miss Edie Macklin, Miss C. St. Elmo.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, April 18, to follow Hammersmith.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, Easter, and few Summer Dates.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Special Cast, guaranteed one of the finest on the road, including Miss L. Walker; Vacant May 2, 23 (North), Aug. 1, few Autumn Dates.
Wire for these sound Attractions to
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Theatre, Methil; next, Metropole, Glasgow.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Fine Plant of Printing by Allens.

WANTED, a Few Autumn Dates and Spring 1911, Big Theatres.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

"OH! SUSANNAH!"
From the Royalty Theatre, London.
Enormous Business last week at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, turned hundreds away on Saturday night. Refer Albert Douglas, Esq.
Managers Note Cast:
Miss Adie Boyne, Miss Eve Mansell, Miss Frances Carlyle, Miss Ethel Marsden, Miss Mabel Leatham, Mr. Alfred Ibberson, Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse, &c.

WANTED, March 21, to follow Fulham Theatre, Easter Week, April 4 (?), 11, 25, May 9, 16, and on, with exceptions.
Thanks to Robert Arthur, Esq., G. H. Moody, Esq., F. McCrea, Esq., J. C. Imeson, Esq., for offers and contracts.
Wire, CECIL H. WOODHOUSE, His Majesty's T., Barrow-in-Furness; next, O. H., Oldham.

Grand Pantomime, "CINDERELLA."

WANTED, Theatres, March 21 and 28, Easter week, for this Beautiful Production; can give Sacred Concert Good Friday. A splendid show. Address, BARRETT, East Theatre, Oxford; after Saturday Theatre, Hippodrome, Wednesbury, Staffs.

Miss MARY NEIL
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell,
and
New Play
by Mary Neil and R. Barrie.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston), Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 12, and Xmas.
GEO. KIRK, 56, Stamford-avenue, Brighton.

TRAVIS GREEN and ARTHUR HINTON'S "CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, for this Sterling Drawing Attraction, March 17, 18, and 19, March 21, and Easter week. Full company. Superb specialities. Wire, TRAVIS GREEN, this, Theatre, Ferndale; next, Opera House, Torquay.

MR. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.

WANTED, for "A Pair of Spectacles," or Repertory, March 14 and 21, April 18, and onwards. Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD."
Sixty-second Week of Tour.

WANTED, Good Theatre, April 4, to follow Grimsby (return), London or Midlands Preferred. Only vacant date till February.
J. EDWARD WHITTY,
To-day, T., Paisley; next, Opera House, Perth.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.

WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, Easter week and onwards, complete new Programme, including Big Burlesque. "Androcles and the Lion." All coms., SCOTTIE, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Theatres, Large Halls, Piers &c. (the Bigger the Better), for the Walturdaw Animated Picture Co. Write, Wood, People's Palace, Tottenham.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Good Theatres,
for the Musical Farce, in two Acts,

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."

"A" Company, including
MISS FLORENCE BAINES, as
MARY ELLEN THOMPSON,
Vacant April 4, May 23, and various Autumn.

"B" Company, including
MISS MADGE GREY as
MARY ELLEN THOMPSON.
Vacant March 28 (Easter), April 18, 25, and on.

Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Prince's Theatre, Preston.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P.C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery) depicting the Murder of Halijohn.
Specially selected cast includes:
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.

WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates until June 13 are
March 28, May 16.
Write or wire.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

WANTED, for "Miss Plaster of Paris," Good Theatres, April 4, 18, May 2, 9. Thanks Payne Seddon, Esq., Contracts. Whit Week, Lincoln. HENRY L. OSMOND, Pier Pavilion, New Brighton.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
"THE BETTER LAND."
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."

WANTED, First-class Leading Man and Heavy Man, to open at once; also required, Artists in all Lines, for Tour, starting Easter.
Full particulars to FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool.
N.B.—Mark envelopes "Drama."

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S CO.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
By arrangement with T. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Tall, Handsome Leading Lady for Gertrude Hunt, must have power and Pathos; Light Comedy Chambermaid; tall, powerful Heavy Man for Schawbe; Heavy Character actor for Llewellyn; Robust Juvenile gent. for Harold Spence, combine Stage Management; Old Man, Short Comedian, Character Men, Two Tall Responsible Men to double, Carpenter (own tools). Tour starts Easter. Booked right through the summer. Photos.
Particulars, References, Lowest Summer Terms. OSWALD CRAY, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, for Big Farcical Sketch Production, Rehearse Immediately, Experienced Comedian (star part, female impersonation), Character Policeman, Irascible Old Man. All to give one month for Rehearsals and Trial Performances. Terms for London. Stage Production Co., 295, Kennington-road.

WANTED, for "Pride of Regiment," Variety Theatres, Buxom Attractive Lady, for the Wife (Miss Cicely Richards's part). Photos., terms, and full particulars, letters only. To-day, Camden Hippodrome; Monday, Holborn Empire. Interviews by appointment.

WANTED, Full Company and Chorus, for the "Duchess of Dantzig," Tour commences July 25. Terms, &c., last two refs., ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Actor and Actress, used to stock business; must have powerful voices, quick study, able to write and produce Dramatic Sketches, and must be good Elocutionists and able to lecture to pictures; good salary to the right people. Apply, with full particulars, to HAMILTON, Picturedrome, Bridge-st., Bradford.

WANTED, "Damozel," Leading Lady, Julie; tall Lady, Sybil; rehearse March 14. Terms, height, references, photos. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Coloured Ladies, for Parts, some for Show. Address,
B. W., 45, Dyke-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Amateurs, for summer tour, comedy, small part and understudy. Full particulars, Box 7,360, "The Era."

WANTED, Coach for Amateurs, for D'Oyly Carte's Opera, "The Mikado." Commence duties at once, give at least four weeks. Refs. and inclusive terms. Apply, Box 7,374, "The Era."

WANTED, Walking Gent., for London Tour of "Are You a Mason?" Dress well on and off; good appearance and speaking voice. Photo., &c., Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, rehearse next week, tall Baritone, for Music Hall Scena (through illness), for two weeks. Apply full particulars, lowest terms, THEODORE JONES, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, for Summer Concert Tour, Contralto or Mezzo, medium height; also Pianist Accompanist, Baritone, and Light Comedian; all must be smart and young. Apply in first instance, Box 7,365, "The Era."

WANTED, Fifteen Jewish Gentlemen and Two Jewish Ladies to Act as Worshippers in Sketch, South-western District. Usual walking-on remuneration. Apply to-day, 2 o'clock, Mr. LYNTON, stage door, Empire, Islington.

WANTED, Girls 17 to 19, 5ft. 3in. good Singers and Buck Dancers, personal appearance essential.
Apply, Saturday and Monday, 2 to 4.
Bath House, Dean-street, Soho. Miss SAXONE.

WANTED, a Talented Lady Dancer for a New, Dramatic Dance,
Tall and Young.
Box 7,366, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Kate Walfred as Marie, "Napoleon the Great," by F. M. Thorne. This, Metropole Birmingham; next, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Engagement, Light Comedy, Heavy, late "Prodigal Son," and Raffles," Acting or Stage Management. Terms, PHILLIPS, King's Library, Dorking.

WANTED, Known, Phyllis St. Clare, Soprano Vocalist, Pianist (certificated, Gold Medalist, London), desires Engagement; just resigned, third season. 1, Pavilion-street, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Dancer, Small Parts, or to join Sisters or Quartette; all-round Dancer, also good Toe-dancer; England or abroad. RENA WEBSTER, 64, Roxboro'-park, Harrow.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."

WANTED, at once, First-class Principal Boy, for Spring Tour; also Artists in all Lines, for next season.
Terms, photos., and full particulars, to
FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool.
N.B.—Mark envelopes "Pantomime."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for next Season Pantomimes, also Chorus Ladies.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. ROBERTS, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Scenic Artist, abstainer; London or Prov.; best work, good refs. Terms, £2 5s. Add., A. E. A., 29, Tadema-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, C. D. Leigh (scenic artist), late of Royal Opera House, Leicester, at Liberty, Stage or Acting Management, singly or otherwise. Address, 16, East Bond-street, Leicester. Ten years last engagement.

WANTED, Known, Philip Small, Scenic Artist, at Liberty shortly for Engagement or Contract, town or Provinces. Present address, Empire Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery at Lowest Prices, Original and Effective. W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE EDINBURGH MARINE GARDENS, LTD.

WANTED, Known, the Directors invite Applications for the Managership of their Amusement Park at Portobello, the appointment to be yearly or otherwise, as arranged. The Park extends to 27 acres, and contains a Concert Hall, Skating Rink, Restaurants, Tea-room, and Buffets, &c., Ornamental Gardens, Bandstand, and Amusement Court. The Applicant must be prepared to commence duty immediately. Applications, which will be treated as confidential, stating age, experience, qualifications, and salary required, together with copies of testimonials, must be forwarded to the Secretary in an envelope marked "Manager," to reach him not later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9, 1910.

WANTED, First-class Window Biller (one with sticks), for two weeks, commencing March 18.
FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, cut out and make, Preference given to one who can work in chorus. Lowest Terms. HENRY L. OSMOND, Pier, New Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager or Assistant of Picture Hall, experienced, capable, energetic worker, competent Pianist, Pictures, Speciality; good speaker, highly recommended; genuine references; Liberty March 14. M., 4, Castleview-terrace, Skipton.

WANTED, Known, Manager, age 30, several years' London experience, now controlling large provincial hall, desires change, theatre or hall. Box 7,371, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Stage Manager, at Liberty, wants re-engagement, used to Lightning Programme. Address, ALFRED SULLIVAN, Montcalm, 117, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage-Manager or Carpenter, in Theatre or Hall; good bench hand, Stage and Grid Layer; good references. Address, STAGE-MANAGER, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, by London Manager, Touring or Resident Management, North of England Preferred. Apply, A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Carpenter, Practical Bench Hand, own tools; resident or tour. Theatre or M.H. BERT YARD, 61, St. Michael's-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill-poster, Theatre, Music Hall, or Circus. Can open at once. Total Abstainer.
H. LOCKYER, 72, Barton-street, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, Engagement as Attendant and Biller, Theatre or Hall; abstainer; three years last shop. W. FAIL, West End House, Bush-street, Pembroke Dock, South Wales.

WANTED, Easter, Position as Matron in Children's Play or High-class Troupe. Offers. Box 7,370, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Leader (Violin), also Cornet. Special week at Whitsun, and season from July, Douglas, Isle of Man. Experience and absolute salary in first letter to
CHARLES DARE, 26, Ivy-lane, London, E.C.

WANTED, for Miss Kate Erl's Orchestra of Ladies, thoroughly efficient Leader and other instrumentalists. Good appearance essential. Box 7,372, "The Era."

WANTED, March 21, First Violin, Double Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, and Drums. Age, references and lowest terms to ASH, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Violin, for the Cheltenham Professional Town String Band (sobriety indispensable). Terms, shares. Address, J. BOYCE, 6, Queen's Retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, for Touring Engagement, Two Violinists (first), and Harmonium player, or Pianist (only experienced musician) for small Concert Orchestra. Absolute Lowest Terms to Box 7,368, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to open March 14, a reliable Solo Cornet, Dramatic and Operatic experience essential. Terms and references to MUS.-DIR., H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED for Croydon Town Band Cornet and B flat Clarionet. Terms, shares. Letters only. WALTERS, 51, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, B Clarionet and Cornet, for Pitching, wages 18s. per week. BANDMASTER LUDWIG, 5, Irongate-wharf, Paddington, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Concert Bassoonist, for Riviere's Orchestra, Colwyn Bay, as follows: 9 days Easter, 8 days Whit, and 6 weeks from July 23. Terms and references, W. F. HAGUE, Sherwood, Bristol-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for White Star Mediterranean Service, Feb. 21 until Oct.; also First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star and Cunard North Atlantic Service, April to Oct. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. C. W. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Smart Lady 'Cellist (combine Piano) for Musical Act on Stoll Tour. Age, terms, photo (returned) to
CLEFF, Raby Hall, Byker, Newcastle.

WANTED, to open Monday next, First-class 'Cello, for Hippodrome, Southend-on-Sea; also Leader, for Hippodrome, Southampton. Apply, stating experience, age, and salary required, to MUSICAL ADVISER, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo Player, for Skating Rink, twice daily, a string band. Apply, T. ALSOP, Jubilee Villa, Bentley-rd., Doncaster.

THE NEW PICTUREDROME, BRADFORD.

WANTED, to commence Monday, March 21, First-class Pianist for Pictures and Varieties. Good money to the right man. Frank Hubble write. Lowest terms and references to V. HAMILTON, Picturedrome, Bridge-st., Bradford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Nomads Concert Party, Lady Pianist, capable of joining Concertedas, smart and young. Photos, age, references, and lowest terms for eighteen weeks, commencing Whit, to C. W. PARKE, 21, Earl's Court-gdns., Kensington.

LORD JOHN SANGER and SONS, LTD.
Tenting Season, 1910.

WANTED, Double Drummer (Bass Drum found), for Season, about thirty-four weeks. Terms, 32s. 6d. weekly and substantial bonus. Age and refs. to CLEM. A. LAWRENCE, 15, Coventry-road, Warwick.

WANTED, Good Drummer, for Granville Music Hall, Waltham Green; must be well up to the business. FRANK THOMAS, 36, Angell-road, Brixton.

WANTED, for Seaside, a First-class Solo Flute Player, Solo Cornet, and Solo Trombone, also Bass Player (must be very good), to combine Euphonium or Bombardon or other brass instrument; and also a First-class Solo Pianist (must be used to a Viennese Orchestra). Engagements to start from March 27 until Oct. 1. State terms. Only Musicians living in London need write. Box 321, c/o Bates, Hendy, and Co., 81, Cannon-street, E.C.

WANTED, to complete Band for E. H. Bostock's Grand International Railroad Circus, to open April 4, Bombardon, Trombone, Tenor Horn, Second Cornet, and Double Drums. Terms, 32s. 6d. Must be strictly temperate and competent.
Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Musicians (Military Band) for Palace Pier, Brighton, five days, from March 24, Season to follow. References, terms, age, to BANDMASTER, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists for Military Band (London). None but the best need apply. Full particulars, references, and lowest terms to J. T. MORRISON, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, for Long London Engagement, Military Band, Brass Solists; also Solo Clarionet and Drummers. First-class, ex-Army men only. Write, Box 7,364, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Violins, 'Cellos, Bass, Second Horns, and First Solo Cornet and Trumpet. Applications to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Bandsmen for the Season, July to September, double handed (mil. and orchestra) preferred. Terms and refs., BELLERBY, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, for Swallow's Circus (Tenting), March 26, Second Cornet, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, Drums. Terms, 30/- LEADER, 6, Nut-street, Halliwell, Bolton.

WANTED, for a Works Band, Double-handed Musicians, permanent employment to suitable men. Address, TOM BERRY, Bandmaster, Griffithstown, Newport, Mon.

SOMERSET AND BATH ASYLUM,
COTFORD, near TAUNTON.

WANTED, Male Attendant, unmarried; wages commencing at £26 per annum, rising to £45,
with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; extra pay to Bandsman,
Cornet Player preferred.
Apply, MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, all Violinists and 'Cellists to send for a copy of Auguste Van Biene's great solo "Roses and Memories" (by Ted Snyder), price 1s. 7d. post free; pro. copies, enclose card; 1s. 1d. post free, from the publishers, TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.), Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, by Benjamin Parks, Engagement as Musical-Director (Violin or Baton), Disengaged after March 5. BENJAMIN PARKS, Conducter, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, by Fred L. Buckley, Pianist and Conductor (performed before T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Westminster, &c.), Summer Engagement, any business. FRED L. BUCKLEY, 39, Oliver-st., Stockport.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, as Conductor-Pianist or Pianist, any business; extensive library; abstainer; highest references. HILL, 47, Pierpoint-street, Warrington.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist-Conductor, immediate Re-engagement, any business. Young. CAMPBELL, Crown Theatre, Eccles; Sunday, 31, Stanley-grove, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal (Leader and Cornet), Disengaged Summer. Address till 30th inst., c/o Zintl, Jahnstrasse 2a, Dusseldorf.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ethel Horton, Violinist, experienced in Concert Work, Variety, or Rinking. Alveston House, Herbert-rd., Plumstead.

WANTED, Known, Miss Jessie Radford, Returned from three years' engagement on Continent, Leader, Violin, and Soloist. Offers Invited. 345, Lordship-lane, E. Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Leader, permanency, Theatre or Variety, First-class Engagement only, and open all year round desired. Refs. and particulars, LEADER, 138, Nuns-street, Derby.

WANTED, an Engagement as Leader or First Violin, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Any business. JAS. HEAP, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, steady, and reliable, Engagement, Summer or permanent, as Second Violin; any business. JNO. TEMPLETON, JUN., 25, Charlotte-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, experienced Variety, Drama, Concert; young, sober, reliable; can open Monday. VIOLINIST, 58, Great Titchfield-street, London, W.

WANTED, by First-class Solo Cornet, also Good Trombone, Good Engagement, also Good Summer Engagement. Good refs. Address, Box 7,359, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, Experienced, all Lines, or could supply Rink Band. Excellent Library up-to-date Music. DAVID WILLIAMS, 39, Sunlight-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, Experienced.
SID CHANNING,
59, St. Nicholas-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, abstainer, 22, Variety and Drama experience, any business; excellent refs. H. COUZENS, 18, Grafton-street, Brighton.

WANTED, by Experienced Solo Cornet, Engagement, late Empire Theatre, Edinburgh. C. PHILLIS, 32, St. Leonard's-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, First or Second, experienced, good refs. State terms. F. Baker, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, at Liberty, Monday, Leader Rink, or any Business. Wire, write, terms, &c., CORNET, 11, Smallwood-road, Tooting, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any Business, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Address, A. ANSTIS, 39, Brewer-street, Lewes-road, Brighton.

1910.

WANTED, Engagement, by Will Morris, late Solo Clarionet Southport Municipal Band (two seasons), Smith's Australian Tour, and Principal Clarionet Sunderland Municipal Band last year; Season Engagement; good Double-handed Band preferred, with plenty of work for Violin. MORRIS, Oak Lea, Gilpin-st., Houghton-le-Spring.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Clarionet, any business, young, steady, and very reliable; good testimonials and refs. G. WHITE, Hampstead Skating Palace, N.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet and Cornet; both young; excellent refs.; any business or distance. Write, Cornet, 63A, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Orchestral or Military; thoroughly experienced. Apply, Clarinet, c/o G. Leigh, 24, Shrubbery-road, Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, Theatre, Variety, or Seaside; thoroughly experienced, first-class refs.; late Royal Marine Band. Clarionet, 22, Northcross-road, East Dulwich.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Clarionet, Comb, Violin; good references; Disengaged May.
P. Griffiths, 10, Harriet-street, Pollokshaws.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, Double Bass, Engagement; Ladies' Orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoonist, late Duke of Devonshire and Sig. Esposito's Orchestras; thoroughly experienced, any business. J. Mills, Beanford, Battle.

WANTED, Known, Ben Morris, Double Bass, Liberty through disappointment; highest references; experienced all branches. 22, Chorley-road, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by good Trombone, experienced any business; good refs.; sober and reliable. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, good Trombone can open at once, exp. Drama, Musical Comedy, and Variety; reliable, steady; life abstainer; good refs. W. Cockcroft, 13, Edmund-street, Walsden.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium, thoroughly Experienced, seeks engagement to commence on or after Easter Monday, Sea-side, Skating Rink, or good Tenting Show. Address, Eupho., c/o Cummings, 2, William's-burgh, Glasgow-road, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, by First-class Euphonium, Engagement, any business, can open at once. Chas. Grice, 40, Gardner-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, by experienced Bombardon, E Flat or BB Flat, immediate Engagement, also for Military Band, Summer Engagement. Box 7,357, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Brilliant Saxophone and Cornet Soloist; own silver instruments. Good Pianist and Vocalist. Add., Musician, 23, Circular-road, Falmouth-road, S.E.
P.S.—Just concluded Musical Act Engagement.

WANTED, Engagement by French Horn, Second, both Military and String, outside; or would deputise. Good ref. and reliable. Ex-R.M.B. Phillips, 84, Warwick-road, Kensington.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, Rink or any other business. First-class refs. J. Wootton, 35, Pasley-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Seaside or Summer Engagement, by A. Langerak, 7, Parton-street, London, W.C. (late Principal Horn, Buxton Gardens, Bath Military Band).

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Young Lady, in Orchestra, as 'Cello, for the month of Aug.; good sight reader and Soloist. Box 7,356, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, reliable, steady, and experienced in musical comedy, dramatic, and variety business. Good references. Apply to Musician, Box 7,363, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by refined Lady 'Cellist Solo and Orchestral; young, experienced, good soloist. 'Cello, 119, Parkinson-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement in Orchestra or Chamber Music; good Soloist; references. Address, 'Cellist, 31c, Cremorne-mansions, Chelsea.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced 'Cello, combine Clart., any distance. Disengaged. Write Baker, 25, Annandale-road, East Greenwich, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, 'Cello, Permanent or Season; experienced, any business; good Theatre or Café preferred. 'Cello, 24, Upper Haugh, Rawmarsh, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagements, or Deputising, Viola. W. Wood,
20, Lugard-road, Queen's-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by Oboist, Summer Engagement. Experienced any business. Steady, good references. Apply X., 11, Wycherley-road, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by First-class Oboist, Engagement. Highest references, &c. Disengaged March 5 through terminating of Turner's Opera Co., London. Wm. R. Morton, 31, Richmond-road, Dalston.

WANTED, Good Seaside Engagement, by Harpist, good reader, &c., Disengaged Easter, any business; ditto, First-class Trombonist, refined, thoroughly experienced, and best refs.; both double-handed, useful. Box 7,375, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist, Eveline Hall (sister of Marie Hall, Violinist). 12, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, any business; good references.
Doherty, Theatre, Maesteg, Glam, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, experienced any business; abstainer; good refs. H. Littler, 100, Victoria-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Flautist and Piccolo Soloist. At Liberty. Excellent refs. and ability. Any biz. Alf. Harvey, 113, Ashford-street, Shelton, Hanley, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Known, Kenneth Lyle, Composer, is open to accept Summer Engagement as Pianist. Letters, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, by really good Pianist, Engagement, now or later; just concluding long engagement on the Continent. Grey, Rampische-strasse 8, Dresden A., Germany.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, variety, pictures, cafés. Pianist, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Sight-reader, Experienced. At present disengaged. Ellis, 111, Grayshott-rd., Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Pianist, pictures only, useful if required, highest refs., just finished ten weeks Kilburn Palace. Pianist, 69, Canterbury-road, Kilburn, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as accompanist to professional lady or orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Pianist, Young, Experienced, good Sight-reader, engagement with First-class Orchestra. Good references. Clarke, 80, George-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Expert Accompanist (high class). State terms. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, by Pianist, L.R.A.M., Engagement as Accompanist with Concert Party, either on Tour or Seaside for the Summer; 4 years at R.A.M.; highest references. Apply, stating terms offered, to R. L. 20, Fulham-place, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Known, thoroughly competent Pianist and Accompanist desires position in Theatre or Café, or Season Engagement. Terms moderate. Distance no object. Address, Austin, 108, Kambala-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drums, Effects; sober, experienced; Liberty March 21; any business, Rink preferred. 221, Boaler-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Drummer, Rink or Variety, Liberty at once.
Address, 89, Havelock-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, together with Lady Pianist, any business; thoroughly experienced; good refs. Drums, 42, Kenilworth-street, Leamington.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Tympanist, brilliant xylophone soloist, late Victoria Pier, Blackpool, and Earl's Court. Wadsworth, 34, St. Mary's-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement Double Drums and Effects. Disengaged through closing. Experienced Variety, Military, Brass. Gillispie, 77, Leslie-terrace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Tympanist and Double Drummer, experienced Military Orchestra, Concert, &c.; steady, reliable. 27, Russell-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, an Engagement, as Double Drummer, Circus preferred.
W. Brightwell, 118, Bull Close-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, and Tubular Bells, for Rinks, Piers. Madame Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Town Councils, Pier Companies, &c., to Note, Godfrey Holbech's well-known London Band (patronised by Royalty) is at Liberty for Summer Engagement; three most successful Seasons at Felixstowe. Highest testimonials and references.

Write, Box 505, Willing's, 73, Knightsbridge, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Band Committees, Pier, and Rink Managers, the Royal Bohemian Band Vacant for Summer Season, any number, in smart uniform, good répertoire. Full particulars, references, &c., Wilton Russell, 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Maddison's Excelsior Band, now playing with Great Success at the Large Hampstead Skating Palace. Open for Summer Engagement, Seaside or otherwise. Photos. 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by the Celebrated Aeolian Male Quartette, First Prize winners at all the leading Musical Festivals, 1909; unique Répertoire; Summer Bookings, Seaside. Address, Crewe.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestra, at Liberty from April 1. Engagements accepted, individually or collectively. Apply, Municipal Orchestra, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement on Ocean Liner, by First-class Trio, Violin, 'Cello, Piano; extensive répertoire. Trio, 91, Rylans-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, to Seaside Corporations, High-class Orchestra would accept Summer Engagement or the Sole Rights of Playing. Dickin, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Rink Band, six to nine Professionals, at Liberty through closing, up-to-date library, ten months' last engagement. Terms or offers. Box 7,362, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Rink Band (Military), six performers, smart uniforms, return from Australia March 5. Terms, Bandmaster, 5, York-street, Derby.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Rink or Season, by small Military Band; up to date Répertoire. Alfred Matthews, Mus.-Dir., Boulevard Rink, Leicester.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Useful Clowns, March 21 and onwards.
Long and Comfortable Engagement for Suitable People.

Apply,
Manangle, Royal Italian Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Big Sensational Acts for Galas, July and August. Apply, stating lowest terms, sample lithos., &c., to
Joseph Wells,
Honor Oak Park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Riders, Jugglers, Benders, Posturers, Clowns, useful People, two Cornets, Horns, or small Band. Terms low. Dennis, Circus, Cresswell, Derbyshire.

WANTED, a Perfect Young Lady Gymnast for a First-class Act; or girl about 16 to learn.
Apply, with photo, to
Estrella, General Post Office, Worthing, Sussex.

E. H. BOSTOCK'S
GRAND INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD CIRCUS.
WANTED, to Open April 2, Good Tentmen, Grooms, Lampman, Property Man, and Useful Men in all Departments.
Sobriety indispensable.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.
N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circuses, Hippodromes, Gardens, Fêtes, and Galas, &c., by the Three Royal Ohmys, the wonderful Bareback Riders, who have just concluded twelve weeks' successful engagement at Hengler's Grand Circus, Glasgow; now appearing at the Royal Circus, Edinburgh, and are now the talk of the town; will be at Liberty Easter Monday, with six great Acts; a Circus in themselves; nothing like their great Act ever seen before in England; four beautiful trained Horses, grand Posters, Lithos., and Wardrobe. For particulars address, The Royal Ohmys, Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Quaint Valdo, the Famous Clown and Comedian, with Original Comic Interludes, Burlesques, &c. Will shortly be disengaged.

Address,
23, Hazelbourne-road, Balham, London.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good Entrées, Agouste, and Globe Show. Wire offers, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, Liberty for Fêtes and Galas. Monday, March 7, Royal Military Circus, Woolwich Arsenal. March 14, Royal Military Circus, Aldershot. Easter week, Connor's Circus, Alexandra Palace. All letters, address, No. 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, London, S.E.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909. The Sensation at Crystal Palace, Variety Artists' Federation Day. The highest dive ever attempted, 175ft. into a tank, before 13,000 people. Late of Prince's Court Melbourne; Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.; Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.; Wirth Bros.' Greatest Show on Earth; and the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena.

WANTED, Known, open for Parks, Exhibitions, Piers, &c.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip and Wee Wullie, Clowns and Agoustes, Liberty March 7, and on. Add., 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms, Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists, Single or Double Performance. Captain Mizen, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement for Easter for Balloon Ascent and Parachute Descent, gas or hot-air. Lowest terms. Apply Newell, Nelson-road, Harrow, Middlesex.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Monday, March 14, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards,
with exceptions.
Apply, Manager.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROMES AND COMPANIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, big Star Top Liners, share or salary; also Useful Acts of all Kinds.
All coms., Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, March 14, 21, April 11, 18, 25, &c., for the following towns:
Darwen, Nuneaton,
Farnworth, Wigan,
Gainsborough, Lincoln,
Worcester, Swindon,
Grantham, Macclesfield,
Castleford, Todmorden,
Brighouse, Barrow-in-Furness,
&c., &c.
Nothing too Big, Nothing too Small if Good.
Sure money;
Comfortable Engagements;
No Commission.
The Dayton Family,
Pavilion, Glasgow.
Monday next.
March 7, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

P.S.—Silence a polite negative pro tem.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, March 14, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, coming North. Lowest. Lawson,
Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists and Novelties, for Easter week, must be thoroughly good turns. Write, with full particulars and very lowest terms. H. W. Larcher, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Harrogate,
Scarborough,
York.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, also Combinations.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, Alfresco Artists, Abstainers, for Forfarshire. Send permanent address, lowest terms, photo. Replies in due course. Apply Geo. Melvin, Theatre, Arbroath.

WANTED, Artists, Immediate Dates, all lines, for Arbroath and Kirkcaldy Picture Halls. Lowest terms. Geo. Melvin, Theatre, Arbroath, N.B.

WANTED, High-class Artists, for Halls, Tenting, Galas, March 14, onwards. Full list bookings, lithos. Percy Victor's Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, March 14, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool.
'Phone 2549 Royal.
WANTED, First class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
Full Bookings, Terms, Photos, Lithos, and all particulars.

PALACE, MORLEY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, fine break to North or South. Hall small. Send perm. address in all cases. Cannot answer all.
Call for Monday, March 7. Rehearsal 10 o'clock. Sterling and Cashen, Marion Royce, McAskell, Sisters Rivers, Lill Harvey, Charlie Orme, and Whitty and Wise. Arthur Izon, Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists and Beginners
Artists and Beginners
Artists and Beginners
Artists and Beginners
in all branches for Thursday Matinées at the Westminster Palace (late Gatti's).

No entrance fee will be charged.

A week's engagement given to the Act considered best by the management; also London and Provincial Engagements guaranteed to suitable Acts.

Apply by letter only,
giving particulars and time required for Act, to
D. Payne, Manager,
The Westminster Palace, Westminster Bridge-road,

or Pacey's Agency, 186, Brixton-road.

ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, GRAVESEND.
WANTED, First-class Artists for Season Commencing Easter, and Vocalists for Sacred Concerts, Good Friday and Sundays. Address, E. Swift.

SURREY THEATRE.
EXTRA TURN MATINÉE,
THURSDAY, March 10.
WANTED, Known, if you wish to go on the Music Hall Stage (no fees of any description), send name and business at once to Manager. Over eighty turns have booked 16 weeks' tour through these Matinées.

WANTED, Artists willing to give Rehearsals and one performance Comedy Sketch Already Successfully Produced. Good dates promised on approval. Write particulars, Comedy, 3, Marylebone-street, New Cavendish-street.

WANTED.—New Turns, &c., wishing to give Trial Show. Prizes given March 14 Empire, Shoreditch, Matinée. Apply, Sam Hart, 7, Lancaster-house, Ruscroft-road, Brixton.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for March 14, and onward,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Stars, Big Specialities, May 16, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos., Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for Easter, March 21, 28,
Whit Week, and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Big Stars in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

YARMOUTH AND LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
WANTED, Wanted, March 14, 21, Easter,
First-class Talent all Lines.
Big Top for Easter communicate.
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Yarmouth.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY,
18, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
WANTED, Biggest of Attractions, Nothing too big,
for several places North and Midlands,
for March 7, 14, 21.
Reano's Band, Aug. van Biene please write.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED Novel Animal Acts, big Specialities, smart Juvenile Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, and big Spectacular Acts, for March 14, onward. Will La Belle Lumiere kindly communicate? Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates.
Apply, T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

THE NEW PICTUREDROME, BRADFORD.
WANTED, to commence Monday, March 21, and onwards, First-class Speciality Acts. Lowest terms to V. Hamilton, Picturedrome, Bridge-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Good Novelties, March 14, new to King's Lynn; also Doubles doing singles for this date and later. Combination terms, share or salary. Escourt, City Varieties, Leeds.

EMPIRE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, Big Attractions and Novelty Acts, March 14, 28, April 18, 25, and later.
Apply, Will Smithson, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
March and April
Big
Star
Tops
and
Bottoms,
for
Blackpool, Leeds,
Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton,
Dublin, Bolton,
and
other towns.

Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address,
"Variety, Manchester."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Tops of Bills only, for Britain and Continent, and Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911.

Silence polite negative pro tem.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley, Tops for March 21, 28, and April 18.
Apply Thos. Holmes, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.
WANTED, the Biggest Tops in the Market for March 14, 21, 28; nothing too big.
List of bookings, lowest terms essential.

WANTED, Trapeze, Rings, Bars, Novelties, all kinds, 4 days, Twice Daily, Northampton, May 16. Lowest, McAskell's Agency, Palace, Morley. All must be new to above named.

BELLE VUE PARK,
NEWPORT, MON.
WANTED, to complete Summer Bookings, few High-class Costume Parties.
Johns, 144, Commercial-street.

CHARLES DARE'S WHITE MINSTRELS.
DOUGLAS HEAD, ISLE OF MAN.
Seventeenth Consecutive Season.

WANTED, First-class Comedians and Vocalists, also specialities, long season commencing May 2. State experience, age, and absolute terms in first letter (interviews by appointment only) to
Charles Dare,
26, Ivy-lane, London, E.C.
'Phone, 2785, Holborn.

WANTED, for Music Hall, Three Mandolinists, one Guitar Player, good, with experience. Call, Wede's Hotel, Greek-street, Soho. Spanish Troupe.

WANTED, Lady Vocalists and Pianists for Poole's Picture Halls, to commence March 14. Lowest terms and references, Poole, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Smart-looking Young Lady for assistant in Magical Act. Terms, age, photo (returned) to Clefy, Raby Hall, Byker, Newcastle.

WANTED, Smart Young Men for New Comedy Act, able to Second Mount, First-class Tumblers. State tricks, lowest terms, and full particulars to Josh Clifton, 104, Loughborough-park, Brixton. N.B.—Don't state tricks you can't do.

WANTED, Comedy Three Bar Performer. State full particulars. John Stuart, Post Office (till called for), Morley, Yorks.

WANTED, for Leading Vaudeville Act, few really Smart Children, must be over 14, Small, Good Voices, Refinement essential. Also require pair of tiny child duettists. Write in full particulars, Box 7,369, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Picture Manager, to Sing to Illustrated Songs and work a new Picture Hall up, good salary. Weisker Bros., 4 to 10, Wilde-street, off London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Operator, with Own Bioscope and Complete Outfit (not films), for 2 weeks, commencing March 14. Address (letters only), Pyatt and Maynard, 96, Chesterford-road, Manor Park, E.

THE NEW PICTUREDROME, BRADFORD.
WANTED, First-class Operator and Electrician. Lowest terms, references, Hamilton, Picturedrome, Bridge-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Alice Winsome, Dashing Comedienne. Terrific success Burnley. Immediate dates wanted. For this "Goly" Girl, Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, by Ellen Schofield (Contralto), the Singer with a Voice, Picture Hall o rVarieties. Next week, Pavilion, Ashton.

WANTED, all March, by Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Wire, 154, Bracebridge-st., Birmingham. New songs, new dresses.

WANTED, March 14, 28, April 4, by Victoria Cross, the smart Scotch Comedienne, in Kilts and Komedy Songs, concluding ten weeks' Panto., T. R., Leeds (Special Part). Wire quick for March 14. This, T. R., Leeds; next, Empire, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday, also 14th and 28th, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. Tremendous success Palace, where wire for a reliable turn. 19, Cobden-street, Long Eaton, Notts.

WANTED, Known, Ruble and Elsie Redfern, Novel and Refined Speciality Act, Banjoes, Piano, Mimicry, Comedy, Rag-time Dancing, &c. Vacant March 14, 21, also April 11, 18, Wales preferred. Next week, P., Kettering.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers, 14th and 21st. Com., Borough, Wallsend; or, 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, April 4, on, Sisters Roze, Instrumentalists, Comedy Duettists and Dancers. This, Picture Hall, Shirebrook, Notts. Perm., 9, Linden-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

WANTED, Mon., March 7, on, by Sisters Charlton (Violet and Daisy), Dainty Vocalists and Dancers; own Original Songs. Com., 99, Delaunays-road, Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25.
Perm. address, 31, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Musical Silvos' turn was the feature of the evening.—Southport Visitor, March 1, 1910.
Vacant March 14.
March 7, Empire Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Acrobatic Eccentric, appearing this week Exchange Hall, Blackburn. Monday, March 7, Tyne Picture Hall, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, March 14, Percy Maye, owing to postponing Empire, Hyde; new business, beautiful dresses, elaborate fit-up and effects. This, fourth return, Regent, Salford; next, Alhambra, Openshaw. Communicate early for an attraction a draw.

WANTED, Known, Mark Merry, Comedian, at Liberty Monday next, also March 14.
Wire, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, April onwards, Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Originalities, Success, Hippodrome, Haslingden; next, Westminster, Liverpool; 14th, Ashton-under-Lyne; 21st, Loughborough; 28th, Bedford, Leigh.

WANTED, by Mark Daly, Scotch Comedian, March 14 and 21, to follow Birmingham.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 14 and April 18, by T. E. Johnstone, Actor Vocalist. Next week, March 7, Carnegie Hall, Workington.

WANTED, by Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, March 7 and 14. Palace, Barry Dock; next, 12, Alexandra-avenue, Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian and Chorus Singer. This week, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock; next, Hippo., Dumfries.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, Funny Alex, in his clever Comedy Gymnastic Act. 34, Highfield-st., Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by T. W. Lenner, the Quaint Comedian, with clever songs and patter. A sure success. Wire, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, that Seaman McKerell, Champion Manipulator of the Navy for Clubs, Swords, Tomahawks, Knives, Razors, &c., is retiring from the Service on June 16, 1910. A Great Hit at Liverpool and London Halls. First-class Agent Wanted. Apply, Seaman McKerell, N.C., H.M.S. Cyclops, Portland.

WANTED, Galas, &c., Gyto, Jocular Tramp Juggler. A lightning act, with flashes of wit, and thunders of applause. 45, Marston-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, by Li Chang Hi, Chinese Conjurer par excellence. This, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne; next, Hippo., Blyth.

WANTED, by Ali Cogia, Arabian Magician and Equilibrist, assisted by Abdulla, also Miss Linton, Descriptive and Soubrette, March 14 and 21; leaving England March 26. Tivoli Palace, Newport.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert. Wire quick, 129, Linaker-street Southport.

WANTED, March 14 by Sergt. Bert Powell, Famous Military Illusionist, presenting his Original Protean Magical Scena, "Magic of Many Lands." Concludes to-night, Regent Theatre, Salford; next week, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, by Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch, "The First of April." Vacant April 11, 18, and 25; offers invited. 39, Gateley-road, Brixton, S.W. March 7, Granville, Walham Green; 14th, Queen's, Leeds; 21st, Hippodrome, Aston; 28th, Lyric, Liverpool; April 4, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.
Wire or write for above vacancies.

WANTED, Known, Usual Success last week, Hippo., Accrington. Robson and Pawson, "The Colleen's Eviction." Few immediate Vacancies, March 7, onward. Wire, E. Stebbings, Esq.

WANTED, March 7, April 4, onward, The Great Kyoto; also May Geraldine; two distinct and first-class acts. 168, Bamford-rd., Heywood.

WANTED, Monday next, 7th, The Dunvilles, latest greatest unrivalled Comedy Musical Pot-pourri Act. For a success wire, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday next, by Salida and Vone, Creole Singers and Dancers; also Royalie, Comedienne; always successful. Wire, Empire, Ashton.

WANTED, Monday, also 14th, Harry Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. Wire quick, Kino Hall, Claycross, Derbyshire.

WANTED, March 7, 14, by the Le Bruns, Edie, the Charming Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler of the World, and Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist. A novel act.
Wire, Aberconwy House, Llandudno.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Comedy Act, Monday next, also March 14.
Wire, Gaiety T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian, and Ada Whitton, Comedienne. Wire, one or both. 39, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, Monday and March 14, various, on, The Monckton's (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting screaming farcical episodes. Wire, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, by Arnold and Margot, Original Comedy Artists, in their Act of the period, "The Messenger Boy." A pot pourri of Song, Dance, Patter, Conjuring, and Knockabout, introducing own Original Property Gags. Offers. 4, Stanley-street, Goole.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, April 4, 18, May 2, 9, July 11. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians and Dancers, to precede Stockport. Wire, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Sewell and Dudley, in the Refined and Screamingly Funny Sparklet, "The Sun Bath," by Chas. S. Kitts. Vacant April 18. Pavilion, Abertillery, Mon.

WANTED, Monday, 7th, Colvil and Tate, Comedy Artists, Laughing Success at Hippodrome; also Singles. Save time, wire, 44, Chapman-street, West Bromwich.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, Knockabout Triple Bar Act; Liberty March 14. Address, 282 Great Colmore-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 7 and 14, by Will and Roze, Smart and Refined Comedy Act, "Le Café Magique." Wire, 37, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, by Kloof and Ramsay, real Continental Musical Novelists and Vocal Duo, March 14. This, Camden Hippo.; next, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Monday next, to precede Belfast, by Chant and Chant, the bright Vocal Comedy Couple. Wire, 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, the Maro Duo, Comedy Triple Bar Act, Vacant March 7, 21. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
CUMMIN and SEAHAM,
the Ragman and Postman,
are at Liberty for two weeks,
March 21 and 28,
in their Humorous Acrobatic Act, that is adapted to all classes.

March 7, Hippodrome, Norwich.

March 14, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

KEEN and WALLER,
KEEN and WALLER,
KEEN and WALLER,

Leading Novel Eccentrics, acknowledged to be the Funniest and Most Original Comedy Act before the Public. Now Starring on Stoll Tour, and what success; ah, but what an Act!

This week, Empire, Liverpool; hit of the Programme, and no bluff.

WANTED, Known, Keen and Waller have the following Vacancies: March 21 and 28, April 4; also a few later dates, for Galas, Sports, &c.

Managers requiring a reliable Top or Bottom of Bill, wire
KEEN and WALLER,

This, Empire, Liverpool; next, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, March 14, 21, and 28, The Carisens, Comic Acrobatic Trampoline Speciality, own scenery. Splendid lithos. Also Champion Somersault dog "Jack." Comic competition. The funniest of all. Address, County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
SARNTHALER TROUPE,
Big Top. 7 in number. Big Top.
The most characteristic Original and Up-to-date Popular Speciality Troupe of National Tyrolean Lady Singers and Dancers, from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres, Vacant March 14, 21, 28, and onward. Offers invited. Address, Taunton Picturedrome. Perm. add., 242, Kennington-road London.

WANTED, Known, Lydia Neilson and Boys and Girls are at liberty April 4 and 18. Scoring this week Palace, Carlisle; next week, Palace, Stoke.

WANTED, Known, Max Merlin, Crocodile. Glittering Gardens. Concludes 10 weeks, Cave, "Aladdin," where act proved the big feature in every town. Wigan Exam., 4th.—Astounding. No bones in his anatomy. The Era, Jan. 15.—A living wonder. Ashton Rpt., 18th.—Watched in breathless silence. The Era, 22nd.—Astounding. Lib., 28th, 4th. Monday, Hippodrome, Bolton. Perm., 65, Caledonian-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Novel Lady Contortionist; also Rumbo Austin, Comedy Street Navvies, Monday, March 7, onwards. Wire, 59, Kirkgate, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday next, for Walker's Would be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality, two good turns. Wire, offers. Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, Known, Athelda, Miniature Lady Hercules, Britain's Beautiful Daughter, Grand Hippodrome, Wigan, with the Original Leopolds, March 7. Managers and Proprietors are invited to see this Great Act. Coms., 2, Middle-road, Plaistow.

WANTED, Monday and 14th, by Durazcoe and Azella, an example of absolutely the highest form of equilibristic art. For an emphatic success wire, Prince's T., Llandudno. Special D.C. Lithos. P.A., 27, Matlock-road, Birkdale.

WANTED, Known, the Bros. Lloyd, in their famous Double Bounding Cable Act, "Middies of the Fearless." Vacant Monday next. Wire, Wire, and March 21, onward.
Now featuring in R. Nightingale's Panto,
"Aladdin."
This, Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, March 7, 14, and Easter week, the Star Comedy Act of the Period. This, Palace, Jarrow; Monday, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), male and female Novelty Acrobats, three acts. Post Office, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, March 21, by Gulliver and the Doll with the Laugh. The great ventriloquial comedy act. Monday, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Bert Williams, Ventriloquist, at Liberty Monday next.
Wire, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Monday next, also March 14, by Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in their novel Racing Act. "Not a Crook." Wire quick to 11, Saltoun-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, immediate dates, March 7 and onward, for Mrs. T. GREENWOOD CROFT and COMPANY (three people), in the Enormously Successful Comedy Sketch 'HISSING BELINDA." This week and next, New Palace, Nelson. Agent, Leo Fritz, Cecil House, 41, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, Monday, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hayes Sketch, "Other Mrs. Brown." Wire, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port. Single if needed.

WANTED, Known, Howard Hugh Entertainers (5), Vacant Easter. Thank Fred Buxton, Esq., for six weeks and offer for summer. Perm. Add., Gateacre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, the only Lady in Europe with Performing Lions, vacant all March and April.
Offers invited.
75, Parry-street, Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Tudora's Ponies, Liberty April 25 and May 2. This, Nottingham; next, Stockport. The finest and cleverest Pony Act now Touring. Booking fast. Agents and Managers requiring a good clean Act secure this. Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, March 28 and on, by Mme Shanara's Great Troupe Deer Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this Kind; refined, up-to date, something out of the usual stage set, and costumes A1. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok.
Address, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, March 7, 14, by Mlle. Hengleur's Famous Troupe of Russian Poodles, great novelty. Always a success. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats &c. Vacant March 14, 21. Share or certainty. Good posters and lithos, by Messrs. Creaber, Plymouth, and Berry, Bradford.
Monday, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, Chard's Dogs, the Act with Many Merits. Always a Winner. Hippodrome, Wakefield. Continental offers invited.

WANTED, Known, Staig's Troupe, the World's Most Daring Cyclists, Motoring on the Devil's table, suspended in mid air at the same time slanting at an angle of 45 degrees. This sensational Act is at present playing with great success a return Engagement inside eighteen months at the Circus Varietie, Rotterdam; at Liberty March 21 and 28. Those requiring a real Novelty and Attraction wire or write to above address to FRED STAIG. No. 2 Act, the Cycling Steeplejacks Motoring and Cycling on a Perpendicular Wall 16ft. high from Stage floor.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio. Vacant 7th, 14th. Also Easter. Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels. Big act for Galas. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, March 7, 14, by Swift Duo, Comic Cycle Speciality. Wire, King's Theatre; after Sunday, 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, the Eccentric Bicycle Acrobat. Big success, still riding. This, M. T., Ashington; next, T. R., Workington.

WANTED, Known, Egbert Baildon, just finished Eighth Season with Maskelyne and Devant. At Liberty, with his High-class Picture Show, or machine, &c., only. Reasonable terms. 12 Coils-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Monday, March 7, by First-class Lecturer, speaks the King's English; can also do Turn, Advance or any position of trust; age 22. CHAS. HAND, 73, Orlando-street, Manchester-road, Bolton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Preliminary Notice.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman has been favoured with instructions from Mr. Walter Payne, who is retiring from Travelling, to offer for Sale by Private Treaty, as a Going Concern, all that Magnificent Bioscope Exhibition known as Payne's Dreamland, and one of the Grandest, Compact, Convenient, and Imposing Fronts on the road, including a massive 110-key Paper Organ, by Gavioli, which is also admirably suited for a Skating Rink; also a beautiful carved lamp rail; Splendid Booth, 28ft. by 60ft., seated throughout; new Tilt Back Waggon, 21ft. long; Organ Truck, 21ft., &c., &c. In fact, everything complete and equal to new. Now open nightly. The whole, costing upwards of £2,000, and will be sold to the first reasonable offer. Can be seen built up in its entirety. If not sold by the 16th inst., it will then be offered by Public Auction on that date.
For farther particulars, price, cards to view, &c., apply to
TOM NORMAN,
Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C.
N.B.—Further entries are respectfully solicited.

WANTED, Known, that the Magnificent Roundabout, also the 12 Beautiful Horses, together with the Village Fair attractions, which are now causing a great sensation in the Fair Scene of "Romeo and Juliet" at Covent Garden Opera are supplied by TOM NORMAN, Silver King, Auctioneer, &c., c/o "The Era" Office.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.

WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from THE UNITED KINGDOM GILLETT LIGHT CO., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen, Fair Keepers, Rifle Range Proprietors, &c., to send for our List. Flare Lamps a Speciality. BRITISH CO., 457, High-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Novelties. Share or Rental.
for Govan Cross Carnival,
Helen-street, Govan Cross,
near Glasgow.
Population 200,000.

Brilliantly lit by Electric Light and covered in. Permanent Building.
Good Marionette Show, Travelling Circus, Wild Beast, or Original Illusion Show.
All coms. to
HARRY BURDETTE, General Manager.

WANTED, for Easter, and onwards, all Kinds of Novelties, Freaks, Mirrors, &c. Only good stuff wanted. Apply R. ARNOLD, Novelty Exhibition, High-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Novelties, Shows, Auctioneers, Marionettes, Magicians, Mazes, Mirrors, used to shop business, two months' run. MICHAEL, 10, The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Barron's Free Exhibition, Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, for the Summer Season, A Dahomey Troupe or a Midget Show, with carriage and pony. Shares or wages. Apply to BARRON'S Exhibition, 27, Broad-street, Reading.

WANTED, for Exhibition of Large Historical Paintings, Halls, Spaces, Buildings, now and season, Seaside preferred. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Let, Palmistry Rights, Programme Rights, and Refreshment Rights, for Season 1910. Particulars and offers to MELVILLE, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
FIGURE 8 PARK,
on the Sea Front,
MORECAMBE.
MORECAMBE.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Spaces to Let
Spaces to Let
for
HIGH-CLASS ATTRACTIONS.
HIGH CLASS ATTRACTIONS.
HIGH CLASS ATTRACTIONS.

Apply by letter,
HELTERS, LTD., 11, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

LOFTHOUSE PLEASURE PARK, WAKEFIELD.
Season Easter to Sept., 1910.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for all kinds of Riding Devices, Cake Walk, Flying Machine, Haunted Castle, Side Shows, Games, Photographer, Palmist, &c., &c. (Elba write), on Shares or Rental.

Write, with full particulars,
H. W. LARCHER, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

To Showmen,
Switchback Proprietors, and
Cinematograph Companies.

CLEETHORPES PROMENADE.

WANTED, to Let, for the Summer Season, at this crowded Seaside Resort,

Land on the Front, most suitable for the above.

Apply for terms to
A. HILL, 51, Wollaston-road, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Ground to Let in London, splendid position. 60ft. by 25ft., Rifle Range, Houp-la, and other Games for Sale, any price; must be sold. WALCOT, 1, Duncan-terrace, Angel, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Walk-up Shuttered Booth, complete with truck organ, &c., one load, road or rail, 60s. TEXAS, Wright's Park, Fairford, Falkirk, N.B.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR MARCH.
ENGLAND.

5. Alnwick (5,700)
5. Bury (58,038)
5. Odiham (5,200)
5. Wisbech (9,831)
7. Cornhill-on-Tweed (637)
7. Dudley (48,809)
7. Hingham (1,600)
7. Stamford (7,218)
9 Colne (23,000)
12 Stockport (78,871)
14. Grantham (17,600)
14. Wadebridge (2,300)
19. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
19. Malton (4,800)
19. Pickering (3,500)
19. Pontefract (13,400)
21. Gomersall Feast (3,580)
22 Retford (12,339)
22. Wotton-under-Edge (3,200)
23. Lowestoft (29,842)
24. Norwich (124,728)
24. Okehampton (2,600)
25. Bacup (22,505)
25. Cullompton (2,922)
25 Doncaster (28,924)
25. Haslingden (18,600)
25. Henley-in-Arden (1,000)
25. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
25. Todmorden (25,400)
26. Barnard Castle (4,421)
26. Bilston (24,034)
26. Blackburn (127,527)
26. Bridgnorth (6,047)
26. Carlisle (45,478)
26. Chorley (26,850)
26. Clitheroe (11,414)
26. Deptford (110,122)
26. Derby (105,785)
26. Durham (14,641)
26. Godmanchester (2,017)
26. North Shields (50,000)
26. Oldham (137,238)
26. Woodbridge (4,640)
28. Bakewell (2,850)
28. Birkenhead (110,926)
28 Blackheath (21,000)
28. Cheltenham (49,439)
28. Clurdon (5,898)
28. Exeter (46,940)
28. Gainsborough (14,541)
28. Garston (17,289)
28. Halesowen (10,560)
28 Hampstead Heath
28. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (22,450)
28. Hinckley (11,300)
28. Hockham (521)
28. Ilkley (7,755)
28. Jarrow-on-Tyne (34,294)
28. Malvern (16,500)
28. Middlesbrough (91,300)
28. Midsomer Norton (5,811)
28. Morecambe (11,798)
28 New Brighton (10,961)
28. Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
28. Northampton (87,000)
28. Portsmouth (189,160)
28. Richmond (Surrey) (31,667)
28. Rothwell Feast (11,702)
28. Rushden (12,500)
28. Ryde (I. of W.) (11,000)
28. Salford (Trinity Market) (220,560)
28. Silbey (7,780)
28. Shipley Glen Feast
28. Sleaford (5,500)
28. Southport (48,087)
28. South Shields (97,300)
28. Stafford (20,894)
28. Stourbridge (16,302)
28. Torquay (33,600)
28. Tring (4,368)
28. Wanstead Flats (9,300)
28 Wormwood Scrubs
29 Folkestone (12,093)
29. Longton (35,815)
29. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
30. Hitchin (10,072)
30. Tetbury (2,000)
31. Stamfordham (900)
31. Worthen (1,109)
31. Yarmouth (51,250)

SCOTLAND.

5. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)
11. Haddington (3,726)
16. Dumfries (17,079)
28. Edinburgh (316,522)

WALES.

8. Menai Bridge (1,600)
15. Corwen (1,765)
15. Penmorfa (1,486)
16. Pontardawe (3,327)
18. Cowbridge (1,292)
18. Rhyader (1,215)
25. Holyhead (10,072)
26. Towyn (3,744)
28. Cardiff (164 420)
28. Holywell (2,650)
28. Merthyr Tydfil (69,227)
28. Mold (4,263)
28. Newport (Mon.) (67,290)
28. Pontypridd (14,200)
31. Llanfyllin (1,627)

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Gavioli Organ, in splendid condition, suit Rink or Exhibition; also Urban and Warwick Bioscopes, quantity of Good Films; also Giant Rats, good for side and other shows; patent Oil Gas Lamps. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, East Greenwich, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Hus bands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, splendid order, 3 guineas; Gipsy Queen, with automatic Eyes, 6 guineas; best American Slips, 12s. 6d. 1,000. LESTER COMPANY, Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, Jockey Scales, best London make, price reasonable.
B., 74, Adelaide-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Football Figures, complete, Eight Figures. Bargain. THURNELL, 186, St. Mary's-road, Lr. Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Shuttered Booth, about 60ft. by 30ft., with Black Tilt or Corrugated Iron Building. NORRIS, 80, Zetland-street, Southport.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, smart young gentlemanly Instructor. Age, height, refs., photo (imperative), salary, HARRY HUNTER, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED Known, Prof. Hal Berte, N.S.A., England's Greatest Roller Skater, "N.S.A., Gold Medallist, Olympia, 1909," has Vacant Dates for Exhibitions of Figure Skating or Speed Skating, or Sole Control.
25, Upper Winchester-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, a Popular Manager is Open for an Engagement in any Line in the Amusement World; first-class testimonials. Am open to negotiate with capitalist for a Novel idea in Cinematographs and Rinking on Up-to-date Lines; good sites in hand.
Address, A. G. SANDILANDS,
2, Florence-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Rink Manager, thoroughly experienced, desires change, qualifications the best, excellent skater, of good appearance, supervised completion of building, organised all events, and trained staff of present rink. Box 7,361, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Expert Skater requires Engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor.
Box 7,355, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, smart Instructor, Disengaged, requires Situation for Summer Rinks; highest references, photo. SHEPHERD, Skating Rink, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, as Floor Manager or Instructor; good Skater; can start at once. C. F. DIXON, 31, Burdett-avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea.

WANTED, an Engagement as Skate Mechanic or Mechanic and Instructor. Many years' experience; good reference. Seaside preferred. H. H., 100, Rossiter-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Manager of large Midland Skating Rink, appointment in London Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink. Thoroughly Capable Business Management, Advertising, &c. Age 24, Good Address. Box 7,367, "The Era."

WANTED, Position as Instructor by Good and Experienced Skater.
Write, H. G. MARTIN, 2, Drill-street, Keighley.

WANTED, to Sell,
Portable Skating Rink
as a going concern,
now erected on the
Stalybridge Market Ground; Tent about 150ft. long by 66ft. wide; maple floor, 300 pair Winslow Skates, Portable Offices, Cloak Room, &c. Offers to be addressed to SECRETARY, Excelsior Portable Rinking Co., Ltd., Beast Market, Huddersfield.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, the Entire Stock of Scenery and Wardrobe used by the late Mr. Augustine Knight in "The Assassin" and "Mysteries of the Thames," comprising 2 handsome Palace sets, 17ft. flats, doors, and openings; 2 light chambers, 17ft. flats, doors, openings, fireplace, &c; interior Church scene, illuminated cloth and cut cloth, 4 wings, 30ft. and 20; illuminated Garden cloth (snow scene) and 4 book wings, 30ft. and 20; massive Oak Chamber, 2 large openings, 2 doors, fireplace, 4 plains, window piece, and backing; St. Petersburg, illuminated snow cloth and 4 book wings, 30ft. and 20; 2 beautiful Palace cloths, 30ft. and 20; illuminated Thames cloth, 30ft. and 20; old Kitchen cloth, 2 doors, built staircase, and 2 plain pieces; Oak Chamber cloth, C opening, oak flats, 2 doors, fireplace, and several plains; Ship scene, complete, Horizon cloth, 2 side cloths, Bulwarks, Rattlings, Deckhouse, Bridge, Mast, and border; 2 House pieces, practical doors; Bar-room cloth, 23ft. by 16; Bedroom scene, window piece, door, and 2 plains; Chandelier, Gong, Military Uniforms, Swords, Helmets, &c., &c.
All Scenery painted by Egerton, of Bradford.

Address, Miss ELLA VANE,
Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, the Magnificent Scenery and Beautiful Dresses by Paquin, Redfern, &c., which were used in the Production of "The Devil" at the Adelphi Theatre, London, comprising:—
Scenery: OAK ROOM SET.
CONSERVATORY SET.
Dresses: Rose Du Barry, Opera Cloak (originally cost £30); Evening Dress, beavily embroidered in gold and silver; Blue and Brown Satin Walking Costumes (Paris models); White Velvet and Pink Evening Gowns; Light Brown Afternoon Gown; Blue Cloth Gown and Coat; Green Afternoon and Rose Satin Gowns; Blue Empire Gown and Petticoat; Old-fashioned Moire Gown; &c., &c. The above dresses can be sold singly or in lots, as desired. Apply ERNEST STEVENS and R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street Adelphi, London W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, 400 Tip-ups, Upholstered in Blue Velvet.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, 132 Iron-framed Tip-up Seats, covered in pink plush, also a quantity of Pit Form Seating, with backs, on Iron Standards, covered in red plush, in 32 lengths, from 10ft. to 22ft.
Apply,
FRANK GLENISTER, London Pavilion, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Resonated Xylophones, loudest ever heard, Resonaphones, Tunable Resonators (protected). LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, all the late Frederick G. Brooke's Scenery, &c. Address,
55, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, smart clever Troupe of Performing Dogs, including Boxing, Balancing, Somersaults, &c., &c. JOHNSON, 6, Middleton-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Set Tubular Chimes (plated) £4; also Besson E F.at Cornet, plated case, £3. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Live "Teddy" Bear, Tame, been performing in Pantomime Eight Weeks. Sure draw for children. Photo sent on application. Offers to PERCY M. DUNSFORD, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, Moroon Plushett Curtain, 14ft. by 32ft., Two Dumbell Ends, large, aluminium. DILLON, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingnam.

WANTED, to Sell, Conjuring Spirit Act, Jap. Pagoda, Big Floral Act, Tables, Cheap. HALL, c/o. LYON, 352, Mare-street, Hackney.

NEW MUSICAL COMEDY.
WANTED, Offers; Modern and Up-to-date, strong Low Comedy interest.
Apply, Box 7,292, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, Dresses for "Cinderella"; must be good, being for a First-class Theatre. Address, Box 7,339, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy,
Animals for Zoological Collection.
State particulars and price,
A. E. PICKARD,
Waxworks, Glasgow.

WANTED, three or four Juggling Clubs, also Gymnastic Frame, cheap.
PAULETTI, T. R., Workington.

WANTED, to Buy, complete Fit-up, also Lion's Skin and Roman Costumes. Full particulars, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, First-class Drama with Scenery and Printing.
Box 7,353, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues, &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED, Good Song,
for Advertising
the "Twinkle" Brand
of Scotch Whisky.
Also a Good Waltz.

Particulars from
MACNAIR, 86, Tower-hill.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE, SCARBORO'
WANTED, to Let, from April 4, for Spring Season. Apply, WADDINGTON and SONS, Stonegate, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, to Let, for five weeks, commencing June 20. WADDINGTON and SONS, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Extensive Premises, Mansfield-road, Carrington, Nottingham; the site has a frontage of 104ft. on the main thoroughfare, a depth of 250ft., running back to another frontage in Oak-street, near Market, said to be site for Skating Rink, Electric Theatre, General Amusement Hall, for this fast increasing district.

COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, advertiser has option of an ideal hall (fully licensed), admirably suitable for Pictures, Seating Capacity 400, Principals only entertained. Write, HALL, c/o LYON, 352, Mare-street, Hackney.

WANTED, to Let, Rent or Share, splendid Site, about 120ft. by 2,000ft., on the Promenade, Blackpool, Troupe or other Shows.
Apply, S. TOMPKIN, 202, Waterloo-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Actress going on Tour wishes to Let
Nicely Furnished Flat,
four rooms, kitchen, bath (h. and c.), &c.
Very accessible for Theatres and Halls.
Address, Box 7,352, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, at Valuation, good Professional Lodging House, in good position; 16 years' connection; good living; illness cause of leaving. Stamp for particulars, 50, Caunce-street Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, for Hire, small Cars, suit Music Hall Artist; very moderate terms. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

GRAND THEATRE & HIPPODROME, LEIGH.
WANTED, to Let, Advertising Rights on Curtain and Programme, for the above Theatre. Forms of Tender may be had on application to the MANAGER.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Advertisement Curtain
to Let
for the ensuing twelve months.
E. BARNARD, Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

WANTED, to Let, the Advertising Rights of the Advertisement Curtain at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge. Offers should be addressed to R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9344.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire.
Price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for List.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Arrangements can be made with a Responsible Manager for the Fit-up and Small Town Rights of "The Christian," "The Bondman," and "The Prodigal Son" Companies, with Scenery, Printing, and Effects complete. WENTWORTH CROKE, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, on Lease or Rental, Large Hall or Theatre, in Town with District Population of 50,000 or more. Full particulars in confidence to Box 7,376, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire or Buy Small Engine and Dynamo, to Run Bioscope and Couple of Arcs. Particulars, SCOTTIE, Hippo., Hoyland.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
a Gentleman interested in a
really Clever Artist is willing to invest
some money to assist her in obtaining a good position at one of the leading West-End Halls.
Box 7,333, "The Era."

WANTED, by Author-Actor,
Partner, Lady or Gent.,
with small capital,
for dressy Modern Comedy Sketch.
Part in same optional. Sure success.
Apply, Box 7,358, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, with Capital, for Picture Palace,
Going concern.
Every investigation invited.
Address,
Box 7,373, "The Era."

WANTED, by Composer-Author-Conductor, visiting America shortly, Young, Smart Author-Pianist, with connection, as partner. No outlay. Write, MUSIC, c/o 96, Dean-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Lady Singer, as Partner, for good Concerts Speculation; willing to invest £50 or so. Write, Box 7,348, "The Era."

PALMISTRY.
WANTED, Partner, for Sole Rights, or 20 per cent. given on loan of £20. Highest refs.
Address, Box 7,354, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner by Comedy Acrobatic Comedian and Dancer. Write,
COMEDIAN, 20, Essex-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Lady Partner, by Well-known Comedian, for established Comedy Sketch, good voice, dance preferred. Photo., &c., to COMEDIAN, G.P.O., Morley, near Leeds.

WANTED, a Lady Partner, must play Piano, Cornet, and 'Cello; able to play solo.
B. R., 1, Gladstone-road, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Partner (Comedian), to join Actress in Farcical Sketch.
Letters, 20, Dorset-road, Merton, Surrey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMANN & Co., 4 Pitville-place Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Real Photo Postcards, from Artists' own Photograph. 50 3s. 6d., 100 5s. 6d. Postage 4d. COLLOGRAPH CO., Grange-road, Hove.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; Full Piano Part, 2s. 6d.; Band Parts, 3s. 6d. (10). E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Known, Motor Driving, 12 lessons for £3 3s. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract.
CHARLES BARNARD,
On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

SUBSEQUENT

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Miss Winifred Emery and Co. in "The Dressing Room," Mr. Lewis Waller in "Fortune's Fool," Richardson Taylor, Woodward's Seals, Great and Good, O'Gust, Les Marco Belli, Harry, Leybourne, Cruikshank, Animated Pictures, Grotesques, Louie Freear.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Sam Mayo, Gobert Belling, A Ba-Be's Album, Brothers O'Brien, Heeley and Meeley, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Lily Burnand, Pictures, Ray Wallace, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," Channings, Les Silas, Two St. Johns, Bert Coote and Co., Arthur Ferriss, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Marie Kendall.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
The Great Lafayette, Bioscope, Mabel Sinclair, Will Johnson, Wood, Wells and Wilkins, Gwennie Llewellyn, Conway and Leland, Lily Morris.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Glasgow Amateur Operatic Co. in "Tom Jones."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ernest Shand, Ada Colley, Powell and Vesey, Gus Garrick, Tom Davies's Trio, Hans and Lux, Mabel Mavis, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Seymour Hicks and Co. in "Scrooge," Luis Alvarez, Naughton and Gold, Annie Purcell, Elliott-Savonas, Victor Travers, Chas. Lewis, Bioscope, Cinquevalli.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Formby, Frank Couch, Four Eugenes, Korries, Anna Chandler, Ed. E. Ford, Three Cape Girls, Bioscope, Tom Costello, J. L. Shine.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Paumier and Howard's Co. in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Lady Beerbohm Tree, Bertha Winder, Hunt and Thomas, Helen Trix, Thora, Williams and Parker, Bioscope, Les Romanis, Dayton Family, Little Zola.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Rosi's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track," Bioscope, Frank Cass, Holden's Mannikins, Yamomoto and Miss Koyoshi, Phil Percival, O'Malley and Brown, Rita Rhylle, L'Incognita.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Rossi Ashton, Addie Dorina, Ted E. Box, La Freya, Gladys Mavius, G. W. Hunter, W. Fullbrook and Co., Bioscope, Katie Butler, Marco Twins.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Slaviansky Russian Choir, Elsie Roby, Gipsy Woolf, Herbert Shelley, Dion Wade, Francis and Alfred, Brennans, Emma Don and Co., Bioscope, Phil Ray.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Dan Crawley, King and Benson, Alice Maydue, Rich and Rich, Findons, Jean and Josie, Dot Hardy, Lilian Bishop, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker, P.C.," Tom Moore, Bioscope, Talbot and Pearce, Marjorie Lawrence, Loyal's Dogs, Russell and Held, Tom Stuart, Oswald Williams, Lydia Yeamans.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mlle. Liane D'Eve, Phil Parsons, Lillie Lassah, "Dolly's Deception," Spry and Monti, Marsumas, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Kellinos, Leipzig.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fragson, Harry Anderson, Ryan and Hall, Margaret Parker and Co., Barnard's Mannikins, Corcoran Brothers, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Alexandra Dagmar, Bensons.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Percy Williams's Co. in "The Fatal Wedding."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Frederick Melville's Co. in "Her Forbidden Marriage."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Clark and Hayden, Cavallotti Brothers, Fielding and Hull, Jack Lane, Avolos, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Florrie Gallimore, Dandies.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Huntley Wright and Co. in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Mme. Ella Russell, Chris Richards, Reichen's Dogs, Anartos, Will-o'-the-Wisps, Colini-Clairons, Carney and Armstrong, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Reano's Band, Mlle. Fedak.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Lawrence Barclay, Millie Engler and Co., Chas. Vincent, Frank Maura, Glenroy Troupe, Three Delaries, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Whit Cunliffe, Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Sisters Storm, Kisbey, Barowskys, Ike and Will Scott, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Courtiers.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Margaret Cooper, Arthur Kenny, Will H. Fox, Coloured Meisters, Leo Tell, La Berat, Monie Mine, Bioscope, Gertie Gitana.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Van Biene, Siems, Frank Lynne, Florence Yaymen, King and Queenie, Georgina Leno, Geo. Rae, Bioscope, Leslie Brothers.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Jewel's "Change," Bioscope, Odeyne Spark, Frank Danby and Co., Alf Gibson, Billy Hobbs, John Macauley, Alice Raymond and Co. in "A Night in Egypt," Daisy Jerome, Moran and Wiser.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of being Another Man's Wife," Bioscope, Carl and Carr, Eadie and Ramsden, Ethel Newman, Henry Helme, Fred Barnes, Four Regals, "Billy," Ten Loonies, Chas. R. Whittle.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Kate Carney and Co. in "Fun of the Fair," Fred Elton, Fatmah Diard, Harry Bedford, Lukushimas, Ross and Lewis, Edie Reynolds, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jack Pleasants, Latonas, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Stewart and Morgan, Nine Kremos, Smythsons, Prince Milner Trio, Royal Delomes, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Elite Harmony Boys, Charles Matthews, W. J. Churchill, Chas. J. Johnson, Rene, Charlier, Motramos.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Florence, Rohda Brothers, Witty Watty Walton, Carina Sisters, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Humpsti Bumsti, Takio, Kathleen Gray, Sisters St. Julian, Mona Garrick, Northern Troupe, Ethel Bourne, Pictures, Tom Lloyd.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Geo. Leyton and Co. in "The Roll Call," Maude Francis, Athlones, Delevines, Andy McLeod, Bioscope, Sammy Shields.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Cinderella," by arrangement with Mr. Stevens.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Strolling Players, Chas. Santon, Caselli Sisters, Mabel Mignon, Stanley and Greenop, Pictures, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Minnie Cunningham, Florence Esdaile, Pictures, D'Arc's Marionettes, &c., and full Company as booked.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Jas. Basnett, Mozetto, Cissie Curlette, "The Deputy Sheriff," Will Driscoll, La Tortajada, Nash and Noel, Barnold's Dogs, Four Vagabonds, Cattaneos Troupe, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Kilties, Julian Ross, Curtis Leo, Beatrice English, Coram, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Thiessen's Dogs, Owen McGiveney, L. W. Harris, Adams and Ward, Muriel Harding, Carlisle and Wellman, Palles and Cussick, Gotham Quartette, George Gilbey, Three Laurels, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Dolly and Madge McCalla, Royburn and Dix, Harry Russon, Four Panamas, Chas. Cardow, Ed. Marris Trio, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Braatz' Dogs, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Ina Lorrimer, Arley's Trio, Moon and Morris, Rauschelle, Melody Makers, Ethel Loftus, Wild, Willie, and West, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
The London Grand Opera Co., Clito Clifford, Fred Hallam, Max Merlin, The Paceys, Geraldos, Mabel La Blanche, Tom Franks, Richards Trio, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Miss Hook of Holland."

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Hoodless and Co., Mart and Pep, Taree, Henriette and Selina, Mather and Mayer, Ruby Rayo, Will Ambro, Alma Jones, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Perrier, Wylie and Franks Trio, Geo. Campbell, Renee Graham, Blanche and Zeyna, Dolly Denton Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Lilian Rose, Three Stewarts, Gladys Archbutt, "Before the Dawn," Jack Smiles, Alexandre and Hughes, Tokio Troupe, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the **DE FRECE CIRCUIT**, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to **Walter de Frece** at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES
— OAKLEY HOUSE, — Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC, LONDON."
Telephone — No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS, Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
— Telephone — No. 3449. —

Director-General— Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit— Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Special Representative— Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

Secretary— Miss AMY ROBINSON.

London District & Booking Manager— Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MARCH 7.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Colin Mail, Nellie Farrell, Dorothy Dare, Sim Maree, Sketch, "The New World," H. C. Lovell and Co., Vaudeville Trio, Archie Pitt, "The Flower Girl," Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Josephine Crook.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Gladys Clinton, F. Moule and Co., Sisters Harcourt, Milo and St. George, Millie Henderson and Co., The Cumberlands, Dick Cruickshanks and Co., The Maculaffs, Charles Leighton, Bessie Neilson, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Dancing Gilberts, Bruce Green, Charles M. Daly and Co., Rose Della, F. Maitland and Co., Madge O'Neil, Evans, Alf. J. Long, Sexton Blake, Amy Anderson and Co., Pictures, Miss Green.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Edna Barrett, "Ronnie Blair," The Fordyces, Elsie Humbert and Girls, Harry Luck, Charles North, Florence Smithers and Co., "The Bookmaker," Geo. Geoffreys, John Manners, Flo D'Orville, Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Austin Rudd, Tennis and Laune, Maximilians, Lily Black, Gillin, Chas. Baker, Pete and Minnie Lee, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Olgar Elgar and Eli Hudson, Bonnetti and Corri, Chas. Byron, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Bert E. Edwardes, Goodwin's Pics, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Carmos, Fimans, La Belle Sylvia, Barrington, Steel and Laing, Dorma Morgan, Jack Warman, Coverdale's Dots, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tourbillion Troupe, J. H. Greener, Letine, Maude Vera, Stidder and Dunbar, Helen Martin, Julian Mack, "The Key," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
The Jollinis, "Nick Carter," Singing Pictures, Bert Maddison, "Charlie's Tram Ride," Amio Trio, Mamie Morris, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Lucky 'Liza."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Tschin-Maa Troupe, Tom Yorke, Chas. Gardner, The Zampas, Douglas and Co., Joan Deering, Columbias, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Tate's "Motoring," Sisters Darnton, Madge Allan, Arthur Woodville, Walter Barrett, Leo and Roland, Woodhouse and Wells, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Yangar, Flo Cecil, Fields and Lewis, Neilson's Juvs, Reg Amber, Hern and Palmer, Walter Stanley, Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Clarice Mayne, Nora Stockelle, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Phillips and Merritt, The Lannons, May Poulton, Werds Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Buster Browns, Norah Desmond, Chas. Woodward, Joe Cookson, Two Ludos, Lucy Lynd, Douglas Campbell, Yettmah, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"When Other Lips."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Ryder Slone, Walker and May, Alice Lingard, Fyne and Hurley, Sisters Dudley, Bros. Leo, Martin Henry and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Piccolinos, Blair and Allen, Cavalli, Miss Muffett, Webb and Branston, Ray Royal, "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Lausanne, Margit and Lener, Les Montaldos, Baker and De Sales, L. B. Athol, Gwen Francis, Johnny Dwyer, Enzer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
"Prince of the Dandies," Lennard and Vereker, Missouris, Carney Bros., Amy Bathurst, Frank F. Street, Menzies, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists engaged will please note that rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 O'CLOCK NOON EACH MONDAY No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent to the London Offices, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. All Artists carrying scenery must have same fire-proofed, in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please Note that the Barring Clause will be strictly enforced with regard to Nelson and Collins's Music Halls.
In cases of emergency, after office hours, Mr. BAUGH MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Tele: 5954 Avenue. Telegraphic Address: "Stageyness, London."

Artists wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted.)

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to the London Offices.

THE SALAMBOS

Conclude their engagement at the DRURY LANE THEATRE with the termination of the production of "ALADDIN," on March 9th, after 110 performances.

UNBOUNDED SUCCESS

And sail for America March 23rd to fill a long tour.

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED TO VARIETY OFFICE, N.Y. CITY.

DURING ABSENCE

Wm. H. ARMSTRONG, Esq. (our Solicitor), 1, Renfrew Road, Lambeth, will look after our English business.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF

MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,

FEBRUARY 15, 1909.

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

ILLUSTRATED.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BELFAST. — Comfortable apartments. Bath (h. and c.), excellent cooking; terms moderate; good references; near theatres. Mrs. Barry, 55, Arthur-st.

BIRKENHEAD. — Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One sitting, three bedrooms; comb.; piano; w.c.; three min. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—"Leeside," Viewforth-sq., Mrs. Dale, comfortable bed-sitting-room; piano, bath, good cooking. Vacant 13th.

GLASGOW. — Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-street. Sitting and bedrooms, also combined; piano; both. Nat. Tel., 334Y7.

LEEDS.—To Let, two sitting-rooms, four bedrooms, one combined room; piano; good cooking; terms moderate; central. Mrs. BANKS, 27, Rockingham-st., Leeds.

LONDON, S.E.—One large drawing-room, with bedroom adjoining; also bedrooms and sitting-rooms. Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.W.—Mrs. (Leo) Peers, 303, Brixton-road. Sitting and bed rooms; piano, bath, large garden. (Late South-place, Kennington.) Vacant March 13.

LONDON, W.C.—Apartments. Sitting-rooms and bedrooms, from 25s. weekly; also bed-sitting rooms from 16s.; bedrooms, 12s. 6d. 11, Montague-street, Russell-square.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 Minute from E., O. H., Sea; Piano, Bath (h., c.), w.c.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Healthy situation, close to Common. Detached house. Entire charge if desired. Mrs. RUDGE, Inverness, 103, Balham Park-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

To PIERROTS and VAUDEVILLE ARTISTS

SPLENDID NUMBERS FOR SEA-SIDE SHOWS.

BARITONE and BASS SONGS.

THE VOICE OF THE STORM *Cuthbert Clarke* — Sung by RAYMOND VICTORY, etc.
THE YARN OF THE FIDDLER'S GHOST — Sung by RANDALL JACKSON, etc. *H. Trotere*
THE CREW OF THE SAUCY JANE — Sung by STANLEY KIRKBY. *Kennedy Russell*
DOUBTING .. .. *Reginald Somerville* — Sung by CLAUDE FLEMING (of the Savoy Theatre), etc.
THE COBBLER'S FLAGON *H. Fraser Simson* — Sung by ADOLPH FOWLER.
THE BO'SUN, GUNNER, AN' ME *H. Trotere* — Sung by STANLEY KIRKBY, etc.
KITTY .. .. *J. Airlie Dix* — Sung by J. H. SCOTLAND, OSCAR ST. CLAIR, etc.
TO MY SWEETHEART ..*Dorothy Beckwith* — Strongly recommended. Suit all voices.
THE MAID AT THE INN .. .. *M. Strong* — Sung by J. WALLINGFORD TATE.
ENTREATY .. .. ..*Lawrence Hanray* — Sung by J. BRITTON FOWLER, etc.
BASHFUL BHOY .. *Marjorie Slaughter* — Sung by A. W. BARTHOLOMEW, etc.
BOATMAN JACK .. .. ..*Jocelyn Noel* — Sung by S. DENISON THORNE.
MOTHERLAND .. .. .. *Francis Bohr* — Sung by Miss ELLA LORAINE.
FAIR LAND OF KENT .. *A. H. Behrend* — Sung by ADOLPH FOWLER, STANLEY KIRKBY, etc.
SONG OF THE VETERANS *Hamilton Law* — Sung by EDWARD DYKES, etc.
THE QUARRYMAN .. .. *Kent Sutton* — Sung by WILFRID PLATT, etc.

HUMOROUS SONGS.

DO, MY DARLING, DO, DO, DO *Rudolph Nelson* — Sung by Miss EMMY WEHLEN, NORMA WHALLEY, JOSEPH COYNE, LOUIS BRADFIELD.
HE'D NEVER BEEN UPON A FARM BEFORE — Sung by LAURI DE FRECE. *W. Davidson*
THE GIRL WITH THE CLOCKS *W. Davidson* — Sung by LOUIS BRADFIELD.
LADY OF LYONS, LTD. .. .. *L. Hanray* — Sung by the COMPOSER.
FICKLE FANNY .. .. *Fannie Hunt* — Sung by FELIX BRITTAIN.
MY CIGARETTE .. .. *E. Crampton* — Sung by ERNEST CRAMPTON, LOUIS BALFOUR, etc.
SOUVENIRS .. *From "The Dollar Princess"* — Sung by W. H. BERRY.
SHE WAS SO GOOD .. .. *Greville Hayes* — Sung by the SMART SET ENTERTAINERS, etc.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL (Duet) *C. H. Bovill* — Sung by PHILLIP BRAHAM, etc.

LIGHT and SOUBRETTE SONGS.

LOVE IN JAPAN .. .. ..*J. M. Capel* — A Charming Number.
THE SORT OF A HUSBAND FOR ME — Sung by Miss JESSIE ROSE. *R. Somerville*
WILLIAM, JAMES, AND 'ENERY *E. Crampton* — Sung by Miss BEATRICE LINDLEY, etc.
JUST TOO SWEET FOR WORDS *L. Hanray* — Sung by Miss DAISY NOBLE, etc.
THE SUNBEAM AND DAISY *Leonard Hensloive* — Sung by Miss MABEL VICTOR.
KITTY .. .. *J. Airlie Dix* — Sung by Miss CISSIE ALDRIDGE, etc.
THE MOON AND I .. .. *Bela Zerkairtz* — Sung nightly by Mdlle. FEDAK at the Coliseum
THE GAY DOG .. .. .. *Harold Simpson* — Sung by CYRIL MURRAY, etc.
OVER THE WORLD TO ME *El. St. Quentin* — Sung by Miss ALYS BATEMAN.
A GIPSY'S WOOING .. .. *S. H. Gambrill*
NINON .. .. *N. Zardo* — Two Good Waltz Numbers.
Two Songs—
WHEN YOU SAY GOOD-BYE *E. Crampton*
IF EVERY ROSE .. .. *E. Crampton* — Sung by Miss NELLIE SCHRODER, etc.

Write for Specimen Numbers, or call at our address and have the various numbers tried over.

ASCHERBERG, HOPWOOD and CREW, LTD.,
16, MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, CERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 618 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

Mr. F. Wood's (S. Shields) opinion of Biograph Films:—

"I find your films get a very good reception here. I have 'Old Kentucky' and 'Mrs Jones's Lover' one week and they proved very successful indeed."

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing Thursday, March 10.

THE LAST DEAL.

Dramatic. 991ft.

Releasing Sunday, March 13.

WOMAN FROM MELLONS.

Comedy. 988ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, March 6.

THE CHRISTIAN MARTYRS

Romanesque. 950ft.

Releasing Thursday, March 10.

THE SMUGGLER'S GAME.

Dramatic. 1000ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Release dates of the Subjects from New Studio will be announced next week.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"CURTAINYLINE" IMPROVES YOUR PICTURE 100 PER CENT.

Full particulars on application.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

Compiled by

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6696.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

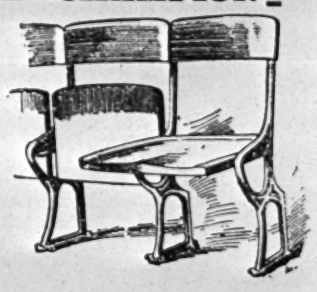

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, .·. 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,

PAINTING & DECORATING,

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

NEW IDEAS IN POSTERS.

Write for Catalogue for 1910, and estimates for Letterpress.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Netherfield, Notts.

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.

C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—**NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.**
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—**NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).**
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—**NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—**ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.**
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—**NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—**THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—**RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.**
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—**RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.**
11.—**NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.**
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—**NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.**
Tip-up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—**NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.**
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—**NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.**
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—**NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.**
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—**NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—**NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.**
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—**NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.**
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.**
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—**NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.**
24.—**NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.**
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from 4/6 to 75/- A good Running Seat from 1/- per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

BURGH OF BROUGHTY FERRY.

AL FRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS

The Town Council of Broughty Ferry are prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

for the right to provide Al Fresco Entertainments, Shows, &c., on the Promenade and Sands for the Summer Season of 1910. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of entertainments will receive special consideration.

Particulars of site available, terms of occupancy, and other information required can be had from the Subscriber, who will receive sealed tenders marked "Offer for Entertainments" up to twelve o'clock noon of March 12, 1910.

EDWARD COWAN,
Town Clerk.

4, High-street, Dundee,
Feb. 18, 1910.

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND.

The Entertainment Committee of the Gravesend Town Council

INVITE TENDERS

for the sole right of supplying

MUSICAL - - ENTERTAINMENTS

on the PROMENADE during the forthcoming summer season. The person whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into an agreement prepared by the Town Clerk, and the agreement will provide for the payment of the rent in advance and, if thought desirable, the appointment of sureties.

Tenders, addressed to the undersigned and marked "Promenade," must be delivered not later than 13th March.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept any tender.

H. H. BROWN,
Town Clerk.

147, Windmill Street, Gravesend,
2nd March, 1910.

TYNEMOUTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

PIERROT STANDAGE
ON SEA BANKS
TO LET.

Applications stating Weekly Rent offered, to be sent to me by March 19, 1910. Conditions of Tenancy on application.

E. B. SHARPLEY.
Town Clerk, Tynemouth.

TO MANAGERS OF PIERROTS & BEACH CONCERT PARTIES.

THE WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

are prepared to

LET BEACH SPACE

for refined BEACH ENTERTAINMENTS during summer season of 1910. Three or more shows permitted daily (except Sundays) over such period as successful applicant may think fit. No other similar entertainment allowed on Council's beach. Good business done here during past six seasons. Offers invited of a lump sum for the season, half to be paid down at once and remainder on 1st August, 1910.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer.

All offers to be sent to me in writing on or before the 21st March, 1910.

T. W. WILSON,
Clerk to the Council.

Town Hall, Walton-on-Naze.

ON SALE.

To Hotel and Entertainment Proprietors.

EASTHAM FERRY, PLEASURE GARDENS, AND HOTEL, ON THE MERSEY.

This would suit a good enterprising well-trained man. Write for particulars to GEORGE N. DIXON & SON, 89, Handover Street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALLS AND THEATRES WANTED.

Messrs. L. BARRY & CO., 292, High Holborn W.C., will be pleased to hear from Proprietors or Syndicates desirous of leasing their establishments. All communications confidential. Full particulars in first letter. Principals only dealt with. 'Phone 260 Central.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Peter Pan* is crowding His Majesty's with enthusiastic audiences. The production is on a most elaborate scale, and with Miss Pauline Chase as the "hopeful who wouldn't grow up," nothing is lacking to make this one of the most notable novelties of the season. Miss Chase receives excellent support from Miss Gertrude Lang, Master Harry Duff, and Master Herbert Hollom as the three bright darlings, Wendy, John and Michael; while Mr. Frederick Annerley, Mr. George Shelton, Mr. Walter Pearce, and Miss Sybil Carlisle are all first-rate exponents of the "grown-ups."

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The bill is topped by Signor Arvi with his wonderful "Metablescope," by means of which he gives some very fine representations of famous paintings. Another fine turn is that of Paul Paulton and George Doley, smartly humorous trick cyclists; others contributing being George Hendry, light comedian; Walton and Lester, "the Worst Wizards on Earth"; Geo. James and Ted Cowan, both clever comedians; the Creedons, in a smart boxing act; the Zanfrellas, novelty equilibrists; and Vere and Nelldon, versatile artists.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. George Dance's Company is paying a welcome return visit here with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Miss Gertrude Melville is heard to good effect in the various numbers allotted to Miss Hook; Miss Cissie Sephton commands commendation for her delineation of Mina; Mr. Edmond Russell acquits himself capably as Mr. Hook, and Mr. Wood Mansey plays in first-class style as Captain Paap. As the Bandmaster Van Vuyt Mr. Arthur Ballance acts and sings in an admirable manner; Mr. George Mudie, junr., makes an excellent Ludwig Schnapps; and Mr. Fred Dark as Simeon Slinks keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Chas. Aldrich is creating quite a sensation with his marvellous quick change entertainment, and the burlesque of a tramp juggler is much appreciated. The MacConnell Trio, in a new vocal comedy sketch, *The Invalid*, supply a turn of much interest; and Milner and Story sing and dance acceptably. Irve Hayman and his little girl partner present a most interesting episode entitled *Christmas Eve*. The Brilliants are expert xylophonists, and Guy Ruyder is a vocalist and whistler of merit. Miss Lil O'Gorman is a charming comedienne; and Eily Adair, Irish songstress, and the Bioscope pictures complete the list.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The programme presented this week is above the ordinary run Mr. John Warren (Court Magician to the late Sultan of Morocco) appears as a ventriloquist and "the conjurer at home," and with his company gives an exceedingly clever magical military mystery. Some extraordinary dances are given by Messrs. Clarke and Mostol, whose patter is particularly good; Mr. G. Fenn, in an elocutionary scene, "Phil. Blood's Leap," by Robert Buchanan, provokes applause; Miss Mamie Iris is a clever comedienne and dancer; Jackson Collis, a chirpy, cheerful chorus comedian; and Miss Mollie Wynter just a whistling girl. Miss Fanny Humber, in a musical quick-change and dancing act, is much appreciated.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Crocker.—The management here are again providing a good bill. A lady vocalist, Flo Inman, proves an acceptable turn with a couple of well-rendered songs, and a large number of interesting films are shown with great clearness. An instructive picture showing The Birth of a Big Gun at Sir William Armstrong's works at Elswick is well worth seeing, and whilst watching The Carnival of Nice one feels that one is really witnessing the marvellous procession in reality. Other capital pictures are The Red Man, Comedy of Mr. Brown, Letting the Cat out of the Bag, &c. An attractive bill is advertised for next week, including a war picture, A Heroine of Mafeking, and little Ivy Lee, a child vocalist and 'cello-player.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—A good selection of films is being shown here, one of the best depicting Life in the British Navy. Others include The Missionary's Daughter, Bird in a Gilded Cage, The Revengeful Lover, An Apostle of Gaul, The Hypnotiser, Modern Pirates, Date Industry, Jaggers Breaks All Records, The Forgotten Umbrella, Shortsighted Cyclist, Salvation Army Lass, The Smugglers, Unfaithful Cashier, Sentimental Thief, A Four Years Old Heroine, The Poacher's Wife, and Fishermen's Perilous Work. There is a children's matinée on Saturday.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company, organised for the tour of Mr. Wilson Barrett's latest play, *Lucky Durham*, is here. Mr. Edmund Kennedy, specially engaged for the part of John Durham, gives a powerful depiction of a strong character; Mr. Arthur Leigh, as Reggie Steighton, depicts very cleverly the vagaries of a scapegrace son, and Mr. William Calvert as Lord Mountfallon sustains the character impressively; Miss Florence Tressilian as Helen Vallerton is all that is tender and lovable; an acceptable interpretation is given by Miss Frances Wolverton of Lady Mountfallon; Miss Dorrie Turner is amiable as the Hon. Margaret Steighton, and a capital characterisation is furnished of Mrs. Durham by Miss Nelly Bonser.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The return visit of Messrs. Sutton and Rayner's dramatic company was welcomed by a good audience on Monday, when *Jim the Penman* was well staged. Captain Redwood was admirably played by Mr. Raynor, whose easy, nonchalant manner was well assumed; equally fine as an impersonation of craftiness and quiet villainy was the portrayal of Baron Hartfeldt by Mr. Jos. B. Montague; Mr. Milton C. Curtis scored as James Ralston, and other able exponents of character were Messrs. Clinton Baddeley, Conrad Heywood, Ed. Ashworth, and C. Babbington; the conception of Nina Ralston by Miss Cecilia Dare won deserved sympathy and applause; a fine appreciation of what was required in the impersonations of Agnes Ralston, Lady Dunscombe, and Mrs. Chapstone was shown in the studies of Misses Dora Dench, Frances Waring, and Hilda Blanche. *Camille* and *Still Waters Run Deep* are also in the week's bill.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—Some capitally-displayed Pictures are again shown at the Pavilion this week. There is the stirring incident of a feud in the Cotton States of America; the Kentucks are at daggers drawn, and some tense moments are witnessed by the spectators. The picture is entitled Sins of the Fathers. Black Beauty introduces a wonderfully-trained horse. Taking a Day Off is, as the title suggests, a humorous experience. Accompanied on a Tom-Tom is quite a new kind of picture. Of the travel series of films the Electric Train from Fayet to Chamounix is really a delightful excursion. Mysterious Cigar is another picture which has for its object the amusement of the spectator. Madame Schofield, contralto vocalist, sings some good songs in splendid voice. Harry McKenzie, the Scotch comedian, gives some good songs of Bonnie Scotland. Mr. Alan Wright supplements the vaudeville turns with baritone songs, illustrated.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—This week's exhibition of films is very attractive. Cossette is a film illustrating a story of deep interest, and arouses much concern for those who are enacting the personages in dumb show. Foolshead's Crime consists in the eccentric man's perverseness of behaviour by which he renders himself liable to punishment. Bridegroom's Joke turns out a little alarming, but ends up happily. Saved By His Sweetheart is a tale of a courageous woman's devotion for her lover. Bleary Oh is a village aviator who creates much fun and not a little disaster to others by his vagaries. The Pillagers is a beautifully coloured picture of mountain bandits, who capture a young girl, and steal and pillage.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The heading of the bill for the week is Her Terrible Ordeal. It is a dramatic story, a story of a young lady who is rescued from a terrible situation by her admirer; it is certainly most exciting. Mr. Fred Garland, a coster comedian, and Miss Flo Warner, a noted chorus song singer, are the interlude artists.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—What is described by the management as a "great special week" is announced here, the principal attraction being a sensational picture dealing with the Martyrdom of Adolf Beck. Other pictures include The Ordeal, Lines on the Hand, The White Nigger, The Test, and An Apish Trick. Chorus songs by Miss Daisy Birch, and the efforts of Mr. Jerry Hayes, comedian, give variety to the programme.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The high standard of excellence aimed at by Mr. Raymond is being maintained, and this week's pictures are the very latest productions of cinematography. On the Reef is a superb series, which thrills the audience. Other interesting pictures are Duchess D'Anglais, Grandeur and Decadence, Taking a Day Off, Too Short of Chairs, Stolen Cherries, and another of the popular Foolshead series. Pleasing variety is given by Miss Jessie Starr, a taking Scotch comedienne, and Mr. King Leo, a smart and original ventriloquist; and also bright selections by the Scarlet Band.

AYR.—PICTURE PALACE.—At this amusement resort there are quite a number of "star" pictures this week. A Fisherman's Bride takes well, as also does the old favourite Blue Beard. Calimo's Fire Extinguisher is nothing if not a mirth-creator; From Egg to Spit is a beautifully coloured instructive picture; Maud Müller, The Open Gate, and The Zoo at Antwerp make up a comprehensive programme.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. Geo. Dance's Company in that popular musical comedy *Our Miss Gibbs* is here. Miss Effie Vincent is successful as Miss Gibbs; she sings sweetly and has a charming style. Mr. Vincent Erne causes no end of fun as Timothy Gibbs; Mr. S. Radcliffe is thoroughly at home as Lord Eynsford; Mr. Eustace Burnaby is good as Hon. Hugh Pierrepoint; Mr. J. P. Durant is an exceedingly smart Slithers; Miss Ellaine Thorne is well adapted to the part of Mlle. Jeanne; Miss Lilian Birtles as Lady Thanet sings well and acts agreeably; Miss Amy Singleton as Duchess of Minster is extremely funny.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing Director, W. Smithson.—A capital programme is being appreciated by crowded houses. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of Australian cyclists top the bill, and their tricks are simply astounding. Horace White meets with a hearty reception, his pianoforte recital and ventriloquial show being much above the usual standard; Cliff Ryland is a comedian who makes the audience laugh; Passmore Brothers pay a return visit and go as well as ever; Lucretia and Josephine, burlesque artists, give a neat show; Charles Ulrich is not termed "the Barrel King" without reason; Miss Mi Narom is delightful; Wun Hi Lung, a Chinese illusionist, quite mystifies the onlookers. The Bioscope show clever pictures, including the Barnsley—Queen's Park Rangers Cup tie.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Roberteon; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company in *The Sinner* is here. He himself does exceptionally well as Monk Stretton, and Mr. Charles Burdon is effective as Edgar Thornton; Mr. Frank Radcliffe is a typical Bill Stanton, and Miss Mona Gray a capital Meg Stanton; Miss Geraldine Verner is a good Vera Ewen, and Nora Stretton is well done by Miss Jane Wigney, the heroine, Honor Thornhill being played admirably by Miss Sadie Smith.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Horniman's répertoire company is here. Miss Edyth Goodall makes a charming Candida in Bernard Shaw's play; Mr. B. Iden Payne is a clever Eugene Marchbanks; Mr. Henry Austin a good Rev. Mavor Morell, and Miss Ada King an intelligent Proserpine Garnett; Mr. Edward Landor is a quaint Mr. Burgess, and Mr. Basil Dean an amusing Rev. Alexander Hill. *Candida* was preceded by *Mother to be*. *Widowers' Houses* and *Cupid and the Styx* are also billed.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Venetians present a most artistic and interesting turn of living statuary, singing, and pictures a musical treat is given by Orpheus, who has to respond to several recalls; the Gilberts have an exceedingly clever tight wire act; the Eldras, smart acrobats, are assisted by a clever dog; J. C. Scatter is amusing; Andrew McManus has a capital voice; and Lily Ward is a pleasing comedienne.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*Alone in London* once again is being staged here, the presentation being in the hands of a capital all-round company under the direction of Mr. Charles Gibbon. The four leading characters, Nan, John Biddlescombe, Old Jenkinson, and Richard Radcliffe, are finely impersonated by Miss Nellie Clyde, Mr. Russell Norrie, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, and Mr. Gerald Jordan; Miss Laurie O'Neil enacts Tom Chickweed in a truly pathetic style that calls forth much sympathy; the most intelligent child actress seen here for a long time is Hetty Hornsby as Little Paul, who, considering her tender years, exhibits wonderful talents; two popular artists are Mr. Frank Caffrey and Miss Carrie Young as Charlie Johnson and Liz. Jenkinson; equally in favour is Miss Molly Monaghan as Mrs. Maloney; and Mr. Cecil Renton causes no little amusement as Spriggins. Mr. J. Vernon Shaw is seen as the kind-hearted banker, Mr. Burnaby, his son Walter being impersonated by Mr. Charles Gibbon, and his niece, Ruth Clifton, by Miss Lenna Vernon. The mounting of this sterling old drama is fully up to the high standard of previous productions.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Charles Schuberth.—For the third time Harry Tate's famous *Motoring* sketch is being performed here, and goes as well as ever; the marvellous equilibristic feats of Leo and Roland once again arouse the utmost enthusiasm; Woodhouse and Wells supply plenty of jollity while they occupy the stage; Arthur Woodville is a smart comedian and a capital dancer; the Darntons return to render duets with all their former charm; Madge Allan shines in song and dance; the fine bass voice of Walter Barrett is heard to advantage in two well-known balads; and the pictures are always of the best.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company presents the Lyceum Theatre version of *The Christian*. Mr. R. Scrope Quentin is a vigorous and earnest John Storm, and Miss Muriel Marsden gives an admirable study of Glory Quayle. Mr. Arthur D. Layland is good as Horatio Drake, and Mr. John Blake presents in a clever manner Lord Robert Ure. Father Lamplugh and Archdeacon Wealthy find able exponents in Mr. Edward Ling and Mr. Burton Yaldwyn. Miss Alice Maude is seen to advantage as Mrs. Callendar, and Miss Sissie Murdoch plays with exquisite feeling the part of Polly Love.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The Ulster Literary Theatre Company provide the patrons of this theatre with a rare treat this week by producing several of their most attractive comedies. On Monday *The Drone*, by that well-known author, Rutherford Mayne, was produced, the various characters being cleverly sustained by Miss Seveen Canmer, Miss Margaret O'Gorman, Miss Mary Crothers; and Messrs. G. A. Charters, Arthur Malcolm, John Field, Robt. Henry, and J. M. Harding. *The Mist that does be on the Bog*, by Gerald Macnamara, formed an acceptable curtain-raiser. On Tuesday evening a new play, *Captain of the Hosts*, was produced for the first time on any stage. A report will be found in another column. To-night (Saturday) *The Drone* will be repeated.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is the sensational drama *The Scarlet Clue*, presented by Miss Grace Warner, supported by Mr. George Gordon and company. In the rôle of Sal Scarlet Miss Grace Warner acquitted herself with distinction, and Mr. George Gordon presented a capable character sketch of Michael Stanton; as Jack and Harry Esmond Mr. Frank Smith was thoroughly convincing; and Mr. Louis Nanton, as Billy the Rotter, gained much approval for his songs and eccentric dancing. Mr. Frank Hertie, in the difficult rôle of Edward Croker, was admirable; Mr. J. Clarence acted well as Sir Desmond Lisle; Mr. Roy Rhind appeared as Crazy Jim; and Miss F. M. Daly appeared to advantage as Mrs. Tabitha Esmond. Little Rita Corri during the course of the piece renders "The Ugly Duckling" with much acceptance. Other rôles are adequately presented by Miss E. Dean, Miss E. Rutland, Mr. P. Parsons, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Brothers Luck, who produce with every element of success their rollicking sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*. Carlton, who made such a hit in the Christmas Belfast pantomime, again achieves fame as a card manipulator; and a hit has been made by Laurie's Juveniles in their vocal and dancing items. Lee and Kingston, the clever comedy duo, gain a good reception, thoroughly deserved; Miss Maude Mortimer's catchy chorus-songs quickly command much favour; Miss Marie Dreams is the happy possessor of a fine baritone voice, which has been heard to much advantage; and also on the programme are Dolly Ross (comedienne and dancers), Farrow and Harding (comedy duo), the Mysterious Cross illusion, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Miss Minnie Cunningham, the accomplished comedienne, in Irish songs; D'Arc's Marionettes afford much pleasure with their attractive entertainment; Miss Florence Esdaile's songs have been loudly applauded; the gymnastic feats of the Lorettes are smart; the clever dancing of the Sisters Jerome has aroused much enthusiasm; Lesville introduces something new in her wire act, and her performance has found universal favour; and also appearing are Mr. C. M. Ure (soldier vocalist), Mr. Edgar Budden (skate dancer), and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some beautiful films have been exhibited here this week, including The Lie, The Pretty Violin Player, The Haunted Inn, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Ryde and Beeman, clever eccentric comedians; and the funny Boston Twins, speciality comedians, who speedily made themselves favourites.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett a fine series of pictures have been presented here, including The Light that Came, The Children's Doctor, The Life of Moses, Much Ado about Nothing, &c. Charles Heeley and Cissie Crawford, society entertainers, appear with undeniable success; and Mr. Charles Champney, light comedian and actor-vocalist, is deservedly encored for his capital songs.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Pictures and variety twice nightly is the order here. The pictures shown by the Hippograph include a fine representation of Shakespeare's *Richard III.*, Mary is Dismissed, and Lover's Serenade. Comedy acts are creditably introduced by Pearce and Ward and Clive and Vera. Other turns are by Fred Tenby, Miss Maud Beaumont, and Little Lily.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., commenced their annual visit on Monday. The present season extends over two weeks, and *Samson and Delilah* opened the engagement. Saint-Saens' opera has never been produced in this neighbourhood before, and a crowded and interested audience appreciated most thoroughly the many beauties of a fine performance. Mr. Albert Bowyer, the Samson of the occasion, achieved a signal success; Miss Helen Culver sustained the arduous rôle of Delilah with an intensity and artistic finish which quite captivated the audience, and Mr. William Farmer, the High Priest, is worthy of special commendation. The chorus are most efficient. The week's productions also include *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, *The Masked Ball*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. The staging of the various operas is perfect, and the orchestral arrangements are under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Gardner and Stoddard, two clever American entertainers new to this town, worthily head an excellent company, and have made a decided hit; Mr. Harry Ford, the popular comedian, is on a return visit, and meets with his customary success; Mr. Tom E. Finglass, coon vocalist, is cordially received. The strong programme is also supported by Mr. Herbert Rule, comedian, the Sisters Simms, dancers; Guyer and Valli in *Wait for the Finish*; Miss Marie Stroud, comedienne; Shirley and Ransome in *Jim's Pal*; Miss Alice Hughes and company in a musical comedietta; Mr. George D'Albert, vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. John Tiller's pantomime, *Red Riding Hood*, fills the house twice nightly. Miss May Merry is a splendid representative of the title-rôle, and Miss Lulu Russell is a sprightly Prince. The clever comedians of the company include Fred Danvers, Fred Lawrence, and Charles Verno, and the production is most creditably staged.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The successful run of *Jack and the Beanstalk* will terminate to-day (Saturday). There were scenes of great enthusiasm at the benefits of Mr. Philip Rodway and Mr. George Robey on Monday and Friday respectively.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*Jack and Jill* is meeting with the patronage it fully deserves, and the whole company is delighted. Considerable praise is due to Miss Ella Retford, Miss Josie Delaine, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. Charles Norton, Mr. Jack Cromo, and the Haytors for exceptionally clever work.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—This has been a busy week at the popular Alexandra, seats being at a premium at every performance. On Tuesday night the members of the Tin-can Club visited the theatre, and last evening (Friday) over 400 members of the Rocket Club were due. *Aladdin* will occupy the stage until April 2.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Lovers of good drama are flocking to see Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's production of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. C. W. Standing appears well qualified for the part of Prince Olaf; and Miss Stella Campbell plays naturally and gracefully as Princess Monica, the beggar maid. Messrs. G. Mayor Cooke and Lionel Gadsden represent striking characters as Prince Hildred and Prince Michael; Mr. Robert Noble (Capt. Hector) and Mr. Richard Lane (Lieut. Karl Stremberg) are also deserving of mention. Other characters are well represented by Miss B. Stuart, Miss Ethel Patrick, and Mr. Ernest Gray.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company is presenting *Her Path of Sorrow*, a wholesome melodrama that is drawing appreciative houses. The two chief characters are portrayed feelingly by Mrs. Charles Draycott (Pauline Ferrars) and Miss Fay Garnet Vane (Nellie Rayne); and Mr. Frank Eaglesfield acts creditably as Guy Lowther, the heavy character. Mr. Charles Draycott is convincing as Richard Burfield; and Mr. Frank Etheridge is clever as Lionel Heathcote. Mr. Will Hook provides plenty of comedy in conjunction with Miss Daisy Carlton.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. Martin Morris.—The romantic situations in the drama *The Midnight Wedding*, presented by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, are delighting audiences every night this week. Miss Margaret Brodie gives a notable representation as Princess Astrea, and Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes is a clever actor as Paul Valmar. Miss Gwladys Faunce makes an admirable Rosell, alias Satanella; and comedy of a pleasing character is furnished by Miss Jessica Black and Messrs. J. E. Page, William Franklin, and Algie Spalding. The uniforms and costumes are a pretty feature.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*East Lynne* is being presented by Mr. Tom Watt's company. It is an original version of the well-known novel, relieved by judicious touches of humour. Miss Laura Hanson gives a fine portrayal of Lady Isabel; Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens is clever as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Wilfred Percy Mansfield gives a careful study of Levison. Other characters are cleverly represented by Mr. Joe Rowland, Mr. Clifford Clifford, Miss Ida Heron, and Miss Isabel Singleton.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—An exceptionally strong bill is attracting crowded audiences to this well-conducted house. George Formby is irresistibly funny in new songs and burlesques; Mr. J. L. Shine and company appear in *Hogmanay*, and J. L. is heartily applauded for his clever acting; Tom Costello is as popular as ever; Edward E. Ford, the "Australian Sundowner," is a wonderful facial contortionist; a clever gymnastic performance is given by the Four Eugenes; the Three Cape Girls are skilful and graceful dancers; the Korries appear in a pleasing musical act; a comedy interlude, entitled *An Old Tragedian*, is capably presented by Frank Couch and Miss Kitty Meredith; and Anna Chandler is a pretty and vivacious American comedienne.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Lady Beerbohm Tree makes her first appearance here in a playlet entitled *The Sirocco*. Lady Tree is excellent, and she is well supported by Mr. Edward O'Neill and Mr. Charles Goodhart. A wonderful risley entertainment is provided by the Dayton Family, who are big favourites in Birmingham; Helen Trix returns fresh from her South African tour, and creates quite a furore with her catchy songs; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas create roars of laughter in their new comedy act; Les Romanis are exceptionally clever musicians, and introduce several interesting and attractive novelties; Thora is highly successful in a difficult ventriloquial act; Little Zola is a genuine mirth-provoker; and the vocal numbers of Williams and Parker are rendered in finished style.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Miss Dorothy Ward, who gained undoubted success as principal boy in the Prince of Wales pantomime, heads the bill, and crowded audiences are demanding repeated encores. She has new songs, and this pretty and charming artist knows how to sing them. Roars of laughter are created by Harry Weldon, whose comedy business is really clever; Jenny Hartley is a clever soubrette; Geo. Payne's "Wanderers" give a pleasing entertainment of whistling, singing, and dancing in a caravan scena; Frank Bertram and company appear in a sketch entitled *The Chaperon*; Leo Trainor has some good humorous songs and patter; the Three San Remo Girls are comediennes who dance gracefully; Ross and Grayson justly describe their act "Piano playing extraordinary"; the Bros. Obo are up-to-date comedians; and the Pirman Trio figure in a pot-pourri act.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Baldry.—Miss Madge Temple, of musical comedy fame, is a big drawing card, and creates quite a furore with her songs, the choruses of which are enthusiastically taken up by the large audiences; *Gentlemen, the King* is a powerful military sketch, splendidly played by Mr. Reginald Eyre and company. Considerable praise is due to Mr. H. Bedford for a faithful representation of a veteran soldier. An acceptable item is an exhibition of roller skating by the McLellan-Carson duo; Harry Taft is a comedian of exceptional ability, and bubbles over with good humour; and other turns on a good bill are Charlie Carr, comedian and dancer; Beatrice Allen, comedienne; the Alberto Troupe of lady equilibrists; Tom Lee, the Tennessee coloured guards, and Elroy, the armless wonder.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—An excellent programme is headed by Edward Lewis and company, who present a farcical interlude, entitled *The Five Wishes*, in which absurd situations are contrived by the influence of an ancient idol. The Pasquali Bros. introduce new features into a clever tumbling and equilibristic turn; Bert Woodward is a droll steeple-chasing cyclist; Cedar and Elgar are original comedians in a novel guise; Alice Golding sings catchy chorus songs; Natalia and Diana are accomplished trapeze artists; Cyrus Dare gives clever child impersonations; and Harry Bickley and Monty Walker are popular comedians.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The Birmingham Picture Palace reopened this week for another season with a splendid programme of animated pictures. Two performances are given each evening at 6.50 and 9.0, and there is a special afternoon programme for children and families. The Story of Muggins, V.C., is the title of an effective subject, and another depicts the working arrangements of a matrimonial agency. Other films of an exciting and amusing nature are shown, and Miss Dora Kingsley delights audiences with her popular songs.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Entertainment of a varied and up-to-date nature is contained in the programme presented here this week. The Witch of the Glen is a striking subject, and other pictures of strong dramatic interest are: The Honour of an Alpine Guide, Three-Fingered Kate, &c. A special feature is also being made of the film, From Cabin-Boy to King, which is accorded a good share of applause. Will Eylades is clever in impersonations of celebrities, and George Edney, vocalist, and Madge Keyworth, soubrette, also contribute acceptably.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—With a complete change in the programme the entertainment here is not lacking in interest, a number of first-class dramatic and comedy pictures being featured. Audiences fully appreciate the excellence of the fare, and the house is enjoying a most successful season.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. H. Cardwell are presenting their juvenile pantomime company in *Hop o' My Thumb*. Mr. V. Wakeman is very clever as Georgina Thumb, and an amusing Jerry is that of Mr. E. W. Selman; Messrs. Cowley and Rick (Silversheen and Goldstein) sustain their parts with pleasing results, their dancing being a special feature; Little Georgie Harris keeps the house in high spirits, his enactment of the title-rôle being very clever; Mr. Harold Ryott, the smallest man in the world, is very effective; the rôle of Prince U-No is delightfully handled by Miss Kitty Trewphitt, her songs being well rendered, and praise is due to Miss Olive Purcell (Fairy Moonshine), Miss Evelyn Major (Rupert), Miss Gladys Wyse (Jeannie McGregor), and Miss Kitty Rafferty (Princess Meadowsweet). The chorus is strong and the scenery delightful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Walter Bellonini is appearing here in his marvellous juggling turn, being well assisted by Wal; Messrs. Howard and Thorne produce with pleasing effect their musical comedy scena *Mary Ann*; the Kebbles are good in their song and dance; and the Three Krakes provoke roars of laughter in their sketch entitled *The Electric Car Conductors*; Lazern is well received in his mystifying entertainment, and Miss May Henderson is very popular as a comedy artist; Reski and Reski are remarkably smart gymnasts.

BLACKBURN.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson are a big attraction here, and prove an exceptionally clever trio of musicians. Lily Vine and her Goodwin's Piccanninies give a good exhibition of dancing; Wallace Whitney is a comedian with an up-to-date footballing impersonation; and Charlie Byron has some droll eccentricities. Bonnetti and Corri are clever and amusing comedy jugglers; and Bert Edwards takes well in his whistling song. Beattie Foster, comedienne, and the Palace Pictures complete.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's production *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* proves very attractive fare. The character of Mrs. Wiggs is all important for the success of the piece, and this is admirably and faithfully portrayed by Miss Sophie Lingwood. Miss Ruhamah Catton gives a dainty and sweet impersonation of Lovey Mary; Miss Rita Carlyle is very successful as Miss Hazy; and Miss Beatrix Bell and Miss Violet Vivian do well in their unattractive parts of Miss Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz. The characters of Mr. Wiggs and Mr. Stubbins are well handled, and the children in the piece are remarkably clever.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The Blackpool Lyric Amateur Operatic Society is playing *A Greek Slave* here, the production being under the direction of Mr. Thornley Dodge, the popular entertainer, who has acted as coach to the society since its inception.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Mark Sheridan, who tops the bill here, is meeting with quite an ovation nightly; Amelie de L'Enclos, a charming soprano, is also well received; the Croiset Trio appear with great success in an acrobatic scena; Lilian Ward is a dainty vocalist; Foley and Francis provide amusement with their quaint patter; the Four Janowskys are clever acrobats; Mira Wood is a pleasing Australian singer; Benn's Dutch boys and girls supply a song and dance act; and Bessie Benson is a talented comedienne. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows all the latest pictures.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*The Idol of Paris* once more forms the attraction here. Miss Annie Bell in her original impersonation of the Society star, Flare Flare again scores a decided success. A strong company renders valuable support, and the staging is satisfactory.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's principal company is here presenting *The Marriages of Mayfair* to large and appreciative audiences. The drama is splendidly mounted and dressed. Miss Conyers Radcliffe gives a natural and pleasing impersonation of Dorothy Gore; Miss Naomi Neilson is a graceful Bess Bissett; an amusing study of Mrs. Bissett is presented by Miss Dorothy Monkhouse; Miss Mildred Cottell is handsome and dignified as Lady Margaret Villiers; Lily de Mario is well taken by Miss Aimee Gratton-Clyndes; Lord Adolphus Villiers is played in artistic style by Mr. Sidney Renef; Mr. Paul Beckett plays well as the villain Jim Callender; Mr. Dennis Cleugh is an interesting Nigel Villiers; Mr. Duncan Yarrow's Dudley Gore is marked by much skill and power; Mr. Percy Marmont is a manly Duke of Exmoor; Mr. Adam Alexander's Lieut.-General Sir Anthony Gore is a good study; and Mr. Robert C. Harcourt is excellent as Percy Horsfield.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Marvellous physical strength is shown here by Paul Conchas, in his Herculean act. Other items in the programme are given by Royston and Royce, comedy artists; Zaleski, in a novel act, "In the Spider

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—The premier turn of an excellent bill is supplied by Edward Crossland's Melody Makers in their phantom scena *The Burglar's Dream*, well enacted by six brilliant vocalists and comedians; Wild, Willie, and West, the Bounding Navvies, as usual, receive a hearty welcome; Ethel Loftus, the irresistible comedienne, causes roars of laughter; Rauschle is most interesting in his impersonations of celebrities past and present; Moon and Morris are unique dancers and comedians; Arley's Trio have a smart pot-pourri, introducing acrobatic trick cycling, and football dogs; Ina Lorimer as a comedienne and dancer is very successful. The Hippo pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. W. Bolam presents here this week *The Sins of Society*, which is well mounted and stage-managed. Lady Marion is capitally handled by Miss Grace E. Leslie, whose superb costumes are quite a revelation; Mr. C. F. Collings conveys a sense of reality, so unusual in the part of the villain, and plays Noel Ferrers in a natural, convincing, and restrained manner; Miss Cissy Carlton is quite good as Lady Goldbury; Miss Rosamund Bunton makes an attractive and sympathetic Lady Gwen; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson as Sir Dorian is capable; Mr. Maitland Marler provides most of the fun as James Hogg; and Mr. Sid C. Sinclair gives a finished rendering of Morris, the moneylender.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—On Monday night last Mrs. Clement Scott presented Mr. John Galsworthy's realistic play, illustrating with remarkable fidelity ordinary yet stirring incidents in the lives of a family of the middle class, viz., *The Silver Box*. There was a large audience, and the unfolding of the story of the theft of the bauble was followed with deep interest. Mrs. Clement Scott's impersonation of the drudge, Mrs. Jones, was perfectly natural, and as the spirit-broken and uncomplaining charwoman she won sympathy; and Mr. Orlando Barnett gave a thoroughly convincing performance of her out-of-work husband, Jones. Mr. Arthur Vezin submitted a self-possessed picture of the young rake, Jack Barthwick; Miss Agnes Imlay was pompous as the latter's doting mother; and as the indulgent father, John Barthwick, with his pronounced Liberal views, Mr. Clarence Derwent bore himself well. Miss Rita Trekelle did excellent work in the small part of the Unknown Lady; and Mr. James Gelderd as the butler, Marlow, and Mr. H. E. Herbert as Snow, the detective, lent valuable aid.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Stirring melodrama of the Frederick Melville school, in the shape of *The Bad Girl of the Family*, is presented here this week with pronounced success. As Bess, the bad girl, Miss Violet Crossley displays exceptional histrionic talent, dealing cleverly with a difficult part; the character of the sailor lover, Lieut. Marsh, is well handled by Mr. Henry Hargreaves; Barney Gordon is capitally played by Mr. Luke Forster; and Mr. G. A. Montford is good as his son, Harry Gordon. Very charmingly Miss Daisy Cook fills the rôle of Lord Erskine's daughter, Gladys; the trying part of the refractory Hannah Moore is very capably played by Miss Margaret Tueskie; and Miss Amy Randolph as Sally Smithers, Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle, and Mr. G. Belmore as Jerry Holmes also merit special notice.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Some remarkable pyramid building and tumbling by the Abdullah Troupe of bounding Arabs elicits hearty applause here; Leonie Dixon, comedienne, sings and dances in dainty style; the Glenroy Troupe of International dancers, on a return visit, are favourably greeted; the Three Delaries, amidst novel surroundings, give a clever performance on the flying rings; a humorous sketch, *Beauty and the Burglar*, is presented by Millie Englar and company; Frank Maura, "The Mexican Wonder," accomplishes extraordinary feats; and capital turns by Lawrence Barclay and by Chas. Vincent, comedians, evoke laughter. Evie Greene is also a great success.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Austin Rudd's comedy proves an acceptable contribution here this week; Edie Tennis and Gertie Laune provide some capital vocalism and dancing; an entertaining turn is submitted by the clever Maximilian comedy equilibrists; Lily Black, comedienne, fresh from her triumphs in pantomime here, is received with marked favour; Gillin is a smart and distinctly humorous ventriloquist; Chas. Baker is entertaining with Irish song and story; Pete and Minnie Lee, in their diverting interlude, "The Scotchman's Visit to London," achieve success; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are an enjoyable feature.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Walter Melville's drama, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*, is doing good business here. Miss Marie Duncan submits an admirable impersonation of Bessie Webster (the beggar girl); Mr. Otto Minster is powerfully effective as Jack Cunningham; Mr. Charles Barclay's Doctor Millbank and Mr. Charles Brucester's Norman Marsh are excellent portrayals; Mr. David Cartwright makes an impressive Rev. Mr. Melsom; Miss Olive Warne gives a clever enactment of Maud Villiers; and Miss Lily Duncker (Elsie Cunningham), Mr. George Vernon (P.-C. Phillips), and Miss Anita Playfair (Lizzie) also merit commendation. Much amusement is afforded by Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Dicky Storm and Miss Daisy Meyard as Tina Torkington. The drama is effectively staged and mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. R. Smith.—The Princess D'Aryaba is reappearing here with M. Bartlemey, and their dance scena evokes great enthusiasm; Ernest Montefiore and company are distinctly effective in the dramatic and musical sketch, *The Little Colonel*; Dot Moss, comedienne, dancer, and banjoist, is well received; the Michel Bros. are clever balancers and tumblers; the Bros. Long are successful in song and dance; Francisco is a capital equilibrist and comedy juggler; John B. Conan contributes some taking songs; the Three Jewels, speciality dancers, contribute an excellent turn; The Bros. Gerard are pleasing comedians; Jessica Brooke, "the Australian Waratah," merits praise; and Kenway and Morley acquit themselves admirably in a refined duologue.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Fred Karno's company evoke the heartiest of laughter with the sketch *The Bailiff*; Hamas and Borwick and company are also very amusing in the sketch *Half a Dollar*; Emerson and Baldwin are smart juggling comedians; Francini Olloms is a clever knockabout musician and plays the concertina while turning somersaults; James and Jenny Lee display skill in a dancing, balancing, and leaping act on a wire; Dorothy Gould is a charming comedienne; the Navarros are skilful jugglers; Minnie Wheaton, comedienne, wins cordial applause; the Bijou Juvenile Troupe and the Eight Lancashire Boys also submit much appreciated turns.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is here with *The Best People*. Mr. Charles King gives a fine enactment of Lord Emsworth; Mr. Henry Watson submits a sterling representation of the Hon. Gerald Boyle; Mr. Frank Bradley is well placed as Lord Wynlea; Miss Irene Lavington makes a charming Lady Emsworth; Miss Dorrie Roberts is an engaging Mrs. Boyle; and able support is given by Mr. Edwin Hollick as James Spofforth and Mr. Cyril Royce as Jackson.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The series of animated pictures exhibited here this week prove very attractive. The Little Detective is a realistic drama full of pathetic incidents; The Old Horse and The Poacher's Revenge also convey very dramatic stories; and the films of an amusing character include A Drama in an Hotel, On the Wrong Scent, Cripple and Cyclist, Out of Sight Out of Mind, and The Persistent Wooer. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in artistic style, and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs shows marked ability as pianoforte accompanist.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Horace Mills, whose really clever performance of the name-part in *Mother Hubbard* has been so appreciated, had a well-deserved benefit on Friday, the 4th inst., when the house was packed in all parts. There were numerous extra attractions, including Miss Sybil Arundale, who was a popular principal boy here in the *Humpty Dumpty* pantomime. Miss Arundale sang "If I had been born a boy" and "Don't shine too soon, moon dear"; Mr. George Barrett amused with his "fake" revolver shots, &c.; Mr. Charles Harvey sang "Queer Questions"; Mr. G. H. Elliott pleased with his "Sue" and "I want you to see my girl"; Miss Daisy Lloyd Wood sang her "Fishing Song"; Miss Betty Rutherford sang "Moon" and "Ten dirty little fingers," with her own pianoforte accompaniment; and Mr. Edward Lewis, an old pantomime favourite, sang "John Peel." Messrs. Bennett and Martell and Mr. Edward Garth, from the "Royal," also contributed amusing turns. There were lots of floral offerings for the ladies, the gentlemen had golf balls, and the children dolls, &c.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—There was a very full house here on Tuesday evening, when Messrs. Bennett and Martell, the Bo'swain and the Mate of the *Robinson Crusoe* pantomime, had their well-deserved benefit. Amongst other specialities introduced by Messrs. Bennett and Martell they gave their old song and business from a previous pantomime here, "Shipwrecked Mariner," which went remarkably well. Mr. F. Conquest and Miss Sidney Fairbrother, from the Prince's, gave their "Doorstep Scene" from *Mother Hubbard*; the Vays, a smart troupe of juvenile artists from the Palace, contributed their speciality, *Life in the Slums*; the Sisters Emson pleased with their new song, "How d'ye do, little girl?"; Mr. Dave Jenkins sang "The Old Warrior"; Mr. Syd Bishop, "What could you wish for more?" and several new songs and special business were also introduced into the pantomime by members of the company. Mr. Edwin Garth has a benefit on Friday evening, with special attractions, and the run of the pantomime closes on Saturday.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The leading position on the bill is occupied by Fred Karno's company, who appear in an amusing sketch entitled *The Yap Yaps*, in which is introduced a lot of comedy, some good singing and dancing, and a display of boxing. Chanti, described as "the modern Proteus," successfully presents a series of transformation dances with quick-change effects introduced; the Denaro Brothers do some smart equilibristic, acrobatic, and tumbling parts; the Brothers St. Clair, comedy cyclists, do a capital act, including a game of football on their machines; an interesting dramatic sketch, *A Society Sinner*, is well played by the Forestiers; Harry Morris, comedian, is appreciated; Vi Laurie is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Vays please with their speciality, *Life in the Slums*; and Maidie Burker, comedienne, is successful. Up-to-date animated pictures conclude. The seventeenth anniversary of the opening of this popular place of amusement was celebrated on Wednesday, the 9th inst., extra attractions being provided.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Clarke and Hamilton, the comedy duo, present an excellent turn, which is warmly applauded; K. Scott-Barrie enterains with songs and recitations; the amusing skit *The Brigands of Tarragona* is capitally played by Herbert Darnley's company, some smart dancing being introduced; the Four Zodiacs, "the simultaneous dancing girls," are both smart and attractive; Hurman and Arthur score with their comedy juggling act; Bert Bowden, comedian, obtains appreciation; Charlton does some good conjuring and supplies "free drinks" from his inexhaustible kettle; and Carlotta Levey, comedienne, is highly successful with her songs. Interesting animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Seymour Hicks's musical comedy, *The Gay Gordons*, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Seymour, came here on Monday. Mr. Wm. Greene was an excellent Angus Graeme; Peggy Quainton has a charming heroine in Miss Clarice Lockstone; Nervy Nat and his son Edmund, with Charlotte were cleverly amusing as presented by Mr. Edward Carlton, Mr. W. H. Desmond, and Miss Florrie Groves; Mr. Greville Hayes (Andrew Quainton), Mr. Peter Gale (Jack McPhrisky), and Miss Ada Mellon (Janet McLeod) also did good work. The chorus, under the direction of Mr. Leonard Leslie, added much to the success of the production.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Crowded and enthusiastic audiences are attending the performances by Mr. George Dance's Company of *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Kathleen Courtney in the rôle of Mary Gibbs has a delightful presence and a pleasing voice, and a pretty character is made of Lady Elizabeth by Miss Gladys Ivery. Miss Nancy Hervyn makes a fascinating French lady; and Miss Winifred Knightly and Miss Jennie Richards are excellent in their respective parts. An irresistibly funny impersonation of Timothy Gibbs is given by Mr. Theodore Leonard; and Mr. Tom Shelford as Hugh Pierrepoint is very funny. Mr. Craufurd Kent is clever as Lord Eynsford; and Mr. J. E. Stevenson as Slithers is highly successful.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Sutcliffe Troupe of acrobats who head the bill here are a set of very clever performers attired in neat Highland costume; F. V. St. Clair receives high praise for excellent songs; and Sergeant Bert Powell, assisted by Miss Christina Brown, completely mystifies his audience with clever illusions. As a musician Silvo is very effective on silvo chimes, and Gulliver with his laughing doll keeps the audience merry. Arthur Harris, actor-vocalist, is loudly applauded, and J. Milton Hayes is very successful as a gwell comedian. Marie Reeves, comedienne, is good, and the Empire Theatrescope contributes an amusing film.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Clarice Mayne, in her delightful and artistic performance, tops the programme here; her pretty songs and mimicry brings forth undeniable encores. The Werds Brothers provoke laughter with knockabout acrobatics and Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, in their diverting dancing sketch, are as popular as ever. The Lennons are brilliant dancers on pedestals, and Phillips and Merritt are smart in patter and dancing. May Poulton is a comedienne with a voice, and Norah Stockelle a very nice soubrette. The Palace Pictures with Uncle's Birthday Present create roars of laughter.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Mlle. Suzanne de Vernenil and ladies, in a series of living tableaux, head the bill and give a most artistic conception of some of the most noted pictures; Mlle. Tina in a clever trapeze and rope act is loudly applauded; Rita and Roma are also to the front with clever comedy and dancing. A good turn by the Two Brooklyns finds favour, their dancing being of special merit. George F. Hall, the Yankee story-teller and comedian, is well up to his work and meets with success. A novel comedy duologue entitled *Two Doors and a Passage* is played in first-class style by Miss Marie Pera and company. Some of the latest living pictures are shown on the Operascope.

BURY (Lancs).—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Fred Granville's company is here this week in *The Better Land*. Prominent in the cast are Mr. Arnold Warren as Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Hubert Radcliffe; Mr. Hill Cremer as George Grant; Mr. J. F. Hughes as Bill Bones; Miss Gerty Moody as Harry; Miss Madge Trevelyan as Mercedes; Miss Bella Moody as Aunt Jemima; Miss Emilie Entwisle as Tessa; and Miss Marguerite Trevespor, a powerful Doris Radcliffe. Excellent comedy is added by Mr. Fred Richards and Miss Kitty Terriss.

Circus of Varieties.—Another excellent series of pictures here. Acceptable turns are provided by Lauri Brothers, in gymnastic act, and the Lindos, vocalists and dancers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baker.—A dramatic sketch entitled *The Girl and the Tough* is top turn this week, and is ably enacted by John G. Brandon, Leslie Tyler, and Stella Vernon; Manson and West are amusing in a duologue depicting domestic difficulties; Indian club manipulating is given by Leolin; Arthur Wilmer is an acceptable comedian; dancing of a high order is executed by Swan and Latimer; Robb Rossi's songs are deservedly well received; and Walter George's Smart Set Entertainers give a high-class turn.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—Mr. Charles Windemere has paid a successful visit with *Where is William?* Mr. Windemere plays Sir William Gregory with humour, and is ably supported by Mr. Rule Pyott as Jolly. Mr. Leslie Norman evokes merriment as the irascible General. Harry being successfully played by Mr. Wylie Thompson. Miss Belle Donaldson is admirably suited as Lady Gregory; a refined portrayal of Phyllis comes from Miss Clare Manifield; Miss Zoe Davis is a smart Eliza; and Miss Evelyn Shelley quite satisfactory as Jolly's wife.

CAMBRIDGE.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*The Fires of Fate* was played here for the first time on Monday, Mr. Vedrenne being responsible for the perfectly satisfactory company. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart was an excellent Cyril Egerton; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan an interesting Samuel Roden; Mr. Charles Francis a very good James Roden; Mr. Edward A. Coventry as Mr. Thomas Belmont; Mr. Stanley Logan as Mr. Cecil Brown; and Mr. Herbert Maule as Mr. Brodie were effective. Mr. Gerald Mirrielees played the Frenchman, Octave Fardet, to the life; Mr. Frederick Warlock was an interesting Captain Archer; Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe played creditably as Abdulla; Mr. G. T. Lambert was a ferocious Spy; Miss Ruth Bower a captivating Sadie Adams; and Miss Gwendolen Floyd as Miss Adams, and Miss Alison Trent as Mrs. Belmont were also of great assistance.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, played by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is meeting with unbounded success. It is exceptionally well mounted, and the costumes are a conspicuous feature of the production. Mr. George Mudie is again seen as Mr. Ponderbury, and sustains the part with his customary skill; Mr. Stewart Dawson submits a careful rendering of Mervyn Thorpe, and Hyacinth Grayling is well undertaken by Mr. Percival Madgwick; Mrs. Ponderbury finds a capable exponent in Miss Celia Gordon, the impersonation proving her to be an actress of ability; a pleasing rendition is that of Ethel Penniston by Miss Phyllis Stuckey, while Miss Florence Wix's Mme. Modjeski leaves nothing to be desired, and Mr. Percy Bell is most successful as Peter. *Chalk and Cheese*, delightfully acted by Miss Mamie Mathews, Miss Phyllis Stuckey, and Mr. Stewart Dawson, precedes.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Heading the programme is Miss Margaret Cooper, the gifted soprano, at the piano, whose songs are sung with exquisite clearness and refinement; Gertie Gitana is a Cardiff favourite who is always welcome, and on Monday night her distinct and impressive rendering of sweet melodies greatly enhanced her already enviable reputation; La Berat, the mystic grotto dancer, is another turn which merited approbation, her introduction of artistic limelight effects being extremely pleasing; sweet harmonious singing is furnished by the Coloured Meisters; Will H. Fox is a veritable fount of humour, his manipulation of the piano being also clever; Leo Tell, called Mepho the Mime, is a master of the art of imitation; Arthur Kenny is a wonderful cyclist; Monie Mine is a good songstress and dancer; and the Bioscope is still en evidence.

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—A capital company brought by Mr. Frank Melville is proving a draw here with *Her Road to Ruin*. Mr. Charles Dickens excels as Frank Temple; Miss Ada Champion, a native of Cardiff, gives a convincing and well-drawn study of Jess Willoughby; Mr. Kendrew Milsom submits a clever representation of Tom Wells; Mr. Alex Bradley is all that could be desired as Philip Hardy; Miss Mabel Coleman as the girl from Lancashire earns considerable commendation, and Mr. Harry Talbot as Billy Boots is humorous.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Les Piccolinos head the varied bill, and these clever little people quite astonish their audiences by their versatile and skilful performance, whether as acrobats, dancers, trick cyclists, or sharpshooters; Arnold Richardson's company in a capital sketch entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* prove a great hit; Webb and Edna Branston provide a couple of well rendered duets; Little Miss Muffet does well in her amusing diminutive performance; and Blair and Allen, vocalists and dancers; Cavalli a smart and novel ventriloquist, and Ray Royal, a pleasing descriptive vocalist, complete the excellent bill of fare, which is drawing good houses.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Miss Winifred Maude's Company is again here in *The Stowaway* and *The Sins of a City*. Opening with the first-named piece on Monday before a capital audience, an excellent performance was given. Mr. Victor Du Cane repeated his former success in the title-rôle, being well supported by Miss Maude as Althea Dale. Mr. Maurice Maud in the heavy rôle was powerful and convincing; and Mr. Arthur Read played with discretion as Tom Inglis. Mrs. Wingold Lawrence was prominent in all her scenes; and Miss Minnie Millward was a pert and lively newsboy.

New Public Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—The popularity of this house does not diminish in the least, probably accounted for by the excellent programmes submitted week by week. A very daring and dramatic picture is that entitled The Rocky Road; The Guilty Kiss strikes a pathetic note, and is much appreciated; and The Feud is brimful of excitement. Other splendid films are The Dancing Girl of Bute and Twixt Red Man and White. Amongst the laughable films should be mentioned Golf Mania and The New Chief.

CARMARTHEN.—Assembly Rooms.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company paid their welcome annual three nights' visit, and opened on Monday evening to a large house with *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Baliol Holloway gave a striking and scholarly interpretation of the part of Shylock; Mr. Douglas Rubery was excellent as Bassanio; Mr. Charles Warburton admirably portrayed the part of Antonio; Mr. Norman Harle was decidedly successful as Lorenzo; Mr. Basil Osborne was equally effective as the Prince of Morocco; Mr. W. Burgess-Barratt was a most amusing Launcelot; Gratiano, Solanio, and Salarino were capitally impersonated by Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. Doane Gardiner, and Mr. Charles Siddons Kemble; Mr. Arthur Blenkinsopp was very good as Tubal; as were also Mr. Frank G. Weir as Old Gobbo, Mr. L. G. Powell as the Clerk, and Mr. Owen Evans as the Duke of Venice. Miss Emil Leslie gave a fascinating and clever rendering of Portia; Miss Constance Bromley scored as Nerissa; Miss Marjorie Palgrave made a charming Jessica; and Miss Florence Froissant as Stephano and Miss Dorothy White as Balthazar performed their parts well. On Tuesday evening *The School for Scandal* was performed with equal success. Wednesday afternoon being devoted to *Twelfth Night*, and Wednesday evening to *Hamlet*. The mounting and effects were elaborate.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Stuart Lomath and company are presenting for the first time here *Whom God Hath Joined*. Mr. Lomath as Captain Jack Merritt plays with vigorous earnestness; Miss Helena Walbran enters into the spirit of the character of the betrayed Marian; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as the rascally Major Stevens brings out forcibly the villainous elements of the play; and Mr. Lancelot Usher does well as Digby Trant; Miss Amy Macneil is a success in the rôle of Beatrice Trant; Mr. Victor G. Vayne is a funny Watty Cooper, and Miss Ellen Owen an amusing Kitty; Miss Ethel F. Greene does well as Teddy; and Miss Dorothy Booth makes a natural and pretty Frankie; as Richard Manly Mr. Jack Millar gives a highly creditable performance.

Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Rowlands and Ford are enjoyable Welsh and Scotch comedians; James Hare and company, in a dramatic episode *Wrong 'Uns*, do full justice to their parts; Carl and Mary Ohm's dogs, ponies, bears, and monkeys are intelligent and show evidence of being well trained; Milton and Ford are good on the horizontal bars; and Ethel Davey, E. J. Sheldon, Crosby and Walker, J. W. Hughes, and Sadie Early and company complete a varied programme.

CHATHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*The King of Cadonia* is being presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's company to highly appreciative audiences. Mr. Bertie Wright is a great favourite and adds to his reputation by his impersonation of the Duke of Alasia; Mr. J. Warren-Foster makes an imposing and popular Alexis; Mr. Edward Thirlby is responsible for a deal of merriment as Bran; Miss Alice Moffat is the Princess Marie, and her vocal efforts bring forth much applause; Miss Molly Keen makes a sprightly Militza, and other parts are in excellent hands.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Here we have Jessie Lee, a dainty little entertainer; the Arntes, coloured vocalists and dancers; Jack Crawley and his cleverly-trained dog Fanny in *Lights Out*; Mostol, the musical entertainer; the Donnas Trio on a return visit with neat and clever trapeze act; Doughty and Laney in a laughable duologue, entitled *A Woman's Way*; and Miss Lottie Lennox, who makes a big hit in her chorus song "Put on your old plaid shawl." New films by the Edisonograph form a capital concluding item.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Frank Bertram's Company in *The Breed of the Treshams* had an enthusiastic reception on Monday evening. Mr. Sidney Bland plays to the life the part of Lieutenant Keresby, "the Rat"; Batty is presented with much spirit by Miss Grace Harlington; the young lovers, Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham and the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, are well-studied impersonations by Mr. Walter Grahame and Miss Mildred Hodson. Mr. Alfred Hollis is notably good as Viscount Dorsington; and Clement Hungerford is cleverly delineated by Mr. George Butler. Sir Henry Curwen is thoughtfully represented by Mr. George Traill. Mr. Sydney Courtenay as the cowardly bully Captain Stanhope, Mr. W. Gravely as Kit Peyton, and Messrs. W. C. Crowley and George Quick as the two Lumsfords all do excellent work.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—*The Merry Widow* is presented this week by a company of capable artists. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Phyllys le Grand, who does justice to the exacting part of Sonia; Miss Ada Thomas is an entrancing Natalie; Miss Winnie Bailey, a charming and graceful Olga; and the Misses Heather Featherstone and Lucie Donati are good in their respective parts of Sylvaine and Prascovia. The humour is well sustained by Mr. Fred Fowler as the amusing Nisch; Mr. Clifford Seyler as General Novokovitch; and the antics of Baron Popoff are made the most of by Mr. Edward D'Arcy. Mr. Ripley Evans uses an excellent voice to good effect as Jolidon; and Mr. Fred Leslie is an impassioned Prince Danilo.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard.—The leading item in a varied programme is supplied by Welda and Wynne, who excel as comedy jugglers and ball dancers; Amber and Avon, novel comedy and dancing couple, provide an outstanding turn; Wills and Warlock delight the audience with their patter and dancing; W. H. Smart, Irish comedian and dancer, is well received on a return visit; Edna Cragge sings a couple of good chorus songs; Alf. Warner, comedian and instrumentalist, and Mornin Knox, the postman ventriloquist, provide two entertaining turns. A display of dramatic and humorous pictures on the Bioscope completes.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company opened a half week's engagement here on Monday with *For Her Husband's Sake*. Mr. Anderson himself portrayed the villain effectively; Mr. Walter Domoney ably undertook the part of Jack Anderson; Miss Josephine Richards made a pathetic Marie Dene; Miss Woolfe a good Eileen Silas, and the Estelle Beaudet of Miss Ethel St. Barbe was an excellent conception; Mr. Raymond sparkled as Jerry O'Neill, and as Joseph Dene Mr. Charles Williams was good. The latter half of the week was allotted to *The Revolutionist*.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is here for a week, the company being Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's. Mr. James Harcourt as Mr. Hook acted in a droll manner; Miss Muff Carew, droll as ever, did big things as Mina; as Sally Miss Kathleen Starling was bright and songful; Mr. Reginald Hunter exacted the maximum of humour from the character of Simon Slinks; and Mr. Sam Cockridge did exceedingly well as Bandmaster Van Vuyt.

COLWYN BAY.—Victoria Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Edward G. Bradshaw.—The above pavilion opened the season here on Monday last with a good programme, chief amongst which were Wishart, the celebrated illusionist, with his wonderful bottle and box trick; and the well-known Society entertainers, Mr. Laurence Derrick and Miss Marian Brereton, who in their refined humorous sketches, duets, and vocal numbers, scored a big success.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Nelson Howard presents *Under the Iron Heel* here this week. Mr. Wilson Howard as Capt. Maupassant is well suited; Mr. W. F. Richards is successful as Otto Marx; Mr. John Talford gives a capital rendering of Father Mirbleau; Mr. Fred Elvin is well received as Major Schramberg; and as Michel Bornat Mr. Gerald Smythe is effective; Miss Callotta Anson is a charming Germaine; Miss Douglas Hicks a successful Marian Gouffe, and as Andre Miss Jessie Yadman is a big favourite.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—*The Luck of Roaring Camp* was produced here on Monday by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Douglas Murray as Will Gordon, the hero, filled the part with distinction, and Miss Elisabeth Dundas as Nell Curtis acted a very appealing rôle with captivating earnestness and charm; the parts of the villains were taken by Mr. Charles A. Johnson as Tom Barnes and Mr. Ernest Clarke as Gonzales; Miss Agnes Verity as Jovita de Sutro acted forcibly; Miss Mary Morrell as Mrs. Brown was excellent; Mr. Harry Benson as Billy Plummer well maintained the comic element; Horace Stewart as Ebenezer and Mr. J. J. Cuthbertson as the Sheriff filled their respective parts in an able manner, and Mr. Arthur Redmond as the old miner was very successful. *Under Two Flags* was also in the bill.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The Olympian Team of Cyclists, six in number, do some very clever tricks; the Selbeit Mystery, a demonstration of spiritualism, is very interesting; the Eight Tulips, vocalists and dancers, provide an entertaining turn; Massona, eccentric juggler, goes through a series of funny tricks, and arouses great laughter; Billy Ross and company, in *Mr. Maloney's Troubles*, are smart pugilists; Edith St. Clare, burlesque artist, sings some catchy songs; Lillie Hales, comedienne and dancer, provides a very attractive turn, and the Palascope pictures complete a good bill of fare.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*A Thief in the Night*, produced under the direction of Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, is here. Mr. Stanley Boswell admirably portrays the character of Alan Escombe; Mr. Leyton Cancellor is a typical villain; Miss Margery Fane is seen to advantage as the wife of Alan Escombe; Miss Beatrice Homer is successful as Sonia Cleeve; and Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby and Miss Louie Norden as Happy Christmas add considerably to the success.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—At the top of the bill here this week is a sketch entitled *The Russian Princess*, by Mr. F. Maxwell. Miss Lois du Cane takes the part of Claudia, the Russian princess, with remarkable skill. As General Dragenoff Mr. Lionel D'Aragon is very successful. The piece is staged beautifully. A good turn is provided by Metz and Metz, unique dancers; Mooney and Holbein, advanced vaudevillians, are very entertaining; the Two Lillys are clever equilibrists and gymnasts; and Frank Fox, Ida Barr, Ida Kathrena ("the dolly girl"), and Harry Allister also entertain.

CREWE.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ambrose Fischer.—Dan Thomas's pantomime *Dick Whittington* is drawing good houses. In the title-rôle Miss Daisy Yates is a big success, and sings her various numbers in dashing style; Miss Olive West makes a dainty Alice. She is a very effective dancer, and the possessor of a sweet voice; Miss Lyda Floyd gets all possible out of the part of the Princess, and Mlle. Lillian as the Fairy Queen is accorded instinted applause for an excellent rendering of "Somewhere"; Mr. Dan Thomas makes an ideal Dame, and is the life and soul of the play all through; Mr. J. Harris is a favourite as Idle Jack; Mr. H. D. Lydon is a capable Fitzwarren; Mr. R. Missouri is well suited as Capt. Kettle; Messrs. W. Haverley and T. Homer are clever knockabouts; and Mr. A. Wade appears successfully as the Emperor. Mr. Pete Almonte, who enacts the dual rôle of the cat and monkey, proves to be skilled in the ways of these animals. The Olga Belles introduce some smart dancing.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—A cordial reception is being extended to Mr. George Dance's company in *The Little Duke*. In the title-rôle Miss Zena Dare fairly eclipses herself with a performance which leaves a lasting impression; Miss Dolly Castles makes a sweet and lovable Diane de Noaille; Miss Gertrude Robertson is *au fait* as the Duchesse de Burgoyne; Miss Kate Graham-Beck is successful as the Duchesse de Noaille; Miss Doris Dickens is charming as Cesarine de Noce; and a big hit is made by Miss Nellie Dade as Baroness de Bellechasse. Mr. Reginald Adair sings and acts to perfection as the Chevalier de Matignon; Mr. Johnny Danvers as Baron de Bellechasse renders valuable comedy services; Mr. Alec Johnstone is very fine as Abbé de la Touche; and praise is also due to Messrs. Jack Gray, G. Vaughan, and J. Watts Fettes in minor rôles. The scenery, chorus, and dresses are praiseworthy.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Rameses is causing much excitement here with his marvellous Egyptian mystic scena; the Sexton Blake episode, *The Case of the Kidnapped King*, is cleverly rendered by Carlotta de Yonson and company; the Scener-Fridkin Troupe of Russian singers and dancers are all well received; Syd Walker is a first-rate comedian; Daisy James, fresh from pantomime triumphs, is invigorating; Verno and Voyce are great in sporting sketch; Lewin and Allen are speciality artists of ability; Barbara Babington is a comedienne with a good voice; Marshall and Parr's vocal and comedy act is acceptable; Harry Thurston is a droll comedian; and the Bioscope pictures and Daisy Morell, comedienne, complete the bill.

**DARL

Reed is a decidedly funny Becky; and Mr. Charles Luck causes much fun as Bah Lamb Gentle.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—The Five Olracs' acrobatic funnisities supply the principal variety item here; Fallows and Beaumont submit a novel comedy act; Charles Rowan, a capital comedian, keeps the ball of fun merrily rolling; the Musical Keeths show ability on xylophones and other instruments; Pauline Zaro, comedienne, scores well; Jim Cheetham is a capital boy whistler; and Vera Varna, sabot dancer, and animated pictures complete the bill.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. I. W. Chapman.—The Bellong Bros., cycle equilibrists, are the star turn, and give exhibitions of real merit; a refined contribution comes from Agnes and Arthur Lynch, whose picture songs are popular; a good impression is created by Colin Carlisle, light comedian; Gaia and Norris are popular in their skit on roller skating (without skates); the semi-comedy sketch *Set a Thief* of Herbert Evelyn and Ethel Norrie is prettily conceived and pleasingly executed; Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer, is very acceptable; and the Canworths, in their instrumental and vocal speciality, appeal strongly to the popular taste.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. H. Browning's company is here with *The Walls of Jericho*, which has been well attended. Mr. Rutland Barrington cleverly enacts the character of the Marquis of Steventon, and displayed his well-known ability throughout; Mr. Athelbert Edwards fills the part of Jack Frobisher with great satisfaction; and as Lady Alethea Frobisher Miss Gwendoline Hay is most effective. Hankey Bannister is particularly well portrayed by Mr. Russell Barry; and Mr. F. Bridgeman acts admirably in the part of Harry Dallas. Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd, Miss Doris Digby, Miss Muriel Wren, and Miss Eva Westropp play their respective parts excellently. The piece is preceded by Mr. Rutland Barrington and Miss Trevor-Lloyd in an interesting entertainment of stories, songs, and musical sketch.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. Moullot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The talent here this week includes Malcolm Scott, "the woman who knows," whose monologue is very amusing; the Stavordale Quintette, banjo and harp speciality, receive deserved applause for their excellent performance; Blake and Amber, in their novel burlesque and comedy entertainment, are well appreciated; the Three Rochesters give an exceedingly clever show, and their sand dance in bare feet wins applause; Herbert Clifton is popular; and Brinn scores in his sensational act, "Pastimes on a Battleship." Arabella does a neat and novel wire act; and the Bioscope displays some interesting pictures.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Miss Gwynne Warren and company appear with success in a sensational sketch, *The Penalty*; Mr. Colin Coop in songs and patter makes a host of friends; Alf. Tristram, vocalist and dancer, is also popular; and Wys' comic pantomime company also appear. The pictures this week are An Alpine Echo, Motor Cyclist, Uncle Richard, Dimitri Donskoi.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Sydney James's Strolling Players are greeted with rounds of applause for their excellent singing and harmonising; Victor's Juveniles are greatly admired for their singing and dancing; Charles Santon possesses a fine voice, which is heard to advantage; Gwennie Harcourt sings and dances very nicely; Joe Dale renders several amusing songs; Stanley and Greenop are capable performers on the banjo; and the following also appear with success:—Virginia Grant, the Sisters Caselli, Mabel Mignon, Cadwell and Verne, and George Melvin (comedian).

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The premier position is held here by the Great Four, in a comedy harmony act, their songs and jokes being heartily enjoyed. Stewart and Lorraine give a successful musical entertainment; Miss Diana Hope and company, in a melodramatic sketch, *The Other Man*, are well received; a number of clever feats are done by the Sisters Urma on a triple trapeze; Reid and Power are entertaining in their sketch *The Chambermaid*; Heather Belle pleases with her Scotch ballads; Happy Attwood is warmly applauded for his comic songs and patter; Ada Clarisse sings excellently; and the Diamonds score in their acrobatic performance.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The artists appearing here are Ward and Davis, comedy duettists; Allan Arthur, eccentric comedian; Eva Alliston, vocalist and dancer; Ryder Davis, in song and monologue; Eva Ward, burlesque artist; and Alliston and Arthur, comedy duo, together with the cinematograph.

DUDLEY. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Leonard Boyne's company is giving a thoroughly efficient rendering of *Raffles*. Mr. Reginald Dance's grasp of the principal rôle is both convincing and complete; the Earl of Amersteth is played by Mr. Oswald Griffiths with refinement; and Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald is an amusing Viscount Crowley. Mr. Edwin Irwin's rendering of the American detective Curtis Bedford is impressive; Mr. Harold West is well suited to the part of "Bunny"; Mr. Buckstone Clair is exceptionally good as Crawshay; Lady Melrose is excellently played by Miss Agnes Knights; and Miss Margaret Unett supplies a pretty sketch of Lady Ethel. Miss Frances Sitherage is a sympathetic Gwendolen; and Miss May Brooke a bewitching Mrs. Vidal.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Manager Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The Three Comerfords, comedy acrobats, are paying a welcome return visit; Mr. Len Teel as the suffering dame causes endless amusement; clever tricks are performed by Frank Reno, comedy cyclist; Alf Brookes, comedian, is a strong favourite; and the dancing of Walter Aubrey, comedian, is greatly appreciated; Vere Lennie makes a charming and popular principal boy; and the three Sisters Adare have plenty of "go" as comediennes and dancers.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is here. Monday evening witnessed the representation of *Samson and Delilah*, which riveted the interest of a crowded house. The stage management and scenery were alike excellent, the Interior of the Temple of Dagon being a masterpiece of stage setting. As Delilah Miss Zelie de Lussan held the attention of the audience enthralled, both by her accomplished acting and the excellence of her vocalisation. As Samson Mr. Joseph O'Mara gave a well-thought-out impersonation and sang with passionate fervour; Mr. William Dever, as the High Priest of Dagon, was a decided success, and used his fine voice with effect; Mr. Charles Moorhouse made a dramatic Satrap, his capital voice being heard to the utmost advantage; Mr. Charles Magrath as the Aged Hebrew was admirable both vocally and histrionically. Herr Richard Eckhold conducted with his customary skill. On Tuesday evening Mr. Charles Manners' great artistic success *Aida* was given with Madame de Vere-Sapio as Aïda and Mr. Philip Brozel as Radames. The week's répertoire also includes *La Tosca*, *Carmen*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Faust*.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A bill of the most entertaining order is headed by those clever acrobats, the famous Craggs, in their exhilarating comedy-sketch *Billy*, an enjoyable combination of mirth and skill; the Four Royal Scots evoke the greatest enthusiasm with their smartly worked vocal, instrumental, and comedy act; Arabella Allen submits realistic sketches from Dickens's works, and is deservedly successful; Andie Burns finds great favour; Ambrose Thorne indulges in some clever and original business, and Reg Beauchamp is a hugely entertaining comedian of the eccentric type. Ada Oxley appears in a prettily-staged farcical sketch *Peggy*, which is much enjoyed, being ably supported by Grace Moore and Philip Orr, while the Kingscope pictures are of a diversified and interesting nature.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company in *Send Him Victorious* has proved a big attraction here. Miss Sidney Crowe's impersonation of Countess Kara von Mechlinberg is marked by great dramatic ability; Mr. Herbert Skardon scores as the hero Captain Frank Allison; Colonel Henrich Kaufman is capitally acted by Mr. G. M. Montanini; Mr. Howard Hardy is a dignified and impressive King of Ravonia; Mr. James Archer is alert and decisive as the Prison Governor; Mr. Charles Higgins makes a capital Major Carl Strauss; Mr. Lionel Carteret submits a good performance of John Arany; Mr. Charles Russell (Sergeant Max) and Mr. Albert Mellitt (Andrea Vereist) are alike excellent; Miss Netta Mitchell imparts much charm and naturalness to the part of Ethel Harding, and Miss Madge Palmer and Mr. Bert Woodin are thoroughly amusing in their comedy parts.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The cinematographic entertainment provided here is of the usual high standard. The Heart of a Cowboy depicts a ranchman's story of love and treachery with telling effect. The Lyons Mail is a very dramatic and thrilling film. Foolshead's Crime is a laughter-maker of the best type. Cosette, a film based on incidents in "Les Miserables," is a veritable triumph of cinematographic art.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—This hall is still achieving great success with animated pictures worked on the two-houses-per-night system. The attendances are on the increase.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Business is exceedingly brisk at Mr. Newman's house, where a fine assortment of films are on view. The programme is interspersed with several variety turns.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—Cassie Walmer heads an entertaining programme, her singing and dancing evoking enthusiasm; a capital turn is that of Keen and Waller, with eccentric acrobatic feats; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud win applause for their singing; Carlo and May Trio have a laughable acrobatic and wire act; Prof. Hutchison and his dolls provide an enjoyable ventriloquial entertainment; the Cheers, with their performing cats are well received; Lanozof is an expert foot equilibrist; and the Cathedoscope shows *The Drunkard's Child*.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. John E. Watson's company is appearing here in *The New Boy*. Mr. F. G. Thurstans plays the part of Archibald Rennick very cleverly, and keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. T. W. Atherstone does able work as Doctor Candy; Mr. Alfred Field Fisher is a very effective and funny Theodore, the French master; and Mr. J. P. Kirkwood and Mr. L. Lillie lend satisfactory help as Roach and Bullock major. Miss Phyllis Manners gives much and capable assistance as Mrs. Rennick; Miss Evelyn Ormonde is a bright Nancy Roach; while Miss Vera Wallace is a capital servant, Susan. Mr. Alfred Field Fisher highly amuses with his patter, and in his sketch *An Afternoon Call* he gets the best of help from Miss Vera Wallace.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Topping the bill here are the Three Romas, who give a thoroughly genuine and pleasing strong show; Miss May Lillian Levey, after her pantomime success in skirts, returns to male attire, and is a bright and sparkling impersonator; the Melbournes have a very funny and clever act, which is one of the great successes of the evening; the L.V.O. Trio keep the fun going in a sketch, *Jim, the Lady's Maid Burglar*; Mr. Archie Glenn sings, patters, and dances as a scout; Kenneth and Kane are a smart couple; Miss Lillian Oaks sings and plays the violin in a refined way; and new films are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. F. Marriott Watson and Mr. James Usher are presenting *Only a Little Boy*. Mr. Oswald Douglas as Steve Kingdom plays the part of the hero in a commendable manner, his acting during the many trying scenes being marked by artistic restraint. Mr. F. Marriott Watson is a capable exponent of the part of Jim Bragstone, whose villanies are thoroughly portrayed; Mr. Aubrey Winn as Sir Philip Meynell makes the most of a rather small part; Mr. Elton Morgan and Miss Mabel Harland as Mr. and Mrs. Pennington are all that could be desired; Miss Florence E. Florence as June is responsible for an excellent interpretation; and Miss Connie Meadows as Deborah proves herself a capital comedienne. The humorous element is also well looked after by Miss Hettie Senior as Tag Rag O'Flynn. Miss Dot Ford, who plays the part of Billie Bragstone, fully merits the approval which her efforts call forth.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Bernard Shaw's brilliantly successful comedy *You Never Can Tell* has been here on a return visit this week, presented in very entertaining fashion by Messrs. E. Tower Platt and Harry P. Towers's company. Mr. Graham Colmer makes a very breezy lover as Valentine, and Miss Winifred Beech plays Gloria Clandon with a full understanding of the possibilities of the part; while Miss Edith Hunter as Mrs. Clandon, with Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Dolly and Philip deal very amusingly with the other members of this peculiar family; and in the outstanding part of the Waiter Mr. Claude Haviland brings out all the points of a capital character study. Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Fergus Crampton, Mr. Allan Jeayes as Finch McComas, Mr. Bellenden Clarke as Bohun, and Miss Sylvia Dawson as the parlour-maid are all well fitted into an excellent cast.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A crowded house here on Monday last endorsed the favourable verdict passed by metropolitan audiences upon *Our Miss Gibbs*, with which Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company is paying a visit for six nights. The book is well written, and the music, by Mr. Ivan Caryll and Mr. Lionel Monckton, is pretty and tuneful, while the mounting of the piece is marked by the lavishness which is characteristic of all Mr. Edwardes's productions. Miss Alice Pollard, a graceful and vivacious actress, played the title-rôle with brightness and humour, and she dances with exceeding neatness; Miss Marie Wilson as Lady Elizabeth acted with much ability, and sang sweetly; Miss May Marton displayed admirable powers of comedy as Mrs. Farquhar; and Miss Grace Wixon cleverly represented the part of the Duchess of Minster. Mr. George Gregory as Timothy Gibbs gave an extremely droll performance, his diverting business, amusing singing, and capital dancing evoking loud applause; Mr. Lionel Mackinder was very entertaining as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; and an excellent sketch of Slithers, a professional crook, was submitted by Mr. Robert Nainby. Mr. Myles Clifton as the Earl of St. Ives, Mr. Ernest Mahar as Mr. Toplady, and Mr. V. Crofton, a first-rate vocalist, acted with notable ability; and the other members of the large cast rendered efficient support. The dancing, which was a prominent feature of the performance, was strengthened by a charming solo dance in Act 2 by Miss Florence Phillips, and a delightful Irish jig, executed in exhilarating style by Miss Phillips, Miss Mabel Danby, and Miss Olive Wade. The chorus and augmented orchestra worked with great smoothness under the direction of Mr. Harold Lonsdale.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Sam Mayo, who heads the Empire bill this week, is responsible for much laughter by the amusingly melancholy rendering of his songs; and Miss Lily Burnand sings several clever numbers with great vivacity and humour. A pretty and really artistic performance is that of A-Ba-Be's picture-postcard album, in which a young and graceful girl poses against harmonious backgrounds in various tableaux with charming effect; Miss Ray Wallace, in her admirable mimetic turn at the piano, receives loud applause; the Empire Comedy Four sing quartettes tastefully, and supply burlesque business; the Bros. O'Brien, daring and expert performers on the horizontal bar, introduce many fearless feats; and Heeley and Meeley, acrobatic knockabouts, are very good. One of the best turns of the evening is given by Mr. Gobert Belling, his assistant, and his trained animals. There is not only genuine humour and smart gymnastic work shown by the two comedians, but the four-legged performers give evidence of intelligence and highly successful training. Mr. Belling is heartily and deservedly recalled. The Albert and Edmunds company, in an absurdity, *The Tower of London*, and views by the Bioscope are also items in the programme.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The Carl Rosa Opera company have continued their attractive series of performances this week, the repetition of Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung* being supplemented by finished productions of *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Faust*, in which Mesdames Beatrice Miranda, Doris Woodall, Ina Hill, Messrs. Charles Victor, Arthur Winkworth, Frederick Clendon, and other artists have appeared with conspicuous success.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Shakespeare's tragedy of *Macbeth* is shown here this week—certainly an admirable production, both in scenery and action. A very interesting series of pictures depicts the method in which Canadian railways are laid and the wonderful rate at which the work goes on. Several humorous subjects, such as The Grandfather's Clock, make the audience roar with laughter.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Humour forms a large part of the programme here this week. The Policeman's Revolver and other films being very amusing. Dramatic stories are represented by vivid pictures like The Heroine of Mafeking and The Bank Breakers, both subjects of strong interest. Sabino and Joe Westley's Scottish Minstrels provide an excellent variety entertainment.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Hector and Lauraine head the bill, and are very amusing in their eccentric comedy act. Other attractive turns are given by Scarlette, a pleasing comedian and conjuror; Chike, in a novel equilibristic act; Dot Irving, a most pleasing comedienne and dancer; Will Penn, who causes much merriment as a comedian; and Dunco and Langdon, who are thoroughly enjoyed in an up-to-date sketch. An excellent selection of animated pictures prove interesting and amusing.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Ed. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—For the first three evenings this week Mr. A. Austin Leigh's company presented *Caste*. The company, a small one, has been well selected. Mr. Austin-Leigh gave a capital impersonation of Hawtree; Mr. Ernest Bodkin portrayed the Hon. George D'Alroy with much ability; Esther had a sympathetic interpreter in Miss Kathryn Collier. Miss Belle Travers as Polly was extremely good, and the Samuel Gerridge of Mr. Gerard Wynn was remarkably smart. As the Marquise de St. Maur Miss Emma O'Reilly artistically maintained the dignity associated with that character; and as the never-to-be-forgotten Eccles Mr. Walter Clarke portrayed this difficult part most acceptably.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Alec Hurley heads the bill here with *Cockneys in Japan*. Dick Tubbs is a comedian whose original business wins favour; Neville Delmar is a successful light comedian; Les Auberts are dancers of exceptional merit; Ossi Souplessi is aptly described as the anatomical wonder; Evelyn Taylor is a popular chorus comedienne; and Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, and Jessie Buckle are also in the bill.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The Lyceum Tour Company, with the favourite Manx drama *Pete*, has drawn good houses. The drama is well presented and effectively produced. Mr. Austin Milroy gives a powerful and convincing representation of the part of the honest and honourable Manx fisherman; Miss V. Malcolm Barnett as Kate displays histrionic powers of a high order. Other parts are excellently sustained by Mr. Alfred Gray as Phillip Christian, Mr. J. Edward Fletcher as Ross Christian, Mr. Frank Stone as Cæsar Creegan, Miss Lucy Murray as Nancy, and Miss Minnie Lake as Granny.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—*The New Barmaid* is here under the direction of Mr. Alexander Loftus. Miss Madge Prior in the title-rôle acts and sings with grace and refinement, her songs being encored; Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White is responsible for a large share of the humorous element; and is ably seconded by Mr. Charles Adeson, who proves himself a capital comedian as William White. Mr. Charles Sequin plays Bonsor on just the right lines. The play is prettily mounted.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' company with *The Thief* had a most enthusiastic reception here on Monday. Miss Georgina Wynter gives an artistic rendering of Marise Chelford; Mr. Bernard Limpus submits a good study of Richard Chelford; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay shows ability as Harry Leyton; Miss Mary Forrester as Isabel Leyton is all that can be desired; Raymond Leyton is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Frederick Morland; and Detective Protheroe is in the capable hands of Mr. W. Somerset.

T. J. West's Picture Palace at the Town Hall is exhibiting a very entertaining programme of pictures here this week. The star film is a very fine one, entitled The Sacrifice; another grand production is Faust; and Generous Rivals is well received. Other pictures of unusual interest and amusement include Pygmalion and Galatea, Taming Wild Horses in Buenos Ayres, The Gold Mania, &c. Between the pictures, Mr. Harold Kingston, the possessor of a rich baritone voice, sings some good songs, which are well received by the large audiences.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Adam Tomlinson, a popular local comedian, heads the list; Archie Royer "tumbles" with great success; Gerhardi Mohr, a Danish champion jumper, furnishes an appreciated item; there is any amount of good humour in Rose and Challoner's *The Porter and the Singer*; Hemsley and Ambrose have a taking sketch in *A Fatal Rehearsal*; Mayme Cannon is an entertaining comedienne; and the Kingscope supplies interesting pictures.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—The Gateshead Amateur Operatic Society is presenting *The Mikado* here for the benefit of local charities.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—The principal items on the bill are The Rocky Road and Tommy Lad. In addition to the pictures, a couple of comedy artists, in Watson and McQue, are appearing and making a hit.

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. Allan and T. F. McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. S. Newton.—The prime films here are Pine Ridge Feud, The Darling of Their Heart, and The Grandsire. Little Dixie a clever singer and dancer, is also in the bill.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—The visit here for two weeks and six matinées of Sir Herbert Tree's company in *Pinkie and the Fairies* is evoking considerable interest, and not the least enjoyable part of the entertainment is to see the delight of the many youngsters who are in the audience. The pretty story and beautiful setting were heartily enjoyed, and the younger members of the company do their work excellently. Miss Iris Hawkins as Pinkie, Miss Florrie Lewis as Queen of the Fairies, and Master Philip Tonge as Tommy are a delightful trio. Mr. Ambrose Manning as Uncle Gregory, Miss Kate Forster as Aunt Imogen, and Miss Augusta Haviland as Aunt Caroline give humorous portrayals of the three "grown-ups," ably assisted by Mr. Walter R. Creighton as the Gardener, and later as the Beast. Miss Hilda Antony is a charming Molly; Miss Dora Rignold acts and sings well as the Sleeping Beauty; and Cinderella is cleverly played by Miss Gwennie Brogden. A word of praise is due Master Burford Hampden as the Herald; but, indeed, all the young artists did their parts admirably.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A powerful attraction here is provided by Mr. Martin Harvey and his company. On Monday and Tuesday *The Corsican Brothers* was presented before a packed house. Mr. Harvey made a brilliant appearance in the dual rôle of Fabien and Louis del Franchi; and Miss N. de Silva charmed the house with her fine performance of Emilie de Lesparre. Mr. Alfred Mansfield as M. de Chateau Renaud presents a clever portrayal; Mr. P. Stoney brought the part of Baron de Montgiron into due prominence; Mr. Percy Foster gave an able presentation of Alfred Meynard; and the Baron Martelli of Mr. George Cooke left little to be desired. Mr. Fred Wright, sen. (Colonna), and Mr. Philip Hewland (Orlando) gave careful and well-balanced representations; Mme. del Franchi as acted by Miss Mary Rorke was entirely natural. *The Conspiracy* preceded, Mr. Martin Harvey playing King Conrod of Polaria with marked success. The latter end of the week is devoted to *The Only Way*.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The Repertory Company is here presenting *Candida* for another week, the cast being the same as before. Good houses are being attracted. A new comedietta, called *Our First Dinner*, noticed elsewhere, precedes.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—In charity's sweet cause the Glasgow Amateur Operatic Society are this week giving five performances of *Tom Jones*, commencing on Tuesday.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Sapho*, a new adaptation of Daudet's famous novel, has been attracting large audiences. In the hands of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company full justice is done to the production, and in the title-rôle Miss Ada Abbott displays remarkable histrionic ability; as Jean Gaussin Mr. E. Ouston gives a faithful sketch of the infatuated youth; as Henri Dechelette and Flamant Mr. John Drake and Mr. Stephen Crossley render able assistance; Mr. Edwin Keene and Miss Marjorie Tennant as Nichette are very amusing; as Aunt Divonne Miss Ethel Tinsley shines, as also do Miss Florence North as Lucy and Mr. Weedon Rose as old Legrand. As La Gouvernerie Mr. Hugh Roberts gives a fine performance; and as Hettema Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown capably renders a difficult part. The production is elaborately mounted.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*Was She To Blame?* is being presented here with telling effect by a strong company headed by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Mrs. Kimberley is the authoress, and is seen to advantage in the rôle of Kate Rosselle, a retired actress; as William Clark, a broken-down actor, Mr. Kimberley shows keen perception of character; Miss Constance Laurie gives a touching portrayal of the Vicar's daughter; and the Vicar and his wife are represented with excellent taste by Mr. Henry Rutland and Miss Ellen Beverley. In the part of Capt. Courtney Mr. George Keene bears himself well; the Frank Rosselle of Mr. George Langdon is strong and effective; the comedy parts (Swales and his wife) are successfully undertaken by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., and Miss Nita Owen; Mr. S. Wilson Lowther is good as the Doctor; and other parts are well filled by Messrs. A. Smith, John Arthurs, Harry Stone, and Miss Florence Steyne.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Miss Maud Western's production of *Folly's Fortunes* combines the most agreeable elements of musical comedy, melodrama, and vaudeville. As Billy Boyd Mr. Ellis is the life and soul of the piece; Miss Western as Folly Vaughan displays her abilities to the best advantage; Miss Maudie Lambert as Biddy Boyd also deserves great praise, her singing being specially appreciated. A feature of the evening was the Folly Male Voice Prize Glee Party, who were applauded for their singing; the Monte Carlo Girls also receive an ovation.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Presented by Fred Karno's company, *Perkins, M.P.*, keeps large audiences in continuous laughter. Mr. Albert Bruno is the principal, and he makes the most of his chances. Merrie Marie Kendall, comedienne, is also here, and sings in her usual vivacious style. Other notable turns include Steve M'Carthy, comedian and dancer; the Channings, in a refined vocal and instrumental act; the St. Johns (Gale and Frank), musical comedians, campanologists, and dancers; Les Silas, French operatic vocalists; Bert Coote and company, in an interesting sketch entitled *A Lamb on Wall Street*; and the Bioscope, with a series of interesting pictures.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—Jack and Evelyn top the bill here with a new act, *Introductions*, which affords both artists excellent opportunities for the display of their abilities; Hayman and Franklin, in their Hebrew comedy turn, cause hearty laughter; Lily Edwards, after her successful season in panto at the Grand, is taking well in her various songs; Regan and Ryan come from the Royal to repeat their success and enhance their popularity; Lena Verdi, in clever musical impersonations, ably deputises for an absent turn; Three Sisters Sprightly provide excellent amusement with their smart and versatile work; Clare and Pastor take well in an instrumental turn; and the acrobatic items of the Pichel Troupe are neatly carried through.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Owing to the great success attained by Mrs. Lillie Williams's pantomime *Dick Whittington*, the management have engaged the "show" for another week. Mr. Sam Thomson as Idle Jack continues to be the life and soul of the performance; and the grand work done by the Sisters Cora as Dick and Alice keep them in high favour. Specialities are

still introduced by Lindsay and Harte; the Four Killarney Girls, and the Celesta Comedy Quartette; while the Sisters Cora are again responsible for several items of value to the entertainment. In addition to the pantomime, Miss Jessie Templeton, principal boy from the Princess, meets with a great reception in her several numbers; Mr. Barry Gilmore, also of the Princess, appears with much success, his burlesque conductor proving quite a hit. Old and well-known friends to the Southside house are Walker and Lake, who are accorded a hearty welcome; Miss Crissie Cross both dances and sings well; and Miss Lena Verdi is excellently received in her song and mimicry. Large houses have been the rule.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dickinson.—At each performance during the week the house has been well patronised. Tiny Jessie, a chic comedienne and dainty dancer, has a capital voice, and her dancing leaves little to be desired; Will Leslie, Scotch comedian, amuses greatly. Among the films is A Rival's Generosity, which is followed intently.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Lafayette, Conway and Leland, the Merry Monopedes; Wooda, Wells, and Wilkins, in their vocal comedy sketch *The Piano-Tuner*; Mabel Sinclair, the wonderfully clever ventriloquist; Will Johnson, a quaint and lively comedian; and Gwennie Llewellyn, a young vocalist with an astonishing range of voice, form the programme here. The Bioscope films are up to date.

Panopticon.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Read and Wright, versatile duo vocalists and dancers, head the list, their dancing being especially entertaining. The other turns include Jos. S. Aitken, comedian and parody king; Kitty Esdale, comedienne and dancer; Will Hawthorne, the humorous Scottie; and Chas. E. Erneste, a clever vocal and musical mimic. The Bioscope displays The Cowboys' Romance, and other interesting films.

Bostock's Jungle.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank E. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Tudor.—Variety and enterprise continue to be the watchwords here, and several notable new items are on the programme this week. The presentation to Trainer Martino for his bravery caused special interest to centre round Monday's performance. The crowds who patronise the Jungle serve to emphasise the loss that Glasgow sustained when Mr. E. H. Bostock disbanded his Zoo collection.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal and Picturedrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—In common with other places of amusement located in the cotton districts, the Glossop Theatre Royal has experienced the severe effects of depressed trade, and the manager and proprietor (Mr. Spenser) has accordingly decided to run the theatre as a picturedrome up to the close of the season. Half prices are to be charged, and a number of variety turns will be introduced. The new venture commenced on Monday evening last. Miss Lily Gaston, a clever all-round dancer and male impersonator, and Miss Winnie Laurie, a fine comedienne and burlesque artist, appeared.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The chief item of an excellent bill is the Five Musical Marvels, novel and eccentric instrumentalists; Miss Lilian Farrar is a capital vocalist and graceful dancer; the Miovoskys, comic musical acrobatic eccentrics, are well received; and Reg Ewen, light comedian, sings a couple of good songs. Godfrey Price, with spectacular scena *The Trumpeter*, possesses a fine voice; and Miss Lena Brunton imitates various well-known music-hall artists. Rutters' Dogs play a comic football match and are applauded; the Leozellis in *potpourri* wire and dancing act are good. The Palace Pictures conclude.

King's Hall.—Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.—The two houses a night system is now introduced here, with good results.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and company are here this week in *The Way Women Love*, *Sapho*, and *Camille*.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—La Vie is presenting a most refined living picture turn; Susie Dole scores with her songs; Harry Fullett is popular; Mr. Charles Bradford is an amusing comedian; and Messrs. Lytton and Bland successfully appear in *A Lesson in Love*.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The Compton Comedy Company is paying a welcome return visit, and on Monday evening *David Garrick* was presented to a large audience. Mr. Edward Compton had a most enthusiastic reception, and his well-known impersonation of the famous actor was followed throughout with the deepest interest. Mr. Henry Crocker was excellent in every way as Alderman Gresham; Mr. Philip Gordon sustained the part of Rumbelow with marked ability; and as the Hon. Tom Tallyhant Mr. Frank Royde appeared to advantage. As Violet Miss Kathleen Leigh acquitted herself admirably; Miss Marie Hassell filled the rôle of Mrs. Rumbelow with much acceptance; and the remainder of the cast lent valuable support. The comedy was preceded by a one-act comedietta, entitled *Tom Noddy's Secret*, in which Miss Nell Compton, a promising young actress, made a successful *début* to a Greenock audience. The week's bill has also included *The Blasé Baronet*, played for the first time here, *The Road to Ruin*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The School for Scandal*.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—A good all-round programme here includes Walter Ellis and company, who submit a highly amusing sketch, entitled *The Sleepwalker*; Abel and Welsh, eccentric acrobats; Oswald and Locke, in their farcical interlude, *The Partner*; Lily Lonsdale, a charming ballad vocalist; McNally, an expert player on the dulcimer; Erne Myers, a popular comedian; Edie Haley, vocalist; and Mealy and Bois, speciality artists.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here this week. The Heroine of Mafeking is a splendid film, depicting several interesting and stirring scenes. A Day with Our Soldier Boys and 'Twixt Red Man and White prove attractive subjects, and much amusement is afforded by The Cheesemonger's Dog, A Policeman's Revolver, Foolshead at the Ball, and Brought to Terms.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Arcadians* is proving very popular, as presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. Mr. Gus Oxley as James Smith finds ample opportunity for the exercise of his capacity for droll humour; and Mr. Frank Collins as the melancholy Peter Doody makes the part highly diverting. Miss Marion Edwardes sings the charming numbers allotted to Sombra with exquisite effect; Miss Mysie Devine gives a spirited representation of the Irish girl, Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Madge Haines is responsible for excellent light comedy as Mrs. Smith; and others accomplishing good work are Mr. Roy Sidney as Jack Meadows, Mr. Roy Lorraine as Bobby, Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea, and Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson as Sir George Paddock.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The Achmed Ibrahim Bedouin Arabs retain all their former popularity here, and their wonderful acrobatic display and pyramid buildings make an attractive turn; the Al Schafer Four show marked ability, both as comedians and instrumentalists; the Florodora Girls are a smart trio of singers and dancers; Willie Gardner is a clever dancer on roller skates; Young and Evans give a capital exposition of Yiddish humour; Wilton Heriot and company appear in *Father's Footsteps*, which is full of amusing situations; and Daisy Stratton, a comedienne with a good style, dances prettily.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt. Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—A stirring illustration of adventurous life among the Redskins, entitled Comato, the Sioux, is the principal picture; whilst Into the Shadow of Death is a capital dramatic subject. Among the comic films are another of the Foolhead series, Are You John Brown? &c. A beautifully coloured historic picture is The Egyptian Maid. Mr. Maxwell Edwardes contributes illustrated songs.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julians.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week we are being entertained by Mr. Frank Weatherby's company in the drama *Flying From Justice*. Mr. Alec Forbes as the villain Guhy is a clever actor; Mr. Bert Ellis shows ability as John Lacarsey; Mr. Byron Douglass is a capable Charles; Miss Minnie Webster infuses spirit into the part of Mildred; Miss Nellie Murray does well as Mrs. Bearing; and Miss Viola Church is a pathetic Winnie Bradley.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is on a return visit here with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. T. M. Stewart makes a soldierly and aristocratic Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Roy Byford as Stephen Spettigue is a good specimen of a bumptious lawyer; Mr. J. S. Woolley and Mr. Robert Burnett are very good as Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham; Mr. Stanley Cooke fully maintains his reputation as Babs; Mr. Sydney Compton gives a well-thought-out study of the college scout, Brassett; Miss A. Stafford is a dignified Donna Lucia; Miss Ruth Henton a charming and provoking Kitty Verdun; and Miss Phyllis Back and Miss Bertha Wilson play nicely as Amy Spettigue and Ela Delahay. *Charley's Aunt* is preceded by the *Colour Sergeant*.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Carmos (lady and gentleman) are clever balancers and equilibrists; Dorma Morgan, a taking comedienne, is a most attractive "boy"; Barrington gives a talented musical turn with some quaint touches of humour; the Fimans have a humorous scena, *The Fire Station*; Steel and Laing are clever dancers and tumblers; Jack Warman, comedian, is a success; Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots prove a popular turn; and La Belle Sylvia, speciality dancer, and the Palace pictures complete.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Scottie's Operatic Ballet Troupe, in *The Cry of the Children*, is a popular turn here. *Napoleon at Waterloo* is a powerful playlet; "whizzing the whirl" is another attractive turn; Hall and Wilson give a clever exhibition of cycling on rollers; Sandy and Ramsay, patter comedians, create considerable amusement; and Ivy Cornwallis, comedienne; Harry Kranlee, eccentric comedian and dancer; and the Merries, entertainers, complete.

HAMILTON, N.B.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Dan Whitley, patter comedian, is most amusing; Miss Harriet Vernon renders a couple of songs in excellent style, besides appearing in her scena *Emblems*; Fred and Lulu Camplin are undoubtedly clever; Bert Weston provides an amusing turn; Leslie Race sings a couple of songs in excellent style; Dorothy Dundas sings daintily; the Faludy Troupe of Hungarian acrobats are smart; and Les Valadons in an equilibristic turn and the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY.—Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Good business is being done here as the result of the return visit of *The Country Girl*, with a capital cast, a capable chorus, and delightful dresses. Miss Dorothy Ariess as Marjorie Joy plays in charming manner; as Challoner Mr. Nelson Hancock sings and acts in a way that gains favour; Mr. Coningsby Brierley in the rôle of Barry is the cause of continuous laughter; and the Sophie of Miss Addie Lennard is a commendable characterisation. Miss Anna Hickisch as Nan is full of vivacity; and Miss F. Newell's Indian Princess is very fine. Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray are to be congratulated upon the provision of a fine company.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A capital programme is headed by Callaghan and St. George, in a charmingly original scena, entitled *The Old Neighbourhood*. Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in a new song-scena, *Speech Day at Eton College*, are enthusiastically recalled; La Sylphe, a charming dancer, is the very perfection of graceful movement; Lilion, cyclist, is clever; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley in *Black and White* are good; and Kendrick and Laura are a clever couple. Fred Poplar and Kitty Wager are also in the bill. Novel Navigation is a comic film, well shown.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Harlewood.—This week The Scapegrace is followed with breathless excitement. A Tale of the West is a fine pictorial and thrilling picture; A Chase for Wealth is also exciting, and A Youthful Hero is well played. Humorous subjects are The Officer's Men, Silly Billy, and Amateur Acrobats. Lila Vesta returns, and again makes a decided impression.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week the Lyceum Tours Company appeared in *The Two Little Vagabonds*. Mr. Frank Beresford played George Thornton in a satisfactory manner; and Mr. Lockwood was an able exponent of Captain Darville. Miss Mabel Cooke was in every way excellent as Marian Thornton, in spite of the fact she played at a few hours' notice. Mr. Charles Ludlow made an acceptable Bill Mullins, well seconded by Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy. As the two vagabonds, Dick and Wally, the Misses Grenville and Millias won great credit for their clever and pathetic performances. The play was well mounted and dressed. For the latter half of the week Mr. Keith Kenneth's company were billed in *The Woman of Kronstadt*.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Pictures continue to reign supreme here, and the selection provided by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Co. is an excellent one. One particularly fine film is entitled The Call, which depicts scenes in circus life, and is full of excitement; The Lie is another dramatic subject, founded upon incidents in the Franco-Prussian war; Love Letters and The Hard-hearted Farmer appeal strongly to the audience; and Weary Willie Gets a Job, Great Expectations from Uncle, and The Jealous Doll cause much merriment.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—*The Artfulness of Ada*, the new play by Mr. Arthur Shirley, is being presented here. The piece is light, cheerful, and highly amusing, and Miss Madge Chrichton has a brilliant little company to support her. As Ada Byron-Bruce Miss Chrichton creates great amusement by her remarkably clever comedy acting; Robert Byron-Bruce is naturally portrayed by Mr. Frank Tennant; a graceful exposition of the part of Mrs. Glynne is given by Miss Valerie Crespin; Thomas Sidney makes a capital Scotchman servant as Jopling; Miss Nellie Shirley as McClosky makes a typical wardress; and Mr. Stanley Farbridge is a dignified Colonel Duval. Miss Kate Kearney is particularly bright and dainty as Mrs. Goggle; Miss Ethel Hart successfully represents Lucy; Mr. J. F. Knowles ably sustains the part of Fred Spencer; and an admirable little piece of character drawing is furnished by Mr. Alick Chumley as Tom Senoakes. A one-act play, entitled *Auld Robin Grey*, precedes.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. H. B. Boyd; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing.—A capital programme is attracting good audiences. Miss Carrie Forde, Irish comedienne, is warmly welcomed; Kitty Weston sings with excellent taste and expression; the pictures are very popular; Farmer Skein gives a remarkable impersonation of the drunkard Conpeau in *Drink*, and also impersonates very vividly the character of Robert Macaire. He is supported by Messrs. George Owen, Walter Raysham, Miss Violet Lewis, and Miss Katherine. La Belle Greta is a graceful Spanish dancer. The Stewarts import genuine humour into their Scotch comedy duo.

Hastings Promenade Pier.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Ernest Mansell's Electric Art animated pictures are attracting considerable interest, and are being continued this week. Mr. Harry Hardy during the exhibition entertains by his versatile talent in singing and ventriloquism.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is appearing here with great success in *A Wrecker of Men*. In the rôle of Doris Melville Miss Gwendoline Talbot gives a delightful performance, and the part of Risca Mallinson is capably sustained by Miss Ruth Zillwood. Jim Morley and Pharosanhus are interpreted by Messrs. Arthur S. Pitt and Mr. Thompson Carruthers with much ability; Mr. Tom Bowron gives an excellent reading of Guise Strange; and W. Pallister Acock is effective in the rôle of the Hon. Reggie Verincourt.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Terry.—Leoni Clarke appears here with his cats, &c., for the first time. The animals are well and carefully trained, and are heartily applauded. Harry Wright, vocalist and extempore artist, is very humorous; Nellie Gannon is a clever descriptive vocalist; Carita Carmen, comedienne, and Tom Watt, comedian, are very good; Miss Ruby Taylor, winner of Scottie's singing competition, is heartily applauded. The Bioscope includes the following entertaining pictures:—The Gamin's Gratitude, Two Sisters, Judge Not, 1776, and Getting Even.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Considerable local interest is aroused by Selkirk's production of *Our Empire's Defenders*, in which something like 100 local children are engaged. Also in the bill are the Raymond Trio of refined musicians and dancers; Sam Williams, character comedian; the Rosses, a pair of neat dancers; Miss Adah Payne, soprano vocalist; David Fuller, baritone; and Lemoi and Quieb, in a comedy interlude. The Bioscope illustrations of how a clock is made are very interesting.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Exceptional curiosity and approbation mark the visit of the wonderful Tschin-maa and his band of Chunchuses, whose performance includes some weird fire eating, juggling, and acrobatics. In addition there are appearing Chas. Gardner, comedian; Miss Joan Deering, an accomplished violinist and a sweet singer; the Columbia Trio of comedians, who sing in cultivated style; the Will Douglas Troupe of clever risley acrobats; and Tom Yorke, comedian; together with the Palace pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The Woman in the Case* is here. Mr. Wm. Kershaw is admirable as the wrongly-accused husband; Miss Kathleen Russel represents with marked ability the wife of Julian Rolfe; and Miss Winifred Pearson gives a realistic rendering to the unpleasant part of Claire Forster.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—That famous old play *Drink* is the attraction. Mr. Pitt Hardacre as Coupeau realises the famous scene with great intensity; the Virginie of Miss Julie Kennard has many fine qualities; as Bottes Mr. Fawcett Lomax catches the spirit of the rôle, and wins the favour of the house; the Phœbe Sage of Miss Helen Pendennis is a well-conceived rendition; Miss Georgie Hall plays sympathetically the part of Gervaise; Mr. Vincent Hardy plies his colours well as Lantier.

Hippodrome.—Large houses are being drawn here by Consul, the man monkey, who is making his first appearance in Hull; another attractive turn is Will Netta's singing jockeys; while Athas and Collins give an eccentric singing and dancing act. The other artists are Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats and gymnasts; Harriet Rose, chorus singer; Little Pam, American boy phenomenon; Mike Cray and his dog Dooley, in eccentric comedy juggling act; Syd Crossley, the long comic; and Mark Leslie, coon impersonator and dancer.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Here as chief attraction are Tom Drury and Katie Major, in a comedy act *The Broker's Man*. The other turns are Bertha Evelyn, contralto; Hicks and Hunter, ice skate dancers; Petro and Leon, in gymnastic comedy; Bert Crosbie, comedian and dancer; Baddow, a clever ventriloquist; and Hughes and Carney, boxing comedians.

Palace.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Barnett.—The programme here comprises several popular turns. Barton and Ashley are well-known artists, whose farcical creation *Canal Boat Sal* was well received. Edie Reynolds displayed remarkable ability as a violinist; and the Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, present a clever performance, Otova San, lady artist, being an expert balancer. Fred Elton, who gives his scena on board an ocean liner, deservedly earned appreciation; and Fatmah Diard's charming singing won cordial approbation. Harry Bedford, comedian, provided a good turn; and John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain gave an exhibition of boxing. Jack Rose and Sue Lewis, the Yankee Doodle duo, were also acceptable artists.

Circus.—Like "Charley's Aunt," still running, are the Globe Animated Pictures at the Circus. For weeks and weeks each evening the holding capacity of the circus—which is an extremely large one—is taxed to its utmost by crowds who follow with keen interest a most excellent and varied entertainment.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Percival.—After a succession of melodramas and pantomimes a week of vaudeville is being appreciated by large audiences. Lady Mansel's juveniles sing and dance with vivacity and charm; Elmo and Rego are diverting knockabouts; Lillie Le-Main's smartly-manipulated marionettes are warmly applauded; J. H. Carney displays versatility in various characters. Amongst a series of excellent Pictures, Noel is made extremely interesting by Mr. Ernest Percival's dramatic and effective rendering of "Ora Pro Nobis." Others who contribute to a finely-balanced programme are Della Ray, the Orchids, in a capitally played duologue and topical duet; Sisters Ernest, Harry Mantel, and the Haverleys.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and company are proving a strong attraction here in Shakespearean plays. *Taming of the Shrew* was chosen for Monday, when an appreciative audience thoroughly enjoyed Miss Glossop-Harris's rendering of Katharine; Mr. Frank Cellier as Petruchio displayed great ability, the part of Grumio falling to the capable hands of Mr. H. P. Owen. Mr. Murray Kinnel was an interesting Lucentio, Tranio being capitally represented by Mr. J. H. Irvine. Miss Mary Goulden made an admirable Bianca; and Messrs. James Mason and Vernon Crabtree as Hortensio and Gremio respectively deserved praise. Mr. Arthur Seaton was seen to advantage as Baptista.

IPSWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Sandy McNab and a small but admirable company have a clever sketch, entitled *The Egyptian Mummy*, which creates roars of laughter here. Roma and Romani, billed as classical musicians, are extremely clever instrumentalists; Baron's Burlesque Menagerie is quite a novel turn, and caught on at once; the clever "impersonation" of lions, leopards, and a crocodile by dogs shows marvellous skill in training, and the four cats deserve special mention; Barnes and Ascot, the "new time dancers," are very amusing; and Ted Gill, the Yorkshire tenor, possesses a powerful voice. The Kahn and Kahn Trio of illusionists are very bewildering; and Mr. R. Dunning, a ventriloquist, is mirth-provoking. Some good bioscope films are included in a good bill.

Public Hall and Opera House.—Messrs. Barnards opened a five months' session at the above house on Monday night with their Imperial Bioscope and company of comedy artists, and were greeted by a crowded audience. The variety turns include Le Strad, a talented violinist, who impersonates successfully Sarasate, Auguste Van Biene, and others. Dandy Page, a juvenile vocalist of some versatility, and a novel fairy scena, with startling electrical effects, by Abdulla and La Superbe.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. F. Hill Mitchelson's company is on a welcome return visit with *Who Is She?* Mr. James Stillwell is a manly King Vladimir; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon a forcible Prince Bora; Mr. Horace Booth is well placed as Captain Arthur Gower; Mr. Alfred Glenville is an effective Sergeant Metroff; Chang Tee is in the capable hands of Mr. Bernard Leile; Miss Mabel Ronald is very good as the Little King; and Miss Georgetta Thierry is powerful in the leading part. Miss Alice Barber is good as Countess Ladori; Miss Constance Medwyn does full justice to the part of Keta Noveitch; and Miss Carrie Moore is at home as Sarette.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company opened the third of their present visit to the Opera House with *The Shadows of a Great City*, before a good audience. The acting is effective and the mounting excellent.

KEIGHLEY.—The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's twice nightly pantomime holds the boards here. The honours of the evening go to Dean Tribune, an excellent comedian, his soldier turn being excruciatingly funny; able support is given by Mr. Albert Williams as the Dame. The Principal Boy, Miss Ethel Campbell, fell ill on Monday, and at a moment's notice the part was ably undertaken by Miss Ivy Proudfoot. Miss Ida Franks is a charming Alice and Mr. Jack Hodson a capable Fitzwarren. Other characters are in the able hands of Mr. Leo King, Mr. Tom Gilmore, Miss Phyllis Seymour, and Madame Benita.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ian P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Budgear.—Miss Horniman's company presented on Monday Bernard Shaw's *Candida*. In *Candida* Mr. Herbert Lomas as the Rev. James Morell plays with much skill; Mr. Claude Bulkeley ably portrays the Rev. Alexander Mill; Mr. Francis Hope and Mr. J. V. Bryant were good as Mr. Burgess and Eugene Marshbanks; Miss Edyth Goodall in the title-rôle gave a natural rendering; and Miss Muriel Pratt was an excellent Proserpine Garnett. *Cupid and the Styx* has also been staged.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company with *The Cingalee* appeared here for three nights this week with much success. Mr. Arthur Cartwright as the Hon. Harry Vereker has a fine voice, which was heard to perfection in his song "Cingalee," his acting was also artistic; Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram was exceedingly comical in the part of Boobaamba; Mr. Douglas Munro made a typical Noble of Kandy; Mr. F. W. Ford as Sir Peter Loftus was all that could be desired; Mr. Scott Cullen was very successful as Bobby Warren; as Nanoya Miss Florence Watson was charming, both in acting and singing; Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy Sabine was vivacious, and won much favour; as Lady Patricia Miss Pauline Hague showed considerable ability; and Miss Sadie Thompson in the Vampire dance was agile and weirdly effective. The chorus was above the average.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah.—The Carl Rosa Company paid a two-night visit here and produced *Carmen* and *Faust* to a packed house on Monday and Tuesday. The cast included Mr. Edward Davies, Mr. Allan Turner, Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. Robert Fellon, Mr. Walter Wheatley, Mr. Arthur Winckworth, Miss Doris Woodall, Miss Ina Hill, and Miss Beatrice Miranda. The piece billed for the remaining part of the week is *The Mockery of Marriage*.

Corn Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—There is a splendid show of up-to-date pictures here this week. A most lifelike reproduction of Count Toystoy's "Resurrection" is highly appreciated. In Ancient Babylon is a picture of great interest. Other spools contain A White Lie, The Soul of the Artist, and Accompanied on a Tom-Tom. Ben Moor, patter comedian, gave a turn which was highly appreciated.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here in the play *With Edged Tools*. Mr. Hamilton Dean's portrait of Jack Meredith is consistent and convincing; Miss Marie Leonhardt as Jocelyn Gordon triumphs over difficulties; Mr. J. H. Geddes is a most careful Sir John Meredith; Mr. Henry Nunn appears with success as Guy Oscard; and Mr. Campbell Goldsmith as the crafty Durnavo does good work. An excellent portrayal of Millicent Chyne is given by Miss Marguerite Cellier; and Miss Marion Fawcett is most successful as Lady Cantourne.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Miss Loie Esmond's company is appearing here in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Edward Neville is an excellent Prince Lucio; Amiel is creditably played by Mr. H. Sisto; Mr. J. McGaig assumes the rôle of Geoffrey Tempest with considerable success; and Mr. Frank Wheatley is a commendable Lord Lynton. Morris (Geoffrey's servant) and Charles Grimes are in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Foreman and Mr. B. Anderson. Miss Dorothy Dewhurst plays with distinction as Mavis Clare; Miss Rosie Neville is a charming Lady Sybil; and Miss Loie Esmond is a forcible Diana Chesney.

Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Still retaining its popularity, another fine programme of pictures and variety turns is presented here this week. The outstanding pictures are The Grandsire and Drink, two very beautiful dramatic productions; Foolshead at the Ball provides much merriment; whilst other subjects responsible for much interest and amusement include A Romantic Young Lady, School for the Blind, A Suspicious Mother-in-Law, and Who's Got My Hat? Mr. Bert Williams gives a clever rendering of the recitation "Trouble in the Amen Corner"; whilst Mr. Harry Lewis sings with great success "The Bugler."

LEEDS.—Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Hart; Acting Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is appearing in a répertoire of old-time favourites. On Monday *The Gondoliers* was given, Mr. Fred Billington being happily placed as the Grand Inquisitor, and Mr. Henry A. Lytton scoring effectively as the Duke. Miss Bertha Lewis as the Duchess gave a clever impersonation. Messrs. Hollis Coote and Fred Hewett, and Miss Beatrice Boarer and Mrs. Arthur Rouseby were excellent in their various rôles.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Melodrama succeeds pantomime here, *Married to the Wrong Man* being the attraction. Miss Mary Pemberton as Ruth acts in a charming manner; and Mr. Henry Lonsdale feelingly enacts the hero.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—*The Dramatist at Home*, played by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, is a big success; Jack Pleasants, fresh from his triumph at the Grand pantomime, has to give several encores; Frank and Jen Latona prove themselves clever musicians and singers; the Kremo Troupe perform some marvellous tricks; and the Prince Milner Troupe, in acrobatic juggling and hoop-spinning, are also successful. The Smythsons appear in a new sketch; and other favourites include the Royal Delomes, Tiny Arnold, and Stuart and Morgan.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Wee George Wood causes a great sensation by his cleverness; Briff, Braff, and Broff are very smart in an acrobatic act; excellent singing and dancing is done by Olive and Owen and Cosgrave and Burns; Rose and Wold provide a good wire act; and the topical songs of Fred Herbert are highly appreciated.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford—Little Tich scores heavily in several songs; Florrie Robina is welcomed as an old favourite, after some years' absence; Hayes and Merritt are exceedingly clever trampolinists; Rorke, Rooke, and Co., in *The Prince's Love Affair*, come in for a good share of applause; and Ritter and Foster are very clever eccentric dancers. Lily Belle, Max Sterling, Brent Hayes, and Eight 'Varsity Girls are also popular.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Bowman and Morton's pot-pourri *Mixed Pickles*, is a popular item; Fred Maxwell and company present a clever sketch, *The Girl I Love*; Edna Latone is a clever male impersonator. Ted Lowen, a funny comedian; Burns and Bentley, dancers; and Angus Strong, baritone, complete a good bill.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Audiences here are being delighted with *The Dollar Princess*, which is admirably presented by Mr. George Edwardes's company. Miss Norah Barry is a fascinating Alice; and Mr. W. H. Rawlins an excellent mirth-provider as Mr. Bulger. Mr. Leslie Holland as Harry Q. Conder, Mr. Hugh Henson as Dick, Mr. Alec Worcester as Freddy Fairfax, Miss Peggy Primrose as Daisy, and Miss Madeline Seymour as Olga are others who should be singled out for performances of real merit. The chorus is a good one, and the staging and dressing leave nothing to be desired.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Messrs. E. Faulkner and M. de Courtsey's company is here in *The Sins of the Fathers*. Miss Edith Blande makes a conspicuous success as Camille; and Mr. Max Coutts as Sebastian Brandt is also very good.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Harry Roxbury and company present a new musical absurdity, *On the Track*, which is noticed in another column. Signor Rosi's Italian ballet *Uncle Isadore* serves to introduce a veritable feast of good dancing by Signorina C. Mossetti, Signorina Luisa Patti, and Signor Marcelli. The usual big hit is being made by L'Incognita, the wonderful soprano vocalist; Holden's Mannikins are exceptionally well worked, and provide a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment; Yamomoto and Miss Koyoshi give a remarkably smart display as equilibrists; O'Malley and Brown are a pair of most amusing comedians; Phil Percival is another mirth-provoking comedian, whose travesty on the melodrama is very good; Rita Rhylle is a dainty comedienne; and Frank Cass, a versatile vocal comedian, is also entertaining. The Bioscope remains a feature of the programme.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—At the head of this week's excellent programme are Bernard Mervyn and company, who are presenting in fine style the miniature melodrama *Nick Carter*. Mr. Bernard Mervyn plays with his well-known ability the title-part; and Miss Phillis Dailley, Mr. John F. Traynor, Mr. Ivan P. Gore, and Mr. W. E. Moss also do well. The Amio Trio are versatile artists, who present a very clever performance; Edwin C. Jazon's company create endless merriment in the comedy sketch *Charlie's Tram Ride*; the Jollions (Viola and Fred) introduce some good singing in their garden scena *The Spider and the Fly*; the Vocas, in illustrated songs and ballads; Bert Maddison, comedian; and Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer, are also entertaining. Pictures play a prominent part in the programme, three fine films being The Gunshot, a sensational episode; How They Made a Man of Billy Brown, a laughable comedy picture; and Mr. Dottynob's Double.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Leicester will shortly be provided with three additional picture halls, but at this, the first one of its kind in the town, in return for the always first-class programmes submitted, the management have been liberally patronised. The two principal films this week are The Gold Digger's Son and The Bugle Call, which are supported by other excellent pictures in The Sack Race, Three-Fingered Kate, His Duty, Dancing Tabloids, The Last of the Stuarts, The Bogus General, Why Jones Couldn't Sleep, Unexpected Santa Claus, Suffer Little Children, and The Servant of an Actress. The Weimars, including Trooper Daly, are making a most successful appearance here.

LEIGH.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—At the top of a good bill is the wonderful cycling ape, George the First, introduced by Mr. Dandy George; Mr. Jack Truman, tenor vocalist, is lo

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*The Chorus Lady* makes her first appearance here this week. Mr. William Mollison as Dick Crawford has little chance to show his well-known histrionic talents, but he makes the most of a somewhat ungrateful part; Miss Annie Hughes is entitled to much praise for her portrayal of the exacting rôle of Patricia O'Brien; Mr. Henry Deas is excellently suited in the character of Dan Mallory; Miss Elsie Vron Neville shows a deal of tact as the frivolous Nora; and a capital character sketch of the drunken Wardrobe Mistress comes from Miss Agnes D'Aragan. *A Breezy Morning* is the curtain raiser.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Dick Whittington* still draws enormous audiences, but the management are compelled to end the fine pantomime on Saturday even-next, the 19th inst.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery—*Another Man's Wife*, with Mr. Fred Granville's company, is here. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe does every justice to the part of Carlos de Vergas, playing with a deal of dramatic power; Miss Ruby Loncraine handles the rôle of Lucie in a manner which shows her ability; as Paul Bernstoff Mr. Alfred D. Adams stands out with some prominence; Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland makes the most of Gilbert Eardsley; and Miss Hilda Brewster as Maisie and Miss Lilian Radbourne (Inez) contribute good work; while the humorous parts are well taken care of by Mr. Willie Reid (Sam Smiles), Mr. Leonard Marshall (Andy), and Miss Marion Mayne (Tibby).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Big audiences are being delighted with Mr. C. Watson Mill's capital production of *For Love and the King*, which is dressed and presented in really good style. In the trying part of Gerald Meredith Mr. Mill plays with much spirit; Miss Rosalind Tate makes a convincing Edith Meredith, acting with charm and naturalness; Miss Joan Ellis is a pathetic Natila; Mr. F. R. Wicksteed proves an excellent Prince Uros; Mr. Oscar Power causes continuous laughter with his Carl; a strong character is that of Valdimir, presented by Mr. Fred J. Webb; Mr. Alfred Maurice deserves commendation for his Michael; and good support also comes from Miss M. Danvers Smith (Grazia) and Mr. Alexander Bronte (Marko).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Here this week is Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company in *Sherlock Holmes*. The title-rôle is efficiently undertaken by Mr. Stewart, who is well supported, among the principals being Mr. Charles Brandon (Professor Moriarty), Mr. Eric Morden (Dr. Watson), Mr. Arnold O. Raper (Larabee), and Miss A. Bruce-Joy (Alice Faulkner).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top of the bill here are the Slaviansky Russian Choir, whose rendering of native folk-songs is received with much approbation; Phil Ray, who has just come from pantomime in this city, has a cordial reception for his funny songs and patter; Dion Wade shows himself to be an exceedingly droll comedian and mimic; Francis and Alfred present a particularly merry scena, *Science and Drollery*, which is rapturously applauded; the Brennans (Will and May) show some remarkable dancing; Gipsy Woolf, assisted by "six sunbeams," has a pretty vocal and dance scena, *The Mermaids of Margate; Dan the Outlaw* is a stirring Irish protean play, presented in capital style by Herbert Shelley; Elsie Roby, as the slavey at the piano, supplies a very acceptable turn; and Emma Don and company please with their vocal scena, *On the Thames Embankment*.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—An important engagement is made here this week in the appearance of Mme. Albani, the world-famous songstress, whose classical and popular excerpts from her répertoire are delighting large audiences, and in conjunction with her Herr Jan Zakovsky supplies an obligato on the violin, and the pianist is Mr. Harold Craxton; Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas have a hearty greeting for their smart pantomimical acrobatic act; a pretty vocal and dancing scena is submitted by Marguerite Ismay and her peerless White Coons; the Lecardo Bros. are amusing acrobatic eccentrics; the Bros. Lawrence have a neat vocal and dancing act, *All Scotch*; and the programme also contains the names of Nan Farren (with chorus songs and dances), Tony Freedman (light comedian), Charles Pastor (comedian), and Guest and Newlyn (Hebrew comedians).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Heading the bill here is *Skating*, Karno's latest pantomimic absurdity, with Johnny Doyle as Zena Flapper and Charlie Chaplin as Archibald. The merry show causes endless laughter. That always popular artist Jack Whiteford brings down the house with his amusing songs and patter; the Derrington Family go through a really sensational performance on bicycles; Dave Carter sings tenor songs in good style; a funny couple of eccentrics are Bill and Bailey; Pitts and Gould present a pleasing song and dance scena, *Bachelor's Memories*; the Waltons display a deal of ability as Chinese acrobats; the male impersonations of Miss Louie Tracy are especially neat; and contributions are given by Iris Fox (comedienne) and Tom Joy (comedian), while Buddha's Blackboard is likewise shown.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here this week is dealing with *A White Demon*. Among the principal parts are Robert Elliott (Mr. Harry Tresham), Dr. Leyton (Mr. Sydney Grant), May Elliott (Miss Lina Nazeby), and Lucy Elliott (Miss Gertrude Entwistle). Brown's bioscope shows The Sailor's Dog.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Dan Crawley is here convulsing everyone with laughter; King and Benson in the musical burlesque *Around the Town* are a particularly merry couple, who have a warm greeting; Alice Maydue maintains her popularity; the Findens present a smart sketch depicting the humorous side of domestic infelicity; Jean and Josie go through a remarkable act as contortionists; Rich and Rich show themselves a couple of quaint comedians, who are well worth seeing; as a male impersonator Lilian Bishop gains much favour; and also in the list are Dot Hardy (character comedienne) and Miss Juliette's sea lions.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The attraction here this week is Mr. William Holland's pantomime of *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp*, which is affording much satisfaction. It is put on in capital style, and the principals are all capable artists. Miss Helen Charles makes a dashing Aladdin, and pleases greatly with her speciality at the piano in giving clever imitations of very juvenile vocalists and conversation; Mr. Robb Wilton, a well-known local comedian, is an exceedingly droll Widow, his manner of delivery being dry and unforced; Miss Poppie Holland looks well as the Emperor's daughter; as the Prince Miss Frances Haskell earns much popularity; Kennedy Allen is a funny Wishee Washee; and Abanazar finds in Bob Selvidge an able exponent.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—For this week a variety entertainment is presented by Neven Tossan, with lightning pictures; George Christian, comedian; the Sisters Ely; Bob White, with smart piano work and humorous songs; Grace D'Alton, comedienne; and Delmar and Demay, in a farcical sketch, *My Willie*.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mr. Clifford Hamilton's company are presenting *East Lynne* to good houses. The company are thoroughly capable, Miss Dora Pass being responsible for a fine study as Lady Isabel.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—*McPhee, M.P.*, is an amusing sketch presented here this week by Driscoll and Beattie's company; Geo. Golburn is seen to advantage in funny songs, and good support is given by Nellie Neil, in song and dance, and Connie Rubie, in chorus numbers. The pictures are a strong feature.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company opened on Monday in *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. J. D. Clyne worthily holds the part of Harry Thorne; Mr. Wybert Clive's Sir Henry Thorne is a good piece of acting; Mr. Bert Oakes proves a capital Richard Martin; Miss Gertrude Morelli plays with great pathos the rôle of Ruth; as Grace Redburn Miss M. Leslie Cudd gives a good interpretation; and Miss Freda Beckett as Nancy Bray is successful. *The Conscript* was billed for Friday.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—There is much admirable entertainment in the latest attraction at this theatre, which has just concluded its run of pantomime. The fare is R. C. Carton's farce, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and one could not wish to see a more apt exponent of the fun that is in Mr. Preedy than Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who is admirably suited to the rôle. The company supporting him is quite good also. Miss Ruth Mackay is really capital as the Countess; Mr. Ronald Squire plays well as the Earl of Rushmere; and fine impersonations are given of John Bounsall and Reginald Saunders by Messrs. Murray Carson and Frank H. Denton respectively. Worthy of particular note also are Mr. Edward Bonfield as the Hon. Robert Jennerway and the Mr. Sidgrave of Mr. Edward H. Wynne, while all the other parts are in safe hands. The farce is preceded by a clever playlet, *A Ball or a Motor*.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company are attracting large houses here. The week's répertoire opened with a fine performance of *Cavalleria Rusticana*. Signora Protti as Santuzza, Signor Folco as Turiddu, and Signor Azzolini as Alfio, all on a high level of excellence, were ably supported by Signora Rocco as Lola and Signora Massia as Mamma Lucia; while afterwards, in *I Pagliacci*, other accomplished singers were heard, namely, Signora Desio, a very pleasing Nedda, Signor Siroli as Canio, Signor Vait as Silvio, and Signor Barterra as Ariecchino; the Tonio being in the hands of Signor Azzolini.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*Hush Money*, last week's attraction at the Grand Junction Theatre, is the fare here, much enjoyed by good houses.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—A smart programme here is headed by Fred Karno's comedians in *The Football Match*, which loses none of its attractiveness and fun; Wash. W Evans and company in *Paradise Alley*, a New York Bowery musical piece, are much enjoyed; Hayman and Franklin's players, in the popular *Toplitsky*, are also a strong item; and other good turns are the Three Favourites, very pleasing vocalists; Will Rhodes, the droll singing comedian; and Layton and Douglas, instrumental soloists.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company are drawing full houses here with their sensational drama *The Face at the Window*, which last week startled and entertained the patrons of the Metropole.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's principal company are here in *From Convent to Throne*, including Miss Mary Fulton in her well-known effective rendering of the Princess of Maritza. Mr. Graham Woods adds a virile impersonation of Lieut. Erneste Von Hapsburg; and Mr. William J. Miller makes excellent play with his opportunities as Baron Strelsau. Miss Maudie Grayson plays Rosella with nice judgment; a very effective interpretation of the Mother Superior of the Convent is given by Miss Katherine M. Davis; and accomplishment is shown by Miss Dorothy Cecil and Miss Esme Malim as Lady Violetta and Lady Rotha. Many other picturesque parts are in the piece, and all are capably handled.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The prime honours here are shared this week by Ernest Shand, the popular burlesque comedian, whose comicalities are hugely entertaining; Miss Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale, who sings with wonderful effect; and Harry Nuttall's company in the weird play, *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, which is remarkably well acted. Rare fun is added by Pip Powell and Kate Vesey in their quick-pace comedy duologue *A Perfect Woman*; while other smart items are the Tom Davies Trio in their daring motor act in mid-air; Gus Garrick, a quaint fellow; Hans and Lux, the argumentative college chums; Ugo Nap, a pleasing character comedian; and Mabel Mavis, a novelty musician and entertainer.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. Seymour Hicks is the big attraction here this week with his altogether excellent performance of *Scrooge*, an exceedingly clever study. Mr. Hicks is very ably supported by a strong company. The incomparable juggler Cinquevalli is also to the fore; and the Elliott Savonas, with their delightful musical creation *The Palace of Orpheus*, are deservedly well received. Miss Annie Purcell, the well-known musical comedy artist, sings with her usual charm; Luis Alvarez is a tuneful tenor; Victor Travers is a comedian of the quaint order; Chass Lewis makes a hit with a smart ventriloquial novelty; and Naughton and Gold, Scotch comedians, are entertaining. Up-to-date pictures are shown.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The top turn here this week is provided by Barnold's animal actors, among which "Dan, the drunken dog," is really a wonderful example of training and intelligence. A popular turn also is La Tortajada, the well-known Spanish dancer; Cissie Curlette adds a nice turn in character comedy; Herbert Sleath's company are successful in *The Deputy Sheriff*; Mozetto gives a fine juggling turn; and other capital items are the Four Vagabonds, humorous vocalists; the Cattaneos troupe of acrobats; Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; Nash and Noel, comedians and cross-talkers; and James Basnett, vocal comedian.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Ernest Legh and company are starring here in their costume comedy, *Sir Roger de Coverley*; La Belle Morgane, a musical comedy artist from Australia, also figures prominently, and is greatly appreciated; Sid Cotterell and company are successful in *The Substitute*; and other good turns are Julia Reeve, comedienne; Earle and Godfrey in song and dance; Jennie Lynwood, Scotch comedienne; Kitty Malone, a favourite comedienne; and Stuart and Evans, comedians and dancers.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Billy Merson, a comedian with something new, is the chief attraction here. Also to the fore is Mabel Thorne, a smart comedienne with a répertoire of taking songs; while other notable items are Karl Czynski, the one-man band; Kirk and Saraski, the girl aquatic marvels; and Herma, novel gladiator and weight-lifter. The programme is completed by Staffo, comedy juggler; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; and the Wedburns, comedians, vocalists, and instrumentalists.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—Mr. William Watson's capital pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is still in Manchester, this week being at the above popular hall. The principal parts continue to be well played by the Waldrons; Mlle. de Rose, a first-rate Crusoe; Miss Hilda Claremont, a sweet singer, as Polly Perkins; Mr. Phil Lester, Mrs. Crusoe; Mr. Billy Watson, Will Atkins; Messrs. Waldo, Lambert, and Butler; and Mr. Leon Taylor. Excellent specialities are introduced by the Sisters Gaye, Bendene, Verenni, and the Three Royal Temples; whilst the singing and dancing are throughout good.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company are here this week with *The Old Home*. Daddy Dean finds an able and realistic exponent in Mr. Chas. Franmore; Miss Lina Blake-Adams is a sympathetic Hazel Dean; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell a capital Rev. Eric Armstrong; Mr. Fred L. Connynghame an amusing Sam Adams; Mr. Horatio Sinclair a forcible Lord Avondale; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is the old Irishwoman to the life as Bridget Donaghan.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—*Our Boys* is again here, and the cast is as follows:—Sir Geoffrey Champneys, Mr. Elliott Ball; Talbot Champneys, Mr. Louis Palgrave; Perkyn Middlewick, Mr. Arthur Dennis; Charles Middlewick, Mr. Escott Robson; Kempster, Mr. Alfred Bourne; Violet Melrose, Miss Thea Hansard; Mary Melrose, Miss Roberta Pulleyne; Clarissa Champneys, Mrs. Hansard Blair; Belinda, Miss Florence Harcourt. The comedy has been well played throughout the week.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—The programme here is headed by Perrier, in his "faked" ventriloquial act, which is followed by himself and the three "figures" as a remarkably good quartette. Renee Graham, male impersonator, has made a hit; and Wylie and Franks Trio, in their burlesque act, have been amusing. Dollie Denton, comedienne, has been a success; and George Campbell, pattering comedian, has created great laughter. Blanc and Zeyna, in their cycle whirl, have also given an attractive show.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Can a Woman be Good?* is presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Blanch St. Albans plays with ability as Esther Howard; and Manuel Errington has an excellent representative in Mr. Joseph Milne. Other leading rôles are satisfactorily filled by Messrs. Harry C. Robinson, J. Leicester Jackson, J. K. Tyrell, and Misses Florence Hunt, Ethel Bickman, Norah Melton, and Lilian Earle.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Vanando, the novelty ventriloquist; Susie and Protti, Continental dancers; Renot, mimic; the Bohemians, comedy instrumentalists; and Dawson and Garrow comprise the principals of this week's programme.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. John A. Thompson's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty* came here on Monday. Miss Adele Rose as Prince Charming, and Miss Alyce Wyllyams as Princess Charming are both good, their singing and dancing being much appreciated; and specialities by Abex (the pocket Hercules), the Canadian Melody Four, the Musical Scoreys, and Harlin and Hamlin, are very taking.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Gilbert Payne is presenting *The House that Jack Built*. Miss Nellie Dyson is a captivating Jack Trot; and a charming Sunshine is Miss Fanny Adamson, both artists singing in good style. As Marjory Daw Miss Hilda Deacon contributes some clever dancing; Miss Ethyl Errol is a sprightly Tommy Tucker; as the Fairy Miss Vera Kingdom sings very pleasingly; Mr. Gilbert Payne leads the fun-making effectively as Sir Niggley Grabbs; he has an able lieutenant in Mr. Fred Fulton as the dame; while Messrs. Zapham and Wallen get through a lot of clever knockabout business. The Godfrey Girls contribute some artistic dancing.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—On Monday *The Sleigh Bells* was presented, with Mr. George Munro in the rôle of Mathias. "The dream" was a fine piece of acting. Miss Doris V. Horrocks entered fully into the sympathetic part of Annette, a character which she sustained with great success; as the Quartermaster of Gendarmes Mr. E. Digges gave every satisfaction; and the other characters were in capable hands. The play was preceded by the romantic costume comedietta, *Delicate Ground. Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, Othello, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, The Robbery of the Lyons Mail*, and *Chanson Triste* have also been billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. Herbert Fuller and company are appearing with success at the Royal in the pathetic play, *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, in which Miss Agnes Collier meets with pronounced approval as Alice Walters. As Timothy Slough Mr. Herbert Fuller is well received.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Arthur Lennard, a vocal comedian much valued by Teeside audiences, is as successful as on former visits to the iron town; the Austral Trio, in their musical act are much enjoyed; Herbert La Martine's eccentric dancing is deservedly a pronounced success; the Musical Bentleys give an entertaining turn; and Elton and Elma, in their comedy bar act; the Sisters Dudley, vocalists; Miss Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne; and the Empire pictures are all well received. Good houses rule.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—A capital programme of pictures is drawing well at the Hippodrome. The cheaper parts of this large and comfortable hall are especially well patronised.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Messrs. Sterling and Cashen contribute a great military duo and dancing act, which arouses much enthusiasm; Sisters Rivers, comediennes and dancers, are greatly in evidence; and Messrs. Whitty and Whyse, duettists, receive deserved appreciation. McAskell, comedy talking conjurer, keeps the audience in merriment; Mr. Charlie Orme is a comedian of merit; and Misses Lillian Harvey and Marie Royce, comediennes and dancers of front rank, make up a programme of exceptional merit. The pictures are up to the usual standard.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is this week appearing in *The Village Blacksmith*. As the Blacksmith Mr. Sam Livesey gives a strong impersonation; Mr. Joseph Carter as the unscrupulous Captain Leo looks and acts the part to the life; Miss Maggie Edwards appears as Kate Strong; and Miss Cassie Le Grand does well as Ruth. Admirable comedy work is contributed by Mr. Fred Haming as Billy Twigg, Mr. Thos. Marshall as Parkins, Mrs. Parkins being amusingly rendered by Mrs. T. C. Livesey. A word of special praise is due to Miss Pauline Garside for her clever acting as Harry.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Blackleg's Conversion heads the list of pictures. The Kind-hearted Employer is much enjoyed; a fine dramatic subject is Fantine, which deals with the life of Jeane Valjeane; Mr. Brown Hustling is of the humorous type; a most laughable subject is Would Not Tire You, also The Mirror of Life; a touching story is told in The Poor Composer; an exciting picture, The Heart of a Cowboy, is well received. Excellent variety is provided by the Calcots, singers, dancers, and musicians, and Tom Jones, popular Welsh comedian.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—The Spanish Juanitos are here in an exceedingly clever acrobatic performance. The Five Bohemians, presented by Geo. and Leo Bliss, are capable vocalists; Torti, tenor, possesses a capital voice, whilst a smart instrumental and trapeze act is provided by Les Wambas. Other good turns are Bonhair and Tess in a Japanese quick-change scene, Fame and Fortune, versatile speciality comedians, Renz Bros., comedy acrobats and ladder performers, and Revill Hall, entertainer and mimic.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Two Little Drummer Boys* pays a welcome return visit to the Grand. Mr. Frank Rogers shows ability in the rôle of Captain Carsdale; Mr. Polson Turner depicts powerfully the machinations of Captain Geo. Darrell, while Mr. Edward Bikker makes a dignified Captain Kingsley; Privates O'Quirke and Trimmer are well sustained by Mr. Wilf Percy and Mr. Dick Seddon, and Jim Barber is acceptably played by Mr. Wilson Holmes; Mr. Vernon Vayne makes an admirable Lieut. Kingsley; Miss Violet Ingram is a charming Alma; Drunken Meg is skilfully played by Miss Lilian A'Dell, and as the two little drummer boys the Misses Maggie English and Maud B. Douglas maintain their reputations.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The delightful fantasy *Alice in Wonderland*, founded on Lewis Carroll's masterpiece, is this week charming young and old alike. The honours of the performance are carried off by Miss Ivy Sawyer, who is quite delightful as Alice; Mr. Franklyn Vernon is the Mad Hatter, Mr. Tom Graves the Mock Turtle, Mr Roland Henry the Gryphon, Miss Doris Walker the March Hare, Miss Bertha Schwartz the White Rabbit, and Mr. Dan Leno, jun., the Caterpillar, all of whom make the most of their respective rôles.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is presenting *The Earl and the Girl* to good houses here. Mr. Herbert St. John is a capital Dick Wargrave; Miss Lilly Gullick a fascinating Elphin Haye; Mr. Bert Bestwick a successful Jim Cheese; and Miss Ada Waugh an amusing Liza. Mr. Francis Rayne contributes a good impersonation as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr Sam Lysons is a smart American solicitor; and Mr. J. M. East a blustering Bunker Bliss. Miss Beatrice Hayden as Mrs. Shimmering Black and Miss Blanche Astley as Daisy Fallowfield also play their parts creditably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*The Cotton Spinner* is being presented here by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds acts with vigour as John Prescott; Miss Mary Austin is a sympathetic Mary Prescott; Lord Northbury by Mr. William Manning and Major Stratton by Mr. W. H. Dewhurst are two well played parts; and Mr. Geo. Porteous does full justice to the character of Arthur Northbury.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's new drama, *His Real Wife*, is the attraction here this week. Mr J. W. Evelyn as Martin Avondale gives a powerful character study; Mr. Bernard Elliott is an excellent Randall Meredith; and Miss Ward is sympathetic in the leading rôle.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—The much talked of Vampire dance by Alice Eis and Bert French is this week the principal attraction here; Addie Dorina, quick-change artist, presents a clever sketch, "Dr. Spot's Patients"; G. W. Hunter's songs and patter never fail to amuse; and W. Fulbrook and company, in *Astronomy*; La Freya, with artistic visions; Gladys Mavius, in songs and speciality dances; the Marco Twins; Rossi Ashton, the war artist, in lightning sketches; and Katie Butler, comedienne, are among the other attractions of the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H. Gould.—Harry Olaff and Alice Tremayne make a welcome return in their popular scena *The Demon and the Fairy*; Mahatma, queen of second sight, is also on a second visit, assisted by Pro. C. N. Steen; Mlle. Eldee, "the girl in the golden frame," presents a series of pretty pictures; A Bo Kou again accomplishes clever juggling and balancing feats; Snow and Alexander make a hit in their comedy act *The Football Intruder*; Cyril Dane, chorus vocalist, and W. Conn, dancer, also contribute. The pictures, which complete the programme, are The Adversary's Card and The Abduction.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The pictures here still continue to attract good houses. The leading items are The Devil Woman, a gambling tale; The Kind Employer; and Benedict Arnold, a drama of the American War. Miss Margaret Payne still continues to delight with her charming singing.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Seymour Hicks's company is appearing here successfully in the popular musical comedy, *The Gay Gordons*. As Angus Mr. Stafford Dickens provides a capital performance; Mr. Sidney Burt in the rôle of Nervy Nat gives a vastly humorous impersonation; Mr. Ernest Pierce proves a good representative of Edmund Siddons; and Mr. Charles P. Wentworth is clever as Andrew Quainton; as Peggy Quainton Miss May Yates scores a distinct success; Miss Ruby Louis as Victoria Siddons is worthy of special praise; Miss Denny Fitzherbert is a pleasing Charlotte Siddons; Miss Mina Goss a good Lady Millicent, and Miss Beatrice Grosvenor as Janet McLeod meets with warm approval.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—A well-varied programme here is headed by the Vaseys, comedians and dancers, who are warmly greeted; a very enjoyable turn is submitted by George Young, the blind concertina soloist; the Saltenos, in their clever speciality act, come in for rounds of applause. Other good turns are supplied by Probyn and Bates, comedy artists, Emma Cecilias, comedienne, Swan and Martin, American comedy duo, and A. Normanton, coon singer and dancer. The Palace pictures are, as usual, much enjoyed.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's company is here in *The House that Jack Built*. Miss Daisy Wood as Jack is full of vigour, and sings admirably; Mr. Jimmie Watson as Aunt Pudy is a great success, his quaint mannerisms and clever mimicry causing much laughter; Miss Hetty Jones is a typical Page; Mr. H. Hillerby does well as Squire Bounce; Mr. Jack Harrison is excellent as Pills; Miss Isa Wilson makes a charming and dainty Fairy Twinklestar; Miss Marie Lumberg is a picturesque Colin; and delightfully piquant is Miss Jenny Marsden as Gretchen, whilst Miss Dolly Dodds as Jill is charming, and displays her vocal gifts to great advantage; Little Peggy McDonnall as Wee Macgregor is irresistible; and Messrs. Graham and Barron as Scraggs and Scraggles respectively display great comedy powers and agility as dancers. Specialities are introduced by the Forget-Me-Not Trio, Messrs. Graham and Barron, Mr. Paddy Sloan, and Little Peggy McDonnall. The pantomime is lavishly mounted and dressed.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company in *The Diver's Luck* meets with much appreciation. Mr. William Macready gives an excellent portrayal of Martin Faber; Mr. Edmund O'Grady is good as Barney Bawn; Mr. William Dexter does well as Tom Hall, and Mr. James Burt is successful as Pedro; Mr. Harry Bristow appears as Snowfall; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff is a charming Helen Wyngate; Miss Pearl Noyle deserves praise as Peggy; and Miss Phyllis Spalding is good as Winnie Hall; Mr. H. J. Walton deserves mention for his rendering of Maurice Wyngate.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The Seven Perezoffs head the bill, and create much amusement in their original juggling act, "An Animated Supper at Maxim's"; the Brookly Comedy Four are amusing in comedy and pleasing in harmony; W. F. Frame, the great Scotch comedian, sustains his popularity; Cummin and Seaham, "the ragman and the postman," are amusing acrobats; Lucy Coventry is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Stanley and Vandyke are good as a comedy duo; Minnie Mace is a charming comedienne and dancer; Miss Teddy Edmonds and company in the farce, *The Lady Jockey*, in which Mr. Jimmy Rous appears as the tipster, are very funny, and the Hippo Bio pictures are interesting.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Ban's entertainment this week consists of the following pictures: The Short-sighted Sportsman, Who Stole the Necklace? 'Twixt Red Man and White, Foolshead who receives, The Waves of Fontarabic, Jones Buys a Birdcage, The Rocky Road, The Burglar and Little Phyllis, Novel Navigation. Mr. Tom Taylor sings in good form two illustrated songs, "If I built a world for you" and "Meet me where the lanterns glow."

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The company of Mr. Frank Curzon in *Dear Little Denmark* is making a good impression here. Mr. Henry Kitts is a thoroughly comical Duke Ernest; Mr. Conway Dixon sings pleasantly as Conrad; and Mr. J. C. Fagan gives the song of Karl in spirited fashion. The chief fun-making is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Staples, and the "humming" duet with Miss Joan Penrose is a huge success, the latter also being responsible for a quaint little morceau. Miss Netta Lynde supplies a dainty embodiment of Christine; Mr. Tom Redmond is thoroughly successful as Simon; and Harry Gregory gets all the humour possible out of Jonas Jensen.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*What a Man Made Her* is being warmly received here. Miss Renee Glendower plays Janet McAllister with artistic merit; Miss Stella Carmichael puts plenty of "go" into her impersonation of Lady Thora; Miss Russell Spiers is a forcible Dowager Countess; Mr. Edward Rawlinson an excellent Danescombe; and Mr. J. M. Olivert becomes a favourite as Dr. Mark Haven. The humorous element is well presented by Mr. Barnett Lando and Miss Tessa Myers.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The Jewels present their latest spectacular protean production "change" with great success; Miss Daisy Jerome becomes an immediate favourite; an enjoyable turn is that of Miss Alice Raymond and her players; Odeyne Spark is always welcome to Nottingham audiences; and Alf Gibson, with his unique style, causes a deal of mirth. John Macauley combines a good voice with considerable dramatic skill; and Billy Hobbs amuses by his energy and nimbleness. Moran and Wiser exhibit wonderful skill in manipulation of hats; and Frank Danby and company, in the sketch *Love in a Coffee Shop*, are distinctly good.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—First position here is worthily occupied by Ye Colonial Septette, who render delightful music in a charming setting; Fred Russell's ventriloquial patter is always amusing; clever head-balancing by the Carpos Bros. draws appreciative applause; the Four Mayos give a smart exhibition of roller skating; and the Rangers are clever trick cyclists with a large element of comedy. Whirlwind dancing by the Czar Troupe, whistling by George Hall, and dancing by Rosie Lee and the Sisters Wingrove are also agreeable features of the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—*Her Love Against the World* is being presented by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company. Mr. Fred Emery displays excellent ability in the heroic rôle of Eric Strathmere; Mr. Oswald Cray is vigorous and effective in his scheming as Prince Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallatt makes an excellent Prince Othmar; Mr. Henry Hallatt depicts Prince Maurice with much success; Mr. Chas. R. Horn cleverly represents the patriotic and impetuous Colonel Gessler; Miss Esie Roberts gives a dignified and carefully studied performance as Princess Iris; Miss Blanche Steel is satisfactory as Countess Shula; Miss Rossie St. John arouses the sympathy of the audience by her skilful acting as Lionel Strathmere. The play is mounted and staged in first-rate style.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Smiley.—Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse's company is appearing here in *Oh, Susannah!* Miss Adie Boyne as Aurora, with capital opportunities, is very amusing; Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse as Dr. John Sheppard infuses clever work into his part; and L

The Three Meers, in their original wire act, present some smart comedy; the Villions again score with their comedy cycle act and dances; Rosie Lloyd is a charming comedienne; and Marie Terry and J. S. Bentley are very good as up-to-date cadets. Florence and Rose Showell, in their vocal duets; little Jennie Alexander, as a mimic and comedienne; and the McKenzies, in a comedy sketch, are also in the bill.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The pictures are of excellent quality, and are highly enjoyed by all. The principal film is a fine one, and is thrilling, namely, 'Twixt Red Man and White. On the Reef is very dramatic; and an interesting picture depicts Testing Armour Plates at India Head, America. The Hour of Revenge is a well-acted film; a fine seascape shows the Waves of Pontarabic; A Lesson in Charity and Pals are also very good; and some very amusing films include Cock-a-Doodle-Doo, Mistake in Addresses, and A Glass of Goat's Milk. Mr. Don Cameron contributes a capital song.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—A capital programme is provided here. The Sins of the Fathers is very interesting and dramatic. Cherries gained hearty applause, being an excellent picture. Nick Carter and the Jewel takes well, also Father Christmas and The Good Dog.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—The Engineer's Romance is well depicted; and a striking Biblical story illustrates Belshazzar's Feast. The Keeper of the Light is a story of the sensational type. The Poacher's Wife's Revenge is most powerful; and a capital list of comic films include Mary's Got the Hump, Mustard Plaister, and The Hero. The vocal items are ably sung by Mr. A. Buckley.

OXFORD.—New Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, and company have been providing a most artistic presentment of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* and *Rosmersholm*. As Hedda Tesman Miss Octavia Kenmore scored an indubitable success, and seemed to have imbibed the true spirit of Ibsenism; while Mr. Lovel was just what Ejlert Lovborg ought to be. Mr. Claude W. Sykes sustained George Tesman admirably; and Mr. Kenneth Black was quite a natural being as Mr. Justice Brack. Miss Daisy Race was good as the frail Mrs. Elvested; Miss Gladys Everard seemed quite in place as Bertha; and Miss Katherine Maynard made the most of the difficult rôle of Miss Juliana Tesman. The company, and especially Miss Octavia Kenmore, had several calls before the curtain.

East Oxford Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. James E. Lewis's company is here with *The Welsh Maid*. Mr. Fred T. Carroll is effective as Carodoic Howell; Mr. Harry Jordan is painstaking as Jack Francis; and Mr. W. Pemberton does well as Danfydd Thomas. Miss Violet Barclay is bright as Sally Davis; and Miss Zeta Murdock shows earnest endeavour as Jenny Jones.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The Paisley Opera Club is in possession of the theatre this week, producing *The Geisha*. Much of the success obtained is attributable to Mr. Edwin Bryan, who has been producer, coach, and stage-manager to the amateur society, and to Mr. Savile, who has had special scenery painted for the production The proceeds are to be devoted to local charities.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The chief attraction is Frank Elliston and company in a delightful masque entitled *Long Live the King*, which is well performed and equally well applauded; Nelson's Newsboys' Quintette, America's street singers and dancers, meet with great favour; the humorous songs and patter of Harry Levsine, comedian, evoke continuous laughter; Alix Lukoe, as a versatile artist in his scena, "Song, Speech, and Story," is as clever as he is entertaining; the Borella Brothers accomplish some wonderful and novel feats in their gymnastic display; Lily Edwards, a comedienne, proves very popular; Fred Carr and Ada Rose gain hearty applause in their scena, "After a Night Out"; George Hirste, Scotch comedian, is meritorious; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—*The Eyes of the World* is being presented here by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss Van Praagh plays Hélène de L'Orme with ability, and Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Achille Fanfarade is humorous.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Girls of Gottenburg* pays a third visit, and is drawing capital houses. As Max Moddlekopf Mr. Phil Smith is excruciatingly funny; Mr. Murray Moore is admirably suited to the part of Otto, his two songs being vociferously redemanded; Mr. Charles Berkeley admirably assumes the rôle of Brittlebottle, giving a realistic representation of a well-disciplined German soldier; and Mr. Ralph Forster makes a portly Burgomaster. As Mitzi Miss Hilda Vining's singing and dancing are equally successful; Miss Nellie Laursine as Clementine is genuinely humorous; and Miss Nan Stuart is a winsome Elsa.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Spirsel Brothers and Mack, American eccentrics, form the chief attraction, their contribution being clever and very amusing; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith perform some first-rate cornet solos; Harry Champion is a strong attraction, rendering no less than five songs; Angela Warde and Maidée Harrison are exceedingly popular comediennes; S. W. Wyndham is responsible for much amusement with his sketch *The Professor and His Pupil*, to which Mr. H. Wyatt materially contributes; and Vesta and Minnie Pine in a golfing sketch, and Liston and Barber, topical comedians, complete the programme.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—Mr. G. de Relwyskow, the royal wrestler, tops the bill; Mr. Johnny Holland, supported by Miss Rita Warne and Mr. E. W. Edmonds, appear in the farcical absurdities *My Friend Boots* and *The Boatbuilder*; Mr. Edgar Forrest and company give a comedy sketch *My Friend the Enemy*; Baby Sophie (age eleven years) is an accomplished artist; Pulo is a smart young juggler; Leo Fields, character comedian, is as popular as ever; Kettie Cameron, dainty comedienne and dancer; Carl Osmond, the comedy tramp cartoonist, and the Alexscope complete an excellent bill.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company is producing here a comedy drama entitled *The Greater Sin*. The piece is full of thrilling incidents, and depicts how the villainy of man can bring shame and degradation to those who wish to live the better life. The production is under the supervision of the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay, and much credit is due to him for the realistic manner in which the play is staged. Mr. Mackay undertakes the heavy lead in an admirable style and receives applause as Greville Brayle which he richly deserves; Miss Ida Mackay is exceptionally good as Dora Brayle and captivates her audience by her graceful manner; Mr. Carle Kerzo ably portrays George Brayle, and is a hero throughout the play; Miss M. Noble as Marcelle de Valcour makes an impression as the mad woman. The comedy parts are taken by Mr. Louis Newman as Bertie Wilkins and Miss Trixie Leighton as Peggy Perkins, who keep the audience in roars of laughter. Mrs. Corlass is also good as Puggy Baxter; Mr. Jack Corlass makes a capital Constable Mike Maloney; and Mr. Black is excellent as Kipper. A part that stands out prominently throughout is that of Mr. Graham Hamlyn as Sneaky Baxter. Mr. Arthur Leslie (Pincher Jim), Mr. J. Brough (Jules), Mr. J. Helpin (Handsome Henry), Master Cyril (Little Dora), take their parts in a commendable manner.

PORTH.—Palace of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Miss May Mars, in a song-scena, "A Persian Garden," with elaborate scenery and effects, meets with general approval; Walter Wade, in a new vocal monologue, "Sandy Macgregor," is very good; Wee Madge, a dainty Scotch comedienne, gives capital songs and dances; Harry Russell and company present a laughable comedy sketch *Milk Hot* the whimsical Warners, in a refined musical and dancing act, arouse roars of laughter; the Three Morocos give a funny and smart military act. *Fun in a Barrack-square*; Winnie Darrell is a charming comedienne; the Howards, in their screamingly laughable sketch *Military Mad*, keep the house roaring with laughter; and the Palascope provides excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Patrons here are indebted to Mr. W. Greet for a return visit of *The Sign of the Cross*, produced in elaborate style. An admirable study of Marcus Superbus is presented by Mr. W. Lawson Butt; Mr. W. Mayne Lynton scores with his impersonation of Nero; Tigellinus has a capable exponent in Mr. Chas. Aldred; Miss Evelyn Hope's rendering of Mercia is excellent; and Miss Winifred Delevanti does good work as Stephanus.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—A great attraction is provided here this week in the shape of Mr. Walter Melville's ever-popular drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Mr. Norman B. Cannon makes a handsome and manly hero as Jack Livingstone; and Miss Muriel Dean as Constance Cornell is a charming heroine. Miss Effie Griffies renders with great realism the part of the drunken wife, Barbara Wade; Cuthbert Lumley the conventional stage villain is ably portrayed by Mr. H. Dalton; the character of Nellie Meadows is cleverly and vigorously delineated by Miss Nell Oliver; a fine reading of the part of her father, John Meadows, is given by Mr. Harry Cane. Mr. Fred Hodson as Toby Turvey, Mr. W. T. Harris as Luke Ramsden, and Mr. Edward Valentine as Dr. Weston are excellent. Packed houses testify to the continued popularity of this exciting drama.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, heads a very attractive programme this week. His versatile entertainment includes whistling solos, impersonations of Lauder, Chirgwin, and Chevalier, and several songs, viz., "The Preacher and the Bear," "The Trombone Song," and "A Little Irish Love Story." He meets with most enthusiastic applause. The Kirbys, burlesque entertainers, give a humorous performance; René and Rousby present a Lancashire comedy act, entitled "Fine Feathers"; a novel and original turn is that provided by Viviana and company, in their dancing scena, "The Toy Shop"; the Five Cliftons, gymnasts, perform wonderful feats of hand-balancing; V. Widdicombe and company are appearing in a light sketch, *Her Devonshire Dad*; Cissie Thompson is a charming soubrette; Jack Hylton is a comedian of parts. Payne's Bio-Photoscope has some new and interesting films.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—George Gilbey, firstly with his prophetic almanack and then as Constable Duffy, keeps the audience in continual merriment; the vocal entertainment of the Gotham Quartette is accorded hearty appreciation; G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellmon display their musical abilities on the piano and in song; some clever character impersonations are submitted by Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French comedienne; acrobatic feats have their exponents in the Three Laurels; and Adams and Ward; a burlesque boxing act is provided by Palles and Cusick; Thiessen's Dogs exhibit the fruits of careful training; Owen McGiveney is a clever character impersonator; and L. W. Harris is in favour with his songs. This week's Bioscope film is The Amateur Pugilist.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—A picturesque Oriental scene of Japanese life, *A Vision of Japan*, is presented by O'Hana San; Mlle. Yetta's graceful dancing on the wire is loudly applauded; Alan Holt and company present a well-written sketch, *A Society Woman*, with great ability; the Paolas submit a refined athletic act; Belrose and De Velin vocalise in good style; Poole and Maguire are smart Society entertainers; Bessie Hews, Tony Black, and Bert Byrne are responsible for much amusement.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austen Melford are presenting *The Silver King* with an exceptionally strong company. Mr. Fred D. Daviss as Wilfred Denver gives a capital interpretation of the part made famous by the late Wilson Barrett, and is to be congratulated on the excellence of his performance; Miss Mildred Surrey is equally successful as Nellie Denver, and wins the entire sympathy of the audience; Mr. Edward J. George, in his old part of Daniel Jaikes, is as firm a favourite as ever; Miss Bateman and Master Eric Dene as Cissie and Ned are excellent; Mr. Sydney Lynn is an accomplished villain as the Spider; and Miss Mary Glanbrane is most successful as Olive Skinner; and Mr. Arthur Wright as Elijah Coombe is a clever character-study. The play is realistically mounted.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Miss Florence Bains is paying a return visit with her own company in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and is as popular as ever in her inimitable presentation of the laughing Lancashire lass, Mary Ellen Thompson. The company supporting her is a good one, and each and all contribute to the success of the play.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—At the top of the bill is Miss Victoria Monks, who receives an ovation, and is repeatedly recalled. The Lyons Trio, comedians and dancers, are a clever turn, and come in for much applause; the Boys of England in Barrack-room ballads, are an excellent sextette, who contribute some good songs and choruses; Arthur Albert, light comedian and vocalist, sings good songs; H. O. Wills, the Water Rat, is irresistibly funny; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia contribute juggling, mirth, and music in a highly finished style; Blanche Montague is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Chas. Prelles' bijou circus is unique, the sagacity of the dogs being marvellous.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. and Mrs. John Walters are doing well with the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Thorn does good work, and Miss Kittie Liske is a painstaking Polly Perkins. Young Captain Kettle is adequately impersonated by Miss Rena Rees, while Miss Hilda Hemus as the Spirit of the Ocean receives unstinted applause for her excellent singing; Miss Kitty Chester is also excellent as Fairy Liberty. Ally M. Benson is exceedingly good as Mrs. Crusoe and is well backed up by Mr. W. Bland as Billy Crusoe. Mr. Tom Lewis works hard as Pirate, and Messrs. Dytum and Dale are acrobatic specialists. The staging under Mr. Willie Leigh also deserves special mention.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Sole Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Eley's "Ginsy Maids" have been giving bright and successful entertainments. The clever troupe supply a programme of choruses, solos, speciality dances, while there are also ventriloquial sketches by Mr. Edward Vyson, novelty musical acts by Miss Olive Sara, illustrated songs splendid dissolving views, and a comedietta.

The Mahina Picturedrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—A good variety of pictures includes a number of strikingly funny films. H. O. Borrie, the juggler, gives an excellent exhibition of balancing feats with plates and bottles, and his eccentricities create much laughter.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees, the Manchester Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—Miss Babs Lloyd is a dainty comedienne and expert dancer; and Mr. Charles Rothwell a comedian of great versatility and amusing patter. The pictures this week are good, and include The Nerveless Man, Pulp Mills at Quebec, Jenkins Joins the Police Force, The Keeper of the Light, A Good Lesson, In Little Italy, and Scroggins, M.P.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—*The Servant in the House* is being played here by Henry Miller's company, under the direction of Charles Macdona, and is making a strong impression. Mr. Matthew Boulton acts with great power and dignity as the Bishop of Benares; Mr. Walter Gay is an excellent representative of the Vicar; Mr. Ernest H. Paterson enacts the part of the worldly and hypocritical Dr. Makeshift in characteristic style; Miss Laurie Flockton, a clever juvenile artist, gives a sympathetic rendering of the part of the Niece Mary; Miss Nellie Hodson is good as the Vicar's wife; Mr. Forrester Harvey gives an amusing impersonation of the page boy; and Mr. Harry Parker plays the difficult part of Robert Smith, the repentant black sheep of the family, with artistic skill.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—Joe Collins and Fred Mulvey's company creates much diversion in the comedy skating skit *Wrinkles on the Rink*; Aimée Roberts is an accomplished actress-vocalist; Celest does some dexterous feats in wire-walking and bâton-juggling; the Sisters Gladwin appear to advantage as duettists and dancers; Herslet Brothers, Danish comedy duo, provide an amusing turn; Blanche Spencer is a clever singer of illustrated songs; Fred Spencer is an expert pantomime artist and expressionist; and Williams and Warden appear with success in an Irish vaudeville act, *Mr. Dooley*. The Palace Bioscope completes.

Electric Automatic Vaudeville (Broad-street).—Johnny Trunley, the famous Peckham Fat Boy, is being exhibited here.

RUNCORN.—Public Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Excellent business is the result of an attractive bill, of which the Alaskarno troupe of acrobats are the top, supplying some truly sensational feats of daring. Kavados does novel and well-executed juggling acts; Carlos Menard submits effective work on the violin, literally making it "talk"; and the Tames are well received in Welsh vocalism. The pictures comprise Cleopatra, Ma Learns to Ride, Interrupted Marriage, Celebration of School Children, Motor Cyclist, and Temptation of the Goldfields.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, forms an excellent entertainment, and drew a large audience on Monday, when Miss Madge Grey kept the house in roars as Mary Ellen Thompson. Miss Ruby Glyn was a charming Eva Lancashire; Mr. Charles Williams was a dignified John Higgins; Harry and Bertha were worthily sustained by Mr. Sidney Dench, jun., and Miss Mabelle Clinton; Mr. Charles Neilson was successful as Grant, and played smartly on the violin; Mr. B. Brereton as Herbert Fox, Mr. Lonnen Meadows as John Henry Thompson, Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Mrs. Thompson, and Mr. Allan Servington as Moses Goldburg also contribute to the general fun. Miss Alice Neilson (Bella) and Mr. H. Mitchell (George Hart) do well.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—The Boisset Troupe (Frank Albert and company) in *The Bricklayers* head a good programme with their comic business. Jay Laurier, direct from the Royal pantomime *Cinderella*, raises much laughter; the Birkenhead Family includes three boys and two girls, who sing very cleverly; Carlie and Walker get much appreciation for their clever vaudeville act. The other items by Gicardo, a smart juggler; Victor Courtney, "boots" at the piano; George Lennard, light comedian; and Connie Mascot, comedienne and dancer, are also well received.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's No. 1 company presented on Monday the play, *The Old Folks at Home*, to a good house, who took great interest in the stirring incidents. Mr. Frank Liston was successful as the dissolute young Lord Kenilworth; the hero, Andrew Ross, was forcibly portrayed by Mr. George Steel; Miss Kate Froud as Patricia Bathurst did well; Miss Maud Warburton ably sustained the part of Dorothy Robin; Miss Dorothy Goode was a charming Bonita Durham; Christopher Robin and Martha were well played by Mr. Henry Sainsbury and Miss Clara Santley; Ian Fleming did good work as Hugh Lovell; and much fun was made by Mr. George Scully as Ben Jolly and Miss Cissie Clarke as Susan Giles.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd. The Regent Animated Pictures this week include The Indian Cocoanut Tree, Story of Circus Life, Theatre Pass, Muggins, V.C., When We Called the Plumber In, and Snoggins for Blackburn. Mr. Sherlock sings "No one knows."

Central Hall (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Company; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Western Maid, Beneath the Gas, Country Servants, Policeman's Revolver, The Latest Delicacies, and Fireman's Wedding are among the Raymond pictures shown this week here. Mr. Gilbert also gives a couple of songs.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bench.—Burley and Burley top the bill, and are excellent acrobatic comedians; the Crisps provide an exceptionally good dancing turn; Robb Gilmore is highly amusing; Mlle. Haydee's marionettes are greatly appreciated; Maizie Hibbs is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Delafiore shows great skill on the xylophone; and Arthur Slater is popular.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*Where is William?* is being well played by Mr. Chas. Windermere's company, with Mr. R. Pyott as William Jolley, Miss Belle Donaldson as Lady Gregory, Miss Claire Manifield as Phyllis, Miss Zoe Davis as Eliza, and Mr. Chas. Windermere as Sir Wm. Gregory.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Packed houses testify to the popularity of *Miss Hook of Holland*, as played by Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company. The title-rôle is charmingly acted and sung by Miss Biddy O'Brien, and Miss Madge White establishes herself a warm favourite by her quaint and clever rendition of Mina; Mr. Charles Sims gives a decidedly clever impersonation of Mr. Hook, and the Simon Slinks of Mr. Edward Kipling is irresistibly funny; Mr. Frank Atiree gets in some good work as Ludwig Schnappe; Captain Adrian Paap is smartly depicted by Mr. Robert Selby, and a praiseworthy rendering of Bandmaster Van Vuyt is given by Mr. Frank G. Dunn.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Child.—*A Beggar on Horseback* is proving a strong attraction here as presented by Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy's company. Mr. Rice Cassidy enhances his reputation with a fine study of the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh; Mr. Tom Roydon gives a sterling interpretation of Duke Sergius; Mr. Edward Lourie (General Manager) plays with marked success the part of Michael Ichon; King Olgar is excellently drawn by Mr. Alfred Boxall; Mr. William Melvyn is a popular Harry Lortimer; as Seaweed Mrs. Rice Cassidy stands out prominently; Miss Ada Roscoe is a painstaking Countess Olgar; Maggie Bolton is effectively portrayed by Miss Isabel Hunt; Marie is satisfactorily drawn by Miss Agnes Durham; and as Tommy Miss E. Whitehead is successful.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Zarmo, the mad detective-juggler, must be gratified at the magnificent reception accorded him here on Monday. His is a turn of undoubted merit, his juggling feats being performed with skill and precision, whilst his quaint humour creates roars of laughter. The Three Warners, in vocalism and dancing, afford a deal of pleasure; Miss Ray Randall obtains a most flattering reception; Mr. E keeps his audience in roars of laughter with numerous droll stories, accompanied by photographs; the Evalos give a marvellous exhibition in a motley mélange of jocular jugglery and gymnastic gyrations; Billy Hubbard is a clever comedian; Fred Neiman with his entertaining ventriloquial minstrels complete.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The bright and exhilarating musical play *The Dollar Princess*, magnificently mounted and perfectly performed by Mr. George Edwardes's original company, began a welcome return visit on Monday, when artists, chorus, and play were received with enthusiasm by a packed house; Mr. Louis Bradfield's polished insouciance and legitimate comedy talent easily enabled him to shine in the part of Harry Conder, and Mr. Eric Thorne, in his original and delightful manner, fairly revelled in the chances afforded him in the droll character of Mr. Bulger; Mr. Lenoard Mackay was simply irresistible as the smart, up-to-date young lover, Freddy Fairfax; Miss Clara Evelyn repeated her dainty, charming, and tuneful performance of the part of Alicia; Mr. Paul Plunkett submitted a neat sketch as the Earl of Quorn; Miss Norma Whalley made a graceful Olga, and Miss Mabel Russell was much admired as Daisy. Mr. Thomas W. Tunbridge was an efficient conductor.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Hendrey Aldred.—The pleasing domestic drama by Mr. C. A. Clarke, *Little Phil's Mother*, was acted to a large and appreciative audience on Monday by Mr. Frank M. Thorne's well-selected company.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Messrs. Matthew Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here in the romantic drama *For Wife and Kingdom*. The principal characters are well played by Messrs. Frank Sutherland, Reginald T. Fox, Charles Gallier, Albert Guyon, Fred Osmond, T. Varny, Lewis Gordon, H. Smythe, E. Hamilton, R. Mann, Miss Lillian Malvern, Miss Alice Buckland, Miss Audrey Canning, Miss Margaret Frame, and Miss Hettie Zillwood, who makes a handsome and dramatic representative of the Grand Duchess of Goetzburg.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Arthur Roberts, smart, debonair and alert, opened to a

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.
11.—NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Tip-up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.
24.—NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from 4/6 to 75/- A good Running Seat from 1/- per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,
CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS,
Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

big audience on Monday in the amusing farce, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. The "only Arthur" acted with his accustomed distinct and quiet humour as the dashing Fitz-Smith, and he was well supported by Mr. H. J. Worth, Mr. F. Johnson, Miss Beatrice Hobson, Miss Nellie Lamport, Miss Ida Furneaux and Miss Jessie Burgwitz. James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, two clever and original burlesque artists, were loudly applauded, and the company also included the Ten Loonies in a comic absurdity, *Dotty*; Miss Ethel Newman, in *My Wedding Day*; Mr. Henry Helme, operatic vocalist; "Billy," the trained horse; Mr. Fred Barnes, vocal comedian; Carl and Carr, comic duettists; the original Four Regals, in an athletic act; the Bioscope, with new films, and Mr. Charles R. Whittle, the popular comic singer, in catchy songs.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Messrs. Peterman and Ricketts' combination in *The Pawnbroker* is here. Other performers are the Three Cunards, vocalists and dancers; Alice Rex and the Xentric Troupe in a spectacular scena, *The Garden of Terpsichore*; Mme. Pollo, lightning gymnast; Prof. Wilsen, novelty artist; the Great Lumar troupe of acrobats and equilibrists; Miss Amy Russell, vocal comedienne; Miss Alma pianist; the Bioscope pictures; and the wonderful Kiners-Moulin and Mlle. Tricky in a graceful and daring act of equipoise.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-chosen company in *The Prodigal Son* is paying a welcome return visit. The part of Magnus Stephensson could scarcely be better filled than it is by Mr. Hugh Montgomery; Oscar Stephensson as played by Mr. S. Herbert Humber is a fine piece of acting; Mr. Ernest Rivarz is well suited to the part of Stephen Magnusson; Mr. Philip Renouf is an admirable Oscar Nielson, the Factor; Dr. Olsen is well represented by Mr. Charles Brownless; Mr. Bernard Merefield is very good as the Director of the Casino; Mr. Henry Denton acts well as the Agent of the Bank of Denmark; and Mr. Fred Manners embodies the Sheriff in good style. In the dual rôle of Thora and Elin Miss Elsie Wood gains appreciation for her sympathetic and earnest acting; Helga is well portrayed by Miss Betty Castle; Miss Marie Harcourt is a creditable Margaret Nielson; and Miss Barbara Gott a highly successful Anne Magnusson.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome.—The entertainers at this popular place of amusement are Alexander and Hughes, musical comedians; Three Stewarts, acrobats; Lillian Rose, entertainer; Tokio Troupe, Japanese equilibrists; Jock Smiles, comedian; and Gladys Archbutt, comedienne. There is also a very good dramatic sketch, *Before the Dawn*, by George Sheldon and company.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's interesting play *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* was presented at this theatre for the first time on Monday. Mr. Ian Robertson, at the head of a strong company, submits an excellent study of the Wayfarer, which was capitally portrayed in all its phases; Miss Jeannie Thomas gave a characteristic representation of the landlady, Mrs. Sharpe; Stasia, the slavey, was skilfully and realistically impersonated by Miss Helena Parsons, and effective work, both in the prologue and the play, was contributed by Miss Blanche Ripley (Mrs. De Hooley); Miss Drusella Wills (Miss Kite); Miss Lena Delphine (Mrs. Tompkins); Miss Barbara Everest (Vivian); Mr. W. O. Bellington (Joey Wright); Mr. J. Woodall-Birde (Christopher Penney); Mr. P. G. Twyman (Major Tompkins); Mr. Stanley Brown (Jake Samuels); and Mr. Herbert Garthorne as Harry Larkcom. The play was preceded by an interesting curtain-raiser by Mr. Ian Robertson entitled *Come Here*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here this week in *A Broken Heart*. John Barnard is portrayed with considerable power by Mr. Harry Cullenford; and Miss Sheila Walsh displays ability in the emotional scenes and incidents of the drama; Mr. Ernest Duval and Mr. A. C. Holmes are well cast as Gash Gills and Stephen Rayiton; and all the principal parts are well supported.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item is Pioifax and Panto in *Humpsti Bumpsti*, an eccentric acrobatic act; Tom Lloyd, a popular eccentric, scores; a favourable impression is caused by the Northern Troupe of dancers; and Mona Garrick is well received. Takio, Japanese mimic of sounds; Ethel Bourne, contralto; Sisters St. Julien, duettists and dancers; and the Bioscope are other attractions.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Harry Tilbury and company are appearing here with the Anglo-American drama *My Native Land*. Mr. George Fry gives a good rendition of Andy Blake; Mr. Fred Owen as Doctor Magee acts capitally; Mr. Gilbert Hall undertakes Norry Boyle effectively; Mr. George Walkley as Eardley Cunningham acts well; Mr. Harry Tilbury creates much amusement as Solomon Moses; and Mr. Edwin Brown does well as Mick Murphy. Miss Belle Tilbury is exceedingly smart as Myra Pyne; Miss Priscilla Barnard is popular; and Miss Arline T. George wins commendation.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. M'Leod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*Her Secret Lover* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Mr. Arthur St. John, in the part of Gilbert Seymour, makes a manly hero; Miss Laura Walker's plaintive attractiveness as Ivy Seymour gain her much sympathy; of Capt. Darrell Rose Mr. Walter H. Wilson gives a careful study; and Mr. Alfred Stretton throws vigour and dash into the character of John Strange. Miss Flora Leslie is a strong Alicia Royale; Mr. Victor Vernon a humorous Bill Burley; and Miss Lynn Darlington an admirable Jane Maria Wilkes.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Casey Army is the cause of much merriment here; Mlle. Renee, charming and beautiful, performs excellently on several instruments; Harry Taylor obtains much applause for his songs; and Captain Kettle's tricks and patter are appreciated. The Bros. Ford dance with marvellous unanimity; and Harry Conlin and Rosie Coleman give excellent turns.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Florodora*, popular and attractive as ever, is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles Constant's company to appreciative audiences. Mr. Arthur Lenville is exceedingly funny as Tweedlepunch; Cyrus G. Gilfain is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Jos. R. Tate; Mr. Robert Hine is pleasing as Frank Abercoed; and Mr. Johnny Junior makes a highly satisfactory Captain Arthur Donegal. Miss Josephine Ellis is charmingly graceful as Angela; Lady Holyrood is captivatingly impersonated by Miss Kate Lester; and Miss Daisy Lake, whose delightful vocalism is a distinct feature, makes the character of Dolores a great success.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. Marie Santoi and company, in *A Night in Japan*, have been pleasingly greeted here this week; and among others appearing are the Two Countees, entertaining humorists and harmonising duettists; Les Rallis, the artist and his monkey, in a clever gymnastic act; Madge Goodall, a capable vocalist and dancer; Tom Gott, comedian, with an abundance of amusing patter; and Miss Tudora's admirably trained ponies.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here with *The Love of the Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad earns much applause; Mr. Richard Vane is a capital Count Dacilo; Mr. John Barton cleverly depicts King Josef; Mr. Beckett Bould as Lieut. Orlans is seen to advantage; as is also Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff; and Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as the Prince Regent, Miss Dorothy Haigh as the Princess, Miss Josephine Lee as Constantia, and Miss Maude Steeple aid the success achieved.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—Harry P. Solwyn's company is here this week in the sporting episode *A 33 to 1 Chance*, which meets with great success; Ada Gatley, in a pot-pourri act, takes well; Damerell and Rutland, comedians, have some good patter; Colbert is a clever hoop manipulator; Frank Cumminger and Francis Colonna, sand dancers, receive loud applause; Jack Sheridan is a popular comedian; Reg Bolton makes a big hit in a comedy scena *The Editor's Imp*; and the Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is performing here twice nightly the domestic drama, *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a capital George Tremain, and Miss Pauline Nanton an admirable Mavius Leverton.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Yangar, in a series of mysterious problems and illusions, is a great attraction and one highly appreciated; Walter Stanley is accorded a vociferous reception in his parodies; Neilson's Boys and Girls in a singing and dancing potpourri are popular; Hern and Palmer are clever gymnastic comedy artists; Reg Amber is a pleasing light comedian; and also here are Flo Cecil; Fields and Lewis; and the Perfection pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Mr. Carlton Wallace's company, with *The Lancashire Lad*, is here for a week. Mr. Harry T. Wood is a capital David Elmore; Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Max Carlton is well placed; Mr. Wilton Reid as Jem Wincote deserves special praise; Miss Madge Douglas plays Jessie Wincote with power and feeling; Miss Muriel Inglis as Lorna presents a careful study; and Miss Nellie V. Warden is quite at home as Mother Wardie.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Miss Lena Ashwell's *Diana of Dobson's* company is here this week. The title-rôle is supported by Miss Molly Tremaine in artistic style; Mr. Leslie Rea gives a fine exposition of Captain Bretherton; Mr. A. A. Harris sustains the part of Sir Jabez Grindley with much point; Mrs. Cautelupe is cleverly presented by Miss Hilda Franks; and Miss Mary Crewe is also good as Mrs. Whyte-Frazer. Misses Nannie Hume, Eva Boyne, Cicely Oates, and Winifred Lowe are all excellent as the assistants at Dobson's. The piece is preceded by a playlet, entitled *Out West*, in which Messrs. A. A. Harris, T. Pauncefort, Leslie Rea, and Miss Eva Boyne take part.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is here this week in *The Tyrant*. Miss Marie Robson gives a fine performance of Tisbe; Miss Jean Scott is an excellent Lady Catherine; and Miss Lallah Shelton is seen to advantage as Eulie. Mr. Edward E. Lewis has a part for which he is well suited as Rudolf; Mr. Percy Fotliss is capital as Homodei; Mr. Roy Fortescue plays with considerable strength as the tyrannous Angelo, having a capable accomplice in Mr. J. P. Lallan as Lieut. Taska. The comedy is in the capable hands of Miss Katie Lever (Regi-nella) and Messrs. Fred Luard (Nobbo) and Wilson Summers (Victor).

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading the bill this week is the renowned illusionist, Chang Ling Soo. Jack Lorrimer, Scotch comedian, is as popular as ever; Witty Watty Walton delights everybody with his varied programme; the Carina Sisters are appreciated for their tasteful and refined music; and Florence is applauded for her imitations. The Rhoda Brothers' acrobatic act is one of great daring.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—T. W. Romer is highly successful here in his clever song-scena; Phyllis Stean, comedienne, is popular; and Clown Paulo and his performing pony have an enthusiastic reception. The pictures are of a high order.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—The best picture here this week is Pardners, a clever dramatic item. The programme is good and varied. The Seven Wulfrunas were very amusing in an acrobatic scena entitled "Fun in a Café," which included many difficult feats; Jordan's dogs and monkeys gave evidence of skilful training; and Fred Horsfall was loudly applauded for his mimicry and vocal efforts.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *A White Man* is being received here with great enthusiasm. A convincing portrayal of Jim Carston is given by Mr. Guy Hastings; the Earl of Kerhill is smartly portrayed by Mr. Chas. Maunsell; Mr. Harold Richardson makes an amusing Sir John Applegate; Mr. Alex. Wills is a successful Malcolm Petrie; Mr. R. A. Brandon is exceedingly good as Big Bill; Mr. Eric Hudson's forceful impersonation of Tab-y-Wena could hardly be better; Mr. Frank Mayo acquits himself with credit as Cash Hawkins; and Bud Hardy is ably presented by Mr. Ray Raymond. Miss Ormonde Wynne does well as Dowager Lady Kerth; Miss Dorothy Duncan is a pleasing Lady Mabel Wynnegate; Miss Hilda Barita gives a careful study of Nat-u-rich; Miss Kathleen Maude invests the rôle of the Countess of Kerhill with charm and feeling.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—In addition to the popular film of the Cup Tie Between Swindon and Manchester City, the pictures include For the Honour of the Family, Launcelot and Elaine, Balchazzar's Feast, Cherries, Beneath the Gas, On the Reef; also a number of amusing films.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—King pantomime again holds sway this week, Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's company in *Sinbad the Sailor* occupying the boards. Miss Lily Simms makes a dashing and handsome Sinbad, and as Princess Yazora Miss Dolly Andrews proves a dainty principal girl. Captain Selim is ably portrayed by Miss Gladys May, and Miss Kitty Russell as Irza, and Miss Bimbo Brandon as Fairy Good Fortune lend graceful support. Amongst the humorists the chief favourites are Mr. Dan Lyall as Tinbad and Mr. Arthur Carlton as Shipwreckus, who are ably seconded by Mr. W. Shepherd as Mr. Spankfirst Sinbad and Mr. J. Riche as King Krusty Mug. The comic villains find able exponents in Messrs. Rand and O'Ryan, their quips and cranks calling forth loud applause. Mr. W. Melville as the Caliph is deservedly encored in his two songs, "How d'ye do, my baby" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon"; and the Leola Troupe of acrobatic dancers are also well received.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Percy Browne's company is here with *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, which is suitably staged. Mr. W. Coleman does well as Felix Beverley, and a clever portrayal of Jack Sterling is given by Mr. J. S. Milward. Geoffrey Langdon is powerfully presented by Mr. H. Creagh Hunt; Colonel Miles is safely entrusted to Mr. C. Grier; Miss Amy Ellan ably interprets the part of Mary; and the Hon. Mrs. Lands is done ample justice to by Miss K. Magee. Miss M. Goepel does well as Nancy.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. E. Harper.—La Belle Alice's animal sailors provide a novel and acceptable turn; Cyclumina, trick cyclist, wins much favour; Nelson Hardy scores heavily; as do Purvis and Partner; and Chas. Ashdown is an eccentric comedian. A Motherless Waif and Pet of the Big Horn Ranch are the principal pictures.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—The chief item here is a comedy drama sketch by Harry First and company; Kioto and Esa present a clever equilibristic performance; the Three Huxters win great applause; Eileen Douglas provides a capital turn; and the Daimlers, Stevens and Brett, and Bert Rayburn are all well received. The Empiroscope continues acceptable.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's pantomime *Cinderella* is doing well. The title-rôle has a very capable exponent in Miss Dela Fredericks, whose vocal efforts and dainty style win her much eulogy; Miss Zelia Zillwood is a principal boy of agreeable personality, and is quickly a favourite; she is ably supported by Miss Lottie Mellor as Dandini; the comedians are all very good, Messrs. Gus Granville and Frank Shepherd working well together, and Messrs. Will Webb and Tom Squires making two clever sisters, whilst Mr. Carl Fredericks is quite in his element as the Baron. Some good specialities are introduced, the most effective perhaps being Mlle. Cordelia, whose electric transformation dancing is much admired; the Three Hilberts introduce some amusing bouncing table tricks, and Clyde and Ide are clever top-boot dancers.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The chief turn on the Hippodrome programme is Miss Hoodless, in her refined art poses, comprising reproductions of well-known Academy pictures; Taree, the Australian bushman, performs clever feats with a mouth organ; Mart and Pep prove accomplished acrobats; Henriette and Selina give a clever musical act; Mather and Mayer are a sprightly dancing duo; Aima Jones possesses a rich voice, which was heard to advantage in "The lost chord"; and the comedy turns of Ruby Rayo and Will Ambro, together with the Hipposcope, complete an excellent programme.

TYLDESLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. McNish.—The interesting films shown here this week include The Quarryman's Daughter, Never Despair, One-Legged Story, &c. Frank Boyce is a successful actor-vocalist; and Belle Brocade, burlesque actress, quickly becomes a favourite.

MINERS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Lievers and Bennett; Manager, Mr. C. Matthews.—The management here continue to submit an excellent programme to their numerous patrons. Some first-class pictures of a varied nature are exhibited this week. Countess Bekoffska makes a hit with her lightning sketches; and St. Vincent Ellesmere is a fine vocalist.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, is here. Mr. F. Ronald Adair acts with distinction the prominent part of Willie Mason; Mr. John Brooks accomplishes good work as Bill Slater; Mr. William T. Riley is good as the villainous James Harcourt, as is also Mr. Charles Ashwell as Jack Fenton; Mr. Bert Ugate is effective as Johnny Walker; and Mr. Edwin Lever is seen to advantage as Richard Fenton. Miss Jessie Belmore plays the part of Sophie Coventry with commendable ability; Miss Nannie Mead is clever as the cool, designing villainess, Vesta Le Clere. Miss Florence Halton gives a pleasant rendering as Lucy Coventry, and Miss Nellie James gains much appreciation as Poppy Slater.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Yukio Tani gives a fine display of ju-jitsu wrestling in several contests against competitors, and is a great attraction; Mr. Will Lindeay keeps the audience in roars of laughter with his quaint patter; the Tivoli Girls are charming skipping-rope dancers; Martha Ann and Sammy, in a comical speciality act, have a good reception; Ford and Hanson provide a pleasing musical and protean act; Miss Victoria Cross, Scotch character comedienne, is popular; Mr. Theo C. Le Gars' dramatic playlet *Music the Conqueror*, introducing Señor Angel Blanco in an excellent violin recital, merits hearty applause. Miss Evelyn Francis, comedienne, and Messrs. Reid and Hipton, Hebrew comedians, complete a good bill.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Five Tritons, in a clever musical turn, are received most cordially; the Havannas display great skill as acrobats; the Arthur Gallimore Trio provide a highly amusing turn; Tom Garland demonstrates ventriloquial ability; Lieut. Chard's troupe of dogs show high training; Fox and Melville, song illustrators, merit approbation; and Percy Curry is a funny comedian.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is here this week in a round of standard plays. On Monday *The Taming of the Shrew* was staged, and Mr. Herbert as Petruchio and Miss Gladys Vanderzee as Katharina won the highest encomiums. *Twelfth Night*, *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet* are also billed.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Mlle. Leoni de Lausanne supplies an interesting turn here; Enzer is a clever juggler, and, together with Miss Clarice, gives a fine exhibition of ju-jitsu wrestling; Baker and De Sales score well as patterers; and Johnny Dwyer is a capable comedian. Les Montaldos are clever equilibrists, and their cockatoos, parrots, and macaws assist well in a refined entertainment; Margit and Lena are rare eccentrics; and the sketch *Wet Paint* is decidedly humorous. L. B. Athol is heard to advantage in the vocal scena "Dreamland"; and the pictures are good.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Some delightful films are shown here this week; Edwards and Ward are very entertaining; Percy Johnson is a smart comedian; Mabel Moss has an engaging way; and the Sisters Brenton score.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Carr Loates' company is providing two attractive plays this week, the first three days being occupied with *At the World's Mercy*, in which Miss Cissie Milford admirably filled the dual rôle of Alice Lloyd, the heiress, and Skittles, the stowaway. On the last three evenings the attraction is *A London Outcast*. Both plays are well dressed and staged.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—The bill at this place of amusement is headed with a delightful tabloid musical comedy, *Queen of the Butterflies*, in which Miss Eva Nelson appears with much distinction. In addition to this are some excellent pictures. Miss Renie Wainforth, a speciality dancer, provides an entertaining turn; Miss Kitty Clarke is a graceful dancer and comedienne; Signor Mottramo sings well; and Formel and French are clever and amusing.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Such pleasant recollections of the previous visit of *The Flag Lieutenant* have existed that the success of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company in the play this week was a foregone conclusion, and the piece, with its excellent stage-setting, brilliant humour, and sparkling success is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Ralph Roberts undertakes the character of Dickie Lascelles, and acquits himself admirably, his happy, breezy style keeping the audience in excellent humour throughout the piece. As Mrs. Cameron Miss Mabel Rees is perfection; a charming representative of Lady Hermione is found in Miss Rita Johnson; Miss Rosalind Ross does well with the part of Lady Dugdale; and pretty acting is done by Miss Una Venning as Viola Hood. A better exponent of the part of Major Thesiger than Mr. Frederick could not be imagined. Sprightly work is done by Mr. Stanford Groom and Mr. Guy Lanham as the two Middies, and a capital characterisation is that of Mr. Mark Paton as the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne. Also deserving of unstinted praise are Mr. Ed. Mervyn as Walter Crutchley and Mr. Lloyd Pilgrim as Colonel McLeod.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Mr. Ernest Stevens' genuinely funny and original pantomime *Cinderella* is performed twice nightly with great success. Miss Felicia Firman acts in piquant style as Cinderella, and gains a host of admirers. Charming in all she does, Miss Agnes Tandy as Prince Casimir is awarded unbounded applause for her excellent work. A gentleman is cast for the part of Dandini, and in this character Mr. Harry Ongar acquits himself with every credit, his dancing being excellent. A more humorous couple than Mr. Stracham Staples as the diminutive Baron Hercules and Mr. Aifred Clark as the massive Tiny, his wife, could not be imagined, their humour being irresistible. Speciality dances by the Lottie Stone troupe have a most gratifying reception.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is here, in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Lindo appears with considerable success as Stephen Armitage, and is supported by a very able company. Mr. N. Shields is good as David Armitage; and Mr. Sydney Dench portrays the Duke of Ancaster with spirit. Mr. R. Walsh is natural as Dick; Mr. Tom Lewis makes a capable Solomon Keary; Miss Helene Thompson is well cast as Sybil Fay; and Miss Marion Wakeford is pleasing as Joan.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Swinton.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton's company is here with *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather plays Zaco Malletto with strength and vigour, and Miss Hilda Shirley achieves a triumph as Myra Malletto. The scenery and effects are elaborate.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes. In addition to the excellent pictures the following artists are prominent entertainers: Mr. Dardini, juggler; Mr. George Le Hurst, ventriloquial entertainer; Mr. William Bell, handbell soloist; and the Misses Bella and Minnie Terry, vocalists.

EMPIRE ANIMATED PICTURE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Caldwell Bros.; Manager, Mr. G. C. Ford.—This new animated-picture hall was opened on Monday evening, and promises to be a big success. Excellent films, possessing all the pathetic, dramatic, and humorous elements, attract good audiences.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The stirring drama, *Sexton Blake, Detective*, is being presented here, the title-rôle being in the capable hands of Mr. Murray Yorke; Mr. P. Barry Lewers as Randolph Lovell takes the part in creditable style; Mr. W. Glaze, in the rôle of Tinker, and Mr. Victor C. Rolfe as Farmer Blackburn, also give capital portrayals; Miss Elizabeth Watkins is a powerful and pathetic Marjorie Lovell; and Miss Sinna St. Clair as Philadelphia Kate is characteristic.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—The Leopolds, with their leaping, bounding, and tumbling performances, appear here in the sketches, *Those Terrible Boys* and *The Stadium*, which cause endless laughter; Mysticus bewilders with his smart quick-change tricks; Zellini is a capital comedy juggler; and an acceptable exhibition is given by Athelda, the miniature lady Hercules; Lloyd's Welsh singers are loudly applauded for their selections; J. W. Darley and company create mirth with their sketch *Music*; and other excelent items are supplied by Wee Monte Moore, Queenie May, and Will Walton.

WISHAW, N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Tennyson and Wallis, crosstalk comedians, are topping the bill here; Tom Hayton's six Manchester lads, in a vocal and dancing scena, *Dancing 'Neath the Old Oak Tree*, prove a strong attraction; Ivy Aberdare is a dainty wooden-shoe dancer; G. S. Melvin, Scotch dancer, is popular, and Harry Zetter and the Bioscope conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—A hearty welcome was accorded on Monday to J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company in *Moths*. Mr. Andrew Money plays with telling effect as Prince Sergius Zouroff; Mr. J. E. Lodge-Percy is a convincing Lord Jura; Mr. Cecil Kerr excels as the Duke of Mull; and Mr. F. Douglas Howard is effective as Correze. Miss Henrietta Schrier is a clever Fuchsia Leach; Miss Veronica Clinton elicits sympathy as Vere Herbert; Miss Marie Ramuz is good as the Duchess de Sonnaz; and Miss Nellie Statham makes an acceptable Lady Dolly. *Camille* and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* are also in the répertoire.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—A rich treat is afforded habitués here this week by the engagement of Canada's premier military band, "The Kilties," and their performance on Monday places them well in the front rank of the many fine military bands that have previously visited the town. They are assisted by Mr. J. Coates Lockhart, a pleasing tenor; and the Clan-Johnstone troupe of dancers. Coram, ventriloquist, keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter; Beatrice English, the Australian soprano, has a voice of excellent quality; Curtis Leo performs feats of legerdemain at lightning speed; and Julian Rose, vocal comedian, earns applause.

ELECTRIC THEATRES.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—The most interesting picture here this week is that depicting the great workshops at Crewe of the North-Western Company and various phases of railway life; The Heroine of Mafeking is a thrilling picture of the incidents of war; and A Motherless Waif appeals strongly to the audience. The other films shown are: Foolshead Timed, A Bootblack's Day in Paris, A Child with the Dancing Jack, Basket Making and A Marvellous Escape.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A return visit of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company in *Leah Kleschna* is the attraction this week. Mr. William Clayton still portrays the part of Kleschna with vigour and intensity, and Miss Bessie Rignold's Leah is marked by a depth of feeling which makes the part very real. Mr. Charles Barrett sustains the part of Paul Sylvaine with a true appreciation of the character; the Raoul of Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is convincing; and Mr. Graham Pockett has made the part of Sebram a careful study. Mr. Edgar J. Coyne doubles the parts of General Berton and a journalist with success; and Mr. F. Bannister is well suited as Baptiste.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Mr. Wm. Pardoe's *Dick Whittington* is a capital pantomime. As Dick Miss Lottie Holland plays with verve and dash, being ably seconded by Miss Nellie Rose as Alice. The funniosities of Mr. George Hyam as Idle Jack keep the house in roars of laughter; Tom Hulme plays the Alderman well; and Mons. Pauli is a fine Cat. The Sisters Volbecque, comedy pair; the Edengale trio of dancers; and Pauletti, acrobatic cyclist, contribute good specialities.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—May and Kennerley, boy and girl comedians, sing and dance well; T. E. Johnston is a good topical vocalist; and Tom Casey, an old favourite, whistles like a bird.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mack.—Humano, the electrical mystery, heads the bill this week; Jack Ramsey, North Country comedian, and Albert Lawrance, vocalist, also appear. The pictures are first class.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The Co-operative Variety Artists' Federation maintain their reputation for refined entertainments. The chief attractions are the Four Black Diamonds, whose various selections find much favour with the large audiences; Vetter Bros. prove very acceptable in their gymnastic and equilibristic display; Sid Bandon enhances his reputation as a character comedian; Argo introduces some novelties, and gives marvellous imitations of animals and birds; Rose Elliott, described as a singer of sensible songs, shows that the adjective has not been misplaced; and Kloof and Ramsey provide ample entertainment. The programme is completed by Chandos and Constable, who present the farcical absurdity *Fluffie*; and Jules Klaro, the remarkable equilibrist.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Woman of Kronstadt* is a strong play ably presented by Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company. Mr. Kenneth gave an admirable rendering of Colonel Bonzo, his conception of the part being at once rugged and effective; Miss Betty Fairfax did exceptionally well as Marion Best, looking charming, and giving a finished performance; Mr. Bernard Copping was particularly suited to the rôle of Paul Zassoulic, playing in easy, natural style; Miss Edith Vogue was sufficiently disagreeable as the Princess Marie; and Mr. T. Taylor-Vinson was clever as Baron Muller. The more serious portions of the play were enlivened by Miss Isa Bellington and Miss Marjorie Armstrong as Vera and Olga. *Nan*, well played by Miss Bellington, was the curtain-raiser.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The wonderful performance of the Geni Family has drawn large audiences, who have been loud in their praise. Ted Karno and company, in their screaming absurdity *Hotel de Quick*, have proved greatly amusing; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard are excellent in their sketch *Coming Home*; and the quaint sayings of Walter King never fail to raise laughter. Mr. Tom Child's capital voice is heard to great advantage; the Hargreaves Trio are exceptionally clever; Kydd and Kydd gain applause for their dancing; and Miss Hilda de Grey sings a taking song with taste.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—There is no falling off in the attendance at this popular hall, where a splendid set of pictures are shown. A Daughter of the Sioux is full of exciting incidents, also The Flower Seller, whilst A Day of Robbery and The Colonel's Story provide much amusement. The songs of Mr. Ted E. Nolan go well, and Doyle and Massey, comedians, are a great success.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Owing to the indefatigable efforts of the resident manager, the popularity of this establishment is firmly fixed. The Waves of Fontarabic (a lovely coloured film), The Dancing Girl of Butte (a thrilling drama), and Galino (a humorous subject) are well received. Fred Cardle, an excellent comedian, is well received.

MR. WALTER W. HEDGCOCK, the musical director of the Crystal Palace, has arranged an attractive programme for the Irish concert which will take place on St. Patrick's night, March 17, at the Palace. Particulars of the programme have already appeared in these columns.

A GYMNASTIC display will be given at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, the 19th inst, when Mr. A. J. Dorey, the well-known gymnastic expert, with a number of gymnasts, will give a grand display in the centre transept at six o'clock. The events include an assault at arms, fencing, sword drill, jumping, skipping, and every other form of the gymnastic art.

THE ENTERTAINMENT MARKET.

We published on Feb. 12 a handy list detailing the dealings on the Stock Exchange with Entertainments Stocks as officially quoted. We furnish hereunder a companion list of Entertainments Concerns not quoted on the Exchange, and showing their dividends for the past ten years. No information is obtainable from Companies not included herein. The list is made up so far as the completion of Financial Years of respective Companies permit.

| Name. | Dividends on Ordinary Stock. 1899 | 1900 | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | Reserve Fund. | Carried forward. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

FEBRUARY.

London.

The O'Flynn, drama, in four acts, by Justin Huntly McCarthy; His Majesty's, Feb. 1.
The Final Phase, play, in one act, by Ursula Keene; Rehearsal Theatre, Feb. 4.
Love's Comedy, play, in one act, by Frederic Sargent; Rehearsal Theatre, Feb. 4.
The Real Morality (*A Society Mousmé*), play, in two acts, by Flora Hayter (Mrs. Northesk Wilson); Boudoir Theatre, Pembroke Gardens, W., Feb. 4.
Way Out West, drama, in four acts, by Junius Booth (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Sept. 2, 1909); Grand, Fulham, Feb. 7.
Was She to Blame? drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (Miss L. Addison), originally produced at Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, April 12, 1909; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Feb. 7.
The Superior Sex, comic opera, written by H. D. Banning, composed by J. H. Maunder (produced by the London Operatic and Dramatic Society); Cripplegate Institute, Feb. 9.
A Ball or a Motor?, playlet, by Robert Lascelles; King's, Hammersmith, Feb. 14.
The Way the Money Goes, play, in three acts, by Lady Bell (Incorporated Stage Society matinée production); Shaftesbury, Feb. 14.
A Lioness and Her Whelp, play, in one act, by Fred D. Barker (Incorporated Stage Society matinée production); Shaftesbury, Feb. 14.
The Idol's Eyes, play, in one act, by Burford Delannoy, music by Harold Samuel; Shakespeare, Clapham, Feb. 14.
Charles, His Friend, sketch, by Keble Howard (originally produced at Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue); first time at London theatre, Shakespeare, Clapham, Feb. 14.
Gabriel Grant, Gambler, play, in three acts, by Burford Delannoy; Shakespeare, Clapham, Feb. 14.
Tantalizing Tommy, comedy, in four acts, adapted from Paul Gavault's comedy *La Petite Chocolatière* (Paris Renaissance, Oct. 23, 1909), by Michael Morton; Playhouse, Feb. 15.
The Balkan Princess, musical play, in three acts, by Frederick Lonsdale and Frank Curzon, lyrics by Paul A. Rubens and Arthur Wimperis, music by Paul A. Rubens; Prince of Wales's, Feb. 19.
Elektra, music-drama, by Richard Strauss, the text taken from Hugo von Hoffmansthal's drama of the same name (English version by Arthur Symons; New Theatre, Nov. 27, 1908); Opening of Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; Covent Garden, Feb. 19.
The Eve of the Wedding, play, in one act, by Fanny Morris Wood; Rehearsal Theatre, Feb. 20.
The Marriage of Columbine, play, in four acts, by Harold Chapin (produced by the Play Actors); Court Theatre, Feb. 20.
Justice, tragedy, in four acts, by John Galsworthy (simultaneous production at Royalty Theatre, Glasgow), inauguration of Charles Frohman's Repertory Theatre season; Duke of York's, Feb. 21.
The Village Romeo and Juliet, music-drama, in six scenes, by F. Delius—Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; Covent Garden, Feb. 22.
Misalliance, debate, in one sitting, by G. Bernard Shaw (Repertory Theatre production); Duke of York's, Feb. 23.
The Tenth Man, play, in three acts, by W. Somerset Maugham; Globe, Feb. 24.
The Climax, play, in three acts, by Edward Locke; Comedy, Feb. 26.
The Prodigal Son (*L'Enfant Prodigue*), opera, by Claude Debussy—Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; Covent Garden, Feb. 28.

Revivals.

Richelieu, drama, by Bulwer Lytton, played in four acts (originally produced on March 7, 1839, at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden), Mr. Robert Hilton's season; Strand, Feb. 10.
The Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare's comedy (opening of Mr. Arthur Phillips' season); Court, Feb. 19.
Feudalismo, Catalonian drama, in three acts, (originally produced in London at the Shaftesbury, Feb. 25, 1908; revived for the opening of Cav. Giovanni Grasso and his Sicilian Players; Lyric, Feb. 19.
Tristan and Isolde, Wagner's opera—Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; Covent Garden, Feb. 21.
Hänsel and Gretel, opera, by Humperdinck—Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; Covent Garden, Feb. 28.

Provinces.

Before the Dawn, melodrama of the Revolution, from the Russian of Leopold Kampf, for the first time in English; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Feb. 7.
Mother to Be, love story, in one act, by Basil Dean; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Feb. 7.
Driving a Girl to Destruction, play, in four acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell; Theatre Royal, Belfast, Feb. 7.
Seaweed, romantic play, in four acts, by Mrs. L. C. Cassidy; Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Feb. 7.
The Green Helmet, play, in one act, by W. B. Yeats; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Feb. 10.
Pinnacles of the Future, play, in four acts, by Daisy Halling; Pankhurst Hall, Hightown, Manchester, Feb. 12.
The Excelsior Dawsons, a comedy of Glasgow, in four acts, by R. K. Risk; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, Feb. 14.
The Greater Sin, comedy-drama, in prologue and three acts, by A. B. Mackay; Grand Theatre, Aberaman, Feb. 19
Justice, tragedy, in four acts, by John Galsworthy, produced simultaneously with the London production at the Duke of York's; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, Feb. 21.
Dural Outdone, costume sketch, by Arthur Eckersley; Grand Theatre, Bolton, Feb. 21.
The Prodigal's Welcome, play, in one act, by Annie Möller; Theatre Royal, Darwen, Feb. 25.
The Village Wedding, cottage drama, in three acts, by Charles McEvoy, produced by the Village Players; Aldbourne Village Theatre, Feb. 26.
The Artfulness of Ada, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Arthur Shirley; Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, Feb. 28.
The Purse of Gold, comedy, in one act, by J. Sackville Martin; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Feb. 28.
The Tallyman, comedy, in one act, by Edward A. Parry; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Feb. 28.

Paris.

L'Homme à deux têtes, spectacular play, in four acts and twenty-four tableaux, by Louis Forest, music by Baggers; Chatelet, Feb. 2.
Chantecler, play, in four acts, by Edmond Rostand; Porte-Saint-Martin, Feb. 7.
Gaby, comedy, in three acts, by Thurner; Bouffes-Parisiens, Feb. 11.
Son Auteur, play, in one act, by Landay and Valdier; Bouffes-Parisiens, Feb. 11.
Antar, play, in five acts, by Chékri-Ganem; Odéon, Feb. 12.
La femme et le Masque, play, in three acts, by Ferri-Pisani; Molière, Feb. 15.
La Forêt, musical legend, in two acts, by L. Tallade, music by Augustin Savard; Opéra, Feb. 16.
La Fête chez Thérèse, ballet, in two acts, by Catulle Mendès, music by Raynaldo Hahn; Opéra, Feb. 16.
L'Imprévu, play, in two acts, by Victor Marguerite; Comédie-Française, Feb. 21.
Le peintre exigeant, play, in one act, by Tristan Bernard; Comédie-Française, Feb. 21.
La Vierge folle, comedy, in four acts, by Henry Bataille; Gymnase, Feb. 25.
Une Femme passa, comedy, in three acts, by Romain Coolus; Renaissance, Feb. 25.
Le péché de Marthe, play, in five acts and seven tableaux, by E. Rochard; Ambigu, Feb. 26.
La Flamme, play, in three acts, by Dario Niccodemi; Réjane, Feb. 28.
Le Protecteur, play, in one act, by André Picard; Réjane, Feb. 28.

Berlin.

Der Liebeswalzer, three-act operetta, by C. Ziehrer; Apollo, Feb. 1.
Kavaliere, three-act comedy, by MM. Lothar and Sandek; Hebbel, Feb. 3.
Herr Wasserkropf, farce, in one act, by MM. Glinger and Tausig; Folies Caprice, Feb. 4.
Am Altar, play, in five acts, by Carl Wexel; Luisen, Feb. 6.
Christinas Heimreise, three-act comedy, by H. von Hofmannsthal; Deutsches, Feb. 11.
Theodore & Cie, three-act farce, by MM. Armont and Nancey; Trianon, Feb. 11.
Ahasver, opera, in one act, by F. Ritter; Volks-Oper, Feb. 12.
Zigeunerliebe, two-act operette, by Franz Lehár; Komische Oper, Feb. 12.
Der Herr Verteidiger, three-act farce, by F. Molnar; New Schauspielhaus, Feb. 15.
Der Eisenbahnräuber, three-act farce, by F. Groebert; Rose, Feb. 17.
Mandanika, opera, in one act, by G. Lazarus; Volks Oper, Feb. 18.
Der Hochzeitstag, four-act farce, by MM. Wolters and Königsbrunn-Schaup; Luisen, Feb. 18.
Taifun, play, in four acts, by M. Lengyel; Berliner, Feb. 19.
Was Gott zusammenfügt, three-act play, by E. Ritterfeld; Luisen, Feb. 23.
Wankender Boden, four-act play, by G. Aspoli; Rose, Feb. 24.
Hilfe! Ein Kind ist vom Himmel gefallen, tragi-comedy, in three acts, by Wilhelm Schmidtbonn; Deutsches Chamber Plays, Feb. 28.

For the benefit of the Actors' Fund of America, the "deadheads" who attend the Frohman theatres are to pay a tax of ten cents each, and an effort is to be made to levy a similar tax at every theatre in the country. It is estimated that the sum of $350,00 a year could be raised in this way. The plan has been tried before, however, and has not proved entirely successful.

Frederick William Nicholson, thirty years of age, with no fixed home, was charged, on Monday, at Bow-street, before Mr. Marsham, with fraudulently obtaining 7s. from Mr. Cyril Maude, of the Playhouse, by means of begging letters. Mr. Alfred Turner, Mr. Maude's general-manager, said the latter had for some time past received begging letters purporting to come from different people, but owing to the similarity in the handwriting it was thought that they were written by one person. The police were communicated with, and on Monday morning the prisoner went to the Playhouse by appointment. He said that his name was Manners, which was the name used by the writer of some of the letters. The witness questioned him, and came to the conclusion that he had never been an actor, as he had represented himself to be. He therefore gave him into custody. On Feb. 26 the prisoner called at Mr. Maude's private house, and was given 5s., and on Friday he was given 2s. at the theatre. The prisoner pleaded guilty. He admitted that he had never been an actor, but he had been engaged with stock companies as a super, and was at one time employed at Hengler's Circus. The prisoner was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned at an inquest held at Westminster, on Monday, on the body of William Krumm, aged sixty-nine, of East-street, Walworth, a property labourer, employed at the Drury Lane Theatre, who died through fracturing his skull. It was stated that the deceased, who had worked at the theatre for nearly thirty years, was standing on a shelf four feet wide and seven feet from the ground in a property room at the theatre, known as the dolls'-house. He was handing down a light table to another man when he overbalanced, fell on the table, which was on another man's head, and dropped heavily on to a concrete floor. No reason could be assigned for the accident.

Neil Burgess, the well-known American actor, who played Abigail Prue in *The County Fair* for over twenty years, died on the 19th ult. at his home in New York City. He was born in Boston in 1846. *The County Fair* was written by Mr. Burgess and Charles Barnard, and was the opening attraction at Proctor's Twenty-third-street Theatre on March 5, 1889. The play had a long run at that house and at the Union-square Theatre. In 1895 Neil Burgess leased the Star Theatre (now Wallack's), and spent a good deal of money on improvements for the stage and a new system of electric lighting for the entire house. He produced a piece there, called *The Year One*, which proved a failure, and as a result of this disastrous venture Burgess lost a fine apartment house near Central Park, in which he had invested his savings. In 1880 he married Mary E. Stoddart, a niece of the well-known actor, J. H. Stoddart. Mrs. Burgess, who appeared with her husband for a number of years, died in 1905.

"The performance of *Justice* and the deep impression it has made on all who witnessed it has," says the *Glasgow News*, "raised the question as to how far the stage should be used for didactic purposes. It is customary to say that plays are meant to amuse, but the word cannot be used in a restricted sense. If it is employed to embrace an art concerned with people's lives it must cover the whole range of interest we have in them. A truer definition would perhaps be that drama is designed to satisfy curiosity, the ineradicable curiosity mankind has in man. And once a writer has decided to deal sincerely with such a subject he cannot keep serious purposes out of his work.

"In point of fact, you cannot relate even the simplest story about a man or woman but something is conveyed by inference. It will exhibit some touch of cleverness or of humanity, some act of wisdom or folly. It is little short of an insult to the intelligence of the listener to point out the moral, which, if the story is well told, should be self-apparent. In a more complex narrative, however, full of diverse characters and cross-currents of motive, we have a right to ask the story-teller to keep the issues clear, even when his object is to expose the contradictions and ironies of life. It is one of the functions of his art.

"It would be hardly possible to name any great work of the imagination which has outlived the assaults of time that is not permeated by some high and exalted purpose. Take a few at random, the products of very different ages and climes:—'Nathan the Wise,' 'Don Quixote,' 'Vanity Fair,' 'Le Misanthrope,' 'The Egoist,' 'Coriolanus,' 'Every Man in His Humour.' They all have a 'purpose,' and in most of them it ranked first in importance before their authors' minds. But because it is conveyed by the legitimate methods of art we do not resent it. On the contrary, like the orchestral accompaniment to a singer, it adds to the enjoyment of the work. We follow with pleasure the light sallies of wit, the amusing turns of circumstance, the antics of droll people; but always behind there is the far-reaching background of the author's thought and intention, over which we can linger as we please."

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. LESTER COLLINGWOOD.

Proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mr. Lester Collingwood is a pleasant instance of personal effort and enterprise, his present position having been won by good solid work and strict attention to business. Mr. Collingwood was intended for a commercial career, and was educated at Bristol Grammar School; but, being unable to brook a rigorous domestic regime, he migrated to London. 'Twas more by accident than design that Mr. Collingwood first found his way on to the stage. Being attracted to the Occidental, in the Strand, he was tapped on the shoulder there by a theatrical-looking gentleman and asked could he play a small part at Charing Cross Theatre to fill up a disappointment. "Yes," exclaimed the youthful Collingwood, with that promptness which was to mark him ever after. He was given his part, which is forgotten in the hazy mists of the past. Arrived at the theatre at night, he was shown into the dressing-room. "Where do I put my clothes?" quoth the tyro, when a voice roared through the startled air, "D'ye think you're in a bathing machine?" The voice belonged to that fine old comedian Fred Yarnold. However, he played his part without a slip, and was standing in the Occidental next morning when he was again approached by his friend of yesterday, who had now learnt of his young protégé's innocence of "cues" and all things theatrical, and was astonished at his uncommon aptitude and success. He strongly advised him to go on the stage, and in fact procured him an engagement.

This was in 1874, in the "fit-ups," of which Mr. Collingwood has had a very choice experience. He next played a stock season at Guernsey under R. F. Smith, and then joined the original company of Roberts and Archer, going round South. At a stock season at Oldham he played walking gentleman, and afterwards jointed the Beatrice company. This was in the year 1878, and is full of delightful memories to Mr. Collingwood. They were playing then *The Woman of the People* and répertoire, and it was at this time that a certain famous star actress, meeting our friend in the street, exclaimed to him, "Oh, Mr. Collingwood,

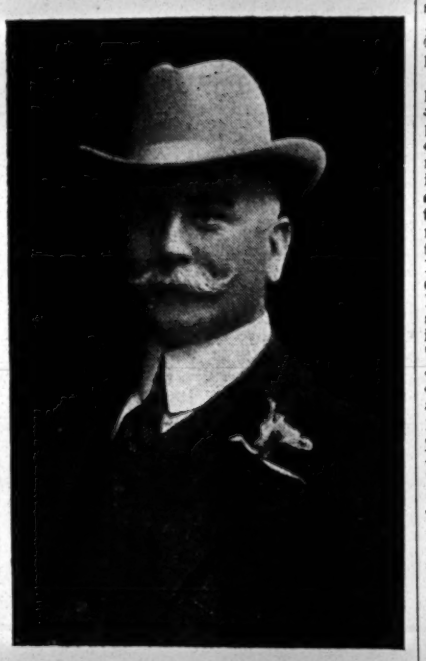

[*Photo by Whitlock.*

MR. LESTER COLLINGWOOD.

if you won't smoke a pipe in the street, I'll give you ten shillings more per week!"—since when Mr. Collingwood has smoked cigars. He next played a stock season at the Isle of Man under James Elphinstone, sen., the old sailor actor, who would fight a terrific sword combat with two swords in his hands and another between his teeth in case of accident. Mr. Collingwood also played stock seasons at which at intermittent periods appeared Chas. Dillon, Chas. Calvert, John Nelson, Carlotta Le Clercq, and Rose Le Clercq. Calvert once said to him after playing Tristan in *Louis II.*, "My dear sir, you haven't the slightest idea of your part." "Very sorry, sir," said the other C., "but I only had a few hours to study the part; in fact, was up till five, burning the midnight oil." "What!" replied Calvert; "then it was very good, my boy, *very* good!" They were playing a different Shakespearean play every night then, and it meant work for the young actor; but he is very proud and glad of it now, for it was the making of him. He produced his first pantomime at Norwich in the season of 80-81. It was *Robinson Crusoe*, and the next year he produced *The Forty Thieves* at Sunderland. At Sunderland again, the next year after, he played *Sinbad*, with Maggie Duggan in the rôle—her first principal boy engagement—1882-3. In his pantomime of 83-4 he was associated with Richard W. Younge, the one-time famous Eccles in *Caste*, and during the interim was playing Guy Devereux in *Crutch and Toothpick*, Geo. R. Sims' first farcical comedy. The next year he was playing in *The Forty Thieves* at Bristol; and then came his travelling pantomimes—two and three yearly. He also exploited opera—*Erminie*, to wit, and others—till 1896. It was at this time that he produced *When London Sleeps* at the Royal, Darlington, on May 18. This followed his last Easter pantomime, *Aladdin*, at Belfast, with Mr. J. F. Warden. It was the success of this which impelled him to play *Aladdin* at his first pantomime at the Alexandra, Birmingham, which he repeated this Christmas. Of his successes with *When London Sleeps* it is unnecessary to speak; like Tennyson's brook and *Charley's Aunt*, it is still running.

On one occasion, during the fire scene, a sailor clambered over the gallery rails into a private box, and descended on to the stage, essaying to rescue virtue and innocence from the "devouring element," till, seeing the heroine bearing the child in safety across the telephone wire, he burst into a genuine British cheer, and, backing unconsciously into the footlights, disappeared suddenly into the big drum. In 1902 Mr. Collingwood made his station in Birmingham, which he no sooner entered than he was pronounced an acquisition to the city, and the Alexandra, which as the Lyceum had not been taken seriously, began to flourish.

Mr. Collingwood is ever to the fore in the philanthropic works of Birmingham, and is hon. treasurer to the Theatrical Charity Sports Committee. It is his wont yearly to visit the Continent, where he is well known, and the year before last he went to America on business and pleasure combined.

The winter season at Berlin; with its afternoon performances for the benefit of the local school-children, is coming to a close, to the general regret of the juveniles. At an all-round charge of sixpence, those theatres which lend themselves to the good cause are always packed from floor to ceiling, and the best classical plays—in a modified version—have been enjoyed once a fortnight, or oftener. In this regard all cities might, with advantage, imitate Berlin.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The revival of Sir Arthur Sullivan's *Ivanhoe* attracted a huge audience to Covent Garden on Tuesday night. Some twenty years have passed since *Ivanhoe* was first produced on Jan. 31, 1891, at the Royal English Opera House, Cambridge Circus, Shaftesbury-avenue, under the management of Mr. D'Oyly Carte, and owing to the great success of Sullivan's first serious opera, which ran for months, hopes were entertained that at last national opera was firmly established. Time has shown how this hope was not fulfilled, for after Sir Arthur Sullivan's opera *The Basoche* was presented, and this failing to attract, the manager brought his season to a close. In the original cast Mr. Ben Davies was the hero; Miss Macintyre played the Jewess; Mr. Eugène Oudin, the Templar; Mr. Avon Saxon, Friar Tuck; Mr. Norman Salmond, King Richard; Mr. Charles Copland, Isaac of York; Mr. Ffrangcon Davies, Cedric; Miss Esther Palliser, Rowena; Miss Marie Groebl, Ulrica; Mr. C. Kenningham, De Bracy; and Mr. Richard Green, Grand Master and Prince John. To do anything like justice to Sir Walter Scott's noble romance in an operatic libretto was, of course, impossible, but by selecting the chief incidents Mr. Julian Sturgis contrived to give a fairly consistent idea of the story.

A fine English spirit underlies all Sullivan's music in this opera, and there are many fine descriptive passages for the orchestra. Ulrica's music is highly dramatic, and among other solos Rebecca's aria "Lord of our chosen race," the Templar's passionate scena "Woo thou the snowflake," and, lastly, Friar Tuck's lively song "Ho! Jolly Jenkin" are constantly heard on the concert platform and deservedly popular. The finest vocal music in the opera is the striking duet between the Templar and Rebecca, and the interior scene of Torquilstone Castle, where Rebecca's description of the storming of the castle to the wounded Ivanhoe is especially effective owing to the composer's skill in orchestral treatment. In the scene between the King and Friar Tuck the music is delightfully humorous as well as tuneful. The opera was splendidly mounted. New costumes and scenery were provided, and every endeavour was made to secure a perfect and picturesque representation. The storming of Torquilstone Castle and Ashby Tournament, with Brian and Ivanhoe tilting on horseback, were realistic and striking stage pictures.

With very few exceptions the cast was composed of British artists. Miss Perceval Allen, who appeared as Rebecca, acted with considerable power, and sang the beautiful prayer "Lord of our chosen race" admirably. Miss Edith Evans made a stately Rowena, although somewhat lacking as a vocalist; while Miss Mabel Braine, in spite of little stage experience, proved effective as the witch, Ulrica. Mr. Walter Hyde's Ivanhoe had many excellent features, and the music allotted to King Richard was finely sung by Mr. Alfred Kaufmann. The character of the Templar requires great dramatic vigour, and this Mr. Robert Maitland did not entirely possess, therefore the scena "Woo thou the snowflake" lost a little of its passionate fervour. Mr. Harry Dearth's Friar Tuck was capital, and so well did he sing "Ho! Jolly Jenkin" that the audience insisted on an encore. As Cedric Mr. Albert Archdeacon sang ably and with expression, while investing the part of the sturdy Saxon with a skilful study of character. Locksley, Isaac of York, and De Bracy were enacted by Mr. M. D'Oisly, Mr. Stewart Gardiner, and Mr. Alfred Royd, and Mr. R. Chignell doubled the parts of Grand Master and Prince John. Much credit is due to Mr. Thomas Beecham for his enterprise in giving this interesting revival, which had a most enthusiastic reception. Mr. Percy Pitt conducted, the chorus and orchestra were both excellent, and all the principal vocalists had many and very hearty recalls.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of Warden, Limited, was held in the Grand Opera House, Belfast, on Friday, 4th inst. Mr. Fred. W. Warden presided in the absence of the chairman, who is on the Continent. Mr. Warden said the net profit for the year amounted to £4,165 19s. 10d., and was about £1,300 more than in the preceding year. This satisfactory result had been largely brought about by an arrangement come to with the Hippodrome Company for pooling with them certain profits of that theatre, an arrangement which had proved beneficial to both companies. It came into effect at Feb. 1, 1909, the commencement of their financial year.

They would remember that that theatre was conducted as a variety theatre for two or three years, and that a year ago they reverted to the old order of conducting it as a first-class playhouse. The principal reason for so doing was that the directors recognised the keen competition that existed in obtaining first-class artists; that this city could not support two first-class variety theatres; and, on the other hand, that the Theatre Royal stage requirements were not suitable for the production of first-class plays.

A balance of £168 15s. 7d. was brought forward from the previous year's account, which, with the net profit he had just mentioned, made a total of £4,334 15s. 5d. The directors had written off out of this sum the year's outlay on scenery, £158 19s. 3d., and had transferred to the renewal and depreciation fund £523 4s. 5d. A balance then remained of £3,652 11s. 9d., and it would be proposed that a year's dividend should be paid on the preference share capital at 5 per cent. and on the ordinary share capital at 4 per cent., which would absorb £3,150, and carry forward to the next account £502 11s., being £330 more than last year. They had expended £223 4s. 5d. for renovation in the theatres, which they had charged against the renewal and depreciation fund, but it would be seen in the balance-sheet that the fund, with the £523 4s. 5d. transferred from profit and loss, now stood at £2,500.

The report was adopted, and Mr. Warden was re-elected a director, together with the auditors (Messrs. Craig, Gardner, and Co.).

The "Tin-cans," the curious name adopted by a body of well-known Birmingham gentlemen, thoroughly enjoyed Mr. Lester Collingwood's pantomime, *Aladdin*, at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, when 250 of their number attended the performance. The interior of the theatre was prettily decorated with green and white, the colours of the society, in honour of the occasion. The comedians threw themselves heartily into the spirit of the event, and the choruses of the popular songs were caught up with vigour in all parts of the house.

A pleasing feature of the evening was the appearance of Mr. Will Letters, a favourite comedian with Birmingham audiences, who travelled specially from London to give his services. He sang his great pantomime success, "I must go home to-night," and roused the house to enthusiasm. A number of presentations made during an interlude put the finishing touch to a most enjoyable function.

The chief of the "Tin-cans," Mr. Harry Garner, handed to Mr. Collingwood a handsome spirit tantalus and also a silver can as a memento of the occasion. Mr. F. Barnardo, business-manager, and Mr. W. T. Guest, assistant-manager, each received pocket-books; Mr. H. Cooke, stage-manager, was presented with a sovereign-purse; and Mr. Barnes, musical-director, was the recipient of a pocket-book. Presents, consisting of manicure sets and dressing-cases, were also handed to the artists, including the members of the chorus.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(from our own correspondent.)

Rotterdam, March 8.—Since my last letter Manager Van Eysden has put on two new programmes at the Grand Theatre, the first of these novelties being the production in Dutch of the *de jonge wyn bloeit . . .* (*When the Young latest work of Björnstjerne Björnson, Als Vine is in Bloom . . .*), and the second a new play of the Dutch dramtist Fabricius, entitled *De Rechte Lyn* (*The Straight Line*). The work of the great Norwegian writer is certainly a remarkable piece, with quaint and picturesque scenes, full of pathos, humour, and grace. It was capitally interpreted by the company of the Grand, the honours of the evening falling to Mrs. Van Eysden and Mr. De Jong as Mr. and Mrs. Arvik. A success no less marked has been the production of *The Straight Line*, the scene of which is laid in the Dutch East Indies. In this, the third of his plays, Fabricius has wished to analyse the character of a man whose aim is an unswerving adherence to rigid principles as to right and wrong. He is a self-made man, and by unflinching labour and resolute will, has succeeded in creating a position for himself which he is able to maintain, keeping "the straight line" despite all the difficulties and obstacles placed in his path. He comes out of the strife triumphant in a worldly sense, but suffers a crushing defeat in his domestic happiness. His sweetheart, whom he had left in her native place until his position was secured, comes to his new home as his wife in the second act, and disillusion ensues. He realises how unfit she is to be his helpmate and companion; but despite this and the fact that another and a worthier love is within his grasp, he is inflexible in his resolve to be true to her. She, on her part, is frivolous, ignorant, flighty, and a coquette in word and deed. In her way she is quite fond of her husband, but that does not prevent her playing him false. Realising what her fate would be if left to her own devices, he nobly decides to take up the burden anew, bearing with her, indeed, "for good and for evil." *The Straight Line* is an acquisition to the Dutch dramatic literature, and has met with decided success. The brunt of the action rests, of course, on the shoulders of the hero, a part cleverly interpreted by Mr. Tartaud. Mrs. De Jong as the giddy and fickle wife comes in for a genuine meed of approval.

"De Hagespelers" ("The Players of the Hague") have been seen at the Tivoli Theatre in *Raffles, the Gentleman Thief*, and drew crowded houses, the sensational element in the play catching the public. The manager and leading actor of "De Hagespelers" is Eduard Verkade, the Raffles of the cast. The Dutch translation of the play was by Mr. Bossard, the active business-manager of the organisation.

The Dutch Dramatic Co. of Amsterdam has favoured us with a special performance of *De Schoone Slaapster* (*The Sleeping Beauty*), by Herman Heyermans. Barring the slight defects of a too great pomposity in style and words, and some forced situations, the play is a work of much beauty of sentiment and a wealth of lofty ideas. Mrs. Van Der Horst and Miss Tilly Lus acted with singular talent and feeling.

"Chantecler" is to be given here in April by the company of the Theatre Porte St. Martin.

In the Shoreditch County Court on Tuesday, before his Honour Judge Bray, Messrs. George Davey and Co., Ltd., of 76, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., theatrical billposters, sued Mr. Ellis E. Brammall and Humphrey E. Brammall, of the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, N.E., theatrical proprietors, to recover £32 10s., being an account for posting bills for the Christmas pantomime from Dec. 25, 1909, to Jan. 15, 1910. An affidavit had been filed by Ellis Brammall that he was a director of the Amusement Development Syndicate, Ltd., whose registered offices were at the Britannia Theatre. Any orders, if any, had been, and must have been, given on behalf of that syndicate. He also swore that he had discussed the syndicate with Mr. Geo. Davey, and asked him to invest in it, and he had said he would consider the matter if the Christmas pantomime was successful. Mr. Saunderson, barrister, appeared for the plaintiffs, and said that the defence to the action appeared to be that the defendants—father and son—had given the order for the posting on behalf of the syndicate, which he disputed.

Mr. George Davey was then called, and said he was the managing director of the plaintiff company. In November, 1909, he heard the defendants were about to open the Britannia Theatre, and wrote asking for an order for posting. He called a little later on Mr. Humphrey Brammall, who said he should be pleased for him to do the Christmas pantomime posting. A price was arranged, and he later received the billing matter—2,400 double crown posters. Continuing, Mr. Davey said that he was paid a cheque for £10 in January, and that may have been actually drawn by the Syndicate; but, if so, it must have been endorsed by the secretary of the company. Had he known of it, he should not have accepted it, as he did not know of and would never have recognised the Syndicate. Mr. Ellis Brammall went into the box, and said he knew very little about the matter beyond that he heard that Mr. Geo. Davey was going to join the Syndicate. Mr. Davey was considered a tower of strength in the matter, as he had tremendous influence, and was a very rich man. Judge Bray said he could not see that Ellis Brammall could be brought into the affair, but there would be a verdict against Humphrey Brammall for the amount claimed. Judgment was entered accordingly, with costs.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association, Ltd., was held at the Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, W.C., on March 4. Present:—Mr. M. V. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. C. Barth, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. A. Paumier, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. G. Brydon Phillips, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. W. Crcke, Mr. F. Leslie Moreton, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Martin (secretary). The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association:—Mr. Dudley Stuart and Mr. Harry Bawn. A letter from the Actors' Association, in reference to bogus managements, was read, and the secretary was requested to say that the matter would require an Act of Parliament to deal with it, and that the committee are taking action on their own behalf.

A letter from the Theatres' Alliance, in reference to stage plays in clubs, was read, and a sub-committee was appointed to co-operate with a sub-committee of the Theatres' Alliance to go into the matter. A letter from the Cinematograph Defence League, in reference to Sunday opening, was read, and a sub-committee was appointed to co-operate with a sub-committee of the other Associations to consider the question.

A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held on March 4. Present:—Mr. M. V. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. E. Norris, Mr. C. Barth, Mr. L. Maitland, Mr. A. Paumier, Mr. G. C. Wallace, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Martin (secretary). The following gentlemen were elected members of the club:—Mr. Edouard José, Mr. Charles C. Carlile, Mr. Francis Serle, Mr. Alfred Reynolds, Mr. F. Yearsley, Mr. Harry Bawn, and Mr. Eyre Massey.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.), price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MARCH 2.—*The Witch*, a drama in four acts, by H. Wiers-Jenssen, adapted for the American stage by Hermann Hagedorn, was produced on the 14th ult. at the New York Theatre. The scenes of the original version were laid in Copenhagen late in the seventeenth century, when the mania of witchcraft persecution was spreading over Northern Europe. Prof. Hermann Hagedorn of Harvard College, who made the translation and adaptation, altered the scenes and characters to fit the hysterical outburst of witchcraft of Salem, Massachusetts, in 1692. Master Absalom Hathorne, an aged minister, is married to Joan, the daughter of a witch, he having concealed the truth about her mother lest it should prevent his marriage to the girl. When the play begins another witch is being hunted by the infuriated people, and Joan hides her in the house. The witch is taken, however, and as they drag her to the gallows she shrieks out the truth about Joan's mother; while the minister sings Psalms so loudly that her words may not be heard. The minister's son returns from a long sea voyage, and Joan discovers that he is the man she has always loved. Having been told that her mother had made a compact with Satan and was able to bring a thing to pass by simply wishing, Joan gradually realises that this strange power may have descended to her. So she wishes her lover by her side in the middle of the night after her husband has retired, and when young Master Gabriel suddenly joins her in the darkened room, she is convinced that she, too, is a witch. Her aged husband has admitted his mistake in marrying her. He has "outlived the fires of youth," he says, and her next wish is that he shall die, which shortly happens, for the shock proves too much for the old man when Joan confesses her adulterous relations with Master Gabriel. Joan, it should be explained, is a Portuguese. A rumpus follows, for Goodwife Abigail Hathorne, the minister's mother, has never liked Joan, and suspects that she is more friendly with the old man's son that she ought to be. She is taken, and in the last act, amid the tolling of bells and the murmuring of an excited crowd, she is accused of killing her husband and leading his son astray by means of witchcraft. Being called upon to clear herself by touching the dead body and denying her guilt, Joan makes the attempt, but breaks down and mumbles a confession as the curtain falls. She is to be hanged on Witches' Hill. Mme Bertha Kalich made her first appearance at the New Theatre in this drama, playing with much success the exacting part of Goodwife Joan Hathorne. Mr. William McVay humorously represented the one cheerful character in the play, one Samuel Noyes, a clerk of the court, in an inebriated condition, and the other rôles were in good hands.

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL," a play in three acts adapted from the French by Maurice Campbell, is the current attraction at Weber's Theatre. In the original French its title was *L'Enfant du Miracle*. The American version tells how Mrs. Mary Dexter, a young widow, who has been left childless by her recently-deceased husband, must provide an heir within a given period or forfeit an inheritance. Cornelius Skidmore, who has advanced her a large sum of money, advises the executor of the estate that the lady has expectations, and undertakes to get her married to her faithful admirer, William Emery, in order that she may provide the necessary issue before the deception is discovered. Emery, however, has gone away for a year, and is supposed to be somewhere in mid-ocean. And to add to the embarrassment of the enterprising Skidmore, Mr. Potts, of Pottsville, the town that is to benefit by the will if the widow fails to fulfil its conditions, comes to see that everything is as it should be and no cheating. He keeps his eye on the widow, and Skidmore hardly succeeds in getting rid of him long enough to enable the marriage to take place, for Emery, as it happens, has not gone away after all. However, the heir is not required, as another will is found, which gives the fortune to the widow, and Pottsville has to be satisfied with a legacy of a hundred dollars. Other characters that figure in the story are McTavish, a Scotch detective, who is sent after the supposedly absent Emery, and Pauline, a self-styled "Napoleon of fashionable dressmakers." An amusing incident is the return of the entire party from a night at a restaurant, where they have made a vain effort to wear out the irrepressible Potts, and further excuse for laughter is provided by the periodical arrival of wireless telegrams from Emery, who has sent his man abroad with instructions to impersonate him and transmit messages of undying affection to Mrs. Dexter. It is hardly necessary to say that the humour of the piece is somewhat broad, and its success was assured when the newspapers used a stronger adjective in describing it. On placards all over the city it is advertised as "The fastest play in town," and the public is informed that "It's naughty, but it's nice." In New York we have "hot waves" and "cold waves," and "waves of indecency"—according to the parsons. Just now there seems to be a run on the latter.

MRS. FISKE will open her season in New York on Easter Monday at the Lyceum Theatre. During her engagement she will present Iben's *Pillars of Society*, Hauptmann's *Hannele*, and *The Green Cockatoo*, by Arthur Schnitzler.

AMELIA GLOVER, who was famous as a dancer in New York some twenty years ago, being known as the "Little Fawn," died in that city on the 9th ult. of heart failure at the age of thirty-eight.

THREE solid successes at Mr. Charles Frohman's theatres that will remain where they are until the end of the season are *The Arcadians* at the Liberty Theatre, *The Dollar Princess* at the Knickerbocker, and *The Bachelor's Baby*, with Francis Wilson, at the Criterion.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS appeared at the American Music Hall last week, representing familiar characters from the works of Charles Dickens. His portrayals are so realistic and vivid that they never fail to win the appreciation they deserve. Artistic work of this character is rarely seen on the American vaudeville stage.

MR. R. A. ROBERTS revived his *Dick Turpin* sketch during his recent engagement at the American Music Hall, having presented *Cruel Coppinger* at the Plaza. His clever work in both pieces was warmly applauded, but *Dick Turpin* is probably the more popular of the two. Mr. Roberts has certainly no reason to find fault with his reception at either of the Morris houses. To the boys especially he was all that a desperado should be, and they expressed their approval in hearty fashion.

GEORGE HOLLAND, brother of Edmund M. and Joseph Holland, and eldest son of the late George Holland, a famous American comedian of his day, died in Philadelphia on the 17th ult. at the age of sixty-four. He appeared with Laura Keene in 1869, and afterwards fulfilled a London engagement of sixteen weeks with the elder Sothern at the Haymarket Theatre. In 1887 he settled in Philadelphia. After Sothern's death he starred in *Lord Dundreary*. His most successful characterisation, however, was Sir Peter Teazle. It was through the death of his father and the refusal of a certain minister to officiate at the funeral, at the request of the late Joseph Jefferson, that the Church of the Transfiguration in West Twenty-ninth-street, New York, became known as "The Little Church Around the Corner."

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The decision to enlarge the Winter Gardens has given the greatest satisfaction to the New Brighton residents, as their popular place of amusement has for some time past proved too small, and night after night many were turned away disappointed owing to want of accommodation. The great success of the Winter Gardens is due not only to the excellent and refined entertainments provided, but also to the respect and high esteem in which the joint managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass, are held. Mr. H. E. Jones is a Liverpudlian, a well-known local cricketer, and organizer of concerts and entertainments; whilst Mr. Albert Douglass is a member of one of the oldest theatrical families in the kingdom, and has been closely connected with London playhouses for over thirty years. The want of a high-class theatre in the midst of the residential portion of New Brighton was badly needed, and the Winter Gardens, to seat about 900 persons, with a small but properly-equipped stage, was opened some two and a half years ago. At first success was not forthcoming; but tenacity, hard work, and experience eventually told, and now the best-class residents are to be seen there regularly every week all the year round; in fact, to show the wonderful regularity of the patrons, it would be possible, if needed, to book every reserved seat (some 500) for any Saturday evening without anyone calling or telephoning and yet not half a dozen mistakes would be made.

MR. H. E. JONES.

Surely such a happy state of affairs is unique in the theatrical world. The extensive alterations are now in progress, and an army of men are working night and day to complete by Easter Monday. The floor of the building is being lowered several feet so as to give a better rake, whilst a balcony and four private boxes are being erected to accommodate some 500 extra persons, making the total seating capacity about 1,500.

The stage is being considerably enlarged, the proscenium opening being 29ft. by 21ft., and from wall to wall 58ft., with a depth of 35ft. Flies and grid are being put in, also an iron curtain, and the artists will be specially favoured as regards dressing-rooms and accommodation, the villa adjoining the theatres having been taken in for that purpose. The contractors are Messrs. Henry Johnson and Sons, of Liverpool. A new act-drop and scenery is to be provided by Mr. Thos. Robinson, of Liverpool. Mr. J. Brierly Preston, of Liverpool, is the architect. As Mr. Rigby-Swift, the eminent barrister, remarked when the plans were put before the Licensing Bench, "It is an ideal theatre, in an ideal position, and has been managed in an ideal way."

It is proposed to run the theatre on the same lines as hitherto, and the following engagements have been made for this year:—Grand opera by nearly 100 performers, Mr. Edward Terry and company, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in *The Earl and the Girl*, Mr. Auguste Van Biene, *The Night of the Party*, *A Country Mouse*,

MR. ALBERT DOUGLASS.

The New Boy, *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, *The Don*, *Jane*, *The Sportsman*, &c. High-class vaudeville will form a frequent change. A magnificent programme is being arranged for Easter Monday.

THE Ben Greet Players have been appearing at the Garden Theatre, New York, in *The Little Town of Bethlehem*, an allegorical play, by Katrina Trask, which deals with the story of the Nativity and several important episodes of the same period, bringing out the racial peculiarities and jealousies of the Jews, Greeks, and Romans. Through it runs the love story of Faustina, a proud maiden of the Roman aristocracy, and Cariston a Greek poet. Her scornful treatment of Joseph and the Virgin is punished by leprosy, and she becomes a wandering outcast for thirty years. Then she hears of the healer of Nazareth, and being cured of the disease, is restored to her lover. Mr. Ben Greet as Cariston and Miss Keith Wakeman as Faustina were supported by a capable company, and the performance proved highly interesting. After a brief interval Mr. Greet began a series of "plays worth while," these including several of the old English comedies and the favourite plays of his Shakespearean répertoire. It is announced that plans are now being made by several wealthy men to enable Mr. Greet and his company to remain at the Garden Theatre for a season of forty weeks, and to guarantee the company against financial loss. Mr. Andrew Carnegie is said to be interested in the plan. The current attraction is *Macbeth*. On Monday night two hundred school teachers witnessed the performance as guests of Mr. Carnegie.

PROFIT SHARING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I suggest the founding among actors and actresses of a "Profit-sharing Society"? At the present time the production of plays is centred more or less in those "in the profession." It is exceedingly difficult to induce anyone outside theatrical circles to embark in an investment dealing with the stage, and the very mention of a "theatrical speculation" is enough to frighten any average business man. This being so, engagements become restricted, and unemployment results.

I propose to establish, therefore, a "Profit-sharing Society," to which experienced actors and actresses would be admitted at a nominal subscription of, say, 5s. per annum. The society would appoint certain expert officials to read inexpensive plays (comedies and farcical comedies) submitted to them, and when a play is approved certain members of the society would be selected to fill the various parts, and each actor and actress chosen given a copy of the play to read for his or her approval.

When the artists had accepted the parts allotted to them, the society would arrange with the owner or lessee of an available London theatre to produce the play on "sharing terms," and the entire weekly receipts due to the society would be divided pro rata between the members of the company according to the amounts of their respective salaries, the author not receiving any fee until each artist had received his or her salary in full. After payment of salaries the amount received by the society would be divisible as follows: One-third to the society, and two-thirds to the author.

I think such a society would be a valuable cure for "unemployment." It would be better for actors and actresses to play on this sharing principle than to remain idle, and lessees and owners of theatres would always be able to fall back upon the society and so prevent their theatres remaining empty at any time of the year. To-day there are several theatres looking for tenants, whilst a large amount of clever talent is idle. Why not amalgamate the two, and thus benefit all concerned?

Look at the question from the unknown author's standpoint. He wants to extend the market for his goods, to see what the public think of his handiwork, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining financial support among his friends he is powerless. He may have written a play which would draw all London, but as he cannot find the necessary capital he receives no encouragement, and his play is doomed to oblivion. He would willingly have his play produced on the profit-sharing system if a society existed on the lines I propose.

Let me give my own experience. I am part author of a farcical comedy, and some few years ago I submitted it to a well-known London actor. "Oh," he said, "it reads well enough, but you must test it. Find a bit of capital, and then, if it plays well, you will know there is money in it." I put up at once £100, took a theatre for a week in the South of England, and engaged a good company. What was the result? The play was an instantaneous success. Even the *Daily Telegraph* said, "After this enthusiasm London seems inevitable." After this test my actor friend said, "You ought not to let it drop. Why not test it further in the big provincial towns and see if its success is maintained." I did so. We played in Liverpool, Manchester, Dublin, Cambridge, Brighton, Belfast, and Blackpool, and at each place without exception it was a pronounced success, and the papers were unanimous in their approval.

Now what am I to do with it? I want to produce it in London, but I cannot finance a London production, and I do not care to bury it any longer in a dusty pigeon-hole. If there existed a society which produced plays in London on the profit-sharing system, it would give actors and actresses an extended field for their talents, and many good plays would have some chance of seeing "daylight" before a London public.—Yours faithfully, CHARLES SELGRA.

WORKING STAFF SUPPER.

The annual supper of the working staff of the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, was held on Monday night at the King David Hotel, St. Michael's-hill. Mr. J. M. Chute presided, and was supported by Mr. F. S. Green (acting-manager), Mr. George R. Chapman (musical director), Mr. George Jackson (scenic artist), Mr. Henry Turner (stage-manager), Mr. F. Irwin, Mr. F. G. Tricks, and several of the leading members of the pantomime company, including Mr. Horace Mills, Mr. George Barrett, Mr. G. H. Elliott, Mr. Fred. Conquest, Mr. C. Harvey, Mr. P. Armstrong, Mr. Ernest G. Hay, Mr. Robert Jack, and others. After supper, which was well served, the chairman, on rising, was the recipient, in the form of unrestricted enthusiasm, of unmistakable evidence of his appreciation by the members of his staff. In loyal terms he submitted "The King," which was duly honoured by the company. Mr. H. Wilson then gave the toast of "The Manager," in doing which he paid a graceful tribute to the great respect in which Mr. J. M. Chute was held by all who were connected with the Prince's Theatre. The chairman suitably acknowledged the compliment and the very cordial manner in which the toast was received, and afterwards submitted "The Staff," specially mentioning, in doing so, the services of Mr. H. Wilson, Mr. H. Momber, Mr. A. Bawn, and Miss Shapcott. The toast having in due course been responded to, the chairman proposed "The Resident Officers," and referred in appreciative and eulogistic terms to the valuable co-operation he always received, in their respective departments, from Mr. F. S. Green (acting-manager), Mr. George Chapman (musical director), Mr. George Jackson (scenic artist), and Mr. Henry Turner (stage-manager). These gentlemen each responded in brief and felicitous language. In giving "The Company," Mr. H. Turner, in a witty and clever speech, referred individually to the leading members, emphasising their personal characteristics. Mr. Horace Mills replied for the gentlemen, and Mr. George Barrett spoke on behalf of the ladies, the remarks of the responders being received with applause. The chairman gave "The Health of Mr. P. Armstrong" (electrical ballet master), which that gentleman acknowledged, and in his remarks he paid a tribute to the excellence and effectiveness of the pantomime. He had, he observed, seen most of the more important spectacles in America, but the Prince's pantomime was one of the grandest he had seen. Mr. F. S. Green followed with "The Visitors," to which Mr. Fred Irwin, replying, commented upon the good relationship that always existed between Mr. Chute and his staff. The toasts were agreeably interspersed with songs, &c., all of which were well rendered and heartily enjoyed. Mr. G. H. Elliott (the popular chocolate) gave a couple of his coon songs in his best style. Mr. George Barrett contributed "a reminiscence," and others who assisted to enhance the pleasure of the company were Mr. Wood, Mr. Savage, Mr. J. Dicker, Mr. C. Harvey, Mr. E. G. Hay, Mr. Kirby, Mr. C. Clark, Mr. C. Evans, Mr. F. Hand, and others. Mr. W. R. Nicholas was an efficient accompanist.

PRESENTATION.—At the Opera House, Wakefield, on Friday, the 4th inst., Miss Vesta Brownie, on behalf of the members of the *Lucky Liza* company and Messrs. David Allen and Sons, printers, presented Mr. Dickie Claire with a pair of silver-backed hair brushes and a silver cigar-case in commemoration of the thousandth performance of Mr. Claire's successful musical comedy *Lucky Liza*, in which he takes several leading parts. Mr. Claire afterwards entertained the company to supper.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS NANCY BLACKWOOD.

Miss Nancy Blackwood began her professional career in Mr. Allan Wilkie's Shakespearean company. Being the fortunate possessor of a beautiful soprano voice, she had always intended to become a singer, and gained much experience in oratorio and opera. Miss Blackwood had an offer of a part in opera, which she accepted, and looked forward with joy to the speedy commencement of her life as a singer. Fate, however, willed otherwise—a severe attack of rheumatic fever made it impossible for her to accept the engagement, and her hopes were dashed to the ground.

After recovering from her illness, Miss Blackwood's plans underwent a change. Her singing voice being for a time weakened, she decided to take up Shakespearean work, and obtained her first engagement in Mr. Wilkie's company, where she played small parts. Her next appointment was with Mr. Ian Maclaren, in *Claudian*, as the soloist, and afterwards she appeared in Mr. Maclaren's *Proof* as the Duchess D'Aubeterre. At Christmas, 1908, Miss Blackwood played Sam Willoughby, with Mr. Louis Carpe, for a special week in Dundee, and followed it by playing the lead in a sketch, entitled *That Major*, for a week at Perth, achieving success in both characters. The following January Mr. Durward Lely engaged her to play Stephanie in *A Royal Divorce*,

[*Photo by Elliott.*

MISS NANCY BLACKWOOD.

with which she remained until March, when she joined Mr. Edmund Tearle's company.

Miss Blackwood has given proof of her versatility by the variety of characters she assumed in Mr. Tearle's company, playing leads in sketches, and rôles as widely different as the 1st Witch in *Macbeth*, Prince Edward in *Richard III.*, and Miss Cornelia Carlyle in *East Lynne*. Miss Blackwood's favourite parts are Madge Wildfire in *Jeannie Deans* and Lucius in *Julius Cæsar*.

MR. OSCAR POWER.

Mr. Oscar Power commenced his theatrical career at the age of sixteen, under the management of the late Mr. T. B. Appleby, in stock business, at the Theatre Royal, South Shields. At the conclusion of the season he toured with Mr. Appleby's *Woman Against Woman* company, returning to South Shields at the Christmas for pantomime. In all he had about twelve engagements with the late Mr. Appleby, playing in everything from the legitimate drama to pantomime. Mr. Power then toured for a year with the late Mr. Fred Cooke, playing char-

MR. OSCAR POWER.

acter business in *The Diver's Luck*, then in its zenith. Next came an engagement with Mr. W. H. Hallatt to play in *The Dangers of London*. At the conclusion of that tour Mr. Power went to the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, for stock, and took part in an elaborate production of *Coriolanus* with the late Mr. Osmond Tearle in the cast. At the conclusion of the season came another tour with *The Dangers of London*, followed by a solid tour of two years with the old pieces *Driven from Home* and *Follies of the Day*, playing Anthony Raybrook in the former and Guy Livingstone in the latter. After a considerable lapse of time Mr. Power again joined Mr. W. H. Hallatt, and here started a happy and never-to-be-forgotten engagement of four years, playing Jack Jolly in *Two Little Sailor Boys* and John Gregory in *The Temptress*.

At the conclusion of four years Mr. Power joined Mr. Mark Blow for a tour with *At Cripple Creek*. Next came a stock season at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, playing Peter Crawley (*It's Never too Late to Mend*), Lincoln Green (*Current Cash*), Ebenezer Skindle (*Tommy Atkins*), &c. Then came a final tour, playing Jack Jolly in *Two Little Sailor Boys*. At the conclusion of this Mr. Power joined Messrs. Paumier and Howard for a tour of *The Midnight Wedding*, playing Sergeant Max, followed by a year's engagement with Mr. C. Watson Mill, playing Mike, the Irish comedy part, in *A Warning to Women*. At the termination of that tour, Mr. Power, after a short holiday, again joined Mr. C. Watson Mill, to portray Carl Oppenheim, the German comedy rôle, in *For Love and the King*.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE.

The fame of the British Empire Shakespeare Society is associated with many pleasant afternoons, but few can have proved so attractive as that of Tuesday last, when the stage of the St. James's Theatre was graced by the presence of foremost actors and actresses assembled to interpret one of the poet's finest works. *Romeo and Juliet* was the piece chosen, and the cast included Miss Evelyn D'Alroy (the charming fiancée of the O'Flynn), Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. Lewis Waller, while Mr. George Alexander provided a most entertaining "curtain raiser."

Mr. Alexander received an affectionate greeting. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "I have much pleasure in welcoming the members of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and the delegates from the various branches. There is a good deal of talk nowadays about the memory of Shakespeare, and much is being done, but I do not think any efforts now being made can dim those made by the British Empire Shakespeare Society. It is, as it were, a kind of shaking hands between the profession and the student, both behind and before the curtain, and I think that that in itself is a charming episode. Of course, we are not quite as good or as bad as we are painted to the public, and, therefore, I think, in the little interchange of courtesies which are thus brought about this society does much good to the stage, and glorifies the memory of our great predecessor actor-dramatist, William Shakespeare. (Cheers.) It is a very great honour to me to see so many of my old friends on the St. James's stage, and to know that to-day Shakespeare captures another adherent, the Juliet of this afternoon having never yet spoken on the stage a word of Shakespeare. We hope Juliet will be beginning a long career in that direction. My old friend, Arthur Bourchier, who is the Mercutio, was a former manager of this theatre, and did me a very good turn, because he and I competed for it, and I had to pay another hundred a year (laughter), but I entirely forgive him for that. Then there is my old friend, Mrs. Brooke (cheers), and my friend and comrade Lewis Waller. I am very envious of Waller to-day: I should like to have played Romeo myself. But I am determined not to be out of it, so shall begin by speaking the words of the prologue." Mr. Alexander then read the verses which introduce the play with all the grace and fluency which have always distinguished him.

A more perfect reading of Shakespeare's great love tragedy, it is safe to say, has never been given than that of Monday. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy worthily justified her selection for the rôle of Juliet, whose lines she rendered with a wealth of feeling and tenderness that made their beauties doubly effective. The balcony scene speech was delivered with melodious effect, and in the potion scene Miss D'Alroy rose to magnificent heights, and, without over-testing her physical powers, thrilled the audience irresistibly. Mr. Lewis Waller was as of yore a virile and romantic Romeo, and his elocutionary skill was apparent in every speech. Mr. Arthur Bourchier entered thoroughly into the spirit of Mercutio, whom he made a real comedian. Bursts of laughter accompanied his various utterances, all delivered with artistically varied expression, jovial, jocular, and whimsical as occasion warranted, but always effective. Mr. Bourchier's Mercutio is clearly to be numbered among his triumphs. Little less effective was the Nurse of Mrs. E. H. Brooke, a veteran actress who has contributed many brilliant impersonations to the stage. She gave the quaintest expression to the Nurse's speeches, which gained much by the fact that the actress had them almost wholly committed to memory. Mr. A. E. George delivered the lines of Friar Lawrence with duly measured emphasis, and the deep tones of Mr. J. Fisher White sounded quite musical in the dialogue of Capulet. Mr. Edward Rigby's droll methods were irresistible as Peter; Mr. Arthur Wontner was a spirited Tybalt; Mr. Athol Stewart a finished exponent of Benvolio; and Mr. Halliwell Hobbes an admirably distinct and dignified Escalus. Mr. Tom Heslewood was cleverly characteristic as the Apothecary; and Mr. Godfrey Tearle was a courtly Paris. Lady Capulet had a refined exponent in Miss Adeline Bourne; Miss Mary Webb was excellent as Lady Montague; and Miss Dora Jesslyn spoke gracefully the lines allotted to the Page to Paris. Good work was also done by Mr. J. Henry Twyford as Montague, by Mr. Leonard Calvert as Abraham, by Mr. Pelham as Balthasar, by Mr. Walter Armstrong as a Watchman, by Mr. Herbert Alexander as Sampson, and by Mr. E. Ross Shore as Gregory. Mr. Acton Bond, by whom the play was arranged and rehearsed, contented himself with reading the stage directions.

At the close of the performance Mr. Arthur Bourchier, still maintaining the Mercutio humour, came forward and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, Romeo and Juliet (laughter)—the very best Romeo and Juliet I have ever had the pleasure of seeing. On me has fallen the most onerous task—next to being killed early in the play—of proposing a hearty vote of thanks to our host of to-day. I feel sure that among all Mr. Alexander's records almost the brightest spot will be the way he has encouraged Shakespearean art by lending the British Empire Shakespeare Society this charming theatre. In years to come, when the Samuel Pepys of the period writes the history of the drama and of the latest playhouse—which possibly may, or may not, be somewhere near Houndsditch, which he will say was erected by Bernard Shaw as a national theatre in memory of Shakespeare—this historian will continue, 'These plans were frustrated because good King Redmond willed that this building should be used as a kind of Bastille, in which to imprison various actor-managers who had happened to make money out of art.' (Laughter.) The poet and the painter are allowed to make money out of art, but as soon as the actor-manager tries to make a living out of it, he is abused. The historian will continue, 'There was one man whom the good King pardoned, and that was Mr. George Alexander, because he lent his theatre to the British Empire Shakespeare Society.'" (Laughter.)

Mr. Acton Bond, in seconding, said he could not express how much the British Empire Shakespeare Society owed to the actor-managers. That day they had heard the matchless words of *Romeo and Juliet*, and it was a joy to them to be able to introduce to the public for the first time what he would call, without any desire to be excessive in praise, an exquisitely beautiful Juliet. He hoped it would not be many months before they would have the privilege of seeing Miss D'Alroy as Juliet in a regular production.

The American Era.

"THIS," says the *Morning Leader*, "is said to be the era of American dramatists. Attention, in a contemporary, is directed to the fact that last year, at the thirty-four theatres in New York, seventy-four new plays were produced; and of these fifty-six were by native and only eighteen by foreign authors. England comes under the condemnation of this critic because eight or ten of the recent productions in London—including *The Private Secretary*, *Peter Pan*, and *Charley's Aunt*—are old plays; while the remainder are 'weather-vanes to catch the transient breezes of popular favour'—whatever that may mean.

"ON the other hand, we are shown, in a list of American successes, how America supplies the English stage with a good proportion of its plays. These include *The Chorus Lady*, *The Great Divide*, *Leah Kleshna*, *Ben Hur*, *Brewster's Millions*, *The Climax*, *The College Widow*, *Paid in Full*, *The Prince Chap*, *The Squaw Man*, *Strongheart*, and *The Third Degree*. Some of these, however, can hardly be called successes.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, March 7, the Farce, entitled
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

On *Brewster's* first visit to the King's on Monday evening the crowded house followed the play with evident enjoyment, hearty laughter continuing during the whole performance. Mr. Percy Hutchison's company—the actual one appearing at Wyndham's Theatre during last summer—is of course up to the requirements of smart and energetic acting, and is answerable for much of the success attained. Undoubtedly the part of Monty Brewster fits Mr. Percy Hutchison like the proverbial glove. His success is well-merited, and the calls he receives are unquestionably deserved. Mr. Gordon Ash is a pleasant Charlie Harrison, and Archie Golding finds a very capable representative in Mr. Henry Hampson. Mr. Aubrey Mather is a stolid Joseph McLeod; Mr. Otho Hazlewood plays with skill as Frank Bragdon; Mr. Eric Searle is good as Horace Petthinghill; Mr. H. Douglas Greet makes an amusing Tommy Smith; Jack Gardner is well acted by Mr. U. F. Plinge; Captain Perry is capitally rendered by Mr. George Salver; Mr. Robert Forsyth is strictly correct as the solicitor, Mr. Grant; Mr. Drew is ably impersonated by Mr. A. Andrews; the butler, Rawles, is excellently and humorously represented by Mr. Frank Hill; and Mr. A. P. Kaye gives a finished performance of Monsieur Bargie. Miss Cicely Stuckey makes a most charming Margaret Grey, pleasing everyone by her fresh and natural acting; Mrs. Dan de Mille is gracefully played by Miss Lilias Earle, looking admirable in very pretty costumes; Miss Pauline Straus is a sufficiently independent Janice Armstrong; Barbara Drew is vivaciously played by Miss Dorothy Whitaker; and Miss May Seton's Trixie Clayton is cleverly sustained. The scenery is first-class, and the great yacht set, with its wonderful effects, caused quite a furore.

The one-act play, by Eille Norwood, entitled *Chalk and Cheese* is also given, in which Mr. A. P. Kaye, Miss Pauline Straus, and Miss May Seton satisfactorily assert themselves.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, March 7, the Play, entitled
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

The bright and merry play *Miss Hook of Holland* is on a return visit, and a most entertaining evening's amusement it supplies. Miss Marie Studholme, a great favourite at this theatre, appears in the title rôle, and gives an excellent account of herself. She has several numbers, which she sings in a finished manner, and gains great applause. Mr. Frank H. Crimp, with his fine presence and good voice, wins distinction in the rôle of Bandmaster Van Vuyt. Miss Maud Denney is one of the bright particular stars of the production, scoring with her two numbers, "The Flying Dutchman" and "The little pink petty"; she is also a very agile and graceful dancer. In Mr. Alfred Wellesley we have a comedian of great resource, and as Mr. Hock of Holland he is simply irresistible. Mr. Fred Lyne adds materially to the gaiety of the play by his clever impersonation of Simon Slinks. He excites the risibility of his audience to the fullest extent, and his efforts meet with well-merited applause. Mr. Frederick Hobbs delineates Captain Paap in a conscientious fashion, and deserves every commendation. Mr. Charles Ross is also to be congratulated on his impersonation of Ludwig Schnapps, and Mr. Lacy E. Mills is good as Lieut. de Coop. Miss Lilian Constance does well as Gretchen, and the remaining parts are in safe hands. Mounting and staging are all that could be desired. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Clement Locknane, deserve the warmest commendation. Mr. Kay Draco is the manager for Mr. Geo. Dance, and, in conjunction with Mr. J. Murray Herriot, looks well after the comfort of those in front.

THE CORONET.
On Monday, March 7, the Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's clever company is appearing in Major Drury and Leo Trevor's great naval play at the Coronet Theatre this week, to the intense appreciation of the audience. The naval and military atmosphere of the piece is artistically conveyed across the footlights, and the tense excitement of warfare is aptly suggested. As the hero, Richard Lascelles, Mr. Edgar Kent acts with breezy *bonhomie*, tinged with pathos towards the end of the play, and very alert and active is he as the daring and dashing young officer with such a wonderful power of unselfish devotion. Mr. Montague Love, who undertakes the duties of stage management, has a less showy part to play as that luckless "Major Dobbin" of the Marines Major Thesiger, who, in very truth, has his "greatness thrust upon him." Miss Florence Jackson is delightful as the witty and resourceful Mrs. Cameron, the merry widow of the piece, and Miss Dorothy Ripley is very charming and lovable as the high-souled Lady Hermione Wynne. Mr. George Mallett (the general-manager for the company) presents a very agreeable portraiture of the broad-minded Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B.; Mr. George Percy is good as Walter Crutchley, surgeon in the Royal Navy; Mr. Hugh Wakefield is vastly amusing as the irresponsible Horatio Hood, midshipman; and Mr. Olaf Hytten also contributes to the fun as Edward Dormer-Lee. Miss Winifred Vallant as Viola Hood, Miss Stella Leigh as the arch scandalmonger Mrs. Gough-Bogle, Mr. Lionel Isted as her coadjutor General Gough-Bogle, and various other minor rôles, *e.g.*, Mr. James Holdsworth as Quartermaster Charles Penny, Mr. Victor Moore as a sergeant of Marines, Mr. Gordon Hamilton as a private of Marines, and Mr. John Bilton, A.B.S., are all efficiently rendered. Mr. Richard Collet is acting manager for the company.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
On Monday, March 7, the Farce entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

It was a foregone conclusion that Mr. James Welch's company would meet with a huge success here, for the play was most carefully cast, the scenery their own, and the incidental music and costumes the same as in the original production. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce did not spare himself as Sir Guy de Vere, and the laughter was loud and long when he was on hand. His comicalities, too, seemed quite unstudied and spontaneous. Mr. Charles Lloyd as Isaac Isaacson was most natural, his representation of the Hebrew being so quietly assumed that it was truly art concealing art; neither did he err in the direction of excessive make-up. The Hon. Charles Widdicombe of Mr. H. Winton was a good conception of an empty-headed aristocrat, and in the second act he showed that he could sing and dance. Mr. Colin Johnston as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury was a very unctuous prelate with a rich and sonorous delivery, and caused much amusement. Mr. Gerald Venning as Sir Bryan Ballymote was a handsome lover, and as a knight in complete armour he made an impressive figure. Miss Isla Glynne as Sarah Isaacson, the Jewish girl, acted naturally, and quite looked the comely Hebrew maiden of any century, and Mr. Lionel Brocknor as Wittle was an ideal servant of the upper classes. Mr. H. R. Hollway as Barker was consistently comic. Miss Elspeth Oliphant as the frivolous Lady Millicent made an excelent romp, and Miss Marjorie Carton as Lady Marjorie was excellent. Miss Peggy Bremba was a delightfully hoydenish Kate Pottlebury, and Miss Ethel St. John made a good-looking serving maid of Alice Barker. Miss Adelaide Grace as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave acted with careful restraint and admirable facial expression. The Lady Rowena of Miss Ernita Lascelles was quite a feature of the production, her excellent enunciation and serious conception of the part being in effective contrast to the comedy manner of most of the other characters. The bright little play of *Millie's Mother* raised the curtain at each production and caused much amusement. The parts were sustained by Mr. H. Winton, Miss Elspeth Oliphant, Miss Adelaide Grace and Mr. E. R. Hollway.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

The enterprising management of this theatre have provided music-lovers this week with a feast of good things, Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company proving a great attraction. The opening work was the ever-popular *Maritana*, which drew a large and appreciative audience on Monday evening. Mr. J. W. Turner as Don César de Bazan obtained a flattering reception. He is as great a favourite as ever with Brixton playgoers. Time seems to lay a light hand on Mr. Turner, and his acting and singing makes one wonder whether he has solved the secret of perpetual youth. As the nonchalant, pleasure-loving Don he was particularly good, his rendering of "Yes, let me like a soldier fall," receiving a richly-deserved encore. Mr. Tom Griffiths made a capital Don José, his rich baritone voice being heard to good effect in "In happy moments," "So my courage now regaining," and in the duet "Of fairy wand" with Maritana. Mr. Harry Reynolds as King Charles II. of Spain sang well throughout, giving a fine rendering of "Hear me, gentle Maritana." Mr. Reynolds makes an ideal King, his splendid physique giving the character added effect. Mr. P. Newton as the Marquis de Montefiore was quaint and amusing, Miss Grace Parish as the Marchioness looked very well, and, together, they made a charming old-world couple. Miss Jessie Dennis as Lazarillo was a favourite. She has a sweet, sympathetic voice, and merited the appreciation which the audience showed of her singing of "Alas, those chimes." As Maritana Miss Sarah Williams sustained a trying part with conspicuous success. Her vivacity as the Gitana, and her composed and natural grace as the wife of Don César being recognised by the audience. She has a particularly fine voice, and gave capital interpretations of "The harp in the air" and "Scenes that are brightest," encores being showered upon her. A word of praise to the orchestra and the harpist should be added, the accompaniments being both tastefully and sympathetically rendered. On Tuesday *The Bohemian Girl* was given; on Wednesday, *Il Trovatore;* and on Thursday, *Carmen*.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, March 7, the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company is at the Dalston Theatre this week with the musical pantomimical comedy *The Swiss Express*, which has gained the reputation of being "the great cosmopolitan success." Considering the fact that it has been played over 2,000 times, it is surprising how the piece maintains its attractive powers. The hearty reception once more accorded by Dalston audiences proves the strong hold it has upon North London audiences after its several repetitions. Mr. Charles and Mr. Frederick Renad still sustain their reputation as comedians by their thoroughly humorous playing of the parts of James and John, the eccentric servants of Dr. Gondimar Gull, a character remarkably well presented by Mr. Wilfred Bailey, who quite realises the quaint possibilities of the quack, who, at the period of the story, is on his honeymoon. Mr. Victor T. Raymond is decidedly humorous as Dudely Green, whose continued wild rush on the track of the quack is positively exhilarating in its persistency. Another good character is Jack Gadabout, a tourist, well played by Mr. Harwood Cooper. Bob Rollingstone, a young fellow always in love, has a pleasant exponent in Mr. James Hawkes. Rhino, a typical continental landlord, is played with quaint humour by Mr. George Power. The two Alpine gendarmes—Major Bombshell (Mr. W. Rigby) and Sergeant Longleggi (Mr. Cecil Barrett)—are responsible for a great deal of merriment; and Mr. Frederick Strachan as a Custom House officer and Mr. G. Williams as a café waiter also add to the success. Mr. Charles Leoville appears as a surgeon, but his duties are not of a terrible nature, verging upon the region of the comic rather than the fearful. Miss Madeline Lang as Virginia Squeeze, the bride, represents that blushing individual to the life, while Miss Irene Murray is decidedly pleasing as Mignonette, and Miss May Lucy, Miss Florrie Corri, and Miss Irene Murray as maids at the Black Bear inn complete the female cast. The complicated scenery is well managed under the stage direction of Mr. Fred Strachan, while the musical accompaniment is admirably supplied by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. E. J. Nation.

THE SHAKESPEARE.
On Monday, March 7, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett's engagement of Mr. W. W. Kelly's company this week at the Shakespeare Theatre is proving very successful. Since *A Royal Divorce* was originally produced at the Olympic, the last act has been entirely rewritten by Mr. George Gervaise Collingham, but, with this exception, the play is as first produced. Miss Violet Ellicott gives a powerful portrayal of Josephine, and acts throughout with great feeling. Napoleon has an excellent representative in Mr. Keith Fraser, who realistically conveys the restless personality of the Man of Destiny, both by speech and gesture. Talleyrand is neatly depicted by Mr. J. H. Roberts, who acquits himself creditably. Mr. Charles Stirling contributes a dashing rendering of the Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. Edwin J. Collins makes an amusing Augereau. Mr. George Hudson is a comical Grimaud; Miss Winnie Tempest is well suited to the part of Marie Louise; Miss Dorothy Garth is a charming and vivacious Stéphanie; and Miss Florence Cudlipp as Blanche, Miss Julia Wren as Angélique, Miss Dorothy Hudson as the King of Rome and Miss Loyale Frere as the Gouvernante also render good service.

THE BRITANNIA.
On Monday, March 7, the Drama, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

The dramatic season was successfully inaugurated on Monday, when Mr. Wentworth Croke's company presented the Lyceum Theatre version of *The Christian*, by Hall Caine. Much has been written of late concerning the decay of the drama, but, judging by the manner in which this well-known play was received at the Britannia, we are inclined to believe that Hoxton folk still retain much of their old love for good melodrama. There were many points of dramatic interest in the part of the Hon. John Storm, which was played by Mr. Henry Wolston in powerful style, Mr. Fred Morgan acted with vigour as the unscrupulous Lord Robert Ure, and Mr. Wilfred Noy was much applauded for his portrayal of Horatio Drake. Miss Gladys Purnell as Glory Quayle proved herself to be a fine all-round actress, her pathetic scenes being particularly good and gaining much applause. Mr. Thomas Barry was very convincing as Father Lamplugh, and the part of the hypocritical Archdeacon Wealthy was admirably sustained by Mr. Charles E. Dering, Mr. Royce Milton was excellent as Lord Storm, and Mr. Arthur E. Maskell invested Parson Quayle with the necessary forbearance. Mr. W. S. Carter as Bert was good, as were also Mr. Barnard Wilson as Rosenberg, Mr. Louis R. Fergusson as Mr. Buckley, Mr. Edgar Hart as Paul, Mr. W. Welch as Cowley, and Messrs. Edwin Ross and Mr. Frank Hayes as Badnitt and an attendant at the Frivolity Theatre respectively. The wayward and capricious Betty Belmont was well played by Miss Millicent Patrick, and as Letty Belmont, Miss Lydia Bland displayed the required abandon. Mrs. Callender was very well represented by Miss Mollie Hayden, and as Black Meg, Miss Lizette Cardozo proved her possession of a striking personality. Miss Gladys Vernon as Polly Love did well, as did also Miss Gertrude Maxwell as Lady Robert Ure, Miss Alice Leigh as Jennie, Miss Harriet Russell as Mother Kent, Miss Nellie Wyndham as Rosa Ray, and Miss Florence Harland as Liza. The play was well mounted, the grounds of Lord Storm's house with the sea stretching away to the horizon as a background, being particularly effective. Mr. Barry on this occasion acted as stage manager.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, March 7, the Romantic Play, by Justin Huntly McCarthy, entitled
"THE PROUD PRINCE."

The Proud Prince has been presented at Kennington Theatre this week. As King Robert of Sicily that talented and versatile actor Mr. E. Vassall Vaughan makes a tremendous hit; Miss Eileen Kerin is a sweet and girlish figure as Perpetua, enacting the part with a freshness and charm that win all hearts; Mr. Frederick Sargent is the unscrupulous and ambitious Count Hildebrand to the life; as Diogenes Mr. Frank Ward is very effective; Mr. Cowley Wright is quite ecstatic as the Archangel; and Mr. Terence O'Brien is a sturdy Thereon. Mr. Ernest Stidwell is happily placed as the priest, a character which he interprets in sympathetic fashion; while the fine stage presence of Mr. R. Ellis is shown to advantage as Sigurd. The difficult and unpleasing rôle of Lysabetta, Queen of the Courtesans, is admirably delineated by Miss Vashti Wynne, an actress of undoubted merit. Her favourites are successfully impersonated by Miss Esther Whitehouse, Miss Lilian Dacroy, and Miss Nora Jones, while Miss Ethel Miller, Miss Georgina Mill, and Miss Doris Reynolds are a bright trio of Court ladies. Mr. Charles Boult is a stately Archbishop, and Mr. Arthur Wilson and Mr. McClellan make quite picturesque Moorish slaves.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.
On Monday, March 7, the Play, entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Excellently acted throughout by Mr. Percy Williams' capable company, the above play is again greatly enjoyed. Miss Marie Wilson is a charmingly natural Little Mother, and her singing of "Way down in Colon Town" is excellent. Other clever juvenile contributions are "Yankee Doodle," by Lily Wohlmann and chorus; "To the end of the world with you," sung by little Edith Dews; a Scotch reel, danced by Gladys Kelly; "Pride of the prairie," rendered by the Sisters Wohlmann; "Lena Schmidt," by Sarah Rich; "Bunny," by Margot Domican; and "When you know you're not forgotten," by Rosie Sanders. Tom Grice, the youngest champion Lancashire clog dancer, gives a taste of his quality; and Dorothy Pain, soprano, adds to the attractiveness of the children scene. Miss Ethel Kay is a prepossessing and sympathetic Mabel Wilson; Miss Leah Marlborough a handsome and convincing Cora Wilson; and Miss Blanche Huber a richly humorous Bridget. Toto is capitally played by Mr. Harry M. Vernon, as is Peter Schwartz by Mr. Watson Hume. Mr. Frank Ashley is good as Constable O'Reilly; Mr. J. Newton makes an acceptable Rev. Dr. Lanceford; Mr. Edward Lloyd is capital as Howard Wilson; and Mr. Cyril Melton scores a distinct success as Richard Curtis.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, March, 7, the Drama, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."

A praiseworthy interpretation is given of the drama *The Girl Who Went Astray* by the members of Mr. Bulmer's company, who are not slow in taking advantage of the many opportunities which are placed in their way by the authors, Mr. William Hibbert and Mr. Fred Bulmer, whose joint efforts supply a play of sensational and attractive features. Abundant comedy relief is also provided and judiciously sustained, and meets with full approval. Madge Harvey, the girl who went astray, is ably undertaken by Miss Chrissie Dunbar, who supplies a dramatic delineation of this unsympathetic character. Possessing a good presence, she maintains a strong hold of the audience, who amply reward her for her successful endeavours. Miss Lalla Stanhope supplies a pathetic study of Violet Harvey; she handles her rôle in a quiet and natural manner, and gains applause for an efficient rendering. Miss Sybil Houghton does well as Eleanor Merton, a woman with a past, while Miss Mary Dalby makes a lively Molly Smart. The part of Captain Frank Julien is boldly depicted by Mr Louis Lingard, his lines being effectively delivered. Mr. Austin Mortimer does justice to his rôle of Rupert Murdock, whose rascally nature is skilfully indicated. Adolphus Boomer is made a most popular individual in the hands of Mr. Evan Roland, who proves himself very diverting. Mr. Reg Olroyd as James Yellowsocks also supplies a large amount of comic relief, and is the source of much merriment. Mr. R. Ashton contributes a successful portrait of Dr. George Wilson. Mr. Ernest Dare makes the most of his opportunities as Sergt. John Harvey, V.C.; the same may be said of Mr. T. Carter as General Sir Hugh Finnigan, and Mr. J. H. Lee is amusing as Gussie Seymour.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, March 7, the Pantomime, entitled
"CINDERELLA."

A return to pantomime has been made here for the current week. *Cinderella* runs on the usual lines, but opportunity is taken for the introduction of all the latest songs, the choruses of which "Tommy" in the gallery readily and lustily joins. The pantomime, which is produced by Mr. George Elmer, is adequately mounted and dressed. In the title-rôle, Miss Freda Clare soon becomes popular, and is the recipient of many favours. She is heard to advantage in the songs "Dreamland" and "Rainbow." Miss Nellie May makes a dashing Prince Charming; she is lively and vivacious, and puts plenty of "go" into her portrayal, which meets with due approval. Her numerous songs, in which is included "There are nice girls everywhere," are well rendered and highly appreciated. In the character of the Baron, Hercules, Mr. Billy Ross is diverting, and in the medley song which he sings he is capitally suited. Mr. Harry Merson is amusing as Daisy, the Baron's wife, and for his "Sports" song he is fittingly rewarded. Miss Eva La-Tour is successful as the Fairy Godmother, and evokes much applause by her singing of "Moon." Vandini is appropriately essayed by Miss Lizzie Wright, Miss Millie Merrie and Miss Viola Wright give humorous delineations of the sisters, Margerine and Butterine respectively. The former scores in the song "Flowers," and the latter is equally successful in the "Mirror Song." Mr. Will Elton dances well, and causes much amusement as Pepper. Another contribution is supplied by Mr. Will Elton, in conjunction with Miss Lizzie Wright and Miss Lana Hyde, in the trio "Up to one of your tricks again."

THE GRAND, FULHAM.
On Monday, March 7, the Play, entitled
"THE BONDMAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's principal company is still at Fulham. This week they have been very successful with the Manx and Sicilian story. The cast is a very long one, to all the members of which space will not permit us to do justice. Mr. Philip Darien is very powerful as Jason and Mr. Stanley Harrison is appropriately bright as Michael Sunlocks. Mr. Rotherham is very successful in the parts of Grandfather and of Father Ferrati, and shows his ability in both humour and pathos. Miss Violet Macaree looks well as Greeba, and plays with charm and spirit; while Miss Madge Lanerton gives ample point to the worldly wisdom of Mrs. Fairbrother. The children are brightly played by Miss Beatrice Hughes and Master Walter Neville. Miss Emelie Mayhew is a sympathetic Christian Anne, and the minor characters are well represented, notably by Messrs. Chappell and Nixon, who give individuality to their rôles. The piece is well staged.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, March 7, the Drama, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

Familiarity with this well-known and exciting American drama certainly does not breed contempt, for since its original production at the Princess's, something like twenty years since, it has been presented in the provinces and at the suburban houses over and over again, and judging by its enthusiastic reception and the hold it had on the Lyric audience on the night of our visit, it is still good for many more "happy returns." Largely responsible for this is undoubtedly the scene representing the Central Fire Station, New York, showing how, at the signal of the "still alarm," the brigade turns out, the horses being brought from their stable, harnessed to the engine, and driven off in five seconds. This realistic incident was very skilfully managed, and evoked loud applause, and there was much admiration for the two highly-trained horses, Pegasus and Bucephalus, the intelligent greyhound, Laddie, also becoming a great favourite. Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, who are responsible for the excellent all-round production, is in many instances the same as on its last visit to the Lyric, Mr. Matthew H. Glenville repeating his former success as the gallant Jack Manley, his acting in the scene with his sweetheart, Elinor Fordham, where he learns she cannot marry him, and in the many strenuous incidents of the play being most convincing, his handling of the lighter scenes also being very natural. Elinor Fordham has a sympathetic and refined portrayal from Miss Beatrice Shirley, the actress vividly expressing Elinor's distress in the scene where she sacrifices her lover in order to save her father, her enactment throughout being a very praiseworthy one; and the hero's mother, the loquacious but kindly Mrs. Manley, was a lovable old soul as represented by Miss Mabel Veriton, who contributed an unexaggerated but very effective impersonation. The vivacious Carrie Wilbur had an attractive and alert representative in Miss Lydia Andre, the actress scoring in her song and dance "Hello," and also in her comedy scenes with her sweetheart, Willie Manley, a part humorously undertaken by Mr. Edward Hobart; and the inebriated Doc Wilbur was amusingly enacted by Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, whose portrayal was an excellent one throughout. Mr. Gerald Kennedy's depiction of the shabby villain of the first act was not without some quietly humorous touches, his impersonation of the scoundrelly John Bird being a very effective one; and the [illegible] Fordham of Mr. Lewis Gordon was a realistic and praiseworthy portrayal. The numerous other parts were all capably undertaken, and the scenery and mounting generally were first-class. Mention must also be made of the vocal selections of the Lyric Comedy Four in the Fire Station Scene—a much-appreciated contribution.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
On Monday, March 7, the Play entitled
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."

Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company in *A Message from Mars* is the attraction here this week. An excellent cast is responsible for the interpretation of the piece, which is staged with much care. Mr. F. Vernon Travers plays Horace Parker in pronounced comedy vein, and his performance is one of considerable merit; as the Messenger Mr. William H. Brougham declaims his lines in fine resonant style, and is entirely convincing as the Martian visitant; Mr. Norman Clark's delineation of the Tramp is an excellent piece of character acting; and Mr. Clifford Lomer plays Arthur Dicey very appropriately. Miss Aubrey Ashton is responsible for a well-defined performance as Miss Parker; Minnie Templar is very charmingly portrayed by Miss Rose Helene; and in the long list of minor parts Miss Estelle Twitchen (Bella), Miss Mary Buckstone (Mrs. Clarence), Mr. D. Greene (a policeman), and Mr. A. C. Rolfe (Dr. Chapman) are conspicuous.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
On Monday, March 7, the Drama entitled
"THE WOMAN PAYS."

The tide of prosperity which has set in so strongly at Mrs Ellis Frederick's popular melodrama theatre is not likely to receive a set-back this week by the engagement of Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company in *The Woman Pays* judging by the full house on the night of our visit. The piece is exceedingly well staged, and the interesting story proves quite to the liking of those who prefer their dramatic fare served "hot and strong." Mr. Phil Harper is outspoken and vigorous as the young fisherman, Sid Armstrong; and Mr. Raymond Thomas supplies a sterling performance as the sinister Roger Marchant. Mr. Dunlop Stewart (in addition to his managerial duties) contributes an exceedingly clever sketch of Luke Morland; and Mr. Joseph Magrath extracts unlimited mirth from the part of Mickey Moloney. Mr. Beresford Innes makes the most of his opportunities as Cyrus Treadgold; and Mr. Charles Arthur is excellent as Dr. Trevor. Miss Alice Greenwood acts with sympathy and charm as Madge Greenwood; as the callous Nell Morland Miss Kate Blair plays very convincingly; Polly Stokes is brightly impersonated by Miss Lily Beverley; and the part of Tibatha is safely entrusted to Miss Florence Thorne. Remaining characters are all in quite capable hands.

A play recently produced at the Savoy Theatre, New York, and "flayed" by the critics, was called *Children of Destiny*, and was written by Sydney Rosenfeld, who had not been heard from for a year or two. It is in three acts, and is about a young woman named Rose Hamlin, whose intended husband breaks the engagement when he discovers that she was born out of wedlock. She goes to Monte Carlo, where she squanders her money, and is supposed to be a member of the demi-monde. When she meets Edwin Ford, however, she protests that she has always been a good woman. He has been as reckless as she has, and the two are supposed to be "drawn together," being the "children of destiny" referred to in the title. They are married, and Rose's mother also weds Rose's father, so the play has a nice moral ending after all. It was well acted, the company including Miss Dorothy Dorr, Miss Laura Nelson Hall, Mr. Frank Reicher, Mr. Orrin Johnson, Mr. Frederick Truesdell, and Mr. Harry Davenport.

Henry V. Donnelly, a well-known American actor, who managed the Murray Hill Theatre for several years, died in New York on the 15th ult. at the age of forty-eight. For a number of years he appeared with Eddie Girard in a laughable piece called *Natural Gas*. He established an excellent stock company at the Murray Hill Theatre, several of the members of it having since distinguished themselves at the leading playhouses. Miss Frances Starr, Miss Laura Crewe, and Miss Dorothy Donnelly, his sister, who is now appearing as Madame X. at the New Amsterdam Theatre, first appeared before the New York public under Mr. Donnelly's management. He was a versatile and finished actor, and one who always lived up to the best traditions of the stage.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, March 8, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Richard A. Greene, in the chair; Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. J. Arlton, Murri Moncrieff, Langford Reed, Robson Paige, Henry Le Grand, and Edward Morgan; Misses Joan Pereira, Vita Spencer, Rose Cazalet, Chester, and Mr. D. Young, secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The following letter from the West End theatre managers was read, and the council deputed Mr. Cyril Cattley to call and see Mr. Vedrenne on their behalf.

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. and note contents. At our monthly meeting, held yesterday, we discussed the matter of bogus management referred to in your letter, but were informed by our solicitor that we had no legal remedy. If you would like to see me to discuss this further, will you please ring me up, and I will arrange an appointment at an early date.—Yours faithfully, J. E. Vedrenne."

A letter from the Touring Managers' Association was also read as follows:—

"In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst. I am desired by my committee to say that the matter you refer to would require an Act of Parliament to deal with. Further, my committee desired me to say that they are taking action on their own behalf.—I am, yours faithfully, M. G. Martin."

In reply to a letter from Miss Liza Coleman, the secretary was directed to say that the fact of the members of that company, having compounded with their manager, removed him from the domain of bogus management. A motion was proposed that the manager's name be posted as a "doubtful manager." The chairman, in putting the motion, pointed out that it was in direct opposition to the advice of the hon. solicitor. On being put to the council the motion was lost, the voting being seven against and four in favour.

The secretary read the following letters from Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. Martin Harvey:—

"I have refrained from answering your letter before, as I feel it was a matter requiring careful consideration. It appears to me that the Association is not what I might term strongly representative, as I understand that the principal members of the theatrical profession are not members of your Association. May I suggest to you that before inviting the actor managers to rejoin, and, as you express it, let bygones be bygones, you should send a list of the members of the Actors' Association, which list should include the majority of the leading actors and actresses, to each actor manager, and thus prove to them that the Association is really representative of our profession. In any case, when I receive such a list, I shall be happy to reconsider my decision in the matter.—Yours faithfully, Cyril Maude."

The secretary reported that the list asked for had been sent.

"I am heartily glad to receive your letter, and hasten to assure that I shall be only too glad to rejoin the Association and to do anything in my power to forward its objects.—Believe me, yours faithfully, Martin Harvey."

The secretary read a letter from a member in reply to a charge of bogus management, and it was proposed that in accordance with Article 6 of the Articles of Association the member be suspended for three months, and if at the end of that time the council were not satisfied of his having met his obligations and liabilities, it be decided that he should be excluded from membership. An amendment that the member be suspended until he had met his obligations, and if after three months he had failed to do so he should be suspended, was lost. The secretary was further instructed that the member's name be posted in the rooms as a bogus manager.

The secretary was instructed to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Mr. Hayden Coffin's cablegram, and to say that the council have much pleasure in allotting the number of fifty debentures as requested.

The finance committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan and adopted.

The hon. solicitor's report was presented, and with reference to the Strand Theatre case the secretary was directed to send a letter to all the signatories of Cleodan, Ltd., in the terms suggested by the hon. solicitor.

With reference to a letter of the Sunday Defence Committee, it was decided that a cheque be drawn for £2, and Mr. Robson Paige and the secretary appointed representatives of the Actors' Association, to attend the next meeting on Thursday, March 10, at twelve o'clock noon.

Elections: Frank R. Growcott, Enid Baird, Straton Rodney, and Olive Noble. Reinstatements: Martin Harvey, Amy Coleman, J. Heribert Willis, and Georgette Serville. Agnes Hewitt was nominated.

OPERA HOUSE, CREWE, BURNT DOWN.

One of the oldest playhouses in the provinces was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning, when the Opera House, Crewe, was burnt to the ground. All the scenery and the properties of Mr. Dan Thomas's pantomime company, which was fulfilling a week's engagement at the theatre, is lost.

Under the name of the Lyceum, the theatre was instituted, in 1881, by Mr. Henry Taylor, by whom it was carried on for over a quarter of a century. The building was originally a Catholic chapel, which was relinquished owing to the erection of a new church for that body. The theatre was visited and utilised by many of the then leading travelling managers from time to time. It was, however, soon found that the building was too small to meet requirements of playgoers, and a limited company was formed. Of this company Mr. Taylor became a shareholder, and was appointed manager, and he held the post for some years, afterwards becoming the lessee. In the early days there was much opposition to the establishment of a theatre by a class of people who had no sympathy either with actors or theatrical managers. Many of the then evident prejudices were removed, and the Lyceum then continued to be patronised not only by the large working-class population, but by the "upper ten" of the district.

Mr. Taylor retired from management in 1908, and the theatre was taken over by Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, of the Shakespeare, Clapham Junction, who completely changed the interior of the building, rechristened it the Opera House, and reopened it on August Bank Holiday of that year.

Our local correspondent telegraphs:—A fire broke out in the early hours of Friday morning at the Opera House, Crewe, which resulted in the total destruction of the theatre, together with all the properties and scenery, including the whole of the costumes and effects belonging to Mr. Dan Thomas's Pantomime Company, *Dick Whittington*, which has been playing here this week. At the close of Thursday night's performance, which finished at about 10.45, everything appeared to be all right, but in less than two hours afterwards the fire was discovered by the resident-manager, Mr. Ambrose Fischer, who was in his office at the time making up his accounts, and detected a smell of burning. On his going to ascertain from whence this came he found the stage well alight and immediately gave the alarm. The local fire brigade were soon on the spot, but the fire had by now obtained a fair hold on the inflammable articles which abound in the vicinity of a theatre stage, and their efforts to stop its progress were practically futile. Nothing is left except bare walls. The loss is very considerable, and much sympathy is felt for the members of Mr. Thomas's pantomime artists, who have lost everything. A benefit concert will be given to-night for these artists.

THE REHEARSAL COMPANY.

The periodical performances of the Rehearsal Company are becoming quite an institution, and Malden-lane is thronged by patrons of the enterprise on the afternoons for which productions are announced. The bijou hall known as the Rehearsal Theatre was closely crowded on Monday afternoon last, when no less ambitious a production than Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* was staged almost in its entirety. The comedy is among the Poet's most enthralling works, and ample justice was done to it by the experienced artists engaged by Mr. Clive Currie, the founder and director of the company. Mr. Currie played Malvolio, and did himself infinite credit. He is an expert in the art of making-up and his appearance as the vain and pompous steward was very whimsical. It was an artistic performance free from extravagance, and allowing the vanity of the character to peep out beneath the weight of dignity which Malvolio assumes. Occasionally Mr. Currie lowered his voice so as to become almost inaudible, but, on the whole, his delivery of the lines was distinct and pointed.

Viola was played by Miss May Saker, who bore herself becomingly as the boy, spoke her lines with elocutionary grace, and portrayed the feminine terror of Viola in her duel with exquisite drollery. The beauteous Olivia was realised by Miss Mary Forbes, who to personal attractiveness adds dramatic skill of high promise. Her love scene with Viola was carried out with infinite tenderness. Among the several successes of the afternoon must be included the Sir Toby Belch of Mr. Fred Grove, who again proved his worth as a comedian, and played the part with a drollery that could scarcely be excelled. He had an effective partner in Mr. Arthur Cleave, who as Sir Andrew Aguecheek added to the merriment.

The occasion was remarkable from the fact that Feste was entrusted to a lady, Miss Rose Macdonald, who was naturally a little self-conscious, but acted vivaciously and sang really well, her rendering of "Come away, Death" being very enjoyable. A lady was also chosen for the part of Fabian, in which Miss Evelyn Grey distinguished herself favourably. Miss Grace Richardson acted with unfailing vivacity as Maria, and her share of the scenes in which the deep-laid plot against Malvolio is enacted, was invaluable. Mr. Frederick James was a handsome and fervent Orsino, and played the lover gallantly. Mr. Wilfred Fletcher's ardour as Sebastian was a little excessive, but he gave distinction to his lines and gained every point. The Antonio of Mr. Clifford Heatherley, the Sea Captain of Mr. R. W. Read, and the Priest of Mr. Montague Mazeran, contributed valuably towards an excellent performance, which it is a pity should be restricted to a single representation.

Preceding Shakespeare's comedy was a dramatic incident, in one act, by P. E. Slayton, entitled

"THE PASSING OF THE IRONSIDE."

Trevor .....MR. CLIVE CURRIE
Keziah .....MISS EVELYN VANDERZEE
Mistress Alport .....MISS URSULA KEENE
Captain Jack Enderby ....MR. FRANK LINCOLN

Gloom is the pervading element in the above playlet, in which an old Ironside, who has lain ill for two years, learns for the first time that Cromwell is dead, and that Charles II. is restored to the throne. The news has been carefully preserved from him by his daughter, but the aged Puritan hears the acclamations of the crowd outside, and witnesses the passing of the triumphal procession, and after giving vent to his sorrow at the Protector's death, his anger at the restoration of the monarch, and his determination to rally the Ironsides to the banner, himself expires, leaving his daughter to the care of her devoted lover, just returned from the wars in Flanders. Mr. Clive Currie gave further evidence of his skill in make-up as the aged warrior, and his varied expression relieved the wearisome speeches somewhat. Mr. Frank Lincoln was a handsome cavalier, with far too few opportunities; and Miss Evelyn Vanderzee a sweet and pretty Keziah.

The musical-director of the Rehearsal Company, it should be noted, is Mr. Wm. Bailey, jun., son of the lessee of the West London, who presided ably at the piano. Mr. Bailey, sen., who is among the list of patrons, was also present on Monday.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The programme of the chamber concert given by the students of the Royal College on Thursday afternoon, March 3, opened with Spohr's Octet for Strings and Wind in E Op. 32. The Octet is written for violin, two violas, violoncello, double-bass, clarionet, and two horns, and the beautiful, peaceful character of the music was most ably rendered by Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Mr. Frank Bridge, Miss Sybil Maturin, Mr. Cedric Sharpe, Mr. Eugene Cruft, Mr. Haydn Draper, Mr. Albert Davin, and Mr. Frank Probin. An excellent account was given of the Andante and variations on a theme by Handel ("The Harmonious Blacksmith") and the quaint Finale. The passages for the wind instruments were well played, Mr. Haydn Draper particularly distinguishing himself on those portions allotted to the clarionet. Mr. Idris Lewis and Miss Ellen Bartlett were associated in a clever performance of Dohnanyi's Sonata for Piano and Violoncello in B flat, the lively scherzo variations being heartily applauded. Brahms's Quartet for Strings in B flat, executed by Miss Dorothy Devin, Mr. Antonio Piedra, Mr. Frank Bridge and Mr. Cedric Sharpe was also included in the programme. Miss Eunice Grounds sang two songs of Sir Edward Elgar, "Like to the damask rose" and "Rondel" with considerable grace, while Miss Beatrice Lewthwaite greatly pleased the audience in Macfarren's "Pack clouds away," the clarionet obbligato being skilfully played by Mr. Haydn Draper. The other vocalist was Miss Evelyn B. Jennings, who sang "Les Fées" (Saint-Saëns), with artistic expression. Miss Mary B. Graham, Miss Dorothy Grason, and Mr. Herbert Arnold Smith were the accompanists.

The Influence of the Hall.

"To a large part of the democracy of London the music hall is a national church," says the Rev. Thos. Phillips, B.A., in an interview in the *British Congregationalist*. "In the country district in which I was brought up you may hear from the young people snatches of hymns and possibly bits of sermons; but from the lads and lasses of London you hear echoes of the music halls. The churches may say that the music halls are of the devil; but, all the same, the people go to them, and their influence is being exercised on the young life of the nation at its most impressionable age. So I cannot see how the Church can escape the duty of sanctifying an institution which has such a tremendous influence upon the life and thought of the young people."

Mr. Neville on "Old Times."

MR. HENRY NEVILLE, who gave a capital lecture to the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday, says in the *Daily News*: "When I was a young actor it was the custom to place before the budding aspirant for histrionic honours certain test pieces, and the student was judged according to the intelligence and ability he displayed. Now, however, all this is changed. Men come into the profession without training, without fitness, without any speciality of aim, without even a general knowledge of the art, its principles, or its history, and the result is an ever-growing wave of incapacity, ignorance, and conceit sweeping everything before it, and changing the once pure taste of the playgoing public into an anarchy of ideas and a Babel of opinions."

A THEATRICAL WEDDING.

The wedding of Miss Madge Titheradge to Mr. Charles Quartermaine at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, on Tuesday afternoon, excited extraordinary interest. A vast crowd filled both sides of the road and extended a hundred yards each way, and though there were fifty constables on duty, the inspector in charge had to send right and left for reinforcements. Street sellers outside the church vended copies of "The Souvenir and Programme of the Marriage between Madge Titheradge and Charles Quartermaine all on a handkerchief," and when the guests arrived the people broke through the large body of police and swarmed round the carriages.

The fine church of Holy Trinity was closely crowded. Below the beautiful stained glass window at the end rose on either side a great mass of lilies and marguerites. Amongst those present in the church were Sir Herbert Tree and his youngest daughter, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mrs. Kendal, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Dion Calthrop, Mr. Charles Maude and Mrs. Charles Maude (Miss Nancy Price), Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Mark Kerr, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Haddon Chambers, Mr. Mortimer Menpes, Mr. Herbert Trench, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Rudolf Besier, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Douglas (Miss Grace Lane), Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Charles Terry, Miss Charlotte Granville, Mr. Lyall Swete, Mr. Frank Desprez, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Kate Sargeantson, Miss Kate Bishop, Miss Orme, and Miss Oriel Lee.

Miss Madge Titheradge made her first appearance at the Garrick Theatre, December, 1902, as the Second Water Baby in *The Water Babies*. At the Botanic Gardens, July, 1903, she was seen as the Wood Nymph in *The Faithful Shepherdess*; at the Garrick, December, 1903, she played Moonbeam in *The Cricket on the Hearth*; at the Haymarket, May, 1904, she appeared as Lulu Carruthers in *Lady Flirt*; at the Garrick, Christmas, 1904, she played Liza in *Little Black Sambo*; at the Haymarket, May, 1905, she appeared as Caroline in *The Creole*, and in June, 1905, as the Countess of Drumdurris in *The Cabinet Minister*. She appeared at the Waldorf, 1906, with Mr. Cyril Maude, as Nancy in *The Superior Miss Pellender*, and Norah in *The Second in Command*; at the Duke of York's, 1906, and The Playhouse, 1907, she played Cicely in *Toddles*. She appeared at the Playhouse as Rosine in *French as He is Spoke*, and Minnie Vincent in *Fido*; at His Majesty's, September, 1908, she played Lisa in *Faust*, and at the Lyric, November, 1908, she appeared as the Princess Katharine in *King Henry V.*

Mr. Charles Quartermaine, who was born at Richmond, Surrey, on Dec. 30, 1877, is the son of Alice Ann (Egg) and Fred Quartermaine. He made his first appearance on the stage at Tunbridge Wells, in January, 1896, as Ned Annesley in *Sowing the Wind*. From 1896 to 1901 he played

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

MR. CYRIL MAUDE, MR. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE, MRS. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE (MISS MADGE TITHERADGE), MISS TITHERADGE, MISS BEATRICE TERRY, MR. DAWSON MILLWARD, MISS ROSALIE TOLLER, MISS MARIE LOHR, MISS DU MAURIER.

with F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company. He made his first appearance in London, at the Lyceum, Feb. 15, 1900, as the Dauphin in *King Henry V.* Leaving Mr. Benson, he was engaged by Mr. Beerbohm Tree for His Majesty's, and appeared there on Feb. 5, 1901, as Sebastian in *Twelfth Night*. During the spring of 1902 he toured with Mr. Ben Greet's company. At His Majesty's in June, 1902, he played Slender in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; he appeared at the Court, 1902, as Manisty in *Eleanor*; and toured as Heath Desmond in *Cousin Kate* 1903-4. He accompanied Sir Charles Wyndham to America, 1904, making his first appearance in New York at the Lyceum, Dec. 7, 1904, as David Cairn in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. He toured in America with Miss Olga Nethersole in 1905-6, returned to His Majesty's in 1906, and afterwards appeared successfully in *Antony and Cleopatra, The Red Lamp, A Woman of No Importance, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, The Beloved Vagabond, Hamlet, Faust, Hannele*, &c. He is now playing the title-part in *Don* at the Kingsway Theatre.

The four bridesmaids were Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Rosalie Toller, Miss Beatrice Terry, and Miss Frances Titheradge. Miss Löhr wore a large white hat trimmed with ostrich plumes, and carried a muff made of tiny white flowers, from which hung sprays of white roses. The other bridesmaids wore white satin gowns ornamented with silver roses, "Juliet" caps, and carried sheafs of virgin lilies.

The bride wore a white satin gown, the skirt falling away a little and showing a panel of silver tissue bordered with a long trail of silver roses. The bodice was draped over a chemisette of folded tulle. A cluster of silver roses caught the folds of tulle, and a small, delicate spray of similar roses was placed on each sleeve, while the train of white satin had silver roses placed on a soft veiling of silver tulle. She carried a bouquet of white lilies and carnations tied with white satin ribbon, and a tulle veil over a wreath of orange blossoms. Her train was borne by Miss Angela du Maurier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald du Maurier, who wore a white chiffon dress and a wreath of flowers in her hair. Mr. Dawson Millward was Mr. Quartermaine's "best man."

Mr. Cyril Maude gave the bride away; in the absence of her father, who is in Australia. The Rev. Dr. Rosslyn Bruce, who was assisted in the ceremony by the Rev. H. R. Gamble, the rector of the church, read the marriage service admirably, and the ceremony was most impressive. After the service in a beautiful homily he wished the newly-married couple "Joy."

The reception was held at the Cadogan Hotel, after which the happy pair motored to Hindhead.

"CAPTAIN OF THE HOSTS."

Play, in Three Acts, by Rutherford Mayne, Produced at the Grand Opera House, Belfast, on Tuesday, March 8.

Neil Gallina .....MR. ROSS CANMER
Billy Baird .....MR. CHARLES KERR
Herbert Young .....MR. JACKSON GRAHAME
Flapper M'Keown .....MR. GERALD MACNAMARA
Jamsey M'Cloy .....MR. ALAN WHITLEY
Hughey Thompson .....MR. G. A. CHARTRES
Thomas .....MR. J. M. HARDING
Annie .....MISS HELENA CAIRNS
Mrs. McKee.....MISS MARGARET O'GORMAN
Barbara .....MISS SEVEEN CANMER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Rutherford Mayne, the professional name of a gentleman who only recently took to the stage itself (and who is also the author of *The Drone*) is the son of an Irish clergyman who died at his post, and his piece entitled *The Captain of the Hosts* has the religious atmosphere wherein his father lived and died. Neil Gallina, with no other ambition than to spend his life in drinking and debauchery, is brought in contact with a mission preacher's daughter named Barbara McDonald. In one of his drunken rambles Gallina had stopped at an open-air prayer meeting at which Barbara was playing a harmonium. There Gallina spoke to her. The next morning Gallina mentions the fact to Billy Baird, a medical student, and a fellow lodger, who knows Barbara. She calls at the lodgings later and meets both. On the departure of Baird, in a long talk with Gallina, she finds out the position of matters. He is a teacher who has tried to write a book and failed. Barbara tries to get him to go on writing again, and offers to get her father to talk to him about it.

The second act deals with the conversion of Gallina, a victim of consumption, who has reached the stage of addressing missionary meetings. He is also in love with Barbara, but the latter is engaged to Mr. Herbert Young, who notes that Barbara's affection is waning. Barbara, however, says that she only goes to the mission owing to her father's influence, and that she considers herself a prisoner. Young, who has his doubts as to the conversion of Gallina, tests him by saying that if he is really converted, there is more room in China amongst the heathen than in Belfast. But Gallina refuses to go. In Belfast there are "drunken wasters" such as he to "haul" out. Barbara tells Gallina that he has not the faith to keep to the mission, and he falls away. In a half-drunken state he tells Barbara that she is responsible for any good that there was in him, and says good-bye. There is another sweetheart coming for him—"Death," whom Gallina toasts: "Here's to you, captain of the men of Death; I've fought and beaten you," and expires.

To the Ulster Literary Theatre company was entrusted the production, and they did every justice to the new piece. Mr. Jackson Graham was seen to the utmost advantage as Herbert Young; and a capital character sketch of the medico Billy Baird, was furnished by Mr. Charles Kerr; much praise is due Miss Seveen Canmer for her delightful impersonation of Barbara, she spoke her lines clearly and with much effect; Mr. Ross Canmer appeared in the difficult rôle of Neil Gallina; and Miss Margaret O'Gorman was well suited as the landlady Mrs. McKee. The comedy element, which was never at any time obtrusive, was in capable hands. Mr. J. M. Harding certainly deserves to be congratulated on his humorous impersonation of Thomas the gardener; and Mr. G. A. Chartres was inimitable as Hughley Thompson; Mr. Gerald Macnamara had little to do as Flapper M'Keown, but submitted a realistic impersonation of the pugilist; and the part of his companion Jamesy M'Cloy was in the safe hands of Mr. Alan Whitley. Miss Helen Cairns as Annie, the servant, completed the capable cast. The action of the play takes place in Mrs. McKee's house, and at Mr. M'Donald's house at Knock, Belfast. The piece was favourably received by a friendly audience.

Popular Plays.

"SOME weeks ago," writes Mr. Frederick Whelen to the *Daily News*, "I witnessed a performance of *The Bad Girl of the Family* at the Aldwych Theatre, and was amazed by the wonderful enthusiasm of the audience. I have rarely seen more wholehearted enjoyment at a theatre. Indeed, it was delightful to be part of an audience so obviously happy and enjoying itself.

"Now, I cannot help thinking that it would be a good development if districts such as the neighbourhood of the Elephant and Castle, and some other more gloomy parts of our cities, could have the advantage of a theatre in their midst in which plays of another type would be presented. I believe that a 'People's Theatre' in a working-class district could be made a popular success, and could present to the whole-hearted enjoyment of audiences not only plays by Shakespeare, but also plays by modern writers such as Barrie and Bernard Shaw.

"I HAVE seen a theatre crowded with County Council school children revelling with enjoyment of a performance of *The Merchant of Venice*. I have seen a theatre in Manchester crowded with factory operatives and mill-hands enthusiastically enjoying Shakespearean productions."

"SPOONER'S BABY."

Revised Version of a Farcical Sketch, Privately Represented at the Criterion Theatre on Thursday Afternoon, March 10.

Major Botherley .....MR. AUBREY FITZGERALD
Rev. Dr. Barkhurst .....MR. HAROLD JOHNSON
Percy Spooner .....MR. PINNARD
Waiter .....MR. WYNNE YORK
Miss Clackett .....MISS HELEN LANGTON
Bella Spooner .....MISS ELIZABETH WEILAND

Spooner's Baby is a revised version of the farcical sketch recently produced with considerable success at the Tivoli, Manchester, and on Thursday afternoon a private representation was given at the Criterion Theatre, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. James Welch. The authors of old-time farces frequently introduced an infant into their curtain-raisers, this expedient for causing merriment being generally found highly successful. The anonymous author of *Spooner's Baby* has made use of a similar device, only in this case it is not a real baby that causes the fun, but only a toy. Mr. and Mrs. Spooner, on their honeymoon, are staying at an hotel in Paris, and the lady, who is making the money fly pretty freely, has purchased a valuable piece of lace which she intends to take with her to America. But how to evade the scrutiny of the lynx-eyed officials, on the look-out for smuggled goods? She hits upon the ingenious device of ripping open a large doll and placing the lace inside the cavity. The toy, when pressed, emits a plaintive cry, closely resembling that of an infant, and when Mr. Spooner, on entering the private sitting-room he has engaged at the hotel hears the infantine cry, his suspicions are aroused and he is horrified at the sight of the supposed child in his bride's arms. He is greatly relieved on discovering that it is only a toy that his wife is carrying, and laughs uproariously at his mistake; but, all the same, he is opposed to Mrs. Spooner's plan for deceiving the Custom House officials. Miss Clackett, a very proper person, who is engaged in distributing tracts at naughty Parisian pleasure resorts, makes a call; and hearing a child's cry, as she supposes, jumps to a conclusion which reflects upon the character of the bride, while that lady is under the misapprehension that her visitor has discovered her intention to smuggle the piece of lace. Another arrival is Major Botherley, an extremely short-sighted old Army officer. He finds the room empty, and sitting on the toy, imagines that he has accidentally murdered a child. Miss Clackett returns for her parasol, and the Major's attempts to conceal his crime lead to further amusing complications, in which Miss Clackett's friend, the Rev. Dr. Barkhurst, is also involved. After the game of misunderstanding has gone on long enough, explanations are given, and the "baby" is consigned to the care of the indignant old maid.

The sketch caused plenty of merriment, and was very well played. Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald made the most of his opportunities as the short-sighted old Major, and Mr. Harold Johnson broadly outlined the personal peculiarities of the Rev. Dr. Barkhurst. An excuse was made on behalf of Mr. Pinnard, as he had taken the part of Percy Spooner at short notice, owing to the illness of the gentleman who was to have played the rôle but, under the circumstances, he did extremely well. Miss Elizabeth Weiland was bright and smart as Bella Spooner; Miss Helen Langton was satisfactory as Miss Clackett; and Mr. Wynne York scored in the minor part of the Waiter.

The new sketch was preceded by *The Spider and the Fly*, "a farcical interlude," the plot turning upon the device of a young fellow who has quarrelled with his sweetheart to bring about a reconciliation. Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald was alert as the lover; Miss Elizabeth Weiland was vivacious as Maud; and Mr. Harold Johnson was good as a French Waiter.

IN the workshops competition promoted by the Oldham N.U. Rugby F.C., the Empire Theatre's met the Colosseum in the first round and a rather rough game was witnessed. The Colosseum staff were the better team and won by three tries (nine points) to nothing, scored by David Lowe (twice) and J. Vickers (one). Gold and silver watches are provided for prizes, and are well worth winning.

"I BELIEVE I shall have the support of practically the whole dramatic profession," said a leading theatrical agent to a representative of the *Westminster Gazette*, "in advancing the suggestion that payment of half-salaries to actors and actresses during the trying and expensive period of rehearsals should become the 'unwritten law' of the theatre. I don't expect such a suggestion to receive the unqualified support of all the managements! I would, if necessary, have legislation on the point. A short Bill might be introduced by some private member keenly interested in the theatrical business. Mr. A. E. W. Mason, as a dramatist, would have been a most suitable man to ventilate the matter, but he is no longer in the House. Once get some action of the kind taken, and you will immediately raise the status of the acting profession, for it is with the small salaried people that the shoe pinches tightest."

CAVALIERE GRASSO and his company of Sicilian actors had an ovation on the 4th inst., when they gave an invitation matinée performance of *Feudalismo* to members of the theatrical profession at the Lyric Theatre. In returning thanks for the reception Cavaliere Grasso produced portraits of Shakespeare and Irving and kissed both, Signora Bragaglia following suit. Cavaliere Grasso said that he would like to kiss every member of the audience, but as he could not do that he must let his pigeon act on his behalf. He then drew from his pocket a white pigeon, kissed it, and let it fly. The pigeon circled over the stalls, amid applause and laughter, and then returned to the stage. The actors ended by scattering flowers amid the stalls. After the performance Mr. H. B. Irving visited Cavaliere Grasso in his dressing-room to congratulate and thank him, and was kissed on both cheeks by the impulsive Sicilian.

SIGNOR GRASSO and Mme. Bragaglia, and the members of the Sicilian company held a "tea party" at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. An entertainment was given in which Signor Musco impersonated a tipsy troubadour; a tarantella was danced by all the members of the company; Signor Grasso and Signor Viscuso had a mock combat with big knives, and Signor Grasso gave a clever sketch of Sicilian life and an amusing imitation of a bachelor's endeavours to sew a button on his coat. Mr. E. Dagnall and Signor Grasso both spoke, the latter concluding, "I love you all. Good-bye." In the evening *Pietra Fra Pietre*, a translation of Sudermann's *Stein Unter Steinen* was performed.

AT the annual fancy dress ball, held at the Hibernian Hall, West Stanley, on Monday, Mr. Edward Van Biene, whose company is at the Theatre Royal this week, and Mrs. Lindon, wife of the proprietor of the theatre, were asked to adjudge the prize-winners. This they did, and it fell to the lot of Mr. Van Biene to announce the successful competitors. The results were received with every sign of approval from rather a mixed audience, but the receipt of the following letter has rather damped Mr. Van Biene's ardour, and he thinks of giving fancy dress dances a miss in future:—"Dear Sir,—Where's your taste? You give Red Injun first prize, whilst me, hearin' you was to judge, went made up exactly like one of *your own company*, and took a journey last week to see him play, and paid a shilling to go in. If you think it good enough to put on the stage and *make your livin' at it*, you should encourage a copy of it, especially in the town that supports you.—Yours disgusted, &c., &c."

"DOUBLE DUMMY."

Play, in One Act, by Mr. B. Macdonald Hastings, Produced at the Cripplegate Institute Theatre on Tuesday, March 8.

Mr. Adrian Cotsford ..MR. SYDNEY H. STRONG
Mrs. Cotsford .....MISS EILEEN SAVAGE
Miss Thorp .....MISS VIOLET CUDDON
Lieutenant Harry Chadwick
MR. CHARLES DAVIDSON

The action of this cleverly-written little play takes place on a summer evening in the comfortably furnished hall of Mr. Cotsford's bungalow near Tenterden, in Kent. Cotsford has been blind for two or three months, and we learn from a conversation which he has with his wife's companion, Miss Thorp, that an operation was performed that afternoon, and that the specialist told him he would see again after the lapse of six hours. Finding that his wife is dining at the vicarage, and that there are letters awaiting him, Cotsford asks Miss Thorp to read them to him. Accidentally she opens one intended for his wife. The six hours being on the point of elapsing, Cotsford proceeds to make the test, and to his intense joy finds that he is able to see. His eyes light on the letter intended for his wife, and he manages to decipher phrases here and there until his sight grows stronger, and he realises that it is a passionate love-letter from a certain young lieutenant named Chadwick, urging Mrs. Cotsford to forsake her husband. His wife returns from the vicarage accompanied by Chadwick, who endeavours unsuccessfully to persuade Mrs. Cotsford to go away with him. Eventually Cotsford satisfies himself of his wife's loyalty, and Chadwick makes an ignominious exit. The performance on Tuesday was good, although the two ladies were obviously not quite the characters intended by the author.

"OUR FIRST DINNER."

A Comedietta, in One Act, by Florence Lloyd, Produced at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, for the First Time, on Monday, March 7.

Dick .....MR. CECIL BROOKING
Nesta .....MISS MURIEL POPE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The characters in this amusing little playlet are a newly-married couple, who are preparing to receive their guests at their first dinner-party three months after marriage. The scene is their dressing-room, and the lady is dressing her hair at one side of the room, while her husband is at the other. The fun is caused by the contrast between the pair, the wife making her toilet swiftly and skilfully, while the husband is fussing about, making little progress. First he misses his collar, and then his tie, which the wife finds for him; then he drops his stud on the floor, and crawls all round the toilet table looking for it, when the wife, all radiant, again comes to his assistance. After ineffectual efforts to open the safe—a letter-combination one—they find that it is unlocked all the time. The incident, usual in married life, known as "a tiff" occurs. In the midst of some confusion the bell announces the arrival of the company, and the curtain falls.

Mr. Cecil Brooking gives an excellent portrayal of the fussy husband, and Miss Muriel Pope looks and acts charmingly as the easy-going wife, the "tiff" scene being well managed by both.

PROFESSOR SIR FREDERICK BRIDGE, continuing his Gresham College addresses on music at the City of London School on the 26th ult., took for his subject "The Motets of Richard Dering." These works, he said, were composed nearly 300 years ago by a very great Englishman, and yet, so far as he knew, not one of them had ever been performed since that early time—certainly not in any modern form. They had not been published, or accessible, until he brought them forward recently, and he therefore took a little credit to himself for using that splendid old foundation for the restoration and bringing to light of forty masterpieces.

THESE motets of Dering had lain undisturbed in the library of Westminster Abbey for years upon years, and they contained parts of remarkable originality and beauty. Richard Dering was a man highly thought of, and it was said he came to England after studying in Italy, and took the degree of Bachelor of Music at Oxford. As there were no bogus colleges going in those days they might be certain that he did not get his degree by paying £5 for it. Dering died in 1630. One interesting thing about Dering was that no less a person than Oliver Cromwell was very fond of his music, and he used to have some of the choir boys down at Hampton Court to sing some of Dering's compositions to him. These particular motets could not be sung now by any singer, however clever, without an infinite amount of trouble, for there were no bars marked, and how the old musicians used to read from the score was difficult to imagine.

How these books got into the library of Westminster Abbey he did not know, but he thought it was very likely that when Henrietta Maria, the wife of Charles I., and ambassadors came over from France and were entertained at supper and went into the Abbey choir to listen to the splendid anthems that were sung, the works of Dering were taken to the library by the then Dean of Westminster, Dean Williams, who was a great patron of music. The address was warmly applauded, and selections from Dering's works were sympathetically rendered by members of the Westminster Abbey choir.

THE second of three lectures on "The History and Art of Book Illustrations" will be delivered (with lantern slides) in the Crystal Palace School of Art by Mr. H. Windsor Fry on Monday next at 5.15 p.m. The subjects of the lecture will be "Great Foreign Illustrators in France, Germany, Spain, America, and Law Style Methods."

OFFERS are invited by the Bognor Urban District Council of a season band for ten weeks during the coming season. Applications must reach Mr. Henry Layton Staffurth, the Council's Clerk, not later than 12 noon on March 23.

MR. GEORGE HARWOOD, M.P., attended on Sunday a meeting of the Manchester Playgoers' Club at the Midland Hotel, and gave his views on "The Function of the Drama." Mr. Walter Butterworth was in the chair. Mr. Harwood said he wished to maintain that it was the object—he did not say the conscious object—of true drama to teach. The drama had always been didactic, as we saw in the Greek drama. Roman drama was not, and failed because, as in the tragedies of Seneca and the comedies of Plautus and Terence, it did not teach. The Church was the mother of the drama, and in the Miracle Plays and the later Morality Plays the object was to teach. But the teaching must be unconscious; not the teaching of the dramatist's creed, but that of the characters and circumstances as we saw in Shakespeare. The object which was the central idea must be a worthy one. He objected to plays which were interesting, but shallow, and to those which were deep, but dismal. The dramatic art, which was in some sense the *ars artium*, must fulfil the great laws of our being; and one of them was that optimism was of the very essence of all success. Life would be impossible if we were not optimists. Shakespeare was an optimist, and any dramatist who wrought in a pessimistic vein was mistaken.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The leading London theatrical managers have very properly objected to certain statements in a series of articles which has been appearing in *M.A.P.* on the White Slave Traffic, the articles in question containing serious accusations against theatrical managers as a body. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who had no knowledge of, and no responsibility for, the article, at once insisted on an apology being made, declaring that if it were refused he would cease his connection with *M.A.P.*, and the following apology appears in this week's issue of the paper:—

"It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to state that our strictures in last week's issue of the methods employed by certain theatrical managers to fill their houses do not apply to the best theatres any more than to the best agents. We understand that the article which appeared last week has given some pain to a large body of actors and actresses who earn their wages legitimately, and who aspire to as high a moral code as anybody in the community. It must be fully understood that this article did not refer to those theatrical managers who uphold the best traditions of the art, and whose theatres are conducted with every consideration and respect towards those employed." Mr. O'Connor has received a warm letter of thanks from the theatrical managers thanking him for his high-spirited action in the matter.

Sir Herbert Tree having been approached by a number of his fellow managers with a view to making the Annual Shakespeare Festival in London widely representative of the modern stage, it has been arranged that the festival this year shall be given on a more extended scale. A committee consisting of those who have been prominently identified with the production of Shakespeare's works has been formed, and includes the names of Messrs. F. R. Benson, Arthur Bourchier, Martin Harvey, H. B. Irving, Cyril Maude, William Poel, Fred Terry, Herbert Trench, Lewis Waller, Mrs. Kendal, Miss Ellen Terry, and Sir Herbert Tree, the chairman of the committee. Among the plays already arranged are: *Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Twelfth Night, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Julius Cæsar, King Lear, Coriolanus, The Taming of the Shrew, Henry V., and Richard II.* During the final week of the festival a special performance will be given, in which Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear in the last act of *Macbeth*, Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. H. B. Irving in an act of *Othello*, and Mr. Cyril Maude in an act of *The Clandestine Marriage*, Mrs. Kendal will also appear in a one-act play. The festival will open on Easter Monday, March 28 with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

Mr. George Alexander headed the poll at the London County Council election at South St. Pancras on Saturday, securing 2,719 votes—more than double the amount of his opponents. Mr. Alexander, sitting as a Municipal Reformer, did invaluable work during the three years he has served on the Council, acting as Chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee, in which capacity he has opened several additions to London's recreation grounds. As was noticed during his brief address to the British Empire Shakespeare Society at the St. James's on Tuesday last, the eminent actor-manager has developed quite the Parliamentary oratorical style, and drives his arguments home with force and sincerity.

A humorous anecdote is told by Mr. Alexander with some relish. During his rounds he met a Progressive canvasser, who greeted him with "Well, I see your photograph is on all the posters in deep mourning. I suppose it is for the sins of the Municipal Reform party?" Mr. Alexander's retort was that after Saturday he would have the posters taken down and substitute a figure in wedding garments.

Mr. Walter Reynolds also had the distinction of heading the poll, being returned for Hampstead in the Moderate interest with a majority of 2,000 over his opponent. Three years of invaluable work on the late Council stands to the credit of Mr. Reynolds.

The annual general meeting of the George Edwardes' Golfing Society was held on Thursday in the offices of Mr. Hart, 20, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C. There was a good attendance of members, over which Mr. Marsh Allen presided. The secretary's report and the balance-sheet were unanimously passed. Mr. George Edwardes was re-elected captain, Mr. A. J. Evelyn hon. secretary, and Mr. A. Hart hon. treasurer. Messrs. James Blakeley and Dr. J. Williams were appointed to fill vacancies on the committee. The spring meeting was fixed for May 21, at Ashford Manor.

Mr. Martin Harvey this evening concludes the first week of his successful stay in Glasgow at the King's Theatre, where he is being nightly received with much enthusiasm. On Monday week Mr. Harvey reappears in Liverpool at the Court Theatre, where by general desire, he will present a programme of his older successes. The popular actor is subsequently to appear at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, and at the Kennington Theatre, prior to his visit to Dublin, where *Richard III.* is due for production on April 13.

The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Rufus Daniel Isaacs, K.C., to be Solicitor-General, in place of Sir Samuel Thomas Evans, K.C. One of Mr. Isaac's sisters married Mr. Alfred Sutro, the dramatist, and another sister is the wife of our esteemed Paris correspondent, Mr. A. Keyser.

"When Knights Were Bold," under its German title of *In der goldenen Ritterzeit*, will be produced at the New Theatre, Berlin, on Tuesday. The performance is being looked forward to with unusual interest by the local public and critics.

Sir Herbert Tree has been compelled by the extended plans for the London Shakespeare Festival, to be given this year at His Majesty's Theatre, to arrange with Mme. Marie Brema that the production of Glück's *Orpheus*, announced for six matinées at His Majesty's, shall be transferred to another house. Sir Herbert Tree is greatly indebted to Mme. Brema for her ready courtesy in submitting to the considerable inconvenience caused by this change of plan. It has proved absolutely essential owing to the many rehearsals necessitated by the very lengthy repertory of plays to be given during April at the London Shakespeare Festival. The six matinées of *Orpheus* will therefore be given at the Savoy Theatre on the same dates as originally announced, viz., Tuesdays, April 12 and 19; Thursdays, April 14 and 21; Fridays, April 15 and 22.

Mr. Charles Quartermaine, whose marriage with Miss Madge Titheradge was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, on Tuesday, made his reappearance in Mr. Rudolf Besier's brilliant comedy *Don* at the Kingsway Theatre at the matinée on Wednesday afternoon.

Murray King and Clark have secured from Mr. Charles Frohman the provincial and suburban rights of the popular musical comedy, *The Catch of the Season*, which they will tour from Easter. Mr. Murray King will himself appear in the cast, and will be supported by a strong company.

Mr. Forbes Robertson will remain in New York for the rest of the season, and will return to Maxine Elliott's theatre for a short engagement in the autumn. After that he will tour the larger cities of the East and the Middle West, playing five weeks at the Garrick Theatre in Chicago, four weeks at the new Shubert Theatre in Boston, one week in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Louisville, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh; and three nights in Detroit, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Providence, Hartford, New Haven, and Albany. In Canada he will appear for one week at Toronto, one week at Montreal, three nights in Ottawa, and one night in London, Hamilton, and Kingston. In spite of the small size of Maxine Elliott's theatre, Mr. Forbes Robertson has been playing to weekly receipts of more than 10,000 dollars.

The Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Committee has decided to issue invitations to the public and to assist in promoting the movement by enrolling their names as associates. The annual subscription has been fixed at 5s., and a minimum donation of £5 will make the giver a life associate and confer upon him the privilege of free access to the library, gallery, and gardens, and the right to elect representatives to serve with the governors and other ex-officio members of the Festival Committee.

Mr. Lewis Waller has decided to entrust the part of Sir Lucius O'Trigger in his production of *The Rivals* at the Lyric to Mr. Leonard Boyne, who has already proved himself an excellent Captain Jack Absolute. Miss Beatrice Ferrar will play Lucy.

A bronze statue of Peter Pan is to be unveiled in a leafy corner of Kensington Gardens, close to the edge of the Serpentine. Sir George Frampton, R.A., is the sculptor of the statue. Peter, in a clinging shirt, with bare arms and legs, is poised on a gnarled tree stump, playing on a pipe of reeds. Fairies and elves are peeping out in delight from the tangled roots at his feet. The figure will stand nine feet high, on a stone pedestal.

The Mayor of Chelsea presided on Tuesday night at the Town Hall, Chelsea, over a meeting in favour of the erection in London of a Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. Among those present was Miss Ellen Terry. The Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton deplored the fact that nothing had ever been done to commemorate the great dramatist in London. If she were a clergyman she would rather collect funds for a national theatre for drama, which appealed to two or three senses, than for many of the ordinary institutions and societies. The misfortunes of the drama had, to a great extent, been its popularity. It could live by itself, and for that reason had not been supported by the State as other arts had been. If only everyone who went to theatres and had laughed there, or cried there, would say "I owe something to this art, which has given me so much pleasure," they would quickly have the £500,000 that was required. Amongst the subscriptions announced at the meeting was one of £100 from Mr. E. J. Horniman.

Amongst the fashionable audience which was present at the Duke of York's Theatre on Wednesday evening and witnessed Mr. Charles Frohman's production of *The Madras House*, were Lady Lewis, Mrs. Bradley Martin, Prince Francis of Teck, Marchioness of Ripon, Lady Northcliffe, Countess Armin, Lady Bell, Princess Hatzfeldt, Lady Jekyll, Baron von Ernsthausen, Sir F. MacMillan, and Lady Tennant.

Mr. George Edwardes, who has returned from Biarritz in excellent health, has secured, to follow *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's Theatre, *The Count of Luxembourg*, which is still running in Vienna, and he has a promise from the composer—Herr Franz Lehar, who wrote *The Merry Widow*—that he will come to London for the production, whenever it may be. Mr. Edwardes has also got another fine musical piece, *Geschiedene Frau* (*The Divorced Wife*), composed by Dr. Leo Fall, of *Dollar Princess* fame. After *The Count of Luxembourg* he will produce at Daly's a new and tuneful work composed by Maria de Costa, and called *Capitaine Fracasse*. Its plot is founded on the story in Theophile Gautier's novel of that name. *Capitaine Fracasse* has been produced in Italy with great success.

Miss Gertie Millar will appear at the Adelphi Theatre in the autumn in a new musical play, in three acts, by Lionel Monckton and James Tanner. Its scenes are laid in an English country house, a shop in Paris, and in a palace in another capital. Mr. Edwardes intends to greatly improve the Adelphi and to make it the most beautiful playhouse in London.

Mr. Edwardes will find another theatre at which to present the Russian Imperial Opera and Ballet from St. Petersburg and Moscow in short operas and ballets. This engagement will be one of the greatest organisations of dancers in the world. The season will open in June.

It is good news for all lovers of Shakespeare to learn that Mr. Lyn Harding is returning to His Majesty's to support Sir Herbert Tree in the latter's revivals of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Julius Cæsar*.

M. Edmond Rostand's play, *Chantecler*, was much enjoyed by the King, who saw it on Monday night in Paris. After the third act the King sent for M. Henri Hertz, the manager, and warmly congratulated him on the success of the piece.

"Tantalizing Tommy" has caught on at The Playhouse, and is packing Mr. Maude's delightful theatre at every performance. A company of exceptionally good artists will start a tour of this extremely funny comedy in August, under the management of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper.

Mr. William Vokes, who is at present performing so successfully in *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre, is once more turning his attention to instruction in stage dancing. No doubt many of our readers will remember his clever character dances at the Empire some years back. He will be assisted by Miss Alice Vokes, première danseuse for many seasons at the Kratofski Theatre, St. Petersburg, and Palais Crystal, Marseilles.

Patrons of the Crystal Palace Theatre will once more have the opportunity of welcoming that charming old lady *Charley's Aunt*, who will arrive on Monday next, and stay for one week. She will be accompanied by a strong company which will include Mr. Stanley Cooke as Lord Fancourt Babberley, Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart as Sir Francis Chesney, Mr. Roy Byford as Stephen Spettigue, Mr. Sidney Compton as the lugubrious Brasset, Mr. Robert Burnett as Chas. Wykeham, and Mr. Chas. King as Jack Chesney. As Donna Lucia Miss Enid Ross is sure to win admiration, Miss Bertha Wilson will be Ella Delahay, Miss Ruth Henton, Kitty Verdun, and Miss Phyllis Back, Amy Spettigue. Mr. Cecil Barth for Mr. Brandon Thomas (the well-known author of the piece) is responsible for the whole production.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison have arranged with Mr. Chas. Frohman for the entire provincial rights of *Arsène Lupin*. Mr. Hutchison will himself play the title-rôle, but owing to his engagements with *Brewster's Millions* this spring and next autumn, *Arsène Lupin* will not go on tour until next Christmas, an arrangement to which Mr. Frohman has kindly consented. The entire London production, including all the wonderful trick scenery, will be toured.

Miss Pauline Straus, who played Janich in *Brewster's Millions* on Monday last at a few hours' notice, made such a success that Mr. Percy Hutchison has retained her for the part for the remainder of the spring tour. Mr. Hutchison has also engaged Miss Straus to play one of the leading rôles in his autumn tour of *Smith*.

Miss Lilian Braithwaite has been engaged to play the part of the Princess de Chabran in *Dame Nature* at the Garrick Theatre, owing to Miss Nancy Price having to return to Drury Lane.

Mr. Thomas Beecham and Mr. Thomas Quinlan propose to take a tour in the English provinces, and subsequently give seasons of opera in America, Australasia, and South Africa, and Mr. Quinlan is opening a musical bureau in New York for the purpose, and is sending a representative to Australia to make arrangements. It is intended to take the company at present performing at Covent Garden to America, and to produce the most successful of the various grand and light operas included in the repertory of Mr. Beecham's three English seasons.

Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's quite possible play, *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, will be revived at the West Pier, Brighton, next week, where Mr. Arthur Shelton presents Mr. Horace Lingard and Miss Beatrice Moreau in the parts of Bennett, the butler, and Fanny, the actress. A strong company will include the Misses Miriam Holt and Rita Sponti as the two spinsters, Mr. Russell Davis as the young baronet, and Mr. Wilfred Compton in the part of the theatrical manager, George Newte.

During a performance on the 5th inst. at the Opera House at Czernowitz, Austria, Herr Leopold Demuth, principal baritone in the Imperial Opera, Vienna, died suddenly in the artists' room.

The Harrogate Kursal will re-open on March 24. Mr. Julian Clifford has this year arranged for twenty-six symphony concerts, to take place every Wednesday afternoon during the season. Each programme will include a symphony and a solo instrumentalist from London. The orchestra will number forty-five performers, and for such works as the Elgar symphony, the closing scene from the *Götterdammerung*, &c., it will be augmented to sixty performers. Mr. Julian Clifford will personally conduct each performance.

The annual conference of the Actors' Church Union will be held on Monday, May 30, at 2.30 p.m., in the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, which has been kindly lent by Mr. H. B. Irving. The chair will be taken by the Lord Bishop of Southwark. The annual service will take place at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, on Sunday, June 5, at 4 p.m., when the preacher will be the Rev. F. L. Boyd, vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge.

The New Theatre Co., New York—popularly known as the Millionaires' Theatre—has secured from Mr. Trench the American rights in Maeterlinck's exquisite fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, now running so successfully at the Haymarket.

A distinguished guest will be welcomed to Eastbourne on Thursday, when Mr. George Alexander and the entire St. James's Theatre company will pay a flying visit to Murray King and Clark's charming theatre. Practically all the seats were sold out immediately after the announcement was made. On Easter Tuesday afternoon the wonderful Sicilian actors will give a flying matinée for Murray King and Clark at Eastbourne.

"His Real Wife," the new play produced at the Court Theatre, Warrington at Christmas, is meeting with every success on tour. One scene especially, that of the twenty minutes' trial, is creating quite a sensation. It is remarkably well written, finely stage managed, and powerfully acted.

Messrs. Glenville and Osmond have entered upon their seventh year of management with the *Still Alarm*, which opened on Monday last, to a crowded house, at the Lyric, Hammersmith. The first anniversary of *For Wife and Kingdom* at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, was celebrated on the same day, which Messrs. Glenville and Osmond consider their lucky one, for it was on that day that both of their phenomenally successful plays were produced. At Whitsuntide the enterprising partners are producing *Arrah-na-Pogue* for a summer tour, and are also undertaking a six weeks' stock season for Mr. Fred Warden at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, autumn tours of *Still Alarm* and *For Wife and Kingdom* following.

Mr. Alfred Hemming, after four years' globe-trotting, having visited Canada, the United States, California, Mexico, Germany, Bohemia, Austria, and Holland, is home again, and has been assisting his old friend John Tiller in the production of four pantomimes this winter. Mr. Hemming has been secured by Mrs. Mark Kinghorne to reproduce Geo. R. Sims' comedy, *Mother-in-Law*, and to play the part of Pownceby during her forthcoming spring tour. It may be recalled that Mr. Sims wrote the comedy specially for Mr. Hemming, who originally produced it at the little Prince of Wales Theatre, Liverpool.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge, in order to give the artists who have been playing in *The Arcadians* for a year without a break a rest, has decided to close the Shaftesbury Theatre from March 21 to 26, when the run will be resumed. On and after March 26 the part of Eileen Cavanagh will be played by Mr. Courtneidge's daughter, Miss Cicely Courtneidge.

The management of the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, finding the renaming of the building the "Opera House" is impracticable, will revert to the former title.

Miss Lily Elsie and Miss Dorothea Baird will be the guests of the O.P. Club at the Ladies' Annual Dinner to be held at the Hotel Cecil on April 10, and will respond to the toast of "The Ladies," proposed by the President, Mr. A. E. W. Mason. The toast of "The O.P. Club" will be proposed by Mr. H. B. Irving.

The annual Conference of the British Empire Shakespeare Society was held recently at Seaford House (kindly lent by Lord Howard de Waldon), with the President of the Society, Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, in the chair, supported by Lord Howard de Waldon, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Alan Mackinnon (Vice-Presidents), and Miss Morritt and Mr. Acton Bond (Hon. General Directors). The branches were represented by delegates from Warwick, Leamington, Weston-super-Mare, Stratford-on-Avon, Ealing, Norwood, New Cross, Ripon, Dublin, Birmingham, Sheffield, Bristol, and Cheltenham. Mr. A. D. Flower, Chairman of the Shakespeare Memorial, Stratford-on-Avon, was also present. Mr. George Alexander, another of the Society's Vice-Presidents, was unavoidably prevented from attending.

Mr. Charles Frohman has arranged with Mr. Arthur Chudleigh to produce at the Comedy Theatre at Easter the new American burglar play by Mr. Paul Armstrong, called *Alias Jimmy Valentine*. The four acts of the piece take place in America, one of them in Sing Sing Prison, New York. The piece is now in rehearsal for London, and Mr. Gerald du Maurier, who played the leading rôle in *Raffles* and *Arsène Lupin*, will do so in *Alias Jimmy Valentine*. Miss Alexandra Carlisle will be the heroine.

The centenary of the birth of the famous opera singer, Mario, Conte de Candia, falls due this year, though some accounts give the year of his birth as 1812. Mario was once an officer in the Italian Army, but was exiled owing to the political views he held. Subsequently, when he had achieved world-wide fame as an operatic tenor, he became a great patron of art, and tribute to this side of his character will be paid at an exhibition which will be given at the Ryder Gallery, Albemarle-street, W., on the 17th inst.

Among the many things to be shown which once belonged to Mario are a dagger and sword which he wore as Romeo, the ivory brush given him in 1855 by his American admirers, and the ivory and gold cigarette case which Ouida threw on to the stage of Covent Garden Theatre on the last night Mario played at the English home of opera. Other souvenirs of considerable interest which will be on view are the veil worn by Marie Louise of Austria and given by Napoleon III. to Mario; a small MSS. prayer-book of Mme. du Barry, with her signature; and the sceptre carried by the last King of Poland.

Mr. Charles Frohman, who returned to London from Paris on Wednesday, has secured the American rights of *Chantecler*, which he will produce in English in the United States in the autumn. Mr. Frohman has also secured the rights of *The Foolish Virgin*, a four-act play by Henri Bataille, now running at the Gymnase Theatre, and will produce it in London in the autumn; those of Henri Lavedan's *Sire*, so successful at the Comédie Française; those of *The Unknown Dancer*, a comedy which has been running for several months at the Athenée; and those of a new comedy shortly to be produced at the Varieties.

Signor Caruso is receiving many threatening letters from members of the notorious "Black Hand" Society, who are furious with him for having ignored their demand for $15,000, and for having placed the matter in the hands of the police. Although the letters declare that no amount of police protection will avail to save him from assassination, the singer says he is being so efficiently guarded by the police that he does not feel in the least frightened by the "Black Hand" threats, and will continue to fulfil his operatic engagements.

Mrs. Kendal writes to correct the statement that she is to appear in a one-act play. Mrs. Kendal says she has retired from the stage. She may sometimes recite or read for any good cause, but that is all.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and suite went to the Globe Theatre on Wednesday evening to see *The Tenth Man*.

On Tuesday last, before a full bench of magistrates, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes was granted a music and dancing licence for the Grand Theatre, Derby. This licence is in addition to the existing full dramatic and excise licences, and carries out a suggestion made by us in a recent article. The double licence will be a great boon to Mr. Edwardes, as it will give him more scope to cater for the amusement of the Derby public by enabling him to vary his entertainments to suit the popular taste.

Miss Ellaline Terriss, happily restored to vigorous health by her sojourn abroad, will return to London in about a fortnight. The popular comedienne will then engage in rehearsals of *The Man from Cook's*, the new sketch by Mr. Seymour Hicks, with whom she will fulfil a five weeks' engagement at the Coliseum.

Lesser Columbus's sensational play, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, after a long tour of the provinces, makes its reappearance in London, after exactly one year's interval, on Easter Monday at the Pavilion Theatre, where it was originally produced. Mr. Will Taylor has been engaged as business-manager. The cast is a powerful one, and includes Mr. Henry Doughty, Mr. John Sargent, Mr. Will Harman, Mr. Eardley-Howard, Miss Dora Hammersley, Miss Florence Castelle, and Miss Constance Coopman. A new set of scenery and properties has been prepared.

At the conclusion of the Court Theatre season of *The Merchant of Venice*, Mr. Arthur Phillips is making a short tour of leading provincial cities with the complete production. The bookings include Manchester, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Negotiations are pending for a return visit to London and the production of a new play.

Mr. Alfred B. Croll, who was so popular as assistant manager at the King's, Glasgow, received a hearty welcome from his many friends on his return to that city this week as treasurer of Sir Herbert Tree's company in *Pinkie and the Fairies*, which is proving a big draw on tour.

From Monday next *The Best People*, on tour under the direction of Mr. Frank Weathersby, will be preceded by a new curtain-raiser, *The Teeth of Necessity*. The piece, described as "a dialogue with interruptions," is by Mr. Arthur Eckersley, author of *A Boy's Proposal*. The scene is laid in a dentist's waiting-room.

The Carl Rosa Opera Company will shortly perform at Manchester, for the first time in England, Carl Goldmark's opera *The Queen of Sheba*. The cast will include Mr. Charles Victor, Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. Walter Wheatley, Mr. Hebden Foster, Miss Ina Hill, Miss Annie Van Dyck, and Miss Doris Woodall. The opera will be produced under the joint direction of Messrs. Eugene Goossens and George Beale.

Mr. Alexander Henderson will produce *The Islander*, a new musical comedy by Major Frank Marshall and Mr. Michael Faraday, at the Apollo Theatre on or about April 21. Artists already engaged are Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Elaine Inescort, Miss Mabel Burnege, Miss Ethel Morrison, Mr. Fred Allandale, Mr. Reginald Lawrence, Mr. Lawrence Legge, Master Bobbie Andrews, and Mr. Neil Kenyon.

The rector of All Hallows, London Wall, continuing on Wednesday his course of Lenten luncheon-hour lectures on the "Morality of Social Pleasures," said he would encourage young people to take part in amateur theatricals and pageants. Drama sprang from the universal love of imitation. It had always semed strange to him that those who cried "Anathema!" on acting took part in pageants. In all ages and amongst all races rhythm and measured movement had been the outward manifestation of inward feeling. "David danced before the Lord with all his might." Whilst dancing had never been admitted among the ties of Christianity, it had always been popular with Christians. A ballet might have well-designed dances, and be very beautiful to watch. For the majority, acting and dancing were more desirable than the practice of loafing and gossiping indulged in by the critics of those innocent amusements.

Encouraged by the success of his stock season at Kennington Theatre last summer, when 60,000 people witnessed the revival of various melodramas in the course of six weeks, Mr. Robert Arthur has made arrangements with Mr. G. R. Sims and the executors of Mr. H Pettitt and Mr. Robert Buchanan, for the presentation of the more popular of their productions at Kennington during a short season, which will commence shortly after Whit-week, or in Whit-week itself. The plays which will be revived include *A Woman's Revenge, Harbour Lights, The Lights of Home, The English Rose, Hands Across the Sea, The White Rose*, and *In the Ranks*. Mr. R. Arthur has made preparations to present these various pieces in a manner worthy of the original productions. He proposes to run some of the dramas for a fortnight, as, owing to the popularity of several pieces during last year's run, he had to repeat them. Mr. Robert Arthur is leaving the practical arrangements of the season in the hands of Mr. H. B. Brandreth, the manager at Kennington, who may be relied on to ensure that the success of last year will be repeated. Mr. Brandreth's efforts, it may be mentioned, are likely to be emulated by other suburban managers this summer, as steps are being taken at several theatres to run stock seasons. Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. Bernhardt announce a high-class concert at Kennington Theatre for the afternoon of Good Friday. Several well-known artists have been engagod to appear.

Miss Celia Gordon, this week playing Mrs. Ponderbury in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* at the New Theatre, Cardiff, has been engaged for Mrs. Sinclair in *Don*, thus entering upon her fifth engagement with the Hutchison management.

The new play *For Old Time's Sake*, by Watson Mill, will be presented for the first time at the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, on Monday, March 21. The piece will be in the hands of a strong and talented company.

Mr. Percy Hutchison's appearance as Monty Brewster in the supreme success *Brewster's Millions* with his Wyndham's Theatre company at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, this week has met with a most gratifying reception, business being exceptionally good every evening. Mr. Hutchison's performance has aroused enormous enthusiasm, and the great yacht scene has created quite a sensation, curtain after curtain being taken nightly.

Miss Florrie Groves well known in London and the provinces, both in theatre and music hall, for her remarkably clever performance as Judy when Miss Mary Neil and Mr. George Kirk toured the play of that name, is now playing Charlotte Siddons with Mr. Seymour Hicks' production of *The Gay Gordons*, the present tour of which terminates at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. The spring tour starts at Blackpool Easter week, when Miss Groves will again appear as the showman's wife.

Mr. Robert Ganthony will shortly publish a new series of monologues, which he will give on tour with his sister, Miss Nellie Ganthony. One, entitled *Garge*, will be produced on the halls as a dramatic incident.

Mr. Norman V. Norman gave some special performances of *David Garrick* last week at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. The audiences were most enthusiastic, Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson, who played Ada Ingot, being repeatedly called before the curtain.

Miss Marie Studholme, alias *Miss Hook of Holland*, is putting up for one week commencing March 14 at Mr. Robert Arthur's theatre at Kennington. Matinées at this theatre, it should be added, now take place at 2 instead of 2.30.

The Pier Theatre, Eastbourne, will in future be booked by Mr. Milton Bode, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at the County Theatre, Reading. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

A copyright performance was given on Thursday at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, W., of a musical play, entitled *A Skylark*, the book by William Harris and the music by Frank G. Dossert.

The grand opera season at Covent Garden will begin on April 23, and will continue until July 30. On the opening night Mme. Tetrazzini will appear in one of her favourite parts. The only new opera to be produced is Luparra's *Habanera*, which Mlle. Demellier—a newcomer—who created the part of Pilar, the heroine, will appear. Two cycles of the *Ring* and two performances of *Tristan and Isolde*—all without cuts—have been arranged, under Dr. Richter's direction. Among other revivals will be Delibè's *Lakmé*, Donizetti's *Linda di Chamounix*, Debussy's *Pelleas and Melisande*, *Otello*, *Aïda*, and *Pagliacci*.

The tour of the second company of *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, has proved so successful that Miss Florence Baines, in consequence of numerous applications for dates, has decided to run it right through the summer.

The Sicilian players will produce on Wednesday at the Lyric a drama called *Juan José*, and on Friday a farce named *Cavalier Padagna*.

A trade union of Dramatic and Lyric Theatre Artists was formed in Paris a few weeks ago, and the amalgamation is now agitating for a minimum wage of £8 a month. The secretary of the new Union declares that even £8 a month could not be counted upon all the year round. Allowance being made for the off-season, it would work out at about 4s. a day throughout the year. Demands are also made for the suppression of fines, which are "both humiliating to our self-respect and a cruel drain on our slim purses."

In the event of no satisfaction being obtained, the society asserts that it will not hesitate to go on strike, adding that, should they do so, they would be backed by the Union of Lyric Artists, the Union of Chorists, and the Federation of Musician-Artists of France, which includes thirty-six branch unions all over the country; the Union of Stage Hands and Carpenters, the Union of Choreographic Artists, the Union of Small Employees of Theatres and Music Halls, and the Union of Theatre Electricians. While admitting that the granting of their claims would increase managerial expenses, the Union suggests that they should be recouped out of the authors' rights and the poor law tax on theatres. Authors and paupers, it is quaintly added, alike could afford to give up a little to ensure a minimum of £8 a month.

The decision with regard to the play for which a prize of £300 was offered by one of the governors of the Memorial Theatre, at Stratford-on-Avon, has been arrived at, the successful competitor being Mrs. Lionel Marks, of Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., who writes under the nom de plume of Josephine Preston Peabody. Three hundred and fifteen plays were submitted, out of which the Reading Committee selected two, which were submitted to the Duke of Argyll. The successful work is entitled *The Piper*, and deals in an entirely new manner with the old legend of "The Pied Piper of Hamelin." The play will be produced on the evening of May 5 by Mr. Benson and his company during the forthcoming Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-on-Avon.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. George Grossmith's Difficulty.

SEVERAL artists have been giving their experiences of acting under difficulties to the *East African Standard*. "The greatest difficulty under which I ever played," says Mr George Grossmith, jun., "was when I was touring in America with Mrs. Langtry's company several years ago. We arrived at a small town just over the Canadian border, where we decided unexpectedly to give a performance. The town did not boast of a theatre, so we had to play in the Town Hall on a small and imperfectly-constructed stage. Below the stage were a couple of small cellars, and these were monopolised by the ladies of the company for dressing-rooms. The male portion of the company had to be content with a little outhouse large enough to hold one man comfortably, so that when six of us were in it became a matter of difficulty to move; and the worst of it was that we were all in a hurry.

"Then we discovered that we had no looking-glass. To 'make-up' without the aid of a mirror is a physical impossibility, so someone went to look for one, and returned with a small bit of a broken mirror, before which we all tried to 'make-up' at the same time. Somehow or other we managed to do so, and the play went off capitally, though I felt every moment I was on the stage that some of my garments were coming off, a most uncomfortable sensation, which I have no wish to experience again."

Miss Evie Greene's Experience.

"WHEN I was quite a little girl," said Miss Evie Greene, "I played on a stage which was constructed in the simplest manner possible by placing some dozen planks on about half that number of beer barrels. I was warned by the manager to be careful, and not to advance further down the stage than about the middle of it. However, in the excitement of singing my song, I advanced further than was safe, a fact I was reminded of by seeing the stage in front of me collapse suddenly, and I beat a hasty retreat, amidst the cheers of the audience.

"Our manager, however, was quite equal to the occasion; he had the stage hastily reconstructed, several of the audience assisting in the work, and then, amid renewed cheering, I came on and finished my song. We had a chorus of eight, but the stage was not considered of a sufficiently durable character to permit of their coming on, so the chorus was chanted from behind the scenes. I was quite a little girl at the time, only about twelve."

Miss Jeffreys' Ankle.

"THE most difficult or, rather, painful circumstance in which I have played," said Miss Ellis Jeffreys, "was during my first tour in America with Mr. John Hare's company. I was at Washington and was engaged to appear a little while later in Philadelphia in the *Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith*. A few days before I left Washington I had the misfortune to slip in the street and to break my ankle. Foolishly ignoring medical advice, I determined to keep my engagement, instead of resting until my ankle was quite strong. By the time I got on the stage my ankle had swollen very considerably, and then I began to suffer agonies which make me feel even now quite creepy to recall. After playing for about ten minutes I had to get a couple of sticks which I used as crutches during the whole performance, through which I managed to hobble in the most dire pain. As a result I was afterwards laid up for three months.

On Short Notice.

"THE greatest difficulty, however, which I had ever to encounter in playing a part was on an occasion when I was offered a rôle in *The Mountebanks* (then running at the Lyric) at 12 o'clock on Saturday morning and played it at the matinée the same day a couple of hours later. The part I allude to was that which had been played by Miss Lucile Saunders. She was taken ill suddenly on Saturday morning, and a message was sent over from the Lyric to the Criterion Theatre, where I was rehearsing for a new production at the time, to ask me if I would take Miss Saunders' part that afternoon. At first I thought the manager of the Lyric had gone mad, but the message was couched in too businesslike and sane language to admit long of this idea, and so, after I had obtained Sir Charles Wyndham's consent, I rushed off to the Lyric. It was then about half-past twelve; the matinée began at two, so that I had but a little over an hour to study a part which I had never seen before. A rehearsal was of course quite out of the question. I learnt my lines as I dressed and sang them over as I 'made up.'

"By two o'clock I had learnt enough to get me through part of the first act; during the rest of the piece I had to learn my lines in the wings whenever I was off the stage for a few minutes, and so I managed to get through the part without breaking down or having to look at the prompt book whilst I was on the stage."

A Painful Experience.

"WHEN I was touring in the North some little time ago," says Mr. Seymour Hicks, "as I got out of my cab at the stage door I somehow managed to slip and hurt my ankle. I did not think much of the incident at the moment, but when I was singing a song at the end of the piece, I suddenly felt a most agonising sensation in my ankle as if someone had placed a red-hot iron on it. I managed, however, to finish the song without breaking down, but the perspiration was running off my face with the agony I was suffering when I came off the stage. I had injured a tendon in my ankle, and though it was really not serious, I was laid up for a couple of days."

A Trick of Memory.

IN the March instalment of the late Mme. Modjeska's Memoirs, in the *Century Magazine*, Modjeska mentions an opportune dream. She says:—"Early in October we went to Cracow. When we arrived in town I learned that I was announced for the next evening in the part of *Adrienne*. This was an unwelcome surprise, because, not having played the part in Polish since the spring of 1876, I was not sure of my lines. My husband asked me if I remembered my part. 'Not at all,' I replied, quite distressed. And, indeed, when I tried to recollect the Polish words, only the English text came to my mind. I sent to the stage-manager for the manuscript, but it was too late; the theatre was closed. There was nothing left but to plan a way of getting out of the performance. But how? To change the bill would be regarded as a slighting of the occasion. It would surely place me in an unfavourable light, for no one would believe I ever could forget a part I had played so often. The only remedy left was to make a mental translation of the English words and depend upon chance. This was against my principles. I went to bed with my mind full of disastrous forebodings; the fatigue, however, soon closed my eyes, and I slept soundly. When I woke in the morning, the first thing that came to my mind were the Polish lines of my part. In my great joy, I called my husband, and began to recite it aloud to him. 'How did you do it?' he asked. 'I do not know; I must have read it in my sleep, for I dreamed I saw the manuscript on my dressing-table.' At the rehearsal I never stopped for a word; I knew my part to the smallest detail."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews, Produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Saturday, March 5.

Stephen Blanchard ..... MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Captain Jim Blanchard .. MR. ROBERT MINSTER
Captain Philip Rivers ..... MR. ERIC MAYNE
General Sir Christopher Blanchard ..... MR. ARTHUR ROYSTON
Dr. John Vorland ..... MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
Colonel Paget ..... MR. GEO. P. POLSON
Captain Fraser ..... MR. CECIL KINNAIRD
Lieutenant Chisholm .... MR. CECIL SAUNDERS
Lieutenant Brabazon ..... MR. HASTINGS LYNN
Lieutenant Neyland .... MR. VIVIAN GILBERT
Larry O'Brien ..... MR. HUBERT WILLIS
Maharajah of Daulatpore .. MR. A. V. BRAMBLE
Isza Mahomet Khan ..... MR. PERCY RHODES
Yasseen Khan ..... MR. FRANK GEORGE
Ali Khan ..... MR. SIDNEY VAUTIER
Yussif Beg ..... MR. EDWARD POLLARD
Hospital Orderly ..... MR. WILTON JAMES
Sergeant ..... MR. FRANK STONE
Joan Fielding ..... MISS PHYLLIS RELPH
Mrs. Effie Mackintosh .. MISS BLANCHE STANLEY
Mrs. Vanstart ..... MISS MARY FORBES
Marjorie Vorland ..... MISS MARJORIE CHARD
Ethel Hardy ..... MISS RUTH MAITLAND

The Fighting Chance, up to the end of the second act, is a model of construction, and in its entirety the piece is an example of popular melodrama. The authors, however, have not obeyed the rule of melodrama—and, indeed, of all drama—to contrive to keep the hero, heroine, and villain before the audience up to the end of the play. The hero of *The Fighting Chance* almost disappears in the third act; and the villain, who is usually allowed to live and develop his wicked schemes until about a quarter to eleven is prematurely cut off in so pitiful a plight that a reaction almost takes place in his favour in the hearts of the audience. The play, however, is full of dramatic movement, and its merits decidedly outweigh its defects. We start with the always effective motive of jealousy to urge the villain on his path of crime. Captain Philip Rivers is in love with Ethel Hardy; but she prefers his cousin, Jim Blanchard, whom Rivers at once resolves to ruin. He has already played false with Joan Fielding, the *fiancée* of Stephen Blanchard, the brother of the General of the regiment. The girl was placed in Rivers's care by her sweetheart when he went abroad; and he seduced her. Rivers manages to put upon Jim a false charge of cheating at cards, and the young man is forced to send in his papers just as the regiment is ordered on active service. However, he determines to enlist and trust to time to clear his character. He departs, and Rivers persuades Stephen that Jim is Joan's seducer.

In the third act we are on the Indian frontier with an English regiment in a fort, surrounded by natives whom Rivers's cruelty has raised to the point of rebellion. Rivers insists on the execution of a prominent Tongiri on very uncertain proofs of guilt; but the fellow escapes, and news comes that Joan and Ethel, who have become military nurses, have been captured by the natives, and will be tortured unless Rivers is handed over to them to be dealt with instead. Stephen, who has also been captured, and has been cruelly tortured, is sent to the fort with this ultimatum. Rivers, however, cannot face the prospect, and shoots himself, after confessing his villainies.

But Jim Blanchard, in order to gain time, dresses up as Rivers, and is brought by an escort with a flag of truce to the Tongiris in the Shundar Pass. Anxiety is strained to the utmost, till at last the British troops arrive to the rescue. There is a spirited combat, and much firing; but in the end the Tongiris are vanquished, and General Blanchard clasps his son's hand with pride.

The acting of the piece had none of those imperfections of style which are sometimes noticeable in the coarser sorts of melodramatic production. Jim Blanchard, a hero of the good old Terriss type, was depicted in glowing colours by Mr. Robert Minster. It was a pity that the authors' scheme involved Jim's almost dropping out of the action in the later section of the play, for Mr. Minster had taken a firm hold on the sympathy of the audience by his earnest, spirited, and elevated acting, and they would have been glad to have seen more of him throughout. Mr. Minster was especially good in the scene in which the false accusation of cheating is made, and Jim's decision to enlist, announced with passionate fervour by the actor, brought down the house at the end of the second act. Seldom have authors been more successful in creating an intense feeling of hatred and contempt for their villain as was the case with the character of Captain Philip Rivers. The audience expressed its detestation very decidedly, and their groans and hisses were eloquent testimony to the effectiveness of the piece. The part was played by Mr. Eric Mayne, a Lyceum actor who is a specialist in villainy. Mr. Mayne has the art of rendering a bad man hateful in the extreme without being unnatural or melodramatic, and his incisive distinctness and sharp, clear enunciation redouble the effect of his impersonations. He excelled himself as Captain Philip Rivers, and for the sake of sport and interest his suicide in the third act was regrettable. A part which begins on the note of modern comedy, or, at any rate, of domestic drama, and develops into ghastly tragedy, is not easy to sustain; and Mr. Frederick Ross showed his strength and capacity by grappling successfully with the rôle of Stephen Blanchard. In the earlier part of the play he was solid, strong, and genial; and as the tortured prisoner, made almost unrecognisable by his sufferings, Mr. Ross gave a most awesome and energetic impersonation. As the grey-haired old General, who suffers so much when he believes his son to be a coward, Mr. Arthur Royston bore himself nobly, and his rendering of the General's stern reproof of Jim in the second act was very finely done. Mr. Halliwell Hobbes as the humane and enlightened surgeon, Dr. John Vorland, played the part with rare firmness and discretion; and Mr. Hubert Willis made the most of his few, but excellent, opportunities as Larry O'Brien. A performance, which was full of tender truth and affectionate earnestness was Miss Marjorie Chard's Marjorie Vorland; and Miss Phyllis Relph gave a picturesque and powerful representation of Joan Fielding, making the erring girl deeply interesting and sympathetic. Clever comedy was contributed by Miss Blanche Stanley—who has made herself a great favourite with Lyceum audiences—as Mrs. Effie Mackintosh; and some amusing scenes were lightly and brightly rendered by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Vivian Gilbert as two lively young Lieutenants. The old Colonel of the regiment had a sturdy representative in Mr. Geo. P. Polson; and other officers were depicted in soldierly style by Mr. Cecil Kinnaird and Mr. Cecil Saunders. Mr. A. V. Bramble played carefully and well as the Maharajah of Daulatpore; and true Oriental dignity and deliberation distinguished the Ali Khan of Mr. Percy Rhodes and the Yasseen Khan of Mr. Frank George. Mr. Sidney Vautier and Mr. Edward Pollard were excellent as the Headmen; Mr. Wilton James was good as a Hospital Orderly; and Mr. Frank Stone was efficient as a Sergeant; Miss Mary Forbes being smart and graceful as Mrs. Vanstart. Miss Ruth Maitland, who was charming as Ethel Hardy, acted with deep feeling and sweet sincerity. The uniforms and dresses were first rate, and the scenery, painted by E. C. Nicholls, was capital, especially the mountain pass set of the last act, with its clever dawn effect. *The Fighting Chance* was received with wild enthusiasm by an excited house.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

On Wednesday, March 9, for the First Time, a Comedy, in Four Acts, by Granville Barker, entitled

"THE MADRAS HOUSE."

Henry Huxtable ..... MR. E. W. GARDEN
Catherine Huxtable .... MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Laura Huxtable ..... MISS ADA MARIUS
Minnie Huxtable ..... MISS ELIZABETH CHESNEY
Clara Huxtable ..... MISS JOY CHATWYN
Julia Huxtable ..... MISS VICTORIA ADDISON
Emma Huxtable ..... MISS SYBIL THORNDIKE
Jane Huxtable ..... MISS NELL CARTER
Major Hippisley Thomas .. MR. CHARLES BRYANT
Philip Madras ..... MR. DENNIS EADIE
Jessica Madras ..... MISS FAY DAVIS
Constantine Madras .... MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Amelia Madras ..... MISS MAY WHITTY
Eustace Perrin State .... MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Marion Yates ..... MISS MARY JERROLD
Mr. Brigstock ..... MR. LEWIS CASSON
Mrs. Brigstock ..... MISS MARY BARTON
Miss Chancellor ..... MISS GERALDINE OLLIFFE
Mr. Windlesham ..... MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Mr. Belhaven ..... MR. DONALD CALTHROP
Three Mannequins ..... MISS ASTA FLEMING, MISS MAIR VAUGHAN, MISS MARY BRENDA
A Maid ..... MISS MILLIE EMDEN
A Maid ..... MISS EVANGELINE HILLIARD

One of the most successful of Mr. Charles Frohman's presentments at the Duke of York's Theatre is certainly *The Madras House*, which was received by a delighted audience on Wednesday last with almost uproarious delight. According to the most up-to-date fashion in plays, it is somewhat straggling in construction, and consists chiefly of discussions; but the conversations are so humorous, the situations are so odd, and the characters so cleverly sketched, that no one could wish the piece other than it is. *The Madras House* is a satire on modern feminism and an essay in favour of polygamy. We are first shown the consequences of monogamy in actual life. Mr. Huxtable, an old-fashioned tradesman, partner in the great firm of Roberts and Huxtable, milliners and dressmakers, is seen in his home at Denmark Hill, with his garrulous elderly wife and six unmarried daughters. The first act is devoted to depicting the dullness of the family and the soured resignation of the girls. An enthusiastic American, Eustace Perrin State, has made an offer for the business called "The Madras House"; and Mr. Huxtable is considering whether he ought to attend a meeting for negotiations, at which he is certain to meet his brother, Constantine Madras, with whom he has for long not been on speaking terms. Constantine is a philosopher, and he has turned Mohammedan, separated from his wife Amelia, and started a harem on the Euphrates. Old Huxtable is also worried about another matter. One of the employees at the Madras House, Marion Yates, is *enceinte*. The matron of the establishment, Miss Chancellor, has seen a salesman, Mr. Brigstock, kissing Miss Yates, and when that lady's condition is discovered, suspicion falls on Brigstock, who, by the way, is entirely innocent.

All this prepares us for a most amusing second act, in which Philip Madras, one of the partners, holds a formal enquiry into the Marion Yates affair. The scene is very diverting, with the unbending respectability of Miss Chancellor, the hysterical violence of Mrs. Brigstock, who demands a public apology for the slur on her husband's character, and the bright originality of Miss Yates, who is unashamed and impenitent, and resolved not to disclose the name of her companion. In the end matters are smoothed over after some very droll altercation.

In the third act a meeting is held to negotiate the sale of the Madras House to State. It becomes a kind of symposium. State is an exuberant and eccentric personage, a poetical man of business, who pours forth conventional sentiment by the yard, but his scheme of a new establishment in a great provincial town, at which the ladies are all served by handsome young athletes, and the men by well-mannered and attractive girls, is, he says, a great success. After State has had his say—and, though verbose, he is always amusing—and the pretty mannequins have displayed the latest fashions, some of which have been invented by notorious foreign *cocottes*, Constantine Madras holds forth against the feminisation of modern society, and praises highly the Mahommedan system. He points out to Huxtable how much better for him it would be if he could get one man to take all his daughters off his hands; and says that the whole system of modern female adornment is one of sexual allurement and irritation. Eventually the talk ends, and the sale of the business is concluded. In the last act Philip Madras, whose friend Major Hippisley Thomas, a married man with a family, has asked Philip, as a favour, not to invite him to his—Philip's—house so much, as he—Thomas—feels certain that he will end by making love to Mrs. Madras, tells his wife what Thomas has said. She is at first very angry; but she admits that, when she has been bored at times she has flirted with the Major, and the act ends with a serious conversation between her and Philip, in which he says that social reform and not self-indulgence should be the object of all humane and educated people. The act ends with a better understanding between the couple.

The finish and delicacy of the acting were extraordinary. Carried right through the piece with admirable humour and energy was the excellent performance of the part of Henry Huxtable by Mr. E. W. Garden, in which that fine comedian's ripe talent was conspicuously displayed. Miss Florence Haydon, as the placid, gently-babbling Mrs. Huxtable, gave a performance which could not have been improved upon; and Miss Ada Marius, Miss Elizabeth Chesney, Miss Joy Chatwyn, Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Sybil Thorndike, and Miss Nell Carter, without opportunities of individual distinction, supplied careful and satisfactory performances of the parts of the daughters. Mr. Charles Bryant's Major Hippisley Thomas was a highly artistic impersonation, the characteristics of the type being cleverly shown, and the personage being admirably individualised; and Mr. Dennis Eadie was unimpeachably cool, correct, and clear as Philip Madras. A typical modern woman in easy circumstances, luxurious by education and habit, and without serious occupation, was cleverly embodied by Miss Fay Davis, whose musical voice and wistful, impulsive style gave a touch of delicate sympathy to the character. Made up as a handsome, bearded Oriental-Englishman, Mr. Sydney Valentine lent to his reading of the part of Constantine Madras a calm dignity and assured affability which were very effective and engaging; his fine voice and the grand ease of his style made the creation a memorable one. Miss May Whitty was very natural and *naïve* as the unhappy Amelia Madras; and a really delightful embodiment of the romantic American speculator was supplied by Mr. Arthur Whitby, whose melodious delivery and picturesque and graceful manner made his performance intensely enjoyable. A quite original and alert interpretation of the character of Marion Yates was contributed by Miss Mary Jerrold, whose light, yet decided touch was very acceptable; Mr. Lewis Casson, cleverly made-up, gave a graphic depiction of the unlucky Brigstock; and the excitable Mrs. Brigstock was expressively enacted by Miss Mary Barton; Miss Geraldine Olliffe being a very important and eloquent Miss Chancellor. A dainty and truly comical little character sketch of the jaunty Mr. Windlesham was given by Mr. Charles Maude; and Mr. Donald Calthrop was decidedly good as Mr. Belhaven. Miss Asta Fleming, Miss Mair Vaughan, and Miss Mary Brenda made beautiful mannequins; and Miss Millie Emden and Miss Evangeline Hilliard were efficient in servants' parts. The scenery, designed by Keith Henderson and Norman Wilkinson, and painted by W. Hann, was pretty and effective; and the piece was very nicely dressed. *The Madras House* is a delicious bit of quaint humour and fantastic invention, with an underlying vein of serious purpose, and Mr. Frohman deserves the gratitude of all playgoers for producing it.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA BEFFA,"

Drama, in Four Acts, by M. Benelli, French Adaptation by M. Jean Richepin, Produced at the Sarah-Bernhardt on March 2.

Gianetto Malespini .... MME. SARAH BERNHARDT
Ginevra ..... MLLE. DERVAL
Cintia ..... MLLE. SEYLOR
Laidomine ..... MLLE. PASCAL
Lisabetta ..... MLLE. MISLEY
Néri Chiaramantesi ..... M. DECOEUR
Gabriel ..... M. LAURENT
Fazio ..... M. WORMS
Calandra ..... M. CAUROT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, March 9.—The above play had, we are told, a triumphant run in Italy. The success here will, I am afraid, be less marked. This kind of work thrives well on Italian soil, but cannot be transplanted here. Looking at the title, we all—that is to say, those who did not know Italian—thought that *La Beffa* was the name of the heroine—something like *La Tosca* or *Fédora*. After curtain rise we found out our mistake. In Italian a "beffa" is a practical joke; but the joke perpetrated upon Gianetto is so brutal and inhuman that we can hardly believe they did these things even at the court of the Medici in Florence. The story is as follows. Gianetto has a mistress, the beautiful courtesan Ginevra. Néri is his rival, and the latter plays the following "practical joke" on Gianetto. With the help of his brother Gabriel he seizes Gianetto, ties him up in a sack, and, having immersed him three times in the Arno, pricks him all over the body with a dagger. Gianetto pretends to laugh at this "joke," but he prepares his revenge. He defies Néri to go to a certain tavern dressed like a knight-errant, with armour, shield, &c. Néri accepts the bet; but Gianetto has informed the authorities that Néri is out of his mind, and the moment he arrives at the tavern in his grotesque disguise he is seized and thrown into a madhouse. This is Gianetto's "joke," and he and his mistress are convulsed with laughter over it. With the assistance of a girl called Lisabetta Néri escapes, and his "joke" will be to stab Gianetto. But the fun goes farther than he expected, for, instead of striking his rival, he kills his own brother Gabriel. The gruesome play was very well acted by Mme. Sarah Bernhardt and an efficient cast.

"REVE DE VALSE."

Operette, in Three Acts, Music by M. Oscar Strauss, French Adaptation by Xanrof and Chancel, Produced at the Théâtre Apollo on March 3.

Franzi ..... MLLE. ALICE BONHEUR
Princesse Hélène ..... MLLE. MILET
Frédérique ..... MLLE. DHERVILLY
Mme. de Lintzbach ..... MLLE. VALETTE
Maurice ..... M. DEFREYN
Prince Lothar ..... M. ARDOT
De Moussy ..... M. CASELLA
Joachim XIII. ..... M. FABRE
Sigismond ..... M. SERVAIS

M. Strauss had his work produced both in Vienna and in London, and it would have been better if the translators had adhered to the original version; but, in their anxiety to impart to it a "Parisian" cachet, they used the pepper-box a little too freely, with the result that young ladies will not care to take their grandmothers to see the piece. Maurice, a young French lieutenant, has, at a ball at the French Embassy in Vienna, kissed the Princess Hélène, whom he mistook for another lady. As he has compromised Hélène he has been compelled to marry her. He feels very miserable, for he yearns for his beloved Paris, and he is now riveted to Hélène. Fortunately for him Prince Lothar, who is in love with Hélène, shows him the way out of the difficulty by telling him that according to Austrian law his divorce will be pronounced *ex officio* unless his wife has a child by him before the year has elapsed. Maurice thereupon decides not to become a father, and on his wedding night he makes his escape through the window, and, with his friend de Moussy, goes to a public garden where a celebrated ladies' orchestra is playing. His escapade has, of course, created a commotion at the palace. His father-in-law and Lothar follow him to the garden and search for him everywhere, not knowing that at that moment he is making love to Franzi, the fascinating leader of the ladies' orchestra. Hélène, the deserted wife, and her lady-in-waiting also come upon the scene, and when a valse is struck up Maurice is compelled to dance with his wife. He returns to the palace, yet with the firm intention of not giving an heir to the family. But Franzi, a good-natured girl, comes to the rescue, Maurice clasps his wife in his arms, and Joachim XIII. rubs his hands with joy, for he is now certain that he will be grandfather within the year.

"LEONE,"

Opéra-Comique, in Four Acts, by Montorgeuil, Music by Samuel Rousseau, Produced at the Opéra-Comique on March 8.

Diana ..... MLLE. RAVEAU
Milia ..... MLLE. VAUCHELET
Catarina ..... MLLE. LASSALLE
Leone ..... M. SENS
Negroni ..... M. ALLARD
Pieri ..... M. VAURA
Massimo ..... M. CAZENEUVE
Le Moine ..... M. PAYAN

It is the story of a Corsican vendetta. Negroni, a sergeant, has been ordered to seize Leone, a bandit. But Leone is saved by Milia, Negrone's daughter, who promises to become his wife. Diana, Leone's sister-in-law, is mad with rage when she hears of Milia's engagement. Her husband has been killed by Negrone, and she reckoned on Leone to avenge him. She therefore invents a story, and tells Milia that she (Diana) is Leone's mistress, whereupon Milia, out of revenge, becomes the fiancée of Pieri, Massimo's son. When Leone returns from the mountains Diana confesses having told a lie. Milia throws herself into Leone's arms, but Negrone finds them together, and he arrests Leone. Milia is dying, and her father, to oblige her, brings his prisoner to her. Milia dies. Negrone gives Leone a chance of escaping, but Leone refuses. Having lost Milia, life has no charm for him. To this sombre libretto the late M. Rousseau has written some appropriate music. There are several fine love duets, and the end of the third act is most dramatic. The work was very well interpreted, and the staging was worthy of the traditions of the Opéra-Comique.

THE winner of the first tenor scholarship at the opening of the Royal College of Music, Mr. Thos. W. Page is a candidate for admission to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath. Mr. Page, who is now forty-six years of age, is quite unable to follow his professional work owing to a spinal affliction. Benevolent music lovers are invited to help his candidature by communicating with the secretary of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at the city offices, 4, St. Paul's Churchyard. A donation of one guinea will entitle the donor to four votes for the May election.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, March 10.—Under the absurdly uncouth title *Hilfe! Ein Kind ist vom Himmel gefallen!* a tragi-comedy in three acts, by Wilhelm Schmidtbonn, was produced last week at the Deutsches Chamber Plays. Were the author not one of our most esteemed playwrights, the reception would have doubtless been less favourable than it was. The average theatregoer was disappointed that the writer of the clever play *Der Graf von Gleichen* appeared so little to advantage, and many among the audience expressed their disapproval in strong terms, suiting the action to the words. Whether Herr Schmidtbonn was poking fun at the public was a question asked by others, who laughed frequently in the wrong place, while regarding the title all were unanimous—"Help! a child has fallen from heaven," was to nobody's liking. Some of the scenes are dramatic and interesting; the author is fond of themes which defy the law, and is at his best when depicting such. The unfortunate heroine is Maria, only daughter of a wealthy merchant, who is away on a journey. The rich man's country house is broken into one night by a young burglar named Franz, but Maria's fair beauty captivates the senses of the desperado. He outrages the lonely girl and leaves the house without having accomplished his primary object. Maria's father returns home from his travels to find his child a mother. The girl had concealed her shame as long as it was possible to do so. The father's fury is terrible, but his wife—an angel of gentleness and motherly solicitude—succeeds in appeasing him to some extent, and he declares himself willing to bow to the inevitable, but that the infant must be sent away and never enter his house again. All the maternal love of Maria rises up against this edict, and she is supported by her own mother. She will not give up her child, and now the grotesque part of the story happens; Maria not only will keep her offspring, but she will give it a father, and the rightful one into the bargain. She sets off on the quest, and ultimately finds the burglar in his quarters. The man is not all bad, but is naturally wide awake to the immense advantages of an alliance with the millionaire's daughter. Maria's first idea was to buy her child a name, that, after the conclusion of the marriage ceremony, Franz should leave her for ever, but the man is ambitious to keep his fair wife—and her money at the same time—and his boldness, and a certain rough charm gain Maria's heart. She tells her father that she is tired of the cold-blooded, white-livered men in her own walk of life, and with a tender leave of her mother—whom she is sure of seeing again before long—Maria goes off with her husband and their child. The interpretation was admirable; it certainly was no fault of the cast that the piece was not a great success. Herr von Winterstein as the elderly father, Fräulein Heins as Maria, Herr Hartau, in the rôle of the burglar, and Fräulein Kurz as the sympathetic mother of Maria—one and all gave faultless renderings. Very clever, too, were the impersonations by Herren Tiedtke and Gattowt of the hero's brother thieves.

"DER SELIGE TOUPINEL," Bisset's old but still amusing farce—it is known in English under the title of *The Late Lamented*—was revived at the Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches Theatre last week, and met with so cordial a reception that it will certainly hold the boards for some time to come. The cast was capital, Herr Lettinger and Fräulein Rappo making the principal running.

AT the Hebbel Theatre the Academic Stage Association gave a performance on Wednesday evening. The programme consisted of three one-act plays, each more or less in the style of a satire. The most appreciated were *Der Frosch*, an Ibsen parody, by Otto Erich Hartleben, and Viktor Dyk's *Trauerdiner*. The former is already known here; the latter has for its theme the return at an inopportune moment of one who is believed to have gone over to the great majority. All the parts were acted fairly adequately, and the piece was satisfactorily mounted.

AT the Trianon the laughable farce *Théodore and Cie*, by MM. Nancey and Armont, has passed its twenty-fifth consecutive performance, while at the Hebbel *Cavaliers* has been given the same number of times. Both are still drawing well.

"THE WAY THE MONEY GOES."

Play, in Three Acts, by Lady Bell, Performed at the New Royalty Theatre on Monday, March 7.

Mrs. Riggs ..... MISS AGNES HILL
Mrs. Holroyd ..... MISS HELEN HAYE
Mrs. Tarlton ..... MISS MAY CONGDON
Slark ..... MR. REGINALD DANE
Mrs. Burrows ..... MISS MABEL ADAIR
Mrs. Smithson ..... MISS ESTELLE STEAD
Mrs. Dale ..... MISS L. M. REVELL
Mrs. Molony ..... MISS ELY MALYON
A Policeman ..... MR. ALFRED HARDING
John Holroyd ..... MR. H. NYE CHART
Vincent ..... MR. DOUGLAS GORDON
Sally Holroyd ..... MISS EVELYN KIRKBY
Jack Holroyd ..... MR. GUY HELBROUGH
A Hawker ..... MR. D. J. WILLIAMS
Mary Ann Jones ..... MISS MAY KENDAL
Mrs. Jones ..... MISS HELEN BOUCHER
Tom Tarlton ..... MR. FRANK COCHRANE
Jim Bates ..... MR. HOLLIDAY ATTLAY
Yock Denny ..... MR. REGINALD DANE
A County Court Bailiff .. MR. HOLLIDAY ATTLAY
Newspaper Boy ..... MR. WILLIAM H. BROWN

Lady Bell's play was fully noticed by us after its production at the Shaftesbury Theatre at a Stage Society matinée on Feb. 14, so we need not again describe the plot, and there are only a few changes in the cast. For instance, the part of the plausible betting agent, Slark, is now played by Mr. Reginald Dane, who gives an admirable and diverting rendering of the rôle formerly sustained by Mr. Leonard Calvert. The gambling "hand," Tom Tarlton, is depicted very graphically by Mr. Frank Cochrane, and Mr. D. J. Williams is excellent as the plausible hawker. The sturdy, masterful John Holroyd is again represented by Mr. H. Nye Chart, who created the character, with all the force, vigour, and human heartiness necessary. Miss Helen Haye still distinguishes herself by her natural, simple, and sweetly feminine impersonation of Mrs. Holroyd; Miss May Congdon is once more effective as Mrs. Tarlton, and Mr. Douglas Gordon gives Vincent all the necessary benevolence and refinement, Miss Agnes Hill's Mrs. Riggs being as odd and amusing as ever. Lady Bell's piece was closely followed by a deeply-interested audience, who warmly applauded at the end of each act.

MR. HALL CAINE spoke at Crisp's Market Hall, Seven Sisters'-road, last week, in support of the Progressive candidature of his son, Mr. G. R. Hall Caine. Mr. Caine described his early years as a poor journalist, living on the verge of Clare Market. His windows looked on to a closed court swarming with rats and human beings. Hardly a window had a whole pane of glass in it, scarcely a staircase had a handrail. The refuse of the densely-crowded tenements was thrown out into the court for the dustman to gather up every day, and the place was always noisome and filthy. In this death-trap people died in proportions twice as high as in London as a whole, and disease and drink and dirt and immorality and crime were rampant. He felt like Rip Van Winkle when he walked over the great open avenues that now ran there. The credit of having cleared out that breeding ground of disease and crime which disgraced the heart of London belonged to the County Council.

TERRIERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL DINNER AND BALL.

The outward aspect of the Horns, Kennington, on Sunday night last was not an inviting one, but directly the portal was passed mirth and good-fellowship reigned, for one was received almost on the door-mat by the genial president, Mr. G. P. R. Burgess, and the energetic secretary, Mr. Arthur Were, and on mounting the stairs the reception-room was filled with a representative crowd of Terriers and their friends, who soon descended to the dining-room and took their seats at the tastefully-decorated tables to discuss an excellently-served meal.

The guests included Mr. G. P. R. Burgess (president), Mr. Harry Barnard (hon. treasurer), Mr. G. F. McCarthy (medical officer), and Mr. Arthur Were (secretary), and Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ball, Miss Barnard, Mr. Jack Barker, Mr and Mrs. Harry Bown, Mr. Harry Bent, Mr. Billing, Mr. G. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Andie Caine, Mr. T. C. Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert, Mr. Owen Cliffe, Miss Alice Conway, Mr. G. Cooper, Mr. C. C. Cornish, Mr Fred Durban, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Dunkley, Miss Fullalove, Mr. C. F. Gage, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gait, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Green, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hoyle, Mr and Mrs. F. Hooper and party, Miss Carrie Joy, Mr. and Mrs. J. Keep and party, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kohler, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kitchen, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Mack, Mr. and Mrs. Meisner, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Moriggia and party, Mr. and Mrs. A. Plumb, Mr. and Mrs. Pounds, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, Mr. and Mrs. W. Taylor, Mrs. W. R. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Were, Mr. Ernie Westo, and Mr. Ben Woodger.

The President, with an eye perhaps to the Terriers who were straining at the leash for a smoke, was considerately brief in proposing the health of the King, but his words, though few, were well chosen. The toast of "The Terriers' Association" was entrusted to Mr. Jesse Sparrow, who made an interesting little speech tracing the progress of the Association, which is now twenty years established, and which is the only registered Friendly Society in the music hall profession, and called upon the secretary (Mr. A. Were) for a response, who made what may be termed the speech of the evening as follows:

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—When I had the honour of being appointed your ornamental secretary I received the gratuitous information that there was nothing to do, and I cheerfully accepted the opportunity of some pleasant and profitable recreation; and I may now ruefully state that I have been vainly looking for that recreation ever since, and the profits have been misappropriated by the income-tax collector. What with dinners and balls, outings, benefits, and midnight wrestling bouts, my ambition to become a Parliamentary Labour candidate has become crushed in the bud, and my efforts to cultivate tomatoes on the roof have been an inglorious failure. At a recent dinner, when I inflicted a learned discourse upon the variety profession (and they stood it), I was subsequently hailed by the Press as a born comedian. Now it is very embarrassing to find one's doorstep thronged with excited agents with tempting offers of the Syndicate tours of £1,000 a week, and to have to decline them. As a matter of fact, I suffer from a morbid disposition, and my inclinations to vocal attainments are purely operatic. As I am also afflicted with a chronic cold upon my chest, any attempt on my part to star as a comedian or to pose as a Le Smile-o would be productive of the Grand Order of the Bird.

Terrier Sparrow has been good enough to couple my name with this toast. I can only say, in the words of the poet, "Mother and child are doing well." During the past year the progress of the Terriers' Association has been well maintained. Apart from their inability to support these expensive functions, Terriers generally are rallying round the Association, as the popularity of our loan account and sick pay will testify. We have elected a lot of new members, and the office cat, out of sheer professional jealousy, has had kittens in the ballot-box for the fourth time. It is a mystery to me why more members of the variety profession do not join the Association. Here is a Society that has no political axe to grind, that works only for the material benefit of the struggling artist, and, for a nominal subscription, provides free medical attention anywhere, liberal sick pay during illness, emergency loans, free legal advice, death grants, insurance against loss of properties by fire, and innumerable social advantages. Terriers in dire distress are assisted by grants or benefits, and yet with all these attractions, which are being extensively advertised, the apathy of the profession is appalling. We hope that some day artists will realise that to become a Terrier is essential for their welfare. Despite the sultry atmosphere of our palatial kennel, where the choicest Havanas, shag, and woodbines enable us to give a creditable representation of a scene from Hades, our Sunday meetings have been of a peaceful character. We have initiated new members nearly every Sunday, and invariably celebrated the occasion in bumpers of champagne—or Oxo—and this has gladdened the heart of mine host Terrier Salter, who has suffered from intense depression since the introduction of the Budget.

Owing to the gorgeousness of our golden and silver escutcheons and the scintillations of our diamonds the brilliance of our lodge is unrivalled. The pig's head banquet was a great success, and was only marred by the remarkable number of bilious attacks that followed. The river outing denoted the true brotherly love that exists amongst Terriers, and the cordiality of the voyage was only equalled by the hilarity of the journey home. All the ladies' concerts have been crowded, and I may inform you, in strict confidence, that some of our stars will produce new songs next season.

Thanks to the generosity of Terrier Griff, our collection of Yankee picture postcards is the finest in Kennington, and we have retaliated with *Daily Mails*. Our next depressing function is the annual general meeting on the 20th, at 6 p.m., and, as some of our star reciters will be present, may finish about 6 a.m. I wish particularly to impress this upon the ladies, because our wives may regard our arrival home with the milk with undeserved suspicion.

The past year has been notable for the fact that your versatile secretary has blossomed forth as an Organist (to use the word as expressed by a certain W.T.) of "disrespewt." Although totally unacquainted with the action of the instrument of torture, he has managed, by violent Sandow exercises on the pedals, to create some discordant Wagnerian effects, to the annoyance of Terrier Cornish, who had the misfortune to sit in the vicinity. The erratic rendering of that classic anthem "I will return, sweetheart, again," with sepulchral accompaniment, has caused tears of anguish from Terrier Murray, who has been compelled to seek the sanctuary of the bar in order to drown his emotion. Recent laborious rehearsals of a new and pathetic ballad, entitled "Why is poor dear father blind?" has been endured with growing resentment, and the prospect of its production in the kennel is looked forward to with dismal anticipation, and has already caused one unhappy barman to resign. Such is the reward of unappreciated genius. As further evidence of your staff's energy in the interests of the members, your secretary has been studying for the bar, without in any way wishing to supplant the hon. solicitor. His studies at the bar, however, were limited to the art of drawing stout and mild, and other temperance beverages, but his reckless generosity in dispensing excessive measure resulted in the immediate application of the barring clause and his ejection by the indignant proprietor.

In thanking Terrier Jesse Sparrow for his kind remarks, I can only say that whatever success has been attained by the Association during the past year has been due to the diligence of your officers and committee and the devotion of your president, and so long as their interest in their work is continued you can rest assured of the further prosperity of the Terriers' Association.

The toast of "The Officers of the Association" was proposed by Terrier George Cooper, and was suitably responded to by Terrier Harry Barnard. Terrier Julian Mack humorously proposed "The Ladies," and Mrs. F. Calvert ably responded. Terrier Andie Caine proposed "The Kindred Societies," and Mr. Fred Kitchen made a neat and appropriate response, and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart also spoke to this toast. Terrier Harry Bent appropriately gave the toast of "The Visitors," and Mr. A. H. Hoyle responded. "The Press" was eloquently toasted by Terrier Ernest Ball, and Mr. H. D. Adkins suitably responded. The toast list concluded with that of "The Chairman," proposed by Terrier Fred Hooper.

The ball that followed was a complete success, and, curiously enough, Terrier Ernest Ball acted as M.C. The Belgravia Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Frank Sweet, discoursed sweet music for the dancers. In the interval an impromptu minstrel entertainment was organised. Mr. Fred Kitchen officiated as interlocutor, and caused genuine amusement with the assistance of Terriers Andie Caine, Harry Bent, Harry Barnard, and Julian Mack. Later on the ladies showed that they were not to be outdone in this kind of entertainment, and Mrs. Fred Kitchen, Mrs. Frank Calvert, Mrs. Taylor, Miss Alice Conway, Miss Carrie Joy, and Terriers C. F. Gage and C. C. Cornish gave a screamingly funny performance. My Fancy (Mrs. Harry Bawn) kindly contributed a brilliant exhibition of fancy dancing, and the party ultimately broke up before 5 a.m., all well pleased, if tired.

HOLES IN THE STAGE.

At the Scunthorpe County Court recently, before Judge Sir Sherston Baker, Bart., William Williford Johnson, lessee of the Public Hall, Scunthorpe, was sued by George Gregson, proprietor and chief actor of the well-known Gregson Comedy Trio, playing in the sketch *The Ideal Maid*, for £42 9s. 10d. damages, consequent upon an accident alleged to have happened while performing at the hall. Mr. R. A. C. Symes, of Scunthorpe, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. R. Watts, of Manchester, for the defendant. The case for the plaintiff was that he entered into a contract to perform for one week, commencing Dec. 27 last, for £10. During the first performance on Monday night, when walking across the stage, he stumbled with his heel in a hole in the stage, which defendant had neglected to repair, and sustained a severe injury to his foot, and he had to abandon two other contracts, and was not paid by the defendant. No warning had been given him of the hole. He had played the part of the Ideal Maid with Fred Karno and on his own for sixteen years. At the time the hole was shown to the stage-manager. He said he would get into a row with the boss as the hole should have been repaired long ago. Plaintiff went through the second performance, but then saw the doctor, and rested until the Thursday, when the defendant offered him one night's salary. The stage was covered with carpet at the time.

Cross-examined, plaintiff said neither he nor his brother examined the stage; they naturally expected the local manager to see that all was right. They contented themselves with dressing the scene. He had seen holes on various stages for tying-up horizontal bars and trapezes and the like, but never one this size—the size of a break fast-cup; and if not in use they were usually blocked up for other shows. His heel that caught was the flattened heel of a lady's shoe. He could always get engagements when fit, and was fixed up this year for forty-nine weeks—twenty-three on the Moss and Stoll tour.

The brother of the defendant said he never inspected stages. It was not his business. This hole was repaired the following morning. It was certainly dangerous. He did not know that there had been skating on it the week before.

Mr. Watts (for the defendant) said the plaintiff, with his experience and knowledge of his business, was satisfied with the stage. He made no examination and expressed no complaint. He went on with his performance in the second house with ease, and any false step in his show, independently of this hole, might have caused the injury. The plaintiff had been guilty of contributory negligence. Knowing the nature of his performance—a knockabout one—he was responsible for every member of his troupe, and it lay with him to inspect the stage and see everything safe. The same week a dancing girl danced all over the stage.

The defendant said he had a wide experience in the theatrical profession, and had seen many stages, all of which had similar-sized holes for the purpose of fixing props. The hole was not mended by his instructions.

John Connolly, manager for defendant, said the hole was the ordinary size for its specific purpose—seven-eighths of an inch—and there were fourteen or fifteen such holes on the stage.

The Judge gave a verdict for the plaintiff for £23.

The Three Brothers Huxter returned to town on Monday, after a lengthy tour of the provinces, opening on the Gibbons' circuit at the Islington Empire with their new comedy sketch, *Languid Energy*.

At the Exeter Police Court recently Mr. H. Coningsby Gould applied, on behalf of the manager, Mr. F. Sandy, for a licence to hold a sacred concert at the Exeter Hippodrome on Good Friday next. After some debate and discussion, the Mayor announced that the licence would be granted.

The Five Hunters are appearing with great success this week at the Empire, Camberwell, in their very amusing vocal and musical speciality, entitled, "Auntie's Visit." The rendering of "The Angel of My Dream" by one of the company is quite a treat, and makes a big hit.

The final meeting of the Johnny Alexander Benefit Committee will be held on Tuesday next at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (Room 26), at two o'clock. All members in town are particularly requested to be present.

Two disappointments are recorded in Glasgow this week. Florrie Forde, fresh from her pantomime successes in Leeds, should have been at the Pavilion, but is not appearing; and Lily Morris, after her triumphant engagement at the Grand, Glasgow, was billed for the Coliseum there, but is likewise absent.

Purvis and Partner (Lily Brammer), having finished in pantomime, are again presenting their highly-successful duologue *The Postman's Knock*. It was greatly appreciated at the Ashton Empire last week, and is meeting with the same success at the Ton-y-pandy Hippodrome this week.

Little Jennie Alexander, who is appearing at the Palace, Oldham, in her impressions of well-known star artists, is one of the hits of the bill. She has just completed a highly-successful Stoll tour, and returns to town for four months, opening on the Gibbons circuit on Monday at the Empire, Holborn, and Empress, Brixton.

WHO'S WHO AT THE SURREY.

LAST THURSDAY'S TRIAL MATINEE.

If there is one manager in London more than another who has fully mastered the gentle art of "getting 'em into the house" that man is Mr. Roy Cochrane, the manager of the historic theatre in the Blackfriars-road. As an inducement to those inclined to waver on the subject of seeing Thursday afternoon's show, Mr. Cochrane had caused the locality to be liberally papered with double crown bills setting out the information that—

You Cannot See the Stars of the Past,
You Will Not See the Stars of To-day,
But You May See the Stars of the Future.

That appeal was irresistible, and a good house assembled.

Fond mothers and proud fathers of aspirants to fame in the variety firmament took possession of the stalls, with set grim faces, almost blanched in some cases with anxiety as to the fate awaiting their dear ones, equally nervous, equally anxious on the other side of the curtain. We are told that hope springs eternal in the human breast. Hope must be the only asset of many young ladies and gentlemen who present themselves for a public verdict at the average trial turn matinée, as in many instances there is not the slightest ability or merit to justify the appeal.

Thursday's matinée had its usual number of failures, but in justice it must be stated that it was responsible for a number—a very small number it is true—of people whom we should care to see again. There was absolutely no originality in any of the acts, each and every one having taken some well-known stage favourite as a pattern, and each had more or less badly copied gags, patter, song, and dance. Indeed, from start to finish of the programme, it was one long procession of song and dance, song and dance, song and dance.

A young man named Corn started the programme by singing about coal, and was followed by another named Davis, who might be termed a side-face clog dancer, inasmuch as he kept his gaze steadfastly fixed on the wings whilst he "flogged the floor." The Lemar's knife-throwing act gave one cold shivers to witness.

The name of each artist was announced from the stage, but in such indistinct tones that after about the fourth time it became the fashion, as with one accord, for the lusty-lunged members of pit and gallery to roar at the unfortunate speaker: "WHO?"

A Mr. Kingsley informed us that he was going to recount some funny stories. He was permitted to inflict one on us. Said he: "I met a pier master the other day, and he said: 'I'm not a Radical because they want to do away with the Peers.'" The stage-manager then mercifully blacked the storyteller out. Switching off the lights is a neat way of consigning naughty boys and girls to that oblivion from which it is to be hoped there is no return. Two Welsh "comedians," two Scotch ditto, and two misguided youths who tried to render "Our hands have met but not our hearts," also vanished in the gloom.

Little Alice, "a tiny colleen," was dressed in red and green, and sang of the Emerald Isle very nicely, and then danced a jig. She deserved the hearty applause that greeted her exit. Desmond and Diss also were very welcome. Both ladies had good voices, and were nicely dressed but the one in boy's costume should sell the outfit and dress like her partner. The next lady, prettily dressed in white, tremulously assured us that she was "Looking for Mr. Wright." The top notes in the song worried her considerably.

A very nervous embryo Neil Kenyon managed to get out part of a sentence: "I was going along the seashore near Brighton, ye ken——" Then darkness came o'er the land, and when it was ligh tagain the Carolis, a very creditable "pro tean Apache act," were in possession of the stage. Gracie O'Neil had evidently taken Gertie Gitana as her guiding star, and with some measure of success. But Gracie must learn not to wear such a "determined-to-do-or-die" expression when she is dancing.

The funniest part about the act of Gordon and Lester was the tartan facings to their evening-dress coats. They danced well, however, in mitigation of what had gone before. An old "pro.," if we mistake not, W. Whitlock, wheeled a baked-potato can on the stage, sang a good song in the breeziest of styles, and then extracted music from the back of the furnace. He was very welcome.

A gentleman garbed in a black-braided white suit told us with a thick nasal accent that "there are some things you can always do without." And the audience agreed.

One aspirant undertook to show us what kind of an individual Quilp was. The Surreyites were remarkably kind to him despite great provocation. The stage-manager, too, was long suffering, and four minutes had elapsed and nothing had happened to Quilp. But as he spoke the lines: "Litt'e Nell and her grandfather disappeared—" so also did Quilp—in the darkness.

A very good story-teller almost wrecked his chances on his entrance. He made a false start and then announced that he would go off and come on again. He did so, and then proceeded to inform his hearers that "Adam was the first man, and a fruit merchant, and always attended trial-turn matinées."

Thirty-one turns in all appeared in the space of three hours, and it is to be hoped that at least twenty of that number realise now that it is not an easy matter to be even a third-rate variety artist.

In our provincial correspondence last week it was stated that the Johnny Alexander Sketch Company were appearing at the Hippodrame, Wakefield. It should have been Johnny Holland's company.

At the Pontefract Borough Court on Monday last, Mrs. Selina Driver, proprietress of the Alexandra Theatre of Varieties, and Mr. Tom Diacoff, music hall manager, were summoned for producing Mr. R. Nightingdale's *Aladdin* pantomime on Feb. 18.

Mr. F. M. Farmer, who prosecuted on behalf of the County Council, stated that the proceedings were taken under Section 2 of the Theatres Act of 1843, and in asking the bench to convict, put forward the following reasons: (1) The defendant had infringed the rights of the County Council, who were the body that granted the licences of theatres; (2) the defendant had infringed the rights of the Lord Chamberlain, without whose right no stage play could be produced; and (3) the music hall was run as a theatre without the limitations that a theatre was subject to. The bench fined the defendant 10s. and costs.

At the London Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday a sitting was held, before Mr. Registrar Linklater, for the public examination of Mr. Jesse Sparrow, described as a theatrical manager, of Love-walk, Camberwell. The accounts showed a deficiency of £629. The debtor, questioned by Mr. E. S. Grey (Official Receiver), stated that for thirty-five years he had been connected with the music hall and concert business. In July, 1906, he and another promoted the Empire (Camberwell), Limited, with a nominal capital of £3,000. Witness received 735 shares, and was appointed managing-director. The company did very well for two years, but in January last a receiver was appointed. In November, 1907, witness and another promoted the Empire (Edmonton), Limited, with a capital of £5,000. He received 1,000 shares, and was again appointed managing-director; but that company was also a failure. The examination was concluded.

STAGE PLAY AT A MUSIC HALL.

Selina Driver, theatre proprietress, and Tom Diacoff, music hall manager, were recently summoned at Pontefract for using an unlicensed theatre for stage plays. The proceedings were taken under Section 2 of the Theatre Act of 1843, which states that a person was liable to a fine of £20 per day during the time that such play was produced without a licence. On Friday, Feb. 18, a stage play was produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, and Mr. F. M. Farmer, the prosecuting counsel, contended that the house was not licensed for stage plays. Therefore, the Act was violated. The theatre was licensed as a music hall, and a licence to sell intoxicating liquor was also granted. The offence in question was a pantomime called *Aladdin*, with two or three music hall turns worked in. The pantomime itself occupied three-parts of the evening, and at different times thirty-two people were taking part. It was common knowledge that sketches were given in music halls, but there was no doubt, if the law was properly interpreted, it would be impossible for sketches to be produced, because it was held that a dialogue between two persons was a stage play. Section 23 of the Theatre Act mentioned pantomimes amongst stage plays. In 1892 a Committee of the House of Commons considered the question and made a recommendation that certain sketches should be allowed in a music hall. At that time a great dispute was going on between the proprietors of theatres and proprietors of music halls, it being alleged by the former that the latter were infringing their rights. The Committee recommended that certain dramatic sketches should be allowed at music halls providing that such performance should not exceed forty minutes, and that there should not be more than six performers. It was also stipulated that there should be an interval of thirty minutes between two such sketches. As long as the music hall proprietors had kept their sketches within those suggestions, no proceedings had been taken against them, and this applied to the present proprietress. He now asked the Bench to say that by this pantomime the four corners of the working arrangements had been exceeded, and by no stretch of the imagination could it be called a sketch that was allowed to be produced in a music hall. It was for their worships to say if this pantomime was a stage play, and he would like to put forward the following reasons for a conviction:—(1) The defendant had infringed the rights of the County Council, who were the body that granted the licences of theatres. (2) The defendant had infringed the rights of the Lord Chamberlain, without whose permission no stage play could be produced. (3) The music hall was run as a theatre, without the limitations that a theatre was subject to—for instance, the Lord Chamberlain made a regulation that there should be no smoking in theatres, whereas it was allowed in music halls. Furthermore, defendant's licence to sell drink applied to a music hall. If the defendant had a theatre licence application would have to be made to the excise authorities for a drink licence. Why should there be a separate law for the Alexandra Theatre at Pontefract? Mr. Farmer concluded with quoting several cases, specially mentioning that of the Coliseum Syndicate.

Inspector Horton, who visited the theatre on Feb. 18, then described the performance, and was corroborated by Police-sergeant Hartley.

Counsel for the defence asked if the Bench considered it was a stage play, according to the evidence.

The Chairman said the Bench considered it was a stage play.

Counsel asked for the summons against Diacoff to be withdrawn on the grounds that he was not the licensed holder, but merely a servant.

Mr. Farmer agreed to this, on condition that the Bench convicted Mrs. Driver.

The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and on their return the Chairman said they had decided to deal leniently with defendant, as she did not know she was infringing the law, but it was a serious offence. She would be fined 10s. and the costs.

DR. BODIE'S APPEAL.

Dr. Bodie points out in a letter that in his big lawsuit at Leeds Mr. Justice Grantham summed up very strongly in his favour, and said: "Dr. Bodie could not be stigmatised as a quack or impostor, that he had undoubtedly done a vast amount of good, and had succeeded in many cases where other doctors had failed, and that he was earning an honest living." At the trial no notice was taken of his witnesses, and many of his cures, who appeared on his behalf, were not allowed to give evidence.

He will pay over to the National Hospital, London, the sum of £1,000 if any judge, doctor, or Press representative can prove that he has not successfully cured many cases of paralysis discharged from the leading London and provincial hospitals as hopeless and incurable, or that in his operations of bloodless surgery he has ever used undue violence in breaking down adhesions and physical malformations. He will take his appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr. Martin Beck, on his arrival in London, at once visited the offices of Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler, accompanied by Mr. Mark Luischer, his Continental representative.

The Liverpool Olympia started a new experiment on Thursday, when a special matinée was held for the trial of amateur turns. The stalls were sixpence, and the gallery one penny. Cinematograph pictures were shown.

Miss May Poulton is making a hit this week at the Palace, Burnley, with her new song "It's lovely by the sea," written and composed specially for her by Mr. George Collins. Miss Poulton recently concluded a pantomime engagement as Sinbad. Next year she plays principal boy with Mr. Milton Bode.

Mme. Ella Russell, the well-known operatic soprano, sang to her first "variety" audience at the Coliseum on Monday, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Encored for her operatic selections and a French chansonnette, Mme. Russell responded with the ever-welcome "Robin Adair."

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music-Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following: Miss Irene Rose (donation and collection), £2; fifteen artists for contribution towards a collection made by Miss Maude Mortimer in her pantomime company, £1 2s. 6d.; Mr. Alec Barish for arranging with Mr. Jack Morris and the committee of the Great Synagogue, Hope Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday last, a collection as follows—Mrs. John Foy, 10s. 6d.; Miss Agnes Zambuhl, 8s. 6d.; Miss Ina McLaughlam, 5s.; Miss Hollyhassen, 6s.; and Miss Hilda Watson, 1s.; Mr. Carter Livesey (donation), 2s. 6d.; Miss Lilian Rosebery (donation), 2s. 6d.; also Miss Rosebery for collection at the London Pavilion, 3s. 2d.; Sisters Macarte (result of a bet with Mrs. Bartram), 1s. 5d.; Madame Li Chang Hi (donation), 2s. 6d.; Miss Katie Toole (donation), 2s. 6d. Tennis and Laune, and Ruby Rosamond, stage and street clothing (per Miss Irene Rose); Miss Lottie Albert, six more baby's new coats and two gentlemen's collars; Mrs. James Horne, baby's new clothing; Mrs. Fruin, Music-Hall Home, Camberwell, clothing. Friends of the Charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing urgently needed.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 14.

Almost His Bride.—T. R., Edmonton.
Alone in London.—Empire T., Swindon.
Angel of His Dreams.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Arcadians, The (No. 1).—Manchester.
As Your Hair Grows White.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
Bad Girl of the Family.—T. R., Leeds.
Baines, Florence.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Marlborough T., N.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Aston.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Ammanford.
Best People, The.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Smethwick.
Brewster's Millions.—T. R., Coventry.
Broken Heart, A.—T. R., Sheffield.
Brought to Ruin.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
Can a Woman be Good?—T. R., Cardiff.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—H.M. T., Barrow.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Catch of the Season.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Charley's Aunt.—Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.
Child of the Streets.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Chorus Lady, The.—T. R., Bradford.
Christian, The (Croke) (M.).—Grand T., Luton.
Cingalee, The (A.).—T. R., North Shields.
Cingalee, The (B.).—T. R., Colchester.
Claudian.—O. H., Blackpool.
Coal King.—Junction T., Manchester.
Compton Comedy Co.—Paisley and Perth.
Country Girl.—King's T., Sunderland.
Country Girl in London.—T. R., Castleford.
Christian, The (Croke, N.).—Broadway T., New Cross.
Dairymaids, The.—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—County T., Bedford.
Dear Little Denmark.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Destroyer of Men.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Diana of Dobson's.—O. H., Southport.
Diver's Luck.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Dollar Princess (N.).—Court T., Liverpool.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—T. R., Manchester.
Drama of Life.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Driven from Home.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—T. R., Hanley.
Eve of Her Wedding.—T. R., West Stanley.
Eyes of the World.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Face at the Window.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Fatal Wedding.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Fires of Fate.—New T., Oxford.
Flag Lieutenant (N.).—T. R., Brighton.
Flag Lieutenant (S.).—T. R., Blyth.
Florodora (Constant).—O. H., Dudley.
For Love and the King.—Court T., Wigan.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Hippodrome, Scarboro'.
Frivolity.—Perth and Paisley.
From Convent to Throne.—T. R., St. Helens.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—T. R., Castleford.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Star T., Swansea.
Girl's Cross Roads.—O. H., Southampton.
Glossop-Harris, Miss.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Guilty Gold.—Kirkcaldy.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—King's T., Glasgow.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Grand T., Brighton.
Her Life in London.—Lyceum T., Long Eaton.
Her Love Against the World.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Woolwich.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., Chesterfield.
His Real Wife.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Honour and Revenge.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
House That Jack Built.—T. R., Bolton.
Hush Money.—Prince's T., Preston.
King and the Unknown Woman.—T. R., Chatham.
King of Cadonia (Curzon).—O. H., Leicester.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bulford Camp.
Leah Kleschna.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Lighthouse Robbery.—Mountain Ash.
Little Phil's Mother.—Victoria T., Burnley.
Lodge-Percy and J. Martin.—King's T., Longsight.
Love of the Princess.—T. R., Sunderland.
Love, the Conqueror.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Lucky Durham.—Palace T., Gloucester.
Man to Man.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Marriages of Mayfair.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Merry Widow.—T. R., Bury.
Midnight Wedding.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Mother.—T. R., Norwich.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—T. R., Birmingham.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—T. R., Huddersfield.
New Boy, The.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Old Folks at Home.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Old Home, The.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Only a Little Boy.—Hippodrome, Ashton.
Our Miss Gibbs.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Our Miss Gibbs.—T. R., Darlington.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—T. R., Preston.
Pete (N.).—T. R., Rochdale.
Pete (S.).—Gaiety T., Leith.
Peter Pan.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—T. R., Stockport.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—Palace T., Bordesley.
Prodigal Son (Croke) (M.).—Ebbw Vale.
Royal Divorce.—County T., Reading.
Sexton Blake.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Sign of the Cross.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Silver King.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Sinner, The.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Sins of a City.—Theatre, Ferndale.
Sins of Society.—T. R., Plymouth.
Sins of the Fathers.—T. R., Bristol.
Still Alarm.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
Swiss Express.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Temptation.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Thief, The.—O. H., Torquay.
Through the Divorce Court.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Star T., Liverpool.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Wages of Sin.—T. R., Belfast.
Walls of Jericho.—O. H., Belfast.
Was She to Blame?—Palace T., Newcastle.
What a Man Made Her.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
When Other Lips.—T. R., Leicester.
Where is William?—H. M. T., Carlisle.
White Man, A.—New T., Cardiff.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Woman in the Case.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Woman in the Case (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
Woman of Kronstadt.—Harrogate and Bridlington.
Woman Pays, The.—Empire T., Oldham.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Crook.
You Never Can Tell.—T. R., Edinburgh.
10.30 Down Express.—Kirkcaldy.

Offers for the right to provide entertainments on the Green at Littlehampton are invited by the Urban District Council of that popular resort. Tenders are to be delivered to the chairman of the Council on or before Saturday, March 19.

The Corporation of the Borough of Abergavenny invite offers for the privilege of giving entertainments in the Castle Grounds, Abergavenny, during the ensuing summer. Applications are to be sent in not later than the 21st inst. to Mr. Wm. H. Hopwood, the Town Clerk.

Children on the Stage—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HALLIDAY.—On March 7, at Hatton, Ceylon, the wife of Lionel E. Halliday of a son.

MATHER.—On March 5, at Cragside, Wallasey, Cheshire, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mather (née Belcham), a son (Colin).

MUNRO.—On March 2, at Cefny Ralit, Aberdulais, to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Munro (Miss Ada Moore), a son.

MARRIAGES.

QUARTERMAINE—TITHERADGE.—March 8, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, Charles Quartermaine to Madge Titheradge.

DEATHS.

GINNETT.—On March 2, Ellen, widow of the late William Ginnett, passed away at her residence 58, Warleigh-road, Brighton, at the age of 67.

HOLLAND.—On Feb. 17, in Philadelphia, George Holland, American actor, aged 64.

WALKER.—On Feb. 26, 1910, at Barrow-in-Furness, Benjamin Walker, aged 72 years. Thy will be done.

IN MEMORIAM.

BYRT.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Wilfred Grantly Byrt, of the Musical Ashbys, who passed away March 29, 1908, at Madras (India). Never forgotten by his loving wife.—LALLAH ASHBY. "God giveth his beloved sleep." R. I. P.

FORT.—March 8, in ever-loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs. Robert Fort, of T. R., Margate.—HARRIET IRWIN.

GOODWIN.—In ever loving memory of my late dear wife, Bonnie L. B. Lyon (Bonnie Goodwin), who passed away March 19, 1907. Never forgotten by her husband. "Thy will be done."—SAM. G. R. LYON.

SCARD.—In ever loving memory of Mary Ann Scard, who passed away March 9, 1906. Greatly missed by her loving husband and children, also brothers and sisters.

VICTOR.—In ever loving memory of my darling mother, Miss M. A. Victor, who left us to our grief, March 13, 1907. Never forgotten by her daughter EMMA and granddaughter MARIE. "To know her was to love her."

VICTOR.—In loving memory of Miss M. A. Victor, who fell asleep March 13, 1907. Never forgotten by her granddaughter, Miss Lillian Maude (of Mundill and Maude).

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Harry Gribben—Saturday, March 12.
Alexandra Dagmar—Sunday, March 13.
Annie Saker—Sunday, March 13.
Charles Waterfield—Sunday, March 13.
Florence Smithson—Sunday, March 13.
Mrs. Kendal—Tuesday, March 15.
Leslie Stuart—Tuesday, March 15.
William Grimes—Tuesday, March 15.
Harry Paulton—Wednesday, March 16.
Edith Blande—Wednesday, March 16.
Phyllis Broughton—Thursday, March 17.
G. W. Hunter—Thursday, March 17.
Nellie Wallace—Friday, March 18.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

FEB. 1.—Thomas Barrasford, aged 50.
" 2.—Charles Edward Lambert.
" 5.—William Barbour, aged 47.
" 5.—Trevor Lowe, aged 32.
" 7.—James Pascoe, aged 34.
" 7.—W. W. Woodhead, aged 74.
" 7.—George Antley.
" 8.—Isabella Caroline Ham.
" 13.—James Pearson.
" 14.—Edwin Foster Stelling, aged 72.
" 15.—Fred C. Somerfield.
" 17.—Annie Ward.
" 17.—George Holland, aged 64.
" 20.—Robb Harwood, aged 40.
" 20.—John Edward Wilkinson, aged 50.
" 26.—Benjamin Walker, aged 72.
" 27.—Harriet Clifton, aged 63.
" 28.—Hartwell J. Kirby.

THROUGH THE BAY OF NAPLES.

To take a twenty-minutes' railway journey and then step on board a felucca and sail through one of the loveliest bays in the world must be admitted to be a very unique experience, but this can be done by taking train to the Crystal Palace, where Mr. Geo. O. Starr, the enterprising general-manager, has provided a well equipped vessel on which visitors can take this interesting voyage seated comfortably in a garden seat on the deck. Mons. Le Maistre, an interesting guide and courier, accompanies, and gives the history and names of each town and village passed. When the shore has been traversed the guide takes the visitor back again to show him the same by sunset, twilight, and evening. As night falls, the houses in the various towns are seen lighting up, and as night grows darker, Vesuvius stands out boldly, shooting forth its red flames of lava. Anon, the dawn of day in the bay reveals some beautiful effects. The undulating motion of the vessel is most enjoyable. Crossing the gangway one enters a gallery, wherein on either side are viewed models of the excavated Pompeii and Herculaneum, and representations of these cities, in the time when they flourished, are also given. This trip is not only interesting from an historical point of view, but the lecture given by the guide is instructive as well as enjoyable.

WITH the close of *Mother Goose* at the Grand, Glasgow, it seems as if the limit had been reached in the matter of "last night" enthusiasm. Such lavishness in the matter of sprays, bouquets, and baskets of flowers to each of the ladies was surely unprecedented there. True, the pantomime has been a huge success, and the popularity of Misses Lily Morris and May Moore Duprez has undoubtedly a lot to do with the fact. Miss Howell Hersee (the Fairy Queen), Miss Rhoda Gordon (principal girl), and Miss Lily Edwards (second boy) were also specially favoured, and each member of the chorus was presented with a beautiful spray.

THE comedians received gifts innumerable, several of them, though neatly disguised in coloured ribbons, being evidently samples of "the wine of the country." Messrs. Neil Kenyon, Jack O'Connor, Fred Annandale, Joe Arthur, and Chas. East were all remembered by their numerous admirers. Each of the principal ladies and gentlemen was presented with a goose's egg in an appropriately large egg-cup, and the conductor, Mr. Harry Henderson, received in addition a handsome smoker's cabinet (well stocked) and a writing case.

MISS ALMA GRIFFITHS, the well-known musical comedy artist, is to be married to a very wealthy South African gentleman. Miss Griffiths is a Cardiff lady, her father being Mr. W. Ben Griffiths, who resides at Ryder-street, Cardiff. The gentleman to whom Miss Griffiths has become engaged is Mr. Douglas Christopherson, managing-director of the South African Consolidated Goldfields. He resides at Parktown, a short distance from Johannesburg, where Miss Griffiths is at present appearing in the principal part of *The Geisha*, with Mr. Haydn Coffin, the engagement being in connection with the Wheeler-Edwardes combination. Miss Griffiths is expected to arrive home about the third week in April, and after a stay of two months she will return to South Africa, as the wedding is fixed to take place at Capetown in July.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months ..	0	6 6	Three Months ..	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

GEORGE CONQUEST.—*The piece was produced at the Surrey Theatre on April 12, 1884.*

AGREEMENT.—*The document is a very informal one, and we do not think it will give you the full control you suggest. It ought to have been stated in so many words what your rights were.*

W. J. T.—*Give a trial turn at a music hall locally. You might also try to get a position in a chorus of English opera. Write to an operatic manager advertising in our columns. We cannot recommend agents for taking up amateurs.*

WILL CHATTERTON.—*Miss Bessie Bonehill died Aug. 21, 1902. For information concerning her sister you might inquire of Alf. Abrahams, at the Windsor Castle, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C. For the song "Playmates" try Tate's, music-seller, Aldwych, W.C.*

TOM BASS.—*The Grand Theatre, Islington, was destroyed by fire on the morning of Dec. 28, 1887. Alfred Glenville Vance, whose real name was Alfred Peck Stevens, died suddenly on the side of the stage at the Sun Music Hall, Knightsbridge, now defunct, on the evening of Dec. 26, 1888.*

I. X. L.—*"From information received," we learn that Mr. Alec Hurley did sing "The strongest man on earth," by Harry Leighton, publis by Francis, Day, and Hunter, and "Round and Round," written by Harry Castling, same publishers (out of print), about the year 1890. We are in communication with the singer, and will probably be able to reply more fully next week.*

C. DAVIES (West Kensington).—*Edward Weston, formerly proprietor of the Royal (Weston's), died on Thursday, March 12, 1874, at the age of fifty-four. He was run over by a three-horse van while crossing the Holborn Viaduct, in the vicinity of the well-known shop of Negretti and Zambra, and expired almost immediately after admission to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. You have given the wrong Christian name.*

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

FEBRUARY.

Sisters, dramatic episode; Alhambra, Feb. 7.

Lost, Stolen, or Strayed, farce, in one scene, adapted from Paul Gavault's *L'Inconnue*; Tivoli, Feb. 7.

A Test of Friendship, military episode, adapted by Percy Ford from a story by Major-General Sir R. S. Baden-Powell; South London, Feb. 7.

The Private Detective, episode, in one scene, by J. G. F. Cooke; Standard, Feb. 7.

Fortune's Fool, monologue, by Henry Hamilton, originally produced at the Haymarket, March 28, 1895 (presented by Mr. Lewis Waller); Hippodrome, Feb. 14.

The Little Father of the Wilderness, romantic episode, in one scene, by Lloyd Osbourne and Austin Strong (originally produced at the Comedy Theatre, Nov. 21, 1905); Coliseum, Feb. 14.

Van Biene's Baby, sketch; Shepherd's Bush Empire, Feb. 14.

Olga's Oath, dramatic sketch; Collins's, Feb. 14.

Hullo, London! revue, in three scenes, by George Grossmith, jun., lyrics by C. H. Bovill, music by Cuthbert Clarke; Empire, Feb. 19.

I Dine with My Mother, sketch, adapted by Michael Morton from *Je Dine chez Ma Mère*; Palace Theatre, Feb. 21.

The Dressing Room, comedy, in one act, by J. Bernard Fagan; Hippodrome, Feb. 21.

Very, Very Much Engaged, playlet; Holborn Empire, Feb. 21.

Let No Man Put Asunder, sketch; Putney Hippodrome, Feb. 21.

The Mafia, dramatic sketch, in one scene; Collins's, Feb. 21.

The Polar Star, ballet divertissement, arranged and produced by Elise Clerc, music by George W. Byng; Alhambra, Feb. 28.

Sir Roger de Coverley, costume comedy, in two tableaux, by Ernest Legh; Standard, Feb. 28.

Richelieu's Spy, historical episode, by Ivan Patrick Gore; Surrey, Feb. 28.

THE annual ball held in connection with the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Thursday, March 3, was a huge success. A large, merry party assembled at the City Assembly Rooms, and the proceedings proved thoroughly enjoyable. All the members of the *Aladdin* pantomime company were present.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—Your Pontefract correspondent states in last week's *Era* that I was deputising at the Alexandra Theatre. I beg to state that my contract for Pontefract was signed and confirmed fourteen months ago, so I could hardly be deputising for anyone.—Yours sincerely, LELIA RUSSELL, Hippodrome, Eastbourne, March 8.

THE Merrie Elfyns concert party organised a benefit entertainment at the Ewen Hall, High Barnet, on the 3rd inst., upon the excellence of which Mr. Charles Grattan is to be highly congratulated. The programme was agreeably varied, and was considerably extended by encores. Mr. Paul Chalenor, a talented baritone, was accorded well-merited recognition; Mr. Charles Grattan, a clever comedian, caused roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Lawrence (tenor), sang in cultivated style; Mr. Barrett Clifton, with his songs at the piano, proved himself a finished entertainer; Mr. Will Rogers (humorist), was immensely popular; Miss May Marks, a soprano with a fine, rich voice, sang admirably; Miss Kathleen Butler has a sweet, well-trained voice, which gave much pleasure; Miss Ida Wagner proved herself a charming comedienne; Miss Violet Johnson, a charming mezzo-soprano, sang "Angus Macdonald" with much fire and spirt; and Miss Maud Muller, a talented contralto, sang with effect; the Merrie Elfyns' concerted items were received with unbounded applause.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

Adams, Miss S.
Albani, Mdme.
Aldin, Mr. Chas.
Anderson, Mr. Claude
Barson, Mr. Alf.
Beach, Mr. A. C.
Bell, Miss Lesly
Bendella, Mr. Walter
Bentley, Mrs. Walter
Bernard, Mr. Seton
Black, Mr. Wallace
Boyd, Mr. Edwin
Buckley, Mr. Andrew
Calden, Messrs. T. & W
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Carton, Mr. H. B.
Chard, Miss Dorothy
Charter, Mr. James
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Courtenay, Miss Maud
Craske, Miss D.
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dare, Miss Zena
Dare, Mr. Cyrus
Dawson, Miss C. C.
De'Ora, Mr. Robert
Dickson, Mrs. M. E.
Douglas, Miss Gertie
Drew, Mr. Edwin
Drury, Miss Lily
Dunlo, Mr. W.
Durland, Mr. Fred
Edwards, Miss Esme
Ellis, Miss M. E.
Escourt, Mr.
Felton, Mr. Wm.
Foldi, Miss Irma
Forman and Fannan
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss Mary
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Goldburn, Mr. Lionel
Gordon, Mr. Phillip
Granville, Mr. T.
Granville, Mr. V. L.
Gray, Mr. J. W.
Grey, Mr. Robert
Hall, Miss Edith
Halstan, Miss M.
Hammersley, Miss Dora
Harrie, Mr. Geo.
Harrison, Mr. John
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hartley, Mr. R. A.
Hayden, Mr. Percy
Hayter, Mr. F. L.
Helmsley, Mr. C. T.
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houp'la, Mr. R.
Howard, Mr. George
Howard, Prof. Tom
Hullett, Miss Dorothy
Hybert. Mr. Josh
James, Mr. Philip
Jees, The Musical
Johnson, Miss J.
Kalo, Mr. James
Keppels, The
Kirkdale, Mr. R. E.
Lambert, Captain
Langford, Mr. W. W.
Laurence, Miss Dulcie
Lawson, Mr. R. E.
Lauri, Mme. F. V.
Le Clair, Mr. and Mrs.
Lena and Preston
Leopold and Hypa
Leverence, Miss Louie
Lind, Miss Letty
Lindens, The
Lindsay, Mr. H. W.
Lindsay, Mr. James
Loftus, Mr. Harry
Lumley, Mr. Harry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lynn, Miss Jennie
Lynton, Mr. W. Mayne
Maillalieu, Miss Mary
Malone, Miss Kitty
Mappin, Mr. Walter
Martens, Mr. Hugo
Martyn, Master P.
Marx, Mr. J. G.
McKay, Mr. C.
McMillen, Mr. W. L.
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mersano, Mr.
Michel, Mr. G. E.
Mills, Mr.
Milton and Horton
Mitcheleon, Mr. Angus
Mone, Mr.
Mumford, Mr. G.
Munro, Mr. George
Needham, Mr. Robert
Neil, Mr. S.
Nevada, Mme.
Parkinson, Miss M.
Pembroke, Mr. Wilson
Pitman, Mr. Will
Pitt, Mr. F. W.
Powell, Mr. A.
Prince, Mr. Arthur
Proctor, Mr. C. King
Raby, Miss Mary
Ra Leslie, Miss Ethel
Rayburn, Mr. Bert
Redcliffe, Mr. Ern
Reese, Mr. Ernie
Rinder, Mr. Arthur
Rita, Signorina
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rousby, Mr. E.
Sawyer, Mr. Francies
Saxon, Mr. Oswald
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Sleath, Mis Helena
Sloane, Mr. Harry
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Sothern, Mr. E.
Souter, Miss Lillie
Spark, Miss O'Deyne
Steel, Mrs.
Tabrar, Mr. Joseph
Terry and Tate
Theland, Miss E.
Tilbury, Mr. Walter
Tribe, Miss Maud
Tweddell, Mr. George
Ulph, Mrs. Harry
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vane, Miss Edith
Vasco, Mr. Walter
Vaselicu Troupe
Vezin, Mr. Hermann
Walton, Mr. Fred
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warren, Mr. Arthur
Whitaker, Mr. Fred
White, Miss Maggie
Whitmore, Mr. Joe
Woods, Misses A. and D
"Yanger"
Zola, Mr. Frederick

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 3. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS. The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London. 91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W., All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m. Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents). 9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents). 459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents). 24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents). 12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only). Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only). ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK. ESTABLISHED 1851. SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand. 2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book. All general Banking Business transacted. ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE. C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS. Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO. Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000. Claims paid £5,700,000. 64, CORNHILL, LONDON. A. VIAN, Secretary.

I DEAL IN MONEY. £100 to £25,000. My price is the cheapest obtainable and I do everything in reason to suit the requirements of my Customers. Note of hand alone is all the Security I require. I have a large capital always on hand available. Phone or write saying what you require, and I will give you definite particulars which you doubtless will find entirely suitable and convenient, or if you call, business completed at first interview. Do not be misled by flattering advertisements which pretend to lend money at 5 per cent. HENRY HARRIS, 6, Old Cavendish Street, W. 'Phone: Mayfair 3503, Padd. 235.

MONEY £5 TO £5000. DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone. Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE. SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by MATURING IN BOTTLE, the Natural method, without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES, BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. For Sustaining the Voice. Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS. Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DELICIOUS COFFEE, RED WHITE & BLUE. For Breakfast & after Dinner.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered. DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS. IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms. The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE. None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp. Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA. The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING. MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C. PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS. TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES. ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN. SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

TRADE MARK. J.W. No. 286645.

Velvet Grip Compress Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.

Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.

Made in England. (Patent No. 16888/08 and under License of Patent 24215/99.)

Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.

These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen two to six inches; they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.

They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.

Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.

C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.

If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily, 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening, at 9,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
Mr. George Alexander
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
Matinée (both plays), Weds. and Sats., at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
March 14th, "THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"A BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, March 14, VARIETIES. Twice nightly.
Star Programme. Popular Prices. Smoking.
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

ROYALTY THEATRE, London, W.
Lease (55 years) for sale, with possession. Total outgoing, including ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, under £2,000 per annum. Part purchase might remain at 5 per cent. per annum. Theatre holds at ordinary West End prices, £220. Accommodation, 800 persons. Proprietors would give permission for conversion to music hall if purchaser desired. Apply to Tom B. Davis, Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE
Open Daily.
Theatre, "CHARLEY'S AUNT," 7.45;
Matinée, Wednesday, 3 p.m.
Skating, Hockey, Ladies' and Military Bands, Organ, &c.
Wednesday next—
Grand Fancy Dress Skating Carnival.
Thursday next—
Grand Irish Concert (St. Patrick's).

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.
Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
Little Tich, Mrs. Lewis Waller and company, Karno's "Mumming Birds," Burt Shepard, Mary Law, The Zigeuner, Quartette, Martin Adeson, Marguerite Broadfoote, Dick Tubb, Josie Delaine, The Creo Brothers, Jessie Buckle, Dent and Harris, Queenie Essex, Charles Reekie, The Rowsons, the Bioscope. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinée 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
E. D. Nicholls and Co., in "That Dreadful Detective," Sisters Macarte, The Makers of History, Dardinis, Savori, Marguerite Broadfoote, Cribb and Cribb, Madoline Rees, Ben Albert, Hal Forde, Dennis and Morris, Ruffell's.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
General-Manager,
PERCY FORD.
Six Brothers Luck, Alf Boroks, Chummie La Mara, Sisters Wren, Master Arthur Wheeler, The Glovers, Connie Duprez, The Scentillants, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, A. H. Webb and Co., in "The Galley Slave."

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Chas. Austin and Co., in "Parker, P.C.," Flora Cromer, Burt Shepard, Kitty Colyer, Rex Fox, Ted Waite, Sterling and Love, Fred Land, Ruffell's Bioscope, Henri de Vries in "A Dumb Man's Curse."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, March 14, 1910:—
Fred Karno's Co., in "The Mumming Birds," Baby Wolfe, Kimberley and Melbourne, The Three Gellings, Norris and Morgan, Scot Bruce, Fred Moule, in "The Annexers," Frances Delavel and Co., The Gibsons, Five Gordon Girls, Bioscope, Arthur Rigby, Kitty Colyer, Bromley and Fontein.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—Half-time, 9.30. Monday, March 14: Will Evans, Phœbe Mercer and Co., The Kirbys, "The Carneys of Killarney," H. E. Terry and Co., Lilian Lowe, Mlle. Dolli, Ben Albert, Madge Osmond, Mimi Thornton, T. C. Jacques, Mostol, Ethel Pierce, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 603 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Consul, La Belle Greta, Jessie Buckle, Fred Poplar, Frank and Free, Kitty Wager, Bioscope, Stanley Atkin, Juggling Geraldos, Geo. Wyatt and Co. in "009 West." Artists, please note.—Rehearsals must be attended, Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
New Ballet,
"THE POLAR STAR."
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Mirza Golem Troupe, Kitty Traney, Sebastian Merill and Co., Garcia, Daphne Hope, Jury's Pictures of up-to-date events, &c.
Patriotic Ballet, "OUR FLAG."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE.
"ROUND THE WORLD."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Graham's Marionettes, Scott and Whaley, George Mozart, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Mlle. Polaire in "Le Visiteur," Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, La Pia, Gaudsmidts, The McBans, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. "Happy Holland," a merry and bright burletta, Princess D'Aryaba, the famous dancer, Leonard Teel, Ella Retford, Dent and Harris, Henri de Vries, Wilson and Waring, Martineks, Meredith Meredro, H. Pleon, Flora Cromer, Selbinis, F. Keeton, Will E. Stopit, Sinclair and Whiteford, Jack Marks, Lily Eyton, Queenie Essex, Three Royal Dreadnoughts, F. Land, Bioscope. Open 7.10. Saturday matinées at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
Principal, William H. Cummings, Mus.D.Dub., F.S.A.
Orchestral Concert, Arne Commemoration, Wednesday, 16th, at 6 p.m. Admission free.
Purcell's Opera, "Dido and Æneas," in the School Theatre, 17th and 19th inst.
Tickets 1s., 2s., 3s.,
may be had of the Secretary,
H. Saxe Wyndham,
Victoria Embankment, E.C.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O.
Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
March 14, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert.
March 18, last day of entry for Higher Examinations (Branch B).
Concert Tickets and Examination Syllabus on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND
DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
Principals: Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President: George Edwardes, Esq.
Pupils can join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art, Deportment, Elocution, Fencing, Stage Dancing, Singing, Sight Singing, Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy, &c. Foundation Open Scholarship Examination, April 22. Apply, Secretary. Tel., Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and
Most Up-to-date Theatres
in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Bookings include the companies of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. William Greet, Messrs. Jay and Mann, The Moody-Manners, Miss Lena Ashwell, Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, Mr. Allan Wilkie, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. James Welch, Mr. William Maclaren, The Lyceum Productions, Miss Florence Baines, Mr. Douglas Bruce, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1, also few remaining dates in October and November.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
THE GRAND THEATRE,
Under the entirely new proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Prettiest Playhouse.
THE MOST POPULAR AND THE RECORD MONEY-TAKING THEATRE AT ORDINARY PRICES IN BLACKPOOL.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910, with Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year (for supreme No. 1 Companies only), June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24.
All communications to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager (as above), or Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Only vacant Spring dates, May 26, 27, 28, and June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attractions. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
April 25,
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and a few Season Dates Open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant April 4, 5, and 6.
April 21, 22, 23 (three nights),
April 25 (six), May 2, 9, 16.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Tremendous success of the Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant to oblige, April 25,
also weeks in June and July, and Nov.
No free list during Dramatic Season.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Easter week, March 28,
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for May 23, 30, Aug. 1, 15, 29 (Plymouth Races Week), Nov. 28, and Dec. 5.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700. Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
Vacant Aug. 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17, Dec.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. Now Booking Autumn.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8. Also few remaining dates in Oct. and Nov. Fast booking Spring, 1911.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Vacant April 4, 5, 6, May 12, 13, 14, June 20, several dates onwards. C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
The ANNUAL MEETING of the Subscribers will be held in the Saloon of TERRY'S THEATRE, Strand, London, W.C., by the kind permission of EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P., on TUESDAY, March 22, 1910, at 1 o'clock, p.m., to receive the Annual Report, &c., &c.
By Order,
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary pro. tem.
Savoy House, Strand, London, W.C.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
Election of Committee for 1910 and 1911.
All subscribers of 21s. and upwards are entitled to nominate and vote in the election of the Executive Committee for 1910 and 1911, which must be composed of fourteen members of £5 and upwards, and seven members of not less than one guinea.
Gentlemen qualified as above and who are willing to serve on the Committee for 1910 and 1911, are requested to send in their names not later than Thursday, March 17, 1910.
In the event of more than twenty-one candidates consenting to serve, an election will take place on Thursday, March 24, 1910, at 4 p.m., at 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, when the voting papers will be examined and recorded by the scrutineers appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
By Order,
C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.
Offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

FUNDS, &c.

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND.
SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1909.

	£	s.	d.
St. J. Ewart, deceased (bequest)	102	2	6
Result of action between Geo. Gray and the V.A.F.	100	0	0
The Rev. A. Brinckman	30	0	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	21	0	0
Lord Burnham	20	0	0
Eric Lewis	10	0	0
Cyril Maude	10	0	0
Alfred Sutro	5	5	0
G. Alexander	5	5	0
Miss Lilian Braithwaite	5	5	0
Mrs. G. Mosenthal	5	5	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	5	0
Playgoers' Club (per James Sharpe)	5	5	0
Wm. Greet	5	5	0
Claud Brinckman, 1908	5	5	0
A. C. Claudet (per Miss Constance Hyem)	5	5	0
J. A. E. Malone	5	0	0
Augustus F. M. Spalding	5	0	0
Anonymous (per Lyn Harding)	5	0	0
Miss Winifred Emery	3	3	0
Capt. Preston	3	3	0
Lyn Harding	3	3	0
Miss Jean Aylwin	3	3	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	3	0	0
Mrs. Fred Urwick	2	2	0
Arthur Williams	2	2	0
Miss Marie Löhr	2	2	0
Fred Terry	2	2	0
J. Fisher-White	2	2	0
Gerald du Maurier	2	0	6
Mrs. Kittie Carson	2	0	0
R. C. McCleery	2	0	0
Chas. Gay	1	1	0
Mrs. Gay	1	1	0
Miss Vane Featherston	1	1	0
Mrs. Edward Bullivant	1	1	0
Miss Ada Blanche	1	1	0
Miss Phyllis Broughton	1	1	0
Mrs. William Lyon	1	1	0
Mrs. Walter Abrahams	1	1	0
Miss Carlotta Addison	1	1	0
Mrs. Saba Raleigh	1	1	0
The Rev. Wm. Cree	1	1	0
Charles Cruikshanks	1	1	0
Miss Sydney Fairbrother	1	1	0
Mrs. Barber	1	1	0
Edward Terry	1	1	0
Miss Helen Ferrers	1	1	0
Miss Lily Brayton	1	1	0
Miss Fox	1	1	0
Miss May Warley	1	1	0
Miss Eva Moore	1	1	0
Miss Cicely Richards	1	1	0
Miss Gertrude Warden	1	1	0
Miss C. Low	1	1	0
Miss L. Low	1	1	0
Mrs. Mangles	1	1	0
C. Aubrey Smith	1	1	0
Hy. Nicholls	1	1	0
Miss Constance Rivington	1	1	0
Oscar Asche	1	1	0
Blake Adams	1	1	0
Mrs. Fred Wright	1	1	0
Mlle. Marie de Mensiaux	1	1	0
A. H. Harvey (per Charles Manners)	1	1	0
E. Lyall Sweete	1	1	0
Alfred Brydone	1	1	0
Dawson Williams	1	1	0
Miss Nellie Neame	1	1	0
A Friend (per Miss Harriet Greet)	1	1	0
Miss Blanche E. Chambers (per Miss Ellen Terry)	1	1	0
Henry Ainley	1	1	0
Lionel Carson	1	1	0
George Hersee (per Miss Carlotta Addison)	1	1	0
Graham Morrison (per Edward Compton)	1	1	0
A. C. Claudet (per Miss Constance Hyem)	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Mrs. E. Garside	1	1	0
Martin Harvey	1	0	0
Sir Berkeley Wynne	1	0	0
Mrs. Mayne	1	0	0
Miss Agnes Thomas, 1908	0	15	0
Mr. Lustgarten (per Geo. Lee)	0	12	0
Mrs. Waterhouse	0	10	6
Walter Bull, C.C.	0	10	6
A. S. Homewood	0	10	6
Miss Harriet Greet	0	10	6
Mrs. and Mrs. Alfred Gray	0	10	6
Miss Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	6
Miss Emily E. Weare	0	10	0
Miss B. H. Tredgold	0	5	0
W. M. MacKenzie (per Charles Manners)	0	5	0
C. Watson Mill	0	2	6

BENEFIT PERFORMANCES, BOX COLLECTIONS, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Net profits Garden Party (per Anslow J. Austin)	2055	7	6
Cyril Maude, Playhouse	52	1	6
Proceeds "Jumping Beans" (per Cyril Maude)	29	9	10
Collected at General Meeting and Sale of Programmes	22	0	7
The Liverpool Theatrical Gala (per J. Gaffney, Secretary)	20	0	0
Working Girls' Club Matinée (per Cyril Maude)	15	0	0
Mrs. Cazaly, expenses in connection with her son's return to Canada	13	5	4
Society of Day Nurseries Matinée (per Cyril Maude)	10	0	0
Army and Navy Male Nurses' Corporation (per Cyril Maude)	10	0	0
Belfast Theatrical Charity Fund	10	0	0
Theatrical Cricket Match, 1908	9	11	8
Dolling Memorial Matinée (per Cyril Maude)	6	9	0
Return from Shone Trust	6	6	0
Theatrical Variety Theatres Football Club	5	0	0
Middlesex County Football Association (per Miss Constance Hyem)	3	0	0
A. Wareing, Esq., loan of *Through Seas of Blood*	2	2	0
Miss L. Low (outdoor games)	0	10	0
Dover-street Studios	0	10	0
E. Sidebotham, interest on money	0	7	0

TAX ON FREE ADMISSIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow (per Arthur Jefferson)	8	11	2
Milton Bode and Edward Compton (per W. R. King, Dalston Theatre)	4	14	7
Anonymous	3	7	3
Theatre Royal, Belfast (per F. W. Warden)	3	0	0
Prince's Theatre, Bristol (per J. M. Chute)	1	2	0
E. P. Morgan, T. R., Scarborough	1	2	0
C. W. Ramsay, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield	0	12	6

AUTOGRAPHS

	£	s.	d.
Miss Julia Neilson and Fred Terry	20	18	6
Cyril Maude	5	5	4
Martin Harvey	1	0	0
C. Aubrey Smith	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners (Miss Fanny Moody)	0	12	6
Miss Lena Ashwell	0	8	1

PENNY COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
The Arcadians, per Miss Ada Blanche	17	4	0
Lyceum Theatre, per Miss Blanche Stanley	6	16	11
Daly's Theatre, per Miss Nancy Dale	5	9	6
Old Folks at Home Co., per Frank Liston	5	7	6
Flag Lieutenant, North Co., per Miss Stella Leigh	4	7	10
The Playhouse Co., per Miss Rosalie Toller	3	17	4
St. James's Theatre Co., per Miss Barbara Hannay, Miss Elizabeth Dart, and Miss Rosalie Toller	2	19	7
Pete Co., per Miss Helena Millais	2	9	6
Convict 99 Co., per Frank Beresford	2	2	4
Gaiety Theatre Co., per Miss Marjorie Michie	1	19	0
Kingsway Theatre Co., per Miss Lena Ashwell and Miss Mary Duff	1	15	8
Compton Comedy Co., per Miss Jess Morton	1	15	6
Charley's Aunt Co., per Miss Sylvia Morris	1	9	0
Dick Whittington and *Cinderella* (Edinburgh) Co., per Miss Ethel Erskine	1	8	0
Merry Widow Co., on Tour, per Miss Sylvia May	1	6	0
Flag Lieutenant South Co., per Miss Ada Clarke	1	9	6
H. B. Irving's Co., per Frank Randell and Stanley Howlett	1	5	0
At Duty's Call Co., per Miss Beatrice Western	1	4	4
The Prodigal Son Co., per Chas. Seymour and Charles Garrick	1	3	8
The Arcadians, on Tour, per Miss Ethel Erskine	1	2	6
Milton Bode's *Cinderella* Co. (per George Rowlands)	1	2	0
Miss Isabella Jay	1	1	0
Dick Whittington Co. (Coronet Theatre), (per Miss Constance Hy

FUNDS, &c.

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND.

PENNY COLLECTIONS.
(continued).

	£	s.	d.
Two Little Vagabonds Co. (per Miss Marie Pritchard)	0	18	1
The Devil Co. (per Miss Gladys Mason)	0	17	6
Coal King Co. (per Max Hinton)	0	16	6
What a Woman Did Co. (per Miss Florence Watson)	0	16	0
Pete Co. (per Miss Amy Venimore)	0	15	10
The Prisoner of the Bastille Co. (per Miss Phyllis Relph)	0	15	8
Christian Co. (per Jack Parson and H. M. Harcourt)	0	15	3
Grand Theatre, Mansfield, per Cecil Clayton and Miss Harriet Greet	0	16	0
Miss Carlotta Addison	0	15	0
Mrs. Ulathorne	0	14	6
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., per Miss Clara Dow	0	14	0
The Laughter of Fools Co., per Wyn Weaver	0	13	4
Bound to Win Co., per Harry Momber	0	11	8
False Wife Co., per Miss Florence E. Florence	0	11	2
Flag Lieutenant, No. 1 Co., per Miss Dorothy Fane	0	10	7
No Wedding Bells for Her Co., per H. S. Momber	0	10	6
	0	10	6
Dennis Eadie	0	10	0
Miss L. Low	0	10	0
Martin Harvey's Co., per Mrs. Fred Wright	0	10	0
The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning Co. (per Bert Hammond)	0	10	0
Prodigal Son Co. (per Miss Dora Gregory)	0	10	0
Mrs. Edward Bullivant	0	9	0
Mr. Charles Hawtrey's Co. (per Miss Vane Featherstone)	0	8	6
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow (per A. Jefferson)	0	8	6
Peter Pan Co. (per Miss Pauline Chase)	0	8	0
Milton Bode's *Robinson Crusoe* Co. (per Miss Jennie Lynwood)	0	8	0
The Christian Co. (per Geo. R. Mountford)	0	7	8
Her Marriage Vow Co. (per Miss Nellie Shirley)	0	7	6
Prodigal Son Co. (per Bruce Lindley)	0	7	6
Can a Woman Be Good Co. (per Miss Winifred Barton)	0	7	3
Builder of Bridges Co., per Miss Barbara Hannay	0	7	0
The Girl with the Angel Face Co., per Mr. J. Glad	0	7	0
The Little Damozel Co., per Miss Gladys Mason	0	6	6
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch Co., per Miss Augusta Haviland	0	6	6
Frederick Loveridge Co.	0	5	11
Miss Millie Emden	0	5	6
The Hypocrites Co., per Miss Millie Emden	0	4	7
Eyes of the World Co., per Miss Nellie Garside	0	4	0
Gaiety Theatre Co., per Robert Hale	0	3	6
Miss Nancy Beresford	0	2	4

A. J. AUSTIN, Hon. Secretary.
26, Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.
Dec. 31, 1909.

OF ALL BOOKSELLERS AND BOOKSTALLS

FORTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

Price One Shilling, by post Fourteen Pence.

1910—THE ERA ANNUAL—1910

PRESS OPINIONS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.
Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thoroughgoing manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

THE ROAD, February, 1910.
"The Era" Annual for 1910, illustrated (1s., *The Era* Office), always one of the best theatrical volumes of the year, this time excels itself. It gives a dramatic and musical calendar (each day recalling some event of importance in corresponding years); a number of short stories, each by some well-known actor or acting-manager; new plays and important revivals in London and suburban houses for 1909; the same in the provinces; an alphabetical list of plays, both London and provincial, for the whole year; the casts of new plays; plays produced in New York; new pieces at the Paris theatres; the same at Berlin; principal sketches at London variety houses, and casts thereof; separate lists of theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom; a theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary; and, last and saddest, the deaths of the year illustrated, brought down to so late a date that it includes photos of Mr. E. H. Carpenter, who died on Dec. 23, and Mme. Meta Illing, who died on Dec. 26 last past. It is a veritable mine of information between two covers, and makes us wonder how so many valuable facts can be published at the low price charged for this. Our sincere congratulations to the editor and publisher thereof.

MORNING ADVERTISER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Annual (price 1s.) is always welcome in stageland and among the theatre-goers. This year's issue maintains the reputation of the publication for amusing reading and useful information. A number of lively contributions from well-known actors and actresses fill nearly half its pages, and the rest of the book is devoted to particulars as to the new plays and revivals of the year 1909, a list of theatres in the United Kingdom, and a full obituary list of artists who, having "fretted their hour upon the stage," are heard no more. "The Era" Annual is an invaluable reference book to all concerned with the stage.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.
About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

THE FINANCIER, Jan. 20, 1910.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), is a full and accurate record of the past year's productions and a calendar of theatrical events. It also contains a feature of wide public interest—namely, "Stories Told by Well-Known People." The story-tellers are, for the most part, the bright, particular stars of the stage, whose recollections, sketches and poetic interludes—these last by Messrs. J. H. Barnes, Charles Collette, and Tom Craven—are likely to command wide attention. The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, also contributes an in memoriam tribute entitled "Faithful Unto the End." The opening contribution is by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and deals with the problem concerning the site of the old Globe playhouse of Shakespeare's day.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1910.

MRS. R. D'OYLY CARTE.

The movement which has been started to present a testimonial to Mrs. D'OYLY CARTE in the shape of her portrait, painted by a distinguished artist, is certain of the sympathy and support of our readers. The business of theatrical management, like the stage itself, draws into its vortex personalities of all kinds; but seldom has it received a more interesting recruit than Mrs. CARTE. She was the daughter of a Scotch legal official, received an excellent classical and mathematical education, and had all the self-supporting instincts of the modern woman. It is curious that she did not at first realise in what direction her talent lay, thinking that she might succeed on the stage. But her training in the exact sciences had a powerful influence upon her throughout her life. It is said that it showed itself on her first meeting with Mr. D'OYLY CARTE, whom she came to consult as to going on the stage. Mr. CARTE was not naturally a methodical man, and his office in Craig's Court, at which "Miss LENOIR" called, was in a state of considerable confusion. Mrs. CARTE asked to be given half an hour to set it in order; and, in a very short space of time, had sorted, arranged, and endorsed all the papers and documents in business-like style. Pending a possible dramatic engagement, Mrs. CARTE became Mr. CARTE'S secretary and right hand, both at Craig's Court and at the offices of the Comedy Opera Co., Ltd., at the old Opera Comique Theatre, where *H.M.S. Pinafore* was produced.

Mrs. CARTE'S influence on the success of her future husband's business was very beneficial. At one time there was a danger that Mr. CARTE'S system would suffer from over-centralisation. He insisted on answering all his letters himself; and the result was that much correspondence was postponed until it was almost too late to be of any benefit. Mrs. CARTE came to the rescue, and soon showed herself to be one of the most remarkable business women in England. Sweet, gentle, and sympathetic in manner, *petite* and apparently delicate in physique, Mrs. CARTE appeared to possess one of those steel-and-indiarubber brains and constitutions which nothing can fatigue, a decision and resolution which were always at her disposal, and an extraordinary amount of self-command. Her tact is marvellous, and her diplomacy delicate and resourceful. Add to this an intense love of work for its own sake, and it is easy to understand the immense value of the alliance between two such individualities and intellects as those of herself and Mr. CARTE. In many ways her character formed the complement of her husband's, and quite early in his career she relieved him of much of the labour of conducting his various enterprises. Latterly, of course, as his health failed, the chief responsibility devolved upon her alone.

Mrs. CARTE'S career will always be associated with the great series of successes known collectively as the GILBERT and SULLIVAN operas. From the commencement, that wonderful combination of wit and music never "looked back." Each triumph added to the *prestige* of the beautiful Savoy Theatre, the pioneer of the electrically-lighted, commodious, and luxurious modern playhouse. Then there were the American tours, which created a vast amount of additional office-work, and the provincial companies, several of which were always running round the provinces. And when Mr. CARTE decided to utilise a space of waste ground at the back of the Savoy Theatre for the erection of a palatial hotel, the strain on him and Mrs. CARTE reached its most intense and trying point. The work demanded of her about this period, when she and Mr. CARTE practically adhered to business from morning till night, was sufficient to ruin any ordinary constitution; but Mrs. CARTE'S health held out splendidly until the terrible shock of the death of her husband in 1901. For fifteen years she had laboured incessantly in his interests; and when he was taken from her at the too-early age of fifty-seven she received a blow from which she never quite recovered. Since then, though she has attended assiduously to the vast interests of the Savoy Theatre and Savoy Hotel Companies, her health has been, at the best, precarious, though she has borne her sufferings with the stoical calm which is part of her character.

Mrs. CARTE once experimentally appeared on the stage as a robin redbreast in a pantomime at Dublin, under the management of the late Mr. MICHAEL GUNN; but there was other work for her to do. Her generosity, courtesy, and kindness to all with whom she has come in contact are only known to those who have been connected with her in business; but if they could speak, a great chorus of gratitude and appreciation would be heard. As an example of her charity, we may repeat the following letter which she sent the other day to Mr. C. I. COLTSON, the popular secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund: "Dear Mr. COLTSON,—I am afraid from what you write me that the distress is very great indeed this year, and I gather this also from the many letters I have myself received. I am, therefore, sending you an extra subscription of £50 to the fund." With everything that money can buy at her disposal, there is nothing that the profession can offer her except appreciation. The portrait for which subscriptions are being so readily sent to Mr. FLADGATE at 2, Craig's Court will be an expression of feeling which will be valued by Mrs. CARTE as a testimony of the respect and regard in which she is held, and of the many friends in the profession who have watched her career and admired her character.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

Mr. Henry Neville, in his lecture to the members of the O.P. Club on Sunday last, spoke with very great enthusiasm about the great times of Shakespeare, of the great writers of the age of our good Queen Bess. Shakespeare's charming personality and fascinating teaching dominated the glorious age. Who would have imagined that the gifted spirit and the divine afflatus which shone brightly in the dawn of Athens and slumbered through centuries of Rome's magnificence would reappear in an obscure town in England to make it the cynosure of all nations and for all time? The world of beauties Shakespeare brought into human sight revitalised the face of the earth to men. He injected, as it were, his inspired current of thought and feeling into the fallen constitution of the world. Womanhood is indebted to him above all others for his ideal portraits of excellence, purity, and piety. He presented family character in its feminine perfections. The expression of her nature was a revelation to herself, for we must not forget that while women looked on, boys acted ethereal characters which in woman's hands alone could shine with a lustre of great light. But, in spite of all that was done in Elizabeth's reign, England passed through bad times for more than 200 years after. Having passed in review the French Revolution, the Napoleonic and Crimean wars, the cotton famine, and other events, Mr. Neville asked whether it was true that their grandfathers slept on a bed of roses? Was he not justified, in view of the events to which he had alluded, in saying that there never were universal good old times? In spite of what poets and chroniclers had written, he thought they should be happy and rejoice that they had been born at this glorious end of the world. They might pity their ancestors, for they certainly did not enjoy the privileges which they possessed in 1910. The world was still in its infancy. This was the youth of the world, and it was for them to do something which had never been done before—to paint a picture such as had not yet been seen, or write a play which was not a rehash of plays which had been written before. Let them get rid of the false age which writers had loved to dwell upon, for they had lived too much in the past. He hoped he had shown that there were no universally better days than the present, and that, in spite of these social and political differences, they were never more prosperous, more enlightened, better fed, better clothed, and better taught than now. They had more liberties and more privileges, and all they had to guard against was bad laws. Progress must and would continue, in spite of the puny efforts of those who resisted it. "Therefore," observed the lecturer, "I say, with Sir Richard Alliston and Sidney Smith, 'For Olden Times let others prate, I deem it lucky I was born so late.' In fine, ladies and gentlemen, it remains with you, who live in the infancy and youth of the world, to make the good old times of the future generations."

Mr. Neville, in the course of his lecture, remarked that Rostand's "original" *Chantecler* was foreshadowed by Dryden's fable of "The Cock and the Fox." Dryden's hero (the cock) makes a speech, in which he says: "All Nature's ours, and I there see Man strutting on two legs and apeing me."

Mr. PHILIP RODWAY'S benefit at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday night was an unqualified success. The members of the *Jack and the Beanstalk* pantomime and artists from the local variety halls rallied round the popular general-manager, and a crowded audience thoroughly enjoyed the five hours' entertainment. During the evening Mr. Rodway was presented with a handsome silver rose-bowl, the anonymity of the donor being preserved.

In acknowledging the gift and in thanking the performers, Mr. Rodway said it was no easy matter to talk about oneself. Had he taken the audience into his confidence and told them of one-half of the successful pieces of work he has carried through during his thirteen years' association with the Theatre Royal, he would, we fear, though speaking no more than the truth, have appeared somewhat boastful. As it was, he was modesty personified, and he received a warm and friendly ovation.

The artists who augmented the pantomime programme were Mr. George Formby (Empire), Miss Madge Temple (Hippodrome), Miss Ray Ford and Miss Florence Dudley (Alexandra), and Little Maudie Olmar, Birmingham's wonderful child dancer, who came direct from her highly-successful engagement at the Garrick Theatre, London, in *Where Children Rule*.

The General Staff Branch of the N.A.T.E. have decided to take counsel's opinion as to the right of action by their members recently employed at the Strand Theatre by Mr. Robert Hilton against Cleodan, Ltd., and the gentlemen whose names appear on the list of directors and managers of that company. If there is a chance of obtaining the payment of the wages due to their members further proceedings will be instituted against the directors individually and collectively. The committee have advanced to members, by way of loan to those in need over £26 of the amount due for wages.

"TWO MERRY MONARCHS."

New Musical Play, in Two Acts, Book by Arthur Anderson and George Levy, Lyrics by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick, Music by Orlando Morgan, Produced at the Savoy Theatre, on Thursday March 10.

Rolandyl	Mr. C. H. Workman
King Paul of Esperanto	Mr. Robert Whyte, Jun.
King Utops of Utopia	Mr. Lennox Pawle
Prince Charmis	Mr. Roland Cunningham
Helvanoise	Mr. Leslie Stiles
Mandamus	Mr. Neville George
Head Flunkey	Mr. Francis Pater
Princess Cynthia	Miss Daisy Le Hay
Iris	Miss Alma Barber
Caroline	Miss Mayne Young
Dorothy	Miss Aileen Pel
Hermia	Miss Marie West
Gretchen	Miss Laurie Opperman
Jean	Miss Joan Adair
Carmenita	Miss Betty Heaps
Celeste	Miss Adeline Waterlow

A conspicuous merit of Mr. Workman's latest production at the Savoy Theatre is the exquisite refinement of the mounting and dressing of the piece. Mr. Alfred Terraine's Palace Courtyard for the first act is a miracle of sunny illumination and architectural effect, and Mr. McCleery's Palace ante-room, with its delicate blues and greys, is another fine example of the scene-painters' skill. These two charming backgrounds are in complete harmony with the colours of the costumes, so deftly designed by Mr. Percy Anderson, and doubtless the production of the musical play by Mr. Austen Hurgon has much to do with the excellence of the *tout ensemble*.

The story of *Two Merry Monarchs* is of one King Paul of Esperanto, who, nearly a thousand years since, discovered the elixir of life. His assistant in his alchemical studies was one Utops, who also partook of the drug which endows the drinker with longevity. Paul determines to put Utops out of the way, and so invents a plan which is ingenious if a little uncertain in the working out. He inoculates his daughter Cynthia so thoroughly with a certain deadly poison that anyone kissing her must die. Paul then puts forth an edict strictly forbidding osculation in his kingdom for a year. Then Utops is betrothed to Cynthia, Paul's expectation being that, when the *fiancées* meet and embrace, Utops will fall down dead.

But the handsome young Governor of Police, Prince Charmis, is in love with Cynthia, and she with him; and when Utops comes to Esperanto to claim his promised bride, and is going to kiss her, Charmis steps forward, and, in the name of the law, prevents the osculation. The story becomes less easy to follow as the play proceeds; indeed, it serves as a thread on which to string musical numbers, dances, and dialogue. It is, however, necessary to mention that Rolandyl, Postmaster-General and Assessor of Taxes of Esperanto, and the confidant of all King Paul's trickeries and villainies, pervades the piece like a kind of Puck, enjoying the troubles and annoyances of others, and playing his own game in a most amusing manner.

The music of *Two Merry Monarchs* has the very welcome merits of dash, sound, and spirit, and is, for that reason, exhilarating; but it does not contain many of those haunting melodies which are hummed and whistled "after the opera is over." It is, however, bright and pleasing, and there is plenty of emphatic and rousing appeal in the concerted pieces and choruses. The lyrics are all neatly and crisply written. One of the most successful was a song for Rolandyl in the second act, which we quote:

"If you're keen upon kissing your wife when your wed,
Well, you won't want a licence for that!
It is merely a sign that you're losing your head,
So you won't want a licence for that!
But if you should find your companion for life
Has developed a taste for connubial strife,
And you fancy a kiss from another man's wife,
Well, you must have a licence for that!
Yes, you must have a licence for that—
It's a dangerous game to be at;
Stolen kisses are best,
So by special request
We have issued a licence for that.

"If your coachman is clad in vermilion and puce,
Well, you won't have a licence for that!
It may call from the cabby sarcastic abuse,
But you won't want a licence for that!
If you think a fur tippet will add to his charms,
You can lend him your old one without any qualms,
But if you indulge in a new coat-of-arms,
Well, you must have a licence for that!
Yes, you must have a licence for that—
It's the mark of the aristocrat;
It may be what you will,
Either rampant or still,
But you must have a licence for that.

"If an actress is passé and plays the soubrette,
Well, she won't need a licence for that!
She may even have reached second childhood, and yet
There's no need of a licence for that!
But supposing a manager wants to engage
Someone graceful and slim for the part of a page,
And he chooses a child that is just under age—
Well, he must have a licence for that!
Yes, he must have a licence for that
Till the kitten grows into a cat,
If a flapper of two
Wants to make her début,
We can issue a licence for that!

"You may all keep canaries, keep cats, or keep fit,
And you won't want a licence for that!
Keep a messenger keeping a place in the pit,
And you won't want a licence for that!
A boy may keep rabbits, a sailor a log,
A woman keep youthful, a king keep incog.
But the moment you think about keeping a dog,
Well, you must have a licence for that!
Yes, you must have a licence for that—
If your income is not very fat,
It will fill up your cup
When the dog has a pup,
You will want a new licence for that!"

Mr. C. H. Workman as Rolandyl played with his usual alertness and drollery. His never-flagging vivacity and his remarkable resources in the way of business and gesture kept things going wonderfully. The character is not as consistently worked out as some of those in the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and Mr. Workman therefore had to supply the want by his personal energy and humour. His habit of distinct enunciation was again appreciated, especially in his rendering of Rolandyl's songs, out of which he extracted the utmost point and meaning. Had encores been allowed Mr. Workman could have taken many; but he wisely refrained from accepting them. A clever character impersonation was Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.'s, King Paul of Esperanto. The undignified monarch, who is ready to stoop to any expediency in order to gain his ends, and who allows his Postmaster-General strange liberties, was distinctly drawn, and the comicality of the part was developed to the utmost. A complete contrast to the "pawky" Paul was Mr. Lennox Pawle's King Utops. The spectacle of Mr. Pawle, with his well-developed figure clad in a Greek costume and a rose garland on his head, was extremely diverting, and he played the part with full appreciation of its possibilities. Mr. Roland Cunningham, who has a fine figure and a good voice, acted Prince Charmis in broad, bold, and vigorous style, and sang the numbers allotted to him admirably; and Mr. Leslie Stiles played the Herald, Helvanoise, with all the necessary expression and animation. As the principal Lady-in-waiting, Iris, Miss Alma Barber was bewitchingly arch and active. Her performance was full of life and fun, and she danced and sang in the most winning and delightfully impulsive style, her charming personality making her a great favourite. A pretty and refined Princess Cynthia was Miss Daisy Le Hay, whose performance combined artlessness and simple dignity with exquisite grace and gentleness, her vocalisation being excellent. Warm praise must be given to Miss Mayne Young for her strong and spirited delivery of the speeches of the public agitatress Caroline. She gave a powerful and picturesque performance. Mr. Neville George was comically senile as Mandamus, the Lord Chief Justice of Utopia, and Mr. Francis Pater bore himself well as the Head Flunkey. The orchestra, under Mr. T. Silver's bâton did its work perfectly; and *Two Merry Monarchs* had an enthusiastic reception.

THE SUNDAY DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of this committee was held on Thursday in the Board Room of the Variety Artists' Federation. Mr. W. H. Clemart presided. The other members of the committee present were Mr. Charles Coborn, V.A.F., Mr. Robson Paige, and Mr. Duncan Young (of the Actors' Association), Mr. C. Jesson (Musicians' Union), and Mr. G. H. Dyball and Mr. W. Johnson (of the N.A.T.E.).

The secretary reported on the number of replies to the circular issued by the committee to candidates in the recent L.C.C. election. Forty favourable replies had been received, but there was no question but that the whole of the members of the Council would support the past policy of the Council in regard to Sunday entertainments.

The secretary reported that a number of invitations had already been sent out to representative ladies and gentlemen connected with the dramatic and variety professions, the Church, and the Legislature. Among the replies received the following had consented to add their name to the list of vice-presidents:—The Bishop of Southwark, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Hugh Astley, Mr. J. Elvin, and Mr. J. R. Macdonald, M.P., secretary of the Labour Party.

The following draft of regulations, which it is intended to submit to Town and County Councils with a view to their being adopted were approved.

REGULATIONS FOR SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

1. No place for public entertainments licensed by this Council shall be opened on a Sunday by way of trade or for personal gain.

2. Permission to give an entertainment on Sundays on licensed premises shall only be given on the following conditions:—

(a) Application must be made by a responsible officer of a society or organisation, and such application must be endorsed by the licensee. The applicant for permission shall furnish with his application a copy of the rules, regulations, or balance-sheet of the society or organisation, showing how its funds and the proceeds of such entertainment are, and will be, used, and shall supply a copy of his agreement with the licensee, showing on what terms the applicant obtains the use of the licensed premises and what is to be the maximum sum paid to the licensee for any and all purposes.

(b) The applicant shall, on behalf of his society or organisation, give an undertaking that the entertainment will be properly conducted and that he will be responsible for the employment and remuneration (if any) of any person whose services are required for the entertainment, and that no one employed on such premises by the licensee during the week shall have any pressure put upon him or her to work on Sunday in connection with such entertainment. The licensee shall give an undertaking that the refusal of any person to assist at a Sunday entertainment shall not affect the continuation of such person in his employ.

(c) The applicant shall furnish the Council with a statement of accounts, duly audited, for such entertainment, and give a full and true account of the receipts and payments within one month; and, if permission be given for a series of entertainments, a statement of accounts shall be rendered monthly to the Council, the same to be open to the inspection of the public.

(d) The licensee shall be held responsible for the observance of the Council's regulations in all respects, but shall not have any other control, in any respect, of an entertainment given on a Sunday.

(e) Permission shall not be given unless an applicant satisfy the Council that the entertainment is for a legitimate and a non-commercial purpose; or, if the agreement between the applicant and the licensee shows that the licensee is sharing the receipts, or receiving an undue amount by way of rent or other charges for the use of the premises. The Council will give preference to applicants assisting a *bona fide* charity or benevolent fund, but will have regard to the number of entertainments then being given on a Sunday.

The draft of a letter to be sent to all licensing authorities was also approved. The chairman and secretary were deputed to prepare a statement, to be submitted to the L.C.C., dealing with a number of facts that have come to the knowledge of the committee regarding entertainments now being given on Sundays in the metropolitan area.

The following members of the committee—Messrs. Coborn, Paige, Jesson, and the secretary—were appointed to meet representatives of the Imperial Sunday Alliance, as requested, on Tuesday next, at the offices of the Sunday Lay Movement, in Sackville-street.

It was decided to lay the objects and views of the committee before the Press of the country without delay.

The committee will meet again next Thursday, at twelve o'clock, at 18, Charing Cross-road.

Mr. EDWIN T. HEYS writes:—"In your last issue you quoted from a letter to the *Daily News* a statement that *Strife* lost money heavily in every town in the provinces. May I point out that Miss Horniman's company, under the direction of Mr. B. Iden Payne, played *Strife* at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, for three consecutive weeks to large and very profitable houses?"

Mr. E. H. SOTHERN and Miss Julia Marlowe are fulfilling a joint engagement at the Academy of Music, New York, and appearing in a series of Shakespearean plays. This is to be their last season together, as Miss Marlowe has made arrangements to appear in England and Australia. The Academy, by the way, is to be turned into a "popular price" vaudeville house at the end of the present season, and it is said that the lessees will pay the estates of Eugene Tompkins and E. G. Gilmore, the joint proprietors of the theatre, a rental of 100,000 dollars per annum for a period of ten years. Thus, the spirit of the drama will no longer haunt Fourteenth-street, for the theatre named after that busy thoroughfare has been turned into a moving picture house, and now the Academy is to be changed.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Alfred Butt started for the Continent on Wednesday morning, and is in Berlin on business connected with the erection of a new theatre there. Mr. Butt, with Mr. Walter de Frece, is a director of the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, established with a capital of £50,000 to carry on the business of managers of music halls, theatres, circuses, skating rinks, exhibitions, fairs, &c., and to adopt an agreement (1) with Barrasford, Limited, and (2) with W. de Frece.

Mr. William Bailey, who returns to the management of the Metropolitan on Monday next, has been much gratified at a presentation from his old employees at the West London, who gave him a sterling silver cigar case of massive beauty. Mr. J. H. Shotton, the acting-manager, made a very effective speech on behalf of the staff before and behind the curtain, and Mr. Bailey, in his reply, expressed his deep appreciation of a gift prompted only by kindliness and good fellowship.

Mr. Harry Lauder, fresh from a successful American tour, has arrived in London, having crossed the Atlantic in the Mauretania. He will return to the States after the fulfilment of his engagements on this side.

After his interesting engagement at the Hippodrome, Mr. Lewis Waller joins the company at the Coliseum on Monday. He will not give Henry Hamilton's morbid but clever monologue, *Fortune's Fool*, but will recite excerpts from *Julius Cæsar*, *Henry the Fifth*, and will also draw upon Kipling's "Barrack-Room Ballads," and possibly Tennyson.

Once again Mr. B. Pearce Lucas is giving over the Bedford, Camden Town, to the cause of charity for a special matinée performance next Thursday afternoon, "under distinguished patronage," in aid of the St. Pancras Almshouses and the St. Pancras Female Orphanage. The Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the borough have consented to attend in state.

Sir Edward Moss, speaking in his speech as chairman at the annual general meeting of Moss' Empires, Ltd., at Edinburgh, asserted that one of the causes of the reduction of variety dividends was the keen competition of skating rinks. The second list which we have prepared shows the sum of £2,000,000 invested in rinks, and amply justifies not only Sir Edward's remarks, but other similar statements of music hall managing-directors.

That clever young actress Miss Helena Millais, niece of the late Mr. Adney Payne and cousin of Mr. Walter Gibbons, is the latest recruit from the theatre to variety. Miss Millais, who made her first appearance in 1903 when she was sixteen, has done brilliant work during her stage career, and recently concluded eighteen months' starring engagement under the Lyceum management as Kate Cregeen in *Pete*.

Supported by a first-class company, including Edward Thane, John Dennys, and Stuart Cleveland, Miss Millais is producing a new and original "thrill," by Ward Bailey and Edward Thane, entitled *The Mask Torn Off*. The scene is laid in Monaco. Mr. W. J. Grimes has secured the novelty for the Empress, Brixton, and Miss Millais will open there on Monday next.

The strength of a variety programme lies in the force of contrast, and in the Hippodrome bill on Monday next this truism will be illustrated in the turns of Miss Louie Freear and Miss Ada Reeve. The former comedienne has again taken her legitimate place as one of London's laughter-makers. It is good to hear audiences at the Hippodrome laughing at her latest song, "When my old man took the pledge," and to note their immense enjoyment of Miss Freear's wonderfully funny skit on the Salome dance.

Miss Ada Reeve, who, like Miss Freear, has been on the stage since her childhood, is paying her first visit to the Hippodrome on Monday, and will sing a number of new songs as well as some old favourites. Miss Reeve, who gets a wonderful amount of expression into her lines and brings out every point, will change her songs almost every night, for she has an exceptionally large répertoire.

Mme. Rejane will open a four weeks' engagement at the London Hippodrome on April 4, in a gay little comedy called *Lolotte*, by Meilhac and Halévy, which she has only played once in England, and that before the King. *Lolotte* was originally presented in London in 1880 by Céline Chaumont, and Sir Francis Burnand adapted the trifle for Lady Bancroft, under the title *A Lesson*, which was presented at the Haymarket Theatre on Nov. 26, 1881. The popular comedienne played Kate Reeve, an actress, the counterpart of Lolotte.

Many conflicting statements have been made as to whether Vesta Victoria has accepted American engagements. We are in a position to state that Miss Victoria has been booked by Mr. Martin Beck on the Orpheum circuit through the Beecham and Wheeler office. This engagement was arranged some weeks back, London and provincial managers having courteously postponed the popular artist's engagements. Needless to say, the salary that has induced Miss Victoria to again cross the "pond" is a sensational one.

The Greenwich Palace of Varieties, Ltd., reopened on Monday. The managing-director is Major Gordon Hartley, and Mr. J. S. Fairlie (late of the Alhambra, Paris) is in charge. It is many years since that, at the old hall built on the same site, and known in the eighties as Crowder's, Mr. C. S. Crowder commenced a business association with Mr. George Adney Payne, from which, in the nineties, may be said to have sprung the great aggregation of London halls known as the Syndicate.

Never is blithesome Miss Daisy Dormer more welcome than at the moment her appearance is unexpected, and when on Monday evening—in response to the word "Deputy"—the little lady burst like a ray of sunshine from the wings at the Ealing Hippodrome, one long shout of applause rose up from stalls, pit, and gallery. There is no mistake about the favour of this "artist to her finger-tips," and when she calls upon the house with an irresistible "now then" for the chorus of "Has anybody seen my sailor boy, whose name is upon my arm?" there is one great answer to the appeal of one who is alike the idol of the boys and whose pretty dresses are the envy of all the girls.

The Captain Webber Relief Fund Matinée at the London Tivoli on Tuesday next promises to be a brilliant function. Mr. Richard Warner, who is organising it, will have the aid of an influential committee of theatrical and variety celebrities. Captain Webber devoted both himself and his fortune to the needs of his country during the South African War, but since then has lost his all owing to circumstances over which he had no control. Contributions to the Tivoli Matinée Donation Fund may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. V. H. Lanyi, Lyric-chambers, 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, and applications for tickets should be made to the hon. secretary, Mr. Stanley C. May, at the same address.

The New Brighton Winter Gardens are now closed for extensive alterations, to which reference was made last week in our "Variety Gossip" columns. The re-opening is fixed for Easter Monday.

Mr. Walter Hague, late conductor of the Empire, Liverpool, has been appointed musical-director of Rivière's Grand Orchestra, Colwyn Bay.

The Pier Theatre, Eastbourne, will in future be booked by Mr. Milton Bode, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at the County Theatre, Reading. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

As a result of the recent bohemian smoking concert promoted by the Sharrow Cycling Club, Sheffield, a cheque for £15 has been forwarded to the respective secretaries of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Institution.

Considerable disgust is being expressed in the North at the collapse of a variety management in Kilmarnock last week. Seeing the state of affairs, the artists managed to secure Saturday's drawings, and, after division, found that for an arduous week's work each received the munificent sum of 11s. 3d.

Applications in connection with licensing of places of amusement at Great Yarmouth were recently considered by the Bench, and six-day licences were renewed in all cases, with the exception of the Britannia Pier, Wellington Pier and Gardens, at which the Justices will allow a band to play at hours between 12 and 5.30, and 8 and 10.

So far as The Gem is concerned, the Justices removed the restriction placed upon it, with the exception of that prohibiting shouting or advertising outside the building. The Aquarium will remain a six-day licence. The plans for a new pavilion in place of the building destroyed by fire on the Britannia Pier were put back for further submission.

Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son are ever increasing their circuit in Lancashire, and are identifying themselves with a new theatre in Preston, to be erected on the site of the Empress Rink. The building will resemble internally the Junction Theatre, Manchester, and when opened in the autumn will be called "The New King's Opera House."

Mr. F. Graham Macdona, lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Colchester, by arrangement with the Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., will open the Theatre Royal, Colchester, on Easter Monday, March 28, for a season as a variety theatre at popular prices. The house will then be run on the twice nightly plan. Mr. Macdona will re-open his dramatic season on Monday, Aug. 29.

Dr. Walford Bodie informs us that he is creating a furore in the North despite the adverse result of his appeal. He is greeted by packed houses everywhere, and has only seven weeks vacant this year—May and June. He starts in the autumn a long tour through Canada under the sole direction of Mrs. Walford Bodie and his son, Mr. Albert Edward Bodie, who is giving up the study of the law and will follow in his father's footsteps.

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., will publish this week Dr. Bodie's latest literary sensation in shilling volume form under the title of "Harley, the Hypnotist," and he is also commissioned to write a series of sensational occult stories for a leading London magazine.

On Tuesday last, before a full bench of magistrates, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes was granted a music and dancing licence for the Grand Theatre, Derby. This licence is in addition to the existing full dramatic and excise licences, and carries out a suggestion made by us in a recent article. The double licence will be a great boon to Mr. Edwardes, as it will give him more scope to cater for the amusement of the Derby public by enabling him to vary his entertainments to suit the popular taste.

Mr. G. H. Elliott had his benefit at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Tuesday evening last, when the house was packed from floor to ceiling, as was naturally expected, considering that he has to such a vast extent been instrumental in the colossal success of the *Mother Hubbard* pantomime. Though his part of Chocolate, coloured servant to the second girl, is not of vast importance in the plot of the pantomime, Mr. Elliott's personality and the magnetic charm of his song and dance specialities made him the most popular member of the company on the opening night, and he has maintained that position ever since.

Mr. Elliott has many advantages: he is just about the right height for his line of business, his figure is sufficiently slender, his make-up is attractive, his costumes fit him to perfection, he speaks distinctly in a pleasingly modulated voice, and his singing voice is really pleasant to listen to. His dancing is superb, and as for energy he would take a lot of beating, yet he is never obtrusive or aggressive. Added to all this, he is artistic to the finger-tips, and when the vein of comedy expected from a "coon" is in evidence it is very refined comedy, with nothing of the ordinary "nigger" about it. On Mr. Elliott's appearance on Tuesday evening the audience started "For he's a jolly good fellow." This was, of course, kindly meant, but it rather spoilt the scene, and was naturally somewhat embarrassing to Chocolate.

There were many extra attractions, additional turns being given by several members of the pantomime company, Mr. Elliott introduced his new song "By the light of the silvery moon." It is certainly pretty, and went well. He also sang his two London successes "I want to go to Idaho" and "If the man in the moon were a coon," both being encored. Mr. Horace Mills sang "Tra-la-la," Miss Lulu Valli "Naughty, naughty boy," Miss Daisy Lloyd Wood "Splash me," Mr. Charles Harvey an Irish song, "The mountains of Mourne," Mr. George Barrett both amused and mystified with his trick revolver shots, and Miss Betty Rutherford sang a couple of songs at the piano. From the Royal, Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Blanche Marion, the Sisters Emson, Mr. Dave Jenkins, and Mr. Frank Dunlop contributed very acceptable turns; and from the Empire Miss Carlotta Lovey and Mr. K. Scott-Barrie did likewise.

There were numerous presentations by Mr. Elliott, including a ring to Miss Leah Hanman, who so ably trained the children associated with him, floral offerings to all the lady artists, boxes of cigars and articles of jewellery to the gentlemen, and gold neckchains and pendants, containing his portrait, to the children. Everything went with delightful smoothness under the admirable stage direction of Mr. Henry Turner. At the close Mr. Elliott made a short speech, in which he said he should never forget his first benefit, and feelingly referred to the uniform kindness he had experienced from the management and the members of the company.

Owing to Miss Kate Carney's illness she has been unable to fulfil her engagements at Richmond, Hull, or Bradford.

Mr. W. H. Clemart has been elected paid chairman of the Variety Artists' Federation in succession to Mr. Fred Russell, the last to fill the position without honorarium. The new secretary—the third since the founding of the V.A.F.—is Mr. J. E. Barry.

Mr. Clemart's duties are very clearly defined. He is to act under the instructions of the Executive Committee, but will sign all cheques on the funds of the Federation. Mr. G. H. Chirgwin is the hon. treasurer, and Messrs. Joe Elvin, Paul Martinetti, and Edmund Edmunds are the hon. trustees.

Mr. J. J. Dallas, who is appearing at the London Pavilion with marked success, is to have the patronage of his brother Eccentrics there on Monday night.

The 650th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. Harry Blake (vice-chairman) presided. A cheque for £113 2s. was ordered to be drawn on behalf of the V.A.B.F. This sum represents the amount received for the extra shilling on the green cards during the last four months.

Mr. Charles Stevens and his clever wife, La Belle Nello, have put all their business arrangements into the hands of Walter Bentley's agency.

Mr. Charles Coborn, after many years absence, will shortly reappear at the London Pavilion. The date is not yet definitely fixed, but we are convinced that when the arrangements are complete, it will be a source of pleasure to many.

Mr. Bransby Williams has been specially sent to open a new theatre in Winnipeg. By the kindness of Mr. Oswald Stoll in releasing him he has been enabled to prolong his stay on the other side for three weeks more than originally intended.

A "musical comedy playlet," entitled *Cupid's Arms*, will be produced at the Oxford this (Saturday) afternoon. It is written by Mr. A. E. Ellis, with music by Mr. H. E. Pether, and will be played by Mr. J. C. Piddock and Mr. Frank Danby.

Miss Ellaline Terriss, at present in Sicily, has considerably benefited by her rest, and returns to London shortly to rehearse for her five weeks' engagement at the Coliseum, where she is to appear with Mr. Seymour Hicks in the new sketch, *The Man from Cook's*.

Miss Flora Cromer's song "I never meet a pal going my way" has, at the Oxford, been nightly received with acclamation, and is a fine specimen of the song-writer's art in the best possible hands. On Monday evening the fair artist was the recipient of two lovely bouquets on the conclusion of her turn.

Mr. Charles Waterfield, one of the oldest vocal comedians travelling, joined Mr. H. Sloan's Circus at Weymouth for one week on Nov. 8 last, and has remained with them ever since. He has now been engaged for Guernsey and Jersey for three months this summer. Mr. Waterfield's latest success is entitled "'Tis not the man who has the most that gives the most away."

Queen and Le Brun, who were so successfully introduced into the *Mother Goose* pantomime at Drury Lane in 1902 by the lamented Dan Leno, are presenting their original absurdity *The Cockney Huntsman*, at the Empire, Edinburgh, next week, when they commence the Moss-Stoll tour. They were engaged for nine consecutive seasons at Drury Lane, and afterwards played for two years "down under" under the J. C. Williamson management.

Dick Knowles is coming to England again, and opens on the Stoll tour on Easter Monday. He is under special contract for his usual music hall entertainment in the evenings, and also to give at matinées his humorous lectures, which he calls "Travelaughs," presenting a different one each day. These novel entertainments have been an enormous success in the States. Mr. Knowles's English business is in the exclusive care of Mr. Harry Day.

Mr. Albert Le Fre, on the day of the first performance of the pantomime, *Jack and Jill*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, had to attend the consecration of a new Masonic Lodge in London, his presence being absolutely essential as first Master. Knowing that he would have little time to prepare for the stage on his way back to Birmingham, he took his make-up materials and costume with him, and during the return journey quietly left the compartment, and, with the aid of a small mirror, effected a very considerable alteration in his appearance, a false nose playing a prominent part. His fellow travellers showed no little astonishment on his reappearance.

He was the butt of a good deal of chaff, one gentleman suggesting that it would be a wise policy to conceal himself under the seat when the ticket collector came along the corridor, otherwise he might be asked to deliver up another ticket. He made a hurried journey from the station to the theatre, arriving in good time to take his cue.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leo (Miss Sable Fern) are amongst the latest victims of the light-fingered fraternity. On Saturday evening last a neighbour went to the Battersea Palace, where Miss Fern was so successfully appearing in her new entertainment entitled *Boys in Camp*, and informed Mr. Leo that his residence at Twickenham had lights in every room. He, afraid of alarming his wife, who had yet to do her second performance, kept the matter to himself, and instantly informed the police by telephone. But the birds had flown, and with them jewellery to the value of £60.

The popular comedian Ted E. Box has purchased a song, by Gilbert Wells and Will Terry, entitled "The lighthouse-keeper," which has been produced with tremendous success. It is understood that Wells and Terry had to write four songs on the lighthouse-keeper before they hit upon the identical article. The lightning and thunder and crockery-smashing effects were rehearsed at Mr. Box's house, much to the surprise and perplexity of the popular Wells, who began to prepare for earthquakes, and Will Terry had laughing hysterics at the perplexed Gilbert. And then another song was written, and a success was found at last.

Miss Lola Lee's new production "The Spirit of the Dance" has proved an immense success at the Camden Hippodrome this week. The turn consists of imitations of a large number of famous dances of various countries. In the "Valse Moderne" Miss Lee introduces a series of "dip-pirouettes." No other person on the English stage since the time of Kate Vaughan and Letty Lind has been able to do justice to these fascinating but extremely difficult dance movements. Miss Lee is British born and British trained, and as such challenges comparison with any foreign artist. Her work is a most refreshing change from the prancings of the so-called classical dancers.

"George the First" is the monarchical title given to the clever chimpanzee now exploited by Dandy George, the clever clown and animal-trainer. The simian George is fond of bike-riding, and in his other acts is very human.

During Mr. Alfred Moul's absence on the Continent, for a much-needed period of rest to recover health and strength after his severe illness, Mr. H. Woodford, business-manager and secretary, is in charge at the Alhambra.

Mr. Fred Bowyer has written a trio on *Chantecler*, with music by Ernée Woodville. The new number was rapturously received in *The Earl and the Girl* at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on Monday last. In the way of comic verse Fred can claim to be a laureate.

Miss Wish Wynne, London's latest star comedienne, who is another find of the astute Mr. Frank Glenister, has been secured for the States, and will open with William Morris in September next. She is now starting on the Stoll Tour at the Empire, Holloway, but returns to the London Pavilion in August.

A revised version of *Round the World*, entitled *East to West*, will be presented next Monday at the Empire. The part of Captain Beresford, the hero, will be again played by the popular young tenor, Mr. Noel Fleming, who will introduce a new song, specially written for him by Mr. Cuthbert Clarke, the Empire's musical conductor.

Fred and Lillie Monckton, whose farcical duologues have been played successfully for the past six years in the principal London and provincial halls, will shortly produce an original dramatic episode, entitled *A Daughter of Judas*, by Mr. Fred Monckton, specially written for Miss Lillie, whose capabilities and versatility are well known.

Mr. Jack Sheridan, son of Mark Sheridan (one of the B-Hoys), opened at the Lyric, Liverpool, and was personally complimented by Mr. H. C. Arnold, sen., and re-engaged for three more dates. He has many more dates in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Ireland. Next week he plays the Empire, South Shields. His business is in the hands of that enterprising hustler Mr. Fred Wilmott.

Sandy McNab has just finished six weeks in Scotland, where he has played to record business in each town.

Lord Salvesen, in the Court of Session, Dundee, on the 4th inst., heard counsel on the procedure roll in the action by Malcolm Scott, comedian, 109, Wellington-road, South Hounslow, London, against Mrs. Elizabeth Martha Moult or Williams, 82, Victoria-road, Dundee, lessee of the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, for £100.

The pursuer entered into a contract to appear as "The Woman Who Knows" at defender's theatre for £100 per week, commencing on Sept. 13 1909. When he presented himself at the theatre the defender declined to allow him to rehearse, but subsequently allowed him to appear on the 14th and for the rest of the week, intimating that she would pay £100 and reserve her claims against Mr Scott for damages in respect of his failure to provide her with bill matter in terms of his contract. Pursuer stated that he did forward bill matter, and that although he fulfilled his contract defender refused to pay the £100.

In another action Mrs. Williams sued Mr. Scott for £250 damages in respect of loss sustained by her through his alleged failure to supply bill matter to enable her to properly advertise his performance.

In the action at the instance of Mr. Scott his lordship granted decree for the £100 sued for, but superseded extract on Mrs. Williams finding caution or consigning that sum in Court pending the disposal of Mrs. Williams' counter-claim.

The death was announced last week of Miss Harriet Clifton, who passed away at the age of sixty-three. The deceased lady about twenty years since was very popular in sketches, in which she supported Mr. George Yates. Both actor and actress doubled parts in these productions; but that was long before the days of the "compromise," and the "common informer" was often very busy. Miss Clifton was a great favourite at the Pavilion Theatre, E., in the old stock days.

The main-line departure platform at Waterloo at 9.45 a.m. on Saturday last presented a more than usually animated appearance, and that green-skinned monster, Locomotive No. 434, with steam up, stood coughing and sighing as though the run to Southampton with the London passengers of no fewer than three outgoing steamships was more than it could pull. Besides the voyagers for the German and the Kinfauns Castle, were those bound for New York per the Atlantic transport liner Minnlewaska, and among these last was Mr. Fred Day, of the Anglo-American publishing firm of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day and Hunter, who had been staying in England for some time on a visit of business and pleasure combined.

A goodly number assembled to witness his departure, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. David Day, their daughter and grandchild, Mrs. and Miss Plucknett, Mr. C. Westell, Mr. Sidney Kent (the well-known artist), Mr. Charles Wilmott, Mr. Lester Barrett, Mr. Leonard Bellamy, Mr. Arthur Francis, Mr. John Abbott, and Mr. Edgar Bateman. Mr. and Mrs. David Day accompanied the traveller as far as Southampton.

Councillor Harold Arnold, manager of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, has been appointed general manager for the Tynemouth Palace, which opens in May with first-class varieties. He will still hold his position at the King's Theatre. For the benefit of the patrons of the Palace he will establish ladies' reading and reception rooms, a gentleman's toilet saloon, and a room where they can write letters. A speciality in the way of refreshments will be evening dinners from seven to eight, at popular prices. The skating rink will be re-decorated and handsomely illuminated. All the best variety artistes will appear during the season.

Mr. Godfrey Price, a baritone who comes from the land of the harpers—Wales—being at one time a member of the famous Mountain Ash Male Voice Choir, has hit upon the original idea of acting and illustrating a song, and for that purpose has chosen the stirring number by Airlie Dix, entitled "The Trumpeter," the capital verses being by Mr. John Barron. "The Trumpeter" is presented in four scenes: The Reveille, the Charge, Night, and the Last Rally, with an apotheosis. In America especially Mr. Price's fine voice made him a most popular singer, and with English audiences he is becoming an immense favourite.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund, was held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon, when there were present Messrs. Tom Carney (in the chair), Pat Carey (hon. treasurer), S. White, T. B. Brydge, A. E. Drew, Carl Hermon, and R. T. Baines (secretary). At the conclusion of the ordinary business, mention was made of the appointment of Mr. Wm. Bailey (an old member of the Society, and formerly its hon. treasurer) as manager at the Metropolitan, with which he was associated in a similar position some nineteen years ago, and the secretary stated that he had already sent a congratulatory letter to Mr. Bailey.

The buildings and marine park, known as the Kursaal, Southend, has been taken over by a company known as the Luna Park and Palace of Amusements, Southend, Ltd. It is proposed to lay out the grounds as an American Fun Park, and already some of the most successful amusement devices in the world have been arranged for. There are still a few vacant plots to let for side shows and novelties. Applications to T. Hilton, Kursaal, Southend.

Southend has many natural advantages to commend itself as an amusement and pleasure resort, one of the foremost being that it is the nearest seaside resort to the greatest city in the world. The population within a radius of fifty miles exceeds seven million people. This is considerably in excess of the population surrounding any other seaside resort in the United Kingdom.

The Kursaal buildings (with eight fully-licensed bars), capable of holding and entertaining over 10,000 people at one time, will be a great advantage and source of revenue in wet and inclement weather. The buildings and land cost originally about £350,000. The promoters do not claim that this in any way represents its true value at the present time, but they do claim that there is very considerable value in the land and buildings, and that owing to the increasing growth of Southend it is becoming more and more valuable every year.

There are thirty-seven shops, dining hall, billiard room, lounge, skating rink, tea balcony, arcade, theatre, and the usual offices. The Marine Park of twenty-five acres will contain, inter alia, figure 8 railway, aeroflight, trip to the moon, zig-zag, witching waves, steeplechase, shooting hoop-'as, and Old English Fair, &c. That the scheme has a reasonable chance of success is proved by the number of concessions that are already arranged with most of the leading showmen in the world who have had experience of other similar enterprises in populous centres.

The annual meeting of the Terriers' Association will be held on Sunday, March 20, at the Three Stags Hotel, at 6.30 p.m.

Mr. Reg. Amber, who is at the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, has scored a great success in new songs and scena. He opens in London after his al-fresco season with Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.

The following additional donations have been received to the amount collected at the M.H.A.R.A. dinner:—Mis Lottie Alberts, £1 1s.; Chas. W. Snell, £2 2s.; P. Jackson, Pixley, and Co., £2 2s.; Arthur Rigby, £1 1s. Total amount received to date, £644 2s. 6d.

Mr. Ernest Lepard is doing what may be called an extra good turn at the Canterbury. Attracted early one morning by a policeman guiding a mite of a shoeless waif home, he learned from the kindly constable that there was a mass of poor hungry children round about the hall of which he is the manager. Something, he thought, might be done to mitigate the lot of the youngsters, and a committee of five friends and neighbours set to work.

As a result, during the last ten weeks every Wednesday and Thursday, hundreds of the poorest children in the neighbourhood have been regaled on the stage of the Canterbury with a good meal. The manager and his assistants act as stewards. At the neighbouring Dover Castle the soup is boiled, and others provide the beef, potatoes, fruit, &c. No subscriptions are solicited. "Kind hearts are more than coronets."

Mrs. C. C. Bartram desires us to make it clear that, although she has been a member from the beginning, she has only been on the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild a few months, and that Mrs. Smythson has always been a committee lady, and is at the present time, the first vice-president of the Guild. It may also be added that Mrs. Smythson was one of the original founders of the M.H.L.G.

Miss Lallah Ashby is expected to return to England about the end of April for a short holiday, and to arrange a new musical scena for her re-engagement with Mr. K. Bysack in December. Miss Ashby, with her late husband, known as "the Musical Ashbys," went to India in 1904, and the pair were very big favourites in the East. Since his lamented death Miss Ashby has lost none of her popularity, as she discovered during her recent comfortable engagement under the management of Mr. K. Bysack.

Owing to the next regular meeting of the Bohemian Lodge No. 3294 falling upon Good Friday, a dispensation has been applied for to hold the meeting on Tuesday, March 22, at the Masonic Chambers, 9, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead, at 1.30 p.m. The hall is opposite the Hamilton-square Station of the Mersey Railway, which is only three minutes from Liverpool. The W.M. trusts that all visiting brethren to the Liverpool and Birkenhead districts will favour the Lodge with a visit on this occasion.

Bro. Ernest Wighton (manager of the Olympia) is one of the stalwarts of the Lodge. He was responsible for the very excellent programme at the bohemian concert held at the Birkenhead Town Hall, which resulted in a sum of over fifty guineas being handed to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. At this meeting he proposes two joining members, Bro. John Barton (Barton and Ashley) and Bro. Albert Warren (illusionist). The next meeting will be a "moving picture," for the three candidates for initiation—Messrs. James Mole, Arthur Richards, and Fred Parker—are all shining lights in the cinematograph constellation.

The installation meeting will be held on Friday, April 22, by kind permission of W.Bro. W. H. Lever, P.P.G.W., at Thornton Manor, Thornton Hough. Conveyances will be in readiness at Rock Ferry Station at 11 a.m. for the ceremony at 12 noon. Dinner at 2 p.m. Further information may be obtained from the secretary, Bro. W. Jones, 34, Cable-street, Liverpool.

Mr. Ben Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank Mr. Vivian Evans, Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, for £1 19s.; Mr. Sam Jones, City Varieties, Leeds, for 4s.; Mr. Herbert Raymond, Regent Theatre, Salford, for £2 11s.; Mr. Jack Woolf, Wonderland, Whitechapel, for £2; Austin Rudd, per the *Performer*, for 5s.; Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, Waterloo-road, for £5 (being share of the profits from the sale of their date book); also for cheque from H. and M. Rayne, per F. H. Pedgrift (*The Era*), £3 0s. 3d. (being share on the sale of the date book by *The Era*); Walter Norman King's Theatre, Gainsborough, for 6s. 6d.; Ernie Westo (son of Lieut. Travis), for 4s. 7d.; also Mrs. O'Brien (Rules', Maiden-lane), box collection of £2 2s. 9d.; Harry Bawn (per F. Alexander), Empire, Edmonton, box collection of £2 6s.

Many thanks are also due for parcels of men's old clothes received from Pat Carey, Peggy Pryde, and to Ernest Ball, Harry Blake, and Harry and Lillie Vento (Clacton-on-Sea), for parcels of books and magazines, which the inmates of the Home find very interesting; also for kind letter and voting papers from Tom Branson, Queen's Saloon, Hastings. Will collectors kindly send along their "Music Hall Home Cards"? The next committee meeting will be on the 17th inst.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. CHARLES R. WHITTLE, who is appearing at the Empire, Sheffield, had the felicity a day or two since of telegraphing to Messrs. Francis and Day the pleasing intelligence that the new song he had essayed there, and which is entitled "You might do worse than marry a factory lass," was an unmistakable and enormous hit, and had been received with the utmost enthusiasm. It has been written and composed by Will Letters and C. W. Murphy, who, between them, gave the world "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" Yet another message from the same popular artist was to the effect that Charles Wilmott and Hermann E. Darewski's new song "Come round the corner with me" had likewise hit the mark in the most emphatic manner, huge audiences having roared out their admiration as only the Blades can. Messrs. Francis and Day will issue both numbers in due course.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE, that delightful queen of chorus singers, has, much to the chagrin and disappointment of her numberless Glasgow admirers, been compelled through indisposition to lay off, but will next week at the Palace, Blackpool, sing Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski's "'Tis a faded picture," a number in which the author and composer of "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" have, as they ever do, "come up to the sample." Another new song which Miss Forde will delight Blackpool patrons with is C. W. Murphy's "In your old Tam o' Shanter, Bonnie Jean," a number of which great things are expected.

MISS ELLA RETFORD, who has won all hearts in Birmingham, and who concludes to-night at the Prince of Wales's an enormously successful pantomime engagement, has in study, and will produce shortly, an entirely new song, named "Hi! Hi! Mister McKie!" from the joint pens of Will Letters and C. W. Murphy. Messrs. Francis and Day have the song in the press.

MISS OUIDA MACDERMOTT, whose performance of the Prince in *Cinderella* at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, was marked by the dramatic power inherited from her gifted father, and who once more in pantomime made even a bigger success than she did the year prior, will on Monday, at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, sing a delightful new song, by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, entitled "To welcome my Sadie to me," and also a number which may be described as a gem of prettiness and earnestness, the name of which is "Castles of sand," for which Sidney Davis is responsible. Hermann E. Darewski has set the lyric to one of those musicianly strains which stamps him as one who ever, to slightly alter Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's dictum, "thinks melodiously."

IN addition to securing Mr. Jack Pleasants' great comic songs "I'll be a bad lad, 'Liza Ann!" by C. W. Murphy, and "I'm shy, Mary Ellen," by Charles A. Stevens and Charles Ridgwell, Messrs Francis and Day have acquired for publication the comedian's forthcoming songs, "To show who was boss of the house" and "I love to go butterfly catching." The former is by C. W. Murphy, whilst Stevens and Ridgwell are responsible for the latter.

MR. WILKIE BARD'S new song "Not a single man said 'No!'" which has been specially written him by Worton David and George Arthurs, has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MR. WARWICK WILLIAMS'S new and pretty waltz "Dolorosa" is a fine specimen of the art of the musician who has given the world that fine march "Alicia" and numberless other morceaux that linger pleasingly on the memory. It is being brought out by Messrs. Francis and Day. The genial Bohemian's intermezzo, entitled "Hope," lately figured on the Tivoli programme as overture.

MR. BILLY WILLIAMS, "the man in the velvet suit," who sailed for Australia a day or two since, just prior to his departure published with Messrs. Francis and Day a song, by Fred Godfrey and Orlando Powell, entitled "In the land where there are no girls," and another yclept "He used to play on the oboe," by Fred Godfrey and Charles Hilbury.

C. W. MURPHY, on whom, it is alleged, even Orpheus would cast envious eyes were the god to re-visit these glimpses of the moon, has published with Mr. David Day's firm during the last few days songs, entitled "Little brown man from Tokio," "In my dear little Lancashire home," "She's a London lass is Lucy," and "My orchard is short of a peach like you." Will Letters is associated with the last-named ditty.

MR. BEN ALBERT has during the week been creating heartiest laughter at the London Pavilion with Alf Ellerton's "My inventive kiddy" and "What's the use of sighing?" a number which bears the unmistakable impress of Charles Osborne. Both songs are published by Messrs Francis and Day.

THE military bands of Great Britain are now playing Henry E. Pether's fascinating "Cecilia" waltz, which is a fine specimen of the art of this favourite composer, and one that is in steady demand. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

IT is quite on the cards, and more than likely that next week Messrs. Francis and Day may have something to say about some new songs and pieces.

MESSRS. FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER have just published a new Irish ditty, entitled "Miss O'Hara and her emerald tiara." It is written and composed by Weston, Barnes, and Maurice Scott, who feel confident it will eclipse in popularity their famous number, "I've got rings on my fingers."

MR. ARTHUR J. MILLS, happily recovered from his recent severe illness, has again, in conjunction with his partner, Mr. Bennett Scott, written a number which aptly illustrates the true meaning of the term "hand and glove," for never were words and melody better fitted one to the other. It is called "If the wife could see me now!" and Miss Maud Esmond, looking radiant in a beautiful new white and gold costume, with gold boots, has been doing the new song fullest justice at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, much to the delight of Mr. Dickie's patrons.

MISS DORA LYRIC, both at Putney and Pimlico, has nightly been assisted by her hearers in the chorus of two capital songs, which are likely to be of the utmost service to this foremost artist, and also to be largely enquired for. The titles are "Hello! Mr. Captain, are there any little girls in view?" and "I want to go back to the dear Homeland."

MR. ERNIE MAYNE'S fine comic song "Have a banana" and his comical methods and wildly ludicrous appearance have evoked shouts of laughter such as are seldom heard in a London music hall during the week now ending. Alf Ellerton is to be congratulated on the number, which is from his pen.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

A new play, in one act, by Georges Numa, was produced at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening. It is entitled:

"LE VISITEUR."

An Actress ..... MLLE. POLAIRE
The Visitor ..... M. GEORGES BAUD
A Maid ..... MLLE. DINARD

The piece has been written round Mlle. Polaire, the original of *Ma Gosse*, who made her début on Monday in Shaftesbury-avenue in her original character of "an actress." Masking her fear in the presence of an Apache, the divette plays the part of a Delilah of the slums and satiates her revenge by stabbing him with the knife from which he has just wiped the blood of her murdered lover. She sees the Apache at the window, and invites him to enter. He eagerly scans the apartment, and it is difficult to imagine his ferocious savagery being tamed by the wiles of woman. But the lust of the flesh overmasters the lust of gold as he joins her in "La Danse de Faubourgs"—a terpsichorean exercise in which the outward expression of animalism is certainly not restrained. As they dance his eyes are fastened upon the necklace of pearls about her throat. The temptation is too great. He reaches up to detach the jewels. As he does so she, in passing near the knife which he has incautiously left upon the table, seizes it and buries it in his back. He falls, and she, stumbling upon him, bursts into hysterical laughter and sinks exhausted upon the couch.

Mlle. Polaire's personal success was immediate, and on Monday she held completely the attention of a packed house from the moment of her entrance. She expressed very vividly the passing fear of the Parisian hooligan, who never goes about the stage without his snicker-snee glaringly displayed. The agony of apprehension which marks every movement of the defenceless girl was to be seen in every gesture. Then the reckless abandon of her dance!

Georges Baud as the Apache presents one of those relentless and repellent studies with which we are becoming quite familiar. The little piece has apparently been written to allow the clever pair to present a realistic study of the erotics of the gutter—a theme that has been more than sufficiently emphasised on the London stage already.

In the way of beautiful scenic effects and delightful dancing one turns from the realistic studies of the French school of dance-miming to the pretty, fanciful series of dances presented by La Pia, whom we see at first immolating herself in a stage flare that has no fire to colour it, and then as a naiad, sporting with the waves in a wonderful sea, which does not contain a drop of water. Much might be said about the delightful effects produced by the lantern, which provides a series of coloured front "cloths" and backgrounds, but it is only necessary to say that the wonders of the camera as an aid to scenic art have not yet been fathomed.

Mr. Jeffrey Silant contributes, early in the evening, an uncommon exhibition of skill with the stock whip as used in Australia on the cattle camps; the Palace Girls dance with a fascination and unanimity all their own; Mr. Cyril Clensy mimics Lewis Waller, George Graves, and Dick Knowles with equal facility; and other turns include Madeline Rossiter, comedienne; Frank Hartley, juggler; the Gaudsmidts, clever acrobatic clowns, with most intelligent performing poodles who can somersault; the McBans, the boomerang hat-throwers, with the whirl of the Indian club; Nelson Jackson, with a piano and some jokes; and Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson in a répertoire of classical dances, which comprise Anitra's Dance from Grieg's *Peer Gynt* suite.

LONDON PAVILION.

When an original comédienne of considerable versatility is discovered it is well to make a note of the fact, and Miss Wish Wynne amply demonstrates at the London Pavilion nightly that Mr. Frank Glenister is more than justified in his confidence in her ability. It was Mr. Glenister who gave a real chance to Miss Ida René—the latest principal girl at Drury Lane—for the display of her comedy gifts, and we have always wondered why she was not secured for musical comedy. This might be the ultimate goal of Miss Wynne, but there is plenty of room for talent such as hers on the variety stage, and her bookings suggest that she may remain there, at any rate, for some time. Her first song is in the philosophic vein: "When a maiden is young and romantic" the world is *couleur de rose*, but hard experience puts a different complexion upon things. This briefly is the lesson of the number. In her second item Miss Wynne is a modern Nan, a good-for-nothing, who makes many shrewd and observant remarks—a clever bit of character. Then we have a rare sketch of a country girl—a companion picture to Mr. Chevalier's delightful yokel. Miss Wynne is deservedly an immense favourite with Pavilion audiences.

Mr. J. J. Dallas reminds us of the claims of legitimate low comedy on the halls, with two capital songs: "In his mind" and "Nobody knows what I have suffered," the plaint of a voluble widow who is in a reminiscent mood, and babbles of girlhood and the ivy-covered cottage. Mr. Dallas scores most unmistakably, and a further extension of his budget of songs into the domain of "character" would be welcome.

Early in the bill Mr. Arthur Leslie, comedian, sings some nonsensical verses *à la* Wilkie Bard—of whom he reminds us—and also gives a fugitive impression of Mr. Albert Chevalier in "A Fallen Star." Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe has a rather stupid song concerning "a baby grand" and "a grand baby," but "gets home" with a second selection. Mr. Ben Albert has a droll tale of verses concerning an ingenious youth—a perfect marvel—whose inventive mind is a source of considerable trouble to his proud and anxious parents; and Mr. Larry Lewis, who returns after a short absence, and Mr. Mike Nono submit amusing comedy items. Miss Madoline Rees sings blithely of a geisha-girl, fascinating enough to draw her admirer across the sunlit sea; and Miss José Collins, whose *vibrato* effects rather spoil her enunciation, wins applause in "Come sing to me."

Miss Violet Loraine is piquant and attractive in her singing of "I want a boy," and her pleasant personality and comedy gifts enable her to score a conspicuous success in her second number, descriptive of the delights of a ramble in the park. Here the "bell" effects are of an amusing nature.

Laughter is in the ascendant when Carter Livesey and Miss Lilian Rosebery present once more the enormously popular skit, *The Would-be Actors*, one of the few that can be seen more than once. Miss Rosebery is a particularly handsome actress, and charmingly accentuates the contrast between the homely Yorkshire manager and the stage aspirant, who "looks all right."

Mr. Tom Clare plays the piano particularly well, and may always be trusted to introduce an up-to-date song with plenty of witty verses. His indignant German telephoning to his landlord concerning repairs is one of the droliest items he has given us; but this is quite away from the piano. Mr. Arthur Aldridge sings "Nirvana" with much warmth and feeling; the Brothers Dean's simultaneous dancing is neat; and Mlle. Marjutti puts much grace into her contortion feats.

La Milo returns here after nearly four years' absence, in her exhibition of classical poses, which, it will be remembered, secured the warm approval of Mr. W. T. Stead, an authority on morality and art. Milo presents the Venus of her namesake, and also appears on the pedestal as Una with the lion, Leda and the swan, Hebe, and La Cigale, all of which are partly draped figures, and beautifully realised. Cruickshank's pictorial libels of statesmen fill out the time taken between the different art creations. "Makers of History" is an appeal to patriotism that should be seen everywhere. The figures in the main are admirable likenesses of the originals.

SADLER'S WELLS.

There are three good sketches in the current week's bill at Sadler's Wells, two of them having gruesome endings. *Winkels* bottoms the bill and is a big laugh from start until nearly finish, when we are treated to "a touching tableau, the death of little Shrimp." Why, the author alone knows. Mr. Winkels keeps a provision shop and is a much-married man. Mr. Teddie Avery, in this part, keeps the fun going all along. The Winkels have a little boy named Shrimp, a precocious urchin, whose identity is unrecorded in the programme. Mrs. Winkels' temper is such that her husband orders her from the house just before her No. 1 husband arrives on the scene. This individual was supposed to have been dead years, but learning of his wife's marriage to Winkel, determines to blackmail either the provision dealer or her—or both. He is just proposing that £20 should change hands when his first wife turns up and denounces him, and the Winkels learn that they are properly married after all. In revenge the sailor man blows up the house, and little Shrimp is fatally injured. The prominence given to *His Little Pal* in the Sadler's Wells bill.

Charles Leighton, a comedian at the piano, plays "The Lost Chord" in ragtime, and is very amusing altogether. We get Gladys Clinton, Milo and George, Sisters Harcourt, the Cumberlands, Bessie Neilson, and the Maculaffs in the same programme.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

"Begone dull care!" might well be adapted by Mr. Pierre Cohen as a motto to display outside this popular place of amusement, and the sentiment would be heartily endorsed by the crowds of pleasure-seekers who nightly crowd the house from stalls to gallery. The programme this week is bright enough to drive care away from the most confirmed misanthrope and send him home a happier and wiser man.

"Laughter, holding both his sides," follows the amazing doings of the Six Brothers Luck in their latest comedy-sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, written by S. P. Darell, and played with all their customary pantomimic power by the lucky brothers and the admirable company assisting them. Certainly the adventures on board the *Perhaps* might give the First Lord of the Admiralty cause for reflection, and send Lord Charles Beresford into fits, but the red-tapist naval expert would gladly lay his red tape aside for the time and join in the general hilarity. The imbroglio concerns the mistake of a doorkeeper at the Admiralty offices, Whitehall, who hands two letters of instructions to the wrong parties, the result being that the house-painter, whose men are engaged on smartening-up the offices, is sent in command of the ship, and the luckless commander receives "orders" as to house-painting. When the tradesman and his merry men take possession of the vessel the fun waxes fast and furious, helped as they are by an irrepressible Suffragette, whose enthusiasm cannot be damped by any number of duckings in the briny. She is pitched overboard times without number, but invariably comes up as energetic as ever. The sketch is rattled through with all the comic resource usually associated with the productions of the Six Brothers, and there is not one dull moment while the curtain is up.

Baker and Balfe are experts on the xylophone, and play many popular airs with admirable precision and an amount of energy that seems tireless. Ted Waite, described as the "spasmodic comedian," makes a hit with his two songs, "It never troubles me" and "They are all very well in their way." He is grotesquely quiet in style, and soon makes himself a favourite. Harry Nelson is an agreeable comedian. The sisters Grovini, lightning tumblers, benders, and acrobats, perform some of the most remarkable feats in their line that have ever been done by ladies. The manner in which they tumble, bend, and jump over each other is perfectly amazing, and their performance is greeted with loud applause. Dennis and Morris are clever comedians, and their step-dancing is singularly neat and clever. Yvonne Lamor, a topical comedienne with a distinct style of her own, sings with point and humour, besides looking very attractive. The vocal scena *A Picnic Up the River* is an agreeable turn, interpreted by Charburn's Troupe of young stars. The company of smart-looking, merry boys and girls sing many popular numbers, both soli and concerted, much amusement being caused by a very diminutive gentleman who warbles "Place me amongst the girls" with comical effect. The scena appeared to give great satisfaction to the audience. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, as usual, comes in for a large share of applause. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Petersen, gives a selection from the *Dear Little Denmark* music, by Paul A. Rubens, by way of overture. In front of the house Mr. H. V. Mann, the acting-manager, fulfils his difficult and delicate duties with an amount of tact that ensures the comfort and add to the enjoyment of the Palace patrons.

One of the best and most popular turns on the bill is Dora Martiné, whose marvellous performance on the ring and the suspended rope rouses the house to enthusiasm. It is at once daring and graceful.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

This popular South London hall is continuing to do flourishing business, and the management certainly cannot complain of lack of support on the part of the public. At the top of a most enjoyable programme we have Joe Elvin and company, in his screaming absurdity *Deaf*. As Sniffkins, the valet to a deaf gentleman, the inimitable Joe is afforded many opportunities for displaying his humour, which, needless to say, he utilises to the full. Supported, as he is, by a most capable company, one can imagine that whilst he is in possession of the stage dull moments are conspicuous by their absence. Edna Gray and boys, who are making a welcome reappearance here, are repeating their former triumphs. The well-trained voice of Miss Gray is heard to the utmost advantage, and she must be commended upon her choice of songs. She also gets much assistance from two young lads, who contribute neat dancing. Capital cycling feats are accomplished by the Westwoods, the male member proving that in this art he has little more to learn. Whether as a comedy merchant or ordinary cyclist he never makes a mistake, and the way in which he executes the most difficult of tricks makes them appear quite easy.

The art of terpsichore has an able exponent in La Belle Alva, who dances barefooted. She gives the different styles of dancing in vogue in many countries, including Spain, Holland, Ireland, and England, and on concluding has many times to bow her acknowledgments. Tom Fancourt and Ruby have a taking little act, in which the lady sings tunefully a song, entitled "She's the pretty little girl from nowhere," and they also show themselves to be clever sand-dancers. Tray and Rich, the well-known black and white artists, have unlimited patter. Their insurance joke is so skilfully worked that the house is in a perfect roar of laughter all the time. The voices of Marshall and Parr are most pleasing, and their pot-pourri number is cleverly put together. They also introduce some patter with quite a distinctive style, in which the lady may be said fairly to shine.

Arthur Royce, attired as a taxi-driver, at the piano, causes endless amusement, and Zeta Russell, a chic little comedienne, sings and dances to the satisfaction of everyone. Harry Cotton has a couple of character songs, his first being about a bull-fighter, the verses of which he interspersed with some quaint patter, and his second being entitled "I'm only a brave old soldier," which proves to be a skit on an old pensioner. A bonnie comedienne is Miss Madge Brownie, who has a couple of "winners" in "My girl isn't a London girl" and "Monkeyland," and gives an admirable display of dancing. Harry Clifford as a character comedian is one of the successes of the evening in his "Bootblack" song. Other items which call for mention are a farcical absurdity, entitled *My Friend the Count*, La Petite Brambilla, and Stephen Adeson and Madge Lucas, and the pictures by Edwards' Bioscope.

THE EUSTON.

Among the many capital attractions presented at the variety palace facing the great termini in the Euston-road is to be found that popular descriptive singer, Mr. Leo Dryden, who secures a very gratifying reception in two songs, the titles of which are taken from plays that have been lately produced. As "the White Man" the singer puts in a strong plea for that character following the dictates of his heart, but a more striking impersonation is the one through whom we are warned against the "False Gods" so generally worshipped in this nether world. The golden calf, women, and wine are each in turn condemned, and the words are set to a flowing melody to which Mr. Dryden's fine voice does complete justice. He looks picturesque in a similar dress to that worn

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.

G. H. Elliott's Latest "Moon" Song.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.
DAVE CARTER.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.

The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

ON A MONKEY HONEYMOON.
FEATURED in all JOHN TILLER'S PRODUCTIONS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SOME DAY WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

The Ballad Hit of the Season, sung by Mdme. Ada Colley.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

by Sir Herbert Tree in the character of the High Priest in the play referred to, which was produced at His Majesty's Theatre in September last. Mr. Dryden, in his novelties, gets right out of the beaten track, and in a music hall turn this is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Mr. Joe Elvin, an immense favourite at the Euston, revives his old sketch *The Hansom Cabby*, one of his earliest and most conspicuous successes. As the proprietor of the "flounder and dab," who has been bilked of his fare of "one and a tanner," Mr. Elvin revels in the boisterously farcical situations which come thick and fast towards the conclusion, and the Eustonians rejoice consumedly in the misfortunes of the gentlemen so strongly resembling each other, who are so rudely thrown out.

A popular item on the bill is that "apotheosis of the sculptor's art," the series of artistic living statues arranged and designed by Mr. Albert Toft, and first seen a year or two since at the London Hippodrome. From statesmen of the past, such as the late Lord Beaconsfield and William Ewart Gladstone, the cicerone, Mr. C. Lillford-Delph, who wears court dress, comes to statesmen of the present such as Lloyd George, who has a mixed reception, John Burns, and Joseph Chamberlain. A fine sitting figure of Sir Henry Irving is presented, and a counterfeit of Sir William P. Treloar, Lord Mayor of London in 1907, the friend of the cripples, evokes much applause.

Early in the evening Mr. Fred Land puts on the "antick" disposition, and evokes laughter in some perverted nursery rhymes; Mr. Rex Fox, as a ventriloquist on a slack wire may be said to occupy a difficult position, but he makes light of it, and the figure carried on his back apparently voices many amusing wheezes, which literally "go with a swing." In Mr. Andie Caine, the favourite of Filey, the audience find a legitimate comedian with a real sense of character; and the singing of the Lyric Mummers is refined and artistic. Miss Meredith Meredro sings in a style entirely her own; the Martineks repeat here the success of their clever act *The Rag Doll;* Miss Madoline Rees sings of the little Jap girl; and Ruffell's Bioscope is up to date with its films. Mr. Fred McAvoy is the popular manager here.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

After a most successful season of grand opera, drama, and musical comedy, a return was made to varieties at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday. That the lighter form of entertainment continues to be much appreciated in the riverside town was again abundantly proved by the large audiences which filled all parts of the house at both performances, for the theatre during variety shows is conducted on the two houses a night principle, the patronage being a well-deserved reward to Mr. Peter Davey, the indefatigable managering-director, who is always considering the taste of his audiences.

The chief attractions of the bill are Harry Kardoc, the "handcuff king and the jail breaker," and the Carlsens, in their clever and amusing skit *Fun in a Restaurant*. Mr. Kardoc's assertion that there are not a pair of handcuffs that he cannot unlock on his wrists and that there is not a jail that can hold him seems more than justified by the marvellous feats he performs when bound hand and foot under the inspection of independent witnesses. The Carlsens do a number of clever acrobatic feats on a bouncing table, which are witnessed with evident interest, and the ludicrous efforts of a number of persons invited from amongst the audience to try their skill on the bouncing table led to no end of merriment.

Another good turn is the farcical comedietta entitled *That Brute Simmons!* the characters in which are sustained by Mr. Paddy Dupres, Miss Oliph Webb, and Mr. George Elliston. The little play proved immensely amusing and was exceedingly well acted by the three artists named. A particularly pleasing turn was that of Miss Dulcie Moore, a young lady who plays the piano and a zither at the same time, and on the former instrument introduces, as she plays, a clatter like that made by the clogs of a dancer. It was a clever and refined performance, and was much appreciated by all sections of the house. Other items on the programme are Walter Adams, the comedian; the Saxony Sisters, clever dancers; Harry Blake, comedian; and the eccentric Valdo Brothers.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

The programme that is arranged under the managership of Mr. G. R. Parry at the Hippodrome, over Crouch End way, is nightly sampled by a mirth-loving crowd of North Londoners. Early in the evening Mildred Parr, a comedienne of charm and ability, contributes a selection of songs, both grave and gay, at the piano, and meets with much success. Jay Barrie, a comedian of much quaintness, provides plenty of amusement with "I don't mind if I do" and "Oh! do it again," and also with his eccentric dancing; the popular chorus singer Will Godwin renders "Recollections" in his usual characteristic style, the contribution being well received; Eddie and Ethel are capable and clever entertainers, and while away a very pleasant quarter of an hour; and Norah Guy displays a pretty face and figure and sings nicely "I've got rings on my fingers," and "Ask her when the band is playing," both of which are greatly appreciated.

Lydia Dreams gives an up-to-date ventriloquial entertainment that is both novel and amusing; and Austin Latham executes clever cartoons of political celebrities, concluding with a capital portrait of his Majesty the King. The audience is highly amused with the fun of *The Tree of Truth* as presented by Brayne and Lloyd; and Cornetia, the girl cornetist, plays in a way that "brings down the house." The Brothers Durant present their comedy act *An Airship Elopement*, and secure great popularity.

Blake and Granby in their highly-amusing sketch *The Late Lamented* provide a diverting and agreeable entertainment. Henry Herne and company appear in John Douglas's original water sensation, *Blackmail*. The weir scene, with the real water, the attempted drowning of the heroine, and rescue effected by the hero, is a capital piece of stage realism, and the miniature drama is one of the hits of the evening. The Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

"THE MAID OF POLARIA."

A Romantic Musical Idyll, by George Arthurs and Worton David, Composed by Jullien Wilson and R. Penso, Produced at the Shoreditch Empire on Monday, March 7.

Lennie and Hast have secured in the above an attraction of considerable worth, and the initial performance was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. The piece contains some very pretty and effective numbers, and the story is one of particular interest. The Princess of Polaria is in the habit of engaging a gondolier to paddle her along the Grand Canal, and apparently, during one of these excursions, she has been seen by a man, who falls desperately in love with her. The love-stricken individual arranges to change places with the boatman; but the genuine gondolier informs the Princess of the plot, and she, too, determines similarly to disguise herself. When the two meet, each in the make-up of a gondolier, the result is particularly amusing. The man, not knowing his companion to be the Princess, offers her a cigar, the smoking of which does not tend to increase her happiness or comfort; but when he suggests they shall both throw off their clothes and have a swim in the canal the lady thinks it quite time she disclosed her identity, and accordingly does so. Lennie and Hast each perform their respective parts with considerable taste and ability, and their rendering of the songs "I am a gondolier" and "With you, sweetheart" was very melodious. The piece should prove attractive wherever produced.

"PRIDE OF REGIMENT."

By F. D. Bone. "A Homely Incident," Presented by arrangement with Mr. Fredk. Harrison, at the Holborn Empire, on Monday, March 7.

The Father ..... Mr. George Howard
The Son ..... Mr. Neville Graham
The Mother ..... Miss Eugenie Vernie

The usual crowded house at the Holborn Empire on Monday last gave an unstinted welcome to Mr. Bone's delightful sketch, which was first seen in London on Feb. 23, 1908, as a curtain-raiser at the Haymarket Theatre. Why we have not seen more of it since that time is the big wonder concerning it. The sketch is a heart-searcher, and the sympathy of every man and woman in the vast audience went out to The Mother, a character splendidly portrayed by Miss Eugenie Vernie, when she puts up the great fight of her life for her boy against his father, a domineering, discipline-loving, ex-solidier martinet, excellently played by Mr. Geo. Howard. The Son, a part well and touchingly interpreted by Mr. Neville Graham, has been sent into the Army against his will when only seventeen. In barracks a sergeant makes a dead set at the lad, and in consequence his life is "made a hell." He gets "cells" time after time, and one night the sergeant on a slight pretext has the young soldier frog-marched from the canteen. Then the young fellow, badgered beyond endurance, strikes the "non-com.," and, after doing three months' hard labour for it, is dismissed from the service. So the Son has to face the Father in the absence of the Mother, and the old chap, proud of his thirty years' service in the Army, and his medals, and the parting handshake his Colonel had given him when he had left the regiment, deals very sternly with the poor boy, who has not been strong enough to follow in his father's footsteps. And the Son gets a bad time at the hands of the Father, whose "pride of regiment" is almost ridiculous. Then the old man turns the boy from his door, and bids him never darken it again. But the Father has reckoned without the Mother, and when the old lady returns from her shopping, and learns what has happened, she starts on the old warrior in splendid fashion. All a mother's love surges up for her boy, and she wages a big battle of words, which carries away the audience with its pent-up vehemence. The Mother wins, and she brings back the Son to shake hands with the Father. There has been nothing finer seen on the variety stage this year, and we trust a long series of bookings will follow for *Pride of Regiment*. It is founded possibly on an everyday episode, but the acting of the trio is so intense, so human, that when the curtain falls there are many lumps in throats and moist eyes, followed by smiles and sighs of satisfaction at the reconciliation of father and son. Then there is only one thing left to do—give the little company the ovation their acting undoubtedly deserves.

Geo. Mozart is a great favourite at the Holborn. His latest laugh is thoroughly up-to-date, and is an imitation of an electioneering speaker in a hurry. This individual never allow himself time to finish each sentence, and cheerfully gabbles away, lopping off what he intended to say, to start on a fresh phrase that has occurred to him. The result is chaos—and laughter. George also gives his imitations of famous band conductors. In this he is assisted by his indispensable cymbalist and drummer.

Another old friend whose face we were pleased to see again is Joe O'Gorman. He, too, is well liked by Holborn patrons, and arrives with a budget of new songs, dances, and patter, of even better quality than heretofore, and that is saying a great deal. Joe is as fresh as paint, smartly groomed, and looks more youthful than ever he did. By the way, a North Country paper two weeks ago reported that the O'Gorman had committed suicide. Said Joseph to our representative: "I assure you it isn't true. I think if the editor did want to publish me pictur' he might have invinted some other pretext. Anyhow, its done some good, that report—it's made my friends talk kindly about me, and its made some of 'em buy new clothes."

The efforts of Ernie Mayne, the O-K-Dians, Angela's Living Works of Art, Ray Espinosa, Szarvasi Ferenz Troupe, Joe Almasio, Jenny Johns, the Westwoods, and the D'Vorak Family make an excellent entertainment, and in the background, smiling as broadly as ever on his big family enjoying the fare provided, is the broad-shouldered figure of Manager Leslie Conroy.

"THE MERRY WIDOWER."

A Comedy Episode, Produced at the Bedford Music Hall, on Monday, March 7.

Francis Heatherfield ..... Mr. Henry Herne
Bertie ..... Mr. Richard Webb
Dennis ..... Mr. J. G. Macmahon
Amy ..... Miss M. Kildare
Bridget ..... Miss Lizzie Lennon
Daisy ..... Miss Ida Millais

Mr. Henry Herne and Miss Ida Millais are to be congratulated on their latest venture, which provides a most hilarious quarter of an hour. The scene is laid in a boarding-house at Slochton-on-Sea, where a widower, Francis Heatherfield, is courting Amy, the widow. Both of the parties have married elderly mates before, and each is left with a step-child who is older than the step-parents. Naturally Francis and Amy endeavour to keep the real ages of their step-children from each other with most amusing results, but after a series of comical situations of the most diverting nature, all is found out, reconciliations ensue, and the step-children follow the example of the foster-parents and get married. Mr. Henry Herne is in fine form as Francis, and Miss Ida Millais is extremely funny as his step-daughter Daisy. Mr. Richard Webb plays well as Bertie, and the other characters are all admirably handled, their united endeavours ensuring a most successful production.

At the Sheffield City Police Court on Wednesday Mr. Frank Poole, manager of Barrasford's Hippodrome, applied for, and was granted, a special licence for a sacred concert, to be given on Good Friday, in aid of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, the proprietors having generously placed the use of the beautiful hall at the disposal of the railway men.

"THE FOURTH KISS."

An Original Dramatic Episode, by W. Douglas Newton, Produced for the First Time at the Peckham Hippodrome, on Wednesday, March 9.

Hughes ..... Mr. Lionel Atwill
Jack Benson ..... Mr. Hugh Ardale

This episode proved to be a somewhat gruesome but powerful and cleverly-written sketch from the pen of Mr. W. Douglas Newton, a gentleman well-known to magazine readers. On the rising of the curtain we find Jack Benson, an author, at work in his flat at Victoria. Suddenly he receives a visit from his old chum Hughes, an engineer, who has been engaged for several years on some irrigation works in the Soudan. Hughes has only just returned from abroad, and is in a terribly neurotic condition. He tells Benson a strange and weird story. It seems that while in the African desert, overcome by drink and ennui, he has violated a sacred shrine, abused the priest, and kissed a heathen idol in mockery. The priest curses him, and tells him that the heathen god shall kiss him in return, and that at each kiss someone near and dear to him shall die. Hughes, in his agony, confides to Benson that he has already lost an uncle, a cousin, and a dear friend by three kisses in six months, and that the fourth kiss will seal his own doom. Suddenly the door opens in the darkened room. "There is someone there," cries Hughes in his frenzy, and shrieking, "It is the fourth kiss," he falls back dead. Mr. Lionel Atwill, whose ripe experience as leading man on the regular stage stands him in good stead, makes a most powerful impression as the luckless Hughes, and the intensity of his death scene sent a thrill through the house. Mr. Hugh Ardale was good as his matter-of-fact friend Jack Benson. The sketch was very well received by the audience, but some light comedy touches given to the part of Benson might perhaps enhance its value.

Among other items in the Peckham Hippodrome bill this week, "My Fancy soon makes herself "everybody's fancy" by her charming dances. The lady first appears in a scene representing the Polar Regions, and dances on ice skates; afterwards she dances, bedecked with roses, in a rose bower, and finally, clad in a charming bathing costume, she gives an exhibition of her exceptional terpsichorean abilities in a seaside scena. Miss Gwladys Soman is a charming and stately young lady, gifted with a fine soprano voice, and her rendering of two pleasing ballads, "As long as the world rolls on" and "'I am tired of my garden,' said the rose," is enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Edward Jose proves himself a very clever character impersonator, and renders with much skill the rôles of Melter Moss from *The Ticket of Leave Man*, and Rip Van Winkle and Matthias from *The Bells;* while Miss Lucia Collins, a daughter of Miss Lottie Collins, sings with much archness "The Breach of Promise Case."

Other turns include Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene in *My Lady's Chamber;* Olive Watts, Jack Waller, Mr. E. D. Nicholls and company in a screamingly funny burlesque drama *That Dreadful Detective;* and Mr. Arthur Astill, a very clever whistler, whose performance brings down the house. Finally some comic films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope send everyone away in high good humour.

FELDMAN'S

PANTOMIME SUCCESS

THIS SEASON

TO BE REPEATED

ON THE HALLS.

ARTISTS CONSULT US IMMEDIATELY

AND

SECURE OUR LATEST AND BEST.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 23.)

There has been an unprecedented influx of professional visitors to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. during the past week, and the demand for new songs from this house's teeming 1910 budget may truly be termed phenomenal. Allied to the English firm's catalogue of new songs by the brightest, best, and most famous of our English song-writers are those of Messrs. Jerome H. Remick and Co., Kerry Mills, and Chas. K. Harris, three of the leading American firms, and artists, whatever their line of business, may rest assured that their wants will be readily supplied from so exhaustive an array of vocal offerings as that which Feldman and Co. are now in a position to supply.

In professional circles just now one of the principal topics of conversation is the remarkable and instantaneous success of Dempsey and Schmid's ballad "Garden of Roses," which is wining success at the Canterbury and London Pavilion this week. It nightly seems to increase in popularity, and it can unquestionably be ear-marked as one of the finest ballads of the present season. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., the publishers, are issuing this delightful number in sheet-music form, and anticipate large sales.

Mr. George H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, on Monday last, at the Prince's, Bristol, produced Feldman's popular song "I want you to see my girl" in the pantomime. He put it on at 10 o'clock, and it was an instantaneous and spontaneous hit. Mr. Chapman, the well-known musical conductor at the Prince's, arranged the band parts of this song for Mr. Elliott at record speed, and is certainly to be congratulated on his most musicianly and effective orchestration, which was undoubtedly an important factor in the all-round success of the song.

During the current week, at the Canterbury, Haley's *Garden of Girls* company have been achieving success with "My sweet garden queen," by Harrington, Rogers, and Neat, and have been the recipients of many flattering recalls. This is a prominent Feldman publication, which will be greatly in evidence this year.

The success won at the London Coliseum last week by Mr. Fred Barnes with Feldman and Co.'s latest comedy chorus song, "I'd rather be by the fireside," by John A. Glover-Kind, looks like being repeated by this artist all round the Stoll tour, as the Arthur-street publishers have just received a wire to the following effect:—"Another terrific success of 'Fireside' at Empire, Sheffield, this week.—Fred Barnes."

From the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, where she is enacting the rôle of principal girl, Miss Josie Delaine writes Messrs. Feldman and Co., to the effect that their song, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," by E. W. Rogers and John Neat, is simply an enormous success with her; in fact, far and away the best song she has yet sung in this pantomime. She is also singing the same firm's tuneful and dainty number, "Just as the brook flows," in the same pantomime, with signal success. She will specially feature several of the Feldman publications at her music hall engagements in the near future.

A song which that clever and versatile artist, Miss Ella Shields, has already rendered deservedly popular is "In the Army," written and composed by William Hargreaves, and recognising the great publishing potentialities of this excellent number, Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have acquired it for immediate inclusion in their ever-growing list of successes.

So enamoured of the Feldman songs has that clever vocalist, Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, become, that she now styles herself "the Feldman girl," truly, a very delicate compliment to the publishing house that has supplied her with so many big winners. At all her London and provincial engagements Miss Ra Leslie will feature the three songs she sung at Collins's last week, viz., "Connemara," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," and "Molly O'Morgan," each of which are tried and proven successes with her.

On Tuesday last Mr. George H. Elliott took his benefit at the Prince's, Bristol, and the success of the evening was undoubtedly the great $7,000 song, by Ed. Madden and Gus Edwards, entitled "By the light of the silvery moon," which was received by the enormous audience with all those tokens of approval which indicate the advent of a success far above the average. Perhaps the wire which the chocolate-coloured coon himself subsequently sent to the publishers of this song, Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., speaks as eloquently as anything can:—"Terrific success 'By the light of the silvery moon.' Big encore demanded.—Elliott."

"Have a Banana," Mr. Ernie Mayne's great song, has fairly caught London, so much so that the programmes both at the Metropolitan and the Holborn Empire, at the conclusion of his rendering of the song, were held up and an encore demanded. This song is by Alf Ellerton, who is also responsible for Mr. Mayne's latest number, "Chantecler; or, Can't cock-a-doodle."

The Star Music Co. have in press a new comedy chorus song, entitled "Love is like a balloon," by Aylmer Lee and Maurice Scott, which has all the elements of being one of the popular songs this coming season.

GREENWICH PALACE OF VARIETIES.

This old-established place of amusement, lavishly redecorated, was reopened on Monday under new management. The entertainment met with the hearty approval of a considerable house, and we trust that the venture will prove a lucrative one. The lessee and managing-director is Major Gordon-Hartley, the manager Mr. J. S. Fairlie, and Mr. Alfred Ellerton conducts the capable band.

The chief attraction is the sketch entitled *The Second Mrs. Chester*, a well-played and highly-amusing farcical episode, in which Mr. Sid Bedford and Miss Bessie Bedford (both well and favourably known in this district) play Percy Pimple and Mabel Dearlove respectively with success. Mr. Arthur Delamere is very good as Jack Chester, as is Mr. Fred Clifford as Major Chester, and Mr. Herbert Lawrence plays Parker excellently. Miss Rose Fern is well received in her song entitled "Smile" and a dance. Mr. Terry Vaughan contributed "Oh, what a night," introducing some smart patter and a clever dance.

Topsy and Cecil as the Black Comedy Girl and the Juggling Dandy were warmly applauded; Miss Kitty Leon proved an attractive turn with her song "Rather" and a pretty dance; Mr. George Norton, "the happy man," was well received; Miss Daisy Lannon was heartily cheered for her pedestal dance and pleasing rendering of "Carolina Baby"; Astor is a smart ventriloquist, and includes a good rendering of "Asleep in the deep" in his entertainment; Elsie Hulbert and her dancing girls provide an attractive turn; the Sisters Navette are expert dancers as well as very good banjoists; the Bros. Neiss are well received in their comedy trampoline speciality; and pictures on the Palace Bioscope complete the programme.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

3,196½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£58 13 0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6 15 0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5 10 6
Collected by Berry Hope	4 5 0
Collected by Geo. French	1 13 0
Collected by The Craggs	1 11 0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1 11 0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde ..	1 11 0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1 10 0
Collected by Ted E. Box	1 10 0
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1 9 0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1 7 0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1 6 0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1 6 0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1 6 0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan ..	1 5 0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1 5 0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1 5 0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1 5 0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1 5 0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1 4 0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1 4 0
Harry Tich	1 4 0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1 4 0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1 3 0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1 3 0
Collected by Atroy	1 2 0
Bros Webb	1 1 0
Hymack	1 1 0
Gus Elen	1 1 0
Charles Weldon	1 1 0
Harry Fragson	1 0 0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore ..	0 17 0
E.	0 10 0
Ralph Pringle	0 10 0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0 9 0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0 3 0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0 2 0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1 0 0
C. Clifford	0 15 0
Frank Folloy	0 1 0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £20 2s. 6d.

"Bill"	100	George May	5
Eugene Stratton	100	W. J. G.	5
Oswald Stoll	21	C. Sounes	5
J. Tanner and Sons..	21	C. Barnard	5
George Mozart	20	H. V. D. Esterre ...	5
Jos. Ingleby	20	Miss Hadley	3½
Mrs. F. Mouillot	20	Miss Wadeley	3½
D'Arcy Baker	20	J. H. Montague	2½
"Erb"	10	Tom Birch	2
A. Buckley	10	Ernest Edelsten, jun.	2
H. S. Buckley	10	C. Payne	1
T. E. Latham.....	5	Gus Elen	1
John Hart	5		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham	1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer	1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read	1	H. Cromwell Bush..	1
Elsie Wright	1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips	1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred E. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan ..	10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole	5		

Collected by Mr. Walter Norman, 12s.

Ernie Myers.....	1	Billy (Little).....	1
L. Rockall	1	Gordon Starkey.....	1
G. P. R. Burgess..	1	J. F. Sterling.....	1
Terrier A. W. Stanwell	1	Harry McKenzie....	1
E. Voigt	1	Benj. Woodger.....	1
Little Henry	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich	3	Mr. R. Knaepper ..	1
Mr. Harry Alaska..	1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska	1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun..	1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun. ..	1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio ..	1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph	1	A New Julia.....	1
Mme. Recio	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Theodore Jones, £1 4s.

Harry Laborde	1	Dulcie Lawrence	1
Theodore Jones	1	Isa Gibson	1
Carton Hicks	1	Nina St. Elmo	1
Percy E. Wright	1	Mlle. Bartanelli	1
Teddy Worth	1	Nellie Stuart	1
W E.	1	Maud Hastings.....	1
H. E.	1	Madam Sara	1
E. Blackster	1	Horace Lee	1
Jack Hayton	1	Nettie Ross	1
Allways Ready	1	Ethel Blackster	1
Fred Boulton	1	Charles Elderton	1
The Vic (?), Shields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway	1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway	1	Mr. Hamilton Warden	1
Michael Madden ..	1	Miss Louie Love ..	1
Miss Queenie King	1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls	1	Two Derby Nuts ..	1
Miss Ada Lucelle ..	1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen	1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths	1	Miss May Garry ..	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore	1	The Lady Goldfish..	1
Wallace Bosco	1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson ..	1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter	1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note	1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway	1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen	1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser	1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian	1	Humpsti Bumsti ..	1
W. H. McCarthy ..	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzletov	1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown	1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart	1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (2nd card), £1 2s.

Geo. Gulliver	2	J Glenville	1
Bert Williams	1	The Carlyles	1
Geo. Cooke	1	H. Brett	1
Kathleen Moore.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. C. Craig, sen.	1	Lucy Jim	1
J. C. Faure	1	Tatcho	1
Minnie Wheaton	1	Tom E. Oliver	1
Ward and Davis	1	Peter Piper	1
Harry Paolia	1	Fred Bauer	1
Percy Galino	1	Gene Strauss	1
G. Barclay, jun.	1	R. C. Note	1
Mundill and Maude..	1	J. Enzer	1
Warren, Northampton	1		

Collected by Little Fred Zola, £1 18s.

Kate Carney	5	Clarence Hotel	1
Marie Lloyd	5	Mr. Tyler	1
Mattison	2½	Flo Dora	1
Fred Emney	2½	Mrs. Fred Zola	1
K. O. P.	2	Frank Zola	1
Tom Lee	2	Maudie Zola	1
Stone Troupe	2	Grandma Zola	1
Tom Payne	1	"Zol Zol," the dog..	1
Delome	1	Syd Walker	1
Tom J. Waldron	1	Bros Obo	1
Coverdale	1	Maudie Scott	1
Phillips	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 16s.

Manitto Klitgaard ..	2	Carl and Carr	1
Harry Carr	1	S. J.	1
Max Carl	1	Gus Elen	1
Masie, St. Hilary ..	1	N. Manning	½
D. Scott	1	G. Spirack	½
R Davey	1	Neville Delmar	½
Austen Temple	1	J. R.	½
Washee	1	J. Bishop	½
Kittee Rayburn	1	F. S.	½

Collected by Hayman and Franklin, £1 8s.

Joe Hayman	2	Gus Barra	1
Harriet Vernon	2	George Kempt	1
Frank Poole	1	The Carlyles	1
Edith St. Clare	1	A. Daunton Shaw ..	1
W. B. McMillan	1	Mr. Sid Macaire	1
Bob King	1	H. Wheatley	1
Fred Russell	1	Mrs. Pirman	1
Harry Marlow	1	Hampton and Bauman	1
Vera Vere	1	George F. Hall	1
J. Calder	1	Leslie Race	1
P. Q.	1	Hersleb Bros.	1
Phil and Nettie Peters	2	Gus Elen	1
Eddy Martyn	1		

Collected by Cullen and Carthy, £1 1s.

J. Cullen	5	T. Drew	1
A. Carthy	5	H. Cluley	1
Bessie Cohen	2	Kearns and Vasey ..	1
Maudie Ford	1	May and Leslie.....	1
Dolly Cullen	1	A. Stratton	1
Elsie Jordison.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by the Michel Bros., 3s. 6d.

Michel	1½	Gus Elen	1
Dort-Leonard	1		

Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby, 12s.

Sue R. Lewis	1	Louie Formby	1
Maud Westwood	1	George Formby, jun.	1
Frank Westwood	1	Francis Formby	1
Leo Derenda	1	Another Formby	1
George Formby	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Mrs. Formby	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Gertie Gitana, £1 8s. 6d.

Jimmy O'Connor	2½	Hardie Lee	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	F. Hartley	1
Kelly and Agnas	2	Russell and Held	1
Queenie Finnis	1½	Vanando	1
Marie Pera	1	Leslie Faber	1
Jose Collins.....	1	Winifred Faber	1
Hanvarr	1	Alice Raymond	1
Anna Lee	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Violet Loraine	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mabel O'Connor	1	Mazie Hibbs	1
Dorma Morgan	1	Katie Butler	1
Florence Cooper ...	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ben Obo, 15s.

Bros. Obo	2	Bert Welda	1
Syd Walker	1	Ida Valli	1
Fred Zola	1	Mina Greene	1
S. Poluski, jun.	1	Ben Obo	1
Harry Moon	1	Jim Obo	1
Unanimous	1	Obo and Obo	1
T. C. Callaghan	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 8s.

D. F. Bostock	2	Wallace Hughes	1
Will Lanhon	1	Bert Weston	1
Radena Dey	1	F. V. St. Clair	1
B. Abrahams	1	L. Anarto	1
Any Complaints	1	A. Anarto	1
Sid Cotterell	1	Fransilo Troupe.....	1
Johnny Wood	1	H. E. Wakeling	1
Harry Clifford	1	Will Poluski, jun. ..	1
M. Shute	1	Arthur Stacey	1
Geo. Fairburn	1	Carter Livesey	1
Alec Hurley	1	Lilian Rosebery.....	1
Fred Earle	1	Billy French	1
Ted Cowan	1	Gus Elen	1
D. Mallett	1		

Collected by Jenny Johns, £1 11s.

Lew Lake	5	Fred W. Wood	1
Johnson and Bert....	2	Albert Voyce	1
George Le Clerq	2	Fred Redfern	1
Ben Brown	1	Bert Harrow	1
Mike Cray	1	R. Fowler	1
Chas. Clifford	1	Fred Walmsly	1
Mrs. Will Cutler	1	S. Crowther	1
Jennie Johns	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Harry Tate's Co.	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Dora Redfern	1	Florence Yaymen....	1
Mr. Humberstone ...	1	Henri Cazman	1
Harry Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Ugo Nap	1		

Collected by Morrisey, 11s.

Claremont and Victor	2	J. Moore Cameron ..	1
E. Morrisey	2	Alexander Cameron..	1
H. F. F.	1	Henry Eglington	1
Mrs. Elderton	1	Gus Elen	1
Jas. Matchett	1		

Collected by Miss Marie Blythe, £1 6s.

Marie Blythe	2½	Harry Taft	1
Two Lillies	2	The Countees	1
Sporty	1½	Ellis Barrieton	1
Bros. Ford	1	Ella Dean	1
H. Kilrow	1	Will Cromwell	1
Ryder Slone	1	Mother	1
Will Driscoll	1	Colin Hill.....	1
Jack and Arthur Metz	1	Bert Sedgebeer	1
Florence Yaymen ..	1	Jennie Wood	1
J. Donald	1	Miss Collins	1
Evelyn Kay	1	Gus Elen	1
Raie Walters	1		

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1 5s.

Carl Hertz	1	Philip Beyfus	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Elliah Beyfus	1
Eva Hertz	1	Harry Beyfus	1
Charley Hertz	1	Madge Beyfus	1
Le Boy Hertz	1	Jane Pritchard	1
Ike Rose	1	Pattie	1
E. L. Pyke	1	Charles Chapman....	1
Ethel Pyke	1	Mrs. Sands	1
Barbara Beyfus	1	Wm. Calder	1
W. B.	1	Wm. Thornton	1
V. M.	1	Frank Bostock	1
Elfrida Beyfus	1	Gus Elen	1
Edgcumbe Brighten..	1		

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS LOUIE TRACY.

"The Dapper Dandy Boy," as Miss Louie Tracy is aptly described, has had a long and varied stage career. Her first music hall engagement was at the old Lyceum, Blackburn, as a juvenile entertainer, with a little bit of everything, her first number being a military song, in vivandière dress, the second a coon song and dance, and the concluding item a male impersonation, in all the glory of a fawn coat, tall hat, and monocle. Then came a round of provincial engagements, during which Miss Tracy discarded all other character songs in favour of her male impersonations, a line of business which everyone said was undoubtedly her forte.

Miss Tracy's first pantomime engagement was with Messrs. Eglington and Little's tour of *Red Riding Hood*, in which she played second girl (Margery Daw) with great success, introducing her male impersonations as a speciality. Her next pantomime engagement was at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, 1901-1902, where she scored a veritable triumph as Dandini, being re-engaged immediately for the following year's production of *Robinson Crusoe*, in which she also made a big success as the captain. In connection with this pantomime Miss Tracy tells an amusing story of how she was called upon at a few minutes' notice to undertake the part of Robinson Crusoe. All went well until the island scene, when she had to don the fur dress, which is worn by the majority of Crusoes. The principal boy proper being an exceptionally big woman, and Miss Tracy being of medium height and build one can well understand that the dress was literally a bundle of safety pins, by means of which hasty alterations had been made.

[Photo by Moffitt.
MISS LOUIE TRACY.

Miss Tracy was so conscious of being a walking pin-cushion that at every opportunity she asked Friday (in a stage whisper, of course), "Am I all right behind, Friday? You are quite sure I'm not unstuck?" to the evident delight of the gentleman who played Friday and the other artists at the wings.

Soon after Miss Tracy's marriage, in 1905, she retired from the stage for an indefinite period. In fact, she was undecided whether or not she would give it up for good. However, in the early part of last year Miss Tracy had a longing to return to the business. She accordingly set about procuring a complete new wardrobe, songs, &c., and opened on May 3 at the Bedford, Camden Town. Since then she has been booked, by her exclusive agent, Mr. Tom Claxton, at the principal halls and tours into 1913, together with Messrs. Hyman's South African tour, and Mr. Harry Rickards' Australian tour in 1911. Miss Tracy had to refuse a tempting offer of an American tour, and also an offer to play Dandini in the Christmas production at the Borough, Stratford.

Miss Tracy is a devotee of the health-giving game of golf, and is also an enthusiastic rinker.

"ON THE TRACK."

An Absurdity, in Three Scenes, by Miss Vashti Wynne, with Music by Mr. Dudley Powell and Mr. Oastlere Walker, produced for the First Time at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Monday, March 7.

Rose Hasty, sen.	Miss Ada Maskell
Rose Hasty, jun.	Miss Molly Ramsay
Mr. Cross	Mr. Richard Wilson
Percy Dreadnought	Miss Oliver Rogers
Major Hasty	Mr. Larry Clements
Archibald Longfellow	Mr. Harry Roxbury

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A cordial greeting was extended to Mr. Harry Roxbury at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Monday evening, when he produced his new tabloid musical absurdity entitled *On the Track*. This clever sketch comedian, who is popular in both theatre and music hall in Leicester, has a capital part as Archibald Longfellow, the detective, and his various disguises include that of an office boy, railway porter, strolling player on the beach, and an old woman in charge of a bathing machine. The sketch depicts the further adventures of the famous detective Archibald Longfellow, a character Mr. Roxbury has popularised on the variety stage. Mr. Roxbury creates endless merriment throughout the whole of the sketch by the mess in which he involves himself in his attempts to trace a pair of runaway lovers. It consists of three scenes—the Matrimonial Agency, the Railway Station, and On the Beach. The book and lyrics are by Miss Vashti Wynne, Mr. Harry Roxbury's clever and charming wife, and the music, which is always bright and tuneful, is by Mr. Dudley Powell and Mr. Oastlere Walker. It is exceedingly well staged, and is dressed in a manner that calls for special eulogium. There is a good chorus, who go through their work in a dashing and spirited style.

MR. BERTIE SHELTON.

We are sorry that Mr. Bertie Shelton, whose relations with *The Era* have always been so pleasant, should have taken umbrage at the bit of rhymed *badinage*, written by Mr. J. L. Shine, that was inserted in page 25 of last week's issue. Mr. Shelton's experience, which commenced as an actor at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, in 1882, and included an engagement with Sir Herbert—then Mr.—Beerbohm Tree, from 1892 to 1900, when Mr. Shelton took *Rip* on tour with Mr. Storey, should make him superior to "chaff." We are sorry, however, that we have given him offence, and hope he will accept our apology in the spirit in which it is offered.

"THE NEW WORLD."

Sketch, in Three Scenes, Produced for the First Time at the Bow Palace, on Monday, March 7.

Jack Hawley	Mr. Edward Avinall
Jim Rawlins	Mr. Arthur Elwyn
José Alverez	Mr. C. E. Davidson
Joe Williams	Mr. Fowler Thatcher
Col. Bizah Clayton.....	Mr. T. G. Mountford
Jennie Williams	Miss Violet Lytton

Brightly written and full of dramatic incident, cleverly blended with comedy, *The New World* forms a charmingly exciting picture of Western mining camp life. The sketch opens outside the Home, Sweet Home Hotel at Bear Gulch, where José Alverez, a Mexican "greaser," is gloating over a stolen bag of gold dust. He is discovered by Jim Rawlings, who accuses Alverez of the theft, but consents to remain silent provided the "greaser" helps him in a "dirty" job he has on hand. Joe Williams has some new claims producing much gold, and it is the papers relating to these claims which must be obtained by fair means or foul. On Joe's appearance he is attacked, robbed of the papers, and the stolen bag is placed in his pocket. Jack Hawley arrives with the news that more gold has been stolen, and Rawlings promptly accuses Williams of being the thief. Protestations of innocence are made, but upon being searched the stolen bag is found on him, and by lynch law he is sentenced to death by hanging. The noose is adjusted, and Williams swings for a moment or two, when a report rings out, for Hawley dissatisfied with the evidence of guilt has, by a well directed revolver shot severed the rope.

The next scene is the interior of the hotel, and Jennie informs Hawley that her father has been robbed of his mining claims by Rawlings, but on the latter being accused and searched no papers are found. He demands satisfaction for the accusation, which Hawley gives. They are to fight a duel over chairs with revolvers, only one of which is loaded. At the signal Rawlings fires but he has drawn the blank, and the trump card is with his opponent. The advantage is not taken for Jennie intercedes for her father's enemy. The last scene is outside Joe Williams's hut, where Hawley declares his love for Jennie, which is reciprocated. Suddenly Hawley is attacked by both Alverez and Rawlings, and bound to a tree, a gun being placed with a lighted candle in such a position that its eventual discharge will send a bullet straight to the heart of the bound man. Jennie, however, arrives in time to save her lover's life; shots are exchanged, Rawlings is killed, the papers recovered, and all ends happily.

The sketch was warmly received, and would be well worth witnessing if only for the acting of Miss Violet Lytton, who gave an artistic presentation of Jennie Williams; Mr. Edward Avinall made a typical hero, and acted with fine, manly feeling; whilst Mr. Arthur Elwyn as Jim Rawlings and Mr. C. M. Davidson as Joe Alverez played the villains realistically; Mr. Fowler Thatcher was particularly good as old Joe Williams.

The variety portion of the programme is very strong and is responsible for full houses; Sim Morel, who literally ties himself into knots, is a wonderful contortionist; Nellie Farrell has two good numbers in "Brave Shamus O'Brien" and the "Top of the mornin'." She is a refreshing singer and a spirited dancer. Archie Pitt gives "Father's joined the Territorials" and "Twice one are two"; and Dorothy Dare, comedienne; the Vaudeville Trio, expert dancers; Colin Mail, light comedian; Fred Le Franc's company in *The Flower Girl*, and H. C. Lovell and company in *The Queen of Sheba*, also add to the evening's enjoyment.

Catlin's Pierrots are having good houses this week at the Lecture Hall, Hull, and the programme is quite up to the usual standard.

"THE QUEEN OF THE FAIR."

A Musical Play, in One Act, Libretto and Lyrics by R. C. Thorp, Music by Basil Horsfall, Produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, March 7.

Elsa	Miss Ethel Dunbar
Mrs. Smithers-Smyth	Miss Amy Cooper
Rosalie	Miss Queenie Harvey
Capt. Carl	Mr. Clarence Hart
Pierre	Mr. Charles Abbot
Herr Finkelhauser	Mr. Bert Walton

An opera in miniature makes its bow to the public this week at the Camberwell Empire, and proves to be a deftly contrived *chef d'œuvre* of surpassing excellence. The scene represents a German village with its quaint beer gardens and its gaily-dressed inhabitants. This village is noted for three attractions: first it possesses a regiment of dashing Germ... ...ars; secondly, it is the home of pretty Elsa, t... ...romaster's charming daughter; and, thirdly, it ...ains the Burgomaster himself. The last mentione... is an amorous old man, pompous and fiery, but withal delightfully humorous. It is Fair Day at the village, and the peasants have chosen Elsa to be the Queen of the Fair. The Captain of the Hussars has made a like choice, having selected Elsa to be his queen. The wicked old Burgomaster, however, says *No*. A certain English widow from Tooting has chanced to come this way, and Herr Finkelhauser has deigned to flash his amorous eye upon her. He proclaims Mrs. Smithers-Smyth Queen of the Fair, and this old scoundrel's word (in the absence of his wife's) is law. The poor Captain of Hussars is also "warned off the course" as a suitor for his daughter's hand. The result of the twofold decree of this village despot is the despair of the lovers, and the anger of the villagers. Suddenly, however, news is brought that Herr Finkelhauser's wife has returned, and the lion becomes the lamb. The Burgomaster withdraws his decrees, and the curtain falls with Elsa in the embrace of her lover, and acclaimed the Queen of the Fair.

The music is of a high order. The choruses catchy, and the songs bright. "O gentle maiden," a song having as a prelude a few bars of recitative, which swell out to a chorus in harmony, is of really fine character, and receives much applause. Throughout the operetta, cropping up at every opportunity, is a dreamy waltz tune, which we conclude will bear the title of "Queen of the Fair. The duet "Dainty little Damsel" is a brilliant composition. As Elsa, the Burgomaster's daughter, Miss Ethel Dunbar is very charming. Gifted with a good voice and a dainty manner, she gives grace and excellence to a part which admirably suits her. Mr. Bert Walton as Herr Finkelhauser is responsible for most of the humour, and manages his part very cleverly; he is assisted in his mirth-provoking by Mr. Charles Abbot as Pierre, the landlord of the inn. Mr. Clarence Hart's good voice and manly bearing stand him in excellent stead as Captain Carl, his singing gaining much applause. A very graceful dance is given in the middle of the sketch by Miss Rosa Male. Others who deserve praise are Miss Amy Cooper as Mrs. Smithers-Smyth and Miss Queenie Harvey as Rosalie. The piece is ably produced by Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart.

Cupid's Arms," a musical comedy playlet, by Albert E. Ellis, with music by Henry E. Pether, and scenery painted by Ernest Howard, will be produced at the Oxford this afternoon. Mr. J. C. Piddock, Mr. J. Daley, and Mr. Frank Danby will be in the cast.

Edgar Bateman had the pleasure on Friday night in last week of thoroughly enjoying his thirty-fourth consecutive pantomime at Drury Lane Theatre. He appeared to be familiar with many of the songs that were sung, and the remark from one of the principals "that the Grateful Crab was evidently having a 'Busman's Holiday" affected him not a whit.

KITTEE RAYBURN

("Bright and Amusing."—*Vide Press.*)

Has been honoured by Lord Grey accepting the dedication of Her New Colonial Song

"WESTWARD HO!"

('Neath the dear old Union Jack).

Published by F., D., & H. By Percy Edgar and Worton David.

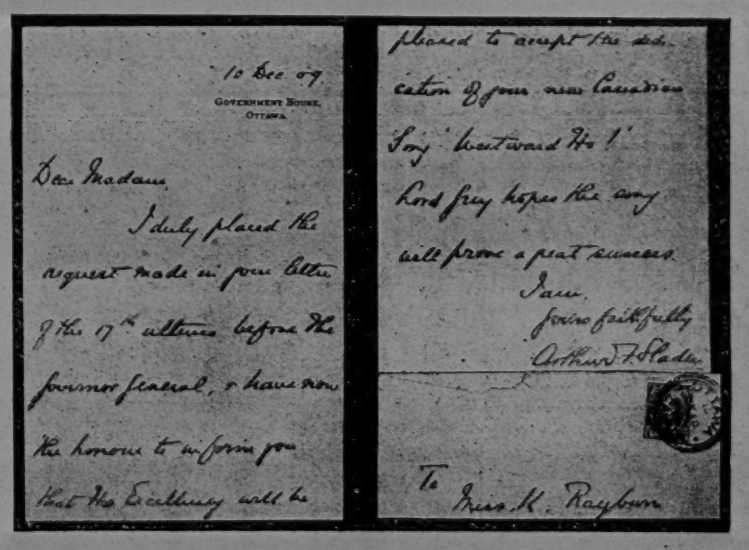

Also Succe sful Production of

"THE GIRL IN THE CHANTECLER HAT."

By J. P. Harrington, Frank Brighten, & Orlando Powell.

Published by Francis, Day, & Hunter.

KITTEE RAYBURN

Agents: Somers and Warner and Tom Claxton.

Re-engaged for Third Year by Wentworth Croke, Esq., to play Principal Boy, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, Xmas 1910/11

MARCH 14 ... REGENT THEATRE, SALFORD.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Oxford v. Cambridge at Earl's Court.
At the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, on Saturday, Cambridge University beat Oxford University by 1 goal to 0. The play on both sides was excellent, and the goalkeepers effected several good "saves." The only goal of the match was scored by W. H. Robinson in the first half. Teams:—Cambridge: K. Cochrane (goal), C. L. Hill (back), A. E. Dworzak (half-back), E. H. Chambers and W. H. Robinson (forwards). Oxford: W. N. Downing (goal), C. H. Burne (back), R. M. Peel (half-back), H. L. Bayfield, and C. R. Graham (forwards).

Cock-a-doodle-do!
No fewer than three Chantecler hats appeared at the Holland Park Rink on Saturday evening last, and at least four at the Empress, Earl's Court skatery. A charming brunette, gliding along at the first-mentioned place, was the wearer of a real Guitry head-dress with a huge comb, but the other two farmyard creations were more subdued, representing the hen pheasant and the guinea-fowl.

Crystal Palace Carnival.
A fancy dress carnival will be given at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next (March 16) which bids fair to be well attended, owing to the fact that this is the last of the season. Two extra prizes will be given for a new class, which will come under the heading of the "Best British Empire National Costume." This should attract competitors who, by the way, should send in their names and class immediately to rink manager, C. P. Rink Office. The programme will commence at 6.30, judging at 8 p.m., and at 8.45 there will be a waltzing competition on skates for amateurs—ladies and gentlemen—for which two prizes will be given. A benefit will be accorded Mr. F. G. Stumcke, rink manager, on April 6.

Composition Floor not Satisfactory.
The Vandora Skating Rink Co. find that the composition floor surface adopted by them has not been satisfactory, and they have taken the "bull by the horns" promptly and decided to have a specially selected maple floor laid forthwith. Messrs. Plimpton have been entrusted with the work.

Record Salary for Little Yorks.
The Little Yorks have gained such popularity throughout the country that negotiations have for some time been pending for an engagement in South America. This contract has now been settled at a fee of £400 for eight weeks. It is fully expected that the engagement will be extended, as the London agents have stipulated in the contract for an option of a prolonged engagement. The Little Yorks are due to sail from England in the early part of May. We are sure they will have the best wishes of all local skaters. Their agent is Mr. Albert H. Male, Royal London Buildings, Wolverhampton, and it is probable that London will have an opportunity of seeing the Little Yorks before their departure for South America.

J. C. Plimpton Home Again.
Mr. J. C. Plimpton, managing-director of J. C. Plimpton and Co., Ltd., returned from an extensive trip in America during last week. He informs us that the extension made to the Richardson factory will enable them to keep pace with the increasing demand for Richardson skates, which is now being received, not only from this country, but also from the Continent.

The Smartest Entertainments.
Rink balls are the newest and smartest entertainments, and hostesses who find that ordinary dances fail to attract young men have discovered that waltzing on skates is the most popular social entertainment of to-day. Most rinks close at eleven o'clock, so that arrangements can be made with the proprietor to take the building up to three a.m. or four a.m. The programmes are generally dainty little works of art, with a miniature picture of two skaters waltzing in evening or fancy dress, or of a tiny silvern Cupid, who has folded his wings, and given up aviation in favour of roller-skating. Generally, a rink ball ends with a "Flirtation Waltz," we are informed by *Answers*. Then, while the band plays a "two-step," they form the "grand chain," zig-zagging on the outside edge. Suddenly, the music changes to a waltz, and each man swings off with the lady who happens to be nearest. Every time the music changes partners must be changed.

John's Book.
John Davidson, the well-known exponent of roller skating, has published through Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., a sixpenny handbook, which gives excellent advice to rinkers.

Ministers' Defence of Rinking.
One of the reports submitted at the meeting of Ardrossan U.F. Presbytery referred to the large amount of money spent in skating rinks. The Rev. A. Morris Moodie, Ardeer, assured those present that rinks were doing a great deal of good in certain directions, especially in keeping young men out of public-houses. He did not think the Church and temperance societies and kindred bodies faced the question of proper amusement for the people as they ought to do, and he thought they should be careful not to denounce legitimate and healthful recreations such as roller skating. The Rev. William Husband, Kilwinning, said he thought that the Church ought even to go out of its way to express its hearty approbation of any kind of influence that delivered the people from the bondage of evil habits. He considered it a mistake to single out and pillory the amusement of roller skating, and he moved that the reference to it be deleted from the report. This was agreed to.

Rinking to Business.
Colonel Hall Walker, M.P., had something to say on Saturday about the possibilities of roller skating, when opening a new rink at Garston. The Colonel said it was very difficult to know where all this craze for skating would lead to in the end. It might be only a temporary craze, which would die out as it did twenty-five years ago, but he should look forward to the time when county councillors, searching for newer methods of spending the ratepayers' money, would construct roads so beautifully that we should be able to skate to business. The system had to some extent been adopted in Germany. The roads were beautifully laid in that protected country, where they had so much money to spend. He hoped, as time went on and England prospered, we might also be in that happy position.

Mile Race for Ladies.
The "Peerless" Roller Skate Co., Ltd., of 14, Great Smith-street, Westminster, have decided to put up a handsome silver cup of the value of 15gs. for open competition among lady skaters over the age of fourteen years. The distance will be one mile, on a rink and date to be arranged.

Bussey Lowers 1½ Mile Record.
On Wednesday night, at the Brixton Rink, the Brixton S.C. decided a 1½ miles handicap. Considerable interest was added to the race when it was known that Bussey intended to make an attempt on the 1½ mile record, and this he was successful in doing, his time of 5min. 5 1-5sec. being 44 4-5sec. better than the British amateur record of 5min. 50sec. put up by E. J. Wilson in the championship of Great Britain at the Crystal Palace in 1906. The competitors and their handicaps were as follow: Bussey (scratch), Casey (20 yds.), Price (20), Harrison (30), Martin (120), Williams (130), Wood (150), Nash (150). Final: Nash, 1; Bussey, 2; Wood, 3; Price, 4. All the attention was centred on Bussey, who rapidly drew up to the leaders, passing them one by one, till he took second position. In the last lap Casey, who was third, shot in front, but in taking the last corner Bussey again took second place, and finished only a few inches behind Nash.

Bertha Doud Mack is topping the bill this week with Mr. Monoham at the Empire, Edmonton, where the act has made a big hit. The combination of dancing and novelty work gives zest and variety to the turn

Maida Vale Carnival.
There was a good attendance, in spite of the terribly inclement weather, at the Maida Vale Skatery last Wednesday night, the occasion of the first fancy dress carnival. Prizes were offered in cash of the total value of £100. Ladies had an opportunity of competing for a first prize value £50, second of £12, third £8, and fourth £4, in addition to which there were two special prizes of £4 each for costumes of exceptional merit not securing other prizes. The series of prizes offered to gentlemen was similar to that for ladies. The whole of the awards were made by ballot by the patrons of the rink, who recorded their votes on cards. This is not an ideal method of allotting prizes, but it ensures the popular voice determining the matter. The floor was exclusively reserved for skaters in fancy or evening dress. Professor Voorzanger's military band rendered numbers chiefly consisting of popular dances. An incident of a pleasing character was the presentation to Professor Voorzanger of a handsome medal as a souvenir of a notable occasion. The costumes were on conventional lines. Among the novelties was a gentleman who combined the characters of bride and bridegroom, one-half of his dress being that of an immaculate bridegroom, while the other half was an ivory satin dress with Court train. He carried in one hand a choice bouquet of flowers, in his other a silk hat, while one half of a bridal veil depended from the right side of his head and fell in graceful folds over his right shoulder. Another novelty was a reproduction of a light-house properly illuminated.

The Richardson Cup.
On Wednesday next, the 16th inst., the Amateur Championship for figure-skating will be decided at Maida Vale Rink. The Richardson Cup is being displayed at the rink, and the National Skating Association have reason to congratulate themselves upon having such a magnificent trophy placed at their disposal.

For Streatham.
Streatham is to be provided with a handsome block of buildings, comprising a skating rink, public hall, and cinematograph theatre, to be erected by Messrs. Wm. Townson and Sons, Ltd., of London and Bolton. The rink will be of an up-to-date and luxurious character, to be readily adaptable for use either as a public hall or concert room. The cinematograph theatre will have a seating capacity of 700.

Skating Rink for South Norwood.
The British Skating Rink, Ltd., proposes to erect immediately at Enmore-road, South Norwood, a handsome building, to be used as a skating rink, with a floor space of 90ft. wide by 210ft. long, capable of accommodating at least 500 skaters, and having a raised promenade surrounding the rink.

St. Patrick on Wheels.
In aid of the Municipal Milk Fund a grand masked carnival will be held at the Cliftonville Skating Rink, Belfast, on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, at which the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Belfast will be present.

Birmingham Carnival.
Fully two hundred persons took part in a fancy dress and advertisement carnival held at the City Rink and Winter Gardens, Birmingham, on Wednesday last, and the pretty scenes on the skating area were witnessed by a great crowd of spectators, who occupied all the available standing room. A dramatic carnival will be held at the City Rink, Birmingham, on Wednesday, April 6. It is expected that this carnival will be the function of the season in the city, over fifty valuable prizes being offered for the best representation of leading plays, actors, and actresses. Carnivals are also announced to take place on Wednesday evening, March 16, at the Smethwick Skating Rink and Lozell's Rink.

Restrictions on a Rink Licence.
The proprietors of the Garden Rink at Bridlington, whose application was adjourned a month ago by the bench of magistrates, and who had secured a temporary licence, applied at the adjourned sessions on Saturday last for a music and dancing licence for the ensuing year. The application was strongly opposed by twenty-nine owners and occupiers in the immediate vicinity. Witnesses were called from Hull, Leeds, and Bridlington to prove that the rink was a source of attraction to visitors, and on the other side visitors and lodging-house keepers affirmed the music and skating were an intolerable nuisance. After a five hours' sitting the magistrates granted the licence, but stipulated that the rink should be open only between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., 3 and 5 p.m., and 7 and 9.45 p.m. There must also be no brass instruments in the band playing in the rink.

Bristol Preparing to be Gay.
At the Olympia Rink, Bristol, where it is claimed that the floor is the best in the district, the farmyard festival, gymkhana, and battle of confetti to be held on March 16, are being eagerly anticipated. The next carnival at the Empress Rink, Rupert-street, will be on March 17, St. Patrick's Day.

Scottish Champions to Meet.
Frank Newbury, the manager at the Empire Rink, Cowdenbeath, announces for Wednesday next a six-mile handicap between three Scottish champions.

Another Croydon Carnival.
Croydon's excellent maple rink is still being crowded nightly. It serves a wide area easily reached by train and tram. We understand another carnival will shortly be announced.

Bertha Doud Mack at Dudley.
During the recent visit of Miss Bertha Doud Mack to the Trindle-road Rink, Dudley, the rink was booked one night for a huge political conversazione. 5,000 people were accommodated in the rink, the major portion of which were either seated or standing on the skating surface. A small portion of the floor was kept clear, and, despite the cramped-up space, Miss Mack went through the whole of her performance without a single slip. On the Saturday night, in response to a challenge from the manager, Mr. R. Addenbrooke, Miss Mack succeeded in picking up three handkerchiefs with her teeth at the same time. Her engagement proved a big success at this rink.

Mysterious Raffles.
Every night this week, and on certain afternoons a Mysterious Raffles has visited the Trindle-road rink, Dudley. He or she was one of the usual patrons of the rink, and had in his or her possession a book of tickets. Anyone spotting Raffles and putting the following question—"Are you Raffles with the Book?" received a book of tickets. The question was only asked between 8.30 and 8.45 at night, and any time during the afternoons. Raffles was either skating or acting as a spectator during the above times.

Rinking in Exeter.
Since the stablishment in October last of the Victoria Palace Rink at Exeter by the Rinkeries Company (Ltd.), roller skating has become increasingly popular, and the three daily sessions never lack hosts of patrons. Under the management of Mr. W. J. Barratt, the comfort and amusement of "lovers of the little wheels" have been assiduously looked after. A hockey club has been formed, and matches have been arranged with rinkers in the surrounding towns, whilst among future attractions are a fancy dress carnival and a gymkhana, with long and valuable prize lists. Local skaters are looking forward with regret to the conclusion of the season, as, unfortunately, the construction of the Victoria Palace does not lend itself readily to the purposes of a summer rink, and suitable available spaces in or near the city are at a premium.

New Rink for Gateshead.
Last week the Olympia Skating Rink, situated at the end of Sunderland-road, Gateshead, was opened. The building is of brick, and the skating area is 3,600 square feet. Mr. E. V. Elliott is the manager.

Martine at Gosport.
Martine was the special attraction at the Olympia Rink, Gosport, this week. He commenced his display with a Highland Fling and Dutch Roll. This was followed by the Flying Aeroplane and the Bird-nest Split. The standing roll split, the air split, and the trick known as the Butterfly, all evoked their full meed of applause from the onlookers, and then Martine executed the torpedo split, in which the artist both does the split and progresses forward. The *chef d'œuvre* of the display, however, was the trick with which it ended, a feat which was regarded as difficult even by Martine, and which would be impossible to nine-tenths of his imitators, namely, skating with his leg around his neck and both arms stretched upwards.

Kelvingrove Carnival.
A masquerade carnival has been fixed to take place at the West End Roller Rink at Kelvingrove on March 17, when besides the prizes offered by the management for various costumes, two well-known local companies will provide awards for costumes representing the game of billiards and a certain brand of coffee.

McAllister in Leeds.
Mr. George McAlister, who till recently was the floor-manager at the American Roller Rink, Manningham-lane, Bradford, has received a similar appointment at Chapeltown Rink, Leeds.

All-the-Year-Round Leeds Skaters.
Rinking, in Leeds at any rate, appears to have now firmly established itself as an all-the-year-round recreation. No matter which rink is visited, very little clear space is to be found on the floor. The Roundhay Rink is deservedly very popular. The same might also be said of that at Chapeltown, where a crowd is always the order. On Wednesday night another exhibition of fancy skating was given by Mr. McAlister, the new floor manager, and Miss Elsie Schofield Smith, a ten-year-old Leeds girl. The Hunslet Rink is very popular among those in the district.

Limerick's Pretty Pavilion.
The popularity of the pretty pavilion at Wellesley-place, Limerick, is now recognised by all. On St. Patrick's night the carnival of the year will be in progress, and already the programme is perhaps the best since the doors were thrown open by the Countess of Limerick. Mr. Wm. Kidd, the manager, and Mr. George Ledger, the secretary, are to be congratulated on their united success.

Going Ahead in Liverpool.
The Renshaw-street rink, Liverpool, is gaining strides every week. Roller rinking, far from showing signs of decay, at the Premier distinctly points to the sport continuing long. The roller club formed there has one hundred members now.

Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.
This rink has become more popular than ever. For next week Thursday, March 17, a special Irish night has been arranged.

C. Buxton at Newcastle.
It is gratifying to know that since Mr. C. Buxton's appointment as manager at the Newcastle Rink, considerable success has attended his efforts, and this rink is gaining in popularity every week. The special attractions which are now arranged for each Thursday evening have, to use a popular phrase, "caught on."

New Skating Rink at Saltcoats.
The new roller-skating rink adjoining the Glasgow and South-Western Railway at Saltcoats, was opened last week by Provost A. S. Millar. The Provost, in declaring the rink open, congratulated the management on the appearance of the pavilion, and thought it would be a boon to people who were unfortunate enough while on holiday to have wet weather, as they would now have a place to go to. The floor of the rink is 200ft. long and 42ft. broad, and is of maple.

Big South Wales Rink.
A well-equipped and thoroughly up-to-date rink is now in course of construction in Pontardawe, South Wales. The skating area will be about 9,000 odd feet. Richardson skates will be used.

Not "the Only One."
Last week our Widnes correspondent informed us that there was only one rink now open in that town. From a communication we have had from Mr. C. E. Martine, of the Albert Hall Rink, it would appear that we have been misinformed. The Albert Hall rink was the original rink in Widnes, and Mr. Martine was the first to introduce roller-skating into Widnes. We are happy to learn that "the Albert Hall rink is now paying hand over fist." At the Albert Hall there have been several carnivals held, and three hockey teams have their headquarters there. The Albert Hall rink, it may be added, is a fine substantial building of brick and iron.

MRS. ELLEN GINNETT.

A CIRCUS PROPRIETOR'S WIDOW'S FUNERAL AT BRIGHTON.

The funeral took place at the Brighton Parochial Cemetery on Tuesday last of Mrs. Ellen Ginnett, widow of Mr. William Ginnett, the famous circus proprietor. The mourners were: Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Cook, and Mrs. Austin (daughters), Mr. Charles Ginnett (son), Mrs. George Lockhart, of Elephanta Lodge, Preston (niece), Mrs. Mitchell (sister), Mr. Albert Austin (son-in-law), Mr. Louis Ginnett (son of Mr. Fred Ginnett), Mrs. J. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Tilley, Mr. Louis Warren, and Mrs. Cashmere, for many years a performer with Ginnett's Circus.

It is interesting to recall some incidents in the life of Mrs. Ginnett, whose death occurred at 58, Warleigh-road, on Wednesday, March 2, at the age of sixty-seven years. Deceased was a native of Southampton, and was in no way connected with the circus. She was noted as the possessor of an extremely good voice, and sang in a choir there, also taking part in sacred musical works. It was in this capacity that she met her future husband, Mr. William Ginnett, and entered into a useful and active life. Mrs. Ginnett was a lady of extraordinary business capacity, and possessed a cultivated and wonderful intellect. Her husband, it will be remembered, was in partnership with his brother, Mr. George Ginnett, and she managed the affairs of the business in a remarkable manner not only during the lifetime of her husband, but up to some six or seven years ago, when she retired.

There are five daughters and one son, and it is an interesting fact that all have been married within the circus ring, so to speak. The eldest daughter, Annie, married Mr. A. Clarke, circus proprietor, and known as the champion circus rider of the world; and Amy was married to Mr. George Rowland, who was killed two years ago while travelling with Barnum and Bailey's Show in America. Mrs. Rowland is noted as a clever rider, and manages her own circus, which is at present in France. Mr. Douglas Cook, the well-known circus proprietor's son, who is touring Scotland, is the husband of the next daughter, Iona; Mr. Charles Ginnett (son of Mrs. Ellen Ginnett) is also in the circus business; Adelaide married an apprentice in Ginnett's, Mr. Albert Austin; and Nellie is Mrs. Yelding, of Yelding's Circus, South Africa. Ever since her residence in Brighton Mrs. Ginnett had attended St. Martin's Church, Lewes-road, constantly and regularly, and, as became her sympathetic and loving nature, she did much good work in a quiet, unostentatious manner. A touching proof of her deep interest in the welfare of the parish is afforded by the terms of her dying wish—that the members of her family should contribute to the small box which she had obtained for collecting contributions during Lent. Mrs. Ginnett was especially attached to Mrs. Lockhart, of Preston, who feels very keenly the death of such a kind and true friend. Numerous letters and telegrams of condolence have been received by the grief-stricken family.

Along the route of the funeral cortége the most profound tokens of public sympathy were manifested. There were numerous tributes of love and devotion from all parts of the circus world. The floral tributes were of the most chaste and appropriate character, and included wreaths, crosses, and other emblems from Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Austin, Mrs. George Lockhart, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. J. Jones, Mrs. Cashmere, Mr. Charles Ginnett, Mr. Louis Ginnett, Mr. Albert Austen, Mr. Louis Warren, and Mr. and Mrs. Tilley, members of the Ginnett family and old friends of the deceased. In addition to the above, wreaths were sent by Alderman H. M. Baker (Dover), Lord George Sanger (Finchley), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Holloway, Mr. and Mrs. George Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Swallow, Mr. and Mrs. Swallow, jun., Mrs. Lucas and family (Birmingham), Mr. and Mrs. C. Ginnett, and Mrs. Gatley.

"Fun Fandango" at Wishaw.
A "Fun Fandango" was held at Wishaw on Wednesday, and a record crowd were in attendance. The events were of an amusing nature, and much merriment was caused by the various competitors in the Chanticleer Fight, the Feather-blowing Race, Chalking the Pig's Eye, gentlemen's one-leg race, and a slow race for ladies. The Pavilion Roller Skating Rink celebrated its first anniversary on Wednesday with a carnival. The rink, thanks to the management of Prof Verne, has been run for twelve months without a break.

Miss Cullum Visits Worthing.
The fame of Miss Dorothy Cullum, the fair Brighton expert, has spread far and wide, and it was but natural that the presence of the lady amateur champion skater at the popular rink on Worthing Pier was noticed the other day. The manager of the rink recognising Miss Cullum, asked whether she would be good enough to give an exhibition by the special request of all present, and on her kindly consenting to do so, stopped the other skaters, and Miss Cullum had the rink all to herself. Miss Cullum was accorded an enthusiastic round of applause at the conclusion of her very graceful exhibition.

The success of the exhibitions given by Mr. Peach (the Manager) at Tonypandy was such that he will give two shows a week for the next month. A half-mile ladies' race and a one-mile gentleman's race are soon to be brought off, the prizes in each case being a pair of Richardson's aluminium skates.

BERTHA DOUD MACK

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATE DANCER.

Week Mar. 28, Vacant

This Week. Empire Theatre, EDMONTON.

Next Week, Mumbles Pier Rink, SWANSEA.

Add, C/o "The Era."

MISS JESSIE DARLING

PREMIERE SKATEUSE INTRODUCING THE CLASSIC IN Roller Skating.

LATE SUCCESS AT PARIS, BERLIN, HAMBURG, HANOVER, FRANKFORT, PARIS.

For Vacant Dates— ADDRESS c/o "THE ERA."

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES

BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.

"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."

Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.

FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS,

Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.

Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.

LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.

SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to

M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

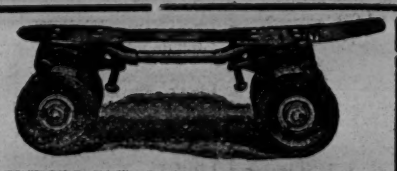

HENLEY RACING SKATE.

Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.

Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy, has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. C. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool (Dept. B); 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C. (Dept. B).

SECOND LIST OF RINK COMPANIES.

Registered in the United Kingdom from June 1 to December 31, 1909.

On Aug. 14 last we published the first list of rink companies, which represented a total capital of about £806,000. Although the various districts in the United Kingdom and elsewhere are now fairly well served with rinks, we venture to predict that our next list will attain to equally large dimensions. The capital represented hereunder reaches the total of about £1,300,000, and this—added to the previous amount of £806,000—shows the capital to end of 1909 of considerably over £2,000,000. We take this opportunity of inviting secretaries of any of the undermentioned companies now operating to forward statements of their workings (such as dividends paid, &c.) for publication.

Name of Company.	Date of Registration, 1909.	Nominal Capital.
Chorlton-cum-Hardy Skating Rink, Ltd.	29th May	£6,000, in £1 shares.
British Roller Skate and Engineering Co., Ltd.	4th June	£5,000, in £1 shs. 500pf.
Maidstone Pavilion Rink, Ltd.	7th June	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Gourock Entertainment and Roller Skating Pavilion, Ltd. (Regd. at Edinburgh)	7th June	£3,500, 2,500 ord. s. of £1 & 20,000 def. ord. of 1s.
United Rinks and Amusement Co., Ltd.	8th June	£5,000, in 9,960 ord. shs. of 10s., & 200 def. s. of 1s.
Clitheroe Roller Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	9th June	£2 500, in £1 shares.
Kilburn Skating Palace, Ltd.	9th June	£8,000, in £1 shares.
Richmond and Twickenham Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	9th June	£9,500, in £1 shares.
Cavendish Hall American Roller Skating Rink Co. (Keighley), Ltd.	10th June	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Jackson and Kellino Amusements, Ltd.	10th June	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Dewsbury and Batley Empire Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	11th June	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Furness Amusement Co., Ltd.	11th June	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Hartlepools Skating and Entertainments, Ltd.	11th June	£2,000, in £1 shares.
British-American Skate Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	12th June	£10,000, in £1 shares.
American Skating Rink Co. (Paris), Ltd.	14th June	£30,000, in £1 shares. 15,000 pref.
Berlin American Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	15th June	£35,000, £1 s. 17,500 pref.
Hamburg American Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	15th June	£15,000, £1 s. 7,500 pref.
Hanover American Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	15th June	£10,000, £1 s. 5,000 pref.
Kilmarnock Roller Rink, Ltd.	15th June	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Sheffield Empire Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	17th June	£8,500, in £1 shares.
South Shields Olympia Skating Rink, Ltd.	18th June	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Chatham, Rochester, and District Rinks, Ltd.	19th June	£10,000, £1 s. 5,000 pref.
Marathon Skating Rink, Ltd.	19th June	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Carr Road Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	21st June	£3,500, in £1 shares.
American Roller Rink (Bramall-lane Grounds, Sheffield), Ltd.	22nd June	£12,000, in £1 shares.
Motherwell Roller Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	24th June	£5,500, in £1 shares.
Olympia Skating Rink (Glasgow), Ltd.	24th June	£7,500, in £1 shares.
City Rink and Winter Gardens, Ltd.	26th June	£15,000, in £1 shares.
Darwen Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	26th June	£4,000, in £10 shares.
Rumworth Skating Rink, Ltd.	28th June	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Sheffield Olympia and Provincial Rinks, Ltd.	29th June	£27,500, in 27,000 pref. ord. shs. of £1, and 10,000 def. ord. s. of 1s.
Wimbledon Rinkeries, Ltd.	1st July	£1,000, in £1 shs. 80 pref.
Albany Hall Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	2nd July	£1,000, in £1 shares.
American Skating Rink Co. (Antwerp), Ltd.	5th July	£8,000, £1 s. 4,000 pref.
American Skating Rink Co. (Bordeaux), Ltd.	5th July	£12,000, £1 s. 6,000 pref.
American Skating Rink Co. (Marseilles), Ltd.	5th July	£12,000, £1 s. 6,000 pref.
American Skating Co. (Nice), Ltd.	5th July	£12,000, £1 s. 6,000 pref.
Cadett's Lava Skating Rinks, Ltd.	5th July	£6,300, in 6,000 pref. shs. of £1, & 6,000 def. of 1s.
Excelsior Portable Rinking Co., Ltd.	5th July	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Stalybridge Palace Skating Rink, Ltd.	5th July	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Grand Stand Roller Rink, Ltd. (reg. Edinburgh)	6th July	£8,000, in £1 shares.
Premier Rinks, Ltd.	6th July	£12,000, in 11,900 pref. ord. shs. of £1 and 2,000 def. shs. of 1s.
Wolverhampton and Walsall Rinks, Ltd.	6th July	£12,000, in £1 shares.
Whitley Bay American Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	9th July	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Southport Fairground Skating and Rink Co., Ltd.	10th July	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Brighouse Skating Rink, Ltd.	12th July	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Premier Skating Rink (Darwen), Ltd.	14th July	£500, in £1 shares.
Scottish Roller Skating (Kirkcaldy), Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	14th July	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Kensington Roller Rink (Oldham), Ltd.	15th July	£9,000, in £1 shares.
Leytonstone Skating Rink, Ltd.	15th July	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Newark Skating Rink, Ltd.	15th July	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Olympia (Bradford) Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	19th July	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Bradford Coliseum, Ltd.	20th July	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Circus Rink, Ltd.	20th July	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Luton Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	20th July	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Wimbledon Olympia, Ltd.	20th July	£10,000, in £1 shs. 9,500 pref. ord. and 500 def.
Anglo-Parisian (American) Roller Skating Rink, Ltd	21st July	£30,000, in £1 shares.
Middlesex County Club and Twickenham Olympia Skating Rink, Ltd.	21st July	£20,000, in £1 shares.
Shaftesbury-av. American Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	21st July	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Barry Rinking Co., Ltd.	22nd July	£225, in £1 shares.
Heybrook Skating Rink, Ltd.	23rd July	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Yorkshire County Rink Co., Ltd.	23rd July	£8,500, in £1 shares.
Ilkley Skating Rink, Ltd	24th July	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Morley Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	24th July	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Skipton Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	27th July	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Empress Skating Rink Co. (Darwen), Ltd.	10th August	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Govan Skating Rink, Ltd. (Regd. at Edinburgh)	10th August	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Palace Rink (Rochdale), Ltd.	11th August	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.	12th August	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Colchester Rink, Ltd.	14th August	£500, in £1 shares.
Bradford Hippodrome, Ltd.	19th August	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Paris Hippodrome Skating Ring Co., Ltd.	20th August	£20,000, £1 s. 10,000 pref.
Ashton United Rinks, Ltd.	23rd August	£6,500, in £1 shares.
Dunfermline Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	24th August	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Pleasure Parks, Ltd.	24th August	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Mexborough and Swinton Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	25th August	£500, in £5 shares.
Stowerbridge Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	26th August	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Canadian Roller Skating Co., Ltd.	28th August	£2,000, in £1 shares.
South Wales Rinks, Ltd.	30th August	£11,500, in £1 shs. 11,250 ord. and 250 def.
Armley Rink Co., Ltd.	31st August	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Le Skating Palace, Ltd.	1st September	£6,300, in 6,000 pf. s. of £1 and 6,000 df. s. of 1s.
Scottish Provincial Roller Skating Co., Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	1st September	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Newington (Hull) Rinks, Ltd.	2nd September	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Bee Hive Billiard and Skating Hall Co., Ltd.	3rd September	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Margate and District Rinks, Ltd.	3rd September	£10,000, in 9,900 pref. shs. of £1 & 2,000 ord. of 1s.
Bathgate and District Roller Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	4th September	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Sutton Rinkeries, Ltd.	7th September	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Croydon Olympia, Ltd.	8th September	£7,500, in £1 shs. 7,000 pref. ord. and 500 def.
American Skating Rink Co. (Cologne), Ltd.	9th September	£15,000, in £1 s. 7,500 pf.
American Skating Rink Co. (Copenhagen), Ltd.	9th September	£15,000, in £1 s. 7,500 pf.
City Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	9th September	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Padiham Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	9th September	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Shotton Skating Rink and Recreation Hall, Ltd.	11th September	£4,000, in £1 shs. 3,500 pref. ord. and 500 def.
Castleford Skating Rink, Ltd.	14th September	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Bath and District Rinks, Ltd.	17th September	£10,000, in 9,800 pref. shs. of £1 & 2,000 ord. of 2s.
Kettering Olympia, Ltd.	21st September	£5,000, in 4,950 ord. shs. of £1 & 1,000 def. of 1s.
Southampton Skating Rink, Ltd.	21st September	£8,500, in £1 shares.
Berlin (West End) Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	23rd September	£15,000, in 1,500 pref. shs. of £5 and 7,500 ord. shs. of £1.
Wimbledon American Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	23rd September	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Ashford Entertainments Co., Ltd.	24th September	£1,000, in £5 shares.
Kirkcaldy Olympia Roller Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	24th September	£2,600, in 2,100 shs. of £1 and 10,000 def. s. of 1s.
Perth Skating Rink Co., Ltd. (regd .at Edinburgh)	25th September	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Canadian Rink (Tottenham), Ltd.	27th September	£6,500, in 6,000 pref. part shs. of £1 and 10,000 ord. shs. of 1s.
Clapham Skating Rink, Ltd.	27th September	£15,000, in £1 shs. 14,500 pref. ord. and 500 def.
Olympia Skating Rink Co. (Dublin), Ltd. (regd. in Dublin)	2nd October	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Bon-Accord Skating Rink, Ltd. (reg. Edinburgh)	6th October	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Bootle Rink and Public Hall Co., Ltd.	6th October	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Ramsgate and District Rink, Ltd.	8th October	£10,000, in 9,900 pref. shs. of £1 & 2,000 ord. of 1s.
Kensington Hall (Liverpool), Ltd.	9th October	£10,000, in £1 shares.
Bath Central Skating Rink, Ltd.	11th October	£3,000, in £1 shs.
Bishop Auckland Olympia, Ltd.	11th October	£4,000 in 3,900 ord. shs. of £1 & 2,000 def. of 1s.
Pontypridd and Rhondda Rinks, Ltd.	11th October	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Arcadia (Levenshulme) Skating Rink, Ltd.	13th October	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Runcorn Skating Rink & Entertainment Co., Ltd.	14th October	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Spennymoor Pavilion Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	14th October	£1,900, in 1,850 shs. of £1 and 1000 shs. of 1s.
American Skating Palace (Tunbridge Wells), Ltd.	15th October	£6,000, in £1 shs. 3,000 pref. and 3,000 def.
Woodside Roller Skating Rink Co., Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	15th October	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Caledonian Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	19th October	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Peterborough Olympia Rink, Ltd.	26th October	£6,100, in 6,000 ord. shs. of £1 & 2,000 def. of 1s.
Peterborough Pavilion, Ltd.	26th October	£5,500, in £1 shares.
Wiesbaden American Roller Rink, Ltd.	26th October	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Margate Palace, Ltd.	27th October	£100,000, in £1 shares.
Greenock Olympia, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	28th October	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Dalmarnock Skating Rink Co., Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	29th October	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Reading Central Skating Rink, Ltd.	29th October	£3,500, in 3,000 part pref. shs. of £1 and 10,000 ord. shs. of 1s.
Spring Dale Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	29th October	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Tredegar Rinking Co., Ltd.	30th October	£350, in £1 shs.
Aberdeen Olympia, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	1st November	£3,000, in 15s. shares.
Central Hall Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	2nd November	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Dover and District Rink, Ltd.	2nd November	£10,000, in 9,900 pref. shs. of £1 & 2,000 ord. of 1s.
Oswestry Skating Rink, Ltd.	2nd November	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Peerless Roller Skate Co., Ltd.	3rd November	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Tunstall Skating Rink and Recreation Co., Ltd.	4th November	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Maida Vale Roller Skating Palace and Club, Ltd.	6th November	£20,250, in 20,000 part pref. shs. of £1 and 5,000 def. ord. of 1s.
Wrexham Pavilion and Skating Rink, Ltd.	6th November	£6,500, in £1 shares.
Pontefract Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	9th November	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Gerston Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	10th November	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Newry Rink Co., Ltd. (regd. in Dublin)	10th November	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Stamford Hill Palace Co., Ltd.	10th November	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Kidderminster Skating Rink, Ltd.	12th November	£3,000, in £1 shares.
American Skating Rink Co. (Frankfort A/M), Ltd.	15th November	£10,000, in £1 s. 5,000 pf.
Folkestone and District Rink, Ltd.	15th November	£10,000, in 9,900 pf. s. of £1 and 2,000 ord. of 1s.
Grangemouth Roller Skating Rink Co., Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	15th November	£500, in £1 shares.
Princess Skating Rink and Amusement Co., Ltd. (regd. in Dublin)	17th November	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Camberwell Skating Rink, Ltd.	18th November	£12,000, in 11,900 pref. ord. shs. of £1 and 2,000 def. shs. of 1s.
Carlton Skating Club and Concert Hall Co., Ltd.	18th November	£10,000, in £1 shs. 2,000 founders'.
Rutherglen Entertainment and Roller Skating Pavilion, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	18th November	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Coalville Olympia, Ltd.	19th November	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Watford Theatre and Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	19th November	£20,000, in £1 shares.
White City Rink (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.	22nd November	£16,000, in £1 shares.
Spen Valley Rink, Ltd.	23rd November	£6,000, in £1 shares.
Westhoughton Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	23rd November	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Anglo-Continental Rinks Syndicate, Ltd.	24th November	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Gerrard's Cross Public Hall Co., Ltd.	24th November	£5,000, in £1 shares.
Stirling Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	24th November	£3,750, in £1 shares.
Manchester Ice Rink, Ltd.	26th November	£20,000, in £1 shares.
Malvern Skating Rink, Ltd.	27th November	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Olympia (Falkirk), Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	27th November	£4,000, in 3,500 pref. shs. of £1 each and 50,000 def. shs. of 1s.
Mansfield Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	29th November	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Central Skating Rink Co., Dunfermline Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	30th November	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Gosport Olympia, Ltd.	1st December	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Dundee West End Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	2nd December	£6,500, in £1 shares.
Eccles Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	2nd December	£10,000, in £1 shares.
Govan Cross Roller Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	2nd December	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Penzance Palace and Skating Rinks, Ltd.	2nd December	£4,500, in £1 shares.
Mirfield Roller Skating Co., Ltd.	3rd December	£1,500, in £1 shares.
Dumfries Roller Skating Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	6th December	£3,750, in 3,450 pref. shs. of £1, & 6,000 df. of 1s.
Gravesend Pavilion Rink, Ltd.	6th December	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Wembley Skating Rink, Ltd.	6th December	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Pleasure Beach (Blackpool) Roller Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	7th December	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Harrow Central Hall and Skating Rink, Ltd.	8th December	£8,000, in 4,000 pref. ord. shs. of £1 and 4,000 def. ord. shs. of 10s.
Farnham & District Rink & Recreation Co., Ltd.	9th December	£1,000, in £1 shares.
Macclesfield Skating Rink & Amusement Co., Ltd.	9th December	£2,500, in 2,375 pref. shs. of £1 & 2,500 ord. of 1s.
Torry Skating Palace, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	9th December	£3,000, in £1 shares.
Yorkshire Portable Rink Co., Ltd.	9th December	£3,000, in 2,900 ord. shs. of £1 & 2,000 df. of 1s.
Bristol Olympia Rink, Ltd.	10th December	£2,000, in £1 shs. 1,750 "A" and 250 "B."
Clacton Palace of Varieties and Skating Rink, Ltd.	10th December	£30,000, in 10s. shares.
Dennistoun Roller Rink, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	10th December	£5,000, in 4,500 pref. shs. of £1 & 10,000 df. of 1s.
Wombwell Empire Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	10th December	£4,000, in £1 shares.
Empress Skating Rink (Ipswich), Ltd.	11th December	£8,000, in £1 shares.
North Metropolitan and Willesden Rinks, Ltd.	11th December	£10,000, in £1 shs. 9,700 pref. ord. and 300 def.
Attercliffe Skating Rink, Ltd.	14th December	£500, in £1 shares.
County Rinks, Ltd.	14th December	£26,250, in 25,000 pref. ord. shs. of £1 and 25,000 def. ord. shs. of 1s.
Brussels Anglo Roller Rink Co. Ltd.	15th December	£7,000, in £1 shares.
Durham Skating Rink and Entertainments, Ltd.	15th December	£3,500, in £1 shares.
Empire Skating Palace, Ltd.	17th December	£13,000, in £1 shares.
Sligo Skating Rink Co., Ltd. (regd. in Dublin)	17th December	£700, in £1 shares.
Woking Rinking Pavilion, Ltd.	17th December	£600, 575 pf. ord. s. of £1 and 500 df. ord. s. of 1s.
Bristol Coliseum, Ltd.	18th December	£20,000, in 19,900 shs. of £1 and 2,000 shs. of 1s.
Earlestown Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	18th December	£2,500, in £1 shares.
Offenbach O/M Rink Co., Ltd.	18th December	£2,000 in £1 shs. 1,000 "A" and 1,000 "B."
Rothesay Pavilion, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	20th December	£5,000 in £1 shares.
Belgrave Roller Skating Rink, Ltd.	21st December	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Wath-upon-Dearne Olympia Ltd.	21st December	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Champs Elysees, Paris, Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	23rd December	£10,000, 9,500 pf. ord. s. of £1 & 500 df. ord. of 1s.
Finchley & District Roller Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	24th December	£4,000, in £1 shares.
North Berwick Ice Rink, Ltd. (reg. at Edinburgh)	24th December	£400, in £1 shares.
Olympia, Gateshead, Ltd.	24th December	£1,200, in £1 shares.
Porth and Rhondda Valley Skating Rink Co., Ltd.	24th December	£4,500, in £1 shs. 2,500 pref. and 2,000 def.
Taunton Skating Rinks, Ltd.	24th December	£2,000, in £1 shares.
Goole Skating Rink, Ltd.	30th December	£500, in £10 shares.
Mexborough Grand Roller Rink Co., Ltd.	30th December	£800, in £1 shares.

CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS' MEETING.

A meeting was held at 10.30 on Tuesday last in the Rehearsal Room of the Musicians' Union Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C., convened by the National Association of Cinematograph Operators. Mr. A. Malcolm, president of the Association, presided. There were between seventy and eighty operators present, and the proceedings were most interesting throughout.

In the course of his opening remarks the CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen,—It gives me very great pleasure to see so many operators here this morning. When this meeting was first mooted it was said that operators would not be up at this time. But from what I see this has proved a fallacy. The reason this meeting was called for 10.30 was to enable all operators to attend. Conditions in the cinematograph business have changed very considerably from what they were a few years ago. Then the operator went to work in the evening, but now, with the advent of the electric theatre and continuous picture show, the operator commences work at one or two in the afternoon. Therefore, in order to give every operator an opportunity of attending the time was fixed for this early hour. That brings me to the reason for which we are here. During the past few years the cinematograph business has made wonderful strides. A few years ago the cinematograph was represented in the entertainment world by the music hall turn and the few companies touring with a complete picture show. But now in our large town we have an electric theatre at almost every street corner, while the smaller provincial towns all have their own permanent picture palace, the towns until recently only being visited by the touring show. But while the business is increasing by leaps and bounds, paying big dividends and reaping rich profits, is the lot of the operator becoming easier? Are wages increasing? The answer is emphatically "No."

As I said before, conditions in the picture business are changing, and from an operator's point of view changing for the worse. In the days gone by an operator worked from ten to fifteen minutes in the evening doing a music hall turn; now he works almost as many hours in the day. But, unfortunately, with the increase of hours there has been no increase of wages—rather the reverse; there has been a decrease, and a very big decrease at that. Years ago an operator received as much as £5 per week; now he receives 30s., 35s., or 40s. for a seven days week. There you have the situation in a nutshell—"more work, less pay."

I think everyone here will agree with me that every operator should join an organisation which is devoting its energy to the betterment of the operator's position. You ask why? The conditions of the operators' work are becoming harder and wages less, and it is only by organising that labour can combat any unfair conditions imposed by the employer, and in the cinematograph business the operator is undoubtedly the skilled labourer. Therefore, I invite every operator who has not already done so, to join the National Association of Cinematograph Operators.

This Association was established three years ago. It was formed by six men, all operators, who met at 29, Wellington-street, who personally subscribed the original funds for establishing the Association. From this small beginning the N.A.C.O. has grown. It is not my intention of going into the history of the Association now, as this will be done later on in the meeting. Another point I have to bring before you. It has come to the knowledge of the committee that an Association is being formed under the title of the National Union of Skating Rink and Cinematograph Theatre Employees. This is being organised by Mr. E. S. R. Smith, late secretary of the One-and-All Assurance Association. The committee of the N.A.C.O. wish to warn all operators against joining a mixed society of this description. In the first place, it is dead against the principles of trade unionism to organise a society of workers when there is one already in existence. We have little to do with the first part of this new association, but with the second part a great deal, viz., the cinematograph theatre employees. I take it "this includes operators." I do not see how a mixed union of skating rink and cinematograph theatre employees can benefit the operator's conditions of labour. Rates of pay are so different. Therefore, I say to all operators it is to your advantage, it is your duty to join your own Association, established by operators, managed by operators, for the benefit of the operator. Another reason why the operator should join the N.A.C.O., and not an outside association, is this: The N.A.C.O. is the original, and, as far as we know, the only recognised society dealing exclusively with the business of the operator. It is affiliated to the General Federation of Trade Unions and to the Trades Union Congress. These bodies represent the entire organised labour of the United Kingdom. That is the position of the N.A.C.O., and trade unionists in my audience will know that these bodies do not look with favour on societies that organise and attempt to divide the ranks of the already organised workers. This will be put to you in the form of a resolution later on.

One point I wish to make clear. This meeting has been arranged by the N.A.C.O. for operators, in order to impress on them the importance of combining now more than ever before, in order to combat the new order of things, which means more work and less pay for the operator.

After the resolutions have been proposed and seconded and the speakers appointed by the committee have spoken, we shall be pleased to answer any questions, and to receive amendments, if any operator wishes to move same. I will not detain you any longer, but will ask Mr. C. H. Mason, vice-president of the N.A.C.O., to propose the first resolution, which was as follows:—

> "That this meeting of operators condemns the action of Mr. E. S. Smith (Secretary of the 'One-and-All Assurance Society') in attempting to divide the ranks of the cinematograph operators by endeavouring to persuade them to join a mixed union of skating rink and cinematograph employees—one of whose objects is to legalise Sunday opening of places of amusement, and, further, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, the General Federation of Trade Unions, the Labour Party, the Metropolitan Trade Unions and Councils, and to the Press."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. T. G. Weedon, N.A.C.O., and supported by Mr. C. Hesson, L.C.C., and Mr. William Johnson.

MR. JOHNSON said it would be a calamity if the ranks of the operators were divided between two organisations, but, in any case, the N.A.C.O., being affiliated (through the N.A.T.E.) with the General Federation of Trade Unions and the Trade Union Congress, representing about one and a half millions of organised workpeople, would be the only organisation in this business recognised by the Labour movement.

The proposal to legalise Sunday work was unprecedented; no other union had even proposed such a thing. He held that the six working days of the week were sufficient for any capitalist to secure a profit on his capital, and sufficient for any workman to earn a living. In this business profits as high as 50 per cent. had been made, and there was plenty of margin to permit the employers to pay far higher wages and work their operators less hours. If some of the employers in this business were not more careful in their treatment of their employees an agitation would be set on foot which would soon bring them to a better sense of what they owed to the skill and industry of their operators. The disfavour of the public would be shown in no unmistakable way when the facts were known, and united the operators could not fail to achieve their aims, which were reasonable and just. (Cheers.)

The resolution on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

The second resolution was proposed by Mr. H. L. MERRITT, secretary of the N.A.C.O., and was as follows:—

> "That this meeting of operators strongly urges all operators of animated picture apparatus to join the National Association of Cinematograph Operators (Branch No. 10 of the N.A.T.E.), and hereby calls upon all operators to assist in establishing a minimum rate of pay for each class of business based upon a week of six working days, with double-time rates for unavoidable Sunday work."

Mr. Merritt, in the course of his remarks, described what the Association had done in the course of its existence. It was recognised by the Home Office and the London County Council, and had been consulted by both bodies with respect to the regulations affecting the use of the cinematograph. It had not yet succeeded in one of its main objects, which was that all operators should be licensed by some authority, but pending the attainment of this object the Association had instituted a system of examination, and had issued certificates which were recognised in various parts of the country as proof that the operator was a qualified man. Much more could have been done had the operators, as a class, given the Association their support; but their membership was growing, and their prospects were most encouraging. Mr. Merritt gave details of the benefits provided—legal advice free, legal assistance in approved circumstances, grants from the benevolent fund to members in need, &c. Mr. Merritt concluded by saying he was sure the Association was worthy of their support, and he hoped all non-members would join.

MR. EDWIN CATLIN seconded the resolution in a breezy speech. He claimed to be one of the oldest operators, and he once thought he knew all there was to be known about the business, but there have been so many changes in the appliances used that he was learning something every day. He felt sure many operators would derive benefit from joining. They were all willing to help one another in the way of business or pleasure, and no one could deny that if the lot of the operator was to be improved they must unite and work together for their mutual benefit.

Mr. C. C. BARTRAM, of the V.A.F. Committee, spoke in support of the resolution, and was followed by Mr. WM. JOHNSON, who, alluding to particulars given by Mr. Merritt, of the rates of pay of the "Moving Picture Operators Union" in America, said that union was a branch of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. The operators in America were organised on the same lines as the organised operators in this country, and no operator who left this country to work in America would be allowed by the American Union to do so unless he held a card of membership in the British Union. The operators were engaged in very responsible work; their health and knowledge were taxed to the utmost, and they would not find it difficult to get far better conditions of employment if they would support the N.A.C.O.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then moved a vote of thanks to the Musicians' Union Committee for the use of the room, and having thanked those present for their attendance the proceedings closed.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 1, at eleven o'clock a.m., in the same room.

Oldest Picture Palace.

THE oldest continuous animated picture show in the whole of London is that which bears the title of the Automatic Vaudeville Daily Bioscope at 27 and 28, Bishopsgate-street Within. From noon until half-past ten in the evening eight long films are reeled off with just two minutes' interval between each. Further than an exterior notice, "Admission One Penny to One Shilling," no indication is afforded to passers by of the precise character of the entertainment. Visitors pay a penny or twopence to see a couple of pictures, the subjects of which are announced by the attendant, who collects the coppers from those wishful to remain. The sixpenny or shilling admission charge entitles the occupants of the front seats to witness the whole two hours' round.

Warning to Entertainers.

Two prosecutions, the first of the kind in Glasgow under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, were dealt with by Sheriff Mackenzie in Glasgow Sheriff Court last Saturday. The owner of a hall in Shettleston was charged with having allowed the premises to be used on Feb. 4 for a cinematograph entertainment without having given due notice to the County Council or the chief officer of police in terms of the Act, while the proprietor of the cinematograph was charged with allowing his apparatus to be used for exhibition on the occasion in question without the authorities having been notified. The Sheriff said that as the prosecutions were the first of the kind which had come before him he would impose a modified penalty of 5s. in each case, but he hoped the prosecutions would act as a warning to entertainers.

MR. JOHN TOFT, who is presently touring Ireland with his up-to-date electric Filmiphone, paid a week's visit to the new Temperance Hall, Sligo. On Sunday night the hall was packed to its utmost at early doors, and the entertainment was honoured by the patronage of the Bishop and all the priests, as well as the Mayor and Corporation and the Harbour Commissioners, who were all delighted with the excellent show given by Mr. Toft.

AT Treherbert, on the 4th inst., Poole's, Ltd., met Poole's, Unlimited, on the football field, the match resulting in a win for the Unlimited. The scores were:—Unlimited, 3 goals; Limited, 1 goal. E. C. Rogers (2) and Herman scored for Unlimited.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH
PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Grantham, on the Great Northern; Wadebridge, on the Great Western and South-Western; Alston (Cumb.), on the North-Eastern; Malton, on the North-Eastern; Pickering, on the North-Eastern; Pontefract, on the Great Northern, North-Eastern, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Midland; Dumfries, on the Glasgow and South-Western and Caledonian; Corwen, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Penmorfa, on the Cambrian; Pontardawe, on the Midland; Cowbridge, on the Taff Vale; Rhayader, on the Cambrian Railways.

Cefn Fair.

This delightful Welsh town held its annual fair under the management of the famous Walsall firm, Messrs. P. Collins and Son. Their exhibits included the No. 2 Wonderland animated picture show and the No. 1 set of Gordon Bennett motor cars. The other amusements were Wright and Cordwell's juvenile roundabouts, park swings, and hoop-la circles, and throwing games by Hart, Jones, and Humphries.

Recognition of Bravery.

For his bravery in rescuing a fellow-trainer from the attacks of a lion in Frank C. Bostock's Jungle, Glasgow, Jack Martino was on Monday night presented with the Bostock gold medal. Before the presentation, Mr. Harry E. Tudor, the manager of the Jungle, said the same courage and promptitude had probably been shown more or less by every trainer in the Jungle, as they were always ready to assist their comrades in time of danger; but the presentation was made in this instance on account of the extreme youth of Martino. It was not the first occasion on which his assistance had saved trainer Falkendorf. In June last at Coney Island an attack was made on Falkendorf by one of the tigers, and Martino was successful in averting serious danger. Mr. Frank C. Bostock had wired from Brussels that he was unfortunately unable to be present that night. Miss Isla Tudor, a pretty little girl, then pinned the medal on the young trainer's breast, amidst applause. He modestly returned thanks. Twenty more South African lions have arrived at the Jungle for training.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, J. H. Chipperfield, Anderton and Rowland, and W. Haggar at *The Era* Office.

Wisbech Fair.

Amongst the principal shows and roundabouts at this famous Mart and Pleasure Fair were the cinematograph palaces of G. T. Tuby and Sone and Mr. Charles Thurston; the high-class electric riding machines of these enterprising showmen were also great attractions at the fair. A service for showfolk and others was held on the Mart Sunday in the magnificent pavilion of Tuby and Sons (kindly given for the occasion). The Vicar of Wisbech delivered an address to a congregation numbering one thousand. His theme was "Influence." The attendance of showpeople was large, and the outside public filled the huge show to very inch of its capacity. The singing of the hymns was truly grand and impressive, the music being by the Wisbech Prize Silver Band. Our report is that the service was of a most impressive character. The Vicar of Wisbech and the other promoters of the scheme deserve the highest thanks for their good work. A collection was taken, and it amounted to £3 1s. 4d. The remainder after the payment of purely local expenses (£1 10s. 4d.), will be a contribution to the Guild funds. Messrs. Tuby and Sons not only lent their show free, but they also generously provided the electric light for the service.

Notes from Yorkshire.

Bailey's Circus is having a brief but highly successful season on the Wakefield Market Ground. On the Leeds Market Ground Harry Hughes, with Assault-at-Arms and School of Athletes, continues his seasonal success. On the same pitch are Vanner, Turner, and Jameson, with novelty frames and games of skill. Harry Ashington (the doyen of Yorkshire showmen) is still at Adwaton, doing big business with his combination of marionettes and living pictures. With the veteran entertainer are associated Bassett, Redfern, and Daley, with their well-known amusements.

Taylor's Cinema Theatre de Luxe.

This beautiful Pavilion Palace of animated pictures is having a short season at South Acton.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. E. Simmons, secretary of the Wisbech Church Men's Service Committee, £1 10s. 4d., proceeds of a collection at the Showmen's Service, on the Mart Sunday.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

With Palm Sunday the itinerary of the Guild Chaplain begins. His first centre of work will be at Retford. The service will be on the fair-ground, and in Messrs. Tuby and Sons' Coliseum. In addition to the Guild work, the chaplain will deliver the address to men at the Parish Church, East Retford. The vicar is the hon. local chaplain to the Guild.

The Guild and Mitcham Fair.

The approaching election of the parish council at Mitcham will afford the Trade Protection Society of Showmen a legitimate opportunity of doing useful work for its London members, the principal tenants of the fair. In these days of organisation and combination all good work is all the better done by united and carefully planned action. The trade and business interests of modern fairs are more important than people outside the industry imagine, and it is the work of the Guild to bring these interests before the justice-loving public. The Guild has other interests to protect besides that of its members; these are the rights and liberties of the people to retain their ancient fairs, and to maintain the local holidays arising from the yearly occurrence of the fairs. The trading interests of the entertainers and caterers attending our fairs are, of course, intimately bound up with the maintenance of the people's rights and liberties, but it must never be forgotten that the Guild, in safeguarding the interests of the people, is doing, at the cost of its members, a work of national importance. The Guild is, in this respect, the champion of the public in a matter of the greatest importance. The loss of a fair involves serious peril to the right and liberties of the toilers.

The coming of the fair sets the people free for a brief and ever-welcome respite from the severe grind of labour. It is a working man's question, and, in so far as other classes, above the industrial order, are moved by a sense of justice and fair-play to their poorer brethren, so far will they assist the workers to maintain and to enjoy the liberties and pleasures of life that the fair and its holidays bring.

The Action of the Guild.

This public side of the Guild work will be largely in evidence at the forthcoming election for the parish council. The executive committee will take every care that the electors shall know the importance of the election as the patiently waited-for chance of expressing, at the ballot-box, their disapproval of the action of the would-be abolitionists of the fair. We have shown, in a separate article, the important issues at stake for the showmen, and for the people of Mitcham. The time for action has come, and it will be taken.

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM FAIR.

We have from time to time in the "Showman World" columns of *The Era* maintained that the first principle of justice demands the recognition by all the other parties concerned of the right of the people of Mitcham to have and to hold their fair.

Customary usage and legal sanction have created other rights, reasonable in most cases; but when we get down to the real question at issue, these subsidiary rights, growing out of the people's supreme right to hold the fair, and to enjoy its continuance, is the essential principle at stake. Let us state our case clearly. We begin at the root of the matter—the people's right in their annual fair.

Subsidiary Rights and Privileges.

Let us clearly set these out in detail. (1) There is the right (a beneficial one) of the Lord of the Manor to collect tolls to compensate him for the disturbance of the soil of the common land, and also as a rent due to the principal owner of the soil (being agent for the people whose common rights, as well as the Lord of the Manor, have been disturbed by the incidents of the fair).

We are too apt to forget that, properly understood, the Lord of the Manor is, in justice, no more than the chief commoner. The old feudal conception of lordship, upon which ideal the whole fabric of our Laws of Property is based, was leadership of the people, the champion and defender of the people's rights against all enemies and outside attack. It is, indeed, a sad commentary that in later times the most important duties of the Lord of the Manor have been neglected, and the very essential condition of the justice of his claim to lordship has been perverted into channels of greed and personal aggrandisement. Those things which he held in common with the people living under his protection have been in most cases turned from their true purposes, and the people's rights in most cases stolen.

(2) The trader's right to attend the fair, or, as we would put it, the showman's right to frequent the fair without let or hindrance so long as it remains a legal fair.

Arising out of this claim, a brief reference is necessary to the constitutional question, How may a fair legally held be abolished?

By the authority vested in the Home Secretary by statute, and by that authority alone. Stripped of all side issues, there is no other way of abolishing a fair but by petition under the Abolition of Fairs Act to the Home Office.

The machinery of the statute is set in motion, all the parties concerned are heard, the petitioners, the people whose fair is threatened, and the traders and all others, including the Lord of the Manor and the commoners, as apart from the general body of the people, have full right to be heard, and justice awarded them under the Statute Law.

The Real Question at Issue.

For four years past the people of Mitcham and the showmen, as lawful frequenters of the fair, have protested, and do still protest, against a scheme to abolish the fair, without regard to the Statute Law. A certain number of gentlemen, under the mistaken notion that the people would not resent its abolition, collected a fund, largely made up of a grant, or grants, from public funds.

The object of this preliminary move towards abolition was to extinguish what would have been their most formidable obstacle, from the vested interest point of view, to the carrying out of their scheme.

The fair rights, or franchise, of Mitcham Fair had passed through many hands, until it had become a property as easily saleable as any other reversionary interest in the open market.

The fair rights were purchased by the gentlemen who had undertaken to collect the money for this purpose. Having by purchase secured the power of extinguishing the beneficial right of the franchise owner to collect his tolls, it was thought that the scheme to procure the total abolition of the people's fair would succeed; but the scheme failed.

The people were roused and public indignation against the scheme was so strong that, on public grounds, the gentlemen who now owned the fair franchise discovered, when it was too late, that they could not hope to obtain their desire by the consent of the people and the authority of the Home Secretary. So ended scheme No. 1 to abolish Mitcham Fair, and thus concluded the first stage of the controversy between the people of Mitcham and the group of men who still determined, with or without the people, to abolish Mitcham Charter Fair.

The Second Scheme to Abolish the Fair.

This took the form of joint action (since admitted of doubtful legality) between the Conservators of Mitcham Common and the then owners or trustees of the fair franchise. Notices were issued refusing to let ground on the Fair Green for the ensuing fair (this was in 1906). The official notice forbidding the showpeople the use of the Fair Green for the customary fair was signed by the then chairman of the Board of Conservators in the name of the owners of the fair franchise as well as the name of the Conservators. A great deal of controversy has arisen since over the irregularity of this double authority, for manifestly at that time the Board of Conservators were not included in the trust for the purchase of the fair rights.

It is, however, a question for legal decision, and one that may be usefully decided later on. It has no relevancy to the points at issue at the present moment between the people of Mitcham and the owners (or trustees) of the fair franchise. There have been many indications during the past two years that the Board of Conservators will take no action towards the abolition of the Fair (or otherwise) until the franchise owners transfer their rights in full to the Board.

Injunctions in the first instance (in the year 1906) were obtained against three representative showmen—Messrs. Ball, Wilson, and Hill—and again the following year against forty-five other showmen, and there is no doubt that each year since, had the joint action of the Conservators and the franchise owners been persevered with, that other two hundred showmen would have fallen under the ban of the same legal disability. Wiser counsels, however, prevailed on the Board, and the stricter regard was paid by that authority to the question of its *locus standi* to intervene in the matter at all until it had become the actual possessors of the franchise.

Thus ended, as far as the eventful history has disclosed the material facts, the second scheme to abolish Mitcham Fair by the authority alone of the owners of the franchise.

What can the People of Mitcham Do?

They have already protested against abolition, and the Home Secretary had admitted the reasonableness of their protest by refusing to abolish the Fair. They have also upon two occasions used the highest constitutional means of impressing their views upon the would-be abolitionists by overwhelming votes against abolition in parish meeting assembled. This truly democratic method of making known their wishes by properly convened parish meetings had apparently but little effect upon the abolitionists, so the position to-day is that the people of Mitcham have used every constitutional weapon at their command, every lawful and peaceful means available, and the wonder is that men who desire to serve the public should stubbornly persist in their scheme of going contrary to the known wishes of the people.

There is in the coming election of the Parish Council of Mitcham one other means whereby the people's will may be obeyed, and that is by the direct vote of the people for candidates for office who are pledged to defend the people's fair from all attack.

"The people's fair for the people" must be the cry at the coming election. It is a curiously-involved method of representation how the people of Mitcham can vote on this question. First of all, the people have only one opportunity of casting a vote at all on the subject, and that is once every three years, when their Parish Council is elected. The people do not have direct representation on the Board of Conservators. It is a glaring anomaly, but we have to recognise the hard facts of the case. The people do not elect the four Mitcham Conservators, but the people do elect the whole of the Parish Councillors, and the Parish Council selects the four gentlemen who are to act as Conservators for the parish. Here is the people's opportunity: it is to send to represent them on the Parish Council gentlemen who will conserve the people's interests and who will represent the real mind of Mitcham.

The following appeal is issued by the Showmen's Guild, and is addressed to the electors:—

"How to Save Your Fair.

"Certain efforts have been made during the past four years to abolish your ancient charter fair. Up to now those efforts have failed. Why they failed is owing to the strong protest you, the people of Mitcham, have made against the loss of your rights and liberties, that the abolition of the fair would inevitably bring. The enemies of the fair try to confuse the real issues by asserting that it is a showmen's question, and that the showmen are merely interfering in your local affairs for selfish purposes, and for the greed of gain and profit.

"But is that the Truth?

"It is not. It is a plausible gloss on truth that partakes of the nature of the proverbial 'half truth' said 'to be worse than a downright lie.' It is true that the showmen follow their lawful calling as entertainers for profit, and with the laudable ambition of earning an honest living thereby, like all other people who work. That is no argument against the reasonableness of their claim to be heard, and to have just treatment. Showmen are as much entitled to fair play and straight dealing as any other class in the community, and the Guild exists to vindicate and uphold that claim.

"Let Us Clear the Ground of Cant.

"The showman, like every other man, has the rights of citizenship. He does not seek preferential treatment. He demands justice, and justice means the right to pursue his lawful calling, with the liberty of all workers, and free from the malign and vicious interference of mistaken faddists and would-be reformers, who regard him as a pestilential fellow, and desire to reform him by wiping him off the face of the earth. To such mistaken zealots the showman—as a man—shows fight.

"The Showman Fights Fair.

"He does not attempt to over-rule the Home Secretary's decisions properly given. He does not seek by expensive processes of law (impossible save to the rich), to obtain his own way by other means where the statute law of the land gives him no power. He refuses to enter into the debate of fine points of legal intricacy, or to waste his money on their solution. The showman is ever content with

"The Tribunal of the People.

"Without the people he cannot live, and it is to the people that he goes for his verdict. Why complicate the issues by fine-spun arguments, as to when a charter is, or when it is not? The obvious truth is good enough for him. Here is a fair—the people want my show—when they do not want me it will then be time enough to close down my business.

"What the Electors can do at this Election.

"They can take care to vote for men who are known to be the friends of the people's fair. The electors have no direct vote for the Mitcham Conservators, but they have the power to vote for the councillors who do select and elect the Conservators. Here is the situation before the electors. Let it be well understood that no known enemy of the people's fair shall have the people's vote. Parish meetings, properly convened, expressing by unanimous vote the people's will on the fair question, have been scorned, and repudiated by the Mitcham Conservators. Public meetings equally enthusiastic have been also treated with contempt. Negotiations of the most persevering and moderate character have been fruitless of good result. The champions of the people's rights at all crucial moments have been outvoted on the parish council.

"It is for the Electors to Take Care That Their Will Shall Prevail.

"Why should the people be despised, denied, and flouted by the men who are sent to the council as their representatives?

"Upon the question of the fair rights of the people the time has come for distinct pledges. Let the electors of Mitcham see that they are obtained.

"Signed on behalf of the Guild Executive Committee, "T. Horne,
"Chaplain and organiser.

"March 11, 1910."

Monmouth May Fair.

It will be seen on reference to our showmen advertisements that the Borough of Monmouth desires that speedy application be made for ground at the forthcoming May Fair. A word to the wise is enough.

Important Announcements.

The important sale of Walter Payne's bioscope show, as set out in our advertising columns, is worth a special note of attention by our showmen readers. The concern is entrusted to Mr. Tom Norman, the showmen's auctioneer, for sale, either by private treatey before, or on Wednesday next, March 16, by public auction, at Camberley. It may now be seen in working order. See advertisement for details.

Another important announcement for showmen working the seaside pleasure resorts is the Figure 8 Park on the sea-front at Morecambe Bay.

Westminster Palace.

Mr. Douglas Payne has a good bill at "the old house in the road" this week, now rejoicing in the title of the Westminster Palace of Varieties. There is a continuous performance between 6.30 and 11.30, when, in addition to the very latest pictures, a good variety programme is submitted. There is Allsop and Beckwith, a comedy duo; Gracie O'Neill, the juvenile comedienne and speciality dancer; Sid Penna, an eccentric musical comedian in a funny and novel musical surprise act; Little Ivy Lea, the wonderful child vocalist, instrumentalist, and coon dancer; Paul Jones, a very good comedian; and Kathleen Meredith, a very good artist indeed.

At the Rectory Hall, Guernsey, Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures are an immense draw. The principal films shown are the art dramas the Open Gate and Lancelot and Elaine, a beautiful coloured picture; The Carnival at Nice; The Pillagers; Longing for a Husband; An Improved Inkstand; and The Haunted Man. All cause intense excitement. The *Morning Leader* £100 prize picture is wonderfully interesting, and the film Dick Donovan delights the younger element.

Mr. Thomas Whiteley, well known in the district, and who some time ago opened the Central Hall in Blackfriars-road, Salford, has, in addition to other like ventures in Eccles, &c., become the sole proprietor or a large obsolete school premises in Pendleton (Salford), which he has named the New Central Hall, Pendleton.

FILM GOSSIP.

A Tale of the Backwoods.

This Selig film tells the story of two families—the Bergers and Chaneys. The Bergers, not as uncouth as their strange neighbours, had a daughter, whose name was Molly, a rather gentle and lovable little creature. Meg Chaney hated her because she had won the love of Pete Horner, a thrifty young lumberman. The story opens with the meeting of the Bergers and the Chaneys, while in the village to do some trading. Pete is there at the time and is talking to Meg when Molly comes on the scene and Meg is at once fired to bitter hatred for the rival, when she sees Peter's marked preference for her. Rushing away into the woods, she throws herself sobbing on the ground. A half-witted lad named Humpy hurries after Meg, and begs to be allowed to do something for her. A wicked thought enters Meg's mind. Why not get this poor fool to make away with Molly? Deceiving the demented wretch with the promise of bestowing her love on him should he succeed in carrying out her plans, she unfolds to him a plot by which Molly could be dragged away to an old deserted building in the forest, locked in, and the shack fired. Then all traces of the crime could be obliterated. "I'll do it," cries the half-wit. "For a smile from your lips I would kill all mankind." Then, rushing away, he waits until Molly has returned home, and calling her out and away from the house by a whistle which she thinks is a signal from her lover he soon has her in his power. A negro, fishing on the bank of the river, catches a sight of the struggling girl, and realising her danger hastens to Pete's home and apprises him of Molly's peril. In the meantime Humpy has brought Meg to the old shack, and at her command sets fire to it. Then seeing that her victim is apparently beyond all earthly hope, she chuckles with fiendish glee and hastens away. The half-wit seizes Meg in his arms, and with the strength of a maniac, drags her back to the burning shack. "You lied to me; we will die together." He bursts open the door and throws the frantic, struggling Meg inside; then seizing the unconscious form of Molly he bears her through the stifling smoke into the pure air without. Then rushing back he bars the door, and inside that burning caldron calmly awaits death to come to him and his partner in crime. Racing through the dense growth of the forest Pete hears the crackle of the flames. Through the fire he dashes, and bursting open the door is just in time to drag the half-dead Meg and the hunchback out of the jaws of death.

And What Next?

The World's Progress is a splendid Gaumont film illustrating the advance made from the Stone Age to airships. At the beginning of the world man got very tired, as he was always walking. One day he met with a horse, and soon invented a carriage. One sees successively a carriage, a coach, a cabriolet, and a cab. Then man saw fishes and invented boats. One sees a Greek and Egyptian boat, a ship, steamboat, a transatlantic liner, an ironclad, and a submarine. At the end a flying bird gave him the idea of a balloon, aeroplanes, &c., and eventually the air is filled with airships.

Daylight Cinematograph.

A novelty in the form of a daylight cinematograph machine will be seen at the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace. A huge screen of ground glass will be erected in the grounds. The lantern will be placed behind the screen, and the pictures thrown through a darkened tube.

An Unique Business.

Probably one of the most unique businesses in South London is the house of Walter Tyler, Ltd., established for thirty years on Waterloo Bridge approach. The original business was founded by Mr. Walter Tyler. In the early days of photography, Mr. Tyler saw the immense educational value of the lantern slide, and amassed a great stock, hiring them to users throughout the country. Tyler's stock has been added to from year to year, and kept up to date, and now close on a million lantern slides, illustrating every part of the world, and every conceivable subject, are stored at the Waterloo-road premises. Ten thousand school colleges and lecture societies use this library during the winter seasons. Another interesting and more recent development of the business is supplying cinematograph machines and requisites for the numerous picture palaces which are springing up all over England.

We are in receipt of a letter from Mr. S. Tucker, Secretary of the National Union of Cinematograph and Skating Rink Employés, protesting against Mr. H. L. Merritt's remarks published in the last issue of *The Era*. Many of Mr. Tucker's remarks and allegations it would be inadvisable to print, but in fairness to him we give the substance of his remarks.: "There was an attendance of thirty when Mr. E. S. R. Smith took the chair at the London Bridge Picture Palace on Feb. 27, at 7.30 p.m. The object of the meeting was to make the N.U.C. and S.R.E. known to all employés connected with cinematograph theatres and skating rinks, and draw up with their assistance rules, including a minimum wage for the different grades of employés, and the hours of labour and conditions to be observed. In this we received no assistance whatever from the officials of the National Association of Cinematograph Operators present. Mr. Malcolm said that the N.A.C.O. had been in existence for three years, during which period the wages of operators had steadily fallen. It was impossible to fix a minimum wage in his opinion owing to the variety of shows employing them, ranging from West End halls and picture palaces, paying £3 15s. per week, to travelling shows. We support Sunday opening only on the conditon that each employé receives a six days' working week, and trades union wages and conditions.

"The N.A.C.O., in its wisdom also thought it necessary to draw the L.C.C.'s attention to the fact that the 'London Bridge Picture Palace' was opened on Sundays, and questioned the bona fides of the charity to which the proceeds were to be devoted. We had received permission from the Bermondsey Bioscope Co., Ltd., for our Committee to manage the London Bridge Picture Palace on Sundays on the condition that we devoted the profits to form the nucleus of a sick and benevolent fund for the members of our Union, as a perusal of our minute book will show."

The Triumph of Stiggins.

The absurd objection to cinematograph exhibitions on Sunday is one more piece of evidence that we in England are in many cases still living in the darkness of the middle ages. We should not mind that so much, if only the authorities for our moral welfare and Sunday observance managed at the same time to be consistent in their Stigginisms. The rich may have their Sunday concerts, their musical dinners at fashionable restaurants, their motor rides into the country, their theatrical performances, and their bridge and whist tournaments, but the poor must wander aimlessly about the streets, go to church, or generally pass their time in loafing and love-making. Cinematograph performances are very interesting, often instructive, and at their worst quite harmless.

The C.D.L. and the L.C.C.

The Cinematograph Defence League are contemplating defying the London County Council, by arranging for a test case, so that the courts may decide the legality of the action of the Council in compelling picture shows and skating rinks to be closed on Sundays, save when run for charitable purposes.

Scientists Visit Oxo Factory.

A distinguished gathering of scientists, amongst whom were Sir William Crookes, Sir Edward Thorpe, and Sir William Tilden made a tour of inspection of the Oxo factory in Southwark last week. The processes connected with the manufacture of Oxo and Lemco were fully explained, and cinematograph pictures of the vast cattle ranches owned by the company were shown.

Canada in Pictures.

A private invitation kinematograph exhibition was given at the Palace Theatre last Friday afternoon by the Charles Urban Trading Company, Ltd., to witness the new series of pictures taken in the districts served by the Canadian Northern Railway system. Scenes on the Canadian Northern lines in Nova Scotia were shown, and were followed by scenes on the Canadian Northern lines in the province of Quebec, with general views of Quebec, Ottawa, and Montreal; pulp mills and water powers in the province of Quebec; the brick, iron, and coal industries in Quebec and Ontario; general farming scenes in the prairie provinces, including live stock parade at Brandon Fair; scenes in and near growing prairie towns and cities, including Saskatoon, Lloydminster, and Edmonton; the emigrants' progress, comprising the following items: Selecting Free Land Grant, Breaking Virgin Soil, First Harvest (sod shack and one binder), Second Harvest (frame house and two binders), After Five Years (motor-car and fifty horses), Modern Means of Harvesting, and Fifteen Binders Working Together at Davidson.

"As Safe as a Chapel."

A genius, who signs himself "Bystander," has written to the *Daily News* alleging that cinematograph theatres are "places where the light has been shut out, and, consequently, from which air has been excluded." He goes on to suggest that "the hygienic conditions in a resort when light and fresh air are rarely admitted, and when large numbers of persons are congregated for hours on end, are, needless to say, extremely favourable for the breeding and spread of disease. Bearing this in mind, local authorities will do well, before licensing such places, to stipulate that the floors shall be sprinkled at frequent intervals with water to which, say, a proper proportion of disinfectant has been added. Further, they should require the walls and floors to be sprayed nightly and the seats and wood-work wiped over with cloths wrung out in a similar solution." "Bystander" evidently knows as little about the buildings of which he speaks as he does about the L.C.C. building regulations, with which every owner of a cinema show must comply. "Bystander" need be under no apprehension should he decide to visit an electric theatre once a week that he will be suffocated, or even that he has a greater chance of catching an infectious disease than he would have in the usual stuffy chapel that is undoubtedly the proper resort for him, and to which he should confine his sole attention. Picture palaces are as safe—possibly safer—than the average religious meeting-house.

Miming Picture Plays.

Will our best dramatists ere long write for the picture film-makers and will our best actors mime the plays even as their French and American confrères are doing? Mr. Arthur Shirley, who knows what he is talking about, says they will. "The drama and the 'moving picture,'" he says, "are destined to be welded firmly in the future. At present plays with a cast of ten or twelve are in demand, because to travel twenty people or more, plus heavy 'sets' and 'crowds,' is prohibitive on account of the extra weekly cost. Multiply this extra weekly cost by forty for a forty weeks' tour and it becomes enormous. My proposition is to write a specially devised 'big effect' or 'Drury Lane' play with a cast of a dozen 'principals,' and put all the 'super' scenes, such as (1) horse-races, (2) battles, (3) wedding processions, (4) riots, (5) railway trains, &c., on to the films, thus making it possible to tour a 'spectacular drama' at low expenses after the first cost of the 'pictures' had been met.

No More Troublesome Sets.

"In a small way this has been attempted in half-hour sketches at the music-halls, and five years ago at the Coliseum Mr. Stoll allowed me to knit together what was really a five-act drama (*Joseph and His Brethren*) by means of pictures thrown on the screen, which carried on the action

THE FIRST SITE IN THE COUNTRY.

TO OUTSIDE AMUSEMENT CATERERS AND OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

TAKE NOTICE that the Buildings and Marine Park, known as the KURSAAL, SOUTHEND, have been taken over by a Company known as

THE LUNA PARK & PALACE OF AMUSEMENTS, SOUTHEND, Ltd.,

and it is proposed to lay out the grounds as an American Fun Park, and already some of the finest and most successful amusement devices in the world have been arranged for.

There are still a few Vacant Plots TO LET for

SIDE-SHOWS AND NOVELTIES,

and the Management will be pleased to have applications for same.
Southend is the nearest Seaport to London.

Splendid Railway and Steamboat facilities. The Site and Travelling facilities make a Show, but a Show can't make a Site.

Apply, T. HILTON, KURSAAL, SOUTHEND.

where the living actors dropped it. To take up an existing spectacular play and cut out the 'super' scenes, replacing them by 'pictures,' would not do—the 'bio drama' I have in my mind will have to be new and especially written, thought out, and constructed. Let me give an instance: Scene, the weighing-room at racecourse; three or four actors carry on the action to the point where the hero rushes off to ride an 'outsider.' Here should come a most troublesome 'set' that only a Drury Lane or a Coliseum stage could do properly, and at enormous cost; but if the race be thrown 'on the screen,' the first cost of getting it would last for years instead of the whole having to be built up and 'peopled' nightly as long as the tour lasted.

Cheap Spectacle.

"After the bioscope race was over, up would go the lights, and the hero would return to the same place he left—the winner of 'Clodshire Cup'!—and on goes the play again with its twelve actors towards the next 'big effect,' and so on! Theatres with small stages would thus get scenes that at present only three or four in all England can afford to present, owing to their cumbersomeness and prohibitive cost. Of course, whole plays are now often done on the bioscope, but they are 'dumb shows,' and not what I want to do, a drama with live, speaking, moving actors, supplemented by the expensive, or 'spectacular,' part of the entertainment being shown in the moving picture."

Ultramicroscopic Scenes.

M. VILLERS has been giving in the pages of *La Nature* an animated account of the wonderful results already achieved in the application of the cinematograph to the study of the life history of blood parasites. Victor Henri, aided by the skill of Pathé Frères, is now able to inspect at his ease the inmates of a hitherto invisible world. With a sufficiently extensive screen the domestic flea now appears the size of a six-storied house. According to M. Villers, the view of a tadpole's tail is that of a mass of cells, traversed by a river of blood, in which the oval blood corpuscles are tossed hither and thither like pebbles in the bed of a mountain torrent. In a drop of bird's blood the red corpuscles drift slowly along in a liquid full of minute, white specks. Next on the screen appears what looks to be a giant caterpillar. This object is really but the thousandth part of an inch in length. It is the dread trypanosome, the germ of the sleeping sickness. It swiftly passes along, and you may see it collide with the red blood corpuscles. The latter are indented by the impact, but, like rubber balls, they presently regain their normal spherical shape. The studies that are thus presented of these forms of life are of extraordinary interest, and there is not much doubt that they will, before long, be recognised as a valuable adjunct to the research and teaching power of schools of tropical medicine.

British East Africa Pictures.

A SERIES of cinematograph pictures depicting life in British East Africa have been shown in the studio of the Hepworth Company. The films had been taken under the direction of Mr. W. D. Boyce, of Chicago, who, with a party of friends, recently paid a visit to the Protectorate. Three captive balloons and a complete plant for generating gas were taken on the expedition, and many of the scenes were photographed in mid-air. The object which Mr. Boyce and those co-operating with him had in view in undertaking the trip was to give the American public a realistic presentation of life among the natives of British East Africa. An interesting picture is one showing the reception at Nairobi of Sir Percy Girouard, who was a fellow-passenger of Mr. Boyce and his party, and who is seen inspecting the native guard of honour and receiving the native chiefs.

New Companies.

ALBERT HALL (CHELTENHAM), SYNDICATE, LTD., CINEMATOGRAPH.—March 1. £1,000, in £1 shares.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—March 1. £2,000, in £1 shares.

FOLKESTONE ELECTRIC THEATRES, LTD.—March 1. £2,500, in £1 shares. 265, Gresham House, E.C.

PYKE'S PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—March 1. £5,000, in £1 shares.

KILBURN Electric Palace. March 5. £3,000 (£1). As title. Agreement with A. Fryers. Private.

STREATHAM PICTURE THEATRE AND SKATING RINK, LTD.—March 4. £22,000, in 21,700 20 per cent. Cum. Participating Pref. shares of £1, and 6,000 Def. shares of 1s. 6, Holborn-viaduct, E.C.

AT the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, W.C., the following pictures are being shown:—The Witches' Cavern, A Tour Through the Italian Alps, The Diver's Wife, The Policeman's Revolver, For Love of a Showman, The Worst Boy in the School, Calinos Plays Billiards, Silver Mining in Cobalt, An Amateur Pugilist.

Kensington Picture Palace.

AT the Kensington Picture Theatre this week an excellent programme has been submitted. The list of subjects included A Mistaken Intention (Gaumont), The Pillagers (Pathé), A Good Winning (Italia), The Dauphines Country (Gaumont), The Light That Came (American Biograph), A Practical Joke (Cines), The Duke of Tolfa (Cines), and The Last Muster (Gaumont).

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S new electric picture theatre in Westgate-street, Bath, is announced to open at Easter.

MR. FRANK HAWTHORNE, the character comedian, added another clever character study to his long list by making an artistic success at the New Cross Empire this week in the part of Dyson in *Lucky Jim*.

MR. W. F. FRAME, whose hall mark is "Hooch aye," completes his two months' southern tour at the Hippodrome, Ipswich, next Saturday. "The man you know" starts with his vaudeville company for the Hielans on the 28th. Let us hope he will have a braw bricht time the noo.

THE members of the Logic Club of Instruction paid their annual visit on Sunday last to their offspring, the Genesius Club, the members of which look forward to the re-union with great pleasure, and were much impressed and gratified by the work done, which consisted of the second ceremony and the lecture on the Tracing Board. The following brethren took part: W. Chichele Nourse, Worshipful Master; E. J. Whittle, Senior Warden; A. S. Davy, Junior Warden; Robert Manuel, L.R., Preceptor; W. Hotten George, L.R., Treasurer; J. J. Thomas, P.G.St.B., Treasurer Charities' Association; J. F. Blaze, Senior Deacon; J. Bowen, Junior Deacon; W. E. Humphrey, Inner Guard; Harry Nicholls, P.G.St.B., Director of Ceremonies; C. F. Frood, Organist; Frank Vernon, Candidate; W. Yeo, Tyler.

AT the conclusion of the business Mr. James W. Mathews, in his capacity of Preceptor, assured the members of the Logic Club of the very great pleasure the visit had given the members of the Genesius, and in very pathetic language referred to the great loss the club had sustained during the year by the death of the late Bro. Danby. Mr. Robert Manuel, in responding on behalf of the Logic Club, said the loss was felt as much by their members as by the members of the Genesius. The Brethren and their visitors adjourned to the large hall for refreshments, where, by the efforts of Mr. Charles Pond and other gentlemen, they were kept in a state of hilarity.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.

Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
March 21, May 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 21, May 16, June 6.
Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 9, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Xmas (3 weeks for Pantomime).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
April 18, May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 11, 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
WANTED, Companies for Easter Week, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Saturday Night Returns:—
"Prodigal Son," £52; "The Old Home," £51; "The Bondman," £92. Bookings include "The Dairymaids," "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant."
Vacant Easter (certainty only). No cheap dramas entertained. April 18, 25, May 2, 9, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
March 21, 28, April 11, 18, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Grand Theatre, Luton, Easter. State certainty required. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Easter, three nights.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25 and May 2.
Wire immediately, W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transfer,
First-class Attractions
for May 16 and 30.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Attractions,
First-class Attractions,
AUTUMN DATES,
AUTUMN DATES,
AUTUMN DATES,
September 5th,
onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
April 11, 25, May 2, and various Autumn.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, Mr. LLOYD TOWNROW.
Bookings at this Theatre include
Geo. Alexander, Martin Harvey,
Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton,
Lewis Waller, "Merry Widow," Moody-Manners, "Our Miss Gibbs," "Marriages of Mayfair," "Sins of Society," George Graves, "Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, "Dollar Princess," "The Arcadians," "Havana," "A Country Girl," "A Woman in the Case."
WANTED, First-class Companies, a few good Autumn dates 1910.
Address as above.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25,
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18,
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
May 16,
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
March 21, May 9, 16.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, May 2 (unexpectedly vacant), also May 16 (Whit), 23, and 30,
First-class Attractions only.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant, May 2, 23, June 20, July 4, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant, May 16, 23, June 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
A few Autumn dates available for First-class Theatres only.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
March 28 (Easter week),
May 9, 16 (Whit week),
June 13, 20, Aug. 1, 8, 15, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
April 25 (?), May 9, 16,
Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic or Musical Attractions for
April 4, May 2 and 9, onwards.
Bookings and re-bookings include:—Mr. Wm. Mollison Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds and Miss Mary Austin, Mr. Fred Melville, Mr. Walter Melville, Mr. C. Watson Mill, &c., &c., "Cingalee," "Dairymaids," "Leah Kleschna," "The Christian," "With Edged Tools," "Flag Lieutenant," "Merry Widow," "The Village Blacksmith," "The Greater Love," "Diana of Dobson's," "Her Luck in London," "Shop Girl to Duchess," &c., &c. Acknowledged to be one of the finest and most popular theatres in the provinces; fitted throughout with electric light, with ample stage room for the largest spectacular production touring. Estimated population, 100,000. Seating capacity 2000.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre.
March 21 (3 nights), April 18, May 9 (?), 16 (?),
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights), June 6, 13.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Mar. 21 (3 nights), May 30, June 20, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-clas Attractions,
April 25,
June 20,
July 4, 11, 18.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, through obliging, Strong Dramatic Attraction April 4, and poss. bly 11,
also June 6, 13, and 20.
Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (Musical preferred).
Also vacant April 25, May 2, 23, 30. To follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.
Address, FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

EIGH GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LANCASHIRE.
A Popular Theatre at Popular Prices. Run on First-class Lines. The Leading and Finest Theatre in the town and district.
WANTED, Musical Comedies and strong Theatrical Companies, May 2, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Nov. 21, and Dec. 12 and 19, 1910.
Apply, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Leigh.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only Fully Licensed Theatre in the District.
WANTED, Musical and Farcical Comedies, and other Attractions, April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17. JAMES KIERNAN.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for April 4,
April 11,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Only Vacant Dates until Winter, April 11, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, and later.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for March 28 (Easter Week), April 11, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Co., May 2.
Wanted Strong Dramatic Co., June 6.
Three weeks Varieties preceding both dates.
Apply, T. HOLMES, agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

WANTED, for Gaiety Theatre, Burnley, First-class Dramatic Companies, May 2, 9, 23, June 27. Address, Mrs. T. CULEEN.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED (through breach of contract), Company for Easter Week, Musical preferred.
Also April 7, and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, Big Attractions, now and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Whit Week, and on.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
April 4, 11,
also
Whit Week.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.
Several Spring Dates, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.
Several Spring Dates, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Aug. 4, 29, and Sept. 5 (3 nights).

THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
WANTED, Special Attraction, for Race Night, April 18. Only vacancy.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Vacant May 2, 3, 4, and 9, 10, 11 (once nightly), April 21 (3 nights), and 25 (twice nightly).

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant last three days from April 4, on, twice nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Wanted, Special Attraction for Easter Week, Good Dramas, twice nightly, May 2 and 9.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Managers' Club, Savoy-mans., W.C., until Wednesday; after, Theatre, Loughboro'.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, 23, Sept. 5, and 19.
Address, The MANAGER.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CAITLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 21, 28, April 4, 25, May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Supreme No. 1 Companies only,
THE GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910.
With Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCS.
WANTED, Company, March 21.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.

WANTED, Good Company, March 21 (five nights).
Apply J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, March 28, April 4, on.
Now booking Autumn. W. E. POTTS.

BOROUGH THEATRE, WALLSEND.
Sole Proprietor, HUGH DUFFY.
Dramatic Season.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Musical Attractions, for April 18, 25, May 2, 9, and Whit. Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Something Good, March 28, April 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Grand Chorley.
Also April 25, May 9, 16, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 26, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON, N.
London's Representative Dramatic Theatre.
WANTED, the Best of Dramatic Attractions, for March 21 (?), April 4, 11, and few later Spring Dates; must have good Scenery and Printing, or useless. Full particulars, HUMPHREY E. BRAMMALL.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, June 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Apply,
MATTHEW MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Star Variety Companies, April 4, 18, onward. All coms., SCOTTIE.

WANTED, Good Attractions, March 16, 21, April 7, 11, 18, 25, May 4, 9, 16, 23, on, with exceptions; also few Autumn Dates. PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
BEXHILL-ON-SEA KURSAAL THEATRE
(four miles from Hastings).
Already booked:
"The Merry Widow," "The Arcadians," The Follies, "The Dairymaids."
Vacant dates, April 4, 11, 18.
Address, J. M. GLOVER, Kursaal, Bexhill.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, good Company, for March 28 29, 30.
AUGUSTE A. PRULEVE, General-Manager.

WANTED, for St. Helens and Warrington, Powerful Attractions, April 11, 18, May 9, 16, July 4, 11, 18. A. M. LOADER, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 30, June 13, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, on.
Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 4, 11, May 9, 16, 30, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris Fredk. Mouillot, Charlie Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime, Messrs. Smith and Carpenter' "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company, in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for April 11, May 16 (Whit), 23 on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
Large Stage, well stocked with New Scenery.
Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Upholstered and decorated in sumptuous style.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North. Popular prices.
WANTED, Touring Pantomime, Christmas.
Enormous success of J. Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood" and Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
Dramatic, Musical Attractions, and Variety Combinations required for May and June.
The Opera House and Hippodrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications to
WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for April 4, six nights.
also April 18, six nights.
Apply WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
April 25 (London),
May 2, 16, 23, and 30 (Newcastle),
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 (Edinburgh),
May 2, 16, 23, and 30 (Glasgow).
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24a, Regent-street, S.W.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for
LEITH, May 2, 9, 16, and on;
KIRKCALDY, April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9.
Also for Autumn Dates at Ayr, Coatbridge, Falkirk, Motherwell, Leith, and Kirkcaldy.
Wire or write,
R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone: 5590 Gerrard.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Successfully reopened Jan. 31 by
MR. CHAS. EVANS,
under Experienced and Popular Management.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only (Musical Comedies, &c.), for the few remaining Season Dates. Also November, Xmas, and onwards.
All communications, address
HENRY BOWMAN,
Resident Manager.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, March 21 (3 nights and matinée), also Vacant April 18, May 9 (?), 16, 26 (3 nights).
Apply, ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, a First-class Attraction for The Grand Theatre, Oldham, Easter Week.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, Companies, for Theatre Royal, Margate, April 4, on, with exceptions. All letters respecting theatre, address, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for March 21, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, First-class Attractions and Variety Combinations, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, April 11 and 25, on, with exceptions; also for Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, March 28, on. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, immediately, Musical Comedies for small towns, Concert Parties for Seaside Halls. Send full particulars,
CHARLES HAND, Theatrical and Variety Agent,
60, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
WANTED, for Good Friday,
Matinée at 2.30.
Evening at 7.45.
Good Concert Troupe,
or any First-class Entertainment,
complete in itself.
Full Orchestra given if required.
PETER DAVEY.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
March 21 and 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
FREDK. MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and various, on.
FRED MELVILLE, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, March 21, April 4, 11, May 2.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Oct. 31.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Norwood," 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 9 (?), 16, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Norwood," 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of May 23 and July 18.
Weeks of May 23 and July 18.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6, July 12, onwards. On order, another new plant of Scenery. Big Company, full Chorus, ten Variety Turns, Conductor, biggest Production seen in this country. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Rotherham; Birmingham next.

THEATRES WANTED.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.

WANTED, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16.

All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
March 14, County Theatre, Bedford;
March 21, Grand Theatre, Luton.
March 28, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Aug. 8, to follow Stratford; also vacant Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
Miss Hilda Beverley,
Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, April 11, May 2.
Only Vacant Dates this Tour.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S NO. 1 CO.
WANTED, April 4 May 2, June 27, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seasides only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 18, 25, May 2 and 9, Oct. and Nov.
Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, A few Autumn Dates open.
Address, Charles Gibbon, Empire, Swindon.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY,
"THE GIRL FROM KAYS."
By arrangement with George Dance, Esq.
WANTED, London Suburban Dates, April 11, onwards. Full cast and chorus.
Apply, Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S
No. 1 Company of well-known Artists.
Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, best Dramatic Theatres only, Easter week, between Dewsbury and London; April 11, between London and Alex., Birmingham; May 2, precede Royal, Birkenhead; Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards. Refer re Play, Company, and Production.
All coms., Martin Comstock, G. T., Radcliffe.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, March 21, precede Morecambe.
Wire, Lois Esmond, T. R., Leamington.
March 14, East Oxford T., Oxford.

WANTED, March 28, March 28, March 28, May 16, May 16, May 16,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Halkijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
Wire, wire, wire for March 28 and May 16.
Tom Watt, 6 Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 20 and on, with exceptions.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success April 18, Sept. 12, 26, and Oct. 3.

"THE WOMAN PAYS," April 4, 18, and on.
Frank M. Thorne, Victoria O. H., Burnley.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres only, April 4, 11, and Whit,
Owing to continuation of Tour.
The Greatest of all Domestic Plays.
Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 9, Sept. 5 (North). Thanks Twenty-two Managers for offer of March 21. Date fixed. Thank Captain Clayton for three contracts, Jan., 1911. All coms., Geo. A. De Gray, March 14, T.R., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
"THE GREAT AWAKENING,"
"THE GREAT AWAKENING,"
Easter, March 28, follow Edmonton, precede Batley.
Wire, Wire, 28th, 28th (Easter).
Everything carried. Powerful cast.
Photographic souvenirs given away.
Burns, 66, The Drive, Fulham Park-gardens, S.W.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Dramas, Comedies, Tragedies.
WANTED, Known, March 28, Vacant.
Wire, Opera House, Northampton.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
Specially-selected Company, including
Miss Carlotta Zerbini
and
Mr. Alfred Hemming,
Who will Produce and Control Stage.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, April 18 and 25, also May 30, June 6.
H. Chiswell Billing,
17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

HERBERT FULLER'S GREAT PLAY,
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, May 9, between Paisley and Oldham, through transferring Met., Glasgow, to oblige, June 13 (follow O., Manchester), 20, and various, on. Wire, T. R., Middlesbrough; write, G. T., Houghton.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 2, 9, 23, June 6, 20, July 4, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, 19.
Haldane Crichton, T. R., Colchester.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, April 11,
May 23, 30.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE,
Supported by Mr. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE
and Star Company.
Wire, James Bell, T. R. Darlington.

WANTED, for the New Play, "His Real Wife," Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Nov. 14, 28, and Xmas. Address, T. E. Ward, Met. T., Gateshead.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Comedy.
A Three Hours' Laugh.
Cast of First-class Artists, Troupe of Dancers.
Pretty Scenery, Attractive Printing.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12 (?), Oct. 31.
Beaudyn and Montanini,
Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Known,
Easter.
Easter.
Vacant for Stephen Pritt's celebrated Répertoire Co., presenting Original Plays, including the Unique Detective Drama,
"ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
Magnificent Holiday Attraction. Easter Vacant.
Pritt, T. R., Edmonton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted. Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
A splendid play
in the hands of
a splendid company.
Ulster Echo, Feb. 8.
May 2, 9, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
May 2, 9, 16 (through changing route),
May 23, 30, June 6, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
May 9, June 6, July 4, 25, Aug. 1.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
3 week's receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10,
Oct. 3, 10, Xmas.
Fred Bulmer,
Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, July 11 (follow Broadhead Theatres).
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Vacant June 27 (South).
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Vacant Sept. 19, 26.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant July 4 (precede Wales).
Wanted, Theatre, for Stock, June or July.
Wire or write this week and next,
Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

"OH! SUSANNAH!"
"OH! SUSANNAH!"
"OH! SUSANNAH!"
From the Royalty Theatre, London.
WANTED, March 28, April 4, to precede Manchester, April 18, 25.
Thanks to Milton Bode, Esq., Frank Stuart, Esq., A. A. Peuleve, Esq., F. J. Reece, Esq., for offers and contracts.
Cecil H. Woodhouse,
Fulham Theatre, Fulham, London, S.W.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 21.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant Easter, Easter, Easter. Wire for this.
May 23, June 6, 27, Aug. 1, Sept. 12.
Wires, to-day, Barrow; Mon., Prince's, Blackburn.

MR. ARTHUR PHILLIPS'S
ROYAL COURT THEATRE PRODUCTION.
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."
WANTED, April 4, date, First-class Theatre between London and Liverpool.
Wire, Pigott, Court Theatre, S.W.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and
TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, April 11,
May 2,
July 11, 18, 25,
August Bank Holiday,
Nov. 14, Xmas, Xmas, Xmas.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Now Booking Spring, 1911. Everything carried.
Wire, Arthur Hinton,
T. R., Edmonton, N.; Monday, T. R., Stratford, E.

"PAID IN FULL"
(by arrangement with Charles Frohman).
"THE MAN WHO KNEW,"
by H. Brinsley Hill.
WANTED, Theatres, March 28 (3 nights), April 11 and 25.
George Waters,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions.

WANTED, Good Theatres,
for the Musical Farce,
in Two Acts,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
North Company,
including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as MARY ELLEN.
All Spring Dates filled.
Vacant Sept. 5, 19, to precede and follow Bolton; Oct. 10 24, to precede and follow Huddersfield; Nov. 7 14, Xmas (?). New Year.
South Company,
including
Miss MADGE GREY as MARY ELLEN.
Vacant April 11, 18, May 23 (?), June 20. July 11 (?), July 25, Aug. 8, and various, on.
Address Miss Florence Baines,
Grand Theatre, Lancaster.

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
The Latest Comedy Success.
WANTED, March 31 (3 nights), April 18 to follow Fulham Theatre, Whit Week, and on, with exceptions. Charles Windermere, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, April and May, with exceptions, "The Best People."
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., London, W.C.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatre, March 28, Easter week, for this Beautiful Production. A Clean and Pretty Show full of fun. Splendid cast of artists. Can play once or twice nightly. Address, Barrett, 182, Holyhead-road, Wednesbury, until Sunday; after Theatre, Ilkeston.

Miss MARY NEIL,
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell,
and
New Play
by Mary Neil and R. Barrie.
WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston), Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 12, and Xmas. Geo. Kirk, 56, Stamford-avenue, Brighton.

"THE PIN AND THE PUDDING."
By Barton White,
Direct from Comedy Theatre, London.
MR. HARRY BRISTOW and First-class London Co., including Miss Pearl Noyle as "Tamsie."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 23, 30, various. June and July.
Add., Harry Bristow, Aquarium T., Yarmouth.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
Produced with enormous success at Queen's, Manchester.
WANTED, May 30, on, exceptions, First-class Co. Everything carried. J. Power and R. Faulkner, Junction, Manchester.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED April 25 (South),
June 6 and 13 (Lancs.).
Dickie Clare, Prince's, Horwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for this Colossal Production, No. 1 Theatre, next Season, Production and Run.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Theatres, Christmas (1910-1911), and onwards.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Theatres, Christmas, 1910, and onwards.
Managers Note.—These are three of the most successful Pantomimes ever produced.
PLAYS.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Drama, Good Theatres, May 2, Whit Week, and onwards.
"THE BETTER LAND."
The Greatest Domestic Drama Touring.
Vacant April 18 and 25; also
Wanted, Good Theatre, for Whit Week.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
Wanted, Good Theatres, for Easter Week, April 4, 11, and May 9. Re Dates,
Fred Granville,
The Depository, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool.
Telegraphic Address,
"Granville, Pagoda, Liverpool."

KIMBERLEY, GREEN, AND HINTON'S.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Easter, April 4, 11, Easter, 11th,
Easter, Easter, Easter.
Refer A. Jefferson, Esq., re Play and Business this week.
The Greatest Success on the Road.
Wire, F. G. Kimberley,
Metropole T., Glasgow; next, Palace T., Newcastle.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Easter, Easter,
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
Vacant Easter, Easter.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, April 18, April 18.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, Easter, Easter.

WANTED, a Theatre for Stock of Farcical and Society Plays and good Dramas. Open Easter or April 4. Terms, particulars, share or rental. Full company of well-known artists engaged. Margaret Skelton, Poste Restante, Southampton.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, March 21 and Easter (?), April 18, and Various Later Dates, complete new Programme, including Big Burlesque, "Androcles and the Lion." All coms., Scottie, Hippo, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Theatres, Large Halls, Piers, &c. (the Bigger the Better), for the Walturdaw Animated Picture Co. Write, Wood, Peonle's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, by The Whims, the Smartest and most refined on tour. 7 London Artists. Halls, Gardens, and Piers. Third Season.
Manager, 61, Longridge-road, Earl's Court.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, by the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, applications from Principals, Chorus, Orchestra, and Ballet, for the Season 1910-11. Address this week and next, Walter Van Noorden, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Stock Season, at Theatres, Artists in all Lines; reply, enclosing photo., giving full details of experience, salary expected (no application otherwise considered), to Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Mark envelopes "Theatres Stock."

WANTED, for Stock Season, Entire Company, thoroughly experienced, good appearance, and able to study; also Stage Manager. Open Easter Monday or April 4; rehearse week prior. Lowest terms, photos., references,
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, few Artists, to complete Cast for Stock Season; rehearse March 21; Lead, Heavy, Low Comedy (Sing and Dance); joints preferred. Stuart, East Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, a Lady, for Meg, in "Drummer Boys"; must possess power and pathos, rehearse Liverpool next week; also Pretty Juvenile Lady, pathetic; Character Old Man, capable of power and pathos, for the Vicar, in "Was She to Blame?"; also Pathetic Character Old Lady, to double Comedy. All must send photos. (where not known), references, age, height, absolute lowest terms. "Was She to Blame?" long tour. Apply, F. G. Kimberley, Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Lady and Gentleman for Good Responsible Parts. Also a Lady and Gentleman for Small Parts. Full particulars, references, etc. (letters only), to 9, Lower Rock-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Lady, "Broken Heart" (Fit-up Tour), also Chambermaid, young, smart. Full particulars, references, and photographs, Miss Maggie Morton, Hurworth, Twickenham.

WANTED, a Good Actress for a Big Music Hall Sketch. Powerful delivery. Able to slide down a 30ft. pole. Also a Character Actor, with strong voice. Address Box 7416, "The Era."

WANTED, a smart, tall, pretty, clever young Actress, to dress well, for good part in Music Hall Sketch. Apply, with full particulars, in first instance, to Box 7,399, "The Era."

WANTED, Tall, Experienced, Juvenile Gentleman, used to modern comedies, rehearse St. Leonards, March 22. Photographs, full particulars, Montague Lane, c/o Frank Bertram, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, First-class Heavy Leading Man, robust, tall, and good swordsman, for Sketch. London (three weeks certain), but long run probable. Height, age, lowest terms (photos. if not known). Roy Cochrane, Surrey Theatre. No callers, please

WANTED, a good Baritone, for Lovebury, "New Barmaid." Rehearse Wednesday. Long engagement good Artist. Photos. and references. Loftus, Theatre, Lincoln.

WANTED, for "Mother-in-Law" Tour, Character Comedian, for Major; also Light Comedian. Photos. Mrs. Mark Kinghorne, 26, Dagmar-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, for Sketch, Actor, young, single, height about 5ft. 5in., powerful delivery; small part; to suitable man long engagement; also Smart Young Property Man. Apply, letter, Bird, 196, Ditchling-road, Brighton.

WANTED, immediately, Lady Amateur (Vocalist preferred), small Part and Understudy, Tour of well-known Comedy. Apply, Box 7,411, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Amateurs, for Summer Tour of well-known Play; small parts and understudy. Box 7,387, "The Era."

WANTED, for The Smart Set Entertainers, Light Baritone; must have good voice, able to act and dance a little, young and good appearance. Apply, with music and all particulars, on Monday next, between 11 and 2.30, at Manchester Rooms, 295, Kennington-rd.

WANTED, a Really Good Light Baritone and High First Tenor, for Comedy Quartette; voices must be good. Box 7,406, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Young Lady, perfect Dancer, with good figure, for new Classical Dance. Offers to Laserno, 1, Litchfield-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, smart Girls or Youths, slightly experienced, desiring own turn. Only real songs and training ensure you a living. Too expensive? Then consult Lynne, 32, Trinity-sq., Brixton.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Miss Alice Leon, Fairy Queen, H. Leslie Bell's "Cinderella" Panto. Miss Alice Leon sings with delightful sweetness and effect. Miss Leon possesses a voice of remarkable tone, which is heard perhaps to best advantage in the duet, "Banks of Loch Lomond," with Mr. Donaldson. This, Royal Theatre, Coatbridge.

WANTED, Known, Kate Walfred as Marie, Hubert Vere's Company, "Napoleon the Great," by F. M. Thorne. This Long Eaton; next, Princess's Glasgow.

WANTED, by a Refined Young Lady, Engagements at First-class Seaside Resorts, sacred, sentimental, and refined light comedy vocalist. Good ref. Box 7,401, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements by an Experienced Quaint Low Comedian (with own songs), in Sketch, Musical Comedy, or Drama. Only First-class Shows entertained. Amateur Managers save stamps. Coms., Box 7382, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Character or Comedy or Matron, experienced, Music and Dancing. Excellent appearance. Letters, E., 31, High-street, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, by the Celebrated Æolian Male Quartette, First Prize winners at all the leading Musical Festivals, 1909; unique Répertoire; Summer Bookings, Seaside. Address, Crewe.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."
WANTED, for Next Season's Pantomimes, First-class Artists in all Lines, also Chorus Ladies. Terms, photos and full particulars to
Fred Granville,
The Depository, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool.
N.B.—Mark envelopes "Pantomime."

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Season. Lowest terms, photo, names and addresses last two refs. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for next Season Pantomimes, also Chorus Ladies.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Scene Painter, must be sober, experienced, capable of executing expert work rapidly. Box 7,385, "The Era."

WANTED, a First-class Scenic Artist for Two or Three Weeks. Quick, good colourist, with own brushes. Open at once. Scottie, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, a Scenic Artist.
Apply
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Roberts and Co., Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester, supply Bright, Effective, and Durable Scenery at lowest prices. Artists to R. A. Roberts, Esq., &c.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil R. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery at Lowest Prices, Original and Effective. W. B. Robinson, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Philip Small, Scenic Artist, at Liberty shortly for Engagement or Contract, town or Provinces. Present address, Empire Palace, Middlesbrough.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Smart Man as Resident Acting Manager, for Variety Theatre (Midlands), must have had experience, be gentlemanly in appearance and manners, a man of strong character, tactful and resourceful. Only those able to refer to a good past record need apply (by letter, which will be treated in confidence), stating age, full details of experience, salary required, references, &c.
Address,
Manager, Box 7414, "The Era."

WANTED, young experienced Fit-up Advance Agent, Easter Tour. Terms refs., age, &c., Miss Maggie Morton, Hurworth, Twickenham.

WANTED, First-class Stage Carpenter, must be good bench hand.
Apply, with terms and references,
C. B. Fountaine, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, young Billposter, travel Ireland with Circus Agent, look after horse and trap; also Agent, near Manchester. F. Harris, Grand T., Chorley.

WANTED, smart, steady, young Bill-Poster, to travel with Circus Agent. Apply,
Fred Lewis, 20, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting or Assistant Manager, or similar business position, Theatre, Hall, or Rink; first-class business experience; highest references. A. Hempstead, 31, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage-Manager or Carpenter, in Theatre or Hall; good bench hand, Stage and Grid Layer; good references. Address, Stage-Manager, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, by smart young man, Situation as Under-Manager, Pictures or anything; £2 given to anyone securing me permanent situation. Advertiser, G.P.O., Chichester, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, Bert Dent having resigned his position as General-Manager for T. Allan Edwardes, Esq., will shortly be at Liberty to undertake the management of any First-class Establishment. Address, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Touring or Provincial Management by Experienced London Manager (ordered change). Excellent references. Apply, A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by Manager of large Midland Skating Rink, similar appointment in Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink; thoroughly capable Business-Management, Advertising, &c.; age 34, good address. Box 7,405, "The Era."

WANTED, by Electrician, Sit.; good wireman, operator, smart on board; late charge Suburban Hippodrome. Electric, 46, Wilton-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, by First-class Electrician, Re-engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Last place two years. Good ref. Geo. Leigh-Green, 9, Crawshay-street, Ton Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement as Baggage, small part, high Window-biller, or Doorsman; excellent references. H. Thatcher, c/o Poole's, Cirencester, Gloucester.

WANTED, Situation, by Young Man (21), as Baggage Man with a Travelling Company, capable of taking small parts, good amateur experience. F. V., 184, Northfield-lane, Ealing, W.

WANTED, Situation as Useful Maid, &c., Professional Lady; good refs., willing; age 26. L. Brace, c/o Post Office, 10, Acre-lane, Brixton-road, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Bandmaster.
Apply, not later than first post March 19, stating age and qualifications, and enclosing copies of not more than three recent testimonials, to
Band President,
19th Battalion London Regiment,
76, High-street, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, Orchestral Conductor, to Sing, must have good Baritone Voice and good appearance. Apply, Saturday, 11 o'clock, Rifle Tavern, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, a First Violinist, to open March 21;
must be a good player.
For a suitable man a permanency.
Terms and last two references to
J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, thoroughly Experienced, Reliable, and gentlemanly Violinist for bandstand, March 24 to Oct. First vacancy in four seasons. Refs., &c., A. E. Davison, Ridgebourne P.O., Llandrindod Wells.

WANTED, immediately, Violinist, must be good sight-reader and brilliant player, used to Hotel and Café business. Signor Antonio Mio, 95, Old Christchurch-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Violinist and 'Cellist, for Small Band; must be soloists, and thoroughly experienced in selection work. Good salary. Address, Box 7,412, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Band, Royal Marines (Chatham Division), Cornet Player, must be good. Apply, Charles Hoby, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet and Harmonium Player, used to Orchestral Business, to start Easter till October. Box 7,408, "The Era."

WANTED, for Southend Town Band, Good Cornet, Euphonium, E flat Bass. Terms, shares. J. H. Gifford, 4, Richmond-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, at once, by the Great Lafayette, Palace, Leicester, First-class Cornet, strong player, Teetotaller.

WANTED, good Solo Clarionet, for small Military Band; shares; weekly subsidy from corporation; good business. Hosking, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Horns, Easter, Whitsuntide, and Season. Refs. to F. H. Jepson, Musical Director, The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Seaside, 27 weeks, Engagement, commencing March 27, First-class Oboe Player, used to high-class Concert Work. Write, Oboe, c/o Bates, Hendy, and Co., 81, Cannon-street, E.C.

WANTED, Pianist, afternoons and evenings alternately. Write or call, 12.30 to 1.30, Cinema de Paris, Bear-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, Pianist and Drummer, for Rink. State terms. Other Instruments may apply.
Bandmaster, 53, Philpot-street, London.

WANTED First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star Mediterranean Service, May to Dec. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. C. W. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Flute Pic., Oboe, Solo Horn, Solo Cornet, Solo Trom., Bass Trom.; First-class ex-army performers only; military, outdoor; long London season. Box 7,392, "The Era."

WANTED, capable and experienced Instrumentalists of all kinds for Tour abroad (ladies). Address, Box 7,393, "The Era."

HANNEFORD'S CIRCUS, HIPPODROME, AND MENAGERIE.
WANTED, to complete the Band for the above, commencing Easter Monday, Solo Cornet, Horn, Euphonium, Trombone. All communications, Sir Edward Hanneford, Circus, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED, to open at once, for permanency, Leader, Double Bass, Cornet, Drummer, with all Effects. State lowest salary, references. Only competent, reliable Musicians need apply.
Haydn Halstead wire address.
Star Agency, 15, Houghton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, for Provincial Spring Tour (best towns). First and Second Violins, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Cornet, Clarionet, Trombone.
Wires, "Tiptoe, London," or call,
John Tiller and Co.,
143, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, for Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend; must be well up in all Branches; smart and temperate; Easter and two or three days per week until Whitsun, then full season. Address, with lowest terms and references. Musical Director, 74, New-road, Gravesend.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, commence March 21, First Cornet, Solo Cornet, Second Cornet, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Double Drums. Pars., first letter, Stockport. March 12 to 15. Pendlebury, near Manchester.

WANTED, Violin, Cornet, Bass, for March 28 (3 nights and Mat.), also Double-handed Men for Season. Bellerby, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, Musicians, Clarionet, 'Cello, Trombone, and Drums, Thursday, March 24, and Saturday (three Shows, Musical), also following week (nine or ten shows, Musical). State terms to E. H. Peilgen, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, Good and Strictly Sober Brass Instrumentalists, Solo Cornet 32s. 6d., others 30s. All applications, Cook, Bandmaster, Tiffield, Towcester.

WANTED, Bassoon, Tympanum, Drums, and Oboe, Special week, April 4.
Lowest terms and refs.,
W. F. Cross, Prince's Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, open Whit, Full Orchestra, First-class men essential, Variety and Concert.
Address, Conductor, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Brass Reed Drums, Watford Rink, open March 19. Apply, with lowest terms, Musical Director, 51, Bolingbroke-rd., London, W.

WANTED, Good Lady Instrumentalists to write in to Madam Wilton Davis, The Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, 1, Arlington-square, London, N.

WANTED, experienced Lady Musicians, immediately, Trombone, Cornet, Viola (Vocalist preferred). Brockham's English Ladies' Orchestra, 20, Aders-street, Düsseldorf, Germany.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, HORTON, EPSOM.
WANTED, Male Attendants, 'Cello or Euphonium Players preferred, wages £29 a year for first six months, then if satisfactory rising to £31, and subsequently by £1 annually to £40 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; also special payment for Band duty; previous asylum experience not necessary; daily leave, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days; annual leave, first 15 months (after nine months' service) six days, the following twelve months twelve days, each successive twelve months fourteen days. Candidates must not be more than 35 years of age. First-class attendants are appointed by promotion from the second class. Attendants are pensionable under the provisions of the Asylums Officers Superannuation Act, 1909. Apply to THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

SOMERSET AND BATH ASYLUM, COTFORD, near TAUNTON.
WANTED, Male Attendant, unmarried; wages commencing at £26 per annum, rising to £45, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; extra pay to Bandsman, Cornet Player preferred.
Apply, MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Herr Richard Eckhold, Musical-Director, Moody-Manners Opera Co., and late Conductor of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, open for Summer Engagement with Orchestra of High-class Musicians, from eighteen upwards (all soloists), who have played together for several years, for Seaside, Exhibitions, &c., either in England or Continent; high-class library and exceptionally unique uniform. For particulars, H. BRYAN, 62, Sugden-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known, by late Army Bandmaster, position as Conductor, Military or Orchestral Bands, for the Season or permanent; highest references. Apply, BANDMASTER, Box 7,232, "The Era."

WANTED, by Well-known London Musical Director, Engagement in a First-class Music Hall, London or Suburbs. Box 7381, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Variety Conductor (Violinist); highest references; extensive library; can open at once. SWINGLER, 166, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Position as Bandmaster. Solo Cornettist, Writer, &c.; any Combination, Orchestral, Military, or Brass. STRINGER, Bandmaster, 35, Capstone-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty March 21, Pianist-Conductress, Score for full Orchestra, Dis. Drama, Pictures, &c. LILY EVREMOND, this, O. H., Torquay; next, T., Tidworth.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Pianist-Conductor, thoroughly experienced, compose, arrange, &c. ROLAND ALLEN, 8, Church-place, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Engagement in South of England, Kate Husband, Violinist (Leader). Disengaged after Easter; good répertoire. 18, Grafton-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist, well experienced. Miss L. MATTHEWS, 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Violinist, Disengaged March 19. Thoroughly conversant with high-class Variety. Highest credentials. Address, JAMES WOLSTENHOLME, 339, Bath-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Permanent Berth as Leader of Orchestra; present theatre closing; any business; good references. Box 7,391, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, Repetiteur, or Pianist; good Theatre or Hall.
JOHN LIVESEY, 22, Hill-street, Wigan.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in Orchestra and to play Solos; high-class Répertoire; all-round experience. ROBINSON, 20, Duncan-terrace, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin; experienced all lines; good references. VIOLINIST, 15, Portland-crescent, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, during Easter week, any business, or would Deputise, near district; good references. MARSHALL, 25, Messenger-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, thoroughly competent, any Business; capable of Leader. JAMES SIDNEY, 5, Bedford-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged March 12, requires Shop.
Cornet, 215, Portnall-road, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, at Liberty, Monday, Leader Rink, or any Business. Wire, write, terms, &c., CORNET, 11, Smallwood-road, Tooting, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business; experienced, sober. E. WOOD, 64, Tewkesbury-street, Tudor-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, good Cornet, just finishing three years' engagement at Hippodrome, open to accept any business; good refs. FRANK MORLAND, 9, Avondale-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any business, good references. CORNETIST, 3 Queen-street, Darfield, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, First or Second, experienced, and good references. F. BAKER, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, by Cornet and Clarionet, both young, excellent refs., any business or distance. Apply, CORNET, 63A, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Clarionet Comb, Violin; good references; Disengaged May.
P. GRIFFITHS, 10, Harriet-street, Pollokshaws.

WANTED, Known, E. H. Griffin, Clarionet, for Opera, String or Military, steady and reliable, season or permanent. 55, Brunswick-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, abstainer, worker, and reliable; good refs. G. WHITE, Great Hampstead Skating Palace, London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Experienced.
A. E. RIDER, Sandon-road, Leek, Staffs.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Summer or Permanent Engagement; experienced Military and Orchestra; good refs.; late Army Bandmaster. Write, CLARIONET, 16, Tipping-street Stafford.

WANTED, by Experienced Clarionet, any business, good references, join at once. Address, CLARIONETTIST, c/o Mrs. Bourne, 165 Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, Double Bass, Engagement; ladies' orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Ben Morris, Double Bass, liberty through disappointment. Highest refs., experienced all branches. 22, Chorley-road, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any Business; good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9 Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, through Theatre closing, by young, steady, reliable, and experienced Double Bass. MELLOR, Crystal Palace Theatre, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, any distance or business; steady and reliable. BASSO, 5, Topaz-street, Roath, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, at Liberty March 14, competent Double Bass, Theatre, Variety, or any business. SMITH, 88, Cardigan-mount, Kirkstall-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, good Trombone can open at once, exp. Drama, Musical Comedy, and Variety; reliable, steady; life abstainer; good refs. W. COCKCROFT, 13, Edmund-street, Walsden.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Good Trombonist, or good permanency, any business, first-class refs., young and reliable. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon and String Bass; good refs.; reliable; at Liberty. J. DELAFIELD, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Seaside or Summer Engagement, by A. Langerak, 7, Parton-street, London, W.C. (late Principal Horn, Buxton Gardens, Bath Military Band).

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business; good references.
W. PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement in Orchestra or Chamber Music; good Soloist; references. Address, 'CELLIST, 31c, Cremorne-mansions, Chelsea.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Lady 'Cellist (London preferred); good references; Disengaged March 18. Address, Box 7,395, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, experienced in variety, drama, &c., young, steady, reliable, good refs. 'CELLO, 24, Upper Haugh, Rawmarsh, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, as Viola or Second Violin, steady, reliable; eight years Barrasford tour; highest references; can open at once. CHARLES DIBBERT, 66, Clarendon-rd., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement, Long or Short. Address,
VIOLA Theatre Royal, Halifax.

WANTED Engagement, by experienced Oboist; any business. Highest references. J. BROWN, 4, Portland-street, Chatham.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement, present engagement Theatre Royal, Birmingham, terminates March 12. Mrs. HOPKINS, 64, Douglas-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist, Eveline Hall (sister of Marie Hall, Violinist). 12, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement by Miss Isabel Paul, Flute and Piccolo, any Business.
15, James-lane, Leyton, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, experienced any business; good refs.
H. LITTLER, 100, Victoria-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, free from June, sight reader, abstainer, also plays Piano. HAWTHORNE, 137, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Alf. Harvey, Flautist, Piccolo Soloist, Liberty, Season or Permanent, London or Suburbs preferred if permanent. 113, Ashford-st., Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, young, seeks Re-engagement, qualifications undeniable; good refs.; Concert or Smoke Room. R. H., 32, Commercial-street, Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, experienced, Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés. PIANIST, Gloucester Cottage, Bath-road, Cranford, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced, orchestral, variety, dramatic, pictures. M. S. S., 59, Tideswell-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Ladies, tall, smart, as Pianist and Mandolinist, good experience. A., 25, Torrington-square, W.C.

WANTED, Known, thoroughly competent Pianist and Accompanist desires Position in Theatre or Café, or Season Engagement. Terms moderate. Distance no object. AUSTIN, 108, Kambala-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Mr. Sheldon Selway, First-class Pianist.
Address, 49A, High-street, Uxbridge.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert Garahan, First-class Pianist, at Liberty for High-class Al-fresco; Transpose, Memorise. 2s, Blenheim-mans., Lesson-grove, N.W.

WANTED, by smart Pianist, Pictures only; highest refs., experienced; just finished ten weeks Kilburn Palace. PIANIST, G.P.O., Chichester, Sussex.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Expert Accompanist (high class). State terms. Miss KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, by Pianist, Summer Engagement, used to Alfresco. Abstainer, smart appearance. M. B., 173, Grove-road, Victoria Park, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, by First-class Double Drummer and Tympanist; steady, reliable; now at Liberty. 27 Russell-st., Falkirk.

WANTED, by a good Double Drummer, any business; good refs. if required.
20, King Edward-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Drummer, in Skating Rink, near London, N. Write terms, COLEMAN, 23, Ivy-road, Luton, Beds. Liberty 25th.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, any business, good refs. Terms and particulars, MORRIS, 79, High-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, good refs., any business. S. W. H., 36, Hunter-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Drummer, Rink or Variety, Liberty at once.
Address, 89, Havelock-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in Smart Uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. MURDOCK, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Change of Address, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra (Madam Wilton Davis, Conductress), open for Engagements, Exhibitions, Piers, Pavilions, Garden Parties, good Trio and Quartette Disengaged, also Vocalists, Humorists, and Dancers, at Liberty. Write, 1, Arlington-square, London, N.

WANTED, Known, the Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, and Tubular Bells, for Rinks, Piers. MADAME BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Les Vivandiers, Ladies' Orchestra, smart costume; any business. For particulars address, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)
WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bona-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to MME. MANTON-MYATT, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Band, Alberto Solloway's Military Band, Disengaged after May, smart uniforms, good library, from six to thirty performers may be engaged. For terms apply, SOLLOWAY'S BAND, 26, Dynevor-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Summer Engagements, Town, Seaside for Collini's Famous Rink Bands; Live Conductor. Live Men. Up-to-date Music, Smart Uniforms. Hear my bands at Stamford Hill and Highgate.

WANTED, Known, a Band, now engaged at a High-class Establishment, is open to good offers from Whit, on; has toured the British Isles with enormous success for several years under Certificated Conductor; fares paid to those desiring to see and hear this splendid combination.
Address, BAND, Box 7,383, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Brass Band open for Engagements, Rinks, Circuses, or any business; just finishing engagement at Great Harwood. Apply, MUSICUS, Rink, Great Harwood, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, Town or Seaside, any number of performers. Smart uniform, good répertoire. Box 7407, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Orchestra, at seaside resorts, or accept engagements individually, all instruments. DICKEN, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Engagement, Maddison's Band, now playing at one of the Largest Rinks in London. References and photos., 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Small Orchestra, six or eight performers, Engagement, together or separate, at Liberty March 14, through new arrangements and entertainment. Wire or write, L. LESLIE, Conductress, Opera House, Treherbert.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. MADAME SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestra, at Liberty from April 1. Engagements accepted, individually or collectively. Apply, MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by fine Hotel Orchestra or Trio, brilliant Répertoire and Classical Soloists. Communications to ORCHESTRA, Savoy Restaurant and Café, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Trio or Quartette, Soloists, excellent répertoire; terminating Hotel Engagement. Liberal offer to Agent. Address, HERR BELINFONTE, Savoy Restaurant, Leeds.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

HANNEFORD'S
CIRCUS,
HIPPODROME,
and
MENAGERIE.
Tenting Season,
commencing Easter Monday, March 28.
WANTED, all those engaged for the Forthcoming Tour,
Artists,
Band, &c.,
to write at once
for the opening town to
SIR EDWARD HANNEFORD,
27, Third-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

E. H. BOSTOCK'S
GRAND INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD CIRCUS.
WANTED, all Artists and others Engaged to report, when instructions as to date and town will be forwarded.
Address,
E. H. BOSTOCK,
Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artists, Clowns, Irish Comedians, and Animal Acts, Irish tenting tour (Little Mick write); also Smart Billposters and Window Billers. FRED LEWIS, Circus Agent, 20, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Artists for Coming Season, Touring Ireland. Lowest terms, &c., in first letter, CAIRNS and DAVIES' Circus, Dungannon-st Portadown, Ireland.

WANTED, a cheap Aerial Act, open-air, for Easter Week, at Byker. State lowest terms. CARIS and HANCOCK, The Spen, co. Durham.

WANTED, Perfect Lady Trapeze Artist to open at once, doing two turns preferred. Apply, with terms, &c., JOHNSEN, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, one or two Smart Young Men, Second Mounts, First-class Quick Tumblers, for Comedy Act; single men preferred. State tricks, full particulars with lowest terms, in first letter. JOSH CLIFTON, Palace, East Ham.

To Animal Trainers.
To Animal Trainers.
To Animal Trainers.
WANTED, Trainers, Wild Animals. Wanted, Trainers, Wild Animals.
Address,
Manager TUDOR,
The Jungle,
Glasgow.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Troupe of Swimmers, for Summer Season, commencing Whitsuntide, Ladies preferred, four or five in number, must be capable of teaching. Particulars, with photos., to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Only and Original THREE ROYAL OHMYS,
the Wonderful Acrobatic Bareback Riders, wish to thank Proprietors and Agents for Offers for Abroad; also Mr. Frank Brown for Offer for South America. The Three Royal Ohmys will be pleased to arrange for Engagement from April next, with Six Good Acts and Four Trained Horses, a Circus in themselves, which is now the Talk of Edinburgh. Grand posters, lithos., &c. Add., THE ROYAL OHMYS, Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good Entrées, Agouste, and Globe Show. Wire offers, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, offers, Tenting, Mons, and Mlle. Henri, Gymnastic Equilibristic Act and Trapeze and Agouste. 419, Middlewood-road, Sheffield. Wire, write.

WANTED, Galas, Circus, or Variety, Gilbert Dunbar, from America, Sensational Comedy Gymnast, Flying Ring, Trapeze, and Teeth Performer. Vacant Easter, on. 4, Billington-street, Hulme, Manchester.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909.
Booked
for
Bolossy Kiralfy's
American Park, Brussels,
for three months.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Still Open for
July, August, and Sept.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Secretaries of Fête, Galas, &c., to write for lowest terms. Lady and Gentlemen Parachutists. Single or Double Performance. Captain MIZEN, 339, Commercial-road, London, E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars, GENERAL-MANAGER, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Monday, March 21, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday, on. Hall small, absolute lowest.
LOUDEN, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, March 21, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos., Big Specialities, for Galas, May 16, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone 9261 Central.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
BEANLAND & EMERSON'S VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, nothing too big, also good small Turns. Send full list of Bookings. Artists known to us write, we can fix you. Clients keep us posted weekly. State absolute lowest in first letter and oblige, BEANLAND and EMERSON.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, March 21, onwards. Artists that wrote in from last week's advertisement, the following I booked for next Monday, March 14:
The Two Ludoes. Morris and Moore.
Amy Bathurst. Harry Bland.
Lenton and Lane. Five Comedy Frantz's.
Sisters Harcourt. Parker and Bracey and Co.
Hearne and Palmer. Chris Masters.
Millie Henderson and Co. Mrs. Bennett and Co.
Bessie Neilson. Florrie Conolly.
Sisters Beatrice. Jack McKenzie.
Cliny and Clancy. Sisters Judge's Cockatoos.
Lawson and Odell. Delaforce and Hartley.
Gladys Clinton. Florence Smithers and Co.
Madge O'Neill. Harry Bent.
Devereux's Dogs.
Letters only to 14, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton, London, S.W. 'Phone 15 Brixton. Tele., "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, immediate and future dates open. Enclose photos and bill matter to CONCERT DIRECTOR, 13, Percy-st, Tottenham Court-rd, W.

HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, March 28, and onwards. Nothing too big. Also room for few first-class combinations. Apply by letter only, stating lowest terms, to SYDNEY TOLFREE.

WANTED, good and reliable Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future Dates, for several Halls in the North. Apply, SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

HARROGATE, SCARBOROUGH, AND YORK.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, also Combinations.
Apply WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates for Several Halls in the North. Apply to Signor PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North.
LAWSON,
Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Seaside and other Towns; good Speciality Acts write in, for Whit week and onwards. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury avenue, W.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, March 21, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool.
'Phone 2549 Royal.
WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
Full Bookings, Terms, Photos, Lithos., and all particulars.

ASHBURN'S AGENCY,
295, Kennington-rd., S.E. 'Phone, 5467 Central.
Notice.
WANTED, First-class Artists, Managers, and Companies requiring a London Representative or Booking Agent, with 20 years' practical experience, kindly communicate, JOHN ASHBURN.

WANTED.—Those desirous of going on the Variety Stage are invited to give a trial show with a view to lengthy engagement on the Macnaghten and other Circuits. Write, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to
THE MANAGER,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.
No fees charged or expenses paid.
No interviews.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for Easter, March 21, 28,
Whit Week, and later,
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
WILL SLEY, 180 Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for March 21, Week, Two Good Turns, suitable for Picture Shows. Address, W. H. MELTON, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexborough.

WANTED, Talent in all Lines, immediate and future Dates. Attilla Bros., Charles Banks, Fred Walmsley send addresses.
FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone 1686 Royal.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Variety Companies, for Manor House Theatre, Ringwood, Shares or Rental. Apply, MANAGER.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent.
Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro. tem.

THE GLOBE AGENCY, Offices, Theatre and Hippo., Heywood, Manager, J. CAMERON.
WANTED, Variety Acts of every kind, for immediate work, Star Comedy Act for 28th, Heywood. Full list of bookings, lowest, and permanent address.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

Notice.
MR. G. W. GERALD,
Impresario of Paris,
Begs to inform Directors and Artists that in future he will be known as
G. W. GERALD and CO.,
of Paris, London, and Leeds.

WANTED, all Artists desiring to Leave their Sole Bookings in our hands, to kindly
Write at once, and send lithos., photos., &c., &c., open time, and lowest terms,
for
England, France, and America.

Continental correspondence address,
G. W. GERALD,
23, Faubourg St. Denis, Paris.

London correspondence,
G. W. GERALD and Co.,
25, Litchfield-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

English provincial correspondence address to
Mr. FRANK COYLE,
160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds.

NOTE.—No act is too big for us to handle, as we work for the principal halls of England, France, and America, &c., &c.

Telegraphic Addresses:—"Burlesque, Paris," "Raldeg, London," "Alarm, Leeds."

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for Near and Future Dates.
Apply, T. C. RAWES, Palace, Durham.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, smart Musical Acts, big Specialities, Juvenile Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, Novel Animal Acts, and Big Spectacular Acts, for March 21, 28, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, for immediate dates, big Acts, March 28 and on. Full bookings and permanent address. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Whit Week, four days, twice daily, Northampton.
MCASKELL'S Agency, 52, Albion-street, Morley.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, and Artists all Lines, April 18, for Wigan; also for many other dates and towns.
No Commission. All must state whether ever appeared at Wigan before. Many thanks to artists having communicated. Kindly accept silence as a polite negative pro tem in all cases; impossible to answer all.
THE DAYTON FAMILY, Theatre Royal, Darwen, March 21, Prince's Theatre, Nuneaton, March 28, Ardwick Empire, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Acts, New to London, also Attractive Top of Bill, for Combination Tour (new to England preferred). Terms, list of bookings, specimen lithos., &c. ASHBURN'S Agency, 295, Kennington-road, S.E. 'Phone, 5467 Central.

WANTED, Comedy Acts, in all Lines, March 28, on. Small Hall, Midlands. Particulars, bookings, and absolute lowest. Pictures. 1415, "The Era."

YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
WANTED, March 14, Easter and Summer Dates.
Big Attractions in all Lines.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Yarmouth.

THORNTON, FIFESHIRE, HIGHLAND GATHERING.
WANTED, Attractions for the above Gathering, to be held on July 22, Aeroplanes preferred. Price and particulars to be in not later than March 14. ALEX. MACGREGOR, Secretary, Main-street, Thornton.

CLIQUOT'S VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
WANTED, the Biggest of Attractions, Nothing too Big,
for several places, North and Midlands,
for March 14, 21, 28.
Big Acts wire for Monday.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED the Biggest Variety Star Novelties and Attractions, Whit week (May 16), onwards. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
March and April
Big
Star
Tops
and
Bottoms,
for
Blackpool, Leeds,
Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton,
Dublin, Bolton, and other Towns.
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

HIPPODROME, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, Good Tops,
March 28 and April 18.
Apply T. HOLMES, agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

WANTED, Big Top of Bill, March 14 and 21. Wire. Wire. Wire.
Also Artists in all Lines for Immediate Dates.
Send full particulars. We can book you.
Wanted, Big Artists for March 28.

BARNARD'S Variety Agency,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.

PIER PAVILION THEATRE, TEIGNMOUTH, SOUTH DEVON.
WANTED, good Concert Parties and complete Entertainments; none but the very best entertained. One of the cosiest Pavilions round the Coast, and worked with personal energetic management. Sharing terms only. Vacant June 20, July 4, 18, Aug. 22 (?), Sept. 5 and 12.
Fullest particulars, E. A'DELL,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
March 21, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

BELLE VUE PARK,
NEWPORT, MON.
WANTED, to complete Summer Bookings, few High-class Costume Parties.
JOHNS, 144, Commercial-street.

CENTRAL PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, a First-class Troupe of Pierrots for above, to commence midway between Easter and Whitsuntide, and run to end of Sept.
Terms, Collections and Seat Money.
Also Wanted, Two Young Lady Divers and Swimmers on Shares for the same period.
E. HILL, Manager.

WANTED, Funny Comedian, Comedienne, &c., all Lines, with good voices, for summer, rehearse May 9, open Whit Monday. W. and W., P.O., Chichester.

WANTED, a First-class Lady Effect Worker. Must be a Refined Elocutionist, and thoroughly understand her business. No Learners need apply.
State Experience and Salary required, with references to
MANAGER, Alexandra Hall, Blackburn.

WANTED, Good Amateurs, Comedian, Lady Vocalist, Entertainer at Piano. First-class entertainment. MACK, 38, Bittern-street, Suffolk-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, good Pair Comedians, able play Parts, good money for right goods. State where working. Give permanent address, Box 7,388, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Comedy Page, used to Dumb Show Act; can open at once. State salary required. Box 7,397, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a perfect young Lady Gymnast, for First-class Act, or Girl about 16, to learn. Apply, with photo., to Estrella, Rochdale General Post Office.

WANTED, a good All-round Tumbler, for Comedy Act. Full particulars and salary expected to Box 7,410, "The Era."

WANTED, High-class Pictures, complete, right up to date, or no use; short Season. Address, W. E. Potts, Theatre, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Managers of Halls wanting Cheap and Novel Acts, should write Old Star Dramatic, Variety, and Staff Agency, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Alice Winsome, Dashing Comedienne, with Original Style and Big Voice, March 14, 21. Wire, quick, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, by Rosaline Thorne, Descriptive and Illustrated Vocalist, March 14 and 21. Perm. address, 32, North-side, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, in Speciality Act, Vacant March 14, 21, also April 11, for Wales. Palace, Kettering; next, 50, Denmark-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, April 4, on, Sisters Roze, Musical Experts, Comedy Artists and Dancers, second week Picture Pal., Shirebrook, Notts. Letters, 9, Linden-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25. Perm. address, 31, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, April 4, on Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Successful Collier Comedian, Original Copyrights, Humorous and Descriptive. Encored nightly Westminster, Liverpool. Next, Picturedrome, Ashton-under-Lyne; 21st, Palace, Loughborough; 28th, Bedford-Leigh.

WANTED, Known, Edmund Caselli, the Phenomenal Banjoist. "An artist, not an adventurer." This, Tivoli, Pentre; March 14, Empire, Aberdare. Vacant March 21, April 18, 25.

WANTED, March 21, week, by ARTHUR SLATER, The Whistling Man in White, in New Whistling Scena, through Gloucester closing. Wire, E. De Vere's Agency, or, Mon., Pal., Durham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian, Chorus Singer, and Banjoist. Wire, Hippo., Dumfries.

WANTED Monday next, March 14, by T. E. Johnstone, Popular Actor-Vocalist. Wire (to save time) 9, Peter-street, Workington.

WANTED, Known, Andrew McManus, terrific hit this week, Barrow-in-Furness, Liberty Monday next. Wire above quick, sure success.

WANTED, April 4 and 11, by Harry Morris, Comedian and Raconteur. Success this week, Palace, Bristol; next, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, with his Burlesque Policeman Song Scena. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Happy Attwood, Comedian, vacant Monday next. Wire, Tivoli, Dublin; after Saturday, 37, Lotus-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Yorkshire Tom, Great Mimic, Llb. Monday next (14th), also 21st. Wire, Boro' Theatre, Wallsend-on-Tyne; after Sat., 2, Park-place, Preston.

WANTED, Monday next, by McAskell, Comedy Conjurer, through hall closing. Address, 52, Albion-street, Morley.

WANTED, Easter Week, also April 4, by Perci Vale, Perci Vale, Comedian and Raconteur. This and next, Public Hall, Redditch.

WANTED, March 21, Gus Davis, the New Dame (with a voice), concluding Panto. (Ugly Sister), Theatre, Coatbridge; next, Theatre, Falkirk.

Wire Palace, Huddersfield.
WANTED, by Will Douglas and Co., Monday next, Big Top or Bottom. An exceedingly Clever combination is Will Douglas' Troupe of Five Jolly Bakers, who are the finest and smartest tumblers we have seen. Smartness is the hall mark of a performance that will appeal to all who witness their performance.—The Huddersfield Daily Chronicle, March 8, 1910. The Best, that's all.

WANTED, Galas, &c., Gyto, Jocular Tramp Juggler, lightning act, flashes of wit and thunders of applause. 45, Marston-rd., Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Sergt. Bert Powell, Military Illusionist, in Original Protean Magical Scena, "Magic of Many Lands." Wire, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Morimura, the Celebrated Japanese Illusionist, in his Original Oriental Act. Wire, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, that Seaman McKerell, Champion Manipulator of the Navy for Clubs, Swords, Tomahawks, Knives, Razors, &c., is retiring from the Service on June 16, 1910. A Great Hit at Liverpool and London Halls. First-class Agent Wanted. Apply, Seaman McKerell, N.C., H.M.S. Cyclops, Portland.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the World's Greatest Bantam-weight Wrestler, Vac. March 21, 28, April 4. 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, also April 18, various on, The Monckton's (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting Laughter-provoking Farcical Episodes, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Are Wives Dummies?" "Two in a Flat." Wire, 109, Nelson-road, Yarmouth.

WANTED, March 28, April 4, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas; good Singles. Coms., Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, by The Two Zets (Larry and Amy), Novel Singing, Dancing, and Patter Act. May 30, on. Alfresco Managers secure a good, smart Speciality. 104, Woodbine-avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, March 21 and 28, by Lillie Luraine, Brass Instrumentalist; also Kinnard, Merry Magician. Two reliable acts. Address, Mayblossom, Belvedere.

WANTED by Rumbo Austin, Comedy Nipper Act; also Mlle. Sylvesto, Continental Contortionist. Monday 14th, onwards. Wire, 14, Thompson's-yard, Wakefield, one or both.

WANTED, March 21, April 4, Harry Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist and Gladys Wells, Contralto. The Real Goods. T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, March 21, 28, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie, Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler; Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist). A Novel Act. Address, Picture Palace, Taunton.

WANTED, by Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch, "The First of April." Vacant April 11, 18, and 25. Offers invited. Monday next, Queen's, Leeds, 21st Hippo., Aston, 28th Lyric, Liverpool, April 4 Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, March 14 and 21, by Wisper, the Comedy Kid Juggler; also Miss Beattie Bloom, Comedienne, a real star number. Wire, Palace, West Hartlepool; March 28, Hippo., Wigan. The above turns are the real articles.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop Juggling, Beatrice Bonnie, Comedienne, just concluded Moss-Stoll returns, Vacant March 14, 21, 28. 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Keen and Waller, Leading Novel Eccentrics, Acknowledged to be the funniest and most original comedy act before the public. Now Starring Stoll Tour. Enormous Success Everywhere.

Keen and Waller have the following vacancies, March 21, 28, April 4; also a few later dates for Galas, Sports, &c. Managers requiring a real good reliable act for top or bottom of bill, wire

Keen and Waller, The Act with the Reputation, and no Bluff. The Box-office favourites.

Keen and Waller, This week, Palace, Durham; next, Grand, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, April 4, 18, May 2, 9, July 11. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Newman and Knight. Great Success, New Comedy Juggling Act. Own Cottage scenery carried. Vacant March 14, 21, April 4, 18, May 2. The Homestead, New Malden, Surrey.

WANTED, April 4, onward, Rohde and Roche, Original Novelty Act. The Chameleon Lady Artist and It (?). Palace, Tunstall, Staffs. A Sure Draw.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, the Continental successful Musical and Vocal Novelists, good sound show, vacant March 21 and 28. This, Theatre, Worthing; next, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, March 21, through disappointment, also April 11 and 25, by Folay and Francis, Comedians. Enormous hit, this, Palace, Blackpool. March 14, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, SARNTHALER TROUPE, Big Top. 7 in number 7. Big Top. The most characteristic Original and Up-to-date Popular Speciality Troupe of National Tyrolean Lady Singers and Dancers, from the Principal London and Continental Variety Theatres, Vacant March 14, 21, 28, and onward. Offers invited. Address, Taunton Picturedrome. Perm. add., 242, Kennington-road London.

WANTED, Monday next, for Walker's Would be Acrobats; Globella, Juggling Speciality, two good turns. Wire, offers, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, by Ariel Astarte, Smartest of all Gymnastic Acts, 14th and 21st. Wire, 15, Derby-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Brothers Lloyd, the only Double Bounding Cable Act in the World, "MIDDIES OF THE FEARLESS." Magnificent Naval Scenery, Stage Effects, splendid D.R. Lithos. Top for any Bill, or Bottom. Enormous success in Pantomime, just concluded.

Vacant for Immediate Dates from March 21. Wire. Wire. All communications. 110, Durham-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, by The Flying Oreniuses (two Ladies, two Gentlemen), Stage Aerial Act. This week, terrific success at Hippo., Dover; per. add., 67, Walcot-square, S.E. Wire for Monday; or Harry Day's Agency.

WANTED, March 21, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 13, Victoria-crescent, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Three Eltons, Comedy Three Bars, Marblesque Trio Statuary Tableaux. Two Star Acts. Liberty 14th. Wire, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, March 14, 21, and Easter week, the Star Comedy Act. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Dates, by

Novel	Ventriloquist and Humorous	Entertainer.
Novel	Ventriloquist and Humorous	Entertainer.
Novel	Ventriloquist and Humorous	Entertainer.
Novel	Ventriloquist and Humorous	Entertainer.

Played Principal Tours. Thoroughly experienced.

Suit Class Concert Party for Pavilion Work.

Three Distinct Specialities.
Three Distinct Specialities.
Three Distinct Specialities.
Three Distinct Specialities.

High-class Work only Entertained.

References, &c., apply, Box 7413, "The Era."

WANTED, March 21, by Gulliver, and the Doll with the laugh. Great Comedy Vent. Act. Address, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart Acts; offers invited. Empire, Coalville.

Wire. Wire. Wire.

THE "SMART SET."

WANTED, Monday next, March 14, between Manchester and Portsmouth.

Wire, Walter George, The Hippodrome, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, March 14, 21, 28, share or salary (shares preferred), Picitt and Lizette, Illusionists and Pantomimists, in their Great Magical Extravaganza,

"THE CRAZY COOK,"

from the Coliseum, London, Palace Theatre, London, and Leading Continental Theatres. Original Illusions worked like lightning. A Big Comedy Act, a Big Illusion Act, a Big Animal Act, all in one. Fifty Birds and Animals, the Most Realistic Hotel Kitchen ever Staged. Big built set scene carried. Only clear stage required. Splendid Ethos. Wire for Monday, Hippo., Leigh, Lancashire. After Sunday 85, Boston-st., Manchester.

WANTED, April 4, and on, with exceptions, to follow South Parade Pier, Southsea, by Nelson and Thorne's Star Vaudeville Co., Ten great Turns, including the Draw of the Century Vanda(?), in her wonderful Creations of Eastern Dances. P.A., 88, Toronto-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by the Merrie Elfyns Concert Party, in Musical Mélange, Easter, and on, with a few exceptions. Halls, Pier Pavilions, &c. Chas. Grattan, 55, Elm Park-road, Church-end, Finchley, London, N.

WANTED, Monday next, March 14, by Billy Ross and Co., Great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act. Starring, Palace, Cork, wire.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, March 21, 28, all April and May. Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Tudora's Ponies. Liberty April 25, May 2, 23, and on. A real Stage Novelty. Everything up to date. Finest Pony Act now Touring. This, Empire, Stockport; next, Hippo., Exeter; March 21, Tivoli, Pentre. All coms, Tudora.

WANTED, Captain Permane's Live Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears, at Liberty May 30, June 6, 20, 27, and July. Thanks Mr. Fioni, Liverpool, for contracts for Bradford and York Galas. Who wants the real thing? Address, Permane, Poole's Myrioramas, Municipal Hall, Newcastle-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's Two Hundred Royal Cats, &c., Vacant March 21 and 28; share or certainty; good posters and lithographs by Creber (Plymouth), Berry (Bradford). Address, Park Hotel, Bletchley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, and onwards, Halls, Tenting, &c., Prof. Lorenzo's Marvellous Troupe of Performing Dogs. Always great draw. 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters. Also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast. Two Distinct Acts. Vacant March 21, April 18. Monday, Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, vac. 14, 21, 28 Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles. Always Success. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, by Hall and Wilson Trio, Novel Motor and Trick Cyclists, March 28, April 4, May 9. This, Grand, Halifax; next, Theatre, Heywood. Refer to Managers. Wire or write.

WANTED, Known, Paulett, Trick Balancing and Somersaulting Cyclist. This, O. H., Workington; next, T. R., Whitehaven. Will Tom Leon send address.

WANTED, Known, Managers in want of a First-class Picture Lecturer, will find Chas. Hand the man they are looking for. 73, Orlando-street, Manchester-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagements, Arctic Pictures, with Tabloid Travel Talk by Sandon Perkins, F.R.G.S., vacant March 21, also open to arrange full Lecture for Good Friday or Sundays. Terms, Blackmore's Agency.

WANTED, through Alteration of Dates, Easter Week, Easter Week, by Leo. Merode, with his full-size Blériot type aeroplane. Full particulars, price, and length of flight, apply Director for Leo Merode, 37, Chipley-street, New Cross, S.E. Those who have written, write again.

WANTED, Known, Juggling Boy, 17, would like place in troupe, comedy part preferred, not afraid of hard work. Particulars, Box 7389, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

To High-class Showmen, Amusement Caterers, and Others.
FINAL NOTICE.
SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION
of that Large, Well-known
Travelling Bioscope
Exhibition, known as
PAYNE'S DREAMLAND.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman has been favoured with instructions to offer by Public Auction, at Dorman's Meadow, Camberley, Surrey, on Wednesday next, March 16th inst., at 2 p.m. prompt, unless previously disposed of by private treaty, all that well-known and beautiful Exhibition, as described above.

The Auctioneer begs to inform Showmen and the public generally that no comment respecting the merits of this well-known money-getting concern is necessary. The present owner having other important business, has decided to retire from travelling, his only reason for disposing of same. The Exhibition is complete in every detail, and all in first-class repair, and can be seen built up in all its entirety, beauty, and glory, and open nightly at the above address, and will be first offered in one lot as a going concern, when, if not sold, will be put up in lots separately, to suit convenience of purchasers.

For further particulars, cards to view, &c., apply to Mr. Tom Norman, Auction Department, "The Era" Office, W.C.

N.B.—Persons having any lot or lots, and wishing to include same in above Sale, can do so up till midday on day of Sale.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.

WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. New Electric Rifle and Target Co., Ltd., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from The United Kingdom Gillett Light Co., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Everything for the Fair, Rifle Ranges, Bazaars, &c., own speciality. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, refined Side-show, open Good Friday; best position, Southport Shore; building 30 by 15. Address, A. Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions for London, Manchester, and Glasgow, now and onwards. A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Palmist, Tattooist, &c., for Easter, and during the season. Apply, R. Arnold, Novelty Exhibitor, High-street, Southend.

WANTED, Palmist, Fortune-teller; grand opening Business Woman; also Freaks. Shares or rent. Manager, Royal Coronation Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Watchmaker-Pianist, Handseller, Comedian, Vocalist, for Auction Mart; open immediately. Box 7,394, "The Era."

WANTED, Sword Swallower, for Occasional Engagement. Apply R. Herrick, c/o Berman, 102, High-street, Marylebone.

WANTED, Known, Pharos, the Egyptian Magician and Electric Wonder-worker, who has successfully shown at Earl's Court and Moss's Carnival four successive years, invites offers from First-class Show Proprietors who wish to change present show for a Sensational and Novel Money-taker; electric plant essential. Particulars, Pharos, East View, Pontymister, Mon.

WANTED, Situation as Watchmaker to Auctioneer; Handseller or Floorsman; used to Vans, Shops. C. Leake, 43, Whitechapel-rd., London.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, 60 by 25, in London; several joints for sale. 1, Duncan-terrace, Angel, Islington, London.

WANTED to Let, Positions in Exhibition, Marine Arcade, Southend-on-Sea, for Automatic Machines; must be first-class machines. The Best Position in Southend. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, in Exhibition, Marine Arcade, Southend-on-Sea, for Engraver, Handkerchief, Sketch Artist, Plating, Palmist, Monograms, &c., splendid position, reasonable terms. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, extensive premises, between two new Electric Theatres, near corner Milton, Shakespeare-street, premises have a frontage of 45ft. on one frontage and 58ft. on another, total area 289yds., very spot for Vaudeville, Automatic, Fun City, &c. Cooley, care Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

PALACE PIER, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, to Let, well-fitted Shops, with electric light; also Spaces. Apply, F. W. Walkington, Manager.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to let, Large Attractive Hall, Four Months. No Counter Attractions. Particulars, Reed, Rink, Newton Abbot.

WANTED, to Let, Large Distorting Mirrors. Address, A. Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Position (Shop or Premises), for Rifle Saloon, at prominent seaside, South Coast preferred. Box 7,404, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Helter Skelter, lately in use on Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. Write, with offers, to Fredk. T. Calver, 13, Queen-street, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Buy, Haunted Castle, must be in real good condition and working order. State price, where can be seen, and all particulars; also a round Houp-la. Clements, 34, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Buy Cheap for Cash, a Switchback complete, a Roundabout, with Flying Airships, a Ferris Wheel, a Set of Funny Mirrors, also a Travelling Electric Light Engine, for about 40 arc lamps. Send full particulars with lowest price to Box 7,378, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Good Clean Respectable Shooter for the Alexandra Palace Fairground. Apply, stating all particulars, to P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Buy, a Shuttered Booth, for Boxing. State lowest price. Address, Goliath, Show Ground, The Spen, Co. Durham.

WANTED, at Once, Good Figure Artist in Oils, for Show Decorative Work, Cupids, Flowers, &c., several weeks. Sconce and Sons, Showmen's Artists, King's Lynn.

WANTED, immediate Address of Lion-faced Lady, John Chambers, Bunce Pig Man, Lizzie Spencer, and other Novelties; also want Cake Walk, cheap for cash. Tom Norman, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, the address of Albert Fritz, late of Samouda's Show. Write at once. William Johnson, 129, Whitechapel-rd., London, E.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Manager for Skating Rink, preference given to one who can give occasional Exhibitions; also smart experienced Instructor wanted immediately. Apply fully, with photographs and references, Davies, 2, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, at once, smart Managing Instructor, for Rink in Midlands. Write, stating qualifications, age, salary, &c., required, to Box 7,390, "The Era."

RUDYARD LAKE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

WANTED, to Sell, small fully equipped Roller Rink, a splendid opportunity of acquiring a most profitable Summer Season Rink (Easter until Sept.); the Rink was opened last July, and run most successfully to Sept. Good reason for selling. Price very low. Full particulars apply, Fellows Smith, Derby-street, Leek.

WANTED, Known, Skating Rinks for Sale, as going concerns, North of Dundee, Fully Equipped and Substantially Built, Very Suitable for Picture Shows, &c. Rare opportunity. Apply, Box 7,396, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Skating Rink, as a going concern, now erected on the Stalybridge Market Ground; Tent about 150ft. long by 56ft. wide; maple floor, 300 pair Winslow Skates, Portable Offices, Cloak Room, &c. Offers to be addressed to Secretary, Excelsior Portable Rinking Co., Ltd., Beast Market, Huddersfield.

WANTED, to Sell, a quantity of Secondhand Roller Skates. Apply, Secretary, Wolverhampton and Walsall Rinks, Limited, Darwall-st., Walsall.

WANTED, Good Rink Skates, Quantities up to 500 pairs. Lowest nett price to J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, The Manager.

WANTED, Known, Rink Floor Surfacing Machine for Hire. For terms apply, W. D. Horton, Darwall-street Rink, Walsall.

WANTED TO SELL.

"BELLE OF BRITTANY."
"BELLE OF BRITTANY."

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, the Entire Rights and Production of this Successful Musical Comedy from the Queen's Theatre; or the wardrobe and scenery would be sold separately. Apply, Willie Hartill, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, "Cinderella" Pantomime Scenery, Dresses, Script, Music, everything complete. Can be seen here. Cheap for cash. Leslie Bell, Theatre, Falkirk.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, 70,000ft. Comic and Dramatic Films, subjects and condition good, or money returned, 30s. per 1,000. Send for lists. Power and Pryor, Acton Hall, Picture Palace, Acton, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 400 Tip-ups, Upholstered in Blue Velvet. Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

J. K. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, to Sell, Diorama, Van, and all Complete Paintings, by the best artists. Apply Box 7,379, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Four Performing Dogs (Fox-Terriers), excellent workers, all good on hind legs, very good for pantomime. Leon, 98, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, the Handsomest Old English Bobtail Sheepdog living, under two years. Clever performer, no vice. Chard, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, to Sell Cheap, First-class Performing Cats Act. This week, Top the Bill, Hippodrome, Tonypandy. Offers to Mlle. Alice, perm. add., 1, Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Gentleman's Evening Dress, including Gloves, Shirt, &c., absolute bargain £1 about 5ft. 10in. Mr. A., 10, Effort-road, Highbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, my Mechanical Talking Head, suit stage or side-show; beautiful mahogany cab.net, brass fittings, portable. Particulars. Pharos, East View, Pontymister, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, very powerful, Glockenspiels, Rattles, Gongs, Tubular Chimes, Tunable Resonators (protected). Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, complete set of Tubular Bells, plated, portable stand, 5ft. high, beaters, splendid powerful tone, £3 10s. Approval. Pianist, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, a Fine Set of Tubular Bells, E flat. Cost £11; will accept £6, almost new, a bargain, oak frame, deep, splendid tone. Address, Director, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 2 Excello 10 ampère Flame Arcs and 1 Resistance, both brand new. Cost £7 10s. each; sacrifice £9 the lot. Apply, Walker, 33, Constitution-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, four new Excella D.C. Arc lamps, only used few weeks, £2 10s. each to clear. Harlan, 29, Myddelton-sq., Islington.

WANTED, Known, First-class Bandstand for Sale, nearly new, with 1 gross wood and iron chairs, 1 gross deck chairs, electric fittings, &c. Apply, Lansdowne, Walton-on-the-Naze.

WANTED, to Sell, Warwick Cinéphone, very little used. Apply, Calvert Routledge, His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Two-pole Circus Tent, shutter sides, seating, ring fence, &c., 37ft. high, 50ft. wide, 80ft. long. Address, C. Waterfield, Empire, Exmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Six First-class Illusions, also Stage Illusion, two Limelight Jets, Dissolver, Acetylene Generator Jets, and Dissolver, Special Cylinder for Magic Kettle, Uniforms and Costumes, &c. Carl Fredricks, 4, Brunswick-st., Bath.

WANTED, to Sell, Latest Stage Illusions and Apparatus; something new, not played out. Bargains. Maker, 52, Lansdowne-gardens, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Three-handed Comedy Sketch (two gentlemen, one lady, or three gentlemen). Good dialogue, songs, &c., everything ready for working, including costumes, band parts, wigs, shoes, and props. Opportunity for principal or trio with small capital. W. H. Wallis, Empire, Shoreditch; or 12, Victoria Park-road, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Songs, "Miner's Wife," good descriptive, singing rights, 2s.; "My Girl," dude, 2s.; "Fill up your glasses," drinking song, 2s.; "By appointment only," comic, 1s. 3d. Words and music sent per return of post upon receipt of P. O. Harry Farrow, 4, Dunraven-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase Cinematograph Films, including the Life of Charles Peace. Full particulars and lowest price to A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Basket, 7ft. 6in. length, 4ft. wide, 2ft. high. Apply, Smith, 89, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, Cheap for Cash, Fit-up Cloths, viz., Cut Chamber, Garden, Act Drop, and Wings, must be good. Particulars, Donald, Theatre, Falkirk.

WANTED, to Buy, Roman Costumes and Useful Pantomime Dresses; also Roman Scenery. Fullest particulars, Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Ladies' Armour Procession, Palace, or any other Dresses suitable for Pantomime, must be in First-class Condition. State price, &c., to Manager, 8, Foyle-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Buy, immediately, cheap for cash, Iron Box, one that will meet requirements of the Act. Particulars to Manager, Picturedrome, Dunstable.

WANTED, Large Tent, capable of seating 2,000 persons. State size, full particulars, lowest price. Box 7,402 "The Era."

WANTED, Good Rink Skates, Quantities up to 500 pairs. Lowest nett price to J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, immediately, about 300 Velvet and Wood Tip-ups, or Velvet Forms, in good condition, cheap. S., Public Hall, Lowestoft.

WANTED, to Buy, quantity Tip-up Chairs. Colin, Brierley Hill.

WANTED, to Buy, clever Musical Comedy Libretto, must be strong and unhackneyed, typed script, London production. Kingsley, 8, Schubert-road, Putney.

WANTED, Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues, &c. Only the best. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED, Three-handed Comedy Sketches, Al Fresco gags, &c. Dick Thomas, 91, Mansfield-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Purchase, Music, Tenor Songs, highest keys, Grand Opera vocal scores, original editions, bilingual, "Carmen," "Lohengrin," &c. Leon, 131, Wardour-street, W.C.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. Secretary, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Private Rehearsal Rooms, finest accommodation in London. Manchester House Academy, 295, Kennington-road. 'Phone 5467 Central.

WANTED, to Let, Concert Room, &c., seat 200, two evenings weekly, with residence (5 rooms), at a guinea a week inclusive, S.W. district; or will sell premises and everything. For fuller particulars address Owner, Box 7,380, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Electric Theatres, commanding corner site, in district of 100,000 population, to let on 99 years' lease; also another site, in district of 20,000 population, without any entertainments, capital can be found for erecting Electric Theatres by arrangement. Cooley, care Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Known, for Hire, small Cars, suit Music Hall Artist; very moderate terms. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 12s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire. Price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, on Lease or Rental, Theatre with large holding capacity in working-class district. Full particulars in confidence, Box 7,409, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, Cinematograph Apparatus, including Operator. State terms.
Address, Box 7,400, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £2,000, in well-established Electric Theatre Business, making over £1,000 per annum, half share offered. Open Closest Investigation.
Particulars from ARNOLD AND CO., 60, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

WANTED, immediately, Partner with £20, as entire Management and Cashier of small, compact Hall and other premises, best position Gravesend, or will sell Lease of same; good opportunity. Apply, NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Lady Singer, as Partner, for good Concerts Speculation; willing to invest £50 or so. Write, Box 7,348, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Well-known West End Music Hall Artist a Partner with capital, to take interest in new novel Music Hall Act about to be produced. Would take Business Manager who could take interest also in two other turns. One has commanded £80 a week. Good bookings, big profits. Unless you would invest £100 or more, save my time and yours. Best of references.
Address, Box 7384, "The Era."

WANTED, Sleeping or Working Partner, for Picture Palace, with £20, to take third share of profits and expenses. Address, Box 7,386, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Violinist or Flautist, join Harpist, Pitching and Boat Work; terms, shares; steady, reliable. THORPE, 10, Friar-street, Worcester.

WANTED, well spoken, straight man, tall, to join known Comedian, with original Act, at once. Interview, P., 137, Ravenslea-road, Balham.

WANTED, Partner, Comedy Triple Bar Act; must be a good performer; Straight or Comedy. State full particulars to Box 7,403, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 26, Vaughan road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Fred Riley, Stage Dresses, Coats, and Leno Underskirts, made on reasonable terms. 2, Handforth-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London. S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Motor Driving, 12 lessons for £3 3s. 'Phone 481 Hamp. 25, Upper William-street, St. John's Wood.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; Piano Part, 2s. 6d.; Band Part, 3s. 6d. (set 10). E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos, from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract.
CHARLES BARNARD,
On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser will finance (at own risk) persons with good ideas, novelties, &c., for Music Hall, reasonable basis. Can book same. Full particulars first letter.
Box 7,398, "The Era."

FOR SALE.

MAGNIFICENT AND COMPLETE PRODUCTION OF

"ROMEO AND JULIET,"

including

SCENERY, PROPERTIES, and DRESSES,

as produced at the

Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Grand Theatre Glasgow, &c.

R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1238 Dalston.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 518 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

LUBIN FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, March 20.

HE ADORED AN AD.
Comic. 520ft.

WILD DUCK HUNTING.
Educational. 600ft.

GLIMPSES OF AN INDIAN VILLAGE.
Educational. 205ft.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Releasing Thursday, March 17.

CLOISTER'S TOUCH.
Drama 993ft.

Releasing Thursday, March 24.

THE DUKE'S PLAN
Drama. 985ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, March 13.

THE HIGHLANDER'S DEFIANCE.
Patriotic. 625ft.

ALDERMAN KRAUTZ'S PICNIC.
Comic. 370ft.

Releasing Thursday, March 17.

TALE OF THE WOODS,
Drama 1000ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

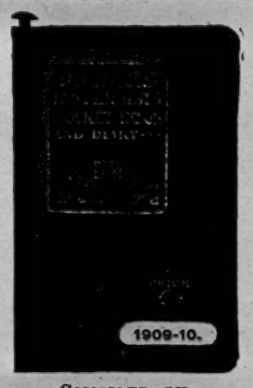

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.
Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,
RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6665.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN TIP-UP CHAIRS *Upholstered in Velvet.*

THE "CHAMPION" 4/9 TIP-UPS

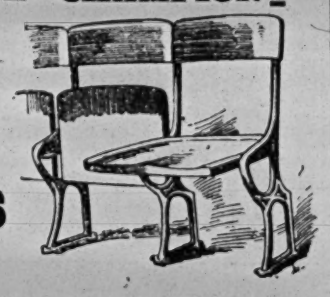

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET,
12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PIERROT POSTERS AND ALL OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

Catalogues and prices of printing free.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."

PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BOROUGH OF ABERGAVENNY.

OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Corporation

INVITE OFFERS

for the privilege of GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS in the CASTLE GROUNDS, ABERGAVENNY, during the ensuing summer.

Full particulars of the nature of Entertainments must be given and applications stating terms must be sent to me not later than the 21st instant.

Wm. H. HOPWOOD,
Town Hall, Town Clerk.
Abergavenny, 3rd March, 1910.

BOGNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SEASON BAND, 1910.

The above Council are prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

of a BAND for TEN WEEKS during the coming season.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer, and all applications must reach me not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, the 23rd March, 1910.

HENRY LAYTON STAFFURTH,
Council Offices, Clerk.
Bognor, 7th March, 1910.

BURGH OF BROUGHTY FERRY.

AL FRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS

The Town Council of Broughty Ferry are prepared to

RECEIVE OFFERS

for the right to provide Al Fresco Entertainments, Shows, &c., on the Promenade and Sands for the Summer Season of 1910. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of entertainments will receive special consideration.

Particulars of site available, terms of occupancy, and other information required can be had from the Subscriber, who will receive sealed tenders marked "Offer for Entertainments" up to twelve o'clock noon of March 12, 1910.

EDWARD COWAN,
Town Clerk.

4, High-street, Dundee.
Feb. 18, 1910.

LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council invite

OFFERS FOR THE RIGHT

to provide

ENTERTAINMENTS

on the Green at Littlehampton.

Particulars may be obtained by forwarding a stamped addressed foolscap envelope. Sealed Tenders endorsed "Entertainments," addressed to "The Chairman of the Council, Town Offices, Littlehampton," to be delivered on or before Saturday, the 19th March instant.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender.

ARTHUR SHELLEY,
Clerk.
Littlehampton, March 4, 1910.

MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.
The MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
INVITE OFFERS
for the privilege of GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS during the coming Season from the Bandstand about to be placed on the Green on the Sea Front. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of entertainments will receive special consideration. Particulars and conditions of the licence may be obtained upon application to me. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," stating amount offered and nature of entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than 9 o'clock on Thursday, March 24, 1910. The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer. By order,
L. C. WEBBER-INCLEDON,
Clerk to theCouncil.
16, Park-st., Minehead, Som., March 3, 1910.

BOROUGH OF PENZANCE.

THE TOWN COUNCIL

INVITE APPLICATIONS

for the SOLE RIGHT of providing

ALFRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS

in the ALEXANDRA GROUNDS, opposite the Promenade, during the coming season, the Council supplying a Site, Stage, and 150 Chairs.

Offers with full Particulars should be sent to
T. H. CORNISH,
Town Clerk.

MONMOUTH CORPORATION MAY FAIR.

TO SHOWMEN AND OTHERS.

ALL ARE INVITED.

Persons

REQUIRING STANDINGS

for their Shows should send particulars of their requirements, together with measurements. Great care will be taken to reserve space for those who book in advance.

Apply,
Mr. GEORGE F. GRIMWOOD,
Borough Surveyor,
Monmouth.
March 7th, 1910.

FIGURE 8 PARK, MORECAMBE.

ON THE SEA FRONT.

SPACES TO LET

FOR

HIGH-CLASS ATTRACTIONS.

Apply by letter,

HELTER'S LTD., 11, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.

Most central position in thickly populated town.

CAN BE SOLD OR LET

No opposition in district.

APPLY,
P. COLLINS, GONDOLA WORKS, WALSALL.

1 SMALL TEDDY BEAR, 3 Small Ponies, 4 Raccoons, 1 Snow-white Fox, 2 Agoutis, 1 Ocelot, 1 Genet Cat, 2 Paradoxures, 1 Black-backed Jackal, 2 Musquash, 3 Lemurs, 1 Dwarf Lemur, 4 Golden Lion Marmosets, 2 Common Marmosets, 2 Spotted Cavies, 1 Prairie Dog, 3 Common Cranes, 4 Demoiselle Cranes, 7 Agami Herons, 6 Alpine Choughs, 24 Amazon Parrots, 50 Rose Cockatoos, 125 pairs Budgerigars, 10 pairs Yellow Budgerigars, 15 pairs Banded Parrakeets, 3 pairs Scaly-breasted Lorikeets, 2 pairs Uvaean Parrakeets, 6 Cape Collies, 2 Buzzards, 3 Chimangoes, &c.
ALBERT EDWARD JAMRACH,
180, St. George-street, East.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA,

BY

GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,

The Publisher

"The Era" Limited,

5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S

POCKET DATE BOOK.

A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.

Price ONE SHILLING.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND

and the

MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher,

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.

'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address—"The Era," London.

MOSS' EMPIRES, Ltd & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — SUBSEQUENT (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Ada Reeve, Winifred Emery and Co. in "The Dressing-Room," Cruikshank, Syd May, Louie Freear, Woodward's Sea Lions, Great and Good, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Pictures, Grotesques, Amelia Bingham and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Emma Don and Co., Sisters St. Julian, Pictures, W. Fuhlbrook and Co., Bros. Bright, Amelie De L'Enclos, Tom Lloyd, Takio, Rossi Ashton, Queen and Le Brun.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Cumminger and Colonna, Sammy Shields, Thora, G. W. Hunter, Bros. O'Brien, Rich and Rich, Elsie Roby, Bioscope, Sam Mayo, Gertie Gitana.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Neil Kenyon, Ethel Bourne, Jean and Josie, Heeley and Meeley, Herbert Sleath's Co. in "The Deputy Sheriff," Lily Burnand, Tan-Kwai Troupe, Sisters Barnes, Bioscope, Tom Costello.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Carl Rosa Opera Company.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Formby, Whit Cunliffe, Royal Delomes, Williams and Parker, Catherine Arkandy, Anna Chandler, Channings, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Ernest Long and Co. in "Her Husband."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Seymour Hicks and Co. in "Scrooge," Frank Couch, Dion Wade, Ed. E. Ford, Francis and Alfred, Maude Edwards, Bioscope, King and Benson, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Nellie Wallace, "Yellow Fang," Elite Harmony Boys, Villions, Kremos, Tom E. Hughes, Beaty and Blanche, Dorothy Woolf, Bioscope, Motramos.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Wentworth Croke's Co. in "The Prodigal Son."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
G. H. Elliott, Edie Reynolds, Keen and Waller, Les Silas, Gipsy Woolf, Conan and Doyle, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Colini-Clairons, W. J. Churchill.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
The Great Lafayette, Rhoda Paul, Billy Hobbs, Stewart and Morgan, Victor Widdicombe and Co., Tony Black, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jack Pleasants, O Hana San, Tom Stuart, Herbert Shelley, To-To, Vanando, Northern Troupe, Bioscope, Kathleen Gray, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Leyton and Co., Will Johnson, Stanley and Greenop, Witty Watty Walton, Tom Davies Trio, Sutcliffe Family, Venie Clements, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Georgia Coons, Howard and Harris.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno in "Perkins, M.P.," Archie Goodall, Mabel Mavis, Chas. Santon, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Dacey and Lewis, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of being Another Man's Wife," Lottie Govell, Bros. Redmond, Frank Maura, Gwennie Llewellyn, Lux's Dogs, H. O. Wills, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Flake White, Bioscope, Wish Wynne, Albert Rees, Loyal's Dogs, Tom Moore, Counsell and Mills, Oswald Williams, Lydia Yeamans.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Phil Parsons, Lillie Lassah, "Dolly's Deception," Spry and Monti, Marsumas, Lyric Quartette, Gladys Nelson, Bioscope, Kellinos, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Wentworth Croke's Co. in "The Christian."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
R. Macdonald's Co. in "The Dairymaids."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Cinquevalli, Bensons, Corcoran Bros., Harry Anderson, Barnard's Mannikins, Alf. Gibson, Ryan and Hall, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Margaret Parker and Co., Alexandra Dagmar.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Mr. Lewis Waller, Huntley Wright and Co., Madam Ella Russell, Lancashire Lads, Barowskys, Frank Le Dent, Will o' the Wisps, Talbot and Pearce, Bioscope, Harry Allister, Alexandre and Hughes, Bella Terry.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Daisy Jerome, Four Regals, Eadie and Ramsden, Henry Helme, Annie Schuberth, Fred Barnes, Kerr and Koe, "Billy," Bioscope, "Bosun's Mate."

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Dan Crawley, La Berat, Harry Clifford, Arthur Kenny, Coloured Meisters, Leo Tell, Lillian Bishop, Bioscope, Will H. Fox.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
L'Incognita, La Sylphe, Walter Wade, Jackley Trio, Phil Percival, Casey Army, O'Malley and Brown, George Rae, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Miss Ada Colley, Sisters Storm, Ike and Will Scott, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Darnley's "Skirmishers," Kisbey.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Van Biene, Chas. R. Whittle, Mlle. Haydee, Delevines, Manchester Mites, Rhoda Bros., Ray Wallace, Chas. J. Johnson, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Marco Twins.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jewels' "Change," Fayre and Manning, Rich Taylor, Victor Travers, Abdullah Arabs, Siems, Powell and Vesey, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Elliott-Savonas.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Wilkie Bard, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, Carl and Carr, Chas. Vincent, Millie Engler and Co., King and Queenie, Three Delaries, Glenroy Troupe, Ethel Newman.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Rosi's Ballet "Uncle Isadore," Fred Elton, Three Van Dammes, Lukushimas, Harry Bedford, Ross and Lewis, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall-street," Lottie Bellman.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen in "Private Potts," Cavallotti Bros., Cissie Thompson, Clark and Hayden, Jack Lane, Avolos, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Florrie Gallimore, Moran and Wiser.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Juliette's Sea Lions, Ugo Nap, Smythsons, Gladys Mavius, J. A. Wilson, Brennans, Bioscope, Humpsti-Bumsti.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chas. T. Aldrich, Illustrated Song, Mabel Mignon, Jack Sheridan, Little Babs, Pictures, Prince Milner Trio, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Carmos, John Macauley, Walker and May, O'Gust, Tate and Tate, Alice Maydue, Bioscope, Courtiers.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Gobert Belting, Guyer and Valle, Les Romanis, J. C. Scatter, Harry Leybourne, Fatmah Diard, Bioscope, Coram.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Minnie Cunningham, Leoville, Sisters Jerome, Lorettes, Mabel Sinclair, Edgar Budden, Florence Esdaile, Pictures, D'Arc's Marionettes.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Victor's Juveniles, Steve McCarthy, Two St. Johns, Odeyne Spark, Frank Melvin, Sisters Hall, Pictures, Marie Kendall.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Clark and Glennie, Julian Ross, Gallimore Trio, Flo Cecil, Walton and Lester, Harry Champion, Donaldson Bros., Harry Lauder, Borghetti Troupe, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vera Rochdale, Rauschelle, Helen Martin, Frank Seeley, Carlisle and Wellman, Evelyn Taylor, Three Panamas, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chris Baker, Rayburn and Dix, Chas. Cardow, Zethus, Edward Marris Trio, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Harry Fragson, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Bros. Werds, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Ina Lorrimer, Arleys Trio, Alec Kendall, Ethel Loftus, Geo. Newburn, Adams and Ward, Geo. Gilbey, Wild, Willie, and West, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Hayes and Watson, Harry Russon, Curwen and Belle, Three Laurels, Beatrice English, L. W. Harris, "The Pawnbroker," Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
John Tiller's "Red Riding Hood."

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Hoodless, Taree, Dalvere and Wallace, Bobbie Burns, Cissie Fredericks, Marco, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mme. Albani, Joseph Belmont, Lillian Rose, Dolly Denton, Jan Zakovsky, Bros. Durant, Litz Bros., Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Raymond, The Vampire Dance, Henriette and Selina, Mart and Pep, Gladys Archbutt, Ruby Rayo, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Dot Moss, Fred Evans, Ray Espinosa, Orpheus, Pallas and Cassick, Marie Lloyd, Maxine and Bobby, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the **DE FRECE CIRCUIT**, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to **Walter de Frece** at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option,

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MARCH 14.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Syd Walker, Curtis and Piccs, the Fimans, L. B. Athol, Ada Fawn, Les Croisit Trio, Crosby and Walker, Sisters Rivers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Marquis Dassie Phillips and Merritt, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Steel and Laing, Kit Keen, the Lannons, Montaldos, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Martin Henry and Co., Pictures, Dorothy Dare, Lizzie Round, Sisters Harcourt, Harry Bland, Hearne and Palmer, Morris and Moore, Jack Warman.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"The Red Triangle," Lizzie Daniels, Geo. Brooks, Arthur Woodville, "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," Barrington, Enzer, Narow Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Cassie Walmer, Wallau, Bert E. Edwardes, May Poulton, Fyne and Hurley, Fred Lincoln, Geni Family, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Beauty Competition, Benson and Rose, Jollions, Vocal Scene, Norah Stockelle, Leo Fields, Anna Lombard, Carney Bros., Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Braatz' Dogs, Jimmie Pullen, Alice Lingard, Amio Trio, Buster Browns, Comedy Meisters, Goodwin's Piccs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Piccolinos, Letine, Stidder and Dunbar, Cavalli, Maude Vera, Herbert Rule, Julian Mack, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Ching Ling Hee Troupe, Fred Dunstone, Tina Frank, Joe Cookson, Florence Conolley, Walter Ford, Coverdale's Dots, Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Tschin-Maa Troupe, Geo. Lawrence, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Rooke Rorke and Co., the Rosses, Mona Garrick, Dalmere's Animals, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Morny Cash, Vesta Nixon, Lawson and Odell, La Belle Sylvia, Sisters Beatrice Gladys Clinton, Cline and Clancy, Les Adans, Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Columbias, Fields and Lewis, Sisters Brenton, Lennard and Vereker, Damerell and Rutland, Joan Doering, Bill and Bellay, Pete and Minnie Lee, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Harry Weldon, Tennis and Laune, Gillin, Roxborough and Wright, Amy Bathurst, Jack McKenzie, Gelders, Ivy Dene, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Her Secret Lover."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Carney and Armstrong, Gwen Francis, Miss Muffett, Norah Desmond, Will Rhodes, Delaforce and Hartley, Judge's Cockatoos, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Tourbillon Troupe, Sisters Darnton, Ryder Slone, Madge Allan, Walter Barrett, Ray Royal, "Motoring," Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Dancing Gilberts, Pictures, "Queen of Sheba," Bonnie Blair," "The New World," Bessie Neilson, Vaudeville Trio, J. H. Greener.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Miss Josephine Crook, Pictures.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Mabel Thorne, Nellie Farrell, Joe Manners, Bert Crosbie, Parker, Bracey, and Co., Chris Masters, Mrs. Bennett and Co., Rose Della, Alf. J. Long, "Winkles."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Cumberland Troupe, the Fordyces, Pictures, Harry Luck, Edna Barrett, Chas. North, Bert Rayburn, Beaumont Collins, Harry Roxbury, the Woodcutters.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Bruce Green, Pictures, T. C. Jaques, Rhoderick Duo, Gladys Clinton, Lenton and Lane, Frantz's Comedy Five, "The Flower Girl," Millie Henderson and Co., Chas. M. Daly.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SALAMBOS

After 110 performances as Slaves of the Lamp concluded their engagement at the DRURY LANE THEATRE with the termination of the production of "ALADDIN," on March 9th. ——— Throughout the run being an

UNBOUNDED SUCCESS

And sail for America March 23rd (ss. "Adriatic") to fill a long engagement.

All Letters to be addressed to "Variety" Office, 1536 Broadway, N.Y. City.

DURING THEIR ABSENCE

Mr. WM. H. ARMSTRONG (their Solicitor), 1, Renfrew Road, Lambeth, London, will look after their English business.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF

MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,

FEBRUARY 15, 1909.

Post free, 1½d.

PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

ILLUSTRATED.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—"Leeside," Viewforth-Square. Mrs. Dale. Comfortable bed-sitting-room; piano, bath (h. and c.); good cooking; terms moderate.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, Holmeslane House, 22, John-street. Nat. Tel., 334Y7. Two sitting, two bed, and two combined; bath; piano.

LEEDS.—Two sitting-rooms, four bedrooms, one combined room; piano; good cooking; terms moderate; central. BANKS, 27, Rockingham-street.

LONDON, W.—21, Wells-st. Comfortable bed-sitting room, good piano; a few doors from Oxford-street.

LONDON, W.C.—Apartments. Sitting-rooms and bedrooms, from 25s. weekly; also bed-sitting rooms from 16s.; bedrooms, 12s. 6d. 11, Montague-street, Russell-square.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 Minute from E., O. H., Sea; Piano, Bath (h., c.), W.C.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

FERRY HOTEL, COOKHAM.
This old-established family hotel, charmingly situated on the banks of the river in the most picturesque spot on the Thames, reopened under new management. Apply, PROPRIETRESS.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 2551 Paddington.

To PIERROTS and VAUDEVILLE ARTISTS

SPLENDID NUMBERS FOR SEA-SIDE SHOWS.

BARITONE and BASS SONGS.

THE VOICE OF THE STORM *Cuthbert Clarke*
Sung by RAYMOND VICTORY, etc.

THE YARN OF THE FIDDLER'S GHOST
Sung by RANDALL JACKSON, etc. *H. Trotere*

THE CREW OF THE SAUCY JANE
Sung by STANLEY KIRKBY. *Kennedy Russell*

DOUBTING .. .. *Reginald Somerville*
Sung by CLAUDE FLEMING (of the Savoy Theatre), etc.

THE COBBLER'S FLAGON *H. Fraser Simson*
Sung by ADOLPH FOWLER.

THE BO'SUN, GUNNER, AN' ME *H. Trotere*
Sung by STANLEY KIRKBY, etc.

KITTY .. .. *J. Airlie Dix*
Sung by J. H. SCOTLAND, OSCAR ST. CLAIR, etc.

TO MY SWEETHEART ..*Dorothy Beckwith*
Strongly recommended. Suit all voices.

THE MAID AT THE INN .. .. *M. Strong*
Sung by J. WALLINGFORD TATE.

ENTREATY .. .. ..*Lawrence Hanray*
Sung by J. BRITTON FOWLER, etc.

BASHFUL BHOY .. *Marjorie Slaughter*
Sung by A. W. BARTHOLOMEW, etc.

BOATMAN JACK .. .. ..*Jocelyn Noel*
Sung by S. DENISON THORNE.

MOTHERLAND .. .. .. *Francis Bohr*
Sung by Miss ELLA LORAINE.

FAIR LAND OF KENT .. *A. H. Behrend*
Sung by ADOLPH FOWLER, STANLEY KIRKBY, etc.

SONG OF THE VETERANS *Hamilton Law*
Sung by EDWARD DYKES, etc.

THE QUARRYMAN .. .. *Kent Sutton*
Sung by WILFRID PLATT, etc.

HUMOROUS SONGS.

DO, MY DARLING, DO, DO, DO *Rudolph Nelson*
Sung by Miss EMMY WEHLEN, NORMA WHALLEY, JOSEPH COYNE, LOUIS BRADFIELD.

HE'D NEVER BEEN UPON A FARM BEFORE
Sung by LAURI DE FRECE. *W. Davidson*

THE GIRL WITH THE CLOCKS *W. Davidson*
Sung by LOUIS BRADFIELD.

LADY OF LYONS, LTD. .. .. *L. Hanray*
Sung by the COMPOSER.

FICKLE FANNY .. .. *Fannie Hunt*
Sung by FELIX BRITTAIN.

MY CIGARETTE .. .. *E. Crampton*
Sung by ERNEST CRAMPTON, LOUIS BALFOUR, etc.

SOUVENIRS .. *From "The Dollar Princess"*
Sung by W. H. BERRY.

SHE WAS SO GOOD .. .. *Greville Hayes*
Sung by the SMART SET ENTERTAINERS, etc.

YOU NEVER CAN TELL (Duet) *C. H. Bovill*
Sung by PHILLIP BRAHAM, etc.

LIGHT and SOUBRETTE SONGS.

LOVE IN JAPAN .. .. ..*J. M. Capel*
A Charming Number.

THE SORT OF A HUSBAND FOR ME
Sung by Miss JESSIE ROSE. *R. Somerville*

WILLIAM, JAMES, AND 'ENERY *E. Crampton*
Sung by Miss BEATRICE LINDLEY, etc.

JUST TOO SWEET FOR WORDS *L. Hanray*
Sung by Miss DAISY NOBLE, etc.

THE SUNBEAM AND DAISY *Leonard Henslowe*
Sung by Miss MABEL VICTOR.

KITTY .. .. *J. Airlie Dix*
Sung by Miss CISSIE ALDRIDGE, etc.

THE MOON AND I .. *Bela Zerkaïrtz*
Sung nightly by Mdlle. FEDAK at the Coliseum

THE GAY DOG .. .. .. *Harold Simpson*
Sung by CYRIL MURRAY, etc.

OVER THE WORLD TO ME *Ed. St. Quentin*
Sung by Miss ALYS BATEMAN.

A GIPSY'S WOOING .. .. *S. H. Gambrill*

NINON .. .. *N. Zardo*
Two Good Waltz Numbers.

Two Songs—
WHEN YOU SAY GOOD-BYE *E. Crampton*
IF EVERY ROSE .. .. *E. Crampton*
Sung by Miss NELLIE SCHRODER, etc.

Write for Specimen Numbers, or call at our address and have the various numbers tried over.

ASCHERBERG, HOPWOOD and CREW, LTD.,
16, MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W.

MISS HETTY KING

Returning March 9 on the Lusitania after making another brilliant successful tour through the UNITED STATES and CANADA.

Owing to the Enormous Success at Bennett's Theatre, Montreal, Miss King has been retained for the Second Week. Houses packed to the doors. Hundreds turned away at each performance.

RECORDS BROKEN!

Speeches Made in Every Town.

Many thanks to P. G. Williams, Esq., Mike Shea, Esq., Martin Beck, Esq., and C. Clarke, Esq., for their offers for next season.

SUCCESS

Greater than ever!

A FEW PRESS OPINIONS.

MORNING TELEGRAPH, Dec. 14.

HETTY KING IS A WINNING BOY.

THOUGH A MALE IMPERSONATOR, THE LITTLE ENGLISH WOMAN IS ALWAYS CHARMINGLY FEMININE.

By SAM M'KEE.

As the bill-topper of a splendid programme in celebration of the return to his desk of Percy G. Williams, the Colonial this week has Hetty King. It has been nearly two years since this attractive and talented little Englishwoman has visited America.

Male impersonators are not always entirely normal any more than female impersonators are invariably pleasant to contemplate. Of Hetty King, though, it can be unhesitatingly said that she is a male impersonator who never becomes masculine, but is at all times charmingly feminine.

Miss King knows how to sing, she is an easy and graceful dancer, and she can act quite a bit, too.

Miss King knows how to wear male attire, and she has many spick-and-span suits, cut after the most approved and most advanced styles. But no one ever loses sight of the fact that she is not a boy, and everyone is delighted that it should be so.

LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY GROWN UP.

And yet she is boyish, too. Boys are never as nice as Hetty King, and yet she might be Little Lord Fauntleroy grow up, at that, when she first appears to sing of "Beside the Seaside." Here is this natty little woman in white flannels, a straw hat and patent-leather shoes with white uppers. If this boy of Hetty King's should make actual visit to the seaside the Summer Girl would have to go 'way back and exit

In this garb Miss King illustrates how the burglar, the drunk, and the Johnny behave "Beside the Seaside." Everyone would be glad to meet such a burglar, such a drunk, or such a Johnny anywhere.

In a glossy black naval uniform resplendent with gold trimmings, and wearing white gloves, Miss King sings of how "All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor." She is such a pretty naval officer that the boldest buccaneer who ever sailed the sea in his long, low rakish craft would gladly strike his colours at the approach of Admiral Hetty King.

Next she is a Territorial English soldier, dressed in brown. She smokes a cigarette, swishes a little cane, and her jauntiness supplies the answer to her question of "Girls, Girls, Why Do You Love a Soldier?"

Miss King shows her skill as an actress and her command of pathos in "My Birthday." She is a young fellow just celebrating his coming of age. Though looking swagger in evening clothes, the first cigar makes the young fellow sick.

Then comes over the telephone the news that his father, who had been a pal as well as a parent, is ruined and had shot himself. Miss King sings of the young man's sorrow in telling, unaffected fashion. She is sincere and not in the least theatrical.

"I'm Going Away" Miss King gives as an encore. This song won her many admirers on her former visit to America. She is a sailor with his kit in a handkerchief preparatory to making a trip. He dances a hornpipe over his joy at escaping from the girls.

MONTREAL GAZETTE.

HETTY KING AT BENNETT'S.

Hetty King scored a success at Bennett's yesterday afternoon, the audience recalling her time after time, until finally she found it necessary to crave their indulgence in a short speech. As a male impersonator this talented little lady has few, if any, equals anywhere to-day, and the first audience she has played to in Montreal evidently were of that opinion, for she had to sing no less than six songs to please them, and even then they would have had more. Perhaps the best of her efforts were "Beside the Seaside" and "My Birthday," but she evidently missed the chorus to which she has been accustomed in England, where the whole audience are wont to join in the chorus of any song which pleases them.

MONTREAL HERALD.

HETTY KING MADE BIG HIT AT BENNETT'S.

Two English turns divide the honours at Bennett's this week. Miss King, billed as "London's Male Impersonator," is a very versatile and dainty little lady. She can wear male attire of an effeminate cut, which was evidently made in New York, very gracefully, and she sings several songs with an equal grace. Also she can dance a bit, and be saucy. As well as that she can smoke any old thing from a fat cigar to a briar pipe with equal ease and a total disregard of the consequences. And she can be tragic, for her act is not all comedy. Miss King's turn was easily the most popular on the bill last evening, and she was so loudly encored that she was compelled to make a speech.

NEW YORK PRESS, Dec. 14.

At the Colonial Theatre this week a bill is offered whose value is of the thirty-third degree, and all because Hetty King is the top-liner.

Miss King is a male impersonator, and her songs, her acting, her style is the quintessence of perfection, the pinnacle of delighful femininity essaying the masculine.

She had the audience with her from her first song, "Beside the Seaside," in which she is dressed in a well-fitting suit of white flannel and a straw hat. Her depicting of the burglar, the tipsy fellow, and the Johnny, emphasised the determination of the audience not to let her go until it could applaud no more. Her next impersonation was of a naval officer, and here she sings of "Girls Love a Sailor." In her dark uniform, trimmed with gold lace, she is quite too natty for any girl not to fall in love with her at once.

Again she comes out as an English soldier in khaki, smoking a cigarette and carrying a cane. Her song, "Girls, Girls, Why Do You Love a Soldier?" could easily be answered by every maid in the audience.

A change from jaunty, light-heartedness to subtle, touching pathos follows in "My Birthday," and in this song Miss King demonstrates she is an actress of the highest rank. She is clothed as a swell who has just become of age, and as he smokes his first cigar it makes him sick. Just then he receives a message by telephone that his father—his side partner, his pal—had lost his fortune, and in despair has shot himself. So well does Miss King sing this song, so well does she act the part, that the sympathy of the audience goes out to her as truly as though it were real life.

As Hetty bows her dainty acknowledgments to the many encores upon leaving the stage the audience becomes determined to bring her out once again, and salvos of applause, cries, and yells finally succeed in bringing the artist on for another song. Dressed as a sailor, with all his worldly possessions tied in a handkerchief, she sings "I'm Going Away," dances a hornpipe, and skips off the stage. A tumult of applause ensues. But it does no good, for after a few minutes the next number is put up and the performance continues.

For many in the audience it was as if the light had gone out, and had taken all possible joy with it, and a majority no doubt said to themselves what I whispered to myself: "I'm going to see her again and soon!"

By this time the bulk of the audience had settled in its mind on what evening it would come to see Hetty again. The thought is pleasing, and good-natured tolerance and a degree of interest once more holds sway, and the acts which followed received liberal applause.

* * * * *

As the audience filed out I heard a man on my right say: "Four, Henry, for to-morrow afternoon—and try to get the same seats we had to-night."

Oh, that Hetty King!

NEW YORK TRIBUNE, Dec. 14.

ONE OF THE HITS OF THE SEASON.

Hetty King, the English impersonator of men, made one of the vaudeville hits of the season at the Colonial Theatre yesterday. She appeared as a "chappie," a soldier, a sailor, a bad schoolboy, and as a young man on his twenty-first birthday. Her characters were portrayed with an art that ranks her among the best of her class.

NEW YORK NEWS, Dec. 28.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.

HETTY KING HEADS A STRONG BILL AT THIS HOUSE, AND PLAYS TO STANDING ROOM ONLY.

By ARTHUR ANGYALFI.

At the Alhambra Theatre this week every seat is sold and standing room at a premium. This condition two weeks ago existed at the Colonial Theatre, and for the same reason—Hetty King is on the bill.

Her success at the Alhambra is as pronounced, as complete as the most sanguine performer could hope for himself. In her act she is the incarnation of the ideal, the beginning and end of perfection. In her song, "Beside the Sea." in which she is attired as a natty young chappy in a perfectly-fitting brown suit, brown straw hat, and tan shoes, she immediately captivates by the delightful art she puts into her work. While she is the real tony young fellow, she neither loses her womanly attractiveness nor goes over the line which divides the masculine woman from the mere impersonator.

While all Miss King's songs are successes, perhaps the one which most powerfully vibrates the human chord is "I Am Twenty-one To-day." In this she takes the part of a swell young man who has just reached his majority, and is about to enjoy himself without restraint. He finds a letter addressed to him by his father, who writes that his fortune has vanished. The telephone-bell rings, and he hears that his father—who had been his playmate, his pal—had shot himself. The change from a joyous, light-hearted youth contemplating a life of pleasure to a bereaved son who has lost his beloved parent is so touchingly portrayed by Miss King that most of the women in the audience were in tears, and many of the men gulped hard.

Next week Miss King will appear at the new Bronx Theatre. No greater proof were needed to demonstrate Mr. Percy G. Williams' high plans for the patrons of that house.

TIMES.

HETTY KING SCORES IN IMPERSONATIONS.

Hetty King, the well-known English male impersonator, heads the bill at the Colonial this week in her speciality. Miss King is the most beautiful and youthful of the many artists in her line who have appeared here, and in the numerous and varied characters which she portrays displays a remarkable ability for detail in this difficult style of characterisation.

BUFFALO COURIER.

HETTY KING GREAT FAVOURITE WITH SHEA GOERS.

Hetty King fairly charmed Shea goers at both performances yesterday, and as a regular Beau Brummel sort of male impersonator she is extremely good. For half an hour at Shea's Theatre she gave a dashing and entertaining series of impersonations, with appropriate accompanying songs, and she made a great and lasting hit. It was her first appearance here, and the cordiality of her welcome was encouraging for the dainty and clever young woman. Miss King's first impersonation, that of a jolly seaside youth, was accompanied by the rendition of a rollicking song, "Beside the Seaside." Another hit was as a tipsy young fellow singing "In the Park." A semi-dramatic recitative song entitled "My Birthday" was cleverly given, the song being about a young chap rejoicing over his twenty-first birthday and interrupted in his revelry by the receipt of a letter from his father announcing his financial ruin. The melancholy aspect of the act is increased by a telephone message announcing the suicide of the father, the story ending with the youth being bowed down and overwhelmed with sorrow and disappointment. Miss King acted the part in fine style, and for an enthusiastic encore responded by appearing as a gay young sailor, dancing a hornpipe with variations and singing a tuneful number entitled "Going Away," one of her favourite songs and very catchy. Miss King wears masculine clothes very effectively as well as naturally, and her peculiarly "London Johnny" style and swing proved quite captivating.

NEW YORK CLIPPER.

HETTY KING.

Unquestionably Hetty King, who re-appeared in New York at the Colonial last week, after a two years' absence, is the greatest male impersonator now in this country. Miss King first looked across the footlights of a theatre on old Broadway at the New York in the fall of 1907, when the Klaw and Erlanger "advanced vaudeville" reigned at that house. She was received with open arms then, but her present act is vastly superior to the one she gave at the New York, and it seems that her art has improved in the two years that have intervened.

A slim, dapper "boy" is Hetty King, dressed in the pink of fashion, and wearing her masculine attire like a pet of the drawing-room. She acts her songs with a keen appreciation of every word in them and an intelligence in bringing forth this meaning that lets nothing escape. "My Birthday" and "Beside the Seaside" were two of her new repertory, the former being an exceptionally effective number. Miss King's graceful, pretty dancing is still a feature of her act. She was a tremendous favourite at the Colonial, and her return engagement in America should be much more successful than her first visit. About thirty minutes were taken up on the full stage.

TORONTO PRESS.

ENGLISH COMEDIENNE MAKES A BIG HIT ON HER FIRST APPEARANCE HERE.

Hetty King, the English music-hall artist, famed the world over as one of the best male impersonators on the stage, heads this week's bill at Shea's. She wears men's clothes in a style that does credit to her smart London tailor.

Miss King sings after the London music-hall manner; she dances exceedingly well; she changes her walk as completely as she does her costume; and her material is new.

CHICAGO INTER OCEAN.

Hetty King, the graceful, charming, and keenly-humorous impersonator, is at the Majestic this week. She is dressed elegantly, has capital songs, and has made one of the most definite hits of the year at the Majestic. She is to-day the greatest and most fascinating woman in American vaudeville.

Sole Agents: TOM SHAW & CO.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

[As Good Friday occurs next week, it is most important that our Correspondents should send their copy so that it reaches us not later than the first post on Wednesday.]

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company are here with *A Daughter of the Sea*. Mr. Lewis Gilbert ably depicts the villainy of Mark Glensdale; Miss Florrie Green is an excellent Sunshine; Mr. Sutton Taylor a very successful Sir Maxwell Brentwood; Miss Mattie Everette a vivacious Mollie; and as Ken Moreland Mr. Roy Denham is well placed. Mr. Geo. P. Greatrex is seen to advantage as Captain Ben Morrison; and Mr. Cyril Craven is an excellent Jack Strong.

NEW EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Empire Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alfred H. Reid.—Clara Reid and John power, who top the bill here, are well received in their comedy act, *The Chambermaid*; Edward Caselli is a famous banjo virtuoso; Dora Dorris, a chic comedienne, and the Vanderbilts (Harry and Edith) also score well. The pictures afford much pleasure.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—In *Our Miss Gibbs*, this week's production, Mr. George Gregory gives a fine humorous study of Timothy Gibbs, and admirable support is supplied by Mr. Lionel Mackinder as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, Mr. Robert Nainby as Slithers, Miss Alice Pollard as the heroine, Miss Marie Wilson as Lady Bessie, and Miss Grace Wixon as the stately Duchess.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. — The Marvellous Craggs, in their latest acrobatic comedy sketch, *Billy*, provide the chief attraction. Other fine turns are contributed by the Soho Trio, in their charming vocal and dancing scena; Miss Arabella Allen, with her clever impersonations from Dickens; Four Royal Scots, talented vocalists and instrumentalists; Ambrose Thorne, a versatile light comedian; Earle and Melville (the Quarrelsome Pair), patter comedians and dancers; and Reg Beauchamp, an eccentric comedian with a "vast voice."

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Miss Florence Baines' excellent company opened here on Monday with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Madge Grey in the rôle of Mary Ellen Thompson creates continual hilarity; Miss Ruby Glyn acts with delicacy and refinement as Eva Lancashire; and Miss Mabelle Clinton is very successful as Bertha. Mr. Charles Williams plays in convincing style as John Higgins; Harry (his son) is capably portrayed by Mr. Sidney Dench, jun.; and Mr. Billy Brereton as the lawyer Herbert Fox is commendable. Mr. Alan Servington is an amusing Moses Goldberg; Mr. Lonnen Meadows makes the most of his opportunities as John Henry Thompson; and Mr. Charles Neilson shows considerable ability as Grant. Miss Fanny Olive was well suited as Mrs. Thompson, and Miss Alice Neilson merits praise as Bella. Various specialities are introduced, Miss Madge Grey obtaining a tremendous reception in her baby song, Mr. Chas. Neilson, violinist, being also warmly appreciated.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Accrington Garrick Amateur Dramatic Society is presenting *The Silver King* here in aid of the local charities.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Devil's Sunday* and *Sally in Our Alley* are presented by Mrs. John Lawson, who in both sketches achieves a success; Mrs. Lawson is ably seconded by Mr. Rene Owen, Misses Daphne Shaw, C. Williams, and Rutherby and Messrs. Horton Tree, Boon St. Josephs, John Cecil and Hamilton Sells. Splendid dressing and staging are features of both productions. Tom Jones delights with vocal numbers and Welsh humour; Beatrice McAdam proves herself a versatile instrumentalist; and Charles Harde as humorist and raconteur, and Miss Frances Buchanan, comedienne, complete the programme.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenters Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Crocker.—Exceptionally good is the selection of films shown this week at the Alexandra Picture Palace, Aldershot, and the pictures appeal to both old and young alike from beginning to end. Besides the pictures an acceptable turn is provided by Little Ivy Lea, who wins favour for a well-rendered coon song, but her greatest success in her second contribution, "Daddy," which she sings to her own 'cello accompaniment. Little Miss Lea is only just turned fourteen, but her execution is marvellous, and she undoubtedly has a good future before her. An amusing tale of a municipal office is told by a film, entitled The New Chief, while one continuous roar of laughter is produced by another film bearing the name of Foolshead Preaches Temperance.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—The capital programme presented here this week includes Her Great Mistake, Rescued From the Eagle's Nest, The Little Dog Clipper, Episode of the Races, A Chance Shot, Brave Lad's Reward, Life in Ceylon, Bobby and the Bad Shilling, General Buller at Aldershot, The Female Highwayman, Love Will Find a Way, The Lonely Trappers, and The Haunting Melody.

ASHINGTON. — MINERS' THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould. — Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company is paying a return visit in *A Life for a Life*. As Josh Harker Mr. Lester is excellent; Mr. Geo. D. Daiper as Kit Oswald makes a veritable hero; and Mr. Hugh Travers as Perdo Li Calci is particularly good. Miss Dorothy Riddell as Kate Evelyn is very clever, and as great a favourite as ever; Miss Lailah Davis as Eulalie and Wee Winnie Warden as Venetta, the baby detective, are entertaining. Capital comedy is in capable hands, Mr. Horace Buckley as Tim McCarthy and Miss Jennie Clare as Nancy Dorn being first class.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company is here for the week with *For Her Husband's Sake*, a domestic and romantic dramatised story in four acts. It tells the story of a true wife's devotion and self-sacrifice for a husband. Mr. Walter Domoney as Lieut. Jack Seymour, R.N., was the customary stage naval officer, the soul of honour, bluff and courageous; Mr. Millar Anderson shone conspicuously as the scoundrel, the tempter of women, Herbert Grey; Mr. Chas. Williams as Joseph Dene, a diamond merchant, did good work in character study; Mr. Cyril Jarvis finds ample scope for his abilities in depicting the mannerisms of the Yankee oil king, Abraham K. Silas; the Hibernian wit and humour of Terry O'Neil was well hit off by Mr. Raymond; and the Italian ne'er-do-well, Pietro, was portrayed in the customary mysterious, vicious, hot-tempered, and vengeful manner by Mr. Jack Mercer; Mr. W. Long imitated the foreign pose of the French hotel proprietor, Alphonse; Miss Josephine Richards as Marie Dene won sympathy; Miss Enid Ross as Estelle sustained with ability a very objectionable personage.

FIRST-CLASS LEADING ARTISTS

ALL LINES REQUIRED for work in high-class Cinematograph Studio just built and fitted with first-class accommodation for Ladies and Gentlemen. Only thoroughly experienced and known artists required. Those at present engaged at Theatres need not interfere with their present engagements.

Studio Hours, 10 to 4.

Reply in first instance, stating line and salary required, to

T. J. GOBBETT, c/o The Era.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The play at the Empire this week is entitled *Only a Little Boy*, written by Miss Florence E. Florence from a domestic incident in real life. The play has been very successful. The cast of character includes Miss Florence E. Florence, the authoress, in the character of June, very sympathetically portrayed; Miss Connie Meadows as Deborah must also be congratulated on her interpretation; as two boys, Billie and Tag, Miss Dot Forde and Miss Hettie Senior won the sympathy and applause of the audience. Mr. F. Marriott Watson as Bragstone stood out prominently as a notable in the cast; and Mr. Elton Morgan was good as Ambrose Pennington, a gamekeeper.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. E. Sims.—The pictures for the week include the fine sacred production *Belshazzar's Feast*. It is a striking representation of the dramatic event of the cryptic "writing on the wall." The German Zoo is a fine film, illustrating the collection of animals in the Zoological Gardens of the German capital. The Focori Troupe of Continental Acrobats are seen in picture, and The Diver's Wife is a very good drama. Humour is watched, of a laughable character, in Hero. The vaudeville turns are Horace Sade, in the dances of all nations; Cara Magda is a clever gymnast; and Alan Wright sings "A picture no artist can paint" (illustrated).

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Mr. Mark's programme for the week includes the romantic and moving story, The Treasure of Lole; A Child's Forgiveness, which touches a sympathetic chord; The Engineer's Romance, which also appeals to their humanity and better feelings. The vaudeville portion of the programme is exceptionally bright. Ivy, a little juvenile performer, is very good in song and dance, and a bright serio-comic singer is Miss Marie Frances.

THE PICTUREDROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The picture exhibitions here are interspersed with good variety talent. The turns have gradually become more and more a prime feature of late at the cinematograph halls. This week the engagement of the Gay Bohemians, under the direction of Mr. Tom Adshead, works an advance in this class of entertainment.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—A return to drama is made this week. Miss Hilda Beverley's company presenting *A Destroyer of Men*. Miss Beverley as Olga Mishla proves herself a powerful actress; Stephen Langton acts the part of Count Starevitch with considerable ability; a versatile artist is seen in the person of Stanley Pearson, who plays in no less than three parts; and Miss Mary Brammer as Vida Revel, Miss Dorothy Hildebrande as Nina Patacake, Mr. James Jarrett as Michael Mishla and Mr. Edward Keith as Coco are worthy of mention.

PICTURE PALACE.—Patrons are enjoying another attractive programme this week. The Galley Slave, Noel, The Dance of Fire, The Robbers of Fingall's Cave, Bear-hunting, and Lucretia are the principal films. By way of novelty, and also with the view of gaining recruits for the local "Terriers," special military pictures were shown on Wednesday evening.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Walters; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leigh.—Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor* opened to an enthusiastic audience on Monday. The principal boy is played exceedingly well by Miss Lilly Simmons, who gives impressions of Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, and Vesta Victoria; Miss Dolly Andrews makes a charming Princess Yanzora; and Captain Selim is in the hands of Miss Gladys May, her lover, Irza, being portrayed by Miss Kitty Russell. All the humorous parts are in capable hands, Messrs. Rand and O'Ryan being much in evidence by their smart dancing and clever patter; Dan Lyall as Tinbad is very funny, and cuts some peculiar capers; Mr. Shepherd (Mrs. Sinbad), Mr. Melville (Caliph of Bagdad), J. Riche as King Krusty Mug are all very good; the Three Eltons are a skilful trio of bar performers; Geo. Melville sings in a good treble voice, and is repeatedly encored.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Rocke's company appear in the stirring drama, *A Woman's Past*.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing Director, W. Smithson.—The Four Black Diamonds top the bill here with some clever glees; Geo. Payne's Wanderers include an excellent whistler; Elroy, the armless wonder, is a marvel; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard give a really amusing sketch; Zenary Bros. contribute a fine acrobatic turn; Ena Corelli, a little girl, shows great promise; Rolando Martin is a funny comedian, his patter being good; and Sam Williams causes much mirth.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. George Dance's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, is paying a return visit. Mr. Edmond Russell is a clever humorous Mr. Hook, and Mr. Fred Dark as Simon Slinks is also very funny. Miss Gertrude Melville is a dainty and captivating Miss Hook, and Mr. A. Ballance is a gallant Van Vuyt. Mr. W. Mansey does well as Captain Adrian Paap, and Miss Cissie Sephton as Mina is equally effective.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. and Mrs. Rice Cassidy's company is here in *A Beggar on Horseback*. As Seaweed Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy scores a great triumph, and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is successful as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh. Mr. Villiers Stanley does creditable work as Allen Armstrong, and Mr. Tom Roydon gives a good portrayal of the Duke Sergius Rubinoff. Miss A. Roscoe as the Countess Olgar and Miss Isabell Hunt as Maggie Bolton both do well.

TIVOLI—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Corman's Juveniles are the premier turn, with an admirable scena, cleverly done, and Bugler Carr is a first-class equilibrist; Señor Blanco and company are very good in a musical sketch; the Melroses are good in vocal numbers; Williams and Relma are very amusing with quaint patter; and Millie Lawrence sings nicely.

NEW HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Mr. Fred Newman and company are still drawing good houses with some capital animated pictures and first-class artists.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The theatre is closed this week excepting for the benefit performances which are taking place to-day (Saturday) for Mr. Lewis A. Long, the much-respected acting-manager.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Two comedians who are always sure of a warm welcome are Herbert Rule and Julian Mack, and though their styles are quite dissimilar their efforts to amuse are equally mirth-provoking. The female impersonations and make-up of Albert Letine are still a source of amazement to the audience. Les Piccolinos, a trio of midgets, perform many astonishing feats; Stiddar and Dunbar prove themselves to be a clever pair of musical comedy artists; Cavalli continues to raise much hilarity by his ventriloquial interlude; Maude Vera, a pleasing comedienne and dancer, is on a return visit. The Pictures are of the best.

BATLEY.—THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—Pantomime again rules here, Mr. and Mrs. John Walter's company being the attraction with *Robinson Crusoe*. Foremost in a strong band of comedians is Mr. Ally M. Benson, who, as Mrs. Crusoe, keeps the audience in continual laughter; Mr. Billie Bland as Billy Crusoe gives great assistance, and the two work well together; Mr. Tom Lewis gives a humorous interpretation of Will Atkins. The singing all round is exceptionally good. Miss Violet Thorn as the principal boy acts in a sprightly and vivacious manner, as also does the principal girl, Miss Kittie Liske. Miss Hilda Hemus as the Spirit of the Ocean has a delightful voice, and is deservedly encored; and Miss Kitty Chester should also be mentioned for her charming singing as Fairy Liberty. The scenery and dresses are smart and artistic. Specialities are introduced by Messrs. Dytum and Dale.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—A welcome return visit of *Dare-Devil Dorothy* is paid this week, the company being that of Mr. J. W. Cordiner. Miss Gertrude de Lacey plays the title-rôle in bright and breezy fashion; Miss Kathleen Stewart is a charming Ruth; and Miss Nellie Harcourt is good as Judith, her clog-dancing being exceptionally clever; Mr. James Salter is most amusing as Silas Crump; Mr. George A. Fox is a pleasing Captain Fielding; Mr. Robert Gilbert spares no effort to make Captain Dudley as unscrupulous as possible; and Mr. Francis Trevor provides a fine study of Hawkins.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann. — Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. H. Browning's company opened here on Monday in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Rutland Barrington appeared with much distinction as the Marquis of Steventon; and congratulations are due to Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, whose impersonation of Jack Frobisher would certainly be difficult to excel; Miss Gwendoline Hay's impersonation of Lady Alethea Frobisher is powerful; and to the rôle of Hankey Bannister full justice is done by Mr. Russell Barry; Mr. H. Browning appears to advantage as Harry Dallas; and Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd fills the rôle of Lady Westerby to perfection; Mr. Lambert Plummer is well suited as Bertram Hannaford; and Miss Hilda Sims is all that could possibly be desired as Lady Lucy Dereham.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Miss Grace Warner and company commenced on Monday the second week of their engagement here with *The Wages of Sin*. Miss Grace Warner was eminently successful as Ruth Hope, and Mr. George Gordon's impersonation of George Brand was characterised by undoubted cleverness. A powerful impersonation of Stephen Marler was furnished by Mr. Frank Esmond; and Mr. Roy Rhind as Harry Wentworth left nothing to be desired; capital character sketches of Jemima Bloggs and her daughter Julianna were furnished by Miss Florence M. Daly and Miss Lizzie Palmer; and the rôle of Josiah Deane was in the safe hands of Mr. Frank Hertie. Some humour was infused into the rôle of Ned Drummond by Mr. Louis Nanton; and Miss Edie Rutland was charming as Rose Deane.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is May Moore Duprez, the charming comedienne, who captivates all with her songs and dances. A pleasing return visit to this city is being paid by Mr. Jack Lorimer, the droll Scotch comedian; Hanvarr and Lee interest with their club-swinging, &c.; and Blake and Aruber make an unmistakable hit; Irve, Hayman, and company produce the sketch *Xmas Eve*; and Walker and Lake create much laughter with their up-to-date patter. Also here are Tony Freedman, comedian; Stella Stahl, comedienne and dancer; O'Hanlon Trio, who sing and dance in clever style.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Marie Kendall is the star here, and affords much pleasure with her catchy chorus songs; Victor's Juveniles appear in their vocal and dancing scena, which has been uproariously received; and the Two St. Johns are capital musical comedians and dancers; Miss Virginia Grant's vocal items gain her the heartiest applause; and the parodies of Frank Melvin are certainly amusing; Miss Odeyne Spark, a dashing comedienne with good songs, dances well; and also here are Sisters Hall, duettists and dancers; Gwennie Harcourt, low comedy artist; Steve McCarthy, comedian; and the bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A great array of pictures have been exhibited here this week, including the 2500ft. film representing the fight between Johnson and Ketchell for the heavy-weight championship of the world.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers. — Some beautiful films have been shown here, including Launcelot and Elaine, The Lady Detective, Rose of the Tenderloin, &c. Messrs. Heeley and Crawford, the society comedy duo, gain a capital reception at each performance.

BILSTON. — ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. A. L. Owen; Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Mr. Carr Loates's company is here with *At the World's Mercy*. Miss Cissie Milford is successful in the dual rôles of Kitty Knott and Skittles; Mr. Carr Loates is well placed as Jabez; and Mr. G. D. Knight does well as Morris Goldstein. The Alice Lloyd of Miss Margaret Butler is all that could be desired.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King. — The Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., commenced the second week of a highly-successful visit on Monday, when *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were presented to the delight of a crowded house. Mr. Albert Bowyer as Turiddu and Miss Grace Nicoll as Santuzza in the former opera, and Mr. Seth Hughes as Cannio and Miss Rosa O'Farrell as Nedda in the latter, acquitted themselves admirably in their respective impersonations. On succeeding evenings, *Tannhäuser*, *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Samson and Delilah*, and *Maritana* have also been produced, and the visit of the company may be noted as a great success.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—The popular comedian, Mr. George Lashwood, fresh from his triumphs in America, is the leading attraction here, and is received with the greatest enthusiasm in this, his first, appearance on his return from the States. The comedy bicycle act of Zanora and Berg goes well, and Miss Daisy Dormer, the clever comedienne, is a universal favourite. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde are society entertainers of unusual ability; and Belmore and De Velin, duettists, Pasquali Bros., smart acrobats, Will Musgrave, comedian, Miss Edith Fink, serio, Miss Lila Vesta, vocalist, Natalia and Diana, gymnasts, nd Brown's Royal Bioscope complete an excellent combination.

HIPPODROME. — Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is playing *Rogues of the Turf* on the two-houses-a-night system. Miss Beatrice Weston as Marion and Mr. Preston as Joe Flaxman are prominent in the course of a capital performance.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Redway.—In that delightful farce *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* Mr. Weedon Grossmith takes with droll seriousness a part that fits him admirably, and the audience laugh at his clever acting and the sheer absurdity of the situations. After Mr. Grossmith comes Miss Ruth Mackay with a fine and attractive reading of the character of the Countess. Other characters are ably represented by Miss Evelyn Kerry (Emma), Miss Lydia Rachel (Mrs. Sidgrave), Mr. Edward H. Wynne (Mr. Sidgrave), Mr. Murray Carson (Bounsail), Mr. Ronald Squire (the Earl of Rushmere), Mr. Edward Bonfield (the Hon. Robert Jennaway), Mr. Arthur B. Murray (the manservant), and Mr. Frank H. Denton (Saunders, a provincial dentist). The piece is preceded by a humorous playlet, entitled *A Ball or a Motor?*

PRINCE OF WALES'S. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. Charles Rann Kennedy, the author of *The Servant in the House*, is a Birmingham man, and this augments the interest manifested in its production here this week. The acting throughout is excellent, and warm praise is due to Mr. Matthew Boulton in the rôle of the servant Manson, his performance being very impressive; Mr. E. H. Patterson, with a clever study of the worldly bishop; Mr. Walter Gay, a capital vicar; Miss Nellie Hodson, the vicar's wife; Mr. Harry Parker as Brother Robert; Miss Laurie Flockton and Mr. Forrester Harvey. At the close Mr. Charles Macdona, the manager of the company, came forward and thanked the audience for their cordial reception of the play.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Other pantomimes are over, but *Aladdin* continues to occupy the stage, and justifiably. Last Friday over 400 members of the Rocket Club visited the theatre and spent a very happy evening. All the performers are in fine form, and Mr. Collingwood's "benefit" last evening (Friday) was an enormous success.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Hall Caine's popular drama *The Prodigal Son* is doing good business, being adequately presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company. Mr. S. Herbert Humber gives a powerful portrayal as Oscar Stephensson; and Mr. Hugh Montgomery as Magnus is very effective. Mr. Ernest Rivary does justice to the part of Stephen Magnusson, and Miss Barbara Gott gives a careful study of Anna, his wife. In the dual rôle of Thora and Elin Miss Elsie Wood scores effectively; and Miss Betty Castle as Helga acquits herself with credit. Miss Marie Harcourt and Mr. Philip Renouf also give capital assistance.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—A capital attraction has been secured in *East Lynne*. Miss Rose Ralph gives a capital study of Lady Isabel, and puts a wealth of feeling into the emotional situations; Mr. Hugh Carmichael is convincing as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Alfred Richards makes an interesting type of stage villain as Francis Levison. Mr. Fred Ingram as Lawyer Dill is an entertaining character; and other parts are cleverly represented by Miss Florence Lovell, Miss Lulu Bowes, and Miss Rosie Bruton.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. Martin Morris.—Crowded houses are enjoying the performances of the F. R. Benson Shakespearean company. The plays presented are *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Tempest*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *Twelfth Night*. The chief players are Miss Gladys Vanderzee, Miss Kate Turner, Miss Dorothy Radford, Mr. Robert Atkins, Mr. Charles Sparrow, and Mr. Henry Herbert. The staging is excellent, and the costumes and uniforms all that can be desired.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The enthralling situations in *The Drama of Life*, which is being presented by Mr. J. E. Barnes, are thoroughly appreciated by good houses. Mr. Lingford Carson earns much applause for powerful acting in the principal part, and Mr. Archie Helsby is also conspicuous for a clever portrayal of Walter Beech. Miss Pattie Hastings does well as Sylvia Beech, and Miss Doris Denville earns admiration for a juvenile study. Mr. Sidney C. Cranson and Miss Alice Oliver are responsible for refreshing humour, and other parts are well represented by Mr. Marshall Meade, Mr. George B. Davis, Mr. George Byrne, and Miss Beatrice Hudson.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams. — A strong dramatic sketch illustrating the evils of the opium habit constitutes the principal turn here this week. It is entitled *The Yellow Fang*. Miss Mary Mayfren is an actress above the average, and she is supported by a capable company. Nellie Wallace is a big favourite; the Kremo Family of acrobats perform exceptionally clever feats; the Elite Boys have some excellent harmonised numbers and pleasing dances; and "fun is fast and furious" while Tom and Marie Motramo, comedy artists, occupy the stage. Tom E. Hughes is exceedingly funny; the Villions are skilful cyclists and dancers; Beatty and Blanche are charming duettists; and Maudie Francis is a dainty juvenile comedienne.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, pays his first visit to this theatre, and he is packing the huge building at every performance. He is greeted with round upon round of applause, which is repeated at the finish of each song. Elliott can safely claim another triumph this week. W. J. Churchill has some good songs and is an expert mirth-maker; the Colini-Clairons, a troupe of Continental artistes, introduce some novel and artistic dances, which are a strong feature of the programme; Miss Edie Reynold's violin solos are beautifully rendered and greatly appreciated; Les Silas, French operatic artiste, sings selections from grand and light opera; Conan and Doyle are unable to appear, and good substitutes are found in Aubrey Fitzgerald and Miss Elizabeth Wieland in a humorous sketch, entitled *The Spider and the Fly*; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams have some pretty dances; and Keen and Waller and Doff Woolf complete a strong bill.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—A delightful comedy act, presented by Viviana and Company, depicts a quaint entertainment in a toyshop, and is hugely enjoyed by the audience. Ted and May Hopkins, a pair of jolly Welsh humorists, have a great reception in their bashful love scene, and provoke hearty laughter. Irene Rose is responsible for three pleasing songs in a scena, entitled *Her First Engagement*; Blanch and Zeyna are daring cyclists on a cup-shaped track, Burns and Bentley present a dancing speciality; Harley and Melton are smart comedians; the Stein Esthor Trio of hand jumpers are a clever combination; Harry Nelson is an amusing entertainer; and Mabelle May is popular in song and terpsichore.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—The appearance of John L. Sullivan was sufficient to ensure crowded audiences. A thoroughly enjoyable entertainment is provided by Emerson and Baldwin, American juggling comedians; Pitts and Gould appear in a dainty song and dance scena, entitled *Bachelor's Memories*. Iris Fox is a vivacious and popular comedian; the Sisters Wingrove are talented duettists and dancers; the Christie Duo are expert loose-legged dancers; Madison and Webb are entertaining in a humorous sketch, *My Husband*; Florrie Robina is a charming comedienne; and Hector and Lolletta are novel jugglers and equilibrists.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Leo Dryden in his character representations of Martin Harvey, George Alexander, and Beerbohm Tree is a big attraction, and he strikes a very popular note. A complete animal circus is presented by Carl and Mary Ohms; Captain Kettle keeps the audience in a merry mood by his quaint patter whilst performing sleight-of-hand feats; the Brothers Lavelle are amusing acrobats; Young and Evans are successful Hebrew comedians; Nan Farren has a good reception in chorus songs and dances; and Harry Taylor, comedian, Stevens and Brett, burlesque entertainers, and Gus Leonard, light comedian, are also well received.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—There is every indication that the new picture season opened here last week will prove a highly-successful venture. The two-houses-nightly system is highly appreciated, and the afternoon performances are well attended. Prominent on the programme this week are several good dramatic pictures, including For Sake of Conscience and How a Dog Saved the Flag, also a clever French comedy, None But the Brave Deserve the Fair. Miss Dora Kingsley delights audiences with her vocal contributions.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A number of splendid new films are exhibited this week, including The Custer's Last Stand, The Cowboy Millionaire, and Kidnapper and Rescuer, and these meet with popular approval. A good selection of humorous subjects provokes roars of laughter, and the programme is completed by clever turns by the Hayes Duo, in a laughable sketch, and Mabel Kington, ballad vocalist.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A delightful picture entertainment is thoroughly enjoyed by all visitors to this hall, the programme being remarkable for the novelty and excellence of the subjects. Tabloid dramas figure conspicuously, and the comic pictures are quite new. Vaudeville turns of a pleasing nature greatly enhance the entertainment.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Another successful pantomime here is Mr. Gilbert Payne's *The House that Jack Built*. Mr. Payne in the rôle of Sir Niggley Grabbs works hard, and meets with every success; the Dame Trot of Mr. Fred Fulton is in worthy hands; and Jossem and Jewon arouse a deal of excitement, thanks to Messrs. Lapham and Wallen. The title-rôle is exquisitely played by Miss Nellie Dyson, who is admirably assisted by Miss Fanny Adamson as Sunshine, both artists' songs being capitally rendered. Miss Ethel Errol is very good as Tommy Tucker, as also is Miss Hilda Deacon as Marjorie Daw. The Fairy is depicted by Miss Vera Kingdon in pleasing style. Effective scenery and a strong chorus are features of the cast. The Godfrey Girls are a trio of charming dancers.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi. — Two capital houses witnessed an entertaining performance on Monday. Mr. Arthur Lennard is the special attraction, his songs being enthusiastically received. The Four Janowskys do a clever acrobatic ladder act; Little Zola provokes much laughter; and a pleasing turn is that given by Mlle. Dora Martini, a capable gymnast. Mr. Bert Williams excels as a ventriloquist; Miss Lizzie Fletcher is a favourite comedienne; and the Adams cycle scena is highly satisfactory. Interesting films are shown on the Hipposcope.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. William Maclaren and company are paying another visit here with *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren acts the title-rôle with much impressiveness, and Almida is cleverly interpreted by Miss Lily C. Bandmann. The other parts are in able hands.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager Mr. Fred Waller.—Florrie Forde is singing her chorus songs here with great success; Maggie Bowman and Tom J. Morton contribute a really excellent turn, consisting of duologues and dances; Sam Redfern sings and patters as of yore; Vory is a wonder as a "rag painter"; Charles Norton gives a clever mimetic monologue entitled *Comedians at the Races*; Marie Terry and J. S. Bentley are smart dancers; Pongorilla is a clever gymnast; and Guest and New Lyn provide an entertaining turn of song and dance.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*The Flag Lieutenant*, presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's excellent company, is pronounced the greatest success of the present season. Mr. Ralph Roberts in the character of Dickie Lascelles gives a most natural and humorous impersonation, that won the hearty applause of the large audience; Mr. Mark Paton submits an admirable piece of acting as Sir Berkeley Wynne. The rendering of Major Thessiger by Mr. Frederick Leister could scarcely be improved upon; Mr. Edward Mervyn is worthy of every praise as Surgeon Walter Crutchley; Mr. Stanley Groome and Mr. Guy Lanham as the Midshipmen are a lively couple; Mr. Lloyd Pilgrim wins much favour as Colonel McLeod; Miss Mabel Rees is all that could be desired as Mrs. Cameron; Miss Rita Johnson makes a brilliant Lady Wynne; Miss Rosalind Ross gives prominence to the part of Lady Dugdale; and Miss Una Venning is seen to advantage as Viola Hood.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. B. Cardwell's pantomime *The House that Jack Built* is being well received. Miss Daisy Wood and Miss Dolly Dodds give clever impersonations of Jack and Jill; Miss Isa Wilson is a sweet Fairy Twinkle Star; Misses Marie Lumberg and Jenny Marsden act prettily as Colin and Gretchen; much humour is created by Jimmy Watson as Aunt Purdy; Mr. H. Hillerby as Squire Bunce, Messrs. Graham and Barron as Scraggs and Scraggles, and Messrs. J. Harrison and Paddy Sloan as Pils and Squills. Specialities are introduced by the Forget-Me-Not Trio, Graham and Barron, Jimmy Watson, and a very clever child actress, Miss Peggy McDonnall.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. Fred Karno's company

presenting her less experienced sister, Nora. Mr. Mollison's Dick Crawford is a convincing performance of restrained force, and Miss Hughes also has excellent support from Mr. Henry Deas as her lover Dan Mallory, Mr. F. A. Marston as Patrick O'Brien, Miss Josephine Woodward as Mrs. O'Brien, and Miss Mabel Durrant as Sylvia Simpson, the show girl. The play (which contains many novel features) is very finely staged. *A Breezy Morning*, capitally played by Miss Vron-Neville, and Mr. H. Neville, precedes.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Once again Mr. G. M. Pohini and Austin Melford's capable company, with the time-honoured drama *The Silver King* affords endless pleasure to the lovers of good fare, the play being staged with the usual excellence. Mr. Fred D. Davis presents a very fine emotional and well-studied performance of Wilfred Denver, and Miss Mildred Surrey wins unbounded sympathy with her impressive acting as Nelly Denver. Mr. Sidney Lynn's conception of the character of Captain Skinner (the Spider) is clever; the faithful Dan'l Jaikes is still in the capable hands of Mr. E. J. George; Mr. A. Wright is capital as the oily scoundrel Coombe; and the remaining important characters in the cast are filled with great credit by Messrs. W. Leslie Ellis, A. H. Warburton, and Percy Stone, and by Miss Mary Glangrane and Miss Hilda Bateman.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Daisy Jerome is remarkably versatile, combining vocalism and dancing with humour and vivacity, which quite wins her audience; and in a scena, *The Deputy*, Annie Schuberth, the charming soprano, fresh from her pantomime triumphs here, elicits great applause; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, on a return visit with their clever and humorous sketch *Charlie's Visit*, are well received; Henry Helme, "the French Alpine vocalist," has a voice of great power; Kerr and Koe submit some amusing patter and dancing; the Four Regals present a picturesque act, *The Armourers*, in which they accomplish novel and extraordinary feats of strength; Fred Barnes, light comedian, sings capital songs in good style; Billy, the educated pony, is a remarkable example of animal training; in a humorous sketch *The Bo'sun's Mate*, T. B. Vaughan and John Lawson's company elicit laughter; and there are some entertaining pictures shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Syd Walker and his assistants are responsible here this week for much hearty laughter in a funny sketch, *A Debt Collector*; in a sporting scena, *From the Time of the Crusaders*, the Crosit Trio of French acrobats do excellent work; Ada Fawn, comedienne, of recent pantomime fame here, is received with hearty marks of approbation; in a clever comedy sketch, *The Fire Station*, the Fimans are successful; "Dreamland" is an entertaining vocal scena given by L. B. Athol; Crosby and Walker, as "Jocular Hon Boys," are amusing; Ted Curtis and Piccs are good comedy artists; and the Sisters Rivers, duettists and dancers, complete the bill, in which the Palace Perfection Pictures are a feature.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Proprietors, the Albert Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Martin Manley. This week the fare is very excellent—pictures by the New Century Picture Co. There are some very interesting films shown, both humorous and dramatic. In the Sultan's Power, The Hungry Child, Romeo Turns Brigand, Sexton Blake, Tales of a Wayside Inn, The Old City of Ostia, The Corsican's Revenge, Drowsy Dick's Dream, A Vendean Rebel, The Gentleman Thief, The Baldheaded Corporal, and a few others make up the programme.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here with *Her Forbidden Marriage*, which is admirably staged. Mr. Louis Hector gives a manly and popular impersonation of George Maddison; Miss Alice Bowes makes a graceful and charming Lucy; Mr. W. H. Porter is forcible and convincing as the villainous Char.es Devereux; Miss Grace Lester is excellent as the scheming Lady Lucretia; Mr. Frank Denis acquits himself admirably as Sir George Lancaster; Miss Gladys Newcombe imparts sympathy to her enactment of the Mother Superior; and much fun is provided by Mr. Fred De Vere as Timothy Tuttutt and Miss Sybil Hare as Patty Lovejoy.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Madame Holt's Juvenile Follies dance and sing themselves into high favour; the Lewin Martel Duo are excellent xylophone players; Carlisle and Walker are entertaining with quip, song, and story; Alice Maple is a pleasing serio-comedienne and graceful dancer; Clivetto, dancing juggler, is distinctly original; George Antill, comedian, merits praise; Marie Lord is a charming comedienne; Teddy Rutland, comedian, is well received; Racpo is diverting with "reckless silence and fun"; Mundell and Maude, and Hylder Tremaine and company are appreciated in comedy turns.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Maidie Scott, comedienne, gives a delightful turn which is enthusiastically appreciated; Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, also wins very hearty applause; Mlle. Yetta is a clever wire dancer; Harry Taft, comedian, is well received; Bert Errol displays a phenomenal voice with pleasing effect; Fred. Russell, ventriloquial humorist, achieves his customary success; the Great Lumars are skilful acrobats; Ernest Rees is a droll comedian; the Derrington Family are sensational cyclists; and Alan Holt and company are completely successful in the exciting piece, *A Society Woman*.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. Arthur Shelton and Horace Lingard's company opened here on Monday with *Fanny and the Servant Problem*. Miss Beatrice Morean submitted a clever portrayal of Fanny; Mr. Horace Lingard merits high praise for his enactment of the pompous butler, Martin Bennet; Mr. Wilfred Compton was distinctly effective as George Newle; Mr. Russell Davis as Lord Bantock and Mr. Roland Hope as Dr. Freemantle were admirably suited; Miss Rita Sponti and Miss Miriam Holt appeared with much success as Lord Bantock's warm-hearted spinster aunts. The programme for the week also included Sardou's *Divorçons*.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—A fine series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Story of a Western Cowboy is drama full of exciting and daring scenes; The Spanish Girl is a love drama; and stirring stories are conveyed by The Bookmaker's Revenge and A Tale of the Sea. The amusing pictures include Gibson Goddess, Baby's Bet, Magic Melody, and the Late Guest. Mr. Osland Denver contributes baritone songs in finished style; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits praise for his pianoforte accompaniments.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's principal company is here in the Drury Lane success *Marriages of Mayfair*, the play being admirably staged. Miss Naomi Neilson presents an excellent exposition of Bess Bissett; Miss Mildred Cottell is sufficiently dignified as Lady Margaret Villiers; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse makes a good character study of Mrs. Bissett; Miss Aimee Gratton-Clyndes is effective as Lily de Mario; and Miss Conyers-Radcliffe is a pleasing Dorothy Gore. Mr. Paul Beckett presents a fine sinister study of Jim Callender; Mr. Sidney Rensef acts consistently as Lord Adolphus Villiers; Mr. Frank Cleugh is effective as Nigel Villiers; Mr. Duncan Yarrow plays earnestly as Dudley Gore; and the remaining parts are all carefully undertaken.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Messrs. Faulkner and De Courtsey's company is here with *The Sins of the Fathers*, which is well staged. Miss Edith Blande acts with much power as Camille Le Blanc; Mr. Max Coutts is effective as Sebastian Brandt; Mr. A. W. Thompson acts carefully as Mr. Harmsworth; Mr. Victor Howard plays with expression as George Armitage; Mr. Will Simpson gives a good characterisation of Deuteronomy Smith; and Miss Ethel Wynne Matthews is pleasingly effective as Ethel Harmsworth. The comic parts of Polly Popplethwaite and Jimmy are capitally undertaken by Miss Dolly West-Symes and Mr. Edward King.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Tarro Miyake, stated to be the champion ju-jitsu wrestler of the world, presents a fine exposition of self-defence and wrestling in Japanese style, assisted by Taka, one of the instructors to the British Navy. The Gothams excel as harmonisers, and put in some comic business; Edwin Garth amuses with song and patter; Shrillo is a clever whistler; Bi-Bo-Bi does an acceptable eccentric musical turn; Len Hale is an expert roller skater; Frank White, coloured comedian and dancer, obtains applause; Lisbon and Barker, comedians, are successful; Vesta and Minnie Pine amuse with a golf sketch, &c.; and animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—George Robey heads the bill here, and obtains every mark of appreciation. Daisy Lloyd Wood, from the Prince's pantomime, has a very cordial reception; Siegel and Fields entertain with an interlude of piano playing and dancing; Frank Dunlop, from the Royal pantomime, amuses with song and patter; the Merry Marvels successfully present an instrumental and dancing act; "My Fancy" is warmly applauded for her expert sand dancing; Ida Barr, actress-vocalist, presents a very pleasing turn; Marie Jones, assisted by Ernest Munro, scores with her lightning change comedy playlet *Wanted, a Co-Respondent*; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures. Thursday's matinée was for the benefit of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, under the patronage and presence of the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the High Sheriff, and Mrs. Riseley.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh had a good house on Monday, when much appreciation was shown of the acting of *With Edged Tools*. Jocelyn Gordon was admirably played by Miss Marie Leonhard; Mr. Hamilton Deane was capital as the hero, Jack Meredith; Mr. J. D. Geddes was a dignified Sir John Meredith; the villain, Victor Durnovo was capably portrayed by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid; Miss Marguerite Cellier ably sustained the part of Millicent Chyne. Mr. Henry Nunn as Guy Oscard, Mr. Albert Campbell as Maurice Gordon. Miss Florence Dulhunty as Marie also did good work. The scenery was effective.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—There is presented here this week a delightful drama, *Little Phil's Mother*, and good houses are the rule. Miss Florence Dalton does good work in the difficult rôle of Elspeth; Little Gertie Renaud gives a pathetic study of Phil; Miss Maud Russell is well fitted for the part of Ruth Towers; and Mr. Percy Ballard proves himself a clever actor as Frank Towers. The element of humour is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Thorne.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The musical element predominates in the programme here. First place is occupied by A. U. Mackinnon's Scottish Comedy Quartette, harmonising vocalists, in "Ancestral Spirits"; Mendel, the blind pianist, performs remarkable feats of memory, and contributes brilliant solos; Alma at the piano is a humorous turn with a laughing song; and Cliff and Kean in a vocal comedy dancing act are smart. Horace Jones is good with song and patter, and Florence and Rose Showell, duettists, have excellent voices. Palermo is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The chief attraction here is Tsohin Maa and his band of Chunchuses, mountebanks, conjurers, &c., whose conjuring and wonderful feats bring forth rounds of applause; Mona Garrick contributes clever character impersonations; Wallace Whitney is a robust comedian with good jokes; George Lawrence is a taking light comedian; Rooke Rorke and company make a capital impression with *The Prince's Love Affair*; and another attractive turn is provided by Mlle. Dalmere's table circus with performing rabbits and cats. Beattie Foster, comedienne, is good; and the Rosses, comedians and dancers, and the Palace pictures complete.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ede Hague Body.—Through the kindly assistance of Mr. Dudley Bennett, Mr. Dan Thomas, whose properties had been destroyed at Crewe, was enabled to produce his pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, this week. In the title-rôle Miss Daisy Yates was a decided success; Miss Olive West (Alice) also did well, and was responsible for some graceful dancing; Mlle. Lilian's capital contralto voice was heard to advantage in the songs allotted to the Fairy Queen; Mr. Dan Thomas (Betsy) was a host in himself, originality being a distinct feature of his clever performance; his assistant comedians, Mr. J. Harris (Jack) and Mr. H. G. Lydon (Fitzwarren) are also exceedingly funny. Dick's feline friend is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Pete Almonte.

BURY (Lancs).—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is paying another visit with *The Merry Widow*, which is attracting large and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Fred Leslie is a magnificent Danilo, and Miss Phyllis Le Grand scores a big success as Sonia, her singing being of a high order. The remaining characters are ably played by Mr. Edward D'Arcy, who makes a quaint Popoff, Mr. Ripley Evans as Jolidon, Mr Fred Fowler as Nisch, Mr. William Alison as Marquis de Cascada, Mr. H. Gordon Sherry as M. de St. Brioche; Miss Katie May as Frou-Frou; Miss Winnie Bailey as Olga; Miss Heather Featherstone as Sylvane, and Miss Ada Thomas a charming Natalie. The mounting is excellent.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Four Miovskys, in comic acrobatic and musical act are a good top turn; other acceptable items are provided by George Norton, in comedy act; Vardon, ventriloquist; Harry Kimberley, comedian; Penstone and Sango, vaudeville artists; Victor and Louis, in comedy sketch, *Golfer and the Caddie*; Three Favourites, burlesque artists; and Paul Corrix, in Herculean speciality act.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—An interesting and varied series of films is on view, and variety turns are provided by Rose Tilley, comedienne, and George Edney, descriptive vocalist.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here with *A Thief in the Night*. Mr. Leyton Chancellor as Michael Pagani makes an excellent villain; Ivan Escombe is well played by Miss Margery Fane; Mr. Hugh Wallace is satisfactory as Lord Romilly; Mrs. Russell Bogue makes a good character-sketch of Crake; Miss Beatrice Homer acts effectively as Sonia Cleeve; Miss Louie Worden, Miss Prudence Ayrton, and Miss Mysie Moule give capital interpretations.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford. — Theatregoers here welcome a return visit of Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *A White Man*. Mr. Guy Hastings, in the rôle of Captain James Wynnegate, submits a delineation that stamps him as an actor of ripe experience; Miss Kathleen Mande's interpretation of Lady Kerhill is particularly charming and graceful; Miss Hilda Barita's Nat-u-rich acts with infinite credit; Mr. R. A. Brandon (Big Bill), Mr. Gerald Valentine (Shorty), Mr. Alex Munroe (Andy), and Mr. Jay Ellis (Grouchy) all give remarkably clever expositions; Mr. Eric Hudson is well remembered for his skilful and genuine character acting as the Indian chief Tab-y-wena; Mr. Frank Mayo stands out clearly in a big cast for his excellent portrayal of Cash Hawkins; Mr. Ray Raymond as the Sheriff, Mr. Charles Maunsell as Lord Kerhill, and Miss Nora Nagle as Little Hall all do exceptionally well.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll: Acting-manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—L'Incognita again charms her audience with her wonderful voice, and prolonged and spontaneous applause is accorded this great soprano; La Sylphe is equally entrancing in her three classical dances; Phil Percival has a comical burlesque on Sexton Blake; Winifred Ward appears in a couple of songs; *The Casey Army*, as presented by Ernest Cadle's company of humorous impersonator, is a droll knockabout performance; George Rae's Scotch song is supplemented by a capital dance; the Jackley Trio prove the best comedy acrobats imaginable, the whistling proclivities of George, the page, being an important feature; Walter Wade, a mimetic comedian, submits some capital vocalism; and the Bioscope proves unusually interesting.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay. *Can a Woman be Good?* is the title of the exciting drama presented at the Royal by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Blanche St. Albans proves a graceful exponent of Esther Howard; Miss Florence Hunt as Naomi Merrick is powerful; a pathetic rendition of Magdala Fawcett is provided by Miss Lilian Earle; Mr. J. Millone as Manuel Errington does well; Mr. H. C. Robinson as Herod Steinburg is well placed; Mr. J. G. Maine as Cairns and Mr. J. Archer as Starman submit clever impersonations; and Mr. J. R. Tyrrell (Curley Dabbs) and Miss Winifred Barton (Slithers) provide excellent comedy.

Palace Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—At the head of a talented and varied programme are appearing the Max Tourbillon Troupe (three ladies and three gentlemen) of clever bicycle acrobats; *Motoring* by Harry Tate's No. 1 company is not new to Cardiff audiences, but this extremely farcical sketch never fails to cause considerable laughter; Madge Allan wins special commendation for a pleasing and clever dance. Others who contribute are Ryder Slone, comedian; the Dartons, harmonising duettists; Walter Barrett, baritone; Ray Royal, with illustrated songs.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Charles Windemere's company opened here on Monday in the farcical comedy *Where is William?*. Mr. Windemere as Sir Wm. Gregory was irresistibly funny, and he was well supported by Mr. Rule Pyott, whose Jolley was a thoroughly humorous performance; Mr. Chas. R. Francis made the most of his opportunities as the juvenile, and he had a graceful and clever partner in Miss Cakra Mannafield. As the burglar Mr. G. L. Buxton was quite successful; Mr. Leslie Norman as General Rubbub contributed a character sketch which kept the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Bella Donaldson was delightful as Lady Gregory; Eliza in the clever hands of Miss Zoe Davis was very much appreciated; and Miss May Rosine as the wife of Jolley added greatly to the success.

New Public Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon, Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—Her Terrible Ordeal is a strong dramatic picture, and appeals to the public taste. The Egyptian is a fine piece of colour cinematography. Helen's Suitor's and a host of other capital films are much appreciated.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. W. V. Garrod and his capital company are paying a visit with *Are You the Man?* the play being well mounted. Mr. W. V. Garrod gives a telling impersonation as Capt. Jack Beaumont; Joshua Beaumont is carefully and earnestly played by Mr. Chas. Halling; Miss Bertha Kingston proves herself a fine emotional actress as Lilian Brandon, and plays throughout in a natural and charming manner; Sidney Beaumont has a capital exponent in Mr. William Bradford, who plays the villain with much distinction; Miss Ethel Crawford is decidedly good as Flo Dalton, acting throughout in a capable manner; as Solomon Moss Mr. Frank Dallas is most amusing; Miss Alice Clark makes a sprightly and vivacious Jennie Wagstaffe; Private Tom Hopkins finds a capable representative in Mr. Seymour Perry; and Mr. Owen Redmonde brings out to the full the quaint humours of P.C. Banks.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Burley and Burley head the bill here as comedians and finger-balancers, and their business is mirth-provoking; Harry Elliston and company, in a laughable sketch *Aunt Matilda*, is hugely enjoyed; St. Ruth and Conyers are dainty and charming vocalists; the singing and dancing of Lil O'Gorman is deservedly applauded. Other contributions to a good programme are Wills and Warlock, comedians and dancers; Fred Spencer, expressionist comedian; the Primrose Quartette of vocalists; Geo. Le West, ventriloquist; and Elsa and Max Arbra.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. O. Redford.—This week Messrs. W. H. Hallett and Walter Howard's principal company is here with *Her Love Against the World*, Mr. Fred Emery (Earl of Strathmore) is a manly hero; the villain, Prince Ulric, is a consistent study in the hands of Mr. Oswald Gray; Miss Elsie Roberts as the Princess Iris is interesting; and other parts are admirably played by Messrs. H. W. Hallett, Hy. Hallett, and C. R. Hann.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—An excellent variety show is the attraction this week. The Martialo Trio give their astounding juggling and balancing act; Mollie Edwards is a comedienne and vocalist of distinction; Jan B. Vaubert a smart and novel illusionist; The Unites provoke much amusement in their comedy act; and the Brothers Leo are good comedians. Ada Tilley, Harold Wagner and company present a well-acted sketch entitled *A Call to Arms*; Dan Hendy proves an acceptable acrobatic comedian; and the Harvard Sextette earn well-deserved applause by their novel vaudeville act. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes the bill.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard.—The principal item on a good bill of fare is sustained this week by Carlo and Maie Trio, in their comedy acrobatic and wire pot-pourri act entitled *Fun on the Lawn*; Jack Belton and Minnie Osborne are lively in their Scotch and Irish tit-bits, duets, and dancing; the Lawsons provide an amusing turn of singing, dialogue, and mimicry; Jack Allison is an expert dancer; and Will Penn, character comedian, and a dramatic picture on the Bioscope are other attractions.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's *Cingalee* company opened well on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Florence Watson sang delightfully, encores being numerous; Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram was particularly droll; Mr. Arthur Cartwright was excellent as Harry, his voice being nicely modulated; Mr. F. W. Ford as peppery Sir Peter made excellent use of his opportunities; the parts of Bobby and Boobhamba were in the capable hands of Mr. Scott Cullen and Mr. Douglas Munro; Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy acted throughout with gaiety and vivacity; Miss Pauline Hague was excellent as Lady Patricia; and as the dancer Miss Sadie Thompson was highly efficient.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moullot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben De Frece. The films this week are attractive. The top of the bill is Miss Alice Hoodless, in her art poses; Taree, the musical Australian bushman, is a novel turn; Marco gives a very good exhibition of coin manipulating and sleight of hand; Dalvere and Wallace, comedians, work assiduously as entertainers; Bobbie Burns appears as a Scotch comedian, and Cissie Fredericks as a ballad vocalist.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—*The Gay Gordons* is being presented here under the direction of Mr. W. A. Seymour. Agnes Graeme is exceedingly well played by Mr. Stafford Dickens; Andrew Quainton is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. Wentworth; Mr. Stanley Maude is well suited as Corporal Smith; Mr. Arthur Woolley is an effective Archibald Speedy; and as Jack MacPrisky Mr. Robert MacGregor is excellent; Miss May Yates as Peggy Quainton is charming and dainty, and as Mary McLeod Miss Leah Howard is good; Mr. Sidney Burt as Nervy Nat and Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Charlotte Siddons keep the house in roars, while Miss Ruby Louis as Victoria Siddons excels.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett. — *Brewster's Millions* is presented here by Mr. Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's company. Mr. Percy Hutchison as Monty Brewster is a most jovial spendthrift; Miss Cicely Stuckey a charming Peggy; Miss Lilias Earle a most successful Mrs. Dan de Mille; Mr. Frank Hill a clever Rawles; and Miss Meta Raye is seen to advantage in the part of Janice Armstrong.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—A packed audience on Monday welcomed the reappearance of Mr. Harry Roxbury and his talented company in their sketch *On the Track*; Mr. Roxbury as Archibald Longfellow keeps the house in roars of laughter; the whole of the company are real artists. The Cattaneo troupe of acrobats perform difficult feats; the Cromwells' juggling act deserves great praise; the Silvester Trio of dancers and vocalists are very smart; Morrin and Cardiff are good comedians and dancers; Miss Amy Sullivan gives a couple of songs in excellent style, and her dancing is dainty. Other contributors to the programme are Rene Challis, comedienne; and Mr. Arthur Reece, light comedian, the programme concluding with a good set of pictures.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Roland Daniel; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Leigh Lovel's company is here this week with a répertoire of Ibsen's plays, the bill including *A Doll's House*, *Rosmerholm*, *Hedda Gabler*, and *When the Dead Awaken*. In the first-named on Monday Miss Octavia Kenmore acted with skill and judgment in the rôle of Nora Helmer; Miss Katherine Maynard was good as Mrs. Linden; praise is due to Misses Daisy Race and Gladys Everard as Ellen and Anna; Mr. Leigh Lovel was seen to advantage as Torvald Helmer; Mr. Kenneth Black was commendable in the part of Dr. Rank; and Mr. Arthur McCulloch was adequate as Nils Krogstadt. Mr W. Chalder's direction of the hard-working orchestra is worthy of special mention.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Louis Taylor and company are great in the weird sketch *The Adder's Tooth*; the Dandies win applause with songs and dances; Joe Elvin is as quaint as ever in *Billy's Money Box*; Fioretti and Elly give a marvellous spade and barrel act; Effie White is well received in kaleidoscope dances; the Florence Troupe of singers and dancers are first rate; Maud and Sydney Wood give an exquisite dancing scena; Harry Pleon excels himself in a burlesque on *The Bad Girl of the Family*; Ella Retford is a great favourite in her latest songs and dances; J. P. Ling is capital in a vocal comedy act; Alice Edwards, male impersonator, deserves a word; and the Bioscope pictures are worth seeing.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. George Dance's company is here with the delightful musical comedy *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Effie Vincent is a charming Miss Gibbs; Mr. S. Radcliffe makes the most of the part of Lord Eynesford; Mr. Eustace Burnaby is capital in the part of Hon. Hugh Pierrepoint; Mr. J. P. Durant acquits himself well as Smithers; Miss Lillian Birtles as Lady Thanet shows to advantage in her singing and acting; Miss Ellaline Thorne plays well the part of Mlle. Jeanne; and Miss Amy Singleton as the Duchess is smart and funny.

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Mark Sheridan tops the bill here, and is most exhilarating in his comedy; Margit and Lener give a clever show in their act *Wet Paint*; Hilda De Grey sings sweetly; and other good turns are Yost and York, the military boys; Rose and Challoner, the porter and the singer; Hemsley and Ambrose, in *The Fatal Rehearsal*; Gerhardi Mohr, jumper; and the Hipnoscope pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—At the top of a good variety bill is the Dayton Family in *Le Rendezvous*, an acrobatic turn which wins applause; the Three Milfords are clever artists on the trapeze; Will and Roze create laughter in their comedy act, *Le Café Magique*; the Sisters Ellen, musical and dancing experts, are appreciated; the Spanish Armadas provide a sensational tight-rope performance; Harry Keeble gives a clever ventriloquial sketch; Louise Dott and Jack Williams are clever juvenile vocalists and sand dancers; and Gladys Wells is a charming contralto vocalist. Interesting films on the bioscope conclude.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Custer's Last Stand, Cruiser in a Rough Sea, The Mexican's Revenge, and Jenkins Joins the Police are among the best of the films shown here. Phil Herman, comedian; Ethel Brailsford, vocalist; and Will Sullivan, patter comedian, also appear.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company is here with *The Dollar Princess*. In the title-rôle Miss Norah Barry scores a hit, and sings her various numbers in a most charming manner; the part of Freddy Fairfax is very capably undertaken by Mr. Alec Worcester; Mr. Leslie Holland displays his abilities to the full as the American millionaire; and Mr. Sidney Lyndon is a manly Earl of Quorn; as Bulger Mr. W. H. Rawlins keeps the house in continuous laughter, and his songs are as well rendered as they are well received. As Olga, Miss Madeline Seymour acts and sings delightfully; Miss Peggy Primrose is to be congratulated upon her impersonation of Daisy; and Mr. Willie Warde and Mr. Hugh Henson as Sir James Macgregor and Dick both deserve high praise.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—Reano and his band are here; Maud Elliston and company find ample scope for their talents in an absurdity entitled *Dobson's Day Off*; the Kahns are a trio of first-class illusionists; John Henry, Welsh basso, scores a success; Dunning, as a ventriloquist, provides a smart turn; Lambert and Hands appear to advantage in a vocal scena; the Three Warners, lady whirlwind dancers, do much that is entertaining; and George Rapley, comedian, with song and patter, is in every way amusing. Special mention should be made of May Clark, whose contralto songs are thoroughly appreciated. The bioscope, with a humorous film, winds up a well-chosen programme.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Chanti, quick-change artist, forms a fine star attraction; Miss Burley and the Funny Little Man are responsible for an excellent tumbling act; the Misses Courtney and Flo Wilton provide an entertaining musical comedy duologue entitled *A Marble Flirtation*; the Foresters are seen to advantage in a fascinating dramatic tabloid named *A Society Sinner*; and Archie Pitt is a first-rate comedian. The other contributors, Vi Laurie and N. Delmar, render material assistance to the programme.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—In the well-known musical pantomimic comedy *The Swiss Express* the Brothers Renard are ably supported by their original company of comedians, pantomimists, knockabouts, vocalists, and dancers. It is one of the drollest pieces ever seen in Devonport.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs. Geo. A. de Grey's and Harry Masterman's company is presenting here *The Angel of His Dreams*. Mr. De Grey himself is an admirable Rev. Christian Esdale; Miss Effie Bartlett in the part of Hilda Revelle is interesting; Major Ferrars is played in convincing style by Mr. Wallace Campbell; Mr. Robert Hall as Roy Ferrars is responsible for well-studied acting; Miss Edna Earl is an interesting Milly St. Austin; Mr Charles Arnold an excellent Sir Francis Tregarthen; Little Doris Brereton plays Lulu with conspicuous ability; and Bessie Sparkles and Sam Trippett are humorously presented by Miss Etta Turner and Mr. Mayo Stanley.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. B. and G. W. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Jan Rudenyi is the star here this week in *The Power of Music*; John Grün Marx, "the modern Hercules," performs surprising feats of strength; Juno Salmo is a wonderful contortionist; and a novel jumping act, submitted by Charles Wilson, is well received. Carl Lynn, animal mimic, causes much laughter; Wyllie, the tramp musician, goes well; and Harry Bancroft, actor and chorus vocalist, is also a success. John Partington, the singing mill lad, Emmie Ames, comedienne, and a display of animated pictures, complete.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—The principal variety item is supplied here this week by Minnie Olive and Bob Owen, who appear very successfully in a musical comedietta, *Wayside Tinkers*; Willard's Merry Mannikins, an excellent marionette show, is accorded a good reception; Arthur Harris, actor-vocalist, sings a couple of songs in fine style; Lew Towers is a capable vocalist; the Raymond Trio are responsible for a good musical and dancing act; Tom Yorke, character comedian, is smart; Lucy Lynd, "the lassie from Lancashire," goes well; and interesting films are shown on the Harriscope.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd. — Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Frederick Melville's drama, *Married to the Wrong Man*, is rapturously received here. Jack Gladwin, the hero, receives a vigorous impersonation from Mr. Henry Lonsdale; and Mr. George Arthur, in the rôle of Captain Deering, is exceedingly clever. Mr. Syd Claydon is a piquant comedian; Archie Bird is convincingly portrayed by Mr. K. Marius St John; as the heroine, Miss Mary Pemberton's enactment is thrillingly human and impressive; Miss May Day makes a great success of Dolly Fritter. The scenery is thoroughly effective.

DOVER.—Royal Hippodrome.—An exceptionally strong bill is at the Royal this week, and includes May Lilian Levey, a clever male impersonator, in good songs; Lydia Dreams provides an excellent ventriloquial entertainment; C. H. Charlton completely mystifies the audience in a conjuring turn; Kenneth and Kane appear in the latest success, "Oh, oh, oh!" and Bains and company are warmly applauded for their knockabout turn. Violet Romaine is a charming chorus vocalist; and Edna James, comedienne, is very popular.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Miss Horniman's company is here, under the direction of Mr. B. Iden Payne, in a series of plays. On Monday *The Silver Box* attracted a capital house, and the play was admirably acted. Mr. Basil Dean sustained the part of Jack Barthwick effectively, and Mr. Ian Maclaren was most successful as Jones. Mr. Muriel Pratt did good work in the character of Wheeler; Miss Ada King gave a very efficient reading of Mrs. Jones; the part of John Barthwick, M.P., was in the able hands of Mr. Stanley Drewitt; and Mrs. Barthwick was cleverly presented by Miss Darragh. Miss Hilda Bruce Potter acted impressively as the Unknown Lady, and as Mrs. Seddon Miss Louise Holbrook filled the rôle in a perfect manner. Mr. Charles Bibby displayed his abilities excellently as the Detective Snow. The remaining parts were well portrayed. *Widowers' Houses*, *Before the Dawn*, and *Candida* are also in the week's bill.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fre'k. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—This is the concluding week of the present Hippodrome season. Miss Margaret Cooper as an entertainer proves herself most accomplished; the McLelland Carson Duo gives a good exhibition of trick and fancy roller-skating; the Selbit Mystery is interesting and amusing; Edward Crossland's Melody Makers provide a capital musical act; Austen Temple, magician, Sam Elton, comedian, and W. H. Webb and Edna Branston, duettists, also appear.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Here we have Miss Gwynne Warren and Co., in the farcical sketch *The Lodger*, well played by Miss Gwynne Warren, Mr. Fred Lloyd, and Mr. Herbert Glenville. Miss Dora Kinsella is heartily appreciated for her songs and dances; Keenan and Foy prove

Russell; Mr. Sidney Crowe shows to advantage in the part of Wanda Lubinoff; and Miss Netta Mitchell gives a sympathetic performance of Nadine Strogoff.

PALACE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—There is no falling off in the popularity of the B.B. pictures here, and Monday night's large audiences at both houses were delighted with the varied and interesting programme presented. One of the best films is The Honour of His Family, in which a colonel's son shows cowardice on the field of battle, and at a terrible price the old soldier keeps the honour of the family unsullied. Other pictures include A Terrible Punishment, The Adventurers, A Day with Boy Scouts, Playing Truant, The Drunkard's Child, &c., while the talking and singing picture Mona proves a popular item.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—A capital picture programme is submitted this week, and gives much satisfaction to large and appreciative audiences.

NEWMAN'S PICTURE PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Mr. Newman's programme is, as usual, an excellent one, and includes all that is newest and best in the film line, the clear manner in which the pictures are shown adding much to their enjoyment.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—*Folly's Fortune* is being presented here this week by Miss Maude Western's company. Miss Western as Folly Vaughan and Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd are highly successful in their respective parts; Misses Maudie Lambert, Ada Hender, and Nellie Lambert, and Messrs. John Levey, James Willoughby, William May, Laurie Lawrence, and Walter Buckstone help the general success. The singing of the Folly's Male Voice Prize Glee Party is much appreciated. The piece is well staged.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The principal turn of a good programme is Ted Karno and Company's sketch *Hotel de Quick*, which creates roars of laughter; in a whistling scena Arthur Slater worthily receives a hearty welcome; and the Cecilias, lady instrumentalists, are much appreciated; Fred Gibbon and Marie Bell are encored for a smart acrobatic contortionist act; Johnny Dwyer, in capital form, proves a favourite; Sterling and Casher rouse laughter and are expert dancers; and Hal Crousette scores as an actor-vocalist. The Cathedoscope shows an Anarchical Plot.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Miss Madge Crichton and company are appearing here in *The Artfulness of Ada*. Miss Crichton as Ada Byron Bruce is delightfully natural, bright, and charming; Mrs. Glynne is played with much cleverness by Miss Valerie Crespin; Miss Kate Kearney does good work as Mrs. Googlie; and Miss Ethel Hart gives satisfaction as Lucy; Mr. Frank Tennant displays refinement and much ability as the romantic actor, Byron-Bruce; Mr. Arthur Armfield is a calm and easy-going Jopling; Mr. Alick Chumley is an individual Tom; Mr. J. F. Knowles a good Fred; Mr. S. B. Farbridge an energetic Governor, and Miss Nellie Shirley a quietly effective McClosky. *Auld Robin Gray* precedes, and is well played. On Thursday afternoon Mr. George Alexander and his company were billed to appear in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here are the Ellesmere Troupe of cyclists—two ladies and two gentlemen—who are both daring and smart; Mr. James Stewart, the quaintly humorous and clever tramp at the piano, is again a great favourite; Messrs. Brayne and Lloyd return to achieve much success with the funny sketch, *Tree of Truth*; Peter Pan patters amusingly, and displays looseness in a legmania act; Mr. Billy French is a capital dancer; the Fitzroys have a very pleasing trapeze speciality; new pictures are shown, and Mr. Jay Barrie, comedian, and Miss Lelia Russell, comedienne, complete the bill.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—We are being favoured with another return visit of the Raynor répertoire company, who have proved such an attraction in the past. The plays for this week are *Moths*, *Jim the Penman*, and *David Garrick*. In the first-named Mr. Rayner as Lord Jura repeated his previous successes, the same remark applying to Mr. Clinton Baddeley as Prince Sergius Zouroff. Mr. Milton C. Curtis as the Duke of Mull and Cantire acted in a thoroughly artistic manner; Raphael de Corrèze had a capable exponent in Mr. Conrad Heywood; Miss Cecilia Dare as the Duchess de Sonnaz is to be complimented on her impersonation; and Miss Dora Dench as Vere Herbert also proved herself a thoroughly accomplished and painstaking actress. The part of Lady Dolly Vanderdecken was in the hands of Miss Frances Waring, who made the most of her opportunities.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened a fortnight's engagement here on Monday with *Samson and Delilah*, not hitherto heard in Edinburgh, and the interest in the production was evidenced by a crowded house. Mme. Zelie de Lussan created a great impression as Delilah, which she interpreted both vocally and dramatically with consummate art; Mr. Joseph O'Mara sang and acted with artistic spirit and effectiveness in the rôle of Samson; Mr. Charles Magrath was suitably fitted with the part of the old Hebrew; and Mr. William Dever made a dignified High Priest; while Mr. Charles Moorhouse did well as Abimelech. *Tannhäuser* was presented on Tuesday, with Mme. Fanny Moody as Elizabeth, Mr. O'Mara as the hero, Mr. Magrath as the Landgrave, Mr Lewys James as Wolfram, and Miss Kate Anderson as Venus. With this excellent cast, and the chorus augmented by the Edinburgh Grand Opera Society, a thoroughly successful rendering of this popular work was secured. *Samson and Delilah* was repeated on Wednesday. Miss Bessie Weir and Mr. Philip Brozel taking the name-parts with gratifying success. *Faust*, on Thursday, gave Mme de Vere Sapio and Mr. Charles Manners an opportunity of pleasing their many friends and admirers, and on Friday the second great attraction of the week was found in the production of *La Tosca*, with Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. O'Mara in the leading rôles; Puccini's work being preceded by *Maitre Seiler*, in which Miss Raymonde Amy and Mr. Seth Hughes appeared. A matinée performance of *Samson and Delilah*, and *The Bohemian Girl* in the evening of Saturday, Miss Anderson and Mr. Manners taking the rôles of Arline and Devilshoof, completed an excellent programme for the opening week, during which the untiring efforts of the conductors have received well-merited appreciation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Lewis Carroll's books, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" have given pleasure to hundreds of thousands of young readers, and a large audience filled the Theatre Royal on Monday, when a company under the direction of Mr. H. Cecil Beryl began a week's engagement with an adaptation of the two stories. The clever child, Miss Ivy Sawyer, as Alice, displayed in acting, singing, and dancing not only remarkable intelligence, but a finish that would have done no discredit to an actress of riper growth. Mr. Franklyn Vernon was very droll as the Mad Hatter; and the amusing business of Mr. Roland Henry and Mr. Tom Grattan as the Gryphon and the Mock Turtle and as Tweedledee and Tweedledum caused shouts of laughter; Miss Iris Damon as the Queen of Hearts and the White Queen acted with appropriate vigour, and Miss Girlie Le Claire as the Cheshire Cat played with admirable discretion; Mr. Dan Leno, jun., as the Caterpillar and the Red King revealed much of the paternal ability as a dancer, and the First Fairy and the Lily, as acted by Miss Ada Danks, were very sweet and graceful. The piece was mounted with conspicuous taste.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—An admirable programme here is headed by Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese illusionist, whose feats of sleight-of-hand are as bewildering as they are smartly executed; Miss Amelie de l'Enclos sings with admirable expression and vocal power, and is loudly applauded; Miss Emma Don, fashionably attired in good taste, gives proof of much ability as a male impersonator in her vocal scena, "On the Thames Embankment"; the Sisters St. Julian are capable duettists and dancers, and Queen and Le Brun excite immense laughter by their amusing sketch, *The Cockney Huntsman*; Mr. Rossi Ashton, a clever artist, draws with rapidity and executive ability pictures to illustrate popular songs; the Brothers Bright are seen in a dashing athletic turn, in which the performers display extraordinary strength; Jakio, a Japanese mimic, imitates with notable fidelity various familiar sounds; and Mr. Tom Lloyd, comedian, Mr. W. Fullbrook and company in an absurdity entitled *Astronomy*, and pictures by the Bioscope complete the bill.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Muscard.—Mr. Nelson Jackson delights his audiences with a fund of song and story rendered in the happiest style; the Three Sisters Sprightly contribute a characteristically animated and agreeable series of burlesques; the "Vampire Dance," executed by Miss Mildred Deverez, assisted by Tom Terris, is weirdly effective; and Miss Iris Banfield, favourably known as the principal boy in a recent pantomime, has a cordial reception; the Four Eugenes supply an admirable turn of aerial gymnastics; El Tampico's Mexican Troubadours win much approval in their musical and dancing act; Duncan and Brasque appear successfully in a duologue entitled *A Society Butterfly*; Robins and Collier create diversion in *The Lady and the Porter* sketch; a noval and thrilling display on a steel wire is presented by the Great Albas; and Will Mitcham shows considerable skill as a vocal and instrumental comedian.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Negro Burglar is the outstanding picture in this week's programme, and represents a robbery in which one thief turns upon another in a moment of remorse. The Robbers of Fingal's Creek gives the opportunity for some fine water-effects; and the Indian Wife's Devotion is a dramatically-told story. An Alpine film shows a beautiful series of mountain scenery; and there are good humorous pictures besides. Mr. Dave Summerhill, Scotch comedian, makes a successful appearance.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Buried Alive, On the Reef, and The Sins of the Fathers are all powerful and interesting subjects in the programme here. Servant and Master and Pudding-Back Pincher are pictures of a humorous nature, which serve their purpose of eliciting uproarious laughter from the audience. Ellene and Rose and Rose D'Aulby (a pleasing vocalist) contribute turns in the variety portion of the entertainment.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. A. Austin-Leigh's modern stock company entered upon the last week of their season here on Monday, when *Trilby* was presented. In the difficult rôle of Svengali Mr. A. Austin-Leigh was seen at his best; Miss Kathryn Collier in the name-part quickly won the hearts of her audience; Mr. Wallis Clark was a capital Little Billee; Messrs. J. B. Fox and Gerard Wynne being excellent as Taffy and Sandy respectively; Mr. Ernest Bodkin made an admirable Gecko; Mr. Walter Bannister an interesting Zou-Zou; and Miss Emmie O'Reilly a successful Mme. Vinard.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—The Ten Loonies, in their highly-amusing and original musical sketch, *Dotty*, head the bill here; Mlle. Tudora introduces her educated ponies; the Lashmars, a comic couple, win popularity; Yolande Noble has some up-to-date numbers; Blair and Allen contribute a smart vocal and dancing act; another popular number being that of the Birkenhead Family, a juvenile troupe.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. H. Leslie Bell's pantomime *Cinderella* has been the attraction at the Grand this week. Miss Winifred makes a charming Prince, and is well supported by Miss Lilly Pearl in the title-part, and by the other principals. The comedians are a strong feature of the production, and include Yost and Yost and Lew Towers, who contribute some clever speciality business in conjunction with the Kitina Dancing Girls.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A welcome visit of Mr. John E. Watson's company in *The New Boy* is attracting well. The title rôle is effectively played by Mr. F. G. Thurstans; Dr. Candy has a capable exponent in Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood acts well as Felix Roach; Mr. Alfred Field Fisher is a humorous Theodore; and as Bullock Major Mr. Leo Lilly is all that can be desired; Miss Phyllis Manners is excellent as Mrs. Rennick; Miss Evelyn Ormonde is a charming and dainty Nancy; and Miss Vera Wallace and Mr. H. F. Wildy are quite good in the little they have to do as Susan and Mr. Stubber respectively. The play is preceded by Mr. Alfred Field Fisher in a humorous sketch, entitled *An Afternoon Call*.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Lewers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The variety company consists of the Two Walonells, acrobats, Miss Daisy Reed, comedienne and speciality dancer, Miss Ethel Colyer, skipping-rope dancer, Leslie Campbell, comedian, and Mr. Edward Jose, who, supported by his company, gives an interesting and clever dramatic sketch entitled *The Strike*.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—The "star" here is Signor Arvi, who, with the Metabliscope, presents some very artistic illusions; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers provide an enjoyable turn; Cole and Rags, eccentric jugglers, have several new gags, which never fail to raise a laugh; one of the most successful items on the list is Horace White's ventriloquial turn; Ted Cowan is a quaint comedian; Miss May B. Brilliant is praised for two daintily rendered songs; Dainty Dolly Clyffe, child comedienne, and the Kingscope are also attractive lines.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, in *His Real Wife*, is here. Mr. J. W. Evelyn is seen to advantage as the farmer Martin Avondale; Mr. Clifford Rean ably sustains the part of Herbert Barton; an excellent Colombe is done by Mr. Chas. Yorke; the comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. T. Edward Ward as Simon Bletherell and Miss Clarrie Yandall as Betty Tuttlebee; and Miss Ward gives a fine impersonation of Rose Avondale.

GLASGOW.—GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company commenced a two weeks' engagement on Monday with an admirable performance of *Carmen*, under the direction of Mr. Walter Van Noorden. Miss Doris Woodall took the title-rôle, and once again charmed her many admirers here with her vivid portrayal of the wayward gipsy; Mr. E. C. Hedmondt was in excellent voice, and carried through the tenor part in brilliant style; the Escamillo of Mr. Hebden Foster was a dashing performance; Miss Beatrice Miranda was the Micaela, and sang with great purity and grace; the parts of Zuniga and Morales were adequately represented by Mr. Alexander Richard and Mr. Frank Rowe; Mr. Frederick Clendon made a very good Dancairo; Mr. Wm. O'Connor was amusing as Remendado; the parts of Frasquita (Miss Elizabeth Pridham) and Mercedes (Miss Marion Broom) were also fittingly filled. On Tuesday Verdi's tragic opera *Destiny* (*La Forza del Destino*) was given for the first time in Scotland, and proved a triumph for Miss Gertrude Vania and Mr. Walter Wheatley, whose singing in the principal parts was worthy of the highest praise; Mr. Frederick Clendon, Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. Arthur Winckworth, and Miss Douglas Wilson sustained the other leading characters. Mr. Eugene Goossens conducted. *Lohengrin*, *Marriage of Figaro*, *Fidelio*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Il Trovatore* complete the week.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Herbert Vere's company is here in the historic drama *Napoleon the Great*. The principal part is in the hands of Mr. Vere, who gives a dignified and artistic portrayal of the character. He has the able support of Miss Kate Walfred as Marie Walewska, a part for which she is eminently suited. Mr. Charles H. Lincoln, Mr. Vivian Charles, Mr. Charles Brandon, Mr. Frederick Biron, Mr. George Millard, and Miss Nancy Roberts have a great deal to do with the success of the production. The staging of the piece is excellent and the dresses and uniforms in complete harmony.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Frank Lindo and his company are presenting the romantic play *Love, the Conqueror*. Brian Norval is effectively played by Mr. Frank Lindo, who brings to bear upon his portrayal experience and ability. As Beatrice Mortimer Miss Marion Wakeford acts with grace and refinement; Mr. Leonard Laurence cleverly sustains the part of the vengeful Count Leon Lascelles, and Mr. Sidney Dench fills the rôle of Sir John Mortimer with signal success; to the character of William of Orange Mr. Eric S. Crowther brings a dognity of bearing and demeanour; laughter greets Mr. Bert Dench as Peter, and in conjunction with Miss Helene Thomson as Susan Shortly he keeps the ball of merriment rolling; Mr. Morton Shields (Captain Armadale), Miss Nellie Benson (Dame Norval), and Mr. Harry Belford (And. Albertee), all play their respective parts with credit.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager Mr. J. H. Oakden.—A good house witnessed the initial performance here of *The Eyes of the World*, produced by Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company. From the opening scene the interest is never allowed to flag, and Miss Ethel Van Praagh, who enacted Helene de l'Orme, the wronged wife, had to respond to recalls at the end of each act; Mr. J. Edward Whitty as M. Achille Fanfarade divided the honour of supplying the humorous element with Miss Nellie Garside as Mlle Susanne Pomfleure, a most vivacious lady; Mr. Charles O'Connor, in the ungracious part of M. Hector de l'Orme, carried himself well until retribution overtook him at the hands of the injured husband; Mr. Fred Bentley as M. Gaston de Carnac proved his capabilities, more especially in the final scene when confronted with his wife's guilt; Miss Flora Hastings as Mme. Esme de Carnac looked and spoke the part well; Mr. A. Wilson Wynne as Octave and Miss Elsie Capell as Avice played the youthful lovers to perfection; and Mr. R. Wilton Bedford as M. Paul Roqueville gave a finished study. Mr. Harold Forde acted Brigard (an old servant) as to the manner born. The play was admirably staged in every detail.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The star turn here this week is Miss Evie Greene, who gives delightfully varied selections from her extensive repertoire; Elsie Roby, dressed as a slavey, actively sings and dances to her own piano accompaniment; Sammy Shields vividly portrays the excitement and humour of the football field; Thora, who poses as a lady ventriloquist, has a dummy page, who sings very pleasantly; Gertie Gitana is a great favourite, and uses her fine voice effectively, being also a graceful dancer; Rich and Rich keep the fun going with witty patter; Sam Mayo's quaintly quiet humour is highly infectious; the Bros. O'Brien do some feats both graceful and daring on the trapeze; G. W. Hunter, comedian and raconteur, Cumminger and Colonna, sand dancers, &c., with the American Bioscope complete a pleasing bill.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—Arthur Prince, the nautical ventriloquist, with his amusing dummy, causes roars of laughter; Maude Mortimer is again popular with her well-rendered songs; Harry Ford scores in his new songs; Harriet Vernon gives a clever song-scena; Katie Butler is a comedienne of much originality; and a lively sketch, *The Editor's Imp*, affords numerous opportunities for Reg Bolton, of which he takes full advantage. The O'Gorman Bros. in a smart turn, Leslie Race, vocal comedian, and Arthur Croxon in an enjoyable item, complete.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Jack and Evelyn, in their latest act, *Introductions*, create a favourable impression; another member of the O'Connor family, Tim, a younger brother to Jack and Evelyn, has quite a flattering reception for his dancing; that quaint comedy couple Ross and Grayson are much appreciated; Lily Lonsdale is possessed of a capital voice, of which she makes the best use; Ernie Myers is always amusing with his patter; good eccentric work is got through by the Boriskis; the Sisters Terry can always be relied on to put forward a good turn; Dave Carter sings Irish songs with much acceptance; Amy Russell is most successful in the numbers which she contributes; in a musical act W. McNally proves himself master of the dulcimer; and the Palacescope films conclude.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Pleasing variety is lent to a grand picture show by a couple of good variety turns, Sabino, the musical marvel, who delighted the patrons with an entertaining performance on various instruments, and Miss Marie Leslie, descriptive vocalist, in an illustrated Scotch song. The pictures are all new, and, as usual, judiciously selected. The travel subjects—Pekin and its Environs, Scenes in Morocco, and Winnipeg, the World's Wheat Centre—are really interesting and educative. The Biblical series is The Life of Moses. Romance is represented by A Daughter of the Sioux, The Lost Jewel, and The Highlander's Defiance. Fun is provided by Life in the Next Century, The Hero, How a Bad-Tempered Man was Cured, and The Professor and the Cats. The talking and singing picture is a fine one, entitled The Whistler and His Girl. Thursday being St. Patrick's Day, the programme for that evening was distinctly Irish in character.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Neil Kenyon, after his long panto season at the Grand, is starring here, and contributing those realistic little sketches of life in Dunrobin in his own inimitable style. Herbert Sleath's company appear in a thrilling playlet, *The Deputy Sheriff*, which is well acted; Tom Costello renders several good songs in his best manner; Heeley and Meely, the American knockabouts, contribute an enjoyable turn; Lily Burnand once more proves a favourite; the Tan-Kwai troupe of acrobats perform some novel and daring feats; Jean and Josie are a couple of clever contortionists.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The Bros. Starr are responsible for a most enjoyable turn, both vocal and dancing; Daisy Dashwood proves a favourite with her catchy songs; Jack Rameay the versatile Scot keeps his audiences in good humour; Alf Vivian's contributions are received with appreciation; Flo Du Barrie's impersonations are good; and the Bioscope films are instructive and amusing.

BOSTOCK'S JUNGLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank E. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Harry E Tudor.—This capital entertainment is still attracting large crowds of both old and young, and the excellent zoological collection provides an opportunity of spending a very pleasant and instructive afternoon or evening. The arenic performances are all par excellence. M. Gaillard, lion trainer, is to be complimented on his great skill and tact in training the animals to such perfection; Mme. Morelli, the Queen of Jaguars, does a unique performance; Scholz, with his human brained elephant Blondin, is marvellous and most amusing. A number of very amusing interludes are sandwiched between the more serious and exciting turns, while the side shows form a strong source of attraction.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL AND PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Topping the bill is the fine film illustrating Alexander Dumas' famous novel, "Monte Cristo." Other pictures include The Electric Hotel, Saved by a Gipsy, A Romance of Old Madrid, and Birdie in Search of a Husband. Pleasing variety is given by the Lafrasers, in clever singing, dancing, and patter; Miss Evie Hamilton is a charming soubrette and dancer; and Mr. Ernest Wybert is amusing.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—A return to the "legitimate" has now been made here, and a clever and talented company opened with *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy invests the part of John Durham with deep interest, and the Hon. Reginald Steighton in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Leigh is most effective. Lord Mountfallon is excellently enacted by Mr. William Calvert, and Mr. Charles Wemyss as Mr. Vallerton is eminently satisfactory. Mrs. Durham is impressively portrayed by Miss Nellie Bonser, and a dignified Lady Mountfallon is presented by Miss Francis Wolviston. The Hon. Margaret Steighton is charmingly enacted by Miss Dorrie Turner, and the same remark applies to Miss Florence Tressilian as Helen Vallerton. Mr. Frank Elton as Arthur Walcombe and Mr. W. F. Chitherow as Ben Versteen appear to advantage; and other characters are well played by Mr. Sydney Bancroft as Mr. Mintborough, Mr. Chas. Phipps as Mr. Lubenham, Mr. John Hartt, Mr. Geo. Lake, Mr. Eric Wynne, and Mr. Bert Gunter.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—At the top of the bill is Phil Terris, eccentric comedian, who creates much laughter; Harry and Maud score with their duologue; Marie D'Alcourt is popular with her pleasing songs; the Mannikins give an amusing dancing and singing turn; and the up-to-date pictures by the Monarchscope complete a good bill.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Messrs. J. Willard and company appear in the clever dramatic sketch *The Ace of Hearts*, which finds much favour; Zeta Russell is a bright and vivacious comedienne and dancer; Dan Fraser is a good Scotch comedian; the Baynhams, comedy musical artists, are extremely good; Renee Leyton is well styled the ideal singer of chorus and songs; Bertini, piper and campanologist, is well received for his musical act; and Cash and Clair, comedians and dancers, are a decidedly smart pair.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*Judith, the Woman Who Sinned*, is being presented here by Miss Augusta Tullock's company. Miss Tullock's impersonation of Judith is a particularly good one, and Mr. Edward Vivian as Jack Carrington is also responsible for a clever portrayal. Mr. J. Thornley makes the most of the adventurer's rôle, Eugene Darville; and as Silas Norris Mr. William Kirk displays ability. Sergeant Jones is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Harry King; and Miss Rose Watson as Mrs. Jones does well.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—*A Concert Rehearsal*, presented by Lady Mansel's Juveniles, is assigned the premier position, and affords delight; Craig, Roze, and Craig, in their gymnastic act, are very clever; Ray, Miles, and Ray are expert comedy jugglers; Edgar Forrest and company, in *My Friend, the Enemy*, are responsible for hearty laughter; Sophie, a popular little artist, sings and dances well; and others entertaining are Barrie Gilmour, acrobatic comedian, and Jeanie MacIntyre, vocalist; while the Dromoscope shows an interesting series of pictures.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The principal picture shown here this week is The Heart of a Cowboy, which proves highly attractive. The Lyons Mail is also one that appeals to the dramatic instinct of the audience. The comic element is abundant in Foolshead's Crime, Pals, and Accompanied on the Tom-tom. Other pictures are Cozette, The Postman, and Love's Triumph. In the Evening by the Moonlight is given on the Cinephone.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Woman in the Case* is presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath. Miss Winifred Pearson realises in vivid fashion the notorious Claire Foster; Miss Kathleen Russell gives a portrayal of Margaret Rolf that is full of womanly tenderness; Mr. William Kershaw represents Julian Rolf with marked success; Mr. James Lindsay puts in some vigorous and convincing acting in the fine part of Thompson, the lawyer; and others responsible for good work are Mr. Paul Wynter as Jimmy O'Neil, Mr. Sydney Palfrey as Louis Klauffsky, and Miss Mary Griffiths as Mrs. Hughes.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The bewildering illusions presented by Rameses are occasioning much interest; the act is especially well staged; Adam Tomlinson is a comedian with a rich fund of really good stories which he tells with excellent effect; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls give an attractive singing and dancing speciality; Hampton and Bauman are a pair of talented coloured artists who sing and dance well; the Austral Trio combine in pleasing style vocal and instrumental music with comedy; Hendrick and Laura sing well and accomplish smart eccentric dancing; and Harriet Rose is a successful comedienne.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessee, Mr. Matt. Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—An impressively dramatic picture is the Silent Watches of the Night, whilst the Western Maid is also a subject of much interest; other good films include the Fireman's Wedding, the King Opening Parliament, and an ample budget of comic subjects.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week the boards are held by Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in *The Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. Alec Forbes as Tom Cooper is forcible; Mr. Bert Ellis is sufficiently villainous as George Benson; Mr. Byron Douglass is an effective Abe Nathan; Mr. R. C. Carlton a capable Arkwright; and Mr. C. Allister is satisfactory as Jim Farren; Miss Viola March cleverly hits off the character of Biddy Roonan, and Miss Nellie Murray cleverly sustains the parts of Annie and Nellie.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. George Dance's company is here with *Our Miss Gibbs*. Mr. Tom Shelford infuses into the part of the Hon. Hughie a refined humour that is infectious; Mr. E. Darrell makes a capital Earl of St. Ives; Mr. J. E. Stevenson is a realistic crook as Slithers; Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs simply bubbles over with fun; Miss Gladys Ivery is clever as the wilful Lady Elizabeth; Miss Nancy Hervyn is good as Madame Jeanne; Miss Winifred Knightly makes a good Duchess; Miss Jennie Richards is well placed as Mrs. Farquhar; and Miss Kathleen Courtney is a fascinating Mary Gibbs.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Cassie Walmer, eccentric comedienne and dancer, is renewing former triumphs; the Millwards, smart acrobats, introduce quaint bits of humour; the Geni Family, as risley performers, meet with overwhelming applause; May Poulton is an attractive comedienne; Fred Lincoln, character comedian, is very amusing; and Bert E. Edwards, silleur and raconteur; Fyne and Hurley, comedians; and a couple of excellent pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Cheebert's Royal Imperial Chinese present a clever acrobatic and conjuring entertainment; the Howard Collinson Trio are responsible for an excellent turn, with *A Bit of Dresden China*; Zellini is a clever comedy juggler; Slippere, the blind musician, provides an entertaining turn; the Three Langfords are dancers of exceptional ability; and J. H. Ellis, comedian; Gladys Revell, chorus comedienne; and the pictures complete.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Frank Elliston and company, in a clever little playlet *Long Live the King*, tops the bill here, and proves popular; Fred Carr and Ada Rose are accorded a good reception in their vocal scena, "After a Night Out"; Lily Edwards is a dainty comedienne with a personality of her own; Harry Levaine is droll in the extreme; Alik Lukos, vocalist and quick-change artist, is distinctly clever in his mimicry; the Five Whiteleys are a smart troupe of acrobats, who introduce some clever wire walking; George Hirste, Scotch comedian; and Mary and Skila, Scotch entertainers; together with the Bioscope conclude an excellent programme.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *The Earl and the Girl*, is this week attracting fine houses. The chorus is magnificently dressed (in Act 2 in Chantecler costumes). Mr. Bert Beswick is capital as Jim Cheese; Mr. H. St. John is successful as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Francis Rayne plays the Hon. Boodle in refreshing style; Mr. S. Lysons as Downham is good; Mr. J. M. East as Bunker Bliss is praiseworthy; and Mr. A. Cassidy, Mr. J. W. Woodbridge, and Mr. G. St. Oude play with success. Miss Lily Gullick is a charming Liza Shoddam; Miss Blanche Astley a delightful Daisy; and Miss Beatrice Hayden as Mrs. Shimmering Black and Miss Anton Laign as Virginia Bliss are well placed.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The chief turn here is Miss Clarice Mayne, a most enchanting lady. The Westbrooks, in a scena, *Two Little Maids*; Las Manolas Gaditana, in an Andalusian gipsy scene; Jack Barker, in *The Birthday Party*; Holden's wonderful mannikins, with a clever Salome dance; J. W. Rickaby, in character eccentricity; the Athos Troupe of acrobats; and the Grand pictures are the other attractions of a fine bill.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Keith Kenneth's company occupied the theatre in the military play *The Woman of Kronstadt*. Mr. Bernard Copping as Captain Zassulic made an acceptable hero; Mr. Kenneth as Colonel Bonza was acceptable; Mr. Lionel West was an excellent Bassett Holmer; Miss Betty Fairfax a clever Marion Best; and Miss Edith Vogne a dignified Princess Mary, Miss Rosamund Thompson as Mme. de Bellegrande did well.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is here with *The Best People*. Mr. Henry Watson takes the part of the Hon. Gerald Bayle in artistic style; as Lord Emsworth Mr. Charles King is admirably clear and natural; Jackson is well sustained by Mr. Cyril Royce; Mr. Frank Bradley faithfully represents Lord Wynlea; Mr. Edmund Hollick is convincing as James Spofforth; Miss Irene Lavington is a bright and dainty Lady Emsworth; and as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle Miss Dorrie Roberts acts with animation and humour. The comedy is preceded by *The Tooth of Necessity*.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Ben Jackson, the trick soloist and banjoist, heads the programme; Baby Irene Velma is a talented comedienne and dancer; Hugo and Smit are highly amusing in a bar act; a remarkable display of memory is shown by Memora, who answers any questions put to him; Thomas Bentley cleverly depicts characters from Dickens; Winnie Melville is a pleasing vocalist; the Sprees create great fun in a comedy duo; Will Harmony is an excellent mimic; and the clever conjuring of Anthony is one of the most attractive items on the bill.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. Dickie Clare and company in the musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza* are here. Mr. Dickie Clare in the triple rôle of Silas Slim from New York, the Judge, and the French Waiter scores a huge success; Mr. F. W. Benson is a capital Peter Pettitoe; Marie is amusingly rendered by Miss Belle Russell; Mr. J. W. Forrester as Wm. Biffins displays pantomimic ability; Mr. Harry George plays Barnaby Bladderwick effectively; Virginia, depicted by Miss Vesta Brownie, is applauded in song and dance; Mr. Bert Collins as Tompkins, and Mr. Will Merry as Billy, the page boy, are full of fun; and Mme. Constance Bellamy in the part of Sadie Potts receives quite

songs adding to the delight of the audience; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam enacts Gertrude Graham; and the malignant Lorna Carstairs is portrayed by Miss Yoxa Summer. As Selina Haddock Miss Carlotta Blondin is very amusing; and little May Renaud fills the part of Little Doris. Mr. Fred Acton as Pomeroy Smith and Mr. George Francis as Ezra Scroggie are very amusing; Robert Wallace is well played by Mr. Charles Freeman; Mr. John Erroll as Sir John Graham, Mr. Norman H. Tracy as Lieut. Ainsley, Mr. Leonard Aardale as Laurence Cragie, and Mr. Maurice Jones as Oscar Van Dum are all satisfactory.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. W. F. Frame, the Scotch comedian, heads the bill, and both his singing and acting gain applause from all parts of the house. The Brooklyn Comedy Four had a hearty reception; Cummin and Seaham as a Ragman and Postman have an amusing sketch; Lucy Coventry and Minnie Mace, comediennes and dancers, are also popular; Miss Teddy Edmonds and company have a humorous knockabout sketch, entitled *The Lady Jockey*; Stanley and Van Dyke also give an amusing turn. There are some excellent bioscope films illustrating Winter Sports on the Continent.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—This week Mr. George Edwardes's *Merry Widow* company is here. Miss Mary Ridler gives a graceful and pleasing performance of the title-rôle, her singing and dancing being delightful; Mr. H. S. Cotter impersonates Baron Popoff with irresistible breeziness; Mr. Harry Emerie is a capital Nisch. Mr. Robert Needham a refined Prince Danilo, and Mr. Ronald Pomeroy a good Jolidon; Mr. Cecil Warwick is well placed as General Novakovitch; Miss Eileen Clanford as Olga acts the part with skill and naturalness; and Mr. Tom H. David as Marquis de Cascada, Mr. Spencer Lloyd as M. de St. Brioche, and Mr. C. L. Steward as M. Khadja also deserve credit. Miss Enid Forde does full justice to the part of Prascovia.

KEIGHLEY.—The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—The West African wonder-worker Yangar holds premier position here this week, and his turn proves entertaining and mystifying; an exceptionally fine turn is provided by the Northcotes, operatic duettists; Sid Cotterell and company appear in a highly diverting sketch, entitled *The Substitute*; Gulliver secures much laughter and applause; C. B. Best, as McBanker, the Mountebank, is very amusing, and is a good contortionist; and August, September, and May, the Sages (Will and Jenny), and Edith Chantler, juvenile vocalist, complete a capital programme.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. J. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—*The Lancashire Lad* is being successfully presented here by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. The title-rôle is faithfully drawn by Mr. Harry T. Wood; Mr. Ernest Vaughan is capital as Max Carlton; Jem Wincote is in the capable hands of Mr. Wilton Reed, and John Willie Wordle is well interpreted by Mr. Bob Anderson; Mr. Geo. Stuart is a good representative of Tum o' th' Swilltub; Miss Madge Douglas gives a satisfactory rendering of Jessie Wincote, and Miss Muriel Inglis is equally good as Lorna Wincote; Mother Wardle is well played by Miss Nellie V. Warden. The variety part of the programme is well rendered.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer. — Hippodrome performances have been given with a strong variety company with much success. The items include Paul Pry, the droll comedian; Miller and Beresford, in fine delineations of Dickens characters; Daisy Palmer, comedienne; Danton and Morris Duo, comedians; Estcourt, in juggling and the Five Musical Palmers.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company, with *The 10.30 Down Express*, are doing good business. Mr. T. Arthur Plumer gives a convincing interpretation of Jack O'Malley; Mr. George Gaisford is very good as James Inderwick; Cuthbert Leigh is creditably performed by Mr. T. B. Brabazon; and Mr. Walter P. Carr makes an effective Seth Coombes. The comedy parts are skilfully handled by Mr. Horace Stanley as Sam Wagstaffe and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts. Miss Cora Linda gives a clever portrayal of Bessie Leigh.

Corn Exchange Pavilion.—Licensee, Dr. Walford Bodie; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A very good show of pictures is exhibited here this week: Uncle Tom's Cabin, Little Barney, The Dutch Miller, How the Lodger Dodged the Landlord, and Whiskers, the Hairy Soldier. The Church Parade at Aldershot is a very nice film. Cambo, the musical monkey, and Professor Milne, ventriloquist, are appearing here this week.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—The attraction this week is Miss Florence Baines, in a farce entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, in which Miss Baines takes the part of Mary Ellen Thompson, a Lancashire lass, in capital style. She is supported by a capable company.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Mr. Tom Watts's company appeared here in *East Lynne*. Mr. Rayson-Cousens invested the rôle of Archibald Carlyle with much dignity; the Francis Levison of Mr. Wilfrid Percy Mansfield was a commendable performance; Mr. Jerrold Manville played Justice Hare with success; Mr. Tom Watt was effective as Lord Mountsevern; Miss Laura Hansen gave a distinguished portrayal of Lady Isabel; and Miss Alice Moseley a creditable rendering of Little Willie; Mr. Joe Rowland was responsible for much merriment as P.C. Bullock. For the latter part of the week Messrs. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austin Hurgont's company were announced to appear in *The Girls of Gottenberg*.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Silver Box* is being presented by Mrs. Clement Scott and company. Mrs. Scott plays Mrs. Jones with much pathetic power. A capital impersonation of John Barthwick, M.P., is given by Mr. Clarence Derwent, and Jack is very ably enacted by Mr. Arthur Vezin. Miss Agnes Imlay fills the rôle of Mrs. Barthwick with much effect, and Mr. Orlando Barnett's performance as Jones is followed with much interest. Other striking characters are undertaken by Miss Rita Trekelle, and Messrs. Hampton Gordon, James Geldered, Arthur Baxendell, W. R. Young, and H. E. Herbert. *The Silver Box* is preceded by *Mrs. Hilary Regrets*, ably taken by Miss Dulcie Conroy and Mr. J. C. Taylor.

The Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Bad Girl of the Family* is here, Miss Violet Crossley being extremely successful in the principal rôle. Bess Moore is excellently played by Miss M. Tueskie. Mr. W. H. Hargreaves makes the most of Lieutenant Richard Marsh. The characters of Barney Gordon and Harry Gordon are in the capable hands of Mr. Luke Foster and Mr. G. R. Montford respectively. Lord Erskine is embodied by Mr. F. W. Freeman.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Gatley.—Signor Rosi's ballet is an attraction here. Signorina Luisa Patti and Signorina C. Mossetti dance well. Bert Coote is extremely funny in a sketch, *The Lamb of Wall Street*, and is well supported by Miss Ada Russell and Mr. J. C. Aubrey. The wonderful Lukushimas do a smart performance. Lottie Bellman and Bay Russell prove themselves versatile artists. Harry Bedford is a big favourite, and other good turns are those of Jack Ross and Sue Lewis, Fred Elton, the Three Van Dammes and Jewel St. Leger.

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Harry First appears here in an amusing sketch, *The Matrimonial Tie*. Luis Hardt performs some good strength feats; Leslie and Stevens appear in a good act; and other favourites are Les Supriskis, Charles Woodward, Pete and Juno, Bessie Knight, and Marion Scott.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The Six Brothers Luck are very funny in *The Demon of the Cellar*. The Three Braggs do a smart acrobatic act. The Forsyths are excellent musical comedy artistes; Jas. and Jennie Lee appear in a clever cycling and wire act; and the songs and style of Bessie Heins are popular. The Waltons, Carina Sisters, Chas. Russell, and Six White Boys all do well.

The City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—J. W. Hall gets a good reception here with his amusing songs and patter. Other good turns are those of Rosie Bartlett, Rosie Lee, Abel and Welsh, Stuart and Stuart Sisters Albert and Ray, and Lingard.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Another excellent attraction is presented here with Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The King of Cadonia*. Mr. Bertie Wright maintains his high reputation with a very smart delineation of the Duke of Alasia, and Miss Alice Moffat as Princess Marie gives a charming portrayal. Mr. Edward Thirlby creates much laughter as the servant Bran; and other good embodiments are forthcoming from Mr. J. Warren-Foster as Alexis, Mr. Cameron Carr as Captain Laski, Mr. Jack Martin as General Bonski, Miss Mabel Hirst as Militza, and Miss Florence Legarde as the Duchess of Alasia. The play is beautifully dressed.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company is here on a return visit in the drama *Life's Sweetest Sins*. The various characters are again done full justice to by a good all-round company, and the play proves as interesting as ever.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleugh.—The principal attraction here is the illusionist, Lafayette; Victor Widdicombe and company are very amusing in their comedy episode, *Her Devonshire Dad*. Mr. Widdicombe as the old farmer, Miss Clara Russell as the daughter Alice, and Mr. Fred Hill as the son-in-law Gerald all playing their parts in first-rate style. Stewart and Morgan make a hit in their vocal speciality; Tony Black is a capital Scotch comedian, whose funny patter creates plenty of laughter; Billy Hobbs is a nimble nigger, who receives plenty of applause for his smart dancing; Rhoda Paul, a capital male impersonator, is also entertaining; and the Bioscope is still a feature.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Mr. Martin Henry and Miss Irene Ross head the bill with the dramatic sketch, *The Silver Medal*, a well-written sketch well performed; Jack Warman is a comedian and mimic who thoroughly deserves the applause bestowed; Dorothy Dare is an excellent male impersonator; Hearne and Palmer are good in their comedy acrobatic act, "The Hebrew and the Barman"; Morris and Moore shine in their refined and artistic dancing act; the Sisters Harcourt, duettists and dancers; Lizzie Round, male impersonator; and Harry Bland, comedian, are also entertaining. The pictures this week are very fine, and include Comata, the Sioux, A House Under Repair, and the Ragpicker's Christmas.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The operating-box here has now been finished in accordance with the new law. The two star pictures this week are A Drama in the Far West and A Rural Tragedy. Other very entertaining and amusing films include A Mistake in Addresses, Her First Biscuit, Mine at Last, The Dragoon's Helmet, Mr. Durrant, The Brave Little Organ Boy, The Hand, Mrs. Jones's Birthday, The King's Command, Father's Crime, and Adam II. Miss Lottie Lonsdale is making a farewell appearance here, and is a big hit.

LEIGH.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—Mr. J. Wright Aitken's company top the bill here with *The Battle of Life*. Mr. Aitken as John Melville is received with well-deserved applause; Mr. David Fuller, baritone, is highly successful; Henri Bekker is an entertaining conjurer; Wyndham and Kitty give a clever performance on the wire; Fame and Fortune are amusing comedians; Shenton and Chicks have a neat and clever sketch; Fred Walmesley, comedian, finds favour; Vincent, in a novel acrobatic act, is clever; and the bioscope pictures complete.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The latest version of Mr. Hall Caine's *Pete* is the attraction here. Mr. Austen Gilroy achieves success in the name-part, and Kate Cregeen is effectively represented by Miss V. Malcolm Barnett. Mr. Alfred Gray ably sustains the rôle of Philip Christian; while Ross Christian and Cæsar Cregeen are well characterised by Mr. Frank Stone and Mr. Harry Pitt. The scenery and stage setting lack nothing in completeness. Cinematograph pictures provided during the entr'actes meet with much approval.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—George Edwardes' delightful musical comedy *The Dollar Princess* is here again, drawing big audiences. It is staged in truly magnificent style, and has a chosen company, all of whom carry off honours. Miss Clara Evelyn makes a fascinating Alice, and wins general favour by reason of her sweet singing and graceful dancing. Mr. Leonard Mackay repeats his admirable performance of Freddy Fairfax and sings effectively; Mr. Eric Thorne, as usual, convulses his audience with laughter by means of his droll Mr. Bulger, which he seems to play in even a funnier manner than formerly. On Monday evening Mr. Howard Cridland, in the absence of Mr. Louis Bradfield, gave a most creditable rendering of the rôle of the multi-millionaire; Miss Daisy Elliston charmingly impersonated Daisy; as Olga Miss Norma Whalley plays with spirit and vivacity; Mr. Paul Plunket does excellently as the Earl of Quorn; and Mr. Percy Davison makes a humorous Sir James.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The record pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat* closes to-night, much to the regret of Liverpool playgoers, who have been thronging the theatre. On Tuesday Miss Carrie Moore, the principal boy, had a bumper benefit.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction this week is *A Soldier's Honour*, presented in capital style by Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's company. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis sustains the rôle of Captain Deane most efficiently; Mr. Gordon Ingram acquits himself as Captain Temple; the heavy part of Henry Thornton is ably handled by Mr. Fellowes Bassett; Miss Edie Macklin, in her original creation of Jemima Eliza, earns much applause, and is soon a favourite; Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays strongly as Cora Lee; and a charming Doreen Illingworth comes from Miss Iza Lyndon.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week we are having a welcome return visit of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which is proving highly acceptable. Mr. Edward Bikker holds his original part of General Kingsley, which he plays in fine style; as the rascally Captain George Darrell Mr. Polson Turner exhibits high powers; Mr. Frank Rogers handles the rôle of Captain Frank Carsdale with much satisfaction; the little drummer-boys are charmingly depicted by the Misses Maggie English and Maud B. Douglas; Privates O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer find two capital exponents in Mr. Will Percy and Mr. Dick Seddon; and good work is also done by Mr. Wilson Holmes (Jim Barker), Miss Lilian A'Dell (Drunken Meg), Mr. Vernon H. Vayne (Lieutenant Kingsley), and Miss Violet Ingram (Alma Kingsley).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Delighted audiences are crowding this popular house to witness a capital presentation of *The Gay Gordons*, brought by Mr. W. A. Seymour's company. As Peggy Quainton Miss Clarice Lockstone pleases everybody; Miss Florrie Groves is distinctly successful in the part of Charlotte Siddons; Mr. William Greene makes a popular Angus Græme, and acts admirably; a deal of comedy is supplied by Mr. Edward Carlton (Nervy Nat) and Mr. W. H. Desmond (Edmund Siddons), and other worthy supporters are Miss Tessa D'Alberti (Mary), Mr. Eric Ford (the Marquis), and Mr. Greville Hayes (Quainton).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—George Leyton, heading the bill here, is having flattering receptions for his latest military scena *The Roll Call*, which is affording unbounded delight; Witty Wattie Walton keeps his audience in the best of humours; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris present a merry turn, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, which is received with every pleasure; the Tom Davies's Trio go through their sensational act of motoring in mid-air; the Georgia Coons have a neat song and dance entertainment; an all-round excellent show is provided by the Sutcliffe family, who distinguish themselves as acrobats, pipers and dancers; Stanley and Greenop gain loud applause for their really talented work as banjoists; and Will Johnson, comedian; Venie Clements, baby imitator; and Daisy Martell, comedienne, are also in the list.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Cullen and Carthy's funny pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, which did excellent business here some weeks ago, is back again, enjoying much public patronage. The principals are Messrs. Arthur Stratton (Baron), Tom Drew (Dame), Little Cluley (Bantam), Cullen and Carthy (Robbers), Miss Bessie Cohen (Robin Hood), Miss Maudie Ford (Maid Marion), and Miss Marie Fern (Fairy Queen).

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hasan.—A big line here this week is *The Flood Tide*, from the pens of Cecil Raleigh and E. Heaton Grey, a drama that is ably presented by Harry P. Selwyn's company; W. T. Ellwanger and company have a screaming absurdity, *Who Did It?*; some smart trick and comedy cycling comes from the Rangers; the Four Vagabonds' Vocal Comedy Quartette gain rounds of applause for their sweet singing; Hayes and Merritt, the bounding trampolinists, are as excellent as ever; a pretty dancing act is submitted by the Three Cunards; Mlle. Pollo shines as a rapid lady gymnast, for which she is loudly applauded; Torti sings several numbers in good style; Kineras-Moulin, assisted by Mlle. Kioki, has a clever equilibristic novelty; and Marcus Boyle, comedian; and Flo Connolly, comedienne, also appear. The Bioscope shows Why Jones Couldn't Sleep.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Only a Woman*, from the pen of Percy Ballard, is being presented here this week by the Stock Dramatic Company, the members of which are Messrs. Harry Tresham, Leo Montgomery, Sydney Grant, R. Seath Innes, Tom H. Solly, Cecil Ravenswood, E. D. Allen, and the Misses Gwynne Watson, Lilian Thorne, Gertrude Entwistle, Gertrude Gilman and Lina Nazeby. Brown's Bioscope shows The Sentinel's Romance.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Karno's merry sketch of *Perkins, M.P.*, is here this week, with Albert Bruno as the candidate, supported by Miss Aggie Morris, Herbert Sidney, Tom Nelson, Vera Gilder, and Tim McDonough. The popular Ernest Shand is also prominent, and keeps his audience in continuous laughter with his latest; Archie Goodall, the ex-football player, brings a novel act, entitled *Walking the Hoop*, which is watched with interest; Charles Santon pleases with his soprano singing; Mabel Mavis presents a neat entertainment of music, etc.; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins have a popular vocal comedy sketch, *The Piano Tuner*, which is received with evident satisfaction; Tiny Arnold is a juvenile comedienne of merit; and Dacey and Lewis submit a lively show as eccentric acrobats, singers, and dancers.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Billy Merson, who proved so popular on his previous visits here, is again being received with every manifestation of delight; Maud Lordy's dog acrobats and actors please greatly; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith provide a musical turn in which they exhibit high accomplishments; George Hall sings and whistles very ably; some remarkable cycling is shown by the Olympian team, six in number; the Quality Quartette of male vocalists are accorded a hearty reception for their refined singing; Arthur Albert has some excellent points as a light comedian; and Manson and West have a merry dnologue, *Telling the Tale*.

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Zasma tops the bill here in a good gymnastic display on trapeze and rings; Jack Trevor is clever as an ice skate dancer; Florence Carlow contributes some good buck and sand dances; the Haydn Trio gain applause for a musical absurdity; Brinsley Smith does well as an entertainer; and U. C. Ugo is clever in mirthful mysteries. The items are interspersed with some excellent bioscopic pictures.

LLANELLY.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Andrews; Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Poole's Myriorama is a great draw here, and the pictures are varied and up to date. Varieties are supplied by the clever Banzai Troupe of Japanese jugglers; Inez and Pim, nimble gymnasts; the Cairo Trio, in a good musical act; Sidney Bach, Welsh comedian; W. R. Rowlands, comedian; and the Brothers Conclos, military athletes.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—The attraction here is Mr. Tom Watt's strong company in *East Lynne*. The cast includes Miss Laura Hansen as Lady Isabel, Miss Ida Heron as Barbara Hare, Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle, Miss Alice Moseley as Willie, and Miss Ethel Ray as Little Isabel. Mr. Royson-Cousens is responsible for the part of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Wilfred P. Mansfield figures as Francis Levisen; Mr. Tom Watt as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. E. Elliott as Mr. Halijohn; Mr. Jerrold Manville as Justice Hare; Mr. Eric Lugg as Richard Hare; and Mr. Clifford Clifford as Lawyer Dill. Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock introduces drolleries which serve to enhance by comparison the pathos of this popular old play. The company is a clever one, and the piece well produced.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's company is providing a rich dramatic treat in *The Way Women Love*, the company being one of all-round excellence. Mrs. Frank Bateman presents a noteworthy performance as Verene Alabra; and good support is accorded by Messrs. Fred W. Goddard (Captain Howard Tremaine) and Percy Shaw, the last-named winning great applause for his clever whistling and comedy business. The scenery and dressing are good. *Sapho* and *Camille* are announced for later in the week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—La Vie is creating a big success in a remarkable series of living statuary; Welida and Wynne introduce a comedy act, combined with clever juggling and sand-dancing; Suzie Dale renders some popular numbers; and Chas. Bradford, who claims to be the original "Billy Muggins," rattles off a number of humorous ditties. The pictures are of all-round excellence.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is here with *Another Man's Wife*. Mr. S. Radcliffe plays with excellent judgment the rôle of Carlos de Vergas; Paul Bernstoff is powerfully depicted by Mr. Alfred D. Adams; Mr. G. Sutherland's impersonation of Gilbert Eardley leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Willie Reid is conspicuous as Sam Smiles; and Mr. L. Marshall makes a capital Andy Bremmer. Miss R. Lonesraine is a charming Lucie de Vergas; Miss L. Radbourne an effective Inez de Castro; Miss Lily Griffin as Maisie Matterson deserves praise; and Lucy and Tibby are pleasingly represented by Miss Phyllis Spalding and Miss Marion Mayne.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company opened here on Monday, in *The Gondoliers*. As usual, there was a good attendance, and a capital performance was given, two old favourites, Mr. Henry A. Lytton (the Duke of Plaza-Toro) and Mr. Fred Billington (Don Alhambra), being especially notable in a remarkably clever and well-balanced cast. The central quartet—Marco and Giuseppe and Gianetta and Tessa—found very pleasing exponents in Messrs. Henry Herbert and Leicester Tunks, both fine singers, and Mrs. Arthur Rousbey and Miss Beatrice Boarer; while Miss Bertha Lewis did well as the Duchess, and Miss Mabel Graham acted nicely as Casilda. On Tuesday *Iolanthe* was given with similar success, and on Wednesday *Patience*, followed by *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance* (and *Trial by Jury*), and a matinée of *The Yeomen of the Guard*. The company remains a fortnight.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heye.—A second week of Cavaliere Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company opened here with a performance of Donizetti's *La Favorita*, the rendering of which, however, suffered apparently from lack of rehearsal.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Sensational fare is provided here in the shape of *Sexton Blake, Detective*, which has already received the approval of local audiences. The title-rôle is very effectively filled by Mr. Murray Yorke (assisted by the bloodhound Pedro), and heroic interest is agreeably provided by Mr. Edward McLean as Roger Blackburn, and Miss Elizabeth Watkins as Marjorie Lovell. Mr. Paul Barry Lewers plays forcibly as the villainous Randolph Lovell, being ably assisted by Miss Sinna St. Clair as Philadelphia Kate, and further supplemented in evil-doing by Mr. Sidney Barnes as Simon Faggas, a burglar. In the light rôle of Tinker Mr. Will Glaze is especially prominent, and Miss Betty Seymour makes good use of her opportunities as Euphemia Patacake.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearne.—A return visit of Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Old Folks at Home*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Geo. Steel and Miss Maud Warburton are outstanding features as Andrew Ross and Dorothy Robin respectively. Good also are Mr. Frank Liston as the dissolute Lord Kenilworth and Miss Kate Froud as Patricia; while Mr. Vincent Wardle as the dumb hunchback, Jock, is remarkably good, and much acceptable humour is added by Mr. George Scully and Miss Ada Frank. It will be a matter of interest to many to know that Mr. Henry Hearne has returned to the duties of management here.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. A. Chilton Alderson's company are here this week in a very interesting and effective drama, entitled *The Coal King*. Mr. Henry Deane as Tom Roberts, the mine manager, gives a very natural rendering; Mr. Robert Faulkner is good as the villainous Walter Hartford; Miss Dennis Duncan is capitally placed as Mad Ann; Grace Shirley has a pleasing exponent in Miss Winifred Love; and good work is added by Mr. Frank Dalton as Dick Shirley and Mr. A. W. Norman as Sir Reginald, the title-part. Mr. Sam Roberts and Miss Effie D. Crawford do well in the comic rôles. A feature of the play is the Entombment Scene, which is very realistically depicted.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The star turn here is Fred Karno's company, in *The Dandy Thieves*, which loses nothing in brightness and popularity. Also prominent is the Mysterious De Biere, who presents an elaborate sequence of illusions. Another good turn is that of the Mysterious Marriotts, wonderful mind-readers; while Seeley, West, and Rhodesia add some fine entertainment. Other pleasing items are the Martons, in a comedy duologue; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; Layton and Douglas, instrumental soloists; and the Hargreaves Trio, in comedy.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Seldom has this popular hall been so crowded as it is this week, large numbers nightly being unable to obtain admission. This is due chiefly to the joint appearance at the head of the bill of George Formby and Whit Cunliffe; and it would be hard to exaggerate the amount of appreciation each receives in their separate line of work. The other place of honour is occupied by Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock, in a very amusing and picturesque comedy playlet, *Cupid's Arms*, which is also prominently successful. We have, besides, the Channings, in their refined musical act; Williams and Parker, a pair of entertaining Welsh singers and comedians; the Royal Delomes, expert clog dancers; a promising child vocalist, Catherine Arkandy, aged eleven; Anna Chandler, an American comedienne, who works on novel lines; and Dot Hardy, character comedienne.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—For a second week Seymour Hicks and company are presenting that first-rate adaptation from Dickens' "Christmas Carol," *Scrooge*, with much success. The Empire Comedy Four are highly amusing; Dion Wade is a vastly funny comedian; Ed. E. Ford scores a big success as a facial artist; King and Benson are decidedly entertaining; Katie Moss plays the violin well and sings nicely; Francis and Alfred, in their juggling act, make a hit; and Frank Couch, the pattering comedian, is capital. Up-to-date pictures complete.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Harry Lauder is making his first appearance here since his successful tour in the States, and his reception nightly is flattering and well-deserved. The Donaldson Bros. are exceptionally good in a clever "animal" act, *Sports in a Jungle*; the Borghetti Troupe go through a sensational acrobatic performance; Harry Champion sings three songs in characteristic style, and makes a hit; the Gallimore Trio are well received in a smart pantomime act; Walton and Lester, the world's worst wizards, are amusing; Flo Cecil contributes a song with a neat dance added; Clark and Glennie are seen in *The Haunted House*; and Julian Ross is a good vocal comedian.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Good business is being done here this week, the programme being headed by Maggie May and Frank Haskoll, in musical costume comedy; Ray and Calden give a refined and original comedy act; and Johnny Osborne, comedian, is also a strong item. Other good turns are Fred Herbert, topical vocalist; Hal Brennan, comedian and dancer; Gladys Warren, comedienne; Gilbert's performing dogs; and Revill Hall, a smart entertainer.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietor, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and Jas. Martin's company is here this week in *Forget-Me-Not* and *Frou-Frou*. Miss Henrietta Schrier is exceedingly good as Stephanie and Frou-Frou respectively; Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy is capital in the rôles of Sir Horace Delby and Comte Paul de Valreas; and excellent support is rendered by Miss Nellie Statham, Mr. F. Douglas Howard, Mr. Andrew Money, Miss Marie Ramoz, and Miss Veronica Clinton.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley.—Jennie Johns, the dainty and clever comedienne, is prominent here this week, and meets with a deserved good reception; the O-K-Dians, under the direction of Kenneth Lyle and Percy Tarling, are altogether excellent in a smart pocket musical comedy; Charles Prelia's Bijou Circus introduces clever animals; and Diana Hope, assisted by Monty Bayly, is capital in a modern episode, *The Altar of Duty*. Other good turns are offered by Phillips and Bristow, fine dancers; Fallows and Beaumont, in amusing vocal comedy act; Herma, heavy weight lifter; and the Three Orros, in act on the silver chains. Bioscope pictures complete.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company has been playing in the farce *The Arabian Nights*. Mr. Elliott Bell as Arthur Hummingtop and Mr. Escott Robson in the rôle of Ralph Ormerod have been particularly good; and Mr. Arthur Dennis and Mr. Edward Linley as Dobson have also scored well in their respective parts. Miss Roberta Pulleyne as Mrs. Hummingtop, Mrs. Hanson Blair as Mrs. Gillibrand, Miss Thea Hansard as Rose Colombier, Miss Mabel Hall as Daisy Maitland, and Miss Florrie Richards as Barbara were exceptionally good. The piece has been preceded each evening by a curtain-raiser, *A Silent Woman*, in which the characters were taken by Miss Florence Richards, Mr. Arthur Dennis, and Mr. Escott Robson.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—The bill is headed by G. Raymond, in his travesty on modern superstition, "A Trip to Spookville," and other illusions. He is supported by an all-round excellent company, which includes Ruby Rayo, comedienne and dancer; Henriette Selina, in a refined musical act; Mart and Pep, acrobats; Gladys Archbutt, chic comedienne; and Lulie and Jean Grossi, in the Vampire Dance.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Alec Hurley, in the sketch *Cockneys in Japan*, forms an admirable lead to the well-arranged and diversified programme here; Starley Bros. are clever cyclists; and Sandy and Care mirth-provoking comedians. Good turns are also provided by Keg Ewen, character comedian and dancer; the Sewells, in a speciality dancing act; the Luzelias, lady gymnasts; the Dellmars, illusionists; and the Oroscos, in a comedy act *Fun in the Barracks*.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—An attractive programme is provided here, to which F. V. St. Clair, in chorus and up-to-date songs; the Bros. Ethairien, comedians; Three San Remo Girls, dancers; and Tod Lowen, vocalist, successfully contribute. Biograph pictures conclude.

METHIL.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. John A. Thompson's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty* opened the second week of its visit on Monday night. Miss Adele Rose as Prince Charming, and Miss Alyce Wyllyams as Princess Beauty earned unstinted applause; Miss Emmie King as Boy Blue and Miss Ethel Broad as Silver Star were popular; the Four Scoreys were warm favourites with a first-class musical turn; and Abex, the Pocket Hercules, and Mlle. Florence, globe-artist, also contributed capital items.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company is presenting *Through the Divorce Court*. Mr. Robert Purdie gives a thoroughly dramatic portraiture of Lord Penarth; Guzman Mendoza is played with intensity and vigour by Mr. Henry C. Cooper; Mr. John Campling makes the most of the part of Leon di Valdiz; Mr. B. W. Thomas is a capital Peter Pettigrew; Mr. Jack Denton is an interesting Algy Fitzmaurice; Miss Hettie Chappell gives a powerfully dramatic and impressive rendering of Lady Penarth; Miss Edith Cruikshanks forcefully presents Lady Fitzmaurice; a pleasing Rachael Dobbins is Miss Polly Groves; and Little Constance Dagmar is charming as the child Sybil.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—As produced here, *The Merry Peasant*, from the Strand Theatre, has met with unqualified approval. In the title-rôle Mr. Courtice Pounds is a distinct success; Little Rosalie is very charmingly and naturally played by Miss Mary Glynn, a child-actress with very winning ways; as Lindoberer Mr. William Hindson is very amusing; the characters of Stefan and Vincent are in the able hands of Mr. Percy Carr and Mr. Frank Wilson; Miss Madge Vincent in the part of Freda has opportunity of showing to advantage her fine soprano voice, to the delight of the large audiences; Miss Gladys Gay is very pleasing as Annameri; and Miss Tina Marbini does full justice to the part of Lizi. The chorus and orchestra are worthy of much praise

F. G. Kimberley as the broken-down actor William Clarke is very good; Mr. George Langdon is a powerful Frank Russell; Mr. Henry Rutland a dignified John Norman; Mr. George Keene a capital George Courtney; and as Lillian Norman Miss Constance deserves praise for his careful rendering. Miss E. Beverley makes the most of her opportunities as Mary Norman, and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Smales and Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy are droll.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—A hearty reception was accorded the performance by Miss Marie Dagmar's company of *The Tyrant*, by Mr. Fred G. Somerfield. Mr. Percy Tollins as Homedei, the avenger, and Mr. Roy Fortescue are responsible for powerful studies; and Miss Marie Robson as Tisbe, Miss Jean Scott as Lady Catherine, and Miss Lallah Shelton as Eulie play the rôles allotted to them with ability.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Mr. Jack Pleasants, the shy comedian, occupies the place of honour here, and on Monday evening had to respond to numerous encores. A pretty and effective Oriental scena, interspersed with tuneful singing, is provided by O'Hara San and company; an amusing pantomimical farce is presented by Albert and Edmund's company in *The Tower of London*; Mr. Horace Wheatley, comedian, in delightful patter and quaintly-rendered songs, receives quite an ovation; and another pleasing and varied item is that of the Northern Troupe of speciality dancers. To To, the mysterious musician, presented by Mlle. Lucia, is undoubtedly a mystifying novelty; and Tom Stuart, character comedian and entertainer, Herbert Shelley, protean actor, in *Dan the Outlaw*, and Kathleen Gray, comedienne, contribute capital turns.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H Gould; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—The pick of the programme is Peggy Pryde, who is still pre-eminent in her unique style; Harvey's Boys and Girls are here again with increased success; the W. T. Thompson Trio have a screamer in *Watch the Chalk*; Harry Frisk is a clever comedy juggler; Frank Victor, who deputises for an absent turn, has an excellent voice; the Three Sisters Adare are good dancers; Jenny Wood is a promising young comedienne and dancer; Zera and Zema, Continental equilibrists, give a good turn; and the Palace pictures are up to date.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Animated pictures are still running here, enlivened with songs by Miss Margaret Payne.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company with *The Cingalee* is proving a great attraction. Miss Isa Bowman makes a charming Nanoya, her excellent singing being much appreciated; Miss Ray Anderson is good as Lady Patricia; Miss Winifred Stone as Miss Pinkerton wins great favour; Miss Florrie Greensmith proves a capital Peggy Sabine; as Harry Vereker Mr. Frank Barclay is worthy of the highest praise; Mr. Hylton Warde cleverly depicts Chambhubby Ram; Mr. Frank Lennard makes a capital Boobhamba; Mr. Grafton Williams shines as Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Frank Crichton makes the most of Myamigah; Mr. Herbert Franklin in the rôle of Bobby Warren accomplishes good work; and the chorus and augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. W. D. I. Damant achieve good results.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—At the head of the bill here are Blanche and Powell, vaudeville entertainers, who present a clever musical act; the Fernandez Troupe, lady acrobats, singers, and dancers, come in for a hearty reception; Molly Augarde is a pleasing vocalist; Hughes and Allen, comedians, are a decided success; and Will Saunders (eccentric comedian), A. Bokou (in his speciality act), the Sisters Gordon (comediennes and dancers), and the Palace Pictures all contribute successfully to an enjoyable programme.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Mr. Howard Scott's company is here in a society play entitled *Man and His Kingdom*. Mr. Leonard Clarke admirably portrayed the part of Eric, the barrister; Miss Beatrice Burdett played Esther in a charming manner; Mr. John Beech as the ex-burglar scored at every point; and Mr. C. Edwards-Horobin made an excellent Bertie, sustaining the comedy of the piece exceedingly well.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is giving an excellent rendering of the drama *Mother* with good results. Mr. J. O. Stewart gives an effective portrayal of the old seaman, Duncan Fairweather; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland is very good as Frank English; Mr. Reginald Brown acts well as Stephen Carrington; Mr. Harry Foxwell is successful as Jasper Rawden; and Mr. Ray Gordon as old Crump, Mr. Tom Fuller as Biggs, and Harry James as the Rev. John Strong ably fill their respective parts. Miss Grace Jones deserves high praise as Nellie Fairweather; Miss Amy Wood is excellent as Martha Duncan; Miss Mary Holmes is well received as little May; Miss Phillis Vaughan as Vesta L'Strange, Miss Dora Kelland, and Miss Kathleen Hunt render every assistance; and Mr. Teddy Myles as Tommy Noblets and Miss Elsie Dene as Polly Crumpet are responsible for much humour.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. V. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Heading the bill is Flo Stanley, in the musical comedy *The Prince of the Dandies*. Miss Stanley appears successfully as Daisy Highclass, and Mr. Arthur Watson as Sprouts, a page, is full of variety and fun; Maxford and O'Neill create much merriment; Carlotta Levey, who meets with a good reception, sings admirably; Charles Pastor is a popular comedian; Gertie Martine is a versatile vocalist; and Fred and Lulu Camplin are up-to-date in their musical comedy act; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, receive hearty greetings; Levlin is a wonderful Indian club manipulator; and the Hippo. Bio pictures are attractive.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. E. V. Barr's entertainment is still going strong here, and Mr. Tom Taylor's songs are an attraction. Among the special pictures this week are All on Account of the Milk, The Squire's Romance, and The Poacher's Revenge.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* is given in excellent style by Milton Bode and John Hart's company. Chief interest centres in the Gaspard of Mr. E. St. Alban, who gives the part the necessary weirdness and powerful reality; Miss Vera Dorien plays with charming brightness as Germaine; and the Serpolette of Miss Gurney Delaporte is an agreeably animated impersonation. Mr. Stuart Alexander sings the music of the Marquis in robust manner; Mr. Ovenaley Russell makes a good impression as Grenicheaux; Mr. Mark Lester (the Baillie) and Mr. Alfred Selby (Gobo) are a thoroughly amusing pair; and Miss Lucy Kipling makes a winsome Christophe.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Good houses are welcoming a return visit of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Richard Lane makes a gallant Prince Olaf; the villainy of Prince Hildred is well portrayed by Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke; a fine character study of Prince Michael is given by Mr. Lionel Gadsden; while Mr. Robert Noble becomes a warm favourite as Captain Hector. Miss Stella Campbell supplies an emotional interpretation of Monica; and a smart little Camiola is seen in Miss Ethel Patrick. The comedy element comes out strongly in the Lieut. Stromberg of Mr. J. H. Vyvyan.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A new sketch, *Van Biene's Baby*, gives the veteran artist another opportunity of introducing his wonderful 'cello playing; the Marco Twins are an eccentric pair; Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is a source of delight; Chas. R. Whittle sings acceptably; while the Rohda Bros. show their skill in gymnastic feats. The mimicry of Ray Wallace is clever; the Delevines submit an amusing sketch, *Flipp and Flopp*; the Twelve Manchester Mites sing and dance in engaging style; and C. J. Johnston, coon singer; and Amy Marsden, comedienne, also deserve praise.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Lockhart's Elephants are a big attraction, and their tricks are performed with a cleverness that calls forth hearty applause; the vocalism of Miss Alice Hollander well merits the enthusiastic reception accorded; Mlle. Adele Prescott and Mr. T. H. Wood are heard to advantage in the operatic sketch, *The Daughter of the Regiment*; the patter of Wash and Noel makes for fun; and capital dancers are seen in Captain Ellis and his son. Ridiculous Recco gives an excellent acrobatic turn. Other items are provided by Billy Young and Fred Hallam, and a sketch entitled *Binks's Blunder*.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainment Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—The Allan Wilkie Répertoire company opened here on Monday with *Jane Shore*. Mr. Allan Wilkie gave a powerful portrayal of the Duke of Gloucester; Mr. Alexander Marsh presented William Shore in a capable manner; Mr. Eugene Wellesley filled the rôle of Edward IV. with the dignity befitting a king; Mr. Sinclair Neill was successful as Lord Hastings; Miss Carrie Baillie proved herself a clever actress in the title-rôle; Miss Hilda Plowright made a charming Drusilla; and the Queen Elizabeth of Mrs. Allan Wilkie was highly creditable. *Two Orphans of Paris*, *The Sleigh Bells*, *David Garrick*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Julius Cæsar* are also in the bill.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—The ever-popular *Two Little Vagabonds* is presented by the Lyceum Tour company. Miss Dorothy Milne as Marian Thornton acts in a manner which quickly constitutes her a favourite; Mr. Frank Beresford as George Thornton gives an artistic delineation; Miss Mabel Cooke as Barbara Scarth acts cleverly; and Miss Helen Grenville as Dick and Miss Ivy Millais as Wally gain much applause. Mr. Renaud Lockwood is a vigorous Capt. Darville; Mr. Chas. L. Ludlow as Bill Mullins is very amusing; and Dido Bounce and the Cough Drop are smartly played by Messrs. Philip Beaufoy and Frederick Archer. Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Mullins is fully capable; Miss Katherine Maude is very good as Sister Randall; Mr. E. Beecher is a clever John Scarth; Job Gargoyle is ably played by Mr. A. Pinder; and the remaining characters are excellent.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Frank M. Thorne's company is appearing in *The Woman Pays*, and is meeting with much success. Mr. Phil Harper as Sid Armstrong gives a strong and dramatic portrayal; Miss Alice Greenwood acts Madge Armstrong sympathetically; and Roger Marchant is imbued with the due venomous attributes by Mr. Raymond Thomas. Miss Kate Blair as his victim, Nell Morland, plays in forcible and well-balanced style; and Mr. Beresford Innes as Cyrus Treadgold and Mr. Chas. Archer as Dr. Trevor are excellent. Mr. Claremont Gaskell does good work as Nathan Moss; Mr. Dunlop Stewart does well as Luke Morland; and Mr. A. T. Jones makes a good Capt. Holt. Miss Lily Beverley as Polly Stokes, Miss Florence Thorne as Tabitha, and Mr. Joseph Magrath as Micky Moloney are responsible for some smart comedy.

PALACE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Frank and Jen Latona top the bill in their well-known musical act, and receive much applause; Gus Garrick amuses vastly with his music hall tit-bits; Park's Eton Boys and Girls present a new scena, introducing excellent singing and dancing; Carl Howard is smart and clever in his comedy conjuring act; and Marie Gibson sings capitally. Charles Matthews performs his feats of jumping in well-finished style; the Jaunitas are excellent in an acrobatic display; and Goggin and Davies, in a comedy acrobatic turn, do well.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Life of Moses is a beautiful picture, and is well depicted; A Pardonable Lie is a well-acted film; and A Journey on the Gornergrat is a travel picture well worth seeing. Some very amusing films include Up-to-date Imps and The Forgotten Watch, which cause much laughter. Another funny picture is one entitled Lucky Jim, and others are equally good. Mr. Don Cameron sings with his usual success.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Good houses are being drawn here with a good selection of pictures, the principal one being a capital dramatic military film, The Honour of His Family. A Dog's Thanks is a very good canine film. Included in the bill are some very funny pictures, amongst others being The Worst Boy in School, Setting Back the Hands of the Clock, A Second-hand Clock, and Marvellous Garlands. Mr. King contributes a very good song.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes. — A good programme is provided, and includes A Pardonable Lie, A Woman's Treachery (a very vivid picture), Seaside Flirtation (a fine comedy film); Hats, and Grandpa's Wig are very funny, and duets are very well sung by Messrs. Ripon and Sidney.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—The Triumphant Hero is a splendid production, and Villainy Defeated is a good illustration of fiendish impulse. A fine view is given of the Imatra Rapids. Some very amusing films are also shown, making a good programme.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL (SHAW).—Proprietor, Mr. A. Ashworth.—The pictures being shown here are of a highly interesting character, and are very steady. A very good programme is provided, which includes some of the best to be seen. The Golden Spider is a capital trick film; Laddie is a picture of a telling nature; and Wild Birds in their Haunts is very interesting; Pinch of Poverty, House Under Repair, Two Kids on a Spree in Brussels, Three Kisses, and Pseudo Lady's Maid are also in the list, and good business is the result.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Messrs. Wray and Hurgon's company is drawing crowded and highly appreciative houses with *The Girls of Gottenberg*, which is proving much more successful than it did on the first visit. Mr. Phil Smith fairly revels in the part of Max Moddelkopf, and keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter, his business being exceedingly clever and funny; Mr. Murray Moore is deservedly a great favourite as Prince Otto; Mr. Harry Clarke is excellent as Albrech; Mr. Charles Berkeley works hard and successfully as Brittl-Bottl; and the parts of the General, the Colonel, the Burgomaster, and Adolph are capably filled by Messrs. L. Yaldwin, P. Claban, R. Forster, and G. Robertson. Miss Nellie Lauraine is highly amusing as Clementine; Miss Nan Stuart is a capable and fascinating Elsa; and Miss Hilda Vining scores a complete success as Mitzi, her dancing and singing meeting with great favour.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Miss Lois Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Neville, is occupying these boards with *Nana* and *The Sorrows of Satan*, preceded by the comedietta *Two Soft*. In *Nana* Mr. Edward Neville, an old favourite here, gives a smart and clever portrayal of Hector; Mr. J. McGaig fills the rôle of Phillipe very capably; Mr. H. Sisto is effective as George Hugon; and Mr. Frank Wheatley, who also does well in the comedietta, adds distinction as M. Fountain. Miss Lois Esmond exhibits skill and experience as Rose Mignon; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst is attractive as Blanche Fougen; and Miss Rosie Neville negotiates the arduous rôle of Nana with marked success.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Edward Compton opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday, when a fine performance of *The Road to Ruin* was given by the celebrated company which bears the comedian's name. Mr. Compton gave one of his inimitable impersonations in presenting Charles Goldfinch; Mr. Henry Crocker, submitted an artistic portraiture of Mr. Dornton; as Harry Dornton Mr. Frank Royde distinguished himself by a sound embodiment; Jack Milford was intelligently and capably enacted by Mr. Clifford Marquand; Mr. J. W. Austin was an admirable Mr. Sulky; a capital and well executed study of Mr. Silky was furnished by Mr. Philip Gordon; and meritorious performances of minor characters were given by Mr. Laurence Meade, Mr. Edward Holle, Mr. Frank Snell, and Mr. H. Wetton. Miss Marie Hassell excelled in her delineation of the Widow Warren; Sophia Freelove was refreshingly portrayed by Miss Kathleen Leigh; and Miss Lorraine Stevens gave a good interpretation of Jenny. The comedy was preceded by *Hook and Eye*, in which Miss Nell Compton made her initial bow to a Paisley audience. The other comedies presented were *The Blasé Baronet* on Tuesday, and *Davy Garrick* on Wednesday. For the remainder of the week Mr. John Leopold's company in *New Frivolity* was announced.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Mooney and Holbein provide the star turn this week and create roars of laughter; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, obtain a great reception; Arthur Ferris and Ethel May present a funny musical comedy spasm, *Two's Company; Three's ——?* A clever exhibition is submitted by the Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists; Regan and Ryan, versatile comedians, are prime favourites; Crissie Cross is a dainty singer and expert dancer; the Farrows (Harry and Louie) present a mirth-provoking turn; Ada Evilo performs smart tricks on the trapeze; and the Bioscope, well up to date, finishes an interesting bill.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. John Leopold's company occupied the theatre for the first three nights of the week with the farcical musical absurdity, *New Frivolity*. The company, which included the famous original Leopolds, threw themselves heartily into their work, and provided a side-splitting entertainment. For the remainder of the week Mr. Edward Compton and the Compton Comedy Company pay their annual visit.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—A capital programme is submitted this week. Joe O'Gorman, Irish comedian, heads the bill with considerable success; the Two Countees, duettists, gain applause; Harry Cotton, an amusing comedian, takes well; Hugh and High, musical eccentrics, gave a clever turn; the Romps, in songs and dances, have a good reception; and Colin Carlisle, light comedian; and Amy Burton, comedienne, both contribute acceptable turns.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Sins of Society*, as played by Mr. Bolam's company, forms one of the richest dramatic treats witnessed here for some time. As Noel Ferrers Mr. C. F. Collings gives a brilliant rendering of a polished villain; Mr. Bonhote Wilson as Sir Dorian makes a fine manly hero; Mr. Maitland Marler as Hogg is genuinely amusing; Miss Rosamond Burton is admirably placed as Lady Gwendolen; Miss Cissie Carlton is delightfully vivacious as the smart Lady Goldburg; and Miss Grace Leslie is an excellent Lady Marion.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Fred Karno's company, in *Yap Yaps*, give an excellent representation; Austin Rudd is, as usual, responsible for roars of laughter; Florence Yaymen proves a strong addition to the bill; the Bros. St. Clair perform some brilliant comedy cycling business; and Hunt and Thomas are responsible for a witty and original sketch, entitled *The Wire and the Liar*. Other strong contributors are the Denaro Bros, equilibrists, Harry Morris, and Maidie Barker.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Manager, Tom Diacoff.—The four Jumels head the bill in a novel musical act; Les De Loime Juvenile Troupe (nine in number) appear in a garden scena, magnificently staged, over three hundred electric lights being used; Sim Maree gives a clever contortion act; the Two Morbois are refined singers and dancers; Miss Edna Cragge as a burlesque artist finds favour, as also does Miss Ella Ray, popular chorus comedienne; Fox and Melville (song illustrators) appear in a speciality, "Vocal Pictures"; and Johnny Dewar (comedian) and the Alexscope, with pictures, make up a pleasing bill.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's excellent company present *Leah Kleschna*, and its success is marked by crowded houses. Miss Bessie Rignold as Leah Kleschna acts charmingly, and is a big favourite; Mr. William Clayton portrays Kleschna in an exceptionally powerful manner; Mr. Charles Barrett captivates his audience by his pleasing impersonation of Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is a capital Raoul Berton; Mr. Graham Pockett obtains well-deserved applause for his clever portrayal of Schram; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne is clever as General Berton and Valentine Favre; Miss Ethel Russell is good as Madame Berton; and Miss Emmie Wallace well undertakes Clare Berton.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Secretaries, Messrs. H. S. Davies and Phillips.—The Columbia Pictures are having a successful run, and exhibit some very fine films.

PORTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The Three Prestons present a screaming absurdity *The Liftman's Rise*; Bert Maddison is a popular Welsh comedian; Leo and Roland introduce a sensational ladder act; Arthur Royer is a marvellous acrobat and comedian; Curtis Leo and his fighting rooster, assisted by Little Noblesse, give a funny act; Tom E. Finglass sings chorus songs; and the Palascope projects the latest animated pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Preceded by *Aunt Rebecca*, *The Little Damozel* was introduced locally on Monday by Miss Ida Molesworth, Mr. Mark Blow, and company. Both in the lighter and the pathetic side Miss Molesworth as Julie sustained her reputation; the cynical Recklaw Poole was a clever sketch by Mr. Frank Lacy; Mr. Geo. A. Brandram portrayed the schemer, Captain Partington, with ability; Mr. Mark Blow's rendering of the Hon. Fitzroy Lock was clever and amusing; Miss Roxy Barton was seen to a advantage in the small part of Sybil Craven; and Messrs. Julian Cross, W. J. Slack, and Reginald Hargreaves were effective.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Better Land*, presented in Portsmouth for the first time by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., is a stirring drama with a strong domestic interest. Mr. Douglas Watson is a capable hero; Miss Margaret Trevosper gives a vivid and realistic picture of Doris; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe plays the villain Hubert to perfection; Miss Bella Moody delineates amusingly the character of Aunt Jemima; Mr. Fred Richards and Miss Kitty Terris as Tom Tadpole and Polly Perkins respectively, deserve praise for their efforts to amuse; and a strong cast includes Mr. Hill Cremer as George Grant, Mr. Paul Milne as Bill Bones, Miss Gertie Moody as little Harry Radcliffe; Miss Madge Trevelyan as Mercedes; and Miss Emily Entwistle as Tessa.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The principal turn here this week is a dramatic episode of ancient Egypt, entitled *A Royal Rival*, with Miss Esther Phillips in the chief part, the Queen of Egypt. She is ably supported by a strong company. The Four Sydney Girls are charming danseuses; the Two Anartos amuse with their witty dialogue; Bert Harrow is a clever eccentric comedian; Ian Colquhoun, a powerful baritone, renders the patriotic song "Mighty Mother England," with fine effect; and an excellent programme also includes Raie Walters, comedienne; Blake and Granby, comedy duologue artists; Charles Ibbotson, America's Black Dame; and Payne's Bio-photoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Harry Fragson is paying a return visit, his répertoire includes "Ladies, we love you all," "By Aeroplane," "John Bull's Budget," "Billy Brown," "Gifts of Nature," and his old success, "The employment agency"; Hebrew mannerisms have amusing exponents in Lowenwith and Cohan; a humorous sketch *A Medical Muddle* is smartly played by the Edward Marris Trio; Zethus is an expert cornet soloist; the Brothers Werds displayed ability as eccentric acrobats; and Chas. Cardow, Rayburn and Dix, Chris Baker, Dolly and Madge McCalla also appear with success.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—*The Belle of the Orient* is presented her by Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts; a laughable sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*, is humorously played by Sandy McNab and company; a picturesque and artistic scena *The Garden of Terpsichore* provides Alice Rex and the Xentric Troupe of dancers with scope for the display of their skill; barefoot dancing has an admirable exponent in Lily Belle; George French's rink and football songs hit the popular taste; Sydney Brandon's impersonation of Matthias in *The Bells* is capital; and Dorothy Sephton, the Warringtons, Garti and Law are good turns.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Ian Robertson is paying a first visit to Preston with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Ian Robertson plays throughout with an earnestness that holds his audience spellbound. Mr. Billington as John Wright is admirable throughout; Mr. Woodall-Birde, as the artist Christopher Penney, is excellent; Mr. Tyman is most realistic as Major Tomkins; Mr. Brown a typical Jake Samuels; and Mr. Garthorne a clever exponent of the Cockney "bounder," Harry Larkcom. Miss Delphine portrays the Major's wife realistically, and Miss Everest is to be congratulated on her clever rendition of Vivian. Miss Wills as Miss Kite is another exceedingly clever portrayal; Miss Ripley being no less successful as Mrs. De Hooley. Mrs. Sharpe as enacted by Miss Thomas is a finished bit of acting; and Miss Parsons scores with her clever and natural portrayal of the slavey Stasia. *Come Here*, by Ian Robertson, precedes, and is ably acted by Messrs. Gedge Tyman, Wilson Blake, and Barbara Everest.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas E. Clarkson.—*Hush Money: or the Disappearance of Sexton Blake* is the attraction here. Mr. C. Barrington Foote as Sexton Blake gives a vivid and dramatic portrayal of the celebrated detective of fiction; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson is a capital John Shard; and Messrs. Robert Barton and J. H. Darnley as the Earl of Montressor and Lord Walgrave are most capable. Mr. Harry Hartley gives a clever impersonation of Tinker, while Messrs. John Lowther and William Finch display much histrionic ability in the characters of Nathan Finch and Jem Tooley respectively. Miss Theresa Osborne gives a sympathetic rendering of Lady Muriel; Miss Agnes Paulton is a most amusing Euphemia; Miss Lillie White an excellent Mary Woodford; and Miss Annie Wilden an exceedingly clever Auntie Crooks. The remainder of the characters are in able hands, and the piece is realistically mounted.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Mr. William Watson's comic pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is proving a good draw. Mlle. de Rose is a sprightly Robinson Crusoe, with some good songs and an excellent stage presence; Miss Hilda Claremont a dainty Polly Parkin; Phil Lestor an exceedingly funny Dame Crusoe; and Billy Watson a humorous Will Atkins. As the Terrible Twins Miss Ettie and Joe Waldron are great favourites and present excruciatingly funny specialities. The Three Royal Temples as the Queen, Princess Pearl, and Prince Pearl contribute some excellent vocalisation, as do also Miss Ruby Carlton, an imposing Wavina, and Cliff Dacre as Wreckeros. Specialities are also supplied by the Three Royal Temples, Bendene (the Crocodile), Lambert and Butler (the Robert and Bobby), Sisters Gaye, and "Vererie." A sprightly chorus, tasteful dresses, and well-executed scenery help to make up a most successful production.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company is doing well with *Temptation*. The impersonation of Hubert Thorne by Mr. Norman A. Overton leaves nothing to be desired; and Sir Charles Tremaine has a strong exponent in Mr. Dudley Wynton; Mr. Arthur Trail enacts the Blind Fiddler to perfection; and Mr. Frank Ayrton keeps the house in good humour as Bob Saunders, and is ably assisted by Miss Madge Seymour as Emily Eighteen. Miss Nora Carton is seen to advantage as Hilda Dundonald; and Miss Beatrice Selwyn is very creditable as the adventuress, Ivra Bright.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Jury's bioscope pictures have constituted the chief attraction at the Palace this week. The films are as amusing and interesting as ever, and there have been large attendances of the public. The varieties are also excellent.

MARINA THEATRE.—There is a fine variety of subjects here, and a capital turn has been contributed by Bonnie Little Alice, child comedienne and dancer.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees the Manchester Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—The artists engaged here are: Clarice Mignon, who certainly is a most accomplished executant on instruments of the banjo species; the Maros, who create and keep alive roars of laughter from an appreciative audience, the antics of the performers being both amusing and clever; and Mr. Arthur Bright gives a most enjoyable turn with song and pipe. The pictures are again very good, and include Calino Plays Billiards, An Indian Runner's Romance, The Blackleg's Conversion, Young Lady's Romance, Cherries, Blue Swan Inn, The Sights of New York, and When We Called the Plumber In.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is here with *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Keith Fraser gives a fine character impersonation of the Emperor Napoleon, Miss Violet Ellicott makes a very favourable impression as the unhappy Empress Josephine, Miss Winnie Tempest is an excellent Marie Louise. The parts of Stephanie (Miss Dorothy Garth), Marquis de Beaumont (Mr. Charles Sterling), Tallyrand (Mr. J. W. Roberts), and Grimaud (Mr. George Hudson) are particularly well rendered. The play is mounted in complete style. A complimentary benefit was accorded to Miss Violet Ellicott last (Friday) evening.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Druce.—The Child Trio are introduced by Mr. Edward Platt, and display ability as juvenile musicians; the Sisters Gilbey appear in a capital musical and dancing act; the Maningos give an effective head and hand-balancing turn; F. Mozzetto is a dexterous juggler; Jenny Lynwood makes a smart appearance as a Highlander, and sings well; Lytton and Bland present a good sketch entitled *A Lesson in Love*; Teddy L. Benn is an acceptable light comedian; and Karr and Kooney, the comedians in scarlet, are well received. The Bioscope completes an excellent show.

THE VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE (Broad-street), WEST'S PICTURE PALACE (West-street), and BIO-PICTURE LAND (King's-road) are all giving good shows, and the exhibitions continue to be well patronised.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm is highly successful in the part of Uncle Tom, and Mr. A. Hayes is very effective as Phineas Fletcher. Mr. Charles Harrington has a great part as Mr. St. Clair; Mr. David Blair gives a thoughtful rendition of the part of George Harris; Mr. John Gibson scores as Mr. Wilson; Legree is capably enacted by Mr. Victor Gardom; Mr. Reginald Kloof is deserving of mention as Marks; Miss Hero Hathaway is very natural as Eliza Harris; and Miss May Turner is pleasing as Mrs. St. Clair. Miss Helen Douglas is very prim as Aunt Ophelia; Miss Annie Watson is most amusing as Topsy; Miss Gem Lloyd as Little Eva speaks her lines with telling effect; and Miss Hettie Johnson is deserving of mention as Cassy.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—"George the First," the highly trained chimpanzee, heads the bill here, and Mr. Dandy George is deservedly applauded for his excellent training; the Brothers Ashley are paying a return visit with the boxing sketch, "Next, Please," and cause great amusement; the Sivronis present a very interesting musical burlesque, "Opera Gone Mad"; Wilf. Burnand is well received; Mahatma is a most mysterious act; Queenie May is a pleasing vocalist; Steve Bartle gives a finished concertina selection; and J. H. Wakefield is deservedly applauded. Special pictures by the Hipposcope, A Daughter of the Sioux, are highly appreciated.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Fast Life*, presented by a competent company, drew a good audience on Monday. Mr. Frederick Garratt made an excellent villain as Sir Oliver Franklin. The hero, John Dixon, was ably sustained by Mr. Walter Steele. Mr. Willie Barratt (Tommy Burk), Mr. Ed. Kingsley (Lord Craven) and Miss Maude Ryder (Juliana) combined effectively in the comedy business. Miss Beatrice Hone as Lady Franklin and Miss Lilian Ross as Mrs. Dixon were seen to advantage. Mr. John Cummins, Mr. James Hamilton, Mr. Thos. Beasley, Mr. Hal Howles, and Miss Violet Douglas were also good.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond.—Brown and Le Clerq with their *Black Justice* keep the house in roars of laughter. Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs get much applause for their skilful acrobatic work; J. H. Carney, in his smart quick-change work and stilt-dancing, is much appreciated; Kittee Rayburn scores with her songs. The programme also includes clever work by Herbert La Martine eccentric dancer; Kitty Jones, comedienne; Willie Garvey, comedian; Tiny and Mite, juvenile artists; Frank Bertram and company in *The Chaperon*; and Clito Clifford, expert buck and sand dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company are presenting the sensational drama *The Face at the Window* before good houses twice nightly. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe smartly portrays Paul Gouffet; Lucio Delgado is forcibly presented by Mr. Haughton Macauley; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is a charming Marie De Brisson. The comedy business is entrusted to Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter Pottleberry and Miss Nita Imeson. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps (Lucien Cortier), Miss Marie Pemberton (La Pinau), and the other members give good support.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent pictures include Pardners, a powerful Wild West drama, The Cap of Fortune, The Grandsire, Calino Goes Shopping, A Child's Forgiveness, The Bridegroom's Joke, and A Lesson in Domestic Economy, with songs by Mr. Tom Sherlock.

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilb

ladies of the cast, headed by dainty and tuneful Miss Netta Lynde as Christine, were all very charming; and the well-dressed chorus gave valuable assistance.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company received hearty applause on Monday from a crowded house in Mr. C. A. Clarke's very interesting domestic drama, *A Broken Heart*. The favourite artiste, Miss Sheila Walsh, acted with her accustomed grace and emotional ability as the heroine; Mr. Harry Cullenford, a sound and experienced actor was a powerful representative of the blacksmith; and all the other characters were cleverly played.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The exciting drama, *For Honour and Revenge*, is being performed here by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's excellent company. Mr. Montague Beaudyn appears successfully in the strong part of James Galston; Miss Irene Munroe makes a handsome and dramatic Maud Desmond; and other characters are well played by Messrs. Chas. D. Pitt, G. E. Dunstan, A. Tomlin, Arthur Cresswell, John Taylor, A. Britton Bernard Dawes, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Cora Patey, and Miss Irene Stanhope. Thursday was the "big night" of the year, when the popular and genial manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay, took his sixth annual benefit at the Alexandra.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A pantomimic sketch of a kind once familiar to pantomime goers is Messrs. Marsh and Jewil's *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*, in which a series of wonderful mechanical changes are introduced, with cleverly invented rock scenery and startling lighting effects. The Elliott-Savonas, with their brilliantly-mounted musical fantasia, *The Palace of Orpheus*, are loudly applauded; and the other performers this week are the Siems; Mr. Rich Taylor, ventriloquist; Powell and Vesey, novelty entertainers; Mr. Frank Cass, comedian; Fayre and Manning, in an original act; the bioscope, with new pictures; and Mr. Victor Travers, comedian.

The Hippodrome.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A well-staged dramatic episode, *Gentlemen, the King!* was presented on Monday by a first-class company, headed by the favourite leading actor, Mr. Henry Bedford. Mr. Jock Whiteford was very sucessful in his songs, stories, and dances; and others who were cordially received were that diverting pair, Goodfellow and Gregson, comic duettists; Lloyd and Lane, sketch artists; the Navarros, jugglers, &c.; Mona Colbert, hoop expert; Mr. Tom Lee, vocalist, &c.; a humorous comedy trifle (acted by artists of the Gymnase Theatre) was the bioscope film, and the episodes depicted caused great laughter.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Miss Ella's Lions top the bill, and give a series of startling and wonderful feats; Wee Madge, in dance and story, is an attractive and clever artist; Bob Stephens is a smart comedian and skilful dancer; the Warners contribute a diverting and up-to-date musical and terpsichorean medley, entitled *A Musical Rehearsal;* Jessie Star, in Scottish character comedy, merits high praise, her whistling solos being meritorious; while King Leo, with his precocious ventriloquist's dummy, Jerry, vastly entertains. Pictures new and good complete the programme.

SMETHWICK.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Breed of the Treshams*, by arrangement with Mr Martin Harvey, is being presented here by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Lieut. Reresby (called The Rat) is admirably acted by Mr. Sidney Bland; Mr. Alfred Holles does well in the part of Viscount Dorsington; Mr. George Butler gives a faultless impersonation of Clement Hungerford; Mr. George Traill is good as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; Mr. L. Lingham is effective as Colonel Bagshaw; Mr. Sydney Courtenay is well placed as the cowardly Captain Stanhope; and the young lovers, Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham and the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, are well-studied impersonations by Mr. Walter Graham and Miss Mildred Hodgson. Batty is presented with much spirit by Miss Grace Harlington

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietary, the Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.—Marie Lloyd heads the bill, and is proving very attractive. The programme also includes Dot Moss, comedienne and banjoist; Fred Evans, comedian; Ray Espinosa, dancer; Orpheus, musician; Balles and Cussick, in a comedy act; and Maxine and Bobby, comedy acrobats.

Empire Theatre.—Sole Owners, the Southend Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Herr Adam Seebold.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company is here in *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*. Mr. Norris is responsible for the part of Count Skariatine, which he portrays very naturally; Mr. J. W. Benson North as Anton Skariatine, is a refined villain; Mr. G. S. Petley as Dumnoff makes an effective hero; Miss Mabel Ormonde as the heroic Viera is an actress of high attainments; Miss Clara Nicholls as Akulina and Miss Gwennie Peek as Augusta are excellent.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Miss Lena Ashwell's principal company in the romantic comedy, *Diana of Dobson's* is paying a return visit here. The rôle of Diana Massingberd was capitally depicted by Miss Molly Tremaine, who displayed great versatility and histrionic power; Captain Bretherton had a clever exponent in Mr. Leslie Rea; Mr. A. A. Harris enacted the part of Sir Jabez with point; Miss Hilda Franks submitted an excellent impersonation of Mrs. Canteloupe; Mrs. Whyte-Fraser had a highly commendable representative in Miss Mary Crewe; the assistants at Dobson's were cleverly portrayed by Miss Nannie Hume, Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, and Miss Cicely Oates; and other good character sketches were supplied by Miss Marie Ault (Miss Pringle) and Mr. Leslie Crowther as Police-Constable Fellowes. The piece is preceded by an interesting playlet, entitled *Out West*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. James Bell's company is playing *The Idol of Paris* to good houses. Miss Annie Bell acts emotionally and vivaciously the part of Flare-Flare; Mr. Scott Leighton submits a powerful portrayal of Victor Cashello; Philip d'Esterre is capitally depicted by Mr. Alex Alexander; Mr. C. St. John Medley is good as Gustave Langlois; Mme. Sancterre is cleverly hit off by Miss Frances Bruce. The comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. H. Vivian Thomas as Tatave and Miss Annie Megson as Ann. The mounting is all that can be desired.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Chas. T. Aldrich, a protean and versatile artist, has a brilliant reception; Jack Sheridan is good in eccentric song and dance; Alice Kingsley, in her illustrated songs, is popular; Prince Milner Trio introduce acrobatic juggling and hoop manipulating; and the remaining good turns are Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer; Little Babs, juvenile comedienne; Mr. J. H. Booth and Mr. Geo. Garry, in a military song-scena, entitled *The Veteran;* and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Robert Macdonald and company are appearing here the last three nights of the week with Seymour Hicks's successful musical comedy, *The Gay Gordons*.

Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The star turn here this week is Miss Grace Darling, a vocalist well received for her powers as a singer. The special films produced are Mountaineer's Honour, The Little Violin Player, Fun With a Tiger, and The Theatre Pass.

STALYBRIDGE.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. K. Stewart McDonald.—Old favourites are again contributing to a well-balanced programme amongst them being Benson and Rose, in a cuologue *Elizabeth and the Baby;* the Eldrens, in their electrical garden scena, *The Spider and the Fly;* the scena vocas, with illustrated ballads; Carney Bros., comedy duettists; Nora Stockelle, soubrette; Leo Fields, comedian; and Anna Lombard, comédienne.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. M'Leod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is playing *From Convent to Throne* this week. Miss Mary Fulton is admirably suited to the part of Princess Maritza, and plays it with strength and dignity; Lieut. Ernesto von Hapsburg has a romantic exponent in Mr. Graham Woods; a fine performance is that of Mr. Wm. Passmore as General von Hapsburg; and Mr. W. Miller, with his wonderful make-up, is a most effective Baron Streisau. Miss Lissa Young makes a smart little Bugler; Miss M. Grayson looks fascinating in the character of Rosella; and Otto Felsen is capitally impersonated by Mr. T. C. Vane. Miss Katherine M. Davies is impressive as the Mother Superior.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Four Garricks, in their pot-pourri of songs and dances, earn much applause; the Floradoras also present a musical comedy, which is greatly enjoyed; Susie and Protti are wonderfully smart; and the Legardos perform some novel acrobatic feats. George Melvin dances well; Milner and Storey are entertaining; and the Three Cape Girls give a capital turn. Mr. Weisker's benefit, which took place on Tuesday evening, was in every way a decided success.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is paying its first visit here, and ably presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, has given much pleasure to large audiences. Mr. Alfred Goddard acts the part of Prince Hildred with natural ease; Prince Michael is effectively portrayed by Mr. Victor Rae; Prince Olaf has a dignified representative in Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox, and Mr. H. Burton makes an excellent Captain Hector. Miss Verity Page acts with real pathos and feeling as Camiola, and Miss Ethel Bracewell is delightfully charming as Monica.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A pleasing entertainment is given here this week by Seener and Fridkins' Imperial Russian troupe of singers and expert dancers. Among others appearing are Foley and Francis, amusing patter comedians; Helen Charles, in her clever imitations at the piano; Four Mayos, mirth-provoking burlesque skaters; Rosie Lloyd, a delightful comedienne; Doyle and Gibson, able comedians and dancers; Phyllis Seymour, a captivating vocalist and dancer; and Will Willis, comedian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—The rising young actor, Mr. George Munro, and a selected company are presenting a programme of Shakespearean plays. On Monday an excellent performance was given of *Hamlet*, with Mr. Munro in the title-rôle; Miss Doris Horrocks made a pathetic Ophelia; Miss Gertrude Littlewood was a finely tragic queen; Miss Nora Vaughan was excellent as a player Queen. The other parts were cleverly sustained by Mr. Howard Rose as Claudius; Mr. Ivor Barnard as Polonius; and Mr. W. Lawrence as Horatio; the rest of the company being admirably adapted to their parts.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stainton.—The chief attraction here is Percy Honri, in the musical phantasy *Concordia*, including Mlle. Quetta Papucci, a charming dancer; Harry Bickley is a popular eccentric comedian; Miss Ray Raymond, comedienne, takes well; Johnson and De Vere give a comedy cycling and wire-pot-pourri act; the Cosmopolitan Quartette are well received; J. H. Ellis is very entertaining; Tom Drum and Katie Major are clever comedy artists in a new scena *The Broker's Man*. The Bioscope concludes with *The Unspoken Good-bye* and *Diversions*.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre is appearing as Coupeau in *Drink: or, Easily Led*. The piece is well staged and well received

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The Chung Ling Hee Troupe present a varied and pleasing programme of juggling, illusions, acrobatic, and pigtail performances, the latter being really most astounding; Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, in *The Gipsy Revels* are excellently trained; Walter Ford, a local character comedian, scores a success; Joe Cookson presents a novel ventriloquial and cartoon number; and also here are Fred Dunstone, Tina Frank, Florence Conolly, and the Perfection pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre and Palace of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The Four Louberts head the bill here, and give a capital show of dancing, tumbling and comic acts; Pueblo and Cropp do a good turn as "The Swell et la Belle"; the Nicholsons are good comedy duettists; Harry Royde sings some smart songs, and wins much applause. The pictures are capital.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company is presenting *A Country Girl* to well filled houses. Mr. Coningsby Brierley, in the rôle of Barry, is a constant source of laughter; Miss Addie Lennard acts with much vivacity and piquancy as Sophie; Miss Anna Hickish gives a clever and humorous interpretation of the rusticated Nan, and charms all with her capital vocalism; Miss Dorothy Arliss gives a pretty conception of the part of Marjorie, and she and Miss Myfwany Newell, the Princess Meehelanah, excels in song; Mr. Nelson Hancock gives a meritorious performance as Geoffrey Challoner; and Mr. Joseph Bruce supplies a fitting portrayal of the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Percy Everard is good as Sir Joseph Verity as also is Mr. C. T. Chapman as Lord Anchester. The chorus work is exceptionally well done.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. C. Watson Mills's company is here in *The Love of a Princess*. Miss Dorothy Haigh gives a fine performance as Princess Idalia; Miss Josephine Lee is good as Constantia; and Miss Maud Steeple is an excellent Lady Irene; Mr. Frank Harvey gives an artistic portrayal of Prince Conrad. Messrs. John Burton, Beckett Bould, John Worth, and W. Laurence Doyle are all good in their respective parts. Messrs. Richard Vane and Francis Serle are the representatives of villainy and work well together in the rôles of Count Nicholas Danillo and Duke Scarfe.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Miss Juliet, with her sea lions, is heading the bill here, and the dexterity with which they perform their tricks causes considerable astonishment; Humpsti and Bumpsti appear in a clever and amusing acrobatic act; the Brennans are warmly received in their excellent dancing item; J. A. Wilson and his dog "Private Towser" supply an acceptable turn in the *Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant;* the Smythsons present a comic sketch with much success; Ugo Nap is highly amusing in his scena, *What is Home Without a Mother?* and Gladys Mavius is a pleasing comedienne.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A varied programme is being appreciated by large audiences. Madge Carew and Winnie Russell, assisted by the Avril Juveniles, supply an enjoyable vocal item, and Jack Barrie, Scotch comedian, delights his audience with his song and patter. The Pearl Necklace is the principal film, and is much admired.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company.—The principal picture here is entitled His Only Child. Bandoni, "the one-man band," is eminently successful in his instrumental items; the Bros. Lloyd contribute some clever work on the tight-rope; and the Three Krakes, in their amusing sketch, entitled *The Electric Car Conductor*, cause roars of laughter.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr Alfred Manners.—Mr. Charles Gibbon's company is on a visit here with *Alone in London*. John Biddlecombe finds a capable exponent in Mr. Russell Norrie; Mr. J. Vernon Shaw does well as Mr. Burnaby; Walter Burnaby is ably undertaken by Mr. Charles Gibbon; Mr. Gerald Jordan gives an accomplished performance of Dick Redcliffe; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson provides a clever conception of Old Jenkinson; Mr. Cecil Renton is successful as Spriggins; the comedy element is supplied with good effect by Mr. Frank Caffrey as Charlie Johnson and Miss Cartie Young as Liz. Jenkinson; Miss Laurie O'Neill enacts Tom Chickweed capitally; Miss Molly Monaghan is an amusing Mrs. Maloney; Miss Lenna Vernon makes a pleasing Ruth Clifton; the Paul of Little Hettie Hornsby deserves commendation; and Miss Nellie Clyde evokes sympathy with her telling portrayal of Nan

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures at this popular house continue to meet with approbation. The Imatra Rapids, The Triumphant Hero, The Snowstorm, and The Highlander's Defence are all very good, and the comic subjects cause endless merriment.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mrs. T. Wybert Clive's company, in *The Outcast of the Family*, opened on Monday to a capital house. Miss Gertrude Morrella gave a pathetic delineation of Ruth, the heroine, and was ably supported by Mr. J. W. Clyde as Harry Thorne, her lover. Mr. Herbert Bentone presented a powerful representation of Stephen Barry, the Village Blacksmith; Mr. Wybert Clive made an ideal Sir Henry Thorne, being well backed up by Mr. Bert Oates as Richard Martin and Miss Maude Leslie Cudd as Grace Redburn. Mr. Ed. W. Cudd played the part of Abram Wasper, the rascally bailiff, to the life; while Mr. Tom Armitage as Joe Bushell and Miss Freda Beckett as Nancy Bray made the audience see the humorous side of things whenever they got the chance. Mr. Herbert Reed as Seth Steeke and Mr. M. Platting as Uncle Sam also played well.

Town Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Andrew Martell.—A splendid series of pictures is being presented this week to packed houses. In Romeo Turns Brigand, a lovely coloured film, the father refuses to let him marry Juliet, so recourse is had to strategy. Romeo and his friends disguise themselves as brigands and seize and bind the father as he is out hunting. Then Romeo rushes to the house, abducts Juliet, and leaves her with the brigands (his friends). The father is then released, and returns home to find his daughter missing. Romeo comes up to press his suit again, and, learning the state of affairs, offers to go with the father and rescue Juliet. This offer is accepted, and they come upon the brigands. Romeo valiantly routs them and restores Juliet to her father, who repents and consents to their marriage. Scroggins Puts Up for Parliament sends the audience into shrieks of laughter, the persistence of the Suffragettes nearly proving our hero's undoing.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—A full house assembled here on Monday evening to witness Deerfoot, the Indian Trailer, a capital film; The Adventures of Foolshead as despatch carrier in Africa made the audience shriek with laughter; while The Patient from the Provinces provided some amusing situations. Other good films are Cleopatra, a beautiful coloured picture, and The Light That Came.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here in *The Soldier's Wedding*. The rôle of Jack Brown is admirably interpreted by Mr. Douglas Cecil; Colonel Jas. Grahame has an able exponent in Mr. C. Matthews; Mr. W. Scott does well as Tommy Spratt; Little Albert makes a vivacious and saucy Nipper; Mr. E. Davey is well cast as John Marks; Miss Dorothy Richardson is excellent as Nancy Lee; the rôle of Lizzie Walker is safely entrusted to Miss Bessie Walters; and Miss Nita Langford does good work as Julie de Beauvais.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—Scoring well here are Cline and Clark, comedy duo; the Reed-Oetzman troupe give a pantomime sketch; Renot, the newsboy mimic, is well received; and so are the Two Pemms. Buster Brown shows how to and how not to, skate. The principal pictures are Redwing's Gratitude and swimming pictures of Miss Annette Kellerman

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Topping the bill here is Charlier, the famous French ventriloquist. Barney Armstrong is a prime favourite, and Rowland Hill gets a good reception. Rob Rossi, Lena Brunton, and Alf Mendies all present highly acceptable items. The recent local disastrous flood, whereby six lives were lost and eleven houses demolished, is shown on the Empiroscope.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company is here this week in *The Thief*. Miss Georgina Wynter makes a capital Marise Chelford, portraying with great pathos the varying phases of the difficult part; Mr. Bernard Limpus is equally successful as Richard Chelford; Mr. F. Morland as Raymond Leyton and Miss Mary Forrester as Mrs. Leyton both do exceedingly well; and the trying rôle of Harry Leyton is well sustained by Mr. Carl W. Lindsey. Mr. Protheroe finds a clever exponent in Mr. W. Somerset.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Mme. Albani, assisted by Herr Zakvosky (violinist), is having an enthusiastic reception. The company also includes Lilian Rose and Dollie Denton, comediennes, the Bros. Litz, trick cyclists, the Bros. Durant, in an aeroplane burlesque, and Joseph Belmont, a clever silfleur.

WAKEFIELD.—Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Paul Conchas, Kaiser Wilhelm's Military Hercules, gives a marvellous performance, juggling with cannon balls and torpedo shells; Tom Child, popular Yorkshire tenor, is warmly applauded; Miss Edie Endon is a dainty and clever dancer; the Gilberts are smart on the tight-rope; Langley's Juveniles, including Miss Mildred Langley, a wonderful child pianist, merit applause; Laurie Leyton, ventriloquist, and Tom E. Dean, comedian, contribute popular items; and Mauritius, handcuff expert, is smart.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Everhart, hoop manipulator, submits a dexterous performance; Miss Minola Hurst and her miniature comedians submit a clever turn; Denby and Dent are amusing in their patter; the Tintos, acrobats, are much enjoyed; Martin Henderson, blind pianist, scores in a musical act; Charles Ulrick, barrel jumper, displays great skill; and W. G. Webber, bass vocalist, sings well.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Molly Seymour is a comedienne and violinist of considerable ability; Percy Curry causes much mirth; the Sisters Belmont prove themselves talented speciality dancers; Griffiths and Carmen score in a humorous skit; and the following also contribute to the programme: Two Vestas, character duettists; J. E. Waldow, top-boot and buck dancer; the Cheers and their performing cats; Geo. Marquis and Grace Truly in speciality act; Will Elliott, comedian; Laura Dale, ballad vocalist; Robinson and Craig, vocalists.

Premier Picture Hall. — Proprietor, Mr. McDonald.—Some excellent films are being featured at this popular entertainment resort, The Cowboy Millionaire, a dramatic film by Essanay, being worthy of special praise. Other pictures of note are The Last Deal, dramatic, by Biograph; The Egyptian Maid, dramatic, by Pathé. Harry Duneo, comedian, is appearing this week.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The return visit of the popular comedy *Are You a Mason?* has been welcomed here. Mr. Charles Frohman's company do full justice to the comedy, and the staging is effective. Mr. William Lockhart is specially successful as Amos Bloodgood; and Mr. Guy Leigh-Pemberton as Frank Perry scores. Mr. Archie Selwyn makes the most of George Fisher; and Mr. Stewart Quartermaine as Ernest Morrison is very amusing. Mr. Stanley Arthur as Hamilton Travers is well placed; Miss Agnes Maude as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood introduces many artistic touches into the part; Miss Grace Denbigh-Russell is a charming Mrs. Perry; and Miss Edna Godfrey-Turner as Lulu and Miss Leleth Gabriel as Annie are chic. Miss Peggy E. Yeoman is good as Lottie.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Harry Meldon has scored a big success here this week, and whether in portraying the jockey Dick Turpin or Stiffy the Goalkeeper he has the house Ashley, Miss Birdie Millstone, and Messrs. Fred Beck, Phil Inglis, and George Tichborne are other prominent members of a hard-working and efficient company, whose efforts are ably seconded by the skilful musical directorship of Mr. Surtees Coyne.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company, under the direction of Mr. A. B. Mackay, is appearing in the domestic military drama *A Woman Worth Having*, a piece full of striking situations and well staged. Mr. Sydney Barton is admirable as Czar Nicholas; Mr. A. B. Mackay is excellent as General Borinski; Miss Trixie Leighton has a striking part as Lola Kalnovsky; and Miss Margaret Noble is charming as Roma Panioff. On Wednesday night, by special request, *Trilby* was announced.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is presenting *The Dairymaids*, splendidly staged and dressed. Miss Winnie Hall is a charming Peggy; Miss May Casson as Winifred sings admirably; and Miss Nellie Le Breton as Eliza is distinctly good. Mr. Norman Bowyer makes a capital Joe Mivens; and the other parts are excellently sustained.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levey and J. E. Cardwell's juvenile company are performing *Hop o' My Thumb*, which is excellently staged, prettily dressed, and replete with sparkling songs, good dancing, and wholesome fun. The title-rôle is undertaken by Little Georgie Harris, a wee mite full of quaintness and precocity; Miss Kitty Trewhitt is a handsome Prince U-No, and her dashing vivacity gains many admirers; as the dame and her husband Mr. Vivian Wakeman and Mr. E. W. Delman are responsible for much fun; Cowley and Rick's delineation of Hebrew character is most amusing. A special feature of the performance is Tommy (the smallest man in the world), and in this part Mr. Harold Pigott, who is twenty-three years of age, 23in. in height, and weighs 24lb, is most amusing; Miss Kitty Rafferty is charming as the Princess, her singing and dancing being prettily done. Specialities are introduced by Vivian Wakeman (clever in character and instrumental imitations), Cowley and Rick, Little Georgie Harris, and Miss Gladys Wyse, the Scotch dance by the latter being particularly neat.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. F. Thompson.—Fatmah Diard, a sweet-voiced prima donna, is again charming her audience with her rich soprano; Les Romanos prove experts in the manipulation of a variety of musical instruments; J. C. Scatter, a Tyneside comedian and dancer, is funny at all times; Guyer and Valle, in an American humorous sketch *Wait Till the Finish*, introduce some novel dancing; Harry Leybourne at the piano is clever in mimicry; Coram is a skilful ventriloquist, and has some capital patter; Gobert Belling and his four-legged comedians are funny, the Spanish bull-fight provoking roars of laughter.

Palace.—Manager, Mr. G. F. Hill.—Black's pictures, always popular, are filling the house twice nightly with delighted audiences. The principal picture this week is a Biblical subject dealing with the fall of Babylon, the entry of Darius into the city, and the slaying of Belshazzar. It is a splendid film of considerable length, perfectly steady and clear and well acted. A capital picture of camp life in Alaska is entitled Pardners, and is very interesting. There are, of course, many humorous subjects, and these are immensely enjoyed, especially so The Past, Weary Willie Gets a Job, and the Professor and the Cats. Variety is contributed by the Velvees and their educated pony, and Randolph Slater, who presents some clever impersonations of music-hall stars and a well-conceived burlesque sketch, *She of the Smart Set*.

WEYMOUTH.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis. — A strong variety company occupies the boards this week. Morelli and Moore (Frank and Gertrude) appear in their comical and musical absurdity; a fine turn is provided by Creagh and Cruikshanks in the duologue entitled *Her Return;* Dan Daly, a parody vocalist, scores an instantaneous success; the Avalos are successful in their clever gymnastic and juggling act; Mr. E. is a successful entertainer; Miss Edie Anderson a pleasing and charming comedienne; and Miss Gertie Mason popular in her effective songs and dances. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope projects some fine pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Mr. William Pardoe's pantomime company is here in *Dick Whittington*. Miss Lottie Holland makes a dashing principal boy; Miss Nellie Rose is a pleasing Alice; and Mr. George Hyam's performance as Idle Jack is most amusing. The specialities include Mr. W. Pardoe, Miss Lottie Holland, the Edgendale Trio, the Sisters Volbecque, and the Pauletti Troupe of acrobatic cyclists.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thos. Swinton.—*Miss Hook of Holland* made its début here on Monday, and is being presented by Messrs. T. Dudley Bennett and Wray's company. Miss Biddy O'Brien played Sally Hook to perfection. The love affairs of Sally and Captain Paap and Bandmaster Vuyt created many diverting situations, and in all Miss O'Brien gave entire satisfaction. Mr. Frank G. Dunn conducted his band and love affairs with positively dazzling success; and Mr. Charles Simms deserves a special word of praise for his clever portrayal of old Hook.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The programme presented here this week consists of peasant variety. Miss Zelda, musician, introduces many novelties; Mr. Wal Owen is a diverting humorist; Mr. Bobby White a versatile entertainer at the piano; and Messrs. Fred Cedar and George Elgar are refined comedy entertainers in *Ye Dayes of Olde*. The pictures include some good films.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—*For Love and the King* is being presented here by Mr. C. Watson Mills' capable company. Mr. Mills gives a powerful portrayal of Gerald Meredith; Mr. Alfred Maurice supplies a skilful impersonation of the Miser Michael Obrenovic; Miss Joan Ellis makes a charming Natali; Miss Rosalind Tate as Edith Meredith; Miss Marie Danvers Smith as Grazia; and Miss Laura Munro as Princess Milania also render excellent service. The mounting of the play is picturesque.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—Premier position on the bill is occupied by Mr. Barnold's smartly-trained canine celebrities, who cause endless laughter; May Henderson is loudly applauded for her coon songs; the Gascoignes are expert jugglers, who introduce a humorous element into the exhibition; Tom Gott proves to be an original comedian; the Leotard Bros. hat throwers, are very popular; a graceful equatic performance is given by Kirk and Saraski; the songs of Miss Emmie Crewdson are much appreciated; Olive May is loudly applauded for her illustrated songs; the Sisters Keeble sing and dance themselves into favour; and Hillman and Russell are good.

WISHAW, N.B.—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The Selbonians, in their novel juggling act, are topping the bill here this week. Miss Addie Dorina, protean artist, in her act "Dr. Spot's Patients," is clever; Bert Weston, breezy and bright, in song and story, has an excellent reception; the Creedons, in a sporting act, do some double-club and double-ball-punching business; and Dorothy Dundas is a pleasing vocalist. The Bioscope shows some excellent new films.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Mr. James E. Lewis's company with *The Welsh Maid*, a musical play, is here. Both Miss Zeta Murdock as Jenny Jones and Mr. Laurie H. Stuart as Jack Francis have pleasing voices, and sustain their respective parts with ability. The cast also includes Mr. Victor Cannon as Carodic Howell, Mr. Herbert de Ville as James Seymour, Mr. William Peru as Dafydd Thomas, Mr. Norrington Lewis as Owen Evans, Miss Theresa Spencer as Mrs. Jones, and Miss Madge Raymond as Sally Davis.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Monday marked the advent here of a new departure on the part of the management, the first house commencing at 6, and the second at 8.30 p.m., instead of seven and nine as heretofore. This gives patrons the opportunity of witnessing a fine series of animated pictures prior to the ordinary variety programme. Carlisle and Willmon, in an original novelty musical act, head the bill, and their duets on two grand pianos are given with pleasing effect; the Four Panamas appear in *The Delineator*, which affords two members of the troupe opportunities for displaying their acrobatic agility; M. Rauschle presents clever impersonations of celebrities; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne, has two good chorus songs in "Mr. Poverty" and "Autumn Time"; Helen Martin's voice is heard to advantage in "Down the vale"; Vera Rochdale has a voice which is quite refreshing to find in a comedienne; and Frank Seeley is also here.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Evans.—A first visit of the latest and greatest of musical comedy successes, *The Arcadians*, is arousing enthusiasm. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson is inimitable as the ubiquitous James Smith, and subsequently as Simplicitas; Miss Gertrude Aylward as Mrs. Smith undertakes a difficult part with much success; Mr. Alfred Beers is great as the jockey, Peter Dooley; as Jack Meadows and Eileen Mr. Arthur S. MacDonald and Miss Molly McIntyre are an interesting pair of lovers; and Mr. Horace Nye is very comical as Time. Miss Violet Roberts (Cryssa) and Miss Sybil Traneredi (Sombra) are the charming leaders of the picturesque band of Arcadians, who include also Astrophel (Mr. John Montagu), Strephon (Mr. Arthur Tregonwell), and Damœtas (Mr. Robt. Lampriere).

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *A Girl's Temptation*, is drawing good houses here. As Guy Warren, the prodigal, Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays with dramatic force, and is ably supported by Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Stirling, another "prodigal." The villainies of Mark Klaw, as presented by Mr. Clifton Earle, are as devilish as art can make them; Mr. Charles Herbert plays the millionaire father with talent and feeling; and Mr. Tom Handley as the Hon. Charles Cade is also good. Mr. Freddie Bentley as Sniggles is droll, and the acting of Miss Blanche Lee as Annie Brown leaves nothing to be desired.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The pictures are very good this week, including The Honour of the Family. May Knight is an ideal singer; R. C. Note gives some clever vocalisations, and Daisy Devonport is a charming comedienne.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mac.—The film Who Swallowed the Sponge? is a laughing success. Miss Nancy Renshaw sings clever coon songs, and Mr. Clifton Hall is a first-class baritone.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The Co-operative Variety Artists' Federation has arranged for the bill here again this week, it being the last of the four weeks' contract. Excellent audiences have attended the various performances. The principal item on the programme is provided by Sid Bedford and company with *The Second Mrs. Chester*. Other turns include Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators, harmonica players, and vocalists; a novel comedy act is given by Farley, Rennie, and Farley, entitled *Fun at a Railway Station*; an excellent comedy character-study of Lancashire life is introduced by Rousby and Rene; and some clever whirlwind dancing by the Czar's Royal Troupe of dancers. Other acceptable items are provided by Halter and Ray, American comedy artists; Tom Garland, a clever ventriloquist; and Harry Maynard,

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MARCH 9.—*A Son of the People*, a drama in three acts, by Sophus Michaelis, was produced at the New Theatre on the 28th ult. Earlier in the season it was produced at the Irving-place German Theatre, under the title of *A Revolutionary Wedding*. In the original Danish it was first performed in Stockholm on Oct. 10, 1908, and is said to have been well received in several European cities. The rehearsals were conducted under the supervision of the author, who is visiting New York during a tour around the world. The drama deals with a fictitious episode of the French Revolution. Ernest des Tressailles joins the Royalist forces in their last rally. He is in love with Alaine, daughter of the Comte de l'Estoile, and has been engaged to her since childhood. Alaine is a woman of strong character, while he is weak and vacillating. These two are married in the chapel of the Fortress Condé, and Ernest prepares to leave his bride of a few hours in order to join the Royalists. The time is April, 1793, the scene is a salon in the Château Trionville, and the action takes place within thirteen hours. A spy sends word to the Revolutionists that the young Royalist may be caught, and immediately after the wedding we hear the strains of the "Marseillaise," while shots are heard, and the Revolutionists appear in the courtyard. Colonel Marc Arron is in command, and when his soldiers invade the château they recognise the bridegroom as a nobleman. He is arrested and condemned to die; but the Colonel intercedes in his behalf with Montaloup, Commissioner of the Convention, and the aristocrat is allowed a few hours more in order that he may pass them with his bride. Then he is sentenced to be shot at six o'clock in the morning. The condemned man is overcome with fear. Alaine tries to comfort him, but he pays no heed to her, and in desperation she finally sends for Colonel Arron, and offers to give herself to him in exchange for her husband's life. He consents, and the aristocrat dons the officer's clothes, receives the countersign, and escapes. Alaine now refuses to carry out the compact. She has intended to trick the Revolutionist; but his behaviour in the face of danger, contrasted as it is with the cowardice of her husband, arouses her admiration, and for the first time in her life, when she understands the situation, her affections are awakened. For what he has done Colonel Arron will have to take the escaped prisoner's place before the firing-party in the morning. This "son of the people," however, is not only a soldier but a philosopher, and he accepts the inevitable. Until six in the morning he will sleep. But Alaine has yet to understand the full extent of the sacrifice he is making. Montaloup, the leader of the court-martial, pleads with Arron and tries to save him. The one glories in his resolve, and the other deplores it, yet rejoices in Arron's bravery, while Alaine, unobserved, stands by and overhears. When the soldier's courage and the depth of his devotion are made clear to the high-spirited girl, she keeps her word, and surrenders herself to him. So Colonel Arron enjoys a few brief hours of happiness, and pays the penalty in the morning, when the soldiers send half a dozen bullets into his body.

With Mr. John Mason and Mr. George Fawcett representing Marc Arron and Montaloup respectively, the performance of this play could hardly fail to give intense satisfaction. The two characters, in fact, are admirably realised, and the stirring scenes of the drama are enacted in a powerful and vivid manner. Miss Katherine Kaelred, Mr. Walter Hale, and Mr. Thomas McLarnie play prominent parts well.

"THE TURNING POINT," a play in three acts, by Preston Gibson, was produced on the 28th ult. at the Hackett Theatre. After a trial performance of the play in another city, the accusation was made that many of the epigrams it contained had been taken word for word from Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband*. On the opening night in New York Mr. Gibson appeared before the curtain and made a speech, in which he said that any similarity in expression or sentiment to the work of another author was "the result of uniform human experience," and that if there had been any "unconscious absorption" he hoped the audience would agree that it was a "creditable mental process." Parts of the dialogue have been published, however, side by side with extracts from Oscar Wilde's play, and the plagiarism is as plain as a pikestaff.

The story deals with the efforts of an unscrupulous financier, Frederick Ferguson, to obtain possession of a mining property in Virginia from its owner, Brent Breckenridge, who knows nothing of its value. A company is formed, and Ferguson persuades his friends to invest their money. The property is useless, however, unless a certain right of way is obtained along with it. In the meantime, Aline Anderson, a friend of Breckenridge, persuades him not to sell the piece of property that will afford the right of way, advising him to form a company of his own, and dig for the coal that has been found there. Breckenridge is in love with his fair adviser, but has decided not to marry until he has become a rich man. He acts on her advice, and prospers, while Ferguson fails. But Aline's mother has invested not only her daughter's money, but other funds entrusted to her care, and unless she can bring about a marriage between her daughter and Ferguson there seems to be nothing but bankruptcy and disgrace before her. Aline agrees to marry Ferguson, in spite of her love for Breckenridge; but the latter intervenes, and presumably marries her himself.

The play has proved fairly successful. Miss Grace Filkins as Pansy Parr, the young society widow responsible for most of the epigrams, plays the part delightfully. The character she portrays has little to do with the story, but her vivacity and wit prove irresistible. Messrs. Charles Gotthold, Edward See, and Cuyler Hastings acquit themselves well in important rôles.

"BRIGHT EYES," a musical comedy, for which the various authors of *Three Twins* are responsible, was produced on the 28th ult. at the New York Theatre. The latter piece was a musical version of an old farce entitled *Incog.*, and it proved enormously successful. In the new comedy, another farce, entitled *Mistakes Will Happen*, by Charles Dickson and Grant Stewart, has been subjected to similar treatment, and the happiest results have been obtained. A blending of fun and music sometimes proves enjoyable even to intellectual playgoers when the artistic proprieties are preserved, and this essential has not been overlooked by the authors of *Bright Eyes*.

The story of the play may be told in a few words. Tom Genowin, a comedian, has written a play called *Bright Eyes*, and John Montague, manager of the Morality Theatre, has undertaken to produce it. When the curtain goes up the scene represents a rehearsal, and this is conducted in a highly diverting manner. Montague is a "tough" specimen, who wants no married people in his company. So when he bullies Dorothy Mayland, the leading lady, and Tom defends her, it comes out that Tom is her husband, and the irate manager discharges the pair of them. Out in the cold world, with no visible means of support, seems to be the prospect before the young married pair as they sit on their boxes behind the scenes and prepare to depart, but before they leave the theatre Hunter-Chase, the proprietor, a very susceptible elderly gentleman, calls to see the manager, and takes a great interest in Dorothy from the moment he casts eyes on her. Mrs. Hunter-Chase, who accompanies her husband, is stage-struck, and Tom willingly undertakes to make an actress of her by giving her a part in *Bright Eyes*, the play that was being rehearsed when Tom and his wife were discharged by Montague. In order to help her husband to get his play produced for the entertainment of the Hunter-Chases and their friends, Dorothy humours her elderly admirer, and as Mrs. Hunter-Chase makes an appointment with Tom to be taught the whole art of acting, it comes about that the two couples have to dodge each other upstairs and downstairs and through trap-doors in approved farcical fashion in the Hunter-Chase carriage-house. The entire second act is taken up with this scene, and the rest of the play is made up of the usual ingredients of musical comedy.

Mr. Cecil Lean and Miss Florence Holbrook, a well-known vaudeville pair, are the principal players, and to their cleverness the success of the piece is largely due. Of the musical numbers the most popular are "Bright Eyes," a pleasing refrain that crops up at frequent intervals; and "Mrs. Casey." Miss Holbrook's humorous rendering of the latter song makes a big hit. Mr. Percy Lyndal is very good as the frisky Hunter-Chase; and Mr. Arthur Conrad, as a Cockney coachman, contributes some capital dancing. The piece, as a whole, provides excellent entertainment for musical comedy lovers. The book was written by Charles Dickson, and the music by Karl Hoschna.

THE notable engagement of Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe at the Academy of Music came to an end last Saturday, but on the 21st inst. they will return to fulfil another engagement at the same theatre. Particularly successful was their recent revival of *Twelfth Night*, with Miss Marlowe as Viola and Mr. Southern as Malvolio. Public appreciation of these eminent players was shown by the fact that the Academy was crowded at every performance.

"AS YOU LIKE IT," in which Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe have never before appeared together, will be produced during the return engagement. Prominent members of the company that supported Mr. Sothern last season in *Richelieu* and *Our American Cousin* appear in important rôles in the Shakespearean revivals, these including Messrs. Rowland Buckstone, Sydney Mather, Frederick Lewis, William Harris, Albert S. Howson, and Malcolm Bradley.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM began an engagement at the Broad-street Theatre, Philadelphia, on Monday, the 7th inst., and received a hearty greeting from a representative audience. The play was *The Mollusc*, by Hubert Henry Davies, and all reports state that it went splendidly. After several curtain calls at the end of the second act, Sir Charles addressed the audience, and expressed himself as being immensely gratified by his reception. It was twenty years since he had last appeared in Philadelphia on the same stage.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD fulfilled a return engagement at the Plaza Music Hall last week, and received a hearty welcome. His songs went better than ever, for the Plaza has its regular following, and the audience had thoroughly "caught on" to all the good points of Mr. Lashwood's melodious offerings—knew them all by heart in fact, and supported him more vociferously in the choruses than they did when he first opened there.

MR. PERCY G. WILLIAMS is about to open a new vaudeville theatre in Brooklyn, with special conveniences for the comfort of animal actors. There are to be baths, drinking-troughs, and other accessories.

MISS ADELINE BOYER, a California girl, who is said to have made a reputation as a dancer in London and Paris, appeared with great success at the American Music Hall last week. Her act is called *A Princess of Israel*.

MR. NORMAN AND REPERTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As there is much talk nowadays about repertory theatres and repertory companies, perhaps I may be permitted to state that for over twelve consecutive years I have run practically the only repertory company in existence in the English provinces (assuming a repertory company to be a company that produces all styles and types of plays). I have produced Shakespeare, modern, and costume plays and comedies, and modern farce. The living authors whose works I have endeavoured to interpret include Ibsen, Pinero, Henry Arthur Jones, H. V. Esmond, and Oscar Wilde amongst others, and I have produced a considerable number of plays by lesser-known authors whose work has appealed to me. Amongst these productions I might mention *Count Hannibal*, by Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge, who were the authors of the first dramatised version of Stanley Weyman's novel. At the present time over twenty actors and actresses who have fulfilled engagements with me are playing prominent parts in West End theatres. Mr Robert Hilton, for example, whose season at the Strand has ended so disastrously, was a member of my company for years, and played Richelieu in my production of *Under the Red Robe*, and no less than four parts, at various times, in my production of *David Garrick*.

A repertory company of this description has not met with very much support from the resident-managers of theatres. I continually read reports of speeches deploring the decline of the drama, and glowing with benevolence, that have emanated from the mouths of various managers, who have privately stated that there is no necessity for a repertory company, and have declined to hold out a helping finger (let alone a hand). Of course, there are exceptions, or my humble efforts would not have lasted as long as they have, but the usual attitude has been indifference. This is a mistake. A properly-run company of this description will always command a fair measure of support, in the country as well as in London. The only other similar company I can recall of late years was run by Mr. Ben Greet. But where is Mr. Ben Greet now? In America. Had Mr. Greet been, for example, a German, a Frenchman, or an Italian, he certainly would not have gone to another country to carry on his work. There are hundreds of playgoers at the present day asking what has become of Mr. Ben Greet, and why they never see his productions. If certain prominent managers of theatres would combine artistic with financial interests, the works of the best living and dead authors could be put before that section of the public that desires other food besides musical comedy and melodrama—there is such a section—in an adequate, if not an elaborate, manner, and without financial loss. Also the young actor and actress would have an opportunity of gaining very valuable experience. In my own company, Miss Beatrice Wilson (my leading lady) has played between thirty and forty of totally dissimilar characters, ranging from Lady Macbeth to Kitty in *The Marriage of Kitty*. My stage-manager, who has been with me for over seven years, has helped me to produce over forty plays also of totally dissimilar character.—Yours faithfully, NORMAN V. NORMAN.

The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.

THE means which made Germany a musical nation were suggested by Dr. F. G. Shinn in his address to the London members of the Incorporated Society of Musicians on Saturday night on the subject of "The Treatment by Bach of the Chorale in Organ Music." Dr. Shinn attributed the musical prominence of the Germans to the singing of chorales, which were mixed up with the national life. A large number were used in domestic services, and he believed there were families who sang daily chorales with the same regularity that we had breakfast. When Germany was only a collection of countries, as yet not jointed together into one Empire, it was the chorales that knit them together. Sir George Grove once told him that he believed the musical greatness of Germany was, to a large extent, due to the chorales having got into the nature of the people and made them what they were musically.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. PATRICK KIRWAN.

Mr. Patrick Kirwan was born in Ireland of Irish parentage on both sides. He made his first public appearance at Brighton on the platform, having taken up the work of public reading as Brandramm had done before him and Clifford Harrison was then doing. After touring the provinces, he came to London, and gave many public readings from Shakespeare and other dramatists at the Steinway Hall, St. James's Hall, and the Royal Albert Hall. Among other schemes, he launched an interesting one of "Three Centuries of English Literature, Drama, and Music," showing, by typical selections, the growth of the three arts. After becoming one of the few leading names in dramatic reciting, Mr. Kirwan gave several seasons of recitation at the Royal Albert Hall. He then turned his attention to stage-training, and, besides giving much private tuition, became Professor of Elocution and stage production at the Lyric and Dramatic Academy. In an open competition organised by the late London School Board he was elected Specialist Lecturer on the Speaking Voice, and was re-elected five times in that capacity. He also gave lectures upon this subject at Hailebury, Wellington, St. Edmunds, and other Colleges.

Mr. Kirwan made his first appearance on the professional stage as Drega, the warder, in Alfred Calmour's play *Cyrene* at the Avenue Theatre—now the Playhouse—afterwards playing for Mr. George Grossmith, jun., through the run of *Gulliver* at the same house. All this time Mr. Kirwan was continuing the teaching and study of expressive speech, and subsequently went to Paris, where he had the pupils of the Conservatoire passed under his examination, making a thorough investigation into the system of teaching.

In 1904 Mr. Kirwan formed his own company, under the title of "Patrick Kirwan's Idyllic Players," and gave his first season of pastoral plays at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Regent's Park, producing Shakespearean selections, and his own plays, *A Dream of Old Versailles* and *Priscilla*, as well as complete Shakespearean plays and Fletcher's *Wild-Goose Chase*. The following year Mr. Kirwan added to his open-air Shakespearean

MR. PATRICK KIRWAN.

productions two original presentations—his own adaptation from the French, entitled *La Marquise*, and John Lilly's *Gallathea*, now produced for the first time since the days of Queen Elizabeth. During the following years Mr Kirwan continued his open-air plays at the Royal Botanical Gardens in London, in addition to touring in Birmingham and other towns, and giving pastoral performances each year at the Hurlingham Club and at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

In the spring of 1909 Mr. Kirwan joined Sir Herbert Tree's company, playing for him at His Majesty's Theatre during the run of *The Dancing Girl*, and afterwards in the Shakespearean Festival at that theatre. Mr. Kirwan transferred his open-air plays last season to Leighton House, Kensington, where, under the patronage of Sir Herbert Tree, he produced a new and unpublished Greek Masque—*Achilles in Scyros*—by the Poet Laureate, in addition to Tennyson's *Foresters*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Gallathea*, &c.

Among the characters which Mr. Kirwan has played may be mentioned Bottom the Weaver, Prospero, Caliban, Benedick, Malvolio, Sir Toby Belch, the Sea Captain, Mirabel, Gringoire, Falstaff, Jaques, and Captain Loddra.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I should like to correct a little mistake in Mr. Lester Collingwood's "Recollections." He mentions "that fine old comedian Fred Yarnold," &c. Evidently he refers to my late father, George Yarnold. I never had the pleasure of being engaged at the Charing Cross Theatre—it was a little before my time; but as a youngster I often saw my father play there. I believe it was during W. H. C. Nation's management, under whose banner he also fulfilled successful engagements at Astley's and the old Holborn Theatre, then renamed the National. I may be pardoned for adding my father was a general favourite on and off the stage. Thanking Mr. Collingwood for his kind appreciation.—I am, yours faithfully,

FRED YARNOLD.

1, Nightingale-mansions, Nightingale-lane, Clapham Common, S.W., March 17.

A BENEFIT was accorded on the 11th inst. to Mr. Edwin Garth, the popular Mrs. Crusoe of the Bristol Theatre Royal pantomime, and was a regular "bumper." The production itself was somewhat curtailed, for among the attractions were Mr. Horace Mills and Mr. Charles Harvey, from the Prince's Theatre; Miss Irene Rose, who received a warm welcome; Mr. Dave Jenkins, who sang a new number; and the Sisters Albert, Messrs. Bennett and Martell, Harry Marks, Jack Percival, Ross and Yorks, Frank Maynard, Miss Judith Espinosa, and Mr. Frank Dunlop.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and Mark Blow's company opened their second week's engagement at the Opera House, Cork. As Prince Julian Mr. Douglas Murray invested the character with forcefulness and spirit; Miss Elizabeth Dundas as Vera, the slave, expressed tenderness and emotion with much refinement and effect; as Princess Claudia Miss Agnes Verity filled the part admirably. Mr. Charles E. Johnson as Bordoni portrayed the villain impressively; Mr. Ernest Clarke was an acceptable Lieut. Alexis; Mr Harry Benson as Patrick O'Brien created hearty laughter by his antics; and Mr. J. C. Cuthbertson as Otto was very good. The minor parts were well filled.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

On Thursday evening, March 10, a pianoforte recital was given by the pupils of Mr. Norman P. Cummings before a large audience. The programme commenced with Scherzo (Brahms) carefully played by Miss Eva Revell. Miss Amy L. Parsons had a hearty recall after her performance of Arensky's Study in F, and a very youthful pupil of Mr. Cummings, Miss Sally Widenbaum, gave an effective rendering of "Roumanian Dance" (Strelezki). Miss Dora Soper was much applauded for her finished playing of Serenade and Allegro Giojoso (Mendelssohn), while an advanced student, Miss Clotilde Hart, A.G.S.M., was very successful in Chopin's Ballade in G. Miss Dorothy Edmonds gave Bach's difficult Prelude and Fugue in B flat, and later in the programme an excellent performance of the first movement from Beethoven's Concerto in G. In the second and third movements of Sterndale Bennett's Concerto in F, Mr. Arthur Duley greatly distinguished himself. Mr. Duley's second piece was Scherzo (Tschaikowsky). A graceful Valse in G flat (Chaminade), played by Mrs. Florence Edwards, and Chopin's Fantaisie by Mr. Stuart Welch concluded a recital that reflected great credit on the pupils and their professor.

The pupils of Mr. John Francis Barnett gave an interesting pianoforte recital on Friday afternoon, March 11. There were some fifteen items in the programme, including three compositions by Mr. J. F. Barnett. Miss Ethel Bolus played Bach's Prelude and another selection, and Miss Frances Cox was successful in Schumann's Humoreske, Op. 28. Miss Dorothy Axtell neatly executed Chopin's Nocturne in F sharp, but her best effort was in Moszkowski's "En Automne." A graceful Liebeslied, by Mr. J. F. Barnett, was ably played by Miss Gladys Mills. The first performance of a Sonata in A minor (M.S.), by Miss Beatrice Dunn, was a pleasing feature of this recital. Miss Dunn, who is a pupil (for composition) of Mr. Barnett, displayed considerable promise in her Sonata, of which the cleverly-written Andante Con Moto and lively Allegro Molto Vivace were the most attractive movements. Miss Beatrice Dunn, who was much applauded, admirably performed her own work. Two clever pupils, Miss Jessie Attwell and Miss Dorothy Axtell, second pianoforte, were heard in a brilliant performance of the striking first movement from Tschaikowsky's Concerto in B flat minor, while Miss Margaret Gray deserved praise for her skilful rendering of Mr. J. F. Barnett's pleasing "Musical Landscapes," "Wild Flowers," "The Forge." In Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 13 (Liszt) Miss Dorothy Ellis displayed considerable technical ability, and Miss Muriel Kingsbury played Field's Nocturne in G flat and Mendelssohn's Lied ohne worte in C, with good expression. Other clever pupils were Miss Lily White, who gave Mr. J. F. Barnett's charming Nocturne in G flat, No. 2; Miss Bethwin Foss, heard in Chopin's B minor Scherzo; and Miss Greta Dunlop, who played the same composer's Fantaisie Impromptu. The programme concluded with Capriccio in B minor (Mendelssohn), performed by Miss Edna Burston and Miss Bethwin Foss, second pianoforte.

At the students' orchestral concert on Wednesday afternoon, in the hall of the City of London School, Dr. Cummings included in the programme four works of Dr. Arne in honour of the composer's two hundredth anniversary. Dr. Thomas Augustine Arne, born in 1710 in London, was the son of a furniture dealer. Educated at Eton, he was destined for the law; but, showing great musical talent, his father yielded to his desire to become a musician. In 1733 his first opera (*Rosamund*) was produced at Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre, his sister, the famous Mrs. Cibber, singing the principal part. In 1736 he married Miss Young, the singer, and died in 1778. Dr. Arne wrote thirty operas, two oratorios, and many glees and songs. "Blow, blow, thou wintry wind," "Where the bee sucks," and, above all, "Rule, Britannia," are his best known airs and *Artaxerxes* (1762) his most celebrated opera. "Where the bee sucks" is at the present day still popular in our concert rooms, and while England does rule the sea the composer of "Rule, Britannia" will not be forgotten. There is a certain old-world charm in all Dr. Arne's music, and a good performance of his Overture to *Artaxerxes* was secured by the orchestral students under Dr. Cummings. Miss Elsie Short (pupil of Madame Armstrong) cleverly executed the florid music in Dr. Arne's song "The soldier tired," from *Artaxerxes*, and sang recit. and air "Ah me, what fears oppress" and "Guardian angels," from *Alfred* (1740) with considerable vocal charm. The last example of Dr. Arne was the recit. and air "The star that bids the shepherd fold" and "Now Phœbus sinketh in the west" (*Comus*, 1750), most artistically sung by a talented pupil of Mr. Bantock Pierpoint (Mr Bevington Rosse), who possesses a really fine baritone voice. Sterndale Bennett's Pianoforte Concerto No. 4 in F was skilfully played by Mr. Arthur O. Daley, who deserved praise for his earnest playing of that exquisite musical gem the second movement of the concerto. Mr. Daley, who is a pupil of Mr. Norman P. Cummings, was warmly applauded. Miss Jenny Hyman was the accompanist, and the concert ended with the orchestral performance of the Overture to *Francesca von Remini* (Goetz).

MUCH to the regret of his numerous patrons Mr. Hy. Hearn has, we learn, resigned the management of the Borough Theatre, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

MR. SYDNEY ROSENFELD is writing a play, entitled *A Divorce Colony*, and in search of "local colour" is going to spend a few days in Reno, Nevada, where the divorces come from.

"CHANTECLER" costumes, styles, suggestions, songs, dances, jokes, and imitations will permeate musical comedy and vaudeville in New York during the next month or two.

FORTY years' service in the cause of music stands to the credit of Mr. John Hedley, the secretary of the Royal Choral Society, who is about to retire from the post in which he has been responsible for the organisation of practically every concert and musical festival held in the Albert Hall under the auspices of the Choral Society. Last week Mr. Hedley was honoured by the King in the form of the membership of the Victorian Order. Born at Woolwich some seventy-seven years ago, Mr. Hedley has seen active service in the Crimea. He can claim the distinction that he never missed attendance at a rehearsal, concert, or an examination of candidates for admission to the choir. During his connection with the Society he has tried from 17,000 to 18,000 voices.

MR. DE WOLF HOPPER, the "lengthy comedian," is fulfilling an engagement at the Forrest Theatre, Philadelphia. He is appearing in a new musical comedy called *A Matinée Idol*, this being an adaptation of Molière's comedy *Le Médecin Malgré Lui*, prepared by Armand Bernard, with music by Silvio Hein. Mr. Hopper impersonates an American actor, who arrives in Normandy expecting to teach elocution and dramatic art at a young ladies' seminary. When he reaches the place, however, he finds that the post has been secured by another. The principal of the school has a son who pretends illness to avoid being sent back to college, a little love affair requiring his presence at home. The actor turns doctor, aids and abets the young fellow in his adventures, and gets himself into all sorts of trouble, until he is finally exposed as an impostor. According to the local newspapers, Mr. Hopper has a rôle that is well suited to him, and he is still making the witty entr'acts speech that the audience looks for at every performance.

THE CREWE THEATRE FIRE.

The fire which broke out in the Crewe Opera House shortly after midnight on the 11th inst., and which we briefly reported in our last issue, was extremely disastrous. The theatre was closed as usual shortly after eleven o'clock, and the acting-manager, Mr. Ambrose Fischer, was engaged in his office over the entrance portion of the building until about an hour later. He was on the point of leaving when he detected a smell of burning, and going along the corridor leading to the left wing of the building he was amazed to find the male dressing-room beneath the stage on fire. He immediately ran to the fire station and gave the alarm. Returning, he attempted to get under the stage, where there are several hydrants. He seized a fireman's hatchet, and burst open the door, but was overcome by the smoke and flames, and had not a fireman rescued him he would have perished. He was unconscious for some time afterwards.

The Brigade, under Captain Harding and Lieut. Roberts, were promptly on the scene, and when the stage door was burst open they found the place was blazing like a furnace. It was seen from the outset that all attempts to save the building would be futile, and the firemen concentrated their efforts on safeguarding the valuable shop property by which the theatre is surrounded on three sides. Quite recently the lessee, Mr. Dudley Bennett, had fitted the stage with an asbestos fireproof curtain, and for a time this confined the fire to the stage, but eventually the archway above succumbed to the devouring element, and the curtain doubled up and fell. With this obstruction removed the fire made great headway in the auditorium, and the woodwork and fittings, consisting largely of pitchpine, became a ready prey to the flames. The brigade were summoned at 12.30, and by one o'clock the whole building was one great conflagration.

The Crewe Works Brigade came and offered their assistance, and, under Captain Earp, they played a prominent part in helping to restrict the fire to the theatre buildings. The roof eventually fell in, and, with its disappearance, the flames subsided somewhat. The fire, however, continued its work until every rafter and beam had been brought down. After two or three hours' hard work the fire was got under, (although the Corporation Brigade did not consider it safe to leave the premises until 3.30 on the Friday afternoon—after being on duty fifteen hours. The theatre had been entirely gutted, and only the bare walls and the iron supports and charred woodwork of the dress circle remained.

The theatre consisted of a very large stage—one of the best to be found in provincial theatres—pit, dress circle, and gallery. The dress circle was cosily furnished with easy chairs upholstered in plush, the front rows consisting of patent folding stalls, and it had only recently been fitted with patent gas radiators for heating purposes. All these perished in the fire, besides a large quantity of valuable scenery and the complete wardrobe of the *Dick Whittington* pantomime company, who were fulfilling a week's engagement. In addition to their stage clothes members of the company lost a quantity of private clothes, valuable jewellery, and some expensive saddlery, estimated to be worth £25. The only portion which was saved was the bar, but even the walls and doors of this compartment was badly charred. A number of valuable musical instruments, including two drums and a violoncello, were sacrificed, and the majority of these were not insured. The damage is roughly estimated at between £7,000 and £8,000. Mr. Dudley Bennett, since he took over the theatre, has spent hundreds of pounds in improvements. The origin of the fire has not been ascertained.

Much sympathy was naturally felt for the *Dick Whittington* company, and efforts were at once set on foot by Mr. Wallace Lumb, Mr. Henry Taylor, and others, to raise funds for their benefit. Mr. Lumb personally made a collection in the town on their behalf, and on Saturday afternoon and evening the company gave entertainments in the Town Hall (kindly placed at their disposal free of charge), which received a large measure of patronage. In the evening the Mayor (Councillor Wooldridge) attended, and Mr. Dan Thomas, who had met with such a big reception during the week in the rôle of Betsy, the cook, sang several character songs.

The name of Mr. Henry Taylor is closely associated with the history of the Crewe Theatre. In 1881 Mr. Taylor, who settled in Crewe in the 'sixties, took an active part in amateur dramatic performances. In the old chapel in Heath-street, which had been vacated by the Catholics for more commodious premises, Mr. H. Taylor established the old Lyceum Theatre. The gallery hitherto occupied by the choir was converted into the circle, and at the other end a stage was erected. Miss Bateman, Mr. F. A. Scudamore, and Mr. Frank Fayre were the heads of some of the first companies who occupied the boards, and the enterprise met with such support that Mr. Taylor set his mind on securing a larger and more suitable building. He accordingly approached the leading townsmen, and the result was the formation of the Lyceum Buildings Company, and the erection in 1887 of the theatre which was destroyed on the 11th inst. Mr. Taylor was appointed lessee and manager, and retained that position until some twelve months ago, when he disposed of his interest to Mr. H. Dudley Bennett, of the Shakespeare Theatre, London.

Before commencing his sermon at the Hightown Congregational Church on Sunday evening last, the Rev. C. J. Barry referred to the theatre fire, and expressed sympathy with the artists, on whom, he said, he had called. He had promised to forward any donations that might be entrusted to him to Mr. Dan Thomas. He (Mr. Barry) was giving 10s. himself.

We understand that the Lyceum Buildings Co., Ltd., have not yet considered the question of the reconstruction of the theatre.

MUSIC lovers in London over the Easter Holidays are promised excellent musical fare on Good Friday afternoon and again on Easter Sunday afternoon at Queen's Hall. On Good Friday afternoon the Queen's Hall Orchestra will perform some of their most popular numbers, including the "Pathetique" Symphony (Tchaikovsky), Prelude to *Lohengrin* and Good Friday Music (*Parsifal*), and the Overture, *Leonora*, No. 3. Miss Amy Evans, the new Welsh soprano who has so rapidly sprung into fame, will be the vocalist. On Easter Sunday the Queen's Hall Orchestra will again be heard in a programme consisting exclusively of excerpts from Wagner's works, the vocalist on this occasion being Miss Edith Evans. Mr. Henry J. Wood will conduct both concerts.

MR. FRANK ADAIR'S powerful company, in *The Heathen and the Christian*, is here this week at the Empire Theatre, Fleetwood. Mr. Adair takes the exacting rôle of Li the Avenger, and does not spare himself, giving a fine interpretation of a difficult part. He is ably supported by Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson, her intensely dramatic rendering of a heavy part being excellent. Mr. Ellis Carlyle as George Berresford is decidedly good, while Lieut. Lord Allandale has a capable exponent in Mr. Gerald Shirley. Hung Li is portrayed by Mr. Fred Withers in first-class style. Miss Stanley Burt is a sweet and winsome heroine. Becky Fibbins could not be in better hands than those of Miss Eva Reeve, who is a comedienne far above the average. Her songs and dances invariably receive encores.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, March 14, the Play, by Wilson Barrett, entitled

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

The crowded and interested houses which nightly applaud the late Wilson Barrett's engrossing story of the struggle for supremacy between the Pagans and the Christians in the days of ancient Rome amply prove the wonderful vitality of *The Sign of the Cross*, even after an existence of nearly fifteen years. Apart from its relationship to the Church, the plot is so dramatic as to enthral any audience who keenly follow the martyrdom of the early Christians. Mr. William Greet's company has not been allowed to deteriorate, but it is now as complete and efficient as in former years, a fact which the King's audiences have keenly appreciated. Mr. Lawson Butt gives a masterly performance of the Prefect Marcus Superbus, whose conversion from Paganism to Christianity is admirably represented. An excellent portraiture of the Emperor Nero is given by Mr. W. Mayne Linton, and Mr. Charles Aldred makes much of the tyrannical Tigellinus. Mr. Frank Woods' Glabrio is characteristically humorous, and Philodemus is well played by Mr. Harry Jones. Powerfully enacted is the Servilius of Mr. H. Thurston Harris, and Mr. Martin Palmer renders good service as Strabo. Mr. J. Wetherall's Lycinius is neatly represented, and Viturius is in the safe hands of Mr. Phil Ellis. A very impressionable performance is that of Favius, the Christian, by Mr. Walter Fleet, who receives able support from Mr. Henri Raymond as Titus. The boy Stephanus is well played by Miss Winifred Delevanti, her youthful intensity appealing directly to the sympathies of the audience. A brilliant success is attained by Miss Evelyn Hope in the part of Mercia, her extremely able acting eliciting vociferous applause. Miss Beryl Hamilton is an efficient Poppæa, and Miss Esme Lee is a bright and diverting Dacia. The revengeful Berenice is most picturesquely personated by Miss Dorothy Lart, an actress who should be heard of again. The scenery and appointments are completely effective, and the costumes are in excellent taste.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, March 14, the Drama entitled

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Patrons of the Marlborough have nightly crowded the house to witness Mr. Walter Melville's strong drama, which has been followed with intense interest and heartily applauded. The piece is effectively staged, and a strong company present it in a manner that commands the attention of the audience from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Mr. Otto Minster ably undertakes the onerous part of Jack Cunningham. His performance is sincere and genuine, and he well deserves the encomiums lavished upon him. As the villain, Gilbert Lindsay, Mr. Herbert Morgan is decidedly good, imbuing his part with a callous realism that brings into prominence all the malignity of a brutal nature. Mr. Charles Brucester materially contributes to the success by an admirable rendering of the rôle of Norman Marsh, and Mr. Herbert Goddard is suitably reserved as the solicitor, Robert Grimshaw. A character sketch of much merit is submitted by Mr. Harry Playfair as Joe Webster, a thief trainer, and as the Dodger, one of Webster's pupils, Mr. Horace Kenney portrays the part in a highly-efficient manner. As the eccentric physician, Dr. Milbank, Mr. Charles Barclay is in every way commendable, and Messrs. G. Vernon (P.C. Phillips), D. Cartwright (Vicar) intelligently interpret their respective parts. Miss Marie Duncan as Bessie Webster, the Beggar Girl, gives an artistic and pathetic rendering. Miss Olive Warne's excellent performance as Maud Villiers stands out with marked prominence, every phase of the part is handled with skill. Miss Lily Dunker acts in a quiet and telling manner as Elsie Cunningham. Miss Anita Playfair causes amusement as Lizzie, and Mr. Herbert Lloyd as the warm-hearted retired greengrocer supplies abundant cause for laughter.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, March 14, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled

"THE BONDMAN."

Prior to the closing of Mr. Robert Arthur's Notting Hill Gate playhouse during Holy Week, when certain improvements and renovations will be carried out, under the supervision of the energetic and capable resident-manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore, *The Bondman* is on a return visit. Mr. Hall Caine's poignant and powerful play is admirably staged and mounted, the scene at Sulphur Mines being a miniature marvel of realism and mechanical ingenuity. Mr. Philip Darien, a fine figure of a man, as the muscular, high-minded Jason, acts and speaks with impressive dignity and pathos. It is a fine character finely interpreted. Mr. Stanley Harrison, as his more psychical half-brother Michael Sunlocks, acts as a good foil, and earns the pity and esteem of the audience by an excellent all-round embodiment. Mr. W. H. Rotheram, in the parts of the old grandfather (played by the late Lal Brough) and Father Ferrati, displays versatility. Miss Violet Macaree is exceedingly good as Greeba, a performance full of latent strength. Miss Madge Lanerton does good service as the time-serving Mrs. Ruth Fairbrother, and Misses Ethel Hartman, Dorothy Radcliffe, and Florence Owen act well. Nor must we forget the dear little girl Mona, as acted so prettily by Miss Beatrice Maud Hughes, and the precocious Master Danny of Master Walter Neville. As Doctor Boni and Governor Testa Messrs. Fred J. Waller and Alfred Fisher are duly saturnine and heartless. Other small parts too numerous to mention are satisfactorily rendered. Mr. F. C. Pool is business-manager, and Mr. Reginald A. Hunt is stage-manager.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14, the Romantic Play, entitled

"THE PROUD PRINCE."

Dalstonians have this week the opportunity of seeing *The Proud Prince*, which, coming as it does direct from the Lyceum, is charged with all the attraction of a West End production, and is therefore being witnessed by full houses. The scenery, by Mr. E. C. Nicholls and his assistants, is much admired, the best work of the artiste being noticeable in the sets representing the mountain top, the cathedral at Syracuse, and the arena. The duties of stage-manager are undertaken by Mr. George Martin; while the special music composed by Mr. H. Sullivan-Brooke is rendered by an efficient orchestra under the direction of Mr. Arthur Robey. The acting of the piece is of that vigorous kind which is bound to please the playgoer who delights to see the characters positively alive. Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan, who appears as King Robert of Sicily, sets the lead in this respect, in fusing into the part a degree of vitality which, judging by the excellent tone of the presentation, is infectious. Mr. Frederic Sargent has a striking part as Count Hildebrand, the ruthlessness and ambitious characteristics of the personage being forcibly delineated. As Diogenes, the Court fool, Mr. Frank Ward gives an effective rendering of an amusing creature. The difficult task of suitably presenting the Archangel is admirably achieved by Mr. Cowley Wright, who succeeds in embodying the part with the necessary degree of awe-inspiring mystery. As Thereon, the executioner, Mr. Terence O'Brien impresses everyone with his power; whilst Mr. Ernest Stidwell acts Hieronymous, the priest, sympathetically. Mr. R. Leigh Ellis avails himself of all the opportunities presented by the part of Sigurd, Captain of the Guard, and Mr. R. Boult is dignified as the Archbishop of Syracuse. Miss Eileen Kerin as Perpetua is quite captivating, and Miss Vashti Wynne, in the totally different rôle of Lysabetta, Queen of the Courtesans, proves herself an actress possessing considerable power. The efficient cast also includes Miss Esther Whitehouse, Miss Lilian Dacroy, Miss Nora Jones, Miss Ethel Miller, Miss Georgina Milne, Miss Doris Reynolds, and Miss Kitty Wilson.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14th, the Comedy entitled

"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is composed of an excellent assemblage of comedians, who are able to invest the lines of this well-known play with interest, humour, and pathos; and the laughter of the audience is as genuine and sustained as ever. There may be other plays which claim to have had the longest run in the century, but surely there is no other comedy from which so many well-known catch-phrases have been taken and which will live so long in the memory of the playgoers of this century. Mr. Theo MacCausland Stewart as Col. Sir Francis Chesney gave an excellent account of himself as the elderly lover and fond father, although his rapid speech was at times difficult to follow. As Stephen Spettigue, Mr. Roy Byford was splendid, his sonorous voice and vigorous acting causing roars of laughter, and the fun never flagging while he was on the stage. Mr. John S. Woolley made a manly Jack Chesney, not too boisterous, but a typical 'Varsity man; and his love scenes were prettily conceived. Mr. Robert Burnett as his companion, Charley Wykeham, was full of fun, and looked very smart in his college colours and boating clothes. As the hero Mr. Stanley Cook gave a very finished performance, never degenerating into vulgarity, and in the last scene, where he meets his old sweetheart and has to lay aside the broad humour of the first part of the play, he was excellent. As Brassett, the scout, Mr. Sydney Compton was very good, as he has acted this part for some considerable time now. Miss Audrey Stafford appeared to great advantage as Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez, her stately figure and excellent voice making the part stand out as a thoroughly good performance. Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty Verdun was sweet and ingenue as could be well imagined, and acted cleverly and naturally. Amy Spettigue was efficiently enacted by Miss Phyllis Back, and Miss Bertha Wilson as Ella Delahay was simple and sweet as the ward of Donna Lucia. Mr. Lionel Gauthier's orchestra discoursed some exceptionally good music, including an overture entitled "One Summer's Day," which introduced many well-known old English ballads, cleverly arranged and linked together by the conductor.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14, the Farce, entitled

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

The varied programme that Mr. Fred Melville is presenting to his *clientèle* weekly receives every encouragement, and on Monday evening a capital house assembled at the cosy theatre on Brixton Oval to enjoy the fun of Charles Marlowe's farce, so excellently presented by Mr. James Welch's company. The artists seem to revel in their respective parts, and continuous laughter prevails throughout the evening. As the irrepressible Sir Guy de Vere, Mr. H. Langdon Bruce deserves warm eulogy. His drolleries and witticisms are irresistible, and draw forth delighted applause. As Isaacs, Mr. Charles Lloyd ably sustained the character of the rich Jew. Barker, the old retainer, is in the hands of clever Mr. E. R. Holloway, and he faithfully depicts the trials of that worthy. Whittle is most plausibly played by Mr. Lionel Brocknor; and Mr. H. Winton, as the humorist and jester, the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, caused much merriment. Mr. Colin Johnston is a capital Dean, and acts with admirable weight, solidity, and unction. Mr. Gerald Venning does his utmost with the despicable Sir Brian Ballymote, and Mr. Herbert Ransom ably fulfils the rôle of Herald. Miss Ernita Lascelles is an ideal representative of Lady Rowena—handsome, haughty, and dignified; Miss Isla Glynne is also to be warmly commended upon her skill in depicting Sarah Isaacson; Miss Adelaide Grace is admirable as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave; and Lady Millicent, Lady Marjorie, and Miss Kate Pottlebury find charming representatives in Misses Elspeth Oliphant, Marjorie Carton, and Peggy Bremba. Miss Ethel St. John is an attractive Alice. *When Knights Were Bold* is picturesquely mounted and dressed, and is preceded by *Millie's Mother*, in which Mr. H. Winton, Mr. E. R. Holloway, Miss Adelaide Grace, and Miss Elspeth Oliphant are seen to advantage. Mr. Newman Maurice sees very efficiently to the comfort of Mr. Fred Melville's patrons.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell, entitled

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."

Rupert Wogan Danescombe, Earl of Saxon Royal ..... Mr. Edward Rawlinson
Sir Ernest Cavendish ..... Mr. C. Hartopp
Dr. Mark Haven ..... Mr. J. M. Olivert
Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein ..... Mr. Barnett Lando
Evans ..... Mr. Syd Davies
Lord Tarporley ..... Mr. J. W. Lindsay Ellis
Lady Gorrinking ..... Miss V. Thomas
Nurse Arden ..... Miss K. Murgatroyd
Deborah ..... Miss Tessa Myers
Elfrida, Dowager Countess of Saxon Royal ..... Miss F. Russell Spiers
Lady Thora Danescombe ..... Miss Stella Carmichael
Janet McAllister ..... Miss Renee Glendower

Circumstantial evidence is the potent factor of *What a Man Made Her*, which is this week making its first appearance within the four-mile radius, its original production having taken place at the Albert Theatre, Brighouse, on Sept. 20 last. Mr. Charles Darrell is an author of wide experience, and his latest work gives proof of his ability to appeal to an audience with melodrama of a sensational kind, and with sentiment that goes straight to the heart of the populace. There is no lack of either in *What a Man Made Her*, and a house packed in every part was alternately thrilled with emotion and excitement, and moved on occasion to hearty laughter.

The "man" in the piece is no less a personage than a peer of the realm, who, when he was plain "Dr. Mark Haven," took to wife an artist's model. The lady used to officiate at the studio of Rupert, Earl of Saxon Royal, who had to relinquish his title and estates when it was found that the doctor was the real earl. Rupert looks with disapproval on his kinsman's marriage, and sets about making trouble. Owing to an over-indulgence in "bridge" Lady Danescombe is in difficulties, and Rupert promises to help her out with a cheque for her gambling debts if she will sit once more for a picture of Pygmalion and Galatea, upon which he is engaged. He cunningly contrives that Sir Ernest Cavendish, a rejected admirer of Janet's, shall also be present to impersonate Pygmalion, and brings the Earl on to the scene just when the pair have assumed the scanty clothing appropriate to the characters. As a result, the Earl obtains a *decree nisi*, with the custody of their baby.

The child is the cause of another exciting incident in the piece, for Lady Thora, Rupert's sister, wants to marry the Earl, who, however, declares that the child shall never have a second mother. The only course open to Lady Thora is to put the baby out of the way, and she accordingly makes her appearance at the cottage, where the Earl's divorced wife is living, and administers a deadly drug to the sleeping infant, so that when the father enters to claim possession of his child, it is to find it lifeless.

Various clues have been left behind by Thora, who is made to confess her crime and to bear witness to Janet's innocence, ere she succumbs to frequent injections of morphia and goes mad. Husband and wife are reconciled, and the villainous Rupert puts an end to his life with a revolver shot.

Admirable exponents of their various parts were found in the members of Miss Renée Glendower's company. That lady herself played the much-maligned heroine, for whom she won abundant sympathy, acting and speaking with telling effect. Miss Glendower looked very smart in various stylish dresses, and received repeated recalls at the end of each act. The upright character of the young Earl of Saxon Royal was convincingly suggested by Mr. J. M. Olivert, who delivered his lines with every effect. A drawling and aristocratic villain was the Rupert Danescombe of Mr. Edward Rawlinson, who realistically suggested the evil nature of the character; and Miss Stella Carmichael submitted an artistic study of the drug victim, Lady Thora, whose malignity and spite were so well suggested as to rouse the audience to a high pitch of resentment. Excellent, too, was the Dowager Countess of Saxon Royal of Miss F. Russell Spiers, an actress of undoubted ability, whose delivery of many scathing lines obtained for them the utmost effect. Mr. C. Hartopp was pleasingly unaffected and sincere as Sir Ernest Cavendish, a former suitor to Janet, and a sterling friend of the newly-made pair. Mr. Barnett Lando was the conventional Jew money-lender, with a tendency towards comicality which was received with roars of approval; and as his daughter Deborah Miss Tessa Myers made a prepossessing young Jewess, and was responsible for some bright scenes. Mr. Syd Davies acquitted himself creditably in the smaller part of the Earl's servant, who does service at the studio, and the other rôles were efficiently played. The piece was handsomely dressed and mounted, the atmosphere of high society being well caught

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14, the Musical Comedy entitled

"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

That delightfully fascinating young lady *Miss Hook of Holland* has been re-visiting Kennington Theatre this week, and her charms have proved as fresh and ingenuous as when she first made her curtsy to a London audience four years since. Mr. George Dance's strong and well-balanced company has been on the road for a long time now, with but little alteration in its personnel, and, consequently, the performance goes with a tremendous swing. Full advantage is taken of the quaint humour of Paul Rubens and Austin Hurgon, whilst the bright and sparkling melodies of the first-named are effectively rendered by a remarkably good chorus and orchestra, under the baton of Mr. C. Locknane. The staging is well up to Mr. Dance's standard, the electrically-illuminated ballet in the distillery scene being an exceedingly pretty effect, while the dresses of the Dutch girls and the uniforms of the mounted artillery blend picturesquely in a series of gay and festive stage pictures. In the title rôle Miss Marie Studholme gives one of the most attractive performances that have been witnessed in the realm of musical comedy for a long time. She is as bewitching a Sally as can well be conceived, being the embodiment of a pretty, light-hearted, high-spirited girl. Her singing and dancing leave nothing to be desired, and she wins all hearts from the moment that she first trips on. Mr. Alfred Wellesley is a wonderful Mr. Hook, full of genuine humour and keeping the house in roars of laughter. His impersonation of the fuddled distiller in the second act is one of the cleverest things imaginable. Mr. Frank H. Crimp makes a dashing and impulsive soldier-lover to the life as Bandmaster Van Vuyt. He is an artist of genuine merit, and should go far; his singing is excellent and wins hearty applause, whilst he also dances very smartly. Mr. Frederick Hobbs is a stalwart and soldierly Capt. Paap, a part he plays with considerable success. As Simon Slinks, the loafer, Mr. Fred Lyne gives a lively study of the Dutch ne'er-do-well, and merriment reigns throughout the house whenever he is about—which is most of the time. The Van Eck of Mr. Len Neville will also take a lot of beating. Miss Maud Denny makes a big hit in the part of Mina; she is vivacity itself, and the brilliant manner in which she sang "A little pink pettie from Peter" on Monday won her a treble encore. Miss Lillian Constance is an attractive and energetic Gretchen, and Mr. Charles Ross is happily placed as Schnappe, the faithless lover of Gretchen. Miss Hilda Gordon and Miss Lina Imperial are a couple of interesting figures as the orphan girls Freda and Clara Voos, and Miss Violet Ashley does well as Thelka, the market girl. Others who deserve mention are Miss Cora Engleton, the old market woman, Mr. F. de Lane (Hendrick), Mr. Burford Thorp (Hans Maas), Mr. J. W. Rose (the Policeman), and Mr. Lacey Mills (Lieut. de Coop). More than a passing meed of praise is due to the remarkably fine way in which the exceptionally able chorus both sing and dance, for everybody works with real vim; whilst the introduction of the full artillery brass band for the famous "Tra-la-la" number in the first act was one of the greatest hits of Monday's performance.

THE BRITANNIA.

The attractions here this week are varied, and consist of two dramatic plays with interludes of comedy. The first item on the programme is an episode entitled *The Chinaman's Revenge; or, A Dash for Fortune*. The interest of the piece centres in the theft of a "charm stone" from Hankow Monastery, on Nikola, who has set himself the task of obtaining possession of the stone, and on the High Priest of Hankow, who is also seeking the charm. Mr. J. M. Jones enacts the part of Nikola in his usual dramatic style; and Mr. Bob Hutt, an old favourite here, is well received as the High Priest. The remaining male parts are undertaken by Mr. Fred Terriss as Jack Attras, Mr. Raymond Dudley as Lol Calvert, Mr. Arthur Ricketts as Jack Casterton, and Mr. Harry Turner as Charley Hawtree. Miss Henrietta Polini is good as Nalga, and able support is rendered by Miss Hettie Dare and Miss Cora Valli.

The Park Keeper, a "comedy interlude," by Raymond Dudley, causes much merriment. Mr. Fred Terriss as General Chutney (retired) is very humorous; Mr. Raymond Dudley as Philip Courtney makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Harry Turner as Peter Parkins, the park keeper, whose one aim in life is to collect pennies for the use of chairs, causes much laughter. Miss Henrietta Polini and Miss Cora Valli complete the cast.

Mr. George Hillaud and company are responsible for a smart little comedy act entitled *On Sentry*. Mr. Hillaud, a very droll comedian, established himself as a firm favourite during the run of the pantomime here, and his excellent fooling, tumbling, and banjo playing are much applauded.

The entertainment concluded with the romantic drama *The Dumb Man of Manchester*. As on the previous occasion when this piece was performed here, Mr. J. M. Jones takes the part of Edward Wilton, a convict, and Mr. Bob Hutt impersonates the Dumb Man, his acting in the Court of Justice scene being very dramatic. Mr. Arthur Ricketts ably represents a lawyer, Mr. Harry Turner Welter plays a shoemaker, Mr. C. Barlow the Lord Chief Justice, and Mr. N. Bianco the Chief of Police. Miss Hetty Dare as Wilton's wife, Miss Cornell as Mrs. Wilton, and Miss Cora Valli as a milkmaid are also excellent.

THE FULHAM.

On Monday, March 14, the Farcical Comedy, by Mark Ambient, Alban Attwood, and Russel Vaun, entitled

"OH! SUSANNAH!"

This piece from the Royalty is full of absurd situations and complications, and has at least one striking piece of character drawing. Mr. Woodhouse and his company put plenty of energy into their work, even if their efforts seem at times to lack conviction, but they get many a hearty laugh. Mr. Woodhouse plays the unfortunate doctor with great spirit; Mr. F. Kingsley also keeps up the pressure as the mercurial Lieutenant Merry, to whom Mr. Eric Williams as Waverly Vane, with his sedate manner, provides an excellent contrast; Mr. Alfred Ibberson is emphatic and humorous as a remarkable type of solicitor; and Mr. T. H. Smith provides much low comedy as the Buttons. Miss Eve Mansell made an imposing Aunt Susannah, and Miss Frances Carlyle plays up well as Flora. Miss Mabel Leatham and Miss Ethel Marsden do satisfactorily as Ruby and Pearl, and the latter has the saving sense of humour well developed. But Miss Adie Boyne carries off the palm for ability and humour in her work as the love-sick servant Aurora. It is quite a remarkable character sketch, and Miss Boyne revels in it and gets all her points home.

The farce was preceded by *Dream Faces*, by Wynne Miller, in which Miss Eve Mansell and Mr. Ibberson get good chances of showing their talents in more serious moods.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, March 14,

"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's admirably-selected company is appearing here with conspicuous success this week. Mr. Henry Wolston is a capital John Storm, and impersonates this fine character (one of the finest ever conceived by Hall Caine) in a manner to give great satisfaction to the audience, who follow the development of the story with unabated interest to the end. Mr. Fred Morgan is a clever actor, and his performance of Lord Robert Ure is excellent in every way. Mr. Wilfred Noy plays well as Drake; Mr. C. E. Dering is a dignified and polished Archdeacon Wealthy. Parson Quayle has a capital representative in Mr. Arthur E. Maskell; Mr. Thomas Barry makes a success as Father Lamplugh. Other male parts are well filled by Messrs. Royce Milton (Lord Storm), W. S. Carter (Bert), Bernard Wilson (Rosenburg), Louis R. Fergusson (Buckley), Edgar Hart (Paul), W. Welch (Cowley), Edwin Ross, Badnitt, and Frank Hayes. Miss Gladys Purnell is a delightful Glory Quayle, vivacious and yet sympathetic, with all the necessary force demanded by the later scenes. Miss Gladys Vernon is a pleasing and clever Polly Love. Miss Harriett Russell presented a fine character portrait of Mother Kent; Miss Molly Hayden is very good as Mrs. Callender; Miss Lizette Cardozo is excellent as Black Meg. Other female characters are well played by Mesdames Millicent Patrick (Betty Belmont), Lydia Bland (Letty Belmont), Gertrude Maxwell (Lady Robert Ure), Alice Lee (Jennie), Nellie Wyndham (Rosa Ray), and Florence Harland (Liza). The staging and costumes left nothing to be desired.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

Music-lovers are well catered for at the above house this week, and large audiences are giving keen attention to the numerous operas which are being presented to them for their delectation by J. W. Turner's company. Commendation must be bestowed upon the various artists, whose talents ensure for them a very hearty reception. The operas performed during the week include *Faust*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *The Lily of Killarney* (on St. Patrick's night), *Satanella*, *Maritana*, and *Il Trovatore*—surely a menu to satisfy the greediest musical gourmet.

The week opened with *Faust*, and an excellent representation was given to the satisfaction of everyone. In the title-part Mr. F. J. Hargrave is heard to advantage. He possesses a fine tenor voice, which he uses with skill, and he gains considerable applause for his rendering of "All Hail!" and in the duet, "The hour is late," with Marguerite. The latter character is capably undertaken by Miss Jeanne Jeune, who is a gifted singer, and has strong claims on the public favour. Her numbers are rendered in good style, and meet with warm expressions of approbation. Mr. Tom Griffiths maintains a strong hold as Mephistopheles, and deserves praise for his singing of "The calf of gold" and many other contributions. Mr. Frank Clarke achieves distinction in the part of Valentine, and is highly appreciated; Siebel has a clever representative in Miss Jessie Dennis, who does ample justice to the "Flower Song," which goes well; and Martha is ably portrayed by Miss Beatrice Hill. A word of praise is also due to both the chorus, which is a large one, and to the orchestra, which fulfil all requirements.

Mr. William Collier has announced his intention of playing Bob Acres in *The Rivals*. Mr. Collier's sister, Mrs. Helena Collier-Garrick, will join him in London to appear as Mrs. Malaprop, when he fulfils his engagement there.

At the Manchester Bankruptcy Court on the 11th inst. Sydney Herbert Shaw, professionally know as Ian Maclaren, was examined by the Official Receiver as to the causes of his financial difficulties. Mr. Shaw became an actor, he said, about fourteen years ago, and was engaged for the first nine months with various touring companies under the late Sir Augustus Harris, Mr. F. R. Benson, and others. About five years ago he undertook the production of a play called *The Fatal Crown* with a touring company under his own management. The play ran for about twenty-six weeks, but the venture was a failure, and he lost about £400 by it.

Soon afterwards he purchased for £50 a melodrama called *Prince of Rogues*, with which he toured the United Kingdom for about fifteen months, and produced sufficient to pay the expenses of the tour and provide him with a living salary. In the summer of 1905 he rented a theatre at Ilkeston at £60 for six weeks, and there produced a number of pieces, including Shakespearean plays, but lost about £140 by the venture. About February, 1906, he began to tour with a Shakespearean company for the production of classical plays, and continued until Easter, 1909, when he gave it up. His failure was mainly due to losses incurred in connection with this tour. In May, 1909, he produced a comic opera at Swansea, but lack of funds compelled him to close the season in a week.

Since August he had been a member of Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, at a salary of £12 a week, out of which he had to provide his own costumes and numerous other things and pay his own travelling expenses. His liabilities expected to rank for dividend amounted to £1,598 12s. 5d., but of this sum £600 was in respect of printing done to his order but not delivered. His assets were of the estimated value of £23. It was his intention to apply to the Court for his discharge, and ask for it to be granted subject to his consenting to judgment to be satisfied out of his future earnings or income for such sum as he could reasonably pay, and which might be agreeable to the Court. The examination was closed.

"HER PATH OF SORROW."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Produced for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on March 14.

Richard Burfield ..... Mr. Charles Draycott
Guy Lowther ..... Mr. Frank Eaglesfield
Lionel Heathcote ..... Mr. Frank Etheridge
Markham Ferrars ..... Mr. Theo. Balfour
Farmer Rayne ..... Mr. Charles Reyne
Tommy Onions ..... Mr. Will Hook
Jack Smith ..... Mr. Hubert Laurence
Dr. Simms ..... Mr. Allan Sethwyn
P.C. Bridge ..... Mr. Wilson Saunders
Detective Williams ..... Mr. Eric Winstanley
P.C. Robinson ..... Mr. T. Wheeler
Warder Jackson ..... Mr. Wilfred Eckhart
Mlle. Lucille ..... Miss Nellie Freeland
Polly Green ..... Miss Daisy Carlton
Nellie Rayne ..... Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne
Pauline Ferrars ..... Mrs. Chas. Draycott

This domestic drama is from the prolific pen of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, who is the authoress of *The Power of the King*, *Was She to Blame?* and many other noteworthy and successful plays now touring the country. The drama under notice is well spiced with exciting situations and telling incidents so beloved by a popular audience, who are ever ready to bestow their sympathies upon the weak and oppressed, to applaud chivalrous deeds, and to pour out their execrations upon the luckless heads of the evil-doers. The story centres in the tribulations of Nellie Rayne, who lives with her father at an old farm in the country. Farmer Rayne, who is an old, hard-hearted man, insists on his daughter marrying his assistant, Richard Burfield, who he has raised to a post of trust. Richard, who is a true and honest man, offers his hand to Nellie, but she refuses him, and eventually confesses that she has had a secret intrigue with another man, named Guy Lowther, who has promised to marry her. But Guy has quite different ends in view, and in a painful *tête-à-tête*, he informs her that he intends, for financial reasons, to wed the wealthy Pauline Ferrars, the daughter of the somewhat weak Markham Ferrars, who was the friend of Guy Lowther's father in their younger days, when they were clerks together in the same firm. At that time a theft was committed by the elder Lowther, but the suspicion fell upon Ferrars, and now the young Guy, being acquainted with the episode, maintains a powerful hold over the old man in order to further his own schemes. Ferrars, to keep matters quiet and prevent a scandal, promises Guy his daughter in marriage. In the meantime Nellie has been driven from her home by her father, and is left to face the world alone, but on hearing of this, Richard also quits the farm and goes in search of her, determining to make her his wife and thus save her honour. Pauline Ferrars, who, although her love is given to Lionel Heathcote, eventually listens to the entreaties of her father, gives him up, and consents to marry Guy to save her father's name. On the morning of the wedding day, and previous to the wedding, Guy, finding his future bride so unresponsive, flirts with her French maid Lucille, and is caught in the act by Lionel, who threatens to shoot him. However, the wedding takes place, and on the return from the church, Nellie, in rags and tatters, makes a sudden appearance. Her intention is to inform Pauline who and what her future husband really is, and that he is the father of her child, but she arrives too late to stop the ceremony. Pauline, on hearing of the misdeeds of her husband, snatches her veil from her head, throws off her wedding ring, and tells Guy that in future she is only his wife in name. Nellie, who is living in a bare garret, and unable to support herself, endeavours to minister to the wants of her ailing child, but becomes crazy, and poisons it. Richard, who has been in search of her, arrives and finds her in a swoon with her dead child. He takes the guilt of the murder upon himself, and gives himself up to the police; but Nellie, at the instigation of Pauline, confesses to the crime, and Richard is released. Guy sends a forged telegram to Pauline, asking her to meet her former lover in the wood at midnight, so as to incriminate her, but the scheme fails. Nellie, who has been undergoing a term of imprisonment for the murder of her child, is released at the expiration of her term, and Pauline goes to the prison to meet her; but Guy has been before her and taken Nellie off. She is eventually discovered by Pauline and Heathcote, and brought home to the old farm, which is now occupied by Richard, Farmer Rayne being dead. Guy, finding everything going against him, first shoots his accomplice Lucille, who had attempted to stab him, and finally commits suicide.

Mr. Charles Draycott displays distinguished capability as Richard Burfield; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield maintains a strong hold on the audience as Guy Lowther; Mr. Frank Etheridge makes the most of his opportunities as Lionel Heathcote; Markham Ferrars has an able exponent in Mr. Theo. Balfour; Mr. Charles Reyne gives a suitable rendering of Farmer Rayne; Mr. Will Hook, who is responsible for the comic relief, affords much amusement as Tommy Onions, and is ably assisted in his efforts by Miss Daisy Carlton, who, as Polly Green, contributes a lively impersonation; Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne supplies a clever and pathetic delineation of Nellie Rayne; Miss Nellie Freeland is distinctly good as Mlle. Lucille; and Mrs. Charles Draycott contributes an excellent study of Pauline Ferrars.

A new play by a Servian author, Mr. D. Janitsch, will be given for three special performances at the Strand Theatre on March 29 and two following days. The author is a hairdresser, of Air-street, Regent-street, and his play is to be produced in aid of the Parisian Hairdressers' Flood Victims' Fund. All the scenes of the play, which is entitled *The Raven's Cry*, are laid in Turkey. A company of London artists, including Mr. Philip Cunningham, will appear in it.

Unruly undergraduates were the cause of a disturbance at the Cambridge Theatre on Monday night, when a large party of students invaded the house and interrupted the performance of *A Thief in the Night*. The undergraduates took the circle by storm, and began ragging as soon as the curtain went up. There was such a din that the audience could not hear. That the "rag" was organised is evident from the fact that some of the students were provided with motor horns and bird warblers, on which they performed at intervals. Popular songs were shouted, and buns and oranges were hurled on the stage.

On the entrance of each actor the undergraduates yelled some more or less appropriate remark. Loud and deep cries of "Ha! ha!" greeted the appearance of the villain; and when the hero attempted to speak with a stage peeress with his hat on, a stern command shot out of the stalls to "Take—that—hat—off." The "funny man" of the piece was told to "run away and play."

The gallery had by this time become thoroughly annoyed by the students, and showed their displeasure by throwing down everything they could lay their hands on, nuts, oranges, cakes, programmes, caps, and other missiles being used. As a result of the disturbance John Eric Horniman, twenty, of Christ's College, was fined at the local Police Court the following day £5 and costs for obstructing the police, and Aubrey Cohen, eighteen, of Jesus College, was fined 10s. and costs for using obscene language.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, March 15, at 32, Regent-street. Present:—Mr. Cyril Cattley (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. F. J. Arlton, Robson Paige, Langford Reed, E. Morgan, Murri Moncrie, and Lewis Casson, and Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted as amended.

With reference to Mr. Marcus Draper's letter re an insanitary theatre, the secretary was directed to thank Mr. Draper for his letter, and to ascertain from members visiting the theatre mentioned whether they could confirm Mr. Draper's complaint, so that further action might be taken.

The secretary read the following letter from Mr. H. Nelson Morey, of the Actors' Society of America:—

"Dear Mr. Young,—I received your welcomed communication of the 10th ult., in which you introduce Miss Ida Sweetland Sala. I am very glad to be able to welcome our friends, the members of your Association. I am glad that you have heard such good reports of our organisation, which I am proud to be able to say is as you have heard. I am also glad to be able to tell you that your members also give me grand reports of your work. Trust that it will long continue, and assuring you of our very best interest—I am, yours very sincerely, H. NELSON MOREY."

Mr. CATTLEY reported his interview with Mr. Vedrenne, and the secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Washburn Freund, and ask him to be good enough to provide the council with a copy of any Act in force in Germany covering the question of "bogus management."

The secretary reported the result of the conference of the Sunday Defence Committee, and the resolutions adopted by that committee were ordered to be entered in the minutes as approved. The finance committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan, and adopted.

The hon. solicitors reported that they had interviewed three members and advised them. The question of the late fiasco at the Strand Theatre was again before the council, and the solicitor received further instructions.

It was agreed that the number of engagements made through the agency should be reported to the council each week and included in the published minutes.

It was decided that the rooms of the Association be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and be opened on Saturday, the 26th inst. (for letters only) between the hours of 10 and 2.

The following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That the council of the Actors' Association draw the attention of members to the deplorable practice of artists giving their services for nothing in trial performances of sketches. The council point out: (1) That the practice enables music hall managers to fill up their programmes at the actors' expense; (2) deprives working artists of paid work; and (3) directly encourages bogus sketch management."

The council considered the advisability of taking serious notice of repeated instances of this kind on the part of members as being detrimental to the welfare of the Association and injurious to the theatrical profession generally. The secretary was instructed to write to the secretaries of the V.A.F. and the Sketch Artists' Association, drawing their attention to the matter, and asking them if they would consider the advisability of taking steps for united action.

Elections: Alfred Wiltshire, Enid Edoni, Marie Leonhard, Frank K. Cooper, B. V. Mendl, C. J. Harron, Francis Holland. Reinstatement, Gertrude Scott. Nominations: C. Everard, K. Lang, E. Lang, Aubrey Percival, A. E. Holland, Robert Lawrence, Nellie Morris, H. C. Barnard Stacey.

The secretary reported twenty engagements through the agency.

"THE CHRISTIAN" AT THE BRITANNIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I shall feel greatly obliged if you will kindly publish the following facts which occurred at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, during the visit of my No. 1 company of *The Christian* last week. I negotiated a date some weeks ago with the Amusements Development Syndicate, Ltd., the managing-director being Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall, who signed the contract with me on behalf of the aforesaid syndicate for the production of my No. 1 Suburban Company of *The Christian* for the week commencing March 7. Having had great difficulty prior to opening in getting hold of anybody in authority to advertise the visit, the theatre being closed and the local management not being able to be found, I decided to have the week out, and, of course, would have had to pay my company a full week's salary, as there was no time to give the customary fortnight's notice. On the Saturday preceding the opening date I was informed on the telephone that unless I fulfilled my contract at the Britannia proceedings would be taken against me for breach of contract. I therefore wired to all the members of my company on the Sunday, and told them to be in readiness to open on the following day. Hearing that we might have some difficulty with the local management, I instructed my representative to collect my share of the house receipts nightly, and also wrote a personal letter to Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall informing him of what I had done, and telling him that I should require a cash settlement to balance the Saturday night's house receipts. This was agreed to. My share was paid nightly up to Friday night, when there was a deficiency in the cheque that my manager presented on the Saturday morning. The theatre opened on Saturday evening to £75, and Mr. Humphrey Brammall informed me that he would make a cash settlement at ten o'clock. When that time arrived he wanted to hand me a crossed cheque in part settlement, which I naturally refused, and demanded cash, telling him that if he did not pay me I would not ring up the last act of the piece. He then instructed his commissionaires to lock myself and my representative in the office, and kept us prisoners. On hearing this we forced a window open and blew a police whistle, bringing an inspector and two officers into the building. The curtain had by this time been down some forty minutes, and the audience were naturally getting very restless and could not understand why the performance was not going on. Finding that it was impossible to draw my share, which amounted to over £44, I went in front of the curtain and addressed the audience, explaining to them that it was no fault of mine that the performance could not go on, and that the responsibility rested with Mr. Humphrey Brammall. I was more than surprised to find the manner in which such a vast audience took the serious information, and left the theatre practically without any trouble whatever, having seen only three acts of the production.—Yours faithfully,

WENTWORTH CROKE.

MME. ADELINA PATTI, who is at present staying in Rome, is enjoying the best of health, and recently attended a ball, at which she danced a waltz with her husband. Mme. Patti will still continue to sing at concerts, but it will always be for some charitable purpose. She thought that English audiences were the most intelligent and best to sing to in the world. Mme. Patti declared herself an ardent admirer of Tetrazzini.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SICILIANS AT THE LYRIC.

On Friday, March 11, the Drama, entitled "FESTA D'ADERNO."

Compare Cola	CAV. UFF. G. GRASSO
Prazzitu	N. VISCUSO
Angelu	P. FLORIO
Beneditu	G. TROVATO
Cosimu	B. QUARTARONE
Calogeru	S. PUGLISI
Canu	P. SAPUPPO
Matteu	P. FICHERA
Ciccu	C. BOCCADIFUOCO
Dutturi	A. CAMPAGNA
Delegato	P. LARA
Primo carabiniere	V. CARRARA
Secondo carabiniere	A. ALGOZZINO
Carmela	C. BALESTRIERI
Comare Rosa	R. SPADARO
Comare Tudda	G. CAMPAGNA
Donna Caterina	D. LARA
Comare Maria	SIGA. M. BRAGAGLIA

A Sicilian sword duel is the feature of the new play which our interesting visitors from the South presented to London on the 11th inst., when a large audience highly appreciated the production, not the least enthusiastic among the fashionable gathering being Miss Ellen Terry, who from a private box applauded heartily. The duel referred to proved a very exciting affair, the native weapon, a formidable clasp-knife, with about a foot and a half of gleaming steel, being brandished about in the most startling fashion. The combatants were a couple of coachmen, named respectively Cola and Prazzitu, the latter of whom had been carrying on a liaison with the other's wife, who manages the village inn. Cola, on discovering the intrigue, discards his wife, and in order to avert any scandal sends Prazzitu about his business, with the admonition that he is not to mention a word of the affair to anybody.

What is Cola's indignation subsequently to learn that Prazzitu is going about bragging of his misdeeds, and declaring that Cola's failure to revenge himself is due to cowardice! That is more than the coolest Sicilian blood can stand, so Cola accordingly waylays his rival, and kills him after a terrible fight. Then he walks off calmly to the police-station, bidding the onlookers follow and give evidence.

Acquitted by the authorities, Cola returns home, and finds his wife in the last stages of consumption and calling vainly for forgiveness. Suddenly there rushes in the brother of the dead Prazzitu, who makes for Cola, only to have his knife snatched from his hand. Then Cola tells the would-be avenger why he killed his brother, with the result that the pair kiss and become friends, and it is at his former assailant's earnest solicitation that Cola forgives his wife ere he closes her eyes in death.

Fewer opportunities for the display of the volcanic fury which distinguishes his acting is given to Cavaliere Grasso, who, however, was as kaleidoscopic in his movements as ever, and kept the house engrossed. His suggestion of suppressed passion when he confronted his enemy and traducer was really artistic. The best effort of Signora Bragaglia as the erring wife was in the display of agonised suspense which Maria suffers when her sin is found out, and she waits to learn what form her husband's revenge will take. Here her emotional qualities stood her in excellent stead. The death scene was also admirably done, the ashy countenance and stony glare of the fast-sinking woman being realistically assumed. Signor N. Viscuso again made an effective villain, alike in Prazzitu's tempting of the wife and his craven fear of the injured husband. The braggadocio of the part was also well assumed, and for his share of the duel scene he divided honours with Signor Grasso. Praise must also be awarded to Signora Spadaro, who played with natural vivacity and a real sense of humour as the innkeeper's assistant, to whom the outraged husband turns for consolation. The customary skill in keeping the interest at the highest pressure was manifested by the rest of the company, and the piece was mounted in realistic style, the fireworks of the feast day which gives the piece its name being let off at the wings, and other celebrations being duly provided.

A full house on Wednesday thoroughly enjoyed the performance of *Juan José*, which figured in the programmes of two years ago. The piece serves as an admirable medium for the special attainments of the company, and provides Signor Grasso and Signora Bragaglia with congenial characters. In the part of Vanni, a village workman, Signor Grasso is again the humble, but honest, lover, whose sweetheart is sought after by a richer and unscrupulous rival—no less a personage than Vanni's employer, Don Vincenzino. Vanni calls on his sweetheart and finds her singing to the Don, and in an access of rage orders her out of the house and defies the Don to hold her back. Vanni pays with his situation the price of his temerity, and later is seen starving with Rosa, who so taunts him that he strikes her, but repenting with tears, rushes off determined to get money by any means that may present themselves.

Thrust into prison for theft, Vanni eventually escapes, only to find Rosa living in luxury with Don Vincenzino. Vanni bids her give up the shameful life and go with him, but Vincenzino's step is heard approaching. Rosa calls for help, and in the endeavour to keep her silent Vanni clutches her throat so tightly that he chokes the life out of her.

The trying scenes were admirably depicted by the two principals. Signor Grasso threw himself with his usual feverish energy into the part of Vanni. His rage on discovering his sweetheart singing to the libertine Don burst forth like a tornado, and it was only by sweeping the pots and pans from the shelves and clearing the table at a bound that Vanni was able to relieve his feelings. At the last, when the distraught man catches sight of his distorted features in the mirror, which he throws through the window, and then, realising that his beloved is dead, casts himself upon the corpse, Signor Grasso was profoundly moving. Signora Bragaglia had in Rosa a part in which she was allowed smiles as well as tears. In both phases of the character she was equally sincere, being really charming in her lighter moments. She carried out her weeping fit realistically, hysterical cries giving way to convulsive sobbing in easy modulations. The part of Angelo is allotted in the cast to Cav. A. Musco, but the actor impersonating it seemed to be Signor Viscuso, who has been accustomed to play the villain. On Wednesday he proved to have a distinct vein of comedy, causing hearty laughter by a finished rendering. Angelo's fiancée was sympathetically played by Signora G. Balistrieri, and Signor P. Fiorio was a duly sinister Don. Signora R. Spadaro invested the rôle of an old woman with a wealth of comic suggestion.

MR. ERNEST SMITH took the chair on Saturday night at the house dinner and smoking concert of the Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street. The Sicilian actor, Signor Grasso, made a speech of thanks for his cordial reception in England, and gave a sketch in dumb show and a short scene from *Feudalismo*. Among the other artists who contributed to the entertainment were Mr. Percy French, Signor Persichine (mandoline), Mr. George Snazelle, Mr. Stuart Debnam, Mr. J. A. Bovett, Mr. John Bardsley, Mr. Noel Fleming, Mr. Bernard Turner, Mr. Alfred Steed, Mr. Walter Tilbury, Mr. Murray Ashford, Mr. Frank Tebbut, Mr. Claude Anderson, Mr. Walter Montague, Mr. Norman Leonard, Mr. Herbert Plater, Mr. Albert Holland, Mr. Rome Attewell, Mr. Frank Partridge, Mr. Brian Rochford, Mr. Charles Davies, Mr. J. Chilcott, and Mr. Harrison Hill. Mr. Sinclair Mantell and Mr. Alfred Smythson were the pianists.

YOUNGEST THEATRICAL MANAGER.

The distinction of being the youngest theatrical manager in the country is held by Mr. Reginald Pareezer, of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, who, although only in his twentieth year, bids fair by the abilities he already displays, to take his place, in time to come, in the foremost rank of successful managers.

Asked how he came to launch into the business, Mr. Pareezer replied that he had always had a taste for it, and that even in his schooldays he took a delight in helping his father, Mr. B. Pareezer, who now directs not only the New Royal Theatre at King's Lynn, but also the Empire Theatre at Southend, the Hippodrome, Sheerness, and the Marina, Lowestoft, the last-named of which he both owns and manages.

Young Mr. Pareezer was educated at the Grammar School at Welshpool, where he was a boarder for four years, and thence he went to the Aberystwith School, where he completed his education.

"How long," queried *The Era* representative, "have you been in the theatrical profession?"

"A little over four years. On my father leaving Wales to take the reins of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, I was given a position in the office, and now that my father is acquiring other theatres, and has taken up his residence at Lowestoft, he has left me in sole charge of the Lynn Theatre, which I took over at the beginning of this year. This will leave him free to give his new ventures at Lowestoft, Southend, and Sheerness his personal attention and supervision."

"And how do you feel now you have this responsibility?"

"Oh, all right. As a rule I find touring managers are exceedingly nice."

"Do you experience any trouble with people who stroll in and waste your time?"

"Well, I should hardly have expected this question from you." And Mr. Pareezer laughed merrily.

"I twig, and I won't be long. What is your greatest ambition?"

"In time, to have control over a number of theatres."

"Any of your family on the stage?"

"One. My younger brother, Archie Pareezer,

MR. REGINALD PAREEZER.

is in Mr. Norman V. Norman's répertoire company, and assists Mr. Norman in the secretarial part of the business."

Our representative was proceeding to put still another question in spite of young Mr. Pareezer's hint, when the telephone bell rang, and with a hearty handshake and a mutual expression of good wishes the interview ended.

AN ACTOR INJURED.

An action for damages for injuries received during a stage performance was heard by Judge Emden at Lambeth County Court on Wednesday, when Bernard Liell, an actor, of Grosvenor-avenue, East Sheen, sued E. Hill Mitchelson, also an actor, of Saltoun-road, Brixton, to recover £15 damages for injuries received through the alleged negligence of the defendant in allowing a rifle and bayonet to be used and handled by an incompetent person. The plaintiff was engaged by the defendant to play the part of a Chinaman in a piece called *Who is She?* at the Ashton-under-Lyne Hippodrome. In the piece the plaintiff had to make an attack on the defendant, who enacted the hero of the piece. The plaintiff made a rush up the stage, and two "supers" fired on him according to stage directions. The plaintiff continued his "rush," and the "super" attacked him with the bayonet, which struck the plaintiff under his left eye, causing considerable injuries. In the extrication of the bayonet from the plaintiff's cheek the "super's" rifle went off, and the charge entered the plaintiff's wrist.

The defendant, in giving evidence, said he was an actor-manager of thirty-five years' experience. It was safe to use the rifles on the stage, and the two men were accustomed to them.

His honour gave judgment for £12 damages, with costs.

FACT AND FICTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—On Friday, Feb. 25, I produced at the Theatre Royal, Darwen, a play in one act by Mme. Annie Möller, entitled *The Prodigal's Welcome*, which was duly noticed in your issue of March 5. Several friends have sent me newspaper cuttings similar to the following:

A tragedy almost without parallel is reported from the province of Galicia. A Polish emigrant named Przenikowski returned to his home in the village of Zielony after ten years' absence in America. His parents did not recognise him immediately, so Przenikowski pretended to be an intimate friend of their son's. He asked for a night's lodging. The old couple gladly consented to keep him for a night, and plied him with questions. Przenikowski told them that their son had prospered in America, and said that he himself had £250 in his pocket-book, the result of his savings. After he retired for the night the old couple decided to kill him and steal the money. They strangled him in bed, and then went through his papers. They were horror-stricken to find a passport bearing their own name, and, after examining other documents and certain marks on the body of the dead man, they discovered that they had killed their son. Overwhelmed with remorse, Przenikowski's aged father wrote a letter informing the authorities of the circumstances, and then he and his wife hanged themselves. Their bodies were found next morning by a servant suspended from a beam in the living room.

This is from the *People* of Sunday last. To those of your readers who remember your kindly notice, the similarity between the plot of Mme. Möller's play and the story of the tragedy happening shortly after will be startling.—Yours faithfully, J. PITT HARGACRE.

Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, March 16.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT DE COURCY."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by George J. Hamlen and Alfred Wareing, Produced, for the First Time, at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, March 14.

Gaston de Courcy	MR. MILTON ROSMER
Ethel Carmichael	MISS MURIEL POPE
Mr. Carmichael	MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Arthur Graham	MR. CECIL BROOKING
Bella	MISS LOLA DUNCAN
Mrs. Blair	MISS ALICE MANSFIELD
Lucile de Courcy	MISS NORAH DELANEY
Miss Millar	MRS. M. MILTON
Miss Gibb	MISS EUGENIE FRANCKLYN
Mary	MISS ETHEL EVANS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

When given at a copyright performance on Nov. 26 last, in the same theatre, this new play was announced as by George J. Hamlen. The name of Mr. Alfred Wareing is now added, so presumably the manager of Glasgow's Repertory Theatre has been giving the benefit of his experience to the development of the play. Mr. Hamlen shows a keen eye for character, all his types being wonderfully true to life, and there is a simple but telling and effective plot. The truth about De Courcy is that he is not a De Courcy at all, but having been befriended in his boyhood by a bohemian old musician of that name, and through the latter's good offices saved from the clutches of a cruel stepmother and her vindictive daughter, the young man in gratitude adopts the name of his benefactor, who had started him in a musical career, and finds that the romantic name and a hint of old French descent are of more use to him in securing pupils than his abilities as a music teacher. The original De Courcy being dead, the young man considers himself secure in possession of the name, but the long arm of coincidence brings him as music master to the house of a Mr. Carmichael, whose daughter Ethel is struck by his romantic history. Unfortunately, a parlour-maid, Bella, in this very house, is the step-sister of years before, and, to crown all, a newcomer in the district, Mrs. Blair by name, has a niece, Lucille De Courcy (a daughter of the original owner of the name), and these ladies insist on adopting the young music master as a nephew and brother respectively.

Though willing to go a certain length in deception, for business reasons, the young musician is averse from continuing it to the extent of living in Mrs. Blair's house as a near relative, and regarding Lucille as a sister, the audience soon realising that a more tender feeling for that young lady has a lot to do with his conscientious scruples. The astute Bella does her utmost to induce him to take advantage of the assumed relationship, and even to have her position assured as a foster-sister of "Gaston," but it is her over-reaching ambition which finally solves the question. After a veiled confession made by the young man to Lucille as to his humble origin, some awkward facts are blurted out by Bella, with the result that the whole story is made clear to Mrs. Blair and her niece. Both ladies have, however, taken a liking to their supposed relative on his own merits, and though he wishes to leave at once and carve his way to fortune elsewhere, the entreaties of the old lady, and the loving appeal of the younger, induce him to change his mind, and on this rearranged prospect the curtain falls.

The story is worked out in clever style, and the dialogue is crisp and effective, with numerous bright and telling lines, which were heartily enjoyed. The audience were generous in their applause throughout, and gave Messrs. Hamlen and Wareing a hearty call at the finish. Mr. Milton Rosmer made an excellent Gaston De Courcy, and from first to last carried the sympathies of the audience with him. Miss Lola Duncan as the vindictive and vulgar Bella gave an extremely clever bit of acting, realistic and convincing in every scene. Miss Muriel Pope was a charming Ethel Carmichael, and another enjoyable performance was the Lucille De Courcy of Miss Norah Delaney. Miss Alice Mansfield revelled in the part of the good-hearted Mrs. Blair, and her slightly malaprop remarks were neatly given without undue emphasis. A most entertaining study of character was the landlady, Mrs. Simpson, of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, and her motherly interference in the affairs of her young lodger, Gaston, was excellent comedy. Mr. Campbell Gullan as Mr. Carmichael, Mr. Cecil Brooking as a somewhat snobbish young man, Mrs. M. Milton and Miss Eugenie Francklyn as two gossipy visitors, and Miss Ethel Evans as a servant completed the cast.

The comedy was preceded by a grimly realistic play in one act, by W. B. Maxwell, also given for the first time, entitled

"THE LAST MAN IN."

Mrs. Judd	MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON
Mr. Billett	MR. PERCEVAL CLARK
Mr. Judd	MR. LAURENCE HANRAY
The Last Man In	MR. NORMAN MCKEOWN
The Doctor	MR. LYTTON

The scene of this is laid in a Tavern in a poor street of a country town, and the landlord, Judd, and his wife, are expecting home from abroad a ne'er-do-well son, who has been away for eleven years. Meanwhile, the customers round the bar are discussing the details of a brutal murder committed in the open streets near the docks by a sailor on a steamer from Monte Video, the victim being another member of the crew. In the corner sits "the last man in," and as he is not known to any of the regular customers, they feel his presence acting as a restraint on their conversation. Closing-time comes, and the landlord and his wife are glad to be rid of the unwelcome guest, when they suddenly discover that he has hidden behind the door and remained when the others left. He demands a night's lodging, and on this being refused, reveals the fact that he is their son, and just home from Monte Video. Their worst suspicions that he may be the murderer are almost confirmed, when he falls asleep, after asking them "not to let him dream." His mutterings become more incriminating, and as they are unable to wake him up, the husband rushes off for the nearest doctor. The ravings of the stranger take the form of enacting the murder, before the horrified gaze of the mother, and he falls exhausted just as the doctor enters. A moment's examination enables the latter to say that "he will never wake again," and with a fervent "Thank God" from the mother the play ends.

The acting of Mr. Norman McKeown as the prodigal, whom brutal ill-treatment at the hands of a bosun or mate on the ship had led him to take revenge on his tormentor, was powerful to a degree, and held the audience enthralled. Mr. Lawrence Hanray as the publican and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as the horror-struck mother of the murderer lent excellent support. Mr. Perceval Clark as a talkative customer, Mr. Billett, contributed a clever sketch of character.

ON the invitation of the Countess of Essex, a meeting was held at Cassiobury Park, Watford, on Saturday to support the movement to establish a national Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. An interesting feature was the production of the Hon. Maurice Baring's new duologue, *Calpurnia's Dinner Party*, played by Mr. Atholl Stewart and Miss Madge McIntosh.

THE Queen paid a surprise visit on Monday afternoon to the Japan-British Exhibition, which is now approaching completion. Her Majesty made a thorough tour of the extensive grounds, and expressed her pleasure at the way in which the Japanese and British workmen appeared to fraternise.

"WAT."

A Play in Three Acts, by Walter Savage Cooper, Produced at the Cripplegate Institute on Monday, March 14.

Queen Elizabeth	MISS SYDNEY KEITH
Lord Trevor	MR. DASHWOOD CARTER
Lady Trevor	MISS EDITH ELLSWORTH
Alice	MISS MILLICENT COOPER
Sir Roland	MR. SIDNEY GOWLETT
Kitty	MISS HILDA FOSTER
Dame Sarah	MRS. DASHWOOD CARTER
Will	MR. H. SAVAGE COOPER
An Officer	MR. B. BRISTOW
First Gentleman	MR. J. SAVAGE COOPER
Second Gentleman	MR. CYRIL CHEFFINS
Sue	MISS E. FITZSIMMONS
Tom	MR. GEO. FORBES
Dick	MR. W. SHIPHAM
Wat Underwood	MR. W. SAVAGE COOPER

Ladies of the Court: Miss ETHEL STROULGER, Miss IDA COOPER, Miss DORA PLOWMAN.

Gentlemen of the Court: Mr. JAMES BARLEY, Mr. JOSEPH BARLEY, Master C. CONNERY.

One is always inclined to be indulgent with the amateur, but there are times when to deal lightly with a trashy and childish attempt at production would be a mistaken kindness. From a perusal of the cast printed above it will be found there are five members of the Cooper family included in it, and there must have been ten times that number of the Cooper family's relatives in front on Monday night last when *Wat* was presented on the stage of the Cripplegate Institute, or the feeble efforts of the players would not have been so generously treated. A section of the audience in a polite way quietly guyed the show from start to finish, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening's entertainment. Yet another section of those in front, amongst whom the writer is included, there were who marvelled at the effrontery that could possess even an amateur in expecting a playgoing public to waste both time and patience in sitting through such a show.

Mr. Walter Savage Cooper, on reference to the programme, we find is the author of *Wat*. He also plays the part of the Elizabethan forester, and undertakes the management of the stage, as well as the arrangement of the costumes. He was hard put to it on Monday night to carry out either one of the tasks successfully. There is but one scene—the grounds of Lord Trevor's mansion—and three acts. The printed programme was nicely got up, and led one to expect great things. In fact, a perusal of it before the curtain went up gave all the students of the Tudor period present pleasurable anticipations of Maypole songs and dances, stately measures, pavans, jester's quips and songs, and barcarolle.

The story of *Wat* may be briefly recorded. My Lord Trevor is expecting to be honoured by a visit from Queen Elizabeth, and his rustics are preparing the gardens for the royal visit and the dances that are to follow. Lord Trevor's daughter Alice is in love with naughty Sir Roland, and poor pa, of course, has forbidden him the house. So, aided and abetted by Kitty, the dairymaid, who is betrothed to Wat the Forester, Sir Roland is disguised as one of the yokels who will be present at the afternoon's revels. Queen Bess arrives, and as she enters the grounds her horse bolts, and Wat in saving her Majesty gets his arm sprained. Of course, the maiden monarch hears of this, and commands Dame Sarah—well versed in simples—to attend to the hurt. The old lady sets about curing the arm and breaking the heart of the woodman simultaneously. She tells him that Kitty is untrue to him, and points out that his ladylove will disregard his wishes that she dance with the jester in the afternoon, and will foot it with a stranger instead. Dame Sarah's "snip" comes off, and as the revels are progressing Wat turns rusty and denounces Sir Roland, who is credited with being mixed up in certain matters of which Queen Bess cannot be expected to approve. But all comes right in the last act, and the curtain falls to everybody's relief.

There was an orchestra of four—and a conductor. That gentleman was very vigorous with his baton. He could have strengthened the net result considerably had he brought a violin or even a tin whistle with him, and played either instrument. As it was, the stick-waving did not contribute much to the harmony.

Of the twenty-one individuals in the cast only one can be mentioned as possessing ability to act. That one is Miss Hilda Foster, who played the part of Kitty, the dairymaid. This young lady spoke her lines very well, walked the stage with perfect ease, and her voice got over the footlights, which cannot be recorded of many of the other characters. Miss Sydney Keith as Queen Elizabeth was next best as the imperious monarch, and many of us would cheerfully have applauded her if in reality she could have ordered the jester and one or two more off to instant execution. Oh, that jester! He was the naughtiest boy in the crowd. Not a quip, not a jest, not a smile from him the entire evening. He insisted on singing a drinking song that sounded more akin to a dirge than anything else, and then presumably retired to and wept in the wings.

The Maypole was planted in a kind of flower-pot, and in getting it to the centre of the stage the supers all but wrecked the scene. Then the lads and lasses danced the most melancholy measure ever seen in merrie England. This for some unforseen reason came to a sudden termination. The programme tells us that there was a "stately measure and pavan" included in the afternoon's revels. This may be so, but it was hard to distinguish it from the many mournful melodies which we patiently endured.

Mr. Cooper would do well to bear in mind when presenting his next play that the services of a professional producer would aid him greatly in skilfully putting before the public anything he may have written. As it was, *Wat* was badly presented, vilely stage-managed, ill-dressed, and the acting all round was the most pitiable spectacle we have witnessed for many a long day.

GARBED in the picturesque array of white towels, a number of men have for some time been seen perambulating the streets in various parts of London. They are intended to advertise the merits of the Savoy Turkish Baths, which are situated in Jermyn-street, Piccadilly; York-street, Jermyn-street; Savoy-street, Strand; Caledonian-road, King's Cross; Brixton-road; Railway Approach, London Bridge; and Denman-street, London Bridge. The baths have recently been taken over, and are now controlled under one management, and to celebrate the event about 150 members of the Press lunched in Sheraton Hall, in Lyons' Popular Café, on Tuesday last. Afterwards the party adjourned to view the bath, 92, Jermyn-street, recently redecorated, sumptuously furnished, and fitted with every modern improvement for providing every kind of bath. Many of the features of the establishment were explained, and great admiration was expressed at the luxurious appointments for the comfort of bathers. This bath is open day and night, and thus affords opportunity for visitors who are unable to spare time in the day to indulge in the pleasures and undoubted physical benefits of Turkish, &c., bathing on their road home at night, however late.

MR. BEN GREET and his company recently appeared in *Macbeth* and *The Merchant of Venice* at the Garden Theatre, New York. Following an old custom, it is said, Mr. Greet divided *Macbeth* into three parts, naming them "Ambition," "Realisation," and "Retribution."

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree is busy at His Majesty's with rehearsals for the coming Shakespeare festival, which includes *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Julius Cæsar*, in which, in addition to Sir Herbert Tree as Mark Antony, Mr. William Havland as Cæsar, Mr. Lyn Harding as Brutus, and Mr. Henry Ainley as Cassius, Miss Evelyn Millard will be seen as Portia, a part in which she has already appeared at His Majesty's. Miss Elinor Foster will be the Calphurnia. Sir Herbert Tree's Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* will be Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, and in Mr. Arthur Bourchier's production the part will be sustained by Miss Dorothea Baird.

Sir John Hare will shortly leave England on a visit to Lord Grey in Canada. He has accepted the invitation of the Governor to act as judge in the great dramatic and musical competition which is to take place in Toronto. His judging will be strictly confined to the dramatic side of the competitions. Some hundreds of students belonging to various dramatic societies of Canada and America will take part in the contest, but Sir John will not be called upon to examine the histrionic qualities of each competitor. The great body of the students will be pruned down to perhaps half a dozen possible prize-winners from each society or school. After his week in Toronto he will visit Ottawa, and subsequently New York, but only to call on friends.

Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Martin Harvey are organising a complimentary matinée at the St. James's Theatre on Friday, May 27, for the benefit of Mr. H. J. Loveday, for many years stage-manager to Sir Henry Irving and later on in the service of Mr. Martin Harvey. Mr. Loveday has done excellent work in England, Canada, and America, but a short time ago he met with an accident which incapacitated him from following his profession. References to him are constantly cropping up in Mr. Bram Stoker's excellent biography of Henry Irving; and it was a matter of common knowledge that, but for the loyal and able support of his two lieutenants, Irving would never have achieved such magnificent results as he did in the way of production and management.

The Stratford-on-Avon Commemoration season starts on April 22 with an afternoon performance of *Hamlet*, Sir Herbert Tree taking the name-part. The prize of £300 for the best play has been awarded by the Duke of Argyll, to whom were submitted the two plays chosen out of 315, to a four-act play *The Piper*, in which the Pied Piper legend is treated. The writer, to whom the prize will be presented on the stage after the first performance of the play on the evening of Thursday, May 5, is an American lady, Josephine Preston Peabody, or in private life Mrs. Lionel Marks, of Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., who is well known in American literary circles. Mr. Benson will enact the Piper and Miss Marion Terry will be in the cast.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey were the principal guests at a reunion in connection with the Glasgow branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society held in the Charing Cross Halls, Glasgow, on the 11th inst. The Rev. Dr. M'Adam Muir, Moderator designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, presided. The Chairman said it was not very long since the Glasgow branch was founded, and it now numbered 270 members. One or two Shakespeare reading circles had been formed, and he hoped there would be many more.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who delivered a short address, said Shakespeare in a way was like Nature. Scientists would tell them that Nature only revealed her secrets to those who sought for them after the most persistent efforts to unearth them, and so it was with Shakespeare. Shakespeare did not yield his meaning to readers or to students easily. They had to think and ponder and weigh every word. One of the most astonishing things about Shakespeare was that the more they thought and pondered and weighed every word the more wonderful his meaning was and the more they were forced to the conviction that only those words were right in that exact place and no others could possibly have expressed the exact shade of meaning that Shakespeare intended to convey.

Another point was the marvellous character which Shakespeare contrived to throw into the diction of each of his characters. It was not sufficient for him to give his characters beautiful words to speak, but in every instance they found that the character had used the words which were characteristic of himself and no one else. Mr. Harvey went on to say that the question of the National Shakespeare Memorial Theatre was very near his heart. They were all of great hopes that that idea might mature, and the time might come when he would ask them to help the funds. He was sure they would all be very proud people if in five or six years, on the occasion of the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death, they could point to a building and say they personally helped to erect it.

Mr. Fred Terry was inclined to make Holy Week the excuse for a well-earned rest, but so great has been the demand for seats for *The Scarlet Pimpernel* that he has decided to play through that week, with the exception, of course, of Good Friday. The fifth revival of this wonderfully successful play bids fair to rival its predecessors.

Mr. Forbes Robertson has accepted the invitation of the Governor-General of Canada to visit Montreal on April 11. Earl Grey will attend the performance of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* in the Princess Theatre on that evening. Mr. Robertson will visit Ottawa, Kingston, Hamilton, London, Quebec, and Toronto, and return to England on May 11.

The annual meeting of the subscribers of the Royal General Theatrical Fund will be held in the saloon of Terry's Theatre, by the kind permission of Mr. Edward Terry, on Tuesday at 1 o'clock p.m. The business will include the presentation of the annual report.

We beg to condole with Mr. Robert Pateman, whose only child, Miss Robbie, died on Thursday morning. She was only twenty-four, and it is a little over two years since her mother died. All Mr. Pateman's friends will sympathise with him in his second sad bereavement.

Miss Pateman attended a dance only a few days since, and had accepted an invitation for another party on Thursday. She was suddenly taken ill at the beginning of this week, and for three nights Mr. Pateman hoped for the best. In spite, however, of the best medical advice being secured, Miss Pateman died on Thursday morning at half-past two of heart failure.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey has secured a new three-act comedy, by George Paston, with the attractive title of *The Naked Truth*, to succeed *The Little Damosel* when a change is necessary. The rôle of the hero—a real "Hawtrey part"—is that of a glib liar, who, when wearing a certain ring is compelled to speak the "naked truth," which leads to many amusing complications.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who is this week appearing at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, will next week take a five nights' vacation, and open on Saturday for the Easter week at the Royal, Bournemouth. *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* is awakening the same amount of enthusiasm as that which it aroused throughout its long run at the Criterion, and it is no uncommon thing for the chief performer and his company to receive a dozen curtain calls at each performance. Mr. Weedon Grossmith, it may be added, recently received the glad news that his own play, *The Night of the Party*, had been produced in Australia, and scored an instantaneous success under the management of Mr. George Willoughby.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, after a very successful engagement at the Colonial Theatre, New York, recently appeared in the Russian playlet *Expiation* at the Orpheum, in Brooklyn, and subsequently is at Keith's Theatre, in Philadelphia, playing to packed houses. "Mrs. Campbell's art is superb," says one of the leading newspapers of the "Quaker city" in reviewing her performance.

Mr. Oscar Asche, who has been scoring socially and artistically in Australia, added to his laurels on the cricket field a few weeks ago, when he headed a team of Shakespearean actors against the pantomime artists from Her Majesty's, Melbourne, captained by Mr. E. J. Tait, the manager of the theatre. Mr. Asche, who went in third wicket down, made a clean drive for six with the first ball he received, and made top score with a dashingly played innings of 33.

The Shakespeareans won on the first innings by a total of 111 to 76. Mr. Asche's team acquitted themselves as follow:—T. Elliott, l.b.w., b Quintrell, 22; G. Relph, c Sheehan, b Kennedy, 0; T. Hickey, run out, 5; W. Russell, c Kennedy, b Quintrell, 4; Oscar Asche, b Menere, 33; C. M'Clelland, b Kennedy, 20; E. Brook, c Burns, b Menere, 0; A. Trantom, st Burns, b Menere, 4; J. Fritz-Russell, b Kennedy, 10; B. A. Meyer, b Salisbury, 1; Tripp Edgar, not out 0; extras, 12. Total, 111.

In the remaining hour's play each side batted for half the time. Pantomime scored 41, of which Sheehan made 28 not out. Melbourne saw Mr. Asche in a new rôle, and spectators watched his wicket-keeping with interest. The second innings of the Shakespeareans saw the downfall of the star, for Mr. Asche was bowled without scoring. Mr. Ewan Brook accomplished four capital fours in his total of 30 not out. Hickey made 21 not out, and the total for half an hour was 56.

Mr. Edward Compton gave a supper to the members of his company at the Globe Hotel, Paisley, on Tuesday, in celebration of the twenty-ninth anniversary of the Compton Comedy Company. After the loyal toast, Mr. J. H. Savile, Mr. Compton's first manager and the proprietor of the Paisley Theatre, where the company are appearing this week, made a few remarks about the early days of the C.C.C., and thanked Mr. Compton for all his kindnesses to him when a member of the company, adding that he had always found Mrs. Compton the friend of the younger members of the company, always willing to help them, always glad to do them any service. He also alluded in flattering terms to Miss Nell Compton, Mr. Compton's second daughter, who is Mr. Savile's god-daughter, and is making her first appearance at his theatre.

The health of Mr. and Mrs. Compton and family was drunk with great gusto, after which the company sang "For they are jolly good fellows." Mr. Compton replied, and thanked Mr. Savile and those present for all their good wishes. After supper a very enjoyable evening was spent, various members of the company contributing songs, recitations, &c., Mr. Compton being called upon for no fewer than four selections. About 4.30 the party held hands and sang "Auld lang syne," and Mr. Compton led the company in "A wee doch-an-doris."

Sir John Bigham, who has been raised to the peerage, took his farewell of Bench and Bar in the Probate and Divorce Division on Monday. In the course of an address, characterised by sincerity and good taste, he said:—"There is one person to whom on this occasion I undoubtedly ought to refer. It is my clerk, Mr. Arthur Dones. Thirty years of faithful service from him has helped me most materially during my career, and I thank him for it with all my heart." Mr. Dones is the father of Misses Zena and Phyllis Dare.

Saturday evening last saw the final fall of the curtain on the eminently successful pantomime *Mother Hubbard* at the Princess Theatre, Bristol. There was a full house, and the pantomime went well, the audience joining heartily in the choruses and anticipating some of the "gags." All the ladies of the company had abundance of floral offerings. Mr. G. H. Elliott had a handsome gold-mounted walking-stick presented to him by the Bristol University students, and Mr. Fred Conquest (Fido) a silver cigar-box. The final scene was very impressive, numerous baskets and bouquets adding much to the artistic grouping of the principals, ballet, chorus, and extra ladies and gentlemen.

In the interval Mr. Chute appeared to make his accustomed speech, and after sincerely thanking the audience for their generous patronage during the pantomime's run of over eleven weeks, said that *Mother Hubbard* stood third on the roll of their pantomime successes. That gratifying result might, he thought, be attributed to the excellent story so well devised by the author, the admirable service rendered by the ladies and gentlemen of the company, Mr. Armstrong's novel electric effects, and the loyal co-operation of the local staff. To one and all he tendered hearty thanks and congratulations. Mr. Chute added that he had commissioned Mr. Hickory Wood to furnish for next Christmas an original pantomime entitled *Jack Horner*.

Mr. Percy Harris, M.P., has introduced in the House of Commons a Bill to amend the law relating to licences for music and dancing in the administrative county of London as contained in the Disorderly Houses Acts, 1751 and 1818, and the Public Entertainments Act, 1875, in order to enable the London County Council (which is the authority to grant such licences in the county) to grant them at any time during the year, instead of being limited, as at present, to the annual licensing meeting now held in November. A similar amendment of the Act of 1751 has been sanctioned in respect of the administrative county of Middlesex, and the council, under the Theatres Act, 1843, already possesses, with regard to licences for stage plays, power similar to that now sought in respect of music and dancing licences. The Bill seeks to enable the council to make a small charge for licences for music and dancing, and in this respect also follows the precedent of the Theatres Act, 1843.

The American tenor Riccardo Martin is at present singing at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. Mr. Martin was born in Kentucky in 1878, and has studied in France, Germany, and Italy. He is a composer and an accomplished linguist and his repertory at Covent Garden includes *Madama Butterfly*, *La Bohème*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Carmen*, *Mefistofele*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Andrea Chénier*.

Mr. Percy Hutchison is completing arrangements for his production of *Arsene Lupin*, which makes its début in the provinces at the Opera House, Blackpool, on Boxing Day. An excellent spring tour has already been booked, and Mr. Hutchison will himself play the title-rôle. Negotiations have been entered into with an eminent London actor to play the part of the Detective.

King Edward, it is stated, has announced his intention of visiting the Passion Play at Oberammergau this year. The visit will take place on his Majesty's return from Marienbad.

Mr. J. M. Chute, proprietor and manager of the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, is an enthusiastic golfer, and recently encouraged the comedians of his pantomime by offering a prize for competition. A handicap was arranged, and the final took place on the 9th inst., when Mr. Chute beat Mr. Horace Mills on the nineteenth green. Having won his own prize, he put it up again for a stroke competition (handicap) the following Friday, when Mr. Charley Harvey proved the winner. The prize took the form of an amber cigarette-holder and a silver cigarette case, bearing an appropriate inscription.

"Amsterdam; or, the Mystery of the Black Tulip," Mr. John Tiller's brilliant production, commences a spring tour of the principal towns and cities at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Monday, travelling from Manchester Central station by Midland special train. The company, numbering 116, is under the management of Mr. E. P. Morgan. There is a ballet of fifty, the excellence of which is guaranteed by the name of Mr. John Tiller. The principals include Miss Lulu Valli, Miss Nancy Hearne, Miss Dorothy Firmin, Miss Enid Erroll (solo dancer), Miss Florrie Page, Mr. Joe Nightingale, Mr. T. W. Volt, Mr. Arthur Stigant, Mr. Sidney Vincent, Mr. Chas. V. Sandford, Mr. Chas. Verno, the Superba Serenaders, and the Twelve Forget-me-nots from the Drury-lane pantomime. The musical-director is Mr. Peter Flitcroft, who will take ten instrumentalists to augment the local orchestras.

Mr. Sholto Dennistoun, who recently returned from a long engagement with Mr. Leonard Rayne in South Africa, is now stage-manager for Mr. Frank Bertram, in *The Breed of the Treshams*, which is enjoying such a successful tour of the provinces.

That enterprising actor-manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison, has again come out with a surprise for his patrons in Southport, where he is the lessee and manager of the Opera House, having arranged with Sir Herbert Tree to pay a visit to Southport on May 23. The enthusiasm which the announcement has aroused in the town can well be imagined.

Mr. Hutchison is also able to announce that immediately on his return from America Sir Charles Wyndham will pay a visit to Southport. Among the attractions for the near future at the Opera House are the London companies of *The House of Temperley* and *The Brass Bottle*, the Moody-Manners and Carl Rosa Opera Companies, *The Dollar Princess*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Whip*, and a return visit from Mr. Martin Harvey.

Mr. Henry Miller, at the Grand Opera House, New York, recently appeared for the first time in that city as the Drain Man in *The Servant in the House*. This part was played by Mr. Tyrone Power when the play was running at the Savoy Theatre.

The twenty-sixth annual dinner of the Playgoers' Club will be held at the Hotel Cecil to-morrow. The president, Mr. E. Marshall Hall, K.C., M.P., will occupy the chair, and will propose the toast of "The Drama," and Mr. H. B. Irving (who will be accompanied by Miss Dorothea Baird) and Mr. J. W. Comyns Carr will respond. Mr. W. Pett Ridge will propose the toast of "The Visitors," to which Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Theobald Mathew will respond. Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., will propose the toast of "The Playgoers' Club," to which Mr. Chas. E. B. Kibblewhite (vice-president) will respond.

The Grand Opera season at Covent Garden, which begins on April 23, will have a most attractive programme, and the subscription list is the largest on record. Mme. Tetrazzini, who arrives on April 20, will probably appear on the first night with Mr. John McCormack in *La Traviata*. Mme. Melba returns to London a few days later. Many new and famous artists will join the company for the revival of old favourite and modern operas, such as Charpentier's *Louise* and Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande*.

M. Louis Lestelly, principal baritone at the opera houses in Lyons, Bordeaux, Nice, Marseilles, and Brussels, may be heard in *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Habañera*, *Madama Butterfly*, or *Don Giovanni*. Another baritone singer, M. George Baklanoff, was born in St. Petersburg some twenty-eight years ago. At the Moscow Imperial Opera House he has appeared with success in a variety of rôles. M. Franz, the French tenor, made his début at the Paris Opéra in February, 1909, and has sung there in *Lohengrin*, *Samson et Dalila*, *Sigurd*, *Faust*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Tannhäuser*, and other works. Two new German tenors, Herren Statz and Sembach, and Herr Fönss, a bass, are to be heard in *The Ring*. Mme. Edvina will probably appear as Mélisande, and other artists who will be heard during the season at Covent Garden are Herr Cornelius and Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's comedy *Dolly Reforming Herself*, originally produced at the Haymarket Theatre, will be played at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Monday, when Miss Henrietta Watson will make her first appearance as Dolly. The company includes Miss Vera Beringer, Mr. Tom Mowbray, Mr. Leonard Shepherd, Mr. Geoffrey Besant, and Mr. Bertram Forsyth, and is under the management of Mr. Walner Gregory.

The curtain at Birmingham Theatre Royal was on Saturday night rung down for the last time on the most successful pantomime that has been produced there during the five years in which the new building has been open. The audience called for Mr. E. T. Steyne, the producer, who said that the galaxy of talent he had had at his command assured success. There were many presentations during the evening, and Mr. Rodway, the general-manager, in thanking his patrons, announced that next year's pantomime would be *Aladdin*, and the leading comedian Mr. Harry Tate. Mr. George Robey and Miss Ada Reeve also spoke, and thanked the public of Birmingham for their enthusiastic appreciation of their work.

The repertory of Mlle. Hélène Demellier, the celebrated soprano, from the Paris Opéra Comique, where she made her début in 1905 as Louise, includes the principal parts in such operas as *Werther*, *Mignon*, *Habañera*. An English débutante is Miss Amy Evans, the young soprano who recently made such a success in *Fallen Fairies* at the Savoy Theatre. Mlle. Jane Bourgeois, contralto, is a Belgian, and made her first operatic appearance at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels, in 1905. This is her second season at Covent Garden. Miss Alys Mutch, who was born in Leicestershire, studied at the Royal College of Music, and has sung at many concerts, is another newcomer to the opera stage.

Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged that Mr. Hall Caine's play *The Bondman* shall be played at his Kennington Theatre for Holy Week for five nights, and matinée on Thursday at 2. On Good Friday, in conjunction with Mr. H. Bernhardt, Mr. Arthur is giving a grand concert at eight o'clock, and amongst a long list of artists are Mrs. Lewis Waller, Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Mabel Green, Mr. Richard Green, Mr. Charles Pond, and the Russian Imperial Singers.

"The Blue Bird" will be played for the 150th time at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday, when all the members of the original cast will take part in the performance. The Haymarket Theatre will remain open during Holy Week (except on Good Friday), and Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday matinées will take place as usual. Mr. Trench has arranged for two special matinées of *The Blue Bird* on Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday, in addition to the ordinary Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday matinées.

During the pantomime season just closed Mr. Philip Rodway, who has ably managed the affairs of the company controlling the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, was promoted by his directors to the position of general-manager. Recognising the honour bestowed upon one of the best-known men in the city, managers of other places of amusement and a few personal friends decided to make a presentation to Mr. Rodway, and surprised him at the close of the performance last Saturday evening. Mr. Edward Foster, the manager of the Grand Theatre, was the spokesman, and said all persons identified with the theatrical world in Birmingham were proud of Mr. Rodway, and were pleased that the Theatre Royal directors had rewarded him with promotion for hard, careful, and successful work in the past.

"You, Mr. Rodway," concluded Mr. Foster, in jocular vein, "remind me of a prisoner in the dock. You are found guilty of being a real good sort, and the sentence of your friends is that you wear this ring for the rest of your natural life." Mr. Foster then handed to Mr. Rodway a handsome diamond ring. Mr. Harry Lewis, chairman of the directors, spoke in eulogistic terms about Mr. Rodway and his work, and the latter suitably replied and expressed his thanks.

The Shakespeare National Theatre movement was fully debated at the annual conference of the British Empire Shakespeare Society held last week at Seaford House, when a resolution was carried to the effect that the Society would give no official recognition to the scheme in its present form, and that a copy of the resolution should be sent to all the branches throughout the country.

At the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, the final performance was given on Saturday night of *Jack and Jill*, which, after a record run at Sheffield, was played in the hardware city with considerable success for a fortnight.

Miss Frances Rose, of Mr. Beecham's English Opera Company, was married on Wednesday to Mr. Theodore Konrad, of Cologne, at the registry office, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, in the presence of the necessary witnesses and a cousin of the bride. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Konrad left London en route for Berlin. Miss Rose, who appeared as Chrysothemis when Strauss's *Elektra* was produced at Covent Garden, will appear this evening in *Les Huguenots* at the Berlin Opera House. Mr. Konrad, who is now in business, was formerly a vocalist, having appeared at the same theatre.

Lady Beerbohm Tree has forwarded a gift of £100 to the Church Army. She had promised to appear at the concert in aid of the Church Army's funds, recently organised by Mrs. Willie James, at The Dome, Brighton, but was prevented, and therefore she has sent this sum instead to the Church Army.

Mr. Matheson Lang, who returned to England on Tuesday morning from New York, where he has been appearing at the "Millionaires' Theatre," will, with his wife, Miss Hutin Britton, sail early in April for Australia, where they will tour for six months.

Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh have settled on Tuesday, the 29th inst., for the first performance at the Comedy Theatre of the new play *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, with Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Miss Alexandra Carlisle in the cast.

Mr. George Tyler, the American manager, is in London looking out for a theatre at which to produce Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's play *The Dawn of To-morrow*, which is still running in the United States. Should Mr. Tyler be successful in his quest, Miss Gertrude Elliott will play the part of a street waif, a cheery creature who leads the hero away from the thoughts of suicide which have beset him.

Mr. J. M. Barrie's comedy, *What Every Woman Knows*, was played in Hungarian at the National Theatre, Budapest, on the 11th inst., with complete success.

Mr. Cyril Harrison, who has played Captain Gara, his original character, in *The King and the Unknown Woman* for 300 nights, is re-engaged by Mr. Mitchelson for the autumn.

The versatile actress-authoress Miss Ella Erskine has been specially engaged by Mr. H. Bernhardt for his Good Friday concerts, and will appear in the evening both at St. James's Hall and the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, in a new monologue by Sabben Clare, entitled *A Moment of Doubt*.

Miss Dot Stephens and company, in *A Child of the Streets*, should prove a strong attraction at the Broadway next week. Miss Stephens, it will be remembered, is enabled to appear on the stage through a marvellous piece of surgery. Whilst travelling in a corridor coach to Glasgow she fell through one of the doors, was hurled on the track, and a passing train crushed both her feet. No one imagined that she would ever be able to appear on the stage again, but the Wolverhampton Hospital staff rose to the occasion, and she was fitted with artificial feet so wonderfully made as entirely to escape detection. Miss Stephens's impersonation of the chief part in the piece named has gained widespread admiration.

Miss Dorothy Firmin, who played Princesse Sosh so charmingly in Mr. Robert Arthur's pantomime *Aladdin* at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, has been re-engaged by Mr. John Tiller to play Gretchen in his grand production *Amsterdam*, which will open at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on March 21.

Mr. W. V. Garrod will send *The Prodigal Parson* on tour again in August, starting at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, on the Bank Holiday. Despite its twelve years' touring, the piece is practically booked up for fifteen months. This will in no way interfere with Mr. Garrod's tour of *A Country Girl in London*, which is also booked into the spring of 1911.

"The Angels of the Heavens," by Sivori Levey, will be performed to-morrow (Sunday) at 3 and 8 o'clock at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury avenue. The dresses are by Miss Meinhardt and D. Levey and the properties by Miss Male Hoey.

Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., have a very successful report for the Tyne Theatre and Opera House, Newcastle-on-Tyne, during the twelve months which ended with February, the profits for the year permitting of a 10 per cent. dividend being paid on the ordinary shares. In view of the trade depression which has troubled many districts, and especially Tyneside, such a result must be very gratifying.

In front of *The House of Temperley* at the Adelphi Theatre on Monday will be produced a new one-act play by Mrs. Caleb Porter entitled *The Marauder*, in which Miss Dorothea Desmond will appear as the heroine. Other characters are allotted to Mr. Wernham Byott, Mr. Stanley Turnbull, Mr. J. Byron, and Miss Katherine Kennedy. The scene is a room in a flat at midnight. Miss Lydia Bilbrooke will undertake the part of the young girl in *The House of Temperley* next week; and while Mr. Charles Rock is at Drury Lane for the revival of *The Whip* Sir John Hawker will be played by Mr. Murray Carson, by kind permission of Mr. Weedon Grossmith.

Miss Marie Brema's revival of Gluck's *Orpheus* will take place at the Savoy Theatre on April 12. Miss Brema has personally selected and trained the chorus of fifty. The costumes have been copied from famous Greek works of art, and the dances in the famous ballet of the third act have been arranged by Miss Margaret Morris. Mme. Brema will impersonate Orpheus, and the cast will include Miss Pearl Ladd as Amor and Miss Viola Tree, who will make her début on the operatic stage as Eurydice.

Last Saturday afternoon Sir Francis Vane (who is President of the British Boy Scouts), the 1st Walworth Company of British Boy Scouts, and Lady Vane's own troop of Girl Guides of Brixton, witnessed that stirring military drama, *The Fighting Chance*, at the Lyceum Theatre.

Owing to an unfortunate attack of laryngitis Miss Enid Ross has been compelled to relinquish her engagement with Mr. Millar Anderson. She is now deriving much benefit from her rest in Margate.

Mr. Leonard Pagden has been engaged by Mrs. Brown-Potter to play Louis Fleuriot (the husband) in *Madame X.*, the tour of which starts at Easter.

The Gaiety Theatre will be closed next week, reopening on Easter Monday night, the 28th inst., when the run of *Our Miss Gibbs* will be resumed. Seats which have been booked can be exchanged on application at the box-office.

The career of *Robinson Crusoe* at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, was ended on Saturday, when the house was packed and the audience very enthusiastic. Numerous bouquets were presented to the ladies of the company, and the grouping of the final scene was imposing. At the close Mr. H. C. Alty, the resident-manager, appeared and thanked the audience and artists for their support on behalf of Mr. Fred Carpenter, who has taken up the work of the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter. It is Mr. Alty's sixth pantomime at the Royal, and he felt that *Robinson Crusoe* had proved the happiest of the six. He announced that *Dick Whittington* would be the subject of next year's pantomime.

Mr. Alty was presented with an illuminated address, together with a handsome silver tea and coffee service by some of the patrons of the theatre. The presentation was made on the stage by Mr. Manny Epstein. Mr. Alty was also the recipient of a fitted dressing-case from the stage staff of the theatre, and of other presents from different artists and members of the pantomime company. Mr. Edwin Jacobs, the conductor of the orchestra, also received presents. "Auld lang syne" brought down the final curtain on *Robinson Crusoe*.

The first meeting of the newly-elected London County Council was held on Tuesday, when Mr. W. Whitaker Thompson was appointed chairman. Both Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Walter Reynolds, re-elected by overwhelming majorities, were present.

Applications for dates for the merry musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, have come in so rapidly from various parts of the country that Miss Florence Baines' North company has no vacancies till well on in the autumn, while the South company has almost completed booking arrangements for the summer tour. It is probable that after this year Miss Baines will start on another voyage to Australia and New Zealand, where she recently met with such success.

A comedian who is making a name in the provinces is Mr. Arnold Richardson, who, during the past season has refused many tempting offers for pantomime and the variety theatre Mr. Richardson has for the past two years been playing the principal part in that successful sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. Mr. Ernest Dottridge, who has the claim on him up to December next, has now fixed him for three more years, and Messrs. Dottridge and Longden have secured him for four seasons to appear in their pantomimes. They have also secured for a similar period the services of Mr. H. Flockton Foster and Miss Rita Vincent. Mr. Foster, who is such an able producer and author, works so well with Mr. Richardson in pantomime that the fun is assured from start to finish.

Miss Ada Champion received a hearty welcome last week at Cardiff, where she was playing Jess, the leading part in Mr. Fredk. Melville's *Her Road to Ruin* company. Miss Champion is well known at Cardiff, and was the recipient of some beautiful flowers and chocolates.

Messrs. Jay and Mann have arranged with Messrs. Daniel and Weathersby to provide a stock season of West End comedies at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, commencing on Easter Saturday. Operations will be begun with Alfred Sutro's Garrick Theatre success *Making a Gentleman*.

Mr. Montague Beaudyn has taken the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, and will run the same from Easter onwards as a popular-priced drama house twice nightly. The opening attraction under Mr. Beaudyn's management will be his own company in *Send Him Victorious*. The theatre will be entirely redecorated.

Mr. C. W. Standing, who has recently been playing Prince Olaf in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* with Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company, has been re-engaged by Mr. Herbert Sleath for the rôle of Julian Rolfe in *The Woman in the Case*.

The Stage Society will produce three new plays by Felix Salten at the Shaftesbury Theatre to-morrow, under the stage superintendence of Mr. William Haviland. In the first, entitled *Count Festenberg*, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, Mr. E. H. Brooke, Miss Helen Haye, Mr. Leon Quartermaine, and Mr. Reginald Dane will appear. In *Life's Importance*, translated by Mr. Hugh de Selincourt, the characters will be sustained by Mr. Alfred Bristowe, Miss Gwladys Morris, Mr. Clifton Alderson, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine; and for *The Return* Miss Mabel Harrison, Miss Margaret Bussé, Mr. Philip Leslie, Mr. Reginald Dane, Mr. Arthur Wontner, Mr. Norman Page, and Miss Aimée de Burgh have been engaged. The stage-manager will be Mr. Val Cuthbert.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The Good Old Times.

MRS. JOHN BILLINGTON, who is eighty-five years of age, has been giving her reminiscences in *Lloyd's Weekly*. She says: "Some of the young ladies and gentlemen who now go on to the stage from society and earn apparently remunerative salaries from the start, will be interested to hear that when I commenced my artistic career I received a stipend of 5s. a week! Out of this sum I had to provide my own dresses! However, the costumier did not play such a part in the drama at that day as is the case now. Cotton stockings were dyed to represent silk; and unbleached calico, trimmed with braid, was a wonderfully adaptable material.

"My husband, Mr. John Billington, has given some interesting details of his experiences. 'I was engaged for general utility,' he wrote, 'as it is called, at the salary of twelve shillings a week and find my own properties. These I was told, must include russet boots, tights, and feathers—articles of attire which were essential to the dramas which were then in vogue. As to their supply—well, the manager came to the rescue. Certain left-off "props" of his own were at my disposal at what drapers would have called an alarming sacrifice. They consisted of a pair of russet boots, ditto gauntlets, ditto worked tights, three white ostrich feathers, and a diminutive tab jacket. I was told that I might have the lot for a couple of pounds, and I eagerly closed with the offer.'"

How to Advertise.

BILLINGTON was afterwards sent to school at Doncaster, where he well remembered seeing Ira Aldridge, "the African Roscius," give a mixed programme, including scenes from *Othello*, passages from *The Padlock* and *The Virginian Mummy*, intermingled with such African ditties as "'Possum up a gum tree." Mr. Aldridge had hit upon various novel and successful methods of advertising his shows. He posted from town to town in a yellow postchaise, with a retinue of a white Iago and a black page-boy, and always went to church with great solemnity twice every Sunday, attended by the black page, who solemnly carried his Bible and Prayer-book.

The Macready Touch.

IT was the sight of the great Macready himself that finally decided John Billington to go on the stage. He and a friend, hearing that Macready was playing in Manchester, took the mail there from Bradford, and fought their way into the pit to see the great man, who was playing *The King of the Camerons*, a play founded on Scott's "Lady of the Lake." Mr. Billington described the impression made on him as very deep: "I sat in a dream of fascination to the end of the play. One feature I well remember, and that was the transforming charm of 'the Macready smile,' of which I had often heard. When it came it seemed to light up and give warmth to the entire house. Two women behind us were fairly overcome. Exclaimed one tearful dame to the other, 'Eh! Sarah, my lass, it's worth all t' brass to see yon man smile!'"

A Flunkey's Costume.

"DURING the rehearsal of the first act of a play in which I was to appear at the Theatre Royal, Preston," said Billington, "it was found that the part of the servant, who had to announce the names of a number of the French nobility, had been forgotten, and I was asked to oblige the management by 'doubling' the parts of gaoler and lackey. But I had no dress for the lackey. However, the manager came to the rescue. 'I'll arrange it for you, my boy. I have a friend, the footman at the Town Hall, whose uniform is just the thing. I often give him an order, and I am sure he will lend you his clothes.' Well, at the very last minute that evening the clothes turned up, of a size suited to their owner, who was six feet high and stout.

"WITH kind consideration for their comrade in distress, two of my fellow-actors, with pins obtained from the ladies' dressing-room, proceeded to tie and pin me up; but when the moment for my entrance came, and I stalked through the centre doors on to the stage—oh, horror!—certain of the pins gave way, and the right leg of my breeches dropped down to my ankle. This unrehearsed incident was naturally received with a roar of laughter; and every time I reappeared the laughter broke out again.

Walking the Plank.

"I was miserable, but I still hoped to retrieve the disaster when I appeared later as the gaoler. The scene represented an interior of four compartments, the entire floor of that which I had to enter consisting of a narrow plank, which sprang up and down with my weight upon it. When my cue came and I rushed on, it went up and down so violently that I feared I should fall off. Also, my black beard was tied on so tightly that my jaw was locked. I had to tear it away before I could deliver my hasty message; then as I turned to make my exit, the plank swayed to such a disturbing extent that I departed much in the manner of a beginner on a tight-rope."

Mr. George Grossmith, Jun.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, JUN., has been describing to a *Pall Mall* representative his experiences in Paris. "I confess I was frightened—never felt so scared," he says, "on the first night. It is an awful ordeal, you know, in another language. When I am on at home and anything slips—as happens to the best and worst of us at times—I can casually remark: 'Well, as I was saying.' You can't do that in French; it is not a language you can hum and haw in. I tried to give my masher drawl in the idiom, but, bless you, it cannot be done."

The Troublesome Souffleur.

INCIDENTALLY, Mr. Grossmith remarked that the "souffleur" annoyed him—not the man, but the institution. "It is awful," he said, "to hear him mutter over the whole thing, no matter how many times it has been played. French artists cannot get on without the 'souffleur,' but he is most distracting to me. In England, of course, we only have the prompter the first few nights. And then the 'compère' and the 'commère' are always on the stage, whether they have anything to do with the picture or not; they spoil it for me. I wanted them to go away whilst I did my dance, but the management told me the public would miss them."

Internationalised Art.

MR. GROSSMITH has ideas on the internationalism of art. He feels that the artist, either on the "legitimate" stage or in musical comedy, should be cosmopolitan in his education just like the singers in grand opera. "One of the greatest Hamlets England ever saw was Fechter, a Frenchman. Then the Dutchman, Devries, at the Haymarket, four or five years ago, was wonderful. He played as many as seven parts in a night—astonishingly versatile—and he learned to speak English perfectly. Fred Wright, playing in Vienna in *Our Miss Gibbs*, has so good an accent that a German friend of mine went to the theatre the other night, and was half an hour before he realised that Wright was not a German. One gets fresh ideas in travelling. It is necessary always to freshen up one's work if one is a comedian. I make a point, for instance, of playing for six months in America every three years or so."

"THE TOYMAKER OF NUREMBERG."

New and Original Play, in Three Acts, by Austin Strong, Produced at the Playhouse at a Matinée on Tuesday, March 15.

The Toymaker ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
The Sergeant ..... MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE
The Old Actor ..... MR. FRED LEWIS
The Stranger ..... MR. A. HOLMES GORE
The Boy ..... MR. SHIEL BARRY
The Boy's Friend .... MASTER BOBBIE ANDREWS
The Employer ..... MR. CHARLES ALLAN
The Lamplighter ..... MR. M. WETHERELL
The Street Cleaner ..... MR. C. B. KESTON
The Sentry ..... MR. A. G. ONSLOW
The Auctioneer ..... MR. DANIEL MCCARTHY
The Mother ..... MISS ELSIE CHESTER
The Girl ..... MISS MARGERY MAUDE
The Cook ..... MISS EMMA CHAMBERS

Mr. Austin Strong's pretty play has a flavour of Dickens, when the sentimental stop was out; and Mr. Strong almost out-Dickenses Dickens in the supreme simplicity of some of his characters. But the system of trusting to the sympathy of an audience with the weak and affectionate, with the poetical and the improvident, is generally successful; and it certainly was so on Tuesday afternoon, when many present at the Playhouse were "visibly affected," and pocket-handkerchiefs were freely used during the sad scenes. Mr. Strong has done his work very cleverly. He has given Mr. Cyril Maude a splendid part; and he has contrived a little pathetic poem with great ingenuity. By placing the locality of his piece in Nuremberg, a city of associations, he has added to the effect of his poetic inventions; and the expedient by which he saves his simple folk from the results of their foolishness is excellent.

An old Toymaker has been all his life making dolls, when his employer, who is only the middleman between the maker and a big toy merchant in Kansas City, who is known as the "Teddy-Bear King," wants the old man to leave off making dolls and do bears. The Toymaker at first refuses, but yields when he learns that his son is in love with the Employer's daughter. Of course, when the Employer hears of it, he denies his consent; and when two of the Toymaker's friends, an old Sergeant and an elderly Actor, pawn their most cherished possessions to raise funds to enable the young couple to elope, the Employer flies into a furious rage, denounces the Toymaker—who has refused to be a party to the elopement scheme—and takes away his "job." Then, in the last act, just as the Toymaker and his son are preparing to go out to America and make their fortunes, who should arrive from Kansas City but the great Teddy-Bear King, who is the Toymaker's elder son, and the "boss" of the Employer, and soon sets matters right. And so, after a couple of hours of charming, amusing unreality, the piece ends.

Mr. Cyril Maude's old Toymaker was a perfectly irresistible creation, so charming, winning, and pathetic that it rendered severe criticism of the play impossible. The Toymaker is described as the best-loved man in Nuremberg; and we can easily imagine this, so delightfully is he portrayed by the actor. The indications of senility were supplied with Mr. Maude's famous technical skill; and the sweet, amiable nature of the old man, his fine poetical view of life, and his quaint, enduring patience made him a most amusing and affecting personage. Mr. Maude has seldom done anything better than this in his long gallery of portraits of old age. The rôle of the Sergeant could hardly have had a better representative Mr. J. D. Beveridge, whose deep mellow tones and fine figure were very appropriate to the representation of the veteran. The bluff vigour of the soldier was admirably assumed, and the touches of pathos were put in with all the assurance and effectiveness of ripe experience. A rich, mellow, and humorous representation of the Old Actor was given, with a fine touch of Turveydropian deportment, by Mr. Fred Lewis; and Mr. A. Holmes Gore played the Stranger with boldness, energy, and alertness. Mr. Shiel Barry's Boy was treated in a truly-poetical spirit, the musical notes of the Boy's voice, his gentle and innocent nature, and his ardent imagination being shown by Mr. Barry with imaginative skill. Master Bobbie Andrews enacted the Boy's Friend very neatly and smartly and naturally; and an excellent embodiment of the Employer was given by Mr. Charles Allan. Mr. Allan was admirably made up, and assumed, with his usual ease and ability, the air of the prosperous, patronising, but not altogether unreasonable, worldling. The different inflexions of the character, its cautious moderation, its obstinacy, and its angry, overbearing tyranny were developed with the practised hand of a long-tried and resourceful artist. Very touching in its simple sincerity and womanly devotion was Miss Elsie Chester's Mother, a performance that rang true from beginning to end, and was quite convincing in its pathetic loyalty and quiet truth. Nothing could have been sweeter, simpler, and more exquisitely ingenuous than Miss Margery Maude's Girl. The innate modesty and delicacy of the Girl, her budding love, and her artless innocence, were depicted by Miss Maude with a natural grace and intelligence which quite won the hearts of the audience. We congratulate Mr. Maude on the complete success of his daughter's début, and on his judicious selection of a part for the purpose. The small parts of the Lamplighter, the Street Cleaner, the Sentry, and the Auctioneer, had careful, considerate, and clever exponents in Mr. M. Wetherall, Mr. C. B. Keston, Mr. A. G. Onslow, and Mr. Daniel McCarthy; and Miss Emma Chambers was very energetic and authoritative as the Cook. Much of the success of the performance was due to the scenery, the set for the first act being very romantic, and the old toymaker's room, with the great Nuremberg clock seen through the window, being very picturesque.

The Toymaker of Nuremberg was preceded by a wordless play, performed for the first time in England, and entitled "A Happy Mistake." Pierrot returns home intoxicated, explaining that he has lost all his money at the gaming table. His wife becomes angry, because he has promised to take her to the ball for which she has prepared her costume. She is putting the finishing touches as it hangs on the dressmaker's dummy. Pierrot asks for more drink, and Madame Pierrot, infuriated, throws her wedding ring at him, declaring that all is at an end between them, and leaves the room in disgust. Half drunk and dazed, he mistakes the dressmaker's dummy covered by the costume for her. In his drunken rage he seizes a knife and stabs the dummy. This sobers him, and imagining that he has killed his wife, he is filled with despair and has horrible visions of being arrested by the police and hanged as a murderer. The wife re-enters, Pierrot is overjoyed to discover his error, and there is a reconciliation. M. Thalès, a clever mime, depicted Pierrot's passions powerfully, and Mlle. Massilia made a comely and expressive spouse.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

LYCEUM'S GOLDEN SONG.

A BOX-OFFICE TUNE THAT IS NEVER TEDIOUS.

"*The Fighting Chance* will, we have every reason to anticipate, be in the bill at the Lyceum until the autumn," Mr. Henry B. Smith, the Lyceum's energetic director, informed an *Era* representative. "Then we shall send it on, it is to be hoped, a long and successful tour just as it stands—scenery, dresses, everything.

"You are right when you say it is the most ambitiously mounted play we have yet put on. We know it to be so, and that opinion is held, too, by the leading critics. Better still, the box-office is singing its golden song in splendid style, which, of course, is a source of the greatest satisfaction to my company, and the bookings are the finest we have yet had—certainly for this time of the year.

"So you see, although we have several more shots in the locker, so to speak—and by that I mean at least half-a-dozen strong plays ready to put on—there is no necessity to produce them yet awhile.

"As most people are aware, four years ago I conceived the idea of running drama in the West End at popular prices. My scheme was laughed at by many, but several other managers have thought it wise to alter their tactics and their prices, again proving the truth of the old adage that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

"My father it was who introduced me to Mr. Ernest Carpenter at the Grand Theatre, Brighton. My scheme appealed to him. It was after his own heart, and so we formed a company, with what results you know. *Her Love Against the World* was our first success, and that proved there was a public which had been waiting and wanting a West-End theatre with popular prices. Now look at the huge masses of people who visit the Lyceum daily, and who are only called upon to pay for their seats at prices ranging from sixpence to five shillings. Even our Shakespearean season, which everybody said was to be our Waterloo, was a financial success. To-day, we have four companies on the road, all doing well. These are a No. 1 and a No. 2 *Pete*, *The Two Little Vagabonds*, and *The Proud Prince*.

"The death of Ernest Carpenter was a very serious loss to us. Yet his work was so perfect that it will be the simplest thing in the world to carry out the plans he made in conjunction with myself before his death, and it affords me the greatest gratification to say so.

[*Photo by "Daily Mirror" Studio.*

MR. H. R. SMITH.

"That our theatre holds a position in the front rank in the West End is evidenced by the fact that I have had the honour of receiving Her Majesty the Queen no fewer than three times during the past two years. The last occasion was on Tuesday night, when Her Majesty, together with H.R.H. Princess Victoria, witnessed the performance of *The Fighting Chance*, and was gracious enough to say that she was delighted with the piece. Sir Dighton Probyn was also present on this occasion.

"Our company is as near the old stock system as it is possible to obtain to-day. We have brought many good provincial actors to London, and we adopt the system whenever possible of having the same people back as frequently as is advisable.

"The public, we find, love the old faces. To give you an instance of this I may state that one night when Fred Ross was playing in *The Two Little Vagabonds*, on his first entrance somebody in the gallery called out: 'Lord, if it ain't our Freddy!' and a big round of applause immediately greeted the actor."

Both Mr. Fred Carpenter and Major Jones, the Lyceum's stage-manager, are full of good stories and incidents concerning their productions.

Mr. Fred Carpenter recounts that many out-of-work actors and supers have seized on the title of the drama to apply for work, and beg to be given "a fighting chance." But unfortunately there is not room for everybody, even in a big theatre like the one in Wellington-street.

There are many military men and ex-soldiers in the cast of *The Fighting Chance*. Major Kinnaird, who plays the part of Captain Fraser, was actually an officer in the Gordons, the regiment represented in the play. Several of the other actors have seen service, and in the march past sixty privates of the Scots Guards come from Wellington Barracks daily. In addition, the drum and fife band of the Coldstream Guards are to be seen on the stage.

The game of poker played in the first scene was one of the greatest difficulties, it seems, to get right. All those participating were experienced players, but it was found extremely difficult to present the game in such a way that the audience might follow the play and, at the same time, enable the actors to accurately fit in the dialogue. But it was managed after quite a record number of rehearsals.

Mr. Ed. Ferris, who, with Mr. B. P. Matthews, is one of the authors of *The Fighting Chance*, took an active part in the production of the latest Lyceum drama. For three solid weeks rehearsals were in progress nearly night and day. The start was made as early as eleven in the morning, and on more than one occasion dawn was just breaking before the tired actors and actresses went home. Mr. Ferris tells how he originally intended that Sergt. Bartleman should be the first character to be shot in the last act through the treachery of the Afghans. But one of the leading ladies took the "assassination" of this soldier so much to heart that he listened to her entreaties that one of the Gordons should meet this fate instead, and altered the incident accordingly. Whereat the sergeant promptly said, "Thank you, sir; you've saved me life!"

COUNT ENRICO BRINELLI, a grand opera singer, who slipped on the slope at the Leicester-square tube station and injured himself, was awarded £10 damages at the Westminster County Court last week against the Piccadilly Tube company.

NEW THEATRE.

On Saturday, March 12, Revival of the Drama, in Four Acts, by Baroness Orczy and Montague Barstow, entitled

"THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL."

Prince of Wales ..... MR. PHILIP MERIVALE
Sir Percy Blakeney ..... MR. FRED TERRY
Sir Andrew Ffoulkes .... MR. ALFRED KENDRICK
Lord Anthony Dewhurst .. MR. MALCOLM CHERRY
Lord Grenville ..... MR. J. L. DALE
Chauvelin ..... MR. HORACE HODGES
Comte de Tournai.. MR. H. HUMBERSTON WRIGHT
Vicomte de Tournai.. MR. R. EASTEN PICKERING
Armand St. Just ..... MR. MAURICE ELVEY
Hebert ..... MR. WALTER EDWIN
Jellyband ..... MR. FREDERICK GROVES
Jimmy Pitkin ..... MR. NORMAN YATES
Harry Waite ..... MR. GUY CUNNINGHAM
Brogard ..... MR. J. CARTER EDWARDS
Captain of the Guard.. MR. HERMANN GRIFFITHS
Mr. Hempseed ..... MR. GEORGE DUDLEY
Servant ..... MR. GOODWIN NOCK
Aristocrat ..... MR. KNOTT CUMMING
Chepy ..... MR. WALTER ARMSTONG
Citizen ..... MR. BROUGHTY FERRIE
Messenger ..... MR. HUGHBERT DANE
Comtesse de Tournai.. MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT
Suzanne de Tournai..... MISS EILEEN BEATRICE
Sally Jellyband ..... MISS DORA JESSLYN
Mere Brogard ..... MISS MARION STERLING
Lady Portarles ..... MISS STUART INNES
Lady Blakeney ..... MISS MIRIAM LEWES

Since its first London performance at the New Theatre on Jan. 5, 1905, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* has been a warm favourite with the playgoing public, and it has only to be revived to be again applauded and to draw full houses. In the first production Mr. Fred Terry played the Prince of Wales, Miss Julia Neilson was the Lady Blakeney, and Mrs. Walter Edwin the Comtesse de Tournai. Several of the members of the original cast were happily available for the revival of the piece at the New Theatre on Saturday, including Mr. Alfred Kendrick, Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. Horace Hodges, Mr. Walter Edwin, Mr. J. Carter Edwards, Mr. George Dudley, and Mr. Hermann Griffiths. The central figure, of course, is Mr. Terry, who easily predominates as Sir Percy Blakeney. The concealment of Sir Percy's real character under the mask of tipsy foolishness gives Mr. Terry opportunities in the first act of some clever comedy-acting, which is heartily enjoyed by the audience; and the quick, resolute, and ready-witted individuality of the "Scarlet Pimpernel" is depicted by Mr. Terry with brisk alertness and excellent energy and force. The difficult part of Lady Blakeney is sustained with admirable skill and feeling by Miss Miriam Lewes. The warring emotions of the woman, her vivacious and sensitive temperament, and her remorseful sufferings are portrayed by Miss Lewes in very artistic style; and she makes a picturesque appearance in some pretty dresses. The important part of Chauvelin has a competent exponent in Mr. Horace Hodges, who endows his creation with all the necessary smoothness and sharpness. The polish and finish of Mr. Hodge's performance is remarkable. The fine gentlemen of the piece are embodied with all the necessary style and ease by Mr. Philip Merivale, clever and characteristic as the Prince of Wales, Mr. Alfred Kendrick bright and gallant as Sir Andrew Ffoulkes, Mr. Malcolm Cherry effective and able as Lord Anthony Dewhurst, and Mr. J. L. Dale entirely efficient as Lord Grenville. The French *noblesse* are equally well represented, Miss Claire Pauncefort making a delightful old Comtesse and realising imaginations of the old *régime*; Miss Eileen Beatrice being fresh, natural, and girlish as Suzanne de Tournai; Mr. H. Humbertson Wright making a good Comte de Tournai, Mr. R. Easten Pickering giving a neat and bright comedy-sketch as the Vicomte de Tournai, and Mr. Maurice Elvey playing Armand de St. Just with much delicate sentiment. Mr. Walter Edwin is excellent as Hebert; and Mr. J. Carter Edwards's ripe experience is evident in his Brogard. A mellow and genial reading of the rôle of Jellyband is supplied by Mr. Frederick Groves, who exactly realises the landlord of the last century; and Miss Dora Jesslyn is a neat and attractive Sally Jellyband. Miss Marion Sterling's Mère Brogard is full of character; and Miss Stuart Innes is quite commendable as Lady Portarles. Valuable assistance is rendered by Mr. Norman Yates as Jimmy Pitkin and Mr. Guy Cunningham as Harry Waite; and minor rôles are effectively sustained by Mr. Hermann Griffiths, picturesque and powerful as the Captain of the Guard, Mr. George Dudley as Mr. Hempseed, Mr. Goodwin Nock, Mr. Knott Cumming, Mr. Walter Armstrong, Mr. Broughty Ferrie, and Mr. Hughbert Dane. The scenery is first-rate, and the revival has had a most enthusiastic reception. *The Scarlet Pimpernel* may always be relied on to draw good houses.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

MR. THOMAS BEECHAM'S SEASON.

"CARMEN."

Opera by Georges Bizet, Revived (in English) on Monday, March 14.

Don José ..... MR. JOHN COATES
Toreador ..... MR. ROBERT MAITLAND
Frasquita ..... MISS BETTY BOOKER
Mercedes ..... MISS PAGE
Remendado ..... MR. BYNDON-AYRES
Dancairo ..... MR. ALBERT ARCHDEACON
Micaela ..... MISS GERTRUDE RENNYSON
Zuniga ..... MR. STEWART GARDNER
Morales ..... MR. R. CHIGNELL
Carmen ..... MISS FRANCES ROSE

On Monday night *Carmen* was performed at Covent Garden by Mr. Thomas Beecham's company. In Bizet's masterpiece Miss Frances Rose appeared as Carmen and Mr. John Coates in the part of Don José. Miss Frances Rose, so excellent as Chrysothemis in *Elektra*, hardly realised the ideal gipsy heroine of Prosper Merimée in her acting, although, of course, the music of the part was finely sung. Mr. John Coates's Don José is familiar, but his performance on Monday night certainly surpassed any previous effort made by this distinguished artist. "The Flower Song" was beautifully rendered, and in the great duet with Carmen Mr. Coates sang with admirable passion and fervour. Excellent also was the Micaela of Miss Gertrude Rennyson, who gave a most artistic impersonation of the character and much vocal charm to the delightful music. Mr. Robert Maitland as the bull-fighter sang and acted well, and gave an effective version of the famous "Toreador" song. Of the rest of the cast, Miss Betty Booker and Miss Page successfully sang the music of Frasquita and Mercedes; Mr. Byndon-Ayres and Mr. Albert Archdeacon ably filled the parts of Remendado and Dancairo; and Mr. R. Chignell that of Morales. All the principal artists deserved great praise for clear enunciation. Mr. Hamish McCunn conducted, and the chorus and orchestra were equally efficient.

An immense audience were present at Covent Garden on Saturday night, March 12, when Dr. Richard Strauss conducted his opera *Elektra*. The cast was the same as on the first night, Miss Edyth Walker as Elektra, Mme. Mildenburg as Klytemnestra, and Miss Frances Rose as Chrysothemis. The Queen and Princess Victoria were in the Royal box. Dr. Strauss had a most cordial reception, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed after a very fine performance of the opera

MISS MARIE HALL has just completed arrangements for a tour through South Africa, beginning in August. The guarantee is stated to be £10,000, which is the largest ever offered to a violinist.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, March 17.—The interesting event this week has been the production—I might almost say the resurrection—of Balzac's five-act comedy, *L'Ecole des ménages*, which, strangely enough, has never before been given on any French stage. In 1837 Balzac wrote the scenario of the work, which then bore the title of *La Première Demoiselle*, subsequently changed into *La Demoiselle du Magasin*. Balzac sent the sketch to his friend, Mme. Hanska, who replied that she did not care for the plot. Balzac, discouraged, locked the MS. in a drawer, but, after a while, he once more started work, and finished the plot in 1838, with the intention of offering it to the Théâtre de la Renaissance, then managed by Anténor Joly. Balzac, eager to have it received at that house, showed it to Lassailly, author of *Les Roueries de Trialph*, an experienced dramatist, who gave Balzac some excellent advice in view of altering one or two scenes. But Anténor Joly refused the *Ecole des ménages*, and accepted Alexandre Dumas' *l'Alchimiste*, which contained a splendid rôle for Frédéric Lemaître. A year later, at a soirée at the house of the Marquis de Custine, Balzac was asked to read his play, when the Prince de Metternich advised him to change the end. Sick of all these suggestions Balzac once more put the MS. away, yet with the secret hope of seeing the work produced some day. That day, however, never came; and when in 1858—eight years after the famous novelist's death—Arthur de Beaupian brought out at the Odéon a comedy in five acts bearing the same title as Balzac's work, *L'Ecole des ménages*, chances of ever seeing the footlights seemed to have dwindled down to nothing. Balzac was not a playwright, and, after the second act, the story becomes so intricated that it is impossible to give a clear account of it, but the man's genius makes itself felt throughout, and M. Antoine did well to add the work to the répertoire. One scene especially created a profound impression. The heroine, Adrienne Guérin, is employed in the shop of M. Gérard, who has fallen desperately in love with her. Mme. Gérard, jealous of Adrienne, takes advantage of her husband's absence to discharge the girl. Adrienne then implores Mme. Gérard to let her remain in the house. She does not ask this from selfish motives, but in the interest of her employer's wife and daughters. She knows that her presence in the house is a safeguard; that it is she who makes her employer remain faithful to his home, and that were she to leave he would at once follow her. She also knows that as long as she is in the house Gérard will fight against his love for her—a love which she shares—but that she will no longer be mistress of her feelings if her departure will make the man wretched.

WHILST at our Opéra *La Forêt* and other productions of the ultra-modern school send the public to sleep, the Théâtre de la Gaîté has revived *Martha*, and has scored such a success with it that the old-fashioned opera seems booked for a long run. It was to be foreseen. The worm—I mean the long-suffering public—has turned. For many years it has been bored, and now it wants to be amused. I am not an antediluvian creature. I admire Debussy and other great men, who have created a new formula in music, which, like the impressionist school of painting, may surprise and charm us, and yet not be accepted as the future form of art. But I object to the "followers" of these masters; men who imitate the latter without possessing their talent, and who hide their shortcomings behind an avalanche of discordant and meaningless notes. It really was quite touching to watch the people at the revival of *Martha*. They behaved like children at a pantomime, clapping their hands, and indulging in all kinds of demonstrations to show their delight at hearing once more a melody. And during the entr'actes the well-informed people told their friends that *Martha*, although of German origin, was brought out in Paris. Thus we also heard that when the work made its appearance in 1844 it was called *Lady Henriette*, and that no less than three musicians had collaborated at it—*i.e.*, Flotow, Burgmuller, and Deldevez. The names of the two latter disappeared, and that of Flotow alone survived, probably because he had the good sense of infusing a little more life into the libretto, so that when it returned to France in 1847 it met with a splendid reception at the Théâtre Lyrique, and afterwards at the Théâtre Italien.

"TU BLAGUES!" is the title of a new revue brought out at La Cigale, the joint effort of MM. Jacques Bousquet and Georges Arnould. At curtain rise we are in Athens, whither the authors have gone to engage Aristophanes, who acts as "compère," whilst the rôle of commère is undertaken by the Muse of Montmartre. The two quaint companions then visit Paris, where they see many celebrities, among whom the Mme. de Vaughan, who has to pocket a large share of chaff. After a scene illustrating the recent inundations, we have a bright tableau, wherein Spanish dancers, Neapolitan singers, and English dancing girls make their welcome appearance. Next comes a skit on the present educational system. A family of bourgeois, who object to the tuition of the up-to-date school, have decided that their little girl is to be educated at home. Her aunt, a cook, teaches her arithmetic—*i.e.*, to buy an article at a shilling, and put it down in the book at 1s. 6d. Her uncle, a butcher, lectures on zoology, and instructs the child the anatomy of the ox. "The animal," he says, "is composed of cutlets, steaks," &c. Next comes a skit on *Chantecler*. The Cock comes forward, and informs us that he is the author of the play. He starts reciting the famous hymn to the Sun, when a lady among the audience interrupts him. It is Mme. Rostand, who, also of a literary turn insists on her verses being read. The Cock obeys, and recommences his hymn; but he is once more interrupted by his son, who wants the public to listen to the verses he has just finished. In this way he is constantly stopped by his relations in the gallery—uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, and nieces, who all claim to be heard. This amusing scene had a tremendous success.

OWING to the damage caused by the floods, the Théâtre Michel was compelled to give its performances at the Variétés. The management has once more taken possession of its house in the Rue des Mathurins, and has given us a very good programme. The successful play *Le Rubicon* is still on the bill, and two novelties have been added, one a trifle by MM. Darantiè and Mazamey, and *L'Agence Léa*, by Zamacois, wherein the principal feature was the exquisite dancing and singing of Mlle. Berty, whose Spanish song and imitations of the Montmartre style proved the hit of the evening. She was ably supported by that clever artist, M. Harry Baur, and by M. Bidouche.

THE Dowager Empress of Russia took the Czarevitch and his sisters to an afternoon performance of the fairy ballet *The Hunchbacked Horse* at the Imperial Marie Theatre on Saturday. Neither the Emperor nor the Empress has entered a St. Petersburg theatre for several years past. The Imperial children were delighted with the performance, which they repeatedly applauded.

THE Queen and Princess Victoria went to the Playhouse on Tuesday afternoon to see the production of *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*. At night they were at the Lyceum and witnessed the performance of *The Fighting Chance*.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

3,764½ SHILLINGS.

We are again making an appeal on behalf of the Music Hall Home *Era* Shilling Fund, and with that appeal we have very great pleasure in associating the name of Miss Vesta Tilley, who will for the next few months act as a sort of fairy godmother to the fund. "I think," said Miss Tilley, in conversation with our interviewer the other day, "that the Music Hall Home is a very deserving charity and a very excellent thing. Something of the sort was certainly wanted for the poorer professionals. Every week of my life I give pounds away at the stage-door to numbers of the profession who call upon me for assistance. Now this year I want to create a record in the matter of collections for the fund, and I personally shall work my very hardest for it. In everything I wanted before the profession has always come forward very generously, and I hope that they will help me all they can now. I have a number of private friends who are going to work for me, too. I think, however, that most of the support should come from the professionals themselves. Outside people have their own charities to look after. I have asked my husband if he can arrange special matinées at each of his halls for the benefit of this fund, and he thinks that he will be able to do this. A great deal in that case will rest upon the artists, and if they would turn up we should be enabled to augment the funds of the Home very considerably. Wherever I am now appearing I am fixing up cards so that members of the same company for the week may put their names down for a subscription. I also hope by the sale of autograph postcards in the front of the house to collect a still further sum for the same purpose."

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£58	13	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde ..	1	11	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Ted E. Box	1	10	0
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan ..	1	5	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore ..	0	17	0
R.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1	0	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £20 2s. 6d.

"Bill"	100	George May	5
Eugene Stratton	100	W. J. G.	5
Oswald Stoll	21	C. Sounes	5
J. Tanner and Sons..	21	C. Barnard	5
George Mozart	20	H. V. D. Esterre	5
Jos. Ingleby	20	Miss Hadley	3½
Mrs. F. Mouillot	20	Miss Wadeley	3½
D'Arcy Baker	20	J. H. Montague	2½
"Erb"	10	Tom Birch	2
A. Buckley	10	Ernest Edelsten, jun.	2
H. S. Buckley	10	C. Payne	1
T. E. Latham.....	5	Gus Elen	1
John Hart	5		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham	1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer	1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read	1	H. Cromwell Bush..	1
Elsie Wright	1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips	1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred E. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. B. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan ..	10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole	5		

Collected by Mr. Walter Norman, 12s.

Ernie Myers.....	1	Billy (Little).....	1
L. Rockall	1	Gordon Starkey.....	1
G. P. R. Burgess..	1	J. F. Sterling.....	1
Terrier A. W. Stanwell	1	Harry McKenzie....	1
E. Voigt	1	Benj. Woodger.....	1
Little Henry	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich	3	Mr. R. Knaepper ..	1
Mr. Harry Alaska..	1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska	1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun..	1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun. ..	1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio ..	1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph	1	A New Julia.....	1
Mme. Recio	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Theodore Jones, £1 4s.

Harry Laborde	1	Dulcie Lawrence	1
Theodore Jones	1	Isa Gibson	1
Carton Hicks	1	Nina St. Elmo	1
Percy E. Wright	1	Mlle. Bartanelli	1
Teddy Worth	1	Nellie Stuart	1
W. E.	1	Maud Hastings.....	1
H. E.	1	Madam Sara	1
E. Blackster	1	Horace Lee	1
Jack Hayton	1	Nettie Ross	1
Allways Ready	1	Ethel Blackster	1
Fred Boulton	1	Charles Elderton	1
The Vic (?), Shields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway	1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway	1	Mr. Hamilton Warden	1
Michael Madden ..	1	Miss Louie Love ..	1
Miss Queenie King	1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls	1	Two Derby Nuts ..	1
Miss Ada Lucelle ..	1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen	1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths	1	Miss May Garry ..	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore	1	The Lady Goldfish..	1
Wallace Bosco	1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson ..	1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter	1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note	1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway	1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen	1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser	1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian	1	Humpsti Bumsti ..	1
W. H. McCarthy ..	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzletov	1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown	1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart	1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (2nd card), £1 2s.

Geo. Gulliver	2	J. Glenville	1
Bert Williams	1	The Carlyles	1
Geo. Cooke	1	H. Brett	1
Kathleen Moore.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. C. Craig, sen.	1	Lucy Jim	
J. C. Faure	1	Tatcho	
Minnie Wheaton	1	Tom E. Oliver	
Ward and Davis	1	Peter Piper	
Harry Paolia	1	Fred Bauer	
Percy Galino	1	Gene Strauss	
G. Barclay, jun.	1	R. C. Note	
Mundill and Maude..	1	J. Enzer	
Warren, Northampton	1		

Collected by Little Fred Zola, £1 13s.

Kate Carney	5	Clarence Hotel	1
Marie Lloyd	5	Mr. Tyler	1
Mattison	2½	Flo Dora	1
Fred Emney	2½	Mrs. Fred Zola	1
K O. P.	2	Frank Zola	1
Tom Lee	2	Maudie Zola	1
Stone Troupe	2	Grandma Zola	1
Tom Payne	1	"Zol Zol," the dog..	1
Delome	1	Syd Walker	1
Tom J. Waldron	1	Bros Obo	1
Coverdale	1	Maudie Scott	1
Phillips	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 16s.

Manitto Klitgaard ..	2	Carl and Carr	1
Harry Carr	1	S. J.	1
Max Carl	1	Gus Elen	1
Masie, St. Hilary ..	1	N. Manning	½
D. Scott	1	G. Spirack	½
E Davey	1	Neville Delmar	½
Austen Temple	1	J. R.	½
Washee	1	J. Bishop	½
Kittee Rayburn	1	F. S.	½

Collected by Hayman and Franklin, £1 8s.

Joe Hayman	2	Gus Barra	1
Harriet Vernon	2	George Kempt	1
Frank Poole	1	The Carlyles	1
Edith St. Clare	1	A. Daunton Shaw ..	1
W. B. McMillan	1	Mr. Sid Macaire	1
Bob King	1	H. Wheatley	1
Fred Russell	1	Mrs. Pirman	1
Harry Marlow	1	Hampton and Bauman	1
Vera Vere	1	George F. Hall	1
J. Calder	1	Leslie Race	1
P. Q.	1	Hersleb Bros.	1
Phil and Nettie Peters	2	Gus Elen	1
Eddy Martyn	1		

Collected by Cullen and Carthy, £1 1s.

J. Cullen	5	T. Drew	1
A. Carthy	5	H. Cluley	1
Bessie Cohen	2	Kearns and Vasey ..	1
Maudie Ford	1	May and Leslie.....	1
Dolly Cullen	1	A. Stratton	1
Elsie Jordison.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by the Michel Bros., 3s. 6d.

Michel	1½	Gus Elen	1
Dort-Leonard	1		

Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby, 12s.

Sue R. Lewis	1	Louie Formby	1
Maud Westwood	1	George Formby, jun.	1
Frank Westwood	1	Francis Formby	1
Leo Derenda	1	Another Formby	1
George Formby	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Mrs. Formby	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Gertie Gitana, £1 8s. 6d.

Jimmy O'Connor	2½	Hardie Lee	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	F. Hartley	1
Kelly and Agnas	2	Russell and Held	1
Queenie Finnis	1½	Leslie Faber	1
Marie Pera	1	Winifred Faber	1
Jose Collins.....	1	Alice Raymond	1
Hanvarr	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Anna Leo	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Violet Loraine	1	Mazie Hibbs	1
Mabel O'Connor	1	Katie Butler	1
Dorma Morgan	1	Gus Elen	1
Florence Cooper	1		

Collected by Frank Coyle, £1 1s.

L. Charlier	1	J. H. Newton	1
G. W. Gerald	1	W. M. Emerson	1
J. Smith	1	Walter Buxton	1
Mrs. Frank Coyle	1	Dan Whitley	1
Miss Violet Coyle ..	1	Nora Stockelle	1
Mr. Frank Coyle	1	Montaldos	1
Chris Gerald	1	J. Fawn	1
J. Huxley	1	H. Thiessen	1
George Batty	1	C. Griffin	1
W. Rogers	1	Gus Elen	1
Jas. Lodge	1		

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 8s.

D. F. Bostock	2	Wallace Hughes	1
Will Lanhon	1	Bert Weston	1
Radena Dey	1	F. V. St. Clair	1
B. Abrahams	1	L. Anarto	1
Any Complaints	1	A. Anarto	1
Sid Cotterell	1	Fransilo Troupe.....	1
Johnny Wood	1	H. E. Wakeling	1
Harry Clifford	1	Will Poluski, jun..	1
M. Shute	1	Arthur Stacey	1
Geo. Fairburn	1	Carter Livesey	1
Alec Hurley	1	Lilian Rosebery.....	1
Fred Earle	1	Billy French	1
Ted Cowan	1	Gus Elen	1
D. Mallett	1		

Collected by Jenny Johns, £1 11s.

Lew Lake	5	Fred W. Wood	1
Johnson and Bert....	2	Albert Voyce	1
George Le Clerq	2	Fred Redfern	1
Ben Brown	1	Bert Harrow	1
Mike Cray	1	R. Fowler	1
Chas. Clifford	1	Fred Walmsly	1
Mrs. Will Cutler	1	S. Crowther	1
Jennie Johns	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Dora Redfern	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Mr. Humberstone ..	1	Florence Yaymen....	1
Harry Martell	1	Henri Cazman	1
Ugo Nap	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Morrisey, 11s.

Claremont and Victor	2	J. Moore Cameron ..	1
E. Morrisey	2	Alexander Cameron..	1
H. F. F.	1	Henry Eglington	1
Mrs. Elderton	1	Gus Elen	1
Jas. Matchett	1		

Collected by Miss Marie Blythe, £1 6s.

Marie Blythe	2½	Harry Taft	1
Two Lillies	2	The Countees	1
Sporty	1½	Ellis Barrleton	1
Bros. Ford	1	Ella Dean	1
H. Kilrow	1	Will Cromwell	1
Ryder Slone	1	Mother	1
Will Driscoll	1	Colin Hill	1
Jack and Arthur Metz	1	Bert Sedgebeer	1
Florence Yaymen ..	1	Jennie Wood	1
J. Donald	1	Miss Collins	1
Evelyn Kay	1	Gus Elen	1
Raie Walters	1		

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1 5s.

Carl Hertz	1	Philip Beyfus	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Elsah Beyfus	1
Eva Hertz	1	Harry Beyfus	1
Charley Hertz	1	Madge Beyfus	1
Le Boy Hertz	1	Jane Pritchard	1
Ike Rose	1	Pattie	1
E. L. Pyke	1	Charles Chapman....	1
Ethel Pyke	1	Mrs. Sands	1
Barbara Beyfus	1	Wm. Calder	1
W. B.	1	Wm. Thornton	1
V. M.	1	Frank Bostock	1
Elfrida Beyfus	1	Gus Elen	1
Edgcumbe Brighten..	1		

Collected by the Lizzette Trio, 7s.

A. Lizzette	1	James Pringle	1
Molly Augarde	1	Marie Kay	1
M. Lizzette	1	Gus Elen	1
The Lizzette Trio ..	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (third card), £1 12s.

Geo. Gulliver	2½	Marie Reeve	1
Walter Place	2½	Bert Powell.....	1
Carlyle	2	Ancie Gerrard	1
Tom Jackson	2	Livesey and Rosebery	1
F. V. St. Clair	1	E. Lemare	1
Fred Glenville	1	Geo. Pickett	1
Squire Wyndham....	1	Shirley and Ransome	1
H. E.	1	Vera Mayne	1
A. Sherville	1	Mollie Doon	1
Electrician	1	Alfred Sutcliffe	1
Chas. Ashley	1	Musical Silvo	1
George D'Albert	1	Milton Hare	1
Tessie Draycott	1	Gus Elen	1
Eva Draycott.....	1		

Collected by Fred Land, £1 4s.

Albert Boisset	2	Warsaw Bros.....	1
Fred Land	1	Les Rubens	1
Mrs. Land	1	Terry and Tate	1
Freddie Land	1	J. J. Soanes	1
Harry Land	1	Pasquali Bros.	1
Land'e End	1	The Woolhafs	1
Wadham and Sterling	1	Johnny Cecil	1
F. Boisset	1	Livesey and Rosebery	1
Rex Fox	1	W. W. Palmer	1
Erne Chester	1	Sid Bedford	1
Jan B. Vanbert	1	Gus Elen	1
Thompson Bros.	1		

Collected by The Emsons, £1 6s.

Bennett and Martell	2	Les Wambas	1
Rita and Kitty Emson	2	C. Shayler	1
George E. Smith	2	C. Elves	1
Edie Anderson	1	Dave Samuels.....	1
Harry Blake	1	Vere and Nelldon ..	1
Irene Reenan	1	Vandinoff	1
Slippere	1	Bury	1
L. Ramsay	1	Galtano Ollons.....	1
Tommy Foster	1	Francini Ollons	1
Chinko	1	Florrie Gallimore....	1
Kaufman	1	James Comerford	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 12s. 6d.

James Corbett	5	B. Isaacs	1
M. H. D. Boardman	2½	Tom Joy	1
May Mars	2	Grace Foster	1
H. E. Lynas	2	C. M. Jones	1
Miss Preston	1½	Forsyths	1
Joe Athos	1½	Morimura	1
Amy Davis	1	George F. Hall.....	1
M. Tuffs	1	John Jackson.....	1
B. P. Lucas	1	Harry Day	1
Harry Goodson.....	1	Gus Elen	½
F. Esdaile	1	Henry Clarke	½
J. Hargreaves	1	Miss Nellie Walton..	
Carr and Rose	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 16s.

Hetty King	21	My Fancy	1
G. Hearn	5	Daisy Dormer	1
Clarice Mayne	2½	Colin Bryce	1
Horace Hunter	2½	Zoe Coe	1
Joe Elvin	2	Pasquali Bros.	1
Ada Colley	2	W. T. Ellwanger	1
Marguerite Ismay ..	2	Lalie Brooke	1
Mary Douglas Frere	2	T. Ellis Buxton	1
C. Laurie	2	C. Rauschle	1
Ethel Arden and George Abel	2	Gus Elen	1
Peggie Lennie	1	Self	½
Mrs. Mayne	1	G. Hatley	½

Collected by Kitty Coyler, £1 5s.

Harry Goodson	1	Harry Russon.....	1
Sam Lipman	1	S. McCarthy	1
Alfred Appleyard....	1	Chas. C. Chris	1
Billy Seeley	1	Raglus	1
James Stewart	1	E. L. Israel	1
Bernard Israel	1	Israel	1
Celest	1	D Molem	1
L. F. Boorer	1	F. Mulvey.....	1
G. L. Boorer	1	M. Israel	1
Jack Deray	1	J. Pamm	1
Bogey	1	Hart	1
Cecil Gray	1	Gus Elen	1
M. Boorer	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 14s. 6d.

Kitty Colyer	5	Irene Hare	1
Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Davis	5	Sadie Bizet	1
Mrs. D. J. Day	2½	J. W. Gallagher	1
Dora Lindsay.....	1	John Wills	1
Mlle. Renée.....	1	Harry Blake	1
Bessie Knight	1	H. T. D.	1
Millie Edgar	1	Ike Scott	1
Lloyd Morgan	1	Arthur Rigby	1
J. J. Mannix	1	J. Thompson	1
Terry and Bentley ..	1	Will Douglas	1
Bessie Mackenzie ..	1	W. J. L.	1
Sarony Sisters	1	A. C. Charles	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £4 8s.

Harry Day	20	Frank Elliston	1
Pearce Lucas	10½	H. Taft	1
De Biere	10	Gus Garrick	1
Whit Cunliffe	10	Fred Burnell	1
Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.	10	Harry McKelvie	1
Jas. W. Tate	5	Walter Hast	1
Geoffreys and Benson	3	Peggie Lennie	1
J. Hargreaves	2	E. Lepard.....	1
Harry Claff.....	2	J. E. Cohen	1
Dave Carter	1	Harry Taft	1
Jack Fraser	1	Gabrielle Day.....	1
T. F. O'Brien	1	Gus Elen	1
		Friend	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 7s.

Kitty Colyer	2	Yvonne Lamor	1
Chung Ling Soo	2	T. E. Dunville	1
T. F. Robson	1	Elsie Girls	1
John McColl	1	The Gothams	1
Rose Cambry	1	Geoffreys and Benson	1
Rose Bancroft	1	Jennie Johns	1
Chris. Horn	1	R. Howard	1
Will Horn	1	Les Mabas	1
James Horne	1	La belle Linda	1
George Formby	1	Gertrude Gebest	1
Herbert La Martine	1	Fred Hastings	1
Rose Hamilton	1	Gus Elen	1
Sammy Shields	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 9s.

Annie Lucas	5	Myer Lee	1
Geo. Leyton	5	C. P. Johns	1
Eddie and Ethel	5	L. B. Barnard	1
Daisy Lucas	5	Dick Barnett	1
Chas. Reed and Flora and Cromer	5	Alf. Barnard	1
F. W. McAvoy	2	Dr. Weaver	1
Will Collins	2	J. O. Evans	1
Bob Smart	2	K Scott-Barrie	1
G. H. Topskya	2	Franklin	1
Joe Wilson	2	Robert Edelsten	1
Ted E. Box	1	Jack Coke	1
C H. Fields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 10s. 6d.

Bains Co.	2½	D. Selbo	1
Lily Hammersley ..	2	Bros. Ford	1
E. and E.	2	A. Marriott	1
Tokio	2	L. Nathan	1
Geo. Goodfellow ..	2	M. Chandler	1
Randolph King	1	Joe Jacobs	1
Frank Shelley	1	F. Lloyd	1
Barney Jacobs	1	S R.	1
R. Whyte, jun.	1	James and Jenny Jee	1
J. Ross Elvio	1	J. Ward	1
The Carlyles	1	Gus Harris	1
F H. Gillett	1	Gus Elen	1
Renee	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 13s. 6d.

E. Venner	10½	A. Bond Sayers	1
P. Richardson	5	George Manton.....	1
C. W. Lovesy	5	Agnes Molteno	1
H. W. Daw	2½	Maxwell and Frances	1
W. G.	2½	Ida Kessanley	1
Karlos Stiveodor....	2	L. H.	1
Sam Mayo	2	J. H.	1
R. E. Maclachlan ..	2	Georgie Martin	1
Archie Cann Parnell	2	Dora Stock	1
T. Pardoe	2	Madge Allan	1
Colbert	2	Croissets	1
J B.	2	Reg Beauchamp	1
Adey Spencer	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 7s.

Leo Sterling	1	Chas. Reakie	1
Addie Love	1	George Newburn	1
Austin Rudd	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Conlin	1		

Collected by Sid Cotterell, £1 5s.

Sid Cotterell	2	G. Barnett	1
Captain J. E. Hughes	1	Lelia Roze	1
C. E. H. Horne ...	1	Trixie Cotterell	1
Mr. Webb	1	Hen and Chickens, Bolton	1
Molly Maguire	1	Black Horse, Bolton	1
Guy Macdonald	1	White Horse, Bolton	1
H. Smith	1	John Mack	1
Fred Kitchen.....	1	Will Poluski, jun...	1
Alfred Barker, jun...	1	C. Cestria	1
George Narow	1	J. Manghan	1
H. Wormald	1	Gus Elen	1
J. W. Boyden	1		
F. W. Whitlock	1		

Collected by Tom Branson, £1 11s.

Tom Branson.....	5	S. Sowland	1
Kittie Blanson	2½	Bert Vincett	1

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BERESFORD.—March 5, the wife of Jimmy Beresford (Miss Flo Russell), of a daughter.

RODWELL.—On March 16, in Johannesburg, to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hunter Rodwell (née Miss Chrissie Ralland), a son.

MARRIAGES.

MILTON—CASS.—On March 16, at Southwark Registry Office, Clem Milton (Bros. Milton) to Rose Cass (Mrs. V. Langton), comedienne.

NAYLOR—GALLIMORE.—Feb. 25, at the Brixton Registry Office, London, S.W., S. Naylor (brother to H. O. Wills) to Florrie Gallimore.

WILCOCK—AMPHLETT.—Nellie Amphlett (Les Belles Americaines) to Wm. Wilcock, of Dewsbury, March 12, 1910.

DEATHS.

BERNARD.—At Sheffield, on Monday, March 14, Brenda, the darling child of Mr. and Mrs. George Bernard, age 1 year 10 months. God loved her best.

BROWNING.—March 5, at her residence, St. John's Villa, 5, Albert-street, Regent's Park, Susan Browning, mother of Jessie Browning.

GIBBS.—March 15, in Lambeth Infirmary, Charles Gibbs, coon artist. American papers, please copy.

GILLING.—On Jan. 21, '10, Harry Gilling, Musician, husband of Emma Yelding (youngest daughter of John Yelding), father of Lo-Lo and May. Deeply regretted by his loving wife and daughters. Gone, but not forgotten.

MOORE.—Feb. 1, at Sydney, N.S.W., Mrs. Sheridan Moore (Miss Flora Harris), Australian vocalist, aged 60. Interred at Waverley Cemetery, Sydney.

PATEMAN.—On the 17th inst., at 58, Sutton-court, Chiswick, Robbie, the beloved daughter and only child of Robert Pateman; aged 24.

STOCKWELL.—At Thompson's Hotel, Bridge-street, Bristol, Martha, the beloved wife of Walter Stockwell. Rest in peace. Funeral Monday, March 21, 3 o'clock, Arno's Vale Cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM.

ALEXANDRA.—In ever-cherished memory of my dearly beloved wife, Ada Alexandra, who passed to the Higher Life March 15, 1907. Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away.

GILLETTE.—In loving memory of Ada Gillette (née Ada Watson), who fell asleep March 18, 1904. Never forgotten by all who loved her.

GOODWIN.—In ever loving memory of my late dear wife, Bonnie L. B. Lyon (Bonnie Goodwin), who passed away March 19, 1907. Never forgotten by her husband. "Thy will be done."—SAM. G. R. LYON.

ROMER.—To the memory of my devoted husband (Alec Romer), who passed to rest March 23, 1909, in his 38th year.—MARGARET RADCLIFFE (Mrs. Alec Romer).

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mrs. Bennett—Sunday, March 20.
Martin Comstock—Sunday, March 20.
W. H. Clemart—Sunday, March 20.
Norman E. Partriege—Monday, March 21.
Albert Chevalier—Monday, March 21.
Harry Randall—Tuesday, March 22.
Ruth Vincent—Tuesday, March 22.
Arthur Brogden—Tuesday, March 22.
Hero Hathaway—Tuesday, March 22.
Sir Charles Wyndham—Wednesday, March 23.
Sydney Grundy—Wednesday, March 23.
Gilbert Hare—Wednesday, March 23.
Robson Paige—Wednesday, March 23.
Maud Milton—Thursday, March 24.
Alec Hurley—Thursday, March 24.
Charles Harrington—Thursday, March 24.
John Le Hay—Friday, March 25.
Tom Wootwell—Friday, March 25.
Ernest Ch. Gittins—Friday, March 25.
Florence Lloyd—Friday, March 25.

LONDON citizens will figure as actors in the Pageant of London, which will be the central feature of the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace this summer. Men from Camberwell will portray "The Norman Conquest," with King Harold marching south to meet William the Conqueror, who enters London in triumph. Shoreditch will represent "Civic Freedom," citizens receiving from Prince John that oath to the Commune which gives them a municipality of their own. Marylebone will illustrate "The Age of Chivalry," in which a tournament will be held before Queen Philippa and Edward the Black Prince. Poplar will exemplify "The Trade with India," with the return of the first expedition of the East India Company. Sydenham will show "The Beginnings of Empire," and the settlement of Virginia, our first Colony. Woolwich and the Canadian Club will typify "Mourning Triumph" on the receipt of the news of the fall of Quebec and the deaths of Wolfe and Montcalm. Stoke Newington will illustrate "The Canterbury Pilgrims" by a scene at the Tabard Inn, where Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims are assembled before starting on their journey to worship at the shrine of St. Thomas; and Westminster, in "The Triumph of Conquest," will depict the return of the young King Henry from Harfleur and Agincourt.

FOUR one-act plays will again figure in the Play Actors' programme at the Court to-morrow (Sunday) evening, when the production will take place of *The Gulf*, by Alfred Scott, in which Miss Rita Taubius and Miss Vita Spencer will appear; *Miss Tassey*, by Elizabeth Baker, in which the character will be sustained by Misses Ada Hatchwell, Adah Barton, Esmé Hubbard, Jess Dorynne, and Kitty Lofting; *The Frame*, by Ronald Macdonald, in which Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Miss Lucy Wilson, and Miss Clara Quet will appear; and *Cupid in Clapham*, by Elizabeth Baker, in which the cast will consist of Mr. Richard Lambart, Miss Rosamond Mayne-Young, Master Eric Rae, Miss Catherine Rivers, and Miss Winifred Mayo. Miss Baker, who is responsible for two of the plays, is, it will be remembered, the author of *Chains*, the clever piece produced by the Play Actors, and which now has a place in Mr. Frohman's repertory.

AT the annual general meeting of the Incorporated Society of Authors, held yesterday at 20, Hanover-square, W., Mr. G. B. Shaw stated that in the capacity of playwright he had been recently called upon to read an agreement proposed by a leading London manager. It was the most monstrous agreement he had ever seen on paper. It was outrageous. He had been able to get it quashed by informing the manager that unless he withdrew the agreement the society would advise dramatic authors to have nothing to do with him.

THE Milan theatre was in 1822 the scene of a very tragic event. The play was the *Antigone of Alfieri*. At the end of the piece the actor, Lombardi, who played the character of Edmon with all the warmth and truth possible, after having killed his father, was to turn against himself the parricidal weapon and appear to kill himself. Either, however, from the effect of the agitation of his mind, or from his tunic having become entangled with his arm, he plunged his sword into his breast. He fell on the stage covered with blood, and entirely insensible.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months	0	6 6	Three Months	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

J. H. MORTON.—*We consider you are only responsible for accidents occurring to members of touring companies visiting your theatre when such accidents are occasioned by your negligence.*

I. X. L.—*Mr. Alec Hurley, in his early days on the stage, did sing in evening dress. The song "Friends" was sung years ago by Miss Minnie Cunningham. The music was by Alan Macey. It was published by Broome and Co.*

MRS. MALLETT (Cheddar).—*Your lines scan much better than the usual run of comic songs, but they strike us as only mildly humorous. Write to any of the publishers advertising in our columns and ask for an album of the comic songs of the day. You can then judge of the style to be adopted to suit the methods of some of the stars, and write accordingly.*

HERBERT WHITE.—*Agents, as a rule, do not arrange trials for amateurs, but they are often present at them. Opportunities for appearance, as you know, are now given by the Macnaghten Circuit and others. If you wish to try your luck in this way, write to Mr. Fred Baugh, Foresters', Cambridge-road, London, E. You will find the names of several reputable agents in our advertising columns, but most of them are too busy booking legitimate talent to worry themselves about amateurs.*

To mark the close of the pantomime season, the principal artists in *Robinson Crusoe* at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, had a very enjoyable supper on the 16th inst. at the Crown and Dove Hotel. Mr. H. C. Alty, the manager, with whom was Mrs. Alty, presided, and was supported by most of the lady and gentleman artists, and the visitors included Mr. Horace Livermore (manager of the Palace Theatre), Mr. F. S. Green (acting-manager, Prince's Theatre), and Mr. George R. Chapman (musical director, Prince's Theatre). The professional company included Miss Kitty Upton, the Sisters Albert, Miss Ada Jacobs, Miss Maude, Mr. E. Jacobs (musical director), Mr. Edwin Garth, Mr. J. R. Bennett, Mr. Frank Dunlop, and Mr. Dave Jenkins.

Mr. HORACE LIVERMORE submitted the toast of "The Bristol Theatre Royal," specially referring, in doing so, to the honourable connection of Mr. F. W. Carpenter with that historic house. The chairman suitably acknowledged Mr. Livermore's compliments. Mr. Frank S. Green, in commendatory terms, submitted "The Pantomime Artists," to which Mr. J. R. Bennett (Bennett and Martell) responded. "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. S. Stringer, were answered for by Miss Kitty Upton and "Mother" Garth. Mr. E. Jacobs gave "The Visitors," to which Mr. Geo. R. Chapman replied; and "The Chairman" was well handled by Mr. Scott-Barrie, who emphasised Mr. Alty's good qualities and excellent judgment in theatrical management.

BY invitation of Mr. J. M. Chute, the boys of the Clifton Industrial School paid their annual visit to the pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on the afternoon of the 10th inst. Headed by the school band, the boys marched to the theatre, and on entering each was presented with an orange. For three and a half hours the happiness of the visitors was complete, the choruses being enthusiastically taken up in the intervals of hearty laughter. Three hearty cheers were given for the management.

AT Bow-street Police Court on Thursday, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, John Arthur Harrison, of Leicester-square, was summoned, as the landlord of the Strand Theatre, for authorising a distress to be levied on a piano belonging to Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., of 50, New Bond-street, contrary to the provisions of the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1908. The defendant was a well-known theatrical costumier, and lessor of the Strand Theatre, of which Mr. Robert Hilton was recently the lessee. On Jan. 22 Mr. Hilton telephoned to Chappell and Co. for a piano for use in the theatre, where he was about to produce a play called *Richelieu*, and an instrument was sent in the ordinary way. On Feb. 16 Mr. Harrison caused a distress to be levied. Messrs. Chappell and Co. contended, however, that there was a custom among manufacturers to lend pianos to theatres and music halls without charge, and that therefore the landlord was wrong in reputing ownership of the piano to the tenant. The magistrate said that in this case Messrs. Chappell and Co. got no advertisement, and it could not be supposed that people would lend pianos without receiving a *quid pro quo*. To his mind, the custom failed, and the landlord was entitled to distrain. The summons would therefore be dismissed, with £10 10s. costs. Notice of appeal was given.

"THE THEATRICAL MANAGERS' HANDBOOK" is a neat and compact booklet, issued by Mr. Fred Bulmer, giving the Monday of each week for five years ahead, with a blank space for a brief note, and indicating each public holiday. The movable holidays for the remainder of the first quarter of the present century are also given, and a table of percentages adds to the utility of the "Handbook," which Mr. Bulmer will be happy to send to anyone on receipt of a stamped envelope.

THE Queen and Princess Victoria were present at Covent Garden on Saturday night to hear *Elektra*. The Queen wore creamy lace about the shoulders with a black dress, and a black feather and diamond wings in her hair. Also present were the Russian Ambassador, the Rance of Sarawak, Princess Munster, the Marchioness of Ripon, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, with Cora Countess of Strafford, Sybil Marchioness of Queensberry, Baron and Baroness de Meyer, Countess Fritz Hochberg, Lady Cunard, Lord Charles Beresford, Lord Claud Hamilton, and the Hon. Lady Musgrave.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Adams, Miss S.
Albani, Mdme.
Armine, Miss Grace
Barnes, Miss E.
Barnett, Miss K.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Barson, Mr. Alf
Beach, Mr. A. C.
Beaumont, Mr. Walter
Bell, Miss Lesly
Bendella, Mr. Walter
Be net, Mr. Harry
Bentley, Mrs. Walter
Bernard, Mr. Seton
Billon, Mr. T. J.
Black, Mr. Wallace
Bristow, Mr. Harry
Brumley, Mr. James
Cady, Mrs.
Calden, Messrs. T. & W
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Carney, Miss Kate
Carson, Mr. Murray
Carton, Mr. H. E.
Chapman, Mrs. Julia D.
Chard, Miss Dorothy
Cherry, Miss G. D.
Chester, Mrs. E.
Clifton, Miss Clara
Cooper, Mrs. A. M.
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Courtenay, Miss Maud
Cowell, Miss Florence
Coyne, Mr. E. J.
Craske, Miss D.
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Dare, Miss Zena
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
Dawson, Miss C. C.
De'Ora, Mr. Robert
Dickson, Mrs. M. E.
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Drury, Miss Lily
Dunlo, Mr. W.
Durland, Mr. Fred
Edgar, Miss Florence
Edwards, Mr. W.
Ernest Family
Escourt, Mr.
Foldi, Miss Irma
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Goddard, Mr. Alfred
Granville, Mr. T.
Granville, Mr. V. L.
Gray, Mr. J. W.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Miss Edith
Handley, Mr. W. J.
Harcourt, Miss Maud
Harrie, Mr. Geo.
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hartley, Mr. R. A.
Hayden, Mr. Percy
Hayter, Mr. F. L.
Healy, Mr. B. R.
Helmsley, Mr. C. T.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Prof. Tom
Hudspeth, Miss Marie
Hudspeth, Mr. Frank
Hullett, Miss Dorothy
Hybert, Mr. Josh
James, Mr. Charlie
James, Mr. Philip
Jees, The Musical
Johnson, Miss J.
Kalo, Mr. James
Keppels, The
Kirkdale, Mr. R. E.
Lauton, Mr. P. Caffrey
Laurence, Miss Dulcie
Lawson, Mr. R. E.
Lauri, Mme. F. V.
Leighton, Mr. Fred
Lena and Preston
Leslie, Mr. W.
Lester, Mr. Bert
Lind, Miss Letty
Lindsay, Mr. H. W.
Lloyd, Mr. James
Loftus, Mr. Harry
Lorenzo, Lorry
Lumley, Mr. Harry
Lynn, Miss Jennie
Malone, Miss Kitty
Mappin, Mr. Walter
Maxwell, Mr. Robert
McKay, Mr. C.
McMillen, Mr. W. L.
Melita, Miss
Merlin, Mr.
Michel Bros.
Mills, Mr.
Milton and Horton
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus
Mone, Mr.
Monkhouse, Mr. J.
Mumford, Mr. G.
Munro, Mr. George
Neil, Mr. S.
Nekdon, Mr. Tom
Nethersole, Mr. Louis F
Nevada, Mme.
Pasha, Miss Marie
Pembroke, Mr. Wilson
Pitman, Mr. Will
Place, Miss A. S.
Proctor, Mr. C. King
Raby, Miss Mary
Rankin, Mr. J.
Rayburn, Mr. Bert
Reed, Miss F.
Rees, Mme. Tim
Rignold, Mrs. Geo.
Rita, Signorina
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sawyer, Mr. Francies
Sefton, Mr. Philip
Seymour, Mr. Chas.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Sleath, Mis Helena
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Sothern, Mr. E.
Souter, Miss Lillie
Spark, Miss O'Deyne
Steel, Mrs.
Sutherd, Mr. Dick
Sydney, Miss Kate
Terry and Tate
Tilbury, Mr. Walter
Turner, Mr. J. H.
Vandy, Mr. Paul
Vane, Miss Edith
Vasco, Mr. Walter
Vezin, Mr. Hermann
Villiers, Mrs.
Walton, Miss E. F.
Walton, Mr. Fred
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warren, Mr. Arthur
Whitaker, Mr. Fred
White, Miss Maggie
Whitmore, Mr. Joe
Willard, Mr. James
Woods, Misses A. and D
Zola, Mr. Frederick

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

MISS LOUISA PEACH has scored another success with her costume dramatic episode, *A Night of Terror*, which has been presented this week at Mr. Raymond's hall, Walthamstow, which she will add to her extensive répertoire of sketches. Next week Miss Peach has been specially engaged by Mr. Ernest Norris to star at the Dalston Theatre.

THE latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Drury Lane (15s. paid), 15-16ths; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; Gaiety, 1 13-16ths; London Pavilion (5), 3⅛; London Pavilion Pref, (5), 5; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires (5), 4⅛; Oxford (5), 6⅞; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 15-16ths; Tivoli, New (5), 6⅛.

IN the Court of Chancery Division on Tuesday an application was made that the case of Leveaux *v.* Hall Caine should not come on until May 2. Counsel explained that this was an action for an alleged breach of contract in regard to the writing of a play. The matter had been standing over for some time owing to the illness of Mr. Hall Caine and his residing abroad. It was now pending until the first day of next sittings. Unfortunately Mr. Hall Caine had been ordered by his doctors not to take part in any Court proceedings for some weeks, as he was still ill. The other side had agreed that the case should stand over until May 2. The application was granted.

IN order to perpetuate the memory of Shakespeare in South London, Mr. Richard C. Jackson, chairman and warden *pro tem.* of London's national memorial to Shakespeare, has written to the Southwark Borough Council offering to present and plant publicly in the borough a red hawthorn tree raised from seeds gathered on the occasion of the visit of the Mayor and Corporation of Southwark to Stratford-on-Avon in 1903. The offer is receiving the attention of the General Purposes Committee.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is Owbridge's WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC. Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute. Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by MATURING IN BOTTLE, the Natural method, without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL FOR THE HAIR
Preserves, Beautifies, Nourishes it, and Prevents it Falling off or Turning Grey. Nothing equals it. 120 years proves this fact. Golden Colour for Fair Hair.
Of Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and Rowland's, 67, Hatton-garden, London.
Sizes—3/6, 7/-, 10/6.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

I DEAL IN MONEY.
£100 to £25,000.
My price is the cheapest obtainable and I do everything in reason to suit the requirements of my Customers. Note of hand alone is all the Security I require. I have a large capital always on hand available. Phone or write saying what you require, and I will give you definite particulars which you doubtless will find entirely suitable and convenient, or if you call, business completed at first interview. Do not be misled by flattering advertisements which pretend to lend money at 5 per cent.
HENRY HARRIS, 6, Old Cavendish Street, W.
'Phone: Mayfair 3604, Padd. 235.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.
All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.
Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.
PUBLISHED BY "THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Closed next week.
Easter Monday and Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 5.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening (except March 24, 25, and 26) at 9,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS (except March 23 and 26), at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.

March 21, "THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR-MAID." Matinée Thursday, 2.30.

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE RUNAWAY GIRL."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, March 21, VARIETIES. Twice nightly. Star Programme. Popular Prices. Smoking.
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

ROYALTY THEATRE, London, W.
Lease (55 years) for sale, with possession. Total outgoing, including ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, under £2,000 per annum. Part purchase might remain at 5 per cent. per annum. Theatre holds at ordinary West End prices, £220. Accommodation, 800 persons. Proprietors would give permission for conversion to music hall if purchaser desired. Apply to Tom B. Davis, Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE
Open Daily.
Skating on Mammoth Rink, Hockey (Wednesday and Saturday 8.30), Ladies' Orchestra, Military Bands, Organ, &c. GOOD FRIDAY.—Two Grand Sacred Concerts. Clara Butt, Kennerley Rumford, Sir Chas. Santley, &c.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
Little Tich, Mrs. Lewis Waller and company, Karno's "Mumming Birds," Burt Shepard, Mary Law, Kitty Dale, The Denaro Brothers, Ecca Van Leer, Martin Adeson, Marguerite Broadfoote, Dick Tubb, Josie Delaine, The Creo Brothers, Queenie Essex, Charles Reekie, The Rowsons, the Bioscope. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinée 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb in Wall Street," Horace Hunter and Co. in "Under Suspicion," Daisy Wood, Barnes and Ascot, Tom Woottwell, Denaro Bros., Aimie Roberts, Russell Brondon, Dick Tubb, Frank and Free, Josie Delaine, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
General-Manager,
PERCY FORD.
6.30. Twice nightly. 9 o'clock.
Lily Langley and Co. in the "Chinese Idol," Leo Trainor, Fred Mason, May Maidment, The De Breans, Marie St. John, Clem Collins, Jessie Hart, Chas. Baldwin and Co. in "The Waxworks," Jeapes' Animated Graphic, The Three Veros.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.

Haines and Borthwick and Co. in "Half a Dollar," Syd Walker, Lyster and Cooke, Lieut. Travis, Dusty Rhodes, The Simms, Madoline Rees, Dennis and Morris, Ruffell's Bioscope, Ada Colley.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, March 21, 1910:—
Grand Amateur Carnival, Dolly England, The Melbournes, Ida Barr, Ethel Vere, Eric and Nora, Jack Fortescue and Co., The Four Hawkers, Austin Latham, Harry Elliston and Co., Ida Katherina, The Bioscope, Fred Moule, in "The Married Widow," Atlas and Vulcana.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—Half-time, 9.30. Monday, March 21, J. G. Grahame, Zerlina Harrington and Co. in "Olga's Oath," Flora Cromer, Dan Thomas, Flo Smithers and Co., Three Orleans, Dutch Boys and Girls, Jessie Lee, Helene Mohr, Billy Whitlock, "Roy," Harry Vernon, Albert Hall, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10 and Matinée every Thursday, 2.30. Bioscope Entertainment and Miss Ethel Dancy, with Illustrated Songs. Artists, please note.—Rehearsals must be attended. Monday, 1 o'clock. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
New Ballet,
"THE POLAR STAR."
MLLE BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Last nights of the wonderful
MIRZA GOLEM TROUPE.
Kitty Traney, Sebastian Merritt and Co., Garcia, Daphne Hope, Jury's Pictures of up-to-date events, &c. Patriotic Ballet, "OUR FLAG."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square)
GRAND NATIONAL ON THE BIOSCOPE.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST TO WEST."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Scott and Whaley.
George Mozart, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Mlle. Polaire, in "Le Visiteur," Ben Davies, La Pia, Gaudsmidts, The McBans, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings, at 8.0. Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays and Easter Monday, at 2.0.

Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. "Happy Holland," a merry and bright burletta, Princess D'Aryaba, the famous dancer, Leonard Teel, Ella Retford, Henri de Vries, Wilson and Waring, Martineks, Meredith Meredro, H. Pleon, Flora Cromer, Selbinis, F. Keeton, Will E. Stopit, Sinclair and Whiteford, Albert Toft, "Makers of History," Mildred Bryan, The Romanis, Foot Gers, Lily Eyton, Queenie Essex, Three Royal Dreadnoughts, Bioscope. Open 7.10. Saturday matinées at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D. Students may join at any time for the Course or for Single Subjects. March 21, at 5 p.m.: Organ Recital by Students of the College. April 1: Last day of entry for Open Competition for four Scholarships. Full particulars sent post free on application.—SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary. Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
The ANNUAL MEETING of the Subscribers will be held in the Saloon of TERRY'S THEATRE, Strand, London, W.C., by the kind permission of EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P., on TUESDAY, March 22, 1910, at 1 o'clock, p.m., to receive the Annual Report, &c., &c.
By Order,
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary pro. tem.
Savoy House, Strand, London, W.C.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

In the County Court of Kent, holden at Greenwich (Woolwich Branch).
Re Henry Swinerd, deceased.
Swinerd v. Swinerd, 0118.
ALL CREDITORS and other persons having any Claims against the Estate of the above named HENRY SWINERD, late of the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, 73, Little Heath, Charlton, and Bridge Cottage, Mersham, Kent, Theatrical Proprietor, are required to send full particulars of their claims to the Registrars of this Court, at the Old Town Hall, Woolwich, on or before the 2nd day of April, 1910.
Dated this 15th day of March, 1910.
CHARLES PITT-TAYLOR,
CLAUDE M. TRESDWELL,
Registrars.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.

EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.

Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."

The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.

Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd., Bombay;
or,
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Bookings include the companies of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. William Greet, Messrs. Jay and Mann, The Moody-Manners, Miss Lena Ashwell, Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, Mr. Allan Wilkie, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. James Welch, Mr. William Maclaren, The Lyceum Productions, Miss Florence Baines, Mr. Douglas Bruce, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1, also few remaining dates in October and November.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
THE GRAND THEATRE,
Under the entirely new proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
Blackpool's Prettiest Playhouse.
THE MOST POPULAR AND THE RECORD MONEY-TAKING THEATRE AT ORDINARY PRICES IN BLACKPOOL.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910, with Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year (for supreme No. 1 Companies only), June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24.
All communications to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager (as above), or Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON. — WEST PIER.
Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.
The most Popular, Up-to-date, and High-class Pier Theatre on the Coast. Excellently situated; close to Hove and best part of Brighton; no Pier-toll to theatre goers; wind and rain screens.
Vacant Dates, beginning of June.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Only vacant Spring dates, May 26, 27, 28, and June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attractions. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies.
April 25
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Ball, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.

The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.

1909-10 Engagements:
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, May 2, 9, and 23, June 6 and 27, Aug. Bank Holiday, for Musical Play.

Address, William Morton.

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
April 4, Vacant,
Through cancelling of
Mr. Edward Terry's proposed Spring Tour.
Miss Dod, LYCEUM, IPSWICH.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant April 25 (6 nights),
May 2 (6), May 12, 13, 14 (3).

Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MILE END.—Correspondent Required to supply Reports of the Pavilion Theatre weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Now booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Musical Attractions Required for
May 23, 30, Aug. 1, 15, 29 (Plymouth Races Week), Nov. 28, and Dec. 5.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.

Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
Vacant Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with First-class Attractions. Now Booking Autumn.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8. Also few remaining dates in Oct. and Nov. Fast booking Spring, 1911.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
Vacant April 4, 5, 6, May 12, 13, 14, June 20, several dates onwards. C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 12, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J J	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 6, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B.	April 10, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Overton, Mr. Norman A.	July 3, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robins, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel	July 10, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thane, Mr. Edward	Sept. 11, 1909
Thorne, Miss Elialine	May 29, 1909
Thornton, Miss Maudie	March 20, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

EASTER ANNOUNCEMENT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

NEXT FRIDAY being GOOD FRIDAY,
ADVERTISEMENTS
Intended for our Issue of March 26
should reach this Office
ON or BEFORE THURSDAY NEXT.
Letters from the Country should be Posted
ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL.

"The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1910.

THE MINIMUM WAGE.

The Actors' Association has never been in a better position for usefulness than it is at present. The Association has for a time been misled by counsellors whose advise, in our opinion, has been unwise. Eloquent but unpractical, they have fed the Association up with words, with fiery speeches advocating impossible action, and with arguments which everyone of experience has known to be empty and delusive. But these wanderings in the wilderness have not been entirely without benefit. There was, indeed, something admirable in the earnestness and enthusiasm which were played upon so easily by the demagogues and doctrinaires of the Association. For some time we must have appeared almost antagonistic to its aims. But we were unable to conceal or disguise our opinions in order to curry favour with the members of the Association, or to encourage them in a course which would only lead them up a *cul de sac*.

The idea of turning the acting profession into a trades union was, as everyone with experience and commonsense saw when the wild plans of the reformers were loudly and excitedly proclaimed, an absurdity. The conditions which exist in trades which are strongly unionised do not exist in the case of the dramatic profession. In the one case, we have definite mechanical concrete work, the value of which is exactly known, which has to be prepared for by a special apprenticeship, and has no attraction in itself. In the other, we have an art in which the exact value of the work done is uncertain, in which there are a number of influences which interfere with a purely mercenary view of the question, and in which the artists themselves present the greatest obstacle to combination and keeping up salaries.

The chief difference between a trade and an art is that the one is pursued as a task without enjoyment, and the other is its own reward, the wages being really a secondary consideration to the artist. A bricklayer would greatly enjoy a "rest," provided he were receiving his pay; but an actor or actress would almost rather take half his or her usual salary studying. The actor and actress, therefore, do not stand in a strong position in striking a bargain with the commercial manager. It is not only the fear of want that makes the artist accept a lower salary. It is the sense that the loss of an engagement will certainly mean the loss of enjoyment and the loss of opportunity to improve.

And added to this obstacle is another, also created by the attractiveness of the profession. There has been a great deal said about the "amateur" who brings down the trade; but it must be remembered that to become an actor or actress practice on the stage is absolutely necessary. And a beginner, with talent, and wanting experience badly, may reasonably expect to pay his or her apprenticeship fees in the shape of accepting a merely nominal payment.

Between the love of the work and the competition of the "paying amateurs" the thoroughly-trained actor and actress are being ground as between the upper and nether millstone; and the worst of it is that there is no bold and active policy which can be advised. Patience is a poor doctrine to preach to people out of work; yet it is the only one which is reasonable. Yet, eventually, matters will right themselves. The provincial managers will get tired of booking companies chiefly composed of paying amateurs and cheap incompetents. The provincial public has already, in many cases, transferred its patronage from the drama, which has, in the case of many companies, been "watered down" until it is flat, dull, and uninteresting, to the music hall, where individuality is at a premium. On the principle of the survival of the fittest, only the best-managed theatres and travelling companies in the provinces will survive; and there will be a return to business principles and sound, strong companies and performances.

We are glad to hear, however, that the return of the leading London managers to the Association is likely to have one most beneficial result. We understand that the leading London managers may consent to sign an agreement not to pay any member of their companies less than £2 a week. This, of course, in the cases of gentlemen like Sir HERBERT TREE and Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, will be merely a matter of form, as they would never think of offering any actor or actress a less sum. But the proclamation of such an agreement must have the effect of an excellent example, and must draw the attention of others to the proper course. It is also likely to nerve the hard-working provincial actor and actress to stand out for a "minimum" wage in their transactions. The difficulties of the question are many, and are not to be overcome by frothy declamation or excited eloquence. It is in the development of firmness, resolution, and self-respect in the individual actor and actress that hope lies; and now that the Association has purged itself of its "idealogues" there is hope that this may be realised. It cannot, at any rate, be said that the policy of excluding the managers and endeavouring to coerce them has not had a fair trial. The conditions under which the modern actor and actress labour are admittedly unsatisfactory. The dramatic schools, excellent as they are, do not supply quite the same training as did an apprenticeship in one of the old stock companies; the "fashionableness" of the profession attracts hundreds of people to the stage who have neither histrionic gift nor artistic enthusiasm; and this outside competition brings down salaries and keeps experienced artists idle. But, since we cannot put the clock back, the only thing to be done is to make the best of the situation, and hope that in the natural course of things matters may mend.

"LADY BETTY."

Comedietta, in One Act, by F. E. French, Produced at the Royalty on Monday, Feb. 14.

Lady Betty Fountaine ....MISS MAY CONGDON
Pamela .....MISS EILY MALYON
Eustace .....MASTER WM. H. BROWN
Lord Altringham .....MR. DOUGLAS GORDON

Those unconscionable fathers of the eighteenth century who were limned in the novels of Fielding, Fanny Burney, and Richardson, and in the comedies of Sheridan, were always so anxious to assure the matrimonial future of their daughters and sons that one is tempted to ask whether any of them ever thought that Cupid could be held in leash by clauses in wills or by parental contumacy. The joining of family estates was often a pretext for the betrothal of children, and though a journey to Gretna Green of two runaway lovers oft upset the expectations of ancient families, the romance incidental to the elopement formed the basis of many a legitimacy trial and many a comedy. It is the eighteenth century atmosphere that tinctures the slight imbroglio of *Lady Betty*, produced on Monday at the Royalty. The lovers in this case are sisters' children, who have been betrothed from an early age. They are not to see each other again until of age, and then if each takes a fancy to the other a marriage will be arranged. Lord Altringham, who is a strategist apparently in love affairs, tries to hide his identity by assuming the character of his manservant, Miles Wentworth. But my Lady Betty's page soon exposes the deception, and his mistress, in a temporary fit of pique, passes herself off as her maid, Pamela. This pretty little game of cross purposes cannot last long, and my lord is more attracted by the new maid's simplicity of manner—natural to my lady—than by the assumed disdain of the masquerading Pamela, who affects a liking for the excitements of town life, which is quite foreign to Lady Betty. Mutual confessions end the misunderstandings, and the little piece ends in the conventional manner.

The trifle gives good opportunities for acting, and the demeanour of a young gentleman of the eighteenth century was well realised by Mr. Douglas Gordon, who played Lord Altringham with all the grace and refinement demanded. Miss May Congdon looked attractive enough to justify any amount of romantic devotion, and acted with engaging simplicity throughout. Miss Eily Malyon realised the discreetness of the maid and the overdone haughtiness of that maid masquerading as the mistress. Master William H. Brown scored a success as the page Eustace, and sang an unaccompanied song with good taste. *The Way the Money Goes* provides an excellent entertainment, the acting throughout calling for the highest praise.

The Language of Opera.

"CERTAINLY," writes Dr. Strauss in the *Morning Leader*, "an opera is most enjoyable when performed in that form in which it was cast by its creator. Wagner himself has proposed that foreign operas should be sung in the tongue for which they are written. I cannot bear to hear Italian operas sung by German artists. I have heard them too often in Italy. These operas and their cantilena especially are cut out for Italian speech and Italian throats. They lose very much in temperament, too, when sung in a foreign tongue by a foreign artist. Besides, the singer's art deteriorates when he has constantly to make the running through different styles, and the best Italian singers, as a rule, sing but half a dozen rôles. But there are a number of operas which should be done in the vernacular, in good translations which preserve the style and spirit. Most translations are so senseless that no intelligent singer likes to sing them. Such operas which should form the stock are, for instance, *Carmen*, *Falstaff*, *The Barber*, *Joseph in Egypt*, by Mehul, and others."

They Liked It.

DR. STRAUSS, when recently rehearsing *Elektra* at Covent Garden, rapped with his bâton. "Don't play like gentlemen," he implored of the orchestra, "play more like wild beasts." "So," says the *Express*, "they played like wild beasts. The man who lashes the whips on the drums during the sacrificial procession never lashed harder than he did under the eye of Dr. Strauss. At first they were halting, but when Herr Karlisch, the translator of the libretto, acted as interpreter and explained the interruptions of Dr. Strauss they gripped the spirit of *Elektra* and let themselves go. 'Blow four hundred strong,' he said to the trumpets—there are but four of them. They blew. Dr. Strauss rapped again. 'That's only two hundred strong,' he said, scornfully. They blew again. They blew as they had never blown before. At one o'clock Dr. Strauss stopped. 'Would you like to go to lunch?' he asked. 'Oh, no!' chorussed the orchestra; 'we like it.'"

LONDON LICENSING BILL.

The object of the Bill, introduced on March 9 into the House of Commons by Mr. Percy Harris, member for Paddington, is to effect an amendment of the law relating to licences for music and dancing in the administrative county of London in order to enable the L.C.C. to grant licences at any time during the year.

A similar amendment of the Act of 1751 has been sanctioned in respect of the administrative county of Middlesex, and the Council, under the Theatres Act, 1843, already possesses, with regard to licences for stage plays, power similar to that now sought in respect of music and dancing licences.

The Baths and Washhouses Act, 1896, also furnishes a precedent, inasmuch as the Council is empowered under that Act to grant licences for music and dancing at public baths at any time during the year. The Bill seeks to enable the Council to make a small charge for licences for music and dancing, and in this respect also follows the precedent of the Theatres Act, 1843. It further proposes, as a matter of public convenience, to repeal certain parts of the obsolete Disorderly Houses Act of George the Second and the whole of the Public Entertainments Act, 1875, so far as they apply to London.

1. In this Act the expression "the Council" means the London County Council; the expression "the county" means the administrative county of London; and the expression "premises" means a house, room, garden, or other place.

2.—(1) Premises in the county, whether licensed or not for the sale of wines, spirits, beer, or other fermented or distilled liquors, shall not be kept or used for public dancing, singing, music, or other public entertainment of the like kind, without a licence first obtained from the Council for the purpose or purposes for which the same respectively are to be kept or used.

(2) The Council may grant licences, to such persons as they think fit, to keep or use premises for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, upon such terms and conditions, and subject to such restrictions, as they by the respective licences determine.

(3) The Council may transfer any such licence to such person as they may think fit.

(4) Any person to whom the Council may have refused to grant or transfer a licence to keep or use premises as aforesaid shall not be entitled to again apply for the grant or transfer of a licence in respect of the same premises within three months from the date of such refusal, and the Council may refuse in any case to consider, at any meeting other than an annual licensing meeting fixed by the standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Council, an application for the grant or transfer of a licence, unless the applicant can satisfy the Council that there are special circumstances justifying the consideration of the application at such other meeting.

(5) Subject to the provision hereinafter contained as to the revocation of a licence by the Council, every licence granted at an annual licensing meeting as aforesaid shall be in force for one year, or for such shorter period as the Council on the grant of the licence shall determine, and every licence granted at any other meeting of the Council shall be in force until after the annual licensing meeting next ensuing after the grant thereof, or for such shorter period as the Council on the grant thereof shall determine.

(6) There shall be affixed and kept up, in some conspicuous place on the door or entrance of premises so kept or used and licensed as aforesaid, an inscription, in large capital letters, in the words following: "Licensed in pursuance of Act of Parliament for . . ." with the addition of words showing the purpose for which the same are licensed.

(7) Premises so kept or used, although licensed as aforesaid, shall not be opened for any of the purposes aforesaid except on the days and between the hours stated in the licence relating thereto: Provided that no such premises shall be open for any of the purposes aforesaid after midnight and before the hour of noon, but if on any special occasion an occasional licence of exemption shall have been granted under section twenty-nine of the Licensing Act, 1872, in respect of premises licensed under this Act, no penalty shall be incurred on account of such premises being kept open for any of the purposes aforesaid on such special occasion from midnight until the hour specified in such occasional licence as the hour for closing.

(8) The affixing and keeping up of an inscription, and the observance of the days and hours of opening and closing as aforesaid, shall be inserted in and made a condition of every licence.

3. There shall be paid, in respect of the grant or transfer of a licence under this Act, such fees as the Council may fix, not exceeding—

(a) For the grant of a licence for a period not exceeding three months, *five shillings* for every month or part of a month for which the licence is granted:

(b) For the grant of a licence for a period exceeding three months in respect of premises accommodating—

Not more than 500 persons *One pound*;
More than 500, but not than
1,000 persons ..... *Two pounds*;
More than 1,000 persons .. *Three pounds*:
Provided that in no case shall the fee amount to more than *five shillings* for every month or part of a month for which the licence is granted:

(c) For the transfer of a licence, *five shillings*.

4.—(1) In the case of any premises kept or used for any of the purposes aforesaid without a licence for such purposes first obtained, the person keeping or rated as occupier of the same shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding *fifty pounds* for every day on which the same are so kept or used.

(2) In the case of any breach or disregard of any of the terms, conditions, or restrictions upon or subject to which a licence was granted, the holder thereof shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding *twenty pounds*, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty not exceeding *five pounds* for each day on which such offence continues, and such licence shall be liable to be revoked by the Council.

(3) Notwithstanding anything in any other Act all penalties recovered under this section shall be paid to the Council.

5. Nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to the theatres royal in Drury Lane and Covent Garden or either of them, nor to such performances and public entertainments as are or shall be lawfully exercised and carried on under or by virtue of letters patent, or licence of the Crown, or the licence of the Lord Chamberlain.

6. The powers by this Act conferred upon the Council shall be in addition to and not in derogation any of the powers of licensing now vested in the Council.

7. This Act may be cited as the Music and Dancing Licences (London) Act, 1910, and shall come into operation on the *first day of November nineteen hundred and ten*.

8. From and after the commencement of this Act sections two, three, and four of the Disorderly Houses Act, 1751, and the whole of the Public Entertainments Act, 1875, shall be repealed so far as relates to the county.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales witnessed the performance of *Tantalizing Tommy* at the Playhouse on Saturday.

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

100TH PERFORMANCE.

The name of Melville has been for many years associated with the production of suburban and provincial melodrama, but it has been left to the brothers Walter and Frederick, the present distinguished representatives of that family, to storm, as it were, the citadels of the "superior person" in the heart of theatre land, and to bring from all parts of London the masses of the unsophisticated to applaud, to laugh, and to cheer. A few years since West End and East End playgoers met together at the Adelphi, when *The Worst Woman in London*, by Brother Walter, drew the carriage folk from Belgravia as well as the toilers from Whitechapel and Walworth, and now we have *The Bad Girl of the Family* packing the pretty Aldwych Theatre for 100 performances.

Bess Moore, the "bad girl," has had most of her experience of the world before the rising of the curtain, and it is her business throughout the piece to prevent the good girl, Gladys Erskine, the daughter of a peer, from falling into the clutches of the villain, Harry Gordon, the chief of a large drapery establishment. She prepares a perfect Chat Moss of disaster when she disguises herself as the bride, and is married to the callous libertine. But the amazing scene of the piece is the pillow fight in the dormitory of the girls living-in at Berry and Robertson's Drapery Stores. Here the police are baffled in their attempted arrest of Bess. Incidentally, we may mention that the author frames a serious indictment against large drapery firms, and their complete indifference to the physical and moral well-being of their employees. Much the same thing was done in *Diana of Dobson's*, of which the dormitory scene in the Aldwych play strongly reminds us.

Miss Violet Englefield is at her best in the passages of the play in which Bess pours out the vials of her contempt and sarcasm upon the man who has wronged her. She is especially effective in the scene between bride and bridegroom immediately following the "bad girl's" extraordinary wedding. Of the burden of the dramatic work a full share falls to Mr. H. Lane Bayliff, who makes light of the most villainous schemes of Harry Gordon, and talks of murder as if it was just an ordinary business transaction. Mr. Bayliff is really a gentlemanly scoundrel, and makes Gordon quite plausible, especially so in the scene of the proposal to Gladys Erskine, a part to which Miss Maud Lindon gives much interest by her charming personality. Mr. Rothbury Evans puts all the necessary hauteur into the part of Lord Erskine; and a clever contrast to the superior manners of the impecunious aristocrat is the amusing vulgarity of Barney Gordon, the money-lender—a part played with a real sense of humour by Mr. Herbert Landeck. Sammy Snozzle, clerk and valet, forces the fun at every opportunity, and by familiar devices that keep the gallery and pit in a state of mirthful excitement. Sammy's appearance is hailed with shouts of laughter, and Mr Pat Waddock, who clowns the part for all it is worth, shows remarkable energy and even acrobatic alertness in his droll business. In his principal scene he is partnered by Miss Marie Wright, an actress with genuine comic methods. Miss Wright puts an immense amount of "business" into her part, and she should certainly not be lost sight of by West-End managers, for she is a comedienne of considerable gifts. Mr. D'Arcy Kelway, in the semi-pathetic character of the cracksman, Jerry Holmes, tackles a difficult part with decided success. Miss Marie Clavering as Honour, the sister of Bess, is thorough-going in her expression of hate and contempt for the prodigal of the family; and Miss Madge Stone shows cleverness and quiet strength in the part of the mother of Bess. The parts of the two clergymen are effectively handled by Mr. Henry Johnson and Mr Lionel Browne; and Mr. Dennis Byron may be credited with good work as John Moore. Miss Daisy St. Clair, Miss Jenny Baxter, Miss Elsie Broom, and Miss Kate Ernest are capable representatives of the girls employed at Berry and Robertson's. The stage-management is particularly smart, and the sets are capital examples of the scene-painter's art.

"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."

A New and Original Musical Comedy, by Henry Wardroper and Henry L. Osmond, Produced at the Pier Pavilion, New Brighton, on Monday March 14.

Numskull Nubbs, Esq.., Oliver Cromwell ..... } MR. CHARLES TOLCHER
Widow McKay ..... }
Tom Flubbs .....MR. WILIFRED E. BRANDON
Alexander .....MR. HARRY ED. RAY
Medea Hamilton ....MISS WINIFRED CHALMERS
Margery Mayfair .....MISS IDA CONROY
Mizpah Mills .....MISS MAY WYATT
Gertie Fownes .....MISS GERTIE BRACE
Lottie Golightly .....MISS EDITH LESLIE
Polly Slapcabbage .....MISS MABEL HALL
Tina All Mark .....MISS MADGE FRANKS
Mrs. Nubbs .....MR. SID DEAN
Eliza Plaster .....MISS CELESTINE BRANDON

There is very little plot in *Miss Plaster of Paris* and what there is is hardly worth description. Young Flubbs and Old Nubbs find themselves at a village inn, and one falls in love with the manageress and the other with the barmaid. Nubbs's wife turns up; and some forged letters, written by a jealous waiter, complicate matters. The effect of the performance is attained by the special numbers and "gags" introduced. The company saved the piece by playing smartly and freely embellishing the dialogue. Mr. H. E. Ray scored a success as the melancholy waiter singing and dancing in good style. Mr Charles Tolcher as Numskull Nubbs also made a favourable impression, and acted in an easy manner; Mr. W. E. Brandon gave point to all his lines, and his performance was convincing; Mr. Sid Dean, in a sort of pantomime dame character, did his best with scanty materials. Miss Eliza Plaster was represented by Miss Celestine Brandon, a lady full of "go," and a smart and graceful dancer; Miss Winifred Chalmers as the manageress of the Red Lion looked her part to perfection, whilst the chorus of barmaids helped to brighten up all the scenes in which they appeared. The musical arrangements were excellent, and the band was conducted by Mr. Fred R. Wyatt. The comedy was played from beginning to end in a very commendable style, and if the authors revise and rewrite a portion of their libretto, and a few more good songs and dances are introduced, *Miss Plaster of Paris* should have a satisfactory tour.

MRS. CHARLOTTE STOPES writes in the *Athenæum* stating that from a search in the Record Office she finds that Shakespeare's company, being appointed Grooms of the Chamber, would follow the King in his state procession. "In L.C. ix. 5," says Mrs. Stopes, "there is an account of the progress of James I. through the streets of London on March 15, 1603-4, within a year after his accession. Among the groups of those who received their liveries in order to appear were the King's players. The name of each is written in full, not in the order of the patent of May 17 in the previous year, but in the order, apparently, of the King's favour, and Shakespeare's name is spelt in the way it always is at Court, the way he had it printed in his poems. 'The King's players, William Shakespeare, Augustine Phillipps, Laurence Fletcher, John Hemminge, Richard Burbidge, William Slye, Robert Armyn, Henry Cundell, Richard Cowley.' We can picture him, then, in the procession from the Tower through the streets of London, and be sure that 'the glorious vagabonds had horses to ride on' in the national pageant."

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"STREBER."

Play, in Four Acts, by Anton Ohorn, Produced at the Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches, on March 11.

Held .....HERR HOLTHAUS
Ehrlich .....HERR KOERNER
Von Frank .....HERR NOLTE
Born .....HERR MACHOLD
Cajus .....HERR SCHMIDT
Ditmar .....HERR LEUDENDORF
Gilbert .....HERR SARNOW
Rauch .....HERR RAMEAU
Rector Gilbert .....HERR KAUFMANN
Frau Gilbert .....FRAULEIN WERNER
Clara .....FRAULEIN DIETRICH
Müller .....HERR MORBUS
Schiffner .....HERR OTTO NOLTE
Arbeiter .....HERR BUSE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The author wrote some time ago a serious play entitled *The Monks of St. Bernard*, which had the merit of being very dramatic, and met with a very cordial reception. Unfortunately, there is a great falling off in his latest piece, and its reception was anything but what the author had either desired or anticipated. The word "streber" means a striver, and is usually employed in an ironical sense. Herr Ohorn evidently intends to be very crushing towards pushing ambition. His "streber" in this particular play is a young Government clerk—the scene is laid in a small provincial town of a German principality—who is dissatisfied with his superiors in office, as, indeed, they are with him. The young man's name is Gilbert; his father is head-master of the grammar school, and a man held in high esteem. When Gilbert, jun., finally gets his dismissal he goes and joins the social democrats, in whose midst he can give vent to his pent-up feelings. This step causes a revolution in the family. After a bitter discussion, in which the son, owing to sheer brute force, comes off victor, Gilbert, sen., shoots himself. It was this scene that aroused the disapproval of the audience more than any of the others. There are incidental episodes in plenty, but it is superfluous to relate them. The play will hardly occupy the bill for any length of time. In the chief rôles the acting was satisfactory, but the artists evidently were at few pains to make running for a piece which was doomed from the outset.

When Knights Were Bold was produced at the Neues Theatre on Tuesday night, with quite unprecedented success. Its German title is a happy one—the result of many sleepless nights, as I am assured. *Die Goldene Ritterzeit* is as descriptive as anyone can wish. The translation is the work of Herr Siegfried Lutz, who has already adapted so many English plays for the German stage with success, and not a point of the original fun has been omitted. The house roared from beginning to end, and applauded enthusiastically, so that a long run may be predicted with absolute certainty. All possible pains had been spent on cast and mounting. Herr Georg Baselt, who went across to London to make a special study of the rôle of Sir Guy de Vere, was perfect. His well-known humour was seen to capital advantage, he carried his audience with him, and was frequently applauded by open stage. The whole of the cast was good, and those deserving of special commendation were Herr Neuss (Isaacson), Herr Schwaiger (Barker), Herr Andresen (Peter Pottlebury), and Fräulein Meta Jaeger as Lady Rowena. When we remember the fiasco which *An Englishman's Home* made on this stage exactly a year ago, the success of another English piece is all the more gratifying.

The Royal Schauspielhaus revived *The Taming of the Shrew* last week. It was doubtless a labour of love, but it was not a success from a Shakespearean point of view. Whereas in the Deutsches Theatre the immortal comedy was given like a circus burlesque, on the Imperial boards it went to the other extreme, and was a stilted, goody-goody performance. The golden medium is nearly always lacking in the performance of this one play of Shakespeare, while the more serious works of the Avon Bard are usually splendidly done here.

At the Residenz Theatre to-night *Das Nachtlicht*, three-act farce by Miquel Zamacois—German by Bolten-Beckers—will be produced, breaking the long run of *Im Taubenschlag*. Frau Agnes Sorma, an old Berlin favourite, commences a season at the New Schauspielhaus to-night.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Schütt's Trio for pianoforte, viola, and 'cello, Allegro Moderato, was the opening item in the programme of the concert on Monday afternoon. The executants were Miss Edith K. Bird, Miss Kathleen Lawler, and Miss Kathleen Thompson, members of the Chamber Music Class. Miss Mabel Hardy sang "Hear ye, Israel," from *Elijah*, and Miss Gladys M. Pearce in her piano solo, 'Reflets dans l'eau," made a praiseworthy endeavour to realise the poetic spirit of Claude Debussy's music. Apart from a certain amount of vibrato, Miss Margaret Bohane's singing of "Le parlate d'amor," from *Faust*, was not without merit, while Miss Bertha Tomlin was fairly successful in Sullivan's song, "Orpheus with his lute." In her violin solo Miss Ruby Deane Powell displayed promise, but is as yet hardly advanced enough to undertake such music as Mendelssohn's Allegro Molto Apassionate from Concerto in E minor. Miss Constance Halton gave a spirited performance of Scharwenka's Polonaise et Mazurka for piano, and Miss Olga Corrigan proved herself an able executant in a violin solo of Wieniawski. The concert ended with Henry Leslie's vocal trio "Memory," sung by Miss Mary Witty, Miss Gertrude Wallis, and Mr. Eric Cooper.

Mr. Redfern's Vigilance.

Recently two members of Magdalene College, Cambridge, dressed as ladies, attempted to attend a performance at the New Theatre of the musical comedy *Dear Little Denmark*. Tickets for a party of five in a box were purchased in the name of a well-known Cambridge resident. Just after the performance commenced two "ladies," accompanied by three undergraduates, drove up to the theatre in taxi-cabs. The ladies were dressed in white silk with richly-embroidered cloaks. Over their crisply curling tresses white lace theatre-wraps were drawn and bunched up loosely at the throats. Their skirts, daintily held clear of the ground by white-gloved fingers, revealed glistening high-heeled patent leather shoes and the slim lines of neat ankles and shapely insteps, veiled with black silk open-work stockings.

"Her" Voice Betrayed "Her."

ALL had gone well so far. The disguise was perfect. In the vestibule the manager of the theatre, Mr. W. B. Redfern, had been passed within a few feet. It was only by accident as the "ladies" were ascending the staircase that the hoax was discovered. Mr. Redfern, who happened to be following in the rear of the party, heard one of the "ladies" as she tripped on her skirt, give vent to a short, sharp exclamation of annoyance in one syllable. "Her" voice was an unmistakable bass voice. The manager stepped in front of the party at the top of the stairs and declined to allow them to enter the box. The "ladies," turning in retreat, took the stairs with very mannish strides two at a time. In the vestibule the party managed to evade a proctor who entered the main entrance of the theatre as the "ladies" and their male friends dashed out of a side entrance and scrambled into two taxi-cabs which were in waiting.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Walter De Frece, in his talk with *The Referee* interviewer, referred to that Variety Theatres Controlling Company of which we wrote last week. Mr. Walter Gibbons joins the board of that company, and completes the trio of directors, the other two, as already stated by us, being Mr. Alfred Butt and Mr. Walter De Frece. Mr. Butt returned to London on Tuesday from Berlin, and immediately attended a board meeting.

In speaking of provincial and London halls and of the special study of the needs of each town in the way of booking, Mr. Walter De Frece makes the mistake of lumping the London halls together. In various parts of outer and inner London audiences radically differ, and we have been present in Shaftesbury-avenue at the chilly reception of a great star whose act the previous night had gone with a roar in the Strand. Walter is building a new house in Bristol, the Palace directors one at Glasgow, and Mr. Gibbons is responsible for the Palladium, so that, with the Barrasford halls coming in, the Co-operative Company, is growing apace in England. In America it has a working agreement with the American firms, Keith-Proctor, Percy Williams, and Meyerfield and Beck.

Miss Decima Moore, with her customary kindness, recently went down from town to the King's Theatre, Southsea, to assist at the matinée for the Veterans' Fund. She produced with great success a little farce entitled *A Black Mark*, which was received with continual laughter by a packed house.

Mr. Huntley Wright and his company, who are appearing at the Coliseum in *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, gave a special performance of that interesting costume playlet on the 11th at 5, Grosvenor-place, where the Prince and Princess of Wales were dining with Lord Iveagh. The piece was played in the Louis Quinze drawing-room, and as that is the period of the play, no special set was necessary to illustrate it.

Mr. George Edwardes, in an interview in the *Referee*, states: "I think that music hall artists of all kinds number some of the very cleverest people one can find." This is an endorsement of the opinion held thirty years ago by John Hollingshead, who in 1870 engaged the Dancing Quakers from the Oxford to enliven a Palace scene in a Gaiety burlesque, illuminated by the talents of Nellie Farren and John Lawrence Toole.

A St. Louis woman recently succumbed to the attractions of Mr. O'Grady, the "human ostrich" in a dime museum. She is said to have fallen in love with him while he was eating tacks at one of his exhibitions. "I thought I would like to cook for a man like that," confessed the blushing bride. "He can't be fussy about his meals." So the happy couple were united by a justice of the peace.

Among the passengers arriving by the Cunard liner Lusitania at Fishguard on Monday were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Luck (Miss Hetty King). The popular male impersonator has just finished a most delightful engagement in the States, where she has increased in the most marked manner her popularity. In the various cities visited Miss King's fame had preceded her, and packed houses have greeted the favourite "boy," whose immaculate suits have been the envy of the b-hoys in front.

Harry Randall, who has been adding largely to the number of his admirers as the chief pantomime Dame at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, has been enjoying himself at golf on the breezy links of New Brighton. Here he was partnered by Mr. Robert Selby (of *The Hook of Holland* company), the pair playing Messrs. Phil Ray and Dave Carter—he of the top note. Ray and Carter won by 7 up and 6 to play. The win was all the more creditable because Mr. Phil Ray was not in the best of health.

Mr. Bransby Williams, who left England for a three months' tour in America and Canada, has met with such unqualified success with his impersonations, that through the courtesy of Mr. Oswald Stoll, he has arranged to remain another three weeks. He has already visited the chief cities of the United States and Canada, and has returned to Winnipeg to open a new theatre. The enthusiasm which has greeted him on all hands is yet another proof of how the American admires his Dickens portraits. Mr. Williams returns to England about the end of April.

Miss Gaby Deslys, who made her London début at the Gaiety as the charm of Paris in *The New Aladdin* in September, 1906, before she became an Alhambra favourite, is by way of making a welcome return to the Leicester-square house on Easter Monday in a sketch dealing with Bohemian and social life in the Paris of the present day. The two popular ballets, *Our Flag* and *The Polar Star*, with Mlle. Britta as première danseuse, remain the greatest attractions of the fare provided by Mr. Alfred Moul.

Mr. George Elliott, on his last night at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, had a reception that was more than enthusiastic—it was demonstratively affectionate. After singing "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," the Bristol University students presented him with a beautiful black ebony walking-stick, with a beautifully polished pebble hook handle, and massively silver mounted. It is inscribed: "To Chocolate, from the Bristol University Students, March, 1910."

Although Mr. Elliott tried to keep the time of his departure from Bristol a secret, hundreds waited all day at the station, and when he left at 7.55 p.m. on Sunday police and porters had to clear the way for him to get to the train. There was a great crush round the door of the compartment to get a handshake from the popular chocolate-coloured coon. The crowd on the platform cheered loudly as the train steamed out.

There was a farewell in the theatre pit lounge and bar on Saturday night. Mr. Chute, in a conversation with Mr. Elliott, expressed the hope that he would come back to him some day. At Birmingham this week he is having such receptions as only the loyal Brum folk give to their first favourites. Mr. Conrad Fry, of Bristol, has made Mr. Elliott a present of a gold-mounted brown walking-stick with tortoiseshell handle, inscribed with the initials "G. H. E." It was sent on to Birmingham from Bristol, and handed to the artist on Tuesday night after his turn.

The leading London dramatic and variety agents have very properly objected to certain statements in a series of articles which has been appearing in *M.A.P.* on the White Slave Traffic, the articles in question containing serious accusations against agents as a body. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who had no knowledge of, and no responsibility for, the article, at once insisted on an apology being made, declaring that if it were refused he would cease his connection with *M.A.P.*, and the apology which appeared last week contained the following passage:—"It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to state that our strictures in last week's issue do not apply to the best theatres any more than to the best agents."

Mr. Hyram Travers, son of the famous "Pearly King," is now stage-manager at the Glasgow Coliseum. He has occupied a similar position in many of the best halls, notably at the Edinburgh Empire.

At his benefit at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Friday, March 11, Mr. Robey announced that he had been engaged by the management of that house for no less a period than five years.

Mr. W. F. Frame is immediately starting his thirtieth tour in the North of Scotland with his vaudeville one-night visits, and is due in the capital, Inverness (so near Culloden Moor), on April 23. The run is for five weeks.

Mr. J. Craig Paterson, who has been appointed under manager at the Pavilion, Glasgow, is another instance of forsaking the legal for the variety profession, he having received his training in the office of a well-known firm of writers in Glasgow.

Mr. Harry Burdette, who was till recently manager at the Coliseum, Glasgow, was entertained the other evening at the Lansdowne Restaurant by his many admirers at a little sing-song, and presented with a purse of sovereigns as a token of their esteem. Mr. G. M. Wells, of the American Roller Rink, presided.

Mr. Burdette thanked the chairman for the kind remarks made, and also the subscribers for the handsome testimonial. Several prominent Glasgow gentlemen also spoke, and a pleasant afternoon was brought to a close by the company joining hands and singing "Auld lang syne."

Mr. Fred Barnes is at the Empire, Bradford, this week, and is causing the usual furore with his scena, "The Scapegrace; or, the Black Sheep of the Family." The latest success secured by this artist is from the pen of Mr. Glover Kind, and published by Feldman and Co., entitled "I'd rather be beside the fireside." This song has immediately caught on, and is sung and whistled all over Bradford and every town visited.

Mr. Harry Boyd, having resigned the acting-management of the Hastings Hippodrome on account of ill-health, occasion was taken on Saturday evening by Mr. Fred Ewing, on behalf of the staff, to present him with several handsome gifts, including a silver engraved matchbox, a compass, and cigar-case; also a silver-mounted umbrella to Mrs. Boyd. In a brief speech Mr. Boyd feelingly responded, thanking the givers for their kindness and loyalty to him during his term of management.

Few comedians enjoy greater popularity than Mr. George Robey, evidence of which was forth coming abundantly at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Friday night (11th), the occasion of his benefit. The house was crowded, and the enthusiasm unlimited. A number of artists appearing at the local houses of entertainment contributed turns.

Miss Dorothy Ward, whose success at the Prince of Wales pantomime was so marked, slipped away from the Gaiety to render vocal help and personal testimony to a brother artist. Apart from Mr. Robey, advantage of the occasion was taken by the audience to show their approval of other members of the company in view of the approaching conclusion of the pantomime, and Miss Ada Reeve in particular was singled out to be the recipient of a large number of floral tributes.

A distinctly up-to-date novelty will be produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, next week in the shape of a farmyard fantasy, *Cock-a-doodle-do; or, The Bluest Bird of the Family*. The characters in this humorous episode are the Rooster, the Broody Hen, the Poodle Dog, and Arabella, a tender duck, described as "a billious excuse for the consumption of green peas." Mr. Peter Davey has a reputation for charming productions, and the beautiful poultry dresses and props used in this skit are absolute "creations." The characteristic music has been specially composed by Mr. Hugo Rignold, and the elaborate farmyard scene is painted by Mr. Betts. The bookings for this seasonable novelty are in the experienced hands of Mr. Tom Shaw.

Miss Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealand travelling girl, was sued in Liverpool County Court o Wednesday by Mr. James Fioni, a Liverpool theatrical agent, for £17 8s., commission at 10 per cent. on a Moss-Stoll tour extending over a year. The plaintiff's case was that in November, 1907, Miss Maude appointed him her sole agent for three years to procure engagements, and she was anxious to be booked on the Moss-Stoll tours.

In November that year he secured for her two trial engagements at the Empire in Liverpool and the Empire in Birmingham, and a further week at Manchester in March, 1908. He also secured engagements for her at various music halls in different parts of the country, and in September, 1908, he received from the Stoll office contracts for a tour.

When he sent on the contracts for her signature Miss Maude wrote him that she had forwarded them unsigned to Mr. Stoll, saying they must go through Mr. Tom Claxton to whom she had given her sole agency. She signed the contracts through this agent, but plaintiff claimed that the engagement was due to his introduction and to his persistent applications on her behalf, and that he was entitled to his commission.

Cross-examined by Mr. Goldie (instructed by Messrs. Fox and Bradley), the plaintiff admitted and identified a letter he had written to Miss Maude in April, 1908, after her complaints that he was not securing enough engagements for her, in which he stated, "I will release you from your contract."

Miss Maude said she paid Mr. Fioni commission on all the engagements he procured for her, but in March, 1908, having received nothing from him for twenty-seven weeks she became dissatisfied. Then he wrote releasing her from her contract, and she secured engagements as best she could. As a result of her own letters Mr. Stoll personally visited her performance at a London hall, and then offered her the tour. She had then given her sole agency to a London agent, through whom she made the contract which was in no way due to Mr. Fioni. The tour was for three weeks longer than the contracts plaintiff offered, and she had paid the commission on the bookings to the London agent.

Judge Thomas, after hearing further evidence, held that the letter of April, 1908, terminated the sole agency contract, and that the plaintiff afterwards was entitled to commission only upon engagements procured through him. The plaintiff had to prove that the engagement was procured through his agency, no matter whether Miss Maude had bound herself to pay commission to another agent or not. In the absence of Mr. Stoll or any evidence from London to support his claim, his Honour said he was bound to say plaintiff had not proved his case, and there must be judgment for the defendant, with costs.

The absence from town next week of so many members of the fraternity has necessitated the postponemenwt of the Rats' ball, which had been originally fixed for Thursday next.

Will the energetic collectors for the Music Hall Home Shilling Fund kindly send in their collecting cards, so that amounts received may be announced? The collection closes on Thursday, March 31.

The offices of the M.H.A.R.A. will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. Members must put their names on the list at the London offices (also at the provincial branch offices) by Thursday afternoon.

Messrs. Richard Warner and Co. desire to inform their clients of the resignation of Mr. Charles Chapman, and to say that in future all communications should be sent direct to the firm.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Richard Lawson (professionally known as Anderton), who acted for some time as musical-director to his brother, John Lawson.

As we are going to press we are informed that Will Oliver has been served with a subpœna to appear in the Courts at Edinburgh on Monday in a libel case, in which George Reeves is plaintiff against a Scottish newspaper.

Mr. Malcolm Scott left Liverpool on Wednesday on the R.M.S. Mendi for a three months' holiday in the Canaries, taking with him as guests Miss Theresa Foote, Joe Grise, and Arthur Ballard. A number of friends assembled on board to see him off, and at New Brighton, where he is a special favourite, guns were fired and flags dipped as the Mendi left the Mersey.

Amongst Mr. Scott's special friends who came to see him off and wish him bon God-speed, we noticed Miss Harriet Green, Miss Amy Stavordale, Miss Ethel Warne Richardson, Messrs. Eric Thorne, Bernard Stavordale, Joe Dale, B. Merrington, Thos. Cookson, and Howard Innes.

Miss Dolly Harmer, whose engagement in Australia was prolonged for two weeks, was due home on Friday (yesterday), per R.M.S. Ophir.

Miss Millie Payne terminates this week a most successful run of London engagements, including two months at the Oxford and Tivoli. She now leaves town to fulfil three months starring engagements on the Moss-Stoll tour, returning to town in May to again open at the Tivoli.

Owing to the noise of a crane used in the construction of the Palladium in Argyle-place, Mr. Plowden adjourned the court at Marlborough-street on Tuesday morning, but, notice being given to the foreman of works, the noise ceased and the sitting was resumed.

Maggie Bowman and Tom J. Morton are making their first West-End variety appearance at the London Pavilion on Monday next in the potpourri, *Mixed Pickles*. Following their engagement in Piccadilly-circus they will have a run round the syndicate suburban halls.

Mr. Harry Lauder makes his reappearance at the Tivoli on Easter Monday after his successful American tour. Mr. Lauder will sing three new songs, "Queen among the heather," "The Picnic," and "Breakfast in my bed on Sunday morning." During his tour Mr. Lauder calculates that he has entertained 1,437,000 people and has travelled 22,000 miles in America alone.

Believing in the good luck that has followed so many introductions to the Canterbury, Will Oliver is presenting another on Monday in the Six Manchester Boys. "Spot" has taken good stock of their capabilities, and has every confidence that those managers who take the trouble to see the act will find something very suitable to their patrons.

Owing, it is said, to the mistake of a stage-hand, who, intending to lower the fireproof curtain, turned on the "sprinkler" by mistake, the orchestra at the South London on Tuesday night were deluged by an impromptu shower. The unexpected bath did not damp the ardour of the musicians, but it caused considerable hilarity in the large audience. The stage was swamped.

Mr. Ben. Woodger, secretary, desires to thank Capt. Fred Slingsby and Marcus Boyle, of the M.H.A.R.A. Office, Manchester, for Music Hall Home box collection of 9s.; to Mr. Nelson Barry (per A. Trussell), Hippodrome, Manchester, box collection of £1 10s.; Mr. Harry Blake, V.P., for parcel of clothes, boots, and games for the inmates; and many thanks are also due to Mr. Alan Macey (Oldfields and Co.) for his kindness to the Home Fund. Will collectors for *The Era* Appeal Fund kindly send along their cards now?

No report was presented by the Theatres and Music Halls Committee at the first meeting of the new London County Council on Tuesday. The Building Act Committee recommended the Council, on the application of Messrs. Wylson and Long, to consent to the retention of four electric arc lamps and a projecting sign in front of the London Pavilion, as shown on a plan dated Nov. 8, 1906, such consent being subject to the usual conditions. The recommendation was agreed to. Mr. W. Whitaker Thompson has been elected chairman of the Council.

At the Tivoli on Easter Monday will be produced a sensational Polish petite mimedrame, by Lee Ephraim, music by Mr. Raoul Moreau, entitled *She Pays the Penalty*. The story relates to the "eternal three," husband, wife, and lover. The guilty woman is killed by a thunderbolt, a tragic event that follows the death of the husband at the hand of the lover in a duel. The wife is to be played by Mlle. Margaretta Carolee, who is said to be a fascinating dancer, the husband by M. Ernest Goslar, and the lover by M. Antoine Pascual. The scene of the sketch is laid in Warsaw.

Mr. George Mozart, who has been secured by the management of the Empire Theatre, appeared for the first time at that house on Monday. George is in strong contrast to the Empire dumb shows, in that he is a persistent, insistent, tireless, and incorrigible talker. He will utter more nonsense in five minutes than a Parliamentary orator can hope to do in five hours. George is not to be compared to any other comedian. He is quite himself; and in comic instrumentalism, in burlesque of drama, or in caricature, he is refreshingly original. Empire patrons have taken him into favour, and their unanimous approval of his act is as wonderful as it is well-deserved.

On behalf of the committee, Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following:—Miss Flo Banks (collected at Halifax), 4s.; Mme. Li Chang Hi (collected from Mr. C. Elderton's *Aladdin* pantomime company, Grand Theatre, Byker), 8s.; Miss Edna Branston (Webb and Branston), result of hoop-la, 6s., at the Palace, Bath; Mrs. James Horne (given and collected), 12s.; Mrs. J. Colthard (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Alec Barish, another parcel of men's boots and socks; Miss Lottie Albert, babies' bonnets; Alfred Keeping, Brighton, collection of old miniature cartoons; and parcel of clothing (Anonymous) from Oldham. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

Mr. Charles Collette, supported by Miss Joan Derry, the clever boy impersonator, will appear during next week in H. P. Sargent's successful farce duologue *Pyjamas* at the Ealing Empire.

Mr. Charles Hartley and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull have returned from the Madeira and the Canary Isles.

Mrs. Driver, proprietress of the Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, was granted an occasional stage play licence to produce a pantomime during the week of March 21, by the West Riding magistrates on Saturday last.

Mr. Leo Dryden points out that in his successful song, criticised by us at the Euston last week, he does not refer to women as "false gods." Our mistake. Goddesses or ministering angels would be much nearer the mark!

Mr. Edward Thane's sketch *The Mask Torn Off*, produced at the Empress, Brixton, this week, is quite a success, and first-class bookings to top the bill are coming along in an increasing stream as a result of the perfect staging and excellent acting.

The Lorch Family conclude to-day their most successful sixteen weeks' engagement at the New York Hippodrome. After that they will go a few weeks on the Keith circuit, and will open their second season with the Ringling Bros. Circus on April 7 at Chicago.

The 651st meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday at the offices, the following being present:—Messrs. Arthur Rigby (in the chair), Jack Crawley, H. Herald, Alf. Herald, J. H. Milburn, T. C. Callaghan, Albert Schafer, and Jack Crawley. The weekly statement showed fifty-two new members and a cash total of £65 3s. 6d.

On Friday (11th) the football match between Harry Weldon and George Robey's teams in aid of the Birmingham Football Club drew a good crowd to St. Andrew's Park, Birmingham. Miss Ada Reeve kicked off. Weldon's proved the superior side and led at half-time by four goals to nil. Miss Dorothy Ward kicked off in the second half, when "Stiffy's" boys added another two goals to George Robey's eleven's nil.

At the Jubilee Masters' Lodge held last night (Friday) at the Hotel Cecil, Bro. Ernest De Vere was invested as Inner Guard for the forthcoming year. This is a great honour, as there are over five hundred brethren to choose from. He had as guests Bros. Fred Higham, Will Oliver, Felice Napoli, and D. Cohen, the two first-named being nominees for membership of this lodge, to which only Grand Officers and Past Masters of London lodges can belong.

On Monday night Mr. Chesney, acting in Fred Moule's sketch *The Annexers* at the Bedford, sprained his foot, and on Tuesday midday he wired saying that the doctor forbade him appearing again during the week. At five o'clock Mr. Moule found Mr. Edward Avinal, who was acting at Sadler's Wells, gave him the scrip, arranged times, and at 6.35, one hour and thirty-five minutes later, Mr. Avinal played the part dead-letter perfect.

Considerable interest will be attached to the appearance of Mlle. Clary's police dogs at the London Hippodrome on Monday. These dogs were trained with others used by the Paris police for purposes of defence and arrest. Demonstrations will be given of attacking an Apache and of defence against an armed member of that notorious coterie of criminals. Watch-dogs will show how they work, and interest will centre in one dog in particular, who has to be muzzled on account of his great strength. He weighs 175lb. Max, the champion police dog, is a fine jumper, and clears 8ft. 10in. with ease.

Another great attraction will be that fine animal impersonator, Mr. George Ali, direct from Drury Lane, and his company, in the comedy sketch *Papa's Day Out*, which was seen last year at the Coliseum.

Swan and Vesta are meeting with tremendous success on the Gibbons' Circuit with their latest production, *The Coster's Prize*, founded on the popular competitions now appearing in *Answers* weekly. On Friday night the proprietors of *Answers* presented them, in their character sketches of Bill and 'Liza, with a magnificent donkey and equipment on the stage at the Hippodrome, Camden Town. They will appear next week at the Ealing Hippodrome. They have placed their business in the hands of Tom Shaw and Co.

On Monday, March 7, as recorded in last week's *Era*, was produced at Sadler's Wells Fred Moule and Pete Murray's *Winkels*. In this merry-maker Mr. Moule plays Ananias Gunn, a sailor. On the Thursday following smart and up-to-date Robert Whyte, jun., was singing in the new Savoy production, "Have you heard of Ananias?" But in the interest of accuracy it should be stated that if King Paul, at the Savoy Theatre, is the original Ananias. "Anamias Gunn" was an earlier reproduction, and Baron Munchausen was the forerunner of both.

David Bliss, managing director of the United Counties Theatres, Ltd., appeared at Bow-street on Tuesday to a summons charging him with wilful and corrupt perjury in an action tried in the Westminster County Court in July last. It appeared that the company was plaintiff in an action for breach of contract, which resulted in a verdict for £25 and costs against Messrs. Mack and Ferguson, variety artists. Counsel for the prosecution said it would be proved that certain portions of the evidence given by Bliss in that case were false. The hearing was adjourned.

The new revue *Hullo, London!* is nightly drawing audiences to the capacity of the Empire Theatre, and the new political and other topical allusions are being enthusiastically received. The latest introduction is a travesty of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, which, in the very capable hands of Mr. J. F. McArdle and Miss Millie Legarde, is intensely droll. Another skit shortly to be introduced will be on the subject of *Dame Nature*. The "Chantecler" Trio, with its charming music, witty lines, and beautiful costumes, is proving itself an attraction of great magnitude.

Mr. Percy Harris, M.P., has introduced in the House of Commons a Bill to amend the law relating to licences for music and dancing in the administrative county of London as contained in the disorderly Houses Acts, 1751 and 1818, and the Public Entertainments Act 1875, in order to enable the London County Council (which is the authority to grant such licences in the county), to grant them at any time during the year, instead of being limited, as at present, to the annual licensing meeting now held in November.

A similar amendment of the Act of 1751 has been sanctioned in respect of the administrative county of Middlesex, and the Council, under the Theatres Act, 1843, already possesses, with regard to licences for stage plays, power similar to that now sought in respect of music and dancing licences. The Bill seeks to enable the Council to make a small charge for licences for music and dancing, and in this respect also follows the precedent of the Theatres Act 1843.

Mr. John Lawson will produce a new Chantecler episode about Easter week.

Miss Florrie Gallimore was married on Feb. 26 at the Brixton Registry Office to Mr. S. Naylor (brother to H. O. Wills). The popular artist has been the recipient of many hearty congratulations.

The educated ape, Consul, who will be remembered by thousands in London, died on Wednesday of pneumonia at Dallas, Texas. Consul was insured for £10,000. His body will be embalmed and shipped to England.

Mr. Charles Gibbs, a popular coon artist, died suddenly on Tuesday, after being in Lambeth Infirmary only one hour. The funeral arrangements will be carried out by Messrs. S. Tull and Co., of London-road, S.E.

Among the new-comers to the Coliseum on Monday are Gus Elen, the famous coster singer; Gwennie Llewellyn, the girl with the phenomenal voice; Arthur Kenny, a daring cyclist; the Brothers Egbert, the King's comedians; Moran and Wiser, boomerang throwers; Harry Conlin, comedian; Herbert Darnley's company, in *The Skirmishers*; and the versatile Katie Moss, who will recite, sing, and play the violin.

A dramatic suicide occurred on the White Star liner Adriatic on aSturday, just before the vessel sailed for England. A man, afterwards identified as Edward Ettridge, shot himself in the cabin of Mr. Alfred Burgess, an actor, whom Ettridge was seeing off. Ettridge was connected with the stage, his stage name being Ettridge Beppo.

Our Gravesend correspondent writes:—"Ettridge Beppo was very well known in Dartford, where he had resided for some time. He lodged with a Mrs. Popple, at 36, Orchard-street, and was a very affable and cheerful companion. He was the ringmaster at Messrs. Transfield's Hippodrome, and was an adept in the art of sleight-of-hand and jugglery. On the dissolution of Messrs. Transfield, Beppo is believed to have turned his attention to the variety boards, and his untimely death in New York has been a great shock to friends in Dartford."

Mr. Charles E. Chapman is resigning from the firm of Richard Warner and Co., Ltd., after a term of service of twenty-four years. He is leaving on quite friendly terms, his only reason for resigning his position being that he wishes to make a change. He commences his duties on Monday next with Paul Schultze's theatrical, variety, and circus agency of Cranbourn-street and Berlin. Mr. Chapman intends to devote the first two weeks of each month to London, the third week to the provinces, and the fourth to the Continent, with a view of finding novelties for English managers. Mr. Cyril Gilbert will work in conjunction with Mr. Chapman.

The directors of the Empire Theatre again obtained from the Aintree Racecourse Company the sole and exclusive right to take Bioscope pictures of the Grand National. In order to secure for their patrons a complete record of this most popular steeplechase event sixteen cameras were placed throughout the whole length of the course, thus enabling the Bioscope to present on the screen at the Empire a complete record of every incident in the struggle from start to finish. Arrangements have also been made to obtain a fine series of pictures of the University Boat Race on Wednesday next.

The Princess d'Aryaba, who made her début at the Oxford on Monday, is a dark beauty of Aryan descent, whose fine dancing illustrates scenes of dramatic import. As the inmate of a seraglio the Princess is much moved by her reading of a novel, which draws an alluring picture of the freedom of the Western woman in countries where monogamy is imperative. Thoughts of a less monotonous life give rein to the odalisque's imagination, and she abandons herself to the whim of the moment in a dance, which has something of mauresque significance. As she is about to run away, her eunuch gaoler arrests her progress, and this action leads to a solo of feverish energy, full of sinuous movement, of which a miniature sabre combat forms part.

The next dance by the Princess is in association with the danseur, playing the part of the gaoler, and some daring acrobatic movements and wonderful twisting remind one of the danse tourbillon, of which the exponents are mostly French. This is quite the tour de force of the finely-illustrated episode, and at once stamps the Princess as a dancer of suppleness, skill, and grace, possessing, too, a volcanic energy that deeply impresses the house. She is very dramatic in the final dance of anguish, where the Princess is supposed to die of terror when unable to get clear of the clutches of a monster.

Mr. Alfred J. Carter (manager, Palace, Manchester) and Mr. Harry Cotton were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier George Cooper, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Harry Bent, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. Messrs. Harry Slingsby, Louis S. Sterling, and Cliffe Owen successfully passed the ballot for membership.

A ladies' concert was held at the Three Stags Hotel, on Sunday last, and, as usual, was very successful. Terrier George Cooper was in the chair, and was supported by Terrier Harry Bent, as vice-chairman. The following artists contributed to the programme: Terrier Tom Packer, "Charlie Brown"; Terrier T. C. Callaghan, "When my ship comes in"; Terrier Ernest D'Almaine, "Good-night beloved"; Terrier Charles Clark, "I've signed the pledge"; Terrier Ernest Ball, "A parson and a man"; Miss Carlotta Lunn, "Where the water lilies grow"; Terrier Andie Caine, "My Novelette" and "Sparrows"; Terrier Harry Bent, "Imitations of popular comedians"; Terrier Harry Brown, "Winter time" and "Nobody"; Mr. Harry Vernon, "Barbadoes"; Mr. Walter Adams, "He started in a very small way"; Mr. Arthur Lloyd, jun., "You know, you know, you know"; and Mr. Leslie Ross, "The Playwright." Terrier Tom Packer acted as musical director, Terrier J. Charles Moore was an efficient accompanist, and Terrier Arthur Were looked after the comfort of the audience.

All Terriers in town on Sunday are particularly requested to attend the annual general meeting of the Association, which will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, at 6.30 p.m. The chief business on the agenda paper is the election of officers and the passing of the balance-sheet. An interesting discussion is expected on the question of instituting a new degree for meritorious services rendered by members.

An order has been issued that the Juvenile Court at Bow-street shall, commencing with April 4, be held on Monday and Thursday in each week in lieu of Tuesday and Friday. The Order provides that at the Juvenile Court held at Bow-street on Monday in each week the magistrate shall have jurisdiction to hear applications for licences for the employment of children, under Section 3 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1904, arising in the divisions of the Metropolitan Police Court district other than that assigned to the Bow-street Juvenile Court, if such application cannot conveniently be made at the Juvenile Court for the divisions in which they arise. The new Order is the result of the timely and well-considered action of the V.A.F.

SONGS, WRITERS AND SINGERS.

IN these days of rumours of change and of fresh shufflings of the cards in the world of variety, when every turn of the entertainment wheel, every shifting of the music hall kaleidoscope shows fresh combinations of syndicates, circuits, and interests, it is pleasant and encouraging to note that one great combine, which has been in existence for very many years, still pursues the even tenor of its way and, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, altereth not—the great combine of originality, pathos, wit, humour, and melody embodied in the ceaseless output of all that is brightest and best in the world of popular song and dance that emanates from the house of Francis, Day, and Hunter.

IT is pleasant, as proving the truth of the axiom anent the "survival of the fittest" (and Britons always like the wisdom of their own country's wise sayings proved to the hilt), and encouraging because the thousand and one artists in every line of business who are followers of Francis and devotees of Day can rest assured, as heretofore, that their separate and individual welfares and interests are synonymous with the interests and welfare of the big firm, which, like some good-humoured Triton, complacently watches the minnows who try practically to emulate the historic feat of the frog in the fable.

AT the Grand, Birmingham, Mr. G. H. Elliott, the "chocolate-coloured coon," has been nightly receiving ovations from thronged houses for his refined and artistic rendering of tuneful and well-contrasted numbers. Two songs of the absolute first-class which Mr. Elliott has acquired are "Mister Owl," by A. J. Lawrance, and "Little Luna Lou," by Bert Lee and A. J. Lawrance, and these two items, in addition to the magnificent one specially written for him by the author and composer of his "Sue, Sue, Sue" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," which is entitled "There's a little Black Cupid in the moon"—will form this fine artist's répertoire during his forthcoming tour. For "Mister Owl" special scenery will be employed, and further triumphs are assured for this "fixed star." Messrs. Francis and Day publish all three.

THAT charming ballad "If I had the world to give you" is becoming more and more a prominent item on all programmes where daintiness and refinement are in demand, and that celebrated combination "The Dandies" are singing the song and meeting with the hearty applause which is the right of cultured artists. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

"DOWN PARADISE ALLEY," Miss Queenie Leighton's latest song, specially written her by Alf Ellerton—whose "Little bit of parsley" for the same premier artist will be remembered—has been accepted for publication by Mr. David Day's firm. Alf Ellerton, jun., has supplied the music.

AMONG the numerous pieces of dance music about to be placed by Messrs. Francis and Day before the world of buyers of this important branch of the trade will be found a lovely waltz, entitled "Fidelès," by Moritz Würm, the celebrated musician whose music and whose band are centres of attraction when and wherever heard.

MR. LOUIS LA RONDELLE, who keeps the librarian of his fine orchestra at the London Coliseum ever busy, as he strongly believes in giving the myriad patrons of the monster house something fresh to listen to, has found time to compose a charming morceau that will be published immediately by Messrs. Francis and Day as the "Aviation Waltz." In honour of the Feast of St. Patrick Myddleton's fine Irish selections has been the *pièce de résistance* during the week at "intermission" time at the Coliseum.

HENRY E. PETHER, who has received the congratulations of many brother musicians on the fine music he has provided for the new sketch *Cupid's Arms*, written by Albert E. Ellis, and produced at the Oxford matinée last Saturday by Mr. Frank Danby and Mr. J. C. Piddock, has just composed the music of a charming song, entitled "Mother's sweet necklet of love." Leonard Cooke's lyric is worthy of the composer's flowing strains. Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the press.

GILBERT WELLS, who has naught "dour" about him, though he hails from beyond the Tweed, has disposed of, to Messrs. Francis and Day, the rights of publication of a characteristic song, entitled "Down at Blankton-on-Sea." The name of Will Terry is associated with the ditty.

THE three clever pons of Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford have been lately employed on a ballad, entitled "Framed in my heart." It will be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day in the near future.

FOLKS who like a mournful song and happen to buy, on the strength of the title, "Sad are the tidings I bring," a new number that Messrs. Francis and Day are producing immediately, will be sorely mistaken when they peruse the song, which is sung by that arch-joker and good comedian, Mr. Bernard Russell. It is by Edward Elliott and Linton Nevett.

A PRETTY song is always worthy of a charming title, and such has been given by F. V. St. Clair to one of his latest efforts, which is named "Where the bell bine clusters around the window." Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the press. Messrs. Fox and Melville are also to be congratulated on being connected with this song.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, at the Argyle, Birkenhead, has scored a great triumph with his new song "There's another fellow looks like me," and opines that it will rank as a compeer with his many noteworthy previous successes. It is by Fred W. Leigh, who has just completed for the eminent comedian a song, entitled "The Railway Guard."

THOUGH little green was to be observed in their eye, the members of Messrs. Francis and Day's staff bore a remarkably verdant appearance about the coat buttonhole on St. Patrick's Day, thanks to the annual consignment of the "chosen leaf of bard and chief" received from Mr. Josef Collins, of Dundalk.

MR. BEN ALBERT has had to put his favourite pony, "Tommy," in lavender for the week, the number of halls being worked by the dry and droll comedian necessitating the use of a motor. At the Royal Standard, the Metropolitan, the Islington Empire, and the London Pavilion Alf Ellerton's "My inventive kiddie" and George Arthurs and F. W. Leigh's "What's the use of sighing?" have been acclaimed two of the funniest songs of the day. Messrs. Francis and Day publish both.

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT, at the Hippodrome, Brighton has been repeating her triumphs of the week prior when at the Camberwell Palace and elsewhere she simply convulsed her audiences with, among other numbers, Henry F. Greenfield's song, "The Great Invasion Play."

MR. HARRY RANDALL, who concludes a successful pantomime engagement at Liverpool this (Saturday) evening, will shortly be heard in Joe Burley and Maurice Scott's "I'm using Sunday language all the week."

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. Henri Gros's offer of the management of the Metropolitan to Mr. William Bailey has enabled that gentleman to return to a position that he filled with much distinction and credit some nineteen years since, under an older proprietorship, and on Monday Mr. Bailey received the congratulations of some of the old patrons of the house, as well as of a number of friends in and out of the profession. Mr. Leslie Gooch, the son of a former owner of the Metropolitan retains his position as acting manager.

A highly artistic turn in the early portion of the bill is that of Savori, a boy violinist of considerable ability. He plays with a command of difficulty and a finished technique that augur well for his future. The prevailing east winds have adversely affected Miss Marguerite Broadfoote's vocal cords, and on the night of our visit she sang with some difficulty a pretty musical love story of the Pyrenees, where a lover basked in the sunshine of a dark señorita's smile. Miss Broadfoote's pot-pourri of Scotch song is quite a happy thought on her part, as her choice falls on some rare gems of melody from over the border. "Of a' the airts," "When the kye came hame," "Maggie Lauder," and "Comin' thro' the rye" are among the selections, which are highly popular with both gallery and pit. The Sisters Macarte present a very pretty entertainment, entitled *The Land of the Lotus*, in which they appear as Japanese girls in a fascinating dance. Then they take to the wire, on which they do many remarkable tricks. One sister standing on the slackened filament of steel plays the guitar, and the show generally is much liked.

Mr. Hal Forde's light behaviour and reckless disregard of the conventionalities mostly observed by the married householder and ratepayer are vigorously applauded, and the burden of the tuneful melody that enables him to sing with such apparent glee "It's my night out to-night" is taken up by the "gods." Cribb and Cribb, who call themselves "Idle fellows with idle thoughts," invest their patter with considerable originality, and their turn throughout is fresh and amusing. They appear as a couple of tramps with an undying hatred of work. That capital comic singer Mr. Ben Albert has a philosophic song on "to-day and to-morrow," and also sings with much comicality of the perplexities caused by the inventive genius of a boy who is a perfect marvel. Other turns include Dennis and Morris, comedians and dancing experts, and Dardinis, who are the exponents of what is termed on the bill "America's greatest comedy juggling act."

"Makers of History," a series of living statues that is paying a second visit to this house, gets above the heat of party politics in the selection of subjects, especially when it presents the seated figure of Henry Irving and Lord Clive. The audience is less unanimous over the merits of John Burns and Lloyd George; but the exhibition, which is the work of Mr. Albert Toft, is generally well received, and the well-rounded periods spoken by Mr. C. Lilford-Delph are attentively listened to.

The final item of the bill is the burlesque drama *That Dreadful Detective*, the hero of which is subject to the conditions of an extraordinary will, which makes it imperative that he shall marry within a certain time on pain of losing his inheritance. He has a sweetheart in the Princess Christine, who is also loved by a bold, bad Chief of Police. The latter adopts the familiar trick of stowing stolen diamonds in the hero's pocket, in order that he may be imprisoned and lose his girl. The humour, of the most extravagant kind, keeps the house in a continuous roar of laughter, and Miss Ada Frank and Mr. E. D. Nicholls score most unmistakably. The name of Miss Madoline Rees is also on the bill.

THE BEDFORD.

There is no lack of variety in the excellent bill which Mr. B. P. Lucas puts forward at his popular hall this week, and on Monday evening when we visited it there was not a seat vacant, and standing room was also at a premium. Fred Karno's company of comedians in their delightful absurdity, *Mumming Birds*, is the chief feature of the programme, and this screaming burlesque never went better. Several new items have been introduced into it, and the inebriated swell remains as droll as ever and is most cleverly played, while the mischievous youth who plays such pranks with the artiste keeps the fun going splendidly. Both actors are to be highly complimented upon their performance, and it is only due to the fact that the programme does not provide them that we omit their names. The sketch is capitally staged, and scored heavily.

A big favourite in Camden Town is Arthur Rigby, who has a couple of excellent songs. His first appearance is in that of a curate, who sings "Oh, Brethren, Oh," and causes much laughter, while his second song, "Mother Eve," fairly brought down the house with its droll patter and racy remarks on married life. Miss Frances Delaval is an actress of much ability, and in the sketch *Through the Valley* she has ample opportunity of showing her talents. It is a dramatic work, a trifle too long perhaps for the halls; however, it is well written, and, though it deals with a somewhat unpleasant side of life, it cannot fail to grip its audience, and Miss Delaval and her company, who give her admirable support, made an emphatic success. Baby Wolfe is a clever youngster, whose imitations meet with appreciation, and she also dances extremely well. Norris and Morgan provide a lively turn with songs and patter. A new Scotch comedian to us is Scott Bruce, who made an immediate hit; he has a good song, and knows how to sing it, and we shall look forward to seeing him again. The Gellings are clever acrobats, the younger member especially being a very neat and agile tumbler.

Kitty Colyer is always sure of a hearty welcome here, for she always is smart and captivating. Her present song, "I'll be your gipsy man," is a very pretty number, and she again delights all with her clever dancing. Bromley and Fontein, with their *Man Behind the Music Stand*, are as entertaining as ever, the comicalities of the conductor are indeed ludicrous, and compel laughter. Kimberley and Melbourne are a couple of eccentric fellows, whose turn keeps all in a fine humour. A pleasing feature of the programme is the turn given by Gibson's Five Gordon Girls, who provide a lively time with their songs and dances.

Fred Moule and Pete Murray's company appears in the sketch *The Annexers*, and a most entertaining little farce it proves to be. The story of the effeminate husband and the friend who elopes with his wife, only to be brought to bay by a burglar is amusingly told. The burglar, whose presence plays such a large part in the story, is a very diverting character, and the whole sketch is thoroughly amusing and exceedingly well played by all concerned. The Bioscope concludes. Mr. A. L. Edwards, the resident-manager, is always at his post to offer a welcome to all friends.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

An excellent programme is presented at Mr. Walter Gibbons's fine hall here this week. Miss Vesta Victoria, the domestic comedienne, whose clever character comedy has made her world-famous, sounds a note of eccentricity in her songs. She is called upon to sing three selections, and each is given with great success, especially that droll number "Skating." Zona Vevey, accompanied on the piano by Herr Maxerrard, with a pretty scene *My Lady's Bower*, sings the following items: "Have you seen Wee McGregor?" "Down by the old water-wheel," and as a country yokel in a smock, "Near the church across the way." Herr Maxerrard, who plays a march of his own composition, is excellent at the piano. Dave Samuels, the Hebrew comedian, causes continuous merriment, the byplay and sallies being delightfully fresh. His act includes clever parodies on the songs "Somewhere," "If the man in the moon were a coon," and "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" Jack Smiles, one of the cheeriest of jokers, wears a costume reminding one of the popular poster "It's so simple," and is singing his famous number "I don't suppose he'll do it again for months and months and months." Jack, who is most deservedly popular, concludes with a fine exhibition of clog dancing.

Miss Lois Du Cane and company present a real dramatic sketch, entitled *The Russian Princess*, written and produced by F. Maxwell. The piece is admirably mounted, and the parts are all well filled. The story is that of a Russian Princess, whose lover (Prince Karl) has been confined in a fortress for two years. The latter escapes and goes to a house known as the Gatehouse, where he finds the Princess. General Dragenoff and his soldiers come to search the place, but fail to discover the fugitive. The general's suspicions are allayed by the Princess, who pretends she loves him, and the soldiers are dismissed. Some loyal adherents of the Princess seize the general and kill him. The soldiers break in and find Prince Karl disguised as the general, and allow him to depart accompanied by the Princess.

Miss Daisy James, a great favourite at this house, appears as a Salvation Army lassie to sing "Charlie banged the big drum," and causes great amusement with some byplay with the drummer in the orchestra. Dewson has a breezy style, and his imitation of a church organ, on the piano, and the singing of "Ladies beware!" a song of his own composition, call for special mention. Johnson and Bert have a clever tumbling act, entitled "A queer customer"; and also appearing are Rose Cabani in a song "Absence makes the heart grow fonder"; Dari and Denvil, in a comedy duologue; the Four Amaranths, with an acrobatic-dancing speciality; and Woolmer Young, with song, "My mother's stories," all greatly add to the pleasure of an enjoyable evening, which concludes with Ruffell's Bioscope pictures.

THE GRANVILLE.

As is usually the case, good business is being done here, and in Mr. R. W. Duce Walham Green folk have a variety caterer who thoroughly understands their needs, and who accordingly receives ample support from amusement seekers of the vicinity.

Bernard Mervyn and company top the bill in an exciting miniature melodrama, in three scenes, entitled *Nick Carter*, and the authors have put some very telling lines into this little playlet, with the result that the audience listen with rapt attention throughout. As the man from Pinkerton's Mr. Bernard Mervyn is quite at his ease, carrying all before him, and his fine physique, coupled with his excellent delivery, quickly conveys to all the excellent reasons American wrong-doers had in fearing such a renowned crime investigator as Nick Carter. Ample support is given by Mr. John F. Traynor as the scheming rascal Richard Morgan; Mr. W. E. Moss, an enthusiastic Ned Westerton; and Mr. Ivan P. Gore, a faithful Bully Bunce. Miss Mamie Rendle does her best as Milly Gray; and Miss Phyllis Dailley enacts Ilma D'Arvois with cheerful abandon.

Those quaint Hebrew delineators Jordan and Harvey are pronounced Granville favourites, and their Jewish yarns, so ably told, ensure their popularity. "A little bit more" and "Abraham" are two numbers divertingly rendered. Miss Camilla Feo is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Mr. Archie Glen, who tells a few tales forcibly, is the possessor of an up-to-date ditty in "Scouting." Mr. Marriott Edgar, the man in red, is a striking turn who should make much headway; Mr. Norman Holt, the musical Lancashire lad, ably manipulates the concertina; and Miss Aida Martini dances well.

Shirley and Ransome figure in a crisply-written comedy duologue, *Jim's Pal*, and this popular pair of artists have secured in this trifle a homely sketch well suited to their methods. It is received most cordially. The Kirbys are also billed, and some very clear films on the cinematograph conclude the entertainment, which during the evening is enlivened by some excellent music by the orchestra under the skilful bâton of Mr. Frank Thomas.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

The usual order of things prevails here—a first-class programme and a crowded house. After the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Smith, have given a careful rendition of Myddleton's "Shamrock," those clever wooden-shoe dancers Devon and Earle introduce a number of new and difficult steps, and quickly prove themselves favourites with the house. Joe Archer is decidedly humorous. His first contribution is "An Englishman's Home," but he is seen to better advantage in his latest success "Kelly's gone to kingdom come," a song with a rollicking and taking chorus. He has a style distinctly his own, and rattles off his stories, quips, and cranks in amusing fashion.

A rousing reception is accorded the Norman-Leonard Trio in their clever and humorous musical skit *The Itinerant*, which combines high-class music and legitimate nonsense. Briff, Braff, and Broff present their comedy acrobatic mélange, and are applauded repeatedly for difficult feats neatly executed, one of the trio in particular being singled out for approbation. They are quite the best acrobatic turn we have seen here for a long time. Yvonne Lamor, billed as an anecdotal and topical comedienne, was deputised for by Grace Langley, who sings of "My bonnie Jean" and "Spooning," and concludes a dainty turn with some smart dancing. Geo. D'Albert gives "You can't blame me for that" and "Do as you like." Rose Atherton and company are presenting here the skit *Murphy's Affinity*, which still retains its popularity and proves laughable.

A large portion of the evening is taken up by Andrew Emm's company in

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."

Martin Faber ..... MR. W. LAWRENCE
Barney Bawn ..... MR. H. WHITE
Tom Hall ..... MR. B. WOOD
Snowball ..... MR. HARRY REX
Peggy Maloney ..... MISS MAY DAVIS
Helen ..... MISS MAUDE MELLISS

The sketch, which is in four scenes, has the following for its story. Martin Faber and Tom Hall, both divers are in love with Helen, who shows a decided preference for Martin. This fact rankles in the mind of Tom, who determines to do serious harm to his rival at the first opportunity. A boat has gone down with a very valuable diamond necklet on board, and both Martin and Tom volunteer to try and recover the gems. Whilst under-water Tom, after a struggle with Martin, manages to hack through the latter's air-tube, and then leaves his rival for dead. However, Barney, who has also gone down, comes across the body of Martin, and promptly signals for both to be hauled up. On reaching the surface Martin speedily recovers, and relates the story of his attack, to the discomfiture of Tom. The sketch, which has new and elaborate scenery, was very well produced.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Mr. Walter Gibbons' control of this house continues to be marked by excellent programmes, which are winning back to the Palace the patrons who for months past have had to seek their amusement elsewhere. The beauty of the house is much commented upon locally also, and Mr. Jack M. Hart is quickly becoming known and popular in Hammersmith. Angela's Living Works of Art are proving a great draw. On the night of our visit ten subjects were represented. Some studies of Swiss peasants were heartily applauded, and well-known paintings, such as "Venus," "The Female Slave," "Nymph's Drolleries," "Bacchanals," &c. (the representatives being artistically draped), were greatly admired. Some charming pictures of Switzerland were also shown on the curtain. Dan Lipton's company, including Miss Eva Kelland, in *Songland* were well received. Miss Kelland's sweet voice was heard to great advantage in "At Gretna Green," "Take me back to Pompeii," and "In my bouquet." Special scenery was provided for each song, the electrical effects for the last being most effective. Miss Gladys Soman sang "As long as the world rolls on" delightfully, the audience loudly demonstrating their approval.

Fred Maxwell and company in the sketch *The Girl I Love* were decidedly good. The Brothers Horne in the old friend *The Biter Bit* raised as many laughs as usual. Some wonderful balancing was performed by the Zanfrellas—quite as clever a turn as we remember seeing in the "equilibrist" line. Vera Wootton is a lively little comedienne, and sang pleasingly "You look a picture in your picture hat, Louise" and "Never let your left know what your right hand's doing." The two Sandow girls, Hammon and Wyatt, rendered a duet "Hail to the toreador" beautifully. Frank L. Street sang one of R. G. Knowles' songs, imitating that popular comedian's style. Frank Frayne sang well, and was really excellent in his step dance. Graham's Premier Juveniles were also on the programme, and the 'Varsity Girls tunefully rendered several songs and part songs. The Bioscope showed a humorous film, and the orchestra, under Mr. J. Cleve, do their part exceedingly well. The Hammersmith Palace is going strong.

THE KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, DUNDEE.

The first anniversary of this beautiful theatre was celebrated in suitable style on Tuesday evening, the United County Theatres Co. presenting several extra turns along with the usual programme, which this week is an exceptionally brilliant one. The building was beautifully decorated with palms and other ornamental plants, the vestibule and staircases presenting the appearance of a botanic garden in miniature. The boxes were also tastefully bedecked with flowers and flags. Both houses were packed, and the audiences showed marked appreciation.

At the first house Councillor A. W. Paton presented Mr. Simon McIntosh, the popular manager, with a massive gold appendage as a token of esteem and gratification from several of the influential patrons of the house. Councillor Paton said the responsibilities of a theatre manager were great, and Mr. McIntosh had fulfilled his responsibilities in the most satisfactory and courteous manner. Mr. McIntosh, in reply, thanked the subscribers for their handsome testimonial so kindly presented. As manager he had done all in his power to further the interests of his directors. He also thanked the audience for their staunch support, and had to submit to musical honours.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.

G. H. Elliott's Latest "Moon" Song.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.
DAVE CARTER.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.

The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

ON A MONKEY HONEYMOON.
FEATURED in all JOHN TILLER'S PRODUCTIONS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SOME DAY WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

The Ballad Hit of the Season, sung by Mdme. Ada Colley.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. can boast a strong list of songs and singers for the forthcoming Easter campaign at headquarters, as London may fitly be termed, numbering, among others, the following:—"The garden of roses" (Arthur Aldridge); "I'd rather be by the fireside" (Fred Barnes); "By the light of the silvery moon" (G. H. Elliott); "Playing the game in the West" and "I put on my coat and went home" (George Formby); "I am longing for someone to love me," "Georgie took me walking in the park," and "Come over the garden wall" (Miss Clarice Mayne); "I do like to be beside the seaside" (Mark Sheridan); "In the Army" (Miss Ella Shields); and many others featured by the leading members of the variety profession.

Among the many famous artists who are exploiting the Feldman songs this year may be mentioned that inimitable songstress Miss Ada Reeve, in whose hands that famous ballad "Somewhere" was a perfect revelation this season in pantomime in Birmingham. Miss Reeve is producing immediately "Nobody knows—nobody cares," and a humorous new song entitled "Foolish questions," both of which emanate from the Arthur-street firm.

Returned to town after her pantomime engagement, Miss Ella Retford opened at the Oxford and Croydon on Monday, and at both houses has been scoring with "A girl up North" and "Molly O'Morgan," both of which are published by Feldman and Co. Miss Retford is now busily engaged in rehearsing some new numbers belonging to the same enterprising firm.

At the Hippodrome, Peckham, during the current week a pronounced success has been achieved by Chas. K. Harris's beautiful new ballad "I'm longing for one sight of you" and Harrington and Godfrey's delightful song "Won't there ever be any wedding bells for me?" the choruses of which are sung to the echo in every "house." Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. publish both numbers.

At the Oxford this week Miss Lily Eyton is eminently successful with Arthurs and Tate's tuneful number "If I could lock you in my heart," one of the best of the recent Feldman publications, and one which should undoubtedly enjoy an enviable vogue with seaside entertainers.

Mr. Jack Smiles has discovered a worthy successor to his other hits in his new comedy number "Fish Sauce," which he is singing (by permission of Mr. Chas. H. Whittle) at the Hippodrome, Willesden, this week. The talented "Jack" is a notable addition to the list of star comedians already singing Feldman songs.

Mark Sheridan continues to convulse his audiences all round his provincial tour with his quaint rendering of John A. Glover-Kind's funny song "I do like to be beside the seaside," and despite the vogue of this song in pantomime recently, the original singer is rewarded with plaudits loud and long for his interpretation. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have in "Seaside" one of the most popular items in their catalogue.

From the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, Mr. George Formby has this week written Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., speaking most enthusiastically of the manner in which the Mancurians have received his two songs, "Playing the game in the West" and "I put on my coat and went home," which have nightly been cheered to the echo by the huge throngs attracted to the hall by the presence of the popular comedian. Messrs. Feldman have other big songs of the same artist in the press.

At the Paragon this week Mr. Arthur Aldridge is repeating his London Pavilion and Canterbury success with his artistic rendering of "The garden of roses," in which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are confident they possess one of the potential ballad successes of the year.

Leonard Thel is scoring a big success at the Oxford and Canterbury this week in a new dame song by Gilbert Wells, entitled "The Manhater."

Florrie Gallimore produced at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, on Monday, a new song, entitled "Mary Green," by Tom Moy, which proved an enormous hit, and is undoubtedly one of the biggest numbers Miss Gallimore has had for some time.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

An original burlesque, *The Queen of Polaria*, the music of which was specially composed by Mr. Charles Norton, was produced at the Islington Empire last Monday. Strictly speaking, the little piece is more of a pantomime than a burlesque. It is very entertaining, well dressed, and briskly played by all concerned. We should have liked to have given a word of praise to each and every one of the principals, but the cast is omitted from the programme, and we regret our inability to compliment and name the principal boy and girl, both pretty girls who are as bright as it is possible to be. The Dame is a capital one, and his fun, whilst on broad lines, is always enjoyable. He makes up as a very fine woman—in every sense of the term. There is scarcely a story at all to *The Queen of Polaria*, but the thirty minutes allowed the turn is well filled in with tuneful numbers, lively dances, and good gags.

The Moxon Family contribute a good turn, their upside down sand-dance being especially good. Ben Albert has two good songs in "He's a wonder" and "So what's the good?" Ben at all times is a clever, tactful entertainer. *Pride of Regiment*, noticed in these columns last week, has a place in the Islington Empire bill, and is heartily received. The Szarvasi Ferenz Troupe of Hungarian singers, dancers, and acrobats, and the Zigeuner Quartette, with their refined musical entertainment, are a couple of foreign turns, whose ability the audience is more in love with than the jaw-fracturing names they sail under.

Fred Keeton is the comedian who's not supposed to know what he's about (vide programme). But Fred does. He knows how to make audiences put their hands together. Frank Harwood tells a good story about a burglar's visit to an old maid's bedroom. It is funny without being vulgar. Harry Thurston claims to be "the bad boy of the family," and he might have added "the blue one, too."

Kitty Upton, Maude May Murray, and Lyster and Cooke are very pleasing entertainers indeed. A most enjoyable programme, Mr. Adams.

The season at San Sebastian is now in full swing, the Casino filling rapidly, and the first of the Grand Concerts was a brilliant success on the 20th inst. M. Alvarez, the celebrated tenor of the Opera, Paris, has been engaged for a concert which takes place on April 3. Engagements are being arranged with other stars of the musical world.

A fair correspondent writes:—"I am given to understand that in a great many musical and operatic companies women choristers get paid five shillings a week less than the male chorister, in spite of the fact that both are called upon to do equal work and have the same hours of attendance. I should be glad if you or some of your readers could tell me more about this; also the reason, if any, for this different scale of payment."

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS MARIE JONES.

Born in London, this talented little lady commenced her professional career at the early age of nine, when she appeared under the banner of the late Mr. Andrew Melville, at the old Standard Theatre, Shoreditch. After this she was continually engaged either in the East or West for the whole category of children parts in the various dramas, &c., produced at that time. The work experienced in these early years proved of incalculable benefit to the young artist, and helped to give form and character to her impersonations.

After touring for some years in such dramas as *Lights o' London*, *Prodigal Daughter*, *Million of Money*, *Two Little Vagabonds*, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and some of the Melville woman dramas, Miss Jones conceived a desire for protean work, as presented by Mr. R. A. Roberts, and for the past six or seven years has been winning golden opinions, both in London and provincial vaudeville houses, as the most versatile protean actress of to-day. In her latest production, *Wanted, the Co-respondent*, a playlet of a highly humorous character, she essays a bigger range of

MISS MARIE JONES.

character than any lady has before attempted. In the male characters she appears as an office boy of fifteen and also as an old pensioner of seventy, to say nothing of the young and blushing curate, while her female characters range from the sturdy and defiant suffragette to the coaxing woman of the world. Each change of character and costume is completed in less than five seconds.

THE FOUR NETHERLANDS.

The Four Netherlands, who, by the way, are real sisters, started their professional career nine

FOUR SISTERS NETHERLAND.

years ago, their first engagement being in Manchester, with Mr. Richard Flanagan. Subsequently they were connected with *From Scotland Yard*, *McKenna's Flirtation*, *The Prodigal Parson*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* company of Mr. Arnold Bell, to whom they owe their first start in the music hall world. The Netherlands claim to have been the first in the field with a Dutch act with scenery, and made such a success that they were booked to star in America, where they toured for forty weeks. They are continually being invited to return to the States, but bookings on this side will not permit.

The latest act of the Netherlands, *The Shocking Tale of the Stockings*, is making a bigger success than was anticipated, and offers are being received from all parts of the world, France, Russia, Germany, Spain, and South America being a few of the places that are anxious for their services. The sisters write and produce all their scenas, and design and make all their stage dresses. They will shortly produce on an elaborate scale a new scena, in which a fifth sister will appear.

Mr. Percy Mayr, who contracted a cold and throat trouble at Openshaw last week, was unable to finish his engagement there. He has been compelled to relinquish immediate dates, and is at his home in Birkdale, Southport.

Last Thursday evening at the Alexandra Palace, Morley, both performances were set apart for the joint benefit of Messrs. Tom Diacoff, general-manager, and Arthur Izon, resident-manager. In addition to the capital company engaged, several special "turns" motored over from Leeds, Wakefield, Pontefract, and Dewsbury music halls, and two excellent programmes were provided to crowded audiences. The Palace is now very firmly established, and the utmost capacity of the hall is frequently taxed.

PAUL CINQUEVALLI.

AN APPRECIATION.

By One Who Knows Him.

"Now do I sit like a conjurer within my circle."—Beaumont and Fletcher.

The elegance and refinement of Cinquevalli are the first things the observant would notice and accurately appraise, then come his incomparable ease, lack of apparent effort, his quiet, subtle sense of pantomimic humour—his little bits of side-play are inferentially delicious. When he does some unexampled, miraculous feat of conjuring, he will give a half-glance at his attendant, rich enough in sly suggestion to make the fortune of a Criterion light comedian. Like every great artist, this many-sided gentleman makes an adjunct of thoroughness. His completeness, his perfection in everything he undertakes constitute his greatest professional attributes. His motto might appositely have been "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again," for his march of triumph through the wide world of entertainment is a magnificent object-lesson to those who aim at, but never

PAUL CINQUEVALLI.

touch, the bull's-eye he has pierced unerringly over and over again.

Cinquevalli's home life is as completely enviable as his professional environment. Graced by the presence of his clever and charming wife, he need well be content in the comfort and reposeful seclusion of his quiet Brixton residence. No easier or more desirable a host could the most exacting Bohemian imagine. Cinquevalli knows full well the true art of entertaining without ostentation. He can conjure delightful melodies from a piano; from his ever-ready active and fertile brain he can conjure anecdotes that would make a stoic laugh; he can conjure into your mouth the most fragrant cigar; he can conjure from his cellar the best of good wine. He can conjure you into the belief that you are the best of good fellows; he can conjure you into the conviction that life is worth fighting for. He can conjure up pleasant recollections, bright thoughts of the present, and sanguine anticipations. He can conjure you into the ardent desire to secure and maintain his good will, and he can conjure you into seeing such a lot of good and so little bad in this human Empire of Varieties.

It is by way of being a "bit of a teazer" to write anything absolutely fresh about Paul Cinquevalli, for has he not in his all-conquering tour of the hemispheres been talked and written of as much as a Royal traveller? and one would have to invent adjectives to properly describe the art, fascination, achievements, and unique personality of this most remarkable man. Cinquevalli speaks of his own work modestly but impressively thus:—

"I suppose it is popularly thought that I can master any one of my tricks in quite a brief space of time? No greater mistake could be made. Most of them I have laboured at for years. It took me two years, working over an hour every day on the average, before I was able to put the finishing stroke on that little trick of tossing a billiard ball in the air and catching it unfailingly in the pocket fastened on my back.

"For seven or eight years I practised the balancing two billiard balls on the end of a cue, and the cue, in turn, on a ball placed in a cup which I hold in my mouth. Once or twice I felt inclined to 'throw up the sponge,' but I have a nasty bull-dog-sort-of-way of setting my teeth and holding on to any trick I once lay hold of, so I stuck to my guns, and, like a good actor, I didn't mean to lose my cue, and, you see, I won through.

"While I was learning the way to catch the 48lb steel ball which I throw in the air and balance on my neck I had one or two narrow shaves. One fine morning the ball got tired of the job, and when I persisted in prolonging the rehearsal, it got nasty and finished up by knocking me senseless. I lay unconscious for over an hour. Did I cave in? Not a bit of it. I meant to show that ball that *I* was the master. It now recognises its inferiority, and a more docile ball you wouldn't wish to meet."

"CUPID'S ARMS."

A Musical Comedy Playlet, Produced at the Oxford on Saturday, March 12.

The Showman .....Mr. J. C. Piddock
The Lady .....Mr. Frank Danby

A thoroughly enjoyable sketch, well and briskly played by the two gentlemen concerned, *Cupid's Arms* last Saturday afternoon, on its presentation at the Oxford, got an excellent reception from a crowded matinée audience. Mr. Piddock, dressed as a showman of the type Dickens has endeared us to, arrives with his Punch and Judy show at a country village, and "pitches his camp" outside the local hostelry, yclept "Cupid's Arms." There, to quote the grandiloquent phrasing of the stroller, "dwells a maid beauteous to behold, with orbs of cerulean brightness, and a figure—ah, what a figure!—the immortal bard fails me for a simile." The "maid beauteous" is represented by Mr. Frank Danby—enough said. The showman, posing as the proprietor of the portable Theatre Royal, is not sparing of his blandishments on the "fair maid of the inn," and orders "threepennyworth of the best October." In due course the "fair maid" arrives with the ale, and the showman, not having the necessary money to pay for it, resorts to strategy. A most amusing five minutes ensues, the "tourist" doing all he can to gain possession of the "foaming beaker" and the "fair maid" being very firm as to the "threepence please," before she hands over the flagon to the thirsty one. At last the showman confesses that his funds are at low water mark and suggests "an account." But "Peachblossom" declines to do business on the lines suggested, and goes off with a very poor opinion of the theatre proprietor—and the beer. Left to himself the showman discourses anent the cruelty of fickle fortune, and taking off his "outer garment"—an overcoat that has admittedly seen better days—resolves to consign it to the care of an uncle whose coat-of-arms has "three brass globules" argent. But, alas! a callous relative will have none of it. "This is a pawnshop—not a ragshop," quoth he. In the absence of the showman the lady of the inn has been "reflecting and ruminating concerning the handsome stranger," and, luckily for him, has come to the conclusion that he is a baron in disguise, with probably castles in Spain or elsewhere. So when he returns she is quite in a mind to be made love to, and the stroller is quick to avail himself of the opportunity offered. He makes ardent advances to the ancient damsel—who has already been twice married, by the way—is accepted, and when we last see the happy pair they are locked in a fond embrace. Mr. Piddock has never done a better thing than this particular study of a type of showman—"lofty of soul and lofty of speech" in the most trying moments of his adversity. He is in excellent voice, and has two numbers to render which are extremely good. Never once does he allow interest to flag in his creation. Mr. Frank Danby is quite at home, too, with what is best described as a dame part. He works very briskly and dances well; but we could wish that some of his patter was missing. All in all, however, the partnership is a good one, and *Cupid's Arms* deserves pride of place in any bill. Mr. Albert E. Ellis has made a study of his subject, and in the main his dialogue is well written. Mr. Henry E. Pether's music is good, and two of the numbers are especially bright.

The dearth of good Sunday evening concerts, at which the finest orchestral works and the best possible singing can be heard, is, alas, only too marked. But Mr. Quinlan, Mr. Thomas Beecham's manager, has decided to inaugurate during the coming autumn season at Covent Garden a series of Sunday evening concerts, at which the Beecham orchestra and the artists engaged in the various operas will interpret programmes of first-class music.

The report issued by the Brighton Aquarium Committee to the Town Council shows that the recent musical festival resulted in a loss of £361 18s. 1d. The income amounted to £964 18s. 10d., and the expenses were £1,326 16s. 11d. While regretting that the financial result did not come up to expectations, the committee argue that the artistic success of the venture and the consequent advertisement of Brighton more than balance the deficit, and they will ask for authority to consider arrangements for holding another festival next January.

Miss Louisa Peach has been at Barnard's, Chatham, this week with her successful American episode, *The Settler's Daughter*, which has gone as well as ever. Next week she returns to Mr. Raymond's hall at Walthamstow, for the fifth time since November. She is appearing in a double bill, *A Night of Terror* (a costume dramatic episode) and her comedy sketch *Taming a Husband*.

FELDMAN'S
EASTER SONGS & SINGERS.

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*

THE GARDEN OF ROSES.

FRED BARNES *The Rising Star.*

I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*

PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE. *The Incomparable Comedienne.*

I AM LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*

NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES.
FOOLISH QUESTIONS.

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*

MOLLY O'MORGAN.
GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*

IN THE ARMY.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Empress R.S.C. Half-Mile Race.
THE members of the Empress Club decided a novices' half-mile handicap at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, last Tuesday. The result was a win for H. B. Cook, the captain, who, from scratch, in the final beat F. Saunders, also from scratch, with E. Thompson, 25 yards, third. Time, 1min. 50sec.

Crystal Palace Skaters.
STRIKING costumes were seen in the skating carnival at the Crystal Palace last Wednesday. The prize for the most correct British Empire national costume was won by Miss Child (Irish Colleen), the gentleman's prize being awarded to Mr. Sand (Indian Prince). Other effective costumes were those worn by Miss Easton (Purity), Mr. Norman Davies (Halley's Comet), Mr. Finn (Frog), and Miss Brown (Bottle of Champagne). The waltzing competition was won by Mr. and Mrs. Willcox.

Brixton Rink Injuncted.
As a result of the litigation against the Brixton Skating Rink, Limited, the company has been given until April 5 to make experiments for abating the noise. An injunction was granted on Thursday by Mr. Justice Eve, but suspended until the date named. His lordship said that the plaintiffs had made out their case in regard to Nos. 5 and 7, Josephine-avenue, that the reasonable use of the houses was interfered with by the noise of the skating rink. With regard to No. 9, he did not find that there had been shown the existence of an actionable nuisance. He granted an injunction, not against carrying on the business altogether, but against carrying it on so as to occasion a nuisance by noise to the owners of Nos. 5 and 7. Some reasonable time must elapse in order that experiments might be made to see how far the nuisance could be abated by alterations. Mr. Ingpen, K.C., for the company said his clients were prepared to spend a substantial sum on alterations.

Mile Handicap at Lava Rink.
LAST Tuesday the Lava S.C. held a mile handicap. Heat 1: Little, 45 yards, 1; Marston, 40, 2; Rainbott, 65, 3. Time, 3min. 51 3-5sec. Marston (fastest loser), 3min. 51 4-5sec. Heat 2: Bussey, 15, 1; Swain, scr., 2; Barker, 35, 3. Time, 3min. 53 2-5sec. Barker ran into Swain in the eleventh lap, both men coming down, Barker retiring. Heat 3: Casey, 20, 1; Watton, 65, 2; Marshall, 15, 3. In the final Casey retired in the fourth lap. In the twentieth lap, during an attempt by Bussey to take first place from Marston, both men came to the ground, Little falling over them.

Merrymaking at London's Oldest Rink.
LAST Thursday evening a carnival was held at Lava Rink, Denmark Hill, S.W., which was attended by over 800 people. Exhibitions of fancy skating were given by Leslie Brown, and fancy and trick skating by Master Sid Martin. The function was a sight worth seeing. The first prize was given for the costume worn by Mrs. B. Short, of Denmark Hill, "Queen of Egypt"; gentlemen's best, Mr. Beal, second. Ladies original, Miss Biggs. Gentlemen's original, Mr. Woodburn. Ladies' Irish costume, extra smart costume, Miss Night. Best advertisement was won by Miss Turner ("Dolly Dye"); best comic character, Mr. Williams. The judging was well carried out by Misses Jesse Sparrow, B. Chapman, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Stack, musical conductor, and Mr. Night. Several well-known expert skaters joined the merry party during the evening.

Five-shilling Carnival.
A CONFETTI carnival will be held at Cricklewood Rink next Monday. One of the prizes is for the lady who wears the best dress, costing 5s. or under in the making.

New London Rink.
A NEW rink is being built adjoining Hammersmith Metropolitan Railway station. The entrance will be opposite Hammersmith Town Hall.

Ilford v. Aldwych Team Race.
AN inter-team match between Ilford and Aldwych was decided at the Ilford Rink last Tuesday, the result being a draw of 20 points each. In the circumstances, a final was run off between the leading men of each team, and Aldwych won by 2 points.

Stanton Lifts Richardson Cup.
THE amateur roller figure-skating championship of Great Britain in the international style was held at Maida Vale Rink last Wednesday before a large attendance. The compulsory figures were held in the afternoon and the free skating in the evening. In the compulsory figures Mr. W. Stanton, of Lava and Devonshire Park F.S.A., scored highest points, 170, Mr. P. Ward, of N.S.A., being second with 127.5 points; Mr. D. Resta, of N.S.A., third, 120 points; Mr. M. Garcia, N.S.A., fourth, with 117.5 points; Miss J. Robertson, of Crystal Palace F.S.C., fifth, with 104.5 points. In the free skating Mr. Stanton kept his position, and won, but Mr. Ward was placed well down the list, the final result on the aggregate being as follows:—Mr. Stanton, 282 points; Mr. Resta, 210 points; Miss Robertson, 199 points; Mr. Garcia, 188.9 points; and Mr. Ward, 180.2 points. There were nine competitors, three ladies being amongst the number. At the conclusion Mr. Hayes Fisher presented the Richardson Challenge Cup to the winner.

M.P. Congratulates Stanton.
MR. STANTON gave a wonderful exhibition on the rollers, notwithstanding the fact that his duties as hon. secretary of the N.S.A. roller committee have prevented him from taking time to train. The next pair—D. Resta, the ex-cyclist, and Miss Robertson—gained their positions through a fine exhibition in the Free Skating. Resta, whose methods are modelled on those of Stanton, gave a good show throughout, but Miss Robertson started rather poorly in the compulsory figures. Had she put as much energy into them as into the Free Skating, she might have been a good second. P. Ward, who took second place on the school figures, gave a weak show in the evening session, displaying but little initiative. The lad, Leslie Brown, gave a wonderful show for his age (thirteen), but his strength did not carry him through the more difficult figures. Mr. Hayes Fisher, M.P., in referring to Mr. Stanton's victory, said that the N.S.A. might congratulate themselves upon the success of their first roller figure-skating championship, which had gone far towards showing the public the possibilities of roller skating. The high standard which the competitors had set up was very encouraging, and he was confident that this form of competition had come to stay. In Mr. Stanton, the first winner of the Richardson trophy, the N.S.A. had a most enthusiastic worker.

Five Miles N.S.A. Championship.
ATTENTION is drawn to the five miles champion ship race on March 30 at Maida Vale Rink. This is the first occasion upon which the National Skating Association have held a championship event at this distance, and in view of the fact that they have no authentic figures at any distance beyond one and a half miles, arrangements are being made to take the time of the leading competitor at intermediate distances in order that the times accomplished may be accepted as records. The time standard of 17min. 30sec., which was originally adopted, has now been considerably modified, and now stands at 18min. 15sec., and this should enable the majority of the best class men to secure the coveted certificate.

Child Skaters at Stamford.
DURING the last few evenings the notable feature at the fine skating rink at Stamford Hill, controlled by Mr. F. K. Albright, has been the wonderful skating of two young children. These mites (the boy is only five and the girl a year older) fly round the rink, their cleverness being amazing. The spectacle of these two children dancing on wheels like fairies in a palace of light (there are 500 lights hanging from the roof) has proved an immense attraction.

New Manager at Canadian Rink.
MR. L. G. PARRY has been appointed manager of the Canadian Rink, Tottenham.

Tottenham's Skating Carnival.
A "SURPRISE NIGHT" was held at the Canadian Skating Rink, Tottenham, to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Thursday evening, when a big crowd of wheelites turned up to enjoy the many good things the management provided. The rink was gaily decorated with multi-coloured flags, festoons, and lanterns, and presented a picturesque scene as the merry skaters rolled round. The "surprise" took shape in a pretty presentation to each skater, who received a silver-plated souvenir. Revelry, rendered the more enjoyable by the many beautiful and novel lighting effects provided, ran well on to midnight, when a thoroughly satisfied throng dispersed with a good opinion of Tottenham's Canadian Rink.

Professional Waltzing Competition.
A NOVELTY in the form of a professional waltzing competition will be held at the Wandsworth Skating Rink on April 6. A prize of £3 will be given for the best effort made.

Martine to be Bioscoped.
MARTINE, "the filleted marvel," who has been presenting his speciality at many of the rinks in London, has undertaken to perform his act for the British and Colonial Kinematograph Company for the purpose of reproduction on a film.

Anthropoid Ape Starts Gliding.
THE evolutions of the celebrated "Consul," the man monkey, on the roller rink at Beverley-road, Hull, have created the greatest interest. Consul, garbed in the silk hat of convention and dark suit, cut a droll figure as he went round, his little light-coloured covert coat-tails flying as he managed to balance himself on wheels. At first he was conducted round by his guardians, and then he was allowed on his own. The ape did not desire that his portrait should be taken, and he was as whimsical as a fashionable beauty. The little animal stamped his feet, and gave convincing proof that he is the possessor of a hasty temper. Mr. Tuttle now takes the oversight of the Hull rink.

Mammoth on Wheels.
A ROLLER-SKATING elephant has been introduced at the Paris Hippodrome by Mr. C. P. Crawford.

Bert meets Bruce.
AN interesting event took place in the Arcade Rink, Aberdeen, last week, when, in response to a challenge by the management on behalf of Master Bert, the champion boy roller-skater of Scotland, to forfeit £10 to any boy or youth who could emulate his performance, Master Bruce, a local boy, appeared in acceptance. There was a large crowd at the rink, and much interest was evinced in the contest. The boy champion appeared first and performed the spread-eagle, giant stride, Dutch rolls, and two-step movements, doing the evolutions backwards and forwards in each case. Master Bruce then endeavoured to go through the same movements, and although his was a really clever performance, there was no mistaking the superiority of Master Bert, who was acclaimed winner of the contest. Master Bert concluded his performance with a series of amazing cycling tricks while he was shod with roller-skates.

The Aberdeen Rink.
A MEETING of the creditors of the Aberdeen Skating Ring Co., Ltd., was held on the 14th inst., at the office of Mr. R. R. Daly, Liverpool, when Mr. Daly and Mr. Sands, solicitors, Aberdeen, were appointed co-liquidators.

Floor to be Relaid at Ayr.
THE management has decided to close this popular skating rendezvous on Saturday, April 2, in order to have the floor relaid and several other improvements made for the summer season. A confetti battle is to take place on the closing night.

30 per Cent. per Annum.
THE Olympia Skating Rink, Ltd., Peel-street, Barnsley, has just declared an interim dividend of 15 per cent., making 30 per cent. on the year's working.

Open Once More.
THE Borough Council of Croydon has at last granted a music and roller-skating licence to the American Roller Rink, adjoining East Croydon Station. The rink, it may be recalled, was closed by the local authorities for one week. It is now open again, and attracting even larger crowds than before.

Male "Beauty" Gets Chaffed.
BUSINESS at the Alexandra Rink, Derby, continues to roll merrily on, and the latest attraction—a ladies' and gentlemen's beauty election—drew a crowded house last week. The prizes were captured by Miss Gathers and Mr. Secretan respectively. Needless to say, the gentleman was subjected to a lot of good-natured chaffing.

An Irish Barn Dance.
THE new Barn Dance on Roller Skates, introduced by Mr. and Mrs. Anslow, professional skaters, at the Olympia Rink, is enjoying great popularity in the Dublin rinks.

Eastbourne Final.
ON Wednesday evening the final skating carnival of the season was given in the Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne. The maple floor will now be removed, and from Thursday, March 24, onwards the concerts and dramatic entertainments will be resumed. The outer lava rink is being relaid, and the balconies and refreshment rooms are being improved and extended.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.
GOOD business is being done at the West-End Roller Rink, Kelvin-grove. For the forthcoming fancy-dress carnival Manager H. S. Cameron is making the usual elaborate preparations, and with a large array of handsome prizes this function should reach the pinnacle of success in gatherings of a like nature. "Time cannot wither nor custom stale" the infinite charm of roller-skating as pursued at the American Roller Rink in Victoria-road. The energetic promoters of this rink are much gratified with the generous response which the public ever since the hall opened have made to their efforts. Another "Evening of Sports" is to be held at an early date. The King's Park Rink continues to be well patronised, and it seems as if rinking was more on the boom now than it was a year ago. The Govan Rink maintains its popularity. A "Chantecler" sports gala was held on Tuesday last. At the Ibrox establishment the management arranged a topsy-turvey evening last week, which was much appreciated by the visitors.

Allie Moore in Jersey.
THERE was a very large and enthusiastic attendance at the Olympia Rink, St. Helier's, Jersey, on Wednesday, when Allie Moore again delighted and thrilled his audience with his really smart and clever performance as a trick skater. Shortly before Allie Moore's "turn," a gentleman skater received somewhat serious injuries to his leg as a result of falling while skating round the rink in company with a lady. Temporary assistance was rendered the gentleman, after which he was conveyed to his home in New-street.

Monohan There, Too.
MR. G. S. MONOHAN, billed as the "Great Monohan," has arrived in Jersey also, and made his first appearance before local audiences at the Premier Rink this week. The attendances have been splendid. Though not "great" as far as physique is concerned, Monohan is great in ability. He is slim built, well proportioned, and remarkably graceful. Undoubtedly his drawing powers to the box-office are "great."

Events at Leicester.
The members of the Elite Club at the Empress Rink this week organised a fancy and evening dress carnival for the benefit of the Leicester Guild of the Crippled. Mr. A. E. Court, the manager, gave his assistance in furthering the laudable object, which was a splendid success from both a financial and social standpoint. At the Boulevard Rink, Mr. Ernest A. Holdsworth, the manager, continues to put forth inviting events. The competitions for the Noble Cup are taking place this week. At the Belgrave Rink Mr. L. H. Cockram has his usual enticing list of events, which include a ladies' hoop-trundling competition, a punting competition on the rink, a backward race (won by A. Burton), and a cycle and skating race between T. Moody and C. Burgess.

One Mile Race at Leicester.
As several of the entrants for the one mile race at Leicester have withdrawn their entries, the management of the Empress Skating Rink, Leicester, has declared the race void.

At Limerick and Waterford.
MR. EDWARD KIDD is managing-director of both the Limerick Rink and the Waterford Skating Palace. Both rinks are doing extremely well.

Northern Mile Championship.
THE preliminary heats in the Northern Counties one mile amateur speed championship will be decided at the Premier rink, Renshaw-street, Liverpool, on April 11 and 12; the Palace Rink, Old Trafford, Manchester, on April 13 and 14, and for the benefit of competitors from a distance, on the afternoon of April 16. The final will be decided at the Palace Rink, Manchester, on Saturday evening, April 16. Competitors may train on April 4 to 9, inclusive, between 6 and 6.30 p.m. Entries close March 29. The first, second, and third men in the final will respectively receive the Association's gold, silver, and bronze championship medals, and also certificates. Time certificates will also probably be awarded to unplaced competitors doing the distance in 3min. 30sec.

Coming Carnival at Mansfield.
THE fancy dress carnival which was such a success at the Mansfield Rink some weeks ago will be repeated on the 30th. The rink still finds a big place in public favour, and is having a most successful season.

Rinks in the Open.
ROLLER-SKATING in the streets by Newcastle children has become so popular by the juveniles that at a meeting of the City Corporation Town Moor and Parks Committee last week it was decided to ask the City Engineer to prepare a report regarding the provision of open-air rinks in the parks, together with an estimate of the cost.

Chantecler Hat at Penzance Carnival.
THE second fancy dress carnival and gymkhana took place at the Palace Rink on Friday, the 11th inst., and was highly successful, a very large attendance being recorded. Both instructor and floor manager (Mr. H. Willis) and instructress (Miss Rogers) gave exhibitions of fancy skating, and were ably assisted by Mr. E. Willis and Miss Fido from the Truro Rink. A Chantecler hat was noticed on the rink.

The New Porth Rink.
A SYNDICATE of local gentlemen has just opened a splendid rock maple roller skating rink at Porth. The accommodation consists of lounge-room, smoke-room, cloakrooms, and vestibule, and ring accommodation for nearly 600. There will be three sessions daily, and no extra charges. Instruction will be given free. The season was opened on Wednesday night last by a hockey match between Weston-super-Mare and Treorky.

Wheelbarrow Race at Stourbridge.
THURSDAY evening saw the usual crowd on the rink here. The weekly competitions always draw. Mr. Tim Rutland was the winner of the wheelbarrow race, which had to be skated off in six heats owing to the number of competitors. The manager, Mr. Wharton, is busy getting ready for his Easter carnival, which promises to be a very fine function.

New Rink at Watford.
THE New Palace Rink at Watford was opened last Thursday under the management of Mr T. M. Sylvester (for the Watford Palace Theatre and Skating Rink Co., Ltd.) by Mr. R. A. Thorpe, chairman of the Watford Urban District Council. The building adjoins the Palace Theatre, is of pleasing design, and has cost over £4,000. The first fancy-dress carnival is fixed for April 1.

N.S.A. at Yarmouth.
THE Easter Monday roller-skating races, which will take place at the Wellington Gardens, Yarmouth, under the auspices of the National Skating Association rules, promise to be attended with every success, which will be increased providing the weather is at all favourable—and it ought to be. However, there is plenty of time yet. The great three mile race, open to the whole of the Eastern Counties, for the twenty-guinea silver cup, is an event which ought to gain distinction all on its own.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR AGED JEWS.
A concert was given at the Home for Aged Jews, Nightingale-lane, on Sunday evening last. The arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. Lazarus and Harris, of the firm of H. Lazarus and Son, of Great Eastern-street. For three hours a feast of mirth and music was provided for the 130 old people at the Home, who were also regaled with refreshments during the interval by the kindness of Mr. H. Lazarus. The artists who contributed to the programme were Miss Beatrice Colman, who brilliantly played a pianoforte solo; Miss Victor gave a humorous recitation; a song entitled "Sympathy" was rendered with good effect by Miss Clara Jones; Miss Bessie Joel, a little lady in her teens, surprised everybody by the volume of tone she possesses in a soprano voice of exquisite quality; a musical comedy song, "Dresden China," was daintily sung by Miss Louie Belrose; while Miss Bessie Boncher warbled sweetly about the nightingale. Miss Rosie Lyons accompanied herself on the piano while singing "Sally in our Alley," and Miss Halliday played a pianoforte solo with telling effect. Other contributors to the programme were Mr. F. W. Pedgrift, baritone, who sang "Son of mine"; Mr. Bertie Friedman (tenor); Mr. Lea (comedian), who humorously described the trials he had with "that beastly eye-glass in my eye"; Mr. Reginald Thomas (baritone); Mr. Ronald Green (tenor); Messrs. J. G. Wolff and Probert, who sang duets; Mr. Joe Sparling (comedian), Mr. G. Beyfus (comedian); Mr. Harry Harris, who gave a turn entitled "Music at the Piano"; and Master and Miss Davis, who entertained with a very humorous dialogue. Mr. J. Halliday performed the arduous duties of accompanist incident on a very long programme, whilst Mr. Lionel Colman saw to the stage management. A number of Mr. Lazarus's friends were, by the courtesy of the superintendents, Mr. and Mrs Malin and Mrs. Levey, shown over this admirable institution, the gift of Lord Wandsworth. Every up-to-date arrangement which could possibly be conceived has been made for the comfort of the old people. The inmates and the visitors accorded a hearty vote of thanks to the givers of the entertainment, Messrs. H. Lazarus and Harris

MR. ALFRED BUTT, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Urban, joint inventor of "Kinemacolor," will exhibit for the first time on Monday next at the Palace Theatre, a most picturesque series of life-motion scenes lately photographed in the actual tints of Nature, and depicting Arab Life at Biskra, Algeria. Not without considerable difficulty have these films been taken, for the roving Moor, with "the eye and temper of a hawk," is not yet quite in touch with the bioscope. Nevertheless some splendid pictures of present-day features in the Barbary States include the Arab Market at Maison Carre, Bedouin Girls, Moorish Merchants, Scenes on the Road to Mustapha, and the Orange Harvest, full of life and colour, at Boujarik.

"THE MASK TORN OFF."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Ward Bailey and Edward Thane, Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, March 14.

Seaton Bennett ..... MR. EDWARD THANE
Frank Howard ..... MR. JOHN DENNYS
Adolphe ..... MR. STUART CLEVELAND
Sylvia ..... MISS HELENA MILLAIS

A strong, well-acted sketch that fulfils all the requirements of a music hall piece, *The Mask Torn Off* is winning the entire approval of audiences at the Empress this week. The situations are dramatic and well-knit, and the dialogue terse and neatly rounded. The part of a 'cute detective might be a little more plainly defined, but so much is compressed within the limits of half an hour that it is difficult to indicate where room could be made.

In pursuit of his investigations of a forgery case the police-officer takes service as a butler with Seaton Bennett, a reputed wealthy American, who with his wife is staying at Monaco. Bennett has been losing heavily at the gaming table, having thus squandered the whole fortune of his young wife, whom he had recently married. He has, moreover, forced her to encourage the attentions of a young Englishman named Frank Howard, who is competing with his motor-boat in the races in the Bay, in order that he might "fleece" him at cards. Sylvia, however, revolts at the idea of acting as a decoy, and reveals the scheme to Howard, telling him at the same time of her unhappy life. The young man protests his love for her, and his attempt to kiss her is only prevented by the entry of the husband. That gentleman contents himself with inviting Howard to return later and spend the evening at cards. Anxious to carry on his gambling at the Casino, Bennett demands from his wife the diamond necklace which she is wearing; but it is a gift from her mother, and Sylvia not only refuses to comply with his request, but denounces him as a thief and a liar, whereupon Bennett strikes her. The wife threatens to denounce her husband to the authorities, so Bennett induces her to drink a glass of wine, into which he has put a drug, which renders her partly unconscious. Meanwhile the detective has slipped into her hand a note from Howard offering to call for her with his motor-boat, and enclosing a match by means of which she could signal to him with a coloured light. Bennett finds the note, and determines to give the signal, intending to shoot Howard on his entry. He strikes the match, the syren of the boat is sounded, and a moment afterwards Howard bursts into the room, to be received with a revolver shot. Bennett's aim, however, has been faulty, and Howard escapes unhurt, the would-be murderer shooting himself.

Admirable acting made the success of the little piece assured, honours being won by every member of the cast. Miss Helena Millais acted artistically throughout the trying scenes as the young wife, her refinement and charm being enhanced by contrast with the brutal violence of the husband. That character was vividly portrayed by Mr. Edward Thane, who assumed a forbidding countenance, and acted with all the virulence required as the unscrupulous gambler, and if his Yankee twang was not quite convincing, his facial expression, in which low cunning, malignancy, and ferocity were in turn expressed, was undoubted. Mr. John Dennys also scored decisively as Frank Howard, making a typical young English gentleman, well-spoken, fresh, and debonnair. The cast was completed by Mr. Stuart Cleveland, who as the detective gave a neat sketch of a pretended Swiss butler, being chiefly responsible for some clever comedy introduced at the opening. The little piece was very favourably received, Miss Millais being twice recalled.

Another novelty of this week's bill is The Gainsborough Girl, in which the talented soprano Miss Dora Lind poses as the celebrated Duchess of Devonshire in a replica of the famous Gainsborough picture which was stolen and lost for twenty years. Within a massive gilt frame, brilliantly illuminated by myriad electric lights, Miss Lind sings "I have a silent sorrow," the music of which was written by the Duchess herself. The lights grow dim, and out of the darkness issues a gorgeous panorama of the Lakes of Killarney, amid which Balfe's immortal ballad is whistled by a couple of pretty Irish colleens in native attire. Again the scene is changed, and Miss Lind appears in classical garb to sing "The Holy City," the song being illustrated by pictorial representations of the Temple, with lights within and stars twinkling in the sky above, and of the entrance to the celestial regions, with angels flitting about the gates. Miss Lind has a cultivated voice, perfect in intonation, and her singing gave the utmost pleasure. She was awarded enthusiastic applause at the close, when she led on Mr. Richard Frank, who, though totally blind, directed the whole production.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert given by the pupils of the Royal College on Wednesday evening attracted a very large audience. Sir Charles V. Stanford conducted the orchestra, which was first heard in Dvorák's overture "In der Natur," a rather idyllic work of the Bohemian composer. A charming feature of Wednesday's concert was the delightful tarantelle of C. Saint-Saëns for flute, clarionet, and orchestra, played with admirable crispness and delicate finish by the soloists, Mr. Robert Murchie and Mr. Haydn Draper, who were warmly greeted by the audience. Mr. Thomas Peatfield in a really fine performance on the solo instrument in Beethoven's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major had many recalls; excellent, also, was the orchestral playing. Dvorák's scene "Where art thou, father, dear?" from *The Spectre's Bride* is trying music for the vocalist, but Miss Nora Moon sang it with no little intelligence, although at times somewhat embarrassed by the enthusiasm of the orchestral students. The last instrumental item in the programme was Schumann's C Major Symphony, ably played by the students, under Sir Charles Stanford's experienced direction

MISS DELLA RAY, who has been in the provinces for twenty weeks, making a success with her neat figure and catchy songs, returns to town at Easter, opening at Crouch End.

THE management of the Kilmarnock Palace Theatre wish us to make known the fact that they have no connection with the variety management in Kilmarnock which failed to pay salaries in full last week.

WALTZING.

PROFESSIONAL WALTZING COMPETITION
AT
Wandsworth Skating Rink,
APRIL 6, 1910, at 9 p.m. Prize £3 for Best Couple.
ENTRY FEE, 1/-

For further particulars, apply MANAGER.

MISS JESSIE DARLING

PREMIERE SKATEUSE
INTRODUCING
THE CLASSIC
IN
Roller Skating.

LATE SUCCESS AT
PARIS,
BERLIN,
HAMBURG,
HANOVER,
FRANKFORT,
PARIS.
For Vacant Dates—
ADDRESS c/o "THE ERA."

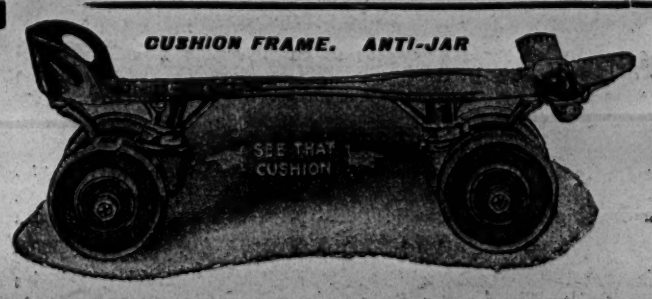

RICHARDSON SKATES are the BEST in the WORLD.

They have held ALL WORLD'S RECORDS for twenty-four years, and every event of importance during the past few years, either fast or fancy has been won on RICHARDSON SKATES, including Harley Davidson's victory at Olympia Rink, London, February 26th, 1909.

STATEMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED:

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co. positively equipped 80 per cent. of the Rinks operating in America. Sixty per cent. of the Rinks in this country operated by independent rink proprietors are equipped with Richardson Ball Bearing Skates.

Richardson Skates are the universal choice of, and used by, practically all the leading instructors, unless employed in rinks operated by other skate manufacturers. The Richardson is the most perfectly constructed Skate on the market. The front truck is under the ball of the foot, and the rear truck practically under the heel, which allows the skater to be over his work. This principle is acknowledged to be the best by the leading skaters of the world. Rear trucks extending back of heel only act as a leverage when skaters lose their balance.

The Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Factory have equipped more Independent Rinks than all other manufacturers combined.

The repairs of Richardson Skates are 50 per cent. less than those of any other make, and the simplicity of construction makes it an easy matter to effect repairs.

Manufacturers: Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Co., Chicago, U.S.A.

Sole Distributing Agents for Europe: J. O. PLIMPTON & CO., Limited, Plimpton's Buildings, 116, Old Hall Street, Liverpool (DEPT. B); 38 and 40, Curtain Road, London, E.C. (DEPT. B).

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

The Fight for Mitcham Fair.

The Vestry Hall, Mitcham, was crowded on Tuesday evening, March 14th, by the ratepayers. Under the Local Government Act a parish council is elected every three years to manage the town affairs. The members of this body are elected by show of hands in a parish meeting duly convened, only parochial electors being entitled to vote. Should there be more candidates than seats on the council, or should any nominated candidate be dissatisfied with the open vote at the parish meeting, a poll may be demanded, and then an election by ballot takes place in the usual way. That is the understood procedure for the election of a parish council. The election this year is of more than usual interest, for the electors are thoroughly roused and alert on the question of the Fair and its continuance for the people of Mitcham. There is bound to be a fight on this question alone. There are other questions of interest and pressing importance. These questions may divide public opinion, but on the people's right to retain their ancient charter Fair there is a magnificent and insistent volume of opinion and agreement that will, we trust, settle the question of abolition for generations to come.

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift a Candidate.

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, whose zeal and constant interest in all that concerns the people's amusement and recreation is well known, has been nominated as a parish councillor. He was approached by gentlemen who take a keen interest in preserving the people's Fair rights to accept nomination, and he consented. Although not a resident of Mitcham parish, he is a near neighbour, and resides well within the radius of three miles required by the Act of Parliament. Twenty-six candidates for the fifteen seats on the parish council have been duly nominated and a poll demanded. It now remains for the electors to rally to their own cause and to cast their votes for the candidates who will maintain the people's Fair for the people. The one dominant note at the parish meeting was the demand of the people to preserve their Fair rights and privileges. Every candidate was asked the all-absorbing question, "Are you in favour of keeping the Fair?" With but two exceptions (our correspondent writes) the answer was "Yes." Most of the candidates defined their position as being against abolition, but in favour of removal to a better site. The Showmen's Guild is also in favour of its removal to a better and more commodious site on the people's common. The Guild stands for the betterment and uplifting of the popular open-air amusements of the people, and will co-operate with the local authorities for that laudable object.

The Guild and the Election.

The manifesto of the Showmen's Guild on the people's Fair rights we published in our columns last week will be issued as a leaflet, and a copy will be placed in the hands of every elector. A committee room will be opened, and an active canvass of the electors will begin in a few days. Public meetings will be held in various parts of the parish, and the people's right to have and to hold their Fair will be fully advocated and vindicated, we trust, at the ballot box.

The Vicar and the Showmen.

As briefly chronicled in our last week's issue of *The Era*, a successful service took place in a show at Wisbech Fair. For the accommodation of the van-dwellers the front seats in the tent were reserved, and a good number of them attended the service. To the remainder of the building the public were admitted without tickets, and it was crowded to excess. The Town Band, under Mr. W. Hall, was early in attendance, and whilst the congregation was assembling they played several selections in first-class style, whilst during and after the service they rendered other selections, including the famous "Hallelujah Chorus," in a manner which drew forth the applause of those present. They also played the accompaniments to the hymns, all of which were sung with great heartiness. The vicar (the Rev. W. T. R. Crookham) conducted the service.

Speaking to those for whom that service was specially arranged, he said they had come into that town in order that they might provide something in the form of what might be said to be wholesome amusement and pleasure for those who came to the Mart at Wisbech. What if they brought something there which would leave behind it a disagreeable recollection, which would do serious harm to the minds of some who came to see it? Would that be a good or a bad influence? There was nothing of that sort in the Mart so far as he could learn, and the influence of the Mart would not be a bad one. They would not, he was sure, bring anything there that they were ashamed to have in their midst by reason of the fact that they knew it would have a bad influence and because he believed they were too fair and upright men to do anything of the kind. After the hymn "O God, our help in ages past," had been sung, the vicar said he wished to say how grateful they all were to Messrs. Tuby and Sons for their kindness in lending them that tent for the service and for providing them with the lights and in every way answering their requirements so well. It was extremely good of them to do that, to say nothing of the expense they went to in providing the lights and giving them all the assistance they required. He also wished to say how grateful he was personally, and on behalf of the committee who had arranged that service, to Mr. Tuby for the kind assistance he had given them. The service closed with the hymn "Stand up, stand up for Jesus," and further selections by the band. The collection amounted to £3 1s. 4d., and this was divided as follows:—Gratuity to the Town Band and payments for labour, £1 11s.; to the Van-Dwellers' Association, £1 10s. 4d. It is estimated that the congregation numbered between 800 and 1,000, and of the tickets for the reserved seats distributed amongst the van-dwellers nearly all were given up at the doors. The members of the committee who arranged the service visited and left tickets at every one of the van residences.

The Generosity of Showmen.

The Wisbech Press is singing the praises of the showmen at the annual Spring Fair or Mart. The object of the showmen's ready sympathy and charity was the family of the unfortunate chauffeur—the young man killed in the terrible motor accident at the railway crossing some few days ago. The annual pleasure fair being in the town, it was thought that the Mart people would probably like to contribute in some way to the fund. They were approached, and immediately the principal proprietors exhibited a sympathetic spirit, with the result that they decided to give all their takings—not even deducting working expenses—between the hours of three o'clock and five o'clock the other afternoon towards lightening the burden of Mrs. Palmer, the widow of the unfortunate chauffeur.

The total of £59 2s. 4½d., taken either in tickets or cash, was comprised as follows:—Messrs. Chas. Thurston and Son, Market Place show (where pictures of the scene of the accident, the late Mr. A. S. Palmer, the widow and family,, and animated pictures of the funerals of the two victims of the disaster were shown), £16 0s. 6d.; cars on Market Place, £9 18s. 5d.; cars in the Old Market, £5 14s. 1d.; total, £31 13s. Messrs. Tuby and Sons' show, £9 11s. 1d.; Teddy Bear show, £2 2s. 2d.; total, £11 13s. 3d. Messrs. Farrar and Tyler, cars, £3 10s. 9d.; show, £2 7s. 5d. Messrs. Wallace and Agnew, show, £5 10s. Messrs. P. Collins and Son, cake-walk, £2 16s. 9d.; haunted castle, £1 1s. Mr. Bolesworth, cycles, 19s. 4½d. The following local gentlemen kindly assisted at local shows and sets of roundabouts:—Messrs. Thurstons' Market Place show: Messrs. M. Le Pla, A Flint, A. P. Whitehead, J. Radford, H. Brown, J. E. Bellamy, and F. J. Holmes. Messrs. Tuby's show: Messrs. R. Thomas, Herbert Yates, P. M. Q. Tosney, W. Davey, A. Blackman, F. Callow, and A. Carter. Messrs. Thurston's Market Place cars: Messrs. E. Markillie and C. Walton. Messrs. Thurston's Old Market cars: Messrs. F. Brown and F. Britliff. Messrs. Collins' cake-walk: Mr. J. W. Kirk. Messrs. Collins' haunted castle: Mr. A. S. Stanford. Messrs. Tuby's Teddy Bear show: Messrs. H. R. Jeffree and L. Wilson. The other shows, &c., were managed by their own people. After five o'clock all the money was taken to the Mayor's parlour at the Town Hall and counted. The Mayor and several of the above gentlemen were present, and Mr. W. H. Coulam, who is acting as treasurer, also attended.

Notes from Yorkshire.

At Halifax for the spring feast are Waddington's motors, racing cockerels, and steam yachts; Johnson's bikes; Hale's mystic swing; and Radcliffe and Jameson's shooting ranges. Throwing games, hoop-la circles, and stalls, in great variety, provided by Messrs. Turner, Redfern, Jameson, Daley, Illingworth, Johnson, Watson, Marks, Hughes, Cooper, and Morley.

Corwen Pleasure Fair.

P. Collins and Son provided the principal attractions at this Welsh Hiring Fair. The racing motor cars, the twin ships in the air, and the electric jumping horses were exhibited by the Walsall firm. The other amusements and novelties were Wright's shooting ranges, Birch's houplas and coker shies, and Jones, Birch, and other caterers with minor attractions.

Fossett's Circus on Tour.

This fine circus is on the Midland Circuit and doing excellent tenting business. On March 15th it was pitched at Astwood Bank, and at Redditch the previous day. Show first class and attendance good.

Cleckheaton Spring Feast.

Here were W. H. Marshall and Son's palace of delight with up-to-date pictures, and the same firm's machines, the racing motors and gem horses; Harniess's galloping horses; Burgin's steam swing and highfliers; Gledstone's toy and fancy bazaar; Bean's arts and crafts show; Holdsworth's shooting range; Bassett and Holdsworth's pannum stalls; Blake's park swings; and houp-las and throwing games by Messrs. Joy, Blake, Rhodes, Middlebrook, Crowther, Mitchell, Brook Bros., Bassett, and Towers.

Death of a Well-known Showman.

Few men were better known or more highly esteemed on the Midland circuit of Fairs than William Davies, roundabout proprietor, of Stoke-on-Trent. We regret to say that we have just received news of his death. We hope to give more particulars of the sad event in our next issue. We are quite certain that the heart of Showland will go out in sympathy to the bereaved family.

Notes from Lancashire.

Owing to the increase of tolls insisted upon by the Bury Corporation, the Federated Societies of Lancashire Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, and Stallholders refused to attend the Fair. Every effort was made by the allied societies to effect a compromise, but without avail, the Corporation remaining obdurate. Under the circumstances, the tenants that would have attended the fair had reasonable conditions been secured opened a fair at Radcliffe, only a penny tram ride from the centre of Bury. This was a most effective and successful demonstration against the exorbitant tolls demanded by the Bury Corporation.

Stockport Spring Fair.

Owing to the shortage of the cotton crop, the mills of the district are working short time, and *spending brass*, as the "Lanky folk" term it, is scarce. However, the showmen, with their usual optimism, attended the fair, and made merriment for the people. The fair, under the able direction of Mr. T. Hurst, acting for the Roundabout Proprietors' Union, was packed with all the best and most attractive fair-ground novelties, shows, roundabouts, and the *olla podrida* of a well-ordered fair.

The Joy Wheels Amusement Novelty.

Yet another American device for exhilarating thrills is being placed on the market. The makers advertise their invention in our columns this week.

Mr. Fred J. Connor commences a season with his circus company at the Alexandra Palace on Easter Monday.

Those clever young equestrians, Mona and Douglas Connor, have been engaged by Mr. Geo. H. Harrop for his season at the Tower Circus, Blackpool, and open there next Thursday, March 24.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

Letters await Anderton and Rowland, W. Haggar, and W. Biddall a *The Era* Office.

Smethwick's New Picture Palace.

Plans are being prepared for a new Electric Empire in Smethwick. It is to be a permanent structure to accommodate 1,500 people. The proprietors are Messrs. Kennedy and Adams. Mr. Kennedy is well known in connection with the King's Hall and Queen's Hall, Birmingham.

Six New Theatres for the Potteries.

It will be of interest to the public of the Potteries and district to learn that complete arrangements have been made by the London Cinematograph Company, of 20, Bedford-street, W.C., for the building of a series of cinematograph theatres throughout the district. The old Theatre Royal, Newcastle, has been taken, and building operations have begun. It is intended to rebuild the theatre and convert it into a handsome new building. At Longton a site has been taken adjoining Messrs. Hughes and Harber's printing works in Market-street, and the plans have been passed by the Council. A site has been selected in the centre of Hanley and also Stoke. At Burslem an exceptionally good site has been secured in Waterloo-road on land formerly occupied by Messrs. Mellor, Taylor, and Co.'s factory, and adjoining the new skating rink in course of erection there. At Tunstall a valuable corner site at the junction of High-street and Brewery-street has been obtained, and the plans for the theatre have already been passed by the Tunstall Council. All the Theatres are being built after the manner of the theatres already built up and down the country by the London Cinematograph Co., and its allied company, the Electric Theatres, Ltd., and they will be luxuriously furnished with tip-up chairs and every comfort.

Ever up to date, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Co. are showing some of the latest films at the Empress, Hartlepool. The Sins of the Fathers is the principal film, and calls forth much praise. The Last Deal and The Adventuress are also capital pictures that are followed with keen interest. An educational subject of exceptional merit is The London Zoo. There are a host of humorous subjects, prominent amongst which are Setting Back the Hands of Time, a clever trick picture, and Three to Choose From.

THE MOVABLE DWELLINGS BILL (1910).

At the close of the Parliamentary Session of 1909 the Select Committee of the House of Lords, to whom the Movable Dwellings Bill had been referred, reported as follows: "That the Committee had met, and examined numerous witnesses. They have been unable, owing to the short time at their disposal, to complete their inquiry during the present Session. They therefore recommend that the Bill should be re-introduced, and that they should be reappointed during the next Session of Parliament. The Committee have directed that the minutes of evidence and proceeding, with an appendix, be laid before your Lordships.—Oct. 14, 1909."

The report was issued as a Parliamentary paper to the general public, and it constitutes an extremely valuable record of official opinion largely in favour of the show van-dwellers' claim for full exemption from the proposed legislation. We referred to the publication of this Blue Book at the time, and through the Guild a considerable number of reports were put in circulation. It will therefore be no surprise to those who have followed the controversy from its commencement to hear that Lord Clifford of Chudleigh (as a matter of course) has formally introduced the Bill, and has moved its re-committal to the same committee that dealt with it in the previous Sessions of Parliament.

The members of the committee are as follows:—The Duke of Northumberland, the Marquis of Salisbury, Earl Russell, the Earl of Liverpool, Lord Zouche of Haryngworth, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, and Lord Farrer.

It will be now (as upon previous occasions) the duty of the Guild executive officials to attend the meetings of this committee and to tender all further evidence that may be required. It may be taken for granted, after the exhaustive examination of the evidence tendered by the Guild Chaplain last Session, that the committee will only need, should occasion arise, information upon doubtful points, or rebutting evidence against adverse witnesses who may make charges against show-life.

These matters, of course, will be dealt with as they arise, and we await the final conclusions of the committee, with full confidence that justice will be done to the show van-dweller.

Arising out of the investigation and the careful sifting of official evidence which has marked the deliberations of this important committee, we further anticipate that great good will accrue to the trade defence movement so ably carried on by the Showmen's Guild.

Here, again, we emphasise the necessity and value of organisation. It is still necessary for showmen to keep their Trade Defence Society in effective working order, to meet all emergencies as they occur, and to be ready at all times to defend the interests of the industry of the fair-ground.

This is not only true of Parliamentary defence work, but it is equally true of all the other branches of Guild endeavour.

SHOWMEN'S SERVICE.

UNIQUE GATHERING AT CLYDACH PARISH CHURCH.

Unique amongst church services—at all events so far as the Parish Church of Clydach is concerned—was a special in memoriam service held at that pretty little church hard by the silent highway of the Tawe on Sunday, March 6. The service came about in this way.

A few days over a month ago Mr. Billie Boswell, of the showmen fraternity, had the misfortune to lose his good wife, she having before her marriage been Miss Gertie Roberts, daughter of Mr. George Roberts, of Mountain Ash. She died at Morriston, but was buried in the peaceful little God's acre at the Parish Church of Clydach, the interior beauties of which have already been enriched by a showman's gift.

It so happens that the Vicar of Clydach (the Rev. T. Morris) is an ardent friend of the "great travelling fraternity," from whom he has received and to whom he has imparted many little kindnesses, and the rev. gentleman suggested at the time that a memorial service in her memory should be held at the church on the Sunday evening previous to the Clydach Fair Week.

So happy a suggestion was enthusiastically taken up by Mr. H. Studt and other well-known members of the "brotherhood on wheels," the news spread, and as a result old friends and companions of the bereaved husband flocked to the special 3.30 service at the church on Sunday afternoon, March 6. The service was rendered all the more interesting and in keeping by the fact that the Church Band made its first public appearance, marching from the schoolroom to the church, and accompanying the hymns with a fine swing.

The church was crowded, and it was found necessary to import extra seating accommodation. The rev. gentleman preached from the well-known text, "Remember Lot's Wife," and delivered a very eloquent and impressive discourse.

Amongst many present were Mr. and Mrs. David Boswell, Mr. H. Studt and Mr. Juson (Swansea), Mr. and Mrs. H. Studt, jun., the Misses Ethel and Beattie Roberts (Mountain Ash), Mr. W. Boswell, the Misses Louisa, Ellen, and Sallie Boswell, Masters Freddie and David Boswell, Mrs Edith Buss (Llangyfelach), Miss Day, Miss Beattie Mathias, Mr. and Mrs. Sims, Miss M. Sims, Mr. J. Chadwick and Masters J. and A. Chadwick, Mr. Thos. Hill, and Mr. AM. North with Masters Freddy and Johnny Hill (Llangyfelach), Mr. and Mrs. Odley and the Misses Liddy and Ruth Odley and Master Odley, Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, the Misses M. A. and B. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. J. North, jun., and Master P. North, Mr. T. Oxford, Miss F. Clarke, the Misses Lizzie and Flora Blower (Aberavon), Master Teddy Day, Miss Carrie Chadwick, Mr. and Mrs. Parry and family, and many others.—From the *Cambrian Leader*, March 7.

New Halifax Enterprise.

Halifax is promised another place of amusement in the very near future. This is to take the form of an electric theatre, at which cinematograph exhibitions of the highest order are to be given. The promoters are the Electric Theatres, Limited, similar to the one it is proposed to erect in Halifax, in London and the suburbs. They have also erected theatres in South Africa, notably at Cape Town and Durban, and have now on foot a comprehensive scheme for the provinces. Messrs. Richard Horsfall and Son, the well-known local firm of architects, have been commissioned to prepare plans for the adaptation of the old Riding School, at the corner of Commercial-street and St John's-lane, near Ward's End, into a smart and up-to-date theatre. The old Riding School has had a chequered career, and for the last few years has been idle. It ceased to exist for the original purpose for which it was erected many years ago, and since has been used as a circus, theatre store, and by the military authorities. The stone walls, except where it is necessary to restore, will be left standing, but the roof will be entirely swept away, and the gable ends re-built. The main entrance will be in Commercial-street, at the Horton-street end of the building. This entrance will be of a taking appearance of cream marco, with glass canopy projecting out over the footway. The floor is to be built on the slope, so that the screen will be in easy view of everyone present. Comfortable tip-up chairs will be provided.

"Cinematograph Bill, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE SUNDAY CINEMATOGRAPH QUESTION.

There is no better means than hearty conviviality of bringing men of business to a thoroughly satisfactory understanding; and the importance of the three great societies interested in Cinematograph Defence standing shoulder to shoulder is so great that the success of the dinner, to which over two hundred sat down at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday evening, is very gratifying to all who have the interests of this immense industry at heart. The dinner was a great success. Good-fellowship and hearty enjoyment prevailed, and the prosperity of the cinematograph business seemed to radiate from the beaming faces of the guests. The fact that the three societies had secured for their chairman such a celebrated writer and excellent speaker as Mr. G. R. Sims greatly contributed to the result achieved. Almost all those prominent and powerful in the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association, the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society, Limited, and the Cinematograph Defence League, Limited, were present, the list including Colonel F. W. Bosworth (chairman of the Automobile Association), Messrs. W. H. Broughton (chairman of the Cinematograph Defence League), H. A. Browne (chairman of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association), F. R. Griffiths (chairman of the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society), J. Brandon (London County Council), J. Salmon (London County Council), A. C. Bromhead, W. M. Borradaile, E. H. Bishop, Lacey Brown, D. Beck, H. R. Bishop, F. E. Butcher, P. H. Boekbinder, W. G. Barker, J. C. Bostock, J. Cabourn, G. H. Cricks, S. H. Carter, Cayley Calvert, T. Clegg, J. M. Downie, G. Edwards, G. W. Grant, T. H. Grant, E. H. Houghton, A. E. Hubsch, W. Haggar, A. Hunter, E. T. Heron, E. Hazell, H. B. Hermann, G. Henderson, C. M. Hepworth, E. Howard, W. Hancock, W. Jeapes, W. F. Jury, W. Kemp, Landemann, C. W. Lovesey, E. Mayes, Martin, G. F. Neall, J. E. Park, Ralph Pringle, E. L. Pyke, G. A. S. Porter, E. Reed, G. F. Ruffell, J. R. Robarts, T. H. Roberts, the Marquis Serra, E. Savage, H. Sedger, E. Schofield, J. C. Squier, G. Smith, P. E. Stow, J. W. Smith, Heyford Smith, H. A. Spoor, G. H. Turner, W. R. Wilkinson, H. H. Wrench, F. W. Wood, J. D. Walker, H. Woodford, and J. Wood, together with the popular and energetic hon. secretaries, Messrs. J. Brooke-Wilkinson and H. E. W. Poole.

The Chairman, having proposed the toast of "The King," "who," said Mr. Sims, "was thoroughly in sympathy with the amusements of the people," and the toast having been drunk with enthusiasm,

Mr. Geo. R. Sims proposed the toast of "The Trade." He said he was afraid he would not be able to do justice to the toast, owing to the presence of gentlemen connected with the trade who could speak from inside knowledge. He would therefore confine himself to the importance of the industry in which the company were engaged. He was not too young to remember some points in connection with the great industry. In the past it had been his duty to go from an office in the City to a bank in Old Broad-street, and it used to be his delight to look in the windows of the London Stereoscopic Company, where he saw a little machine called the Zoetrope, and it struck him the other day as being almost the beginning of the moving picture industry, which to-day instructs, entertains, and educates civilised people all over the earth. He did not think there could be more magnificent testimony to the increased affection in which the moving picture was held by the British public than that most representative gathering assembled there that night. Someone had asked him to speak on the Sunday question. That was a burning question, but they could not make it a non-inflammable one like some of the films. It was a question for wise counsel, and he had not the slightest doubt but that a fair and just judgment which would satisfy everyone would be ultimately arrived at. He was one of those who believed that there was a marvellous and brilliant future for the cinematograph. He believed that at present they were only exploring the shores of the golden land, in the very heart of which they would hoist their flag if they would only go on with the right and conquer. There was a great commercial future for the picture show, a great artistic future and a great educational future. Every possibility was theirs. They could hold the public with a story, a tragedy, and wholesome hearty laughter. They could take the public with them to far-off lands to which they had not the time nor the money to travel; they could portray events of the day as they happened, and be the living chronicle of the times they lived in. "Go on," he said, "make your fortunes, and bank them wisely." He advised them to be always zealous for the honour of the business and the industry which they represented; to be vigilant for its dignity and also for the glory and the renown of the entertainment which he believed was going to play a vast part in the educational civilising of the people. On May 18 next they were to pass through the tail of Halley's Comet without suffering in the slightest, and he believed they would also pass through the tail of the Cinematograph Act with the minimum amount of suffering.

Mr. H. A. Browne, chairman of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association, in responding to the toast, said he represented the men who made the films and helped the showmen to get their living. When he consulted Mr. Broughton about the dinner he was received with open arms, and he was very glad indeed to see such a representative gathering. He hoped next year the "Holborn" would not be big enough to hold them. They were all met in hearty fellowship that night, and they all knew now that they were not intent on doing one another harm. The chairman had said that they would be able to go through the tail of Halley's Comet safely, but he would rather they passed through the body of it than endeavour to pass through some of the local licensing bodies. He looked back on this year and saw that he had done a little good. All sections of the industry had been brought together in a better state of feeling towards one another, and he wished to thank Mr. Broughton and Mr. Griffiths for the way in which they had co-operated in bringing about that result.

Mr. F. R. Griffiths, chairman of the K.T.P.S., referred to the last dinner, at which forty-six, he believed, were present, and he knew them all. Now he knew about two-thirds of them. There were so many sections of the Trade now that it was difficult to divide them up. His own society had been about a year in operation and he believed it had done good work.

Mr. W. H. Broughton, chairman of the Cinematograph Defence League, said he was proud of the meeting that night. It was owing to Mr. Ogden Smith that the Defence League existed, because he promptly called a meeting, which he advertised in the Press, and called the showmen together. They had reached a crisis, and cohesion was absolutely necessary to their interests. There was not a person interested in the Trade who would not have suffered by reason of the regulations, and they would have suffered considerably more had the League not been in existence. They had now got the Home Office regulations drastically altered, but the difficulty they had to contend with now was the interpretation put upon them by the local authorities. They were glad to have the co-operation of manufacturers, who had helped them in every possible way, and he was pleased to say that they had subscribed 100 guineas to their funds. It was a great thing to have the whole of the business together, and in this respect their thanks were also due to Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Jury, and Mr. Squier. Mr. Brandon, of the London County Council, who was present, had been Vice-Chairman of the Theatres and Music-halls Committee of the Council, and had worked hard on behalf of the cinematograph industry. Mr. Brandon had always assisted the League when they went to the County Council, and they owed him their gratitude for his assistance. With regard to Sunday opening, what they wanted was that there should be no differentiation, and if other places were closed on Sunday then picture theatres might also be closed. They would fight as long as there was any possibility of winning, and the League would be in the front rank of the fighters.

Mr. G. W. Grant, in proposing "Our Guests," said the cinematograph industry had passed from childhood to manhood, and was taking its place amongst the most useful industries of the world. He welcomed those outside the Trade who were their guests that evening, and he had pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Colonel F. W. Bosworth, the chairman of the Automobile Association.

Colonel Bosworth, in reply, thanked those assembled for permitting him to share their hospitality. He considered that picture shows were doing good work in providing amusement and education for countless millions of people, and therefore deserved to be supported. He understood that the reunion of all branches of the trade was to be an annual event, and he offered his good wishes for its success.

Mr. E. H. Bishop proposed the toast of "The Press," to which Mr. E. T. Heron and Mr. Archibald Hunter responded.

The health of "The Chairman" was then proposed by Mr. H. A. Browne, and was drunk with musical honours.

Mr. G. R. Sims suitably replied, and the proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem. In the course of the evening a photograph of the guests was taken, and an agreeable musical entertainment, arranged by Mr. Sidney Gandy, was provided by Miss Edith Blanchard, Mr. Randell Jackson, Mr. Archie Naish, and Mr. Gandy. Mr. Cyril Weller was the pianist.

The Royal Canadian Pictures still continue to do good business at the Temperance Hall, Barnsley. The hall is now complete, and includes a new gallery with tip-up chairs. On Sunday last the management gave a benefit for the Children's Ward of the local hospital.

To meet the requirements of the local magistrates, additional exits have been provided at the Winter Hall, Worthing, but the work has not in any way interfered with performances, during which several excellent films have been shown to appreciative audiences.

From Cabin Boy to King is a very interesting film shown this week at the King's, Hanley. Leather Stockings; or, the Last of the Mohicans, is thrilling with excitement; The Witch of the Glen, The Box Trick, Hypnotic Influence, and A Servant's Exaggerations are also much enjoyed. Barnaby Rudge, in splendid songs, and smartly dressed, makes a big hit.

A splendid film, Love and Treason, depicting scenes from M. Leroy's novel, is the chief item at the Electric Theatre, Wolverhampton. The programme also includes The Malmer Isles, Diana of the Mill, Golf Mania, Prison in Preference to Starvation, Hats, The Servants' Master, and Duty and Conscience.

The programme at the Palace Theatre, Cork, is full of good things. Herbert Clifton, vocalist, has some very clever theatrical impersonations, for which he gains much applause; the Pichel Troupe supply risley and acrobatic acts of a clever and daring description; David O'Leary, step-dancer, contributes some excellent dances; the Sisters Casselli, duettists and dancers, render catchy numbers and supply graceful dances; Almon contributes balancing and jumping turns on his hands; Marjorie Ward, vocalist, sings attractive songs; and Stanhope Gordon, comedian and dancer, also contributes a capital turn.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE FIRST SITE IN THE COUNTRY.

TO OUTSIDE AMUSEMENT CATERERS AND OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

TAKE NOTICE that the Buildings and Marine Park, known as the KURSAAL, SOUTHEND, have been taken over by a Company known as

THE LUNA PARK & PALACE OF AMUSEMENTS, SOUTHEND, Ltd.,

and it is proposed to lay out the grounds as an American Fun Park, and already some of the finest and most successful amusement devices in the world have been arranged for. There are still a few Vacant Plots TO LET for

SIDE-SHOWS AND NOVELTIES,

and the Management will be pleased to have applications for same.

The Management have secured, at enormous expense, the housing of the Airship which will attempt a flight from New York to England during August of this year. The Airship will ascend at Southend prior to its attempt to cross the ocean.

Southend is the nearest Seaport to London.

Splendid Railway and Steamboat facilities. The Site and Travelling facilities make a Show, but a Show can't make a Site.

Apply, T. HILTON, KURSAAL, SOUTHEND.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH ACT.

Harsh Interpretation of their Powers by the West Ham Corporation.

Unfortunately, there have been several instances of the harsh administration of the Cinematograph Act by public bodies in various parts of the United Kingdom.

Evidence of these hard cases for individual showmen is being carefully collected by the executive officials of the Showmen's Guild.

It is obvious that the grievances of travelling showmen under the unreasonable local conditions imposed by certain Corporations will have to be brought to the notice of the Home Secretary. It was never intended that an Act of Parliament passed to secure the safety of the public should be turned into an instrument of oppression and persecution, and in the glaring instance we are now dealing with of total prohibition of travelling shows.

West Ham Refuses to Licence Travelling Shows.

This extreme course is obtained by interpreting the Act as giving them powers to impose the same conditions with regard to seating accommodation upon show booths as they impose upon permanent picture palaces.

If the Act gives Corporations this power of refusing to recognise the essential differences between the three kinds of exhibition buildings or structures specifically referred to in the Statutory Regulations under the Act issued by the Home Secretary, then undoubtedly it will be necessary to approach Parliament with an amended Act at the earliest possible moment.

Fortunately, the Showmen's Guild obtained at the last moment a valuable exemption clause, which made the local conditions subject to the regulations which may from time to time be issued to meet difficulties in the administration of the Act.

In the instance we are now considering the Corporation of West Ham refuses to recognise that its local conditions are in any way subject to the exemption clause, and for all practical purposes demands the same structural conditions and the same seating accommodation in a show booth as they demand in permanent buildings.

With brutal frankness one member of the Corporation said "that they did not want travelling shows in the Borough of West Ham; what they wanted was permanent buildings."

Some Details of the Controversy.

Messrs. Alf. Ball and Son, with their beautiful portable picture palace, the New Lyceum, went into winter quarters towards the end of December last year. In due course the proprietors applied to the Borough of West Ham, as the licensing authority under the Act, for a licence as a travelling show. All the conditions imposed by the Act of Parliament were complied with—the fireproof box, an adequate number of exits, and the electric lighting—to the satisfaction of the inspecting officials of the Corporation. A delay arose owing to the Sunday opening controversy, in which the proprietors, like many other showmen, were interested; for the Corporation of West Ham, like the London County Council, took several weeks to consider the point whether they should allow cinematograph shows to be opened or not on a Sunday.

Upon this point alone the issue of the licence was delayed. The Council ultimately decided—as London did—only to issue a six days' licence, and not to allow Sunday shows.

In the meantime the Corporation formulated a series of "Local Conditions," in addition to the requirements of the Statutory Regulations issued by the Secretary of State. These conditions were sanctioned on March 8, and sent out to Mr. Ball on the 10th with an intimation that if he would comply with all their requirements his application for a licence would be considered on the 15th at the meeting of the Licensing Committee.

The conditions laid down included: "That complete plans and sections of the buildings in duplicate drawn on tracing cloth, from scale of one inch to every eight feet, and by block plans, also in duplicate, showing the position of the building in relation to the adjoining lands and premises and to the street."

Here let us remark upon the absurdity of such a demand with regard to a travelling show. It would require a travelling architect with each exhibition, before the show dare remove to another town, going on in advance and taking sketches and drawing plans at a scale of one inch to every eight feet, and submitting such plans before the show could be built up.

Another condition was: "That no shouting, noise, or music produced by mechanical or human means, or any mechanical attractions will be allowed on the threshold or outside the building."

Our comment upon this exhibition of the wisdom of the "Solons" of the West Ham Corporation is, that their requirements would be best met by turning over the catering of popular amusements to a community of Trappist Monks vowed to perpetual silence.

Now we come to the particular regulation that bars all travelling shows exhibiting cinematograph films within the Borough of West Ham.

"That all seats shall be securely fixed, and that the number of persons to be admitted to the exhibitions should be regulated by the seating provided in the building, as shown on the plans submitted to and approved by the Council."

Messrs. Ball and Son had provided to the satisfaction of the inspecting officials the essential requirements of the Act, an absolutely fireproof and up-to-date operator's box. They had more than enough exits, every shutter of their booth contained an exit, and to the knowledge of the borough surveyor an audience of over 600 had been cleared from the building in a minute's time.

It does not require any comment on our part on this "local condition." If a show booth so admirably constructed as Ball and Son's New Lyceum is not a perfect structure, with its numerous exits, for exhibition purposes, then no building is fit for a licence. It requires but a moment's consideration and the most elementary knowledge of the construction of modern show booths to demonstrate that travelling shows cannot be made subject to the same conditions as regards seating that are rightly imposed upon permanent structures.

It is of the very nature of a show travelling from fair to fair that the greater portion of the audience should be standing and not seated. There are, of course, seats provided for a considerable number of the audience. In the show in question there are 400 seats, the rest of the audience stand; and we submit that the standing audience, with the abundant provision of exits on both sides of the show, are in a safer position in the event of fire and panic than they would be if seated, there being only a step from the inside to the outside of the building.

Another Drastic Local Condition.

"That the licence shall only allow of the building or structure being erected in the Borough of West Ham for a period of seven days, at the end of which time the building is to be taken down and removed out of the borough, and that the building may not be erected within the borough for more than four such periods within any one year."

This is the most extraordinary abuse of "Local Conditions" under the Cinematograph Act that has been brought under the notice of the Guild officials.

Fruitless Effort of the Guild to Obtain Fairplay.

Immediately on receiving Messrs. Ball and Son's complaint, and a copy of the Local Conditions, the Rev. T. Horne, for the Guild, wrote to the Corporation, requesting that a deputation might be heard on the matter at the Licensing Meeting. The request was granted, and the Guild Chaplain, accompanied by Mr. Alfred Ball, attended the Licensing Committee on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

The deputation was informed by the chairman that only one speaker would be permitted to address the Committee. The Rev. T. Horne explained at length the part the Guild had taken in obtaining amendments covering the show business as distinct and separate from permanent and temporary buildings when the Cinematograph Bill was in its last stages in Parliament. He pointed out in detail the essential difference between show booths and other kinds of buildings, and the manifest unfairness of applying the same regulations and conditions to travelling shows as to permanent buildings.

He pointed out in particular that their local condition restricting the erection of shows within their borough to one week at a time, and not more than four weeks in any one year, was distinctly in restraint of trade and also an invasion of the rights of property, for it prevented landowners letting their land except under practically prohibitory conditions.

He pleaded with the Committee that, in consideration of the fact that Mr. Ball had waited so long for their decision, he was entitled to kindly treatment, and he asked the Committee to waive some of their local conditions and grant the licence, so that Mr. Ball could go about his business, and commence his round of fairs as he intended doing Easter week.

The points at issue between travelling showmen and the Corporation would of necessity be left over. It would be, he urged, a serious loss to Mr. Ball to find himself without a licence when he moved to his first Fair at the beginning of his touring season.

The deputation were asked to withdraw.

After about ten minutes' consideration the deputation was called into the committee room.

The chairman said "that the Committee had decided that unless Mr. Ball provided the full complement of seats required by their local conditions they would not licence him. He further expressed the opinion that it would be better for Mr. Ball to take out a licence elsewhere, where the conditions might be less exacting.

This pronouncement of the chairman was emphasised by the frank expression of opinion by a member of the Committee, which we have already quoted, "That they did not want travelling shows inside the Borough of West Ham."

For Messrs. Ball and Sons this decision is of the most serious moment; unless they can obtain a licence within the next seven days it will imperil their Eastertide business. As already intimated, the Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild will bring the action of the West Ham Corporation under the notice of the Home Secretary and the President of the Local Government Board. It is not too much to expect that measures will be taken by the Government to secure that legislation passed for public safety shall not be used as an instrument of oppression to injure and to penalise the travelling showman.

New York Audiences.

"A NEW YORK audience loves to look upon itself as the most critical in the world," writes Mr. Hermann Klein in "Unmusical New York," recently published by John Lane. "It is taught to believe that it is, but I venture to assert that it is nothing of the sort. It knows whether it is pleased or not, but that is a very different thing from knowing upon what standards of artistic judgment its criticism is based; very different from manifesting that knowledge with conviction and authority. Converse for five minutes with a typical music-lover—especially one of the fair sex—and if words can convey it, you will receive an impression of lofty ideals, of exalted standards, of what the Germans call 'schwärmerei' anent art and artists that will cause your soul to rejoice. A closer acquaintance will very possibly modify your sensations of joy. . . . This display of verbal eclecticism and gushing superficialities amounts to nothing more than a pose. Your interlocutor speedily deserts the subject in hand for an effusive outpouring concerning something or somebody else."

Criticism by Comparison.

"Criticism of a singer or an executant," we are informed, "is almost always in the nature of a comparison. For example, you ask a young lady what she thinks of Pachmann. She answers, 'Pachmann plays Chopin very well, but I prefer Paderewski—he is so much greater all round!' 'Mahler is a fine conductor—just as intellectual as he can be. But, say, imagine what he would be if for once he could feel an opera like Campanini! Now, if he'd only throw down his baton and shake his fist at his orchestra like Safonoff, why, he'd drive me crazy!' Always the same subtle anxiety to show that people and things can be a little better than they are," adds the candid chronicler.

Flattering Critics.

"Of one thing, however, I am quite certain. The critics, if they do not spare the artists, have a habit of flattering their readers that does undeniable harm. They declare with untiring reiteration that New York is the greatest musical city in the world; that no other public can compare with it either for its love of opera or the amount of money that it spends on opera; that its verdict is essential to the immortal fame of every star in the musical firmament, that its opinions now stand higher in universal estimation than those of the leading European centres, and so on, *ad nauseam*.

How to Keep Beautiful.

"FIRST and foremost, as the greatest beautifier, and at the same time, the most inexpensive one, I would put fresh air," says Miss Winifred Emery in *M.A.P.* "I believe in living, sleeping, and eating in the freshest air you can get. To live well and healthily (and one cannot be beautiful without health), one must breathe properly, and for this one must have plenty of air. I live with my windows wide open, and there is nothing better for the complexion. Sunshine may bronze one's face and even redden one's nose for the time being, but that soon wears off and the invigorating effect remains. This is especially the case when one goes for a summer holiday."

Hair and Figure.

"FOR the figure I believe in Swedish exercises and walking whenever possible. A certain amount of exercise is absolutely necessary for everyone, but, of course, it must be regulated to suit each individual constitution. A beautiful head of hair has always been considered a great adjunct to beauty, and I do not think that one can be too careful of one's hair and one's teeth. I wash my hair about once in three weeks and leave it down whenever possible. Whenever I take a seaside holiday I bathe and swim every day, and, contrary to all the laws laid down by the hairdressers, I always bathe my head as well as my body. Almost everyone, and certainly every hairdresser to whom I have confessed that I do this, has informed me that I will ruin my hair. I have not ruined it, and, without any doubt whatever, after only a few days' sea-bathing I find that the sea-water, far from spoiling it, brightens it and seems to restore the colour."

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE BERNARD have suffered a severe loss in the death of their little daughter. All who know her will extend their sympathy to the bereaved parents.

FILM GOSSIP.

"Elektra" Bioscoped.

STRAUSS'S *Elektra* has been pictured by the Vitagraph Company. The moving pictures are a different version of this thrilling tragedy, and a creation unequalled in elegance of scenic and histrionic art, calling into play the authorised details as suggested by Homer's "Iliad" and other works of Grecian literature and record.

Bioscoping the Boat Race.

THE Warwick Trading Company are taking a film of the 'Varsity Boat Race on Wednesday next. Arrangements have been made whereby the Company secure about four views on the course, somewhat following the lines of their last year's picture, which was of a most interesting character. The approximate length will be about 180 feet.

A Good Comic.

THE Unfortunate Day is a Walturdaw comic of the rough-and-tumble order that audiences always enjoy. Tom Daren is thrown into a state of excitement by a message from his aunt that she intends visiting him in order to be introduced to his fiancée. The occasion warrants great preparations in both dress and surroundings, and after Tom has struggled into his gorgeous habiliments he sallies forth, but is met with disaster at once, as in passing under a balcony where a lady is watering plants he receives not only a shower-bath, but a plant and pot upon his new silk hat. After pulling himself together, he goes on a little farther, when a water-cart sprays him from head to foot. Disaster after disaster overtakes him, but he pluckily perseveres until he reaches a florist's, where he purchases a huge bouquet, which also comes to grief. Finally, he meets his aunt with her innumerable packages, which they stow away in a carriage, and after more vicissitudes they manage to reach Tom's intended's residence, where he receives the comforting that his adventures entitle him to.

The Course of True Love.

A STORY of what might have been is the theme of the latest Markt film, to be released next week. Man's unfaithfulness is woman's greatest sorrow, and Mrs. Thurston suffered this, for her husband night after night returned from the club in an intoxicated condition. Their daughter Florabel, is betrothed to Ben Lawrence, a prosperous young artist. Lawrence is good-natured and a favourite. We find him in his studio at a canvas, and while thus engaged, a little flower-girl enters to sell her flowers. He doesn't want any, but finding the poor girl faint and cold from hunger, he makes her sit and eat the lunch that has been laid for him. She has hardly started eating when he hears the approach of someone, and to relieve her embarrassment he draws a screen around her. It is a party of his artist friends. Meanwhile, Lawrence's fiancée has started with some friends for the studio, arriving there just after the artists. Florabel espies the flower-girl seated behind the screen, and as he is working at the portrait of a man, reasons that she is not a mere model. She leaves the studio abruptly, and tells her fears to her mother. Lawrence calls to learn why his sweetheart left the atelier so suddenly. In response he receives a curt note to the effect that "she cannot see him and trusts he will not call again." Quite beside himself as to the cause, the reason dawns upon him. Throwing her note upon the table, he proceeds to pack his belongings, intending to go away, when the flower-girl enters. She learns that she is the innocent cause of his trouble, and hastens to right the wrong. Meeting Florabel she explains all, and they hurry back to catch Lawrence just as he is leaving the place.

Cinematograph Studio Work.

As will be seen by a reference to our advertising columns, first-class leading artists are required by Mr. T. J. Gobbett for work in his high-class cinematograph studio, which has just been built and fitted with first-class accommodation. The applications only of thoroughly experienced and known artists will be entertained. The work will not interfere with their engagements, and studio hours are 10 to 4.

An Old Favourite Revived.

No firm could desire a higher testimonial to the merit of its subjects than that conveyed to Messrs. Cricks and Martin by the repeated requests of film buyers that they should reissue their delightfully humorous skit on amateur vocalists. Sister Mary Jane's Top Note was issued some time ago, and will be new to 90 per cent. of the present-day picture public. Large orders were received immediately the makers decided to reissue it, and showmen should make a point of getting a copy. It is the kind of comic which appeals with equal force to all classes of the community.

An Impressive Picture.

THE Comerio film, The Fury of the Waves, which the Cosmopolitan Company will issue on April 2, is a remarkable illustration of the powers of the sea, as well as a subject of considerable beauty and fine quality. The Northern Italian town at which it was secured is slowly but surely being covered by the sea, and the views of the waves dashing right up to the walls of the house, and of the huge breaches made in the breakwaters, &c., erected to resist the encroachment of the sea, are a wonderful object lesson of the latter's wonderful powers. Incidentally, some fine sea scapes are introduced, and this film well deserves the position of headliner in the best of bills.

The Ubiquitous Foolshead.

LOOK out for Foolshead Wishes to Marry the Guv'nor's Daughter, and Am I Mad; they are the class of films which are talked of by all who see them, and will do much to advertise the theatre that shows them.

The Grand National.

BY far the most important Bioscope picture exhibited in London during the year is that of the Grand National Steeplechase at Aintree, for which the directors of the Empire have again secured the sole rights. The taking of this picture, which will be exclusively shown at the Empire Theatre, entails the greatest care and forethought, so that a complete record of the classic event may be obtained from start to finish by the large number of cameras employed. The course has again been inspected this year to this end and special arrangements have been entered into with the Railway Company to ensure the despatch of the films to London immediately after the race.

Join the Defence League.

IF you have not already joined the Cinematograph Defence League, you should do so at once. Grand work is being done by the League, which is formed for the purpose of dealing with the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and all matters arising therefrom.

New Field for Moving Pictures.

OUR New York correspondent sends us a long account of a remarkable demonstration of scientific pictures which took place a fortnight ago before the Board of Education and the Ethical-Social League at the Church of the Messiah, 34th-street, New York. Large numbers of ministers and doctors assembled and took the keenest interest in the proceedings. Among the new devices was the Electrolysis of Water, Action of Nitric Acid on Silver, and Action of Aqua Regia on Metallic Gold. On the screen was thrown the test-tube, many times enlarged, containing the silver wire, on which the acid was poured. Immediately very visible bubbles of hydrogen began to arise as the acid dissolved the silver, and as the action became more rapid the wire wriggled and squirmed until it finally disappeared. Owing to the increased size, developments on the screen could be watched much more closely than the regulation class-room demonstration.

Two Fly Films.

MOST highly educational, though not particularly pretty, is the fly film, made up at the request of the Water Pollution Association. Nothing is left to the imagination. First, there is the fly laying eggs in unsavoury places, and then, before the eyes of the spectators, the eggs develop into a wriggling heap of maggots. When the final stage, the winged musica domestica, is reached, the plates dilate on its unsanitary practices. To remove the impression left by this film, it is followed by a clever piece, called The Acrobatic Fly, in which the fly, many times enlarged, appears lying on its back, and with its feet juggles various articles, and even swinging around a dumbbell as large, or as small, as the insect itself. A ball is substituted, and while the first fly keeps this going, a second fly mounts on top, and treads the ball with all the seriousness of a circus elephant performing the same feat.

Life Inside an Egg.

THE life history of a chicken, called From the Egg to the Spit, is a French film. First the eggs are put in the incubator, and then a series of diagrams and dissections show what is going on inside the egg. Other bits of lore, such as forced feeding, follow.

A Study of Epilepsy.

JOHN COLLIER, of the Censorship Board, told how a clinic in Vienna is now making a study of epilepsy by means of moving pictures showing the facial contortions of the afflicted people. In this way, it is becoming possible to classify and diagnose the types of epilepsy by the facial contortions manifested. Vivisection for academic purposes is becoming less and less necessary.

A Bioscope Dispute.

IN the London Sheriffs' Court last Tuesday the case of Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Company *v.* Bernhardt, Jay, and Mann, and the Brighton Palace Pier Company, Ltd., which had been remitted from the High Court, came up for the assessment of damages. It was alleged that the defendants had advertised and exhibited at the Palace Pier Pavilion a bioscope entertainment as "Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope." As a matter of fact, it was not Ruffell's entertainment, and as the films shown were not of the class supplied by them, and were not up to date, the plaintiffs submitted they had suffered injury. It was announced that the defendants had consented to judgment for 20 guineas being entered against them, on the understanding that in the case of Jay and Mann execution should be suspended for a month after the taxing of costs. Mr. Moverley Sharpe remarked that the matter arose out of a misunderstanding.

New Pictures for the Palace.

ON Monday next, at the Palace Theatre, Mr. Alfred Butt, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Urban, joint inventor of "Kinemato-color," will exhibit for the first time a most picturesque series of life-motion scenes lately photographed in the actual tints of nature, and depicting Arab Life at Biskra. Not without considerable difficulty have these films been taken, for the roving Moor, with "the eye and temper of a hawk," is not yet quite in touch with the Bioscope; nevertheless, some splendid pictures of present-day features in the Barbary States include the Arab Market at Maison Carre, Bedouin girls, Moorish merchants, scenes on the road to Mustapha, and the orange harvest at Boujarik.

Finsbury Park Cinema Theatre.

THERE is probably not a more comfortable picture theatre in North London than the Finsbury Park Cinematograph Theatre. The series of pictures are wholly changed three times a week—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays—and there are six sets of pictures, of different subjects in each series, the whole half-dozen occupying a period of an hour and twenty minutes to run off the 3,500 feet of films. Variety is lent by the inclusion of a "singing picture," in which the vivaphone takes a prominent part, and a coloured picture. Examples as to how the management of this theatre keeps abreast of the times is evidenced by the fact that the football cup-tie at Swindon, in which Tottenham was interested, although not finishing until 5 o'clock, was developed in the train, and shown to the audience at Finsbury Park shortly after 8 o'clock the same evening. Similarly the Cup-tie next week at the Tottenham ground, between Swindon and Newcastle United, will be shown about an hour after the event. There is no Sunday performance, and Mr. J. H. Richardson has recently been appointed manager of the theatre.

Kensington P.P.

THE Kensington Picture Theatre programme this week makes a fine array of subjects. There is Calino Goes Travelling (Gaumot); Honesty Its Own Reward (Eclair); Electric Train from Fayet to Chamonix (Gaumont); Doctor Phantom (Warwick); The Day After (American Biograph); Amusements and Sports in India (Pathés); Cherries (Pathés); The Pact (Pathés); and The Darling of their Hearts (Warwick).

A PROGRAMME of unusual excellence is provided at the Electric Theatre, Leamington. The chief pictures are a very piquant version in modernised form of Little Red Riding Hood, and Cherries, a charming little story in twelve tableaux. Other subjects of a dramatic nature include The Hump-backed Man, The Gamekeeper's Sons, and Thief by Necessity; whilst much amusement is caused by The Process of Liquefaction. Mr. Harry Lewis has two very fine songs this week, which he renders in a masterly style; and the elocutionist, Mr. Bert Williams, receives warm praise for his excellent interpretation of The Newsboy's Debt.

THE

LAW OF COPYRIGHT

IN

KINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES.

BY

WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

NEXT FRIDAY being GOOD FRIDAY

PLEASE POST ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL

All Advertisements intended for our next issue (March 26).

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON. May 23, July 25, Aug. 8, 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. May 16, June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER. Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, 31. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Xmas (3 weeks for Pantomime).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. April 18, May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD. April 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER. May 16, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE. IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks, ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. Saturday Night Returns:—"Prodigal Son," £52; "The Dairymaids," £100; "The Bondman," £92; "The Old Home," £51. Bookings include "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant."
Vacant Easter (certainty only). No cheap dramas entertained. April 18, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. March 28, April 11, 18, 25, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Grand Theatre, Luton, Easter. State certainty required. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Easter three nights.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions, First-class Attractions, AUTUMN DATES, AUTUMN DATES, AUTUMN DATES, September 5th, onwards, with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDS.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions, April 18, May 9, April 18, May 9,
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDS.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions for May 30 and June 20.
Wire or write immediately to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE, KELLY'S THEATRE, KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-st., just off Church-st., LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25 and May 2.
Wire immediately, W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE, The Premier Theatre, April 18, May 9 (?), 16 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS, May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights), June 6, 13.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE, May 30, June 20, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, April 25, THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN, April 18, GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, May 16, THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, May 9, 16.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, April 11, 25, May 2, and various Autumn. Address, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Dramatic Companies, for April 11, 18, May 16, and on, with exceptions.
Address, JAMES ALEXANDER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant April 25, May 2, June 20, July 4, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present,

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
A few Autumn dates available for First-class Theatres only.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30. onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions. April 4 (?), May 9, 16, June 13, 20, 27.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
May 16, Sept. 5, 12, 19.
Musical Attractions.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions for
LEITH, May 2, 9, and on;
KIRKCALDY, April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9.
Also for Autumn Dates at Ayr, Coatbridge, Falkirk, Motherwell, Leith, and Kirkcaldy.
Wire or write,
R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone: 5590 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for, May 2, 16, 23, and 30, Newcastle.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Edinburgh.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Glasgow.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

HULL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND.—Probably Vacant for High-class Shows, May 9 and 23.
ALEXANDRA.—For Drama, May 9, 30, June 20 and 27, July 25.
Letters, Morton, at either house.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
Select and Elegantly Equipped.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, April 4 and 11, May 9 and 16, various, onwards, from August. Bookings include "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c.
Address, James P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (Musical preferred). Vacant April 25, May 2, 23, 30.
To follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.

Address,
Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Vacant April 18, May 9 (?), 16, 26 (3 nights).
Apply, Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4 and 11.
Address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager.

T. R., LEIGH. Lessees, Slingsby and Tolfree.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical, Dramatic, or Variety, March 28, on. Anyone holding contracts kindly write in, and will take over where possible. Full particulars. Syd. Tolfree, Hippo., Wakefield.
Special Notice.—The Royal, Leigh, will be re-opened March 28, after thorough renovation.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, April 11, May 9.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, May 9 (three or six nights).
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for April 11 and onwards, including Whit week. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for May 23. Please wire or write,
Wm. Coutts, Star Theatre, Swansea.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 18 (through transferring), April 25, May 23, and on with exceptions. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Star Variety Companies, April 11, 25, May 2, must be First-class. All coms., Scottie.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
WANTED, First-class Company, Musical Comedy preferred, April 25 (Race Week), to oblige Manager; May 2 also Vacant Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, June 20, July 4, 11, 18, 25.
Enormous success of Twice Nightly system.
James Bell.

JERSEY and GUERNSEY.
WANTED, Fir t-class Attractions (Musical preferred) July 4, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3.
Edward Marris, O. H., Weymouth.

OPERA HOUSE, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only.
No Drama.
Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12,
Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21,
Dec. 5, 12.
Percy Hutchison, 4, Finchley-road, N.W.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, for March 21, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction.
May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

BATLEY THEATRE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, April 11 and May 2.
J. Edward Whitty, Theatre, Batley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant May 23, Aug. 8, 29 (?), Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.
Several Spring Dates, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant April 25, May 9, 23, Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (?).
Panto for two weeks at Christmas.
Several Spring dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant April 18, May 9, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 1-4, 21 (?), Dec. 12.
Several Spring Dates, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Vacant March 21 (?), April 11, 18, May 2, 9, Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Pay-box Magnets, late Spring and Autumn, 1911.

Bookings ahead include:—
Messrs.
Fredk. Melville, Andrew Melville, Morton Powell, Harry Foxwell, F. B. Woulfe, Charles Draycott, Frank M. Thorne, Montague Beaudyn, Percy Brown, Paumier and Howard, The Leopolds, G. M. Polini, Charles Gibbon, Fred Bulmer, Wilson Howard, Geo. A. De Gray, Charles Harrington, Silverstone and Wright, E. Hill Mitchelson, The Renads, Sutton Vane, Tom Watt, Hinton and Green, T. Arthur Jones, Herbert Fuller, Henry Herne, Sam Duckworth.
Stock Season, Mr. J. W. Whitbread's Plays, Stage-managed by Mr. Dane Clarke; Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Mrs. Frank Bateman; Miss Marie Dagmar; Miss René, Glendower, &c.
Coms.,
Arthur Jefferson,
Wires. "Jefferson, Glasgow."

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

The always-popular Dramatic House.

Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
WANTED, good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for week commencing April 18 and onwards,
April 18 and onwards.
Address all communications to
Edwin Leslie, The De Frece Circuit,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.;
or, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
Large Stage, well stocked with New Scenery.
Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Upholstered and decorated in sumptuous style.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North. Popular prices.
WANTED, Touring Pantomime, Christmas. Enormous success of J. Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood" and Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
Dramatic, Musical Attractions, and Variety Combinations required for
May and June.
The Opera House and Hippodrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications to
William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Whit Week (Musical preferred), also Sept. 5, three or six nights, for opening date, after re-decoration, &c.; also various dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. Bookings already include: "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Prince and Beggar Maid," &c. Note.—Above is now the only Theatre in the town. Write, Alf Bailey and Co., Managers.

WANTED, Companies, April 7 (3 nights), 11, and on.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, April 4, 25, and May 2, onwards, First-class Dramas and Variety Combinations; share or certainty.
Note.—Twice Nightly.
All coms., Walter Batty.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION & OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Whit Week.
Address, W. Payne, Manager.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date, Aug. 8, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, Manager.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL. Recently rebuilt and enlarged. Holding capacity £100.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 4, 5, 6, May 9, 10, 11. Wire or write, C. Adolf Seebold, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, 28, Sept. 5, and 19.
Address, The Manager.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, good Company, new to Grimsby, for May 9. Copy of day bill and particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

Big Success of Theatrical Season.
WANTED, Good Companies for Palace Theatre, Gloucester, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
Smithson, Empire, Barnsley.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, April 25, May 9, 23, 30. Now Booking Autumn. Apply, Sherwood and Co.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only Fully Licensed Theatre in the District.
WANTED, Musical and Farcical Comedies, and other Attractions, April 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17. James Kiernan.

WANTED, Big Attractions, now and onward.
Apply to James Kiernan, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

HIPPODROME (late QUEEN'S T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Co., May 2.
Wanted Strong Dramatic Co., June 6.
Three weeks Variet es preceding both dates.
Apply T. Holmes, agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

WANTED, for April 4 and 25, and May 9, First-class Attractions.
Apply Thos. Courtice, Her Majesty's T., Carlisle.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: J. Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "The Earl and the Girl" (return), James Kiddie's Pantomime Messrs. Smith and Carpenter' "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools," "The Silver King," George Dance's Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for April 11, May 23, 30, June 6, 13, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, EDMONTON, LONDON, N.
Under Entirely New Management.
Lessees from May 9, The Van Biene Theatres Co.
Resident Gen.-Manager, EDWARD VAN BIENE.
Theatre recently rebuilt by Frank Matcham and Co. New heating and lighting installations. Can stage any touring attraction. Companies booked (under the new management) include, among others, Auguste Van Biene (in "The Broken Melody"), Lester Collingwood, Glenville and Osmond, F. G. Kimberley, Green, and Hinton, Chas. Draycott, Lewis Gilbert, "Greed of Gold," "Wrecker of Men," "Her One False Step" (production date), "Sexton Blake," "Hush Money," new productions by Arthur Shirley, Chas. Darrell, &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptionally Strong Opening Attraction, after closure for decorative repair, Whitsun, May 16, or May 14 (7 nights); also good Stock Co. for 4 or 5 weeks, from June 20. Also later Autumn dates.
Address, Edward van Biene, T. R., Lincoln.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Supreme No. 1 Companies only,
THE GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
GRAND RE-OPENING, MON., MARCH 21, 1910.
With Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, for the above, May 9, onwards, First-class Dramas, Musical Plays, &c., on Shares or Certainty; all twice nightly. Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool. 'Phone 1180 Royal.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Company, May 9 (five nights, omitting Friday), also Whit Week; also Good Pantomime, for Christmas. Sidney Cooper.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Easter, April 4 (?), May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, April 25, May 2, 16.
A. D. Vernon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
Elaborate new system of stage lighting, making this the Best-lit Theatre in Staffordshire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 18 and May 16 (Whit), April 18 and May 16 (Whit).
Address, H. Sherriff Howard, General-Manager.

WANTED, Good Attractions, April 7, 11 (three nights), 15, 16, 18, 25, May 4, 16, 23, July, and September. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, March 28, April 4, on.
Now booking Autumn. W. E. Potts.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 30, June 13, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 4, 11, May 9, 16, 30, on. Alfred Manners.

WANTED, immediately, Musical Comedies for small towns, Concert Parties for Seaside Halls. Send full particulars,
Charles Hand, Theatrical and Variety Agent, 60, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, March 28.
Walter Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Now playing to crowded houses at Aldwych Theatre, W.
WANTED, Important Theatre, various Autumn, Dec. 26 (for two weeks), an excellent Christmas Attraction.
Fredk. Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and various, on.
Fred Melville, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5.
Andrew Melville, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, April 4, 11, May 2.
Andrew Emm, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 28.
Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood." 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, April 18, May 9, 16, 23.
Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood." 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 2, 9, 23, June 6, 20, July 4, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, 19.
Haldane Crichton, T. R., Colchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success Weeks of May 23 and July 18.
Weeks of May 23 and July 18.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6, July 11, onwards, Aug. 1, Christmas.
New plant of scenery on order.
Finest show of printing on the road.
Big Company. Full chorus. Ten Variety Turns.
Charles Harrington,
Bordesley Palace Birmingham (return).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A Musical Comedy Novelty.
WANTED, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
March 21, Grand Theatre, Luton (sixth visit),
March 28, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

TOM H. TAYLOR'S COMPANIES.
"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas.
New Autumn Production,
Written by Edward Marris.
Wanted, Theatres, Aug. 22 (?), Sept. 5 (?), Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 14, Xmas. Already booked at Pavilion (two weeks), Elephant and Castle, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, Grand, Nottingham, Alex., Birmingham, Star, Liverpool, Aston, Smethwick, Woolwich.
Tom H. Taylor, 39, Prince's-place, Notting Hill, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, April 4, May 2, June 13, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 18, 25, and May 2, also Dates in Oct. and Nov.
Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, A few Autumn Dates open.
Address, Charles Gibbon, Empire, Swindon.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY,
"THE GIRL FROM KAYS."
By arrangement with George Dance, Esq.
WANTED, London Suburban Dates, April 25, onwards. Full cast and chorus.
Apply, Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 21.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant Easter, Easter, Easter. Wire for this.
May 23, June 6, 27, Aug. 1, Sept. 12.
Wires, to-day, Blackburn; Mon., Prince's, Preston.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
A Musical Farce, in Two Acts.
North Co., including
MISS FLORENCE BAINES as MARY ELLEN.
Spring Tour complete.
Vacant Sept. 5, 19 (precede and follow Bolton), Oct. 10, 24 (precede and follow Huddersfield), Nov. 7, 14, Christmas, and New Year.
South Co.,
Vacant May 30, June 6, July 18, Aug. 8, and various on.
Address,
This week and next,
Miss Florence Baines, Grand T., Lancaster.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success April 18, Sept. 12, 26, and Oct. 3.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," April 4 (?), 18 (?), on.
Frank M. Thorne, T. R., Stockport.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 23, 30, Sept. 12, 19.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Supported by Mr. CYRIL AUSTEN LEE and Star Company.
Wire, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, and HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, April 11, April 11, April 11. Refer this week re play and bus. The Play of the Season. Wire, F. G. Kimberley, Palace T., Newcastle-on-Tyne; next, Colosseum T., Oldham.
WANTED, Known, April 4, 11, only vacant dates, "Under Two Flags," "Cripple Creek." Mark Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres. May 9 (between Eccles and Bradford), Sept. 5 (North), Oct. 24, 31 (between London and Sheffield). All coms., Geo. A. De Gray, to-day, Dewsbury; March 21, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Theatres, Herbert Vere's Company, "NAPOLEON THE GREAT," by F. M. Thorne.
KATE WALFRED as MARIE. Next, Govan.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, May 30, on, exceptions. Everything Carried. J. Power and R. Faulkner, P. O. W., Grimsby.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatre, Easter Week, for this Beautiful Production, once or twice nightly. Barrett, Theatre, Ilkeston; after Saturday night, Theatre, Macclesfield.

WANTED, a Theatre, for Stock of Farcical Plays and Good Dramas, April; full Company of well-known Artists engaged; vacant through misunderstanding. Terms and particulars, Share, Certainty, or Rental. Ethel Griffies, 110, Albacore-crescent, Lewisham.

"DRINK; OR, EASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatres, Easter vacant, and on, till Whit. J. Pitt Hardacre, 54, Parliament-street, Stockton-on-Tees, till Sunday's delivery; then Staines.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Date, for Sinbad: last season at N. T., Oxford; or would Let and Produce Same on Royalty. Brydon-Phillips, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, April 4, between Stratford and Oldham.
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Wanted, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 5, 19, and on.
J. Forbes Knowles, to-day, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne; next, Artillery T., Woolwich, S.E.

"DON."
WANTED, Theatres, May 9, Aug. 22, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"SMITH."
Oct. 24 and 31.
Write, Percy Hutchison, 4, Finchley-road, N.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted. Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Mrs. Morton Powell's latest success.
A splendid play in the hands of a splendid company.—Ulster Echo.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
May 2, 9, 23, 30.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell
May 9, June 6, 13, July 4, Aug. 1.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WILSON HOWARD'S CO.
"UNDER THE IRON HEEL."
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions, for this truly successful Attraction. An Artistic and Financial Triumph.
Booked at Alex., Hull; Met., Glasgow; Leith; Palace, Newcastle; Sunderland; South Shields; Manchester; Oldham; Ashton; Stockport; Bristol; Ramsgate; Stratford; Barry; Darlington; Perth; Paisley; &c.
Mr. Lloyd Clarence says: Every part is splendidly played. Your scenery is beautiful, and the uniforms fine; in fact, the entire production is to be placed in the same category as the Lyceum productions.
Spring and Summer full. Managers with Autumn and Spring (1911) dates vacant please communicate. In securing "Under the Iron Heel" you are booking an Absolute Novelty and a Perfect Show.
Wilson Howard, Metropole T., Manchester.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S No. 1 Company, including
Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank Ayrton, Arthur Trail, David Curtis, Madge Seymour, Anna Beaumont, Olga Kay, and Norman A. Overton.
Russell Vaun's latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, good Theatres, for few remaining dates, vacant March 28, April 11, and May 16.
Now Booking Autumn, Aug. Bank Holiday, on.
All coms.,
Martin Comstock, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Company in "HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, April 11, May 2, July 11 and 25, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas. Xmas. Xmas. and Various Spring, 1911.
Refer Sheriff Howard, Esq., &c., &c. Everything carried.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire or write, Arthur Hinton, to-day, T. R., Stratford; Monday, Elephant and Castle T., S.E.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, Easter, Easter, Easter, April 25, May 2, 9.
Refer re Play, Rotunda, Liverpool, this week; next week to be seen Pavilion, Mile End.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Special Cast, including Miss Laura Walker, Vacant May 2, 23 (North), June 20 (South).
Refer this week Chesterfield, next Aston.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Special Band to Parade. Wanted, April 18, April 18, to follow Hammersmith. Managers needing good sound attractions, wire, Kimberley Palace T., Newcastle-on-Tyne; next, Colosseum T., Oldham.

Miss MARY NEIL
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell,
and
New Play
by Mary Neil and R. Barrie.
WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston), Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 12, and Xmas, Dates in Jan. and Feb., 1911. George Kirk, 55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
Strong Cast, including
MISS CARLOTTA ZERBINI,
MR. ALFRED HEMMING,
and
MR. FRED KAYE.
WANTED, April 18 and 25, May 30, June 6.
Bookings include Blackpool, Harrogate, Scarborough, Ramsgate, Margate, Portsmouth, &c.
H. Chiswell Billing, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

The New Musical Comedy.
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, April 4, 18 (North), May 2, 9. Star cast of twenty artists, including
Mr. Harry Ed. Ray as Alexander,
and Mr. Charles Tolcher, Mr. Wilfrid E. Brandon, Mr. Sidney Dean, Miss Winifred Chalmers, and Miss Celestine Brandon as Miss Plaster. Wire for April 4, Henry L. Osmond, Pier, New Brighton; next, T. R., Huddersfield.

GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL LONDON CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, April 4 (?), 25, May 2, 9, 16 (Whit), and Autumn Tour, 1910.
Coms., Walter D. Nicoll, 105 Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for "His Real Wife," Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, and Xmas. Good Theatres.
The sensational trial scene the talk of every town.
Address, T. E. Ward, T. R., Sunderland.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Comedy.
A Three-hours' Laugh.
Cast of Real Comedians. Troupe of Dancers.
Magnificent scenery, attractive printing.
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 24, 31.
Beaudyn and Montanini,
King's Theatre, Greenock.

Mr. LEONARD BOYNE'S COMPANY.
"RAFFLES."
"RAFFLES."
WANTED, April 4 and 11.
Wire, Augustus Bingham,
8, Walden-house, Marylebone, London, W.

"THE PIN AND THE PUDDING,"
By Barton White,
Direct from Comedy Theatre, London.
MR. HARRY BRISTOW and First-class London Company including Miss Pearl Noyle as Tamsie.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 30 (Midlands), June 13, onwards, with exceptions.
Add., Harry Bristow, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"OH, SUSANNAH!"
WANTED, March 31, April 1, 2, to follow Bury St. Edmunds, April 11, 18.
Wire, Cecil H. Woodhouse,
Fulham Theatre, London, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.

WANTED, Aug. 8, to follow Stratford; also vacant Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, N.B.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."

WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Oct. 3, 10, Xmas.

FRED BULMER,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, May 16, May 16, May 16,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Hallijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
Wire, wire, wire, for May 16.
TOM WATT, 6 Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 6 (through transfer), June 20, and on, with exceptions.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON,
presenting a Triple Bill.
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY,"
by
Mrs. Richard Pole,
With Original Scenery and Effects.
"SUPREMACY,"
by
Lionel Scudamore.
With Original Scenery and Effects;
and A FARCE, by
W. W. Jacobs.
Supported by
MR. ROBERT FOSTER
(Tenor),
MADAME ELLA LEYTON
(Soprano).

WANTED, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 (prior to H. M., Aberdeen), May 23 (following Dundee), and on, with exceptions.
V. C. NEWMAN, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."

WANTED, April 25, South, to precede Yarmouth.
DICKIE CLARE, Grand, Mansfield (4th visit).

"PAID IN FULL"
(by arrangement with Charles Frohman).
"THE MAN WHO KNEW,"
by H. Brinsley Hill.
Company includes Arthur Poole, Aiden Lovett, Brember Wills, Bert Morley, Miss Lyd a Busch, and Miss Jessica Waters.

WANTED, April 11, 25, May 2.
GEORGE WATERS.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Music Halls, last three nights Easter week, April 4, and Various Later Dates, complete new Programme, including Big Burlesque, "Androcles and the Lion." All coms., SCOTTIE, T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, at once, Small Theatres, Public Halls, or Portables, suitable for Bio-variety shows. All particulars to MANAGER, 93, Gladstone-road, Liverpool. Cheshire or near Liverpool preferred.

THE KIMONOS,
Japanese Kostume Koncert Kompany.
Magnificent New Dresses. Own Scenery and Effects carried. One of the strongest and most versatile Concert Parties on Tour.
Two Charming Original Japanese Operatinas.

WANTED, April 25 Week, North; June 20 and 27 Weeks, South; Sept. 5 and 12 Weeks, North; Sept. 26 Week, North or West.

Apply, Sole Director and Proprietor,
FREDERICK LANE,
Entertainment Direction, Avenue, Ealing, and 44, Gower-street, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Tall Leading Light Comedian, for Hawtrey part; Character Comedian, for Cattermole part (Walter Beaumont send address); two First-class Broad Low Comedians, Comedian for Broken English German Character part, pretty Juvenile Actress, exceptional appearance and wardrobe; all with Farcical Comedy appearance. Fullest particulars, lowest summer terms; rehearse May 2 or 9. Address, "The Egyptian," Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Actors and Actresses, used to Stock business and Picture Dramas; also efficient Operator. Age, experience, and lowest terms. Box 7,419, "The Era."

WANTED, Easter, several First-class Artists, for few weeks, in Comedy. Letters only. ERNEST DARE, 115, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists. Fullest particulars, age, height, photo., references, terms, to CHARLES HARRINGTON, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, for London Production, High-class Sketch, good sound Actor for King, Lady for Princess. Terms, photos. (letters only), FRED S. JENNINGS, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Portable Company, to play Mon., Tues., and Wed., in their own Portable, and Thurs., Fri., and Sat. in advertiser's Brick Theatre, for a Stock Season. Advertiser has good pitch for the portable seven miles from his own place. Apply, Box 7,437, "The Era."

HARRY P. SELWYN'S CO.
WANTED, Strong Emotional Actress; must have excellent figure (pose); also Ingénue Actress and Leading Man. Apply, with photo and full particulars to R. H. Grey, Surrey Theatre, London.

WANTED, for April 20 to 30, young Comedienne, very fair, to look 17, and about 5ft. 7in. in height, with Musical Flexible Voice, for part of Sylvia.
Interview necessary. Address letters only to W. POM, 6, Amersham-road, Putney, S.W.

WANTED, Child Actress; must be fourteen (look younger), for Summer Tour of Well-known Drama. Box 7,429. "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Heavy Leading Man, robust, tall, and good swordsman, for Sketch, London (three weeks certain), but long run probable. Height, age, lowest terms (photos if not known), ROY COCHRANE, Surrey Theatre. No callers, please.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
WANTED, good Heavy Gentleman, dress well. Send absolute lowest terms, to go through summer. References, &c., to HARRY LYNDON, Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, London.

WANTED, Strong Actor for Napoleon, probable Tour, open April 4; also Emotional Actress for Josephine. State lowest terms. G. Cockburn please write. ANDERSON, T. R., Glasgow.

WANTED, Talented Gentleman, for part in Dramatic Playlet, touring First-class Music Halls and Theatres; premium £10, returnable in salary; engagement guaranteed under contract by responsible management.
Box 7,433, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, Lead, Part, Foreign Accent, for Sketch; experienced; refs.
WALLACE SELKIRK, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman to play Small Parts, Understudy, &c. Full particulars, NORMAN V. NORMAN, 9, Lower Rock-gardens, Brighton.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, really good reliable Comedian, "When Other Lips" Spring-Summer Tour; Girl small Ingénue part; joint preferred. Lowest term, refs., photos. JONES, Leicester; next, T. R., Barnsley.

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman, for Sketch, on Halls, to take part. Small premium, returned as salary. SEAMOUR, 26, Waddon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, London Sketch Proprietor can introduce intelligent Lady and Gent. Salary. Full tuition given. Letters only (no callers). LLOYD, 9, York-place, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, First-class Baritone, used to Concerteds and Sketches, for old-established Al Fresco Company, twenty weeks, commencing Whitsun; young, good appearance, single preferred. State full particulars and terms. Box 7,441, "The Era."

THE EMPIRE
HIGH-CLASS COMEDY AND DRAMATIC CO.
Under Distinguished Patronage during the last twenty-five years.
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, a Lady and Gentleman Amateur, for Understudy; every investigation given and required. Artists from previous Tours send addresses for parts. TOM GREEN, 19, Leith-road, Lordship-lane, Wood Green, N.

WANTED, for Concert Party, Low Comedian, Tenor, and Baritone, good voices and appearance; also Pretty, Robust Comedy Lady, tall and dark, for Sketch. Photos. (stamped envelope), HERBERT DICKESON, 32, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, at Once, good Tenor.
Apply, C. Lux,
107, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, Boy, Contralto Voice, must be 14, height about 5ft, living in London.
Apply, F. LEO, 8, Clifden-gardens, Twickenham.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Proprietors requiring Dramatic and Variety Artists should wire or 'phone OLD STAR DRAMATIC, VARIETY, AND STAFF AGENCY, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagements, by experienced Comedian, age 24, height 5ft. 6in., in Sketch, Musical Comedy or Drama; First-class Show only. Box 7,443, "The Era."

WANTED, by a refined Young Lady Vocalist, Engagements at First-class Seaside Resorts, Pier Pavilion, Concerts, Garden Party, &c. Box 7,439, "The Era."

WANTED, by the Celebrated Æolian Male Quartette, First Prize winners at all the leading Musical Festivals, 1909; unique Répertoire; Summer Bookings, Seaside. Address, Crewe.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Season. Lowest terms, photo, names and addresses last two refs. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for next Season Pantomimes, also Chorus Ladies.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, for Tour, Pair Sisters (small, sing and dance), Patter Comedians, and Vocalist for Fairy. Terms, SCOTTIE, Theatre R., Darwen.

WANTED, good Speciality, for Palace Scene in Panto., March 28, one week, three nights, at Brighouse, three nights at Bacup, fares paid between the two towns. Apply, JOHN WALTERS, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a Quick Scenic Artist for Three Weeks, probably longer. Good colourist, with own brushes. Open at once. SCOTTIE, T. R., Darwen.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Charles Sharp, Contracts for Scenery or Props., new or secondhand, first-class work guaranteed.
272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. DICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class, Original, Effective, at Lowest Prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Philip Small, Scenic Artist, at Liberty shortly for Engagement or Contract, town or Provinces. Present address, Empire Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, C. D. Leigh (scenic artist), late of Royal Opera House, Leicester, at Liberty, Stage or Acting Management, singly or otherwise. Address, 16, East Bond-street, Leicester. Ten years last engagement.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, those desiring positions as Acting or Resident Managers, Advance Agents or Baggage; previous experience unnecessary. No premium, security, or registration fee. Stamp, LOVERIDGE, Dramatic Agent, 219, Folkestone-road, Dover.

NEW SPA, GARDENS, AND OPERA HOUSE, BRIDLINGTON.
WANTED, a Competent Manager, one accustomed to catering for the public, and must have held a similar position previously; must also be accustomed to the workings of refreshment rooms and theatre bookings; none without these qualifications need apply. State wages required; also age, with not less than two testimonials.
Personally canvassing any of the Directors will disqualify anyone for the appointment. Address, CHAIRMAN, New Spa and Gardens and Opera House, Bridlington.

MANAGER.
WANTED, Young Gent. as Manager, must have experience and good references, for large Provincial Theatre. Photo and letter only in first instance. C. MILES, 35, Besborough-st, Belgravia, S.W.

WANTED, an experienced Man, for Sheerness Hippodrome, as Stage-Manager, to include Baggage and Bill-posting, and to make himself generally useful. Write, stating age, experience, and salary required, Sheerness Hippodrome.

WANTED, smart young man, to learn Business Management, qualification £100; will be given sole control of Theatre in Midlands. GUSTAVE, County Theatre, Bedford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Music Hall Manager.
WANTED, a Smart Man, experienced, and not afraid of work, as Manager of Twice-nightly Variety Hall, Provinces; must have good references, and obtain Guarantee Society's bond. Salary £3. Address full particulars in confidence, Box 7,447, "Era."

WANTED, Billposter.
Apply, stating age,
and where last employed,
to
UNIVERSAL BILLPOSTING CO.,
34, Parliament-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Several Good Billposters. Apply, stating age, capabilities, wages required, PASCALLS, LTD., 46, Hammersmith Bridge-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Stage Manager, Carpenter, Theatre or Hall, or Bioscope Operator, grid and stage layer, coming out through hall closing. HARWOOD, stage manager, Hippo., Bolton.

WANTED, position as Acting Manager or similar duties.
Could take interest in Company.
Box 7417, "The Era."

WANTED, Management, Provinces or Touring, by London Manager of good experience, and refs., with grit, energy, and ability. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clerk or Secretary, in good office, qualifications include shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping (cert.), ten years' practical experience in business side of the profession, and a fair knowledge of the German language (correspondence and conversation), competent, intelligent, young, and trustworthy. Add., E. C., c/o Linwood, 2, Myddleton-road, Bowes Park, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Resident or Tour, by capable and experienced Manager, young, smart, and energetic, expert accountancy, advertising, &c.; highest references. Box 7,444, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Electrician and Mechanic, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall; highly recommended. R. COLEMAN, 66, Ingleby-street, Monument-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Syd. Hobson, Carpenter, Baggage, or Props, and small Parts, just concluding fourth tour with H. E. Chattell, Esq. Pavilion Theatre, Abertillery.

WANTED, by a Smart Baggage Man, Situation, also capable of playing Small Part if required. Address, H. HERMAN, 37, Hospital-street, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Situation by Valet-Dresser, Hairdresser, age 24. Valet to the late Sir A. Jacoby, M.P. Personal references. T. WHITTAKER, 47, Silverlock-street, Southwark Park, London, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader Sub-conductor, for Variety Theatre.
Reference and lowest terms to
MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, experienced Leader (Lady), for Café, permanency, good appearance.
Box 7,424, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Violinist, thoroughly experienced, Variety and Pictures, March 24 to 30, for Wolverhampton. Write, MITCHELL, 33, Berry-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, young Violinists, anxious to gain Orchestral experience, South London.
Address, Box 7,436, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist, strong tone, for Rink, also Clarionet. State terms. Other Instruments may write. BANDMASTER, 53, Philpot-street, London.

WANTED, First Cornet, first-class player, Reader, Orchestral and Military Journals; London Rink, two Sessions. Apply, CONDUCTOR, Stamford Hill Rink.

WANTED, to open at once, an experienced Solo Cornet and 'Cello Player. Apply, with references and salary, to MUS.-DIR., H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, First-class Double Bass, steady, reliable, references. Lowest terms, HUGH ROBERTSON, as above.

WANTED, good Trombone, for Buff Bill's Circus, Tenting Ireland, to complete Band, commencing March 28. BAINBRIDGE, Bandmaster, 63, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Trombone, open at once, must be well up in Variety and Dramatic Business. Apply, with full particulars, salary required, &c., to C. B. FOUNTAINE, Manager.

WANTED, good Trombone, for Musical Act, able to Double on Cornet, also Harpist. Particulars and salary required to Box 7,442, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Lady 'Cellist, Trombone, or Cornet, for Madame Stockham's Orchestra. 20, Aders-street, Düsseldorf, Germany. Postage 2½d.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, 'Cello, experienced in Variety Business. Sobriety essential. Write full particulars, WM. LE ROY, Musical Director.

WANTED, Oboe, Bassoon, and Tymps, for Seaside, four months. Terms, age, refs., &c. Mr. ARTHUR COWELL, Mus.-Dir., Olympia Rink, Blackburn.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, also Second Violin, for March 28. Permanent. Terms, &c., to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Grand Theatre, Hanley.

WANTED, good Dramatic Pianist (Gentleman). Terms, references, age; rehearse Wednesday. Until first post Monday, Miss MAGGIE MORTON, Hurworth, Twickenham; after, Post Office, Halstead, Essex.

WANTED, Baritone-Accompanist, for Smart, Refined Concert Party, 16 weeks Scotland, open May 30. Write, STUART DENNAM, Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

WANTED, First-class Concert Pianist, 'Cellist, Clarionet, Violin, &c.; good engagement. CONDUCTOR, 397, City-road, Manchester.

WANTED, through disappointment, good Double Drummer and Effects; join Monday. Thanks to others; vacancies now complete. Wire, COOK, Fossett Circus, Tiffield, Towcester.

WANTED, Musicians to join Special Reserve, Worcestershire Regiment. Good opportunity for ex-Army bandsmen, especially Worcestershire county men. Would be required to enlist for period of four years, age up to 36 years. Pay and duties of a bandsman for 21 days training each year. Bounty at the conclusion of training; also £3 a year non-training bounty.

For further particulars
apply
BANDMASTER,
The Barracks, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, a smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for several Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years; String Players and Wood Wind preferred; Regiment moves to England next year, and will not be going abroad for the next ten years. State height, age, and instrument, to BANDMASTER, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.
General Office, 19, Grange-street, Rushholme, Manchester.

WANTED, at once, Musicians of Exceptional Ability for Vacancies, particularly Clarionets, French Horns, Cornets, 'Cello, and Bass. Apply, SECRETARY, as above.

WANTED, really First-class Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and E flat Saxophone Players, to Tour with my Military Band; must be thoroughly experienced, reliable, and gentlemanly; can join at once. Reply, stating age, references, full particulars, and lowest terms, REANO, The Hippodrome, Coventry.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin, String Bass and Solo Euphonium (bass clef). Age not over 35 and single. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, for Summer Season, Clever and Attractive Lady Instrumentalists; good Banjo-player preferred. Apply, Winter Gardens, Onchan Head, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Apply, HARRY SLINGSBY, Empire, Hull.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, 'Cello, Violin, and Flute and Piccolo, for the above, open Monday, 28th inst.; must be strictly competent, reliable, and wear evening dress. References and lowest terms for permanency to J. MORTON HUTCHESON, Conductor.

WANTED, Brass Band, Leader, Two Cornets, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Drums, to combine String when required, for Collins's Tenting Circus; one and two weeks in a town.
Lowest terms,
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Double-handed Musicians, all kinds; also Brass and Reed. Those used to circus business preferred. Open 26th, near Birmingham. Long, comfortable engagement. HIRST, c/o McCOLL, 22, Newsmith-hills, Paisley.

WANTED, Musicians to write for Apartments to Howarth, Glenroyd, 109, Hornby-road, Blackpool; cen.; with or without board.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Herr Richard Eckhold, Musical-Director, Moody-Manners Opera Co., and late Conductor of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, open for Summer Engagement with Orchestra of High-class Musicians, from eighteen upwards (all soloists), who have played together for several years, for Seaside, Exhibitions, &c., either in England or Continent; high-class library and exceptionally unique uniform. For particulars, H. BRYAN, 62, Sugden-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Thoroughly Experienced Violinist (conductor); also First-class Pianist (through theatre closing), joint or separately, Theatre, Music Hall, or Al Fresco. Season or permanent. Extensive library. KEITH SMITH, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Pianist-Conductor, thoroughly experienced, compose, arrange, &c. ROLAND ALLEN, 8, Church-place, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart, experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), highest references; extensive library; can open at once. SWINGLER, 166, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, by Good Pianist-Conductor or Pianist, immediate re-engagement, any business, variety, al fresco, theatre, café, &c., tour or resident, young. Wire or write, Public Hall, Stocksbridge, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Miss Jessie Radford, Violinist, thoroughly experienced. Disengaged. Address, 345, Lordship-lane, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist, well experienced. Miss L. MATTHEWS, 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged.
Miss Ethel Horton, Violinist.
Alveston House, Herbert-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Engagement, Leader, &c., used to hotel work; Solos, Selections, &c.; Disengaged Easter. Box 7,425, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, experienced in Dramatic or Variety business; good refs. Apply, VIOLINIST, 10, Adare-terrace, Ton-y-Pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Engagement or Deputising, in London; steady and reliable. SIMPSON, 25, Evandale-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, combine Euphonium, excellent references, thoroughly experienced, late Leader Gaiety, Theatre Royal. WALSH, 36, Heytesbury-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Reliable Violinist, to open Monday, Theatre or Variety. First-class references. Terms moderate. MARSHALL, 25, Messenger-street, Nelson.

WANTED, by First-class First Violin or Leader, Engagement, competent and artistic performer, can also double first clarionet, military band. F. MORRIS, 6, Moreton-st., S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement as First or Second; experienced Variety business. VIOLINIST, L.V.C.M., c/o Kerry, Market-place, Bolsover, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Known, Cornet (Conductor Rink), Variety exper., any Business, London or Provinces. Wire, write terms, CORNET, 11, Smallwood-road, Tooting, London.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged March 12, requires Shop.
Cornet, 215, Portnall-road, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, First or Second. Experienced, good refs.
F. BAKER, 2 Sunnyside-road, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, at Liberty, just terminated Engagement with Australian Liner. CORNETTIST, 3, Queen-st., Darfield, Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any business, experienced and reliable. Address, A. ANSTIS, 39, Brewer-street, Lewes-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by a well experienced Cornettist, young, good references.
CORNETTIST, 625, Mile End-road, London

WANTED, Engagement, by two Good Cornets, experienced, summer or permanency, good refs., steady and reliable. G. MATTHEWS, East-st., Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet, First or Second; any Business; can Open at Once. ROSSON, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Cornet, any business, Continent preferred; highest refs. LOUIS VASSE, 9, Ward-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, experienced all Lines; can also Supply good Band, any number. HIRST, c/o McColl, 22, Newsmith-hills, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Known, E. H. Griffin, Clarionet, for Orchestra or Military, steady and reliable; season or permanent. 55, Brunswick-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Clarionet, any Bus.; ex-Army Bandsman; good ref.; smart, reliable. H. HUGGINS, Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, good character; will give services for suitable day employment. A. JOHN, 40, Standard-road, Hounslow.

WANTED, Engagement Clarionet, any business. Good refs., abstainer, worker, and reliable. London preferred. GEORGE WHITE, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, by Experienced Clarionet, any business, good references, Summer Engagement. CLARIONETTIST, c/o Mrs. Bourne, 165 Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Ben Morris, Double Bass, Liberty through closing; highest refs.; experienced all branches. 22, Chorley-road, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, through theatre closing, by Double Bass; also Violin, combine Cornet; experienced, young, abstainers, Continent preferred. MELLOR, Crystal Palace, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bass, any Business; good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Double Bass, combine Bombardon. Any business, smart and reliable. DAN MOXON, Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale, Mon.

WANTED, by a Young Lady Double Bass, Engagement, Ladies' Orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, summer or permanency, experienced any business, first-class refs., sober and reliable. J. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement by Euphoniumist and Cornettist. Artists and thorough musicians. A musical engagement if possible. W. and J. MADDOCK, 396, Parliamentary-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Trombone, good Soloist, any business, any distance, excellent references. No shirker. Reasonable terms. W. B., 19, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, by Euphonium (late Guards), Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced all lines. Strictly sober. First-class refs. Disengaged. 108, Eversleigh-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, any business, open at once. CHARLES GRICE, c/o Scott, 57, Reidvale-st., Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, 14 years' Military Band, combine Viola; absolutely sober, willing to travel. A. E. SHELLGROVE, 102, Pembroke-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon or String Bass; steady, reliable; good refs.; at Liberty. J. DELAFIELD, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady (17), accomplished Saxophone Soloist (alto and tenor). Would join good troupe or orchestra. Address, Mlle. EDITH, 101, Mary-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any Business; good refs.
W. PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, Refined Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist, would like Seaside or perm. Engagement; experienced. 'CELLO, 119, Parkinson-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by First-class 'Cellist, experienced and reliable.
A. HOWARD, 37, Norris-road, Hillsboro', Sheffield.

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Second 'Cello, young and reliable. G. L. MEO, 95, Old Christchurch-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement, Long or Short. Address,
VIOLA, Theatre Royal, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Oboist; any business. Highest references. J. BROWN, 4, Portland-street, Chatham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboist, any Business; good references; Liberty April 2. J. PRITCHARD, Orchestra, King's Pavilion, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement. Many years' experience in high-class work. At liberty in May. Highest testimonials.
Mme. G. JAMES, 16, St. John's-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist, Eveline Hall (sister of Marie Hall, Violinist). 12, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, experienced any business. Steady, reliable, good refs. H. LITTLER, 100, Victoria-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by good Flute and Piccolo (Soloist), very steady, Engagement; West-End references. FLAUTIST, 14, Theberton-street, Upper-street, Islington, N

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, A.G.S.M., as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Juvenile Lady, 20, Pianist.
Address, S., c/o Spiers, Atlantic-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart Pianist, Pictures or otherwise; exceptional refs.; could undertake management. Address, PIANIST, Victory Hotel, Duke-st, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Rawson, First-class Pianist and Tip-top Baritone Vocalist, at Liberty, experienced pictures and al fresco parties; compose, transpose, MS. 47, Ashbourne-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, also Double Bass, for four weeks from June 11. GOTTLIEB, 112, Coronation-avenue, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, and Variety. M. S. S., 59, Tideswell-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, long or short Engagements, by experienced Accompanist, Café, Orchestral, Pier, &c. Miss KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist, Drums, &c., with good references of recent date, from first-class Orchestras. Address, Box 7,422, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good Double Drums, &c., at Liberty, any Business; best of refs.
DRUMS, East Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by smart Double Drummer, Tympanist, own Tympani and Effects; steady, reliable; excellent references. 27, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. MURDOCK, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, open for Exhibitions, Pavilions, Hotels. No amateurs. Write or wire, WILTON DAVIS, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Orchestras, any number supplied, for short periods or for season, in Japanese costume or evening dress. CONDUCTRESS, Lansdowne, Falkland-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, vacant March 21.

Permanent address,
61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Les Vivandiers, Ladies' Orchestra, smart costume; any business. For particulars address, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Offers for
MAURITS VAN YSER'S FAMOUS VOLLENDAM LASSIES' ORCHESTRA.
in their Quaint Dutch Costumes and Head-dresses.
For Vacant Dates, apply,
SECRETARY, 51, Richmond-gdns., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, also Male Band; smart uniforms, belts, &c. Mme. BAKER, 114, Woodlands-rd., Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)

WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bonâ-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to Mme. Manton-Myatt, 23, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra, shortly coming to England Engagements for Summer Season; good agent required. Write, Box 7,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, Maddison's small or large Military or Orchestral Band, Seaside or otherwise, three months, great success Hampstead Skating Palace. Uniforms, photos., references, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, Town or Seaside, any number of performers. Smart uniform, good répertoire. Box 7407, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Collini's Famous Rink Bands, Town, Country; smart Conductors, men, music, uniforms. Write, Stamford Hill, Highgate. Hear Bands.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First-class Rink Band, of six or more. Up-to-date Library of Music, Scarlet Military Uniforms. Box 130, Phono' Stores, Coppergate, York.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

P. COLLINS'
ROYAL ENGLISH CIRCUS,
Tenting a Week and Fortnight in a Town.

WANTED, good Useful People in all Lines of the Circus Business; also Clowns with Something Novel and Funny; also good Brass Band to combine String when required.
Lowest terms, address,
P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Trapeze, Rings, Bar Act, and other Novelties, for Whit Week, four days, twice daily, Northampton; reasonable terms only entertained. McAskell's Agency, 296, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, a big Aerial Act, for Whit and Aug. Bank Holiday; also some good Gala Acts. All must have posters.
Pacey's Agency,
186, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Perfect Lady Trapeze Artist, to join Troupe at once. Apply, stating salary expected, &c., Johnsen, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, a perfect young Lady Gymnast for a first-class Act, or girl about 16 to learn. Apply, with photo., to Estrella, General Post Office, Huddersfield.

WANTED, two young Clever Tumblers, for abroad, for full season; to go also as Clowns. Costumes provided.
Address, Box 7,428, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Young Man to join Troupe of Gymnasts. Reply, salary, height, weight, and full particulars, to Box 7420, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Second Mounter, good, quick Tumbler, long engagement to right party. Send full particulars and lowest terms, Josh Clifton, Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, Tentman and Grooms, to open at once. Swallow, 'Bus-yard, Taunton-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, all Circus Proprietors to know the Three Royal Ohmys, the only and original Three and Four Horse Riders, are still making the greatest success ever known at the Grand, Circus, Edinburgh. Nothing ever seen like this great act in a circus ring before. The Royal Ohmys have a few vacant dates this year. The Royal Ohmys return thanks to Director Bech Olsen for contract for four months at Grand Circus, Copenhagen. Address, till further notice, Royal Ohmys, Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Mona and Douglas Connor, Premier Juvenile Equestrians, return their thanks for the many offers for home and abroad; they have been secured by Geo. H. Harrop, Esq., for the
TOWER CIRCUS, BLACKPOOL,
and commence their engagement there on Thursday, March 24. Communications to Blackpool, or Fred J. Connor, Vaudeville Club, London.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown, appearing Great Success, Brinkburn T., Newcastle-on-Tyne; next week, Royal Italian Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Little Valdo, Premier Equestrian Clown and Comedian.
Free to accept Engagements
Summer Season.
Coms.,
23, Hazelbourne-road, Balham, London.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909.
Booked
for
Bolossy Kiralfy's
American Park, Brussels,
for three months.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Still Open for
July, August, and Sept.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS,
ALEXANDRA PALACE LONDON.
Proprietor and Manager, Fred J. Connor.

WANTED, Known, opening Easter Monday, with the following Artists: Hoppit, Toney and Terry, Captain Roberts and Musical Gymnasts, John Irvin, Miss Ada Pinder, Milton and Horton, Almero, G. Madigan, Leoni, De Ora, Sig. Antonio, Rabbit, Pimple, Funny Friskey, W. R. Albino (Ring Master).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars. General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

WANTED, Variety Artists for Immediate Dates, Serios, good Comedy Double Turns, and Comedians. Full particulars, with lowest terms, Mat Lynton, 97, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Comedy Acts, March 28, on. Terms, &c., Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Monday, March 28, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

TOLFREE and SLINGSBY THEATRES.
HIPPO., WAKEFIELD; EMPIRE, HULL;
THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, March 28, on. Nothing too big; also big Combinations. Send full particulars, Harry Slingsby, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Artists, April 11 and on. Lowest terms and current week's bill, James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists and big Star Combinations, April 11, 18, onwards.
Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, nothing too big, for Monday, first and onwards. Manager, Star Pictures, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists. Always opening for Double Turns doing Singles, vents., Conjurers, &c. World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool.
'Phone 2549 Royal.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
Full Bookings, Terms, Photos, Lithos., and all particulars.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, coming North.
Lawson, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates, for several places in the North. Apply, Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, March 28, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artist, in all Lines, Doubles doing Singles. Old Star Dramatic, Variety, and Staff Agency, Wilton-street, Manchester. Always Vacancies for Good Acts.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, March 28, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Palace, Watford, March 28.
Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists, of every description, for the Hippo., Hull, March 28, April 4, 11, 18, Knockabouts, Comedians, Serios, Comedy Acts. Always Vacancies for Good Acts. Wire or write, Walter Bentley, Hippo., Hull.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists all Lines, thirteen weeks, Pavilion, Seaside, rehearse June 13; only first-class Artists need apply; also those known to me write. Leo Trainor, Empire, Camberwell. Clifford Morgan and first-class Pianist write.

SURREY THEATRE.
EXTRA TURN MATINEE,
THURSDAY, March 31.

WANTED, Known, if you wish to go on the Music Hall Stage (no fees of any description), send name and business at once to Manager. Over eighty turns have booked 16 weeks' tour through these Matinées.

NOTICE.

THE READING PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.

WANTED, Known. This is to give notice that the above Theatre will be closed from June 13, 1910, to July 30, inclusive. Contracts during that period are therefore cancelled. The Management will be much obliged to artists holding contracts for the above dates to at once communicate their vacancies that another date may be arranged. (Signed) G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for
Whit Week, and later.
for Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

HIPPODROME,
BOLTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Big Stars in all Lines.
Novelties,
New Acts.
Nothing too Big.
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Recognised Variety Stars, willing to share for own turn, April 11, and on. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,
First-class Variety Turns,

GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

Apply,
R. G. Elder, General-Manager,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Envelopes to be marked "Variety."

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT,
LONDON.

WANTED, any Acts, New to London.
Sketch Proprietors requiring Production Weeks can have personal interview
at the
Foresters' Music Hall
by making appointment with
Mr. Frederick Baugh,
Representing Mr. Frank Macnaghten.
All communications to
Foresters' Music Hall, Cambridge-road, Mile End, E.

CADLE'S AGENCY,

WANTED, for Easter week and onward,
Star Acts in all Lines.
Star Acts in all Lines.
Cadle's Agency,
105, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent.
Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro. tem.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Acts of all Descriptions.
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
'Phone 9144 Central. Tel., "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, March 28, onwards, for Glasgow, Dublin, Rochdale, S. Wales, Variety Acts and Specialties for Fêtes. Full bookings imperative. Gannon, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, for Galas, Halls. Give full particulars, posters, &c.,
Pacey's Agency,
186, Brixton-road, S.W. 'Phone 87 Brixton.
Telegrams, "Paceys, London."

Wanted, Comedy Acts,
Wanted, Comedy Acts,
WANTED, Comedy Acts,
March 28, on Comedy Acts in all Lines. Turns who can make the people laugh. Write particulars, list of bookings, and lowest terms, Box 7,446, "The Era."

WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Big Acts on sharing terms; Sound Combinations and Funny Comedy Turns in all Lines.
Bowmaker, Manager, Empire, Dudley.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, really Funny Novelty or Big Sensational Speciality, for Monday, March 28, onward. Big Animal Acts, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, &c. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Novelties, and Specialities, new to Blyth; absolute lowest, first letter: also Lady Violinist, read at sight, or useless. De Vere, Manager, Hippo., Blyth.

MANOR HOUSE THEATRE, RINGWOOD.
WANTED, Variety Companies, for the above Theatre, Shares or Rental. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, good Speciality, Acrobatic Troupe preferred, two weeks, commencing Easter, Lancs.
All coms., Stanton, 6, West-street, Colne.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, for March 21, 28,
for Towns North and Midlands.
Money no object for the right stuff.
Scottish Meisters wire address. Contract waiting.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
March 28, April 4, 11,
Big
Star
Tops
and
Bottoms,
for
Blackpool, Leeds,
Liverpool, Birmingham, Brighton,
Dublin, Bolton, and other Towns.
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telephone, 9144 Central.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

HIPPODROME, KEIGHLEY.

WANTED, Good Tops,
March 28 and April 18.
Apply, T. Holmes, agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

JOHN ADAMS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Tops, April 4 and 11; also Artists in all Lines, various dates.
Perm. Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.
'Phone 288.

WANTED, a Big Top, Easter Week, for a draw.
T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Big Top for March 28. Wire absolute lowest terms. Particulars, Charles Dietrich's Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool.' Phone 1269 Royal.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Tel., 2349 Royal.

WANTED, big Tops of Bill, April 4, 11, 18, 25, nothing too big; also First-class Acts in all Lines. We can book you. Send full list of bookings and vacancies.
The SHAW Firm.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.

WANTED, a good Bottom of Bill, March 28; also a few other turns. Castleford is a small town, but a good break-journey between North and South. State absolute lowest first letter to Beanland and Emerson.

WANTED, from Pierrot Troupes, Quotations for the use of Bandstands and permission to use the Grounds of the Newcastle Urban Council. Some seats supplied; good accommodation for chairs.
Further particulars, if needed, and all applications to be addressed to
Mr. L. B. Ward,
Secretary Newcastle Amusements Committee,
Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.

WANTED, Boys and Girls, with good voices and a little experience, for Sketch.
Wallace Selkirk, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Bender or Posturer, Juggling Act, Useful Acts; also Cornet. Terms must be low. Join at once. Dennis's Circus, Tickhill, Yorkshire.

WANTED, a Good Second Mounter, must tumble well, for well-known Comedy Act. State tricks and lowest terms, first letter, Box 7434, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, up-to-date Operator, own Machine, Cloth, &c., with or without Films, to show about 2,000ft. at intervals. Electric. Wire lowest, Newbury, Skating Rink, Cowdenbeath.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Easter Monday Week, for HERBERT DARNLEY'S
GREAT SKETCHES AND STRONG VARIETY CO.
"THE BRIGANDS OF TARRAGONA"
(from the London Coliseum);
"JOHN JAY, JUNR.,"
(from the Moss's Empires).
Herbert Darnley himself appears, supported by Chas. H. Bell and Famous Darnley Comedians, in addition to First-class Co.
Herbert Darnley,
44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, March 21, 28, by the Only and Original Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Hippodrome, Wednesbury. Wire to 154, Bracebridge-street, Birmingham, after Saturday night.

WANTED, Known, Eugene, Girl Baritone, concluding twelve weeks' successful run of panto. This Royal, Batley. Vacant March 21 and 28, through misunderstanding.

WANTED, Monday, La Raiedia, Banjo Queen, trick Mandolinist, Illustrated Banjo Playing. Wire, Palace, Westminster (middle). Own special printing.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, in Novel and Refined Speciality, Banjos, Piano, Comedy, Dancing, &c., vacant March 21, also April 11, 25, for Wales. 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, April 4 on, Sisters Roze, Instrumentalists, Comedy Artists, and Dancers, two clever little Artists. 9, Linden-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25.
Perm. address, 31, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Howard-Hugh Trio, including Doris Myddleton, Vocalism, Comedy, and Instruments. Two distinct turns. Vacant Easter. T. R., Goole.

T. E. JOHNSTONE,
The Topical Character Vocalist,
is Engaged
March 21, Hippodrome, Aston;
March 28, Palace, Derby;
April 4, Hippodrome, Accrington (fifth return);
April 11, Hippodrome, St. Helens (fifth return).
Plenty more to follow.

WANTED, Known, for future Vacancies and Terms, address,
Next week (March 21), Hippo., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
JAMES STEWART
the Celebrated "Tramp at the Piano,"
has the following immediate Vacancies:
March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25.
Offers invited for the above weeks.
Address,
March 21, Empire, Bristol;
next, Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road, London.

WANTED, by Slippere, the Well-known Blind Entertainer,
April 4, 11, 18, 25.
A Sure Draw.
March 21, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, by Andrew McManus, Monday next, also March 28, April 4, onward, with exceptions. Capital voice. Comedy and Dancing. 1, Moran-street, Fulwell, Sunderland.

WANTED, immediately, by George Edwards, wonderful Boy Soprano, age 16, Illustrated Songs, a sure success and hit of any Programme. Wire or write, G.P.O., Newport, I.O.W. Al Fresco offers invited.

WANTED, Known, Bert Williams, at Liberty Monday next, also March 28 and April 4.
Wire, to-day, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland;
or Peel's Agency.
Tel., "Exciteful, London."

WANTED, Easter, and April 4, 11, Kristo, original Expert Comedy Juggling and Patter Act. A cert. Perm., 21, Colnbrook-street, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, next week, Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Tivoli House, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

WANTED, April, onwards, Dan Ashton, Empire's Cockier Comedian; Original Copyrights encored nightly. Pal., Ashton; next, Pal., Loughborough. 28th, Palace, Bedford Leigh.

WANTED, Monday next and 28th, by Hal Lowe Smart Patter Comedian. Enormous Success. Wire, Palace, Nelson.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Comedian, Banjoist, and Chorus Singer.
Wire, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, March 28, April 4, Funny Alex, Smart Comedy Three Bar Act.
34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Harl, Juggling Expert, Lib. April 4, 18, 25, only vacancies till Sept. Offers. March 21, Empire, Douglas; March 28, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Vacant next Three Weeks, by Stylo, wonderful hoop juggling effects. Beatrice Bonnie, Comedienne. 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, March 21, April 4, 11, share or salary (shares preferred), Picitt and Lizette, Illusionists and Pantomimists, in their Great Magical Extravaganza,
"THE CRAZY COOK,"
from the Coliseum, London, Palace Theatre, London, and Leading Continental Theatres. Original Illusions worked like lightning. A Big Comedy Act, a Big Illusion Act, a Big Animal Act, all in one. Fifty Birds and Animals, the Most Realistic Hotel Kitchen ever Staged. Big built set scene carried. Only clear stage required. Splendid lithos. Wire for Monday, 81, Bristol-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, April 4, onward, Kyoto, Japanese Sensational Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, &c.; May Geraldine, Chorus Comedienne, Dancer. Monday, Empire, Abersychan, Mon.

WANTED, by Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch, "The First of April," Vacant April 11, 18, and 25. Offers invited. Monday next, Hippo., Aston; 28th, Lyric, Liverpool.
April 4, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, March 21, April 11, 18, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, New Act, "Yoicks and a Yokel." Scenic Effects, &c. Grand, Bolton. See other Advt.

WANTED, March 28, April 4, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas. Great success, Northwich. Coms., Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next, by Daisy Trenchard, Child Artist, aged 16; also Norman Langford, Comedian; two smart performers. Wire, Collins's Music Hall, Islington, London.

WANTED, Monday, and April 18, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, own scenery, splendid lithos. Comic Competition, the funniest of all. Wire, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth; after Sun., 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, also Easter week, by the Le Bruns: Edie, Charming Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler, and Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist. A Novel and Artistic Act. Wire, Picturedrome, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, vacant all April, Happy Harry Hellis, Pianist, Comedian; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Cornettist, Vocalist, Dancer. Royal, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; also Ada Whitton, Comedienne. Wire, one or both, 21, Canterbury-street, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, with their Electric Miniature Vaudeville Theatre. Third visit, Theatre Royal, Goole.

WANTED, April 4, 11, Harry Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. The real goods. Address, Empire, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Wisper, Comedy Kid Juggler; Beattie Bloom, Real Star Comedienne; want Monday. Wire, Queen's Theatre, Leeds; or 17, Queen's-square.

WANTED, April 4 and 11, by Forder's Human Mannikins (two Artists), Miniature Me.o-dramas, and Variety. Walter Forder, to-day, Hippo., Lynn; next, Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Waldo and Wade, Lancashire Dialect Comedian and Refined Vocal Actress, in an Original Vaudeville Burlesque.
Managers requiring a really Funny Act combined with Talent can rely on this Turn.
Can Top or Bottom any Bill.
Free March 21 and 28.
23, Stanlake-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, April 4, 18, May 2, 9, July 11. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, Monday next. Big hit, this week. Wire, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Newman (late Primavesi) and Knight, great Comedy Juggling Act, own Cottage Scenery carried for this Act; Vacant March 21, April 4 and 18, also May 2. Wire, The Homestead, New Malden, Surrey.

WANTED, Monday and Easter Week, the Dunvilles, unrivalled Comedy Musical Pot-pourri Act. C/o Tivoli Agency, Tivoli House, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Easter Monday, Sure Attraction, Four Van Earles, Beautiful Ballads, Hebrew Comedy; extraordinary Whirlwind Clog Dancing; introducing Champion Boy Slab Dancer of the North. This, O. House, Treherbert; next, T. R., Glossop.

WANTED, by The 3 Clarks 3, April 28, 1910, owing to postponing that date. Canadian Club Throwers, Musical Bag Punchers, Speciality Dancing, &c. Coms. to Fred Clark, Manager for 3 Clarks 3, Globe Hotel, Buxton-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, The Musical Palmers, Vacant Easter Week, Bio Novelty, "The Village Blacksmith." Big Draw. Wire, Hippo., King's Lynn. Letters, Pictures, Clay Cross.

WANTED, March 21, 28, April 4, The Flying Orenius's (two ladies, two gentlemen). Stage aerial act. Last week, Hippo., Dover. Wire, 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, March 28, April 4, and 11, by the Woolhafs, Great Comedy Act. Palace, Hull. March 21, Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, March 21, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 13, Victoria-crescent, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, March 21, and Easter week, the Star Comedy Act. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 4, 11, 18, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, and the Doll with the Laugh.
Address, Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. This week, Empire, Coalville; next, Prince of Wales, Nuneaton.

WANTED, March 21, by Valvo, the Ventriloquist, to precede Colchester.
Wire, 12, Lapage-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton.

WANTED, for "That Brute Simmons," Monday next and Easter (late Palace Theatre and Stoll Tours). Wire, George Elliston, County Theatre, Kingston.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS CO.

WANTED, Dates, for this High-class Novelty, April 11, onwards.
We provide everything, including
Matting, Ring, &c. Good printing.
Rent, share, or certainty.
Address, Boswell, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant March 28, all April and May, prior to Continental Tour.
All coms., week March 21, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Tudora's Ponies, Finest Pony Act Touring, Clever Novelty, no Ring Fence required. This, Hippo., Exeter; next, Tivoli, Pentre; 28th, Gala, Abergavenny; Liberty April 25, May 2, 23, and on.
All coms., Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, certain Dates, by Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer Goats. Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this Kind; refined up-to-date, something out of the usual stage set, and costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Gardens, Fêtes, the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Address, 7, Ecksteinroad, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, April 4, 11, and 18, for the Novel Animal Pantomime Act, Jordan's Monkey Actors, who present their Inimitable Burlesque Burglary. March 28, Empire, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Great Troupe of Prize Russian Poodles and Champion Challenge Jumping Dogs, the talk of every town they visit. Next week, Hippo., Todmorden; Easter Monday, Gala, Carmarthen. Only Vacancy until October April 25, May 2.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur and her Russian Poodles and Leaping Dogs; next, Hippo., Todmorden, own company. Call for Monday: Bros. Lloyd, Alecia, Two Morrisons, Murray, Amy Bayne, James and Cyril, The Leonas, Edna Craggs, Lily White, Hengleur's Dogs.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke's Two Hundred Royal Cats, &c., Vacant March 28; share or certainty; good posters and lithographs by Creber (Plymouth), Berry (Bradford). Address, Park Hotel, Bletchley.

WANTED, Monday, and onwards, Halls, Tenting, &c., Prof. Lorenzo's Marvellous Troupe of Performing Dogs. Always great draw. 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, March 21, 28, by Chard's Dog Circus.
A Great Act and Sure Draw.
Wire, Brunswick Hotel, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known,
the Wonderful Selbinis.
At Liberty weeks April 4, 18, May 2, 9, 16.
All communications,
26, Kirkstall-road, Streatham Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, vacant Monday, also Easter, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, March 28, on, by Swift Duo, screamingly funny Cycling Speciality. Wire or write, 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Classical, Comical, Acrobatic Juggling and Balancing Bicycle Act; Les Caros, Forward and Double Somersault Gymnasts on Silver Frame; two first-class acts. Open for galas. Address, Pauletti, Hippodrome, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Frank Hope, Sensational Trick Cyclist, vacant for Galas, Whit and Aug. Bank Holiday, splendid posters. 12, Ablewell-street, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Good Tumbler at Liberty, Comedy or Straight; will join a first-class Troupe or Trio. Communications, Box 7,445, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to thank the large number of applicants re Payne's Dreamland Bioscope sale, and especially those gentlemen prospective purchasers whom I met on the ground on Wednesday, and to announce that the show was purchased by private treaty a few hours previous to the announced sale by auction by Mr. Geo. Campbell, the well-known North of England traveller, on behalf of J. W. Waddington, Esq., of Leeds.
N.B.—I have other clients who will buy large shows for cash if price asked is reasonable. Also want to buy Cake-walk immediate.
Tom Norman, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.

WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. New Electric Rifle and Target Co., Ltd., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Hoop-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Confetti and Carnival goods write Cadwell,
93, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from THE UNITED KINGDOM GILLETT LIGHT CO., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, all Specialities for the Fair, Rifle Ranges, Slot Machines, Flare Lamps, &c. BRITISH Co., 467, High-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Known, Side-shows for Continent, Season six months, on sharing terms. Write at once, full particulars. Box 7,431, "The Era."

WANTED, Refined Side Show, best position Southport Shore, building 30 by 15; open Good Friday. Elbas write. MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions for London, Manchester, and Glasgow, now and onwards. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, at once, Living Novelties of every description; also Lady Palmist. The very best stand in town. FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, Savalle-street, North Shields.

WANTED, Dahomey Troupe, for the Summer Season. Brassfoot please write. Humber's Waxwork, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Palmist, Fortune-teller; grand opening Business Woman; also Freaks. Shares or rent. MANAGER, Royal Coronation Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street Manchester.

WANTED, Expert Lady Palmist, immediately after Easter, for established connection. Terms, Shares. Send photo. and particulars, PALMIST, Castle Buildings, Llanelly.

WANTED, a First-class Doorsman, a man to take charge of the front. Send photo., age, JOHN PROCTER, Market-place, Wombwell, Yorks.

WANTED, Sales Girl for Travelling Exhibition; must be good demonstrator, and used to Exhibitions. Full particulars, Box 7,426, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Carcass's First-class Punch and Judy, Champion Dog Toby. Liberty Easter. Write or wire, Harley-road, Sale, Cheshire.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Temple, the World's only Bearded Lady, now creating a great sensation in Glasgow. All communications re above to HARRY HALL, c/o Pickard's Waxworks, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Russian Palmist and Character Reader will join or assist one or several young ladies or gentlemen for Seaside Season (south preferred); can introduce some capital, or will finance good money-making proposition. Address, Box 7,423, "The Era."

THE JUNGLE, ZOO, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, Arthur Dashwood, Agent-General, just finished eight weeks' comfortable engagement with Frank C. Bostock, Esq; also ten years' engagement with E. H. Bostock, Esq. Return thanks to the following proprietors for offers: Mr. E. H. Bostock, Mr. Poole, Mr. Collingwood, Mr. Pringle, Mr. Taylor. All arrangements complete this year. Roseberry-road, Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Advertiser, Engagement, coming season, with show of good standing. Assistant-Manager, Lecturer, or take Front. Control. Excellent talker, and full experience. Parts and refs. to enquirers. E. M., c/o Bostock Jungle, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED to Let, Positions in Exhibition, Marine Arcade, Southend-on-Sea, for Automatic Machines; must be first-class machines. The Best Position in Southend. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, in Exhibition, Marine Arcade, Southend-on-Sea, for Engraver, Handkerchief, Sketch Artist, Plating, Palmist, Monograms, &c., splendid position, reasonable terms. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Extensive Premises, 100 by 42, in sub main thoroughfare, near thoroughfare, front and back entrance. E., 16, Charles-street, Cardiff.

THE EDINBURGH MARINE GARDENS, LTD., PORTOBELLO.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, in Amusement Court, for Novel Attractions and Side Shows of all kinds. Apply, stating offer, to MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, a few Spaces, Exhibition, Salisbury, March 31 to April 16 inclusive, for real Novelties. Early application to MANAGER, County Hall, Salisbury.

THE EDINBURGH MARINE GARDENS, LTD., PORTOBELLO.
WANTED, to Let, Stalls and Spaces, in Main Promenade Hall, and in the Grounds, for the Sale or Exhibition of any suitable Articles. Applications to be made at once in writing, stating terms, to MANAGER

WANTED, Known, Palmistry rights for Season to let; also Hall for Pictures and Al Fresco Pitch to Let. For particulars apply, MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Spaces for Startling Side-shows and Games, open Easter, Exhibition or Seaside; also Summer Season. MAXIM, Post Office, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase on Terms, Large Rail Living Waggon, door in centre preferred, must be in First-class condition. Apply, TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "Era" Office, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Tent and Living Waggon. Tent almost new, cheap. Seen at 96, Derby-street, Bolton. GARLICK, 58, Busk-st., Chadderton, Oldham.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Cinematograph Booth, 32ft. by 60ft., made by Orton, Burton-on-Trent, and Licensed under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. Upholstered seats, and trucks; cheap. JOHN PROCTOR, Market-place, Wombwell, Yorks.

WANT to Sell, Razzle-Dazzle, complete, all done up this Winter, as good as new, cheap for cash, with or without traction engine. JOHN PROCTOR, Market-place, Wombwell, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, Davies's Miniature Shooting Range, well known in Travelling Exhibitions, easy to work, everything complete, six Guns, 1,000 Targets, Slug Receiver, Watches, Clocks, Competition Cup Show Cards, Medal, and Watch Frames, Skip, Drapery, Target Boards, &c., everything to open up with. What offers? Write, DAVIES, Electric Light Studios, 4a, Mill-street, Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, nearly new, 3gs.; Gipsy Queen, with mechanical eyes, 6gs.; Invisible Slips, direct from the States, 12s. 6d. 1000. Specimens free. LESTER Co., Importers, Pentre, Rhondda.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, Sure Living for Worker. Cost £10; sacrifice 50s., working order, and instructions complete. JACKSON, 108, High-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Known, Novelty for Cinematograph and Picture Shows. For sale, Æolian organ, to play by hand or perforated music, grand appearance and music up to date. W REYNOLDS, 22, Grove-place, Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Fish Pond, complete, nearly new, Ramsbottam's, also Illusion, Side-show; splendid money-takers. Offers. MAXIM, Post Office, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, Cake-walk Machines, Secondhand. SHEREK and BRAFF, LTD., 17, Lisle-street, London, W.

WANTED, to Buy, Haunted Castle, must be in good condition. State price, where can be seen. CLEMENTS, 34, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Expert Palmist requires Partner, smart man, to combine Management for the Season; invest small amount. LILLIAN, 16, Upper Well-street, Coventry.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Smart Instructor, Good Skater, first-class appearance and address, for large fashionable Rink. £1 a week and whatever instruction made. Write, with photo and references, to MANAGER, Trindle-road Rink, Dudley.

WANTED, Expert Foreman to Superintend complete erection of Rinks for Continent. Apply, stating experience, salary required, languages, and full particulars, to RINK, Hotel de l'Europe, Lille, France. (Post 2½d.)

WANTED, Instructor, for Skating Rink, preference given to one who can give occasional exhibitions; must be smart, and able to control a crowd. State age, height, references, and lowest terms first letter, enclosing photo., A. A. CASH, General-Manager, Wellington Pier, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Small Rink, to commence March 26, Town Hall, Westgate, Smart Young Instructor, combine floor-management, wages and 50% instructions. Copies of references and wages expected, to LENNON, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Hal Berte, the Greatest Roller Skater England ever had. N.S.A. Gold Medallist, &c. Now at liberty for Exhibitions of Speed or Figure Skating; or Rink Management and Exhibitions combined. HAL BERTE, 25, Upper Winchester-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Change, by well-known Floor-Manager and Lady Instructress, fine Exhibition Skaters, Seaside or Continental Rink preferred. Excellent references as to character, ability, &c. Box 7,418, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Smart Up-to-date Rink Manager, at liberty end of this month. Can provide excellent band and full staff if required. All experienced workers. Box 7,435, "The Era."

WANTED, by Professor Plumridge, Engagement as Manager or Floor-manager Exhibitions included; good references. 26, Baxter-road, Essex-road, N.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Floor-Manager (combine Manager) and excellent Rink Band, can supply whole Staff if needed. Apply, M.-D., Olympia Rink, Falkirk.

WANTED, Star Skate Artists, Ladies or Gents. Also Ladies' Band. Lowest terms and vacant dates, New Olympic Rink, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Skating Rink, as a going concern, now erected on the Stalybridge Market Ground; Tent about 150ft. long by 56ft. wide; maple floor, 300 pair Winslow Skates, Portable Offices, Cloak Room, &c. Offers to be addressed to SECRETARY, Excelsior Portable Rinking Co., Ltd., Beast Market, Huddersfield.

SKATING RINK.
WANTED, a New or Secondhand Mechanical Musical Instrument, suitable for a Rink of 100ft. by 40ft. Full particulars and price to be sent to Mr. P. T. Harrison, 7, Cornwall-rd, Dorchester.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, THE MANAGER.

ROSWELL'S EDUCATED PONIES.
WANTED, Skating Rinks, or Large Building for this Refined Entertainment. No damage to floor, as we carry our own matting ring, &c. Address, with particulars, BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a good paying Cinematograph Show, it is small but up to date; been established over two years, in a good town; good reason for giving up. Write to Box 7,449, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Bioscope, nearly new, with all appliances for working, very cheap. CADWELL, 93, Upper Richmond-road, Putney.

WANTED, to Sell, 400 Tip-ups, Upholstered in Blue Velvet. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Three Good Trick Dogs, with Somersaults. For particulars apply, C. DICKEL, 35, Limehouse-causeway, E.

WANTED, to Sell, 65ft. Round White Circus Tent, with stripped wallings, including king pole, quarter poles, side poles, ropes, stakes, &c., made by A. Saunders. Everything new. Price £50. CHADWICK, 13, Hazelbourne-road, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Rostrum, 8ft. high, 2 Mechanical Moons 5ft. high (crated for travelling), Sky Cloths and Wings, Ground Rows, Telescope Braces, &c. View by appointment. Address B., 12, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, complete (plated), portable stand, £3 10s. Wanted, Keyed Glockenspiel; would exchange. NEWMAN, 9 Elizabeth-street Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Loudest Xylophones ever heard, Gongs, Tubular Bells, Marimbas, Tunable Resonators (protected), Rattles. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Panto. Productions, "Red Riding Hood" and "Aladdin." Particulars and lowest price for cash to EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Weymouth.

WANTED, Full Set, suitable for Australian Gold-diggers' Camp; must be in really good condition. Also Drawing-room Sets by eminent London Artists, and suitable Furniture for Touring. Write full particulars to GEO. KIRK, 55, Doddington-grove, Kennington

WANTED, Costumes, Scenery, Props, Chinese Character. Write lowest price, particulars, Box 7,432, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, 160 Tip-up Seats, in Crimson Velvet. State rock bottom price, f.o.r. ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Metropole, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Purchase Cinematograph Films, including the Life of Charles Peace. Full particulars and lowest price to A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Green Baize Stage Cover, about 6yds. square, also Grass Mats, must be good condition, and cheap for cash. KYOTO, Empire, Abersychan, Mon.

WANTED, to Buy, Roman Costumes and Useful Pantomime Dresses; also Roman Scenery. Fullest particulars, SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, good Novelty Turn, to suit Lady, good Pianist, Violinist, and Soprano Voice. Letters only, CADWELL, 93, Upper Richmond-road, Putney.

WANTED, to Buy, a few Life-size Statues, papier-maché or plaster. D. GREEN, 2, Montagu-street, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Circus Tent, immediately, 100ft. by 80ft., or thereby. Top, walling, and seats, everything complete. Particulars, with best price, to JOHN RINTOUL, Jigburn House, Dunfermline, Fife.

WANTED, to Buy, a Dashpot (120 ampères), a Film Clouds and Storm, and good Green Stage Cloth, 32ft. by 30ft. State lowest terms. STAIGHT, 35, Burman-street, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Purchase, Two Paper Organs, Suitable for Skating Rinks. Must be First-class. NORMAN, Auction Dept., "Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Four Strong Travelling Baskets, lined American leather, cheap. State sizes, full particulars, and where can be seen. S., 114, Cheapside, E.C.

WANTED, Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues, &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED, Dramatic One Act Play, four characters, if possible less. Terms, particulars, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, a good Dramatic Song. Reply, with particulars, to LILIAN ROSE, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, for six weeks, commencing April 11, the Zoo Buildings, Glasgow, 200ft. square, in splendid position. Terms moderate for this period. Apply, BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER

WANTED, to Let, Extensive Premises or Site for Vaudeville, Café, &c., between two new Electric Theatres, near corner Shakespeare, Milton streets, Victoria Station, Nottingham. Area 289 yards, 45ft. and 58ft. frontage. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham. Interview by appointment only.

WANTED, Known, Two Electric Theatre Sites to let on Lease, central main thoroughfare, capital can be found for erecting same. Plan. COOLEY, c/o Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Private Rehearsal Rooms, finest accommodation in London. Manchester House Academy, 295, Kennington-road. 'Phone 5467 Central.

TO AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETIES.
WANTED, Known, Complete Sets of Superb New Scenery for the Gilbert and Sullivan Operas for hire. Built and painted from original Savoy models. Terms, J. CHAS. IMESON, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known. You can hire the best films at the cheapest rate. Complete shows, machines, and accessories. SHANLY'S, 2, Capeners-yard, Knightsbridge, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire; price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Rent or Purchase, a Theatre, in London or the Provinces. Reply, in confidence, to JAMES B. GORDON, Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Principals only dealt with. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, by an Actor-Manager with Plays, costumes, printing, and a name not only known in England but further Britain. Either a First-class Juvenile Leading Lady or a good Business-Manager required. Address, Box 7,430, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Any Young Lady or Ladies, having good proposition, but which requires funds to make it go, a Colonial young gentleman, musical, will finance. Active or sleeping partnership entertained. Letters only, W. GRANT WRIGHT, c/o 6, Friar-lane, Leicester.

WANTED, Partner, in Old-established North of England Variety Agency; must have had experience in a First-class Agency. Every investigation courted. Apply, with full particulars, Box 7,438, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedy Sketch, with good Low Comedy Part, or would arrange Partnership in one well booked. Particulars first instance, Box 7,421, "The Era."

WANTED, by Known Author, Partner (lady or gentleman) for brilliant, sensational spectacular melodramatic sketch, to be produced shortly. £100—£150 required. A top liner. Assured success. References exchanged. AUTHOR, 121, Shirland-road, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Partner, for Drama, written by Well-known Author; Strong Leading Lady's part. Advertiser is well-known Manager, who can influence Bookings. Box 7,460, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Partner, experienced in Club work; if possible for boxing act. Letters only, c/o Lynn, 32, Trinity-square, Brixton.

WANTED, Partner, with Light Booth, Dark Tilt. Advertiser has Bioscope, &c. Straight worker. Sure success. LLOYD, Pictures, Boxford, Suffolk.

WANTED, Partner for Comedy Triple Bar Act. straight man preferred. Able to patter, must be a good performer. Address, ONDRA, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

WANTED, Partner, with good Double Act; Advertiser, known Comedian, can influence Bookings. Box 7,440, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours. Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMAN & Co., 4, Pitville-place, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 100 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne." Enclose card to PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano Part, 2s. 6d.; Band Parts, 3s. 6d. (ten). E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract. CHARLES BARNARD, On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known.—Will Frank (Caffrey) Lanton communicate at once to 1, Laburnum-road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Mr. Alfred Selwyn to communicate with Clarke, Lewthwaite and Co., Solicitors, 3, Duncan-street Islington. Very urgent.

WANTED, to thank all those that wrote in to my last week's advt. All Vacancies filled. W. SEDGWICK, Menagerie, Pendlebury.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Fred Hinds, better known as Capt. Cordona, specially engaged as Trainer and Foreman by A. R. McKill, Esq., Managing-Director, Zoo, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, "The Hawkers" is the title of a new Act by which the Herald Comedy Four will in future be known, but will play dates already booked in old name.

WANTED, First-class Maker of Illusions, à la "Pepper's Ghost." Communicate at once. Box 7448, "The Era."

FOR SALE.

MAGNIFICENT AND COMPLETE PRODUCTION OF
"ROMEO AND JULIET,"
including
SCENERY, PROPERTIES, and DRESSES,
as produced at the
Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Grand Theatre Glasgow, &c.
R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.

1 SMALL TEDDY BEAR, 4 Golden Lion Marmosets, 1 Common Crane, 5 Reddish Egrets, 3 Nutcrackers, 4 Alpine Choughs, 1 Small Java Cockatoo, 1 Red Macaw, 1 All Blue Macaw, 10 pairs Yellow Budgerigars, 2 Buzzards, 3 Chimangoes, 2 Spotted Cavies, 3 Raccoons, 1 Agouti, 1 Ocelot, 1 Genet, 2 Paradoxures, 3 Lemurs, 1 Pony, 1 White Fox, 1 Black-backed Jackal, &c.; also 5 pieces Old Chinese China, 7 pieces Old Kaga-Kutani China, 15 pairs Japanese China Vases, 8 pairs Bronze Vases, 120 Old Netsukis, 23 Ivory Carvings, Shells, Curios of all sorts, &c. ALBERT EDWARD JAMRACH, 180, St. George-street, E.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound. Will sell cheap. DE VON, LTD., 114, Bethnal Green-road, London.

FOR SALE.
Rare, "The Era," bound in half-yearly volumes, cloth backs, marbled boards, from 1885 to 1899 (less 1891, I. and II., 1892, I., 1895, I., 1899, II.), invaluable to Stage Historians, Managers, Actors, &c., 24 volumes, all out of print. Offers invited for whole or special volumes. R. H. HAMILTON, St. Brelade's, Horsham, Sussex.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

WANTED,
TO BUY OR LEASE
FIRST-CLASS PROVINCIAL
THEATRES AND HALLS
Full particulars and lowest terms to
Messrs. L. BARRY and CO.,
292, High Holborn, London, W.C.
Principals only communicate in confidence.

WANTED THEATRE LEASES
in all the . . .
Provincial Towns
IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL
Box 1270 WILLINGS, 125, STRAND, W.C.

LARGE
SKATING RINKS
in large Cities, in good positions, WANTED,
PURCHASE OR RENTAL
for the Autumn.
All particulars to
GEORGE STANLEY,
Winchester House Birmingham.

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
At the termination of the Rinking Season, May 13th, onwards
WANTED, on Sharing Terms
PIERROT TROUPES,
CONCERT PARTIES,
CHOIRS,
MINSTREL SHOWS,
BANDS & FEATURE ENTERTAINMENTS
in all lines, for the above magnificent building.
Apply with full particulars, FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Oakley House, Bloomsbury Street, W.C., marking envelopes "Coliseum."

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street.
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

METAL MONOGRAMS, LINEN-MARKERS, &c. Ready sale at Exhibitions, Seaside Stalls, Fairs throughout the country.
Muggleton,
97, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.
NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.
ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.
NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. **CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1910.** Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Cruikshank, Miles-Stavordale, George Ali and Co., Louie Freear, Clary's Police Dogs, Great and Good, Animated Pictures, Grotesques, Amelia Bingham and Co., Lupino Lane, Black Diamonds.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Evie Greene, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, La Freya, Sammy Shields, "The Deputy-Sheriff," Addie Dorina, Northern Troupe, Jack Pleasants, Humpeti Bumsti.

EMPIRE THEATRE. GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Frank Couch, Takio, Amelie de L'Enclos, Anna Chandler, Emma Don and Co., Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Bros. Bright, Tom Foy and Co.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 a.m. for:—
Archie Goodall, Gladys Hooley, Arthur Albert, G. W. Hunter, Powell and Vesey, Elite Harmony Boys, Rossi Ashton, Bioscope, W. Fullbrook and Co., Horace Wheatley.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Carl Rosa Opera Co.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Perkins, M.P.," Sisters Caselli, Tom Lloyd, John Henry, Carmos, Rich and Rich, Elsie Roby, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Colini-Clairons, Harry Weldon, Stanley and Greenop, Bros. O'Brien, Chas. Santon, Laurie's Kindergarten, Ray Wallace, Brennans, Bioscope, Les Silas.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ernest Shand, Marco Twins, Barrington, Avolos, Little Ganty, Cole and Rags, Tiny Arnold, James Willard and Co., Bioscope, Courtiers.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Chas. Harrington's Co. in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Sisters Barnes, Wish Wynne, Tate and Tate, Harry Herbert, Heeley and Meeley, Melody Makers, Lillian Rose, Bioscope, Barry Lupino.

PALACE LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Van Biene, Kisbey, Clark and Hayden, Harry Leybourne, Harry Friskey, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Lukushimas.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Nelson Jackson, Sam Mayo, Billy Hobbs, Henry Helme, Holden's Mannikins, Delevines, Bros. Redmond, Mabel Mavis, Bioscope, Queenie Leighton, Alice Raymond.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Robey, Sisters Storm, Rohda Bros., Farr and Farland, Harry Allister, Verno and Voyce, Florence Esdaile, Florence, Bioscope, Thora, Drew and Alders.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Gertie Gitana, Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Glenroy Troupe, Siems, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Tom Costello, D'Arc's Marionettes, Ernie Garner, Bioscope, Craggs.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Tate and Co., in "Fishing," Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Fielding and Hull, Manchester Mites, Les Marco Belli, Five Vernons, Woodhouse and Wells, Gardner and Stoddart, De Wynne Bros.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
O Hana San, Charburn's Young Stars, Lottie Govell, Frank Maura, Talbot and Pearce, H. O. Wills, Lux's Dogs, Edith Heron-Brown, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Lilian French, Bioscope, Lupino Lane, Victor's Juveniles, Loyal's Trained Dogs, Tom Moore, Oswald Williams, Lydia Yeamans.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Miss Dot Stephens and Co., in "A Child of the Streets."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal, Saturday, March 26, at 1 p.m., for:—
George Dance's Co., including Miss Marie Studholme, in "Miss Hook of Holland."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Kellinos, Phil Parsons, Lillie Lassah, "Dolly's Deception," Spry and Monti, Marsumas, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Dave Samuels.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Ella Russell, Gwennie Llewellyn, Arthur Kenny, Bros. Egbert, Moran and Wiser, Darnley's "Skirmishers," O'Gust, Harry Conlin, Katie Moss, Bioscope, Gus Elen.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jewels' "Change," Maples, Betty Green, Victor Travers, Ethel Newman, Fayre and Manning, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Elliott-Savonas.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
L'Incognita, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Walter Wade, Jackley Trio, Casey Army, O'Malley and Brown, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Ike and Will Scott, Jack Lane, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Stewart and Morgan, Goggin and Davis, Bertha Winder, Bioscope, Charlier.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Dan Crawley, La Berat, Harry Clifford, Coloured Meisters, Leo Tell, Lillian Bishop, Bioscope, Villions.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Roal's Ballet, "Uncle Isadore," Geo. Leyton and Co., Conan and Doyle, Millie Payne, Three Van Dammes, Harry Bedford, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Ethel Bourne, King and Benson.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Chanti, Florrie Gallimore, Herbert Shelley, James' Strolling Players, Fatmah Diard, "Bosun's Mate," Francis and Alfred, Walker and May, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Bellclair Bros.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Whit Cunliffe, Four Regals, Kerr and Koe, J. A. Wilson, Fred Barnes, "Billy," Eadie and Ramsden, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Kate Carney and Co., in "Fun of the Fair," Carl and Carr, Three Delaries, Chas. Vincent, Millie Engler and Co., King and Queenie, Leonie Dixon, Bioscope, La Sylphe.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Cinquevalli, Will o' the Wisps, Corcoran Bros., Harry Anderson, Barnard's Mannikins, Margaret Parker and Co., Ryan and Hall, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Alexandra Dagmar, Bensons.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Mark Sheridan, Maude Edwards, Dion Wade, Prince Milner Trio, Mlle. Haydee, Bioscope, Latonas.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Juliette's Sea Lions, Maudie Francis, Tom Stuart, Gold and Sterling, Gladys Mavius, Carl Howard, Pictures, Ted E. Box, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
George Lashwood, Chas. J. Johnson, Conn and Conrad, Smythsons, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Motramos.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Barton and Ashley, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Jean and Josie, Catherine Arkandy, Luigi Salvino, Gus Garrick, Queen and Le Brun.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Kendal, Steve McCarthy, Two St. Johns, Sisters Hall, Delomes, Pictures, Odeyne Spark.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Walter Curtis, Hilda Mascot, Cadwall and Verne, Pictures, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Westbrook Trio, Walker and Lake, Stavordale Quintette, Rosie Lloyd, Radford and Valentine, Nellie Stratton, Blake and Amber, Wilkie Bard, Three Laurels.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Victor Courtney, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Felix and Fischer, John Partington, Goodfellow and Gregson, Maudie Ford, Juanitos Troupe, Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Evans, Ethel Loftus, Arley's Trio, Harry Russon, Smart Set, Maxini and Bobby, Alec Kendal, Wild, Willie, and West, Hayes v. Driscoll Film, Pictures, Tom Terriss and M. Deverez' "Vampire Dance."

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Hayes and Watson, L. W. Harris, Curwen and Belle, Palles and Cussick, Harry Fragson, Beatrice English, Bros. Habs, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Chris Baker, Thiessen's Dogs, Royburn and Dix, Daisey James, Taree, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Adams and Ward, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for:—
Minola Hurst, Everhart and full Company as booked.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bros. Durant, Ruby Rayo, Great Raymond, Tommie Clifford, Luella Cross, Bros. Litz, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ian Colquhoun, Gladys Archbutt, Eric Vaughan, De Verneuil's Posing Ladies, Ina Lorrimer, Kenway and Emery, Smit and Smit, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Chas. Grantley, Alice Hoodless and Co., Vera Rochdale, Daisy Mead, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Zethus, Maxey and Pete, Little Stanley, Monohan and Sheenan, Harry Taft, Rhoda Paul, George Gilbey, Coram, Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the **DE FRECE CIRCUIT**, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to **Walter de Frece** at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them.

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists working in the North of England who have odd weeks vacant are invited to communicate with the Local Manager at above Theatre, with a view to arranging a trial week.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MARCH 21.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Ross and Grayson, Ray Royal, Bill and Bellay, Miss Muffett, Jimmie Pullin, Kit Keen, Cassie Walmer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Adolf Beck Film, Joe Cookson, George Brookes, Lizzie Daniels, Lennard and Vereker, Irene Meldon, Amio Trio, Rose and Challoner, Joe Belmont.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Walter Barrett, Clara Coverdale's Dots, Roxboro' and Wright, Lilian Edwardes, Baker and Balfe, Welsh-Summers Fight, Picture.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Chas. R. Whittle, Madge Allan, Herbert Rule, Karr and Kooney, Shenton's Chicks, Cavalli, Tate's "Motoring," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Pete and Minnie Lee, Edwardes and Edwardes, Tennis and Laune, Six Buster Browns, The Rosses, Phillips and Merritt, Gillin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"The Outcast of the Family."

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Geni Family, Sisters Brenton, The Fimans, Guy Rider, Will Rhodes, Les Zanonis, "Ferdie's Main-Law," Palace Perfection Pictures, May Poulton.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Narow Brothers, Amy Douglas, Blair and Allen, Enzer and Clarice, Colin Mail, Ryder Slone, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Goodwin's Piccs., Gladys Clinton, Hicks and Hunter, George Acre, John Henry, The Merrions Crosby and Walker, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
J. W. Rickaby, L. B. Athol, Joan Deering, Brothers Victor, Bert Edwards, Marie Whittaker, Rauschle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
The Columbias, Tina Frank, Mitchell and Stott, Lily Le Breton, Elsie Howard, Van Rooke, Geo. F. Hall, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Four Royal Scots, Elton and Edwin, Jessie Wilton, Zellini, Curtis and Piccs., Ada Fawn, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Carney and Armstrong, La Belle Sylvia, Sydney Brandon, Elise Malpass, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Bert Woodward, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
H. G. Brandon and Co., Dalmere's Animals, May Knight, Sim Moree, Alice Gill, Torano Bros.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Her Fatal Marriage."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Les Piccolinos, The Darntons, Letine, Dorothy Dare, Norah Desmond, Palace Perfection Pictures, Tom Yorke.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Ching Ling Hee Troupe, Stidder and Dunbar, Roberta Svensden, Maude Vera, Baker and De Sales, Julian Mack, Martin Henry Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, The Rhoderick Duo, The Tintos, Dancing Gilberts, The Cumberlands, Cissy Brand, Jos. Crook, Carlotta De Yonsen, The Grand National.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Bessie Neilson, The Grand National.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Fordyces, Pictures, Harry Luck, Chas. North, "Roots, Rash Chemist," Edna Barrett, Joe Manners, "Moreton Pearls" (Cranston and Bennett), Frank Hardie and Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
J. H. Greener, Pictures, T. C. Jaques, The Donnas Trio, "Queen of Sheba," The Moroscos, "The Flower Girl," Vaudeville Trio, "East Lynne," Tom Collins.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Archie Pitt, Pictures, Ten Dixie Girls, Nellie Farrell, Unita and Paul, Will Austa, Larry Peate, Adderley Howard and Co., Daisy Silcott.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5964 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE FINEST HAMPERS IN THE WORLD

The "G.P.O." Hamper.

are made by the Blind at 258, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. Give us a call and you will be convinced that we can supply all your wants and execute all your orders promptly.

No. 3.—
33 in. long, 21 in. wide, 21 in. deep,
Price 24/- Tray 4/-

Other sizes at proportionate rates. Made close and very strong. Iron Hinges, Rope Handles, Iron Bands on ends of lid, G.P.O. Iron Bar as shown, Hard Wood Cleats, and lined with waterproof cloth. Wheels fitted, 2/- extra.

By placing your orders with us you not only get the best hampers that can be purchased, but at the same time you will be helping to support the Blind.

Terms: net cash with order. Carriage paid.

NOTE ONLY ADDRESS—

THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE BLIND,
258, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON, W.
Subscriptions towards the Pension Fund will be thankfully received by the Secretary, H. E. MULLINS.

JOY WHEELS.

THE NEW AMERICAN AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

To be operated at EXPOSITIONS, SUMMER PARKS, and SEA SHORE RESORTS.

From £1,000 to £2,000 taken in by each Wheel last season in many instances in Summer Parks in the United States.

Small outlay and small operating expenses.

DIFFERENT DESIGNS & PRICES ACCORDING TO SIZE.

Immediate shipments can be made. For particulars and prices write to

THE JOY AMUSEMENT DEVICE MFG. CO., 309, BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.

All the American Theatrical News.

For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 8, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN

THE BILLBOARD.

AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.

It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 2s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion

London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.

Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 2d. Post free, 4d.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BELFAST.—Large bedroom and sitting-room, Bath (h. and c.), near Theatres, comfortable, cooking; good references. Mrs. Barry, 55, Upper Arthur-street.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal supervision. CHARLES GRANT, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—"Leeside," Viewforth-square, Mrs. Dale. Comfortable apartments, piano, bath (h. and c.), good cooking; terms moderate.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, 35s. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Best English apartments. Mrs. Howard, 70, Renfrew-st. First-class cooking, every comfort; minute hall, theatres. Recommended.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Mrs. Wilkinson, Grosvenor House (opposite Theatre Royal). Select apartments; moderate terms; bath, &c.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior furnished apartments, piano, every convenience. N.B.—Will Miss Lili Peki, Helensee, Berlin, send full address. 145, Brixton-road.

LONDON, W.—Sup. fur. apartments from 10s. 6d., suites; bath; room for rehearsal; pianos. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly (opposite Tube).

LONDON, W.C.—Apartments. Sitting-rooms and bedrooms, from 25s. weekly; also bed-sitting rooms from 16s.; bedrooms, 12s. 6d. 11, Montague-street, Russell-square.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Gray, 36, Booth-st., East Oxford-rd., 2 bedrooms and sitting front combined; bath, W.C. in house. Vacant 27th.

PRESTON.—Large rooms; bath, piano; near Theatres; terms moderate; good cooking; good refs. Apply to Mrs. Townsend, 171, Friargate, Preston.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

TO ARTISTES AND OTHERS.

THE KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.

NOTICE is hereby given, that bill matter and all communications concerning the above mentioned theatre, should be sent direct to me, the undersigned (Managing Director of the Portsmouth Theatres, Limited, who are the proprietors of the King's Theatre), at the address mentioned below.

Dated this 15th day of March, 1910.

J. W. BOUGHTON,
New Theatre Royal, Commercial Rd., Portsmouth.

CRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	G.P.O. Rollers on Tray	Bottom
24 x	14 x	14 ..	6/10 ..	3/2 ..	3/0 ..	2/0
26 x	16 x	16 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 ..	2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 ..	3/3 ..	2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10/6 ..	4/6 ..	3/6 ..	2/6
33 x	21 x	21 ..	12/6 ..	5/3 ..	4/0 ..	3/0
36 x	22 x	22 ..	14/6 ..	6/0 ..	4/6 ..	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.

Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.

LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.

Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.

T. CRAVEN & SONS
T. Dept., 99, Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.
The MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

INVITE OFFERS

for the privilege of GIVING ENTERTAINMENTS during the coming Season from the Bandstand about to be placed on the Green on the Sea Front. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of entertainments will receive special consideration. Particulars and conditions of the licence may be obtained upon application to me. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," stating amount offered and nature of entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than 9 o'clock on Thursday, March 24, 1910. The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer. By order,

L. C. WEBBER-INCLEDON,
Clerk to the Council
16, Park-st., Minehead, Som., March 3, 1910.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

The Council are prepared

TO LET TWO SPACES

on the sands for

AL FRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS

during the forthcoming summer season.

Offers invited of a lump sum for the season for each space, half to be paid at once and the remainder on the 1st August, 1910.

Male entertainers only permitted.

All offers to be sent in by the 31st inst., marked "Beach Tender."

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

SYDNEY C. SMITH,
Clerk.

Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare,
14th March, 1910.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

The Council

INVITE TENDERS

for the right of supplying

VOCAL MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS

on the Marine Parade and in two Public Parks during the forthcoming season.

The person whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into an agreement, to be prepared by the Clerk to the Council.

Further particulars and terms of occupancy can be had from the undersigned, who will receive tenders, marked "Entertainment Tenders," up to 12 o'clock noon of March 31st, 1910.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

SYDNEY C. SMITH,
Clerk.

Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare,
14th March, 1910.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 648 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

We are releasing Sunday, March 20.

COURSE OF TRUE LOVE
Drama. 987ft.

Releasing Sunday, March 27.

THE ENGLISHMAN AND THE GIRL.
Comedy. 975ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Thursday, March 24.

UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES.
Spectacular. 900ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, March 27.

THE TATTOOED ARM.
Drama. 850ft.

SAMARITAN'S COURTSHIP.
Comedy. 865ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

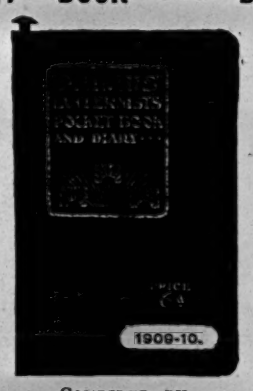

Compiled by
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St, Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, *Ltd.*, place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand

RUFFELL'S FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6686.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS
Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, ∴ 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PIERROT POSTERS AND ALL OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

Catalogues and prices of printing free.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills,
and the general Run of Show Printing
at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."

Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—**NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.**
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—**NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).**
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—**NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—**ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.**
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—**NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.**
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—**NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—**THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.**
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—**RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.**
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—**RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.**
11.—**NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.**
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—**NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.**
Tip-up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—**NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.**
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—**NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.**
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—**NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.**
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—**NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—**NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.**
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—**NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.**
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.**
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—**NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.**
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—**NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.**
24.—**NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.**
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from 4/6 to 75/- A good Running Seat from 1/- per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS
Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, M.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

MONMOUTH CORPORATION MAY FAIR

To SHOWMEN & OTHERS ALL ARE INVITED.

Persons *REQUIRING STANDINGS* for their Shows should send particulars of their requirements, together with measurements. Great care will be taken to reserve space for those who book in advance.

Apply,
Mr. GEORGE F. GRIMWOOD,
Borough Surveyor,
March 7th, 1910. Monmouth.

FOR SALE,

AS A GOING CONCERN,

THEATRE,

IN CENTRAL PART OF A BUSY NORTHERN TOWN.

Very Moderate Price and Greater Portion may be left on Mortgage.

PRINCIPALS OR THEIR SOLICITORS ONLY

Address, Box 7427, "The Era."

NEW FOR ENGLAND & AMERICA.

LOOPING THE LOOP

Not much used.
Not with Bicycle, but Standing in the Ring.
Absolutely without danger; very attractive.
To be performed everywhere.

NEW FOR ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

TO BE SOLD

For the third of the value, or Impresario Required, financially sound, to undertake the above. Driver at disposal.

Address, SCHIERHORN, Berlin, Kleine Alexanderstr. 26a.

INDISPENSABLE!

RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK.

Price ONE SHILLING.

Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling. Purchasers of this work will not only be making a good investment, but will also be adding to the funds of two deserving charities. The above work got up in a convenient size for the waistcoat pocket, should be in the possession of every actor, every music hall artist and every entertainer, in fact everyone concerned in the Amusement World.

CONTENTS.

Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.

All About Artists' Luggage.
Lists of Clubs.
All about stamping Contracts
Foreign Money Tables.
London Music Halls and Theatres.
Their Telephone Numbers.
List of Brougham Proprietors.
List and Address of Photographers.
Size of Theatrical Printing Paper.
Names and Addresses of Theatrical
Railway Managers, &c., &c.

RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK.

THE BOOK WILL BE SOLD AT ONE SHILLING
Post Free.

The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions,

THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND AND THE MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Garrick Theatre, writes: "I thank you for the little book, which I am sure will be very useful."
Mr. Seymour Hicks, Aldwych Theatre, writes: "I thank you for the Telephone Book, which I find most useful."
Mr. Joseph Wilson, the Tivoli, says: "The distance chart is very handy."
Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt, the Oxford, writes: "The little book should be very useful."

Send 12 Stamps to the Publisher.

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.

'Phones: 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address: "The Era, London."

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jackson Withers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archie Ainsleigh.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company is here in *Her Road to Ruin*. Mr. Charles Dickens is a very effective Frank Temple; Mr. Kendrew Wilson sustains with vigour the rôle of Tom Wells; Miss Ada Champion furnishes a sympathetic and clever portrayal of Jess Willoughby; whilst Miss Maud Gill does excellent work as May Willoughby; Mr. Alex Bradley depicts with force the dramatic traits of Philip Hardy; and the remaining parts are in capable hands.

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is presenting *The Dairymaids*. Miss Winnie Hall as Peggy is admirable throughout; Mr. Richard Telford causes endless amusement as Lieutenant Sam Brudenell; Eliza is in the capable hands of Miss Nellie Le Breton; Mr. Norman Bowyer achieves success as Joe Mivens, A.B., his funny antics and drolleries evoking hearty laughter, whilst the songs and dances, in which he is joined by Miss Lucy, are loudly applauded; Miss Lily Roselle is a commanding and attractive Lady Brudenell; Miss May Casson as Winifred is a charming singer and dancer; Mr. Horace Manger plays Lieutenant Frank Meredith with success; Mr. George P. Ascot is effective as Dr. O'Bryne; and Miss Julie St. George is a pleasing Penelope Pyechase.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—That finely-mounted and melodious fantasy, *Alice in Wonderland*, holds the boards here. Miss Ivy Sawyer, in the title-rôle, is simply perfection, and receives adequate support from, amongst others, Mr. Franklyn Vernon as the Mad Hatter; Mr. Dan Leno, jun., who doubles the parts of the Caterpillar and the Red King; and Ronald Henry and Tom Graves, as Tweedledee and Tweedledum respectively.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The top-liner this week is George Wood, a juvenile artist of remarkable versatility. Other turns are contributed by Dan Whitley, comedian; Eddie Emmerson and Jerry Baldwin, two quaint jugglers; Miss Connon, comedienne; Stewart and Morris, smart dancers; Cosgrove and Burns, duettists; Miss May B. Brilliant, comedienne and dancer; and Reski and Reski, humorous gymnasts.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Will Casey and company are here with *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Marion evinces a deep earnestness, mingled with a degree of pathos, that proves convincing; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes cleverly deals with the rôle of Philip Blackstone; Mr. W. Wroe ably portrays the character of John Hawthorne; and Mr. Arthur Cheevers is a commendable Frank Armstrong. Mr. Frank Masters as P.C. O'Runyin, Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer, and Miss Annie Mitchell as Carraway Crumpet infuse a good deal of humour into their respective parts; Miss Ethel Spense makes a charming Elsie Langham; and a particularly clever and talented little actress is seen in Miss Doris Sorsby as Reggie.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mephisto the Mysterious heads a strong bill here, and loud applause follows each of his marvellous magical feats; Mr. and Mrs. Meymott, in the amusing little sketch *My Artful Wife*, prove very entertaining; and Sam Fay is a droll and mirth-provoking comedian. The Carney Bros. are popular in their vocal entertainment; the Cosmopolitan Quartette contribute largely to the success of the programme; and Ena Corelli is a dainty little comedienne. The Three Cape Girls, character comediennes and long boot dancers, win much favour; Ariel and Astarte provide a smart bar performance; and the Bioscope pictures, with up-to-date films, complete.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The variety programme presented this week includes Lilly Burnand, who sings three character songs; Will Avis, in a conjuring entertainment, assisted by Miss Varre; the Lorettes, in trapeze and wire-walking; Silvertone, in a vocal speciality; Jimmy Grant, in Scotch songs and patter; and Lily Ray, in song and dance. On Good Friday *The Messiah* was given by the Aldershot Choral Society.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Carpenter's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Crocker.—Besides the many interesting films presented, a special turn is provided in Miss Kathleen Meredith, who sings two well-rendered songs. Of the pictures, the historical story of Launcelot and Elaine stands first, being a delightfully romantic subject of King Arthur's days. Many amusing pictures are shown. The Terror and the Terrier, Persistent Snapshotters, and The Tom-Tom being among the most laughable.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—An interesting programme is presented here. The pictures include Lost in the Snow, the Rival Sisters, A Tragical Love, Beautiful Scandinavia, Mutiny in the Kitchen, The Boy with the Sixth Sense, The Gipsy's Warning, and Disaster in a Coal Mine. On Thursday the chief picture was the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is revisiting here, Mr. Wilson Benge's company giving an effective interpretation. As George Tremain Mr. Cecil A. Melton does quite good work; Mr. Ben Carr scores as Squire Leverton; whose son Dick finds in Mr. H. Danson a capable representative. Dean Chiffton is acted with skill by Mr. Eddie Vane. Characteristic work is done by Messrs. Geo. Harvey as Rudolph Earle, Mr. Arthur Kerno as Giovanni, and Mr. Chas. W. Dockwray in the dual rôle of Paul Cairshaw and Hiram O. Younger. Mr. H. Hastings is also good as the cripple Jack Herne. Miss Annie Hylton is sufficiently unwomanly as the adventuress Renée de Telle. Miss Amy Milstrad as Edith and Miss Pauline Nanton as Marvis Leverton fulfil all that is required of them. Miss Nancy J. Clarke is capable as Gwendoline Younger.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Jenny Johns, the dainty comedienne, is in good form; Rene Bros. are clever comedy acrobats and ladder performers; Burns and Bentley well maintain their reputation as dancers; Bonair and Tess appear in a quick-change scena, a Japanese illusion; Stanley and Vandyke are a good comedy duo; the Claymore Trio are expert dancing club jugglers; Bert Bowden is an excellent singing comedian; Ida Kessanly's troupe of royal fox-terriers give a marvellous exhibition of animal training; and the Bioscope shows the picture No Excitement.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The new pictures at the Pavilion for the Easter holidays are, as before, up to date and splendidly displayed. The first picture is an Indian tale of beauty and dramatic power. It tells of the love of a white man and an Indian maiden. It is called A Daughter of the Sioux. A Practical Joke and Foolshead as a Reporter are comical in the extreme. Trick Cavalry at Fort Meyer is effective in showing the evolutions of American cavalry. Pity the Poor Blind is a mirthful picture. Marriage in the Moon is a story of a marriage in the upper air. It is Jules Verne outdone. Mr. Alan Wright, the song-lecturer, sings a couple of good songs.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Marks.—Among the pictures for the week at this hall is the striking film *The Mad Woman of the Castle*, in which there is a touch of romance. The Burglar and Little Phillis commends itself to all who are touched with the innocence of childhood. A very pretty story is unfolded in The Child with Dancing Jack. The special artists, whose performances are witnessed with lights up, are Mr. Geo. Edney in naval officer's garb, who sings some tuneful chorus music, and Mr. Frank Whiteley, a versatile comedian.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The bill for the week includes many pictures of great interest, but there is one in particular which attracts the attention of the sporting fraternity, namely, the pictures of the Grand National—the struggle for the Blue Riband of the "sticks"—which is vividly portrayed on the canvas. The artist who adds variety to the show is Oliver Conroy, the eccentric comedian.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—There is another lengthy picture programme here this week, which is meeting with success. The principal films are The Marriage at Trouville, an incident of the French Revolution; The Light That Failed and Laddie are full of pathos; The Squire's Romance is interesting; and mirth is provided by The Hero, Terror and Terrier, and The Door. Mr. George Smith, a favourite local comedian, is meeting with success.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The star picture in this week's diversified bill is an absorbing and exciting military series, The Highlander's Defiance, dealing with an episode of the Boer War. Other series include The Last Deal, Pity the Blind, Runaway Table, Late for the Office, Bone-setter's Daughter, and The New Orderly. Bright selections by the Scarlet Band, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Guest, a pleasing turn by the Sisters Mayor, child artists, and songs by Mr. Sam Shipley, comedian, who has been retained another week, add variety to the programme.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*Pete* is produced by the Lyceum Tours Company, under the direction of Mr. Henry R. Smith.—Mr. Austin Milroy in the title rôle is a host in himself, being equally at home as the rough-and-ready miner or the distracted husband; Kate is sympathetically portrayed by Miss V. Malcolm Barnett; and Mr. Alfred Gray makes a capital Philip Christian. Cæsar Cregeen is played by Mr. Frank Stone; Ross Christian by Mr. J. Edward Fletcher; and Nancy by Miss Lucy Murray.

PICTURE PALACE.—The popularity of the pictures is as great as ever here. His Reformation (a film of intense interest), A Duel in Mid-Air, The Squire's Romance, A Good Samaritan, and A Story of Circus Life are among the good things which go to make up a varied, instructive, and amusing programme.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King* is here. Mr. Fred B. Daviss does excellently as Wilfred Denver, and Miss Mildred Surrel is a sympathetic and artistic Nellie Denver; the Spider is cynically but cleverly done by Mr. Sydney; and the faithful Jaikes is well presented by Mr. Edward J. George; Miss Hilda Bateman is a capital Cissie Denver; and Mr. A. Hornby Warburton a typical Samuel Baxter.

TIVOLI—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Bellony Brothers are the top of the bill, and their extraordinary performance had a rousing reception; Little Zola is a quaint bit of humour, and is a great success; Roystone and Royce are clever dancers and good patterers; an instrumental musical act by the Les Trippellos is a real treat; Vena Valma is a pleasing comedienne. Vernon's Bioscope contribute capital pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—The programme provided by the Fred Newman British Empire Picture Company is proving exceedingly popular.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—This is the only regular indoor place of amusement open in Bath during this week, and the management have put on an exceptionally good programme, which includes the Narow Brothers, of comedy cycling fame; Enzer, the expert soldier-juggler, who is assisted by Miss Clarice, the lady ju-jitsu exponent; Ryder Stone, the popular comedian; Blair and Allen, in a pleasing song and dance act; Colin Mail, a light comedian who knows how to interest his hearers; and Amy Douglas, a contralto vocalist of charm. The Pictures are excellent.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Gus Levaine presents his pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Marion Collins wins favour by her spirited acting and singing as Robin Hood; the sweet simplicity of Maid Marion is fittingly expressed by Miss Vera Levaine; the Misses Nellie and Violet Harvey, two pretty and talented child actresses, impersonate the Babes in charming fashion; and humour radiates irresistibly from Mr. Jim Goode and Mr. Charles Towers as Weary Willie and Tired Tim, the robbers.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's company in *Pinkie and the Fairies*. The rôle of Molly was undertaken by Miss Hilda Antony, who delighted all with her charming interpretation, and congratulations are due to Miss Iris Hawkins on her successful impersonation of Pinkie. It would indeed be difficult to equal Mr. Ambrose Manning's impersonation of Uncle Gregory, the house being kept highly amused; and a remarkably clever impersonation of Tommy was submitted by Master Philip Tonge. Miss Kate Forster in the rôle of Aunt Imogen was vocally perfect; Miss Augusta Haviland was funny as Aunt Caroline; and the rôle of the Queen of the Fairies was enacted in a winning manner by Miss Florence Lewis, her dancing being the very poetry of motion. As the Herald Master Burford Hampden was all that could possibly be desired, and an exceedingly humorous impersonation of the Gardener, Mr. Irons, was submitted by Mr. Walter R. Creighton. The rôle of Cinderella could hardly be in better hands than those of Miss Gwennie Brogden, and Miss Doreen Wayliss was an accomplished Dick Whittington.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the domestic drama *The Shadow of a Crime*, by Nita Rae, and is produced by Mr. R. Hewland's company. Mr. Whitmore Ledger was thoroughly successful as Jim Murdock, and a convincing impersonation of Captain Harry Bullington was submitted by Mr. Paul Neville. Mr. Victor Gordon was an effective Ralph Esmond, and Miss Madge Severne interpreted the rôle of Loyale Norman with undoubted skill. Humour was introduced by Mr. Harry Creamer as Samuel Brown, and the rôle of Mrs. Brown was capitally sustained by Miss Violette Vivienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The remarkable dog Dan is a great attraction here, and his wonderful performance has been enthusiastically received. Dan appears in conjunction with Barnard's animal actors. Captain Kettle is a smart card and coin manipulator, and Mr. Jack Smiles is one of the drollest of comedians. Juno Salmo submits an act which is not alone novel but decidedly clever, and Mr. Geo. S. Melvin is a capital Scotch comedian and dancer. Duncan and Brasque return with their well-acted sketch, *A Society Butterfly*, and the Brilliants, comediennes and dancers, make a big hit. Also on the programme are Miss Adelaide Waldorf, the famous Australian soprano, the Ongars, in their speciality act, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is furnished by the Albert and Edmunds' troupe, in a farcical absurdity, *The Tower of London*, which has created roars of laughter. Woods, Wells, and Wilkins stage their comedy sketch, *The Piano-Tuner*, with the most satisfactory results; Mr. Jules Karno creates much enthusiasm with his hand-balancing feats; Miss Eva Murray is a charming comedienne and fine dancer; and the same remark applies to the performance of Miss Hilda Mascot. Cadwall and Verne, comedy artists, take well; and the bill is completed by Mr. Walter Curtis, comedian, and the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—A return visit from Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* is hailed with great satisfaction. Miss Phyllys Le Grand wins the highest encomiums with a spirited and charming performance of Sonia; and Mr. Fred Leslie is irreproachable as Prince Danilo; Miss Ada Thomas is well suited as Natalie; Baron Popoff is finely played by Mr. Edward D'Arcy; Mr. Ripley Evans is an excellent Vicomte; Mr. Fred Fowler as Nisch and Miss Katie May as Frou-Frou are also worthy of commendation. A powerful chorus and augmented orchestra add to the effect, the scenery and costumes are first-class, and the play is produced under the direction of Mr. J. A. E. Malone.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Hayman and Franklin's company in the sketch *Toplitsky; or, the End of the World*, is the principal turn here, and has created an excellent impression; Mr. F. V. St. Clair, the popular topical vocalist, is on a welcome return visit, and Miss Madge Temple, an accomplished comedienne, is a general favourite; Charles Harvey and company, in *The Broken Statue*, are well received; and an excellent combination also included Mr. Bert Erroll, a smart female impersonator; Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers; Carr and Rose, vocalists; W. B. Raby, comedian, Harry Brown, coloured comedian and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope with some up-to-date pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Harry Tilbury's company, in *His Dishonoured Wife*, with Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Lindon, and Mr. A. George Fry as Frank Lindon give a very creditable production.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The picture matinées are the only attractions this week, and an excellent series of films are being shown to good audiences.

PRINCE OF WALES'S. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Miss Horniman's Repertory company from the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, is paying its first visit to Birmingham, and the plays selected are presented artistically. The week opened with *Widowers' Houses*, by Bernard Shaw; Tuesday and Thursday were devoted to *Candida*, by the same author; and Wednesday to *Cupid and the Styx*. Among the players Miss Edyth Goodall, Mr. Basil Dean, Mr. B. Iden Payne, and Mr. Charles Bibby are prominent.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward. — *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, played by Mr. Charles Harrington's company, is well staged. Mr. J. H. Boehm called forth admiration for his impersonation of Uncle Tom, and the characters of George and Eliza Harris are ably dealt with by Mr. David Blair and Miss Hero Hathaway. Mr. A. Hayes as Phineas Fletcher makes a capital Quaker, and Mr. Charles Harrington finds scope for his abilities as Mr. St. Clair. Miss Gene Lloyd gives a notable portrayal as Little Eva, being particularly effective in the death-bed scene.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The programme is divided up between bioscope pictures and drama, and the entertainment is thoroughly appreciated by good houses. The pictures include some exciting dramatic subjects and also laughable adventures. Mr. Richard Marndyke is presenting the clever drama, *The Diamond Thieves*, in which a Scotland Yard detective, named Holmlock Shears, is represented realistically by Mr. Eustace Daly; Mr. Marndyke gives a good account of his abilities as the head of the diamond thieves; and Messrs. A. Winters and H. Sloane are also conspicuous in a good company.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. Martin Morris. — *Her Secret Lover* is presented in attractive style by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's No. 1 company. Miss Laura Walker makes a hit as Ivy Seymour, and Mr. Arthur St. John has excellent opportunities as Gilbert Seymour. Mr. Walter H. Wilson gives an effective portrayal as Captain Darrell Rose, and Mr. J. Newton-Cowling is successful as Jim Jones. Miss Flora Leslie gives a careful representation as Alvia Royal, and Miss Lynn-Darlington acts well as a comedy character.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—There is a bill of all-round merit, and crowded audiences show warm appreciation. The Courtiers, a company of clever performers, present an acceptable bit of condensed musical comedy; Ernest Shand has some new and up-to-date songs and patter, and he is as popular as ever; James Willard and company successfully present a striking military playlet, entitled *The Devil's Box of Tricks*; the Marco Twins, in their knockabout comedy act, are exceedingly funny; the Avolos are exceptionally clever acrobats, who performed many wonderful feats; Litty Ganty is a popular comedian here; Barrington is responsible for a remarkable exhibition of piano-playing; Cole and Rags, comedians; Tiny Arnold, comedienne; and Bioscope pictures of the Grand National complete a strong programme.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—An excellent programme is headed by Arthur Roberts, in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; warm praise is due to Miss Wish Wynne, a pretty, vivacious, and versatile comedienne; Edward Crosland's Melody Makers strike an original vein in their scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, which contains pleasing singing and musical items; Barry Lupino, a local pantomime favourite, contributes a skilful dance; Otto and Lola Tate, in a bar-parlour scene, are clever and humorous acrobats; Heeley and Meeley, the lucky tramps, are smart entertainers. Other attractions include Harry Herbert, comedian; Sisters Barnes, duettists and dancers; and Lilian Rose.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal feature in a capital all-round programme is the romantic sketch, *The Hold-Up*, presented by Mr. Taylor Granville. La Belle Nello is a charming singer and a clever acrobat; the Three Phydoras are clever eccentric musicians; the Calcots amuse in a scena entitled "Rags and Tatters"; Nash and Noel are versatile comedians and dancers; Jessie Buckle is a comedienne with a good style; and other popular purveyors of humour are Charlie Stevens, Horace Jones, and Chas. Penrose. The bill is completed by excellent pictures on the Gaietoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Rameses is proving a good top-liner in "The Egyptian Temple of Mysteries" with a series of clever tricks which completely puzzle audiences. The Four Vagabonds are a comedy vocal combination of talent, and the Cattaneos perform astonishing acrobatic feats, making a feature of double somersaults. Alfred Menzies, "the Musical Burglar," uses his admirable tenor with good effect; the Three Cunards score in a dancing speciality; Fred Land sends houses into fits of laughter with his humorous songs; Amy Russell also makes a hit in well-chosen songs; and Dorothy Gould and Bessie Heins are pleasing comediennes.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Lafayette is the star attraction here; the Three Florodoras present a delightful comedy act, *Two's Company, Three's None*; Bert Rayburn amuses everyone with his quaint comic songs; the Oakes duo present a clever comedy sketch, *Making a Man of Her*; T. E. Johnstone is a favourite comedian; and Ray and Lingard provoke laughter in a smart duologue.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—This week the management of the New Century Pictures have recommenced the one-house nightly system, and the change has proved highly successful. The dramatic fare includes, amongst other pictures of merit, The Vendean Rebel, The Doctor's Sacrifice, and For Her Sake. An interesting coloured film gives splendid views of the Pagodas of Rangoon. Miss Dora Kingsley renders several songs in pleasing voice.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A feature of a splendid programme of up-to-date pictures is a thrilling subject, The Way of the Cross, illustrating a story of Christian martyrdom; The Death Disc is the title of a dramatic picture portraying an incident of the Cromwell period. Arthur Wyre is a tenor singer of merit, and Ida Rochefort and Eva Ray are popular duettists. On Wednesday evening a good picture of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race was exhibited.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Patrons are delighted with a first-class programme of animated pictures and vaudeville. Amongst a good series of humorous subjects are The Runaway Stove, Wonderful Machine Oil, and the Short-sighted Governess. Miss Ella Kington and Miss Ella Pine are popular entertainers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company is here in *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Lester depicts the part of Don Leon Fernandes; Mr. Hugh Travers is to the fore as Pedro Li Calci; and Mr. Geo. Daiper is a hard worker in his presentation of Kit Oswald; Little Winnie Warden is a very capable child actress, playing the rôle of Venetta charmingly; Mr. W. Carr is good as the Sheriff; and a fascinating portrayal of Kate Evelyn; Miss Lallah Davies makes the most of Aulalia; and the scenic effects are very good. *The Sorrows of Satan* and *The Bank of England* are also in the week's bill.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland, Ltd.); Managing-Director, Signor Pepo. — Capital houses are the order here this week, the billbeing headed by Mr. Adam Tomlinson,, a native of Bishop Auckland, and a clever Tyneside comedian; Corman's Twelve Juveniles are a particularly striking turn in their scena *The Waif*; Slippere, the blind musician, is a clever pianist; Delvaine's Marionettes provide an attractive turn; and Harrigan and Hoit, inspector and policeman; Bonnette and Corrie, in their juggling act; and the Sisters Kilner, acrobatic dancers, all present most effective turns; and the Hipposcope films continue to be interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is scoring a tremendous success here this week with *The Arcadians*. Mr. Walter Passmore as Simplicitas is, of course, a tower of strength, and Mr. Oliver J. Round also provides endless fun in the part of Peter Doody. Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith, Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra, and Miss Mabel Munro as Chrysea likewise merit the warmest encomiums. The staging is exceptionally fine.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Dollar Princess*, as played by Mr. George Edwardes's company, is proving a capital selection for the reopening of this magnificent temple of Thespis, of which full particulars will be found in another column.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Ian Robertson's company is here in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Ian Robertson gives a fine performance of the Passer-by, which he plays with gentleness and quiet dignity. He is ably supported by Miss Jeannie Thomas and Miss Helena Parsons, who as Mrs. Sharp and 'Stasia respectively supply clever character studies. Other performances worthy of mention are the Vivian of Miss Barbara Everest, the Miss Kite of Miss Drussila Wills, the Joey Wright of Mr. W. O. Billington, and the Jake Samuels of Mr. Stanley Brown. The piece is preceded by Mr. Ian Robertson's one-act play *Come Here*, in which Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Wilson Blake, and Miss Barbara Everest appear with success.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A hearty welcome greeted Mr. George Formby, the popular comedian, on his return visit. He is supported by the Kremo Family of Risley acrobats, ten in number; Beatrice Allen, dainty comedienne; the Locardo Bros., acrobatic eccentrics; Fred Elton, in a scena entitled *On Board an Ocean Liner*; Will H. Fox, in a comedy musical monologue; Herbert La Martine, eccentric dancer; Miss Monie Line, in song and dance; Halma Scottish society juggler; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD..—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Minola Hurst and her clever Miniature Marvels head an excellent company, which also includes Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Fishing*; Florrie Conolly, Irish colleen; Rappo and Ella, society gymnasts; Alice Hughes and company in a comedy sketch, *Star of the Bazaar*; Harry Bickley, comedian; the Sisters Maynard, refined duettists and dancers; Torti, Italian tenor vocalist; Everhart, hoop manipulator; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The popular local favourite Billy Richardson is accorded a hearty reception; the Starley Bros. are responsible for daring acrobatic feats on bicycles; Le Mair and Harrington are amusing, as also is Harry Dunn, comedian; the singing and harmonising of the Zan-Zan Troupe is excellent; Miss Kitty Lee makes a favourable impression as a vocalist; and a bright and interesting entertainment is completed by animated pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Messrs. Max Montesole and Angus MacLeod's company was here for four nights with *Pinkie and the Fairies*, which was well mounted. Notable among some very clever little actresses were Miss Kathleen Yorke, who made a dainty Pinkie; Miss Aileen Faithful, a delightfully charming Elf Pickle; Miss Hetty Kenyon, whose dancing was wonderful as the Queen of the Fairies; and Miss Dolly Sommers, whose dignified Herald was vastly amusing. All the "grown-ups'" parts were well filled. Miss Lucie Caine being particularly good as Cinderella; Miss Edith King as Aunt Imogen; Miss Lucie Evelyn as Aunt Caroline; Mr. Ribton Haines as Uncle Gregory; Miss Estelle Theband as the Sleeping Beauty; Mr. T. P. Haynes as the Gardener; and Miss Muriel Alston as Molly—all proved effective.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—A hearty reception was given Mr. Henry Miller's clever company on Monday, when *The Servant in the House* was presented to a large audience. Mr. Walter Gay gave a thoroughly convincing performance of the conscientious vicar, the Rev. William Smythe, and as his ambitious wife Miss Beatrix de Burgh supported him finely. Mr. Matthew Boulton's performance of Manson was noticeable for its perfect composure and clearness of utterance; Mr. Ernest H. Paterson's assumption of the very worldly bishop, Ponsonby Makeshyfte, was excellent; Mr. Harry Parker, with a convincing and vigorous impersonation of the scavenger, Robert Smith, won well-merited success; Miss Laurie Fleckton's Mary was a charming and very natural effort; and Mr. Forrester Harvey was good as Rogers.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*Alone in London* is being well represented here this week by Mr. Charles Gibbon's capable company. As the much-wronged Nan Miss Nellie Clyde acts with great power, and little Miss Hetty Hornsby as the boy Paul wins sympathy. Mr. Gibbon plays the banker's son, Walter Burnaby, well; Mr. Gerald Jordan is exceedingly effective in the part of the villain, Dick Redcliffe; and as his crafty confederate Jenkinson, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson gives excellent support. Mr. Russell Corrie is admirable as John Biddlecombe; Ruth Clifton is charmingly played by Miss Lenna Vernon; and Miss Laurie O'Neill's Chickweed is cleverly sustained. The piece is effectively staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—*Change; or, The Haunted Castle* is a very clever bit of stagecraft presented by the Jewels, and the weird effects in the four scenes are wonderfully well managed. Mr. James A. Jewel effectively fills the part of a miser, and is well supported by Mr. Herbert B. Jewel and a capable company. In their clever and novel instrumental performance, *The Palace of Orpheus*, the Elliott Savonas are again commanding great applause; Frank Cass submits comic songs acceptably; in her well-acted scena, *Her Wedding Day*, Ethel Newman is charming; Betty Green is a very dainty juvenile comedienne and dancer; in quaint style Victor Travers sings of brave firemen and Boy Scouts, and elicits laughter; in their laughable acrobatic turn, *How to Treat a Burglar*, the Maples are clever and diverting; Fayre and Manning are amusing with their "patter" and simultaneous dancing; and there are some fine pictures shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Ross and Grayson furnish plenty of comedy in a quaint sketch, *Stage-struck Maggie and Her Mentor*; Jimmie Pullen is a good character comedian; Miss Muffett a tiny artist as "the Canadian Mite" is interesting; Bill and Bellay, Continental eccentrics, are very diverting; Kit Keen, of pantomime fame, here entertains greatly with his coon songs and dances; Ray Royal, contralto, sings with taste and power songs well illustrated; Cassie Walmer's coon vocalism and dancing are exceptionally clever and entertaining; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are a fine feature of the programme.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Turbridge.—Mr. Keith Kenneth and company have been here for three nights with *The Woman of Kronstadt*. As Marion Best, an English governess, Miss Betty Fairfax gave a realistic interpretation; Miss Rosamond Thompson as Madame Beilegarde and Miss M. Kirk as Madame Repinoro were excellent; and Miss Edith Vogne did well as the Princess de Hesse; Mr. Keith G. Kenneth was a martial but soft-hearted Colonel Bonzo; as Capt. Zassulic, Mr. Bernard Copping had a part which he played admirably; Mr. Horace Sinclair enacted to the life the part of the peppery Prince Stefanoff; and Mr. J. Taylor-Vinson was very good as Baron Mulier.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*The Bells of Haslemere* is performed here this week by a London company, specially selected by the management. Mr. Otto Minster gives a manly and highly popular impersonation of the hero, Frank Beresford, and Miss Marie Duncan makes a graceful heroine, Evelyn Brookfield; the villainous John Silkstone has a powerful exponent in Mr. Herbert Goddard; Mr. Harry Phillip is well placed as the crafty Joseph Thorndyke; Mr. Herbert Morgan is convincing as the adventurer, Captain Vere; and Mr. Leslie Nolan submits an excellent enactment of Matthew Brookfield, Miss Winifred Whyte as Mary Northcote and Miss Lily Duncker as Nora Desmond merit praise; Mr. Robert Aubrey is a capital Captain Salem; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Herbert Lloyd as Reuben Armstrong and Miss Daisy Maynard as Dorothy Tremble. The drama, produced under the direction of Mr. Herbert Lloyd, is finely staged.

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—May Lloyd, comedienne and dancer, achieves great success; Fioretti and Elly are well received in their barrel and spade jumping act; Fred Kendall is a capital Hebrew comedian; a company, including Tubby Edlin, win enthusiastic applause for their performance of *The Cowboy Millionaire*; Newsboy and Lennon are entertaining cross-talk comedians; the Four Sydney Girls are excellent dancers; Bert Wickham displays some marvellous feats of strength; George Rapley appears with new songs; and Harry Roxbury's company are highly effective in their musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. On Thursday Mr. George Alexander and the St. James's Theatre company gave a matinée performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Liane D'Eve, a Parisian vocalist, achie

Quincy O'Quirke, and Timothy Trimmer are capitally taken by Miss Patricia Connaughton, Mr Will Percy, and Mr. Dick Seddon.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman. — Seymour Hicks and his competent company are appearing here in *Scrooge*, the performance being a very convincing one, and obtaining full appreciation from packed houses. The special scenery, lighting, and effects are highly satisfactory. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas score with their amusing duologue "The Wire and the Liar," and Miss Hunt also sings in her accustomed charming style. Gordon Stretton is successful as a coon vocalist; the Three Pirmana entertain with their comedy gymnastic act "Dans le Jardin"; Florence Yaymen amuses with her caricatures of coon songs, &c.; George French, comedian, has some good songs; the Real Mackays are smart juvenile vocalists and dancers; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Little Baby Woolf, billed as "the dainty little dancing kid," gives capital imitations of popular music-hall artists, and she also executes smart dances. Colley and Scott do an excellent turn as comedy entertainers; James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," is highly successful; Blake and Granby amuse as comedy duologue artists; Marie Blythe sings pleasing chorus songs in good style; Will Godwin, descriptive vocalist, is appreciated; the Fitzroys do an excellent act on the trapeze and rope; Florence Raymond is a competent ventriloquist; and animated pictures close the entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company had a good reception by a large house on Monday, when *Claudian* was staged. Mr. Maclaren sustained the title-rôle in a most able manner; Miss Lily C. Bandmann was a charming Abinda, acting with true artistic skill; Mr. Frank Owen Chambers was an excellent Tetrarch; Mr. Charles T. Chaloner as Belos and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa put in some amusing work; Agazil was finely played by Mr. Douglas Earle; Mr. Weston Hubbard ably portrayed the farmer Alcares; and in the prologue Mr. George Roberts (the Holy Clement), Mr. Franklyn Bellamy (Theorus), Mr. Harry T. Wilson (Zosimus), Mr. Wm. Watson (Symachus), and Miss Amy Hardcastle (Serena) did very good work. The scenery and dresses were excellent. Mlle. Stella Dorin did a pleasing cymbal dance.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Canadian Kilties are giving a brilliant programme. The overtures to *Tannhäuser* and *William Tell* are played with remarkable precision and beauty, and Mr. Albert Cook contributes a delightful cornet solo. Excellent Scotch and Irish dances and songs by Mr. J. Coates Lockhart are also given. In addition to the Kilties, Fred Walmsley has a number of good jokes; and Tom Drew is another comedian with a quaint style. Frank E. Ford, coloured dancer, is excellent; and W. F. Reno is very funny with a bicycle. The Empire Theatrescope concludes with Dutch Types in colour photography.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—J. W. Rickaby holds first place with his funny songs and smart patter; very neat is the performance of the Victor Bros., equilibrists; and Joan Deering gives a beautiful musical turn with song and violin. Rauschle presents a number of cleverly made-up impersonations of celebrities; and Marie Whittaker, who has a very sweet voice, gives brilliant effect to "Il Bacio"; whistling, song, and patter are included in the turn of Bert E. Edwards; and L. B. Athol is good with a descriptive song. Little Sherlock Holmes is a very exciting film shown by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr E. de Hague Body.—A strong variety show here is headed by Tarro Miyake, Japanese wrestler; Ada Tilley and company do well in their farcical comedy; Rutter's dogs are clever and amusing; and Jack Binns, in songs and patter, Flo Banks, a pleasing soubrette, and the Operascope are other attractions.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—The Lyceum production of *Pete* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Fredk. Victor in the name-part is prominent with a finished performance; Miss Constance Bachner is admirably placed as Kate Cregeen; and others in the cast rendering excellent service are Mr. Alfred Lugg as Philip Christian; Mr. Maurice York as Ross Christian; Mr. Ellis J. Preston as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. R. Sinclair as Dr. Mylechreest; Mr. Wilfred Edmunds as Lord-Lieutenant; Miss Alys Eden as Nancy; Miss Alice Dorie as Grannie; Miss Amy Venimore as Mary; Miss May Wright as Meg; and Miss Lucy Raymond as Anne.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Two Lillys in a clever equilibrist act are top turn, and are enthusiastically received. Other good items are those of Jack McKenzie, comedian; the Six White Boys, in dancing speciality; Fox and Melville song illustrators; Elsie Forster, comedienne and dancer; and Seeley, West and Rhodesia, in juggling, mirth, and music.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. H. H. Potter.—The Ottograph Pictures shown this week are well up to the usual standard, and are thoroughly enjoyable. May Newall, chorus vocalist, and the Lannons in comedy act, provide good turns.

CANTERBURY.—St. Margaret's Hall Picture Palace.—Managers, Messrs. Lloyd.—This week's bill of fare comprises some excellent pictures, the best undoubtedly being The Fools of Fate, a very fine drama. Equally good as they are varied are the following:—The Pneumatic Bridegroom, The Lion Tamer, An Alpine Echo, The Four-footed Pickpocket, A Russian Girl's Heroism, A Case of Tomatoes, Foolshead as Sportsman, and Mr. Poorluck gets Married.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*A Royal Divorce* is paying a visit here, Mr. W. W. Kelly's company presenting the historical drama as on previous occasions. Mr. Keith Fraser, an actor of great ability, impersonates Napoleon; Miss Violet Ellicott as the Empress Josephine plays with strong emotional effect; Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise makes a striking contrast; Mr. J. H. Roberts gives a faithful portraiture of Talleyrand; Mr. Charles Stirling acquits himself creditably as Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. H. Arnold Allen as General Augerean and Miss Dorothy Garth as Stephanie present two amusing interpretations; and Mr. George Hudson's character sketch of Grimaud deserves special commendation.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—Heading the list here is Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts*. Mr. Fred Kitchen's ludicrous antics in the title-rôle are mirth-compelling. Those marvellous and sensational Japanese equilibrists Yamamoto and Miss Koyo Hi again prove wonderfully interesting; Charlier, the famous French ventriloquist, proves particularly entertaining with his life-like assistants; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic at the piano, gets uproarious applause; Stewart and Morgan are well received for their vocal speciality act. The dry humour and skilful dance of Ike and Will Scott are rewarded with well-deserved appreciation; and another skilful step-dancer is the lady champion, Miss Bertha Winder. Goggin and Davis are versatile comedians, and the Bioscope has an excellent film of the Grand National.

Theatre Royal.—General Manager, Mr. Graham Morrison; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here in the great attraction *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Marcus D. Draper as Oscar Stephensson gives a realistic impersonation. Equally successful is Mr. Ernest Owtrim as Magnus Stephensson. The portrayal of the difficult part of Helga Neilson was triumphantly surmounted by Miss Lilly Crammond; and Thora Neilson and Elin were cleverly delineated by Miss Sara Dudley. As the stern Stephen Magnussum Mr. Chas. Sewell displayed true histrionic talent; Miss Una Gilbert as Anna gave a satisfactory representation: Mr. Arthur M. Holland deserved praise as Oscar Neilson;

Letters Copied while Writing in the Zanetic de Luxe Pen-duplicate Book. Sample, note size, 100 Duplicates printed 2-line address post free, cash 1/9, from E.R.A. Zanetic, 13, Wellington-street, Leicester. [Advt.]

and Miss Maud Locker proved a diverting Margaret.

Palace Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The Ching Ling Hee troupe (two ladies and six gentlemen) of jugglers and acrobats are astounding audiences nightly with their daring and marvellous performance, which is the most remarkable in the line we have seen for some time. In an episode from real life, *The Silver Medal*, Mr. Martin Henry appears with conspicuous success. Miss Irene Rose makes an effective assistant. Julian Mack maintains his standard as a comedian; Miss Roberta Svensden is a talented vocalist; and Maude Vera a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Others on the bill are Eddie Stidder and Gwen Dunbar, musical comedy artists; Baker and De Sales, "the pavement patterers," and the usual Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—A quartette of ladies appearing under the title of the Four Royal Scots top the bill here in a clever and refined turn; Ada Fawn, on a return visit, with her songs and business adds to her previous success; as an eccentric juggler Zellini scores heavily; Elton and Edwin are banjoists of distinct ability; quite an uncommon act is given by Curtis and Piggs; and Jessie Wilton, a smart comedienne with good songs, and some excellent pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. J. E. Barnes is presenting *The Drama of Life* to delighted audiences. Mr. Lingford Carson as Harry Beech acts cleverly, and never loses his hold on the audience; Mr. Archie Helsby is successful as the villain, Walter Beech, whose accomplice (Jack Lawton) has an excellent exponent in Mr. Marshall Meade; Miss Pattie Hastings is admirable as Sylvia Beech; Miss Beatrice Hudson gives a realistic performance as Betty Black; the clever comicalities of Mr. Sydney C. Cranston as Sir Dobson Wilde and of Miss Alice Oliver as Lady Jane Wilde provide endless amusement; Detective Brenton has an excellent exponent in Mr. John B. Davis; Mr. George Byrne makes a capital Count de Foi; and Master Robert Beech is pleasingly played by Miss Doris Denville.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The Krags Trio head the bill here, and gain genuine applause for skilful feats on the trapeze; the Harvard Sextette work hard with good effect in dance and harmony; the Menzies admirably present a comedy absurdity, *Suffragettes*; Merry Marjorie Lawrence sings and dances with much success; Chas. F. Best as Mac Bunker, the Montebank, causes considerable laughter; the Northcotes are applauded for some well-rendered duets; and the Rurals, in a musical scena, are appreciated. Animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are thoroughly enjoyed.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Queenie Dell, comedienne; Hugh and High, in a musical act; the Max Tourbillon Troupe, in a daring cycling act; Violet Nunn, comedienne; Cash and Clair, with clever simultaneous dancing; Hal Bert, with "I'm the Circus Girl"; and Jordan and Harvey.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—The one and only Marie Lloyd is attracting big houses here. Others appearing are the Whitworth Trio, with neat trick cycling; the Lyric Mummers, in a popular vocal scena; Emmie Ames, scoring strongly with "Emmie's Christmas Tree"; Parks and Price, in pleasing musical selections; Harry Bancroft, chorus vocalist; and Max and Romer, duologue artists.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The billtopper this week is the renowned Sahib Gustave Fasola, an Indian Fakir and Oriental wonderworker, whose marvellous illusions mystify and delight his audience; Canard introduces new comedy business; Percy Farrimond is a Lancashire singing collier of originality and power; Agnes Tina is an excellent little mimic and impersonator; Fancourt and Ruby are smartly up to date in their refined and amusing act, entitled *The Bouquet*; and Leonard and Lealie are distinctly good as vocalists and sand and wooden shoe dancers; the Sylvester Trio present a clever sketch, entitled *A Drawing-room Rehearsal*, introducing brilliant vocalism and smart speciality dancing. Biographic pictures conclude a really good programme.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, M. A. E. Pickard.—A strong attraction is provided at this establishment this week by Mrs. Lillie Williams' company in *Dick Whittington*, played twice nightly. The Sisters Cora as Dick and Alice respectively contribute not a few good vocal numbers; Mr. Sam Thomson as Idle Jack is the life and soul of the pantomime; Mr. Geo Westland as Mary Ann is successful in keeping the fun going; and Mr. W. Glanmore Jones as Fitzwarren, Mr. J. Randle Wilson as the Sultan, Miss Topsy Johnstone as Princess Halfid, Miss Connie Irwin as Fairy Bow-Bell, and Mr. Michael Kemble as Rodent are all good. Specialities are introduced by Lindsay and Harte, the Four Killarney Girls, the Sisters Cora, and the Celeste Comedy Quartette.

COLCHESTER. — Hippodrome. — Directors, Messrs. Mouillot and de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Possibly with one exception this hall has never opened to bigger houses than on Monday, the great Raymond proving an exceptional draw. He gives two shows at each house, and his reception is most cordial, his manner most engaging, and his success is unquestionable; the Vampire Dance by Lulu, assisted by Jean Grossi, is watched with keen interest; the Bros. Durrant, with their aeroplane, provide a mirthful entertainment; Ruby Ray's songs catch the public ear; Tommy Clifford goes well as a ventriloquist; the Bros. Lily give a good comedy cycling show; and the pictures are, as usual, effective.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The programme this week includes Sandes and Vincent, comedians; T. W. Barrett, "the nobleman's son"; and animated pictures.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Lancashire Lad*, by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, is being presented here. Miss Madge Douglas, in the part of the heroine Jessie Wincote, is very capable; the part of Lorna Wincote is ably sustained by Miss Muriel Inglis; Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Max Carlton acts in a capable manner; and Miss Gertie Henderson is an excellent Kitty de Vere. Mr. Harry T. Wood gives a satisfactory portrayal of David Elmore.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. E. Wright.—Reano and his famous band have been at the above house for this week. Syd May, the clever impersonator, received a very hearty welcome; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists, do some wonderful tricks on a bouncing sheet; the Brixtons, comedy acrobats and cyclists, are exceedingly clever. Other artists are Ted and May Hopkins, quaint Welsh humorists, and Rose Elliott, character vocalist.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Walner Gregory's company is giving satisfaction here in *Dolly Reforming Herself*. Miss Henrietta Watson scores repeatedly as Mrs. Harry Telfer; Miss Vera Beringer is very successful as Mrs. Sturgess; Mr. Bertram Forsyth is a commendable Harry Telfer; Mr. Tom Mowbray is well placed in the rôle of Matthew Barron; Mr. Geoffrey Besant is quite up to the mark as Captain Lucas Wentworth; Mr. Walter Grey is good as the Rev. James Pilcher; Mr. Leonard Shepherd gives a capital character sketch of Professor Sturgess; and praise is due to Miss Mary Southbere as Peters and Mr. Robert Newsom as Criddle.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw and company win approval in a graphic sketch *The Devil's Mate*; the Five Bombays submit an invigorating turn; Gicardo is a smart juggler; Lily Vane is a neat comedienne; Otto and Olga are clever speciality artists; the 'Varsity Girls are app'auded in a vocal scena; Will Evans is an inimitable comedian; Katie Marsh, comedienne, is bewitching; Edward Ind is a funny comedian; and the Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here with *For Wife and Kingdom*.—Mr. Reginald T. Fox makes a capital Captain Maximilian; Mr. Frank Sutherland a good General Van Nestolde and Jan; Mr. Albert Guyon is capital as Baron Maurice Breslaw; Miss Hettie Zillwood as the Grand Duchess Marie acts satisfactorily; Miss Margaret R. Frame as Camille von Nestolde is clever; good comedy is contributed by Mr. Fred Osmund as Karl Ludhayt; Miss Audrey Canning, and Miss Alice Buckland

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nichols.—An excellent all-round programme is here topped by Mr. James Hare and company, in a dramatic episode, *Wrong 'Uns*. Jack Sheridan, comedian, causes much laughter with his songs; Mona Garrick is a clever impersonator; Robb Wilton, comedian, is responsible for much humour; and other good turns are the Gilberts, tight-wire performers, Barnes and West, vaudeville artists, and the Lyons Trio, in a dancing sketch.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Scottie's production of the playlet *Napoleon at Waterloo* is well staged and acted; as also is his performance *The Cry of the Children*; *Trapped by Sexton Blake* is also well presented; Knots, the boneless man, goes through some wonderful contortions; Will Warren's patriotic songs are applauded; the Sisters Charlton, singers and dancers, the Merries, comedy artists, Sandy and Ramsay, duettists, and Little Rose Pink, vocalist and dancer, are all appreciated. A local competition in Scottie's "Whizzing the Whirl" creates amusement.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is this week presenting *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. As Ruby Wright Miss Maud M. Powell is successful throughout; Ruth Wright is spiritedly played by Miss Kate Sydney, and Madame De Meral is capably accounted for by Miss Anna Corri. Mr. F. Cyril Leighton plays well as the villain, Lucas List; Mr. Henry Scratchard makes a crafty Octavius Screwe; Mr. Charles Stafford a manly Robert Ray; and Miss Eva Norman a commendable Ned, the cripple. The drama is relieved by Messrs. Ed. Swinton, H. Wallace Curnock, and Mackintosh Clyde, in whose hands the comedy element is well sustained.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—The Derrington Family are the top liners here. Second place is occupied by Wilson and West, whose potted drama and drollery are vastly entertaining. Bertini is a first-class instrumentalist; Colbert as a hoop and club juggler displays exceptional skill; the Sisters Herbert are juvenile comediennes in pretty songs and dances, and gain deserved applause; Palette, a brisk and up-to-date entertainer does well in his sketch *A Busy Time in the Studio*; and Harry Simms, comedian, with catchy chorus songs, attains great popularity.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The star attraction consists of extracts from the works of the ever-popular Charles Dickens, capitally enacted by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas; Herbert Clifton's singing and burlesque are much appreciated; Sandy and Cash supply one of the best turns on the bill in the comedy line; and the Three Prestons have also some very amusing business in a sketch, entitled *The Village of Shiftem*. Zenora entertains with some graceful yet daring equilibristic business; and Cronford and Johnson are seen to advantage in some well-executed dancing. The remaining contributors are Gwen Francis, vocalist, and Harris Coonie, coloured vocalist and dancer.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—A very interesting drama, entitled *The Better Land*, is rewarded with good houses. As Philip Radcliffe Mr. Douglas Nation is a popular hero; Mr. Clifton Boyne as Hubert Radcliffe, a villain of the most relentless type, does full justice to the part; Miss Marguerite Trevosper gives an excellent rendering of Doris; and Miss Madge Trevelyan works hard as Mercedes.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Occupying the boards here is Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company in *Temptation*. Miss Selwyn gives an admirable portrayal of Ivra Blight; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle plays with skill and force the part of Sir Charles Tremaine; as Hubert Thorne Mr. Norman A. Overton proves himself a very clever actor; Mr. Arthur Trail gives an excellent character study of Stephen Rowe; Miss Nora Carton successfully enacts the part of Hilda Dundonald; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders and Miss Madge Seymour as Araminta and Emily Eighteen keep the house full of mirth; Messrs. Charles O. Whyte and Patterson Bradbury do well as Major Grant and Mr. Blight. The drama is well staged.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of a capital bill here this week is B. A. Rolfe's Ye Colonial Septette in a novel American musical act, *An Old Tyme Hallowe'en Party*, which is excellently staged. The Garricks in a pot-pourri of songs and dances supply a very interesting turn; Mahatma, the Queen of Second Sight, astonishes everybody with her wonderful performance; praise must be given to Steve Bartle for his admirable manipulation of concertinas of different styles; Queenie May sings very sweetly; the Bros. Ashby cause much laughter in their comedy boxing act, *Next, Please*; J. H. Wakefield, coon delineator, and a display of pictures on the Palascope complete.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—A fine display of animated pictures is supplemented by some very excellent variety items. Lydia Neilson's Girls and Boys give an enjoyable and artistic singing and dancing act; Little Mona is a capital child mimic, her imitations being very realistic; Les Atans give an excellent gymnastic display, which is well received; the Sisters Adair Trio delight everybody with their singing and dancing; Billie Mellir is a funny comedian, and causes much laughter; J. E. Sheldon amuses greatly in song and story; Jack Ramsay, the versatile Scot, scores well; and Tatton and Terry, vocalists and simultaneous dancers, complete a very interesting programme.

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. T. Christian.—The pictures here are of the usual high standard, and continue to draw capital houses. Illustrated vocal scenas are also given at intervals.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—There is a variety combination here. The Five Musical Tritons justify their title of Musical Marvels; Anita Wayman, the Scotch contralto, is a great favourite; Doyle and Gibson, patter comedians, are quaintly humorous; Edie Endon, comedienne and dancer, is popular; Harry Keeble is a clever and versatile ventriloquist; and Gladys Wolls contralto, creates a good impression. Arthur Slater, the man in white, in his whistling scena, *Morning, Noon, and Night*, and in his mimicry of birds evokes applause; and Tom Child, Yorkshire tenor, is popular.

DUBLIN.—Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. H. Marsh.—Merrie Marie Kendall's new and catchy songs are received with great favour. Edward King is a humorous and original comedian; the Royal Delcmes give great pleasure with their clever clog-dancing; the Two St. Johns are very entertaining as musical comedians and dancers; Odeyne Spark is a chic comedienne; and the Sisters Hall, duettists and dancers, and Steve McCarthy, comedian, are also included in the attractive bill. During this week matinée performances are being given at which the great fight between Jack Johnson and Stanley Ketchell is shown on the Bioscope.

World's Fair.—Proprietor, Mr Charles A. James.—The bill of fare here comprises Storey and Hughes, capital duettists and dancers; Harry Delmar, in his musical entertainment; Edna Ray, a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Ben Storey, an amusing comedian; Wee Willie, the Scotch comedian, who scores well; Jennie Hughes, ballad vocalist; Torie and Torie, sketch artists; and the Cinematograph.

DUDLEY. — Empire. — Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Top of the bill is given to the Eight Elves, who, in a singing, dancing, and instrumental act, prove a clever troupe of juveniles; Malcolm Cumming and company create much mirth in a comedy act *A Tooth for a Bride*; Zera and Zema, aptly described as Continental equilibristic marvels, are exceedingly clever; Tom Staffo, comedy juggling butcher-boy, whilst neatly executing many smart tricks, keeps the house in loud laughter. A pleasing turn is also given by Jones and Estelle, harmonising duettists; Frank Boyce is a first-rate character vocalist; and Maud Ethelda, comedienne and dancer, is well received. Empire Pictures complete an attractive programme.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*Our Miss Gibbs* has attracted large audiences. Mr. George Edwardes' company is a brilliant one, and the costumes and scenery are attractive and effective. In the title-rôle Miss Alice Pollard used her melodious voice with pleasing results, and was received with rapturous applause; as Timothy Gibbs Mr. George Gregory made a tremendous hit, his quaint mannerisms and business proving irresistible; Miss Marie Wilson was extremely good as Lady Betty, singing and acting delightfully; Miss Grace Wixon was an admirable Duchess of Minster; Miss May Marton acquitted herself with distinction as the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar; and a smart and amusing Mme. Jeanne was found in Miss Dora Sevening; the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, as played by Mr. Lionel Mackinder, was a decidedly amusing personage, his "Yap-i-addy" song being repeatedly encored; the Earl of St. Ives was enacted by Mr. Myles Clifton in a delightfully finished manner; Mr. Robert Nainby was an eminently successful Slithers; Mr. H. V. Crofton sang and acted with good effect as Lord Eynsford; Mr. Ernest Mahar put in some clever work as Mr. Topiady; Mr. Campbell Bishop was excellent as the family solicitor, Mr. Beavis; and Mr. Amalfy was judiciously undertaken by Mr. Ellis Holland; several delightful dances were contributed by Misses Florence Phillips, Mabel Danby, and Olive Wade, the first-mentioned lady winning encomiums for her remarkable solo dance. The chorus did their work capably, and the augmented band was ably directed by Mr. Harold Lonsdale.

King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topliners here are the Sutcliffe Troupe, who as Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats present a turn of considerable originality and cleverness; Mendel, the blind pianist, improvises cleverly on several popular airs, and is warmly appreciated; Louie Tracey, "the dapper dandy boy," is the personification of neatness and versatility, and sings with excellent taste; Alice Golding is possessed of a capital voice, of which she makes good use in chorus songs; the Mezzettis are very funny and introduce some remarkably clever work into their gymnastic act, *The New Recruit*; Bugler Carr, musical equilibrist, scores with his smartly worked act; George Lawrence sings with plenty of go, and is successful; Earle and Melville bubble over with wit and humour, their dancing being also a notable item, and the Kingscope exhibits some excellent pictures.

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Charles Majilton's company in the new farcical comedy, *Four in the Dark*, has evoked the heartiest enthusiasm from large audiences. Mr. Jim Bond as Duncan McPhee keeps the audience rocking with laughter; Mr. Tom Carroll as Zac Brown is also ludicrously funny; Sam Dollar is cleverly portrayed by Mr. George Hunter; Mr. Majilton is a nimble and thoroughly amusing Detective Sharp; Mr. Henry Thomas as Sir George Blundles sings excellently, and Mr. Will Jecks is successful as the Gendarme; Miss Maddie Majilton as Zula proves immensely attractive; Miss Lena Valli as Mrs. Zac Brown and Miss Nelly Clifford as Mrs. McPhee cause amusement; Miss Ada Valli is a dainty Millie Marjorie, and Misses Hetty Keeble, Nora Vance, Lizzie Boyle, and Alice Rounds all lend able assistance. The piece is capitally staged.

Palace Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The genial manager of this popular house with his customary alertness succeeded in securing a fine film of Dundee's great Cup tie tussle with the Hibernians at Dens Park last Saturday, the thrilling incidents in the game being watched with much interest by crowded houses this week.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—Good houses are being attracted here by capital picture programmes. The films this week are both grave and gay.

Vernon's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Newman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Noble.—Lovers of animated pictures have their tastes amply catered for here, where Mr. Newman shows a varied and interesting selection.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. Edward Compton and his celebrated company paid their first visit here the first three nights of this week, opening on Monday with *The School for Scandal*. Mr. Compton handled the part of Charles Surface in his characteristically artistic manner, which received general appreciation. Mr. Henry Crocker was an admirable Sir Peter Teazle; Mr. Philip Gordon gave an efficient portrayal of Sir Oliver Surface; Mr. Frank Royde supplied an excellent embodiment of Joseph Surface; Mr. J. W. Austin, in the dual part of Crabtree and Moses, showed conspicuous talent; Mr. Clifford Marquand was an admirable Sir Benjamin Backbite; and Mr. Wetton was a capital Sir Harry Bumper. Miss Kathleen Leigh acted with natural charm the part of Lady Teazle; Miss Marie Hassell was a characteristic Mrs. Candour; Miss Lorraine Stevens was a typical Lady Sneerwell; and Miss Nelly Compton gave a neat presentation of Maria. *She Stoops to Conquer* and *David Garrick* completed the répertoire. Miss Augusta Tulloch and company, in the new play *Judith*, is billed for the last three nights of the week.

DURHAM.—The Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The Three Krakes head the bill with an acrobatic comedy, *The Electric Car Conductor*, creating screams of laughter. The Paul Kramer Troupe present an exceedingly clever trapeze act; Parker and Parr in Welsh song and patter are well received; Will and Rose with a comedy conjuring act prove popular; Bliss and Bliss, comedians, are much appreciated; Edwards and Ward are smart comedy entertainers; and Pueblo and Cropp with *The Swell and the Belle* win applause. The Cathedoscope showing a Dutch scenic picture, The Mill, concludes.

EASTBOURNE.—Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Topping the bill here are the Vizoranto Trio, whose clever and novel bar and ring work is well received. Bromley and Fontein provide plenty of good wholesome fun; Mr. Harry Taylor is a distinctly original comedian; Mr. Billy Rex, a smart and versatile artist, sings, plays, sketches, and dances with merit; Mr. C. H. Charlton is a clever conjuror; Kimberley and Melbourne sing and patter amusingly; Miss Violet Romaine has a voice of exceptional excellence, which she uses well; and new interesting films are shown.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—After several weeks of drama and pantomime we have returned to variety. Heading the present week's bill is Mr. Fred Karno's company in *Skating*, in which plenty of boisterous fun is combined with not a little skill; The Michel Bros. are responsible for a good turn as head to head and hand balancers; Mr. Tod Lowen is a good comedian; *The Sleepwalker*, a funny sketch performed by Mr. W. Ellis and company, is well received; the Sisters Brook provide a very nice turn as duettists; Messrs. Phillips and Bristow give a good display of dancing. A very good film is entitled In the Time of the Normans.

EDINBURGH. — Theatre Royal.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's powerful drama *The Fires of Fate* is being presented here this week by Mr. Vedrenne's company. The part of Colonel Cyril Egerton, so successfully played in London by Mr. Lewis Waller, is in the hands of that admirable actor, Mr. Stephen T. Ewart, who portrays the character with pathos, force, and distinction. Mr. Herbert Vyvyan makes a splendid Rev. Samuel Roden, and delivers the didactic speeches of the minister of Clayview Congregational Church with sincerity and conviction; Mr. Charles Francis is good as Dr. Roden; and Mr. Edward A. Coventry and Mr. Herbert Maule are excellent as Belmont and Mr. Brodie. A masterly study of the wealthy young Londoner, Mr. Cecil Brown, is given by Mr. Stanley Logan, whose playing, alike in the lighter and more serious scenes, is exceedingly clever; while Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe as Abdulla, Mr. G. T. Lambert as the Dervish Spy, and Mr. Frederic Worlock as Captain Jack Archer sustain their parts with much care and success. Miss Ruth Berner is a graceful, pleasing Sadie; Miss Gwendolen Floyd is effective as Miss Adams; and Miss Alison Trentris a prepossessing Mrs. Belmont. The drama is realistically mounted, the Nile Steamer and the Oasis of Abouteb being fine stage pictures. The audience was enthusiastic in their applause on Monday evening, and the actors were repeatedly recalled.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Opening the second week of their present engagement, the Moody-Manners Opera Company presented *Carmen* on Monday evening, with a strong cast, which included Mme. Zelie de Lussan in her old part of Carmen, of which she gave a thrilling interpretation; Mr. Joseph O'Mara, who sang splendidly as Don José; Mr. Lewys James, a vigorous Escamillo; and Miss Kate Anderson, a very charming Michaela. Frasquita and Mercedes were quite happily rendered by Miss Morden and Miss Dennis; and Mr. F. Davis's singing as the smuggler Il Remendado was in every way commendable. The stage setting and accessories were excellent, and the orchestra worked admirably under the direction of Mr. Cuthbert Hawley. *Samson and Delilah* was produced on Tuesday and Thursday evenings; *Madame Butterfly* on Wednesday gave opera-goers the opportunity of hearing Mme. Fanny Moody in one of her most attractive rôles; and the ever-popular *Il Trovatore* was billed for Friday, with *La Tosca* and *Faust* for Saturday's matinée and evening respectively.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The leading item in an attractive bill is a comedy production, entitled *H.M.S. Perhaps*, in which the Six Brothers Luck provide excellent entertainment. An outstanding acrobatic performance is given by the Pichel troupe, whose serious work is relieved by the clever fooling of Cecil, an original comedian; Hanvar and Anna Lee appear with much acceptance in *The Golfer and the Maid*, a sketch which introduces an expert display of juggling and exercises with Indian clubs; El Tampico's Mexican troubadours, continued from last week, repeat their pleasing musical successes; the ballad singing of Miss Annette Hayward is greatly enjoyed and tumultuously applauded; and Reg Bolton's comedy scena, *The Editor's Imp*, furnishes considerable amusement. Other acceptable single-handed turns are contributed by Estrella, barefoot international dancer; J. K. Macfarlane, Scottish comedian; and Harry Levaine, whose eccentric patter is diverting.

Empire Palace Theatres.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Miss Evie Green's engagement here this week has proved a potent attraction, and large audiences are filling the house twice nightly. The popular comedienne is in her best form. Her songs are rendered with taste, humour, and vivacity, and she also recites a dainty piece in a dainty fashion. La Freya presents a delightful turn in her beautiful coloured pictures, and Miss Kathleen Gray sings with great good taste. Miss Addie Dorina scores a distinct success in her quick-

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—The ever-welcome *Village Blacksmith* is being presented here by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. Mr. Sam Livesey repeats his perfect portrayal of the brawny smith; Mr. Joseph Carter continues to play Capt. Leo with excellent results; Mr. Ed. Maydew realistically embodies Lucas Marler; Mr. Fred Haming in the part of Billy Twigg is responsible for a large amount of laughter; Miss Maggie Edwards invests the part of Kate Strong with much charm; Martha Moppe is capitally played by Miss Rosie Kearns; and Jeremiah and Sal Parkins are well treated by Mr. Thos. E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smith.—The chief items on the "bill" are the films The Honour of his Family and the Nurse's Diary. Smith and Johnson, coloured vocalists, are warmly welcomed.

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. Allan and T. F. McDonald.—The "star" films at this house are The Luck of Roaring Camp and The Capture of a Vagrant. Dave Elliott, the blind concertina player, adds to the enjoyment.

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—The Last Deal, a thrilling tale of gambling, and His Only Child are the outstanding films in a good "bill" submitted here. Lucretia and Josephine, burlesque artists and dancers, and Jan V. Vanbert, illusionist and painter, provide "turns" which are highly appreciated.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—Messrs. Barnard Bros., who have taken the Public Hall here for a period of four months, and have had it redecorated and altered, will open it on Easter Monday. The hall will be run in conjunction with their Picture Circuit, with a programme of pictures and variety on the twice-nightly principle.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—Mr. John Tiller's company in the musical comedy *Amsterdam; or, the Mystery of the Black Tulip*, opened their first tour this week in promising style. The comedy has been freshly dressed and staged, and as the name of Mr. Tiller would imply, is strong in ballet and artistic grouping. Mr. T. W. Volt as Frau Van Stoop and Mr. Arthur Stigant as an American introduce clever comedy business, their little sketch in Act 2 being particularly amusing. They were well supported by Mr. Chas. V. Sandford as the aristocratic Hon. Percy Dunne-Browne and Miss Lulu Valli as Evelyn Anna (the up-to-date girl), between whom several diverting little interludes took place. A recent pantomime favourite at this house renewed acquaintance in the appearance of Miss Dorothy Firmin as Gretchen, who danced and sang in a captivating manner; Miss Nancy Hearne looked and acted well as Hans; Miss Florrie Page was charming as Katrina; Hendrick van Duuck was well sustained by Mr. Sidney Vincent; and Mr. Frederick Smythe as Jan was a big success. Chas. Verno as the Donkey was quaint throughout. The specialities by the Tiller Troupe and the Twelve Manchester Mites were greatly enjoyed. A word of praise is due to Miss Enid Erroll for a most attractive display as solo dancer in the various ballets.

KING'S.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and George T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A crowded house on Monday extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *The Woman in the Case*. The fact that the cast included two such clever actresses as Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Miss Ellis Jeffreys accounted for a deal of the enthusiasm. The former, in her study of Claire Foster, gives a wonderful performance, and Miss Jeffreys as Margaret Rolfe forms a striking contrast, equally good in its way. Mr. Herbert Sleath makes a dignified Julian Rolfe, and acts with distinction and emphasis; Mr. Wm. F. Grant as the lawyer, Thompson, gives a clever rendering; and the fussy Mrs. Hughes is amusingly played by Miss Mary Griffiths. Mr. Fred Benton as Klauffsky and Mr. Wm. Kershaw as Jimmy Smith give able and efficient support. *One Man's Luck*, a clever little playlet, preceded.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers' Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The repertory company offers a most acceptable triple bill, consisting of two Bernard Shaw plays, *The Man of Destiny* and *How He Lied to Her Husband*, and *Augustus in Search of a Father*, by Harold Chapin. In the Napoleonic comedy Mr. M. R. Morand gives an excellent idea of Bonaparte in his younger days, and the Strange Lady is delightfully represented by Miss Irene Rooke. The rôles of the Innkeeper and the Lieutenant are cleverly characterised by Mr. Campbell Gullan and Mr. Cecil Brooking. In the other Shaw play the three parts—the lover, the husband, and the wife—are played with admirable humour by Mr. Milton Rosmer, Mr. Cecil Brooking, and Miss Mollie Hilliers respectively. The curtain-raiser affords Mr. Campbell Gullan a good character part in the old Watchman, Augustus (Mr. Percival Clark) and the Policeman (Mr. Norman McKeown) being also very well played.

GRAND, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. L. Sealy.—The Carl Rosa Opera company entered on the second week of their engagement on Monday, when *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* were presented. In the first-named Mr. Edward Davies acquitted himself well as Turridu, and Mme. Gleeson White was heard to full advantage as Santuzza. As Alfio Mr. Hebden Foster rendered his numbers with telling effect; Lola, in the hands of Miss Lawson Tayler was a praiseworthy performance, as also was the Lucia of Miss Douglas Wilson. In the second opera Mr. E. C. Hedmondt's exposition of the part of Canio was strong and convincing; Mr. Charles Victor was equal to all demands made, both vocally and histrionically, as Tonio; Miss Beatrice Miranda contributed largely to the success of the production by the freshness of her rendering of Nedda; Silvio received adequate treatment at the hands of Mr. Hebden Foster; and Mr. William O'Connor did excellent work as Beppe. The singing of the chorus was most effective, and the orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Eugene Goossens, played with fine effect. *Destiny, Don Giovanni, Il Trovatore, Rigoletto, Carmen*, and *Faust* were presented during the week.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S. — Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The St. Mungo Opera Club, a clever local combination, have engaged the theatre this week for a revival of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera *The Pirates of Penzance*, the proceeds to be devoted to charity.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is here with *The Tyrant*, in which Miss Marie Robson gives an impressive rendering of Tisbe; while the rôle of Angelo, the tyrant, is powerfully impersonated by Mr. Roy Fortescue. Miss Jean Scott gives a thrilling portrayal of Lady Catherine; Miss Lallah Shelton scores a distinct success as Eulie; Mr. Percy Follies effectively flits through the play as Homodei, the avenger; a spice of comedy is introduced by Miss Katie Lever as Reginella and by Mr. Wilson Summers as Victor, together with Mr. Fred Luard as Nobbo; Mr. Ed. B. Louis gives a good rendering of Rudolph; and Mr. T. Ashmore is successful as Pan. The play is well staged and draws good houses.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The attraction here is Mr. Herbert Vere's company in the new play *Napoleon the Great*, which was at the Royal Princess's last week. Mr. Herbert Vere as Napoleon and Miss Kate Walfred as Marie are well supported by the other members of the company.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese conjurer, once more mystifies and delights audiences here; Tom Foy comes with a new sketch, *The First of April*, which provides him with unlimited opportunities for fun-making; Emma Don and company give a clever vocal scena, *On the Thames Embankment*; Frank Couch and Kitty Meredith take well in a sketch, *The Old Tragedian*; Bros. Bright give an interesting display of feats of strength; Takio is a smart imitator of sounds; Sisters St. Julian are well received for their song and dance items; and Anna Chandler and Amelie de l'Enclos complete an attractive entertainment.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager Mr. Ernest Foster.—The star turn is Tschin-Mea and his Chunchuses, mountebanks, in their varied and interesting performance; Harry Dent and Fanny Harris, great favourites here, contribute a lot of new and enjoyable business; Jessie Templeton and Edith Haley, from the recent Princess's pantomime, again demonstrate their hold on audiences here; Lady Mansell's Juveniles are a smart crowd of youngsters; and Velanche's Football Dogs in their exciting match; Hanid Alexander, the clever young pianist; Wren and Sadler, in a comedy duologue; and Reg. Beauchamp, comedian, complete an enjoyable programme.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Top turn is Jack Lorimer, the favourite Scotch comedian, who had a capital send-off on the opening night; Miss Maude Mortimer, comedienne, is also one of the attractions, and she rendered several songs in capital style; Katie Butler, character comedienne, was very humorous; and Stella Stahl was successful in song and dance. A good programme is completed by Walter Stanley, eccentric comedian; Bros. Ford, comedians and dancers; May Gibson, ballad vocalist; the Selbonians, comedy juggling trio; Marie Dreams, a clever girl baritone; and the Bioscope, with a series of interesting pictures.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—At the head of the bill here is Corporal Gordon, who is responsible for quite a pleasant entertainment as a ventriloquist and animal mimic; Raglum is amusing in his comedy juggling act; and the Bioscope films are quite up to the usual high standard.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. — Archie Goodall, the well-known International footballer, has attracted many of the supporters of the outdoor game to the Coliseum, where his performance of walking the hoop has been much admired; Horace Wheatley, the ever-popular Irish comedian, entertains in his customary accomplished style, and is enthusiastically received; Pip Powell and Katie Vesey present their musical comedy duologue, "A Perfect Woman," a sketch of a most amusing character; in their astral absurdity, "Astronomy," W. Fullbrook and company are mirth-provoking; the Elite Harmony Boys appear in song and dance, their numbers being capitally rendered; much praise is due to Miss Gladys Hooley in the introduction of her violin scena, "Fiddle and I," produced with special scenery and effects; Rossi Ashton displays artistic taste in his song sketching; G. W. Hunter is responsible for much amusing work; and Arthur Albert, possessed of a capital voice, sings several good songs of a catchy description; and the Bioscope films ever form an item of interest.

PANOPTICON.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The variety turns are headed by Dave Summers, comedian, and his songs and patter provided capital amusement for a crowded house on Monday. Daisy Noel made a good appearance, her singing and dancing being thoroughly appreciated. The other artists include Eva Ward, refined burlesque artist; Ryder Davis, comedian; Vesta Ray, comedienne and chorus singer; and Will Penn, character comedian. The Bioscope display is specially attractive, the principal item being a reproduction of the Grand National Steeplechase.

JUNGLE AND ARENA.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank C. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Tudor.—Enormous crowds continue to patronise this resort at every session. On St. Patrick's Day the children from five Catholic schools revelled in the varied attractions, and this week other schools, in convenient groups, are having natural-history lessons during the day. The season is rapidly nearing an end, but efforts are being made to extend it a week longer than originally announced.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL AND PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The advent of pictures, varieties, &c., at this house of entertainment has been a decided success, notwithstanding the continued bad trade in the cotton industry. The pictures include The Avenger, Cabby's Good Fairy, Curse of Money, Friday the 13th, Donkey that wasn't an Ass, Difficult Flirtations, The Humble Heroes, Through Cheddar Gorge, Black Beauty, Making Love to Coalman's Wife, Carried Off by an Eagle, The Devil's Wife, and a goodly array of comics. The varieties include Little Lorna, a clever child vocalist; Mr. Fred Mavis, clog dancer; and the Four Van Earles in their speciality dancing.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Morritt's Memory Man is giving an interesting entertainment here; Charles Morritt is a first-class illusionist; Dan Hendy appears in an amusing acrobatic act; Bert and Dora are excellent comedy providers; the Bentley's musical turn is popular; and Beulah's second-sight exposition is entertaining.

THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. P. Barr.—The principal films here this week are The Heart of a Cowboy, vividly portraying a love romance of the North-west, and a most interesting picture showing the Grand National of last week. Miss May Palmer very effectively sings "Marguerite."

GREENOCK. — KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here in *Send Him Victorious*. Miss Sidney Crowe as Countess Kara submits a powerful portrayal; Mr. G. M. Montanini gives a creditable account of himself in the rôle of Colonel Kaufman; Mr. Herbert Skardon proves very effective as Captain Frank Allison; Mr. Charles Russell makes the most of Sergeant Max; Miss Netta Mitchell is seen to advantage as Ethel Harding; and amusing work is added by Mr. Bert Woodin as Geordie Walker and by Miss Madge Palmer as Gretchen Holtz. The mounting leaves nothing to be desired.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Neil Kenyon, who, by the way, is a native of these parts, is starring here, and his success on Monday was instantaneous, his quaint study as the Postman o' Dunrobin being particularly praiseworthy; the Lloyds go through a clever acrobatic act; Lily Souter scores with her songs; Alix Lukos, in song and story, is deservedly appreciated; and Tim O'Connor (vocalist and dancer), Metz and Metz (comedians and dancers), Bert Williams (ventriloquist), and pictures on the Dromoscope complete a popular programme.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward.—Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures, so successful at the Rectory Hall, have now been transferred to this house under joint management. On Monday an extensive and attractive programme was presented to a large audience. The principal films comprised the coloured art dramas Cleopatra, The Miniature, and A Corner in Wheat. An exceptionally good variety turn was provided by the Sarnthaler Troupe, whose singing and dancing in national costume proved a distinct novelty.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Wages of Sin* is here this week. Miss Grace Warner is an excellent Ruth Hope; Miss Florence M. Daly an exceptionally good Jemima Bloggs; Mr. G. Gordon's George Brand is a fine performance; Mr. Roy Rhind is good as Harry Wentworth; Mr. Frank Beattie's Josiah Deane is an interesting study; Mr. C. Williams makes the small part of Judson a decided success; Miss Edith Rutland plays well as Rose Deane; and Mr. Louis Nanton (Ned Drummond) and Miss Lizzie Palmer (Juliana Bloggs) also do well.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Pete and Minnie Lee, delineators of Scotch character, gain a brilliant reception; the lady is exceptionally clever. Gillin, the favourite ventriloquist, is still a popular turn; the Rosses are two clever dancers; Edwards and Edwards are capable musicians and expert dancers; Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns are a good turn; Phillips and Merritt are versatile entertainers; and Tennis and Laune (Edie and Gertie), duettists, give every satisfaction.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The mimo-dramatic sketch *Life* is a powerful attraction. It is intensely dramatic, lavishly mounted, and splendidly played by Miss Margaret Carolee, Mr. Ernest Goslar, and Mr. Antone Pascual. *Life* should fill any hall. *61, Prospect Street*, a good playlet, is full of genuine comedy and well presented by Mr. Caryl Wilbur and Miss Zoe Gillilian. Jack Hamilton, a comedian of a novel style, "gets there"; Renee is an excellent turn; Gwladys Soman has a beautiful voice; and Leslie and Stephens, in *Love Levels All*, score; Charles Banks is entertaining.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Mooney and Holbein are a pair of exceptionally taking top-liners here; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are amusing in the extreme; Regan and Ryan are old-time favourites here, and always come up to the scratch; Arthur Ferris and Ethel May, in a vocal absurdity, *Two's Company*, are excellent entertainers; Crissie Cross is pleasing in song and dance; Ida Evilo, balancing trapeze artist, is clever and dainty; the Farrows go well; and the Wonderful Howards and the Bioscope are other attractions.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*The King and the Unknown Woman* is being played this week by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Six Franklins introduce a novel vocal act; the Child Trio are capable musicians; Howard and Harris, the star turn, repeat their former triumph; Chas. Norton makes a hit; Victor Widdicumbe in sketch business is in favour; Miss Gertrude Moore sings and dances delightfully; Will Owen, patter comedian, is good; Johnny Fuller is successful; and a fine film of the Grand National is shown.

HARROGATE.—THE KURSAAL.—Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford; Manager, Mr. John E. Wilshire.—This place opened for the season on Thursday, the municipal orchestra being under the baton of Mr. Julian Clifford; Miss Mildred Jones and Mr. Robert Charlesworth are the vocalists, and Miss Margaret Cooper is announced for a special matinée to-day.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The New Century Animated Picture Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—The head-liner here is a beautiful picture, A Trap for Santa Claus. The Diver's Remorse is clever, and wonderfully played. New comic pictures include I'm Tired and The Burglar Alarm. Miss Amy Stewart is re-engaged for this week. She is the possessor of a very nice voice.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is here in the romantic drama, *A White Man*. Captain James Wynnegate, as taken by Mr. Guy Hastings, merits the highest eulogy, and distinction is given to the part of Lady Diana by Miss Kathleen Maude; Miss Ormonde Wynne is exceptionally gentle and sympathetic as the Dowager Lady Kerth; the Earl of Kerhill is well taken by Mr. Charles Maunsell; Miss Dorothy Duncan acquits herself admirably as Lady Mabel Wynnegate; and Mr. R. A. Brandon's Big Bill is an intelligent and convincing sketch.

PAVILION PIER.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter; Musical Director, Mr. Surtees Corne.—Two laughable farces are introduced here by Mr. J. D. Hunter's combination of artists, *A Married Bachelor* and *Ici on parle Français*. These create great fun and amusement, the characters being taken by Messrs. J. E. Cowell, F. Beck, J. D. Hunter, Charles Hawker, and the Misses Eva Bayley, Vera Dudley, Rene Ashley, and Blanche Bayley. Between the two pieces the Sisters Edwards present some very pretty dancing and singing.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—Mr. Frank Lindo and his company are meeting with much success in *Home, Sweet Home*. In the rôle of Stephen Armitage Mr. Frank Lindo gives a typical and finished portrayal, and Miss Marion Wakeford a delightful impersonation of Joan. Others who contribute largely to an enjoyable performance include Mr. Norton Shields, Mr. Sidney Dench, Mr. Leonard Laurence, Mr. Bert Dench, Mr. Eric S. Crowther; Miss Nellie Benson, Miss Helene Thompson, and Little Doris. The attractions during Easter week are *Oliver Twist* and *Miss Plaster of Paris*.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—A capital programme gives much satisfaction to large audiences. Special films are Custer's Last Stand, A Woman's Repentance, and Scenes of the Paris Floods. Miss Victoria Rioff, the lady baritone, is well received.

HOYLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—Matt Wilkinson and company, in *The Registry Office*, are well received; Chester and Lee's marionettes are up to date; Jackson and May give a sensational act in "cycling in mid-air"; a smart and dainty comedienne is found in Maude Lorette; and the Glenister illustrated songs are excellent; Beatrice, boy impersonator, and Roy Lennard, vocalist, are very good.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The Faludy Troupe, who head the bill, show some clever acrobatic work. Also appearing are Miss Nellie Neil, comedienne; Judge's well-trained parrots, macaws, &c.; Ralph and Nellie Howard, in a smart musical act; Vincent, a jumper from great heights; Miss Helen Charles, a charming entertainer at the piano; the Vetter Bros., two accomplished gymnasts; Lee and Kingston, in a merry comedy episode; and the pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The star turn is contributed by the brilliant Geni Family, whose risley work is clever. Also here are the Fimans, in their comedy scene *In a Fire Station*; the Sisters Brenton, who dance well; Guy Rider, with some sweet whistling; Les Zanonis, in an attractive exhibition of juggling and club throwing; Miss May Poulton, a bright comedienne; Will Rhodes, with his quaint parodies; and Arnold Richardson, Gordon Laws, and Miss Ethel Lonsdale, who appear with marked success in a funny one-act play, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. The pictures are interesting.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Castellano's Opera company is meeting with a good reception, the répertoire including *Cavalleria, Pagliacci, Lucia, Carmen, Faust, Traviata*, and *Trovatore*. In the company are Signora Padovani, Signora Massia, Signora Dessio, Signor Folco, and Signor Siroli. The chorus is well blended.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Are You a Mason?* is a drama built on the lines that the patrons of this playhouse so love. Mr. W. V. Garrod plays the hero with fine force; as Lilian Brandon Miss Bertha Kingston reveals talent. The comic relief is acceptably portrayed by Miss Alice Clarke and Mr. Seymour Perry.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. H. Cardwell's juvenile company is presenting *Hop o' My Thumb* with an ability worthy of their elders. As the hero and heroine of the story, Miss Kitty Trewhitt and Miss Kitty Rafferty prove very popular; Miss Gladys Wise, assisted by a Claus ballet, scores a success with her Scotch numbers; Little George Harris proves a clever laughter-maker; Messrs. Rick and Cowley introduce enjoyable patter; and Mr. Vivian Wakeman is a mirth-provoking dame.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A very popular turn is Miss Flo Stanley's company in a musical comedy, entitled *Prince of the Dandies*. It is well staged, and the dancing and singing are excellent. Fred and Lulu Camplin have also a musical comedy turn, which is decidedly humorous; the Donatos, those clever one-legged dancers, are paying a return visit, and had a hearty welcome; Carlotta Levy has some catchy songs with good choruses; Maxford and O'Neill are two versatile comedians; Chas. Pastor sings some amusing songs; Gertie Martini gives clever impersonations of variety artists; and the Bioscope concludes a good bill.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—*Are You a Mason?* is proving quite a draw here. Mr. William Lockhart gives a fine performance of Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Archie Selwyn is well placed as George Fisher; Mr. Howard Tracey gives an excellent rendering of Frank Perry; Mr. Stanley Arthur is a droll Hamilton Tavers; Miss Grace Denbeigh Russell is a bright Eva; Miss Agnes Maude a capital Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; Miss Peggy E. Yeoman a successful Lottie; and other characters are all in excellent hands.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE. — Licencee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Mr. Chas. Constant's company is presenting the evergreen *Florodora*. The leading parts are all well sustained. Mr. Gus Danby is entitled to much praise as Anthony Tweedlepunch; and Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus Gilfain is good. Miss Daisy Lake is pleasing as Dolores; Miss Josephine Ellis ably portrays the part of Angela Gilfain; Lady Holyrood has a clever impersonator in Miss Kate Lester. The chorus is well selected.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Mr. Fred Boulton's vaudeville company is presenting a fine programme, every turn being well received. The items include the Three Eltons, in their horizontal-bar performance; Billy Fauder, comedian; Miss Buckingham's troupe of performing dogs; a very clever ventriloquial turn by Newman; Alice Vernon, cornet soloist; the Three Mascots; Harry Hellis, comedian; Mlle. Sara, with her classical statuary act; Miss Beatrice Royal, illustrated songs; the Boultons, with a charming comedy duet; and Mlle. Bartenelli, a remarkable contortionist.

KIRKCALDY.—NEW KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company are here with *Judith*. In the title-rôle Miss Tullock exhibits high-class histrionic qualities; Jack Carrington is pleasingly performed by Mr. Edward Vivian; and Eugene Darville receives a fitting interpretation at the hands of Mr. J. Thornley. Silas Norris, played by Mr. A. Kirk, is good; and the part of Bill Scamp is admirably presented by Mr. Leslie Stanley. Mr. Wm. de Lacy deserves special mention for his portrayal of Percy Hogg. Miss Dorothea Vivian makes a charming Hester Morris, and Miss Amy Osborne is a vivacious Maudie Green. Miss Dot Dainton is worthy of great praise for her rendering of blind Meg. The Compton Comedy Company are booked for the last three nights of the week.

CORN EXCHANGE PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. D. Walker; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Good pictures are again in evidence at this theatre, the most interesting being Little Nell, The Cripples' Race, Dog Rambles, The Little Flower Girl, An Unfortunate Shot, Nick Carter, The Student's Revenge, and The Porter's Mistake. Miss Ruby Lester, impersonator, and Persugal are appearing here this week with much acceptance.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgont's *Girls of Gottenberg* company were announced to give sacred concerts on Good Friday, playing the popular musical comedy to-night (Saturday).

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The two chief films are For the Honour of the Family, a very sensational story in seven scenes, and Cock-a-Doodle-Doo, a mirth-creating subject. Other pictures of an interesting and amusing character include The Hero, Weary Willie Gets a Job, Grandeur and Decadence, The Pact, and Gorges of the Andes. The elocutionist, Mr. Bert Williams, concludes a very successful engagement this week. He has been a great favourite. Mr. Henry Lewis delights his audiences with his very fine baritone voice, which is heard to distinct advantage in his songs.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *Dear Little Denmark* is well appreciated, the comedians causing much laughter. Mr. Henry Kitts as the gouty duke scores a success; and Miss Netta Lynde sings with effect.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—A military romance, *From Convent to Throne*, is well produced. In the rôle of Princess Maritz Miss Mary Fulton displays much cleverness, as also does Mr. William J. Miller as Baron Strelsaw.

EMPIRE. — District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—A sketch by Miss Kate Carney, in which she appears as Carmen, the gipsy queen, creates much merriment; La Sylphe proves herself a clever dancer; Miss Milly Engler and company, in *Beauty and Burglar*, are very amusing; and other favourites include Leonie Dixon, Frederic King, and Marie Queenie, the Three Delaries, Carl and Carr, and Chas. Vincent.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A capital bill is headed by an operatic sketch, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, presented by Mr. Ernest C. Gittins' company. Mlle. Adele in the title-rôle renders her songs effectively; and Mr. J. H. Wood's powerful bass voice is well applauded. Will Barnard's mimicry gains him much applause; Martin Henderson, the blind musician, is very clever with the concertina; Mozzetto is a juggler of ability; and Margit and Lener are eccentric.

BARRASFORD HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Mr. Reginald Eyre's company in *Gentlemen, The King*, meets with every success; the old sergeant whose heartfelt desire to again see the colours of his old regiment is a strong character, in which Mr. Henry Bedford greatly distinguished himself. Hayman and Franklin are very popular; Mr. C. keeps the house well amused with his witticisms; the Sisters Kebble thoroughly merit the applause given for their clever dancing; another favourite whose songs are well and daintily sung is Maud Courtney; Jock Whiteford, "the Smart Scot," scores repeatedly. A good bill also includes Dolly Ross, James Basnett, The Navardos, Kiners-Moulin, and the Three Comedy Chanters.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Tom Drum and Katie Major are the principal attractions in a novel vocal scena, entitled *The Broker's Man*. Neumann and Browne are capable vocalists; Marie Kay is a dainty soubrette and dancer, and her catchy songs make her popular. *The Actor's Last Call*, a song-scena presented by Mr. Arthur Ross, is greatly appreciated.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—We have as the attraction Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company in *Moths* and *Camille*. They opened their engagement with the former play, in which Miss Henrietta Schrier displays great cleverness as Fuchsia Leach, being well seconded in various parts by Mr. Andrew Money as Prince Sergius Zouroff, Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy as Lord Jura, Mr. Cecil Kerr as the Duke of Mull, Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Corrèze, Miss Veronica Clinton as Vere Herbert Miss Marie Ramuz as the Duchess de Sonaz, and Miss Nellie Statham as Lady Dolly. The play was well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, the renowned beauty and poseur, who is assisted by Makjah and Mlle. Leony, are seen to great advantage in an entirely new and beautiful performance, embracing living pictures, enthralling Eastern dances, and chaste living statuary. The popular actor-musician, Van Biene, who shares the top of the bill, is a great favourite with his new domestic episode *Van Biene's Baby*, his 'cello solos being brilliantly performed. He is assisted in capital style by Miss Violet Vaughan and Mr. T. Hartley. The Lukushimas, including Otorora San, are vastly pleasing in a particularly smart and clever performance; Harry Friskey, the unique comedy juggler, keeps the audience in continual laughter; Harry Leybourne is a versatile artist, who gives a thoroughly enjoyable turn. Entertaining items are also contributed by Kisbey, the call boy, and Adey Spencer, the girl from the hat shop. Clarke and Hayden, musical comedy artists, who are on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit. The Bioscope is also retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The leading item in this week's programme is a very fine and lengthy film of the Freddy Welsh and Johnny Summers' fight. Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, in their scena *Gipsy Revels*, give a popular turn; Geo. M. Baker and Lilian Balfe make a big hit with their xylophone playing and the concluding eccentric dance; Picton Raxborough and Fanny Wright are good in their pot-pourri singing and dancing musical comedy act, the dancing and singing of the lady partner calling for special praise; Walter Barrett is a baritone vocalist of ability; Lilian Edwards is an excellent comedienne. The Bioscope also shows a most mirth-provoking picture, entitled How Scroggins Put Up for Blankshire.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The two principal films this week are Patriot's Daughter and A Friend of the Family. The other well-shown and interesting films include Foolshead's Christmas, An Oriental Mystic, Manufacturing Ropes and Cables, When Prison Bars are Useless, Uncle Richard, The Right to Love, Theodore's Concert, The Dimiki Donkey, An Ingenious Safe Deposit, and Magda. Fred Hutchings, a funny comedian, provides an entertaining attraction.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Pantomime, in or out of season, is always acceptable here, and a return visit of Mr. Fred Granville's *Beauty and the Beast* production has been well received this week. The piece is notable for the pleasing impression made by Miss Dollie Barrie as Beauty, and for the effective singing of Mr. Nicklin Williams in the rôle of the Beast. Miss Maudie Vincent and Miss Nellie Valentine win favour as Prince Greatheart and Silver Buttons respectively; and Miss Flo Zingaree, Miss Victoria Francis, and Miss

Vo 69

Fanny Wallace are successful in their allotted parts. The comedians, whose methods of humour quite capture the appreciation of the audience, include Messrs. Sammy Foster, Albert Juan, Edward Stream, and Frank Daleno. Most of the principals, as well as Baby Boden and the Royal Quintette of dancers, contribute popular speciality turns; and the songs, wheezes, and comicalities appear to be greatly enjoyed.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—August Van Biene and Son's company, in Walter Howard's drama *Man and Wife*, are fulfilling a return visit, and are very welcome. Mr. Jerrold Ord is a strong Paul Revere, and Miss Kate Hallam is excellent as the heroine, Marcelle. Mr. George Overs repeats his fine assumption of the cripple Jean; and Mr. E. Hall Eldon and Mr. Edwin Helm are once more seen in their amusing portrayals of the comedy parts.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dubney.—The Piccolinos, a remarkable party of midgets, present an extraordinary and varied entertainment, including sharp-shooting, dancing, acrobatics, &c. Excellent support comes from the Daintons, Tom Yorke, Dorothy Dare, Norah Desmond, and Albert Letine.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Here this week we are having another welcome return of Mr. Martin Harvey and his able company in several popular plays. On Monday evening the curtain rose on the always acceptable *Breed of the Treshams*, in which Mr. Harvey sustained his old-time part of Reresby; the sound acting of Mr. Charles Glenny made the rôle of Hungerford stand out prominently; Mr. Leonard Craske worthily presented the character of Francis Tresham; Miss N. de Silva was again the light-hearted faithful Batty; thanks are due to Miss Brenda Gibson for her tactful rendering of Margaret; and among Mr. Harvey's other worthy supporters were Mr. Phillip Hewland (Dorsington), Mr. Owen Roughwood (Curwen), Mr. Fred Wright, sen. (Bagshaw), Mr. Edward Combermere (Stanhope), Mr. Alfred Mansfield (Rasleigh), and Mr. Denholm Muir (Willoughby). The rest of the week was occupied by *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, *The Conspiracy*, *The World and His Wife*, and *The Only Way*.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffrey.—After a successful pantomime this theatre remains closed during Passion week, opening to-night (Saturday) with the first of seven performances of *The Earl and the Girl*.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Cotton Spinner* pays a first visit to this popular north-end house. As Mary Prescott, Miss Mary Austin delights everybody, earning much favour by reason of her powerful acting; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds repeats his capital portrait of John Prescott; Mr. William Manning makes an excellent Lord Northbury; as his son Arthur Mr. George Porteous plays with discretion; and other well held parts are Major Stratton (Mr. W. H. Dewhurst), Smirk (Miss Nellie Hayes), Lady Needy (Miss Belle Power), and Constance Harrington (Miss Ethel Vinroy). A neat little curtain-raiser is *The Reward*, by Millicent Edmonds.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Morton Powell's strong drama *A Girl's Temptation*, which is drawing good houses. Miss Gertrude Gilbert, in the rôle of the persecuted Kate Sterling, finds much favour and plays with a deal of feeling; Mr. Frank V. Fenn lends great support with his Guy Warren, and earns loud applause; the rascally Mark Klaw is admirably undertaken by Mr. Clifton Earle; Mr. Tom Handley makes the most of Charles Claude; as Jim Judd Mr. Fred J. Mace does well; Mr. William H. Crande does everything necessary with Moss Isaacstein; Miss Blanche Lee is deserving of praise for her Annie Brown; Miss Louie Walton shows talent and care as Mrs. Stirling; a deal of comedy comes from Mr. Freddie Bentley as Sammy Sniggles; and Miss Winnie Donovan pleases with her Lady Heathfield. The play is well put on.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The inimitable George Robey is prominent here this week, enjoying rousing receptions for his rousing songs; Drew and Alders, fresh from a big success in local pantomime, cause shouts of laughter with their sketch *The Coastguards*; the ventriloquial act of Thora is greatly enjoyed; Harry Allister shows high talents as an impersonator; the Rhoda Bros. present a clever gymnastic act; Farr and Farland make their audience scream with laughter by reason of their patter; the Sisters Storm are a pair of dainty duettists, whose uncommonly good simultaneous dancing provokes loud applause; Verno and Voyce please as much as ever with their novel vocal scena; Florence Esdaile, possessed of a rich voice, earns general approval for her several numbers; and the mimicry of Florence is appreciated.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill is Madie Scott, a sprightly comedienne, whose songs are received with immense favour; Jack Ross and Sue Lewis cause endless laughter with their patter and dancing; the Sisters Carina go through a refined musical act; some novel and clever juggling is performed by the Two Cromwells; Little Pam as a juvenile comedian and dancer does well; Milner and Storey submit a neat all-round vaudeville show. *Tickets*; and also in the list are F. S. Howard with *London Life*, and George Lennard, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—John L. Sullivan, the champion boxer, makes his "first appearance in vaudeville in Europe," assisted by Jake Kilrain, another boxer. His entertainment comprises a monologue, story recitals, a sparring match with gloves, and a bioscope show of the McCoy-Corbett Fight. Some smart acrobatic work is shown by the three Braggs, their "living bridge" being witnessed with wonder; Brent Hayes displays remarkable skill as a banjoist; Sam Elton causes his audience to rock with laughter by reason of his funny sayings; Stuart and Evans are a couple of refined comedians; the Forsyths have a pretty musical comedy speciality act, *La Poupée*; Charlie Carr dances and sings well; and Nora Stockelle, comedienne, is also in the programme.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—This week *The Mariner's Compass* is being given by the stock dramatic company, among the principals being Messrs. Sydney Grant (Engleheart) Harry Tresham (Dayrell), Tom H. Solly (Augustus Brown), Miss Gertrude Gilman (Mrs. Provost) Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Hetty Arnold), and Miss Lina Nazeby (Mrs. Engleheart). Brown's Bioscope shows Into the Shadow.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Prominent here this week is Gertie Gitana, with her taking songs; Harry Roxbury and company create contonnius laughter with their *On the Track*; the famous Craggs present a most enjoyable turn, *Territorials; or, England's Last Hope*, which is exceedingly clever and funny; Tom Costello brings his latest and wins a deal of applause; D'Arc's marionettes prove exceedingly amusing; the Merry Ernie Garner makes everybody laugh; some capital and diverting singing is provided by the Brooklyn Comedy Four; Siems shows remarkable skill as a conjurer; and the Glenroy Troupe of speciality characteristic dancers come in for a large measure of approval. The Thursday matinée "trial" shows are becoming very popular.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Pantomime is here again, Mr. William Watson having sent a really good *Robinson Crusoe*. In the cast are the Waldrons (Joe and Ettie), who, as the twins, cause endless laughter; Mlle. de Rose makes a neat Crusoe; Miss Hilda Claremont looks well as principal girl; Phil Lestor proves an amusing Mrs. Crusoe; Lambert and Butler are the diverting Sunny Jims; and Mme. Louie Gilbert is the Queen. The pantomime is well staged and goes with a swing.

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Barney Vox tops the bill here this week, and his ventriloquial efforts are loudly applauded; Bob Stephenson does well as comedian and dancer; Ford Williams contributes sentimental songs; Lenaro has an eccentric act, *Fun on a Dustbin*; May Thornes is a versatile comedienne; and Nellie Nora is above the average as an instrumentalist. The Biograph pictures complete a good programme.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Miss Violet Osmund's company presented on Thursday and Saturday this week, the musical comedy *The New Barmaid*, under the direction of Mr. Alexander Loftus. An interesting feature in the second act is the appearance of various members of the company in the characters of well-known celebrities.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—The well-known detective drama *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is drawing appreciative audiences this week. Mr. William Macready is responsible for a fine picture of the persecuted "Bob" Brierley, and is admirably supported by Miss Chrissie Bickerstaffe (May Edwards). For the holidays we have *The Beggar-Girl's Wedding*.

The Hippodrome reopens on Easter Monday.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Arthur Farren presents *Cinderella* here. The title-rôle is daintily taken by Miss Eva Barlow; Miss F. Anderson makes a capital Prince Charming; and Miss Isa Bernard a pleasing Dandini. Stokes and Macabe are responsible for much of the merriment as the Ugly Sisters; Mr. Arthur Farren enacts Baron Limerick in a capable manner; and Mr. James Mackenzie is smart and invigorating as Peps.

MAESTEG.—Picture Palace.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Owing to the great demand for a bioscope and vaudeville entertainment, the above popular place of amusement will be run on such lines in the future on the two houses nightly system. So far the new venture has met with terrific success. This week's bill is headed with an historical film, entitled Lancelot and Elaine. Other interesting pictures are A Rough Sea at St. Jean de Lux, The Minister's Daughter, Too Beautiful, and Only a Stepdaughter. The Mosures, in a comedy sketch entitled *The Suffragette* cause roars of laughter. The Anzellas, in a gymnastic mélange, are very well received.

MANCHESTER.—Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J .Mason.—Henry Chatteli and Jack Denton's company is here in *Through the Divorce Court*. The heroic parts are capitally handled by Mr. Robert Purd e, as Lord Robert Penarth, and Miss Hettie Chatteli as Lady Dolores Penarth. Mr. Henry C. Cooper gives a very forcible rendering of the villainous Guzman di Mendoza, admirably assisted by Miss Edith Cruikshanks as Lady Hilda F.tzmaurice. Much humour is infused by Mr. Jack Denton, who gives an amusing impersonation of Algy, and Mr. Harry Colbeck as Patsy Rafferty.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearne.—Wilson Howard and Co. are here in a military play, *Under the Iron Heel*. Mr. Wilson Howard, as Rene de Maupassant, makes the very best of a strong part, and Miss Carlotta Anson is entirely successful as Germaine Mirbleau. Mr. W. J. Richards is also conspicuously good as Otto Marx, and Mr. John Talford plays Father Mirbleau with considerable skill and sympathy. Mr. Carl Vallender, as Schultz, and Miss Marie Angus, as Andre, both humorous rôles, add to the success of the piece. Praise should be added for Miss J. Douglas-Hicks as Maman Gouffe.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—The attraction here is *Sexton Blake*, played last week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here in *The Old Folks at Home*, which was put on successfully last week at the Metropole Theatre.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top turn here is Fred Karno's company in Perkins, M.P., the title-rôle being played by Albert Bruno. W. J. Churchill (Uncle Willie), the popular comedian, is also prominent; and other good turns are The Sisters Caselli, duetists and dancers; Tom Lloyd, comedian; John Henry, Welsh baritone; The Carmos, clever jugglers; Rich and Rich, quaint comedians; and Elsie Roby, the comedy slavey at the piano.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The Colini-Clairons, an exceedingly clever octette of dancers, are seen here this week in an artistically executed terpsichorean act of great merit; Harry Weldon, comedian, is well rece.ved, as usual, his style and songs being very amusing; Les Silas, French operatic vocalists, have very fine voices, and offer a pleasing turn; Ray Wallace, the lady mimic at the piano, gives smart imitations; the Brothers O'Brien, in a triple-bar act, give a wonderful performance; Charles Santon scores as a male soprano; Carrie Laurie's "Kindergarten" introduces some very smart children in song and dance; the Brennans are very good step-dancers; and Stanley and Greenop give fine select.ons on the banjo. Pictures complete.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Wilkie Bard is here this week with his usual success. His song, "The Bugle Call," is particularly good. Blake and Amber, the famous trans-Atlantic comedy couple, make a decided hit in their burlesque scene; Radford and Valentine cause no end of fun in a smart juggling act; the Stavordale Quintette, in their banjo and hoop speciality with human voice effects, are well received; Walker and Lake are good comedians; Rosie Lloyd is a pleasing comedienne; the Westbrook trio are good dancers; and the Three Laurels present a very clever acrobatic speciality. Palace pictures are also included in the programme.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Messrs. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Daisy Jerome, the "electric spark," tops the bill here this week, and meets with a flattering reception; she has several new and clever songs. Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane play well in a farcical absurdity, *Trizie*; Ben Lewin is exceptionally good in his character impersonations; Zeta Russell is a dainty dancer; Mabel Gregory, a pleasing comedienne, sings nicely; and smart turns are offered by Barry Snowball and Kitty Mac, comedy duo; Iris Yohe, comedienne; and Bob and Nellie Comber, comedy duo. Ruffell's Bioscope pictures complete.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—The attraction here is Harry Foxwell's Co., in *Mother*, including Mr. J. O. Stewart as Duncan, and Miss Grace Jones as Nellie.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley.—Fred Karno's company of comedians are higly successful here this week in that amusing creation, *The Football Match*, with Will Poluski, jun., as "Stiffy," the goal-keeper. Billy Merson, a comedian who is very much to the front, makes his usual big hit; and John S. Leick and Mabel Keith are delightful entertainers. Other very good items are contributed by George Hall, light comedian and whistler; Stevens and Brett, burlesque artists; Manson and West, in *Telling the Tale*; Chiko, equilibristic contortionist; Penstone and San-Go, speciality artists; and Paul Corrix and assistant, in novel strong act. A capital all-round programme.

MANSFIELD.—Grand.—Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company fills the bill here with *Lucky Liza*. Miss Madge Brownie has a well-merited reception for her vivacious rendering of the title-rôle. The applause accorded to Miss Vesta Brownie (Virginia) is no less hearty. Mme. Constance Bellamy is good as Sadie Potts; Dickie Clare as Silas Slim is a decided success, working hard to provide a generous fund of humour; Mr. Salvet is a capital Paul Pettitoe. The scenery and effects contribute in no small way to the success of the piece.

MARGATE.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Pretty and effective art poses are contributed, with Miss Alice Hoodless as the central figure. Vera Rochdale, comedienne and dancer, is excellent; Moon and Morris, comedians and simultaneous dancers, give a clever turn; Marco, the boy juggler, is repeating previous successes; Charles Leighton, the tramp at the piano, gives a smart performance; and Daisy Mead, descriptive vocalist, has put on a new song-scena dealing with Australian life. The pictures, Hercules in the Regiment and The Blind Man, are good.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is accorded a hearty reception here in *The Arcadians*. Miss Sybil Tancredi is a delightful Sombra; Mr. C. A. Stephenson as Jas. Smith and Mr. Alfred Been as Peter Dooley are humorous; Miss Gertrude Aylward contributes a droll impersonation of Mrs. Smith; and Miss Molly McIntyre sings and dances prettily as Eileen Cavanagh; Mr. Archie S. Macdonald is a prepossessing lover; and Mr. Wallace G. Court is convincing as Sir George Paddock.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Welda and Wynne, in their comedy act, provide a bright and interesting turn; the Vanderbilts score in a novel and up-to-date duo; Kenrick and Laura successfully appear in harmony and eccentric dancing; Geo. Kae is a quaint Scotch comedian; and Doyle and Massey are smart knockabouts.

METHIL.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. John Leopold's company, with *New Frivolity*, evokes roars of laughter. Mr. Harry Ugar as Sammy is responsible for many humorous hits. Very fine living statue effects are introduced by the Leopolds; and there is a clever acrobatic display by the Four Kellys.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—To-night and next week Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company is announced to appear in *The Flag Lieutenant*.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company this week presents *The Woman Pays*, a play in which Miss Alice Greenwood is seen to advantage as Madge Armstrong. Miss Kate Blair does well as Nell Moorland; Mr. Phil Harper is successful in the part of Sid Armstrong; Mr. Beresford Innes is a capital Cyrus Tredgold; and the part of Roger Marchant is ably portrayed by Mr. Raymond Thomas.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Miss Lottie Bellman, assisted by Bay Russell, tops the bill, and the performance submitted meets with much approval; Ritter and Foster do well in their vocal and dancing act; J. W. Hall, an old and valued comedian on Teesside, is as successful as on his numerous previous visits; and Charles Lewis, ventriloquist, Cole-Cliffe, society entertainer, Dave Carter, tenor, the Reays, equilibrists, the Northcotes, vocal comedians, and the Empire Bioscope pictures all come in for a fair share of applause. Good houses rule.

MORLEY.—Alexandra Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Miss Victoria Cross is the bright particular star, and her reputation gained at the Leeds Theatre Royal pantomime as Martha Ann in *Babes in the Wood* has been fully sustained; equally successful are Perth and Oban, with an original and up-to-date comedy and dancing act; Mr. Jack Freeman's eccentricities amuse; and Miss Florrie Ellis, character and descriptive vocalist, is very pleasing.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Clisholm Toylor.—Mr. Walter Steele's company is here in *A Fast Life*. Mr. Walter Steele is a striking John Dixon, and Miss Lillian Ross an excellent Mrs. Dixon.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Courtice Pounds and company are here in *The Merry Peasant*. Mr. Courtice Pounds as quaint and lovable Mattheus Roiter sings and acts with delightful charm; Mr. Percy Carr as Stefan is well suited; the humour of the play is ably sustained by Mr. Ernest J. Langford as Zoph, the village constable, and Mr. William Hindson as the Mayor; whilst Annamirl is played by Miss Gladys Gay with charming abandon. Miss Madge Vincent is heard to advantage in the rôle of Freda, and Little Rosalie is cleverly portrayed by little Mary Glynn.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore and company paid their first visit to Newcastle on Monday in a répertoire of Ibsen's plays. *A Doll's House* was the selection for the opening night. Miss Kenmore's Nora Helmer was a fine performance; Mr. Lovel as Torvald Helmer played with full appreciation of Ibsen's intention; Mr. Kenneth Black was a convincing Dr. Rank; Miss Daisy Race an exceedingly good Ellen; and to Mr. Arthur McCulloch as Nils Krogstadt praise is also due.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Percy Williams's company in *The Fatal Wedding* is meeting with a good reception here. Mr. Edward Lloyd is conspicuous with a forcible rendering of Howard Wilson; Miss Ethel Key sustains the character of Mabel Wilson impressively; Mr. Cyril Melton comes out particularly strong in the heavy rôle of Robert Curtis; and Cora Wilson is ably interpreted by Miss Leah Marlborough. Jessie, the "Little Mother," is very prettily played by Miss Marie Wilson.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company on Monday came here in *The Cingalee*. Nanoya was delightfully played by Miss Isa Bowman; and Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Pat and Miss Florrie Greensmith as Peggy Sabine were most successful. Mr. Frank Barclay as the Hon. Harry Vereker, Mr. Frank Lennard as Boobhamba, Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Bobby Warren, and Mr. Hylton Ward as Chambuddy Ram all contribute to the success.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Nelson Jackson, the popular entertainer, occupies, along with Sam Mayo, the premier position on the bill; another item of more than ordinary merit is that supplied by Mabel Mavis, who provides a novel musical turn, including selections on the glassophone; Queenie Leighton, the popular musical comedy artist, introduces some capital patter; the Delevines supply a screamingly funny comedy act entitled *Flipp and Flopp*; and an equally entertaining turn is that of the Brothers Redmond. Billy Hobbs, a clever dancer, Henry Helme, vocalist, Holden's Mannikins, and Alice Raymond and her Players are other turns.

NORTHAMPTON.—Palace of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H Gould; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—Heading the programme here are the Primrose Quartette, in a highly appreciated Welsh song scena; Delaforce and Hartley, Transatlantic drolls, provide some varied comedy; J. C. Hinkins is amusing; illustrated songs are presented by the Rinders; Hector and Sultan give a laughable kuockabout turn; Charles Lestree juggles with balls, plates, &c.; the Sisters Harcourt are pleasing comediennes and dancers; and Tom Herman's spectacle *For King and Country* ends the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's capable company is this week presenting *With Edged Tools*. Mr. Hamilton Deane plays the rôle of Jack Meredith with considerable success; Mr. Henry Nunn appears to advantage as Guy Oscard; Mr. J. D. Geddes proves a capital Sir John Meredith; Mr. Campbell Goldamid is an excellent Victor Durnova; and Mr. Albert Campbell sustains the part of Maurice Gordon effectively. As Jocelyn Gordon Miss Marie Leonhard submits an admirable study; Miss Marguerite Cellier as Millicent Chyne displays much ability; Miss Marion Fawcett acquits herself well as Lady Cautourne; and Miss Florence Dulhunty is a satisfactory Marie.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The chief attraction here is Andrews and Thompson, Anglo-American comedy duo, on a welcome return visit; Williams' Royal Welsh Minstrels, in "Gems of Welsh Melodies," are highly appreciated; and other good turns are Maudie Veres, chic comedienne; the Two Liptons, in their military scena; Walter Aubrey, dancer; Sisters Liston, comediennes; and the Phillips, illustrated songsters.

NORWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F W. Fitt.—Arden and Abels' company in the farcical sketch *Three of a Kind* arouse much laughter; Amy Anderson and company create much fun in her great comedy scena *Black and White*; Les Wartanas are brilliant as lady jugglers; the Sisters Selwyn are dainty comediennes and expert dancers; Paul Cavalli, an athlete acrobat equilibrist balancer and musical virtuoso, gives a unique turn; Mark Henton sings excellent songs; Florence Burns is a pleasing vocalist; and the Hippodrome Bioscope is interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*You Never Can Tell* is playing here again to highly appreciative houses. Miss Edith Hunter gives a convincing and natural portrayal of Mrs. Clandon; Miss Winifred Beach supplies a noteworthy performance of Gloria Clandon; and a winsome Dolly Clandon is seen in Miss Ida Southern. Mr. Graham Colmer is a breezy Valentine; Mr. Bellenden Clarke infuses plenty of spirit into the part of Bohun; Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson makes an acceptable Philip Clandon; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce an excellent Fergus Crampton. The waiter of Mr. Claude Haviland is a fine character study; Mr. Alan Jeayes makes the most of Finch McComas; and Miss Sylvia Dawson does well as the Maid.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—The thrilling situations in *When Woman Hates* are well portrayed by Mr. Bulmer's company. Mr. B. H. Davis makes a dignified General Rokeby; a dashing Lieut. Rokeby is seen in Mr. Louis Lingard; Mr. Austin Mortimer well enacts the villainous schemes of Godfrey Lawton; Mr. Evan Roland extracts all possible fun from Patrick O'Brien; and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd capitally interprets the eccentric Alphonse Picolet. Miss Lillian Herries brings out all the fiendish nature of Cora Daintry; Miss Lala Stanhope is a pleasing Marie Rokeby; and the amorous Mrs. Potts is humorously played by Miss Mary Dalby.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The beautiful ballet designed by Signor Rosi evokes the most generous applause, and special praise is due to the dancers, Signorine Rossetti and Luisa Patti. George Leyton, with his stirring scena "The Roll-call," is again assisted by Crimean veterans; a thoroughly enjoyable musical burlesque is presented by King and Benson; the Three Van Dammes give an excellent comedy acrobatic performance; Millie Payne, with new songs, adds to her laurels; and Harry Bedford keeps the fun going with his new skits. Other items also include Musical Silvo, Ethel Bourne, vocalist, and Conan and Doyle, comedians.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The drolleries of Charles Austin as Parker, P.C., are a never-failing source of amusement; the versatility of Albert Le Fre is displayed in juggling, illusions, dances, and songs, to the great delight of his audiences. Adah Payne sings a dainty song artistically; the Brothers Werds succeed admirably in their acrobatic feats; Dunning's ventriloquial item is popular; and a highly amusing sketch is given by Millie and Arthur. The Kahn Trio, conjurers, the Birkenhead family of singers and dancers, and Tom Lee, comedian, are also on the bill.

OLDHAM.—Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Her Path of Sorrow* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott and company. Miss Fay Garnet Vayne as Nellie Rayne acts capitally, and was heartily applauded. Mrs. Draycott as Pauline Ferrars finely depicts a girl of a noble and generous disposition; Mr. Draycott as Richard Burfield acts in a forcible and manly style which wins hearty recognition; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield vividly portrays the callous and vicious Guy Lowther; Mr. Frank Etheridge is a smart Lionel Heathcote, and acts cleverly. Mr. Theo. Balfour makes a capital Markham Ferrars, and Mr. Chas. Reyne a good Farmer Rayne. Miss Nellie Freeland is vivacious as the flirty Mamselle Lucille; Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green causes hearty laughter; and Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions is the means of much merriment. Dr. Simms is acted ably by Mr. Alan Sethwyn, and Mr. Hubert Laurence does well as Jack Smith. Mr. Eric Winstanley is a competent Detective Williams; and Messrs. Saunders and Wheeler are good policemen.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Herbert Fuller and company are here with *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, and the drama is well played. Miss Agnes Collier acts ably in a hard and thankless part as Alice Walters, whose persecutor, Squire Jack Stonely, is acted in excellent style by Mr. S. Leigh Courtney. Mrs. Walters is well played by Miss Lillian Burns; and Farmer Walters is artistically portrayed by Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell. Mr. Percy St. Clair is a soldierly Jack Walters; Mr. Percy Byers makes a smart Governor Farragh; and Mr. Edward Jeffs is effective as Sergeant O'Hara. Miss Emily Lewis as Nurse Von Grip is amusing, and Mr. Hubert Helliwell as the Rev. John Aldberry is very good. Mr. Herbert Fuller infuses some clever comedy into his acting as Timothy Slough, ably assisted by Mr. Louis Weston as Nebucannezza Mendelssohn Wagner Mozart.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The programme is a very attractive one here, comprising The Race for the Grand National; Buried Alive is a typical tale of a mining camp; a pathetic picture, entitled Punch Benefactor, is very good; and some fine views of the Imatra Falls are depicted in a capital film. Laddie is a favourite picture, and takes well. Among the amusing films is one which is most laughable, Late for the Office, and the popular choruses thrown on the screen are much enjoyed. Mr. Don Cameron contributes a good song.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Grand National of 1910, shown here, is very good. Mr. King lectures in his usual racy manner, and his songs are good.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—His Only Child is the top liner, and proves a very fine film. A Cowardly Plot is a well-acted picture, and Life in the U.S.A. Army is very interesting. A Good Winning and The Kleptomaniac are very funny. Mr. H. Knight is singing very well indeed.

Brown's Assembly Rooms.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—The Eagle's Egg is a powerful dramatic picture; The Sentinel's Romance is a good story of love and war; and Sports in Winter is a very pleasing picture.

Oddfellows' Hall (Shaw).—Proprietor, Mr. A. Ashworth.—An excellent programme is provided this week. The top liner, The Boyhood of Vidocq, is a fine one, and The Paris Floods are very interesting.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Saville.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is presenting here *A Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs gives a powerful embodiment of Sir Montague Jephson; as Joseph Vernam Mr. Frank Masters is excellent; Mr. Harold Heath submits a manly portraiture of Jack Stanley; Mr. Fred Bentley essays with success the part of Seth Pearce; and as Toby Wright Mr. David Phillips is very amusing. Miss Mabel Liston as Alva Kenyon displays ability; Miss C. Middleton as Rose Vernam is admirable; the Nellie Kenyon of Miss Priscilla Barnard is capitally played; and Miss Kate Hughes as Mary Ann Barnicoat is provocative of much mirth.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Sears, American illusionist, holds premier position here, and his mysticism is bewildering. Hinton and Wooton display ability as trick cyclists, and their football match creates enthusiasm; and others who contribute to the programme are Charles Rowen, comedian; Arthur Croxon, burlesque imitator; Helen Martin, vocalist; Vere and Nelldon, a novelty duo; Billy French, wooden-shoe dancer. The Bioscope is well up to the usual standard.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning's company, including Mr. Rutland Barrington, is here in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Barrington was excellent as the Marquis of Steventon, proving himself as capable in comedy as in comic opera. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards made a strong Jack Frobisher; Mr. Russell Barry exactly suited the part of Hankey Bannister; and Mr. H. Browning was sufficient'y insinuating as Harry Dallas. Miss Gwendoline Hay played delightfully both in the flippant and the more tender scenes as Lady Alethea; Miss Ethel-Trevor Lloyd was a charming Lady Westerby; Miss Doris Digby was very amusing as Tina Mornington; and the other members of the company were all well suited.

PETERBOROUGH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—A feature of the programme this week is a competition for amateur comic singers; Gladys Revell, chorus comedienne, is a favourite; Wal Owen, in a funny nonsensical absurdity, is successful; Zelda, instrumentalist, gives an acceptable turn; Will Willis, comedian, gains applause; Marlo is one of the cleverest jugglers seen here lately; Harwood's juveniles, in novel scena *A Children's Christmas Eve*, are entertaining; and the Karnoscope concludes with new pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Thief* is on a return visit, and a company of more than ordinary ability give an excellent rendering of this all-absorbing piece. In the title-rôle Miss Marise Chelford treats the audience to some magnificent emotional acting without overdoing the part in any degree, and Miss Mary Forrester presents a good study of Isabel Leyton. Mr. Bernard Limous as Richard Chelford is responsible for some brilliant acting, particularly exciting bedroom scene; Mr. J. F. Morland gives a capable rendering of Raymond Leyton; and Mr. Carl Lindsey is excellent as the over-generous and chivalrous Harry Leyton.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Harry Lauder furnishes a great draw, packed houses assembling at each performance; the Gothams occupy second position on the bill, and their excellent performance thoroughly justifies the distinction; Len Hale introduces a novelty in the form of buck dancing on roller skates, which is skilfully performed; Bi Bo Bi gives an attractive musical number with some uncommon bell instruments; Shrillo, silfleur, entertains with excerpts from grand opera; Miss Teddy Edmond's company is popular in an amusing sketch, entitled *The Lady Jockey*, the principal figure being Mr. Jimmy Rous as the tipster; and Mr. Alec Lawson executes some wonderful contortionist dances.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—This week Mr. and Mrs. John Walter's company has presented the pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Violet Thorne is a pleasing Robin Hood; Miss Kitty Liske a charming Maid Marion; Misses F. Parkinson and Kitty Chester are pretty Babes; and Messrs. Dylum and Dale perform the rôles of the Robbers to perfection. Tom Lewis makes an admirable Baron and Mr. Ally M. Benson causes roars of laughter as the Dame.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's excellent company is presenting *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy, in the title-rôle, scores a success; Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reginald Steighton proves himself a capable actor; Miss Nellie Bonser is a charming Mrs. Durham; Lord Mountfallon is ably sustained by Mr. Wm. Culvert; and Mr. Charles Wemyss as Mr. Vallerton is seen to

Verner is a great success as Vera Ewan; Miss Jane Migney is a vivacious Nora Stretton; and Miss Dora Olga a clever little Ned. Miss Sadie Smith deserves much praise for her sympathetic portrayal of Honor Thornhill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—A capital programme this week includes the mysterious De Biere, in an elaborate sequence of illusions; the Four Mayos, in their eccentric speciality on roller skates, are exceedingly clever; Harry McKenzie, Scotch comedian and patterer, has good songs and dances; Marie Powell, waif impersonator, is a clever artist on the 'cello; George Robinson, comedian, has some capital songs; Wash. A. Evans and his company—Miss Vera Crackles, Harry Wood, W. Payne, Matt Cohan, and Tom B. Morris, together with a clever quartette of dancers—cause much laughter with their American miniature musical comedy, *Paradise Alley*; Fallows and Beaumont, in their vocal comedy act, are distinctly good; and The Bridegroom's Joke on the Bioscope is a capital film.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. Joseph Poole's Myriorama Company is supplying a healthy variety entertainment here. The Bioscope pictures and tours are very good. Miss Fredrica's terriers are wonderful. De Lilo and Metz, the charming lady bender and the clever comedy juggler, are exceedingly clever. Little Francesca is an excellent dancer; and the Tissots are amusing living marionettes. Eileen and Mayrie, in a musical mélange, and the Brothers Wayman, expert wooden-shoe dancers, are also in the bill.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—The Manchester Electric Theatres; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—A most amusing set of pictures shown here this week is the one entitled A Ruse That Failed, whilst Maurice Maitland's Marriage is very good also. A dramatic interlude was given in House of Cards, and another amusing sketch was represented in The Porter's Dream. The Tough Beef Steak proved a most amusing item, and in the next film, the Duchesse de Berry, there was presented an interesting historical sketch. The specialities this week are the Three Jewels, who are fascinating and graceful dancers, introducing some poses giving proof of specially trained strength and grace; and Will Sullivan is a typical Lancashire comedian, and met with a successful reception.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Fred Granville's No. 1 company is appearing this week in the domestic drama *Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe gives a powerful impersonation of the aggrieved husband, Carlos de Vergos; Miss Ruby Loncraine gives a good portrayal of the erring wife; Mr. Alfred D. Adams plays the part of the villainous Paul Bernstoff skilfully, and is well supported by Miss Lilian Radbourne as Inez de Castro; Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles and Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer supply the comic element; and the other parts are well acted.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco, Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—Jan Rudenyi and company appear with success in the musical romance *The Power of Music*. Elton and Elma give a clever performance on the triple horizontal bars; Mr. Chas. Erard is an excellent mimic; Mr. Fred Lincoln is well received in his character creations; the Comedy Meisters combine humour with tuneful voices; Bellew and Stock's company of entertainers, the Romps, appear in a dainty musical scena; Miss Lilian O'Gorman is an acceptable singer and dancer; and the Bioscope completes the entertainment.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Her Life in London* was presented on Monday by Mr. Stanley Carlton to a good house. Mr. Casson is very satisfactory as the Rev. Allen Gordon; Miss Rubie Maude sweetly enacts Astra Bell; the blind burglar Grattan Gale is impressively portrayed by Mr. Claude Aymond; Mr. Claude Seaton makes a good study of Mr. Templeton. Madge Rendall, the lady detective with her several disguises, is cleverly played by Miss Katie Randolph; Mr. John Croudace shows to advantage as Collini; Mr. W. Vernon as Percy Plunker and Miss R. B. Douglas as Dolly, the lively lady typist, are responsible for a lot of enjoyable comedy, including singing and dancing. All the other parts are creditably sustained and the scenery is most effective.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—An excellent programme is submited this week, headed by Pasquali Bros., the sensational equilibrists and tumblers; Charles Matthews, famous jumper; Lillie Le-Main, Lilliputian and marionette artist; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts; Cliff and Dean, comedy artists; Phil Percival, comedian, in his comic act *Sexton Blake Baffled*; Minnie Wren, versatile comedienne; Barker Bros., topical comedians; and Elsie Cooke, soprano vocalist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Harry First heads a good bill with his comedy *The Matrimonial Fee*, supported by R. Salisbury and Florence Hadley, who get much appreciation; James and Jenny Lee, in their dancing, jumping, somersaulting, &c.; Lew Peterman, Hebrew comedian; Frank Lauri in "The Old Man"; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists; Allen McAskell, comedy conjurer; and the Two Kays, in their novel speciality, also do good business.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent Animated Pictures this week include A Midsummer Night's Dream, Love's Triumph, Playing Truant, The Grand National Race, The Amateur Pugilist, Bear-Hunting in the Rockies, Pauli, The Uncontrollable Motor Cycle, &c. Mr. Tom Sherlock's song is "Light of Day."

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures this week, which are of excellent quality, draw good houses.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—A Trail in the Snow, Eccentricities of a Wheel, Kidnapped Ma-in-law, Passion Play, The Musical Student, Grand National Steeplechase, Amateur Snake-charmer, are among the pictures shown here this week.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bench.—A good programme here includes Will Netta's Singing Jockeys, in a novel racing act; Fred Arthur, mimic and impressionist; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist; George Antill, comedian; J. E. Sutton, entertainer at the piano; Will Challoner, descriptive vocalist; and Harry Kirk. Capital pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Tulley.—*East Lynne* is being well played by Mr. Tom Watt's company, with Miss Laura Hansen as Lady Isabel; Mr. Rayson-Cousens, Archibald Carlyle; Miss Ida Heron, Barbara Hare; Mr. Wilfred P. Mansfield, Francis Levison; Mr. Jerrold Manville, Justice Hare; Miss Isabel Singleton, Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Alice Moseley, Willie Carlyle; Mr. Tom Watt, Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. Joe Rowland, P.C. Bullock.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Charles Windermere's comedy company provides an attractive bill here this week with *Where is William?* The delightfully dry humour of Mr. Charles Windermere is cleverly brought out in his playing of Sir William Gregory; and Mr. Rule Pyott renders able assistance as the butler, William Jolly. Mr. C. K. Francis as Harry and Mr. Leslie Norman as General Rubbub are well fitted in their respective parts; Miss Belle Donaison gives a good study of Lady Gregory; and Phyllis is nicely played by Miss Clare Manfield; Miss May Rosine gets in some effective work as Emily; and Eliza is smartly depicted by Miss Zoe Davies.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—The attraction here this week is Mr. George Waters' company in *The Man Who Knew*. The leading parts receive excellent treatment from Messrs. J. Byron, Bert Morley, Arthur Poole, Adian Lovett, Frank Leslie, Cyril Percy, Louis Tucker, and F. Martyn, Misses Jessica Waters, Lydia Basil, and Brinsley Hill.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The well-known tragedian, Mr. Edmund Tearle, accompanied by the talented and favourite artist, Miss Kate Clinton (Mrs. Tearle), and a good company, are here in a round of romantic dramas, including *The Three Musketeers*, and that old favourite *Jeannie Deans; or, The Heart of Midlothian*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—The exciting detective drama *Hush Money* was performed to a large audience on Monday. Sexton Blake was played with the necessary sangfroid and convincing assurance by Mr. Barrington Foote. Other parts were well represented by Mr. J. H. Darnley, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Mr. Harry Hartley, Mr. Robert Barton, Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. W. Finch, Miss Theresa Osborne, Miss Agnes Paulton, Miss Annie Wilden, Miss Lillie White, &c. The scenery was realistic.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn and company begun their second week here on Monday with *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. Beaudyn made a picturesque and powerful representative of Prince Rao Dalmires; Miss Irene Munroe was a handsome and dramatic Vashti; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt submitted an interesting study as Richard Vane, the proprietor of a "booth"; Messrs. J. Johnson and A. A. Tomlin were excellent as Frank Herrick and Billy Bright respectively; and loyal work was done by Messrs. A. T. Cresswell, Arthur Britton, C. J. Jarman, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Irene Stanhope, Miss Cora Patey, and Miss Gomet.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Chanti, the clever Continental quick-change artist, gave his sartorial, scenic, and terpsichorean act on Monday, and was cordially received; the smart dancing by Walker and May, the blind coon comedian and the handsome octoroon soubrette, was enthusiastically applauded; the Bellclair Bros. did a graceful Roman athletic act; Miss Florrie Gallimore, as an old local favourite, received the accustomed hearty welcome home; a humorous farce, *The Bo'sun's Mate*, was very enjoyable, thanks to natural acting; Mr. Herbert Shelley kept the attention of the house in his "one-man play," *Dan the Outlaw*; and Miss Fatmah Diard, vocalist; Ugo Nap, entertainer; Francis and Alfred, jugglers; and James's Strolling Players, vocalists and dancers, together with fine pictures of the Grand National, complete the generous bill of fare.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A big programme was submitted to a large audience on Monday, the performers being Miss Harriett Vernon, the celebrated and accomplished actress-vocalist and burlesque artist, in her latest success, "Emblems"; Abel and Welsh, grotesque acrobats; the McLennan Carson duo, skating experts; the great Tennessee Coloured Guards, in a typical Transatlantic act; Mr. Leslie Race; Rorke, Rooke and Co., in a musical burletta; the Alberto Troupe of young lady jugglers, posturers, &c.; Miss Evelyn Taylor, in chorus songs; Pitt and Gould, musical comedy entertainers; Miss Dorothy Sephton, serio comedienne; Mr. Claude Bouiby, comic vocalist; and Mr. Max Waldon, the clever operatic dancer, Parisian vocalist, and female impersonator. Some good pictures concluded the entertainment. The sacred concert given here on Sunday last for the benefit of the Railway Servants' Orphans' Fund was a great success. Selections by the fine orchestra, conducted by the musical director, Mr. Hahn, and a first-rate programme gave refined pleasure to all present, and, through the generosity of the Hippodrome directorate, a worthy cause will again receive substantial aid.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in *Who Is She?* have met with a hearty welcome on their return visit. King Vladimir is admirably portrayed by Mr. James Stillwell; Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's performance as the treacherous Prince Bora is a distinct achievement; Mr. Horace Booth makes a humorous Captain Arthur Gower; Mr. Alfred Glenville is responsible for a fine sketch of the brave old soldier; Mr. Bernard Lieli gives a fine portrayal of Chang-Tee; Mr. Willie Hicks is a capable Paul; Miss Mabel Ronald is seen to advantage as the little King; Miss Georgette Thierry plays the title-rôle with dramatic feeling; Miss Beatrice Moore is a vivacious Sarette; Miss Constance Medwyn gets the most out of her part as Keta Noveitch; and Miss Alice Barber does good work as the Countess Ladori.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*The Dollar Princess* on its first appearance here on Monday had quite an enthusiastic reception from a large and delighted house. Mr. George Edwardes's capable company included Miss Norah Barry, who acquits herself with great credit in the rôle of Alice; Mr. Alec Worcester submits a capital impersonation of Freddy Fairfax; and Miss Peggy Primrose is a piquant Daisy. Mr. H. Rawlins creates much merriment by his drollery as Mr. Bulger; Olga has a commendable and volatile exponent in Miss Madeline Seymour; Harry Q. Condor an able impersonator in Mr. Leslie Holland; Mr. Sidney Lyndon is successful as the Earl of Quorn; Mr. Willie Warde, jun., is good as Sir James Macgregor; and Mr. Hugh Henson and Mr. J. Bates do well as Dick and the Duke of Stonehenge respectively.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill presents a romantic play entitled *The Love of the Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey submits an artistic portrayal of Prince Conrad; the Lieut. Zaroff of Mr. John Worth is a creditable performance; Mr. Beckett Bould is good as Lieut. Orlano; Miss Maud Steeple is an excellent Lady Irene; the Princess Idalia is ably depicted by Miss Dorothy Haigh; Miss Josephine Lee is good as Constantia; villainy is ably represented by Mr. Richard Vane as Count Nicholas Dacillo and Mr. Francis Serle as Duke Scarfe; and good comedy is introduced by Mr. Edward Morgan as Boris. Josef, King of Ilarnia, was played on Monday at short notice by Mr. Graham Winsford in place of Mr. John Burton, who is ill. Mr. D. Laurence Doyle makes a good Prince Regent of Narava.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Miss Juliette's sea-lions head the bill and display wonderfull hat-throwing and balancing feats; Ted E. Box, eccentric comedian and comedy siffleur, is popular; much merriment is caused by Carl Howard, assisted by Miss Lily Foy, in a unique concoction of comedy and magic; and Tom Stuart, mimic, scores. Other good items are Gold and Sterling, in "The Maid and the Artist"; Gladys Mavius, in song and dance; Maudie Francis, juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Delroys, vocalists and dancers; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Under the direction of Mr. Thompson Carruthers Mr. G. Watson Mills' melodrama *A Wrecker of Men* is the attraction here. The fine work of Miss Ruth Zillwood as Risca Mallinson is the feature of the representation; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt gives a powerful rendition of Jim Murley; Mr. William Heilbronn as Pharosaphus is a success; Mr. Thompson Carruthers comes in for much favour as Eric Melville; and Mr. Arthur Robinson acts well as Guise Strange. Miss Gwendoline Talbot plays well as Doris Melville and Miss Lydia Hart is good as Vavasole Slopper.

PICTURE PALACE.—The Sisters Hulas (Marie and Nellie) is the principal turn here this week and are well applauded for their singing and dancing. The special films are The Rocky Road, From Cabin Boy to King, The Dancing Girl of Butte, and Dr. Bodie's Tablets.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Little Phil's Mother* has appealed to the sympathies of fairly large audiences here this week. Frank Towers has an effective representative in Mr. Percy Ballard; Mr. Henry Earlsmere acts ably the part of Oscar Titherington; Mr. Frank M. Thorne amusingly portrays the character of Sam Perkeis; Mr. Gifforde Reynolds makes a competent Geoffrey Dyne; and Mr. J. P. Marsden is excellent as Donald Taggerty. Miss Leslie Warner is highly pleasing as Julia Woorrilove; Ruth Towers is sympathetically played by Miss Maud Russell; the character of Elspeth is creditably filled by Miss Florence Dalton; and Miss Gertie Renaud displays merit as Phil, a crippled boy.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The chief attraction here is John Grun Marx, in his genuine feats of strength, which command much appreciation. Among others appearing are Dameresh and Rutland, in a laughable sketch, *House Full*; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, is pleasingly greeted; Kirk and Saraski, in a clever aquatic entertainment; Harold Heath, a successful coon vocalist and expert dancer; Ena Compton, comedienne and dancer, is well received; and Laurie Leyton is a smart boy ventriloquist.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Frank Elliston and company head the bill here, in an incident in the life of Charles II., entitled *Long Live the King*, and give an interesting performance; Arthur Harris is a clever vocal comedian and actor-vocalist; Maidie Harrison is a dainty vocalist and dancer; Hampton and Bauman, "Darktown" entertainers, are a clever turn; Elmo and Rego are marvellous knockabouts; Kydd and Kydd are funny in "The Story of a Shipwreck"; the Adams are popular comedy cyclists; and Ed. E. Ford, "the Australian Sundowner," meets with a cordial reception. The Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—*The Angel of His Dreams* is presented here by Messrs. Geo. A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company. The play is full of thrilling episodes. Mr. De Gray appears with distinction as the Rev. Christian Esdaile; Miss Edna Earl is excellent as Millie St. Austell; and the rest of the characters are in the hands of talented artists.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Lily Vine, who introduces Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, is to be complimented upon the smart work of her little troupe; the Merrions, in their instrumental and vocal mélange, are most popular. Also billed are George Acre, Crosby and Walker, Hicks and Hunter, Gladys Clinton, John Henry, and the Perfection pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here this week in *His Real Wife*. Mrs. Ward gives a well-studied reading of the rôle of Rose; Miss Elma C. Turner is a forcible Lady Sybil Wetton; Mr. Clifford Rean a satisfactory Herbert Barton; and Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Martin Avondale and Mr. C. W. Spencer as General Barton are both good. Mr. Chas. Yorke has plenty of scope for his ability in the rôle of Marquis de Trouville, and he has a good accomplice in Mr. W. Walter Walmsely (Alf. Smithers). The humour is in the good hands of Miss Clarrie Landell as Betty and Mr. T. Edward Ward as Simon.

AVENUE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—An excellent programme is being well received here this week. The equilibristic act of Sylvene is warmly applauded; Rolf Slater scores a success as a male impersonator; and Arthur Wilson's baritone songs are popular.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Considerable disappointment was felt here on Monday evening when Mr. Esden announced that Mark Sheridan, who was billed to appear, was unable to do so owing to sudden illness. The vacancy in the bill was filled by Señor Angel Blanco and company, in a playlet, entitled *Music the Conqueror*, which afforded scope for some clever violin work by Señor Blanco; another good musical item was supplied by Frank and Jen Latona; a clever exhibition of hoop-manipulation and wire-walking was given by the Prince Milner Trio; an enjoyable turn was contributed by Mornin Knox, the postman ventriloquist; Rolands and Ford, comedians, caused much amusement; Mlle. Haydée was successful with her miniature theatre; and Dion Wade, a droll comedian and mimic, also entertained.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—La Belle Lumière is delighting her audiences this week with her fascinating kaleidoscopic serpentine dances; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud supply a popular turn, entitled the Singing Box-Makers; and the Carlo and Maie Trio are eminently successful in their humorous and skilful acrobatic act. The pictorial part of the programme is good and varied.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The Aldbourne Village Players gave a performance of Mr. Charles McAvoy's play *The Village Wedding* here on Saturday afternoon last before a large and appreciative audience. The drama *The Sins of the Fathers* is being presented this week by Messrs. E. Faulkner and M. De Courtsey's company. Sir Reginald Moreland is powerfully played by Mr. Max Coutts; Mr. A. W. Thompson does well as Mr. Harmsworth; Mr. Victor Howard successfully depicts George Armitage; Mr. Will Simpson makes a satisfactory Deuteronomy Smith; Justyn Thym is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Ross O'Brien; and Mr. Terence Nerrey is a sympathetic Jem Hewitt. Camille le Blanc is cleverly represented by Miss Edith Blande; Miss Ethel Wynne Matthews acts the part of Ethel Harmsworth with feeling; Miss Dolly W. Symes is a pleasing Polly; and Miss Dorothy Radford shows ability as the Nipper.

G.W.R. SWIMMING BATHS.—Secretary, Mr. W. Spruce.—Messrs. J. R. and C. W. Poole's myriorama is at the above for a fortnight. In addition to magnificent myrioramic displays, the Royal Banzais, wonderful Japanese jugglers, the Brothers Rees, military athletes; Harry Raymond, coon delineator; and the Cairo Trio, instrumentalists, are appearing with great success.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Variety takes the place of the legitimate this week, a full house assembling on Monday evening. The Brothers Lloyd top the bill and give a clever cable act. Henglevrer's Russian poodles give a pretty animal number, the high-jumping of two of the dogs being greatly admired, while the two Morrisons please in songs and patter. The Leonas present a smart musical novelty act and a clever fencing exhibition. James and Cyril, the comical knockabout fiddlers, cause great amusement. Edna Cragge is very popular in her chorus songs; and Bonnie Amy Bayne also pleases in her descriptive vocalism. A clever turn is that of Alecia, the premier rolling-globe equilibrist; and the Hippodrome Pictures complete.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, the Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Andrew Martell.—A full house assembled here on Monday evening to witness a good show. An instructive film shows the whole process of Basket-Making from start to finish, while The Flower Seller is a pathetic drama. Other good films are Dick Donovan and Watches of the Night.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—Nick Carter, the great American detective, is called in to clear up the mystery of large robberies from the station left luggage office. He and an assistant hide in a box, and are left in the office like an ordinary parcel. They watch through small holes cut in the wood, and see the lid of another packing-case rise and two men emerge, who carry away all the valuable things they can lay hands on. As they are about to escape this time, however, Carter and his assistant fall upon them and capture them. Other good films are The Ragpicker's Christmas, The Obstinate Mule, and Stag-hunting in Java.

WAKEFIELD.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Mr. Percy Honri, supported by a large company of comedians and dancers, presented the musical phantasy *Concordia* to two packed houses on Monday, when the charming entertainment had a cordial reception. Mlle. Quetta Papucci contributes some clever solo dances as the Spirit of Phantasy, the production being beautifully staged; Mr. Rowland Hill gives a most enjoyable turn, his original patter being highly amusing; Ellwanger and company, in a comedy sketch, *Who Did It?* kept the house in roars of laughter; the Horbury handbell ringers highly please with their clever musical items; Perrier is smart in his mock ventriloquial act; Codge, the whistling newsboy, does well; and Bernard Jordan's dogs and monkeys complete an excellent programme.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.— Mlle. Rosini, lady clown, and her miniature menagerie heads the bill. Violet Courtney, comedienne, is paying a welcome return visit; Eastman and Servier are coon singers and buck dancers of considerable ability; the Cheers remain another week; the Becketow Bros. are seen to advantage in a pot-pourri; Nannie Shaw proves herself a vocalist and dancer of no mean order; Fred Conway, comedian, has a budget of good songs; Harry King, comedian, and Lucio Delgardo and company also contribute to the programme.

PREMIER PICTURE HALL. — Proprietor, Mr. McDonald.—The Woman from Mellon's is the chief attraction here. All on Account of the Milk is the title of another capital film; and The Orderly is a comic picture well worthy of praise. Chas. Tempest, comedian, is also appearing.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—*Diana of Dobson's* is proving a rare attraction here, and Miss Lena Ashwell's company does full justice to the romantic drama. Miss Molly Tremaine as Diana achieves a pronounced success; Mr. Leslie Rea as the impecunious cavalry officer is good; and as Jabez Mr. A. A. Harris shows genuine comedy skill. Miss Hilda Francks as Mrs. Cantelupe plays with much acceptance; and Miss Marie Ault as Miss Pringle makes herself dramatically detestable. Mr. Leslie Crowther is good as Fellowes; and Miss Mary Crewe is capital as Mrs. Whyte Fraser. A pretty curtain-raiser is *Out West*.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Carney and Armstrong, old favourites here, are again delighting large audiences; Bert Woodward is a remarkable cyclist; Elsie Walpuss a clever child mimic; Sydney Branton scores with his dramatic caricatures; Beattie Foster is a dainty comedienne; and La Belle Sylvia a smart vocalist and dancer. Wallace Whitney's songs are much enjoyed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters. — Good business is done here this week. Birt Powell, military illusionist, who has a local connection, accomplishes some clever tricks; J. H. Ellis is a smart comedian; and the Sisters Lindos also score well. Tiny and Mite are talented juveniles. The pictures are good.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—A variety programme has been returned to this week. Mr. Walter Munroe is as amusing as ever, and shouts of "O'Hara" induced him to revive that old favourite. Mr. Victor Newman's character studies are of a very high order. Tess Lilly, the Lincolns, Charlie Slowman, Josie Mooney, the Seddons, and Colin Bryce and Dora Speakman, in an amusing duologue, "A Lesson in Fencing," complete an enjoyable programme.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Plenty of variety is provided by Miss Cissie Milford's company, which includes Mr. Carr Loates. On Monday and Tuesday the attraction was *A Noble Brother*, with Mr. W. H. Irving as Jerry the Tramp. On Wednesday the stirring drama *The Convict's Wife*, with Miss Cissie Melford as Susie, proved extremely popular, the plays being well staged and mounted. *Behind the Footlights* and *The Dumb Man of Manchester* are also billed.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hastings.—There is a return this week to the variety programme, an excellent bill being headed by Rose Haden, comedienne and dancer, who gives a delightful turn; Sid Robey is a clever character comedian; Lilian Harvey also has some taking songs; and Stella and Rose appear in an enjoyable sketch *Caught in the Act*. The Pictures, too, are thoroughly up to date and well reproduced.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Dot Hardy is a sprightly comedienne, whose antics keep the audience amused; Jean and Josie go through some weird contortions that are undoubtedly clever; Catherine Arkandy, "the English child Patti," has a voice of marvellous range and flexibility; Lugi Salvino, a boy instrumentalist, gives promise of great things; Barton and Ashley are again appearing in their breezy sketch *Canal Boat Sal*; Gus Garrick's conception of a Spanish dancer is intensely funny; and Le Brun presents an absurdity *The Cockney Huntsman*; and some capital pictures are shown.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—The week is being devoted to picture shows.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—*The Face at the Window* is being presented here by F. Marriott and James Ussher's company. Mr. Haughton Macauley is an eminent success in the rôle of Le Loup; Paul Gouffet is played in convincing style by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; Mr. C. Phelps as Lucian Cortier is responsible for a capital study; and Mr. J. A. Stimson leaves nothing to be desired as Peter Pottleberry. Miss Claire O'Sullivan takes the part of Marie de Brisson with conspicuous ability; Miss Nita Imeson makes a great success of Barbette; and the character of La Pinau is skilfully presented by Miss Marie Pemberton.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—The chief attractions here are Consul, "the almost man," and Park's Eton Boys; Amandus, the facial mimic, gives excellent imitations; "A Budget of Fun" is provided by Dan Daly, whose turn is very entertaining; Fred Neiman causes much amusement with his ventriloquial minstrels; Austen Temple and Irene Chalmers give a novel illusionary performance; the balancing feats of the Almas are exceedingly clever; and Olive Astor, burlesque chorus comedienne; Mlle. Rosina, instrumentalist; and Hector Macneil, tenor, also contribute.

WISHAW, N.B. — PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The Five Whiteleys give a clever acrobatic performance, and also introduce some fine work on the tight wire; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden are a couple of clever comedy artists and dancers; Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist, is exceptionally smart and clever; George Hirste is a good Scotch comedian; and Hal Brennan, comedian and dancer, and some excellent films on the Bioscope conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Mr. Fred Karno's company opened to a crowded house on Monday with *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr. George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter with his exceedingly droll and clever methods; Mr. E. O. Freshwater possesses a good voice and makes a capital Lord Easem, and his efforts are ably seconded by Miss Winnie Bradfield as Lady Maud Easem; Mr. Charles Usher is good as Mr. Miffin; Mr. C. Richardson as Bunkey; Mr. C. J. Gordon as Mr. Winks, and Mr. S. Bolton as Fritz, and all help much towards the general merriment; Mr. Harry Howe scores a big success as Selina, his "dummy" dance being worthy of special mention; Miss Edith Ager is a charming Dolly, and sings her numbers in a pleasing manner; Miss Annie Wright as Miss Manley gives a smart interpretation of a "new woman"; and Miss Florence Pragnell does well as Miss Mackerel. The chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Felix J. Burns, and Mr. Charles Burnell is the general-manager.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Goodfellow and Gregson, comedy duo, top the bill here, and their smart patter and novel jokes keep the audience in excellent humour; the Spanish Juanitos provide a sensational acrobatic turn; Felix and Fischer, in a comedy bar act, contribute one of the best items on the programme, the gentleman partner accomplishing feats of almost reckless intrepidity; Victor Courtney as Boots at the piano is amusing; and Dolly and Madge Melalla, in song, story, and dance; John Partington, the Lancashire singing mill lad; and Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer, complete.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Evans.—*Secrets* is the title of a dramatic representation of Oriental life given twice nightly this week. Under another title and before revision the production was banned, owing to Turkish susceptibilities, and in its present form it promises to enjoy considerable popularity. Mr. J. F. Preston's capable company comprises Mr. Charles Horner, who is excellent as the naval lieutenant; Miss Hazel Dent, who is well suited as the slave girl; Mr. Dan F. Roe, who is highly popular as the friend of the hero; Mr. J. Richter (Caliph), Mr. J. T. Ellis (Slave Dealer), and Mr. George Whillis and Miss Hetty Gale (Peter and Winnie Watkins).

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Mr. Joe Ellis (Mac) presents *Folly's Fortunes* this week. As Billy Boyd, footman, policeman, and detective by turn, "Mac" gives us a feast of versatility; Miss Maud Western as Folly is charming and vivacious; the Biddy of Miss Maudie Lambert is bright and breezy; and the Myra Burritt of Miss Ada Hender is full of fire.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—A fine set of pictures, with the Lashmars, a comic comedy couple, and Louis Kerno, coon vocalist and dancer, are here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Ellie Barrie sings some good, clean songs, the pictures are good, and the Cameron Quartette are heartily welcomed.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The programme this week was chiefly devoted to a liberal and varied display of Bioscope pictures, including A Milkman's Wedding, Out of Love for the Daughter (a new dramatic film), On Bad Terms with the Porter, The Village Fiddler (a drama), Rival Egotists (a comic picture), &c. Marie Beresford, one of the principal artists, proved herself a charming comedienne; and Fannie Douglas a pleasing vocalist. On Good Friday two sacred concerts took place.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—The pictures here still attract crowded houses. The Triumphal Hero is a most powerful dramatic picture, and Pardners, portrayed by Edison players in the magnificent scenery of Alaska, The Dance of Fire, The Slave, Subterfuge, Conquering Hero, and The Adventuress are very good. Imp of the Bottle and Dotty Nob's Double are very amusing. An excellent picture is a swimming exhibition by Miss Kellerman. Miss May Macpherson sings new illustrated songs.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Good business has been done by Mr. W. Howard Scott's company this week in *Man and His Kingdom*. The play is chiefly notable for the exc

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, March 16.—*The Girl He Couldn't Leave Behind Him* is the name of a farce, in three acts, that was originally known as *The Road to Hell*, or the German equivalent of that title, as the author is Gustav Kadelburg, and the play was produced here in German last year at the Irving-place Theatre. The American version, under the first-mentioned title, was presented last week at the Garrick Theatre, with Miss Hattie Williams in the title-rôle, and this is how the story runs: Felix Pendleton is happily married, although he has an autocratic mother-in-law who knows the men are a pretty bad lot and not to be trusted. He has accompanied his father-in-law, Augustus Dorking, to a theatre, where Lola Cornero, a Spanish dancer, is appearing, and the lady has made certain signs and gestures that have led the elderly Augustus to suppose that she had taken a fancy to him. The fact is, however, that young Felix has had a love affair with Lola, and the dancer recognised him. But Augustus murmurs her name in his sleep, and his wife's suspicions are aroused. On the following day Felix receives a telephone message from Lola, reminding him that she consented to his marriage on one condition—he was to spend one day in every year with her. The day has arrived, and Felix will be expected to call on her. She writes a note, which falls into the hands of Felix's father-in-law, who decides to see the dancer himself. As an excuse for absenting himself from home for the day he invents a business engagement in a neighbouring town, and secretly arranges to send Felix there. Seeing a chance for himself, Felix consents, but sends his friend, Arthur Greenfield, in his stead. Mrs. Dorking suspects that something is going on that she ought to know about, and insists that Augustus shall stay at home and that Felix shall make the business trip. Then she sends her daughter after Felix by the next train to find out what he is up to. Felix sets out reluctantly, and on his way to the station drops in to see Lola, intending to say good-bye for ever. Under the influence of her love-making and the champagne she provides he forgets his good resolutions, although he has carried his wife's portrait in his breast pocket and takes surreptitious peeps at it. As a talisman, however, the portrait is a failure, and Felix stays for the day. In comes "the Count," Lola's latest admirer, and she has to tell him that Felix is her dancing partner at the theatre. The "Count" is suspicious, however,, and Felix is forced to execute a Spanish dance in costume, but makes a poor job of it, and escapes. Then Augustus, having managed to slip away, comes in with a bouquet in his hand and an ingratiating smile on his face, and the reception he gets from the "Count" makes him a sadder and a wiser man.

Whilst Felix is away from home a big fire occurs at the Eagle Hotel, the very place he has arranged to stay at, and Mrs. Dorking reads the account of it in a newspaper. Mr. Felix Pendleton, it appears, is a hero. During the fire he saved several lives and conducted himself with so much heroism that the details are published at length in the paper. Strange to say, however, when he returns home he seems to know nothing about it. Mother-in-law is relentless in her cross-questioning, wifie is aggrieved because hubby has deceived her, and shocked when she recognises his friend Greenfield as the man she had kissed and clung to in the dark at the hotel during the fire, supposing him to be her husband. It takes the cause of the complications—the Spanish dancing lady—to straighten them out. This she does by renouncing Felix and Augustus, and restoring them, literally and characteristically, to the arms of their respective life partners by engaging them in a dance and dropping each one in turn into his wife's lap.

Miss Hattie Williams as Lola, Mr. Vincent Serrano as Felix Pendleton, and Miss Grace Carlyle as his wife, Tilly, acted their parts well. Miss Zelda Sears won most of the laughs as the artful mother-in-law, Mr. Ernest Lawford gave a humorous portrayal of the henpecked Dorking, and Mr. George Trader, made up to resemble Oscar Hammerstein, was the Spanish dancer's manager. The farce provoked much laughter.

"St. Elmo" has been successfully dramatised, and now that widely-read novel "He Fell in Love with His Wife" is to be made into a play. Written by the Rev. E. P. Roe, and published in 1886, the book has had a large circulation, and is still in demand at the libraries.

"The Piper," the play that won the prize offered by a governor of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, was written by Josephine Preston Peabody, of Cambridge, Mass., this being the lady's *nom de plume* and maiden name. In private life she is Mrs. Lionel S. Marks, her husband being a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Harvard University. The lady was born in New York, but Professor Marks is a native of Birmingham. *The Piper* deals mainly with the wanderings of that quaint character and his little charges after the poet Browning had consigned them into the Hollow Mountain. The Pied Piper is made a gay, glad stranger with mountebank companions. He comes to Hamelin, and offers to clear the rat-infested town for a thousand guilders, employing his musical pipe to do so. The town accepts his offer. With apparent ease he accomplishes the feat that has baulked the local officials. Payment, however, is not forthcoming, the frugal townspeople offering him only fifteen guilders. When he protests they threaten to slit his ears, and taunt him with being ignorant of his parentage. Maddened, he pipes the kinder spell. The little ones scamper to him right and left, some of them in their "nighties." In the midst of them all the Piper marches out of the town triumphantly. The second act shows the party in a cave. Michael, one of the mountebank followers, a sword swallower, has fallen desperately in love with Barbara, the Burgomaster's daughter, who was not enticed into the Piper's train. The Piper and his assistants do their utmost to amuse their little followers, and the Piper himself makes Jan, the crippled son of Kurt, a pair of winged shoes, which the little fellow wants the Lonely Man to see. The Lonely Man is a statue of the Saviour outside the Hamelin church. Michael, the sword swallower, hears that his sweetheart Barbara is to be sent to a nunnery by the townspeople at the behest of public opinion. Citizens swear that the Burgomaster cannot have his little girl while the rest go childless. The Piper meets the chanting procession on the way to the nunnery, and commences to play furiously. The hymn wavers, and the marchers being to dance and whirl off like leaves in a storm. Barbara is taken away from them, herself bewitched, and given to Michael, who loves her fondly. The bewitched Barbara, however, lavishes her affections on the Piper himself, who immediately removes the spell, and she becomes Michael's mate. What all the burghers of Hamelin failed to accomplish Veronika, mother of the crippled Jan, does. She alone beards the Piper in his den, and he is touched by her spiritual passion. Fighting out his battle before the Lonely Man, he is humbled, and the children return to their homes, while the Piper goes his way, a wanderer over the world.

Miss May Irwin is about to return to the stage after a long absence. She has signed a contract with Mr. George C. Tyler to appear in a play called *Mrs. Jim*, and has just paid a very large sum for a song entitled "My wife Bridget," by Irving Berlin, Miss Irwin's rendering of which is to be an important feature of the entertainment. *Mrs. Jim* is a comedy by Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson, authors of *The Man from Home*. Under the title of *If I had Money* it was produced in Chicago last October with Mrs. Madge Carr Cook in the leading rôle.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, Feb. 15.—Her Majesty's Theatre was packed on the 12th to see the initial Australasian production of *A Waltz Dream*. The J. C. Williamson firm had "done its limit" in making the event a memorable one. Messrs. Gordon Coleman and Little had painted the act scenes in the order mentioned, and each was welcomed by the seething audience. Mr. Wybert Stamford had charge of the production, Andrew MacCunn of the orchestra, and Minnie Hooper of the dancers. Miss Florence Young, superbly costumed, was the Princess Helena, and the part and music fitted her admirably. Mr. Reginald Roberts sang better than ever; Miss Fanny Dango was Franzi, and in the proper sphere of a singing and dancing soubrette she was inimitable; Mr. Langford Kirby (who had captured the public as the millionaire's son in *The Mouse and the Lion*), gave us quite a new departure from even stage dudes. The Joachim XIII. of Claude Bantock was delightfully unlike the monarch who would invite either respect or enmity; as Lieutenant Montschi Mr. Andrew Higginson had far too small a part for his known ability. Florence Vie as Fifi made fun of her own portliness and incessant hunger; and Alma Vaughan did all that was required of her as Frederica.

The Hugh Ward comedy company at the Palace withdrew *A Bachelor's Honeymoon* in the midst of its booking, and substituted *Vivian's Papas*. This had distinct assistance in the singing of Miss Grace Miller Ward, Miss Celia Ghiloni, Mr. Walter Whyte, and Mr. Wm. B. Beattie. Very few, if any comedy-farces, have such a fine vocal combination. Mr. Hugh J. Ward is Frederick Walker, and when that is said it means that every resource of the comedian's art is utilised. Mr. Reginald Wykeham is the other "Papa," Charles D. Farnham, and he makes the part "go." Miss Grace Palotta, the dainty Viennese, was Vivian, Miss Grace Musgrove made a successful Kate Walker, and Misses Celia Ghiloni, Ruby Baxter, and Maud Chetwynd, with Mr. H. H. Wallace and other ladies and gentlemen, gave the Sydney playgoers a rattling good bill of fare.

"The Lion and the Mouse," with its submerging of Julius Knight's personal identity, and the charm of Katharine Grey still holds the Royal habitués. On the removal of Mr. Langford Kirby from the cast, his part of Jefferson Ryder was given to Mr. Dion Titheradge, who is very careful, and does well for one who is not yet thoroughly "set."

"Sergeant Brue" continues to be misunderstood but highly appreciated at the Criterion, where Mr. Edwin Brett's fine characterisation is nightly seen. *The Girl Behind the Counter* is to be revived for the three last nights before the return of the Asche-Brayton combination.

The Tivoli welcomed the great dancer, Mlle. De Dio, back with enthusiasm. Happy Tom Parker is a prime favourite. Lily Langtry, Olga Gray, Bert Terell, Tom Dawson, the Brothers Martine, and Fred Graham and Nellie Dent, the best of sketch artists, with many others, comprise Mr. Harry Rickards's list at present.

There died on the 8th Mrs. George Hall, known professionally as Miss Aggie Kelbon, principal pantomime boy and girl, and comic opera singer and actress. She was one of the three Stewart sisters, and first married H. J. Harrison, opera conductor, and at his death she became the wife of Mr. George Hall, conductor, now in England. Her sisters are married to Mr. John Lemmone, the great flautist, and Mr. Zeplin, musician, of Melbourne, in the neighbouring colony. Mrs. Hall was buried in Waverley Cemetery.

MELBOURNE, Feb. 15.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—Mr. J. C. Williamson's humorous and spectacular pantomime *Aladdin* shows no apparent falling-off in public favour and patronage, and crowded houses are still the general order of things. From the enthusiasm with which the production was received on Saturday evening, the pantomime seems to have still a long run before it.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The Asche-Brayton company are rapidly bringing their present season in Melbourne to a close. *Count Hannibal* was again staged on Saturday evening before a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Oscar Asche as the Count and Miss Brayton as Clothilde were unsurpassable, and at the close of the duel scene the applause was deafening. The rest of the company, as usual, did all that the public has for such a long time learnt to expect from them. Next Thursday afternoon, at the Town Hall, there will be a recital of *Julius Cæsar*, in costume.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* was produced here in the presence of a large house on Saturday evening, with the following cast:—Prince Hildred, Mr. Rutland Beckett; Prince Michael, Mr. Roy Redgrave; Prince Olaf, Mr. George Cross; Colonel Wellenburg, Mr. Max Clifton; Captain Schwartz, Mr. J. H. Nunn; Nathan, Mr. Temple Harrison; Captain Hector, Mr. Edmund Duggan; Karl Stromberg, Mr. Bert Bailey; Captain Karsburg, Mr. Walter Dalgleish; the Bishop of Illyria, Mr. Stirling Whyte; Viola, Miss Fanny Erris; Camiola, Miss Olive Wilton; Monica, Miss Eugenie Duggan. As Prince Hildred Mr. Rutland Beckett acted with considerable force. He gave a consistent performance, and looked a distinguished figure in his military uniform. Miss Eugenie Duggan was well suited to the rôle of Princess Monica, her acting throughout was most effective. Mr. George Cross made a decided success as the courtly Prince Olaf. Prince Michael found an adequate representative in Mr. Roy Redgrave. The comedy parts were well filled by Mr. Bert Bailey and Miss Fanny Erris, and the character of Camiola was cleverly interpreted by Miss Olive Wilton. A word of praise is due to Mr. Rege Robins, scenic artist, for the elaborate sets that form the backgrounds of the principal scenes. *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is a play of plot and passion that holds the attention of the audience to the end.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—It is hardly necessary to report that there was a crowded house here on Saturday evening—that is the usual state of affairs. The programme was excellent. Of course, the bright particular star in the galaxy is the great "mysteriarch" Houdini, whose feats are really astonishing. Houdini is a past-master in the art of extracting himself from difficult positions. Whether he be handcuffed from head to toe or incarcerated within an iron-bound chest, Houdini frees himself within an incredibly short space of time. The last nights are now announced of those clever artists, the Wille Brothers, whose acrobatic turn has proved a strong draw here for weeks past. Fred Curran is presenting a number of new songs, and keeps his audience in roars of laughter with his quaint patter in between his singing. Other artists meeting with favour at present include Fanny Powers, Baby Watson, Australian Dartos, Ted Kalman, Dorothy Swift, Nellie Power, Ruby Wallace, Ted Anderson, and Bob Lloyd.

The Savoy Theatre in West Thirty-fourth-street, New York, has been turned into a moving-picture house. No less than eight theatres of large seating capacity that were formerly devoted to the drama or vaudeville at prices of admission ranging from fifty cents to two dollars are now being used for moving picture exhibitions, the cost of admission being as low as ten cents. The list includes the Majestic, the Lincoln-square, the Bijou, the Fourteenth-street, Keith's Union-square, Proctor's Twenty-third-street, Proctor's Fifty-eighth-street, and the Savoy.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. HARRY W. DAY.

There are some names which one recognises at once as belonging to the theatrical world, and one of them is that of the Days. Of that stock is Mr. Harry W. Day, resident-manager of the New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, for Mr. R. C. Buchanan. Mr. Day comes of the Birmingham branch of the clan, his father being the late Mr. Harry Day, of Day's Music Hall, Birmingham. It was at this famous house, too, that the subject of our sketch got his first glimpse of the business. He had not gone far in his professional career when his father took the Grand Theatre, Cardiff, and the young man was installed as manager. The fortunes of this house were well looked after by him for some time. Then he went to London, and was for a time with Mr. Richard Warner, the music hall and dramatic agent.

America then attracted Mr. Day, and he crossed the "pond" and saw something of the theatrical methods obtaining there. Returning to this country, he was entrusted with his father's productions *The Bombardment of Alexandria*, *Burmah*, *Frozen Deep*, and some other pieces that were in their time very successful. Following several tours as general-manager for Dr. Walford Bodie, Mr. Day looked after the interests of Messrs. Erskine and Macdona for three years, and afterwards he was with Mr. Payne Seddon for the long space of seven years. Among the pieces toured by Mr. Day were *Our Flat*, *Jane*, *Niobe*, Mr. T. B. Thalberg in *The Professor's Love Story*, *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown*, *The Private Secretary*, *The Shop Girl*, *The Ballet Girl*, *The Gay Parisienne*, *Monte Carlo*, *What Happened to Jones*, *A Night Out*, and the pantomimes *Cinderella*, *Robinson Crusoe*, and *Dick Whittington*. During his extensive career Mr. Day has visited nearly every town of any importance in Great Britain and Ireland.

After taking Mr. Van Biene in *The Broken Melody* through Scotland for Mr. Payne Seddon, Mr. Day settled at Ayr, where for the past seven years he has guided the fortunes of the New Gaiety Theatre, and won enviable popularity. Mr. Day has the interests of the profession at heart, and recently he prepared for the convenience of com-

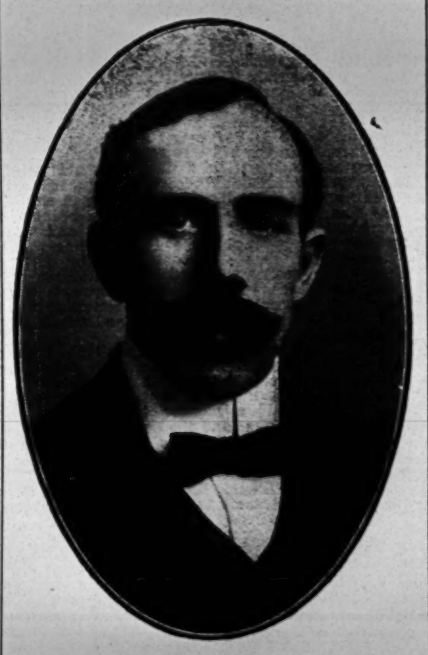

MR. HARRY W. DAY.

panies visiting Ayr a handbook containing interesting and useful local information.

THE PLAYWRIGHTS' ASSOCIATION.

The first annual general meeting of the Playwrights' Association was held in London on Saturday, March 19. Mr. J. T. Grein, vice-president, occupied the chair. After a few opening remarks, in which he assured the members present of his warm interest in the Association, he called upon the secretary (Mr. N. Thorpe Mayne) to read a report of the work of the Association for the past year. In this it was shown that the Association had now over a hundred members, and that the Reading Committee had had through their hands no fewer than 112 plays. Of these the Association had produced two, one of which was now being negotiated. Three were still in the hands of managers. It was also pointed out that the Association had successfully brought several members into active collaboration with each other, and hopeful results were expected. The outstanding feature of the report was that the existence of the Association was fully justified, as it had now been accepted by managers, as shown by the correspondence of the Association, in which several had pledged themselves not only to promptly read, but, where unsuitable, to promptly return, plays offered by the Association, and at the same time to give their reasons for doing so.

This, as was pointed out in the report, was a long step towards the amelioration of the difficulties which unknown playwrights hitherto suffered from, for members of the Association thus received not only the criticism of the Reading Committee, but also (where a play was thought good enough to submit to managers) the benefit of any hints they might put forward. It was also mentioned, as showing the continued activity of the Association, that already for the new reading no fewer than 50 plays had been received; further, that several donations were promised towards the funds of the Association. Mr. J. T. Grein, in congratulating the Association on its successful establishment, laid great stress on the necessity for rigid economy in productions. They must learn to walk before they ran, and only in this way could a permanent success be achieved.

A general discussion followed, and after two important changes in the bye-laws of the Association had been put to the meeting and duly carried, it was proposed by Mr. J. Jelf, chairman of the committee of management, and seconded by Mr. Christian, member of committee, that Mr. J. T. Grein be invited to associate himself as an active president of the Association on whose advice and assistance the committee of management might from time to time depend. Mr. J. T. Grein having consented to the unanimous wish of the meeting in this matter, proceedings finished with a hearty vote of thanks to him for the able manner in which he had conducted it.

Thomas Thorne, a promising young actor, committed suicide at a Chicago hotel on the 11th inst. He was the son of Fred Thorne, who resides in New York, and nephew of Thomas Thorne, who will always be associated in memories of the theatre with the success of *Our Boys*. Young Thorne was only twenty-four. He was born in London on Sept. 22, 1885. He had been playing the part of a reporter in *The Fourth Estate* at the Studebaker Theatre. Last year he appeared in a farcical comedy called *The Gay Life*, and distinguished himself as Dopey McKnight, contributing an exceedingly clever and amusing characterisation.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The students of the Operatic Class under the direction of Mr. Edgardo Lèvi and those of the Dramatic Class under Mr. Richard Temple's direction gave a performance at the Royal Academy on Thursday afternoon, March 17. The programme commenced with *Makeshifts*, a lower middle-class comedy, in one act, by Miss Gertrude Robins. Miss Cecil Martin played the part of Caroline Parker with ability, while Miss Olive Turner was very successful as the younger sister, Dolly Parker, Mr. Edward E. Butcher did all that was possible in the little part of Mr. Thompson, the lodger; Mr. Moresby Treherne appeared as the caddish Mr. Albert Smythe, who, in talking to the two sisters, enlivens his conversation with such expressions as "harf a mo," "keep your optic on number one," &c. When the elder sister thinks a proposal is coming Mr. Smythe calmly informs the girls that he is just engaged, and will trot the lady round to see them when he has nothing better to do. The grim pathos of the little sketch is that a poor but ladylike girl should be willing to marry such a snob simply as some change to her dull life. Miss Robins ought to add another character, a big brother, who comes in and kicks the impudent cad out of the room. The operatic item in the programme was a selection from the second act of *Lohengrin*. Mr. Edgardo Lèvi conducted, and a very good account of the music was given by three operatic students of the Academy. Miss Margaret Ismay sang Elsa's music gracefully. In Miss Ismay's more powerful notes there is a slight tendency to hardness, but her performance was on the whole very creditable. Excellent also was Miss Louie James in the part of Ortrud, singing well, and having a very intelligent conception of the character. Mr. William J. Samuell as Telramond acted cleverly and made artistic use of a fine voice. The three vocalists were warmly applauded, and the accompaniments on the pianoforte and organ played by Mr. Arthur Alexander and Mr. Benjamin J. Dale deserve special mention. A first performance of an original comedy, *Mrs. Markham's Last Flirtation*, by Miss Violet Leonard, proved lively and amusing. The plot, though simple, is effective. Mrs. Richard Markham is a born flirt, and, having a good-tempered, easy-going husband, carries on with a certain Lord Eversham. Finding out, however, that her friend Dolly Mason is seriously in love with Eversham, Mrs. Markham resolves that her last flirtation shall be the means of bringing happiness to Dolly. The aid of Mr. Markham is sought. At a critical moment he is to come in, demand satisfaction from Lord Eversham, and if this is not granted Eversham is given a choice between marrying or fighting. To Mrs. Markham's delight the plot works admirably, and the foolish lord is caught embracing Mrs. Markham. As Eversham, of course, prefers matrimony to a duel, and Dolly Mason being an old sweetheart, and coming in at the right moment, all ends happily. Miss Violet Leonard as Mrs. Richard Markham acted with great spirit, and in her flirtation scene and lively interview with Mr. Markham displayed much talent. Mr. Moresby Treherne proved very amusing as Lord Eversham, and Miss Dorothea K. Holzapfel was excellent as Dolly Mason; while Mr. Cecil Pearson gave a clever performance of the good-tempered husband, Markham. Although the prompter was at times heard, all the performers did great credit to Mr. Richard Temple. The little comedy was well received, and Miss Violet Leonard was warmly applauded. The programme concluded with the first performance of an original farce, *The Lay Figure*, by Mr. W. H. Higginbottom, the author playing Jack, a black-and-white artist; Miss Dorothea K. Holzapfel Mirabel Lisle; and Miss Cecil Martin and Mr. Henry Sanders Jack's Aunt and Jack's Uncle.

On Friday evening, March 18, performances were again given by the pupils of Mr. Richard Temple and Mr. Edgardo Lèvi. The first item in the programme was a selection from Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, Act 1, Scene 5, and Act 3, Scene 1, in which Miss Olive Turner was particularly excellent as Viola. Miss Lillian Lee made a graceful Olivia, and Miss Hilda Raby acted well as Maria, Mr. Moresby Treherne playing the part of Malvolio. The second performance of Miss Violet Leonard's comedy, *Mrs. Markham's Last Flirtation*, went considerably better than on Thursday afternoon, when it was first produced. All the students acted with more confidence, and the prompter was never or "hardly ever" heard. In the poetical play in one act, *Cupid's Messenger*, by Alfred C. Calmour, Miss Evelyn Holmes was very successful as Fanny Walsingham (in love with Sir Philip Sydney), while Miss Hilda Raby acted brightly the part of Mary Herbert, Sir Philp Sydney's sister. Mary, to aid her friend's love affair, dresses in male costume, and acts as Cupid's Messenger. The little part of Lucette was ably filled by Miss Frances H. Wenham; Mr. Kenneth Dodds played Sir Philip Sydney with ability; and the incidental song was composed by Miss Margaret Overbury (student). The famous *Trial by Jury*, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, concluded the performances. Mr. Henry Sanders was the Learned Judge, Miss Olive Turner made a very effective Plaintiff, and Mr. Edward E. Butcher was amusing as the Defendant. Counsel for the Plaintiff, Usher of the Court, Foreman of the Jury, and First Bridesmaid were all cleverly impersonated by Mr. Harry Milner, Mr. William J. Samuell, Mr. Percy Heming, and Miss Lillian G. Clayton. Mr. Clarence Hyden acted as accompanist, and the overture, entr'actes, and incidental music was admirably played by Miss Evie Dawkin and Miss Lucy Ehrmann.

An excellent orchestral concert, conducted by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, was given by the Royal Academy students on Tuesday afternoon at Queen's Hall, a very large audience being present. The programme commenced with a lively comedy overture, "The Pierrot of the Minute," by Granville Bantock. Mr. Henry Gilleece Dutton (student) in his Scena (MS.), *The Awakening of Ianthe*, has cleverly written a musical setting to some verses from Shelley's "Queen Mab," the music being most ably sung by Miss Olive Turner. Excellent also was the playing of Mr. Percy Hughes in César Franck's brilliant Variations Symphoniques for pianoforte and orchestra; while Miss Phillida Terson had a most enthusiastic reception for her skilful singing of the difficult air "Charmant oiseau," from F. David's *La Perle du Brésil*, the flute obbligato being delightfully played by Miss Edith Penville. A young performer, Master Willie Davies, displayed talent as a violinist in Svendsen's Romance, Op. 26; and Mr. Powell Edwards sang with some power "Adamastor, king of oceans unbounded," from Meyerbeer's now seldom hear opera *L'Africaine*. So much interest has been awakened by the first performance of Purcell's scene *The Witch of Endor* (orchestrated by Mr. F. Corder) that the work was repeated on Tuesday afternoon, Miss Olive Turner, Mr. Albert Maiden, and Mr. Albert Brown giving a good account of the great English composer's music, shamefully neglected, as Mr. Corder truly says, for nearly 250 years. Sir Alexander Mackenzie's spirited Scottish Concerto (pianoforte) was well executed by Mr. Frank St. Leger. Miss L. James was heard in Weber's "Ocean, thou mighty monster" (*Oberon*), and the concert ended with the orchestral performance of Finale (Furiant) from Dvorák's Suite, Op. 39.

It was with Mr. William (not Ian) Maclaren that Miss Nancy Blackwood, whose biography we published in a recent issue, played the Duchess D'Aubeterre in *Proof*.

MARSTON'S MASTERPIECE.

"When John Marston," says Swinburne, in "The Age of Shakespeare," recently published by Chatto and Windus, "is content to deliver his message like a man of this world, we discover with mingled satisfaction, astonishment, and irritation that he can write when he pleases in a style of the purest and noblest simplicity; that he can make his characters converse in a language worthy of Sophocles when he does not prefer to make them stutter in a dialect worthy of Lycophron. And in the tragedy of 'Sophonisba' the display of this happy capacity is happily reserved for the crowning scene of the poem. It would be difficult to find anywhere a more preposterous or disjointed piece of jargon than the speech of Asdrubal at the close of the second act:—

"'Brook open scorn, faint powers!—
Make good the camp!—No, fly!—yes, what?—wild rage!—
To be a prosperous villain! yet some heat, some hold;
But to burn temples, and yet freeze, O cold!
Give me some health; now your blood sinks: thus deeds
Ill nourished rot: without Jove nought succeeds.'

"And yet this passage occurs in a poem which contains such a passage as the following:—

"'And now with undismayed resolve behold,
To save you—you—for honour and just faith
Are most true gods, which we should much adore—
With even disdainful vigour I give up
An abhorred life!—You have been good to me,
And I do thank thee, heaven. O my stars,
I bless your goodness, that with breast unstained,
Faith pure, a virgin wife, tried to my glory,
I die, of female faith the long-lived story;
Secure from bondage and all servile harms,
But more, most happy in my husband's arms.'

"The lofty sweetness, the proud pathos, the sonorous simplicity of these most noble verses might scarcely suffice to attest the poet's possessions of any strong dramatic faculty. But the scene immediately preceding bears evidence of a capacity for terse and rigorous brevity of dialogue in a style as curt and condensed as that of Tacitus or Dante.

"'*Sophonisba.* What unjust grief afflicts my worthy lord?
"'*Massinissa.* Thank me, ye gods, with much beholdingness;
For, mark, I do not curse you.
"'*Sophonisba.* Tell me, sweet,
The cause of thy much anguish.
"'*Massinissa.* Ha, the cause?
Let's see; wreathe back thine arms, bend down thy neck,
Practise base prayers, make fit thyself for bondage.
"'*Sophonisba.* Bondage!
"'*Massinissa.* Bondage: Roman bondage.
"'*Sophonisba.* No, no!
"'*Massinissa.* How then have I vowed well to Scipio?
"'*Sophonisba.* How then to Sophonisba?
"'*Massinissa.* Right: which way
Run mad? impossible distraction!
"'*Sophonisba.* Dear lord, thy patience; let it maze all power,
And list to her in whose sole heart it rests
To keep thy faith upright.
"'*Massinissa.* Wilt thou be slaved?
"'*Sophonisba.* No; free.
"'*Massinissa.* How then keep I my faith?
"'*Sophonisba.* My death
Gives help to all. From Rome so rest we free:
So brought to Scipio, faith is kept in thee.
"'*Massinissa.* Thou darest not die! Some wine.—Thou darest not die!
"'*Sophonisba.* How near was I unto the curse of man, Joy!
How like was I yet once to have been glad!
He that ne'er laughed may with a constant face
Contemn Jove's frown. Happiness makes us base.'

"The man or the boy does not seem to me enviable who can read or remember these verses without a thrill. In sheer force of concision they recall the manner of Alfieri; but that noble tragic writer could hardly have put such fervour of austere passion into the rigid utterance, or touched the note of emotion with such a glowing depth of rapture. That 'bitter and severe delight'—if I may borrow the superb phrase of Landor—which inspires and sustains the imperial pride of self-immolation might have found in his dramatic dialect an expression as terse and as sincere: it could hardly have clothed itself with such majestic and radiant solemnity of living and breathing verse. The rapid elliptic method of amœbæan dialogue is more in his manner than in any English poet's known to me except the writer of this scene; but indeed Marston is in more points than one the most Italian of our dramatists. His highest tone of serious poetry has in it, like Alfieri's, a note of self-conscious stoicism and somewhat arrogant self-control; while as a comic writer he is but too apt, like too many transalpine wits, to mistake filth for fun, and to measure the neatness of a joke by its nastiness. Dirt for dirt's sake has never been the apparent aim of any great English humorist who had not about him some unmistakable touch of disease—some inheritance of evil or of suffering like the congenital brain-sickness of Swift or the morbid infirmity of Sterne. A poet of so high an order as the author of 'Sophonisba' could hardly fail to be in general a healthier writer than such as these; but it cannot be denied that he seems to have been somewhat inclined to accept the illogical inference which would argue that because some wit is dirty all dirt must be witty—because humour may sometimes be indecent, indecency must always be humorous. 'The clartier the cosier' was an old proverb among the northern peasantry while yet recalcitrant against the inroads of sanitary reform: 'the dirtier the droller' would seem to have been practically the no less irrational motto of many not otherwise unadmirable comic writers. It does happen that the drollest character in all Marston's plays is also the most offensive in his language—'the foulest-mouthed profane railing brother'; but the drollest passages in the whole part are those that least want washing. How far the example of Ben Jonson may have influenced or encouraged Marston in the indulgence of this unlovely propensity can only be conjectured; it is certain that no third writer of the time, however given to levity of speech or audacity in the selection of a subject, was so prone—in Shakespeare's phrase—to 'talk greasily' as the authors of 'Bartholomew Fair' and 'The Dutch Courtesan.'

"In the two parts of his earlier tragedy the interest is perhaps, on the whole, rather better sustained than in 'The Wonder of Women.' The prologue to 'Antonio's Revenge' (the second part of the 'Historie of Antonio and Mellida') has enjoyed the double correlative honour of ardent appreciation by Lamb and responsive depreciation by Gifford. Its eccentricities and perversities of phrase may be no less noticable, but should assuredly be accounted less memorable, than its profound and impassioned fervour of grave and eloquent harmony. Strange, wayward and savage as is the all but impossible story, rude and crude and crabbed as is the pedantically exuberant language of these plays, there are touches in them of such terrible beauty and such terrible pathos as to convince any competent reader that they deserve the tribute of such praise and such dispraise. The youngest student of Lamb's *Specimens* can hardly fail to recognise this when he compares the vivid and piercing description of the death of Mellida with the fearful and supernatural impression of the scene which brings or thrusts before us the immolation of the child her brother."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL

The Tower Palace Co., the new proprietors of the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, have since January last had the whole of the interior overhauled and every portion either redecorated, reupholstered, or renovated. The whole of the work has been carried out by the staff, under the supervision of Mr. James Walmsley, the company's engineer. The chief alteration has been wrought to provide greater comfort for the patrons in all parts of the house. The floor of the front part has been reconstructed with a greater rake so that occupants of each succeeding row of seats can easily see over those in front. The stall accommodation has been increased from 100 to 300, and what is of greater importance is the additional width allowed between each row, which will add to the comfort of the audiences. The pit portion has been greatly improved by the seats being re-upholstered, and the erection of draught screens at the back, in the form of revolving shutters. Another structural alteration on the ground floor is a doorway which gives an additional entrance to the stalls, and also allows of egress to the grand circle saloon and balcony.

The stage has had a new floor laid and been practically reconstructed, and in future the whole stage area will be available for the performance, as only the scenery actually in use will be allowed in the vicinity of the stage. A patent clip for holding carpets down will do away with the old nailing-down process. Other alterations in the dress circle provide a gentlemen's cloak-room, and even the upper circle and gallery patrons will find improvements which will conduce to their comfort. The contractors for the elaborate decorations are Messrs. F. de Jong and Co., of London, specialists in this particular line of decoration, who were also responsible for similar work at the Tower Ballroom and Circus, Palace Ballroom, and Chinatown at the Tower. The decorations of the Grand are of a more delicate nature, and aptly described as after Dresden porcelain style—so beautiful is the colour scheme, and so admirably carried out. The whole treatment is much lighter than before, which is a decided advantage, and gives the theatre a much brighter and yet warmer appearance. The prevailing tones are cream, old gold, rose du Barri, and crimson, whilst the walls of the corridors and staircases have been treated with Japanese wallpaper, with cream background and raised gold figuring. The wall hangings in the dress circle and the boxes, also at front of upper circle proscenium, are carried out in Japanese fabric. The walls of the pit and the upper circle have been decorated with crimson flock of a very neat ornamentation; and in the gallery, terra-cotta and a crimson dado blend harmoniously.

The ceiling has been most elaborately treated, the existing decorations have been added to and greatly improved, while two large oval panels at the top of the proscenium contain two fine paintings in oils representative of Music and Mirth. These are the admirable designs of Mr. J. Loss, one of Messrs. de Jong's principal artists, who is also responsible for a series of hand-painted floral panels, on a groundwork of gold, on the face of the grand circle balcony.

The grand circle saloon bar has been redecorated throughout in pure white and gold, with panels of white French anaglypta, whilst that of the upper circle has been treated with crimson ingrained paper and the ceiling painted with a rather novel umbrella panel, characteristic of the Adam's style.

A new fireproof curtain is introduced, doing away with the advertisements and introducing a more tasteful design. With regard to the electric lighting, the whole of the wiring has been gone over inch by inch and the installation perfected, while half-frosted "Tantalum" lamps are introduced, diffusing the light much better than their predecessors.

The upholstering, draping, and carpeting has been carried out by Messrs. Bickerstaffe, Ltd., under the personal supervision of the firm's general manager, Mr. F. Horniblow, the upholstering being in electric blue Utrecht velvet, while the super Wilton carpeting and the drapings are of similar colour. The pit seats and those in the upper circle are also furnished with this class of velvet, while the gallery seating is now padded and covered with pelgamoid cloth—a dark green leathery material.

The orchestra will consist of first-class musicians, quite half of which will be from members of the Halls band. Mr. J. Woof Gaggs, musical director at the Tower, is the musical superintendent, and is responsible for the getting together of the orchestra.

The theatre will be open on Monday, under the acting managership of Mr. Percy Harrop, who has had an admirable training for a number of years in connection with the Tower and Palace.

As It Was Spoke.

"J. C." writes:—"The pronunciation of Shakespeare's name receives an interesting indirect confirmation from an Italian source. Conti, a cultured Venetian who had spent some time in England, published in 1728 a drama entitled *Il Cesare*, prefaced by a letter in which he expresses his views on Shakespeare. In this letter he spells the name 'Sasper,' a form which is evidently based, not on the English written form, but on the pronunciation with which he had become familiar while in England. The vowel sounds of this Italian form correspond remarkably with those of the French words chaque, espère, used by Mr. Ernest Law to denote the original pronunciation.

Men and Manners.

"HISTRION" writes:—"I was playing the leading part at the local theatre at Cambridge recently, in a play which was admitted by their own Varsity paper to be among the best which had visited their town. The following was our reception:—Cat-calls, whistling, and alleged 'witty' remarks were kept up from rise to fall of the curtain—not one 'comedy' line got a laugh. One of the actors, whom I know to be a gentleman, born and bred, and who was playing a most refined and gentlemanly part, was greeted with shouts of derisive laughter when another character made use of the expression, 'I can see you're a gentleman.' These young 'bloods' seemed to consider it a most amusing thing that an actor *could* be a gentleman!

"IN a scene of mine with the 'leading lady,' a part played by a young girl of decided ability and stainless reputation, an allusion of mine to her 'purity' was greeted with cries of 'Oh, oh!' and laughter. These young 'aristocrats' evidently deemed it an unutterably 'funny' thing that an actress *could* be pure. Every line that was capable of misconstruction or double-entendre was promptly twisted into smut. In short, when I had left the stage-door through groups of drunken or semi-drunken undergraduates, who were evidently waiting there to insult the lady members of our company with their not-to-be-desired attentions, I mentally registered a vow that if ever I send a son of mine to a Varsity it will not be to Cambridge, where public 'ragging' seems to overstep all bounds of decency, putting such considerations as gentlemanly conduct and English fairness altogether out of the question."

IN a recent notice of the revival of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the New Theatre, we stated that Mr. Fred Terry played the Prince of Wales in the original production of the piece. Mr Fred Terry has never played anything but Sir Percy Blakeney, and his consummate success in the part is greatly due to the finish and fulness which are owing to frequent repetition of the character.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ALFRED STRETTON.

Having a roving disposition, Mr. Alfred Stretton found the chemist shop to which he had been apprenticed a little tedious, and sought relaxation in giving little dialect readings and sketches at concerts, &c. He embarked on a professional career with a travelling choir, giving out bills during the day, taking checks at night, and playing in the farce at the finish. His next public appearance was as an itinerant minstrel, playing, or rather vamping, on a banjo on the race-course, a line of business in which he did very well during the season. He next joined a dramatic fit-up for small parts, but before a few weeks had gone by he found himself sent on for Robert Ffolliot in *The Shaughraun*, Jack Gong, in *Green Bushes*, &c. It was, as Mr. Stretton colloquially expresses himself, the "if it" stakes, with a walk-over nearly every week. His next engagement was for the juvenile part in *Zingara*, and from that he went to *Days of Cromwell*, in which he played Chart and Hay.

After a fit-up tour of *A Royal Divorce*, Mr. Stretton joined Mr. Alfred Denville's stock company, which presented four pieces weekly for eight months; a short tour with *For the Colours* was followed by an engagement as Bogle in *Night of the Party*, and he then joined Mr. Denville for another five months, making a big success as the Rev. Toby Muffins in *The Silver Horseshoe*. Subsequently he played in *Three Little Britons*, P.C. Mutton in *Parson Thorne*, Jim Dalton in *The Ticket-of-Leave*, Corry Kinchela, Levison, Mark Livingstone in *Streets of London*, and Don Pedro in *The Diver's Luck*. Then followed a very successful engagement with the late Mr. Henry Swinerd's *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, Mr. Stretton playing the heavy character part of Hawkins for nearly three years, with only two weeks' vacation. After fulfilling engagements as Oliver Cromwell in *Days of Cromwell*, the Rev. Random and the Jew in *Sally's Dilemma*, Mr. Stretton toured for a time his own sketch, a burlesque on *Romeo and Juliet*. Then came tours with Mr. Fred Kirke as heavy lead and stage-management, lead *In Old Madrid*, heavy lead in *Our Sailor Lad*, and with Miss Western, playing heavy lead in *The Prodigal*

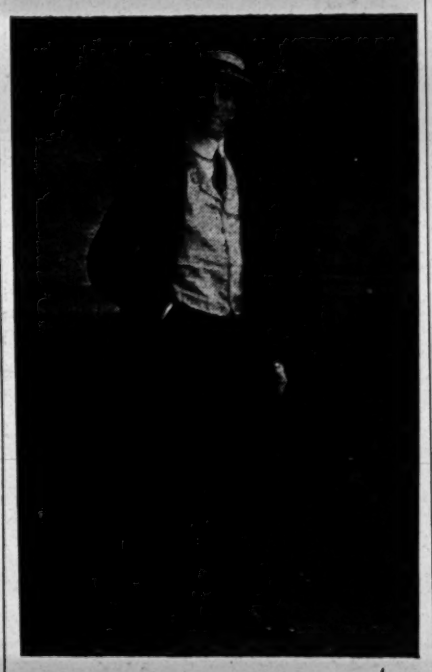

MR. ALFRED STRETTON.

Son. He was then engaged by Mr. T. Morton Powell for Arthur Erroll in *Greed of Gold*, a part he played over 450 times. During the short vacation that followed, Mr. Stretton played a special engagement with Mr. Sydney Spencer as Michael Silvati in *Stolen Birthright;* then resumed his old part in *The Prodigal Son*. He then joined Mr. Fred Bulmer for heavy lead with *The Girl Who Went Astray*, and afterwards with Mr. T. Morton Powell played his old part, and also Jack Halyard in *Honour Thy Father*, Paul Inglewood in *Day to Day*, making five tours with the above management. Last autumn Mr. Stretton was engaged by Mr. Fred Bulmer to play Capt. Paul Derrick, the heavy lead in *Sentenced for Life*.

Mr. Stretton can claim the distinction that throughout his career he has never missed a night's performance or been late for an entrance, and, moreover, has only had his notice handed him once. Last summer he took a month's holiday in his native place, the Lake District of Cumberland, but up to that period he had had only twelve weeks out of work for over eight years. But twenty-eight years of age, Mr. Stretton is full of ambition, and has high hopes of a future. He has a great belief in versatility, and his only grievance with the majority of managers is once an actor has played a certain line of business they have the impression that it is the only one he can play.

DEATH OF MARIE PRITCHARD.

Heartfelt sympathy must be accorded Mr. Fredk. Archer, stage-manager for the Lyceum *Two Little Vagabonds* tour, on the loss he has sustained by the death of his talented and devoted wife, professionally known as Miss Marie Pritchard. The deceased lady was admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, where surgical skill and assiduous nursing were powerless to save her, and she passed away—her husband being by her side—on the morning of Thursday, the 17th inst.

Mrs. Archer graduated in the old stock days at the Theatre Royal and Amphitheatre (now Court), Liverpool, where she played as a child. An accomplished dancer as well as a versatile actress, she appeared with the late Barry Sullivan, also at Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, in stock as leading lady in *The Road to Fortune, Days of Cromwell*, and Mark Melford's *Flying from Justice*. When the late Mr. W. H. Sharpe was touring *Saved from the Streets* her Peggy was admitted to be the gem of the piece. For the last eight years Miss Pritchard had sustained the character of Biddy in *Two Little Vagabonds*, first under the management of Hardie and Von Leer, and recently under the banner of the London Lyceum.

The funeral took place on Sunday last, at Everton Cemetery, Fazakerley, Liverpool. Numerous floral tributes testified to the love and esteem in which Mrs. Archer was held, notably a wreath of lilies from her sorrowing husband, a wreath of lilies, violets, and roses from her fellow-artists of the *Two Little Vagabonds* company, and a cross of white lilies and roses from "her loving friend Dick" (Miss Helen Grenville).

MR. ARTHUR SCOTT CRAVEN, who has been playing recently in *The O'Flynn* at His Majesty's Theatre, is the author of a play entitled *The Last of the English*, published early this month by Elkin Mathews. The play, which is written in blank verse and shows deep artistic feeling and obvious sincerity, deals with the chief episodes in the life of Hereward the Wake. It is to be hoped that the play will be produced before long at a West End Theatre.

GERMAN ACTRESSES' GRIEVANCES.

Pending the passage through the German Reichstag of an Imperial Theatre Law, the material for which is at present being collated officially with a view to drafting a Bill, some of the leading actresses, in a spirit of self-help, have taken matters into their own hands, and have been devising schemes for the immediate alleviation of their less fortunate sisters' deplorable lot. With this laudable object in view, Frau Rosa Bertens, the well-known Berlin actress, came forward with a proposal urging the intendants and directors of theatres to employ actresses, naturally those of ripe experience, as stage-manageresses, or, at any rate, as assistants in stage-management. This, of course, would be but a drop in the ocean, yet the situation appears so critical that no stone is to be left unturned.

To how serious a pass matters have come will be seen from the following extracts of a few speeches made at a recent mass meeting in Berlin, convened by the Association of Progressive Women's Unions. There were present the president and several representatives of the German Actors' Association, as well as several influential members of the Reichstag. Frau Minna Cauer, who opened the meeting, was supported by Frau Dr. Breitscheid, Frau Else Lüders, and by two well-known women journalists, Frau E. Vely and Frau B. Herwi. Of Parliamentarians there were Dr. Pfeiffer and Dr. Heckscher, while the managerial interests were represented by the veteran author, Paul Lindau, and by Privy Councillor Lautenburg.

The first speaker, after Frau Cauer had opened the meeting, was Dr. Osterrieth, whose subject was "How is the actress affected by the woman's movement?" He pointed out the hardship of having to supply their own costumes, the intolerant treatment meted out to actresses in need of restful care, and to the "Schontage" (days of care), which, so far, have not been allowed to dramatic actresses, in contradistinction to operatic singers. He urged them to join in with the modern progressive movement of women, and drew attention to several articles by Irene Triesch and Rosa Bertens, which have been referred to from time to time in the columns of the *Stage*. He wound up by an appeal to the leading actresses to assist their poorer sisters by their example in championing the cause. This speaker was followed by Fräulein Rubner, of the Neues Theater, who launched forth a flamboyant attack in Zola's *J'accuse* style against the present system, and more especially against the managements, who, at a minimum wage, expect a maximum of costly and elegant dresses. Talent, she declared, was not so necessary as to appear well dressed; and this, of course, was a severe handicap to the honest members of the profession, who possibly sat up all night sewing and altering, as against those, of whom there were, unfortunately, not a few, who had allowed themselves to drift into a life of pleasure, and procured the necessary means, and more, by other methods. Her remedy for this crying evil was to demand a compulsory provision, on the part of the theatres, of all costumes, historical as well as modern.

Frau Rosa Bertens, who followed, suggested that fewer women should join the profession. "Formerly," she remarked, "any lady crossed in love or jilted entered a nunnery; now they come to the stage." She also passed severe strictures on the unscrupulous methods of many so-called dramatic academies. Fräulein von Hallé, who spoke next, depicted how the twenty-four hours of an actress's day were fully occupied by performances, rehearsals, and other duties, which left them little, if any, recreative leisure. She pointed out several irksome paragraphs in the contract, and drew attention to the iniquitous state of affairs with regard to agencies and commissions.

In a vigorous speech on the deplorable state of affairs at many, if not most, theatres, Herr Gustav Rickelt, one of the most enthusiastic social reformers of the German Actors' Association, made a sharp attack on the Directors' Union. He also held the public responsible for many of the temptations that beset the path of the young actress. He was particularly bitter against those so-called artists who, under the cloak of an actress, followed another profession, and thus brought discredit on the entire stage.

Frau Adele Schreiber, who followed, proved a very effective debater. She advocated the support of the "Children's Home," the idea for which was mooted some time ago by Frau Irene Triesch, and she urged all actresses to combine for their own protection. Meanwhile, a further contingent of members of the Reichstag had arrived, among them being Dr. Delbrück and Herr Gyssling, and two leading Social Democratic members, Herr Hildenbrand and Herr Böhle. The member of the Centre Party, Dr. Pfeiffer, in a temperate and well-reasoned address, warned the meeting against being too optimistic in expecting much assistance from the Legislative bodies. He himself placed more faith in satisfactory and speedy results arising from their own joint initiative, whereby he hinted at a friendly co-operation of the Actors' Association with the Directors' Union. Herr Emanuel Reicher, another strenuous pioneer of social reform, in a humorous and almost paternal speech advised male actors to cultivate a more refined demeanour and better tone behind the scenes. In the free and easy intercourse prevalent among theatricals he sees pitfalls for the female novice, it being but a short step from evil words to evil deeds.

It was three o'clock in the morning before the meeting came to a close. Prior to dispersing, the following resolution was proposed and carried unanimously:—"The present gathering of men and women, who have met in the large Philharmonic Hall in Berlin, in view of the many social abuses existing on the stage, and which are particularly hard on its female members, demand of the Federal Council (Bundesrat) and of the Reichstag the speedy passing of an Imperial Theatre Law, which will afford to all connected with the stage a minimum of hygienic and legal protection. Regard should be had in this new Act to the special interests of female members of the stage by an adjustment of the question of costumes, and by greater protection in cases of maternity. (Providing historical and modern dresses; release from work on certain days of respect; abolition of the paragraphs dealing with pregnancy and control of marriage; institution of a maternity insurance.)

In addition to these demands for State aid, the meeting expresses its desire that the female members of the profession should help themselves as effectively as possible by a closer union among themselves, and by working hand in hand with their male colleagues of the German Actors' Association to the best of their ability towards the defence and advancement of their professional interests."

LOUIS JAMES, a famous actor of classic rôles in America, died at Helena, Montana, on the 5th inst., at the age of sixty-seven. He was playing at the Helena Theatre on the previous night, and was stricken with heart disease in his dressing-room. He had been an actor for nearly fifty years, but was much better known on the road than in New York. Since 1895 he had played "star" parts all over the country. His favourite rôles were Virginius, Jacques, Othello, Falstaff, Richelieu, Ingomar, Shylock, and Peer Gynt. For such characters he was well suited, for nature had endowed him with a fine figure and a deep, sonorous voice.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM MANAGER'S BENEFIT.

If Mr. Lester Collingwood, the genial proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, is identified with any special events in theatrical circles in Birmingham, success is assured. On Friday, the 18th inst., scores of friends and old patrons of the theatre rallied round Mr. Collingwood, the occasion being his seventh anniversary, or benefit night. The theatre was packed from floor to ceiling, and scenes of enthusiasm were the order of the evening. All the pantomime artists worked energetically and effectively, and Cull Pitt (Abanazar) must be signalled out for a special illusion turn. Messrs. Barrett and Knowles, old favourites here, journeyed from Liverpool to keep the audience in merry mood; Little Maudie Olmar came direct from her highly successful engagement at the Garrick Theatre, London, and "brought down the house" with her graceful and skilful dancing; and artists appearing at local music halls contributed acceptable items.

After several floral gifts had been made to Miss Olmar, the most interesting period of the evening was reached. In the presence of every member of the company and several friends, including Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire), Mr. A. Bushell (Gaiety), Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Hippodrome), Mr. Bert Wilson, Mr. Bert Browne, Mr. Fred Homer, and Mr. Cooke (stage-manager), the evergreen Collingwood was cheered to the echo while he accepted presents. Mr. Cull Pitt, representing the *Aladdin* company, delivered a fitting eulogistic speech, and on behalf of his *confrères* handed to Mr. Collingwood a beautifully illuminated address and a silver tea-set. The address read as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,—Upon this, the occasion of your seventh anniversary, we, the undermentioned members of your *Aladdin* company, staff, and friends, desire to extend to you our heartiest congratulations upon the success and record 'run' of the present production. We also take this opportunity of thanking you for the most pleasant and comfortable engagement, and beg that you will accept the accompanying token of esteem and regard, together with our cordial wishes for future prosperity and good health. Furthermore, we trust that for

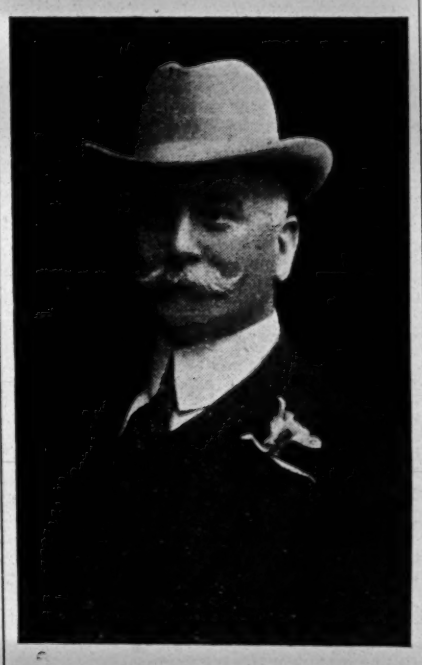

[*Photo by Whitlock.*

MR. LESTER COLLINGWOOD.

many, many years to come, the world of entertainment may be graced by your courteous and evergenial presence." (Here followed the signatures of the subscribers.) *Aladdin* 1909-1910.

Afterwards Mr. Fred Barnardo stepped forward and presented an Oliver Clare oil painting and a handsome table centre to Mr. Collingwood on behalf of old friends, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Day. Mrs. Day had worked the table centre herself. Then there was a pretty little incident. Little Maudie Olmar, who made her début with Mr. Collingwood, entered with Mr. Guest, who carried a large framed photograph, in colours, of the little dancer as Red Riding Hood. Little Maudie looked up at Mr. Collingwood and remarked, "You once said there was something you missed very much from the front of your theatre. Now I am going to give it to you with all my love." Mr. Collingwood appeared greatly touched with this little girl's tribute, and he took her in his arms and kissed her. Mr. Fred Horner, a personal friend, then gave Mr. Collingwood a gold cigar-cutter. The speech of the proprietor of the Alexandra was brief, but to the point. He thanked the donors of gifts, and complimented the performers in the pantomime upon their excellent and successful work.

On Sunday Mr. Collingwood gave his annual dinner at Woolpack Hotel. Members of the pantomime company and a few personal friends were present, and the function proved an unqualified success.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The programme of the organ recital given by students of the Trinity College on Monday afternoon was well selected, and the various items not too long. It was unfortunate that the oboe stop was out of order and could not be used; but, in spite of this slight drawback, Mr. Harry Gray succeeded in giving an excellent performance of C. M. Wider's Allegro Vivace and Allegro Cantabile from Symphony V. Mr. Clifford Cartwright also was much applauded in the pleasing Fantasia in A minor of J. Lemmens. The clever Theme with variations of William Faulkes, capitally played by Mr. John A. Tatam, proved an interesting feature of the recital, and Mr. Herbert W. Dawson gave a good account of Sir Frederick Bridge's graceful Andante and Introduction and Fugue. Mr. Sidney H. Sheppard's performance of Prelude in form of a Chaconne (Sir C. V. Stanford) and Sir E. Elgar's Andante from Sonata in G had also much merit. Henschel's "Spinning-wheel Song" was expressively sung by Miss Eveline Matthews, and Mr. Horace Witty, a clever vocalist of the College, was set down for "Wolfram's Romance" from *Tannhäuser*.

Theatrical Management.

"I do not myself think," says *Truth*, "that any man should enter upon theatrical management unless he has at least three plays which he believes in and enough capital to tide him over should the first two prove failures. This is perhaps a counsel of perfection. I do maintain, however, most strongly that no man has a right to take a theatre, engage stage hands, and rehearse a company for from four to six weeks, unless he has an actual balance at his bank—I am not talking about promises of cash—which will enable him, success or no success, to pay up all his people for at least a fortnight. This is not asking much. In any other branch of business enterprise it would be considered asking ridiculously little."

"FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE."

A Domestic Romance in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, Played for the First Time at the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham, on Monday, March 21.

Rupert Sidney .....MR. FRED J. WEBB
Paul Sidney .....MR. J. C. CARLYLE
Jean Brooke .....MR. H. C. LANCELY
Dr. Heathcote .....MR. W. PALLISER ACOCK
Wallace Rivington .....MR. HAROLD RILEY
Frank Rivington .....MR. R. OLIVER
Evan Berkley .....MR. EDWIN BEVERLEY
Jimmy Jeppe .....MR. TOM J. TAYLOR
Peters .....MR. CHARLES DYKE
James Cottrill .....MR. BRETT LARDNER
P.C. Broadfoot .....MR. ERIC ALDON
Phyllis Brooke .....MISS MAMIE STANSTON
Mrs. Hale .....MISS AGNES GAGAN
Polly Pearson .....MISS MARIE ROBERTSON
Sareta Berkley ....MISS MARIE DANVERS-SMITH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. C. Watson Mill, the well-known author of *Can a Woman be Good? The Love of the Princess*, and *A Warning to Women*, &c., may be said to have scored another triumph, and he owes warmest thanks to Mr. Fred J. Webb and his company, who were responsible for the production. True, there were the usual "first-night" faults, but nothing but what can be easily remedied.

It is a winter setting throughout, and in the first scene we are introduced at the Dragon Arms hotel to an assembly of residents in the district, and amongst them is the disreputable Rupert Sidney, down on his luck. He is determined to frustrate the marriage of a charming young girl, Phyllis Brooke, with Frank Rivington, the nephew of a wealthy Colonial. Phyllis is well cared for by her guardian, Dr. Heathcote. Eventually the doctor is left alone, and there enters an elderly man, who reveals himself as Jean Brooke, the father of Phyllis, returned after several years spent as an outcast, he having been wrongly accused of a crime committed in his early days. The doctor advises him not to disclose his identity to his daughter, and there is a touching scene when the two meet. But Rupert Sidney, upon his return to the room, has suspicions as to who the stranger is, and he lays his wild schemes accordingly. Wallace Rivington, who has come to pay off his nephew's debts and give him a substantial wedding present, is his first mark. From his brother Paul, a solicitor, Rupert learns that the rich uncle carries with him some valuable diamonds, and after a heated conversation with young Frank about Phyllis the opportunity occurs to steal the diamonds and accuse Frank, who has been seen by the landlady to leave his uncle's bedroom, of the theft.

Everybody has gone to bed when Rupert crawls upstairs and returns with the case of diamonds. He is admiring his "swag" when the uncle dashes down the stairs and attacks the thief. There is an exciting struggle, during which Rupert snatches a revolver off the table, and, striking Rivington on the head, fells him to the ground. Rupert reels backwards into the arms of his brother, who has suddenly appeared on the scene. Paul is astounded, and seems glad at the opportunity to hand his worthless brother over to the police, but the latter holds the trump card, and produces a damaging letter from one Sareta Berkley, which he had previously intercepted at the hotel. This effects a compromise, although the Colonial is not killed. Quickly recovering consciousness he rises to his feet, and stares wildly about. He is suffering from delusions, and relates the story of his exciting ride across the veldt in possession of diamonds. "There is Capetown ahead, boys! and then the ship and dear old England," he exclaims; "and then I can keep my promise and assist my brother's boy for old times' sake."

The next scene is a room at the Hotel Metropole, where the brothers Sidney are heard working together in the plot to ruin Frank, who, in company with Dr. Heathcote, attends to learn the news that he is accused of stealing his uncle's diamonds and attacking him. He has been followed by Phyllis, and there is an affecting scene when Frank declares that he will leave her until he proves his innocence. In the subsequent scene, The Stables of the Dragon Arms, there is some good comedy business when a certain Evan Berkley, a ne'er-do-well, appears as a pedlar. Rupert, who is acting the swell, pays him in notes to leave the district, but Sareta gets possession of the money after warning her brother that the notes are stolen property and that the numbers are known.

The curtain goes up on The Snow-clad Village. The two Sidneys appear outside the house of Jean Brooke, who is inside with his daughter, his identity having been disclosed. Rupert is determined to win Phyllis at all costs, and desires to act as the good Samaritan; but Jean resents his attentions, despite threats to send him out of the country again; and again Sareta comes to the rescue and befriends the Brookes. There is an exciting struggle between Rupert and Sareta, and she is rescued by Jean, who sends the villain to the ground with a straight right. There are sensational incidents during the next scene at the office of Paul Sidney. Sareta tracks the villains down at every turn, but they suddenly chloroform her and shut her in a safe. Then the brothers quarrel, and Rupert attacks Paul, leaving him for dead. But Rupert's hopes are soon to be shattered. Dr. Heathcote and Frank find the room empty, but they hear sounds from the safe, and quickly they force the lock to find Sareta in a precarious condition. In the next scene, The Gardens of the Grange, she is convalescent, and Dr. Heathcote vows his love for her. But the brothers are ever on the scene, and on this occasion the crisis is forecasted. Rupert, before the company, accuses Frank of the crime, with little effect, for the tables are suddenly turned when Paul appears to relate the truth concerning his brother Rupert, who is eventually handed over to justice. The closing incidents in the last scene, the Dragon Arms again, are splendidly presented. The rich uncle has completely recovered his senses, and remembers all that occurred on the night of the theft and attack upon him. It is really a crime reconstructed, but there is no trial to follow, for Rupert ends the trouble by committing suicide.

Mr. Fred J. Webb had a character which suits him admirably in that of Rupert Sidney, and he makes the most of it. As Wallace Rivington Mr. Harold Riley, an actor of wide experience, was excellent and quite natural, and enacted the Colonial personage to perfection; Miss Marie Danvers-Smith as Sareta Berkley played with striking success—she was not too forceful yet very effective; Mr. J. C. Carlyle as Paul Sidney was natural and convincing; Miss Mamie Stanston, who played Phyllis Brooke, has a splendid delivery; Mr. Oliver, as the rich man's nephew, took full advantage of his opportunities; and warm praise is due to Mr. W. Palliser Acock, whose Dr. Heathcote was excellent—in fact, his performance was above the average. The remaining characters were ably sustained.

AT the Grand Theatre, Geneva, on Monday night, during a representation of the opera *Werther*, Mme. Clement, who was taking the leading rôle, completely broke down when she arrived at the lines, "It is sad to see those who are dearest to us depart thus," and was carried off the stage in hysterics, the curtain falling. The director asked for the indulgence of the audience, stating that the prima donna had lost her husband a few days ago. Mme. Clement later on reappeared and finished her part.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, March 21, the Play entitled

"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."

The heartiest of welcomes awaited the return visit of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, now played by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company at the King's on Monday evening, a crowded house assembling to enthusiastically enter into the romantic love story, the real cause of war between the adjoining kingdoms of Illyria and Sylvania. How the Princess of Illyria, in spite of all the difficulties, succeeds in putting an end to the war and wedding the man of her choice is very interestingly told by Mr. Walter Howard and eagerly followed by the audience. The military element also is of no slight assistance, lending colour and picturesqueness to the play. Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke as the revengeful and hard-hearted Prince Hildred of Sylvania presents an excellent impersonation, which is quite successful. As the crippled Prince Michael Mr. Lionel Gadsden plays very effectively, his sombre manner and self-effacement at the end being altogether in keeping with the character. Mr. Ernest Cox is a thoroughly manly and brave Prince Olaf, who wins the love of the Princess, and in the eyes of the audience richly deserves her. Colonel Wellenberg is exceedingly well played by Mr. J. Anderson, and Mr. Arnold Cameron is sufficiently good as Colonel Schwartz. Mr. Fred Upton as Captain Karsburg and Mr. A. E. Robinson as Lieut. Felsburg, give able support. Nathan, the dumb servant, is capitally pantomimed by Mr. Ernest Gray, and Mr. Francis Hawley is quite capable as the austere Bishop of Illyria. Mr. Robert Noble's characterisation of Captain Hector is highly praiseworthy. Mr. Richard Lane gives a pleasantly humorous turn to the part of Lieut. Karl Stromberg. Monica, Princess of Illyria, is satisfactorily played by Miss Stella Campbell, whose archness in the disguise of the beggar-maid and sincerity as the persecuted Princess are warmly appreciated. The beggar maid, Camiola, receives careful and intelligent treatment at the hands of Miss Ethel Patrick. Success is attained by Miss Mona Hungerford as Viola, her fresh and natural acting being much admired. The scenery and costumes deserve every praise

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 21,

"THE BONDMAN."

Mr. Hall Caine's powerful and dramatic play, *The Bondman*, is being presented here by Mr. Wentworth Croke's principal company. It is one of all-round excellence, but the honours are carried off by Mr. Philip Darien as Jason and by Mr. Stanley Harrison as Michael Sunlocks, the half-brothers. Mr. Darien's Jason is a magnificent study of an extremely difficult rôle. Of fine stage presence and great dramatic power, Mr. Darien scored a big triumph. Mr. Stanley Harrison's Michael is a vivid piece of stage portraiture; he makes the impulsive, generous-natured half-brother to the life. Another member of the cast who stands out conspicuously for the sterling merit of his impersonation is Mr. W. H. Rotherham, who doubles the part of the grandfather and the reformed priest. His transformation from the drunkard to the man given a fresh chance is a wonderful piece of character-acting, and holds the house spellbound. Miss Violet Macaree is a dainty and sympathetic Greeba, whilst Miss Madge Laverton makes a sturdy Mrs. Fairbrother. The children, Mona and Danny, are ably taken by Miss Beatrice Hughes and Master Walter Neville respectively, who are a couple of very natural youngsters. Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith is very good as Adam Fairbrother, and Miss Emelie Mayhew enacts the part of Christian Anne, the Manx servant, with considerable credit. Miss Dorothy Radcliffe and Miss Florence Queen are well placed as the sneering Callow girls. A couple of unscrupulous villains are Mr. Alfred Fisher and Mr. F. J. Waller as Governor Testa and Dr. Boni respectively, these unpleasant characters being excellently presented. Smaller parts are filled with success by Messrs. Cecil H. Ford, F. Chappell, W. Nixon, H. Chance. L. Aldwin, J. Grant, G. Evans, P. Doyley, G. S. Poole, B. Burleigh, G. Bertram, Misses E. Hartman, L. Mayne, B. West, and H. Grey. The Manx dance in the second act was cleverly done.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama entitled

"LEAH KLESCHNA."

For the third time this successful drama is being presented to playgoers at this house by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman. In the part of Kleschna Mr. William Clayton again made a deep impression. Miss Bessie Rignold is happily still at hand to portray Leah Kleschna, and her acting remains one of the features of the play. To both artists the audience were lavish of their approbation on Monday. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks stands out prominently for his acting as Raoul Berton; Mr. Graham Pockett is clever in the rôle of Schram; Mr. Francis Hope makes an admirable General Berton; Mr. Charles Barrett by his romantic impersonation of Paul Sylvaine has become very popular; and Mr. Bert Gunther was a capable Anton Plaff Miss Ethel Russell is good as Mme. Berton, and Clare Berton is natural in the hands of Miss Emmie Wallace. Miss Edith Summers (Charlotte), Miss May Hammond (Frieda), and Miss May Broughton (Sophie Chapponiere) all renedr valuable aid. *Leah Kleschna* is prettily mounted and dressed.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama, entitled

"HOW GIRLS ARE BROUGHT TO RUIN."

Mr. Morton Powell's company in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin* is proving an excellent attraction at the Shakespeare Theatre, where the piece is paying a return visit. The story of the play, founded on facts, and dealing chiefly with the victim of a designing roué, is smartly written, and contains many delicate situations, which are treated in the most skilful manner. The interest of the audience is fully sustained throughout, and the members of the company receive unstinted applause. Jessie Burton, the hapless victim of man's desire, is portrayed with great emotional power by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne, who gives an affecting rendering of the part, and elicits the fullest sympathy. Mrs. Morton Powell enacts the rôle of Miss Winnie Walters with conspicuous ability, and faithfully suggests the true-heartedness of the character; Miss Jeannie Risley does well as Lucy Lawton, and Miss Kathryn Eckhart cleverly reveals the despicable qualities of the unnatural stepmother, Mrs. Annie Burton. Miss Addie Adair supplies a humorous performance of Mrs. Slutt. The manly bearing of Mr. Harry Scott is well suited to the part of the large-hearted sailor, Harry Hailing, and he gives a resolute and powerful impersonation; the unthankful part of the roué, Philip Edge, is well handled by Mr. Edward M. Heanley, who acts in a restrained yet convincing manner; the unscrupulous Solomon Sleek is capably sustained by Mr. Alaric Burton; and Mr. Sydney Bryant is an amusing Jack Jossle. Mr. Julian Mitchell as Mr. Stirling makes the most of his opportunity in the trial scene.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama entitled

"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

The lover of stage sensationalism is having a fill this week at the Dalston Theatre, for in Mr. Mark Melford's drama, *Flying from Justice*, it may truthfully be said there is not a moment when the onlooker is not being thrilled with some startling or terrible deed, or throbbing with expectation of favours to come in that direction. The acting is powerful, and evidently the result of careful rehearsal. The play is produced by Mr. Ernest E. Norris, who takes the part of John Larcarsey, who undertakes the sombre duty of avenging his murdered father's wrongs. Mr. Norris acts with vigour and discretion, and is awarded the plaudits of an appreciative audience. Mr. Edwin Bennett, as J. Haldane Gully, who is correctly described as "a master criminal," proves himself an actor of considerable power and versatility. Miss Louisa Peach, in the character of Winnie Bradley, appears in a part with which her many admirers have not very frequently had the opportunity of judging her capabilities. Miss Peach's Winnie Bradley is a boisterous personage at her worst, but when the latent good of the woman asserts itself the actress becomes truly artistic. Mr. J. Pope Dryden as Major Parkes sustains a somewhat painful character conscientiously, Mr. Edward Boddy as Pearley Tanner provides welcome humour, and Mr. J. Benson North as Woodruff is greatly effective. Mr. Charles Clifford as Charles Bearing, whose good life terminates tragically at the hands of the chief villain of the piece, plays the part consistently, and Miss Mabel Bishop presents a good performance of the afflicted mother of this unfortunate youth. The good woman of the play, Mildred Parkes, is attractively portrayed by Miss Haslings-Walton. The cast also includes Mr. John French, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. Wilton Leonard, Mr. George Summers, Mr. Frank Parkes, and Mr. Pippin.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 21, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Roland Yorke, entitled

"THE OLD HOME."

Daddy Dean	Mr. Charles Franmore
Hazel Dean	Miss Nina Blake Adams
Rev. Eric Armstrong	Mr. Evelyn A'Dell
Bridget Donoghan	Miss Harriette Loydall
Sam Adams	Mr. Fred L. Connynghame
Lord Avondale	Mr. Horatio Sinclair
Timothy Twaddle	Mr. Fred Stone
Polly Popp	Miss Ethel Ashleigh
Jack Warren	Mr. John Ernest
Dr. Warburton	Mr. Harry Dean
Ned Somerton	Mr. Tom Baker
Joe Strong	Mr. Frank Vesey

When on Monday night the designing Lord Avondale tried to break up the blissful home of Daddy Dean by asking his pretty daughter Hazel to fly with him to London, "where the streets are paved with gold," the "gallery" retorted with vigorous unanimity "Liar!" Thus early the interesting play had taken a strong grip on the large audience, and they followed very closely the story of Hazel Dean, who gives up the prospects of a happy marriage with the village curate, Eric Armstrong, listens to the love avowals of Lord Avondale, and eventually leaves the old home in the fishing village to live a life of luxury and ease in the gay city. Be it said to his credit, Lord Avondale does marry the girl, but Hazel is like "a fish out of water" in her new surroundings, and his lordship also quickly repents of his bargain and gives way to drink. Consequently Hazel's thoughts often stray back to the old home and her father's despair at her departure. When, after the death of her husband, her former lover Eric renews his troth and is accepted, there is a natural and tender ending in the return to the fishing village and the old home of former happy hays.

Mr. Evelyn A'Dell has engaged a strong cast for the interpretation of the piece, which was originally produced at the Prince of Wales's, Salford, on May 11, 1908, and is staged in a style altogether superior to that usually met with in travelling melodrama. Mr. Charles Franmore submits a notable performance as Daddy Dean—breezy, hale, and hearty—while his depiction of the old man's grief at the supposed abduction of his daughter has the true ring of pathos and makes an obvious impression. As Hazel Dean Miss Nina Blake Adams is the blithe and boisterous daughter of the sea to the manner born, though all the deeper touches are imparted to her acting as occasion requires. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell as the staunch and true Eric Armstrong, acts with earnestness and conviction and makes an outstanding figure in his clerical attire. The large-hearted Irishwoman, Bridget Donoghan, Hazel's foster mother, is a general favourite as impersonated by Mrs. Harriette Loydall; and Mr. Fred L. Connynghame has a fine character comedy part as the go-as-you-please Sam Adams, of which he makes the very utmost. Mr. Horatio Sinclair in the unthankful rôle of Lord Avondale acts with a nonchalance and suavity very exasperating to the "gods," and thus he easily obtains the "villain's tribute." Mr. Fred Stone makes the most of his opportunities as Timothy Twaddle, whose daughter Polly is brightly impersonated by Miss Ethel Ashleigh. Minor parts are all in quite capable hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 21, the Comedy entitled

"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

The evergreen *Charley's Aunt* is the attraction at the Borough Theatre this week, and time seems in no way to diminish the mirth-provoking propensities of the piece. The company is under the direction of the author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, and the comedy is very handsomely staged. Lord Fancourt Babberly, who masquerades so successfully as Charley's Aunt, is portrayed with conspicuous success by Mr. Stanley Cooke, who simply revels in the droll complications of the part. The two college chums, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, have typical, airily-casual exponents in Mr. J. S. Woolley and Mr. R. Burnett respectively; and the deferential, decorous Brassett is portrayed on sound lines by Mr. Sidney Compton. Mr. McCausland Stewart cleverly realises the part of the debonair Colonel Chesney, and the amorousness of the peppery Stephen Spettigue is amusingly delineated by Mr. Roy Byford. Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue have charming representatives in Miss Ruth Henton and Miss Phyllis Beck; Miss Audrey Ford is an excellent Donna Lucia; and Ela Delahay is prettily played by Miss Bertha Wilson. The *Colour Sergeant*, by the same author, precedes, the characters in which are capitally undertaken by Mr. Sidney Compton, Mr. R. Burnett, Mr. C. A. R. Shum, Mr. Roy Byford, Miss Ruth Henton, and Miss Nancy Harding.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama, entitled

"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."

Miss Renée Glendower and company are here this week with one of the latest dramas from the prolific pen of Mr. Charles Darrell, the well-known author of a number of similar plays, who continues, and invariably succeeds, in making attractive stories full of sensational episodes and striking situations, combined with a leavening of good comedy relief, which go to the forming of a successful drama. The mounting and dresses are all that could be desired; more especially is this noticeable as the action of the play takes place in the atmosphere of aristocratic society.

Miss Renée Glendower as Jane McAllister offers a sympathetic characterisation, and deserves praise for an impressive rendering; Dr. Mark Haven, who subsequently succeeds to the title of Earl of Saxon Royal, is most befittingly portrayed by Mr. J. M. Olivert, who delivers his lines with good effect; Mr. Edward Rawlinson depicts the disappointed and scheming Rupert Wogan in a skilful manner; Mr. C. Hartopp essays the character of Sir Ernest Cavendish in a convincing style; Mr. Barnett Lando as the rich Jew moneylender, Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein, is very diverting, and produces considerable hilarity; Lady Thora Danescombe is capably played by Miss Stella Carmichael, who successfully imparts to her portrait the spiteful nature of the character; Miss Tessa Myers scores well as Deborah, and gives a lively impersonation. Elfrida, Dowager Countess of Saxon Royal, is most capably undertaken by Miss L. Russell Spires

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama,

"HOME, SWEET HOME."

As presented by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company, this drama of the fireside makes a distinct appeal to the patrons of this popular playhouse, and, judged by their hearty reception, is a big hit. Mr. Arthur Hinton as the brave captain of the lifeboat, Stephen Armitage, cuts a fine figure. The part gives him some fine opportunities. Mr. Fred G. Kay is the sturdy old fisherman, David Armitage; Mr. Chas. Clifford gives a good sketch of the aristocratic Duke of Ancaster; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams is too villainous for words as Lucas Lyle; Mr. A. Beaufort scores as the inane Hon. Percy; Mr. Walter Clark does well as Dick Redmayne; Mr. A. Kirwin is a characteristic mariner as Solomon Keary; Mr. Rupert Lorry is the ridiculous Lord Silvermore; Miss M. Camfield is good as Lady Summerton; Miss Florrie Hayes plays well as the vivacious Sybil Fay; Miss Florence Zillwood is a pathetic heroine; and little Hilda Vokes plays Dora in a most natural way.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, March 21.

"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Once more this well-known drama, written by Mr. James Willard, visits the Lyric, and business is decidedly good. It is a well written and constructed play, effectively staged, particularly in the last scene, when artists plunge into real water. Mr. Leonard Williams sustains with spirit and feeling the part of the hero, Gordon Allington, and an excellent contrast is provided by the clever acting of Mr. Paul Backett as the detestable Clifford Yorke. Mr. Forbes Carrington is decidedly good as John Allington, the Squire of Hazelmere; in the double rôle of Joe Jackson, the postman, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope Mr. Fenton Wingate creates a good impression; an excellent representation of the poacher, Jake Grudgewell, is given by Mr. William Hayward; Mr. Harry Emmerson does very well as Jas. Woodstock; Mollie Woodstock is effectively interpreted by Miss Kittie Roze; Miss Irene Arondel as the Squire's ward, Violet Kingston, gives a charming study of the character; and Miss Kitty Johnstone is all that could be desired as Bob. The comedy is in the excellent hands of Mr. Ern Carlton as Tom Nainby, and the minor characters are all well filled. The tour is conducted by Mr. Arthur Lee-Mitchell, who deserves congratulations on the production.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, March 21, the Drama, entitled

"A CHILD OF THE STREETS."

Miss Dot Stephens is appearing here, supported by a capable company, and winning decided approval. The drama is well written, its effect being enhanced by crisp dialogue and stirring situations. Miss Stephens, who was warmly greeted, gives a delightful performance of Doris Graham, singing her numbers, including "Mother's Eyes," very artistically. Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam plays Gertrude Graham very well; and Little Doris is naturally played by little May Renaud. Miss Yoxa Summer acts with force and effect as Lorna Carstairs; and Selina Haddock has a capital representative in Miss Carlotta Blondin. Mr. John Erroll gives an excellent rendering of Sir John Graham, a Scottish Laird; Mr. Leonard Aardale as Lawrence Cragie furnishes an earnest and effective performance; Mr. Norman H. Tracy is capital as Lieutenant Jack Ainsley; and Mr. Charles Freeman submits an excellent study of Robert Wallace. Mr. Maurice Jones as Oscar Van Dam plays well, as does also Mr. George Francis as Ezra Scroggie. Mr. Fred Acton, who discharges the duties of stage-manager, makes a hit as Pomeroy Smith; and Mr. Lewis Rae is effective as the Constable. Mr. George Hazelhurst is the capable general-manager, and Mr. Norman H. Tracey, the acting-manager for the company, while Mr. Bertram Iles, the resident-manager, admirably fills his accustomed place.

"AULD ROBIN GRAY."

Play, in One Act, Written by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, Produced for the First Time in London at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday, March 21.

Robin Gray	Mr. Alick Chumley
Jack Grafton	Mr. J. Forbes Knowles
Mary	Miss Valerie Crespin

The above playlet is an adapted version of the ballad, "Auld Robin Gray," and runs on very pathetic lines. The action of the play is laid in the interior of a farmhouse, and the representation is most interesting. Auld Robin Gray is impressively portrayed by Mr. Alick Chumley; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles (the author) plays the rôle of Jack Grafton, the broken-hearted sailor, in a manly and sympathetic manner, which meets with due approval; and the bereaved Mary is ably undertaken by Miss Valerie Crespin, who does ample justice to the character.

The inauguration of the season at Bridlington took place on Monday evening, when Mr. Norfolk Megone and his orchestra commenced a six months' season in the Grand Pavilion of the Royal Prince's Parade. The ex-Mayor (Alderman Sawdon) made an eloquent speech in welcoming Mr. Megone and the various old favourites of his orchestra, and that gentleman, in acknowledging the compliment, said he intended to again give a series of symphony concerts during the season, and would try to excel the previous season's record. Mr. Chas. Palmer, who enters upon his eleventh year of management for the Corporation, outlined the various companies and artists he had secured for the summer months, including some of the greatest artists of the day. Mr. Megone then took up his bâton, and an excellent programme of music was rendered, a violin solo by Mr. Sydney Freedman and a cornet solo by Mr. Sam Holloway being especially well received by the large audience. Miss Ida Bloor, who is the vocalist for the week, possesses a rich soprano voice of good compass, and was enthusiastically received. Mr. James Chilcott is a racy, pleasing entertainer, his humorous songs being given with that genuine touch of comicality which shows the true artist, and he received a big ovation.

At the Crystal Palace during the whole of Easter Monday entertainments will be in full swing both in the huge building and the 200 acres of beautiful gardens. Bands of H.M. Guards, including the Coldstream Guards, will play throughout the day, and in the evening, at 7 p.m., will give a grand massed concert under the conductorship of Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan. In the Theatre at 2.30 and 7 *The Belle of New York* will delight thousands (especially by the novel introduction of *Chantecler*). Three variety shows will be given in the Centre Transept, the artists including the Maximilian Trio, the Friscoes, Reno and Roy Beavis, Mlle. Marvello and her famous cockatoos, Fritz Von Liston, the modern Chantecler, and the Czars. Leadbetter's magnificent collection of wild animals is always a source of delight to the youngsters; and in the Fairy Archipelago there will be found amusement for the million.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ARTFULNESS OF ADA."

Facical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Shirley, Produced for the First Time in London at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday, March 21.

Ada Byron-Bruce	Miss Madge Crichton
Robert Byron-Bruce	Mr. Frank Tennant
Mrs. Glynne	Miss Valerie Crespin
Mrs. Googlie	Miss Kate Kearney
Lucy	Miss Ethel Hart
Fred Spencer	Mr. J. F. Knowles
Tom Senoakes	Mr. Alick Chumley
Jopling	Mr. John Armfield
McClosky	Miss Nellie Shirley
Colonel Duval	Mr. Stanley B Farbridge

Originally produced at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, on Feb. 28 last, *The Artfulness of Ada* is a very attractive and amusing comedy, and on Monday evening last, when it was presented for the first time in London, it was accorded a very enthusiastic reception. The comedy was capitally interpreted by that vivacious and talented artist, Miss Madge Crichton, and her well-selected company, and at the end of each act "curtains" were numerous.

The story deals with Mrs. Ada Byron-Bruce, who, out of curiosity, has attended to watch a "raid" of militant suffragettes on the Government Offices in Downing-street, and in the confusion caused by a scuffle with the police she is arrested and charged with throwing half a brick through the Prime Minister's window. She is bailed out by her friend Mrs. Googlie, a self-satisfied lady possessing strong inclinations to have a finger in everyone's pie. As the artful Ada has given a fictitious name and address she is able to keep the matter from the ears of her husband, Robert Byron-Bruce, who is a most successful actor-manager. Fearing that the scandal of her impending imprisonment becoming noised abroad would prove disastrous to her husband, who is about to have the dignity of knighthood conferred on him, Ada practises a deception on her husband by telling him she has had an invitation for a month's motor tour in Spain, and he, being an indulgent husband, consents to her going. She departs with forced gaiety—not to sunny Spain, but to do her month "without the option." Mrs. Glynne, who occupies the post of Matron at Holloway Prison, where Ada is incarcerated, is a keen theatre-goer and an ardent admirer of Robert Byron-Bruce, the celebrated actor. On becoming aware of the identity of "No. 21," she determines to further her own ends, so she assists Ada in indicting a letter to her husband, purporting to come from Madrid, and which she herself conveys to him, explaining that she was an old friend of his wife's, and had met her in Spain. She insinuates that not only is his wife having a good time abroad, but that she has attracted the attentions of a certain Spanish gentleman, and endeavours, with very ill-success, to win the husband's affections. In the meantime, the Inspector of Prisons puts in an unexpected appearance at the gaol, and finding affairs there so grossly mismanaged, dismisses the Matron on the spot, while, for insubordination, Ada is put on bread and water. At the expiration of her term of imprisonment Ada returns home, to find her husband quite unresponsive to her affection, and not only has she to keep up the deceit by endeavouring to answer many very awkward questions concerning her tour in Spain, but she is confronted with another trouble, as her husband demands explanations regarding her dealings with the mythical Spanish gentleman. This proves too much for her, and eventually, becoming utterly mixed up and confused, she confesses all and is at once forgiven. The arrival of the letter announcing that the honour of knighthood has been conferred upon her husband completes a happy ending. There is also a love story running through the play, which concerns Lucy, Ada's younger sister, and her two lovers.

Miss Madge Crichton as Ada offers a very lively impersonation. She is the life and soul of the play, and deservedly meets with a very flattering reception. Mr. Frank Tennant does ample justice to the part of Robert Byron-Bruce. Miss Kate Kearney as Mrs. Googlie is extremely humorous, and her experience and ability make her a warm favourite. Mrs. Glynne is admirably undertaken by Miss Valerie Crespin. Miss Ethel Hart makes a charming Lucy. Mr. J. F. Knowles and Mr. Alick Chumley afford much pleasure as Fred Spencer and Tom Senoakes respectively, and the remaining characters are adequately portrayed.

Dressing the Part.

Miss Sophie Lingwood some years ago was summoned by telegram to interview a well-known London manager, and somehow got the impression that it was for a certain part, so turned up to keep the appointment, as she believed, just right, in a short-skirted tailor-made gown and smart toque. The manager surveyed her disapprovingly, then turned to his aide, who stood by: "I thought you said that this lady played character, and especially character old women?" he said, reproachfully. "I have made a mistake, or perhaps you have! Soubrette now—or—" and he gave an amused glance at the short skirt and smart shoes. Miss Lingwood did not wait to explain.

She was in treaty for the part of a kind motherly woman, and was asked to call upon the author and manager, the former being known to have a very nice taste in choosing people for his characters. It was a broiling summer day when Miss Lingwood, padded out to noble proportions by the simple means of wearing two or three extra blouses and several skirts, made her appearance before her critics. And she had her reward. The author turned to his colleague, and in an undertone observed: "Rather stout for the part, don't you think?" However, she got the part in spite of being "rather stout." At rehearsal Miss Lingwood wore only one gown, and that of black. The transformation was so startling that it necessitated explanations.

Sharing them Out.

A curious sense of justice, says Miss Lingwood, distinguished the musical conductor of a South African theatre in which she once played. The audiences loved musical plays, and showed their appreciation by presenting bouquets to their favourites over the footlights. One night Miss Lingwood had several handed to her, and when the performance was over she prepared to take them with her to her hotel. Before she left, however, she encountered the sender of another bouquet, who was anxious to know why his floral offering had been neglected. Enquiry elicited the following explanation: "Such a lot of flowers for Miss Lingwood, one each for Miss A and Miss B, and none for the others—well, I *just shared 'em out*.

A Doubtful Bouquet.

Another time, when drama was being given, Miss Lingwood was playing a light comedy part. When she made her first entrance a bouquet was flung at her, which was most embarrassing, for she felt instinctively that it was intended for the leading lady, who had not yet appeared. Miss Lingwood let it lie, but an over-polite young actor picked it up and handed it to her. When she made her exit, she found the anxious donor waiting to ask for it back, and in a violent hurry to get round in time to throw it to the lady for whom it was intended. "You can imagine," says Miss Lingwood, "with what interest the whole company waited for the re-entry of that bunch of flowers."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"LUXUSZUG."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Abel Hermant, Produced at the Kleines Theatre on March 18.

Infantin Elvira	Fraulein Dirkens
Don Luis	Herr Marx
Donna Hortensia	Fraulein Steimann
Manuel	Herr Adalbert
Grand Duke Nikita	Herr Klein-Rhoden
Prinzessin Mimi	Fraulein Gruning
Prinzessin Hedwig	Fraulein Brandt
Marquis Valencia	Herr Zibgl
Ernst	Herr Perou
Domingo	Herr Boykow
Wanda	Fraulein Rohr

(From our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, March 24.—The censorship took this latest French production very seriously, and Dr. Lothar, who translated it, had to make many concessions. It was a long time before the management received permission to stage it, and after all the cutting and pains expended on the piece the question arises whether the game was worth the candle. The reception was cordial, owing chiefly to the capital acting. All the *dramatis personæ* of importance are foreigners of distinction—princesses, ex-presidents, grand dukes, whose principal residence is the *train du luxe*. How the insatiable Infanta Elvira endeavours to capture young Manuel, the ex-President's son, who loves the Princess Hedwig, who is betrothed to the feeble-minded Grand Duke Nikita—and how she succeeds only for a time, whereupon the real lovers meet again, is doubtless already known to your readers, so that a detailing of the plot will be superfluous. Although the most "piquant" passages have been of necessity expunged, there are still ample left to attract a certain class of theatre-goers, and the piece, being so brightly interpreted, may run for some time.

The success of Herr Siegfried Lutz's adaptation of *When Knights Were Bold* at the Neues Theatre is unquestionable. It filled the bill exclusively last week, and only makes way this week, on a couple of nights, for another popular play. *Die goldene Ritterzeit* will certainly fill the house throughout the holidays. The German critics are nearly all unanimous that it is many years since anything so funny and so genuinely amusing has been seen on a Berlin stage.

Frau Agnes Sorma, an old Berlin favourite, has been giving a season at the New Schauspielhaus, meeting with a hearty welcome. In Goldoni's somewhat ancient comedy *Mirandolina* ("La Locandiera") Frau Sorma achieved greatest success. The rôle suits her down to the ground, better than almost any other in which I have seen her, the gay charm that is so natural a characteristic of this artist being displayed to full advantage. The audience waxed more and more enthusiastic from act to act. Frau Sorma was recalled times innumerable, and was the recipient of many floral tributes. As a curtain-raiser, Hugo von Hofmannsthal's one-act play *Die Frau im Fenster* was given, with Frau Sorma in the chief rôle. Despite excellent acting, however, it failed to make anything of a mark, and the revival was not worth the pains.

"Das Nachtlicht," the latest French farce by Miquel Zamacois, has made a hit at the Residenz, which, with Herr Richard Alexander in the chief rôle, it was sure to do. The popular actor-manager is more popular than ever, and custom never stales his infinite humour. The plot has, no doubt, been already described in your columns. Herr Benno Jacobson, the tranelator, has done his work very efficiently, and every point is given its due value. The interpretation was—as it always is at this theatre—of the best, and a lengthy run may be with certainty be predicted.

At the Lulsen Theatre a satirical comedy by the recently deceased author, Karl Böttcher, was produced with good results last Monday. The title is *Der Klapperstorch der Königin*. In the Fatherland it is the Klapperstorch—the stork—who adds to the population, bringing the baby Teutons overnight in his bill. How this particular stork keeps a whole principality in suspense, not being as reliable as his reputation, and how the Queen herself grows restive, is told in amusing fashion. The piece met with a very cordial reception and was brightly acted.

Herr Konrad Dreher, the clever peasant actor, who is here with his company, has been specially invited by the Emperor to give a performance at Wiesbaden Court Theatre in May. As his Majesty was riding one morning recently in the Park he met Herr Dreher, and entered into conversation with him. As the Emperor rode off he called out, "Auf Wiedersehen in Wiesbaden!"

"Der Liebestempel," an adaptation from one of Molière's early novels by Herren Otto and Rembe, was produced at the Lustspielhaus on Saturday, and met with a very friendly reception. Both authors were called and warmly applauded.

Dr. Strauss's first operatic composition *Guntram* is about to be revived, after an interval of several years, at the Frankfort Opera House.

MORE COINCIDENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I read with considerable interest Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre's letter in your last issue, under the heading "Fact and Fiction," in which Mr. Hardacre draws attention to the production of a one-act play, *The Prodigal's Welcome*, written by Mme. Möllers, and also an account in *The People* of a circumstance in real life identical with the plot of said play. Well, strange to say, I wrote and produced some years ago a four-act drama, entitled *Fifty Fafty; or, The Tiger's Den*, at the Queen's Rooms, Berwick-on-Tweed, with absolutely the same plot. I also produced it in conjunction with Mr. Sam Fredericks at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, and it was duly noticed in your columns. I have also played it in sketch form in London and the provinces with considerable success. I merely mention these details in case at any time Mr. Hardacre's or my interest in our respective plays should clash.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES FREEMAN.

The Broadway Theatre, London, S.E.
March 23, 1910.

STOCK SEASONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your issue of March 12, referring to the stock season at the Kennington Theatre this summer, you observe that the manager's efforts are likely to be emulated by other suburban managers.

As the paragraph somewhat conveys the impression that the Kennington has given the lead to other theatres in presenting stock companies, I may mention that Mr. Stoll ran a very successful stock season here two years ago, the satisfactory results of which have emboldened him to again repeat the experiment for six weeks this summer.—Yours faithfully, BERTRAM ILES, Manager.

Broadway Theatre, S.E., March 18.

Sir,—I notice in to-day's *Era* that Mr. Reginald Pareezer is reputed to be the youngest theatrical manager. My nephew, Cecil C. Imeson, who has been manager of the Castle Theatre, Stockton, since a year last August, was only then a little more than eighteen years of age, and previous to that he was assistant-manager at the Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, for one year. I trust you will publish this in your next issue. Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE L. IMESON.

Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
March 19, 1910.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

A meeting was held on the 18th inst., at Kent House, Knightsbridge, by the courtesy of Mrs. Saxton Noble, of ladies and gentlemen interested in a National Theatre. Mr. Comyns Carr presided, and among those present were the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, the Hon. Maurice Baring, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Gosse, Mr. Laurence Binyon, Countess Benckendorff, Lady Maud Warrender, Mrs. Godfrey Baring, Lady Kenmare, Mr. H. Perrin, Mr. Frederick Whelen, and Sir Herbert Tree.

SIR HERBERT TREE said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—The object of this meeting is to help on the movement started some years ago for a National Theatre in this country. I daresay many of you know that the original idea was that in connection with the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death in 1916 there should be erected some form of national monument to our great poet. In the first instance, it was proposed that this should take the form of a statue, or, rather, of a group of statuary, emblematical of the poet and his works, subscribed for by English-speaking people in the world. But a couple of years ago the project was mooted that it would be better to utilise the inspiration of Shakespeare's memory by something of a more constructive character, and it was suggested that as this country—unlike most of the European countries—had no National Theatre, the opportunity should be taken to found a National Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. I suppose of recent years no one in London has been more immediately associated with the productions of Shakespeare's works than I have been myself, and it is therefore a satisfaction to me to feel that our National Theatre, when it is realised, will devote a large part of its energies to the presentation of the poet's works. You will forgive me if I refer to my own experience, but knowledge at first hand is often instructive, and experience may aptly be the handmaiden of theory. We can often profit by the failures of others—Wisdom is the child by Common-sense out of Misfortune.

I am at this moment engaged in organising with the enthusiastic co-operation of my brother managers who are interested in the Shakespeare movement, what will prove to be a cycle of the master's works. In years to come the National Shakespeare Theatre will, I presume, carry on throughout the twelve months of the year works of the nature that we are now endeavouring to do during the period of the forthcoming five weeks. But large movements generally have modest beginnings. Pyramids are not built from the top. To my mind, the chief argument in favour of this movement is that it would give us a continuous Repertory Theatre which would be impossible, for financial reasons, if attempted by an individual. The cares and worries of the financial side of an individual's management are apt to tie his hands and cripple his artistic effort. I believe that the greatest work in any art is done at the edge of the sword of hunger; but it must also be remembered that all those who have given their lives to the presentation of the works of Shakespeare (and they have always been actors) have remained poor men—poor in pocket, I mean. A National Theatre would be an institution which should have mighty resources at its back. I am glad, therefore, that the Committee of this Memorial Theatre has from the very first laid it down as an essential that the theatre must not be erected unless it has sufficient resources not only for its building but also for its permanent endowment. I take it that we are all agreed as to this.

In connection with my own Shakespeare Festival last year, an experience occurred which made me realise how much good can be done by a permanent institution of this character. At the close of the Festival we gave two performances to the children of the London County Council schools—on one occasion *Julius Cæsar* and on the other *The Merchant of Venice*. I realised, on hearing the full-throated enjoyment of those hundreds of children, what great pleasure and educational profit could be given to them if there were periodically, in some national building, some of Shakespeare's plays given on their behalf. I take it that one of the functions of a National Theatre would be to provide this real pleasure to the children of the Metropolis. Certainly my own experience of those two performances was the most enjoyable of any that we gave during our last year's Festival. In many of the schools after those performances essays were written by the children, some of which were sent to me, and they showed how keen was the observation and how great was the joy that these two plays had given. Even blind children who came to these performances wrote with enthusiasm about what they had heard. Deaf children from one of the schools for the deaf wrote with enthusiasm about what they had seen.

Another great feature of a National Theatre would be the opportunity it would give of keeping alive a certain number of distinguished plays which at present have very little chance of being seen by the public. I refer, of course, to classics, not to corpses. It is very rarely that any existing theatre management feels able to produce many of our great classical plays, such as the works of Ben Jonson or Beaumont and Fletcher, and, to come to the works of later days, even the works of Sheridan. At the National Theatre, side by side with Shakespeare performances and more modern plays, there would be occasional opportunities for other masterpieces which the nation would not willingly allow to fall into oblivion. That is one of the great functions of the Comédie Française of Paris—a function which, in the absence of a National Theatre in London, is too rarely filled in this country.

I am glad to see that many of my fellow actors are taking an active interest in this movement. Among the latest to do so is Mr. Martin Harvey, who has just joined our committee. There has been, I think, on the part of some of those concerned in the organising, a tendency in the past to underestimate the value of the artist in connection with a movement of this description—to consider him, indeed, of secondary importance. Shakespeare himself was not only an author, he was also an actor, and I feel very strongly that for the permanent success of this Shakespeare movement we must secure the adhesion and the active support of as many actors as possible. It is their pride to help on the cause of the theatre. It should be our pride to include in our ranks the enthusiastic artists of to-day.

I am glad to be able to tell you, on the authority of the organising secretary, Mr. Perris, that this movement is developing not only in the metropolis, but also in many of the great provincial cities. He has been during the last few days in such towns as Worcester, Canterbury, and elsewhere, and is able to report not only of London, but also of these towns as to the general desire thus to honour Shakespeare. This is as it should be. The movement is not a London movement—it is an English movement. Shakespeare is one of the joint glories of all the English-speaking people, and it is an inspiring thought that three hundred years after his death there should be opened in London a great theatre in which his works may be presented in the finest possible manner. It may serve as a national recognition of the value of the theatre and of the drama in the development of the modern stage. But I say again, we must have the confidence of the public, and that confidence must find expression in pounds, shillings, and pence. I remember the other day reading an utterance by Lord Esher in which he said that the theatre in this country was fulfilling the functions of the church and the chapel. It is only recently that people have begun to realise how much the progress of thoughts and ideas and of manners can be advanced by the instrumentality of the stage. It is well that we should recognise this, and it is well that the nation should officially recognise the art of the drama.

I have no doubt that there are grave difficulties attendant on the fruition of this cause. But no great movement ever came about without encountering and overcoming such difficulties. It is to be hoped that in their onward progress the organisers of this movement will be inspired not only by enthusiasm, but by a large-minded wisdom and a practical regard to the conditions that govern our fantastic and sensitive art. Let those who desire to build a national temple of the drama join hands with those who are the votaries of the art, and who are its natural guardians. Let them work wisely and unselfishly towards the common end to do honour to Shakespeare. Then all we need is the support of the great public for a great cause.

MR. COMYNS CARR insisted upon the importance of a National Theatre, and said in course of time, when the organisation was complete, there was every reason to hope that the repertory of such a National Theatre would be seen at the various municipal theatres that might be expected to follow in its wake.

A piece entitled *A Tea Party at the House of Calphurnia*, by the Hon Maurice Baring, was performed in the course of the afternoon.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier writes: "The question of a national theatre is once more in the air, and the recent public utterances of my friends, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mr. Comyns Carr, may be taken as worthy aeroplanes to convey it to the bedrock of commonsense. Some four years ago an appeal was made to the public for £500,000 to build a theatre as a memorial to Shakespeare, which theatre was to be conducted as a national theatre. The public have not yet subscribed that sum. I venture to suggest that the reasons for this may be threefold.

"Firstly, the public may not consider that a theatre is a suitable memorial to Shakespeare, bearing in mind the overwhelming number of theatres in London to-day. Secondly, the public may not be convinced that the majority of those who are constantly making an appeal for so large a sum of money (if, indeed, it is large enough for the elaborate scheme put forth) are sufficiently conversant with the practical side of theatre work. Thirdly, the confusion in the public mind that the title put forth—namely, 'Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre'—means a theatre for the exclusive performances of Shakespeare's plays. A very important movement is shortly to take place at His Majesty's Theatre, under the title of 'The London Shakespeare Festival'—a movement in which I have taken an active part, and on the committee of which I am proud to serve in company with Mrs. Kendal, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Herbert Trench, Mr. Lewis Waller, and Sir Herbert Tree (our chairman). During the next few weeks this committee is presenting no less than fourteen of Shakespeare's plays, as well as selections from the old comedies, at His Majesty's Theatre, the casts including most of our leading actors and actresses now in England.

"Might I suggest that here is as national a movement as can be desired, starting from within, which, so far as can be seen, will pay its own way, the promoters being those the majority of whom have spent their lives in the theatre, and who are thus eager to contribute towards a movement not only as a celebration of the moment, but because it marks a step towards that ideal of a national theatre to which so many of us are looking? Might it not be well in the interests of all concerned that the promoters of the theoretical should at once join forces with the promoters of the practical, and so, from modest beginnings, show the public that there is something to put into a new building, if such were required, rather than by asking a large sum of money to build a theatre with nothing worth with which to fill it? With this hope, and with the additional reminder that it was from a still smaller beginning that the National Theatre of France sprang."

Such is Fame.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH'S amusing book "Piano and I," a sequel to "A Society Clown," contains many gems of humour. The following dialogue was overheard not long after his severance from the Savoy:—

Lady: Are you going to Mr. Grossmith's recital to-night?

Gentleman: Whose recital?

Lady: Grossmith's.

Gentleman: I never heard of him.

Lady: You *must* have heard of his book. I saw your daughter reading it the other day.

Gentleman: Oh, Grossmith! You mean the man who wrote "The Deserted Village." Of course I've heard of him.

Not So Ugly.

"IRVING, apart from being a great actor, was a consummate gentleman, and at a garden party I introduced my elder daughter to him. . . . My daughter, who is now Mrs. Stuart Bevan, was naturally pleased at the introduction, and when she afterwards met him at a party given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Arthur Jones she said, 'I'm Miss Grossmith.' The usual twinkle came into his eyes. He received her cordially, and said: 'Thank heaven you're not as ugly as your father!'"

On the List.

AT the time when the "Black List" was in force Mr. Grossmith was giving a recital at Pontypool, in Wales. "Two Welsh miners were discussing a large lithograph portrait of myself announcing my recital at the little hall. They evidently did not, or could not, read the details of the recitals underneath, for one miner said to the other: 'That's a very sad sight, to see a decently-dressed, respectable-looking man like that placed upon the Black List.'"

Beats Cockfighting.

AT buffalo Mr. Grossmith was interviewed. "After discussing operas and kindred subjects the reporter asked me if I thought Slavin, the prize-fighter, would beat Charles Mitchell, the English champion. I said . . . that I did not regard Mitchell as a genuine English champion. He then asked me if I were going to the 'Main' that night. I had not the least idea what he meant, but I said: 'No, I'm too tired.' The report as it appeared read: 'George Grossmith has arrived. He wrote all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. He thinks that Slavin will "whip" Mitchell, but he does not care for cock-fighting.'"

THE "John Farmer" Festival at the Crystal Palace will be held to-day, commencing at 1.30 and continuing throughout the day. This Festival includes a choir and orchestra of 4,000 performers. An orchestral concert, conducted by Mr. Chas. Howes, will be followed by "The Coming of Christ," rendered by the Nottingham Choral Society, conducted by Mr. Albert Rudd. At 5 p.m. a concert of Farmer's music will be given by Mrs. Mary Layton's Ladies' Prize Choir in the Concert Hall, and the programme will be concluded by a grand massed concert at 7 p.m. on the great Handel orchestra. "Christ and His Soldiers" will then be rendered, the artists including Miss Kate Cherry, Miss Lucie Johnstone, Mr. Fred Williams, and Mr. A. Tucker. Mr. Partridge will be at the organ, and Mr. O'Brien will be the leader. The whole of the Festival will be under the conductorship of Mr. Howes.

EDWARD FERRIS'S GUESS.

THREE ROYAL COMMANDS AND A TOUCH OF LARYNGITIS.

If variety is a charm, then Mr. Edward Ferris, part author of the latest Lyceum success, *The Fighting Chance*, can be said to have had a charmed life.

Still a very young man, Mr. Ferris has journeyed round the world once, has acted in forty-seven first-class plays and sketches, is author or part-author of ten successful productions, has three more in readiness for the public, and the only penalty he has had to pay for a strenuous life is a bad attack of laryngitis, which a celebrated Harley-street physician is now wrestling with. May the doctor soon win!

Mr. Ferris started as an amateur with the Liverpool Garrick Dramatic Club. He essayed Captain Hawksley in *Still Waters Run Deep* with such success that, when only fifteen years of age, he was offered the part of Captain of the Guard in *Once Upon a Time*, by Sir Herbert, then Mr. Tree. For the same famous actor-manager he went on quite a triumphal tour with *A Bunch of Violets*, *Hamlet*, and *The Red Lamp*, and the company was commanded by the late Queen Victoria to Balmoral. Now, Mr. Tree was due to open in Dublin on the night following that on which the appearance before Queen Victoria was made, and as the Irish capital and Balmoral are far apart, a special train was ordered to convey the company to the Clyde. The journey was remarkable for the fact that the train ran off the line, nobody was injured, and Mr. Tree and his company arrived at the theatre five minutes before the curtain went up, minus baggage. Further, Mr. Ferris thought it necessary to have an argument with another actor in the wings, missed his cue in consequence, and kept Mr. Tree on the stage for some considerable time, repeating the line: "Accept my life—accept my life!"

The part author of *The Fighting Chance* went to America with Mr. Tree notwithstanding this incident, and played in *Hamlet* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, merely getting snowed up when within 100 miles of Washington, and with no other adventures to record. Next, Mr. Charles Hawtrey claimed his services for *The Private Secretary* at

[*Photo by Bassano, Ltd.*

MR. EDWARD FERRIS.

the Avenue, and later he was seen under Mr. Comyns Carr's management in *The Benefit of the Doubt*.

When Mr. Weedon Grossmith produced *The Shopwalker* at the Vaudeville, Mr. Ferris was a member of the cast, and he also played with Miss Fortescue in *Moths*.

For the next eighteen months Mr. Ferris was to be found in Australia with a répertoire company, after which he returned to the Avenue for Mr. Lionel Brough's production *Baby*. Mr. Forbes Robertson engaged him to play at the Lyceum in *Macbeth*, after which he appeared at the Vaudeville in juvenile lead with *The Elixir of Youth*. From that to *Charley's Aunt*, with Mr. W. S. Penley at the Queen-street Theatre, seemed but a step, and a suburban tour of *Sherlock Holmes* followed.

Mr. Ferris went to Mr. Lewis Waller for his productions of both *Henry V.* and also *Mons. Beaucaire*.

Like most well-known actors of to-day Mr. Ferris has taken his plunge into vaudeville and does not regret it. He starred with *The Gentleman Cracksman* and also with *A Gamble for Life* on the Moss-Stoll tour. His acquaintance with *The Devil* last year ended his career, *pro. tem.*, as an actor. But, despite the fact that his time nowadays is very much taken up with writing, Mr. Ferris will find it very difficult to entirely forsake his old love of the footlights, and he will assuredly return to them when his voice is strong again. Time will prove if we are mistaken.

The list of plays and sketches of which Mr. Ferris is author or part author makes formidable reading. There is *The White Stocking*, produced by Mr. Chas. Hawtrey at the Comedy. It ran one hundred nights there, and was also produced in Australia. Then there was *Nicolète* at the Criterion, staged during the run of *My Soldier Boy*. Mr. Frohman *presented* his *Yellow Peril* at the Vaudeville, and later it was revived at the Duke of York's. Mr. Ferris's *Royal Betrothal* was first seen at the St. James's, and later at Penley's. *The Silver Wooing* was first done at Fulham. Hermann Vezin and Fred Storey were in the cast. *After the Ball* was extremely successful in the provinces; and Mr. James Welch took *The Cabinet and Cupid* on tour with excellent results. *Vanity of Youth* was produced at Wyndham's; and *The Beggar on Horseback* at the County Theatre, Kingston, with Frank Cooper as lead. A duologue, *Settled Out of Court*, was first seen at the Palace.

Mr. Ferris has had the honour of playing before King Edward at Windsor, the late Queen at Balmoral, and the late Prince Henry of Battenberg and Princess Beatrice at Sandringham.

Mr. Ferris tells a good story of how he had just set out to find a backer to finance one of his sketches, and was in the company of his partner, when they encountered a mutual friend who had lately inherited a fortune. In response to his inquiries, they told him it was their intention to form a syndicate to run the sketch. An adjournment to Romano's was suggested, and on hearing the details of their scheme the M.F. grandiloquently announced that not only would he find the money required, but would build a theatre for them as well. Incidentally, to show that he was a man of money, he cashed several £10 notes en route, and even a cheque for £100 at the Savoy Hotel, where he seemed to be well known. Greatly impressed with what they had seen, the partners invited the M.F. to dine with them at the Green Room Club. The invitation was accepted, and whilst at the appetiser stage the M.F. said he was a bit of an actor himself, and forthwith proceeded to give an imitation of a well-known actor, and invited the partners to guess whom it was.

Mr. Ferris did not know, but thought it policy to gag. So he dissembled and answered: "Of course, dear old chap, anyone could see whom you are imitating," and then tried to turn the conversation into another channel. The M.F. cornered the other man, and insisted that he named the actor under review. Mr. Ferris's partner likewise evaded the question. Thereupon, the M.F. got wroth, and insisted that they tell him the name of the actor.

So Mr. Ferris hazarded the opinion that Arthur Roberts was the man, but his partner thought the imitation was of Ellen Terry.

"You are both asses," shouted the M.F., "and the men who could not see that I was taking off Winifred Emery must be rotten actors themselves, and don't get any of my money for their ventures.

And away he went without stopping for dinner, and in six months had lost £10,000 on another theatrical speculation.

"He could not have done worse with mine, could he?" suggests Mr. Ferris, with a twinkle in his eye. And having regard to the magnificent business now being done with *The Fighting Chance* at the Lyceum, we will take it upon ourselves to add: But he might have done *considerably* better!

MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH AT GLASGOW.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh, in delivering the prizes at the recent meeting of the Glasgow branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, said:—"Unaccustomed as I am, &c., &c. But this is literally true, only twice before in my life have I dared to speak in public any words other than those written down for me in my part. My husband has always taken the words out of my mouth and expressed what I wanted to say for me a hundred times better than I could do it myself. But to-day I must paddle my own canoe, as he is firmly held in London by *The Tenth Man*, although in spirit he is here in Glasgow this afternoon, as this telegram which I have just received from him testifies. [Telegram read.] I feel I must thank you very much for the honour you have done me in asking me to give away the prizes this afternoon, and I must tell you how delighted I am to do it. I have just heard that since I was last here, nearly eighteen months ago, the membership of this branch has increased from about fifty to very nearly three hundred. This is splendidly encouraging—it shows how rapidly the study, and therefore the knowledge and the love, of Shakespeare is gaining ground. With that love of our great poet comes a deep gratitude that he, the greatest writer the world has known, belongs to us all as a nation—belongs to the English-speaking race. And we are intensely grateful to Shakespeare for the world he has peopled for us, with those great heroes and heroines of romance. Those dearly-loved friends of ours, friends who never grow cold, who are always ready and waiting to laugh with us and cry with us and to teach us their wonderful philosophy; and because they are our friends they want our love as well as our study. Hamlet, Rosalind, Romeo, Juliet, Beatrice, Wolsey, Catherine of Arragon, sweet Ophelia, magnificent Lady Macbeth, and all the others—they all want our love as well as our study, and it is to teach and foster in us all this love of Shakespeare that is the object and the endeavour of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and not widely apart, but closely knit with this love of our great poet-dramatist is the subject which is to-day very much in the hearts of all lovers of the drama.

"The subject of a National Theatre, which will be the home of Shakespeare's plays has been discussed very seriously from within, and the day is at hand—if it is, indeed, not already here—when the foundation stone of our National Theatre will be laid. Very significant, it seems to me, is this banding together under Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's banner of many of our chief actors to give each of his best to do honour to Shakespeare at the forthcoming Festival at His Majesty's Theatre. It is, at any rate, a step—and a big step—towards forming a nucleus from which the National Theatre may spring. It seems to me it is not in the spending of large sums of money to erect a theatre as a monument to Shakespeare's memory that we must prove our gratitude to him and glorify his name, nor is it in that way that we best serve the interest of the National Theatre; indeed, we run the risk of saddling on the back of a new enterprise a load that will impede and not help its early steps. What is surely more needed to start operations is the temple not made with hands, the temple built out of materials that have no price because they are priceless—enthusiasm, labour, and love—and such are being given in this Festival at His Majesty's. Then, later on, if the public encourage and support with their approval such a venture, it will be time to think of putting it on a sound financial as well as artistic basis, and so give to the nation its theatre."

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An excellent performance by members of the operatic class was given of Purcell's opera *Dido and Æneas* on Thursday evening, March 17, and once more we have to thank Dr. Cummings for an interesting revival of a remarkable work by one of our greatest English composers. Henry Purcell, born in 1658, at Westminster, came of a musical family. While still a choir boy at the Chapel Royal he composed anthems, and the year 1680 is set down as the probable date when *Dido and Æneas* (the first English opera to have the libretto set to music) was originally performed at Mr. Priest's boarding school in Chelsea, when the composer was only twenty-two years old. The instrumental score is written for strings and harpsichord. It was evident that great pains had been taken in the revival. Mr. Richard H. Walthew skilfully conducted a small but very efficient orchestra, a harpsichord by Pleyel had been sent expressly from Paris, and picturesque scenery painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley, while the pretty costumes of chorus and principals lent by the Royal Opera Syndicate, Covent Garden, proved an attractive feature. The story of *Dido and Æneas* is taken from Virgil. When sailing from Troy Æneas and his ship are driven on to the coast of Carthage, where Æneas is kindly received and entertained by Dido. Æneas falls in love with the beautiful Dido, and she is equally atracted by the hero of Troy. But the Witches plot against the lovers. A spirt warns Æneas that he must depart from Carthage by Jove's order, and Æneas obeys. Dido thinks her lover faithless, and will not accept any excuse. After Æneas has gone Dido resolves to die. She sings a death-song, then stabs herself, and thus the story ends.

The music of Purcell has a subtle charm to ears accustomed to the somewhat harsh contrasts and stormy effects of modern compositions, while one of the attractions of *Dido and Æneas* are the fine, rich, harmonious choruses which, as might be expected from a large school of music, were beautifully sung by the students. Miss Ethel Elmes sang Dido's music well, being very successful in the pathetic scene of the last act and the heroine's death-song, "When I am laid in earth." Mr. Eldon Dacre proved a manly Æneas, and Mr. Carl True's fine voice gave effect to the sorceress's air in The Witches' Cave scene. Miss Lilian Green appeared as Belinda and Miss Dorothy Brede as Helen, while Miss Clara Bill as the Spirit also deserved praise. Miss Jennie Hyman played the Harpsichord admirably, and the dances which form so important a feature in the opera were capitally arranged by Mr. B. Soutten and most gracefully danced by his clever pupils.

PLAY ACTORS' PRODUCTIONS.

Interest was stimulated in the Play Actors' performance at the Court on Sunday by the inclusion in the bill of two little pieces from the pen of Miss Elizabeth Baker, whose comedy *Chains*, recently produced by the Society, has succeeded so well. The first of Miss Baker's latest efforts was a one-act play, called

"MISS TASSEY."

Miss Tassey .....MISS ADA HATCHWELL
Miss Postlethwaite .....MISS ADAH BARTON
Miss Rose Clifton .....MISS ESME HUBBARD
Miss Limerton .....MISS JESS DORYNNE
Sarah .....MISS KITTY LOFTING

A grim little piece, in which lack of incident is hardly compensated by novel treatment or smart dialogue, is furnished in *Miss Tassey*. The play depends almost entirely upon the chatter of a couple of draper's shopgirls, one of whom is about to be reported for "sleeping out," but is making arrangements to repeat the offence in order to attend a fancy-dress ball with her "Percy." She attributes the fact of her being found out to Miss Tassey, another member of the staff, who lies ill in bed in a corner of the room in which the girl is trying on her fancy costume. Meanwhile, Miss Tassey sleeps silently, so silently indeed that it gets on the nerves of the younger girl, who is aware that the sleeper is addicted to drugs. Her worst fears are realised when her friend at length approaches the bed and finds its occupant dead.

A sense of the uncanny was cleverly indicated by the ladies who acted the episode. Miss Esme Hubbard skilfully affected the agitation of the youthful assistant, and her hysterical outburst at the close, when she expresses remorse for her hard words towards the dead woman, was very effective. Miss Adah Barton gave a natural portrayal of the girl's good-natured elder friend; Miss Jess Dorynne was equally praiseworthy as another assistant; Miss Kitty Lofting was a neat and authoritative dormitory maid; and Miss Ada Hatchwell moaned realistically as the dying girl.

The second of Miss Baker's pieces was a fantasy in one act, called

"CUPID IN CLAPHAM."

Cyril Waterbury .....MR. RICHARD LAMBART
Nettie .....MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG
Bert .....MASTER ERIC RAE
Iris .....MISS CATHERINE RIVERS
Cupid .....MISS WINIFRED MAYO

Far superior in conception and treatment to the playlet just referred to, *Cupid in Clapham* proved well worthy of the authoress of *Chains*. It depicts an hour in the household of Cyril Waterbury, a "something in the City," who has been married some ten years, and has a family of three, including a demonstrative baby. Affection between the couple is at a low ebb, the husband spending his Saturday afternoons watching football matches, while the wife does the household drudgery and prepares the sitting-room for the Sunday's visitors. Cyril has even forgotten that it is the anniversary of their wedding, and is reminded of the fact with some asperity by the wife, who loads him with reproaches. Then Cupid taps at the window, and is wonderingly admitted. The little god promptly makes himself at home, commands the wife to remove the curling-irons which disfigure her hair, and to replace her soiled apron by one of the pink overalls which she used to wear in her early months of married life, but which have since been discarded. The husband is likewise taken in hand and ordered to shave using the cup that his wife had presented him with many years ago, and to put on the gorgeous slippers which Cupid himself had assisted her to make. Finally, husband and wife are induced to recall the duet they used to sing together, and even to join in a dance. The curtain thus falls on a pretty enough picture, from which it is significant to notice the children are entirely left out. A whole army of Cupids, we imagine, would not soothe the crying baby while the mother was doing the household work, and the pinkiest overall would not long survive an experience of the scullery. Though Miss Baker cannot, therefore, be said to have solved a weighty problem, the playlet is, nevertheless, a most entertaining piece of work, and secured her a hearty call. She was well served by her exponents. Miss Winifred Mayo was quite a Puck-like individual, and acted Cupid in the requisite fantastic spirit; Miss Rosamond Mayne Young, tall, fair, and prepossessing, did not succeed in making herself sufficiently uncomely as the young wife, but she acted remarkably well; and Mr. Richard Lambart played the husband in agreeable light comedy fashion. Master Eric Rae and Miss Catherine Rivers were just perfect as the youthful son and daughter of the house.

The better of the two remaining items of the bill was a sketch by Ronald Macdonald, entitled

"THE FRAME."

Anatolio Montolieri .....MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY
Celestine Lebas .....MISS LUCY WILSON
Mme. Fanchat .....MISS CLARE GREET

Strong melodrama and weak comedy go side by side in the above little piece, which, if relieved of the latter and of some cryptic references to "things" which an absinthe-soaked artist sees, would make an effective "thriller." It tells of the devotion for her lover, a Neapolitan artist, cherished by a Parisian model, who, in order to raise money to purchase an expensive frame for the picture he had sent to the Académie, had sat for the nude to another painter. She secures the frame, but hides it in a cupboard until the letter of acceptance shall have arrived from the Académie. Her lover's suspicions are aroused, and, drunk with copious draughts of brandy, he declares she has her artist employer hiding in the cupboard. He seizes a knife, and makes for the cupboard, and the girl, getting in the way, is fatally stabbed, but lives to see the arrival of the letter of acceptance, while the lover leaps out of the window to the ground some hundreds of feet below. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury gave a striking characterisation of the drink-sodden artist, grim in humour and fierce in invective. His attack of delirium tremens was artistically done. Miss Lucy Wilson played with equal vigour and intensity as the girl, and at times reached quite the Sicilian standard of passionate emotion. A Paris concierge, the object of the artist's rather cheap wit, was played by Miss Clare Greet.

Last to claim notice is a sketch, by Affleck Scott, entitled "THE GULF."

Sue .....MISS RITA TOMKINS
Meg .....MISS VITA SPENCER

The main purpose of *The Gulf* is good, but the author has not contrived to keep up the humour of the conception, and his dialogue becomes ridiculously improbable. It represents an interview between a coster girl and her late friend, whose father has come into vast wealth, and has removed from the East-End to a house in Park-lane. She is visited in her humble attic by Meg, who dilates on the "horrors of wealth" and sighs for the shrimps of happier days, and for the sweetheart who has transferred his affections to Sue. The characters were typically played by Miss Rita Tomkins and Miss Vita Spencer respectively, and no lack of laughter came of their efforts.

THE trustees of Shakespeare's birthplace will shortly publish for the use of visitors a "Catalogue of the Books, Manuscripts, Works of Art, Antiquities, and Relics at present Exhibited in Shakespeare's Birthplace." The volume contains sixty-one illustrations of objects on exhibition.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your report in Saturday's *Era* of H. Leslie Bell's *Cinderella* pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Falkirk, Scotland, my name is mentioned as still being in the company. I wish to state that I left the pantomime on March 2 at Motherwell.—Yours faithfully, LEW TOWERS, 1, Church Cross-street, Leeds.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree has surrounded himself with an incomparable company of artists for *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, with which he inaugurates his London Shakespeare festival at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday. Miss Ellen Terry will again be seen as Mistress Page, and the other merry wife will be played by Lady Tree. Mr. Henry Ainley will be the Master Fenton, Mr. Lyn Harding the Master Ford, and Mr. Jules Shaw the Master Page. Justice Shallow will be in the hands of Mr. W. G. Fay.

Miss Kate Phillips will be welcomed back to His Majesty's as Mistress Quickly, and Miss Iris Hoey will be a sweet Anne Page; the other characters are thus admirably disposed: Master Slender, Mr. C. H. Croker-King; Sir Hugh Evans, Mr. E. M. Robson; Dr. Caius, Mr. William Haviland; Host of the Garter Inn, Mr. Nigel Playfair; Bardolph, Mr. Edward Sass; Nym, Mr. Harry C. Hewitt; Pistol, Mr. Hubert Carter; Robin, Mr. Hermione Gingold; Simple, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite; and Rugby, Mr. Henry Morrell.

At the matinée on Saturday, April 2, *Julius Cæsar* will be given, with a cast including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Hubert Carter, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, Mr. William Haviland, Miss Elinor Foster, Miss Iris Hoey, and Miss Evelyn Millard.

At a matinée of *Twelfth Night* on Thursday, April 7, Mr. Fred Terry will appear as Sebastian, and his daughter, Miss Phillida Terson, as Viola. The cast will also include Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Gerald Lawrence, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Edward Sass, and Mr. Hubert Carter. A diary of the Festival will shortly be published giving complete details of the five weeks' production.

Mr. Lewis Waller and his company will appear in Liverpool on Monday evening in *The Rivals*, and on April 4 will present the piece at the Lyric with the following cast:—Sir Anthony Absolute, Mr. C. W. Somerset; Captain Absolute, Mr. Lewis Waller; Faulkland, Mr. Cronin Wilson; Acres, Mr. Robert Loraine; Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Mr. Leonard Boyne; Fag, Mr. Herbert Jarman; David, Mr. Alec F. Thompson; Thomas, Mr. Robert Bolder; Mrs. Malaprop, Miss Lottie Venne; Lydia Languish, Miss Kate Cutler; Julia, Miss Dorothy Dix; and Lucy, Miss Beatrice Ferrar.

Mr. Charles Frohman, when he produces *Chantecler* in English in America will cast Miss Maude Adams for M. Guitry's part of Chantecler.

Miss Ellen Terry, who will sail for America in October to give a series of "conferences" on the heroines of Shakespeare, wishes it to be known that this will be by no means her last tour. Miss Terry expects to be away for between ten and twenty weeks.

Mr. Martin Harvey will make his reappearance in the Metropolis, commencing Monday afternoon (Easter Monday) at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, where the distinguished actor is to remain throughout the week. On the following Monday, April 4, Mr. Harvey has arranged with Mr. Robert Arthur to play a special engagement of a week's duration at the Kennington Theatre. On Easter Monday afternoon and at night, and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Mr. Martin Harvey will appear as Lieutenant Reresby in John Rutherford's immensely successful romantic play, *The Breed of the Treshams*, in which he will be supported by Miss N. de Silva as Batty, and by Mr. Charles Glenney, Mr. Owen Roughwood, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and Mr. Percy Foster, among others. A second special matinée has also been arranged for Thursday afternoon, the 31st inst., when Mr. Martin Harvey will appear in *The Only Way*, which famous play will be repeated on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. During the following week the same plays will do duty at the Kennington Theatre, where again there will be a special matinée of *The Only Way* on Thursday, April 7.

Mr. Herbert Trench's beautiful production of *The Blue Bird* had its 150th performance at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday, when it was warmly applauded by a delighted audience. The Dog of Mr. Ernest Hendrie, the Cat of Mr. Norman Paige, and Miss Carlotta Addison's admirable Fairy Berylune were again greatly admired, and the pretty piece seems destined for another long "stretch" of success.

Mr. Charles Frohman is prepared to take a very long lease of a theatre in the East-End, provided it is erected on a suitable site, from plans of which he approves, in order to establish an East-End Repertory Theatre. In connection with Mr. Frohman's scheme in the East-End of New York, twenty-one "stars" have agreed to render unpaid services for one week each.

Sir Herbert Tree sends us a neat and inclusive diary of his Shakespeare Festival, which will greatly assist the public in realising the rich feast of dramatic art which he has prepared for them at His Majesty's. The names of the committee are Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Herbert Trench, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mrs. Kendal, and Miss Ellen Terry. Sir Herbert Tree is the chairman. The stage-manager is Mr. Cecil King, the associate stage-manager Mr. Stanley Bell, and the musical-director Mr. Adolf Schmid. The general-manager, of course, is Mr. Henry Dana.

Mr. Walter Reynolds, L.C.C., has gone on a cruise to Morocco and the Canary Islands, and will not return until April 17.

Miss Constance Collier, whose success in America in Henry Bernstein's *Israel* we have fully recorded, will return to England to play Emilia in *Othello* to the Moor of Sir Herbert Tree and the Iago of Mr. H. B. Irving in the forthcoming Shakespeare festival.

An agitation has arisen among Berlin actresses against the demand of theatrical managers, who are accused of exercising tyranny over artists on the subject of stage dresses, making them order expensive costumes, irrespective of the consideration whether such were suitable or not. The well-known actress, Frau Annie Dirkens, who is among the protesters, gives a curious example of the methods attributed to the theatrical managers in Berlin. One manager reproached her with shortening the run of an operetta because her dressmaker was ten days late in delivering a dress she had ordered, declaring that if Frau Dirkens had had the dress at the beginning of the run the piece would have last 300 instead of 200 performances.

Mr. Herbert Trench—so great is still the public demand to see Masterlinck's fairy play *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket—has had to arrange for five matinées during Easter week, namely, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 p.m. Altogether there will be eleven performances of the pretty play that week, probably a record for an Easter week run at a London theatre.

Mr. Charles Frohman will, by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, present at the Comedy Theatre on Tuesday a new play by Mr. Paul Armstrong, entitled *Alias Jimmy Valentine*. The cast will include Mr. Guy Standing, Miss Grace Murielle, Miss Florence Harwood, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. C. M. Hallard, Mr. Herman de Lange, Mr. Lyston Lyle, Mr. Gissing Walters, Mr. Herbert Bunston, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. Fred Cremlin, Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Mr. Frank Thorndike, Miss Marjory Dane, and Mr. Gerald du Maurier.

Amongst the audience which assembled at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday afternoon to witness Signor Grasso's performance of *Othello* were the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Lady Helmsley, Mrs. John Leslie, Miss Toupie Lowther, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, and Mr. Alan Mackinnon.

Miss Julia Neilson, we are glad to hear, has successfully undergone an operation, and is now rapidly recovering health and strength.

Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney will shortly return to England from America, and will in August commence an eight weeks' tour of the provinces with a new play by Mr. Walter Frith entitled *Margaret Catchpole*.

During Miss Tittell-Brune's last season in Australia, instead of the usual benefit matinée, she invited all the poor children and the child patients from the hospitals and infirmaries of Sydney to witness her performance of *Peter Pan*. After the performance a Peter Pan Club was formed, and they elected her president, and it was then arranged to endow a cot entitled "the Tittell-Brune Cot." Last December she visited London for a short holiday, and created a sensation as Claire Forster in *The Woman in the Case*. This was followed by Lady Carew, with Mr. H. B. Irving, in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at the Queen's.

It will be some time before she returns to Australia, but her friends in Sydney have dealt with the difficulty. This Easter a monster bazaar is to be held there; and early in February Miss Brune had a letter from her friend and secretary of the Peter Pan Club (Miss Mabel Webb) telling her that everything was arranged, and asking her to send a message for the opening. Making an appointment with the Edison Phonograph Company, Miss Brune spoke her message into a phonograph, and when the audience meet at the Sydney Bazaar they will hear the voice of their favourite. Miss Brune's first appearance in Australia five years ago was in *Sunday*, and her last was as Peter Pan, so she has delivered a few words from the former, and the "Do you believe in fairies?" speech from the latter.

Miss Tittell-Brune is an American. She was born in San Francisco, and was making a name as a star before she accepted Mr. Williamson's offer to tour in Australia. For a year she appeared as Theodora, and later with E. H. Sothern in *If I were King*.

The Rehearsal company will present the following items on Friday afternoon, April 1, at the West London Theatre, Edgware-road, W.: *The Bookworms*, by Catherine Evelyn; *In the Eyes of the World*, by Fraser Wood; and scenes from *Henry V.* and *The Octoroon*. The casts will include Messrs. Frederick James, Montague Mazaran, Wilfred Fletcher, Arthur Bowyer, A. L. Burke, Clifford Heatherley, Arthur Cleave, W. B. Abingdon, F. Carlton Brown, G. E. Carlton, jun., Osborn Adair, and Clive Currie; also Misses Eva Balfour, Josie Hurst, Dorothy Tanqueray, Madeline Lesley, Letty Paxton, Marjorie Hodges, Ivy Dymond, Irene Delisse, Ursula Keene, Clarice Laurence, Irene Moncrieff, Edith Carter, Rose Macdonald, Evelyn Grey, Winnie Snowdon, Adah Dick, Maud Bowyer, Eileen Savage, Winifred Howell-Jones, and May Saker.

A record success seems to await Mr. Bennett at the Opera House, Coventry, on the engagement of Mr. Alan Wilkie and his company for this year's annual Easter and old English comedy festival week. Keen interest is being aroused not only in Coventry itself, but in the surrounding districts, such towns as Leamington and Rugby sending in their enthusiastic bands of Shakespeare lovers.

Miss Kate Walbran is making a great impression in leading rôles in Cape Town. As Mrs. Dallas-Baker in *Smith* she evoked the encomiums of both press and public, while her Countess, in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, was alluded to as Miss Walbran's triumph. Passing to another line of business, her Mrs. Wake, in *Dr. Wake's Patient*, came as a surprise, as did her Paulina, in *The Night of the Party*. In the new African play, *Helena's Hope, Ltd.*, Miss Walbran made a hit as a vulgar Johannesburg parvenu, Mrs. Abraham Goldenstein. Messrs. De Jong and Black are to be congratulated upon the engagement of Miss Kate Walbran, and the lady herself upon her series of successes.

Mr. Ben Greet and his company appeared in *The Rivals* last week at the Garden Theatre, New York, and gave an excellent interpretation of the famous old comedy, Mr. Greet's Bob Acres being a most amusing portrayal. Lydia Languish was played by Miss Violet Vivian, Captain Absolute by Mr. Douglas J. Wood, Sir Anthony Absolute by Mr. Frank McEntee, Sir Lucius O'Trigger by Mr. Redmond Flood, and Mrs. Malaprop by Miss Alice Gale. Their impersonations and those of the other members of the company were highly praiseworthy.

A new three-act comedy entitled *A Daughter of Doyle's*, from the pen of Sybil Michell, a well-known local lady, is to be produced at the Worthing Theatre Royal during the first week in April.

The lessee of the St. James's Hall, Worthing, applied to the local magistrates on Wednesday morning for a stage licence for the hall. A similar application was made a month ago, but the magistrates then refused to grant the necessary permit, as certain structural alterations specified by the Bench had not been carried out. The alterations having now been effected, the licence was granted. The applicant was also given a cinematograph licence for the hall.

The Shuberts will shortly open another new theatre in Thirty-ninth-street, New York, a few doors from Maxine Elliott's Theatre. Mme. Nazimova, the Russian actress, will appear there in a répertoire of plays, including *Little Eyolf*, *Lady Inger of Ostraat*, *The Wild Duck*, *The Fairy Tale*, *An Ideal Wife*, and *The Seagull*. The new playhouse will be known as Nazimova's Thirty-ninth-street Theatre. This means that New York will have twelve theatres named after their proprietors, lessees, or leading players, and in the autumn there will be another—the George M. Cohan Theatre. The theatre builders seem to be busy not only in this city, but elsewhere. Announcement has just been made that twelve new theatres are to be built in the principal cities between St. Paul and San Francisco by the Shubert Theatrical Company. This enterprising firm will then realise their ambition, to have "a chain of playhouses reaching from coast to coast."

Mr. Acton Bond will act as honorary secretary for Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Martin Harvey's complimentary matinée to Mr. H. J. Loveday at the St. James's Theatre on Friday, May 27.

Following the lead of London, Manchester, and Leeds, Sheffield has recently inaugurated a Playgoers' Society. The inception is largely due to the efforts of Mr. J. F. Horrabin and Mr. J. H. Dowd, two dramatic enthusiasts who for several years have been prominently connected with the local School of Art Dramatic Society. A strong and influential committee has been appointed, with Messrs. Horrabin and Dowd as hon. secretaries.

Mr. Eric H. Albury's tour of *Why Smith Left Home* opens at the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, on Easter Monday. The company comprises Messrs. Vernon Sansbury, Charles Clark, Stanley M. Carrington, Lawrence J. Lawrence, Wilfred Hanbury, Misses Edna Eden, Clara Nicholls, Maude Shelton, Ethel Dunbar, Lulu Stanley, Sybil Chester, and Rene Glynne. Mr. W. H. Pierpoint is the business-manager for the tour, which is booked right through the summer.

A new comedy, called *The Naked Truth*, written by "George Paston" and W. B. Maxwell, will be produced at Wyndham's Theatre next month. It is in three acts, the first and last of which take place in Hampstead, and the second in the boardroom of a City company. The "pivot" of the play is the existence of a ring which obliges anyone who places it upon his finger to speak the truth. Mr. Charles Hawtrey will enact the hero, who is forced by wearing the ring to confess to various offences and peccadilloes.

Mr. Frederick Whelen is still deeply interested in his scheme for the establishment of a Repertory Theatre in the East End. As will be remembered, he mentioned the idea first at a meeting of the Sunday Club, afterwards in a lecture delivered at the Playgoers' Club, and subsequently in a correspondence published in the Press.

When the new romantic Turkish drama by Mr. Janitsch, entitled *The Raven's Cry*, is performed at the Strand Theatre on the 29th inst., it will be "produced" by Mr. Edward O'Neill, and played by a cast including Mr. Philip Cunningham, Mr. Langhorne Burton, Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw, Mr. Arthur Skelton, Mr. E. H. Brooke, Mr. Harry Paulton, Miss Ivy Williams, and Miss Marie Polini

"Where is William?" a three-act farcical comedy by Mr. Charles Windermere, which has been touring the provinces since August, will be played for the first time in London at the Fulham Theatre on Monday.

The King and Queen have been graciously pleased to grant their patronage to the forthcoming grand opera season at Covent Garden, commencing on Saturday, April 23, and have, as in previous years, subscribed to the Royal box.

M. Huguenet, of the Comédie-Française, has not only refused to sign the contract binding him to partnership in the theatre, but has declined to renew his ordinary engagement, and will therefore leave the House of Molière in a few months. He says it is impossible to make both ends meet on the pay drawn by a member of the theatre, which is between £1,600 and £2,000 a year.

The Follies have revived their old burlesque on *Hamlet*, apropos, we presume, of the coming Shakespeare festival. All the principal points of the well-known "skit" are retained, with the addition of others; and Mr. H. G. Pelissier as Hamlet, Miss Gwennie Mars as Ophelia, Mr. Lewis Sydney as Claudius and Horatio, and Mr. Douglas MacLaren as Shakespeare, all contribute to the general diversion and delight.

The Liverpool Shakespeare pantomime *Dick Whittington* closed on Saturday night amid great enthusiasm. The curtain should have been rung down a fortnight ago, but owing to the success it was decided to continue the pantomime, and fortunately the management were able to cancel two engagements. The run was a record, which is saying a good deal considering the big triumphs the popular house has had during its existence of twenty-two years.

For his next tour Mr. Allan Wilkie has secured the services of Mr. Philip Gordon, who was for so many years the principal comedian with the late Osmond Tearle, and who is now acting with Mr. Edward Compton in a similar capacity. Mr. Wilkie has several other important engagements in negotiation.

The Sunday Concert Society's Sunday Afternoon Concerts at Queen's Hall will be extended this season up to Sunday, April 24. In the scheme of programmes arranged for these extra concerts, which begin next Sunday, Wagner is well represented, the majority of the orchestral items being drawn from the works of that composer. The Queen's Hall orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Henry J. Wood, will perform each Sunday as heretofore, and the soloists engaged include Miss Edith Evans, Messrs. Thorpe Bates, Herbert Brown, Richard Buhlig, and Percy Grainger.

Mr. Wm. J. Miller, who gives such a striking performance of the part of Baron Strelsau in *From Convent to Throne*, will conclude at Easter a tour of thirty-five weeks with this piece, and has been re-engaged for the same part on the next tour, commencing on August Bank Holiday and terminating at Easter, 1911.

Mr. Otho Stuart has organised an "Old Bensonian" matinée on Tuesday afternoon, May 3, at the forthcoming Stratford-on-Avon Festival. The casts will be as follows:—*The School for Scandal*: Snake, Mr. A. Whitby; Joseph Surface, Mr. L. Irving; Maria, Miss J. McKinley; Lady Sneerwell, Miss F. Wetherall; Mrs. Candour, Miss E. Chester; Backbite, Mr. C. A. Bibby; Crabtree, Mr. A. E. George; Lady Teazle, Miss M. Hackney; Servant, Mr. P. Soper; Servant, Mr. R. Spyers; Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. H. Vibart. *The Merchant of Venice*: Bassanio, Mr. O. Stuart; Gratiano, Mr. L. Faber; Duke of Venice, Mr. G. Fitzgerald; Portia, Mrs. F. R. Benson; Nerissa, Miss E. Kirby; Antonio, Mr. A. Brydone; Clerk of the Court, Mr. J. B. Fagan; Salarino, Mr. R. Spyers; Salanio, Mr. L. Buttress; Shylock, Mr. F. R. Benson. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: First Fairy, Miss A. Nicholls; Second Fairy, Miss C. Saumarez; Puck, Miss L. Hanman; Oberon, Mr. H. Ainley; Titania, Miss J. Bateman; Lysander, Mr. H. R. Hignett; Helena, Miss L. Braithwaite; Hermia, Miss F. Dillon; Demetrius, Mr. C. Quartermaine; Bottom, Mr. A. E. George; Quince, Mr. E. L. Swete; Snug, Mr. E. A. Warburton; Snout, Mr. V. Stonhouse; Starveling, Mr. H. O. Nicholson; Flute, Mr. H. Hobbes. *The Taming of the Shrew*: Petruchio, Mr. F. R. Benson; Lucentio, Mr. C. Keightley; Hortensio, Mr. H. R. Hignett; Bianca, Miss O. Noble; Baptista, Mr. Alf. Brydone; Tranio, Mr. C. Quartermaine; Biondello, Mr. A. Whitby; Gremio, Mr. H. O. Nicholson; Grumio, Mr. N. Playfair; Major Domo, Mr. H. Jalland; Katharina, Mrs. F. R. Benson. Mr. F. R. Benson and the governors of the Memorial Theatre desire to thank the managers who have kindly given permission for the above artists to appear at the Memorial Theatre.

"The Belle of New York" will this evening start a seven nights' engagement at the Crystal Palace Theatre, two performances being announced for Easter Monday. This popular play, which has been run by Mr. J. Bannister Howard for nearly ten years, is sure to meet with a good reception. That dainty little artist Miss Dorothea Clarke, who was the charming Cinderella in the Palace panto, will be the Belle, while another prime favourite, Mr. Paddy Dupres, will be seen as Ichabod Bronson. Mr. Frank Lawton as Blinky Bill will also contribute with his wonderful whistling solos. That bright and clever little artist Miss Florence Hersee will make a welcome reappearance at the Palace in her original parts of Kissie Fitzgarter and Mamie Clancy. In the second act that much-talked-of play *Chantecler* will be represented, the celebrated dresses being reproduced. On April 14 the Sydenham Operatic Society will occupy the theatre for three nights and matinée in *La Fille de Madame Angot*.

"The One-Act Play House, Ltd," has been started with a capital of £10,000. Subscribers are to receive coupons entitling them to eight stall tickets with fifty preferred shares, while eight dress-circle tickets go to the holder of thirty preferred shares. The free seats are to be spread over the year, but there are some limitations, as seven days' notice to the box-office is required, and only two seats for any one performance can be granted.

There are preferred shares of £1 each and deferred shares of 1s. each, the former being offered for subscription. The profits of the company are to be applied, in the first place, to the payment of a cumulative preference dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. on the sum paid up, and after that distribution one-third of the balance is to go to the preferred shares, and the remaining two-thirds to the deferred. The shares offered for subscription are 9,500 preferred.

The directors' estimate of profit is an excess of revenue over expenditure of £21,200. The prospectus states that the preferential dividend will take £950 of this, and the directors think that calculations warrant them in making the statement that they anticipate paying the 10 per cent. preference dividend and returning to them the whole of the capital they subscribe within twelve months out of the profits of the company.

Taking the shares to have been fully subscribed—and theatrical enterprises generally have to call up the whole of their capital—the position of the preferred shareholders at the end of the first year on the estimates of the board would be a 10 per cent. dividend, plus £1 per share, plus so many free seats. The board estimates the return of the whole capital to the preferred shareholders in the first year, which would be £9,500. The more fortunate deferred shareholders would get the remaining two-thirds—£19,000. The prospectus states that the one-act play house will open "about the middle of April."

The Mozart Festival Week will commence on June 6. Amongst the principal artists already engaged are Misses Ruth Vincent, Zélie de Lussan, Edith Evans, Carrie Tubb, Muriel Terry, Maggie Teyte, Caroline Hatchard, Betty Booker, and Lydia O'Brée, Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, D. Byndon-Ayres, John Bardsley, Arthur Royd, John Coates, Robert Maitland, Froceric Austin, Lewys James, Harry Dearth, Alfred Kaufmann, Fredk. Ranalow, and Robert Radford.

Mr. Martin Comstock, the well-known American and European manager, was on Sunday last, the occasion of his birthday, presented by the members of Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's *Temptation* company with a very handsome solid leather despatch box. Miss Carton, in making the presentation, said many kind words—how pleasant the tour had proved and how well things had been looked after. Mr. Comstock suitably replied.

Miss Naomi Neilson, who has just concluded an engagement with *The Marriages of Mayfair* in the part which she understudied at Drury Lane, has been engaged to play Mrs. Lewis Waller's rôle in *The Admiral's Lady*, and opens at the Kilburn Music Hall next week. Mrs. Lewis Waller will continue to play in *Lost, Stolen, or Strayed*, and will appear at Balham and Croydon. *The Admiral's Lady* will be looked after by Mrs. Waller's general manager, Mr. Leonard Robson.

Mr. Norman V. Norman will shortly commence a brief spring tour, relying chiefly on the plays that have been most popular in his répertoire. Mr. Norman has, however, made arrangements to produce two plays that were very successful in the West End which he has not appeared in before. The charming actress, Miss Beatrice Wilson, will again be the leading lady.

Mr. Walter Melville is sending out a company to South Africa, where a number of his plays, opening with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, will be given. The company, which is under the personal direction of Mr. Bert E. Hammond, will consist of Misses Ethel Bracewell, Jessie Belmore, Nannie Meade, May Davis, Bessie Walters, and Lily Trounsell, Mrs. Bracewell, and Messrs. Wingold Lawrence, Charles Brucester, Louis Hector, J. T. Macmillan, Fred Ingram, Vernon Proctor, Alfred Richards, Cecil De Lee, Charles Kenway, and Tom Spackman.

Miss Babs Stuart, who has been playing Viola in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, has been kindly released by Messrs. Paumier and Howard to take up her old part of Annie Bloodgood in *Are You a Mason?*

Mr. Willie Scott has been re-engaged by Mr. Walter Melville for the autumn, and by Mr. Geo. S. King for principal comedy in a stock season at Devonport.

The Canadian curios and objects of interest collected by Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll will be lent by Her Royal Highness for exhibition in the Canadian Section of the forthcoming Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace.

Miss Fitzgerald Creagh, the well-known amateur actress, who has played several times before the King, will shortly adopt the stage as a profession, and join Mr. Norman V. Norman's company. Miss Fitzgerald Creagh is a cousin of the Commander-in-Chief in India.

Mr. Stead and Mr. J. T. Grein have formed a syndicate with £5,000 to organise a company to present English plays performed by English players on the Continental stage. There are three classes of people on the Continent to whom a company of English players appeal: the international, cosmopolitan group who are ever anxious to secure better relations among nations; the English and American colonies in the different European cities; and the educational institutions, where a public that is interested in English literary work can be relied on to attend the plays. The players would make a tour through Paris, Lille, probably the Riviera towns, Lucerne, Basle, Zurich, Cologne, Frankfort, Wiesbaden, Dresden, Berlin, Brussels, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and The Hague. They would begin with three or four Shakespearean plays and several modern plays. Viscount Esher, chairman of the National Theatre, is at the head of the syndicate, and Mr. Rouband, who has had twelve years' experience in Continental and British theatrical work, is the managing-director.

Mr. C. W. Ramsay, the acting-manager of the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, took on the 17th inst. his sixth annual benefit. The theatre was crowded, and Mr. Ramsay was the recipient of numerous presents from his wide circle of friends, including a gold albert from Mr. W. D. Forsdike, the managing-director. A special programme had been arranged, and several artists from the Empire and Hippodrome contributed turns. The Grimesthorpe Brass Band played selections, and the Caledonian pipers and the Caledonian troupe of Highland dancers in costume proved highly entertaining. The stage-management was under the direction of Mr. Herbert Fuller.

Miss Florence Baines' arrangements of the North and South companies of *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, are now complete until next June. She has in active preparation a new musical farce, which she purposes producing in the autumn.

Miss Dolly Harmer has returned from her second African engagement, and a most successful tour in Australia with Mr. Harry Rickards. The popular comedienne looks as bright and bonnie as ever.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will pay another visit to America next November to act in a répertoire of eleven plays. She will open in Chicago, and will play in New York during the three weeks previous to Christmas. Then she will tour the principal cities of the East, South, and West. Mme. Bernhardt said in Paris the other day that she was to play only at the most beautiful theatres in America. She did not want a repetition of her experiences in 1906, when she was forced to play in tents, halls, and other places unsuited to dramatic representations.

On and after Monday, May 2, the Rehearsal company, under the direction of Mr. Clive Currie, will remove to the Royal Court Theatre.

The members of the Scottish Musical Artists' Benevolent Fund recently held their annual "At Home" in the Grosvenor, Gordon-street, Glasgow. There was a good attendance, the company numbering about 125 ladies and gentlemen. Among others present were Messrs. W. F. Frame, honorary president, E. J. Mozart Allan, president, James Perston, ex-president, and the Rev. Dr. W. Fulton, Battlefield Church. A dance programme was carried through, and the function was most successful. The music was provided by the Scottish Musical Artists' Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. James Booth. At an interval in the programme Mr. W. F. Frame, in the course of a few remarks, spoke of the beneficent objects of the fund, from which deserving cases in the profession were assisted irrespective of membership. The fund now stands at over £1,200.

Miss Alys Rees has played the part of Mummy Tye in *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre for the last week, during the indisposition of Miss Margaret Murray.

A correspondent wants to obtain a humorous recitation by Jerome K. Jerome with the title "At the Telephone," or something similar. The author himself forgets where it was published.

A copyright performance was given at the Prince's Theatre, Preston, on March 18, of a new play, entitled *The Master of the Mill*. The producers are the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., who already have several other successful companies on the road. All the scenery is being specially made and painted for this new piece at their scenery stores. The production is fixed for May 23, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, after which the play will be sent out on an autumn tour, which is already booked.

The Moss and Stoll suburban theatres supply sharply contrasting but equally effective attractions for Easter week. The Alexandra, Stoke Newington, announces Mr. George Dance's company, including Marie Studholme, in *Miss Hook of Holland*; and at the Broadway, New Cross, Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company will be seen in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*.

The repertory of the Thomas Beecham Opera Comique Season at His Majesty's, from May 9 to July 30, under the management of Mr. Thomas Quinlan, will include Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffmann*, Massenet's *Werther*, Humperdinck's *Hänsel and Gretel*, C. V. Stanford's *Shamus O'Brien*, Edmond Missa's *Muguette* (its first production in England), Mozart's *Il Seraglio*, *Cosi Fan Tutti*, and *Nozze di Figaro*, Auber's *Fra Diavolo*, Johann Strauss's *Fledermaus*, and Mehul's *Joseph in Egypt*.

"Mid-Channel," with Miss Ethel Barrymore as Zoe Blundell, is doing so well at the Empire Theatre, New York, that four weeks of Miss Barrymore's season "on the road" have been cancelled in order to extend the engagement in this city. It is announced that Sir Arthur Wing Pinero intends to visit America this spring to see the performance of his play at the Empire Theatre. Miss Barrymore's embodiment of Zoe Blundell is said to be entirely dissimilar from Miss Irene Vanbrugh's.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew has under consideration the Parisian success, *Le Scandale*, the play having been submitted to him by Mr. Charles Frohman as a suitable vehicle for next season. In the meantime Mr. Bellew is touring the principal American cities in *The Builder of Bridges*, which has been well received on the road, although it was treated rather coolly in the metropolis.

Mr. John Corbin, literary director of the New Theatre, New York, has sent in his resignation. It was rumoured that a speech made by Mr. Corbin a few weeks ago at the City Club had caused a disagreement with the management, but this has been denied. It appears that *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* was rejected by the management of the New Theatre, and Mr. Corbin alluded to this in his speech.

At the conclusion of the Easter term of the Royal College of Music on Wednesday the following awards were made by the director and Board of Professors: Council Exhibitions: Clytie M. Hine, Dorothy Grason, Maurice Soester, A. Christa Wood, Joshua L. Beswick, Winifred M. Douglas. Charlotte Holmes Exhibition (£15), to Evelyn M. Pickup; Muriel Foster (Mrs. Goetz) Prize (£10) for singing, to Matilda Bodycombe; John Hopkinson Gold and Silver Medals for pianoforte playing, respectively to Grace A. Humphrey and Grace M. J. de Rozario; Henry Leslie (Herefordshire Philharmonic) Prize for singers (£10), to Florence S. Taylor; Council Prize for organ extemporising, to Edmund L. Guest; Challen Gold Medal for pianoforte playing, to Joseph A. Taffs; Arthur Sullivan Prize for composition (£5), to John D. H. Greenwood; Scholefield Prize for string players (£3), to Philip Levine; Clementi Exhibition for pianoforte playing (about £28), to Emmie Gregory; Operatic Class Prizes, Irene Robinson, Mary Congreve-Pridgeon, Ethel D. Lebish, Bessie Jones; Elocution Prizes, Winifred L. Williamson, Evelyn B. Jennings, Hilda C. Jameson; Dannreuther Prize (£9 9s.) for the performance of a piano concerto with orchestra, to William D. Murdoch. Competitions took place for the S. Ernest Palmer (Berkshire) Scholarship and the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society's Scholarship, and were awarded respectively to Evelyn M. M. Somerville, of Reading (violin), and Robert W. Callow, of Wandsworth (violin).

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Green Bushes.

MRS. BILLINGTON, who has been giving her reminiscences in *Lloyd's Weekly*, has many pleasant memories of her long connection with the old Adelphi Theatre. The famous *Green Bushes*, in which Wright, Bedford, and Mme. Celeste appeared, proved such a success at the Adelphi that it was aptly called the "Ever-Green" *Bushes*. It became a regular stop-gap, and was always put up when the season began. Webster, though a martinet in matters theatrical, never interefered so far as to command rehearsals in the case of *Green Bushes* On one occasion disaster nearly resulted.

THE piece had begun, when Wright and Bedford, who had not played in it for some time, not being wanted in the first act, decided to run through their "lines" while dressing. To their consternation they found they could not remember the "gags" with which the humorous part of the play had always been enriched. In despair, they appealed to the dresser, an old servant of the theatre, who promptly responded: "Send for the pot-boy at the Bedford Head." The pot-boy, it appeared, had been in the habit of amusing the customers at the hostelry by imitations of Wright and Bedford, and knew the play by heart. He was sent for and "saved" the situation.

"PAUL BEDFORD, I remember," says Mrs. Billington, "had a rooted aversion to traps, stage bridges, ladders, anything that necessitated his leaving the firm level of the stage. When we were rehearsing *Rip van Winkle*, he, as Nick Nedder, had to make his entrance by a flight of steps. Instead, he exclaimed to Mr. Jefferson: 'Jeff, dear boy, are there any back doors to the houses in your country?' and when Jefferson replied in the affirmative, he said: "Ain't I the landlord of this place? Then I shall come in by the back door.' And so he did."

She Saw Macready.

"HAVE I ever seen Macready?" said Mrs. Billington. "Oh, yes, in my salad days I had that great privilege. Indeed, I was deputed as a gaily-dressed page to throw open the centre doors at the York Theatre, and announce, 'His Eminence the Cardinal Duke of Richelieu!' I duly performed the first part of my task; threw open the doors; but as to the second—not a sound issued from my lips. When I beheld the brilliant house, with every corner filled, I was struck dumb. In a moment I was ignominiously seized by my grand tunic and completely withdrawn, while another young actress went forward and made the announcement. What I had to endure afterwards in the way of raillery and mock congratulations on the success of my first appearance! No matter. I saw Macready play Richelieu, and what a performance it was. It has never left my memory, and never will."

Juliet in a Predicament.

"WHILE playing Juliet to Miss Cushman's Romeo," said Mrs. Billington, "I had rather a narrow escape. In Miss Cushman's arrangement of the tragedy a front scene, which is generally omitted, was retained, and, I think, wisely. The scene draws off and discovers Juliet dead on the couch. I, quite forgetting this portion of my part, had mounted three flights of stairs to my dressing room and was seated in front of a mirror adding the pallor of death to my face, when I heard the loud call for 'Miss Mortimer, the stage waits!' Suddenly recollecting myself, I darted down the stairs and took my appointed place, the carpenters—good, honest fellows—refusing to draw until I was recumbent. My efforts to conceal my agitated panting were unspeakably painful. But Miss Cushman, who might well have been angry with me, soothed and quieted me, and kept the note of the scene in accord. The audience never suspected the least disturbance on the part of either of us."

Such a Boy.

"MY first stage appearance of importance," Mrs. Billington recalled, "was with that excellent actor, Charles Dillon. In his company I appeared as the Fool in *King Lear*, the Boy in *Belphegor*, and also as the son in *William Tell*. An amusing incident occurred in the course of this last performance. A sudden change had been made in the company, and Dillon had engaged a lady he had never seen, and he told me I must appear as Emma, Tell's wife, while the newcomer was cast for the part of the Boy. I did not much relish the change, but, of course, had no alternative. A rehearsal was called, at which Dillon, who, of course, was acting Tell, was not present, for he was culpably careless in such matters. When, at night, obedient to the call, the new Boy came on, to Dillon's horror, she was a short and fat person, as unboylike in appearance as possible. I was rather slim, and perceptibly the lady's junior. Every time Dillon looked at her, and she had a positive fascination for him, he muttered words that were not in the text, emphasising them with looks that made him a William Tell of unspeakable ferocity. When in the play I had to exclaim, 'William, oh, William, to be the parents of a boy like that!' the house roared with laughter. At the next performance I was reinstated in the character of the Boy."

Wright as the Weaver.

"I REMEMBER Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort, with the Princess Victoria, then just married to the Crown Prince of Germany, being present at a performance when the Haymarket company gave *The Rivals* and the Adelphi company *The Spitalfields Weaver*. When the curtain drew up for the farce a dozen beefeaters—it was a State performance—lined each side of the stage down to the footlights. Wright, who was acting the Weaver, and was in his best form, having walked into the drawing-room with his hat—white and of very provincial build—asked his friend Brown where he was to put it; and then, without waiting for a reply, walked over to a beefeater and offered to hang it on his halberd. If the beefeater had rehearsed the part he could not have played better. He shrank back in evident alarm, feeling his dignity as a beefeater at stake. The Queen, who was leaning out of the box, laughed most heartily at the little incident."

Mr. Goodwin's Wives.

Nat Goodwin is writing some personal recollections, which he has entitled "Why Four Beautiful Women Married Me." "No self-respecting American citizen," he says, "should take advantage of the unwritten law. If a man steals your wife, don't kill him; caution him." Mr. Goodwin's first wife was Eliza Weatherby, an English actress, now dead. Nat Goodwin describes her as an angel, and adds, "she was one of the most beautiful women I ever knew, and one of the most self-sacrificing wives that ever blessed a man with her devotion and love. Now she is at Wood Lawn, and the daisies grow over her grave."

An Appreciated Husband.

MR. GOODWIN says that Nellie Baker Pease, his second wife, married him "to get out of the maelstrom of society and into the artistic life of Bohemia." To Miss Maxine Elliott, his third wife, Mr. Goodwin devotes a long chapter. He says of her:—"Hers was the ambition of Cleopatra. She used me as a ladder to reach her goal, and found her crowning glory in the blinding glare of the myriad incandescent lights that spelled her name over the portals of the New York theatres. She was one of the cleverest women I ever met."

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

THRIFT AMONG ACTORS.

The annual meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held in the cosy saloon of Terry's Theatre last Tuesday afternoon. The "call" was for one o'clock, and very shortly after that hour Mr. Edward Terry had been voted to and had taken the chair.

A business-like air pervaded the meeting, which lasted just under one hour. Among those present were Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Miss Nellie Christie, Miss E. H. Willing, Mr. George Weathersby, Miss Marie Rignold, Miss Emily Hewett, Mr. Ralph Hutton, Miss Kate James, Miss Lilian Dacroy, Miss Ada Palmer, Miss E. Malyon, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. Dillon Croker, Mr. H. Evill, Mr. Chas. Rock, Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. A. H. Elliott, Mr. A. G. Warren, Mr. Frank Wood, Mr. Alfred B. Tapping, Mr. Bassett Roe, Miss Agnes Imley, Miss Stella Leigh, and the acting hon. secretary, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks.

Mr. EDWARD TERRY, in his opening remarks, said that once again he had pleasure in congratulating the subscribers on the results of the year's work. Their stewardship had been carried out in the proper way, which made the Fund one of the most prosperous that ever existed in connection with their profession. Unfortunately, they had deeply to deplore the very great loss sustained by them in the death of their very dear friend Mr. Charles Davies, who for over thirty-one years served them honourably and faithfully, and assisted to bring the Fund to the grand position it enjoyed at the present time. They were grateful to Mr. Charles Cruikshanks for so readily coming to their assistance as secretary pro tem. Unfortunately, Mr. Charles Davis was not the only one whose loss they were called upon to mourn. There were besides Mrs. Mellon, Mrs. Ewell, and Mr. Robb Harwood, whose loss they had to deplore. There had been a large accession of young members to the Fund, and he was sure that when the younger members of the profession considered the wonderful advantages that their Fund conferred they should be only too anxious to join. It was one of the finest insurances that any actor or actress could go in for. As would be seen from the balance-sheet, the Fund was conducted on admirable principles. There could be no question that subscribers had received full value for their subscriptions, and greater value than from any other institution of a similar character which existed. He was glad to announce that Mr. Martin Harvey had agreed to take the chair at the annual general dinner, the date of which had yet to be fixed. The Council would decide the question as to the function being held on a Sunday or on a week-day. He hoped that dinner would be a great financial success. (Cheers.)

BALANCE-SHEET, DEC. 31, 1909.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
To Capital Account, viz:—			
Under Rule 13	12,000	0	0
Legacy, Mrs. Eliza Holm, per Pinder Simpson, Esq.	100	0	0
,, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Higgie	700	0	0
,, Mr. David James	2,700	0	0
,, Mrs. A. Stirling	50	0	0
,, In memory of "Nellie Farren"	500	0	0
,, J. R. Anderson (on a/c)	135	0	0
,, J. L. Toole	500	0	0
,, John Ward	100	0	0
,, Maria Daly	791	0	1
,, Mr. Howard Paul	100	0	0
,, Mrs. C. Wilmot	50	0	0
,, Betty Bequest	9,256	10	7
,, Helen Faucit Fund	2,002	16	8
Lacy Bequest (exclusive of remaining value of leaseholds and freeholds	6,927	10	8
Separate Account under Rule 13:—			
As on last balance-sheet 6,559 8 3			
Added since 1,000 0 0	7,559	8	3
	43,472	6	3
Balance of Income over Expenditure	831	7	10
	£44,303	14	1

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
By Invested in the purchase of—			
£6,277 19 8 India 3 per cent. stock	6,325	15	0
5,800 0 0 Local loans	6,039	5	0
300 0 0 Consols (2½ per cent.)	300	0	0
2,000 0 0 Turkish 4 per cent., 1891	2,077	12	0
1,500 0 0 do do	1,548	16	0
5,980 0 0 India 3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	4,539	11	6
9,248 16 9 Transvaal 3 per cent. Stock	9,087	14	3
1,000 0 0 India 3½ per cent. Stock	976	6	0
220 6 8 New South Wales 3 per cent. Stock	220	6	8
1,187 1 4 L.C.C. 3½ per cent. Stock	1,216	6	0
62 10 0 Consols	62	10	0
700 0 0 Great Northern Railway 4 per cent. Guaranteed Stock	745	2	0
3,362 0 0 London and North-Western Railway 4 per cent. Guaranteed Stock	3,362	0	0
666 0 0 London and North-Western Railway 3 per cent. Debenture Stock	585	0	0
2,352 4 2 Local Loans, 3 per cent.	2,363	19	4
1,054 8 0 Transvaal Loans, 3 per cent.	1,040	3	10
100 0 0 Canada 3½ per cent. Bond	103	13	0
100 0 0 Canada 3½ per cent. Bond	102	3	0
700 0 0 Egyptian Tribute Bonds	712	14	6
By Freehold ground rent	240	0	0
,, Cash on deposit 1,235 0 0			
,, ,, on General Account 741 15 0			
,, ,, Lacy Bequest Account 678 1 0	2,654	16	0
	£44,303	14	1

We do hereby certify that we have examined the books, vouchers, &c., and find them and the above statements correct.

(Signed)
EDMUND GWENN,
ARTHUR CURTIS, for
WALLACE WIDDECOMBE,
Auditors appointed by the members.
A. G. WARREN, A.C.A., Hon. Accountant.
9, Fleet-street, Temple Bar.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, Sec. *pro tem.*
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

March 19, 1910.

Miss EMILY HEWETT proposed, and Miss E. MALYON seconded, the adoption of the balance-sheet, which was agreed to. The following were re-elected and elected directors:—Messrs. Lionel Rignold, H. Evill, H. J. Loveday, H. Cooper Cliffe, F. Percival Stevens, Tom Craven, Charles K. Cooper, Robert Courtneidge, Edmund Gwenn, and Arthur Curtis. The honorary treasurer (Mr. Terry) was re-elected, on the proposal of Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, seconded by Dr. PERCY MIDDLEMIST. Sir William Allchin, M.D., Dr. R. Percy Middlemist, and Dr. Alfred Lanton Whitehouse were re-elected to the medical staff. The standing counsel (Mr. John Strachan, K.C., and Mr. Ernest De Witt) were re-elected; Mr. Theodore Lumley was re-elected honorary solicitor; Mr. A. G. Warren, honorary accountant and auditor; Mr. Walter J. Ebbetts, honorary architect and surveyor; and Mr. H. Harlem and Mr. Ralph Hutton, auditors.

Mr. A. H. ELLIOTT proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Terry for the use of the theatre for the meetings.

Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in seconding, said that it had been suggested that it might be possible now to remove a little rule which made it impossible for any of their members to take at a certain age the money which would come to them in adversity, but which they could not touch even in moderate prosperity. Young people had said to him, "Why should I save my money in this manner, when I can get such great advantages now from an insurance company, and be perfectly certain that when I attain the age at which I wish to rest I shall get an annuity, which I cannot get from this Fund if I am in possession of more than £250 a year?" He was sure that Mr. Lumley, who had been a great friend to them, would take the trouble to inquire whether, on a perfectly sound financial basis, it would be possible to remove this restriction, because, when it was removed, he believed that the Fund would obtain a great many new members. It seemed hard that people who had been prudent in saving a little in the early part of their career, and moderately successful, should not be able to take the money which they would get if they insured in an ordinary insurance company.

Mr. TERRY agreed with every word Mr. Alexander had said. It was entirely a matter of finance. In the old days the restrictions of the Fund were very heavy, arduous, and cruel, but year by year they had been able to make them better. It did seem anomalous that a subscriber entitled to an annuity at the age of sixty should be barred from taking it because he happened to be thrifty, and if the restriction could be done away with, no one would be more delighted than the honorary treasurer. This matter would be considered at the earliest possible moment, and as soon as they arrived at something tangible they would be delighted to abolish the very unpleasant restriction. (Cheers.)

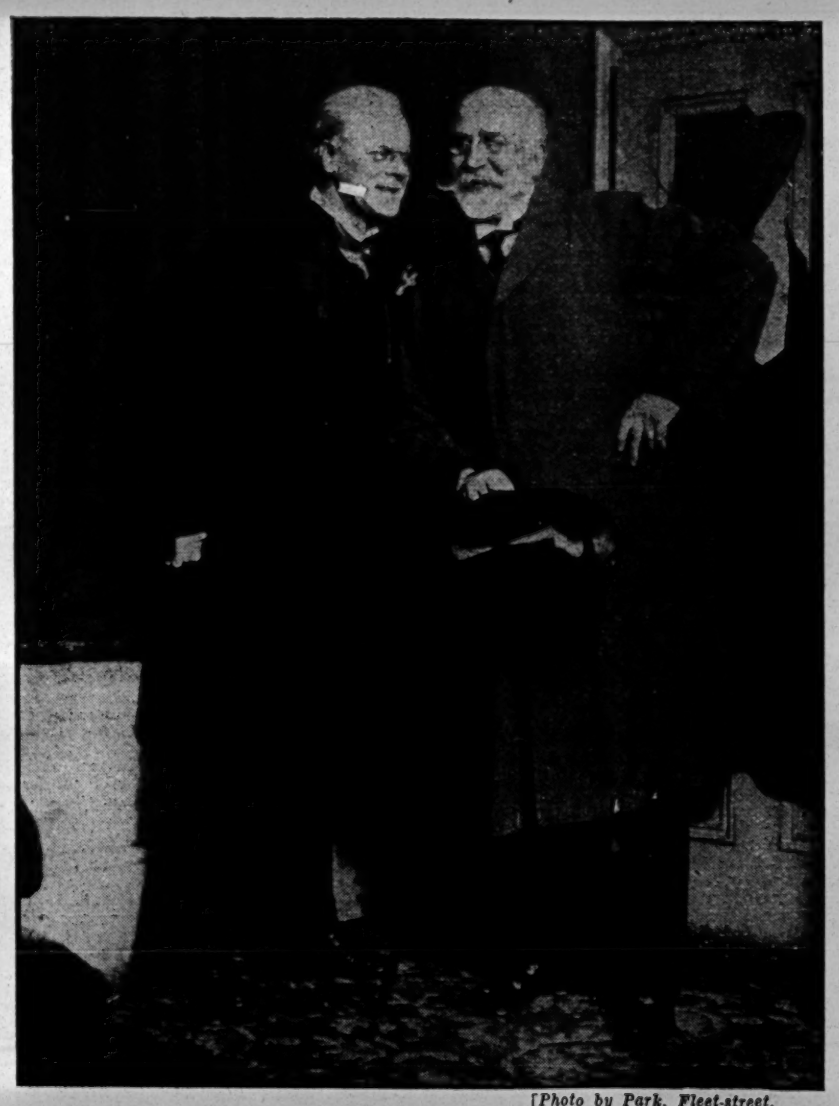

[*Photo by Park, Fleet-street.*

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND MEETING.
MR. EDWARD TERRY CRACKS A JOKE WITH MR. THEODORE LUMLEY.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1909.

The following is the financial statement for the year ended Dec. 31, 1909:—

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last year	315	6	3
,, Members' subscriptions	959	2	9
,, Donations, dinner tickets, &c.	585	13	3
,, Dividends, India 3 per cent.	188	6	8
,, ,, Local loans, 3 per cent.	166	15	0
,, ,, Consols, 2½ per cent.	7	2	0
,, Freehold ground rent	11	6	0
,, Lacy Bequest Fund, dividends	406	18	5
,, Helen Faucit	63	1	10
,, Covent Garden	546	18	4
,, Betty Bequest	293	17	1
,, Nelly Farren Memorial	14	10	5
,, J. L. Toole legacy	14	10	9
,, Maria Daly ,,	25	9	8
,, Mrs. Wilmot ,,	1	10	6
,, Separate Account	207	0	1
,, Income Tax returned	81	0	7
,, Interest on deposit	15	17	2
	£3,904	6	9

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
By Amount paid to annuitants	1,729	19	4
,, Funeral expenses	10	0	0
,, Secretary	200	0	0
,, Rent of office	52	0	0
,, Miscellaneous, including advertising, printing, stationery, and petty cash	80	19	7
,, Separate account for investment	1,000	0	0
	3,072	18	11
,, Balance of income over expenditure	831	7	10
	£3,904	6	9

STAGE SOCIETY MATINEE,

Th three pieces by Felix Salten, translations of which were performed for the first time in England, by the Stage Society at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Monday afternoon, bear the stamp of a practised playwright, and are all distinguished by a somewhat gloomy irony. The first, which was translated by an anonymous member of the Stage Society, is entitled

"COUNT FESTENBERG."

Count Ludwig Laurentin..MR. DOUGLAS GORDON
Count Max Festenberg
MR. E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Neumeier .....MR. E. H. BROOKE
Countess Helene Festenberg..MISS HELEN HAYE
Aristides .....MR. LEON QUARTERMAINE
An Official .....MR. REGINALD DANE

The notion of this little play is that a waiter has managed to pass himself off as Count Max Festenberg, and has married Helene, the niece of Count Ludwig Laurentin. The imposture is exposed by the Count's son, Aristides. Then the waiter says in his defence that he has the soul of a count, and has been able to act up to the character he has assumed. In proof, he alleges the affection that is felt for him by his wife, who has never detected the deceit he has practised. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams gave a capital performance as the impostor, with whom it is impossible not to feel a certain sympathy; Mr. Leon Quartermaine was excellent as the accusing cousin; and that charming and clever young actress, Miss Helen Haye, gave a very agreeable representation of the Countess Helene Festenberg; Mr. Douglas Gordon being good as Count Ludwig Laurentin. The second item, which was translated by Mr. Hugh de Selincourt, was a gruesome but spirited drama in miniature, entitled

"LIFE'S IMPORTANCE."

Manservant .....MR. ALFRED BRISTOWE
Emilie .....MISS GWLADYS MORRIS
Dr. Konrad Hopfner ....MR. CLIFTON ALDERSON
Hugo .....MR. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE

The effect is created in this by the antagonism of two characters, a self-indulgent young gentleman and a pushing, canting man of the people, who, by the assistance of Hugo's family, has raised himself to a respectable position as a doctor. Hugo comes to Hopfner to consult him about certain symptoms, and the doctor, after making an examination, tells Hugo, with spiteful and brutal frankness, that he has only six months to live. The young man breaks down at the idea of death, and Hopfner reproaches him for his moral cowardice, whereupon Hugo pulls out a revolver, and tells the doctor that he—Hugo—is going to shoot him in a quarter of an hour. Put to the test, all Hopfner's self complacent boastings are futile. He first remonstrates, then blusters, then bursts into a paroxysm of hatred, and finally, as the quarter of an hour expires, falls in a fainting fit, Hugo lighting a cigarette and walking out, satisfied with the utter collapse of his self-righteous enemy. The piece was played more than adequately. Mr. Charles Quartermaine's keen, nervous, and acute method suited the part of Hugo admirably, and his depiction of anguish at the prospect of death was very powerful. Mr. Clifton Alderson suggested skilfully the pompous hypocrisy of Dr. Konrad Hopfner, and was excellently made up. Miss Gwladys Morris was quite acceptable in the small part of the wife; and Mr. Alfred Bristowe was good as an old man-servant. The last item on the programme was a one-act play stage-managed by Mr. Val Cuthbert, and translated by a member of the Council, entitled

"THE RETURN."

Lotti .....MISS EVELYN KIRKBY
Marie .....MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Eduard Koberwein .....MR. PHILIP LESLIE
Servant .....MR. REGINALD DANE
Konstantin Trubner ....MR. ARTHUR WONTNER
Leopold Schenk .....MR. NORMAN PAGE
Daisy Leblanc .....MISS AIMEE DE BURGH

The humour of this piece was grim, but keen. Konstantin Trubner, a rich, philosophic individual, being, as he thinks, on the point of death, has sent for an "old flame" of his named Marie, and married her, on what he believes to be his death-bed, in order to legitimise their child Lotti. As he has neglected Marie for three years, she has been living with a piano-teacher named Leopold Schenk, to whom Lotti has become attached. Konstantin unexpectedly recovers, and matters are at a deadlock. His present mistress Daisy Leblanc turns up, and he realises her heartlessness; but having made his will leaving legacies to her and to Marie, Konstantin decides to take the course nearest to dying, and departs for abroad. The acting extracted to the full the meaning of the play. Mr. Arthur Wontner was excellent as the quiet, composed, "superior" Konstantin Trubner, and a clever character sketch of the perky, comical little piano-teacher was supplied by Mr. Norman Page. Miss Margaret Bussé hit off cleverly the mild, well-meaning Marie; and Miss Aimée de Burgh looked pretty and acted with vivacity as Daisy Leblanc. Mr. Philip Leslie was brisk and smooth as the well-groomed Eduard Koberwein, and little Miss Evelyn Kirkby showed intelligence as Lotti.

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYGOERS' CLUB DINNER.

The twenty-sixth annual dinner of the Playgoers' Club was given last Sunday night at the Hotel Cecil. The chair was occupied by the president of the club, Mr. MARSHALL HALL, K.C., M.P. There were about 350 people present; amongst them were Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird, Mr. Justice Darling, Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. W. Pett Ridge, Mr. Austin Brereton, the Hon. Charles Russell, Mr. A. E. W. Mason, and Mme. Alice Esty.

The CHAIRMAN, in submitting the toast of "The Drama," said that people sometimes talked of the morality of the drama, but that, after all, morality was principally a question of clothes and geography. The drama, he said, was very different now from what it used to be; at one time the curtain invariably came down just as the hero and heroine were going to begin real life; now, as a rule, it comes down on a suicide or murder, or something of that sort. In referring to the drama of 1909-10, Mr. Hall said we had had drama of the drawing-room, of the servants' hall, of the nursery (the *Blue Bird*), of the Law Courts (*Justice*, in which there was probably the finest piece of stage-work that the year has produced—terrible in its reality, minute in the correctness of its detail). He thought that the production of a play like *Justice* marked a fresh era in the drama. With the toast, said Mr. Hall, he had to couple the names of Mr. H. B. Irving and Mr. Comyns Carr. Mr. Irving was one of those who, in company with others, such as Compton, Brough, Sothern, and Kemble, could form an hereditary house of acting. Mr. Hall proceeded to trace Mr. Irving's career from the time of his first appearance on the stage in *Pickwick* to his present fine performance in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Mr. Hall also referred to Mr. Irving's literary works, his "Life of Judge Jeffries" and "Studies of French Criminals," and mentioned the interesting papers on criminology which he had heard Mr. Irving read.

Mr. H. B. IRVING, in responding, said: A great many things are being said about the drama at the present time. There is the view that the drama has perfectly gone, and there are some who say that there is no drama save in France. Again, there are people who will tell you of wonderful old plays which might be performed if only there was somebody to act them. The drama at the present moment is in a very active condition—some people might say almost morbid activity—men of ability and genius are giving us drama of which we may be very proud; the English theatre has never been more active than it is at the present moment. We must not forget, however, that we have a drama of the past as well as of the present. A very important movement of the moment is represented by the festival which is about to be held at His Majesty's Theatre in honour of Shakespeare—an achievement of which the English theatre may very well be proud. Under the presidency of Sir Herbert Tree a number of artists have gathered together to pay tribute to the memory of Shakespeare. We must be proud of this movement, not only as a celebration of the moment, but because it marks a step towards that ideal of a National theatre to which so many of us look. I believe that if a National theatre comes it will come by a modest beginning and by the efforts of those whose lives have been spent in the theatre, to give the public something which will be full of promise for the National theatre in the future. I know there is another scheme with which I have every sympathy, as my father had before me, and which if realised will provide a National theatre as a noble monument to Shakespeare; but I must earnestly ask those interested in this scheme to consider if in all that is going to be done in the next few weeks we have not got the nucleus of this scheme. We have here a scheme, which is commencing from within, which so far as we can see will pay its own way, and which seems to me a more satisfactory way than by beginning by asking for a large sum of money—my father put it at a million, and I agree with him—in order to found a National theatre. It was from a very small beginning that the great National theatre of France began. All we have to consider is the best means to the end which I believe we all wish to see.

Mr. COMYNS CARR, whose name had been coupled with Mr. Irving's, said that he cordially echoed all that Mr. Irving had said. He felt that the movement was a most important one, and that the project which was about to take shape at His Majesty's was a noble beginning of a scheme which they all had at heart. It had been his privilege for many years to be associated with Mr. H. B. Irving's father, and he knew at what sacrifices Sir Henry Irving had held aloft the banner of the nobler drama; he knew also what sacrifices had been made by his old friend, Sir Herbert Tree, to sustain the tradition of great drama. He thought it was neglect, verging on crime, that Shakespeare should have remained until now without and monument—with the exception of one poor statue in Leicester-square—in the capital of the country which owned him.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. PETT RIDGE, who, in a humorous speech, said for years we had been asking for live drama, with the result that at the present moment one could not book a reserved seat at a West-end theatre for three weeks to see a piece called *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. Ridge supposed that Rostand's wonderful drama *Chantecler* was not to be seen in an English theatre because the Censor objected to its "fowl" language. He further suggested that as the Bar and the Stage seemed to be so closely allied that at the next opportunity Mr. A. E. W. Mason, president of the O.P. Club, and Mr. Marshall Hall, president of the Playgoers' Club, should be cast for the first and second grave-digger so that they might "bury the hatchet."

Mr. Justice DARLING, in responding for "The Visitors," said that it seemed odd to him that a club should be formed to compel people to go to the theatre. He knew of no club to compel people to go to the races or to church. He learned from Mr. Irving and from Mr. Carr that there was a design to establish a State theatre in honour of Shakespeare. Mr. Irving had spoken of himself as a "backwoodsman" in that hereditary chamber to which their chairman had alluded whilst proposing "The Drama." That was the phrase which Liberal newspapers applied towards members of the House of Lords who had serious convictions. If, therefore, Mr. Irving would make use of his position to introduce into the House of Lords a Bill for the founding and endowment of a National Theatre, and would introduce it in such terms that it would be rejected, it would be immediately taken up by the Government, a whole campaign would be inaugurated in its honour, and it would pass into law against the assent of the Peers. Nor would it be necessary to ask for funds, because the Government had so much money that they could do without the taxes which the people wished to pay over to them.

Mr. CHARLES E. B. KIBBLEWHITE, the popular vice-president, responded to the toast of "The Club," and a very agreeable musical entertainment which was given was contributed to by Miss Melanie Castelle, Miss Ada Colley, Mme. Alice Esty, Mr. Tom Clare, Mr. Harrison Latimer, Mr. Ernest Pike, Miss Elsie English, Miss Ruby Wilson, Mr. Hubert Connorton, Mr. J. E. Fraser, and Mr. Wilson James. Mr. W. Mansell Stevens was the accompanist. Mr. Alfred Haya's "Red Band," conducted by Mr. Thomas Batty, played selections during the dinner, which was excellently served.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MRS. SIDDONS AND THE PLAYWRIGHT.

Messrs. Gibbings and Co. have published as a volume of the "Eminent Women" series, edited by Mr. John H. Ingram, Mrs. A. Kennard's biography of Mrs. Siddons. The great actress has been much written about of late; but one of the incidents of her career may not be familiar to all our readers—i.e., her dealings with a certain Mr. Pratt, a dramatist. This Mr. Pratt was a Bath bookseller and dramatist, much admired by his townsmen. This admiration was not shared by the managers of Drury Lane, who would not allow Mrs. Siddons to act in his drama the first year she appeared. She had already sacrificed herself to a failure, *The Fatal Interview*, which had really injured her professional reputation. Pratt maintained, however, she might have done him this service had she been so minded. She herself writes kindly of the aspirant to fame, but we can see his cause of irritation.

"Your letter," she writes in 1783 to Dr. Whalley, "to poor Pratty is lying on the table by me, and I am selfish enough to grudge it him from the bottom of my heart, and yet I will not; for just now, poor soul, he wants much comfort; therefore, let him take it, and God bless him with it!"

And again:—

"*The Fatal Interview* has been played three times, and is quite done with; it was the dullest of all representations. Pratty's Epilogue was vastly applauded indeed. I shall take care how I get into such another play; but I fancy the managers will take care of that, too. *They won't let me play in Pratty's comedy.*"

All this shows us how often she was the victim of undeserved resentment on the part of slighted authors, and how, very often, the fact of doing a kindness got her into trouble. She had accepted *The Fatal Interview*, and now Pratt thought himself aggrieved that she would not do the same for him. Most likely at any other time she would have shrugged her shoulders at Pratt's machinations, but everything now hurt her wounded sensibilities.

"I must beg you will not mention (I believe I am giving an unnecessary caution) anything I have told you concerning Mr. Pratt. I would not wish him to know, by any means, that I have been informed of his last unkindness, because it might prevent his asking me to do him a favour, which I shall be at all times ready to grant, when in my power. I must tell you that after the very unkind letter he sent me, in answer to mine requesting the ten pounds, I never wrote to or heard from him until about three months ago, when he wrote to me as if he had never offered such an indignity, recommending a work he had just finished to my attention. He did not tell me what this work was, but I had heard it was a tragedy. To be made a convenient acquaintance only, did not much gratify me; but, however, I wrote to say he knew the resolution I had been obliged to make (having made many enemies by reading some, and not being able to give time to read all tragedies) to read nobody's tragedy, and then no one could take offence; but that if it were accepted by the managers, and there was anything that I could be of service to him in (doing justice to myself), that I should be very happy to serve him. I have heard nothing of him since that time till within these few days, when he wrote to my sister Fanny, accusing me of ingratitude, and calling himself the ladder upon which I have mounted to fame, and which I am kicking down.

"What he means by ingratitude I am at a loss to guess, and I fancy he would be puzzled to explain; our obligations were always, I believe, pretty mutual. However, in this letter to Fanny, he says he is going to publish a poem called 'Gratitude,' in which he means to show my avarice and meanness, and all the rest of my amiable qualities to the world, for having dropped him, as he calls it, so injuriously, and banishing him my house. Now, as I hope for mercy, I permitted his visits at my house, after having discovered that he was taking every possible method to attach my sister to him, which, you may be sure, he took pains to conceal from us, and I had him to my parties long after I made this discovery.

"In short, till he chose to write this letter, which I disdained to reply to, he called as usual. He had the modesty to desist from calling on us from that time, and now has the goodness to throw this unmerited obloquy on me. I am so well convinced that a very plain tale will put him down, that his intentions give me very little concern. I am only grieved to see such daily instances of folly and wickedness in human nature.

"It is worth observing, too, that at the very time he chose to write this agreeable letter, I was using my best influences with Mr. Siddons to lend him the money I told you of before. I find he thinks it is not very prudent to quarrel with me, but has the effrontery to think that I should make advances toward our reconcilement; but I will die first. 'My towering virtue, from the assurance of my merit, scorns to stoop so low.' If he should come round of himself (for I have learnt that best of knowledge to forgive) I will, out of respect for what I believe he once was, be of what service I can to him, for I believe he meant well at one time, when I knew him first, and the noblest vengeance is the most complete. Once more, your fingers on your lips, I pray."

We should like to see less mention of benefits bestowed, the ten pounds not mentioned; but this letter is a good specimen of the manner in which she was worried by applicants, and shows how impossible it was for her to satisfy them all.

The next is a regular eighteenth-century four-pager, but is so characteristic, and so sincere and full of affection, that we cannot help quoting it at the end of this chapter, as the best assurance of her possession of that heart her enemies declared she did not possess.

"Mrs. Wapshawe has been so good as to bestow half an hour upon me. She speaks of you as I should speak of you—as if she could not find words, and as if her sentiments could not enough honour you both. If you could look into the hearts of people, trust me, my beloved and everlamented friends, you would be convinced that mine yearns after you with increasing and unutterable affection. See there now—how have I expressed myself? That is always the way with me: when I speak or write to you, it is always so inadequately, that I don't do justice to myself; for I thank God that I have a soul capable of loving you, and trust I shall find an advocate in your bosom to assist my inability and simpleness. You know me of old for a matter-of-fact woman.

"Mrs. Wapshawe has revived my hopes. She tells me that you will return sooner than I hoped. Now I'll begin my cottage again. It has been lying in heaps a great while, and I have shed many tears over the ruins; but we will build it up again in joy. You know the spot that I have fixed upon, and I trust I have not forgotten the plan!

"Oh! what a reward for all that I have suffered, to retire to the blessings of your society; for, indeed, my dear friends, I have paid severely for my eminence, and have smarted with the undeserved pain that should attend the guilty only; but it is the fate of office, and the rough brake that virtue must go through; and sweet, 'sweet are the uses of adversity.' I kiss the rod.

"Mrs. Wapshawe was quite delighted with Mr. Beach's picture of you; but she tells me that you wear coloured clothes and lace ruffles; and I valued my picture more, if possible, for standing the test of such a change as these (to me unusual) ornaments must necessarily make in you. I think I shall long to strip you of these trappings."

KEAN AS IAGO.

Hazlitt's criticism of Kean's Iago is so characteristic of the great critic's style that we reproduce an extract from an essay which is always readable and interesting. Says Hazlitt: "We certainly think Mr. Kean's performance of the part of Iago one of the most extraordinary exhibitions on the stage. There is no one within our remembrance who has so completely foiled the critics as this celebrated actor. One sagacious person imagines that he must perform a part in a certain manner; another virtuoso chalks out a different path for him; and when the time comes, he does the whole off in a way that neither of them had the least conception of, and which both of them are therefore very ready to condemn as entirely wrong. It was ever the trick of genius to be thus. We confess that Mr. Kean has thrown us out more than once. For instance, we are very much inclined to adopt the opinion of a contemporary critic, that his Richard is not gay enough, and that his Iago is not grave enough. This he may perhaps conceive to be the mere caprice of idle criticism; but we will try to give our reasons, and shall leave them to Mr. Kean's better judgment. It is to be remembered, then, that Richard was a princely villain, borne along in a sort of triumphal car of royal state, buoyed up with the hopes and privileges of his birth, reposing even on the sanctity of religion, trampling on his devoted victims without remorse, and who looked out and laughed from the high watch-tower of his confidence and his expectations on the desolation and misery he had caused around him. He held on his way, unquestioned, 'hedged in with the divinity of kings,' amenable to no tribunal, and abusing his power *in contempt of mankind*. But as for Iago, we conceive differently of him. He had not the same natural advantages. He was a mere adventurer in mischief—a painstaking, plodding knave, without patent or pedigree, who was obliged to work his uphill way by wit, not by will, and to be the founder of his own fortune. He was, if we may be allowed a vulgar allusion, a sort of prototype of modern Jacobinism, who thought that talents ought to decide the place—a man of 'morbid sensibility' (in the fashionable phrase), full of distrust, of hatred, of anxious and corroding thoughts, and who, though he might assume a temporary superiority over others by superior adroitness, and pride himself in his skill, could not be supposed to assume it as a matter of course, as if he had been entitled to it from his birth. We do not here mean to enter into the characters of the two men, but something must be allowed to the difference of their situations. There might be the same insensibility in both as to the end in view, but there could not well be the same security as to the success of the means. Iago had to pass through a different ordeal: he had no appliances and means to boot—no royal road to the completion of his tragedy. His pretensions were not backed by authority; they were baptised at the font; they were not holy-water-proof. He had the whole to answer for in his own person, and could not shift the responsibility to the heads of others. Mr. Kean's Richard was therefore, we think, deficient in something of that regal jollity and reeling triumph of success which the part would bear; but this we can easily account for, because it is the traditional commonplace idea of the character, that he is to 'play the dog—to bite and snarl.' The extreme unconcern and laboured levity of his Iago, on the contrary, is a refinement and original device of the actor's own mind, and therefore deserves consideration. The character of Iago, in fact, belongs to a class of characters common to Shakespeare, and at the same time peculiar to him—namely, that of great intellectual activity, accompanied with a total want of moral principle, and therefore displaying itself at the constant expense of others, making use of reason as a pander to will, employing its ingenuity and its resources to palliate its own crimes and aggravate the faults of others, and seeking to confound the practical distinctions of right and wrong by referring them to some overstrained standard of speculative refinement. Some persons, more nice than wise, have thought the whole of the character of Iago unnatural. Shakespeare, who was quite as good a philosopher as he was a poet, thought otherwise. He knew that the love of power, which is another name for the love of mischief, was natural to man. He would know this as well or better than if it had been demonstrated to him by a logical diagram, merely from seeing children paddle in the dirt, or kill flies for sport. We might ask those who think the character of Iago not natural, why they go to see it performed, but from the interest it excites, the sharper edge which it sets on their curiosity and imagination? Why do we go to see tragedies in general, why do we always read the accounts in the newspapers of dreadful fires and shocking murders, but for the same reason? Why do so many persons frequent executions and trials, or why do the lower classes almost universally take delight in barbarous sports and cruelty to animals, but because there is a natural tendency in the mind to strong excitement, a desire to have its faculties roused and stimulated to the utmost? Whenever this principle is not under the restraint of humanity or the sense of moral obligation, there are no excesses to which it will not of itself give rise, without the assistance of any other motive, either of passion or self-interest. Iago is only an extreme instance of the kind—that is, of diseased intellectual activity, with an almost perfect indifference to moral good or evil, or rather with a preference for the latter, because it falls more in with his favourite propensity, gives greater zest to his thoughts, and scope to his actions. Be it observed, too (for the sake of those who are for squaring all human actions by the maxims of Rochefoucault), that he is quite or nearly as indifferent to his own fate as to that of others; that he runs all risks for a trifling and doubtful advantage; and is himself the dupe and victim of his ruling passion—an incorrigible love of mischief, an insatiable craving after action of the most difficult and dangerous kind. Our 'ancient' is a philosopher, who fancies that a lie that kills has more point in it than an alliteration or an antithesis; who thinks a fatal experiment on the peace of a family a better thing than watching the palpitations in the heart of a flea in an air-pump; who plots the ruin of his friends as an exercise for his understanding, and stabs men in the dark to prevent ennui. Nov this, though it be sport, yet it is dreadful sport. There is no room for trifling and indifference, nor scarcely for the appearance of it; the very object of his whole plot is to keep his faculties stretched on the rack, in a state of watch and ward, in a sort of breathless suspense, without a moment's interval of repose. He has a desperate stake to play for, like a man who fences with poisoned weapons, and has business enough on his hands to call for the whole stock of his sober circumspection, his dark duplicity, and insidious gravity. He resembles a man who sits down to play at chess for the sake of the difficulty and complication of the game, and who immediately becomes absorbed in it. His amusements, if they are amusements, are severe and saturnine—even his wit blisters. His gaiety arises from the success of his treachery; his ease from the sense of the torture he has inflicted on others. Even, if other circumstances permitted it, the part he has to play with Othello requires that he should assume the most serious concern, and something of the plausibility of a confessor."

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address; The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Actors' Association, held on Tuesday, March 22, at 32, Regent-street, were present Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Robson Paige, F. H. De Quincey, R. A. Green, C. F. Collings, L. Reed, H. Le Grand, Miss B. Chester, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Cazalet, Miss Spencer, Miss J. Pereira, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The secretary read letters from J. H. Mote and Sons, Baroness St. Eon, F. E. Washburn Freund, W. H. Clemart, and Miss Una Gilbert, and received instructions as to replies.

Mr. Green proposed that a special committee be appointed to draw up a memorial for the approval of the Council for presentation to the Board of Trade, and, after discussion, Mr. Cattley moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. L. Reed, that before a committee be formed, Mr. W. Freund's letter be sent to Mr. Vedrenne for his opinion, and a request made to him to be good enough to arrange with his committee to combine in attempting to secure some legislation *re* bogus management. On being put to the vote the amendment was carried.

In reply to Mr. Clemart's letter *re* sketch artists' gratuitous performances, the secretary was directed to thank Mr. Clemart for his letter, and to say that the Council would be very glad to hear the opinion of his committee, so that action might be undertaken as soon as possible.

With reference to a complaint *re* the insanitary condition of a theatre, corroborative evidence having been forthcoming, the secretary was directed on the motion of Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Reed, to write to the sanitary authorities of the town mentioned, drawing attention to the complaints made, and urging the necessity for immediate attention.

Re Hilton fiasco. The hon. solicitor reported result of inquiries made by him at Somerset House with reference to Cleodan, Ltd., and received further instructions. It was proposed by Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Cattley, and carried unanimously, that in view of the information given by the solicitor *re* above company, counsel's opinion be taken upon a point of law, and the solicitor was instructed to obtain the said opinion and report as soon as possible.

Re the licensing of agents, the secretary was directed to write to the Clerk of the Council of the L.C.C., stating that the Association would like to be represented when this matter came up for discussion. With regard to agency fee Mr. Derwent said that as soon as the Finance Committee reported it was advisable, he would suggest a reduction of the amount of the agency fee, and after discussion this matter was allowed to remain in abeyance.

Miss Agnes Hewitt was elected a member, Mr. Spencer Trevor was reinstated, and Mr. H. L. Lynhurst, Mr. C. W. Carlton Crowe, Mr. Myfanwy Newell, Miss Florence Radcliffe, Mr. P. Wheeler, Mr. Charles Graham, Mr. Alick F. Thompson, and Mr. Chas. Boulting were nominated.

ACTORS' RESIDENCES.

Mr. Dillon Croker, in that old and interesting work, "A Walk from London to Fulham," revised from materials bequeathed by his father, the late Thomas Crofton Croker, gave many interesting notes of the western suburb of London, marking the residences of those connected with the dramatic profession. He recorded that for several years John Braham lived at Brompton Grange, near St. Michael's Grove, Brompton. John Baldwin Buckstone lived at No. 6, Brompton-square; and at No. 14 resided Mr. Edward Fitzwilliam, the clever musical composer, who died at the early age of thirty-three, on Jan. 19, 1857. At 21, in the square, lived Spagnoletti, the once famous leader of the Italian Opera, between 1829 and 1833; and he was succeeded in his tenancy by Mrs. Chatterly, a lively and accomplished actress, who occupied the same house some time after her marriage with Mr. Francis Place. At No. 22, Brompton-square, lived, for ten years, George Colman, the dramatist, and here he died at the age of seventy-four, Oct. 26, 1836. The house afterwards belonged to Mr. James Vining. Liston resided at 40, Brompton-square; Yates and John Reeve at 57 and 58; and Mr. and Mrs. Keeley at No. 19. Charles Incledon lived at 13, Brompton-crescent, and George Herbert Rodwell (in 1830) at 15, Brompton-crescent. Yates, the Adelphi manager, lived at 21, Michael's-place; and at 22, Michael's-place, lived and died Mrs. Davenport, the best representative of old women the stage ever possessed. She expired on May 8, 1843, aged 84, having retired thirteen years previously from the stage of Covent Gardon Theatre, where she had been for thirty-six consecutive seasons. Mme. Grisi and her husband, Signor Mario, lived at a house called "Percy Cross," Waltham Green, previously the residence of Lord Ravensworth. At Brompton Park—long since absorbed in Exhibition-road and Prince Albert's-road—resided Mr. Benjamin Webster and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews (Mme. Vestris), the latter transferring the name of their villa, "Gore Lodge," to a charming house they afterwards took at Fulham. Mrs. Nisbett (Lady Boothby) lived at North End, Fulham. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wigan occupied for several years the house 21, Hans-place, Chelsea, a spot peculiarly associated with the memory of Miss L. E. Landon, most charming of poetesses. In 1829 we find John Braham, the great tenor, living at 69, Baker-street, Portman-square; John Pritt Harley at 91, Great Russell-street, Bedford-square; Edmund Kean at 12, Clarges-street, Piccadilly; William Charles Macready at 37, Weymouth-street, Portland-place; James Wallack at 37, Alfred Place, Bedford-square; Charles Young at 41, Wigmore-street; William Farren at 23, Brompton-square. In those days, as in the time of Garrick, Southampton-street, Strand, and its adjacent thoroughfares, were thickly tenanted by theatrical folk. Charles Kemble lived at 16, James-street, Buckingham Gate; Charles Farley, the great inventor of pantomimes and melodramatic spectacles, at 3, Hart-street, Bloomsbury; William Blanchard, the comedian, 17, Gower-street, Bedford-square; John Cooper, 37, Alfred-place, Bedford-square; Mme Vestris, 4, Grove-road, St. John's Wood; Miss Foote (afterwards Countess of Harrington), 34, Keppel-street; and Miss Stephens (afterwards Countess of Essex), 1, Connaught-terrace, Edgware-road. The Surrey actors of that period naturally had their habitations on the south side of the Thames. The great Robert William Elliston then lived at 1, Great Surrey-street; David William Osbaldiston at Gray's-walk, Lambeth; Sam Vale, in Bouverie-street, Fleet-street; Master Russell, afterwards the celebrated Henry Russell, at 18, Newcastle-street, Strand; Miss Graddon, the vocalist, lived at 4, Gower-street, Bedford-square; and Mr. and Mrs. Fitzwilliam at Manchester Buildings, Westminster. Davidge, of the Coburg, and afterwards manager of the Surrey, lived at 5, Charlotte-terrace, New Cut, Lambeth; and the circus by the Obelisk, Southwark, was so thickly populated by the second-rate performers of the minor theatres that it was called Theatrical Barracks. Hercules-buildings, Lambeth, had then, and for nearly twenty years afterwards, a theatrical family in every house. Stangate, at the back of Astley's, was another favourite resort; and the cul-de-sac of Mount's-place, Lambeth, where Elliar, the once-famous harlequin, lived and died, was in great repute with the pantomimic and equestrian fraternity.

"Rayne's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HAZLITT ON THE OPERA.

"The Opera is a fine thing: the only question is, whether it is not too fine," wrote Hazlitt in one of his essays. "It is the most fascinating, and at the same time the most tantalising, of all places. It is not the *too little*, but the *too much*, that offends us. Every object is there collected, and displayed in ostentatious profusion, that can strike the senses or dazzle the imagination; music, dancing, painting, poetry, architecture, the blaze of beauty, 'the glass of fashion, and the mould of form'; and yet one is not satisfied—for the multitude and variety of objects distract the attention, and, by flattering us with a vain show of the highest gratification of every faculty and wish, leave us at last in a state of listlessness, disappointment, and *ennui*. The powers of the mind are exhausted without being invigorated; our expectations are excited, not satisfied; and we are at some loss to distinguish an excess of irritation from the height of enjoyment. To sit at the Opera for a whole evening is like undergoing the process of animal magnetism for the same length of time. It is an illusion and a mockery, where the mind is made 'the fool of the senses,' and cheated of itself; where pleasure after pleasure courts us, as in a fairy palace; where the Graces and the Muses, weaving in a gay, fantastic round with one another, still turn from our pursuit; where art, like an enchantress with a thousand faces, still allures our giddy admiration, shifts her mask, and again eludes us. The Opera, in short, proceeds upon a false estimate of taste and morals; it supposes that the capacity for enjoyment may be multiplied with the objects calculated to afford it. It is a species of intellectual prostitution; for we can no more receive pleasure from all our faculties at once than we can be in love with a number of mistresses at the same time. Though we have different senses, we have but one heart; and, if we attempt to force it into the service of them all at once, it must grow restive or torpid, hardened or enervated. The spectator may say to the sister-arts of Painting, Poetry, and Music, as they advance to him in a *pas-de-trois* at the Opera, 'How happy could I be with either, were t'other dear charmers away'; but while 'they all tease him together,' the heart gives a satisfactory answer to none of them;—is ashamed of its want of resources to supply the repeated calls upon its sensibility, seeks relief from the importunity of endless excitement in fastidious apathy or affected levity; and in the midst of luxury, pomp, vanity, indolence, and dissipation, feels only the hollow, aching void within, the irksome craving of unsatisfied desire, because more pleasures are placed within its reach than it is capable of enjoying, and the interference of one object with another ends in a double disappointment. Such is the best account I can give of the nature of the Opera; of the contradiction between our expectations of pleasure and our uneasiness there; of our very jealousy of the flattering appeals which are made to our senses, our passions, and our vanity, on all sides; of the little relish we acquire for it, and the distaste it gives us for other things. Any one of the sources of amusement to be found there would be enough to occupy and keep the attention alive; the *tout ensemble* fatigues and oppresses it. One may be stifled to death with roses. A headache may be produced by a profusion of sweet smells or of sweet sounds; but we do not like the headache the more on that account. Nor are we reconciled to it, even at the Opera.

What makes the difference between on opera of Mozart's and the singing of a thrush confined in a wooden cage at the corner of the street? The one is nature and the other is art; the one is paid for, and the other is not. Madame Foder sang the air of 'Vedrai Carino' in *Don Giovanni* so divinely, because she was hired to sing it; she sang it to please the audience, not herself, and did not always like to be *encored* in it; but the thrush that awakes us at daybreak with its song, does not sing because it is paid to sing, or to please others, or to be admired or criticised. It sings because it is happy: it pours the thrilling sounds from its throat, to relieve the overflowings of its own heart—the liquid notes come from, and go to the heart, dropping balm into it, as the gushing spring revives the traveller's parched and fainting lips. That stream of joy comes pure and fresh to the longing sense, free from art and affectation; the same that rises over vernal groves, mingled with the breath of the morning, and the perfumes of the wild hyacinth; it waits for no audience, it wants no rehearsing, and still—

'Hymns its good God, and carols sweet of love.'

This is the great difference between nature and art, that the one *is* what the other *seems* to be, and gives all the pleasure it expresses, because it feels it itself. Mme. Foder sang as a musical instrument may be made to play a tune, and perhaps with no more real delight; but it is not so with the linnet or the thrush, that sings because God pleases, and pours out its little soul in pleasure. This is the reason why its singing is (so far) so much better than melody or harmony, than bass or treble, than the Italian or the German school.

"The Opera is the most artificial of all things. It is not only art, but ostentatious, unambiguous, exclusive art. It does not subsist as an imitation of nature, but in contempt of it; and, instead of seconding, its object is to pervert and sophisticate all our natural impressions of things. When the Opera first made its appearance in this country, there were strong prejudices entertained against it, and it was ridiculed as a species of the *mock-heroic*. The prejudices have worn out with time, and the ridicule has ceased; but the grounds for both remain the same in the nature of the thing itself. At the theatre we see and hear what has been said, thought, and done by various people elsewhere; at the Opera we see and hear what was never said, thought, or done anywhere but at the Opera. Not only is all communication with nature cut off, but every appeal to the imagination is sheathed and softened in the melting medium of Siren sounds. The ear is cloyed and glutted with warbled ecstasies or agonies; while every avenue to terror and pity is carefully stopped up and guarded by song and recitative. Music is not made the vehicle of poetry, but poetry of music; the very meaning of the words is lost or refined away in the effeminacy of a foreign language. A grand serious Opera is a tragedy wrapped up in soothing airs, to suit the tender feelings of the nurslings of fortune—where tortured victims swoon on beds of roses, and the pangs of despair sink in tremulous accents into downy repose. Just so much of human misery is given as is proper to lull those who are exempted from it into a deeper sense of their own security: just enough of the picture of human life is shown to relieve their languor without disturbing their indifference—it is calculated not to excite their sympathy, but 'with some sweet, oblivious antidote,' to pamper their sleek and sordid apathy. In a word, the whole business of the Opera is to stifle emotion in its birth, and to intercept every feeling in its progress to the heart. Every impression that, left to itself, might sink deep into the mind, and wake it to real sympathy, is overtaken and baffled by means of some other impression, plays round the surface of the imagination, trembles into airy sound, or expires in an empty pageant. In the grand carnival of the senses the pulse of life is suspended, the link which binds us to humanity is broken; the soul is fretted by the sense of excessive softness into a feverish hectic dream; truth becomes a fable; good and evil matters of perfect indifference, except as they can be made subservient to our selfish gratification; and there is hardly a vice for which the mind is not thus gradually prepared, no virtue of which it is not rendered incapable!"

BUCKSTONE'S ENGAGEMENT.

When Buckstone was a young man he was a member of the company of the Royal Coburg Theatre, where he played comedy parts, and made himself useful, and all for thirty shillings per week; but, being dissatified with his position there, and fancying if he could cross Waterloo Bridge from the New Cut he might do better, consequently he set about thinking how this could be accomplished. Having tried his hand at dramatic composition, and with some success, he wrote a drama entitled *Luke the Labourer*, with a view to its performance at the English Opera House, now the Lyceum, the characters in which drama he designed for Messrs. T. P. Cooke, Rayner, and Miss Kelly, with a small rustic part that he intended for himself if the piece was accepted, and he could get an engagement to perform in it; but to his disappointment the drama was rejected by Mr. Arnold, the proprietor and then manager of that theatre. At the end of its season, Mr. T. P. Cooke being engaged at the Adelphi Theatre, Mr. Buckstone sent his manuscript to that establishment, but without inserting his name or address. For a long time he patiently waited for some intelligence respecting it, when, after repeated calls at the stage-door, without hearing anything concerning his drama, and no one appearing to know anything about it, he gave up his manuscript as lost, and resigned himself to the Royal Coburg and his thirty shillings. About this time a Mr. Scott, who had built the Adelphi Theatre, then called "The Sans Pareil," having disposed of his theatre to Messrs. Rodwell and Jones, of "Tom and Jerry" fame, who afterwards parted with the house to Terry and Yates, Mr. Scott, to please his daughter, who had been the writer of many successful pieces performed at "The Sans Pareil," bought the Olympic Theatre. Now Mr. Buckstone, still clinging to his desire of crossing Waterloo Bridge into the Strand, not only applied to Mr. Scott for an engagement, but not being able to obtain his original manuscript of *Luke the Labourer*, prepared another from memory, and sent it to the Olympic. Shortly after Mr. Scott desired Mr. Buckstone to call upon him, when he expressed himself pleased with the drama, and not only offered the comedian £2 per week as an actor, but £5 for his manuscript. £10 were asked for but firmly refused. He then said he would accept the £5 for the drama if Mr. scott would add 10s. to his acting salary. This was also objected to by Mr. Scott, who proposed a few days for thinking the matter over, at the same time expressing his resolution not to alter the terms named. *Love in a Village* was about to be produced at the Royal Coburg, in which Mr. Buckstone was cast for the character of the Cook in the scene of the Statute Fair, but as he aspired to play Hodge, he expostulated with the manager, who replied in certain gentle and encouraging terms, frequently used by some of the minor impresari of those days, upon which he immediately set off to cross the bridge and accept the hard terms offered by Mr. Scott. He had not proceeded far up the Waterloo-road, when the hall porter of the Royal Coburg ran after him with a note which had been left at the stage-door that morning with instructions that it should be immediately delivered to Mr. Buckstone. On opening the note, its contents were:—

"Theatre Royal, Adelphi, Oct. 24, 1826.

"Dear Sir,—After many inquiries we have discovered that you are the author of a drama called *Luke the Labourer*, which has been mislaid at this theatre for many months. I wish to see you concerning it immediately.—Your obedient servant,

"Daniel Terry.

"To Mr. Buckstone, Royal Coburg Theatre."

Instead of walking to the Olympic Mr. Buckstone turned his steps towards the Adelphi, where, being taken on the stage, he found, to his surprise, that his long-lost drama was in rehearsal, and to be produced in a few evenings. Mr. Yates, on inviting the author to his room, stated that Mr. Terry and Mr. T. P. Cooke were so pleased with their characters, that, wishing to discover the author, they considered the best course to take was to bring the piece out. When, after its being read in the green-room, Mr. Charles Tompkins, then the scenic artist of the Adelphi, being acquainted with Mr. Buckstone, informed the managers where he thought the author was to be found. Mr. Yates then wished to know his terms, but that question being entirely lift to Mr. Yates, the author was well pleased to learn that he was to receive one guinea for each night of representation, and to be secured a performance of thirty nights. Mr. Buckstone, considering that 30 guineas were better than £5, agreed to the arrangement, and then turned his steps to the Olympic, where he was received with great cordiality by Mr. Scott, who asked him if he had thought the matter over as to his proposed terms, to which the author replied that circumstances had occurred which prevented his acceptance of those or of any other. "Indeed!" said Mr. Scott, "don't talk to me of circumstances; if you have not thought the matter over I have done so, and am now ready to give you ten pounds for your drama, but can only offer you two pounds per week for acting." Mr. Buckstone then related all that had occurred during the morning, and that his drama was to be produced at the Adelphi the following week. Mr. Scott, on hearing this, rose with great indignation, placed the manuscript written from memory in the author's hands, and sternly desired him never to put his foot within the door of the Olympic again. *Luke the Labourer* was produced, and with such success that Mr. Yates sent for the author to ask him if he could not write a farce or some little comedy for him. Mr. Buckstone replied he would try, and the result was a piece called *Twenty-three, John-street, Adelphi*. This also being a success, Mr. Buckstone was invited to join the Adelphi company at a very liberal salary.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 5.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.35 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Mr. William A. Brady produced *The Detective*, by Rose O'Neill, of London, at Redbank, N.J., on the 4th inst. It is described as a drama of English social and official life, with a story of the theft of important plans from the War Department, the inability of Scotland Yard to obtain a clue, and the eventual solving of the mystery by a Mrs. Aarons, who is employed by a private detective agency. The "big scene" of the play showed the harassed Minister of War as a somnambulist and the thief as the former husband of the lady detective. Miss Leonora Harris appeared as Mrs. Aarons, the company including Misses Barbara Huntley, Isabel West, and Grace Thorne, and Messrs. J. H. Benrimo, Ethelbert Hales, and Courtenay Foote.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 28.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—H. M. T., Dundee.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., North Shields.
AMSTERDAM.—T. R., Edinburgh.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Miners' T., Ashington.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Smethwick.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—T. R., Cardiff.
ARE YOU A MASON?—Gaiety T., Worksop.
ARE YOU THE MAN?—Grand T., Doncaster.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITE.—Lyceum T., Govan.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—Boro' T., Stratford.
BAINES, MISS FLORENCE.—Grand T., Nelson.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—Ebbw Vale.
BEAUDYN, MONTAGUE.—T. R., W. Bromwich.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Portadawe and Ystalyfera; (N.), Lyceum, Stafford.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—T. R., Margate.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—O. H., St. Helens.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—Irving T., Seacombe.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—T. R., Nottingham.
BROKEN HEART, A.—T. R., Barnsley.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
BULMER, MR.—Grand T., Nottingham.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Grand T., Glasgow.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Grand T., Leeds.
CASSIDY, MR. J. RICE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—County T., Kingston.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Marlborough T., Holloway, N.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—O. H., Kidderminster.
CHORUS LADY.—T. R., Preston.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE, M.).—Victoria T., Kettering.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE, N.).—Palace T., Bordesley.
CINGALEE, THE (A.), Metropole T., Gateshead.
CINGALEE, THE (B.).—Grand T., Fulham.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Blackburn.
COAL KING.—Metropole T., Devonport.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Falkirk and Ayr.
DAIRY MAIDS, THE.—Empire T., Southend.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Pier Pav., Weston-s.-Mare.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Prince's T., Manchester.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Century T., Motherwell.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., Jarrow.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
DON.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—O. H., Belfast.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—T. R., Rochdale.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Grand, Oldham.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
FAST LIFE, A.—Ayr and Falkirk.
FATAL WEDDING.—Daiston Theatre, N.E.
FIRES OF FATE.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—Grand T., Middlesboro'.
FLORODORA.—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Star T., Swansea.
FOR LOVE OF A WOMAN.—Alexandra T., Hull.
FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Sunderland.
FRIVOLITY.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Court T., Warrington.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Grand T., Doncaster.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Metro. T., Abertillery.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Grand T., Nottingham.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—Pavilion, Weymouth.
GREED OF GOLD.—T. R., Yeadon.
GRIP OF IRON.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
GUILTY GOLD.—T. R., Crook.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—King's T., Hammersmith.
HAVANA.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—T. R., Woolwich.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—T. R., Cardiff.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Empire T., Oldham.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Lyceum T., Newport.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Stratford.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Rochdale.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Junction T., Manchester.
HUSH MONEY.—Star T., Liverpool.
IDOL OF PARIS.—T. R., Darlington.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—T. R., Edmonton.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Birkenhead.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—T. R., Norwich.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Stroud and Andover.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Palace T., Gloucester.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—T. R., Darwen.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Tunbridge Wells and Brighton.
LITTLE DUKE.—T. R., Plymouth.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Ashton.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—New T., West Stanley.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Workman's Hall, Ferndale.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—R. P. T., Ramsgate.
MERRY PEASANT.—Grand T., Croydon.
MERRY WIDOW.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Kennington Theatre.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—G. T., Swansea.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—Stoke Newington, N.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—New T., Chorlton-cum-Hardy
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—O. H., Southport.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—O. H., Blackpool.
MOTHER.—O. H., Wakefield.
MR. PREDDY AND THE COUNTESS.—T. R., Bournemouth.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—Grand T., Hull.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
NEW BOY, THE.—O. H., Wrexham.
OH, SUSANNAH!—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Colosseum, Oldham.
OLD HOME, THE.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Empire T., Cradley.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—King's T., Glasgow.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—O. H., Burnley.
PASSION OF LIFE.—Lyceum T., Govan.
PETE (N.).—Court T., Wigan.
PETE (S.).—H. M. T., Carlisle.
PETER PAN.—T. R., Glasgow.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
ROLLICKING RORY.—T. R., Rotherham.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Birmingham.
SECRETS.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
SERVANT IN THE HOUSE.—T. R., Huddersfield.
SEXTON BLAKE.—Palace T., Newcastle.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—King's T., Greenock.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—T. R., Lincoln.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—O. H., Leicester.
SILVER KING.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
SINNER, THE.—Osborne T., Manchester.
SINS OF A CITY.—Grand T., Aberavon.
STILL ALARM.—Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
SWISS EXPRESS.—O. H., Torquay.
TANTALIZING TOMMY (N.).—Bristol; (S.), Middlesbro'.
TEMPTATION.—T. R., Edmonton.
THIEF, THE.—T. R., Exeter.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—T. R., Ilkeston.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Leamington.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Hippodrome, Hoyland.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—T. R., Chesterfield.
WHEN A LASS LOVES.—T. R., Sheffield.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—T. R., South Shields.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—St. George's T., Kendal.
WHITE MAN, A.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
WHO IS SHE?—Star T., Liverpool.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—O. H., Coventry.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—H. M. T., Barrow.
WOMAN IN THE CASE (S.).—Castle T., Stockton.
WOMAN IN THE CASE (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Malvern and Matlock.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—N. C. T., Motherwell.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Grand T., Stockton.
WRECKER OF MEN.—T. R., Leeds.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Crook.

Giovanni in Ireland was performed, for the first time in Dublin, in 1822, a former representation being merely, as the bills facetiously termed it, a "dressed rehearsal." The house was but thinly attended, and much disapprobation was expressed. The next morning the bills contained the following piece of unequalled insolence:—"*Giovanni in Ireland*, on its first performance last night, was received with tumultuous approbation, every factious effort, previously organised, being completely overpowered. The numerous communications on this subject that have been received will in due time appear before the public. The piece will be repeated every evening." With respect to the overpowering of factious efforts, it was said by the *Times* newspaper that ruffians were stationed in various parts of the house, to knock down or intimidate everyone who ventured to hiss.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months ..	0	6 6	Three Months ..	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

FRANK H. WALKER (Canonbury).—*Try Tate's, music seller, Aldwych, Strand, W.C.*

GEORGE FIELD (Pimlico).—*Cremorne Gardens licence lapsed for ever on Oct. 5, 1877.*

CHARLES RUSSELL (Greenock).—*The announcement of the knighthood of Sir Henry Irving appeared in the list of Queen Victoria's birthday honours on May 24, 1895.*

F. S. COVENTRY (Edinburgh).—The Merry Widow *was produced at Daly's Theatre, London, on June 8, 1907. It ran until the summer of 1909. Its German original,* Die Lustige Wittwe, *was produced at the Berliner Theatre on May 1, 1906.*

F. JAMES (South Wimbledon).—*The exact date of closing is difficult to determine, but the last play produced there was* Gin, *a version of* L'Assommoir, *by George Roberts,* produced *on March 27, 1880. Write to Miss Cons, at the Victoria Palace, London, S.E.*

A. J. CANNON.—*A Mrs. Warner played in* Macbeth, *produced by Macready when he took his farewell of the stage at Drury Lane on Feb. 26, 1851; and the same lady supported Phelps at Sadler's Wells in many a Shakespearean play. Her maiden name was Mary Huddart, and she married Mr. Warner, at one time mine host of The Wrekin, Broad-court, Drury-lane, a noted resort in the forties and fifties of authors, actors, poets, painters, and penny-a-liners. John Lawrence Warner, a son of theirs, played* Hamlet *for his father's benefit at Sadler's Wells on Aug. 29, 1866. No relation to Charles Warner, whose real name was Lickfold. See notice above.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BERNARD.—On March 22, 1910, at 36, Sternhold-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W., the wife of Kevan Bernard (Blanche Marion), of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

O'BRIEN—SMITH.—At St. Alban's Roman Catholic Church, Pontypool, Pat O'Brien to Miss Gertrude Smith, Rev. Father Quigley officiating.

DEATHS.

ARCHER.—On Thursday, March 17, 1910, at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, Marie Pritchard, the beloved wife of Frederick Archer, of "Two Little Vagabonds" Co. "Into Thy Hands, O Lord."

ELMORE.—March 23, in California, U.S.A., Miss Belle Elmore (Mrs. H. H. Crippen).

FOX.—March 4, at Utica, N.Y., Imro Fox, magician, aged 60.

HALL.—Feb. 8, at Sydney, N.S.W., Mrs. George Hall, professionally known as Miss Aggie Kelton, comic opera singer and actress.

PILLING.—Jan. 21, Harry Pilling, husband of Emma Yelding (youngest daughter of John Yelding), father of Lo Lo and May. Deeply regretted by his wife and daughters. Gone but not forgotten.

STONE.—On March 1, very suddenly of heart failure, at London, Emma, the dearly loved mother of Will Stone, the Hippodrome, Tonypandy.

WALDRON.—March 19, at Pelton Fell, William Richard Waldron, aged 88.

IN MEMORIAM.

BYRT.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Wilfred Grantley Byrt, manager of the Hippodrome (India), who died at Madras, March 29, 1908. Never to be forgotten by his ever-sorrowing wife and mother.—R.I.P.

CASSIDY.—In ever-loving memory of my darling husband, John, who left me March 30, 1907. Never forgotten by his ever-loving wife, MADGE.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Gerald Du Maurier—Saturday, March 26.
Will Collins—Saturday, March 26.
Geneviève Ward—Sunday, March 27.
Joseph Coyne—Sunday, March 27.
Hazel Head—Sunday, March 27.
Kyrle Bellew—Monday, March 28.
Eric Mayne—Monday, March 28.
George Foster—Monday, March 28.
Dusty Rhodes—Monday, March 28.
G. H. Chirgwin—Tuesday, March 29.
Ella Russell—Wednesday, March 30.
George D'Albert—Wednesday, March 30.
Carl Lynn—Wednesday, March 30.
Minnie Palmer—Thursday, March 31.
William Clarkson—Thursday, March 31.
Bay Russell—Thursday, March 31.

THEATRIC declamation was very different among the ancients to what it is and ought to be with us, from the nature of the thing itself, and from the difference of circumstances. Numberless passages in Quintilian, and other ancient historians, critics and grammarians, evidently prove that the ancient dramatic declamation was subservient to the rules of the musical rythmus; and by this according to Aristides, their action, as well as recital, was regulated. But to explain this seeming paradox, it will be necessary to make here some preliminary remarks. The ancients gave a much more extensive signification to the word music (musica) than we do, which they derived from the muses, or at least from some of them. It is for this reason that the same Aristides and Quintilian defined it to be "an art that teacheth all that relates to the use of the voice, and the manner of performing all the motions of the body with grace: "Ars decoris in vocibus et motibus." Therefore poetry, declamation, dancing pantomimes, and many other gestures and exercises, were subservient to this art.

"CINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES." The law of copyright affecting the same. By William Jago, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Adams, Miss S.
Albani, Mdme.
Armine, Miss Grace
Barnes, Miss E.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Barson, Mr. Alf
Beach, Mr. A. C.
Bell, Miss Lesly
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bell, Mr. Percy
Bendella, Mr. Walter
Bernard, Mr. Seton
Bertram, Mr Arthur
Bignell, Mr. Chas.
Billon, Mr. T. J.
Black, Mr. Wallace
Blair, Mr. Wilfred
Boulding, Mr. Chas.
Brasque, Mr. A.
Bristow, Mr. Harry
Brumley, Mr. James
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Campbell, Miss Alma
Campion, Miss May
Carlton, Miss Cissie
Carney, Miss Kate
Carson, Mr. Murray
Carton, Mr. H. E.
Chapman, Mrs. Julia D.
Chard, Miss Dorothy
Cherry, Miss G. D.
Chester, Mrs. E.
Clifton, Miss Clara
Cooper, Mrs. A. M.
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Courtenay, Miss Maud
Cowell, Miss Florence
Craske, Miss D.
Cumberlands, The
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Dalton, Miss Flo
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
Davies, Mr. Tom
Dawson, Miss C. C.
Desmond, Miss S.
Draco, Mr. G. E.
Edgar, Miss Florence
Edwards, Mr. W.
Epitaux, Mr.
Ernest Family
Escourt, Mr.
Esty, Miss Alice
Florador, Master J.
Foldi, Miss Irma
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Glenn, Miss Isabel
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Gobbett, Mr. T. J.
Goddard, Mr. Alfred
Gordon, Mr. S.
Granville, Mr. V. L.
Gray, Mr. J. W.
Graydon, Mr. James
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Handley, Mr. W. J.
Harcourt, Miss Maud
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hartley, Mr. R. A.
Hayes, Mr. J.
Hayter, Mr. F. L.
Healy, Mr. B. R.
Helmsley, Mr. C. T.
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Hudspeth, Miss Marie
Hudspeth, Mr. Frank
Hullett, Miss Dorothy
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Jees, The Musical
Johnson, Miss J.
Kalo, Mr. James
Keppels, The
Kirkdale, Mr. R. E.
Koes, Mr. Rudolph
Lane, Mr. Leonard
Lanton, Mr. F. Caffrey
Lawson, Mr. R. E.
Lauri, Mme. F. V.
Leighton, Mr. Fred
Lena and Preston
Lind, Miss Letty
Lloyd, Mr. John
Lloyd, Mr. James
Loftus, Mr. Harry
Lorenzo, Lorry
Lumley, Mr. Harry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lytton, Mr. Bert
Malone, Miss Kitty
McDermott, Capt. H.
Melita, Miss
Miles, Mr. A.
Milton and Horton
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Monkhouse, Mr. J.
Montague, Mr. Harold
Mortimer, Mr. Leonard
Munro, Mr. George
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Neil, Miss M.
Nethersole, Mr. Louis F
Nevada, Mme.
Paull, Mr. Ethel G.
Payne, Mr. Walter
Pembroke, Mr. Wilson
Pennell, Mr. Joseph
Perks, Mr. George
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Place, Miss A. S.
Raby, Miss Mary
Rankin, Mr. J.
Reano, Mr.
Reed, Miss F.
Rees, Mme. Tim
Reeve, Miss Ada
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Rignold, Mrs. Geo.
Riley, Miss Rubie
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sartella, Miss Rose
Sawyer, Mr. Francies
Sefton, Mr. Philip
Selwyn, Mr. Alfred
Shilstone, Mr. E. B.
Smalleys, The
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Sothern, Mr. E.
Spark, Miss O'Deyne
Steel, Mrs.
Stewart and Morgan
Stewart, Miss Hilda
Stewarts, Mons.
Sutherd, Mr. Dick
Tarron, Miss C.
Tilbury, Mr. Walter
Tucker, Miss B.
Turner, Mr. Bernhardt
Turner, Mr. J. H.
Tweare, Mr. Herbert
Vasco, Mr. Walter
Vesin, Mr. Hermann
Walton, Miss E. F.
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warren, Mr. Arthur
Whitaker, Mr. Fred
Willard, Mr. James
Woods, Misses A. and D
Yesslin, Mr. Theodore

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

BREAKING RECORDS FOR The Great Raymond BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 314,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 204004.
Compress Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England. (Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Easter Monday and Every Evening at 8.0.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Easter Monday and Every Following Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Special Matinée Easter Monday, 2.30.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.
Extra Matinée Easter Monday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
March 28, Martin Harvey and Co., in "THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS." Matinée Monday March 31, "THE ONLY WAY." Matinée Thursday.

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Monday and Thursday, 2.30.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, March 28, ITALIAN GRAND OPERA.
Mr. Peter Davey, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

PAVILION THEATRE,
Mile End, E.
('Phone, 2416 City.)
Special Holiday attraction, Mar. 28, at 2.30 & 7.45, "THE WORLD, THE FLESH, & THE DEVIL," By Lesser Columbus.
Matinées Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday, at 2.30.
Booked Seats from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.
Unreserved, 4d., 6d., and 1s.

CRYSTAL PALACE
EASTER MONDAY.
Greatest Holiday Programme in London.
Entertainments all the Day
in Great Building and 200 acres of gardens.
Variety Shows. 12, 2.30, and 5. Coldstream and all the Guards Bands. Massed Concert (500 Performers), 7.0; Balloon Ascent, 1.30; Living Wild Animals; Feeding-time 4.0. Football: C.P. v. West Ham (S.L.), 3.30. Theatre: "The Belle of New York" (with introductions of "Chantecler"), 2.30 and 7. Fairy Archipelago, Water Chutes, Rapids, Boating, Dancing, "The Human Laundry," "The Bay of Naples," &c., &c.
Magnificent Display of Brock's Fireworks, 9.15 p.m.
Admission 1s.; Children, 6d.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.
Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.
Jake Friedman and Co. in "Happy Holland," Mark Sheridan, Viviana and Co. in "The Toy Shop," Barry Lupino, Sisters Melba, The Rawsons, Mart and Pep, Herbert Rule, Shirley and Ransom, Daisy Stratton, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
Frank Postlethwaite.
Monday, March 28.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Fred Conquest and Co., Cissie Dryden, Larry Peate, Cameron Quartette, Fred Neiman, Jessica Brooke, Phillip Levard, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Little Dan, Royal Tokio Troupe.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' Co. in "The Butler's Party," Madge Temple, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Dick Tubb, Poole and Maguire, Angus Strong, Marie Reeve, Len Hale, Ruffell's Bioscope, Victor Widdicombe and Co. in "Her Devonshire Dad."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, March 28, 1910:—
"The Man of Forty Faces," Karno's "Jail Birds," The Yaller Coons, Jock McNeil, Marie Jones, Scholey and Scholey, Belle Sylvia, Tom Dunmore, Marion Armitage, Stephen Adeson and Co., Rex and Mars, The Bioscope, My Fancy, Musical Marvels.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—Half-time, 9.30. Easter Monday: Fred Maxwell and Co., in "The Girl I Love," Lowenwirth and Cohan, Jack Lorimer, May Mars, Baby Vi Davis, The Whittakers, Gicardo, Marion Armitage, Harry Maxam, Three Glenvilles, Bert and Ruby, Johnny Cecil, The Lowells, Geo. Caselli, Clyde and Ide, Earle and Earle, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 6.45 Monday, 7 o'clock Tuesday and Saturday, 7.30 rest of the week Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Walter Bird's Co., Mamie Morris, Norman Scorti, Rosie Lloyd, Barnes and Ascott, Jack Smiles, Sisters Emson, Jimson and Brill, Archie Royer, Bioscope, Bennett and Martell. Rehearsal 12 o'clock. Matinées, Monday and Thursday, 2.30. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
MLLE. GABY DESLYS in
"Les Caprices de Suzette."
New Ballet,
"THE POLAR STAR."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Kitty Tracey, Leipzig, Lewandowski Sisters, Daphne Hope, Jury's Pictures of the Boat Race, &c. Patriotic Ballet, "OUR FLAG."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
GRAND NATIONAL ON THE BIOSCOPE.
GEO. ROBEY,
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST TO WEST."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Mlle. Polaire, in "Le Visiteur," Mr. Ben Davies, Horace Goldin, Gaudsmidts, Albert Whelan, Margaret Housten, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c., including Grand National, 1910.
Evenings at 8.0. Matinée (Full Programme), Saturdays and Easter Monday, at 2.0.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. — MATINEE, EASTER MONDAY, 2.15. Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, Clarice Mayne, Poluskis, Dan Crawley, Harry Randall, Ernest Shand, Phil Ray, Arden and Abel in "Three of a Kind," Walter King, Gladys Huxley, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Jack and Evelyn, The Romanis, Rosie Lloyd, Marguerite Broadfoote, The Whittakers, Carlotta Levey, Alick Lauder and Co., Queenie Essex, Bioscope. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI. HARRY LAUDER.
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN, LOTTIE BELLMAN, Ernest Shand, José Collins, The Poluski Bros., Venie Clements, The Zigeuner Quartette, Phil Ray, The O'Gorman Bros., La Belle Nello, Queenie Essex, the Bioscope, and the thrilling Russian Wordless Play, "She Pays the Penalty." Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commences Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D. Students may enter at any time. April 1: Last day of entry for Open Competition for Four Scholarships. April 5, at 8 o'clock: Students' Concert at St. James's Hall, Great Portland-street, W. Prospectus on application. Shelley Fisher, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
Principals: Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President: George Edwardes, Esq.
Pupils can join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art, Deportment, Elocution, Fencing, Stage Dancing, Singing, Sight Singing, Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy, &c. Foundation Open Scholarship Examination, April 22. Apply, Secretary. Tel., Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Bookings include the companies of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Frederick Moullot, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. William Greet, Messrs. Jay and Mann, The Moody-Manners, Miss Lena Ashwell, Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, Mr. Allan Wilkie, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. James Welch, Mr. William Maclaren, The Lyceum Productions, Miss Florence Baines, Mr. Douglas Bruce, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1, also few remaining dates in October and November.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE,
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Open all the Year Round
with the Principal Combinations in every Branch.
Nothing but the best entertained.
Several good dates still unfilled.
All communications, J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies,
April 25
May 2 and 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and one or two season dates open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant April 25 (six nights), May 2 (six), May 12, 13, 14 (three), May 23, 30, all June.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Twice Nightly Drama House.
Vacant June 20, Nov. 14, 28, on.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Aug. 1 and 29 (Race Week),
November 21 and 28.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 35ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
Vacant Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant June 13, July 18, Aug. 15, 22, and onwards, with exceptions.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8. Also few remaining dates in Oct. and Nov. Fast booking Spring, 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn for First-class companies.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
Vacant April 4, 5, 6, May 12, 13, 14, June 20, several dates onwards. C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.

Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.

Address, the Publisher,
6 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. J. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.),

CONTENTS.

Act of Paris.
Adaptation.
" copyright in.
Assignment.
Author, meaning of.
Berne Convention.
British Museum.
Composer, entitled to copyright.
Copyright.
" assignment.
" duration of.
" infringement.
" international.
" in United States.
" performance.
" registration of.
" union.
Dance music, registration of.
Dramatic piece, meaning of.
Entry at Stationers' Hall.
" false.
" order to vary or expunge.
Importation of copyright music, unlawful.
Infringement of copyright.
International copyright.
Licence to publish.
Mechanical instruments.
" " The Phonograph and Aeolian.
Musical Compositions Acts, 1882 and 1888.
Notice on music.
Performing right.
" " assignment of.
" " duration of.
" " infringement.
" " registration of.
Publication.
" simultaneous.
Registration.
Stationers' Hall.
Title, registration of.
" right to use.
United States, copyright in.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William ..... May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William ..... Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila ..... July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred ..... July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ..... March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E. ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph ..... April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan ..... July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ..... March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ..... March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia ..... May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ..... March 12, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty ..... June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B. ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W. ..... April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward ..... June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald ..... May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence ..... July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J. ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H. ..... May 8, 1909
De Jong, Mr. Arthur ..... April 3, 1909
Delaine, Miss Josie ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F. ..... May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie ..... May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George ..... June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles ..... May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J. ..... March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine ..... June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian ..... July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P. ..... July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida ..... July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie ..... April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ..... Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes ..... July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard ..... April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart ..... May 22, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G. ..... April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy ..... July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W. ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh ..... June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B. ..... April 10, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Overton, Mr. Norman A. ..... July 3, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R. ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ..... March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Richardson, Mr. Levant M. ..... May 22, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold ..... March 27, 1909
Robins, Miss Fanny ..... July 31, 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel ..... July 10, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred ..... June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry ..... March 5, 1910
Salambos, The ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ..... Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur ..... May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford ..... April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C. ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank ..... May 29, 1909
Stuart, Miss Eva ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Studt, Mr. Henry ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Thane, Mr. Edward ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Thorne, Miss Ellaline ..... May 29, 1909
Thornton, Miss Maudie ..... March 20, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie ..... March 12, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite ..... July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta ..... April 10, 1909
Vint, Mr. Leon ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold ..... May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Warres, Mr. Charles ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr John E. ..... July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ..... Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles ..... July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E. ..... Dec. 11, 1909
Wootwell, Mr. Tom ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H. ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly ..... July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ..... Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1910.

THE SICILIAN SCHOOL.

The remarkable reading of the leading parts in *Othello* which has been given at the Lyric Theatre this week by Signor GRASSO and the Sicilian company should be seen by every young actor and actress who is ambitious of success in his or her profession. We are far from recommending a servile imitation of the Sicilians and their methods. There are many departments in the domain of the drama, and the methods of Sicily would certainly not suit all of them. But the Sicilians present an object-lesson on one of the weaknesses of the English stage at present, and one which has done a good deal to bring about the recent depression in theatrical business in the provinces.

There are many advantages which are now lost to us in the old system of training for the stage. In the first place, in the old times the stage was held in such ill-esteem, and the wages paid to the beginner were so small, the work so hard, and the conditions under which the earlier years of experience were passed were so onerous and disagreeable to anyone but an enthusiast, that few cared to take to the stage as a comfortable and easy way of getting a livelihood, still less to pay to be allowed to appear on it. The enormous amount of study which had to be undergone in order to meet the requirements of a constantly-changing bill was another thing which kept people off the stage. Actors were a despised class; and the "barnstormers" and strollers who formed the "ruck" of the profession assisted to create a contemptuous estimate of the player and the playeress.

But this system had its good side. Those bred up under it were, after going through the mill, seasoned and hardened valuably. It was pointed out to us the other day, by no less a mentor than Mr. HENRY NEVILLE, that the very fact that the young men of his generation had not time to study their parts thoroughly forced them to make up by passion and earnestness for weakness of memory and departure from the text. It was impossible for them to recite their parts, for they rarely knew them; so they had to form a conception of the character and the situations, and work on that. They were, in short, forced to think and to act.

Acting in its highest form is the expression of great emotions. The passion of an Othello, a Lear, or a Macbeth is above that of ordinary men. It is ordinary human feeling raised to the *nth* degree. Immense emotions demand large treatment. Audiences are not to be raised to the highest pitch of enthusiasm and excitement by anything but the strongest form of expression.

The danger of dramatic art at present is that it may become uninteresting. We have never had so many well-educated, well-dressed, and respectable people "taking to" the stage; but the crop of genius and individuality is not encouraging. The modern "discussion play," in which the characters are always arguing and never coming to any conclusion, is dead against improvement in this direction. As a writer in this week's *New Age* says very pertinently: "Characterisation cannot be fully achieved by speeches. Three hours is much too short a time for an audience to learn about the persons on the stage merely by what each says. The weakest men are often the best talkers; they bluff the world. Richard the Second, in time of peace, might well have appeared a strong character. It was in time of trouble that he failed. If you want to know what a man is like, you do not listen to him. You watch his behaviour in an emergency. The crisis in drama—the dramatic event, in short—has the same effect of self-revelation. . . . The truth is that life is too short for the discussive method on the stage. This method is a healthy and natural reaction, a protest against the fatuities of a drama without ideas at all; but it will not produce great works of art."

The essence of the highest art is *virility*. The word effeminacy will soon, we are told, have lost its meaning, the women having progressed in masculinity and the men having degenerated in manliness. At present, however, it may be used to describe a tendency which was certainly absent from the drama of the last generation. The effeminate and neurotic play and the cautious, self-restrained, half-indifferent actor and actress have, no doubt, their places in the artistic whole. The danger is that they may come to set the fashion.

The Sicilians point a moral and indicate a danger. The effect they create is by giving themselves utterly and recklessly up to the passion they are imagining. Signor GRASSO has many things in his way in representing Othello. He is somewhat short and thick in stature, he sees the character necessarily through a foreign medium, he speaks in a foreign language, and yet he raises his audience to a pitch of excitement which may be fairly described as *furore*. This he does by absolute self-abandonment in his scenes of emotion. He is so obviously *hors de soi-même*, he conceals so artistically the fact that, in the very torrent and whirlwind of his passion, he is quite master of his general aim, that he appeals irresistibly to those eternal primitive sympathies which may be obscured by affectation, but exist in every theatrical audience. Defective as his performance may be in some of the qualities in which our present English school of acting is strong, he yet sets us an example in other directions which it would be well for us to consider. The only *genre*, as a French author has said, is the *genre* that is tame and tiresome; and we can forgive exaggeration and even bad taste in details as long as the root of the matter—the representation of passion—exists.

"THE MARAUDERS."

Play, by Mrs. Caleb Porter, Produced at the Adelphi on Monday, March 21.

Michael Mackenzie ....MR. STANLEY TURNBULL
Lieut. Jack Sherbrooke, R.N. MR. WERNHAM RYOTT
Eleanor Sherbrooke ..MISS KATHERINE KENNEDY
Simmons .....MR. JOHN BYRON
Angelina .....MISS DOROTHEA DESMOND

In front of that truly British piece *The House of Temperley* was produced on Monday a playlet by Mrs. Caleb Porter entitled *The Marauders*, which is quite uninteresting and ineffective. The authoress starts apparently with the idea of teaching a lesson of philanthropy, but her courage seems to fail her. The trifle opens strongly with the arrest, in a darkened flat, of Angelina, a street waif, who has stolen the watch of Michael Mackenzie, a magistrate. His companion, Lieut. Jack Sherbrooke, of the Navy, questions the girl, but we learn little or nothing of her sad story. She gives up the watch that she has concealed in the bodice of her dress, and Jack, discovering that she is wet through, directs her to go into his sister's room and put on anything she can find. The transformation from a dirty-looking waif to a fashionably dressed girl is soon accomplished, and Angelina is invited to take supper. The sudden return of the sister, who is not expected, upsets the little party, and a tactless remark on the part of the indignant newcomer, who hints that Angelina is no better than she ought to be, is strongly resented by the girl. Tearing off the fashionable dinner dress and replacing it by her ragged skirt, she departs, but not before she has handed to Mackenzie a valuable brooch that has been mislaid. The magistrate Mackenzie remarks that he will send the court missionary in the morning to the address whispered in his ear by the unhappy girl. Miss Dorothea Desmond, in the occasional flashes of humour of the outcast, showed considerable ability. Mr. Stanley Turnbull as Michael Mackenzie did well with the poor material of his part; Mr. Wernham Ryott was a breezy and natural Lieutenant; and Mr. John Byron was effective in the few lines he had to say as Simmons. Miss Katherine Kennedy played the part of the sister with sufficient asperity of manner.

There are several alterations in the cast of *The House of Temperley*. Mr. Blake Adams, who now plays Ginger Stubbs in the place of Mr. Edmund Gwenn, keeps up a fine flow of drollery all through the piece. He makes us laugh in his description of his master the Captain's fighting qualities, and the interviews with Lucy, played by Miss Polly Emery, who has far too little opportunity, are as mirthful as a couple of real good comedians can make them. Mr. Claude King, who succeeds Mr. Charles Maude, gives an impersonation of Jack Temperley that is robust and breezy; and Mr. Charles Rock again rouses the house to enthusiasm by his furious outburst in the committee-room of Watier's Club, and his Sir John Hawker remains unapproachable. Miss Lydia Bilbrooke makes a pretty and interesting Ethel Morley, and Mrs. Russ Whytal a distinguished but somewhat hysterical Lady Temperley. Mr. A. S. Homewood needs no further proof of his versatility than the clever way he plays the two rôles of the Duke of Broadwater and Joe Berks, the aggressive pugilist. Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. J. J. Bartlett, Mr. Ernest Cosham, and Mr. Stratton Rodney are all responsible for extremely clever work, and the wonderful fight at Crawley Down, so cleverly arranged by F. Binnington, and the perfect stage-management, add appreciably to Mr. Herbert Jarman's fine record as a producer.

THE annual benefit of the universally respected acting-manager of the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, Mr. C. W. Ramsay, is the big night of the year, and the 17th inst. saw the large house crowded to the doors when the genial beneficiaire made his sixth annual "appeal." The performance was largely of a variety nature, artists from the Empire and Hippodrome contributing songs, &c. Mr. Augustus Barry appeared successfully in a scene from *Othello*, and local talent was represented by Mr. Curley Jackson, the Scottish Pipers, and Mr. J. Foulkes. Mr. Ramsay was enthusiastically cheered on coming forward to make his "annual address," and he received many valuable and useful presents, including gifts from Mr. W. D. Forsdike, Mr. Foradike, jun., the orchestra, the staffs in front and behind, Mr. R. Thompson, &c. The Lord Mayor (Earl Fitzwilliam) and the Master Cutler gave their patronage.

THE New Theatre, New York, is to undergo a number of changes before the next season opens. The present gallery will be done away with, as the ceiling is to be lowered. The foyer stalls, too, in the first balcony, will disappear, and the founders' boxes will take their place. The removal of these boxes from the lower floor will make room for several more rows of orchestra seats. The acoustic properties of the New Theatre have been generally regarded as unsatisfactory, and it is expected that an improvement will be effected by these changes. On the roof a small theatre is to be built, with a seating capacity of 500, occupying the space originally intended for a roof garden. There will be no performances of opera at this house next season.

SICILIANS AT THE LYRIC.

On Friday, March 18, the Comedy, in three acts, by L. Capuana, entitled "CAVALIER PEDAGNA."

Cavalier Pedagna CAV. UFF. GIOVANNI GRASSO
Proposito Balata .....R. SPADARO
Notaio Scofitti .....CAV. A. MUSCO
Donna Lia .....C. BALISTRIERI
Donna Maria .....ROSALIA SPADARA
Elsa .....SIGA. MARINELLA BRAGAGLIA

The Cavalier Pedagna has reached the stage of foolishness—middle age—when he thinks himself violently in love with a singer—a Signorina Elsa, who has apparently flattered the vanity of the rich, good-natured, and vain nobleman, who tries to hide his age by dyeing his hair. Incidentally, we may mention that the Cavalier in side whiskers, and in the person of Signor Grasso, had very much the appearance on Friday evening, of the great singer of laughing songs, Jolly John Nash, who always wore a resplendent chestnut-coloured wig on and off the stage. The Cavalier's infatuation, unfortunately enough, makes him insensible to family ties, fortifies him in his obduracy to his only daughter, whose runaway marriage with the man of her choice he will not condone. In an interview with Elsa, the doting lover of fifty proposes that she shall stay with him for good and give up singing. This she refuses to do, and departs. The daughter, Donna Lia—now a widow—comes to plead for forgiveness in the second act. She has affectionate advocates in the notary Scofitti and in the priest, who use their most persuasive arguments on her behalf, but to no purpose. The Cavalier will not see her, and Elsa becomes furiously jealous when she sees another woman in the house, going away in a terrible temper. In the last act the foolish old man learns that Elsa is accepting the favours of a Baron Scalia, and gives orders that the singer shall not be admitted to his house any more. The more common-sense attitude of the father is considered favourable for the cause of the daughter, and the priest and the notary again urge upon the Cavalier the duty of forgiveness. He still steels his heart against her, but agrees to give her a pension, the necessary papers being prepared by the notary. It is, however, torn up as soon as drawn up; but there are more eloquent advocates for forgiveness in Lia's two children, who wind themselves round the grandfather's heart, and bring him to tears. On a pretty domestic scene the curtain falls.

It must have been quite a recreative evening for Signor Grasso to play such a part as Cavalier Pedagna, and his light-hearted behaviour in the first act, when cajoling the fickle Elsa, was in strong contrast to his outburst of obstinacy when urged to forgiveness of the repentant Donna Lia by his staunch friends the notary and the priest, played with much cleverness by Cav. A. Musco—with a make-up strongly reminiscent of Ibsen—and R. Spadaro. Signora Rosalia Spadara was a voluble and amusing Donna Maria; and Signora Bragaglia was really wasted in the part of Elsa. Signor Carlo D'Amato's Sicilian mandoline and guitar orchestra played some delightful selections during the entr'actes.

On Monday, March 21, in Italian, was performed Shakespeare's tragedy of

"OTHELLO."

Othello .....CAV. UFF. GIOVANNI GRASSO
Iago .....SIGNOR A. CAMPAGNO
Brabantio .....SIGNOR R. SPADARO
Cassio .....SIGNOR P. FLORIO
Montano .....SIGNOR V. MARAZZI
Duke of Venice .....SIGNOR S. ARCIDIACONO
Roderigo .....SIGNOR A. CAMPAGNA
Ludovico .....SIGNOR D. QUARTARONE
1st Officer .....SIGNOR R. SAPPUPO
2nd Officer .....SIGNOR P. FICHERA
A Messenger .....SIGNOR C. BOCCADIFUSCO
1st Senator .....SIGNOR S. PUGLIO
2nd Senator .....SIGNOR N. VISCUSO
3rd Senator .....SIGNOR A. LONGO
Emilia .....SIGNORA C. BALISTRIERI
Desdemona .....SIGNORA MARINELLA BRAGAGLIA

Considerable interest was felt in the appearance at the Lyric Theatre on Monday last of Signor Giovanni Grasso in the part of Othello. From his previous performances at the Lyric it was inferred that the Sicilian actor would express the passion of the part to the full; and the expectation was not in any way disappointed. The version used by the company was freely "cut" and re-arranged, only the essentially dramatic portions being retained; and the revival moved very briskly, the comparative simplicity of the scenery much assisting this result. Of Signor Grasso's Othello it may be said that, while somewhat deficient in the personal distinction and nobility of presence and bearing required for the fullest interpretation of the character, it came as a thrilling novelty to those who had never seen a "Latin" version of the rôle, with all its utter self-abandonment, uncontrolled anguish, and degenerate despair. In the scenes of Othello's distress Signor Grasso divests the Moor of all dignity and reserve, and shows him, not only overcome by his sufferings, but indifferent to the display of them. Not that his Othello is in any way weak. The manner in which the General bears down opposition after the scene of riot at Cyprus, the fire and intensity of his delivery of the celebrated speech to Iago, "Villain, be sure thou prove," &c., and the power displayed in the final act of murder and death, proved Signor Grasso an actor of immense earnestness, activity, and vigour. In certain details he seems to have followed Salvini, notably in the business after the speech just referred to, when Salvini used after throwing Iago on the ground, to put his foot upon him, and then start back with loathing. If we remember rightly, the method of Othello's suicide adopted by Signor Grasso—throat-cutting instead of stabbing—is that originated by the greater Italian actor. Besides being inconsistent with the text, the alteration is objectionable, as it gives Signor Grasso excuse for a needlessly realistic imitation of a man suffocated with his own blood, and for some ungraceful grovellings on the floor. These, however, are but minor defects in what is on the whole a very fine thrilling and striking performance. Signora Marinella Bragaglia is a charming Desdemona, refined, expressive, frank, and feminine; and an Emilia of remarkable vigour and spirit is Signora C. Balistrieri, whose denunciations of Othello and Iago in the last act are full of fiery indignation. Signor A. Campagno's Iago is a careful and commendable, but not quite satisfying reading of the rôle; it has a touch of low comedy which rather detracts from the diabolical wickedness of the character. But, on the lines laid down by the artist, it is very ably and cleverly played. Signor R. Spadaro puts plenty of force and energy into his Brabantio; Signor P. Florio is an agreeable Cassio; and the Doge has a crisp and careful exponent in Signor Arcidiacono. The minor parts are carefully sustained, and the scenery, which is not elaborate, serves well as a background to the play, which was received on Monday by an audience of mixed nationality with cheers, frantic applause, and a profusion of presented bouquets.

MR. DALLAS WELFORD, of *Mr. Hopkinson* fame, and Mr. George Richards, who appeared in many of the Hoyt farces, are to be the principal comedians in *The Dancer of Cairo*, in which Miss Valeska Suratt will "star" in America under the management of A. H. Woods. A prominent part will be played by Miss Amelia Summerville, the "merry mountain maid" of Dixey's *Adonis*.

MR. WILLIAM FAVERSHAM appeared recently at the Murat Theatre, in Indianapolis, in a new play called *The Winding Way*, by Charles B. Sommers. The scenes are laid in the South, and the story is one of love, racial antipathies, and the flexibility of the law. In the last act there is a strong emotional scene.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE BOIS SACRE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. G. A. de Caillavet and R. de Flers, Produced at the Variétés on March 22.

Francine Margerie .....MME. JEANNE GRANIER
Adrienne Champmorel ..MLLE. EVE LAVALLIÈRE
Mme. Fauchel .....MLLE. PRINCE
Mme. de Cernay .....MLLE. CHAPELAS
Mme. Gorgelin .....MLLE. DERMYES
Paul Margerie .....M. BRASSEUR
Champmorel .....M. GUY
Comte Zakonskine .....M. MAX DEARLY
Des Fargettes .....M. PRINCE
Benjamin .....M. MORICET
Durieu .....M. AVELOT

PARIS, THURSDAY, March 24.—MM. de Caillavet and de Flers' new comedy is a skit on our Fine Arts Ministry, for which reason they have called it *Le Bois sacré* (The Sacred Wood), the mysterious spot where Apollo and the Muse congregated. It is brightly written, with a witty dialogue; but these two clever playwrights did not take advantage of the opportunities offered them, and the work, therefore, was in measure disappointing. The plot is not complicated. Francine Margerie is a charming woman, who adores her husband Paul, a great sportsman. Like many women of the present day, she has "taken to literature," and has brought out a book "l'Irrésistible." This book has been read by Colonel Zakonskine, director of the Imperial ballet in St. Petersburg, one of the most amusing characters in the play. Zakonskine is delighted with "l'Irrésistible," and he calls on Francine to make her acquaintance. Francine, faithful to her husband, does not fall a victim to the Colonel's charms; but Adrienne, the wife of Champmorel, director of the Fine Arts—a lady of an inflammable disposition—at once throws herself into the Russian's arms. Francine, priding herself on her broad views, has always derided those members of her sex who intrigued to have the Cross of the Legion of Honour. When, however, she accidentally hears that one of her rivals in literature is about to receive this distinction, she at once changes her opinions, and wants the cross à tout prix. Champmorel being the man who dispenses these crosses, she calls on him to enlist his sympathies, but the man's sympathies take such a tangible form that Francine is compelled to box his ears. Francine, however, is resourceful. Where she has failed, her husband might succeed, and she asks him to pay his court to the frail Adrienne Champmorel, who, of course, as the wife of Monsieur le Directeur des Beaux-Arts, can make her influence felt. Paul pays his court so well that he becomes Adrienne's lover, a development Francine had not foreseen. And when, in the end, she receives her much-coveted ribbon, she is inconsolable at the loss of her husband. Adrienne, fortunately, is good-natured. She sees Francine unhappy, and she throws off Paul for somebody else, for the Russian, it need hardly be said, disappeared already long ago. The great hit in the play was a Russian ballet, danced by the Colonel (Max Dearly) and Adrienne (Eve Lavallière), which was received with roars of laughter. It was altogether capitally acted by the Variétés company—one of the best in Paris—which included Mme. Jeanne Granier, Mlle. Lavallière, M. Brasseur, M. Guy, M. Max Dearly, and M. Prince.

ON the 15th of next month Mlle. Alexandrowicz will make her *début* at the Opéra in *Rigoletto*. This young artist, who is only seventeen, is a pupil of M. de Reszké. Some time ago he spoke about his talented pupil to the managers of the Opéra, who, having heard her once, immediately signed an engagement with her for five years.

"DORE SŒURS."

Comedy in three acts, by M. Charles Simon, Produced at the Mathurins on March 21.

Gaby .....MME. JANE ELRIC
Mme. Patouillat .....MME. CHALON
Marthe .....MLLE. ADRIENNE BREITNER
Mme. Pierret .....MLLE. JANE DOE
Mme. Rivolat .....MLLE. JANE HETT
Dubreuil .....M. NUMÈS
Journet .....M. BRUNIÈRE
Boissière .....M. ST.-BONNET
Lajoie .....M. CHARPENTIER

Tastefully decorated, the Théâtre des Mathurins, under the able management of Mme. de Montfort, has been reopened under brilliant auspices, and is certain to be largely patronised by all strangers visiting Paris. The novelty produced there was *Doré Sœurs*, by M. Charles Simon. The scene is laid in the dressmaking establishment of Mme. Patouillat, aided by her two daughters, Gaby and Marthe, the latter married to Boissière, who holds the post of the cashier in the house. Gaby has lost her heart to Journet, an intelligent youth, anxious to become rich as quickly as possible. Journet loves Gaby, and would gladly have made her his wife, but he hesitates because he thinks that a rich marriage might give him at once the funds he requires for his big undertakings. Gaby, deeply hurt, resolves never to marry Journet, yet it is she who secures him the necessary money, making him believe that it is her brother-in-law, Boissière, who advanced it. Journet is now a wealthy man, and he once more thinks of Gaby, when things take an unexpected development. Under the euphonic name of Doré Sœurs, the dressmaking establishment has opened a huge place in the Rue de la Paix, thanks to the money Journet has invested in the concern. After a while, however, Journet wants his capital back, and it then transpires that Boissière has robbed the firm of a big amount, which he has spent on a worthless creature. Lajoie, a shady lawyer, offers to put things straight if Gaby consents to become his wife, and the girl, in order to save the family from disgrace, consents. Fortunately, Gaby's sacrifice is unnecessary. Journet learns the whole truth, and, in a charming scene between the two lovers, Gaby at last consents to become Mme. Journet. The play, which met with an excellent reception, was very brightly acted. Mme. Jane Elric, who was delightfully natural in the difficult rôle of Gaby, will soon become a great favourite with the public. Mlle. Adrienne Breitner supplied a pleasant sketch of Marthe; M. Numès was an amusing Journet; and the remainder of the cast also rendered efficient aid. The scene in the dressmaking establishment, when the mannequins walk past, arrayed in all the latest fashions, will in itself prove a big draw.

THE Théâtre des Bouffes has given us *Xantho ches les Courtisanes*, a comedy in three acts by M. Jacques Richepin. There is very little plot, but that little is so spicy that it is impossible for me to enter into any details. Sufficient to say that Xantho, a young Greek matron, goes to a house inhabited by courtezans, where she wants to acquire some practical knowledge in the art of pleasing men, for, alas! her husband, on whom she dotes, is sadly neglecting her. As it happens, she meets her husband there, and in the end they return together to their house in Myrrhine, very much in love with one another. Mme. Cora Laparcerie looked and played the rôle of Xantho to perfection, and she was ably assisted by M. Hasti, an amusing Phaon. The work was preceded by *Le Jeune Homme Candide*, a smart little sketch by M. Pierre Mortier, wherein Mlle. Clarens impersonates with great tact the rôle of a lady who returns to her fiancé, from whom she has been separated during three years.

NEW plays are cropping up every day in America in spite of the lateness of the season. *Waste*, a drama dealing with "race suicide," by Porter Emerson Browne, was performed for the first time at the Court Square Theatre, Springfield, Mass., on the 7th inst., and *Mother*, by Jules Eckert Goodman, was produced on the same date at Plainfield, N.J., by Mr. William A. Brady, with Miss Emma Dunn in the title-rôle.

A LIFE OF SAMUEL FOOTE.

Students of the stage will welcome the Life of Samuel Foote, actor, author, and mimic, by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, with whom the work has been manifestly a labour of love. Mr. Fitzgerald, whose valuable additions to dramatic literature include a "Life of David Garrick," "Reminiscences of Charles Lamb," and a "History of the English Stage," brings to his work a comprehensive knowledge of the period that could not well be surpassed. The book is filled with anecdotal reminiscences of the contemporary celebrities, and, while refreshing one's memory on past events, supplies a good deal of matter that is entirely new, the author's own commentaries furnishing not the least fascinating of his appreciation.

According to his historian, Foote was "the most remarkable and one of the most gifted persons that ever figured on the English stage. It would indeed be difficult to decide whether he was more remarkable on the stage or off it. No actor has been so successful as dramatist, no actor such a wit or humorist, and, finally, no actor has had so stirring and adventurous a course. He was a gentleman by birth and breeding, yet grew up and was trained in taverns and pothouses. He spent his life mimicking respectable people, making them odious and ridiculous, and thus secured a handsome living—yet was never challenged or chastised."

The beginning of the year 1720 saw the birth of Samuel Foote. He was educated at Worcester Grammar School, where numberless boyish freaks, of which he was the leader, gave a correct indication of his character. At Worcester College, where he went to complete his studies, Foote's irrepressible hunt for fun, and his utter contempt for discipline involved the forfeiture of his scholarship. After coquetting with the law, Foote turned his attention to the stage, making his début at the "New Theatre in the Haymarket," in the February of 1774, in a tragic part—no less than that of Othello, which proved little better than a failure. His efforts in "straight" comedy were no more encouraging, and eventually Foote realised that he could never hope to make his fortune in legitimate drama. He reckoned up his resources, and determined upon the line of business which brought him fame and fortune—that of mimic, a species of entertainment that was much in favour at the time.

"Among his companions at the Bedford and the coffee-houses, more probably at the Covent Garden pothouses, he had been obtaining great applause for his imitation of friends and boon comrades that were well known to the company, and it appears he 'took them off' in a most vivid, striking way, and to immense applause. He was the first to elevate mimicry into a regular profession or dramatic system, breaking into the ranks of society to secure material, and actually compelling society to furnish him with subjects. Foote determined to make of his mimicry a system. It should be a dramatic entertainment. Then he found, perhaps to his surprise, that he had yet another resource by him, the power of writing lively sketches of characters and amusing dialogue. At once he constructed some very lively scenes, which were a complete novelty for the public."

Foote's success as author and mimic was immediate and complete. Everyone from the highest to the lowest was looked upon as fair game, and none was exempt from his mordant satire. Personalities flowed freely in his plays, and all alike experienced the biting power of his pen and his impersonation. Mr. Fitzgerald gives an exhaustive analysis of the plays, over a score in number, written and acted by Foote, with a wealth of appreciative commentary. Several chapters are devoted to Foote's adventures in Dublin, and some of the most entertaining incidents in the work are the result. It was there he introduced to the public Tate Wilkinson, who was to prove so formidable a rival to his patron, both in that city, and in London.

Foote had his difficulties with the law, from which, however, he emerged in triumph. He was about to produce his comedy *The Diversion*, at the Haymarket, when the authorities stepped in. Hither from "the alarm excited in the theatres royal, or the resentment of most of the performers who smarted under the lash of his mimicry, the civil magistrates of Westminster were called upon to interfere; and, under the sanction of an Act of Parliament for limiting a number of playhouses, sent a posse of constables, who, entering the theatre, dismissed the audience, and left the laughing Aristophanes to consider of new ways and means for his support. But Foote," writes Mr. Fitzgerald, "was not to be daunted. Within a few days he had devised a second scheme of an elusive kind, destined to be extremely successful and bring him much money. On Friday, April 24, the town was informed that 'On Saturday noon next, at twelve o'clock, at the new Theatre in the Haymarket, Mr. Foote begs the favour of his friends to come and drink a dish of chocolate with him; and 'tis hoped there will be a great deal of good company and some joyous sprits; he will endeavour to make the *Morning* as *Diverting* as possible.' No further interference was attempted; he proceeded with his work, growing bolder and more popular every day."

The unaccountable enmity which Foote continuously displayed towards Garrick is interestingly touched upon by Mr. Fitzgerald. Garrick was kindness itself to Foote; "his money, his theatre, his service, were always ready. But Foote was an everlasting thorn in his side. Threats of exhibition on the stage, quarrels—such was the return; but nothing could ruffle or interrupt the prudent Garrick's kindnesses."

The enormous advance that has been made in popularising Shakespeare is displayed in the relation of an amusing account of one of Foote's attacks on Garrick. At this day the Shakespeare Celebration extends over a month, and is contributed to by the leading representatives of the stage. How was it in 1769?

"The pompous celebration at Stratford in honour of the bard," writes Mr. Fitzgerald, "was really intended as a glorification of Garrick. The Mayor and Corporation approached him with their apocryphal mulberry-tree, and with many flatteries persuaded him to undertake all the trouble and risks of the business. Foote cared little for the bard; he went simply with the one motive—that of plaguing Garrick. His companion was Murphy, and the ill-natured pair went above prying into everything, laughing at everything, and disheartening poor Garrick as much as they could. In pursuance of his laudable intention, Foote went about talking to everyone and cracking jokes on the patron. Taking a walk by the Avon, he was recognised by the crowd, whom he regaled with jokes and remarks, producing peals of laughter. A great stout man was passing by—an important personage covered with gold lace—who paid his court to Foote, wishing to be seen with so famous a wit. The latter chaffed him good-humouredly, and finally asked him jeeringly: 'Had the county of Warwick the honour of giving birth to him as well as to Shakespeare?' 'No, sir,' said the other; 'I come from Essex.' 'And, pray, who *drove you*?' said Foote."

Garrick's magnanimity and generosity, however, rose superior to all attacks, and it was he who stood by the side of his comrade till the last. Foote died at Dover in October, 1777, and his end is described by Mr. Fitzgerald with eloquent pathos. A striking picture of Foote, after the painting of Sir Joshua Reynolds, adorns the title-page, and the work, which is published by Chatto and Windus, is admirably printed.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Alfred Moul is back in sunny London, after a most agreeable stay on the Continent, where he has been recuperating after his operation. The popular director has entirely regained his health, and feels full of energy. He has been receiving many hearty congratulations on his robust appearance, and is entering on the spring campaign with his customary enthusiasm.

Mr. Walter Gibbons, lessee of the New Grand, Clapham Junction, has now established an *entente cordiale* with the shareholders, and the transference of the lease to the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., is a decided step forward, when the possible developments of the Butt, De Frece, and Gibbons control, that is now in being, are considered.

Mr. Fred Williams, the well-known comedian, who has been associated with the New Grand company for sixteen years, and with the late Herbert Campbell helped to find half the capital, welcomed Mr. Gibbons as a new director in the place of Mr. John Parker. The directors at the close of the meeting joined in the fervent refrain of "*Hales*, smiling morn!"

Mr. I. N. Lyons, after some delay, has completed the purchase of the Middlesex. Messrs. Frank Matcham are proceeding rapidly with the preparation of the plans for a theatre of spacious magnificence, to be known as the New Middlesex Empire.

Messrs. Walter De Frece and Co. have removed the offices of their circuit to Randvoll House, Charing Cross-road, where the Gibbons Circuit is located. This change of address is due to the establishment of the new variety controlling combination.

Houdini, the Handcuff King, is absolutely the first professional to fly. Whilst in Germany last November and December he purchased a Voisin biplane, and was able to make several successful flights, snapshots of some of which have already appeared in aero periodicals. Houdini now holds the further distinction of being the first successful aviator in Australia, where he has been giving a series of exhibition flights on his biplane, and creating a great sensation.

There is no greater comedienne on the world's stage to-day than Gabrielle Réjane, the well-known French actress, who, on Monday, April 4, appears at the London Hippodrome in that delightful comedy *Lolotte*, by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy. Meilhac has always been one of Réjane's favourite authors, and in *Lolotte* she has many appropriate passages wherein to exhibit her genius.

A heated argument between the Baron and Baroness Pouf is interrupted by Croiselles, the lady's lover. She informs Croiselles that she has merely invited a well-known actress to show her how to act two parts—a cavalier and a peasant girl—in a play that is to be produced at a private entertainment. Anxious that the Baron should not know of her taking part in theatricals, she suggests that he should leave the house.

At this point Lolotte (Réjane), who is deeply in love with Croiselles, enters and proceeds to instruct the Baroness in the two rôles. Some writing in an autograph album attracts Lolotte's attention, and on closer inspection it proves to be the same inscription as Croiselles had made in her own book. Lolotte at once concludes that the Baroness is in love with Croiselles, and gives the Baroness a piece of her mind. Just then the Baron enters, and Lolotte, perceiving him, changes her voice and demeanour, saying, "That is the way, madame, to play the scene." The Baron asks for an explanation, and Lolotte makes him believe that it is a scene from her répertoire which she is teaching the Baroness. The Baron accepts this explanation and compliments Lolotte.

The Magic Circle is a society, founded in 1905, for the purpose generally of promoting the welfare and advancement of the art of magic; and for the purpose especially of preventing as much as possible the public exposure of magical secrets, and of protecting, by an honourable understanding among its members, the presentation of new magical effects in favour of the inventor thereof. The society consists of some 300 members. Among these are to be found the best known British magicians, and several of the most celebrated American and Continental exponents of the magic art.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, accompanied by her husband, Mr. John E. Nash, sailed for New York per s.s. Adriatic from Southampton last Wednesday. She received numerous bouquets and telegrams from her many friends and admirers. The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, of which Miss Hawthorne is one of the founders, sent a beautiful bouquet of white roses. Miss Hawthorne returns to England in time to commence her London season in June, having been booked by the Syndicate halls for the next three years.

Mr. Roy Cochrane will produce on Easter Monday, on a scale of considerable grandeur, a sketch on the subject of *Rob Roy* at the Surrey. The entire depth of the stage, 97ft., will be utilised for the cataract of real water, and pipers and a host of auxiliaries will be engaged. Mr. Cochrane, who is a direct descendant of the picturesque and famous freebooter, has played the part of the Macgregor hundreds of times, and we may be sure of every detail being correct. Miss Edith Lewis will be the Helen Macgregor.

The Empire ballet, *Round the World*, wisely condensed in several important particulars, the wild Siberian scene being now cut entirely away, has been renamed *East to West*. The first scene is in the Tokyo Garden, a joyous paradise of almond blossom. Here we have an entirely new dance from Miss Lydia Kyasht, entitled "Les Papillons de l'Orient," which is exquisite in its grace and charm. It also serves to introduce a lithe and nimble male dancer in M. Adolf Bolm, from the Imperial Theatre, St. Petersburg. The number brought down the house on Monday night, and Miss Kyasht, who looked very pretty in a sweet butterfly dress, was recalled with her companion. M. Bolm appears only in this one scene.

In Scene 2 Miss B. Collier and Mr. Fred Farren retain their "Danse Creole," which has something of the Apache complexion. Mr. Fred Farren is the life and soul of the Moscow Scene, which now ends the ballet, and his eccentric dance is quite in his best vein. Miss Phyllis Bedells scores also in a most effective solo.

Mr. Bransby Williams writes: "I have been sent all the way from New York, three days and two nights' train journey, to open the New Walker Theatre, Winnipeg to-day (March 7). What would some of the 'boys and girls' say to that for a week-end journey? I am making the speech for the proprietors, and having a personal reception at lunch to-morrow. I have yet to return to Chicago, Indianapolis, Toronto, and then I have a farewell week in New York, so that I shall miss my opening at the Coliseum, but re-open for Mr. Stoll at Manchester. I have had some pleasant chats with Forbes Robertson and Chas. Cartwright, and Geo. Fawcett (Big Bill, in *White Man*), who sends his love to England."

Linn and Darius, with their original instrumental and vocal scena, open at Barnard's, Chatham, on Monday.

The Dardinis (jugglers) leave England next Friday, having been engaged for Harry Rickards' Australian tour through Tom Pacey's Agency.

Maude Marshall and Fred Parr, refined vocal and comedy artists, will make their first appearance on Monday at the Coliseum, in a novel act.

Mr. Chas. A. White, who has been stage-manager of the Hippodrome, Coventry, for the last eighteen months, has been engaged as resident-manager for the New Pavilion, Rothesay-on-the-Clyde.

It is announced that the Regent Theatre, Salford, will be closed from July 2 for the reconstruction of the gallery—a requirement of the Watch Committee. The house will probably reopen on August Bank Holiday.

Managers and artists are informed that Will Lund's Variety Agency, late of 27, Islington, Liverpool, has removed to more convenient premises in Seymour-street, where messages can be answered day or night.

The funeral of Charles Gibbs, coloured comedian, took place on Friday (18th), the remains being interred in Streatham Park Cemetery. The arrangements were superintended by R. R. Tull, of Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

Miss Dora Healey had to undergo a serious operation on her nose and throat on Tuesday. With skilled attendance, it is hoped that she will make a complete recovery, and resume engagements that have been unfulfilled owing to illness.

The Urban Council of Erith invite offers for the use of the bandstand in the Erith Recreation Ground for alfresco entertainments during the summer season. Application should be made before April 6, to J. Kennedy Allerton, Council Offices, Erith.

Miss Gertie Gitana met with an ovation on returning to the Olympia, Liverpool, last Monday. After she had rendered three of her best songs the audience would not allow her to depart, and even though another artist came on the stage, he was obliged to retire until Miss Gitana had reappeared.

Mr. Carl Lyle, with his farcical comedy sketch company, will be the leading attraction at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh on Monday, April 4, when he will present that excellent absurdity, *A Married Microbe*. Mr. Lyle will be supported by Miss Alice Drummond, Miss Peggy Webster, and Mr. Allyn Whyte.

The Theatre Royal, Colchester, of which the sole proprietor is Mr. Chas. Macdona, is closed for Passion Week. On Monday next it opens with two shows nightly for a season of vaudeville under contract with the Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., Mr. Leo King acting as the resident representative of the syndicate.

At the Barrasford Hippodrome, Sheffield, Mr. Claude Bowlby, who has made a high reputation as a local amateur, this week commences a six months' salaried engagement on the Barrasford circuit. Mr. Bowlby is featuring a "rinking" song composed by Mr. J. G. Hahn, the talented conductor of the Hippodrome orchestra.

Mr. Harry Burns, the well-known provincial agent, known professionally as "the Hustler," sails on the Lusitania for New York on Saturday, April 9, returning on the Mauretania on Wednesday, May 11. Mr. Burns will be accompanied by his charming and talented wife, Miss Helen Charles, the well-known entertainer at the piano, and intends combining business with pleasure.

Harry Ross, thirty-five, a tailor, of Gibson-square, Islington, and William Thompson, thirty-nine, a fitter, of Risinghill-street, Pentonville, were charged on remand on Wednesday with being concerned in breaking and entering 16, Furlong-road, Islington, and stealing three diamond rings, a diamond pin, and bracelets, value £150, the property of George D'Albert, the well-known music hall artist. The case was committed for trial.

Mr. S. T. Newsome desires through our columns to thank all the artists who so generously contributed to the excellent entertainment on behalf of the Lifeboat Charity on Saturday afternoon at the Hippodrome, Coventry. He fears that in the rush of business on that day he may have unwittingly omitted to thank personally one or other of the artists who so kindly gave their services. The matinée was a great success.

The Harrogate Kursaal is now open for the season, and there are a number of popular and well-known artists announced to appear. Among them may be mentioned Vesta Tilley, Margaret Cooper, R. A. Roberts, Lawrence Brough, Auguste Van Biene, the Follies, Little Tich, Harry Randall, Harry Lander, Geo. Robey, Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, Harry Fragson, Madame Melba, Barclay Gammon, and a host of others.

Allan Fitzroy Maclean, a music-hall agent, carrying on business in St. Martin's-lane, W.C., as Maclean's Agency, estimates his liabilities at £860 and the assets at £62. His failure is attributed to losses during the time he was connected with the Stock Exchange, also on entertainments which he had arranged, and to other causes. The meeting on Wednesday was adjourned in order that the debtor might have an opportunity of submitting a proposal.

In the Chancery Division, on the 18th inst., before Mr. Justice Eve, Mr. P. Ogden Lawrence, K.C., moved on behalf of Messrs. Elkin and Co., proprietors of *The Blue Bird*, now running at the Haymarket Theatre, and of the musical rights, to restrain Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter from publishing a piece of music called "The Blue Bird Waltz." Counsel for the defendants said that they had not had time to answer the affidavits, and the motion was allowed to stand over until next term.

Mr. Geo. Rhodes Parry, who came from Grimsby only last Christmas to take charge of the Crouch End Hippodrome for Mr. B. P. Lucas and his syndicate, last week left to undertake the management of the Bristol Empire, run by the same circuit. His departure was made the occasion for several presentations, Mr. Harry Goodson presiding over an interesting farewell ceremony. Mr. Parry is succeeded in the management at Crouch End by Mr. Fred H. Phelps, formerly of the King's Theatre, Longsight.

Considerable improvements have recently been made in the stage lighting of the beautiful Empire Palace, Sheffield, and the result adds greatly to the exhilarating feelings induced by acts of a spectacular nature, which demand the aid of brilliant and frequent changes of colour. In addition to the footlights and borders, extra illuminants are provided for "flooding the stage in a sea of light." Some artistic new scenery has also been painted, and the new proscenium wings and borders are beautiful specimens of painted drapery work.

The Foresters will start again on Monday with the ordinary variety programme.

The five years' lease of the Paragon, we are given to understand, has been sold to Mr. Harry Jacobs, of Wonderland, who takes it over on May 23, and will run boxing shows there.

Mr. Dan Lipton's novelty entitled *Songland* will have its first West End production at the Hippodrome on Monday. Miss Eva Kelland, the popular principal girl from the Lyceum, makes her appearance in this production.

The directors of the Empire Theatre have re-engaged Mr. George Robey on account of his enormous success on his previous visit, and the popular comedian will appear on Easter Monday, March 28, for a period of six weeks.

Prof. Thos. Howard, eldest of the Howard Brothers (known as the Wonderful Howards), has been seriously ill for the last sixteen weeks with bronchitis and rheumatism, but is now recovering. He hopes to resume business again in a few weeks' time.

Mr. Fred Barnes was the recipient in Bradford last week of a very novel present from some admirers. It consisted of a gold cigarette-case with engraved front depicting a flock of sheep, of which one was enamelled entirely black. Underneath were the words: "With every success to the black sheep of the family."

We are to have a comedy riot both at the London and Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, when Walter Bird's company will be seen in a screamer entitled *Her Husband*, which has been convulsing audiences in the States as *The Burglars*. Mr. Ernest Long plays the chief comic part.

Miss Winifred Ward, the "immaculate boy," who has just finished a highly successful season at the Oxford and Tivoli, London, is winning golden opinions on the Moss and Stoll tour, where she is now starring. Miss Ward has been specially engaged by Mr. J. Macready Chute to play the title-rôle for his next Christmas production at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

Plans are approved for the building of a new Empire Palace of Varieties to be erected in the Bell-road, Hounslow. The performances, which will be of a high-class order, will be conducted on the two houses a night system. Building operations are expected to start shortly. The architects are Messrs. F. Boreham and Son, of 75, Finsbury-pavement, London, and the contractors are Messrs. J. Chessum and Sons, of South-place, E.C.

The committee of the Johnny Alexander benefit fund beg to thank the following for donations, in addition to the list already published:—Messrs. W. H. Atlas, Jack Lotto, Frank Boyce, Paul Cinquevalli, W. Jackson, and especially Messrs. O'Malley and Brown for the large sum they have collected in the provinces. The total amount, we are glad to say, comes to over three figures.

Owing to the instantaneous and enormous success of Miss Helena Millais' sketch, *The Mask Torn Off*, by Ward Bailey and Edward Thane, it was immediately booked by Mr. Walter Gibbons to open at the Holborn Empire on Easter Monday, the 28th inst. Miss Millais will be supported by the original company, which includes Mr. John Dennys, Mr. Stuart Cleveland, and Mr. Edward Thane.

Mr. Harry Tate's challenge cup, presented for competition to the Music Hall and Theatrical Football League, has been won this year by the Tivoli team, a doughty lot of sockers, who made a plucky fight for the trophy during the 1908-9 season. The cup will be presented to the winners at a banquet at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday, April 17, when Mr. Harry Tate will take the chair.

Mr. T. H. Poulton, of the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, is opening the fine grounds opposite the hotel on Easter Monday, with a first-class band and variety entertainment. No expense has been spared to ensure the comfort of the visitors. The grounds have been beautifully laid out. The band is under the direction of Mr. Wm. Tomlin, and the stage arrangements, &c., are in the capable hands of Mr. Pat Carey.

Miss Nance Maries, serio-comedienne, passed away at St. Thomas's Hospital on Thursday, the cause of death being consumption. The deceased artist was known to but few of the present generation of music hall frequenters, as she had not been seen on the halls for some time. Of late years she was interested in business.

Her last appearance was at the Empress, Brixton, at her own benefit. She made her first appearance at Bob Botting's hall, the Marylebone, some twenty years since. In its halcyon days this hall was regarded as a nursery of talent, and Little Tich, Gus Elen, George Lashwood, Joe Elvin, and other stars appeared there in the days of their youth. On the site of the old hall flats are now built.

Messrs. Lewis and Russell, of Burnley, have kindly forwarded to Mr. G. H. Chirgwin 100 1lb. tins of their celebrated Stumike digestive coffee, to be sold for the benefit of the benevolent funds. The tins, price 6d. each (postage 2d. extra), are on sale at the offices of the V.A.B.F. and Institution, 18, Charing Cross-road, and are being quickly snapped up, for artists know a good thing when they taste it, and Miss Ellen Terry says "It's delicious," and Mrs. Chirgwin affirms that "It is delightful." Mr. Harry Blake, hon. treasurer of the funds, disposed of forty tins in no time last Sunday night at the Water Rats lodge meeting.

In *Dolly's Deception*, now being played by John Scott's company on the Moss-Stoll tour, the greatest interest is everywhere aroused by the appearance of a tiny four-footed member of the company, carried by one of the ladies. Opinions in the pit and gallery appear to be evenly divided as to whether it is a monkey or a very small live Teddy bear. As a matter of fact, Tinker Toots is a highly-bred Pekinese spaniel, and a rare one at that, being a perfect albino. It may be added, that although only 3lb. in weight, he shows at least as much intelligence as many a much more massive "mummer." *Dolly's Deception* is to form part of the holiday programme at the Shepherd's Bush Empire next week.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following: Miss Ray Wallace, donation, 9s.; Miss Fannie Harris (Dent and Harris), donation, 10s.; Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), collecting, £1 1s.; Mr. Ben Abrahams, Queen's, Poplar, box collection, £1 7s. 11d.; Miss Lottie Albert, twelve pairs baby's wool boots; Miss Lil Hawthorne, baby's new underclothes; Miss Fannie Harris, baby's new clothing; Miss C. Talbot, lady's costume; Mr. Alex Barish, one pair men's new boots; Mr. Alfred Keeping for his enclosure; Mrs. James Horne, boy's suit; Mr. Dennis (Dennis and Morris), for his gift of a handsome set of new leather band books (per Sisters Macarte), which are for sale; and to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vento (Clacton-on-Sea), for gift made by himself, of house and butcher's shop, also for sale, and to be seen any day at the Guild rooms. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

The annual general meeting of the Terriers Association was held on Sunday at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, the president, Terrier G. P. R. Burgess, in the chair. There was a good attendance of Terriers.

The elections of president and officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Terrier H. H. Griff; hon. trustees, Terriers Harry Gage and S. N. Salter; hon. auditors, Terriers H. Cory Woodrow and Albert Voyce; hon. solicitor, Terrier G. P. R. Burgess; public auditors, Messrs. Turquand, Turquand, and Co.

It was agreed that Terriers who retire from the profession and reside abroad should be eligible for the various benefits under existing rules. It was also agreed that life honorary members may be elected at the annual general meeting, and Terrier Arthur Simmons was thereupon accorded the honour. It was decided to retain the present badge.

No. 2 Account was abolished, and a new account, called the Emergency Fund, was substituted. It was arranged to award a specially designed jewel to any member who had rendered meritorious service to the Association, such recommendation to be made by the committee, and to come before the members at the annual general meeting. Votes of thanks were accorded to the president, retiring officers, the secretary, and the chairman. The result of the voting for the vice-presidents and committee will be announced next week.

Mr. Harry Hildyard, stage-manager Balham Hippodrome, was presented last week with a very handsome watch by Mr. John Lawson.

Mr. Alfred Butt made special arrangements whereby every scene and incident in the aquatic struggle of the 'Varsity crews, from start to finish, was shown on the Urbanora bioscope at the Palace Theatre on Wednesday evening.

Miss Chummie La Mara finishes her London season to-day, and commences on Monday a twenty weeks' provincial tour. Her song, "Kelly's gone to kingdom come," for which she has provincial rights, will take the place of her "Harrigan" number, with which she was so successful.

The Merrie Romantiques, under the direction of Reginald Thomas and Harry Lea, met with great success at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, last week. Miss Lucy Elliot's song, "Lady Moon," was a big hit, as were also the numbers rendered by Mr. Reginald Thomas (baritone) and Mr. Harry Lea (comedian).

The new firm of impresarios, Messrs. G. W. Gerald and Frank Coyle, of 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds, have done good business this week in booking Charlier, the celebrated ventriloquist, at the Palace Theatre, London, for one month certain, also two full Moss and Stoll tours, and seventeen weeks with the Morris Circuit in America. He is also booked fifteen turns with the De Frece Circuit.

Mr. Gardner Allen writes: "May I claim a little of your valuable space for the purpose of bringing to the notice of a few unthinking members of both the theatrical and variety professions what cruel torture they unwittingly inflict upon some unfortunate people on this earth by giving imitations on the stage of stuttering. Out of charity one can only assume that such performers are utterly ignorant of the deplorable effects resulting from stammering. I can assure them that any stammerer listening to such a performance is not only far from being entertained, but his feelings are deeply wounded.

"Handicapped as the stammerer is at every point in life by his unfortunate affliction—ridiculed and mocked by the crass-minded—only a stammering person knows what a life of mental horror is his, and if he seeks to forget his trouble for an hour or two in a variety theatre, is it creditable, is it just, that an imitation of a terrible infirmity should haunt him even in his moments of pleasure? These are strong words, some may say, but they are not a tenth part strong enough to convey the racked feelings of a tortured being.

"I cast no reflection on the talent of any performers giving such mimicry, but for their information, I can personally vouch for cases of suicide caused only by stammering, and in these days of education and civilisation I am amazed at the wrong unthinkingly inflicted on these unfortunate people. Let me impress upon artists that the few laughs raised by such imitations would be but poor consolation to them were they to realise the bitterness raised in the very souls of stuttering persons listening to them."

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on Monday Ernest George Wragg, a music-hall artist, of New Brighton, professionally known as George Reeves, was awarded £100 damages against Messrs. D. C. Thomson and Co., of Dundee, for libel. Plaintiff, when appearing in pantomime at the Gaiety, Glasgow, saw in the Glasgow edition of the defendant's paper, the *Weekly News*, a paragraph headed "George Reeves Shoots Wife Twice, then Ends His Own Life. X-rays Save the Woman." The defendants stated that the paragraph had no reference to the plaintiff, and could not reasonably be held to relate to him.

Miss Madge Temple makes her reappearance in London on Monday next after a most successful tour in the provinces, where she has been a great attraction at the Barrasford halls. Miss Temple has been devoting her spare time to visiting the poor in each town she has been entertaining. The greatest poverty, she says, reigns in Leeds. If the various companies at the different halls would only give a few shillings each artist and jointly visit the various places and help those most in need it would, she feels sure, be another feather in the cap of the profession, who are always so willing to extend a helping hand. But the profession has the problem of its own poor to face, and many are the distressing cases reported at the weekly meetings of the V.A.B.F.

Mr. John Clempert, who is at Buenos Aires, in a letter to us gives information about South America which he thinks may be useful to artists appearing there. "First everybody should remember that the Argentine money, which is called pesos (paper money), according to English value, is 1s. 9d., but you can go about as far a head with it as you could in England with 6d. The Customs make you pay duty on printing; the stage hands or general hands are very lazy; and if you want anything done you will hear one answer, and that is 'mañana,' which means 'to-morrow.' Ladies with talent and respectability are not wanted." During Clempert's act on many occasions people have rushed the cabinet, and in order to get a look in have even cut the cloth from it.

"Always be sure of a big salary, at least three times as much as that obtained in England. Have signed contracts in English, and insist upon having in writing the stipulation only to do your show the same as you do in England. Make your contracts for a definite time without troubling about options, and get your money in paper at buying rate." In his strictures of native management and native audiences, Mr. Clempert doesn't allude to the Palacio Novedades, Buenos Aires, as that place is run on reasonable lines; but he has made exhaustive inquiries about other places, and trusts that every brother and sister artist will consider his information of value.

Imro Fox, the well-known magician, died at Utica, N.Y., on the 4th inst., at the age of sixty.

In an acrobatic turn at the Surrey on Friday, the 18th, one of the Cumberland Brothers, while attempting a double somersault, fell heavily to the stage. On his removal to Guy's Hospital, it was found that he had broken a collar-bone.

Merton and Rydon, the popular comedy duo, who have just returned from Australia and Africa, have been doing quite a lot of globe trotting. Leaving last May for Sydney, they returned to England at the end of November just for one week, thence to Africa and back, covering 42,000 miles in the round trip. They report a splendid time at Sydney, Melbourne, and Johannesburg.

La Belle Alva, the gipsy peasant girl, who made such a success at the London Pavilion in November last, opens again at that West-end house on Easter Monday. On her previous engagement her barefoot sand dance was so successful with Pavilion audiences that she was specially retained for a lengthened period by Mr. Frank Glenister. She has during the past week received an offer for the Continent.

At the moment of writing, the prospects of a fine Easter look particularly rosy, and the exodus of Londoners to daily in primrose paths or to listen to the murmuring swell of the sea should be prodigious. But the first public holiday of the year is also associated with the visit to the metropolis of crowds of country folk, and for their behoof managers and proprietors of variety theatres make a special effort at the provision of popular attractions. These for the most part used to be found in the return of comics and comedians from the theatres where pantomime has reigned, but with the shortening of the runs of these mixtures of fun and folly and frolic, the rule is by no means so absolute as it used to be.

The Palace Theatre, which promises one day to be the centre of a cosmopolitan variety circuit, relies mostly on its ante Easter attractions, with the addition of Horace Goldin, who will appear in new and puzzling illusions. Someone—a lady—once suggested to this famous conjurer that his show might gain in attractiveness if he talked. "No, madame," said he, with just a faint twinkle of humour in his eye, "remember the proverb, 'Silence is *Goldin*.'"

Easter Monday at the Tivoli brings back Harry Lauder after his successful American tour. His new songs will include "Queen among the heather," "The picnic," and "Breakfast in my bed on Sunday morning." Wilkie Bard also makes his first appearance after his Drury Lane pantomime success in new songs. An entirely novel feature of the Easter bill will be a Russian wordless play, entitled *She Pays the Penalty*, tried in the provinces during the week. Mark Sheridan, Ernest Shand, and others complete the strong bill.

Mr. George Robey, who made so popular an appeal during his last appearances at the Empire, will start a welcome return visit and an exclusive engagement there on Easter Monday. *Hullo, London!* continues on its triumphant way, and besides these attractions the new version of the delightful Empire ballet, now entitled *East to West*, is in full swing, with new dances for Mr. Fred Farren and Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, the latter introducing a special number, in which she is supported by M. Bolm.

An important engagement has been made for the Coliseum next Monday, in the person of Lafayette, aptly described as "The Man of Mystery." No more fitting or comprehensive title could be found for him, with his bewildering necromancy. His most effective items are "The Sculptor's Dream," "From Dust to Dust," "The Lion's Bride," and "Dr. Kemser; or, Solving the Great Negro Problem." The last is a surprise, in which Lafayette, in full view, paints a live and kicking coal-black negro into a semblance of the King, and then in a twinkling, and by some miraculous process, becomes the negro he is painting, while the real black is discovered in a hamper in the wings. "The Lion's Bride," too, is a daring and sensational illusion, written and invented by Lafayette, which deals with a story of the Orient. Huntley Wright and company, in *The Little Father of the Wilderness*; King's College Boys, Tom E. Finglass, Howard and Harris, the Boissets, in *A Trip to the Continent*; the Lancashire Singers, Marshall and Parr, the Four Jumels, and Mme. Ella Russell complete the Coliseum company.

The holiday programme at the London Hippodrome is of exceptional merit. It includes Miss Ada Reeve, with her sparkling songs; the Grotesques, in their merriest of burlesques; Mr. George Ali as a Buster Brown dog—a remarkably clever piece of comedy work; the police dogs of Paris, which have won the approval of leading detectives; Miss Hetty King, just returned from a successful American tour; Dan Lipton's company, in a vocal scena; Lydia and Amelys, French dancers; H. O. Wills, the comedian; and the Twelve Fezzans, daring acrobats from the Sahara.

The holiday programme directed by Mr. Blyth Pratt will be given twice on Easter Monday at the Oxford. Harry Randall, Ernest Shand, Phil Ray, Clarice Mayne, Arden and Abel, the Poluskis, Jack and Evelyn are among the principal turns on the very full bill.

At the Metropolitan the generous provision of holiday entertainment by Mr. Henri Gros includes the droll burlotta, *Happy Holland*, played by Jake Friedman and company, Viviana and company in *The Toy Shop*, and Mark Sheridan heads the comedians. Other turns are the Rawsons, Barry Lupino, Herbert Rule, and others.

Chelsea Palace audiences will welcome the return of Miss Madge Temple, Joe Peterman and company, Pick, Tholl, and Taylor, Angus Strong, Victor Widdicombe and company in *Her Devonshire Dad*, and several others.

Mr. B. P. Lucas, who since last Easter has added the Imperial Palace, Canning Town, to his circuit, is presenting at the Bedford on Monday My Fancy, Karno's *Jail Birds*, Stephen Adeson and company, the Man of Forty Faces, Marion Armitage, Tom Dunmore, and others.

The Empire, Camberwell, list, includes Fred Conquest and company, Fred Neiman, the Cameron Quartet, Jessica Brooke, the Royal Tokio Troupe, Cissie Dryden, and others.

The principal performers in the Easter programme of the suburban Moss-Stoll Empires are: Hackney.—Reano's Band, the Carmos, O'Gust (mimic), and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden. Holloway.—Harry Tate and company, in *Fishing*, Jessie Preston, Wilson and Waring, and the Five Vernons. New Cross.—Karno's *Dandy Thieves*, Leslie Brothers, and Gwennie Llewellyn. Stratford.—Empire Comedy Four, Lydia Yeamans, Oswald Williams, and Lupino Lane. Shepherd's Bush.—Arthur Roberts and company, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, and the Lyric Quartette.

The attractive holiday bill at the Standard will include Fred Maxwell and company, in *The Girl I Love*, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Jack Lorimer, May Mate, The Whittakers, Gicardo, Baby Vi Davis, Marion Armitage, Harry Maxam, Three Glenvilles, Bert and Ruby, Johnny Cecil, and several others.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MESSRS. FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER, who are the sole publishers of all Mr. Hermann Darewski, jun.'s, songs, have secured a very dainty number entitled "To welcome my Sadie to me." The pretty lyric is by Lester Barrett.

MARK SHERIDAN will shortly feature a new number from the pens of Arthur C. Findon and Hermann E. Darewski, jun.

ON Monday the great Metropolis will welcome the return to town of numbers of its favourite artists, who have since Boxing Night and earlier been amusing our country cousins in many a gorgeous "annual," and, pantomime being now a thing of the past, all the said artists, who but a short time since were supplied by Messrs. Francis and Day with their "plums" for Christmas, have again turned with one accord to the same source for "Easter Eggs," with which to delight and amuse their admirers. Needless to say, in every instance they have been supplied with *œufs d'or* from the best strains of those Minorcas of minstrelsy and Brahmas of brainy burdens who own allegiance to the "Chantecler of Charing Cross Road"—which, as Mr. Harry Randall would say, is "Sunday language for 'Cock of the Walk'"!

THAT fine ballad "If I had the world to give you," which Messrs. Francis and Day publish, has been acclaimed wherever heard as one of the finest songs of the present time, and it is already one of the greatest trade successes of late years. It is by J. Hayden Clarendon. It has been arranged as a cornet solo by Warwick Williams.

AT the London Hippodrome on Monday Mr. Dan Lipton's "Songland" will be presented. It will be found to be the last word in song exploiting, set in a frame of dazzling splendour, and enhanced by unique electrical and scenic effects. Miss Eva Kelland, the charming principal girl from the Lyceum, is sure of a welcome from her myriad admirers, and among the numbers heard will be "Take me back to Pompeii" and "Gretna Green," by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton, and "In my bouquet," by Dan Lipton and J. A. Glover-Kind. All three are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AMONG the many bright particular stars that will shine in the Oxford's constellation, none will be more welcome than that delightful artist Miss Clarice Mayne, who (once more with the assistance of Mr. Jas. W. Tate) will delight her audiences with the great American song success entitled "Take me up with you, dearie." It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The gifted comedienne will also essay an entirely new song by Fred W. Leigh, the title of which is "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie."

MR. GEORGE H. ELLIOTT, who, at the Empire, Portsmouth, has once again been adding to his laurels, has just acquired a song by Bert Lee and A. J. Lawrance, entitled "I want to be there if there's a girl there," which has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day, who also are adding to their catalogue yet another ditty of the chocolate-coloured coon, written by himself in collaboration with the aforesaid Bert Lee and A. J. Lawrance. The title is "Hullo! my dandy!"

A SONG that will be talked of is Mr. George D'Albert's new one from the pens of Weston, Barnes, and Maurice Scott. The title is "Don't do away with all the piers (peers)." Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing it.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE'S new song, "Follow me, girls!" is also by R. P. Weston, F. J. Barnes, and Maurice Scott, and will be likewise issued by the firm of Francis and Day.

AT the London Coliseum during the forthcoming Easter week the fine band of the gigantic house will be heard, under the leadership of Mr. Louis La Rondelle, in Felix Godard's quite new two-step "The Monkey's Serenade," which Messrs. Francis and Day have just acquired, and which will be furnished to musical directors after Easter. The whole of the music to be played between the various turns has also been selected from Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue by the talented musical director.

A PRETTY number about to see the light, and which will bear the imprint of Messrs. Francis and Day, is entitled "Just as the crow flies." It is by Harry Staunton, Donovan Meher, and Hermann E. Darewski.

To the already lengthy list of noteworthy waltzes which help to make Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue the weighty tome it is, has been added yet another, composed by Emil Meene, and entitled "Dawn."

MR. JOE ARCHER'S newest song "Don't take me away from the girls" is from the practised pens of Charles Collins and Fred Murray, who have also written for Mr. Archer a quaint ditty, entitled "Oh, my friends!" The former has already been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day

IT used to be "Handsome Jack" whenever the name of the popular Mr. Barnes, of the Adelphi, was mentioned, and now it threatens to be "Fascinating Fred" on the numerous occasions when our Mr. Barnes of the variety stage is discussed, especially by the members of the fair sex. At the Empire, Hull, he has been going great guns with the fine song from his own pen, entitled "The Scapegrace of the Family." It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day. Mr. Barnes is booked till the year 1817.

THE Manchester Press has been loud in its praises of Mr. Charles R. Whittle in his song "I'm Dunn—Mister Dunn," in which the comedian again portrays one of those delightful character studies of an apparently simple and child-like Yorkshireman in London, who appears to be a likely pigeon to be easily plucked by the wily sharps of the Metropolis, but who are circumvented and foiled at every turn by the man from the North, who is evidently a distant relative of that artful, wight Billy Muggins. The song, which has been already placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day, is by Edgar Bateman and Charles Ridgwell, the latter of whom is responsible not only for "Billy Muggins," but also for many of the most renowned songs of the past few years, songs both humorous and serious.

MISS JULIE JEWEL, the new chorus vocalist, has in study for immediate production two big numbers, "I might have known" and "One word—Yes," by Fred Carr and Arthur Parry, the well-known Liverpool composer.

ANY song which touches a domestic chord is always sure of a hearty welcome, and in "Take Great Care of the Baby" Mr. Alf. Rick registers another winner. Messrs. Levy and Cardwell were the first to feature it in their *Hop 'o my Thumb* pantomime, and its outstanding success led to its immediate publication by Price and Reynolds, who, having made it a free song, anticipate a record success. Professional copies are now ready, and enterprising chorus singers will write to 41, Berners-street without delay.

MR. LEONARD TEEL has just purchased for early use a novel number, entitled "No one can cure me," from the pen of Mr. Wilfred Chandler, composed by John McColl.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE HIPPODROME.

The training of dogs for the tracking of criminals is a subject of growing interest to the police of Paris and London, and from the former city on Monday came Mlle. Arlette Clary, to give a demonstration of the cleverness of a trio of canines specially trained to hunt down the Apache. The three animals—Wolf, Perlot, and Max—were put through their paces by Mlle. Clary before a strongly interested Hippodrome audience on Monday. Wolf is at present a bit of a novice but quite enthusiastic in his work, and showing all the sagacity necessary to become an adept in his tracking. Perlot, a bullhound, is a ferocious cuss, and as a realistic exhibition of his prowess might have resulted in injury to the gentleman taking the part of the Apache he was muzzled. Max, the cleverest of the trio, scales a wall 8ft. 10in. high, and can keep in "touch" with a criminal as well as defend his mistress. The dogs have been trained to refuse food from strangers, this precaution preventing danger from poison. Max winds up the show by jumping through the window of a house and holding up a burglar until the police arrive.

A really funny animal is Sport, the Buster Brown dog presented by Mr. George Ali, whose performance is as interesting and amusing as it is clever. He again appears in *Papa's Day Off*, and is well supported by Master James Hollom and Mr. Fred Grove. Miss Louie Freear was unable to appear on Monday, and her place was taken by the Brothers Egbert, who were funny "on the carpet" and under it. Capital clowning and clever acrobatism were never more happily associated. The Grotesques return with their skit on a village concert. Master Lupino Lane—quite a big boy now—need not wear baby collars any longer for his really clever acrobatic dance; and Cruickshanks, musical jester, is responsible for wit and drollery.

Miss Ada Reeve is delightful in her song "When Richard the First was King," which she sings with wonderful spirit and *entrain*. She is vivacity itself, too, as Madame Pirouette, and finally revives her famous song "Sue," supplemented with a dainty dance. There is only one Ada Reeve, and who can compass her versatility? Miss Amelia Bingham, in her "Moments from Great Plays," chooses scenes from *La Tosca*, *Madame Sans-Gêne*, and *A School for Husbands*. In the first-mentioned play we have the murder of Scarpia, a piece of tragedy to which the commanding style and superb presence and diction of the actress do complete justice. The fun of the scene between the Duchess of Dantzic and the Queen of Naples is rather overlarded with business, worked up probably for country audiences; but, apart from this, the wordy warfare between the two women is very effectively done. The mounting in all the scenes is elaborate and artistic.

A musical turn that appeals to cultured ears is exploited by the Miles-Stavordale Quintet, consisting of harp, guitar, and mandolines. They choose for their first selection that well-known song "The Admiral's Broom," by no means a commonplace selection, and wind with a most expressive rendering of "Love's old sweet song," with wonderful vocal effects, which evoke enthusiastic applause. The Miles-Stavordale combination in its refined and cultured performance affords an example of the great advance music has made in the variety theatres. Other turns in the bill are the Black Diamonds, and Great and Good, grotesques with a side-splitting act.

TOTTENHAM PALACE

Despite rival counter attractions in the way of an almost adjoining picture palace and skating rink, Manager T. S. Mayne contrives with little effort and generally good programmes to command a substantial following. Local patrons will long find a little corner in their conversation for *That Dreadful Detective*, with Mr. E. D. Nicholls filling the title-rôle As Detective Inspector Dripping he is screamingly funny, and scores point after point. The company enter into the spirit of burlesque in whole-hearted style. Next, perhaps, in popular favour here are the Rawsons, a duo of young entertainers still in their teens. They should hold their own with the best in their line. Clever pianoforte manipulation, banjo playing, and charming vocalism find prominence in their varied act. They are possessed of voices which blend sweetly together. Master Rawson's particular winner is a whistling monologue. The title, "Life's Stages," itself suggests the theme. "The cotton picker's lullaby," given local colour by an effective banjo accompaniment, is another feature of their repertoire.

Those who have seen the Martineks are hardly likely to do the "bar act" when their name occurs in a programme. Their "Rag Doll" dance is the most perfect piece of dummy simulation that we know. Comedy juggling is the forte of the Dardinis, who are past masters in the art. As a smart dancer with a finished, well-timed step Master Cliff Diamond quickly gains the good graces of his audience. The Five X Rays in their "mad acrobating" are very smart; and Wilson Hallett, jolly of face, lets you know that he is going to please you at the outset. Armed in every sense of the word with his life-like figure of a baby, he sets fond mothers screaming with laughter by his imitation of certain phases of domestic bliss (?). Miss Ethel Stephenson is blessed with a striking contralto voice, which she "lets go" tastefully in Tosti's "Good-bye," and the Sisters Grovini display remarkable elasticity of limb in graceful acrobatics and tricky tumbling. A choice selection of pictures completes the bill.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA.

Many interesting items are being presented at the above hall this week. Foremost on the bill appears the name of Mr. John Lawson, who is appearing with his company in his latest production, *The Miracle*, presented in eight scenes, all excellent examples of brushwork, and each making a beautiful stage picture. The company, too, is one of high capabilities. Mr. John Lawson plays with power and distinction as the blind Talmudist, Joseph Emmanuel, his acting being intensely touching in parts. Mr. F. N. Grimstone, a young actor, plays with cleverness the part of Cohen Goldstein. Mr. F. Joynson Powell, too, in his delineation of Lorenzo Vacheli, plays with the callousness due to the part, and is very successful. Mr. Geo. Bushra, a darkey, does wonderfully well as Wallah; and Mr. M. Cohen is satisfactory as the reader. Miss Lucille Sidney plays prettily, and with charming effect as Ena Leveson. The piece is staged in Mr. John Lawson's usual lavish style.

Mr. Edward Lauri and Miss May Beattie score a decided success in their musical comedy protean mélange, entitled *In Her Boudoir*. Both artists have capital voices, and use them with good effect in their various numbers. In the piece Miss Beattie assumes male disguise, and Mr. Edward Lauri dresses as one of the opposite sex, the result being highly diverting. The Four Rosebuds, smart vocalists and dancers, sing "In Jungle Town." The telepathy act of the Days is popular. The lady, blindfolded, tells in a mysterious manner, the nature of anything presented to her brother by any of the audience. Baby Myrtle Grove, an extremely clever child, should have a brilliant future. She sings "Mr. Johnson" and another song in capital style, and dances well. Miss Jean Wallace sings, "I've got rings on my fingers" and "Mr. Man in the moon" with taste, and dances with care and skill. The Five Glima Boys, in an exhibition of wrestling, show in an effective and convincing manner some methods of self-defence against hooligans. Their distinctly novel turn has an enthusiastic reception.

Mr. Thomas Brooklyn and company appear in their farcical absurdity, *Algy's Advertisement*. Mr. John E. Conan, comedian, sings a dame song in good style, and is deservedly applauded; and Mr. Revill Hall tells in verse of the troubles caused by a live electric wire. The Bioscope brings an interesting performance to a close with attractive pictures. Mr. Fred A. Vernall discharges his duties as manager here with marked ability.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The programme of entertainment being submitted here this week is fully in accord with the popular taste, and Mr. G. Wells, the courteous and genial manager, is to be heartily congratulated on his choice selection of artists. Special mention must be made of Lew Lake and his comedy company in their humorous drama *My Pal Jerry*, which is brimful of screamingly funny situations. An excellent "turn" is Genst and Newlyn, the Hebrew and soubrette, who give some clever step-dancing and sing a novel song, "Levi, my Yiddisher cowboy." The Sisters Mawdsley, juvenile duettists and speciality dancers, come in for hearty applause, and their song "On the banks of the Rhine" is an excellent number. Another feature of their performance is their neat and dainty dancing. Martinet and Wallis give a very novel and clever musical act, the saxophone duet "Alice, where art thou?" being warmly applauded, as also is their rendering of "The old folks at home," on an unique instrument, composed of tubular rattles.

A funny vaudeville tit-bit is cleverly played by Newham and Latimer; and Miss Pauline Potter is a dainty comedienne. Geo. Bendon, the white coon, sings well, and his "catchy" number, "Post yourself to me," is pleasing. Celeste, the marvellous king of the slack wire, gives a very thrilling performance, introducing some wonderful balancing feats, a special feature being his climbing of a ladder balanced on the wire whilst swinging. The ever-popular Six Lancashire Lasses come in for rounds of applause for exquisite singing and clever clog-dancing. Some amusing pictures on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope terminate an excellent programme.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Mr. C. Foster-Marner, the able manager at this cosy resort, has a programme for the current week which is well up to the average, and is attracting capital audiences. Mrs. John Lawson in the thrilling sketch *Sally in our Alley* is proving an immense draw, and the playlet is causing quite a sensation. Mrs. Lawson as Hazel Grove, the model, plays with great force and intensity. She is supported by an excellent company, and the staging and effects are on a lavish and artistic scale. Clifford Morgan is a vocalist of great ability, and scores heavily with his contribution to the programme.

A very acceptable turn is that given by the Boys of England, a tuneful lot of young fellows, who sing melodiously and look very smart in their uniforms. They were accorded a fine reception, and might well have extended their turn had time permitted. Hal Forde, always well supplied with good songs, is particularly happy just now in the possession of two winning numbers. The first, "The slide," is a diverting tale of the various people who meet with misfortune on a slide; the other is "My night out to-night," and Mr. Forde makes it go with a fine swing, the chorus being readily sung by the audience. David Poole provides a most amusing turn with his ventriloquial sketch, introducing a deal of diverting patter; Miss Louise Zetland is a charming vocalist, who sings with great taste and skill, and is greatly applauded; and Miss Bessie Butt, fresh from her pantomime triumphs, is scoring with "One of the girls," which she sings in a rousing manner and looks very smart in the latest and most immaculate of male attire.

A striking song-scena, entitled *The Gainsboro' Girl*, is presented by Miss Dora Lind, who sings very sweetly and looks a veritable picture amid the capital setting which surrounds her. Miss Lind sings "The Holy City" with a very artistic background representing the Eastern city, and the whole reflects the highest credit on Mr. Richard Frank, who, unhappily, is totally blind, but has mounted and arranged the production. Miss Lind is to be congratulated on her artistic show. Virto and Venita prove themselves to be accomplished musicans, playing a variety of instruments with great skill; Fred Karno's company is here with *The Bailiff*, and this merry concoction goes with a swing from start to finish. Perkins is impersonated by Mr. Harold Wellesley, a fine comedian, who is scoring heavily in the part. The Bioscope concludes. Mr. Horace Sheldon and his orchestra, as usual, put in good work.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

On the occasion of our visit to this popular house this week, an audience to delight any manager's heart was assembled. Evidently out to enjoy themselves, they gave unstinted applause, but didn't fail to give utterance to their feelings when the pathetic verged on the ludicrous. A strong programme has been arranged, including *The Romanys* and also *Pride of Regiment*. Both sketches have been fully described in our columns already, and it is only necessary now to congratulate the artists engaged on the result of their efforts.

In *Pride of Regiment* Miss Eugenie Vernie sustains the part of the Mother, Mr. George Howard that of the Father, and Mr. Neville Graham the Son. Unqualified praise may be given to the really admirable acting of Miss Vernie. The way the Mother handles "father" in the early part of the sketch, soothing him and pleading the cause of the scamp of a son, makes an excellent contrast to the blaze of anger which comes later. Mr. George Howard as the Father depicted faithfully all the old soldier's "pride of regiment." Mr. Neville Graham as the Son had only a small part, but it was excellently rendered.

Moore and Harcourt, in their comedy act, *Saving the Situation*, go well, and are a welcome feature. They are bright, lively, and full of go. The Four Mexicans give a clever and particularly interesting exhibition of lariat-throwing, and the audiences are giving a great reception to the feat of turning a 60ft. lariat. Other items are provided by the Lyndens, Doris Warsaw, the Four Cecilians, and Henry Haytor. The music is under the able direction of Mr. Thomas Kearney.

THE PARAGON.

For this week Mr. Jack E. Cohen is submitting a most interesting programme, and in scrutinising the list we find names rather new to us. Among them is Miss Agnes Ellis, who is certainly an acquisition to the halls, for she possesses a sweet soprano voice, which is heard to great advantage in that delightful song "Carmena." The young artist is also quite at home in humorous numbers at the piano. Another new comer is Miss Lily Hayes, who sings a couple of bright little songs, and concludes with a quick step-dance which is particularly neat and smart. The Three Dixons (Nelly, Lily, and May), billed as champion bâton swingers, banjoists, singers, and dancers, show considerable versatility, and get a rousing reception when engaged in an extremely tricky dance accompanied by them on banjoes. Miss Katie Scott Blair, though quite a youngster, dances delightfully, her exhibition in the toe style being distinctly good.

The Two Anartos, smart comedians, continuously amuse with endless quips and gags, their style being quite original. They have a good song in "We did enjoy ourselves in London," for which they get an excellent reception. Marguerite Ismay and Coons are a bright and well-dressed turn, their fine dancing throughout being a great feature. The coons are three pretty young girls, who make a fine stage picture. Mr. Fred Russell, a ventriloquist who is as humorous as he is smart, is most entertaining with his new chatter and business, both of which are greatly enjoyed. Miss Lily Eyton, a pretty little lady, sings daintily a tuneful little Chinee song, "My Ching, Ching Loo"; her second contribution is that tuneful ballad which is rapidly becoming popular, "If I could lock you in my heart," which she renders with much expression.

The Schaffer Four's smart and bright act is certainly full of surprises, and many properties are used, the opening scene being quite novel. The quartette, who dance and sing, are also good musicians, their finale being well rewarded with cheers. Mr. Bruce Green, a good comedian, portrays the Dame character well, his "Ballet" song being extremely funny. Mr. Harry Claff and Miss Alice Tremayne, in their burlesque on pantomime, viz., *The Demon and the Fairy*, supply an interesting few minutes, their songs "I wonder if it's true" and "Queen of Love" being perfectly rendered.

Miss Phœbe Mercer and company, including Mr. Frank Harrison and Mr. Mark Joyce, are playing *The Interviewer*, a new comedy sketch. Miss Mercer, as a journalist who calls on Dr. Davis, a great scientist, and finds him in his bath, gets much amusement from the character, which is greatly enjoyed. Other good turns are Mr. Arthur Royce, Gladys Nelson, San Remo Girls, Leonard Teel, the quaintest possible impersonator of downtrodden woman, and Joe Elvin and company in that drollest of sketches *The Hansom Cabby*. The orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Kennedy Russell.

CONSUL NOT DEAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you allow me to correct the erroneous report of Consul's death, referred to in your last Saturday's issue? Consul, I am glad to inform you, is alive and well, and is this week astonishing and delighting thousands of the inhabitants of Wigan by his wonderful performances in the local Hippodrome. The same evening that a London paper announced the "Death of Consul in America," my disclaimer appeared in the *Star*, and the next morning in the *Morning Leader*.

I shall feel obliged if you will publish this letter in your next issue, as the statement made by you last week has already led several managers who have booked Consul to write asking how I can keep the dates.—Faithfully yours,

HAROLD L. HILLIARD,
Director of Consul Tour

MR. WALTER REYNOLDS, the well-known publisher and impresario (of Price and Reynolds, 41, Berners-street) has been fortunate enough to secure the publishing rights of several new sparkling numbers, written and composed by Miss Wodnil, and now in the press.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., who have eclipsed records in the sale of "Somewhere," are unremitting in their efforts to find fresh fields to conquer, and their consistent endeavours have certainly been crowned with success if the list of new productions successfully exploited by the variety profession since Christmas be any criterion. The daily applications to the firm for songs from artists of repute all over the country have been eloquent testimony to the quality of the numbers supplied by the Feldman *clientèle* for professional use.

Miss Ada Reeve, at the Hippodrome next week, will produce no less than three new numbers, all published by B. Feldman and Co., to wit: "Oh, boys, I've seen you there!" by John P. Harrington and John Neat; "Nobody knows—nobody cares," by Chas. K. Harris; and a new version, specially written for Miss Reeve by John P. Harrington, of Hough, Adams, and Howard's famous American song, "I wonder who's kissing her now?" Furthermore, Miss Reeve has also in preparation yet another Feldman publication, "Foolish questions," by William Lee and A. Baldwin Sloane.

During the current week, at the London Pavilion and Walthamstow alike, plaudits loud and long have rewarded Mr. Arthur Aldridge for his masterly rendering, not only of his already popular ballad, "The Garden of Roses," but also for Feldman and Co.'s other song of sentiment, "I'm longing for one sight of you," which was an instantaneous and complete success. In both of these numbers the Arthur-street firm have two new winners far above the average. Mr. Aldridge, at Southsea next week, will produce a third Feldman number, "Mary, you're a big girl now."

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the famous chocolate-coloured coon, has made a prodigious success at the Empire, Portsmouth, this week, with "Moon, moon, moon," by Percy Edgar, Alf. J. Lawrance, and Harry Gifford, and as his other successful new song is entitled "By the light of the silvery moon," this clever artist may be said to be pretty well monopolising "Luna's pale orb" just now. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are the fortunate publishers of both these latest Elliott winners, and as this clever artist always has an enormous "following," they are to be heartily felicitated on this latest addition to the number of star artists singing their songs this season.

Miss Cissie Curlette, who opens at the American, New York, under engagement with William Morris, in some six weeks' time, will specially feature three popular Feldman songs on the other side, to wit, "Molly O'Morgan," "We can't go into the parlour," and "The green, green ribbon," all of which should suit this versatile artist to perfection for American exploitation.

Miss Helene Mohr is creating a veritable furore at the Camden Theatre and Standard, Pimlico, this week, with two of the Feldman successes, "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing" and "Molly O'Morgan," and her auditors at both houses heartily aid the fair singer to sing the catchy choruses attached to each of these delightful numbers.

Little Bella Terry, who made such a hit at the Coliseum recently with Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's pretty number, "When the school bell is ringing," will produce the same tuneful number at the Shepherd's Bush Empire next week, and at all her other engagements. This is one of the Feldman publications.

Mr. Fred Barnes returns to Leeds next week, where he made an enormous success on his last visit. He is taking there the delightful number which Messrs. Feldman and Co. are specially featuring, "I'd rather be beside the fireside," and anticipates this will be greatly to their liking, as Mr. Barnes thinks this the greatest chorus song he has ever exploited.

No alfresco artist should fail to secure Von Tilzer's big Pierrot Book containing fifty of the recent successes of such star artists as Sam Mayo, Fragson, Harry Ford, Fred Earle, Ernest Shand, Harry Champion, Whit Cunliffe, Arthur Reece, and others. With such a wide selection as offered in this book a large répertoire can be selected to suit any audience. Von Tilzers are issuing this book solely for the use of alfresco artists, and they undertake to forward same by return of post on receipt of one shilling.

Miss Gertie Gitana has just produced a new song entitled "When the summer days are o'er, Anna Gray," which has proved an instantaneous success, and promises to become as big a favourite as the ever-popular "Dear Louise." Von Tilzers have secured the song for publication

Arthur Reece is singing two excellent songs entitled "Good-bye bachelor days" and "Oh, Joe, I want to go to the picture show," both of which are received with hearty applause. Von Tilzers are the publishers.

Ernest Shand is featuring two of Von Tilzers' songs with enormous success, "That broke up the party" and "Poor Noah Moore," both written and composed by Worton David and Bert Lee.

"THE CHINESE IDOL."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Henry Gold, Produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, March 21.

Mr. Shiller ..... Mr. Frank Lilliput
Mr. Clapton ..... Mr. Fowler Thatcher
Mrs. Ananias Smith ..... Miss Doris Laine
Lady Henpeck ..... Miss Lily Langley

The numberless farces which have been founded upon the impersonation of lay figures have been added to this week by the production of the sketch named above. This time it is a Chinese image that is the subject of comic treatment. One of the little gods from the Flowery Land has been bought by a dealer in curios, who purposes disposing of it at a substantial profit. He accordingly advertises his purchase for sale before it has been sent home, and there is a brisk demand for the article by post, one lady expressing her determination to acquire it at any cost, even if she has to fight for it. A lady arrives to take the idol away, and in order to avoid a charge of fraud the dealer is constrained to deck himself in characteristic raiment and pose as the image. The customary diverting incidents occur, and, despite many pranks played by the idol, the lady decides to purchase it. Her intention, however, is frustrated by the arrival of another member of the fair sex, who flourishes a dog-whip, and a tussle for the possession of the figure ends in its clothes being pulled to pieces and the deception revealed.

The quaint personality of Mr. Frank Lilliput, a diminutive comedian with a penetrating voice, was particularly adapted to the embodiment of the idol, which he made extremely funny. The dialogue is not overburdened with humour, but he made the most of it, and his antics caused frequent laughter. Mr. Fowler Thatcher gave to the rôle of Mr. Clapton, the dealer's friend, who undertakes to interview the clients, the benefit of his long experience, and worked up the fun cleverly. Miss Lily Langley acted in light comedy style as Lady Henpeck, and Miss Doris Laine was properly aggressive as Mrs. Ananias Smith.

"THE RECKONING."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Ellen Lancaster-Wallis and Florence Kirkham, Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, March 21.

John Daunton ..... Mr. C. Douglas Cox
Pete Billings ..... Mr. Creagh Henry
Tim Ryly ..... Mr. George Bobran
Blazer ..... Mr. S. J. Warmerton
Joe Wyld ..... Mr. S. F. Horn
Arthur Derenham ..... Mr. Charles Weir

Several clever comedicttas already stand to the credit of Mrs. Lancaster-Wallis, but the above-named playlet, in which the famous actress has collaborated with Miss Florence Kirkham, is of an entirely dramatic character. The effect of the title is rather discounted by the fact that there are three existing plays bearing the same name; but if the title is old, the theme is certainly freshly treated. Though the cast boasts not a single lady character, the feminine interest is conspicuous, and makes an immediate appeal. It intrudes itself into the log-cabin of a mining camp in Colorado on the eve of Christmas Day. Hospitality is craved and granted to a stranger who enters worn out with hunger and fatigue. The miners' kindness is ill repaid by the man, who, after eating and drinking his fill, is invited to a game at cards, and is caught with aces up his sleeve. The "boys" would fain lynch the cheat, but John Daunton, the "boss" of the camp, has recognised in him a scion of nobility named Arthur Derenham, who in the days gone by had ruined his daughter. For years the old man had preserved the portrait of his girl's betrayer, hoping that he might some day confront him, and at last the chance for a reckoning has come. Waving the "boys" aside, he claims the man for his own, and relates the story of his daughter's shame. He scorns to take an advantage, and offers Derenham the choice of two revolvers, one only of which is loaded. Derenham makes his selection, but when the signal to fire is only half given he pulls the trigger without any result. He is thus at the mercy of his opponent, who ruthlessly fires, and Derenham "hands in his checks."

The cast, of course, was composed entirely of men, who made a most picturesque group. The lead was taken by Mr. C. Douglas Cox, who as the sturdy and inflexible Yorkshireman John Daunton acted unostentatiously, but with convincing force, the touching lines being delivered with eloquent elocution. Mr. Charles Weir, though a little too rough-spoken, looked the character of the aristocratic ne'er-do-well, and his agonised expression during the recital of his wrong-doing was well assumed. Excellent impersonations of the other miners were given by the actors concerned, Mr. S. J. Warmerton being particularly effective in a fiery outbreak when Blazer discovers he has been cheated at cards. The little piece received close attention at the hands of the audience, who twice recalled the principals at the end.

The Bishop of London conducted a service at the Paragon on Good Friday at 7.30 p.m.. All seats were free, and there was a great attendance.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS LILY VINE.

Starting her career when quite a child, Miss Lily Vine, the clever little principal with Bonnie Goodwin's Picks, appeared first at private concerts in mimicry of different well-known music-hall artists. Her professional *début* was made in speciality songs and dances in the pantomime *Dick Whittington* at the Elephant and Castle, where the following year found her doing similar work in *Puss in Boots*. Back again for the third

MISS LILY VINE.

year at the Elephant with Mr. Ernest Norris, she made a distinct hit by singing to the principal boy from the gallery, in addition to her speciality acts. She then went on tour with Mr. Norris, playing Cupid in *Puss in Boots*. This was followed by a short experience of the music halls with song and dance.

Miss Vine then returned to the theatres. One Thursday night, while sitting in the circle at the Elephant and Castle, Mr. Ernest Norris asked her if she knew an Irish song and dance, as he wanted her to do one on the Monday. She neither knew an Irish song or reel, but told Mr. Norris she would learn one for Monday, and although she had only the Saturday in which to accomplish the task, she mastered three verses and chorus of the song. "I prayed fervently that something would happen," says Miss Vine, "as I heard the overture being played, simply because I suddenly failed to remember one word. Well, my prayers were answered, for when they started to raise the fireproof curtain, it would not move an inch, so we did not play that night. On the Tuesday I did my Irish song and dance satisfactorily."

Subsequently, Miss Vine went on tour with *Tommy Atkins*, playing Little Jack, and following that came a part in *Robinson Crusoe* on tour. Then she once more turned to the music halls, and was engaged with Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, being called upon at 4.30 in the evening to open at the South London at 6.55, then Holborn Empire, and back to the South, working four turns. Miss Vine had only seen the act once previously, but she accomplished twenty-six shows that week, as may be said to have had a fair initiation. She has been with the act as principal ever since—now two and a half years. Miss Vine, it may be added, was born in London, and has just passed her nineteenth birthday.

"COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO"!

A Satirical Sketch, in One Scene, by Mr. Andrew Stanley, Produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, March 21.

Theodore ..... Mr. W. Lazard
Arabella ..... Miss Dorothy Vernon
Christabel ..... Miss M. Sadie
Marmaduke ..... Mr. Arthur Stanley

The belief that Mr. Stanley's sketch, with its unusual title, had something to do with a farmyard, was justified on its production on Monday night at the end of a capital programme of variety turns. Theodore is a Brobdignagian rooster, described in the bill as "an audacious chin-tickler." Arabella is a duck of gargantuan proportions; Christabel a "broody hen" of equal proportions; and Marmaduke a poodle of the familiar stage type. The scene in which "they have their exits and their entrances" is a chicken-run. Though these big birds have a good deal to say to one another, and no reference is made to M. Rostand's famous play, yet one is driven to the conclusion that it is meant to be a skit on the *Chantecler* play in Paris. During the quarter of an hour or so that it lasts one gathers that the rooster has a penchant for the hen, and that the poodle has a lurking affection for the duck. Their conversations about their own private affairs, arising as they do over the coquetry of the duck with the rooster, the consequent jealousy of the hen, and the escapades of the poodle, who, in revenge, feasts upon a brood of young chicks, as well as some allusions to matters appertaining to the human family, are all very entertaining. It is altogether a novel little sketch, and one upon which an infinity of pains has been expended. The scene, which is a most effective one, is painted by Mr. A. G. Betts; the new music is by Mr. Hugo Reynold, the *chef d'orchestre*; and the poultry dresses were designed and carried out in the wardrobe of the theatre under the direction of Mrs. Peter Davey, wife of the managing-director, under whose guidance the piece was produced.

FELDMAN'S
EASTER SONGS & SINGERS.

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
THE GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

MISS JOSÈ COLLINS. *A Charming Singer of a Beautiful Number.*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE?

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE. *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
I AM LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SUNDAY DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

At the last meeting of the Committee, held recently at the Variety Artists' Federation Offices, Mr. Clemart in the chair, the following other members of the committee were present: Messrs. Robson Paige, Duncan Young, Charles Coborn, C. Jesson, L.C.C., and the hon. secretary, William Johnson.

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were duly adopted. A large number of replies were read from clerks of county and borough councils with reference to the regulations suggested by the Committee in regard to Sunday entertainments. Many of these replies intimated that Sunday entertainments were not permitted; that licences were issued for six days only; and, in other cases, that the views of the Sunday Defence Committee would be considered.

The following additions to the list of vice-presidents have been received: The Archbishop of Canterbury; the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Croydon, Canon H. Scott-Holland, D.D. (St. Paul's), Canon H. B. Ottley (Secretary to the Imperial Sunday Alliance), Mr. Wilkie Bard, Mr. James Carew, Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, Mr. H. Gosling, L.C.C., Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. Ian Robertson, Mr. R. A. Roberts, and Mr. Eugene Stratton.

The objects of the Committee were revised, and now are intended to apply to entertainments given on Good Friday and Christmas Day as well as Sundays. Copies of the objects of the Committee have been circulated throughout the United Kingdom.

The chairman and secretary of the Committee were appointed, in response to an invitation, to attend a meeting to be held in the Town Hall, Reading, on April 12, on the Sunday-labour question. The Mayor of Reading will preside, and among other representative men who will speak is the Bishop of Oxford. An invitation to send a speaker to a meeting in Manchester on April 4 has also been received by the Committee.

It is stated that there are about 120 theatres, music-halls and picture palaces now open on Sundays in London, and the Sunday Defence Committee regard the present state of affairs as a very serious menace to the security members of the profession have previously enjoyed in regard to Sunday as a day of rest. The Committee are still considering the advisability of calling a meeting of the whole profession, and they will doubtless invite the most strenuous resistance to the developments which have taken place and which are likely to spread. It is also a serious matter for the London County Council, as there is no doubt but that their regulations are being evaded, and that, in their present form, they are quite inadequate for the purpose.

The Sunday Defence Committee are accumulating evidence upon the practices now in vogue, and they invite anyone employed on Sunday for these entertainments to furnish the secretary with the conditions of employment imposed. Letters and copies of agreements have been received, and the following is a sample, the original of which will be supplied for the inspection of the London County Council:—

"Theatres Committee.

"Sir,—In view of the London County Council's decision that picture theatres must not be open on Sundays except for charitable purposes, it will be necessary for me to make new agreements with the staff, by which the weekly salary will be paid for six days only, with extra for Sundays, upon which day no employee will be asked to work unless voluntarily desirous of doing so. Any employee not wishing to work on any particular Sunday must give notice to the manager not later than the previous Thursday.

"Your wages, including Sunday, have hitherto been 40s. per week. In future they will be 28s. per week, with 12s. extra for Sunday work for every Sunday you wish to work.

"If you are agreeable to continue in your position under the altered conditions, please sign the enclosed agreement and return to the manager.

(Signed) "————."

From this notice it will be seen that the proprietor fixes the rate of pay for Sunday, and the employee would thus be in the employ of the proprietor on that day, and it is obviously a violation of Clause 2 of the London County Council regulations, which state that "the . . . licensee or his servants will have nothing to do with the arrangements for the concert" (*i.e.*, the engagement of artists *or employees*, etc. Moreover, it is clear that the amount deducted from the weekly wage for Sunday work (12s.) is altogether out of proportion to the week-day rate, and shows the methods resorted to to comply with the London County Council regulations. In this case several employees refused these terms and were dismissed.

The London County Council have already asked for copies of the agreements between the licensee and the society or funds whose name is used for Sunday entertainments, and also for a statement of accounts. It may be possible, when these particulars are furnished, to discover whether, as is rumoured, many societies and funds have lent their names on sharing terms, that is, they take 25 per cent. of the gross receipts. This arrangement is contrary to the London County Council regulations, as it leaves the licensee in control and gives him an incentive, by way of trade and personal gain, to open on Sundays. The statement of accounts will also show now much "charity" there is in the agreements.

"Won't you come rinking?" is the name of a new number sung this week by Miss Ray Wallace at the Manchester Hippodrome, and the refrain is already being whistled "all over the town." It is going to rank amongst the season's catchiest songs.

Its authoress, Miss Gabrielle Wodnil, has written both words and music. She is better known in variety circles as Hilarie Hayden.

Miss Wodnil, who started dramatic journalism in her teens, is one of the youngest and most versatile of our song writers. For some time she "ghosted" songs. On one of them becoming universally popular, she decided to publish under her own name.

"Brunette or Blonde," written for and sung by Maurice Farkoa (published by Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew) is a favourite concert number, and "Fifine found a farm" (of which a star artist has acquired the sole rights), a dainty, simple life song with an arrestive, melodious refrain, is in Miss Wodnil's most light-hearted vein.

Some beautiful films have been shown at the St. George's Hall, Belfast, including The Galley Slave, The Child Benefactor, Father's Baby Boy, &c. Mr. Harry Algar, a first-class comedy juggler, appears at each performance.

An attractive programme of animated pictures is presented nightly at the Theatre Royal, Ryde. This week the chief films are the Life of Washington, A Telepathic Warning, The Human Ape, and Nick Carter, Detective, in the episode of The Double. The programme is varied by songs in character by Chris Masters.

The picture shows at the Bridlington Royal Victoria Rooms, which had to be suspended three weeks ago in order that a fireproof erection might be constructed to house the film apparatus, were renewed on Monday evening, when Mr. Palmer was rewarded with a full house. The principal film is a very fine Gaumont, The Story of Adolf Beck. The other notable pictures are The Rivals, and a most laughable one entitled The Motor Cycle.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

4,001 SHILLINGS.

As was arranged last year, a solid gold medal will be presented by *The Era* to the collector who obtains the largest amount for the Fund up to March 31, 1910, the lists closing on that date.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£58	13	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde ..	1	11	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	1	10	0
Collected by Ted E. Box	1	10	0
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan ..	1	5	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	1	4	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore ..	0	17	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0

Sums since received.

John Lawson	1	0	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £20 2s. 6d.

"Bill"	100	George May	5
Eugene Stratton	100	W. J. G.	5
Oswald Stoll	21	C. Sounes	5
J. Tanner and Sons..	21	C. Barnard	5
George Mozart	20	H. V. D. Esterre ...	5
Jos. Ingleby	20	Miss Hadley	3½
Mrs. F. Mouillot	20	Miss Wadeley	3½
D'Arcy Baker	20	J. H. Montague	2½
"Erb"	10	Tom Birch	2
A. Buckley	10	Ernest Edelsten, jun.	2
H. S. Buckley	10	C. Payne	1
T. E. Latham.....	5	Gus Elen	1
John Hart	5		

Collected by Miss Fanny Robina, £1 5s.

Fanny Robina	1	Ida Barr	1
Florence Cooper	1	Dora Poole	1
Billie Bint	1	Annie Vandyke	1
Mrs. Horace White..	1	Luis Hardt	1
Manuel Calbas	1	W. Holden	1
W. Woolancroft	1	Edie Veno	1
Williams and Wardel	1	The Merrions	1
Lillie Fitzroy	1	Tom Grave	1
Herbert Jewell	1	John Wilkinson	1
James Jewell	1	Tony Freedman	1
Mr. Cullen	1	Florence Cooper	1
Gertie Gitana	1	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. Lucy Black Horn	1		

Collected by Newham and Latimer, 13s.

George Newham	1	R. Hearne	1
Fred Latimer	1	J. C. Bush	1
Tom Read	1	H. Cromwell Bush..	1
Elsie Wright	1	W. Wheelhouse	1
Harry Phillips	1	A. Austin Pilkington	1
Fred E. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Bert Hildersley	1		

Collected by Ben Brown, £1 10s. 6d.

S. R. Humberton ..	2½	W. Bury	1
Mike Cray	1	Charcot	1
F. Blaikhurst	1	Ernest Rees	1
Dafydd Lewis	1	Jennie Johns	1
L. W. Harris	1	Will Cutler	1
Drum and Major	1	Charles Clifford	1
Richter	1	Dick Mayhowayt ..	1
Paul Powell	1	Lillie Soutter	1
Dan Robans	1	J. E. Rees	1
O. Varley	1	G. R. W.	1
Cliff Heather	1	Bert Harrow	1
Arthur Trussell.....	1	Harry Tate	1
H. H. F.	1	Robert Brown	1
Avory	1	Gus Elen	1
A. Elton	1		

Collected by Regan and Ryan, 16s.

Regan and Ryan ..	10	Gus Elen	1
Patty Yole	5		

Collected by Mr. Walter Norman, 12s.

Ernie Myers.....	1	Billy (Little).....	1
L. Rockall	1	Gordon Starkey.....	1
G. P. R. Burgess..	1	J. F. Sterling.....	1
Terrier A. W. Stanwell	1	Harry McKenzie....	1
E. Voigt	1	Benj. Woodger.....	1
Little Henry	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Alaskas, 18s.

Mrs. Tich	3	Mr. R. Knaepper ..	1
Mr. Harry Alaska..	1	Lola Patey	1
Mrs. Alaska	1	The Armenis	1
Harry Alaska, jun..	1	Armenis, jun.	1
Sam Alaska, jun. ..	1	Anonymous	1
Mlle. Julia Recio ..	1	Lea	1
Mme. J. Relph	1	A New Julia.....	1
Mme. Recio	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Theodore Jones, £1 4s.

Harry Laborde	1	Dulcie Lawrence	1
Theodore Jones	1	Isa Gibson	1
Carton Hicks	1	Nina St. Elmo	1
Percy E. Wright	1	Mlle. Bartanelli	1
Teddy Worth	1	Nellie Stuart	1
W. E.	1	Maud Hastings.....	1
H. E.	1	Madam Sara	1
E. Blackster	1	Horace Lee	1
Jack Hayton	1	Nettie Ross	1
Allways Ready	1	Ethel Blackster	1
Fred Boulton	1	Charles Elderton	1
The Vic (?), Shields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Bros Hannaway (2nd list), £1 1s.

Mike Hannaway	1	Miss Lily Bevington	1
Pat Hannaway	1	Mr. Hamilton Warden	1
Michael Madden ..	1	Miss Louie Love ..	1
Miss Queenie King	1	Miss Nancy Renshaw	1
E. D. Nicholls	1	Two Derby Nuts ..	1
Miss Ada Lucelle ..	1	Leslie Lewis	1
Miss Victoria Carmen	1	Fred Lindo	1
Mr. Harry Griffiths	1	Miss May Garry ..	1
Mr. Harry Gilmore	1	The Lady Goldfish..	1
Wallace Bosco	1	Gus Elen	1
Ruby Emmerson ..	1		

Collected by Dave Carter, £1 5s.

Dave Carter	1	A. Rudd	1
He of the Top Note	1	A. Gallimore	1
Reba Conway	1	Marg. Benson	1
Joseph Preen	1	Alan Holt	1
Jack Fraser	1	Max Ritter	1
Miss Lillian	1	Humpsti Bumsti ..	1
W. H. McCarthy ...	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jeff Martin	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jack Pleasants	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mozzietov	1	Fred Keeton	1
B. J. Brown	1	Arthur Reece	1
Tom Stewart	1	Gus Elen	1
Tom Dancer	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (2nd card), £1 2s.

Geo. Gulliver	2	J. Glenville	1
Bert Williams	1	The Carlyles	1
Geo. Cooke	1	H. Brett	1
Kathleen Moore.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. C. Craig, sen.	1	Lucy Jim	
J. C. Faure	1	Tatcho	
Minnie Wheaton	1	Tom E. Oliver	
Ward and Davis	1	Peter Piper	
Harry Paolia	1	Fred Bauer	
Percy Galino	1	Gene Strauss	
G. Barclay, jun.	1	R. C. Note	
Mundill and Maude..	1	J. Enzer	
Warren, Northampton	1		

Collected by Little Fred Zola, £1 18s.

Kate Carney	5	Clarence Hotel	1
Marie Lloyd	5	Mr. Tyler	1
Mattison	2½	Flo Dora	1
Fred Emney	2½	Mrs. Fred Zola	1
K. O. P.	2	Frank Zola	1
Tom Lee	2	Maudie Zola	1
Stone Troupe	2	Grandma Zola	1
Tom Payne	1	"Zol Zol," the dog..	1
Delome	1	Syd Walker	1
Tom J. Waldron	1	Bros Obo	1
Coverdale	1	Maudie Scott	1
Phillips	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Carl and Carr, 16s.

Manitto Klitgaard ..	2	Carl and Carr	1
Harry Carr	1	S. J.	1
Max Carl	1	Gus Elen	1
Masie, St. Hilary ..	1	N. Manning	½
D. Scott	1	G. Spirack	½
E. Davey	1	Neville Delmar	½
Austen Temple	1	J. R.	½
Washee	1	J. Bishop	½
Kittee Rayburn	1	F. S.	½

Collected by Hayman and Franklin, £1 8s.

Joe Hayman	2	Gus Barra	1
Harriett Vernon	2	George Kempt	1
Frank Poole	1	The Carlyles	1
Edith St. Clare	1	A. Daunton Shaw ..	1
W. B. McMillan	1	Mr. Sid Macaire	1
Bob King	1	H. Wheatley	1
Fred Russell	1	Mrs. Pirman	1
Harry Marlow	1	Hampton and Bauman	1
Vera Vere	1	George F. Hall	1
J. Calder	1	Leslie Race	1
P. Q.	1	Hersleb Bros.	1
Phil and Nettie Peters	2	Gus Elen	1
Eddy Martyn	1		

Collected by Cullen and Carthy, £1 1s.

J. Cullen	5	T. Drew	1
A. Carthy	5	H. Cluley	1
Bessie Cohen	2	Kearns and Vasey ..	1
Maudie Ford	1	May and Leslie.....	1
Dolly Cullen	1	A. Stratton	1
Elsie Jordison.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by the Michel Bros., 3s. 6d.

Michel	1½	Gus Elen	1
Dort-Leonard	1		

Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby, 12s.

Sue R. Lewis	1	Louie Formby	1
Maud Westwood	1	George Formby, jun.	1
Frank Westwood	1	Francis Formby	1
Leo Derenda	1	Another Formby	1
George Formby	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Mrs. Formby	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Gertie Gitana, £1 8s. 6d.

Jimmy O'Connor	2½	Hardie Lee	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	F. Hartley	1
Kelly and Agnas	2	Russell and Held	1
Queenie Finnis	1½	Vanando	1
Marie Pera	1	Leslie Faber	1
Jose Collins.....	1	Winifred Faber	1
Hanvarr	1	Alice Raymond	1
Anna Lee	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Violet Loraine	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mabel O'Connor	1	Mazie Hibbs	1
Dorma Morgan	1	Katie Butler	1
Florence Cooper	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Frank Coyle, £1 1s.

L. Charlier	1	J. H. Newton	1
G. W. Gerald	1	W. M. Emerson	1
J. Smith	1	Walter Buxton	1
Mrs. Frank Coyle	1	Dan Whitley	1
Miss Violet Coyle ..	1	Nora Stockelle	1
Mr. Frank Coyle	1	Montaldos	1
Chris Gerald	1	J. Fawn	1
J. Huxley	1	H. Thiessen	1
George Batty	1	C. Griffin	1
W. Rogers	1	Gus Elen	1
Jas. Lodge	1		

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 8s.

D. F. Bostock	2	Wallace Hughes	1
Will Lanhon	1	Bert Weston	1
Radena Dey	1	F. V. St. Clair	1
B. Abrahams	1	L. Anarto	1
Any Complaints	1	A. Anarto	1
Sid Cotterell	1	Fransilo Troupe.....	1
Johnny Wood	1	H. E. Wakeling	1
Harry Clifford	1	Will Poluski, jun. ..	1
M. Shute	1	Arthur Stacey	1
Geo. Fairburn	1	Carter Livesey	1
Alec Hurley	1	Lilian Rosebery.....	1
Fred Earle	1	Billy French	1
Ted Cowan	1	Gus Elen	1
D. Mallett	1		

Collected by Jenny Johns, £1 11s.

Lew Lake	5	Fred W. Wood	1
Johnson and Bert....	2	Albert Voyce	1
George Le Clerq	2	Fred Redfern	1
Ben Brown	1	Bert Harrow	1
Mike Cray	1	R. Fowler	1
Chas. Clifford	1	Fred Walmsly	1
Mrs. Will Cutler	1	S. Crowther	1
Jennie Johns	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Harry Tate's Co.	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Dora Redfern	1	Florence Yaymen....	1
Mr. Humberstone ..	1	Henri Cazman	1
Harry Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Ugo Nap	1		

Collected by Morrisey, 11s.

Claremont and Victor	2	J. Moore Cameron ..	1
E. Morrisey	2	Alexander Cameron..	1
H. F. F.	1	Henry Eglington	1
Mrs. Elderton	1	Gus Elen	1
Jas. Matchett	1		

Collected by Miss Marie Blythe, £1 6s.

Marie Blythe	2½	Harry Taft	1
Two Lillies	2	The Countess	1
Sporty	1½	Ellis Barrieton	1
Bros. Ford	1	Ella Dean	1
H. Kilrow	1	Will Cromwell	1
Ryder Slone	1	Mother	1
Will Driscoll	1	Colin Hill.....	1
Jack and Arthur Metz	1	Bert Sedgebeer	1
Florence Yaymen ..	1	Jennie Wood	1
J. Donald	1	Miss Collins	1
Evelyn Kay	1	Gus Elen	1
Raie Walters	1		

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1 5s.

Carl Hertz	1	Philip Beyfus	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Ellah Beyfus	1
Eva Hertz	1	Harry Beyfus	1
Charley Hertz	1	Madge Beyfus	1
Le Boy Hertz	1	Jane Pritchard	1
Ike Rose	1	Pattie	1
E. L. Pyke	1	Charles Chapman....	1
Ethel Pyke	1	Mrs. Sands	1
Barbara Beyfus	1	Wm. Calder	1
W. B.	1	Wm. Thornton	1
V. M.	1	Frank Bostock	1
Elfrida Beyfus	1	Gus Elen	1
Edgcumbe Brighten..	1		

Collected by the Lizzette Trio, 7s.

A. Lizzette	1	James Pringle	1
Molly Augarde	1	Marie Kay	1
M. Lizzette	1	Gus Elen	1
The Lizzette Trio ..	1		

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (third card), £1 12s.

Geo. Gulliver	2½	Marie Reeve	1
Walter Place	2½	Bert Powell.....	1
Carlyle	2	Ancie Gerrard	1
Tom Jackson	2	Livesey and Rosebery	1
F. V. St. Clair	1	E. Lemare	1
Fred Glenville	1	Geo. Pickett	1
Squire Wyndham....	1	Shirley and Ransome	1
H. E.	1	Vera Mayne	1
A. Sherville	1	Mollie Doon	1
Electrician	1	Alfred Sutcliffe	1
Chas. Ashley	1	Musical Silvo	1
George D'Albert	1	Milton Hare	1
Tessie Draycott	1	Gus Elen	1
Eva Draycott.....	1		

Collected by Fred Land, £1 4s.

Albert Boisset	2	Warsaw Bros.....	1
Fred Land	1	Les Rubens	1
Mrs. Land	1	Terry and Tate	1
Freddie Land	1	J. J. Soanes	1
Harry Land	1	Pasquali Bros.	1
Land'e End	1	The Woellhafs	1
Wadham and Sterling	1	Johnny Cecil	1
F. Boisset	1	Livesey and Rosebery	1
Rex Fox	1	W. W. Palmer	1
Erne Chester	1	Sid Bedford	1
Jan B. Vanbert	1	Gus Elen	1
Thompson Bros.	1		

Collected by The Emsons, £1 6s.

Bennett and Martell	2	Les Wambas	1
Rita and Kitty Emson	2	C. Shayler	1
		C. Elves	1
George E. Smith	2	Dave Samuels.....	1
Edie Anderson	1	Vere and Nelldon ..	1
Harry Blake	1	Vandinoff	1
Irene Reenan	1	Bury	1
Slippere	1	Gaitano Olloms.....	1
L. Ramsay	1	Francini Olloms	1
Tommy Foster	1	Florrie Gallimore....	1
Chinko	1	James Comerford	1
Kaufman	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 12s. 6d.

James Corbett	5	B. Isaacs	1
M. H. D. Boardman	2½	Tom Joy	1
May Mars	2	Grace Foster	1
H. E. Lynas	2	C. M. Jones	1
Miss Preston	1½	Forsyths	1
Joe Athos	1½	Morimura	1
Amy Davis	1	George F. Hall.....	1
M. Tuffs	1	John Jackson.....	1
B. P. Lucas	1	Harry Day	1
Harry Goodson.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. Esdaile	1	Henry Clarke	½
J. Hargreaves	1	Miss Nellie Walton..	½
Carr and Rose	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 16s.

Hetty King	21	My Fancy	1
G. Hearn	5	Daisy Dormer	1
Clarice Mayne	2½	Colin Bryce	1
Horace Hunter	2½	Zoe Coe	1
Joe Elvin	2	Pasquali Bros.	1
Ada Colley	2	W. T. Ellwanger	1
Marguerite Ismay ..	2	Lalie Brooke	1
Mary Douglas Frere	2	T. Ellis Buxton	1
C. Laurie	2	C. Rauschle	1
Ethel Arden and George Abel	2	Gus Elen	1
Peggie Lennie	1	Self	½
Mrs. Mayne	1	G. Hatley	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 5s.

Harry Goodson	1	Harry Russon.....	1
Sam Lipman	1	S. McCarthy	1
Alfred Appleyard....	1	Chas. C. Chris	1
Billy Seeley	1	Raglus	1
James Stewart	1	E. L. Israel	1
Bernard Israel	1	Israel	1
Celest	1	D Molem	1
L. F. Boorer	1	F. Mulvey.....	1
G. L. Boorer	1	M. Israel	1
Jack Deray	1	J. Pamm	1
Bogey	1	Hart	1
Cecil Gray	1	Gus Elen	1
M. Boorer	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 14s. 6d.

Kitty Colyer	5	Irene Hare	1
Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Davis	5	Sadie Bizet	1
Mrs. D. J. Day	2½	J. W. Gallagher	1
Dora Lindsay.....	1	John Wills	1
Mlle. Renée.....	1	Harry Blake	1
Bessie Knight	1	H. T. D.	1
Millie Edgar	1	Ike Scott	1
Lloyd Morgan	1	Arthur Rigby	1
J. J. Mannix	1	J. Thompson	1
Terry and Bentley ..	1	Will Douglas	1
Bessie Mackenzie ..	1	W. J. L.	1
Sarony Sisters	1	A. C. Charles	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £4 8s.

Harry Day	20	Frank Elliston	1
Pearce Lucas	10½	H. Taft	1
De Biere	10	Gus Garrick	1
Whit Cunliffe	10	Fred Burnell	1
Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.	10	Harry McKelvie	1
		Walter Hast	1
Jas. W. Tate	5	Peggie Lennie	1
Geoffreys and Benson	3	E. Lepard.....	1
J. Hargreaves	2	J. E. Cohen	1
Harry Claff.....	2	Harry Taft	1
Dave Carter	1	Gabrielle Day.....	1
Jack Fraser	1	Gus Elen	1
T. F. O'Brien	1	Friend	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 7s.

Kitty Colyer	2	Yvonne Lamor	1
Chung Ling Soo	2	T. E. Dunville	1
T. F. Robson	1	Elsie Girls	1
John McColl	1	The Gothams	1
Rose Cambry	1	Geoffreys and Benson	1
Rose Bancroft	1	Jennie Johns	1
Chris. Horn	1	R. Howard	1
Will Horn	1	Les Mabas	1
James Horne	1	La belle Linda	1
George Formby	1	Gertrude Gebest	1
Herbert La Martine	1	Fred Hastings	1
Rose Hamilton	1	Gus Elen	1
Sammy Shields	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 9s.

Annie Lucas	5	Myer Lee	1
Geo. Leyton	5	C. P. Johns	1
Eddie and Ethel	5	L. B. Barnard	1
Daisy Lucas	5	Dick Barnett	1
Chas. Reed and Flora and Cromer	5	Alf. Barnard	1
F. W. McAvoy	2	Dr. Weaver	1
Will Collins	2	J. O. Evans	1
Bob Smart	2	K Scott-Barrie	1
G. H. Topakya	2	Franklin	1
Joe Wilson	2	Robert Edelsten	1
Ted E. Box	1	Jack Coke	1
C. H. Fields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 10s. 6d.

Bains Co.	2½	D. Selbo	1
Lily Hammersley ..	2	Bros. Ford	1
E. and E.	2	A. Marriott	1
Tokio	2	L. Nathan	1
Geo. Goodfellow ..	2	M. Chandler	1
Randolph King	1	Joe Jacobs	1
Frank Shelley	1	F. Lloyd	1
Barney Jacobs	1	S. R.	1
R. Whyte, jun.	1	James and Jenny Jee	1
J. Ross Elvio	1	J. Ward	1
The Carlyles	1	Gus Harris	1
F. H. Gillett	1	Gus Elen	1
Renee	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 13s. 6d.

E. Venner	10½	A. Bond Sayers	1
P. Richardson	5	George Manton.....	1
C. W. Lovesy	5	Agnes Molteno	1
H. W. Daw	2½	Maxwell and Frances	1
W. G.	2½	Ida Kessanley	1
Karlos Stiveodor....	2	L. H.	1
Sam Mayo	2	J. H.	1
R. E. Maclachlan ..	2	Georgie Martin	1
Archie Cann Parnell	2	Dora Stock	1
T. Pardoe	2	Madge Allan	1
Colbert	2	Croissets	1
J. B.	2	Reg Beauchamp	1
Adey Spencer	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 7s.

Leo Sterling	1	Chas. Reekie	1
Addie Love	1	George Newburn	1
Austin Rudd	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Conlin	1		

Collected by Sid Cotterell, £1 5s.

Sid Cotterell	2	G. Barnett	1
Captain J. E. Hughes	1	Lelia Roze	1
C. E. H. Horne ...	1	Trixie Cotterell	1
Mr. Webb	1	Hen and Chickens, Bolton	1
Molly Maguire	1	Black Horse, Bolton	1
Guy Macdonald	1	White Horse, Bolton	1
H. Smith	1	John Mack	1
Fred Kitchen.....	1	Will Poluski, jun...	1
Alfred Barker, jun...	1	C. Cestria	1
George Narow	1	J. Manghan	1
H. Wormald	1	Gus Elen	1
J. W. Boyden	1		
F. W. Whitlock	1		

Collected by Tom Branson, £1 11s.

Tom Branson.....	5	S. Sowland	1
Kittie Blanson	2½	Bert Vincett	1
R. E. Wilson	2	Robert J. Ramsay ..	1
Jolly Jimmy Walker	1½	Herbert W. Montagu	1
George Lord	1	L. F. Browne	1
Will Beverley.....	1	N. Houghton	1
Stanley B. Philp	1	A. Corbishley	1
George Groom	1	G. Lee	1
Walter Fisher	1	Geo. W. Graves	1
H. O. D. Vosper	1	Walter Norman	1
Tom Bass	1	Harry Chandler	1
E. B. Sweeting	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Fred Sinclair, £1 7s.

Fred Sinclair	1	Walter De Frece	1
Jules Jordan	1	Joe O'Gorman	1
J. W. Manning.....	1	Geo. Leyton	1

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

A Pattern for all Rink Managers.
Owing to the enormous success of the winter season, the directors of the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, announce, that they will keep the rink open through the summer. It will be remembered that the Empress Rink is the concern that on a capital of £4,000 has not only paid 300 per cent. in dividends during the past eighteen months, but on that capital has also equipped and ran successfully seventeen other rinks in London and the provinces. Had all other rinks been as carefully financed and managed, we should not have had the troubled shareholders' meetings of the past two weeks. Rinking is a healthy pastime—not a craze, as so many writers term it—and if all rinks were managed with the strict business methods and economy to be found at Earl's Court it would stay with us permanently.

Suitable for Rinks or Picture Palaces.
A remarkable private demonstration was given at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, between sessions the other night to a small party of rink proprietors and entertainment managers. As we have mentioned before in these columns, Mr. P. W. Willard some time ago secured the entire output of Gavioliphones in the market, and he has disposed of a goodly number to owners of small rinks and picture palaces. Naturally, provincial proprietors want to see what they are being asked to buy, and as there were quite a large number of applicants Mr. Willard on the occasion in question was showing would-be purchasers what a Gavioliphone can do. The very latest music was played on it equal to a military band strength of sixty performers. Again on each instrument the volume of sound was curtailed to the efforts of fourteen insrumentalists, and finally the soft sounds of a quadrille string band of seven was given. Apart from the commercial aspect of the exhibition, the function was extremely interesting from the point of view of showing the marvellous extent to which mechanical ingenuity, in conjunction with musical knowledge, can go.

Herbert W. Izod's Benefit.
By permission of the directors of the Empress Rink, Earl's Court, a special ticket benefit will be given to the manager, Herbert W. Izod, on Friday evening, April 15, when the rink will be open from 7.30 p.m. till 12.30 a.m. Mr. Izod will present a special programme, which will include a carnival, a gymkhana, a waltzing and two-step competition, racing, and brilliant moonlight and rainbow dances. The programme will finish with a confetti battle.

Aldwych Skating Club Dinner.
The Aldwych Skating Club held its first annual dinner at the Florence Restaurant last Friday night. The chair was taken by Mr. E. Lewis, and among those present were Messrs. J. Harvey, E. Cohen, Walter Stanton, H. G. Brockman, H. O'Hagan, W. Soper, and S. Casey. Mr. Harvey spoke eloquently upon the bearing that roller skating could have upon the physique of the "younger nation," and Mr. W. Soper expressed the opinion that if the club continued to progress in the same way that it had begun it would soon occupy a prominent position in the roller world. The most important speech of the evening was made by Mr. Brockman, who pointed out the present enthusiasm for roller skating, and expressed the opinion that such clubs as the Aldwych would keep alive roller skating for many years to come. An admirable musical programme was arranged, among those who contributed being Miss Walker, Mrs. Warwick, Miss Bessie Barnes, and Messrs. Walter Walters, J. Robertson, and W. Clements.

F. G. Stumcke's Benefit.
On April 6 a benefit will be accorded to Mr. F. G. Stumcke, the rink manager of the Crystal Palace. Mr. Stumcke's ability, skill, and untiring energy as an instructor during the season have made him a great favourite with patrons. Several well-known artists have promised to appear on this occasion, and they include: Mr. Walter Stanton, the amateur figure skating champion of Great Britain, winner of the Richardson Challenge Cup at Maida Vale Rink on March 16, 1910; Mr. C. D. Phillips, the champion free skater of England; Mr. Syd Martin, Mr. S. F. Casey, and members of the Crystal Palace Figure Skating Club, introducing graceful waltzing and two-step dancing, burlesque hockey match, ladies v. gentlemen, push-ball on skates, and speed contests by the leading amateurs and professional speed skaters of the world.

Lava S.C. Easter Tour.
The Lava Skating Club started its Easter tour yesterday (Good Friday) at the Empress Rink, Leicester To-day (Saturday) Luton entertain the Londoners until Bank Holiday, when the team proceed to Ipswich. Owing to the fact that the heats for the five miles championship are to be decided on Tuesday next, the tour has been somewhat curtailed. Mr. Sidney Martin, the amateur trick skater, who is also a first-grade Lava Club speed member, will give exhibitions at Leicester and Ipswich. On Easter Monday, at 9 p.m., the Lava II. team are holding an inter-club contest with Ealing S.C. at the Lava Rink.

N.S.A. Five-Mile Championship.
The five mile Amateur Championship is being run under the auspices of the National Skating Association at the Maida Vale Rink next Wednesday. This will be the first occasion upon which the N.S.A. have held a championship event at a distance of five miles. E. J. Little, the holder of the one-hour record; L. Meredith, the long-distance cycling champion; and F. W. Stent have already intimated their intention of competing.

John Davidson at Leytonstone.
The managing-director, Mr. James White, has added to the attractions of the popular Leytonstone skatery during the week by the engagement of John Davidson, who has twice daily given exhibitions of his rinking prowess.

Gymkhana at Wandsworth.
The gymkhana which took place at the Central Hall Rink, Wandsworth, on Friday, March 18, was held under the auspices of the Wandsworth Roller Skating Club, which is to be congratulated on its success. The races and results were as follows:—Ladies' Hoop Race (4 laps): 1, Miss M. Wilkinson, work cabinet; 2, Mis Linda Harrison, silver manicure set. Time, 1min. 50 2-5sec. One Mile Open Amateur Handicap: 1, E. J. Colley (30yds.) (Ealing), canteen of cutlery and fish carvers; 2, J. Lunn (15yds.) (Wandsworth), tantalus; 3, A. Sutton (35yds.) (Wandsworth). Time, 3min. 58 3-5sec. Ladies' Scratch Race (7 laps): 1, Miss A. B. Josland, jewel case; 2, Miss Agnes Bright, copper kettle; 3, Miss Maude Wilkinson. Time, 2min. 22 1-5sec. One Mile Club Handicap: 1, A. Sutton (15yds.), epergne; 2, J. Lunn (scratch), set of carvers; 3, H. L. Collins (65yds.). Time, 4min. 4 2-5sec. Open Mile Backward Scratch Race: 1, R. Pooley (Wandsworth), silver hot water jug; 2, S. E. Hunt (Wandsworth); 3, E. J. Medgett (Wandsworth). Time, 4min. 47 3-5sec. Handicapper for open events, Mr. H. G. Brockman, N.S.A. Clerk of the course, Mr. C. W. Pannell, N.S.A. Judges, Mr. H. Y. Evans, N.S.A., Mr. Allan C. Rose. Handicapper for Wandsworth Roller Skating Club, Mr. W. Doland. Starter, Mr. L. Morley, W.R.S.C. Timekeeper, Mr. Duff W. R. S.C. Track stewards, Messrs. Cox, Medgett. Withall, and Hicks.

The Fastest Amateur.
The mile record of 3min. 17 1-5sec., recently made by J. T. Cooper, of Birmingham, is the first amateur record ever held by a provincial.

Attempt to Break Mile Record.
Mr. H. Taylor made an attempt to break the English amateur mile record at the Dublin Olympia on Saturday night. The track was specially laid out under the superintendence of Mr. T. Turner Harley, Provincial Representative of National Skating Association of Great Britain. The timekeepers were Messrs. Atkinson and Medcalfe, official timekeepers of Cyclist's Union. Taylor reached the half mile in 1min. 37 2-5sec., and completed the mile in 3min. 18 3-5sec

Racing Tours.
The Lava Club and also the strong Brixton Club are going on a racing tour at Easter, and the former, in visiting Northampton, Luton, and Leicester, will meet some good-class speed skaters, and although neither town has sufficient to enable them to win a four-a-side contest, still the tour should do much to stimulate inter-team rivalry.

Just What We Think.
"A great amount of fuss has been made about the resignation of Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins from the directorate of a group of roller rinks, and what is more regrettable is the fact that the incident has been made a peg upon which to hang deprecatory references to the present revival of roller-rinking in general. If their hands are too full and their interests too spread, their resignations will make room for men able to give closer personal attention to the concerns they direct, to the ultimate benefit of rinking at large." This is an opinion printed by the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in which we heartily concur.

St. Patrick's Carnival at Belfast.
A fancy dress carnival inaugurated by the American Roller Rink came off at Cliftonville, Belfast, on St. Patrick's night. Prizes were gained by Miss Edna Whyte (who was attired as an Indian lady) and Miss Muriel Whyte (Music), Miss H. Duddy as "Catch My Pal" (the most amusing costume), Mr. Wm. H. Hotham (who was attired as a Zulu), Mr. H. E. Morley, and Mr. W. H. Wann. The judges were the Lady Mayoress, Miss McMordie, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, and Col. Donner. The entire arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by the manager, Col. F. W. Roberts, V.D.

The Blackpool Skateries.
The popularity of the Pleasure Beach Skating Rink, Blackpool, never wanes. At each session the spacious floor, which has an excellent skating surface of 16,200ft., is the scene of pleasure-seekers obtaining the maximum amount of enjoyment. Rink hockey matches take place here periodically. The Swiss Roller Rink at Switzerland never fails to attract large throngs of rinkers.

Messrs. Counter and Phillips, Proprietors.
The large number of provincial towns in which Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins have started skating rinks does not include Bournemouth. They have never opened or controlled a rink in that town. The Bournemouth American Skating Rink is, and always has been, the sole property of Mr. Harry Counter and Mr. W. Lloyd Phillips.

A Cumberland Carnival.
The Penrith (Cumberland) Skating Carnival proved decidedly successful. There was a great variety of costumes, and the rink presented a very animated and picturesque appearance. Miss D. Herd as a Persian Princess and Mr. W. H. Evans representing the Knight of the Swan were granted the premier awards.

New Manager for Dover Rink.
The Dover Pier Pavilion Skating Rink authorities have appointed Mr. H. Wilkinson, hitherto musical director there, to be manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Anslow go to Paris.
Mr. and Mrs. Anslow, the floor manager of the Dublin Olympia Rink, and his wife introduced the new skating Barn Dance into Ireland. They gave an entire change of fancy skating at the carnival at the Olympia Rink before their departure for Paris last week.

Dundee Rink Re-opened.
After having been thoroughly renovated and overhauled, the Melrose Terrace Roller Skating Rink was reopened last Saturday. Mr. Alfred Ross, for long connected with the Dundee Palace Theatre, has been appointed manager. The Olympia Skating Palace is still going strong. On Thursday a Sports Night was held, the items including a grand hockey match—Submarine Depot v. Olympia.

Hockey at Gloucester.
Mr. Percy S. Reiss, manager of the Gloucester Olympia Rink, has introduced many innovations. Mr. Reiss has already formed a hockey club known as "The Gloucester Rink Hockey Club." On Tuesday they received a visit from Ross, when the teams lined out as follows:—Ross: Parkes (goal), Llewellyn (back), Holloway, Blake, and Higgins (forwards). Gloucester: E. F. Davies (goal), Bert Harris (back), A. L. Crowe, W. Freeman, and P. G. Harris (captain) (forwards). Referee, Mr. Phillip Chance. Goal judges, Messrs. W. Matthews and Meredith. At half-time Gloucester were leading by three goals. After the interval Gloucester had things all their own way, and added four goals through Crowe (3) and W. Freeman.

Animated Pictures at a Rink.
An innovation has been introduced at the Strand Skating Rink, Park-street, Grimsby in the form of ordinary animated pictures. This is the first time anything of the kind has been shown in a skating rink in Grimsby. The films are thrown upon a large screen at the extreme end of the rink, where they are in full view of both "rinkers" and spectators alike; meanwhile, the lights are turned down fairly low, the effect being most pleasing. The pictures are shown each night—one about every ten minutes.

On Rollers at Maidenhead.
The Pavilion Rink, Maidenhead, presented a picturesque and animated appearance on the occasion of its first Fancy Dress Carnival on Thursday, the 17th inst. There was an immense attendance both of skaters and onlookers, among whom were the mayor (Mr. F. W. Porter) and the deputy-mayor (Mr. D. Bidmead). His Worship presented the prizes. During the evening a clever step-dance on wheels was contributed by Instructor W. S. Martin, and a remarkable exhibition of fancy skating by Leonard Young drew forth rounds of applause. Another carnival is arranged for April. A rink hockey club has also been formed, Mr. John Webber (Craufurd-rise, Maidenhead) being secretary.

Kelvingrove Masquerade.
A masquerade carnival was held at the West-End Roller Rink, Kelvingrove, on Thursday in last week. The event was a popular one, and spectators crowded all parts of the building. The arrangements made by Mr. Norman Allan were of a most complete and elaborate nature. The "Chantecler" craze proved to be one of the most interesting types of costume present. The judging was in the hands of Mrs. Seligmann, Messrs. W. R. Gemmell, A. Jamieson, and R. M. Thorne. Manager H. S. Cameron was most indefatigable.

Carnival at Paisley.
Gratified with the success which attended the first fancy dress carnival at the Paisley Rink, Mr. E. H. Bostock held his second one last Tuesday evening. There was a large entry for each of the various competitions, and handsome prizes were provided by the management. Mr. Jack Bostock, the popular manager, terminated the proceedings with a confetti battle.

"She Waltzed Perfectly."
A novelty in the form of a waltzing competition took place at the Porth Rink last Saturday, in which several couples took part, Miss Nicholas and Mr. Hopkins, of Treorky, taking first place, who, according to the judges, "waltzed perfectly."

Martine for Rugby.
Martine is playing the Alexandra Rink, Derby, this week, and has been specially engaged for the opening, next week, of the new skating rink at Rugby.

Rink for Wallsend.
Wallsend is to revel in rinking. It is surprising that the craze did not reach there sooner, seeing that the junior Tyneside borough is between the city and the coast, where the recreation has flourished exceedingly. It is proposed to erect a skating rink in the town. The site is near to the park, and the structure will be a permanent one. A maple floor will have a length of 300 feet, by 80 feet wide, and will be overlooked by a large gallery.

To Open on Whit Monday.
Warrenpoint, the pretty and progressive seaside resort near Belfast, is to have a rink with a floor space of about 20,000ft. It is now being built, and will be opened on Whit Monday.

FULHAM THEATRE.
Lively, bright, and talented entertainers, the Rainbows, have gladdened the hearts of Fulham Theatre patrons this week. Their constitution is on conventional lines, but that matters little when one remembers with pleasure the long list of songs, dances, and sketches that go to make up the programme given—all well sung, all well danced, all well acted. We are introduced to the Rainbows—three ladies and four gentlemen—on Pierrot Island. And a very happy, delightful place it looks as the sun is rising in the early morn. And the young people, garbed almost in the accepted costume of the seaside pierrot, with just a dash of colour here and there to give an idea of the hues of the rainbow, are seated very easily and comfortably in the midst of a charming woodland scene, quite ready, one of their number assures us, to commence the day's work. That consists of no less than fifteen numbers, a burlesque entitled *A Twenty-First Birthday Party*, and a musical absurdity, *A Midsummer Night's Scream*. It is quite impossible to give all the praise one would like individually to the eight people who sustain between them a programme lasting nearly three hours. We must, however, especially mention Mr. Harry Daunt's haunting number, "A Kansas City coon," with its extremely nimble and clever dance. Mr. Lionel Howard's impersonations of Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Wilkie Bard, and Mr. H. B. Irving were decidedly good.

The tit-bit of the Rainbows' programme is undoubtedly *A Twenty-first Birthday Party*. The scene is laid in the dining-room of a conventional vicarage, where a conventional clergyman, who has a conventional wife, with conventional friends, is celebrating the coming of age of an extremely conventional son. The whole thing is a screaming skit on the ways and manners of suburban villadom. Mr. Basil Mercer's idea of how the Rev. Simon Sofsope would entertain, and his idea of a jolly evening, is the best thing of its kind we have seen for a long time, and he is well supported by the other Rainbows. We hope to see great deal more of Messrs. Stewart and Lorraine's small but clever company of comedy artists.

Closed on Good Friday.
All Scarborough's skating rinks were closed by order of the local authorities on Good Friday.

FREEMASONS AT WORK.

CHELSEA LODGE.

The first regular meeting of the present session of the Chelsea Lodge 3098 was held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Friday last, under the presidency of Mr. W. H. Hitch, W.M., assisted by Messrs. W. H. Atlas (acting S.W.), G. H. Dyball (acting J.W.), W. S. Lyon, P.M., L.R. (treasurer), C. J. Doughty (secretary), Douglas White, P.M. (acting S.D.), Frank Hardie (acting S.D.), A. E. Nicklen (acting I.G.), Angelo Asher (organist), G. H. Hill (steward), J. H. McNaughton, P.M. (tyler). Owing to the great distance away from the meeting place at which the majority of the appointed officers of the Lodge were engaged, the W.M. had to appoint for the afternoon members to fill five vacancies, and it was a matter of congratulation to all to know that lay members could so efficiently do the work. A ballot was taken for admission as joining member of Mr. Harold Pinden, and as initiates Messrs. Tom E. Hughes and Will Cromwell (Knox). The same having proved unanimous in their favour, the W.M. initiated the last two gentlemen into the ancient rights and privileges. Messrs. W. H. Wallis, Augustus Dale, and J. R. Elvio were advanced, and the ceremony in connection with the admittance of Messrs. Bert Powell and J. R. Elvio was completed by the W.M., assisted by Mr. H. Chenery, P.M. of the Asaph and Knightsbridge Lodges, and an honorary member of the Chelsea Lodge. Previous to the lodge closing, the W.M. and members congratulated Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R., the treasurer of the lodge, on being selected by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught to office in the Grand Lodge of England. The following members, in addition to those already mentioned, were present: Messrs. John Grant, Ernie Mayne, Bowker Andrew, Burt Ralland, Fred Nieman, Pete Murray, Fred Camp, Harry Kato, Josh. Clifton, T. S. Burnetti, C. H. Burton, Bert Powell, W. H. Wallis, Erne Warsaw, Albert Felino, Dan Lipton, Augustus Dale, Sydney Chaplin, H. C. Lovell, and as a visitor Mr. Frederic Arnold. After the closing of the lodge the members adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel for refreshment.

LODGE OF ASAPH.

At the March meeting of the members, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Tuesday, the master, Mr. Chris Hilton, was supported by Messrs. W. J. Holloway, acting as I.P.M.; A. B. Tapping, S.W.; James Weaver, P.G.Std.B., acting as J.W.; Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., treasurer; James W. Mathews, A.G.D.C., secretary; Frank Lister, S.D.; George H. Dyball, Third S., acting as J.D.; George Highland a visitor, acting as I.G.; Tom Clare, organist; and John Gilbert, T. Mr. James W. Mathews undertook the duties of director of ceremonies.

Mr. A. B. Tapping, who was abroad at the time of his appointment as S.W. of the lodge, was invested with the insignia of his rank.

There were also present Messrs. Arthur Garrett, Oscar Grimaldi, Robert P. Black, Cecil Harry Phillips, Ernest R. Abbott, Charles J. Taylor, F. R. Arnold, Charles Joyce, F. Lyndhurst Schmitz, Harry Lockett, Frank Desprez, Geo. E. Sherras, Jesse Birch, and Herbert Chenery, P.M. and assistant-secretary. Mr. C. Rider Noble attended as a visitor.

Mr. Harry Raymond Mathews was advanced a step in his novitiation, the ceremony being performed in an impressive manner, and supplemented by the delivery of the second lecture by Mr. George Highland, who undertook the duty on short notice, and performed it admirably. The usual banquet at Simpson's followed.

BOHEMIAN LODGE, NO. 3294.

There was a very large attendance at the last meeting of this exceedingly popular lodge at the Masonic Chambers, Hamilton-street, on Tuesday. The 1st Degree was rendered by W.Bro. A. J. Thompson, P.P.G.W., and Bro. James Moie, of the Palais de Luxe Cinema, Liverpool. Arthur Richards, of the same, and F. A. Parker, of the New Century Hall, were initiated. Bro. Wighton proposed his district manager, Bro. Horace Cole, as a joining member, and other joining members proposed were W.Bro. Mathison, P.M. of the Wavertree Lodge, Meredith, P.M. of the Toxteth Lodge, &c. Seven candidates were proposed for initiation, including Mr. Kempson, the local manager of Gaumont's films; Mr. J. F. Wood, the proprietor of many cinematograph shows, and many other well-known local gentlemen. Bro. Frank Weston, the manager of the Birkenhead Hippodrome, has obtained the consent of his directors to have a matinée at an early date in aid of the charities, when a huge attendance is expected. An emergency meeting of the Lodge will be held at the Masonic Chambers, 9, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead (opposite Hamilton-square Station, Mersey Railway), on April 6, at 1.30 p.m., when the W.M. will be pleased to welcome any Brethren visiting the neighbourhood. The installation meeting will be held on April 22, at Thornton Manor, Thornton Hough, by kind permission of Bro. W. H. Lever, at 12 o'clock noon. Conveyances will be provided. Brethren in the profession will receive further particulars on application to the secretary, Bro. W. Jones, 34, Cable-street, Liverpool.

North York Defeats Durham.
At a hockey match last week, under the Durham and North Yorks Rink Hockey League, Bishop Auckland Olympia Rink Club beat the newly-formed Durham Club by six goals to one. In response to a much-expressed desire, a roller-skating club has been formed in connection with the Durham Olympia Rink. A large number of the patrons have joined, and the manager, Mr. Vivian D'Alby, is giving every assistance to make the club successful.

The "Era Annual," 1910. The most complete theatrical dictionary of dates ever published. It will also be found to be the most interesting annual of the year, containing, as it does, many stories told by members of the dramatic and musical professions. Illustrated by photographs and autographs. Price 1s., post free. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

The success of your rink depends largely on the skates you provide. No other skate is so sure to secure the approval of your patrons, or so certain to bring them back again and again, as

THE "BRAMPTON" ROLLER SKATE
Adjustable Model

—the strongest and smoothest running skate on the market. Rink managers should write at once for full particulars, prices, terms, etc.

We carry the largest stocks in the trade of "Brampton," "Phillip," "Union," and "Winslow" Roller Skates. Low prices and prompt deliveries are our strong points.

BROWN BROTHERS, Ltd.
Great Eastern Street, LONDON, E.C., and Deansgate, MANCHESTER.

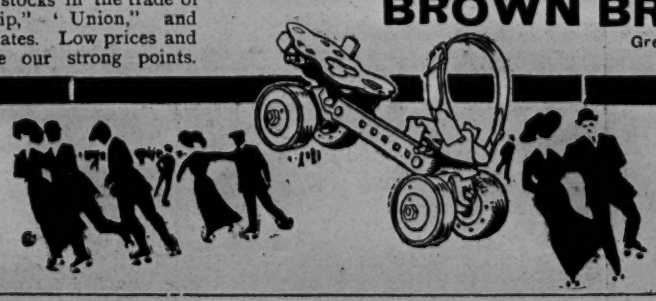

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES
BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.
"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."
Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.
FINEST CONSTRUCTION. Longest Wear at Smallest Cost for Repairs.
Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.
Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.
LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to
M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break; guaranteed.

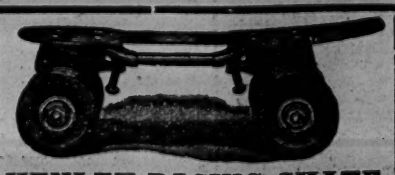
HENLEY RACING SKATE.
Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.
Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

FOR HIRE!
PUSHBALL. Excellent condition.
WADKIN SURFACING MACHINE.
Will take both 110 and 220 V. alternating single, 50 periods.

FOR SALE!
PLIMPTON'S 'NEW ENG AND' SURFACER.
In first class running order. May be seen working.
Write—A. F. WILSON Skating Rink, King Street, Hammersmith.

MISS JESSIE DARLING
PREMIERE SKATEUSE
INTRODUCING
THE OLASSIO
IN
Roller Skating.
LATE SUCCESS AT
PARIS,
BERLIN,
HAMBURG,
HANOVER,
FRANKFORT,
PARIS.
For Vacant Dates—
ADDRESS c/o "THE ERA."

THE FILLETED MARVEL.
THE GREAT MARTINE, Contortion and Acrobatic Skating Act.
THIS WEEK, MARCH 21, ALEXANDRA RINK, DERBY.
NEXT WEEK, MARCH 28, NEW SKATING RINK, RUGBY.
For Terms, Open Dates, etc., address above, or Agent MARINELLI, 18, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR APRIL.

ENGLAND.

1. Bicester (3,023)
1 Lindfield (2,336)
2. Pendlebury (13,672)
2. Dawlish (4,000)
2. Huddersfield (95,008)
4. Great Grimsby (46,783)
4. Plymouth (107,509)
4. Swindon (44,906)
5. Hexham (7,071)
6. Bridport (5,700)
6. St. Columb (6,846)
6. Swinton
8. Brighouse Fair (21,375)
9. Ravensthorpe Feast (5,698)
13. Worksop (16,112)
18. Luton (36,400)
20. Bedford (35,200)
20. Devizes (6,532)
21. Bishop Auckland (11,966)
21. Chesham (7,245)
21. Wareham (2,000)
22. Warminster 5,347)
23. Bewdley (2,866)
23. Bracknell (2,482)
23. Crediton (3,974)
23. Hatfield (4,340)
25. Horwich (16,083)
25. Iron Acton (1,069)
25. Lincoln (47,972)
26. Axminster (3,804)
26. Barnoldswick (7,141)
26. Guisboro' (5,645)
26. Ware (5,573)
27. South Shields (97,300)
28 Horncastle (4,000)
29. Holmes Chapel (956)
29. Knutsford (5,173)
29. Longtown (630)
29. Newchurch (4,000)
30. Alton (5,479)
30. Cobham (3,902)
30 Lancaster (40,300)
30. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
30. Newick (958)
30. Norton St. Philip (450)
30. Ollerton (770)
30. Poole (19,461)
30. Stockport (78,871)
30. Stonehouse (2,207)

SCOTLAND.

4. Govan (111,000)
7 Dunfermline (25,250)
11. Dundee (160,878)
15. Hamilton (32,775)
15. Kirkcaldy (34,063)
29 Bridge of Allan (3,240)

WALES.

1. Maesycwmmer (800)
1. Menai Bridge (1,600)
1. Tredegar (18,574)
5. Wrexham (14,966)
8. Newtown (6,500)
16. Aberdare (43,357)
22. Pontypool (6,126)

The Fight for Mitcham Fair.

THE Showmen's Guild executive officials have had a busy week at Mitcham. A committee-room has been opened in the centre of the town, close by the fair green, No. 1, Buck's-parade. Large posters setting forth the people's claim to retain their ancient fair are seen on every hoarding, and every elector will receive by post the Guild manifesto against the abolition of the people's fair. Public meetings are being held on the fair green and in various parts of the parish. Everything that careful forethought and organisation can do to keep the electors well informed on the fair question is being done by the Guild. Next Tuesday, March 29, at 8 p.m., in the Mitcham Vestry Hall, a public meeting convened by the Guild will be held. Councillor Dant wil preside. The Rev. T. Horne and F. H. Pedgrift, Esq., will be the principal speakers. Several of the members of the late council favourable to the retention of the fair are expected to attend and support the work of the Guild. The election is fixed for Saturday, April 2—this day week. There is an immense amount of hard work to be done between now and then, and only a week to do it in. Will London showmen ready to help, if only for a few hours any day next week, report themselves to the Guild secretary, committee-room, 1, Buck's-parade, Mitcham? There is a great amount of useful work to be done, canvassing the electors and distributing leaflets, taking part in meetings, &c. We know it is Easter week, yet after Monday a little time might be spared even by the busiest London showman. It must be remembered that this is a fight for London as well as Mitcham, that if we lose the battle at Mitcham it will be taken as a sign of failure by other outlying districts, and other fairs will be attacked.

The Local Press on the Fight.

The following paragraphs from the local Press will be of interest to our readers :—

"To turn from Imperial to local politics it is interesting to notice that the showmen are taking a strong interest in the Parish council election. This is due to the originator of their Guild being put forward as a candidate. I have no doubt that he allowed himself to be nominated as the result of the persuasive powers of the executive committee, or of the Rev. T. Horne, the energetic chaplain; and if he goes to the poll he will very likely receive a good many votes from the working classes, who have never disguised their partiality for the fair, though it induces them to spend more money than they can afford.

"Indeed, the fair question is being brought up once again in a prominent way, and from what I hear the showmen do not intend to let the people forget it. In the list of candidates are those who both advocated and oppose its abolition, and others who wish to see it removed to a more convenient spot. The showmen, being endowed with common-sense, can see that while the fair remains on the green it will be opposed by an ever-growing proportion of the people, and they are therefore in favour of its removal."

"This is the gist of the arguments contained in what is described as a manifesto which the Guild have issued. They do not object to the fair being removed "by common consent" because they are "pledged to a reasonable scheme," and they want to see the election of men to the Parish Council who will adhere to a pledge of some kind. At present the majority on the Council are, I believe, in favour of abolition, but they are quite aware of the difficulties, and think that it would be well to choose the lesser of two evils and agree to the fair being removed. As it has been frequently pointed out, there is very little prospect of the fair being abolished while the present state of things exists at the Board of Conservators, the members of which are by no means unanimous.

"Whatever opinion one may have of the Guild's manifesto, it has a useful effect in drawing attention to the whereabouts of the amount voted by the parish to go towards the purchase of the fair rights. That sum of money has disappeared, and the parish has nothing to show for it. At this juncture it is not unreasonable to ask if the Board of Conservators, or the holders of the franchise, are trying to find some way out of the difficulty. For months the public have had nothing official on the subject, and I think it is time that some information was vouchsafed to those who helped to pay for the purchase of the rights from the person who previously owned them."

Bostock and Wombwell on Tour.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S Royal No. 1 Menagerie paid a visit to Oldham last week, opening on Friday, and continuing on Saturday, and were visited by large numbers of people, who were very much interested in the varied collection of animals and birds, some of them very rare. Performances were given at intervals with the performing lions, and also the bears, which were witnessed with great and breathless interest. Amongst the collection are included the smallest pony and the largest dog in Britain, and also a team of Sussex horses, prize-winners at the Agricultural Hall, London.

Norwich Fair.

TOMBLAND pleasure fair opened at Norwich on Thursday with numerous and novel attractions. Messrs. Barker and Thurston's motors and gondolas; Mr. Charles Thurston's magnificent cinematograph show; Mr. Charles Chrichton's picture show; Williams' racing cycles; N. Richards' cakewalk; Messrs. Aspland's racers; Cheeseman and Parkins', George Hearn's, and Mr. Abbot's shooting saloons; Mr. J. Holmes' gallery and houp-la, and others. Mr. Charles Thurston is again to the fore by opening the Agricultural Hall, and with his racing cars and other amusements does well in catering for his patrons. The fair will continue on Saturday, and Monday and Tuesday in Easter week.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AND MITCHAM FAIR.

IMPORTANT SPEECH BY THE GUILD CHAPLAIN.

In pursuance of the active propaganda to defend the people's rights in their fair at Mitcham, the Showmen's Guild has definitely entered the field, and is carrying on an active work at Mitcham. The following bill was extensively circulated in the district :—

MITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION.
The People's Fair Rights.
The REV. T. HORNE,
Chaplain of the Showman's Guild,
will address
a Public Meeting
on the
Fair Green, Mitcham,
on
Thursday Evening, March 24,
at 7.30.

A Resolution to defend Mitcham Fair will be submitted to the Meeting.

Local Gentlemen and Candidates for the Parish Council in favour of retaining the Fair will also Address the Meeting.

COME AND DEFEND YOUR ANCIENT FAIR RIGHTS.

The result was—a large gathering on the old Fair green. The main object of the meeting was well secured, and an attentive and sympathetic audience, mainly composed of the working classes, gave the Guild Chaplain a good hearing. Amongst the crowd were a number of the candidates for honours at the ensuing election. There can be no doubt that the frank and straightforward statement of the Guild Chaplain has impressed both the candidates and the general body of electors.

In his opening remarks Mr. Horne referred to the work that the Guild had already done in order to preserve the people's fair at Mitcham. Reviewing the history of the movement to abolish the Fair, he pointed out that the abolition movement originated with the small group of gentlemen who were determined to kill Mitcham Fair, whether the people of Mitcham wished its death or not. These gentlemen were determined to have their own way; they had never relaxed their efforts, they had used every possible means to gain their ends, and, as far as he could gather, they were as stubbornly determined to-day to abolish the Fair as when they first started to accomplish that purpose.

The Guild did not Interfere in Local Politics.

At the very outset of his address he wanted to clear the ground and to place the position of the Guild in a proper light before the people of Mitcham. The Showman's Guild of Great Britain had no desire whatever to interfere in local politics. The showmen, organised in their trade union for the defence of business in life, were careful never to take a partisan view or a political view whenever they were compelled to defend their interests. The Showman's Guild of Great Britain was a non-political organisation; they neither knew nor cared to know what political party had nominated a candidate. To the Guild the only inquiry that they made of the candidate was—"Are you in favour of maintaining the people's Fair rights"?

Into their local politics the Guild had no desire whatever to meddle; the course of action pursued by the organised showmen was the legitimate and constitutional one open to all workers and traders of defending their trade and business whenever and wherever attacked.

Over three years ago Mitcham Fair would have been lost but for the alarm sounded by several local champions of the people's rights. It was at that point that the Showman's Guild intervened and co-operated with the local defenders of the Fair. The Guild petitioned the Home Office against the proposed abolition. Public meetings, protesting against the attacks upon the people's Fair, were held, and a monster petition of the people against abolition was sent to the Home Secretary.

The Home Secretary Refused to Abolish the Fair.

The decision of the Home Office was a triumph of hard work on the part of the Guild and of the people of Mitcham. The attempt to abolish the Fair under the Act of Parliament failed. The next move on the part of the abolitionists was to purchase the Fair rights—that was to say, the right to draw the tolls or to refuse to take the tolls. It was by the determined action of the organised showmen in refusing to recognise the right of any authority to abolish a fair, without the sanction of the Home Secretary under the powers of the law of the land, that the fairs have been continued, and would be continued until a just settlement had been effected.

Straight Talk to the People.

The Guild Chaplain concluded his address by warning the electors that the coming election was their only chance of striking a blow for the defence of Mitcham Fair. Their power was at the ballot-box, and he advised them to use their voting strength to return only such men to their Parish Council as would represent their views. The people elected the Parish Council, the Parish Councillors elected the four Conservators of Mitcham to act upon the Board of Conservators. Let the people take care only to send to the Parish Council men who were known to be the friends of the people's Fair. He advised them to make the Fair a test question at the election and not to accept any evasive answer. The enemies of the Fair persisted in their action. It was for the people to be equally persistent in their determination to maintain their Fair by all proper and constitutional means. Their demand of each candidate ought to be : "Are you for the people's rights in Mitcham Fair?"

Mr. Grange, one of the candidates for the Parish Council, addressed the meeting on the financial gain that would be theirs if the Fair was maintained and brought under local control

A resolution in support of the people's Fair rights was passed, with but one dissentient, and the meeting closed.

Notes from Yorkshire.

THE second week of Halifax Spring Feast had for its entertainers Messrs. J. W. Waddington, with motor-cars, racing cockerels, and steam yachts; Johnson and Morley, with swings, steamships in the air, and bicycles. Throwing games, houp-las, and variety frames, provided by Messrs. Turner, Jameson, Redfern, Daley, Hughes, Ratcliffe, Johnson, and other caterers; high-fliers, by Riley; and Hale's mystic swings completed the list at Halifax.

AT Gomersall Feast Ashington's cinema pavilion and marionette theatre continues to be the principal show attraction. The machine novelties are :—Messrs. Marshall and Sons' gallopers and gem horses; Burgin's steam swings; Blake and Brooke's juvenile sets; Holdsworth's shooting gallery; and throwing games, houp-la, ring and dart boards, coker-sheets, and pannum stalls in great variety, by Messrs. Bassett, Blake, Castle, Brooke, Crowther, Towers, Middlebrook, and Holdsworth. The refreshment saloon was provided by Mr. Parkinson.

BATLEY Spring Feast was well maintained by Marshall and Sons' palace of delight and splendid set of racing motors; Procter's swings; and throwing games, by Messrs. Holdsworth, Mitchell, Guthrie, and Procter.

AT Heckmondwike for a short season of private business were Harniess' galloping horses, Bean's art and crafts exhibition, and shooters, emmas, and houp-las by Messrs. Bean and Rhodes.

CHAPLAIN OF THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

THE REV. T. HORNE VISITS RETFORD. SOME INTERESTING PARTICULARS OF HIS WORK.

The *Retford and Worksop Times* has the following :—

Retford had a visit on Sunday last from one of the most striking figures in the Church of England, and the parson with the largest—or should we say, the most extensive—cure of souls in the country, the Rev. T. Horne, organising chaplain of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain. This Guild is in itself an evidence of the change that has come o'er the spirit of showland. The days when "we went a-gipsying" are no more—new times, new manners, and new methods, and the show business is now conducted on the lines of other modern businesses. There is a vast amount of capital engaged in it; the attractions are up-to-date—they found the money-drawing powers of the cinematograph before the London financiers, who are now investing so freely in electric theatres—and showmen have to be fertile in ideas, philosophic at losses, and prepared to spend money freely. "The Guild," says its chaplain, in the current annual year book, "has to fight the common foes—the Puritan who looks upon the fair ground as the ante-room of hell, and the show folk as the sons of Satan; and the faddist reformer, whose zeal for repressive legislation runs riot."

The chaplain is not only the chaplain of the Guild. He is the lawyer, the spokesman, the father, of showmen. Born in a van himself, he has never lost interest in the van-dwellers, and never, even in his Oxford days, lost touch with them. North, south, east, and west he travels to preach to them and to visit them, and he has established a connection with parochial clergymen all over the country, who act as local chaplains and assist in the work. That the showmen are deeply appreciative of the chaplain and his work is saying but little. They recognise readily all he has done for their welfare morally and materially, and few clergy have such loyal and thankful parishioners. The year book, which is compiled by him, contains a list of all the fairs in the Kingdom, with the populations of the towns in which they are held, and the dates on which they are held, information regarding local by-laws, and also information relating to legislation which affects showmen.

To a *Times* representative, who found Mr. Horne busy in the fair ground on Monday forenoon talking to the people to whom he has dedicated the rest of his life, Mr. Horne said he was anxious at present about the effect on showmen the new regulations for cinematograph shows would have, but he said the Guild had been successful in getting a clause inserted which would permit the Home Secretary to make regulations which would override those of local authorities .

As the new regulations are stringent, and as the showpeople have many thousands of pounds invested in cinematograph shows, the matter is of the deepest importance to them. "There is no class which has lifted itself up and improved itself so much," said Mr. Horne, "as the professional showman. Of course, you will see the reason for that. A travelled man is an educated man. Travel is education. It broadens the mind and enlarges the sympathies. They are more receptive than the average stay-at-home individual, and I claim for them that they are more up-to-date. In some cases they are not only up-to-date—they are a day before the fair.

"Practically all these people have good settled homes, where the children are sent to school, and they are not taken into the business until they pass the standards. They are anxious to give their children a good education.

"They are men of substance and capital. Take this place (Messrs. Tuby's Coliseum, where the service was held the previous night); it cost at least £6,000, and the roundabouts cost at least £3,000 or £4,000. They employ a great deal of labour, and not only labour, but skilled labour."

The Chaplain.

himself is a short, squarely-built man, with white beard, who looks, shall we say, like the best type of Labour leader turned parson. One can understand how splendidly he gets on with the people he works for when one speaks to him. Not only does he always champion them; but he has a homely, unaffected style of talking to them or to you; and there is a breadth and kindliness of manner which attracts. He is an eloquent preacher, with a powerful voice, and a vigour of delivery which appeals to his audiences. As is natural, perhaps, he knows when to use the dramatic note, and he has gifts of pathos and humour which make him the ideal showmen's preacher. For the last seventeen years he has been interested in the work; for the past three years he has devoted himself to it. One of his greatest supporters is the Bishop of London, and he always, he says, obtains the co-operation of the parochial clergy. He proved a great "draw" also to Retford people—the number attracted to hear him at night in the Coliseum was so large that the "house full" notice might have been truthfully put up a quarter of an hour before the service started. But the police kindly lent their aid, and there was no crush or disorder. The musical portion of the service was led by Mr. John Swannack and his excellent orchestra, the selections from which prior to the service were much appreciated. The Mayor of Retford (Councillor W. Loseby) had a seat in front of the platform, and besides the Rev. T. Horne were present the Rev. J. T. Mumford (vicar of East Retford and an hon. chaplain of the Guild), and the Rev. C. Leeper.

The Rev. J. T. Mumford said they must remember that the service was in the first place for showmen and show women and their families, and also for others who cared to join. They wished to show Mr. Horne, who was with them that night for, he believed, the first time at a Retford Fair service, how the Retford people would join with the showmen and their families in making that a thoroughly good and hearty religious service. They thanked Mr. Tuby for so kindly letting them have the use of his Coliseum; and Mr. Tuby's men, who not only did all they could for them, but did it willingly and cheerfully. He was sure they would wish him to convey to Mr. Tuby, his sons, his manager Mr. Watson, and all his men who had done so much to make them happy and comfortable, their thanks. And then they had, as they ought to have,

His Worship the Mayor,

At every service he had held in that Coliseum he had always insisted that the Mayor should be present; and the Mayor did not take much persuading—he was only too glad to come. He must also say how grateful he was to Mr. Swannack and the members of his orchestra, who had come there to play for them, making their service so bright and beautiful.

The Rev. T. Horne, in the course of a stirring address on the lessons of Palm Sunday, said that the heart of man was so built, his mind so constituted, he was so complex a being that, however suppressed by sorrow, toil, or trouble, he would seek some outlet, some escape from the dullness and drabness and misery of his life. When a travelling showman came to Retford twice a year to provide them with amusement there was something more in it than that he came there in the pursuit of a legitimate calling, earning a little money. He provided amusement,

He Provided Life,

he brought light into the dull, drab existence, and he held that that man was a benefactor to the race. He might in pursuit of his business earn a living, but let them remember this: he was amusement-provider for people, and a showman was a person carrying on a business that was a necessity for the work-a-day life of the people of this country. And he wanted them—all who were in authority and had to do with the administration of the affairs of that town—to realise that showmen would be better showmen, and would bring better shows if those in authority would hold out inducements; would treat him not as a man who took money out of the town, but a man who was giving a pennyworth for a penny every time he took a penny at the door. Many a poor worn and weary worker when he came to a fair from the whirl of machinery in the machine-shop, and spent his few pence in open-air amusements enjoyed himself in such a way that memory was dulled for a time, his trouble and worry were driven from his mind, and he was just like a little boy again. He wanted very little amusement. Let those who joined in that service remember that there was a desire deep down in all human life for brightness; for some mode of expressing joy and the brightness of life, and the old-fashioned fair would give the opportunity to the toiler and moiler of doing this. "And so," added the chaplain, "showmen—all men, God bless you to-night. Live a true life; help your brother; love your God. To leave this sad-eyed world better than you found it, and give all you can for the betterment of humanity—that is the Gospel message of Him who on this day as a King went forth to victory."

In conclusion Mr. Horne expressed his thanks for the great kindness shown by the Vicar, and the host of kind friends who had rallied under his inspiration. In the midst of a strenuous life it was a breath of refreshment to these hard-working show people to have their fellowship in God and Christian worship.

Special hymn sheets were printed, and the large congregation entered heartily into the service.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

LETTERS await Anderton and Rowland, W. Haggar, W. Biddall, and J. W. Chipperfield at *The Era* office.

WITH Eastertide the showman world begins business in earnest. At all the great centres of life and industry, at every pleasure resort of the people, the showman will be found supplying popular open-air amusement. Throughout the great Midlands, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Durham, the great industrial belt of England, will have on every fair-ground its gathering of shows and amusement caterers.

THE great holiday resorts of London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, in Wales, and in the West will have their shows and showmen.

AT Mirfield for the Spring Feast were Waddington's motors, Gavin's scenic slide, and throwing games, houp-las, &c., by Joy and Wood.

Performing Monkeys.

AT a sitting, before Mr. Registrar Linklater, for the public examination of Frank Taylor, described as of Ravenscourt Park-mansions, Hammersmith, it appeared from his statements and the Official Receiver's observations that he had for the past thirty years been engaged as a trainer of animals for stage and circus purposes. His last engagement was with Mr. E. H. Bostock to act as manager and animal trainer on a tour with his (Mr. Bostock's) menagerie in South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

IN consequence of disagreements as to the management of the menagerie, the debtor, in March, 1907, left the show in New Zealand and returned to London. In April, 1908, Mr. Bostock brought an action against him for the recovery of six monkeys, and for an account of the earnings and expenses of the menagerie, &c. The matters in dispute were referred to the Official Referee, who ordered delivery to the plaintiff of a monkey called Potch, also that the debtor should make him certain payments, and judgment was obtained against the debtor for £449, together with the costs of the action.

IT was further stated that the debtor, after his return to England in 1908, commenced touring in England with performing monkeys at music-halls, and made a living in this way until he was directed to give up the monkey, Potch. Subsequently his wife got together a show of performing monkeys, and at the date of the receiving order he was acting as her manager. Accounts were filed showing unsecured debts £790, and assets nil, the debtor attributing his insolvency to the loss of the action above mentioned. He said it was a great loss to him to have to give up Potch, as that was his star monkey. The examination was closed.

Leeds Coliseum.

THE British Animated Pictures are still doing good business here twice daily, under the proprietorship of Mr. Henry N. Phillips. Yesterday (Good Friday) two performances were given of special subjects.

Living Pictures in Siam.

ACCORDING to an American consular report, cinematograph pictures have become the favourite amusement of all classes in Bangkok.

A Tyler Development.

A SERIES of demonstrations was held at the Rehearsal Theatre last week by Messrs. Walter Tyler (Limited), of the Tyler-Ernemann cinematograph projector "Imperator." The most important development is the Tyler automatic light cut-out and motor stop, which cuts off the current supplying the arc and the motor when the machine is not working, or in the event of the film breaking, by which the risk of the film becoming ignited is avoided.

AT the King's, Hanley, fine films include The Cowboy Millionaire, From Kidnapper to Rescuer, The Hempen Bag, Custer's Last Stand, A Late Guest, Novel Navigation, etc. Sam Vereker, a juvenile of the Lashwood type, is a very promising "dandy."

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH
PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Latest from Lubin's.

THE SAMARITAN'S COURTSHIP is one of the best of the Lubin list just issued. A young lady arrives at a railway terminus, and then discovers that she has left her purse at home. The Samaritan, a young man, pays the cab fare and provides the cash for railway journey. He meets the lady at the house of some mutual friends a little later, and falls in love with her. She is not, however, to be won so easily; but an accident in the shape of a twisted ankle proves to be the man's opportunity, as when this occurs he takes the lady home in a taxi-cab. In the end he succeeds in gaining the heart of the lady of his attention.

Twice Nightly "Picturedrome."

THE Picturedrome, Bradford's latest picture palace, opened its doors to the public last Monday. The venture is to be run on the twice-nightly basis, at seven and nine o'clock. The building, formerly the old Bridge-street Chapel, has been in the hands of the joiners and builders for some time, and the interior has been transformed into a cosy modern theatre with seating accommodation for 1,000 persons. The apparatus is installed in a separate compartment erected in accordance with the new Act of Parliament, and there are ample exits in case of emergency. Mr. Victor Hamilton is manager.

Mr. Edison's Moving Picture Income.

LITIGATION in the American Courts concerning moving picture patents, which has resulted in a victory for Mr. Thomas A. Edison, has revealed the fact that Mr. Edison receives £1,450 a week in royalties from the moving picture business in the United States.

The Moving Picture Cure.

IT has been demonstrated after six months' trial that moving pictures are beneficial to the insane. At the Columbus (U.S.A.) State Hospital a machine has been used weekly to entertain the patients. The films have been carefully selected from the best comics with a few dramatics in use occasionally. Not only have the pictures made a hit, but, as diversion is one of the chief methods for the cure of insanity, it is believed that the "moving picture cure" will be largely introduced in other institutions for the insane. Pictures are found to have a soothing and beneficial effect upon the mind, and the 500 patients who are able to attend at the local institution have been much benefited by the shows.

New Theatre for Hammersmith.

THERE are at present three theatres within the same number of minutes from each other now open at Hammersmith, and three more in course of construction, so it may be said that the people living hereabouts are well catered for in the entertainment line. The next opening will be another of the Electroscope Theatres, under the control of Mr. A. F. Wilson, situated in King-street, opposite Ravenscourt Park, a first-class locality. This hall will be fitted up in the latest style. Two of Gaumont's projectors will be installed, and from the past excellent results from them, it is most probable the film contract will be theirs also. The programmes will consist of nine separate subjects, changed three times weekly, and lasting from an hour and three-quarters to two hours.

Vice-Versa.

THIS is the title of a "Lion's Head Brand" picture, issued by Messrs. Cricks and Martin. At a private entertainment a conjuror is performing some wonderful tricks by the aid of his "Vice Versa" wand. During the performance he invites a small boy to assist him. Tommy soon discovers that it is the wonderful wand that works the tricks, and at the first opportunity gains possession of it. Rushing from the house, he meets a man being taken to the police-station, and decides to try the effect, and is agreeably surprised to find that on waving the wand the positions are immediately changed, and the policeman receives some rather rough handling from his former prisoner. Being elated with success, he uses his ability at every opportunity, and the many laughable changes must be seen to be appreciated. He at last makes a fatal mistake when he tries to paint a white marble statue black, and is caught by the Professor, who regains his wand.

Thornton Heath's New Theatre.

THORNTON HEATH'S own cinematograph theatre was opened by the Mayor of Croydon last Wednesday. It seats 800, and is furnished with every regard for comfort. The whole of the staff are Thornton Heath people, Mr. Horace Fry and Mr. Nevill Briggs (both residents for many years) being the manager and assistant-manager. A retired inspector of the London Fire Brigade (the possessor of three medals and certificates for saving life at fires) lives on the premises, and is on duty during the performance. This theatre is run by the Electric Palaces, Ltd., of Marble Arch, Brixton, Lewisham, &c.

Old and New Fashions Bioscoped.

A REMARKABLE novelty in the way of moving pictures is being shown this week at the picture palace at Lordship-lane, Wood Green. A lengthy film depicts the fashions in clothes that have prevailed since the year 1859, and some very wonderful costumes are to be seen. The dresses are most effectively shown on living models, and the pictures are charmingly coloured.

Moving Picture Licences.

FRANK STEBBINGS, of Rivers Hall, Rivers-street, Essex-road, was fined £5, with two guineas costs, for contravening the Cinematographs Act, 1909. Mr. Chilvers prosecuted for the London County Council, and it was complained that the defendant had given exhibitions without a licence from the Council, using, it was said, inflammable films. The defendant was understood to say that he had dropped the use of such films.

Standard Electric Theatres.

THE Standard Electric Theatres, Ltd., have posted letters of allotment and regret.

Decision Reserved until April 1.

BEFORE Messrs. J. R. Henshaw (in the chair), H. T. Hatt, F. Young, P. Browning, and J. H. Colmer, Mr. F. E. Weatherly applied on behalf of Mr. J. Bannister Howard for a licence for an electric theatre at 22, Westgate-street, Bath, last week, and also for a temporary music and dancing licence for the theatre. After a retirement the magistrates decided to go down and view the premises. On their return the justices decided to reserve their decision on both licences until the special session on April 1, as the premises were to be open on April 2. They had no desire to delay matters, but felt that this course was necessary.

A Kensington Picture Palace.

A SPLENDID programme has been arranged by Mr. Grant for Easter Monday next and during the week at the Kensington Picture Palace. Owing to many requests, the film of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race will be included in next week's show of pictures.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

MR. C. T. FITZGERALD'S programme this week at the Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., has included the following subjects :—A Ranchman's Rival, Canadian Prairie Towns, The Frozen Ape, Oxford and Cambridge Boatrace, A Little Heroine, The Unfortunate Day, and Beneath the Gas.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. W. Whitaker Thompson (Chairman) presided at the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS COMMITTEE.

The Special Committee of Selection recommended that the Theatres and Music Halls Committee for the ensuing three years be constituted as follows:—The Earl of Dunmore, Col. W. F. Cavage, and Messrs. Jocelyn Brandon, J. A. Dawes, J. W. Domoney, H. J. Greenwood, J. Stanley Holmes, W. Lloyd-Taylor, E. M. Preston, H. R. Taylor, and Howell J. Williams.

The recommendation was agreed to.

STANDING IN GANGWAYS.

On Feb. 1 last the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported the condition that had been attached to the licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, for premises which were not licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage plays. They also stated that except in one case the licences had been granted for short periods pending the completion of the works considered necessary to the premises. Since the issue of the licences the regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Act which are endorsed on the back of the licence, have been revised and very considerably altered, and the Committee thereupon proposed, instead of further extending the existing licences, to issue as soon as possible fresh licences containing the amended regulations. They thought that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to add to the conditons imposed by the Council the regulation relating to standing in gangways which is enforced in all premises licensed for music, &c. They accordingly recommended that licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in respect of premises which are not licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage plays, be subject to a condition as follows—that persons be not permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and if standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient room be left for persons to pass easily to and fro.

Agreed to.

SUNDAY CONCERTS.

The Council on May 4, 1909, decided that no application for permission to hold concerts on Sundays in premises licensed for music, &c., should be considered unless certain conditions were complied with, and on Feb. 15, 1910, it was decided to apply the same conditions to the holding of cinematograph entertainments on Sundays in premises licensed under the Cinematograph Act. On March 1 and 2, 1910, the Council supplemented the conditions upon which it had been decided to consider applications to give cinematograph entertainments on Sundays, by conditions requiring the submission of a monthly balance sheet of the entertainments and the production of a copy of the agreement between the proprietor of the premises and the society or organisation arranging the entertainments. The Committee considered that the conditions applicable to Sunday concerts in premises licensed for music, &c., should be the same as those imposed in the case of cinematograph displays, and recommended that the conditions upon which the Council on May 4, 1909, decided to consider applications for permission to hold concerts on Sundays and other days prohibited by the licence in premises licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage plays, be supplemented by conditions to the following effect, viz., (i) that a copy of the agreement between the proprietors of places of amusement and the societies or organisations which have been given permission to organise Sunday concerts shall be supplied to the Council, and (ii.) that an approximate balance-sheet of the concerts be presented to the Council monthly.

Agreed to.

SUNDAY OPENING OF CINEMATOGRAPH HALLS.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported: "The licences granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, prohibit the opening of the licensed premises for cinematograph entertainments on Sundays, and the Council on Feb. 15, 1910, decided that no application for a relaxation of the prohibition should be considered unless certain conditions were complied with. In a few cases premises were opened on Sunday, Feb. 20, contrary to these conditions, and we therefore instructed the solicitor to take legal proceedings against the responsible persons." The particulars appended showed that in two cases fines of £2 were imposed, and in the third case the defendant had to pay the costs only, 2s.

Agreed to.

THE NEW GRAND.

The Committee recommended approval, subject to the usual conditions being complied with, of a drawing, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a proposal to re-arrange the seating in the stalls at the New Grand Theatre of Varieties, St. John's-hill, Clapham Junction, and to form a new exit from the stalls to lead into Severus-road.

Approved.

ILLEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

The Committee reported that it was recently found that public music was being given in connection with roller skating at the Queen's Hall Skating Rink, High-street, Peckham, although the alterations required to render the premises suitable for public music had not been executed, and the provisional music and dancing licence had not been confirmed. Proceedings were therefore taken against the licensee for keeping the rink open for public music without the Council's certificate. The summons was heard on March 1, at the Lambeth Police Court, and the defendant was fined £2 and ordered to pay to the Council £2 2s. costs.

"Lonely Lives," by Gerhard Hauptmann, is to be performed in New York under the auspices of the American Dramatic Guild, at a special matinée in April. American playgoers will soon be better acquainted with the dramas of Hauptmann than they have been, as Mrs. Fiske will shortly produce *Hannele* at the Lyceum Theatre. Mr. E. H. Sothern appeared in *The Sunken Bell* at the Knickerbocker Theatre nine years ago.

Some capital films have been exhibited at the New Alhambra Theatre, Belfast, including A Western Maid, The Grand National, 1910, A Dog's Thanks, A Bohemian Girl, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Milsted-Belt Trio, who appear to great advantage in *Three Sharps in a Flat*, and Mr. Arthur Weber, a bass vocalist of remarkable ability.

A candidate for the stage applied in 1823 to the manager of Drury Lane Theatre for an engagement. After he had exhibited specimens of his various talents, the following dialogue took place between him and the manager:—"Sir, you stutter. So does Wilkinson.—You are knock-knee'd. So is Gattie.—You are very short. So is Kean.—You are lame of a leg. So is Mathews.—You have a damn'd ugly face. So has Yates.—You squint abominably. So does Jones.—You drawl intolerably. So do you.—You are a mere monotonous mannerist. So is Holland.—You have a perpetual whine. So has Cooper.—You are but a miserable copy of Kean. So is Booth.—In comedy you are quite a buffoon. So is Liston.—In tragedy you are a perfect bore. So is Terry.—You sing as ill as you act. So does Taylor.—You are ineffably vulgar. So is Incledon.—You are a vile mummer. So is Bromley.—You exactly resemble a man milliner. So does Russell.—But you have all these defects combined. So much the more singular."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

Cinematograph Operators.

The annual luncheon of the Cinematograph Operators' Association will be held in the Sheraton Hall, Lyons' Popular Café, on Tuesday, April 19, at 1.30 for 2 o'clock. Tickets, price 3s. 6d., may be obtained from members of the committee, Mr. Merritt, hon. secretary, and Mr. A. Malcolm, the president of the Association, who will occupy the chair at the luncheon. As on former occasions, the certificates awarded to successful competitors in the examination on April 5 will be presented at the luncheon by, it is hoped, Mr. Bowerman, M.P. A number of representatives of the trade are to be invited. Mr. W. A. Appleton, general secretary of the Federation of Trade Unions, will be one of the guests. Non-members who are interested in the work of the Association will be welcome. Any friends may obtain a ticket on application, as above, for the price named.

Theatrical Sports.

The committee who have organised the sports in previous years are anxious to elicit the views of the staff and others at the various theatres, music halls, and picture palaces. In previous years Tuesday, Thursday, and a Saturday have been tried with a view of securing the general support of the profession. The sports were given on a Saturday last year, but the balance available for the Benevolent Funds was so small as to make the adoption of that day unwise. The committee feel that it is not worth the trouble to organise the sports and unwise to take the financial risks involved without there is some substantial promise of support from those for whose benefit and amusement these sports are given. The committee will be glad, therefore, if those interested will notify Mr. Wm. Johnson, of 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., what day the staff at their house would prefer, in the fourth week in June or the second week in July, and whether the committee may expect such staff to support them in organising the sports. If there is no satisfactory response to the committee's request for this expression of opinion the sports will probably be abandoned.

The Provident Fund.

Members of the Dramatic and Variety Theatres Employees' Provident Fund are notified that, owing to the death of a member's wife, a levy of 3d. per member is now due, and must be paid within three weeks from this date. The amount of sick pay this year exceeds £55. Non-members who wish to join from the current quarter are notified that the second quarter commenced on March 19, and that a doctor's certificate of health must be provided by all new members.

Employees who are working in theatres and music halls or picture theatres are requested to notify the N.A.T.E. as to the conditions of employment. The minimum rates of pay recognised by the N.A.T.E. and its branches are as follows:—For Sunday work: Operators 10s. 6d., stage-managers 10s., electricians 10s., stage hands 4s. for the Sunday evening performances (any work done during the day on Sunday in preparing for the evening performances to be paid for in addition). In the West End in some cases the amounts are in excess of those stated above.

"THE CATTLE THIEF."

Dramatic Episode, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome, Monday, March 21.

Ben Mardo	Mr. George A. Street
Jess Helton	Mr. Frank Zara
Dan Biglow	Mr. F. J. Ford
Red Danvers	Mr. Fred Hardy
Judge Stickney	Mr. Leslie Mitchell
Pop Larson	Mr. Will Desborough
Clara Mason	Miss Alyce Blore

This capital episode, which is making such a marked success, is in three scenes, and the story deals with a phase of ranch life in Wyoming. Cattle-raiding has been going on for some time, and no trace of the thief is to be discovered. Suspicion, however, falls on Ben Mardo, who is often absent, and never explains the reason. The stock-breeders hold a meeting, and decide that Mardo is the thief. Judge Stickney urges that the evidence is only circumstantial, and suggests that the best solution is for Mardo to be told to go away altogether.

In the final scene, at Mardo's shack, his innocence is proved. Mardo himself discovers the culprit to be an old acquaintance of his, and he gives him means of escape. Mardo's mysterious absences, it seems, are due to his going to see "his pal," a little girl whose life he had saved when she was a baby, and whom he had had educated. The child proves to be Clara Mason's child, thought to have been killed by the Indians. Finally, Mardo, despite his having cleared himself, leaves those who had so misjudged him. The characters are all capably handled, notably that of Mardo, which receivevs fine treatment at the hands of Mr. George A. Street, whose company it is. Mr. Leslie Mitchell makes a capital Judge Stickney; and Clara Mason is well portrayed by Miss Alyce Blore.

Misses Fanny Robini and Florence Cooper, having made such a great success, were re-engaged for another week at the Palace, Nelson. In these go-ahead days one week's engagement at each hall is the rule.

Blarney and Bland are once more pleasing audiences at Shoreditch and Poplar. Their act should be seen in the West End.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. pd.) 1⅞, ditto (10s. pd.) 1⅛; London Pavilion 3⅛, ditto pref. 5; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires, 4⅛; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace Theatre (9s. pd.), 1; and Tivoli, New, 6⅜.

In December, 1823, just before the hour of commencing at the Exeter Theatre, a slight explosion of gas took place, but no material damage was occasioned. A paper of the time said:—"On examination, it was found that one of the leaden conducting pipes beneath the flooring of the gallery had been eaten through by rats; and there being no vent for the escaping gas, it had accumulated so as to overcome the quantity of hydrogen: a light being brought to it, an explosion was the natural consequence. The pipe bears numerous marks of the rats' teeth; and as these animals have often been known to gnaw through leaden pipes in search of water, it is concluded that it was in this instance the object of search, as a water pipe adjoined it. Mr. Brunton has discontinued the gas, and will in future light the theatre with patent oil lamps and wax candles."

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

IBSEN'S NATIONALITY.

"Why Ibsen abandoned the historical and adopted the modern polemic drama is very unsatisfactorily explained by Mr. Gosse," says Mr. William Archer in an article on "Ibsen as a Norwegian" in the *Nineteenth Century*. "You are almost getting the impression that Ibsen did so because he became convinced that in the historical drama, especially in *Lady Inger* (1854), he had not succeeded in such realism as he had intended. I feel quite sure he never imagined his Lady Inger to be a true picture of the Lady Inger of history. I do not believe he chose this subject 'purely for its value as a study of contemporary intrigue.' On the contrary, he desired by means of Lady Inger to show his countrymen how to fight for the maintenance of an independent Norwegian nationality, thus rousing the present age by a picture of the past. It was not till long after he had entered upon new lines in dramatical poetry that a Norwegian historian (L. Daae, 1874) sketched the real Lady Inger.

"The fact is that his adoption of the modern drama was due to a violet crisis of his mind, which was closely connected with an important episode of Norwegian politics. To all those who had fixed their hopes on the movement for a union of the three Scandinavian countries—and Ibsen had passionately cherished this hope from his early youth—the year 1864 was a most cruel disappointment. In a separate work in German, about Norway and Sweden's policy towards the Dano-German conflict from 1048 to 1864, I have recently tried to show what an important change in the domestic and foreign politics of the two united kingdoms was marked by the year 1864: it was a policy of peace enforced by democracy that triumphed over the romantic tendencies of an upper class towards acting the part of a Great Power. The victorious political realism helped to pave the way for literary realism, and in no case is this effect more clearly demonstrated than in the life of Ibsen.

"When Norway and Sweden refused to assist Denmark, although previously not only representative statesmen but also numerous ordinary citizens, and particularly the students of the Universities, had solemnly promised the support of their countries, Ibsen's mind was upset to such a degree that it could not easily be set at rest. During the first year of his stay in Rome (1864-1865) he was hardly able to talk about anything else, and all his previous poetical schemes, amongst them a new historical play based on events which occurred in Norway in the sixteenth century, were forced aside by this dominant subject. It appeared to him as if his countrymen had failed in the final test, when words had to be redeemed by deeds. 'It was all nothing but lies and dreams then!' he wrote in a letter in the autumn of 1864, and he continued by alluding to a poem of Byron's then just translated into Norwegian: 'Our ancient history now has to be effaced; for the Norwegians of the present day obviously have no more to do with their past than the Greek pirates with the generation which sailed for Troy and enjoyed the help of the Gods.' The nation, to quote an expression of Wergeland, had 'got drunk by the gloom of a barbarian past,' and Ibsen felt himself an accomplice. In poems and dramas he had helped to delude the nation by her ancient greatness, and he felt impelled to vent his resentment at the national sin in violent invectives against his country as well as against himself. Once more he felt deeply ashamed of the pusillanimity of his contemporaries, just as upon a similar occasion in 1849 he had written the sonnets 'Wake up, Scandinavians!' which are included in the volumes recently published. As he then had invited the Norwegian skalds to forsake the 'enshrined past' in order to interpret the sufferings and longings of the living people, so he now addressed a poem to 'the accomplices' in order to carry them off from 'the saga of the past that lay murdered in their souls' and lead them into 'the misty realm of the present,' where he should 'confess the guilt of the people and unbind its aspirations.'

"The poem 'To the Accomplices,' not published till after Ibsen's death in 1906, was intended to be the introduction of the epos that contained his original sketch of *Brand*. When this epos at last appeared in 1907, Mr. Karl Larsen, its Danish editor, justly called attention to the resemblances which connected it with Welhaven's poetic challenge to the young Norway of Wergeland (*Norway's Dawn*, 1834). Ibsen obviously thought himself the continuer of the struggle of Welhaven; for his poem distinctly represents Wergeland as the type of a hero of national cant, and ridicules the brilliant speech Wergeland made in 1834 on continuity in the history of a nation. But the poetic platform which, at the same time, he builds for himself is in its essential structure just that of Wergeland. What matters to him now is to carry out ideas in life; he frankly rejects art for art's sake, claiming that poetry should be a moral power in life whose ultimate aim is to build up character.

"His modern social dramas grew out of this view by a natural development. It is not difficult to trace the progress from *Brand* and *Peer Gynt* through *The League of Youth* to *The Pillars of Society*, *A Doll's House*, *Ghosts*, *The Wild Duck*, and onward. The whole series of social dramas offers a strong contrast to the artistic tendencies of Heiberg and Welhaven. Ibsen in this part of his work, together with Björnson and many fellow fighters in the seventies and eighties, carried on the struggle that Wergeland had begun.

"The idea that permeates all the writings of Ibsen since *Brand* (1865) is that every man has a right and a duty to 'realise his own self' in all respects, and he has formulated the watchword of his fight in the famous speech that sums up *The Pillars of Society* (1877): 'The spirits of Truth and Freedom are the pillars of society.' 'Truth and Freedom' is what Nora (1879) claims for herself; it is the platform of Stockmann, the people's enemy (1882), as well as of Rosmer, the silent visionary (1886). This idea is entirely that of Wergeland. 'Truth, Freedom, and Charity' was the programme that he had set down, not only for his great epic-dramatic world poem 'Man' of 1850, but for his whole life, and he understood the words in the same sense as did Ibsen: they meant the right of each individual to be himself and to develop according to his own needs. It is characteristic of Ibsen that he omits Charity; although it would be unjust to contend that he was blind to the social aspect of human life.

"Owing to the strenuous manner in which both Wergeland and Ibsen vindicated their rights as individuals, they were both brought into open fight with the society they lived in. But Ibsen lived long enough to enjoy his victory in this fight. As a matter of fact, he was better treated by the authorities of his country than most other poets of revolt have been, both in Norway and abroad. He made himself an exile for many years, but his exile was not like that of Heine or Byron: he went abroad subsidised by the Norwegian State.

"Misguided by his polemic attitude towards Norway, his biographers have often taken it for granted that he was badly and unjustly treated by his native country. I believe those who consider the matter impartially will have to admit that such a view is in the main erroneous. His home having been broken up while he was still a youth, he was early compelled to support himself or to be helped by his friends. But he had the good luck, at a time when *Catilina* was still his only literary merit, to be appointed for several years a stage-manager and playwright at the new 'Norwegian Theatre' at Bergen."

ADAPTATIONS & ALTERATIONS.

"It was the fashion among some of our earlier dramatists of the period of Mrs. Centlivre, and of the school of 'The Busy Body,' to take, as the French also did, their plots and subjects from the Spanish stage," wrote J. Palgrave Simpson, in an article on plagiarism. "There was a rich orchard there to cull their fruit from, and then work it up in their own dainty dishes of preserves and jams. The country of the 'cloak and sword,' of exciting adventure, of amorous intrigue, of chivalrous sense of honour, of duels, of dark lanthorns, and devices 'cunning and rare,' teemed with incidents, affording fine dramatic situations, of which the Spanish dramatists made excellent use. These combinations were too tempting not to be clutched by dramatists of other countries. When the rich mine was discovered, French and English alike plunged their hands into the 'diggings,' and pulled out splendid nuggets. One of these was destined to whole series of transmutations. It was fashioned first—although, by the way, I may be in error in this 'first,' it may have been set in some other shape before; well, then, 'first' to my knowledge—as *The Way to Keep Him*, of Murphy, in which, by the way, the episodical scenes of Sir Bashful and Lady Constant are a reproduction of the *Ami de la Maison*, of Sedaine, then transmuted into *Le Mari à la Campagne*, of Messrs. Bayard and Co., adapted into English again as *The Serious Family*, from the last-named piece, by Mr. Morris Barnett, and not left untouched by the late Mr. Stirling Coyne in his *Everybody's Friend*. Scarcely less fitful in its wanderings from country to country was the farce of *Twice Killed*, by Mr. Oxenford, originally, if I am not mistaken, derived from the German, then adapted into the libretto of the little opera *Bon Soir, Monsieur Pantalon*, with Grisar's charming music, and then re-adapted into the English version, *Good Night, Signor Pantalon*. May we not one day expect to find this most amusing little plot touched up, with local colouring, into an 'original' Chinese *comédie de mœurs*, so peripatetic is its nature? It would be impossible to enumerate all the forms taken by the subject treated by Leigh Hunt as *The Legend of Florence*—the story of the lady buried as dead, exhumed in a fit of delirious passion by her former lover, found to be alive, and, as if all her vows were broken by death, marrying her first adorer. Their name is legion. Germany has taken a large share of them. In France alone, the subject has been handled so often—the most notable examples being the opera of *Guido et Ginevra*, at the Grand Opera, and the exciting drama of *Mademoiselle de Faille*, at the Ambigu—that one might have supposed another version was impossible; and yet it has lately cropped up again in a new form, as a new melodrama, at the same Ambigu, under the title of *Le Sacrilège*, to the fresh delectation of the Parisian public. To render any account of the many pieces derived from the Spanish stage, which, worked up into French form, have been afterwards adapted to the English stage, would be to give a long, dry, and not very interesting catalogue. In this manipulation, Scribe—though, at the same time, I rank him as the dramatist the most ingenious in device, the most admirable in construction, the most tasteful in arrangement and effect, of all modern dramatic writers, I might say of all time—headed all others of the French dramatists. But he had the art to make all that he derived from foreign sources so completely his own, that any so-called plagiarism was very difficult of detection. At the same time, he did not disdain to glean from the English stage any materials which he could work to his purpose with advantage. For one of his earlier comedies he came, without much disguise, to English soil and transformed Tobin's *Honeymoon* into his own *Lune de Miel*; although he transferred the scene to Russia, and somewhat exaggerated, rather than strengthened, the situation, by making the Duke Aranza of the original assume the character of a serf; whilst Tobin, even in his easy-going days, did not escape the accusation of plagiarism, never very strictly defined, of having derived his subject from a foreign source. In the same way, Monsieur Scribe boldly laid hands on *The Lady of Lyons*, itself said to have been founded on the French subject of *La Pérouse the Bellows-Mender*, and adapted it, transferring the story now to Spanish soil, as the text of an opera-book called *Le Guitterero*, given with Halévy's music at the Opéra Comique. He even did me the honour to found a comédie-drame on my own little piece of *Poor Cousin Walter*, the main idea of which was already derived from a five-act play by the Princess Amelia of Saxony, called *Der Landwirth*. I will leave Monsieur Scribe with this brief, and very incomplete, enumeration of some of his raids on British territory, for another of the mighty dramatists of the French stage. Alexander Dumas lived in days when English literature came to be better known, and even popular, in France; but there were very pretty pickings to be gleaned from another country; and he cast longing eyes on Germany. He, himself, was entirely ignorant of any language but his own, much as he may have affected, in his *Impressions des Voyages*, a smattering of Italian and Spanish. But he was able to employ a translator who did know German; and he thus contrived, secondhand, to take possession of a mass of subjects adaptable to his own purposes. Poor old Kotzebue, with his vast store of simple but most ingenious plots, had been somewhat used up already by Dumas' compatriots, who had already culled, right and left, in the same prolific garden. But Iffland's theatre was still a *terra incognita* to the French; and the great annexator, having discovered it like another Columbus, stepped in and took possession, fully expecting to escape all remonstrance from rival powers among the critics. *Das Verbrechen aus Ehrsucht*, of Iffland, was transmuted, and very cleverly transmuted too, by Alexander Dumas, into his own *La Conscience*, and played, with considerable success, at the Odéon Theatre. Perhaps among the students, who generally throng the pit of this theatre of their quarter, there were some Teutonic spirits, who were induced to assert the due rights of the Fatherland. Certain it is, that critics began to doubt the great author's 'original' authorship. Dumas boldly asserted his originality. A paper war ensued; and the mighty dramatist got the worst of it. But Dumas was unwilling to have salaried a German translator for nothing. He made another attempt to produce another drama of Iffland's, *Die Jäger*, as his own, under the title of *Catherine Blum*. Managers, however, were less easy to deal with now; and the pretensions of the celebrated dramatist were enormous in the way of *primes*. Iffland was not again allowed to mount the Parisian boards in the disguise of Dumas; and the materials were worked up by the ready-witted author as a novel, still known as 'Catherine Blum.' Had I been able to wade through all the hundred and one volumes of Iffland's somewhat heavy and long-winded plays, I might, doubtless, have again traced the German dramatist in such plays of the Frenchman as *Le Comte Herman*, as well as in his inexhaustible works of fiction. Kotzebue, in his day, went through more processes of transmutation in dramatic alchemy than almost any other author. I am not able to go back into 'the night of ages' to detect how much he himself derived from predecessors, or perhaps I might discover that 'nothing new under the sun' was just as true in his time as in ours. The ghost of Kotzebue still stalks on the French and English stages in foreign attire. *Menschenhass und Reue* still revisits the glimpses of the footlights as *Misanthropie et Repentir*, on the boards of the Théâtre Français, and as *The Stranger*, seldom, in our own country."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	United Kingdom.	Foreign.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 25, Aug. 8, 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 16, June 6,
Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 17, 24, 31.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Xmas (3 weeks for Pantomime).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.

This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for April 11, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
April 25, May 2, 9 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Bookings include: "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Dairymaids."
The very best Companies only entertained.
Vacant April 18, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
April 18, 25, May 2, 16, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Attractions
for May 30 and June 20.

Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,

Paradise-st., just off Church-st., LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25 and May 2.

Wire immediately, W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
April 18, May 9.
April 18, May 9.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
September
5th,
onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
KIRKCALDY, April 4 (wire), 11 (wire), 18, 25, May 2, 9.
LEITH, May 9.
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.
Wire or write, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5690 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25,
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18,
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
May 16,
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
May 9, 16.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre.
April 18, May 9 (?), 16 (?).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 9 (?), 26 (3 nights), June 6, 13.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
May 30, June 20, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Patentee, F. W. Marriott Watson.
Rebuilt and Enlarged.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
April 11, 25, May 2, and various Autumn.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

ROTUNDA THEATRE,
LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, for June 6, 27.
Apply, M. Montgomery,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant April 25, May 2, July 4, Aug. 22, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in April, 1910.

"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
A few Autumn dates available for First-class Theatres only.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, Jersey.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
Large Stage, well stocked with New Scenery.
Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Upholstered and decorated in sumptuous style.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North. Popular prices.
WANTED, Touring Pantomime, Christmas.
Enormous success of J. Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood" and Glenville and Osmond's "Aladdin."
Dramatic, Musical Attractions, and Variety Combinations required for May and June.
The Opera House and Hippodrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications to
WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

OPERA HOUSE, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only. (No Drama.)
Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12,
Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21,
Dec. 12.
PERCY HUTCHISON, 4, Finchley-road, N.W.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 25 and May 2.
Address JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General-Manager.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Plays, &c., on Share or Certainty.
All to play twice nightly.
Vacant May 23, onwards.

HENRY C. ARNOLD, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 18.
Address, R. G. ELDER.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, April 4, onwards. Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, April 4, 11, May 9, 16, various, onwards, from August. Bookings: "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Add., JAMES P. MOORE, King's Hall, B'ham.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime for Jan. 2.
Only vacant date for Pantomime.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date, Aug. 8, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Empire Theatre, Southend, vacant April 18, May 30, June 20. Address, B. PAREZER, Empire Theatre, Southend.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Hippodrome Theatre, Sheerness, vacant April 11, 25, May 9, 23, 30. Address, B. PAREZER, Empire Theatre, Southend.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for King's Lynn Theatre, vacant May 23, Aug. 8. Address, B. PAREZER, Empire Theatre, Southend.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, vacant May 23, June 6, 20, 27. Address, B. PAREZER, Empire Theatre, Southend.

ABERYSTWYTH.
ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c., for Season commencing Whit Monday, May 16, 1910.
Apply to
A. J. HUGHES,
Town Clerk,
Aberystwyth.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Attraction for April 4.
Wire, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 16 (Whit), July 11, and on.
Booking include nearly all the West End Attractions on the Road.
Address, CH. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Aug. 8, 29 (?), Sept. 19 (?), 26 (?), Oct. 10. Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3 (?), Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6 13, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (?), 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant May 2 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant April 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25, May 9 and 16, London;
May 2, 16, 23, and 30, Newcastle;
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Edinburgh.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Glasgow.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Dramas, twice nightly, April 14, 15, 16; 21, 22, and 23 (3 nights), April 25, May 2 and 9.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant May 2 and 9, and Aug. 22, only openings until 1911.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant April 18, 25, Aug. 1, and on.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Aug. 4 (3 nights) and 29.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Loughborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
The old-established Dramatic House.
Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
Twice Nightly Dramatic Season.
Grand Opening of the Twice Nightly Dramatic System, April 18.
WANTED, Good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for April 25, May 2, May 9, and onwards.
Special Attraction Wanted for Aug. Bank Holiday.
Address all communications to
EDWIN LESLIE, The De Frece Circuit,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CATLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, June 13, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, on.
Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 25, May 9, 16, June 6, 20, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 16 and 30.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Autumn.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29,
Sept. 12,
and onwards with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
April 25,
June 20,
July 4, 11, 25.
Enormous success of Twice Nightly system.
JAMES BELL.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only Fully Licensed Theatre in the District.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 18, May 2, 9, 16, and 30, June 13, 20, and 27, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, and 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17 and 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 5 and 26. JAMES KIERNAN.

T. R., LEIGH. Lessees, SLINGSBY and TOLFREE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical, Dramatic, or Variety, March 28, on. Anyone holding contracts kindly write in, and will take over where possible. Full particulars,
SYD TOLFREE, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly. First-class Companies, April 11, 25, May 2, and Whit, onwards. Z. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, 28, Sept. 5, and 19.
Address, The MANAGER.

WANTED, Big Attractions, now and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, a Magnet Attraction for Whit Week, May 16.
Terms and full particulars to WORSWICK, as above.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards, First-class Companies, nothing too big now.
Z. ANDREWS, Manager, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for April 18, 25, and intermediates on, including Whit Week.
Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, April 4, on.
Now booking Autumn. W. E. POTTS.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
April 4, April 4, April 4,
April 11, 25, May 2 and 9.
Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

WANTED, Something to Draw, April 25, Aug. 1, 8, Grand, Chorley. Also April 18, 25, May 9, 16, August, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
SANTE, Radcliffe.

ROYAL THEATRE, TORQUAY.
WANTED, First-class Stock Company, also state Répertoire.
From June 13 week to July 18.
A. PEARSE.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Company, April 4, 5, 6, only vacant dates until June 20. Wire to SEEBOLD, as above.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Star Variety Companies, April 11, 25, May 2, must be First-class. All coms., SCOTTIE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Vacant April 18,
May 9 (?), 16, 26 (3 nights).
Apply, ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 4, 25, May 2, 9, Whit, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 4 (?), May 30, June 13.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Attraction, Whit week (Musical preferred), also Sept. 5, three or six nights, for opening date, after re-decoration, &c.; also dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. Bookings include: "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Prince and Beggar Maid," &c. Write, ALF BAILEY and Co., Managers.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION & OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 25, May 2, and Whit Week.
W. PAYNE, Manager.

WANTED, Vacant April 4 week, and all letters concerning Theatre Royal, Margate. Add., WEATHERSBY'S Agency,, 3, Bedford-st., London.

THE CHORLTON THEATRE, CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY, near MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 11 (?), 18, May 2, 16. Wire or write, FREDK. J. REECE, Chorlton Theatre.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Felix Hall, Felixstowe, will seat 800; rent or share. Apply, GIRLING, Estate Agent, Felixstowe.

THEATRES WANTED.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metro. Theatre, B'ham.

"THE DIVER'S LUCK."
WANTED, April 4, 11, May 2.
ANDREW EMM, Metro. Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. DOUGLAS BRUCE.
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30, June 13, DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6 (?), July 11 (?), 18, on, Aug. 1, Christmas, First-class Company. Big Variety Turns, Full Chorus, Conductor. New Plant of Scenery on Order. Finest show of printing on the road.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Carlton T., Birmingham.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
by
Wilfred Carr.
Eleventh year of continuous tour.
WANTED, April 4, April 4, April 4, April 4, April 4, May 9, May 9. May 9, May 9.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
To-day (Saturday), Grand Theatre, Luton;
March 28, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, April 11, May 2, June 13, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, April 18, 25, and May 2, also Dates in Oct. and Nov.
Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, April 21, 22, 23 also May 30.
H. CHISWELL BILLING,
17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
Vacant May 23 (follow Palace, Newcastle), June 6 (precede Star, Liverpool), Aug. 1, Sept. 12, few onwards. Both beautifully mounted; both Star Casts. Letters, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, for this Huge Success April 18, Sept. 12, 26, and Oct. 3.
"THE WOMAN PAYS," April 4 (?), 18 (?), on.
FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

"DON."
WANTED, Theatres, May 9, Aug. 22, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"SMITH."
Oct. 24 and 31.
Write, PERCY HUTCHISON 4, Finchley-road, N.W.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Whit unexpectedly Vacant.
A few Autumn Dates Still Open.
Address, CHAS. GIBBON, T. R., North Shields.

"OH! SUSANNAH!"
from the Royalty Theatre, London.
WANTED, March 31, April 1, 2 (three nights), April 4, 11, and on, with exceptions.
Only First-class Theatres Entertained.
Wire, CECIL H. WOODHOUSE,
Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 2, 9, 23, June 6, 20, July 4, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, 19.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand, Fulham.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, May 30, on, exceptions. Everything Carried. J. POWER and R. FAULKNER, Metropole, Devonport.

THEATRES WANTED.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON,
in a Triple Bill.
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY,"
by
Mrs. Richard Pole,
CISSIE LAWSON as FAY FABER.

The Episode of Illusion.
"THE WOMAN AND THE APPLE,"
by Mrs. Richard Pole.
CISSIE LAWSON as SILVESTER VALMORE (La Volense);
and the Phantasy
"WHY THE THIRD FLOOR PASSED,"
by J. J. Spencer Sutcliffe.
Jerome K. Jerome says: "It will give offence to no one."
THE ARRANGER, CISSIE LAWSON.
THE SPRITE IN RADIUM, ANDROMEAUS
Supported by ROBERT FOSTER (Tenor) and Madame ELLA LAYTON (Soprano).
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, April 11, 18 (?), 25 (?), May 23 (?), 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, and on, with exceptions.
The Original and Special Scenery carried for each Production.
Communications,
V. C. NEWMAN,
49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.
Wires, "Theaterbau, London."
'Phone, 1293 Hop.

WANTED, May 16, May 16, May 16,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play.
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Halkjohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
March 28, Grand, Oldham.
Wire, wire, wire, for May 16.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 6 (through transfer), June 20, and on, with exceptions.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN, supported by the following Dramatic Artists: Madge Seymour, Anna Beaumont, Olga Kay, Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank Ayrton, Arthur Trail, David Curtis, and Norman A. Overton.
with the new successful Modern Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
By Russell Vaun, part Author of "The Great Awakening."
WANTED, April 11 (precede Alex., Birmingham) and May 16 (follow T. R., Birkenhead). Now Booking Autumn. Wanted, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards, Sept. 5 (South), Oct. 10 and 17, Dec. 26 (precede Star, Swansea).
All coms.,
MARTIN COMSTOCK, T. R., Edmonton, London, N.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, May 2, July 25,
August Bank Holiday,
Nov. 14, Dec. 12,
Xmas. Xmas. Xmas.
and Various Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Everything carried.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
Elephant and Castle, S.E.; Mon., T. R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Aug. 8 (?) and 14, South or West. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper having secured the Provincial Rights of Mr. Cyril Maude's Record Success, "Tantalizing Tommy," will send out a No. 1 Company in the Autumn, the Bookings for which include the Leading Theatres in the Provinces.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
WANTED, good Dates, May 2 (week), onwards. Full Cast and Chorus.
Apply, Z. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 9 (between Eccles and Bradford), Sept. 5 (North), Oct. 24, 31 (between London and Sheffield). All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees; March 28, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, April 25, South, for this Great Success.
DICKIE CLARE, Royal Palace, Ramsgate.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY.
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, April 18 (to follow London Production, Grand Theatre, Fulham), May 23, onwards with exceptions. All coms., GRAHAM MORRISON, St. George's Theatre, Kendal.

"PAID IN FULL"
(by arrangement with Charles Frohman).
"THE MAN WHO KNEW,"
by H. Brinsley Hill.
WANTED, April 11, 25, May 2.
GEORGE WATERS.
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 12, 19.
Oct. 10, 31,
Dec. 26.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

LESLIE STANLEY'S CO., in Musical Comedy, "THE KING OF MYSTONIA,"
by Edward Mervyn.
WANTED, April 11 (?) (follow Chorlton), April 25, May 2, 9, 19 (3 nights, follow Worksop), First-class Company, including Erno Astor as Fido, the Porter. C. DESMONDE, Grand T., Chorley, Lancs.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
The New Farcical Musical Comedy.
A Three-hours' Laugh.
Cast of Real Comedians, Troupe of Dancers.
Effective Scenery, Attractive Printing.
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 24.
BRAUDYN and MONTANINI,
This week, King's Theatre, Greenock;
next week, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, for "His Real Wife," the New Play. Good Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, and Xmas. Unprecedented Success at T. R., Sunderland. Complimented by Management. T. E. WARD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Theatres, "Greed of Gold," by arrangement with Mr. T. M. Powell, vacant April 11, 18, 19, 20, May 16, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29, onwards, with exceptions. Fox and LEONARDS, this, Queen's, Farnworth, Bolton; next, T. R., Yeadon.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on royalty. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Pin and the Pudding," by Barton White. Mr. Harry Bristow and First-class London Company, including Miss Pearl Moyle as Tamsie. General-Manager, Mr. PERCY WENTWORTH. Vacant May 30 (Midlands), June 13, onwards, with exceptions. HARRY BRISTOW, T. R., Peterborough.

JOHN TILLER'S GORGEOUS PRODUCTION.
"AMSTERDAM."
120 Performers, 120.
WANTED, week commencing May 2, only Vacancy. Address, E. P. MORGAN, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction Theatre, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, and Dec. 26.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
A Musical Farce, in Two Acts.
North Co., including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as
"OUR MARY ELLEN."
North Co., No Vacant Dates till September.
South Co., Spring Tour Complete.
Vacant June 6, 13, July 4, 11, and Various Autumn.
In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address, Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Oct. 3, 10, Xmas.
FRED BULMER,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, July 11, Aug. 22.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Vacant June 20.
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
Vacant Oct. 3 (precede Stratford).
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND,"
Vacant June 27, July 4.
All coms., this, King's Theatre, Greenock, N.B.
Next Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, June 20 (South), 27, July 11, 18, Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 19.
All communications,
Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

"NICK CARTER (DETECTIVE)"
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 5, Nov. 28, and on,
"HER MARRIAGE VOW;
or, SAVED FROM THE SEA."
Wanted, April 4. Wire.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., Stratford, E.

"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, April 18 (Scotland), May 9, 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND, wires, T. R., Huddersfield. Letters New Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL VARIETY COMBINE.
The only organisation of its kind in the World.
A Mammoth Novelty Entertainment.
WANTED, Big Theatres, April 4, 18 (?), May 9, and Various Later Dates, complete new Programme, including Big Burlesque, "Androcles and the Lion." Thirty Artists, fine Scenery, unlimited Printing. All coms., SCOTTIE, King's T., Ilkley.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Long Tour, commencing Whit, new Farcical Comedy, booked at first-class Theatres till Feb., 1911. Recognised Leading Light Comedian, with extensive farcical comedy experience, must be tall, good juvenile appearance, dress really well. Clever, experienced lady, for smart Society woman (Mrs. John Wood type), must have exceptional wardrobe. Important—Will drama and sketch artists and vocalists kindly refrain. First class Carpenter, with own tools. Arthur Downs write. CHAS. H. LESTER and BERTRAM DAMER, Chestnut Villas, Great Heath, Coventry.

WANTED, Irish Comedian, for Shaun, Myles, Conn, and similar parts, for Summer Stock. Lowest terms, references, photo. Rehearse April 18. J. S Chamberlain please write. DANE CLARKE, T. R., Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, First-class Heavy Man; must be intense and declamatory.
Write,
Mrs. JOHN LAWSON,
49, Binfield-road, Clapham S.W.

WANTED, Male Chorus, for Musical Comedy Sketch. Apply, Saturday, 2 o'clock, 5, Denmark-st., Charing Cross-road.

WANTED, a good Dancer, must be Acrobatic, rehearse at Ramsgate.
DICKIE CLARE, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, by Young Actress, small Part and Understudy, in First-class Touring Company, Comedy or Drama. Box 7,451, "The Era."

WANTED, by Ella Lerosa, Soprano, Small Parts (Light Comedy), Juveniles, Musical Sketches, or Scenas. Experienced. Portland Lodge, Holland-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Winnie Watson, Songs at the Piano, Ballads, Accompanist. Dis. May 2. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton. Nat. Tel., 4847.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, 20, Juvenile. Piano if required.
Address, E. S., 5, Wilton-road, Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement (seaside preferred), with High-class Concert Party, by Baritone. Write, OSBORNE D'XON, 62, Clarendon-gardens, Ilford.

WANTED, Known, The Seamews. Disengaged at termination of "Robin Grey."
C/o Jack Grafton, R. A. Theatre, Woolwich.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Season. Lowest terms, photo, names and addresses last two refs. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, for Pantomimes, next Christmas season, Principals, Chorus, Male and Female. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, open at once. Wire lowest terms, MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class, Original, Effective, at Lowest Prices. W. B. Robinson, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, smart Business-Manager, for Pictures (Provincial), good references, Guarantee Society's bond. Photo and salary required. Rawlinson, 167, Ilford-lane, Ilford.

WANTED, Managers for Picture Theatres. Only those thoroughly understanding the business need apply.
Apply, P. Collins,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Beginner, Assistant to well-known Proprietor and Actor-Manager; all branches taught; small outlay; salary. Write fully (no callers), Lloyd, 8, York-place, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Advance Agent, Circus; sobriety indispensable; also good Beast Man, understands Lions. Willett, Post Office, Stockport.

WANTED, a good Property Man; must be abstainer, and to assist with Elephants. Letters, Captain Taylor, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Several Good Billposters. Apply, stating age, capabilities, wages required Pascalls, Ltd., 46, Hammersmith Bridge-road London.

Proprietors and Managers please Note.

WANTED, by Gentleman, position as Assistant Acting-Manager, in First-class Theatre; good premium offered.

None but those whose offers will bear strictest investigation need write.

Box 7,472, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Stage Manager, Carpenter, Theatre or Hall, or Bioscope Operator, grid and stage layer, coming out through hall closing. Harwood, stage manager, Hippo., Bolton.

WANTED, Provincial Management, by smart London Manager, with experience, energy, and grit; excellent references. Apply, A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Known, George E. Mudd, Disengaged for Business-Management, Resident or Touring. Address, 14, Meadow Hill-road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

WANTED, Position in Theatre or Halls; could introduce capital if required.
Hodgson, 80, Cambridge-street, Belgravia, S.W.

WANTED, Caretaker, or any Position of Trust, by retired builder's foreman. Married, good references. Disciplinarian. Interview in London if necessary. Brown, 9, Rothbury-street, Scarborough.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

WANTED, Wanted, Musical-Director, Owing to Mr. Rignold going abroad, there is a vacancy for Musical-Director at above Theatre. Wanted, an absolutely first-class man, well qualified in Dramatic and Variety work; must be good musician (Violin), and able to score and arrange. Good permanent employment to a suitable man. The highest credentials required.
Peter Davey.

WORTHING SEASON BAND.

WANTED, Known, the Committee invite applications for the post of Bandmaster, season of thirteen (or more) weeks, commencing June 11, Military Band will be engaged by Committee. Applicants to state salary and whether they will supply uniforms and library. Applications must be sent by April 2 to The Band Secretaries, Borough Offices, Worthing.

WANTED, for Tien-Tsin, China, Musical-Director (capable Pianist), to organise and conduct String Band; also offers from Artists Touring in the East to take engagements there. Replies to Arcade, c/o Wilson, 18, Gracechurch-st., London, E.C., will be forwarded.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, smart First Violin, must be thoroughly experienced in Variety. Terms, refs., &c., to J. Melville Gillies, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Lady Violinists or 'Cellists; must be good Singers, Whitsun and Summer. Letters only to Musical-Director, Great Central Hotel, London.

BOSTOCK CIRCUIT.

WANTED, Cornet, steady and experienced, for Variety; open April 4. Terms, 32s. 6d.
Mus. Dir., Hippodrome, Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, used to Variety.
Reference and lowest terms to
Musical-Director, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, First Cornets (Rink in South); also other instruments may write. Lowest terms, age, refs. Wilhelm Russell, 46, Seymour-st, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Ramsgate Town Band, good Cornet, Clarionet, Trombone, Bombardon, and Drums. Shares. Harry Yates, 3, Central-road, Ramsgate.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.

WANTED, to commence June 26 next (Engagement all the year round), First Bassoon and Second Trombone; only players with highest Concert experience apply.
Joseph Sainton,
Musical-Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

WANTED, for Circus, one and two weeks in a town, two Trombones, to combine String. Violins preferred. Open at once. Terms, Hirst, Bandmaster, Collins's English Circus, Coventry.

WANTED, Bombardon for Rink, London suburban, three sessions daily. Lowest terms to Conductor, Box 7459, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, good Oboe, Bassoon, Baritone, two Bombardons, Music Halls, Touring, long engagement. Apply or call, Conductor, 150, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Pianist and Clarionet, for Australian Liner.

Apply,
H. Ward,
7, Upper Bainbrigge-street, Derby.

WANTED, Baritone-Accompanist, for Smart, Refined Concert Party, 16 weeks Scotland, open May 30. Write, Stuart Denham, Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

WANTED, First-class Ladies' Orchestra for Denmark and Sweden. Photos or Postcards necessary. Guise's Concert Direction, 25, Bonham-road, Brixton. Appointment only.

WANTED, for Southport Pier, Full Orchestra (Soloists), Strings, Wood, Wind, Brass, Double Drummer with all Effects, Timpanis, Xylophone, Tubular Bells, &c., for Summer Season, commencing Whit Sunday, to play daily on the Pier, weekdays from 11 to 1, Sundays 11 to 1, 3 to 5, 7 to 9.30. Apply, Manager.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star Mediterranean Service, May to Dec. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. C. W. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, good Leader and Double Bass; also First and Second Violins; must be good, experienced players for First-class Rink. Box 7,467. "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years; String Players and Wood Wind preferred. Height, age, &c., to Bandmaster, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, First-class Bandsmen for Menagerie, starting out about April 11. Willett, Post Office, Stockport. Accept silence polite negative.

THE BAND OF THE D.M. POLICE.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Solo Clarionet, E Flat Clarionet, Euphonium, or Trombone, height 5ft. 9½in. or over.
Apply to Chief Commissioner,
Dublin Military Police, Dublin Castle.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.

WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin, String Bass and Solo Euphonium (bass clef). Age not over 35 and single. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Herr Richard Eckhold, Musical-Director, Moody-Manners Opera Co., and late Conductor of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, open for Summer Engagement with Orchestra of High-class Musicians, from eighteen upwards (all soloists), who have played together for several years, for Seaside, Exhibitions, &c., either in England or Continent; high-class library and exceptionally unique uniform. For particulars, H. Bryan, 62, Sugden-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Sydney L. Hampton, Musical Director, &c. (pianist). Liberty April 4. First-class offers invited, Musical Comedy or Variety. This, Gaiety, Leith; next, Theatre, Coatbridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Conductor (Piano), at Liberty April 3, Theatre or Variety. Address, Musician, 4, Faunce-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by American Conductor (Pianist), experienced in Light Opera, Musical Comedy and Vaudeville, and as Bandmaster of well-known Organisation; have fine library of Military Band Music. Box 7,469, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Pianist or Conductor, immediate re-engagement, Variety, Al Fresco, any business. Sight reader, transposer, arranger, young. Any distance. Wire or write, Campbell, 17, Foundry-street, Bury.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement, by experienced Leader (Violin).
Hamilton Salmon, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement as First or Second; experienced Variety business. Violinist, L.V.C.M., c/o Kerry, Market-place, Bolsover, Chesterfield.

WANTED, by Bandsman, situation Violin, French Horn, any capacity. 12 years Army. E. C. B., 566, King's-road, Fulham, London.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Engagement or Deputising, in London; steady and reliable. Simpson, 25, Evandale-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, good Engagement, by First-class Violinist, any business. Address,
James Wolstenholme, 339, Bath-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by a thoroughly experienced Cornettist. Good references.
Cornettist, 44, British-street, Bow, London, E.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any business or distance; excellent refs. Write or wire, Ellis, Cornet, Municipal Hall, Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged. Long Experience, Theatre, Music Hall, Rink. Moderate salary, strictly steady. W. Creamer, 12, Granville-street, Kettering, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, by Cornet or Conductor, Shop; last engagement nearly two years. W. Amor, 215, Portnall-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, just finished long engagement; good refs.; steady, reliable. White, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, by G. Harrison, Season Engagement as Solo Clarionet, Orchestra or Military. Apply, Grand Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, by good Clarionet, Engagement, any business or distance; excellent refs. Write or wire, Atkinson, Clarionet, Municipal Hall, Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Clarionet, any Bus.; ex-Army Bandsman; good ref.; smart, reliable H. Huggins, Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Double Bass, or Drums; also Cornet (gentleman).
Apply, Box 7471, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Young Lady Double Bass, engagement Ladies' Orchestras.
Please note, M. N., 74, Cowley-rd., Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Ben Morris, Double Bass, Liberty through closing; highest references; experienced all branches. 22, Chorley-road, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any business, good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, long experience, age 33, first-class references. Letters only, Box 7,466, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, through closing Poole's, Radcliffe. Next, Colne, Birmingham. Address, 203, Great Colmore street.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Trombone, combine Euphonium, thoroughly experienced. Excellent refs. Liberty. Clark, 15, Windsor-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, Summer or Permanency. Experienced, any business. First-class refs. Sober and reliable. J. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, 14 years' Military Band, combine Viola; absolutely sober, willing to travel. A. E. Snellgrove, 102, Pembroke-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium and Trombone; thoroughly experienced, total abstainer, Liberty. Euphony, 29a, Burmester-road, Lower Tooting, London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by experienced Euphonium and Trombone, any business. Sober, reliable. E. A. Matthews, Clovelly, Oadby, near Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium, Trombone; excellent testimonials; reasonable terms; any business. No shirker. Disengaged. Good experience. W. B., 19, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Soloist, Artist and thorough Musician; also vacant shortly, Cornet and Drums. Maddock, 396, Parliamentary-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, First and Second French Horns, any Business; experienced, steady, and reliable. French Horn, 26, Mark-street, Cardiff

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Disengaged March 31, Re-engagement in Orchestra, North or South. Miss Child, 48, Oak-st., Southport.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Summer Engagement. Experienced. Good references.
Apply Box 7460, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement by First-class 'Cellist. Experienced and reliable.
A. Howard, 37, Norris-road, Hillsboro', Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Viola, for Summer Season.
Address, Box 7,458, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Viola, Disengaged end of March. Opera, &c.
Viola, 4, St. Michael's-avenue, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by excellent Oboeist; highest references.
J. Newton, 4, Otago-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboist, any Business; good references; Liberty April 2.
J. Pritchard, Orchestra, King's Pavilion, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement. Many years' experience in high-class work. At liberty in May. Highest testimonials.
Mme. G. James, 16, St. John's-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Harpist. Good Soloist.
Box 7463, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement. Mme. Hopkins, 64, Douglas-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Isabel Paul desires Engagements, Flute and Piccolo, any Business. 15, James-lane, Leyton, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Solo Flute and Piccolo, First-class Artist, at Liberty for Easter; reliable. Wire or write, Waller, 38, Queen's Cross-terrace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, through reduction; any Bus.; used Varieties; good refs. Fred Smyrk, 15, Treherne-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo; experienced, steady, and reliable; any business; permanency. Goodwin, 4, St. Winefride's-gardens, Underdale-road, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, position as Assistant in Music Shop; good pianist, excellent sight reader. Box 7,452, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Young Lady, position as Pianist at Rink, Hall, or Rehearsals; excellent sight and time; would give free trial. Box 7,453, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, and Variety. M. S. S., 59, Tideswell-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by R. Rogers, M.R.A.M., Pianist, all-round experience, Orchestral or Concert, can combine Organ, Cornet, Choir Training, supply small Band if necessary; Lib. May 23. Haydn House, 80, Risca-road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, as Picture Pianist, First-class Improviser, and Strong Memory; London or Suburbs. H. Liason, 24, Offerton-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Accompanist, available for rehearsals; accompaniments written. Terms moderate. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Known, Pianist and Double Bass, Disengaged; well experienced, all Lines. Clark, 23, Lebanon-road, Croydon. 'Phone 835 P.O. Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist (gentleman), for Rink, up-to-date library, Seaside preferred; steady and reliable. De Roze, 12, Macmillan-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist, Drums, &c., with good references of recent date, from first-class Orchestras. Address, Box 7,422, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good Double Drums, &c., at Liberty, any Business; best of refs.
J. White, 15, Temple-street, Oxford.

WANTED, through closing, engagement by First-class Double Drummer, Tympanist, experienced any business, excellent references. Sullivan, Eddlewood, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, The Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, open for Exhibitions, Pavilions, Hotels, also Vocalists, and Humorists. Wilton Davis, Manager, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, also Male Band; smart uniforms, bells, &c. Mme. Baker, 114, Woodlands-rd., Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Les Vivandiers, Ladies' Orchestra, smart costume; any business. For particulars address, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)

WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bona-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to Mrs. Manton-Myatt, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Look out! The Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra have just booked three months' Engagement at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. Any Engagement till 15th July still accepted. Concert engagements accepted too. Write, Box 7,464, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, celebrated Cremona Orchestra, now Booking; smart uniform. Apply, Miss Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

THE PALMER ORCHESTRAS.
Director and Manager, Mr. Edwin Palmer.

WANTED, Engagements, for two of my highly successful Bands, extensive library, always up to date, smart, and stylish, from six to twenty performers, any business.
Managers of High-class Hotels, Pier Pavilions, &c., &c., find my Bands a big Attraction.
All communications, Mr. Edwin Palmer,
16, May-villas, Grove-hill, Beverley.

WANTED, by Military Band, Engagements, Town or Seaside, any number of performers. Smart uniform, good répertoire. Box 7407, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Collini's Famous Rink Bands, Town, Seaside, smart Conductors, Men, Music, Uniforms. Apply, Stamford Hill, Highgate. Hear them.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty through closing, Rink Band, Up-to-date Library, and Expert Musicians. Terms, Berry, 67, Scaton-terrace, Scarborough.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Equestrians and Big Specialities, for Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany, and Russia. Appointment only. Silence politely negative. Guise, 25, Bonham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Smart, Quick Tumbler. Able to Second Mount.
Full particulars and lowest terms,
Josh Clifton, Euston Palace, London.

WANTED, a good quick Tumbler, for Comedy Act. State tricks, height, age, salary expected, to Box 7,455, "The Era."

WANTED, a Groom, to look after two horses, should be pleased to hear from J. Henry or Alf George. Write or wire, Crockett, Collins's Fair Ground, Coventry.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, to thank Circus Proprietors, for offers for abroad, but The Three Royal Ohmys have accepted engagement with Circus, Norbeck, for Christiania, Norway, also to follow with Bech Olsen's Grand New Circus, Copenhagen, Denmark, their first vacant date is Dec., 1910, for the Greatest and Grandest Equestrian Four-Horse Act ever seen in a Circus Ring. Note.—Proprietors and Managers wanting this Act for the Winter Season hurry up, or you will miss it. Address, Ohmy, 111, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Rabbit, finishes to-night, Royal Italian Circus, Edinburgh. Thanks Mr. Arundale for comfortable engagement, also for letting me off. March 28, Connor's Circus, Alexandra Palace, London. Summer season, Connor, Esq., Douglas, Isle of Man. Liberty Sept. 19.
N.B.—Rabbit wants no fat, works his own little gags, is an original agouste, and an artist.
(Signed) Jo. D. Richards.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, just finished most successful engagement with the Royal Military Circus, Woolwich and Aldershot. Easter, Connor's Circus, Alexandra Palace, fifth engagement with Connor's Circus. Liberty for Galas. Address, John Irvin, 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, S.E.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.

The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909.
Booked
for
Bolossy Kiralfy's
American Park, Brussels,
for three months.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Still Open for
July, August, and Sept.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars. General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

TOLFREE and SLINGSBY THEATRES.
HIPPO., WAKEFIELD; EMPIRE, HULL;
THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, March 28, on. Nothing too big; also big Combinations. Send full particulars, Harry Slingsby, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Variety Artists and big Star Combinations, April 11, 18, onwards.
Manager, Scottie's Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for First-class Picture Show, immediate and future Dates.
Full particulars and lowest terms first letter, Manager, Hengler's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Present and Future Dates. Absolute lowest terms, Fred Southern, Palace, Dover.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and on, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Comedy Acts, April 4, on. Terms, &c., Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central.

WANTED, Monday, April 4, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artists. Always opening for Double Turns doing Singles, vents., Conjurers, &c. World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small. Terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland
J. J. Scott, Empire Wrexham.

EMPIRE THEATRES.
SUNDERLAND & WEST HARTLEPOOL.

WANTED, Artists, working North, who have odd weeks out, to send vacant dates, particulars of acts, when played towns last, and lowest terms. Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland. Mark envelope, "Artistic."

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, April 4, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

VERNO'S AGENCY.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 4, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

HARROGATE, SCARBOROUGH AND YORK.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, also Combinations.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artists coming North to send list of vacant dates and terms to James Anderson and Son's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

NOTICE.

THE READING PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.

WANTED, Known. This is to give notice that the above Theatre will be closed from June 13, 1910, to July 30, inclusive. Contracts during that period are therefore cancelled. The Management will be much obliged to artists holding contracts for the above dates to at once communicate their vacancies that another date may be arranged.
(Signed) G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Real Good Comedy Acts.
In fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational.
Write at once, with Lithos, Bookings, &c., and very lowest terms for
England, France, and America.
G. W. Gerald and Co.,
23, Faubourg St. Denis, Paris.
G. W. Gerald and Co.,
25, Litchfield-street, London, W.C.
Frank Coyle,
160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Variety Stars, willing to Share, for own Turn, April 18 and on. Full particulars, James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

YARMOUTH & LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
Picture Season at Cheap Prices.
One Performance Nightly.
WANTED, April 4, Nine to Ten Turns weekly. Quote reasonable prices.
Geo. Zalva's Agency, 2, St. George's-rd., Yarmouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for immediate dates, onwards,
for immediate dates, onwards,
for immediate dates, onwards,
for immediate dates, onwards,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
Tops and Bottoms of the Bills,
for
Harry Burns's Various Enterprises,
Harry Burns's Various Enterprises,
Harry Burns's Various Enterprises,
immediate dates, onwards.
immediate dates, onwards.
immediate dates, onwards.
Stars and Acts with drawing power can always be placed. Communicate at once.
Harry Burns,
established 1895.
Head Office, where all communications must be addressed to,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Wires, "Chosen."
Telephones 231 and 231a Hartlepool
(not West Hartlepool).

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only.
Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, big Star Turns, for one or two immediate dates.
Wire, Horner, Burnley.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, smart Speciality Turns, for above, commencing April 11; must be absolutely free from vulgarity. Turns who have been Chelmsford please write. Dates and absolute lowest terms to J. R. Poole, Park Hall, Cardiff.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Variety Talent all Lines, Picture Shows (North). Send Vacancies and Lowest Terms Sever Smith's Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

CADLE'S AGENCY,

WANTED, for April 4, and onward, Star Acts in all Lines.
Star Acts in all Lines.
Cadle's Agency,
105 Strand, London, W.C.

IMPORTANT.

WANTED, Big Acts for Immediate Dates, Salary or Shares. Full list of bookings, lowest terms. Artists note change of address. Will Lund's Variety Agency, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Wires or 'phone answered day or night. 'Phone 682, Royal.

HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Twice Nightly.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices, £100 a night.
WANTED, for the Following Dates, First-class Variety Combinations.
Company must include Star Top with drawing power, or useless.
Only vacancies, June 20, July 18, 25, and Aug. 8.
Communications, Harry Burns,
Head Office, Welburn House, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Good Combinations or Star Turns, on Share, April 4, 11, 18, 25. Bouncing Peps, Attillia Bros. Communicate, Arthur Clarance, Agent, 41, Clayton-street, Jarrow.

WANTED, for April 11, onwards, First-class Speciality Acts. Apply, with lowest terms, to Manager, New Picturedrome, Bradford.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent.
Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro. tem.

WANTED, greatest Acts in the Profession, for immediate and future dates. Terms, full bookings, lithos., William Ainsworth, 135, Addington-road, Middlesbrough.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY.
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
'Phone No. 467 Rusholme.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, Sensational Dramatic Comedy Sketches.
The Very Best of Talent (all lines) for next week,
for April 4, 11, 18, onward,
for towns, Midlands and North.
Notice.
Geo. Pickett, Yellow Fang, wire.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, really Funny Novelty or Big Sensational Speciality, April 4, 11, onward. Big Animal Acts, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, &c. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Doubles, doing Singles; also Comediennes. Send full list of bookings to Old Star Dramatic and Variety Agents, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates. "The Best People."
Apply, Weatherbey's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., London.

WANTED, Complete Costume Concert Parties with Vacant Weeks, West of England; good break going west. Fredericks, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, Talented, Refined Singing Comedienne, experienced playing parts, for Vaudeville Act, Syndicate Halls. Age, height, photos. 46, Millhill-road, Acton, W.

WANTED, Comedians, Musical Speciality, Sisters, &c., for Fête, August Bank Holiday. A. E. Henley, Bury St. Edmunds. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Young Lady, 18 to 20, Smart and Pretty, to assist Juggler in new Comedy Act. One who can juggle preferred. Age, height, experience, and salary required (fares paid), also photos. Comedy Juggler, G.P.O., Bolton.

ANDREWS' PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, an Experienced Practical Operator. Must understand all branches or absolutely useless. Handle-turners not required. Open at once.
Apply, A. and H. Andrews,
5, New Compton-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

The Smartest of Smart Concert Parties.
CARL FREDERICKS' "LES VIVANDIERES."
WANTED, Dates, between Easter and Whit, also weeks Aug. 8 and 15, through transferring. Carl Fredericks, Pavilion, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Daisy Hicks, Refined and Dainty Chorus Comedienne. Wire, 34, Gowlett-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by Alice Oakley, Serio, and Descriptive Vocalist, Monday, March 28, Songs suitable for Pictures, Halls. Wire, 12, Waterdale, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Gertie Martini, Novelty Artist and Versatile Vocalist, March 28 and April 4. Brilliant success last week, H., Norwich. This, H., Ipswich. Wire.

WANTED, by Eileen and May, Musical Dancing Act, April 4, 11.
Theatre, Colne.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, March 28 April 4, 11, 25.
Perm. address, 31, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
T. E. JOHNSTONE,
The Topical Character Vocalist.
This week, March 21, Hip., Aston (great success).
Next week, March 28, Palace, Derby.
April 4, Hippo., Accrington (fifth return).
April 11, Hippo., St. Helens (fifth return).
Wanted, Known, for future vacancies and terms, address, next week, March 28, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, April 4, onwards, Dan Ashton, Empires Collier Comedian. Original copyrights, humorous and descriptive successes. Picturedrome, Loughborough; next, Palace, Bedford-Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Lew Towers, Light Comedian, March 28, April 4 and 11, only vacancies this year. This week, Varieties, Leeds. 1, Church Cross-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 11, by Leslie Clements, Musical Comedian and Raconteur. Offers, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Known, Leo Tell, the World's Greatest Vocal Phenomenon, Liberty Monday, 28th. Wire, Empire. Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Bert Powell, Military Illusionist, presenting Original Conjuring Act, April 4 and 11. This, Theatre Royal, Warrington; next, Queen's Palace, Shipley.

WANTED, by Kyoto, Japanese Comedy Contortionist, Conjurer, and Dog; also May Geraldine, Chorus Comedienne, Dancer; vacant April 4, onward. Wire, 22, Macmillan-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, April 18, May 2 on, The Monckton (Fred, Lilkie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting "A Woman's Curiosity," &c. Communications, Palace, Normanton.

WANTED, Mon. next, 28th, by Ryder Davis, Real Comedian; also Eva Ward, Burlesque Artiste. Two Sound Acts. Big Double if required. Wire, any distance, Britannia, Glasgow. Also Vacant, April 4 (3 nights). Wire.

WANTED, April 4, 11, Davies and Udall, in Successful Lancashire Comedy Duologue, "The Grumbler." COLEMAN DAVIES, next week, Palace, Battersea.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Le Bruns, Edie, Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler; Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist. A Novel Act. Wire, 42, Wood-street, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler, from London Hippodrome; Beatrice Bonnie, Comedienne; vacant next three weeks. 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 4, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, Original Song Scenas, Singles. Wire, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, April 4, 11, Harry Keeble, the Great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. This, Doncaster. Monday, Alex., Pontefract (return).

WANTED, April 18, May 2, various, on by Andre and Brenton, in Farcical Absurdity, "The Rival Tenants." Borough Theatre, Walls-end.

WANTED, April 4, Rohde and Roche, in their Novelty Act, "The Chameleon," Lady Artist and It (?). March 28, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, April 4, on, Happy Harry Hellis, Comedian and Pianist; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Cornettist, Vocalist, and Dancer. Next, Royal, Dereham.

WANTED, by the Lyntons, Monday, also April 11. Smart Instrumental and Harmonising Vocalists. Wire, This, E., Widnes. Per., 16, Wentworth, New Brighton.

WANTED, April 4, by Henri Bekker, the Comedy Conjurer, and Miss Maie. A sure success. Wire or write, Alexandra, Pontefract.

WANTED, Engagements, The St. Claires, Telepathists, also Cartoons and Impersonations. Vacant May, on, Easter week. Pier, Portsmouth. Perm. add., 20, South-parade, Chelsea.

WANTED, April 4, 11 (North preferred), Ray and Douglas, the Comedy Duo. This, Pringle's T., Glasgow; next, Pringle's T., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, originators of Living Marionettes, are vacant April 4 and 11. Wire, Poole's Myriorama, Colne.

WANTED, April 11, 18, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in "Yolcks and a yokel." This, Empire, Barnsley; next, Hippo., Stockton.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, April 4, 18, May 2, 9, July 11. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo. Vacant March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25. Address, 33, Melbourne-street, Gateshead; after Saturday, 19, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, April 4, 18, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, "Le Café Magique." Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Vacant Easter Monday, starring Musical Novelists and Vocal Duo. Wire, Co-operative Hall, Widnes. Comedy, sound, attractive.

WANTED, Monday, also April 4, by Chant and Chant, to precede or follow Hull. Cheered to the echo. Wire, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, April 4, 10, by Kirk and Saraski, the Girl Aquatic Marvels; the Act that is always Starring.
This week, Empire, Stockport;
next, Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Jeil and Laval, in their Novelty Acrobatic and Jumping Act. Wanted, April 4 and 11. Address, Palace, Burnley.

WANTED, April 4, on, by Garden's Royal Quintette, Vocalists, Pipers, and Speciality Dancers. March 28, Theatre, Coatbridge.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 4 and 11, The Woolhafs, great Comedy Act. Wire, Emp., Leeds; after Sat., 120, Merrow-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, April 4. Substantial Top of the Bill. Wire for good act, Monday, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, April 4, by La Dor Troupe (seven in number), male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 4, Ross-road, Abergavenny.

WANTED, March 28, April 4, 25, The Flying Oreniuses (two ladies, two gentlemen), Stage Aerial Act. Perm. add., 67 Walcot-square, S.E. Wire.

WANTED, April 4, 11, 18, by
Gulliver,
and the Doll with the Laugh.
Great Comedy Vent. Act.
Address, Gaiety, Chatham.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist); two smart Acts. Offers invited. Tintern Villa, Aldershot.

WANTED, Monday next, through disappointment. Top of Bill. 10 people, 15-25 minutes' show. Nautical scena. Wire, MANAGER, 26, Queen's-road, Everton, Liverpool.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS CO.
WANTED, Dates, for this High-class Novelty, April 11, onwards.
We provide everything, including
Matting, Ring, &c. Good Printing.
Rent, Share, or Certainty.
Address, BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Tudora's Ponies, Liberty April 25, May 2, 23, and on. This, Tivoli, Pentre; March 28, Gala, Abergavenny; finest Pony Act Touring. A good Agent wanted. All coms., TUDORA, Tivoli, Pentre.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Cleanest and Best in the Profession, March 28, all April and May.
Offers invited.
14, Cross-hill, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke, 200 Royal Cats, &c., Vacant April 4 and 11; share or certainty; good posters and lithos by Creaber, Plymouth. Berry, Bradford; Monday, return, Empire, Barnsley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Mlle. Doris, and her Highly Trained Troupe of Canine Wonders. Acrobatic Somersaults and Football Dogs, the smartest act in the business. Vacant March 28, and later. Wire, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Famous Troupe of Dogs, this, Boro' Theatre, Wallsend-on-Tyne (Topping); next, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.; vacant April 18, 25.

WANTED, Monday, March 28, M. Doris's Marvellous Acrobatic and Football Dogs. All coms., 160, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday, also 4th, 11th, Cyclinis Trio, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Pauletti, Novel, Acrobatic, Balancing, Somersaulting Cyclist, thanks Gilbert Payne, Esq., for offer. This Hip., Lancaster; next, T. R., Castleford.

WANTED, Engagement, Animal Impersonator and Tumbler, height 5ft. 4in., age 25; good references. M. G., 18, Derby-street, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Youth, 19, work with Professional, any capacity; good light Bar-tone; handy. E. W. HARRIS, 1, Witley-road, Upper Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, Boy, 17, with a taste and talent for Comedy Juggling, wishes to travel with Juggler, as Assistant or otherwise. Box 7,455, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Operator, Situation; used to working Gaumont machine. Moderate salary. References. Address, W. HUNTINGDON, Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars. Registered Trade Mark, "Cake Walk."

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from THE UNITED KINGDOM GILLETT LIGHT CO., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, W. E. Roche (Member of the Showmen's Guild), Showman's Painter, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E. All kinds of showmen's decorative work undertaken. Oil-paintings, scenery, letter cloths. Terms moderate. Satisfaction guaranteed.

WANTED, Good Shows, Novelties, Big Attraction, for Easter Week. Open at once. MICHAEL, 10, The Circle, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Living, Breathing, or Dead.
A. E. PICKARD, Glasgow.

WANTED, Exhibition Workers, such as Silhouette and Sketch Artists, Gold Wire, Fountain Pen, Embroidery, Photographs, Pulled Candy, &c., &c., can hear of something to their advantage by applying in first instance to Box No. 7,468, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Watch and Clock Repairer for T. Harrison's Auction Mart, travelling round London. Write, stating age, experience, and when ready to start.
Box 7461, "The Era."

WANTED, capable man of good appearance, to assist on floor in auction rooms; first-class pay and berth to steady worker. Box 7,474, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the World's only Bearded Lady, now creating a great sensation in Glasgow. All communications, HARRY HALL, Pickard's, Glasgow.

NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, to Let, Site and Premises, next new Electric Theatre, facing Milton, Shakespeare streets, Nottingham, opening March 24; site to let has an area of about 300yds. super, 90ft. deep, 45ft. frontage on main street, 58ft. up side, new White City Building could be erected, with imposing entrance, facing corner of five thoroughfares, mass of light and people at night, ideal position for central Home of Amusement, Automatic, Vaudeville. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham, by appointment only.

WANTED to Let, a few Spaces, Exhibition, Salisbury, March 31 to April 16 inclusive, for real Novelties. Early application to MANAGER, County Hall, Salisbury.

WANTED, to Let, large Basement for Shooting Gallery and Games, reliable business man, with good fit-up. LINGARD'S WAXWORKS, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, space for really Novel Indian Side-show, genuine Natives, direct from India. Exhibition or seaside. KENAM, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Burrell's 8 h.p. Double Crank Compound Showman's Road Loco, on springs, and two Tanks, long Awning, and brass Pillars, Dynamo Plate, weight under 14 tons, splendid order throughout, and ready for immediate use.
JAMES GRAVEN, Ely, Cambs.

WANTED, to Sell, Palmistry Studio, very good practice, low rent, for immediate disposal, £5; also smart shooting range, adjoining, guns, targets, good money-making concern. Owner going abroad. Apply PALMIST, Winter Gardens, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Fish Pond, complete, nearly new, Ramsbottam's also Illusion, Sideshow; splendid money-takers. Offers. MAXIM, Post Office, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, Booth, suitable for Cinematograph Show. State size and height of shutters; must be light. BEACEY DANIELLS, Ballyshannon, Ireland.

WANTED, to Buy, for Cash, Rail Pullman. No fancy price, but a buyer.
ROBERT BLOOM, jun., Haughton, Darlington.

SKATING WANTEDS.

BOSWELL'S EDUCATED PONIES.
WANTED, Skating Rinks, or Large Building, for this Refined Entertainment. No damage to floor, as we carry our own matting, ring, &c.
Address, with particulars,
BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, for Reading Central Skating Rink, First-class Floor and General Manager; opening next month. Full particulars, salary, references, &c., to SECRETARY, 5, Market-place, Reading.

WANTED, Skate Mechanic, one willing to be useful in Rink, and able to Instruct in spare time preferred. Write, stating lowest terms, experience, &c., MANAGER, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, an experienced Manager, well up in every detail of Rink work, can arrange Summer Attractions, good Skater, abstainer, Disengaged after Easter; highest refs. Particulars of F., c/o LONG, 11, Belgrave-terrace, Gelli, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement by Floor Manager, young, smart, good berth, well educated, height 5ft. 11in, at seaside for summer months. Three years' experience. First-class references. Can give Exhibitions.
Apply Box 7,454, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Manager Boys, vacant May 30, Rinking, Music Hall, or Theatre; can supply Staff if required; also Band; age 26. NORTH LONDON RINK AND ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, LTD., Wood Green.

WANTED, Known, well-known Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, Exhibition Skaters,
At present engaged, but desire change; excellent references, character, ability, &c.
Reply, Box 7,475, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Smart Instructor, disengaged for Summer Season. Highest refs., photo, &c. H. S. SHEPHERD, Sutton Rinkeries, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Expert Trick and Fancy Skater desires change. Can give Striking Specials; thoroughly experienced; undeniable credentials. W., Box 7457, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Skate Mechanic is disengaged, 3 years experience, highest references. V. COLE, Sutton Rinkeries, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Roller Skates, 200 pairs, assorted sizes, not secondhand, Richardson, Winslow, or other First-class Make. SECRETARY, Reading Central Skating Rink, Ltd., 6, Market-place, Reading.

WANTED, to Let, Olympia Rink, opposite Empire, Bristol, for Pictures, six months, commencing Monday, April 4, seven days' licence, fireproof chamber, lavatories, large seating capacity, chairs (including tip-up), all new; every accommodation for large crowds. Absolute lowest rental for full period £16 weekly. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, THE MANAGER.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, the valuable Theatrical Property known as the Hippodrome, Ashton-in-Makerfield, fully licensed, open every evening, well fitted; building is portable. Price, with twelve months' ground rent, £150. Apply, O'HARA, as above.

WANTED, to Sell, Southport, Fancy Goods, &c.; most profitable business; best position; no goodwill to immediate purchaser; stock, fixtures, household furniture, £130 the lot; also New Humber Tricar, £45. Apply, 511, Lord-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a good paying Cinematograph Show, it is small but up to date; been established over two years, in a good town; good reason for giving up.
Write to Box 7,449, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Kamm "Universe" Bioscope, latest model, conforming in every detail with the new Cinematograph Act, automatic safety cut-off, new fire-proof gates, eight picture sprockets, chain drive take-up, re-winding adjustment, 3in. Cinematograph lens, 9in. Lantern objective, large all-metal body, asbestos lined, 4in. Meniscus condenser, on skeleton iron frame base, as new, £18 10s.
E. Dept., CITY SALE AND EXCHANGE, 93-94, Fleet-st., London, E.C.

Powerful Arc Lamp, for Cinematograph, all mechanical adjustments, taking up to 100amps., good as new, £3 7s. 6d. Wall Pattern Resistance, iron frame, slate beds, Multiple Switch Contact, with cut-off for 120 or 250 volts, £3 10s. 50 ampère Iron-clad Double Pole Salford pattern Switch, as new, 19s. 6d. Full list of secondhand Films on application, from 1d. per foot.
E. Dept., CITY SALE AND EXCHANGE, 93-94, Fleet-st., London, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Butcher's Empire Bioscope, white sheet, lenses, safety shutter. Seen between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday. WILLIAMS, Ardwick Empire, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Bioscope, with all appliances, nearly new, cheap.
CADWELL, 93, Upper Richmond-road, Putney.

WANTED, to Sell, a Wrench Bioscope. Resistance, 2 Sheets, Iron Box, and Cinephone, £35. Apply, Walpole Hall, Ealing.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Performing Russian Bear, two years old, very tame. For particulars, apply, CARL OHM, Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Performing Cats Act, bargain; also Four Good Performing Dogs. Mlle. ALICE, 1, Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, complete set, Standard pitch, thickly plated, handsome stand (portable), £3 10s. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, powerful tone, Organ Chimes, Resonaphones, Gongs, Tubular Bells, Tunable Resonators (protected). LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, "Master Card" set, 2 Interior Cuts and Back Cloth, Canal, Venice, illuminated, size 30ft. by 24ft, by John Tiller and Co., splendid condition.

THOMPSON CARRUTHERS, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery (new), Costumes, Props, Full Band parts of "The Last Rose" (kitchen scene, "Martha"). Splendid sketch, 5 artists. GITTINS, Queen's, Leeds; next, Queen's, Castleford.

WANTED, to Sell, Conjuring Apparatus, Tables, Illusion, Vent. Figure, equal to new, extra cheap. Bargains. 134, Fairfax-rd., Harringay.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Evening Gowns, Suitable for Stage use.
Special Prices to the Profession.
GRACE,
20, Baker-street.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, White's Bar Hamper, 7ft. 4in. by 6½in. by 6½in., practically new, 15s. HILL, 17, Green-street, Forest Gate. 'Phone 264 Stratford.

WANTED to Sell, Fit-up Rights of well-known Musical Comedy.
Box 7462, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Sketch, Lady and Gentleman. Two excellent comedy parts.
GRATTON CHAMBERS, 54, Blythe-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell Dramatic Episode (Leading Man, Ingénue, and Character Woman). London Success. Particulars, HARRY LYONS, 1017, Station-street, Birmingham.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, New or Secondhand Cinematograph Outfit. Tuition required. First-class article only. State make. Lime and electric. Box 7,456, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, Cinematograph Films. Full particulars and lowest price to
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Tent, immediately, 100ft. by 80ft., or thereby. Top, walling, and seats, everything complete. Particulars, with best price, to JOHN RINTOUL, Jigburn House, Dunfermline, Fife.

WANTED, ____ to Buy,
Smart Advert. Curtains and Programmes.
Particulars to
ADVT. MANAGER, Castle Works, Rochdale.

WANTED, to Buy, Electric Outfit, for Living Picture Act.
LEON, 1, Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Buy, Roman Dresses and Scenery, must be good and cheap. Send full particulars, SCOTTIE, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, "Aerial Suspension," Galatea, or Pepper's Ghost Illusions. State lowest price, particulars, and where can be seen. KENAM, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, Black Magic Act. Complete, Tables, Vases, Skeleton. State stage opening. Lowest cash price. PROFESSOR, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Bass Syrene, Drumhead, complete, Electric Fans, Thunder.
CADWELL, 93, Upper Richmond-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Buy, two good funny Comedy Sketches, for four people, play twenty minutes. SANDY MCNAB, this, Hippo., Brighton; next, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues, &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in April and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment. Scenery. Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Powerful Drama, excellent plant of printing, stirring situations, striking title, "The Scoundrel," good Comedy, interesting Plot; in the hands of an enterprising actor would make a big success. A sound industrious man may negotiate for "The Scoundrel" on remarkably easy terms, including production date. Address, LOADER, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Rent or Purchase, a Theatre, in London or near by.
Reply, in confidence, to
JAMES B. GORDON,
Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Hire, Dramas, with Printing, for Stock, at West Bromwich. Full particulars, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, Alex. T., Sheffield; next week, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with capital to invest £ for £, in a Moving Picture Theatre, or I am willing to invest in any good proposition. Address, Box 7,470, "The Era."

WANTED, Active Partner, for Electric Theatres, one that understands the business, one theatre ready for opening, and others available. Apply, Box 7,473, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Carriage Stores, 29, Vaughan road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone, 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours.
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMAN & Co., 4, Pitville-place, Bristol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 100 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Summer Season, 1910. Charles Cardow has four brilliant concerteds, strictly original, one plays 20 minutes (musical comedy). These items are guaranteed successes—comedy numbers, not march, rag-time, or the beaten up and down stage items.
Terms, £2 2s. (four numbers) per town. Managers requiring a strong sole right attraction call (by appointment) or write, 5, Dover-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano Part, 2s. 6d.; Band Parts, 3s. 6d. (ten). E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Known, before purchasing elsewhere send for exceptional Sole Rights offer. Songs mean Contracts. JNO. PATERSON, 228, Parliamentary-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Monogram Worker. Open Easter Monday.
Apply, MORRISSEY, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

LARGE
SKATING RINKS
in large Cities, in good positions, WANTED,
PURCHASE OR RENTAL
for the Autumn.
All particulars to
GEORGE STANLEY,
Winchester House Birmingham.

GRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.
The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.
RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.
Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	G.P.O. Rollers on Lining	Tray	Bottom
24 x	14 x	14 ..	6/10 ..	3/2 ..	3/0 ..	2/0
26 x	16 x	16 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 ..	2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 .	3/3 ..	2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10/6 ..	4/6 ..	3/6 ..	2/6
33 x	21 x	21 ..	12/6 ..	5/3 ..	4/0 ..	3/0
36 x	22 x	22 ..	14/6 ..	6/0 ..	4/6 ..	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.
Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.
LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.
Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.
T. CRAVEN & SONS
T. Dept., 99, Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

FOR SALE.
MAGNIFICENT AND COMPLETE PRODUCTION OF
"ROMEO AND JULIET,"
including
SCENERY, PROPERTIES, and DRESSES,
as produced at the
Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Grand Theatre Glasgow, &c.
R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
55a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London" 'Phone 1893 Dalston.

THEODORE YESSLIN.
An important letter awaits you at "The Era" Office.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.
ILLUSTRATED.
By GEORGE TWEDDELL.
PRICE SIXPENCE.
Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

(THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT working in conjunction.)

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1910.

Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London." Wires: De Frece Circuit, "Yellit, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Miss Ada Reeve, Geo. Ali and Co., Great and Good, Animated Pictures, Cruikshank, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, H. O. Wills, Mlle. Clary's Police Dogs, Twelve Fezzans, Lydia and Amelys, Dan Lipton's Co. in "Songland," Grotesques, Hetty King.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Ted E. Box, Gladys Mavius, Anna Chandler, Vanando, Tom Stuart, Kratons, Brothers Egbert.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Formby, Jack Pleasants, Jessie Merrilees, Neilson Duo, Ernie Garner, Delevines, Northern Troupe, Bioscope, Daisy Jerome, Bellclair Bros.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Kate Carney and Co. in "Fun of the Fair," Kathleen Gray, Addie Dorina, Holden's Mannikins, Bert Harrow, La Freya, Humpsti Bumsti, Bioscope, Harry Weldon, W. J. Churchill.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Tom H. Taylor's Co. in "Can a Woman be Good?"

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Archie Goodall, Gertie Gitana, J. P. Carroll, Harmony Boys, Heeley and Meeley, D'Arc's Marionettes, Pete and Minnie Lee, Florence Esdaile, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 10.30 a.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire Dance," Tom Foy and Co. in "First of April," Brooklyn Comedy Four, Dayton Family, Siems, Vincent, Dancing Gilberts, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard, Wish Wynne.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Evie Greene, Lucy Coventry, Bioscope, Powell and Vesey, Margaret Parker, Farnk H. Fox, Chas. J. Johnson, Musical Silvo, Horace Wheatley, Dusty Rhodes.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Wentworth Croke's Co. in "The Christian."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Leyton and Co. in "The Roll Call," Mlle. Marjutti, Verno and Voyce, Dandies, Loyal's Dogs, Harry Bedford, Conn and Conrad, Bioscope, Ray Wallace, Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track."

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Jewel's "Change," Ugo Nap, Tate and Tate, Ike and Will Scott, Ten Dixie Girls, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Les Silas.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Fragson, Charles Robinson, Rhoda Paul, Coverdale, Barrett and Knowles, Courtiers, Three Delaries, Gladys Hooley, Bioscope, Bensons.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Yap Yaps," Steve McCarthy, Amelie De L'Enclos, James Curwell, Mabel Sinclair, Creo Brothers, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes, Marie Kendall.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Sam Mayo, Victoria Monks, Persichini, Maudie Francis, Laurie's Kindergarten, George Benson, Brothers Bright, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Alice Maydue, Frank Lynne, Pat Rafferty, O'Gust, Findens, Mlle. Haydee, Rosie Sylvester, Bioscope, Carmos.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing," Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Fielding and Hull, Victor's Juveniles, Les Marco Belli, Five Vernons, Woodhouse and Wells, Wilson and Waring, Jessie Preston.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Frank Maura, H. O. Wills, Manchester Mites, Lux's Dogs, Gwennie Llewellyn, Nina Wood, Lottie Govell, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Paumier and Howard's Co. in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

George Dance's Co., including Marie Studholme in "Miss Hook of Holland."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lottie Lennox, Sebastian Merrill and Co., Bioscope, Lupino Lane, Lydia Yeamans, To-To, Tom Moore, Oswald Williams, Empire Comedy Four.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

The Great Lafayette, Huntley Wright and Co. in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," King's College Boys, Tom E. Finglass, Howard and Harris, Boisset's "Trip to the Continent," Eighteen Lancashire Singers, Marshall and Parr, Four Jumels, Bioscope, Mme. Ella Russell.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. R. Whittle, Fatmah Diard, J. A. Wilson, Millie Payne, James's Strolling Players, Francis and Alfred, Herbert Shelley, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Roma and Romani, Jack Lane, Stewart and Morgan, Bertha Winder, Goggin and Davis, Yamamoto and Koyoshi.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Cinquevalli, King and Benson, Rohda Brothers, John Macauley, Millie Engler and Co., Barnard's Mannikins, Harry Clifford, Florence, Bioscope, Marco Twins.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

L'Incognita, Walter Wade, Jackley Trio, Phil Percival, Casey Army, O'Malley and Brown, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Horace Mills and Co., Helen Trix, Kisbey, Prince Milner Trio, Harry Herbert, Gipsy Woolf, Sisters Storm, Bioscope, Adey Spencer, Lukushimas, Guyer and Valle.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Rosi's Ballet, Juliette's Sea Lions, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Santon, Channings, Alexandra Dagmar, Tom Davies Trio, Farr and Farland, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Will o' the Wisps, Edith Heron-Brown, Rich. Taylor, Victor Travers, Hall and Earle, Fayre and Manning, Frank Cass, Bioscope, "Bosun's Mate."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Liane D'Eve, Tom Clare, Peter Bermingham, Fred Barnes, Ethel Newman, Henry Helme, Eadie and Ramsden, "Billy," Four Regals, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of being Another Man's Wife," Phil Parsons, Lillie Lassah, "Dolly's Deception," Kellinos, Spry and Monti, Marsumas, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Olga Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Alice Raymond, Brothers O'Brien, Harry Friskey, Chas. Vincent, Alf Gibson, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope, Charburn's Young Stars.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Edith Fink, Phil Herman, Illustrated Song, Mabel Mavis, Counsell and Mills, 'Leah Arden, Pictures, "The Last of the Desmonds," &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, Betty Green, Conan and Doyle, J. W. Rowley, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Our Empire's Defenders.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Craggs, Two St. Johns, Mona Garrick, Carl Howard, Arthur Albert, Dacey and Lewis, Bioscope, Charlier.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Hilda Mascot, Chas. Penrose, Jules Kiaro, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Walter Curtis, Pictures, Maidie Scott, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Sisters St. Julian, Rossi Ashton, Delomes, Bella White, Charles Lee, Pictures, Tom Lloyd.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

Managing Director, **WALTER DE FRECE.**

PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Four Panamas, Maudie Ford Adams and Ward, Marie Braymen, Carlisle and Wellmon, Maxini and Bobby, Harry Ford, Cherpillod, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 12 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Gladys Archbutt, Walker and Lake, Wild, Willie, and West, Ethel Loftus, Palles and Cussick, L. W. Harris, Sandy McNab and Co., Pictures.

HIPPODROME PORTSMOUTH.

Rehearsal at 12 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Jack Rosslyn, Hayes and Watson, Maud Esmond, Curwen and Bell, George Newburn, Margaret Ismay and Coons, Little Tich, Maxey and Pete, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.

Rehearsal at 3 for:—

Zethus, Bert Weston, Addie Adell, Fred Russell, Three Dixons, Vesta Tilley, Fred Evans, Pictures.

HIPPODROME BOSCOMBE.

Rehearsal at 12 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Lucia Collins, Beun's Dutch Boys and Girls, S. W. Wyndham, W. T. Ellwanger and Co., Jack Marks, "Vampire Dance," F. V. St. Clair, Bros. Habs, Pictures

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Alan Holt and Co., Harry Cotton, Lilian Lowe, Michael Madden, The Dunlops, Lilian Sivado, Marcus Boyle, Ada Whittan, Selkirk's Spectacle, Pictures.

HIPPODROME COLCHESTER

Rehearsal at 1 for:—

"The Globe of Life," Kitty Leon, Eric Vaughan, Ina Lorrimer, Smit and Smit, Kenway and Emery, Pictures.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Dramatic Season.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.

Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—

Peggy Pryde, Ethel Stephanson, Joseph Belmont, Arthur Boyne, Hazel Ellis, Dalvere and Wallace, Pictures, Carlisle and Walker.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.

Rehearsal at 12 (Matinée Easter Monday) for:—

Wun Hi and Ching Soo, Chris. Baker, Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, Gala and Norris, Curtis Leo, Cissie Curlette, Seymour Hicks and Co., Pictures.

N.B.—Applications for engagements on the DE FRECE CIRCUIT, matter for bills, &c., &c., must be sent direct to Walter de Frece at the Co-operative Offices.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intentionto exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MARCH 28.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
J. W. Rickáby, The Darntons, Edwardes and Edwardes, Cavalli, Les Zanonis, May Poulton, Julian Mack, Ray Royal, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Five Musical Palmers, The Fimans, L. B. Athol, Wallau, Mildred Bryan, Rose and Jeanette, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Stidder and Dunbar, The Newmans, Sisters Carlton, Rose D'Aulby, H. G. Brandon and Co., Tom Yorke, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
A. C. Lilley and Co., Burley and Burley, Reg. Ewen, Baker and De Sales, Tom Gott, The Selbinis, Palace Perfection Pictures, Gladys Witton.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
The Fordyces, Pictures, E. D. Nicholls, Chas. North, Harry Luck, J. H. Greener, "Kidnapped King," Billy Whitlock, Nelly Neil, Bessie Neilson, Mina Green.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Pictures, Enzer, Cissy Brand, Job Manners, Nellie Farrell, Josephine Crook, Clark and Mostel, "Queen of Sheba," Carlotta de Yonsen and Co., Bert Crosbie, Vaudeville Trio, Comedy Meisters.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Lyons Trio, Geo. F. Hall, Mlle. Dalmere, Little Miss Muffett, Rose and Grayson, Three Alskarnos, Irene Meldon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Adolf Beck" Pictures, La Belle Sylvia, Bros. Cottam, Little Dando, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Marie Santoi and Co., Tina Frank, Zanfrellas, Norah Desmond, Burt Shepard, Letine, Bros. Ford, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Donaldson Bros., The Zampas, Chas. Gardner, Shenton's Chicks, Sim Moree, Norah Emerald, Palace Perfection Pictures, Nellie Nora.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Columbias, Jessie Wilton, Geo. Geoffreys, Belrose and De Velin, Sisters Brenton, Will Douglas and Co., Pick of the Picture World, Lily Le Breton.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Eight College Girls, Bill and Bellay, Jimmie Puhlin, Tennis and Laune, Joe Cookson, Jeil and Laval, Burnetti, The Villions, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Martin Henry Co., Zellini, Bros. Victor, Lennard and Versker, Mayme Cannon, Walter Aubrey, Pick of the Picture World, Luceece Prinella, Dennis and Morris.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
The Merrions, Axbar, Bella Leaburn, Guy Rider, Ando Japs, Palace Perfection Pictures, Fallows and Beaumont, Kitty Cameron.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Tan Kwai Troupe, Bert Maddison, Bert Edwards, Joan Deering, Amio Trio, Dorothy Dare, Chas. Erard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Rollicking Rory."
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"What a Man Made Her."
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.
PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Arnold Richardson Co., Lizzie Daniels, Walter Barrett, Geo. Brookes, Blair and Allen, Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal 10 a.m.
Geoffreys and Benson, Narow Bros., Karr and Kooney, Colin Mail, Werde Bros., John Donald, Edith Chantler, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Tom Collins, Pictures, T. C. Jaques, Donnas Trio, Nick Carter, Adderley Howard and Co., Francisco, Gordon and Leslie, Stalman and Russell, Chas. Rivers.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Archie Pitt, Pictures, Geo. Grenville, Rhoderick Duo, The Hulls, Will Avis, "Rob Roy," Sisters Honor, The Days, Myrtle Grove, Cassie Walmer.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
Pictures, Tintos, "Roots, Rash Chemist," "The Settlement," Geo. Rapley, Little Alice, The Frolics, Lilly Dunville, Chris. Masters, Sisters Wren, "The Grumbler."

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

VON TILZER MUSIC COMPANY.

ALFRESCO

LATEST SUCCESSES OF

SAM MAYO — FRAGSON
HARRY FORD — FRED EARLE
ERNEST SHAND — HARRY CHAMPION
WHIT CUNLIFFE — ARTHUR REECE

Send for our
PIERROT BOOK of 50 Song Successes, 1/- post free.
BUDGET of CHORUS and SOUBRETTE Songs, 6d. post free.

VON TILZER MUSIC COMPANY, LTD.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.

"WON'T YOU COME RINKING?"

Words and Music by Gabrielle Wodnil (Hilarie Hayden).
Sung by Miss Ray Wallace.
The REAL RINKING CHORUS Song with Irresistible refrain.
For Personality numbers—"I want to be his one and only," "Put me down at Piccadilly," "If I should say 'forgive,'" "Awondering," "She's somebody else's girl," "I'd like to have a latchkey," "I. O. U."
Apply to G. WODNIL, c/o Price & Reynolds, 41, Berners Street, London, W.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ERITH, KENT.

The Council are prepared to
RECEIVE OFFERS
for the use of the
BANDSTAND
in the ERITH RECREATION GROUND, for Alfresco Entertainments during the Summer Season.
Applications to be received by the undersigned, not later than noon on Wednesday, April 6.
J. KENNEDY ALLERTON.
Council Offices Erith.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909
Post free, 1½d.
PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, three Bedrooms; Comb. Piano; three mins. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Crown Hotel. Superior. Elmbank-street, few doors below King's Theatre. Terms, £2 2s. per week.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior sitting-room and bedroom, 25s.; piano, gas, bath. Also large bedrooms, moderate. 111, Fentiman-road, Clapham-road, near Oval.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Willis, 86, Vine-street, Openshaw.—Combined Room, Bedroom, and Sitting Room; good cooking; good references; terms moderate; two minutes Alhambra.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

BRIXTON (ANGELL-ROAD).
FOR SALE.—Contains 8 rooms, bath, kitchen, scullery, and usual offices; lease, about 52 years; ground-rent, £8 10s. Price £375, or £25 down and balance by monthly instalments of £3 3s. Apply F. E. Widdowson, 398, City-road, E.C.

FURS.
Three real silver foxes, large number Russian sable skins, rug, coat.
Any reasonable offer accepted. Approval.
Dealers ignored.
Write, FURS,
Advertisement Offices, 10, High Holborn.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound.
Will sell cheap.
DE VON, LTD.,
114, Bethnal Green-road, London.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price ***3/6.*** *Post free,* ***3/9.***

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to
MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.
All the American Theatrical News.
For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

MARKT & CO. (LDN.), LIMITED.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 618 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Released Thursday, March 31.

ONE NIGHT AND THEN.

Drama. 992ft.

Released Thursday, April 7.

HIS LAST BURGLARY.

Dramatic. 995ft.

SELIG FILMS.

Released Sunday, April 17.

COURTSHIP OF MILES STANDISH.

A Adaptation of Longfellow's Poem. 1000ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Released Sunday, April 3.

THE USURPER.

Drama. 905ft.

OVER THE WIRE.

Comedy. 900ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

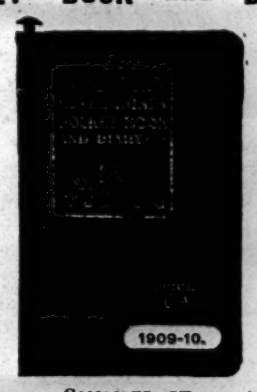

Compiled by

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd., 12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C. (Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London." Telephone: Gerrard 5695.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION'

4/9 TIP-UPS

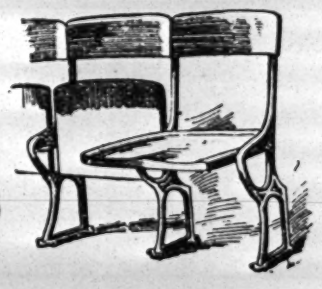

Write for List of Leading Lines. All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,

21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London." Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER, PAINTING & DECORATING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PIERROT POSTERS AND ALL OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

Catalogues and prices of printing free.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates. Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Cullifford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."

Publishers, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.
11.—NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Tip-up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.
24.—NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from 4/6 to 75/- A good Running Seat from 1/- per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELLI, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

MONMOUTH CORPORATION MAY FAIR.

To SHOWMEN & OTHERS ALL ARE INVITED.

Persons *REQUIRING STANDINGS* for their Shows should send particulars of their requirements, together with measurements. Great care will be taken to reserve space for those who book in advance.

Apply,
Mr. GEORGE F. GRIMWOOD,
Borough Surveyor,
March 7th, 1910. Monmouth.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.

THE ERA IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE — TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBCRIPTIONS

are received through Messrs.

J. ROLAND KAY & CO.,

TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,

from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

"THE ERA" IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE
CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD

Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON thanks Mr. Wentworth Croke for comfortable 32 weeks' tour, as John Storm. 52, Parliament-hill, N.W.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE, Mr. Weedon Grossmith's "Preedy and the Countess" Co. April 3, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW, Disengaged now and Autumn. 17A, Lissenden-mansions, Highgate-road, N.W.

MR. NORMAN YATES, "The Scarlet Pimpernel." New Theatre, W.C.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK, General-Manager, Herbert Darnley's Cos. 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

RUPERT BASSETT, Baritone and Entertainer, desires engagement after May. Would join refined concert party. Mr. Bassett, being ex Army officer, has big following. Originality, refinement, and fun all in one. C/o "Era," London.

STANLEY H. BELL, Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND, the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam. Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

CHARLES DUDLEY, Refined Humorous Songs and Stories. Few summer weeks vac. for Piers, &c. 86, Keslake-rd., Kilburn, N.W.

ELITE CONCERT PARTY. Seven Refined Entertainers. All communications, Francis Rolfe, 126, Barrows-rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Receptions, Dinners, Ladies' Orchestra for Dances, &c. Perm. add., 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

MISS NELLIE GANTHONY'S ENTERTAINMENT CO., including MR. ROBERT GANTHONY, MISS VIOLET ELLIOTT, and three other First-class Artists. WANTED, Whit Week (North or South), July 4, 5, 6, and 11 (week), Aug. 1 and 6 (South), Aug. 8, 9, 10, and 25 (week, North). Bookings include Bexhill, Bournemouth, Westgate, Whitby, &c. Shares or certainty. 16, Edith-road, West Kensington. 'Phone 3551 Western.

ERNEST A. GLOVER, Sifleur, Concerts, Dinners, &c. 9, Woodthorpe-road, Putney, S.W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers, GEO ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MAIE HOEY, Drama, Comedy, Eastern and Classical Dancer. Seasides invited. C/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist. Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans. Address, 103, Sumatra road, West Hampstead, N.W. Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

ARTHUR KENNEDY, Scottish Humorist. Bohemians, Smokers, &c., town or country. 16, Oppidans-road, London, N.W.

ADELE LEVEY, Little Tales, Recitations, and Monologue. Concert Parties, Flying Matinées. Lever de Rideaux. Dinners, &c. Wires, 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly, W.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD, A.L.C.M., High Soprano. Lately concluded 35 weeks Norwich. Offers invited for Summer. 33, Oakhurst-grove, East Dulwich.

WESTON, HAROLD, Versatile Entertainer. Open for Concerts, &c., in and out of town. 24, Albert-st., Regent's Pk., N.W. 'Phone 2161 North.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

ILLUSTRATED.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

BY

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

SOLICITOR.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Published at— "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. J. Withers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archie Ainsleigh.—A grand variety bill is the excellent holiday attraction here. At the top of the bill, the Big Four, vocalists, dancers, and comedians, are well received; Archie Watts, comedian and dancer, gains applause; Mlle. Polo is a graceful trapeze artist; the Dana Comedy Sketch company in their screaming farce gain favour; Billie and Burke, in *Minding the Baby*, are funny; and Jack Harrington Weeks, comedian, Miss Hazel Hood, comedienne and dancer, and the Dutrees complete the bill.

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—The Aberaman Serenaders' Operatic Society are here in *The Gondoliers*, and are playing to crowded houses.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Fires of Fate* occupies the stage this week, with its richly-coloured scenes of the Soudan, and its vivid portrayal of Dervish life. The acting of Mr. Stephen Ewart as Colonel Egerton is a notable effort, and admirable support is accorded by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, Mr. Charles Francis, Mr. Edward Coventry, Miss Ruth Bower, Miss Gwendolen Floyd, and Miss Alison Trent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—In a capital variety programme, pride of place is given to the Sutcliffe Troupe of Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats; Harry Dent and Fanny Harris appear in their novel mélange, *The Indian Bottle*; and other turns are contributed by Geo. Lawrance, right comedian and actor-vocalist; Bugler Carr, the marvellous equilibrist and musical puzzle; Alice Golding, vocalist; the Mezzettis, in their gymnastic act, "The New Recruit"; and Louie Tracey, the "dandy dapper boy."

ABERTILLERY.—METROPOLE THEATRE. — The stirring drama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is being presented here by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Percy Brown's company. Mr. Wilson Coleman gives a capital impersonation of Felix Beverley; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt scores well as Geoffrey Langdon; Miss Amy Elian's Mary is greatly appreciated; Mr. John S. Milward is a good Jack Sterling; Miss Minnie Goepel as Sweet Nancy does well.

PAVILION.—Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. F. Rawson Buckley's company in *Before the Dawn* top the bill here. The programme also includes the Maningoes in their head and hand balancing; Wat Tyler, character vocalist; Baby Boden, a marvellous child entertainer; Sidney Burns, comedian and dancer; and Richard Finberg in character studies of Dickens, Shakespeare, &c. Excellent Bioscopic views end a capital performance.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Raynor and his répertoire company opened here on Monday in a capital version of *Moths*. Mr. Raynor submits a powerful and convincing impersonation of Lord Jura; Mr. Clinton Baddeley undertook the rôle of Prince Zouroff with fine dramatic effect; Mr. Milton C. Curtis ably portrayed the Duke of Mull, and Mr. Conrad Heywood handled the part of Raphael de Correze with care and discretion. Miss Dora Dench quickly won the sympathy of the audience as Vere Herbert; Miss Cecilia Dare played the Duchess de Sonnaz with incisive power and artistic finish; Miss Frances Waring was very successful as Lady Dolly, and Miss Hilda Blanche gave a commendable rendition of Fuchsia Leach. *Still Waters Run Deep*, *Jim the Penman*, and *David Garrick* are also billed.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mr. Edward Platt's marvellous child trio of actor-musicians are the premier attraction here, and are received with great favour; Coram, the popular versatile ventriloquist, keeps his audience in the best of humours; Captain Kettle is very smart as a coin and card manipulator; Ray and Lingford, in a comedy duologue, have a flattering reception; Tony Freedman, comedian, Juno Salmo, and Clyde and Clancy, comedians, are also in the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—A fine Eastertide bill is presented here. Two sketches are included in the programme, Mr. Powis Pinder's company, in *The Revellers*, topping the bill. This is a charming little playlet, in which Mr. C. E. Payton (an old Aldershot favourite), Mr. Powis Pinder, Mr. Eric Langham, Misses Ruth Thorp, Ethel Quarry, and Dorothy Frostick appear, the last-mentioned young lady especially shining with her exquisite dancing in "Visions of Salome." The other playlet, *Liane*, added to the programme at the eleventh hour, so to speak, is of the musical dramatic kind, and well played by Messrs. Lawrence Rea, Chas. Ray, Chas. D. Wright, Julian Gardin, and Misses May Hollorn and Alice Favier. Shirley and Montrose, in a drawing-room entertainment, do well; M. Jules Charmettes, an Anglo-French eccentric, amuses with song and patter in French; Fox, called the human encyclopædia, answers questions on dates of notable events, &c.; Fred Kendal, in Jewish song and patter, is a favourite; Miss Dora Christian has a fine appearance, and sings with good effect; Miss Kitty Grey as a ballad vocalist is successful, and Miss Daisy Mercer, comedienne, Tom Garrick, a clever dance comedian, and Stuart Gordon, Scotch comedian, are all acceptable.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is presenting *Little Phil's Mother*. As Phil, the crippled boy, Miss Gertie Renaud is tenderly pathetic; Miss Maud Russell has a very arduous rôle as Ruth Towers, but she sustains it with ability; Miss Florence Dalton as Elspeth gives the part all the emphasis needed; Miss Leslie Warner as a Lady of Means and Miss Shine as a Wardress do satisfactory work; Mr. Percy Ballard makes a manly Frank Towers; as Oscar Titherton Mr. Henry Ellesmere gives a good study of a callous scoundrel; Mr. Gifford Reynolds supplies a very able portrayal of a doting old father; a very good study of the Scotch gamekeeper, Donald Taggerty, is given by Mr. J. P. Marsden; and a humorous Cockney rascal is well hit off by Mr. J. E. Tomlinson. Mr. Frank M. Thorne, the director of the company, plays the humorist as Sam Perkels, Miss Leslie Warner seconding his efforts very happily as his partner.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—The programme here is headed by Washington W. Evans' company, in the American musical sketch *Paradise Alley*; Arthur Aiston is a favourite; George Robinson, in the character of a seaside waiter, is good; Metz and Metz (Arthur and Jack), comedians, perform a unique dance; Sterling and Cashen, comedy duo, have a new mirthful episode; the Sisters Florencie, duettists, introduce some graceful dances, which they accompany with song; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith, American premier cornettists, and "The Sousa Girl" give an entertaining interlude; the Bioscope shows Poor Luck's Honeymoon and When the Boss Came Home.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The week's pictures furnish good entertainment at the Pavilion. Cupid and the Motor Boat is both picturesque and exciting; An Angry Sea shows a hurricane on the Main; and Cloister's Touch is a thrilling story. The Up-to-Date Imps is a comic film, as is That Skating Carnival; and other subjects are A Scientist's Nightmare, Brother and Sister, and the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race. The speciality artists are Mr. Chas Coll, who sings humorous ditties; Mr. Arthur Page, Lancashire dialect comedian; and Mr. Alan Wright, who sings "Will-o'-the-Wisp" (illustrated).

THE ODDFELLOW'S HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The pictures for the Easter week include After the Fall of the Eagle, a very exciting presentment of stirring events; The Western Maid, depicting life on the prairies; My Daughter, The Subterfuge, The Orderly Let Sleeping Dogs Lie, A Pair of Slippers, and The Cheesemonger's Dog. The variety turn is Mr. W. H. Dawson, a clever boy whistler and bird mimic.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The story of the Boer War, named The Highlander's Defiance, is as good as anything we have seen pictured in battle scenes; there is some really pretty scenic mounting in that exciting drama. A Dog's Thanks; and Taking a Day Off, The Forgotten Watch, and The Secondhand Stove are all comic films. Also in the bill are Marie's Handkerchief, The Pearl Necklace, A Shopping Week, and some pageant pictures. For variety business the services of Mr. Arthur Harris, a baritone vocalist, have been secured; and Miss Kitty Kearns is a sweet singer and smart dresser.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The holiday attraction here drew large audiences on Monday. Some excellent films included a sensational drama, The Fireman's Wedding. Mr. Clive Cattley, light comedian, is meeting with success, and Mr. George Smith, in new songs, is retained for a second week.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—A splendid Easter holiday programme was provided here, and highly appreciated by crowded houses. A thrilling and absorbing picture, A True Indian's Heart, a tale of the West, was the leading feature. Vaudeville turns are provided by Miss Clarise Mignon, aptly styled the "Banjo Queen," and Mr. Arthur Bright, vocalist and piper.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. Walter Steele's company occupied the boards with the sensational drama *A Fast Life*. For the last three nights Mr. Edward Compton and company appeared.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—*With Edged Tools*, by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company, is the holiday attraction. Miss Marie Leonhard is delightful as Jocelyn Gordon, the clever and sympathetic treatment received at her hands makes it an exquisite character; Miss Marguerite Collier displays marked ability in the rôle of Milicent Cheyne; Mr. Hamilton Deane has a nice easy style, and his Jack Meredith is very effective; Mr. Campbell Goldsmith is most realistic as Victor Durnovo; Mr. Henry Nunn is admirably suited to the part of Guy Oscard. All the other characters are in capable hands. The scenic and lighting effects add very considerably to the success of the production.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, with *The Woman in the Case*, is appearing here. Miss Florence Tyrrell displays great power and ability in the exacting part of Claire; Miss Beth Elliot is admirable as Margaret Rolfe, particularly in the emotional parts; Mr. Cecil Newton's Julian is clever and natural throughout. The lawyer, a splendid character part, is admirably sustained by Mr. W. T. Elworthy. The play is well staged and the dresses handsome.

TIVOLI—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mendel is the premier turn, and he demonstrates his ability in no uncertain manner; he had a hearty reception; Margit and Lener, in an eccentric act, *Wet Paint*, are most amusing, and their acrobatic and tumbling performance is clever; the Cheers, with their educated cats, that perform some smart tricks, give an interesting entertainment; the Sages are very good in a vaudeville act; Neville Delmar is a refined comedian; the Lovelaces' American illustrated songs quite catch on; Capt. Ellis and Son, in an American act, are well received; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—A revival of the comic opera, *The Chieftain*, and the operetta *Capt. Billy*, by the Bath Amateur Operatic, for the whole of Easter week, is proving a great attraction. The professional services of Mr. Avalon Collard as producer have resulted in a finished and delightful ensemble, and Mr. W. F. C. Schöttler, the resident musical director, as conductor, has added greatly to the excellent results secured.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The Donaldson Bros. and company, in their amusing sketch *Sports in a Jungle*, arouse great hilarity here; the wonderful contortionist feats of Sim Movee, "the indiarubber Mahommedan," are watched with interest; Chas. Gardiner wins applause for his comic songs; and Norah Emerald as a comedienne. The Zampas, vocalists, dancers, and bâton jugglers, Nellie Nora, in her musical speciality act, Shelton and Chicks as vocalists and dancers, and the pictures are other attractions.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, has been drawing big houses. Mr. Charles Sims appears in an excellent make-up as Mr. Hook, and his performance is decidedly clever; Mr. Robert Selby has an imposing presence as Captain Paap; and Mr. Frank G. Dunn pleasingly portrays the Bandmaster. Mr. Frank Attree is good as Schnapps; and much amusement is caused by Mr. Edward Kipling as Slinks. Miss Biddy O'Brien is a charming Sally, and her songs are much appreciated. Another popular member of the cast is Miss Madge White, who very cleverly impersonates Mina. There is a full chorus and an augmented orchestra, and the whole production is exceedingly praiseworthy.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from the popular D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. On Monday at matinée and evening *The Mikado* was presented. In the title-rôle Mr. Leicester Tunks acquitted himself admirably, his fine voice being heard with much pleasure; and praise is due to Mr. Henry A. Lytton for his clever impersonation of Ko-Ko; a noteworthy reception was extended to Mr. Fred Billington, an especial favourite in Belfast, in his impersonation of Pooh-Bah; Mr. Henry Herbert furnished a capital interpretation of Nanki-Poo, his delightful vocalism gaining him a deserved reception; Mrs. Arthur Ronsbey must be congratulated on her charming interpretation of Yum-Yum; the rôles of the other wards of Ko-Ko, Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo, were acceptably filled by Miss Beatrice Boarer and Miss Marjorie Stone; Miss Louie Rene's Katisha left nothing to be desired, and the cast was completed by Messrs. Sydney Granville and Fred Drawater. On Tuesday evening *Patience* was the attraction; and during the week *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *The Gondoliers* have also been produced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Mr. Warden is presenting his patrons with a superlative Easter attraction in Williams's sixth annual pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, which was produced here at a matinée on Easter Monday, after a triumphant tour in Scotland. The title-rôle and Alice are represented by the Sisters Cora, who speedily made themselves favourites with their charming vocalism and clever dancing; Mr. Sam Thompson created roars of laughter with his droll impersonation of Idle Jack; and the rôle of Alderman Fitzwarren was capably sustained by Mr. W. Glanmore Jones; Mr. George Westland also adds considerably to the success of the pantomime by his inimitable impersonation of Mary Ann, the cook; Mr. Michael Kemble, who appears as the King of Rats, sings with great effect "The white squall"; Mr. J. Randle Wilson appears as Captain Bailey and the Sultan, and acquits himself with distinction, and Miss Connie Irwin appears to decided advantage as Fairy Bow Bell, her rendering of "Dear old Bow Bells" being hailed with pleasure; Mr. L. C. Young was good as Tom, the cat; and Miss Topsy Johnstone, who appears as Princess Halfid, sings in pleasing style, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." Other rôles were satisfactorily filled by Miss Rene Wilson, Miss Ruby Ashwood, and Messrs. Gosling and F. Wilfred. The scenery was beautiful, and during the course of the pantomime specialities are provided by the Sisters Cora, Four Killarney Girls, whose dancing is very smart, and the very excellent Celestas Comedy Quartette. Mr. Eccleston acts as musical director, and it should be added that the pantomime was strikingly successful on its initial production in Belfast. Mr. J. Randall Wilson fills the arduous duties of stage-manager.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Mr. Arthur Prince, the clever ventriloquist, who made a great success on Monday; Edward Lewis and company appear with unbounded success in their farcical interlude, *The Three Wishes*, Mr. Lewis himself being inimitable; Jock Whiteford makes his customary bit; and the three Cape Girls are smart comediennes and dancers; Miss Belle Braham, pictorial song-stress, has been accorded a hearty reception; and the musical act of the Carina Sisters is one of the best; Cestria is a good comedy acrobatic juggler; and also here are Sam Fay, comedian, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is the remarkably clever performance of Chung Ling Soo, which has nightly been hailed with unbounded enthusiasm; Mr. Tom Lloyd's comic songs have been much enjoyed; and the Royal Delomes introduce with much effect their novel speciality *The Phantom Clogs*; Miss Bella White is an accomplished comedienne, with good songs; and Rossi Ashton, the war artist, in Song Sketching returns to this city and achieves a pleasing success. Also on the programme are the Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers, Mr. Chas. Lee, comedian, and the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company, in *The King and the Unknown Woman*, forms a suitable holiday attraction. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson is prominent with a forcible rendering of Prince Menski. Mr. James Stilwell does full justice to the important rôle of Prince Loris, and Mr. W. R. Winning as General Platz makes the most of his opportunities. Miss Eugénie Magnus displays considerable ability as the Countess Melveitch; Miss Violet Carlisle is an irreproachable Zora; and remaining principal parts are in able hands. The scenic effects and costumes are on an elaborate scale.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—A really strong and effective company includes Miss Ella Retford, a charming and accomplished comedienne, and Miss Mabel Morgan, a clever Australian comedienne. The comedians comprise Mr. Tom Costello, always a favourite here, who is renewing previous successes; Mr. Will H. Fox, the popular piano monologuist; Mr. Paul Barnes, a sterling American artist; and Mr. Charles Norton, an exceptionally clever mimic; the Four Royal Scots, in a clever vocal and instrumental show; Drew and Alders, pantomimists; George Carney and Frank Armstrong, song and dance artists; Miss Money Mine, singer and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Phenomenal business is the rule.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company, in a condensed version of *The Face at the Window*, constitutes a strong attraction. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe scores heavily in the rôle of Paul Gouffet; Delgado is powerfully interpreted by Mr. W. Houghton Macauley; and Miss Clare O'Sullivan plays Marie with excellent effect.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway. — For many years *A Royal Divorce* has been an Easter attraction at this house, and it has lost none of its popularity, judging by the generous patronage it has been given during the week. The play is ably presented by Mr. W. W. Kelly's London company. Miss Violet Ellicott is an admirable Josephine; and an excellent study of Napoleon is given by Mr. Keith Fraser; Miss Dorothy Garth is a vivacious Stephanie; and others deserving special mention are Miss Winnie Tempest, Mr. J. H. Roberts, Mr. Charles Stirling, Mr. Ernest Plumpton, Mr. H. A. Allen, Mr. G. Hudson, Miss Florence Cuddipp, and Miss Julia Wren.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. George Edwardes's delightful musical comedy, *The Dollar Princess*, is here, and late-comers meet the board "House Full." The music and lyrics are charming and effective, the dresses and scenery are exceedingly beautiful. The comedy element is in good hands, and the respective rôles are taken with unqualified success. Always dainty and natural, Miss Clara Evelyn as Alice sings prettily; Mr. Louis Bradfield is quite at home as Conder, his bright and sparkling performance meeting with well-merited general approval; Miss Norma Whalley is convincing as Olga; Mr. Leonard Mackay's singing is quite a feature of the production, and he makes a capital Fairfax; Mr. Eric Thorne is responsible for good broad humour; and Mr. Paul Plunket and Miss Daisy Elliston should also be signalled out for special mention.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The *Aladdin* pantomime closes down this week after a fourteen-weeks' record run. Unfortunately the bright and vivacious principal boy, Miss Ethel Beech, has been absent from several of the last performances through illness; but Miss Ida Gwynne, a local artist with a promising future, has deputised admirably. She makes an attractive "boy," and renders her songs in pleasing style.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Crowded audiences have attended the performances of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in the Lyceum version of *The Christian*, during the Easter holidays. The company does full justice to the play, Mr. Henry Wolston taking with great effect the part of John Storm; Miss Gladys Purnell achieves a notable triumph as Glory Quayle, and wins unstinted applause; Mr. Wilfred Noy is clever in the character of Horatio Drake; and Miss Molly Haydon is excellent as Mrs. Callender. Other good performers in the cast are Mr. Royce Milton (Lord Robert Ure), Mr. Charles E. Dering (Archdeacon Wealthy), Miss Gladys Vernon (Polly Love), Mr. Thomas Barry (Father Lamplugh), &c.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The Easter attraction here is the drama, *Married to the Wrong Man*. Mr. Henry Lonsdale is well suited to the character of Jack Gladwin; Miss Mary Pemberton scores a success as Ruth, the dumb heroine; the heavy business is cleverly sustained by Mr. George Arthur as Captain Deering and Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Jasper Skinner; Miss Cissie Bellamy is a careful Rose O'Connor; and Mr. R. Marius St. John is prominent as Dr. Archie Bird.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's capable company is presenting the romantic play *Who is She?* before enthusiastic audiences here. Miss Georgette Thierry displays ability in the title-rôle; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon plays the important part of Prince Bora with true dramatic power; and Mr. James Stillwell makes an admirable King Vladimir. Mr. Bernard Leill is well chosen as Chang-See; and other clever performers are Miss Alice Barber (Countess Ladori), Mr. C. H. Henderson, and Miss B. Moore.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 company is presenting a fine version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and the piece has been a splendid attraction during Eastertide. Mr. J. H. Boehm gives a careful study as Uncle Tom, and is a great favourite; Mr. A. Hayes is good as Phineas Fletcher; Miss Annie Watson acts realistically and sings well as Topsy; Miss Gem Lloyd proves a clever emotional actress as Little Eva; and Mr. Victor Gardom gives a good account of his abilities as Legree. The setting is particularly effective, the principal scene depicting a plantation festival which is taken part in by a versatile company of negro entertainers.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Miss Evie Greene is enjoying a cordial welcome, and delights crowded audiences with selections from a well-selected répertoire. Miss Margaret Parker and company play a leading part in the humorous section of the programme in a sketch, *Lucky Jim*. Patrons are pleased to renew acquaintance with Pip Powell and Katie Vesey in their musical comedy duologue, "A Perfect Woman"; Frank H. Fox, a Birmingham comedian, convulses hearers with his antics and patter; Charles J. Johnson is a pleasing singer and clever dancer; Horace Wheatley is a first-class Irish entertainer; the humour of Dusty Rhodes acts as a rejuvenating elixir; Musical Silvo extracts delightful music from bell-toned instruments; and Lucy Coventry is another popular contributor.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Harry Roxbury presents his new musical sketch, *On the Track*, for the first time in this city, and the production is delighting crowded audiences. Roxbury has full scope for his quaint humour in his many disguises as Detective Longfellow. *The Roll Call* is the title of a military spectacle presented by Mr. George Leyton, who renders a catchy chorus song, and his tableau is made effective by the introduction of a number of local military veterans. Mlle. Marjutti is an exceptionally clever contortionist; a delightful vocal entertainment is provided by the Dandies; Verno and Voyce appear successfully in a racing sketch; Conn and Conrad are up-to-date comedians; and Loyal's trained dogs give a remarkable performance. Ray Wallace and Harry Bedford are absent through illness, and Dusty Rhodes and Frank M. Fox deputise.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Pride of place in a good holiday programme is worthily held by Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company, in the sketch *Nana*, the title-rôle being well played by Miss Elsworthy. Mimicry figures prominently in the programme, Wilson Hallett being a favourite imitator of children of all ages; Harry Leybourne, a popular comedian and impersonator; and Alice Maude, a charming student of male characters. Henry Carlton and his comedy team appear in a laughable sketch entitled *One Night Only*. The Four Scoreys prove themselves clever instrumentalists in an amusing mélange; Hess and Chivers are smart figure and solo skaters; Winifred Norman is a quaint Dutch character; and Fred Lincoln, an entertaining comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Eibourne.—A mirth-provoking sketch, entitled *The Prince of the Dandies*, is the chief item in a good all-round bill. Mr. Arthur Watson as "Sprouts" never fails to create laughs; and the Empire dancing troupe play a conspicuous part. The Derringtons are expert trick cyclists; Albert Le Fre performs juggling and acrobatic feats to the accompaniment of a song; Albert St. Clair is an established favourite with his double-voiced singing; the Markies present a pleasing vocal and instrumental scena, *The Professor's Studio*; Willie Atom and company score in *Wiggles*; "Jimmy" Basnett is a good descriptive vocalist; Lily Hayes is a popular serio and dancer; Ernest Rees achieves success as a comedian; the Eight Elves are clever juveniles; and the Kebbles are smart duettists and dancers.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Messrs. Joe Peterman and George Ricketts, in the dramatic sketch, *The Pawnbroker*, head the company here; Miss Mollie Seymour is a capable violinist and vocalist; the Austral Trio present a refined musical cat; the Keppels are pleasing operatic vocalists; Fred S. Howard entertains with songs and lightning sketches; Fred Lyndo is a popular comedian; and the Ongars are applauded in a smart dancing turn.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—This week Mr. George Edwardes's company is playing to capital houses in *The Merry Widow*. Mr. Robert Needham's portrayal of Prince Danilo is remarkably good, and Mr. H.

For some time past we have been engaged in perfecting a new process by which every kind of LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S OUTDOOR GARMENTS may be made thoroughly impervious, whilst retaining to the fullest extent their porousness. We can with every confidence recommend—

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO

IT IS A DRY PROCESS.
DOES NOT SHRINK MATERIAL.
DOES NOT NECESSITATE UNDOING A STITCH.
NO CLAMMINESS OR OBJECTIONABLE STICKINESS.
EVERY FIBRE IS COATED.
ABSOLUTELY WATERPROOF.

For further particulars and prices apply to

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET,
T. HARRIS, Manager.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

READ THIS TESTIMONY:—

6, Holmewood, Anson Road, Tufnel Park, N.
February 18, 1910.

T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co.,
Dear Sir,—I consider that I have now had an opportunity of thoroughly testing the Waterproof qualities of the overcoat you did for me by your "Slydoffo" process, and I must say that the result is most satisfactory. It fully realises all that you claim for it, and should be very popular.
Yours truly, E. HILL.

Specially recommended for—LADIES' JACKETS, COATS, and TWEED DRESSES, GOLF OUTFITTING, MEN'S OUTDOOR CLOTHING.

CONTRACTORS TO H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

The many years' experience which we have had as GENERAL CLEANERS and DYERS places us in a position which is SECOND TO NONE for the many varieties of work necessary at this season of the year.

Write for our latest Catalogue (free) which is full of interest.

Sinclair Cotter provokes roars of laughter as Baron Popoff; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy is an effective Jolidon; Mr. Harry Emerie is a merry Nisch, and Mr. Cecil Warwick a clever General Novakovitch; Miss Mabel Hope does exceedingly well as Natalie; Miss Neste Laurel is a capable Frou-Frou; Miss Mary Ridley plays the title-rôle to perfection.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland) Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Les Piccolinos, in their pot-pourri act, are capable dancers, wire walkers, and crack shooters; J. W. Hall is a very amusing comedian. The Lecardo Bros., in their bakehouse scena, provide a clever turn as acrobats; the McConnell Trio are especially pleasing in their comedy sketch; and Allis and Casatti, Parker and Parr (comedy artists), and Billy Adair (Irish comedienne) are effective turns.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is paying another visit, and giving delight to music-lovers. *Il Trovatore, Faust, Lohengrin, Samson and Delilah, The Masked Ball, Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Carmen* are included in the programme, the principal rôles being sustained by Miss Grace Nicoll, Mme. Beatrice La Palme, Miss Lilian Matthews, Miss Helen Culver, and Messrs. John Child, William Anderson, Albert Bowyer, Dudley S. Marcus and Graham Barr.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Gay Gordons*, played by a company under the direction of Mr. W. A. Seymour, is doing excellent business here. Mr. Frank Lincoln gives a capital rendition of Angus Graeme; and Miss Clarice Lockstone is thoroughly suited to the part of Peggy Quainton. Nervy Nat is ably accounted for by Mr. Arthur Ricketts; and the other parts are also in capable hands. The chorus is a strong one, and the orchestral numbers are excellently rendered, under the direction of Mr. Leonard Leslie.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Barnold's animal actors are proving a decided draw, the antics of Dan, the intoxicated dog, being the wonder and admiration of everyone; Syd. May, the mimic, is also a great favourite; and Bert Errol, the lady impersonator, is another remarkably clever turn. Ted Karno and company, in a sketch; Beatrice Allen, comedienne; Fasola, the Indian magician; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists; Merton and Rydon, comedians and dancers; Sisters Allen, duettists; and Cavallotti Brothers, instrumentalists, are also well received.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Pantomime once more forms the attraction here, Mr. Gilbert Payne presenting *The House that Jack Built*, and meeting with a favourable reception. Mr. Payne, in the rôle of Sir Niggley Grabbe, proves successful; as Sunshine Miss Fanny Adamson wins favour; the Jack Trot of Miss Nellie Dyson is a pleasing performance; Miss Ethel Errol is an amusing Tommy Tucker; the Marjorie Daw of Miss Hilda Deacon is satisfactory; Messrs. Lapham and Wallen are funny as Jossem and Jewen, and the Godfrey Girls are smart speciality dancers.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr John Moncur.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company is here with *The Dollar Princess*, the brightness and attractiveness of which are greatly admired. In the title-rôle Miss Norah Barry is in every respect pleasing; and Miss Madeline Seymour (Olga) and Miss Peggy Primrose (Daisy) also have the power to charm and amuse. Mr. Alec Worcester as Freddy Fairfax, sings and acts with admirable expression; Mr. Leslie Holland is an excellent exponent of Harry Q. Conder; the Bulger of the cast is Mr. W. H. Rawlins, whose quips and gags are always welcome; Mr. Hugh Henson is good as the inane swell Dick; the Earl of Quorn has a bright representative in Mr. Sidney Lyndon; and Sir James McGregor is agreeably hit off by Mr. Willie Warde, jun. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, is an outstanding feature in this magnificent production.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An excellent company comprises the Griffiths Brothers, eccentric comedians, in their burlesque wrestling, &c.; Nan Farren, chorus singer and expert dancer; Fred Carr and Ada Rose, in their singing sketch, *After a Night Out*; Horace White, ventriloquist; James and Jenny Jee, on the tight and revolving wire; Irene May, soprano vocalist; the Zenary Bros., in a clever acrobatic act; Walter Stanley, comedian; Haverley and Homer, comedians, patterers, and dancers; Sammy Shields, Scottish comedian; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The holiday programme submitted here embraces Alan Holt and company, in the dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*; Ada Whitton, refined burlesque actress; Marcus Boyle, comedian; Lillian Sivado, lady gymnast; Lidian Lowe, vocalist; The Dunlops, comedy cyclists and skaters; Michael Madden, comedian; Harry Cotton, comedian; *Britain's Invasion*, a spectacular production by Prof. Selkirk; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's répertoire company, under the direction of Mr. David McFarlane, is here. They presented *Almost His Bride* the first three nights of the week. The company consists of Mr. Arthur Dudley, Mr. David McFarlane, Mr. Stephen Pritt, Mr. Percy Warlow, Mr. R. F. Stacey, Mr. Barton White, Mr. Henry Houston, Mr. George Cross, Miss Nellie Hook, Miss Lily Prescott, Miss Adela Liddow, and Miss Louie Peebles. *A Woman's Passion* was announced for the remainder of the week.

Winter Gardens.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Peirrots present the laughable musical comedy, entitled *The R.M.S. Loosertanner*, which goes with a merry swing from start to finish. Mr. Kennedy Allen as the Crew and Mr. Richard Parry as the Mate keep the audience in continuous laughter; Mr. Fred Allandale makes a very efficient Captain; and the Four Mimins as the Officers are responsible for some very clever harmonising. The favourite Mr. Tim O'Connor displays remarkable talent as a dancer; and Miss Belle Brocade and Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen sing themselves into favour.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—In *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* the management have secured a capital Easter attraction which is resulting in highly satisfactory box-office returns. Mr. Weedon Grossmith can always be relied upon to extract the utmost humour from the parts he characterises, and in Hamilton Preedy he has unlimited opportunities for the display of his versatility; Miss Ruth Mackay, a great favourite with local playgoers, portrays the Countess of Rushmere with her customary charm, ease, and good humour; the impetuous Earl of Rushmere is truthfully depicted by Mr. Ronald Squire; Mr. Oswald Marshall presents a capital study of Lord Kinslow; other efficient characterisations are the Hon. Robt. Jennerway (Mr. Edward Bonfield), John Bounsall (Mr. Frank J. Arlton), Mr. Sidgrave (Mr. Edward H. Wynne), Reginald Saunders (Mr. Frank H. Denton), Mrs. Sidgrave (Miss Lydia Rachel), Emma Sidgrave (Miss Evelyn Kerry), and Harriet Budgen (Miss Lynn Fontanne).

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The revival of *Les Cloches de Corneville* by Mr. John Hart and Mr. Milton Bode has furnished a fine attraction here. Mr. E. St. Albans interpretation of the part of Gaspard, the miser, was a clever dramatic effort; as Henri Mr. Stuart Alexander bore himself well and sang with effect; Mr. Wensley Russell played Grenicheux well, and his vocalism was very good; Mr. Mark Lester was delightfully humorous as the Bailie; and as Gobo Mr. Alfred Selby was very funny. Miss Lucy Kipling made a smart Christophe; Miss Vera Dorian sang sweetly, and invested the part of Germaine with grace; and Miss Gurney Delaporte with much charm and brightness played the saucy Serpolette. The new scenery is beautifully painted, and the stage effects are very fine.

Invaluable During the Spring.—LAIT-LAROLA is the most perfect emollient ever discovered for preserving the skin and complexion from the trying changes of weather usually experienced at this time of year, and keeps the skin Soft, Smooth, and White all the year round. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is here this week with the well-known drama *Home, Sweet Home*, and Mr. Lindo (the author) gives a vigorous performance of the young fisherman Stephen Armitage, Miss Marion Wakeford supporting him well in a charmingg portrayal of Joan, the adopted daughter of David Armitage, a part well played by Mr. Norton Shields; and also claiming special notice are Mr. Sidney Dench as the Duke of Ancaster, Mr. L. Laurence as Lucas Lyle, Mr. Bert Dench as the Hon. Percy, Mr. Eric Crowther as Dick Redmayne, Mr. E. Cameron as Lord Silvermere, Miss Nellie Benson as Lady Summerton, and Miss Helene Thomson as Sybil Fay "of the halls." The piece is finely staged, and an extra attraction is introduced in the third act in the form of "Musical Revels" by the smart juveniles prominent in Mr. Laidler's late pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*, rare ability being shown by Miss Lena Booth (in a song by Mr. J. A. McAlister), Minnie Grossman, and Margery Holmes.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A notable feature of the bill here is a sketch by Harold Nuttall's company, viz., *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, which is very enjoyable, and in which Martyn Roland scores a success as Hirst. Francis and Alfred, in their juggling act, "Science and Drollery," are clever and amusing; Fatmah Diard's vocalism, of exceptional quality, is well appreciated; Millie Payne, comedienne, with good songs and a smart "Chantecler" satire, scores well; in his protean sketch, *Dan the Outlaw*, Herbert Shelley is as effective and successful as on his previous visit; Charles R. Whittle, comedian, is on his native heath here, and he meets with well-merited success; J. A. Wilson and his clever dog Towser prove as amusing as ever; Sydney James' Strolling Players again present their acceptable pastoral entertainment; Mona Vivian, comedienne, pleases with song and dance; and there are some entertaining pictures shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Sweet harmony by the Two Darntons finds favour here this week, and a capital turn is provided by Edwardes and Edwardes, comedy artists; Cavalli, a very smart ventriloquist, gives a good entertainment on novel lines; a very acceptable turn is presented by May Poulton, comedienne; in a clever juggling and club-throwing act Les Zanonis are well applauded; Julian Mack, the topical "Dame" comedian elicits very hearty laughter; Ray Royal, with her illustrated songs, continues for yet another week; and J. W. Rickaby, the diverting comedian, is as popular as ever.

BRIDLINGTON. — Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The fine orchestra which Mr. Megone has secured are giving some capital promenade concerts in the Grand Pavilion. The Easter attractions also include "The Go-Bangs," a company of entertainers, under the management of Mr. Chas. Conyers.

The Spa and Gardens.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The season at this fashionable resort was inaugurated on Thursday evening last. For his opening venture Mr. Tunbridge had secured Julian Kandt and his famous Band, who have created quite a furore during the holidays by their truly magnificent orchestration, under their talented conductor. The vocalist is Miss Evelyn Vernham, a pleasing soprano.

New Hippodrome.—Manager Mr. J. W. Delmar.—The Easter holiday attractions here include Lucio Delgardo, the "man of mystery," in a series of illusions; Joe Burgess is a capital comedian and mimic; Sam Paul, an actor-vocalist of ability; and Doris Strathmore comedienne and dancer; Alice Glenwood, comedienne, and Gertie Martini, vocalist and impersonator all do well. Carl Zently, "the tramp at the piano," is a clever artist, and Harry Rutland shines as an elocutionist.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here this week with *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt merits high praise for his masterly impersonation of Anthony Raybrook; Miss A. M. Ryder imparts great feeling to her enactment of Laura Raybrook, and also appears as the young Walter Hatherleigh, whose father is ably represented by Mr. P. G. Beresford. Mr. Harry Cornwall submits a good character study as the old servant Jabez Thomas; Mr. John B. Shinton is forcible and convincing as the scheming Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Percy Dawsone is effective as Willie; and Mr. Fred C. Imbert as John Anderson and Miss Susie Beaven as Margaret Bailey are very amusing. The drama is finely staged and mounted.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Charles Coborn wins enthusiastic applause for his admirable songs; Farlie, Rennie, and company are highly amusing in *The Terrible Tailors*; Hugo and Smit are very smart in a novel acrobatic single-bar act; the Whitworth Trio perform with great skill in a cycling turn; Terry and Bentley are diverting in comedy business; Arthur Leslie is an entertaining comedian; J. C. Inman is a pleasing light comedian; Ambrose Thorne, comedian, wins cordial applause; and Emmie Harlow, a chic entertainer, is well received.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Charles T. Aldrich, an American quick-change artist, is wonderfully smart; George H. Elliott achieves distinct success with his coon songs and delightful dancing; A. Wood and company are entertaining in the sketch *Ten Minutes*; Mabel Mignon is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Tom E. Hughes, "one of the Upper Ten," gives a capital turn; Orpheus is distinctly effective in a high-class musical act; the Three Cunards are smart dancers; Phil Bransby is a good coster comedian; Jewel St. Leger is very artistic; and Ryder Slone, comedian, merits praise.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here this week with *The Little Damozel*. Miss Roxy Barton submits a charming enactment of Julie Alardy; Mr. Mark Blow achieves great success as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. Lemmon Warde gives a finished portrayal of Recklaw Poole; Mr. W. Matthews is well placed as Walter Angel; Mr. J. H. Twyford makes an admirable Captain Partington; Miss Angela Murray is a pleasing Sybil Craven; Mr. C. R. Stone's Papa Bartholdy is a neat character study; and able support is given by Mr. C. Clarke, Mr. R. Ravenscroft, and Mr. A. Redmond.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Frank's company is here this week with *Making a Gentleman*. Mr. Arthur Gibbons gives an excellent impersonation of Sam Carey; Mr. Dudley Stuart achieves much success as Archibald Carey; Miss Dorrie Roberts deserves high praise for her artistic portrayal of the Baroness Von Ritzen; Miss Molly Crichton makes a winsome and charming Milly Chambers; and able enactments are submitted by Mr. Harry Hayes (Lord Parkhurst), Mr. Percival Madgewick (the Hon. Lionel Trenning), Miss Victoria Bray (the Hon. Mrs. Trenning), Miss Caroline Fenton (Mrs. Revell), and Mr. Clifford Lomer (Geoffrey Carleon).

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Keeper of the Lighthouse conveys a strong stirring tale of the sea; The Yellow Devil and Three-Fingered Jack are intensely dramatic, while great amusement is afforded by The Theatre Pass, The Conquering Hero, and Kingdom of Lilliput. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in good style, and the duties of pianoforte accompanist are admirably carried out by Mr. Arthur W. Briggs.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—This theatre opened on Easter Monday with an attractive series of animated pictures. The Woodcutter, On the Border, and A Voyage to Brittany are very interesting films; the recent Grand National Steeplechase and Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race are splendidly depicted; and the amusing pictures include New Burglar Alarm and The Tenor's Conquest.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company opened here on Saturday evening last with *The Flag Lieutenant*, the successful naval play being well staged and capitally performed; Mr. Edward Kent acts remarkably well as Dicky Lascelles; Miss Dorothy Ripley is graceful and convincing as Lady Hermione Wynne; Mr Montagu Love displays much ability in his impersonation of Major Thesiger; and Miss Florence Jackson does excellently as Mrs. Cameron.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is being played here by Mr. Percy Norman's company. The play is well staged, and the uniforms are appropriate. Miss Margaret Nobie acts in earnest and painstaking style as Roma Pauloff; Mr. A. B. Makay is consistent in the heavy part of General Borinsky. Mr. Carl Kirzo is manly and soldierlike as Fergus Lovinsky; and Miss Ida Mackay makes the most of the comic part of Katherine Kiess.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welcaman.—La Pia, "the enchantress," occupies the leading position on the programme here, presenting four of her most successful dances, the settings for which are very elaborate. La Pia's dancing is both graceful and artistic. Miss Teddy Edmonds and company score with their sporting farce *The Lady Jockey*; Gwen Francis is an exceptionally pleasing comedienne; Sandy and Carl amuse with comedy, dancing, and boxing; Harris Coonie, coloured comedian, is an expert dancer; Fetter Brothers entertain with their gymnastic speciality, "The Page's Recreation"; the Phœnix Trio, harmony singers and dancers, present an acceptable turn; and the Three Prestons score with *The Village of Shift 'Em*. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Carrie Moore, comedienne, heads the programme and has a good reception, her songs and dramatic monologue going remarkably well; the Six Brothers Luck amuse with their funny act, *The Demon of the Cellar*; Henry Herne and company score with their dramatic sketch, *The Colleen Bawn*, the stage being converted into a lake of real water; Arthur Rigby, comedian, obtains applause; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane please with their comedy act *Visitors*; the Stavordale Quintette present a pleasing musical entertainment; Kenneth and Kane, comedy duo, do a smart turn; Ada Oxley and company do well with their farcical sketch *Peggy*; Edie Veno is a pleasing comedienne; Billy Rex, comedian, has some good songs; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

Colston Hall.—Ralph Pringle's animated picture show opened here on Saturday evening last. There are several novelties for this season, including an actual pictorial representation of *The Blue Bird*, the beautiful play now running at the Haymarket Theatre, London. The Sins of the Fathers, The Heroine of Mafeking, Belshazzar's Feast, The Zoo at Antwerp, and many others, both comic and serious. There is a good band and a capable variety company, including the Wittington Trio, Miss Dora Barrington, and the Five Musical Tritons.

Zoological Gardens. — Superintendent, Captain E. W. Villiers.—There was a very large attendance here on Easter Monday. The artists engaged for the variety entertainment included the Victas, in their clever acrobatic barrel jumping act; the Bordellas, pattering gymnaste and flying ring performers; Brothers Western, patter comedians and dancers; Brothers Graham, comedy acrobats and hand balancers; Fred Marco, comedian; Norman and Allan, knockabout comedians and dancers; Vesta Ondra, serio and dancer; and Levbar and Satello, triple bar performers. Mr. George Walker was the pianist, and the amusements were provided by Mr. Tom Wood, Whitehall-road, Bristol which also included the usual country fair. Mr. Tom Weymouth's quadrille band played selections and for dancing; and Messrs. W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham, gave a grand display of fireworks.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Was She to Blame?* has been presented here by Mr and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company. Mrs. Kimberley (Miss L. Addison) ably portrays Kate Roselle, and Wm. Clarke is well played by Mr. F. G. Kimberley. Mr. George Keene makes a good hero of Captain George Courtney, and a charming heroine (Lilian Norman) is presented by Miss Constance Laurie. Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales keep the comedy in front. Mr. Clavering-Craig makes a fine villain of Frank Roselle. The other characters are capably sustained.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The place of honour here is occupied by the Two Lilys, in a delightful performance of equilibrism and hand balancing; the Eight 'Varsity Girls also make a first appearance, in "A Musical Evening"; as a mimic and comedian Alf Holt is entertaining; and good work is done in laughter-making by the Milwards. Harry Briggs is received with enthusiasm for song and mimicry; and the Brennans (May and Will), in a dancing turn, are clever. Andy Higham, coon comedian, is good; and the Grand National is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Villions are a brilliant combination of trick cycling and Continental dancers; Joe Cookson is received with laughter and applause for a funny ventriloquial turn; and Jimmie Pullen keeps the audience mirthful with clever songs and patter. Burnetti, besides being a good musician, is a remarkable quick-change artist; the Eight College Girls introduce a pleasing singing and dancing act; Jeil and Laval show much dexterity in barrel and trick jumping; clever knockabout work is performed by Bill and Bellay; and the Palace pictures contribute a fine dramatic picture, Lily Boheme.

Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Passing of the Third Floor Back* is doing good business here. Mr. Ian Robertson is fervently admired as the passer-by; Miss Jeannie Thomas is realistic as a Cheat; and Miss Helena Parsons is delightful as the Slut. Miss Drusilla Wills makes a pathetic figure of the Painted Lady; Mr. Herbert Garthorne gives a fine performance of a Cad; the Bully is capitally represented by Mr. Gedge Twyman; and a repulsive stage figure is made of a Satyr by Mr. W. O. Billington. Miss Lena Delphine and Miss Blanche Ripley are highly praiseworthy as a Shrew and a Snob; and Mr. Stanley Brown is very smart as the Rogue. Miss Barbara Everest and Mr. J. Woodall Birde are also very good as a Hussy and a Coward. The play is preceded by a pleasing playlet, *Come Here!*

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Mr. Jas. Welch's company with *When Knights Were Bold* is drawing crowded houses here this week. Sir Guy is undertaken with complete success by Mr. Langdon Bruce; the sentimental Lady Rowena has a sympathetic representative in Miss Ernita Lascelles; Mr. Chas. Lloyd (Isaacson) and Miss Ethel St. John (Miss Isaacson) are capital character sketches, as is also the part of Sir Bryan in the capable hands of Mr. Gerald Venning.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company occupies the boards, in *The Midnight Mail*. The cast is particularly strong, and able representations are given of all parts. Messrs. John F. Traynor, Fred G. Evison, Henry W. Hatchman, Misses Marie Longden, Mildred Carr, and Trissie Humphrys are especially noticeable.

Circus of Varieties. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—An attractive series of pictures continue to draw large audiences. The Soho Trio of singers and dancers, and David Fuller, vocalist, are also in the bill.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Seven Wulfrunas, in comedy acrobatic speciality, provide the principal turn. Others in the bill are George Hall, light comedian; the Quality Quartette, male vocalists; Ernestos, juggler; Eugene, girl with a baritone voice; the Zaid Trio, Spanish Moors; Charles Baker, in song and story; and the Glenroy Troupe of dancers and vocalists.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—Mr. Cecil Woodhouse's company, in *Oh! Susannah!* forms the holiday attraction here. Mr. Woodhouse is exceedingly good as Dr. Sheppard, being well supported by Mr. Frank Kingsley (Lieut. Merry) and Mr. Eric Williams (Hon. Waverley Vane). A first-rate portrayal of Mr. Plant is given by Mr. Alfred Ibberson; and Mr. Iver H. Smith is good as Tupper. As Aurora, the "slavey," Miss Adie Boyne is clever; Miss Eve Mansell is quite satisfactory as Susannah; and the rôles of Flora, the doctor's bride, and Mr. Plant's daughters are nicely played by Misses Frances Carlyle, Mabel Leatham, and Ethel Marsden. A curtain-raiser, *Dream Faces*, precedes the comedy.

BUXTON. — Opera House. — Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—*Paid in Full*, played by Mr. George Waters' company, is the Easter attraction here, and a capital play it proves. Mr. George Waters travels a first-rate company, including Miss Jessica Waters as Emma, a really excellent characterisation. Mr. Arthur Poole as the kindly Jimsey is greatly popular; and Mr. Aidan Lovett does very useful work as the despicable Joe Brookes. Mr. Bert Morley is excellent as Captain Williams; and Mr. Cyril Percy does well his small part of Sato. Mrs. Harris is well represented by Miss Lydia Bush; and Miss D. Brinsley Hill is a dainty Beth Harris.

New Electric Theatre.—The Pavilion Theatre has been leased by the Anchor Picture Theatres, Ltd., and entertainments are being given to full houses twice nightly. The venture is under the direction of Mr. Rollo Balmain.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—In an Easter attraction Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company gave an extremely well-thought-out rendering of *The Luck of Roaring Camp*. Mr. Douglas Murray was excellent as the hero, Will Gordon; Mr. Charles E. Johnson as the villain Tom Barnes was thoroughly well hissed; his companion Gonzales was played wholeheartedly by Mr. Ernest Clarke; and Mr. Horace Stewart (Ebenezer) and Mr. Harry Benson (Paddy McGinty) supplied the comic element. Miss Elizabeth Dundas made a dainty and lovable Nell Curtis; Miss Agnes Verity (Jovita de Sutro) rendered the character with particular effectiveness; Miss Mary Morrell made an ideal Irishwoman as Mrs. O'Fynn; and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson was also good as the Sheriff.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. G. Falcon.—Mr. Charles Carte and company have been here for Easter, giving representations of *A Noble Brother* and *Ruined by Drink*. Mr. Carte himself has portrayed Jerry, the tramp, as played by him over 2,000 times, and Coupeau. Miss Birchley makes a charming Nana Leigh and an equally effective Gervaise. The other parts are capably filled.

St. Margaret's Hall.—The Electric Picture Palace.—Managers, The Messrs. Lloyd.—The Smugglers of Fingall's Cave is alone worth the admission money. The other pictures, both varied and interesting, include No Man's Land, The Obstinate Mule, The Gentleman Thief, An Ingrate Brother, Foolshead Pays a Visit, For my Papa, The Lazy Boy, and A Midnight Adventure.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, with *The Arcadians*, is doing tremendous business. Mr. Walter Passmore in the rôle of James Smith gives a rendition of this laughable character quite worthy of his previous well-remembered performances in Cardiff; Mr. Oliver J. Round is well appreciated as Peter Doody; the vivacious acting of Miss Billie Sinclair as Eileen Cavanagh and the clever portrayal by Miss Veronica Brady of Mrs. Smith are thoroughly recognised; Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra and Miss Mabel Munro as Chrysea are delightful in their respective characters; and prominent among other important rôles is Mr. Harold E. Pearce as Jack Meadows. The augmented orchestra is directed by Mr. Edwin Thornton.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Crowded houses on Monday appreciated to the full extent the strong holiday programme. The prince of jugglers, Paul Cinquevalli, once again demonstrated his marvellous dexterity and precision, and gained unbounded applause; King and Benson, in their new musical burlesque, *Around the Town*, maintain their reputation for versatility, humorous patter, and first-class singing; the Marco Twins, comedians, scored heavily with their quaint eccentricities; and John Macaulay, fine character ballad vocalist, gained his fair share of the evening's applause. A capitally-contrived sketch, *Beauty and the Burglar*, is presented by Miss Millie Engler and company, Miss Engler herself appearing to great advantage; Barnard's Mannikins, in *The Coon's Revelry*, provide an exceptionally clever marionette performance; and Harry Clifford, comedian, causes uproarious fun. As a lady mimic Florence excels; and the Rohda Brothers are remarkable gymnasts.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Graham Morrison; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*Her Forbidden Marriage* is presented by Mr. Frederick Melville's company. The Mother Superior is creditably undertaken by Miss Gladys Newcombe; Charles Devereux has a skilful representative in Mr. W. H. Porter; Mr. Laurence Tessier is a manly exponent of George Maddison; as Lucy Miss Alice Powes is charming and painstaking; while Miss Grace Lester as Lady Lucretia acts with confidence born of experience. Mr. Fred de Vere is still in the comedy rôle of Timothy Tuttut, ably assistance being accorded him by Miss Sybil Hare as Patty Lovejoy. Good business has been done during the holidays.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William A. Jackson.—Large audiences have fully enjoyed the programme here. Admiration is freely expressed at the evolutions of the Narow Brothers, premier comedy cyclists; John Donald, a fine baritone, in a vocal scena, *A Scottish Exile's Dream*, wins much approbation; Geoffreys and Benson, comedy sketch artists, put the house in the best of humour; as vocalists and speciality dancers Shenton and Chicks are really good; and Colin Mail is a light comedian of much ability. Edith Chantler, vocalist; Karr and Kooney, "Royal" pantomime favourites; and two interesting films add to a capital bill.

CARLISLE.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—On Saturday last the Scottish Répertory Company, from Glasgow, paid a special visit here, and gave two performances, which met with most gratifying support. At the matinée *Admiral Guinea* and *The Price of Coal* were the pieces presented, while the evening's performances consisted of George Paston's Cockney sketch, *'Tilda's New Hat*, and Mr. G. J. Hamlen's new Scotch comedy, *Barbara Grows Up*. For the holiday week the revised version of *The Manxman*, entitled *Pete*, is a big attraction. The company, under the direction of Mr. Henry R. Smith, is strong all round, and a capital performance on the opening night gave the utmost delight to a large audience. Mr. Austen Milroy, who appears in the title-rôle, is a tower of strength, his pathos and humour being alike natural and convincing; Miss V. Malcolm Barnett in the trying part of Kate is also a big success, her emotional acting gaining her unstinted appreciation; Mr. Alfred Gray makes an excellent Philip; and in the heavy rôle Mr. J. Edward Fletcher gives a telling performance. The other characters are all in good hands, and the dressing and staging leave nothing to be desired.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—A capital programme has attracted huge audiences. Andos' Happy Little Japs top the bill, and their wonderful balancing and contortionist feats, clever tight rope and cycling tricks are performed with extraordinary dexterity and smartness; The Merrions contribute a bright, original, and humorous turn; Guy Rider's whistling is well received; and Akbar is expert on the silver rings. Fallows and Beaumont give a vocal and humorous act in capital style. Kitty Cameron, a pleasing comedienne, Bella Leaburn, in descriptive songs, and some fine pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—For the first time this season we have to chronicle a visit of a pantomime, the company being that of Mr. Wm. Pardoe. *Dick Whittington* is lavishly staged, and the dresses are gorgeous. Miss Lottie Holland is a popular civic hero; as the cat, Mons. Pauli proves himself a student of feline eccentricities; as Alice Miss Nellie Rose charms everybody with her vivacious manner and admirable singing; Miss Rose Finnettie fills the rôle of Lord Dedbroke in a praiseworthy manner, and Miss Beattie Howard as Miss Tellum supplements her performance with some pleasing vocalisation; Miss Cissie Loveday makes an attractive Fairy, and sings with taste and expression; Mr. George Hyam keeps the audience convulsed with laughter; Miss Daisy Volbecque is an amusing Sarah Cook; Mr. Tom Griffitt as King Rat submits a fine rendering of "Revenge"; Mr. Tom Hulme makes a comical Fitzwarren, and Mr. Alf. Grady causes merriment as Jim; Mr. Dill Robb makes a capital Capt. Binnacle, and the Emperor is well played by Mr. Joe Venora; Miss Elsie Kedward is an admirable Princess. Enjoyable specialities are contributed by Pauletti (acrobatic cyclist), Pardoe (trapeze artist), Miss Lottie Holland in a scena, "Shadow of the Pyramid," Sisters Volbecque, comedy pair, and the Edengales, Continental dancers.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—The place of honour in the bill is occupied by Mr. Ernest Chas. Gittins' company in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and the excellent singing gains full appreciation. Difficult feats are performed by H. R. Fiscary as a top hat manipulator; Chard's well-trained dogs go through a clever performance; Jack Hartley, comedian and patterer, is thoroughly enjoyed; Cissy and Wally win applause for pretty songs and dances; Robb Gilmore as a burlesque policeman in a song-scena raises many a hearty laugh; Will and Roze are a pair of very amusing and clever acrobatic conjurers, and the Loyal Dominion Co.'s animated pictures are interesting.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—This week marks the first appearance here of *The Arcadians*, which is staged in really excellent style by Mr. Robert Courtneidge. Miss Mysie Devine makes a delightful Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Marion Edwards is rewarded with bountiful applause for her vocal contributions; and Miss Katie Yates makes a praiseworthy Chrysea. Mr. Gus Oxley proves himself a comedian of resource and ability as James Smith and Simplicitas; Mr. Frank Collins has a fine conception of the part of Peter Doody; Mr. Roy Sidney makes a popular Jack Meadows; and the part of Bobby is in the safe keeping of Mr. Roy Lorraine. Miss Madge Haines is well chosen as Mrs. Smith.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, The Coast Development Corporation, Ltd.—Will C. Pepper's White Coons are making their first appearance here, and have become favourites; Mr. Ben Lawes creates roars of laughter, and Mr. Bromley Carter is also very funny; Miss Rosa Dallow sings sweetly and is heartily encored. Mr. Allan Thomas makes a decided hit with his banjo song; Mr. Joe Morley also scores with solos on the same instrument, and Miss May Windsor's humorous items at the piano are irresistib

Signor Arvi and his artistic mystery "Metalloscope," which is well received; the Three Krakes, with a comedy act, entitled *The Electric Car Conductor*, cause roars of laughter; Taree, the Australian musical bushman, Harriett Rose, comedienne, Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers, Carew and Russell, assisted by the Avril Juveniles, in a vocal scena *Little Gleaners*, and the Hipposcope pictures complete a fine programme.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Animated Pictorial Enterprises, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. E. Burnett.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company is here in *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford infuses character and force into the part of Tom Manley; Mr. J. Cameron is a capital David Morris; Mr. E. K. Taylor and Mr. J. Summerville are capable exponents of William Farren and James Hammond respectively; good comedy is provided by Mr. Rupert Talbot as Sam Kidder, assisted by Miss Clarice Jenner as Ruth Manley; Miss Hilda Baynton wins much appreciation for her charming Rose Prescott; and Miss Alice Dent is good as Mrs. Manley. A feature of the performance is the wonderful acting of Baby Freda as Little Nellie.

ALBERT HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden, Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—The Hargreaves Trio are favourites in their comedy act; Sisters Kelsall, duettists, are well received; and Mark Stuart, patter comedian, causes amusement.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—The Derby Operatic Society, in an excellent all-round rendering of *Merrie England* occupy the boards here this week. Mr. Sydney T. Sadler, Mus.Bac., merits praise for his work as conductor.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—First position on a good holiday programme is occupied by Yangar, a conjuror and illusionist of first-rate ability; Marie Piera and partner submit very neatly a sketch, entitled *Two Doors and a Passage*; Ruby Emmerson, comedienne, attains great popularity; the Saletos do much that is clever in the way of head and hand balancing; T. E. Johnstone is a versatile character vocalist; Syd Crossley, comedian, keeps his audience in a continual roar of laughter; the Litz Bros. are cyclists whose turn is both clever and amusing; and Daisy Graham, with highly trained birds and dogs, is in every way entertaining. The Bioscope adds to the general enjoyment.

DEVONPORT. — HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Remarkable violin selections contributed by Jan Rudenyi in *The Power of Music* are loudly re-demanded; Bob Hamilton is a comedian and concertina player of unquestionable ability; Cummin and Seaham furnish a first-rate eccentric acrobatic act, entitled *The Ragman and the Postman*; the Real Mackays, juvenile singers and dancers maintain a high standard of excellence; Cromo and Hamilton entertain with an amusing little pantomime skit, in which the Chantecler fashions are excellently burlesqued; Lee and Kingston work hard in a comedy duologue, entitled *A Resourceful Lover*; and Flo Barrett has a couple of taking chorus songs.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*The Coal King* is staged in first-rate style by Mr. A. C. Olderson's company. As Walter Hartford, the evil genius of the piece, Mr. Robert Faulkner works hard, and is a great success; Miss Winifred Love creates a fine impression by her charming delineation of the part of Grace Shirely; Mr. Henry Deane is quite at home as Tom Roberts; and Mr. Sam Roberts is genuinely amusing as Jim Williams.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mrs. Fred W. Clive's company, in the drama *The Outcast of the Family*, holds the boards here. Mr. J. D. Clyde is to be congratulated on his admirable depiction of the hero Harry Thorne; Miss Gertrude Morella deserves high praise for her capital study of Ruth; Sir Henry Thorne is in the able hands of Mr. Fred W. Clive; the villainy of Richard Martin receives the fullest illustration from Mr. Bert Oates; and Miss Maud Leslie Cudd successfully plays the part of Grace Redburn; Mr. Herbert Bentone as the village blacksmith is responsible for some well-studied acting; Mr. Edward W. Cudd as Abram Wasper causes much hilarity; some very amusing love-making is provided by Miss Freda Beckett (Mrs. F. W. Clive) as Nancy Brown and Mr. Tom Armitage as Joe Bushell, who keep the house in continuous laughter. The scenery and effects are admirable.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Heading the bill here is George the First, the educated chimpanzee, introduced by Dandy George. The animal is almost human, and is greeted with much applause; Ernie Myers, comedian, is the hit of the evening with his patter and humorous singing; Dewson is a clever entertainer at the piano; a novel turn is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde, the talking and singing shadowist; the Crisps are successful in a capital dancing scena, "The Little Deputy"; much merriment is caused by Rose and Challoner in their speciality act, "The Porter and the Singer"; Lily Lonsdale has an excellent voice, and goes well; Edmund Casselli is an excellent banjoist. Edith St. Clair, comedienne, and animated pictures complete a very attractive holiday programme.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—The Arthur Gallimore Trio in their comedy act are immensely popular; La Vie submits a series of artistic poses; Ada Jenner and Percy Curry, in a very funny sketch, *The Lady Barber*, soon establish themselves favourites; the Percys appear in a mirth-provoking comedy act; St. Ruth and Conyers are a couple of melodious operatic vocalists; Doyle and Gibson, comedians, create plenty of fun; Charles Bradford is similarly successful; and a capital display of animated pictures is given on the Harriscope.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Country Girl in London* is the holiday attraction here. Mr. Charles Halling is an excellent John Hamilton, and Mr. W. V. Garrod, in the rôle of Frank Gordon, is a prime favourite. Mr. William Bradford's Godfrey Clinton evokes warm appreciation; as Job Smithers Mr. Owen Redmonde is a success; and Mr. Frank Dallas as Heinrich Oppenheim, Mr. Seymour Perry as Wilberforce Puddyphat, Mr. Edward Ashton as Joe Button, a farm hand, and Miss Alice Clarke as Adelaide Puddyphat are responsible for the humorous element, of which they contributed a generous share. Miss Ethel Crawford is a captivating Gwendoline Gordon; and Miss Bertha Kingston, in the titular rôle, does well.

DOVER.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Artists at the Hippodrome this week include the Vigoranto Trio with a sensational ring performance; Bromley and Fontein in *The Man Behind the Music-stand*; the Violet Shelley Trio in their clever sketch *The Ideal Woman*; Howe and Hardie in a comedy speciality; Kimberley and Melbourne with smart patter and songs; Harry Taylor, Lancashire comedian; Will Godwin, descriptive vocalist; and Ida Katherina in her catchy song *The Dolly Girl*. Hippodrome films complete.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's company is paying a short visit here in *Pinkie and the Fairies*, which is being heartily enjoyed by large audiences. Miss Iris Hawkins displays considerable ability in her portrayal of Pinkie, and Miss Hilda Antony is a bright and pleasing Molly; Master Philip Tonge gives a remarkably clever study of Tommy, and Master Burford Hampden makes a very good Herald. In the part of Uncle Gregory Mr. Ambrose Manning is highly amusing, and Miss Kate Foster gives a delightful portrayal of Aunt Imogen; Miss Florrie Lewis is an admirable Fairy Queen, and as Pickle, Whisper, and Twinkle the Misses Patty Jacob, Mimi Crawford, and Olga Hope are good; Miss Augusta Haviland is most amusing as Aunt Caroline; Miss Gwennie Brogden is excellent as Cinderella; and Dick Whittington is charmingly played by Miss Doreen Wyllis and Mr. Walter R. Creighton excels as Mr. Irons.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager Mr. Charles Hyland.—The Dublin Amateur Operatic Society occupy the boards here this week, rendering several operatic works under the conductorship of M. Esposito.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—The special engagement for the Easter and following week is that of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's juvenile company in a new pantomime, *Hop o' My Thumb*, which is being heartily enjoyed by the large audiences. Miss Kitty Trewhitt makes a fine, dashing Prince U-No, and sings very well; Miss Kittie Rafferty, charming as the Princess Meadowsweet, acts and sings in perfect style; Little Georgie Harris is an exceedingly clever child, and in the part of Hop o' My Thumb delights everyone; Mr. Vivian Wakeman, who acts the Dame, does really smart and clever comedy business; Mr. E. W. Selman and Messrs. Cowley and Rick are also worthy of praise; Miss Gladys Wyse sings Scotch songs in capital style, assisted by a ballet; Harold Pyott, who is stated to be the smallest man in the world, being only 23 inches high, 23 years of age, and weighing 24lb., creates quite a sensation. Scenery and dresses are very picturesque.

ABBEY THEATRE.—Lessee, Miss A. E. F. Horniman.—The artists of this theatre are playing a triple bill, which has attracted excellent houses. The first on the programme was W. B. Yeats' legendary play *Deirdre*, in which Miss Sara Allgood again successfully portrayed the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Sinclair was particularly fine in his reading of King Concobar, and Mr. Fred O'Donovan cleverly presented the character of Naisi. Lady Gregory's comedy, *The Workhouse Ward*, which followed, was heartily enjoyed. The parts of the paupers, Macinerney and Miskell, were realistically portrayed by Messrs. Arthur Sinclair and Fred O'Donovan, and as the countrywoman, Mrs. O'Donohoe, Miss Maire O'Neill is admirably suited. *The Showing-up of Blanco Posnet* concluded, and was acted in clever style, the principal characters being played by Mr. Arthur Sinclair (Elder Daniels), Mr. Fred O'Donovan (Blanco Posnet), Mr. J. A. O'Rourke, Mr. Sydney J. Morgan, Mr. J. M. Kerrigan, Miss Sara Allgood, and Miss Maire O'Neill. For Friday and Saturday *The Glittering Gate* and the revival of *The Eloquent Dempsey* are announced.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The Albert Edmunds troupe hold the premier position here, and cause roars of laughter in their pantomimic sketch, *The Tower of London*; Hilda Mascot, comedienne, sings her songs particularly well; Woods, Wells, and Wilkins do a clever and funny act entitled *The Piano Tuners*; Jules Kiaro wins appreciation for a first-class equilibristic performance; John Walter Curtis is a good comedian. The following artists also appear with success:—The Vanderbilts, Sam Williams, and Chas. Penrose, a new series of Empire pictures concluding.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Havanna troupe of pantomimists cause no end of laughter in their amusing acrobatic act; Ray Raymond is a pleasing comedienne; Kioto and Esa are entertaining Japanese Marvels; Barney Murphy and Rosie Lee give entire satisfaction in their clever and interesting imitations of well-known artists; Hearn and Palmer submit a capital comedy turn; and Steel and Laing prove themselves to be a versatile comedy couple; Barnes and West and Donal M'Dougal also appear, and the Grand National on the Bioscope is excellent and interesting.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The original Irish Animated Picture Co. commenced their annual Easter season here on Monday with a series of up-to-date pictures. The full string orchestra of the Royal Scots Fusiliers Band, together with several local artists, complete an excellent and interesting performance.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The Easter company comprises Storey and Hughes, pleasing duettists and dancers; a capital musical entertainment by Harry Delmar; Edna Ray, an excellent vocalist and dancer; Jennie Hughes, a favourite balladist; Torie and Torie, most amusing in their sketch; Wee Willie, who pleases everyone with his capital Scoton songs; and Ben Storey, very successful as a comedian; up-to-date pictures on the cinematograph conclude.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—A special attraction this week is the Dudley Operatic Society, the members of which are giving a week of the popular opera *The Yeomen of the Guard* in aid of local charities.

EMPIRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The following artists make up an excellent programme:—Grant and Stewart's company in comedy illusion, *Phantoms of the Wood*; Orville Pitcher, original stump orator; Sarony Sisters, whirlwind dancers; Bert and Ruby, in song, dance, and patter; Pete Robinson, coloured comedian and dancer; Coda and Danton, in funny comedy act; *Half a Man*; Dolly and Madge McCalla in song, story, and dance; Hurman and Arthur, original comedy jugglers; and the usual high-class Empire pictures.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A strong attraction is provided in *Alice in Wonderland*, presented by a numerous and talented company, under the direction of Mr. H. Cecil Beryl. A more delightful Alice than Miss Ivy Sawyer could not be imagined, her acting, singing, and dancing being exceedingly dainty; Mr. Franklyn Vernon is excruciatingly droll as the Mad Hatter; Mr. Tom Graves and Mr. Roland Henry as the Mock Turtle and Gryphon and as Tweedledum and Tweedledee cause hearty laughter; Miss Iris Damon as the Queen of Hearts and the White Queen acts with appropriate vigour; Miss Girlie Le Claire makes a graceful Cheshire Cat; Miss Ada Danks as the First Fairy and the Lily sings with much expression; Mr. Dan Leno, Jun., as the Caterpillar and Red King gives a performance full of mirthful energy, his quaint dancing being skilful and clever; Miss Doris Walker contributes a neatly executed hornpipe, and the various dances by Misses Marjorie Neville, Phyllis Munro, Doris Kent, and Marjorie Landport are agreeable features of the production. Praise is due to the chorus, and the tuneful music is done full justice to by the orchestra under the able direction of Mr. Archibald H. Benwell.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An enjoyable bill is topped by *The Slave Dealers*, an Asiatic acrobatic and balancing novelty, which creates quite a furore, the effect being heightened by the weird singing and playing of the Orientals. Thora scores with his cleverly worked ventriloquial act; May B. Brilliant is a pleasing singer and expert dancer; Stewart and Morris are popular; Mac Walten and Partner contribute a farcical act entitled *An Artist's Studio*, which is hugely enjoyed; Dolly Golden wins encomiums for her graceful speciality dances; Robb Wilton is a refreshingly original comedian; and the Kingscope has several capital films.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr S. McIntosh.—A powerful and exciting drama entitled *Dalt Tommy, or Greeley's Millions*, is presented by Mr. Majilton's company. Mr. H. Hesslegrave succeeds in extracting great fun from the title-rôle; Mr. A. Entwistle plays with ease and distinction as Harry Greeley; Lawyer Grimeton is portrayed with subtle force by Mr. George Hunter; Guy Grimston is successfully impersonated by Mr. John Loughron; Mr C. Richards gives a realistic impersonation of Don Silvio de Gaspardo; Mr. Jim Bond represents Abner Harwood in breezy fashion; the Doctor gets a good rendering at the hands of Mr. Majilton; Miss Maddie Majilton acts pleasantly the part of Marion Beryl; Miss Lena Vali creditably undertakes the rôle of Lucretia de Gresle; Miss Nelly Clifford contributes a charming study of Helen Greeley and Miss Kate Perowne is successful as Maggie o' Morton's. The drama is excellently staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The programme submitted here this week is quite up to the usual standard of excellence. An outstanding film is The Bagpipe Player. The scene of the incident is amidst the rugged grandeur of a Highland lochside, and the principals are a chieftain's daughter and a stalwart piper. The excitement reaches a climax when the piper, in order to gain his sweetheart, swims from an island to the mainland through a stretch of turbulent waters. Amongst a host of other pictures are A Betraying Mirror and Won by a Hold-Up.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. W. Austin.—A fine assortment of films is exhibited this week, and the enthusiastic reception awarded the various items speaks volumes in support of the capital entertainment provided by the management.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The principal attraction here is Mr. Herbert Darnley's comedy company, in *The Brigands of Tarrogona*, with Mr. Charles H. Bell as the waiter, Bepo; Witty Watty Walton has an enthusiastic reception for his character specialities; Wane Langley causes roars of laughter with Tyneside patter and songs; and Major Arnold is a skilful conjurer. Rozel is loudly applauded for sensational feats on a slack rope; and Joe Humphreys is a pleasing actor-vocalist. The Cathedoscope concludes.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The lessees and managers have their own company appearing here this week in *The Catch of the Season*. Mr. Murray King works hard and well as the Duke of St. Jermyns, and his singing, dancing, and acting in characteristic style please the audience well; Mr. Cyril Mandeville does capital and pleasing work as Lord Dundreary; Mr. Ardene Linden is admirably suited as Sir John Crystal; Master Willie West is a prominent success as Bucket, and with fitting opportunities he should go far as a comedian; Mr. Jamie Dallas is a sprightly William Gibson, and his dancing is again clever and popular; Miss Gladys Guy gives a very dainty and charming performance as Angela, in which part she is appealing, girlish, and sympathetic; Miss Norah Dwyer, too, does capital work, and sings delightfully as Honora; Miss Belle Rivers is an effective Duchess, Miss Evelyn Shelley as Lady Caterham interprets the humour of the part with refreshing animation, Miss Mildred Cottell is a handsome and stately Duchess, and many other alluring and pretty ladies fill the remainder of the cast. On Tuesday afternoon the famous Sicilians appeared here in *Omerta*. The intense and realistic acting of Cav. Grasso held the large audience in a firm grip of interest throughout, and his work as Saru was applauded most cordially. The splendid work of Sign. Marinella Bragaglia as Assunta was wonderfully effective, and at the end of the play the whole company was called again and again.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—The first performances of the season were given here on Thursday of last week, when Mr. Haidane Crichton's admirable company appeared in *The Cingalee* and attracted big houses. During this week Mr. Neville Claude's company is occupying the stage in *The Girl from Kay's*; Miss Florence Millington takes a goodly share in the general success, and as Winnie Harborough she sings, dances, and acts in a most charming manner; Miss Irene Vere is again a bright and talented Ellen, and her clever and graceful dancing deserve the fullest praise; Miss Blanche Courtenay fills the part of Mrs. Chalmers with much cleverness, and other capable ladies too numerous to mention ably help. Mr. Henry Adnes is the chief fun-provider, and as Hoggenheimer he is conspicuously successful as a comedian; Mr. Claude Dampier as the hall-porter gets many laughs out of the part; Mr. C. A. Kingston does good work as Percy; Mr. J. A. Lathan sings well as Harry Gordon; Master W. H. Pink displays a rich gift for fun as Pepper, and minor parts are well played. On Tuesday afternoon every seat was occupied at the performance given by the Follies. Mr. H. G. Pelissier loomed large as the spirit of the entertainment, and the four ladies and four gentlemen comprising the Follies present such an unusual collection of talent that the audience was kept laughing without pause, and the visit was a very great success. On Thursday afternoon the Clifford Essex Pierrots will appear here.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week are the Scottish Meisters, whose picturesque dress, tuneful and taking singing, and merry fun make up a clever and popular performance; Miss Lydia Dreams has a ventriloquial performance which gives the greatest satisfaction; Colley and Scott sing, dance, and patter to the delight of the audience; Clown Argo is a clever and funny mimic; the Pelins, as eccentrics, contribute a good turn; Miss Edith May Allen is a pleasing contralto vocalist; Miss Grace Mortimer sings and dances well; Miss Daisy Hicks deputises cleverly for Miss Barr; and new films are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Bert Bowden meets with success as a comedian; Frank E. Ford is a smart exponent of the art of wooden shoe dancing; Miss Dorothy Dane, a local young lady, makes her début as a professional vocalist and meets with well-merited applause; Miss Jennie Johns is a great favourite; Miss Beattie Foster shines as a comedienne; the Four Mayos are popular in their comic skating act; Wallace Whitney is a capital comedian; the Gascoignes provide a good turn as comedy equilibrists; the Mysterious Marriotts are thoroughly successful in their endeavours to mystify the audience. Wanted, a Good Watch Dog, is shown on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. John Tiller's production of the spectacular musical comedy *Amsterdam* is made attractive by the beauty of the ballets, which are plentifully scattered through the three acts of the piece. Miss Enid Erroll, assisted by an army of dancers in the Tiller troupes, and the twelve Manchester mites, proves herself an accomplished première danseuse, and the movements of the numerous coryphees in their beautiful costumes provide very striking pictures. Many amusing interludes are supplied by the characters in the cast; and there is no lack of pleasing song and chorus. Mr. T. W. Volt gives a quaint impersonation of Frau von Stoop; Miss Dorothy Firmin's Gretchen and the Hans of Miss Nancy Hearne are bright performances; Mr. Sidney Vincent makes an excellent study of Van Dunck; and Katrina, his daughter, is well played by Miss Florrie Page. In the rôle of Toozleveldt, the Dutch American, Mr. Arthur Stigant is very amusing; and Evelyn Anna is made prominent as a vivacious Transatlantic belle by Miss Lulu Valli; Mr. Charles V. Sandford in the part of a dude, Mr. Frederick Smythe as Jan, and Mr. Charles Verno as the donkey Cornelius, complete an efficient company.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. J. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A scene of remarkable enthusiasm was witnessed here on Monday last, when Mr. Herbert Sleath's company began a week's engagement with *The Woman in the Case*. The actors were recalled again and again, and at the close of the powerful scene in the third act the curtain had to be raised eight times in response to the vehement applause drawn forth by the artistic acting of Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Miss Ellis Jeffreys. Miss Vanbrugh's impersonation of Claire Forster is a creation which deserves the warmest recognition. The part demands exceptional qualifications in an actress, but Miss Vanbrugh is equal to all the claims upon her powers, and acted with consummate art. Miss Ellis Jefferys was no less successful as Margaret Rolfe. The struggle of the woman to save the good name of the man she loves was shown with powerful effect, and there was a charm in the love passages with her husband that was infinitely touching. Miss Mary Griffiths acted with much humour and skill as Nell Hughes; and the minor parts of Elsie Brewster, Dora Miller, and Louise Mane were admirably rendered by Miss Gwendoline Wren, Miss Cicely Grey, and Miss Eileen Orry respectively. Mr. Herbert Sleath was manly and unaffected as Julian Rolfe, and exhibited an intensity of feeling in the tender scenes with Margaret that was deeply moving. The character of the lawyer Thompson was acceptably filled by that clever actor Mr. Wm. F. Grant; and Mr. Wm. Kershaw and Mr. Fred Benton were very good as Jimmy Smith and Louis Klaufferty. The drama was preceded by a little piece entitled *By Mutual Agreement*, in which Miss Wren, Mr. Kershaw, and Mr. Grant gave adequate expression to a charming story.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Tschin-Maa and his band of Chunchuses Mountebanks perform cleverly as conjurers, acrobats, contortionists, and musicians; Wal Croft, admirably supported by Miss Kathleen Naughton, appears with unqualified success in the pathetic sketch *The Last Roll-Call*; Miss Marie Dreams, the possessor of a fine baritone voice, is heard with great pleasure in a selection of songs; and Miss Maude Mortimer, a bright and vivacious comedienne, sings with much spirit and effect. Popular comedienne turns are furnished by Miss Jessie Templeton and Miss Radena Dey; George Prince is in great demand as a crazy comedian; Ray and Calden contribute a characteristic American scena; and Miss Hanid Alexander is a clever entertainer at the piano.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. R. G. Knowles is the principal attraction in an excellent programme here, and he is appearing in the rôle of lecturer at a series of matinée performances. Mr. Knowles's lectures, which he terms "Travelaughs," are educative and entertaining, and at the evening performances Mr. Knowles is as bright and alert as ever. Miss Gladys Mavius dances in a graceful style; Miss Anna Chandler sings with expression; and Miss Katie Butler gives a pleasing turn; the Brothers Egbert are exceedingly funny in their merry sketch; Vanando is an admirable ventriloquist; the Kratons are very good in a deft hoop-rolling act; Mr. Ted E. Box, a comedian with a quaint manner, submits a laughable turn, his whistling being extremely well done; and Mr. Tom Stuart is also on the programme.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The pictures here, dramatic and humorous, are, as usual, of much merit, and include Run to Earth (a detective story), The Gordons' Defiance, U.S. Cavalry Riding Bareback, and The Woman from Mellins.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The Reformation, The Daughter of the Sioux, and a stirring series depicting the Grand National are the features in the programme here. Rey and Douglas (comedians) and George St. Helen (in a song scena) give capital turns.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—A strong holiday attraction here is the appearance of Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' company, in *The Thief*. In the exacting rôle of Marise Chelford Miss Georgina Wynter is seen to distinct advantage, winning unstinted approbation; another remarkably fine impersonation is the Richard Chelford of Mr. Bernard Limpus; Mr. F. Morland is a natural and convincing Raymond Leyton; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay is very successful as Harry; and Miss Mary Forrester as Isabel Leyton and Mr. W. Somerset as Detective Protheroe are responsible for excellent work.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Packed houses welcomed Marie Lloyd, who has paid us a return visit this week. On Monday "England's Queen of Comedy" had a tremendous reception, and the management are to be congratulated on securing such a holiday attraction. Exceedingly clever acrobatic feats are contributed by Baines and company; Harry Bent mimics leading stars in delightful fashion; the quaint patter of the Brothers Hannaway proves popular; Zenora is an equilibrist of exceptional ability; and Marie Blythe renders catchy chorus songs in attractive style.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—The boards at this popular playhouse were occupied the first three days of the week by the Compton Comedy Company, headed by Mr. Edward Compton, and it goes without saying that the audiences, which were large and appreciative, were treated to dramatic fare of the highest order, the staging, acting, dressing, and appointments being distinguished by finish and artistic excellence. On Monday night *The School for Scandal* was staged, on Tuesday *The Road to Ruin*, and on Wednesday *David Garrick*. Mr. Compton was in his best vein, and gave finished and convincing representations of Charles Surface, Charles Goldfinch, and David Garrick. He was admirably supported by Messrs. Henry Crocker, Philip Gordon, Frank Royde, J. W. Austin, Clifford Marquand, and Misses Kathleen Leigh, Lorraine Stevens, and Nell Compton.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Alexander Leighton's company is here in *Havana*. As Jackson Villiers Mr. J. Savill Foster sings well and provides a capital performance; Mr. J. Brian Ridout proves a good representative of the Hon. Frank Charteris; Miss Hebe Bliss makes a fascinating Consuelo; Miss Winnie Brown as Anita sings and acts with delightful dash and vivacity, her dances with Mr. William Pringle being encored again and again; Mr. Pringle's humorous impersonation of Nix is greatly enjoyed; he is ably seconded by Mr. Reg Edwards as Reginald Brown; Mr. T. Percival as Adelpho acts and sings in good style, and Mr. Charles is all that can be desired as Diego. Excellent work is done by Mr. Lauri Aster as Bambito del Campo and Miss Edith Barwell as Isabelita.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—The Public Hall was opened on Easter Monday by Messrs. Barnard Bros., with a high-class picture and variety entertainment. Large audiences assembled at each house, and fully appreciated the excellent films. Interspersed were some refined variety turns by Billy Hubbard, comedian; Baby Gilbert, a clever juvenile; Sisters Barri, vocalists and dancers; and the Bros. Hamilton.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—*Peter Pan* is running here for two weeks with its usual success. Miss Pauline Chase is once again the hero, and is more sprightly and airy than ever; the Windy of Miss Gertrude Lang is another impersonation that seems to improve with time; the part of Hook is taken by Mr. Frederick Annerley this visit with conspicuous success; Mr. and Mrs. Darling are capitally represented by Mr. Walter Pearce and Miss Sybil Carlisle; and the children, John and Michael, have most engaging representatives in Masters Harry Duff and Herbert Hollom; Mr. Edward Sillward is highly diverting as the Dog; the Smee of Mr. George Shelton is again most characteristic; Mr. Charles Trevor does good work as Starkey, other well-filled parts being Panther (Mr. Humphrey Warden), Tiger Lily (Miss Margaret Fraser), and Lisa (Miss Tessie Parke). Mr. A. C. Grand is stage-manager, and Mr. Maurice Jacobi musical-director, while the staging of the play is up to the standard of all Mr. Frohman's productions.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and George T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—A holiday audience, in the best of moods, extended a hearty welcome to Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, on Monday. In the part of the attractive shop-girl Miss Alice Pollard acts, sings, and dances with unfailing energy and go; Mr. George Gregory revels in the fun of the Yorkshire lad Timothy Gibbs, and works like a Trojan all through the piece. Every song and dance in which he was concerned was accorded an encore. Mr. Lionel Mackinder is most amusing as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, the amateur cracksman, and his "Yip-i-addy" song went well; the Slithers of Mr. Robert Nainby is a clever performance; and as the French manager at Garrod's Mr. Ernest Mahar gives a smart performance. Miss Marie Wilson is a bright and animated Lady Elizabeth; Miss Grace Wixon as the stately Duchess of Minster and Miss May Marton as the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar contribute clever studies; and an excellent bit of acting was given by Miss Dora Sevening as Madame Jeanne. Mr. H. V. Crofton made a first-rate lover as Lord Eynsford, alike in singing and acting; Mr. Campbell Bishop, Mr. Myles Clifton, and Mr. Ellis Holland ably sustained the other leading parts. Miss Florence Phillips contributed a weird dance in the second act. The staging and dresses of the play are on a specially lavish scale.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Repertory Theatre; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—This week the Repertory Theatre company presented *Macpherson* on the first three nights of the week. Mr. M. R. Morand gave a clever portrayal of Archie Macpherson; Mr. Campbell Gullan's John Latimer was an exceptionally brilliant performance; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon invested Lilian Latimer with natural ease and refinement; Mr. P. Perceval Clarke must also be commended for his interpretation of Charlie Stuart; and Miss Muriel Pope made a winsome and attractive Clotilda. On the last three nights *Admiral Guinea*, preceded by *Tilda's New Hat*, was presented.

GRAND, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. L. Sealy.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is here with *Can a Woman be Good?* by C. Watson Mill. Mr. J. Millane makes an admirable hero; Herod Steinburg is represented in an awe-inspiring manner by Mr. Harry C. Robinson, who is ably backed up in his stage evil-doing by Mr. J. Leicester Jackson as Ralph Desmond; Mr. Ernest St. John's Ostler Jim is a fine study; Mr. Joe Bardsley as Jasper Mordan is also successful; a most striking performance of Naomi Merrick is given by Miss Florence Hunt; Miss Blanche St. Alban as Esther Howard is pathetic; and Mr. J. R. Tyrell as Curly Dabbs and Miss Winifred Barton as Slithers cause much amusement.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction here for the Easter week is *The House that Jack Built*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's company. Jack is well portrayed by Miss Daisy Wood, and Jill by Miss Dolly Dodds, both of whom have ample scope for their abilities. The other leading parts are capitally filled by Mr. Jimmie Watson, Peggy M'Dounall, Graham and Barron, and Miss Jenny Marsden.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—At the "Met." this week there is a complete change from the usual drama. Mr. John Leopold's company, including the original Leopolds, appear in their musical absurdity entitled *New Frivolity*. There is plenty of bright singing and clever dancing. Mr. Harry Ugar and Mr. Watson Hume are the life and soul of the piece, all the other parts being ably sustained. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is very bright and vivacious. A feature of the evening is a remarkable acrobatic display by the Four Kellys, which wins great applause. An athletic absurdity, entitled *The Stadium*, precedes the principal piece.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—This week Mr. Herbert Fuller presents his stirring Anglo-Indian drama, *Passion of Life*, with capital effect at the popular Govan house. As Captain O'Neal Mr. R. Neime Grasswell makes good use of his opportunities; Mr. Percy St. Clair is amusing as the young officer MacKenna; Jack Kenny is played in manly fashion by Mr. Hubert Helliwell; and as the villain, Flint, Mr. S. Leigh Courtney acts and makes up most creditably. In the rôle of Dan Sprouts, a particularly smart cockney, Mr. Herbert Fuller has a part in which he reveals, while the kindred character, Tilly Tripp, is cleverly portrayed by Miss Emily Lewis; the strong part of Belle O'Neal is taken by Miss Florence Delmar with every success; as Princess Nita Miss Agnes Collier is pleasing; as also is Miss Madeleine Courtney as Alice and Miss Lily Fuller as Kazeeka.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—George Formby meets with a great reception here—his latest success, "Playing the game in the West" proves quite a hit; Jack Pleasants, with his drolleries, keeps his audiences in a continual titter; Daisy Jerome gets through her work with her accustomed vivacity; the Delevines are old favourites; the Northern Troupe of dancers are likewise well known; in a refined musical, vocal, and dancing speciality the Nelson Duo are popular; and the Bellclair Bros., athletes; Ernie Garner, comedian; Jessie Merrilees, chanteuse; and the Bioscope films also add to the attractions.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Foster.—May Moore Duprez, who made such a phenomenal hit in the recent panto. at the Grand, is starring here, and proving a great draw; Wee Georgie Wood, the infantile comedian, gives one of the funniest turns seen here for a long time, and is a decided success; Amy Augarde and company present a clever operatic farce, *The Sicilians*, and the lady is in excellent voice, and gives her various numbers with striking effect; Hanvarr and Lee contribute their

also enacted by Messrs. Edgar J. Coyne, Bert Gunther, F. Bannerman, Aries Conway, and Bernard Rale, Mmes. Ethel Russell, Emmie Wallace, Madge Beresford, and Edith Summers.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—For the holiday week good houses have been the order. Mr. J. Wright Aitken's company present the sketch *The Battle of Life*, a story full of heart interest; Daisy Rhyl sings popular illustrated songs; Yoshie, the Japanese lightning picture painter, is extremely clever; the Godfreys, in their musical act, keep the house in a merry vein; Smith and Gibbs, athletes, submit a quiet and quaint turn; more humour is forthcoming from Teddy Denham, character comedian, and Parker and Bracy's yellow coloured coons are extremely original.

New Public Hall.—Secretary, Mr R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.—The Popular Picture Palace has been going very strong with new films. Miss Saxon Devon in a vocal scena, "Youth and Age," and illustrated songs, and Mr. John King, character vocal artist in "The Miser," have been the attractions.

Rosherville Gardens.—Lessee, Mr. Swift.—A goodly number of visitors were here on Easter Monday, and a good list of amusements was provided. The café chantant was voted very acceptable, the principal vocalists being Alec Davidson, Fred Hone, J. C. Jennings, Alice Towers, and the Two Dominoes, all of whom did well.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —The Yarmouth and Gorleston Lyric Society are presenting here *Les Cloches de Corneville*, which has been produced by Mr. Henry Furnival.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Norman and Leonard Trio as itinerant players are popular with their artistic renderings of classical solos; Syd Herman, the Hebrew comedian, is amusing; Harry Marlow scores with his songs; Claire and Paston are successful as comedy duettists; Miss Effie White deserves praise for her kaleidoscopic dances; and the Bioscope display is first class.

The Gem.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—The excellent display of pictures this week is attracting large audiences. The principal film is descriptive of the adventures of Sexton Blake, and Wanted, a Mummy, is very laughable. Miss May Palmer scores with her song-scenas.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Robert Hewland's company opened on Monday with *The Shadow of a Crime*. In the part of Jim Murdock Mr. Whitmore creates an excellent impression; Mr. Victor Gordon gives an effective performance of the villain, Ralph Esmond; Captain Harry Bullington is well played by Mr. Paul Neville; Miss Madge Severne as Loyale Norman proves herself an able and accomplished actress; Miss Violette Vivienne as Mrs. Brown, Mr. Harry Creamer as Samuel Brown, and Mr. Tom Maynard as James Todd are very amusing; Miss Hettie Jeffries as Sarah Murdock is good, and as Winnie Murdock Miss A. Arthur acts creditably.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—At the top of the bill are the Five Whiteleys, who provide plenty of sensation, novelty, and daring in their acrobatic wire-walking and musical pot-pourri. Further entertainment is provided by Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers; Lindsay and Harte, sketch artists; Carlton, conjurer; Dan Frazer, Scotch comedian; May Gibson, vocalist; and the Boriskis. Pictures on the Dromoscope are also included in the programme.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The pictures here continue to attract large audiences. The principal items are An Egyptian Maid, The Woman from Mellon's, Foolshead, Chief of Reporters, A Western Maid, The Poet's Wooing, and a singing picture, entitled The Blind Boy.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The return of *The Eyes of the World* is being welcomed with special interest, as the play was produced at this theatre fifteen months ago. Miss Ethel Van Praagh is again seen as Hélène de l'Orme, and realises the emotional requirements of the part with convincing earnestness; Mr. Chas. O'Connor gives a polished representation of Hector de l'Orme; Miss Flora Hastings vividly portrays the haughty Esmé de Carnac; Mr. Will Casey is dignified as Gaston de Carnac; Mr. A. Wilson Wynne acts with sincere feeling as Octave de Carnac; Miss Elsie Capeli portrays Avice with charming ingenuousness; and the light comedy parts of Achille and Susanne are suitably played by Mr. J. Edward Whitty and Miss Nellie Garside.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Florrie Gallimore is again receiving a hearty welcome, and her new répertoire of songs is much appreciated; Russell and Held are a couple of American artists with original ideas, and their quick-change dancing is very attractive; the Vagabonds are a vocal comedy quartette of considerable talent; an interesting sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*, is presented by France and Stewart; Mahatma gives an exposition of second sight; Tom Lee contributes pleasing comedy and dancing; and Walker and May are clever coloured comedy artists.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint Lessees Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. A. Deighton.—Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Picture Entertainment has this week attained record business. Again the films shown are of all-round excellence, those worthy of special mention being The Unlucky Day, 'Twixt Red Man and White, The Heroine of Mafeking, Life on a Cocoanut Plantation, and The Great Johnson-Burns Fight. The Sarnthaler Troupe continue to please with their musical numbers and clever dancing.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Frank Adair gives an excellent rendering of Id, the avenger; Mr. Fred Witmer's Lung Hi is a good portrayal; Mr. Ger. Shirley plays Lieut. Lord Allendale well; George Berresford finds an able exponent in Mr. Ellis Carlyle; Mr. Charles Lack is a conspicuous success as Bah Lamb Gentle; Miss Louie Adair is interesting as Mira Sampson; and May Berresford is a success in the hands of Miss Stanley Burt. Miss Eva Reid as Becky Fibbins keeps the house in a roar.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Three Alskarnos are excellent risley performers and acrobats; the Lyons trio contribute an amusing absurdity; George F. Hall, a Yankee story-teller, is excellent; Ross and Grayson, in *Stage-struck Maggie and Her Mentor*, are a huge success; Mlle. Dalmere's table circus of rabbits, doves, cats, dogs, and rats, is a very clever turn; Little Miss Muffett, the Canadian mite; Joan Deering vocalist-violinist; and the Palace pictures complete a good bill.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Madame Albani, assisted by Herr Jan Zakovsky, violin virtuoso, is the star turn this week. Madame Albani has given a change of songs each evening; Solo and Mayo are clever duettists and dancers; Miss Sidney Hayes and company present an admirably played and strong dramatic sketch, *The End of the Chapter*. Max Waldon's protean and dancing act brings down the house; Walter Wallis, eccentric comedian, is good; Elsie Bernard, American comedienne pleases the audience; Stanley Waller, comedian at the piano; and the Grand pictures complete.

HAMILTON, N.B. — Hippodrome. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—The Tenka Troupe of Japanese magicians, in a series of mystifying illusions, are here, and are a big draw; Austin Rudd is decidedly humorous; Vere and Nelidon are bright and smart; Billy French is an exceptionally clever wooden shoe dancer; Helen Martin vocalises prettily; Arthur Croxon, in a burlesque song and story turn, is good; Hinton and Wooton's cycle polo is clever; and Charles Rowin, together with the Bioscope, concludes the entertainment.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. Geo. Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland*. In the title-rôle Miss Gertrude Melville is charming; Mr. E. Russell is all that could be desired as Mr. Hook; Mr. Geo. Mudie, jun., is excellent as Ludwig Schnapps, and is ably seconded by the talented Miss Sephton as Mina; Mr. Mansev as Capt. Paap enacts his small part well, and Mr. J. Campbell as Van Eck makes one of the hits of the evening. The chorus is good, and the band well conducted by Mr. H. A. Dyer.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. John E. Wilshere.—The attractions here comprise the inimitable Charles Pond in his famous glimpses of life, Miss Ruby Helder, the remarkable "girl baritone," and the Brownies, a party of entertainers.

St. James's Hall.—New Century Animated Pictures.—Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—The programme here is an excellent one. The Light, at the top of the bill, is a beautiful, pathetic picture. The Love of a Mother and the Galley Slave also prove popular. New humorous pictures include A Windy Day, Worried to Death, and The Fire Extinguisher. Miss Amy Stewart, owing to her great success, has been re-engaged for this week.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here in *Don*. Mr. Gordon Bailey sustains the title-rôle in an interesting manner; Mr. Arthur Willoughby does well as Canon Bonnington; as General Sinclair Mr. Chas. Tyrel is natural and convincing; Mr. Chas. Harely makes the part of Albert Thompsett sufficiently aggressive; Miss Violet Harley gives a good rendering of Mrs. Thompsett; the comedy of Miss Emma Hutchison as Mrs. Bonnington is excellent; Miss Viola Garland is a charming Ann Sinclair; Fanny is played with finish by Miss Dorothy Gordon; and Miss Celia Gordon quite realises the character of Mrs. Sinclair. The little drama is preceded by *Her Dearest Friend*.

Pier Pavilion. — General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter; Musical Conductor, Mr. Surtees Corne.—Mr. J. D. Hunter is introducing an Easter extravaganza, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, which is attracting large audiences. Miss Vera Dudley makes a bright and vivacious Jill; Jack, the hero, is cleverly taken by Miss Lallah Melrose; the Sisters Edwardes represent Boy Blue and Bo-Peep; Miss Renee Ashley admirably depicts the Man in the Moon; Mr. Matt Melrose, Mr. Fred Back, and Mr. Phil Inglis are responsible for a great amount of fun as the Wicked Squire, Johnnie Stout, and Tommy Green; and Mr. J. D. Hunter as Dame Trott rouses a continual ripple of laughter.

American Palace Pier, St. Leonards-on-Sea.—Resident-Manager, Mr. M. Leopold; Pier Master, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Montague Lane, assisted by Miss Ida Chapman and company, are producing here *The Money Spinner*. As Lord Kengussie Mr. Montague Lane is interesting; Mr. William Mallalieu as Baron Croodle gives an amusing sketch; Harold Boycott is presented by Mr. Norman Cannon in a finished manner; and Mr. Philip Renouf plays with judgment the character of Jules. Millicent Boycott as played by Miss Ida Chapman is conspicuous for charm, and Miss More Dunphie easily wins her way to favour in the rôle of Dorinda, Margot finding a lively interpreter in Miss Gertrude Savage. The Balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet* precedes.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—This week Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Osmond present the absurdity *Miss Plaster of Paris*, by Henry Wardroper and Henry L. Osmond. Mr. Charles Tolcher as Numskull Nubbs is clever in his humorous vocal efforts. Mr. Harry Ed. Ray is a typical waiter; Eliza Plaster, the head barmaid, is well portrayed by Miss Celestine Brandon; Mrs. H. L. Osmond is an excellent Medea.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Bellew and Stocks' company of entertainers known as the "Romps" contribute some bright, vigorous, and tuneful singing; Bros. Lawrence dance well together; Miss Alice Maple sings and dances gracefully; Irve Hayman and company appear with effect in a touching little episode, *Christmas Eve*; the Creedons are a pair of expert ball-punchers and club throwers; the Forrestiers play smartly a dramatic playlet entitled *A Society Sinner*; the Alberto troupe are a daring and clever set of acrobats and equilibrists; and the pictures are an amusing selection.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—At the top of the bill are Miss Marie Santoi and her merry Japs in the charming musical arrangement, entitled *A Night in Japan*, which is well received. Also appearing are the Zanfrelias, in novel and difficult feats of equilibrism; Miss Norah Desmond, with some taking and beaut-fully illustrated songs; Albert Letine, a highly entertaining female impersonator; the Newman bicycle troupe, daring and clever youths, whose work is original and smart; Bros. Ford, a pair of light-footed dancers An unnamed comedian who appears as deputy and the pictures complete the programme.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The Easter attraction is *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Sophie Lingwood's reading of the title-rôle is quite acceptable to the audience; the Miss Hazy of Miss Rita Carlyle is a diverting representation; Mr. Harry G. Wright plays the bounder with great skill. There is an intelligent piece of acting displayed in the Journalist of Mr. W. Clifton and Miss Ruhannah Calton is a graceful Lovey Mary. The rest of the character representations accord well with the spirit of the play.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager Mr. Geo. Morton.—*For Love of a Woman* is a drama likely to appeal to the special audiences of the Alexandra. Miss May Day is a young lady of much histrionic promise, and renders her rôle with intelligence; Mr. Edmund Grogan's Ned Merrick is a performance that the audience relished. The heavy rôle is well played by Mr. Ernest Regent; Mr. Chas. Ninian plays the Mayor with good effect. The other rôles are filled with credit.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Messrs. Chattell and Denton's company is here in *Through the Divorce Court*. Mr. Robert Purdie does justice to the rôle of Lord Robert Penarth; Miss Hettie Chattell's reading of Lady Dolores is quite enthralling; little Constance Dagmar as Sybil is charming; Miss Patty Groves is well placed as Rachael Dobbins; Mr. E. W. Thomas is a clever exponent of Peter Pettigrew; Mr. John Campling a successful Leon Di Valdiz; Mr. Jack Denton is amusing as the Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice; and Mr. Harry Colbeck (Patsy Rafferty) and Miss Nellie Sheffield (Dinah) are both very good. Miss Edith Cruikshanks as Lady Hilda Fitzmaurice makes the most of an unpleasant part. The evil genius Mendoza finds an excellent representative in Mr. Henry C. Cooper.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in Hall Caine's play, *The Prodigal Son*, is here. Mr. Ernest Owttrim shows much ability in the part of Magnus Stephenson; Mr. Marcus D. Draper submits a good study of Oscar; Mr. Charles Sewell is a dignified Stephen Magnusson; Mr. Arthur E. Holland filling the part of the factor Oscar Neilson; the acting of Miss Una Gilbert as Anna Magnusson is good throughout; Miss Sara Dudley doubles the parts of Thora Neilson and Elin, and is much applauded; the difficult part of Helga is undertaken by Miss Lily Crammonde; and a touch of comedy is imparted by Miss Maud Locker as Margaret Neilson; the Sheriff is in the hands of Mr. William Curzon; and Mr. Harold Clemson is Dr. Olsen; Neils Finsen is played by Mr. Wilfred Jessop; the pastor by Mr. John Fleming, and Eric Arnasson by Mr. Claude Casey. The scenic effects are admirable, the tableau at the end of the second act being cleverly contrived.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Arden and Abel's company are diverting in *Three of a Kind*; Miss Mabel Thorne is a clever comedienne, and has a variety of catchy songs; Les Wartanas, three clever young lady jugglers, give a capital turn; Miss Florence Burns uses an excellent voice to effect in high-class songs; Paul Cavalli gives a marvellous exhibition of physical culture; Mark Henton is an amusing patter singer; and the Sisters Selwyn are good comediennes and expert dancers; Amy Anderson and company have a comedy scena, called *Black and White*, in which there is some skilful tumbling; and the bioscope completes the bill.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is paying a welcome visit with *Diana from Dobson's*. The part of Diana was carefully handled by Miss Molly Tremaine; Mr. Leslie Rea was a capable Captain Victor Bretherton; Mr. A. Harris a satisfactory Sir Jabez; Miss Hilda Francks an excellent Mrs. Cantelupe; and Mrs. Whyte Fraser had an excellent representative in Miss Mary Crewe. The assistants at Dobson's were cleverly portrayed by Miss Nannie Hume, Miss Leonard Boyne, and Miss Cicely Oates, and other excellent portrayals were Miss Marie Ault as Miss Pringle and Mr. Leslie Crowther as Constable Fellowes. The piece is preceded by a smart playlet, entitled *Out West*.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—"Standing room only" was announced here on Bank Holiday some time before the commencement of the performance. The main feature of the entertainment provided is Mr. Albany Ward's Electric Pictures, which includes a gorgeously coloured tragic poem from Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, and a fine film of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race. The most enjoyable turn was a sketch from *The Dandy Doctor*, splendidly rendered by Mr. Edward Marris, Mr. Arthur Clark, and Miss Ella Wilmer. Other successful turns were given by Mr. Arthur Clark, who made quite a hit with "I like to be where the money is," and Miss Ella Wilmer, who wound up her performance with a daintily executed dance.

KEIGHLEY.—Hippodrome.—The Valdo Bros. are here; an excellent performance is given by the Sylvesters in *A Dressing-room Rehearsal*; Harry Russell and company, in the comedy sketch *Milk Oh!* create much merriment; Miss Dorothy Sephton sings well; and Will Norrie possesses a sweet tenor voice. A smart conjuring entertainment is given by Austin Temple; and Sinclair's Three Diamonds and the Mayers complete the bill.

KETTERING. — Victoria Theatre. — Managers, Messrs. Alf Bailey and Co.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, with *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery presents a very powerful rendering of Magnus; and the character of Oscar is admirably portrayed by Mr. S. H. Humber; Mr. Ernest Rivarz as Stephen Magnusson and Mr. Philip Renouf as Oscar Neilson play with great success; much artistic ability is displayed by Miss Elsie Wood as Thora and Elin; and Miss Betty Castle as the designing Helga is deserving of the highest praise.

KIDDERMINSTER. — New Opera House. — Licencee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon.—The holiday attraction is Miss Dot Stephens' company in *A Child of the Street*. Miss Stephens is seen in a pleasing and natural characterisation of Doris Graham; Miss Nellie Torne Hallam is to be commended upon her Gertrude Graham; and Miss Yoxa Summer depicts Lorna Carstairs in an artistic manner. Sir John Graham is in the capable hands of Mr John Erroll; Mr Leonard Airedale's treatment of Lawrence Craigie is marked by much skill; Mr. Norman St. Tracy does excellently as Lieut Jack Ainsley; and Mr Chas. Freeman ably portrays Robert Wallace.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For Easter Monday and two following nights Messrs. O. Silverstone and A. Wright's company presented *The Nihilist*. All the parts were well sustained, Mr. Geo. Mitchell doing capital work as Ian; in the hands of Mr. O. Silverstone Prince Alexander was a typical villain; Mr. Hy. Wright as Bobby Smart provided considerable fun; as Alexina, Miss Edna Clare was pathetic; Miss Adaline Raby was a dignified Princess Olga; and Mrs. O. Silverstone a bewitching Katrina.

KIRKCALDY.—New King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah.—Mr. Herbert Vere's company is presenting here *Napoleon the Great*. In the title-rôle Mr. Herbert Vere does well; Mr. Charles A. Lincoln makes a good Colonel Lavarennes, while as Colonel Jules Moulon Mr. Vivian Charles scores a hit; Mr. Charles Brandon cleverly enacts the rôle of Paul Lacinska; Miss Kate Walfred exhibits marked ability as Marie Walewska; Miss Kate Norris, Miss Maggie de Haile, and Miss Nancy Roberts are able exponents of their respective parts; Mr. George Millard as Pierre Pomponnet and Miss Lily Mann as Lisette are worthy of special praise for their comedy.

LANCASTER. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Howitt.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company is the Easter attraction here. On Monday *A Pair of Spectacles* was presented before a packed house. Mr. Arthur Hare appeared with much success as Benjamin Goldfinch. Mr. Maurice Denham as Uncle Gregory did very well; Mr. St. Barbe West was effective as Dick; Miss Ida Phillips gave an exceedingly clever portrayal of Mrs. Goldfinch; Miss Madge Monte made a pleasing Miss Lorimer; and as Joyce Miss Mary Williams was interesting; Mr. Walter A. James as Lorimer also demands a word of praise. For Friday *Caste* was billed.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—A strong holiday attraction, which is proving a great draw, is provided by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey gives an artistic portrayal of John Strong, with a fine figure and manly bearing; Miss Maggie Edwards displays much ability as the smith's wife; and Miss Pauline Garside acts little Harry Strong in talented style. Mr. Joseph Carter impersonates Capt. Leo with considerable distinction; and Mr. Fred Haming Billy Twigg with great success. Miss Rosie Kearns makes her Martha Mopps an interesting study; and other artists worthy of commendation are Mr. Thomas E. Marshall, Mrs. T. C. Livesey, Miss Cassie Le Grande, Mr. A. Walker, and Mr. Edwin Maydew. The wrestling scene between the smith and Capt. Leo is very thrilling.

Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The outstanding feature of a fine programme is Pharos, the Egyptian magician, assisted by Ibkar. Crowded houses are the rule, and Pharos is creating a great sensation with his wonderfully clever and mysterious performance. The picture programme is much above the average, and interesting and amusing subjects include The Wrong Road, a powerful dramatic production; The Flirt, another dramatic film; The 1910 Grand National; Wild Birds in their Native Haunts; That Secondhand Stove; Pity the Poor Blind; and The Three Thieves. The baritone, Mr. Harry Lewis, is as popular as ever.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The Carl Rosa Opera company is here. On Monday *The Bohemian Girl* was played, Mr. Frederick Clendon's acting and singing being exceedingly fine; Mr. Alan Turner's Count Arnheim was a good study; Mr. W. O'Connor created much laughter as Florestein; Miss Beatrice Miranda as Buda, Miss Douglas Wilson as the Queen of the Gipsies, and Miss Phyllis Archbold rendered satisfactory service.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mills's company is here in *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Ruth Zillwood as Risca is excellent, and Miss Gwendoline Talbot is very prominent. As Jim Murley Mr. Arthur S. Pitt gives a fine rendition, and Mr. Wm. Heilbroon is good as Pharosaphus.

Empire. — District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—An artistic performance is given here by Tom Clare; Mlle. Liane D'Eve sings French songs with spirit; Miss Ethel Newman appears with success in an amusing monologue; Henry Helme has a powerful voice, which he uses effectively; and the Abdullah Arabs are also included in a capital company.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Dr. Biere gives a highly amusing and clever conjuring entertainment here; Dora Lyric sings some lively songs with her customary skill; Cyclumina appears in a pretty electrical cycling act; Les Auberts are smart dancers; and a good turn is done by Dave O'Toole.

Barrasford Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—John L. Sullivan makes a hit here in a boxing act with Jake Kilrain; Zona Vevey sings with effect, and is ably assisted by Herr Max Erard; Lloyd Morgan is a pleasing light comedian; Nora Stockelle is a favourite in song and dance; and other artists enjoyed are Madison and Webb, Stuart and Evans, Prof. Welsen, Lena Wylie, Susie and Protti, and Will E. Stopit.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Appearing here are *The Toilers*, Victoria Cross, Miss Brierley, Bliss and Bliss, Horace Jones, Zasma, Hampton and Bauman, and May de Rowse.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—This place of amusement reopened on Saturday evening with Mr. William Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross*, which is being continued throughout this week. Mr. W. Lawson Butt as Marcus Superbus and Miss Evelyn Hope as Mercia are both deserving of great praise, and Mr. W. Mayne Linton as Nero. Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio, Miss Beryl Hamilton as Poppoea, Mr. H. Thurston Harris as Servilius, Miss Winifred Delevanti as Stephanus, Mr. Harry Jones as Philomedus, Mr. J. Wetherall as Licinius, Mr. Walter Fleet as Favius, Mr. Henri Raymond as Titus, Miss Esme Lee as Dacia, Miss Dorothy Lart as Berenice, and Miss Mary Newcombe as Ancaria are efficient. The staging is well done.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A full house gave a good reception here on Monday to Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in the interesting human play *Whom God Hath Joined*. Miss Helene Wilbran as Marion and Mr. Stuart Lomath as Captain Jack Merritt are well seconded by a capable company of artists.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Packed holiday audiences here have been delighted with an excellent "show." Whit Cunliffe is scoring a big success with his songs, which are given in fine style; the Jewels are also warmly received for their spectacular protean production *Change, or the Haunted Castle*, a cleverly-staged act, in which the leading parts are taken by Mr. James A. Jewel and Mr. Herbert B. Jewel; Les Silas, French operatic vocalists, are heard to great advantage; Ike and Will Scott are comedians and dancers who prove most entertaining; Otto Tate and Lola Tate are very popular in their acrobatic feats in a bar parlour; the Ten Dixie Girls are very good in their vocal and terpsichorean scena *The Silver Coon*; Ugo Nap creates plenty of laughter in his scena *What is Home Without a Mother?*; Lily Palmer is an entertaining comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope depicts the race for the Grand National.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—A full house here on Monday was delighted with the entertainment. At the head of the bill are Mr. H. G. Brandon and his company in *A Secret of the Past*, in which Mr. Brandon as the Jew creates endless merriment; Mr. F. Arnold Mussett acts well as Antoine Boresque, and Miss Florence Barnes is excellent as Kate. The sketch is cordially received. Eddie Stidder and Gwen Dundar are a pair of clever, entertaining, and popular artists; Rose D'Aulby scores a success with her chorus songs; Tom York, who is possessed of a good singing voice, is an excellent character comedian; the Sisters Carlton are capital vocalists and dancers; in place of the Newmans, the Six Buster Browns appear with great success in a vocal and dancing scena. Among the fine pictures shown is one of the race for the Grand National.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The two principal films are The Last of the Mohicans, or Leather Stocking, and Brothers in Arms. The others include A Cruiser in a Storm, Bob's Electric Theatre, Three to Choose From, His Masterpiece, A Visit to Bombay, A Pair of Trousers, The Stampede, and Onawanda. Owing to his success last week, Fred Hutchings has been retained.

Temperance Hall (Lecture Hall).—Secretary, Mr. W. S. Rosie; Hall-keeper, Mr. Geo. Stanyon.—A big house here on Monday evening gave a most flattering reception to Mr. Roland George Jarvis's troupe The Royal Snowdrops. The entertainment is given entirely by young ladies, and consists of the latest songs and concerted items, each artist being encored and presented with bouquets. The combination consists of Miss Ethel Bayley (musical directress and accompanist), Miss May Vesta (male impersonator), Miss Marie Dellamore (comedienne), Miss Dot Bryan (coon songstress), Miss Dulcie May (vocalist), Miss Rosa Stuart (chorus vocalist), Miss Phyllis Trixie (comedienne), Miss Elsie Cox (ballad vocalist), and Miss Kitty Grey (comedienne). Mr. Allan Armadale is the manager.

LLIGH.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd. —Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—Mr. Edward Crossland's melody-makers are at the top of the bill here; Mr. Ted Gill, vocalist, makes a hit; Harry Zetter is a popular and clever turn; Ethelda, the miniature lady Hercules, finds favour; Arthur Kenny, trick cyclist, does some clever feats; Fred Le Crenz and company deserves great credit for their show; L. V. O. Trio, sketch artists, are the cause of much laughter; Fred Oliver, eccentric comedian, is amusing; and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is here with *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, and winning golden opinions. Mr. Stewart as Lord Lumley is remarkably good, his exposition being very strong and effective, and Miss Bruce Joy as Lady Lumley also plays admirably; Mr. D. Lewin Mannering's D'Orelli is clever, and Mr. Launcelot Lowden as the vendetta-seeking Guiseppe is excellent; Miss Ethel Carlyle and Mr. Percy Marmont play the comedy parts very capably, and the mounting and dressing of the piece are alike admirable.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Arnold Richardson and his company in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* are winning huge favour here. Mr. Richardson finding capital support in Miss Ethel Lonsdale and Mr. A. Gordon Laws. Lily Vine and Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies are entirely successful in a smart song and dance turn; George Brooks is as funny as ever; Lizzie Daniels, Blair and Allen, Walter Barrett, and the Palace Perfection Pictures complete a very fine programme.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Prior to its presentation at the London Lyric on Monday next, Mr. Lewis Waller submitted here his promised revival of *The Rivals*. The event was looked forward to with considerable interest by Liverpool play-goers, and on Monday evening there was a crowded and fashionable audience, who extended to the distinguished actor and his well-chosen company a most flattering reception. There seemed, however, to be a general opinion that Mr. Waller, in appearing as Captain Absolute, had selected a rôle which did not afford him sufficient opportunities for showing his undoubtedly great histrionic gifts, and, in consequence, a little disappointment was experienced by his numerous Merseyside admirers, who had been accustomed to identify him with something more spirited and forcible. Mr. C. W. Somerset stood out prominently in the perfectly played character of Sir Anthony Absolute, the "tiff" with his nephew being an exquisite piece of acting; Mr. Leonard Boyne handled Sir Lucius O'Trigger with an ease and artistic finish that could only be expected from such a veteran and accomplished player; another eminently fine portrayal came from Mr. Robert Loraine, whose Bob Acres was a gem; Miss Lottie Venne as the loquacious Mrs. Malaprop proved amusingly interesting; to Miss Kate Cutler every praise is due for her neatly presented Lydia; Mr. Herbert Jarman, although holding the minor rôle of Fag, showed unmistakable evidence of being a talented actor; Miss Beatrice Ferrar was a sweet and bewitching Lucy; and other able supporters were Miss Dorothy Dix (Julia), and Messrs. Cronin Wilson (Faulkland), Alec F. Thompson (David), and Robert Bolder (Thomas). Needless to say, the mounting of the old comedy was perfect.

Shakespeare Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—On Saturday last a seven nights' engagement of *The Earl and the Girl* was opened here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. Bert Beswick as Jim Cheese provoked great laughter; the part of Dick Wargrave found in Mr. Herbert St. John a creditable exponent; Miss Lily Gullick was winsome and bright as the runaway Elphin Haye; Mr. Francis Rayne made the most of the Honourable Crewe Boodle; Downham was efficiently portrayed by Mr. Sam Lysons; the footmen, Rossiter and Charles, although minor parts, were thoroughly undertaken by Messrs. P. Jackson and C. S. Cartwright; an amusing black porter was presented by Mr. George St. Orde; Miss Virginia Bliss lost nothing at the hands of Miss Elsie Hall; Miss Beatrice Hayden proved very successful as the Strong Lady; Miss Ida Waugh suited the part of Liza Shoddam; and Miss Blanche Astley sweetly represented Daisy Fallowfield. In the second act an interesting "Chantecler" interlude took place, a song and dance being sustained by Mr. Herbert St. John (cock bird), Miss Blanche Astley (hen pheasant), and Miss Lily Gullick (guinea fowl). The costumes were rich, and the audience thoroughly appreciated the turn.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—For notice of a new production here, see another column.

Star Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week we are having a return visit of *Hush Money, or The Disappearance of Sexton Blake*, sent by the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd. Good business is being done. As Sexton Blake Mr. C. Barrington Foote shows all the coolness and calculating spirit of the famous detective; Mr. Harry Hartley proves a capital Tinker; the rôle of John Shard is ably handled by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson; Mr. Robert Barton efficiently fills the part of Lord Montresor; Miss Theresa Osborne acts well as Lady Montresor; and good support also emanates from Messrs. J. H. Darnley (Lord Walgrave), F. Finch (Jem Tooley), and J. G. Lowther (Nathan Finch), Miss Agnes Paulton (Euphemia Pattacake), Miss Ida Wilson (Auntie Crooks), and Miss Lillie White (Mary Woodford).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Raffles* commenced a seven night's stay last Saturday. Mr. Leonard Boyne has sent a good all-round company. In the title-rôle Mr. Reginald Dance acquits himself in first-class style, earning much approbation; Miss May Brooke makes a finished Mrs. Vidal, thoroughly grasping the intention of the part; Bunny is admirably undertaken by Mr. Harold West; and others deserving of mention are Mr. Oswald Griffiths (Earl of Amersteth), Mr. Edward Irwin (a smart resourceful detective), Miss Agnes Knights (Lady Melrose), and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald (Marie). *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Mr. Harold West and Miss Fitzgerald appear, is a curtain-raiser.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top of the bill here is Fred Karno's funny *Yap Yaps*, with Gus Le Cier

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—The attraction here this week is a revival of *Candida*, preceded by a new one-act play, entitled *Red 'Ria*, a notice of which appears elsewhere. The first-named piece receives excellent interpretation at the hands of Miss Horniman's company, which on this occasion includes Mr. B. Iden Payne as Eugene Marchbanks, a rôle he plays with considerable success; Miss Darragh's Candida is finely done; and clever comedy is provided by Mr. Edward Landor as Mr. Burgess and Miss Ada King as Proserpine Garnett. A good rendering of Morell is given by Mr. Henry Austin; and Mr. Basil Dean makes a good Rev. Alexander Mill.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's play, *The Sinner*, is here this week. Mr. Wilson Benge is especially prominent in the cast, having fine opportunities as Monk Stretton, of which he makes full use; in the rôle of Meg Stanton Miss Mona Grey is also good; and Mr. Ulike Burke plays powerfully as Lord Ewen, and is well supported by Miss Geraldine Verner as Vera Ewen. Light interest is vested in the parts of Bill Stanton and Jim Stephens, two fishermen, smartly impersonated by Messrs. Frank Radcliffe and Sydney P. Clewlow. The play is well staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn.—The top turn in a good bill here is Harry First and company, in a novel Hebrew comedy, *The Matrimonial Fee*; and W. Ellis and company, in *The Sleepwalker*, still retain a prominent place as laughter-makers. Frank Lauri, character comedian, is well received; good comedy conjuring is done by Allen McAskell; and other entertaining items are Lew Peterman, Hebrew comedian; the Orros, clever gymnasts; the Two Kays, in their novel speciality; and Goodall and Knox, acrobatic and patter comedians.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company are here with *His Real Wife*. Miss Ward as Rose Avondale gives an admirable performance of a very trying part; Mr. J. W. Evelyn is especially good as Martin Avondale; and a fine rendering of Herbert Barton is provided by Mr. Clifford Rean. Mr. Charles Yorke as the villainous Colombe is a noteworthy figure; and Mr. Bernard Elliott as Randal Meredith scores, especially in the third act. Among other interesting rôles that of Simon Bletherell is smartly played by Mr. T. Edward Ward, whose humour is ably supplemented by Miss Clarrie Bandell as Betty Tuttlebee.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A bright programme here is headed by Billy Merson, the popular comedian; Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie is also the fore; and Ted Waite, comedian, adds a pleasing turn. Beside these, we have Miner and Storey, vaudeville entertainers; Kendrick and Laura, in harmony and eccentric dance; Kirk and Saraski, the girl aquatic marvels; and Burns and Bentley, the premier dancing duo.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A great sensation is caused here this week by Archie Goodall, the famous old international footballer, who presents his original act, "Walking the Hoop," a feat of extraordinary strength, daring, and novelty. Sharing the honours of the bill with him are Gertie Gitana, who is as pleasing as ever, and G. W. Hunter, the well-known raconteur, who gives of his best. Heeley and Meeley, the lucky tramps, submit a highly-comic tumbling act; D'Arc's Marionettes are an excellent show; and other nice turns are J. P. Carroll, the soldier tambourinist; the Harmony Boys, in their refined vocal act; Pete and Minnie Lee, vocal sketch artists; and Florence Esdaile, vocalist, in a choice répertoire.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The Vampire Dance is one of the attractions here this week, and is presented in a realistic manner by Alice Eis and Bert French; Tom Foy and his donkey cause laughter in a very funny sketch, *The First of April*; Wish Wynne, a pleasing, versatile comedienne, is well received; and Grant, Gardner, and Marie Stoddard are clever American entertainers. The Dayton Family score a success in their high-class risley act; and other smart turns are those of the Dancing Gilberts; the Brooklyn Comedy Four, in harmony and comedy; Siems, card and coin manipulator; and the Great Vincent, acrobatic tabe expert. Pictures complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Harry Ford, a well-known comedian, is here this week, and scores a big success; G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellman, composers, do an exceedingly smart vocal and musical act, and are deservedly well received; Maxim and Bobby are exceptionally clever acrobatic droils, and are ably assisted by a well-trained dog; and Andre Cherpillod, the champion catch-as-catch-can wrestler, is seen to advantage. Other enjoyable turns are offered by Maudie Ford, dainty comedienne and dancer; Marie Brayman, burlesque artist; Adams and Ward, acrobatic comedians; and the Four Panamas, in acrobatic comedy speciality.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Sylvia Cavalho, supported by Clifford Pembroke and company, is here this week in *The Fortune of War*, and scores a big success; another excellent item is a dramatic episode, *The Ace of Hearts*, excellently presented by James Willard and company; Luna Love, a clever comedienne and dancer, meets with a good reception; Regan and Ryan make a big hit with a smart medley and as comedy entertainers and dancers; Webb and Branston charm, as usual, with their fine singing; Patty Yoie is a comedienne with plenty of go and a neat dancer; Molly Moore, comedienne, sings nicely; and the Unites are seen to advantage in an original acrobatic comedy act. Macbeth is exceedingly well presented on the Bioscope.

KING'S, LOXOSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Patrons here are much amused by Fred Karno's company, in the popular burlesque, *Skating*; Atlas and Vulcana, the society athletes, provide another notable and effective turn; and good items are added by Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats and ladder performers; Ida Dorrie, a charming comedienne; Manson and West, in comic duologue; Bonair and Tess, in their Japanese act; Phillips and Bristow, smart dancers; the Three Favourites, in harmony and burlesque; and Tom Franks, ventriloquist.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley.—A capital programme is offered here this week, including the names of the Three Sisters Sprightly, in their smart vocal speciality. Other enjoyable turns are those of Mlle. de Louvois; Ada Fawn, popular comedienne; Harry Kirk, comedian; Six Manchester Lads, Archie Glen, the Martons, the Luscilas, and La Belle Duchess. Up-to-date pictures complete.

MANSFIELD. — GRAND.— Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—This week Miss Lena Stanton presents her pantomime company in *Sinbad*. Though entering the last week of the run this pantomime shows no sign of wear, the show going with a swing which delighted the huge crowd assembled in the theatre on Monday night last. Miss Gladys May is a dashing Sinbad, Miss Kitty Russell a pleasing Princess; Miss Lily Ernie a handsome Captain Selim; Mr. Will Payne is a good Old Man of the Sea, Mr. Arthur Carlton a funny Shipwreckeros, Messrs. J. Bana and H. O'Byan, Biz Bad and Quis Bad, are a pair of clever dancers; Mr. Dan Lyall introduces some funny business in the part of Tinbad; and Mr. A. Sawyer is a dame of merit. In a number of clever specialities the Marbiesque Trio in a series of living statuary pictures are excellent.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edward E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—A specially-selected West End company opened here on Saturday, and played during the following week, in the three-act comedy *The Best People*. Mr. Percy Rogers was exceedingly good as Lord Emsworth, and Mr. James Hunt as the Hon. Gerald Bayle also rendered effective service; Mr. Harold McLinton was an admirable Lord Wynles, and Mr. Guy Fenning played remarkably well as James Spofforth; Miss Irene Lavington made a charming Lady Emsworth; Miss Lilian Hallows was all that could be wished as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle; and Mr. Guy Fenning was well cast for the part of Jackson. The comedy was preceded each evening by *The Tooth of Necessity*, a dialogue with interruptions, presented by Messrs. Robert Butler, Mr. Cyril Royce, and Miss Edith Cox.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—Peggy Pryde, coster comedienne, again heads the holiday programme at this house, and her return visit has been as great a success as her previous appearances at Margate. She has lost none of her attractiveness, and her welcome has been a remarkably cordial one. Carlisle and Walker, up-to-date comedy duo, Joseph Belmont, a clever whistling entertainer, Hazel Ellis, lady conjurer, Dalvers and Wallis, smart cross-talking comedians and vocalists, Ethel Stephanson, vocalist at the piano, and Arthur Boyne, comedian, also contribute to an all-round entertaining programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Frederick Melville's *Her Road to Ruin* is the Easter attraction, presented by an excellent company. Mr. Charles Dickens does justice to the part of Frank Temple, and Miss Ada Champion plays Jess in a forcible manner; Mr. Kendrew Wilson ably fills the rôle of Tom Wells; Philip Hardy finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Alex. Bradley; Miss Mabel Coleman is good as the girl from Lancashire, and Mr. Harry Talbot as Billy and Miss Grace Emery as Jenny are responsible for the comedy.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Smarte Bros., acrobatic eccentrics; Chas. Wakeman's Singing Gipsies, in a vocal scena; the Three Tivoli Girls, vocalists and dancers; Percy Johnson, comedian; Dacnerell and Rutland, talking comedians; and some excellent Biograph pictures furnish an attractive holiday programme.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company in *The Tyrant* is the attraction. The title-rôle as portrayed by Mr. Roy Fortescue is a capital study, ably supported by Mr. Percy Follise as Homodei (the avenger); Mr. Edward E. Louis is well suited to the part of Prince Rudolph; as Tisbe Miss Marie Robson acts with great emotional power, and Miss Jean Scott at Katherine is also successful; Mr. J. P. Lellan is good as Lieut. Taska; the lighter vein is introduced by Mr. Wilson Summers as Victor and Mr. Fred Luard as Nobbo, supported by Miss Katie Lever as Reginetia. Elaborately staged and dressed, the drama is gaining a hearty reception.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Company is here. A very clever entertainment is contributed to by The Rizarellis, in a daring gymnastic display; Wee Winnie, vocalist and dancer; Elsie Rubina, queen of equipoise; the Three Recars, Chinese acrobats; Miss Trixie Howard, soprano vocalist; Miss Cissie Madcap, speciality dancer; Miss Nellie Hampton, soubrette; James Carr, baritone vocalist; Arthur Walker, comedian; Tom B. Roma, comedian; Sisters Hylton, duettists; Geo. Russell, comedian; Miss Mabel Lewis, illustrated songs; Roy Potter, American trampoline act; &c., the programme being supplemented by bioscope pictures.

NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—A fine holiday programme includes the following pictures: Joseph and His Brethren, the Hunchback, A Nobleman's Dog, Before the Mast, and Borrowed Clothes.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper are presenting with gratifying success *The Flag Lieutenant*. The title-rôle is admirably sustained by Mr. Ralph Roberts; Mr. Mark Paton gives every satisfaction as the Vice-Admiral; the Flag Captain is well delineated by Mr. Claud Murray; as the Admiral's Secretary Mr. Stephen Gatling is successful; as Lady Dugdale Miss Rosalind Ross does well; the part of Lady Hermione Wynne is in the able hands of Miss Rita Johnson; and Miss Una Venning very capably portrays the part of Viola Hood. The play is very nicely staged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Under the direction of Mr. Henry R. Smith, *Two Little Vagabonds* is the holiday attraction at the Royal. The parts of Dick and Wally are cleverly played by Miss Helen Grenville and Miss Ivy Millais respectively; as Marion Thornton Miss Dorothy Milne is seen to advantage; and Barbara Scarth is capably delineated by Miss Mabel Cook. Mr. Frank Beresford does full justice to the character of George Thornton; Mr. Renaud Lockwood does well as Captain Darville; and Mr. Charles L. Ludlow's representation of Bill Mullins leaves little to be desired.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Bella and Bijou, highly valued favourites on Teesside, are appearing with much success in their society entertainment; Ted and May Hopkins, Welsh humorists, Tom Bassett, in his clever character songs, Wadham and Sterling, sketch entertainers, Cari and Cari, comedians, Miss Bertha Evelyn, contralto vocalist, Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian and dancer, and the Empire pictures complete a programme which meets with warm approval.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—A capital programme of pictures continues to draw large audiences.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Miss Lois Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Ed. Neville, have been presenting *The Sorrows of Satan* and *Nana* during the week with success. Mr. Edward Neville has succeeded in the characters of Lucio and Hector in the respective pieces, and Miss Rosie Neville has played Lady Sybil and Nana with considerable ability; Miss Lois Esmond has looked handsome as Diana Chesney, and the leading people have been supported by an efficient company.

WEST PIER PAVILION THEATRE.—Secretary Mr. J. Bastow.—*The Gay Gordons*, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Seymour, fulfilled a four nights' engagement here with gratifying success. Miss May Yates proved herself a charming Peggy Quainton and Mr. Stafford Dickens a capital Angus Graeme; Mr. Sidney Burt scored immensely as Nervy Nat, and other parts were creditably filled. Herr Wilhelm Morgan's Blue Hungarian band is retained at this pier for the season.

WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—Morny Cash tops the holiday bill, making his usual success in characteristic songs; Louis Hardt has an excellent and original scena, *In Days of Old*, in which he does some marvellous feats of strength; the Bouncing Dillons cause the customary excitement with their clever and funny act; Penstone mystifies everyone with his smart business, assisted by San-Go and Will Rhodes; Diana Hope and company, with *Her Good Name*; Yorst and York, the military boys; Stevens and Brett, entertainers, and Michel, head to head balancers and tumblers complete the bill. The new pleasure grounds recently constructed in connection with the Winter Gardens were opened last week, and proved a decided success.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Emilius Hill.—Mr. Charles Parker's Æolians are the attraction here, giving a refined entertainment from a high-class répertoire.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—An excellent all-round bill is greatly appreciated by big audiences. E. Salbrig and company in their pantomimical absurdity, *A Day Out*, earn many laughs; Agnes Molteno charms all with her vocalism in a delightful act, *Dolly and a Coach*; George Payne's Wanderers prove a popular and leading feature of the show; Mi Narom's clever comedy songs and business are refreshing; Ben E. Verity is a most amusing coon comedian, with a tricky dance; Spiridion juggles well; the Bros. St. Clair amuse greatly with their comedy cycle act; Flo Matley sings good songs; and Leigh-Lauries provide clever cross-patter.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company is here this week in *A Destroyer of Men*. As Olga Mishla, Miss Hilda Beverley acts with striking force, Olga's partner in crime being admirably depicted by Mr. Stephen Langton; Karl Mishla is ably represented by Mr. Herbert Pearson, Michael having an apt exponent in Mr. James Jarrett; Mr. Jack Armitage ably doubles the rôles of Fedor Strelitzike and Paul Starevitch; and Miss Mary Brammer does well as Vida. Excellent comedy relief is supplied by Miss Dorothy Hildebrande as Nina Pattacake and Mr. Edward Keith as Coco. The scenery and effects are excellent.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—A pleasing and well-varied programme has attracted good houses here. A mystifying turn is supplied by Picitte and Lizette, pantomime illusionists; Paul Corrix performs some clever and daring equilibristic feats; and other contributors are the Brothers Durrant, society acrobats; Aeronauts and company, in a laughable sketch entitled *An Airship Elopement*; Minnie D'Aubyn, chorus vocalist; Olive and Owen, in their vocal comedietta, *The Roadside Tinkers*; Lucy Lynd, character comedienne; Will Owen, dame comedian; and the Big Four, comedy quartette.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Wm. Parker.—Miss Florence Baines has paid a welcome return visit here this week in the musical farce, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, in which her reception has been most enthusiastic. She is supported by a strong company, including Mr. H. B. Pepp'n as Jno. Higgins, Mr. Sinclair Holden as Harry, and Mr. Henry Lloyd as Grant the butler; Mr. Jos. Burley, an admirable Fox, the family lawyer; and Mr. Payne Fletcher a convincing Jno. Henry Thompson. Bertha Higgins is charmingly played by Miss Mary Collier; Miss Issa Steel being equally successful as Eva Lancashire.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—The new and enlarged Winter Gardens not being quite ready for occupation, the entertainments are this week being given in the beautiful Assembly Rooms, and good business rules, the company being an excellent one, and includes Mr. F. Mozzetto, Miss Reid, and Mr. J. Power, Miss Marjorie Lawrence, Mr. H. Tomlin, Mr. E. T. Parsons, Messrs. Vasey and Ramsey, Tiny Mite, and the Five O. K. Diana.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—The J. W. Turner opera company are here this week and giving every satisfaction. Many new side-shows are added to the entertainments in the grounds.

PIER PAVILION.—A good variety bill is presented here, Miss Minola Hurst and Mr Everhart being the chief attraction. Les Militaires also appear, together with Miss Zeta Grey and company in sketch.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*The Walls of Jericho* is presented here by Silvanus Dauncey and St. Browning's company. As Jack Frobisher Mr. Ethelbert Edwards acts with manly strength and virility, and shows undoubted talent, especially in the more dramatic scenes. The Lady Alethea of Miss Gwendoline Hay is a clever character-study, and is deservedly appreciated; whilst Mr. Rutland Barrington as the Marquis of Steventon shows yet again his wonderful versatility. Other important characters are ably portrayed by Mr. Russell Barry as Hankey Bannister, Mr. H. Browning as Harry Dallas, Miss Ethel Trevor Lloyd as Lady Westerby, and Miss Hilda Sims as Lady Lucy Derenham. An entertainment preceding the play is given by Rutland Barrington, in which he unfolds a delightful budget of his most humorous stories in his own inimitable style.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin's company is presenting *The Silver King*. Mr. Fred D. Davies plays with power as Denver; and his wife has a sympathetic representative in Miss Mildred Surrey. Mr. Edward S. George was good in the part of Jakes, the faithful servant; Miss Hilda Bateman, as Cissie Denver, Mr. Sidney Lynn as the Spider, and Mr. Arthur Wright as Coombe, were notable in the excellent cast.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. B. B. Clark.—*Sexton Blake*, by the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., is drawing big houses here. The characters are all faithfully portrayed, special mention being due to Mr. Murray Yorke. Mr. Edward McLean, Mr. A. J. Harding, Mr. Paul Barry Lewers, Mr. Stephen Nicolls, Miss Elizabeth Watkins, Miss Betty Seymour, and Miss Sinna St. Clair.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—This popular place of amusement inaugurated its summer season with animated pictures and variety entertainment on Monday evening. The Royal Welsh Glee Singers, Smith and Johnson, vocalists; Haima, society juggler; and Dan Pedley, comedian, entertain.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—A fine holiday programme is this week headed by Pragson and his piano. This versatile artist was accorded a most flattering reception for his clever and original entertainment. A pleasing turn is *The Page and the Maid*, a vocal comedy production by the Bensons, who unite skill with grace and good fun. The Three Delaries, in a stimulating and clever trapeze and acrobatic act, are wonderful; whilst Coverdale, comedian and raconteur, receives well-deserved applause; and similar generous appreciation is given "The Courtiers," under the direction of Paul Mill, for their charming and tuneful musical mélange. The popular Irish baritone, Charles Robinson, gave several good songs; and Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, Barrett and Knowles, and Gladys Hooley also contribute.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. P. H Gould; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—The Three Florodoras, in a comedy act, *Two's Company, Three's None*, give a delightful mixture of song, dance, and frolic; Tod Lowan is quite a favourite here; the Sisters Slater are charming banjoists; Thomas and Taylor present a smart quick-change act, *Fun on the Midland*; M. Cumming and company in *A Tooth for a Bride*, and the Breton Troupe in *A Sleepless Night* are responsible for plenty of knockabout absurdity. Will Willis, comedian, Ryan and Hall, funny acrobats, and the Wyndham Kitty Trio complete an excellent programme.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Cleopatra is the headline picture this week. Margaret Payne continues to please with her illustrated songs.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The Bank Holiday attraction here is Mr. Charles Gibbons' company, with *Alone in London*, which has drawn large audiences. The rôle of John Biddlecombe is capitally depicted by Mr. Russell Norrie; Mr. J. Vernon Shaw makes the most of Mr. Burnaby; Mr. Charles Gibbon is good as Walter Burnaby; and Dick Redcliffe has an excellent exponent in Mr. Gerald Jordan; as Nan, Miss Nellie Clyde is admirably suited to the part; Miss Laura O'Neil gives a satisfactory performance of Tom Chickweed; and Little Hetty Hornsby proves an interesting Paul. The comedy parts are skilfully handled by Mr. Frank Caffrey as Charlie Johnson and Miss Cissie Young as Liz Jenkinson.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The leading attraction here is provided by Charles Angus and Florrie Cooper, in their quick change act, *The Manager's Office*, which creates much enthusiasm; the Kramer Family submit a decidedly clever gymnastic act; Barney Noble, Irish comedian, is as popular as ever; Pattie Burton has many admirers; and other good turns consist of Burn and White, comedy duo; Sisters Indiana, speciality artists; Charlie Hepscot, versatile artist; and the Pictures.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Goldin.—A welcome return visit is paid by Mr. George Munro and company in a varied répertoire of plays, and on Monday they opened to a crowded audience with *The Sleigh Bells*. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Munro's depiction of Mathias, which was decidedly instinct with dramatic force; Mr. Ernest Digges presented a fine manly embodiment of Christian; Messrs. W. Lawrence and Ivor Barnard as Hans and Father Walter respectively gave realistic portrayals; Miss Janet Hope in the small part of Sozal was really good; Miss Gertrude Littlewood enacted Catherine effectively; and Miss Doris Horrocks as Annette acted with tact and vivacity. The scenery was all that could be desired. The remaining nights of the week were devoted to *Merchant of Venice*, *David Garrick*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Corsican Brothers*.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *King of Cadonia* is the holiday attraction here. Mr. Bertie Wright is a mirth-provoking Duke of Alasia; Mr. J. Warren Foster, an excellent King Alexis; Mr. Jack Martin does well as General Bonski; Mr. Cameron Carr as Capt. Laski is successful; and Mr. Edward Thirlby is an amusing Bran. Mr. E. Hartley successfully appears as Panex; Miss Alice Moffat makes a charming Princess Marie; Miss Florence Leigarde deserves praise as the Duchess of Alasia; and Miss Mabel Hirst is attractive as Melitza, both in her singing and dancing.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Councillor F. W. Fitt; Musical-Director, Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—A strong and attractive programme is presented this week at the head of which is G. H. Chirgwin, the original white-eyed Kaffir. The Faludy troupe prove exceedingly clever acrobats; Baker and Balfe are much appreciated for their xylophone playing; the Maro trio are expert novelty gymnasts; Kitty Wager sings attractive songs; Fred Poplar is a favourite; and Gus Garrick is very humorous. The Smythsons, in their comedy sketch *Cupid's Frolic*, receive much approbation; and the Hippo Bio shows some fine films.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Brewster's Millions*, presented by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, is proving a great attraction. Mr. Hutchinson himself impersonates Monty Brewster, and his breezy manner and finished acting ensures the success of the comedy; Miss Cicely Stuckey as Peggy is very charming, and her acting commendable, whilst Miss Lillias Earle artistically avails herself of opportunities as Mrs. Dan; Mr. Gordon Ash is an efficient Charlie Harrison, and the study of Colonel Drew presented by Mr. A. Andrews is excellent; Miss Pauline Straus shows great ability in the character of Janice Armstrong, and a very captivating Trixie is found in the person of Miss May Seton; Messrs. Robert Forsyth, Henry Hampson, Aubrey Mather, Frank Elliott, and Otho Hazlewood do well as the "little sons of the rich," and Miss Dorothy Whitaker has a congenial rôle as Barbara Drew, whilst Miss Phyllis Stuckey works well as Miss Boynton; Mr. A. P. Kaye is good as M. Borgie, and Mr. Frank Hill as Rawles deserves mention. The other characters are well represented, and the whole production is one of great merit.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—A powerful holiday attraction is furnished in *The Girl Who Went*—— as the piece produced by an excellent company under the direction of Mr. Fred Bulmer is entitled. The title-rôle is dramatically and forcefully portrayed by Miss Doris Brookes, whilst as the sister Violet Harvey Miss Lalla Stanhope demonstrates her possession of exceptional histrionic ability; Mr. Louis Lingard does admirably in the rôle of Captain Frank Julian, and Mr. Evan Roland is most effective both in acting and disguise as a Scotland Yard detective; Mr. Austin Mortimer is suited to the part of Rupert Murdock, and all the other characters are in capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Horace Mills is always diverting, and in the sketch *A Disgrace to the Force* has ample scope for his talents. Helen Trix pleases no less by her songs than by her delightful manner of singing them; the Lukushimas are a remarkable troupe of Japanese entertainers; Guyer and Valle, in their sketch, *Wait for the Finish*, are extremely funny, and Harry Herbert makes his hearers roar with laughter; the Prince Milner Trio have an excellent turn, and Gipsy Woolf and six accomplished dancers give a bright interlude; the Sisters Storm dance gracefully; Adey Spencer, the girl from the hatshop, is dainty and clever; Kisbey, the call boy, and the usual Bioscope pictures conclude a first-class programme.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—An oriental musical comedy is the chief attraction, presented by Messrs. Peterman and Rickett's company; Barney Armstrong and Kelly keep the house hightly amused, and Lena Brunton is a very clever comedienne and mimic; Neville and Mors have beautifully blended voices, and the Sisters Macarte are seen to advantage in "The Land of the Lotus"; the Three Pirmans are clever gymnasts, and the Warner Trio are accomplished dancers; Harry Maynard is a humorous comedian, and Abel and Welsh real eccentrics; Pitts and Gould are delightful duo dancers, and the films shows on the Bioscope depict A Child's Faith.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC PALACE.—The Provincial Palaces, Ltd., opened their new hall on March 24 with an excellent exhibition of the Kinemacolour pictures. There was a big attendance, including the Mayor, Corporation, officials, and leading townspeople, all of whom expressed themselves highly delighted with this new form of entertainment. The interior is decorated in a pleasing colouring of blue and white, and seating accommodation is provided for about five hundred visitors. The wide difference between the ordinary coloured bioscope pictures and the animated scenes in natural colours shown in the Kinemacolour films is abundantly manifest, and will undoubtedly be greatly appreciated by that section of the public who delight in this kind of amusement.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Smiley.—After being closed for two weeks, this theatre was reopened for the Easter holidays by Mr. Tom Watts' company, in the ever-popular *East Lynne*. Miss Laura Hansen plays the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine in a most accomplished manner; Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens makes a dignified Archibald Carlyle; Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia and Miss Ida Heron as Barbara Hare are all that could be desired; Miss Alice Moseley and Miss Ethel Ray are very clever as little Willie and Isabel; and Miss Beryl Forbes is a capable Joyce. Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock is thoroughly effective; Mr. Jerrold Manville is an amusing Justice Hare; and Mr. Tom Watt is excellent as Lord Mountsevern.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Old Folks at Home* is presented by Mr. J. A. Campbell's able company. Miss Maud Warburton as Dorothy Robin fairly earns encomiums for her capable and sympathetic acting; Mr. Frank Liston as Lord Kenilworth acts realistically as the dissolute nobleman, and his friend, Patricia Bathurst, is acted forcibly by Miss Kate Froude; Mr. Henry Sainsbury as Christopher Robin and Miss Clara Santley as Martha make a charming old couple; Miss Dora Mason as Bonita Durham and Mr. Geo. Steel as Andrew Ross are both good; Mr. William Speke is clever as Musillo, and Miss Ada Frank as Susan Giles and Mr. Geo. Scully as Ben Jolly cause hearty laughter. Mr. Stanley Fielding also scores as Joe Chaff.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—The holiday programme includes Mr. Laurence Brough and company in a laughable sketch, *No. 9*. Ian Colquhoun sings with great success; Little Ganty causes much amusement; Pietro and Leon are smart comedy gymnasts; and Madge May is a charming comedienne. The Sisters Belmoir sing and dance acceptably, and the Seymours give an expert acrobatic display; Fred Elton is excellent at the piano. The Palace Pictures conclude.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Good houses have been the rule to witness *Her Life in London*, as played by Mr. Stanley Carlton and company. Miss Rubie Maude appears with great success as the orphan girl, and holds the sympathy of the house; the Rev. Allen Gordon is played by Mr. Carlton in a sincere and interesting manner. The company is a large and strong one, and the artists in their various parts ably support the two principals.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The programme includes some fine films, amongst others being The Passion and Death of Christ. Some fine views of Venice are also shown. Capital comedy films are depicted on the screen, and the popular choruses are well received. Mr. Don Cameron contributes to the bill.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Childhood of Christ. The Corsican's Romance, Bruges, a good travel picture, Jean Valjean, a capital drama, and some very funny pictures are displayed. Mr. King sings "Ora Pro Nobis" capitally.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—Among the Red Indians is a thrilling film, and Her Sister's Sin is a good dramatic picture. Some fine views of Berne are shown, and the comics include Unlucky Bill and The Orderly.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—The Passion Play is the principal attraction, and good business has been done.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL (SHAW).—Proprietor, Mr. A. Ashworth.—The Last of the Stuarts and Unexpected Santa Claus are good dramatic pictures; Three-Fingered Kate and The Gold Digger's Son are very interesting; The Dancing Tabloids, Why Jones Could Not Sleep, Sack Race, and The Servant of the Actress are excellent.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company opened here on Easter Monday for a stock season with *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Karl Edwards gives a lively impersonation of Conn, and is generally amusing; Mr. E. Holland Day does well as Robert Ffolliott, and Mr. John Soden is natural as Father Dolan; Miss Evie Conway enacts Arte O'Neal; Miss Mabel Parker is successful as Mrs. O'Kelly; and Miss Elma C. Turner delineates Claire Ffolliott effectively.

NEW THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas. — Remembering the great success that attended their variety season last September, the management have this vacation again made arrangements with Mr Milton Bode for a similar season, which opened on Easter Monday, when the theatre was packed at both houses. Mephisto tops the bill with his wonderful illusions; Vandinoff is uncommonly good as a lightning artist; Hall Bert gives a marvellous exhibition as the elastic comedian; Charles Grantley scores heavily as an unusual comedian; and other successful turns are contributed by Tom E. Dean, new comedian; Mollie Watson, vocalist and comedienne; the Sisters Dudley, vocal duettists; and Miss Ada Tilley and company, in the farcical episode *A Call to Arms*. The premier Imperial pictures conclude a capital programme.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The Lizzetti troupe of lady acrobats and tumblers, singers and dancers, top the bill, and their versatile entertainment is thoroughly appreciated; Tom Jones is a comedian of quaint and original methods; the Macdonald troupe of Highland dancers give an artistic and smart exhibition; J. C. Lawrence, Scotch comedian, performs in his usual humorous manner; Mary J. Meek, ballad vocalist, is warmly applauded; as a ventriloquist Cyril Marcill furnishes a capital entertainment; Mollie Angarde is a dainty comedienne and sings well; and the Delmore Comedy Trio keep the fun well sustained in their clever skit *In a Pix*.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Lady Mansel and her talented juveniles contribute the chief turn to this week's programme, and are as entertaining as ever; Lily Burnand scores as a burlesque actress, her singing and deportment being alike excellent; Chorley and Conner are a couple of smart patter comedians and clever dancers; Billy Oswald and Madge Locke are amusing in their farcical sketch *The

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Large holiday crowds testify to the continued popularity of *Two Little Drummer Boys*. In the title-rôles the Misses Maggie English and Maud Douglas give an excellent account of themselves. Mr. Edward Bekker gives an admirable rendering of Captain Kingsley, V.C. The play is well staged and acted by an able company. Prince's Pictures precede each performance.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Of a well-varied and entertaining programme the chief item is a realistic episode entitled *The Adder's Tooth*, presented by Louis Taylor's company. It is an exciting miniature melodrama, which holds the attention of the audience throughout. The Six Cattaneos are a clever and amusing troupe of hand-balancers and acrobats; S. Bedford and company provide much mirth by their farcical sketch, entitled *The Second Mrs. Chester;* the Sisters Deyland are charming duettists and danseuses; and the Raymond Trio are a clever troupe of musicians and dancers. The following also contribute excellent turns: Lily Dunne, Harry Nelson (comedian), Allsopp and Beckwith (comedy duo), and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—This house was absolutely packed on Monday, the star attraction being Little Tich, whose songs "The Park Keeper," "Queen of the Fairies," and "A Risky Thing to Do," sung with his well-known drollery, kept the audience in continuous laughter. George Newburn gave clever impersonations of well-known music-hall stars. Other artists winning favour were Hayes and Watson, Curwen and Bell, Maud Esmond, Margaret Ismay and her white coons, and Jack Rossiyn.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Three crowded houses tested this week's fare with evident appreciation. On Monday a military episode, *The King*, was elaborately presented by Reginald Eyre and company, Mr. Henry Bedford's portrayal of the old sergeant being very good; the coloured comedians Scott and Whaley are laughter-makers; Samuel Eton, the silent comedian, is very comical; Mr. Arthur Aldridge's fine tenor voice is heard to advantage; Seener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers are admired; a farcical skit, *Cupid's Arms*, is provided by Frank Danby; and J. C. Piddock, Iris Banfield, Hector and Lottetta, the Christie Duo, and the Anzonia Trio are also on the bill.

Preston.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—The attraction for Easter is *The Chorus Lady*, including Mr. William Mollison and Miss Annie Hughes. Mr. William Mollison is exactly suited to the part of Dan Mallory, which he portrays in a most natural manner; Mr. Fred A. Marston is a success as Patrick O'Brien; Mr. Henry Deas in the part of Dick Crawford is decidedly good; Messrs. Ernest Kendrick and James Calender, as the two stable boys, the Duke and Jakey, acquit themselves capably; Miss Agnese D'Aragon gives a clever character sketch of the old wardrobe woman at the theatre; Miss Josephine Woodward plays with feeling as Mrs. O'Brien; Miss Elsie Vron-Neville as Nora O'Brien displays much ability; and Miss Annie Hughes as Patricia O'Brien wins all hearts, and turns her audience from laughter to tears, and vice versâ, in a truly marvellous manner.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—As mirth-providers it would be hard to beat the Six Brothers Luck in their sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps;* Ida Kessanly's fox-terriers are a marvel of animal training; the Claymore Trio, dancing club jugglers, give a clever and novel turn; the Six White Boys, in speciality singing and dancing, come in for a good reception; Hayman and Franklin's players in a laughable Hebrew sketch *Toplitsky* cause much merriment; and A Lesson in Domestic Economy on the Bioscope concludes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., in the domestic drama, *An Old Man's Darling*, is doing good business here this week.—Mr. S. Radcliffe as George Ricroft is excellent; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon as Jack Lee plays in a natural and convincing manner; Mr. Ernest Wingfield as Cuthbert Blackstand makes an accomplished villain; Mr. Frank Masters is capital as the cool American Silas C. Spratt; Mr. E. W. Duxfield is a typical Parson Hartley; Mr. Bert Dench as Billy Barleycorn adds much to the humour; and Miss Jennie Hallworth is a vivacious Molly. Miss Violet Wingfield is clever as Dick; Miss Lillian Beaumont displays ability as Mary Winters; Miss Nina Vaughton in the title-rôle of Bessie Earnshaw gives a sympathetic rendering; and Miss Emilie Entwistle both acts and sings well. Miss Lily Ashby's Martha Earnshaw is a capital bit of acting.

Radcliffe.—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company are receiving much support in *The Old Home*. As Daddy Dean Mr. Charles Franmore gives a most realistic rendering; while Miss Nina Blake Adams as Hazel Dean is seen to perfection. The acting of Mr. Evelyn A'Dell as the Rev. Eric Armstrong deserves high commendation; Miss Harriette Loydall as Bridget Donoghon is effective throughout; Mr. Fred L. Connynhame deserves praise as Sam Adams; and the villainies of Lord Avondale are in the safe hands of Mr. Horatio Sinclair. The elaborate properties of the third act are also worthy of special mention.

Ramsgate.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Dickie Clare's comedians have been diverting large audiences at the Palace Theatre this week with performances of the lively musical play, *Lucky Lisa*. Miss Madge Brownie is delightfully vivacious in the title-rôle, and her contributions help in large measure to enhance the success of the show; Mr. Clare himself is admirable in a comic triple part; as the Judge he is immense; and others who do good work are Miss Vesta Brownie, Miss Constance Bellamy, and Mr. J. W. Benson. Smart dances are performed by the Jesmond Trio.

Marina Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Holiday audiences thoroughly enjoyed the programmes given twice nightly here. The animated pictures are varied and interesting, and Mal Vern, who is described as "the laughing cyclone," has given some much-appreciated turns.

Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion.—Proprietor, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Manager, Mr. Charles Price.—On Sunday evening the Pavilion, which promises to do good business under its new and enterprising management, was packed to hear a capital programme of music by the band of the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers. During the week the fine skating rink at the Pavilion has been extensively patronised. The bookings for the summer dramatic season are very attractive.

Rawtenstall.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees, The Manchester Electric Theatres, Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—The pictures here include All on Account of Milk, Generous Rivals, Music Hath Charms, Pygmalion, A Forgotten Watch, Performing Lions, The Sham Sword Swallower, and Quick, I'm on Fire! most of which are exceptionally interesting or humorous. The variety turns are supplied by Gertie Rex, a charming comedienne, who is deservedly applauded; and Hector and Lorraine, described as novelty grotesque comedians, in their series of original items, are heartily applauded.

Reading.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mrs. Brown-Potter, supported by a strong company, is appearing this week in the powerful French drama *Madame X*. Mrs. Brown-Potter displays her histrionic powers to the greatest advantage in the character of Jacqueline Fleuriot; Mr. Leonard Fagden is excellent in the part of Louis Fleuriot; Mr. Douglas Allington is efficient as Raymond; the humorous element is well provided for by Mr. Thomas Sidney as Perissard, and Mr. H. Breckmann as Merivel; and all the other parts are in good hands. The company is under the able management of Messrs. Baring Bros. (by arrangement with Chas. Frohman and H. W. Savage).—A matinée was given on Wednesday, which was well attended, and good business has been done throughout the week.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—A splendid holiday programme is being presented here for Easter week, Brown, Le Clerq, and company appear successfully in a comedy absurdity, *Black Justice;* the Sisters Robertson are acceptable duettists and dancers; Corcoran Bros. present a clever musical speciality; the Seaside Girls give an up-to-date "Bathing" scena in dashing style; Will Harris and Charles Banks are both good comedians; Florrie Delamere is an accomplished comedienne and specialty dancer; and Grant and Grant, American octoroons, gain great applause for their excellent singing and dancing. The Bioscope completes the show.

Vaudeville Electric Theatre (Broad-street).—The popularity of this place of entertainment is shown by the fact that it has had to be considerably enlarged. The extension was opened last week, and a capital series of living pictures, including reproductions of the Boat Race and Grand National Steeplechase, have drawn crowded houses throughout the holidays.

West's Picture Palace (West-street).—A splendid series of pictures are being displayed here, and excellent business is being done.

Bio Picture Land (King's-road).—A most attractive continuous show is being given here.

The Roller Skating Rink, Vastern-road, has been thronged during the holidays, many enthusiasts remaining throughout the day on Good Friday and Easter Monday. The floor is in excellent condition and a good band adds to the attractions.

Ryde.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George Aubrey; Manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.—Apparently animated pictures are to be a permanent attraction in Ryde, as each week has brought an increasing number of patrons to the theatre. On Monday, when a new arrangement of two houses a night was started, Mr. George Aubrey, the general-manager, had the greatest difficulty in coping with the influx of visitors, and hundreds had to be turned away at each performance. An especially attractive programme was presented, the films including a representation of the Life of Napoleon, and a pathetic episode entitled Laddie. Amongst the variety turns, Miss Maudie Zedna, a talented acrobatic dancer, found favour.

Salford.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds is producing *The King's Romance* here. An account appears elsewhere.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Dave Samuels, the American Hebrew comedian, smartly heads an excellent programme this week. The Richards Trio of comedy acrobats do some very clever work; *The Broken Statue* is a very comical absurdity by Charles Harvey and company; Talbot and Pearce give a delightful Japanese musical scena; May Lilian Levey gets much applause for her male impersonation songs; Lily Black, comedienne, Louis J. Seymour, light comedian, Rose Gower, vocalist, W. B. Raby, comedian, and Dorothy Watson, in songs at the piano also appear with advantage.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Fred Karno's *Football Match*, with Will Poluski as Stiffy, the goalkeeper, keeps the house in roars; Dave Carter has a good reception for his tenor songs; Zeleski does some marvellous contortionistic work. Smart turns are also given by Ruby Roya, comedienne and dancer; Cadwell and Verne, in pretty scena *Early-Closing Day*, and Fanny Humber, in musical bells, &c., act.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent Animated Pictures this week include Wild Duck Hunting, Maggie's Dolly Day with Boy Scouts, The Course of True Love, Sword and the King, Cloister Touch, and Pals. Mr. Tom Sherlock is assisted by the audience with his song "Because I love you."

Central Hall (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond Pictures continue to draw well this week, and include several excellent films.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—Love's Tragedy, A White Lie, A Brave Woman's Resource, Poor Musician, Eloping with Auntie, and Oxford and Cambridge Boatrace are among this week's films here.

Scarborough.—Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Chas. Constant's company opened here on Saturday night with *Florodora*. Mr. Johnny Schofield causes considerable merriment as Anthony Tweedlepunch; the rôle of Cyrus Gilfain is very ably sustained by Mr. Stanley White; Miss Kate Lester is distinctly successful as Lady Holyrood; Mr. Courtier Dutton is a commendable Frank Abercoed; Mr. Johnny Junior is good as Arthur Dougal; Miss Danby is a pleasing Angela Gilfain; and Miss Daisy Lake gives a good rendering of Dolores. The minor parts are in capable hands. "La Danse des Apaches" is cleverly executed by Miss Josephine Ellis and Mr. Johnny Junior.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Auguste Van Biene and Son's company are appearing here in *Man and Wife*, with Mr. Jerrold Ord as Paul. Mr. George Overa as the Cripple, and Miss Kate Hallam as Marcelle.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—The musical season commenced here on Thursday, the 24th ult., when an excellent programme was submitted, those responsible for the same being the Baroness Von Eckardstein's private band, with Mr. C. H. Allan conducting, and the Queer Quakers' Costume Concert Party.

The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bench.—A lengthy programme here includes the troupe of lady swimmers, Victor Newman (impersonator), the New Macs, Johnny Dwyer, Ethel Thompson (vocalist), the RaHis, in a sketch, E. J. Sheldon (comedian), J. Holland and company, in a small sketch, Rex Kempton (dancer), and the Bioscope.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is the Easter attraction here with *Sunday*, with Miss Janet Lind in the title-rôle.

Seacombe.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here with *The Breed of the Treshams*. Lieut. Beresby, "the Rat," receives a clever and powerful interpretation from Mr. Sydney Bland; Mr. Alfred Holles presents a vigorous and convincing portraiture of Viscount Dorsington, and the unenviable rôle of Col. Clement Hungerford is skilfully played by Mr. George Butler; Mr. Walter Jackson gets in some sound work as Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham, and Miss Grace Harlington scores as Batty; Miss Mildred Hodson proves herself admirably adapted for the exacting part of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, which she plays with commendable ability. The massed scenes are excellently managed, and the play is a distinct success.

Sheerness.—Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Crowded audiences witnessed the two performances here on Monday. Mrs. Mark Melford and company head the bill in the screaming absurdity *Planted*, and cause much laughter. The scenery is excellent. Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, in his well-known style, contributes several pleasing items. A notable turn is that of Sydney Russell's Four Sydney Girls, who have a flattering reception; Emmie Ames does exceedingly well in a charming song scena, "Emmie's Christmas Tree"; other numbers are contributed by Harry Desmond, eccentric comedian; Lillie Hales, queen of the wooden shoes; Bert Anderson, conjurer; Tom Garland, ventriloquist; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

Sheffield.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Easter Monday a crowded audience received with loud and enthusiastic applause Mr. Walter Howard's romantic play, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, magnificently mounted, and acted with the requisite spirit and dash by Messrs. Paumier and Howard's powerful company. The rôle of the gallant hero, Prince Hildred, fitted Mr. Alfred Goddard like the proverbial glove, and Mr. Walter Howard's Prince Olaf was a most commendable and convincing performance. In the pleasing part of the Maid Miss Verity Page realised the author's conception; Miss Annie Saker looked charming as Princess Monica, and she acted in a graceful and effective manner; Mr. Victor Rae was good as Michael; and all the other characters were played with energy, tempered by discretion. The scenery, costumes, and accessories were admirable, and the entire performance showed artistic care and perfect stage-management.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—The new and interesting domestic and sensational drama, *When a Lass Loves*, well staged and excellently acted, is being performed to large holiday audiences this week by Mr. Tom Cruven's company.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—On Monday Mr. Will Casey's company opened to a good house in the new emotional comedy-drama, *An Unwedded Wife*. The great local favourite, Miss Chrissie Dunbar, was a handsome, well-dressed, and emotional representative of Lady Marion, and good work was done by Miss Ethel Spence, Miss Annie Mitchell, Little Doris, and Messrs. E. St. Clair Forbes, Will Casey, Gilbert Elvin, Arthur Cheeves, H. Hammerton, Frank Masters, E. Turner, R. Younge, and W. Fisher.

Empire Palace.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The enterprising management have provided a novelty to latter-day audiences this week in the shape of a genuine Italian comic ballet d'action, performed with characteristic grace and animation by Signor Rossi's ballet troupe, with special scenery and effects. The generous bill of fare also includes Miss Alexandra Dagmar, a splendidly costumed burlesque artist; the elegant and talented Sisters Caselli, vocalists and dancers; the Tom Davies Trio, sensational loopists; Messrs. Farr and Farland, comedians and patter merchants; Mr. Dion Wade, comic singer; the Channings, novelty act; Miss Dot Hardy, soubrette; Mr. Charles Santon, vocalist; the Bioscope, with artistic new pictures; and Mlle. Juliette's famous trained sea lions, in a pleasing and humorous entertainment.

The Hippodrome.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A fine array of talent was billed here for the holidays, the following artists being well received by big houses on Monday:—Ye Colonial Septette, in a vocal sketch, "Old Halloween"; the Three Braggs, acrobats, in "The Human Bridge"; the Forsythes, in a humorous trifle, *La Poupée;* Miss Dorothy Gould, a chic comedienne; Mr. Dan Whitley, a quaint and diverting comic vocalist; Miss Lily Bell, serio-comic; the Waltons, lively Chinese acrobats and drolls; Mr. George Rapley, comedian; the Bijou Troupe of clever juveniles, in *Pansy's Birthday;* Mr. Herbert Dickeson's company, in a laughable farce, *A Fair Exchange;* and Miss Alice Hoodless, in an artistic and well-staged entertainment realising famous Academy pictures.

Shrewsbury.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Mr. J. Leigh Cameron's excellent company was here on the first three nights of this week with the exciting drama, *The Great Awakening*. Mr. Chris A. Olga played with care and ability the part of James Selby, an escaped convict; Mr. Andrew Esmond made a dignified and highly successful Sir Henry Marton; Mr. Basil Mitchell merited considerable praise as Jack Marton; Mr. Tom Arkinstall as Guy Logan, the unprincipled adventurer, performed the part most creditably; Mr. Chas. H. Mortimer was a manly and thoroughly capable Capt. Harry Lambart; Mr. Walter Rousby as Billy Brass, his servant, extracted plenty of humour from the rôle; Mr. Harry Hoyland acted creditably as Richard Wilson; Mr. Harry Spencer made a capital waiter as Antoine; Mr. Neville Giordans as Dr. Lang acquitted himself satisfactorily; and Mr. R. J. Turner as Sergt. Brew was worthy of praise.

Smethwick.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Another Man's Wife*, presented by Mr. Fred Granville's Productions, Limited, is proving a great attraction. Mr. Alfred D. Adams presents a finished study of Carlos De Vergas; Mr. Fred Granville sustains the character of the villain, Paul Bernstoff, with realism; Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland is responsible for a manly study of Gilbert Eardley; an amusing portrayal of Sam Smiles comes from Mr. Willie Reid, ably assisted by Miss Marion Mayne as Tibby; Mr. Leonard Marshall is a droll Andy Bremmer; Mr. Fred Forde a dignified Count Pelikoff; Mr. Edwin Davis appears to advantage as Colonel Matterson; and Lucy De Vergas' fortunes are portrayed in a distinctly effective manner by Miss Ruby Loncraine. Miss Lilian Radbourne ably portrays Inez De Castro, an adventuress; Miss Lily Griffin makes a lively Maisie.

Southampton.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The holiday attraction is *Pinkie and the Fairies*, charmingly presented by Messrs. Max Montesole and Angus McLeod's company. The juvenile performers are all wonderfully clever, Miss Kathleen Yorke being a dainty Pinkie; Miss Aileen Faithful is a charming Elf Pickle; Miss Hetty Kenyon, a smart dancer, as Queen of the Fairies; Miss Dollie Summers an amusing Herald; and Miss Lucie Caine a fascinating Cinderella. All the "grown-ups" are capital, and the mounting is superb.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—The Easter bill of fare is a most attractive one. Vesta Tilley is, of course, the trump card, and her delightful male impersonations are received with thunders of applause. She sings five songs at every performance, and then the audience clamour for more. Fred Russell and his "Coster Joe" constitute the ventriloquial star, and the programme is further contributed to by Fred Evans, in a smart protean skit; Bert Weston, a clever comedian; the Dixon Trio, banjoists and dancers; Zethus, cornet soloist and imitator; and Addie Adell, vocalist. The Hippodrome pictures depict the Oxford and Cambridge Boatrace.

Palace.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The principal attraction here is A. C. Lilly and company, in the military sketch *Drummed Out*, which is very successfully played. The Selbinis give a wonderful cycling act; Tom Gott is an entertaining dialect comedian; Gladys Witton, vocalist, Baker and de Sales, Reg. Ewen, and Burley and Burley also successfully contribute.

The Philharmonic Hall and Empire Theatre are both receiving good patronage. The films, which cover a wide series of subjects, appeal to all tastes.

Southport.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—A great attraction is provided for the Easter holiday week by the Moody-Manners Grand Opera company, who opened here on Monday, in *Faust*. A magnificent interpretation of Gounod's celebrated opera was presented to a packed and enthusiastic house. Mr. Charles Manners once again appeared in the rôle of Mephistopheles, which he depicted with weird and realistic effect, his grand vocal ability and high histrionic power being warmly applauded; Miss Kate Anderson presented a brilliant and charming study of the beautiful Marguerita, her singing throughout, especially in the famous Jewel Song being superb; the title-part was sustained by Mr. Seth Hughes with striking success, alike in a dramatic and vocal sense, his fine tenor voice being heard to great advantage; Mr. Lewys James was a highly commendable representative of Valentine, his vocal numbers being finely rendered; Miss Bessie Weir found favour with her artistic portrayal of Siebel. The choruses were admirably rendered, and the orchestra, under the able conductorship of Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, contributed to the success of a very enjoyable performance. The programme for the week includes *Samson and Delilah*, *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *La Tosca*, and *Il Trovatore*.

South Shields.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones presents *When Other Lips* to crowded houses. Mr. John Davidson portrays the hero Ted Daunton in a breezy manner; Mr. T. Arthur Jones is very successful as P. B. Jenkins, M.D.; Miss Marie Daventry is a sweet and charming Ruth Lingley; Miss Florence Melrose-Millett submits a powerful delineation of Octavia; the comedy element is strongly represented by Mr. Charles Preece as Tommy Neccles, Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey as Duddle Topwash, and Miss Mary Neilson as Kitty Topwash. The mounting is all that can be desired.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item is George Lashwood, with a budget of new songs, who has a flattering reception; a powerful and romantic sketch, entitled *The Last of the Desmonds*, is well received; Mabel Mavis, wonderful musician and entertainer on the glassophone and piano, is much appreciated; Edith Fink is a dainty comedienne; good vocalism is submitted by Leah Arden; Phil Herman, vocal comedian, Mme. Mercer, illustrated songstress, Consell and Mills, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

Spennymoor.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The principal attraction here in a strong list of varieties is Consul, the almost man, and large crowds attend nightly; Will Netta's Singing Jockeys, Miss Daisy Silcott, comedienne, Mr. W. H. Downs, coloured tenor, Ess and Hoey, Canadian ski and skate dancers, and Jack and Willie, hand and head balancers, are also in the bill.

St. Helens.—Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—The special attraction here is *The Bondman*, presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke's principal company, and crowded houses are the order of the night. Mr. Philip Darien's Jason is an admirable piece of acting, which thoroughly pleased the audience, and at the same time moves them to pity; no less successful is Mr. Stanley Harrison, who, in the part of Michael Sunlocks, wins golden opinions; Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith makes an excellent Adam Fairbrother; and Miss Madge Lanerton gives a realistic touch to the rôle of Mrs. Fairbrother. Highly finished character studies are supplied by Mr. W. H. Rotheram, who doubles Grandfather and Father Ferrati. All praise is due to Miss Violet Macaree for her portrayal of Greeba, which is full of tender womanly feeling and deep pathos. The play is staged elaborately.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Welsker.—The Harvey Boys, in their capital turn, give great satisfaction; Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas are clever; Ross and Lewis gain much applause for droll eccentricity; Little Pam is a smart boy; and Edith Haley is encored for her songs. Harry Bickley is very amusing in dialogue; and Bert Woodward's bicycle act is well done.

Stockport.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *A Girl's Temptation*, has proved a capital attraction for the Easter holidays. Mr Frank V. Fenn gives a powerful impersonation of Guy Warren; Mr. Clifton Earle acts effectively as Mark Claw; as Basile Warren Mr. Charles Herbert portrays the character with ability; the Hon. Charles Clade is pleasingly presented by Mr. Tim Handley; and Mr. Freddie Bentley is genuinely funny as Sammy Sniggles. Miss Gertrude Gilbert acts feelingly as Kate Stirling; Miss Winnie Donovan is a capable Lady Constance Heathfield; and Miss Blanche Lee appears with marked success as Annie Brown.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The popular comedians Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley are again here, creating abundant laughter, and another favourite is Adah Payne, who sings delightfully The De Breans in their Japanese performance are entertaining; Arabella Allen in characters from famous authors gives clever and interesting impersonations; Mollie Doon is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Tennyson and Wallis are amusing comedians; a laughable sketch is presented by Ralph and Nellie Howard; and Joe S. Atkin meets with a fair share of success.

Stockton-on-Tees.—Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—*The Woman in the Case* is here this week. Miss Winifred Pearson, as Claire Foster, plays with dramatic skill; Miss Kathleen Russell makes a fine Margaret Rolfe; Mr. W. Kershaw a powerful Julian Rolfe; Mr. James Lindsay excels in the part of Thompson. *Her Ladyship's Guest* precedes.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Kremo Family, one of the finest combinations of Risley acrobats, gave a wonderful performance here; Bert Williams, ventriloquist, is popular; Tom Kelso and Edie George have a successful sporting act, *Yoicks and a Yoke*, distinguished by excellent singing and dancing; Blanco White and Miss Clifford are interesting vaudeville entertainers; Leolin is a clever novelty juggler; Stanley and Groenop submit a banjo speciality act; Frank Solbey is a pleasing comedian; the Countees are harmonising duettists; and the Bioscope concludes.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The romantic play *The Woman Pays* is presented by Mr. Thorne's company. Miss Alice Greenwood as Madge Armstrong is all that can be desired; Miss Kate Blair makes a good Nell Morland; Mr. Phil Harper a powerful Sid Armstrong; and Mr. Raymond Thomas is very good as Roger Marchant.

Stoke-on-Trent.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The Columbia Trio contribute some amusing vocal selections, which are highly appreciated; Belrose and De Velin are vocalists whose contributions have a well-merited reception; Sidney Brandon's character impersonations are good; George Geoffries is a clever dancer and mimic; the Sisters Brenton are charming comediennes and dancers; and very clever in her line as a trapeze artist is Lily Le Breton. Also to be noted are Silly Billy Elliott, Jessie Wilton, and the Perfection pictures.

Stourbridge.—Alhambra Theatre and Palace of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Leo Carle, with his one-man comedy-drama, *The Betrayed Professor*, is here; the Belmonts give a dancing turn; Herman and Evelyn are a capital duo; and Seigel and Fields, in a drawing-room act, foot the bill.

Sunderland.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here, in *For Wife and Kingdom*. Miss Hettie Zilwood does justice to the part of the Duchess Marie; Miss Lilian Malvern is excellent as Esther; and Miss Margaret R. Frame acts forcibly as Camille von Nestolde. Mr. Reginald T. Fox gives a capital rendering of Capt. Maximilian Lubeck; as also does Mr. Frank Sutherland of General von Nestolde; Mr. Albert Guyon as Baron Breslaw is an effective villain; and the humour is in the good hands of Miss Alice Buckland (Nita Constadt) and Audrey Canning (Ottillie Schwartz) and Messrs. Chas. H. Gallier (Sergt. Offenbach) and Fred Osmonde (Karl Ludhayr).

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in their novel racing act, entitled *Not a Crook*, are proving a great draw; the Wedburns, comedians and instrumentalists, are also scoring well; while Fame and Fortune cause much amusement. The principal picture is one of travel, entitled Through Bangkok.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Large audiences are being attracted by an excellent programme. Kell and Kelso win favour with their humorous song and smart simultaneous dancing; William's Welsh Minstrels contribute some fine vocal work, which is much admired; The Tattooed Arm is a good dramatic film, and The United States Army is equally effective.

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—At the top of an excellent programme is Alice Raymond, with her company of instrumentalists, in her musical scena, "A Night in Egypt"—great skill is displayed in the playing of various wind instruments, and the scenic effects are most elaborate; Leonora Chadburn's young stars also contribute a pleasing musical act, entitled "A Picnic up the River," in which there is some capital singing and dancing; the Bros. O'Brien are highly successful in their skilful horizontal bar feats; Harry Friskey supplies a humorous juggling turn, which is the cause of much laughter; Alf Gibson, comedian, puts himself on good terms with his audience by his droll manner; and Charles Vincent, comedian, is equally well received. Billy Hobbs is enthusiastically applauded for his clever dancing; and a capital film on the Bioscope concludes.

King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow. Mr. George Dance's company is presenting *Our Miss Gibbs* before crowded houses. Miss Kathleen Courtney fills the title-rôle with much grace and charm, singing and speaking with equal facility; Miss Nancy Hervyn submits a convincing and finished study of Madame Jeanne, the modiste; Miss Gladys Ivery furnishes a pretty conception of the part of Lady Elizabeth, and is responsible for some capital vocalism; while as her mother, the Duchess of Minster, Miss Winifred Knightly could scarcely be excelled; Miss Jeannie Richards plays with effect as Mrs. Farquhar; Mr. Tom Shelford as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepont causes endless laughter; Mr. Theodore Leonard's cousin Timothy is well-nigh perfect; Mr. J. E. Stevenson is an adroit Slithers; and Mr. R. M. Strachan is good as Mr. Toplady. Mr. Craufurd Kent gives a meritorious and emotional performance of Lord Rynsford; and Mr. Ernest Darrell as Earl St. Ives is a typical representative of the peerage. The dancing and chorus work is exceptionally well done, and the scenery is of a high order.

Swindon.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians* provide a capital holiday attraction. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson gives a decidedly humorous impersonation of James Smith; Mr. Alfred Beers scores a success as Peter Doodey; Mr. Arthur S. MacDonald ably portrays Jack Meadows; the Bobby of Mr. Syril Lane is very good; as also is Mr. Wallace G. Court as Sir George Paddock. Mr. Horace Nye is commendable as Time; Miss Gertrude Alyward infuses plenty of humour into the part of Mrs. Smith; Miss Molly McIntyre makes a pleasing Eileen Cavanagh; Cryseа finds a capable exponent in Miss Violet Roberts; and Sombra is charmingly represented by Miss Sybil Tancredi. The smaller characters and chorus help to complete an excellent production.

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures this week include The Duke's Plan, The Betraying Mirror, Lake of Lucerne, A Prince's Word of Honour, Life of Moses, and a fine film of Swindon and Newcastle Cup Tie.

Todmorden.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—A hearty reception was given Mr. Morton Powell's excellent company on Monday, when *How Girls are Brought to Ruin* was presented to a large audience. The much-wronged Jessie Burton is portrayed with great power and sympathy by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne; Mrs. Morton Powell acts her part of Minnie Waters to perfection; Miss Jeannie Risley is good as Lucy Lawton, and Mrs. Burton (Jessie's stepmother), is cleverly depicted by Miss Kathryn Eckhart; Miss Addie Adair is very capable as Mrs. Slut; Mr. Harry Scott gives a thoroughly convincing performance of Harry Hailing; Mr. Edward M. Heanley's delineation of Philip Edge is noticeable for its perfect composure and clearness of utterance; Solomon Sleek is well played by Mr. Alaric Burton; Mr. Sydney Bryant is funny as Jack Jossle, and Mr. Julian Mitchell as Mr. Sterling wins well-merited applause.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—A good house assembled here on Monday night, when an interesting programme was presented. Perhaps the best film is A Story of Circus Life. Other good ones are Into the Shadow, Fisherman's Bride, and on

mont; a very amusing version of Coombes was given by Mr. F. Wilson Lowther; and Mr. Victor Howard and Miss Linda Arthur were smart and interesting juveniles.

KING'S PALACE.—Record patronage is being bestowed on this popular hall, where good pictures are always shown. Attractive varieties are Adelina, Miss Annie Lang, and The Vaudevilles.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Fred Grenville.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, is the attraction here. As Sonia Miss Phyllis Le Grand is charming and delightful, and Mr. Fred Leslie as Prince Danilo is extremely artistic and effective also in his acting. Encores are frequent for the famous waltz. Mr. Edward D'Arcy has a splendid conception of the character of Baron Popoff, and screams of laughter reward his efforts. Frou Frou is admirably impersonated by Miss Katie May, and Mr. Fred Fowler is highly successful in the rôle of Nisch. The Apache dance has also to be repeated many times.

EMPIRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The large holiday audiences are delighted with the bill of fare provided here this week. The Craggs are always very popular at West Hartlepool, but they are greatly enhancing their reputation this week with their act, "Territorials; or, England's Last Hope." Their acrobatic feats, we need hardly say, are performed with brilliance and dexterity, and Billy, as usual, causes much fun. Charlier, French ventriloquist and comedian, works his dummies with extreme smartness, especially in the dances; the Two St. Johns are in great favour, they are very clever as musical comedians, campanologists, and dancers; Mona Garrick's scenes from various plays make a great impression; and Carl Howard, the "Komic Un," assisted by Miss Lily Foy, the vanishing lady, causes a great deal of mirth. Dacey and Lewis are good entertainers, and Arthur Albert, actor and vocalist, takes well.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's répertoire company is paying another visit here, and on Monday *The Marriage of Kitty* was staged. Mr. Norman V. Norman acted with his usual ability as Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr. Frederick Lock gave a clever interpretation of John Travers; Mr. Norman Leslie excelled as Norbury; and Mr. Alfred Wiltshire did well as Hampton. Miss Beatrice Wilson has never been seen to better advantage than in the character of Kitty; Miss Kathlene Lewis proved herself a thorough artist as Madam de Semiano; and Miss Betty Stanard was delightful as Rosaline. *Caste* and *David Garrick* are in the week's bill.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company is visiting the town for the second time. Mr. Geo. A. Fox was excellent as Capt. Geo. Fielding; as the scoundrel, Capt. Edward Dudley, Mr. Robert Gilbert did good work; Mr. Deane Cliffe was praiseworthy as Featherstone Haugh; Mr. James Salter was an extremely comical Silas Crump; Mr. W. H. Troutbeck as Smith is entitled to eulogy; Miss Kathleen Stewart made a charming Ruth Montrose, and Miss Gertrude de Lacy was equally successful as Dorothy Montrose; Miss Lillie Elvido as Rosy and Miss Iris Elvido as Polly were both much appreciated, especially for their dancing; Miss Madge Delta did well as Maud, and Miss Nellie Harcourt was satisfactory as Judith.

WEYMOUTH.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris's company opened on Bank Holiday for six nights' Shakespearean productions, commencing with *The Merchant of Venice*. Miss Harris gave a fine rendering of Portia; and Mr. Frank Collier's Shylock was a powerful embodiment. Mr. H. P. Owen as Antonio, Mr. James Mason as Salarino, Mr. Eugene Weliesley as Salanio, Mr. J. H. Irvine as Bassanio, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree as Gratiano, and Mr. Murray Kinnell as Lorenzo all rendering valuable support. Miss Mary Goulden made a charming Nerissa; and Miss Madge Spencer capably represented Stephano. Miss Ine Cameron was a winning Jessica; and Mr. Arthur Seaton and Mr. Frank Mayes as Launcelot Gobbo and old Gobbo won hearty approval. Mr. Owen Ediss was very good as Leonardo; and Mr. H. P. Owen did well as Tubal.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—*Pete* is being presented here to crowded audiences. Mr. F. Victor gives a powerful impersonation of the title-rôle; Mr. Alfred Lugg sustains the rôle of Philip Christian with ability; Mr. Maurice Yorke is a conspicuous success as Ross Christian; Mr. Ellis J. Preston gives a capital portrayal of Cæsar Cregreen; Miss Constance Bachner makes a sympathetic Kate; and admirable assistance is rendered by Miss A. Eden as Nancy.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Achmed Ibrahim's Troupe of Bedouin Arabs are loudly applauded for their skilful acrobatic and tumbling performance; Victor Kelly is an eccentric comedian of considerable merit; Tom Joy, "the man without a smile," also creates much laughter; Dancit, "the Australian nugget," dances himself into favour; Jennion's Marionettes are entertaining; Eva Chadwick is encored for her vocal selections; mirth is derived from the comedy juggling of Wisper; and the eccentric triple-bar act by the Maros, and other capital items are supplied by the Stein-Esthors, and Beattie Bloom, comedienne.

WISHAW, N.B. — PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The Tokio troupe of Japanese Oriental Entertainers, in a series of daring and bewildering feats, are here this week. Captain Devereux's dramatic and pugilistic dogs are decidedly clever; the Boston Twins, comedians and dancers, are well received; Stanley and Vandyke, in a comedy act, are good; Emma Don and Co., in her scena, *On the Thames Embankment*, are excellent. A fine series of films is shown on the bioscope.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—The holding capacity of this popular house was severely taxed on Monday night, when a crowded audience watched with intense interest *Her Secret Lover*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Mr. Arthur St. John is the possessor of those attributes which go to make a popular hero, and gives a thoroughly consistent portrayal of Gilbert Seymour; another excellent performance is that of Mr. Walter H. Wilson as the sturdy Captain Darrell Rose; Mr. Alfred Stretton succeeds in rousing the ire of the audience as John Strange; and Mr. Robert Lord is an effective Mr. Murfield. Welcome comic relief is provided by Mr. Victor Vernon as Billy Burley and Miss Lynn Darlington as Jane Wilkes, and their efforts to amuse are ably seconded by Mr. J. Newton-Cowley as Jim Jones. The evil machinations of Alicia Royale are realistically portrayed by Miss Flora Leslie; and Miss Laura Walker is to be highly complimented upon her exceptionally clever treatment of the trying part of the unfortunate heroine, Alice Seymour. The scenery is on an elaborate scale.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Both houses here on Monday were packed with holiday-makers. Sandy McNab and company head the list in *The Egyptian Mummy*, which simply convulses the house; another side-splitting turn is that of Wild, Willie, and West as the three bouncing navvies; Paller and Cussick cause amusement in *The Funny Side of Life*; Walker and Lake are capital patter purveyors; Ethel Loftus contributes some genuine low comedy; and L. W. Harris, light comedian, and Gladys Archbutt, comedienne, complete.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Evans.—The star turn is Mr. John Warren, who gives an excellent display of conjuring and illusions, winding up with a sketch entitled *The Magic Carpet*. A whistler of considerable ability, Miss Mollie Wynter, together with Mr. Warren, in the part of a British officer, Mr. F. G. Fenn as Milligan, Mr. H. J. Collis as a Sergeant, and Mr. Frank Morton as an Afghan, find scope in the sketch for the display of individual ability. The Pichel Troupe of acrobats and tumblers are deservedly popular; and Mr. W. P. Sheen proves himself a most diverting comedian; the Bros. Carney give a clever vocal scena; and Miss Molly Dale and Miss Madge Bryce are attractive vocalists.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Very fine presentments of *Moths*, *Camille*, and *From Frou*, with Miss Henrietta Schrier as Pushia Leach, Marguerite Gautier, and Mlle. Gilbert Brigard. This charming actress infuses life into every character she plays, and her acting is much appreciated. Mr. J. C. Lodge Percy as Lord Jura is grave, dignified, and excellent all round; Mr. Andrew Money is an ideal Russian Prince; whilst Miss Veronica Clinton invests her parts with artistic talent.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—A fine set of films includes The Colleen's Touch. Little Violette, male impersonator, sings and dances well; and Frank Selford and Ethel Mars give us something crisp and fresh in comic songs.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mac.—The "erratic" juggler, Jean Kram, causes roars of laughter. Mr. Billie Barrieton sings selections with ease and power; Mr. Fred Davis makes a welcome call with his comedy songs. The Best Man Wins is a good set of films.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—During the first three nights of the week the farcical comedy, entitled *The Artfulness of Ada*, was presented here by Miss Madge Crichton and company, and was very well received. Miss Crichton as Ada Byron-Bruce was in delightful mood, and gained frequent applause; Mrs. Googlie was in the hands of Miss Kate Kearney, who acted the character in a droll manner; Mrs. Glynn was undertaken by Miss Valerie Crespin with successful results; and Miss Ethel Hart was easy and natural as Lucy. A breezy exposition of Robert Byron-Bruce was given by Mr. Frank Tennant; Mr. J. F. Knowles and Mr. Alick Chumley as Fred Spencer and Tom Senoaks respectively afforded pleasure; and McClosky and Colonel Duval were capably portrayed by Miss Nellie Shirley and Mr. Stanley B. Farbridge. The comedy was preceded by a one-act version of *Auld Robin Grey*, in which the characters were portrayed by Messrs. Alick Chumley and J. Forbes Knowles (the author), and Miss Valerie Crespin. The attraction for the week-end is *Paid in Full*, presented by Mr. Geo. Waters and a strong company.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—There is another grand display of pictures here this week, including The Orphans (a new dramatic picture), Axemen and Roughriders, Her Road to Ruin (another fine drama), An Error of Justice, A Day's Holiday (a laughable film), Wealth and Its Disadvantages, &c. The other chief attractions are a comedy sketch, *Cabby Knows His Fare*, by Messrs. Henshall and Forster, which is highly appreciated; and Miss May Sinclair, a popular comedienne.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington.—Great success has attended the efforts of the York Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society, who have delighted large audiences during the week.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr. Sidney Brooke.—*Long Live the King* is a well-written and neatly played sketch; Little Zola causes much amusement by his antics; as of yore, Annie Purcell sings with much grace and charm; Sara Rosebury in Lancashire songs and stories, is particularly clever; Ferguson and Mack are comedians of the first rank; and the Lyric Mummers give a capital show. Cossett and Partner introduce some clever dogs; and Harry Meegan causes much amusement.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The wonderful paintings by the Countess Bekoffeca have attracted large audiences during the week. St. Vincent Ellesmere is a fine singer; and the bioscope pictures are, as usual, high-class.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—The description of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race has proved very popular. The Triumphant Hero and other fine films are well received; and Harry Harvey's efforts meet with much success.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS,

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

All our places of amusement have renewed their programmes, and are in full swing. The Monnaie was giving on Easter Sunday the thirty-third performance of Puccini's fine opera *Madame Butterfly*. This has been the success of the operatic season. At the Parc, Capus is on the bill with his clever comedy, *Les Deux Ecoles*. The Galeries have been attracting fairly good audiences with Rostand's *Chantecler*.

The Scala and the Alhambra are drawing the crowds with revues, and the Vaudeville holds a success with *Théodore et Cie*. At the Olympia we have to register roars of laughter and full houses to hear a very clever skit on Brussels life and Brusseleers' morals by Frantz Fonson and F. Wicheler. It is called *Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans*, and is a good satire on the Belgian people and customs. Fonson, one of the authors, is the manager of the Olympia and of the Galeries.

The Palais d'Ete reopened its doors as usual on Easter Eve; the programme is "A1." Miss Dagmar Dunbar dances very nimbly; Roger de Beaumercy is making songs to order and to the minute; the Three Stewarts are interesting equilibrists; Rio Hartmann show good canine actors and actresses; Douglas is a fine Parisian singer; the Three Bounding Pattersons have a right to call themselves the world's greatest trampolin bar artists; and the mysterious Durga sends a piano flying through space with the ease of a Japanese fanning off paper butterflies; Smote and Smote are good eccentrics; Harry Lamore made a hit with his antics either as a Chinese conjurer, a comic juggler, or a wire equilibrist. But the stars of the evening were the Leamy Troupe in their sensational aerial act. The girls are young and pretty, and they work with such spirit and gracefulness that the public grow quite enthusiastic. Mr. Leamy himself, looking younger than ever, has his well-deserved share of the ovations bestowed on his accomplished pupils. The artistic manager, Mr. Malpertuis, can be congratulated once more on the programme he has so conscientiously selected for his patrons.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE, in a letter to the *Times*, apropos the performances of *Julius Cæsar* which are to be given during the present Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's Theatre, says: "I notice that *Julius Cæsar* is to be played seven times, six times in the evening and once in the afternoon. Is it too much to ask that on these occasions, or at all events on some of them, we may be permitted to see *Julius Cæsar* as Shakespeare wrote it, without the clumsy additions which were made by another hand? It is hardly possible that any student of Shakespeare, or, indeed, any lover of poetry, can believe that the Fifth Act, as we now have it, was written by the great master to whom we unquestionably owe the earlier acts."

SIR EDWARD CLARKE then goes on to say that, of the 350 lines contained in the act, the whole of the 336 which precede, "This was the noblest Roman of them all," the final words of Antony and Octavius over the body of Brutus, are "at a dead level of dulness, without a single gleam of elevation of thought or distinction of phrase." Sir Herbert Tree replies: "Sir Edward Clarke mentioned this matter to me a year or two ago, when we were playing *Julius Cæsar*, but I did not then have time to give it attention. I have a great respect for Sir Edward Clarke's knowledge of Shakespeare and Shakespearean acting. It is obvious that these lines in the fifth act were filled in by another hand than Shakespeare's, and we have always found them very difficult to get over when giving the play here. They have little point, and make little effect.

"I AM inclined to agree with Sir Edward Clarke that if they were omitted it would shorten the play enough to permit more passages being given from the earlier scenes. It would also obviate the employment of so many supers in the battle scenes of the act. At the same time, it would be a rather drastic use of the blue pencil to cut 336 lines from an act which contains only 350. However, now that the subject has been brought up again, I shall certainly give it my attention, and shall possibly make some extensive cuts in the act for the performances we are about to give."

THE chief attractions at the Ayr Picture Palace entertainment resort this week are The Indian, Annette Kellerman, Cabin Boy to King, The Witch of the Glen, and The Mexican's Revenge. Much mirth is caused by My Lord in Livery, The Cabbage, and The Ruse that Failed.

VERDI AND HIS FRIENDS.

"Verdi," says Mr. Louis Engel, in "From Mozart to Mario, "did for Italian music what Meyerbeer did for French music, what Wagner did for German music. He enhanced the importance of the orchestra, and paid much more attention to the declamatory performance of the meaning; and without going into the sometimes childish significance of every word, of every syllable I might say, as Wagner does with his exaggerated use of Leitmotive, he disdained, as Rossini notably did, in his last operas, to let the singers reap the whole benefit of the musical circus riding; and forced them to be actors as well, and to combine the expression of the music with the expression of the words, the great though exaggerated doctrine of Wagner. Combining this new principle with a nearly unprecedented flow of melody, it is easy to understand that *Nabucco* was expected to make a great sensation, so much so that when, according to usage, Verdi took his place at the beginning between the double-bass and the solo violoncello Merighi, the latter said to him before the overture began: 'Maestro, I would give something to stand in your place to-night.' I have particular pleasure in mentioning this Merighi, because we all owe him something. He was the teacher of Piatti, the idol of the Monday Popular audiences. Merighi's expectations were not only fulfilled, but surpassed to an extent not common in those times. Touching is the modesty of the composer, who, after the performance, went home with a friend to their modest lodging in the fourth floor of a house in the Strada degli Andeghari. The friend, proud of him, said—'Well, I hope you are satisfied?' 'To tell you the truth,' said Verdi, 'when, after the finale of the first act, the whole public got up shouting, vociferating, gesticulating, I was really afraid they mocked at the poor composer, or that they meant to treat me somewhat—practically. I confess I hoped for success, but I did not look for such a triumph.'

"According to the well-known maxim that nothing succeeds like success, the town was at once full of the young composer's name; and though he was not so young as to be a miracle like Mozart, who conducted his first opera at the age of fifteen, he was young enough to arouse in the inflammable hearts of his countrymen the confident hope of a *nuova gloria!* Merelli, who had, in fact, forced upon Verdi the series of triumphs which this first perspective opened, and had from the first shown himself his staunch friend, was, of course, too happy, and pressed Verdi in his arms with Italian impulsiveness. 'Yes,' said Verdi, 'it is all very fine; now you embrace me, but last year, when I was in want of eight pounds, you refused me!' 'What,' said Merelli, 'I refused you! Who says that?' Verdi having named the friend who returned without money from him, Merelli took Verdi at once to him, and then it came out that this man, too shy to ask Merelli for money on behalf of Verdi, had never said a word about it, and when Verdi asked for the result of his message, only shrugged his shoulders; and when Verdi said in despair, 'No money?' he simply said, 'No.' Thus he lied without actually telling a lie, and left Merelli under the suspicion of unkindness. This is a common perfidy. Schiller, in his 'Cabale und Liebe' ('Love and Intrigue'), gives a sharp rebuke to such ambiguous conduct. Louise, in love and despair, finds life unbearable, and tells her father that she is going to jump into the river. 'And did you consider,' asks her father, 'what mortal sin you commit by taking your own life?' 'Well,' says the girl, 'I have made up my mind to ask the Lord's pardon while I am jumping in.' 'That is,' says the father, 'you offer to repent of your theft the moment you know the stolen goods to be secure, and beyond retrieving.' This is just what this man did, and that is why one should be so careful not to believe in gossips. 'Gossips and go-betweens,' says Schiller, 'have done more harm with their tongues than dagger and poison in murderers' hands ever did.'

"The moment the matter was cleared up, Verdi saw that he had no reason to doubt Merelli's friendship; in fact, as was clearly proved, it was to his friendly pressure that he owed the return to a career which was soon to be so successful. It would not be quite inappropriate, 'I reckon,' as the Americans say, to state that the prima donna, who powerfully contributed to the success of *Nabucco* by her brilliant execution, her dramatic power, and an unusually fine voice, was Mlle. Giuseppina Strepponi, who did what I know of no other great singer—she stopped her career while in full possession of her vocal power, her youth and beauty; an extraordinary fact, seeing that usually singers, especially ladies, will never get old, will never stop singing even after youth and voice have left them. Mlle. Strepponi interests us also for quite another reason, for she married, and whom do you think? The subject of these pages, Giuseppe Verdi.

"Merelli next sent for Verdi, and told him that, it having been decided that he should compose the opera d'obbligo for the next season, a contract *en blanc* was prepared. 'Fill in your conditions,' he said, 'and what you write shall be executed.' Verdi asked £300, which was granted. And Ricordi paid for his right of publication £100, which is rather less than what a certain French composer made an English publisher pay for his copyright in England, viz., £4,000, although this latter opera proved such a failure in Paris that it never was engraved here, the publisher not wishing to throw away good money for engraving after bad money paid for copyright. *Nabucco* was played in London in 1857 by both Italian opera companies, though under different names—at Her Majesty's under Lumley, and at Covent Carden under F. Gye.

"Verdi's celebrity at one time was such that he only had one rival, and that was Donizetti. Poor Donizetti, who died soon afterwards of softening of the brain, already began to give signs of failing, but notwithstanding his professional jealousy he fully recognised and admitted Verdi's genius. A false modesty was rather characteristic of the man. I remember having once spoken to him about Rossini. 'Oh,' said he, 'nous ne sommes que de pauvres imitateurs.' I was not the dupe of this, and I said: 'Don't you think Rossini wrote with an immense facility a large number of great works?' 'Oh, quite without precedent,' he said, a certain little sneer lurking in the corner of his eye. 'Oh,' I said, 'but you have written over forty operatic scores to my knowledge.' 'Forty-five,' said he, depreciatingly. 'Well,' I said, 'and Rossini?' 'Thirty-four, so far as I know,' he replied, barely trying to suppress a satisfied smile. Yet Rossini, who with his magnificent *William Tell* voluntarily closed his career, was, so to say, not among living rivals, because he worked no more; but Verdi, who stood on the other end of the ladder, beginning to climb up and threatening to come on very fast, gave Donizetti serious ground for reflection. He was, however, both too honourable and too shrewd to speak ill of Verdi, and once when in his lazy moments he sat down in a fauteuil by the side of the piano and made me play a number of his own motivos and some of Meyerbeer's and Verdi's, especially the quartet from *Rigoletto*, he suddenly jumped up and said: 'It is magnificent; now tell me frankly, is it or is it not more important (plus large) than the sextet of *Lucia?*' 'Can you tell me, maestro,' I said, 'whether a dark beauty or a fair-haired one can be called handsomer? They are both absolute masterpieces, both certain of a long-enduring success, of an eternal encore so long as opera will be given; why must one be handsomer than the other?'"

THE METHODS OF IBSEN.

"Ibsen," wrote Mr. William Archer recently in an interesting article on "The Genesis of Ibsen's Dramas" in the *Fortnightly Review*, "was far from being one of the playwrights who have their plays clearly and definitely mapped out before they put pen to paper. Even in the second draft of his first act of *Pillars of Society* he is still fumbling around after his characters and their relations. The germ of the play, I imagine, lay in its title; at any rate, the phrase occurs and is emphasised early in the first draft. The chief 'pillar of society' was from the first conceived as one of the energetic manufacturer-merchants, with a score of irons in the fire, who are leading figures in all the minor Norwegian towns; and it was of course evident from the first that this pillar of society must be in some way flawed or hollow. But the precise nature of the flaw seems to have been undetermined even when the first draft of the first act was finished. At any rate, Bernick at that point shows none of the uneasiness which in the completed play the return of Johan and Lona naturally causes him; nor is there any preparation in the laying-out of the second act for the great scene between him and Johan in which the true state of matters is revealed. It may be noted that the list of characters includes 'Madam Dorf,' Dina's mother, the woman with whom Bernick had had the intrigue which he contrived to fasten on Johan Tönnesen. In the completed play she has been dead for years; but in the first draft she is alive, and Dina is in the habit of paying her surreptitious visits. We may assume, I think, that Ibsen contemplated some intervention on her part to clear Johan's character and bring the guilt home to Bernick. While she is alive, at any rate, he can scarcely have had the idea of making Bernick try to suppress the scandal by sending Johan and his documents to sea in a coffin-ship. This could not occur to him while the best possible witness to the true state of affairs was living at his very doors. So that evidently the matter of the third and fourth acts, the complication of the seaworthy Palm Tree and unseaworthy Indian Girl, and the flight of Bernick's son Olaf on board the latter, was still far from the poet's conception.

"A prominent character in both drafts of the first act is Bernick's blind mother, who has quite disappeared from the finished play. Mrs. Bernick, and Johan and Hilmar Tönnesen are all three children of a blustering old curmudgeon Mads Tönnesen, nicknamed 'the badger.' He was destined to drop out entirely, his nickname, and some traits of his character, being transferred to Morten Kiil in *An Enemy of the People*. In the first draft Bernick is still arguing for the proposed railway, against the opposition of his business associates; in the completed play the whole argument is conducted behind the scenes, and Bernick has triumphed before he makes his first appearance. This is a good instance of condensation. Another instance may be found in the treatment of Johan Tönnesen and Lona Hessel. In the first draft they are not half-brother and sister, but only, it would seem, distant cousins; they have not been together in America; and it is by pure chance that they arrive on the same day. We first hear of Johan in the following passage. Knap, Bernick's clerk, rushes and tells of the arrival of a ship in need of repairs:

"'BERNICK. Bravo! . . . What ship is it?

"'KNAP. The barque Indian Girl, from New York, with dye-stuffs from Brazil to Petersburg.

"'BERNICK. And the Captain?

"'KNAP. The captain was swept overboard, and the mate is lying ill, delirious. But a sailor that was on board as passenger took the command, and has brought the ship in. . . .

"'BERNICK. You have spoken to him, then?

"'KNAP. Yes. . . . Here is his card

"'BERNICK (*reads*). "John Rawlinson, Esqre., New Orleans."'

"In the second draft the name 'Rawlinson' is changed to 'Tennyson,' which is supposed to be an Anglicised form of 'Tönnesen.' Presently Captain Rawlinson and the crew of the Indian Girl are seen coming up the street, and remarks are made on their ruffianly appearance:

"'MRS. SALVESEN. The captain is almost the worst of them; he looks just like a robber.

"'RECTOR RORLUND. Yes, he's the sort of man that would stick to nothing.

"'BERNICK. They are foreigners, Rector. One mustn't expect too much of them.'

"Then he goes out on the verandah and drops into English:

"'BERNICK (*bowing and calling out*). Good-morning. Master Rawlinson! This way, if you please, sir! I am Master Bernick!

"'CAPTAIN RAWLINSON (*waves his handkerchief and calls*). Very well, Karsten; but first, three hurrah for the old grævling (badger).'

"And the sailors pass on to make a demonstration before the house of old Tönnesen, Rawlinson-Tönnesen's father. Meanwhile Lona Hessel has arrived quite independently by the Hamburg steamer: in one version it is this steamer that has towed the Indian Girl into port. We see, then, that Ibsen wrote two complete drafts of the first act before he realised how unnecessary was this intervention of the long arm of coincidence, and made Johan and Lona arrive together and act in concert throughout.

"In the earliest draft there occurs near the end of Act I. a farcical scene which would have been very shocking to those critics who are pained by Ibsen's 'suburbanism.' The reading-party of ladies is on the point of breaking up when

"'THE CUSTOM-HOUSE OFFICER'S SERVANT (*enters by the garden gate*). The master told me to say that the mistress must come home at once; the cook has spoilt the fish-soup.

"'MRS. RUMMEL. Oh, these servants, these servants! One can't trust them for a moment! Good-bye, good-bye; we shall meet to-morrow. (*Exit hastily.*)

"'MRS. SALVESEN. Yes, that's what comes of trusting your house to servants.

"'THE APOTHECARY'S TWO LITTLE GIRLS (*at the garden gate*). Mama, mama, you must come and look after Nicolai; he's fallen into the washing-tub. . . .

"'MRS. SALVESEN. Oh, these children, these children! Good-bye! I must run as fast as I can. (*Rushes out.*)

"'MRS. HOLT. Yes, that's what happens when you have everything standing open. I make it a rule to keep everything under lock and key; and the keys I keep here (*indicating her pocket*).

"'THE POSTMAN (*comes tearing down the street*). Oh, Lord, ma'am, you must make haste home! The steamer will get away without the mail.

"'MRS. HOLT. The steamer?

"'THE POSTMAN. Yes; the second bell has rung, and the postmaster can't get on board with the mail until you come home.

"'MRS. HOLT. What nonsense! Can't he get the mail off without me?

"'THE POSTMAN. No, for you've locked up his trousers in the wardrobe.

"'MRS. HOLT. Oh, goodness gracious! These men, these men! They can never do a thing for themselves!' (*Rushes out with the Postman.*)

"One cannot actually bewail the loss of this scene. I may add that the coffee-parliament of ladies, which disappears after the first act of the completed play, was apparently at first intended to run through the whole action."

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, FEB. 22.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. B. J. Tait.—Though still running to excellent business, the gorgeous pantomime *Aladdin* will only be staged for nine more nights, as Mr. Williamson has already made all arrangements to stage the production in Sydney at Easter. On Saturday evening, March 3, Mr. Julius Knight, supported by a strong company, will produce the striking play, *The Lion and the Mouse*, for the first time in Melbourne. This piece has just completed a highly successful season in Sydney, where it has been running for the past five weeks.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—On Saturday evening a large audience followed the stormy career of Count Hannibal with close interest. Stanley Weyman's hero is an attractive figure, and the manner in which he wins his wife, and afterwards woos her, is most unconventional. But the play is excellent in every way. Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are admirably suited in their respective rôles. On Wednesday afternoon there will be a special matinée in aid of the Musical and Dramatic Benevolent Fund. Framed photos of Miss Brayton are to be given as prizes, each member of the audience having a chance. The winners of the photos will receive them from the hands of the gifted actress. The present Oscar Asche-Lily Brayton season closes here to-morrow evening.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The excellent representation of Walter Howard's play, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, is meeting with marked appreciation. The attendances through the week were large, and the applause of the audience on every occasion unstinted. The play is on a higher plane than others we have been accustomed to witness in Melbourne. The cast is an exceptionally good one. The three leading figures on the men's side are filled by such capable actors as Messrs. Geo. Cross, Rutland Beckett, and Roy Redgrave. The Captain Hector of Mr. Edmund Duggan stands out clearly as a personality, unforced and natural, with touches of humour and becoming gravity, a distinct and creditable impersonation, which is accorded due recognition by the patrons of this theatre.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—A welcome addition was made to the programme here last night, when Mr. W. A. Robyns (late of Daly's Theatre, London), a splendid basso-cantante, who comes to Melbourne with excellent credentials, made his first appearance, and indicated the musical advance of the "halls" by singing Schumann's great song, "The Two Grenadiers," a welcome change from the everlasting American ballad. He met with a most cordial reception from a large house. Mr. Robyns sings with that ease and grace which only long experience can produce. The Brothers Martine, comedy acrobats, also made their first appearance, and gave an exceedingly clever "turn," which met with great approval. Houdini, the arch mystery, is still proving a strong draw. The ease with which this artist releases himself from awkward positions serves to keep the audience in a state of wonderment throughout his turn. The Australian Dartos appear in several clever dances. Mr. Fred Curran is a great favourite with the "gods"; his songs are funny, and his patter entertaining. Other artists appearing with success at present include Will White, the Harmonious Huxams, the Donelleys, the Two Colliers, Bob Lloyd, and May Lewis.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Mr. Brennan provided a good programme for his patrons on Saturday evening. There was a large attendance, and all the turns in the bill were approved of. The Grottons, in their Grecian gladiator act, and the Morissey Brothers, were especially good; and clever turns were supplied by the Kelso Brothers, Mr. T. Stanley, Miss B. Ashman, the Smith Sisters, and others. Several new Bioscope pictures were shown on the Miorama.

THERE was a bumper attendance at the Bijou Theatre on Saturday evening, when the programme of World's pictures provided was received with unqualified approval. Pictures which found special favour were the Antwerp Zoo, The Braggart, The Clerk's Downfall, and a number of views depicting Queensland scenery.

HOYT'S pictures at St. George's Hall continue to be well patronised. A complete change of programme weekly serves to supply the public with a great variety of subjects.

THERE was a full house at West's Picture Palace on Saturday evening, when the usual assortment of new pictures was presented. A touching domestic drama, entitled Into the Shadow, was admired. The Commonwealth series, showing the Australian Cadets in camp, called forth loud applause.

THE Rajah Rham Singh has written a play. He wants to show the British public how an Indian can feel who thoroughly understands the British point of view. His piece deals with the subject of the Indian Mutiny of 1857, and in it he discusses caste, religion, and social customs from the Britisher's point of view. He takes a young Indian prince—a part he plays himself—who comes to Cawnpore and wages war on Nana Sahib out of the love he bears for a young girl who is in the power of the despot. The piece contains six speaking parts and sixty auxiliaries. It will be an expensive production, and he is anxious to produce it himself in the West End as soon as ever he can make arrangements. Later he hopes to present a play called *The Fatal Ring*, an adaptation of *Shakuntalla*, a play written by Kalydasa, the Shakespeare of India.

MR. GEORGE TYLER, the American manager, is in London making arrangements for the production of *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, in which Miss Eleanor Robson made such a success in the United States. The piece is by Mrs. Hodgson Burnett, and Miss Gertrude Elliott will come to England to play Miss Robson's part. The piece is thoroughly English, and deals with slum life. The central figure is a young girl—a mere child—a product of Whitechapel, whose pure life radiates goodness on all around her, and whose influence rehabilitates not merely the moral character, but the actual physical health of a man who has left his own surroundings to die in an unknown region.

THIS man—a baronet—a political and social figure of his day—has had all the world can offer him. But the doctors have given him up, and he goes down into the East End to die in a hovel. The second act takes place in Whitechapel, where the child's hope and cheerfulness and her courage and goodness change the baronet's views of life and restore him to health and happiness.

MR. TYLER confesses that Sir Herbert Tree "astonishes" him. Mr. Tyler thinks Sir Herbert is like no one else in the wide world. "He puts up huge productions, stages them perfectly, engages all the best people, and sends them—nowhere! You get perfection, and he pays the piper—but how can it pay him?" asks the American. "In America," he says, "we may not 'make good' in New York—but we have a vast country with huge tours, and so we get back all we may have lost in the centre. But a production at His Majesty's is an end in itself. For good or bad, all that taste and wealth can suggest is done—and there's an end."

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, March 28, the Play entitled
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

Mr. J. B. Mulholland could hardly have placed before his patrons for the Easter holidays a greater attraction than Mr. Martin Harvey in *The Breed of the Treshams*, the consequence being that at Monday's performances, both afternoon and evening, the theatre was crowded to excess. The strong dramatic situations which abound throughout the play created the utmost excitement and attention, and Mr. Martin Harvey and his clever company were the recipients of innumerable richly-deserved curtain calls. Mr. Martin Harvey has made the part of Rat Reresby peculiarly his own, and time has so ripened his characterisation that it stands as a masterly and perfect performance. Admirable support was given by that very capable actor Mr. Charles Glenney in the part of Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford; Mr. Owen Roughwood made an excellent impression as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; and Colonel Bagshaw was well handled by Mr. Fred Wright, sen. A meritorious performance of Viscount Dorsington was given by Mr. Philip Newland, and Captain Stanhope received skilful treatment at the hands of Mr. Edward Combermere. Mr. Alfred Mansfield was a worthy Captain Rashleigh, and Lieutenant Willoughby was smartly impersonated by Mr. Denholm Muir. Mr. Leonard Craske's rendering of Cornet Tresham was admirable, and received much approbation; and Mr. Percy Foster as Cornet Kit Peyton gives good support. A piece of really vigorous acting is that of Mr. George Cooke as Corporal Lumsford; and Mr. B. A. Pittar did well as Corporal Saxton. A very pleasing performance of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford was given by Miss Brenda Gibson, whose efforts evoked much applause; Miss Bessie Elder makes a successful Mrs. Baghaw; and Mis Sybil Walsh a bright Helena Pierrepoint. Miss N. de Sylva as the boy Batty plays with sincere earnestness and expression, gaining every praise. The scenery, appointments, and costumes were in every way appropriate. *The Only Way* was given during the latter part of the week with every sign of success.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Easter Monday, March 28, the Farcical Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Old friends are dear friends, and holiday crowds have given a great welcome to *Charley's Aunt* this week at the Marlborough. This delightful personage, during the many years everyone has known her, has always been a very welcome visitor in all parts of the world, and the dear old lady runs just as nimbly as ever she did. Mr. Brandon Thomas has got together an excellent company, among them being Mr. Stanley Cooke, playing the name part. If our memory is not at fault, Mr. Cooke in the early days of Lord Fancourt Babberley understudied Mr. W. S. Penley in this part. To-day he just revels in his interpretation of the irresponsible but big-hearted Babbs, and as in Mr. John Sims Woolley (Jack Chesney) and Mr. Robert Burnett (Charles Wykeham) he has two very energetic supporters, the fun, as it was long ago at the old Globe, is well kept up to the proper pitch throughout the three acts, and people laughed at the weird old lady—the native of Brazil, "where the nuts come from, you know," and who again is "no ordinary woman"—till their sides ached. Mr. Roy Byford as Stephen Spettigue, the solicitor, has made up magnificently and has a distinctive style of his own that one is inclined to think gets even more laughs than his predecessors in the part have obtained. Mr. Brandon Thomas's Sir Francis Chesney is also very good. The four ladies engaged are Miss Audrey Stafford, a stately, calm, and dignified Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; Miss Ruth Henton, a dainty and pretty Kitty Verdun; Miss Phyllis Back, also prepossessing and engaging, as old Spettigue's niece; and Miss Bertha Wilson, petite and winsome, as the orphan Ela Delahay.

Mr. John B. Buckstone's fine old one-act play *Good for Nothing* preceded *Charley's Aunt*, and the part of the incorrigible Nan was splendidly given by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas. Tom Dibbles, the old gardener, and Harry Collier, the railway foreman, "Nan's two fathers," were very finely played by Mr. Brandon Thomas and Mr. Roy Byford. From first to last the two actors worked up to one another, causing one continuous ripple of laughter, the one with his insistence that he takes everything "calmly and quietly," and the other with his oft-repeated accusation that his partner is "always puttin' on the gel." Mr. Thomas with his present company provides as fine a night's entertainment as can be found anywhere.

THE CORONET.
On Monday, March 28, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Charmingly exploited by Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company, this pretty pastoral of Devonshire life and habits is very well mounted, and giving great delight. As the young naval officer, Geoffrey Chaloner, Mr. Nelson Hancock both sings and acts well; Mr. St. John Hamund makes a very droll figure of the Rajah of Bhong; the part of Barry, the indefatigable, resourceful, and brazen servant of Geoffrey Chaloner, is played by Mr. Coningsby Brierley with irrepressible gaiety and good spirits; Miss Ann Hickisch is a bright, rompish Nan, and is a great favourite with the audience; Miss Dorothea Temple as Marjorie Joy sings very sweetly, and acts with dignity and pathos, winning all hearts; Princess Melaneh is agreeably rendered by Miss Myfanwy Newell, and her attendant, Miss Madge Redding, looks extremely picturesque; and the sparkling and versatile Sophie is safe in the hands of Miss Hilda Darrell. Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr. H. B. Hargreaves as Douglas Verity, are highly amusing in their particular way; Miss Florence Linton as Mrs. St. Quinton, Miss Violet de Lacy as Lady Anchester, and Miss Vi Small as Lady Arnot do all that is required of them extremely well; and a number of charming ladies form a strong and efficient chorus. Mr. Enlyn Baker wields the baton as musical director, Mr. Joseph Bruce is stage-manager, and Mr. St. John Hamund is general-manager for the company.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, March 28, the Play, entitled
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."

Mr. Richard Ganthony's fanciful play, *A Message from Mars*, proved a potent attraction for Easter week at the Kennington Theatre. On Monday a house, crowded in every part with an enthusiastic audience, gave Mr. Frederick Mouillot's production a great reception. The interesting and instructive story of the transformation of Horace Parker, the selfish and cynical man of the world of the first act, into the warm-hearted and generous philanthropist of the final scene was followed with rapt attention in all parts of the house, and the efforts of the strong company which Mr. Mouillot has sent on tour under the direction of Mr. Douglas Eley were rewarded with several curtain calls. The stage effects and illusions were remarkably well managed, and the second act constituted quite an effective example of stagecraft. That excellent actor, Mr. F. Vernon Travers, gave a clever sketch of the difficult rôle of Horace Parker, delineating the various phases of his conversion at the hands of the Messenger from Mars with great skill. As the Messenger from Mars, Mr. W. H. Brougham won a triumph. Of fine stage presence and sonorous voice, of which he made full use, Mr. Brougham was the very embodiment of the chastening Martian which the author's fancy has conjured up. Miss Rose Helene made an attractive and interesting Minnie Templar; Miss Aubrey Ashton impersonated the generous-souled aunt, Miss Parker, in a manner which won well-merited encomiums; Miss Mary Buckstone was well placed as Mrs. Clarence; Mr. Danelle Green gave a clever study of the policeman; Mr. Norman Clark's sketch of the tramp was a "live" piece of stage portraiture; Mr. Cecil Kerr deserved warm praise for his conception of Arthur Dicey; and Miss Ray Denton made a sprightly Bella, the housemaid. The rôles of Mr. Fergusson and Dr. Chapman were ably sustained by Mr. Howard Leslie and Mr. Percy Tyler; Mr. Eustace French creditably presented Sir Ernest Vivian; Miss Dolly Camp made a pathetic figure as little Minnie, the lost child; and Master Leonard Crisp created some fun as the light-fingered waif nicknamed the Emperor. Mr. F. Bentley as Jim, Mr. F. Fitzgerald as the watchman, Miss E. O'Dempsey as the flower girl, Miss Katherine Camp as the poor woman, Miss Vanbrough as Polly, Master T. George as the newsboy, Master H. Lloyd as the servant, Mr. Harry Brooks as Muggeridge, Mr. Louis Carbaret as Shellingford, and Mr. Harold Davidson as Sir Roland Wright all deserve mention.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, March 28, the Play entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Percy Williams is presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre the play of New York life, by Theo. Kremer, entitled *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Edward Lloyd as Howard Wilson, the wealthy gentleman who divorces his wife, as he subsequently ascertains, under the most groundless circumstances, sustains the character in manly style, and imparts quite the necessary amount of self-confidence to the impersonation. Mr. Cyril Melton is Robert Curtis, the man about town, who, together with Cora Wilson, an adventuress, plots to the discomfort of Howard Wilson and his long-suffering wife. Miss Leah Marlborough plays Cora Wilson, accepting the hisses which reward herself and her evil-minded partner with quite a professional smile of resignation. Cora's death scene at the altar, where she is finally shot by Curtis, is realistic, and provides the requisite title picture for the play. As Mabel Wilson, Howard's wife, Miss Ethel Kay admirably sustains the sympathetic interest; and as Jessie, "the little mother," Miss Marie Wilson gains many admirers, not only for her all-round good acting, but for her ability as a songstress and dancer. As Bridget, the "lady cook," Miss Blanche Huber figures well as an honest Hibernian; and as Toto, a French butler, Mr. Harry M. Vernon is responsible for a deal of laughter. Mr. Watson Hume is a droll Peter Schwartz, and Mr. Frank Ashley cuts a comical figure as O'Reilly, a New York police constable.

BRIXTON THEATRE.
On Monday, March 28, the Drama, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Mr. Fred Melville could not have selected a more attractive play than this old Pavilion Theatre success for the Easter holidays. Although seen here more than once, it still has a powerful hold on playgoers of this populous suburb, and on Monday, at both afternoon and evening performances, was received with much enthusiasm. In her original part of Marcel, Miss V. St. Lawrence made a marked impression, her acting reaching a high standard. Miss East Robertson also was very powerful as La Colombe, a very arduous and trying part. Mr. Guy Williams ably filled the part of Dick Seymour; and praise is due to Mr. Raymond Chester for his skill in depicting Hugh Seymour. Mr. Charles M. East was very effective as Alphonse Beaudet; Mr. Will Smith was entirely satisfactory as Pierre; and Mr Percy Cahill was at home as the geological professor, Sewter. Charles Sewter was nicely played by Mr. J. A. Hughes; Phineas Collins found a clever exponent in the hands of Mr. Frank Woodville; Mr. James Manning was able as Mark Perkins; and Mr. A. Heathcote rendered service as Duc d'Arnac. Mr. Charles Coombs made an effective President of the Court. Miss May Dallas (Janet), Miss Kate Browne (Madame Perinet), Miss Edith Marchant (Saxonne) all were good; while Miss Gertrude Tate was engaging as Hugh Seymour's ward, Mary Andrews.

THE BRITANNIA.
On Monday, March 28, the Drama entitled
"ROGUES OF THE TURF."

The well-known sporting comedy drama by Max Goldberg, entitled *Rogues of the Turf*, is being presented here by Mr. John F. Preston's company, and is proving a draw. Mr. Preston has spared no effort to ensure a successful production, and has engaged the services of Mr. Fred Lawrence, a favourite locally, who takes the part of Moses Solomons. The introduction of three racehorses into the piece is much appreciated. Mr. Preston plays the part of Joe Flaxman, the trainer, and portrays a character instinct with manliness and zeal for his employer's interests, his sporting maxims and allusions being much applauded. As Lady Heathcote, Miss Mabelle F. Barlow displays considerable ability, either as "an old man's darling" or an accomplice of the rogues of the turf. The leader of the latter is Captain Dudley Clifton, a part in which Mr. W. Howard Barlow acts with distinction. Moses Solomons affords Mr. Fred Lawrence plenty of scope for humorous sideplay, and his efforts are very effective. Mr. Arthur Hartley as Sir Gerald Heathcote acts well; and Mr. William Rea as Arthur Somerton acts in convincing fashion. Mr. Horace Custins as an apprentice jockey invests his part with refreshing humour; and Mr. Arthur Leighton as Steye Burton gives a good representation of a fashionable jockey. Very winning and charming is Miss Ethel Rainforth as Nellie Flaxman; and Miss Mabel Fare does well as Phyllis Wurzel. Messrs. Tom Phillips, Cas Jackson, Frank Ernestone, and Alfred Wade also lend valuable assistance.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, March 28, the Comedy, entitled
"DOLLY REFORMING HERSELF."

Playing to a packed house on Monday evening last Mr. Walner Gregory's company in *Dolly Reforming Herself* were well repaid for the mirth-provoking and talented interpretation they gave of Henry Arthur Jones' amusing comedy. The large holiday crowd that filled the theatre to overflowing showed their keen appreciation of both the play and the players, and evinced unmistakable signs of their hearty enjoyment by continuous laughter, which at numerous points culminated in emphatic expressions of approbation. Miss Henrietta Watson sustains the rôle of Mrs. Harry Telfer (Dolly) in a very natural manner, and, being a gifted and experienced humorist, she brings the fine points of the play into excellent relief, and lavish applause is bestowed, and deservedly so, upon her efforts, which maintain for her strong claims on the poular favour. Miss Vera Beringer also achieves distinction in the character of Mrs. Sturgess (Renée), the love-sick married woman, and her clever characterisation is very flatteringly received. Harry Telfer is capitally undertaken by Mr. Bertram Forsyth, who merits commendation for a judiciously rendered portrayal. Mr. Tom Mowbray provokes considerable hilarity as Matthew Borron, his easy and good humoured delineation producing a very happy and successful result, for which he is recompensed in a far from stinted fashion. Captain Lucas Wentworth is ably represented by Mr. Geoffrey Besant; Mr. Leonard Shepherd offers a good rendering of Professor Sturgess; Mr. Walter Grey as the Rev. James Pilcher makes the most of his opportunities; while Miss Mary Southbere and Mr. Robert Newsom as Peters and Criddle respectively complete the cast.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, March 28, the Drama, entitled
"HOME, SWEET HOME."

Presented by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton, the drama *Home, Sweet Home*, which is written by Mr. Frank Lindo, is proving a great attraction here this week, and on Easter Monday evening the large audience which filled the theatre expressed hearty approval of the fare set before them, and were generous of their applause. The drama, which is admirably cast, is also adequately mounted and dressed. Mr. Arthur Hinton as Stephen Armitage finds plenty of scope for his abilities in the character of a young fisherman and captain of the lifeboat; his opportunities are in no way lost sight of, and he renders the sentimental part in a manly and spirited fashion which is flatteringly acknowledged. As Joan Miss Florence Zillwood offers a powerful delineation, and scores most successfully; Mr. Fred G. Kay does well as the bluff old fisherman David Armitage; the Duke of Ancaster is suitably undertaken by Mr. Chas. Clifford; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams submits a carefully-prepared study of the scheming Lucas Lyle, which is vigorously hissed; Mr. Arthur Beaufort offers an amusing portrait of the Hon. Percy; Dick Redmayne is judiciously played by Mr. Walter Clarke; Mr. A. Kirwin is suitably placed as the old salt Soloman Keary, and the same may be said of Miss Lizzie Routhe as Gaffer. Mr. Rupert Larry cuts a funny figure as Lord Silvermore; Mr. Charlton Morton makes the most of his chances as Dr. Granby; Miss Florrie Hayes is lively and amusing as Sybil Fay, and scores well; Miss M. Camfield sustains the rôle of Lady Summerton in an aristocratic manner; and little Hilda Vokes is clever and natural as Dora.

PAVILION THEATRE, E.
On Easter Monday, the New Sensational Play, by Lesser Columbus, entitled
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

Very vivid, but well relieved throughout with comic business, is that remarkable play, by Lesser Columbus, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, which was revived at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End-road, on Monday last. It is more than a year since this strongly-written drama was produced at this theatre. Judging from the splendid business being done on the night of our visit, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil* made a great impression on the patrons of the Pavilion in February, 1909, and the comments of those in the auditorium led one to the belief that the re-engagement was a highly appreciated one. On Wednesday night Mr. John Sargent, who played the part of the drunken old reprobate Rupert Dyke, tool of his satanic majesty Nicholas Brophy, fell ill very suddenly. The management was in a great predicament—for there was no understudy—until the author himself, Mr. Lawrence Cowen, volunteered just as the curtain was going up on the first act to go on and do his best. Now Mr. Cowen, although well-known as a dramatic author, had never faced the footlights before, and, except for having actually written the lines himself, had never studied the part. To him belongs, therefore, the greatest credit for the way he went through a very difficult and very heavy character interpretation. Seldom was the prompter required, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Cowen will be seen on the stage at other times than those necessitated through a gap having been made in the ranks of his company.

The entire production since we last saw it has been considerably revised, and goes with the greatest smoothness and quickness from start to finish. It is well dressed and mounted, and, as the programme informs us, is on a great scale, worthy of "the Drury Lane of the East." Several times during the evening it was lucky for Mr. Henry Doughty as the demon barrister Nicholas Brophy that a good distance separated gallery and balcony from the stage. His villainy was so perfectly played that, it is safe to say, at times, could the "gods" have laid hands on him, there would have been little left of him to tell the tale. Gertrude Grant, barmaid, was a very lovable character in the hands of Miss Dora Hammersley. This young lady never exaggerated her woes, spoke up clearly and well, and got right to the hearts of the people. We commend her to the notice of all West End managers requiring a sweet-faced, convincing heroine, whose enunciation and general bearing shows careful and studied training.

In the main the company is excellent. The lovelorn widow, Mrs. Jenkins (Miss Constance Coopman), is a very humerous character in her efforts to secure Mr. Johnson, the butler (Mr. Will Harman), for her second venture. The bounder, Bertie Brunton (Mr. Walter Langford), joins these two in a very fine musical trio in the bar of the Prince Regent, and between them contrive some very funny situations. Mr. Lawrence Maitland as Lucifer and Co.'s managing clerk is responsible for some good acting in some cross-talk with Nicholas Brophy. Miss Violet Hammersley as Beatrice Cuthbert is extremely good.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.
On Monday, March 28, the Drama, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

The enterprising management here have provided a fine Easter attraction in that well-known drama *The Still Alarm*, played by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. In addition to a company of talented actors and actresses, there are the two trained horses, rejoicing in the names of Bucephalus and Pegasus, also the greyhound, Laddie, whose antics are a constant source of delight both to juveniles and grown-ups. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville is the hero, Jack Manley, and fully lives up to the name. Aided by fine physical proportions, he makes a fine figure of a man as the Chief of the N.Y. Fire Brigade. Mr. Gerald Kennedy is the scoundrelly John Bird, whose many villainies call down on his head much execration; Mr. Edward Hobart is a very effective Willie Manley, and a good singing voice enhances his excellent light acting; Mr. Henry C. Gilfin gives a capital character sketch of the bibulous actor, Doc. Wilber; Mr. Lewis Gardon plays well as Franklyn Fordham; Mr. C. Barmand is a bright messenger boy; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman is the cause of much honest laughter as the jovial old fireman Joe Jones; Miss Beatrice Shirley makes an effective heroine of the much-tried Elinor Fordham; Miss Lydia Audre is an arch and pretty Carrie Wilber, and sings sweetly of "a little boy in the gallery"; and Miss Mabel Veriton makes a homely and sympathetic Mrs. Manley. The general mounting leaves little to be desired, the scene depicting the New York Central Fire Station being finely done. The excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Wm. Stephenson, is responsible for some good music between the acts. The Bioscope at the finish still continues a very effective feature of the programme here.

BROADWAY THEATRE.
On Monday, March 28, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"THE PRINCE AND BEGGAR MAID."

This excellent play has been the holiday attraction here, and has drawn crowded houses, the development of the story being followed with intense interest until the final fall of the curtain. Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke plays Prince Hildred of Sylvania in convincing and manly style, and looks remarkably well in a handsome uniform. Prince Michael has a clever representative in Mr. Lionel Gadsden, who won much sympathy for the unhappy Prince. Mr. Ernest Cox was very good indeed as Prince Olaf. Mr. Ernest Gray proved himself an actor of considerable ability by his performance of the dumb servant, Nathan, and his efforts added considerably to the success of the play. Mr. J. Chamberlain as Col. Wellenburg, Mr. Arnold Cameron as Col. Schwartz, Mr. Fred Upton as Capt. Karsburg, Mr. Sharpe as Lieut. Hapsburg, Mr. Sydney as Capt. Keller, Mr. W. Smythson as Capt. Leopold, Mr. Edward Bowen as Major Weaner, and Mr. Hines as Capt. Ardenne all did exceedingly well. Mr. Hanley presented a lifelike portrait of the Bishop of Illyria, Mr. Robert Noble is an earnest and effective Capt. Hector, Mr. Richard Lane was good as Lieut. Karl Stromberg, and Mr. W. Bearley was a good bugler. Miss Ethel Patrick was a charming representative of Camiola, Miss Mona Hungerford was an attractive and clever Viola, and Miss Stella Campbell made a decided success by her delightful impersonation of Princess Monica of Illyria. Mr. Francis Hawley is general-manager of the company, and Mr. Lionel Gadsden stage-manager.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.
On Monday, March 28, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

The spring bookings at Mr. Robert Arthur's Fulham theatre make up a strong list, not the least attractive of which is *The Cingalee*. Mr. Frederick Merer, the able general-manager of the pretty house, has had the pleasure of welcoming crowded holiday audiences throughout the week, and Mr. Haldane Crichton's company has been received with open arms. All the principals have found favour, the most abundant being lavished upon Mr. Jack Crichton, a distinctly original comedian, with unlimited resources for fun making. His eccentricities as the volatile Baboo lawyer keep the house overflowing with mirth, no small measure of the effect obtained being due to a special facility for whimsical make-up. As the Hon. Harry Vereker Mr. Arthur Cartwright is a typical comic opera hero. His fine baritone rings melodiously in "My Little Cingalee," which is heartily encored. Miss Florence Watson is the Nanoya, whom she dresses and acts daintily. Her strong and cultivated voice is heard with harmonious effect in "The Cinnamon Tree," the delicate effects of which are artistically obtained. Miss Ida Ernest makes a winsome English girl of Peggy Sabine, acting with never-failing animation and charm. Her "Golliwog" duet with Mr. Crichton is amusingly done, and the various scenes between the vivacious pair prove always diverting. Mr. Scott Cullen makes a handsome, buoyant, cheery youth of Bobby Warren, his love scene with Lady Patricia Vane, portrayed in refined style by Miss Pauline Hague, with the duet "You and I," being effectively rendered and greatly enjoyed. A distinct success is achieved by Mr. F. W. Ford in the part of Sir Peter Lotus, whose splenetic utterances are admirably delivered. Mr. Ford makes much of the "after-dinner" scene, which is carried out in refreshingly humorous style. Mr. Douglas Munro makes a grotesque oddity of the high and mighty Boobhamba, a part out of which he extracts all the fun possible; and Mr. Ernest Tritschler is a picturesque Captain of the Guard. Excellent work is put in by Misses Winnie Murray, Mercy June, Violet Cowen, and Edie Burton as the plantation tea girls. A novelty introduced into the production is a "vampire dance," in which Miss Sadie Thompson goes through the movements associated with that measure with sinuous grace. The subsidiary parts are all efficiently rendered, and chorus is numerous and well drilled.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.
On Saturday, March 26, the Musical Play, entitled
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

Judging from the crowded state of the house on the opening night of the engagement, no more popular attraction could have been secured for the holiday programme than *Miss Hook of Holland*, in which Mr. George Dance's company has been appearing here during the present week. The comedy is sent on the road with a completeness and attention to detail that one naturally looks for in any of Mr. Dance's organisations, and is played by a company who, one and all, contrive to impart an air of originality to their impersonations. Especially so is this to be noticed in the case of Mr. Alfred Wellesley, whose Mr. Hook, although totally different in style from the original, is as richly dry and unctuously humorous a performance as one could wish. As Sally Hook Miss Marie Studholme brings considerable vivacity to bear on her work, and never allows things to flag while she is on the stage. Miss Maud Denny submits a clever character-sketch of Nina, giving all possible point to her songs. Mr. Frank H. Crimp as Bandmaster Van Vuyt has the most catchy number in the piece, to which he does full justice, and plays the part easily and naturally. The fun of the production is added to by Mr. Fred Lyne's entertaining performance of Simon Slinks, and Mr. Frederick Hobb's excellent representative of Captain Paap. In other parts Messrs. Charles Ross and Lacy E. Mills, and Misses Hilda Gordon, Lillian Constance, and Lina Imperiali add to the general success. Praise is due to the chorus and orchestra for their excellent work under the direction of Mr. Clement Locknane.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.
Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company are meeting with a much increased measure of success here, where they conclude a week's re-engagement to-night. The houses have been well filled at each performance, the répertoire including *Il Trovatore, Carmen, Rigoletto, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Ernani, Traviata, Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Faust*. In the numerous company are some vocalists of exceptional merit, and their efforts have been acknowledged by repeated recalls. So successful have been the two visits that it is understood that another visit of a fortnight's duration has been arranged for the autumn.

Mr. Creston Clarke, the actor, nephew of Edwin Booth and grandson of Junius Booth, died at the Winyah Sanatorium, Asheville, N.C., on the 21st ult. of tuberculosis. He was forty-four years old.

Creston Clarke was an actor and playwright, known better in the South and West than in New York city. He was the second son of John Sleeper Clarke and Asia Booth Clarke, and a nephew of Edwin Booth. He was born in 1865, and received his education in London and Paris. His professional career began in England at the Adelphi Theatre, where he played François to his uncle's Richelieu. He remained in England from 1882 to 1886, in support of his uncle and his father.

In 1886 he went to America and joined Lester Wallack's stock company, where he remained until it went out of existence. He was then a member of the Augustin Daly company until he organised a company of his own, appearing on tour as a star in Shakespearean plays. For ten years he toured at the head of his own company in a classical répertoire. In 1897 he produced his own romantic play, *The Last of his Race*, in which he appeared for some time. In 1906 he made a starring tour in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, and in 1907 and 1908 played in *The Power that Governs*. His wife was Adelaide Prince, an actress. She and his brother, Wilfred Clarke, survive him.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MR. E. HOGGAN-ARMADALE

AS MATHIAS,
AT THE PALACE THEATRE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Hoggan-Armadale, who came to us as a stranger, with out any Press booming, proved himself an actor of great talent. His masterly conception of the difficult part of Mathias, together with his beautiful voice, soon found favour with the audience, and this excellent artist gave us a performance such as is seldom, if ever, seen in Sydney. If a few of the boomed and so-called "stars" who are thrust upon us in this city would take a pattern from Mr. Armadale, the profession would soon become—what it ought to be—a work of art. Every fibre of this fine actor's soul was extended in his magnificent portrayal of one of the greatest performances ever given in Sydney.—Sydney Kookaburra, Nov. 20, 1909.

It is many years since Australians had the opportunity of seeing any actor of note in "The Bells." At the Palace, yesterday, Mr. Hoggan-Armadale was seen in the principal character, a rôle demanding much versatility and emotional changes. The audience were given an artistic treat by Mr. Hoggan-Armadale. This is the first of a series of performances, and if yesterday's can be taken as a criterion, they will be a success. Mr. Armadale's portrayal of the man on the verge of ruin, and as the conscience-stricken burgomaster, was a splendid one throughout.—Sydney Sunday Times, Oct. 24, 1909.

Hoggan-Armadale, a well-seasoned and robust English actor, plays the part of Mathias. As the haggard Mathias who hears the jingle of ghostly sleigh-bells and dreams of vengeance till he goes mad, he does his heavy scoring with a generous hand. But he is more effective in his occasional quiet passages. One or two of his minor-key speeches, more particularly that to his prospective son-in-law, are excellently rendered. — Sydney Bulletin, Oct. 29, 1909.

Mr. Hoggan-Armadale, an English actor now visiting Australia, played an effective Mathias in a production of "The Bells" at the Palace Theatre on Saturday. He is of active presence, has a well-trained voice, and showed in such scenes as "The Dream," wherein he describes the murder, that he possesses adequate power and judgment. Altogether, his performance was a convincing one. The management of his voice was decidedly effective. The speech to Christian in the second act was spoken really well, and in "The Dream" it was noticed that the actor consistently maintained the low and telling monotone with which he began to recite the events of the fateful Christmas Eve. The nervous agony of the man under the remorse from which he suffered was illustrated cleverly.—Sydney Daily Telegraph, Oct. 25, 1909.

Success marked the first appearance of Mr. Armadale at the Palace Theatre. His impersonation of Mathias was a strong and convincing one throughout, and in "The Dream" he realised all anticipations.—Sydney Referee, Oct. 27, 1909.

THE COMING OPERA SEASON.

The grand opera season at Covent Garden, which will open on Saturday, April 23, promises to be an interesting one. The season will commence with *La Traviata*, with Mme. Tetrazzini, Mr. Sammarco, and Mr. McCormack. Already every seat, save a few orchestra stalls and one or two boxes, has been applied for for the two complete cycles of *Der Ring* and *Tristan und Isolde*, and this year no extra performances of fragments of *Der Ring* will be given, though possibly *Tristan* may be heard outside the cycle. The performances of the various "Ring" dramas, with the exception of *Das Rheingold*, will begin in the afternoon, a "dinner-hour" being allowed between the first and second acts. Dress will be optional at these Wagnerian performances, though ladies will have to remove their hats and bonnets. The two "Ring" cycles will begin respectively on April 25 and May 3, and the two *Tristan* performances will be given on May 17 and May 12.

The operas will be sung in three languages, though four choruses, English, Italian, German, and French, have been engaged. In French we are to hear Laparra's *Habanera*, *Louise* and *Pelléas* are to be repeated, with *Faust*, *Romeo*, and *Samson et Dalila*. In German, *Der Ring* and *Tristan* complete the list. The catalogue of Italian operas includes a resuscitation of *Linda di Chamounix*, *Lakmé* (which has not been heard in England for some years), Puccini's *Manon Lescaut*, *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Bohème*, with *Aïda*, *Il Barbière*, *Lucia*, *Otello*, *Rigoletto*, *Sonnambula*, *Trovatore*, and *Gli Ugonotti*. Baron F. d'Erlanger's *Tess* also will be revived.

Among the new sopranos are Mesdames Elizabeth Amsden, who took part in the recent performances of *The Wreckers*; H. Demellier, a singer from the Opéra Comique, who "created" the rôle of Pilar in *Habanera* on its production; Zorah Dorly, a dramatic soprano from Brussels; Gauthier, who is to play Yniold in Debussy's work; Amy Evans, new to grand opera, who is to sing the Bird and the first Rhine-daughter; and Sarah Streletzki.

Familiar favourites are Mesdames Melba, safely returned from her tour in her native land; Tetrazzini; Destinn, now of London and New York; Edvina (who is at present studying Melisande's rôle under Debussy in Paris); Edith Evans; Knüpfer-Egli, who has been absent too long; Maria Kousnietzoff, who comes from the Opera in Paris for June and July; Lalla Miranda; Minnie Saltzmann-Stevens, who is to essay Isolde's rôle for the first time; and Marthe Symiane, from Brussels.

One new contralto has been engaged—Mme. Alice Mutch—but Mme. Kirkby Lunn, who has been on a concert tour in the United States, Mesdames Edna Thornton, Edith Clegg, Bérat, and Jane Bourgeois are all to be heard. A long list of tenors includes MM. Paul Franz, from Paris; Arthur Lheureux, from Brussels; Riccardo Martin, a French-Canadian of American fame; Nicholas Rostowsky, from St. Petersburg; Carl Strätz, who will share the Siegfried rôles with Peter Cornelius; Johannes Sembach, engaged as Loge and as Siegmund; Nichola Zerola, an heroic tenor; and Sydney Russell, who has sung the parts of Froh and Melot. Also engaged are MM. Cornelius, who will sing Tristan for the first time, and Dalmoré, D'Oisly, McCormack, and Hans Bechstein, Warnery, and Zucchi.

Newcomers among the basses and baritones are MM. Baklanoff, from St. Petersburg, whose voice is said to be glorious; Edmund Burke, a Canadian, who succeeded Marcoux at The Hague; Fenton; Johannes Fönss, a Danish Hagen and Hunding; Lestelly, more or less a successor of the great Renaud; Malatesta, a bass-buffo; and Josef Schlembach, with MM. Bourbon, Crabbé, Murray Davey, Galletti, Marcoux, Sammarco, Schutzendorf, who will impersonate Gunther, Zador, and Anton van Rooy.

The conductors are Dr. Hans Richter and MM. Campanini, Frigara, Panizza, and Percy Pitt, and the directors are the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Esher, Baron F. d'Erlanger, Mr. H. V. Higgins, with Mr. Percy Pitt as musical director and Mr. Neil Forsyth as general manager.

Mr. William Collier, the American comedian, in his current success, *A Lucky Star*, has to engage an "aunt" to act as a chaperon to two young ladies. The "aunt" is required to speak English with a Scotch accent. The one he engages fails in this particular, however, and Mr. Collier undertakes to instruct her. First of all she must speak with a "burr," and not call him Ronald but "R-r-r-ronald." The Scotch dialect, he tells her, is "a cross between a cry and a gargle."

"THE WELSH MAID."

A Musical Drama, in Prologue and Three Acts, by James Bateman, Lyrics by C. F. Hornibrook and Music by Harry Richardson, Produced at the Prince's Theatre, Horwich, on Monday, March 28.

Caradoc Howell .....Mr. Victor Cannon
Jack Francis .....Mr. Laurie H. Stuart
Philip Seymour .....Mr. Cecil Parkes
James Seymour .....Mr. Herbert de Ville
Dafydd Thomas .....Mr. William Pemm
Owen Evans .....Mr. Mornington Lewis
Shon Thomas .....Mr. E. Richardson
Elsa .....Miss Bertha Beresford
Elsie .....Miss Marie Beresford
Maudie .....Miss Florrie Beresford
Phœbe .....Miss Josephine Allbutt
Ann Llewellyn .....Miss T. Thompson
Sally Davis .....Miss Madge Raymonde
Mrs. Jones .....Miss Theresa Spencer
Jenny Jones .....Miss Zeta Murdock

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The piece provides a story of Welsh life. The prologue is laid in the cottage of one Caradoc Howell, a devout Welshman, whose hobby is astronomy and the reading of horoscopes. His daughter Ruth has been betrayed by the unscrupulous James Seymour, who brutally leaves her to her fate. Not daring to face her parents, Ruth leaves a note wishing them good-bye and goes to end her life, and they are informed that Ruth has thrown herself into the lake. The shock kills the mother, and the father vows vengeance on his daughter's betrayer.

Act 1 opens in the gardens of Dafyn Hall, Anglesea, the ancestral home of the Jones family, the occasion being the coming of age of Jenny, the heiress of Dafyn. James Seymour appears, and by means of a forged marriage certificate endeavours to induce Jenny's mother to prevent her daughter's engagement to James Francis, a young Welsh singer, and to compel Jenny to accept him (Seymour) in his place. A heated scene takes place between Jenny and Seymour, when Caradoc enters, recognises Seymour, and at the end of the act, during the masquerade ball, discloses his identity to the confusion of the villain.

In Act 2 Seymour is bringing pressure to bear upon Mrs. Jones to force Jenny to comply with his desire, and on her blank refusal persuades her mother to have her kept a prisoner in the strong-room. Seymour enters, and after a fruitless attempt to gain her hand shows her a forged letter purporting to be from Francis to another woman. In her agitation Jenny doubts Francis's honour, and is ready to accede to Seymour's wishes. In the meantime Caradoc and Francis enter by a secret passage and rescue Jenny. Caradoc, in a fine, dramatic scene, exposes the treachery and forgeries of Seymour.

The final act is again the Gardens of Dafyn Hall, six months later. Jack Francis has scored a success in London as a Welsh singer, and on his return his marriage with Jenny is celebrated with much jubilation, during which Seymour returns, a haggard and broken-down drunkard. In his delirium the scene of Ruth's (his victim) death is vividly depicted. The plays ends with the death of Seymour at the hands of Caradoc, who himself succumbs to heart disease.

The part of Jenny Jones, the Welsh maid, was charmingly undertaken by Miss Zeta Murdock, who is possessed of a sweet soprano voice, unstinted applause being bestowed on her singing. Mr. Herbert de Ville gave a very forcible rendering of the unscrupulous James Seymour, creating quite a shudder in the final scene; Mr. Victor Cannon gave a very fine exposition of the old astrologer Caradoc, and his singing was highly appreciated; Mr. Laurie H. Stuart's Jack Francis was a manly part, capitally portrayed, and his songs and duets with Jenny were quite a feature of the piece. Mr. William Pomm was responsible for unlimited comedy, and created roars of laughter, being ably assisted by Mis Madge Raymonde, whose singing, dancing, and versatile business were distinctly good, their characters as Dafydd Thomas, a Welsh wag from Llanfair P.G., and Sally Davis, maid at the Hall, suiting them to a nicety. Miss Theresa Spencer gave a sympathetic and pretty rendering of the timid Mrs. Jones; Miss Josephine Allbutt as Phœbe sang herself into the affections of the audience; the sisters Beresford, as maids at Dafyn Hall, kept the piece going with some very pretty songs and fine dancing. The musical conductor, Mr. Leo H. Croke, worked very hard and effectively.

THE GLOSSOP-HARRIS SHAKESPEAREAN COMPANY AT WEYMOUTH.

When Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and her company first displayed their talent before a Weymouth audience, some twelve months since, they won for themselves a reputation that was amply demonstrated in the eager audience which awaited the rising of the curtain for *The Merchant of Venice* on Monday night. It was an audience expecting great things, and it was not disappointed, for the way in which this—perhaps the best known of Shakespeare's works—was enacted impressed one with the sincerity of its conception, a feature that revealed itself in the no less clever execution. This remark applies to the artists individually and collectively. Each created an atmosphere of realism, and never did one give a suspicion of "acting." From the opening scene, the street in Venice, where Antonio agrees to stand bond to Shylock for Bassanio, the depth of feeling infused into the parts compels the fullest interest. From thence it is maintained until the curtain falls on the two happy husbands with their rings restored. As Shylock, Mr. Frank Cellier gave a portrayal that defies anything in the way of adverse criticism. He diffused parsimony all around him, spoke with a lust for lucre—a love that was only to be contrasted with his hate for Antonio. In the court scene his dramatic qualities were seen to the best advantage. He was almost sensationally intense in demanding his bond, and in preparing to take it he created a real thrill. His quick change of mood from the wild ecstacy of his triumphant malice to the tragic despondency of his defeat was amazingly accomplished. One minute he excited hate, the next minute he was a broken old man suffering all the agony that came from the spoiling of his excessive joy. He excited pity. Even the intensity of his rancour was not strong enough to resist the surging pity borne of his despairing throes. It was a rare piece of acting, acting so well concealed that its appealing pathos was almost too real. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris took Portia, and interpreted the romance of the part with all its poetic charm. She was best in her exhortations to Shylock, and the discourse on Mercy, which she delivered with a measured deliberation which brought out the real beauty of the words. It is sometimes difficult to speak some of the longer passages in Shakespeare's works, and at the same time to maintain the requisite dramatic qualities. But this obstacle Miss Glossop-Harris easily surmounted, and in all her endeavours she aired the wit and subtlety of the writing and retained the essentials of its romanticism. She was superb in the love scene, and in her gay chat to Nerissa, describing her attire for the journey to Venice, the merry abandon which marked her gesture was delightful. The rôle was undoubtedly a great success.—*Weymouth Standard*, March 29, 1910.

Signor Grasso scored another success at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday, when the Sicilians presented *A Santa Lucia*, a heartrending tragedy. The part of Rosella was enacted by Signorina Marinella Bragaglia.

"THE KING'S ROMANCE."

Play, in Four Acts, by E. Vivian Edmonds, Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, on Easter Monday, March 28.

Prince Andreas .....Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds
Baron Cavonia .....Mr. Walter A. Chetham
Count Bavantia .....Mr. Wm. Manning
Colonel Ventigue .....Mr. Chas. Wharton
Captain Berg .....Mr. Cecil Calmere
Alderman Stene .....Mr. Thos. V. King
Bartoy .....Mr. Ernest C. Edwards
Gerantgne .....Mr. Frank Eastly
Vera Nevairre .....Miss Mary Austin
Paul Nevairre .....Mr. Wm. H. Dewhurst
The Curé .....Mr. G. Lyon Hastings
Michael Vacurat .....Mr. Geo. P. Porteous
Lizette .....Miss Ethel Vinroy
Madame Pomeroy .....Miss Bella Power
Jean Pomeroy .....Mr. Geo. Toft
Fragot .....Mr. Arthur A. Valentine

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's interesting play opens in a room in a palace where one of a king's chief Ministers, Count Bavantia, is reading particulars of the Prince's public engagements on the morrow, and instructing the officers of the household in their several duties. Baron Cavonia, a confidential Minister, and friend of the Prince, desires an audience, but the Count says it is too late. While they are talking the Prince enters, and dispenses with the Count's services for the night. The Prince, who is the second son of the reigning monarch, has been making—with the aid of Bartoy, his major-domo—clandestine excursions while it was thought he was in bed, and he tells his old friend the Baron of his meeting a beautiful girl and passing himself off as an artist under the name of Andreas Cordellia. They are hopelessly in love. The Baron advises him, as he may become king, to give up the idea, and almost persuades him to do so, when Bartoy brings a note from Vera saying she is in trouble. The Prince and Bartoy ride on horseback to Bandio, some seven leagues away, and the Prince says he will be back in time for his first engagement in the morning.

In the second scene, in a curè's garden, Vera and her brother Paul, who live with their uncle, appear. She is much troubled about Paul, as he slips away during the night to attend anarchist meetings, under the direction of his friend, Vacurat, the leader of the "Sons of Freedom." Michael persuades Paul to help him to win Vera. Michael offers himself to Vera, but she refuses, as she detests him. He becomes furious, and threatens her, when he is disturbed by the appearance of Prince Andreas and Bartoy.

The pair being left alone, Vera lets Andreas know that their intimacy has brought on her serious trouble. Michael suspects the identity of Andreas, and overhears the conversation. The Baron appears, and begs Andreas to return, and he is about to go, when Paul, who has been told by Michael that Andreas has betrayed his sister, strikes the Prince. The Curè enters, and Andreas decides to be married to Vera at once, the Curè leading them to the church.

In the second act we are at the home of the "artist" on the first birthday of a son. The happy mother and baby and relations who have come with presents are expecting Andreas, the father (who has been away some time), to make everything pleasant. There is much homely fun introduced, till Paul appears in rags and travel-stained, fleeing from justice, and imploring to be hidden till he can get away at night. His sister consents, after much persuasion by Paul and Lizette, to lock him up in her bedroom and tell anyone that he has been there the whole of the previous night. Paul has been selected to assassinate the King and Crown Prince, and he has accomplished the deed. Michael comes and gets Paul, who has changed into some of Andreas' clothes, to escape to a certain place, where he will meet him. Michael sees Andreas coming, and does not wish to meet him, so he creeps unobserved into the bedroom, and Vera afterwards locks the door. The Baron has an idea where to find Andreas, and comes to tell him that he is the King, and must come home. Vera finds out who Andreas is, and he wishes to get his cloak out of the bedroom. He asks for the key, and finds that there is a man there, who has "been there all night." Michael, when released, says he came at Vera's invitation. Andreas will not listen to her denial. Michael, who is known as an anarchist, is arrested, and the new King leaves Vera to her fate as an unfaithful wife.

The King is determined to calm the disturbed state of the people, and his Ministers have arranged that he shall marry a certain Princess. The Count's desire is to get Vera out of the way, and she is to be arrested; but she cannot be found. Meantime Paul is caught, and Michael turns King's evidence to save his neck, denouncing Paul as the murderer. Vera comes to intercede for her brother's life. Lizette is with her. The Count, having got all the information he wants, dismisses the prisoners to their cells, and leaves instructions with an officer to follow and arrest the woman "in the black cloak." Bartoy, in order that Vera may get to the King, arranges for her to change cloaks with Lizette, who is arrested. He take Vera to the King, and she pleads for her brother's life. Paul, who gloried in the assasination, refused to give any names of accomplices except that of Michael, and was put on the rack. He is brought before the King, explains that Vera is innocent, and dies. Michael is allowed to go free. The Princess who is to marry the King is announced, but the King says he will be faithful to Vera. She, however, tells him to do his duty to the country.

The last act is in Vera's apartments. She and Lizette are packing up to leave for England, where she has taken a farm in Hampshire. The King's wedding is to be celebrated on the morrow, and he goes to the chapel to pray at night; but he wishes to see his child, Bartoy having found out accidentally where Vera is and informed the King. Michael Vacurat, having been told by Vera that she also hates the "King," gives her particulars of a plot to assassinate him on his entering the chapel. She informs the Baron, who comes to seek the King, and he takes the King's cloak and goes to the chapel. Vera tells the King of the plot, and Michael comes to gloat over the death of the King An explosion occurs, and the King is thought to be killed, but Michael turns round and sees him alive. They fight with swords, and Michael is killed. The King hears the shouts of the revolutionaries, and finds his way out of his difficulty in letting them think that he—the King—is really dead. He and Vera agree to go together to Hampshire.

The bulk of the work is thrown on Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, who rises to the occasion in a masterly manner; and on Miss Mary Austin, who makes an ideal true Vera, working with excellent tact. The true friend, Baron Cavonia, who gives his life for his King, is ably played by Mr. Walter A. Chetham. Mr. Wm. H. Dewhurst as Paul, Mr. Geo P. Porteous as Michael, Mr. W. Manning as Count Bavantia, and Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as Bartoy do very good work. The comedy is sustained by Miss Ethel Vinroy (Lizette), Miss Bella Power (Madame Pomeroy), Mr. George Toft (Jean Pomeroy), and Mr. Arthur A. Valentine (Fragot). The other characters are in good hands. The staging, scenery, and dresses are effective, and we shall be surprised if the play is not a good money-maker.

A copyright performance of a new one-act play by Mr. Hall Caine, entitled *The Red Shirt*, was given on Tuesday at the Queen's Theatre. The play is adapted from the author's novel, "The Eternal City," and the scene is laid in Rome, Garibaldi being the principal character.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS DAISY MAY.

Miss Daisy May, a pupil of Miss Jennie Franklin (La Femme Grossmith), commenced her professional career by appearing as Cedric Errol, in *Little Lord Fauntleroy* to the Earl of Mr. Will Dennis. In this exacting part she scored an immediate sucess, Mr. Dennis, who has played the Earl of Dorincourt with many "Little Lords," both in London and the provinces, regarding Miss Daisy May's performance as the most sympathetic and responsive of them all. On returning from this tour Miss May resumed her lessons in playing, singing, and dancing under Miss Franklin, who introduced her to Mr. Trevor Lowe, which resulted in an engagement to sing a song entitled "The Waif" (written by Miss Franklin) in the prologue of the fairy play, *Sylvia in Sunland*, at the West Pier, Brighton. Mr. Lowe was so pleased with the singer that he put in a special part for her, that of the Princess, in which rôle she introduced a humorus song, and thoroughly proved her versatility. After the run of *Sylvia in Sunland*, Miss May had her first experience of vaudeville by appearing in "The Waif" at the matinée held at Mr. Barrasford's Hippodrome, in aid of the Brighton Police Fund, for the poor children of the town. In the autumn of last year Miss May was engaged for Derek Jesson, in *His House in Order*,

[Photo by Natural Photographic Studio.

MISS DAISY MAY.

with Mr. Herbert Ralland's company, a part in which she gave every satisfaction.

The popular pastime of roller skating has a devotee in Miss May, who is quite an expert on the "rollers." In fact, while in a town on the present tour, the manager of the rink at which she was skating made her an excellent offer to remain and take up a position as instructress. Miss May replied, "Thank you, but I would much rather be an actress." Miss May has a song with an earhaunting melody in which she introduces her dancing on roller skates. She hopes shortly to extend her performance in vaudeville, featuring several of the smart songs written for her by Miss Franklin. Being only fifteen years of age, and with the ability she undoubtedly possesses, both as an actress and singer of songs, pathetic and humorous, Miss May should make a name for herself.

MR. DUDLEY STUART.

The son of a doctor, Mr. Dudley Stuart was originally intended to follow his father's profession; but having no liking for medicine, he chose the more bohemian life of the theatre. His first engagement was with Miss Annie Hughes in *A Country Mouse*, under the management of Mr.

MR. DUDLEY STUART.

Percy Hutchison, with whom he remained for a short tour. He was then engaged by Mrs. Lewis Waller as general understudy in *The Admiral's Lady*, when he was equal to the necessity of playing Capt. Braddon at a few hours' notice. After this followed an engagement with Messrs. Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell in *Merely Mary Ann*, playing the part of the Rev. Samuel Smudge; then for a period came a series of juvenile parts in drama. In 1906 he was engaged by Mr. Charles Steuart to play Mr. James Carew's part in *The Little Stranger*. Following this came a suburban tour with Aug. Van Biene in *The Broken Melody*.

For eighteen months Mr. Stuart was under the management of Mr. W. Payne Seddon, playing the juvenile leads in *Charley's Aunt*, *The Night of the Party*, and *The Private Secretary*. He has also played Pryce Ridgeley in *His House in Order* for two tours. Mr. Stuart was recently playing Chas. Hawtrey's part (Horace Parker) in *A Message from Mars*. His hobbies are golf, yachting, and tennis. He is a great believer in all outdoor exercises, and much prefers country life to that of town.

The New Theatre, Aberdare, will be closed for the next nine weeks, during which time extensive alterations will be made.

"RED 'RIA."

A New Play, in one act, by Gertrude and Jack Landa, Produced by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, March 28.

'Ria .....Miss Edyth Goodall
Mrs. Perkins .....Miss Louise Holbrook
Countess Polhurst .....Miss Darragh
Major Fitzaylivin .....Mr. Ian Maclaren

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The tone of this play is very much in keeping with certain modern ideas on the class question, and one does not at all wonder to see it included among the enterprises of Miss Horniman at this up-to-date theatre, where a piece of current sociology, dramatically presented, is almost always sure of being well received. Red 'Ria, a tall girl with red hair, is apparently the daughter of Mrs. Perkins, and we see her in the domestic hovel—it is little else—just returned sullenly from work on a Saturday afternoon. There are six other offspring, whom we do not see; Mr. Perkins is, as usual, at some neighbouring public-house, having an idea that he need not work overmuch while 'Ria is bringing wages home. Him also we do not set eyes on; and perhaps it is as well, for it appears that the sight of him has the effect on 'Ria of making her square up and fight him, to bring him to his senses—not a very edifying spectacle. To-day 'Ria is peculiarly bitter, for she has "got the sack." Something in her temperament is the cause of this, something that is bitterly resentful of the circumstances of her existence. Life is not as it should be. To add to the bitterness of it all, there is the contrast presented by the charitably-minded Countess Polhurst, who, as Mrs. Perkins says, has been a good friend to them, and who is even now in the district giving doles. But 'Ria does not envy the Countess; she simply resents the charity, which she looks upon as a mere diversion of the rich—an undue sort of patronage by people whose lives are "rotten," and who are unworthy of their privileges. She is in the humour to give the Countess a piece of her mind on the subject; and presently, when she has practically kicked Mrs. Perkins out of the room, and the lady enters, 'Ria does indeed unburden herself to a pretty tune. The Countess is hurt and abashed; she merely wants to help 'Ria to another situation, but no attempt at conciliation can stem the torrent of the girl's abuse. By degrees a meaning of it all creeps in; 'Ria confesses that she is not the daughter of the Perkins's; and the discerning playgoer, hearing that she does not know her parentage, and already conscious of an indomitable pride in this vehement denizen of the slums, begins to perceive a quality of blood in her. This takes off the edge of his surprise when a subsequent incident discloses the fact that she is the daughter of a veritable aristocrat. The latter, we are led to infer, is none other than the brother of the Countess. This gentleman calls for his sister while the latter is out of the room, and recognises in 'Ria the unmistakable features of a woman who was much besought by gentlemen in her day. 'Ria has an instinct for this visitor, Major Fitzaylivin, but she is not softened by it. She cannot forget that the rich are "a rotten lot," and in the end she sinks down under the shame of being the child of one of them.

On the face of it, the situation is absurd and irrational; yet for the psychologist there is also food for thought. The authors have dealt not so much with incident as with meanings, and the dialogue is at once natural and suggestive.

As for the acting, Miss Edyth Goodall has, in our opinion, done nothing better than this virulent and exacting character-depiction of Red 'Ria, though one might imagine a less strenuous and equally effective interpretation. Temperament is in every line and every attitude of the part. Equally lifelike, but in quite another level, was the Mrs. Perkins of Miss Louise Holbrook, who gave a wonderfully realistic depiction of the tolerant, suffering slut of a housewife to whom hardship and a drunken, lazy husband are second nature. Miss Darragh's Countess Polhurst was a polished and sensitive performance; and Mr. Ian Maclaren conveyed all that was required in his presentment of Major Fitzaylivin.

"For years," says Stephen Fiske in *Sports of the Times*, "I have contended that no reputable manager should engage any actress or actor who is not a member of the Actors' Fund. This has been called the application of trades union methods to an artistic profession; but the Actors' Fund confers the benefits of a trades union upon poor, sick, and dead professionals, and ought to be as loyally supported. Any person who does not care two dollars a year for his or her own future and unfortunate comrades would be better employed as a strike-breaker than on the stage. The officials of the Actors' Fund are like Janet's father in the Scotch story—they willna gang sae far as to admit thot. But they have gone farther than ever before—they have taken a long step forward—in a circular urging managers to give Actors' Fund members the first chance when making up their companies. 'In other words,' says the circular, 'membership of the Actors' Fund should be the first requisite to granting an interview to the actor, actress, or others in the profession when seeking engagements.' From 'the first requisite' to 'the indispensable requisite' is only a change of phrase. This achieved, the great charity that I planned thirty years ago, and that others have nobly and munificently maintained and developed, will be established as firmly and perpetually as the Rockefeller Foundation.

"The opening of a registration Bureau in connection with the Actors' Fund removes the last vestige of an excuse for any professional to stay outside of it. Now, upon the annual payment of only three dollars a year dues and fees—one cent a day of the professional year—the Actors' Fund not only takes care of members when they are poor or ill, or dead, but finds engagements for them while they are able to work. Superintendent McGrath writes that 2,500 members are now registered—the largest membership the Fund has ever had. They comprise women and men in all branches of the profession.

"No commissions are charged for engagements secured through the bureau. Several leading managers have already agreed to send to the Fund bureau when making up their companies for the summer and for next season. But the Fund asks and needs that all managers, great or small, shall take the same pledge. The stars can help by registering their names and making their contracts through the bureau. Though proverbially indifferent to their own interests and ignorant or neglectful of the simplest principles of pecuniary business, the rank and file will follow where managers and stars lead.

"The Actors' Fund should—and will eventually—number 25,000 instead of 2,500 members. It should be as impossible for any man or woman without a certificate of Fund membership to obtain an engagement on the American stage as it is for any person to practice law without being admitted to the Bar, or medicine without a M.D. diploma. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished, and it will come either by the enactment of a special law or by the voluntary action of such managerial associations as the Theatrical Syndicate or the Shubert's Incorporation."

Children on the Stage—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, March 23.—*Sister Beatrice*, a "miracle play" in two acts, by Maurice Maeterlinck, was performed for the first time in this country at the New Theatre on the 14th inst., and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison scored a conspicuous success in the title-rôle, receiving unanimous praise from the critics for her impressive and beautiful portrayal. Miss Matthison's interpretation was soul-stirring, and the play was produced by Mr. George Foster Platt in a highly praiseworthy manner. Its exquisite symbolism was, therefore, made clear, and its effectiveness was enhanced by the incidental music of Herr Max Marschalck. Various translations of Maeterlinck's play have been made for English readers, but in this instance a new version, in prose, was prepared for the New Theatre by Mr. Edward Knoblauch.

The story of Sister Beatrice has been told by John Davidson in "A Ballad of a Nun," and by Adelaide Anne Procter in "A Legend of Provence." Both of these author's versions are based on a mediæval legend, but Maeterlinck, it is said, had recourse to the original Dutch version for his story. Sister Beatrice is an inmate of a convent near Louvain, in the thirteenth century. Prompted by her love for Prince Bellidor, she leaves the convent at early morn and joins the Prince, who has come for her. Before she goes, she kneels before the image of the Virgin, and prays for a sign. Shall she go or stay? No sign is given, and Sister Beatrice departs on horseback with her lover. But her morning task is performed, though she herself is absent, for the bell-rope moves up and down, and the great bell tolls for matins as the horses gallop away. As the massive doors of the convent are closed, the lamp above the sacred image flashes three times, and the statue of the Virgin comes to life. Descending from the pedestal, she assumes the veil and mantle that Sister Beatrice has left behind, softly singing the while. "There is no sin where there is no hate," she says. She takes the nun's place at the convent door, and distributes garments to the poor. As she lifts the "shrouds for the dead and swaddling clothes for the new-born" from the basket, they glow with light and colour in her hands. Discovered by the nuns, who believe her to be Sister Beatrice, she is denounced for wearing fabrics of rich material beneath her cloak, and at the command of a priest is taken to the chapel for punishment. Her holiness is indicated, however, by miraculous signs. Clouds issue from the altar, garlands of flowers fall about them, and a shower of silver sparks. "Beatrice is holy! It is we who have sinned," they cry. In the next act Beatrice returns. Twenty years have passed, and during this period the Virgin has taken her place in the sisterhood and performed her duties. The sisters have wondered at the vacant niche; but, remembering the miraculous signs, have believed that the Virgin returned to Heaven, since they had a living saint in their midst. But now the image is in its place again, and she who was Sister Beatrice is aged and infirm. Wearing once more the veil and mantle which the Virgin has left by the pedestal, she tells a sad story of her years of suffering, and is placed on her death-bed, the nuns believing that her mind is deranged by a sudden illness, and that she has never been away from them. Thus she dies:—

"And weeping sisters laid her in her tomb,
Crowned with a wreath of perfumed hawthorn bloom."

Mr. Pedro Cordoba as Prince Bellidor, Mrs. Harriet Otis Dellenbaugh as the Abbess, Miss Olive Wyndham as Sister Eglantine, and Mr. Ben Johnson as a Priest, played their parts admirably.

The fourth act of Ibsen's *Brand* was presented as a curtain-raiser. Dreary and depressing, it was endured by the audience for the sake of what was to follow. Mr. William Archer's version was not used, but an excised translation in blank verse, and the translator's name was not given.

The first performance at the Metropolitan Opera House of an opera in English by an American composer took place on the 18th inst., when *The Pipe of Desire*, by Frederick S. Converse, was given, the house being crowded. The text, in metrical prose, was written by George Edward Barton, also an American, and tells a whimsical story in one act. Jolan, a shepherd, who is about to wed Naoia, falls in with a crowd of salamanders, gnomes, and sylphs, in the midst of a spring revel. The Old One, a sort of Wagnerian character, pipes for them to dance. Jolan, anxious to play on the pipe, snatches it from the Old One, and when he plays it proves his undoing, for it calls his betrothed to him from a sick bed, and she comes staggering through the forest, and expires in his arms. Then Jolan dies also across the body of his beloved. Thus the warning uttered by the Old One is literally fulfilled, for he has said:—

"'Tis the Pipe God gave Lilith,
And she played to man in Eden,
But its charm was rent by woman;
Now we play its potent music
That those in solitude may hear.
And continue, restless, wandering,
Searching ever . . .
Let thy tune, now sad, now merry,
Wax and wane with every breath;
Let the joy of love's beginning
Blend into the chant of death.
Let the mortal who dares play thee
Without knowledge of thy mood,
Play in terror at thy meaning,
And die when he has understood."

Mme. Louise Homer appeared as Naoia, Mr. Riccardo Martin as Jolan, Mr. Clarence Whitehill as the Old One, Miss Leonora Sparkes as the First Sylph, and Mr. Herbert Witherspoon as the First Gnome.

Mr. Henry Lee, the well-known impersonator, has acquired a one-act play, called *After Banking Hours*, in which he will appear alternately as two brothers, one a banker and the other a burglar, who meet before a bank safe, which both are planning to rob. Mr. Lee intends to take the play on a tour around the world.

Mr. James Forbes, who wrote *The Chorus Lady*, is about to launch a new American comedy from his pen, entitled *The Commuters*, meaning the season ticket suburbanites, who have long been a butt of the comic papers.

"Strife," by John Galsworthy, was to have been presented by the New Theatre company in Philadelphia, but the Director of Public Safety informed the management that the performance might add to the trouble caused by the street-car strike in that city, as the theme of the play was the conflict between Capital and Labour. The engagement was therefore cancelled. Mr. Lee Shubert said, however, that the Philadelphians must have been misinformed, as the story of *Strife* was an argument for the peaceable adjustment of labour difficulties, and would not be likely to inflame the minds of those who witnessed it. To prove this, an extra performance of the play is to be given at the New Theatre, New York, when the Mayor of Philadelphia and the strike leaders will be invited to attend.

M. Charles Dalmorès, the tenor, who was recently condemned to pay £5,000 to the New York Metropolitan Opera House for a breach of contract, declared that he would not disburse the money, and while the sheriff's officers were watching the dockyards he walked past them in the uniform of a member of the band of the steamship Potsdam. As the steamer left the dock M. Dalmorès played the cornet triumphantly.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM'S American tour has been one of the most successful which he has ever undertaken, and Mr. Hubert Henry Davies's *Mollusc* has proved a veritable gold mine both in its economy of cast and its attractiveness. Miss Mary Moore was unfortunately obliged by ill-health to abandon her original part in the play, and go to Egypt to recuperate; but transference to a warmer climate has been most beneficial, and Miss Moore is returning to England ready to appear with Sir Charles at the Criterion in the summer, first in *The Mollusc* and afterwards in *The Case of Rebellious Susan*.

SIR HERBERT TREE'S idea of a joint benefit for Mr. Hermann Vezin and Mrs. John Billington was an excellent one, and the special matinée which will be given shortly at His Majesty's is certain to be well attended. Mrs. Kendal will recite, and there will be many selections from Shakespeare in the programme.

SIR JOHN HARE has altered his intention of visiting Canada this spring, but may possibly go to America in the autumn for a short tour.

ONE of the best portraits at the private view at Sir Luke Fildes's house in Holland Park on Thursday was a half-length of Mr. George Alexander, whom the painter of "The Casual Ward" and "The Doctor" has represented wearing his usual genial smile and with the healthy colour induced by horse exercise and by frequent visits to Mr. Alexander's pretty country cottage at Chorley Wood. The likeness is excellent, and the execution, of course, unimpeachable.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON has changed his plans, having accepted the official invitation of Earl Gray, Governor-General of Canada, to cross the border, and appear in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, before he returns to England. Mr. Forbes Robertson will accordingly bring his remarkably successful season at Maxine Elliott's Theatre to a close on Saturday, April 9, and will proceed to Montreal, opening there on Monday, April 11, at the Princess Theatre. He will play in Ottawa on April 18 and 19; in Kingston on April 20; Hamilton, April 21 and 22; Ontario, April 23; Buffalo and Rochester during the week of April 25; and Toronto from May 2 to 6. He will sail for England from New York on May 11. Earl Grey will be present at his performance at Maxine Elliott's Theatre on Thursday, March 24.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S production of *King Richard III.* at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on April 13, will be in five acts and eighteen scenes. The scenery has been executed by Messrs. William Telbin and George J. Dodson; the dresses have been designed and made by Miss D. Carleton Smyth; the heraldry has been prepared under the supervision of the Rev. E. E. Dorling; the fighting has been organised by Mr. Alfred Mansfield; and the music, comprising the overture and that incidental to the production, has been composed by Mr. William Hudson, Mr. Martin Harvey's talented musical-director.

THE cast is as follows:—King Edward IV., Mr. F. Stoney; Edward, Prince of Wales, Miss Brenda Gibson; Richard, Duke of York, Miss Beatrice Ainley; George, Duke of Clarence, Mr. Owen Roughwood; Richard, Duke of Gloucester (afterwards King Richard III.), Mr. Martin Harvey; the Duke of Buckingham, Mr. Charles Glenney; the Duke of Norfolk, Mr. C. George; Henry, Earl of Richmond, Mr. Philip Hewland; Lord Stanley, Mr. Fred Wright, sen.; Marquis of Dorset, Mr. Leonard Craske; Sir William Brandon, Mr. D. Holm; Sir William Catesby, Mr. Alfred Mansfield; Sir Richard Ratcliffe, Mr. Edward Combermore; Sir James Tyrrel, Mr. B. A. Pittar; First Murderer, Mr. George Cooke; Second Murderer, Mr. Percy Foster; Queen Margaret, Miss Mary Rorke; Queen Elizabeth, Miss Sybil Walsh; Lady Anne, Miss N. de Silva.

"AN interesting correspondence has been going on between Mr. William Farren and Sir Arthur Pinero, apropos of *Trelawny of the Wells*. Mr. Farren has written:—After reading the article with the above title in to-day's paper, will you allow an actor of what you call "the old school of rodomontade" to assert that *Trelawny of the Wells* is distinctly not a true picture of London life on the stage in the Victorian sixties? The picture presents possibly a very funny view of the actor's calling, but its taste and tone may certainly be called into question when one remembers that the artist was himself at one time an actor. The other "true pictures of London life" may or may not be equally distorted. I never had the honour of acquaintance with a Vice-Chancellor, and if the hectoring, bullying vulgar personage in *Trelawny of the Wells* is a "true picture," then the legal profession will scarcely feel gratified; but I had the acquaintance of actors of all ranks in the sixties, and the actor who scraped his boots on the chair rail, and who used the dinner napkin as a pocket-handkerchief was a personage whose vulgarities never would have been tolerated by Samuel Phelps, whose work at Sadler's Wells Theatre many still hold in honourable remembrance.

SIR ARTHUR PINERO writes in reply:—"In spite of his objection to *Trelawny of the Wells* as a picture of theatrical life in the early sixties, Mr. Farren instances two pieces of stage 'business' which he describes as vulgar and untrue. Perhaps Mr. Farren will allow me to inform him that these vulgarities neither appear in the book of the play nor were suggested by me at rehearsal. He must attribute their introduction to the 'taste and tone' of a member of his own calling, not to the author. And may I remind Mr. Farren that *Trelawny of the Wells* professes to deal with Sadler's Wells Theatre in its days of decay, and not as it was during Mr. Phelps's distinguished management; and that, moreover, the piece is designed to appeal to persons with some sense of humour?"

MR. ROBERT PATEMAN wishes to express his heartfelt gratitude to the many friends—so numerous are they that he is unable to reply to all individually—who have shown him such kindly sympathy in connection with the heavy loss he has lately suffered in the death of his dear and only daughter Roberta.

AN uncomfortable situation was revealed the other evening before the rising of the curtain at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End-road, where "Lesser Columbus's" drama, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, is being played this week. The principal part, that of an old broken-down man, on whose shoulders the chief interest of the play may be said to hang, was unexpectedly left without an exponent, through the sudden illness of Mr. John Sargent and his understudy. The unpleasant necessity of dismissing the audience was about to be felt, when the author, who had never before appeared on the stage, decided to undertake the rôle. His success was extraordinary, the audience calling him before the curtain no less than twelve times at the conclusion of one act, and giving him an ovation at the final fall of the curtain. All the same, Mr. Cowen is understood to have expressed the hope that his hitherto unrevealed histrionic powers, due doubtless to his experience in Parliamentary candidature, may not be called upon again.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN has purchased a light comedy of English country life, in three acts, by Anthony Hope and Cosmo Gordon Lennox, entitled *Helen's Path*, and will produce it at the Duke of York's Theatre this season. Mr. Frohman has also commissioned Mr. Louis N. Parker to prepare an English version of *Chantecler* for the American company which will perform the piece. Mr. Parker has also written for Mr. Frohman an adaptation of Henri Lavedan's *Sire*, while Mr. Rudolf Besier has been translating Bataille's *La Vierge Folle* into English for Mr. Frohman, who is a liberal employer of English adapters.

MISS AUGUSTA HAVILAND will conclude her engagement with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree on April 18. She is the original Aunt Caroline in *Pinkies and the Fairies* at His Majesty's Theatre, and since the reproduction at Christmas has been playing the part successfully on tour with the whole of His Majesty's Theatre company. She will also be remembered as having successfully played Mrs. Wiggs, the leading character in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, also as Mrs. Harroway in Miss Evelyn Millard's season at the Garrick in *Idols*.

MR. AND MRS. AUSTIN G. MELFORD came to grief on Monday morning, whilst returning from a visit to friends in Naphill, Buckinghamshire. On their way to the station, the trap was overturned whilst coming down the steep hill three miles outside High Wycombe. Miss Gertrude Robins, who may be remembered as the authoress of *Makeshifts*, which obtained much favourable notice upon its production at the Coronet a short time ago, was also in the trap, and was lucky in getting off with a severe shaking. Miss Jessie Winter (Mrs. Melford), less fortunate, severely sprained her ankle. Help was obtained, and she was carried back to Naphill, where she is still the guest of Miss Robins. Mr. Melford was able to continue his journey to town, and reached Drury Lane Theatre in time for the morning performance.

CROWDED houses attended the performances of Mr. Edward Compton's Comedy Company at the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, last week. *David Garrick* was the performance on Saturday, and at its conclusion an ovation from the large assembly drew from Mr. Compton the following remarks:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—I thank you for your very hearty reception to-night, and am glad to find you have not forgotten me in the three years that have passed since my last visit to Kirkcaldy. During that time there has occurred a change of management of this beautiful house. In Mr. Cavanagh, your new manager, I am pleased to see the son of very old friends of mine; he is a young man, and if you will give him time it will be his endeavour to place before you the best of the companies that are on the road. I wish him every success, for his own and for his father's and mother's sake."

MR. JAMES WELCH, when the run of *When Knights Were Bold* at the Criterion comes to an end, probably in June, will take a well-earned holiday, starting on a tour in the provinces in August.

MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON and their Shakespearean company will take a prominent part in the London Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's Theatre. On Monday evening, April 18, *The Taming of the Shrew* will be given, with the following cast:—Petruchio, Mr. F. R. Benson; Biondello, Mr. Eric Maxon; Lucentio, Mr. Murray Carrington; Baptista, Mr. Alfred Brydone; Gremio, Mr. H. O. Nicholson; Bianca, Miss Nora Lancaster; Curtis, Miss Elinor Aickin; and Katharina, Mrs. F. R. Benson. On Tuesday afternoon, April 19, *Coriolanus* will be performed, thus cast:—Caius Marcius, Mr. F. R. Benson; Tullus Aufidius, Mr. Eric Maxon; Meninius, Mr. Alfred Brydone; Junius Brutus, Mr. Moffat Johnston; Sicinius Velutus, Mr. Murray Carrington; Valeria, Miss Violet Farebrother; Virgilia, Miss Nora Lancaster; and Volumnia, Miss Genevieve Ward.

SEVERAL alterations have been made in the cast of that successful drama, *Dame Nature*, which is now playing to good houses at the Garrick Theatre. Mr. Reginald Eyre has replaced Mr. F. Kinsey Pelle in the part of Henry Greville, Mr. Richard Carfax succeeds Mr. Eyre as Taylor, and Mr. J. A. Bentham is now seen as Roussell, formerly played by Mr. George Bealby. The most important change, however, is the appearance of Miss Lilian Braithwaite in Miss Nancy Price's part of the Princess de Chabran. Miss Braithwaite suggests the existence of a softer vein in the Princess's nature than Miss Price indicated, and the perfect accomplishment and impressive individuality of Miss Braithwaite are again conspicuous and successful. The conclusion of the play has been judiciously modified in the interests of the heroine, so splendidly embodied by Miss Ethel Irving.

A POLICE-CONSTABLE was being violently assaulted at Addiscombe on Wednesday by William Apps, of Ely-road, Croydon, and was lying on the ground when two members of *The Merry Peasant* company, now appearing at the Croydon Theatre, came along. They rescued the officer, who was almost exhausted, and on Thursday the Croydon Bench sent Apps to prison for six months.

MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW left Charing Cross last evening for Brindisi, en route for Australia, sailing thence per P.O. ss. China for Sydney, where he is under engagement to Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell. He opens in *Pete* at the Criterion Theatre in that city towards the end of May.

A CORRESPONDENT wants to obtain a humorous recitation—"At the Telephone" or a similar title—by Jerome K. Jerome, who himself forgets even the name of the publisher. Our readers may be able to inform us.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE has been appointed manager of the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, and assumes office in a week's time.

MR AND MRS. WM. MACLAREN terminate to-night, at the New Theatre Royal, Blackburn, their fifth year of tour with *Claudian*. The company goes out again at the end of August, the bookings running well into next year. Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren will make holiday in Scotland, returning in time to prepare for another revival of the evergreen Adelphi drama *Proof*, the rights of which they have held for some ten years by arrangement with Messrs. French. This play has been "rested" for two years, and will be sent out August Bank Holiday with an excellent all-round cast, the bookings including some of the best money-making dates in the country.

IN the vestibule of the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, last week was displayed an old day bill, dated April 18, 1845, headed "Victoria Theatre, Kirkcaldy," and setting forth particulars of a visit of Mr. Edmund Glover's company from Edinburgh, with Miss E. Montague as the star artist. This Miss Montague is the mother of Mr. Edward Compton, who was fulfilling a three nights' engagement there. The bill was presented to Mr. Compton by Mr. Spence, of Bath-street, Glasgow, when he was recently at the King's Theatre there. Mr. Compton's mother, we are happy to add, is still hale and hearty in her ninetieth year, and resides at St. Leonards.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S season at the Crystal Palace will terminate unusually early this spring, owing to the preparations in hand for the "Festival of Empire." Next week is the last professional engagement for the season, when *The Girl from Kay's* will be performed. The following week the Sydenham Hill Operatic Society will give three performances and a matinée of *La Fille de Madame Angot*, and on Saturday evening, April 23, there will be a grand gala night, when practically all the principal artists that have taken part in the pantomimes for the last four years will appear.

THE "Old Bensonian" matinée on Tuesday afternoon, May 3, the casts for which have already been given in this column, will be one of the most interesting performances of the forthcoming Shakespeare Festival at Stratford-upon-Avon, and will be contributed to by many of the foremost actors of the present day. It is a great tribute to Mr. F. R. Benson that so many of his old followers should be willing to journey to Stratford to testify their appreciation of, and devotion to, their old chief. Mr. Otho Stuart, who has organised the matinée, will take his band of players down from London by special train, returning the same afternoon.

MR. PATRICK KIRWAN writes: "Now that, through the fine performance of the Sicilians and the projected production in the Shakespeare Festival, *Othello* is once more talked about, may I ask if it would not be an improvement to the play if the reading of the first folio were substituted for the usual rendering of the quarto in the beginning of the great jealousy scene of the third act? The usual rendering now given runs, as in the quarto, 'Did Michael Cassio, when you wooed my lady, know of your love?" Now, the first folio has it, 'Did Michael Cassio, when HE wooed my lady, know of your love?' thus making Cassio a former rival to the Moor in the wooing of Desdemona.

"IT is needless to point out how much stronger such a reading makes Othello's trust, and how much more reason it seems to give for his jealousy. It was fair rivalry. He 'went between us very oft,' and yet, once Desdemona had declared her choice in the Moor, the affair was considered as settled and over between the two men, who continued friends until Iago instilled the poison into the mind of one of them. Would it not be interesting if one of our future Othellos were to give this reading to the part?"

A FEATURE of Mr. H. Bernhardt's concert on Good Friday evening at St. James's Hall was a monologue from the pen of Mr. Sabben Clare, entitled *A Moment of Doubt*, in which Miss Ella Erskine, the charming actress-authoress, displayed considerable vivacity and gaiety. Lady Isobel is beset with bills. There are debts everywhere, without apparently a stiver to pay. The inconveniences of impecuniosity worry her a little; but then there is the consolation of Fred's devotion to her. But Fred has no wealth; Dobbs, a middle-aged millionaire, has; and Dobbs proposes by letter. Shall she accept? She decides in the affirmative; for, after all, this love is often the mere fabric of a vision—an unsubstantial dream, and the dollars of Dobbs would count for much in Lady Isobel's social pilgrimage.

THERE are, however, other thoughts in her mind that tell her Fred has her heart. After all, there is much to be said in favour of love's young dream, and she tears up the letter to Dobbs. The next post brings a letter from Fred to announce his accession to property, and the horizon of the young couple is without a cloud. Miss Erskine, in the wayward moods of the heroine, completely held the house, and her Lady Isobel should be seen again. It was a fascinating portrait of a young society woman.

MR. ALEX. MACLEAN will produce a new romantic drama of Jacobite days at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on April 11, preparatory to bringing the piece to London. The play, which has been written for Mr. Maclean by Miss Dorothea Moore, is called *My Lady Bellamy*. Among those appearing will be Miss Laura Leigh in the title-rôle, Mr. E. H. Brooke as William of Orange, Miss Mary Palmer as the Queen, and Mr. Maclean as the Jacobite, Sir Gervase Bellamy. During the week Mr. Maclean will also take an opportunity of producing a one-act version of *David Garrick*, and of appearing in Mr. H. C. Ferraby's one-act tragedy *The Catastrophe*.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING and Miss Mabel Hackney recently returned to New York and fulfilled an engagement at the West-End Theatre. They appeared in *The Affinity*, and repeated their success. They then began rehearsals of Eugene Brieux's play *The Three Daughters of Monsieur Dupont*, which was produced in Paris a few years ago and has now been translated by Mr. Irving.

"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS" at Daly's has been doing extraordinary business this Eastertide. Mr. Robert Michaelis and Miss Lily Elsie have quite won the hearts of the *habitués* of this successful theatre, and the piece goes even better than it did on the first night.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has engaged for his production of *Richard III.* Mrs. A. B. Cross (Miss Minnie Watersford), for so many years associated with *The Manxman*.

THE firm of Strong and Buckmaster, one of the partners in which is Mr. Albert A. Strong, the expert on copyright and theatrical law, has now been joined by Mr. Arthur Bolden, B.A., who has hitherto practised at 40, Chancery-lane, London. The style of the firm will in future be Strong, Buckmaster, and Bolden.

IT is not generally known that Mr. Frank Curzon, the popular manager of Wyndham's and the Prince of Wales' theatres and part author of the highly-successful musical comedy *The Balkan Princess*, is brother to Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., the Unionist member for Harrow.

MR. CHARLES HAWTREY has already engaged Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Frances Wetherell, and Miss Clare Greet to appear in *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's Theatre on the conclusion of the run of *The Little Damozel*.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, after a very long interval, is revisiting the Kennington Theatre next week. For the first three nights *The Breed of the Treshams* will fill the programme, while on Thursday and Friday and Saturday *The Only Way* will be played.

"THE CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE," a new comedy, with music by Violet Hatherley and Charles Winchcomb, of which we were enabled to give a most favourable report on its production at Worthing last June, will open a long tour at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on April 18. The principal character will be in the hands of Mr. Chas. McNaughton, a younger brother of the famous McNaughtons, who has already done excellent service in musical comedy. The cast will also include Messrs. Fredk. Hobbs, Albert Kavanagh, Claud Casey, and Chas. McLagan, and Misses Ruby Ryan, Carlotta Sylvaro, Mollie Shine, Trissie March, Mary Dandridge, Maudi Jennings, and Irene Verona. Mr. Walter Gifford, released by Mr. Frank Curzon, will officiate as Press representative. Mr. Wm. Collard will be acting-manager for Harry W. Lumley; and the piece will be produced by E. T. Steyne.

MRS. WIGHTMAN COOPER (Miss Irene Carrington) will be very grateful if those of our readers who are Freemasons will do all in their power to assist her to secure the election of her son, Richard Wightman Cooper, aged nine, to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at the April election. Mr. J. W. Matthews has sent Mrs. Wightman 100 votes and Mr. Edward Terry 423.

A MEETING of sympathisers with the National Theatre was held on Wednesday in University House, College-road, Leeds, for the purpose of discussing practical methods of supporting the project. Mr. Herbert Thompson, president of the Leeds Playgoers' Society, was voted to the chair, the attendance unfortunately being very small.

THE Chairman said that in this country we had a way, when we wished to commemorate anyone, of giving ourselves something we liked very much. Shakespeare himself needed no memorial; his works were a sufficient memorial. But the coming tercentenary of our greatest dramatist was a very good opportunity of giving ourselves something we wanted. What we did want in this country above everything else in the dramatic line was a theatre independent of commercial interests, where could be given the good things that people ought to see and hear, rather than the things they wanted to see and hear. For that reason he was very much interested in the movement, quite apart from the great man it was hoped to commemorate.

MR. H. S. PERRIS, of the National Committee, speaking of the need for a national theatre, said one might go for twenty years in London without having a chance of seeing the greater part of Shakespeare's actable plays, while at almost any moment it would be very easy to go into the provinces and not see a play of Shakespeare's on the boards. At present he believed there was not a single play of Shakespeare's being acted in London. The proposal was, if the theatre was built, that there should never be a single week in the ordinary theatrical year in which the thousands who visited London would not have an opportunity of seeing Shakespeare performed by a highly-skilled répertoire company.

THEY did not intend that only the plays of Shakespeare should be acted at the National Theatre. Provisional bye-laws, which had already been drafted, laid it down that at least one Shakespearean play a week should be acted. The other performances would be, perhaps, old English comedy, the finest versions of plays by foreign dramatists, and sometimes new plays if these were of sufficient merit. If the scheme were perfected there would be for the theatre an endowment of £10,000 a year, which would ensure against the terrible loss which many private enterprises had involved. The late Sir Henry Irving and Sir Herbert Tree had made heroic efforts, but the fact remained that Shakespeare, if it did not spell failure, did not spell dividends.

A SUM of £500,000 was needed as a permanent endowment, which was just the amount which the Comédie Française received from the State. It was proposed to appeal to the whole of the English-speaking race for money. The promoters of the scheme thought it would be indecent to make any appeal to foreigners, but they would welcome and be proud of any gift that came from abroad. The municipality of Venice had sent a gift, and gifts had been received from Germany, where the enthusiasm for Shakespeare sometimes put us to shame. The Central Committee hoped to establish a complete network of local committees all over the country and spreading over the Colonies and the United States, and by this means build up a great body of public interest and sympathy for the scheme, thus securing the necessary funds. One generous contributor had given £70,000, and they would gladly accept large gifts, but he wished it to be understood that they were anxious to secure a large number of small subscriptions. Truly regarded, a national theatre was one of the most splendid educational endowments to which any man could contribute. It would be a driving force and a standard of taste which did not now exist in our theatrical enterprise.

THE Chairman said that Leeds had not been recognised for great enthusiasm in intellectual matters. There was a University in the city, from which he trusted that Leeds would in process of time be leavened, but it would take a long time. "We are a slow people to move," he added, "but when we are moved there is something solid and weighty behind us. At least I try to think so. There are a great many things to be said on this question, but perhaps they had better be left unsaid. If I proceed I might say something disagreeable about Leeds."

IN reply to questions, Mr. Perris said he thought the example of a national theatre would result in time in the establishment of municipal theatres in the large centres. He suggested that a committee should be formed in Leeds of people who were favourable to the scheme, and that the committee should, between now and the autumn, undertake spade work on behalf of the idea. It would then be possible in the autumn to organise a big public meeting, to be addressed by well-known speakers, and thus to secure the auspicious opening of a public fund.

A LARGE and influential committee was subsequently elected, many ladies and gentlemen having already signified their willingness to act on such a body.

THE Ibsen Club (under the direction of Miss Catherine Lewis) will continue its present season by a performance of *Hedda Gabler* to-morrow (Sunday) evening at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane.

ON Saturday night last, with *The Dollar Princess* the record of the Opera House, Southport, at ordinary prices, was beaten. Never since the theatre has been built has there been such a house, and over 400 people were turned away at early doors. This week, with the Moody-Manners Opera Co., including Charles Manners, Fanny Moody, Joseph O'Mara, Phillip Brozel, Madame Zelie De Lussan, and Madame de Vere Sapio, the booking is phenomenal.

THE Moss Empire suburban theatres have particularly attractive programmes next week. At the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, Mr. Percy Hutchison and company will appear in *Brewster's Millions*, and at the Broadway, New Cross, Mr. J. B. Howard's company will present *The Earl and the Girl*.

MR. H. HAMILTON STEWART completed his seventh tour of *Sherlock Holmes* at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, a fortnight ago. That this fascinating play has lost none of its hold upon the public was proved by the crowds that flocked to each performance.

AT the Opera House, Cheltenham, on Monday next, Mr. Stewart will commence his second tour of *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, from Wyndham's Theatre. As in *Sherlock Holmes*, Mr. Stewart himself plays the leading part, Lord Lumley (originally played by Sir Charles Wyndham), and the cast also includes Mr. Lewin-Mannering, Mr. Percy Marmont, Mr. Lancelot Lowder, and Miss A. Bruce-Joy, in the principal parts. The bookings include Portsmouth, Southport, Blackpool, Scarborough, Harrogate, York, Yarmouth, Eastbourne, Folkestone, and Hastings. The business arrangements are in the hands of Mr. G. Potter.

MR. TOM CRAVEN successfully opened his fourth tour with his *Lady Detective* drama at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, last Monday. The company include many of the original cast, who have been under Mr. Craven's banner several times. Mr. Craven visits Sheffield, Liverpool, Birkenhead, York, Glasgow, Bury, and several suburban theatres. The manager is Mr. Louis Palgrave. Mr. Craven hopes to produce his new hustling farcical comedy early in May. He has decided after all to adhere to his original intention, and entitle the farce *It isn't Cricket. When a Lass Loves* will in the autumn court the attention of American and Colonial playgoers.

GREAT preparations are being made at Stratford-on-Avon for the Shakespeare Festival, which will open on April 22 with Sir Herbert Tree's production of *Hamlet*, without scenery, in which Sir Herbert Tree will be supported by Miss Marie Lohr as Ophelia and Mr. Eric Maxon as the King. In the civic decorations festoons of evergreen are to be utilised, and gardeners all over the country have promised to send three miles of foliage with which the streets and country lanes are to be lined.

ON the 23rd, the date of the poet's birthday, the usual floral procession will start from the birthplace to Holy Trinity Church. In the evening *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* will be performed, Mrs. F. R. Benson appearing as Julia and Miss Nora Lancaster as Silvia.

ON May Day hundreds of children from neighbouring villages will take part in an open-air fête, including dancing milkmaids, Jacks-in-the-Green, and competitions in folk songs and Morris dancing. The production of the £300 prize play on May 5 will be an interesting event. The successful authoress is Mrs. Lionel MARKS, the wife of a professor at Harvard University.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON created a great impression as Monty Brewster, on paying his first visit to the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, with his Wyndham's Theatre company, and production of *Brewster's Millions*. Last Monday, and throughout the week seats have been at a premium, and the reception accorded to Mr. Hutchison on making his appearance was a flattering tribute to his universal popularity as an actor-manager and producer. The great ship scene has never been seen to greater advantage, and round after round of applause burst forth when the curtain rose and revealed this marvellous combination of stage craft and electrical effects.

THE Hutchison management have scored yet another triumph with Rudolf Besier's comedy, *Don*, still running at the Kingsway Theatre. The initial provincial production took place at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Monday, and was received by a packed audience with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Hutchison has booked an extended tour for this great attraction.

MR. GILBERT PAYNE is to produce a new musical comedy extravaganza entitled *The Marriage Mart*, at Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, on Monday, April 11. The piece has been written by Mr. Payne, who plays the principal comedy part, and is the successor to his musical comedy, *The Honeymoon*, which he has toured during the past four years. The production will be under the management of Mr. Harry Marvello.

MRS. GEORGE DAVENTRY asks us to state that all arrangements respecting the oil painting of her late husband will be completed on April 14th at five o'clock, at her flat, 36, Wightman-road, Harringay, London, N. She begs to thank very sincerely all who have so kindly subscribed.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY and Miss Marie Harcourt concluded yesterday a three years' engagement with Mr. Wentworth Croke, having played the parts of Magnus and Aunt Margaret in *The Prodigal Son* upwards of 800 nights. During the summer season they played Carlisle and Corney in a new version of *East Lynne*, written by Mr. Montgomery for Mr. Croke. Mr. Montgomery has been retained by Miss Grace Lester for her notable sketch, *Her Ruined Life*.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR, who has concluded three months' engagement with Mr. Ernest Stevens as business-manager for his *Cinderella* company, has been engaged by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow in the same capacity for *The Little Damozel* tour.

"A DAUGHTER OF DOYLE'S," a new three-act comedy by Sybil Michell, will be produced at the Worthing Theatre on Thursday, April 7. The performance, which will be repeated the two following evenings and at a matinée on Saturday, will be in aid of the district nurses, and will be under the patronage of her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk.

MR. G. MORTON-WILLIAMS concludes to-night a most enjoyable engagement as Lucas Lyle, the heavy lead in *Home, Sweet Home*, which he has been playing with Messrs. Green and Hinton's company since Christmas.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and Mr. Mark Blow's two companies started on Easter Monday with *The Little Damozel*, one at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, and the other at the West Pier, Brighton, where *The Little Damozel* broke all records. Next week one company will be at the Prince's, Bristol, and the other at Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

THE attraction next week at the Marlborough Theatre will be the ever-popular musical comedy *A Country Girl*, which has been delighting holiday audiences at the Coronet this week. The company, which is an exceptionally strong one, includes Miss Anna Hickish as Nan, Miss Hilda Darrell as Sophie, Miss Dorothea Temple as Marjorie, Mr. Coningsby Brierly as Barry, Mr. St. John Hamund as the Rajah, and Mr. Nelson Hancock as Challoner. There is a fine chorus, and the mounting is liberal and effective.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY is desirous of thanking Mr. Louis Calvert for a most comfortable engagement of nearly three and a half years in *Sunday*. On Saturday night he will have played the part of Lively for the 812th time.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON will produce at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Monday, a new one-act play by Leon M. Lion, which will show Mr. Mollison in a fine dramatic part. It is an adaptation from a story of Mr. Tom Gallon's. Mr. Mollison will present it nightly during his present tour of *The Chorus Lady*, after which he intends bringing it to the West End.

ON the site of the old Pavilion at Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, has risen a large and capacious building, with a seating capacity of nearly 1,500, called the New Theatre, which was opened on Easter Monday with *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.* Situated in one of the best residential parts of the city, the new theatre should prove a welcome addition to existing places of amusement.

THOSE able American managers the Messrs. Shubert have decided that for the future no free passes will be issued for any theatre either in New York or the United States of which they have the control. Exception is, however, to be made of the Press. A professional matinée is to be given of each play produced under the Shuberts' direction about two or three weeks after each New York premiere.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Tight.

Miss Marie Dressler has been appearing at a Philadelphia theatre in a musical farce called *Tillie's Nightmare*, by Edgar Smith and A. Baldwin Sloane. Tillie is a boarding-house drudge. She falls asleep after digesting the conglomeration of news and imagination to be found in the Sunday papers, and in a dream is transported to New York, where she marries her sweetheart, finding him a millionaire at the head of a huge department store. Their honeymoon is spent on a yacht, and Tillie is dreadfully seasick off the coast of Coney Island. She journeys to Paris and assists an inventor to become the champion aeroplanist of the world; goes aloft in his flying machine, and is carried to the North Pole, where the aviator lightens ship by heaving Tillie overboard, and has all sorts of adventures before she wakes up and resumes her drudgery. The scene in the department store, and Miss Dressler's mimic attacks of mal-de-mer are said to be very funny. To cure the malady she takes some champagne, which gives her an opportunity to sing "I'm tight." In another number, "What I could do on the stage," Miss Dressler indulges in a number of burlesque imitations. That she has not quite recovered from the acute attack of Anglophobia that seized her after her unfortunate experiences in London is evident when she takes a stage Englishman by the ear and tells him what she thinks of his people. (Applause.)

Miss Burke on Nationality.

Miss Billie Burke, in discussing *Mrs. Dot* and her previous success, *Love Watches*, with an interviewer, said that the former play made a surer appeal to English and American audiences because it was a play of English life, and Mr. Maugham was so contemporaneous in his comedies. His play was so true to the life it represented that at times Miss Burke almost thought herself back in London listening to old friends. She had found it interesting to study one of the characters in the play, and to note how differently the English and the Americans regarded him.

Said Miss Burke:—"The servant, James, in the first act is very impudent—as you know. He answers his master, give him advice and almost the lie, and will not leave the room until actually ordered out. That kind of a servant is a rarity indeed in England—so much so that the character of an impertinent, even though epigrammatically impertinent, man-servant must have struck the English audiences of *Mrs. Dot* as perfectly killing in its ridiculousness. But, if you notice, the sauciness of James is not at all wondered at by the audiences that see and hear *Mrs. Dot* here at the Lyceum.

"An impudent servant is not a novelty to Americans. If he answers back that is because he is a servant, or perhaps it is his prerogative as a servant. If he is clever in his answers, so much the better, but it does not strike our American mind that his mere impudence is especially unusual or humorous. Our experience with servants has been too terrific to be amused or even surprised at the impudence of one of that tribe. But, aside from the eccentricities of that one character—or rather because his eccentricities in England are commonplaces in America—Mr. Maugham's wit and satire are every bit as keenly to our liking as if the Lyceum Theatre were nightly filled by a thoroughly London public."

Couldn't See It.

In Mr. George Grossmith, senior's, delightful book, "Piano and I," there are many notable anecdotes, a few of which we cull here. "In one town towards the South of England," writes Mr. Grossmith, "I was giving a sketch (the title of which I have forgotten), and amongst the items was a good-natured dig at the then prevailing fashion of young men in immaculate evening dress writing their engagements, at a reception, down on their shirt cuffs. If a lady said to one of these gentlemen, 'Oh, so pleased to see you; do dine with us next Thursday,' he would reply, 'Charmed!' and wrote it down on his linen. Thinking that I would chaff this little folly, I said—'I knew a young Johnny who was most systematic. You won't be able to see this joke, but I assure you this young man was very systematic, and copied his shirt-cuff invitations into a regular engagement book at the end of a fortnight. See?' Some of the audience would pretend to see, then I addressed them again—'I still think you don't see,' and on I went. But at this particular place an old gentleman awaited me at the artist's door, and rather severely addressing me, said, 'About that shirt-cuff joke, were you trying to make fools of us all or what?' I replied, 'You don't mean to tell me you didn't see the point?' He said almost violently, 'No, nor anyone else; so explain it.' I said in my most explanatory manner, 'The point is, being a systematic young man, at the end of the fortnight he copied them into a book because he was sending his shirt to the wash.' 'Oh!' said the old gentleman, 'but you didn't say that.'"

Very Respectable.

Mr. Grossmith had an amusing experience at Pontypool. "It was at the time when the 'Black List' was in force, and the portraits of those numbered on that formidable list were hung up in the public-house bars, with the instructions that the landlords were forbidden to supply those customers with alcoholic nourishment. Two Welsh miners (as I read in the papers) were discussing a large lithograph portrait of myself announcing my recital at the little hall. They evidently did not, or could not, read the details of the recital underneath, for one miner said to the other: 'That's a very sad sight, to see a decently-dressed, respectable-looking man like that placed upon the Black List.'"

Rinking and Rolling.

Mr. Grossmith was persuaded to go skating in America. A little boy showed him some figure-skating:—"I said reprovingly, 'I never go in for fancy skating.' I spoke the truth; for that moment, tragic as it may appear, I went down on my back suddenly. The boy helped me to rise, and I excused myself by saying—'I beg your pardon, I do go in for fancy skating, and that is an example of it.' Being a young gentleman, he kept silent."

Impersonating Paderewski.

Paderewski and Mr. Grossmith were once staying in the same hotel at Boston, U.S.A. "I had to go down to the office about some dispatches or something," writes Mr. Grossmith, "and I found on the counter piles of books. I said to the assistant manager: 'What on earth are these? They look like albums.' He said, 'Say, Mr. Grawsmith, they are autograph books.' I replied innocently, 'But I've two or three up in my room already.' The response to me was, 'Say, these are not for you, Mr. Grawsmith, they are for Mr. Paderewski to sign.' A lot of people were waiting for their books, and I said in their hearing: 'I'll see that they are attended to.' I went round to the left passage. I had grown my hair pretty long at that period as I was doing a sketch called *The Paderewski Craze*. I removed my hat, took off my overcoat as well as my pince-nez, rumpled my hair over my head, stuck a silk handkerchief into my collar to resemble a tie, and went to the office again, and in a loud voice said: "I cannot sign any more autographs to-day; leave them on the counter, and I'll try and do them to-morrow.' Young girls, footmen, &c., fled in a hurry, taking the books; but I learned the next day they were brought back again, and that Paderewski had kindly signed them."

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

On Saturday, March 26, Revival of the Drama by Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, entitled

"THE WHIP."

Rev. Verner Haslam .....Mr. Basil Gill
Tom Lambert .....Mr. George Barrett
Captain Grenville Sartorys .....Mr. Cyril Keightley
Hubert, Earl of Brancaster .....Mr. Vincent Clive
Joe Kelly .....Mr. Charles Rock
The Marquis of Beverley .....Mr. Alfred Bucklaw
Harry Anson .....Mr. Cecil Cameron
Tom Foster .....Mr. Austin G. Melford
Captain Rayner .....Mr. Charles Blackall
The Hon. Mrs. Beamish..Miss Fanny Brough
Lady Diana Sartorys ....Miss Jessie Bateman
Mrs. D'Aquila .....Miss Nancy Price
Myrtle Anson .....Miss Madge Fabian
Lady Antrobus .....Miss May Warley

Mr. Arthur Collins revived *The Whip* at Drury Lane Theatre on Saturday evening with a success which was a conclusive proof that the popularity of the piece was not at all exhausted by its previous run. *The Whip* is, indeed, a very happy example of the class of play to which it belongs. Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton's story is strong, direct, and sensational, concocted and combined with care, ingenuity, and plentifully supplied with comic relief. But the great strength of *The Whip* is that it deals so extensively with Sport. A writer on English society has said that sport in all its phases is the great bond which keeps the country together. Hunting and racing are the most intense and real interests, the most disinterested tastes of thousands of Englishmen and Englishwomen. Even those who are prevented by considerations of expense and occupation from indulging in the first of these enjoyments are not entirely prevented from taking part in the second; and the small "punter" and the aristocratic plunger are brethren "under their skins." Thus a melodrama dealing with the "horsey interest" is usually successful. The great stage of Drury Lane Theatre enables the management to present such pieces on a scale of realism and completeness which defies competition, and the liberality which Mr. Collins has always shown in catering for his patrons meets with a response which more than repays the expenditure.

Never have Mr. Collins's enterprise and ability been more conclusively shown than in the case of *The Whip*. Perhaps the scene which will linger longest in the memories of those who have seen the drama is the superb reproduction of a hunting banquet in the Great Hall of Falconhurst in the second act. Never has realism in the setting of a table been carried further than in this unforgettable display. The festive board is decked with no mere theatrical splendour. Every detail is arranged and supplied with a care and solicitude for accuracy which are marvellous; and it is a marvel also how each evening the numerous adornments and decorations are removed and stored without loss or breakage. The next great landmark in this extraordinary representation of reality is the famous collision scene at Manfield Junction. Never in the history of stage collisions—and the railway accident has been a favourite, both at Drury Lane and elsewhere—has the annihilation of a horse-box by a locomotive been presented so plausibly. The engine is a very clever bit of stage carpentry and contrivance; and the details of railway working, the panoramic scenery, and the ingenious lighting of the stage make the result doubly successful. But only for a scene does the interest become mechanical and cease to be equine. The "sport of kings" is allowed to exert its charm in the last act, when the sympathetic incident of a jockey almost prevented by trickery from winning his race is followed by a most ingenious and effective imitation of the rapid rush of a field of horses in contention for a stake of £2,000. The means which are employed are not, we believe, entirely novel, but the application is so appropriate and so excellently contrived that *The Whip* concludes amidst a frenzy of applause.

Nor is *The Whip* solely dependent on its mounting for its success. If *The Whip* were played with the simple scenery which contented the last generation, when the introduction of a hansom cab on the stage drew all playgoing London to gaze upon an innovation so extraordinary, it would still make a powerful effect on the feelings of the spectators. For the play is admirably cast and the characters so strongly sustained as to rivet themselves in the memory. Few can forget the villain of Mr. Cecil Keightley, a creation of the most acute and incisive sort—strong yet refined, resolute yet finished, and endowed with a flavour of devilish irony which wins for the personage the detestation of every honest man in the audience. Mr. Keightley's Sartorys, in the worst of his wickedness, is always polished and plausible, and the character stands out unmistakably. A pathetic and harrowing performance is Mr. Basil Gill's Rev. Verner Haslam. Rarely have remorse and mental suffering been more poignantly represented on the boards. One of the most impressive and memorable performances in the production is Mr. Charles Rock's Joe Kelly. The rough, crude vigour of the brutal betting man is shown with the unsparing energy and earnestness which Mr. Rock devotes to all his impersonations. The rôle of Hubert, Earl of Brancaster, is less prominent than heroes of melodrama often are, but Mr. Vincent Clive makes the most of it, and sustains it with the highest credit. The type of the foxhunting English gentleman is reproduced with astonishing fidelity by Mr. Alfred Bucklaw, whose fine personality greatly assists him; and Mr. George Barrett's Tom Lambert is worthy of the best traditions of plebeian comedy. It is impossible to think of Mr. Barrett's richly-humorous conception without coupling with it the delightfully droll reading of the rôle of the Hon. Mrs. Beamish which is supplied by that excellent and experienced actress, Miss Fanny Brough; and Miss Jennie Bateman's Lady Diana Sartorys—so fresh, so true, and so easily alert and affectionate—wins all hearts from the outset. Miss Nancy Price, who has the gift of satire and cynicism, and is unequalled in the art of representing an unscrupulous, hardened, and crafty adventuress, employs her talents to the very best advantage as Mrs D'Aquila; and Miss Madge Fabian and Mr. Cecil Cameron as the too-honest and simple brother and sister act with passion, pathos, and proficiency. Mr. Austin G. Melford's Tom Foster could hardly be bettered; and Mr. Charles Blackall's Captain Rayner even improves on acquaintance, Miss May Warley's Lady Antrobus well bearing the test of a second examination. Again are the transcendent talents of Mr. Henry Emden, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. R. McCleery demonstrated by the superb sets which they have provided for the production of the play; and the Drury Lane orchestra, under the expert baton of Mr. J. M. Glover, is once more unimpeachable. But, after all, it is to the great projector and overseer of the enterprise that the greatest credit must be given; and we heartily congratulate Mr. Arthur Collins on the well-deserved reward which he has won. His able and energetic manager, Mr. Sidney Smith, will be busily employed during the next few months.

DEATH OF H. J. LOVEDAY.

We deeply regret to announce the death at his residence at Strawberry Hill at one o'clock on Tuesday morning of Mr. Henry Joseph Loveday, so long stage-manager to Sir Henry Irving, Mr. Loveday, who was born in 1838, had been in failing health for some time. He never recovered from the shock caused by the death of his beloved "chief" in 1905, and last September he had the misfortune to slip and fall on a piece of orange peel in a street in Liverpool, and the accident caused an illness from which he never recovered.

Irving and Loveday met for the first time in Edinburgh in 1858, where Irving's future stage-manager was the chief violin player in the orchestra of the Theatre Royal, and Irving was a member of Wyndham's stock company.

When Henry Irving produced *Richard III.* at the Lyceum on January 29, 1877, H. J. Loveday's engagement with his "chief" began, and continued for over thirty years. Mr. Loveday was a clever artist, and his ability in sketching often stood Irving in good stead. He was much more to Irving than a mere stage-manager. Irving consulted him as to his future productions and as to the general conduct of his business. In Irving's trips to America Mr. Loveday travelled with him, and not with the company, which commonly crossed by another boat.

Mr. Loveday was near at hand on that tragic night at Bradford when Sir Henry breathed his last. In 1905 he became stage-manager to Mr. Martin Harvey, with whom he went on tour in the following year.

The deceased was over seventy years of age, and leaves a widow, one son, and two daughters.

One of the late Mr. Loveday's daughters was Miss Nellie Loveday, who acted at Toole's, and who is now Mrs. William Robins, the wife of Mr. George Alexander's musical director at the St. James's. The other daughter married Mr. Cecil Paget, the manager of the Crown Theatre, Peckham.

Many anecdotes were told of the late "Harry" Loveday, who was extremely popular. The Lyceum Theatre company were once playing

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

THE LATE MR. H. J. LOVEDAY.

at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, and it was found, late one Saturday night, that a certain property—a tree trunk required for use in *Hamlet*—was not forthcoming. So directions were given to one of the men—by name Arnott—to get it ready in time for the performance on Tuesday. On Monday morning, on arriving at the theatre, Mr. J. B. Howard, the manager, found that the theatre had been broken into and a quantity of stores abstracted. Arnott was brought under suspicion, and Howard peremptorily sent for him.

"I hear that you broke into my theatre and used up a lot of my stores," he said.

"Yes, sir. The theatre was shut up, and there was no time."

"Time has nothing to do with it, sir. Why did you do it?"

"Well, Mr. Howard, the governor ordered it, and Mr. Loveday told me not to lose any time in getting ready, as we had to rehearse to-day."

"But, sir," inquired Howard, still indignant, "if Mr. Loveday was to tell you to take down the flies of my theatre, would you do that too?"

"Certainly, sir," answered Arnott.

"In that case," said Howard, "I have nothing more to say. I only wish that my men would work like that."

Mr. Loveday used to tell a story, which greatly amused him, of a fire which took place at the old Edinburgh Hotel, opposite the Scott Memorial, Edinburgh. He, Mr. Bram Stoker, and Sir Henry Irving were sitting late at supper in the hotel when the fire broke out, and they left their room to watch the work of an energetic night porter, who was doing his best to extinguish the flames.

When they reached the part of the building where the fire was located they found an irate guest in a long white nightgown denouncing the porter for disturbing his sleep, and declaring that he would not endure being awakened by anyone's "infernal stupidity in setting the house on fire." He stormed and raged, without any effort to help in putting out the flames, and was still talking when Sir Henry, Mr. Loveday, and Mr. Bram Stoker returned to their room.

"I wish I had that fellow's self-conceit," said Sir Henry Irving; "with that I could do anything."

Mr. H. B. Irving, the chairman of the projected Loveday benefit, in an interview, says:—"Loveday was a gentle, lovable man, very loyal to my father, invariably kind to the staff, and a keen worker. I believe there was no one for whom Sir Henry had a greater affection than for his stage-manager."

"H. J. Loveday," writes Miss Ellen Terry in "The Story of My Life," "was as absolutely devoted to Henry as anyone except his fox-terrier, Fussy. Loveday's loyalty made him agree with everything that Henry said, however preposterous; and didn't Henry trade on it sometimes!"

Miss Terry relates how on one occasion Sir Henry while making-up took a white lily out of a bowl and began to stripe and dot the petals with a stick of grease-paint.

"Pretty flower, isn't it?" he asked Miss Terry.

"Oh, don't be ridiculous," she said.

"You wait. We'll show it to Loveday."

The latter agreed with his chief that the flower was very pretty.

"I always like those lilies," he added innocently. "A friend of mine has his garden full of them, and he says they're not so difficult to grow if only you give them enough water."

"Henry's delight at having 'taken in' Loveday was childish," says Miss Terry. "But sometimes I think Loveday must have seen through these innocent jokes, only he wouldn't have spoiled the guv'nor's bit of fun for the world."

Mrs. Martin Harvey (Miss de Silva), who has known Mr. Loveday intimately since her childhood, said: "Mr. Loveday gave up his violin and his beloved music in order to join Sir Henry, the friend of his youth, and in all my life I have never known so strong and sincere a tie to exist between two men.

"It was always a favourite promise of Sir Henry's that when both grew old they should take a cottage near each other. Sir Henry laughingly foreshadowed that he would read the plays while Mr. Loveday played his old violin. That wish was never realised.

"They were very, very dear friends," said Mrs. Harvey, "and I think that Mr. Loveday was the only man that really got into Sir Henry's heart.

"Toole and Sir Henry, Mr. Loveday and his brother George (who was Mr. Toole's stage-manager), were inseparables. Coming home every night after the theatre, these four used to take it in turns to buy the supper!" Mr. George Alexander had a high opinion of Mr. Loveday.

"He was a wonderfully kind creature," says Mr. Alexander. "He had a genius for doing the pleasant thing. To young actors he was the god out of the machine—giving the encouraging word and saying the right thing at the moment when the beginner was most in need of help. It was his sheer lovableness that endeared him to all who knew him. It was not 'tact.' That is too gross a word. He did the kind thing and said the kind thing. He won us all by his simple sweetness."

Mr. Bram Stoker, in his "Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving," paid a high tribute to Loveday's value. Mr. Stoker wrote:—"Irving could do much, and would have in the long run done at least the bulk of what he intended; but he never could have done *all* he did without the assistance of his friend and trusty stage-lieutenant, H. J. Loveday, who through the whole of his management stood beside him in all his creative work and shaped into permanent form his lofty ideas of stage effect. To Loveday and the able staff under him, whose devotion and zeal were above all praise, the continued excellence of the Lyceum plays had to be mainly trusted."

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at Kensal Green Cemetery on Friday. There was a large assembly, which included Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. and Mrs. Robins, Mr. Dillon Croker, Mr. H. A. White, Miss Loveday, Mr. Meredith Ball, Mr. Clarence Leighton, Mr. and Mrs. Bram Stoker, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Mr. Austin Brereton, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heirn, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Charles Glenney, Mr. L. M. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson, Mrs. Bloor, Mr. Goodwin, Mrs. Tabb, Dr. Middlemist, Mr. Alfred Rivers, Mr. Harry J. Britt, Miss Barlow, Mrs. Saxby, Mr. Coltson, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Paget, Mr. J. H. Barnes, and Mr. H. B. Irving.

Wreaths were sent by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Master and Miss Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mrs. Aria, Miss Mamie Cohn, Miss Loveday, Miss Allen, Mr. and Mrs. James Heirn, Mrs. Tabb, Mrs. Carton, Mr. Clarence Leighton, Mr. and Mrs. Cellier, Miss Emery, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Craig, Miss Maitland, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Austin Brereton, the Green Room Club, Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, Mr. Martin Harvey's staff, Mr. Alfred Watson, "Patty" (sixty years a friend of the deceased), Mr. Geoffrey Franks, Mrs Howson and family, Mr. Cyril Hemington, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Monroe, Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. Harry Irving Loveday (son), Mrs. Loveday (wife), Mr. and Mrs Cecil Paget, Mr. and Mrs. Robins, Elinore and Jack Paget, Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson, the Actors' Benevolent Fund, Dr. Tilbury, Mr. and Mrs. White, the Royal General Theatrical Fund, Dr. Marston Clark, Mr. Martin Harvey's company, Mr. Charles H. Price, Mr. and Mrs. Beatty Kingston, Dr. and Mrs. Middlemist, Miss Genevieve Ward, Miss Ifa Johneon, and Sir Alec and Lady Mackenzie.

The Burial Service was read by the Rev. Culford Major, of Chundersley, Essex, assisted by the Rev. B. C. H. Andrew, the cemetery chaplain. The body was laid in the family grave.

LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

The adoption of the above title for a series of what may be termed Birthday Revivals of the Bard at His Majesty's is synonymous with the broadening out as it were of the yearly scheme inaugurated a few years since at the theatre named by Sir Herbert Tree, whose company up to the present year had been the medium through which Shakespeare was presented. Now, under the auspices of a committee of actor-managers and others, of which Sir Herbert is chairman, we are to have approved performances of Shakespearean character and plays by other stars and other companies in a repertory season of five weeks, and this was launched on Monday with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, a favourite opening comedy at former Tree festivals. The work as presented seemed to be irradiated by one vast substantial smile; the nimble spirit of mirth indeed never seemed to be absent from any scene; and the career of humour sped its way with tripping feet. Sir Herbert Tree himself set a fine example of robustious gaiety as that rotund gallant Sir John Falstaff. "The Falstaff of *The Merry Wives*," says Hartley Coleridge, "is not the Falstaff of *Henry VI.* It is a big-bellied impostor, assuming his name and style, or, at best, it is Falstaff in his dotage." Sir Herbert's creation of the fat knight suggests the *bon vivieur*, an unquestioned belief in his power as a lady-killer, and a conceit as colossal as his corpus. His laugh has the self-satisfied chuckle, his eye the roguish twinkle, that seem to be inseparable from the part. This spirit of jollity receives no check even after the ducking in the Thames, and Sir John's invariable remedy, which he sounds to the depths amid the titters of the house, is a stoup of sack. Miss Ellen Terry returned to His Majesty's on Monday as Mistress Page, the comeliest of married coquettes, with an irresistible laugh and an infectious gaiety. Miss Terry's companion in mischief, Mistress Ford, was once again Lady Tree, and the resounding jollity of the famous buckbasket scene spread from the stage to the house. Never indeed has the triumph of broad-backed, robustious comedy been greater than in this scene, in which Mr. Lyn Harding, the latest representative of Ford, made an admirable foil by his fine exhibition of raging jealousy. Mr. Edward Sass made Bardolph humorously drunk; Mr. Hubert Carter's command of Shakespearean character was shown by his clever reading of Pistol; and to the blunt directness of Mine Host of the Garter—a part associated with the imperishable memory of Lal Brough—Mr. Nigel Playfair did full justice. Mr. E. M. Robson was always an amusing Sir Hugh Evans; and Dr. Caius was a droll conception in the keeping of that sound actor Mr. W. Haviland, the scene of the combat between the two being a roar from beginning to end. Mr. Henry Ainley made a romantic wooer of Master Fenton; and Mistress Quickly found favour through the excellent humour of Miss Kate Phillips, one of our best impersonators of Shakespearean serving-wenches. Miss Iris Hoey as Mistress Anne Page sang prettily in the last scene; Mr. C. H. Croker-King's Master Slender was as foolish a gaby as one could possibly desire; and an excellent impersonation of Nym goes to the credit of Mr. Harry C. Hewitt. Mr. Henry Morrell as Rugby, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite as Simple, and Mr. Jules Shaw as Master Page completed an admirable cast. The joyous dance at the conclusion was carried through amid great applause from a packed house on Monday. Sir Herbert Tree, who confessed himself fat and scant of breath, thanked the audience for the kindest of receptions, and made a graceful reference to Miss Ellen Terry.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."

Drama, in Three Acts, by Paul Armstrong, suggested by O. Henry's Short Story, "A Retrieved Reformation," performed for the first time in London at the Comedy Theatre on Tuesday, March 29.

Doyle .....Mr. Guy Standing
Miss Webster .....Miss Grace Murielle
Mrs. Moore .....Miss Florence Harwood
Rose Lane .....Miss Alexandra Carlisle
Bill Avery .....Mr. Harry Nicholls
Red Joclyn .....Mr. C. M. Hallard
Blickendolfenbach .....Mr. Herman de Lange
Handler .....Mr. Lyston Lyle
Smith .....Mr. Gissing Walters
Clerk .....Mr. Harry Gerrish
Robert Fay .....Mr. Herbert Bunston
Blinky Davis .....Mr. D. J. Williams
Dick the Rat .....Mr. Fred Cremlin
William Lane .....Mr. T. Gideon Warren
Bobby Lane .....Mr. Frank Thorndike
Kitty Lane .....Miss Marjorie Dane
Lee Randall .....Mr. Gerald du Maurier

Alias Jimmy Valentine, which was produced in Chicago, and was well received in New York, adds another to the list of plays in which the hero is a thief; but the adventures of Lee Randall, who is gifted with a marvellous power of opening the "combination" locks of safes by the sense of touch alone, create legitimate sympathy, because, soon after we first meet him he determines to reform, and adheres to his resolve in the face of discouraging difficulties. His adherence to the path of honesty involves the telling of a number of lies; but Randall's heart is in the right place, and by his concluding act of heroism he completes his popularity with the audience.

The piece is remarkable for the realistic representation which is given in the first act of an office in Sing-Sing Prison, New York, its officials, and the prisoners under their control. Handler, the warden, is a disbeliever in the innocence which is claimed by so many of the inmates, and his scepticism is justified in the case of a young man named Lee Randall, who has been fortunate enough to save from the attack of a thief Rose Lane, the niece of the Lieut.-Governor of New York, who comes to inspect the prison. Randall is brought in, and explains away the circumstantial evidence which led to his conviction. It appears, we may mention, that he was guilty not only of this crime but of a burglary on a bank at Springfield, Massachusetts. The Lieut.-Governor, in gratitude for the rescue of his niece, procures a pardon for Randall, and in the next act he appears, properly clothed, at the Hotel Albany, New York.

Here he is exposed to severe temptation. He has not yet expiated the bank robbery, and a detective named Doyle threatens that, unless Randall will play informer with respect to an old convict named Bill Avery, he (Doyle) will have him re-arrested for the Springfield crime. Randall refuses; and then Avery and another old pal of his called Red Joclyn arrive, and almost succeed in inducing him to return to a career of crime. But his love for Rose gives him strength to resist, and her father secures for him a post in a bank in Illinois.

Here we find him in the third act, after an interval of three years, in which he has risen to be cashier, having installed Red Joclyn, whom he has converted to honesty, as watchman. But Doyle, who has been on Randall's track, has discovered his place of refuge, and calls upon him at the bank. Randall, however, is prepared to deny his identity with the criminal Jimmy Valentine. He has collected a number of newspaper cuttings relating to the doings of a namesake of his during the last three years, and has induced Bill Avery, whose son-in-law is a photographer, to represent him, by a double negative, seated at a public banquet on the very date on which Jimmy Valentine left Sing-Sing. He has also managed to remove a certain distinctive scar on his right arm; and when Doyle arrives the detective is completely "bluffed" by Randall's coolness and readiness.

But in the end Doyle is not deceived. Rose's younger sister, Kitty, a charming child, is locked up by accident in the safe which stands in the cellar of the bank, and, to save her life, Randall consents to exercise his old sensitiveness of touch. After he has released little Kitty, he turns to find Doyle watching him with amusement; but the detective is so much affected by the love and grief of Rose Lane when she learns that Randall is to be again imprisoned, that he offers to forget the Springfield burglary, and thus leave Randall free to continue the practice of honesty and marry his employer's daughter.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier gave a very clever and ingenious embodiment of Lee Randall, from his entrance, with all the sly and watchful cunning of the criminal, to his final triumph over his painful past. The shades of character were most delicately distinguished, and the embodiment was marked by acuteness as well as refinement. Miss Alexandra Carlisle's frank charm and personal beauty won all hearts for her Rose Lane, and the occasional comedy of the performance was delightful. A real and very original and effective interpretation of the rôle of the detective was supplied by Mr. Guy Standing; and the inimitable Mr. Harry Nicholls mixed humour and bitterness in a judicious blend as the elderly thief, Bill Avery. Mr. C. M. Hallard, capitally made up, and with a most appropriate hoarseness, contributed a very convincing creation of Red Joclyn; and Mr. Herman de Lange was alert and amusing as an excitable little German inventor. Mr. Lyston Lyle's prison warden stood out by reason of its strength, steadiness, and reality; and Miss Grace Murielle and Miss Florence Harwood were quaint and comical as two fussy, philanthropic dames. Mr. Harry Gerrish played the bank clerk neatly; Mr. Gissing Walters was excellent as Smith; Mr. Herbert Bunston was easy and "superior" as Robert Fay; Mr. D. J. Williams and Mr. Fred Cremlin gave clever character sketches of two confirmed criminals; Mr. T. Gideon Warren doing good work as William Lane. Special praise must be given to the winning performances of Master Frank Thorndike and Miss Marjorie Dane as two very quaint juveniles, Miss Dane being especially amusing. The interiors of which the setting consisted were supplied most satisfactorily by Messrs. Frank Tyars, jun., Mr. Walter Hann, jun., Mr. J. Raphael, and Mr. F. L. Schmitz; and the piece, which was produced by Mr. Gustav von Seyffertitz, of the Empire Theatre, New York, had a favourable reception from a deeply interested audience.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' *Babes in the Wood* company is at the Albert Theatre, Brighouse. The Babes are capitally represented by the Misses F. Parkinson and K. Chester; Miss V. Thorne makes a dashing Robin Hood; Miss Kitty Fiske is charming as Maid Marion; Miss C. Nottingham is also smart as Will Scarlett; Miss Hilda Hemus wins all hearts as Fairy Goodheart; Mr. Ally Benson is well to the fore as Dame Flossy; Mr. Tom Lewis is most excellent as the Baron, and provides plenty of merriment; we have an old favourite in Mr. W. Bland, who undoubtedly "shines"; the Robbers are ably represented by Aytoun and Dale; the scenery and dresses are beautiful; specialities are introduced by the Daniels, Mr. Tom Lewis, Mr. Ally Benson, Mr. J. R. Catton, Emerald Quartette, Sweet Sixteen Ballet Troupe.

"ADVENTURES OF THE BLACK HAND."

A Miniature Melodrama, Produced at Sadler's Wells on Monday, March 28.

Nick Carter .....Mr. Bernard Mervyn
Patsey .....Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea
Col. Maxim Zuropski .....Mr. James Skea
Marie .....Little Phyllis Howe
Paul Vandoff .....Mr. F. B. Woulfe
Mme. Zaleska .....Miss Phyllis Dailley
Marie Nurse .....Miss Mamie Rendle

This proved to be yet another one of the exciting adventures of the famous detective, Nick Carter, in his many attempts to stamp out the Black Hand gang of criminals. If anything, it outrivals in sensational incident those that have preceded it in the same series. Mr. Fred Moule informs us that he is the sole author of the present little sketch, which is excellently played by a capable company headed by Mr. Bernard Mervyn. The story deals with how Mme. Zaleska—a part very forcefully acted by Miss Phyllis Dailley, seeks to get her husband released from prison, where he has been put by Colonel Zuropski, the Russian Chief of Police. Although the police officer is Madame's brother, he declines to set free his criminal relative, which prompts the lady to vow vengeance on him. Now Maxim Zuropski has a little daughter, to whom he is passionately attached, and Madame, knowing this, determines to strike for revenge through the child. So she plots to blow up the little one, and the Black Hand gang is called upon to aid and abet her in the attempt. But she has reckoned without Nick Carter, who has been engaged by the Colonel to help him to exterminate the Black Hand gang. It need scarcely be recorded that the famous detective thwarts the beautiful fiend, who in the final scene is caught in a trap of her own contriving, and is electrocuted. Nick Carter has a companion in all his adventures in one Patsey, very humorously played by Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea. Mr. Bernard Mervyn does some very fine work as the famous detective, and it may be said that in this particular adventure he has made an even better study of the character than has been the case previously. All his hairbreadth escapes and many dare-devil situations in the little piece are greatly to the liking of the Sadler's Wells audiences, and Mr. Fred Baugh may be heartily complimented on this production, which, we understand, was under his direction. The part of Paul Vandoff was very capably taken by Mr. F. B. Woulfe, and the ladies concerned supported the action of the little piece very creditably.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

A very large and orderly Bank Holiday crowd patronised the Park and Palace on Easter Monday, and well were they catered for both inside and out. No less than eight military bands were stationed in different parts of the enclosure, and their efforts were thoroughly appreciated. In the Bijou Theatre Mr. Walter Jay Stevens' Peerless Pierrots and Comical Musical Clowns and the Merry Masher Minstrels gave highly-amusing performances. Captain Henry's largely-augmented zoological collection, removed to new quarters in the Londesborough Hall, was always full of gratified visitors. The large theatre, which has been newly decorated, presented a continuous show of electric animated pictures, enlivened at intervals by those funny comedians Merryman and Jester. Two large balloons, handled by the Royal medallist, Auguste Gaudron, were utilised near the racecourse in the park. In one the intrepid aeronaut sailed with his friends in a right-away ascent, and from the other his protegée, Miss Dolly Shepherd, accomplished a graceful parachute descent amidst the plaudits of the vast crowd, the lady, who is probably not more than twenty-three years of age, being highly complimented upon her daring achievement.

Mr. Fred J. Connor's Grand Circus, from Douglas, Isle of Man, gave three shows in the Central Hall; at the last two money was refused, and when it is known that the large orchestra was claimed for the "gods," and holds 2,000 people, the financial aspect of the business must have been gratifying in the extreme. Leoni, the extraordinary silver thread balancer, and Almero, the sensational gymnast on the swing pole, were enthusiastically cheered; John Watson's performing pony, Jubilee, and George Madigan's clever troupe of fox-terriers were animal exhibits of high class; Milton and Horton must almost have lived on the triple horizontal bars, so thoroughly at home did they appear; Mons. Jean, the artistic horseback juggler, and John Irvin, the dexterous foot equilibrist, were artists of ability; Miss Ada Pinder, the graceful equestrienne, with her performing horse, collie dog, and trained flight of pigeons, was the recipient of well-earned plaudits; Signor Antonio and De Ora, on the trapeze, added much to the general success; and Captain Roberts, the Army staff trumpeter and musician, with his troupe of auxiliary athletes, produced a show that can only be credited when seen. Rabbit, Tony, and Frisky, who kept the audience, especially the juveniles, in a continuous merriment, and one of the funniest skits was the introduction of *The Coster's Derby Day*. The Palace entertainments practically concluded with a very fine pyrotechnic display on the Lake Island by James Pain.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your criticism last week re the production *For Old Times' Sake*, you attribute the performance of Wallace Rivington to Mr. Harold Riley. I beg to state that I played the part, and the fact of a different name being mentioned was due to an error in the programme.—Yours faithfully, Edwin Beverley.

"THE MAN OF FORTY FACES."

Sketch, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, March 28.

Hamilton Cleek .....Mr. Leonard Mortimer
Dollops .....Mr. Harold Brough
Gaston Merode .....Mr. Howard Templeton
Baron de Carjorne .....Mr. D. T. Hennessy
Margot .....Miss Constance Elgin
Ailsa Lorne .....Miss Ida Clifford

This new sketch is the first of a series founded on the stories written by T. W. Hanshew, now appearing in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, and which have been dramatised by Mr. Leonard Mortimer, who is now presenting this one for the first time. There are a series of riddles which are solved in a marvellous manner by Hamilton Cleek, the detective, and this present one deals with the problem of the Red Claw. The scene is laid in Paris, where the Baron De Carjorne resides. Margot, the Queen of the Apaches, and Gaston are endeavouring to secure from the Baron some secret plans of fortifications which they can dispose of to a certain European Power who are plotting against England. "The Red Claw" is an unseen hand who has perpetrated many outrages, and this the Baron fears. His niece Ailsa, knowing of Cleek, calls in his aid, and, after a series of most thrilling adventures, he brings the criminals to bay at the café, The Twisted Arm, a haunt of the Apaches, where, after a terrific struggle, they are secured.

The story is most exciting and is well told, keeping the excitement at a high pitch throughout. Mr. Leonard Mortimer is in his usual form as Cleek, and gives a capital delineation of the character. The rest of the parts are ably sustained, notably by Miss Constance Elgin as Margot, and Miss Ida Clifford, who plays Ailsa in such a charming manner. There are three scenes, all of which are capitally mounted. A word of tribute is due to Mr. Percy Ashdown, who has written the incidental music. The sketch had a most flattering reception, which it richly deserved.

Miss Millie Payne is meeting with great success in the provinces with her "Chantecler" song. Her make-up for this number as a rooster is greatly admired and commented upon by Press and public.

Miss Lydia Neilson, who has been touring the provinces with her quintette of boys and girls, met with a great reception at Dewsbury last week. Her original scena, *An Impromptu Rehearsal*, will be seen in London shortly.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follows: Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; ditto (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 3½; ditto Pref. (5), 5; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires (5), 4½; Oxford (5), 6¼; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1; Tivoli, New (5), 6¼.

Messrs. Verner and Dent have in hand a new duologue, entitled "The Missing Earl," written and composed by Percy Edgar. It will contain three new and original numbers and some smart cross-talk, and will shortly be produced in the London halls.

New Hippodrome.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Mr. Fred Newman's British Empire Picture Company is enjoying a most popular time here. This week's entertainment is quite up to the mark of excellence already attained. The variety turns are excellent, especially the marionette entertainment given by Chester and Lee.

Mr. Charles Hartley and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull will bring to a conclusion on April 7 a seven months' tour. During that period they have given 149 entertainments in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Italy, Madeira, and the Canary Isles. The distance covered during the tour was, roughly speaking, about 35,000 miles.

Miss Florrie Forde has been very ill for the last fortnight with a severe attack of influenza and tonsilitis, but is rapidly recovering, and hopes to resume business on April 11 at Kilburn Empire and Canterbury, where she will produce, for the first time in London, her two great Blackpool successes, "Rip Van Winkle" and "'Tis a faded picture."

The Leigh Theatre Royal, of which the lessees and managers are Messrs. Tolfree and Harry Slingsby, opened on Monday night with an excellent variety programme, which included Mr. Theo. C. Le Gar's sketch *Music, the Conqueror;* Kydd and Kydd, amusing patter comedians; the Sisters Geretti, clever trapeze artists; the Sisters Henderson, speciality artists; Marie Kay, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Florence Smithers and company with their sketch *Our Mary Jane*, which is decidedly humorous; Bert Welde and Dorothy Wynne in a clever juggling and dancing act; Johnson and De Vere in a comedy cycling act; and Mr. Charles Hatch, comedian.

A Yorkshire couple and their children visiting Blackpool at Easter had a very uncomfortable experience. They went for a ride on the big wheel, which, after it had traversed about three-quarters of the circle, suddenly stopped. They waited half an hour, believing that something had gone wrong, but they saw the lights in the grounds being extinguished, so they shouted for help, but were unheard. Finally, by striking matches and holding them against the carriage windows they attracted attention, and a crowd gathered. The police sent for the manager, and steam was got up, and after a two hours' wait, release came. The voyagers—especially the children—were very cold, but they soon recovered.

ARE YOU THINKING OF
"THE LITTLE MORE, AND HOW MUCH IT IS!"
IN
MOTOR
Goodrich Tyres

"GOODRICH" Rubber is
A LITTLE SOFTER,
A LITTLE TOUGHER,
A LITTLE FINER and
CLOSER IN THE GRAIN
THAN OTHER RUBBER.

Each of these little differences contributes its share to
THE GOODRICH AVERAGE
which is
A LITTLE HIGHER THAN THE USUAL AVERAGE.

Write for Free Booklet "ASK THE ROAD" to Sole Manufacturers:
THE B. F. GOODRICH COMPANY, LTD.,
7, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C.

ISABELLA AND THE PURITANS.

Miss Mary Suddard, in an article on "The Poet and the Puritan" in the *Contemporary Review*, thoughtfully analyses the character of Isabella in *Measure for Measure*. Miss Suddard says: "Isabella represents Puritanism under its most favourable aspect. Puritanism, from the beginning, seems to have exercised on the women of England the same fascination that Jansenism, its continental congener, exercised on the women of France. Had Isabella been allowed to follow out her self-appointed course, she would have developed into an Angélique Arnauld. All woman's yearning, devotion, and self-sacrifice absorbed by Italian Juliet are absorbed by principle in Isabella. Her intellect delights in vanquishing the difficulties of puritanic (in the play symbolised as conventual) discipline; her heart delights in offering itself up, unrewarded, yet undiscouraged, to an unattainable ideal. As St. Simeon Stylites exulted in straining the cord of penance round his waist 'as tight as he could knot the noose,' so Isabella, the young disciple of a young religion, exults in multiplying the restrictions of puritanic rule. Her very first words strike the keynote of her character, so intense in its moderation, so passionate in its self-control:

Isabella: Have you nuns no farther privileges?
Nun: Are not these large enough?
Isabella: Yes, truly; I speak not as desiring more,
But rather wishing a more strict restraint
Upon this sisterhood, the votaries of St. Clare.

A generation of such women would soon ensure the triumph of Puritanism in England. The chief object of the new discipline was to establish law, and the very mainspring of Isabella's nature is obedience to law, whatever suffering such obedience may entail:

'I had rather my brother die by the law than that
my son should be unlawfully born.'

This obedience to the external law is only the outward sign of obedience to the moral law within. No considerations of human affection can weigh against principle. Rather than violate the virginal ideal of purity imposed by principle, Isabella will stifle the voice of feeling, sacrifice her brother without a tear: 'More than our brother is our chastity'; indeed, at the very thought, inspired principle puts into her mouth the language of the Christian virgins uttered fifteen hundred years before. To repel the attacks of the tempter, her voice thrills with the ecstasy of martyrdom:

'Were I under the terms of death
The impression of keen whips I'd wear as rubies,
And strip myself to death as to a bed
That longing I've been sick for, ere I'd yield
My body up to shame.'

Contrast this unflinching adherence to principle with the yielding of Isabella's prototype, Cassandra, in the original play, and you will have caught the difference in spirit between the Renaissance ideal of mercy to the individual and the puritanic ideal of obedience to the law. Isabella, for the first time perhaps in English literature, displays the wonderful power of Puritanism in conquering nature, that strength which has become the backbone of the Englishwoman's character, that implicit obedience to the laws of truth and chastity which silences alike the casuistry of conscience and the promptings of passion in Jenny Deans and Jane Eyre respectively.

"And yet has Isabella so completely broken with the tradition of the Renaissance? In truth, this strength of principle had always lain dormant in the Englishwoman's nature. The frankness and fidelity of Chaucer's Dorigen needed little transformation to develop into the Shakespearean heroine, and Shakespeare's women are all Puritans at heart. The latent tendencies of all are simply brought to consciousness in Isabella. She is first cousin, if not sister, to Imogen and Desdemona.

"As the highest type of Renaissance woman shares Isabella's austerity of principle, so Isabella shares the other's impulsiveness of emotion. As live water may be seen dashing and dancing along under thin ice, so feeling in Isabella seems always on the point of bursting through the set coldness of puritanic or conventual reserve; puritanic principles merely fit over the more delicate impulses of her own nature to shield their purity from harm. Puritanism for her meant no more than a moral discipline, it served simply to protect the delicacy of feelings it could not eradicate. When the time comes, the husk slips off like the sheath off a catkin, leaving a silken tenderness beneath, soon to blossom out in frequent tremulous beauty.

"Had Isabella always remained a voluntary prisoner in her convent, wrapt in silent meditation, only peeping out through a grating—in other words, could she have held fast to her puritanic principles without bringing them to the test of fact, the slumbering warmth of her nature could only have been divined from an occasional flash, it would never have burnt through to a steady glow and shone out in its own eventual radiance. But Isabella is brought into contact with real life, and with life in the form that her nature and training teach her 'to most abhor.' She is forced to plead for sin, to become the apologist of human frailty and human passion. The first crisis of her moral life reveals to her the inadequacy of her principles to cope with problems whose magnitude she had never before realised. Her icicles of logic, which seemed before so fair and firm, thaw, dwindle, melt away at the first warm breath of feeling. Or to be more accurate, the logic of the intellect is transcended by the logic of emotion. In Isabella, as in most women, the logic of the intellect moves in extremely narrow grooves. It had sufficed to regulate her own personal judgment, opinions, and conduct. But a finer intuition tells her it will no longer apply to the case she has undertaken to defend. This new need calls forth the supple logic of emotion, reaching the right solutions by the wrong means, ignoring all the processes of formal reasoning, yet instinctively working itself out to a result no formal reasoning could have given. The struggle between the two, and her fruitless efforts to reconcile them, are what confers its half-pathetic, half-humorous interest on her first interview with Angelo:

'There is a vice that most I do abhor
And most desire should meet the blow of justice;
For which I would not plead but that I must;
For which I must not plead but that I am
At war 'twixt will and will not.'

This contention of principle and feeling, at which she herself seems frightened and abashed, is leading her into a higher sphere. In Shakespeare's women feeling always carries principle along with it, not denying its validity, but extending its application.

"Struggle as she will,
'A something wild within her breast,
A greater than all knowledge'

beats her down, not love, but charity, the divine Amor. It takes her back to the gracious mercy, the infinite forgiveness of the Redeemer:

'Why all the souls that were were forfeit once,
And he who best the 'vantage might have took
Found out the remedy.'

From such a height she may look down, with an indignation too holy to be scorn, on the petty rules and regulations of 'proud man, dressed in a little brief authority,' as no better than the gambols of an angry ape,

'Playing such fantastic tricks before high heaven
As make the angels weep.'

"But what has become of her Puritanism? In her highest, most heroic burst, her early training has been not only transcended, but unconsciously condemned. Contact with real life has thrown her back on Christianity before the sorrow and suffering of humanity. Puritanic morality she had thought so lofty, now seems narrow; its solutions she had thought so just seem almost flippant. Through Isabella the master poet of the Renaissance pays Puritanism a magnanimous tribute and takes at the same time a worthy and magnificent revenge.

"Shakespeare is, however, very far from wishing to prove the inability of Puritanism to retain a firm hold on its disciples. Over against the complex character of Isabella he sets the more elementary nature of Angelo. On him Puritanism has set its distinctive and ineffaceable seal. We have said that Isabella used the austerity of Puritanism as a moral discipline for her own passionate nature. Angelo turns this purely personal and spiritual discipline into a mechanical drill to be applied to all minds alike. Puritanic principle, as before said, serves rather as a shell to protect her tenderest feelings from injury; Angelo, carrying his narrow logic to its extreme consequences, tries to assimilate the creature to the shell, to fossilise the living heart within. Puritanism appealed to Isabella through its superhuman difficulty of application; it appeals to Angelo, on the contrary, through its extreme simplicity. What acts as a restraint on a passionate heart serves as a support to a cold intellect. Live entirely by the brain, suppress feeling, and puritanic morality becomes the easiest to follow. The only penalty Angelo will have to pay for his complete surrender to puritanic rule is loss of power, under any circumstances whatever, to shake off the habits of mind he has acquired. The difference in the effect of such a discipline on the superior and the average mind can only be brought out by contact with reality. Angelo, like Isabella, brings his Puritanism to the test of fact and, to the credit of the strength, if not the liberality of his training, preserves its logical integrity much longer. The paradox of the situation requires one Puritan to convert the other. (See Charles Hugo's preface to the play). Isabella, forced by her instinct to desert her own tenets, beckons to Angelo to follow her up to the summit she has reached. In their first interview the faith of both is shaken. But the result of the crisis is widely different in the complex and the elementary nature."

Miss Gladys Ford-Havitt wishes to thank Mr. and Mrs. Giffard for a delightful tour with Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company.

The third annual benefit for the Railway Servants' Orphans' Fund, by the kindness of the directorate, took place on Good Friday at Barrasford's Hippodrome, Sheffield. The house was crowded, and a first-rate sacred concert by professional and local artists was much enjoyed, and the augmented orchestra, conducted by Mr. Hahn, the talented musical director of the Hippodrome, gave several classical selections in a perfect manner. By the generosity of the Barrasford Co., artists, band, and staff, the funds of a deserving society will again be greatly increased, and Mr. Franx Poole, the popular local manager, deserves all praise for doing so much to promote the general success.

Messrs. Hinton and Green's company is presenting *Her Fatal Marriage* at the Bilston Royal and Hippodrome, and the keen appreciation shown by a regular Bank Holiday audience on Monday justifies the choice. Mr. Jerrold Heather displays conspicuous ability as Captain Vigo, and Mr. Colin Heather also does well as Wilfred Grey; Miss Winefred Rutland displays skill as well as natural charm as the heroine, Lily; Miss Hilda Shirley depicts the character of Myra with earnestness. The comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. Tod Squires and Miss Laura Wright.

Mr. Geo. A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company in *The Angel of His Dreams* opened at the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, on Monday. As the Rev. Christian Esdaile Mr. Geo. A. De Gray acts with ability; Mr. Wallace Campbell is well suited as Major Dudley Ferras; Mr. Chas. Arnold as Sir Francis Tregarthen is good; as Roy Ferras Mr. Robert Hall does good work; Miss Edna Earl as Milly St. Austell is excellent; Miss Effie Bartlett gives an earnest interpretation of Hilda; Little Dorris Brereton as Lulu is clever; and Mr. Mayo Stanley as Sam Tippet is satisfactory; in the rôle of Bessie Sparkles we have a gifted exponent in Miss Etta Turner.

The Queen's Theatre, Dublin, has been beautifully redecorated. The auditorium presents a pleasing appearance, the seats having been reupholstered, cleaned, and renovated. Large mirrors have been placed in different parts of the theatre, and small ones in each of the boxes, adding in no small measure to the general brightness of the colour scheme. The various bars in the theatre have been refurnished and re-painted, making them as comfortable as possible, and a row of arc lamps added to the lighting effects on the stage make it possible to secure a more brilliant effect than hitherto. The front of the orchestra has been decorated in charming colours, and the pit brightly and warmly re-painted. The front of the theatre presents a very handsome appearance, having been thoroughly done up, and the ladies' room has been enlarged and refurnished. In this room ladies may have tea, coffee, or other refreshments served during the intervals. The theatre is now one of the cosiest and handsomest in the country.

Mme. Adah Payne, late of the Moody-Manners principal opera company, is this week paying a fourth visit within nineteen months to the Empire, Stockport, and, judging from the reception her singing is meeting with this week, Mme. Payne seems as popular in this town as ever.

Mr Cyril Maude, recently at the Coliseum, has now returned to the Playhouse. He expressed, when a child, a keen desire to be the Bishop of London, but a little later the embryo actor-manager was obsessed with the lesser ambition of going on the stage. He did so after a little farming, taking up parts in the provincial tours of Criterion comedy. His first success, so he tells us in his reminiscences in the *Strand Magazine*, was in the tragic part of Austin Woodville in Henry Hamilton and Mark Quinton's clever drama *Handfast*, produced at a matinée at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on May 13, 1887.

In the same year he appeared at the Grand, Islington, in the drama *Racing*, written by the Great Macdermott, who turned out many theatrical pieces, and afterwards produced sketches at the halls. Mr. Cyril Maude's part was the Duke of Courtland, and Mac introduced in a scene of the racecourse his adaptation of the Boulangist song "Le Père la Victoire," entitled "Jubilation Day."

In a recent "Talk About Old London," which appeared in the London *Evening News*, headed "Fifty Years of Music Hall," Mr. Barnard, of Chatham, doubtless by a slip of memory, stated that Tom Browne, of Birmingham, tried to dispose of the famous song, "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow," to anyone he met. As is well known, the number was by Mr. Joseph Tabrar, who some fifteen years ago, at the London Pavilion, wrote, composed, and sold the song to Miss Vesta Victoria, all within the space of one hour. Our contemporary has since publicly corrected the error.

SHAKESPEARE'S DISILLUSIONS.

"There came a time," wrote Robert Gray in "The True Hamlet," "when a great change took place in Shakespeare's attitude to his surroundings. Human progress, like that of the incoming tide, is marked by waves constantly advancing and receding, although the tide is all the while insensibly rising. The backward wash of the wave was beginning to be felt in the Court of Elizabeth. Before long Shakespeare was to experience a serious disillusionment, which was to try his faith in mankind almost to breaking-point, and for a time to embitter him to the verge of misanthropy. He was to learn by sad experience a deeper distrust of womankind. He saw and pictured women like Cleopatra, 'half Queen, half gipsy'; or, like Lady Macbeth, ambitious and heartless; or, like Cressida, odious and wanton. He saw the mob of his time, easily cozened by flatteries and incapable of gratitude to benefactors, and it inspired him with scorn of the 'groundlings'—'the rank-scented many'—as he calls them. Down in the open yard, which constituted the pit of Shakespeare's day, the 'understanding gentlemen of the ground' stood in their black smocks and goatskin jerkins with a plentiful sprinkling of puritan zealots, on whose eyes the drama was the work of Satan. There they cracked their jests, or amused themselves pelting the stage with nut-shells, apple peel, corks, sausage ends, pebbles, and such like tributes to genius. The playwrights of the day exhausted epigram in holding them up to scorn. Shakespeare himself had felt their attacks. Witness the allusion in Hamlet to that excellent play, which was never acted 'or if it was, not above once, for it pleased not the million.' 'Twas caviare to the general.'

"If Shakespeare's scorn flamed out ever and anon, as for example in *Julius Cæsar*, against the plebeian party, it was even more intense when turned upon its corrupt and time-serving leaders. We have it on the authority of Lord Macaulay that towards the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign her court was the most corrupt in Europe. Its profligacies grew year by year until, in the time of her immediate successor, according to the acknowledgment of the elder Disraeli, the morals of the court became appalling. All decency was set aside. Courtiers who passed their days in dissolute idleness and preposterous luxury were stained by infamous vices. The tone of the court was vicious throughout—intercourse between the sexes disgraceful. Bribes were taken by judges, even by the great Lord Chancellor himself. The unhappy victims of courtly malevolence were sent without trial to languish in the Tower, and sometimes, despite laws to the contrary, were tortured on the rack, as in the case of Peacham, whom Lord Bacon examined under torture.

Shakespeare stood by and saw the development of much of this. He saw prostrations of courtiers and flatterers of all kinds, intrigue, conspiracy, violation of oaths, personal unworthiness and ingratitude in high places, Jacks in office, ignorant of what they were most assured. He saw the State rent in two by party strife between the families of the Cecils and Essexes—those gaining the favour of one immediately earning the rancour of the other; and, as fruit of these dissensions, he saw his friend Essex beheaded and his patron the Earl of Southampton sent to the Tower. He saw Lord Bacon prostitute his great talents to impeach the nobleman to whose bounty he stood most deeply indebted. He must have heard the fawning tongue of time-serving courtiers lick the absurd pomp of the doting Elizabeth, until, as Macaulay tells us, the cruel truth could no longer be hid in the closing years of her reign that those whom she trusted and promoted never loved her, were ceasing to fear her, and were conspiring to desert her. He saw, in a word, insincerity and pretension elbow ruthlessly aside merit and nobility of mind; friends turn into enemies; women prove untrue; politicians treacherous; a court steeped to the eyes in intrigue; grace and goodness of life flouted; fortune blind; and fate cruel.

"There go in procession through his plays of this period examples of almost every phase of human wickedness. In *Lear* we have the eloquent dissimulation of Goneril and Regan. In *Macbeth*, ambition steeped in guilt. In *Othello* power and connubial felicity undermined by treachery. In *Julius Cæsar*, conspiracies. In *Antony and Cleopatra*, the destruction of a nation through faithlessness and sensuality.

"Shakespeare seems to sum all in the words of Gloucester in *Lear*. 'We have seen,' he says, 'the best of our time. Machination, hollowness, treachery, and all ruinous disorders follow us disquietly to our graves; cunning and treachey at work like a mole in the earth; the noble and true-hearted Kent banished—his offence, honesty. 'Tis strange!' Strange indeed that dissimulation and deceit, that fine speeches unapproved by deeds, should flourish, while quiet integrity is left to die of neglect—the physician killed, and the fee bestowed upon the foul disease.

"The apparent hopelessness of all this sank deep into the heart and mind of Shakespeare, and is reproduced in the play of *Hamlet*. In this play he gives the fullest expression to his feelings upon a great problem of life. What hope has suffering virtue in a world of rogues? This question he seems to have asked himself, and he gives in this play for himself and for us all time, a wise man's answer to this riddle of existence.

"Furnished with the key which these circumstances of his life and time afford, I propose now to examine this great treasure-house of the intellect. It is full of sparkling gems, but the passages are intricate, and some guidance to enable us to explore them is necessary. To whom are we to apply? To Hazlitt or Charles Lamb? It would be misleading. To Steevens or Dr. Johnston? Of a surety, no! To Goethe or Brandes? With all deference, I think not even entirely to them. There is only one infallible guide—Shakespeare himself, if we will only concern ourselves with his greatness and not our own, place our hands trustfully in his, and take for granted that to transcendant genius he added capable judgment and ripened experience. In this way we shall find that the difficulties which have beset many in the interpretation of this play are imaginary, and that its story is direct, coherent, and convincing."

In the tragedy of *Hamlet*, where the Prince is questioning Horatio and Marcellus about the ghost, and they tell him it was armed from head to foot, he says:

"Then saw you not his face?"

To which Horatio replies:

"O, yes, my lord;—he wore his *beaver up*."

Here wearing the "beaver up" plainly signifies its being so placed as not to hide the face. There is, however, reason to believe that wearing the "beaver up" is the proper expressing for its covering the face, for in a note on Mr. Macaulay's "History of England," Vol. III., p. 437, chap. 5, 4to, where some authority is quoted, giving an account of Lord Brooke being killed, it is mentioned as extraordinary, because his "beaver was up and he was armed to the knee." Dr. Franklin, in his tragedy of Matilda, has followed the historian:

"He wore his beaver up, nor could I see
His face."

Messrs Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Pierrots occupy the Town Hall, Rhyl, a good company being engaged. Frank Dunlop and Harriett Fawn are both favourites with Rhyl audiences; Daisy Wyndham's soprano is heard to advantage in several well-chosen songs; and Joyce Flawn, Dave Jenkins, and Steve Buckington also submit good items.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 4.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Leeds.
AMSTERDAM.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Hippodrome, Ashton.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Leicester.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—Alexandra T., Hull.
ARE YOU THE MAN?—T. R., Barnsley.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITE.—O. H., Londonderry.
BAINES, MISS FLORENCE.—T. R., Leigh.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—Abertillery.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Royalty T., Chester.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Mountain Ash and Hereford.
BENSON, MR AND MRS. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—O. H., Southport.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—Prince's T., Accrington.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.
BROKEN HEART, A.—T. R., Stratford.
BULMER, MR.—Grand T., Nottingham.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Coronet Theatre, W.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Falkirk.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—T. R., Manchester.
CASSIDY, MR. J. RICE.—T. R., Blyth.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Coronet Theatre, W.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—King's T., Hammersmith.
CHORUS LADY.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—T. R., Darlington.
CINGALEE, THE (B.).—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—T. R., Newcastle.
COUNTRY GIRL.—Marlborough Theatre.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Grand T., Fulham.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Exeter.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—Hippodrome, Hoyland.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Borough T., Stratford.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Century T., Motherwell.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., Edinburgh.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—T. R., Nottingham.
DON.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Prince's T., Preston.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—O. H., St. Helens.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Broadway T., Deptford.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Grand T., Nelson.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—T. R., Lincoln.
FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM.—T. R., Bath.
FAST LIFE, A.—T. R., Coatbridge.
FATAL WEDDING.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
FIRES OF FATE.—H. M. T., Dundee.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—T. R., Plymouth.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (S.).—T. R., South Shields.
FLORODORA.—T. R., Rochdale.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.—Grand T., Mansfield.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., West Stanley.
FRIVOLITY.—Gaiety T., Leith.
GARROD, M. W. V.—T. R., Barnsley.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Met. T., Devonport.
GIRL FROM KAYS.—New T., Aberdare.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Grand T., Nottingham.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—County T., Reading.
GUILTY GOLD.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Kennington Theatre.
HAVANA.—T. R., Hanley.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—T. R., Macclesfield.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—O. H., St. Helens.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Smethwick.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
HUSH MONEY.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
IDOL OF PARIS.—T. R., Darlington.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—T. R., Birkenhead.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Alresford and Uxbridge.
LIFE FOR A LIFE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—O. H., Kidderminster.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Dewsbury.
LODGE, PERCY, MR. J. C.—Star T., Liverpool.
LOMATH, MR. STUART.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Norwich.
MAN AND WIFE.—T. R., Edmonton.
MERRY PEASANT.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
MERRY WIDOW.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Empire T., Swindon.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Halifax.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—Grand T., Southampton.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
MISS PLASTER OF PARIS.—G. T., Houghton.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
MOTHER.—Osborne T., Manchester.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—T. R., Portsmouth.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—T. R., Crook.
NEW BOY, THE.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Crown T., Eccles.
OLD HOME, THE.—Empire T., Oldham.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Saltley, Birmingham.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—T. R., Dublin.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—O. H., Wakefield.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—T. R., Stockport.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—H. M. T., Barrow.
PETE (N.).—T. R., Ashton.
PETE (S.).—Royalty T., Barrow.
PIN AND THE PUDDING.—Sunderland.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
PROUD PRINCE.—Boro' T., Stratford.
RAYNAR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Hip., Birkenhead.
ROLLICKING RORY.—T. R., Chesterfield.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Court T., Warrington.
SEXTON BLAKE.—T. R., Jarrow.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—Prince's T., Horwich.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—O. H. Cheltenham.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R. Brighton.
SILVER KING.—Victoria T., Burnley.
SINNER, THE.—T. R., Woolwich.
SINS OF A CITY.—Ebbw Vale.
SINS OF THE FATHER.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
SOLDIER'S WEDDING.—T. R., Sheffield.
STILL ALARM.—Pavilion T., Mile End, E.
TANTALISING TOMMY (N.).—Plymouth.
TANTALISING TOMMY (S.).—South Shields.
TEMPTATION.—T. R., Edmondton, N.
THIEF, THE.—T. R., Worcester.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Junction T., Manchester.
TOM JONES.—Waterford and Limerick.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Grand T., Brighton.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Grand T., Newcastle.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Grand T., Walsall.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—O. H., Radcliffe.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
WALLS OF JERICHO.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
WAS SHE TO BLAME.—Grand T., Derby.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
WHITE MAN, A.—T. R., Chatham.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—Grand T., Doncaster.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—Stafford and Loughboro'.
WOMAN IN THE CASE (N.).—Court T., Liverpool.
WOMAN IN THE CASE (S.).—King's T., Sunderland.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—Grand T., Leek.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
WOMAN'S PAST.—P. O. W., Salford.
WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—Woolwich.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Queen's T., Longton.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Prince's T., Manchester.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Empire T., Fleetwood.

MR. ACTON BOND wishes us to state that the benefit which was being prepared for Mr. H. J. Loveday will, in consequence of his death, be abandoned.

MR. CHARLES CHERRY will appear at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, in April in a comedy-drama called *The Spitfire*, by Edward Peple. Mr. Cherry will "star" under the management of Mr. Daniel Frohman, with whom he has signed a contract for a long period.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

HAYMARKET BUREAU.—*We are putting in a par in our Gossip columns to elicit the information you desire.*

JOHN THOMPSON (Rochdale).—*Try to get a trial show from a Manchester music-hall manager. You will require music for your performance, but this could be arranged afterwards.*

B. M. DAVIS-MARKS (Transvaal).—*The Zancigs are now in America. Try the "New York Clipper." Their English manager was Mr. Sydney Paxton, who may be addressed care of* THE ERA.

A. H. MOUTREE (Berkeley-square).—(1) Charley's Aunt, *by Brandon Thomas, was originally produced at Bury St. Edmund's on Feb. 29, 1892, the first production in London being at the Royalty, Dec. 21, 1892. It was transferred to the Globe Theatre, Newcastle-street, Strand (now pulled down) on Jan. 30, 1893. It has been translated into several European languages.* (2) *Miss Isabel Jay played in* The Country Girl *at Daly's. See notice above.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DONALDSON.—March 25, at 203, Potterhill, Paisley, Mrs. David Donaldson (Miss Frances Ferina), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ANDERSON—RUTTER.—On Dec. 16, 1909, at Manchester (Civil), and on March 29, at St. Augustine's, Honor Oak Park, S.E., F. J. S. Anderson, R.N., to Sybil, second daughter of Mrs. R. P. Rutter (Miss Jessie Melville).

DEATHS.

CLARKE.—March 21, at the Wingate Sanatorium, Asheville, N.C., of tuberculosis, Creston Clarke, American actor and playwright, aged 44.

COWEN.—March 29, at 17, Aubrey-house, Maida Hill West, Emily, widow of F. A. Cowen, and mother of Dr. Frederic Cowen, aged 89.

FAUST.—March 8, in New York, suddenly, of heart disease, Edwin Faust, father of the original Faust family of acrobats, aged 69.

GREEN.—March 22, J. Green, formerly stage-manager, Regent Theatre, Salford, aged 47.

JERROLD.—March 30, at 27, Paragon-grove, Surbiton, Mary Ann, daughter of the late Douglas Jerrold, aged 78.

KENDALL.—Jan. 23, in his 49th year, Ezra Kendall, second president of the White Rats organisation of America.

LOVEDAY.—March 29, at Daisy Cottage, Trafalgar-road, Strawberry Hill, Henry Joseph Loveday, formerly stage-manager for the late Sir Henry Irving, in his 72nd year.

MARIES.—March 24, at St. Thomas's Hospital, Nance Maries, music hall comedienne.

MATHER.—March 25, at 4, Taviton-street, Gordon-square, Elvira (née Behrens), widow of Thomas Mather, of 62, Seymour-street, Portman-square, in her 76th year.

MORGAN.—On March 27, at 75, Carlton-hill, N.W., Lily, the dearly-loved wife of William C. D. Morgan.

THOMPSON.—March 27, at Craig Infirmary, Tullamore, Ireland, Victor Rosini (Alfred Thompson), aged 56.

USSHER.—At Orotava, Teneriffe, on Thursday, 24th ult., W. A. C. Ussher, M.B. (Edin.), youngest son of the late Rev. James Ussher, Ballymoney, co. Antrim.

IN MEMORIAM.

BELL.—In loving remembrance of our darling sister, Eva Bell, who died April 4, 1901. Never forgotten by her sisters MINNIE and BELLA TERRY.
We loved her, O, we loved her much,
But Jesus loved her best;
He has taken her to His heavenly home
Of everlasting rest.
—R.I.P. dear one.

LASHWOOD.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear Lottie (wife of George Lashwood), died March 31, 1907.—MAMA and MINNIE.

PERCY.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Henry Percy, who passed away suddenly, of heart failure, March 30, 1901. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, AMY LLOYD EARLE. R.I.P.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Gipsy Woolf—Saturday, April 2.
Mrs. Colin Hazlewood—Sunday, April 3.
Mrs. E. Carter-Livesey—Monday, April 4.
J. J. Dallas—Monday, April 4.
Zarmo—Tuesday, April 5.
G. Moreton-Williams—Tuesday, April 5.
Edmund Waller—Tuesday, April 5.
A. C. Hardie—Wednesday, April 6.
Lily Elsie—Friday, April 8.
Madge McIntosh—Friday, April 8.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

MARCH 1.—Emma Stone.
" 2.—Ellen Ginnett, aged 67.
" 4.—Imro Fox, aged 60.
" 5.—Susan Browning.
" 8.—Edwin Faust, aged 69.
" 14.—Brenda Bernard, aged 1.
" 15.—Charles Gibbs.
" 17.—Miss Robbie Pateman, aged 24.
" 17.—Mrs. Frederick Archer (Marie Pritchard).
" 19.—William Richard Waldron, aged 88.
" 21.—Martha Stockwell.
" 21.—Creston Clarke, aged 44.
" 22.—J. Green, aged 47.
" 23.—Mrs. H. H. Crippen (Belle Elmore).
" 24.—Nance Maries.
" 24.—William A. C. Usher.
" 25.—Mrs. Thomas Mather (Elvira Behrens).
" 27.—Victor Rosini (Alfred Thompson), aged 56.
" 27.—Mrs. William C. D. Morgan.
" 29.—Mrs. F. A. Cowen, aged 89.
" 29.—Henry Joseph Loveday, aged 71.
" 30.—Mary Ann Jerrold, aged 78.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Adams, Miss S.
Albani, Mdme.
Armine, Miss Grace
Barnes, Miss E.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Barson, Mr. Alf
Beach, Mr. A. C.
Beckett, Mr. J. B.
Bell, Miss Lesly
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bell, Mr. Percy
Bendelis, Mr. Walter
Bentley, Mr. W. E.
Bernard, Mr. Seton
Bignell, Mr. Chas.
Billon, Mr. T. J.
Black, Mr. Wallace
Blair, Mr. Wilfred
Blakeney, Mr. Geo.
Burton, Mr. Harry
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Campbell, Miss Alma
Campbell, Mrs. B.
Campion, Miss May
Carlton, Miss Cissie
Carney, Miss Kate
Carson, Mr. Murray
Carton, Mr. H. E.
Chapman, Mrs. Julia D.
Chard, Miss Dorothy
Cherry, Miss G. D.
Chester, Mrs. E.
Clarions, The
Clifton, Miss Clara
Cooper, Mrs. A. M.
Cooper, Mr. D. P.
Cowell, Miss Florence
Craske, Miss D.
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Dalton, Miss Flo
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
Dawson, Miss C. C.
Desmond, Miss S.
Draco, Mr. G. E.
Earle, Miss
Edgar, Miss Florence
Edwards, Mr. W.
Elliott, Miss Rosie
Elliott, Mrs. C.
Epitaux, Mr.
Ernest Family
Esden, Miss A.
Esty, Miss Alice
Feeley, Mr. Dan
Fields, Miss Fanny
Fillis, Mme.
Findens, The
Foldi, Miss Irma
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Goddard, Mr. Alfred
Gordon, Mr. S.
Granville, Mr. V. L.
Gray, Mr. J. W.
Graydon, Mr. James
Gribbins, Mrs.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Handley, Mr. W. J.
Harcourt, Miss Maud
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hartley, Mr. R. A.
Hayes, Mr. J.
Hayter, Mr. F. L.
Helmsley, Mr. C. T.
Hogan, Mr. Denis J.
Hollander, Miss Alice
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Mr. Geo.
Howard, Mr. Robert
Hudspeth, Miss Marie
Hudspeth, Mr. Frank
Hullett, Miss Dorothy
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Jees, The Musical
Johnson, Miss J.
Kalo, Mr. James
Keppels, The
Kloss, Mr. Rudolph
Landolf, Mrs. A.
Lane, Mr. Leonard
Lauton, Mr. F. Caffrey
Lawson, Mr. R. B.
Lawson-Wood, Mr. Geo.
Leighton, Mr. Fred
Lena and Preston
Lloyd, Mr. John
Lloyd, Mr. James
Lorenzo, Lorry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Martens, Mr. Hugo
Martin, Mr. A.
McDermott, Capt. H.
Melbourne, Mr. A. E.
Melita, Miss
Miles, Mr. A.
Milton and Horton
Moffat, Mr. Dickson
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Montague, Mr. Harold
Mortimer, Mr. Leonard
Munro, Mr. George
Murray, Mr. Bert
Murray, Mr. G. B.
Nethersole, Mr. Louis F
Nevada, Mme.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Norgate, Mr. L.
Paul, Miss N.
Payne, Mr. W.
Pembroke, Mr. Wilson
Pennell, Mr. Joseph
Perks, Mr. George
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Place, Miss A. S.
Rankin, Mr. J.
Reano, Mr.
Reed, Miss F.
Rees, Mme. Tim
Reeve, Miss Ada
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Rignold, Mrs. Geo.
Riley, Miss Rubie
Rogers, Mr. Gilbert
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rowland, Mr. Harry
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sartella, Miss Rose
Sawyer, Mr. Francies
Shilstone, Mr. E. B.
Simmonette, Mr. H.
Smalleys, The
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Sothern, Mr. E.
Steel, Mrs.
Stephenson, Mr. Harry
Stewart and Morgan
Stewarts, Mons.
Swallow, Mr. J.
Tilbury, Mr. Walter
Tucker, Miss B.
Turner, Mr. J. H.
Tweare, Mr. Herbert
Vasco, Mr. Walter
Vezin, Mr. Hermann
Walker, Mr. Bobbie
Walmer, Mr. C.
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Warden, Mr. Hamilton
Warren, Mr. Arthur
Whitaker, Mr. Fred
Willard, Mr. James
Windermere, Mr. Chas.
Woods, Misses A. and D
Yeaslin, Mr. Theodore

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 5. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

THE GREAT ENGLISH REMEDY FOR COUGHS, COLDS, AND other Lung Troubles is
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., & 11s.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR FOR THE SKIN
Produces soft, fair, delicate skin, heals all cutaneous eruptions, and insures a lovely delicate complexion to all who use it.
2/3, 4/6, of Stores and Chemists.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.
All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s. 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.
PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE,"
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
Matinée every Wed. and Sat. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Thursday, 2.30.
"A COUNTRY GIRL."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, April 4, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander, Oscar Wilde's Brilliant Play,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Open Daily.
Theatre, "THE GIRL FROM KAY'S," 7.45.
Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Variety Shows Twice Daily.
Popular Artists.
Mammoth Skating Rink,
Three Sessions Daily.
Grand Benefit to Mr. F. G. Stumcke, Wednesday next.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10.

Marie Lloyd, Dan Crawley,
Gertie Gitana,
The Martineks, Gothams Quartette,
Cassie Walmer, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor,
Flora Cromer, Brothers Dean, Laurence Barclay,
Ruffell's Bioscope, Jack Hamilton.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
Frank Postlethwaite.
Monday, April 4.
Sidney Dooley's Co. in "The Rose of Sicily," Tom Lee, Mark Hall, Eva Le'Claire, John Trevallion, Leigh Grien, Percy Emery, Robins and Collier, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Frank and Free, Jenny Mills.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Amy Augarde and Co., in "The Sicilians,"
Fred Wilkinson, Carlotta Levey,
Barry Lupino, Marguerite Broadfoote,
Arthur Slater, Queenie Essex,
Hughes and Elliott,
Ruffell's Bioscope,
Percy Murray and Co., in "The Wager."

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, April 4, 1910:—
The Plummers, Harry Barford and Co., Gordon and Leslie, Stevens and Stevens, Rai Walters, The Hillands, Bioscope, Johnson and Heath, Ronald George, May Fairclough, Stavordale Quintette, Kenna Bros., "My Friend the Count," Harry Pleon, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKLE. One house nightly (Half-time, 9.30, except Saturdays and Holidays). Monday, April 4: Miss Beaumont Collins and Co., in "The Leaves of Memory," Arthur Lennard, Stirley and Ransome, in "Jim's Pal," Mart and Pep, Cash and Clair, Sadie Foote and Co., in "A Muddled Model," Jennie Alexander, Sisters Burnett, May Dillon, Harry Desmond, Jessie Bays, Milo and George, Edisonograph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays, 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays, 7.15, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Nevill Graham and Co., in "Pride of Regiment," Harry Bland, Belmonts, Steve Bartle, Fred Keeton, Crawford and Johnson, Clara Sayers, Bioscope, Lilian Rose, Cumberlands, The Vaudeville Trio, Harry Luck, Nellie Dalwood, Johnson and Carrol, Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett's Co. Rehearsal 12 o'clock. Matinées, Monday and Thursday, 2.30. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 13.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Lewandowski Sisters, Coram, Maxini and Bobby, The Balmars, Jury's Pictures, &c.
Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
GRAND NATIONAL ON THE BIOSCOPE.
GEO. ROBEY.
"EAST AND WEST."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Carpetti Bros., Paul Le Croix, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
MLLE. POLAIRE, in "Le Visiteur," MR. BEN DAVIES, Horace Goldin, Gaudsmidts, Albert Whelan, Margaret Huston, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c., including Grand National, 1910.
Evenings at 8.0.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.0.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, Clarice Mayne, Poluskis, Dan Crawley, Ernest Shand, Phil Ray, Arden and Abel in "Three of a Kind," Walter King, Gladys Huxley, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Jack and Evelyn, The Romanis, Rosie Lloyd, Ethel Loftus, The Whittakers, Carlotta Levey, Alick Lauder and Co., Queenie Essex, Bioscope. Open 7.10. Saturday Matinées, 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI. HARRY LAUDER.
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN, LOTTIE BELLMAN, Ernest Shand, José Collins, Venie Clements, Ella Retford, Phil Ray, The O'Gorman Bros., La Belle Nello, Queenie Essex, the Bioscope, and G. H. Chirgwin. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commences Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D. Students may enter at any time. April 1: Last day of entry for Open Competition for Four Scholarships. April 5, at 8 o'clock: Students' Concert at St. James's Hall, Great Portland-street, W. Prospectus on application. Shelley Fisher, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, New Oxford-street, W.C.
Principals, Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President, George Edwardes, Esq.
SUMMER TERM begins on MONDAY, April 25.
"FOUNDATION" OPEN SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION. FRIDAY, April 22.
PRIVATE and CLASS LESSONS in Dramatic Art and Characterisation, Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Fencing, Opera and Musical Comedy, Singing, Voice Production, Choral and Sight-singing, &c.
Special Complete Course of Studies for the Dramatic and Musical Profession.
Pupils have secured engagements with the following Managers:—Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Robert Arthur, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Sydney Blow, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. George Dance, Mr. St. John Denton, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mrs. Langtry, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Charles Macdona, Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ian Robertson, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Arthur Whittaker, Mr. Frank Wheeler, &c., and at the Empire, Hippodrome, Coliseum, &c.
EXCERPTS FROM EXAMINERS' REPORTS.
I congratulate you heartily on the work you are doing and the success that is attending it.
The pleasure that all your pupils take in their lessons is evident, and it seemed that, with scarcely an exception, their clearness of enunciation and knowledge of giving every word its proper value were remarkable.
To watch each pupil use his or her own individuality, and not all attack the same subject from the same point of view, was very interesting, and, I think, so important; whether they adopt the stage as a profession or not, they are, at any rate, learning how to speak so as to be heard and understood.
(Signed) CONSTANCE COLLIER.
GERALD DU MAURIER.

We were thoroughly satisfied with the excellent quality of the work and the admirable results achieved in the training of the students. We were particularly impressed by the clearness of the elocution shown by the great majority of those we heard. Altogether, the work which we saw did very great credit to the teaching of the school, which seems to be thoroughly practical and useful for anyone seeking to follow the musical or dramatic profession.
(Signed) H. B. IRVING.
ROBERT SYDNEY BROUGH.

We cannot let to-day's examination pass without a word of heartiest congratulation. The general efficiency amongst your pupils was so exceptionally high that it was indeed a most difficult matter for us to adjudicate the prizes. The intelligence shown by one and all was simply remarkable, and when added to that quality we had the thoroughness of your training, the whole effect was indeed splendid. Our sincere wish is that you should go on and prosper, for, to our minds, you have got hold of the right end of the stick—of training the young idea.
(Signed) ACTON BOND.
JAMES WELCH.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Lyd., Bombay;
or,
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton. Telephone, 1200 P. O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Bookings include the companies of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. William Greet, Messrs. Jay and Mann, The Moody-Manners, Miss Lena Ashwell, Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, Mr. Allan Wilkie, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. James Welch, Mr. William Maclaren, The Lyceum Productions, Miss Florence Baines, Mr. Douglas Bruce, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1 also Jan. 2 for Pantomime (only vacant date for Pantomime).
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Besch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Open all the Year Round
with the Principal Combinations in every Branch.
Nothing but the best entertained.
Several good dates still unfilled.
All communications, J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 311.
The finest Pier in the Kingdom. Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite. Theatre vacant after Sept. 30; Tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England —Sunday Times. Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and one or two season dates open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 4, 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 Engagements:
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co., in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, May 9-23, June 6, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 2 (six nights), May 12, 13, 14 (three), May 23, 30, all June.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. Dorrill, Managing-Director, Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Aug. 1 and 29 (Race Week),
November 21 and 28.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 35ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager. Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant Whit Week.
The best date of year at Southport.
Vacant Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant June 13, July 18, Aug. 15, 22, and onwards, with exceptions.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8. Also few remaining dates in Oct. and Nov. Fast booking Spring, 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn for First-class companies.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frank. Mouillot.
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
De Jong, Mr. Arthur	April 3, 1909
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Murray, Mr. Arthur B.	April 10, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Overton, Mr. Norman A.	July 3, 1909
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug 28 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robins, Miss Fanny	July 31 1909
Russell, Miss Ethel	July 10, 1909

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1910.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

Some time since we advocated the publication, from time to time, of lists of the subscriptions which were coming in in aid of the National Theatre scheme; and we are pleased to find support in our demand from no less an authority than Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree. Sir Herbert has warmly espoused the cause of the National Theatre; and, in an eloquent speech at a meeting at Kent House, Knightsbridge, on the 18th ult., he said: "I am glad to be able to tell you, on the authority of the organising secretary, Mr. Perris, that this movement is developing not only in the metropolis, but also in many of the great provincial cities. He has been during the last few days in such towns as Worcester, Canterbury, and elsewhere, and is able to report not only of London, but also of these towns as to the general desire thus to honour Shakespeare. This is as it should be. The movement is not a London movement—it is an English movement. Shakespeare is one of the joint glories of all the English-speaking people, and it is an inspiring thought that three hundred years after his death there should be opened in London a great theatre in which his works may be presented in the finest possible manner. It may serve as a national recognition of the value of the theatre and of the drama in the development of the modern stage. But I say again, we must have the confidence of the public, and that confidence must find expression in pounds, shillings, and pence."

This is exactly the difficulty which we have foreseen from the time when the National Theatre idea originated. People will attend meetings, listen to orations, and move in any direction, as long as they are not asked to move towards the drawer where they keep their cheque-books. The inhabitants of Worcester and Canterbury desire to honour Shakespeare by establishing a National Theatre; but we shall be very much surprised, though exceedingly glad, to hear that Mr. Perris returned from his provincial expedition with a large amount of subscribed capital. It is dangerous to draw any inference in writing of the National Theatre Committee, who are as ready with their solicitors as the Irishman of the old school was with his pistols; so we will, in default of any definite information, form the most hopeful imaginations possible.

Sir Herbert Tree's explanation of his reasons for supporting the National Theatre scheme were both interesting and pertinent. Sir Herbert lays stress on the probability, almost amounting to certainty, that a National Theatre would not pay. This was, indeed, the view taken by Messrs. William Archer and H. Granville Barker in the book on "A National Theatre" which they published in 1907. Taking an imaginary building holding 300, and supposing that the house was usually only half full, they imagined, for the sake of argument, that there would be a deficit of about £15,000 at the conclusion of the season. They therefore suggested that the guarantee fund should be £150,000, which they expected at the end of the third season would be reduced to £60,000. "It might be quite clear," wrote Messrs. Archer and Barker, "that, in spite of the large deficits, the theatre was taking root, acquiring prestige, and giving a valuable stimulus to theatrical life in general. In that case, the trustees would doubtless continue the director in office, and ask him to go on as he had begun. It might be that he would gradually reduce the deficit to £5,000, £3,000, £2,000, £500; so that, at the end of the seventh season, the actual loss would have been £100,500. The eighth season might show a clear balance-sheet, and from the ninth onward profits might begin to be made."

We take quite a much more hopeful view of the situation than the authors of "A National Theatre." We believe that a National Theatre on the plan of the Comédie Française might, if properly managed, soon pay its way; but only on condition that it was ruled by practical and broad-minded managers. An English Comédie Française need not, by any means, be a home of pedantry or ponderous art. Sir Herbert Tree said that all those who have given their lives to the presentation of the works of Shakespeare have remained poor in pocket. But the ruling passions are not avarice and sensuality, but pride and vanity. We see soldiers and sailors of all ranks risking their lives at wages which are ridiculous from a commercial point of view for a medal, a cross, or a K.C.B. We see wealthy tradesmen pouring thousands into party coffers in exchange for a title, and expending other thousands in the endeavour to "get into society"; and most painters would gladly sacrifice half of their annual earnings to be able to write the letters R.A. after their names.

On the foundations of emulation, enthusiasm, and pride, and on these alone, is a National Theatre possible. A subvention is required in order to relieve the institution from sordid anxieties; but the important thing is that the National Theatre shall be distinguished, and that connection with it shall confer distinction. There are two attractions which the Comédie Française has for actors and actresses. In the first place, it is an honour to belong to it; in the second, it assures that in his old age the artist shall be placed beyond the reach of want. In England, with our system of long runs, there would be a third attraction—that of variety. The English stage at present does not offer sufficient attraction to the purely artistic temperament. A National Theatre would, at any rate, be interesting to belong to. If properly managed, it need neither be a Temple of Tragedy nor a Temple of Dullness, but a Temple of Eclectic Art. When the Comédie Française had reached its lowest ebb in 1848, Prince Napoleon, afterwards Napoleon III., sent M. Arsène Houssaye, a young man, to clear out the Augean stable and save the institution from bankruptcy. He overcame the opposition of the hide-bound conventionalists, and, calling to his aid all the available dramatic authorship of France, soon had full houses and rising receipts. We believe that a purely eclectic Art Theatre, well managed, would have little need for endowment, except to provide against a run of ill-luck. It is a strange thing that the necessary capital seems so hard to come by. Only the other day we learned that several of our dramatists were so well off that defalcations of many thousands in the fees which should have been paid them by an agent were not even missed. Every week we read of great sums of money being invested in rubber companies and oil companies, and bequeathed to dubious charities and missions to the heathen. If there is a national demand for a National Theatre, it would appear that it only requires that the scheme shall inspire confidence, that the list of directors shall be sufficiently famous, and that the objects and intentions of the promoters shall be clearly and exactly defined for the necessary sum to be soon secured. And then the only difficulty will be to eliminate the unpractical persons and the "idealogues," whose influence, if predominant, would be fatal.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An interesting programme was forthcoming at the students' concert on Wednesday evening, March 23. Miss Katie Deslandes and Mrs. Pearce played a pianoforte duet, "Impromptu—Rococco" (Schütt); and Miss Beryl Cremer (pupil of Mme. Waldahoff) was very successful in her mandoline solo, Adagio and Rondo, from De Beriot's Ninth Concerto. In three songs of Dvorák, "Hear my prayer, O Lord, my God!" "God is my shepherd," and "I will sing new songs of gladness," Miss Muriel Clark did the composer most justice in the last-named. A Russian student of the school, Master Louis Godowski, only eight years old, gave a really wonderful performance of the First Movement from Viotti's Violin Concerto in A minor. Not an easy task to play from memory such a long movement, with its unaccompanied cadenza; but, apart from this, the little fellow's tone and execution were remarkable, and the audience gave the extremely youthful performer three enthusiastic recalls. Mr. Gerald French sang ably "Where'er you walk," from Handel's "Semele"; while Miss Helen S. Gall, L.G.S.M., proved herself a clever pianist in Chopin's Berceuse and Staccato study (Rubenstein), Miss Gall being particularly happy in her rendering of the study. To do justice to the dramatic air, "Revenge! Timotheus cries," from "Alexander's Feast" (Handel) requires a Santley, but Mr. Reginald Barnes displayed much intelligence. Miss Gladys McAuslane's violin solo, Adagio from Concerto in G minor (Max Bruch), was a pleasing item in the programme; and Miss Connie Cowderoy and Miss Elsie Darby were associated with good results in a duet for two pianofortes, Andante and Scherzettino (Chaminade). Miss Mabel Turk was set down for Spohr's song, "Rose softly blooming," once such a favourite air of Miss Mary Davies; and the concert finished with a scene from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Miss Muriel Deighton appearing as Romeo and Miss Dorothy G. B. Walker as Juliet. Miss Jenny Hyman accompanied.

A well-arranged dinner and smoker was held in the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Mansfield, in connection with the staffs of the Mansfield and District Theatres, Ltd. This was the first of what is hoped will be a long series of successful staff dinners. The principal guests present included, amongst others, Mr. Harry Josephs and Mr. Dickie Clare. Dr. Wordsworth was in the chair, supported by Mr. Mark Lorne (manager Sutton King's Theatre) and Mr. Fred Clayton (assistant-manager at the Grand). A wire was received from Captain Clayton at Pau—where the Captain is rapidly becoming an expert flyer under the tuition of M. Blériot—expressing regret at his inability to be present. Songs were rendered by Mr. Horace Wilton (Conservative agent) and Mr. Dickie Clare, and a monologue from *The Merchant of Venice* by Mr. Harry Josephs was very well received. Mr. Alec Toole received some applause for a spirited little recitation. Everyone present was pleased, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the proprietor, Mr. Jas. Alston, and his wife, for their kind attention and hospitality.

In a paragraph which we printed last week we stated that *Where is William?* would be played for the first time in London at the Fulham Theatre on Monday last. It should have read "Monday, April 11."

"THE BEGGAR PRINCESS."

Play, in Four Acts, by L. C. Cassidy, Produced at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, Monday, March 28.

Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh..Mr. J. Rice Cassidy
King Olgar ..... Mr. Alfred Boxall
Duke Sergius Rubinoff ..... Mr. Tom Royden
Allen Armstrong ..... Mr. Villiers Stanley
Harry Lortimer ..... Mr. William Melvyn
Abraham Bolton ..... Mr. David Douglas
Michael Ichon ..... Mr. Edward Lowrie
Moulet ..... Mr. Rolfe Leslie
Marie ..... Miss Agnes Durham
Maggie Bolton ..... Miss M. Cameron
John Handsford ..... Mr. James Kay
Lortez ..... Mr. W. Harte
Paul ..... Mr. J. C. Wilson
Bill Barge ..... Mr. Edward J. Fay
Porter ..... Mr. Arthur Henri
Tommy Bolton ..... Miss Isabel Hunt
Duchess Olga of Slavonia....Miss Ada Roscoe
Seaweed ..... Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy

(from our own correspondent.)

Mrs. Cassidy has given to the stage a number of plays which have enjoyed a large measure of success, and there is every reason to believe that her latest, under the above title, will be added to the list of those which have caught public favour. The story is a deeply-interesting one, there is an abundance of good comedy, and the manner of staging is well up to Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's high standard.

The play opens in the grounds of Duke Sergius, heir to the throne of Slavonia, where we find Captain Allen Armstrong, who has arrived in his yacht, demanding to know the whereabouts of his daughter, who has been betrayed by the Duke. The latter denies all knowledge of her, whereupon the Captain seizes the nobleman's little girl, whom he hands to members of his crew to carry to the yacht. Several soldiers arrest Armstrong, who is branded and sent to prison. The scene then changes to the rockbound coast of Northumberland, and here the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh, an English soldier, is found bemoaning his bad luck and contemplating suicide. He is prevented from doing so by a retired mariner named Abraham Bolton, who, living near the spot, is always ready to assist vessels in distress or shipwrecked crews. Shortly afterwards a ship is lost on the coast, and a little girl is washed ashore, she being afterwards identified as the Duke's stolen child, who had been brought to England in Armstrong's unfortunate yacht. The old mariner named her Seaweed, and placed her in a foundling institution.

In the next act we find Armstrong, having served a number of years' imprisonment by order of the Duke, has reached London, where he opens an inquiry office with the object of finding his daughter, Fitzhugh being his assistant. The Duchess Olga, now divorced from the Duke, is one of the applicants, she being in search of her stolen child, who is heir to the throne of Slavonia. Seaweed is eventually traced, and on being questioned declares her remembrance of playing in a pretty garden and being taken on board a ship by several sailors, at the same time recognising Armstrong as the man who seized her. The Duchess thereupon accepts the maiden, and determines to take her back home, but she resolves to only return with Fitzhugh, Bolton, and Armstrong. Meanwhile the Duke attempts to bring about a marriage with Bolton's daughter, in order to have an heir to the throne, and, after some hesitation, she accompanies him to Slavonia, where we find King Olgar much disturbed through the nobles quarrelling over the disappearance of the Duke, Duchess, and the missing heir. Sergius, with a view to appease the King, asks for a loving cup, and into it drops poison. The King, taking the first taste, speedily succumbs, but when dying declares Seaweed the rightful heir, requesting that she shall marry Fitzhugh. After a civil war between two sections of the nobles the Duke is killed, and the Princess proclaimed Queen.

Mr. J. Rice Cassidy held the part of the gallant Fitzhugh to the general satisfaction, some of his witticisms being richly enjoyed; Mr. Tom Royden was a sufficiently villainous Duke; Mr. Villiers Stanley stood out with much prominence as the distressed Armstrong, and played with a deal of dramatic strength; Bolton was in the good hands of Mr. David Douglas, who did every justice to it; Miss M. Cameron looked well and acted with care as Maggie Bolton; Mr. Edward Lowrie lent great support as Michael Ichon; Miss Ada Roscoe made a capital Duchess; and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy, who had many opportunities for showing her well-known talents, took every advantage of them, and delighted her audience, and she was undoubtedly a great favourite. The rest of the cast gave worthy help, and the crowded house on Monday night entered into the spirit of the new play with much enthusiasm.

During the special performance at the benefit of Mr. Lester Collingwood, the proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, the members of the company presented to Mr. W. T. Guest, the acting-manager, a handsome gold watch, Mr. Cull Pitt, on behalf of his *confrères*, speaking in warm terms about the genial "Billy."

At the time of writing Mr. Lester Collingwood's *Aladdin* pantomime is still running merrily, and there will be general regret in Birmingham to-night (Saturday) when the curtain will ring down for the last time upon the production. *Aladdin* has broken all records, despite keen competition and the General Election.

"Alias Jimmy Valentine" was performed at Wallack's Theatre on the 18th ult., by a company of children whose ages ranged from seven to fifteen years. All the scenes and properties of the regular production were used, and the youngsters were perfect in their parts. Not one of them had stage fright, but all had mastered their cues and "business" thoroughly. There were roars of laughter and frequent bursts of applause, as well as curtain calls innumerable. A charitable institution was benefited by the performance to the extent of 3,300 dollars.

The Ben Greet Players recently appeared at the Garden Theatre, New York, in *Everyman*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The Rivals*, the first-mentioned play being performed for the 1,000th time in America. Praise is due to Miss Beatrice Irwin for her excellent enunciation and highly intelligent rendering of the exacting title-rôle of this remarkable play. On the 18th ult. *Dr. Faustus*, by Christopher Marlowe, was preformed for the first time. Marlowe's play was written during the sixteenth century, and it was produced at the Garden Theatre in the Elizabethan style. Only one scene was shown. The play was carefully acted, with Mr. Sayer Crawley in the title-rôle and Mr. Robert Whitworth as Mephistopheles.

Miss Grace George appeared at the Grand Opera House, Chicago, on the 14th ult., in a new comedy called *Mrs. Partner*, by Thompson Buchanan. As Cicely Hamilton Miss George impersonated a "distinctly modern young woman" with plenty of brains, but without the opportunity of using them. She loves her husband, but he fails to understand her. He is young and equally in love with her, but utterly absorbed in business. How his wife tries to help him, nearly ruins him, and finally saves him, is told in three acts. Miss George's company includes Messrs. Aubrey Smith, Jack Standing, Frederick Esmelton, Charles Stanley, Reginald Carrington, Henry Miller, junior, Mrs. Clay Clement, Miss Carolyn Kenyon, Miss Ruth Benson, and Miss Louise Rial.

"THE RAVEN'S CRY."

Romantic Drama, in Three Acts, by D. Janitech, Produced at the Strand Theatre on Tuesday, March 29.

Sultan Murat ..... Mr. Fred Wilson
Ali Pasha ..... Mr. E. H. Brooke
Mustafa Pasha ..... Mr. A. Llewellyn
Ibraim Pasha ..... Mr. Fred Sampson
Milan of Toplitza ..... Mr. Philip Cuningham
Raiko ..... Mr. Harry Paulton
Bilkill Pasha ..... Mr. Charles Weir
Zulieka ..... Miss Marie Polini
Selim Bey ..... Mr. Langhorne Burton
Alija Bey ..... Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw
A Messenger ..... Mr. Albert Wainwright
Fatima ..... Miss Pollie Marshall
Milosh ..... Mr. George De Lara
A Musician ..... Mr. J. M. Watson
Vlatko ..... Mr. E. H. Brooke
Zorka ..... Miss Ivy Williams
A Monk ..... Mr. Charles Goodhart
A Peasant ..... Mr. Jocelyn Hope

The Raven's Cry, performances of which have been given this week at the Strand Theatre in aid of the Hairdresser Victims of the Parisian floods, is a simple, straightforward melodrama, with a plain and continuous plot, and distinct and well-defined characters. Though not without occasional absurdities, it held the interest of the audience from commencement to conclusion, having the advantage of being excellently acted.

The hero—and he is a hero in every sense of the word—is Milan of Toplitza, a tall warrior, and a "man of his hands." Milan is a Serb, and while on a mission to the Sultan Murat at Adrianople, he is asked by that magnate to become a Turk and the Soldier of the Crescent. Milan indignantly refuses, and the Turkish soldiers bar every outlet from the apartment. Then a comic servant of Milan's, named Raiko, suddenly enters the room by means of a secret panel, and leads his master to comparative safety. Milan, without revealing his identity to a certain Bilkill Pasha, his host, has won the affections of the Pasha's daughter Zulieka. Toplitza appears to be received by Bilkill as a Turk; and, in company with the villain of the play, Alija Bey, and the Pasha's son Selim, the hero starts in pretended pursuit of Milan, on whose head a heavy price has been placed. When the trio come to a convenient spot, Milan declares his identity, and easily overcomes Alija, who attacks him. The hero then turns to deal with Selim, and Alija tries to stab him in the back, but fails, and Milan easily escapes.

In the next act, Milan arranges with Zulieka that they shall elope at midnight, the signal for their departure being an imitation of the cry of a raven. But their plans are discovered, and Milan is arrested and thrown into a dungeon with his faithful follower. Toplitza, who is very strong, breaks his chains and those of Raiko; and Selim, who has conceived a regard for Milan, finding remonstrance with his father useless, comes to the dungeon, sets the captives free, and enables them and Zulieka to escape.

The last act takes place in Servia on the Turkish border. Selim arrives and entreats the Servians to go to the rescue of Milan, who is hotly pursued by the Turks; Bilkill Pasha, who appears on the scene of action, is recognised by his brother, a Servian monk, as a renegade from Christianity, who became a Mohammedan for love of a woman; Alija Bey, who also ventures on to Servian soil, is promptly slain by Raiko; and there remains no obstacle to the lovers' happiness. A spirited embellishment of this last act was a song, words by D. Janitsch, music by J. Michael Watson, entitled "The Blind Musician's Song." It ran:—

"Farewell to the chivalrous days of the past,
Farewell to the glory of many a fight,
Farewell to the banners that waved in the blast,
A sadder farewell to my precious lost sight!
Hurrah! for the glory of the war,
Which lights up the soul as a star,
The glorious frays
Of those grand old days
—are now afar.

The victor's rich palm, oh, how glorious to wear,
With laurels outlasting the spite of old time!
The clash of the sword and the trumpet's wild flare
Are emblems so noble to youth in its prime.
Hurrah, &c.

The sword and the triumphs of war are now flown,
And I in old age have a battle with years,
But memory's seeds in my heart deep are sown,
And they will be water'd by my constant tears!"

Hurrah, &c.

The air was very spirited and martial, and the effect of the chorus was exhilarating.

Mr. Philip Cuningham's commanding and athletic figure well fitted him to represent the bold fighter, Milan of Toplitza, and he played the part in just the right vein of flamboyant freedom and exuberant energy. Miss Marie Polini was a pretty and expressive Zulieka, and acted with feeling and intelligence. The rich, ripe drollery of Mr. Harry Paulton gave a racy flavour to his quaint representation of Raiko; and Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw as Alija Bey was as crafty and treacherous a rascal as could be imagined. Mr. Langhorne Burton acted with straightforward earnestness as Selim Bey; and Mr. George de Lara was firm and direct as the stout soldier, Milosh, Mr. Charles Goodhart making a stalwart and serious Monk. Mr. Fred Wilson gave a clever representation of the Sultan Murat; Mr. E. H. Brooke doubled the parts of Ali Pasha and Vlatko effectively; and Mr. A. Llewellyn and Mr. Fred Sampson were efficient as Mustafa and Ibraim. Mr. Charles Weir gave a thoughtful and pathetic performance of Bilkill Pasha; and Miss Pollie Marshall played Zulieka's attendant creditably. The minor characters and the crowd were worthy of commendation. The piece was well dressed and satisfactorily mounted.

MORE COINCIDENCES.

Sir,—Referring to Mr. Freeman's letter in your last issue, nearly thirty years ago Mr. Alfred Stanton produced a piece called *Fifty Fatty* at the Theatre Royal, North Shields. The play was founded on local facts, and the same subject as Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre's *The Prodigal's Welcome*. I have heard the story of *Fifty Fatty* several times when visiting North Shields.—Yours faithfully, T. LIONEL ELLIS.

March 30, 1910.

"Beethoven," by René Fauchois, with Mr. Donald Robertson in the title-rôle, will be produced at the New Theatre, New York, on April 11. The play will not be acted by the regular company, as the latter is going on tour. Mr. Robertson is a Scotsman who has been appearing for several seasons in classical and other dramas at the Art Institute in Chicago.

Extravagant praise of actors is by no means of modern date. Betterton was compared to a "stately spreading oak which stands fixed, environed round with brave young growing flourishing plants;" and Dryden, alluding to him, when old, in a prologue, says:

"He, like the setting sun, still shoots a glimm'ring ray,
Like ancient Rome, majestic in decay."

The acting of children in adult characters is of very ancient date. Salathiel Savy, a boy who died in his thirteenth year, was so amiable an actor of old men that Ben Jonson in his elegant epitaph on him, says the Fates thought him one, and therefore cut his thread of life.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"ROBINS ENDE."

Comic Opera, in Two Acts, by E. Künnecke, Produced at the Komische Oper on March 23.

Charles II. ..... Herr Holsapfel
Robinson ..... Herr Hofbauer
Katharine ..... Fraulein David
Glutton ..... Herr Mantler
Randolf ..... Herr Arnster
Edelmann ..... Herr Ryan
Williams ..... Herr Kreuder
Bauer ..... Herr Distrjon
Offizier ..... Herr Thomasberg

(from our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, March 30.—The composer of this merry little work is a beginner, but with such obvious talent that there is little doubt as to his future. *Robins Ende* is a charmingly bright and taking composition, in the style of the ever-popular *Merry Wives of Windsor*, which Herr Künnecke probably took as his model. The book is excellent; it is by Herr Maximilian Morris, and the action passes in Merry England in the days of gay King Charles. Robinson—a farmer in Cornwall—known by all his friends as "Robin," is in possession of an extremely pretty wife, Katharine, whom he dearly loves, but of whom he is passionately jealous. Katharine, before her marriage, was an assistant in a fashionable London shop, and there was once seen by the King, who immediately lost his heart to her. Katharine resists her Sovereign's wiles; but now the King comes to Cornwall to hunt, and finds her as Robin's wife—a circumstance which in no way hinders his making love again. Seeing, however, that she is devoted to her husband and he has no chance, King Charles generously decides to give up the quest. He has been on a secret visit to Katharine, but is about to say farewell, when Robin is heard returning home. To save her own and her Sovereign's honour, Katharine conceals her visitor in a cupboard. This happens to be the cupboard in which Robin had concealed Glutton, his steward, with instructions to observe Katharine's doings. The steward has slipped out, but Robin opens the cupboard and discovers the King, whom he does not at first recognise. Terribly enraged, Robin is about to kill the incautious monarch, but says he will let him off if the King will promise to make him Duke of Cornwall. King Charles gives the promise in writing, and makes his escape. Robin brags about his newly-acquired rank to the villagers, who think him mad, and is in the same moment led away to death by the King's guards. Poor Robin feels his end is come. Blindfolded, he is taken to what he believes is the gallows, but in reality the King takes a generous revenge. Robin is conducted instead to his own house again, and when the bandage is removed he sees his Sovereign awaiting him to greet the "Duke of Cornwall." Pretty Katharine is now a Duchess, and all ends happily. The music suits the text exactly; it is vivacious and full of pleasing melody. The interpretation was capital, and the reception most cordial. Herr Morris, the head stage-manager, who is also responsible for the book, mounted the work with his usual good taste.

The Lustspielhaus produced a couple of novelties last week—*Die goldene Freiheit*, by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, very well translated by Dr. Lothar, and *Des Versöhnungsfest*, a one-act comedy, by Rudolf Presber, the latter piece serving as a curtain-raiser to the longer work. Both met with a cordial reception, and are still running.

Frau Agnes Sorma, who is prolonging her season at the New Schauspielhaus, appeared in a novelty for Berlin on Easter Sunday. It was a serious play by Dr. Henri de Rothchild, entitled *Die Rampe*. The tragic story of Madelaine Grandier, who becomes an actress because she loves an actor, and who, after bitter disappointments and disillusions, takes poison, is certainly known to your readers, the piece having been given for some time in Paris. Frau Sorma acted the rôle with her usual discretion and charm, and was excellently supported by Herr Christians in the part of Claude Bourgneil.

At the Hebbel Theatre Hermann Reichenbach's drama *Ketten* was revived during the holidays after a long interval. It made its customary deep impression, and the acting was convincing in the extreme. The tragic play forms a marked contrast to the sporting comedy *Kavalliere*, which is still drawing well, and filling the bill most nights of the week.

On Easter Monday Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor* was given at the Royal Opera with a first-rate cast. The house was sold out long before the opening, and the audience included their Imperial Majesties, with four of their sons, and Princess Victoria Luise, who enjoyed the performance as much as anyone present.

The production of Mr. Arthur Nevin's Indian opera *Poia* at the Royal Opera is now definitely fixed for April 15.

The Council meeting of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, at 32, Regent-street. There were present Mr. Cyril Cattley (in the chair), Messrs. F. H. de Quincey, Robson Paige, Edward Morgan, H. Le Grand, Murri Moncrieff, Langford Reed, Leonard Shepherd, Lewis Casson, Miss Joan Pereira, and Mr. Young, secretary. The secretary read letters from Portland Ackerman, Philip Carr, Sylvia Grey, Alfred Farquhar, F. Pride, C. Hayden Coffin, and W. H. Mote. Mr. Cattley drew attention to the circulars notifying members that subscriptions were overdue. The secretary reported that over 200 circulars had already been sent out, and received instructions that the remainder should be sent during the present week. The secretary was directed to have a copy of the standard contract sent to each member of the Council, asking for suggestions or alterations in time for the matter to be fully discussed at the Council meeting of April 12. This was proposed on the motion of Mr. Casson, seconded by Mr. De Quincey, and carried unanimously. The secretary reported re telephone contract, which was renewed as before on the existing terms.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Cattley, and adopted. The following members of the Association were proposed, seconded, and elected:—Gladys Everard, proposed by Irene Monchieff, seconded by K. Maynard; Kate Lang, proposed by Orlando Barnett, seconded by Walter Russell; Elizabeth Lang, proposed by Walter Russell, seconded by Orlando Barnett; Aubrey Percival, proposed by F. Pennington Gush, seconded by Mabel Durant; Robert Laurence, proposed by Charles Boult, seconded by Franc Stoney; Nellie Morris, proposed by Ada Hatchwell, seconded by Sylvia Morris; A. E. Holland, proposed by H. Louis Wilson, seconded by Paul Beckett; and H. C. Barnard Stacey, proposed by Charles Boult, and seconded by F. McLellan. Miss Mary Dibley was nominated (proposer Mr. Cyril Cattley, seconder Mr. Orlando Bennett). The secretary was instructed to notify the members of the Finance and House Committees as to the next meetings of those committees, and ask that their report should be submitted at the next meeting of the Council.

We regret to have to announce the death, which took place on the 22nd ult. at Salford, of Mr. Joseph Green, aged forty-seven, who was stage-manager at the Regent Theatre, Salford, during the whole time the theatre has been open—i.e., from September, 1892, and consequently widely known to the profession. The fact that matters were managed behind the curtain so smoothly during the whole time—sometimes variety and at others legitimate—speaks volumes for the businesslike manner of his work, and many artists will miss him.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Walter Gibbons, speaking to the *Referee* interviewer regarding the recently formed amalgamation, ridicules the idea of a war between managers. The "merging" mood, according to him, has infected the directors of the Syndicate halls, with a possible extension of the interests of the "combination of peace" to the houses governed by the Variety Theatres Consolidated and to other outlying suburban halls.

The decision to avoid cut-throat competition is not new, and it needs no great prevision to discern the folly of overcrowding the suburbs with variety theatres. Therefore, one need not insist on the wisdom of the pact that has been agreed upon between the different circuits not to build against each other within three miles in the metropolitan area and five miles in the provinces. Like Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Gibbons is of opinion that so long as an artist is a draw, the highest salaried is the cheapest. The new combine will be distinguished by "Butts, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles."

To inquire whether music-hall trusts will be easily acclimatised in this country is to inquire too curiously. The possibilities of what might be termed an Imperial scheme covering the hemispheres are not so remote as one might suppose when one thinks of the growing popularity of variety in the South African Confederation, the Republic of Australia, and the Dominions of Canada and New Zealand.

Miss Ada Reeve, now appearing at the London Hippodrome, is a very much-sought-after young lady at the moment of writing. Theatre proprietors in America, Australia, and South Africa are each vigorously endeavouring to be the first to get her to sign contracts to appear with them at the conclusion of a Moss-Stoll tour in August next.

Cables have been very busy during the past few days, and the latest offer is from the Pat Casey office of New York offering Miss Reeve no less a sum than $2,500 per week for the twenty weeks' inclusive engagement. Naturally Mr. Louis de Reeder, of 24, Buckingham-street, Strand, Miss Reeve's sole representative, is encouraging these agents in far-off climes to outbid one another.

Mr. Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss, who return to the Coliseum on Monday in a new sketch, interpolated with songs, entitled *Cook's Man*, have parts peculiarly suited to their personalities. Mr. Stanley Brett supports his brother and sister-in-law in the sketch To add still more variety there are the Marco Twins, comedians, the Elite Harmony Boys, the Brothers Bright, athletes, Norman Telma, in billiards extraordinary, Tiller's Eight Chicquettes, dainty dancers, Chas. Lewis, ventriloquist, Lina Verdi, in song and mimicry, and the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, with their banjoes.

Mme. Réjane, who arrived here on Friday, is no stranger to London. She played at the now defunct Imperial Theatre in May, 1902, and in later years at Terry's; but her most important engagement was when she opened the New Royalty as the Théâtre Français in London, for M. Gaston Mayer, with a performance of Edmond Pailleron's *La Souris*. She has had the honour of giving special performances before our Royal family, and on one occasion the very piece to be played at the Hippodrome was selected. Wherever the charming actress has appeared she has triumphed, and to-day she is gratefully remembered in France, Russia, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Greece, Italy, Ireland, and North and South America, while Kings and Queens have showered honours upon her.

The Czar invited her to take her company to the Imperial Theatre, St. Petersburg, and at the close of the performance presented her with a magnificent ruby. The German Emperor and Empress at Berlin received the fascinating artist in their royal box; and at Lisbon the late King of Portugal was so enchanted with her acting that he presented her with a pair of superb carriage mules, and it is hoped that she will bring these valuable animals to London. The Queen of Portugal, to mark her appreciation of Réjane's art, painted a water-colour picture for madame, and on the frame are the coat of arms of Portugal and of the Duchess of Dantzig, a great compliment to her acting of the title-rôle in Sardou's famous comedy *Madame Sans-Gêne*, who rose from the wash-tub to be the wife of a Marshal of France and a duchess. From the Queen of Portugal she also has a sapphire brooch.

Though the distinguished actress has been on the most friendly terms with so many rulers, she openly defied the Sultan of Turkey. Some time prior to his downfall Abdul commanded Réjane and her company of players to appear before him at the Yildiz Kiosk; but, in accordance with an Oriental custom, he offered a fee for madame only. She flatly refused to allow her colleagues to work for nothing, and, despite the remonstrance of the French Ambassador at Constantinople, she sailed away just at the moment when she should have been preparing to play for the head of Mohammedanism.

The invasion of the music halls by two at least of the most celebrated French actresses, Réjane and Bernhardt, clearly shows—says the *Daily Telegraph*—that across the Channel there is no prejudice even in the highest quarters against variety theatres. In this country, on the other hand, although a large number of leading artists have yielded to the fascinations of managers like Mr. Oswald Stoll and Mr. Alfred Butt, there are some who still turn a deaf ear to their proposals.

A prominent figure in the list is Miss Ellen Terry, who only the other day declared in the most emphatic terms, "Nothing would ever induce me to appear on the music-hall stage. It has, I know, been publicly stated more than once that I was thinking of doing so. But I give you my word that I never shall, never, never)" Miss Terry has a very settled conviction that actors do not show to advantage in a variety theatre. To be sandwiched in between past-masters of the art of music-hall entertaining really shows off an actor to ill-advantage

Miss Terry's opinion that music-hall artists are as out of place in a theatre as actors are in a music hall is open to question. Indeed, several of the most brilliant comedians came from the theatres—Albert Chevalier, James Fawn, Ada Reeve, and Louie Freear, to wit. Miss Terry's views are, to some extent, confirmed by a criticism just to hand relating to Mrs. Patrick Campbell, now appearing in vaudeville in the States. The paragraph runs as follows: "Mrs. Patrick Campbell met with a chilly reception at Philadelphia at Keith's Theatre. But some performing collie dogs were received with the most demonstrative enthusiasm. Such," philosophically comments the writer of the notice, "is life in vaudeville."

On Epsom Downs last Sunday a party, including Mr. Leo Fritz and Willie Edelsten, were having some really excellent racing on thoroughbreds when they had the pleasant experience of being approached by the Earl of Rosebery, an interested spectator of the capital finish of a five-furlong sprint, in which Leo Fritz was first, Sid Wood second, and Fred Lamport third. An objection was lodged for bumping and boring, and Leo Fritz was disqualified. His lordship offered to act as judge for the remainder of the racing.

The Hippodrome Palace of Varieties, Hastings, is announced for sale. The property will be offered at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, on Friday, May 27.

The tenure is freehold, and the house occupies a fine position on the main esplanade, facing the sea. The holding capacity is for 1,500, and the auditorium is equipped on the most up-to-date lines, with spacious promenades, foyer, saloons, and large open-air loggia overlooking the sea. The house is fully licensed and open to the public, but with vacant possession on completion of the purchase.

The Palace Theatre, Maidstone, Company give notice that all artists holding dates at that house after May 30, 1910, must send in their contracts for confirmation, as all contracts are cancelled on and after that date, the theatre having been leased to Mr. Ewart C. Potter, to whom communications with reference to future engagements must be addressed.

Mona and Douglas Connor, those clever little equestrians, have just completed a most successful engagement at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. They are engaged to appear there again at Whitsun.

The Elliott-Savonas are still on the Stoll tour, and meeting with great success all along the line in *The Palace of Orpheus*, a gorgeous spectacle, with stage effects costing £2,000. These artists are well known on practically every music-hall stage, and their reception wherever they go is always of the most cordial description. They go on Monday next to the Empire, Leeds.

As a slight misunderstanding has arisen in regard to a paragraph in this column chronicling the appointment of an under-manager at the Pavilion, Glasgow, we may explain that this was an addition to the staff there, and not a change. Mr. Ernest R. Foster, who is well known in the profession, is still, of course, the able and energetic assistant-manager at the Pavilion, and has been since Mr. Evan Good was appointed general-manager there.

Mr. Will White, the popular manager of the New Alhambra Theatre, Belfast, on Tuesday evening was the recipient of some valuable gifts From the directors of Alhambra and Entertainments, Ltd., he received a cheque for £50; from the Alliance Theatrical and Variety Agency, Ltd., Liverpool, a cheque for £25; and as a mark of esteem from friends and patrons of the theatre including 300 of the Royal Irish Constabulary, a magnificent single stone diamond scarf pin.

The presentation was made before a crowded house by Mr. Edwin Smith, general-manager of the Alliance Agency, Liverpool (formerly of the Parthenon and Haymarket, Liverpool), who travelled specially from the Mersey City for the purpose. Mr. White, in a neat speech, thanked his many patrons for their kindness, and at the same time expressed gratitude on behalf of Mrs White for the beautiful marble clock and ornaments which had been presented to that lady by the staff of the theatre.

One of the most attractive events of Eastertide was the concert held in the Empire, Nottingham, to augment the funds of the Nottingham Poor Boys' Camp Society, and on Good Friday, as usual there was a large attendance. The society has been in existence now for nineteen years, and from a small inception has grown considerably In its first year eight boys were sent to the seaside for a week, and now fifty are sent weekly, the total for last year being 650. During its existence the society has enabled 7,000 young people to enjoy a holiday at the seaside.

The concert on Good Friday night was held by permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll, and an excellent programme had been arranged Opening with an overture by the Empire orchestra, specially augmented for the occasion, it contained vocal and instrumental selections which were in every case heartily appreciated. During an interval thanks were given, on the initiative of Mr. G. H. Pochin to all who had contributed to the success of the concert. He specially mentioned the enthusiastic work of Mr. Albert C. Duncan, the acting manager of the Empire.

Miss Daisy Wood, the favourite comedienne, has made a tremendous success with her "Chantecler" song in the provinces. She wears a handsome costume, which has been designed by Mr. Will Goldston and made by A. W. Gamage, Ltd., of Holborn. The song has been written and composed by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, and is about to be published by the Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd., Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road W.C. Miss Daisy Wood opens at the Oxford at an early date.

A complimentary benefit to Mr. Geo. Dickinson, acting-manager of the Gaiety, Glasgow, was given at that house on Tuesday evening, when many friends rallied round him. The entertainment had a special character. Among the artists were the Marco Bros., who delighted with instrumental excerpts from popular operas; the Three Martynes in a fine dancing display; Benson and Brady, character comedians and dancers; the Royal Troupe of International Dancers; T. Dunlop, a favourite local comedian; Dolly Price; J. H. Maddock, an orchestra in himself; and other good turns. It was quite a gala night.

The new lessee of the Empire, Southend, is Mr B. Pareezer, a gentleman of considerable enterprise, whose career as an amusement caterer shows foresight and a seizing of golden opportunity. Mr. Pareezer, who has attained the half century, though his looks belie his age, was born in Poland, and spent the days of his youth in that most distressful country of Continental Europe.

Coming to England thirty-seven years ago Mr Pareezer has been connected with theatrical adventures for a quarter of a century. He has distinguished himself both on and off the stage; he has lectured on the various countries through which he has travelled. Like most educated natives of Poland he is an accomplished linguist. For some time past he has had the management of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, where his work has been much appreciated by such local magnates as Sir William Ffolkes and Mr. Carlyon Bellairs. He has lately acquired the Marine Theatre, Lowestoft, and the Southend Empire is his latest acquisition. At his present rate of progress he should soon become the head of a Pareezer circuit.

Mlle. Gaby Deslys has confirmed the opinion formed of her when last at the Alhambra, and has scored an immediate success in *Les Caprices de Suzette*, in which she is ably supported by her companions MM. Carvey and Edgar Chatel. Next week at this house the programme will be considerably added to, among the new-comers being Coram, the ventriloquist, an old favourite here; the Balzars, who do "comedy conjuring"; and Matini and Bobby, with a canine assistant. Leipzig, an incomparable conjuror, and the Russian dancers, the Sisters Lewandowski, remain, and to give late diners a chance of seeing Mlle. Britta, in *Our Flag*, Mr. Alfred Moul has arranged that the patriotic ballet shall temporarily change places with *The Polar Star*.

Mr. Hymack, having concluded his third successful American season, has just returned to town to enjoy a short rest.

Mr. Morris Abrahams, general-manager of the Queen's, Poplar, is back again at his duties, after being absent owing to indisposition nearly three months

Miss Alexandra Dagmar, in new songs, new dresses, and bright and witty stories, has been scoring a great success on the Stoll tour. This week she opens at Sheffield for a twelve weeks' tour of the provinces.

Mr. Russell Wallett, his many friends will be glad to hear, is improving daily. The doctors look upon his case as almost a miracle. He feels well enough to start again, but will not be allowed to do so for a few weeks.

Miss Sable Fern, in her pretty scout scena, "Boys in Camp," has eclipsed her former triumphs. The novelty is written, composed, and produced by Frank Leo, who has always his finger on the public pulse. A notice of *Boys in Camp* appears in another column.

Victor Niblo and his wonderful talking and singing bird have proved such a success on the Continent that they have been re-engaged at almost every place they have appeared. They have proved quite a surprise to the Continental variety stage, and are now appearing at Mellini's Theatre, Hanover.

Princess D'Aryabi, in her original fantastic dancing scena, in which she wears some beautiful dresses, will commence a short provincial tour on Monday at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield. Owing to her enormous success she has been re-engaged for Syndicate halls through Mr. Tom Paccy's agency.

Mr. Ernest Shand can always oblige with a good yarn or two. He tells of a man who went into a bar, ordered a drink, and gulped it down with feverish haste. When asked by his friend what his hurry was, he said, "Oh, I've had 'em knocked over before."

Another country hotel incident. A loud-voiced individual, bragging of his experiences to a company of villagers in very pompous maner. To him at last a quiet individual in the corner, who had not hitherto spoken, addressed a question: "Has ta ivver had D.T.'s, mester?" to which the talkative and self-important one rejoined with a great show of indignation that he had not. "Ah, well," resumed the quiet man, "then thou's seen nowt."

The tragedy at the Camberwell Empire on Monday evening, when John Healy, a stage hand, was stabbed, by Thomas William Jesshope, through the heart with a shoemaker's knife, recalls a similar occurrence at the Canterbury, in June, 1889, when George Letine, the principal of a troupe of lady bicyclists, was mortally stabbed at the stage door of the Canterbury by a man named Nathaniel Currah

At his trial Currah was sentenced as a criminal lunatic, to be confined during Her Majesty's pleasure. The assassin attempted suicide. Currah's daughter, Beatrice, was a member of the Letine troupe, but died of consumption. It was her death that unhinged the father's mind.

Miss Gwennie Hasto, with her husband, Mr. Walter Emerson, returns to-day from Australia, after a long, most comfortable, and successful engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards. The popular couple start on Monday on the Bostock tour. Mr. Ernest de Vere has booked Miss Hasto up to 1914.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild has lost an enthusiastic friend and worker by the death of Miss Belle Elmore (Mrs. H. H. Crippen) in California, on March 23. She held the position of honorary treasurer to the Guild for a number of years, but resigned from that position about two months ago in order to visit a friend in California.

The following gentleman have been drawn to play in the third round of the Vaudeville Club billiard handicap: Burt Shepard v. Carl Barello; Frank Glenister v. Hal Forde; S. Reed v. J. Stewart or W. Hanvarr; J. B. Holm v. D. Poole; Dave Carter or Leo Gordon v. Harry Weldon or Fred Russell.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, who was to have appeared at the Empire, Sunderland, last week, was unable to do so in consequence of medical advice. He is trying the rest cure, and this has prevented his appearance as one of the Easter company both at the Oxford and the Tivoli. "One of the boys" hopes to answer to his number next Monday.

There were 170 entries last week for the amateur carnival at the Bedford, and 130 of the competitors actually appeared. The winner was a Mr. Gimmel, a Scotch comedian, who has appeared at local smoking concerts as an amateur. Part of his reward is a six weeks' engagement on the Lucas tour. The winner of the first carnival, six years ago, is now well known as the artist, Tod Lowan.

Mr. Tom Wootwell is having a week's run round the South Coast, and now boasts of a complexion like a 'bus-driver, the weather being beautiful. He stopped on Wednesday at an hotel, miles from anywhere, and to his great surprise found Little Tich and Geo. Newburn there. They were having a run out and back from Portsmouth. Tom is playing the Canterbury on Monday, being the third week this year, and more to go.

The Lady of Colour (new style) will be introduced to English audiences at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday by Miss Sadie Foote. As Antonia Cleopatra Higginbotham in the sketch of *Muddled Model*, specially written for her by Frank Price, this artist will appear as a real, high-toned lady of colour, and as she has a way of making the most of opportunities provided so plentifully by the author, there will be some original fun.

A record in return engagements may be claimed by Joe Wesley, who is playing his thirty-third engagement at the Britannia Theatre, Glasgow, the engagement running into fifty-one different weeks throughout twenty-one years, and under six different managers — namely, Rossborough, McGown, Kean, Hubner, Anderson, and Pickard. The Wesley Minstrels also hold the record of drawing the greatest houses at this hall. This was in Hubner's time.

According to American Exchanges, Mr. Martin Beck, who has just returned to New York after concluding his successful arrangements with Mr. Alfred Butt for a joint Anglo-American circuit, announces "a unique contest," by which he expects to procure "the best one-act play ever written for the variety stage." Of the number of pieces submitted, six, pronounced by the judges to be the best, are to be produced at the Actors' Fund Fair.

The visitors will then be invited to decide which of the half-dozen is entitled to the prize of £50 offered by Mr. Beck as the reward of the successful author. "In entering for the contest no writer," adds Mr. Beck, "loses his title to royalties. I will put the prize-winner on our circuit and pay him the usual weekly percentage. Never have the conditions for new authors been so auspicious The plays will be acted at the fair by the best actors and actresses in America from both the vaudeville and regular theatre."

Mr. T. Cavill, of Cavill's Agency, has taken over the Spread Eagle Hotel in Lambeth-road. He will be pleased to see all friends at any time.

John Clempert, who on Feb. 1, 1910, opened at the Palacio Novedades, Buenos Aires, South America, has become a hero in that town—not an easy matter for a British artist. At the beginning of his engagement he had a hard struggle, but as time passed people discovered his real ability.

Up to the present he has thwarted every effort made to bring about his defeat. He was challenged by a local boilermaker to escape from a specially-made tank, in which he was placed, with the lid riveted on. After a hard struggle he managed to make an escape in about twenty minutes, and was afterwards "shouldered" round the hall amidst great applause.

The most important point with regard to this escape was that Clempert (to prove that he was not assisted) made his escape suspended in the air in a small balloon in the centre of the building. After this triumph we are not surprised to learn that a syndicate are taking out Clempert on a six months' tour through Brazil and Rosario and other towns of note.

The orchestra at the Edmonton Empire, which is under the direction of Mr. Angelo Asher, was paid in full for Good Friday by Mr. Harry Bawn, whose kindly consideration has been highly appreciated in a year when in most halls salaries of staffs and orchestras have been deducted for the compulsory day off.

The Five Hunters have made a hit at the Camberwell Empire and the Granville in their refined drawing-room act, which has been well booked by their agents, Messrs. Somers and Warner, who are safe in recommending an act, both interesting and amusing, with real good singing, dancing, and music, and without the slightest taint of vulgarity.

Mr. Arthur Astill, the whistling ploughboy, who produced a new scena at the London Pavilion on Monday last, met with a flattering reception. He has had a special scene painted, depicting a typical farm and poultry yard, and cleverly imitates all kinds of birds, cattle, &c. His quick change from a ploughboy into immaculate evening dress is very smart.

Mr. S. W. Wyndham was obliged to cancel Devonport last week owing to throat trouble, but is now better, and delighting his audiences at Boscombe with his funny voice. S. W. Wyndham will be remembered as the pupil in *The Professor and His Pupil*, which he ran successfully for four and a half years. When he returns to town in August he will be seen at the Oxford.

Mr. Ben Woodger, Secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to thank Mr. Percival Craig (Empire Theatre, Bradford) for Music Hall Home box collection of £3 1s.; Mr. Percy Ford (Empire Camberwell), 7s.; and Mr. Hughes ("Artichoke," Peckham-road), 5s. 3d. An important committee meeting will be held on Thursday next, April 7, at the Empire, Camberwell, at 12 noon.

Mr. Herbert Mack, the popular assistant acting manager of the Shepherd's Bush Empire, had a very welcome birthday present on Good Friday in the shape of a son and heir. It was certainly something of a coincidence that young Master Mack should arrive on the anniversary of his father's birthday, and it is good to be able to record that both mother and son are doing splendidly.

Mr. Neil Kenyon, the famous Scottish character actor, in an interview last week while at the Hippodrome, Greenock, stated that this is the first week he has ever played in theatre or music hall in his native town. He was delighted with his enthusiastic reception, the house being packed at every performance. At the conclusion of every performance he had to make a speech.

Talking of the great success of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, pantomime, this year, Mr. Kenyon states that he never missed an entrance, and has never disappointed a Glasgow audience, whether in theatre or music hall. In the course of six years he has been engaged to play at over 1,000 performances, and never failed to appear. Only on three occasions was he unable to appear for charities, and then not through his fault. He is very proud of this record.

On the conclusion of his engagement at Greenock Mr. Kenyon left for London to rehearse at the Apollo for the new musical comedy, *The Islander*, to be produced about the middle of April, in which he takes the principal comedy part.

Mr. Bert Swan and Miss Marie Vesta, the original Bill Smith and 'Liza, will shortly produce a new and original coster episode entitled *'Liza's Wedding Day*, in which they will introduce the donkey "Baby Answers," presented to them at the Hippodrome, Camden Town, on March 18 by the proprietors of the well-known weekly *Answers*.

La Belle Alva, who is appearing at the London Pavilion this week, has made quite a sensation with the pretty lightning effects in her dance scena, the most noticeable being the sunrise at the commencement of her English gipsy dance. During the past week she has given five different gipsy dances nightly, concluding with a speciality sand dance with bare feet. The act is very refined, and should go well ahead. La Belle Alva is booked for a term of years at the West-End halls.

We regret to announce the sudden death from heart disease of Edwin Faust, who passed away on March 8 at 242, West Forty-third-street, New York, at the age of 69. The deceased gentleman was born in London, and started in the profession at the early age of seven. He was the father of the original Faust Family of acrobats, and leaves a widow and large family. He was for many years in Australia.

The 652nd meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday at the offices, the following being present: Messrs. Harry Blake (in the chair), Jeff Vendome, John Alexander, J. H. Milburn, T. C. Callaghan, Harold Finden, and Jack Crawley. The weekly statement showed forty-three new members and a cash total of £54 4s. The Rochdale agent having resigned his position, Mr. Geo. Trichley, of the Old Clock Face Hotel, was appointed to the office. Mr. G. G. Hannan, of the River Inn, Dumfries, was also appointed an agent.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May, secretary, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Miss Maude Mortimer, collecting from Miss Harriet Vernon and Miss Kate Butler; Mr. Arthur Prince, Mr. Harry Ford, Mr. Reg. Bolton, Mr. Arthur Croxon, Mr. Leslie Race, and the Bros. O'Gorman, 16s.; Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. C. C. Bartram, 5s. from Mr. Richard Pitrot, New York; and Mr. Oscholinski (of the Artists' Club), 5s.; Miss Jessie Star, collecting £1 2s. 2d.; Miss Edna Branston (Webb and Branston), result of Hoop-la, 9s.; Miss Lottie Albert, clothing; Miss Evelyn Mildred (Mortimer, Berks), useful clothing; Mr. Alec Barish, Liverpool, new suit and new boots; Sisters Macarte, baby's new clothing.

An American contemporary observes that with the ever-spreading craze for barefoot dancing there is a possibility of a slump in corn plasters.

A correspondent wants to obtain a humorous recitation—"At the Telephone" or a similar title—by Jerome K. Jerome, who himself forgets even the name of the publisher. Our readers may be able to inform us.

Mr. Fred Barnes is creating one of the greatest successes ever known at the Empire, Leeds, this week, with B. Feldman and Co.'s successful comedy song, "I'd rather be by the fireside," written and composed by the author-composer of their popular number, "Beside the seaside," J. Glover-Kind, and it may safely be predicted that the new song will be quite as successful, if it does not eclipse in popularity, its celebrated predecessor.

"The Gambler's Wife," a thrilling little sketch, produced at the Bedford with enormous success, is this week topping the bill at the Imperial Palace, Canning Town, where it is going bigger than ever Mr. Jack Fortescue, an actor well remembered for his portrayal of the Pope in *The Eternal City*, gives a clever performance as the villain, and is supported by Miss May Fortescue, Mr. H Scaddon, and Mr. R. Ainsworth.

By the death of Mrs. Elvira Mather, who passed away at her London residence on Good Friday, another link is lost from the fast-dwindling human chain which feebly connects the musical world of to-day with that of the Victorian era. As Miss Elvira Behrens, Mrs. Mather, when a young woman, enjoyed a most brilliant career as a contralto, singing with Sims Reeves, Charles Santley, and other vocal celebrities of her time. She is the mother of Miss Anna Mather, who has been recently supporting Mrs. Lewis Waller in sketches.

"The Rose of Sicily," a comic opera, of which the book, lyrics, and music are by George Sheldon, will be produced on Monday at the Empire, Camberwell. The fine cast will include Mr. Fred Eastman, Mr. Freddie French, Mr. Clifford Morgan, Mr. Algernon Newark, Mr. Milroy Cooper, and Miss Kathleen Starling. There will be a full operatic chorus and the Mayfair Girls, speciality dancers, will animate the scenes. The uniforms and dresses are designed and made by the well-known firm of John Hyman and Co., of Leicester-square.

The Rats' annual banquet at the Vaudeville Club on Good Friday was a joyous affair, as one who knows that hilarious crowd can easily believe. In the unavoidable absence of King Rat Mr. Charles Warren, the chair was taken at 7.30 p.m. by Prince Rat Harry Tate, who was supported by Messrs. W. H. Clemart, Arthur Reece, Fred Russell, Papa Brown, Dave O'Toole, Burt Shepard, William Lee, Felice Napoli, Bob Leonard, Cliff Ryland, Charles Mildare, George D'Albert, and Arthur Carlton. Toast, song, and jest sped the happy hours till morning. The Water Rats in Manchester gave a banquet and social evening on Good Friday.

Mr. Ernest Shand, who returned to the Tivoli on Monday, was in Manchester recently, and there achieved the remarkable feat of appearing at twenty-eight performances and singing no fewer than seventy-one songs in one week. It happened thusly:—Mr. Shand was in the company at the Manchester Hippodrome giving two shows a night and three matinées. It so happened that the headliner at the Ardwick Empire was ill, and couldn't work, so Shand was called upon to deputise twice nightly there. The odd performance was made up by a single benefit appearance at the Palace Theatre.

The favourite artist is an enthusiastic fisherman, and his fondness for the "gentle art" nearly cost him his life only a few weeks ago. It happened on the Tay at Dunkeld, just below Birnam Woods, mentioned in *Macbeth*. Mr. Shand was angling for salmon from a boat, with an old boatman for sole companion. Absorbed in his occupation, the comedian took little notice when a big lump of ice came swirling down the river, and struck the boat with a bump.

The boatman even took no notice for some time, but on looking lazily round, his tranquil expression gave place to a look of terror and amazement, "Look, look!" he almost screamed. Turning, Mr. Shand beheld an amazing and an awe-inspiring spectacle. The river had been frozen up-stream during the severe weather, and a sudden thaw had loosened the ice. The effect was just as though a huge wall of ice was relentlessly advancing upon the boat. The boatman pulled for dear life towards the shore, and land was reached just as the great floe passed the spot where the boat had been moored. A very narrow squeak! They had a 15lb. salmon in the boat.

Mr. Louis S. Sterling was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The cermony was performed by Terrier George Cooper, W.T., assisted by Terrier Harry Bent, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Messrs. Sydney Tolfree and Billy Day have successfully passed the ballot as candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association.

The election of Vice-Presidents and committee of the Terriers' Association has resulted as follows:—Active members; Vice-Presidents.—Terriers Ben Obo, Jim Obo, John Alexander, T. C Callaghan, Tom Packer, W. L. Murray, W. H. Atlas, Harry Conlin, and Harry Bent. Committee.—Terriers Ben Woodger, Ted E. Box, Andie Caine, Signor Borelli, George Cooper, Ernest D'Almaine, Ben Whiteley, A De Brean, Albert Voyce, Tom Maxwell, W. Wisper, Robert Abel, William Welsh, Horace Wheatley, Walter Norman, Ted Karno, Fred Neiman, Harry Gribben, W. Kloof, F. W. Millis, Jas. E. Dunedin, George Smythson, Arthur Gallimore, Fred Larola, T. Burnetti, Bert Olrac, H. Cee Mee, W. E. Gillin, Jock Miller, and Frank Gee. Honorary members: Vice-Presidents.—Terriers G. P. R. Burgess, Harry Gage, and S. N. Salter. Committee.—Terriers Douglas White, Jesse Sparrow, C F. Gage, Major H. Gastrell, M.P., H. Cory Woodrow, Fred A. Hooper, Percy Ford, E. B. M. Frost, Barney Hyams, and A. N. Hennessy Terrier Harry Barnard has been elected Honorary Treasurer of the Association.

The officers for the month of April are as follows:—Terriers Harry Gribben, W.T., H. Cee Mee, V.T., T. C. Callaghan, W.D., Fred A. Hooper, Y.B, C. C. Cornish, W.I., Arthur Were, Organist.

A ladies' concert will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday next, at 8.30 p.m. Terrier Ernest Hall has been appointed musical director.

Terrier Griff offers a gold medal for the best suggestion as to increasing the attendances at the Sunday meetings. Terriers are invited to forward suggestions in writing to the Secretary as soon as possible. All letters should be marked "Competition."

Arrangements are being made to hold a banquet at the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W., to celebrate the return home of the President, Terrier Griff. Terriers and their friends may attend this function. Sunday, May 29, will probably be the date. Seats may now be booked of the Secretary, Arthur Were. Full particulars will be forwarded to all Terriers in due course. Terrier Griff suggests that all Terriers who advertise in the variety papers should put "I'm a Terrier" at the top of their advertisement.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Mr. Harry Lauder, both at the Tivoli and at the Euston Palace, has been demonstrating nightly the wonderful grip he has on the affections of his audiences, and they speedily made themselves possessors of his first chorus number, "Queen among the heather," which has already been published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The aforementioned audiences, not content with appropriating the singer's second item, "Breakfast in your bed on Sunday morning," likewise took away with them the rousing refrain of "Every laddie loves a lassie," a song in which the chuckling Scot relates with great gusto certain happenings at a picnic where a score of Caledonia's fair daughters graced the scene.

A great comedian and a great humorous idea embodied in a comic song deserves being published by a great publishing house, and the three things synchronised on Wednesday, when Mr. Wilkie Bard's new song, "You are my girlski (Vodka Pop-off)" was secured for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. It is by George Arthurs and Worton Daniel. Mr. Bard also again scores greatly in the same writers' "I'm waiting here for Kate," and likewise "When the bugle calls," which bears the hall-mark of Frank Leo. Of course, it is well-known that these two triumphs of the art of song-writing are also issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Mr. George Lashwood is delighted with his new song, "All along the line," a ditty not altogether unconnected, we understand, with the railway. The song, which is by Fred W. Leigh and George Arthurs, is in the press, having been accepted by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Fred Elton returns to town on Monday to show once again that as author-composer, as executant, and as vocalist he can more than hold his own in any company. He will be heard in those favourite songs, "The butterfly and the rose," "If you want a ray of sunshine in your home," and "Kate; or, one little name that's impressed on my memory." All three songs are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Mr. Fred Barnes and his "Scapegrace of the family" have loomed large in the public eye during the week now ending at the Empire, Leeds, and the song, which he himself wrote and composed, and which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, is commanding a ready sale and deservedly. Mr. Barnes is said to be negotiating for the sole rights of a chorus song which will be bad to beat, and which is from the pen of H. F. Greenfield.

Miss Flora Cromer, whose name on a bill is a sure cure for worry and care, has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day a song, entitled "Lilac, laburnum, and may," which is from the joint pens of Paul Pelham and J. P. Long.

At the Playhouse, where *Tantalising Tommy* is drawing large houses, Mr. John Ansell's fine orchestra has been heard nightly to greatest advantage in Messrs. Francis and Day's charming *Cinderella* intermezzo.

Miss Madge Temple, at the Chelsea Palace, has been again justifying her reputation as a consummate artist to her finger-tips, and has nightly been rewarded by the applause which is rightly her due. "I'm looking for Mr. Wright" is one of the Francis and Day's items which exercises a peculiar fascination over the patrons of this fine hall, judging by the manner in which they assist the fair singer during the course of the refrain. But many people when they hear a great chorus melody cannot help joining in.

Many new songs have been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day during the past few days, among them being "What you can do—do," by Arthur du Soir and John Neat; "Let's have a day with the ladies," by Terry Sullivan and Harry Carlton; "Barrers in the Walworth-road" (sung by Mr. Alec Hurley), by Fred Murray and Charles Hilbury; "I'm giving my hand to another," by Percy Edgar and Henry E. Pether; "My little maid of Genoa," by R. P. Weston, Fred J. Barnes, and Maurice Scott; and "Only one girl at a time" (Mr. George D'Albert), by Herbert Rule and James McGee.

A new singer will appear at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, whose name is Mr. John Trevallion, and who is stated to possess a tenor voice of wonderful sweetness. He will be heard in the song from the pen of Henry E. Pether, which has been published some time under the title of "The playground in the sky." It has enjoyed a great sale as a "sixpenny pop," being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day in that form some time ago.

It is to be doubted whether Frank Leo has ever done anything finer than *Boys in Camp*, the song scena with which his talented wife Miss Sable Fern has riveted attention at every house at which she has been lately appearing, and which concludes at the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, this (Saturday) evening. The songs, entitled "Teach the rising generation," "Smile and keep a-whistling (that's the motto of the good boy scout)," "When the camp fire's burning brightly," "Always be prepared," and "It's the boy of to-day that the Empire must depend on" have all the true ring, and the whole deserves the popularity it is winning and cannot fail to win. Miss Fern has numerous and good support.

Miss Hilda Elen, the niece of the eminent coster comedian of that name, has been secured by Messrs. Adeler and Sutton for twenty weeks during the season forthcoming. This bright soubrette has made a great impression the last two summers at Ramsgate and Tankerton-on-Sea.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"LES CAPRICES DE SUZETTE."

Sketch, in Three Scenes, Produced at the Alhambra Theatre on Monday, March 28.

Mlle. Gaby Deslys appeared at the Alhambra on Monday in what was practically a miniature musical play, the action occasionally ceasing to allow of the introduction of some agreeable songs. The idea of *Les Caprices des Suzette* is the *nostalgie de la boue*. Suzette, a street flower-seller, meets a gentleman named Henri, who—strange to say, for we are in Paris—courts her "for the good motive," which is also that which influences Suzette's cousin, François, a newspaper vendor. In the second scene, we find Suzette married to Henri, and living in luxury; but she cannot resist the temptation of returning to a low cabaret, and joining in the revels of her former friends. Henri disguises himself as a man of the people to watch her movements; and at last, enraged by the freedom of her dancing and her flirtation with François, throws off his disguise and confronts her indignantly. The quarrel is continued into the last scene, in which, while Henri is singing a solo, we are allowed to witness some intimate details of Suzette's toilette in a room at the back. François enters, makes hot and earnest love to Suzette, and threatens to commit suicide if she is deaf to his entreaties. He retires, and an explosion is heard, which turns out to be only the pop of a champagne-cork, François entering smiling, and ready to drown his passion and jealousy in wine. Mlle. Gaby Deslys gave a very piquant and vivacious performance as Suzette, singing French songs with great spirit and expression, and doing some eccentric and daring dances with great activity; and M. Edgar Chatteli and M. Carvey rendered valuable support as the rivals, both singing and acting effectively.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE TIVOLI.

The high reputation which the cosy little house in the Strand has rightly attained among the lovers of light entertainment at the halls is being fully maintained by the popular Mr. Joe Wilson, who is presenting a well-varied Easter bill. The return of Harry Lauder was celebrated in a very special manner on Monday evening by a huge holiday audience, in the best of humours. They speedily took up the chorus of "Queen among the heather" and revelled in the drollery of "Breakfast in your bed on Sunday morning," and the rousing refrain of "Every laddie loves a lassie," a new number concerning the happenings at a picnic, where a score of Scotch lassies graced the scene, appealed strongly both in melody and words. Mr. Wilkie Bard's return after his great success at Drury Lane was a subject of great rejoicing on Monday evening with both "gods" and pit. His drollery finds a capital vehicle in an amusing description of a Russian girl with "a name like a sneeze." The heroine of this little love story is Vodka Popoff—a "girlski," who sets a proper value upon herself. "The bugle call" and "Kate" are familiar successes with the famous comedian, whose turn has a cachet of its own, and might be indefinitely prolonged.

The chief novelty of the Easter bill is *She Pays the Penalty*, a Russian wordless play, with music by Raoul Moreau, presented by Mr. Lee Ephraim, and played by Margaretta Carolee, Antoine Pascual, and Ernest Goslar. The story is of the "eternal triangle"—the husband, the wife, and the lover. Alexandre Dumas the younger's dictum concerning the guilty wife was "Tue-la," but in this

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON,
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG,

DOWN IN JUNCLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUB-NOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
The Greatest Cowboy Romance since "Cheyenne."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

production no such violent measure is necessary. She is lavish of her caresses for the lieutenant, and fascinates him with her dancing. During her temporary absence her husband, the General, who knows "all," arrives, and a duel is arranged in the Polish fashion. One revolver only is loaded with a bullet; the lieutenant chooses, and the General is killed. The lieutenant in his excitement hides the body under the couch. The wife, not knowing what has happened, dances gaily into the room and discovers the body. Outside a heavy storm is now raging: the lightning flashing and the thunder roaring. The shock of her discovery sends her mad. Like a tigress she drives her lover from her presence, and falls prostrate upon the body of her husband. The dramatic effect of the lurid little story is well brought out, especially by the lady.

Mr. Ernest Shand on Monday revived with enormous success his curate song, "Oh, what would the congregation say?" His second number is an amusing recitation of adventures experienced with the great Nelson—something in the style of "The Longshoreman," who, it will be remembered, held friendly discourse with that famous seaman. Mr. Shand was in his happiest vein on Monday. Miss Lottie Bellman, assisted by Mr. Bay Russell, presents a smart entertainment entitled "Bits of Vaudeville," which is very lively, and ends in the jolliest and maddest dance imaginable. Mr. Phil Ray abbreviates as usual; we have the best of music from the Zigeuner Quartet, whose doings rouse the house to enthusiasm, especially after the lady's singing of Gounod's "Ave Maria"; the Poluski Brothers and Miss José Collins renew their popularity here; and the O'Gorman Brothers dance well. La Belle Nello, in a pretty scene of a land-locked bay, basks as a naiad in a bathing costume. Shapely of limb, she presents a series of pretty

Miss Anita Ediss, a charming comedienne, makes a big success, despite the fact that she is first turn; the audience quickly settle down as soon as she steps on the stage. A youthful mimic is Jenny Alexander, but what she lacks in years she makes up in observation, for her impersonations are wonderfully lifelike, notably those of Victoria Monks and Harry Lauder, and she scores very heavily. A violinist of great merit is Alfredo Nardi, who is blind. He handles the instrument in masterly fashion, and plays with much taste. His playing of Braga's Serenata is most pleasing, while a composition of his own which he gave is likewise enjoyed.

Those well-known acrobats, the Bob Pender Troupe, are giving their amusing tumbling act, and also introduce their giants which made such a success at Drury Lane in pantomime a short while ago. Ever amusing is Fred Earle, who goes with tremendous success, and he certainly is as diverting as ever, and is well supplied with a couple of mirth-provoking ditties. The Brothers Ashley in their comic boxing sketch, *Next, Please*, conclude the programme, and this item is distinctly amusing, and keeps the audience well amused.

EALING HIPPODROME.

An Easter holiday crowd filled the Hippodrome twice over on Monday, and the overflow appears likely to fill the house for the rest of the week. The boys "upstairs" were as happy as could be, and caught the choruses with a swing that made all the artists happy. Only get the "gods" to chortle the chorus, and "All the world is mine" has said many a star, great and small. Looking smart and debonnaire in her uniform of His Majesty's 9th, Miss Ella Shields sings of the girls in black, red, white, and blue, and how their colours disclose their characteristics. Miss Ella has another pretty chanson to her credit; this time it is Neptune and not Mars who figures in her melody—"Far away, he was a sailor on a whaler," "If you see Harry tell him I'll be waiting upon the quay." The popular comedienne has two swinging tunes for both her numbers, and scores all along the line.

Roze and Calvert possess a pleasant mélange of fooling and song in their duologue, *Captain Kettle and His Charming Mate*, the mate in this case being a lady, and unmistakably charming. The "business" is an excellent medium for tickling the risible nerves of an audience, whose laughter is loud and long. The conversation of Nash and Noel loses nothing of its vim by longevity; in fact, with maturity, it has become more than ever a vehicle to amuse. These funny cross-talk comedians and dancers may say the same things a thousand times over, but their charm of making every one happy never deserts them. The Sisters Herbert, a couple of dainty juvenile duettists and dancers, should be heard of in the future; they are clever synchronous dancers—light, graceful, and expressive. They have a particularly pleasing number in their "Jack and Jill," founded on the old nursery ideal. The youngsters work their toes and tongues to good purpose, and are not the least among the novelties of Mr. J. A. Molloy's programme. Mr. Harry Cooke's song, "I don't know what to sing," is a pot-pourri of "head-lines," cleverly dovetailed, and makes for roars of laughter, especially from the ladies, who, somehow (bless their dear hearts) always see farther than the gentlemen in these matters. Mr. Frank Fort, the Johannesburg jester, presents his "Book of Life, from Adam to the Duke of Wellington." He has some patter that sparkles with fun, as also does his disquisition on love and marriage. Mr. Monte Walker, in his contribution, "Ladies, ladies," sings of the rival attractions of trousers versus petticoats, and becomes quite learned in the philosophy of "panta."

Neville Graham and company present *Pride of Regiment*. This "beautiful, homely incident," first played at the Haymarket, has taken a firm hold of variety audiences, and its honest fidelity and truth never fail to "hold" the house. The Father is safe in the hands of Mr. George Howard; the Boy is adequately rendered by Mr. Neville Graham; but it is undoubtedly the Mother of Miss Eugenie Vernie which stamps the seal of success upon the production. To hear and see her when she at last—after thirty years of "standing it," turns and rends the smug conceit of the old sergeant, is an object-lesson not easily to be forgotten, and the house roars its approval, as one after another she smashes the old veteran's fortifications, and fairly screams its pleasure as she finishes up her tirade by "damning his regiment." As usual, the Bioscope showed some amusing films; while the overture, "Ireland for Ever," was excellently rendered by Mr. A. M. Parks's band.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

This cosy little hall was well filled on the night of our visit, when a most interesting programme was presented. The top of the bill is occupied by Walter Bird's company in the comedy sketch *Her Husband*, which continues to prove as amusing as when first produced. Norman Scott as an illusionist was good, and seemingly produced hundreds of flags of all nationalities from nowhere. That fine artist Rosie Lloyd was in excellent form. Charmingly gowned, as always, she gave two songs, "Rosie" and "Who's going to take me for a walk?" in taking fashion, the latter being especially to the liking of the house.

Jack Smiles laughingly told an amusing story, finishing his turn with a clever illustration of Lancashire clog-dancing. Bennett and Martell, billed as "the shipwrecked mariners," were decidedly humorous. In very extravagant nautical costumes, they commenced their turn with a song about nothing in particular, and finished with some good acrobatic dancing. Their fooling throughout was capital and evoked much laughter. The Sisters Emson, looking well in pretty green costumes, gave the "Big brass band" and "There never was a girl like you." Archie Royer worked hard and gained the success he deserved. Whether relating some of his many droll stories, high kicking, tumbling, or throwing difficult somersaults, he always proved entertaining. One of the best turns of the evening was that of Barnes and Ascott. The halls at present are going through a surfeit of "buck" and simultaneous dancing, which perhaps is apt to prove monotonous. Here, however, we have a couple of artists who manage to work into their performance many entirely new steps, and although dancing at top speed throughout, yet, nevertheless, keep perfect time. The symmetry of their performance is one of the outstanding features.

Also on the bill were Mamie Morris, comedienne; and the Queen's Bioscope, with its usually clear and interesting pictures. The orchestra continues to do good work under the leadership of Mr. W. Hinkinson, and the front of the house is well looked after by the cheery manager, Mr. Ben Abrahams, by whom visitors are assured of a hearty welcome.

EAST HAM PALACE.

The Easter programme here has been one of exceptional merit, and good business has been done throughout the week. T. E. Dunville "tops the bill," and hearty laughter resounds throughout the house at his many quips and wittiesms, his songs, "Rub it in" and the old favourite "They haven't made me sergeant yet," coming in for rounds of applause. A juvenile comedian and dancer of rare ability is seen in Cliff Diamond, who is extremely clever and amusing with a capital song, "Lena Schmidt." James Fawn, a comedian of the old school, but quite equal to any modern "star," came in for a hearty reception, his two numbers, "The Booking Clerk" and "The Hen-pecked Club," keeping the audience in uproarious laughter. His imitation of a drunken man is very clever indeed, and his jokes were quite to the popular taste. The novelty act *The Rag Doll*, by the Martineks, was another excellent item; and the comedy sketch, entitled *The Interviewer*, by Phœbe Mercer and company, was cleverly played, and each situation so well handled by the cast was warmly appreciated.

Miss Madoline Rees, vocal comedienne, was in capital voice, and sang "Pretty little Geisha lady" and "I do not sigh for gold"; and another dainty comedienne's (Miss Lily Eyton) numbers, "You want a sweetheart to cuddle" and "If I could lock you in my heart," found especial favour with the audience. Tubby Edlin and his strong company of musical comedy artists were eminently successful in the sketch *The Cowboy Millionaire*, which abounds with amusing incidents and is very prettily staged. Frank and Free, comedy artists, also made a telling hit, introducing many smart gags and puns; and Fred Keeton also appeared. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope terminates an excellent performance, a special feature of the pictures being the recent boat-race.

"BOYS IN CAMP."

Musical Interlude, by Frank Leo, Produced on Monday, March 28, at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome.

Scoutmaster ..... Miss Sable Fern
A Chelsea Pensioner ..... Mr. C. J. Russell
Adjutant ..... Mr. Archie Watts
Patrol Leader ..... Master Howes
Signallers .... Masters C. S. Hunt & K. Honey

Miss Sable Fern, the dainty little comedienne, who a short time ago scored a great success in a cow-boy song, is still following the characters of open-air life, and making a hit in a novel musical interlude, written by Mr. Frank Leo, entitled *Boys in Camp*. She has produced it with the object of raising enthusiasm in the Boy Scout movement, and with the aid of a company of Scouts and cleverly painted scenery and stage effects, she submits a thrilling camp scene, which received tremendous applause from a crowded house here on Monday. When the scene opens a few Boy Scouts are discovered busying themselves in various occupations—some cooking a meal, and others mending their garments, &c. A bugle is heard in the distance, and the Scouts in camp are at once drawn to attention by their patrol leader to meet the remainder of the troop who are just returning after the morning's work with their scoutmaster (Miss Sable Fern) at the head. Miss Fern then proceeds to enlighten them as to the duties of a true Boy Scout. He must be true to God and the King, obedient to his parents, be kind to dumb animals, and go about with a smile and a whistle under all circumstances. He is always to remember that our great men were boys once, and the training they received when young was greatly to their advantage as men.

These wholesome counsels are rendered in the form of a number of songs, sung by Miss Fern and Mr. C. J. Russell, the titles being "Teach the rising generation," "Keep whistling," "Be prepared," and "Only a boy." In the last-named song Miss Fern sings of some of our great men, including Lord Nelson and Lord Kitchener, and as each one is mentioned the portrait is given on a screen. The scene is exquisitely staged, and the music is bright and catchy. Miss Fern, attired in khaki breeches, puttees, and tunic, makes an excellent Scoutmaster, and her singing is the life of the scena. Mr. C. J. Russell as a Chelsea Pensioner contributes a fine rendering of "When the camp fire's brightly burning," and smaller parts are capably acted by Mr. Archie Watts and Master Howes. Some smart signalling is executed by Signallers C. S. Hunt and K. Honey.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have recently acquired some excellent new songs from the pens of leading English authors and composers, in addition to the cream of the American song market, as published by such famous firms as Jerome H. Remick and Co., Chas. K. Harris, and F. A. Mills, and professional correspondents and callers may rest assured of being equipped with the finest material for a variety campaign on application to the Arthur-street firm.

Al-fresco artists all over the country are making daily application to Feldman and Co. for their highly successful budget of seaside specialities this year. Such numbers as "Pretty little girl from nowhere," "Molly O'Morgan," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," "Sweet garden queen," "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" "Just as the brook flows," "Can't you hear the bagpipes calling?" &c., are in great request.

Two of the most popular Feldman ballads are "The garden of roses" and "I'm longing for one sight of you," both of which have already been exploited by Mr Arthur Aldridge. In addition, are that exquisite number, "I wonder if it's true?" which Miss José Collins is singing; three delightful new Chas. K. Harris numbers, "After while," "'Scuse me," and "I'm trying so hard to forget you"; and last, but not least, a song, now in the press, which is by the composer of "The garden of roses," and which is the present ballad-rage of America, entitled "The moonlight, the rose, and you."

Seaside comedians of the al-fresco and pierrot variety are having their needs well catered for this year by the house of Feldman, whose handy book of comedy numbers, just issued specially for seaside requirements, includes such tried and proven "winners" as "I do like to be beside the seaside," "Oh, I must go home to-night," "Rain, rain, go away," "I can't keep my eyes off the girls," "Do you know Charley Digby?" "Fish sauce," and George Lashwood's new comedy number, "It's a pity to waste the cake."

During the current week, at Woolwich, a perfect furore has been created by Miss Helene Mohr, with her delightful rendering of the big number, "Molly O'Morgan." This song is already the property of the "man in the street" in Woolwich, as elsewhere, and Messrs. Feldman and Co.'s excellent publication has undoubtedly got many months of vigorous life before it.

Miss Lola Patey, at the Canterbury, has scored one of the hits of the programme with her rendering of Feldman's new winner, "I wonder who's kissing her now?" The irresistible chorus was instantaneously taken up by the denizens of "high Olympus," and ecstatically rendered, and the applause with which they attested their appreciation of Miss Patey's (and their own) efforts at the conclusion of the song were simply deafening.

A distinctly outstanding feature of Mr. Harry Claff and Miss Alice Tremayne's scena, *The Demon and the Fairy*, is Miss Tremayne's rendering of the number, written and composed by Miss Clare Kummer, "I wonder if it's true," which promises to be one of the Feldman successes.

Mr. Dave Carter has been causing a furore at Glasgow and elsewhere with the new song entitled "Won't you give me a sprig of shamrock?" which Messrs. Reeder and Walsh have published, and which was written and composed by John F. Lambe. It occurred to the author whilst wondering whether his friend, fellow-countryman, and brother song-writer, Josef Collins (of Dundalk), would send his annual present of shamrock as in former years. Mr. Dave Carter, who has given Mr. Horace Wheatley permission to sing the number on the Stoll tour, writes: "At Glasgow the song was 'a riot,' as they say in America. I also sang it at an Irish concert on St. Patrick's night, and I can hear them shouting yet."

"Shan't Tickle Her; or, Can't Cock-a-Doodle" is the ditty with which Mr. Ernie Mayne is just now scoring a great hit. It is from the pen of Alf. Ellerton, the author of the now famous song "Have a Banana."

Von Tilzer's al-fresco book for comedians is in great demand. No artist who is in search of a large répertoire for the summer season can afford to be without a copy of this book, which includes fifty of the best and most successful comic songs featured by Sam Mayo, Fragson, Harry Ford, Fred Earle, Harry Champion, Whit Cunliffe, Arthur Reece, and others. The publishers undertake to forward a copy by return of post on receipt of one shilling.

Miss Gertie Gitana, who shortly returns to town, is featuring with great success a new song, entitled "When the summer days are o'er, Anna Gray," a charming little number. Miss Gitana had a tremendous ovation at Liverpool last week, and the audience would not allow her to depart until, after repeated calls, she rendered her two old favourites, "Dear Louise" and "Sweet Eileen," both of which are published by Von Tilzers.

Von Tilzers have just issued Sam Mayo's two new numbers, "Prisoner at the bar" (reminiscences of the "Old Bailey") and "I don't care what becomes of me." Both songs are proving big hits with the immobile one.

Fragson is nightly featuring the now popular "John Bull's Budget." The Von Tilzer Music Co. have published this in their Sixpenny "Pops," together with "Gifts of Nature," "Come to lunch," and "Ladies, we love you all," all of which will doubtless be firm favourites during the summer season.

The Ted Snyder Company, of Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street, have evidently come to London to stay. Their big number, "Roses and Memories," promises to be one of the hits of the season, and, after all, what else could be expected of a number that is in the care of such an artist as Auguste van Biene, who is nightly literally "pulling the house down" with his rendering of this piece? It is published as a song, as a solo for violin, 'cello, and piano solos, and also for orchestra.

Another publication of this firm's is "My wife's gone to the country, hooray," which is receiving rounds of applause this week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. In this Phil Parsons has found a number which fits him like "ze paper on ze wall," and he makes the most of his opportunities. Lowenwirth and Cohan are working "Sadie Salome," another composition of the versatile Ted Snyder. Those wanting new stuff should give the Snyder firm a visit.

Mme. Réjane, after her visit to Venice and her interesting letter concerning the Countess Terlowska, has been busy in making preparations for her appearance at the Hippodrome on Monday, when, as already announced, she will present Meilhac and Halevy's *Lolotte*. The famous French comedienne is looking forward with peculiar interest to her visit to the Hippodrome. Apropos of the report that Mme. Réjane intends to establish a French theatre in London, it is interesting to remember that, with M. Gaston Mayer, she opened the New Royalty, Dean-street, as a French repertory theatre in January, 1906.

"ROB ROY" AT THE SURREY.

Specially-arranged Version of the Famous Scottish Drama, Produced on Easter Monday, March 28.

Rob Roy Macgregor .....Mr. Roy Cochrane
Helen Macgregor .....Miss Edith Lewis
Major Galbraith .....Mr. Harry Seymour
Bailie Nicol Jarvie .....Mr. H. C. Morton
Rashleigh Osbaldistone
Mr. J. Riddell Robinson
Dougal "Cratur" .....Mr. J. McMahon

The tartan plaid of the Clan Macgregor is in evidence this week at the Surrey, the pillars of the historic house being arrayed in that picturesque pattern, and gigantic posters in the neighbourhood being similarly treated. Attention is by this means directed to the fact that Mr. Roy Cochrane, the energetic manager of the hall, is realising a long-cherished desire to introduce Scotland's national drama to Surreyites, mounting it on a scale of completeness rarely attempted at the halls. The famous old drama is, of course, cut to the limits of half an hour, but its most dramatic situations are preserved, and the story is presented in a way that can be thoroughly understood. One sees the bold outlaw trapped by his dastardly kinsman Osbaldistone, and marched off, after a hard struggle with the soldiery. Rob Roy speedily escapes from durance vile, and the services of the "Dougal Cratur" are enlisted to lead the pursuers to his Highland home, where they receive a warm welcome from Helen, Rob's intrepid wife. After a sharp encounter the English force is driven off, and the Macgregor's supporters are singing the "Lament" when Rob's voice is heard o'er the hills, followed by the appearance of the outlaw himself safe and sound. All is not yet over, for the English soldiers return, and a gory engagement follows, in the course of which Rob Roy kills his enemy Olbaldistone after a terrific duel with the claymore.

The sketch is mounted and dressed with remarkable liberality, every detail being studied to a degree. The Clachan of Aberfoil is a pretty pastoral set, and the Pass of Loch Ard is a realistic bit of upland scenery, with a torrent of real water rushing continuously down the mountain side. The colours here are admirably mingled, and the scene reflects great credit on Mr. Job Cook, by whom it is painted from sketches taken on the spot. Mr. Roy Cochrane himself appears as Rob Roy, a part he has played all over the country nearly 600 times, and is consequently quite at home in the rôle. Mr. Cochrane has not acted for over seven years, but his energy is by no means impaired. He makes a striking figure of the redoubtable Rob, acting with rugged force, and declaiming his lines with vigour, though a slight hoarseness, due to the severity of the weather, somewhat marred his distinctness. The duel scene with Osbaldistone is also realistically carried out. That personage is invested with sinister and sardonic expression by Mr. J. Riddell Robinson, who dresses the part effectively and plays dramatically. Miss Edith Lewis makes a warlike heroine of Helen Macgregor, acting with due ferocity and thrilling the audience with her stirring utterances. Bailie Nicol Jarvie has a humorous exponent in Mr. H. C. Morton, the "Dougal Cratur" is a piece of acting upon which Mr. J. MacMahon is highly to be praised, and similar commendation is due to the Major Galbraith of Mr. Harry Seymour, the conflict between the two being a most exciting bit of sword-play. The production, which has had the advantage of the personal supervision of Mr. Fred Baugh, is supported by numerous auxiliaries, a brave show being made by the English troops, quite a number strong, who cross the border to capture the redoubtable Rob. Various concerted choruses are effectively rendered, and the music, skilfully selected and arranged by Mr. Carl Hamlin, is admirably rendered by the orchestra under his direction.

Mr. Cochrane was warmly called on the night of our visit, and thanked the audience for his reception. The size of the Surrey stage, he added, lent itself to the mounting of big productions, and he had determined to avail himself of the opportunity thus afforded to present spectacular pieces in a way that would do them justice provided his patrons would give sufficient support to justify the venture. His next production would be a naval play. Mr. Cochrane was loudly cheered. During the popular manager's stage work the duties at the front of the house are ably discharged by Mr. Frederick Monti.

"HER HUSBAND."

A Comedy Sketch, Produced at the Shoreditch Empire on Monday, March 28.

Henry Moore .....Mr. E. Martin
Jessy Moore .....Mrs. H. Heath
Louie Hook .....Mr. J. Engelen
William Huntley .....Mr. A. Dane
Jemmy Josser .....Mr. Ernest Long

This bright little trifle might almost be called "A Burlesque Burglary," for surely no burglar on serious business intent would enter into partnership with a Bill Sykes who insisted during office hours in being a kind of a knockabout comedian and acrobat combined. Yet we find that such a partnership exists between William Huntley, an escaped lunatic, and Jemmy Josser, when the pair invade the domicile of Dr. Henry Moore, who had a short time before, whilst celebrating the anniversary of his fifth wedding day at home with his wife Jessy, been urgently summoned to the asylum where he is in charge. Mr. Ernest Long as Jemmy Josser gets into the good graces of the audience on his first entrance. He contrives to make as much noise as possible, to clumsily smash things whilst putting them into sacks for removal purposes, and, seeing the supper table is laden with good things, despite his partner's protests, proceeds to look after "the inner man." Whilst they are eating, drinking, and arguing Mrs. Moore, thinking she has heard a noise, comes into the room, and confronts the men. She recognises in the escaped lunatic Huntley her first husband, whom she had believed to be dead. He demands money, and in the argument that ensues, of which Mr. Josser takes full advantage to indulge in quite original pranks, the lunatic gets shot. Mr. Long's fooling is at all times acceptable, and is altogether a very clever and difficult piece of work. The other members of the company work very well to make *Her Husband* the success it undoubtedly is.

"PHYLLIS."

Original Comedy Sketch, Produced by Mr. Sid Cotterell at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome, for the First Time, on Monday, March 28.

Jack Chudleigh .....Mr. Sid Cotterell
Eva Chudleigh .....Miss B. Holland
Phyllis Tremayne .....Miss J. Elvin
Capt. Meresford .....Mr. H. Belmont
Ben Bolt .....Mr. H. Lewis

This is an amusing episode enacted on board a P. and O. steamer. Jack Chudleigh, on a pleasure voyage on the ss. Antelope, falls violently in love with Phyllis Tremayne, a fellow-passenger, but, being shy, is rather nervous of declaring his love, principally on account of his four false teeth, which have replaced those unfortunately knocked out during a football match. To his sister Eva he talks of his dilemma, and invokes her aid. Will she mention his love to Phyllis? Eva, entering into the spirit of the joke, declines to be of assistance to him, and while he is trying to persuade her to alter her mind by promised bribes of chocolates, &c., Phyllis comes on deck.

Jack, failing to get his sister's assistance, in a fit of desperation determines to propose himself, but is rewarded with scant success, for in trying to acquaint Phyllis of his four false teeth a great misunderstanding arises between them, she thinking that he means he has already four wives. Jack, in despair, determines to do away with the cause of all the trouble, viz., false teeth, and, taking them out of his mouth to throw them overboard, he drops them on the deck. Eva then reappears on the scene, and Jack, on speaking to her, finds that the loss of his false teeth causes such an impediment in his speech that she cannot understand him. He searches everywhere for the missing molars, but is unable to find them. He then asks the captain to put the ship about, without giving any satisfactory reason, and the captain tells him to mind his own business.

In the meantime, Ben Bolt, who is cleaning the deck, discovers the false teeth, and gives them to the captain, who calls all the passengers on deck to acquaint them of the find in the hope of finding the owner. Nobody seems to own them, for the simple reason that Jack does not like to claim them in front of all the passengers, so the captain decides to hold an auction and sell them to the highest bidder. Some very amusing bids follow, and finally Jack becomes the owner of his set of teeth at a fabulous price. Phyllis, who is on deck during the sale, sees Jack buy them, and suddenly discovering her mistake, tells Jack, and the curtain descends on a very happy couple.

The acting throughout is very good and brisk, and the sketch is well received. The attempts of Mr. Sid Cotterell to pronounce Phyllis's name (after Jack's loss of his false teeth) evokes roars of applause, and the production—bright, clever, and well mounted—should have a very successful tour.

Harry Elliston's company in the ever-successful comedy act *Aunt Matilda* is evoking roars of laughter at every performance, and going as strong as ever.

FELDMAN'S
EASTER SONGS & SINGERS.

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
THE GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

MISS JOSÈ COLLINS. *A Charming Singer of a Beautiful Number.*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE?

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE. *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
I AM LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 1447 GERRARD.

"I DON'T WANT TO GO."

WHY MISS HETTY KING WILL NOT VISIT AUSTRALIA.

Just now Miss Hetty King is one of the headliners, as our Yankee billing friends would put it, at the London Hippodrome, and it is quite a difficult matter to get a quiet talk with the famous male impersonator. But it is only because her dressing-room is absolutely barricaded with cabin trunks and dress baskets, and every inch of wall space is taken up with dandy frock-coats, waistcoats of extraordinary cut and design, and unmentionables that we are assured, and believe, possess the brand, hall mark, trade mark, and blessing of the best Bond-street tailors. Indeed, when one is ushered into Miss King's dressing-room it is hard to believe that one is in a lady's sanctum at all. There is none of the usual feminine frippery about, and all the garments usually worn by man get pride of place. There is, however, in an obscure corner a lady's hat of modest dimensions and a dress, and Miss King is discovered at last in the shadow of a mammoth iron-bound box.

The lady who loves to be a man, and who is now telling delighted Hippodrome audiences about her "Sunday morning walks," "The Time, the Place, and the Girl," and that "I'm going away," was a month ago doing a forty minutes' show and singing five songs twice daily in American cities. Actually Miss King had booked her passage on the Mauretania, due to sail from New York on March 2, but such was her success at Bennett's in Montreal that she was compelled to stay one more week, and so it came about that the big Cunarder steamed away without her, and the Lusitania, sailing a week later, brought her back to Liverpool.

As everyone knows, during Miss Hetty King's absence from England, the song "Ship Ahoy," which was launched by her last year, has been sung in nearly every first-class pantomime in the country with the greatest success. The cable had recorded this fact in both Canada and the United States.

"The consequence was," Miss King told the writer, "I was inundated with requests to sing this song, and I did so many times. At Bennett's Theatre I was compelled to make a speech after every performance as well. It was delightful—but very tiring work.

"But I must be honest, and confess that at one theatre in America I did not go well. No; I won't tell you where it was. But I hope that every artist suffering from swelled head will be sent there some time or other. The management has discovered a certain cure for the complaint, and never fail to administer the specific whether one wants it or not."

But all in all, we should judge that Miss King is a universal favourite on the other side of the Atlantic, for there has been a keen tussle by at least three American booking offices to get this young lady to sign to appear in New York next August. Her allegiance to Mr. Stoll, however, puts this entirely out of the question, and we have pleasure in stating that Great Britain has exclusive claim on her services until March next. After that the Orpheum Circuit gets the right to bill her.

Australian managers, too, have had their eyes on Miss King, and Mr. Williamson wanted her for his principal boy for his next Christmas pantomime, *Aladdin*.

"But there was more than one reason," says Mr. Ernest Luck ("Miss King's other half," as that gentleman fondly tells people) "why she didn't accept. And I'm going to tell a little tale out of school about her.

"When my wife first got the offer from Mr. Williamson for Australia she clapped her hands with glee, and said: 'Oh, Ernest, how lovely! We'll go. I'm dying to see Australia!' Then she inundated everyone she knew who'd been to Australia with questions concerning the place. In fact, it was Australia, Australia morning, noon, and eventide, and nothing but Australia. And once I said—well, perhaps you wouldn't print what I said. However, shortly afterwards we sailed for America.

"Now, just before going on board a mutual friend had said: 'Why don't you take some bottles of Somebody or Other's Seasick Cure?' He used such eloquence that I bought three bottles. Before the boat had left Liverpool we had taken a dose apiece. Then we went down to dinner, ate a very hearty meal, felt as right as could be, took another dose of the 'cure,' and went to bed. Woke up next morning, feeling delightfully free from sickness and even giddiness. Both of us were delighted with the cure, and at breakfast strongly recommended it to our nearest neighbours. Later we went up on deck to find that the ship was practically in the Mersey still, held up in a very bad fog. So our 'cure' did not count for much. Indeed, when we did get into the Atlantic, it was quite useless, and we were both fearfully ill for quite four days.

"During that time Hetty once said to me: 'Ernest, dear, how far is it to New York?' 'About 3,000 miles,' I groaned. Then she sobbed: 'And how far is it to Australia?' 'About 12,000 miles,' I shuddered. Then a very plantive voice said: 'Ernest, I don't think I want to go to Australia, do you?'"

Mr. Luck is in treaty for a musical comedy sketch, which, he says, "Will fit Miss King like a glove." We are not permitted to say more than that an idea of the plot may be obtained by imagining Miss King as a youth who is at that stage of his career when he would give everything to have attained man's estate. Next autumn will see this staged at—well, a West End theatre.

Miss King, too, has in active rehearsal a new song with the title of "The Shopwalker," and another concerning "Mixed Bathing."

Some years ago Mr. Luck and the writer made a compact that whenever they next met in the provinces they would have a big supper and jollification together. Many months elapsed, and business kept artist and journalist apart. One day, however, the call of duty made the writer journey to Cardiff. The first thing that caught his eye on leaving the station was a sixteen-sheet poster of the local Empire, with "Hetty King" starred at the top. "By Jove!" he exclaimed. "At last. What a time to-night!" At seven o'clock that evening, his business transacted, the writer presented himself at the Empire, and got a royal welcome. "Don't forget our supper after the show," he reminded Mr. and Mrs. Luck. "But we can't," they exclaimed, as in one breath, "The Black Fast started at six to-night, and we may not have anything to eat until the same time to-morrow night!"

Lonely and sad, the writer supped alone that night.

Harry Roxbury, the hustling manager-producer-comedian, is delighted with the success of his new musical sketch *On the Track* at the Birmingham Grand this week. The piece is finely staged, the music is bright and catchy, the plot very clear, and the fun fast and furious. Roxbury is, of course, the irrepressible Sergeant Longfellow.

At the Royalty Theatre, Chester, of which the proprietors are Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton and the Resident-Manager Mr. C. B. Fountaine, Harry Tate's company, in *Motoring*, tops the Easter bill. Will E. Dare, comedian; the Northcotes, operatic duettists; and Newman and Knight, as the country milkman and the cottage girl, hugely entertain; Victor Courtney is clever and amusing as Boots at the Piano; J. H. McCann introduces novel business as a roller skate dancer; J. H. Wakefield shines in the coon line, and Corman's Juveniles present their pretty vocal scene, *The Waits*.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

4,957 SHILLINGS.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£58	13	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	2	11	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	2	6	0
Collected by Little Fred Zola	1	16	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde ..	1	11	0
Collected by Ben Brown	1	10	6
Collected by Ted E. Box	1	10	0
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
Collected by Hayman and Franklin	1	8	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan ..	1	5	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Miss Fanny Robina..	1	5	0
Collected by Dave Carter	1	5	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley.....	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
Collected by Theodore Jones	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Collected by Cullen and Carthy ..	1	1	0
Collected by Frank Coyle	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
John Lawson	1	0	0
Collected by The Alaskas	0	18	0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore ..	0	17	0
Collected by Regan and Ryan	0	16	0
Collected by Carl and Carr	0	16	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Collected by Newham and Latimer	0	13	0
Collected by Mr. Walter Norman..	0	12	0
Collected by Morrisey	0	11	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by the Michel Bros.	0	3	6
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0

Sums since received.

Collected by Vesta Tilley, £20 2s. 6d.

"Bill"	100	George May	5
Eugene Stratton	100	W. J. G.	5
Oswald Stoll	21	C. Sounes	5
J. Tanner and Sons..	21	C. Barnard	5
George Mozart	20	H. V. D. Esterre ...	5
Jos. Ingleby	20	Miss Hadley	3½
Mrs. F. Mouillot	20	Miss Wadeley	3½
D'Arcy Baker	20	J. H. Montague	2½
"Erb"	10	Tom Birch	2
A. Buckley	10	Ernest Edelsten, jun.	2
H. S. Buckley	10	C. Payne	1
T. E. Latham.....	5	Gus Elen	1
John Hart	5		

Collected by Gertie Gitana, £1 8s. 6d.

Jimmy O'Connor	2½	Hardie Lee	1
Gertie Gitana	2½	F. Hartley	1
Kelly and Agnas	2	Russell and Held	1
Queenie Finnis	1½	Vanando	1
Marie Pera	1	Leslie Faber	1
Jose Collins.....	1	Winifred Faber	1
Hanvarr	1	Alice Raymond	1
Anna Lee	1	Mrs. Leipzig	1
Violet Loraine	1	C. R. Whittle	1
Mabel O'Connor	1	Mazie Hibbs	1
Dorma Morgan	1	Katie Butler	1
Florence Cooper	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ted E. Box, £1 8s.

D. F. Bostock	2	Wallace Hughes	1
Will Lanhon	1	Bert Weston	1
Radena Dey	1	F. V. St. Clair	1
B. Abrahams	1	L. Anarto	1
Any Complaints	1	A. Anarto	1
Sid Cotterell	1	Fransilo Troupe.....	1
Johnny Wood	1	H. E. Wakeling	1
Harry Clifford	1	Will Poluski, jun. ..	1
M. Shute	1	Arthur Stacey	1
Geo. Fairburn	1	Carter Livesey	1
Alec Hurley	1	Lilian Rosebery.....	1
Fred Earle	1	Billy French	1
Ted Cowan	1	Gus Elen	1
D. Mallett	1		

Collected by the Lizzette Trio, 7s.

A. Lizzette	1	James Pringle	1
Molly Augarde	1	Marie Kay	1
M. Lizzette	1	Gus Elen	1
The Lizzette Trio ..	1		

Collected by Jenny Johns, £1 11s.

Low Lake	5	Fred W. Wood	1
Johnson and Bert....	2	Albert Voyce	1
George Le Clerq	2	Fred Redfern	1
Ben Brown	1	Bert Harrow	1
Mike Cray	1	R. Fowler	1
Chas. Clifford	1	Fred Walmsly	1
Mrs. Will Cutler	1	S. Crowther	1
Jennie Johns	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Harry Tate's Co.	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Dora Redfern	1	Florence Yaymen....	1
Mr. Humberstone ..	1	Henri Cazman	1
Harry Martell	1	Gus Elen	1
Ugo Nap	1		

Collected by Miss Marie Blythe, £1 6s.

Marie Blythe	2½	Harry Taft	1
Two Lillies	2	The Countees	1
Sporty	1½	Ellis Barrieton	1
Bros. Ford	1	Ella Dean	1
H. Kilrow	1	Will Cromwell	1
Ryder Slone	1	Mother	1
Will Driscoll	1	Colin Hill	1
Jack and Arthur Metz	1	Bert Sedgebeer	1
Florence Yaymen ..	1	Jennie Wood	1
J. Donald	1	Miss Collins	1
Evelyn Kay	1	Gus Elen	1
Rale Walters	1		

Collected by Carl Hertz, £1 5s.

Carl Hertz	1	Philip Beyfus	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Eliah Beyfus	1
Eva Hertz	1	Harry Beyfus	1
Charley Hertz	1	Madge Beyfus	1
Le Boy Hertz	1	Jane Pritchard	1
Ike Rose	1	Charles Chapman....	1
E. L. Pyke	1	Mrs. Sands	1
Ethel Pyke	1	Wm. Calder	1
Barbara Beyfus	1	Wm. Thornton	1
W. B.	1	Frank Bostock	1
V. M.	1	Gus Elen	1
Elfrida Beyfus	1		
Edgcumbe Brighten..	1		

Collected by Fred Land, £1 4s.

Albert Boisset	2	Warsaw Bros.....	1
Fred Land	1	Les Rubens	1
Mrs. Land	1	Terry and Tate	1
Freddie Land	1	J. J. Soanes	1
Harry Land	1	Pasquali Bros.	1
Land's End	1	The Woolhafs	1
Wadham and Sterling	1	Johnny Cecil	1
F. Boisset	1	Livesey and Rosebery	1
Rex Fox	1	W. W. Palmer	1
Erne Chester	1	Sid Bedford	1
Jan B. Vanbert	1	Gus Elen	1
Thompson Bros.	1		

Collected by Harry Taft, £1 2s.

A. H. Burdett	1	Harry Taft	1
W. Scott Adacker ..	1	Leo Gritland	1
Alfred Appleyard ..	1	Henry De Frece	1
Will Murray	1	Mrs. H. De Frece ..	1
De Biere	1	Louie Tracy	1
H. Dent	1	Vesta Tilley	1
Walter De Frece ..	1	Harry Day.....	1
Jack De Frece.....	1	Jas. W. Tate.....	1
W. De Frece, jun...	1	R. J. Gledhill	1
Cestria	1	A F A.V.	1
Alf. Holt.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Geo. Gulliver (third card), £1 12s.

Geo. Gulliver	2½	Marie Reeve	1
Walter Place	2½	Bert Powell.....	1
Carlyle	2	Ancie Gerrard	1
Tom Jackson	2	Livesey and Rosebery	1
F. V. St. Clair	1	E. Lemare	1
Fred Glenville	1	Geo. Pickett	1
Squire Wyndham....	1	Shirley and Ransome	1
H. E.	1	Vera Mayne	1
A. Sherville	1	Mollie Doon	1
Electrician	1	Alfred Sutcliffe	1
Chas. Ashley	1	Musical Silvo	1
George D'Albert	1	Milton Hare	1
Tessie Draycott	1	Gus Elen	1
Eva Draycott.....	1		

Collected by Tom Branson, £1 11s.

Tom Branson.....	5	S. Sowland	1
Kittie Blanson	2½	Bert Vincett	1
R. E. Wilson	2	Robert J. Ramsay ..	1
Jolly Jimmy Walker	1½	Herbert W. Montagu	1
George Lord	1	L. F. Browne	1
Will Beverley.....	1	N. Houghton	1
Stanley B. Philp	1	A. Corbishley	1
George Groom	1	G. Lee	1
Walter Fisher	1	Geo. W. Graves	1
H. O. D. Vosper	1	Walter Norman	1
Tom Bass	1	Harry Chandler	1
E. B. Sweeting	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Sterling and Love, 7s.

Leo Sterling	1	Chas. Reskie	1
Addie Love	1	George Newburn	1
Austin Rudd	1	Gus Elen	1
Harry Conlin	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 12s. 6d.

James Corbett	5	B. Isaacs	1
M. H. D. Boardman	2½	Tom Joy	1
May Mars	2	Grace Foster	1
H. E. Lynas	2	C. M. Jones	1
Miss Preston	1½	Forsyths	1
Joe Athos	1½	Morimura	1
Amy Davis	1	George F. Hall.....	1
M. Tuffs	1	John Jackson.....	1
B. P. Lucas	1	Harry Day	1
Harry Goodson.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. Esdaile	1	Henry Clarke	½
J. Hargreaves	1	Miss Nellie Walton..	½
Carr and Rose	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 16s.

Hetty King	21	My Fancy	1
G. Hearn	5	Daisy Dormer	1
Clarice Mayne	2½	Colin Bryce	1
Horace Hunter	2½	Zoe Coe.....	1
Joe Elvin	2	Pasquali Bros.	1
Ada Colley	2	W. T. Ellwanger	1
Marguerite Ismay ..	2	Lalie Brooke	1
Mary Douglas Frere	2	T. Ellis Buxton	1
C. Laurie	2	C. Rauschle	1
E. Arden and G. Abel	2	Gus Elen	1
Peggie Lennie	1	Self	½
Mrs. Mayne	1	G. Hatley	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 5s.

Harry Goodson	1	Harry Russon.....	1
Sam Lipman	1	S. McCarthy	1
Alfred Appleyard....	1	Chas. C. Chris	1
Billy Seeley	1	Raglus	1
James Stewart	1	E. L. Israel	1
Bernard Israel	1	Israel	1
Celest	1	D Molem	1
L. F. Boorer	1	F. Mulvey.....	1
G. L. Boorer	1	M. Israel	1
Jack Deray	1	J. Pamm	1
Bogey	1	Hart	1
Cecil Gray	1	Gus Elen	1
M. Boorer	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 14s. 6d.

Kitty Colyer	5	Irene Hare	1
Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Davis	5	Sadie Bizet	1
Mrs. D. J. Day	2½	J. W. Gallagher	1
Dora Lindsay.....	1	John Wills	1
Mlle. Renée.....	1	Harry Blake	1
Bessie Knight	1	H. T. D.	1
Millie Edgar	1	Ike Scott	1
Lloyd Morgan	1	Arthur Rigby	1
J. J. Mannix	1	J. Thompson	1
Terry and Bentley ..	1	Will Douglas	1
Bessie Mackenzie ..	1	W. J. L.	1
Sarony Sisters	1	A. C. Charles	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £4 8s.

Harry Day	20	Frank Elliston	1
Pearce Lucas	10½	H. Taft	1
De Biere	10	Gus Garrick	1
Whit Cunliffe	10	Fred Burnell	1
Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.	10	Harry McKelvie	1
Jas. W. Tate	5	Walter Hast	1
Geoffreys and Benson	3	Peggie Lennie	1
J. Hargreaves	2	E. Lepard.....	1
Harry Claff.....	2	J. E. Cohen	1
Dave Carter	1	Harry Taft	1
Jack Fraser	1	Gabrielle Day.....	1
T. F. O'Brien	1	Gus Elen	1
		Friend	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 7s.

Kitty Colyer	2	Yvonne Lamor'.....	1
Chung Ling Soo	2	T. E. Dunville	1
T. F. Robson	1	Elsie Girls	1
John McColl	1	The Gothams	1
Rose Cambry	1	Geoffreys and Benson	1
Rose Bancroft	1	Jennie Johns	1
Chris. Horn	1	R. Howard	1
Will Horn	1	Les Mabas	1
James Horne	1	La belle Linda	1
George Formby	1	Gertrude Gebest	1
Herbert La Martine	1	Fred Hastings	1
Rose Hamilton	1	Gus Elen	1
Sammy Shields	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 9s.

Annie Lucas	5	Myer Lee	1
Geo. Leyton	5	C. P. Johns	1
Eddie and Ethel	5	L. B. Barnard	1
Daisy Lucas	5	Dick Barnett	1
Chas. Reed and Flora and Cromer	5	Alf. Barnard	1
F. W. McAvoy ...	2	Dr. Weaver	1
Will Collins	2	J. O. Evans	1
Bob Smart	2	K Scott-Barrie	1
G. H. Topakya	2	Franklin	1
Joe Wilson	2	Robert Edelsten	1
Ted E. Box	1	Jack Coke	1
C H. Fields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 10s. 6d.

Bains Co.	2½	D. Selbo	1
Lily Hammersley ..	2	Bros. Ford	1
E. and E.	2	A. Marriott	1
Toklo	2	L. Nathan	1
Geo. Goodfellow .	2	M. Chandler	1
Randolph King	1	Joe Jacobs	1
Frank Shelley	1	F. Lloyd	1
Barney Jacobs	1	S. R.	1
R. Whyte, jun.	1	James and Jenny Jee	1
J. Ross Elvio	1	J. Ward	1
The Carlyles	1	Gus Harris	1
F. H. Gillett	1	Gus Elen	1
Renee	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 13s. 6d.

E. Venner	10½	A. Bond Sayers	1
P. Richardson	5	George Manton.....	1
C. W. Lovesy	5	Agnes Molteno	1
H. W. Daw	2½	Maxwell and Frances	1
W. G.	2½	Ida Kessanley	1
Karlos Stiveodor....	2	L. H.	1
Sam Mayo	2	J. H.	1
R. E. Maclachlan ..	2	Georgie Martin	1
Archie Cann Parnell	2	Dora Stock	1
T. Pardoe	2	Madge Allan	1
Colbert	2	Croissets	1
J. B.	2	Reg Beauchamp	1
Adey Spencer	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby, 12s.

Sue R. Lewis	1	Louie Formby	1
Maud Westwood	1	George Formby, jun.	1
Frank Westwood	1	Francis Formby	1
Leo Derenda	1	Another Formby	1
George Formby	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Mrs. Formby	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by The Emsons, £1 6s.

Bennett and Martell	2	C. Shayler	1
Rita & Kitty Emson	2	C. Elves	1
George E. Smith	2	Dave Samuels	1
Edie Anderson	1	Vere and Nelldon ..	1
Harry Blake	1	Vandinoff	1
Irene Reenan	1	Bury	1
Slippere	1	Gaitano Olloms.....	1
L. Ramsay	1	Francini Olloms ...	1
Tommy Foster	1	Florrie Gallimore...	1
Chinko	1	James Comerford	1
Kaufman	1	Gus Elen	1
Les Wambas	1		

Collected by Shenton and Chicks, 6s.

Elsie Gray	1	Gus Elen	1
Lillian Elliott	1	Eva Shenton	½
Ivy Moore	1	Willie Shenton	½
Tom Shenton	1		

Collected by Sid Cotterell, £1 5s.

Sid Cotterell	2	F. W. Whitlock	1
Captain J. E. Hughes	1	G. Barnett	1
C. E. H. Horne ...	1	Lelia Roze	1
Mr. Webb	1	Trixie Cotterell	1
Molly Maguire	1	Hen & Chicks, Bolton	1
Guy Macdonald	1	Black Horse, Bolton	1
H. Smith	1	White Horse, Bolton	1
Fred Kitchen.....	1	John Mack	1
Alfred Barker, jun...	1	Will Poluski, jun...	1
George Narow	1	C. Cestria	1
H. Wormald	1	J. Manghan	1
J. W. Boyden	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Josie Mooney, £1 6s. 5d.

Hippodrome, Leybourne	2	Miss Tina	1
Daunton Shaw	1½	J. A. W.	1
Cissy Daunton Shaw	1	Irean and Norton ..	1
Leonlin	1	Mr. Stone	1
Tom Bass	1	Mrs. Stone	1
A. W. Scott	1	Harry Leybourn	1
Dave Carter	1	Frank R. Morris	1
Cigar, Havana	1	Oxford Hotel	1
Dan Armstrong	1	Manchester	1
George Edney	1	'Appy Appleton	1
Harry Ralph	1	Roma and Romain ..	1
Willie Gillcepy	1	Josie Mooney	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Steel and Laing, 9s.

Steel and Laing ..	1	Ryder Slone	1
L. Derenda	1	Goodwin's Picca. ..	1
Geoffreys and Benson	1	Alfred N. Tinto	1
Bijou Russell	1	Gus Elen	1
Dreadnoughts	1		

Collected by Fred Sinclair, £1 7s.

Fred Sinclair	1	Walter De Frece	1
Jules Jordan	1	Joe O'Gorman	1
J. W. Manning.....	1	Geo. Leyton	1
Bert Bernard	1	Tom Motramo	1
Paul Martinetti	1	Mention My Name..	1
Will Hargreaves	1	Carlton	1
Ralph Howard	1	Hanvaar	1
Lew Lake	1	Walter Inge	1
Sammy Shields	1	Chas. Austin	1
W. F. Frame	1	Walter Bentley	1
Harry Dent	1	Chas. Stevens	1
Shaun Glenville	1	T. H. Case	1
Harry Conlin	1	Gus Elen	1
Gracie Whiteford ..	1		

Collected by Miss Ray Ford, £1 6s.

Miss Ray Ford	4½	Mr. Gunnell	1
Mr. and Mrs. Homer	2½	Flo Dudley	1
Brothers Brooks	1	Tom Webster.....	1
Sisters Brand	1	William Guest	1
Lester Collingwood..	1	Edith Brewster.....	1
Harry Barrett	1	Almon	1
Jack Knowles	1	Arthur Woodville ..	1
Ethel Beech	1	Harry Cooke	1
Mr. Jacobs	1	Mr. Cull Pitt	1
Millie Doris	1	Gus Elen	1
Molly Wynne.....	1		

Collected by Ben Obo. 15s.

Bros. Obo	2	Bert Welda	1
Syd Walker	1	Ida Valli	1
Fred Zola	1	Mina Greene	1
S. Poluski, jun.	1	Ben Obo	1
Harry Moon	1	Jim Obo	1
Unanimous	1	Obo and Obo	1
T. C. Callaghan	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by A. R. Hollands, £1 1s.

Arthur R. Hollands..	2	Edith Carina	1
Tom Coram	1	The Garricks	1
2 Mor-Boys	1	Juno Salmo	1
Robert Ayrton	1	Wyllie	1
Gelins	1	Carl Lynn	1
Ruby Dahl	1	Jan Rudenyi	1
James Willard	1	Dandy George	1
A. W. Scott	1	Steve Bartle	1
Cassie Walmer	1	Sivroni	1
George Manton.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Fred Kitchen, £1 1s.

Fred Kitchen	5	May Mars	1
James Corbett	2	Sid Cotterell	1
Fred Kitchen, jun.	2	Harry Martell	1
Harold Wellesley....	1	Frank Lister	1
Victor Widdicombe..	1	Percy Ford	1
Lou Benson	1	Mrs. F. Kitchen	1
Marsuma	1	Gus Elen	1
Barnstormer	1		

Collected by Smith and Johnson, £1 3s.

Smith and Johnson..	5	Queen's Hotel, Pontefract	1
Prince Bendon	2	Evelyn and Norrie ..	1
Blair and Allen	2	Three Orleans	1
J. G. and Wilson....	1	Dalgarnos	1
K Wilson and J. R.	1	Harry Russell	1
M. Cameron and N. McIntyre	1	C. J. Hooker	1
J. Golt	1	Eshowden	1
Rose Gower	1	Gus Elen	1
Louden & McKafery	1		

Collected by Cummin and Seaham, 9s.

Will Cummin.....	1	Mr. H. Grey	1
Will Seaham	1	G. D'Albert	1
Geo. Ritter	1	Robins and Collier ..	1
Dandy George	1	Gus Elen	1
Fred Griffiths	1		

Collected by Horace Wheatley, £2 11s.

Horace Wheatley ..	42	Norah Wheatley	1
T. Wheatley, jun...	1	Eileen Wheatley	1
Catherine Wheatley..	1	H. Wheatley, jun. ..	1
Auntie	1	J. Sparrow	1
Mac Wheatley	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Harry Gribben, 11s.

J. Constantine	1	E. Alexander	1
Marian Gribben	1	A. Alexander	1
Bernard Merry	1	G. W. Hanbury	1
Frank Weatherby ..	1	Harry A. Gribben ..	1
W. Vokes	1	Gus Elen	1
Syd. Walker	1		

Collected by Miss Maude May Murray, 6s.

Maude May Murray	2	J. Figaro	1
Wee Mona Vivian ..	2	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Conway and Leland, 18s.

Eugene Stratton	5	Mrs. M. B. Conway..	1
Harry Rich	1	Dave Carter	1
Chas. Rich	1	Fred Keeton	1
Mr. Kirby	1	Harry Fairbanks ..	1
Tom Foy	1	Ida Mooney	1
W. B. Leland	1	Ernie Mayne	1
M. B. Conway	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by W. J. Churchill, 21s.

W. J. Churchill	10	Gus Elen	1
Mrs. W. J. Churchill	10		

Collected by Sam Williams, 11s.

Sam Williams	1	Howard and Wallace	1
Mark Leslie	1	Zenary Bros.	1
Tom Webster, Derby	1	Four Black Diamonds	1
Bert and Dora	1	Elroy	1
Capt. Ellis	1	Gus Elen	1
Clito Clifford	1		

Collected by Fred Moule, 6s.

F. Moule	5	Gus Elen	1

Collected by the Wedburns, 16s.

Etharians	2	Flo Hilton	1
J. Wedburn	1	Larry Lewis	1
W. Wedburn	1	Jack Hylton	1
Atans	1	Fred Wood	1
Lillie Soutter	1	Lyric Mummers	1
Louis Gilbert	1	Zetter	1
Bouncing Dillons....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. Vallance	1		

Collected by Rene Clayton, 4s.

Rene Clayton.....	1	J. Summers.....	1
D. MacLeish	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Fred and Minnie Mulvey, 15s.

Fred Mulvey	1	Frank Wheatcroft ..	1
Mirnie Mulvey	1	Addie Dorina	1
Elsie and Nora Arbra	1	Harry Pison	1
Sarah Berry	1	Quennie Leighton ..	1
T. Mizzetti	1	Irene Verona	1
Gracie Sinclaire	1	Walter Balfour	1
Roland Bottomley ..	1	Gus Elen	1
J. T. D.	1		

Collected by Fields and Lewis, 7s.

Fields and Lewis ..	2	Daisy Kingswood ..	1
Benson and Rose ..	2	Gus Elen	1
Master Fred Fields..	1		

Collected by Miss Daisy Wood, 21s.

| |

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Mile Race for Lady Amateurs.

The following entries were received for the mile race for lady amateurs at Earl's Court, which took place last Thursday:—Miss Lilian Hills (Clapham), Mrs. A. G. Downs (Wood Green), Miss Holdsworth (Leicester), Mrs. L. McDonnell (Goy's Ladies' H.C.), Miss C. Knight (Lava S.C.), Miss L. Meredith (Goy's Ladies' H.C.), Miss W. Freeman (Leytonstone), Miss T. Slater (Wood Green), Mrs. Widgery (Unity Ladies' R.H.C.), Mrs. Hawthorne (Unity Ladies' R.H.C.), Miss Hilda Harbord (Great Yarmouth), Miss F. Frear (Lava S.C.), Miss M. Shepherd, Miss B. Cooper, and Miss T. Stevens. The Peerless Roller Skate Co., Ltd., gave a silver cup value fifteen guineas. Competitors trained at Earl's Court last Wednesday from 6.15 to 7 p.m., by permission of Mr. Willard.

Leicester Lady Wins Peerless Cup.

The mile race for ladies resulted in a series of contests that will assuredly draw attention to the possibilities of racing on rollers for the gentle sex. The fine cup which the Peerless Roller Skate Company, Ltd., presented for the contest induced all the fastest lady skaters in the United Kingdom, including the champions of the Midlands (Miss Holdsworth) and Eastern Counties (Miss Harbord) to enter. The last heat was the finest one of the series. Two lady champions in Miss Harbord, of Great Yarmouth, and Miss Holdsworth, of Leicester, were opposed by, among others, Miss L. Meredith, sister of the well-known cyclist. The provincial pair were better than Miss Meredith on the bends, and a splendid finish resulted in a win for the Leicester young lady in the fast time of 3min. 58 1-5sec. Miss Holdsworth is only seventeen years of age.

Next Friday at Earl's Court.

Just a final word on the subject of Mr. Herbert Izod's benefit next Friday at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court. Everyone who is anyone in the skating world will be there, for Mr. Willard's young manager is extremely popular with all. There have been many big nights at the great West Brompton rink this year, but this function promises to make a record of its own. The fun starts at 7.30 p.m., and the wee sma' hours will have arrived before "The King" is played.

F. G. Stumcke's Benefit.

The mammoth skating rink at the Crystal Palace will close for the season on Saturday next, April 9. On April 6 Mr. F. G. Stumcke, the manager of this rink, will be accorded a complimentary benefit. The great gala programme includes Mr. Walter Stanton, amateur figure skating champion of Great Britain, and winner of the Richardson Challenge Cup at Maida Vale Rink on March 16 last; Mr. C. W. Phillips, the champion free skater of England; Mr. Syd Martin, the well-known amateur, who will present his unique and grotesque skating act; Mr. S. F. Casey will perform a cake-walk on skates; Mr. H. F. O'Hagan, winner of the British Amateur and Southern Counties Championships; Mr. C. J. Wilson, professional champion speed skater of Great Britain; and the Great Martine, "the filleted marvel." The members of the Crystal Palace Figure Skating Club will also give exhibitions of graceful waltzing and two-step dancing; there will be a burlesque hockey match (ladies *v.* gentlemen), push ball, and speed contest.

Meredith Wins Five-Mile Championship.

Under the auspices of the National Skating Association, the Five-Mile Amateur Roller Skating Championship was decided last Wednesday night at the Maida Vale Rink. There were two preliminary heats, and in the final Leon Meredith, the champion cyclist, proved successful. The chief officials were:—Judges: Messrs. W. Hayes Fisher, Col. G. T. B. Cobbett, H. Taylor, H. Torrome, A. March, and H. D. Faith; timekeepers: Messrs. H. T. Barclay, D. K. Hall, and H. J. Rothery; standard timekeeper, Mr. H. G. Brockman; starter, Mr. Walter Stanton; chief steward, Mr. C. More; chief lap scorer, Mr. H. Y. Evans; hon. secretary, Mr. Walter Stanton. In the final heat Meredith, Hitch, Swain, Stent, May, Casey, Dunn, Barker, and Bussey started. Casey and Hitch cut out the pace at the start, but at the end of the first mile Barker and Bussey were leading. Then Meredith jumped away for the second mile, but subsequently surrendered the position to Casey. At the fourth mile the order was Casey, Meredith, and Barker, and, after some manœuvring, Meredith was in front at the bell lap, with Casey in close attendance. Meredith put on all speed, and in a fine finish won by about four yards. Hitch finished sixth, Stent seventh, and May eighth. Meredith's time was 17min. 41 2-5sec.; Casey's, 17min. 41 4-5sec.; Dunn's, 17min. 42 1-5sec.; Barker's, 17min. 42 2-5sec.; and Bussey's, 17min. 42 4-5sec. The prizes consisted of gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Easter Monday Rinking.

The crowds at the numerous rinks which are now dotted about and around London were undoubtedly the feature that chiefly distinguished last Monday from the Easter Bank Holidays of recent years. From early morning till late at night these skating palaces did a roaring business, and must have accounted for a considerable proportion of London's young people.

Notable People at Maida Vale.

Among the skaters at the Maida Vale Skating Rink on Thursday were Prince Leopold of Battenberg and the Hon. Mrs. Bruce. Among the spectators were the Marchioness of Lorne and Mr. Plowden, the Marylebone magistrate.

Queen Victoria's Skates.

A writer in *Modern Society* tells how he came across an engraving of a wonderful pair of skates that had been made, by Royal command, for her late Majesty Queen Victoria. It seems that a noted Sheffield firm had been honoured by receiving an order for the skates during a spell of unusually severe weather. Four pairs of skates for the use of the Royal children were also sent at the same time. The Queen's skates were elaborate and ornamental almost to the point of freakishness. The clog was of satinwood, with toe-leathers formed in the shape of a shoe, so that when fitted to the foot and laced, it was very firm. At the opposite end was a plate cup to fit the foot, elaborately chased with a design of rose, shamrock, and thistle intertwined. The strap round the heel was of black patent leather stitched to correspond with the heel-cup. The clog and front leather had a lining of the softest skin, to secure warmth to the foot.

Earle Reynolds Gets an Earthquake Shock.

A fortnight ago Earle Reynolds and his pretty wife had just returned from the Orpheum Theatre, San Francisco, and were preparing to go to bed, when the windows began to rattle and the building to sway. The rumblings of the earth grimly acquainted husband and wife that a real earthquake shock has passed. While the shock was not strong or long enough to do any actual damage, it all but created a stampede in the theatres. Earle and Mrs. Reynolds confessed to being very frightened, and were very glad to get to the City of Beauty, Los Angeles, Cal., where the local papers say his latest act is making something of a sensation.

Little Yorks Going to South America.

A very large crowd of skaters occupied the floor at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, on Easter Monday, and wheeling went on merrily until midnight. For the remainder of the week, each afternoon and evening, the Two Little Yorks have been giving their exhibition of graceful and fancy skating. This is stated to be the last appearance of these clever juvenile skaters before their departure for South America.

Jessie Darling to Kiss the Blarney Stone.

Miss Jessie Darling has gone to Ireland with the deliberate intention of kissing the blarney stone. In the meantime we are delighted to hear that the Cork people have taken to her skating, and in consequence Miss Darling will remain in Ireland for another week. Last week this young lady had a fine success at Sutton. The German critics, during her recent exhibition in the Fatherland, in mentioning her performance, spoke of it as of the "greatest possible elegance."

Skating in Birmingham.

The "rinking" craze shows no signs of abating, and all the rinks in Birmingham are doing capital business. Since the floor at Monument-road was re-surfaced, attendances there have gone up remarkably. The City Rink has increased its popularity as the result of recent carnivals, and each session there the fine floor is crowded by devotees of the sport.

Beauty Contests at Birmingham.

Beauty contests at the present time are a popular feature promoted by the managements of the Erdington and Lozells Rinks, Birmingham. A ladies' beauty competition is being held at the former rink this (Saturday) evening, and a similar event is announced for Lozells Rink on Saturday, April 9.

Monohan at Bournemouth.

The Westover-road Rink, Bournemouth, has a skating surface of 240ft. by 80ft., and is surrounded by a promenade 10ft. wide. A carnival took place there on Tuesday night, when there were about 250 competitors, and the spectators numbered 1,500. The great Monohan is giving his unique show twice daily, and his feats on the barrel and his candle act are being very well received.

Jockeys on Skates.

There was a capital attendance at Bury St. Edmunds' Skating Rink last Friday afternoon to witness a rink hockey match between Mr. C. S. Gough's team and a team from Newmarket. Several well-known jockeys were included in the visting team. The spectators were not slow to show their appreciation of good play, and frequent applause greeted the praiseworthy efforts of individual players of either team. The game was fast and exciting, and within five minutes of the start Butters scored for Newmarket. Mr. Gough's team scored 13 goals as against Newmarket's 6. Mr. Gough's team was made up of W. Gough, C. M. Oliver, R. Salmon, R. Gough, H. R. Clarke, C. S. Gough, and H. O. Ashton; and in the Newmarket team there were B. Jarvis, A. Buck, C. Archer, jun., W. Griggs, O. Butters, W. Saxby, and D. Maher.

Presentation at a Cardiff Rink.

A pleasing little ceremony took place last week at the American Roller Rink, Westgate-street, Cardiff, when Miss Agnes Tonge, the popular lady instructor, was the recipient of well-merited recognition. On finding that Miss Tonge was about to leave for her home at Blackpool, a few friends decided upon a presentation. Mr. W. J. Powell took the initiative, with the cordial co-operation of Mrs. Telford (wife of the manager), Miss Powell, Mrs. Withers, Miss Gwennie Morgan, Mr. Rank, and others. The upshot of it all was the presentation to Miss Tonge of a handsome gold bracelet watch, suitably inscribed, with cash, and in several speeches hopes were expressed for the lady's future welfare

Queer Quakers at Clacton.

In the presence of enormous crowds of spectators a skating gymkhana was held at the Clacton rink on Saturday night. A fancy dress carnival took place on Easter Monday. The gymkhana events were keenly contested, and evoked considerable interest, whilst at the carnival the floor was crowded with skaters in costumes of every description. The Queer Quakers rendered items from their répertoire at intervals during the skating sessions.

Derby's Mayoress Rinks.

The charming Mayoress of Derby, Mrs. Arnold Bemrose, is frequently seen on the Alexandra Rink, either as a prize distributor or awheel.

John Davidson by the Sea.

The Floral Hall, Eastbourne, Skating Rink is going very strong. Carnivals on Saturday and Monday evening drew big crowds of visitors, while the entries and dresses were highly satisfactory. Exciting relay races between Brixton and Eastbourne teams (four in each team) resulted in the Brixton men winning on Saturday evening and drawing on Monday. John Davidson is delighting the spectators with his splendid exhibition of fancy skating.

Figure Skating at Eastbourne.

The entry for the Figure Skating Challenge Bowl, which is to be competed for to-day (Saturday) at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, is a very representative one. The holder, Mr. W. Stanton (hon. secretary of the N.S.A. Roller Department), having won the N.S.A. championship on March 16 at Maida Vale, is standing down, and this gives the contest a very open aspect. The skating is sure to be of the highest character, as the entry includes D. Resta, Miss Robertson, M. Garcia, P. Ward, and H. B. Weller, who were respectively second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth in the National Championship a fortnight ago.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.

Considering the fine weather of the past week, the attendances at the Govan rink have been most gratifying. This afternoon a children's sports gala is to be held, and numerous prizes will be awarded. The age limit is twelve years. An advertising costume carnival has been arranged for Monday, April 11. There seems to be no falling off in the attendance at the American Roller Rink, and there is a large following in the East End, as is obvious from the crowded floor at the three sessions daily in the James-street establishment. Since Mr. Mungo Anderson's term of office the attendances continue to increase, and a large number of the old Zoo Rink enthusiasts are to be seen indulging in the pastime here. Rinkers find that the West-End Rink strikes the last word in the pursuit of the art of the rollers, and the following which the establishment always command is excellent proof of the facilities afforded. Residenters in the southern section of the city are amply provided for in skating recreation in the handsome Ibrox establishment. Still entertaining patrons with all the latest ideas in wheelers, Manager James Slater has installed the Dennistoun Rink as one of the most attractive rinks in and around the city area.

Percy Reiss to Leave Gloucester.

The manager of the Gloucester Olympia Skating Rink, Mr. Percy Reiss, resigned his position on Saturday last. A carnival took place on Easter Monday.

Municipal Roller Races.

One of the chief attractions of the Easter holidays at Great Yarmouth was a series of roller skating races, promoted by the Corporation in their beautiful grounds at the Wellington Pier. Two of the races were for boys and girls. The first was won by Master A. Harbord, and the latter by his sister. The chief event was the three miles race, for which there was an entry of twenty-one. In the final the holder, David Moss, defeated F. Royal by four yards after a great struggle in 11min. 46 3-5sec.

At Holmside.

Roller-skating is going on as merrily as ever at the Holmeside Rink, Sunderland, this week. On Easter Monday the evening session was extended until 11 o'clock, and during the last portion of the evening a "confetti battle" was "fought." These innovations, the idea of Mr. Walton, at once "caught on," the "battle" being great fun, both for those participating in it and those looking on.

Easter at Ipswich Rink.

The fact that rinking has not lost its popularity was well demonstrated at the Empress Rink at Ipswich on Good Friday, when the management opened all day. The floor was in splendid condition, and close on a thousand persons visited the rink.

Bertha Doud Mack at Newport.

The management of the Stow Hill Rink has once more shown its enterprise in inducing Miss Bertha Doud Mack to visit Newport for a week. Of Miss Mack's performances there this week it is scarcely possible to convey an adequate description. When insurance companies refuse to renew policies unless certain tricks are omitted, it is apparent that the artist must be quite outside the ordinary. Miss Mack gave her performance every evening this week at 9 p.m.

Amateur Championship at Nottingham.

Owing to the success of the last few partners' races, the management of the Empress Roller Skating Rink, Nottingham, decided to run a series of them this week. The heats of the forthcoming amateur championship (gentlemen) commenced this week. The final will take place on April 14—the night of the last carnival.

New Ogmore Vale Rink.

Mr. Chas. Rattray, of the Palace Rink, Ogmore Vale, has secured Mr. F. Studd, jun., late of Olympia Skating Rink, Pentre, as manager.

Lady Floor-Manager at Pentre.

Under the management of Mr. Pattison, the Pentre Olympia Skating Rink continues to prove a popular place of amusement. Last Monday the floor was thronged at all three "sessions." Miss Daisy Turner is a very popular floor manageress.

Coming Carnival at Porth Rink.

Messrs. Rollinson promise a carnival on a grand scale on April 7 at the Porth Rink.

Rinking at Rhyl.

Throughout the winter months skating has been a most popular pastime at the Queen's Skating Rink, Rhyl. Last Monday a very fine carnival was held.

Good Business in South Wales.

At Swansea and Mumbles all the rinks (Olympic, Swansea; Kursaal, Mumbles; and the Pier Rink, Mumbles) have been well patronised this week. The impending strike in South Wales is sadly interfering with the business in the Llanddas

New Sparkhill Skatery Opened.

The new roller-skating rink opened at Sparkhill, Birmingham, on Good Friday afternoon has immediately sprung into the forefront of popularity, and during Eastertide the huge floor has been thronged with devotees of the little wheel. There is a vast population in the surrounding neighbourhood, and facilities for roller-skating have been yearned for by residents for a considerable time past. At the opening ceremony several influential citizens were among the hundreds who participated in the pastime, and many speeches of an optimistic nature were delivered.

Carnival at Truro Rink.

At the up-to-date County Rink at Truro crowded floors are the rule. Mr. Alex. Corrison, late of the Penzance Rink, is assistant-manager, and the Truro Territorial Band is engaged. On Monday a fancy-dress carnival was held, the dresses being extremely good. There was a record attendance. Exhibitions of fancy skating were given by the instructor (Mr. E. Willis) and instructress (Miss Fido).

"THE MODERN BIOSCOPE OPERATOR"

It has been apparent for a long time past to those engaged in the moving picture industry that a handbook of reference and advice on details was needed. Such a work a little time ago made its appearance with the title of "The Modern Bioscope Operator." It is a compact, well-printed volume issued by Messrs. Ganes, Ltd., of 31, Litchfield-street, W.C., and should be in the hands of the multitudes of operators and managers both in this country and abroad. It is written by men who have been in the business since its infancy, and between its green covers will be found a mass of facts and information worth a hundred times more than the price charged for the book. The contents include chapters on the film, the optical system of the bioscope, limelight, electric light, types of projectors, manipulation, operating, faults to be avoided, Cinematograph Act (1909), Home Office Regulations for bioscope shows, local authorities' regulations, the Act of 1751, the Children Act, 1908, and tables for bioscope operators.

One interesting fact we learn from this volume is that when moving pictures first became recognised as a form of entertainment a deal of mystery surrounded the machinery with which they were produced. Projectors were carefully guarded from view so that no layman should know the means employed, and the operators of the diverse styles of apparatus were careful that no competitor should find out the special form of appliance in use. Projectors were carefully packed and locked up, or even taken home after each performance. They were kept clean and guarded from injury, and the secrets, or supposed secrets, of their mechanisms and the names of their makers carefully preserved. Later the number of operators and of the machines became so great that the mysterious side of the question gradually faded away. Another remarkable statement to be read in "The Modern Bioscope Operator" is that the idea of moving pictures can be traced back through the Kinetoscope by way of the old-fashioned Zoetrope, or Wheel of Life, to the Thaumatrope, which in itself was exceedingly simple; but even then we are not at the root of the matter, or at least it seems not, for recently the idea has been propounded that on a Greek tablet has been found a record which leads one to suppose the existence of moving pictures before the year 100 B.C. But it was reserved for a Frenchman, M. Lumière, in 1896 to get "living pictures" put on at the variety theatres as a star turn. We have merely touched on the fringe of the exceedingly interesting contents of this volume. It is interesting from every point of view. The young operator will find it exceedingly instructive. The proprietor will find it of such use that he will never allow it to be removed from his desk.

The first out-of-door fête and gala of 1910 at the Sydney Gardens, Bath, took place on Monday, when the well-known local entrepeneur, Mr. Carl Fredericks, submitted a galaxy of attractions.

"At the Carnival" is the name of a new entertainment with which the Cameron Quartet are winning favour at the Empire, Camberwell, this week. The title is justified by a garden set embellished with Chinese lanterns and other signs of jubilation, amid which three revellers habited respectively as Scotsman, toreador, and cavalier, sing tenor and bass songs and comic lays. An eccentric page-boy adds to the comedy element, and joins the Highlander in a cleverly-executed simultaneous dance. The vocal quality of the quartet is manifested in a series of quaint concerted melodies, and a stirring rendering of "The March of the Cameron Men" at the close gains them a hearty recall.

Cinematograph Act, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SHOW LIFE IN AUSTRALIA.

Show life in the Colonies, like every other place, of course, draws a line of demarkation here and there, whether merited or otherwise. The crème de la crème of vaudeville shine from Harry Rickards' bills, and if an artist really wants to know what fame in miniature means, let her go out to Australia from London, under engagement to this genial and successful manager. Long before she reaches the Commonwealth States her name is a matter creative of as much comment there as the Shah of Persia's would be here. Pars appear in the dailies—and long pars, too—announcing that Mr. Rickards has engaged at enormous expense the inimitable artist ——. Everyone talks about it. "By Jove, have you heard? Harry is bringing out —— from London on a £200 a week wicket. There's never been anything like her here. Pots of money in London; but she wants to see Australia. We'll give her a good time, boys!"

When the marvellous one arrives the leading dailies announce it as if an Emperor, a Queen, or a messenger from Mars had come along. Crowds go down to meet the boat, and deep interest prevails as the star performer performs the simple act of walking down the gangway. Everyone is prepared to like her even before she has made an initial bow, and as London artists are invariably good this premeditated affection is justified from the moment she radiates a starry smile across the crowd of enraptured Australian boys. After that her path is one of glory—should the lady so desire. Motor-cars, motor launches, diamonds, and social lionising. If she be a single star she can always marry well, and there are several instances of English artists forsaking the footlights for love and the solid comforts of an Australian husband's substantial income. Olive Morrell married "Willie" Kelly, a wealthy and attractive young member of Parliament. Maud Jeffries, a dramatic star, married a millionaire squatter named Osborn; while dainty Dorothy Vane has for some years been Mrs. Norman Menzies, and a leader of fashion in Melbourne.

Rickards' importations usually open at Sydney or Melbourne, and top the bill for a month in each—then on to Adelaide, West Australia, and sometimes New Zealand, or Brisbane.

Mr. Rickards has no theatre of his own in this latter place, but sometimes arranges with Holland, of the Royal in Brisbane, for a star to appear there. Cull Pitt was showing there last winter. Generally New Zealand is toured with his English draw and a Colonial support. This is a lovely trip, and wherever they go an enthusiastic reception is ready.

The masculine star has as much glory perhaps as the feminine luminary. I remember some years ago in Sydney it was said that Ugo Biondi could not open all his love letters. He was astounding Sydney with his lightning changes, and the girls fell victims all round. There were rumours, too, about Little Tich's irresistible attractions; and as for Chung Ling Soo—in spite of Mrs. Chung Ling—nobody talked of anything else for a month in Melbourne last year.

In short, if you want to be "great," even if the scene of your lustre be set in the distant Pacific and the flash of your illumination "cometise"—go to Australia under engagement to Harry Rickards.

I am speaking only, you understand, of vaudeville artists; but there is hardly sufficient scope for members of any other branch out there.

William Anderson, of King's Theatre, Melbourne, is a successful dramatic manager, but there is little opening for newcomers, as he has a stock company, some of its members having been with him for years.

Bland Holt also has had his company together for a long time. Meynell and Gunn—a comparatively new firm—go in more for importing artists, but once you finish an engagement with them it is best to get back here, as Australia is no permanent field for dramatic stars.

Williamson, "&c.," is, of course, a very solid concern, and the oldest in Australia; but he has, of late years, gone in for developing local talent, of which there is a very passable quantity.

Vaudeville, if you want to embrace the Southern climate, is the best investment for your time and talents. Any fine variety artist capable of thinking out new acts can command good salaries, although there are only a few firms running—Rickards, Bremnons, Fix, Fuller (of New Zealand), Holland (of Queensland), and Lucas (of Tasmania). Bremnon owns two houses, one in Sydney and one in Melbourne. He is a very wealthy man, and a fine fellow, but so patriotic that he will not import artists from abroad while there are plenty of Australians looking for a shop. His company is known as the National Entertainers, and constitute a very fine show. Every act new and smart, dresses beautiful; stage scenery, management, &c., beyond criticism, but there is no chance of working a turn till it's threadbare. Every week an entire change of programme is billed, and must be given. Although Mr. Bremnon does not engage artists from abroad, this does not bar any English or foreign performer getting a hearing from the genial Jimmy Bain, his Sydney manager, or jovial Harry Bremnon, his Melbourne controller, and anyone with a good act may be pretty sure of dates, as these enterprising managers are always looking out for novelties.

There are practically no agents in Australia. If you have a turn, whether known or unknown, you just write in to the management. Invariably you receive a polite reply, Mr. J. C. Leete, of Sydney Tivoli Theatre, being especially noted for this, either making appointment or declining the idea; but once you get on a good programme you can always make a first-class salary, even if £200 a week does not loom in the near distance.

The A.V.A. Club, formed a few years ago, fixed the mimimum salary at 10s. 6d. single performance, or £3 a week, doubles proportionately; but of course any attractive act draws much more than this; but £8 for a double and £5 for single artist is an average rate of payment for average performers at the houses I have mentioned.

Then comes the suburban manager. He pays these rates, too, but only runs a one-night stand in each place, and seldom books an artist for more than four dates, with a gap of one or two nights between. These, of course, the artist can fill up in other suburban circuits, of which there are several, all in the hands of reliable men whose money is sure.

Touring in Australia is very pleasant and profitable if with a good company, but, like the city, has its degrees; but even the last degree seldom reaches the tragedy of financial "bed-rock," as living, hotels, &c., is much cheaper than in the provinces, and the price of halls and country theatres there range from 10s. to £5 per night, it may be seen that it takes very little to make good. There are several little bands of artists, some on the Commonwealth system, who started out with little more than fares to the first town, making good salaries all the year and having a pleasant time; but in Australia you must treat your country customer well. Give him what you promise on the bill, and be sure that it's something which will make him laugh, and you may always be sure of a good house on your next trip.

The most unique form of touring is that undertaken by courageous spirits, who start to what is called the "Never, Never Country"—the great inland area of plainland, heat, mosquitoes, and snakes. There are no railways or hotels, and no theatres or halls. Just the big "squatter runs;" and little wayside shanties dotted at intervals of a few hundred miles. Companies who start on such a trip have to travel in hooded buggies, and carry all the paraphernalia of a camp—beds, bedding, tents, big canvas water-bag, mosquito net, and provisions. It is adventurous, perhaps, but means a lot of hard work.

FOR HIRE!
PUSHBALL. Excellent condition.
WADKIN
SURFACING MACHINE.
Will take both 110 and 220 V. alternating single, 50 periods.
FOR SALE!
PLIMPTON'S
'NEW ENGLAND' SURFACE.
In first class running order.
May be seen working.
Write—A. P. WILSON, Skating Rink, King Street, Hammersmith.

The success of your rink depends largely on the skates you provide. No other skate is so sure to secure the approval of your patrons, or so certain to bring them back again and again, as
THE "BRAMPTON" ROLLER SKATE
Adjustable Model
—the strongest and smoothest running skate on the market. Rink managers should write at once for full particulars, prices, terms, etc.
We carry the largest stocks in the trade of "Brampton," "Phillip," "Union," and "Winslow" Roller Skates. Low prices and prompt deliveries are our strong points.
BROWN BROTHERS, Ltd.
Great Eastern Street, LONDON, E.C.
and Deansgate, MANCHESTER.

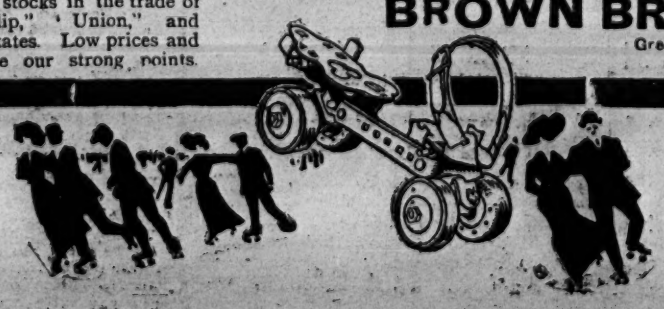

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

The Tower, New Brighton.
Two record successes marked the opening of the holiday season at this popular resort. 16,000 persons passed through the turnstiles on Good Friday, and on Easter Monday over 50,000. The Easter Monday crowd was 11,000 in excess of previous records, and the Good Friday visitors exceeded by 3,000, the best record for that day. All the shows and concerns on the ground did good business.

Sedgwick's Menagerie.
This popular menagerie visited Darwen on Thursday, March 24, when it was thronged by a large and appreciative audience. The wild beasts encaged there remind one of boyhood days, when this popular institution visited Darwen more frequently. There are several cages of forest-bred lions, one cage containing six of these beasts, which are considered to be the finest specimens of their kind in the country. Several lionesses are to be seen in cub, as is also a leopardess. There is an excellent specimen of the Russian bear, whilst there is also a fine emu. Some half-dozen camels and performing elephants are also to be seen. A baby lion cub is an interesting object, whilst the wolves, looking fierce and in the prime of condition, recall their savagery in their native wilds. The tamer enters one cage with several boarhounds, and they perform with a group of lions. In another cage the daring of the tamer is put to the severest test as he subdues the ferociousness of the lions and puts them through some remarkable manœuvres. Probably Sedgwick's wild beast show is the finest beast show in the country, notwithstanding the glamour that surrounds the name of other popular shows, and certainly the cage performances are far superior to any other wild beast performances in the United Kingdom. Mr. Sedgwick is to be congratulated on the high state of excellence of his show.—From the *Darwen Gazette*, March 26.

Roundabout Accident.
An accident, which resulted in a man named George Cousins, aged about thirty, of Earle-street, Plumstead, sustaining injury to the head and concussion of the brain, occurred at Blackheath on Easter Monday. A number of holiday makers on the heath suddenly made a rush to a steam roundabout in order to secure positions, and the force of their weight caused a portion of the structure to collapse. A number of people, in consequence, were thrown to the ground, among them being Cousins, who was struck on the head by a falling beam. Several other persons were injured, but none of them seriously.

Later details of this sad affair inform us that the unfortunate man succumbed to his injuries. At the inquest the proprietor of the machine, Mr. Wm. Wilson, was exonerated from all blame, and a verdict of Accidental death was returned. The roundabout was in perfect condition. It was the tremendous rush of the people to board the machine that overstrained the strength of the supporting overhead rafters (technically known as swifts) that caused the calamity.

James Jennings's electric gallopers and attendant side-shows have been forming a big draw on the Broadquay, Bath, during the Easter holidays.

The show ground of the Alexandra Park was liberally patronised on Bank Holiday; many old faces and new ones were to be seen. The American Cake Walk was coining money from morn till night; the Industrial Hall of the Palace had all the "Fun of the Fair," that good old showman Freeman, with his nearly fifty years' experience, and his ever-young niece as busy as ever—the Fishing Pond, the Slipping the Slip, and the Haunted Swing, with other stalls too numerous to mention. Professor Charles, the veteran, and his Punch and Judy show performed at intervals during the day; and Golding, the evergreen ventriloquist and entertainer, in the South Corridor Hall reaped a well-earned harvest. In the Conservatory, thanks to Captain Henry, a handsome new Amazon parrot was presented by Mr. F. Robertsort, of Finsbury Park; whilst another new arrival, a Jew monkey, named "Dook," was the gift of Mr. R. S. Wade, of Morden House, Stamford Hill. The trustees' luck was well in the ascendant, for a presentation to Captain Henry's care was a magnificent new aviary by Mr. Cook, of Crouch End. The skating rink was patronised in sessions, of which there were four, and the show world was never busier than it has been this last holiday; and Ward's new bowling game, "Tempinette," was the latest craze that has taken on at the A.P., and found employment for many.

The White City, Manchester.
J. Calvin Brown also advertise for the famous Manchester White City several good sites.

Notes from Wales.
Neath Easter Fair was held under favourable conditions. The chief attraction was Wadbrooke's premier picture and variety palace, where some of the latest were shown to delighted audiences. Messrs. Henry Studt and Son has his magnificent motors and racers; Prince Samuda had his beautifully-constructed hoop-la. Our old friend Mr. J. North was in his old place with hoop-las, shooters, cokers, &c.

Miss Ada Alexander's Circus is on the South Wales Circuit, meeting with deserved success. Full particulars of the show will follow when in Neath.

Messrs. Crecraft are on a visit at Ammanford with a very attractive programme.

Well-known Showman Shot.
The Burton-on-Trent papers record the sad death of a much-esteemed Derbyshire amusement caterer under the following circumstances:—"A tragic discovery took place in the Smithfield Fairground, Burton, on Tuesday evening. George Neal, the proprietor of a shooting gallery, had been attending to his booth during the evening, and about seven o'clock he took up one of the rifles used at the booth, and, it is said, placed it to his forehead and discharged it. He fell to the ground, with a large bullet wound in the forehead. The report of the shot attracted the attention of other people on the ground, and rushing to where Neal lay they were confronted with a shocking sight. The man was alive, but it was apparent that his injury was very severe, part of his brain protruding. Dr. R. Coats was summoned, and Neal was quickly conveyed to the Burton Infirmary. His condition was obviously critical, but it was thought that, by an operation, he might recover. This was satisfactorily performed, but Neal died about half-past nine o'clock. About fifty-two years of age, he was well known in the locality as a showman, having frequently pitched on the Smithfield, and he was generally respected by fellow-showmen. Neal was married, and leaves a widow and one child." We feel sure that the bereaved family will receive the fullest sympathy from their wide circle of friends in Showland.

Trade Exhibition at Birmingham.
Bingley Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—During the past week crowds of pleasure-seekers have visited the National Trades' Exhibition, at which are featured ladies' dress displays by living models, artisans' and women's work; a Boy Scouts' Camp and competitions, illuminated fairy fountain, and many other attractions. The Black Dike Band and H.M. Scots Guards' pipers and dancers have also been a great draw.

GUILD ELECTION CAMPAIGN AT MITCHAM.

As previously chronicled in our pages, the Showmen's Guild is carrying forward a vigorous election campaign at Mitcham. In pursuance of this object meetings have been held every day during the week, and every elector has received the Guild circular, setting forth the people's fair rights.

Following upon the open-air demonstration on the Fair Green, fully reported in *The Era* in our last issue, a public meeting was held in the Vestry Hall, Mitcham, on Easter Tuesday night. The attendance was good, and great unanimity prevailed. The vote in favour of preserving the people's fair rights was carried with but one dissentient.

In the unavoidable absence of Councillor C. H. Dant, the well-known champion of the people's fair rights, Councillor Bland was voted to the chair, and with him on the platform were another old stalwart supporter of the people's fair, in the person of Mr. Grange, ex-councillor and candidate for the coming election, and the Rev. T. Horne. In the body of the hall were Councillors Dendy and Dale, and several candidates for the municipal honours.

The following telegrams were read: "To Pedgrift, Vestry Hall, Mitcham,—Regret inability to come. Wish you good luck. I am canvassing for you.—Dant." "Unable to get to England till late this evening. Make appointments for Wednesday.—Pedgrift." "Success to your meeting. Sorry I cannot be present with you; pressure of business prevents.—Alf Ball."

The Chairman's Address.
Mr. Bland, who was warmly received, regretted the unfortunate absence of Mr. Dant. It was extremely difficult for him to take the place of so able a public man, and although he had been unexpectedly called upon to preside at that meeting he would do his best to bring their proceedings to a proper issue. He relied upon the forbearance of the meeting to atone for any faults of the chair.

There were, in his judgment, three matters of right and justice involved in this struggle to maintain the people's fair rights. To begin with, there were the "rights of the people." The Law Courts would take care of the beneficial rights of the owners of the fair franchise to draw the tolls. What he was mainly concerned with was the people's right to continue the fair under the old charter. That was a popular right, secured to them not only by charter, but by long use and custom. It was a right that if once surrendered would be lost to the people of Mitcham for ever.

Ever since he had been upon the Parish Council he had advocated the people's right to hold the fair. With Mr. Dant, Mr. Baker, and other champions of popular rights, he had struggled to maintain the people's claim for Mitcham Fair, and if he was honoured with a continuance of the people's vote and support, he pledged himself to continue in the same course.

The second right that he defended was the right of the ratepayers. They all knew about the £400 that had been voted by the Council towards the purchase of the franchise of the fair. That transaction he and others on the Council had stigmatised in unmistakable terms. The material point to the ratepayers now was that, having put £400 into the purchase of the fair rights, the parish was entitled to receive some benefit from the investment. He and others—ratepayers of the parish—were entitled to ask the gentlemen who had used their money to purchase that property to pass over the documents that secured the fair rights to the parish, for the benefit of the people.

It was wrong to suppose that the people of Mitcham (who had shown their strong opposition to any scheme to abolish the fair) would have given knowingly £400 towards the purchase of the fair rights in order to extinguish them, and to stop the fair. That was the ratepayer's right and he hoped that at the coming election they would vote only for councillors who would endeavour to secure to the ratepayers the full benefit of the £400 of public money.

Ever since the fair franchise had been held by its present possessors no tolls had been drawn from the showmen frequenting the fair. He understood that at the very least there had been a loss of £50 in rent each year, since the franchise owners had taken their futile action to stop the fair. Here the ratepayers' money was being put to a use contrary to the known wishes of the parish.

The third right was that of the Parish Council. He contended that it was the duty of every Parish Councillor to maintain the rights of the Council to exercise proper control over the people's money, and to conserve to the full the people's rights. The Parish Council was the guardian of the public purse. It was amazing and distressing to him to find that only a small number of the members of the late Parish Council had protested against the spending of public monies for the purpose of extinguishing the people's fair. He held very strongly that such a policy was a waste of the people's money that the Parish Council ought to have been the very first to have prevented.

With regard to the Showmen's Guild and its action at the present time (as well as in the past) he had no hesitation in regarding it as a proper and straightforward course of action. The showmen were entitled to defend their business interests, and in agitating as they had done they were not only defending their own interests, but keeping well before the electors the people's fair rights as well as their own.

In conclusion he briefly referred to one or two matters of general interest to the electors present but of no material moment to our showmen readers, and called upon the Guild chaplain to address the meeting.

The Guild Chaplain's Speech.
At the outset of his remarks the chaplain cleared the ground of any possible misapprehension as to the right of the Showmen's Guild to intervene at election time. It was in no partisan or political spirit, nor with any desire to meddle in local affairs, that the Showmen's Guild had taken action. He reminded the meeting of the two great objects that the organised showmen of Great Britain contended for. First, the vindication of the showmen's right to pursue his lawful avocation in life, and, second, to uplift and improve the popular amusements provided for the people at our fairs, feasts, and wakes.

It was not until the fair at Mitcham was attacked that the Showmen's Guild appeared upon the scene. The organised showmen, whose representative and advocate (as well as chaplain) he was proud to be, never interfered in local or imperial concerns, for the Guild was a strictly non-partisan and non-political body. Their great objective was the protection of the showman's trade and enterprise. Wherever that was attacked, there the showmen entered the lists to maintain their right to carry on their business without let or hindrance from unjust attack or legislation.

He briefly reviewed the history of the attack on the people's fair rights at Mitcham. He showed how some four years ago a group of gentlemen interested in Mitcham set out to obtain the abolition of its ancient fair. Continuing, the chaplain explained to the meeting that no fair could be abolished except under the statute provided for that purpose. The law of the realm provided that before a fair could be abolished the people of the district, as well as the traders and showmen using the fair, must have full opportunity of presenting their claims by petition to the Home Secretary, whose word in the matter was final either for or against the fair. The complaint of the showmen was that the Home Secretary had been appealed to, and that the existing deadlock and the recurring trouble year by year at Mitcham Fair was entirely owing to the fact that a small group of gentlemen, amongst whom were the present possessors of the fair franchise, had ignored the decision of the Home Secretary, the Executive Officer of the Crown in this matter, and had attempted, without the warrant of the Abolition of Fairs Act, to prevent the holding of the fair.

What the Guild asked the Electors to do.
To take care that no known enemy of the people's fair rights was sent to the Council. He warned the electors that their only opportunity of maintaining their fair rights, and impressing their views upon the custodians of those rights, was at the ballot box when they cast their votes on the following Monday. The Showmen's Guild had entered the field to keep this matter clearly before the electors. He trusted that the people of Mitcham would take full advantage of the opportunity, and take care that only the friends and advocates of the people's right to maintain their fair were returned to the Parish Council.

He made a strong appeal to the Parish Councillors and to the candidates present to take a broad-minded and liberal view of the question before them. He admitted to the full that there were certain people for whom the fair had no interest, and to whom it afforded no pleasure. That sort of person was usually in a position to afford other kinds of pleasure and amusement. He drew a humorous picture of the better and wealthier classes attending theatres, variety palaces, and the grand opera. Of their ability to speed away by motor or express train from the deadly dullness of village life to sunny climes and pleasure resorts. It was to him a sheer injustice for people so well circumstanced, with so many opportunities of enjoyment, to grudge the working man and his child the innocent amusement of the fair.

It was not for the wealthier classes to deprive their poorer neighbours of the three days' fun and jollity of the fair on the Fair Green of Mitcham.

True, he admitted, the fun might at times be a bit noisy. It was the comradeship of life in the open, and perfectly safe fellowship of enjoyment at the fair. He was proud of the consistent record of the Showmen's Guild on this matter of the people's amusement. The Guild stood for the betterment of popular amusement. He claimed that the organised showmen had moved with the times, and had improved their entertainments more than any class in the community. He asked the Parish Councillors and candidates to take a wise and statesmanlike view of the question; to co-operate with the showmen in the necessary removal, and the improvement of the fair. The Guild had from the first recognised the value of the Home Secretary's suggestion to try and move the fair from its present congested site to a more commodious one, on the people's common, where the fair would have room to grow, and to serve modern requirements.

He warned the electors against removal unless it was so done as to carry with it the charter right. He assured them that no scheme would satisfy the showmen that did not provide for the transfer of all the rights and privileges of the old fair to the new site. He made no concealment of the showmen's intention to frequent, and to maintain the old fair on its ancient site—the Fair Green—until the fair was either properly transferred or legally abolished. He paid a grateful tribute of praise to gentlemen like Mr. Dant, their chairman, Mr. Baker, and others who had fought for the people's rights.

The Guild Chaplain concluded his vigorous speech by moving the following resolution:—"That this public meeting asks the Mitcham Parish Council to co-operate with all well-considered proposals to maintain the people's Fair for the people. Further, and in order to perpetuate the Fair, to take all necessary steps to remove it from its present congested site to a more commodious one on the people's common land."

The motion was seconded by Mr. Grange (a candidate for the Council Chamber), and passed with acclamation, only one hand being held up against it.

On the motion of Messrs. Horne and King a hearty vote of thanks was given to the chairman, and the meeting came to an end.

Other Meetings and Speeches.
On Wednesday, at 5.30 p.m., the Rev. T. Horne and Councillor Bland addressed the workers as they left the Mitcham Gasworks. Short, telling speeches were given by both gentlemen, and the leaflets of the Guild on the people's Fair Rights were freely distributed.

The following night (Thursday) a meeting of the electors in the Singlegate district of Mitcham was held in the schoolroom. Mr. Bland was again chairman, and with him were the Organising Chaplain, Councillor Baker, Mr. W. E. Roche, and other local gentlemen. The showmen present were Alf Ball, Wm. Wilson, John Searle, and F. Wilson. Telegrams of apology for absence from Messrs. Wm. Taylor, Geo. Beach, and F. Gray were received at the Guild Committee Rooms, Buck's Head-parade, Mitcham, before the meeting. Vigorous addresses on the Fair Rights question and other threatened rights of the people were given by the chairman, the Chaplain, and Mr. Baker. A resolution similar in terms to the one passed at the Vestry Hall was passed unanimously, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The following handbill will show what a busy propaganda the Guild has carried through:—

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.
MITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL.
THE PEOPLE'S FAIR RIGHTS.

Meetings in defence of Mitcham Fair will be held at the following places:—Thursday night at 8, at Singleton School; Friday night at 6, in front of Albion, Church-road; Friday night at 7.30 near the Victory Tavern, High-street, Merton; on the Fair Green, Saturday night, April 2, at 7 o'clock. Speakers: Rev. T. Horne, F. H. Pedgrift, Esq., and other gentlemen. Come and defend your ancient Fair Rights.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

"Taming a Husband."
Man's indifference cured by woman's wit is the theme of the latest film to be released by Messrs. Markt and Co. next week. The heroine of the story is Lady Margaret, whose husband is so engrossed with social and business matters that he is often guilty of seeming indifference. She believes that his love has grown cold, and in desperation confides her fears to her best friend, Lady Clarissa, inviting her to visit and advise her. Lady Clarissa arrives, and at once hits upon a plan. She dresses herself in male attire, and assumes the rôle of a lover. Clarissa as a young gallant makes quite an impression upon the male companions of the husband, and finds her position at times rather embarrassing, especially when invited to join them in drinking and smoking. She blatantly flirts with Lady Margaret, and several times they are surprised together by the husband. He finally catches the young unknown on his knees before his wife. This is too much, and a challenge is the outcome. Seconds are selected and the time is set. The seconds for Clarissa try to dissuade their "man" from meeting his adversary, stating that the other man has such an advantage over him, he being such a big fellow. This has no effect, and the seconds leave despairing for their friend, as it seems suicidal. They return again with another plea, and find their "man" in the arms of the wife. This enrages them, and having witnessed his perfidy, they refuse to act, reasoning that the field of honour is too good; he should be slain on the spot. They convey to the husband their impression and the cause of it, which throws him into a frenzy of fury. Into the house they go with sword in hand, bent on instantly despatching the vile wretch. Lady Clarissa sees them coming and locks the door, which she realises will prove but a slight obstruction to the raging husband, so she, frightened, dons her conventional habiliments, and when the door yields to their battering, in rushes the husband to learn the truth of the situation and appreciate the guilt of his own negligence.

Tyler's Latest.
At the Rehearsal Theatre, in Maiden-lane, Strand, a series of demonstrations have been given by Walter Tyler, Ltd., of 48-50, Waterloo-road, S.E., of the innovations and inventions which the firm has introduced into the cinematograph business. Amongst them may be mentioned the Tyler Patent Safety Auto Cut Out and Motor Stop, a "fool-proof" attachment, described as a "paid-up policy for insurance against loss by fire"; the Tyler Patent Daylight Sheet, which is said to mark a new era for showmen, causing summer business to boom; the Ganzine Patent Screen for partially-lighted halls, for which it is claimed that it improves the picture, brightening old films and enabling shows to be given in a well-lighted auditorium; and the 1910 Tyler-Ernemann All-Steel Imperator Projector, "the refinement of perfection and absolute precision."

Our Navy and Army.
Mr. Alfred West's cinematograph pictures of life in the Navy and Army occupy a unique place in the picture world. For more than a dozen years Mr. West has been making people familiar with the daily work of our soldiers and sailors, and has succeeded beyond all others, not only in entertaining the public, but in stimulating patriotism in a marked degree. The programme which he presents at the Regent-street Polytechnic has thus the double merit of being one of the best of its kind, and at the same time doing more than a little to help recruiting for the services. Some time ago Mr. West gave an entertainment at Ilford, when one of the audience, a chief petty officer of the Royal Navy, came up and shook hands with him, and said he wished to thank him for being the means of his joining the Navy. It turned out that the petty officer had attended a previous entertainment Mr. West had given in Ilford, and as the result he had gone away and enlisted in the Navy, "and," added the grateful bluejacket, "the time I saw your pictures was the most fruitful two hours I ever spent."

The pictures, together with the admirable descriptions given by Lieutenant Sutherland, R.N.R., never fail to excite interest and enthusiasm. The present season of our Navy and Army terminates next Saturday. This early termination is due to the circumstance that the Regent-street Polytechnic is about to be rebuilt. Mr. West will make a tour of the principal towns round the South Coast during the rebuilding. The pictures presented to the audience are all quite up to date, and include some which admirably illustrate the physical benefit and mental alertness conferred upon young men who join either the Navy, the Army, or the Territorial Service. The latter force has a series devoted to itself. Humorous pictures are included in the programme.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.
The principal pictures being shown this week at the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, are: The Cloister's Touch, Electric Train from Fayet to Chomonix, Taking a Day Off, What's Bred in the Bone, The Orderly, Villainy Defeated, Apple Industry in Canada, and Up-to-Date Imps.

Local Pictures at Enfield.
The generous action of the London Bioscope Company, Ltd., in allocating the proceeds of a performance held last week at the Enfield Empire to Our Hospital Fund was supported by a large number of local residents. At both the evening shows in particular the attendances were very gratifying. Pictures of peculiar interest, locally, included one of Colonel Sir A. Somerset's horses and coach, and another gave a view of the hospital.

New Hall at Greenwich.
Yet another place of amusement was opened in Greenwich on Saturday last. The hall, which is situated opposite the Greenwich Market, holds about 400 people. Seven exits have been provided, which will render the hall one of the safest in London. A speciality is submitted in the shape of singing pictures, a feature entirely new in this part of London. The Mercury convertor installed shows a perfectly steady picture. The decoration of the hall is in the Japanese style, and generally the new resort is designed on lines which should ensure its popularity.

Princess Picture Palace.
Belfast has another picture palace. On Easter Monday the Princess Picture Palace opened in Ballymacarrett, under the management of Captain T. A. Blake. As there is a very large population, composed mainly of shipyard workers, residing in this district, the new place of amusement should do well. The pictures exhibited at the opening comprised Gambling with Death, The Devil Woman, Little Willie, The Tragic Hour, &c. Variety is supplied by Mr. Sydney Grant in his speciality act, and Will and Maud, a comedy couple.

From Chapel to Theatre.
The New Gosport Electric Theatre opened its doors on Easter Monday, on the bi-nightly system, when the house was packed at both performances. The building, which has been converted from chapel to a theatre, was, before 1810, devoted to the use of the drama, and now reverts to its original purpose as a playhouse, although principally of the vaudeville character. A fine gallery has been built, with tip-up seats, upholstered in crimson plush. The pit seats are also tip-up, and the house not being a large one, presents a very cosy and comfortable appearance. Ruffell's Bioscopic films, which on Monday included an old theatre bill dated 1797, are an important feature of the entertainment. Parks and Price, in their musical novelties, were well received, and Lil Elfrida was rapturously encored for her songs and mimicry of vaudeville stars.

Nottingham's New House of Amusement.
The last word in moving pictures is "Kinemacolor," which is, briefly, as its name implies, living pictures in their natural colours. Throughout the country there have arisen recently palaces of entertainment, conspicuous by their brilliantly lit entrances, overarched by domes of dazzling white. Such a palace has been erected in Nottingham, and here, in Milton-street local people will have one of the first opportunities given in the provinces of seeing this development of the cinematograph. The theatre which has been erected in Milton-street will seat 450 people comfortably. There is no doubt about the comfort, for a glimpse of the interior reveals a room beautifully decorated in blue and white, with blue carpet and blue-cushioned seats in every part of the house. It is the intention of the proprietors to run a continuous show from afternoon till night.

The Bioscope in Siam.
Cinematograph pictures have been introduced into Bangkok, and have become the most sought for amusement of all classes in Siam, says a Consular report.

A Gaumont Winner.
The Ugliest Queen on Earth is the title of a Gaumont film that has been shown at the Kensington Picture Palace this week. It tells the tale of a very ugly queen, who was so ugly, in fact, that her courtiers had to devise expedients to keep her in ignorance of the fact. One day, however—on her twentieth birthday—she insists on going out, and the Prime Minister issues an order that all mirrors in the kingdom are to be broken, streams are to be disturbed, the polish to be taken off all armour-plate, and saucepans are to be kept dirty. The execution of this order creates great amusement. The queen duly comes out. A young lover who says to his sweetheart that she is more beautiful than the queen is arrested and taken to be executed for high treason. Here, however, the queen sees a reflection of her face in the executioner's axe, and—well, that's anticipating events.

Eastertide in Shipley Glen.
The merrie-men and fun-makers in the Glen were Samuels, with picture and variety company; T. Harness, with galloping horses; D. Johnson, with bikes; Brook Bros., Thompson, Redfern, and Burgess, with shooters, houp-las, and throwing games.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.
Per Mr. Shuttleworth: Mr. H. Butterworth, 10s. 6d.; Mr. J. Cottam, 5s.; Mr. J. J. Butterworth, jun., 5s. Per Guild secretary: Mr. G. T. Tuby, £2.

Holywell Easter Fair.
This ancient fair was maintained in excellent form by P. Collins' Cinema Palais de Luxe; Miss M. Collins' electric jumping horses, park swings, houp-la circles, and Gem roundabouts; Fossett's shooting ranges; Turner's Winchester shooting gallery; Hart's throwing games; and stalls, bazaars, &c., by local caterers.

Easter Holidays at Blackheath.
Here were Wilson's Teddy Bears and racing birds; R. Clasper's aggregation of amusements; Mrs. Knighton's fine art gallery, swings, and games; Madame Bowman, the tattooed lady; the Indian juggling show; Andrews' shooters and games; Bishop and Gilbey's swings and coker sheets; a great variety of stalls and minor amusements by a crowd of caterers.

Tooting Common Fair.
Mr. John Searle, with roundabouts, shooters, houp-la circles, swings, and stalls, was the chief provider of amusement here for the holiday. With him were Messrs. F. Wilson, with diving pictures; Bailey, with shooting range and games; Mrs. Rawling, H. Searle, and other caterers.

Huddersfield Easter Fair.
The big concerns at this important Easter centre were Ashington's Cinema Pavilion and Marionette Theatre; Farrar and Tyler's Picture Palace; W. H. Marshall and Son, similar concern; Farrar and Tyler, great machine novelty, the scenic railway; J. W. Waddington's motor cars, steam yachts, and racing birds; W. H. Marshall's motors and galloping horses; Gavin's scenic slide; Mosley's steam swings, hand swings (big and little); and high-fliers by Messrs. Proctor, Riley, Blake, Barker, Gavin, Hughes, and Morley; Gem horses (four sets) by Messrs. Marshall, Kershaw, and Seed. Amongst the minor amusements were shooting ranges by Messrs. Jameson, Radcliffe, Seed, and Holdsworth; houp-la circles and stalls by Messrs. Bessett, Ackroyd, Blackburn, Jameson, Clark, Proctor, Peters, Hughes, Chapman, Lees, Hyde, Riley, and Manders; cokernut sheets by Messrs. Guthrie, Jameson, Ackroyd, and Riley; throwing games and variety stalls by Messrs. Steward, Bassett, Redfern, Daly, Waugh, Castle, Blake, Holdsworth, Jameson, and Chapman; bazaar and toystalls by Messrs. Seed, Kitson, and Hughes; pea saloon by Mr. Hutchinson; pannum and confectionery stalls by Messrs. Holdsworth (2), J. Wright (2), Hudson (3), Bassett, Wood, Berry, and Paggato.

Wanstead Flats Fair.
The shows here were Taylor's Cinema Theatre de Luxe, Ball and Son's New Lyceum. The big machine sets were those of H. Thurston and Sons (four sets), Forrest Bros., with Japanese airship, and Symonds, with switchback. Hand swings, gem roundabout, houp-la circles, and throwing games in abundance.

Showmen's Letter-Box.
Letters await Anderton and Rowland, W. Haggar, and W. Biddall at *The Era* office.

American Pleasure Parks.
Readers of our showman advertisement columns will find that the management of the Cologne Amusement Park (run on the most approved American lines) advertise spaces to let for big show and water-chute.

RHYL! RHYL!! RHYL!!!

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENTS.

RHYL AMUSEMENTS, Ltd., have taken a long lease from the District Council of the **Marine Lake** (over 40 acres of water) and **Pleasure Grounds** surrounding, for the purpose of laying out the whole as a **Pleasure Park.** Arrangements have already been made for a **Water Chute** and a number of other Successful Amusement devices. The Proprietors are prepared to LET SITES for any kind of

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENT (Marine or Otherwise), SIDE SHOWS, NOVELTIES, &c.

As all the larger Shows will be built over the Lake itself, the Illuminations will be made a Special Feature, and will be in themselves unique.

REGATTAS, GALAS, FIREWORK DISPLAYS and WATER CARNIVALS

will be given by the Proprietors on suitable occasions during the Season.

RHYL is a most Popular Resort, and is easily accessible from the Industrial Districts of the North and Midlands by Rail and Sea, being the first of the Famous North Wales Watering Places on the L. & N.W. Main Line.

Apply to the Secretary.— **JAMES LUCAS, 26, Birley Street, BLACKPOOL.**

THE LATE ROBERT BUCHANAN.

"The period of my more intimate acquaintance with Buchanan," says Mr. Henry Murray, in "A Stepson of Fortune," published recently in excellent style by Chapman and Hall, "came about in a fashion characteristic of the somewhat 'casual' natures of both of us. I had been for some time a frequent visitor at his house and guest at his table when, originally with the purpose of doing with him some piece of work which somehow never got done, I became an inmate under his roof. I went there for a day or two, like Ned Strong to Clavering Park, in 'Pendennis,' and stayed there nearly two years. When from time to time I mooted the subject of my departure Buchanan would not hear of it, and I am glad to believe that his constant asseveration that I was of great use to him was more or less really true, though a third person might often have been excused for wondering in what the use consisted. The only joint work bearing our joint names we ever issued were the novelised version of his Haymarket play, *The Charlatan*, and the comedy, *A Society Butterfly*, produced at the Opéra Comique, and of which the history shall presently be given. My real utility was an intellectual strop and chopping-block. Buchanan was in certain respects, and apart from his warm domestic affections, a lonely man. He had never been, nor cared to be, popular with the bulk of men of anything like his own intellectual rank. I have seen but few people under his roof whose names were known outside the circle of their personal acquaintance. Herbert Spencer, of whom I have already spoken, I saw there only once. Hall Caine, then a young man just beginning to rise above the literary horizon, came occasionally. That old-time actor, the late John Coleman, who in his ingrained stagginess of voice and manner suggested Mr. Crummles, and in his lightning alternations between the depths of despair and the summits of irrational optimism recalled Mr. Micawber, was a more frequent figure. During his term of collaboration on Adelphi melodrama with Mr. George R. Sims, he naturally saw a good deal of that genial jester, who could keep him in roars of laughter for hours at a time. The good things Sims said at Buchanan's supper-table were infinite in number, and among the best was one at my expense. I had been holding forth with most convincing eloquence regarding the condition of English fiction, and proclaiming the absolute necessity, if the art was not to sink wholly beneath contempt, of a fuller and more fearless treatment of sexual problems, when Sims shot my rhetoric dead by interjecting the heartless remark—'Murray's Guide to the in-Continent.'

"For years Buchanan had never possessed a male friend with whom he could be at his intellectual ease, who was interested in the problems of life and thought which most deeply interested him, and the fact that on every conceivable issue our views were diametrically opposed, and that we were both tough and enduring disputants, made me, I fully believe, a rather valuable companion to him. Scores of times the morning light surprised us in the midst of some interminable argument, and if, as was certainly the case, I was greatly the gainer by our interchange of thought, I gave back the best I had. During those two years of intimacy I came to know him more completely than I had ever known any other human creature with the exception of my brother Christie, and I am absolutely sincere in saying that he was, quite beyond comparison, the best man I have ever known—the bravest, the most honest, the most cordial, the most kindly, the wisest in counsel, the readiest in help. There was not in his heart one hint of malice, nor in his blood one black drop against any creature in the whole round world. The only approach to a disagreement we ever had together was when he remonstrated with me *à propos* of an assault I had made on a writer who had some little time previously assaulted Buchanan himself on no provocation whatsoever and with unmeasured virulence. 'For God's sake,' he wrote, 'leave —— alone. People who know of our friendship will think you are abusing him to please me. And you are unjust—more unjust than I was when I answered him. The man has done good stuff, and you only stultify yourself when you deny his merit.' A life of incessant conflict can be good for no man, but no man born to such a life was ever less injured by it than Buchanan. I have read somewhere a story of some hard-fisted old Baresarker who, having knocked his enemy into a turbulent river, jumped in and fished him out at the imminent peril of his own life. That was the sort of double feat of which Buchanan was eminently capable.

"It was a common sentiment regarding him, and one which finds utterance in Miss Jay's 'Biography,' that Buchanan's connection with the theatre was, from the view-point of his higher moral and mental interests, a mistake. I cannot think so. As is often, though by no means invariably, the case with men of his type, he added to his intellectual Ishmaelism the sunnier temperament of the born Bohemian. He loved life: his nature demanded warm human contact, and he found both abundantly in the theatre, which, 'respectable' as it has become of late years, is yet, and by its very constitution must for ever remain, the one impregnable citadel of social freedom. And he needed money. Personally a Spartan, with absolutely no expensive desires until, rather late in life, he tasted the pleasures of the Turf, he wanted money wherewith—literally—to *live*, to express the bubbling generosity of his temperament. He had spent the years most men spend in the pursuit of pleasure 'sitting,' as he himself expressed it, 'empty-stomached on Parnassus,' and when at last he descended from that dignified but rather comfortless altitude into the city streets he found the life there, in spite of its many horrors and squalors, good, sweet, fit on the whole for a man to live among and enjoy. That his stage work was coarse and poor contrasted with his verse is true enough. But it should, in plain justice, be recognised that here, as elsewhere, the duality of his nature asserted itself, and that the cheap sentiment of the Adelphi and the frivolity of the Vaudeville never either contaminated his more serious effort nor choked the spring of loftier thought. Read consecutively, Buchanan's output gives us the clearest mental image of a strenuous mounting of the slippery crags of artistic achievement. *The City of Dream*, *Mary the Mother*, *The Devil's Case*, *The Outcast*, were all written during the period of his dramatic activity, and their artistic value is high, and their inspiration sprang, crystal pure, from the deepest wells of the poet's moral being. He touched pitch—if the writing of popular drama be to touch pitch, which I for one most resolutely deny—and was not defiled. He mingled with the sharpers of theatrical finance and with the moral riff-raff of the Turf, and neither could leave a fleck upon his honesty nor on his enduring conviction of the inherent rightness of human nature. He was indeed himself the Archetypal Poet of whom he wrote:—

"'Who, 'spite the bitter fight for bread,
'Spite Samson's mill-work blindly done,
'Spite piteous tears in secret shed,
'Still kept his forehead to the sun.'

"Mr. Israel Zangwill shed a welcome ray of light on Buchanan's personality when he wrote: 'The mistake people make about Buchanan is that they think that there is only one of him. There are at least a score of Buchanans, and most of them have not even a nodding acquaintance with the others.'

"Cinematograph Bill, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 24, 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 16, June 6, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 21.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Xmas (3 weeks for Pantomime).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 18, May 16, 23, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, 15, Oct. 17, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for April 11, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, REDFORD,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Bookings include: "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Dairymaids."
The very best Companies only entertained.
Vacant May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
April 18, 25, May 2, 16, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25 and May 2.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
Proprietor and Manager, B. Pareezer,
Vacant June 20 and July 11.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
Vacant April 25, June 20, July 4 and 11.
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
Vacant April 25, May 9, 23, 30, June 13, 20.
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
Vacant April 11, 25, May 23, Aug. 8.
Address, B. Pareezer,
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-st., just off Church-st., LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
April 25, May 2 and 9.
April 25, May 2 and 9.
Wire immediately, W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Attractions
for
June 20 and 27.
June 20 and 27.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly.
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
April 18, May 9.
April 18, May 9.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
September
5th,
onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Every thing done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-class Attractions
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
May 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
May 9, 16.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST,
April 25, May 9.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
May 23.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
May 16, 30.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
April 11 (?).
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
May 30 (?), June 13 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
April 25 (?), May 9,
Apply, F. Mouillot,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for the Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough, Musical preferred, for Whit week, May 16, and July 11. Good season dates. Apply, Waddington and Sons, Stonegate, York.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant April 25, May 2, July 4, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, July 11, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in May, 1910.

"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
A few Autumn dates available for First-class Theatres only.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, Jersey.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
KIRKCALDY, April 11 (wire), 18, 25, May 16.
LEITH, May 9.
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.

Wire or write, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5590 Gerrard.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
The Premier Theatre.
May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30 June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 26 (3 nights), July 18.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
May 30, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt and Enlarged
at a cost of £1,500.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Aug., onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, Queen's Theatre, Dublin

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, June 13, July 4.
Apply T. W. Rowe.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Plays, &c., on Share or Certainty.
All to play twice nightly.
Vacant June 13, onwards.

Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 9, Whit Week (?), 23, 30, June, onwards, with exceptions.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for May 30 (?), June 27, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (Musical preferred), Vacant April 25.
April 25, May 2, 23, 30,
to follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.
Address, Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Good Attraction, June 13, Vacant owing to cancelling.
Apply,
Coulson, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES,
BLACKBURN and PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, April 18, May 23, 30, June 6. All coms. re dates. E. H. Page, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, June 20, July 4, 11, 18.
Enormous success of Twice-nightly System.
James Bell.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the Autumn.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22, Sept. 12, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20, 27.
Apply, Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Aug. 8, 29 (?), Sept. 19 (?), 26 (?), Oct. 10, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3 (?), Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6 13, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (?), 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant May 2 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that draws the Smart Audience.
This week, "The Woman in the Case";
Next week, "The Passing of the Third Floor Back."
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

ABERYSTWYTH.
ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c., for Season commencing Whit Monday, May 16, 1910.
Apply to
A. J. Hughes,
Town Clerk,
Aberystwyth.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Whit week, July 11, Aug. Bank Holiday.
Vacant through obliging a Manager.
Can arrange Short Stock Season, commencing April 14, at moderate rental.
Address, Chas. M. Julian.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

WANTED, Companies, April 25th and Whit Week, for Prince's Theatre, Horwich, Lancs.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Durie.

THE NORTHERN THEATRE CO., LTD.
WANTED, Good Twice-nightly Dramas, May 30, June 6, 13, and 20, for Various Towns.
Address (no wires), Otto C. Culling, Bury.

EMPIRE THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, May 30, June 6, 13, July, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, H. J. Snelson.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
A better date than many which are called good.
WANTED, Big Dramas, Musical Comedies, Star Variety Companies, April 11, 18 (?), May 9, and onward; only the best entertained. Coms., Scottie, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Companies, Musical or Dramatic, now and for Autumn.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 16 (Whit), July 11, and on.
Booking include nearly all the West End Attractions on the Road.
Address, Ch. M. Julian, General Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, June 13, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, on.
Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 25, May 9, 15, June 6, 20, on. Alfred Manners.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good companies, April 25, May 2, 16.
A. D. Vernon.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, May 9, 30. Address, Mrs. T. Cullen, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 11 (6 nights).
Wire, Masterman, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 2.
Wire, Carlton, Worcester.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Attraction, Whit week (Musical preferred), also Sept. 5, three or six nights, for opening date, after re-decoration, &c.; also dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. Bookings include: "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Prince and Beggar Maid," &c. Write, Alf Bailey and Co., Managers.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple. Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for April 18, 25, and intermediate, on, including Whit Week.
Address, E. B. Goulden.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, Aug. 4 and 11, Sept. 19.
Address, The Manager.

WANTED, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, First-class Companies, April 11, 25, May 2, and Whit, onwards. Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards, First-class Companies, nothing too big now.
Z. Andrews, Manager, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, May 2, 23, June 6.

William Coutts, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, or Good Dramatic Company, for April 25, 1910.
Apply, J. W. Chapman, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

T. R. LEIGH, Lessees, Stingsby and Tolfree.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical, Dramatic, or Variety, March 28, on. Anyone holding contracts kindly write in, and will take over where possible. Full particulars.
Syd Tolfree, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Attractive Companies, Whit week (?), Aug. 29, Sept. 5 (?), Oct. 10, and Nov. 14.
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER, July 25, 28, Aug. 22, 25, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 15. Hunstanton to precede or follow.
NEW PAVILION AND MARINE GARDENS, RHYL, July 4, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 26.
ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, TENBY.
Vacant between July 25 and Sept. 10.
Apply Barino Bros., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, April 25, May 9 and 30.
Apply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, something good, April 18, 25, May 9, 16, Grand, Radcliffe; also Aug. 1, on, Grand, Chorley and Radcliffe. Sante, Radcliffe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 16, June 13 (?), 20, 27, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 29, on.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
May 16, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
The Old-established Dramatic House.
Will open, under the Management of Mr. Walter de Frece, of the De Frece Circuit, April 18, as a
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
WANTED, Good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any Good Attractions.
Open time, April 25, May 16, 23, and onwards.
Special Attraction wanted for August Bank Holiday.
Address all communications to
Edwin Leslie, The De Frece Circuit,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Dramas, twice nightly, April 14, 15, 16; 21, 22, and 23 (3 nights), May 2 and 9.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant May 2 and 9, only openings until 1911.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant April 25, Aug. 1, and on.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Aug. 4 (3 nights) and 29.

W. Payne Seddon, Theatre, Loughborough.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CARDIFF.
WANTED, Wanted, companies, April 18 and 25.
Apply, Withers,
Theatre, Merthyr.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 25, May 9 and 16, London.
May 2, 9, 16, and 23, Newcastle.
May 2, 9, 16, and 23, Edinburgh.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley
a
Strong
Drama,
June 6.
A
Genuine
Comedy,
June 27.
A Musical Comedy,
July 11 or 18.
Apply, T. Holmes, Hippodrome, Keighley.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, April 11, May 9 16, various onwards, from August. Bookings: "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Add., James P. Moore, King's Hall, B'ham

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, April 25, onwards. Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Companies, for T. R., Margate, April 25, on, vacant, Season full. Apply, Weatherbsy's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER,
ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, a few Vacant Dates for First-class Attractions Only.
Apply M. Leopold, Manager.

WANTED, Good Attractions, April 18, 25, May 16, 23, 30, July, Sept. 1, 19, onwards.
Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Felix Hall, Felixstowe, will seat 800; rent or share. Apply, Girling, Estate Agent, Felixstowe.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood," 20 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce,
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE"
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6, July 11, 18, on, with exceptions.
Big Company. Full Chorus. Negro Specialities. New Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
A
Musical
Comedy
Novelty.
Eleventh year of continuous tour.
Once or Twice Nightly.
First-class company of Artists, including
MR. JAMES SALTER
as
"SILAS CRUMP."
WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, July 28 (three nights).
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
To-day, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.
April 4, Theatre Royal, Exeter (return).

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, April 11, May 2, June 13, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker. Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 9 (between Eccles and Bradford), Oct. 24, 31 (between London and Sheffield).
Refer W. Batty, Esq., who said: "The finest play I've ever seen in Stockton." All coms.
Geo. A. De Gray, to-day, Miners' Theatre, Ashington; April 4, Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
May 9, 23, June 20, July 4, 11,
Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
May 9, June 6, Sept. 26, Oct. 31.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
June 6, 13, July 4, Aug. 1.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S
NEW PLAY.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Production,
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Vacant Sept. 5, 12 19.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, May 16, May 16,
May 16.
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Halkjohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
April 4, Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Wire, wire, wire, for May 16.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 6 (through transfer), June 20, and on, with exceptions.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
by Geo. R. Sims
WANTED, for this celebrated Farcical Comedy, April 21 (three nights)
and May 30.
H. CHISWELL BILLING, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND
TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, May 2, July 25,
August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.
Wanted, Xmas. Xmas. Xmas.
Jan. 2, 9, and various, Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Absolutely New Plant of Scenery, just painted by Sidney Beltram.
Everything carried. Refer E. C. Jazon, Esq., &c.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
Creek Side, East Molesey.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, April 25,
between Burnley and London.
BERTRAM, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, and HINTON'S
Great Play
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Aug. 22, 29,
Aug. 22, 29
The Greatest Success of the Season.
Bookings include Messrs. Broadhead's Theatres; P., Bradford; T. R., Leeds; Elephant and Castle; Lyric, Hammersmith; Portsmouth; Met., Glasgow; G. Notts; Grimsby; Star and Rotunda, Liverpool; Alex., Birmingham; Palace, Newcastle; &c. &c. Managers kindly requested to refer to any of these theatres re this play. Write for dates to
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Grand T., Derby.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
A few Autumn Dates Still Open.
Address, CHAS. GIBBON, T. R., Leeds.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, May 2 and 9.
Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Fulham Theatre; next, Brixton.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 25, May 2,
to follow Leicester and precede Palace, Newcastle.
HORACE STANLEY, Empire Theatre, Fleetwood.

"THE CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE."
A New Musical Comedy.
Bookings include:
Southampton, Bournemouth, Cardiff, Swansea, Eastbourne, Folkestone, Cheltenham, Chatham, Brighton.
Entire Production Carried.
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
Produced by E. T. Steyne.
Coms., HARRY W. LUMLEY,
Managers' Club, W.C.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED Dates, April 18, Aug. 29,
also Dates in Oct. and Nov.
Address POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"MAN AND WIFE," by Walter Howard.
WANTED, for Miss Margaret Skelton's Tour (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, on. Cast includes Miss Ethel Griffies and first-class company. Address, E. VAN BIENE, T. R., Edmonton.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 10, 17, 24.
Miss ANNIE BELL as Flare-Flare.
Address, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

MR. H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, May 23, for "THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD," from Wyndham's T.; also Aug. 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, for "SHERLOCK HOLMES." Opera House, Cheltenham.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, 19, few on.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
Vacant May 23 (between Palace, Newcastle, and Darlington), Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, few on.
Letters, T. R., Woolwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Good Theatres for "For Wife and Home," new Romantic Drama. Vacant June onwards. POWER and FAULKNER, Met., Devonport.

WANTED, April 11, 18, "Daughter of Regiment" and "Bohemian Girl" (two acts), 30min. each; five artists, everything carried.
GITTINS, Queen's, Castleford;
next Hippo., Ellesmere Port.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY.
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, onwards with exceptions, re-booked Brighton, Barrow, Eastbourne, Blackpool, &c., &c. All coms.
GRAHAM MORRISON, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

ERNEST CH. GITTINS' COMPANY.
WANTED, April 11, 18 (?), 25, May 9, 16, 23 (?), July 4, "The Daughter of the Regiment," "The Bohemian Girl," and really First-class Combination; everything carried; specially-cut pictorials. Address, GITTINS, to-day, Queen's, Castleford; next, Hippo., Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Drama,
May 2;
May 2;
also good Theatres for Whit Week and later.
Re Dates, address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction Theatre, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, 26,
Oct. 3, 24, 31,
Nov. 14, and Dec. 26.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
New Grand Theatre, Leek.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
WANTED, April 25, May 2,
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, April 25, April 25,
April 25, April 25,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, April 18, April 18.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
"HER SECRET LOVER."
The play that is breaking records. Refer D. Barnard, Esq., this week, re business and play. To be seen next week at Smethwick. Vacant May 2, 23, June 20, Aug. 8. Only vacant dates until Xmas.
Wire for these great money-makers to
KIMBERLEY, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, next, G. T., Derby.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
a Musical Farce in Two Acts.
North Co., including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as
"OUR MARY ELLEN."
No Vacant Dates till September.
South Co.,
Spring Tour Complete
Vacant May 30,
July 4, 11,
and various Autumn.
In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce by the Author of
"Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Theatre Royal, Leigh.

Miss MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Play, entitled,
"THE OTHER WOMAN."
(Title registered.)
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Princes, Preston), Oct. 10, Dec. 5 and 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A few Dates in January and February Vacant.
GEO. KIRK,
55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, June 20 (South), 27, July 4, July 18, Aug. 22.
Wire or write, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO., with the Successful Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION,"
by Russell Vaun (part author of "The Great Awakening").
Played, Staged, and Advertised.
Vacant Dates.
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, and 26 (South), Dec. 26,
precede Star, Swansea.
All coms, MARTIN COMSTOCK,
T. R., Edmonton, London, N.

"THE PIN AND THE PUDDING,"
by Barton White.
Direct from the Comedy Theatre, London.
Mr. HARRY BRISTOW and First-class London Company, including
Miss PEARL NOYLE as Tamsie.
General-Manager, Mr. Percy Wentworth.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 30, June 13, onwards, with exceptions. Address all coms.,
HARRY BRISTOW, THEATRE ROYAL, Sunderland.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres only,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16,
through extending tour to Whit.
The Greatest of all Domestic Plays.
A Clear Stage only required.
Miss SHEILA WALSH as MARY BARNARD.
HARRY FOXWELL, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
April 18, Scotland; May 9 and 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND,
Gaiety Theatre, Houghton, Durham.

WANTED, at Twice Nightly Drama Theatres, Whit Week and on, for Mr. George Fawcett's American Version of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Large Plant of Printing and Special Scenery.
Mr. Sydney Bland and strong Company.
Address, ALFRED HOLLES, Prince's T., Accrington.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
WANTED, good Dates, May 2 (week), onwards.
Full Cast and Chorus.
Apply, Z. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

"FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM,"
Jerome K. Jerome.
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
The Funniest Farce of the Day.
"DIVORCONS,"
Sardou' Great Comedy.
HORACE LINGARD, supported by full London Co. Entire production, including furniture, travelled.
WANTED, April 25 (follow T. R., Plymouth), May 9 (precede A., Yarmouth).
Wire, SHELTON, T. R., Bath.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, and 1911. Fine Pictorials by Aliens.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, South, Aug. 29; Midlands, Oct. 24; North, Nov. 7, 14, and Xmas, for the new play, "His Real Wife" (see Companies' column). Address, T. E. WARD, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

19th year. Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, three or four weeks or longer. "SINBAD." Magnificent Production; would also be willing to Let and Produce same, all cut and dried, on royalty, for any manager for a permanency or otherwise, thereby saving him time and trouble, a bigger return and virtually ensuring a success, as Mr. Phillips has a very wide experience of the class of show required for each particular theatre and town. Can arrange twice nightly. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL LONDON CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, April 25, May 2, 9, 16 (South).
Now booking Autumn Tour, 1910.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 105, Strand, W.C.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, April 18, and May 2 and 9, for "Pair of Spectacles" or Repertory.
Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions.

WANTED, April and May Dates for "The Best People," from Wyndham's Theatre, London. Apply, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
April 18
April 18
and
April 25;
April 25;
also Whit Week and later.
Re Dates, address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10,
Oct. 3, 10, Xmas.
FRED BULMER,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

"GOODY TWO SHOES"
Pantomime.
WANTED, First-class Theatres; only those that can take money; excellent production, forty in cast.
Apply,
A. E. ABRAHAMS,
73, Romford-road, Stratford.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on Royalty. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL MUSICAL COMEDY.
The biggest Laughter-maker ever Produced.
"ANDROCLES AND THE LION."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, April 18 (?), May 9, and various Autumn dates. Star Cast. Big Chorus. Clever Ballet, and a First-class Production in every respect. Unlimited printing, including Scottie's wonderful Novelties and Specialities. All coms., SCOTTIE, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

THE DELEVINES (FLIPP and FLOPP), and HOLDEN'S MANNIKINS.
Supported by Powerful Variety Company.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Combination, May 16 (Whit week). Big show of Posters. Town between Liverpool and Newcastle. Add., THE DELEVINES, Empire Theatre, Edinburgh.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Stock Season, five or six weeks, probably longer, First-class Emotional Leading Lady, must be young and thoroughly experienced. Wire terms, FRANK MEDHURST, T. R., Waterford.

WANTED, to rehearse Monday, through illness, tall, powerful, Heavy Lady, also good Juvenile Lady. Full particulars, three refs., and addresses and photo imperative.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, for Stock Season, five or six weeks, probably longer, good Juvenile Gentleman, young Character Actor, and Responsibles, to open Waterford; must travel to-day if possible. If satisfactory can also give good Summer Stock. Wire lowest terms, FRANK MEDHURST, Theatre Royal, Waterford.

WANTED, First-class Artists, in all Lines, for Summer Tour. Address, FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Mr. Hubert Helliwell's Production, "Passion of Life," Robust Leading Man, Light Comedian (sing), Short Low Comedian, Robust Character (stage manager), young Leading Lady. Pars., HERBERT FULLER, O. H., Londonderry.

WANTED, Robust Juv. Gent., to double Admiral, must possess powerful voice. Terms, height, age, refs., &c., FRANK ADAIR, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, Baritone-Bass; also Dude, with a Good Voice.
Apply, C. LUX, 107, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, Clever Child Actress, over 14 years of age. Terms, refs., and, if possible, where can be seen playing, to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, for Summer Concert Party at the Arcadia and Gardens, Worthing. Must have good voices, big répertoire, refined, and good appearance on and off. Musical Comedy artists preferred. State lowest terms, age, height, married or single. Enclose photo, to
C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Burlesque, Principals, Chorus, Dancers; few amateurs. Photos., stamp, no callers. ALLEN, 25, Gaywood-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Amateurs for Autumn Tour. Premium required £25, repaid in salary. Address, Box 7476, "The Era."

WANTED, for Leading West End house, young, good-looking, and efficient Dancers. Apply to-day, 11 to 1, or Monday, with practice dress, at 12, ROWLAND SALES' Agency, 16, King William-street, Strand.

WANTED, for Light Comedy Parts, Tall Lady and Gent. (sketch). Full particulars. LITTLE TONY, 31, Hilberry-avenue, Tuebrook, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA." "RED RIDING HOOD,"
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Artists of all kinds. State particulars, lowest terms, and where can be seen working the next four weeks. Interview by appointment only. Address, this, Tottenham; next, Walthamstow. Perm. add., Filey, Yorks.

WANTED, for Pantomimes, next Christmas season, Principals, Chorus, Male and Female. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL B. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
42, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, Steady and Reliable, highest class work, engagement in London or Provinces. Excellent refs. Very moderate terms. Address, A. E. A., 29, Tadema-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class, Original, Effective, at Lowest Prices.
W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, Variety, twice nightly, one thoroughly used to the business. State age, refs., qualifications, wages; no stamps. W. TURNER, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WINDOW-BILLERS.
WANTED, several Window-billers, for London, must be experienced in Theatre Window-billing (not Pictures); permanent shop for good men; excellent opportunity for advancement. Only hard workers need apply. Give references to present and past employers. Write in first instance for interview. Box 7,485, "The Era."

WANTED, Young, Practical Billposter, must be energetic and steady. Permanency. Refs. required. BILLPOSTING Co., Mexborough.

ANDREW'S PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Complete Staff,
First-class Musicians, Operator,
Real Live Window-billers to use sticks.
Hustling Energetic Manager.
All to Open at Bristol.
Novices and men wishing to be proprietors please save stamps and precious time.
All applications by letter only,
Staff Dept., A. and H. ANDREWS,
6, New Compton-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Young Gentleman, experienced in all Branches of Theatrical Business, late Under-manager of London Hall, will be pleased to hear of Vacancy, town or country. Highest references; fidelity guaranteed if necessary. Address, Box 7,494, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Bert Dent, Disengaged for General-Management. Enter Bert Dent; exit Bad Business. Originator of more business-booming ideas than any other Manager in the Profession. Address, Glen Cairn, Vicarage-avenue, Derby.

WANTED, by experienced London Manager, Provincial Engagement; excellent references. Ability, energy, and grit. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Situation to Manage Bars in Theatre or Halls; long experience, no encumbrance. Charles Waterfield recommends. Address, FRED WHITCOMBE, Kimberley Hotel, Exmouth (Professional house).

WANTED, Engagement as Electrician and Carpenter, well up in Theatre Lighting. Also wife, able to take Wardrobe. Address, OFFORD, 38, Kennington-rd., Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Resident by Practical Carpenter, steady and reliable. Good refs. Own tools. Theatre or Music Hall. Can touch up. Box 7478, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Bill Inspector or Advance; ten years' West End experience; excellent refs. J. S. W., 85, Aldebrook-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Billposter, good Ladderman, Situation, good refs.; can take charge if required. J. THOMPSON, 3, Clifton-road, Willesden Junction, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Biller and Effects, Brush and Sticks. Can open at once.
W. VALLANCE, 56, Hartington-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Caretaker, or any Position of Trust, by retired builder's foreman. Married, good references. Disciplinarian. Interview in London if necessary. BROWN, 9, Rothbury-st., Scarborough.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Musical Conductor (pianist). Rehearse Thursday next. Lowest terms, references. HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Darlington, Leader (violin) for Variety. Sobriety essential. Age and refs. to WM. H. DOSING, Musical Director.

WANTED, April 11, experienced Leader. References, age, and absolute lowest terms for permanency to ASH, Musical Director, Royal Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Violinist, for Cavalry Regiment serving at home.
Double-handed man preferred.
Apply,
No. 114, c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly Circus, London.

WANTED, good Cornet, to complete Band. Terms 32s. 6d. per week. Buff Bill's Circus, Tenting Ireland. BAINBRIDGE, 63, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

WANTED, good Cornet, Clarionet, Drums, all Effects, open Monday; Drums, 11th; Ladies or Gents. Age, terms, BANDMASTER, Rink, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, at once, Good Cornet Player, for the Oswestry Skating Rink.
Apply to G. H. JONES, Bandmaster, Oswestry.

WANTED, for pitching, Good Cornet and Horn. Terms, shares. Apply, HAVERSTOCK, 63, Malden-road, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, good Euphonium, Cornet, Drummer, and Pianist, for Tenting Season.
Bosco, Circus, Newry Monday, Dundalk Tuesday.

WANTED, excellent Pianist and 'Cellist, for First-class Hotel Quartet
in Switzerland.
Six months' engagement, starting May 1.
Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
Cap Martin Hotel, Mentone, France.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, for Variety, to open April 11, able to play from Second Violin Parts; sobriety essential. Send refs. and terms. W. DOSING, Mus.-Director, Hippodrome, Darlington.

THE GREAT LAFAYETTE CO.
British, Continental, and American Tours.
WANTED, Trombone, Bombardon, Clarionet, Cornet, Tympanis, and Drums.
Must be extra strong players, first-class instruments, and strictly teetotallers.
No others need apply.
55, Tavistock-square, W.C., by letter, or personal call, Sundays, between 12 and 1.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, to commence on June 26 next, First Trombone, Principal Contra Bass, and Percussion; only First-class players with Concert experience apply. JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical-Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, tenting Ireland,
Cornets, Trombone, Horn, &c.,
to open Monday next.
Wire, Circus, Athboy, for Saturday.
Mullingar, Monday.

THE HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.
De Frece Circuit.
WANTED, to open April 11, good First Violin and 'Cellist, both must be first-class performers and experienced in high-class (twice nightly) varieties and standard works. Permanent engagement to those possessing the necessary qualifications. Others would be absolutely useless. Apply, stating age, references, and salary required, to AMOS PARKER, Musical Adviser.

WANTED, for New Picture Hall, Four Ladies for Orchestra—Piano, First Violin, Cornet, Bass. Lowest terms (include Sunday night) and references to LAMB, Palace, Jarrow.

WANTED, Known, a smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years; String Players and Wood Wind preferred. Height, age, &c., to BANDMASTER, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, all Violinists and 'Cellists to send for a copy of Auguste Van Biene's great Solo, "Roses and Memories" (by Ted Snyder), price 1s. 7d., post free; Pro. copies, enclose card, 1s. 1d., post free, from the publishers, TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING Co. (Inc.), Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Herr Richard Eckhold, Musical-Director, Moody-Manners Opera Co., and late Conductor of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, open for Summer Engagement with Orchestra of High-class Musicians, from eighteen upwards (all soloists), who have played together for several years, for Seaside, Exhibitions, &c., either in England or Continent; high-class library and exceptionally unique uniform. For particulars, H. BRYAN, 62, Sugden-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known, a well-known thoroughly experienced Musical-Director is at Liberty to accept Engagement in a First-class Music Hall or Theatre. Box 7,487, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), Summer or other Engagement. Good refs. Could supply Orchestra. DRANE, 23, Argyle-street, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mr. Godden, Leader Lyceum Theatre, Newport. Can accept engagement any business. Good refs. from present M.D. and Manager.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin. Experienced, excellent references, thoroughly competent and reliable. Age 30. Wire or write, VIOLINIST, 75, Kensington-road, Earlsdon, Coventry.

WANTED, through closing, Engagement, Violin or Piano, experienced, good reader, any business. Orchestral preferred; at Liberty April 4. Miss MADELEINE TUGMANN, 11, Darby-place, Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced First Violin, any business; excellent refs.; can take the lead if required. VIOLINIST, 359, Commercial-road, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, Tour finishing; good refs.
F. FELSING, 17, Charles-street, Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola, any business.
KIRKMAN, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First Violin; experienced all lines. Good references, abstainer, reliable. Open April 11, anywhere. Best offers. H. PHIPPS, 11, Hood-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Violinist, any business.
Address, J. IVES, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Violin or Viola, through closing, Liberty April 11, any business; excellent refs. VIOLINIST, 22, Braeval-st., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, through closing at Liberty April 11, any business. Address, LEADER OF ORCHESTRA, Poole's Myriorama, Co-operative Hall, Rugby.

WANTED, good Engagement, by First-class Violinist, any business. Address, JAMES WOLSTENHOLME, 339, Bath-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady in Ladies' Orchestra, Splendid Vocalist, Violinist, and Pianist. Write to Box 7502, "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet or Conductor, Shop; last engagement nearly two years. W. AMOR, 215, Portnall-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, with Cornet, reliable, competent; just finished good engagement; good reference. Address, LEANEY, 41, Dimsdale-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement. Excellent references.
Address, T. F., Solo Cornet, 198, Kennington-road.

WANTED, by good Cornettist, Season's Engagement in Band, Seaside or elsewhere; experienced any line of business; ex-army Bandsman; strictly sober. Write, CORNET, 2, Rush Hill-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Experienced, at Liberty, any business, good refs.
CORNETIST, 3, Queen-street, Darfield, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Good Cornet, at Liberty from May 23 till July 3, any business. G. TOOMEY, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, for Summer Season. Good refs.
W. LYME, 25, Nevill-road, Stoke Newington, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Cornet Player, any business.
Apply, WM. CUTLER, 29, York-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, any business, young, reliable, good refs. Write or wire, ATKINSON, 41, New Market-st., Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any Business, String or Military, good refs., experienced and reliable. T. ENGLISH, 12, Portland-place, Hastings.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, Summer Engagement, good references, any business. Address, CLARIONETTIST, c/o Mrs. Bourne, 165, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business. Good refs. Just finished long engagement. Young, steady, and reliable. WHITE, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mabel Curtis and Miss Christine Curtis, Contra Bass and Clarionettist, Dis. June 1, together preferred. 64, Rice-lane, Egremont, Cheshire.

WANTED, by Experienced Contra Bass Player, Summer Engagement.
142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED by a Young Lady, Double Bass Engagement. Ladies' Orchestras please note.
M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, long experience, age 33, first-class references. Letters only, Box 7,466, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass or Trombone, first-class refs.
DUMBLETON, 19, Bailey-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Experienced Double Bass, engagement Theatre, Variety or Military, any distance. Reliable. BASSO, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement as Trombone; could combine Euphonium. A. BOSTOCK, 5, Fox-rd., Ashley-rd., Bristol.

WANTED, by experienced Trombone, Summer Engagement any Business; good refs.
TOM SANDY, 16, Rosemount-place, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, Summer or Permanency, experienced; any business, first-class refs., sober and reliable. J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Good Trombone Player, touring with First-class Opera, at liberty May. Good refs. Summer or permanent engagement. TROMBONE PLAYER, 16, Greeck-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium, Trombone, excellent testimonials, any business, reasonable terms; 12 years' Military Band; Disengaged. W. B., 19, Sandgate-street, Dover.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Summer Engagement. Considerable experience all lines. Shortly at liberty. J. POWER, 6, Cardean-street, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Euphonium. Permanent address,
ROSA TELLNER, 61, Dumbarton-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Euphonium Soloist, combine Trombone, good engagement. Excellent refs. Apply, George Gruber, 45, Wynyard-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Bombardon. At liberty to-day. Steady, good refs. McClanncheen. 35, Tynedock-street, Greenock.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Summer Engagement, experienced and reliable; good references. Box 7,486, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by young well-experienced 'Cellist; first-class references, Theatrical. Variety. Box ???. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Viola or Second Violin. Can combine Second Cornet. Any business. J. Harrison, 51, Bulkeley-street, Edgeley, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola. Could combine Trombone. Good testimonials. Address, Viola, c/o 160, Warwick-road, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement. Many years' experience in high-class work. At liberty in May. Highest testimonials.
Mme. G. James, 16, St. John's-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Gentlemen (Harpist and Violinist), any business. Offers invited. Scarsdale, 1a, Thorn-lane, Ber-st., Norwich, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement by Mary Glover, Harpist and Pianist, late Drury Lane, Waldorf, and Lyric Theatres. Address, 13, Grierson-street, Lodge-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Flute and Piccolo; high-class Orchestral or Military; First-class Performer; reliable. Finest references. Address, Box 7,491, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, A.G.S.M., as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Brilliant Solo Pianist and Accompanist, Summer Engagement with First-class Party. Last season leading Spa. Highest references and P.O. address. A., 117, Wellesley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Pictures only, generally useful if required, good Biller, &c.; long experience; highest refs. Write or wire, Teddy, White Horse Inn, Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, immediately, by Gus Faye, Exper. Pianist, Var., Pic., Dram., Sight-reader, Transpose, Memorise. Add., Parry's Albion Temperance, Blaenau Festiniog, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Music for Pictures a Speciality. For terms and references apply Fred Middleton, Churchbridge, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Accompanist. Available also for Rehearsals. Accompaniments written. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. L. Major Hornsey, 8, Single-row, Newfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday, onwards, by excellent Pianist; also Clarionettist, disengaged. Any line. H. Taylor, 71, Caledonian-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Miss M. Geddes, Pianist and Accompanist, thoroughly experienced in Orchestral Music. Address, 23, Brunswick-st, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by two Drummers, joint or separate; Tympani, Bass Drum, and all Effects; one doubles Viola and Second Violin. King, 10, St. Ninian-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, &c., any bus., good refs. Can play Tubular Bells. Terms, &c., to Morris, 79, High-st, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Apply, Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, also Male Band; smart uniforms, bells, &c. Mme. Baker, 114, Woodlands-rd., Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, International Ladies' Orchestra, open for Watering Places, or touring, home or abroad. Mme. Sortino, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road, London.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)
WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bonâ-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to Mme. Manton-Myatt, 23, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—The Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra have just booked three months' Engagement at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. Open for Engagement 1.11 15th July. Concert engagements accepted. Write, Box 7,464, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, George H. Shaw, Royal Collier Lads (Registered) Orchestra want Season Seaside. Now at Olympia, Coalville. Terms, Musical Director, Olympia, Coalville.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagements, Town, Seaside, for Collini's Famous Rink Bands, Smart Conductors, Men, Music, Uniforms, Highgate. Terms apply, Stamford Hill Rink.

WANTED, Engagement, commence July, First-class Rink Band, expert musicians. Hear them. High-class répertoire. Apply, S. Tyas, M.D., Primrose Hill, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, good small Military or Orchestral Band, late of Hampstead Skating Palace, Seaside, &c. Uniforms. References, Maddison, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Short Season Engagement, by Small Orchestra (of twelve); 6 years present engagement; first-class refs.; any bus. H. Bull, Musical-Director, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, April 11, by smart Band (five), experienced, reliable, Pictures, Rink, Variety, large répertoire. Conductor, Palace, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Known, Austin Family, Pianist, Violin, and 'Cello, expert Dance Players, require Season's Engagement. Terms low. References. Austin, 239, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, good Equestrian Act, up-to-date, or useless. Say where can be seen. Quote lowest. Geo. Zalva's Agency,
2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Whit week, onwards, the Greatest of Attractions for Fêtes. Price no object for the right goods. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, a Smart, Quick Tumbler, to open at once. State tricks, full particulars, with lowest terms. Box 7498, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS,
ALEXANDRA PALACE, LONDON.
Proprietor and Manager, Fred J. Connor.
WANTED, Known, Brilliant Reception of this High-class Co., playing to large and enthusiastic audiences. Complimented by the Trustees and Manager on the excellence and refined quality of the Entertainment.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, The Sloanes, with Four Handsome Horses, Eight First-class Acts. Wardrobe unbeatable. Address, York House, Manchester-street, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Known, Mona and Douglas Connor,
Premier Juvenile Equestrians,
Just completed Easter Season,
Tower Circus, Blackpool.
Usual Success.
Re-engaged for Whitsun.
Communications to Fred J. Connor, Vaudeville Club, London.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, King of the Air, in his sensational Slack Rope Act, concluding with novel firework effects. World's Fair, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909.
Booked
for
Bolossy Kiralfy's
American Park, Brussels,
for three months.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Still Open for
July, August, and Sept.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists Twice Nightly, also WORCESTER EMPIRE. Twice Nightly Wanted. Artists doing Double Turns, used to Picture Shows. No wires, please. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Fullest particulars. General-Manager, New Gaiety T., Clydebank.

TOLFREE and SLINGSBY THEATRES.
HIPPO., WAKEFIELD; EMPIRE, HULL;
THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, March 28, on. Nothing too big; also big Combinations. Send full particulars, Harry Slingsby, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for First-class Picture Show, immediate and future Dates.
Full particulars and lowest terms first letter, Manager, Hengler's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday, April 11, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines and Star Variety Companies, April 11, onward; must be good. Resident-Manager, Hippo., Hoyland.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and on, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, immediately, Variety Artists in all Lines. Bigger the act the better. Send full list of bookings and vacant dates. Turns working in Town please write. Seen by appointment only. Harry Ward, 140a, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, Artists. Always opening for Double Turns doing Singles, vents., Conjurers, &c. World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Specialities, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, Comedy Acts, April 11, onwards. Terms, lithos. Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Xmas. Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists coming North to send list of Vacant Dates and Terms to Jas. Anderson & Sons' Agency, 6, Gt. Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates, for several places in the North. Apply, Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Whitsuntide, and onwards. Send Lithos. Temple's Entertainment Agency, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday next and April 11, Artists, all lines, once nightly. Lowest terms.
Ewing, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Gala Artists, in all Lines, Whit Week; also a big sensational novelty for Pontefract Gala. Send Sample of Lithos. and full particulars. Lowest terms, two days. Tom Diacoff, Theatre, Pontefract.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, April 11, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 11, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, immediate and future dates.
Cavill's Agency,
Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, Sister Turns, and small Speciality Acts (those without Band Parts save stamps); for Town Hall, Oldbury. All communications to Jas. Tyrer, Palace, Oldbury, near Birmingham.

EMPIRE THEATRES.
SUNDERLAND and WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Artists working North and who have odd weeks out are requested to send particulars of their Acts, when last played above towns, vacant dates and absolute lowest terms to fill in, to Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland.

NOTICE.
PALACE, OLDBURY.
Proprietor, Jas Tyrer.
WANTED, Known, the above Hall will be closed on and after Saturday, April 9, 1910. Mr. Tyrer wishes to thank all artists for past services, and also to announce that he has taken over the Town Hall, Oldbury, for the season (see later advt. for grand opening of New Hall).

All communications to above, pro. tem.

WANTED, Variety Stars willing to Share for own Turn, April 25 and on. Address with full particulars, James Elphinstone, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, for
BLACKPOOL,
DOUGLAS,
MORECAMBE, &c.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Sensational Specialities, Novel Comedy Acts, Pantomimical Sketches; in fact, anything with Big Surprising Novelties and Magnetic Drawing Powers, April 11, 18, onward. Address, lowest terms, to Manager, P., Sunderland.

WANTED, for April 11, onwards, First-class Speciality Acts. Apply, with lowest terms, to Manager, New Picturedrome, Bradford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Acts,
Big Acts,
Immediate Dates and on.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent.
Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro. tem.

WANTED, Acts for Outside Performances, Aug. 1 and 20 (North). Those Northwards around these dates preferred. Write fully to Dalton's Agency, 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester. Artists who wrote re Channel Islands Summer Contracts correspond again.

WANTED, April 11, onwards, for Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Rochdale, Darwen, Bristol, and S. Wales, refined Variety Acts. I can fix you but full bookings imperative. Lithos, (if any) and west to Gannon, West Grove, Bristol. Telegrams, "Fêtes, Bristol." 'Phone 2636 Nat.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, refined Speciality Acts, from April 21. Turns who have been Chelmsford preferred; must be absolutely free from vulgarity. Apply, J. R. Poole, Temperance Hall, Tredegar.

WANTED, Novelty Act for America. Solid Bookings if real Novelty and reasonable.
Box 7,507, "The Era."

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for April 11, and onward,
Star Acts in all Lines.
Star Acts in all Lines.
Cadle's Agency,
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY.
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
'Phone No. 467 Rusholme.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, Sensational Dramatic Comedy Sketches. The Very Best of Talent (all lines) for next week.
for April 11, 18, onward,
for towns, Midlands and North.

WANTED, May 16, and July, Aug., on,
Big Attractions of every Description. Stage or Ring.
Lowest terms, fullest particulars,
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the main line).
WANTED, Good Tops for May 2, onward.
T. C. Rawes.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Biggest Top-Liners, Acts all Lines. Artists each Monday for following week. List of Bookings, particulars, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley, Good Comedy Sketch,
April 18;
also good Turns for April 25 and May 9 and 16.
Apply, T. Holmes, Agent, 36, Queen-st., Keighley.

GOUROCK, N.B.
WANTED, Offers, for Sole Right to give
Open-air Entertainments on Esplanades, &c., during Summer Months.
For further particulars, apply to
Mr. Murray,
Town Clerk,
Gourock.

THE "OLMYPIA" PAVILION, URMSTON, MANCHESTER. Proprietor, Mr. H. H. Potter.
WANTED, Concert Parties, complete, also Combinations and Artists all Lines, from May onwards. The Pavilion is beautifully fitted, entirely re-seated and decorated; population over 20,000; five miles from Manchester; no opposition. Full particulars, Bellian, Business-Manager.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, NEATH, BARRY DOCK, and KETTERING. New Palaces Opening: Exmouth (April 18), Loughborough (May 16), Rugby, July 25.
WANTED, Known, Comedians, Comedy Couples, Cross-Talkers, Musical Turns, and clever Juvenile Troupes can book the Tour—Kettering, Rugby, and Loughborough very convenient; Neath to Barry Dock short journey, and Exmouth easy journey from Exeter or West generally. Address, Arthur Brogden, General Manager, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Clever Girl, Buck-dancer; long engagement, well-known troupe.
117, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Young Lady Trapeze Performer, of fine figure and appearance; long respectable Engagement; learning not excluded. Photo., height, weight, apply to Vere, General Post Office, Plymouth.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, May 2, June 13, July 11 and 18, by Marie Santoi, in her Musical Comedy, "A Night in Japan." Managers looking for a winner secure this Act at once; the only vacancies this year. Monday, Empire, York.

WANTED, Engagements, by
Daisy Cordelia,
Dainty Soubrette and Dancer.
Bottoming Bill, Palace, Westminster.
Billed in error as Doris Cordill.
Usual Success, nevertheless.
Vacant April 4 and 11.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, May 16, 23, 30, 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED known, Laura Etherdo, Comedienne (descriptive), vacant April 9, 23. This, Richmond; next, Camberwell. Coms., Old Star Agency, Wilton-st., Manchester. Thanks for contracts.

WANTED, Monday, also April 11, by Zelda, Lady Instrumental Expert, Splendid Stage Set; also Wal Owen, Silent Comedian. Two successes. Wire, Theatre, Pontypool.

WANTED, Monday, also 11th, by Two Beatrices, Lady Duettists and Dancers. Wire for a reliable turn, Bijou Theatre, or 11, Church-road, Waterloo, near Liverpool.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, April 4, 11, 25.
Perm. address, 31, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Patrick O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer. Liberty April 4 and 11. Offers invited. Address, 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Mon. next, Bu-Val, Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Hippo., Hyde.

WANTED, Known, Joey Oram, at Liberty. Character Comedian, Vento., Plankman, Handseller. C/o Edwards and Pages, Pavilion, Garnant, Glam., South Wales.

WANTED, by Will Penn, Comedian, April 18, 25, May 23, and 30. "The Goods." Thanks to Chas. F. Best for Prop. Horse. Next, E., Hull.

WANTED, Monday, also April 11, by Hal Lowe, Smart Patter Comedian.
Wire, Flat 5, Holland-street, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next and April 11, by Sam Ello, Quaint Comedian and Dancer. D.C. lithos and photos. 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian,
Wire, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, Vacant Monday, April 4, 11, 18. This, P., Nelson; next, 12, Alexandra-avenue, Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, by Fred Herbert, the Premier up-to-date Vocalist, April 4, 11, 18, 25. Huge success this week, Hippo., Rotherham; a sure success, the reliable turn. All coms., C/o Performer, 18, Charing Cross-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's famous Collier Comedian, &c. Songs, stories, colliery pictures. Enthusiastic receptions. Palace, Bedford-Leigh, Lancs. After Sunday, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, April 4 and 11, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian, and The Wymans, Comedy Duo. Wire, one or both, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop Juggling. Reputation from London Hippodrome, Alhambra, Moss-Stoll. Vacant April 11, 18, 25. Next, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Monday next also April 11, 18, by Bert Powell, Military Illusionist, concludes to-night, Queen's Palace, Shipley next week. 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Dates, by G. De Relwyskow, World's Light and Welter Weight Champion Wrestler, winner of nine world's championships, presented with world's championship prize by H.M. Queen Alexandra. Challenges nightly. Wanted, Dates, April 11, 18, May 2, 16, for own Act or for Strong Variety Combination of Nine Variety Artists, including own act. Offers to 62, Offley-road, Brixton. This week, G. T., Tidworth.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the World's Greatest Bantam-weight Wrestler. Sensational Challenges, &c. Vacant April 11 18; share or certainty. Big business done anywhere. Address, Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, Known, that Algie the Baboon is shortly at Liberty for Summer, with two First-class Numbers, for Halls, Galas, &c.; new up-to-date Act; Algie, Baboon, Somersault Thrower on Roller Skates. Mons. Henri, Kimberley Hotel, Exmouth.

WANTED, April, and onward, Carl Outegan, with his Great American Sensation, "The Mystic Stocks." Greater Drawing Powers Never Staged in the Handcuff World. Offers invited for Galas. 50, Headingly-rd, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 2, onwards, by Li-Chang-Hi and Tai-Mao, in Original Chinese Mysteries. Address, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, The Moncktons (Fred-Lillie), Comedy Duologists. Wakefield Express March 24:—In a beautiful drawing-room scena The Moncktons create much laughter in their screaming absurdity, "A Woman's Curiosity." Monday, Borough Theatre, N. Shields.

WANTED, April 11, 18, 25, Rohde and Roche, "A Strange Meeting," the Chameleon Lady Artist and It (?), a new and novel Act. Enormous success, Empire, Rochdale. Monday, Public Hall Theatre, Scunthorpe.

WANTED, April 11 and 18, by Ray and Lingard, Comedy Sketch Artists; also Rene, Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Offers invited. This, Hippo., Accrington; next, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, are Vacant Monday, also April 11. Wire, 6, Knowsley-street, Colne.

WANTED, April 4, 11, Harry Keeble, the great Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto; two sure successes. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 11, 18, by Chant and Chant, Smart Vocal Comedy Act. Workers, not swankers. Wire, 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Novelty Comedians and Upside Down Boxers, April 4, 11. Wire, 104, Rusholme-road, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also 18th, by Will and Roze, great Comedy Contortion and Conjuring Act, "Le Café Magique." Wire, Queen's, Castleford; after Sunday, 4, Primrose-place, Newtown, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo, vacant April 4, 11, 18, 25. Address, 21, Clive-terrace, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; after Saturday, 19, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, April 4 and 11, by Rex and Ford, refined clean Cross-talk Comedians. This week, bottom of bill, Empire, Grantham. Wire.

WANTED, by Norman and Noyes, the Singing, Dancing, and Patter Comedians, April 4, 11, and 18. Wire, Saturday, Hall, Abercynon; after, 118, Court-road, Grangetown, Cardiff.

WANTED, April 18 and 25, The Carisens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality. Own scenery, splendid lithos. Always successful. Comic competition, the funniest of all. Pal., W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, April 18, May 2, July 11, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address Perth Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Boultons, great Comedy Act and Acrobatic Dancers; also Mlle. Bartenelli, Lady Contortionist; two great Acts. Wire offers, Theatre, East Dereham; also vacant 11th and 18th.

WANTED, Known, the Musical Bentleys, Novel Musical Experts. Vacant April 11, 18, May 23, 30, June 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 22, onwards. This week, top of bill, Hippo., Lowestoft.

The variety portion included the popular Musical Bentleys, who, it is hardly necessary to mention, had little difficulty in adding to their reputation. As novelty musicians they easily occupy a high position, and their selections on all kinds of instruments were entertaining.—Eastern Daily Press, March 29, 1910.
Perm. address, 17, Clarendon-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Four Cecilians. What a Draw! Storming and Bottoming Strong Bill, Collins's, Islington, London, this, Vacant April 4, 11.

WANTED, Known, the Bros. Lloyd, the Only Double Bounding Cable Act in the World.
"The Middies of the 'Fearless.'"
Splendid naval scenery. Attractive D.R. lithos.
Tremendous Success this week.
Only a few Vacant Dates this Year.
April 4, 11, May 9, 23, July 18, 25.
Wire, wire, wire,
for Monday next,
Queen's Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, April 11 and 18, by Herman and Evelyn, in their Smart Up-to-date Wire Act; also Cosselly, in his Great Acrobatic Table Act. For a Sure Success, wire or write offers next week, Palace, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

Wire. Wire. Wire.
WANTED, April 4, 18, 25, The Flying Orenius's (two ladies, two gents), the Most Sensational Flying Act in Vaudeville.
This, Enormous Success at Empire, Rochdale.
Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Known, The Four Great Mayos, acknowledged the Funniest Skating Act in the World. Wanted, April 11, between Blackpool and Leeds. Write or wire to 177, Church-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, April 4, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 4 Rees-road, Abergavenny.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Dolorosas one Lady, two Gents, Double Trapeze and Horizontal Bars, two acts. 4, Rees-road, Abergavenny.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers. 82, Grosvenor-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, by Valvo, Ventriloquist, April 11; also First-class Al-Fresco. This, T. R., Colchester; next (third) return), Aquarium, Scarboro'.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, a Few Immediate Dates by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, and the Doll with the Laugh. Great Comedy Act.
Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, May 2, by Rich. Taylor, in his new and novel Whistling, Singing, and Ventriloquial Scena. This week, Palace, Hull; next, Empire, Sunderland, where please address all communications.

WANTED, April 11, 18, 25, by Williams' Welsh Minstrels, Vocalists and Harpists, four in number, in their novel musical and vocal act. A feature on any bill. This, Avenue T., Sunderland; next, P., Neath.

J. W. DARLEY AND CO.,
introducing Wee Monti Moore,
the Marvellous Boy Comedian,
Produced this Sketch Feb. 21, 1910; the success of the century; caused a furore in every town played. Any respected Manager proving this assertion incorrect, I will give £10 to the V.A.B.F.
Top again this week, Theatre Royal, Hyde.
WANTED, Known, vacant April 11, 18.
Letters, J. W. Darley, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Telegrams, "Comedian, Ashton-under-Lyne."
Telephone 191 Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by Ada Tilley and Co., in Comedy Sketch, "A Call to Arms," from the Oxford, London, April 11, 18, and 25. Monday, starring, O. H., Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show. Still a few vacant dates prior to Continental Tour.
For dates and particulars apply,
14, Cross-hill, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Dates, by Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Address, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction. Open for America.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke,
200 Royal Cats, &c. 200
Vacant April 11 and 18.
Conclude to-night, Empire, Barnsley (re-engaged).
Monday next, Palace Theatre, Sunderland.
Good Posters and Lithos. by Creaber, Plymouth, and Berry, Bradford.
Agent, W. Sley, Manchester.
Solicitor, James Gray, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Famous Troupe of Dogs. This, Tredegar Hall, Newport; next, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth. Liberty April 18, 25.

WANTED, Mlle. Doris and her Highly-trained Troupe of Canine Wonders, Acrobatic and Football Dogs. Vacant April 4, 11, later. This, Hipp., Bolton; next, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Famous Pugilistic and Dramatic Dogs; the Only Show of its kind in the World; Liberty April 18. Arcadia Theatre, Stirling.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
BLANCHE and ZEYNA,
BLANCHE and ZEYNA,
in their Great Cycle Whizz.
The only Act of its kind in the World.
The only Lady performing this Act.
We can follow any other Cycle Act in the Business.
We can follow any other Cycle Act in the Business.
Last week, Hippo., Keighley (fifth visit).
This week, Palace, New Brighton (third visit).
Thanks to Leo Fritz, Will Dalton for Contracts.
Thanks to Henchler's Agency for offers for America.
Only a few Vacant Dates this year.
Communications,
Tom Diacoff, Theatre, Pontefract. Tel. 64.

WANTED, Pauletti, Somersaulting Cyclist. This, T. R., Castleford; a few Summer dates vacant. Per., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wooton, Vacant April 18. Vacant.
Wire to-day, Hippodrome, Hamilton.
April 4,
Hippodrome, Wishaw, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Football on Bicycles, Somersaulting Cyclists. Vacant 4th, 11th, 18th. The act for Galas. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; also Lillian Sivado, Gymnast. Two acts. Vacant April 18. Address, Picturedrome, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, also 11th, by Delvaine's Marionettes. Wire, this, King's Theatre, Gateshead; after, 74, Upper Kennington-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bob Kellino will be at Liberty April 23. Good all-round man. Can tumble and mount, used to comedy work. For address next three weeks, see Moss-Stoll calls for The Kellinos.
After, Permanent, 23, Hercules-rd., Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Man wishes to join Comedy Triple Bar Act or Gymnastic Act. Aubry, c/o Anderston Branch Post Office, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Fred Fyne, the well-known Dude Performer, is at Liberty, Sketch or good Pierrot Show. Shares or salary. 36, Cabul-road, Battersea Park.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pantomimist, Comedy Acrobat, do Animal Impersonating, Tumbling, Middle Man and Catcher; also Comedy Rings or Trapeze, &c.; age 30, height 5ft. Address, Box 7,481, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Man, age 18, speaks English and German fluently, as Assistant; can juggle a little, and do Comedy. Box 7,482, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Animal Impersonator. Acrobatic Pantomimist, height 5ft. 4in., age 25. M., 73, Derby-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Petters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E.
Write for particulars.
Registered Trade Mark, "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, Immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. New Electric Rifle and Target Co., Ltd., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from The United Kingdom Gillett Light Co., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, Exhibition Buildings, Forbesfield-road, Aberdeen, April 30 to June 11, 1910, inclusive.
WANTED, good Side Shows. For particulars apply, Secretary, Exhibition Offices, 375, Union-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Living, Breathing, or Dead.
A. E. Pickard, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR APRIL.

ENGLAND.

2. Pendlebury (13,672)
2. Bawlish (4,000)
2. Huddersfield (95,008)
4. Great Grimsby (46,783)
4. Plymouth (107,509)
4. Swindon (44,906)
6. Hexham (7,071)
6. Bridport (5,700)
6. St. Columb (6,846)
6. Swinton
8. Brighouse Fair (21,375)
9. Ravensthorpe Feast (5,698)
13. Worksop (16,112)
18. Luton (36,400)
20. Bedford (35,200)
20. Devizes (6,532)
21. Bishop Auckland (11,966)
21. Chesham (7,245)
21. Wareham (2,000)
22. Warminster 5,347)
23. Bewdley (2,866)
23. Bracknell (2,482)
23. Crediton (3,974)
23. Hatfield (4,340)
25. Horwich (15,083)
25. Iron Acton (1,069)
25. Lincoln (47,072)
26. Axminster (3,824)
26. Barnoldswick (7,141)
26. Guisboro' (5,645)
26. Ware (5,573)
27. South Shields (97,300)
28 Horncastle (4,000)
29. Holmes Chapel (956)
29. Knuteford (5,173)
29. Longtown (630)
29. Newchurch (4,000)
30. Alton (5,479)
30. Cobham (3,902)
30 Lancaster (40 300)
30. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
30. Newick (958)
30. Norton St. Philip (450)
30. Ollerton (770)
30. Poole (19,461)
30. Stockport (78,871)
30. Stonehouse (2,207)

SCOTLAND.

4. Govan (111,000)
7 Dunfermline (25,250)
11. Dundee (160,878)
15. Hamilton (32,775)
15. Kirkcaldy (34,063)
29 Bridge of Allan (3,240)

WALES.

5. Wrexham (14,966)
8. Newtown (6,500)
16. Aberdare (43,357)
22. Pontypool (6,126)

WANTED, Side Show, Novelty Stands, &c., for Warrington Trades Exhibition, May 24 to June 4 inclusive. Apply, G. B. TAYTON, 141, Wilderspool-causeway, Warrington.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Exhibition Workers, such as Silhouette and Sketch Artists, Gold Wire, Fountain Pen, Embroidery, Photographs, Pulled Candy, &c., &c., can hear of something to their advantage by applying in first instance to Box No. 7,468, "Era" Office.

Palmistry.

WANTED, Lady, permanency for suitable person; wages and commission. Box 7,488, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, experienced Lady Palmist and Clairvoyant, for established connection, well-fitted place. Terms shares. PALMIST, Castle-buildings, Llanelly.

WANTED, for Auction Mart, Pianist and Comedian. Jim Carlton write. Apply, POTTS, Auction Mart, Astley-street, Bolton.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Handseller, for Auction Mart. State qualifications. Arthur Clark write. Box 7,489, "The Era."

WANTED, capable man of good appearance, to assist on floor in auction rooms; first-class pay and berth to steady worker. Box 7,474, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Man (28), seeks Sit., doorsman, clown, anything useful, travelling show, stage experience. WALL, 25, Eastbrook-road, Waltham Abbey.

GRAND PIER, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, to Let on rental, for Season, from Whitsuntide, Al-Fresco Enclosure on the Pier; permanent stage, two dressing-rooms, piano, seats, awning, wind-screen. Apply, GENERAL-MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, large Basement for Shooting Gallery and Games, reliable business man, with good fit-up. LINGARD'S Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

PALACE PIER, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, with electric light, also Spaces; real Novelties only. Apply, F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager.

NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, to Let, Extensive premises, 45ft. frontage, 92ft. deep, standing between two Electric Theatres, one facing Victoria Station, full five times daily. Suit vaudeville, auctioneers, others. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, to let, Sole Rights for Palmistry for Season, visited by thousands. Good opening. Particulars apply, MANAGER, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, to Let, Sole Rights Palmistry here, also Picture Hall to Let. Low rental; small ingoing. Write, MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart and Bioscope Show combined, about 50,000ft. films, machine, iron house, stand, cylinders, lights, seats, &c.; three loads, including large Living-van. Box 7,490, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks, comprising 35 figures, now showing in four groups at 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow; also Piano Organ, by J. Canova and Co., 18 and 20, Foundry-street, Manchester; also 14 Packing Cases, for same. Your own price for cash. Come and see them; it will pay you; or will take £15 for the lot or best offer up till April 16.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines of all kinds, best makers. Sufficient to equip large arcade. Will sell separate. Phonographs, Mutoscopes, Mills' best pictures, punch-bags, lifters, electrics, vibrators, fortunes, electric pianos, models, singing birds. Also various amusement machines, &c. Apply, SPORTS, 174, High-street, Shoreditch, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer Slips, ruled faint lines, in books of 100, 12s. 6d. 1000; several Machines cheap. LESTER Co., Importers, Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, for cash, small Circus Tent or Booth, Seatings, Lamps, &c.; also open van. State very lowest. Box 7,483, "The Era."

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Rink Instructor, thoroughly qualified. Apply by letter only, giving full particulars as to qualifications, in confidence, to S. V. WOOD, 20, Bucklersbury, E.C.

WANTED, by Lady Instructress, Expert in Waltzing and Two Step Engagement, salary not much object, provided it is a first-class rink. Box 7492, "The Era."

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Known, well-known Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, Exhibition Skaters,

At present engaged, but desire change; excellent references, character, ability, &c.

Reply, Box 7,475, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Lady requires engagement as Rinking Instructress. Excellent skater. Apply, G., 47 Watling-road East, Fulwood, Preston.

WANTED, Known, Manager Boys, vacant May 30, Rinking, Music Hall, or Theatre; can supply Staff if required; also Band; age 26. NORTH LONDON RINK AND ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, LTD., Wood Green.

WANTED, an Engagement as Skate Mechanic or Mechanic and Instructor. Many years' experience. Good reference. Seaside preferred. E. J. A., 100, Rossiter-road, Balham.

WANTED, Known, Expert Trick and Fancy Skater desires change. Can give Striking Specials; thoroughly experienced; undeniable credentials. W., Box 7457, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, THE MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, from May to September, one of the largest Skating Rinks in Kent. Every accommodation for large crowds. Apply, Agricultural Hall, Canterbury.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Managers to note, Mr. George Dance is prepared (owing to an unusual pressure of business) to dispose of the Performing Rights of certain Musical Comedies.

The Entire Production in several cases could be taken over at a reasonable figure.

Write,
48, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Wood Pavilion, canvas-roofed, electrically lighted; stage and chairs; situated Crosby, near Liverpool. SHAW, 4 Eaton-avenue, Litherland, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Grand National Film, 1910 (Barker's), length 440ft., released April 2; cost 6d. per foot.
Wire or write offers.
MANAGER, Court Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, dispatched April 10, only used five days, magnificent "Eruption of Etna" Film, 350ft, 2d. per foot. STEBBINGS, Sebright Palace, London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Set Tubular Bells, plated, complete, portable polished stand, splendid tone, £3 10s.; also Besson E Flat Cornet, silver plated, £3. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, very powerful Xylophones, Marimbas, Organ Chimes, Gongs, Tubular Bells, Tunable Resonators (protected). LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Grand Orchestrion, about 10ft. high, 7ft. wide, and 5ft. deep, with 17 barrels, including 2 newly pinned with latest music, specially suitable for Picture Palace, Restaurant, or small Skating Rink.
Apply, CENTRAL RINK COMPANY,
9, Market-square, Wellingborough.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Evening Gowns, Suitable for Stage use.
Special Prices to the Profession.

GRACE,
20, Baker-street.

WANTED, to Sell, Latest Stage Illusions and quantity Conjuring Apparatus; something new. Buy of maker, and save money. Umbrella Table, 35s.; Chair to Portmanteau, 25s. 62, Lansdowne-gardens Stockwell, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Spiritualistic Collar, Handcuff, key, bar, and sundry conjuring tricks. Cost £5; accept £1. HALL, 352, Mare-street, Hackney, London.

WANTED, Known, to Magicians only, Magical Apparatus for sale cheap, Hamley's and Ornum's make. LEONARD BARRATT, Magician, 31, Victoria-road, Dukinfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Battleship Scene.
Apply, TINCKLER, 97, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Pageant Castle Scene, Papier Armour, Trophies, Weapons, Historical Flags, &c. DYMOND, Theatrical Stores, Wyndham Arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, £300 at once, for Greatest Variety Novelty of the Present, which cost over £800, for short time at good interest. The Act is Booked for Ten Weeks by First-Class Company.
Offers. Box 7,497, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell at once, Yellow, Blue, Black Satin Boy Suits, equal to new; sacrifice £1 10s. Suit Serio 5ft. 5in.
74, Grove-road, Balham.

WANTED, Known, Lady's Maid has disposal day and evening Gowns, Costumes, from 5s. 6d.
ELISE, Hathaville, Hathaway-road Croydon.

WANTED, to Sell, Lithos and Posters, Dramatic and Comic, cheap, suitable Portable Theatres, Picture Shows, &c. POWELL, 52, Albert-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, or will Lease on low royalty, Book, Lyrics, and Music of new up-to-date Musical Comedy. Box 7,508, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Places of Amusement, any description, previously unsuccessful; advertiser will purchase, lease, or rent; also Theatres desirous of Variety Entertained. Full particulars, terms, &c., Box 7,509, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Tent, immediately, 100ft. by 80ft., or thereby. Top, walling, and seats, everything complete. Particulars, with best price, to JOHN RINTOUL, Jigburn House, Dunfermline, Fife.

WANTED, a Tent, 17yds. by 25yds., or thereabouts. State particulars and lowest price, ANDIE CAINE, this, Tottenham Palace; next, Walthamstow.

WANTED, to Buy,
Smart Advert. Curtains and Programmes.
Particulars to
ADVT. MANAGER, Castle Works, Rochdale.

WANTED, cheap for cash, Garden, Prison, and other Cloths, in good condition, about 20ft. by 28ft. Particulars, HERBERT FULLER, O. H., Londonderry.

WANTED, Pantomime Dresses, in good condition.
Three dozen Huntsman Dresses and Hats "Cinderella"; three dozen Village Dresses, Boys and Girls; five dozen Ballet Dresses; seven dozen Palace Dresses and Hats, Boys and Girls; 200 pairs of Strapped Canvas Shoes, for covering; one Wolf's Dress, complete; one "Cinderella" Carriage.
Full particulars, and where can be seen.
Box 7,480, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, 500 Tip-up Seats, Forms, or Chairs, must be good and cheap. Full particulars to LING, 13, Chester-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, about 250 Tip-up Seats in Red Plush, in good condition. Send full particulars to MANAGERS, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

WANTED, following Illusions, Sphinx Table, Morrit's Cage, Escape from Sing-Sing, &c. Also small mechanical tricks. B. BYRNE, 79, Grove-street, Liverpool.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, best Light Chamber; also Oak or Special Set, both excellent condition. Cheap for cash. Where stored, price, &c., B. BYRNE, 79, Grove-street, Liverpool.

To Authors.
WANTED, a New and Original Domestic Drama, Melodrama, or Romantic Drama. Negotiations in first place, C/o Box 7,479, "The Era" Office, London. No Manuscripts unless written for, and silence to be considered a courteous negative pro tem.

WANTED, Powerful, Sensational Dramatic Sketch, suitable for emotional Star Actress. Short cast. Address, INTERNATIONAL, 100, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, to Let, for Short Picture Season, April 18.
Apply to W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in April and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Bijou Hall, Licensed, for season. Best position. Would entertain good show or entertainment on sharing terms. Apply, LESSEE, Bijou Hall, Great Yarmouth.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Mafton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, Known.—Electric Theatre Boom. The Rage of London. Fortunes being made. A position of importance offered to a gentleman with capital to invest in private limited company now forming to acquire several important sites, and other business undertakings.
EXTENSIONS, Box 7,495, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Known, Corner Site, Central, on Main Thoroughfare, in district of 100,000. Position for Electric Theatre. Plan. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Let, one of best Romantic Melodramas, splendid parts, inexpensive working. Bookable best Theatres. Address, Box 7,499, "The Era."

WANTED, good Pitch for Season. Manager will provide First-class Refined Al-Fresco Co. ARTHUR SQUIRES, Cleveland House, near Pershore, Worcestershire.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Hire, with view to purchase, a two-pole Tent.
Apply P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

PARTNERS WANTED.

Films.
WANTED, Known, Advertiser who is running a Cinematograph Turn each evening is desirous of communicating with a few gentlemen who are doing the same, with the object of forming a Small Film Syndicate. Further particulars on application to Box 7,493, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner with £150, commencing Autumn, for half share in successful play well booked up; can now be seen on tour. Address first instance, Box 7,477, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman with £100, as Partner, by Advertiser, 23, manufacturing exceptional money-making Exhibition Novelties; smart young Exhibition worker. Box 7,484, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner for First-class Military Drama. Advertiser has new scenery, plant of good printing, costumes, &c. Very small expenditure.
Write, S. BAILY,
140A, Gloucester-mansions, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, Partner for Old-established Variety Agency; must be experienced, and invest £100; every investigation courted. References exchanged. Principals only need apply, with full particulars, Box 7 503, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, to travel for North of England Variety Agency, established ten years; every investigation courted, splendid opportunity for the right man. Apply, with full particulars, Box 7,501, "The Era."

WANTED, by Expert Pianist, Partner (male or female), for Vaudeville Act.
What can you do? I can get good dates.
Address, Box 7,506, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner for Picture Theatre everything ready. J. H. RICHARDSON, c/o General Post Office, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Partner, Lady or Gent., for Well-known Comedy Sketch.
Take part optional.
Address, Box 7,496, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Six Words Sixpence

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, H Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, we supply Tip-up Chairs, upholstered, from 4s., and Manufacture Every Description of Seating; Repairs, Alterations carried out; 20 years' experience. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos, from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMAN & Co., 4, Pitville-place, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 100 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; Full Piano Part, 2s. 6d.; Band Parts, 3s. 6d. (ten). E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus.

WANTED, Known, the Following Members of Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's "Temptation" Co. thank them heartily for paying full salaries Passion week:
MADGE SEYMOUR,
ANNA BEAUMONT,
OLGA KAY,
NORMAN A. OVERTON,
VINCENT W. CARLYLE,
FRANK AYRTON,
ARTHUR TRAIL,
DAVID CURTIS, and
MARTIN COMSTOCK.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LARGE
SKATING RINKS
in large Cities, in good position, WANTED,
PURCHASE OR RENTAL
for the Autumn.
All particulars to
GEORGE STANLEY,
Winchester House Birmingham.

SKATING RINK TO LET.
In large Midland town,
FOR SUMMER MONTHS
or portion thereof,
TRINDLE ROAD RINK, DUDLEY.
150ft. by 140ft.
Write or apply to the Manager.

FOR SALE,
AS A GOING CONCERN,
THEATRE,
IN CENTRAL PART OF A BUSY NORTHERN TOWN.
Very Moderate Price, and Greater Portion may be left on Mortgage.
PRINCIPALS OR THEIR SOLICITORS ONLY.
Address, Box 7427, "The Era."

WANTED,
TO LEASE,
A FIRST-CLASS THEATRE
In London Suburbs or Provinces.
State Lowest Rent, with full particulars of returns, out-goings, etc.
Only Principals, First Mortgagees, or Solicitors dealt with.
Apply to
CAPTAIN R. ORFORD,
c/o Messrs. Cox & Co.,
Charing Cross, S.W.

WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
Open MAY 7 to OCT. 1, 1910.
A FEW BUILDINGS
TO LET
for BRIGHT, UP-TO-DATE SHOWS and MOVING PICTURE THEATRE; also Photographic Studio and Rifle Range.
Park brilliantly illuminated at night; centre of enormous population. Best Military Bands played.
Apply, J. CALVIN BROWN,
Proprietor, White City, Manchester.

CONCESSIONAIRES WANTED.
COLOGNE (Koln) GERMANY.
SECOND SEASON.
AMERICAN AMUSEMENT PARK
(Amerikanischer Vergnügungs Park).
2,000,000 Patrons last season. Six months' show
TO LET,
SPACE 75ft. by 200ft. for big show. SPACE 50ft. by 60ft. for water show at end of Chutes Lagoon. Also SPACE for several other shows and small concessions.
OPENS MAY 1. LIBERAL TERMS OFFERED.
Write at once
J. HENRY ILES } Directors
ADOLPF HOLLANDER }
American Amusement Park, COLOGNE.

PLEASURE BEACH, SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Building, 35ft. by 35ft., to let for Shooting Jungle.
Apply
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool

ARCADIA, SCARBOROUGH.
500 square yards ground, with frontage to Foreshore Road,
TO LET.
Suitable for Showman or Motor Garage.
Proprietor, JOHN WHITFIELD, Solicitor, Scarborough

WALMSLEY'S SCENIC STUDIO,
Rivers Street, Portsmouth.
Scenery of Every Description.
MODELS. ESTIMATES.
"The scenery was designed and painted by Mr. Fred Walmsley, and gained great admiration." ("La Forza del Destino," Carl Rosa Opera Co.)—Press.

Price, 6d. Post-free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA,
BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.
Address,
The Publisher
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

THE
THREE INTERIM AWARDS
AND THE
FINAL AWARD.
Corrected and Revised by
GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH, K.C.
THE
OFFICIAL ARBITRATOR
Appointed in the Music-Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at
"THE ERA" Offices,
Copy, including postage, three-half-pence.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD. & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Mme. Réjane, Ada Reeve, Sergeant Brennan, Twelve Fezzans, Helen Hurst, Belliclair Brothers, Harry First and Co., Cruikshank, Animated Pictures, Anna Chandler, Grotesques.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—

Mme. Albani, Brothers Redmond, Jan Zakovsky, Delevines, Holden's Mannikins, Alf Gibson, Beatty and Blanche, Bioscope, Courtiers, Tom and Marie Motramo.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Karno's "Yap Yaps," Ethel Beech, Brinn, Laurie's "Kindergarten," Tom Stuart, Mabel Mavis, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Alice Raymond and Co., in "A Night in Egypt."

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Lashwood, Bioscope, Edith Fink, Pete and Minnie Lee, Vanando, Carl Howard, Gladys Mavis, Lydia and Amelys, Brothers Griffiths, Brothers Egbert.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

The Lyric Club, in "La Cigale."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Nelson Jackson, George French, Cumminger and Colonna, J. H. Scotland, Rauschle, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Conway and Leland, La Freya, Two St. Johns, Bioscope, Horace Mills and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Geo. Ali and Co., Witty Watty Walton, Mabel Sinclair, Marie Kendall, Helen Trix, Creo Brothers, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Kratons.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Tom Foy and Co., in "First of April," Ray Ford, Johnny Fuller Arthur Albert, Maples, Braatz's Dogs, Stanley and Greenop, Maudie Olmar, Bioscope, Kellinos.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. Carlton Wallace's Co., in "A Thief in the Night."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Margaret Cooper, Phil Parsons, John Henry, Great and Good, Danby, Piddock, and Co., Arthur Ferriss, Haytors, Katie Moss, Bioscope, La Pia.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Dan Lipton's "Songland," Jackley Trio, Spry and Monti, Chas. Vincent, Alexandre and Hughes, Gipsy Woolf, Ryan and Hall, Baby Boden, Bioscope, Sam Mayo.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Leyton and Co., in "The Roll Call," Gustave Fasola, Fatmah Diard, Little Ganty, Abdullah Arabs, Harry Herbert, Bioscope, Les Silas, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, in "Trixie." Conan and Doyle.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mme. Ella Russell, Edie Reynolds, Coverdale, Wish Wynne, Humpsti-Bumsti, Comedy Meisters, Brothers O'Brien, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Chanti.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, L'Incognita, A Ba-Bes, Addie Dorina, Three Cape Girls, Victor's Juveniles, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, J. W. Rowley.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Skating" Co., Dan Hendy, Nina Wood, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Brown and Le Clerq, Six Lancashire Lasses, Tate and Tate, Florence Esdaile, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jewels' "Change," O'Gust, Manchester Mites, Pat Rafferty, Mlle. Haydee, Bioscope, Alice Maydue, Carmos, Harry Weldon.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co., in "Fishing," Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Fielding and Hull, Jessie Preston, Les Marco Belli, Five Vernons, Woodhouse and Wells, Gardner and Stoddard, Eighteen Lancashire Singers.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

J. B. Howard's Company, in "The Earl and the Girl."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Percy Hutchison and Co., in "Brewster's Millions."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Lottie Govell, Bioscope, J. C. Scatter, Gwennie Llewellyn, H. O. Wills, Lux's Dogs, Frank Maura, Leslie Brothers, "The Bosun's Mate."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

The Great Lafayette, Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss, in "Cook's Man," Elité Harmony Boys, Brothers Bright, Tiller's Troupe, Norman Telma, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Chass Lewis, Lina Verdi, Bioscope, Marco Twins.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Craggs, Will o' the Wisps, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Santon, Alexandra Dagmar, Tom Davies' Trio, Farr and Farland, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Globe of Life, King and Benson, Rohda Brothers, John Macaulay, Northcotes, Millie Engler and Co. Florence Bioscope, Barnard's Mannikins.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Three Van Dammes, George Newburn, Brull and Hemsley, Roma and Romani, Lyric Quartette, Empire Comedy Four Loyal's Dogs.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Dorney's Company, including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Bertha Winder, Stewart and Morgan, Margaret Parker and Co., Goggin and Davis, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Jack Lane.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Cinquevalli, Vandinoff, J. A. Wilson, Tom Clare, Amelie De L'Enclos, Leo Tell, Lillie Lassah, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co., in "A Lamb on Wall Street."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Archie Goodall, Alec Hurley and Co., in "Cockneys in Japan," Adey Spencer, Phil Percival, D'Arc's Marionettes, Wyndham and Kitty, Kisbey, Betty Green, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Peter Bermingham, Millie Payne, Henry Helme, James' Strolling Players, Francis and Alfred, James Curwell, Walker and May, Bioscope, "Ghost of Jerry Bundler."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Juliette's Sea Lions, Rhoda Paul, Florence Smithers, Victor Travers, Hall and Earle, Siems, Frank Cass, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Huntley Wright and Co., in "The Little Father of the Wilderness," Lucia Collins, Tom Moore, Orpheus, Rich and Rich, Findens, Lupino Lane, Les Andres, Biodrama, Lydia Yeamans.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Formby, Frank H. Fox, Rich Taylor, Four Regals, Great Vincent, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Eadie and Ramsden.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Pleasants, Gladys Hooley, Billy Hobbs, Katie Butler, Barrett and Knowles, Three Delaries, Hilda Mascot, Pictures, Leroux's Monkeys.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Van Biene, Ugo Nap, Bert Errol, Ike and Will Scott, Prince-Milner Trio, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Heeley and Meeley.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

John Warren, Edith Heron-Brown, Bioscope, Carl and Carr, Glenroy Troupe, Frank Melvin, Chas. J Johnson, Charburn's Young Stars

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Rossi Ashton, Sisters St. Julian, Chas. Robinson, Pictures, Tom Lloyd, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Mike Nono, Chas. Penrose, Pictures, Ted E. Box, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

NOTICE.—OPTION CLAUSE.

COUNSEL WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE

Whether, having regard to the terms of Clause 16 in the model contract attached to the Arbitrator's Award, the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option.

(a) In the event of the Artiste having filled by engagements made either wholly or partly after the date of the contract, all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, and

(b) In the event of the Artiste having, in similar manner, partly filled his time so that the number of vacant dates within that period is insufficient to comply with the option.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In my opinion the clause requires the Artiste so to arrange his or her engagements, made after the date of the contract with the Management as to render it possible for the artiste to fulfil a re-engagement with the Management, should the latter exercise the option conferred upon them by the contract; and that it is no answer for the Artiste to say that he or she cannot fulfil such re-engagement because of engagements made by him or by her after the date of the contract.

(a) In my opinion the Management are entitled to insist upon the exercise of their option, although the Artiste may have filled up all vacant dates within 18 months after the date of the notice of intention to exercise the option, provided such engagements were made wholly after the date of the contract. So far as these engagements were made before the date of the contract, the Artiste is entitled to fulfil them, and the Management cannot insist upon such engagements being a breach of the artist's contract with them

(b) In my opinion the Artiste is bound to reserve sufficient dates to enable him to fulfil a re-engagement by the Management. If, therefore, he accepts engagements after the date of the contract which prevent him fulfilling his re-engagement in its entirety, he commits a breach of his re-engagement.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.

TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose. N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill-matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, APRIL 4.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Lyons Trio, Martin Henry Co., Geo. Lawrence, Lizzie Daniels, George Brookes, Amio Trio, Narow Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Harry Atkinson, Burt Shepard, La Belle Sylvia, Bert Maddison, Four Vagabonds, Palace Perfection Pictures, Tennis and Laune.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Three Alskarnos, "Martyrdom of Adolf Beck," Joan Deering, Colin Mail, Dennis and Morris, Dalmere's Animals, Will Rhodes.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Donaldson Bros. and Co., Dancing Gilberts, Les Zanonis, Nora Emerald, Bob Hamilton, Geoffreys and Benson, Morny Cash, Palace Perfection Pictures, Luna Lyndon.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Tom Collins, Pictures, Donnas Trio, T. C. Jaques, Adderley Howard and Co., Ethel Pearce, Jimmy Guidery, Cissy Mercy, Les Arabellas, Max and Romer, "The Adder's Tooth."

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday at 2.30.
Ten Dixie Girls, Pictures, Baker and De Sales, Elsie Kedwards, Tom Hulme, "Nick Carter," Parker Bracey and Coons, Connie Duprey, Miss Eva Ellis, Maud Lordy's Dogs.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Julian Mack, The Darntons, Lisbon and Barker, Albert Letine, Les Piccolinos, Walter Barrett, Goodwin's Picc., Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
L. B. Athol, Geo. Goldburn, Connie Ruble, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
J. W. Rickaby, Victor Bros., The Rangers, Ethel Bourne, Rooke, Rorke, and Co., Mona Garrick, Palace Perfection Pictures, J. J. Mannix.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Winifred Ward, Joe Cookson, Three Phydoras, John Donald, Miss Muffett, Gena Manon, Burley and Burley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Andos Japs, Dorothy Dare, Charles Erard, Blair and Allen, Will Harris, Florence Delamere, Gillin, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Eugene Stratton, The Fimans, Wallau, Bros. Ford, Ross and Grayson, Cavalli, Little Spencer, Edwards and Edwards, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Carney and Armstrong, Mildred Bryan, The Camplins, Geo. Geoffreys, Jimmie Pullin, Pick of the Picture World, Lennard and Leslie.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
The Waldrons, The Rosses, Ray Royal, Stylo, George Acre, Cairo Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, Silly Billy Elliott.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Tan-Kwai Troupe, Fred Lincoln, The Woodwards, Rose and Jeanette, Max Laube, Rosie Jaxon, Eight Lancashire Lads, Palace Perfection Pictures, Norah Desmond.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Outcast of the Family."
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Rollicking Rory."
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.
PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Five Jolly Bakers, May Poulton, Stidder and Dunbar, Walter Aubrey, The Keppels, Tina Frank, Shenton and Chicks, Palace Perfection Pictures.
PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal 10 a.m.
George Sheldon and Co., The Fitzroys, Mamie Morris, The Unites, Johnnie Cecil, Lennard and Vereker, Belrose and De Velin, Gwen Francis, Syd Walker, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Enzer, Tintos, Rhoderick Duo, Jeff Martin, Cissy Brand, Chris Masters, Bessie Neilson, The Little Vestas, Dick Cruickshank, "The Cattle Thief."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Pictures, Chas. Woodward, Harrigan and Holt, E. D. Nichols and Co., Chas. Harland, Rob Roy, Nellie Neil, Clarke and Mostel.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée Monday at 2.30 o'clock.
J. H. Greener, Pictures, Viviana and Co., Cadwell and Verne, Damerell and Rutland, "A Ruined Life," Hugh and High, Chas. Edwin, Desmond and Diss, Capt. Lemar, La Raildia, Jos. Crook.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

VON TILZER MUSIC COMPANY.

ALFRESCO

LATEST SUCCESSES OF

SAM MAYO — FRAGSON
HARRY FORD — FRED EARLE
ERNEST SHAND — HARRY CHAMPION
WHIT CUNLIFFE — ARTHUR REECE

Send for our
PIERROT BOOK of 50 Song Successes, 1/- post free.
BUDGET of CHORUS and SOUBRETTE Songs, 6d. post free.

VON TILZER MUSIC COMPANY, LTD.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, three Bedrooms; Comb. Piano; three mins. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DUBLIN.—40, Stephen's-green East. Furnished apartments; bedroom and sitting room, 2 guineas per week.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Crown Hotel. Superior. Elmbank-street, few doors below King's Theatre. Terms, £2 2s. per week.

HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-street. Large rooms, bath, piano. Terms moderate. Good cooking. Good references. Near all theatres.

LIVERPOOL.—Two front sitting, three bedrooms, large front combined; piano; w.c. in; close Theatre; car passes door.—Clifton House, 70, Everton-road.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-road. Mrs. Peers, comfortable sitting and bedroom, vacant Sunday, April 3. Highly recommended.

NORWICH. — Superior apartments, highly commended for cleanliness, cooking, and attention. Vacant Sunday. Principals only. Mrs. Allen, 25, St. Stephen's-square.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

BRIXTON (ANGELL-ROAD).
FOR SALE.—Contains 8 rooms, bath, kitchen, scullery, and usual offices; lease, about 52 years; ground-rent, £8 10s. Price £375, or £25 down and balance by monthly instalments of £3 3s. Apply F. E. Widdowson, 398, City-road, E.C.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
25, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

THEODORE YESSLIN.
An important letter awaits you at "The Era" Office.

MR. WALTER DE FRECE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1910.

PALACE THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 for
Chris Baker, Cromwells, Gladys Archbutt, Harry Russell and Co., Barnes and Ascot, Oliver Conroy, Harry Fragson, Carl Lynn, Arleys Trio, Pictures.

EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 1 for
Zethus, Addie Lennard, Hayes and Watson, Harry Russon, Curwen and Belle, Cissie Curlette, Vampire Dance, Pictures.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 for
Florrie Gallimore, Frank Lister and Co., Dene and Dixon, Bert Crosbie, Reno, Eugene, Staffo, Harrison Bros., Pictures.

HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.
Rehearsal at 1 for
Rutter's Dogs, Addie Adell, Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, F. V. St. Clair, Brooklyn Comedy Quartette, Vesta Tilley, Bros. Habs, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Wun Hi and Chung Soo, Will Driscoll, Mgt. Ismay and Coons, S. W. Wyndham, Maud Esmond, Little Tich, Maxey and Pete, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, BOSCOMBE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Fred Evans, Maud and Sidney Wood, Kraggs Trio, Fred Barnes, Fred Russell, Ida Barr, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, SOUTHEND.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Ivey Aberdare, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Carlisle and Wellmon, L. W. Harris, Kilties' Band, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, MARGATE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:
Gilbert Heron and Co., in "Saved by Wireless," Eric Vaughan, Lilian Rose, Little Sophie, Bros. Lydamore, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, COLCHESTER.
Dramatic Company.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Dramatic Season.

TED SNYDER'S
GREAT SONGS.

"ROSES AND MEMORIES"
Song, Violin Solo, 'Cello Solo, Piano Solo, and for Orchestra. Being played nightly with unprecedented success by the famous 'cellist AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.
This Week, Coventry; Next, Walsall (Stoll Tour).

"SADIE SALOME"
Being sung by LOWENWIRTH and COHAN.
This Week, Holborn; Next Week, Argyle, Birkenhead.

The Comic Song of the Century.
"MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY!!!"
Being sung by PHIL PARSONS.
This Week, Shepherd's Bush Empire; Next Week, Birmingham (Stoll Tour).
In addition to these numbers, we have a lot of new things just received from the States which everyone should come and hear.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.)
Albion House 59-61, New Oxford St., London.
Manager, J. H. SQUIRE.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.

NOTICE is hereby given that All Artistes holding dates at the above after May 30, 1910, must send in their contracts for confirmation, as all contracts are cancelled on and after that date, the theatre having been leased to Mr. EWART C. POTTER, to whom all communications must be addressed with reference to all future engagements.

WALTER T. COX, Secretary,
Maidstone Palace Theatre, Co., Ltd.
March 29, 1910.

TO ARTISTES AND OTHERS.

THE KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.

NOTICE is hereby given, that bill matter and all communications concerning the above mentioned theatre should be sent direct to me, the undersigned (Managing Director of the Portsmouth Theatres, Limited, who are the proprietors of the King's Theatre), at the address mentioned below.

Dated this 15th day of March, 1910.

J. W. BOUGHTON,
New Theatre Royal, Commercial Rd., Portsmouth.

"THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN THEATRICAL PROFESSION."
ON SALE WHEREVER THERE IS A PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY with from 24 to 28 Pages, Handsomely Illustrated, with Reports from over 1,000 Cities and Towns in the United States and the Foreign Stage, covered by Special Correspondents.
Has the exclusive patronage of Messrs. CHARLES FROHMAN, KLAW and ERLANGER, LIEBLER and CO., WILLIAM GILLETTE, NIXON and ZIMMERMAN, GEORGE EDWARDES, NAT C. GOODWIN, HENRY W. SAVAGE, and, in fact, every prominent Theatrical Manager.
Foreign Subscription, ONE POUND A YEAR. Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
London Office, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. JOHN PARKER, Manager.
Communications may be addressed to
MAX ELIOT, Special London Correspondent, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, S.W.

NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.

All the American Theatrical News.

For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

MARKT & CO. (LONDON) LTD.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 618 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, April 3.

TAMING A HUSBAND.

Biograph Comedy 983ft

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Thursday, April 14.

RANCH KING'S DAUGHTER.

Wild West Story. 700ft.

AFTERNOON OFF.

Comedy. 300ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, April 10.

NEW MARSHALL AT GILA CREEK.

Western. 815ft.

HONEYMOON THROUGH SNOW AND SUNSHINE.

Scenic. 950ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

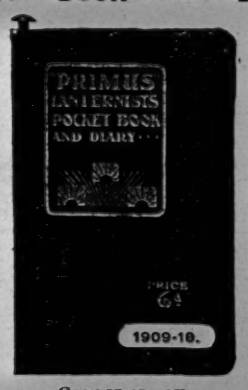

COMPILED BY

W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.

Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** free.

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St, Strand., W.C.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with Distinction

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any inquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,

RUFFELL'S

IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd., 12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C. (Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Raffoscope, London." Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

SPECIAL.

THE CRAERIN TRAVEL TALKS ON AMERICAN CITIES

Now Offered. Full line of Theatrical Printing. All Film personally made. Coloured Slides finest ever shown.

Lectures on NEW YORK CITY, WASHINGTON, D.C., MONTREAL, & QUEBEC, now ready. Sold outright.

Address, R. G. CRAERIN, Washington, D.C., U.S.A

THE "EXCELSIOR"

HALF-SOVEREIGN

TIP-UP CHAIRS

Upholstered in Velvet.

THE "CHAMPION"

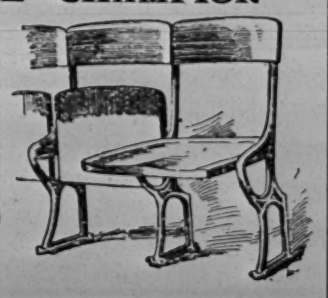

4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines. All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,

UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS, 21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London." Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, 12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER, PAINTING & DECORATING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.

Illustrated Catalogue Free.

PIERROT POSTERS AND ALL OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

Catalogues and prices of printing free.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates. Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

A. R. DEAN & SONS, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are by far the Largest Manufacturers in the World for every description of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c. Suitable for Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, Town Halls, Hotels, and Billiard Saloons.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Last year (1909) executed contracts for Theatres, Music Halls, Town Halls, Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c., &c., to the extent of 134 contracts, mostly gained in open competition.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

This year (1910) intend to leave last year's record far behind. Already they have in hand for immediate completion—

1.—NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
The whole of the magnificent Furnishing, Seating, Carpeting, Tableau Curtains, &c.
2.—NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
3.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, HARLESDEN (CONSTITUTIONAL HALL).
Furnishing and Seating throughout.
4.—NEW OLYMPIA PALACE, TODMORDEN.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
5.—ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.
Re-Carpeting and Re-Furnishing.
6.—NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE ROAD.
Seating and Furnishing throughout.
7.—NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
8.—THE NEW MAJESTIC ELECTRIC THEATRE, KILBURN.
Entire Construction, Decorating, Furnishing, and Seating.
9.—RAYMOND'S EXCHANGE HALL, BLACKBURN.
Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
10.—RAYMOND'S VICTORIA THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.
11.—NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.
Entire Seating and Furnishing throughout.
12.—NEW OLYMPIA, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Tip up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing throughout.
13.—NEW ALHAMBRA PALACE, PENRITH.
Complete Furnishing throughout.
14.—NEW HIPPODROME, CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.
New Tip-up Chairs and Complete Furnishing.
15.—NEW LADYWOOD PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Decoration; Seating throughout.
16.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, STATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Complete Seating and Furnishing.
17.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.
Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, &c., &c., throughout.
18.—NEW QUEEN'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Complete Seating and Furnishing throughout.
19.—NEW PICTURESCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING BROADWAY.
Whole Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
20.—NEW GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.
Whole Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
21.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD.
Complete Seating and Furnishing, &c
22.—NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.
Whole of the Magnificent Chairs and Seating.
23.—NEW EXHIBITION BUILDINGS, MANCHESTER.
24.—NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.
Complete Decorations and Furnishings.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Make a very special feature of Fibrous Plaster Fronts and Decorations for Picture Palaces, Skating Rinks, &c.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Are at all times pleased to prepare and submit Designs and Schemes of Decorations, &c., free of all charge.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Will be pleased for either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell, one or both, to wait on Architects, Managers, &c., to take particulars for estimating free of all charge; distance no object.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Want Contracts this year, and their Managers are out on the war path for that purpose.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Care not whether the orders be large or small; they all receive best attention. The largest Opera House or the smallest Picture Palace will receive their best attention.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have always been famed for the substantial class of goods they make. Four years' guarantee with all their Chairs, from cheapest to the best.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Have for Many Years been the Largest Manufacturers in the World for Every Description of Tip-up Chairs and Seating.

Write for A. R. DEAN & SONS New Catalogue of Every Description of Tip-Up Chairs, Seating, and Furnishing.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Supply a good durable Tip-Up Chair from 4/6 to 75/- A good Running Seat from 1/- per foot.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Advise Intending Purchasers of Seating to write for their Catalogue—then select the Chairs they would like to inspect. Take same to pieces; compare with Competitors. They will then know how it is that it is A. R. DEAN & SONS First and the Rest quite out of it.

A. R. DEAN & SONS

Only employ Trade Union Men, Pay full Wages, and Turn out a first-class Article.

A. R. DEAN & SONS,

CABINET MAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND CARPET MANUFACTURERS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM.

Manager, Theatre Department—Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK.
Manager, Decoration Department—Mr. C. BARDELL, N.S.
Manager of Factory—Mr. L. BECK.

By order of the Liquidators of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society (Ltd.). To Music-Hall Proprietors, Syndicates, Speculators, and others.

MESSRS. MARLER & MARLER

will offer for

SALE BY AUCTION

at the MART, Tokenhouse-yard, London, E.C., on FRIDAY, May 27 next, at two o'clock precisely, the sumptuous modern

HIPPODROME PALACE OF VARIETIES, HASTINGS,

of freehold tenure, situated on the main esplanade, facing the sea, with a fine terra-cotta front and splendid auditorium, capable of holding 1,500 persons. Luxuriously furnished and appointed throughout, and equipped on the most up-to-date lines, with spacious promenades, foyer, saloons, and large open-air loggia overlooking the sea. Fully licensed and open to the public, but with vacant possession on completion of the purchase.

Particulars, with view, plan, and conditions of sale, may be obtained from Messrs. Gribble, Oddie, Sinclair, Rowlatt, and Johnson, Solicitors, of 38, Bedford-row, London, W.C., and together with permits to view of the Auctioneers, as above, of 176, Sloane-street, London, S.W.

CRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	Tray Bottom	G.P.O. Rollers on Bottom
24 x	14 x	14 ..	6 10 ..	3/2 ..	3/0 ..	2/0
26 x	16 x	15 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 ..	2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 .	3/3 ..	2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10 6 ..	4/6 ..	3 6 ..	2/6
33 x	21 x	21 ..	12/6 ..	5/3 ..	4/0 ..	3/0
36 x	22 x	22 ..	14/6 ..	6/0 ..	4/6 ..	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.

Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.

LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH

Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.

T. CRAVEN & SONS

T. Dept., 99, Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

FOR SALE.

Rare, "The Era," bound in half-yearly volumes, cloth backs, marbled boards, from 1885 to 1899 (less 1891, I. and II., 1892, I., 1895, I., 1899, II.), invaluable to Stage Historians, Managers, Actors, &c., 24 volumes, all out of print. Offers invited for whole or special volumes. R. H. HAMILTON, St. Brelade's, Horsham, Sussex.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound. Will sell cheap. DE VON, LTD., 114, Bethnal Green-road, London.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —

TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

are received through Messrs.

J. ROLAND KAY & CO.,

TEUTONIC BUILDINGS, 172, WASHINGTON STREET, CHICAGO, U.S.A.,

from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

MR. CHARLES WEIR.
Offers invited.
37, Sutherland-place, Bayswater, W.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Mr. Hook, "Hook of Holland."
Southampton; next, K., Hammersmith.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
At Liberty to Produce, &c.
235, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged. Character, Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manager. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General-Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). Miss Ley, disen. "Little Damozel" Tour, Folkestone and Hastings.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT.
Address,
6, Carey-mansions, Westminster, S.W.

MR. JACKSON WILCOX,
Disen. for three weeks, commencing Ap. 11.
9c, Prince of Wales'-road, Battersea Park, S.W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Note the Name.
Hippodrome, Sheffield.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
April 11, Gaiety T., Dundee.

MR. BREMBER WILLS & FLORENCE WYNN. At Liberty.
5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
At Liberty for Management.
Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, The London Hippodrome.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Mr. Weedon Grossmith's "Preedy and the Countess" Co. Dis. May 1. New T., Cardiff.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
Eng. for Autumn by W. H. Savery, Esq.
17A, Lissenden-mansions, Highgate-road, N.W.

MR. NORMAN YATES,
"The Scarlet Pimpernel."
New Theatre, W.C.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
General-Manager, Herbert Darnley's Cos.
44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

STANLEY H. BELL,
Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism.
Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND,
the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer.
Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

STUART DEBNAM, Humour — "Swankability" × Gentility + Originality ÷ Amiability and Avarice = Stuart Debnam.
Churchfield-avenue, North Finchley, N.

CHARLES DUDLEY, Refined Humorous Songs and Stories. Few summer weeks vac. for Piers, &c. 86, Keslake-rd., Kilburn.

ELITE CONCERT PARTY.
Aug. 1 to 6 wanted. FRANCIS ROLFE, 126, Barrows-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Receptions, Dinners, Ladies' Orchestra for Dances, &c. Perm. add., 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

ERNEST A. GLOVER.
Sifleur, Concerts, Dinners, &c.
9, Woodthorpe-road, Putney, S.W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers. GEO ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MAIE HOEY.
Drama, Comedy, Eastern and Classical Dancer. Seasides invited. C/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

ARTHUR KENNEDY, Scottish Humorist. Bohemians, Smokers, &c., town or country. 16, Oppidans-road, London, N.W.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD, A.L.C.M.,
High Soprano.
Lately concluded 35 weeks Norwich.
Offers invited for Summer.
33, Oakhurst-grove, East Dulwich.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS
AND
SUBCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.

J. ROLAND KAY & CO.
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,

from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—PICTURE PALACE, GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. Tebbitt.—The above Picture Palace and Theatre opened on Monday night, under new management. Top of the bill is Mlle. Hengleur and her famous troupe of Russian poodles, who obtain a hearty reception; Godfrey Price, baritone, also makes a good impression. The Bioscopic pictures are new and interesting.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Reid.—Bains and Co., comedy acrobats, in *Humps and Pumps*, submit a very clever turn; the Sisters Hollie, comediennes and dancers, are highly appreciated; the Two Mays, in their comedy duologue, *The Maniac Child*, cause roars of laughter; Andy Burns is a smart eccentric comedian and expert dancer; and the programme ends with some striking Bioscopic pictures.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Amsterdam*, produced by a strong company, under the superintendence of Mr. John Tiller, is a gorgeous piece of stagecraft, embellished with elaborate scenic effects, and boasting one of the finest ballet troupes ever seen in Aberdeen. Amongst the clever group of players are Mr. Arthur Stigant, Mr. T. W. Volt, Mr. Charles V. Sandford, Miss Lulu Valli, Miss Dorothy Firmin, and Miss Nancy Hearne.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —*The Slave Dealers*, an Asiatic novelty, presented by Mirza Golem and his talented troupe, heads the bill. Other turns are contributed by Miss Lillie Soutter, a comedienne endowed with abundant vivacity; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie, amusing eccentrics; Robb Wilton, in his mirth-provoking "Fire Brigade" song; Dolly Golden, speciality dancer; the Sages, clever vaudeville entertainers; and the Wittington Trio, acrobatic comedians.

ACCRINGTON. — PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is presenting here, with gratifying success, *The Breed of the Treshams*. In the exacting rôle of Lieut. Reresby, Mr. Sidney Bland is seen to distinct advantage; Mr. Alfred Holles renders effective service as Viscount Dorsington; Mr. George Butler is a creditable Colonel Clement Hungerford; and Mr. George Traill fulfils all the demands of Sir Henry Curwen. The Cornet, Francis Tresham, has a manly exponent in Mr. Walter Graham; Mr. George Jackson is seen to advantage as Lieut. Willoughby; Mr. Sydney Courtenay is successful in depicting Captain Stanhope; and Mr. Leslie Lingham gives a good rendering of Colonel Bagshaw. Miss Mildred Hodson proves herself an able and accomplished actress as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Miss Grace Harlington is an exceedingly clever Batty; Miss Dorothy De Lille a charming Helena Pierpoint; and Miss Madge Cottier a most pleasing Mrs. Bagshaw.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Six Bros. Luck, in the mirth-provoking sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, form the principal item here, and are affording the utmost pleasure to many old admirers; Ross and Lewis, a capital comedy couple, are winning golden opinions; and Randolf King proves himself a smart ventriloquial protean artist. Bert Woodward meets with a cordial reception in a daring cycling act; Little Pam is an exceptionally clever comedian and dancer; the Bros. Lawrence are accorded a hearty, well-deserved encore for their vocal and dancing turn; the Lecardos display much ability as comedy acrobats; T. E. Johnson is entertaining as a topical character vocalist; and A Pleasant Walk, depicted by the Bioscope, is very amusing.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—For the opening of the dramatic and musical comedy season, no better attraction could have been introduced than *The Arcadians*. Miss Marion Edwardes portrays the rôle of Sombra with charming simplicity; Miss Mysie Devine (who was here in *A Merry Widow*) adds to her reputation, and is a fascinating Eileen. Miss Madge Haines gives a fine enactment of the self-made woman, Mrs. Smith, and some excellent comedy is brought about by that lady and Mr. Frank Collins (Peter); Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea is also very successful; Mr. Gus. Oxley (who was previously here in *Three Little Maids*) is responsible for a continual vein of fun as James Smith and Simplicitas; Mr. Frank Collins introduces comedy as a fine art, and does not miss one point in making Peter Dooley, the unfortunate jockey, an object of pity, make-up and facial expression adding to the excellence of his impersonation. Mr. Roy Sidney as Jack Meadows is very successful; Mr. Roy Lorraine as Bobby is capital; Mr. Frank Henry (Astophel) sings and acts well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Messrs. Hall Caine and Louis Parker's version of "The Manxman," dramatised under the title of *Pete*, is here for the week. Mr. Frederick Victor sustains the character of Pete, the Manxman, with great emotional feeling; Miss Constance Bachner realises very vividly the Kate of the novel; Mr. Alfred Lugg suggests a suave, easy tempter in his Philip Christian; Mr. Ellis J. Preston brings much histrionic ability to bear in his portrait of Cæsar Creegen, and Mr. Maurice Yorke touches the right note as the caddish Ross Christian; as Black Tom Mr. J. Lingard makes the most of his opportunities.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Mr. Geo. A. De Gray's drama *The Angel of His Dreams* is ably interpreted here by the author and company. As the Rev. Christian Esdaile Mr. De Gray is convincing; as the unfortunate Roy Ferrars Mr. Robert Hall wins applause; Miss Edna Earl plays with agreeable refinement as the much-harrassed Milly St. Austell; and Miss Effie Bartlett as Hilda Revelle acts with intensity and power; Major Dudley Ferrars is strongly depicted by Mr. Wallace Campbell; as Sir Francis Tregarthen Mr. Chas. Arnold is impressive; and the comedy element is effectively sustained by Miss Etta Turner and Mr. Mayo Stanley.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*The Merry Widow* has made a welcome reappearance here. The company is presented by Mr. George Edwardes. Miss Phyllys le Grand in the title-rôle is a distinct success; and Mr. Fred Leslie makes an ideal Prince Danilo; Baron Popoff is humorously portrayed by Mr. Edward D'Arcy; Mr. Ripley Evans renders the songs relegated to the part of Vicomte Camille de Jolidon in a pleasing manner; an excellent impersonation of Natalie is given by Miss Ada Thomas; Nisch is well represented by Mr. Fred Fowler; and the Apache dance by Miss Katie May and Mr. Fowler is effective.

PICTURE PALACE.—The pictures are of the usual attractive and interesting nature, pathos and humour being well blended.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company is here with *Pete*. Mr. Austen Milroy gives an excellent study of Pete. Mr. Alfred Grey as Philip gives a meritorious performance. Miss V. Malcolm Barnett is a powerful yet sympathetic Kate Cregeen; Mr. Frank Stone as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Edward Fletcher as Ross Christian and Miss Lucy Murray leave nothing to be desired.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*The Passing of the Third Floor Back* is presented here by Mr. Ian Robertson and company. Mr. Robertson is admirable as the Stranger, making the character stand out in bold belief; and Miss Helena Parsons is particularly good as the Slavey. Miss Jeannie Thomas makes a typical landlady; Mr. Santez Brown as Samuel, Mr. H. Garthorne as the entertainer, Mr. Billington as the Bookmaker, Mr. G. Twyman as the Major, Miss Lena Delphine, his wife, and Mrs. Barbara Everest as Vivien are very capable in their respective rôles.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mr. Walter Ellis and company are the top of the bill here, with a sketch, entitled *The Sleepwalker*, which was well received; Bert Harrow makes a hit with his songs; the Adams accomplish clever cycle tricks; the Westbrooks are pleasing in a scena of songs and dances; Minnie Mace is favourably received; Charles Rowen is a quaint comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope contributes interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Fred Newman British Empire Picture Company continues popular. A special variety attraction is provided by Jackson and May with exceedingly clever cycling tricks.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—After several years' absence Mr. Horace Lingard is renewing his acquaintance with Bath audiences at the head of Mr. Arthur Shelton's company in the comedy *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, in which his well-known talents as a sound comedian are again displayed as the butler, Martin Bennet. Miss Beatrice Moreau appears to considerable advantage as Fanny; and the elderly Misses May and Emily Wetherell are cleverly enacted by Miss Rita Sponti and Miss Miriam Holt. Mr. Russell Davis plays well as Lord Bantock; Dr. Freemantle is undertaken by Mr. Roland Hope; and other members of the Bennet family are smartly sketched by Mr. A. Lightowler (Ernest), Miss Gwenlyan Cattell (Susannah), and Miss Adelaide Norton (Jane). Mr. Wilfred Compton as George Newte enters fully into his part; and Fanny's professional companions are played by Miss Rose Norton, Miss Ida Blakely, and Miss Ruby Rosale. On Thursday night *Divorçons* was staged with Mr. Lingard as M. Des Prunelles and Miss Beatrice Moreau as Cyprienne. The one-act comedy *The Admiral* is also being given, with Mr. Lingard as Admiral Drake.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Winifred Ward, direct from her London engagements, heads the present company, and once again comes in for a great reception. Quaint and clever aptly describes the acrobatic antics, dances, and gags of Burley and Burley; John Donald is again to the fore in his original song-scena "A Scottish Exile's Dream," his powerful baritone voice being heard to the greatest advantage in his well-arranged ballad répertoire; Joe Cookson strikes a novel line in his ventriloquial and cartoon act; the Three Phydoras are smart and amusing in their eccentric musical act and dancing; Gena Manon gives examples of various styles of singing; and Miss Muffett, the precocious Canadian mite, is on a return visit. The pictures wind up.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R Wilson.—*The Arcadians*, which is paying its first visit to Bedford, is admitted to be one of the best musical comedies ever seen in the town. Mr. C. A. Stephenson as James Smith gives an extremely clever performance; Mr. Alfred Beers as Peter Doody is also most amusing; Miss Molly McIntyre is a charming Eileen Cavanagh, and possesses a fine voice. The piece is splendidly staged, and the dresses are irreproachable. Miss Sybil Tancredi, who has a most pleasing voice, played the part of Sombra to perfection.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The Abbey Theatre (Dublin) company provide the attraction here, and on Monday appeared in a triple bill. The chief item was the three-act comedy *The Eloquent Dempsey*. Mr. Arthur Sinclair was inimitable as Jeremiah Dempsey, and Miss Sara Allgood gained great success as Mrs. Catherine Dempsey; Mr. Fred O'Donovan's Brian O'Neill left nothing to be desired; and the rôle of Mary Kate was done full justice to by Miss Eileen O'Doherty; Mr. J. M. Kerrigan must be congratulated on his clever assumption of Dr. Bunbury, J.P.; and other rôles were efficiently sustained by Messrs. Sydney Morgan and J. A. O'Rourke. *Riders to the Sea* and *The Glittering Gate* were also performed by this capable company. During the week *The Jackdaw*, *The Well of the Saints*, *the Rising of the Moon*, *Deirdre*, *The Workhouse Ward*, and *The Showing Up of Blanco Posnet* have also been produced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The Easter pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, has drawn crowded houses. Chief honours have been deservedly secured by Mr. Sam Thompson, who as Idle Jack is inimitable. The other artists work hard in their various rôles.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Wee Georgie Wood, and this clever juvenile scored a great success on Monday. The Ten Loonies return with their excruciatingly funny sketch *Dotty*, which has kept the audience in roars of laughter. The acrobatic act of the Alaskas is undoubtedly smart; and Naughton and Gold are good cross-talk comedians and smart dancers; Susie and Prottie gain much approval for their smart dancing act; and Miss Maud Ford is a charming comedienne with good songs. Also here are Donal McDougall, Scotch comedian; Wyllie, tramp musician; Cosgrove and Burns, comedy duettists; and the Hippiscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by Harry Roxbury and his capital company, who present with unbounded success their musical absurdity *On the Track*; Ted E. Box is a capital eccentric comedian and sifleur, and his encores are quite deserved; as a card manipulator Marlin's performance is decidedly interesting, and Mike Nono's capably rendered songs gain him the utmost approval; Miss Nellie Dallwood is a charming comedienne and fine dancer; and also here are Miss Vera Rochdale, soubrette; Mr. Chas. Penrose, comedian; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Excellent pictures exhibited here include Faithful unto Death, The Brothers, and The Aeroplanist's Secret. Vaudeville is supplied by Salida and Vone, capital Creole singers and rag-time dancers; and Fame and Fortune, speciality comedians.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Interesting films shown here include Cosette and The Engineer's Romance. Miss May Young, a gifted contralto vocalist, appears with gratifying success.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among the pictures exhibited here may be mentioned The Brutal Master, The Mad Woman of the Ruined Castle, and The Poacher's Revenge. Variety is supplied by Matthew's Minstrel Boys and Mr. Chas. Lee, eccentric comedian.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A capital variety entertainment is submitted here on the "twice nightly" system. The Brothers Laurie form the chief attraction with a neat and clever gymnastic performance; Muller and Coyne also present a laughable comedy act. Others appearing are Dolly Richardson, comedienne; and Mappin and Webb, vocalists. The pictures include A Legend of the Stars, The Shipowner's Daughter, and Nero, or the Fall of Rome.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company, with the musical comedy *The King of Cadonia*, is enjoying much popularity here. Mr. J. Warren Foster as Alexis, King of Cadonia, renders the part in irreproachable style; Mr. Johnnie Osborne is a capital Duke of Alasia, and Princess Marie is admirably represented by Miss Alice Moffat; the Duchess of Alasia is well played by Miss Florence Lelgarde; Mr. Jack Martin is a good General Bonski, and Mr. Cameron Carr is a capable Captain Laski. The play is liberally staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Miss Hetty King, fresh from her American triumphs, heads the capital company, and has a great reception nightly; Lowenthal and Cohan are excellent Hebrew comedians, and Verno and Voyce, in their vocal scenas, are on a welcome return visit; Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian, again meets with a cordial reception; Miss Stella Stahl, comedienne, is a general favourite; Miss Esta Stella, the military maid, gives a delightful entertainment, and Mr. Russell Brandow, a really clever dancer, the Miltons, skating comedians, Miss Olive Dene, an accomplished comedienne, and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Raynor and his répertoire company are appearing twice nightly with gratifying success. On Monday *Moths* was played, and the week's productions have included *Still Waters Run Deep* and *David Garrick*. Leading rôles are done full justice to by Mr. Raynor, Mr. Clinton Baddeley, Mr. Conrad Heywood, Miss Dora Dence, and Miss Cecilie Dare, and the plays are carefully staged.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Elaborately mounted and excellently played by Sir Herbert Tree's company, *Pinkie and the Fairies* is attracting crowded audiences. The juvenile performers are very natural; they dance cleverly and gracefully and act well. The familiar "grown-up" types are admirably represented by Mr. Ambrose Manning as Uncle Gregory, Mr. Walter R. Creighton as Mr. Irons, Miss Kate Fowler as Aunt Imogen, Miss Augusta Haviland as Aunt Caroline, and Miss Hilda Antony as Molly. Miss Iris Hawkins as Pinkie and Master Philip Tonge are leaders of the children, and they take their respective parts admirably. Warm praise is due to Miss Florrie Lewis, the Queen of the Fairies, who dances delightfully. Another clever little performer is Master Burford Hampden as the Fairy Queen's herald.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—The first visit of *The Merry Peasant* to Birmingham is proving highly successful. It is a beautiful piece, the music being delightfully bright and sparkling and the dresses and scenery magnificent. Mr. Courtice Pounds is an exceptionally clever and sympathetic actor, and his song "A man is just as good as he feels" is one of the tit-bits of the evening. Miss Madge Vincent is an accomplished singer, and she makes a charming Freda; Miss Mary Glynn sings and dances charmingly, and warm praise is due to this dainty child actress. Mr. Ernest J. Langford extracts adequate fun out of the part of a comic gendarme, Mr. Percy Carr is admirable as the peasant's son, and Mr. William Hudson and Mr. Frank Wilson work hard and effectively in their respective parts.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest. Drama supplants pantomime here this week, and enthusiastic audiences enjoy the performance of a stirring play, entitled *The Power of a Wicked Woman*. Miss Irene Munroe is the evil genius of the story, and she portrays the character of Helen Terraire very forcibly; Mr. Montague Beaulyn as the easily-led Philip Carey plays with due sincerity and sympathetic effect; and other prominent characters are ably represented by Mr. C. D. Pitt as Lord Arthur Dumley and Mr. Arthur Cresswell as Guy Oliphant.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and company are presenting *A Thief in the Night*, which secures a firm grip over audiences. The piece ranks high amongst melodramatic productions, and the cast is capably filled. Mr. Leyton Cancellor gives a convincing portrayal as Michael Pagani, and Mr. Stanley Bedwell as Alan Escombe also plays a prominent part. Miss Margery Fane (John Escombe) and Miss Beatrice Horner (Sonia Cleeve) are greatly to the fore, and Miss Jennie Hallworth (Happy Christmas), and Mr. Bert Atherton (Toby) are applauded for their share in the comedy situations.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is proving attractive. Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company is responsible for the production, the author, Mr. A. D. Mackay, taking the principal heavy part, that of General Borinski, with great distinction. Miss Margaret Noble gives a careful study as Roma Pauloff; Mr. Carl Kirzo as Fergus Lovinsky performs creditably in many difficult situations; the comedy is presented in refreshing style by Mr. Louis Newman, Mr. C. W. Black, and Miss Ida Mackay. A performance of *Trilby* was announced by Mr. Norman's company for Friday night.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—*The Ticket of Leave Man* is scoring a great success presented by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company. Miss Lelia Zillwood is responsible for a fine interpretation of May Edwards, and Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a good account of himself as Hawkshaw. As "the Tiger." Mr. Fred G. Kay submits a notable performance, and Mr. Walter Clarke is popular in the character of Robert Brierley. Others conspicuous in the cast are Miss M. Canfield, Miss Effie Dane, Mr. Charles Clifford, and Mr. Travis Green.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Only a Little Boy* is presented by Messrs. F. Marriott-Watson and James Ussher's company. The characters are well drawn, especially that of Jim Bragstone, portrayed in masterly style by Mr. F. Marriott Douglas. Juvenile parts are ably sustained by Dot Forde (Billy Bragstone) and Miss Hettie Senior ("Tag Rag"). Mr. Oswald Douglas gives a good account of himself as the hero, Steve Kingdom, and Miss Florence E. Florence is responsible for some realistic acting as June. Miss Mary Ainslie is clever as Lady Meynell, and abundant humour is provided by Miss Amy Rudd, Mr. Cecil Raymond, and Mr. J. Abbott.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—An excellent programme attracts big audiences. Tom Foy, the inimitable Yorkshire comedian, creates roars of laughter in his new sketch, *First of April*. He is ably supported by his company and his well-trained donkey. The Kellinos are skilful risley performers; Braatz's dogs, wonderfully trained, are responsible for an exceptionally bright and novel entertainment; Little Maudie Olmar dances charmingly and sings in pleasing style; there is much good comedy in the skit *How to Treat a Burglar*, by the Maples; Miss Ray Ford, fresh from her pantomime success at the Alexandra Theatre, is a pretty and vivacious young lady; Stanley and Greenop are clever banjoists; Johnny Fuller represents a playful cat admirably, and his act is greatly appreciated. Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, completes the bill.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—In a programme quite up to the customary standard of excellence, Miss Margaret Cooper occupies the first place. She has a number of new songs, and enjoys much popularity. A beautiful act is presented by La Pia, whose fantastic and artistic dances are environed by charming scenic effects; Arthur Ferris is a clever character comedian; and another successful comedian of a different type is Phil Parsons. An effective knockabout turn is given by Great and Good; John Henry, R.A.M., proves himself an accomplished vocalist in selections from *Faust* and *Il Trovatore*, &c.; *Cupid's Arms* is the title of a highly-amusing sketch, in which Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock shine; and good items are given by Winnie Haytor and Katie Moss.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Callahan and St. George, in their delightful Irish character study, *The Old Neighbourhood*, provide the leading feature in an attractive bill. Miss St. George gives some fine selections on the harp, and also sings pleasing songs. Large audiences accord a hearty reception to Molly Wynne, whose songs and dances are particularly bright and acceptable. The Czar's Royal Troupe, a talented combination of whirlwind dancers; the Four Jumels are popular in a novelty musical act; Driscoll and Felino present an up-to-date sketch, *Paddock Life*; George Antill is a talented comedian; Folay and Francis have some excellent patter; and Ethel Dunford is a charming vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Crowded houses are the order here. The Six Brothers Luck, Ltd., in a screaming farce, *H.M.S. Perhaps*, keep the patrons of the hall in merry mood. Another funny act is that of Sandy McNab, who is ably supported by his company in *The Egyptian Mummy*. McNab is a very big favourite here. Walton and Lester are quaint comedians whose burlesque of an illusionist's turn is a scream; Professor Welsen gives a re-

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement
TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS
by the
CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,
T. HARRIS, Manager.
ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.
Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

markable exhibition of skill on the Swedish bar; up-to-date comedy artists are Avon and Crect; the Three Prestons display originality and versatility in a novel act; Phil Bransby is a taking coster comedian; the Five Juanitos perform clever and attractive acrobatic feats; and the Navarros are expert jugglers and plate spinners.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Variety is the keynote of this week's entertainment, which affords thorough enjoyment to good houses. Max Waldon is a leading feature with female impersonations, his singing and artistic talents being of a high order; Bellew and Stocks' company are well received in a refined musical scena, entitled *The Romps*, vocal selections being pleasingly rendered; Juno Salmo performs remarkable contortionist feats; Ted Curtis and company feature several humorous songs and dances in a bright entertainment; Tony Freedman is a popular comedian; Will Nosam sings amusing songs; Kenneth and Kane are a smart comedy combination in "Oh, oh, oh!" and the Moxon Trio are clever acrobatic eccentrics.

Curzon Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—An excellent picture illustrates a journey from London to Paris by motor-car, the car being transported from Folkestone to Boulogne by steamboat. The Kidnapper is the title of an exciting picture of great human interest, and amongst other good subjects are A Chase for a Reward, The New Servant, A Dwarf Detective, The Haunted Man, The Fisherman's Bride, &c. Miss Dora Kingsley delights with her vocal efforts.

King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—"Pictureland" fully maintains its high place in public favour. The star picture is entitled Maud Muller, and it is a clever subject of dramatic interest. Fenton of the 42nd is the title of another good subject, and there is a plethora of first-class comic films. Elliott and Warne, in a comedy sketch, and Tom Dalton, patter comedian, are also favourite contributors.

Queen's Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Excellent dramatic and humorous pictures keep crowded houses thoroughly entertained. The "go-as-you-please" competitions are also a great source of attraction. On Friday evening several exciting glove contests aroused keen interest amongst an enthusiastic crowd.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. C. Watson Mills' company in *The Love of the Princess* is on a return visit. Mr. Frank Harvey gives a thrilling presentation of Prince Conrad, and Mr. Richard Vane is a good Count Damillo. Mr. John Burton (Josey, King of Hamia), Mr. Francis Serle (Duke Scarfe), and Mr. Edgar Morgan (Boris) are very clever artists. Mr. Beckett Bould is a hardworking Lieutenant Orlans, and similar credit is due to Mr. John Worth as Lieutenant Zaroff. Miss Dorothy Haigh again wins many admirers in the rôle of Princess Idalia, and Misses Josephine Lee (Constantia) and Maud Steeple (Lady Irene) are good. The scenic effects are charming.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland) Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—A good bill of fare is provided here, at the top of which appears Consul, described as the Almost Man; Mr. Phil Herman is a capable comedian; Ray and Lingard are smart; Mr. Fred Neiman is a clever ventriloquist; and Burnetti gives a wonderful display in his musical scena. The Almas in their balancing feats are marvellous; Mme. Adah Payne renders her songs in a convincing manner; and Miss Gladys Revell does well in her numbers. The Hipposcope is interesting.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, The Royal and Hippodrome Co.; Governing Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Mr. J. W. Turner and his opera company bring a good répertoire here this week. On Monday night, when *Satanella* was given, Mr. Turner as Count Rupert was most ably assisted by Miss Sarah Williams in the name-part, and by the minor parts, all ably filled.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Burt Shepard heads the bill here this week. He and his piano have made quite a hit. Harry Atkinson gives instrumental imitations; the Four Vagabonds are high-class musical entertainers; La Belle Sylvia gives a dancing and acrobatic turn, and Canard proves an amazing contortionist; Pert Maddison, comedian, has some good songs, and Tennis and Laune, duettists and dancers, are pleasing. Palace pictures complete.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. George Munro and company are paying a welcome return visit, and appearing with great success in a round of legitimate plays. Mr. Munro is an actor of unquestionable ability, and fully merits the warm encomiums bestowed upon him. He is well supported by Miss Doris Horrocks, who also possesses the attributes essential for the making of a very capable actress. During the week both Mr. Munro and Miss Horrocks have assumed the leading rôles in *David Garrick, Hamlet, Othello, Twelfth Night, Merchant of Venice*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Percy Harrop.—*The Chorus Lady*, played by Mr. William Mollison's very capable company, is the attraction here. Although the character of Dan Mallory is quite out of Mr. Mollison's usual line of business, he plays it as to the manner born. Miss Annie Hughes in the title-rôle is a huge success, and carries all before her. Mr. Henry Deas as Dick Crawford, Mr. Fred A. Marston as Patrick O'Brien, and Miss Josephine Woodward as Mrs. O'Brien also merit much praise for the excellence of their work. *The Touch of the Child* is a new curtain-raiser, and a report of the initial production, which took place on Monday night, will be found in another column.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Tom Costello tops the bill here, and meets with a warm welcome. Mons. Foot Gers also does well with his imitations; Babs Lloyd, comedienne, Drew and Alders, in a sketch, Madge Brownie, comedienne, Jack Warman, comedian, the Brennans, in a dancing act, and Bi-Bo-Bi, eccentric musician, are also well received.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—The members of the Bolton Garrick Club are giving six performances here in aid of local charities, the pieces selected being *Under the Red Robe* and *Peter's Mother*.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An attractive variety company here comprises the popular Two Anartos, comedians; Walter Buxton, baritone vocalist; F. C. Fields and Florence Lewis, burlesque duettists; Johnnie Walker, comedian; the Two Brilliants, lady xylophonists; Miss Hilda Jacobsen, burlesque actress; Ruhart, comedy parodist; Lily Eyton, vocal comedienne; the Marco Duo, in their comedy triple-bar act; the Eight 'Varsity Girls, in *A Musical Evening*; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—A good all-round company here is headed by the Harrison Brothers, comedians and patterers, in their laughable absurdity, *The Golfing Johnnies*; other turns being supplied by Miss Florrie Gallimore, comedienne; Bert Crosbie, comedian; Reno, in his daring comedy cycle act; Dene and Dixon, in *The New Page Boy*; Eugene, the girl with the male voice; Staffo, comedian; Frank Lister, in the dramatic sketch, *No. 99*, presented by Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister's company, and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Penningtons; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—At the Muncaster this week is Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company in *Sapho*. The title-rôle is played with charming animation and spirit by Miss Ada Abbott.

Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler Sutton and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—At the Winter Gardens this week Messrs. Adeler Sutton and Allandale present Mr. Frank Dunlop's company. Mr. Frank Dunlop, in new songs and interludes, keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter, being well supported by Mr. Steve Buckingham, an amusing light comedian; Mr. Dave Jenkins, the Welsh basso, is well applauded, and other items are successfully contributed by Miss Edith Fawn, an accomplished comedienne, and Miss Harrie Fawn, a charming soubrette. Miss Joyce Fawn, a clever pianist, accompanies throughout.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodromes, Ltd.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—The Zigeuner Quartette appear in a musical act of a high order; Krags Trio give an extremely neat and clever gymnastic entertainment; Ida Barr, actress-vocalist, renders her songs in fine style; Fred Barnes, comedian, is most successful as "The black sheep of the family"; Fred Russell, with his famous automaton "Coster Joe," is well received; Maud and Sidney Wood give a dainty scena and are heartily applauded; Fred Evans is successful in a novel absurdity, "Dreaming." The usual up-to-date Hippo pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. James Welch's company opened on Monday with *When Knights were Bold*, which kept the large house in roars of laughter, owing especially to the effective way in which Mr. Langdon Bruce interpreted the part of Sir Guy de Vere. Mr. Bruce has a fine sense of humour, and he extracted every ounce of fun out of the part. He was ably supported by other members of the company, notably Miss Ernita Lascelles as Lady Rowena, Mr. Chas. Lloyd as Isaac Isaacson, Mr. H. Winton as Hon. Chas. Widdicombe, Miss Isla Glyane as the Jewess, Mr. Colin Johnston as the Rev. Pottlebury, Mr. R. E. Besant as Whittle, Mr. E. R. Holloway as Barker, and Mr. Gerald Venning as Sir Brian Ballymote.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*The Geisha*, presented by Mr. Mouillot's No. 1 company, is here this week. On the opening night illness prevented Miss Aimée Grey's appearance as O Mimosa San. Miss Beatrice West, however, at scant notice undertook the part, and under trying circumstances acquitted herself well; Molly Seymour was charmingly played by Miss Adela Crispin, and the singing of Miss Renee Reel in the part of O Juliette Diamante and Mr. W. J. Douglas as Reginald Fairfax met with warm approval; Mr. E. Carlton was a diverting Wun Hi, and as the Marquis Imari Mr. Lionel Braham did excellent work, and Mr. F. Chevalier le Grand has the fine chorus and augmented orchestra well in hand. *The Greek Slave* is billed for Friday night.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—For the second week of his engagement here Mr. Frank Lindo has presented with much success his romantic drama *Love the Conqueror*, in which, as Brian Norval, the dashing highwayman, he scores an unqualified success. With distinctive charm Miss Marion Wakeford supports him as Beatrice; Sir John is well sustained by Mr. Sidney Dench; Mr. L. Laurence does well as the cynical, scheming Count Lascelles; Captain Armadale, the boaster, is well handled by Mr. Norton Shields; there is much quaintness in Mr. Bert Dench's acting as Peter; Miss Helene Thomson is good as Susan Shortly; and the genial landlord of the Blue Posts is well played by Mr. Harry Bedford. The play is very finely staged, and the romantic interest is well sustained to the finish.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Tom Davies' trio of motor cyclists whirling round a tea-cup track suspende in mid-air furnish a daring and thrilling turn here, and a genuine success is scored by the Will o' the Wisps, vaudeville entertainers, in their dainty and novel musical mélange; the famous Craggs, in their acrobatic performance "Territorials," do some clever work, and Billy, the recruit, elicits roars of laughter; with breezy stories and good comedy and vocalism Alexandra Dagmar wins her audience; Dion Wade's droll songs and irresistible humour arouse very hearty laughter; Farr and Farland introduce some funny patter in a humorous turn; Chas. Santon's double-voiced vocalism is remarkable; as a character comedienne Dot Hardy is bright and humorous; the Sisters Caselli, duettists, dance well, and do some high kicking; and amusing Bioscope pictures complete a fine programme.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—The Lyons Trio, in a dining-room absurdity, dance well and provide plenty of fun here this week; George Lawrence is a smart type of the light comedian, and Lizzie Daniels is a capital comedienne; in a dramatic sketch, *The Silver Medal*, capitally played by Martin Henry and Miss Irene Rose, there is an acceptable element of comedy introduced; George Brooks sings some capital comic songs; the gun spinning and hand balancing by the Amio Trio constitute a clever turn; comedy and skill are combined in the cycling performance by the Narow Brothers, and the Palace Perfection Pictures are a feature.

BRIDLINGTON.—The Spa and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Will Catlin's popular troupe of Royal Pierrots opened here on Monday night, and quickly established themselves in favour. Mr. Sid Frere is a comedian of the first order; Mr. Jackson Browne's humour is very catching; and Mr. Tom Catlin evokes rounds of applause by his comicalities. Mr. George Houghton's tenor songs never fail to give delight; and Mr. Golly Glynn is a capital lady impersonator and light comedian; Mr. Albert Lyon's coon songs go with a swing; and Mr. R. Edmonson's ventriloquial sketches are cleverly given. The accompanist, Mr. Fred Dennett, is admirable.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. J. L. Leigh submits a clever impersonation of Captain Frank Carsdale; Miss Violet Langley makes a charming Alma Kingsley; Mr. Polson Turner as the villainous Captain George Darrell displays excellent acting; Miss Violet Ingram's Margaret Rivers is a capital portrayal; Mr. Edward Bikker is admirably suited as General Kingsley, V.C.; Miss Maggie English and Miss Maude B. Douglas are popular as the Drummer Boys; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Will Percy as Quincy O'Quirke, Mr. Dick Seddon as Timothy Trimmer, and Miss Connaughton as Molly Meadows.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Peggy Pryde is enthusiastically applauded for her diverting songs and patter; Courtney and Wilton are highly successful in the musical comedy duologue *A Marble Flirtation*; the Smarté Brothers are clever acrobatic eccentrics; Vowles and Bryan contribute a refined musical scena; Con Colyer, comedian, juggler, and dancer, is well received; the Two Lourays are graceful acrobats; La Falles contributes song and dance in good style; Peto, the man-monkey, is clever; Sid Penna gives an original musical turn; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Reginald Eyre and company are highly successful in the thrilling episode *Gentlemen, the King*; Scener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian Troupe of Singers and Dancers are well received; the Serenaders display excellent vocalisation in the scene *Old Venice*; Pitts and Gould are entertaining in a song and dance scene, *Bachelor's Memories*; Sam Elton, eccentric comedian, evokes the heartiest laughter; R. A. Speedwell's wizard pictures are amusing; Dower and Denville are smart step-dancers; Tom B. Finglass sings in good style; Harry Bickley's "lecture on wild animals" is diverting; the Carlens Trio are clever gymnasts; and Connie Mascot, comedienne and dancer, wins cordial applause.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. George Waters' company is here with *Paid in Full*. Miss Jessica Waters merits unstinted praise for her excellent portrayal of Emma Brooks; Mr. Aiden Lovett acquits himself admirably as the scoundrel, Joseph Brooks; Mr. Arthur Poole achieves great success as James Smith; Mr. Bert Morley is well placed as Captain Williams; Mr. Cyril Percy makes the most of his opportunities as Sato; and Miss D. Brinsley Hill is a pleasing Beth Harris.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Frank's company appears here in *Little Mrs. Cummin*. Miss Dorrie Roberts as the domineering mother-in-law, Mrs. Cummin, submits a clever enactment; the young wife and husband are admirably impersonated by Miss Kitty Crichton and Mr. Dudley Stewart; Mr. Theodore Kelly is effective as Captain Sands; Miss Victoria Wray presents a good character study as Susy Plain; and Mr. Arthur Gibbons is distinctly successful as the deaf wealthy uncle. The play is preceded by the comedietta *The Tooth of Necessity*.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here maintain their attractiveness. The Engineer's Romance conveys a story which abounds in stirring incidents. The Judgment is an exciting picture; A Story of Circus Life is a fine drama; The Cherries is an excellent film; and those of an amusing character include The Tough Beefsteak, The Secondhand Stove, and Cocoanuts are Cheap. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in artistic style; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs' pianoforte accompaniments merit praise.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—A capital series of pictures is exhibited here. The films of a dramatic character are A Woman's Strategy and A Woman's Luck; a series descriptive of The Sugar Cane Industry proves instructive; Brooklyn Railway Yard, and a Trip Round Brighton on a Motor Car are interesting; and much fun is afforded by Foolshead, Am I mad? and Invigorating Electricity.

BRISTOL. — Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*The Little Damozel* is being capitally played here by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company the comedy being admirably staged. Miss Molesworth is pleasingly effective in the title-rôle, and when required displays considerable power; Mr Frank Lacy does excellently as Recklaw Poole; Mr. Guy Newall gives a good portrayal of the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. George A. Brandram is highly satisfactory as Captain Neil Partington; and Mr. Townsend Whitling is well placed as Walter Angel. Batholdy, Pepo, and Abraham are made striking character parts by Messrs. Julian Cross, William J. Stack, and Reginald Hargreaves. Miss Eva Stuart is pleasing as Sybil Cravèn; and Mr. Arthur Redmond satisfactorily completes the cast as a servant. The comedy is preceded with *Curing a Selfish Husband*, in which Miss Violet Baynton, Mr. Townsend Whitling, and Mr. Guy Newall distinguish themselves.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here with the interesting drama *A Girl's Temptation*, the play being well staged. Miss Gertrude Gilbert acts very effectively as Kate Stirling; Mr. Frank V. Fenn displays dramatic ability as Guy Warren; Mr. Clifton Earle is effective in the heavy rôle of Mark Klaw; Mr. Tom Handley makes a good light comedy part of the Hon. Charles Clade; Mr. Charles Hubert and Mr. Gerald Nolan are well placed as Basil Warren and Geoffrey Stirling; Miss Winnie Donovan is admirable in the unpopular part of Lady Constance Heathfield; and Miss Blanche Lee acts with fine dramatic power as Annie Brown. The comic parts of Jemima Jossap and Sammy Sniggles are capitally undertaken by Miss Amy Corallie and Mr. Freddie Bentley.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Will Lytton and company are successfully presenting Harry Roxbury's latest production *Sergeant Longfellow*, the sketch being well played and much applauded. Francini Olloms and Page entertain with their act, which includes juggling acrobatic and comedy tumbling; Arthur Sutcliffe, comedian, is successful; Ruby and Laws do well with their vocal scena, the latter being very effective in "Asleep in the Deep"; Nellie Wigley is a pleasing and artistic singer of chorus songs; the Five M.P.'s are clever instrumentalists; the Three Cunards present a smart simultaneous and sand-dancing act; and animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Kitty Traney heads the bill with her admirable juggling and sporting act, her trained dogs and pony doing some really clever tricks. Dorothy Grahame pleases with her interesting production, *Ma Fille*, in which some clever dancing is introduced, Miss Grahame being well supported by her company. The Saletos do a good head and hand-balancing act; George Don, comedian, is successful; Scholey and Scholey amuse with their comedy act, *Winning a Wager*; Harry Elliston and company please with their sketch *Aunt Matilda*; the Four Hawkers do a smart harmony and comedy act; the Sisters Lynd please as duettists and dancers; Ellis and Campbell, comedians, are applauded, as also is Jay Barrie, comedian. Animated pictures conclude.

Colston Hall.—Ralph Pringle's animated pictures continue to attract. The films include a special one of Mount Etna in Eruption. The variety entertainment is also first class, including, amongst others, Florence and Rose Showells, operatic artists; Clarke and Dewar, comedians and dancers; and Caselli, banjo expert.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., No. 1 Company in *An Old Man's Darling* got much appreciation by a good house on Monday. Mr. Sanley Radcliffe, the general-manager, gives a good study of the Squire, George Ricroft; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon presents the hero in capital style; the villain, Blackstand, is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Wingfield; comedy is sustained by Mr. Millar Wilson as Billy Barlicorn, and Miss Florri Hall as Molly; Miss Nina Vaughton is a charming heroine as Bessie Earnshaw; Miss Emilie Entwistle does well as Minnie, and her singing is appreciated; Mary Winters is cleverly played by Miss Ada Hender; Miss Ellen Wingfield (Dick), Miss Lily Ashby (Martha Earnshaw), and the other members give good studies of their several parts.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Silver King* holds the boards here, and was given before a large audience on Monday, when Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company scored a big success, and the capable artists were accorded a flattering reception. Mr. Fred. D. Daviss brings his skill to bear on the interpretation of Wilfred Denver; whilst as his wife, Nellie Denver, Miss Mildred Surrey is highly successful. Mr. Edward George, in his old rôle of Daniel Jaikes, has lost none of its power; and Mr. Sidney Lynn gives a vivid picture of the Spider. Other characters are in capable hands, and the production throughout is excellent.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The chief item here is the sensational cycling turn of the Staigs troupe, who accomplish a feat called "The Devil's Ride." Drury and Lane are untiring step-dancers; and Kerr and Koe, in addition to being funny, are tricky simultaneous dancers. Lily Turner, comedienne, pleases the audience; and the Corcoran Brothers are very good with wind instruments. Nicklin Williams, baritone vocalist, sings in good style; and the Hartingtons are interesting jugglers. The Stowe Brothers give a clever series of hand-balancing feats; and colour photography by the Empire Theatrescope illustrates wild bird life.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Eugene Stratton is at the head of the bill, and his singing and dancing evokes rounds of applause. Rors and Grayson keep the audience in roars of laughter with their musical mélange; and Cavalli is a smart ventriloquist. Little Spencer has some neat steps in clog-dancing; and the Firmans are funny in *The Fire Station*. Other turns are Waller, a clever juggler; Edwardes and Edwardes, musical specialists; and the Brothers Ford, in concurrent singing and dancing. A marvellous Indian film is shown by the Palace Pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Local charities will reap substantial benefit from the performance of *Merrie England* by the Burton New Operatic Society.

CANTERBURY. — Theatre Royal.—Manager and Lessee, Mr. E. G. Falcon.—The Canterbury Amateur Operatic Society occupy the boards this week with representations of *The Gondoliers*. The performances are in aid of the local hospital.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The boards are occupied this week by the Cardiff Amateur Operatic Society, in *Merrie England*.

The Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manger, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—A capital all round programme fills the Empire to overflowing this week. The chief attraction is the clever performance of Chas. T. Aldrich, a most versatile artist; the Empire Comedy Four are appreciated in their delightful harmony; intelligence and adroitness are displayed by Loyal's Dogs; George Newburn gains exceptionally hearty applause by his clever mimicry; the remarkably clever acrobatic turn of the Three Van Dammes is accorded hearty applause; the speciality instrumental act of Roma and Romani is most artistic; the Lyric Quartette present a couple of beautifully-coloured picture ballads; Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley have a smart and entertaining act, *Fun in a Music Shop*; and Miss Jewel St. Ledger, daintily gowned, proves a delightful soprano. The Bioscope completes.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*The Better Land* is presented to Cardiff audiences for the first time by Fred Granville's company. A great impression is made by the clever portrayal of Doris by Miss Marguerite Trevosper; Mr. Douglas Watson capably enacts the rôle of Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Leonard Booker as Hubert displays histrionic ability; Miss Madge Trevelyan as Mercedes is successful; to Aunt Jemima full justice is done by Miss Bella Moody; and the juvenile performances of Tessa by Miss Elsie Jones and Harry by Miss Gertie Moody are delightfully fresh. Comedy is safely entrusted to Mr. Fred Richards as Tom Tadpole, Mr. J. F. Hughes as Bill Bones, and Miss Kitty Terris as Polly Perkins.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. F. Rawson's company is presenting here a particularly interesting sketch, *Before the Dawn*; Syd Walker, described as a comedian, proves himself to be a born humorist and clever fun-maker. His special setting is novel and extremely funny. Another item of considerable merit is that of the Unites, in their new and original comedy act; the Fitzroys (Fred and Lily), original society gymnasts, are undeniably clever; Lennard and Vereker, in a pictorial song, are pleasing; Gwen. Francis is a dainty comedienne; and Johnny Cecil, light comedian, Geo. Belrose, and Maud De Velin, talented duettists and soloists, Mamie Morris, a capable dancer, and the usual pictures all add to the pleasure derived from the evening's entertainment.

CARLISLE. — H.M. Theatre. — Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the first time in Carlisle, Ibsen plays are being produced here. Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore are responsible for the performances, and their clever company gave a most impressive interpretation of *A Doll's House* on the opening night. As Torvald Helmer Mr. Lovel acted throughout with artistic naturalness; Miss Kenmore's Dora created a deep impression; Mr. Kenneth Black contributed a praiseworthy sketch of the Doctor; Mr. Arthur Rodney was always well in the picture as Krogstadt; and Miss Katherine Maynard's Widow was a finished performance. *When We Dead Awaken* and *Hedda Gabler* are billed for the remaining nights.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The Waldrons head the bill here in an entirely new sketch, which is no less amusing and cleverly worked than their well-known *Silly Burglar*. The Cairo Trio introduce many instruments—both wind and string—in their musical entertainment; the Rosses are quite excellent dancers; and Silly Billy Elliott is as amusing as ever. As a hoop manipulator Stylo is always interesting; and George Acre a burlesque and character vocalist, and Ray Royal, with illustrated songs, are successful. The pictures are this week unusually good.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—A capital show is *The Nihilist*, as represented by Messrs. D. Silverstone and H. Wright's company. Mr. George Mitchell deserves high praise for his excellent handling of the part of Ivan the Blacksmith; Miss Edna Clare plays Alexina Orloff with much distinction; Princess Olga is acted with admirable effect by Miss Mary Dawson; Mr. O. Silverstone is seen in the villainous character of Prince Alexander; and as Piertree Mr. C. Newton Buckland supplies a capital study. Mr. Henry Wright keeps the house highly amused as Bobbie Smart; and Mrs. O. Silverstone proves herself a good-looking and lively Katrina Zindoff. The child part of Alexina is carefully played by Little Minnie Halstan; Mr. Cowell Clark shows to advantage as Karl Orloff; whilst Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey does good service as Father Gourko; and Mr. Morgan makes a capital Sergeant Markoff.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—The principal item on the programme this week is Mr. Edward Platt's Child Trio of juvenile musicians, whose various selections are exquisitely rendered; Mahatma, assisted by Prof. C. N. Steen, mystifies audiences as much as ever; Ally Benson is an exceedingly funny comedian, Great Scott, balanced on the top of a ladder, performs some clever juggling feats; Arthur Kenny goes through a dangerous and difficult performance as a trick cyclist; Alf Holt is accorded a warm reception for some clever mimicry, whistling, and comedy business; Gertie Grace is a vocalist of considerable ability; George Castrey creates a favourable impression as a descriptive vocalist; and good pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are thoroughly enjoyed.

CHATHAM — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lional Barnard.—This week the American romance *A White Man* is on a return visit, the company being toured by Mr. Herbert Sleath. Mr. Eric Hudson is repeating his clever impersonation of Tab-y-wena; Mr. Wilfrid Forster is a manly and popular Jim Carson; Mr. Frank Mayo a powerful Cash Hawkins; and Mr. R. A. Brandon an excellent Big Bill. Miss Kathleen Maude gives great satisfaction as the Countess of Kerhill; Miss Hilda Barits gains the entire sympathy of the audience as Nat-u-ritch; and other parts are in good hands.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Here we have the Sisters Jerome in lively song and dance; the Armiens in a well-liked musical act; Terry and Bentley, who score in no uncertain manner as the up-to-date cadets; and Georgina Leno, who sings and dances herself into everyone's favour. George Elliston and company cause great amusement with *That Brute Simmons*, Mr. Elliston being particularly good as Bob Ford; and leading attractions are Frank Seeley, the well-known comedian; and the Wulfrunas, in their speciality, *Fun in a Café*.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The F. R. Benson (North) Shakespearean company occupies the boards this week, Monday's production being *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Henry Herbert, as was to be expected from so capable an actor, ably interpreted the racy rôle of Petruchio. In Miss Gladys Vanderzee the company possess a leading lady of great and versatile talent, her Katherina being characteristically and charmingly portrayed for the first two acts under most trying circumstances, a severe cold, complicated by a nasty cough, compelling her to relinquish the part for the last two acts to an understudy. Baptista was capably acted by Mr. John Cairns; and also that of Vincentio by Mr. John Hood. Mr. Charles Sparrow was good as Lucentio and Mr. Robert Atkins made an excellent Gremio. The Hortensio of Mr. Cyril Sworder was a most praiseworthy performance; and the Grumio of Mr. Andrew Leigh all that mirth and nimble wit could make it. Tranio and Biondello were amusingly rendered by Messrs. Pat Lewis and H. S. Cohen. Miss Kate Turner made an enchanting Bianca; and Miss Dorothy Radford a bewitching Widow. *Hamlet, The Merry Wives, King Lear, The Tempest, Macbeth*, and *Twelfth Night* are billed for the rest of the week.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard.—The attractions at this establishment are Vere and Nelldon, in song, dance, and story; Golden and Chance, eccentric and acrobatic specialists; Chandos Brothers, patter and topical comedians; Geo. Mackay, assisted by Mlle. Leonetta in his Arabian song-scena; Max Merlin, the "human crocodile"; Marie Beresford, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona; Stage-Director, Mr. Leo King (Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.).—Albert Voyce and Robt. Perris' company of comedians, in *Peck of Peckham* are here this week. Signor and Madame Borelli appear to advantage in a series of humorous episodes; Cyclumina, with his electrically-illuminated cycles, wins high praise; the Three Krakes, in the "tramcar" interlude compel laughter; Tom Garland goes nicely as a ventriloquist; Bert Weston patters with considerable humour; and Fancourt and Ruby appear with success in their comedy act.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—*The Proud Prince*, at this house for six nights, opened well on Monday. Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan displayed histrionic ability as King Robert; Miss Eileen Kerin as Perpetua was an undoubted success; Miss Vashti Wynne was a powerful Lysabetta; Mr. Cowley Wright as the Archangel is a fine elocutionist; and as the executioner Mr. Terence O'Brien did well.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Rowlands and Ford top the bill here this week in song and patter; Dave Elliott, blind vocalist, is well received; and the animated pictures are interesting.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—A three weeks' Hippodrome season has been inaugurated here this week. Mr. Arthur Prince, ventriloquist, in his amusing dialogue between the naval officer (himself) and the new recruit, draws forth unceasing laughter; Mr. Barnold's dogs are the best trained and cleverest ever seen here; the Two Marriotts give a wonderful performance of telepathy; the Newmanns are a clever pair of trick cyclists; Blake and Amber contributed much fun in their eccentric acrobatic feats; the Four Sydney Girls afford a good vocal and dancing turn; and the Operascope shows capital pictures.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The entertainment provided here is up to its usual standard. Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Howard and Wallace, in *The Taming of a Wife*, prove most amusing; Ivy Proudfoot renders good songs; Luna Love pleases in her songs; Welda and Wynne, jugglers and dancers, contribute an entertaining turn; the Three Sisters Urma perform difficult feats on the trapeze; Cecile Clare, illusionist, mystifies her audience with a blackboard; Barnes and West are a clever pair of dancers; and the Palascope pictures are up to date.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The dramatic students of Coventry are performing this week *Marjory Strode*, by A. E. W. Mason; *Caste*, by T. W. Robertson; and

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable preparation than

ENO'S
'FRUIT SALT'

THE OLD TIME, EVER-POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY FOR

Biliousness, Sick Headache, Errors in Diet (Eating or Drinking), Giddiness, Constipation, Thirst, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold with High Temperature and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It proves beneficial in the early stages of Diarrhœa. Most valuable to Travellers, especially in hot countries.

CAUTION.—*Examine the Capsule, and see that it is marked ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT,' otherwise you have the sincerest form of flattery—IMITATION.*

Prepared only by J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'FRUIT SALT' WORKS, LONDON, S.E.

Waterloo, by Conan Doyle; for the benefit of the Coventry District Nursing Association.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Harry Ford heads the bill, and amuses the audience; a sketch, *The Adder's Tooth*, is given in dramatic manner by Mr. Louis Taylor's talented company; a funny farcical sketch, entitled *Dolly's Deception*, is performed by Mr. John Scott's company; Leo and Roland, novelty equilibrists, do some exceedingly clever and daring feats; Hillman and Russell, in their vocal comedy duologue, are good; Lily Hill is an entertaining vocalist and dancer; the Soho Trio gave delightful songs and extraordinary dances. Capital pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company, in *The Sins of Society*, is paying a return visit. Miss Cissie Carlton acts cleverly as Lady Goldbury; Miss Grace E. Leslie is all that could be wished as Lady Marion Beaumont; Miss Elsie Gardiner is good as the Hon. Mrs. Murgatroyd; Miss Rossmond Bunton is well placed as Lady Gwendolen Ashley; and Miss Janet Hodson as the Duchess of Danbury deserves praise. Mr. Maitland Marler causes plenty of amusement as James Hogg; Mr. C. F. Collings is commendable as Noel Ferrers; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is satisfactory as Sir Dorian March; Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair is first-rate as Mr. Morriss; and the minor rôles are carefully enacted. The company carries excellent scenery.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Venie Clements, child mimic and comedienne, is making a big success here; Haines and Borthwick are very droll in the sketch, *Half-a-Dollar*; Miss Dora Lind is well received in a vocal scena with admirable effects; Frank Sylvo, juggler, is as quaint as ever; Charles Norton is capital in a mimetic monologue, *Pros. at the Races*; Carlisle and Walker are an entertaining comedy duo; Edward Lauri and May Beattie are great in the musical comedy protean mélange, *In Her Boudoir*; Maggie Carr sings, dances, and plays on the banjo nicely; and the programme also includes Lee and Kingston, Ernie Mayne, Jack and Evelyn, and Bioscope pictures.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Richards.—The pictures shown at this favourite house just hit the popular taste. The films are new and steady, and pathos and comedy are blended with admirable regard for pleasing effect.

DARLASTON.—QUEEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Manchester Royal Animated Picture Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Beesley.—An excellent display of pictures includes Left Out, A Rude Hostess, Muggins, V.C., The Medicine Bottle, and A Trip to the White Sea Fisheries. Among a number of comic films a very funny one is entitled Mr. Poorluck Gets Married. Variety is given by Wal Townsend, Harry Cline (comedian), and Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hayes in their comedy sketch *The Other Mrs. Brown*. Large audiences continue to patronise the hall.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Haldane Crichton presents *The Cingalee* here with a first-class company. Miss Iza Bowman as Nanoya sings and acts her part to perfection; Miss Florrie Greensmith as Peggy Sabine is charming in her comedy songs with Mr. Hylton Wade, who is extremely funny as Chambhuddy Ram; Mr. Frank Barclay has a fine voice, and his performance is well received; Mr. Frank Leanard is good as Boobhamba; Mr. Grafton Williams scores as Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Herbert Franklin puts plenty of life into the part of Bobby Warren; Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Patricia Vane shows well. There are an excellent chorus and pretty scenery.

HIPPODROME.—Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Principal this week is Dan Whiteley, who is scoring a big success with his songs; Harry Taft, comedian, delights the audience; the Real Mackneys are clever juvenile singers and dancers; Captain Ellis and son are expert musicians; Royston and Royce are comedy artists; Yetta is clever on the wire. The bill also includes Little Zola, comedian, Crown Trio, vocalists, and the Hipposcope.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley.—Messrs. Kimberley Green and Hinton's company occupy the boards here this week, and are producing a melodrama entitled *Was She to Blame?* Mrs. F. G. Kimberley is successful throughout as Kate Rosselle, and her acting is all that can be desired, while her husband, Mr. F. G. Kimberley, appears to advantage as William Clarke, the brokendown actor. Frank Rosselle has a capable exponent in Mr. Clavering Craig; Mr. Henry Rutland cleverly enacts the Vicar; Mr. John George Keene is admirable as Capt. Geo. Courtney; Dr. Forbes is capably accounted for by Mr. Fred Astley; Lillian is very well portrayed by Miss Nancy York; and as Mary Norman, Lillian's mother, Miss Ellen Beverley gives a pleasing presentment. The humour of the piece is ably upheld by Mr. K. Black, jun., as Timothy Swales and Miss N. Owen as Sarah Swales; while the remaining characters all receive full justice.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls provide the top-line turn here with a most entertaining song scena. Ralph and Nellie Howard in a musical mélange, *Military Mad*, are highly successful instrumentalists and comedians; Gilbert Girard as an animal and instrumental mimic submits a first-class act; Gicardo is a remarkably neat juggler; Hearne and Palmer are clever and amusing knockabout acrobats; James Bassett, with tuneful chorus songs, makes himself deservedly popular; the Sisters Carlton sing and dance in a manner which is much appreciated; and Will Farrell is an amusing comedian. The Bioscope film Through the Breakers is one of an excellent series.

DEVONPORT. — HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Sensational trick cycling by Sebastian Merrill and company deservedly occupies chief position on the bill, and thoroughly deserves the appreciation it receives; Mr. Claude Anderson and Miss Ethel Pender-Cudlip are heard to great advantage in extracts from *Il Trovatore*, both vocalists being possessors of voices of great range and power; the Creedons entertain with a very interesting exhibition of club-juggling, ball-punching, and scientific boxing; the Wagners, in a comedy tabloid, entitled *The Boy, the Maid, and the Misfit*, are responsible for a quarter of an hour's unrestrained merriment; the Phœnix Trio are excellent vocalists and dancers; and Ted Cowan, comedian, and Lily Black, comedienne, also materially contribute to a fine bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is deservedly doing first-rate business. As Jack Sterling Mr. J. S. Milward is responsible for some really clever acting; Mr. Wilson Coleman as Felix Beverley is unquestionably an actor of skill and ability; and Mr. H. Creagh Hunt gives a talented exposition of the rôle of Geoffrey Langdon. Miss Kathleen Magee scores heavily with her presentation of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Gorrel capably interprets Sweet Nancy. The comedy business is in the capable hands of Messrs. Percy Brown and Victor Raymond.

DEWSBURY. — EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Here this week is Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's sketch *Three of a Kind*, which keeps the house in continuous laughter. The characters are portrayed by Mr. Robert Ayrton (General Flarup), Miss Adria Hill (Mrs. Whimpers), Mr. Frank Hill (Tom Flarup), and Miss Elsie Venner (Daisy Armitage) in a most praiseworthy manner, and excellent support is rendered by Mr. Wm. Midgley, Mr. Thos. Brooklyn, and Miss Jessie Percival. A particularly pleasing turn is done by Renee, a lady instrumentalist of exceptional merit, who fully deserves the splendid reception which is accorded her; Horace White, ventriloquist and solo pianist, submits a novel item which is greatly appreciated, his manipulation of the figures being very quaint. The Days, exponents of second sight, mystify the audience and make themselves popular favourites; the Alberto Troupe of equilibrists are very clever, and win much applause; Baby Myrtle Grove is an exceedingly smart little artist, and meets with a cordial reception; and others who contribute to the programme are J. H. Carney, a capital stilt dancer; and Bessie Knight, coon and buck dancer. There is also the customary display of films.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Frank Thorne's drama *Little Phil's Mother* is the attraction here this week. Miss Maud Russell is entitled to high praise for her clever portrayal of Ruth Towers; Frank Towers has an able exponent in Mr. Percy Ballard, who is responsible for some clever acting; little Gertie Renaud submits a fine study of Little Phil, the naturalness of her acting appealing to everyone; Mr. Henry Earlesmere plays Oscar Titherton in excellent style; Miss Violet Cranford deservedly scores as Elspeth; as Sam Perkells and Julia Woorrilove Mr. Frank M. Thorne and Miss Leslie Warner evoke much laughter; Mr. John E. Tomlinson as Bill Brisket acquits himself with credit; Mr. Gifforde Reynolds meets with much favour as Geoffrey Dyne; Mr. J. P. Marsden as Donald Taggarty is responsible for some very smart comedy; and the remaining characters are in capable hands.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—Heading the bill here this week are Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots in a splendidly-dressed scena, *Gipsy Revels*. Their singing and dancing are very clever and interesting. A turn which proves great patience and skill in animal training is Lieut. Chard's performng dogs, which do some wonderful feats; the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts, cause much laughter by their funniosities; a very bright and interesting performance is submitted by Arthur Bright, Swiss mountaineer; Cliffe and Vanstan, musical artists, score a success; the Selwyns, in a very clever vocal and dancing act, go well; and the ever-popular Harriscope showing some interesting films, including The Last Deal, The Orderly, and The Coquette.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—This week Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are contributing a series of Shakespearean and standard plays. *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented on Monday. Mr. Allan Wilkie, in his delineation of Petruchio, preserved the best traditions of the character; Mr. Houston Meharry availed himself of his ample opportunities as Grumio; Miss Carrie Baillie, well dowered with personal charms, created much interest in Katharina; and Messrs. Alexander Marsh (Lucentio), G. Edward Dunstan (Tranio), and F. J. Fay (Gremio) gave of their best. The production was beautifully staged. On Tuesday evening *The Merchant of Venice* was presented, and on Wednesday *As You Like It*.

DOVER.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—An excellent programme is attracting crowded houses. De Biere's performance includes a marvellous sequence of illusions which are extremely interesting and very mystifying. The English protean artist Marie Jones, in company with Ernest Munro, perform a lightning-change playlet which is very warmly received. The phenomenal tiny performer Baby Wolff gives an extremely clever song and dance; and Della Ray scores a big success with her chorus songs. Colley and Scott are entertaining, their songs being of an amusing description; and Arthur Rigby, the popular comedian, Tom Dunmore, and the Hippodrome Pictures complete.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Large and appreciative audiences were present on Monday night, when Mr. George Edwardes's company opened with *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Alcie Pollard, a most attractive Mary Gibbs, sings nicely and dances and acts with great energy; Mr. George Gregory causes no end of amusement in his impersonation of Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Lionel Mackinder acts the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint in humorous style; Mr. Robert Nainby is very good as the cook, Stithers; and Mr. Ernest Mahar clever in the part of Mr. Toplady. Mr. H. V. Cropton acts the lover, Lord Eynsford, exceedingly well; Miss Marie Wilson is a most effective Lady Elizabeth; Miss Grace Wixon a stately and dignified Duchess of Minster; Miss May Marton an excellent Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Dora Sevening a clever Mme. Jeanne; and as Mr. Beavis, the family solicitor, Mr. Campbell Bishop fills the rôle with success, Mr. Myles Clifton doing very well as the Earl of St. Ives. Miss Florence Phillips contributes a solo dance.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—On Monday night a warm and hearty welcome was accorded the D'Oyly Carte Company, who are appearing this week in the popular and delightful operas of Gilbert and Sullivan. *The Mikado* was played the first night before a very crowded house. Mr. Leicester Tunks sang his music capitally as the Mikado; Mr. Fred Billington acquitted himself with his accustomed success as Pooh Bah; and Mr. Henry A. Lytton distinguished himself in the character of Ko-Ko. Mr. Sydney Granville made an excellent Pish Tush; and the performance of Mr. Henry Herbert as Nanki Poo was highly creditable. Mrs. Arthur Rousbey gave a very finished and artistic portrayal of Yum-Yum; and the Misses Beatrice Boarer and Ethel George were both admirable in the respective rôles of Petti-Sing and Peep-Bo. Miss Louie Rene submitted an excellent rendition of Katisha. On Tuesday *The Yeoman of the Guard* was played, and *The Gondoliers* and *Patience* were also presented during the week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and I. E. Cardwell's juvenile company, in the pantomime of *Hop-o'-My-Thumb*, continues here another week.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Marsh.—This week we have Chung Ling Soo, the Chinese mystifier, whose exceptionally clever performance proves highly attractive; Charlie Robinson is warmly applauded for his songs; Rossi Ashton, war artist, in song-sketching, is an interesting turn; the Sisters St. Julian are appreciated in song and dance; Tom Lloyd is most amusing with his eccentric songs; and Lily Ray, comedienne and dancer, Majorie Lawrence, soubrette, and Lidden and Hayward also appear with success.

TIVOLI. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here we have Ian Rudenyi, who delights everyone with his artistic violin selections; Frank Elliston and company, in the sketch, *My Lady Betty*, are most amusing; Hammon and Wyatt appear in a novel singing act; Anna Hope's contralto songs are excellently rendered; Rosie Lee is particularly good as a mimic; and Cestria presents a clever acrobatic act. Frank Boyce sings admirably; Michael Madden gives satisfaction as a comedian; and Jack Holland and the Tivoli pictures are other attractions.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The following artists are appearing here this week: Naye and Bray, sketch artists; Harry Vernon, comedian and dancer; Miss Nina May, soprano; and Tom Wheatley, ventriloquist.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. and Mrs. Eustace Day's company in *For Love of a Woman* is the attraction here. Mr. Edmund Grogan acts the hero, Ned Merrick, in true and manly style, and Miss Dorothy Oswald is sweet and sympathetic as Nell Pagett. Mr. Ernest Regent plays the villain, Guy Manor, in forcible style; Mr. Eustace Day as the blind grandfather, Allen Pagett, is quite natural; Mr. Charles Niman is highly successful as the irrascible Major Holmes; Mr. Harry Angers causes endless amusement as the dude, Albert Everamond, and is good in song and dance; Mr. Joe Redfern is a robust Police-constable Holland, and gives some original patter; Miss G. de Clifford is gay, giddy, and gushing as Marjory Holmes; Miss Eva St. Vincent realistically represents the character part of Jane Manor; and Miss May Day is successful in the juvenile part of Nance Manor.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Bleasdale.—At the head of affairs this week are George Payne's Wanderers, who prove most enjoyable in a caravan scena, introducing whistling, singing, and dancing. Urita and Paul, sensational and comedy gymnasts, are conspicuous with a capital performance; also popular are Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, talking and singing shadowists, who provide an exceedingly clever and novel turn; the Sisters Lewis, duettists and dancers; the Raynors, speciality dancers; and the Two Manites, comedy club jugglers. Will Willis, a comedian with good, original songs and jokes; Winnie Clarke, comedienne; and Lily May, male and coon impersonator, also give pleasing turns. The Empire Pictures are always enjoyed.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Vedrenne's company is creating an excellent impression here in *The Fires of Fate*. The Nile Steamer, The Abousir Rock, and The Oasis of Abonteb are stage pictures of exceeding beauty. Colonel Cyril Egerton is a rôle eminently suited to an actor of Mr. Stephen T. Ewart's quality, and he succeeds in securing the wrapt attention of the audience from first to last. Mr. Herbert Vyvyan presents a first-class character sketch of the Rev. Samuel Roden; Mr. Charles Francis is an excellent exponent of Dr. Roden; Mr. Edward A. Coventry does well as Thomas Belmont; Mr. Stanley Logan as Cecil Brown plays with marked ability; the part of the theological student, Brodie, is done ample justice to by Mr. Herbert Maule; Mr. Gerald Merriclees is diverting as Mons. Octave Fardet; Mr. Arthur Ansell makes an excellent Rudkin; Captain Jack Archer is played in capable manner by Mr. Frederick Worlock; Abdulla is efficiently rendered by Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe; and the Dervish spy Sidi Mohamed is realistically impersonated by Mr. G. T. Lambert. Sadie Adams is charmingly enacted by Miss Ruth Bower; Miss Gwendolen Floyd creditably undertakes the part of Miss Adams; and Miss Alison Trent as Mrs. Belmont acts with bright vivacity.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Through the unfortunate indisposition of the lady partner, the Bensons were unable to appear on Monday, the vacancy being filled by a trio of clever juvenile dancers. The Harvey Boys score an immense success with their comedy and boxing act *That was Me*; Florence Yayman calls forth loud applause for her coon impersonations; France and Stewart contribute a racy comedy, *The 100 to 1 Chance*; Ess and Hoey give a remarkable dancing exhibition on Canadian skis and steel skates; W. G. Wesley keeps his audience in a merry mood; and Jack Hylton also proves highly entertaining. Helen Martin wins honours with her accomplished singing; Boden and Bell captivate the house with their neatly-worked turn; and the Kingscope pictures are excellent.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Mr. Charles Majilton's company is presenting *The Plumber* and *Round the Clock* to large and appreciative audiences. The former piece was staged on Monday, when Mr. Majilton as the Mad Doctor aroused genuine laughter; the eccentricities of Mr. Tom Bond as the Plumber were mirth-provoking; Uncle Able was a matured impersonation in the hands of Mr. George Hunter; Miss Maddie Majilton as the servant gave a clever and vivacious character sketch; Miss Nelly Clifford looked and acted prettily as the Widow; and Kate Fadshaw and Lydia Brock had attractive exponents in Miss Lena Valli and Miss Lizzie Boyle.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The picture programme meets with the warm approval of large houses. A capital film is The Aviator's Romance, in which an aeroplane is shown in flight. The Englishman and the Girl is a very amusing film, and other pictures include Villainy Defeated, The Cabby's Dodge, The Golden Beetle, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—Bumper houses rule here, an attractive programme of pictures being presented.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—Ada Fawn heads an interesting programme this week; Harvey's American Boys and Girls, including Daisie Dennis and her Teddy bear, score heavily with song and dance; and in a comedy juggling act Caron and Herbert create roars of laughter. Percy Curry, the original candy man, with Tyneside songs and patter, is a great favourite; Ada Jenner and company in the sketch *The Lady Barber* are highly amusing; from a violin Carlos Menard extracts marvellous imitations, musical and otherwise; May St. Hilda gains a good share of applause with her scena *The Studio*; and the Cathedoscope concludes.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in the well-known play *Old Folks at Home*, is here. Mr. Frank Liston as Lord Howard Kenilworth is seen to advantage; Mr. George Steel gives a capital representation of Andrew Ross; Mr. Ian Fleming proves himself a very capable exponent of Hugh Lovel; Mr. Henry Sainbury as Christopher Robin is all that could be desired; Miss Maud Warburton as Dorothy Robin acts throughout in artistic manner; Miss Dora Mason as Bonita Durham plays naturally. The play is well mounted.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and George T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Whitehead.—A return visit is paid *Diana of Dobson's*, of which Miss Lena Ashwell's company gives a good rendering. Miss Molly Tremaine as Diana, with her Dobson associates (amusingly characterised by Miss Nannie Hume, Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, Miss Cicely Oats, and Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe), are all at their best in the famous dormitory scene with which the piece opens. Miss Marie Ault makes a sufficiently formidable Miss Pringle, a part which she successfully doubles with that of the old woman in the melodramatic last act; Miss Hilda Franks is exceedingly good as Mrs. Cantelupe; Miss Mary Crewe does well in the part of Mrs. White Fraser; Mr. A. A. Harris emphasises the self-importance of the parvenu Sir Jabez Grimlay humorously enough; Mr. Leslie Rea is unaffected in his study of Captain Bretherton; and the policeman of Mr. Leslie Crowther lacks nothing of natural effect. A curtain-raiser, entitled *Out West*, gave Miss Boyne an opportunity of playing with much acceptance the part of Salomy Clay.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. George T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. William M. Downie.—The Southern Light Opera Company submits an attractive programme here in the two popular operas *Merrie England* and *Veronique*. The chief honours in the former piece fell to Mr. Kellas Brewster for a really quaint performance of Walter Wilkins, and to Miss Madge Henderson for a very charming impersonation, dramatically and vocally, of Jill-all-Alone. Miss Kathleen Henderson was a stately Queen Elizabeth, and she displayed a beautiful contralto voice to advantage in the music of the part; Miss Molly Johnston was an engaging May Queen; Miss Maggie Sutherland as Marjory danced a Morris dance in a dainty fashion; Mr. A. W. Cullen, an admirable actor and singer, evoked an encore for a spirited rendering of "The Yeomen of England" in the character of the Earl of Essex; and Mr. Fred Hamilton and Mr. R. Swan Dickson were notably good as Sir Walter Raleigh and Silas Simkins respectively. *Veronique* was in the hands of a capable cast. Mr. J. S. Brewster's performance of Coquenard was marked by much intelligence and humour, and Miss Nana Linton as Madame Coquenard, Miss Belle Latto a graceful Denise, and Miss Jeanie Gulland, a commanding Countess, contributed to an enjoyable rendering of the piece. The fresh and tuneful voices of a large chorus gave effect to the concerted numbers, and Mr. Geo. W. Lingard, Mus.B., conducted with conspicuous ability.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—A brisk and entertaining programme here this week includes the two very amusing farces *Fishing*, by Mr. Harry Tate's company, and *A Married Microbe*, by Mr. Carl Lyle and company. The comedians in the latter piece, Mr. Carl Lyle and Mr. Allyn White, play with spirit and humour, Mr. Lyle being extremely droll in his acting as the broken-down mummer. Mr. J. P. Ling, an admirable mimic, is loudly applauded for several neat imitations; Mr. Arthur J. Hill displays vocal and dramatic gifts in his excellent lilliputian act, and manipulated the figures with much dexterity; La Berat, a graceful dancer, charms her audiences by the beauty of her movements, and the varied electrical and scenic effects impart a pleasing background to the delightful evolutions of the artist; Radford and Valentine, two undeniably humorous performers, give a very funny and clever juggling act; Miss Cabani is an expressive singer and capital dancer; Mr. Guy Rider is a siffleur of undoubted ability; and Mr. Larola, comedian, and Mr. Jack Macormack, Scotch comedian, also appear.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Madame Albani, with her répertoire of operatic excerpts and popular ballads, has drawn crowded audiences to every performance. M. Jan Zakovsky, violin virtuoso, forms another strong item on the programme; the Courtiers, under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill, contribute a pleasing musical comedy mélange; and a performance of a kindred nature is supplied by Tom and Marie Motrano. Holden's Mannikins secured cordial recognition for their presentations of vaudeville singers and dancers; Beatty and Blanche were heard and seen approvingly as duettists and dancers; the Brothers Redmond are clever acrobatic comedians; Alf. Gibson is very diverting; the Delevines provided much amusement with their "Scarecrow" act; and the American Bioscope produces good pictures of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—For the Honour of the Family is a fine American Civil War drama; The Luck of Roaring Camp pictures Bret Harte's pathetic story of that name; while The Song of the Shirt is a moving tale of grinding labour. Perhaps the best humorous films are Foolshead at the Ball and The Thief's Revenge. Mr. A. J. Gamble is a good Scotch comedian.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The dramatic films in this week's programme include two capital pictures—The Confession and His Only Child. The Woman from Mellon's is a very humorous subject, original and clever; and Chasing the Lucky Charm keeps the audience in fits of laughter. Sandy and Carl and Alec Ashford, comedian, contribute excellent variety turns.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—A variation in the programme is made by the appearance of a company in a condensed version of *The Bohemian Girl* and *The Daughter of the Regiment*. The leading characters are very ably portrayed by Mme. Adele Prescott and Mr. T. H. Wood, and able support is given by Miss Nellie Moore, Messrs. Norman H. Purnell, Ernest C. Gittens, and J. de Gabriele. An excellent entertainment is concluded by animated pictures, including the 1910 Grand National.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The attraction here this week is Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Geo. A. Fox is an admirable Captain Fielding; Mr. Robert Gilbert an excellent Captain Dudley; Mr. Deane Cliffe does well as Featherstone Haugh; while Mr. James Salter proves an exceedingly humorous Silas Crump. Mr. William H. Troutbeck does good work as Smith; Miss Kathleen Stewart is a charming Ruth Montrose; Miss Gertrude de Lacy a winning Dorothy; Miss Lillie Elvido and Miss Iris Elvido as Rosy and Polly are highly successful; Miss Madge Delta an agreeable Maude; and Judith is satisfactorily taken by Miss Nellie Harcourt.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr Frederick Sandy.—An attractive programme is headed by May Mars, who is winning much favour here. Ben Albert, in a quaintly humorous fashion, keeps his audience convulsed with laughter; Harry Leybourne, comedian and mimic, is possessed of considerable originality; Zaleski, the golden spider, performs some extraordinary contortionist feats; Harris Coonie scores a distinct success in a smart dancing act; the Maltans are a clever comedy couple; and the Four Pawels contribute an entertaining comedy tumbling act, entitled *After the Matinée*.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—*Can a Woman Be Good?* is capitally presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, the chief parts being taken by Miss Blanch St. Albans (Esther Howarth) and Mr. J. Miflane (Manuel Errington); Mr. Harry C. Robinson's Herod Steinburg is a pronounced villain; Miss Florence Hunt as Naomi Merrick, the temptress, plays well; the merriment is ably sustained by Miss Winifred Barton and Mr. J. Tyrrel. The play is exceedingly well staged and dressed.

FLEETWOOD. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company opened to a packed house on Monday with the popular favourite, *The 10.30 Down Express*. Jack O'Malley has a powerful exponent in Mr. T. Arthur Plummer; Mr. George Gaisford enacts the rôle of James Inderwick in a duly sinister fashion; Mr. Edwin Clarke is a first-class Detective as Huntley Mason; and a realistic country gentleman is presented by Mr. T. B. Brabazon. Mr. Horace Stanley as Sam Wagstaffe has the audience in roars of laughter while he occupies the boards; Miss Cora Linda as the heroine quickly constitutes herself a favourite; Miss Ida Fane is excellent as the eccentric Letitia Leigh; and Miss Kate Kilpack ably seconds Mr. Stanley's efforts in the comedy line. Miss Leila Drummond gives a clever rendering of Olive Coombes.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The attraction for the week is Miss Emma Hutchison and company in *Don*, which opened on Monday night to a large and appreciative audience. As the kind-hearted Canon Bonington Mr. Arthur Willoughby portrayed the character to the life, and the part of the Rector's wife was in the safe hands of Miss Emma Hutchison, who acted with her usual ability; Mr. Gordon Bailey gave a capital study of the idealist and poet Stephen Bonington; Mr. Charles Harley showed dramatic force as Albert Thompsett, and a clever performance was given by Miss Violet Harley as the runaway wife; the fire-eating General Sinclair was ably enacted by Mr. Charles Tyrel; Miss Celia Gordon was vivacious and amusing as the General's wife; and last, but not least, was the delightfully natural acting of Miss Viola Garland as Ann Sinclair, fiancée of the impossible Stephen. Each evening the play has been preceded by a smart little curtain-raiser, *Her Dearest Friend*.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—An attractive and amusing entertainment is given by Lès Militaires. The party include Miss Dorothy Southgate, Miss Phillis Austin, Miss Vera Barton, Mr. Jack Hornby, Mr. Charles Ashley, Mr. Laurie Ray, and Mr. Charlie Ross. The last-named creates roars of laughter with his humorous sayings and antics.

TOWN HALL.—A fine programme of animated pictures is presented here this week by the St. Louis Company. Among the many excellent films shown, which include dramatic, instructive, and comic, we have Mountaineer's Honour, an exciting and interesting picture of great length, Wearing of the Green, Terror and the Terrier, &c., which are greatly appreciated by the large audiences.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Lewers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—This week we have a variety company consisting of Blanche and Zeyna, who give a sensational cycle whizz; May Knight, comedienne; Snowball and Mac, comedy duo; Fred Henry, comic singer; and Elsie Graham.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Starring here this week are the Seven Bramusas, presented by Mr. John R. Poole, in a nautical brass band extravaganza named *Music Afloat*, which is mightily pleasing; Rowland Hill cracks many good jokes; the Forrestiers are seen to great advantage in a dramatic episode entitled *A Society Woman*; Ciss and Will form a clever juvenile duo in song and dance; Harriett Rose sings two "swinging" songs with good effect; Reski and Reski are amusing and accomplished gymnasts;

Allen and Austin are entertaining comedians; Harry Cotton raises numerous laughs; and the Kingscope is productive of merriment.

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—The popular drama *Two Little Vagabonds*, which is being presented here this week by the Lyceum Tours, under the direction of Mr. Henry B. Smith, has met with unqualified success. Mr. Frank Beresford is a stately Thornton; as Captain Darville Mr. Renaud Lockwood is seen to advantage; Mr. Ed. Beecher ably portrays John Scarth; Mr. Chas. L. Ludlow embodies Bill Mullins with infinite care; the character of Cough Drop is in the most excellent hands of Mr. Frederick Archer; Miss Dorothy Milne makes a hit as Marian Thornton; Miss Mabel Cooke does well as Barbara Scarth; and the Vagabonds, in the persons of Misses Helen Grenville and Ivy Millais, are all that could be desired.

GLASGOW.—King's, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Although so well and favourably known in the Metropolis, *Alice in Wonderland* is visiting Glasgow for the first time this week. The company is headed by Miss Ivy Sawyer, whose bright and intelligent portrayal of Alice wins all hearts; the Mad Hatter of Mr. Franklyn Vernon is a quaint and original figure; as Tweedledee and Tweedledum Messrs. Roland Henry and Tom Graves are responsible for a deal of healthy fun; smart work is done by Mr. Dan Leno, jun., in the rôle of Red King; the other royalties being represented with complete success by Mr. Edmund Goulding, Miss Iris Damon, and Mr. Roy Jeffries; clever juveniles are seen in the parts of March Hare (Miss Doris Walker) and White Rabbit (Miss Bertha Schwartz); as the Cheshire Cat Miss Girlie le Claire plays her part well; Miss Amy Fanchette is admirably suited as the Duchess; the parts of the Cook and the Executioner being well filled by Miss Yvonne Schofield and Mr. B. Hatton Sinclair.

Royalty.—Sub-Lessees, The Scotttish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The repertory company here has once more placed playgoers under an obligation by producing Mr St. John Hankin's comedy, *The Cassilis Engagement*, for the first time in the provinces. This cleverly-constructed play evokes very hearty enthusiasm and receives excellent treatment from the members of the company. As Mrs. Cassilis, whose diplomatic treatment of her son's fiancée is the means of averting an undesirable marriage, Miss Irene Rooke gives a particularly strong performance; the lady of the son's choice, Ethel Borridge, is another notable characterisation as played by Miss Muriel Pope; and her vulgar mother is acted on broadly humorous lines by Miss Alice Mansfield. Mr. P. Percival Clark makes a manly young Geoffrey Cassilis; and Miss Ethel Evans is a charming Lady Mabel. Mr. M. R. Morant contributed another clever study in the part of Major Warrington; Mr. Laurence Hanray as the Rector, and Misses Elspeth Dudgeon, Lola Duncan, and Norah Delancy as society ladies, give able support; Mr. George Tawde, Mr. Cyril Griffiths, and Miss Irene Clarke as servants complete an excellent cast. The play is mounted in excellent style, each of the sets being much admired. Miss Madge M'Intosh, who is in Glasgow for the production of Masefield's *Nan* at this theatre, is responsible for the producing of the present play.

Grand.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Sealy.—From Tuesday of this week the Lyric Club are in possession of the Grand, and are producing Audran's tuneful opera, *La Cigale*, which has not been played in Glasgow for a number of years.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*In the Shadow of Night*, a spectacular and sensational drama, by James Willard, is introduced here this week by Arthur Lee Mitchell's company. Mr. Forbes Carrington as the Squire of Hazelmere gives a faithful study of the disappointed father; Mr. Leonard Williams as Gordon Allington carries himself manfully through all the villainous schemes of Clifford Yorke, effectually portrayed by Mr. Paul Beckett; the stage turpitude of Mr. William Hayward as Jake Grudgewell, a poacher, evokes the hostility of the gods; Mr. Ern. Carlton as Tom Nainby, a gentleman in khaki, in conjunction with Miss Kitty Roze as Mollie Woodstock, gives a spice of humour to the piece; Miss Irene Arundel as Violet Kingston fits her part admirably; and Miss Kitty Johnstone as Bob, a little tramp, acts in a careful manner. Mr. Fenton Wingate, in the dual rôle of Joe Jackson, a postman, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope, gives a good account of himself; and as Farmer Woodstock Mr. Harry Emmerson is a distinct success.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—We have here this week Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his company, in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. Arthur Jones plays Captain Harold Marston with firmness and intensity; Miss F. Melrose-Millett is responsible for a skilful study of Doreen Rivers; the villainous propensities of Dr. Colebrooke are ably emphasised by Mr. Juan D'Alberti; Miss Marie Daventry does excellent work as Fay Colebrooke; and Mr. John Davidson gives an acceptable reading of Ernie Woodstone. Mr. Arthur Prescot as the Rev. Edward Grey and Mr. Albert H. Clark as Kimberley Coutts both do well. Some extremely humorous business is forthcoming from Mr. Charles Preece as Bob Tanner and Miss May Neilson as Bess Grayson.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*Every Inch a Man* is the title of the drama appearing at the Lyceum this week. Mr. H. Graham Arthur's Daniel Barnet is very successful; Mr. Joe Barker as the Old Man is all that can be desired; Mr. Forrest Niven is also good as Dick Barnet; Miss Mabel Liston as Vera Maxwell shows ability; as also does clever Mr. Wylie Dick as the wicked little boy. Miss Levenston as Mrs. Edwards and Martha (Miss Evelyn Hamilton) also deserve praise.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Alice Raymond and her Players, in a musical production, *A Night in Egypt*, are excellently received here; Fred Karno's creation, *The Yap Yaps*, is responsible for merriment; Carrie Laurie and her juveniles, in *A Model School*, are thoroughly appreciated; a novel entertainment is presented by Brinn, entitled *Pastimes on a Battleship*; in a pleasing and unique musical speciality Mabel Mavis is popular; her work is smart, and she is indeed a talented musician. Little Maudie Francis, a favourite in pantomime here a few years ago, pays a return visit; Tom Stuart provides a capital turn; Ethel Beech gets through her work with much grace; and the Bioscope films conclude.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Carl Hertz, the wonderful illusionist, again gives a bewildering display of tricks, in which he is assisted by Miss Emelie D'Alton; M'Lallen and Carson, a couple of daring and graceful roller-skaters, show the perfection that can be attained in this art; Will H. Fox, clever as of old, and with a lot of new patter, keeps the audience amused all the time he is on; Irve Hayman and company contribute a well-devised little "burglar play," entitled *'Xmas Eve*; Victor Newman's impersonations of famous actors and Dickens studies are life-like and much enjoyed; Monty Walker is a Lancashire comedian with several taking songs; Les Auberts give a display of eccentric and acrobatic Continental dancing; Selby and Myers are clever in their comedy business; and Monie Mine contributes some smart character songs and is a neat dancer.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Sanford and Lyons, simultaneous dancers, had a hearty reception here on their opening night, when their songs and patter were thoroughly enjoyed; Palles and Cressick, comedians and knockabouts, are as amusing as ever; Irene Rose, comedienne and vocalist, makes a successful appearance; and Barney Armstrong, in conjunction with Kelly, submit a most amusing turn. Other artists include Jessie Wilter, comedienne and vocalist; Fred S. Howard, artist entertainer; Drum and Major, comedy specialists; Geo. Prince, comedian; Harry Arnold, Scotch comedian; and the Carina Sisters.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—George Lashwood, fresh from his American successes, is drawing good houses here, and, in addition to several clever songs in his best style, has a novel scena, with cinematograph effects; Bros. Egbert, the happy dustmen, are as happy as ever in exciting the risibility of the audience at their amusing business; Bros. Griffiths are another strong turn on the bill, and their duelling and wrestling set the crowds in a roar; Vanando is a ventriloquist of considerable ability; Pete and Minnie Lee take well in their musical scena, *A Scotchman's Visit to London*; Edith Fink sings her songs in dainty and attractive style; Gladys Mavius delights with her neat step-dancing; Carl Howard as a comic conjurer is very funny; and acrobatic dancing is wonderfully done by Lydia and Amelys.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Donaldson and Emslie, comedy sketch artists, are responsible for an amusing turn; Annie Stewart renders her vocal turns with good taste. She has a pleasing voice, and takes well. The Bioscope films form the bulk of the programme.

Panopticon.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—George Arnott, comedian, tops the bill here with songs and patter; Hurl and Ford are a clever pair of dancers; Jimmy Lowery, the Tyneside singing furnaceman, has a good voice; Cissy Chevening is a smart comedienne; and the Stewarts submit an amusing comedy act. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

Hengler's Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The picture season is now on here, and doing wonderful business. There is a fine collection of films; the selections on the auxeto-gramophone are much enjoyed; and, in addition, clever variety items are contributed by Edna Cragge, vocalist; Will Hawthorne, comedienne; and Retta Halket, comedienne and dancer.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal and Picturedrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Good houses are still patronising this theatre nightly, and the pictures seem to have "caught on." Capital films include A Wife's Jealousy, The Rival Cyclists, Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, 1910, The Brigadier's Stripes, Army Service Dogs, The Commander's Amours, Cyrano de Bercerac, Two Develish Imps. The variety part of the entertainment is good. Mr. Toddie Ford is a clever and versatile humorist; Miss Doris Yorke a sweet and charming vocalist; Forder's Living Mannikins give a clever interpretation of the monoplay, *Swivler the Smuggler*.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. Robt. Macdonald's company is presenting *The Gay Gordons* this week. Miss May Yates is a vivacious and clever Peggy Quainton; Angus Graeme is excellently sustained by Mr. Stafford Dickens; Nervy Nat is comically portrayed by Mr. Sidney Burt; and Miss Denny Fitzherbert is an amusing Charlotte Siddons; Mr. C. P. Wentworth is a good Andrew Quainton; Janet McLeod is interesting in the hands of Miss Beatrice Grosvenor; and Victoria Siddons is capitally enacted by Miss Ruby Louis. Mr. Stanley Maude is entertaining as Corpl. John Smith; and Mr. Ernest Pierce is noticeable as Edmund Siddons.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An admirable programme is headed by the Kellys, comedy duettists and patterers, who keep the house in roars of laughter; the Four Van Earles score a big success with their clever singing and dancing; Geo. Kelley, comedian, is loudly applauded; the Two Turners, in comedy duo, prove highly amusing; Fred Davies is an expert clog dancer. The up-to-date pictures by the Monarchscope conclude.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—The new farcical comedy *Where is William?* is proving a big attraction here. Mr. Charles Windermere scores a great success as Sir William Gregory; Mr. Rule Pyott is very amusing as William Jolly; Mr. C. K. Francis plays well as Harry; Mr. Leslie Norman gives a humorous portrayal of General Rubbub; Miss Belle Donaldson is an able exponent of Lady Gregory; Miss Clare Marefield charmingly plays Phyllis; and Miss May Posine is good as Emily. Miss Zoe Davis makes a lot of fun as Eliza.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here with *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. William S. Palmer is conspicuous with a forcible rendering of Sir Montague Jephson; Mr. Frank Masters as Joseph Verham acts in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Fitzroy Wharton is well appreciated as Jack Stanley; Mr. M. L. Mackenzie is particularly good as Seth Pearse; and Mr. David Philips is highly amusing as Toby Wright. Miss Mabel Liston sustains the character of Alva Kenyon with vigour and impressiveness; Miss C. Middleton is an attractive Rose Verham; and Miss Priscilla Barnard and Miss Kate Hughes are good in their respective parts of Nellie Kenyon and Mary Ann Barnicoat.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Searo, the well-known illusionist, is the principal attraction here, and succeeds in bewildering with a series of marvellous tricks, all neatly done; the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists submit a meritorious performance; plenty of laughter and applause greet the antics of Stanley and Vandyke, and other good turns are introduced by Flora MacDonald, comedienne and dancer, Hilton, ventriloquist, and Vena Valma, a pleasing comedienne.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Clayton.—A very interesting and amusing series of pictures are being shown here this week. The two outstanding films are Won by a Hold-Up and In the Nick of Time, which are followed by The Capture of a Vagrant, The Monkey's Courtship, Terrier and Rats, The Bagpipe Player, A Runaway Table, That Skating Carnival, Stop Your Tickling, and The Miniature "Tec."

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The second venture of the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Amateur Operatic Society is being presented here this week The selected work is Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*. The most notable feature is the fine work of the chorus. Of the principals Miss Annie Gibson as Phyllis takes chief honours among the ladies, singing nicely and displaying a pleasant style; among the gentlemen Mr. Tom Willey as Lord Tolloller, Mr. Wm. J. Rice as Lord Mountararat, and Mr. Herbert Dickinson as Private Willis are all responsible for good singing, whilst Mr. Ernest Harrison's characterisation of the Lord Chancellor is cleverly done. Other parts are taken by Miss Gwladys Coulson as the Fairy Queen, Miss Dorothy Letten as Iolanthe and Mr. Carl Smethurst as Strephon.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Vernen Walford.—The lively pantomimic farce *The Dandy Thieves*, presented by Mr. Fred Karno's company, is full of laughable business, which is led with distinction by Mr. George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning; Carti and Law, who are deputising for Miss Daisy Wood, owing to the illness of that lady, give a refined comedy and musical act; the De Breans appear in a novel Japanese speciality, which includes smart juggling and illusions; Ian Colquhoun, a favourite baritone here, sings a stirring patriotic song in vigorous style; the Donatos are a couple of one-legged acrobats of remarkable agility; Lola Patey is a pleasing Dutch comedienne with good business; Perrier has a capital ventriloquial act, and Harry Tomlin is an excellent vocalist.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—The Last Deal, illustrative of a gambling incident, is an intensely dramatic picture; The Bonesetter's Daughter is a strong domestic story; there is a capital view of the Lincolnshire Handicap, and a variety of comic films. Mr. Maxwell Edwardes contributes an illustrated song.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint-Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. A. Deighton.—Albany Ward's Imperial Electric Pictures are still running at this popular place, which is filled nightly. Chief among the films shown this week are The Grand National, Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, Forbidden Fruit (a beautiful coloured picture), and the art dramas Adrienne de Bertreaux and The Rocky Road. No Followers Allowed, A Menagerie Let Loose, and Poorluck Gets Married cause much merriment. Variety turns are given by Mr. A. Clarke, comedian, and Miss Ella Wilmere, soubrette and dancer. Roars of laughter greet the Edward Marris Trio in an amusing sketch from *The Dandy Doctor*.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Midnight Mail* (Dottridge and Longden's company) is here this week. Mr. H. W. Hatchman gives a natural, easy, and finished rendering of the part of Leonard Royle; Mr. J. F. Traynor is good as Harry Steyne; Mr. F. G. Evison's Billy Brewer is a masterly interpretation; Mr. F. S. Strickland does well as Hassan Padisha; Miss Jeannie Weston acts nicely as Lady Phyllis; Miss Trissie Humphrey's Mary Steyne is excellent; and Miss Mildred Carr makes an acceptable Nancy Brewer.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Julian Mack is a clever raconteur; Les Piccolinos are versatile and clever acrobats, trick cyclists, wire-walkers, and sharpshooters; Lily Vine and her piccaninnies provide a smart and clever dancing turn; Walter Barrett, baritone, is an accomplished singer; Albert Letine, female impersonator, is a popular turn; the Darntons (Cicely and Gladys) are capable duettists; Lisbon and Barker, comedians, provide a humorous turn; and two excellent pictures complete a good bill.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Fred Karno's company are starring here this week with *Perkins, M.P.*, a continuous roar. Albert Bruno, in the title-rôle, is inimitable. *The G.P.O.* is another admirable effort, and here again Mr. Bruno keeps the fun going merrily. The Brothers Burge cause considerable amusement in a comedy boxing and wrestling act; Dorothy Watson is a charming and refined entertainer; the Three Sisters Warner contribute a series of acrobatic dances; Purvis and Partner are good in *The Postman's Knock*; Fred Kendall is a humorous comedian; and pictures complete.

HAMILTON, N.B.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Lady Mansell's Juveniles are an excellent draw here in a comedy speciality entitled *A Concert Rehearsal*; Wilton Heriot and company in a clever sketch entitled *Father's Footsteps* are decidedly above the average; Lily Burnand sings a couple of songs with go and style; Les Zebovas, acrobatic speciality artists, are clever and refined; the Haverleys, American song illustrators, are a popular turn; Chorley and Conner, patter comedians and dancers, go well; and Ella Blair and her Bowery Boys (two), together with the Bioscope, conclude.

HANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*Havana* is attracting capital houses. Mr. Alexander Leighton's admirable company includes Mr. William Pringle, who is a tremendous hit as Nix; Mr. Reginald Edwards, who plays Reg Brown finely; Mr. C. K. Percival as Don Adolfo; Mr. Saville Foster (Jack Villiers), Mr. J. B. Ridout (Frank Charteris); Miss Hebe Bliss, who as Consuelo is most delightful; Miss Dorothy Temple, and Miss ANce Elphick. The scenery is beautiful and the dresses and effects are splendid. Mr. J. H. Yorke conducts the large orchestra skilfully.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A great attraction is provided in G. H. Elliott, whose coon creations are universally admired. He is a great favourite, and unbounded applause accompanies each of his selections. Alf Chester sings a funny football ditty; Fred Walmsley is an original comedian of great promise; Millie Howell, character vocalist, is vastly popular; the Six Cowboy Girls, in singing and dancing, are good; the Olympian Team of Cyclists cause quite a furore; the Jees, in a novel wire act, make a hit; and Fioretti and Elly, in a barrel and spade act, are loudly recalled; and a comic roller-skating film is cleverly shown.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Managers, Captain F. Shaw and Mr. C. Hazlewood.—The chief films are Niagara, The Cowboy's Romance, Never Eat Sour Apples, Redwing's Gratitude, Why We Called the Plumber In, The Pirate's Fiancée, The Poacher's Wife, and Bleary Ho. Perce Vale, swell comedian, makes a hit.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—This week's attraction is Mr. W. A. Seymour's company in *The Gay Gordons*. Mr. Frank Lincoln as Angus Graeme is a host in himself; Miss Clarice Lockstone as Peggy was good; Miss Florrie Groves as Charlotte Siddons made the most of her opportunities; and Mr. W. H. Desmond as Edmund Siddons cut a quaint figure. Mr. Hayes effectively doubled the parts of stage-manager and Andrew Quainton; and Mr. Leonard Leslie was an able conductor.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshere; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Mr. Randell Jackson was the vocalist for three nights and also Miss Lucy Nuttall. Mr. Leslie Harris was making a welcome reappearance in his well-known and popular musical sketches. On Wednesday a symphony concert was announced, with Mr. Percy Frostick as solo violin.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Owing to the great success achieved by Esta Desmond last week, her engagement here has been extended for another six nights, when her new taking songs and smart dancing form a pleasant break in a programme otherwise composed of excellent pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope Co., the principal film being that illustrating The Life of Moses.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is attracting large audiences in *A Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Alfred Paumier, in the character of Paul Valmar, is very convincing; a dignified impersonation of the Crown Prince Leopold is given by Mr. John Nesbitt; and Lieut. Von Strelsburg is effectively embodied by Mr. Charles Whitlock. Abundant humour is provided by the three rivals in love, embodied by Messrs. James Page, St George Frere, and Algie Spalding. Margaret Brodie, in the dual character of Princess Von Strelsburg and Lieut. Karl Helsberg gives refined characterisations; a lively and spirited interpreter of Kathie of the Golden Dragon is seen in Miss Jessica Black. The scenery is realistic.

Pier Pavilion.—General Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*Fun on the Bristol* proves very entertaining. Mr. J. D. Hunter excels himself in the part of Widow O'Brien, acting very humorously; Mr. Fred Beck takes the character of Count Menargio with his customary ability; as the sturdy Captain Cranbery Mr. J E. Cowell is excellent; and Mr. Charles Hawker gives a finished study of Tommy Cranbery. Mr. Matt. Melrose, in the character of Jerry, the black steward, gives a clever display of dancing; as Dora McAllister and Nora O'Brien Miss Lallah Melrose and Miss Vera Dudley are charmingly natural; and Bella, the black servant, is adequately portrayed by Miss Renée Ashley.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. Robert Hewland's company in *The Shadow of a Crime* provides the attraction, and wins hearty appreciation. Mr. Whitmore Ledger's portrayal of Jim Murdock is most impressive; Mr. Victor Gordon paints Ralph Esmond, forger, bigamist, and murderer, in suitable lurid colours; Mr. Paul Neville's Captain Harry Bullington, R.N., is a fine specimen of a naval hero; Mr. Harry Creamer keeps the audience convulsed by his interpretation of Samuel Brown; Mrs. Brown is played by Miss Violette Vivienne; Mr. Tom Maynard as James Todd assists materially in the fun-making; Miss Madge Severne gives an artistic and pathetic rendering of Loyale Norman; Miss Emmie Barton's rendering of Dora Bullington is a very fine performance; Miss A. Arthur's Winnie Murdock gains the sympathy of the audience; Miss Hetty Jeffries as Sarah Murdock gives a capital conception of the character.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—This week a visit from Edmund Tearle, Kate Clinton, and a specially selected company is affording an exceptional treat to playgoers. On Monday night, in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Edmund Tearle sustained his high reputation by his interpretation of Shylock. His efforts were ably supported by Miss Kate Clinton, whose histrionic gifts were cleverly exhibited in the rôle of Portia. Mr. Stuart Black as Antonio, Mr. Horace Price as Lorenzo, and Mr. P. Millar as Gratiano, each showed marked ability. The rôle of Nerissa was in the capable hands of Miss Mary Campbell.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company opened here on Monday with *A Daughter of the Sea*. Mr. Roy Denman is a manly Ken Moreland; and as Capt. Ben Morrison Mr. Cole Aspinall is all that can be desired. Mr. Lewis Gilbert is a sinister and plausible Mark Glensdale; and Dan Glensdale is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Ashmore Vincent. Messrs. Carl Caigna and Cyril Craven, as Sir Maxwell Brentwood and Jack Strong respectively, are very good. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. J. O. Monkhouse as Billy, and he is ably assisted by Miss Alice Wyllyams as Mollie. Miss Florrie Green is a sweet and winsome Sunshine, and displays marked histrionic ability. The play is well mounted.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Standing out beyond all the rest of the company here is the Princess D'Aryaba in her wonderful dances, which are carried through with brilliant verve and prodigal energy. Her clever male assistant and special scenery heighten the effect. The Brothers Brookes are a pair of bright comedians; Miss Hanid Alexander plays the piano and sings with much cleverness; Herbert Shelley presents his well-arranged protean play in effective manner; the Sisters Brand sing and dance; the Cheers show what can be done in the way of training intelligent cats; Elton and Elma are funny and skilful gymnasts; the Melody Makers contribute energetic work on four pianos, and sing most harmoniously; and the pictures are interesting.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese do some clever and sensational feats. Also in the bill are Fred Lincoln, a quaint character comedian; the Woodwards, in smart balancing feats; Miss Norah Desmond, with her beautifully-illustrated songs well sung; Max Laube, a skilled whistler; Rose and Jeanette, singers and dancers; Miss Rosie Jaxon, singing and dancing nimbly to her own piano accompaniment; and the Eight Lancashire Lads, in their well-known singing and dancing turn.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The Arcadians pay a return visit, and, if anything, the company is even better than on the last occasion. Now we welcome Mr. Walter Passmore in the rôle of Smith, which he takes in a most humorous fashion. Peter Doody could not be played better than by Mr. Clive J. Round, who wins plaudits by his capital work; Miss Ethel Erskine and Miss Mabel Munro are the principal Arcadian beauties, and are charming exponents of these rôles. Miss Billie Sinclair is a delightful Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Veronica Brady achieves likewise no small success. The performance is one of all-round merit, and makes us long to welcome the production again.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mrs. Morton-Powell, the authoress of the play *Brought to Ruin*, which figures on the programme at this popular house, has done her work very well indeed, and herself depicts with fine histrionic skill the rôle of Winnie Waters. Miss Isla Garnett-Vayne, cast for the rôle of Jessie Burton, furnishes an excellent performance; Mr. Harry Scott does effective work as Harry Halbry; the heavy part falls on the shoulders of Mr. Edward H. Hearley, who meets the call upon him most effectively.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Percival.—The top of the bill is occupied by Rose Elliott, with smartly rendered chorus songs. Harry Levaine tells funny stories with appreciative humour; the Zenary Brothers receive a warm welcome; clever eccentric dancers are Retter and Foster; Percy Maye gracefully impersonates female characters; Ted Gill's two songs are pleasingly rendered; and Rose Gower proves a popular vocalist. The pictures are very interesting.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The following artists are billed for the last three evenings of the week, the theatre being closed the first half:—Albert Sember and company, in a sketch *The Bellringer*; Alf. Leaburn, comedian; the Three Behans, in song and dance; Le Mair and Harrington, in a comedy act, entitled *The Proposal*; and the Sisters Callino, duettists and dancers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—The pictures still attract good houses.

IPSWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Seven Perezoffs have an excellently staged juggling act, and a host of original tricks is deftly performed; Baker and Balfe are perfect masters of the xylophone; Kitty Wager is an attractive comedienne; Fred Poplar gives representations in sing of well-known Parliamentarians; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford have an amusing duologue, called "Getting Even"; Gus Garrick creates roars of laughter with his "Music-hall Tit-bits"; the Faludy troupe of six Hungarian acrobats give a performance which is seldom equalled; and the Bioscope concludes.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—The Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean Singers and Dancers are proving a big draw here this week. They appear twice during the evening, and on each occasion the curtain has to be raised several times at the end of their turn. Of Albany Ward's electric pictures, the Sam Langford-Hague fight is the particular draw, other good films being The Poacher's Wife's Revenge and Her Sister's Sin.

KEIGHLEY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—The Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, head the bill, and give an exceedingly clever performance. The Crisps are here on return visit after an absence of one week only. They are great favourites, and are recalled again and again for their Apache dance. Alf. Lindsay whistles operatic selections that win loud applause; Harry Taylor, comedian, has some capital songs, and scores a big success; Sydney Brandon presents character studies from famous plays, and acts with power; Harley and Melton provide a popular turn; Mamie Gannon sings capital chorus songs; and the Dunvilles are well received.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company attracted large audiences with the clever play *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. All the parts were well sustained. Mr. Hamilton Stewart presented a finished portrayal of Lord Lumley; to the rôle of Signor d'Orelli Mr. Lewin Mannering imparted a realism difficult to equal; and the Guiseppi of Mr. Lancelot Londer was greatly admired. As Lady Lumley Miss A. Bruce-Joy gave a perfect delineation of the character; and Miss Ethel Carlyle made a delightful Ruth Thornton.

Hippodrome.—New Royal Theatre.—Among excellent turns are Nat Travers, coster comedian; the Stewards; Carrie Ford; Gibbs and Page, dancers; Katie Weston, comedienne; Greco, juggler; Dandy Victor, ventriloquist; and Joe Shear, with his boxing competitions.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*Folly's Fortune*, a mixture of variety and drama, is ably presented by Miss Maud Western's company. Miss Western appears commendably in the rôle of Folly Vaughan, and has able support from Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd, Mr. Walter Buckstone as Alfred Vaughan, Mr. John Levey as Ben Burritt, and Miss Ada Hender as the adventuress, Myra Burritt. There are several songs and dances, including a fine display by the Monte Carlo Girls.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier portion of the week Mr. Norman V. Norman and his repertory company paid a welcome return visit to Leamington. On Monday a capital performance of *The Marriage of Kitty* was given. Mr. Norman gave a very impulsive portrayal of the good-natured Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Beatrice Wilson was a vivacious and resourceful Kitty; the fiery-tempered Mme. De Semiano found a capable representative in Miss Vera George; and Mr. F. Jock Whitaker played John Travers with distinct merit. Other parts were effectively portrayed by Mr. Norman Leslie and Miss Betty Stannard. Other plays performed on Tuesday and Wednesday were *Caste* and *David Garrick*. For the latter part of the week Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company was announced in *The Belle of New York*.

Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Pharos, the great Egyptian magician, is again the draw this week, and each night large crowds throng the hall to see his marvellous electric show, during which Pharos lights gas jets with his finger-tips; lamps are illuminated from every part of his body; and he concludes with the Circle of Hades, a very sensational act. Some excellent pictures are on show.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynne Miller.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* is here. Mr. E. St. Alban plays the Miser with much dramatic effect; Mr Mark Lester ably enacts the Bailie; the singing of Mr. Stuart Alexander as the Marquis is much admired; Miss Gurney Delaporte makes a capital Serpolette, and Miss Vera Dorian ably sustains the rôle of Germaine.

Royal.—Proprietor Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*Alone in London* is being presented here. Miss Nellie Clyde as Nan and Mr. Gerald Jordan as Dick Redcliffe give clever impersonations, and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson supplies a capital study of old Jenkinson.

Empire.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Elliott Savonas are appearing here in their talented and musical act; Florence Smithers is funny in a comedy sketch; Ray Wallace proves herself a leading light in mimicry; W. J. Churchill is a favourite, and Frank Cass is a good character comedian. Hall and Earle, Siems, Miss Juliette, Rhoda Paul, and Victor Travers do excellent turns.

Queen's.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Miss Frances Letty

Be Fashionable!

This season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS BRONZINE POLISHES

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

These polishes can be obtained in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour.

Excellent for Theatrical Properties.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, & Ironmongers, 1/- per box, which will do several pairs of shoes.

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD., 73, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

provides a good singing and dancing act here; Arabella Allen gives a talented exposition of some leading characters of Dickens; Bert Marsden proves himself a versatile comedian; Madge Osmond is a popular male impersonator; a pretty dancing act is done by Haley's Garden of Girls; the Bristows excel in a cycling act, and Will Norrie and Bros. Ideno complete a good bill.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Mr. Percy Honri in his clever fantasia *Concordia* is drawing good houses here; Alice Rix, assisted by a troupe of lady dancers, makes a big hit; the Eight Elves, another troupe of lady dancers, excel conspicuously; Fred Land has a good reception; and other popular artists engaged include Iris Fox, Harry Vardon, Dorothy White, Marion Armitage, and George S. Melvin, a clever Scotch comedian.

VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—The Six Buster Browns in a singing and dancing act are the principal turn here; Jack Mackenzie presents a dramatic monologue; Lily Hayes is an entertaining artist; and the Netty Janowsky troupe, the Roxbys, and the Four Scoreys also score.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—The local amateur music and dramatic society hold the boards this week, and are presenting the comic opera *The Mountebanks*, by kind permission of Mrs. H. D'Oyly Carte. The proceeds are on behalf of the town charities.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The attraction is provided by Mr. Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., in the drama *Another Man's Wife*, which is acted and staged in admirable style. Mr. Alfred D. Adams gives an excellent performance as Carlos De Vergas; and Miss Ruby Loncraine as Lucy De Vergas is also very good. Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland shines as Gilbert Eardley; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan plays well as Paul Bernstoff; Miss Lilian Radbourne is capital as Inez de Castro; Mr. Ambrose Pinder deserves praise as Count Pelikoff; Mr. Edwin Davies as Colonel Matterson, Miss Lily Griffen as Maisie Matterson, and Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer are all good in their respective parts; and Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles and Miss Marion Mayne as Tibby raise many hearty laughs.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—At the head a very good "show" is Dan Lipton's company in the delightful vocal scena *Songland*, which is remarkably pretty. Miss Eva Kelland is the principal vocalist, and she deservedly scores a well-merited success. At the other end is Sam Mayo, the eccentric and immobile comedian. Alexandre and Hughes, a clever pair, well maintain their popularity; Spry and Monti are very good in their merry comedy, *The Song-Writer and the Soubrette*; the Jackley Trio, in their smart comedy acrobatic act, make a hit; Ryan and Hall are clever acrobatic comedians and burlesque wrestlers; Baby Boden is a vivacious little comedienne and dancer; Gipsy Woolf, an attractive light comedy artist, introduces her pretty and dainty vocal scena, *The Mermaid at Margate*, in which she is assisted by the Six Sunbeams. Charles Vincent, the popular parody comedian, also entertains. The Bioscope is retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The principal attraction in this week's programme is the sensational dramatic picture, The Martyrdom of Adolf Beck. There are also other pictures, including the Oxford and Cambridge Boatrace. The variety portion includes Mlle. Dalmere's Table Circus, introducing dogs, rabbits, &c., which proves a popular feature; the Three Alskarnos, in a good tumbling and comedy act; Will Rhodes, an excellent parody comedian; Dennis and Moore, vocalists and smart dancers; Joan Deering, violinist and vocalist; and Colin Mail, light comedian.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Pictures here are of the usual high standard of excellence, and include The Girl Who Joined the Bushrangers, The Indian Trailer, Papa Buys the Fireworks, Mrs. Jones's Lovers, Saved by Carlo, Indiscreet Letters, Her Lover's Honour, and Uncle Learns to Hypnotise. Ernest Greville, descriptive and character vocalist, is on a successful return visit.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Toffree and Slingsby.—Miss Florence Baines and company are paying a welcome return visit here with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines as the Lancashire lass is a pronounced success; John Higgins is capably delineated by Mr. H. B. Peppin; Mr. Sinclair Holden acquits himself well as Harry; Mr. Burt Burton makes an excellent character study of Moses Goldburg; Miss Issa Steel charmingly portrays the rôle of Eva Lancashire; and Mr. Payne Fletcher gives a well-studied impersonation of the farmer, John Henry Thompson.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—The Bros. Lloyd provide a sensational act on the bounding cable; Miss Lucy Gillette is successful in an original and clever juggling turn; the Arthur Gallimore Trio in an amusing comedy sketch are well received; Little Tichbourne proves a popular and amusing turn; and other turns are Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, Martel, Ena Corelli, Wells and Warlock, and the Hippodrome pictures.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. John Leopold's entertaining company have been here again with their amusing production, entitled *New Frivolity*, in which new songs and other attractive features bring an old favourite right up to date. The variety hits introduced include a smart acrobatic exhibition by the Four Kellys and some half-dozen members of the Leopold family are prominent in the cast, comprising Mr. Jack Leopold as Daniel Teething, Mr. J. Leopold, jun., as Jules Vermiglio, Mr. Walter Leopold as Tickle, and Miss Jenny Leopold as Winnie Moore. Mr. Watson Hume and Mr. Harry Ugar keep the audience amused in their rôles of Oliver Buckwheat and Samuel; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is imposing as Mme. Cobweb; Miss Amy Hall makes a winsome Lucy Buckwheat; and Mr. W. H. Melrose, Mr. W. H. Howarth, Mr. Harry Leo, and Mr. Levesque add to the breeziness of the piece in their respective parts; while Miss Gladys Somers and Miss Violet Keand, as a pair of schoolgirls, and Miss Vera Lake Grange as a French Waitress, lend grace and animation to the scenes in which they appear.

LICHFIELD.—ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Miss Maggie Morton's company appeared here on Tuesday in Walter Howard's spirited military drama, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which was received with much favour. Miss Marion Carter was a pathetic Alma Kingsley, and Miss Frances May proved a powerful Margaret Rivers. The lead was Mr Charles Road-Night, who as Captain Frank Caredale enlisted the sympathies of the audience; while Mr. C. Coleman proved a sufficiently repellant Captain George Darrell. The two little drummer boys were excellently played by Miss Jose Melbourne and Miss Olive Lindsay. Mr. Arthur Beverley was the General Kingsley. The comedy element was supplied by Mr. Arthur Temple and Mr. F. M. Wright.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Here this week we have had a first Liverpool visit of *The Woman in the Case*, presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath's capable company. The play appealed very strongly to Monday night's large and critical audience, who were very ready to recognise the talented efforts of Miss Violet Vanburgh, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, and others who assisted towards success. Both these ladies came in for a perfect ovation at the close of the third thrilling act, Miss Vanbrugh's work therein being acclaimed brilliant in the extreme. As Claire Forster her simulation of drunkenness, although an exceedingly difficult and somewhat unpleasant part, was carried through with dramatic intensity, and, as a piece of acting, proved a triumph. Miss Jeffreys's rôle was an agreeable contrast, her wifely devotion being characterised by tenderness and delicacy, the several little affecting interviews with her unfortunate husband making a marked impression upon the audience. Mr. Herbert Sleath gained honours with his particularly fine Julian Rolfe; Miss Mary Griffiths showed much humour in the minor rôle of Mrs. Hughes; especial thanks were due to Mr. William F. Grant for his natural lawyer, a character admirably handled; and valuable assistance also came from Mr. Fred Benton(Klaufferty), Mr. Wm. Kershaw (Jimmy Smith), Miss Gwendolin Wren (Elsie Brewster), Miss Cicely Grey (Dora Miller), and Miss Eileen Orry (Louise Mane). *By Mutual Agreement* was a curtain-raiser in which Miss Wren, Mr. Kershaw, and Mr. Grant participated.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—A week of opera is being enjoyed here, the famous Moody-Manners combination having opened on Monday evening with *Tannhäuser*, in which Messrs. Joseph O'Mara (title-rôle), Charles McGrath (Hermann), Lewys James (Wolfram), Miss Kate Anderson (Venus), and Madame de Vere-Sapio (Elizabeth) appeared. For the first time in Liverpool, Saint-Saëns' *Samson and Delilah* was given on Tuesday, when Mr. Philip Brozel pleased immensely with his Samson, and Mlle. Zelie de Lussan distinguished herself as Delilah. Wednesday saw *La Tosca* (with Madame Fanny Moody as Torca), preceded, for the first time here, by Nicholas Gatty's *Duke or Devil*, in which Messrs. Charles Moorhouse (Duke of Bologna), and Miss Raymonde Amy (Bianca), took part. The week's list also contained *Trovatore*, *Carmen*, and *Faust*.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week is Mr. T. Edward Ward's company with *His Real Wife*, which visits this city for the first time. Miss Ward is seen in the strong part of Rose Avondale, which she handles in capital style, and earns the fullest sympathy of her audience. Mr. J. W. Evelyn makes an admirable Martin Avondale, and carries off honours; Mr. Clifford Rean proves a capable exponent of the rôle of Herbert Barton; General Barton is carefully presented by Mr. C. W. Spencer; the villainous Colombe is powerfully played by Mr. Charles Yorke; Miss Gabrielle Romero satisfies as Lady Sybil; and a deal of comedy emanates from Simon Bletherell (Mr. T. Edward Ward), Betty (Miss Clarrie Yandell). The play is well staged.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The engagement here this week is that of Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company with *Camille* for five nights. The play is put on in acceptable manner, and the company is an all round good one. Miss Henrietta Schrier acquitted herself in the trying rôle of Marguerite Gautier; as Gaston de Rieux Mr. Percy showed some fine acting; Mr. F. Douglas Howard proved a powerful Varville; Mr. Edward Ashworth earned applause for his Giray; and worthy support also came from Messrs. Ronald Bridge (Georges Duval), Andrew Money (Armand), and Miss Marie Ramuz (Nichette). On Friday *Moths* was staged, with Miss Schrier as Fuchsia Leach, and Mr. Percy in the character of Lord Jura.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. Tom Craven and company pay a visit with *When a Lass Loves*, which is affording great pleasure to large audiences. Mr. Louis Palgrave is particularly good as Slack, an office-boy (his original part); Mr. Reginald Stephens shows much ability as Dr. Allan Crass; Mr. Franc Stoney is prominent as Caleb Crass; Mr. P. Ramsey Foreman in the character of the rascally Bertram Bridge is seen to great advantage; Miss Josephine Middleton plays Constance Lane with a deal of reserve and tact; and Miss Rita Trekelle does justice to Cynthia Bridge. There is a deal of comedy in the play, which proves most enjoyable.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Madame Ella Russell, of operatic fame, is delighting her audiences with favourite excerpts from her répertoire; the remarkable work of Chanti, the famous protean artist, gains for him rounds of applause; fun and harmony in galore come from the Comedy Meisters; the Bros. O'Brien go through a smart act on the horizontal bars; Wish Wynne shows herself to be a particularly clever and versatile comedienne, her character studies provoking loud applause; Humpsti Bumsti, presented by Pipifax and Panlo, cause endless laughter; Coverdale pleases immensely with his stories and burlesque mimicry; Edie Reynolds shows much talent as a violinist; and Mona Vivian is a sweet juvenile comedienne and dancer.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill here this week is Ted Waite, a merry comedian, whose songs and sayings are greatly enjoyed; Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnas, has a refined vaudeville entertainment; the Four Burnells cause endless laughter with their work on the links; a smart comedy act, *Two's Company, Three's None*, is provided by the Floradoras; Walker and Lake have some funny patter; and also in the list are Lena Wylie, soprano; and Fred Spencer, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—In big type here this week are Peterman and Ricketts, with *The Belle of the Orient*, a musical comedy that is capitally presented by a company which includes Mr. George Ricketts (Ike Novinski), Mr. Walter Williams (Lord Exmore), and Mr. Charles Hylton (the Waiter); an amusing juggling turn comes from Emerson and Baldwin; the Bijou Juvenile Troupe please greatly with their refined musical scena, *Pansy's Birthday*; Lloyd Morgan has some popular songs; Willie Atom provokes much laughter with his absurdity, *Wiggles;* Abel and Welsh show themselves to be a funny pair of eccentrics; Albert Le Fre enjoys a good reception for his favourite songs; as xylophone players the Lewin Martel Duo afford every pleasure; and contributions are also provided by George Campbell, patter comedian; and Albert St. Clair, double-voiced vocalist.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Owing to the success which has attended the pantomime of *Cinderella*, played here last week by the stock dramatic company, a further six nights are being put in.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Whit Cunliffe is the bright, particular star here this week, delighting everybody with his latest songs; L'Incognita, a soprano with a surprising range, gives a most interesting display of her vocal powers; J. W. Rowley, the well-known comedian and dancer, enjoys a cordial greeting from old and new admirers; Albert and Edmunds' troupe of comedians cause immense fun with their *Tower of London* sketch; a neat vocal and dancing scena is provided by Victor's Juveniles; the Three Cape Girls are lively dusky comediennes and long boot dancers; A-Ba-Be's picture post-card album is a pretty turn, which earns rounds of applause; Addie Dorina exhibits great protean powers with her sketch, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, in which she is assisted by Mr. Frank Wheatcroft; and Silvo gives a clever entertainment with the musical glasses.

PAVILION. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Foremost here is John Tiller's *In Japan*, spectacular ballet, which is pleasing greatly, among the principals being Miss May Merry and Miss Cissy Iris; Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie, including the boxing cats, affords much delight; Atlas and Vulcana go through an able athletic turn; the Mystic Hussars have some exceedingly clever stage illusions; the Claymore Trio show a deal of proficiency in club juggling; Chiko is a remarkable equilibristic contortionist; a humorous burlesque entertainment emanates from Stevens and Brett; and also in the programme are the Zaid Trio, with their Oriental speciality; Lucy Coventry, comedienne and eccentric dancer; Beattie Foster, comedienne; and Wallace Whitney, comedian.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Griffith and Carmen top the bill, and cause endless amusement in their "Tea-room Tête-a-tête." Harry Tullett does well as a quaint comedian; Violet Victoria is a comedienne above the average; Elliot and Lane contribute some good patter combined with excellent dancing; Jones and Gordon are capital in the sketch *A Masterful Man*, their singing meriting special praise; and excellent pictures are shown on the Biograph.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company is here with *A Secret Wedding*. Mr. John Croudace presents a fine, manly study of Edgar Hartington; Miss Rubie Maude acts with emotional power as Grace Edmondson; Mr. S. Carlton is a forcible Herbert Hartington; Mr. H. W. Vernon capably assumes the part of Billy Barton; Miss Ethel Lawson as the Avenging Angel is interesting; Miss Evelyn Walton is a convincing Elsie Machand; and Miss Rene Bell Douglas a spirited Polly.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Big crowds visit this place of amusement. A capital series of films include Transporting Logs in Canada, His Wife's Visitor, A Blank Cheque, Furnished Rooms to Let, and A Child Teacher. The variety turns are supplied by the Rowntrees, comedy duo, who are accorded a flattering reception; and Dan Noble, eccentric comedian, who is also well received.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company is attracting large audiences, the répertoire being, as usual, popular in character as well as high-class, and the renderings of excellent quality. On Monday a fine performance of *Carmen* was given, with Miss Doris Woodall in the title-rôle, which she filled to perfection. A distinguished achievement was the José of Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, whose popularity is as great as ever. Mr. Alan Turner as Escamillo and Miss Beatrice Miranda as Micaela were also prominently good among the remainder of a capital cast. On Tuesday the combination of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* attracted an appreciative house, and afforded opportunities to Mr. Edward Davies (Turridu), Mr. Hebden Foster (Alfio), and Miss Gertrude Vania (Santuzza) in the first-mentioned opera, and to Mr. Charles Victor (Tonio), as well as to the principal tenor and soprano in *Carmen* in the second; while on Wednesday Verdi's *Destiny* was repeated for the pleasure of those who did not see its revival on the last visit of the company. *Faust*, *Fidelio*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana* complete the week.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Messrs. Platt and Tower's company is treating audiences here to an excellent interpretation of Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*. Miss Ida Southern gives a really clever rendering of Dolly Clandon, which is well matched by the Valentine of Mr. Graham Colmer; Miss Winifred Beach is admirable as Gloria; Mr. Claude Haviland is capital as the Waiter; and very good work is added by Miss Edith Hunter as Mrs. Clandon, Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Philip, Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Fergus Crampton, and Mr. Allan Jeayes as Finch McComas.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Preceded by *The Tallyman*, a comedy in one act, Sheridan's *The Critic* was put on here on Monday, employing the full strength of Miss Horniman's talented company. A fine and diverting performance was given, the whole of the cast doing exceedingly well. Intelligence throughout was brought to bear upon the object of getting every ounce of humour out of the theme, and the burlesque reached its height when Don Ferola and Beefeater engaged in their duel, and the final tableau of the destruction of the Spanish Armada was shown. Nothing so humorous has been seen here for a long time, and all concerned in the production are to be highly complimented on a finely-judged and finely-achieved success.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is doing well here with *Mother*, an appealing drama, which is completing a round of the Broadhead houses.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn.—Mr. Frank Adair and his company are here in Fred Maxwell's sensational drama *The Heathen and the Christian*. Two strong parts are those of Li, the Avenger, played powerfully by Mr. Frank Adair, and Mira Sampson, well expounded by Miss Louie Adair. Excellent impersonations are added by Mr. Herbert Sydney as Chang Lu, Mr. Harold Garth as Chang, and Mr. Fred Withers as Lung Hi; while among the English characters Mr. Gerald Shirley plays well as Lieut. Allendale, Miss Stanley Burt is pleasing as May Berresford, and much fun is provided by Miss Eva Reed as the love-sick Recky Fibbins.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Brearley.—Max Goldberg's play *Through the Divorce Court* is the attraction here. It was seen a week or two ago by local audiences. Miss Hettie Chattell is still in the cast as Lady Dolores Penarth. The play is well staged, and goes with a swing.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A good bill here is headed by Wash. W. Evans and company, in *Paradise Alley*, a Bowery sketch. Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy, bottoms the bill in an elaborate production; and Tom Hayton's Manchester Lads are also prominent in their vocal and dancing scena. Other good turns are Allen McAskell, the comedy conjurer; Harry Kirk, comedian; Bert Bowden, comedian; and Frank E. Ford, a smart wooden shoe dancer.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An attractive programme here is headed by Nelson Jackson, the popular entertainer at the piano, who is very well received; and George French, a comedian with a decidedly comic manner; while in the other place of honour Horace Mills and company, in a farcical incident, are responsible for plenty of amusement. W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *The Boy Scouts*, is a pleasing item; Cumminger and Colonna are a good dancing turn; J. H. Scotland, the basso, adds an enjoyable song or two; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are well received as usual; and other smart items are Rauschle, the impersonator of history-makers; La Freya, in a beautiful illuminated picture act; and the Two St. Johns, musical comedians, campanologists, and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—George Ali and company are a big attraction here in *Papa's Day Off*. If possible, Mr. Ali is funnier than ever. Helen Trix, an American comedienne, makes a hit with her amusing song "Sam, Sam"; the Kratons are skilful hoop manipulators; Marie Kendall proves a popular turn; Mabel Sinclair is a smart ventriloquist; Witty Watty Walton gives his usual smart act; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins score a success in their excellent comedy vocal scena; and Steve McCarthy sings "There are no girls like our girls," and adds a smart dance. Interesting and instructive pictures of Canada complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The big turn here is Harry Fragson, who gave close upon a dozen songs on his initial appearance; Lennie and Hast appear in a very pleasing idyll, *The Maid of Polaria*, which is admirably sung and acted; while some remarkably good dancing is done by Barnes and Ascott, who rouse considerable enthusiasm. Other clever turns are Carl Lynn, animal mimic; the Arleys Trio, in a smart potpourri; Oliver Conroy, eccentric comedian; Harry Russell and company, in a comedy sketch; Gladys Archbutt, comedienne; the Cromwells, in a novel juggling act; and Chris Baker, comedian.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Sylvia Cavalho and company, including Clifford Pembroke, are seen to advantage in a capital comedy sketch, *The Husband of Peggy*. Considerable amusement is caused by Herbert Darnley's company, with Chas. H. Bell, in *The Brigands of Tarragona*. Yvonne Lamor, a chic comedienne, is successful; Adam Tomlinson, the Tyneside comedian, makes a hit; Tommy Clifford is a youthful but very clever ventriloquist; the Sisters Allen are pleasing duettists and dancers; Miss Burley and the Funny Little Man give a clever and amusing item; and Alice Lingard dances neatly.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Jennie Johns, a dainty comedienne, tops the bill here with her usual success; Ida Kessanly's Fox Terriers provide an exceedingly smart turn; Yost and York, the military boys, are decidedly entertaining; Burns and Bentley are splendid dancers; Penstone and San-go are capital in a neat potpourri; Lew Peterman is a good Hebrew comedian; Archie Glen is enjoyed as a story-teller and dancer; and a first-rate comedy acrobatic act is offered by the marvellous Toranes. Flash James and Stick Fast on the Bioscope are extra good.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—*The Yellow Fang*, a dramatic episode, well played by Miss Mary Mayfren's company, tops the bill. The Royal Banzai Family are wonderfully clever Japanese artists; and George Hyam, comedian, makes a hit with his song "Round the corner." Other good and well-received turns are offered by the Ellesmere Troupe of sensational trick cyclists; the Two Lillys, in equilibristic act; Six White Boys, dancers and singers; and Nellie Rose, serio. Cupid and the Motor-Boat is a good film.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Very great success attended the reopening of this popular al-fresco pavilion. The programme is one of all-round excellence, and includes the names of Bert Byrne, comedian; Harry Smith, tenor; Will Lindsay, Yorkshire comedian; Rose Alderman, soprano; George Curzon, baritone; Ernie Percival, light comedian; Mabel Leslie, comedienne; Jack Hodson, mimic; Sylvia Dove, vocalist; Gertie Millan, vocalist; Willie Bailey at the piano; and last, but not least, Harry Leslie himself, as entertaining as ever. The pantomime burlesque *Little Red Riding Hood* is exceedingly well done.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—*A Sense of Humour*, by Beryl and Cosmo Hamilton, has been remarkably well played here this week by Mr. Henry Armitage's well-selected company, and the play has been provocative of hilarity. The characters have been taken as follows:—Sir William Hutton, Bart., Mr. Frank Wolsey; Captain Archibald Hay, Mr Henry James; Meakin, Mr. George Austin; Mrs. Hay, Miss Eva Turnour; Stanner, Miss Violet Oakley; and Lady Hutton, Miss Helen Holmes. The respective parts have been successfully sustained all round. The comedy has been preceded each evening by the monologue *Yes, Papa*.

HIPPODROME. — Managing - Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—*Saved by Wireless*, a dramatic sketch, played by Gilbert Heron and company, is enthusiastically received, and another much appreciated item is the thrilling episode *The Key*, an effective little piece presented by Jessie Danvers and her company. Little Sophie, a vivacious and clever juvenile comedienne, gives one of the most popular turns on the bill. Lilian Rose (vocalist and entertainer), Verne and Green (acrobats), the Brothers Lydamore (comedians and dancers), and Eric Vaughan (light comedian) also contribute to an enjoyable programme. The Valleys of Switzerland and When We Called the Plumber In are this week's pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*Her Love Against the World* is presented by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company. Mr. Fred Emery plays with ability the rôle of Eric, Earl of Strathmere; Mr. Fred Rivers ably depicts the scheming Prince Ulric; Mr W. H. Hallatt is good as Prince Othmar; and Mr. Henry Hallatt is well suited as Prince Maurice. Miss Elsie Roberts gives a capable interpretation of Princess Iris, and Miss Rosie St. John is successful as Lionel.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—*Casey's Army*, a most amusing sketch, keeps the house in continual good humour. Lil Elfrida scores with her imitations of music-hall favourites, and popular turns are contributed by Tom Bass (comedian), the Seddons (grotesque jugglers), Bouverie Pleydell (comedienne), Charles Sloman (eccentric), Clarke and Glenney, and Biograph pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Florence Baines is presenting Miss Madge Grey in *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.* Miss Grey is the life and soul of the piece in the title-rôle; Miss Marie Lorenzi plays capitally as Eva Lancashire; Miss Mabelle Clinton is a graceful Bertha; Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., skilfully enacts the rôle of Harry Higgins; and John Higgins is ably presented by Mr. Chas. Williams.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. K. Chatto.—Mr. Eric H. Albury, supported by a competent company, presents *Why Smith Left Home*. The part of John Smith is admirably filled by Mr. Chas. Lane; and as Count Wilhelm Von Goggenheim Mr. Eric Albury meets with the heartiest approval. Miss Alice Lethbridge does full justice to the character of Mrs. Smith; and as Miss Amelia Smith Miss Adele Harvey is a distinct success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Will Casey's company appears with success in *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar portrays in capable fashion the trying rôle of Marion; Mr. Will Casey is very successful as Napoleon B. Boomer; the dignified Philip Blackstone is capably played by Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes; and the part of John Hawthorne is in the able hands of Mr. Gilbert Elviss.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—The Daunton-Shaw troupe of Australian cyclists perform wonderful tricks on wheels; Dent and Harries, in their mystic musical comedietta, *The Indian Bottle*, are deservedly successful; Bennett and Martell create much laughter in their funny act, *The Shipwrecked Mariners;* the Markies give a capital entertainment; and August, September, and May, comedians; Miss Edith Haley, comedienne; Ambrose Thorn, comedian; and the Empire pictures are all well received.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—An attractive programme of pictures meets with gratifying success.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Topping the bill here are the Bennetts, in an American versatile duologue. Vera Mayne, vocal comedian, and Molly Doon, comedienne and dancer, are the recipients of warm encomiums; Billy Lester, comedian, tackles the risible faculties of the audience. Among the capital pictures is the 1910 Grand National.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Chisholm Taylor.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is this week appearing in *The Tyrant*. Mr. Roy Fortescue gives a strong, impressive rendering of the name part; the excellent stage presence and finished acting of Mr. Percy Folliss in the rôle of Homodei are of great advantage to the production; Mr. Ed. E. Louis is an excellent Rudolph; Miss Marie Robson's Tisbe is a highly artistic performance; Miss Jean Scott does well as Lady Katherine, Daphine being played by Miss Emmie Burns. In the comedy element Messrs. Wilson, Summers, and Fred Luard, together with Miss Kate Lever, shine. The play is admirably staged.

NEATH.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Pictures here include The Poet's Vision, an excellent subject; A Child's Faith, a very interesting film; The Juggler, or a Peep Behind the Scenes; Revenge of a Poacher's Wife, a very sensational film; and a pretty love story told in The Woman from Mellon's. An amusing series is found in An Attentive Listener, Heroism, She Would Sing, Beneath the Gas, &c. Excellent varieties include Williams' Welsh Party, which comprise four talented vocalists and harpists; and Clare and Pastor, comedy artists.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—The opening of this new and beautiful building is dealt with in another column.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors and Managers, the New Brighton Pier Co.—Variety still holds sway here, and on Monday last the Gay Gondoliers made their first appearance in this locality, and gave a good programme of varied items. The Albano Sisters are responsible for a refined turn, and Signor Torti proves himself a powerful tenor. The Royal Quintette are very excellent dancers.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Edward Compton opened here on Monday in *Davy Garrick*, and in the title-rôle gave his usual brilliant and attractive portrayal. As Violet Miss Kathleen Leigh is responsible for a most attractive personation, her sympathetic and natural acting being greatly appreciated. A consistently clever character sketch is that of Alderman Gresham by Mr. Henry Crocker, and the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut of Mr. Frank Royde is another portrayal deserving of high commendation. The characters of Rumbelow, Sowerberry, Simkins, Mrs. Rumbelow, and Selina

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Unless your stomach and liver are in working order, able to thoroughly digest food, you cannot escape the torments of indigestion, with all the pains and misery of lost health and vigour. There are many forms of indigestion, but only one method of cure! You must restore your stomach, liver and bowels to working order. Mother Seigel's Syrup will do this for you more quickly and surely

THE STOMACH AND LIVER TONIC

than anything else can. It has cured more cases of indigestion than all other remedies combined. Test it to-day—It will cure *you!* Mr. F. Rogers, Parsonage Cottages, Catherington, Nr. Horndean, Hants. states that Mother Seigel's Syrup cured him of indigestion three years ago. "From that day," he says, "I have been as well as a man need be."

CURES

PAINS AFTER EATING
BILIOUSNESS
CONSTIPATION
HEADACHES
AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF
INDIGESTION

The 2/6 bottle of Syrup contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size

are capably played by Messrs. Philip Gordon, J. W. Austin, C. Marquand, and Misses Marie Hassell and Loraine Stevens. Preceding the comedy is a capital comedietta, entitled *Tom Noddy's Secret*, in which Miss Nell Compton, Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. J. W. Austin, and Mr. Frank Royde appear to advantage. During the week *The School for Scandal*, *The Rivals*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Road to Ruin*, and *Used Up* will be given.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mrs. Brown-Potter and company are here in *Madame X*. Mrs. Brown-Potter gave a magnificent interpretation of the part of Jacqueline, her acting being powerful and effective. Mr. Leonard Pagden supplies an admirable portrayal of Louis Fleuriot, and the rôle of Raymond was ably filled by Mr. Douglas Allington. Mr. Frank Bradley gave a good rendering of Noel; the part of Dr. Chesnel was carefully sustained by Mr. Cyril Ashford; Mr. Charles B. Bedells submitted a good representation of Laroque; and much amusement was afforded by Mr. H Brocknor and Mr. Thomas Sidney as Merivel and Periss.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. James Bell's company in *The Idol of Paris* is here. The rôle of Flare-Flare is in the capable hands of Miss Annie Bell, who acts with admirable judgment. Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee is convincing as Philip d'Esterre; the part of Victor Cashelle is ably played by Mr. Henry Watson; Mr. Gordon Robey makes an excellent Prince Sergius; Mme. Sancterre is ably interpreted by Miss Frances Bruce; and the parts of Tatave and Anne have good representatives in Mr. H. Vivian Thomas and Miss Annie Megson.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Amongst the variety turns here are those of Joe Humphreys, actor-vocalist; Harry Harvey, Tyneside comedian; and Watson and McQue, comedians. The animated pictures are excellent.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—*The Roll Call*, by Mr. George Leyton, with an assemblage of Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans, is meeting with well-deserved success here. The Indian fakir, Gustave Fasola, thoroughly mystifies his audiences; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane are once more delighting Tyneside people; another capital turn is that of the Abdullah Troupe of Arabs; Fatmah Diard, the famous American prima-donna, renders several songs in good style; and Little Ganty is always amusing, and the same may be said of the clever couple Conan and Doyle. An enjoyable turn of the opera-bouffe type is supplied by Les Silas, and another smart item is presented by Mr. Harry Herbert, eccentric comedian.

NORTHAMPTON.—Temperance Hall.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A fine set of films shown here includes The Spanish Girl, a romantic Mexican drama; Fenton of the 42nd, a tale of the American war; and the thrilling drama Three-fingered Jack. Amongst the comics, Foolshead as a Temperance Advocate takes the lead. The illustrated songs featured this week by Miss Margaret Payne are "When I fell in love with you" and "Angus Macdonald."

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. George Edwardes' *Merry Widow* company is attracting large and delighted audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Mary Ridley is distinctly successful, and gains frequent applause; Miss Neste Lannel makes a hit as Frou-Frou; Miss Mabel Hope is well suited to the part of Natalie; and Miss Eileen Clanford as Olga and Miss Enid Ford as Prascovia are prominent in their respective characters. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter proves a smart Baron Popoff, and causes much hearty laughter; Mr. Harry Emeric is a clever Nisch; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy makes the most of his opportunities as Jolidon; Mr. Cecil Warwick wins much favour as General Navakovitch; Mr. Tom H. Davis scores as the Marquis de Cascada; Mr. Spencer Lloyd displays ability as M. de St. Brioche; and Mr. C. L. Steward as M. Khadja deserves praise.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—An excellent display of pictures is drawing large audiences. The principal films are Little Boheme, A Fellow Clerk's Envy, and An Enterprising Florist. Vaudeville turns are provided by Fanny Robina, the popular chorus singer, who has been accorded a hearty reception; Edwards and Ward, who present an enjoyable comedy act; Florence Cooper, a capital songstress; and Reed and Stevens, clever duologue artists.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is here this week with *Lucky Durham*; Mr. Edmund Kennedy is a manly John Durham; Mr. Arthur Leigh a good Reginald Steighton; Mr. William Calvert deserves praise as Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Charles Wemyss does well as Mr. Vallerton; Miss Nellie Bonser impressively portrays Mrs. Durham; Miss Frances Wolviston acts with dignity as Lady Mountfallon; Miss Dorrie Turner deserves praise as the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Florence Tressilian deserves commendation as Helen Vallerton.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The Norwich Amateur Opera Company is here this week in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. The proceeds will be devoted to the local charities.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Dollar Princess* is attracting large audiences here. Miss Norah Barry plays Alice with delightful naïveté and charm; Mr. Leonard Mackay renders the music of Fairfax with his accustomed spirit; Mr. W. Louis Bradfield gives an acceptable representation of Conder; Mr. Eric Thorne's quaint mannerisms have full scope in the part of Mr. Bulger; and Mr. Percy Davison takes his every chance as Sir James McGregor. Miss Norma Whalley adds greatly to the success by her fine assumption of the imperious Olga; Miss Daisy Elliston finds a congenial rôle as the attractive Daisy, being well assisted by Mr. Paul Plunket as the Earl of Quorn.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is proving a great attraction. Possessed in a sufficient degree of the talents necessary to reproduce Mrs. Wiggs, Miss Sophie Lingwood has her audience in the fullest sympathy; Miss Rita Carlyle appreciates to the utmost her opportunities as Miss Hazy; and Miss Beatrice A. Bell gives an admirable representation of Mrs. Eichorn. Miss Violet Vivian as Mrs. Schultz and Miss Ruhamah Catton as Lovey Mary each in her different style do good work; and the Miss Lucy of Miss Rhoda Beresford is a charming representation. Mr. Frederick Forrest demonstrates the possession of dramatic power as Stubbins, and Mr. Ernest Rushton works hard as Mr. Wiggs. Minor parts are well played.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The breezy style of R. G. Knowles is always refreshing, and his return visit is very welcome. Spontaneous applause greets Cinquevalli, who comes with some new and interesting feats. The marvellous vocal effects produced by Amelie de l'Enclos arouse the greatest wonderment; a thoroughly amusing sketch is presented by Bert Coote and company entitled *A Lamb on Wall Street*; Tom Clare at the piano hits the popular taste; capital pictures are quickly drawn by Vandinoff, assisted by Mlle. Louise; J. A. Wilson and his dog Touzer are as funny as ever; and Leo Tell, mimic, Lillie Lassah, dancer, and the Bioscope also contribute.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The versatility of the accomplishments shown by the Chung-Ling-See Troupe fully deserves the warm recognition accorded them. The patter of Ernest Rees is distinctly clever, and a dramatic sketch is well played by H. G. Brandon and company. Interesting and clever acrobatic feats are performed by Elsa and Max Arbra; Ted Karno and company earn hearty applause for an amusing pantomimic sketch; the Forsyths submit an attractive performance; Dainty Doretta dances smartly; and the Sauterons prove capable comedy artists.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Smiley.—The first visit of *The Dollar Princess* has attracted much attention, and Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company has done full justice to the delightful musical comedy. Miss Effie Mann as Alice acts and sings in charming manner; and Miss Peggie Primrose makes a most vivacious Daisy. Miss Madeleine Seymour as Olga, the lion queen, proves a distinct success; Mr. Alec Worcester plays Freddy Fairfax capitally; Mr. Leslie Holland as Harry Q. Condor is very amusing; Mr. Hugh Henson is excellent as Dick; and Mr. Sydney Lyndon as John, Earl of Quorn, submits a clever study. Mr. Willie Warde, jun., is very good as Sir James Macgregor; Mr. J. Bates as the Duke of Stonehenge does well; as Bulger Mr. W. H. Rawlins causes much laughter. The chorus, under the bâton of Mr. Ernest Vousden, renders good service.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. Chas. A. Lister and his company are here in *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Lister enacts Don Leon Fernandez powerfully; and Mr. Hugh Travers as Pedro Li Calci acts successfully. Miss Lallah Davis as Eulalie is very good, her singing being excellent; Wee Winnie Warden as Venetta, the baby detective, is a dainty artist, and scored a success; Miss Jennie Clare as Nancy sings well, and in the comedy portion of the play, with Mr. Horace Buckley as Tim McCarthy, causes hearty laughter; Miss Dorothy Riddell is excellent as Kate Evelyn; Mr. Geo. D. Daiper makes a capital Kit Oswald; and Mr. Wilfred Carr does well as John Evelyn. Mr. Harold B. Kinton as Bunker Ben is well placed.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrocks.—A remarkable turn is provided by the Kremo troupe of acrobats; Miss Bertha Stewart has a hearty reception for her cultured singing; Miss Louie Tracy, male impersonator, is popular; the Sisters Henderson give a smart singing and instrumental act; Marie Reeve is a dainty comedienne; the Society Quartette sing and dance well; Tom and Eileen Melbourne are entertaining in *The Sentry*; and Billy French is a neat dancer. Interesting pictures are depicted on the Bioscope.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Old Home* is the attraction here. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company presented the drama in a capital manner; Miss Nina Blake in the leading rôle, that of Hazel Dean, acts charmingly; Mr. A'Dell plays the Rev. Eric Armstrong in manly fashion; and Daddy Dean has an able exponent in Mr. Chas. Franmore. Miss Harriette Loydall as Bridget Donoghan is excellent; Mr. Horatio Sinclair as the villainous Lord Avondale is a great success; and Mr. Fred Stone is a good Timothy Twaddle. Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Polly Pop and Mr. Fred L. Connynghame as Sam Adams invest their work with clever comedy.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Life of Moses is again selected as the top-liner. It is the third part of the picture, and is much appreciated. The Skipper's Yarn is a fine dramatic film, and a very interesting picture is The Cyclist Carabiniers of the Belgian Army. Some very amusing films include Town Traveller's Revenge and A Valuable Hat. Mr. Don Cameron again contributes to the success of the programme.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Under the Stars and Stripes is a fine military picture. The Boy Hero is another capital subject; A Ride from Fayet to Col de Voga is very interesting; a Prince's Word of Honour is also good. Among the funny films are The Betraying Mirror, The Hammer Fell Down, and No Followers Allowed. Mr. King also sings "The Lost Chord" with success.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—An Outlaw's Sacrifice is a very exciting drama; Confession is an acceptable dramatic picture, as is The Prince's Word of Honour; a capital travel-picture is shown, The Valley of Lesia; The Rivalry of Two Guides is good. Comic films include Mary was a Housemaid, Poorluck's Honeymoon, and What's Become of the Keys. The Cousinn Quartette Party are heartily applauded for their rendering of "Comrades in Arms."

Brown's Assembly Rooms.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—A Friend in Need is a film of the pathetic kind; Love Ye One Another and Beautiful Poetry are amusing; The Englishman and the Girl is a good Indian melodrama; and The Cyclist Carabiniers are well received. The Rivalry of Two Guides, The Hammer Fell Down, and Foolshead Wishes to Marry the Governor's Daughter, complete a good programme.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Milton Bode's varieties programme is giving complete satisfaction to delighted houses. El Tampico's Mexican Troubadours worthily top the bill, their instrumental, singing, and dancing act creating a furore. Other attractive items in an entertaining programme are Vesta Nixon, comedienne and dancer; Richard Finberg, in his character studies from plays; Bonnetti and Corrie, in an eccentric juggling act; Will Euston, coster comedian; Violet Romaine, a refined chorus vocalist; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier; and the Michel Brothers, in a wonderfully neat head-to-head and hand balancing and tumbling act. The programme concludes, as last week, with the Premier Imperial Pictures, including the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—For the second week of their stock season Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company are presenting *My Sweetheart* and *The Scamps of London*. In *My Sweetheart* Mr. Karl Edwards is seen to advantage as Tony Faust, a part he plays very effectively; Mr. Harry Leyton scores points as Joe Shotwell; Mr. E. Holland Day does well as Dr. Olive; Mr. Artie Francis is a success as Dudley Harcourt; and Mr. F. E. Chabot is sufficiently villainous as Harold Bartlet. Miss Elma C. Turner gives a powerful rendering of Mrs. Fleeter, and Miss Vida Rogerson works well as Tina.

PAISLEY.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Bostock.—The Tenka Troupe of Japanese Magicians, who have precedence in the bill this week, keep the audience in utter amazement; Hanvaar and Lee are clever comedy and equilibristic artists and juggling manipulators; Daisy Morell, a popular coon comedienne, scores heavily in her latest success; the novelty and fun of Allis and Cassati are greatly enjoyed; Gwennie Hasto is a dainty dancer, whose abilities are duly recognised and appreciated; Walter Emerson is mirth-provoking as a comedian and singer of funny songs; Dan Fraser, Scotch comedian, is quaint and effective; as a comedy musical entertainer and dancer Harmon is seen to advantage; and the Hippodrome Bioscope arouses enthusiasm.

PENTRE.—Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lacy Lyne.—The Welsh humorists, Ted and May Hopkins, are here scoring a big success in *Wedding Bells*; Walsh and Tanner cause hearty laughter with their drolleries, assisted by the only singing donkey; Lona is a juvenile artist with exceptional musical capabilities; Harding and Preston are appreciated for their expert dancing; Bert Williams wins favour as an elocutionist; and the films are a feature of the programme.

PETERBOROUGH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mephisto, illusionist, heads the bill. Alma Morris, in songs from her répertoire, is heartily applauded; the Sisters Oswald, duettists and dancers, gain applause; Ryder Slone, character comedian, finds much favour; Leigh and Laurie, comedy duo, are successful; Ben Lewin in character impersonations is favourably received; Fred Conquest and company in the farcical absurdity *Something for Nothing* create roars of laughter; and the Karnoscope concludes a good programme.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Flag Lieutenant* pays a welcome return visit, and the large audience of Monday was a striking testimony to the attractiveness of the piece. As the irresponsible flag officer Mr. Edgar Kent gives an artistic representation; Mr. George Mallett continues his highly successful delineation of the stern yet kindly disciplinarian, Sir Berkeley Wynne; Mr. Montague Love again impersonates the unfortunate Major Thesiger, and is also responsible for the excellent stage-management; Messrs. H. Wakefield and Olaf Hytten as Horatio Hood and Edward Dormer Lee, the two prankish midshipmen, are genuinely funny; and Mr. John Wheatman is a first-rate Irishman. Miss Florence Jackson again makes a great success of the part of the fascinating and tactful Mrs. Cameron; Miss Dorothy Ripley is a graceful Lady Hermione Wynne; and Miss Stella Leigh is a realistic scandalmonger as Mrs. Gough-Bogle.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Frank and Jen Latona earn fresh laurels for a brilliantly-executed musical act; the Velter Bros. are responsible for a first-rate gymnastic turn excellently mounted and staged; Scott and Whaley are coloured comedians and dancers of real ability; Ward and Knight entertain with an interesting display of hoop manipulation; Ruby Norton scores as a comedienne; and Harry Bent is a most realistic mimic. Bert Danson, comedian, supplies the remaining turn.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre.—Manager, Tom Didcoff.—Mr. Sid Cotterell and company heal the bill this week in a comedy success entitled *The Substitute*. The sketch is very funny. Mr. Cotterell takes the lead, and proves himself to be one of the best comedians that has appeared here. Miss Zeta Grey and company do well in another sketch, entitled *The Lancashire Lass*. Other turns include the Three Sisters Adare; Howard and Hicks, patterers and dancers; the Brothers Obo, in their laughing songs; the Lovelaces, in illustrated songs; May de Rowse, an excellent comedienne and dancer; and the Alexscope.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*For Lore of a King* is staged here this week by Mr. C. Watson Mill and company. The uniforms and dresses are above the average, and good houses prevail. Mr. C. Watson Mill portrays Jarval the Britisher with striking energy, and Mr. Alfred Maurice is capital as Michael Obrenovic. Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews is a powerful Valdimir Obenovic; Mr. Stanley Weston is a good King Kara Dragomir; Mr. F. K. Wicksteed is a capable Prince Uros; Mr. Geoffrey Chate is splendid as Duke Fernand; and Mr. Oscar Power causes amusement as Carl Oppenheim. Mr. Geo. Jones makes a good Kosto Marko; Natila is charmingly played by Miss Joan Ellis; Miss Kittie Melville is active as Grazia; Miss Rosalind Tate effectively plays Edith Meredith; Miss Laura Munro is a good Princess Minalia; and Mr. Jack Litchfield as Vitomir Ladie, Mr. Alex. Bronte as Captain Krello, and Mr. D. Adams as Vadoc are also good.

PORTH.—Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The Three Laurels, in a clever speciality act, meet with general approval; Bruce Green is a popular talkative comedian; and Dolly Barry and Juan Wood are a capital comedy duo. Karr and Kooney keep the audience roaring with funny sayings; Minnie D'Aubyn, the favourite chorus vocalist, makes a return visit; Will Musgrove, comedian, obtains much applause; the Columbia Comedy Trio present an original operatic and humorous absurdity. The Palascope has a series of first-class pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The appearance of Mr. Weedon Grossmith as Mr. Preedy in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, supported by Miss Ruth Mackay as the Countess, is evoking considerable interest here. Mr. Grossmith excels as a laughter-maker, and Miss Mackay, the handsome, light-hearted Countess, fully enlists the sympathies of the audience. John Bounsall is capitally impersonated by Mr. Frank J. Arlton; Mr. Edward H. Wynne is a satisfactory Mr. Sidgrave; the Misses Lydia Rachel and Evelyn Kerry do well as Mrs. and Emma Sidgrave; and Harriett Budgen is capably presented by Miss Lynn Fontaine. Messrs. Ronald Squire, Edward Bonfield, and Oswald Marshall are the exponents of the Earl of Rushmere, the Hon. Robert Jennerway, and Lord Kinslow. *A Ball or a Motor* precedes.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*Hush Money*, an exciting drama dealing with the mysterious disappearance of Sexton Blake, detective, occupies the boards here. Mr. Horace Denton gives a realistic rendering of the part of Sexton Blake; Mr. Harry Hartley impersonates the Tinker in a clever manner; the vigorous and forcible acting of Mr. James Headon as Bill Jukes is much appreciated; and in her presentation of Lady Muriel Montressor Miss Theresa Osborne displays histrionic talent.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The military episode entitled *Drummed Out* heads a well-varied and interesting programme. Joe Reichen's Dogs are cleverly-trained canine acrobats; the Orchids are a smart vocal comedy duo; Lottie Leighton, soubrette, gives a clever exposition of clog-dancing; Earle and Godfrey are seen to advantage in comedy, harmony, and dance; and other good turns are Daisy Hicks, comedienne; Frank Couch, comedian; Frank Weaver, sand dancer; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Miss Vesta Tilley, whose appearance was greeted with an enthusiastic ovation on Monday, is heading the bill here. The Brooklyn Comedy Quartette, Rutter's Dogs, Addie Adell, Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, F. V. St. Clair, the Bros. Habs, and Harry Tomps are also in the bill.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The principal feature in this week's entertainment is that provided by Reano and his band. A novel sketch, *The Dramatist at Home*, is finely played by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber; Renroff submits his dancing horse and a lady dancer; Madison and Webb are funny in their sketch *My Husband*; Hal Forde meets with a capital reception, his songs, "Girls" and "Henpeck's night out," both catching on; and Amy Russell and Beatrice Allen, Fred Lyndo, and Rolando Martin are enjoyable turns.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Henry Miller's Adelphi Theatre company in Charles R. Kennedy's play *The Servant in the House* is here. Mr. Ernest H. Patterson as the Rt. Rev. James Ponsonby Makeshyfte, D.D., gives an admirable portrayal; Mr. Walter Gay as the Rev. Wm. Smythe gives an interesting rendering of the Vicar, and receives excellent support from Miss Nellie Hodson in the part of Auntie; Miss Laurie Flockton as Mary is deserving of the highest praise; Mr. Matthew Boulton as Manson (the servant in the house) rivets the attention of his audience throughout, and displays power; Mr. Forrester Harvey is most entertaining as Rogers, the page; and Mr. Harry Parker does well as Robert Smith.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Miss Victoria Monks tops the bill. Leick and Keith (John S. and Mabel), America's premier cornetists, give an excellent turn; Milton and Horton are responsible for a clever display on the horizontal bar; Metz and Metz (Arthur and Jack) have a decidedly clever dance; J. W. Hall, an old Preston favourite, is most successful; the Juggling Geraldos perform some capital feats with clubs and hoops; the Five Bohemians provide a pleasing musical interlude; Arthur Aiston, comedian, has some capital songs; the Martons present a pleasing musical duologue, *Sweethearts Still*; and a capital film, the 1910 Grand National, concludes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—J. E. Barnes' company in *The Drama of Life* is meeting with a capital reception this week. Mr. Lingford Carson gives a fine portrayal of Harry Beech; Walter Beech is well portrayed by Mr. Archie Helsby; Mr. M. Meade is effective as Jack Lawton; Mr. S. C. Cranston is a capital Sir Dobson Wilde; Miss Gladys Chetwyn an excellent Master Robert Beech; and Miss Beatrice Hudson a really clever Betty Black. Miss Alice Oliver is decidedly good as Lady Jane Wilde, and Miss Pattie Hastings displays power as Sylvia Beech.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—*Under the Iron Heel* is being played here. Mr. Carl Vallender deserves special mention as Schultz; Mr. R. Merring is all that can be desired as Colonel Muller; Mr. Dennis Clyde does good work as Major Schomberg; Mr. Wilson Howard is commendable as a Captain in the French Army; Mr. J. W. Richards acts the part of Otto Marx very creditably; Miss Marie Angus is a clever André; Miss J. Douglas-Hicks takes Maman Gouffe with good effect; and Miss Carlotta Anson is a pleasing Germaine Mirbeau.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Under the direction of Messrs. Elliman, the Provincial Play Productions Company have been presenting the romantic play *A Heart's Desire* to interested audiences. Miss Doris Brookes as Olya has been most successful, while in the principal male character, Jim Denman ("Beautiful Jim"), Mr. Richard Ferris has made a great hit. The other parts were handled with marked skill by the ladies and gentlemen to whom their interpretation was entrusted.

Marina Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The pictures are as varied and as interesting as ever, and quite as popular. The Cowboy's Romance is most dramatic, and A Journey to the Middle of the Earth is Vernesque in its effect. Mr. Alf. Brookes, the comedian, amuses the audiences immensely with his well-rendered songs.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees, The Manchester Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—There is an exceptionally attractive programme this week. In Miss Gertrude Martini we have a thoroughly artistic and clever impersonator of well-known comedi-ennes, her last number, "£ s. d.," being received with great applause; Alpho, who is described as "The Ventriloquial College Boy," gives an amusing turn entitled "The Doll's Lament."

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and a first-class company are appearing this week in a popular selection of Shakespearean plays. The répertoire for the week comprises *The Taming of the Shrew* on Monday, *The Merchant of Venice* on Tuesday, *Romeo and Juliet* on Wednesday, *Twelfth Night* on Thursday, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Friday, and *Othello* on Saturday. In all these plays Miss Glossop-Harris displays her great ability and versatility by a most excellent rendering of the principal characters. Miss Harris is very ably supported by Mr. Frank Cellier, who gives a scholarly interpretation of the leading male parts. Other prominent members of the company are Mr. H. P. Owen, Mr. J. H. Irvine, Mr. James Mason, Mr. Eugene Wellesley, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree, Mr. Murray Kinnell, Mr. H. Vickers Smith, Mr. Frank Mayes, Mr. A. Seaton, Miss Mary Goulden, Miss Madge Spencer, and Miss Ine Cameron. Mr. Max Jerome is an efficient general-manager for Miss Glossop-Harris.

The Palace.—Managing Director, Mr. G. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—Miss Julia Kent and her company present a very attractive comedy sketch entitled *Pistols for Three*. The scene is laid in the eighteenth century, and the picturesque costumes of the period greatly enhance the effect of the scene. Talbot and Pearce appear with great success in a pretty Japanese duologue entitled *Yo San*, in which some tuneful music is introduced. The Pichel Troupe give a clever Risley acrobatic performance; Miss Mary Moya, the "Comedy Queen," gives a dashing and very effective turn, in which acting, singing, and dancing are well combined; Miss Rosa Loader is an accomplished mimic; Little Cliff Diamond is a clever juvenile comedian and dancer; Harry Clifford and Joe Archer are acceptable comedians; and an amusing scene is depicted on the Bioscope.

Vaudeville Electric Theatre, Broad-street.—This place of entertainment has been so successful that an extensive enlargement has been rendered necessary. A splendid series of pictures are being shown continuously from two o'clock daily.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive and company are here, with *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. Wybert Clive is an aristocratic Sir Henry Thorne; and Mr. J. D. Clyde is a manly Harry Thorne. Mr. Bert Oates scores as Richard Martin; and Mr. Herbert Bentone gives an excellent portrayal of Stephen Barry. Mr. Edward W. Cudd does well as Abram Wasper; and Mr. M. Platting is deserving of mention as Uncle Sam Miss Freda Beckett is very sprightly as Nancy Bray; and Miss Maud Leslie Cudd has a good part as Grace Redburn. Little Arthur speaks his lines with good effect as Little Robb; and Miss Gertrude Morella presents a finished performance of the part of Ruth. The mounting and scenery are excellent.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—Bellong Brothers present an extraordinary trick cycling and acrobatic act here; Elroy, armless wonder, surprises the house by his dexterity; the Great Northern Troupe of dancers do a smart speciality dance act; Madame De Rose and Hilda Claremont are old local favourites, and add to their number of friends; J. H. Hawtrey is well received; the Mars Trio are expert military gymnasts; Henry Hilton is a dexterous illusionist; Rose and Challoner are amusing as "The Porter and the Singer"; Marton and Rydon are deserving of mention as vocal comedy artists and dancers; the Hipposcope presents a very fine film, A Fishing Trip in Northern Ontario.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Corporation, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George Aubrey.—Mr. Aubrey has arranged a very attractive programme at the theatre this week, and has been rewarded by capital audiences. The amusing films are varied by turns, the chief of which is by Miss Ethel James, a talented pianist and vocalist.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company in *A Woman's* Past are giving good houses plenty of clever, sensational incidents. Miss Dora Pass ably sustains the heroine, Bessie; Mr. Leonard Clapham plays well his trying part of David Heath; Mr. Charles Locke as Frank Dellanoy and Miss Cherry Veheyne as Dorothy Heath contribute a lot of comedy business; Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Uriah Craven and Miss Phyllis Elton as Clara Darrell portray cleverly a couple of schemers; and Mr. A. Hamilton Warden gives a good study of Clement Harper.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary Mr. R. H. Lee.—Dora Lyric heads the bill this week with some catchy chorus songs. Toch and Tard, comedy acrobats, cause much merriment; Paul Barnes raises many laughs with his droll patter; *The Maid and the Artist* is a clever sketch by Wadham and Sterling; Jack Barker's mimicry is well applauded; and other acceptable turns include Walter Stanley, comedian; Cyrus Dare, vocalist and child mimic; Madge Goodall, comedienne and dancer; Willis and Mackenzie, in musical scena, *Christina of Sketra*; and Charles Cardle, baritone.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Morton Powell's drama *Driving a Girl to Destruction* is presented by a good all-round company. Miss Kate Sydney makes an excellent Ruth Wright, and an equally good heroine in Ruby Wright is portrayed by Miss Maud M. Powell. Villainy is ably shown by Miss Ana Corri as Madame de Meral, Mr. F. Cyril Leighton as Lucas List, and Mr. Henry Scatchard as Octavius Screwe. The hero, Robert Ray, is well sustained by Mr. Leslie Austin; and comedy is contributed to by Miss Maggie Stewart (Bessie), Mr. Edward Swinton (Billy), Mr. Macintosh Clyde (Bobby), and Mr. H. Wallace Curnock (Freddy).

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The films this week include A Pair of Slippers; artistic plates of Dutch views (Pathé); Port Arthur, the Great Grain Port of Canada; Scenes in the Life of Moses, showing the ten plagues in Egypt; The Squaw's Revenge; The Confession; The Birth and History of a Fountain Pen; and The Scientist's Nightmare. Mr. Tom Sherlock's song "Molly" is heartily joined in by the audience.

Central Hall (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include A True Indian's Heart, Punch—Benefactor, Life in the Next Century, Skating Mania, The Orderly, Foolshead—Shopwalker, Capture of a Vagrant, &c., interspersed with acceptable songs by Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—Baby's Shoes, The Moneylender, Rival Beggars, Hoist by his own Petard, Falsely Accused, A Tragic Night, charged for Gallantry, The Brave Irish Lassie, and Foolshead—Chief of the Police are the films shown this week.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's company is here this week with *The King's Romance*. In the leading rôle of Prince Andreo, afterwards King of Venantia, Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives an excellent performance, and Miss Mary Austin displays power as Vera Navairre.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ted Williams.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company opened here on Monday with *The Woman of Kronstadt*. Miss Betty Fairfax as Marion Best, the heroine, shows ability; Miss Rosamund Thompson acts cleverly as Mme. de Bellegarde; Miss Isa Bellington and Miss Marjorie Armstrong impersonate successfully the daughters of the Governor; Miss Edith Vogue makes a deep impression as the spiteful Princess Marie; as Colonel Bonyo Mr. Keith Kenneth is admirable throughout; Mr. Bernard Copping is a capable Paul Zazzoulie; and Mr. Horace Sinclair plays effectively as General Steffanoff.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning's company began a week's visit on Monday in the successful comedy *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards ably depicted the manly characteristics of Jack Frobisher, and his well-delivered attack on the "smart" section of society was loudly applauded. The part of Althea was charmingly represented by Miss Gwendolyne Hay; Mr. Russell Barry's acting as Bannister was admirable; as the selfish old "prosser," the Marquis of Steventon, Mr. Rutland Barrington acted with characteristic humour and artistic finish, and good work was done by Miss Ethel Lloyd, Miss Hilda Sims, Mr. Harry Dallas, and Mr. H. Browning. The scenery and dresses were in perfect taste.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company appeared to a good audience on Monday in the stirring military drama *A Soldier's Honour*. Miss Edie Macklin distinguishes herself as Eliza, and all the other characters are played with commendable esprit de corps. The military costumes are brilliant and correct, and the scenery is very effective.

Alexandra Theat

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Her Secret Lover* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's No. 1 company. Mr. Arthur St. John handles well the strong part of Gilbert Seymour; Captain Darrell Rose has an able exponent in Mr. Walter H. Wilson; Mr. Alfred Stretton succeeds in rousing the ire of the audience as John Strange; Mr. Robert Lord is an effective Mr. Muirfield; welcome comic relief is provided by Mr. Victor Vernon as Bill Burley and Miss Lynn Darlington as Jane Maria Wilkes, their efforts to amuse being ably seconded by Mr. J. Newton-Cowling as Jim Jones; Miss Flora Leslie as Alice Royale gives a well-studied portrayal; and Miss Laura Walker is to be highly complimented upon her clever treatment of the part of the heroine, Ivy Seymour.

SOUTHAMPTON. GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting *Miss Hook of Holland* with complete success. As Sally Hook Miss Marie Studholme is delightfully vivacious and as fascinating as ever; Mr. Alfred Welesley gives a clever character study of Mr. Hook, which he plays on original lines; Miss Maud Denny is a bright and winning Nina, singing and dancing to perfection; Mr. Fred Lyne's broad humour is well suited to the part of Simon Slinks, and he keeps the house rocking with laughter; Mr. Frank Crimp repeats his previous great success as the Bandmaster, and Mr. Frederick Hobbs gives a capital precentation of Captain Paap. Praise is due to the chorus and orchestra for their admirable work under the direction of Mr. Clement Locknane.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—"The Kilties," Canada's greatest concert band, is attracting large audiences. Amongst other entertainers are J. W. Harris, light comedian; Briff, Braff, and Broff, in a fine comedy act; Ivy Aberdare, a pretty and winsome comedienne; and Carlisle and Wellman, clever instrumentalists.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A Lingham Power.—Large audiences are being attracted by the fine performance of Mr. Fredk. Melville's company in *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. W. H. Hargreaves as Lieut. Marsh, the hero, gives a realistic portrayal of a character which suits him admirably; Mr. G. R. Montford as Harry Gordon, the villain, is a clever actor; Miss Violet Crossbery as Bess Moore gives a convincing display; and Miss Daisy Cook as Gladys Erskine plays her part exceedingly well.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. Hall Caine's powerful play *The Bondman* was presented for the first time here on Monday to a large and appreciative audience by Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-selected and capable company. Mr. Philip Darien achieves a notable success in the rôle of Jason, which he portrayed in a remarkably finished and convincing manner; Mr. Stanley Harrison played the difficult part of Michael Sunlocks with splendid effect, which left nothing to be desired; Mr. W. H. Rotheram submits capital character-sketches in the dual parts of Grandfather and Father Ferrati; Adam Fairbrother was exceedingly well depicted by Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith; Miss Violet Macaree gives a highly praiseworthy and effective delineation of Greeba; Mrs. Fairbrother was capitally impersonated by Miss Madge Lanerton; Governor Testa was well played by Mr. Alfred Fisher, and the same remark applies to Mr. Fred J. Waller as Doctor Boni, Mr. Cecil H. Ford as Marshal of Police, and Miss Emelie Mayhew as Christian Ann.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company was here on Monday in *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Ralph Roberts made an excellent Dickie Lascelles; Mr. F. Leister was good as Major William Thesiger; the Vice-Admiral was ably enacted by Mr. Mark Paton; Miss Mabel Rees made a charming Mrs. Cameron. The ladies were all good in their respective parts, and the mounting was capital.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief turn here is that of Jack Pleasants, shy comedian, who has an excellent reception. Leroux's monkeys do some clever bicycle riding, and show careful training; the Three Delaires appear in a smart speciality gymnastic act; and Gladys Hooley is successful in an original scena, *Fiddle and I*. Remaining good items are supplied by Billy Hobbs (a nimble nigger), Katie Butler (character comedienne), Hilda Mascot (dainty comedienne and dancer), and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A complete change of programme has taken place here by the introduction of variety entertainments on the two houses per night system. The top of the bill for the opening event was the smart Bouncing Peps, who execute clever tricks. The other turns of note are the Vedras Brothers, comedy acrobats; Linvana and Tom Wah No Tee; Lucretia and Josephine, duettists and dancers; Tom Black, the workman mimic; and Kell and Kelso, comedians.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The star turn is Captain A. Fox, the king of comedy ventriloquists. The special films include The Call, A Fair Exchange, In Little Italy, and Negro Burglar.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*Her Path of Sorrow* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. Draycott and company. Mr. Charles Draycott plays the part of Richard Burfield with a keen appreciation of the character, and Mrs. Draycott is admirable as the noble Pauline Ferrars. The villain, Guy Lowther, is taken in a befitting manner by Mr. Frank Eaglesfield, and Lionel Heathcote is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Etheridge. Some good fun is obtained at the hands of Mr. Will Hook (Tommy Onions) and Miss Daisy Carlton (Polly Green). Miss Nellie Freeland is good as Mlle. Lucille. A deeply-emotional rendering is given by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne of the much ill-used Nellie Rayner.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Achmid Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs gives a marvellous exhibition of equilibrism; the Cavallottis' *Ten Minutes with the Great Composers* is enjoyed immensely; the Royal Temples are well received; Benson and Rose are very amusing in their sketch; and approbation is won by the Three Sisters Kilner, the Zampas, Horace Jones, and Geo. Leonard.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.—AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—Resident-Manager, Mr. M. Leopold; Pier-Master, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Montague Lane and company are appearing in the military farcical comedy *My Soldier Boy*. As Montague Mendle Mr. Montague Lane secures the heartiest approbation; Mr. Norman B. Cannon successfully impersonates Capt. Cullender; Capt. Allison and Colonel Roscoe have a decided military air given to them by Mr. Leo St. Clair and Mr. Scott Fraser; Mr. Philip Renouf submits a careful study of Michael O'Docherty; admirable treatment to the character of Jonas Toddenham is given by Mr. William Mallalieu; Miss Barbara Gott gives an intelligent performance as Mrs. Morrison; and her daughter Geraldine is well taken by Miss Gertrude Savage. Nothing could be more captivating than the rendering of the character of Lydia Mendle by Miss Ida Chapman.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A hearty welcome from large audiences awaited *Our Miss Gibbs*, which has thoroughly delighted and entertained. As Timothy Gibbs Mr. Theodore Leonard is distinctly successful, keeping everyone in continuous merriment; Miss Kathleen Courtney is very charming as Mary Gibbs; Mr. Tom Shelford amusingly plays the part of the Hon. Hughie; very pleasing is Mr. Craufurd Kent as Lord Eynsford; and the Earl of St. Ives has a capital representative in Mr. Ernest Darrell. Among others who acquit themselves ably are Miss Jeannie Richards as Mrs. Farquhar, Miss Gladys Ivery as Lady Elizabeth Thanet, Miss Winifred Knightley as the Duchess of Minster, and Mr. J. E. Steveneon as Slithers. The play is excellently staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Austin Rudd is the principal attraction in his comical character songs. Among others appearing are Brady and Johnson and company, in their laughable sketch, *Little Bull Pup;* Minto and Mart, clever paper manipulators; Wynnie Darrell, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Cecilias, capable lady instrumentalists; McEwan and Pollard, in an interesting sketch, *Duval Outdone;* Ike Bradley, a clever and amusing cyclist; J. Milton Hayes, an entertaining comedian; and Montes and Velma, who are successful in a comedy leaping act.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Messrs. Fox and Leonards present their powerful company in the play entitled *For Mother's Sake*. Miss Mabel Phillips enacts the important rôle of Jacqueline with distinct success; Miss Nora Bedford makes a pleasing Mathilde; Miss Violet Leyton is good as Fifi Pasteur; Mr. B. M. Fox makes a grand old man in Old Goriot; Mr. Allan Gordon is an effective Henri Romaine; Mr. Carthage Caldclough plays with power the part of Luigi Ferroni; Mr. Alf. Waller is very funny as Bill Higgins; as Louis Myers Mr. Herbert Leonards is excellent; Mr. Alf Edwards appears successfully as Pomponnel; and Mr. B. Mervyn is a clever Mons. Careze. The scenery is elaborate.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Georgians, twelve local children, give a highly entertaining vocal, instrumental, and dancing scena; the Four Royal Scots are clever vocal and musical entertainers; Phyllis Seymour is a dainty singer and dancer; the Kirbys have a clever and amusing burlesque; Tom Gott is very amusing with his Yorkshire dialect songs and stories; Margit and Lener are funny in their eccentric act, *Wet Paint;* Edie Haley is a charming versatile vocalist; Bert Ward is a comedy siffleur and raconteur; and the Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The premier turn is that of Phil Rees' Stable Lads, with clever singing and dancing; Arthur Byron and Daisy Norman are popular in their comedy duologue, *Billy's Dilemma;* Gibbon and Bell are clever acrobats; the Sisters Lillian are charming duettists; Escourt is a remarkable mystifier; Bandoni is very good as the one-man band; Mrs. Paul Courtenay and company provide an excellent turn in *Reconciled;* and Tom E. Sloan is a pleasing comedian.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Gillin, the humorous ventriloquist, is most diverting; the Andos Troupe of Japs are seen in a clever acrobatic act; Blair and Allen are exceptionally smart patter dancers. Also here are Florrie Delamere, Will Harris, Charles Erard (a clever pianist and mimic), Dorothy Dare, and the Perfection Pictures, which are of a most amusing nature.

STOURBRIDGE. — ALHAMBRA THEATRE AND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The Gelders, magicians, &c., head the bill and give a smart turn; Ivy Dene dances her way to the affections of the audience; Will Zing is a clever comedian; Talbot and Clare give a capital comedy duo entitled *My Wife Wouldn't Like It*. Some good films are shown.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is playing *The Woman in the Case* before well-filled houses. Mr. C. W. Standing depicts Julian Rolfe in a quiet and convincing manner; Mr. James Lindsay's portrayal of Thompson stamps him an actor of exceptional ability; Mr. Christopher Steele as Walters and Mr. Paul Wynter as Jimmy O'Neil fulfil their responsibilities with ease; Mr. Sydney Palfrey gives a meritorious character study as Klauffskey; Miss Kathleen Russell gives a finished portrayal of Margaret Rolfe; and Miss Winfred Pearson as Claire Foster plays throughout with considerable force. Miss Gertrude Gwynne does justice to the part of Mrs. Hughes. The mounting is of a high order.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dunn.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company is performing here in *The Diver's Luck*. Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff gives a good rendering of Helen Wyngate; and Miss Pearl Noyle as Peggy Mahoney and Miss Phyllis Spalding as Winnie Hall are both admirable. Mr. Wm. McReady submits a well-studied reading as Martin Faber; and Mr. Wm. Dexter does well as Tom Hall. Messrs. James Burt, N. T. Walton, Edmund O'Grady, and Lyons Johnson are all good. Mr. Harry Bristow is a capital Snowball.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Layton and Douglas are foremost on a varied bill, and fully merit the applause they receive for their capital musical and quick-change act. Nannie Shaw is also well received for her dancing and Scotch songs; Tom Lennard is an amusing comedian; and The Brothers and an Outlaw's Sacrifice are two fine dramatic pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—George Formby is starring here, and is a huge success; the Four Regals display strength and skill in *The Armourers;* James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden are warmly applauded for their clever and humorous dancing; Waul Langtry scores as a dialect comedian; Rich. Taylor is a novel ventriloquist; Kathleen Grey is a charming comedienne; Great Vincent does clever work in table acrobatics; and Frank N. Fox is an entertaining comedian.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company, in the fantastic play *A Message from Mars*, is attracting large houses. Mr. F. Vernon Travers' conception of Horace Parker could scarcely be improved upon; the Messenger is skilfully played by Mr. William H. Brougham; Mr. Norman is effective as the Tramp; Mr. Cecil Kerr furnishes a capital rendering of Arthur Dicey; Miss Aubrey Ashton makes a dignified Miss Parker; Miss Ray Denton does well as Bella; Miss Mary Buckstone is a successful Mrs. Clarence; and Minnie Templar finds a delightful exponent in Miss Rose Helene.

TODMORDEN. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—*The New Barmaid* was presented here on Monday by Miss Violet Osmund's company. In the title-rôle Miss Madge Prior is in every respect pleasing; Miss Beatrice Erle is a very attractive Dora Heather; Brenda Louth, the old Barmaid, is exceedingly well played by Miss Vera Grafton; Mr. Chas. Adeson as William White is the life of the piece; Mr. J. Burlington Rigg makes a good Captain Lovebury; Mr. Alexander Loftus is very funny as Bertie White; and Mr. E. Sykes is good as Colonel Claymore.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Pictures continue to draw large audiences. The film which appeals to the public most this week is The Jockey, a fine story of the great French race the Grand Prix.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—This week the Rhondda Amateur Operatic Society occupy the boards in Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera *The Mikado*. The Society, numerically strong, has been well coached by Mr. A. M. Cullin, while the music is well looked after by the hon. conductor, Mr. David Lloyd.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. W. Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—This week an exceptionally strong programme is submitted here. A. Carlton, the wonderful conjurer, is worthily starred, and the Mysterious Cross also is a great attraction. The Three Hilberts score heavily, as do the Victas; and Alsopp and Beckwith, Ida Kathrena, and Percy Wright contribute praiseworthy items. Some good films are shown.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—Topping the bill presented here is Chas Whittle, who nightly gets four or five encores. Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Motoring* are really entertaining; Gordon Stretton, the new coon, is well received; and Blanche and Powell, the Channings, Jack Sheridan, and Vera Rochdale are all well received. The Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Miss Nannie Goldman's company in *Not Before the Missus* is causing plenty of fun here this week. In the principal rôle of Jane Parker Miss Nannie Goldman makes a very amusing figure, and is ably assisted by Miss Ruth Wallace, who does well as Matilda Hanbury. Mr. William Holles appears successfully as Barnaby Bunstone; and Miss Pattie Walton and Miss Edith Bruce as his wife and daughter respectively are equally well placed. Mr. Leonard K. Mansford does well as Augustus Whistler, the character of the wife being in the capable hands of Miss Helene Dale. Mr. Fred Cooke as Dix and Mr. Francis James as Brown are well suited to their parts, and Mr. Toby Jones is decidedly humorous as the Guardsman. A capital study of Alphonse Duprez is presented by Mr. W. Patrick Boyle, whose antics keep the house very amused.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is being presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company this week with great success. Miss Verity Page gives a charming impersonation of the Beggar Maid, and Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox a powerful study of Prince Olaf; Miss Stella Campbell portrays very cleverly the Princess of Illyria, and Mr. Alfred Goddard and Mr. Victor Rae are particularly good as the royal brothers of Prince Olaf. Miss Mona Hall makes the most of the part of Viola, and the various military and other rôles are capably sustained by Messrs. W. S. Hardy, Oswald Waller, Leslie Knight, Smytheson, Edward Bowen, Arthur Robinson, E. Crowhurst, S. Nicholls, S. Strange, S. Bayliss, H. Nelson, H. Burton, J. H. Vyvian, and A. E. Shuttleworth. Next week a re-visit of *When Knights Were Bold* is announced.

GREAT HALL.—Miss Margaret Cooper and concert party had a most successful flying matinée at the Great Hall on Saturday.

TYLDESLEY. THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. McNish.—The fine pictures shown here this week are drawing good houses. Professor Norton is a clever magician, and Harry Hall, instrumentalist, is a success.

MINERS' HALL.—Manager, Mr. C. Matthews.—The films exhibited are of a varied and interesting nature. Daisy Reed is a vivacious comedienne; May and Kennely, comedy duo, make a hit, and Dan Rigby, comedian, causes much laughter.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—A clever and spirited performance of the musical comedy *Our Miss Gibbs* is presented by Mr. George Dance's company this week. Miss Effie Vincent invests the title-rôle with great charm and sings sweetly; Mr. Vincent Erne acquite himself in excellent style as Teddy Gibbs; Mr. Eustace Burnaby makes a hit as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe is an effective Lord Eynsford; Mr A. Gordon Bigg scores as the Earl of St. Ives; Mr. J. S. Durant is seen to advantage as Slithers; Mr. Frank Sealey is admirable as Mr. Toplady; and Mr. David Miller does good work as Mr. Beavis. Miss Ellaline Thorne is very smart as Madame Jeanne; Miss Lilian Birtles is a pretty Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and sang pleasantly; Miss Amy Singleton is amusing as the Duchess of Minster; and Miss Florence Hylton is a charming Mrs. Farquhar.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Lockhart's Elephants, introduced by Captain Taylor, perform clever feats; Mr. G. F. Hall, the American storyteller and reciter, has a good reception; Miss Lila Vesta is an entertaining comedienne; Tom Packer is an amusing comedian; and Paul Pry (comedian) and Marie St John (vocalist) find favour. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning, in a comedy sketch, entitled *Knocked Out*, are successful.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Geni Family of risley acrobats head the bill; Reid and Cully, in a novel tumbling act, bring down the house; Meetz and Whittle have an amusing turn; George Ripley, comedian, proves highly popular; Charles Mentone Ure, soldier vocalist, sings in good style; Paul Lemaire is an amusing wizard; Miss Eileen Hope, ballad vocalist, sings delightfully; and Miss Edna Mayne is a smart dancer.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is here, in the historical play *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Keith Fraser as Napoleon, Miss Violet Ellicott as Josephine, and Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise again score triumphs, and the business done has been exceptionally good.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—J. W. Rickaby heads the bill here, and has made a palpable hit; Mona Garrick, in her delineation of several dramatic rôles, proves herself an elocutionist of a high standard; the Rangers are smart comedy and trick cyclists; the Brothers Victor, smart equilibrists, display rare skill, dexterity, and strength; Ethel Browne is a charming vocalist; and the sketch, *The Prince's Love Affair*, is well played by Rooke, Rorke, and company. J. J. Mannix scores as a coon delineator. The pictures are good, especially those showing Fishing with Dragging Nets.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Franco-British and Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Elmo and Kargo are capital knockabouts, and their business is good and original; Violet Beatrice is a smart male impersonator; Mr. Matt Wilkinson's company are very amusing as sketch artists; Annie Martin has good songs; and Stewart and Maurice are clever comedians. The pictures are good.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—This week Mr. Montague Beaudyn is producing *A Beautiful Fiend* here. Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda Lubinoff gives a remarkably powerful study; Mr. G. M. Montanini is a clever Count Fedor Karateff; and Mr. Herbert Skardon as Major Ian Paulovitch admirably depicts the life of a Russian police officer.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hastings.—A strong bill here is headed by Aimee and Vera, long-boot toe dancers, who give a clever turn; Barney Stuart is a clever impersonator; Ellean and Rose appear in a musical speciality act with much success; and Yettmah also makes a welcome appearance. The pictures are remarkably good.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Leonard Charburn's young stars, under the excellent training and direction of Mr. R. L. Griffiths, are accorded nightly thunderous applause in the scena *A Picnic up the River*. John Warren, assisted by Miss Mollie Winter, Messrs. J. G Fenn, Frank Morton, H. J. Collins and company, presents his musical mystery *The Magic Carpet*, and succeeds in completely baffling his audience. The Glenroy Troupe of Dancers are exceedingly smart; Frank Melvin, comedian, has a style entirely his own; Edith Heron Brown, in songs at the piano, is very entertaining; and a drawing-room interlude by Carl and Carr is mirth-provoking. Chas. J. Johnson, a coloured comedian, dances himself into favour. Some amusing pictures are shown.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith* is on a welcome return visit, Mr. Sam Livesey again making an excellent impression by his masterly interpretation of John Strong.

WHITEHAVEN. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company is appearing here in a round of popular comedies. On Monday *A Pair of Spectacles* was presented. Mr. Arthur Hare was agreeably prominent as Benjamin Goldfinch, and Mr. Maurice Denham was good as Gregory; Mr. H. St. Barbe West as Dick and Mr. Guy Vivian as Percy both acted creditably; and Miss Ida Phillips gave a pleasing performance of Mrs. Goldfinch. During the latter portion of the week *Caste* is down for production.

WIDNES. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Swinton.—Widnes playgoers have an unusually strong drama in *The Woman Pays*, and Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company interprets it successfully. Miss Alice Greenwood plays Madge Armstrong sincerely and earnestly; Mr. Phil Harper is a convincing Sid Armstrong; Mr. Raymond Thomas makes a "villain" of the first water of Roger Marchant; Mr. Beresford Innes paints Cyrus Treadgold in his true colours; and Miss Kate Blair commands sympathy as Nell Morland.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Another attractive programme is presented here. Miss Nellie Brierley, well-known as the Lancashire pit-brow soprano, and a native of Darwin, tops the bill. Mr. Walter Sutton, the laughing entertainer; Mr. Edwin Hall, the society juggler; and Messrs. Geo. and Ed. Carney, the celebrated vocal duettists, are also in the bill.

EMPIRE ANIMATED PICTURES HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Caldwell Brothers; Manager, Mr. G. C. Ford.—Turns are provided here by Mr. Sam Redfern, comedian; Mr. E. Boultbee, ventriloquist; Mr. Bert Rose, versatile comedian and dancer; and Miss Maud Hughes, soprano. The pictures are good.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—A welcome return visit is being paid here by Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland*. In the title-rôle Miss Gertrude Melville acts with charm and vivacity; as Mina Miss Cissie Sephton is a conspicuous success; Mr Edmond Russell is a humorous Mr. Hook; excellent singing is heard from Mr. Arthur Ballance as the Bandmaster and Mr. M. Wood Mansey as Captain Adrian Paap. Mr. Fred Dark avails himself of all his opportunities as Simon Slinks; and Mr. George Mudie, jun., sustains the part of Ludwig Schnapps with ability.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—An original turn is provided by Minola Hurst with her miniature marvels, who succeed in creating much laughter; Everhart is an exceedingly smart hoop manipulator; Gene Morelle proves himself to be a most capable musician; David Fuller is encored for his baritone selections; the stories of "Mr. C." are greatly enjoyed; Maud Courtney, an American comedienne, contributes an original item; the sketches given by Alice Hughes and company and the Milsted Bell Trio also produce much amusement; Amy Bellwood sings and dances herself into favour; and Little Hackenschmidt wrestles with local light-weights.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Miss Renée Glendower's company opened here on Monday with *What a Man Made Her*. Mr. Edward Rawlinson was effective as Rupert Danescombe; Mr. C. Hartopp caused amusement as Sir Ernest Cavendish; and Mr. Barnett Lando presented a really clever study of the money-lending Jew. Miss F. Russell Spiers made a capable Countess of Saxon Royal; Miss Stella Carmichael did well as Lady Thora Danescombe; Miss Tessa Myers put plenty of life into the part of Deborah Gunnerstein; and the varying moods of Janet McAllister, the heroine, were admirably portrayed by Miss Renée Glendower.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr Vivian Edmonds.—The Vampire Dance, on its first appearance here, is presented by Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss. Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, scores a huge success; Curwen and Bell, in a miniature musical comedy, receive well-deserved applause; Harry Russon elicits marked approbation for his dramatic recital; Hayes and Watson, comedians and novelty dancers, provide a pleasing turn; Addie Lennard has a good descriptive song; and Zethus is a smart little comedienne and cornet soloist.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A delightful performance of *The Thief* is this week arousing the enthusiasm of thinking playgoers. In the hands of the capable company toured by Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus the piece is superbly presented. As Mr. and Mrs. Chelford, Mr. Bernard Limpus and Miss Georgina Wynter leave nothing to be desired. Miss Wynter is responsible for a finished and artistic impersonation of the complex characteristics which she is called upon to portray. Mr. Limpus is fully equal to the demands made upon him, and plays with a restraint which serves the more to convince. Mr. F. Morland is a delightfully natural Raymond Leyton; and Miss Mary Forrester is refreshingly simple as his wife Isabel. Mr. W. Somerset is well suited as Mr. Protheroe; and Mr. Carl Lindsey as Harry Leyton completes an admirably selected cast.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The Workington Amateur Operatic Society is giving performances of *Iolanthe*, under the skilled advice and tuition of Miss M. Forbes-Wilson (late of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.).

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Some very good films include Hero and Leander. The Danbys sing and dance well, and Jack Hastings displays talent in double vocalisation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mac.—Will Challoner pays a welcome return with fresh songs and dances, Miss Ni Narom also favours us again, and Ellie Barriton still holds the boards with his sweet and quaint ballads. Films are as good as ever.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Another week of special Bioscope attractions, including Blue Beard, a beautiful-coloured film, the Race for the Farmers' Cup, The Lighthouse Keeper (a most interesting drama), The Cowboy Baronet, &c. The top of the bill is appropriated by Alf. Warner, a versatile comedian and instrumentalist; and at the bottom of the poster is printed the name of Edith Garrick, a refined and popular comedienne.

YNYSHIR. — WORKMEN'S HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Poole, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—A most enjoyable picture of prairie life is presented in The Cowboy Millionaire and Hunting the Wild Red Deer. Capital comic pictures are also furnished, and the Grand National Steeplechase is shown. Miss May McPherson scores with illustrated songs, and the Cinephone, as usual, gives singing pictures

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager; Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The visit of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company in the powerful play *With Edged Tools* is an assured success. Mr. Hamilton Deane upholds his high reputation in the exacting part of Jack Meredith; Mr. J. D. Geddes as Sir John Meredith plays with force and dignity; Mr. Charles Hartopp as Guy Oscard gives a vigorous and manly impersonation; Mr. Charles Barrett is seen to advantage as Victor Durnoto; Miss Marie Leonhard as Jocelyn Gordon is most graceful; Miss Marguerite Cellier is a charming Millicent Chyne; Miss Elsie Whittaker does well as Lady Herries; and Miss Alice Maude is quite at home as Lady Cantourne.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Marie Santoi and company, in their clever sketch, *A Night in Japan*, gives great pleasure to large audiences. Hector and Lolletta as acrobats, jugglers, &c., give a really clever and neat show; Corman's Juveniles pay a return visit; Hal Bert is a comedian with a quaint style; the Three Sisters Silcott introduce a novel turn; and Olive and Owen appear in an attractive comedietta entitled *Roadside Tinkers*. Tom Kelso and Edie George in a refreshingly novel sketch, *Yoicks and a Yokel*, introduce some up-to-date business with good effect; Charles Hatch sings well; and the efforts of Chummie La Mara, a comedienne with a pleasing style, give general satisfaction.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The Valley of Visp, a charming Alpine picture, is a great attraction. The Outlaw's Sacrifice and The Fatal Wedding are of a highly stirring nature, and the comic element is represented by No Followers Alowed and When Courage Fled. The Clancy Girls (Mamie and Elsie) are clever dancers. Large audiences are the rule.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Bert Rutter.—The pictures are of general excellence. Won by a Hold-up, Cupid and the Motor Boat, The Bonesetter's Daughter, &c., are well received. Doyle and Gibson are excellent comedians.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MARCH 30.—*The Whirlwind*, produced at Daly's Theatre on the 21st inst., is a drama of Parisian life, in three acts, by Henri Bernstein. Originally known as *Baccarat*, it was produced under that title at the Irving-place German Theatre last year. The first performance of the play in English was made additionally interesting by the *début* of Mme. Marietta Olly in an English-speaking rôle. Mme. Olly made a distinctly favourable impression. She has mastered the language wonderfully, although she speaks with a decided German accent at times, and has a highly intelligent and interesting personality. In her impersonation of Hélène, Countess Brechebel, she was sincere and natural at all times. Having married Count Armand Brechebel to gratify the social aspirations of her father, Hélène has been clever enough to preserve her reputation as an exceptionally faithful wife while engaged in a *liaison* with Robert de Clavignon, a gambler. Clavignon loses a large sum of money at the gaming-table, the greater part of which he has embezzled. He threatens to kill himself, and Hélène makes every sacrifice in trying to obtain the money for him, including a confession to her father of their true relations. When all else fails she yields herself to André Lebourg, one of her former admirers, but the money is not obtained in time to prevent Clavignon from shooting himself.

Robert de Clavignon was played with striking sincerity by Mr. Thurlow Bergen. His performance stood out conspicuously as a remarkably easy and finished portrayal. Mr. Albert Gran as Baron Lebourg and Mr. John Emerson as the jilted lover André deserve honourable mention; and Mr. Melville Stewart, who used to sing "Tommy Atkins," appeared with success as Mons. Braceline, a jeweller.

MR. E. H. SOTHERN and Miss Julia Marlowe appeared together for the first time in *As You Like It* at the Academy of Music on the 21st inst. It was ten years or more since Miss Marlowe had played Rosalind, but her interpretation of this delightful character had lost none of its charm. Mr. Sothern elected to appear as Jaques instead of Orlando, and if we missed him as the ardent lover we were enabled to enjoy his perfect enunciation in the more serious passages of the play, and particularly his fine rendering of "All the world's a stage," &c., a speech that never seems to pall. Mr. Frederick Lewis made an excellent Orlando, and won high praise for his impersonation. Mr. Albert S. Howson was a capital Touchstone, and others who did conscientious work were Misses Norah Lamison, Loretta Healy, and Elizabeth Valentine; Messrs. Eric Blind, John Taylor, Francis Bendtsen, Sidney Mather, William Harris, Charles Howson, Rowland Buckstone, and Malcolm Bradley. Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe's répertoire for the present week is made up of no fewer than seven Shakespearean plays. Their engagement will close next Saturday, and on June 6 they will return to the Academy for a single performance of *The Taming of the Shrew* for the benefit of the Actors' Fund. That will be the last theatrical performance on the Academy's stage, as the house is to be used for moving-picture exhibitions and vaudeville in future. Thus the appearance of Mr. Sothern and Miss Marlowe on this occasion will end its career as a legitimate theatre, and make the closing dramatic event dignified and memorable.

MR. FRANK MILLS has succeeded Mr. Charles Richman as Malcolm G

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, April 4, the Farcical Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Judging from the very hearty laughter with which Mr. Brandon Thomas's famous comedy was greeted on Monday evening at the King's, there should be many more years of prosperity for Charley's Aunt before her career is closed and her final retirement from the boards. It is doubtful if there is a more popular farce to be seen at the present time, even after running so many years. The crowded houses amply testify to the appreciation in which *Charley's Aunt* is held, and the acting of Mr. Brandon Thomas's company leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Thomas himself is a tower of stength in the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, the military man of the world. Stephen Spettigue is admirably rendered by Mr. Roy Byford, the fiery tirades of the intriguing solicitor being received with laughter. Mr. J. Sims Woolley makes a capital Jack Chesney, his assertiveness and coolness being excellent. Charley Wykeham is pleasantly rendered by Mr. Robert Burnett. A capital representative of Lord Fancourt Babberley is Mr. Stanley Cooke, who has been so long identified with the part that his impersonation is a masterpiece. It is played in the true spirit of farce, without the slightest vulgarity or bad taste. Mr. Sydney Compton as the college scout Brassett is an exceedingly good depiction of *sangfroid*. Most successful is the Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez of Miss Audrey Stafford, whose handsome appearance and elaborate costumes are very attractive. Miss Ruth Henton is a charming Kitty Verdun, her natural acting being applauded; and Miss Phyllis Back's rendering of Amy Spettigue is also appreciated. Ela Delahay is delightfully played by Miss Bertha Wilson. The scenery, representing Oxford, is entirely adequate. Mr. Brandon Thomas's playlet *A Highland Legacy* is also given with satisfactory results. The author and several members of the company distinguish themselves and create a most favourable impression.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company is here with that gay, hoydenish maiden *A Country Girl*, and local playgoers have again been made captive by her charms. The cast is an excellent one, and artistic results are attained by the well-trained chorus and the augmented orchestra under the experienced direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker. It is difficult to imagine a more winning, bewitching, and rompish Nan than Miss Anna Hickisch, who is most happily selected for the part. Miss Hickisch is delightfully natural, and sings her musical numbers in fine style, "Try again, Johnny," "Molly the Marchioness," and "The Language of Love" being all very persistently encored. Mr. Nelson Hancock sings "I loved her then" with exquisite taste, and acted the part of Geoffrey Challoner in refined style. Mr. St. John Hamund makes a magnificent Mr. Raikes, Rajah of Bhong, his fine voice and exceptionally good enunciation being utilised to advantage in the "Rajah of Bhong" and "The Valley of Bhong." Miss Dorothea Temple, in the rôle of Marjorie Joy, gives a bewitching portrayal, singing and acting with great charm; and Miss Myfanwy Newell is a pleasing exponent of Princess Melaneh, receiving a well-deserved encore for her rendering of "Under the Deodar." A capital bit of comedy is contributed by Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity; and his son, Douglas Verity, is amusingly undertaken by Mr. H. P. Hargreaves. As Sophie, Miss Hilda Darrell gains a host of friends by her piquant style and skilful vocalisation. That clever comedian, Mr. Coningsby Brierley, as the irrepressible Barry, plays, sings, and dances with untiring energy. Miss Florence Linton is a charming Mrs. St. Quinton; and Miss Violet de Lacy a stately Lady Ancester. Miss Vi Small as Lady Arnot and Miss Claire Latus as Nurse are also well placed; and the small parts of Milliner's Assistant and Indian Attendant are admirably undertaken by the Misses Queenie Arliss and Madge Redding. Mr. C. T. Chapman is a very effective Lord Ancester; Mr. Percy Russell plays Lord Grassmere easily and naturally; the Gran'fer Mummery of Mr. Tom Sheridan is a capital sketch of a country rustic; and Messrs. H. Brean (Rube Fairway), M. Jones (Indian Servant), and J. Edwards (Footman) add to the general success. The tasteful dresses and costumes, and the beautiful and appropriate scenery and mounting, are all worthy of admiration. Mr. St. John Hamund is general-manager for the company.

THE CORONET.
Cavaliere Francesco Castellano's Italian Opera Company began a three weeks' season at the Notting Hill Gate Theatre, the scene of former triumphs, on Monday, with *Il Trovatore*. Signora Gorreta is possessed of a delightful voice and a highly dramatic method, and as the gipsy, Azucena, she employs her gifts to full advantage, "Te Racconta" being admirably rendered. Signora Protti was artistic and effective as Leonora, and her rendition of "Tacea la notte placida" was very delightful and highly finished. Signor Barbato as Manrico acted and sang with power and virility, scoring a great success in Act III. with "Di quetta pira." Signor Azzolini as the Count of Luna threw himself boldly into the part, and his acting was convincing, whilst his rendering of "Il balen" was exceptionally good. Signor Quintina as Ferranti was impressive in his rendering of the song of "Azucena's vendetta." The Miserere scene in Act IV. was the occasion of a tumultuous encore for Signora Protti and Signor Barbato. An excellent ensemble was heard to great advantage in the men's chorus in Act I., and in the Anvil Chorus. Signor Wehils conducted an augmented orchestra. In *Lucia di Lammermoor* on Tuesday Signora Padovani as Lucia Ashton, and Signors Folco, Vail, Bartera, Massia, and Antonini, and Signora Massia as Alice, took part; and on Wednesday, in *Faust*, Signora Desio's Margherita was full of sweetness and melody, the "Jewel song" being exquisitely rendered. Signor Folco was a handsome, ingratiating, and intense Faust, singing "Oh, dwelling pure and lowly" very beautifully. Signor Massia as Mephistopheles was duly sardonic and strong-voiced; Signor Vail as Valentine invested "Dio persenti" with fine expression, and acted with verve and pathos, especially in the death scene; Signora Massia as Martha played and sung with spirit. Signor Camibrera conducts the augmented orchestra. Mr. Frank Yearsley is business-manager, and Signor G. Barterra stage-manager for the company.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, April 4, the Play, by John Rutherford, entitled
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

Always assured of a hearty welcome at the Kennington Theatre, Mr. Martin Harvey and his admirable company are doubly certain of a good greeting when he revives there this stirring romantic drama, which had its first introduction to metropolitan playgoers at Mr. Robert Arthur's handsome theatre. John Rutherford's vivid picture of an episode between the Royalists and Roundheads has divided the week with *The Only Way*, and it is difficult to say which play is more popular with the Kennington patrons. On Monday there were few vacant places in the house, and Mr. Harvey's fine acting produced great enthusiasm, the curtain having to be raised many times after each act. The actor-manager was in excellent form, bringing out with full effect both the blackguardliness and the unselfishness of the character of Lieut. Rercsby, "the Rat." In the third act, in which the lieutenant is tortured to reveal the identity of his brother officers, Mr. Harvey acted with magnificent force. The faithfulness of his little sympathiser and assistant, Batty, was depicted with much skill by Miss N. de Silva (Mrs. Harvey); while Miss Brenda Gibson, as the sister of "the Rat's" treacherous leader, who brings out the good qualities of the swaggering lieutenant, acted simply and naturally. The craven Colonel, haunted by the fear that his subaltern will give him away, was played by Mr. Charles Glenney with a deal of force; and his loyal father, to whom the disclosure of his son's treachery is so great a blow, was vigorously enacted by Mr. Philip Hewland. Mr. Owen Roughwood was an incisive Sir Henry Curwen; and Mr. Fred Wright, sen., an excellent Colonel Bagshaw; while Mr. Leonard Craske was a manly young Tresham.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Comedy entitled
"THE CATCH OF THE SEASON."

Messrs. Murray King and Clark's company are at the Dalston Theatre this week with *The Catch of the Season*, which is decidedly catching with North Londoners judging by the full houses which are delighting the heart of the management. It is not too much to say that it is comparatively seldom that a musical comedy is so admirably acted, Mr. Murray King as the Duke of St. Jermyns is a veritable host in himself. His natural hilarity is positively infectious. His scenes with Angela Crystal (the Cinderella of the story), a part charmingly played by Miss Gladys Guy, are admirable. The Lord Dundreary of Mr. Charles C. Ommanney is a most acceptable performance. His rendering of the song "A quaint old bird" is evidently just to the taste of the audience. Mr. Ardene Linden's Sir John Crystal conveys the real idea of comedy; and Mr. James Dallas as Mr. William Gibson, a police-court magistrate, with a host of well-developed daughters, is another entertaining personage. It should be added that he is also stage-manager. Master Willie West as Bucket, a page boy with a susceptible heart, is a fertile source of amusement; Mr. Maxwell Stuart, in addition to the onerous duties of general-manager and producer, appears as Captain Rushpool, and secures an undeniable encore for his effective rendering of the song "Cigarette." Miss Belle Rivers is a charming Duchess of St. Jermyns; and Miss Evelyn Shelley makes herself popular as Lady Caterham. Miss Nora Dwyer as Honoria sings several songs in good style, being encored for "My singing bird of June"; and Miss Louie West as Sophia renders noteworthy a burlesque scene with the redoubtable Bucket, the page. Miss Mildred Cottell's Lady Crystal is quite a typical character, the part being most efficiently presented.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Messrs. Barnards present a capital evening's programme in *The Fatal Wedding* as given by Mr. Percy Williams' company. Full of dramatic and musical surprises, the play goes with an amusing swing from start to finish. Mr. Edward Lloyd as Howard Wilson is a very efficient hero; Mr. Cyril Melton does well as the debauched Robert Curtis; Mr. Harry M. Vernon scores greatly as Tots; Mr. Watson Hume is a typical old German as Schwartz; Miss Ethel Kay has the part of the heroine, and succeeds in giving a fine impersonation of the divorced wife and much-tried mother; Miss Leah Marlborough makes a sufficiently bad adventuress of Cora Wilson; Miss Blanche Huber is a very hilarious cook, Bridget; Miss Marie Wilson plays the part of Jessie (the little mother) in a most natural way, and is every inch an actress. A great feature of the production are the songs and dances introduced by the excellent band of juvenile artists. Miss Lily Wohlmann gives "Yankee Doodle" in excellent style, with chorus; Miss Gladys Kelly is encored several times for a clever Scotch reel; the Sisters Wohlmann score in "The Pride of the Prairie"; Miss Sarah Rich does "Lena Schmidt" with great gusto; Miss Marie Wilson sings "'Way down in Colon Town"; Master Tom Grice, champion juvenile Lancashire clog dancer, is in great form; Miss Margot Domican and Miss Dorothy Pain sing very sweetly.

BRIXTON THEATRE.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Play entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

A warm welcome is accorded Mr. Haldane Crichton's company in the above popular musical play, which is presented with much completeness and with a good chorus and augmented orchestra. Mr. Jack Crichton is, luckily, again at hand as the Baboo lawyer, Chambhuddy Ram, and scored heavily. His comicalities, his versatility, and high spirits proved infectious. Mr. Arthur Cartwright is excellent as the Hon. Harry Vereker; his voice is nicely modulated, and his songs gave much pleasure. Miss Florence Watson is delightfully fresh as the Cingalee girl, Nanoya. The tuneful songs were rendered charmingly, and numerous encores were the result. Mr. Douglas Munro is capital as the noble Boobhamba; Mr. Scott Cullen is diverting as Bobby; Mr. F. W. Ford makes excellent use of his opportunities as the irrascible and peppery Sir Peter; Mr. Ernest Trichler is good as the Captain of the Guard; and Messrs. D. Richards, R. Somerville, Fred Creasey, and Stanley Liston do well as the pupils on Vereker's plantation. Miss Ida Ernest is very vivacious, bright, and gay as Peggy Sabine; Miss Pauline Hague admirably realises the part of Lady Patricia Vane, and was seen to the best advantage; a dainty Angy (Sir Peter's daughter) was found in Miss Sadie Thompson; and charming representatives of the plantation tea girls were found in the Misses Winnie Murray, Mercy June, Violet Cowen, and Edie Burton. Unqualified praise must be awarded Miss Sadie Thompson for her exquisite dancing. Mr. Rowland Wood conducted with skill the large orchestra, and the performance is well deserving of the support accorded it.

THE BRITANNIA.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama entitled
"NELL GWYNNE."

Owing to the success attending his production last week, Mr. John F. Preston retains management of the Britannia, and is presenting the drama entitled *Nell Gwynne*. Considering that only some three days were allowed for rehearsal, the performance goes remarkably smoothly. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, now playing Nell Gwynne for the first time, is to be highly complimented upon her performance. Her acting as the orange girl and Court favourite is both natural and vivacious. So popular is Mr. Preston that his first appearance on the stage is the signal for enthusiastic applause. As Bellicote Betterton he gives a fine study of an actor acting the part of an actor, and is at his very best. Mr. Ernest Fane gives an excellent representation of Charles II.; and Mr. W. Howard Barlow is responsible for some powerful acting as Rochester. Mr. Arthur Hartley cleverly portrays Sir Edmund Godfrey; Mr. William Rea acts well as Roland Graeme; and Mr. Horace Gustins capably enacts the part of the Duke of York. Mr. Fred Lawrence is admirably suited in the rôle of Andrew Doublechick, manager of the King's Playhouse, and Mr. Frank Ernestone capitally represents Matthew Gale, an innkeeper. Mr. Alfred Wade does well as the French Ambassador; Miss Ethel Rainforth is a charming Abigail; and Miss Mabel Ford acts with distinction and displays the necessary abandon as the Duchess of Portsmouth. The mounting of the play is all that could be desired. The drama is followed by a farcical act entitled *My New Partner*, played by two old Hoxton favourites, viz., Mr. Fred Lawrence and Miss Marie Brian. The piece is very well received, Miss Marie Brian coming in for a very cordial reception.

THE SHAKESPEARE.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama entitled
"THE EYES OF THE WORLD."

A strong attraction has been provided here this week by the presentation of Mr. Charles Darrell's remarkable play *The Eyes of the World*, a domestic drama of modern French society. The production is that of Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty, supported by a powerful company, who do full justice to the play.

On the night of our visit the house was packed with an appreciative audience, who displayed considerable enthusiasm throughout, and their hearty applause was a striking tribute to the excellence of the performance. Chief honours are due to Miss Ethel Van Praagh, whose powerful delineation of Helene de L'Orme was the leading feature of the piece. The rôle is an arduous one, but Miss Praagh was equal to all demands, and the varying emotions of the wronged wife were portrayed with an intensity that carried conviction. The faithless Mme. Esme de Carnac was successfully impersonated by Miss Flora Hastings, whose stylish appearance and refined manner was well in keeping with the character; Miss Elsie Capell was an ingenuous Avice, and acted with much charm and grace; Miss Nellie Garside fitted the part of the vivacious Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure to perfection, and her clever and spirited acting kept the house in continual laughter. Mr. J. Edward Whitty extracted every ounce of humour from the character of M. Achille Fanfarade, and scored a decided hit; Mr. Charles O'Connor gave a finished interpretation of the unfaithful husband, M. Hector de L'Orme; and Mr. Fred Bentley as the unsuspecting Gaston de Carnac ample fulfilled the requirements of the rôle. Mr. A. Wilson Wynne contributed valuable assistance by his efficient delineation of Octave de Carnac; Mr. R. Wilton Bedford gave a sound rendering of Paul Roqueville; and Mr. Harold Forde was a capable exponent of the servant Brigard.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama, entitled
"THE SINNER."

Mr. Wilson Benge, supported by a powerful company, is presenting for the current week the drama, *The Sinner*, written by that well-known author of similar plays, Mr. Watson Mill, who, in the present instance, has supplied a well-knit and stirring piece of work which proves highly attractive and much to the liking of patrons of this house. The drama is well mounted and charmingly dressed. Mr. Wilson Benge, in the rôle of Monk Stretton, submits a strong characterisation of this prominent part, and is equally good as either the poor fisherman or as the man in high-class society, acting in a manly and convincing style which gains for him hearty expressions of approval. The villain, Edgar Thornhill, is capitally enacted by Mr. Charles Burdon, who puts plenty of "go" into his portrayal, and is accorded a flattering reception—in hisses. Mr. Alec Finlayson offers a good portrait of Paul Levaine, the diamond thief, and puts humour into the part. Mr. Frank Radcliffe submits a clever and powerful delineation of Bill Stanton, an old fisherman, and gains considerable success. Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow is seen to advantage as Jim Stephens. Chris. Floppington is amusingly sustained by Mr. Jay Kay, who obtains many a hearty laugh. Lord Ewen is suitably sustained by Mr. Ulick Burke; and the same may be said of Mr. Harold Playfair as Jack Ewen. Miss Mona Gray deserves praise for her rendering of Meg Stanton; Vera Ewen is ably undertaken by Miss Geraldine Verden; Honor Thornhill is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Jean Wigney; Miss Dora Olga submits a clever representation of little Ned; and Nora Stretton is capably presented by Miss Sadie Smith.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama entitled
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

Human nature, from lofty sentiments and high moral tone down to the deepest depths of bribery, corruption, and villainy is vividly depicted in the drama *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, from the pen of Mr. Lawrence Cowen, whose well-selected company at this house offers a very able interpretation. The numerous sensational episodes which abound in the play carry the "gods" to a high pitch of excitement, and the latter are equally as hearty in their expressions of approval of all brave and noble acts as they are in showing their detestation of crime and murder. The drama is well mounted, the set representing the Old Water Mill being noteworthy. Mr. Henry Doughty judiciously handles the character of Nicholas Brophy, and makes his points "telling," and the scheming nature of the man is skilfully indicated. Mr. John Sargent deserves commendation for a powerful rendering of the old tool and toper, Rupert Dyke, a part in which he displays considerable talent. Robert Hall has a worthy representative in Mr. E. Eardley-Howard; Sir James Hall, Bart., J.P., has a clever exponent in Mr. Frederic Jacques; Mr. Lawrence Maitland does well as managing-clerk to Lucifer and Co.; and Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Johnson, the butler, supplies the comedy relief, being ably assisted in this respect by Miss Constance Coopman as the amorous widow. Miss Violet Hammersley contributes a sympathetic delineation of Beatrice Cuthbert in a dainty manner; in the rôle of Gertrude Grant Miss Dora Hammersley offers a clever study; Mr. George H. Lester makes a capital Jonathan Wylde, K.C.; and Miss Maggie Lindsay is suitably placed as Caroline Stanger.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.
On Monday, April 4, the Comedy entitled
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Brewster's Millions* are this week appearing at the Alexandra Theatre, and an excellent representation it is they give of this amusing and entertaining play. Mr. Percy Hutchison is the Brewster, and he may be congratulated on the success with which he carries this practically one-part piece to a successful issue, and on his never-flagging efforts to keep the play running merrily along from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Praise is also due to Miss Cicely Stuckey, who appears as Peggy, for her charmingly natural playing of Brewster's future wife. Mr. A. P. Kaye gives a clever and characteristic sketch of Monsieur Bargle; as Mrs. Dan de Mille Miss Lillas Earle proves equal to all the part demands; and friends of Brewster are creditably and carefully played by Messrs. Gordon Ash, Henry Hampson, Aubrey Mather, and H. Douglas Greet. Of the opportunities at their command the most is made by Misses Pauline Straus, Dorothy Whitaker, May Seton, and Phyllis Stuckey. The mounting of the play leaves nothing to be desired, the scene representing the steam yacht Flitter being a particularly well-managed illusion. The longer piece is preceded by Mr. Ellie Norwood's play in one act *Chalk and Cheese*, in which Mr. A. P. Kaye and Misses Pauline Straus and May Seton appear.

FULHAM THEATRE.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Comedy entitled
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Mr. R. Macdonald's company is supplying a bright and lively evening's entertainment. *The Dairymaids* is admirably staged, and the company contains some capital artists, Miss Mabel Mudrow is a stately Lady Brudenell; Mr. William Spray is a mercurial Sam Brudenell. His energy and spirits never flag, and his work never lacks humour. As Joe Mivens Mr. Edwin Dodds is another great success, and his quaint antics keep the house in roars of laughter. He is as agile as any acrobat, and dances with wonderful skill. Miss Edie Martin is also eminently entertaining as Eliza, and her songs and dances get well-deserved applause. Mr. Herbert Lugg is satisfactory as Lieutenant Meredith, and Mr. Bernard Vaughan, with his hearty, jovial manner, is excellent as Dr. O'Bryne. Miss Roselene Lester does very well in the character part of the schoolmistress, Miss Pyechase; Miss Vivien Carter plays very prettily as Winifred, and sings in admirable style, with a dainty grace that is much admired; Miss Dorothy Grasdorf also proves a charming representative of Peggy, and her songs go very well. There is a most attractive chorus of milkmaids and Sandow girls, and the "Little Strangers," Misses E. Clare, Beatrice Kling, and Norah Lennox, deserve warm praise. Altogether the production is well put on, and played as it is with splendid vavacity deserves success.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
On Monday, April 4, the Drama, by Chas. E. Clarke,
"A BROKEN HEART."

The return visit of Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart* is proving a potent attraction this week, and the piece is meeting with all the success it achieved when here before. There is little wonder at this, for the well-written, if rather sad, story has the rare advantage of gaining in interest as the play proceeds. The scenic effects are on a high standard of excellence, and the cast has been selected with much judgment. Mr. Harry Cullenford as John Barnard possesses the necessary physical attributes for the part, and he acts with vigour and variety. Miss Sheila Walsh plays with much power, sympathy, and charm as Mary Barnard; Miss Mamie Thorpe is a sincere and attractive Grace Fanshaw; Miss Louise Millward acts very naturally as Mrs. Barnard; and Miss Nancy Mitchell is a bright and interesting Sally Traynor. Mr. A. C. Holmes submits a clever exposition of gentlemanly blackguardism as the sleek and callous Stephen Rayiton, whose accomplice, Gash Gills, is strongly presented by Mr. Charles Vivian, whose depiction of the miscreant when crippled is a striking piece of character acting. Mr. Newton Pearce is decidedly quaint and amusing as Tony Tibbetts; Mr. Henry Carlisle is duly impressive as the Rev. W. Staunton; and Mr. George Addison is quaintly grotesque as Shrimp. Miss Daisy Rochefort looks and acts the part of the child May particularly well, and minor parts are all in quite capable hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Play, entitled
"DEAR LITTLE DENMARK."

Mr. Frank Curzon's company, in *Dear Little Denmark*, which is paying a first visit to Stratford, is being liberally patronised at the Borough Theatre this week. The piece is very handsomely mounted and dressed, and a well-balanced cast has been engaged. As Christine Miss Netta Lynde acts and sings with charm and animation; and Miss Joan Penrose is a vivacious and spirited Ophelia. Mr. Arthur Staples is an energetic and entertaining Hans Hansen; and Mr. Conway Dixon is a manly and pleasing Conrad Peterson, rendering the numbers allotted to him in fine style. Mr. Henry Kitts is exceedingly droll as Duke Ernst von Rasmussen; Mr. Tom Redmond submits an excellent performance as Simon Jorgensen; and Mr. Ben Clark is capital as Jonas Jensen. Miss Claire Lynch plays 'Xandra very appropriately; and Adeline has a prepossessing representative in Miss Gladys Beech. Other parts all receive careful treatment, and a special word of praise must be bestowed upon the exceptionally good chorus. The orchestra is this week augmented and under the direction of Mr. J. A Robertson.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.
On Monday, April 4, the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Oscar Wilde, entitled
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."

There have been good houses at the Kingston playhouse this week to witness this, one of the cleverest of the works of Oscar Wilde. The cast includes Mrs. Peter Davey, wife of the managing-director of the theatre, who appears in the part of Lady Bracknell, and receives a most favourable reception. A pretty study is that of Miss Olivia Glynne as Gwendoline Fairfax, whose pendantic mannerisms are refreshingly portrayed. A creditable appearance is also made by Miss Marjorie Waterlow as Cecily Cardew and by Miss Dorothy Vernon as Miss Prism. The lion's share of the comedy, however, is sustained by Mr. Douglas Gordon, who plays John Worthing, J.P., and by Mr. Langborn Burton, who impersonates Algernon Moncrieff, both artists acquitting themselves with great credit. Mr. Lytton Grey as the Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D., Mr. W. Lazard as Merriman, and Mr. Arthur Stanley as Lane fill up the remaining parts. The production is capitally stage-managed by Mr. Gordon. It is followed by the *Chantecler* skit, *Cock-a-doodle-doo*, produced at the theatre a few weeks ago, the parts being filled by Mr. W. Lazard and the Misses M. Sadie, Dorothy Vernon, and Kathleen Cogan.

"THE BOOKWORMS."

Play, in One Act, by Catherine Evelyn, Produced at the West London Theatre on Friday Afternoon, April 1.

Captain Chelifer .....Mr. Arthur Bowyer.
Pamela .....Miss Clarice Laurence
Elzevir Typer .....Mr. A. L. Burke

This clever sketch was produced at a matinée at the West London Theatre, which was under the able direction of Mr. Clive Currie. Its object is to satirise the rage for books, not as a means of information, but as curiosities. Captain Chelifer, an old sailor, has on board his ship a library of valuable rarities in the book line, and his niece, Pamela, and her lover, Elzevir Typer, are also victims of the same craze. Pamela authorises Elzevir to pay £100 for an old missal, and, in order to prevent her uncle bidding against her, she puts back the clock, so that he may be too late for the sale. The captain, however, has noticed the trick, and returns home with a beautifully-bound old volume, which he gives to Pamela. Mr. Arthur Bowyer was satisfactory as Captain Chelifer; and Pamela and Elzevir Typer were fairly embodied by Miss Clarice Laurence and Mr. A. L. Burke. The piece was produced by Mr. Arthur Bowyer.

Next followed a scene from *Two Orphans*, in which Miss Evelyn Vanderzee and Mr. Wilfred Fletcher appeared to great advantage as the blind Louise and Pierre, the cripple, respectively. Mr. Montague Mazeran (admirably made up) presented a life-like picture of the bully Jacques.

The wooing scene from *Henry V.* came as a bright relief after so sombre a scene; and Miss Madeleine Lesley charmed her audience with a delightful rendering of the French Princess, supported by Mr. Osborn Adair (a manly Henry V.) and Miss Letty Paxton (a rather youthful Alice).

Next came a song from Miss Irene Delisse and a recitation by Miss Mary Forbes (of the Lyceum), both ladies being enthusiastically encored. Scenes from *The Octoroon* and the well-known one-act play *In the Eyes of the World* completed the programme. In the latter play Messrs. Clive Currie and Cecil A. Collins caused great merriment in the cleverly-written "tit-for-tat" scene at the commencement. Miss Adah Dick was a refined and pleasing Mabel, and Mr. Adair played Carlton with dignity and repose.

"ALMOST HIS BRIDE."

A Thrilling Romance of a Charmed Necklet, Presented for the first time in London at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, April 4.

The Earl of Ullswater ..Mr. David McFarlane
Squire Rowland .....Mr. Percy Warlow
Philip Rowland .....Mr. Arthur F. Dudley
Jasper Thorne .....Mr. R. F. Stacey
Simon Simson .....Mr. Stephen Pritt
Clergyman .....Mr. Barton White
Detective-Inspector .....Mr. Harry Houston
Policeman .....Mr. George Cross
Emma Baxter .....Miss Nellie Hook
Myra Thorne .....Miss Lily Prescott
Ruth Gilchrist .....Miss Adela Lidden
Mona Gilchrist .....Miss Louie Peebles

Mr. Stephen Pritt has brought an exceptionally good répertoire company to Mr. Wentworth Croke's cosy Hammersmith house this week, and the result has been the best of business. *A Woman's Passion* has been given on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, *His Wife No Longer* on Friday; but pride of place was, of course, taken by Mr. Pritt's best item, *Almost His Bride*. This drama was first produced, it may be recalled, on Sept. 13 last at the Theatre Royal, Preston, where it scored an immediate success. Several alterations since then have been made in the cast.

The plot of *Almost His Bride* is a remarkably good one. Squire Rowland, it seems, is the owner of a necklet valued at £100,000. He has been induced to drink not wisely but too well by a pair of schemers, Jasper and Myra Thorne. The latter is in reality Thorne's wife, but poses as his sister. She wheedles the old squire into showing her the hiding-place of the necklet. After their departure Philip Rowland, the squire's son, returns and quarrels with his father. The old squire orders him to leave the house, which his son does, remarking that he must abide by the consequences, a remark that is overheard by Simon Simson, the squire's butler. Later the squire discovers the Thornes in the act of abstracting the necklet from its hiding-place. Jasper Thorne then murders the old man with a curious old dagger. Ruth Gilchrist, having contracted a marriage with a commoner, has been disowned by her father, the Earl of Ullswater, who has, however, adopted her daughter Mona, and is not aware that her son died in infancy. Philip Rowland, who has been on trial for his life for the murder of his father, has been pronounced "Not guilty," and is persuaded by Ruth Gilchrist to personate her dead son, whom the Earl is desirous of adopting as his heir. The Thornes having secured the necklet, Jasper assumes the name of Captain the Hon. Trevor Tremayne, and in this rôle has become the favoured suitor to the Earl of Ullswater's adopted daughter. They advertise for a male servant (a "foreigner preferred") to travel with them; and the ingenious Simon Simeon, who strongly suspects them of the murder of his old master, decides to apply for the situation, and disguises himself as a negro. Tremayne and Myra recognise Philip, and the wily captain, becoming jealous of him, bullies Mona and abuses her supposed brother, and declares that he is not her brother, but the son and murderer of old Squire Rowland. Upon hearing this Mona recognises that the love she has felt for Philip was not that of a sister, and flatly refuses to marry Tremayne. Nevertheless, as the Earl wills it, the wedding day arrives; but a surprise is in store for all, for at the church door Philip denounces the Tremaynes as impostors. He, of course, has to declare that he himself is not the son of Ruth Gilchrist, and as he does so, Ruth Gilchrist appears, and forbids the wedding. A week later from the Grange Farm Tremayne and his wife carry Mona off. Detectives at the instance of Simon have succeeded in identifying the Thornes as persons badly "wanted." They are arrested, the Earl arrives, and is reconciled to his daughter, Simon, the butler-negro-detective, rescues Mona and restores the necklet to Philip, and so all ends happily for everybody except the Thornes.

Mr. Stephen Pritt as the butler-negro-detective and Miss Nellie Hook as Emma Baxter work extremely well together, and are responsible between them for all the fun. The part of poor Squire Rowland is cleverly taken by Mr. Percy Warlow. Although only seen in the first act, his work is so good that the jovial, kindly face of the old squire haunts one right through the three other acts that follow. Jasper Thorne and Myra Thorne, "a real bad lot," were very fine characters in the keeping of Mr. R. F. Stacey and Miss Lily Prescott—good actors both. Mr. Arthur F. Dudley was cast for the part of the hero, Philip Rowland. He has a fine delivery, looks well, dresses well, and was at all times very popular with the audience. The heroine, Mona Gilchrist, had a very pretty, clever, and lovable representative in Miss Louie Peebles, and Miss Adela Lidden, playing the part of Ruth Gilchrist, the mother, is a good sound actress, whose work would be a pillar of strength to any play.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
On Monday, April 4, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

Mr. Neville Claude's large company, with the original scenery from the Apollo Theatre, has been presenting this well-known and very amusing play with a considerable measure of success here this week. Miss Florrie Millington as Winnie Harborough, "the girl from Kay's," did full justice to her part, and her clever dancing and good singing was abundantly recognised. The serious heroine, Norah Chalmers, was prettily played by Miss Blanche Courtenay, her songs being most successful, many being re-demanded. Ellen, the lively serving-maid, was a very sprightly impersonation in the hands of Miss Irene Vere, who introduced some smart and characteristic coon songs and dances in each act, and did much to secure the success of the production. Miss Mary Wiltshire as Mrs. Chalmers, the mother of the bride, was sympathetic and effective, and in the Pierrot trio she sang with great success. Mr. John A. Lathan as Harry Gordon, the bridegroom, had a powerful and well-trained voice, and is a smart and efficient comedian. The Hon. Percy Fitzthistle was made as droll as could be desired by Mr. C. Adrian Kingston, both in make-up and characterisation; and Mr. Richard Andean as the suspicious retired judge, Theodore Quench, K.C., was very good, and made quite a part of his impersonation. Mr. Charles Leverton as Mr. Chalmers, the bride's father, was fully equal to the requirements of the character; and Mr. Barron H. Heron caused roars of genuine laughter by his quaint humours as Joseph, the hall porter. Master Walter H. Pink as Pepper, a page in the same hotel, showed great ability and much promise. Mr. Frank Ashley was good as Archie Pembridge; Mr. Charles Power gave an efficient rendering of Frank, a Savoy waiter; as Max Hoggenheimer Mr. Henry Admes had evidently made a careful study of the mannerisms and vulgarisms of the *nouveau riche*, and there was not a dull moment when he was on the stage. A large and efficient chorus of ladies and gentlemen as wedding guests, girls from Kay's, visitors, &c., made a bright and well-dressed backing to the principal tableaux, and the original scenery was of an unusually solid description for a travelling company.

In the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute, Bradford, on Tuesday, Mr. Harry McGee, the Edward Compton and George Alexander prize medallist, submitted to a large audience scenes and recitals from *Richelieu* and *Henry V.*, eliciting warm and well-merited marks of approbation for his scholarly and dramatic interpretations. Mr. McGee was well supported, and his versatility was illustrated by impersonations of Conn, the Shaughraun, and Drown, the Spitalfields weaver.

"THE RIVER OF LIGHT."

A New Play, in One Act, by Neil Morris, Produced at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, April 6.

Captain Devereux .....MR. LIONEL CORNISH
Henry Lorton .....MR. B. A. EVERITT
Philip Darrell .....MR. H. J. BOWLEY
Jamieson .....MR. CHARLES WOOD
Police-Sergeant Vane..MR. L. H. STANLEY-ADAMS
Marton Clare .....MISS ADRIENESSE CLARKE
Mona Devereux.....MRS. R. BRUCE-SMITH

This new one-act play was produced at a special performance given by the Twelfth Night Players in aid of the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway-road. The scene is the drawing-room in Devereaux House, Eaton-terrace, S.W., and the time past midnight. Here are found, in close confab over their ill-gotten gains, Captain Devereux, his wife, Mona, and their associates in crime, Henry Lorton and Philip Darrell. These four form a gang of thieves who, being in a position to mix in fashionable society, contrive to reap a rich harvest in the shape of valuable jewels stolen from the wealthy people they associate with. For five years the gang have succeeded in evading the police. This is principally due to the fact that they have strict rules, and one of these is never to keep in their possession any of the stolen goods longer than twelve hours. In the course of conversation mention is made of Marton Clare. It is the only person they fear—a woman who bears the reputation of being one of the cleverest female detectives in the world. The gang have received news that this woman's arrival from America is hourly expected. More particularly is Mona Devereux in fear of the lady detective, and producing a sparkling diamond necklace (an old family heirloom known as "The River of Light"), she admits that some weeks have passed since she stole it, her excuse for retaining it in her possession being that she did not like the idea of parting with such a beautiful jewel. Her action is strongly condemned by her husband, the usual practice of the gang having thus been so foolishly departed from. Disguised as quite a young girl, Marton Clare gains admission to the house, and the room, on the pretence that she is in search of her father. She further claims to be a Miss Darrell, and a cousin of Philip Darrell. The unwelcome visitor pretends to fall asleep, and Devereux and his associates are at a loss how to get rid of her. They arouse her, and as she is making preparations to depart, the police, as arranged with Marton Clare, break into the place, the lady detective defends herself from the thieves with a loaded revolver, and hands the police sergeant the stolen necklace, which she has discovered in the room.

The new play, which met with a good reception, was produced by Mr. Ernest Young. Mrs. R. Bruce-Smith, in the character of Mona Devereux, made excellent use of her opportunities. The author, Miss Adrieneese Clarke, who has already written several one-act plays under the nom-de-plume of Neil Morris, displayed much ability as an actress in the part of Marton Clare, the lady detective. Mr. Lionel Cornish gave a forcible rendering of the leader of the gang, Captain Devereux; Mr. B. A. Everitt as Henry Lorton and Mr. H. J. Bowley as Philip Darrell proved quite satisfactory; Mr. Chas. Wood as the butler, Jamieson, and Mr. L. H. Stanley-Adams as P. S. Vane completing the cast.

An excellent representation of the light comedy, *From Saturday to Monday*, by Fredk. Fenn and Richard Pryce, followed the first piece. It was produced by Mr. Sydney Wallace.

"THE TOUCH OF THE CHILD."

A Play in One Act, Adapted by Leon M. Lion from a story by Tom Gallon, Produced for the First Time at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Monday, April 4.

Colonel James Fullard ..MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON
Captain Godfrey Steen, V.C. ..MR. HENRY DEAS
Mrs. Fullard .....MISS HELEN OLIVER
Winnie .....MISS JEANNIE FITZGERALD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story is quite out of the ordinary, and deals with an incident which is calculated to destroy the friendship of two men. The scene is the house of Colonel Fullard, D.S.O. He and Captain Godfrey Steen have been close friends for eleven years. Previous to their meeting Captain Steen had been away in Mexico for a holiday, and whilst there had met Colonel Fullard's young brother, without being aware of his identity. A quarrel took place between the two, and a duel was arranged, much against Captain Steen's wish. Shots were exchanged, and Steen fired into the air, but was wounded by his opponent, who insisted on a second encounter, in which Steen fired blindly and killed his adversary. After many years Fullard relates the incident to Steen, adding that he vowed over his brother's grave to find out his murderer, and force another duel on him. Steen eventually confesses it was he who killed young Fullard, and a very strong scene takes place, in which Colonel Fullard insists on Steen fighting. Steen refuses, and whilst they are discussing, Fullard's child is heard calling to her father from outside. As Steen refuses to fight Fullard says the child shall decide, and that when she enters the room the man she touches first shall kill himself within the hour. Steen, who, by the way, has been the child's greatest friend, protests, and says that she will be bound to touch her father first; but Fullard explains that she is just as likely to touch him (Steen) as she is extremely fond of him. Eventually this course is agreed on and they sit side by side in silence whilst the child asks all sorts of questions, and eventually suggests they are playing a game, and implores them to tell her what it is. Just at this moment she touches both of them simultaneously. There is a pause, and the two men clasp each other's hands as the curtain falls. Mr. Molison presented a striking picture of Colonel Fullard, and played with great vigour and intensity, whilst Mr. Henry Deas exactly fitted the part of Captain Steen, and he gave a resolute and powerful impersonation. Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald was good as Winnie.

MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE indicates the fashions of the season in the Paquin frocks worn in *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, the new production at the Comedy Theatre. One of Miss Carlisle's toilettes is of green charmeuse of the hue of absinthe, and with a cape to match. The tunic falls in straight lines, and finishes in a broad hem, under which is shown the flat pleats of the skirt. The blouse, in the same shade of chiffon, is made with wide tucks, and has a turn-down collar of white lace, the ceinture is of gold tissue, and the gold is repeated in the cape in the form of ornaments. The yoke is of Breton embroidery, and there is a large square collar of black velvet with tiny buttons to match on the front and on the revers which form the sleeves. Long, drooping ostrich feathers in green and black adorn the becoming picture hat.

A delicate shade of champagne distinguishes a costume of cloth, with motifs of silk braid embroidery in the same tone, and a novel belt of soft white kid and black patent kid. The sleeves are of three-quarter length, and the jacket collar is embroidered chandron linen. Beneath it is seen the finely tucked blouse with the turn-down pleated collar. The hat of chaudron tagal straw is trimmed with a heron of the same colour, and has an upturned brim. A charming frock of vieux rose tussore with rose-hued silk braids and cords and oxidised steel buttons to fasten it, has a collar and revers of old rose satin. The skirt is quite plain, and of a beautiful cut, with flat folds at the back.

"I WANT TO BE LOVED."

Drama, by Charles Darrell, Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, on Wednesday, March 30.

Caleb Valentine .....MR. J. EDWARD WHITTY
Capt. Hon. Reginald Parkhurst .....MR. CHARLES O'CONNOR
Bernard Avory .....MR. R. WILTON BEDFORD
Jim Mouler .....MR. ALEX. WILSON WYNNE
James Sudbury .....MR. HAROLD FORDE
Mendicant Musician .....MR. BARRY NEWMAN
Butler .....MR. WILLIAM S. ROBERTS
Policeman .....MR. ALFRED STANARD
Prison Warder .....MR. J. J. BROADBENT
'Melia Burgess .....MISS NELLIE GARSIDE
Lady Constantine .....MISS FLORA HASTINGS
Annie Petrol .....MISS ELSIE CAPELL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

During their visit to Grimsby last week Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty produced a new drama, *I Want to be Loved*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, where, fifteen months ago, they produced the successful drama *The Eyes of the World*. The new drama is by the same author, Mr. Charles Darrell, but follows more upon melodramatic lines than his earlier play.

The story is based upon the kidnapping, during childhood, of the daughter of Lady Constantine. The child is brought up in a rough neighbourhood in London, and at the commencement of the play is found acting as a street flower-seller. However, inquiries set upon foot by Lady Constantine succeed in identifying the girl, who is known as 'Melia Burgess, as the long-lost daughter.

A relative of Lady Constantine, Capt. the Hon. Reginald Parkhurst, who had hoped to be the lady's heir, manages to bring a false accusation of theft against the girl, in the hope of disgracing her and turning her mother against her. 'Melia is sent to prison, but on her release her mother, who disbelieves the justice of the sentence, receives her.

Then follows much further plotting on the part of the Captain to bring about 'Melia's downfall, and he is aided by Annie Petrol, who is jealous of 'Melia. The efforts of these schemers naturally lead to much exceptional incident; but everything is righted in the end.

The first act is decidedly the strongest, and the rest of the play will require some revision to bring it into line with the opening portion.

At the production, which took place on Wednesday evening last week, Miss Nellie Garside played the part of 'Melia Burgess with much success, giving a spirited representation of the sharp-witted flower-girl, and afterwards realising the gentler side of the girl's nature. Mr. Charles O'Connor was sufficiently vindictive as Capt. Parkhurst; and Miss Elsie Capell painted the plebeian character of Annie Petrol with vividness. Mr. Alex. Wilson Wynne gave a striking impersonation of the young hooligan, Jim Mouler; Mr. Harold Forde acted well as James Sudbury; and Miss Flora Hastings as Lady Constantine and Mr. J Edward Whitty as Caleb Valentine also contributed good work.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An excellent concert was given by the students of Trinity College of Music, at St. James's Hall, on Tuesday evening. The programme was well chosen, one of the pleasing features of the concert being the admirable singing of the choir, conducted by Dr. Henry T. Pringuer. The choir opened the concert with two part songs, "A Border Ballad" (Oliveria Prescott) and "Charm me asleep" (Henry Leslie), while their fine tone and expressive singing of Sir Edward Elgar's lovely part song, "The Snow," and "The spring is here" (F. Hegar) deserved much praise. All the vocal and instrumental students displayed intelligence, and in several instances undoubted talent. Miss Constance E. Martin gave Hubay's violin solo, "Hejre Kati," and although her tone was a little thin, the audience applauded Miss Martin's clever playing. Miss Alice E. Booth sang Siebel's air from *Faust* with good taste and expression, and an attractive rendering of Schütt's Trio in A Minor and Major for piano, violin, and 'cello, was given by the Misses Edith K. Bird, Kathleen Lawler, and Kathleen Thompson. Mr. Horace Witty was heard to advantage in Dr. F. H. Cowen's song, "For a dream's sake," and a spirited rendering of "Onaway, awake, beloved."

A very youthful pianist, Miss Doris Fell, was warmly greeted for her able playing of "La Campanella" (Liszt), and Miss Margaret Bradfield gave quite a brilliant performance of Papini's violin solo, "Saltarella." Miss Eveline Matthews sang with feeling and clear enunciation A. Goring Thomas's charming song, "A summer night," with a well-played 'cello obbligato by Mr. Leslie Betts; while Miss Florence Griffiths, an advanced student of the college, sang "A memory" (Goring Thomas) pleasingly, being particularly successful in "A birthday" (Dr. F. H. Cowen). Brahms' Rhapsodie in G Minor, pianoforte, was capitally played by Miss Edna Purdie, and two clever little boys, Masters Richard Johnson and Samuel Kutcher, were recalled several times to the platform after their performance of the first movement from Beethoven's Sonata in F Major, for pianoforte and violin. Mr. Joseph Myers sang "Il mio tesoro," from *Don Giovanni*, with a clear idea of the grace Mozart's music requires. After a violin solo of Weiniawski's, "Obertasse," by Miss Olga Corrigan, the concert concluded with the part-song, "The sweet spring" (Dr. F. E. Gladstone), and Sullivan's madrigal, "When Love and Beauty," by the choir. Mrs. J. R. Blazey accompanied the choir, and the violin accompaniments to the part song, "The snow" were played by Alice M. Lees, Dorothy Meallira, Hazel Giles, and Nellie Simpson; other accompanists were Mr. Herbert W. Dawson and Miss Eunice Lucas. There was a large audience.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your correspondent, in noticing the performance of *Charley's Aunt*, at the Marlborough Theatre last week, suggests that I understudied Mr. W. S. Penley in the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley during the historic run of *Charley's Aunt* at the Globe Theatre. This, however, is not the case. In fact, I never understudied anyone in my life. I played *Charley's Aunt* originally in all the principal towns of Great Britain and Ireland for the first five years of the old lady's existence, giving 1460 consecutive performances of the character. It is a curious fact that this is the exact number of times the piece was played at the Globe Theatre. Some years later I again played "Babbs" at the first West End revival at the Comedy Theatre, under Mr. Brandon Thomas's management, and subsequently during the seasons at Terry's and the Aldwych Theatres.—Yours faithfully,

STANLEY COOKE.

Green Room Club,
April 5, 1910.

"GARIBALDI."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I note that Mr. Hall Caine has written a play round the personality of Garibaldi. Will you kindly record that I have had in my possession since 1907 a play in four acts on exactly the same theme, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, which has been very favourably considered by a West End management for early production.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM HOLLES.

Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London,
March 31, 1910.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ALICE INMAN.

"Donkeys' years ago," to use her own colloquialism, Miss Alice Inman made her first appearance at the age of six, playing a little fairy messenger in *Sindbad the Sailor* at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford. After that she played the child's part in *Drink* for a number of tours, and many other juvenile assumptions included the immortal Willie Carlyle. One night, during the Death scene, the little actress wanted to sneeze, and whispered words to that effect to Lady Isabel. "You mustn't," was the alarmed reply. "I tried not to," says Miss Inman, and gasped through the Death scene, then I relaxed, and just as Isabel said, 'Dead, and never called me mother,' I sneezed! Needless to say, the curtain came down amid roars of laughter. Poor Isabel, in her vexation, gave me a shaking, and I felt I deserved it. I crept to my room ashamed and sorry. The ladies sympathised with me, and so the trouble passed over."

At the age of fifteen Miss Inman joined a Shakespearean company, playing all the little Princes' and Pages' parts. Then she had a varied experience in small rôles, being particularly successful in a little character in *The Esmonds of Virginia*. Mr. Fred Latham, who was the manager, complimented her, and advised her to go in for character parts. Her ambition, however, was to play a heroine in a grey dress, and at length her hopes were realised. She was called upon at a few hours' notice to play Ruth Medway in *The Union Jack*, and got through so creditably that Mr. Elliston engaged her to play the part in the two following tours. For several years she played Hester, in *Master and Man*; Ruth, *In the Ranks*; Nance and Jess, *Hoodman Blind*; Tess, *Phantoms*; Margaret, *For the King*; Valentine, *Proof*; Marie, *The Face at the Window*; and also in several stock seasons, principally at Glasgow. A very favourite part was Effie Deans.

About six years ago Miss Inman left the stage and went in for a photographic studio with her sister. At the end of three years she returned to the profession, and drifted into comedy again. Her first real success in an eccentric part was as

[*Photo by Inman.*

MISS ALICE INMAN.

Araminta in Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's *Cinderella* touring pantomime. She was re-engaged by Mr. Stanley Rogers to play the same character at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, in 1908. She met with considerable favour as Mrs. Blaney in *The Hypocrites* on tour during last autumn This year she repeated her success as Araminta in the pantomime *Cinderella* at the Elephant and Castle.

"THE Germans, as a nation, worship Shakespeare," says the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*. "They regard him as the greatest dramatic genius that ever lived, and his plays—principally *Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, The Taming of the Shrew, Macbeth, Julius Cæsar*, and *The Merchant of Venice*—draw large audiences whenever presented.

"AT the Berlin Deutsches Theater, the stage-manager of which, Professor Max Reinhardt, is the well-known German authority on Shakespeare, hardly a week passes without at least one of the tragedies being staged, and sometimes the week's programme contains as many as two or three of Shakespeare's plays.

"AT the Neues Schauspielhaus the performances of *Julius Cæsar* are among the season's chief attractions, whilst in theatres of lesser magnitude *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* are frequently given, with excellent results, both from the financial and artistic point of view.

"IT is in the north of Germany—in Prussia and Hamburg—that the cult of Shakespeare is most highly developed. In Munich, however, the popular mind, both at the Hof and the Residenz Theatres, is frequently entertained with performances of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Macbeth* alternately with the national dramas of Schiller and Goethe. In Stuttgart, at the Schauspielhaus; in Leipzig, at the Stadttheater; in Dresden, where everything English is admired; in Frankfort and Cologne, his works are also produced with great success.

"THERE are people in Germany who really believe in the theory—absurd, it is true—that Shakespeare was originally a German called Schüttelspeer, and the average German looks on him as though he belonged to some Teutonic clan, which is a proof of the admiration in which he is held in the Fatherland.

"SHAKESPEARE has been 'Germanised' for the Germans. This is one of the greatest compliments to his genius. German children in the schools read his dramas—the translation by Von Schlegel is excellent in every way, and shows how intimate the translator was with the original. Shakespearean sayings, proverbs, and sentences have, moreover, entered into the ordinary conversation as though they had been really written by a German.

"THE average German knows more about Shakespeare's plays than the average Englishman. He has read them more frequently, seen them played more often, and is more fully acquainted with the beauties of their author's thoughts. Many Germans have learnt English with the sole object of being able to read Shakespeare in the original, and England's greatest national genius has, comparatively speaking, more admirers in the Fatherland than in the British Empire. The reason is that the German taste has been more carefully educated in Shakespearean lore than our own, and this accounts also for his general popularity beyond the Rhine. In Germany his name does not spell ruin; it attracts crowds."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, FEB. 22.—PALACE.—The Hugh J. Ward comedy company departed from its screaming farce menu on the 19th, and produced *The Fencing Master*. This new departure revives the old contention that boisterous humour and deep tragedy and pathos are twin sisters in the Thespian art gallery. I remember, in the early seventies, putting on *Richard III.* at the old Queen's, with a different actor as Richard in each act. The best of the lot was William Andrews, the Australian low comedian. He was in the last act, and his force was terrific. The fight with Richmond (Dick Roberts, father of Henry R. Roberts, "The Prince Chap") was the best I ever saw. In the present production Mr. Hugh J. Ward, the champion laugh maker, is a fund of tears and emotion, compelling both from his delighted audience. The exiled nobleman, under the pseudonym of Angelo Rossi, never degenerates into maudlin sentimentality or abject fear, but above his apprehensiveness there lingers ever true manliness and cheery aspect. Miss Grace Palotta gives Lillian a most loveable nature, the scenes with her lover, young Rossi, being made more natural by the unaffected style of Mr. Leonard Willey. The autocratic Mrs. Montgomery brings the accomplished Miss Beatrice Day into the cast, a distinct acquisition. The Hon. Stewart Grayville and his son Philip have Mr. Reginald Wykeham and Mr. Wm. B. Beattie to see that they are prominent figures in the picture, and the confidence is admirably placed. Miss Celia Ghiloni is Mrs. Dexter Brown, cleverly acted; and Miss Rose Musgrove creates a thousand laughs as her daughter Mary. The Sisters Cherry are made the most of by the Misses Ruby Baxter and Florence Redfern; and Mr. Charles Howard has a good show as Luigi, the restaurateur.

"THE LION AND THE MOUSE" is in its last week at the Royal, more's the pity, for it is far and away the best performance ever given by Mr. Julius Knight and the J. C. Williamson company. But *Arms and the Man* is announced for the 26th, with *Waterloo* as an addition to the bill.

"A WALTZ DREAM" is booking Her Majesty's full every night, and, despite the Lenten weeks, it will run until the theatre is wanted for the Easter pantomime.

OSCAR ASCHE and Lily Brayton return to the Criterion to play *The Merchant of Venice* on the 16th. Meanwhile, *The Girl Behind the Counter* is running.

MISS RUTH LINCOLN, Mr. Edwin Brett, and Mr. Tom Payne leave for London next month.

MISS AMY CASTLES, the Ballarat soprano, is announced to appear in the coming opera season of the Williamson *régime*, under the bâton of Signor Roberto Huzon.

THE Tivoli has a new scene, "Happy Holland," painted by Alfred Clint, whose brush is at Harry Rickards' disposal all through the year. Miss Dorothy Forbes, a Sydney soprano, long learning in Europe, has been secured, and she became at once a pronouncedly welcome singer. Mr. Post Mason, American baritone, is back, and all are glad to see and hear him; the Wille Brothers created a sensation in their wonderful acrobatic menage; Mlle. De Dio is concluding her season of dancing and triumph this week. Last night the mad musician Vasco; ladder experts, Alexandra and Bertie in "After the Ball"; the Two Vivians, and Kelly and Kingston were added to the bill.

"CASTE" is to be revived at the Empire Theatre, New York, on April 26. The cast will include Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Elsie Ferguson, Messrs. G. P. Huntley, Graham Browne, Edwin Arden, and Julian Royce. It is expected that Sir John Hare will appear also, a rumour to that effect having been widely circulated.

MISS VIRGINIA EARLE, who was a great favourite at Daly's Theatre, New York, in the days of *The Circus Girl, The Geisha*, and *A Runaway Girl*, was recently removed to an American sanatorium, suffering from a nervous breakdown. Miss Earle appeared in London in *The Girl from Up There*.

MR. FREDERICK KERR has been engaged by Miss Maxine Elliott to appear in America in *The Inferior Sex*, and next season he will play the part of the confirmed woman-hater, now enacted by Mr. Arthur Byron, upon whose yacht Miss Elliott, as the heroine, finds herself an unwelcome guest.

MR. THOMAS QUINLAN has engaged Mr. Ellison Van Hoose, the well-known American tenor, for the Beecham Opera Comique season at His Majesty's. Mr. Van Hoose, who has already created a favourable impression in London at promenade concerts, will make his appearance as Werther. He has sung with Madame Melba and Madame Sembrich on their tours, and has recently appeared at Berlin and Leipzig. He is engaged as principal tenor of the Mainz Opera, and is to sing as Guest in the Royal Opera Houses of Stockholm.

ALTHOUGH the drama is forsaking Fourteenth-street, New York, that busy thoroughfare still holds its own as a popular centre for lighter attractions. The passing of the Academy of Music has already been recorded. Tony Pastor's Theatre, next door, is now known as the Olympia, having been turned into a burlesque house. Directly opposite, a new playhouse is being built, to be called the City Theatre. Moving-picture houses, arcades, "fairs," shooting-galleries, and dime museums now line the street that years ago was quite as "classy," in a theatrical sense, as a certain part of Broadway is to-day.

THE flight of *Chantecler* was retarded by several delays in Vienna on Monday, when a company from Paris was announced to perform M. Rostand's remarkable play. Two truck-loads of scenery and costumes, coming from Roumania, where the company appeared last, were left behind by mistake at the Crajova Station. Thanks to diplomatic intervention, they were sent forward rapidly, but owing to the speed of the train an axle became heated, and this caused further delay. The performance, however, eventually took place without any great detriment to the effect.

"A MAKER OF MEN" has been added to the bill at the Garrick Theatre, New York, as a curtain-raiser to *The Girl He Couldn't Leave Behind Him*. There are only two characters in the playlet, Cuthbert Farringdon and his wife Edith, and these are acted by Mr. Ernest Lawford and Miss Hattie Williams. The double bill enables Miss Williams to display her versatility, for in the shorter piece she impersonates a loyal wife, and in the other play an amorous Spanish dancer, both characters being faithfully represented.

MR. FRED O. WHITNEY, who has successfully produced a lengthy series of light operas in America, now has in hand a new Viennese opera of the period of Maria Theresa, of Austria, and her gay Court, to be called *Baron Trenk*. Mr. Whitney's operas usually have a distinct national theme and atmosphere. A few years ago he produced *Dolly Varden*, with appropriate music by the well-known English composer, Mr. Julian Edwards. Mr. Whitney's current success, *The Chocolate Soldier*, has had a six months' run, and is still going strong at the Casino.

A CORRESPONDENT, who inquires for the humorous recitation by Jerome K. Jerome, entitled "The Telephone," will find it in "The Second Thoughts of an Idle Fellow," published by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett, Ltd., or in "The Golden Humorous Reciter," published by Seeley and Co., Ltd., 38, Great Russell-street.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"GAWAN."

Play, in Five Acts, by Eduard Stucken, Produced at the Deutsches Chamber Plays, March 30.

König Artus .....HERR DIEGELMANN
Königin Ginover .....FRAULEIN DAMM
Der Grüne Ritter .....HERR HARTAU
Bischof Baldewin .....HERR GALEEN
Agravain .....HERR WILHELMI
Gawân .....HERR KAYSSLER
De Hautdesert .....HERR HARTAU
Seneschall .....HERR FELDHAMMER
Marie .....FRAULEIN KONSTANTIN
Schatelier .....HERR KUHNE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 7.—Herr Stucken has written some books of merit, but this is his first attempt at a play, and as such it must be pronounced a success, however little to the taste of the present-day theatre-goers versical dramas may be. He has chosen for his theme the old legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. There is, I am told, a sequence of plays under the title of *Der Gral*, and *Gawân* is the first of the series. Herr Stucken calls it a "mystery, in five acts," and mystery is as good a name for the play as any other. Gawân is at supper with the King and the Knights on Christmas Eve, when the "Green Knight" appears, who is, of course, a mixture of Death and the Devil. Our hero slays him—that is to say, he cuts off the visitor's head in open combat; the Green Knight, however, nothing daunted, picks up his head, and allows it to tell Gawân that he is expected to come to the "green chapel" that night in a year's time, or be ever afterwards dubbed a dishonourable man. Why Gawân considers himself bound to obey this obscure command is not very clear, but he does so, and duly sets out on the quest. He comes on a cold winter's night to the castle of Baron de Hautdesert, who gives him shelter and the best that his house can offer. The Baron's wife, the beautiful Marie, makes decided love to the handsome guest—when her lord has retired, of course—but Gawân preserves his and her honour, and starts next morning—a sinless Knight—on his quest. After a while he hops upon the green chapel. It is in a lonely churchyard, where a closed coffin awaits him. At the midnight hour the coffin opens, and the Green Knight springs out to slay him. Then appears the Madonna, whose features are the same as those of Marie, and declares Gawân's sojourn in the castle of Hautdesert was a test of his integrity, which he stood in an exemplary manner. And—strangest conundrum of all—the Green Knight is suddenly Hautdesert himself, and the Madonna gives Gawân the "Cup," for, being pure, he is worthy of the Grail. Full of phantastic mysteries, the piece presents a certain fascination, and mounting and acting were all that could be desired. Author and artists were called repeatedly before the curtain at the close in response to the genuine and general applause.

"DAS STRUMPFBAND" is the title of the latest novelty at the Volks-Oper. It is a three-act operetta by A. Ferry, text by G. Fischer-Ohmann. Unfortunately there is nothing good to be said for either. The composer is little more than an amateur, and not a very talented one, while the book is very poor and unusually trivial. The cast was not so good as it usually is, so that altogether the evening was not an unmixed treat. Great pains had been expended upon the mounting, which was extremely pretty and effective.

HERR JOSEPH KAINZ, the incomparable German tragedian, came for a lamentably brief season to the Royal Schauspielhaus last week. In spite of all rumours to the contrary, it hardly seems probable that he is to exchange the Vienna Burg Theatre for our Imperial Theatre—at any rate at present. Herr Kainz found his principal opportunity once again in *Julius Cæsar*. His Mark Antony is too well known to need description. He played it on Thursday in his customary masterly manner, and it was long before the audience finished applauding The Emperor and Empress were present, and complimented the great actor at the close of the third act.

HERRMANN HEIJERMANN'S powerful drama *Die Hoffnung auf Segen*, which was originally produced at the Deutsches a number of years ago, has just reappeared at the Luisen Theatre. The interpretation was remarkably good, and the profound impression created at the first production was not lacking this time either. The author, by the way, although a Dutchman, writes German like a German, and is a resident of Berlin.

DR. STRAUSS'S *Elektra* will be performed at the German Theatre at Prague next month. The cast will be the original one from the Royal Opera in Dresden. In view of the animosity frequently shown to German works by the Bohemians, the reception of the now world-famous opera is awaited with not a little interest.

MLLE. YVONNE DE TREVILLE, the charming Anglo-Parisian artist, has just finished a highly-successful tour. She has sung leading soprano at the Imperial Opera House at Vienna and the Court Operas at Budapest and Dresden. Mlle. de Tréville is now in Brussels, but is expected on an operatic tour through Germany shortly. Remembering her brilliant success some years ago at the Berlin Opera, her many admirers will certainly give Mlle. de Tréville a hearty welcome.

M. MAETERLINCK has addressed a letter of warm thanks to the management of the Leipzig Stadt Theatre for having so successfully performed his drama *Maria Magdalena*, which was forbidden by the Berlin censorship.

"LIANE."

One-Act Dramatic Playlet, by Walter Macnamara, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, on Monday, March 28.

Frank Rowland .....MR. HARDY JACKSON
Reggie Peterson .....MR. CHARLES KAY
Charles Hawthorne ..MR. CHARLES D. WRIGHT
Tom .....MR. JULIAN GARDEN
Elsie Wood .....MISS MAY HOLLOM
Liane D'Aragon .....MME. ALICE FAVIER

Liane is cleverly written and somewhat out of the ordinary run, being musical comedy ending in tragedy. Frank Rowland, who has been studying in Paris, falls desperately in love with the beautiful Liane, a star of the Variéties. Frank is engaged to Elsie Wood in England, of the Frivolity Theatre, and on his return relates his adventure to his bosom friend, Reggie Peterson, a cynical man about town, who laughs at Frank's fears. The artists of the Frivolity Theatre come to Frank's rooms to supper, and in the midst of the festivities Liane enters unannounced, and realising Frank's desertion and perfidy shoots herself.

Mr. Hardy Jackson as Frank has a breezy and agreeable manner, and fills the part with success. He is the possessor of an excellent voice. As Reggie Peterson Mr. Charles Kay is well suited, and never failed to make the most of his somewhat meagre opportunities. He used his powers as a comedian with effect. Mme. Favier sings well, but hardly seemed to realise the seriousness of the rôle entrusted to her. Miss May Hollom is an engaging Elsie, and Mr. Charles D. Wright a good dude.

On Wednesday, March 30, owing to the indisposition of her sister, Miss May Hollom, Miss Violet Hollom played Elsie with marked success. The piece is beautifully dressed and mounted.

PRESENTATION.—At the Gaiety Theatre, Worksop, on Saturday, Mr. Carr Loates was presented with a handsome silver-mounted travelling bag by members of the *At the World's Mercy* company and a few friends to commemorate the completion of five years' unbroken tour.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree is the president of the newly-formed Theatre Club in Knightsbridge, one of the features of which is a pretty theatre with 650 stall seats. Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. H. B. Irving are vice-presidents, and on the play-producing committee are Miss Esmé Beringer, Miss Tita Brand, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Tom B. Davis, Mr. Clarence Derwent, Lady MacGregor, Baroness Voynish, Mr. Yorke Stephens, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Sir Simeon Stewart, and Mr. Harcourt Williams. The organising secretary is Dr. Moyle O'Connor. When it is not being used for plays, the theatre can be transformed into a ball-room, concert-room, or shooting-gallery. There are also a palatial dining and supper-room, writing-room, and card-rooms.

Mr. George Alexander will preside at the annual dinner of the Thespid Cricket Club at the Criterion Restaurant to-morrow (Sunday) evening. Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. James Welch will be present, and an enjoyable entertainment will be organised by the hon. secretary, Mr. Ernest Cameron.

Mr. H. B. Irving will propose the toast of "The O.P. Club," and Miss Lily Elsie, Miss Dorothea Baird, and Miss Jessie Bateman will speak at the Ladies' Annual Dinner of the O.P. Club at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday. Mr. A. E. W. Mason will preside.

At the Prince of Wales' Theatre on Wednesday afternoon, just before the end of the first act of *The Balkan Princess*, two ladies, one of whom was Mrs. Blanche Eardley, the novelist, entered the theatre, taking seats in the third row of the stalls. Both were wearing large black hats. At the end of the act two gentlemen who were sitting behind the ladies went out and complained to Mr. Curzon that the ladies "refused to take off their ridiculous hats."

Mr. Curzon then sent a messenger to Mrs. Eardley and her companion. The ladies went out into the corridor, and Mr. Curzon asked them if they would object to removing their hats. Both ladies refused. "Then I must ask you to take your money back and leave the theatre," said Mr. Curzon. Mrs. Eardley and her friend insisted on going in and seeing the play.

Mr. Curzon, however, refused to let the ladies pass unless they took off their hats. Eventually the ladies left the theatre—Mrs. Eardley leaving her card. Mr. Curzon at once sent a guinea cheque and a letter to Mrs. Eardley by special messenger. The cheque was returned to Mr. Curzon, with a note from Mrs. Eardley, stating that the matter was to be put in the hands of her solicitors. Mr. Curzon hopes that any action that may follow will settle the interesting problem, "Can a theatre manager exclude a lady from his theatre if she refuses to take off her hat?"

Mrs. Eardley presents her side of the case in a letter to the Press, in which she says: "We made our way direct to the stalls, intending to remove our hats, but before we were actually seated a gentleman (?) said: 'Take off those ridiculous hats.' I was annoyed at the unnecessary note of rudeness in his manner, and we did not do so. At the end of the act, he again made the offensive remark, and I made up my mind that, though I disliked being discourteous to other members of the audience, I would keep my hat on, and establish a woman's right to keep her head covered in public if she wishes. Hitherto I have made it a rule to remove my hat at matinées."

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association, Ltd., was held at the Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, on the 1st inst., with Mr. M. V. Leveaux in the chair. Those present were: Mr. A. C. Alderson, Mr. L. Maitland, Mr. G. Brydon Phillips, Mr. G. H. Lambert, Mr. C. Barth, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. F. Leslie Moreton, Mr. A. Bertram, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). The date of the annual general meeting was fixed for May 24. A member reported a serious case between himself and a musical director, and also of a lady artist of his company, and it was directed that the names be entered in the black book. A member wrote in reference to a claim against the estate of his late partner, and the solicitor reported that he had sent in the claim as requested. At the instance of a member, the Association claimed damages against an actor for breaking his engagement, and judgment was given in the Westminster County Court on March 23 in favour of the Association, with costs. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association:—Mr. Allan Wilkie, Mr. Charles Gibbon, Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, Mr. Bernard Mervyn, Mr. Harry W. Lumley, and Mr. James Welch.

A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held at Savoy Mansions on the 1st inst. Amongst those present were: Mr. M. V. Leveaux, Mr. L. Maitland, Mr. E. Norris, Mr. A. C. Alderson, Mr. C. Barth, Mr. G. B. Lambert, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). The following gentlemen were elected members:—Mr. Allen Wilkie, Mr. Henry Bowman, Mr. Harry Braham, Mr. B. Pareezer, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Charles Gibbon, Mr. J. W. Rosenthal, Mr. Roy Cochrane, Mr. Arthur Hare, Mr. Herbert Darnley, Mr. Hugh C. Bernard, Mr. Bernard Mervyn, and Mr. Robert Dudley.

Mr. Lewis Waller, in his special revival of *Henry V.* at His Majesty's Theatre on the 21st inst., will be supported by Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. William Devereux, Mr. Franklin Dyall, Mr. Alec F. Thompson, Master Harry Duff, Mr. William Mollison, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Miss Madge Titheradge, and Mr. Halliwell Hobbes. Most of these artists have already appeared with Mr. Waller in his fine revival of *Henry V.* at the Lyric.

Mr. Frederick Whelen, the founder and chairman of the Stage Society, will propose the health of the Repertory Theatre at the annual dinner of the Society at the Criterion on the 17th inst. Mr. Charles Frohman has preferred to leave the task of reply to Miss Horniman and Mr. W. B. Yeats. The Right Hon. Sir John Gorst will take the chair.

In connection with the performance of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, to be given by the Elizabethan Stage Society at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday evening, the 20th inst., a special stage is being built over the orchestra and over part of the stalls. This will limit the auditorium, and will necessitate the abandonment of the upper circle and gallery on this occasion, as it will be impossible to see the specially-erected stage from most of the seats in this part of the house. Sir Herbert Tree has, therefore, decided to close the upper circle and gallery in the interests of those who desire to be present, and also to comply with the County Council arrangements as regards the special lighting rendered necessary on this occasion. Those who have booked seats for these parts of the house will be able to transfer them to other parts on early application to the box-office, or should it be preferred, the money will be returned. As the auditorium, in consequence, is rendered much smaller than usual, it is desirable that anyone wishing to see this special Elizabethan Stage Society performance should make early application for seats.

Mr. Martin Harvey will preside at the sixty-fifth annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on June 12.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge will sell by auction at 13, Wellington-street, Strand, on Wednesday, April 20, and on the following day, a collection of engravings, water-colour drawings, oil-paintings, china, books, and a number of theatrical relics, forming the property of the late Lionel Brough. The collection is full of items of intense interest to those connected with the drama, and a large gathering and eager bidding may be contemplated.

There are some fine old engravings, theatrical and other portraits in the collection. Amongst the water-colour and other drawings are a fancy portrait of Mr. Russell, formerly manager of the Haymarket Theatre, and a portrait of Minnie Palmer, both by Phil May; portraits of Mr. John Toole and Mr. Lionel Brough, in coloured chalks, and portraits of Mr. Lionel Brough and Mr. Boucicault and Mr. James and Mr. Thorne, in coloured chalks, all by Alfred Bryan; and the following by Phil May:—Portrait of Mr. Lionel Brough, in character, in water-colours; portrait of Mr. Lionel Brough as Bob Acres, in pencil; portraits of Sir Henry Irving, Sir Squire Bancroft, and Mr. John Toole, in sepia; portrait of Mr. Fred Sidney in character, in water-colours; portrait of Sir Henry Irving as Malvolio, in black and white; and a portrait of Mr. E. Terry, in water-colours. There is also a sketch, in water-colours, by Fred Storey of Miss Violet Cameron as Bettina in *The Mascot*. Then there is a portrait of Mr. Lionel Brough, in pencil, by Miss Viola Tree; a picture of a parrot, in pencil and wash, presented to Mr. Lionel Brough by the artist, Harrison Weir; and a portrait of Mr. Lionel Brough, in black crayon, signed, presented to Mr. Brough by the artist, J. Macbeth. Amongst the oil-paintings are a [illegible]ing and Girl Picking Flowers, by Weedon Grossmith; and a portrait, by S. Spurrier, of Mr. Lionel Brough seated on a couch.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, who is a member of the executive committee of the National Theatre, is forming an American committee to colect funds for the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. He adds that the New Theatre, New York, is daily gaining ground with the public, and is being conducted in admirable fashion. Local committees in connection with the National Theatre continue to be formed throughout the country, including Wolwich, Wimbledon, Crystal Palace, Croydon, Edinburgh, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Bristol.

Lady Tree graced a brilliant scene at the Ritz Hotel on Thursday evening, when a series of Tableaux Vivants were given, under the patronage of Princess Christian, in aid of the English Branch of the International Catholic Society for Befriending Working Girls and the Incorporated Soldiers and Sailors' Help Society. Lady Tree gave a recitation, which was enthusiastically applauded. The Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet* was acted by Miss Aimée Lowther and Miss Rita Jolivet. A graceful minuet was danced by Mrs. Percival Davis Griffiths, the Jonkheer Quarles Van Ufford, Miss Alice Eyre, and Mr. Percy Grace, while Miss Mansel, Miss Imelda Harding, and Mr. Jack Eyre gave a Spring Dance.

The tableaux included Reynolds's "Three Graces," Rossetti's "Dante and Beatrice," Marcus Stone's "Love and Mockery," Blair Leighton's "Elaine," Romney's "Lady Hamilton at the Spinning Wheel," Albert Moore's "Midsummer," and Dicksee's "The Symbol." Incidental music was provided by Mr. Alfred de Rothschild's Viennese Band. Among those taking part were the Marchioness Townshend, the Countess Blücher, Countess Vandelin de Mniszech, Lady Norah More, Lady Muriel Watkins, Lady Mary Pepys, Lady Tenterden, Baroness Hildegard von Hügel, Lady Dean Paul, Lady Grove, the Hon. Mrs. R. Erskine, the Hon. Mrs. Eric Thesiger, the Hon. Mrs. Hill Trevor, and the Hon. Mrs. E. Fielden. The entertainment will be repeated to-night.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Compton Coutts, who had been lying seriously ill at his residence at 80, Barkham-terrace, Lambeth-road, was on Monday removed to Guy's Hospital.

One hears too little now of Clara Jecks, the famous soubrette of the Adelphi and other London theatres in the eighties. Active in Church work, as a parishioner of St. Anne's, Highgate-rise, she is directing a performance this evening, at Stanley Hall, Junction-road, in aid of Church Mission work. She will double the parts of Crafer and Miss Hickson in *Liberty Hall*.

Mr. Cyril Maude, owing to the great success of the special matinées of *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* at the Playhouse, has decided to continue these performances every Tuesday and Thursday during the month of April. The cast includes Mr. Cyril Maude as the old toymaker. Messrs. J. D. Beveridge, Fred Lewis, Shiel Barry, and A. Holmes Gore; and Misses Elsie Chester, Emma Chambers, and Miss Margery Maude. Each matinée will be preceded by Monsieur Thales in *A Happy Mistake*.

Mr. Wentworth Croke will on Monday next open his annual vacation tour of *East Lynne* at Wolverhampton with a first-class company selected from his various touring companies. The piece will be toured with scenery complete.

Whit Week will see the termination for the time being of Mr. Wentworth Croke's various touring companies in Mr. Hall Caine's pieces. *The Bondman* and *The Prodigal Son* will then have completed three years' continuous touring, and *The Christian* eleven years. The three pieces will be given a rest until the autumn of 1911, when they will be again sent into the country entirely re-dressed and mounted.

On Saturday last the new version of *The Christian* was played for the last time at Mr. Wentworth Croke's Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith. In the autumn of 1911 Mr. Croke will send out a farewell tour of the original version of this piece.

Miss Pauline Chase will sail on Wednesday, May 4, for New York on the Kaiser Wilhelm, arriving there on the following Tuesday, on which day she will exert herself in the interests of the Actors' Fund Fair at the Botanic Gardens, New York. Miss Chase will endeavour to raise money by selling at auction photographs and autographs of famous English authors and actors. Miss Chase hopes to start on her return voyage to England on the Wednesday morning after the Fair.

The cast of Mr. Charles Hawtrey's production of *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's on Thursday will include, besides Mr. Charles Hawtrey himself, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Ernest Thesiger, Mr. Lyle, Mr. George Bellamy, Mr. L. Williams, Mr. H. Atlay, Miss Frances Wetherall, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Phyllis Embury, Miss Vera Maitland, Miss Clare Greet, and Miss Gwynne Herbert.

Mr. George Grossmith will return to the cast of *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety Theatre to-night.

Miss Annie Hughes has been winning golden opinions in the suburbs and the provinces as the Chorus Lady. After her last night at Kennington, a crowd of pittites and galleryites collected outside the stage-door to cheer her as she left. "Better even than your 'Country Mouse,' Miss Hughes," one or two shouted. Another voice said, "Miss Hughes, we want to see you play Lady Frederick." This request followed Miss Hughes by letter to Liverpool, where she opened on the following Monday.

Miss Hughes is the recipient of many flattering congratulatory letters from the play-going public. One sent her from Liverpool, after visiting there, says, "Your splendid acting as Patricia O'Brien has won you great fame. You have caught a strong grip of many hearts, and great numbers are longing for the time when you shall be here again."

Miss Hilda Trevelyan, the well-known and popular Wendy in *Peter Pan*, was married quietly in London on Feb. 15 to Mr. Sydney Blow, the author of a number of successful music hall sketches, and part-author of *Where Children Rule*. Miss Trevelyan, who is thirty-one years of age, made her appearance on Tuesday at the Duke of York's Theatre as Avonia Bunn in *Trelawny of the Wells*. She played Louie Freear's part in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, Moira in *Little Mary*, Tweeney in the revival of *The Admirable Crichton*, and Maggie Wylie in *What Every Woman Knows*.

A familiar figure is missing from the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mr. Fred Bernardo having resigned his position as business-manager to Mr. Lester Collingwood, after an engagement extending over a dozen years. Mr. Bernardo was the original stage-manager of Mr. Collingwood's *When London Sleeps*, and acted in that capacity during the summer tours, returning to Birmingham for the winter seasons, to fulfil the duties of business-manager at the Alexandra Theatre. During 1908-9 he managed Mr. Collingwood's pantomime company at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, the run extending over ten weeks.

At the close of the *Aladdin* pantomime on Saturday, Mr. Bernardo, who is very popular in Birmingham, was the recipient of numerous presents, among them being a gold-mounted snake-skin handle umbrella and gold and ivory tooth-pick from Miss Powell (secretary, Alexandra Theatre) and the front of the house staff, an umbrella from members of the pantomime company, fountain pen from the Sisters Oswald, and a crocodile skin pouch from Mr. Booth.

"Aladdin," the most successful pantomime which has been produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, came to a close on Saturday night, after a record run of fourteen weeks. There was a huge audience, and there were several interesting ceremonies. The event of the evening was the presentation of "The Owl" cake by Mr. Lester Collingwood to Miss Ray Ford, this charming artist having been adjudged by public vote to be the most popular pantomime artist in Birmingham. Miss Ford, accepting the tall four-tiered cake, graciously tendered thanks. The proprietors of "The Owl" also gave a big basket of assorted fruit to Miss Molly Wynne, the runner-up in the competition, and bouquets to Miss Ethel Beech (principal boy) and Miss Wynne (principal girl).

Among the presents made to Mr. Collingwood was a framed series of sketches of the pantomime from Mr. Tom Webster, the *Weekly Mercury* caricaturist. The *Aladdin* company presented a handsome timepiece to Mr. Barnes, the popular *chef d'orchestre*, and a dressing-case to Mr. Harry Cooke, the stage-manager. Short speeches were made, and the audience was singing and cheering alternately, the ladies on the stage throwing button-holes from their bouquets to everyone within reach.

Mr. Arthur E. Holland, who was first engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to play the part of Factor Nielson (created by the late Mr. Austin Melford at Drury-lane) in his Midland company, concluded on Saturday his third tour in the same rôle. After the first tour Mr. Holland was invested with the responsibility of stage-management in addition.

The Liverpool Royal Court Theatre is about to have its accommodation increased by the addition of over a hundred seats. A large part of the block has for years been occupied by a bank, but as the business of that concern has gone elsewhere, Mr. Robert Arthur is about to utilise the space by furnishing new exits, more cloak-room accommodation, new dress circle entrance, more pit and dress circle seats, widening the proscenium opening, &c. There will be eleven exits, and the seating accommodation increased from 1,695 to 1,803. The authorities have passed the plans.

Friends of Miss Elsie Gaunt will regret to learn she passed away quietly on Monday, April 4, at her home in Stockton-on-Tees.

Early on Sunday the Hippodrome, at Ulverston, a large portable wooden, electrically-lighted theatre, together with scenery, properties, wardrobe, and dynamo, was totally demolished by fire. The fire brigade turned out smartly, but so fierce was the conflagration that the structure was early doomed, and they directed their energies to the salvage of the closely adjacent carriage works. The origin of the outbreak is unknown.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farce, *The Night of the Party*, was successfully produced at the Princess Theatre, Melbourne, on Feb. 26, under the joint direction of George Willoughby, Clyde Meynell, and Sir Rupert Clark. Mr. David James was accorded an enthusiastic reception, and as Crosbie, the valet, scored one of the greatest personal triumphs achieved by an English comedian for many years.

Mr. C. H. Workman informs us that the special matinées of *Orpheus* which Miss Marie Brema is giving at the Savoy Theatre will not interfere with the run of the *Two Merry Monarchs*, which is being played nightly, and at the matinée on Saturdays.

Mr. Charles Vane, who is returning to England in June, on the completion of a tour in the Far East, under the management of Mr. Maurice Bandmann, has had the experience of appearing in Shakespeare's plays before an audience entirely composed of the Indian community in their own theatre at Calcutta. The plays produced were *Hamlet* and *The Merchant of Venice*. The first performance was something in the nature of an experiment, and proved so successful that on two subsequent occasions performances were given in the Empire Theatre to record houses. In speaking of the performance of *Hamlet*, Mr. Vane states in an interview on the matter: "It was a most delightful experience. The Star Theatre was filled with the high caste section of the Indian community, who followed the play with rapt attention. It has never been my pleasure to play to an audience so conversant with the text, excepting perhaps the Cheltenham College, when I was associated with Mr. F. R. Benson." Mr. Vane has played Hamlet through all the Far Eastern possessions, and is now contemplating a tour through South America and the West Indies under Mr. Bandmann's management in the late autumn.

Mr. William Mollison produced, for the first time, at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, this week a new one-act piece, by Leon M. Lion, adapted from the story by Tom Gallon, entitled *The Touch of the Child*, a notice of which appears in another column. Mr. Lion, who was a member of Mr. Mollison's company when he had the Lyceum Theatre, and, therefore, knew his great powers, has fitted him with a part that enables him to make something like a sensation. There was a scene of great enthusiasm at the end of the play, and Mr. Mollison had to bow his acknowledgments seven times.

Mr. Mollison has been asked to play this very strong one-act play on the music halls, but at present has no intention of doing so. He plays Pistol with his old friend, Lewis Waller, when *Henry V.* is produced at His Majesty's Theatre during the forthcoming festival. The great success Mr. Mollison made in this part at the Lyceum and Imperial Theatres will be well remembered, the portrayal being so remarkable that a life-size picture of the actor as Pistol, by George Henry, was exhibited at the New Gallery.

An irreparable loss to the musical world has occurred in the death of Edouard Colonne, who passed away in Paris, at the age of seventy-two, on the 28th ult. The revered French conductor was stricken with paralysis in one arm last year, and conducted for the last time at one of the concerts of his 1908 to 1909 season. The disease gained ground, and for many weeks past he had not been able even to attend his concerts.

The deceased musician brought his orchestra to London in the autumn of 1896, and conducted several concerts at the Queen's Hall, returning to England on many subsequent occasions, and in 1908 conducted the Promenade Concerts at the Queen's Hall for a week. His fame is chiefly associated with the concerts at the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris, where many celebrated works were heard for the first time, such as César Franck's "Rédemption" and "Les Béatitudes," Massenet's "Marie Magdeleine," Saint-Saëns' symphonic poems, "Phaéton" and "Danse Macabre," and that master's oratorio, "Le Déluge."

Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, who for some time past have been associated in provincial touring enterprises, have now, by mutual and amicable arrangement, terminated partnership. Mr. Arthur Leigh will continue touring *Lucky Durham*, under his own management, whilst Mr. Armitage will retain *Leah Klaschna*, and his new production, *The Greater Love*.

So great has been the success of *The Shadow of a Crime* that Mr. Robert Hewland anticipates prolonging the tour. The play is this week appearing at the Prince's Theatre, Horwich.

Mr. Norman Wrighton, the Strolling Player in Shakespearean impersonations, has been engaged by the Syndicate Halls to appear at Chelsea Palace on April 25, when he will present many well-known characters from the Bard, as performed by him al-fresco in London.

Mr. Cosmo Hamilton and Mme. Pierre Berton's new play, *Bridge*, founded on Mr. Hamilton's novel "Duke's Son," will be presented in French at the Théâtre Réjane next week, with Mlle. Arlette Dorgère and M. Garry in leading parts. Cheating at cards is one of the motives of what is said to be a very sensational piece.

Mr. Pelissier and the Follies will commence a provincial tour at Birmingham on the 18th inst., ending it at Manchester on June 6. The travesties of *The King of Cadonia*, *Fires of Fate*, and *Henry of Navarre*, and the burlesque upon a music-hall entertainment will be the attractions. On Monday, Aug. 29, they will reappear at the Apollo.

Mr. A. F. Henderson will produce the new musical play *The Islander*, by Frank Marshall and Michael Faraday, at the Apollo on the 23rd inst., with Miss Elsie Spain as the heroine and Mr. Neil Kenyon in the leading male part. Miss Elaine Inescourt, Miss Mabel Burnage, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. Lawrence Legge, Mr. F. Allandale, Mr. Reginald Lawrence, Mr. Sam Walsh, and Master Bobbie Andrews will also be in the cast.

Messrs. Laurence Housman and Granville Barker's pretty piece *Prunella* will be produced at the Repertory Theatre on Wednesday, with Mr. Charles Maude as Pierrot and Miss Dorothy Minto as the heroine.

Mr. John Daniel Hamlyn, the well-known naturalist, was elected a Guardian of the parish of Wapping on Monday, the result of the voting being: Alderman Barker (late Mayor of Stepney), 78; Mr. J. D. Hamlyn, 78; Mr. Grundy, 32.

"Where is William?" the latest farcical comedy which has been so successfully touring the provinces for the past six months, will make its first London appearance at the Fulham Theatre next week. Mr. Charles Windermere, the author, has engaged a strong cast, which includes Mr. Windermere himself, Mr. Edmund Hollick, Mr. Leslie Norman, Mr. Rule Pyott, Mr. Fred Lake (who will also stage-manage), Mr. T. Mackenzie, Miss Belle Donaldson, Miss Clare Manifield, Miss May Rosine, and Miss Zoe Davis.

Mr. Percy Marshall has been engaged by Mr. Gaston Mayer to play the Professor on a suburban tour of *The Brass Bottle*.

Mr. J. Henry Twyford, who has lately been playing Neil Partington, in *The Little Damozel*, now also undertakes the declamatory part of an idol which comes to life in a clever one-act piece by Mr. Guy Newall.

Mr. Horace Lingard and Mr. Arthur Shelton's company, in *Fanny and the Servant Problem* and *Divorçons*, are having a most successful tour, playing to big business during their ten weeks at the West Pier, Brighton, and drawing large audiences at the Royal, Bath, this week. They are to be congratulated on having an exceptionally strong company, with Miss Beatrice Moreau in the leading parts. The pieces are beautifully mounted, the entire production being travelled.

Mrs. Mark Kinghorne and her company open their tour with Mr. George R. Sims' celebrated farcical comedy *Mother-in-Law* at the Royal Palace Theatre, Ramsgate, next week. The company is a powerful one, and includes Miss Nellie Christie, Miss Violet Lewis, Mr. Fred Kaye, Mr. Edward Jephson, and Mr. Alfred Hemming, who is also responsible for the production. Mr. H. Chiswell Billing is the manager.

"The Dollar Princess" company met the Oldham Nomads at football on the ground of the local athletic A.F.C., kindly lent by the directors. A good game was witnessed by a fair number of spectators, although the bad weather spoiled the "gate." In the first half the artists did not play together very well, and at the interval they were in arrears to the extent of four goals. In the second half they improved very considerably and scored five times—Miller two, Henson one, and Ross one, their opponents putting the ball through their own goal. Eventually the theatricals were defeated by seven goals to five. Mr. Leslie Holland captained the Princess team, playing a nice game, as also did H. Henson at centre-forward. The proceeds were given to the Poor Children's Free Breakfast Mission.

Miss Florence Smithson, who has been out of the cast of *The Arcadians* at the Shaftesbury for more than a month, is now well enough to resume her part. She has returned greatly invigorated by her rest in Cannes, and equally as strong in voice. Miss Smithson's vocal accomplishments have gained the applause of no less celebrated artists than Caruso and Tetrazzini, and it is recorded that when Baroness Cederstrom (Mme. Adelina Patti) heard it from a private box some weeks ago, she wrote this message to Miss Smithson on her programme: "You sing beautifully, my dear.—Adelina Cederstrom."

To take part in nine different Shakespearean plays in a single week is a feat that can rarely have been accomplished, but Mr. J. H. Irvine, a member of Miss Glossop-Harris's company, is about to attempt it. He will appear in each of the eight plays performed by the company during the Festival week at the County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, and will also play his old parts in the special matinée of *Henry V.*, given by Mr. Lewis Waller at His Majesty's Theatre on the Thursday afternoon. Thus Mr. Irvine will play eleven parts during the week:—Othello, Ford, Bassanio, Mercutio, Orsino, the Pedant, the Ghost and First Gravedigger, Bishop of Ely and Captain Jamy, and Leonato.

Miss Glossop-Harris has secured a lease of the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, which she intends to use as a headquarters for her future tours. The theatre will also be opened three nights weekly for touring companies from August Bank Holiday. Several first-class bookings have already been obtained.

Owing to the unavoidable postponement from April 16 to April 30 and May 7 of *The Pageant of Empire*, which is being organised for production at the Shaftesbury Theatre, Mr. George Unwin, who was engaged by Lady Hyde to produce, has been reluctantly compelled by previous arrangements to relinquish the appointment. Mr. Charles Cruikshanks will now be the producer of the pageant.

Mr. Oswald Chay commenced his tour of *When It Was Dark* at the Star Theatre, Swansea, on Monday, and although on its third visit to the town the piece created a great sensation. Mr. Coutts was so pleased with the production that he wrote a very nice letter of congratulation, for a copy of which our readers are referred to the "Theatres Wanted" column of this paper.

Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' tour with *Her Marriage Vow* is fully booked. In the summer he fulfils his second stock season at Mr. Robert Arthur's beautiful new theatre at Aberdeen, and on August Bank Holiday he produces *Nick Carter, Detective*, by Shirley and Landeck, which is already booked at most of the principal dramatic houses.

A children's strike was successfully carried out at a theatre in Zittau, Saxony, where a popular operetta has been running in which fifteen youngsters execute dances. These young artists are paid starvation wages, and they decided to strike, demanding four marks each nightly. As the curtain had gone up and the juvenile dance was due, the strikers stood firm, and the manager was forced to yield.

It was a good idea of Mr. J. Bannister Howard to produce *The Belle of New York* in Easter week at the Crystal Palace Theatre, with a cast largely consisting of the artists who had made themselves so popular in his Christmas pantomime. Miss Dorothea Clarke was the Belle, Mr. Paddy Dupres Ichabod Bronson, and Miss Nixon was Fifi Fricot, to mention a few of them, and all went merrily enough.

The Hutchison management, having already secured the entire provincial rights of *Don, Smith*, and *Arsène Lupin*, are now negotiating for two other recent London successes, which, if secured, will make eight companies on tour in the coming autumn, all under the personal supervision of Mr. Percy Hutchison. That accomplished actor will succeed Mr. Gerald Du Maurier as Arsène Lupin at Christmas, opening with this enormous attraction and the entire London production at the Opera House, Blackpool.

Mr. Arthur Phillips and his company open a short tour on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, in the revival of *The Merchant of Venice* from the Court Theatre. Mr. Phillips is touring the entire London company, including new scenery and costumes, a glee party, and a ballet—nearly seventy artists in all.

Mr. H. F. Maltby will restart his tour in July, when his répertoire will number five plays. A feature of the tour will be the production of a play in four acts, entitled *Profit—and the Loss*.

After a record tour in the Midlands, Mr. Allan Wilkie returns on Monday to the County Palatine, where he will appear during the next six weeks. After his Lancashire engagements are concluded, Mr. Wilkie commences a three weeks' Shakespearian and Old English comedy festival at the Theatre Royal, York.

Mr. James W. Pigott has accepted a commission from Mr. Arthur Phillips to write a play for him, the synopsis of which has already been submitted and approved. Mr. Pigott's first effort was *The Bookmaker*, an amusing and highly-successful comedy. Since then he has written several plays. He also adapted *Kitty Grey* from the French.

The annual report of the British and Foreign Musicians' Society, recently presented at its eighty-eighth annual meeting, stated that the Society has had a heavy expenditure on account of sickness, deaths, and old age, thirty-five members having during the year received £229, thirteen old-age pensioners receiving £274, and £100 being spent in death payments, while six widows and two orphans are in receipt of annual incomes from the Special Fund. The Society was founded in 1822, and its membership consists entirely of orchestral players. It was resolved that the title should in future be changed to that of "The Professional Musicians' Sick and Pension Society."

Shanghai boasts a municipally supported orchestra capable of producing modern works and an audience capable of appreciating them. The programme of a recent concert consisted of Glück's "Iphigenia in Aulis," Beethoven's No. 2 Symphony in D major (three movements), Humperdinck's overture to "Hänsel and Gretel," Elgar's Variations on an Original Theme, and a march from Berlioz's "Le Damnation de Faust." The attendance at the concert exceeded a thousand.

The Lincoln Triennial Musical Festival is fixed for June 8 and 9. Proceedings will be opened with an orchestral concert in the Corn Exchange, the programme of which will include Schumann's "Genoveva" overture and the "Dance of Sylphs" and the Hungarian march from Berlioz's "Faust," two Preludes from Sir Alexander Mackenzie's *Manfred* music, Sir Edward Elgar's "Wand of Youth" Suite, No. 2, Granville Bantock's "The Pierrot of the Minute," and a Festival overture by Walford Davies, composed for the occasion. On the following day the oratorio services in the cathedral will include the "Dream of Gerontius," Brahms's Symphony in D minor, and Stanford's "Stabat Mater," G. J. Bennett's "Easter Hymn," and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise." The choir and orchestra will number 500 performers

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Damns Still Useful.

Mr. Lewis Waller's revival of *The Rivals*, says the *Liverpool Daily Courier*, was anticipated as long ago as November last, when it was produced by the Liverpool University Dramatic Society. On this occasion, however, the gentleman who played the rôle of Sir Anthony Absolute was ignorant of a considerable portion of his part. He was struck with the brilliant idea of overcoming his shortcomings of memory by a liberal out-Sheridaning of Sheridan in the matter of curses. The undergraduate audience was delighted at his success, but not so the stage manager, who buttonholed Sir Anthony between the scenes and angrily demanded, "Where, by all that's holy, are you getting all the 'damns' from? I don't believe Sheridan ever wrote so many in his life." "As to that," replied the innocent Sir Anthony, "whenever I forget my part I just say 'damn' until I come to a part that I remember."

The Inception of "Mid-Channel."

Mr. Charles Frohman has an ingenious theory of how *Mid-Channel* came to be written. "Sir Arthur Pinero," says Mr. Frohman in the *Express*, "was walking down a fine street, and saw a big balcony high up on a house. 'If some one jumped from that?' he thought. 'Why should somebody jump from a balcony? It would have to be a tragic and dramatic reason. It would be stronger and stranger if it were a woman. Why? Because everything has left her. Why has everything left her?' Then Sir Arthur found the cause—husband, lover, good name, happiness—all were gone."

A Narrow Escape.

Mme. Réjane, according to *M.A.P.*, only narrowly escaped being a school teacher. As a girl she was a student at a small boarding-school, and one day, on returning home, she found her mother overjoyed; the principal of a local school had come to offer her a position as teacher, with a salary of £2 a month and board. Mme Réjane, however, had other aspirations; but when she breathed her desire to go on the stage she was immediately sent to her room in disgrace. Thus she submitted, and accepted the post as assistant-teacher.

At this juncture a wealthy uncle, from whom the family had expectations, died, leaving them nothing. They were reduced almost to poverty. Then the future actress took her courage in both hands and begged to be allowed to study at the Conservatoire. "For," said she, "I may make your fortunes. And if I do not succeed, nothing will be lost." The next year she took a prize at the Conservatoire, and her career began.

Getting the Expression.

Mme. Réjane has her own way of conducting rehearsals. On one occasion she was endeavouring to impress upon a young actor the necessity of a tragic expression.

"Put yourself in his place," she said.

"But I have never been through such an experience," the other pleaded.

"Well, then," retorted the actress; "imagine you have lost three or four hundred louis at baccarat, and that you have been dismissed from the company.

His face fell.

"There you have it," said she. "Keep that expression and you will win."

For a young woman who could not weep to order she tried a heroic cure.

"Very well. I will take the part away from you. You are not pretty enough."

This had the desired effect, and the floodgates opened.

"Weep like that and you will be the hit of the piece," exclaimed Réjane triumphantly.

Miss Lena Ashwell as a Student.

"When my daughter was a student at the Royal Academy of Music," says Ellen Terry in her "Reminiscences," "Dr. (now Sir Alexander) Mackenzie asked me to distribute the medals to the Elocution Class at the end of the term. I was quite 'new to the job,' and didn't understand the procedure. No girl, I have learned since, can be given the gold medal until she has won both the bronze and the silver medals—that is, until she has been at the Academy three years. I was for giving the gold medallists, who only wanted certificates, bronze medals, and of one young girl who was in her first year, and only entitled to a bronze medal, I said: 'Oh, she must have the gold medal, of course!' She was a queer-looking child—handsome, with a face suggesting all manner of possibilities."

Pauline Chase's Début.

"I was only fourteen years of age when I made my stage *début*," says Miss Pauline Chase, as interviewed by the *Glasgow Evening Citizen*. "I was always passionately fond of acting. Seeing that the law in New York—I am an American, of ccurse—forbade anyone under sixteen from being engaged on the stage, I determined to make myself older. So I put on a long skirt and tried to look like a grown-up young lady. I nearly tripped over my skirt when I went to apply to a manager. He laughed, but he engaged me to play the part of 'Buttons.' That was all I wanted. The piece was called *Rounders*, and was seen in London later as *Kitty Grey*."

Ingersoll's Pronunciation.

Mr. George Grossmith, in his little book, "Piano and I," relates that when in America he met Ingersoll, who stayed at the same hotel. The famous atheist lecturer began "chaffing" Henry Irving, who was also at the same hostelry, about his pronunciation, when Mr. Grossmith said to Mr. Ingersoll:—"You may be right—but you are not infallible. You said just now it's twelve o'clark (with the 'r' left out). You also said that you had received a shark (with the long 'a'). I suppose you mean 'clock' and 'shock.' Now, will you allow me to say, Mr. Ingersoll, that I don't look upon Americans as fools? The result is that Irving's theatre was crammed to suffocation, my little hall was crowded, and I hear that you have played to a nearly empty house."

No Caps.

The wearing of a skull cap in a New York theatre recently caused a fight between the wearer and the attendant who ordered him to remove it. The fight caused a panic and almost emptied the theatre.

Toilette Secrets.

"And now to tell you all the intimate little details of my own toilet," writes Miss Millie Legarde in *M.A.P.* "We will start with the complexion. I always wash my face with hot water and then dash cold over it. Once a day I use soap, as I do not think one can possibly keep one's face clean in London without. During the day, if I think my face feels rather grubby, I rub it over with a little cream, wipe it thoroughly off, and then use a slight dusting of powder The cream I use is quite a simple, homely one, which I manufacture for myself.

"For exercise I walk as much as I can, and play tennis whenever weather and opportunity permit, also I have recently taken up fishing most enthusiastically, but that cannot exactly be classed as an exercise—unless one calls it an exercise of patience Every morning I skip one hundred times, so that all my muscles may get a reasonable amount of exercise. Skipping is the best exercise I know of, for it brings into play at one and the same time more muscles than anything else."

"THE RIVALS" AT THE LYRIC.

On Monday, April 4, Revival of Sheridan's Comedy.

Captain Absolute ..... Mr. Lewis Waller
Sir Anthony Absolute ..... Mr. C. W. Somerset
Faulkland ..... Mr. Cronin Wilson
Acres ..... Mr. Robert Loraine
Sir Lucius O'Trigger .... Mr. Leonard Boyne
Fag ..... Mr. Herbert Jarman
David ..... Mr. Alec F. Thompson
Thomas ..... Mr. Robert Bolder
Mrs. Malaprop ..... Miss Lottie Venne
Lydia Languish ..... Miss Kate Cutler
Julia ..... Miss Dorothy Dix
Lucy ..... Miss Beatrice Ferrar

The Rivals has so rarely been seen by the present generation that, to all intents and purposes, it is new to many playgoers. It was produced at Covent Garden Theatre on Jan. 17, 1775, withdrawn for alterations after two performances, put on again in ten days after revision, and acted with pronounced and prolonged success. Sheridan's play was a protest against the sentimental comedy which at that time was fashionable. In the prologue which he substituted for the original one on the tenth night of *The Rivals*, Sheridan, referring to the mask of Thalia in the proscenium of the theatre, said:—

"Look on her well—does she seem formed to teach?
Should you expect to hear this lady preach?
Is grey experience suited to her youth?
Do solemn sentiments become that mouth?
* * * * * * *
Must we displace her? and instead advance
The goddess of the woeful countenance—
The sentimental muse! Her emblems view,
The 'Pilgrim's Progress' and a sprig of rue!
View her—too chaste to look like flesh and blood—
Primely pourtrayed on emblematic wood!
There, fixed in usurpation should she stand,
She'll snatch the dagger from her sister's hand."

The racy animation of *The Rivals*, its high spirits, and its unflagging vivacity, appeal to audiences of all periods and all classes. The characters are alive, animated, and amusing. Sheridan was accused of many plagiarisms in connection with this work, but most of his borrowings are trivial, the conveyance of Mrs. Malaprop from his mother's unpublished "Journey to Bath" being excusable as keeping the "notion," at any rate, in the family.

"*The Rivals*," writes Mr. Walter Sichel, in his admirable life of the author, "is the sole play by Sheridan where the humour exceeds the wit, and on that account it is the more lovable. We laugh with his characters more than we smile at their sayings. The wit lacks the steely-brightness of *The School for Scandal*, and the humour has a modern turn. When Mrs. Malaprop illustrates her maxim that in matrimony "'tis safest to begin with a little aversion,' by 'I am sure I hated your poor dear uncle before marriage as if he had been a blackamoor,' we seem to catch the voice of Dickens. The short interlude where Fag mimics the spleen of his master and vents it on the footboy is humour Thackerayan. And when the uncle rages at his cool nephew with 'None of your passion, sir, none of your violence, if you please,' and tells him to 'get an atmosphere and a sun of his own,' we realise our distance from the Georgian drama."

The comedy was twice revived in the early nineties, was acted in 1797, and was included in the Drury Lane performances of September, 1816. A memorable revival of the piece was that given by the Bancrofts at the Haymarket on May 3, 1884, with Sir—then Mr.—A. W. Pinero as Sir Anthony Absolute, Mr. Alfred Bishop as Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Mr. Forbes-Robertson as Captain Absolute, Mr. Bancroft as Faulkland, Mr. Lionel Brough as Bob Acres, Mr. Charles Brookfield as David, Mrs. Stirling as Mrs. Malaprop, Mrs. Bernard Beere as Julia, Miss Calhoun as Lydia Languish, and Miss Julia Gwynne as Lucy. Strange to say, in spite of this superb cast, the play only ran for a few weeks.

The present revival at the Lyric, with the five acts of the play skilfully reduced to three, is extremely interesting. Mr. Lewis Waller, who touches nothing that he does not adorn, plays Captain Absolute—a personage with a good deal of Macready's "d——d walking gentleman" about him—with complete self-command and all the necessary demure pleasantry and well-bred ease and elegance. Mr. C. W. Somerset shows a slight tendency to gloom as Sir Anthony Absolute, but rises above it when Sir Anthony's wrath has to be depicted, and gives a very firm, strong, and satisfactory embodiment, marked with all the mellowness of old comedy. Mr. Cronin Wilson plays Faulkland with a lightness of touch and an agreeable variety which is highly commendable, and prevents the character from becoming monotonous; and Mr. Robert Loraine gives an excellent exposition of the youthfulness, the exuberant bucolicism, the raw inexperience, and the impulsive vacillations of Bob Acres. Mr. Leonard Boyne has the advantage of being proficient in the "brogue," and flavours his speech with it just sufficiently, and his Sir Lucuis O'Trigger is the most chivalrous and aristocratic of fire-eating Irishmen. Mr. Herbert Jarman hits off cleverly the conceited impudence of Fag; Mr. Alec F. Thompson is quaintly amusing as David; and Mr. Robert Bolder is excellent as Thomas. An irresistibly amusing reading of the rôle of Mrs. Malaprop is given by Miss Lottie Venne, who makes the "she-dragon" much younger and prettier than usual, but is full of exhilarating fun and frolic, and delivers the famous blunders as they should always be spoken—with absolute unconsciousness. Miss Kate Cutler is a charmingly wilful and vivacious Lydia Languish, and the part suits her exactly; Miss Dorothy Dix is an agreeable Julia; and Miss Beatrice Farrar plays Lucy with diverting animation, piquancy, and vivacity. The costumes, designed by Mr. T. Heslewood, are tastefully effective; Mr. R. C. McCleery's scenery, founded probably on old engravings, and realising Old Bath quite artistically, is of the best class; and Mr. B. Camplin Smith's attentive stage-management greatly assists the smoothness of the production. *The Rivals* had an enthusiastic reception, and such a capital performance of the fine old comedy is certainly well worth seeing.

Maeterlinck's fascinating fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, is now reaching its 200th performance, and shows no sign of diminishing popularity. The long queue waiting outside the Haymarket is still one of the sights of London. The fact that the performances now begin at 8.30 in the evening and 2.30 at the matinées will, no doubt, be much appreciated by many playgoers.

Waddington and Sons was registered as a company on March 26, with a capital of £60,000, in £1 shares, to take over the business of piano and musical instrument manufacturers and dealers, carried on at York and elsewhere, as "Waddington and Sons," and the business of theatre proprietors carried on at York and Scarborough as the Theatre Royal, York, and the Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. The first directors are W. H. Waddington, W. Waddington, and C. Waddington (all permanent).

The Ben Greet Players appeared in *Julius Cæsar* last week at the Garden Theatre, New York. Mr. Alexander Calvert, recently of the New Theatre company, was the Brutus, Mr. Robert Whitworth enacted the title-rôle, and Mr. Douglas J. Wood played Mark Antony. The stage was set in the Elizabethan manner, and the performance proved decidedly interesting, the various characters being ably interpreted.

SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ART.

A special performance was given on Tuesday afternoon at the St. James's Theatre by the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art, on the Council of which are Sir Squire Bancroft (president), Sir John Hare, Sir William S. Gilbert, Sir Arthur Pinero, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. E. S. Willard. Much valuable assistance was given to the Academy for this performance, Mr. George Alexander lending his theatre, scenery, costumes, and other accessories; Mr. Arthur Bourchier lending the Tableau Scene and that used in *The Trap*; Mr. Charles Frohman lending the scene and properties used in *The Admirable Crichton*; Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. Percy D. Owen, Mr. E. Arnald, Mrs. Evans, and other members of the staff in the St. James's Theatre giving sympathetic co-operation; and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hervey D'Egville, Colonel R. Toogood, Mr. Rochford, Miss Elaine Dickens, and Miss Izard playing in the orchestra. The following ladies and gentlemen have given their services during the past year in rehearsing the students of the Academy:—Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. William Archer, Miss Lena Ashwell, Lady Bancroft, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Hubert H. Davies, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Norman Forbes, Sir W. S. Gilbert, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Fredk. Kerr, Sir A. W. Pinero, Mr. Edward Terry, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh. Dr. Aikin, Mr. J. T. Grein, Mlle Jean Laurent, and Mr. J. Fisher White have delivered lectures.

The programme on Tuesday afternoon was a long and varied one. It commenced with the third act of *The Admirable Crichton*. In this act of Mr Barrie's play the really important parts are those of Mr. Crichton and Lady Mary Lazenby. These were sustained with great credit by Mr. Rupert Lumley, the gold medallist of the Academy for last year, and Miss Phylis Thatcher. Possibly the fact of studying the act without reference to the play as a whole had something to do with certain defects in the performances of these young people. For instance, Mr. Lumley was inclined at times to take too oratorical and melodramatic a tone in the delivery of Crichton's tirades, and Miss Phyllis Thatcher failed somewhat to suggest the habitual culture and society tone which were survivals in Lady Mary from her previous way of life. These imperfections apart, Mr. Lumley and Miss Thatcher acted with a vigorous energy and earnestness that deserved very warm praise. The passion and suffering of the pair in the crucial scene after the ship's gun had been heard were strongly shown both by Mr. Lumley and Miss Thatcher, who gave very powerful impersonations. Mr. Richard Carfax was effective as the Earl of Loam, Mr. L. G. Fletcher acted the Hon. Ernest Woolley well, the Rev. John Treherne had a careful and intelligent exponent in Mr. Valentine Penna, and the other Lady Lazenbys were piquantly played by Miss Margaret Bruhling and Miss Dora Jesslyn. Miss Dorothy Jay was a characteristic Tweeney; and Mr. O. G. Johnston made a smart naval officer.

Next followed selections from *Love's Labour's Lost*. It is a most uninteresting play, and the scenes from it were probably selected in order that the abilities of the youthful aspirants might not be too severely taxed. The cast was entirely composed of ladies. With regard to the immaturity of the performers, their work must not be too harshly criticised. The varying and vivid, though rather too restless, facial expression of Miss Aithna Gover as the Princess of France was, on the whole, agreeable. Miss Gwenta Lockhart's expressiveness and amiability as Rosaline, Miss Dorothy Bowden's efficiency as Maria, and Miss Ruby Browne's agreeable ease as Katharine, were praiseworthy. Miss Jane Wells as Biron and Miss Shirley King as Boyet were bright and alert, and Miss Marion Lockey and Miss Thora Dalemond did reasonably well as Longaville and Dumain, Miss Florence Foote being satisfactory as Mercade and Miss Alma Piercy efficient as Moth. Mr. Ben Webster's care in rehearsing the performance was evident; and Mr. Louis H. d'Egville had kindly arranged the dance and composed the music for a pretty sarabande which was introduced.

The next item was a demonstration of the Delsarte System of Gesture, kindly arranged and rehearsed by Miss Elizabeth Earle. The Delsarte system of physical training aims at the development of responsive muscle and nerve by means of exercise designed to remove muscular tension. A tragic theme had been arranged with the view of illustrating the result of the training. It was called *In the Moonlight*, and was illustrated by Miss Erna von Appen, Mr. Valentine Penna, Miss Enid Rose, and Mr. Harold Holland.

The tragedy is enacted in a few minutes. Two men are in love with one woman, and a second woman is jealous of one of the men. One of the latter stabs his rival, his inamorata stabs herself, and then the lover strangles the jealous woman. The excellences of the Delsarte system of gesture were well displayed in this strenuous sketch. Then came the third act of *The Gay Lord Quex*.

There was nothing amateurish about the performance of this, which required neither tolerance nor indulgence, but was a really fine rendering. Mr. Frederick Culley played the Marquis of Quex with admirable ease and aplomb; and as Sophie Fulgarney Miss Grace Croft gave a really clever reading, which, though, of course, on lines laid down by the author, had, nevertheless, many original and personal details. Miss Madge Snell's Duchess of Strood struck exactly the right note, and Miss Marjorie Waterlow was good as Mrs. Jack Eden. The applause which followed the descent of the curtain showed how much the excerpt from Sir A. W. Pinero's play had been enjoyed. The scene from *L'Ecole des Femmes*, in which Arnolphe cross-examines Agnes, was pleasantly rendered by Mr. Valentine Penna and Miss Grace Elbert, having been rehearsed by Mlle. Jeanne Laurent; a fencing display, arranged and rehearsed by M. Felix Bertrand, was a graceful and picturesque interlude; and the matinée ended with the one-act piece by Arthur Eckersley and Arthur Curtis entitled *The Trap*, which was produced at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, last July. This piece, as our readers will remember, shows the terror of a burglar, who thinks he has committed a murder and has a detective on his track. His concubine, Nell, goes out with the intention of beguiling the detective, and bringing him to the burglar's room, where he is to be stunned; but she is run over by a motor, and the "'tec" enters, handcuffs the burglar, and takes him away. Mr. Harold Holland, who played Bill Parsons, did some strong and earnest acting; Mr. C. Trevor Roper was firm and cool as "Needle" Barnes; Miss Dorothy Bowden contributed a really clever sketch of sordid poverty; and Miss Enid Rose acted with real emotional expression as Nell. *The Trap* had been carefully rehearsed by Mr. J. Fisher White. Also included in the bill was a pretty "Dance Joyeuse," pleasantly done by Miss Margaret Bruhling, Miss Dorothy Day, Miss Nancy Denvers, and Miss Nora Thorpe.

Sir William Gilbert, Mr. George Alexander, and Miss Ethel Irving, the judges, have awarded the Bancroft gold medal to Miss Grace Croft, who has studied at the Academy for over four years, for her fine impersonation of Sophy Fulgarny in *The Gay Lord Quex*. Miss Enid Rose, Miss Phyllis Thatcher, Miss Dorothy Day, Miss Shirley King, Mr. Frederick Culley, and Mr. Valentine Penna received certificates of merit.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

On Thursday, April 7, at the Duke of York's Theatre, Revival of the Comedietta, in Four Acts, by Arthur Pinero, entitled

"TRELAWNY OF THE 'WELLS.'"

James Telfer ..... Mr. Sydney Valentine
Mrs. Telfer ..... Miss Marie Saker
Augustus Colpoys ..... Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Ferdinand Gadd ..... Mr. Gerald Lawrence
Tom Wrench ..... Mr. Dennis Eadie
Avonia Bunn ..... Miss Hilda Trevelyan
Rose Trelawny ..... Miss Irene Vanbrugh
Imogen Parrott ..... Miss Fay Davis
O'Dwyer ..... Mr. Whitford Kane
Members of the company of the Pantheon Theatre ..... Mr. C. C. Vernon, Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss Eva Killick, Miss Mair Vaughan
Hall-Keeper at the Pantheon .. Mr. R. O. Riche
Vice-Chancellor Sir William Gower, Kt. Mr. Dion Boucicault
Miss Trafalgar Gower ..... Miss May Whitty
Arthur Gower ..... Mr. Charles Maude
Clara de Fœnix ..... Miss Nell Carter
Captain de Fœnix ..... Mr. O. P. Heggie
Mrs. Mossop ..... Miss Florence Haydon
Mr. Ablett ..... Mr. E. W. Garden
Charles ..... Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald
Sarah ..... Miss Mary Jerrold

Trelawny of the 'Wells' was first performed at the Court Theatre on Jan. 20, 1898, with Mr. Gerald Du Maurier as Ferdinand Gadd, Mr. Paul Arthur as Tom Wrench, Miss Pattie Browne as Avonia Bunn, Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Rose Trelawny, Mr. Richard Purdon as O'Dwyer, Mr. Dion Boucicault as Sir William Gower, Miss Isabel Bateman as Miss Trafalgar Gower, Mr. Sam Sothern as Captain de Fœnix, Miss Le Thiere as Miss Mossop, Mr. Fred Thorne as Mr. Ablett, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald as Charles, and Miss Polly Emery as Sarah. The plot is simple. A young actress, Rose Trelawny, is engaged to be married to a timid young man named Arthur Gower, grandson of Vice-Chancellor Sir William Gower, an elderly bully and domestic tyrant. She is asked to stay at the latter's house in Cavendish-square, where Arthur, who is Sir William's grandchild, Clara de Fœnix, and her husband, Captain de Fœnix, are sorely oppressed by Sir William's domination. Some of Rose's theatrical friends arrive, and she lets them into the house after the other inmates have retired. The noise which they make arouses Sir William, who appears in high dudgeon. Rose returns to her former surroundings, but she has tasted the sweets of respectability, she is in love, and her acting falls off. Sir William, who has, in his time, been a great admirer of Edmund Kean, visits Rose, and she shows him some relics of the great actor. He indulges in excited reminiscences; and finally agrees to finance the production of a play by an unsuccessful actor named Tom Wrench—an admitted sketch of the late Tom Robertson—and becomes reconciled to the idea of Rose marrying his grandson.

Mr. Pinero's pleasant fantasy is in its right place in the programme at the Duke of York's Theatre. Compared with Mr. Pinero's other works, *Trelawny of the 'Wells'* is a "curio," and a very charming one. Miss Irene Vanbrugh is fortunately again available for the part of Rose Trelawny, which she played with so much fascination, vivacity, and pathos in 1898. The part of the heavy tragedian Telfer has a very appropriate interpreter in Mr. Sydney Valentine, whose deep voice and power of expressing solid self-conceit and ponderous dignity make his performance a very effective one. Miss Marie Saker depicts the pompous oddity of Mrs. Telfer quite cleverly; and Mr. Gerald Lawrence's Gadd is the essence of bitter self-concentration and scornful egotism. Mr. Lawrence makes a valuable impression by a really well-considered and effective embodiment, and takes an upward step in his profession. Mr. Dennis Eadie depicts Tom Wrench with care and judgment, and with a vast amount of skill and finish; and Miss Fay Davis is deliciously affected and sentimental as Imogen Parrott. As Avonia Bunn, Miss Hilda Trevelyan acts with a bright humour and spontaneous vivacity which greatly delight the audience; and Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald repeats his original performance as Charles with no diminution of its stolid comicality. Miss Mary Jerrold's Sarah is a quaint bit of low life, Miss Florence Haydon is amusing as Mrs. Mossop, and Mr. E. W. Garden plays the part of the butler Ablett with his usual rich and ripe humour. In the character of Arthur Gower, Mr. Charles Maude shows considerable cleverness and a steady advance in technique; and Miss May Whitty is delightfully dignified and absurd as Miss Trafalgar Gower. Mr. Dion Boucicault seems to revel in the eccentricities of his original part of Sir William Gower, and he acts in a spirit of emphatic comedy which is entirely appropriate. Mr. Edmund Gwenn gives one of his strongly individual and trenchantly artistic impersonations as Augustus Colpoys; Mr. Whitford Kane is capital as the O'Dwyer; and Miss Nell Carter and Mr. O. P. Heggie contribute clever readings of Clara and Captain de Fœnix respectively. *Trelawny of the 'Wells,'* which was, perhaps, felt to be a pleasant relief from the sterner joys of *Justice*, has had an enthusiastically favourable reception at the Duke of York's.

THE MATINEE HAT QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I shall be glad if you will kindly allow me through your columns to explain my action in refusing to allow two ladies to resume their seats in the stalls at the matinée performance of *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales Theatre on Wednesday, in consequence of their refusal to remove the large picture hats they were wearing.

I am naturally anxious that my lady patrons should not think I behaved in an arbitrary manner. It has always been my policy to do everything possible for the comfort and convenience of my visitors, and it was entirely in the interests of the audience that I insisted on the ladies either removing their hats or leaving the theatre.

With regard to the incident, I fully realised the ladies were acting on principle, considering themselves to be insulted by being asked before they were practically seated to remove those ridiculous hats. Both ladies have my sympathy to a certain extent, but I could not allow them to vindicate the "Rights of Women" at the expense of the peace and comfort of my audience.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK CURZON.

Prince of Wales's Theatre, W.
April 7, 1910.

"The Vacuum," a play in one act, by Preston Gibson, now precedes *The Turning Point*, by the same author, at the Hackett Theatre, New York. It was evidently suggested by Balzac's "La Grande Bretêche," in which a jealous Spaniard kills his wife's lover by suffocation. John Resen, a scientist, constructs an airtight chamber in which a vacuum can be created at will by means of suction. His wife loves another, and one night when she thinks the coast is clear she telephones her lover to come to her. The husband overhears the conversation, however, and returns home unexpectedly. As he enters the house the lover slips into the airtight cabinet, and closes the door. The husband hears a noise and asks his wife to open the door. She swears there is nobody there, but he turns on the suction motor and looks at his watch. In four minutes his victim dies, while his wife beats on the door of the cabinet and then swoons. The situation is thrilling.

THE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

On Saturday afternoon, April 2, Revival of "JULIUS CÆSAR."

Julius Cæsar ..... Mr William Haviland
Marcus Antonius .. Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
Octavius Cæsar ..... Mr. Harry C. Hewitt
Marcus Brutus ..... Mr. Lyn Harding
Cassius ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
Casca ..... Mr. Edward Sass
Decius Brutus ..... Mr. C. H. Croker-King
Publius ..... Mr. Stuart Graham
Popilius Lena ..... Mr. Eric Ward
Trebonius ..... Mr. Frederick James
Ligarius ..... Mr. Jules Shaw
Metellus Cimber ..... Mr. Hubert Carter
Cinna ..... Mr. Frank Esmond
A Soothsayer ..... Mr. Shiel Barry
Pindarus ..... Mr. Henry Morell
Cæsar's Servant ..... Mr. Clifford Heatherley
Octavius's Servant ..... Mr. H. Smithson
Varro ..... Mr. Tom Boag
Claudius ..... Mr. John Robertson
First Citizen ..... Mr. Carlton Rex
Second Citizen ..... Mr. J. W. Braithwaite
Third Citizen ..... Mr. Arthur Cleeve
Fourth Citizen ..... Mr. W. B. Asingdon
Fifth Citizen ..... Mr. Alfred Bellew
Lucius ..... Miss Iris Hoey
Calpurnia ..... Miss Elinor Foster
Portia ..... Miss Evelyn Millard

There were several very interesting features in the performance of *Julius Cæsar* at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday afternoon last. Sir Herbert's Mark Antony is one of the finest parts in his repertory, and it has lost none of its merits. It is still the same noble yet human impersonation, grand in elocution, clear and distinct in characterisation, and stately and gracious in bearing. Mr. Lyn Harding's characteristics came out strongly in his acting as Brutus. He depicted the philosophic serenity of Brutus with admirable effect, and his reading wanted nothing on the side of calm solidity and strength. Mr. Henry Ainley made a strong impression by his very fine performance as Cassius, and impressed even his warmest admirers by the force and passion of his acting. He threw himself heart and soul into the character, and from first to last he sustained it with astonishing passion, earnestness, and intensity. Mr. Ainley's impersonation was a revelation of striking power. Mr. William Haviland's Cæsar had just the needed suggestion of rightful supremacy and royal sententiousness; and Miss Evelyn Millard was, of course, irreproachable in the short space of time in which she was visible as Portia. Mr. Sass made a piquant Casca, and Miss Iris Hoey was winning and simple as Lucius. All Shakespeare lovers owe a debt of gratitude to Sir Herbert Tree for giving them an opportunity of again seeing this superb but rarely-performed play.

On Thursday Afternoon, April 7, Revival of "TWELFTH NIGHT."

Orsino ..... Mr. Gerald Lawrence
Sebastian ..... Mr. Fred Terry
Antonio ..... Mr. Hubert Carter
A Sea Captain ..... Mr. Henry Morrell
Valentine ..... Mr. Frank Esmond
Curio ..... Mr. Eric Ward
Sir Toby Belch ..... Mr. Edward Sass
Sir Andrew Aguecheek .... Mr. Norman Forbes
Malvolio ..... Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
A Priest ..... Mr. H. Smithson
First Officer ..... Mr. Frederick James
Second Officer ..... Mr. Clifford Heatherley
Fabian ..... Mr. Donald Calthrop
Feste ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
Countess Olivia .... Miss Amy Brandon Thomas
Maria ..... Miss Esme Hubbard
Viola ..... Miss Phillida Terson

There was not a vacant seat in His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday when a special performance of *Twelfth Night* was given. There were present on this occasion a large number of boy and girl students, whose agreeable task it has been to study this play of Shakespeare's. It has been said of *Twelfth Night* that it is not only written in the poet's happiest vein of comedy, but the comic personages are his own creations and of native growth. Charles Lamb, in particular, has shown very clearly that Malvolio is a character conceived in Shakespeare's most original vein of mingled pathos and humour. By many it is supposed to have been designed as a satire on Puritanism. It cannot be denied that the character is not without Puritan touches, and there is the fact that incidental ridicule is cast upon the Puritans in certain passages both of *Twelfth Night* and of *All's Well that Ends Well*, which belong to about the same period in the series of plays.

Mr. Tree's revival of the comedy, when his accomplished daughter, Miss Viola Tree, appeared in the rôle of Viola, was an event of considerable theatrical interest, as it was the young actress's first serious attempt at the portrayal of a Shakespearean heroine. As regards Mr. Tree's Malvolio, it is by this time a pretty well known embodiment; its many merits have been generally admitted, and it remains one of his best and most artistic Shakespearean character studies. Olivia's steward stands before us to-day as he did when Mr. Tree first appeared in the part—a perfect embodiment of the coxcomb whose extravagant conceit and the exorbitant value he places upon his personal attraction render him fair game for the fun-loving Maria and her fellow conspirators, Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek. In the scene in Olivia's garden in the second act hearty merriment was excited, first by the long soliloquy of the steward and the dodging movements of the listening conspirators as they follow in his track round the neatly-trimmed hedge, and secondly, the scheme having succeeded, by Malvolio's appearance in yellow stockings, cross-gartered, and beaming with smiles at his mistress. Mr. Tree's success was a repetition of that achieved on every occasion he has played the part.

As regards the other prominent comic characters, Mr. Edward Sass deserves to be highly complimented on his richly humorous portrayal of Sir Toby Belch. The genial old toper had indeed a thoroughly competent representative in Mr. Sass, who scored every legitimate point that could be made. Mr. Norman Forbes can also be credited with a sound performance as the fatuous Sir Andrew, taking a full share of the honours in all the scenes in which he appeared. The Kitchen scene was admirably worked up to the point where the merry party as they caper round join in the delectable ditty "Which is the properest day to drink," the origin of which is said to be lost in obscurity. Mr. Gerald Lawrence played with due dignity the character of Orsino, and Mr. Fred Terry was a handsome representative of Sebastian. Excellent, too, was the Antonio of Mr. Hubert Carter and the Sea Captain of Mr. Henry Morrell. Mr. Henry Ainley deserves warm praise for his capital embodiment of the clown, Feste, and his song in the kitchen scene was well rendered. Mr. Donald Calthrop was good as Fabian, and commendable were the Valentine and Curio of Mr. Frank Esmond and Mr. Eric Ward. Miss Phillida Terson played with rare charm and conspicuous ability the rôle of Viola, and the special calls she received in the course of the afternoon were quite deserved. Her acting throughout showed a keen insight into the character of the girl, disguised as a young man. In the scene in the Duke's palace she was also successful as a vocalist, her rendering of the song being charming. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas depicted the Countess Olivia in satisfactory style, and Miss Esmé Hubbard put plenty of vivacity into her embodiment of the merry maid Maria. The comedy was staged in the complete manner one is accustomed to at His Majesty's

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

GERMAN VARIETY ARTISTS.

The International Artists' Lodge, the German sister organisation of the Variety Artists' Federation, with whom it is affiliated, as with the White Rats of America, and with the Union Syndicale des Artistes Lyriques of France, is certainly a powerful ally, and in more than one respect an undaunted pioneer worthy of every support and consideration.

In point of membership this comparatively young Association can boast of a strong, representative, and rapidly-increasing roll; during the past year the numbers rose from 780 to 1,254 members, an increase of over 60 per cent. And under the energetic, circumspect, and always dignified management of its president, Mr. Max Berol-Konorah, the Lodge has a considerable number of radical improvements to its credit, which are of immense benefit to the entire music hall profession. Its introduction, after a hard fight, of a uniform normal contract, would alone suffice to amply justify its existence; some 20,000 forms of that instrument have already been supplied from the Lodge's offices.

It will be remembered that towards the end of the year 1908, on the occasion of the annual "Dom" at Hamburg, the gigantic Christmas Fair, which gathers together artists, directors, and agents from all parts of the Continent, there was ratified a peace between representatives of both parties after a prolonged period of mutual attack. Both sides, the International Artists' Lodge and the Variety Directors' Union, agreed to "bury the hatchet, and gave definite promises of certain performances and omissions. Thus the Lodge immediately raised its boycott against ten music halls, and stopped proceedings for a boycott on a gigantic scale, then being organised by several allied trade unions, and involving some 5,000,000 members. One of the principal causes of friction was largely a personal one. A number of trade unions had been approached by the president of the I.A.L., Mr. Max Berol-Konorah, with a view to enlisting their sympathy with the artists from the paying spectators' point of view, and this step was regarded by the directors, who had convened a Congress at Dusseldorf, as an unwarranted, insolent, and impertinent interference with their right of action. Mr. Konorah's reply was to place his resignation in the hands of his committee, who, however, did not accept it, but forwarded to him a unanimous vote of confidence in writing. As a fundamental condition of peace, the Lodge maintained its right of coalition and complete freedom of ordering its own affairs.

Numerous irksome imposts and restrictions have been removed through the vigorous action of the Lodge. In the case of the town of Bremen, where an amusement tax of 4 per cent. on the gross earnings of a performer used to be charged, plus 10s. per head during the time of the fairs, the Lodge, after wearisome litigation, eventually got these penalties removed by an appeal to the Supreme Court of the German Empire, the "Bundesrat." Then, again, the Augean stables, cyclept agencies, were thoroughly cleansed. Anyone with the least suspicion of "white slave" traffic to his name was relentlessly prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. The nefarious practise of giving "backsheesh" to the agents' secretaries or representatives also has been largely stamped out, as the result of a determined campaign. Meanwhile, as far as the law of the country is concerned, the Lodge, in co-operation with the German Actors' Association, has succeeded in rousing the Government into activity, and official as well as private data and statistics are being collected towards the framing of an Imperial Theatre Law, embracing every branch of the profession. The Lodge, however, is not sitting still, but with a wholesome belief in the principle of self-help, has already achieved much that is of benefit.

One enterprise, of great assistance during the winter months in relieving unemployment as far as possible, was the formation of a syndicate, mainly at the instrumentality of the Lodge, which also became the principal shareholder, for the purpose of sending touring companies into those smaller towns in Germany where there are no permanent music halls. The first attempt at sending out touring companies, just completed, shows that twenty-four complete programmes have been on the road, drawing an aggregate of £5,000 in salaries and dividend for the shareholders was, of course, not expected, but this trial has proved so promising that further companies will be sent out after July, more especially to those towns which experience has proved to be remunerative.

At the last annual general meeting of the International Artists' Lodge, held at Berlin, under the presidency of Mr. Max Berol-Konorah, with Mr. Adolf Wotpert in the vice-chair, and assisted by the Lodge's legal adviser, Syndic Dr. Richard Treitel, twenty-four members were present. The principal business before the meeting was a readjustment of some of the bye-laws governing the loan department of the Lodge. In view of the large amount outstanding, about £1,000, and the difficulty in enforcing regular repayment, it was proposed, and unanimously carried, that "for the future the amount out on loan must at no time exceed 25 per cent. of the Lodge's entire capital." A further measure was passed, laying it down that "loans are only to be granted for the payment of fares to take up an engagement, or in case of unforeseen distress arising from incapacity of earning a livelihood. Such incapacity of earning must be caused by *force majeure*, or similar circumstances." This, it was stated by Mr. Leo Herzberg, was in accordance with the original intentions for which the Lodge was founded, which could not undertake to maintain members during an indefinite period of unemployment. Such loans were simply granted to enable an artist to reach his engagement without being forced to immediately draw on account of his salary, or even before signing the contract. No loans are to be made in future on contracts containing an 'open notice clause.'" A warning was issued cautioning artists against signing any contract containing a paragraph by which the director has the power to annul the engagement within the first three days. Some cases were cited, notably that of Director Prinz, of the "Flora," in Altona, who was in the habit of regularly giving notice to artists within the first three days, only to re-engage them subsequently at a docked salary. In some individual cases these reductions amounted to as much as £40. The legal advice and protection department of the Lodge has also been instructed not to act for anyone holding a contract with an "open notice clause." No loan, inclusive of extension or grace, will be allowed to stand out longer than six months.

Seven members of the committee have retired owing to illness, overwork, and various other causes, namely, Dr. Saubermann, Messrs. Kaufmann, Carl Schwartz, Traney, Will. Franklin, and Mountford, their places being filled by the election of Messrs. Carl Reinsch Fritz Schmuck, Ernst Mayo, C. Baggesen, Emil Waldoff, Schenk-Marvelly, and E. Solbrig (Automatus). In connection with the vacancies occurring on the committee, the president stated emphatically that they were in no way due to any internal dissensions, as had been stated by the opposition Press, but entirely to natural causes. Mr. Mountford was only temporarily suspended from office, owing to some trifling delay of probably a clerical nature.

Carl and Carr's new song, "By the sea," by Mellor and Gifford, and published by Francis, Day, and Hunter, is going great guns.

Those clever children, Beatie and Babs, with their burlesque and their dancing, are scoring a great success at the Folies Bergere, Paris.

THE RUTH ST. DENIS CASE.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Lawrence and a special jury, Miss Ruth St. Denis, the well-known dancer, was sued by Mr. Ike S. Rose for damages for alleged breach of an agreement, under which the plaintiff was appointed the sole manager of Miss St. Denis's business. The defendant, by her defence, alleged that the plaintiff himself had been guilty of breach of contract, and that his services were useless, and she on her part claimed damages.

Sir F. Low, K.C., and Mr. Frampton appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Sanderson, K.C., and Mr. E. T. Spence represented the defendant.

In opening the case, Sir F. Low stated that the plaintiff entered into a contract in January, 1909, with Miss St. Denis, under which he undertook the management of that lady's affairs. The plaintiff was what was known as an impresario, and he was approached some time in the summer of 1908 by Miss St. Denis and her brother with regard to the question of management. Miss St. Denis was a well-known dancer, who commanded a very high salary for her performances. She wished, however, to improve her position, not only in the United Kingdom, but also on the Continent and in the United States. Mr. Rose was a gentleman who could obtain special advantages for such a lady, and an agreement was arrived at in January, 1909, under which the plaintiff was to act as sole manager for Miss St. Denis for a period of twelve months, he receiving by way of remuneration 20 per cent. of Miss St. Denis's salary and fares when travelling abroad.

Mr. Rose, continued counsel, was to have authority to book engagements, and if Miss St. Denis obtained an engagement herself then Mr. Rose was still to receive his 20 per cent. Up to that time Miss St. Denis's salary was never more than £100 a week, but through Mr. Rose she secured an engagement at the London Coliseum at £275 per week. That engagement extended for eight weeks, and a week each in Edinburgh and Glasgow under the same management. What gave rise to the dispute was that Mr. Rose went to the Continent for four days on business, and for that the lady terminated her contract. She then appeared to have entered into an engagement with a Mr. Harris, who was a well-known theatrical agent, to be her manager.

Miss St. Denis then proceeded to the United States, and she was still in America earning salaries at the rate of £400 per week. All Mr Rose had received was £110, and he now claimed £440, balance due on the Coliseum engagement and a very large sum by way of commission for the intervening three years. Counsel characterised the defences put forward as trivial.

The plaintiff, giving evidence in support of his case, said he was not in the ordinary sense a theatrical agent, but managed for one or two "stars." Through his representations Messrs Moss and Stoll offered Miss St. Denis seventeen weeks in London at £275 a week and £300 for a week at York. The plaintiff also offered her engagement in America at £400 a week, but Miss St. Denis said that she was under agreement with Mr Harris. He asserted that he could get Miss St Denis at least thirty weeks a year, so that his remuneration would be at least £1,200 a year under the terms of his agreement. He was not away six days, but only from the Tuesday night to the Sunday. Miss St. Denis claimed commission on the private engagements she got.

Sir F. Low: She complained of the dressing room at the Coliseum?—Yes; but she had the "star" dressing-room, and she had two carpets put in it. It was nicely got up.

Sir F. Low: Every "star" has a carpet. (Laughter.)

And this "star" had two carpets, remarked his lordship, at which there was renewed laughter.

The plaintiff, in reply to Mr. Sanderson, cross-examining, said he had certain business connected with another "star" as well as with Miss St. Denis. He had also to attend to a divorce suit between himself and his wife. He arranged with Ashton's Royal Agency to put Miss St. Denis on their books for 105 guineas in the hope that she would appear before the King.

No evidence was called for the defence, and

Sir F. Low having addressed the jury, the further hearing was adjourned till Wednesday, when Mr. Sanderson, addressing the jury for the defendant, said it was a great misfortune that the defendant was unable to be present. He asked the jury to believe that, in spite of what the plaintiff had said, he had absented himself from business for a longer period than was allowed by the terms of his engagement. While he was supposed to be devoting the whole of his time to the defendant he was in fact devoting his attention to another "star."

His lordship, in summing up, commented upon the fact that Miss St. Denis secured engagements at £400 a week. That was no doubt very good money. It was a large sum for people who worked with their head to get—(laughter)—but when it came to the other extremity he could not form an estimate. (Renewed laughter.)

The jury assessed the damages at £1,750. Judgment accordingly, with costs.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Despite other attractions, business has been distinctly good here for the past week. Among the early turns are Tiny and Mite, who win quite a lot of applause. They have youth on their side, and will do better anon; at present their performance is one of some merit. Arthur Reece demonstrates that he is as popular as ever. His first effort, "The Picture Shows," causes endless merriment. The verses go to prove that even the cinematograph has its drawbacks. His greatest success is reserved for his clever sketch, *Good-bye to Bachelor Days*. The title tells its own amusing story. Always delightfully droll, Dutch Daly scores an unmistakable success. As a *raconteur* few can equal him—none excel; and his concertina solos are delightful.

Making a Man of Her is the title adopted by the Oakes duo for their selection. It is a bright little show, crammed with quips, cranks, and no end of funny business.

An ovation is accorded "The Dandies," who renew their acquaintance with old admirers here. Refined, tuneful, and witty, it is small wonder that this gifted little party has rapidly moved along to the front rank. "The ladies of Boulogne" proves one of the hits of the evening, while "If I were King" proves how well the individual members of the party can do. *Our Audiences* is quite an original skit in its way. It hits off to a nicety the follies and foibles of an everyday audience, and, if a little exaggerated, is none the less amusing.

Mystery in the programme is provided by the Mystic Lazern, who juggles and puzzles the audience to their apparent satisfaction. Lazern is good. Melodrama of the pronounced type is provided by Henry Herne and company, in "a terrific water sensation," entitled *Blackmail*. The sketch is admirably interpreted by a capable company, which includes Miss Ida Millais. It is quite a novelty in stage-setting. Maidie Burker, a dainty comedienne, the Sisters Herbert, and the Bioscope complete a really fine bill.

Harry Lauder has appeared before many kinds of people, but probably his most curious audience was in an asylum in America. Here he sang to a thousand lunatics. They enjoyed his turn immensely, and joined in heartily in the chorus of "I love a lassie." After the entertainment one patient took Mr. Lauder aside and whispered in his ear, "For my sake, don't make faces or do anything to make them think you're a bit off, or they'll keep you here!"

"DARE-DEVIL DRIPPING."

Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls, Produced at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre on Monday, April 4.

Ambrosia V.	Mr. Harry M'Clelland
Princess Pauline	Miss Ada Lucelle
Sir Brian	Mr. Harry Lewis
Robert Duke of Athenia	Mr. C. Robinson
Balmiceda	Miss Ada Frank
Dare-Devil Dripping	Mr. E. D. Nicholls

The adventures of "that dreadful detective," who has been entertaining music-hall audiences for some time past, are continued in the edition under the above title presented by Messrs. Adderley Howard and E. D. Nicholls' company. It is an irresponsible mixture of the comic and romantic, a story of love in high places being combined with mirthful episodes amid which Detective Dripping disports divertingly. The "terrible 'tec" is the accomplice of the unscrupulous Duke of Athenia, who comes to wed under threat of war the pretty daughter of his neighbour, the King of Paragonia. The Princess favours the suit of the gallant Sir Brian the Brave, and in order to escape the hated attentions of the Duke, changes places with her lady-in-waiting, Balmiceda. The Duke himself has also rung the changes with Dripping, and falls in love with the real Princess, whom he carries off to his mountain castle. "Dripping" volunteers his assistance, and sallies off on his fiery steed Mazeppa, but it is the doughty Sir Brian who rescues the lady and wins her for his bride.

The opportunities for fun-making are thoroughly grasped by Mr. E. D. Nicholls, whose catch-phrase, "What, what, what!" is as mirthful as ever, his antics as the mock king being very funny. An odd personality is also that of Balmiceda, one of the most extraordinary maids-in-waiting that ever existed, whose eccentricities are quaintly emphasised by Miss Ada Frank. Mr. Harry Lewis makes an admirable hero of Sir Brian the Brave; and Miss Ada Lucelle a dainty and refined Princess. Mr. Harry M'Clelland is a commanding figure as the King; and the malevolent nature of the Duke of Athenia is thoroughly suggested by Mr. C. Robinson. The scenery is new and elaborate, and the costumes well in keeping with the production for which effective music is furnished by Mr. Carl Hamlin.

The success of Mr. Roy Cochrane's production of *Rob Roy*, with himself as the bold outlaw, has been so pronounced that it is retained in the bill for a second week, and rouses full houses to enthusiasm over the fine acting and remarkable mounting. In addition to the two sketches the variety portion of the programme is most attractive. Miss Emma Ames introduces her mechanical toy dogs effectively in her song "How would you like to make a fuss of this?" and "What the stars tell" is revealed in novel and humorous fashion. Miss Ames scores repeatedly and is loudly recalled. Similar honours are bestowed upon Mr. Harry Bancroft, who cheerily sings of a "Locket in his pocket," and whose fine voice enables him to do complete justice to the sentiment of his ballad of "Years and years ago," in which a "Darby and Joan" are affected spectators of the wedding of a youthful pair. Both songs boast tuneful refrains, in the rendering of which Mr. Bancroft cleverly enlists the services of the house. Harrigan and Holt, the inspector and policeman, are accomplished comedians and patterers, and with their knockabout dance one of the successes of the evening. Chris. Harland gains admiration for his "Fairy Fountains," before which dainty singers and dancers illustrate "The Storm," "Daybreak," "Sunrise," and other natural phenomena. Mr. Chas. Woodward pleases with his songs, and uses his magic mirror effectively and other contributors to the well-furnished programme are Nellie Neil, comedian and dancer, and Clarke and Mostol, in a dancing act, together with the Pick of the Picture World.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Very attractive and popular fare is placed before the patrons of this hall for the current week, and hearty receptions are being bestowed upon several old favourites. Topping the bill are Lew Lake and company in their latest comedy-drama, entitled *King Nobbler*, which proves itself a great attraction, and is warmly received. In the title-rôle Lew Lake submits a character which is quaintly humorous and serious by turns, and hearty approbation is accorded him for his efforts. His ever-attached partner Bob Morris is also to the fore as Jerry, and sustains the part in ludicrous fashion. Another member of the company is Dave Bentley, who as the Jew, Abe Isaacs, produces much hilarity by his antics. Zacchari, cannibal astrologer, is ably represented by H. Roberts, and Harry Lavers does well as the Cannibal Chief, and G. Thursby takes advantage of his opportunities as the shipwrecked sailor. The sketch, which is unfolded in four scenes, is admirably mounted.

Jay Laurier, the inimitable droll, as usual, convulses the house, his infectious laugh and facial expressions causing the countenance of the most stern and steely-faced individual to relax at first into a grin and finally into hearty laughter. Graham's juveniles, in their vocal and musical scena, prove an attractive turn, their songs, which conclude with "The boys of the Old Brigade," being greatly enjoyed and flatteringly rewarded.

The jolly little Dutch girl, May Moore-Duprez, continues to bubble over with merriment and good humour, which spreads across the footlights with rapidity, and her singing of "Gretchen—that's me," which is interspersed with considerable humorous banter, is received with emphatic expressions of approval; her clog-dancing is also much appreciated. A juvenile musical comedy is provided by Jacks of Britain, who introduce several well-rendered nautical ballads. The turn also includes several dances, and is highly approved.

Jordan and Harvey, the popular Hebrew comedians, maintain as strong a hold as heretofore in their song "Solomon"; and Ada Cerito is in capital form with her ever-popular football ditty, "Half time—change over." She has another contribution, "If you are looking for a husband," which also fetches the audience. That excellent child mimic Jenny Alexander repeats several of her well-known imitations, and Fred Keeton sings "Simple Simon." The Bioscope concludes.

The Adelphi Theatre, Liverpool, which ceased its career as a playhouse a few years ago, has been turned into a School of Physical Culture, with boxing tournaments as the attraction. The old Adelphi Theatre was first opened in 1789, and in 1805 it was called the Olympic Circus. Three years later the walls were raised, and three tiers or stories were added to the auditorium. In 1831 the circus was rebuilt and decorated, and the ring space was converted into a pit. The theatre was christened the Queen's in this year, but in 1843 it was named the Victoria. About 1846 a townsman, Mr. J. Hammond, took over the premises, and reopened the house as the New Theatre Royal Adelphi on Easter Monday, April 13, 1846. It was quite usual at this time to see lines of carriages reaching as far as Islington. In 1869 the establishment was known as the Adelphi Music Hall and Theatre of Varieties, and in latter days was run as a variety theatre on the two-houses-a-night principle. Since the magistrates refused to license the house for dramatic entertainments the theatre has been occupied by the Liverpool Gymnastic Club, Limited.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅜; ditto (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion, 3⅛; ditto, pref., 5; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires, 4⅛; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 31-32; Tivoli, New, 6⅛.

"THE SICILIANS."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Hugh Wynter, with Music by Ernest Vousden, Produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, April 4.

Gonzalo	Mr. Bert Walton
Beppo	Mr. Harry Turner
Luiz	Mr. Wilfred Howard
Malfia	Miss Amy Augarde

Designed to afford opportunity for a popular vocalist to exercise the charms of a cultivated voice, *The Sicilians* admirably fulfils its purpose. Apart from that, the motive of the piece is slender, and treats of the well-worn theme of an eccentric will, by the terms of which a miserly innkeeper of Palermo is to marry before the age of seventy or forfeit his fortune to his niece. That young lady happens to be a roving singer, and on the very day on which her uncle attains the stipulated age, she appears at the inn. The old man has not yet been able to find a bride, so he induces the young girl to consent to go through the marriage ceremony with him. Details are discussed over the dinner-table, and mine host, liberally plied with wine, reveals his secret to his niece, who keeps him engaged till the clock strikes the allotted hour, when the miser is compelled to surrender his hoard.

Miss Amy Augarde makes a fascinating singing girl, and acts brightly. Her exquisite voice, beautifully clear and perfect in tone, is heard agreeably in a song with the refrain of "Roses," and later she infuses quite the comedy spirit into a sarcastic lay addressed to the old uncle. That character is cleverly sketched by Mr. Bert Walton, who makes comic capital out of very meagre chances, and causes much laughter. Mr. Wilfred Howard and Mr. Harry Turner give good support. The sketch is prettily mounted.

Farcical features are also apparent in *The Wager*, in which a young lady, who has made a bet that she will make her backward lover propose, effects her purpose by dressing up as an old Irish lady with a handsome fortune. The comedietta is played by Mr. Percy Murray, who figures drolly as a facetious family retainer, and his company.

Popular contributions to the programme are made by Mr. Arthur Slater, known far and wide as "the whistling man in white." Mr. Slater is a song-writer as well as a siffleur, for he renders a composition of his own, called "Uncle Amos," in which the performer's accomplishments are entertainingly utilised. His reproductions of the songs of the feathered tribe continue to arouse enthusiasm, his imitation of a canary and of a skylark winging its way to the clouds being particularly admired. Operatic selections also come within Mr. Slater's scope, the overture to *Poet and Peasant* being rendered without a flaw. Mr. Barry Lupino quaintly patters about a father ever "calm and collected," and moves the house to enthusiasm by his extraordinary dancing.

The eccentric side of terpsichore is also presented by Moon and Morris, who have some amusing cross-talk; Miss Queenie Essex is a dainty and refined comedienne. Miss Carlotta Levey gains the hearty vocal support of the house in her tuneful chorus songs, "Study those who study you" and "Dear old pals"; and new versions of familiar tricks are cleanly presented in the series of magical problems accomplished by Mr. Fred Wilkinson in association with his comely assistant, Miss Ruby Mayor. Hughes and Elliott have a skilful singing and dancing act; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope concludes the entertaining bill. Mr. J. Norman Berlin and Mr. George B. Andrews occupy their accustomed places as manager and acting-manager respectively, happy in the knowledge of the substantial dividends which the hall is earning under their fostering care.

"A MUDDLED MODEL."

Produced at the Standard Music Hall, Victoria, on Monday, April 4.

The Lady of Colour	Miss Sadie Foote
The Artist	Mr. Leonard Aardale
His Sweetheart	Miss Dora Weber

It would seem to be the worst possible thing to do to become engaged to "the sweetest girl in all the world" if you happen to be an artist. Sweetest girls are often very jealous ones, and when they find that their best boys are advertising for "a lady of swarthy colour with a perfect figure," the poor chap who is found out may be considered to be in for no end of trouble. This proved to be so with the hero and heroine of *A Muddled Model*, a very laughable and entertaining sketch that has been seen at the Standard this week.

The artist finds that he must have a real lady of colour to pose for the great masterpiece he is working on, having for its subject "The Queen of Sheba." So he advertises for a dusky beauty, who shall have perfect features and a gorgeous figure. His sweetheart discovers the advertisement, and in most decided tones announces her intention of being present when the applicants arrive. In vain the artist urges that it is purely a business transaction, but the admission that she of the perfect figure will be required to display it but thinly veiled with filmy robes, makes the artist's fiancée more determined than ever that her Reginald shall not be left alone with "the woman." Whilst the debate is becoming a very heated one, a knock is heard at the door, and the Lady of Colour is announced. Seizing his sweetheart in his arms, the artist carries her to an adjoining room to the studio, and locks the young lady in, though it must be recorded she vigorously protests with tongue, fist, and feet in fine style against this treatment.

Enter the Lady of Colour (Miss Sadie Foote), very good-looking, and undoubtedly a fine figure, with a generous supply at that. She tells the artist she has come in reply to his advertisement, takes it for granted that she will suit, and asks the nature of the business she is required for. On learning that she is to be a model for the Queen of Sheba, "the lady who made love to King Solomon," and that the young person was not overdressed, she protests that her doctor had advised her in all circumstances always to wear flannel next her skin, and that, come what may, the flannels would not be removed. The Coloured Lady at this stage introduces matrimonial claims on the artist, and goes behind a screen to disrobe. Miss Foote's acting is remarkably good in this scene, her remarks when behind the screen, and again when making appearances from time to time in various stages of undress, being the signal for peals of merriment. The end comes when the artist's sweetheart manages to escape from the room, and confronting the dusky queen, addresses an unfortunate remark to her. The Lady of Colour at once declares her intention of doing damage to her rival's face, and in his efforts to protect his future bride, the artist has a very rough time of it. In the pitched battle which follows the enraged model wrecks the studio, and then departs in a make-up that is as screamingly funny and original as anything we remember to have seen.

The little piece plays for about twenty minutes, and it is quite impossible to record how many times one is compelled to laugh during that time. Miss Dora Weber is brightness itself, and her jealousy is absolutely real, and never overdone, as it might so easily be. Mr. Leonard Aardale looks the artist to the life, and one feels sorry for him when at the curtain the enraged negress does so much damage to his pretty home. His acting was always brisk, and he kept the fun going from first to last. In *A Muddled Model* Miss Foote has undoubtedly a very fine sketch.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 11.

Almost His Bride.—Queen's T., Longton.
Alone in London.—Star T., Swansea.
Amsterdam.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Angel of His Dreams.—Metropole T., Manchester.
An Old Man's Darling.—Grand T., Walsall.
Another Man's Wife.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Arcadians, The (No. 1).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Are You the Man?—P. O. W., Mexborough.
As Your Hair Grows White.—Gaiety T., Leith.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Crook.
Baines, Miss Florence.—T. R., Hanley.
Bateman, Mrs. Frank.—T. R., Bilston.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Shrewsbury.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Cirencester and Stroud.
Best People.—The Pier, Eastbourne.
Better Land.—T. R., Merthyr Tydfil.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Rochdale.
Brewster's Millions.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Broken Heart, A.—O. H., Coventry.
Can a Woman Be Good?—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Manchester.
Cassidy, Mr. J. Rice.—Court T., Wigan.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Catch of the Season.—Cambridge.
Charley's Aunt.—County T., Reading.
Chorus Lady.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Cingalee, The (A.).—T. R., Hyde.
Cingalee, The (B.).—Grand T., Nottingham.
Coal King, The.—T. R., Aston.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Bradford.
Country Girl.—T. R., Bath.
Dairymaids, The.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Leamington.
Daughter of the Sea.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Dear Little Denmark.—T. R., Birmingham.
Destroyer of Men.—T. R., Leigh.
Diana of Dobson's.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Dollar Princess (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
Don.—T. R., Bournemouth.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Court T., Liverpool.
Drama of Life.—T. R., Sunderland.
Draycott, Mr. Chas.—T. R., South Shields.
East Lynne (Watt).—T. R., Belfast.
Eyes of the World.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Face at the Window.—O. H., Doncaster.
Fanny and the Servant Problem.—T. R., Plymouth.
Fast Life, A.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Fires of Fate.—T. R., Glasgow.
Flag Lieutenant (N.).—Torquay and Exeter.
Flag Lieutenant (S.).—O. H., Leicester.
Florodora.—T. R., Preston.
For Love and the King.—T. R., Cardiff.
For Old Times' Sake.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
For Wife and Kingdom.—T. R., North Shields.
Frivolity.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Geisha, The.—O. H., Southport.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Girl from Kay's.—New T., Aberdare.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—T. R., Worthing.
Guilty Gold.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Harvey Mr. Martin.—T. R., Dublin.
Havana.—King's T., Sunderland.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Elephant and Castle T.
Her Life in London.—Star T., Liverpool.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Bristol.
Her Marriage Vow.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., South Shields.
Her Secret Lover.—Prince's T., Accrington.
His Real Wife.—O. H., St. Helens.
Hush Money.—Grand T., Brighton.
Idol of Paris.—T. R., Jarrow.
In the Shadow of Night.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
King of Cadonia (Curzon).—New T., Blackburn.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bishops Stortford and Waltham.
Lighthouse Robbery.—T. R., Edmonton.
Little Damozel.—Grand T., Hull.
Little Phil's Mother.—T. R., Bury.
Lodge, Percy, Mr. J. C.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Love of the Princess.—T. R., Tonypandy.
Lucky Durham.—Court T., Warrington.
Lucky 'Liza.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Merchant of Venice.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Merry Peasant—Grand T., Blackpool.
Merry Widow.—Century T., Motherwell.
Message from Mars.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Midnight Mail.—O. H., Wakefield.
Midnight Wedding.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Miss Hook of Holland—King's T., Hammersmith.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Miss Tommy.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Moody-Manners (A.).—O. H., Oldham.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Chester.
Mother.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Mother-in-Law.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—New T., Cardiff.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—Folkestone.
My Lady Bellamy.—T. R., Margate.
New Boy, The.—T. R., Lincoln.
Nihilist, The.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Oh, Susannah!—O. H., Burnley.
Old Home, The.—T. R., Leicester.
Only a Little Boy.—Ferndale.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Grand T., Leeds.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Grand T., Derby.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—T. R., Darlington.
Passion of Life.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Pete (N.).—T. R., Stockport.
Pete (S.).—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Pinkie and the Fairies.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—Grand T., Southampton.
Private Secretary.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Raynar's Repertoire Co.—Empire T., Ashton.
Rollicking Rory.—Hippodrome, Stalybridge.
Royal Divorce.—Hippodrome, Scarboro'.
Sapho.—Empire T., Oldham.
Servant in the House.—King's T., Glasgow.
Sexton Blake.—T. R., Blyth.
Shadow of a Crime.—Grand T., Radcliff.
Sherlock Holmes.—County T., Bedford
Sign of the Cross.—Marlborough T., Holloway.
Silver King.—Grand T., Nelson.
Sinner, The.—T. R., Chatham.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Junction T., Manchester.
Sins of a City.—P. O. W., Salford.
Sister's Sin, A.—T. R., Sheffield.
Sorrows of Satan.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Woolwich.
Tantalizing Tommy (N.).—Torquay and Exeter.
Tantalizing Tommy (S.).—Leicester.
Thief in the Night.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Thief, The.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Those Terrible Twins.—O. H., Belfast.
Through the Divorce Court.—King's T., Manchester.
Tom Jones.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., West Stanley.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Stockport.
Under the Iron Heel.—Grand T., Chorley.
Under Two Flags.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Village Blacksmith.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Was She to Blame?—T. R., Rotherham.
Way Out West.—Empire T., Swindon.
What a Man Made Her.—T. R., Smethwick.
When A Lass Loves.—T. R., York.
When It was Dark.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
When London Sleeps.—Alex T., Birmingham.
When Other Lips.—T. R., Barnsley.
Where is William?—Grand T., Fulham.
White Man, A.—T. R., Aldershot
Whom God hath Joined.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Why Smith Left Home.—Pier P., New Brighton.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Osborne T., Manchester.
With Edged Tools.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Woman in the Case (N.).—Prince's T., Manchester.
Woman in the Case.—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
Woman of Kronstadt.—Palace T., Watford.
Woman of Two Lives.—T. R., Leigh.
Woman Pays, The.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Woman's Past.—Seaham Harbour.
Woman Worth Winning.—Pavilion, Abertillery.
World, the Flesh, and the Devil.—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington, N.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Huddersfield.
You Never Can Tell.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
10.30 Down Express.—Muncaster T., Bootle.

Messrs. Richardson and Martin will sell by auction, at Wattle Bloom, Broomwater West, Broom-road, Teddington, on Wednesday and Thursday, April 13 and 14, Mr. Fred Millis's magnificent collection of household furniture and effects, and some very valuable oil-paintings, by C. H. Passey, R.A., Carl Brennir, H. T. Brugere, E. Baker, and others; a 20ft. double skiff, and a 15ft. motor dinghy. The delightful and comfortable residence itself will be offered for sale by auction at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, on Wednesday, April 20.

Mr. T. G. Transfield, with his animal acts, and his two daughters in their musical act, are meeting with great success in the United States.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Beadon.—On April 6, 1910, the wife of Valentine Beadon (Daisy Humphries), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Johns—Hayman.—On April 2, at the British Consulate, Paris, Llewellyn, son of the late David Johns, Esq., and of Mrs. Johns, of Cardiff, to Florence Bertie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hayman, of Paris.

Lyon—Vine.—S. G. Lyon, proprietor of Bonnie Goodwin's Picks, and Miss Lily Vine, principal, have been quietly married by special licence.

Stamper—Perry.—Apr.l 6, at Brixton Registry Office, Louie Stamper, professionally known as Madie Thorn to Frank Perry.

DEATHS.

Colonne.—March 28, at Paris, Edouard Colonne, orchestral conductor.

De Levante.—At 14, Pentyla, Aberavon, Sophie Lydia, widow of the late Frederick De Levante, in her eighty-second year.

Evans.—March 25, at her daughter's residence, 59, Woodstock-road, Bedford Park, Mrs. Julia Evans, widow of the late Thomas Evans (at one time proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Rochester), in her eighty-fourth year.

Gaunt.—April 4, at her home in Stockton-on-Tees, Elsie Gaunt.

Grahame.—On Tuesday, April 5, 1910, at her residence, 2, Hook-terrace, Hook, Surbiton, the dearly-loved mother of Gracie Grahame, after years of patient suffering. Rest well, dear one.

Norris.—On March 11, 1910, at 20, Buer-road, Hurlingham, S.W., W. H. Norris, actor and poet, the beloved father of Carmen Cecil.

"Peaceful city of the dead. Sleep on,
Who would disturb thee? None.
This serenity comes of suffering and strife;
This superb calm was purchased with thy life."
W. H. Norris.

Thomas.—April 6, 1910, at 62, Newland, Northampton, Dick Thomas, quick-change sketch artist, aged 37. Deeply mourned by his sorrowful wife (Miss Annie Thomas), his son, and his sister (Mrs. Harry E. Howe).

Thomas.—On April 6, Dick Thomas, age 37, of Thomas and Taylor, "Fun on the Midland," having burst a blood-vessel.

Valverde.—March 25, at Madrid, Quinito Valverde, Spanish musical composer.

In Memoriam.

Bell.—In loving remembrance of my dear niece, Miss Eva Bell (Mary Loftus), died April 4, 1901.

Bracewell.—In loving memory of Joe Bracewell, who died April 13, 1908. "A fellow of infinite jest; of most excellent fancy."—Inserted by his loving wife and daughter.

Coleman.—In deep memory and ever-loving remembrance of Mr. George D. Coleman, April 10, 1902. J. P. R.

Coyle.—In tender memory of John E. Coyle, who died at Ventnor, April 6, 1909.

Wright.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Henry Wright, who died at Boscombe, April 9, 1905.

The blow was great, the loss severe,
To part with him I loved so dear;
It was God's will it should be so,
At His command we all must go.

Young.—In loving remembrance of darling Jennie, who passed away on April 14, 1909. Deeply mourned by her mother, father, sisters, and brother.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

W. F. Frame—Sunday, April 10.
Bessie Arthur—Sunday, April 10.
Leonard Boyne—Monday, April 11.
Margaret Brodie—Monday, April 11.
George Marton—Tuesday, April 12.
Ellaline Terriss—Wednesday, April 13.
Leonard Shepherd—Wednesday, April 13.
Allan Aynesworth—Thursday, April 14.
Mabel Hicks—Thursday, April 14.
Dorothy Frostick—Thursday, April 14.

THEATRE FIRE AT BARRY.

An outbreak of fire occurred at Barry Docks on Wednesday morning at the People's Hall. The premises are electrically lighted throughout, and it was only at their last meeting, acting as the authority under the new Act, that the Barry Urban District Council licensed the place as a cinematograph theatre. The lower portion of the premises is used by the proprietors as a variety house and for side-shows, there is a shooting gallery behind, and the large hall is used as the cinematograph show. Upstairs are the sleeping quarters of Mr. Lloyd's family and artists, and a portion of the upper floors is also used as a seamen's boarding-house.

It appears that the outbreak was first noticed by a neighbour named Mr. Edward Woodham, who quickly tried to arouse the inmates. Mr. Patrick Gervase, a nephew of the proprietor, was the first to be awakened, and, quickly realising the danger, went from room to room giving the alarm to the other sleepers. He succeeded in arousing all, and they made their way to the street as quickly as possible. In the meantime, owing to the delay caused by saving the others, Gervase's retreat had been cut off. He was on the top storey of the four that constitute the building. The only means of his reaching the ground appeared to be by way of a rope, but this necessitated a drop of several feet. Seeing his danger, Gervase tied some of his bed-clothing to the end of the rope to lengthen it, and making these fast to a leg of a sofa, swarmed down the novel escape to the ground without receiving any injury.

Another narrow escape was that of an artist named Leslie Smith. He had only time to slip on a pair of trousers, and even then his way down the staircase was cut off. Smith jumped through one of the windows into a yard 20ft. below. Unfortunately, he alighted upon a quantity of glass, and his feet, being bare, were badly cut.

Under the command of Supt. D. Morris and Inspector R. H. Thomas, the police Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene, and their energetic efforts with but primitive appliances resulted in the conflagration being got under control about four o'clock, three hours after the first alarm.

It was at first thought that everyone had got out safely, but it was later found that William Walters, a dwarf, who stands about 3ft., hailing from Plymouth, was missing. He had been seen to follow Mrs. Lloyd, the proprietor's wife, downstairs, but since then no trace could be found of him. Mr. Woodham, Supt. Morris, and Inspector Thomas, with their nostrils swathed in wet handkerchiefs, repeatedly entered the flames at the risk of their lives, but could find no trace of the unfortunate dwarf; while one of the constables in his search tripped over what he thought to be a human body, but which turned out to be that of a dog of Mr. Lloyd's which had lost its life in the flames. Walters' body was discovered later in a quantity of water in a cellar. He had evidently taken a wrong turning in this endeavour to escape, and, falling down the cellar steps, lost his life either by suffocation or drowning.

The New Theatre, New York, will shortly close for the season. It will reopen on Oct. 17 with the production of Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*.

The lessees of the Porte Saint Martin Theatre, Paris, before the first night of *Chantecler*, brought three actions in £4,000 damages each for infringement of copyright against three newspapers, the *Eclair*, the *Paris Journal*, and the *Bonne Chanson*, which had published extracts of the work. After the first performance MM. Hertz and Jean Coquelin reduced their claims to 10d. in each suit. On Wednesday afternoon two of the actions were struck off the list by agreement.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

E. S.—*Inquire at the theatre.* (1) *We have not seen a full cast.* (2) *The Editor.*

Caldecot (Camberwell).—Amy Robsart *was produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Aug. 29, 1871. Creswick was the Richard Varney.*

G. C. W.—*We have studied a cyclopædia of play titles, old and new, and cannot find the one you indicate. We therefore conclude that it has not been used.*

S. A. Potter.—*The hall dropped out of the running without any special announcement, and none of the Press was informed at the time. Write to the manager of the restaurant at Villiers-street. He could inform you.*

Thomas Dimelow.—*Write to Stationers' Hall, London, E.C., for the necessary forms for registering both the publishing and performing rights in the song. Fill up the forms and remit to Stationers' Hall, with 5s. for each form. A certificate of registration will then be forwarded and your rights preserved.*

Haymarket Bureau.—*The title is "The Telephone," by Jerome K. Jerome, and we are informed by a courteous correspondent that it will be found in "The Golden Humorous Reciter," 2s. 6d. from any discount bookseller, publishers Seeley and Co., Ltd. There is, we believe, another one, in "The Reciter's Treasury of Prose and Drama," same price; and if you ask to see both books you will soon find out which is the recitation. The one in "The Golden Humorous Reciter" is from "The Second Thoughts of an Idle Fellow," published by Hurst and Blackett, Ltd.*

H. W.—King of Cadonia, *musical play, in two acts, was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Coventry-street, W., on Sept. 3, 1908. The cast was as follows: Duke of Alasia, Mr. Huntley Wright; Alexis, Mr. Bertram Wallis; General Bonski, Mr. Roland Cunningham; Captain Laski, Mr. F. Pope Stamper; Lieutenant Jules, Mr. Harold Deacon; Lieutenant Saloff, Mr. Cameron Carr; Paniz, Mr. Arthur Laceby; Laborde, Mr. Akerman May; Bran, Mr. George Barrett; Militza, Miss Gracie Leigh; Stephanie, Miss Peggy Bethell; Natine, Miss Queenie Merrall; Wanda, Miss Gladys Beech; Ottaline, Miss Claire Lynch; Fridoline, Miss Gladys Anderson; Duchess of Alasia, Mme. Amy Martin; and Princess Marie, Miss Isabel Jay.*

Litt and Dingwall (New York).—*Mrs. John Wood is still living. Born at Liverpool 1833, went to the States in 1854, first appeared in New York at the Academy of Music, Sept. 5, 1856, as Gertrude in* The Little Treasure; *from 1863 to 1866 was manageress of Mrs. John Wood's Olympic Theatre, New York. First appearance on London stage as Miss Miggs, in* Barnaby Rudge, *1869; opened St. James's Theatre, October, same year, in* She Stoops to Conquer; *and after other productions at that house and appearances at the Adelphi, returned (1871) to the States for two years. Reappeared in London at the old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, November, 1873, as Philippa Chester in* The Wandering Heir; *appeared at the opening of the Criterion, 1874, in the play,* An American Lady; *subsequently played engagements at the Gaiety, St. James's, Olympic, Prince of Wales's, Haymarket, Criterion, and Vaudeville; and in 1885 became connected with the Court Theatre, where she produced some excellent pieces by Sir Arthur Pinero. She appeared at Drury Lane Theatre in* The White Heather *(1887),* The Great Ruby *(1898),* The Best of Friends *(1902), and* The Prodigal Son *(1905). She is not acting now. To give a full answer to your question would require at least a page of our journal. These few particulars of a most interesting stage career will, we hope, be sufficient.*

Presentation.—At the Star Theatre, Swansea, on Saturday, during the performance of *For Love and the King*, Mr. Watson Mill presented Mr. Wm. Coutts, the lessee and manager, with a token of his wife's and his own regard in the shape of a handsome gold match-box and gold-mounted fountain-pen. Mr. Mill made feeling reference to Mr. Coutts's excellent management of the Star, and to the forethought and consideration he always showed in arranging for the comfort of the artists. He also referred to the excellent business done at the house during his visit with *For Love and the King*. Mr. Coutts said he was quite unaccustomed to any such tributes, and asked Mr. and Mrs. Mill to accept his hearty gratitude.

In connection with the scheme for building a "Paris in London" on the Strand site, the L.C.C. Improvement Committee has received from the French Development Co., of Paris, a deposit of £5,000, which gives the company an option of a site covering 134,000 square feet. It is proposed to erect a large building at a cost of at least half a million sterling. It will have a frontage to Aldwych of 413ft. and to the Strand of 636ft., and will comprise:—Shops, with offices, fronting the Strand; a stone building of commanding architectural appearance; galleries for exhibitions of arts and manufactures; a theatre and concert hall; restaurants with courts around; and café restaurants.

The building will be bounded on east and west by 50ft. approaches. The French syndicate is represented in London by M. Ernest Gerrard, the architect, and M. C. de Lapré.

The negotiations have been conducted by M. Gerrard, and although the syndicate is not at present committed to any scheme, it will forfeit the £5,000 deposit if the option is not taken up within six months. A deposit of £55,000, including the £5,000 already paid, will be required by the Council upon the exchange of the building agreement. In the first year, however, the rent will be a peppercorn one. In the second it will be £13,750, £27,500 in the third year, and £41,250 in the fourth, after which the full rent will be paid.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Armine, Miss Grace
Barnes, Miss E.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Barson, Mr. Alf
Beckett, Mr. J. B.
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bentley, Mr. W. E.
Bernard, Mr. Seton
Billon, Mr. T. J.
Blair, Mr. Wilfred
Blakeney, Mr. Geo.
Burton, Mr. Harry
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Campbell, Miss Alma
Campbell, Mrs. B.
Carlton, Miss Cissie
Carney, Miss Kate
Carton, Mr. H. E.
Chapman, Mrs. Julia D.
Chard, Lieut.
Cherry, Miss G. D.
Clarions, The
Clifton, Miss Clara
Cooper, Miss Gladys
Cooper, Mr. Daley
Cowell, Miss Florence
Dacre, Mr. Louis M.
Dalton, Mr. Richard
Dartigan
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Draco, Mr. G. E.
Edgar, Miss Florence
Edwards, Miss Alice
Edwards, Mr. W.
Elliott, Miss Rosie
Epitaux, Mr.
Escourt, Mr. Arthur
Esden, Miss Alice
Esty, Miss Alice
Feeley, Mr. Dan
Fields, Miss Fanny
Fillis, Mme.
Findon, Mr. Arthur
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Fraser, Miss
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Garner, Mr. Booth
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Glenalyn, Miss C.
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Goddard, Mr. Alfred
Graydon, Mr. James
Green, Miss Evie
Grossi, Prof.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hammond, Miss M. L.
Handley, Mr. W. J.
Harcourt, Miss Maud
Harrison, Mr. Thomas
Hartley, Mr. R. A.
Hastings, Mr. Guy
Hayes, Mr. J.
Houseley, Miss Jenny
Howard, Mr. Robert
Hudspeth, Miss Marie
Hudspeth, Mr. Frank
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Koss, Mr. Rudolph
Lane, Mr. Leonard
Langfords, The
Lauton, Mr. F. Caffrey
Lawson-Wood, Mr. Geo.
Leighton, Mr. Fred
Lupino, Mr. George
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lytton, Mr. Bert
Madderson, Mr. Harry
May, Miss Daisy
Melbermott, Capt. H.
McLellan, Mr. C. M. S.
Melbourne, Mr. A. E.
Melita, Miss
Merry, Mr. Bert
Miles, Mr. A.
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Montague, Mr. Harold
Morgan, Mr. Harry
Munro, Mr. George
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Nethersole, Mr. Louis F
Nevill, Miss Violet
Nichells, Mr. Harry
Norgate, Mr. L.
Partridge, Mr. Norman
Patterson, Mrs.
Paul, Miss N.
Peunell, Mr. Joseph
Piccolo and Fiori
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Place, Miss A. S.
Rankin, Mr. J.
Reano, Mr.
Reeves, Mr. Georges
Revelle, Mr.
Rham Singh
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Rignold, Mrs. Geo.
Riley, Miss Ruble
Rogers, Mr. Gilbert
Romer, Mr. C.
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rowland, Mr. Harry
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sartella, Miss Rose
Sawyer, Mr. Francies
Sheldon, Mr. George
Shields, Mr. Jimmy
Smalleys, The
Somerford, Miss Ethel
Stewart and Morgan
Stewarts, Mons.
Swallow, Mr. J.
Swears, Mr. Herbert
Tucker, Miss B.
Turner, Mr. J. H.
Vasco, Mr. Walter
Vayne, Miss Fay G.
Vonetta, Madam
Walmer, Mr. C.
Ward, Mr. Dudley
Watson, Mr. D. W.
Willard, Mr. James
Willy Troupe
Windermere, Mr. Chas.
Wood-Ingram, Mr. J. W
Woods, Misses A. and D
Yeaslin, Mr. Theodore

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Roze Mapleson.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

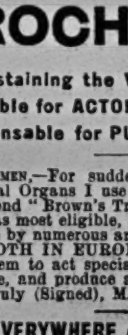

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 314,133.
Velvet Grip Compress
Registered Trade Mark No. 304604.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original Velvet Grip Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C30.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-840, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE,
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."
A New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, MISS NINA GORDON at a piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, April 11, the Great Melville Drama,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Open Daily.
"La Fille de Madame Angot," 7.45, 14th and 15th, 16th (3.0 and 7.45), Organ, Bands, Fairy Archipelago, Bay of Naples, &c. S.E. and C.Ry. St. John's Ambulance Dinner, Wednesday next. Saturday next, 7.30, Dulwich Philharmonic Society.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10
Wilkie Bard, Clarice Mayne,
Dolly Harmer,
Harry Brown, Walton and Lester,
The Harvards, Bowman and Morton,
Queenie Essex, Chas. Gardiner,
Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture-holder),
Frank Postlethwaite.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Harriett Vernon, Leslie Race, Radena Dey's Carnival Belles, Harry Hayton, Jimmy Danvers and May Rosslyn, R. C. Note, Wade and Lillian, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Howard and Thorne, Brandon and Greene.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Mark Sheridan, The Five Whiteleys, Dolly Harmer, Harry Claff and Alice Tremaine, in "The Demon and the Fairy," Sisters Grovini, Ruby Celeste and May Hallatt, in "The Ring," Fred Dunstone, Edie Gray and Boys, Ruffell's Bioscope. Daisy Jerome.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, April 11, 1910:—
Herbert Darnley's Comedians in "John Jay, Jun." Parkey and Bracey's Coons, Dollie Denton, Julia Kent and Co., Roper and Leo, Alf Brooks, Colley and Scott, Dan Weldon, The Bioscope, Cliff Ryland, Daisy Stratton, Stanley, Ross, Adderley Howard and Co., "Black-eyed Susan."
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One house nightly. Monday, April 11th, Clifford Marle, Josephine Co'onna and Co., Bros. Horne, Four Garricks, Lily Black, Reg. Beauchamp, Five Jovers, Tommy Clifford, Kitty Arnold, Talbot and Clare, Sadie Stanley, Elsie Ellis, Topsy and Cecil, Edisonograph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sat. 7); commence 7.40 (Sat. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. Carlotto De Yonson and Co., "Sexton Blake in America," Phillips and Merritt, Harry Clark, Tom York, Zeta Russell, The Daye, Jock Mills, Davis and Deane, Austral Trio, Tubb and Fewtan's Juveniles, Bioscope. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 12.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Maxini and Bobby, The Quaint Q's, Coram, The Balzars, Judy's Pictures, &c.
Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
GRAND NATIONAL ON THE BIOSCOPE.
GEO. ROBEY.
"EAST AND WEST."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Cornalla and Eddie, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
MLLE. POLAIRE in "Le Visiteur," Mr. BEN DAVIES Horace Goldin, Gaudsmidts, Albert Whelan, and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c., including Grand National, 1910.
Evenings at 8.0.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.0.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, Clarice Mayne, Polskis, Dan Crawley, Ernest Shand, Phil Ray, Arden and Abel, in "Three of a Kind," Walter King, Gladys Huxley, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Jack and Evelyn, Ethel Loftus, Alick Lauder and Co., Queenie Essex, May Fairclough, Gertie Gitana, Bioscope. Open 7.25. Saturday Matinées, 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI. HARRY LAUDER.
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN, LOTTIE BELLMAN, Ernest Shand, José Collins, Venie Clements, Ella Retford, Phil Ray, The O'Gorman Bros., La Belle Nello, Queenie Essex, the Bioscope, Rosie Lloyd, and G. H. Chirgwin.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commences Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lewis.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd., Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1209 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Bookings include the companies of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Robert Macdonald, Mr. William Greet, Messrs. Jay and Mann, The Moody-Manners, Miss Lena Ashwell, Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, Mr. Allan Wilkie, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. James Welch, Mr. William Maclaren, The Lyceum Productions, Miss Florence Baines, Mr. Douglas Bruce, &c. Vacant July 4, 18, Aug. 1. also Jan. 2 for Pantomime (only vacant date for Pantomime).
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and one or two season dates open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
April 11, May 2, 16.
First-class attractions wanted for autumn.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 2 (six nights),
May 12, 13, 14 (three), all June.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Aug. 1 and 29 (Race Week),
November 21 and 28.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant May 30.
Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with first-class attractions.
For vacant dates, apply as above.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant July 11, 25, Aug. 8. Also few remaining dates in Oct. and Nov. Fast booking Spring, 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Cascili, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Trevosper Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London. And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1910.

PURPOSELESS PLAYS.

Although we are not in the confidence of that excellent man of business and able manager Mr. Charles Frohman as to his intentions with respect to future productions at the Repertory Theatre, it is pleasant to note that while *Justice* is retained in the bills, on and off, for the next fortnight, and *Trelawny of the Wells* has been twice played this week, Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Misalliance* and Mr. Granville Barker's *Madras House* have apparently been withdrawn from the programmes at the Duke of York's Theatre. Mr. Frohmann is too good a judge to make this change if these pieces had proved really successful. Of course, we know that a feature of the Repertory Theatre is the avoidance of long runs, and it is possible that it is intended to revive them; still, the removal of *Misalliance* and *The Madras House* is significant.

There is no doubt that there is a considerable "crank" minority in the playgoing world. The system of writing long "screeds" of mystic or humorous dialogue to conceal poverty of invention and weakness of construction was originated by Mr. Bernard Shaw in *Major Barbara*, which was produced at the Court Theatre on November 28, 1905. By calling the piece a "discussion" Mr. Shaw apparently imagined that he had done all that was necessary to defend it from criticism—a most mistaken conclusion. *Major Barbara* was not a discussion. It was a badly-constructed play, with slabs of talk used, as stucco is employed in "jerry-building," to cover the defects of the workmanship. At that time Mr. Shaw was what is called "the fashion"; and, in such circumstances, fair criticism seems impossible, for the peculiar mesmerism which is in the air affects the Press as well as the public. Not a single influential critic denounced the defects of *Major Barbara* as they would have done if the play had been the work of an unknown author. In this case the greatest injury was done to Mr. Shaw himself. Previously, though the plots of his plays had been simple, they were coherent, and the dialogue always tended to advance the action. After that Mr. Shaw's works became more "wobbly" and "talky" than ever. He seemed to think that anything would do for the public in the way of plot. The real trouble with Mr. Shaw's "second manner" was that a little grain of the playwright instinct still lingered and spoilt the game. *Getting Married*, the first two acts of which consist of a very droll discussion, was spoilt by the attempt to introduce incident in the last act in connection with an extraordinary female of ill-regulated sexual instincts, who fell into a trance and said strange things to a bishop. Had the discussion closed at the end of the second act, or had the amusing argument been protracted for a third, the audience might have gone home satisfied. Then there was *The Doctor's Dilemma*, a comedy which commenced with a first act of remarkable humour and cleverness, started a most interesting motive, and then gradually wandered away from the point at issue in mazes of cleverness; and, last of all, as a culmination of decadence, we have had *Misalliance*, against which even Mr. J. T. Grein, one of Mr. Shaw's most devoted admirers, has lifted up his indignant voice.

Our own opinions are well known; and we have maintained them through all the discouragement which is caused by seeing false principles flourish, as they often do *pro tem.*, like the Scriptural bay-tree. It is strange to find our "old-fashioned prejudices" endorsed by so advanced a paper as the *New Age*, which has often shown its affection for Mr. Shaw. The dramatic critic of the paper says, writing of *Misalliance* and *The Madras House*:

> The defenders of Mr. Shaw and Mr. Barker talk of "an outworn tradition," or of "antiquated stage conventions." They assert or imply that all traditions of dramatic form are out of date, and that the new conversational dialogue of ideas is replacing them. They seem to imagine that such traditions are an obstacle to progress akin to the veto of the House of Lords; that they are "useless, dangerous, and ought to be abolished." Now the existing form of drama is pretty firmly established, and it cannot conceivably be upset by anything short of a masterpiece. If there is anyone who claims that either *Misalliance* or *The Madras House* is a masterpiece, that is, a great work of art, I imagine it will be futile to argue with him. The most that can reasonably be claimed for these plays is that they are extraordinarily suggestive and stimulating to thought. They do not stir enthusiasm, and it is not of such material that an artistic renaissance is made. . . . If Mr. Shaw and Mr. Barker were leading a revolt against mere staginess of this kind their position could be understood. But disregard of continuity of action is a very different matter. This is a dramatic tradition that cannot be despised, for it is really vital to the proper understanding of the play by the audience. It asks no more than that an issue once raised shall be followed out to its conclusion, that there shall be no superfluous characters, no "loose ends" or "blind alleys." This is a perfectly fair demand, for the time of three hours allotted by the conventions of the theatre, although quite adequate for the treatment of a single theme, is hopelessly insufficient for all the side issues that may legitimately be dealt with in an average novel, let us say, of a hundred thousand words. The real difficulty in play-writing is not what to say, but what to leave unsaid. *Misalliance* reaches the extreme of discursiveness and incoherence.

Of *The Madras House* the writer adds: "Surely it would have been better either to throw the whole story into the form of a novel, or to select only those incidents that could be conveniently treated upon the stage in the course of three hours." And he goes on to point out that D'Annunzio, Suderman, Strindberg, Björnson, Gorki, Schnitzler, and Maeterlinck are all consummate stagecraftsmen, and consequently careful constructors of plots.

All this is just what we have been urging against Mr. Bernard Shaw's recent work for years past. It is refreshing to find one's opinions echoed by the most literary of our modern weeklies and by the cultured public of the Duke of York's Theatre. We think that Mr. Shaw's game is nearly up. He must either reform or retire. It is a pity, though, that the author of *The Voysey Inheritance* and *Waste* should have been mesmerised into imitating a fashion which is outworn.

MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH AT EDINBURGH.

The annual meeting of the Needle and Thimble Guild was held on the 29th ult., in the Oak Hall of the Edinburgh Café, Edinburgh. Lady Dunedin, one of the patrons of the Guild, occupied the chair. Miss Lindsay Jardine, hon. secretary and treasurer, read the report, which showed that the membership was 526 in 1909, compared with 550 in 1908. In 1908, 1770 garments were contributed, and in 1909, 1251; while the amounts contributed were £33 in 1908 and £35 in 1909. Lady Dunedin thereafter introduced Miss Violet Vanbrugh, one whom, she said, really needed no introduction to an Edinburgh audience. They welcomed Miss Vanbrugh not only as one of their leading actresses, but as a friend. It was exceedingly kind of Miss Vanbrugh to come there that afternoon to encourage the work of the Guild. They were sometimes apt to forget that the life of the successful actress meant very hard work and constant study. To arrive at the top of the tree and to remain there meant great devotion to work and a very strenuous life, and, therefore, they were the more grateful to Miss Vanbrugh for giving up some of her leisure time to come there that afternoon. The object, as they knew, was to help the poorer members of the theatrical profession. They were still in need of members, and she hoped that meeting would lead to an increase in the membership, so that it might be even more successful than it had been before. In this connection Lady Dunedin commended the work of Miss Jardine. Miss Vanbrugh, at the request of Lady Dunedin, thereafter presented badges to Mrs. Ferguson and Miss Bruce in virtue of their having respectively contributed the most garments and secured the largest number of members. Miss Vanbrugh thanked Lady Dunedin for the very kind words she had spoken, and for saying that they regarded her as a friend as well as an actress. She was always delighted to play before an Edinburgh audience. She was glad to be allowed to give away the badges to those who had won them by their industry and goodwill, and who had worked for those who were unable to help themselves. That charity was founded by a member of the profession whose loving heart was always striving to help in some practical way those who had fallen. Few, if any, charities worked more unostentatiously for the good of others than the Theatrical Ladies' Guild in London and the Needle and Thimble Guild in Edinburgh—the only two organisations outside the theatrical profession that helped that good work. Votes of thanks were accorded to Miss Vanbrugh and to Lady Dunedin.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Your leading article of last Saturday conveys, unintentionally I am sure, a very mistaken impression as to the views set forth in the scheme and estimates for a National Theatre published some three years ago by Mr. Granville Barker and myself. In the first place, you say that we assume "an imaginary building holding 300," which is, of course, absurd. I presume that 300 must be a misprint for 1,300. Even this number is smaller than we ultimately estimated for. Then you say that we assumed the theatre to be usually only half full, from which your readers, I think, could not but gather that we expected this to be the normal condition of things at the National Theatre. This is very far from being the case. On the contrary, we stated over and over again that we were sanguine of success and popularity for such a theatre as we outlined. But in considering the amount of the requisite Guarantee Fund we were, of course, obliged to consider numerous *possibilities;* and among several other possibilities which we forecast—some much more favourable and others even less—we speculated on what might have to be done if, for a certain time, the average audience represented only half the capacity of the house. To prepare for an unfavourable possibility is not to assume it to be inevitable, or even probable. This distinction is clear, and I am sure you had no intention of obscuring it; but as readers of your article would be apt to overlook it, I hope you will find space for this explanation.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM ARCHER.

Mrs. George Cornwallis-West and other ladies are organising a costume ball in aid of the fund for the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. Amongst those who have promised to assist is Lady Tree. The tickets will be 25s. each, to include a buffet supper. The grand tier boxes will be twelve guineas, the loggia boxes eight guineas, and the second tier boxes four guineas, in addition to the price of the entrance ticket, and special arrangements will be made for supper in the boxes. A band of a hundred performers has been engaged, and the costumes will represent characters in Shakespeare's plays, or personages of the Elizabethan period.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY ON THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

An eloquent speech in connection with the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre was delivered on Wednesday afternoon by Mr. Martin Harvey, at a meeting held at Lady Dickson-Poynder's house in Chesterfield-gardens, with the Countess of Wemyss in the chair.

Mr. Martin Harvey said:—Ladies and gentlemen, what we want, it seems to me, in this question of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, is unanimity. That is what I am here to pray for to-day. I remember some few years ago a question was raised whether we should have a statue of my great master, Sir Henry Irving, put up in a public place. Innumerable questions were immediately asked: Was not the record of his glorious reign at the Lyceum sufficient monument? Should we get money? Should not the memorial of his fame take some other form? Would it not be wiser to have a museum where the portraits and personal relics of other great actors as well as Sir Henry Irving might be housed? Was such a memorial necessary at all? &c., &c. A meeting of the members of our profession was called at the Garrick Theatre, and, luckily for us, Sir John Hare was in the chair. The meeting was very nearly rendered abortive by the diffuse discussions of these various questions, and I truly believe we should never have arrived at any decision at all had it not been for an eloquent appeal to the meeting by Sir John Hare for unanimity. Those who were present at the meeting immediately recognised that the right note had been struck. The situation was saved. Subscriptions came in at once. The statue is an accomplished fact, and stands at this moment in the studio of Mr. Brock, and will be set in its place (we hope) in a few weeks' time.

Now, it seems to me that we want something of the same spirit of unanimity to animate us at this present juncture. All civilised people have expressed their grateful remembrance of their exalted men by some tangible memorial, and it seems to me an inconclusive argument that, as we already possess the imperishable monument of Shakespeare's works, we need no other memorial or reminder. We might as well say: "Here is our Empire, here are our possessions, why float over them a Union Jack?"

Scotland does not deal with the question of rearing monuments to her literary giants in this half-hearted way. There are few cities of any importance over the Border which do not possess their monuments to Burns and Scott, "and a greater than these is here." We might have some excuse for our attitude if we could point to that continuous and unanimous enthusiasm for our great poet-playwright which other European countries present. It is notorious that in Germany, at least, the performance and knowledge of Shakespeare's works is far wider than our own. The fact is that we have no real excuse for this plea. So, then, let us clear the ground and decide that we must have that tangible memorial to Shakespeare.

Well, we have made a start, and, largely through the munificence of one princely donor, a good start too. Nearly one-fifth of the amount needed is already subscribed towards the erection and endowment of a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, for it has been decided that a National Theatre is the form this memorial to our great Shakespeare is to take.

You will remember that there were originally two proposals for the Shakespeare Memorial. One a comparatively modest scheme for a statue, the other for a theatre, and it was owing to the urgency of a large section of those interested in the performance of the drama that those who favoured the less costly memorial statue allowed themselves to be merged into that section who clamoured for a Memorial Theatre. And that is the point which we actor-managers and theatre-folk must not forget. It seems to me we are bound to see this through, lest we should be open to the reproach that the larger scheme failed for want of unanimity in our ranks, and after the more modest proposal had been forgone at our entreaties. For my own part, and aside from my own personal convictions, which are entirely in favour of it, I hold it a heritage of duty that I should do my small part in the furtherance of a scheme which Sir Henry Irving never lost an opportunity of enforcing upon our attention.

Long before his later misfortunes deprived him of the theatre he had, single-handed, reared into a national institution he had realised that it was not for one man to bear upon his shoulders such a stupendous burden as the maintenance of a National Theatre. In no other European country is he expected to do it. The State, the Municipality, the wealthy art patron, whichever it is, comes to the rescue, and says: "We recognise that the theatre has a refining and educational influence; that mere amusement is very well in its way; but the theatre shall not be narrowed down to amusement alone; the theatre shall be placed on such a footing that it shall be independent, to a great extent, of the consideration of financial success. Here is a freehold site to build your theatre upon, here is half a million to endow it; or, better still, here are both!"

Well, ladies and gentlemen, we know the old argument on the side of British individual enterprise and what it can accomplish, and we are proud enough to point to what it has accomplished: but how many of us know the cost? Especially when the enterprise has been exercised in the domain of art! We all look back with a glow of pride to the long series of revivals at the Lyceum Theatre under Sir Henry Irving which have added such lustre and dignity to the annals of theatrical history, but how many of those revivals paid? And shall we always be willing to allow one man who has the genius to rear such a national blessing to hold it aloft on his own unbuttressed shoulders—I say, shall we always be willing to stand by and see him wear out many years of his precious life in this effort for our benefit?

There have been long gaps in the history of the drama where no man has been found willing to sacrifice himself for the good of his generation. And what has been the history of the drama during that time? Little but a long sequence of senseless inanities. In the days to come we must not be content to either sacrifice more rare genius or to "muddle through" by trying to do the distinguished thing in a popular way, for that is an end which has never been achieved in the history of art. We must have an institution placed on a footing above the single necessity of paying, and which shall maintain the high standard which it will be nerved to maintain when associated with the immortal name of Shakespeare.

And the time is ripe for the rearing of that standard. The tercentenary of Shakespeare's death is approaching, and a great part of the civilised world will be paying tribute in some form to the memory of this greatest literary and dramatic genius. It is absolutely impossible to contemplate the possibility of that event being uncommemorated by some great movement in England—this "dear, dear England," of whom no man has spoken so inspiringly as Shakespeare himself—without the realisation of that memorial to him to the building of which we have put our hands.

Remember, we have burnt our boats—it cannot be a statue now. That scheme has been abandoned. It must be a Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre, and it will come. The public is ready for it. Look at the renewed interest there is in Shakespeare and his works; renewed largely because the tendency of modern Shakespearean scholarship has been to humanise the great author himself. In every important centre in the British Isles is growing up a branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, which will, I venture to say, prove to be a powerful organisation for the collection of subscriptions for our Memorial Theatre. Mr. Benson renews his Shakespearean Festival at Stratford-on-Avon under happier auspices than ever before; and Sir Herbert Tree is also able to announce no less than five weeks' festival at His Majesty's Theatre. Surely this last spectacle alone is enough to win over any who may be sceptical as to the possible success of our enterprise. I am sure we of the executive of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre are grateful to Sir Herbert Tree for proving to us at the critical moment the readiness of the public to support the undertaking and a great series of Shakespearean plays. The mere fact that so many distinguished members of my calling have lent their names to the Festival at His Majesty's Theatre is surely proof of their desire to honour Shakespeare in the most practical way, and indirectly to show their sympathy and belief in the ultimate destiny of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. And that belief in its destiny will be realised. It is surely coming.

It is useless for the detractors of the proposal to write letters, to make speeches against it. It is premature, it seem to me, to discuss variations in the administration of such a theatre, that will come in due time, when we shall all be glad of further expert help and advice. In the meantime let us forget the little axe we all have at home which may be getting blunt and in need of grinding. Let us not worry too much about the composition or the administration of the executive—all these things will right themselves in time. Let us feel nothing but indebtedness to the many distinguished ladies and gentlemen of our committee who are pledged to promote this scheme, and whom my friend Harry Irving has a little unkindly, if very wittily, described as "superfluous magnificoes." Let us not dwell overmuch upon the cautious excellence of modern beginnings, but let us, remembering that it is the greatest name in literature we have to honour, do the big thing, and, as Lord Milner would say, "Damn the consequences."

A letter from Mr. Forbes-Robertson to Mr H. S. Perris, the organising secretary, was read, stating that Mr. Forbes-Robertson had made a start in the formation of an American committee to raise funds for the memorial.

A "new version" of the play-scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was enacted in costume by a cast that included the Hon. Cynthia Charteris and Mr. Tom Heslewood.

"CURING A SELFISH HUSBAND."

A Comedietta, in One Act, by Guy Newall, Played at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, April 4.

The Man ..... Mr. Wyn Weaver
The Thing ..... Mr. J. Henry Twyford
The Woman ..... Miss Margerite Unett

(From our own correspondent.)

Old Scrooge is the classical example of a man's character being changed for the better through the agency of a dream, and in this comedietta the same idea has been cleverly utilised to provide an interesting front piece. The Man is a selfish gentleman with a taste for antiques. He has purchased a life-sized Indian idol, which he proudly places in a corner of his drawing-room. Seating himself comfortably upon a carefully cushioned sofa, he proceeds to enjoy himself with an interesting book and a good cigarette. His charming wife is very desirous of seeing a certain play at the theatre, and the husband casually remarks that he has two tickets for this particular theatre, but he forgot them until it is too late to use them. The wife, in desperation, warns him that her endurance of his selfish manners has reached the limit. Like most selfish people, he is the last person to realise that he practises this vice. However, he receives his wife's admonition philosophically, and soon falls asleep. The idol comes to life, and impressively points out to the husband that his selfish behaviour is killing his wife's love and driving her away from him. The wife is summoned by the idol, and she avows her intention to quit the house with the strange idol, and leave the Man behind to enjoy his own good opinion of himself alone. The husband attempts to protest forcibly, but a wave from the hand of the idol sends him reeling back in pain, and he is compelled to listen to the forceful remonstrance of both wife and idol. The husband awakes from his dream a changed man, and to make amends he displays kindness and consideration towards his loving wife, who disclaims any idea of familiarity with "Chutney," the idol, and all ends happily.

Mr. J. Henry Twyford plays impressively and with much dignity as The Thing (an Indian idol), and Miss Margerite Unett gives a praiseworthy rendering of The Woman. Mr. Wyn Weaver was excellent as the Man. The comedietta was favourably received.

At the council meeting of the Actors' Association, held on Tuesday, April 5, at 32, Regent Street, with Mr. Cyril Cattley in the chair, there were present Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. F. H. De Quincey, Robson Paige, H. Le Grand, Langford Reed, Leonard Shepherd, C. Hayden Coffin, Edward Morgan, Murri Moncrieff, Richard A. Greene, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th ult., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed the same. The secretary read a letter from Miss Blanche De Lorme, and received instructions.

The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised two members, and were instructed further in regard to the recent Strand Theatre fiasco. With reference to licensing of agents by the L.C.C., it was proposed by Mr. R. A. Greene, seconded by Mr. R. Paige, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Cecil Raleigh be asked to represent the Association before the Parliamentary Committee of the L.C.C., and, in the event of his being unable to attend, that Mr. Greene be asked to attend.

The following were elected members: Mr. H. L. Lyndhurst, Mr. A. M. Carlton Crowe, Miss Myfanwy Newell, Miss Florence Radcliffe, Miss Penelope Wheeler, and Mr. Charles Graham; Miss Isabel Grey was reinstated; and Miss Beatrice Park, Mr. Ronald Squire, Mr. George Mudie, Mr. M. Hayden Hewitt, and Mr. R. Arthur Lane were nominated.

Mr. R. A. Greene drew attention to several advertisements appearing recently in the Press for amateurs and artists willing to give their services for trial performances of sketches in music-halls. Mr. Greene contended that these advertisements tended to foster "bogus management," and, on the motion of Mr. Paige, seconded by Miss Chester, it was arranged that Mr. Greene and Mr. Reed should interview the editor of the paper in which the advertisements appeared on the subject, and report at the next council meeting.

It was proposed by Mr. Greene, and seconded by Mr. Reed, that an advertisement be inserted asking all members of the profession to communicate particulars of any authentic case of bogus management to the secretary, and directions were given for the insertion of this advertisement, which was carried unanimously.

The Scottish Repertory Theatre, which has attained its first anniversary, has produced a play a week during the thirty-six weeks of its season, fourteen of the plays being novelties. The capital of £3,000 was subscribed by some citizens of Glasgow; the theatre is run upon the stock system, and is managed by a board of directors and an advisory committee.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA BÊTE."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Edmond Fleg, Produced at Antoine's on Monday, April 4.

Lucienne ..... Mme. A. Mégard
Mme. Esselin ..... Mme. Even
Mme. Marcès ..... Mlle. Massart
Sylvie ..... Mlle. Fusier
Germaine ..... Mlle. Mirval
Ketty ..... Mlle. Lecuyer
Pierre ..... M. Gémier
Guillaume Bussière ..... M. Roussell
Claude Patrice ..... M. Royer
Dr. Bussière ..... M. Clasis
Rosembray ..... M. Plateau
Saillard ..... M. Loris

(From our own correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday, April 7.—M. Edmond Fleg, a young playwright, has given us a very bold comedy, but it is to be regretted that his inexperience has caused him to deal with his subject in a decidedly indelicate manner, the subject being the "beast" of carnal passion that lurks in man and woman. His hero is Pierre Marcès, a debauchee, in whom the "beast" is strongly developed. In fact, he glories in his immorality, and would, if he could, emulate Nero. Unfortunately, we live in a prosaic age, and the law would not allow pranks like those in which that imperial scoundrel indulged. Pierre, therefore, is compelled to practice immorality on a smaller scale, something after the manner of a Don Juan or a Marquis de Priola. In search after fresh sensations, he gets himself introduced to Lucienne Esselin, a girl belonging to a highly respectable family, with the intention of marrying her first and then effecting her ruin. Lucienne loves her cousin Guillaume, a young scientist; but Pierre has such a wonderful influence over her that one night, yielding to temptation, she gives way to him. Although warned by Pierre's mother, Lucienne then becomes that man's wife. She despises her seducer, yet she is attracted towards him through the "beast" that has taken possession of her. Pierre's next move is to give himself the sensation of jealousy, for which reason he deliberately exposes his wife to the attentions of Claude Patrice, his friend, a painter. Until then the play had not much success, and the audience even laughed at some of the most pathetic scenes. But the turning point came in the third act, when Lucienne, after having rejected Patrice's advances, upbraids her husband for his villainy. She is in her own home, and has so far conquered herself that in response to Pierre's supplications to return to him she laughs in his face, telling him that she is "free," and will never again become his slave. Pierre goes away threatening vengeance. But, when alone, Lucienne calls out for her cousin, the young scientist, whom she wants to take care of her, for she realises the fact that she requires someone to protect her, possibly against herself and the "beast" within her. Mme. Andrée Mégard handled the difficult rôle of Lucienne with exquisite tact. In less skilled hands that part might easily have become ridiculous, but Mme. Mégard was equal to the occasion. M. Gémier was less satisfactory, in so far that at times he tried to overreach himself. M. Royer, on the other hand, impersonated the wicked painter, Patrice, with his usual talent. The other rôles were also well sustained by an efficient cast.

"TAIS-TOI, MON CŒUR!"

Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by Maurice Hennequin and Pierre Veber, Produced at the Palais-Royal on April 6.

Mirette ..... Mlle. Mistinguett
Prudence ..... Mme. Rosine Mauriel
Isabelle ..... Mlle. Simon
Balbine ..... Mlle. Calvat
Euphémie ..... Mlle. Lepers
Louison ..... Mlle. Garcia
Savinien ..... M. Le Gallo
Pinoche ..... M. Hurteaux
Edgard ..... M. Milo
Charles-Amédée ..... M. Reschal
Baruch ..... M. Clement

This smartly-written farce is a skit on the professional "rescuers," men whose aim in life is to rescue ladies who have strayed from the right path. Savinien de le Bombardière, a romantic youth, has undertaken this task, and he, therefore, feels only interested in girls who have "gone wrong." He looks after their moral and physical welfare, and, if by chance he feels casually attracted towards them, he remonstrates with himself, and calls out: "Tais-toi, mon cœur!" He is chaste, and, for this reason perhaps, is misunderstood—the fate of all true apostles. When the play opens he has taken in hand a flighty damsel of the name of Mirette, the daughter of an old cartomancienne, who has predicted the future to at least three generations of cooks and housemaids. Mirette has been brought up in a milieu of acrobats and clowns, whose company she prefers to that of the good Savinien, who, in return for his kindness, wants her to read edifying books and to play scales on the piano. The result is that the moment Savinien has turned his back, Mirette flies into the arms of Dupont, an elderly but funny man, whose company she prefers to that of the austere youth. This funny old gentleman's name is not Dupont. He is M. Pinoche, Professor at the Collège de France, where he lectures on Virtue and Duty. He has a daughter, Mlle. Balbine, and it so happens that Savinien's uncle wants him to marry her. Savinien is introduced to her, but he does not fancy marrying a respectable girl. He would rather rescue one and make her his wife afterwards. Nor does Balbine care for Savinien. She has lost her heart to her father's secretary, and she has sworn to remain faithful to him. The fact is she has many admirers, hankering after her fortune, but she has discovered a smart trick to drive them away. The moment a youth comes forward as a suitor she tells him that she is an illegitimate child. The effect on the suitors is electrical. When, however, she tells this story to Savinien, the latter at once becomes enthusiastic, and swears that nobody but Balbine will become his wife. The plot then degenerates into a broad farce. Mirette happening to call on M. Pinoche, discovers, to her dismay, that the great scientist and the funny Dupont are the same person, and this scene between the representatives of the scientific and the half-world is one of the best in the piece. Mirette is tired of being treated with respect by Savinien, who is by no means a bad-looking man. She tries her powers of seduction, and Savinien is not proof against them. He will remain with Mirette, but no longer as a rescuer. As to the funny Dupont, his wife, having had wind of his pranks, grants him a free pardon. The farce was spiritedly played by a good all-round company. One of the hits was the dancing of Mlle. Mistinguett, who introduced a new step, which will not be adopted in our drawing-rooms. For some unknown reason a dance is now introduced in almost every farce, many times without any *raison d'être* whatsoever.

Mr. Charles Fisher has invented a contrivance called "Loop-Golf-Hits," which can be played with standard golf clubs in a spare room, drawing-room, on a stage, on board ship, grass plot, lawn, or links. A private demonstration showing the advantages and the game of Loop-Golf-Hits will be given at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13 next, by the famous golf champions James Braid and J. H. Taylor. Loop-Golf-Hits is intended to assist the novice and all golfers in acquiring the art of playing a straight shot and picking up cleanly one's ball from the ground—which is the foundation of golfing. Also it enables one to rectify faulty shots at once by playing them over again immediately without wandering miles over the links and wasting valuable time in recovering the ball.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The grand total of *The Era* Music Hall Home Fund for 1910 has reached the record sum of 6073 shillings—£303 13s., and with the closing of the collection it is our most agreeable duty to thank the contributors and collectors and to congratulate the profession on the increased interest manifested in that excellent charity.

Miss Vesta Tilley's magnificent effort has resulted in a collection to her credit of £81 0s. 6d.—another record—and to her will be given the gold medal awarded by *The Era* to the largest collector. To this favourite artist the work, we know, has been a labour of love. She has persistently urged in the most fascinating manner possible the claims of the Home, and will be heartily felicitated on the result of her whole-hearted exertions on behalf of the aged performers now resting at the Home.

It is expected that building operations in connection with the new Glasgow music hall—the Alhambra—will be commenced in a few weeks. The house is to be erected under the auspices of the Palace company, and, incidentally, in connection with the controlling interests of the Butt-Beck-De Frece-Gibbons combine, on the site of the Waterloo Rooms.

The spacious auditorium will provide seating accommodation on the ground floor and two galleries for about 2,400 people. The ground floor will be occupied by the stalls and pit, the first tier by the grand circle and first circle, and the second tier by the amphitheatre and gallery. On each floor a lounge and bar will be fitted up. A long portico, the full width of the pavement, will be erected over the main entrance from Wellington-street.

The offices of the United County Theatres, Ltd., now at 63a, Shaftesbury-avenue, will be removed on Saturday next, April 9, to Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket. The houses controlled by the Circuit are the Palace, Plymouth; Palace, Bristol; Palace, Aberdeen; King's Theatre, Gateshead; and the Palace, King's, and Gaiety, Dundee, and the Grand Theatre, Stonehouse.

One of the saddest cases of misfortune that we known of is that of Mr. Fred H. Millis, the popular ventriloquist, now afflicted with blindness. Coming from the Colonies about twenty years since, he secured a deservedly high position in his profession, and held it until his on-coming calamity prevented the continuance of his work on the stage.

For some years he has resided at Wattle Bloom, Broom Water West, Broom Water, Teddington, a freehold residence which is to be sold on the 20th inst. at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, by Richardson and Martin, who will also offer the contents of the pretty residence on the premises next Wednesday and Thursday, April 13 and 14.

The catalogue of the furniture, which may be had of the auctioneers, whose offices are opposite Teddington Station, reveals some very valuable lots. Among the choice paintings are examples by C. H. Passey, R.A., and the name of Carl Brennir—the famous Christy Minstrel tenor, whose brush was responsible for much artistic work—is attached to other pictures. A rare piece of furniture is a Chinese model pagoda bookcase. An exhibition 8ft. bedroom suite, a three-quarter billiard-table, a costly gilt timepiece, a full compass pianoforte by Ronisch, Dresden and Chelsea figures and ornaments, a 20ft. double skiff, and a 15ft. motor dinghy are also to be offered.

Mr. Richard Northcott, the musical critic, leaves London to-morrow for a tour on the Continent, and will visit the opera houses in Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Munich, Frankfurt, and Brussels, in the hope of finding one or two works suitable for production in England. While in Munich Mr. Northcott will go to Oberammergan to witness a representation of the *Passion Play*. He will not be back in London until the beginning of June.

At the Lal Brough sale on April 20 and 21 will be dispersed many interesting relics. One of them is a Sheffield plated cigar box, which originally belonged to Professor Anderson, who was giving one of his shows on the night that Covent Garden Theatre was destroyed by fire. It is inscribed: "Presented by Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, to Professor Anderson, as a mark of appreciation of talent displayed in an entertainment given in the White House, Washington, 1863." Mr. Lionel Brough bought this from the wizard's nephew.

Another interesting memento is a stage armlet worn by Marian, the giantess, who, it will be remembered, led the Amazons in a revival at the Alhambra in 1882 of that remarkable piece *Babil and Bijou*, with Miss Constance Loseby and Harry Paulton in the cast. In the original cast at Covent Garden old playgoers will remember Lal Brough by his humorous performance as Auricomus. It was Bill Holland who conceived the brilliant idea of choosing a giantess to lead the forces of aggressive womanhood in fine casque and helm.

At the Hippodrome on Monday Mlle. Anne Daurcy, a fascinating singer of light love songs, will renew the favourable impression formed of her entertainment on her previous London appearances at the Alhambra. Another fresh arrival in the programme will be found in a comedy-duologue performed by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber. The prestige of the Hippodrome has been sensibly enhanced by the engagement of Mme. Réjane, who is welcomed by two packed houses every day. Business is phenomenal.

We are given to understand that if the necessity arises for an understudy in the cast of *Lolotte*, Mr. Fred Trussell, the popular manager, who can speak more languages than many ambassadors, will be available. He has a fine Parisian accent, and a manner quite in accord with the traditions of the famous house of Molière, the Comédie-Française. He could play le Baron or Croiselles quite easily with just a rehearsal or two.

Mr. Edward Terry, though not a member of the distinguished theatrical family whose name he bears, is nevertheless a famous comedian and an actor-manager, whose absence from London is regrettable. He is to find a new field for his comedy at that Mecca of the theatrical star—the Palace—and will make his variety début on May 16. Mr. Terry, like Sir W. S. Gilbert, is a justice of the peace.

On the authority of *Vanity Fair* we are told that one of our best-known music halls in the West-End will probably be purchased by a gentleman whose name is a household word through the country with a view to turning it into an opera house. His son, who is very popular, has for many years past taken a prominent part in musical affairs in London, and has distinguished himself by his courageous support of modern musicians. According to our information, it is proposed to bring over from the Boston Symphony Orchestra some of their most prominent musicians, and it is rumoured that a representative is already on the way to Boston for that purpose.

The Dover Palace has reopened under the direction of Mr. Fred Southern, who is well known as a sketch manager.

Electric Theatres are starting a boom in Glasgow. Mr. A. E. Pickard, of the Panopticon, has secured a site in Castle-street for one, and another is being fitted out in Sauchiehall-street, near Charing Cross. Several others are "in the air."

The New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, is now under new management, and any artists holding contracts for it must communicate with Mr. Harry Tunbridge, New Spa, Bridlington, who is now prepared to make further arrangements for the season.

Mr. W. F. Frame, "the man you know," who is meeting with much success in the North with his vaudeville one-night towns, celebrated his birthday on Tuesday last in the city of Brechin, where he was the recipient of a silver cigarette case from his company. Mr. Robert Dunning made the presentation.

At the recent fire at the Opera House, Crewe, Terrier Jack Harris had the misfortune to lose everything he had in the dressing-room. The Terriers' Association has made him a grant of £3 to cover the loss, and Terrier Harris has generously given the amount to the Emergency Fund of the Association.

Glasgow is promised another place of amusement. Two steadings of ground, extending together to about 1,024 square yards, with tenements of shops and dwelling-houses, forming Nos. 149 to 155, Castle-street, recently came into the market. Mr. A. E. Pickard, the well-known amusement caterer, was the purchaser.

It is his intention to demolish the buildings, which are supposed to be over 200 years old, and erect on the site a theatre to be called the Glasgow Casino, in which entertainments of the variety order will be given. The theatre will have a frontage to Castle-street of 70ft.

Mr. Tony Iveson, the well-known pianist comedian, is laid up with a severe illness in Hull, but hopes to resume work again in the course of a few weeks with his new show, *An Artist's Love*, in which he will be assisted by Miss Millie Clifford. The act, he tells us, is full of comedy, music, and pathos.

Owing to the enormous success of the Jungle and Arena, Glasgow, Mr. Frank C. Bostock has decided to continue the season another week longer. As an extra attraction Mr. Bostock offers a handsome present to any engaged couple who will be married in the arena along with the lions and their trainer.

It is with regret that we have to announce the decease at the early age of thirty-seven of a very talented and versatile comedian, Richard—better known as Dick—Thomas, who, in conjunction with Mr. Taylor, has been touring in a clever sketch *Fun on the Midland*, in which the deceased appeared in a quick and varied change of character. His last appearance was at the Palace of Varieties, Northampton, last week.

Mr. H. Curline Baldry, who has been for the last eight months assistant-manager at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, is now in London seeking an appointment. He has had a good London experience, having held a similar position at the Empire, Shoreditch; also Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E. He had a good send-off from Birmingham, and wishes to thank the merry little crowd for their purse of gold.

The sympathy of all friends will be extended to Mr. W. Christie Grant, manager of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, on the death of his wife, which took place on Thursday, the 31st ult., after an operation at the hands of a specialist, for the removal of an internal tumour. The funeral took place on Monday, to the pretty little country cemetery at Thornliebank, near Glasgow, and a carriage was filled with the flowers sent by many professional and private friends.

Notice is given that the occupancy and tenancy of the Alhambra Theatre of Varieties, Higher Openshaw, Manchester, by the Lyric Theatre Company (Manchester), Ltd., shall cease and determine on and after Monday next. All contracts with artists effected by the said company during a period of two months from the said April 11, 1910, will be taken over by the new tenants or occupiers. Artists desirous of rebooking should communicate with the manager, Mr. Arthur Preston, Alhambra Theatre, Higher Openshaw.

Rhyl Amusements, Ltd., have taken a long lease from the District Council of the Marine Lake (over 40 acres of water) and pleasure grounds surrounding, for the purpose of laying out the whole as a pleasure park. Arrangements have already been made for a water chute and a number of other successful amusement devices. The proprietors are prepared to let sites for any kind of outside amusement (marine or otherwise), side shows, novelties, &c. Applications may be made to the secretary, Mr. James Lucas, 26, Birley-street, Blackpool.

Rhyl is easily accessible from the industrial districts of the North and Midlands by rail and sea, being the first of the famous North Wales watering-places on the London and North-Western main line.

Mr. Louis Cohen's clever playlet *Nelson*, which had such a favourable reception on its original production, and afterwards at the Tivoli and Oxford, is being revived on Monday at the Standard, Pimlico. The capital cast includes Mr. Arthur Max (Nelson), Mr. Edmund Lea (O'Sullivan), Mr. Clifford Marle (Collingwood), and Miss Josephine Colona (Mrs. Liebmann).

Last week, at the Alhambra, Brighton, proved a rather momentous time for Mr. Charles Coborn. He says with regard to Brighton that, like Eccles, in *Caste*, he should like to go there "often—very often—every day." On the Friday night an enthusiastic admirer threw a silver-mounted stick on the stage as a token of esteem and approbation. It is painful to have to record that the generous donor was promptly and ignominiously ejected from the hall, and warned never to come again, for having been guilty of conduct calculated to injure the tone of that well-conducted establishment. On Saturday night Mr. Coborn was the recipient of a very handsome bouquet, intended as a tribute to his impersonation of the lady beauty-doctor. So, what with these and other tokens of amity and regard from the genial proprietor, Mr. A. Smith, and his patrons, our Charles seems to have had rather a good time.

He wishes V.A.F.'s to remember particularly the address of their local agent, Mr. Marlow, formerly member of Sussex County cricket team, as members are so apt to make excuses as to not being able to find it. It is the Lord Nelson, Russell-street, right opposite the side of the Alhambra, so there is no excuse for excuses. A most comfortable and well-appointed room is at members' disposal, and every thoughtful attention is paid to his duties as agent by Mr. Marlow, who is courtesy and consideration personified.

Mr. Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett are producing the powerful sketch, by Will Evans and Tom Craven, entitled *The Mystery of the Cliff*, at the Foresters' on Monday.

"The Will of Allah," a romance of the Sahara Desert, by Lewis T. Dalrymple, music by J. Parry Cole, will be produced for one night only on Monday, April 18, at the Euston. The author introduces into this dramatic sketch an original and fantastic Franco-Arabian Dance.

Mr. Oswald Stoll is giving his patrons at the Shepherd's Bush Empire next week a sensation called "Shooting the Bar and Whizzing the Wheel in a Motor-car" which will be performed by Darracq. Darracq claims that he circles the wheel at a speed of eighty-five miles per hour.

The head of the firm of Ted Snyder's Music Publishing Company in America has just mailed to their London manager, Mr. J. H. Squire, a solid gold penknife, the handle being studded with diamonds. The recipient's delight and surprise at the costly gift may be better imagined than described.

The action brought by Mr. Cox against Mr. Fred Karno for an injunction to restrain Mr. Karno from performing *Perkins, M.P.*, and for damages for alleged infringement of copyright, has been dismissed with costs, owing to the plaintiff having failed to prosecute the action after Mr. Karno had put in his defence.

Mr. Jack E. Cohen, the popular manager of the Paragon, goes to the Canterbury as assistant (*pro tem.*) when the Mile End hall closes, which will be on May 23, and the energetic young stage-manager, Mr. Brooke, will commence with Mr. Oswald Stoll, who is sure to appreciate his ability in the back of the house.

Congratulations to Mr. Llewellyn Johns, who recently took the place of Mr. Alan Young at Cranbourn Mansions offices, on his return from New York, where he represented the Moss-Stoll interests. He was married at the British Consulate in Paris, on Saturday last, to Miss Florence Bertie, daughter of Mr. John Hayman, Stoll's Continental representative. The happy couple have been the recipients of hearty congratulations and sincere wishes.

The bridegroom is the son of the late David Johns, of Cardiff, and was first engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll in Cardiff about ten years ago, and soon after was appointed manager of the Empire in the town. When the headquarters of the Stoll interests were transferred to London, Mr. Johns took charge of the Continental bookings, and afterwards went to New York.

The secretary of the Empire, Camberwell, Ltd., writes: "In connection with the recent tragedy at the Camberwell Empire, we shall be greatly obliged if you will publish a paragraph stating that, several letters having been received from people desirous of assisting the two women and four children left destitute by the occurrence, a committee, consisting of four gentlemen and two ladies, has been formed with the object of promoting a fund for that purpose.

"The proprietors of the Camberwell Empire have relieved the immediate necessities of the families, and headed the list with a donation of £5. They have also arranged to hold a special matinée performance and to present the whole of the takings to the fund. The treasurer is Mr. Percy Ford, Camberwell Empire, Denmark Hill, S.E., who will be pleased to receive any donations. The following amounts have been already received:—The proprietors, Camberwell Empire, £5; Iris Fox, £5; Frank Hurst, 10s. 6d.; William Nutt, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Cocks, 10s.; Dr. Evans, 5s.; Dr. Turner, 2s. 6d.; and Mr. Cameron Matthews, 2s. 6d."

Mr. Harry S. S. McCalla, whose address is given at 193, Piccadilly, London, and who acts as business manager for his daughters, Dolly and Madge McCalla, writes as follows:—"My two daughters, Dolly and Madge McCalla, were to have opened at the Palace, Northampton, on Monday. Last week they appeared at the Empire, Dudley. On Saturday night, at 6.30, Dolly left her younger sister Madge at the stage door of the Empire, saying that she would return in a few moments, and that she was going to call upon a lady friend who lived some three minutes or so from the hall.

"Since that moment she has not been seen. She disappeared completely. The police were communicated with, a thorough search made, and a description was telephoned and telegraphed to all connecting railway stations, but all to no avail. All her friends and acquaintances have been communicated with, but up to now nothing whatever has been heard of her. This is a very serious and terrible matter, as we cannot discover even the slightest reason for my daughter's disappearance."

The first regular meeting of the Proscenium Lodge, the latest lodge of Freemasons, established in the interest of the vaudeville profession, was held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Tuesday last. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Albert Le Fre, the master, Mr. J. W. Mathews, A.G.D.C., and first master of the Chelsea Lodge, at the request of Mr. H. Coutts, the I.P.M., accepted the compliment of opening the Lodge, his officers being Mr. Roberts (Atlas), S.W., Frank Hardie, J.W., Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R. (treasurer), acting as I.G., C. J. Doughty (secretary), G. A. Keen, acting S.D., Andie Caine, J.D., and Charles Levy, acting organist.

After transacting the usual business of the opening of the lodge, Mr. Mathews vacated the chair in order to allow Mr. Lyon to have the honour of initiating the first candidate for the privileges of Ancient Freemasonry, having performed that ceremony at the first meeting of the Chelsea Lodge, the candidate being Mr. Reginald Hedley Sherborne Roberts, the son of the S.W., who, being a minor, was admitted under dispensation of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the Grand Master. At the conclusion of the ceremony Mr. Mathews delivered the charge in a most impressive manner. Mr. Lyon vacated the chair in favour of Mr. H. Coutts, who initiated Messrs. Fred Earle and Gilbert Hart into the mysteries of the order.

The chair was then taken by Mr. G. A. Keen, who, at the request of the W.M. of the Chelsea Lodge, bestowed upon Mr. Chas. Levy the benefit of the complete ceremony. The whole of the members of the lodge in town were present; Messrs. Mathews, A.G.D.C., and C. Cruickshanks, P.A.G.S.B., represented Grand Lodge, and Messrs. P. Weeks and G. A. Shuter as visitors.

Miss Anna Chandler, who appeared for the first time on this side at the London Hippodrome on Monday, comes with high artistic credentials from the States. Miss Chandler has a real talent for parody, in that her entertainment does not suffer from undue exaggeration. With a handsome and genial personality and a determination to be on the best terms with kind friends in front, she should go far. She gives a clever representation of the styles and mannerisms of Yankee vaudeville artists of both sexes, and as she is well endowed vocally, is capable of producing tone colour, and is careful in the choice of her songs, she easily made good on the night of her London début, in spite of the fact that it was a case of Réjane in *excelsis* at the splendid house in Leicester-square.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday afternoon next at the Crown, Charing Cross-road.

Mendel, the blind pianist and *improvisatore*, will sail for Australia on the 22nd inst. A warm welcome awaits this clever musician in the land of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Arthur Slater's new production of whistling scena, *Morning, Noon, and Night*, will be a feature of the programme at the Empire, Hackney, next week. There will be special scenery and effects.

S. W. Windham is making a big success at the Hippodrome, Southampton, this week. This unique comedian is rapidly coming to the front, and is already secured for the Oxford, Tivoli, and Pavilion till 1913.

Sandy McNab is at present making an enormous hit on the Barrasford tour. At times his success is quite embarrassing, for after thirty minutes of laughter he has to take several curtains and make a speech before the audience will allow him to go.

Marcus Witmark, a pioneer publisher of popular music, died on March 29 from heart failure at his home, 57, West Eighty-eighth-street, New York. He was born in Germany in 1834, and went to America when he was twenty-two years old. He was married some years later.

Although Mr. Witmark was engaged in various commercial enterprises, his sons, before they were of age, became interested in popular music to such an extent that they decided to become publishers. It was then that Mr. Witmark formed the firm of M. Witmark and Sons in order that his sons might have the protection of his name.

Later, he became so interested in the new business that he gave up his other activities that he might give it his undivided attention.

To-day the Witmarks are represented not only throughout the United States but also in England and on the Continent. Mr. Witmark was prominent in Masonic circles and belonged to several charitable organisations in which he was greatly interested. He is survived by five sons and one daughter.

The Bensons, who were the star turn at the King's Theatre and Hippodrome, Dundee, this week, were unfortunately unable to appear through the indisposition of Miss Marguerite, who was suddenly attacked with laryngitis. They trust to be able to resume business on Monday week.

Bella and Bijou, the society entertainers, played to tremendous business at the Empire, Middlesbrough, last week. They produced, with great success, some new sketches, which will be heard shortly at the London Coliseum, and all round the Moss and Stoll tour.

Owing to her music-hall engagements Miss Dot Stephens will terminate her first year of tour with her company with *A Child of the Streets* at the Opera House, Kidderminster, to-day. This drama, which is from the pen of Frank Price, will be sent out again in the autumn for a lengthy tour.

During her recent tour of the world Miss Florence Baines secured the rights of several musical numbers, one of which, the popular American song, "I wonder who is kissing her now," she has introduced into her play, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and is making a big hit with it nightly.

Miss Lillie Lassah, one of the prettiest of the many pretty ladies on the music hall stage, and the wife of the lucky manager of the Battersea Palace, Mr. J. McCarthy, is this week having much success at the Empire, Nottingham, with a pretty little Irish song entitled "Top o' the morning."

Miss Lassah was the bright particular star of the last pantomime at the Grand, Fulham—*The Forty Thieves*—in which she gave a most artistic and charming performance as principal boy. On Saturday last, at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, she completed the round of the Moss' Empires in London, and has now commenced a lengthy tour of the same firm's provincial halls.

Miss Sable Fern's new boy scout scena, "Boys in Camp," concludes with a song on the boyhood of great men, which is illustrated with lantern-slides. The pictures are thrown on one of the tents in camp by a scout who lies by the side of the lantern, which is placed on the stage immediately in front of the conductor. An elderly lady, who saw the show at Rotherhithe last week, upon being asked what she thought of Sable Fern's scouts, said: "I liked it very much, it's very pretty indeed; but what a pity they couldn't make that cannon go off."

"Little Sophie," the miniature Vesta Tilley, aged eleven, has been engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll to appear at the London Coliseum on Monday next. Her gifts are hereditary. Descended from a theatrical stock on her father's side, her musical ability is inherited through her mother, whose progenitors were well-known musicians. Sophie sings her own particular songs, imitates most faithfully singers and dancers, and works quite spontaneously as occasion demands. She is making a hit this week at the Hippodrome, Margate, with her new numbers from the pens of Arthur Wimperis and Seymour.

A larger attendance than usual distinguished the 653rd meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held at the office of the Association on Wednesday afternoon. There were present Mr. Fred Herbert, who presided, Messrs. J. H. Milburn, Bernard Stavordale, Charles Coborn (vice-president), J. Rich, G. H. Smythson, T. C. Callaghan, E. H. Lucas, Albert Schafer, Tom J. Morton, Walter Munroe, Harry Blake, Harry Bancroft, Lieutenant Albini, Jack Crawley, Harold Finden, and Jeff Vendome.

The question of the working of the various provincial branch offices was brought up by Mr. Charles Coborn, who said that he thought the work hardly justified the expenditure of a large sum. Mr. Fred Herbert said that his idea was to dispense with the offices in Glasgow, Manchester, and Liverpool, and employ residents in those towns who would cover the halls and get their lists made up, using rooms in their private houses as their offices. There was some discussion and opposition to Mr. Herbert's scheme, and Mr. Coborn gave notice of motion to raise the whole question of branch offices at the next meeting.

The families of Barnard and Abrahams are among the oldest amusement entrepreneurs in the country, and it is interesting to read a few of the reminiscences of Mr. Charles Barnard, who has been talking to an *Evening News* interviewer. Barnard's Hall at Chatham—where the old-time "chairman" still lingers—was the first place of amusement in the county to adopt the twice-nightly system, and did so owing to the necessity for making special provision for the military section. Indeed, this historic house presents the history of vaudeville in miniature. Fifty years ago a whole company would cost about £17 a week. Mr. Barnard remembers one star whose salary was 35s. a week. The whole Leno family worked at one time for £6, and the salary of Harry Rickards, the present Australian impresario, did not reach double figures for his last Barnard engagement.

"The Woman in the Flat" is the title of Mr. Walter Macnamara's new sketch which will shortly be produced by Mr. Henry de Bray for Mr. Cyril Bruce. The cast will also include Miss Mignon Clifford and a selected company of three other artists. The plot is of strong interest.

The very latest novelty in the variety world is Mr. Norman Telma, a wonderful contortionist, who performs on a billiard table. He is this week making a very big success at the London Coliseum. His postures are really very funny. His agents are Messrs. G. W. Gerald and Frank Coyle, of London and Leeds.

France and Stewart are again touring with their always successful sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*, and next week will be at Gateshead-on-Tyne. Although the popularity of *The 100 to 1 Chance* is by no means exhausted they are busily rehearsing a new sketch for early production, which they have reason to hope may be equally successful. It will be first played on the Moss and Stoll tour.

Miss Jessie Albini, the dainty comedienne, who has just finished the Moss and Stoll tour, produced last week at the Hippo., Hastings, a new low comedy *Chantecler* song entitled "Cock-a-doodle-doo," from the pen of T. W. Connor, which made a big hit. This song promises to be one of Miss Albini's greatest successes. She opens in London on Monday next, April 11, at the Hippodrome, Crouch End.

Few men have had a more romantic career than that of M. Paulhan, the famous aviator, who has now returned from America. Now one of the world's leading flying-men, he not so very long ago was earning something less than four pounds a week as an ordinary mechanic in an aeroplane factory.

He began life (says *M.A.P.*) as a performer in a traveling circus, touring round the smaller towns and villages in France, combining the work of a general engineer and that of a performer. He was a bare-back rider and an expert tight-rope dancer. In the latter capacity, he remarked recently, he first learnt the art of balancing, which has proved of the utmost value to him since.

Leaving the circus at the age of eighteen (he is now only twenty-six), he took to a seafaring life, in which capacity he shipped as a sailor on a line of boats that ply between France and Japan. The turning-point in his career came some two or three years later, when he joined as a volunteer the First Genie, the aerostatic battalion of the French Army. It was here that he first became acquainted with balloons and the remarkable flights of M. Santos Dumont, who, by the way, claims the credit of discovering him.

But cramped by the lack of means, M. Paulhan for long was forced to limit his activities to the construction of models. His first appearance as a flyer was not made until last year, when he made a long flight of fifteen minutes. Two days afterwards he flew for an hour and eighteen minutes, and three weeks later he became the holder of the world's record by rising to a height of four hundred feet.

A ladies' concert was held on Sunday last at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington. Terrier Harry Gribben, W.T., occupied the chair, supported by Terrier H. Cee Mee. Terrier Ernest Ball acted as musical-director, and Terrier J. Chas Moore was the efficient accompanist. The following artists contributed to an enjoyable programme:—Terrier T. C. Callaghan, "Wait until my ship comes in"; Terrier Tom Packer, "What becomes of our songs?" Terrier Ernest D'Almaine, "Star of my life"; Terrier Harry Brown, "In the summertime—yes"; Terrier Andie Caine, "Dingle Dangle Dell" and "Sparrows"; Terrier Ernest Ball, "Still your friend"; Terrier Harry Gribben, recital, "How the Favourite Lost"; Mrs. Kloof, "For evermore"; Mr. Arthur Lloyd, "What's the use?" and "Queenie was there"; Mr. D. Graham, "Don't take me home"; Mr. Revill Hall, "At twelve o'clock he's delighted" and "That fatal wink"; and Mr. Eddie Comet, monologue.

Terrier Griff offers a gold medal for the best suggestion on how to increase the attendance at the Sunday meetings. All suggestions must be forwarded to the secretary as soon as possible. The date of the annual river outing has been fixed for Sunday, June 26, 1910.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May, secretary, begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mrs. Herbert Shelley (giving and collecting), 10s.; Mrs. Nance Pounds, Dorset Hotel, Chapham-road, donation, 2s. 6d.; pair lady's boots, anonymous, from Walsall; Dr. Wallace Eales, Manchester, attending one of the Guild cases free of charge; Mrs. Charles Coborn (collected), 12s. 6d., towards which Miss Ella Chapman, Mr. Chas. T. Aldrich, Mr. Fairlie, Mr. Alfred Smith, and others contributed.

In reference to Miss Irene's Rose's guessing competition, she writes to say that the lady's name was (Ann), won by Avon and Crest (Hippodrome, Liverpool), and the Teddy Bear's name was (Luke), won by Mr. George Lyons (Samford and Lyons), and returned. Will anyone please make an offer for the model toy butcher's shop still on view at the Guild rooms? Will friends in and out of the profession please note that a prize will be given to anyone collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months from Nov. 4 last. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception, held every Wednesday from four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

Mr. Fred Karno's new production *Won't detain you*, which will be seen at the Paragon on Monday, will be a triumph of stage-craft and enterprise. In the first scene, which shows the departure of the "Won't Detain You" for New York, a built-up liner, 120ft. long, will leave a landing stage, and steam away down the Mersey. The vessel, which will be loaded with passengers, will be built on steel girders on the cantilever principle, and worked by three hydraulic lifts. Other exciting scenes will be those representing the promenade deck of the vessel, with some marvellous lighting effects, and the dining saloon. In the latter scene Mr. Karno has contrived to give a vivid idea of the motion of a liner at sea. The piece is the work of Mr. Charles Baldwin and Mr. Fred Karno, and will be produced by Mr. W. H Morgan, under Mr. Karno's superintendence.

At the recent sittings of the Committee appointed by the Bishops of the Upper House of Convocation and the Clergy of the Lower House, to confer with representatives of the Imperial Alliance—a body endeavouring to combine religious and industrial forces in securing one day's rest in seven—Mr. Charles Coborn represented the Sunday Defence Committee, that has been organised on behalf of the employees in the amusement industry, viz., the Variety Artists, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the Association of Theatrical Employees and Bioscope Operators. Mr. Coborn pointed out in his address that the Alliance had been of great assistance to theatrical workers in their endeavour to uphold the recent decision of the London County Council to prohibit the Sunday opening for mercenary purposes of cinematograph shows and other entertainments.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. LOUIS DREYFUS, of the New York music publishing house of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter, is once more in England, and has been received with acclamation by his numerous friends. His plans, during his absence from America, will include the making of some extensive reciprocatory and, it is expected, lucrative arrangements with the great publishing houses of Germany, and the securing of the publishing rights of certain musical plays that will be performed presently in the United States.

ONE of the new numbers that have lately been published by Messrs. Francis and Day appears to have caught on in no uncertain manner when sung by the Anartos. It is called "We did enjoy ourselves in London," and is by J. P Harrington, B. W. Rogers, and John Neat. Mr. Gus Garrick is also scoring with it, and the seaside entertainers will have in it a sure applause getter.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S new song, "On the silvery, silvery sand," is an assured success, though but a few days old. The audience at the Euston Palace on Tuesday evening, without invitation, promptly made the chorus their own, and the fair artist was greeted with great applause at its close. Like her other great success, "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," it is published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The author is Arthur C. Findon, and the music is by Hermann E. Darewski, who must be growing corns on his pen, judging by the number of successful new songs he has just had put on in town and elsewhere.

MISS JOSS COLLINS'S cultured voice has this week been heard to great advantage in Findon-Vaughan's pretty new ballad "Won't you play with me?" and Hermann E. Darewski's melodious air is one to remember with keen pleasure. It is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, who also publish "Pride of the prairie, Mary," also delightfully sung by Miss Collins.

MR. MARK SHERIDAN, at the South London, has been winning fresh laurels by his characteristic rendering of "When the lights are low," and is to be congratulated on having secured the rights for the United Kingdom of the item, the American rights of which belong to Miss Lily Lena, who caused a furore with it across the Pond. It is by Arthur Findon and Hermann E. Darewski, jun.

MISS FLORA CROMER has secured a number of fine songs recently, including several by such well-known writers as Paul Pelham, Herbert Rule, and James McGee. Their titles are: "Fine strawberries!" "You won't always have it, Mr. Johnson," "My donkey Joe," "I can see them all to-night," "Jenny Jenkins from Jenkinstown," and "When someone else." Miss Cromer's songs are always in great request among publishers, so, to save heartburnings, Mr. David Day's firm have secured the whole of the above ditties for publication.

THE frontispiece of Mr. George Lashwood's great chorus song "There's another fellow looks like me," which Messrs. Francis and Day are issuing, is embellished with a strikingly handsome portrait of the Beau Brummell of the halls, and it is one of the latest and best likenesses of the renowned actor-vocalist extant. The song is by F. W. Leigh who has, in collaboration with George Arthurs, written the same artist yet another number, which is called "Oh, blow the scenery on the railway!" Messrs. Francis and Day have secured it for immediate issue.

AMONG other songs about to be published by Messrs. Francis and Day may be mentioned a quaint and tuneful song by George Arthurs and Alfred J. Lawrance, entitled "I'm after Pekoe," "You used to be a friend to me" (sung by Miss Ida Barr), by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long, "Grandfather Green" (sung by the Brothers Brooks), "The ladder of fame" (sung by Mr. F. Wildon), and "Non-stops," a laughable ditty, sung both by Mr. Ben Albert and Mr. Fred Rome. The three last-named numbers are by Mr. Charles Osborne.

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD, at the Royal Standard, has been commanding attention of the keenest with "Sweet Seventy-two," a beautifully-rendered pathetic song, and with "Pass along, please," a policeman song, of more than average humorous merit. Both are issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. Mr. Lennard is also essaying with much success a song entitled "Put it there," by a new writer.

MR. FRED ELTON, who at the Shoreditch Hippodrome as been reaping his usual harvest of applause, has just acquired a song entitled "Sea Sights," a ditty written and composed by the writer of that celebrated mirth-provoker "Potted Poetry."

AT Boscombe Mr. Fred Barnes has during the week been receiving ovations nightly, his fine song "The scapegrace of the family" being specially singled out for high encomiums. The dramatic recitation embodied in the number, which, words and music, is from Mr. Barnes's own pen, is declaimed in forceful style, and the refrain has that infectious swing which causes it to linger on the memory long after one has heard it.

A HUMOROUS song from the joint pens of Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether—the English writers whose "Waiting at the church" and "Poor John!" were the rages of America some time since—is a thing to be prized by an artist, and Miss Helen Trix is to be congratulated in securing their amusing song "Sam," a ditty in which a lovesick maid urges her backward swain to wed his lamb whilst it is "yet in season" and ere it grows into old mutton. Miss Trix, in congratulating the author and composer (which she did in very tangible form), declared that it was a "scream" on the occasion of its initial production a few nights since.

MESSRS. BARNES, Weston, and Maurice Scott's latest number, "Tahiti," promises to be a formidable rival to their now famous "I've got rings on my fingers and bells on my toes," with which Miss Terriss has been delighting Coliseum audiences. "Tahiti" is delicious foolery and a delightful Hibernian-heathenish hotch-potch.

MR. GUS ELEN, who in "You 'ave made a fine old mess of it!" has a song of much humour with a haunting refrain, has, in addition, been singing that old favourite "It's a great big shame," and at the Canterbury one night last week the audience nearly took the roof off with Le Brunn's well-remembered strains.

MESSRS. VERNAR AND DENT have in study a new duologue, entitled *The Missing Earl*. It is from the pen of Percy Edgar, and contains three new and amusing numbers and a quantity of smart and original cross-talk.

LITTLE MAUDIE OLMAR, Birmingham's clever child dancer and vocalist, made her first appearance in vaudeville at the Empire, Birmingham, on Monday, when she sang a bright and delightful song, entitled "Won't you play with me?" a new number by Hermann E. Darewski, jun., and Arthur C. Findon.

MR. WILL CHALLINER will, all being well, make his bow to a London audience at the Standard, Pimlico, next Monday week. He will produce "No sweeter words," a chorus ballad, by Mr. Eric Graham, the author of Fred Elton's "Mary Ann Lizzie" and "Moth and the candle." Miss Dorma Morgan's "Actions speak louder than words," and Arthur Clifton's "You must come home."

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

With the inclusion of Mr. Mark Sheridan in Mr. Blyth-Pratt's current bill at the Oxford, the scheme of amusement at that popular house may be said to have reached its full comic strength. Mr. Sheridan's outlook on life seems to be one of the cheeriest optimism. He seems to be saying to himself all the time "A happy world this, my masters!" To him, as he appears on the stage, life seems to be full of humour, and he possesses such an irresistibly happy style that audiences directly they see him settle down with faces eloquent of serene content and listen to him. His numbers are invariably well and pointedly rendered, and this is especially the case with "I'd like to be beside the seaside"; but it is his patter—which has the great merit of appearing to be entirely unprepared—that tells, and then there is his quaint and delightful dancing. Mark certainly deserves the high place he has taken in the front rank of London's favourite humorists. Precisely the same remark applies to Mr. Ernest Shand, an unctuous comedian, whose curate song evokes shouts of laughter, and who has another great success in his "Nelson" song. A great Oxford favourite, too, is Mr. Dan Crawley, who repeats the success of his number, "Here's a nice how d'ye do"; and then there is that humorous pair, the Polaskis, in patter and parody that always touch the springs of laughter.

Heading the distaff side of the cast is Miss Clarice Mayne, who has one of her characteristic songs in "Georgie took me a-walking." The behaviour of Georgie seems to excite fierce jealousy in the breast of the pianist, who appears to be the well-known composer, Mr. James W. Tate, who has developed remarkable talent as a genuine comedian. Miss Mayne's comedy, too, is delightful, and the genuine success that is hers is well won. A *débutante* at the Oxford is Miss Ethel Loftus, a young artist with undoubted comedy gifts. She has youth on her side, and we may therefore expect even greater developments with further experience. She comes almost at the end of a big programme, and the position is not a favourable one for a newcomer. Nevertheless, she arrests attention and evokes applause by her comicality in her song, "What's the matter with father?" Miss Bessie Slaughter's voice, resonant and full, is heard to advantage in popular contralto songs; Miss Rosie Lloyd, a sister of the popular Marie, has much of the talent that seems to belong by prescriptive right to a very remarkable family; and bonnie Miss Gladys Huxley gets home in chorus songs.

Mr. Wilkie Bard heads the list of comedians, and liberally educates his legion of admirers in the intricacies of his numbers, some of which have been the delight of Old Drury audiences during his most successful pantomime season. Mr. Walter King has a comically lugubrious style that betrays considerable originality. H. J. Byron created a comic character many years ago known as the melancholy clown. Walter is much too young to have ever seen the creation, but he gives us a new edition of him quite up to date and of approved quaintness. Mr. Phil Ray's shortened words never lengthen the faces of his audiences, and abbreviation's artful aid enables him to score all the time he holds the stage.

We get a capital musical show from the Romanis, who introduce a tremendous instrument, which is something like "Sally's nose" in the song "It sounds like thunder when it's blown." It is called the tornadophone, and belongs to the trumpet family. Arden and Abel are scoring in their favourite sketch *Three of a Kind*, full of screamingly comical situations; Dale and O'Malley's cross-talk is very smart; and other turns announced on the bill are Alick Lauder and company in *The Christening*, the Black and White Girls, Miss Carlotta Levey, the Whittakers in their comedy skit *Dick Whittington*, and Miss Queenie Essex, comedienne.

THE COLISEUM.

On Monday, April 4, a Musical Play, in One Act, by Seymour Hicks, Music by Frank Tours, entitled

"COOK'S MAN."

Lord Freshwater .....MR. SEYMOUR HICKS
Jackson .....MR. J. C. BUCKSTONE
A Cook's Man .....MR. STANLEY BRETT
Hazel Cholmondeley ....MISS ELLALINE TERRISS

The return of the happy pair Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss to the Coliseum is the most welcome feature of the current programme at that house. The novelty that they bring with them is entitled *Cook's Man*, and is quite in the Hicks vein. It serves its purpose well enough, as it gives all the necessary opportunities to Seymour and Ellaline to co-operate with light-hearted gaiety in a scheme of fun. Lord Freshwater has been struck by the beauty and charm of Hazel Cholmondeley, and is in despair because he can get no forrarder in his scheming for an introduction to her. Both he and she are travelling on the Continent, and owing to an accident to his luggage he appears on the platform of the station at Genoa in pink pyjamas. An obliging man from Cook's, an interpreter, lends him his uniform, and then the fun begins with the new guide's endeavours to explain things to various irate passengers. With the arrival of Hazel Cholmondeley the embarrassment of the new Cook's man increases, but his colossal cheek is quite equal to forcing an

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

interview with her. A good deal of diverting twaddle is talked into telephone receivers by man and maid; and in the result the pair have no doubt that they were made for each other. The final duet is a joyous trifle, "Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes," from the pens of Messrs. Barnes, Weston, and Maurice Scott. Miss Terriss also sings an original song to her pet dog, a patient and pretty dachshund, and dances daintily in a chic travelling dress.

A very diverting interlude is supplied by the Marco Twins, the "long and the short of it," whose wrestling match is a real screamer. The beautiful singing tone produced by the Miles-Stavordale Quintette on four banjoes, accompanied by a harp, enables them to imitate with rare musical art a quartet of voices singing "Love's old sweet song." A very original entertainment is submitted by Norman Telma, a contortionist whose feats on a billiard table have occasionally the rare quality of humour. Norman doubles up quite easily, is a fellow of "infinite chest," and is really equal to making both ends meet. Nothing more is possible in his line. Chass Lewis puts his pierrot figure in a cabinet, and by rapid change of vocal tone realises the effect of speaking with closed and open door. The turn is clever and novel.

Miss Lina Verdi is responsible for a capital imitation of Harry Lauder, but so popular a subject has been well worked by other mimics; the Tiller Chicquettes have all the vim and vivacity of a famous school of dancers; and the Brothers Bright, a pair of fine athletes, and the Elite Harmony Boys are other turns in the programme. The counterfeits of Lord Kitchener and the King are scarcely complimentary, and the experiment of whitening the face of a nigger—if it be intended for humour—seems to us to miss the mark.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Interesting and well-varied items constitute the programme at the Holloway Empire, and business is brisk. Those who are early in their seats have the pleasure of listening to a charmingly-performed overture by Baife, "Le pinto D'Amour," by the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Fred Camp. A song with some amusing patter, entitled "The Landlady," is contributed by the popular comedienne, Alice Maydne, who is favourably received; Mlle. Haydee, with her miniature vaudeville theatre, introducing capital representations of some of the star performers in the variety world, also wins general approval; and the Manchester Mites, a bevy of twelve charming little singers and dancers from Cottonopolis, appear in a very pleasing scena, receiving quite an ovation for their rendering of "Mr. Man in the Moon" and "Daddy Longlegs," both items concluding with cleverly and gracefully performed dances.

The clown mimic, O'Gust, is heartily welcomed, and repeats his clever representations of animals, musical instruments, steam saw, &c. Pat Rafferty's selections are "Kelly" and the old Chelsea Pensioner's song on "Foreign Invasion." The Carmos give a marvellous exhibition of skill and strength, and are received with unbounded applause, which is fully deserved. Some of the items are positively herculean; for instance, the male member balances his lady partner, seated on a pedestal, on his chin, and again carries her, seated on a chair, up and down a flight of stairs by his teeth. These are only two items selected from a series of wonderful and novel feats.

It is pleasing to come across a comedian of originality, and we find one in Harry Weldon. From the time he takes the stage until he finally retires the house is kept in one continual roar of laughter. His first item is a song on "pedi-

enacts (that of a French priest and missionary, one Père Marlotté) he makes most sympathetic and lovable. The company appearing with this popular artist is a large one, and includes Mr. H. A. Saintsbury (an actor whom one is always glad to see), Mr. Alfred Beaumont, Mr. J. R. Crauford, Mr. W. R. Staveley, and Miss May Taverner. The play is splendidly staged and dressed.

Lee Andres appear in their well-known protean and terpsichorean act, in which they introduce various national dances; and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, a couple of the most popular of sketch artists, are as successful as ever in one of their humorous little "episodes." A turn which attracts considerable attention and places the audience at once on the *qui vive* is that billed simply as "Lucia Collins, comedienne." It is an open secret that this charming artist is a daughter of the famous Lottie Collins, a fact sufficient in itself to arouse one's interest, and it is delightful to notice that her singing and dancing and her general demeanour are so reminiscent of her talented mother. Miss Collins is singing this week a song dealing with (and probably entitled) brench of promise, and the vivacity and abandon with which she delivers the item are of the type which one associates with the Parisian rather than the English stage. Miss Collins is a very handsome girl, and with charm and ability such as she possesses should have a splendid future.

Tom Moore is a character comedian and a vocalist with "quite a manner" who sings in a clever way a song apparently entitled "My father's a farmer"; and Rich and Rich, the "two comedians who couldn't be poor," arouse much laughter with their humorous singing and dancing. That master of melody, Orpheus, plays as well as ever on various musical instruments, including the heckelphone (adopted by Strauss for use in *Elektra*); and Amos Howard deputises in an entertaining fashion for Lupino Lane. A turn which one always anticipates with pleasure is that of Miss Lydia Yeamans. As a vocalist-actress Miss Yeamans is quite unique, and the sheer merit of her performance compels admiration. This week she commences by singing "Sally in Our Alley"; this is followed by her wonderful imitation of a little girl singing "Rock-a-bye, baby," then we have a most amusing bit of burlesque operatic comedy melodrama, and finally an imitation of an amateur coon singer. Miss Yeamans is an actress and singer with a splendid method, and it is matter for regret that there are not more entertainers of her type on the stage to-day. One must not omit to mention that this genuine artist is assisted by that charming gentleman Mr. Frederick J. Titus, who at the piano is an object-lesson to accompanists.

The programme, as usual, includes the Bioscope, which this week is illustrating a story entitled The Convict's Sacrifice, interpreted by Harry Hinton and Marie Bennett. Mr. Lewis Vincent is as attentive as ever to the comfort of those in front, and receives admirable assistance from Mr Herbert Mack.

THE BALHAM HIPPODROME.

Full houses wait upon a fine programme this week at the Hippodrome which graces the foot of Balham-hill, where Mr. E. W. Hancorne James has ministered so long and successfully to the amusement of an ever-increasing patronage. The particular attraction of the current bill is Mr. Will Evans, who is renewing a popularity already well established in the district. Fair game for the comedian is found in *Chantecler*, the play which has lately set Paris on the *qui vive*. The audience may or may not gather an adequate idea of M. Rostand's famous work from Mr. Evans' exposition of it, but what they distinctly do obtain is a full measure of fun. The appearance of the volatile Will in complete rooster regalia is sufficient to upset the gravity of the most hardened variety-goer, and his representation of the play with the assistance of the indispensable stage hands, arranged in the latest fowl fashions, is carried out amid laughter that never languishes. Mr. Evans has also a droll song in which his ancestral tree is traced in irresistibly humorous fashion.

The name of Karno is again conspicuous on the programme, and a rollicking representation is given of *The Bailiffs*. The leading broker's man is played by Mr. Harold Wellesley, who invests Perkins with several new features of comic interest, and maintains the mirth at high pressure. Mr. Gilbert Childs creditably shares Perkins' misadventures as Meredith, and the sketch is effectively sustained throughout. Roze and Calvert entertain cleverly with *Captain Kettle and his Charming Mate*, and spontaneous bursts of laughter are the result of their travesty of melodrama, in which the most surprising situations are evolved. Mr. Walter King delivers himself of his quaint confidences, which afford the house much amusement, and he is also seen in a grotesque burlesque of a serio song and dance. Miss Cissie Lupino illustrates the poetry of motion in a series of characteristic dances, including a Highland reel, a sailor's hornpipe, and the passeue of a poupée. Miss Lupino's work is neatly and nimbly executed, and she is compelled to concede an encore.

Foot-play is also the feature of the item furnished by Miss Anna Gold and Boys, the latter of whom supply a boot obbligato to the melodious singing of the lady, and also execute a dance duet. The youngsters' feet are never at rest throughout the turn, but they appear none the worse for their exhaustive work, and smilingly acknowledge the generous applause accorded. The O'Gorman Bros., patterers and expert dancers, are popular favourites; and Marshall and Parr in a vocal comedy act, Jeannie Deans, comedienne, and the Imperial Bioscope are also included in a diversified entertainment.

THE FORESTERS'.

Many excellent improvements have recently been made at the Foresters', the new seating accommodation in the stalls, with carpets to match, looking particularly attractive. Mr. Fred Baugh, whose genial personality has done much to make him so popular, may be found nightly in the buffet, where he will be pleased to see artists and friends.

A most interesting programme has been submitted this week, the premier position being occupied by Bernard Mervyn and company in a new and original miniature melodrama in eight scenes, entitled *Nick Carter*, the adventures of the Black Hand, written by Fred Moule. The action of the play takes place in Warsaw on Christmas Eve, and deals with a Mme. Zaleska, who endeavours to obtain her husband's release from prison. Her brother, Colonel Zuropski, Chief of Police, is responsible for her husband's imprisonment, and as he refuses to assist Madame she vows vengeance, viz., that of killing the Colonel's little daughter, of whom he is very fond. Fortunately the lady's efforts are frustrated by Nick Carter, the detective, a character splendidly portrayed by Mr. Mervyn, and after many exciting situations, the finale is reached by the lady being electrocuted. Miss Phyllis Dailley as the adventuress played perfectly throughout, being ably supported by Mr. James Skea as Zuropski. Mr. Hyland T. Shea was a humorous Patsey, the remaining characters being well cared for by Mr. F. H. Woulfe, Miss Mamie Rendle, and Little Phyllis Howe.

The Ten Dixie Girls, a talented set of bright young ladies, are exceedingly entertaining in their scena, *The Silver Coon*, for they act, dance, and sing exceedingly well, their best items being "Somebody loves you" and "Lady Vi," the setting being most effective. Mr. Tom Hulme, versatile comedian, fully justifies his title, for after relating some good stories and singing a well-written

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Of the many actors who have crossed the border (now somewhat ill-defined) which separates the theatrical from the music hall stage, few can be said to have achieved popularity equal to that enjoyed by Mr. Huntley Wright. There were many who thought that when Mr. Wright severed his lengthy connection with Daly's Theatre he made a great mistake. Those who held this opinion would have been pleasantly surprised had they witnessed (as some of them may) the reception given to this talented and versatile actor during the present week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, where he has been appearing in that charming but pathetic little play, written by Lloyd Osborne and Austin Strong, entitled *The Little Father of the Wilderness*. Mr. Wright, of course, made his name as a musical comedy comedian, and the great success which he has since obtained in "the legitimate" inclines one to wonder how much genuine dramatic talent there is being—from a certain point of view—wasted. At all events, Mr. Wright proves himself a really fine actor in this excellent little play, and the character which he

humorous song "Tit-bits," he renders in fine style a patriotic number "The flag of liberty," for which he is well received. Miss Maud Lorry has some cleverly trained dogs, who perform many well thought out feats, the great feature being that the lady remains in the wings whilst the dogs are doing their various tricks. Parker and Bracey's yaller coloured coons, five in number, greatly amuse with their songs, glees, &c., the dancing being especially brilliant; Mr. Josh Collins presents Miss Eva Ellis, an accomplished and attractive little lady, and her six pretty maidens in a musical scena, *The Seaside Girls*. Good effect is produced by the cinematograph, which represents the waves, the songs sung being very tuneful.

Miss Elsie Kedwards renders a catchy number, "Maggie Lee," concluding with a neatly executed dance, and Miss Connie Duprés is a chic comedienne and dancer. Many excellent films are displayed on the Bioscope.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

The Macnaghten house in John Burns's country was packed out on Tuesday last to witness an all-round excellent bill. They are good judges of a turn Battersea way, and the news had evidently quickly got round that there were many fine items in this week's programme. Of well-known names, it must be confessed, there were very few, but we have all heard that "there is just as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it," and so it came about that the artists we saw were of such a calibre that we could hope it would be our good fortune in the future to witness shows up to the same standard.

If we had a liking for one turn more than another, the pronouncement must go in favour of Messrs. Damerell and Rutland, topical talking comedians, D. and R. are great. They have a style that is new, and which nobody has imitated—as yet. We are glad to note that they have copyrighted some splendid business methods in getting the audience to sing their chorus song. The audience swallowed the bait to a man, woman—and small boy. Our sincerest congratulations, D. and R.

A Ruined Life is given by Miss Grace Lester's company. It is a very good little dramaette, the story being the return of John Bellingham's wife, after an absence of eighteen years from her husband's home, only to find that her merciless millionaire husband is on the point of turning his daughter into the streets, even as he had turned the mother in the long ago. It is a touching little piece, and goes right home to Battersea's heart. Both Miss Grace Lester and Miss Alice Bowes act charmingly.

Cadwell and Verne are a good sample of a bright, active, young fellow and a pretty girl—dainty actress and nimble dancer—in double harness. The trifle they present, *Early Closing Day*, is very well played, and is also merry, bright, tuneful, and just pleases everybody.

Vivians and company top the bill with the dancing scena, *The Toy Shop*. This has, of course, been seen in London many times, but it is always welcome, for Mark Lupino's eccentricities cause us to laugh heartier than ever we did each and every time we go to see them.

Three of the trial turns seen at the Surrey Theatre a few weeks since, and noticed in *The Era*, were included in this programme. These were Desmond and Diss, Hugh and High, and Captain Lemar.

Josephine Crook should be heard of in the West End soon. She sang in delightful style, in well-trained voice, two songs, illustrated; one was a pretty love story about flowers, and the other "I like your old French bonnet."

J. H. Greener, Charles Edwin, and La Raieda were included in the programme.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

It is distinctly fortunate for Mr. Pierre Cohen that he has been able to present this week a programme replete with interesting items and containing several "turns" of more than ordinary merit.

A great and instantaneous success is made by Clarice Mayne, who can now number the pleasure-seekers of Walthamstow among her adorers. This artist's dainty style is exactly suited to a piquant "aeroplane" song, while her rendering of "I'm longing for someone to love me" is a thing to remember. Dressed in an Early Victorian costume—great crinoline, purple silk dress with countless flounces, a parasol nearly as large as a cheese-plate, side curls, mittens, and a black lace shawl for the shoulders—the lady might have stepped out of a fashion plate in "Le Follet" of 1850 to '60. Her singing has much charm, and her by-play is admirable. Miss Mayne is amusingly seconded by the unnamed gentleman at the piano, who proves himself no mean comedian.

Master Clark, juvenile comedian, is a pretty little boy, immaculately dressed, and with a voice that is rather above the average of those infant phenomena. Jessie Buckle sings prettily about "The Old Brown Cow," and is warmly received in this and her other contributions. Sterling and Love are much applauded for their vocal and instrumental efforts, the playing of several instruments by the gentleman being particularly pleasing. Andie Caine soon establishes himself as a favourite, firstly in "There's no place like England," and anon in an amusing ditty about sparrows. Madoline Rees looks handsome, and sings with the greatest taste and expression.

Rats may not be favourite pets with the majority of people, but Diavolo's troupe of the white variety prove themselves very clever rodents and a credit to the skill and patience of their trainer. Harry Claff appears here once more in his up-to-date satire, "The Demon and the Fairy." As the Demon Mr. Claff rattles off his satirical lines glibly, and sings with his accustomed effect; as the Fairy a lady acts with vivacity and sings well, but although the Fairy is as important as the Demon, her name is not given on the programme.

In these strenuous and hustling days of the great "rubber boom" Dick Tubb's face should be his fortune, because if it be not made of india-rubber it certainly does not appear to be made of flesh and blood as ours are. The contortions into which he throws his facial muscles are extraordinary; but although the artist appears to suffer no pain in the process, his audience are excited to an almost painful degree—with laughter. In fact, on the occasion of our visit they seemed unwilling to let him leave the stage, his "Coke" song being particularly amusing, and his burlesque of the American "coon" being almost outrageously funny. The Five X-Rays are well described as mad athletes, their doings making something like a nightmare of extravagant fun. Ruffell's Bioscope is as popular as ever. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Petersen, gives an artistic rendering of the overture to *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Mr. W. F. Frame, the celebrated Scotch comedian, is on a visit to Arbroath this week with an excellent vaudeville company, including Miss Jeannie McIntyre, ballad vocalist, Jack Chalmers, coon singer and dancer, Karoly Czynski, musician, Miss Evie Denton, serio, Kahn and Kahn, magicians and second sight readers, and Professor Dunning, ventriloquist.

Mr. C. Foster Marner, manager of the Kilburn Empire (who formerly had charge of the Putney Hippodrome), has been the recipient of much sympathy in the sad loss he has sustained by the death from consumption on Saturday last, at Bournemouth, of his wife, Miss Venie Belfry (of the Sisters Belfry). The sister of the deceased lady, Miss May Belfry, died some years ago. Mrs. Marner was for some years associated with Bert Clark in the Clark and Hamilton duo. The funeral took place on Thursday at Eulham Cemetery.

REJANE AT THE HIPPODROME.

On Monday, April 4, the Playlet, by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy, entitled

"LOLOTTE."

Lolotte ..... Mme. Réjane
Le Baron ..... M. Alerme
La Baronne ..... Mlle. Suzanne de Behr
Raoul de Croiselles ..... M. Lauzeties
A Servant ..... M. Derives

Two brilliant houses on Monday afternoon and evening gave Mme. Réjane a truly British welcome at the Hippodrome. This homage to the art of the gifted Parisienne must have been very gratifying to her, especially as one knows that she regards London, artistically speaking, as her second home. Her fascination, her charm, her variableness—if we may use the word—found their fullness in the representation of the thirty-year-old comedietta from the pens of Meilhac and Halévy (authors of *Frou-Frou*) entitled *Lolotte*. This has before been presented, by Celine Chaumont on the London stage at the St. James's in 1890; and in its English dress under the title of *The Lesson*, it was given by Mrs. Bancroft at the Haymarket in 1881.

"Mon ami, you will be so good as to put on your hat and go away without asking me the slightest explanation; you can come back at five." Such is the sentence pronounced on her husband by the Baronne, and it is also that which begins the comedy. Of course, the Baron is most anxious to remain, and a young dandy, Raoul de Croiselles, a friend of the Baron, who happens to call, is asked to decide whether monsieur shall obey the edict of madame. Why, certainly, and the Baron takes up his hat and leaves the room. Hardly has he closed the door than Croiselles urges his suit as a lover of the Baronne, who, much to his chagrin, is imperious and cold.

She has another and more important affair on hand. She has promised to appear in a theatrical performance for a charity, and as the parts allotted her are difficult, she has asked a professional actress to coach her. Indeed, she expects Mlle. Lolotte every moment. At the mention of the name Croiselles is only too desirous to obey the Baronne's behest, and leave her alone with her coach. But before he can escape, the actress is announced, and her simple elegance and distinguished bearing astound her hostess. It will be easily guessed that Croiselles is the lover of Lolotte, and this much is made plain by the few words spoken by the two.

On the departure of Croiselles the lesson commences. Madame is to appear in two characters—those of a chevalier and a country girl. Lolotte gives clear instructions as to what her gait and manner should be, and also shows her the correct "swagger" when wearing a sword, by fixing a light cane to the skirt of her dress. The Baronne is making wonderful progress when, as ill-luck would have it, the actress picks up from a table a copy of the book of the play, and there, on the margin, discovers pen-and-ink sketches just like those Croiselles makes *chez elle*.

Jealousy at once strikes Lolotte to the heart, and when the Baronne offers her a 500 franc note, she takes one of equal amount from her purse and begs madame to add it to hers, and give both to the charity on behalf of which she is going to play. With a display of frigid politeness the actress then takes her leave. Then comes the opportunity for Croiselles to urge his suit with the Baronne; but, to the confusion of both, Lolotte returns. She hurls epithets at madame, and in the height of the rumpus the Baron arrives. "Take care," says Croiselles to Lolotte; "it's the husband!" "What's the husband to me?" screams the infuriated woman, whose rage has reached such a pitch that she is going to divulge "all," when a glance at the unfortunate wife suddenly restores her mental balance. With a sweeping gesture to *monsieur le mari*, she says: "Such, sir, is the way in which Madame la Baronne ought to play the scene she has been rehearsing with me!"

The incomparable art of Réjane again delighted Londoners, and the changing moods of Lolotte the lady and Lolotte the *divette* enabled one to appreciate the fine sense of character displayed by the popular Parisienne, who was evidently enchanted with her reception and the number of magnificent floral trophies handed over the footlights. Mlle. Suzanne de Behr, looking well in a confection the colour of Parma violets, made an excellent foil to Réjane; and M. Lauzeties was light-hearted and amusingly cynical as the lover. M. Alerme and M. Derives were adequate in small parts.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

Business at this house is deservedly good this week, for looming large in the strong and well-varied company is the name of George Robey. "George" is singing "Archibald, certainly not!" "Miss Green," and his historical screamer, "King Charles II." The first of the three appeared to be the most popular, but his patter in all of them is excruciatingly funny, and earned him a great reception. Cassie Walmer, Frank Foot, the Johannesburg jester, Gala and Norris, in their skit on the roller skating craze, without skates, and Herbert Clifton also appear.

The turn of the evening is undoubtedly the sketch *Toplitsky*, which concerns the love affairs of Sam Levy and his sweetheart, who are unable to get married because Sam's father, Abraham Levy, declines to advance the wherewithal, basing his action on the words of "Toplitsky," an author, who is guide, philosopher, and friend to the father in everything. How the lovers make "Toplitsky" serve their ends, and eventually get the father's blessing and £2,000, we leave the very clever trio engaged to show. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Frank Bernard for his impersonation of the father, Abraham Levy. It is by no means an easy character, and in less capable hands might have been ridiculous; but by sheer ability he gets every possible laugh, and when the moment of pathos comes the house is hushed in a trice and held. His final exit and the silent business that accompany it are especially fine, and richly deserve the storm of applause they receive. Mr. F. H. Dale, as the son, and Miss Edyth Marlyn are good, and contribute materially to the fun.

"THE SPIRIT OF MUSIC."

Presented at the Wilfesden Hippodrome on Monday, April 4.

Prince Rupert of Roumania .. Mr. Carl Junor
King of Ouldaria ..... Mr. W. G. Blunt
Princess Iris of Ouldaria .... Miss Mabel Adams
The Spirit of Music ..... Miss Cora Deane

Mr. Fred S. Jennings is this week presenting with much success here a romantic playlet entitled *The Spirit of Music*. The scene is laid in the Music Room of the king's palace at Ouldaria, and with the rise of the curtain is heard the noise of battle outside. The King and his daughter, Princess Iris, are discovered discussing the situation caused by the serious quarrel between Ouldaria and Roumania. The monarch suggests that the only way in which this country can be saved is by his daughter's acceptance of an offer of marriage made by Prince Rupert, who is at the head of the hostile army. The Prince bears a bad character, and news of his unenviable reputation has reached the ears of the Princess, who bewails her fate; but her scruples are overcome, and for the sake of her country she consents.

Prince Rupert, thinking his army will not prove victorious, gains entrance to the castle unobserved. He is attired as a trooper, and is by way of negotiating terms of peace with the King and of pressing his offer of marriage. Whilst he soliloquises the Spirt of Music appears to him and informs him of the bad reputation which has preceded him. There is one thing, however, which would win for him the love and admiration of the Princess—the display of musical power.

The Prince says the marriage would only be one of convenience, and disclaims any knowledge of music. The Spirit, recognising his many good qualities, exercises magic power, and endows him with great musical talent. At the Spirit's command the soldier Prince sits down at the piano and gives a masterful rendering of a number of works. The Princess listens to the music, and falls in love with the player, in spite of his lowly appearance. The two there and then admit a great mutual affection. But the Princess immediately says he must try and forget their meeting, remembers her approaching betrothal to Prince Rupert, and leaves the disguised Prince.

The Prince makes as if to follow Princess Iris, but is prevented by the reappearance of the Spirit of Music, who tells him that the Princess, having met the man, must now meet the Prince. The latter retires to garb himself according to his rank. The King enters, and is met by the Princess, who begs that she may be released from her agreement to marry Prince Rupert in order that she may be free to marry the talented stranger. The rest may be easily guessed, and the Spirit of Music unites the lovers, and the two hostile countries are in complete harmony at the fall of the curtain.

The sketch is most excellently mounted, and the parts are all well taken. A long and successful run may be safely predicted for the production.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FELDMAN'S
SPECIAL SONGS & SINGERS

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*

THE GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*

YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*

I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

MISS JOSÈ COLLINS. *A Charming Singer of a Beautiful Number.*

I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE?

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*

PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE. *The Incomparable Comedienne.*

GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*

OH. BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*

MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*

IN THE ARMY.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 21.)

In the excellent catalogue of new songs published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are to be found the *crême de la crême* of America's popular songs. The demand for such winners in both continents as "I wonder who's kissing her now," "I'm longing for one sight of you," "Santa Fé," "The garden of Roses," "I wonder if it's true," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" "Sweet garden queen," and other charming new Feldman chorus songs has been incessant these last few days.

Yet another prominent artist who is on the eve of exploiting a Feldman song is that gifted young performer, Miss Gertie Gitana, who early next week will produce at the Oxford and the other halls where she is engaged Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's charming new song, "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear." Never before, perhaps, has this dainty artist been fitted with a number so eminently suited to her special type of business, and a success far out of the ordinary is confidently anticipated by all concerned.

At the Oxford and Tivoli this week Mr. Mark Sheridan, happily recovered from his recent illness, has been evoking roars of laughter accompanied by plaudits loud and long for his masterly rendering of his original song, "I do like to be beside the seaside," and Messrs. Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on the possession of a number which, despite its enormous pantomime vogue, still flourishes like the green bay tree.

That dashing and dainty comedienne, Miss Chummie La Mara, will next week produce at the Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, two of the new Feldman publications, to wit: "We can't go into the parlour," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; and "Ev'ry girl loves a military man," a sparkling new satire on things military, by Harrington, Godfrey, and Orlando Powell.

The "feature" song *par excellence* for the present pierrot and alfresco season is Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's characteristic romance, "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," which Messrs. Feldman and Co. publish. The worth of this song has been amply proven in two-thirds of our recent pantomimes, in which it was always received with tumultuous applause. The song may be highly recommended even if sung in orthodox pierrot attire.

A genuinely humorous new number, with a melodious chorus, which Messrs. Feldman and Co. are just putting on is "Ev'ry girl loves a military man," by John P. Harrington, Fred Godfrey, and Orlando Powell. Performers looking out for a striking chorus number for seaside exploitation should make early application to the famous Arthur-street firm for permission.

Fresh from her pantomime success at the Alexandra, Birmingham, Miss Molly Wynne opened at the Gaiety, Birmingham, this week, and scored an instantaneous hit with the two Feldman songs she made so popular in pantomime, to wit, "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," by Rogers and Neat; and "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford. Miss Ray Ford, from the same pantomime, has also been appearing during the current week at the local Empire with "Send me a picture postcard," yet another of the Feldman publications.

A communication just received at Arthur-street from Mr. G. H. Elliott records the pleasing fact that "Moon, moon, moon," by Edgar, Lawrance, and Gifford, is his third song nightly, at the Grand Theatre, Hanley, this week, and is received with deafening applause. Mr. Elliott is also going "great guns" with "By the light of the silvery moon." Both these latest Elliott successes are published by Feldmans.

"THE EVE OF WATERLOO."

An Episode, in Three Scenes, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday, April 4.

Napoleon ..... Mr. G. W. Cockburn
Marshal Ney ..... Mr. T. Ritchie
General Gerard ..... Mr. W. Young
Chevalier D'Orsay ..... Mr. Watty Brunton
Sergeant ..... Mr. R. Mansell
Josephine ..... Miss Lilla Wilde

Anything dealing with the life of Napoleon is interesting, and this new sketch, produced under the direction of Mr. Henri Cassell, is no exception. It is in three scenes, two of which are laid at the Château St. Malo, the home of the Chevalier D'Orsay. Here Napoleon is making his headquarters, and when the scene opens it is early morning on the day of Waterloo. Napoleon has made his plans for the battle, when Josephine comes to see him. In an affecting interview he tells her of his feeling of coming defeat in the great engagement he is about to undertake. After a short scene on the battlefield we are again brought back to the château; the battle is over, and Napoleon defeated. He is held prisoner, and while he sits in loneliness beside the fire we see his vision of the final defeat he had just suffered. Josephine comes in to comfort him, and closely following her is an English officer, who tells Napoleon of the decision to send him to St. Helena.

Throughout this striking sketch Mr. G. W. Cockburn played with great force as Napoleon, and his make-up was admirable. Miss Lilla Wilde enacted Josephine with much skill; Mr. T. Ritchie made a capital Marshal Ney; and General Gerard, whom Napoleon detects in an act of treachery and orders to be shot, was played with much force by Mr. W. Young. Mr. Watty Brunton supplied the lighter side of the piece by his comic impersonation of the Chevalier D'Orsay. The sketch is well staged, the tableau of Waterloo being very effective.

At a recent meeting of the general committee of the Birmingham Musical Festival it was announced that the last festival resulted in a loss of £1,172. The receipts for the 1906 festival were £9,778, and for the 1909 festival, £7,353.

"Burton's Professional Diary and Date Book" for 1910-11 just to hand, has reached the eleventh year of issue. The chief feature of the work is the fifty-two weeks' balance-sheet, by means of which the whole year's accounts may be kept in order, and the exact financial position of the possessor revealed at a glance. A page is devoted to each week's receipts, and is faced by a printed list of every imaginable kind of expenditure incidental to a theatrical or variety tour. Among the useful contents of the book, which is of a handy pocket size, are to be found address sheets, sizes of printing, commission and discount tables, a comprehensive table of percentages, printing stock sheets, and two years' bookings. To resident and touring managers it must be of inestimable value, and can be obtained at 1s., post free, from the compiler, Mr. George Burton, Milner's Chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

Messrs. Fred Wilkins and Brother, Ltd., the well-known Liverpool theatre furnishers and expert electric theatre fitters, have opened London offices and show-rooms at Lyric Chambers, 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., where a choice selection of their renowned tip-up chairs can be seen, and estimates and illustrated catalogues for all kinds of theatre work may be obtained. Telephone, No. 5,332 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

6,073 SHILLINGS.

Previously Announced.

Collected by Miss Vesta Tilley ..	£78	15	6
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Berry Hope	4	5	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver.....	3	18	0
Collected by Ted E. Box	2	18	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	2	11	0
Collected by Horace Wheatley.....	2	11	0
Collected by Little Fred Zola	1	18	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde ..	1	11	0
Collected by Jenny Johns	1	11	0
Collected by Tom Branson.....	1	11	0
Collected by Ben Brown	1	10	6
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
Collected by Gertie Gitana	1	8	6
Collected by Hayman and Franklin	1	8	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Fred Sinclair	1	7	0
Collected by Miss Josie Mooney ..	1	6	6
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Marie Blythe....	1	6	0
Collected by The Emsons	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Ray Ford	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan ..	1	5	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne....	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields.....	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Miss Fanny Robina..	1	5	0
Collected by Dave Carter	1	5	0
Collected by Carl Hertz	1	5	0
Collected by Sid Cotterell	1	5	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
Collected by Theodore Jones	1	4	0
Collected by Fred Land	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Smith and Johnson....	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Collected by Harry Taft	1	2	0
Collected by W. Pratt	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Hymack	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Collected by Cullen and Carthy ..	1	1	0
Collected by Frank Coyle	1	1	0
Collected by A. R. Hollands	1	1	0
Collected by Fred Kitchen	1	1	0
Collected by W. J. Churchill	1	1	0
Collected by Miss Daisy Wood	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
John Lawson	1	0	0
Collected by The Alaskas	0	18	0
Collected by Conway and Leland..	0	18	0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore ..	0	17	0
Collected by Regan and Ryan	0	16	0
Collected by Carl and Carr	0	16	0
Collected by the Wedburns	0	16	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Collected by Ben Obo	0	15	0
Collected by Fred and Minnie Mulvey	0	15	0
Collected by Newham and Latimer	0	13	0
Collected by the Lovelaces	0	13	0
Collected by Achmed Ibrahim.....	0	12	6
Collected by Mr. Walter Norman..	0	12	0
Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby	0	12	0
Collected by Morrisey	0	11	0
Collected by Harry Gribben.....	0	11	0
Collected by Sam Williams	0	11	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Syd Godfrey	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by Steel and Laing	0	9	0
Collected by Cummin and Seaham	0	9	0
Collected by Lizzette Trio	0	7	0
Collected by Sterling and Love	0	7	0
Collected by Fields and Lewis	0	7	0
Collected by Shenton and Chicks ..	0	6	0
Collected by Miss Maude May Murray	0	6	0
Collected by Fred Moule	0	6	0
Collected by Rene Clayton	0	4	0
Collected by the Michel Bros.	0	3	6
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0

Sums since received.

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 12s. 6d.

James Corbett	5	B. Isaacs	1
M. H. D. Boardman	2½	Tom Joy	1
May Mars	2	Grace Foster	1
H. E. Lynas	2	C. M. Jones	1
Miss Preston	1½	Forsyths	1
Joe Athos	1½	Morimura	1
Amy Davis	1	George F. Hall.....	1
M. Tuffs	1	John Jackson.....	1
R. P. Lucas	1	Harry Day	1
Harry Goodson.....	1	Gus Elen	1
F. Esdaile	1	Henry Clarke	½
J. Hargreaves	1	Miss Nellie Walton..	½
Carr and Rose	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 16s.

Hetty King	21	My Fancy	1
G. Hearn	5	Daisy Dormer	1
Clarice Mayne	2½	Colin Bryce	1
Horace Hunter	2½	Zoe Coe	1
Joe Elvin	2	Pasquali Bros.	1
Ada Colley	2	W. T. Ellwanger	1
Marguerite Ismay ..	2	Lalie Brooke	1
Mary Douglas Frere	2	T. Ellis Buxton	1
C. Laurie	2	C. Rauschle	1
E. Arden and G. Abel	2	Gus Elen	1
Peggie Lennie	1	Self	½
Mrs. Mayne	1	G Hatley	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 5s.

Harry Goodson	1	Harry Russon.....	1
Sam Lipman	1	S. McCarthy	1
Alfred Appleyard....	1	Chas. C. Chris	1
Billy Seeley	1	Raglus	1
James Stewart	1	E. L. Israel	1
Bernard Israel	1	Israel	1
Celest	1	D Molem	1
L. F. Boorer	1	F. Mulvey	1
G. L. Boorer	1	M. Israel	1
Jack Deray	1	J. Pamm	1
Bogey	1	Hart	1
Cecil Gray	1	Gus Elen	1
M. Boorer	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 14s. 6d.

Kitty Colyer	5	Irene Hare	1
Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Davis	5	Sadie Bizet	1
Mrs. D. J. Day	2½	J. W. Gallagher	1
Dora Lindsay.....	1	John Wills	1
Mlle. Renée.....	1	Harry Blake	1
Bessie Knight	1	H. T. D.	1
Millie Edgar	1	Ike Scott	1
Lloyd Morgan	1	Arthur Rigby	1
J. J. Mannix	1	J. Thompson	1
Terry and Bentley ..	1	Will Douglas	1
Bessie Mackenzie ..	1	W. J. L.	1
Sarony Sisters	1	A. C. Charles	1
		Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £4 8s.

Harry Day	20	Frank Elliston	1
Pearce Lucas	10½	H. Taft	1
De Biere	10	Gus Garrick	1
Whit Cunliffe	10	Fred Burnell	1
Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.	10	Harry McKelvie	1
		Walter Hast	1
Jas. W. Tate	5	Peggie Lennie	1
Geoffreys and Benson	3	E. Lepard.....	1
J. Hargreaves	2	J. E. Cohen	1
Harry Claff.....	2	Harry Taft	1
Dave Carter	1	Gabrielle Day.....	1
Jack Fraser	1	Gus Elen	1
T. F. O'Brien	1	Friend	½

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 7s.

Kitty Colyer	2	Yvonne Lamor	1
Chung Ling Soo	2	T. E. Dunville	1
T. F. Robson	1	Elsie Girls	1
John McColl	1	The Gothams	1
Rose Cambry	1	Geoffreys and Benson	1
Rose Bancroft	1	Jennie Johns	1
Chris. Horn	1	R. Howard	1
Will Horn	1	Les Mabas	1
James Horne	1	La belle Linda	1
George Formby	1	Gertrude Gebest	1
Herbert La Martine	1	Fred Hastings	1
Rose Hamilton	1	Gus Elen	1
Sammy Shields	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 9s.

Annie Lucas	5	Myer Lee	1
Geo. Leyton	5	C. P. Johns	1
Eddie and Ethel	5	L. B. Barnard	1
Daisy Lucas	5	Dick Barnett	1
Chas. Reed and Flora and Cromer	5	Alf. Barnard	1
F. W. McAvoy ...	2	Dr. Weaver	1
Will Collins	2	J. O. Evans	1
Bob Smart	2	K Scott-Barrie	1
G. H. Topakya	2	Franklin	1
Joe Wilson	2	Robert Edelsten	1
Ted E. Box	1	Jack Coke	1
C H. Fields	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 10s. 6d.

Bains Co.	2½	D Selbo	1
Lily Hammersley ..	2	Bros. Ford	1
E. and E.	2	A. Marriott	1
Tokio	2	L. Nathan	1
Geo. Goodfellow ..	2	M. Chandler	1
Randolph King	1	Joe Jacobs	1
Frank Shelley	1	F. Lloyd	1
Barney Jacobs	1	S R.	1
R. Whyte, jun.	1	James and Jenny Jee	1
J. Ross Elvio	1	J. Ward	1
The Carlyles	1	Gus Harris	1
F H. Gillett	1	Gus Elen	1
Renee	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 13s. 6d.

E. Venner	10½	A. Bond Sayers	1
P. Richardson	5	George Manton.....	1
C. W. Lovesy	5	Agnes Molteno	1
H. W. Daw	2½	Maxwell and Frances	1
W. G.	2½	Ida Kessanley	1
Karlos Stiveodor....	2	L. H.	1
Sam Mayo	2	J H.	1
R E. Maclachian ..	2	Georgie Martin	1
Archie Cann Parnell	2	Dora Stock	1
T. Pardoe	2	Madge Allan	1
Colbert	2	Croissets	1
J B.	2	Reg Beauchamp	1
Adey Spencer	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £3 4s.

Geo. Mozart	20	Joe Peterman	1
J. Collins	10	Leo Fritz	1
Nobbler and Jerry ..	5	Jack Dix	1
Lew Lake	3	Gus Harris	1
Roland	3	H. Bacon	1
C. S.	2	Sid Payne	1
O. O.	2	Day's Agency (Fred)	1
Edie Veno	2	Miss Head	1
J. P. W.	1	Miss Joicey	1
Leo Fritz	1	R. H. Spackman....	1
Jack de Freece	1	Percy Taylor	1
Pay, Pay	1	Gus Elen	1
Geo. Stevens	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 0s. 6d.

Harry Day	10	E. Vernon	1
Kitty Colyer	5	Geo. Fisher	1
C. R. Whittle	2	F. R.	1
Dave Carter	2	Burt Shepard	1
Karno's Boys.....	1½	A. Sterling	1
Fred Keeton	1	S. M. Groot	1
Phil Parsons	1	R. Fox	1
P. Dearly	1	J. M. B.	1
M. Temple	1	Lucy Coventry	1
H. E. Darewski	1	Maie Dillon	1
John Christie	1	C. Kirby	1
Hector and Lolletta	1	Gus Elen	1
F. O'Neill	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £3 11s.

Harry Day	21	Ida Barr	5
Hayman & Franklin	20	Harry Jacobs	2
Theatre Royal, Manchester. By Mr. J. Hart's courtesy in refunding amount of admission charged in error..	15	A. F. A. V. ..... Ferguson and Mack Jesse Freeman ..... V. A. Higgin ..... Little Ganty ..... Gus Elen	2 2 1 1 1 1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £3.

Ruffell's Bioscope ..	21	Once More	1
Tschin-Maa	10	Geo. Goodfellow	1
Horace Lane and Violet Lloyd	5	Harry Claff ..... Shaun Glenville	1 1
A. T. P.	2	Chas. Stevens	1
A. Appleyard	2	J. D. F.	1
Two Friends	2	R. B	1
Another	2	W. T. Thompson ..	1
A. Keith	1	May Fairclough	1
J. D. Price	1	W. W.	1
Leo Fritz	1	Fred Hyde	1
Harry Russon	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 6s.

Whit Cunliffe	7	Alfred Appleyard ..	2
Mrs. H. O. Seyd	5	Charles Stevens	1
Jake Friedman	2½	D. Ricardo	1
Arthur Hampel	2½	A. Douglas	1
Miss Hope	2½	Alfred	1
G. S Ferdinando ..	2½	H. G. Hibbert	1
G. Ricketts	2	Tommy	1
Caryl Wilbur	2	W. E. Gillin	1
Walter Williams	2	Chris. Davis	1
Frank Leedham	2	W. Rogers	1
Joe Peterman	2	Gus Elen	1
Cunningham and Co.	2		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £3 2s. 6d.

Enterpe	5	F. S. S.	2½
Walter Bentley	5	H. Trevor	2½
Billy French	5	M. Lee	2
The Courtiers	5	Lucas Friend	2
Ronnie Blair	4	W. Griffin	2
H. C.	3	Bob Smart	1
C. R. Foskett	2½	Frank Bernard.....	1
Percy Richardson ..	2½	Lucas Friend	1
R. Bouthran	2½	Ancie Goodson	1
A. Benwick	2½	Alfred Appleyard ..	1
Hampel	2½	Clara Goodson	1
Phil. & Vettie Peters	2½	Gus Elen	1
W. J. Thompson ..	2½		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 5s.

Jack De Frece	2	Leo Fritz	1
P. Garrett	1	Harry Masters	1
K. C.	1	David Bliss.....	1
G. Ferdinando	1	H. Koshi	1
F. H. Farey	1	John Mack	1
A. Gundry	1	Dave Samuels	1
Dr. E. L. Robertson	1	Jack Goodson	1
L. Benjamin	1	T. S. Dickie	1
A. Biene, Agent	1	Jack Goodson	1
A. Gundry	1	Leo Fritz	1
L. Zeitlin	1	Henri Cazman	1
Alfred Appleyard ..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £2 4s.

R. G. Knowles	20	Lift Attendant	1
Mr. Zanora	1	Stage Hand.....	1
Mrs. Zanora	1	Musical Conductor..	1
Mr. M. C. Berg	1	Ancie Goodson	1
Eddy Martyn	1	Clara Goodson	1
E. W. F.	1	Dora Goodson	1
Nosey Parker	1	Barney Goodson	1
Long Legs	1	Harry Day, jun. ..	1
Fat Mary	1	Katie Day	1
Little Cherry	1	Harry Day	1
Rasso	1	Harry Goodson	1
Harry Goodson	1	Gus Elen	1
Nanny	1		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 14s.

Jimmy and Barnie..	10	Miss M. Harden ..	1
Mr. Noel	5	Geo. Goodfellow	1
W. G.	5	Harry Claff	1
Danzic	2	Catch-Me-Quick	1
Dooley	2	Alf.	1
Klein	2	Gus Elen	1
Shaun Glenville	2		

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £1 13s. 6d.

R. P. Macgarth ...	5	Arthur Rigby	1
A. Appleyard	2½	F. T. Nelson's Newsboys	1
Brien M. Cullough..	2		
Roland, Illusionist ..	2	W. Garland	1
R. H. Douglas	2	Chas. Craston	1
R. C. K.	1	Arthur Slater	1
Joe Peterman	1	Harry Smith	1
A. C. Lovesy	1	Arthur Breton	1
T. Harwood	1	Luis Hardt	1
O. Luck	1	Chas. Lilburn	1
Harry Dean	1	Madison and Webb..	1
G. W. B.	1	Cyril Dane	1
Wash Evans	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kitty Colyer, £10 11s.

C. Doughty	21	H. Brandon	21
Roberts, Seyd & Co.	21	"Interested"	21
Robins, Gore, & Mercer	21	H. M. G.	21
		T. E. FitzGerald ..	21
E. F. Lever	21	Martin O'Connor ..	21
Joe Peterman & Geo Ricketts	21	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Kirk and Saraski, 14s.

F. Saraski	1	Welda and Wynne ..	1
A. R.	1	Harry Goodburn	1
Bains	1	W. Leotard	1
Reed	1	Rud. Bellonge	1
Harry. Kirk	1	Harry Blake	1
A. Gordon Laws	1	John Grün Marx ..	1
J. A. Wilson	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Jack Smiles, 25s.

Jack Smiles	1	R. Braatz	1
Basil Magauran	1	Edward Platt.....	1
E G. Cumberland ..	1	W. M. Hamilton	1
T. J. Thomson	1	Fred Durban	1
A. Taree	1	Dave Samuels	1
Mona Garrick	1	Cyril Ongar	1
Alexandra Dagmar..	1	Denis Ongar	1
Carney & Armstrong	1	Harry Ongar	1
W. Curtiss	1	C. B. Barnold.....	1
Hill Whitaker	1	The Brilliants	1
Mattie Lund	1	Capt. Kettle	1
W. J. Mayer	1	Gus Elen	1
The Whilby Co.	1		

Collected by A. N. Hennessey, 21s.

Kittee Rayburn	5	Ted James	1
A. Henressey	3	Alf. Thompson	1
Stanley Cohen	2	A. Brunning	1
Willie Noble	1	C. Wright	1
Geo. Dyke	1	H. Cohen	1
Cecil Sultan.....	1	B. Kelley	1
Griffin	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Walter Purvis, 15s.

Walter Purvis	1	Ruby Roya	1
C. W. Davies	1	Salida and Vone	1
A. J. Ball	1	James Rallis	1
Richard Dare	1	Arthur J. Noice	1
W. B. Lacey	1	George F. Upton	1
J. Spritt	1	Joe Mumford	1
J. R. Cain	1	Gus Elen	1
Fred Hutchirgs	1		

Collected by Will Harris, 13s.

Will Harris	2	Shakespeare Stewart	1
Luna Penrose.....	1	Geo. Rapley	1
Warwick Buckland ..	1	Ed. Lauri	1
Fields and Lewis....	1	T. Birchmore	1
Geo. Gulliver	1	Florrie Delamere	1
Geo. Bawn	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Lillie Hales, 3s.

Arthur Izon	1	Gus Elen	1
Lillie Hales	1		

Collected by Miss Minnie Wheaton, 7s.

Minnie Wheaton	2	George Gulliver	1
F. W.	1	Gregory Croke	1
Harry Blake	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Len Hale, 4s.

Len Hale	1	The Three Dixons ..	1
James Halma	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Ben Whiteley, 6s.

Ben Whiteley	1	T. F. Townend	1
Jack Whiteley	1	N. Butterfield	1
Peggy Fame	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Will Johnson, 12s.

Will Johnson	1	Sissie Brand	1
Sydney James	1	Cindy Asche	1
G. W. Desmond	1	Jessie Wilton.....	1
Walter Walton.....	1	F. B. Morton	1
Ernest Lester	1	Jack Lorrimer	1
Madeline Rossiter ..	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Sisters Cora, £1 7s.

W. K.	2½	J. H. S.	1
Papa Cora	2½	Commercial	1
Sam Thomson	2	Grosvenor	1
R. Marshall	2	Markie	1
F. A. M. D'Ailly ..	2	A. Antim	1
A. Wilson	1	Fred R. Wilfred	1
W. Edelsten	1	A. Blainey	1
J. M. Booth	1	F. Bullen	1
A. J. Bright	1	D. D.	1
C. Clyde	1	Gus Elen	1
John Hamilton.....	1		

Collected by Mr. Hymack, £2 3s.

Maurice Picquay ..	4	Al. E. Johnston	1
Odd pence	4	Mrs. Al. E. Johnston	1
More odd pence	4	Sam Watson	1
Hal Godfrey	4	J. A. Devlin	1
Chas. F. Semon	4	Alice May	1
Jas. A. Johnston....	2	Captain Geo. Auger	1
Mabel Bardine	2	Mrs. Auger	1
Stelling and Revell..	2	Tossing Austin	1
James Harrigan	1	Robin Eberle	1
Charles Judge	1	Chas. Harbury	1
Violet King	1	John McCloskey	1
Jas. Watchorn	1	Gus Elen	1
World and Kingston	1		

Collected by Francisco, £1 12s. 6d.

Clydebank staff	7	Will Probyn	1
Gadbin II.	5	James Wilson	1
Gordon Gibson	2½	Renz	1
Francisco	2	Adelaide G. Freeman	1
Bros. Gerard	2	J A. Cassels	1
Ray Sinclair	1	J. A. Wilson	1
Billy Walters	1	Friend	1
G W. Walker	1	Gus Lazenberg	1
Mrs. Francisco	1	Gus Elen	1
Wallace Muirhead ..	1		

Collected by Mr. Hymack, 10s. 6d.

Harry Mountford ..	4	Thomas McGrath ..	1
Exchange	1½	Jas. E. Donegan	1
Anna Laughlin	1	Gus Elen	1
William Rock	1		

Collected by Andie Burns, 22s.

Gladys Doreen	2	Arthur Astill	1
Donnie Doreen	2	Mrs. Attenborough..	1
J. L. Thomas.....	2	R. Halley	1
Zena Pana	1	Ben White	1
Andie Burns	1	Danton and Morris..	1
Swan, Colchester....	1	Jumbo and Alice....	1
Lamb Hotel. Colchester	1	J. W. Cragg ..... Richard Finberg	1 1
W. Angel	1	Maningo	½
C. A. Pell, Colchester.	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Alice Digby, 11s.

Alice Digby	1	Les Zed's	1
J. Beauchamp	1	Dannas Trio	1
Walter Cross	1	Ida Claire	1
A. St. Claire	1	Maurice Lee	1
Crosby and Walker..	1	Gus Elen	1
Alf. Brookes	1		

Collected by Hanid Alexander, 15s.

Hanid Alexander ..	3½	Alec Alexander	1
Jack Alexander	2½	Harry Alexander....	1
Harry Goldbery	2	Niddy Boo	1
George Alexander ..	1	Lyon's Trio.....	1
Louis Rosenberg	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Louis Rosenberg, 16s.

Mr. J. Gardiner	2	X. Y. Z.	1
W. Laws	1	A Friend	1
W. Stevens	1	A. Partridge	1
W. Elliott	1	T. Ellis	1
T. Pilley	1	Clarkson	1
E. M. W. H.	1	Ware	1
Smith	1	Gus Elen	1
E. W.	1		

Collected by Milsted-Bell Trio, 5s.

Emmie Milsted.....	1	Arthur Weber	1
Jos. Bell	1	Gus Elen	1
Mabel Milsted	1		

Collected by Harry Bancroft, 7s.

E. Ames H. Bancroft	2	Cromo and Hamilton	1
Blanche Marion	1	Lillian Farrar	1
Harry Taylor.....	1	Gus Elen	1

Collected by Miss Flo Stanley, 9s.

Arthur Watson.....	2	Ethel Dunford	1
Flo Stanley	2	Louie Tinsley.....	1
Chas. Vincent	1	Gus Elen	1
Millie Engler	1		

Collected by Harry Conlin, 31s. 6d.

Overweight	5	The Shocking Tale of a stocking	1
Linda D'Amato	2	Emma Don	1
Blair and Allen	2	Maud Lordys	1
Harry and Rosie ..	1½	Billy Barlow	1
Four Queens	1	Leo Sterling	1
Ernie Randell	1	Fred Sinclair	1
Two Nines	1	Gus Elen	1
R. Johnson	1	Bonny	½
W. Jackson Houlston	1	Van Dammes.....	½
W. Collinson	1	Hal Ford	½
George Snyder	1	Gen Teel	½
Neville Delmar.....	1	Chummie La Mara..	½
Bros. Christo	1	Baby Rosie Conlin..	½

Collected by Dick Tubb, £10 3s.

Francis Laidler	10	Horace White	1
Mrs. Lewis Walter ..	10	Fred Kitchen	1
Jessie Buck

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

"Tetrazzini of the Wheel."

Miss Bertha Doud Mack has been appearing at the Slowhill Rink, Newport, and her act has induced a local scribe to dub her "the Tettrazini of the wheel." He further says: "She is a genius on rollers, and introduced to an enormous audience on Monday night, much that was novel and unexpected. She has, as it were, translated one art into the language of another—she is a dancer on rollers, and her display was specifically dancing rather than rinking. She gave some spectacular skating as a preliminary and as interludes, swerving and skimming round the rink like a swallow over a lake, but the real point of her performance lay in the fact that she overcame the difficulties of rollers, and gave clog-dancing, ballet-dancing, musical-comedy steps, and concluded with the splits on her heels, picking up two flags from the floor with her teeth."

Bertha Doud Mack's Return.

Miss Bertha Doud Mack, who sailed from Liverpool for America last Wednesday, will only be absent from England six weeks, when she will return to fulfil her contracts. Her business in America is in connection with the settlement of her late mother's affairs.

Harley Davidson's Great Win.

Harley Davidson is still the Anglo-American roller skating speed champion, having defeated Joseph Altman, the challenger, in a wonderful race at the New Rink, Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A., on March 4, in the fast time of 2min. 49⅘sec. This is better time than Davidson made at Olympia in February, 1909. The issue was in doubt until the very last lap, where the strength and experience of the big champion triumphed. The race gave Davidson a fine opportunity to show the crowd that the title rests in good hands, for after losing considerable ground in the ninth lap he regained his stride and set sail after the leader. It did not look as if he had a chance, but by some great sprinting he caught Altman on the tenth lap and passed him, getting the lead and holding it to the finish, beating the Cincinnati boy by about five feet. In addition to the purse a handsome loving cup, emblematical of the world's championship, was presented to the winner. After Davidson has disposed of several important challenges from Chicago and elsewhere in the States he will return to this country to defend his title on this side of the Atlantic.

Miss Ray Wallace's Skating Song.

"Won't you come Rinking" is the title of a pretty little waltz number by Miss Gabrielle Wodnil, which Miss Ray Wallace has just added to her repertoire. It has a refrain which everyone who has listened to finds irresistible. The consequence is that audience after audience departs from the theatre at least humming, if it does not actually sing, the haunting melody.

Birmingham Skating Rinks.

The managers of two of the Birmingham skating rinks hold carnivals this week. At Monument-road an exhibition of fancy skating was given by Mr. C. N. Dawes, the floor manager, and Miss Jeanie Fisher. Excellently managed by Mr. Humphrey, this rink retains the support of a large number of the original patrons. The directors of the new Empire Skating Palace in Walford-road, Sparkbrook, are highly pleased with the results of the first few weeks' business. At nearly every session the huge floor—the largest out of London—has been crowded. A private skating club is in course of formation. April 20 has been fixed as the date of the first fancy dress carnival.

Lancers Competition at Blackheath.

The Wandsworth Roller Skating Club sent a party on Tuesday last to meet the Blackheath Rink Lancer Party (who, it will be remembered, issued a challenge in *The Era* to meet anybody in a set of Lancers) in a competition. Blackheath took the floor first, and completed their set in about fifteen minutes. Wandsworth followed, and got through their set in twelve minutes, and were subsequently declared winners. A return competition will take place at the Wandsworth Rink on Monday, May 21.

Changes at Brixton.

Mr. Percy Morgan having resigned his position as director of the Brixton Rink, Mr. Alec Flood has accepted the vacant seat on the board. Mr. H. Dennison has been appointed secretary.

Burnley Coliseum Hockey Team.

The extraordinary success of the Burnley Coliseum Team in the North-East Lancashire Amateur Rink Hockey League is creating remarkable enthusiasm in the town and district, as many as two thousand spectators gathering to witness their matches, in which they have not yet been beaten. The remarkable play of this team is evidenced in their League table returns:—Played 18, won 17, drawn 1, lost 0. Ninety-two goals against 4. The players are J. Smith, W. Richmond, G. W. Jobling, J. W. Duxbury, and F. Barker. They met their nearest rivals for League supremacy, Nelson Spring Bank, on Friday last, and won by 4 goals to 1.

Jessie Darling in Cork.

The Cork City Skating Rink is being daily and nightly well attended. Large crowds of rinkers continue to patronise it, and everyone speaks in high praise of the management. The chief attraction is Miss Jessie Darling, who wears the title of a skateuse of world-wide popularity. Her performances, ever fresh, provide wonderment as well as amusement, and her high praise of the floor and general equipment of the rink count for a good deal. Big crowds are enjoying the entertainment.

Tournament for Dennistoun.

A very attractive programme was drawn up by the Dennistoun Rink management for last Thursday's dance. Next Monday a series of races will be started. The races will extend over three evenings, and the first prize will be a 10-guinea Royal Enfield bicycle. On Thursday, the 14th, a three days' hockey tournament will be begun.

Rinking at Dover.

Rinking has reached the zenith of its popularity at Dover, and the Pier Pavilion Rink, under the management of Mr. Wilkinson, is doing exceptional business. In connection with the pastime a gentleman's hockey club has been formed and matches arranged with clubs of surrounding districts.

Getting Ready for Whitsun.

Buxton's Skating Rink, Douglas, Isle of Man, is now closed for cleaning and redecoration. This popular little skatery, however, reopens on Whit Saturday (May 14).

Round the Dundee Rinks.

A very successful carnival and gymkhana was held at the Olympia Skating Palace, Dundee, on Monday evening. Some very interesting items were witnessed. A hockey match took place between the Dundee Olympia team and an eleven from the Kirkcaldy Olympia, which resulted in a win for the Dundee team. The American Cinematograph is shown at intervals during the evening session here, and always proves a popular item. At the Melrose Terrace Rink a contest night was announced for Thursday evening last. The West End Rink continues to be well patronised.

Fancy Skating at Eastbourne.

The competition for the Devonshire Park Challenge Bowl was held last Saturday afternoon. There was a very good attendance, and some excellent fancy skating was witnessed. Mr. D. Resta was announced as winner of the first prize (438½ points), and he also holds the challenge bowl for one year. Miss J. Robertson was placed second (398 points) and won the special prize, for the first lady, presented by the club. Mr. M. Garcia (374 points) and Mr. H. B. Weller (369 points) were the competitors next in order of points, and were awarded medals. The arrangements were carried out under the direction of Mr. G. G. Stonham, honorary secretary and treasurer of the Devonshire Park (Roller) Figure Skating Club. The competition was held on the outer open-air rink at the Devonshire Park. A cold wind made the conditions a little difficult, particularly in the case of Miss J. Robertson, who, in spite of the handicap of ladies' attire, exhibited some excellent skating and came out second on the list. The judges were Messrs. H. D. Faith, A. March, and Horatio Torromé.

A Maypole at Exeter.

Although the conclusion of the season is now rapidly approaching, the Victoria Palace Rink, Exeter, is even more largely patronised than at its commencement. On Friday last a highly successful carnival was arranged by the manager, Mr. W. J. Barratt, the crowds of skaters and lookers-on in the evening straining the holding capacity of the rink to its utmost. A charming feature of the carnival was the introduction of a maypole dance on skates. A confetti battle proved an agreeable wind-up to an enjoyable evening, for the organisation of which much praise is due to Mr. Barratt and his popular assistant, Mr. E. Bowden.

At the Glamorgan Rinks.

The Winter Gardens, Porthcawl, was opened on Saturday, the 26th, when upwards of 150 skaters in fancy costumes were soon enjoying the excellent floor. Mr. P. A. Priest, the floor-manager (late of the Central Rink, Cardiff), speedily made himself popular with the patrons. The rink bids fair to be the favourite resort of the visitors and residents, as it is proposed to lay out the gardens for open-air rink, alfresco concerts, &c. Bridgend owns two excellent rinks, the best of which is undoubtedly the Station Hill one, where the patrons are taught every style of the art by Mr. T. Ponting. There is also a very good rink laid in the Drill Hall, where, under Mr. Cottle, the floor-manager, the patrons are kept thoroughly interested. Mr. Cottle, by the way, claims to be the originator of the Flirtation Waltz, as applied to a rink.

Lost!

A placard bearing the following legend adorns the wall of one of the leading rinks in Glasgow—"Lost, silver-mounted umbrella, belonging to a lady, with broken ribs."

Events in Hampshire.

The recently-formed Salisbury Rink Hockey Club played the Southampton Coliseum Club last Monday. The onlookers displayed the greatest interest and encouragement, and after some exciting encounters, the home team won by 2 to nil. The Salisbury team played on Saturday last the Premier Rink Hockey Club at Trowbridge, a fast and exciting game ended in a draw of 1 goal all. A fancy dress carnival will be held on April 20.

Hard Luck.

At Kingston on Tuesday last Mr. Byng Hall, managing-director of the County Roller Skating Rink, was fined £50 for not having taken out a music and dancing licence in respect of the rink, although he cannot obtain the licence until October next.

Novelty in Decoration.

The last Cinderella of the season was held on Monday evening at the King's Lynn St. James's Hall Roller Rink. There was an excellent attendance. The building was decorated with a series of magnificent panoramic pictures of the English Lakes, and on the platform a huge set scene of the Old Toll Bar, Edinburgh. Prizes were presented by the Mayoress, Mrs. Holcombe Ingleby, for the most attractive, the most original, and the most humorous costumes. These were secured respectively by Miss Gathercole as a rough rider, Mr. L. Nicolson as a highwayman, Mrs. White as a tea service, and Mr. Mawer as a policeman. Mr. Aubrey Bridges was M.C., and the arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. Winch, the businessmanager.

A. E. Court's Benefit.

Mr. A. E. Court, the manager of the Empress Rink, Leicester, is to take a benefit next Thursday. Mr. Court, who last year was in charge of the big rink at Earl's Court, has become a very popular personage in Leicester, and already there are big preparations in progress to make the function the most successful of its kind ever held in the town. Syd Martin will do his remarkable trick act during the evening, there are several kinds of races put down in the programme, and the proceedings will terminate with the inevitable, but always enjoyable, confetti battle. We wish Mr. Court every success and a very big gate.

Leicester's Lady Champion.

At the Leicester Boulevard Rink on Monday evening Miss W. E. Holdsworth, the daughter of the manager, who won the "Peerless" Cup in London last week, lowered her own record by four seconds. The preliminary heats for the £60 shield given by Mr. J. Noble are being run through, and this (Saturday) afternoon such stars in skating as Cooper, Holland, Little, Meredith, and Swain are to compete.

Good Business in Nottingham.

The end of the season is drawing nigh so far as roller-skating is concerned, but many visitors daily attend the Empress Rink, Nottingham. The next big event is to be a carnival, to be held on April 14.

Professional Skating at Newbury.

Newbury Skating Rink has been thronged during the Easter holidays by both skaters and spectators. Additional interest was imparted by the engagement of Colin Gorham, an expert exponent of the art of roller-skating. His graceful evolutions, waltzing, and two-step dancing, elicited loud applause. Mr. Campbell showed how it is possible to maintain an equilibrium at all sorts of impossible angles—when you know how. He was watched by many critical as well as admiring eyes, and there was no lack of applause to reward him for his clever performances.

Rinking for Ogmore Vale.

A local gentleman, Mr. Chas. Raitray, is building a rink about 65 by 50 in this busy little centre, and has secured as manager and instructor Mr. F. Studd, jun., late of Olympia, Pentre. It is hoped to have this rink opened by the end of April.

Confetti Fête at Penzance.

The Palace Rink, Penzance, presented a picturesque and animated appearance on the occasion of its third fancy dress carnival and confetti fête on Wednesday evening. The rink is as popular as ever, and on this night there was a very large attendance. During the evening exhibitions of fancy skating were given by the instructor, Mr. Willis, and instructress, Miss Rogers.

Peterborough Rink Fire.

The Princess Royal Skating Rink, Peterborough, was totally destroyed by fire just before noon last Saturday. About a score of skaters were on when the fire started in the skate store. In a few minutes the canvas roof fell, and some skaters had narrow escapes, but no actual personal injury is reported. The building was partially wrecked by a gale some few years ago.

At Porth Rink.

To increase the popularity of rink hockey a Rhondda Valley League has been formed, and a most valuable trophy cup has been presented by Messrs. C. A. and G. F. Rollinson to be competed for. The first match took place on Friday, April 1, between Treorky and Porth. Scores: Treorky, 3 goals; Porth, 1; and the second on Monday, April 4, between Pontypridd and Treorky, resulting in a win for Pontypridd. Scores, 4 goals to 1.

The Preston Carnival.

On Wednesday evening a most enjoyable fancy dress carnival was held at the Preston Rink, and much credit is due to Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son and their resident-manager, Mr. Largford, for the excellent arrangements. Fifty couples took part. The prizes, which had been provided by the management, were presented to the winners by Mr. Langford. The awards were by ballot of the spectators, and resulted as follows:—Prettiest costume (lady), Miss Myerscough, "Japanese Lady"; best stage-character (lady), Miss Dickenson, "Chanticler"; most humorous (lady), Miss Turner, "Topsy"; gavotte, Miss Taylor and Mr. Bibby; musical chairs, Miss Lovegrove and Mr. Bell.

For the Summer Season.

The interior of the Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, is given up to the carpenters this week, and the sound of the hammer rings out in the place where the whirr of the wheels is shortly to be heard. In other words, a fine new rock maple floor is being put down for skating. A big carnival is in preparation for Thursday of next week, and the Mayor of Ramsgate has consented to reopen the rink.

New Rugby Skating Rink.

A new skating rink was opened in Station-road, Rugby, last week. It has been substantially built at a cost of nearly £5,000, and, standing on 2,000 square yards of land, has a floor capable of accommodating 500 skaters at a time.

Skating Rink to be Re-opened.

The Southport Improvement Committee has succeeded in letting the Glaciarium for a term of three years to a Liverpool gentleman, Mr. J. H. Hughes, who will reopen the premises as a skating rink next week. Mr. Hughes has taken the building on a three years' lease, at a rental of £12 per week inclusive of taxes. It is stated that Mr. Hughes proposes to carry out considerable alterations and improvements, and among other things will provide a café to be run on good-class lines.

Sparkhill's Magnificent Skatery.

The opening of the new Empire Skating Rink, Walford-road, Sparkhill, took place last week. There is no skating rink at Small Heath, Sparkbrook, Moseley, Balsall Heath, Sparkhill, Hay Mills, or Acock's Green, so that the rink has a vast area of new ground to work upon. The design of the new building is reminiscent of the Great White City. The outstanding feature is the grand entrance, which has been designed with delightful effect, being flanked with bold and ornate octagon turrets, the whole being richly embroidered in ivory and gold and other luxurious colourings. The skating area is 25,000 square feet, and there is a capacity for 1,500 skaters. There are no pillars or other obstructions. The promenade and gallery accommodate 3,500 spectators. Music is provided by a fine band of sixteen performers. A great attraction is the grill room and café, which is under the supervision of Messrs. Fletchers, Ltd., Birmingham. The rink is under the managing-directorship of Mr. Will Hart, of Leicester.

An "Easter Egg" at Stourbridge.

A huge fancy dress and advertisement carnival was held at Stourbridge Rink on Thursday in last week. The principal attraction was a smart spectacle got up by the manager, Mr. H. J. Wharton, called "An Easter Egg." Some twenty-four children took part, and on the Good Fairy tapping the egg a smart little skater emerged therefrom, and after giving each of the children an Easter egg, performed some clever evolutions on the rollers. There were some twenty prizes in all, and our correspondent, Mr. C. E. Evason, again took the prize for the most original costume. He went as an alarm clock. The next carnival in May will be a benefit for the manager.

Next Wandsworth Carnival.

The third fancy dress carnival will be held at the Central Hall, East-hill, Wandsworth, next Wednesday. A gold watch will be given to the lady, and a canteen of cutlery to the gentleman, with best costume in any class, and twenty other valuable prizes will also be given for the following:—(a) ladies most handsome costume, (b) ladies' most original costume, (c) ladies' best national or historical costume, (d) ladies' best advertisement costume, (f) gentleman's most original costume, (h) gentleman's most comical costume, (k) gentleman's national or historical costume, (l) gentleman's best advertisement costume, (m) junior class, girls under sixteen (any subject), (p) junior class, boys under sixteen (any subject). The Peerless Roller Skate Co., Ltd., will give a diamond brooch for the best dress representing their Peerless skate.

Professional Waltzing at Wandsworth.

Although only seven couples entered for the professional waltzing competition at the Central Hall Skating Rink, Wandsworth, on Wednesday last, quite a large number of spectators watched the performance. It was left to Miss May Pickering and G. W. Furlow, of the Finsbury Park Rink, and Miss Olive Fossett and Mr. W. Doland, of the Wandsworth Rink, to waltz for the prize (£3). There was very little to choose between the two couples, and after a consultation, which lasted five minutes, the Finsbury Park couple were declared winners. The judges were three gentlemen from the N.S.A., viz., Messrs. Pannell, Whitlock, and Evans. Mr. Hewitt, N.S.A., acted as referee.

The Little Yorks.

It appears that after all the Little Yorks will not sail for America until the end of May. In the meantime they have a few open dates this month and next, which their manager, Mr. A. H. Nale, of Royal London Buildings, Princes-square, Wolverhampton, would like to see filled in.

Fancy Dress Carnival at Wolverhampton.

At the Wolverhampton Skating Rink, Birch-street, a fancy dress carnival and skating competition is to take place on April 14. The management offer a number of useful and valuable prizes for competition, and these are sure to provoke good sport and plenty of fun.

"On the Grommet."

Hockey on roller-skates has become a popular pursuit on at least one of His Majesty's warships. The "ball" used is a grommet, which, for the benefit of the landlubber, may be described: It is a ring used for fastening the upper edge of a sail to its stay, and is made by taking a strand just unlaid from a rope, "forming a ring of the size wished by putting the end over the standing part, carrying the long end twice round the ring in the crevices till the ring is complete, and then tying the two ends by an overhand knot."

A Great Skating Policeman.

"Sergeant Lightning" and his far-famed "force" of comic skating policemen will be present at Herbert Izod's benefit on Friday next at the Earl's Court rink. This individual's pranks at previous Earl's Court carnivals have been productive of a great deal of fun, and the Sergeant this year has established himself a firm favourite with rinkers in many parts of London.

Answer to Correspondent.

Rink Manager.—*We think you are entitled to at least one month's notice, and very possibly three months. You should consult a solicitor, and get him to write a letter claiming this amount. No doubt you would have to produce witnesses as to the custom.*

ROXBURY AS A ROSSER.

The Birmingham *Evening Despatch* gives prominence to the description of an experience of Mr. Harry Roxbury, the well-known Detective Longfellow in his sketches *On the Track, Prince of Monte Carlo, &c.*, during his recent visit to that city. The story reads:—

"A well-known 'star' in the theatrical world, who is as fond of a joke off the stage as on it, won a curious wager in Birmingham the other night. His burlesque impersonations of a man in blue prompted one of his friends to challenge him to walk from Five Ways to Hagley-road Station and back attired in the costume of a policeman.

"In company with a few friends the 'star,' having rigged himself up in his uniform (which is of the fit-where-it-touches sort), betook himself in a cab to Five Ways at about 11.30 p.m., in order to accomplish his walk. It was agreed that in case any real guardian of the law hove in sight the comedian should be at liberty to take refuge in any side street or garden until the danger was past.

"The 'policeman' commenced his patrol, much to the amusement of his friends, who walked a convenient distance behind. A party of young men and girls, who were evidently returning from a holiday outing, were first met, and they stared with amazement at the sight of a man shuffling along in policeman's clothes and helmet that would have held a man almost double his size. Then one of the party exclaimed: 'Why, he's a fireman, not a policeman; but what a rig out!'

"With another outburst of laughter the young people proceeded on their way, much to the relief of the comedian. Several other people were encountered, and nearly all of them had a hearty laugh at the odd figure of the comedian. Two policemen were seen, but a manœuvre down a side street until the coast was clear was successfully executed.

"The most amusing incident of all, however, was reserved for the last. When within a quarter of a mile or so of Five Ways on the return journey a man who had supped not wisely but too well and was toddling off home with unsteady gait espied the grotesque 'officer,' to whom he wished good-night. One of the comedian's friends exclaimed in stentorian voice, 'Now, then, you've had plenty—go home quietly.' The late reveller stopped, and, rolling up his sleeves, declared with many hiccoughs, that he would knock the policeman's 'top' in if he again said he was drunk. The comedian beat a hasty retreat, but he duly completed his walk, and a charitable cause benefited by the amount of the wager."

Complimentary benefit performances were accorded on Tuesday to Mr. G. R. Badcoe, the popular manager of the Palace Theatre and Hippodrome, Burnley, and were a great success both in the afternoon and the two evening performances, the house being literally thronged. The magnificent programme comprised no fewer than fifty turns, including many of the principal artists from variety houses in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

A trades and inventions exhibition opened at the County Hall, Salisbury, on April 1. On Saturday morning last a fire broke out on the stage, but was fortunately discovered by some of the workmen. The fire brigade were instantly summoned, and a hose was played on the burning curtains, the outbreak being speedily got under, but not before the curtain had been destroyed. The building was filled with smoke for some time, and the floor was also under water. Little or no damage, however, was done to the exhibits.

THE MODERN OPERATOR.

HIS POSITION TO-DAY—THE NEED FOR ORGANISATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have recently read a series of articles on different subjects by that eminent authority, Mr. A. S. Newman, and from him I quote: "First and of most importance among the safeguards for the public safety is a good and competent operator—a man careful at all times, and ready to act on his own responsibility should occasion arise. It is quite time the official licensing of operators should take place. The competent operators would not mind, and the incompetents would drop out of the business. If an operator knew that his licence would be endorsed were his box found in a dangerous state he would take care that such a condition did not exist; and if, in the case of a serious fire, his licence were forfeited, it would not be long before the careless and incompetent ceased to be." That is Mr. Newman's contention. Is there a man, in or out of the business, who disagrees with that contention as a whole? I venture to say, No. There has been too little attention paid to the operator in the past, and this fact is mainly responsible for the bomb of 1910. People have contended, and do now, that there is nothing in operating. Incompetent men have been put in charge of shows, in some cases proprietors' sons or managers' sons, often under age, with the result that accidents have resulted in fires, arousing such a dread reputation for the cinematograph that drastic regulations were the outcome. Some of these regulations are necessary, and, in looking back, there must be many operators who wonder that they have never made a slip. The conditions under which the operator now does his turn are much improved. The glorified baked-potato can which once confined his beads of perspiration to the vicinity of his lenses now gives way to the brick or other chambers, which are as marble halls to the old boxes. He has room to move, room to breathe, and, if he is fortunate, he has a shaft to carry off the vitiated air of the box to the outside world. These are things for which he is thankful, but, from an operator's point of view, there is much more to be done. Of quite recent growth is the modern electric theatre—the foster-child of the exploiter, the financier, the dividend-seeking octopi. Does the operator in these places obtain fair conditions? The N.A.C.O. was in existence before the advent of these places; so, too, the K.M.A., but with their coming there was need for the C.T.P.S. That was all right. We had the three interests guarded—the manufacturers, the exhibitors, the operators. Then came the Cinematograph Act, and the great mass meeting at Holborn which saw the birth in a golden halo of the C.D.L. At this meeting we saw the financiers who would fight every known body, from the local council to the House of Lords, and who knew as much about the technicalities of the regulations they were shredding as did the people who framed them. However, the C.D.L. has done good—for themselves. The summit was reached with the trade dinner—the greatest success since the inception of the business. We heard the complacent after-dinner oratory, in which we were told of the glorious future, whilst the operator had done six hours in the box and had three more to do. The chairman of the K.M.A. said all sections of the industry had been brought together. Another speaker said the industry had passed from childhood to manhood. If this is manhood there must be some who pine for the happy days of youth. Another speaker alluded to the reunion of "all branches of the trade." Now, I have reviewed some events, I have quoted some utterances, but at any or in any is there mention of the operator? No; he is ignored—he is nobody, nothing. The operator has the effrontery to represent to the L.C.C. that he objects to work on Sunday, unless paid. The opposition deputation "understands that the L.C.C. have been approached by *some operators and others*." One can imagine the contempt with which the words "some operators" were uttered. The man who gives the show, the man who earns the 40 and 50 per cent. for the shareholders, the man who can put on his hat and coat and stop the show—he is "some" operator. The deputation in favour of abolishing Sunday rest for the worker are backed by four millions of money. At the banquet one is surrounded by seven millions. Money, money—everlasting, almighty money—nothing else! What has the operator on his side? Nothing but his natural gifts, and a desire to *earn* his own living that he may exercise the functions of an intelligent human being, that he may live in some degree of security and comfort, that he may provide for and maintain a wife and family. What facilities has an electric theatre operator for these? Do any of these dividend-snatchers or golden ogres know what it is to be shut in a chamber for nine hours a day in a hot carbonic atmosphere, debarred the light of day, under the close influence of a powerful arc lamp, working all faculties at a high tension, and the awful strain on the eyes, the monotony of watching the same pictures over and over again, the same buzz and click, the same little wheels and rollers going round? They do not know what it is; the public do not know it; only the man who has done it, he knows. For this he is asked to be well satisfied on 28s. per week. This is no wild assertion. An operator at a picture palace, a member of the N.A.C.O., was asked to sign an agreement to this effect. He refused, and left, and through this society obtained a berth the same week at £3 per week, hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Again, the L.C.C. decrees that proceeds of Sunday shows must go to charity. Does the operator get a look in? No; his money is juggled about, so that if he works on Sunday he gets what he got before, and if he does not he loses about 30 per cent. of his money, and eventually gets the sack. There is a benevolent fund for the operator in sickness or distress, but do the proprietors give to this? No. To the Society for Women's Health, to the Cab-drivers' Union, the Printers' Assistants, the Society of Sandwichmen, hospitals, actors' orphans, anybody—but to the operator, no. We recall articles in the trade journals under the heading, "We Want Equal Rights." We want—the same we, the same want—always what we want. Never mind what the worker wants. Would it not be a better motto—"In all things fair"? Is the operator being treated fairly? we ask of you as an operator, we ask of you as an employer. He (the operator) is, at the least, a man of some knowledge, some skill, ability, and should be of experience. Yet he is offered 28s. per week; a scavenger gets 30s. Everybody is anxious to see unity in the cinematograph business; the operator desires it, but the labourer is worthy of his hire, and, that being so, he will not be content until he gets it. Would it not be better, more satisfactory, if a scale of pay were drawn up? It has been done in America; why not here? There is a demand for operators. The N.A.C.O. is being continually asked for operators, always with the condition—"they must be good men." The N.A.C.O. are working on these lines for the operators of Great Britain. Organisation is the only way to attain these ends. It is good for the masters. The existence of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association, the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society, the Cinematograph Defence League is evidence of that. Surely if it is good for them, it is good for the men. As a unit against such forces, what can an operator do? Operators, think it over, and send for a form to join the National Association of Cinematograph Operators, founded April, 1907, by operators, composed of operators, and run by operators.—Yours truly,

HERB. L. MERRITT,
Hon. Secretary, National Association Cinematograph Operators.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES

BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.

"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."

Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.

FINEST CONSTRUCTION. LONGEST WEAR AT SMALLEST COST FOR REPAIRS.

Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.

Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.

Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.

LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.

SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to

M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.

Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.

Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Great Success of the Showmen's Guild.

Although we have dealt with in special articles the good work of the Guild, there are one or two observations that will come more fittingly in this place. Less than twenty years ago the showmen of Great Britain were engaged in a life-and-death struggle for the barest tolerance, and were begging at the door of Parliament for existence. It was thought to be a presumptuous thing for showmen to dare to ask for toleration, and, as for the rights of citizenship, that was a demand of incredible audacity. The common opinion being that fairs were dying out and that show-people were dying out with the fairs, it was thought to be a highly meritorious and Christian work to hasten their inevitable end by penalising legislation. That was, briefly states the official view of show life, twenty years ago.

How the Showmen Helped Themselves.

Twenty years' hard work, and note the change. To-day the rights of citizenship are assured to every showman. He is no longer a beggar at the gate seeking a crumb of toleration. He stands erect, and demands what every worker in the commonwealth has a right to seek—equal justice with his fellow-workers in the State. His claim is recognised, his manhood is vindicated, and he takes his place in the community he serves respected and honoured.

A Triumph of Combination.

From the outset of its beneficent career the Showmen's Guild has had wise leadership and a settled policy. We are rejoicing to-day in the success of that policy. Not without toil of brains and hands, not without the devoted service and self-sacrifice of its strenuous workers, has this triumph been gained. That is the inevitable toll exacted for success in every movement for God and for good in the world. The worker shall see of the travail of his soul is true of all men.

The Forward Movement in Showland.

Having enterprised thus far and having won their right to full citizenship, it is for showmen to go forward and prove their right by even greater enterprise and truer service to the show-loving public of Great Britain. Mitcham is but a sign of the times in which we live. The settlement with Handsworth is but another landmark in the onward march of the hosts of showland to full and complete vindication of their right to serve the people without let or hindrance. Showmen have a work to do, and that work makes for the common good. It is for the nation as a whole to recognise this when that time comes; then will the Showmen's Guild devote all its energies to new fields of enterprise to uplift the open amusements of the toilers of the Empire.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

Letters await W. Haggar, W. Biddall, H. Fossett and J. W. Chipperfield at *The Era* office.

Dewsbury Spring Feast.

For the amusement of the people of this great centre of industry were J. W. Waddington's Cinema Pavilion, motor-car set, steam yachts and racing birds; Dunwell Johnson's bicycle track variety frames, and throwing games; C. Jameson's steam swings, coker sheets, and games Proctor and Riley's hand swings; Gavin and Blake's gem horses and toy swings; James and Holdsworth's shooting concerns; football frames by Messrs. Gallagher, Hyde, Casey, and Mitchell pannum stalls by Messrs. Bassett, Riley, and Holdsworth; throwing games and variety stalls in splendid array by Messrs. Fawcett, Redfern Daly, Clark, Blake, Steward, Burgin, Riley Rhodes, Turner, Bassett, Mitchell, and other caterers.

Brighouse Feast.

Harry Ashington's Cinema and Marionette Theatre was the chief attraction at this spring fixture, the other amusements being G. Marshall's motors, T. Burgin's steam swings and juvenile high flyers, Morley's steam swings, Bentley's shooting range, Kershaw's gem horses, Wright's confectionery stall, and Hodgkinson's refreshment saloon. Hoop La frames, Emma sheets, ring and dart boards were provided by Messrs. Brooks, Thompson, Joy, Chapman, and Guthrie.

Milnsbridge (near Huddersfield) Feast.

This thriving suburban village held its spring feast in grand style during the past week, the principal entertainers being W. H. Marshall and Sons with Palace of Delight and splendid motor-car set, Gavin's scenic slide, Pagotto's swings gem horses and pannum stall, Seed's shooter and juvenile roundabout and swings, Radcliffe's bottle battery and houp-la, Wright's confectionery stall, and numerous houp-la and throwing games by Messrs. Barker, Burgess, Castle, Ackroyd, and others.

Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

Members of this society are requested to attend important meeting at the Manchester headquarters on Wednesday next. See our advertisement columns for particulars.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Ashington: Mr. J. Joy, 5s.; Mrs. J. Joy, 5s.; Mr. H. Ashington, 5s.; Mr. H. Ashington, jun., 5s. Per Mr. Shuttleworth: Mr. W. Bradbury, 5s.

Pinder's Circus at Pau.

A correspondent of *The Era*, whilst attending the Blériot Aviation School at Pau, paid a visit to Pinder's English Circus, now on tour on the Continent. He reports that the performance was in every way excellent. Besides the Pinder Family, the company included the Brothers Decan, M. Eugene, Harry Brothers, M. Vasserot, M. Cairoli, M. Aussude, M. John, and Miles. Vésuve, Lakkitta, and Uselce. The Pinder Troupe of performing elephants were a great draw.

SHOWMAN GUILD VICTORY AT MITCHAM.

An excellent example of the many-sided activities of the Showmen's Guild is afforded by the result of the election for Parish Councillors at Mitcham. During the past three or four years the organised showmen, through the Guild, have strenuously endeavoured to bring about a mutually satisfactory conclusion of the dispute over Mitcham Fair.

The progress of these efforts has been fully chronicled in our "Showman World" pages, and it is only just to the Showmen's Guild to state that the failure to effect a reasonable compromise has rested entirely with the obstinacy of the small group of gentlemen at Mitcham, who had set their hearts on abolishing the people's fair.

The enthusiasm of the people for the fair may have been a revelation to these gentlemen, but, like the Bourbons of old, they never repent or change their mind. In spite of the fact that the Home Secretary refused their petition to abolish the fair, and that two properly convened parish meetings voted almost unanimously against abolition, and also that many public meetings endorsed the action of the Guild, and supported the showmen in their fight to retain the fair, these gentlemen, up to the present time, have persisted in ignoring public opinion.

The executive council of the Showmen's Guild, under these circumstances, made no concealment of their purpose to appeal direct to the people upon every possible occasion. The people's rights were threatened, and it was only right and proper that the people should have leadership and direction in combating the enemies of popular rights.

The Showmen's Guild to the Rescue of Popular Rights.

Not for the first time in its history has the Showmen's Guild been compelled to drop futile negotiations with local authorities, and make a direct appeal to the people. Instances of the Guild's activity in this respect will readily occur to our showmen readers—Wigan and Burslem being notable examples.

The recent successful petition of the Guild against the abolition of the fairs at Hounslow, Heston Green, and Isleworth are also cases in point.

The Guild upon several occasions, when negotiating with the owners of the franchise, and their supporters upon the Parish Council, for a reasonable settlement of the difficulty of a better site for the fair at Mitcham, intimated that if the local authorities were not able to settle the matter, the Guild would have to make a direct appeal at the next election of the Parish Council, in order that the ratepayers might express an opinion on the matter.

Readers of recent articles in our pages upon this question will remember that the executive officials of the Guild were careful to avoid any appearance of partisanship, and also to keep apart from both political parties who were running candidates for election.

The supreme issue kept before the electors by the propaganda work of the Guild was the maintenance of the people's fair rights.

The triumphant issue of the struggle is the vindication of this extremely wise and moderate policy. So strictly was this line of action carried out by the Guild, that the usual party machinery of a personal canvass of the voters, and conveyances to bring the voters to the poll, was not attempted by the Guild.

All that was done was by public meetings in the open-air and in Public Halls, to rouse the electors.

Another method adopted was to send a circular letter, explaining the position of the fair rights as it affected the people and the showmen.

Triumphant Return of the Champions of the Fair Rights.

After the most careful consideration, the Guild determined to link its case with the names of two candidates only. This decision was justified by the result. Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, and a member of the Guild executive council, with Mr. J. M. Bland, ex-Councillor of Mitcham, were the official candidates for the Guild.

This limiting the Guild ticket to two names placed the issue clearly and boldly before the electors. The special distinction of both these gentlemen in the struggle for the people's fair rights was in the fact that they stood unconditionally for the preservation of the fair, whether it could be removed or not to a better site.

As indicating the progress of public opinion, and the better mind of the Parish Council, it is interesting to note, that out of the twenty-six candidates for municipal honours who went to the poll at Mitcham, there were only three or four known abolitionists.

The rest of the candidates made it a condition of their support of the fair that it must be removed to another site. The importance of this movement for removal of the fair is very significant of the altered state of public opinion in Mitcham. Very few of the public men and still fewer of the people are against the fair, and desire its abolition.

In fact, coupled with removal of the fair as a condition of their support, there was no dispute between the vast majority of the candidates and the Guild.

Nevertheless, it was eminently wise, in the face of the difficulties that have arisen in past negotiations with the local authorities, that the Guild should interfere, and bring the question of the fair rights before the public at the time of elections. This could best be done by the Guild running two out and out champions, with or without conditions, ready to defend the people's fair rights.

Incidents of the Electoral Battle.

Every step that the Guild took in contesting the election was the theme of universal conversation. The opening of the committee room, billing the town with large posters, the distribution of ten thousand handbills, the sending out to the parochial electors four thousand circulars by post, were demonstrations ample enough to prove that when the organised showmen determined to enter the lists as champions of popular rights, that no effort is neglected that wise counsel and astute leadership can suggest.

A very special feature of the Guild propaganda was the series of open-air meetings on the Fair Green. Here, on the historic spot devoted for hundreds of years past to the open-air amusements of the people, the Guild chaplain found the open-air forum for his vigorous appeals to the people. In this open-air work Mr. Horne was well supported by Councillor Bland and other local champions of the fair. A word of praise must be given to Mr. W. E. Roche, the well-known showmen's artist, of Lee, S.E., who gave ten days of his most valuable time in the assistant secretarial work, and other arduous duties of the day-by-day propaganda.

Happening as the contest did in Easter week, it was impossible for the London showmen to forsake their business and join in the struggle at Mitcham. Amongst those who did manage to give time and work were Mr. Alf Ball, Mr. Wm. Wilson, Mr. F. Wilson, and Mr. John Searle.

Mr. Alf. Ball was at one of the polling stations the greater part of the day of election, and Mr. Roche was there from the commencement of the poll to its close. It is no exaggeration to say that the Guild chaplain has devoted himself entirely for several weeks past to this extremely important, urgent, and exhausting work.

The Victors in the Struggle.

Hard work tells. It is a triumph of good work and high principle. The Guild has not condescended to the ordinary electioneering methods. It has not joined its fortunes to either of the political parties hard at work during the contest. It has fought for its own hand, and has won a signal victory. Messrs. Pedgrift and Bland are to be congratulated on the result, and the Showmen's Guild on the soundness of its policy and the worth of its methods in public controversy.

When the result was declared, it was an amazement to many of the enemies of popular rights to find that, despite all their efforts and all their methods of bringing the electors to the poll—methods which the Guild did not adopt—that the Guild candidates were amongst the successful fifteen members of the new council. We are quite certain that with such men as Messrs. Pedgrift and Bland to look after the people's interests and the trading rights of the showmen that we are entering upon what we trust will be the very last stage of the controversy with regard to the maintenance of Mitcham Fair.

We are sanguine enough to believe and confidently to anticipate that with these two gentlemen in the Council chamber justice will be done to the showmen and to the people of Mitcham.

With regard to the interests of showmen, Mr. Pedgrift will be able to speak with authority, and with regard to the interests of Mitcham, his colleague, Mr. Bland, will speak with equal directness and knowledge of the needs of the people.

We commend the consideration of this victory of the organised showmen at Mitcham to the careful thought of our readers. Why has a triumph been gained at Mitcham? It is because at every stage in the dispute the executive officials of the Guild have taken wise and moderate action.

Whatever has been done has been done peaceably. There has been no defiance of the local authorities. The action of the Guild has been covered at every point by the decision of the Home Secretary not to abolish the fair. The Guild officials have only intervened in the true interests of public peace and popular rights, and in taking this wise and reasonable stand the Guild has carried with it the approval of the justice-loving public.

The end of the matter is for the present that the outlook is brighter and better at Mitcham, public opinion against the abolition of the fair has been strongly emphasised by the return of the two Guild candidates, and we look forward with every hope that all the parties concerned will come together, in order that by conference and united action a scheme may be formulated that will secure not only the rights of the fair in perpetuity, but its removal to a more commodious and convenient site.

Fatal Fire at a Permanent Show.

Professor Lloyd, for many years a travelling showmen at the Welsh fairs, settled at Barry Dock, and opened a permanent show in a fine block of buildings in the centre of the town. This enterprise was highly successful, and Mr. Lloyd has greatly developed the feature year by year since his settlement at Barry. A cinematograph theatre and a shop show, with succession of freak novelties, being amongst the attractions. Early on Wednesday morning this last week a fire broke out in the basement of the building in which the permanent shows were located, and through the bravery and resourcefulness of Prof. Lloyd's son-in-law, Mr. Gervaise, many lives were saved from the show premises and an adjoining Sailors' Boarding House

A greengrocer living next door discovered the outbreak early in the morning, and he succeeded in waking Gervaise, the showman's son-in-law, who had the task of arousing the people on the premises, all of whom, except Mrs. Lloyd, were asleep on the top floor.

Flames Overtake Dwarf.

Gervaise, scantily clad, went from room to room waking up the sleepers. Nine of them rushed downstairs and escaped, but in his endeavours to persuade a dwarf, named Walters, of Plymouth, to make his escape, Gervaise found himself cut off by the flames.

It appears that the dwarf was so terrified when warned of the fire that he was too frightened to leave his bed. Gervaise had to pull Walters out, and after telling the dwarf to run for his life, lost sight of him. The unfortunate dwarf soon met his death.

Down Rope to the Street.

Meanwhile Gervaise, finding he could not escape down the stairs owing to the fire, had the presence of mind to go to one of the upper rooms, and fastening a piece of rope to a sofa, let himself down by it into the street.

Re-opening of Torry Picture Palace.

Last Monday the Torry Skating Rink reopened its doors as an up-to-date picture palace, the catering being unreservedly placed in the hands of Mr. Dove Paterson by the proprietors. There will be two houses nightly, with a matinée on Saturdays for the children. The opening programme was a most attractive one, and included Supreme Recognition, a thrilling Russian drama; An Indian's Trust, a Wild West dramatic; Miss Annette Kellerman, the world-famous aquatic sportswoman. Nor has the fun been forgotten. The "comics" are first-class, among them being The King's Command, A Day Off, Aspirants for the Hand of Ellen, The Amateur Pugilist, &c. The cinephone contributes musical pictures, the trip being Through Yorkshire. The newly-appointed manager is Mr. Robertson-Prosser.

Cinematograph Act in Swansea Valley.

At Pontardawe last Friday Messrs. Wadbrook and Scrab, showmen, were fined £1, and costs, in each case, for giving cinematograph performances at Pontardawe and Ystalyfera without notifying the police. This was the first case under the Cinematograph Act.

Leicester.—Temperance Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Caygill-Holt.—Vaudeville and pictures presented practically alternately are the order of things here. We are given first a comic series of pictures, then Miss Elsie Forster and Miss Clarice May give their clever turns. More pictures—this time a dramatic film—and then the Merrie Mannikins and Miss Marie Pascoe take the stage. In the second half of the programme, in addition to the pictures, Mr. Frederick Nantell and Miss Edith Maynard appear.

"Cinematograph Bill, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

At the beginning of the Parliamentary Sessions, 1910, there were only two Corporations with private Bills threatening the interests of travelling showmen. The Corporation of Heywood, Lancashire, in a General Powers Bill inserted clauses to restrict and to control cinematograph exhibitions.

These were singularly inept proposals, because the Cinematograph Act, which came into force on Jan. 1, 1910, secured to all Corporations the powers that Heywood was seeking by private Bill legislation. The Guild Executive officials corresponded with the Corporation of Heywood, and pointed out the ineptitude of their proposals.

The result was that the Heywood Corporation dropped the clauses that the Guild objected to, and that matter was speedily settled.

The Handsworth Urban District Council in a private Bill sought extraordinary powers. Clause 125 of their Bill read as follows:—

"The Council may make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes (that is to say)—

"For prescribing the hours within which during any fair or at any other time any show, booth, caravan, circus, or menagerie may be kept open and for preserving order therein:

"For preventing the use of whirligigs, roundabouts, steam-organs, or other similar contrivances so as to be a source of danger or annoyance to residents or the public."

And clause 126 "proposed to enact that the Council may prohibit any vans, tents, sheds, or similar structures being erected or placed on any lands in the district where their use for human habitation is, in the opinion of the Council, likely to cause the pollution or fouling of any streams or ditches, and any person contravening such resolution, and the owner or occupier of any lands on which any such van, tent, or other similar structure shall be so erected or placed in contravention of the resolution, and who may have knowingly permitted the same, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5, and to a daily penalty not exceeding 20s.

The Guild solicitor opened up negotiations with the clerk of the District Council, and efforts were made, under Mr. Watson Wright's guidance, by the local showmen to bring the matter under the consideration of the District Council.

This was in accordance with the usual practice of the Showmen's Guild, the Guild policy being to exhaust every possible means of an amicable settlement or compromise before proceeding to the expensive work of Parliamentary Trade Defence.

These negotiations doubtless had considerable weight with the Council, but in the meantime, and in order to show that the organised showmen were determined to defend their rights, it was necessary to deposit a petition against the Bill at the Private Bills Office, and to take steps to get in order the showman's case against the Bill.

These extremely important and somewhat expensive steps were taken, although sanguine hopes were entertained that a settlement might be arrived at before the matter came before the Private Bills Committee of the House of Lords.

In the petition against the Bill, the Showmen's Guild set out the following cogent reasons against the clauses objected to.

"Your petitioners humbly submit that Clause 125 of the Bill, in so far as it gives power to the Council to prescribe the hours within which shows may be kept open, would, if passed into law, be a most unwarrantable infringement of the personal liberty not only of showmen, but of those persons, chiefly of the working classes, for whom they provide a cheap and wholesome form of amusement. The power to prescribe the hours during which the business of showmen could be carried on might be so used as to entirely extinguish their businesses within the Urban District of Handsworth. Your petitioners further submit that the portion of Clause 125 relating to the use of whirligigs, &c., so as to be a source of danger or annoyance, is wholly unnecessary, as there is full power under the general law to make bye-laws for preventing any such nuisance.

"Your petitioners are apprehensive, in view of the prejudiced and unreasonable attitude of many local authorities towards the business of showmen, that the provisions of Clause 126 of the Bill are sought for other than the merely sanitary reasons which are apparent on the face of the clause, seeing that the likelihood of the pollution of streams is not a fact to be demonstrated in a court of justice, but need only exist in the opinion of the Council. If the object of the Council is to enforce the powers contained in the clause for sanitary reasons only, the clause is wholly unnecessary, as the general sanitary law is equally applicable to van-dwellers as to other persons.

"It has been for some years past the settled policy of Parliament not to allow clauses similar to Clauses 125 and 126 of the Bill to be included in private Bills, and such clauses have been rejected on several occasions."

Satisfactory Issue of the Negotiations.

Having safeguarded the situation by depositing the petition and preparing the case for the showmen (whilst negotiations were still pending between the Guild and the Corporation) it will be recognised that the interests of the showmen of the United Kingdom were being conserved at every possible point of danger.

We are extremely glad to be in a position to announce that the labours for a peaceful settlement have been triumphantly successful, as the following official communication from the Handsworth District Council's Parliamentary Agent to the Showmen's Guild Parliamentary Agent evidences:—

"Referring to the petition which you have deposited against the Bill promoted by the Handsworth District Council, we now write to inform you that the promoters will not proceed with Clauses 125 and 126 of the Bill. You may take this letter as our undertaking to delete these clauses in Committee of the House of Lords.

"Please withdraw the petition of the Showmen and Van-dwellers' Association.

"Yours faithfully,

"Signed) Sherwood and Co.,

"Parliamentary Agents.

"To F. Millar, Esq., Parliamentary Agent."

It will be a great encouragement to the President and Council of the Showmen's Guild as well as the members of the society to see the end of their Parliamentary work for the present year.

Although the confident expectation of the annual report was not fulfilled with regard to Parliamentary work coming to an end speedily, it is gratifying to know that in the case of the two Bills threatening the interest of its members in the present session of Parliament the organised showmen have secured all they asked for without recourse to the expensive work of defending their interests by counsel and witnesses before the Parliamentary Committee.

We congratulate the Guild members on two signal victories in one week, victories in the Parliamentary arena and in the equally important work of defending the old charter fairs of the country.

The triumph of Mitcham and the victory by agreement with the Corporation of Handsworth are notable and encouraging results of hard work and a high tribute to the efficiency of the Guild as a trade protection organisation.

Mr. Clarence W. Green (late manager to the West End Gramophone Supply Co., of Regent-street) has joined Mr. Alfred Hays as manager of the gramophone department, and is giving a gramophone recital at the Æolian Hall, New Bond-street, on April 18, at 3 p.m. The features of this recital will be the introduction of new gramophone records by Mme. Clara Butt, Signor Caruso, &c., accompanied by the "Court" orchestra.

FILM GOSSIP.

The Story of Columbus.

A good Gaumont film is The Voyages of Christopher Columbus, to be released on April 13. We are shown the meeting with Queen Isabel of Spain and her promise to fit out a fleet. The next scene gives one a splendid idea of the Spanish galleons at sea. Months seem to have passed and no sight of land, the sailors are very impatient, and in the end mutiny. Just at this moment land is sighted, and here we get a very fine view of the "look-out" in the "crow's-nest." The next scene gives us an idea of how Columbus had to fight his way with the natives. The next scene brings us back again to Spain, where he has awakened great jealousy, and is charged by some of his crew with cruelty. Investigations are made, and he is cast into prison. He hears from his cell the great welcome Americ Vespuce receives, as having added a new world to the throne of Spain, which he himself ought to have received, and broken-hearted he dies in his cell.

On a Middlesex Duck Farm.

Tyler's have dealt with the above subject in an admirable way, and have produced a film 442ft. in length, which everybody should secure. The whole of the various stages of a duck's life, from its incubation until its preparation for the table, is shown in the pictures, which include some humorous touches. A preliminary view of the farm is followed by close pictures of the incubator, which has a capacity for 25,000 eggs. The quality here is exceptionally good for an interior, and the lines upon lines of egg-trays are clearly shown. Later the eggs are "turned" in the tray, and a pretty picture is given of the young ducklings hatching out. A close view gives a large view of an intact egg, in which appears a small hole, and the latter gradually enlarges to release a feeble, awkward-looking fledgling, which however, in a very short space of time, is full of energy and curiosity about its surroundings. The method of feeding the thousands of birds on the farm is next shown. At seven weeks old the birds are ready for market, and the final scenes show the plucking operations and the subsequent packing of the birds ready for carriage.

Life in a Danish Village.

Three hundred and ninety-five feet in length, a picture dealing with this subject has just been issued by the Cosmopolitan Film Co. The uneventful, but pleasant, pastoral life led by the inhabitants of innumerable Danish villages is interestingly shown in this short film, which opens in the cornfield, where the men are busily loading the sheaves into stacks, while the children make merry among the stubble with the dogs of the village. Next good views of some fine horses are given, one mare being accompanied by two foals, who make a pretty picture as they are seen in a close view enjoying nourishment. Then comes a visit to the ducks, and to the sheep pen, where animals, held between the workman's knee, is being closely shorn—rather a different method to the machine-shearing used on large farms. Several goats give evidence of being as hardy and sure-footed as the rest of their species, and a young one makes a pretty picture as held up to the camera by a study villager. A newly-born calf looks ungainly, but well able to take care of itself when teased, and other pictures include a close portrait of a baby pig, a pretty study of a cat and her kittens, and a good view of a number of the children paddling.

Quaint Disbelief.

The popularity of the many cinematograph exhibitions which have sprung up in the metropolis has not unnaturally led to an inquiry as to when the earliest such was known. This has been declared to have been at the Photographic Convention of the United Kingdom, held at Chester in 1890. "Animated photography" was known some years earlier as having originated in the United States. A curious instance of this is to be found in a London illustrated sporting journal, which in the summer of 1886 published as novelties some instantaneous photographs of race-finishes, while evincing a certain disbelief in their literalness of accuracy. One example of this disbelief reads quaintly to-day: "Whatever we may or may not see with our eyes, I can never believe that our jockeys in England climb about on their horses' necks as they near the winning-post." But that was years before "Tod" Sloan and "Johnny" Reiff and "Danny" Maher had come from America to teach "our jockeys in England to climb about on their horses' necks" as they all do to-day.

Inventor's Troubles.

Who invented the cinematograph? That is a question which again arises in connection with the bankruptcy of William Friese Greene, photographer, Western-road, Brighton, who underwent his examination at the local Court. During the proceedings it was stated that Edison is taking action in America against a certain company for infringing his patent, and the point to be decided will be whether Friese Greene, and not Edison, was the inventor of moving pictures. It is claimed for Greene that he was the first man to make a public demonstration of this now popular form of entertainment. In the late 'seventies he patiently experimented until he was able to show a cinematograph apparatus in the window of a Piccadilly photographer's studio. Finding glass plates very unsatisfactory for the purpose, he eventually discovered the celluloid film, and exhibited his invention before the Photographic Society in London in 1880. Five years later, he alleges, Edison copied his invention.

The First Cinematograph.

In regard to Mr. Friese Greene's claim to be the inventor of cinematography, Mr. Houghton Rockett, of Brockley, S.E., writes "At the Photographic Convention of the United Kingdom, held at Hereford in 1907, the president, in his speech respecting the origin of photography, referred to animated photography, and stated that the 'first cinematograph exhibition was given by the inventor, Mr. Friese Greene,' at a convention meeting held at Chester in 1890."

Thornton Heath's New Electric Palace.

The new Electric Palace, Thornton Heath, was opened on Wednesday, March 23. The new building was crowded with people to witness the arrival of the Mayor and invited guests. The Electric Palaces, Ltd., who are the proprietors of electric palaces at the Marble Arch, Brixton, and Lewisham, have added this new picture playhouse to the number of their undertakings. The hall is 87ft. long, with a width of about 40ft. Sitting accommodation is provided for 300, all the seats being plush-covered, with tip-up cushioned seats. Mr. Horace Sedger is managing-director of the Electric Palaces, Ltd.

Pictures at Tussaud's.

At Madame Tussaud's famous show cinematograph performances are now a regular feature of the daily itinerary.

Electric Theatre for Bath.

At a special session of Licensing Justices held at the Guildhall, Bath, the application by Mr. F. Bannister Howard for a licence for an Electric Theatre at 22, Westgate-street, and for a singing and music licence for the theatre, was granted. The Bath theatre will be the first Mr. Bannister Howard has opened of this kind, although he has several others in course of erection. The pictures shown will be of the very latest, this being ensured by an arrangement with Messrs. Jury. Mr. Howard's local manager is Mr. Arthur Hales, who has been with him for many years, and has managed two theatres in Scotland.

RHYL! RHYL!! RHYL!!!

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENTS.

RHYL AMUSEMENTS, Ltd., have taken a long lease from the District Council of the Marine Lake (over 40 acres of water) and Pleasure Grounds surrounding, for the purpose of laying out the whole as a Pleasure Park. Arrangements have already been made for a Water Chute and a number of other Successful Amusement devices. The Proprietors are prepared to LET SITES for any kind of

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENT (Marine or Otherwise), SIDE SHOWS, NOVELTIES, &c.

As all the larger Shows will be built over the Lake itself, the Illuminations will be made a Special Feature, and will be in themselves unique.

REGATTAS, GALAS, FIREWORK DISPLAYS and WATER CARNIVALS

will be given by the Proprietors on suitable occasions during the Season.

RHYL is a most Popular Resort, and is easily accessible from the Industrial Districts of the North and Midlands by Rail and Sea, being the first of the Famous North Wales Watering Places on the L. & N.W. Main Line.

Apply to the Secretary — JAMES LUCAS, 26, Birley Street, BLACKPOOL.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the committee held with reference to the annual theatrical sports on Thursday evening a number of favourable replies were read to the circular issued by the committee. It is requested that those who have not yet replied, will kindly do so as soon as possible. Tuesday in the last week in June seems to meet with most favour from those who have replied.

Some interesting letters have passed between the Musicians' Union and the Rev. Roger Curtis of the British Pageant (Festival of Empire) Committee, to be given at the Crystal Palace. The Union allege that unfair preference is being shown to foreign musicians, and that the musical arrangements have been placed in the hands of foreigners. The Union wish to follow the decision of the Belgian Government which recently decided that no foreign musicians should be engaged for the National Exhibition in Belgium. The hon. secretaries to Festival of Empire assert that the Union's criticism is not well founded.

A well-attended meeting of the Cinematograph Operators' Association was held on Tuesday morning in the Musicians' Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C. Mr. A. Malcolm, president, took the chair, supported by the committee and other officers. The Chairman said this was the first of a series of monthly meetings of members which would be held to inform members as to the work of the committee, and to elicit the views of members on questions under consideration of the committee. He hoped the meetings would arouse more interest in the Association, and be the means of making the members better acquainted with each other. Mr. Wm. Johnson, hon. treasurer, submitted a summary of the accounts for the first quarter of the year. The receipts for the quarter were more than half the receipts for 1909; some thirty-six members had been elected, and three honorary members. Many of the new members were taking a great interest in the work of the Association, and if the same progress was made during the year they would have a substantial balance in the funds.

The arrangements for the examination which will take place on Tuesday were reported. The following gentlemen would constitute the board of examiners:—Messrs. E. H. Bishop (Messrs. Walter Tyler, Ltd.), J. D. Walker (Walturdaw, Ltd.), W. F. Jury (Jury's Imperial Bioscope), L. Kamm (L. Kamm, Ltd.), and the following officers of the Association: Messrs. Wood, Merritt, Malcolm, and E. H. Mason.

Further particulars of the arrangements for luncheon were given, and the special business of the meeting, the preparation of a scale of wages and maximum working hours for each class of business was fully discussed. The result of the discussion will be issued to all members with a view to further alterations or additions, as may be generally approved.

The following additions to the list of vice-presidents to the Sunday Defence Committee have been received: Sir Edward Moss, J.P., Rev. Scott-Lidgett, L.C.C., Mr. George Lansbury, L.C.C. At a meeting of the committee held on Thursday, Mr. Eugene Judge accepted the position of honorary solicitor to the committee. Mr. Charles Coborn reported the result of the meeting held on Monday in the Chapter House, of the Manchester Cathedral, which he attended on behalf of the committee, and a report of which will be submitted to the Northern convocation to be held next month in York. The Bishop of Chester presided at the Manchester meeting, and many influential gentlemen were present.

It is stated that the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund have cancelled, on the advice of their solicitor, the permission obtained from the London County Council to give Sunday entertainments in picture theatres for the benefit of this fund.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.

Messrs. Jones and Douglass, the managers of the New Brighton Winter Gardens, are evidently determined to keep their place of amusement in the very front rank. During the two and a half years the old Winter Gardens were opened the managers proved that a first-class entertainment hall could be run successfully all the year round. So anxious were the best companies to visit the Winter Gardens that same were found to be too small to accommodate the large combinations and heavy scenery, and the auditorium was unable to seat all those who nightly presented themselves for admission. Now all this has been changed, and in less than five weeks a new and handsome theatre has been built. Nearly two hundred men have worked night and day to accomplish this task, and on Wednesday the reopening took place before a large and delighted audience. Although the balcony has not yet been completed, it was an easy thing to see that the building is most handsome and entirely up to date, the seating of the ground floor being of such a splendid rake that everyone can obtain a good view of the stage. There are four private boxes, and there is accommodation for nearly 1,500 people. The new and enlarged building has been reconstructed, and with the exception of a portion of the span roof of the auditorium, the whole building is entirely new and up to date in every respect. In addition to the entrance-hall, four extra exits have been built on the ground floor. Lounges and cloak-rooms for ladies and gentlemen have been constructed on each side of the foyer, and every convenience provided for the comfort of the patrons. The magnificent stage, one of the finest and most commodious in the provinces, will make it an easy matter to stage any class of production. The architect is Mr. J. Brierley Preston, of Liverpool.

The programme submitted on the opening night gave complete satisfaction, and was contributed to by Mr. Ernest Luck and company, the Five Havannas, the Custances, Mr. Craig Lee, Mr. Harry Maynard, the Cliffords, and Mr. J. H. Wakefield.

Miss Hilda Elen writes that she is under contract with Hickman-Smith's Royal Entertainers now until October.

At the Queen's Hall on the 15th inst., H.S.H. Prince Tschagadaeff will conduct a special grand concert of the Balalaika Orchestra of over forty performers. The Prince is a great musical enthusiast, and intends doing his best to popularise the Balalaika in this country. This Russian national instrument was introduced, it will be remembered, at the Coliseum. The Prince is a lineal descendant of one of the oldest reigning families in Europe. At the same concert Baron Jervis Scalisi will render a new work of his for the piano, and Miss Hemper will sing contralto songs.

Presentations.—At the Royal, Castleford, on Saturday evening, Mr. Wm. Pardoe's pantomime *Dick Whittington* concluded its fourteenth week's tour before an enthusiastic audience. During the performance Mr. Pardoe was presented with a silver-mounted calabash pipe and 2lb. tobacco, and Miss Lottie Holland (Mrs. Pardoe) with a jewel garter, boxes of chocolates, silver-mounted brush and comb, silver travelling clock, silver smelling and scent bottles, bouquets of flowers, baskets of Easter eggs, silver fish knives and forks, case of gloves and handkerchiefs, silver butter knife, bread fork, and pickle fork from the members of the company.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS,

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26. Oct. 24, 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 16, June 6, 13, Aug. 15, Sept. 12 19 26 Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 21.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 21, 28 Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 30, June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Xmas (3 weeks for Pantomime).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
May 16 23, Aug. 1, Sept. 12 Oct. 3, 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, 15, Oct. 17, 24, 31, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for April 25, May 2, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, for Xmas next, three weeks,
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
and THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 30, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Bookings include: "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Dairymaids."
The very best Companies only entertained.
Vacant May 2, 16, 23, 30, June 6 onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
April 25 and May 2.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.

LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
April 18 (wire), May 23.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
May 16, Whit.
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
May 9, 23, 30.
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
Vacant April 25, May 23.
Parkeezer, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for
May 2 and 9.
May 2 and 9.

Wire immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 27 and July 11.
June 27 and July 11.

Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
May 9.
May 9.
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
NOW BOOKING AUTUMN DATES,
September
5th,
onwards,
with exceptions.
The very best companies only entertained. Everything done to ensure success by up-to-date management. Resident Orchestra of fourteen (increased to requirements).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
KIRKCALDY, April 18, 25, May 16.
LEITH, May 2 and 9.
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.

Wire or write, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
Telephone 5590 Gerrard.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt and Enlarged
at a cost of £1,500.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Aug., onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, Queen's Theatre, Dublin

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (Musical preferred),
Vacant April 25,
April 25, May 2, 23, 30,
to follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.
Address, Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 2, June 20, July 4, Aug. 22, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in May, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.

"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.

"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.

"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
April 18.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
May 9, 16.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 9, Whit Week (?), 23, 30, June, onwards, with exceptions.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for May 30 (?), June 27, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, June 13 and July 4.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 2 (or three nights May 5, Musical Festival Week), also May 16 (Whit), July 11, and August Bank Holiday (Vacant through obliging a Manager). Could arrange stock season, commencing April 18. Share or rental.
Address, Chas. M. Julian.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, three nights, one matinée, May 5, vacant through obliging. Only good Companies please communicate with C. Adolf Seebold, as above.

WANTED, Something Good, May 9, 16, twice nightly, Grand, Radcliffe; also once nightly, for Aug. 1, 8, 22, on, Chorley, and same dates Radcliffe. Sante, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 2.
Address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.
Lessees, Tolfree and Slingsby.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, May 16, and onwards, with exceptions. Above Theatre now playing to record business.
Apply, Sydney Tolfree, T. R., Leigh.

WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, for Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, April 18, 25.
Address, Lloyd Clarance, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or Drama, April 25, 1910.
Apply, J. W. Chapman, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Attraction, Whit week (Musical preferred), also Sept. 5, three or six nights, for opening date, after re-decoration, &c.; also dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. Bookings include: "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Prince and Beggar Maid," &c. Write, Alf Bailey and Co., Managers.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, April 25.
Apply, Sherwood and Co.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 9, 16 (Whit week), 23, and intermediate onwards.
Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, May 2, 23, June 6, 20, 27, July 4, Dec. 9.
Wire for May 2 and 23.
William Coutts, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, First-class Companies, May 2, onwards. Z Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, good Attractions, April 25 and May 16.
App'y, J. H. Savile, Theatre, Paisley.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, Companies, April 25, May 9 and 16.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Durie.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, April 25, May 9, 16, and Autumn. Bookings: "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Add., James P. Moore, King's Hall, B'ham

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, Aug. 4 and 11, Sept. 19.
Address, The Manager.

WANTED, April 25, on, Vac., T. R., Margate. Season Dates all Full. Weatherbsy's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Companies and Flying Matinées, Spring. Apply, Daniel and Franks, Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only Fully Licensed Theatre in the District.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 18, May 2, 9, 16, and 30, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, and 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17 and 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 5 and 26. James Kiernan.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Aug. 8, 29 (?), Sept. 19 (?), 26 (?), Oct. 10. Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3 (?), Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6 13, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (?), 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant May 2 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge,
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that draws the Smart Audience.
Last week, "The Woman in the Case"; This week, "The Passing of the Third Floor Back."
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date, Aug. 1 onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 9, 16, June 20, July 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

The Old-established Dramatic House.

Will open, under the Management of Mr. Walter de Frece, of the De Frece Circuit, April 18, as a
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
Twice-nightly Dramatic Theatre.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any First-class Attractions.

Open time, April 25, April 25, April 25, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 25, Aug. 15, and onwards.

Address all communications to
Edwin Leslie, The De Frece Circuit,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following dates:
April 25 and May 16, London.
May 2, 16, and 23, Edinburgh.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, Newcastle.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, June 13, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 25, May 9, 16, June 6, 20, on. Alfred Manners.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Drama or other attraction, five nights and one matinée, April 18. Tuesday night, Tariff Lecture.
Wire, E. H. Page.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, May 2, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, Rosss and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for April 25, May 9, 16, for Grand Theatre, Nelson; also May 9, 16, Victoria Theatre, Burnley. Wire, Horner, Burnley.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, Known, having now decided to continue open with Dramatic Attractions throughout the Summer Months, I shall be pleased to receive applications for dates from Managers travelling Strong Dramas and Plays with drawing power, for week commencing April 25, all May, June, and July.
Write or wire.
Frank Macnaghten, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 23, June 6 and August Bank Holiday.
Apply, W. Morton.

ABERYSTWYTH, ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c, for season commencing May 16, 1910. Apply to J. H. Rowe, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop Harris.
WANTED, First-class Companies, August Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions. Open three nights weekly. Address, Max Jerome, 238, Castellain-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25, May 2, 16; preference to shows that can play twice nightly. Managing-Director, T. R., Exeter.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must Play Twice Nightly.
Vacant Dates Summer and Autumn.
Apply,
Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Companies of Power and Attraction, Musical or Dramatic, for
May 2, 9, and 30, May 2, 9, and 30
(through transfer), and various, onwards.
A. C. Moody, Lessee and Manager.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
The Only Theatre in Town.
Between Hastings and Eastbourne.
WANTED, good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for Ap. 25, May 5 (3 nights). May 9, 12 (three nights each), May 23 and 30. Flying Matinées easily arranged from Eastbourne, Brighton, or Tunbridge Wells.
Address in first instance,
J. M. Glover, Drury Lane Theatre.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies for June 6 (?), 13, 27, July 4 and 11 (?). Terms and copy of day-bill to J. H. Curry, as above.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Companies (Musical preferred), July 11 (week), also 3 nights, July 25, 26, 27. Apply, Waddington, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Felix Hall, Felixstowe, will seat 800; rent or share. Apply, Girling, Estate Agent, Felixstowe.

WANTED, Hippodrome, Keighley, June 6, 27.
Strong Dramatic or Comedy Co.

Apply, T. Holmes, 16, St. John's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Good Companies, July 18, 21, Sept. 1, 19, onwards.
D. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, Jersey.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST,
April 25, May 9.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
May 23.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
May 16, 30.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
April 11 (?).
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
May 30 (?), June 13 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
April 25 (?), May 9.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
May 2 (3 nights).
Apply, F. Mouillot,
1, King-street, Covent Garden W.C.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks.
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, on. First-class Companies, nothing too big. Electric light installed and stage enlarged. Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Good Companies, April 25, May 2, 9, 16 (Whit).
J. B. Howard,
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, for Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton, Lancs., Drama, Musical, or Variety, April 11 and 25. Fullest particulars. W. Pardoe.

WANTED, Musical or Farcical Comedy for Season and Autumn, on. Two or three nights. Bellerby, Manager, King's Hall, Ilkley.

WANTED, Bright Musical Show, with Small Cast; no chorus. Full particulars and terms to Box 7,528, "The Era."

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, First-class Variety Companies, Choirs, good Attractions, May 2, onwards; submit bills. Terms to George Burton, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce,
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this
Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.

Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6, July 25, Aug. 1, on. Big company, full chorus, negro specialities, new scenery, new printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

Eleventh year of Continuous Tour.
Once or twice nightly.

MR. JAMES SALTER
as
SILAS CRUMP.

WANTED, June 6, 13, 20,
July 28 (three nights),
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8.

All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
April 11, Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, April 11, May 2, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM,"
Jerome K. Jerome.
"DIVORCONS,"
Sardou.
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
The Funniest Farce of the Day.
HORACE LINGARD, supported by full London Company. Entire Production Travelled.
WANTED, June 13, 20, 27, to follow Howard and Wyndham's Theatres.
Shelton, T. R., Plymouth.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 9 (between Eccles and Bradford), Oct. 24, 31 (between London and Sheffield).
All coms.,
Geo. A. De Gray, Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Next, Metropole T., Manchester.

WANTED, for the New Play, "His Real Wife," Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14, and Xmas. Address T. E. Ward, O. H., St. Helens.

WANTED, July 4 and 11, for "Her Fatal Past." Beautiful Production, Strong Co. Address, T. E Ward, O. H., St. Helens.

"OH, SUSANNAH!"
From the Royalty Theatre, London.
WANTED, April 18, 25, and May 2, and on, with exceptions.
Can play twice nightly.

Big success this week at Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, twice nightly; refer Thomas Baugh, Esq., as to play and cast.

Wire,
Cecil H. Woodhouse, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
Next week, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, April 18, and May 2 and 9, for "Pair of Spectacles" or Repertory.
Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 6 and 13, for this great scream.
Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
Vacant,
May 9 (?), 23 (?), June 20, July 4, 11, Sept. 26, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
May 9, June 6, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
May 9 (?), 16 (to oblige Mr. Robert Arthur), June 6, July 25, Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Oct. 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Production,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Vacant,
Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 5, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.

"MOTHER-IN-LAW,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
Company includes
Miss NELLIE CHRISTIE,
Mr. ALFRED HEMMING,
and
Mr. FRED KAYE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
May 23 (to follow Portsmouth),
also May 30 and June 6.

H. CHISWELL BILLING,
Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

"SILVER KING" CO.

WANTED, Dates, Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21.
Address POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, June 6, June 6,
June 20, June 20.
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Hallijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
April 11, Royal, Belfast.
Wire, wire, wire for June 6.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 20, 27, July 4, and on, with exceptions.

MISS MARY NEIL.

"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 5 (?), and 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
GEO. KIRK,
55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

WANTED, April, May, Wyndham's Theatre Success, "The Best People."
WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

MR. GEORGE D. DAY'S NO. 1 CO.,
"THE PRODIGAL SON,"
By Hall Caine.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 26,
Oct. 10, 17, 24.
GEORGE D. DAY,
3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, 19, few on.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant May 23 (between Palace, Newcastle, and Darlington), Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, few on.
Letters, T. R., Chatham.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
A few Autumn Dates Still Open.

Address, CHAS. GIBBON, Star Theatre, Swansea.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
"THE BONDMAN,"
Unexpectedly vacant May 16 (Whit week).
"EAST LYNNE."
First-class Company, new Printing, Scenery carried.
Wanted, May 23 (?), 31 (?), June 20, July 4.
Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, May 2, May 2, May 2,
July 25,
August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12,
Xmas, Jan. 2, 9, and various Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Everything carried. Refer E. C. Jazon, Esq., &c.

Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
to-day, T. R., Aston; Mon., Elephant-Castle T., S.E.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, May 30, June 6, 13, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
FRANK YEARSLEY, Coronet Theatre, London.

ROBERT HEWLAND'S COMPANY.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME," by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Theatres, May 2 (?) 9, 16 (?), between London and Liverpool, June 6 and 20, also various Autumn dates. Address, WALTER J. HORNE, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates Summer and Autumn, for "MISS TOMMY,"
a Comedy-drama by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss Annie Hughes as Miss Tommy.
Address, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

FRAND M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26,
Oct. 3, 31, and Nov. 14.
"THE WOMAN PAYS."

FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., Bury.

ERNEST CH. GITTINS' COMPANY.
WANTED, April 25, May 2, 9 (3 nights), June 6, 13, July 4 (?).
"THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT,"
"THE BOHEMIAN GIRL,"
and really first-class combination. Everything carried. Specially cut Pictorials. Address, GITTINS, to-day, Hippo., Ellesmere Port; next, Hippo., Ton-y-pandy.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO., presenting the Successful Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
By Russell Vaun (part author of "The Great Awakening.")
Played, Staged, Dressed, and Advertised.
New plant of printing by Upton's, Ltd., Allen's, Dangerfield's, and Dyson's.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres.
Only Vacant May 16,
Aug. Bank Holiday Aug. 1 and 15.
Sept. 5 and 26. Dec. 26, precede Star, Swansea.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 25, to follow T. R., Leicester, May 2, to precede Palace, Newcastle.
HORACE STANLEY, Empire, Fleetwood; next, Muncaster, Bootle, fifth visit.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck. Fine new plant of printing by Allens.
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and 1911. J. FORBES KNOWLES, "Her Marriage Vow," Colosseum, Oldham (R.).

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
May 2,
also Whit Week and later.

Re Dates, address, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Deposit Casneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. ARNALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell),
opened Monday to a packed house at the Star Theatre, Swansea, its third visit, and greater success than ever. Read Mr. Coutts' letter:—
The Star, Swansea, April 5, 1910.
My dear Cray,—Just a line to thank you for the elaborate and painstaking manner in which you have produced "When It Was Dark" at my theatre. The story is one of thrilling interest from first to last, and my audience was held spellbound by the grip of the daring and original plot. I am glad, too, that you have selected so excellent a company. Your mounting is magnificent, and your printing most effective; and I am sure that the bumper house which opened our week's business is the forerunner of a prosperous tour. I congratulate you on your work, and confidently and cordially recommend your production to all my brother managers.—Yours faithfully, WM. COUTTS.
WANTED, Theatres, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29 (follow the Broadhead Tour), Sept. 26, and Oct. 3 and 10 (follow Barnsely).
OSWALD CRAY, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
a Musical Farce in Two Acts.

North Co., including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as
"OUR MARY ELLEN."
No Vacant Dates till September.

South Co.,
Spring Tour Complete
Vacant,
July 4, 11,
and various Autumn.

In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."

Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, May 30, May 30, May 30, June 27, July 4, 11, 18.
Wire or Write,
Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES,"
"MANY MERRY MUDDLES,"
The Farcical Musical Comedy.
A Three Hours' Laugh.
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26.
BEAUDYN and MONTANINI,
Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED, April 25 and May 16.
By courteous permission, refer Mr. Redfern, who, after Monday's performance, said
"The play is charming. Company most excellent."

LOTE ESMOND, to-day, New Theatre, Cambridge; April 11, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S NO. 1 COMPANY.
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS,"
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS,"
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS,"
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS,"
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS,"
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Aug. 1,
Oct. 3 and 10.
Entirely new plant of Scenery, and First-class All-round Company.
LESTER COLLINGWOOD,

Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Guaranteed one of the finest mounted shows on the road, bar none.
Vacant May 2, 23, June 20, July 18.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Vacant May 2, 16, through extension of tour.
WANTED, Theatres.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Vacant May 2, 16. Excellent cast, including Miss St. Elmo and Miss Edie Macklin in her old part.
Wire, KIMBERLEY,
G. T., Derby; next, T. R., Rotherham.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, 23, Various Companies, all well mounted and well played.
Wire, KIMBERLEY,
This, Grand T., Derby; next, T. R., Rotherham.

"THE NIHILIST; OR, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
A splendid all-round success.
WANTED, June 6, 27, Sept. 5 (?), 12 (?), 19, 26, Oct. 3, on. This week, Castleford (return); next, Met., Glasgow. (return). Wire or write, O. SILVERSTONE.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
WANTED, good Dates, May 2 (week), onwards, with exceptions. Full Cast and Chorus.
Apply, Z. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Acknowledged to be one of the most drawing plays on tour. A beautiful novel piece with beautiful surroundings. Refer. Only few dates vacant.
WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, few Oct. dates.
Write for this great success to
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Grand Theatre, Derby; next, T. R., Rotherham. Fit-up Rights to Let or Sell.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY.
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, May 23, July 11, 18, Aug. 11 (3 nights), Sept. 5 (3 nights), onwards, with exceptions, re-booked Brighton, Barrow, Eastbourne, Blackpool, &c. &c. All coms., GRAHAM MORRISON, Grand Theatre, Fulham.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, Lancs or Yorks.
EDWARD LLOYD, 63A, Stapleton-road, Tooting Bec, S.W.

"MAN AND WIFE," by Walter Howard.
WANTED, for Miss Margaret Skelton's Tour (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, on. Cast includes Miss Ethel Griffies and first-class company. Address, E. VAN BIENE, T. R., Edmonton.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Productions settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, Share or Certainty. "CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, onwards. "RED RIDING HOOD," vacant Jan. 16, onwards. "BABES IN THE WOOD," vacant Jan. 23, onwards. Managers wanting Pantomimes write for particulars. ANDIE CAINE, this, Walthamstow; next, Hippo., Peckham.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on royalty. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction Theatre, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19,
Oct. 3, 24, 31,
and Dec. 26.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON
in a Triple Bill of One-act Playlets.
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY,"
by
Mrs. Richard Pole,
CISSIE LAWSON as FAY FABER.

The Episode of Illusion.
"THE WOMAN AND THE APPLE,"
by Mrs. Richard Pole.
CISSIE LAWSON as SILVESTER VALMORE
(La Voleuse);

and a Phantasy of the Hackney-road, E.,
"THE BRIDE FOR A LIVING."
by J. J. Spencer Sutcliffe;
CISSIE LAWSON as
"THE VIRAGO."

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
May 23 (?), 30;
June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 22, 29.

The Original and Special Scenery carried for each Production.

Communications,
V. C. NEWMAN,
49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

Wires, "Theaterbau, London."
'Phone, 1292 Hop.

WANTED, Proprietors to Note,
Why close down for the Summer?

Let me have your Theatre, Hall, or Rink for First-class Cinematograph Shows.
Everything up to date.
Tour or Seaside, Winter or Summer Season.
No matter. Open immediately on Sharing terms.

H. B. PARKINSON,
Town Hall, Rotherham.

That remarkable play.—The Era.
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, & THE DEVIL,"
by Lesser Columbus.

Enormous Plant of Pictorial Printing, in six and seven colours.
Powerful Star Company of seventeen Artists, including Henry Doughty, John Sargent, E. Eardley-Howard, Will Harman, Geo. P. Lester, Frederic Jacques, Walter Langford, Violet Hammersley, Maggie Lindsay, Constance Coopman, Doris Whyte, and Dora Hammersley.

Everything carried for the thirteen scenes.

An abundance of sensations.—Daily Telegraph (London).
One of the most terrible, as it is one of the most moral, lessons ever taught from the stage.—Star (London).
Contains more sensation, incident, pathos, humour, and tragedy to the square inch than any drama ever played, and provides the most stirring incidents ever seen on the English stage.—Weekly Dispatch (London).

Mr. Cowen invites offers from No. 1 towns only for a few vacant dates in the autumn and next spring.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Big Theatre,
First-class Big Theatre,
for Christmas.
for Christmas.

3, Thames-chambers, The Adelphi, W.C.
Telephone 3843 City.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10,
Oct. 3, 10, Xmas.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

Fifteenth Consecutive Year of Tour.
Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Fairy Play.
Mirth. Music. Beauty. Romance.
The Magnificent Stage Settings
and
Picturesque Costumes
commented on in every town visited.
WANTED, May 30 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Only Vacant Date this Year.
Hippo., Stalybridge, April 11, six nights.

WANTED, May 9, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, for "The Cingalee." Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Brixton Theatre; next, Grand, Nottingham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

STAGE.
WANTED.—Principals and Chorus Required at once, for Stedman's Special Musical Comedy Class, "Floradora" (by special permission). Rehearsals conducted personally by Marshall Moore, the well-known Producer, and Kenneth Wynne, the celebrated Professor of Singing. Applicants must be young and attractive; splendid opportunity for young Professionals and ambitious Amateurs to play Parts. Voice trial Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 to 5; Saturday, 10 to 1. STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines, Juveniles, Heavies, Comedians, Soubrettes. Will see anyone working in Town. Seen by appointment only. HARRY WARD'S General Theatrical Agency, 140A, Gloucester-mansions, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, Rehearse Monday, Birmingham, Chambermaid (?) and two Responsible Actors, one capable Comedy. Call to-day, 110, Albacore-crescent, Lewisham, 11 till 12.

WANTED, for Tour, tall Leading Lady, powerful and strongly emotional; also tall handsome Heavy Lady, for Adventuress part; both must dress really well. Rehearse April 18. Terms, photos., height, references, and full particulars, STUART LOMATH, T. R., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, to Clever Actresses, Sympathetic Leading Part in absolutely original drama, adapted for touring, ready for immediate production on most favourable terms. Full particulars from AUTHOR, c/o E. Scott, 4, The Leas, Folkestone.

WANTED, Versatile Actor for Important Parts in Modern Répertoire. Shakespearean or old Comedy training essential; reliable, quick study, or useless to apply. Age, height, build, lowest terms, and last two references to
Box 7536, "The Era."

WANTED, Leading Man, capable of Farcical Comedy Sketch, April 18; experience; good appearance important. MAUDE ELLISTON, 31, Burton-road, Brixton.

WANTED, First-class Heavy Man. Sketch, capable broken English and struggle. Call between 11 and 5. ASHBURN'S Agency, 295, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Gent., Utility (knowledge of singing and piano preferred) for April 18, exact height (important) 5ft. 5in, chest 36in. Everything found. Photo, references (letters only), L. D., 82, St. George's-road, Southwark.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour of Important Production, Lady and Gentleman Amateur; small salary paid after first three months' services. Address, with full particulars, to Box 7,533, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, for Long Engagement, Smart, Attractive Lady Vocalist. Height and full particulars to Box 7,540, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Baritone.
Apply, O. Lux,
107, Camberwell New-road.

AL FRESCO.
WANTED, Soubrettes, Sopranos, Low and Light Comedians, Pianists, for High-class Al Fresco Entertainments. Call, Monday and Tuesday, April 11-12, between 12 and 2, SYD GOODMAN, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Powerful Soprano and Sketch Artist.
A voice that can be heard and understood.
MABEL ROSSETTI, 27, Surrey-rd., St. Andrews, Bristol.

WANTED, by a Refined Young Lady, Engagements for Pier Pav., Garden Parties, Ballad Concerts, &c., &c.; Semi Sacred, Sent., and Ballad Vocalist, &c.; eloc., late of C. Rooms. Box 7535, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, First-class Baritone, extensive répertoire, classic and popular songs, &c., experienced, sober, tour or distance no object. Offers, &c., marked "Baritone," c/o Drummond, 82, Virginia-place, Glasgow.

WANTED, by J. W. Sidwell, Tenor, engagements with high-class Concert Party, Whit Week and August. Large Répertoire. Fenny-Compton, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Ballad Vocalist, Soprano, wishes to join high-class Concert Party. Good répertoire.
C., 22, St. Stephen's-road, Bayswater.

WANTED, Engagement with Troupe or Company, as Manager, Fixer, or otherwise; speaks French, German; experienced. 124, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
Xmas, 1910.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Pantomime. Also 80 Ladies, for Chorus and Ballet, not under 5ft. 6in. Send full particulars, stating age, height, experience, and references, and say where can be seen working for the next four weeks to
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, for Pantomimes, next Christmas season, Principals, Chorus, Male and Female. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "RED RIDING HOOD,"
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Artists of all kinds. State particulars, lowest terms, and where can be seen working the next four weeks. Interview by appointment only. Address, this, Walthamstow; next, Hippo., Peckham. Perm. add., Filey, Yorks.

WANTED, for various Pantomimes, Comedians, Principal Boy and Girl, good Quartette of Dancers. Submit photos., terms, references, GEORGE BURTON, 5, Milners-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, Carpenter, to travel, must be teetotaller. Apply, with references, week of April 11, TOM HEARN, London Coliseum; or write, "Lyndhurst," Loughborough Park, S.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class, Original, Effective, at Lowest Prices.
W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts. Fit-ups, &c., Painting in Dyes a Speciality. Address, 5, Trinity-avenue, Bush Hill-park, N.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, immediately, Stage Manager, for Music Hall in London; must be used to quick programme and a good workman.
Address, Box 7,525, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, Energetic Assistant-Manager for Provincial Picture Theatre; must be experienced. Apply, stating salary expected, to Box 7,531, "The Era."

WANTED, for Portable Theatre, one-night stands, Advance-Manager to book pitches, one used to circus preferred. MANAGER, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi.

WANTED, immediately, an Agent, to take up a recognised Australian Tenor, just arrived.
Address, HENRY, 19, Clapham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, First-class Bench Hand, one able to take charge of Big Sets for Mrs. Lawson's Tour. Letters only, SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Young, Practical Billposter, must be energetic and steady. Permanency. Refs. required. BILLPOSTING CO., Mexborough.

WANTED, Smart Youth, for Billing, Flyposting, and as General Handy Man, must be capable, temperate, and not afraid of work. Send copies last two references, age, height, wages wanted, and full particulars, BOWMAKER, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Mr. D. Harcourt, Disengaged to Manage or Advance, Direct Anything. Concludes to-day nearly 5 years with W. F. Jury, Esq., Picture Palaces and Tours. All-round experience, Plays, Variety, and Resident Theatre Management; age 33. 15, Eastern-avenue, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Henry Hague, thoroughly experienced Manager, at liberty for management of Variety Hall, Theatre, or Gardens, or Acting-Management of First-class Establishment. Excellent organiser, highest references. Address, Grand Rink, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, with First-class business experience, Engagement as Acting or Assistant Manager, or similar position in Music Hall or Theatre, where scope for advancement is offered; highest references. A. HEMSTEAD, 31, Bishopsgate-street Without, London, E.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

To Proprietors and Directors.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Well-known Theatrical Manager
Will be at Liberty Shortly to Accept
General-Management.
Expert knowledge of every detail, combined with Experience, Ability, and Tact.
Highest references and security.
Personal interview solicited.
Address (confidential), Box 7,520, "The Era."

WANTED, Provincial Management, by smart London Manager, good economist, hard worker, with grit and perseverance; excellent references. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, by Electrician, Engagement; 4½ years' control, West-End Theatre; excellent testimonials; extensive experience general work, installations, &c. E. E., 90, High-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Situation, as Billposter. Good ladder man, good reference from last situation in London. Write particulars, J. STEELE, 10, Beach-road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

PALACE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM, N.
WANTED, Smart Leader, must be used to working quick Variety Programme. Apply, age, terms, and references, to WM. BURGESS, Musical director.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, tenting Ireland, Solo Cornet and Bass. Open Monday, April 18. 1, Lower Gloucester-street, Dublin.

WANTED, for the Croydon Town Band, steady, reliable Cornet. Terms, shares. W. RAINES, 7, Lower Drayton-pl., Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, Clarionet, open Monday next, permanency to suitable man. Age and salary required to LOUIS BEARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, for Swallow's Circus (Tenting), Trombone and Double Drummer, terms 30s.; to open at once. HORROCKS, Leader, Monday, Altrincham; Tuesday, Cheadle, Cheshire.

WANTED, good Euphonium and First Clario net May 7 to 21 inclusive,
and for nine weeks, commencing July 4;
must be well up in military journals.
Will Siessons please write.
FRANK DAWES, B. M., Gloucester.

WANTED, at once, competent Bombardon, for Tenting. Apply, CORBETT, 6, Gomm-road, Rotherhithe, London. John Oken write.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, Great Yarmouth Municipal, Orchestral, and Military Band, twice daily; references and moderate terms. Permanent. Mr. E. HOLLAND, 44, Salisbury-road, Great Yarmouth. Silence negative. Commence April 16.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo; also Bass Player. Special week at Whitsun and season from July. Douglas, Isle of Man. State experience, age, and absolute terms, to CHARLES DARE, 26, Ivy-lane, London, E.C.

WANTED, Flautist, King's Theatre Varieties, Dundee. Sobriety and experience essential. MUNDELL, M.D.

WANTED, Pianist, commence April 18, twice nightly. Pictures. Lowest terms, references. SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, good competent Double Drummer and Effect, also Trombone. COOK, B.M., Tilfield, Northamptonshire. N.B.—Allow time for redirection.

WANTED, First-class Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists, for White Star Mediterranean Service, May to Dec. Applicants state age, experience, and give two references as to character and ability. C. W. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Double Handed Bandsmen and Pianist, for Tenting Season, 30 weeks. Terms, 32s. 6d. Bosco Circus, Monday, Bray; Tuesday, Newtown, Mountkennedy.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, opening April 25, Cornet, Trombone, Saxhorn, E Flat Bombardon, Double Drummer. Colonel BAKER, Post Office, Wokingham.

WANTED, Whitsun, good Quartette, Ladies or Gentlemen, for Tea-rooms; 4½ hours daily. Box 7,530, c/o "Era" Office.

WANTED, all Violinists and 'Cellists to send for a copy of Auguste Van Biene's great Solo, "Roses and Memories" (by Ted Snyder), price 1s. 7d., post free; Pro. copies, enclose card, 1s. 1d., post free, from the publishers, TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.), Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. J. V. Caine, Bandmaster, is prepared to supply Bands of any number. BRASS BAND ORGANISER, 22, Roseburn-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), Summer or other Engagement. Good refs. Could supply Orchestra. DRANE, 23, Argyle-street, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Harry F. Petersen, late Conductor Palace, Walthamstow, open for Engagements. 2, Wilson-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Pianist-Conductor, Pupil Dr. Armes and Continental Conservatoire, for Tour, Variety, Pictures; experienced. STAUB, 50, Holystone-street, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Sydney L. Hampton, Conductor, Pianist and Violin, Composer and Arranger, at Liberty. 14, Chatsworth-st., Leicester.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Summer Engagement, Solo, Chamber Music, or good Orchestral. P., Denmark Lodge, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Known, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal, Leader and Cornet. Disengaged Summer. Address, 137, Cannon Street-road, Commercial-road, E.

WANTED, by Late Leader Blue Hungarian Band, Blackpool Orchestras, engagement, any business, soloist, experienced. Repertoire, criticisms. 8, Glenfield-avenue, Leicester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First Violinist, can open Monday anywhere; experienced all lines; good refs.; abstainer. Best offers. H. PHIPPS, 11, Hood-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, Theatre, Hotel, or Café; all-round experience; fine Soloist. ROBINSON, 20, Duncan-terrace, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, thoroughly experienced any business.
J. IVES, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Summer Engagement, any Business.
Box 7,534 "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, experienced and reliable.
T. J. LINDSAY, Bank-chambers, North-st., Belfast.

WANTED, by Violin, good Perm. or Summer Engagement, First or Second.
Address, W. C., 1, Garlick-street, Godley, Hyde.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, combine Euphonium; excellent references, late leader Gaiety, Royal Theatres. Steady, thoroughly experienced. Walsh, 36 Heytesbury-st, Dublin.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Chas Croft, good violinist, accom., piano. 6 years one engagement. Good library. 93, Park-road, Wallsend.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin; experienced all Lines; good refs.; London or near. Address, MUSICIAN, 1, Portland-villas, St. James-road, Lower Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet and Conductor, large library, 3 sets of smart uniforms. Any business. H. A. GREY, Olympia Rink, Dundee.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Cornet, any Business. Steady and reliable. Excellent refs. Louis Vasse, 9, Ward-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet. D. Lewis, 21, Hassard-street, Hackney.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Cornettist, first or second, any business (except rinks). Good refs. Can combine second violin. Ellis, 23, Tunnel-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, First or Second, Season Band or otherwise; good refs., and experienced. Frank Baker, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet Player; good reference; reliable, competent. Address, A. Leaney, 41, Dimsdale-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet. Address, Sharp Cornet, 43, Acacia-road, Sydenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Cornet, thoroughly experienced, first-class refs. Address, A., 3, St. Peter's-road, Mile End, E.

WANTED, by First-class Solo Cornet or Trumpet, Summer Engagement. Exceptional refs. Solo Cornet, c/o McEwen, 34, Blackhall-street, Greenock.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, Summer Engagement, good references, any business. Address, Clarionettist, c/o Mrs. Bourne, 165, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionetist, any business. Young, good refs. Write or wire, Atkinson, 41, New Market-street, Colne, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any Business, String or Military; good refs.; experienced and reliable. Address, Box 7,529, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent or Summer Engagement as Clarionet, Theatre or Military ,ex-Army bandsman. Good ref. Huggins, Palace, Ebbw Vale, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionettist, any business, abstainer, and reliable. Good refs. London preferred. G. White, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady and Gent, Double Bass and Piano, for Rink or other Business. Cooper, c/o Nash, bookseller, Hornsey-road, London, N.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, Double Bass, Engagement, Ladies' Orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, by good Bassoon Player, Summer Engagement, String o r Military; highest references. Apply, Bassoonist, New T., Cardiff.

WANTED, by Bass Player, Summer or Permanent Engagement, any business, steady and reliable; good refs. 7, Bellew-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, thoroughly experienced in all Lines; any distance or business. Arthur George, 121a, Miskin-road, Trealaw, Rhondda, South Wales.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any business, good, steady, and reliable; good refs. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by experienced Contra Bass, Summer Engagement. 142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Permanent or Summer Engagement, Double Bass, Theatre, or Music Hall; combine Bombardon, Military Band. Dan Moxon, Palace, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Engagement by Bassoonist, first-class refs. High or low pitch. Would deputise for few weeks. W. Cantrill, 192, Cross-road, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, experienced Double Bass, combine Bombardon, Theatre, Variety, or any business. Smith, 88, Cardigan-mount, Kirkstall-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Miss Minnie Kent, Trombone, Disengaged April 11, also for Summer. 23, Moring-road, Tooting Bec, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, Theatre or Rink; experienced; Professional Musician, held good shops. Trombone, 30, Cannhall-street, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone Player; thoroughly reliable; String or Military. Apply, W. R. Penn, A.M.U., Trombone, 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombonist, life abstainer, excellent refs.; any business. Send offers to 53, Acacia-road, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Offer, by Good Trombonist, Season or Permanency. Experienced, any business. First-class refs. Young, reliable. J. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Euphonium Soloist, any business, experienced. Under the late Meyer Lutz, Dan Godfrey, jun., Warwick Williams, &c. Maddock, 396, Parliamentary-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Euphonium Soloist, combine Trombone, Engagement, either instrument; fully experienced; good refs. Apply, George Gruber, 45, Wynyard-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Euphonium, Orchestral or Military; excellent refs. J. Stone, 163, St. Ann's-road, South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Bombardon, good performer and reliable; good refs. Address, Harry Woodage, Poste Restante, Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Cellist, any business, or would deputise, good references, near London preferred. Box 7,518, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Summer Engagement, experienced and reliable, good references. Box 7,519, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Sexton, Violoncellist, at Liberty April 10, for Engagements or Deputising; experienced; combine pianoforte. Address, 10, Connaught-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cello, experienced, all round, steady and reliable. First-class references. Sevaerg, 44, Rockingham-road, Swinton, Yorks.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by 'Cellist, experienced and reliable. Good references. Howard, 37, Norris-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement by Two Gents. as Solo Harpist and Violinist, together or separate, almost any line. Hargreaves, harpist, Rawdon, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, any business. Strictly sober and reliable. H. Jowett, 1, Bramley-place, Stanningley-road, Bramley, near Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flautist, any business, good refs. E. Jones, 93, North-street, Edgware Road, W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Isabel Paul desires Engagements, Flute and Piccolo, any business. Address, 15, James-lane, Leyton, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Good Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty any Biz. Well up in Variety. Flautist, 53, Trowbridge-rd, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

WANTED, by Solo Flute and Piccolo, Summer season. Several years in first-class orchestra, highest references. Would accept short season or deputising. James, 79, Grosvenor-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo. Any business. Excellent refs. Flautist, 9, Harbord's-buildings, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Italian Flute Player, of First-class Professional knowledge, situation; would fill any vacancy. F. T., 14, Stanhope-street, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Celeste Baga, Brilliant Pianist and First-class Accompanist. Can accept engagements. Thoroughly accomplished in Orchestral and Concert Work. 45, Colebrooke-row, Islington, London.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Picture Proprietors, &c., at Liberty Monday, 10th, thoroughly experienced Pianist, sight-reader, accompanist, highly recommended. 4, Castleview-terrace, Skipton.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Lady Pianist, experienced, Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés. Pianist, 57, Wargrave-avenue, Stamford Hill, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, any business, Seaside preferred. Herbt. J. Butcher, 48, Clonmell-road, Tottenham, London, N.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, immediate re-engagement, any business, sight-reader, transposer, young, reliable. Wire to-day, Campbell, 4, Hilda-street, Selby; Monday, 17, Foundry-street, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Accompanist. Available also for Rehearsals, &c. Accompaniments written. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. L. Major Hornsey, 26, Frances-street, Woolwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer and Effects, Tympani, splendid Xylophone Soloist. Drummer, 1, Rosebery-terrace, Cowdenbeath, Fife, Scotland.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart Double Drummer, all Effects, highest references; experienced any business; distance no object. 27, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Double Drums and Tymps, any business, good refs. Keyley, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drums, Tympanis, and Effects; any business; highest references. Apply, J. Darcy, 34a Dundas-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Engagement. Good refs. Drums, 54, Hatcham Park-road, Newcross Gate, London, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in Smart Uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required. For particulars, apply, W. Murdock, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA. (Manton-Myatt Family.)

WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bonâ-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to Mme. Manton-Myatt, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Apply, Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, Quartettes and Trios, for Exhibitions, Pavilions, Hotels. Wilton Davis, 1, Arlington-square, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, also Male Band; smart uniforms, bells, &c. Mme. Baker, 114, Woodlands-rd., Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known.—The Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra have just booked three months' Engagement at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. Open for Engagement till 15th July. Concert engagements accepted. Write, Box 7,464, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, George H. Shaw, Royal Collier Lads (Registered) Orchestra want Season Seaside. Now at Olympia, Coalville. Terms, Musical Director, Olympia, Coalville.

WANTED, Engagement for Royal Hibernian Military Band, 12 performers, upwards. Good Répertoire, brilliant uniforms, high-class rinks only. Bandmaster, Skating Rink, Dundalk, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagements, Seaside, Town, for Collini's Famous Military Rink, Bands, smart Conductors, Men, Music, Uniforms. Terms, Collini, Stamford Hill Rink.

WANTED, at once, Engagement for Rink Band (5 or 6), smart uniforms, up-to-date library, excellent references. Bandmaster, 116, Shirebrook-road, Heeley, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, good Small Military Band; late of Hampstead Skating Palace; Seaside or otherwise; experienced in Bandstand Programmes. Small Orchestra for Pictures. References, uniforms. Maddison, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by First-class String Band of nine, Summer Engagement, any business. Conductor, 7, The Drive, Walton-le-Dale, near Preston.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Theatre Orchestra (eight or more), big up to date library, together or separate. Theatre, Rawtenstall.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

GREETINGS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.
BERT WILLISON
and
MADAME FREDERICA WILLISON.
Sole Owners
Willison's American Circus,
Willison's Vaudeville Shows,
Willison's Wild West Wonders.
Controlling the Centres of Civilisation.

Permanently located, Willison's Headquarters and Stock Farm, Bloemfontein, O.R.C.

The Epitome of Excellence in all that pertains to Tented Aggregations.

100 Trained Horses and Ponies, 200 Educated Men. Triplicated Tents, Seats, Lights, and Decorations. Tons of Special Printing for every Act in the Business.

WANTED, Known, always prepared to Finance any Legitimate Amusement Enterprise new to South Africa.
Paying Passages, Arranging Tours, Hall, Theatre, or Tent.

Advancing from £1,000 to £5,000.

Nothing too big for us to handle in this or any other Country.

Bert Willison, now on Tour as Director-General, Madame Fillis's Continental Circus, The Greatest Show in Africa to-day. Cables and telegrams, Willison, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Direct letters to Lock Box, 449, Bloemfontein. Correspondence invited.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Gymnasts, Wire-walkers, Trick Cyclists, Animal Acts, &c., to Open Whit Monday, May 16, for week's Carnival, close to London. No fancy prices paid. Lithos., terms, &c., Claude Ernest, Reliable Entertainment Bureau, 75, Church-road, Homerton, London, E. No callers. Interviews by appointment only.

KNARESBOROUGH WATER CARNIVAL, Aug. 11.
WANTED, High Wire or Other Artists, outdoor Fête. State terms, length of performance. C. Hebblethwaite, Secretary.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Principal Dresses, Clowns' Dresses, Pumps, and Boots, Riding Pad, Cushion, &c. Apply, Fini, 227, Malpas-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown, wishes to thank Mr. Jules Guise, Agent, for Kind Offer of Seven Months' Contract in Denmark, but I am re-engaged for the Summer Season with the Royal Italian Circus, now Touring Scotland. Dan Gregory is always a Success, wherever he goes.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro the Great, Unparalleled and most Daring High-wire Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas. Terms, 99, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.

The Star Attraction, Edinburgh Marine Gardens, thirteen weeks, 1909.
Booked
for
Bolossy Kiralfy's
American Park, Brussels,
for three months.
WANTED. Wanted, Known,
Still Open for
July, August, and Sept.
Letters, 24, Hackney-grove, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Elephant Trainer. Private or Circus. Advertiser can perform same time with his own Speciality Act (one Gentleman, two Boys). Address, Box 7,537, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Monday, April 18, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for First-class Picture Show, immediate and future Dates. Full particulars and lowest terms first letter, Manager, Hengler's, Glasgow.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and on, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

TOLFREE and SLINGSBY THEATRES. HIPPO., WAKEFIELD; EMPIRE, HULL; THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, April 11, on. Nothing too big; also big Combinations. Apply Harry Slingsby, E., Hull; or Syd. Tolfree, Hippodrome, Wakefiled.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all Lines, suitable for High-class Provincial Picture Palace. Actual lowest terms, bookings, all vacancies, and perm. address. Manager, 38, Roderick-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Variety Artists, April 18 and on. Lowest salary and full particulars. Also Stars willing to Share for own turn, April 25 and on. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Big Tops and Bottoms. Bigger the act the better. Send lowest terms, list of bookings, and vacant dates. Harry Ward and Co., General Variety Agency, 140a, Gloucester-mansions, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, for Picture Palaces in Midlands, two weeks, easy journeys, Variety Artists, with Refined Shows, Comedians, Comedy Couples, Musical Acts, Clever Juvenile Troupes, good Lady Vocalists, with best Slides, Doubles doing Singles, &c. Write full particulars and absolute lowest terms, Box 7,539, "The Era."

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines. Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, April 18, onwards. Terms, Lithos, &c. Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Xmas. Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing." Clack and Clack sent address. Contracts waiting.

WANTED, Artists. Always opening for Double Turns doing Singles, vents., Conjurers, &c. World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, Sister Turns, and small Speciality Acts (those without Band Parts save stamps); for Town Hall, Oldbury. All communications to Jas. Tyrer, Palace, Oldbury, near Birmingham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, April 18, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Branches coming North to send list of Bookings and terms to Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, April 18, onward, for Pentre, Ton-y-Pandy, and Districts; suitable acts can have five weeks. Letters, George Egbert, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Artists of Every Description for West Bromwich. State when and where last in or near West Bromwich. F. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines. Send full bookings and terms. Letters only. S. and W., 213, Kennington-road, London.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 18, also later dates. Big Stars, odd weeks. Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough. 'Phone 288.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 18, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Clever Artists, April 25, onwards, new to Hoyland, Widnes, &c. Following write: Wys Troupe, Burnetti, Val's Juveniles, Sisters Henderson. Lowest combination terms. Escourt, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

NOTICE.
PALACE, OLDBURY.
Proprietor, Jas Tyrer.
WANTED, Known, the above Hall will be closed on and after Saturday, April 9, 1910. Mr. Tyrer wishes to thank all artists for past services, and also to announce that he has taken over the Town Hall, Oldbury, for the season (see later advt. for grand opening of New Hall).

All communications to above, pro. tem.

BEANLAND AND EMERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for the above Big Turns, all Lines, April 11, onwards. Turns known to us please write, with full list of bookings, lowest terms, and permanent address. Beanland and Emerson, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, for Anderton and Rowland's Modern Picture Palace, touring, a First-class Speciality Turn, to open May 9 for Three Weeks. Only those with drawing power and those that are not afraid of performing several times a day during Fair days. Terms and particulars in first letter. Fun Fair, Penzance.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential. Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
WANTED, May 16, July, onwards,
Big Star Attractions.
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Yarmouth.
Impossible to answer all.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester. 'Phone No. 467 Rusholme.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, Sensational Dramatic Comedy Sketches. The Very Best of Talent (all lines) for next week, also for April 18, 25, for towns, Midlands and North. A Big Sensational Top, on Sharing Terms, April 18, for Kirkcaldy. Communications, Cliquot's Agency, as above.

WANTED, one or two Big Variety Attractions, on low salary or sharing terms. Can arrange several weeks booking for big novelties. Albany Ward, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, Hippodrome, Keighley, April 25, May 16, May 23. Good Dumb Show or Eccentric Novelties. Apply, T. Holmes, 16, St. John's-road, Brixton, S.W.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent. Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro tem.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED. Wanted. Wanted,
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Immediate Dates and on.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Novel Acts, Sensational Specialities, Clever Juvenile Troupes, Big Animal Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Smart Musical Shows, &c., for April 18, 25, onward. Address, with Lowest Terms and Full Particulars to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Big Acts for Immediate Dates, and on. Terms, &c., Charles Dietrich's Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, April 18, for Glasgow, Dublin, Rochdale, Darwen, Bristol, South Wales, Variety Acts. Full bookings and last appearance in above towns imperative. Whit week Fête Artists. Gannon, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Novel Acts of every description, for Northampton, Aug. 1, three days, twice daily. Terms, lithos., to McAskell's Agency, 8, Turkey-lane, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, May 16, onwards, Acrobatic, Aerial, Animal, and Gala Acts of every Description. Submit lithos., memos., terms, vacancies. George Burton, Milners-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, for April 25, onwards. First-class Speciality Acts. Apply, with lowest terms, to Manager, New Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Acts for Galas, also other Acts for immediate dates. Dan Noble's Agency, c/o New Theatre, Aberaman, South Wales.

WANTED, Refined Musical and Speciality Acts. Must be good. April 18, on. Manager, Public Hall, Dudley.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. Harry Taft, Hippo., Darlington; next, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill, and Artists in all Lines, for several Halls in the North. Apply to Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners (one act £1,000 Bookings), Artists all Lines; refined Picture Numbers. List bookings, particulars, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

ALEXANDRA PAVILION
ALEXANDRA PAVILION
and
SKATING RINK,
SKATING RINK,
Normanton-road, Derby.
Normanton-road, Derby.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, for the Summer Season, Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes, Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes, Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes, and every class of complete Entertainment, for this Popular Resort. Absolutely the best position in Derby.

Full particulars to W. H. Innes, Manager.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, NEATH, BARRY DOCK, and KETTERING. New Palaces Opening: Exmouth (April 18), Loughborough (May 16), Rugby, July 25.

WANTED, good Comedians, Comedy Musicians, Clever Juvenile Troupes, and suitable Novelties, for May and onwards. Address, Arthur Brogden, General-Manager, Barry Dock.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, a Versatile Lady and Gentleman (Contralto and Comedian or Baritone), for Sketches, Concerteds, &c. Lowest, open Whit, Cheltenham. Fred Boulton, Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, sing up-to-date songs, piano. Open Monday. Write or call, B., 56, Rathcoole-gardens, Hornsey.

WANTED, for Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Boys and Girls, Small, over 14. Apply, 16, St. John's-rd., Brixton, S.W., Thursday, 11 o'clock.

WANTED, Young, Pretty Girls, for Posing Act, also Dancer, able to learn Vampire dance. Long tour. Full particulars by letter. Manager, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi.

WANTED, a good Patter Comedian, short, for Double Turn. Apply, letter only, T. J., 50, Stanley-street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Small Midget, height 30in., Light in Weight, Small Head. Send full particulars, &c., by letter. Address, Box 7515, "The Era."

WANTED, an experienced Bicycle Polo Player, for long Music-Hall Engagement abroad. Address, with full particulars, Box 7,514, "The Era." Irving and Smith kindly send address.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with own machine, for twelve weeks, resident. Lowest terms, &c., Geo. Fay, Palace Theatre, Bordesley, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, an Operator, for Bioscope. Apply, with terms and experience. Box 7,523, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, May 16, 23, 30. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, by The Original Babs Lloyd, April 18, May 9, 16, on. Palace, Blackpool. Monday, Grand T., Bolton. Wire quick.

WANTED, Monday next, between Nottingham and London, Dainty Dorretta, Comedienne and Acrobatic Sabot Dancer. Wire, Hippo., Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday, La Raiedia, Banjo Queen, Trick Mandolinist, Illustrated Banjo Playing Wire for an attractive Novelty. Battersea Palace, London. Own Printing.

WANTED, April 11, May 2 and 9, by Nancy Renshaw, Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist. Hippodrome, Buralem.

WANTED, by the Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers, 18th and 25th, to follow South Shields. 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Lyntons (Sisters), Instrumental and Vocal Speciality, Monday, April 11; 18, 25. Perm., 16, Wentworth-avenue, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in themselves, big hit everywhere, Liberty April 25, May 9. Address, Granville, Walham Green, London.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, J. A. WILSON and PRIVATE TOWSER (the best Performing Dog on the road) are at Liberty, One Week only, April 18. April 18. This week, Empire Palace, Nottingham. Next week, EMPIRE PALACE, COVENTRY, where write or wire best offers for April 18. April 18.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian, Chorus Singer, and Banjoist. Wire, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Vocalist. Vacant April 11, 18 25. also for Al-Fresco, Principal Comedian. First-class offers only. 12, Alexandra-av., Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next and April 18, by Sam Ello, Versatile Comedian and Dancer. Double crown lithos, and photos. 10 Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian. New Songs and Business. Liberty, Monday next. Wire, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Monday next, also 18th, Horace Monto, the Popular, Refined, Versatile Entertainer. Wire, Circus, Bury (fifth visit); vacant for Al Fresco.

WANTED, Monday next, by Geo. Bernard, Topical, Chorus, and Character Vocalist. Own Scenery carried. Wire, Borough Theatre, North Shields.

WANTED, April 18 and 25, by Stanley Atkins, the smart Pattering and Dancing Messenger Boy. This week, Palace, Dover; next week, Palace, Walworth.

WANTED, by Ted E. Bare, the New Comedian, vacant Monday, also April 18. Wire, Grand Bolton; after Saturday, 1, Cross-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, April 18, 25. Address, Aldro Lukos (Man-Monkey Speciality), Grand Theatre, Gravesend. Booked by Fred Durham's Agency.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer; offers invited April 11 and onwards. Communications, 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, April 18, on, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's famous Collier Comedian. Original copyright songs, stories, colliery pictures. Next week, Empire, Widnes.

To Proprietors, Managers, and Agents.
WANTED, Monday next, and April 18, by Sergt. Bert Powell, the famous Military Illusionist, who can perform on any sized stage and entertain any audience in existence. I have mystified Chinese, Japanese, Siamese, Maltese, Indians, Greeks, Turks, and Egyptians in their own native countries; therefore I am the man to mystify your audiences. Wire for the Greatest Military Illusionist in existence to 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Morimura, the Marvellous Japanese Illusionist, Monday next and April 18. Wire or write, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, and April 18, by Hal Lowe, Smart Patter Comedian. Wire, Saturday, Public Hall, March; Sunday, Flat 5, Holland-st., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Norton, Society Illusionist, Liberty Monday next. Wire, till Saturday, T. R., Tyldesley; after, 19, Hooton-road, Aintree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Greatest Bantam-weight Wrestler in the World, Defeating them all, Hippo., Wigan. Sensational challenges, &c., with a style that offends none. Vacant April 18-25, &c. Coms., 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Henry D. Adams, the Juggling Page Boy. Vacant April 11, and onwards. Address, 75, Bickley-street, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop Juggler, reputation from London Hippodrome, Alhambra, Moss-Stoll, vacant April 11, 18, 25. Wire, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Monday next, and a few immediate dates previous to Continental tour, by Picitt and Lizette, in their great Magical Extravaganza, "THE CRAZY COOK," from the Palace Theatre, London, and Coliseum, London. Everything carried; only clear Stage required. Good lithos. Wire, 81, Bristol-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, April 11, 18, 25, by Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Conjurer, Dog, &c.; and May Geraldine, Chorus Comedienne, Dancer. Wire, 30, Wells-street, Scunthorpe; two Acts. 15, Haslemere-avenue, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Vacant April 18, Harry Hellis, Pianist, Comedian; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs; Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Cornettist. Next, Theatre, Bordon Camp.

WANTED, Monday next, also 18th, by the Le Bruns. Edie, Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler; Edgar, Comedy Equilibrist. A unique novelty. 150, Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, by The Wymans (Fred and Ivy), great Singing and Cross-talking Act, April 11 and 18. Wire, 34, Warburton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, and 18th, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian; Addie Leyton, Male Impersonator. Two successes. Wire, 34, Warburton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, in Vocal Comedy par excellence. Wire for a winner. 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, Novel Electric Fit-up. Third return, Tranmere Picture Palace, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, are vacant Monday, also May 2. Wire, 6, Knowsley-street, Colne.

WANTED, April 18, May 2, 9, The Monckton (Fred and Lillie), Comedy Duologists, presenting "A Woman's Curiosity," &c. Monday, Palace, West Hartlepool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, April 18, 25, Harry Keeble, the incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. Sure successes. Mon., Temperance Hall, Merthyr (return).

WANTED, April 11, Rohde and Roche, in Novelty Act, "An Early Morning's Adventure," introducing Contortion, Singing, Dancing, Pot-Pourri Act. Wire, Public T., Scunthorpe; also vacant April 18, 25, May 23, on. 25, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 18, by Ray and Lingard, Comedy Sketch Artists; also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, one or both turns. This week, enormous success, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, April 18, May 2, July 11, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22. Address Perth Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, April 25, only vacancy this year, by Carl and Carr, the 20th century Comedians, presenting a laughable creation, "A Drawing Room Interlude," new song, big hit, "By the Sea," by Mellor and Gifford, publishers Francis, Day, and Hunter. Wire or write for the 25th, only vacancy. CARL and CARR, Empire, West Hartlepool; next, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, April 18 and 25, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog "Jack." Own scenery, splendid lithos. Success everywhere. Palace, Gateshead.

WANTED, by The Petricks, Refined Comedy Acrobatic Jumping Act, Monday April 11 and 18. Great success this week, Aquarium, Scarborough. After Saturday, 41, Castle-st., Leeds.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, great Comedy Act, vacant Monday next. Wire, Grand, Bolton; after Saturday, 1, Cross-st., Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Foley and Francis, Comedians, want another Turn to work with Collins's, London, April 11. This, Gaiety, Birmingham; wire, vacant April 25.

WANTED, Monday next, April 11, The Arnos, Novel Comedy Singing and Dancing Act; also Kitty Temple, Versatile Chorus Comedienne. Hippo., Hyde.

WANTED, April 18, 25, by Four Van Earles. A great act. Beautiful singers of harmony. Extraordinary clog-dancers. Beautifully dressed. Plays 20 minutes. Warmly praised by R. Ainsworth, T. R., Goole. Mon. next, Pal., New Bolsover.

WANTED, Monday next, 11th, by Six Albyns, Great Singing and Comedy; also Elsie Earle, in Song Scena, "A Garden of Flowers." Sure Success. Wire, Music Hall, Ferndale.

WANTED, by the Dreadnought Mascots, in their new Scena, "Sailors' Merry Moments." Magnificently mounted and dressed. April 18, to follow Bijou Theatre, Waterloo. Managers need dread nought in booking this show. Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23. Address, Kirk Hall, Abbey-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 4 Ross-road, Abergavenny.

WANTED, April 18, 25, The Flying Oreniuses (two Ladies, two Gentlemen). Last week, Empire, Rochdale; next, Palace, Northampton, where address all communications.

WANTED, April 11, 18, Bouncing Peps Star Comedy Act, Theatres, Pictures, or Galas. Theatre, Spennymoor. Monday, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 18 and 25, by Bert Williams, Ventriloquist.
Bottom of Bill, last week, Stockton.
Bert Williams is a wonderful vent., a big favourite in Stockton. He is a sure cure for a fit of the dumps. Wire, Monday, Grand, Halifax.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist and Society Entertainer, share or certainty, self or party. Vacant Monday (self only), Halls or Al Fresco. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough. Permanent, Lapage-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, a few Immediate Dates, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist.
46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Offers invited. Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Ross and Co., Great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act. Starring Empress, Brixton, London. Competitions nightly if required. Wire.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.
Prior to Continental Tour.
All coms., week April 11,
St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful Russian Poodles. Great Novelty. The Only Troupe of its Kind on the Vaudeville Stage. Clean, Classic, and Clever. The Talk of Every Town visited. Gigantic Success, Opera House, Harrogate; Hippo., Todmorden; Easter Monday, Gala, Carmarthen. Thanking C. W. Poole for Contracts, April 4, Grand Theatre, Aberaman; 11th, Opera House, Treherbert; 18th, Maesteg. After an absence of only three weeks from S. Wales, having performed at most of the principal halls in Wales, since last December, which is proof of success. Also thanking J. Adams, Kitchingman, Hamilton's, for Offers. Only vacancies April 25, May 2, Oct. 17, 24, until November.

WANTED, Dates, by Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Address, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction. Open for America. This, Palace, Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Leoni Clarke, 200 Royal Cats, &c. 200.
Vacant April 18.
Conclude to-night, Empire, Barnsley (re-engaged).
Palace Theatre, Sunderland.
Good Posters and Lithos, by Creaber, Plymouth, and Berry, Bradford.
Many thanks to C. H. Murray, Esq., for Kind Offer of Six Months, Neue Welt Park, Berlin.
Agent, W. SLEY, Manchester.
Solicitor, James Gray, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Lorenzos', Marvellous Dogs, Monday and onwards, Halls, Circus, Pictures, Seaside, Gardens, &c. Always great draw. 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti Juggling, Balancing, Acrobatic Eccentric, on Bicycles. A few Vacancies. Next, Theatre Royal, Colne.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Football on Wheels, Somersaulting Cyclists, Vacant 11th, 18th, 25th, also Galas. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Animal Impersonator, Acrobatic Pantomimist; height 5ft. 4in.; age 25; good references. M., 18, Derby-street, Oxford-street, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Petters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are TAYLOR, PLINSTON, BROS., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars.
Registered-Trade Mark, "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from THE UNITED KINGDOM GILLETT LIGHT Co., Greengate, Stafford.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
IMPORTANT.
That the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at (Headquarters), The Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Wednesday next, April 13, at 2.30 p.m., when all members are requested to attend for the transaction of important business.
Signed,
T. HURST, Sec.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET Co., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Living, Breathing, or Dead.
A. E. PICKARD, Glasgow.

WANTED, good quick Money-taking Novelties, Shares, Automatic Exhibition.
Write, PAYNE, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, some good Novelties and Freaks, to open April 11, for one week; sharing terms or wages, at Barron's Exhibition, Queen-st., Oxford.

WANTED, Good Novelties, for Show Business, Summer Season. Write or wire,
WAGHORNE,
Bowes Park, Sittingbourne, Kent.

WANTED, to open May 14, Novelty or Illusion, for the Best Position on Southport Sands, building 30 by 15; if suitable, might arrange for Summer Season. A. MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, good Specialities, Novelties, Freaks, Share or Rental, follow Miss Lucy Moore's successful season, four weeks; Madame Howard write. Good opening Shooting Gallery, Games, &c. Silence a polite negative. LINGARD'S Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for the Sea View Exhibition, Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, good Dahomey Troupe or Midget Show starting from Whit Monday. Lowest terms to BARRON, Exhibition, Queen-street Oxford.

WANTED, good Pianist and Comedian for High-class Auction Mart. Harry Rennard write. Box 7,527, "The Era."

WANTED, Exhibition Workers, such as Silhouette and Sketch Artists, Gold Wire, Fountain Pen, Embroidery, Photographs, Pulled Candy, &c., &c., can hear of something to their advantage by applying in first instance to Box No. 7,468, "Era" Office.

Palmistry.
WANTED, Lady, permanency for suitable person; wages and commission. Box 7,488, "Era."

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Exhibitions, Share or Rent. Apply at once, EXHIBITION MANAGER, County Hall, Salisbury.

WANTED, Man, genteel speaker, capable of attracting and addressing a crowd, and to lecture on show. An exceptional opportunity for a smart man. Season 18 weeks. D. GREEN, 2, Montagu-street, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Harold Pyott, Smallest Man in the World, at Liberty from April 16, and on (with exceptions). J. S. BEELY, Manager, 83, Market-street, West Houghton, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty April 9, Agent, Doorsman, or Picture Worker, 14 years with Joseph Poole's Myrioramas. Work no object. F. TANCY, 44, Brighton-terrace, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, about 80ft. by 40ft., adjoining Market-square, suitable for picture show, adaptable for marquee or portable structure. Apply, WORTHINGTON, Town Arms, Gravesend.

Pastimes, Ltd.; 61 and 62, London-road, Elephant and Castle.

WANTED to Let, some exceptional Space for First-class Side-shows; also Space for Small Stalls; finest location in South London. Apply, MANAGER (mornings).

WANTED, Known, Three Spaces only to Let, Palmist, Engraver, or any Novelty. Splendid position. MANAGER, Exhibition, Marine-parade, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Let, Sole Rights for Palmistry for Season. Good room, splendid position. Apply to TOM BRADLEY, General-Manager, The Tower, Morecambe.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors for the Summer Season.
Address, A. MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart and Bioscope Show combined, about 50,000ft. films, machine, iron house, stand, cylinders, lights, seats, &c.; three loads, including large living-van. Box 7,490, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Bloom's No. 1 Royal Auction Mart and Tent; finest in England.
BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Flat Platform Gallopers, thirty horses and cockerels, two spinners, electric engine and dynamo, organ, trucks, everything complete, in good condition, and now open. Apply, J. GREEN, Roundabouts, Preston. Busybodies save stamps.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Skill Machines, seven New Eureka reserve ball, also five Pickwicks, two with reserve ball. Accept £15, or reasonable offer. Write, PICKWICK, Box 7,513, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, best makers. Sufficient to equip large arcade. Will sell separate. Phonographs, Mutoscopes, Mills' best pictures, punch-bags, lifters, electrics, vibrators, fortunes, electric pianos, models, singing birds. Also various amusement machines, &c. SPORTS, 174, High-street, Shoreditch, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, cost £10; sure living for worker; sacrifice 50s.; Doll Frame, thirty dolls, sacrifice 60s. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Nine Distorting Mirrors. Room wanted. Apply,
E. P. CORNER, 303, North End-road, Fulham, W.

WANTED, to Sell Cheap, Magic Illusion Sideshows or Shops. Quick money taker.
PROPRIETOR, Orchard Cottage, North Town, Maidenhead.

WANTED, to Sell,
Full size American Bowling Allies, as used at the recent Imperial International Exhibition in London. Apply to Box 7510, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Rifle Range, 10ft., Running Animal; lot cost £10, sacrifice £6, as new; Engine, 80s., cost £15. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, cheap fit-up Proscenium and Stage, &c., also waggon, long, convertible parading stage. Also portable piano.
MANAGER, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Buy, one Road Waggon, not less than 12ft. long, also a good rail waggon, about 17ft. Both must have good under-works, and cheap for cash. A. FIELDING, Whatmore Farm, Winnersh, Wokingham.

WANTED, to Purchase,
Floss Candy Machine.
11, Burfield-street, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to buy, Two Secondhand Fishponds, must be in good order. Write or call at once. 31, Chancellor's-road, Fulham Palace-road, S.W.

WANTED, Working Partner, good Showman, to travel. Two new Death-defying Illusions. Address, Box 7511, "The Era."

WANTED, Beastmen, thoroughly reliable; long engagement to suitable men. BAKER, Post Office, Wokingham.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Known, Manager Boys, vacant May 30, Rinking, Music Hall, or Theatre; can supply Staff if required; also Band; age 26. NORTH LONDON RINK AND ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, LTD., Wood Green.

WANTED, Position as Floor Manager or Instructor, finished skater, exhibitions of trick, fancy, and comedy skating. Inventor of several skate dances. Terms mod. Distance no object. Wire or write, CELESCO, 59, Pont-street, Hirst, Northumberland.

WANTED, by smart young man, post as Floor Manager or Instructor; good experience; excellent references. Write, 359, Swan-lane, Coventry.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, THE MANAGER.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Picture Palace, just completed, noble front, best position, showy decorations, holds over 1,000, licensed, electric and gas, full exits. Stage large, scenery, all lights. Box 7512, "The Era."

WANTED, Managers to note, Mr. George Dance is prepared (owing to an unusual pressure of business) to dispose of the Performing Rights of certain Musical Comedies.

The Entire Production in several cases could be taken over at a reasonable figure.

Write,
48, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Interior Flat, 6 flats, 16 by 6, two returns, hinged, for travelling, splendid condition, worth £7, will accept £2.10, bargain. DELMAR, Hippodrome, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, 100,000ft. of Film, at 1d. per foot, Comic and Dramatic. Apply,
THE FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-road, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's Film of this year's Boat Race (225ft.). Send best offer to MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bridge-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, For Sale or Hire, Barnsley v. Everton Semi-Final, 600ft., good. Hire £3 week; Sale £4 10s. Deliver 18th. VITO, Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Big Novel and Sensational Musical Act (owing to retirement), including fine Lithos.; £40 to £50 weekly obtainable. Sell at quarter of original cost. Suit musical family or troupe of four or five.
Box 7,516, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Teddy Bear.
Price £15.
ROWLEY, Coliseum, Mason's-avenue, Wealdstone, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, Tuba, Besson, five valves, high and low pitch, nearly new, cheap. Apply, WOOD, 32, Springdale-street, Huddersfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Broadwood Grand Piano, good condition. Price £7, to clear.
GEO. ZALVA, 2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, very loud, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Macaronis, Gongs, Organ Chimes, Rattles, Tubaphones, Gloves. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Alfresco Stages, very portable, from £5, 10ft. wide by 10ft. deep. All sizes made. Alfresco Chairs, 27s. per doz; sample chair, 2s. 3d. H. MORGAN and Co., 12, Coils-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, new, Kitson's Paraffin Lamp, 250 candle power, suitable for Alfresco, latest type, a sacrifice. BRINE, 105, St. Stephen's-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, Known, for Sale, Circus Tents, 60ft., 70ft., 80ft., 90ft., 100ft., new and secondhand, also secondhand cinematograph tilts. ARTHUR SAUNDERS, tent maker, Wisbech.

WANTED, to Sell, Pierrot suits, 5s. each; piqué or drill, 7s. 6d.; dancing skirts and knickers combined, 6s. 6d. Miss FISHER, Riviera-drive, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Sell (through illness) Sole Right Songs (unsung), cost 21s. each; accept 2s. 6d. COMEDIAN, 30, Iffley-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase or Hire, Light Portable Theatre, well seated, good condition, with waggons preferred; Devon or Cornwall. HOWARD, 7, Redannick-terrace, Penzance.

WANTED, to Buy,
Smart Advert. Curtains and Programmes.
Particulars to
ADVT. MANAGER, Castle Works, Rochdale.

WANTED, new or secondhand, up-to-date Bioscope, must be in first-class condition. State lowest terms. Address, Box 7,522, "The Era."

WANTED, a healthy Lion Cub; must be small and young. Letters only,
DAN LIPTON, 21, Walcot-square S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, Stage Waggon, also Building Waggon, must be in good condition and cheap. Mr. T. Lanes write. FRANK PAYNE, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Dramatic Club (established nearly fifty years) is open to consider Original Modern Comedy in three acts (small Cast), for production in Oct. Synopsis of plot and full particulars to A. D., c/o W. H. Smith and Son, Advertising Agents, Blackfriars, Manchester.

WANTED, Script of "Fifty Fatty." Particulars to STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, good, clever Comedy Duologue, Burlesque or Comedy Act, Lady and Gent; good price, good stuff. Particulars, MUNDILL, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, a Good Sketch of Three or Four Characters, must contain a fat part for a Lancashire comedian of note. Address, Box 7521, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, an important Theatre in North Midlands, for Stock Season, from June 13 to July 30, inclusive.
Address, Box 7,526, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in April and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Private Rehearsal Rooms; Finest Accommodation in London. Every convenience. Manchester House, 295, Kennington-road. 'Phone, 5467 Central.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9344.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire; price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Quotation for 6,000ft. of latest production Films, to be changed twice and thrice weekly. Reply, enclosing list, &c., Box 7,524, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, a good sound large Tent, to stable about fifty horses.
Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Active or Sleeping Partner, Lady or Gent, to invest £800 to £1,000 in a first-class Picture Palace in a good Seaside Resort on the South Coast; good security; no opposition; good opportunity for a gentleman wishing to invest or to learn the business. Principals only dealt with. Banker's references. Apply in first instance to Box 7,532, "The Era."

WANTED, Harpist (reader), join Solo Violinist, Whitsuntide through September, Premier Severn pleasure steamer (singer preferred). Shares. Age. Letters only. EDGAR, 81, Moilliett-street, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Well-known Actress, Partner for Duologue, Comedian, Cattermole part. Letters only. 35, Minstead-road, Erdington, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Partner, for Musical Novelty. Big Successful Production. Long run assured; perfectly genuine. COSMOPOLITAN VAUDEVILLE BUREAU, 119, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Partner, or Sell, Sale Van, Piano, Tent, &c. Tent can build to hold 600, 800, 1,000. Fitted scenery. Suit pierrots, auctioneers. WHITAKER, 14, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, good Pierrot Pitch; or would entertain Partnership; Seaside, South Coast preferred. HOWARD, 7, Redannick-terrace, Penzance.

WANTED, Partner, to manage well-known Continental Speciality Act, must be able to influence bookings. Write, Box 7,538, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT Co.,
5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMAN & Co., 4, Pitville-place, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 100 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano part, 2s. 6d.; Band parts, 3s. 6d. ten. E. Western, 19 Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Lithos, Posters, and Memos of all kinds, at most reasonable prices. Send ideas, and we will submit drawings free. MARTINO and Co., 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Handbills, 5 by 7½, 5,000 5/-; 10,000, 8/6; other sizes equally cheap. Samples free. FRED JONES, printer, Aston-cross, Birmingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above, all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract.
CHARLES BARNARD,
On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, most urgent, Address of Mr. Fred Sharpe, Circus Agent. FREMAN, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, James S. Charters has been re-engaged by Martin Harvey, Esq., now commencing on seventh year of engagement. Thanking him for the past six years' most comfortable engagement.

WANTED, to Hire, a good sound large Tent, to stable about fifty horses.
Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
55a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronants to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1235 Dalston.

FOR SALE,

AS A GOING CONCERN,

THEATRE,

IN CENTRAL PART OF A BUSY NORTHERN TOWN.

Very Moderate Price, and Greater Portion may be left on Mortgage.

PRINCIPALS OR THEIR SOLICITORS ONLY.

Address, Box 7427, "The Era."

WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.

Open MAY 7 to OCT. 1, 1910.

A FEW BUILDINGS

TO LET

for BRIGHT, UP-TO-DATE SHOWS and MOVING PICTURE THEATRE; also Photographic Studio and Rifle Range.

Park brilliantly illuminated at night; centre of enormous population. Best Military Bands played.

Apply, J. CALVIN BROWN,
Proprietor, White City, Manchester.

PLEASURE BEACH, SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.

30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Building, 35ft. by 35ft., to let for Shooting Jungle.
Apply
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
Besides the dramatic and musical calendar, and the list of pieces, places, and performers enumerated in it, this annual gives also particulars of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres and in the provinces, with their casts, and also lists of plays produced in New York, new pieces produced at the principal Paris theatres, new plays and important revivals presented at the principal Berlin theatres, and an alphabetical list of the principal sketches produced at the London and provincial variety houses. Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree contributes an interesting article entitled "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" and there are close on thirty stories told by well-known people and illustrated by photographs and autographs, as well as a miscellaneous lot of information connected with the stage, and an illustrated obituary of the year.—Cork Examiner, Feb. 12, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
"The Era" Annual will, as usual, be found full of useful dramatic information, besides miscellaneous reading of distinctly personal interest. Mr. Dan Rolyat, for instance, tells how he once attempted "a straight part."—Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury, Jan. 29, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
Quite among the best and most interesting of the annuals and year-books for 1910 that have reached us is "The Era" Almanack and Annual. About 250pp., beautifully printed on good paper, interspersed with scores of portraits of stage celebrities, living and recently deceased, are included in what can honestly be described as a wonderful shillingsworth. In addition to a mass of tabulated information on new plays and revivals in London and the provinces, in Paris, Berlin, and New York, casts of new plays and sketches, obituary of 1909, lists of theatres and music-halls, and a dramatic and musical calendar, there are about fifty pages of stories told by well-known people and illustrated by portraits and autographs, providing a fund of amusement and interest, not merely to those in the profession, but to all who appreciate good yarns. A copy of the annual may be had post free for 14 stamps from "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.—Bazaar, Feb. 16, 1910.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1910.
Congratulations to our contemporary "The Era" on the excellent year book known as "The Era" Annual. Everything of interest to the entertainment profession which the year 1909 has brought forth is noted in this publication, and it contains besides many valuable contributions from well-known performers and authorities on stage matters, together with directories of useful information. Amongst those who have written stories are Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Messrs. Fred Terry, Henry Neville, Rutland Barrington, John Le Hay, J. H. Barnes, Harry Nicholls, Charles Collette, Alfred Lester, Arthur Williams, Dan Rolyat, and Fred Trussell, Miss Louie Freear, Miss Vesta Tilley, the Rev. Donald Hole (Organising Secretary of the Actors' Church Union), the Rev. T. Horne (Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild), and several others, including Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, who, in dealing with "Charity and the Profession," tells an interesting story of a Nihilist visitor. It is an indispensable shillingsworth.—Performer, Jan. 27.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 11, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Madame Rejané, Ada Reeve, Bellclair Bros., Sergeant Brennan, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Grotesques, Cruikshank, Twelve Fezzans, Animated Pictures, Anne Dancrey, Anna Chandler.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

George Leyton in "The Roll Call," Billy Hobbs, Mabel Mavis, Barrett and Knowles, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Alice Raymond, The Martinekys, Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Little Ganty.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mirza Golem Troupe, Katie Moss, Alf. Gibson, Alexandre and Hughes, Marie Pera and Co., Witty Watty Walton, Frank Melvin, Bioscope, Wish Wynne, Gustave Fasola.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Alec Hurley and Co. in "Cockneys in Japan," Bros. Redmond, Frank Lister and Co. in "The Sundowner," Comedy Meisters, Stowe Bros., Three Cape Girls, Bioscope, Vandinoff, Courtiers, Helen Trix.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Lena Ashwell's Co., in "Diana of Dobson's."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

La Pia, Talleur and Andrews, Dot Stephens, James Curwell, Great and Good, Barney Armstrong, Signor Persichini, Sisters Barnes, Bioscope, Brinn.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Madame Ella Russell, Bros. Bright, Ryan and Hall, Addie Dorina, Tom Costello, Victor's Juveniles, Maples, A Ba Be's, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, George French, Lillie Lassah, Kerr and Koe, Essman, Stephens and Rennior, Gladys Hooley, Bioscope, George Newburn, Toch and Tard.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

J. B. Howard's Co., including Frank Lawton, in "The Belle of New York."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Privato Potts," Peter Bermingham, Rauschle, Lloyd and Lane, Sylvia Du Barry, Blank Family, Bioscope, 18 Lancashire Singers, Rita and Roma.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Cinquevalli, Tom Clare, Haytors, Syd May, "The Bosun's Mate," Eadie and Ramsden, Northern Troupe, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Van Biene, Horace Mills and Co., Beatty and Blanche, Millie Payne, Staig's Cycle Act, Siems, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Bioscope, Frank Cass, Ray Wallace, Motramos.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Formby, Avolos, Les Silas, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Bros. Griffiths, Jack Lane, Delevines, Stewart and Morgan, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Cyril Clensy.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Takio, Bioscope, Frank H. Fox, Korries, Holden's Mannikins, Cumminger and Colonna, Rossi Ashton, Gardner and Stoddard, Heeley and Meeley.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd Cull Pitt, Roma and Romani, O'Malley and Brown, W. J. Churchill, Prince-Milner Trio, Arthur Slater, Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, Leslie Harris.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

A. L. Levering's company in "The Drums of Oude," Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Orpheus, Six Lancashire Lasses, Brown and Le Clerq, Tate and Tate, Florence Esdaile, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Charlier.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Fred Curran, Rosie Ring, O'Gust, Pat Rafferty, Findens, Mlle. Haydee, Bioscope, Carmos, Alice Maydue.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Dance's Co., in "Our Miss Gibbs."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

L. Cohen's Co., in "The World, The Flesh, and the Devil."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co., in "Fishing," Woodhouse and Wells, Manchester Mites, Les Marco Belli, Amelie De L'Enclos, Victor Travers, Five Vernons, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, De Wynne Bros.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

The Great Lafayette, Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Cook's Man," Scott and Whaley, Haines and Borthwick's Company, Harry Weldon, Sophie, La Freya, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Tom Hearn, Nine Kremos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, L'Incognita, Sisters St. Julian, Phil Percival, Dusty Rhodes, D'Arc's Marionettes, Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Brull and Hemsley, Three Van Dammes, Jewel St. Leger, Empire Comedy Four, Loyal's Trained Dogs.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Will o' the Wisps, Bros. O'Brien, Annie Purcell, Ted and May Hopkins, Lee and Kingston, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Globe of Life.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Rameses, Rohda Bros., John Macauley, Millie Engler and Co., Barnard's Mannikins, Florence, Bioscope, King and Benson.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Bertha Winder, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Spry and Monti, "Dolly's Deception," Three Delaries, Phil Parsons, Florrie Gallimore, Bioscope, Lydia Yeamans.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Pleasants, Liane D'Eve, Two St. Johns, Tom Moore, Humpsti Bumsti, Kellinos, Harry Friskey, Rhoda Paul, Carew and Russell, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Craggs, Juliette's Sea Lions, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Santon, Alexandra Dagmar, Tom Davies' Trio, Farr and Farland, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Kathleen Gray, Francis and Alfred, Strolling Players, Betty Green, Bioscope, Walker and May, Herbert Shelley, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fred Karno's Company, Frank Maura, Gwennie Llewellyn, H. O. Wills, Lux's Dogs, Smythsons, Lottie Govell, Bioscope, Anna Chandler, Darracq's Motor Sensation.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mephisto, Lydia and Amelys, Mabel Sinclair, Verno and Voyce, Frank Lynne, Real McKays, Bioscope, Four Mayos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Hadj. Abdullah Troupe, Fatmah Diard, Musical Sylvo, Conan and Doyle, Harry Herbert, Illustrated Song, C. J. Johnson, Pictures, Kratons.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Four Regals, Leo Tell, Henry Helme, Lukushimas, Margaret Parker and Co., Chas. Vincent, Bioscope, Fred Earle.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Hetty King, Stanley and Greenop, Little Zola, Drum and Major, Rich Taylor, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Mario Kendall.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., Nellie Dallwood, Mike Nono, Welda and Wynne, Ted E. Box, Vera Rochdale, Merlin, Pictures, Gladys Mavius.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Carl Howard, Marjorie Lawrence, Chas. Robinson, Edwards and Espinosa, Harry Taylor, Pictures, Vanando.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the Provincial Circuit to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to Financial, Commercial, and General Business Matters.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, APRIL 11.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Piccolinos, Lisbon and Barker, Walter Barrett, Rosie Archer, Joe Cookson, Stidder and Dunbar, Ted Waite, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Charburn's Juveniles, Jack Hartley, Stevens and Brett, Tom Read, Tina Frank, Selim and Sultana, Rici and Pici, Newmans, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
"The Key," May Poulton, Donnas Trio, Silly Billy Elliott, Lisbon and West, Ross and Grayson, Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Dan Lipton's "Songland," Lily Edwards, Max Laube, Amio Trio, L. B. Athol, Miss Muffett, Francini Olloms and Page, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Tschin-Maa Troupe, Lizzie Daniels, Norah Desmond, Edie Reynolds, Crosby and Walker, Geo. Brooks, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Rollicking Rory."

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Eugene Stratton, Albert Letine, The Fimans, Cavalli, Jimmie Pullin, Geo. Bennett, The Kirbys, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
George Sheldon Co., Walter Aubrey, Irene Meldon, Rorke, Rooke, and Co., Vesta Nixon, Morny Cash, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Adolf Beck" Picture, Unites, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, Godfrey Price, Julian Mack, Bill and Bellay, Chas. North, Dancing Gilberts.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Burt Shepard, Carl and Carr, Bert Maddison, Ada Fawn, Alice Lingard, Three Aiskarnos, Harry Atkinson, Palace Perfection Pictures. Lyons Trio.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Mona Garrick, Connie Rubie, Tennis and Laune, Fred Lincoln, Geo. Goldburn, Cairo Trio, Blair and Allen, Dorothy Dare, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Tan-Kwai Troupe, Geo. Geoffreys, Ray Royal, Lambert and Butler, Mildred Bryan, The Camplins, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
J. W. Rickaby, Bros. Victor, Narow Bros., Geo. Acre, Drew and Alders, The Showells, Four Vagabonds, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Was She to Blame?"

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Outcast of the Family."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Donaldson Bros. and Co., Geo. Lawrence, Colin Mail, Burley and Burley, Joan Deering, Nora Emerald, The Miltons, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal 10 a.m.
Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Will Douglas's Bakers, Gena Manon, Les Zanonis, Flo Warner, Alfred J. Long, Lennard and Vereker, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Damerell and Rutland, Tod Lowen, Kit Keen, Nellie Neil, Hulbert's Girls, Weller and Walter, Sketch, "Rob Roy," Josephine Crook, Milner and Storey, Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Harrigan and Holt, Harland's Fountains, Chris Masters, Lilly Soutter, J. H. Greener, "Mystery of the Cliff," The Fitzroys, Bessie Neilson, Sketch, "The Adder's Tooth," Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ted Curtis and Pics., Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Sisters Harcourt, Fred Maitland and Co., Sketch, "A Ruined Life," Bernard Mervyn and Co., Beale and Broadway, Stuart and Eno Trio, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ten Dixie Girls, Bromley and Fontein, Baker and De Sales, The Tintos, Geo. James, Cadwell and Verne, Kate Carney and Co., Cissy Brand, Tommy Clifford, The Arabellas, Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Enzer and Miss Clarice, Chas. Woodward, Tom Hulme, Elsie Keward, Gus Harris and Co., E. D. Nicholls and Co., Tom Collins, Jeannie Saunders, Ethel Christie, Ronno Shanara, Pictures.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5964 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

TED SNYDER'S
GREAT SONGS.

"ROSES AND MEMORIES"
Song, Violin Solo, 'Cello Solo, Piano Solo, and for Orchestra. Played nightly with unprecedented success by the famous 'cellist AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.
This Week, Walsall; Next Week, Newcastle.

"SADIE SALOME"
Being sung by LOWENWIRTH and COHAN.
This Week, Argyle, Birkenhead.

The Comic Song of the Century.
"MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY!!!"
Being sung by PHIL PARSONS.
This Week, Birmingham; Next, Nottingham (Stoll).
In addition to these numbers, we have a lot of new things just received from the States.

"WHEN THE BLOOM IS ON THE HEATHER."
Sung by Miss JESSIE TEMPLETON.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.)
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford St., London.
Manager, J. H. SQUIRE.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909.
Post free, 1½d.
PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

NOTICE of REMOVAL.
Please take note that on and after SATURDAY, the 9th APRIL, 1910, the Offices of the
UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd.,
AND
HIPPODROME (DEVONPORT), Ltd.,
will be situated at
Broadmead House,
Panton Street, Haymarket,
London, S.W.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HIGHER OPENSHAW MANCHESTER.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that on and after MONDAY, the 11th DAY OF APRIL, 1910, the occupancy and tenancy of the above-named premises by the LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY (MANCHESTER), LIMITED, shall cease and determine, and all Contracts with Artistes effected by the said Lyric Theatre Company (Manchester), Limited, during a period of two months from the said 11th day of April, 1910, will be taken over by the new tenants or occupiers.
Artistes desirous of rebooking will please communicate with the Manager,
Mr. ARTHUR PRESTON,
Alhambra Theatre,
Higher Openshaw.

NEW BRITANNIA PIER, GREAT YARMOUTH.
NOTICE.
The above Pier is now under New Management. Any Artists holding Contracts for same must communicate with the undersigned, who is now prepared to make further engagements for the season.
Address all communications until May 27, to
HARRY TUNBRIDGE,
New Spa, Bridlington.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
25, Balcombe-street.
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BELFAST.—Sitting, two bedrooms, bath (h. and c.), &c.; comfortable cooking, 5 minutes all theatres; well recommended. Mrs. Barry, 55, Upper Arthur-street.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, three Bedrooms; Comb. Piano; three mins. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. De Costa, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. Charles Grant.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Large rooms; bath, piano; terms moderate; good cooking; good refs.; near all theatres. Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-street.

LONDON, S.E.—Drawing-room and bedroom, also bedrooms vacant for Sunday. Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior sitting and Bedrooms; piano; garden; every convenience; bathroom; good cooking; cheerful attendance; 1d. fares. 145, Brixton-rd.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Mrs. Graham, 60, Grange-rd. West. Sitting-room and Bedroom; bath (h. and c.), piano; good cooking; moderate; good refs.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 minute from E., O. H., sea; piano, bath (h., c.), w.c.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. Walter Hewitt.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

GOLDERS GREEN.
Fifteen Minutes from Theatre Land
BY TUBE.
This Delightful Modern District Adjoins Beautiful Golders Hill Park and Hampstead's Famous Heath.
IDEAL SPOT FOR THEATRICAL FOLK.
HOUSES and FLATS close to Tube to be LET and SOLD.
LESLIE RAYMOND,
ESTATE OFFICES, FACING TUBE STATION.
Tel. 4033 P.O. Hampstead. Any appointment kept.

BRIXTON (ANGELL-ROAD).
FOR SALE.—Contains 8 rooms, bath, kitchen, scullery, and usual offices; lease, about 62 years; ground-rent, £8 10s. Price £375, or £25 down and balance by monthly instalments of £3 3s. Apply F. E. Widdowson, 398, City-road, E.C.

Shoreham, Sussex.
LARGE BUNGALOW FOR SALE or TO LET. Opposite Ferry.
R. Sargent,
6, Little Heath, Old Charlton, Kent.

COMFORTABLE HOME.—Three rooms, Furnished, to be Let, suitable for married folk and a friend; all the advantages contained in, but more roomy and convenient than, a furnished flat; a real home; healthy neighbourhood, with very easy access to City and West End; rent, 27s. 6d. per week. Address, Mrs. G., Clarence House, Hornsey Station, N.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.
All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.
THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.
HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.
All the American Theatrical News.
For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN
THE BILLBOARD.
AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.
It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.
London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.
Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

MARKT & CO. (LONDON) LTD.

American Film Department.

NO. 45, GERRARD ST., W.C.

Telephone 643 City. Telegrams, "Bioselig, London."

Reg. Office: 6, CITY-ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

SELIG FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, April 24

IN THE SHADOW OF OLD MOUNT SHASTA.
Scenic Drama.

Releasing Thursday, April 21.

SHOOTING AN OIL WELL.
Industrial.

OUR GERMAN COUSIN.
Comic.

BIOGRAPH FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, April 10.

THE FINAL SETTLEMENT.
Dramatic. 981ft.

Releasing Thursday, April 14.

NEWLYWEDS.
Comedy. 981ft.

LUBIN FILMS.

Releasing Sunday, April 17.

RANGER AND THE GIRL.
Mexican Drama. 805ft.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY.
Election Drama. 875ft.

Full description of the above subjects will be found in another part of this publication. Shall we put you on our mailing list? We will send showmen a sample of our coloured posters if they will send us the name of their Renting House.

RUFFELL'S

FILMS FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,
RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

"PRIMUS" POCKET BOOK and DIARY.

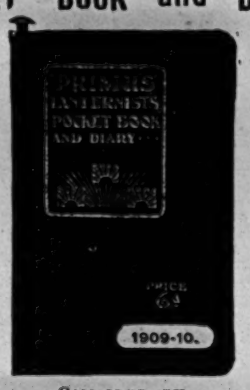

COMPILED BY
W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information.
Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers.

Post **SIXPENCE** *free.*

"THE ERA" PUBLISHING OFFICES,
5, Tavistock St., Strand., W.C.

THE "EXCELSIOR" HALF-SOVEREIGN TIP-UP CHAIRS
Upholstered in Velvet.

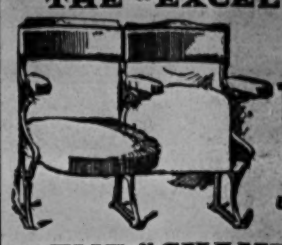

THE "CHAMPION" 4/9 TIP-UPS

Write for List of Leading Lines.
All kinds for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C
Telegraphic Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

PHOTOS

with Individuality, with Style, and with distinction,

MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana *STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any enquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

FRED WILKINS & BROTHER, LTD.

Theatre Furnishers, Decorators, . . Scenery Manufacturers & Electricians.

25-35, DUKE STREET, ∴
12-14, CAMPBELL STREET, **LIVERPOOL.**

Telegrams: "Theatrical. Telephone: 3117 Royal.

Specifications and Estimates submitted on Architects' rough plans for

FIBROUS PLASTER,
PAINTING & DECORATING,
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

FIRE CURTAINS & SCENERY,

CARPETS & LINOLEUMS, TABLEAUX CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,

TIP-UP & ALL KINDS OF SEATING.
Illustrated Catalogue Free.

London Offices & Show Rooms:—
Lyric Chambers, 27, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, W.
Telephone No.: 5332 Gerrard.

ROLLER SKATES.

FOR SALE,
3,000 PAIRS WINSLOW'S.
As used London Olympia Rink.

Address JARVIS E. BELL, Liquidator, Broadmead House, Panton Street, S.W.

PIERROT POSTERS AND ALL OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

Catalogues and prices of printing free.

STAFFORD & CO., LTD.,
Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills,
and the general Run of Show Printing
at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollinghurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

CRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

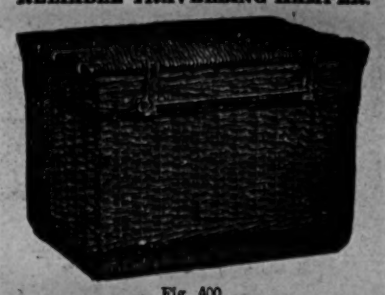

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	G.P.O. Rollers on Tray	Bottom
24 x	14 x	14 ..	6/10 ..	3/2 ..	3/0 ..	2/0
26 x	16 x	15 ..	7/9 ..	3/6 ..	3/0 ..	2/3
28 x	18 x	18 ..	8/9 ..	4/0 ..	3/3 ..	2/6
30 x	20 x	20 ..	10/6 ..	4/6 ..	3/6 ..	2/6
33 x	21 x	21 ..	12/6 ..	5/3 ..	4/0 ..	3/0
36 x	22 x	22 ..	14/6 ..	6/0 ..	4/6 ..	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.

Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.

LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DESPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.

Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.

T. CRAVEN & SONS
T. Dept., 99, Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

By order of the Liquidators of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society (Ltd.).

HIPPODROME PALACE OF VARIETIES HASTINGS,

a sumptuous modern Music Hall, of freehold tenure, situated on the main esplanade, facing the sea, with a fine terra-cotta front and splendid auditorium, capable or holding 1,500 persons. Luxuriously furnished and appointed throughout, and equipped on the most up-to-date lines, with spacious promenades, foyer, saloons, and large open-air loggia overlooking the sea. Fully licensed and open to the public, but with vacant possession on completion of the purchase.

MESSRS. MARLER & MARLER
will offer the above for

SALE BY AUCTION

at the MART, Tokenhouse-yard, London, E.C., on FRIDAY, May 27 next, at two o'clock precisely.

Particulars, with view, plan, and conditions of sale, may be obtained from Messrs. Gribble, Oddie, Sinclair, Rowlatt, and Johnson, Solicitors, of 38, Bedford-row, London, W.C., and together with permits to view of the Auctioneers, as above, of 176, Sloane-street, London, S.W.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound.
Will sell cheap.
Da Von, Ltd.
114, Bethnal Green-road, London.

THEODORE YESSLIN.

An important letter awaits you at "The Era" Office.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS .... for .... BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3s. 6d. Post Free 3s. 9d.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

The THREE INTERIM AWARDS AND THE FINAL AWARD.

Corrected and Revised by
George Ranken Askwith, K.C.,
The Official Arbitrator
Appointed in the Music-Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form.
Copy, including postage, three-half-pence.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S

POCKET DATE BOOK.

Price ONE SHILLING.
Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the two great Charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions, the

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND & THE MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Forty-third Year of Publication.

THE ERA ANNUAL 1910.

The Most Complete Theatrical Dictionary of Dates ever published.

It will also be found to be the most interesting Annual of the Year, containing as it does many Stories told by Members of the Dramatic and Musical Professions. Illustrated by Photographs and Autographs.

Price ONE SHILLING, post free.

∴ USEFUL ∴ Works of Reference

ADDRESS:
The Publisher, "The Era,"
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.
TELEPHONE - 4747 and 1433 CENTRAL

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Solicitor).

PRICE SIXPENCE.

— A —

VAGABOND'S IDEA.

By GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Price SIXPENCE.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

— By —

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price, ONE SHILLING. Post free, 1s. 1d.

Price SIXPENCE.

Cinematograph Copyright.

(The Law Affecting the Same).

By WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S. (Barrister-at-Law).

"PRIMUS"
POCKET BOOK AND DIARY.
Compiled by W. F. BUTCHER, F.C.S.

Brimful of Information. Invaluable to Lanternists and Kinematographers. ——— SIXPENCE, post free.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.)

Chapter I.—COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT. Chapter II.—PERFORMING RIGHT. Chapter III.—INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES. Chapter IV.—MUSICAL COPYRIGHT. Chapter V.—INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE

MANAGERS, AGENTS, ENTREPRENEURS,
AND
PERFORMERS
WISHING TO POSSESS A COPY OF THE
COMPLETE ACT (In a Concise Form)
CAN DO SO BY FORWARDING
THREE STAMPS* to *The Publisher.

MR. BREMBER WILLS & FLORENCE WYNN. F. W. at Liberty; B. W. at Liberty July. 5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER, At Liberty for Management. Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW (Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, The London Hippodrome.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD, Disengaged May 7. Shakespeare T., Clapham, "Sign of the Cross."

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE, Mr. Weedon Grossmith's "Preedy and the Countess." Dis. May 1. Shakespeare, Liverpool.

MR. NORMAN YATES, "The Scarlet Pimpernel." New Theatre, W.C.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK, General-Manager, Herbert Darnley's Cos. 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

STANLEY H. BELL, Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism. Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND, the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer. Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

CHARLES DUDLEY, Refined Humorous Songs and Stories. Few summer weeks vac. for Piers, &c. 86, Keslake-rd., Kilburn.

HILDA ELEN, Comedienne. This, Arcadia, Scarborough, with Hickman-Smith's "Royal Entertainers," Oct. For dates, P. A., 29, Sistova-road, Balham, S.W.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Receptions, Dinners, Ladies' Orchestra for Dances, &c. Perm. add., 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers, GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

J. MILTON HAYES, In Song, Story, and Monologue. 7, Hyde-grove, Manchester. Telegrams, "Miltonic."

HARRY HEAP, Accompanist and Baritone. Concerts arranged. 28, Shore-road, Hackney, N.E. 'Phone 1145 Dalston.

MAIE HOEY, Drama, Comedy, Eastern and Classical Dancer. Seasides invited. C/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist. Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Galeties and The Euterpeans. Address, 108, Sumatra road West Hampstead, N.W. Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD, A.L.C.M., Brilliant Soprano. Offers invited for Summer. 33, Oakhurst-grove, East Dulwich.

GRACE ROBERTS, Soprano. A particularly sweet singer.—Norwood Herald. 59, Pembroke-road, Seven Kings, E.

Children On the Stage.

THE ACT

AFFECTING THE

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN ON THE STAGE

CAME INTO FORCE ON

SATURDAY, OCT. 1, 1904.

MANAGERS,

AGENTS,

ENTREPRENEURS

AND

PERFORMERS

WISHING TO POSSESS A COPY

of the

COMPLETE ACT

— IN A CONCISE FORM —

can do so by forwarding

THREE STAMPS

TO

THE PUBLISHER,

"THE ERA" OFFICES,

5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Telegraphic address: "THE ERA, LONDON." 'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.—*The Arcadians*, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's superb production, is drawing crowded audiences. Mr. Walter Passmore is the bright particular star, his Simplicitas being irresistibly droll; first-rate support is accorded by Miss Veronica Brady, Miss Ethel Erskine, Miss Billie Sinclair, Miss Mabel Munro, Miss Margaret Paton, and Mr. Oliver J. Round, the last-named running Mr. Passmore hard for mirthful honours.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —A capital all-round programme is headed by Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, clever and funny jugglers; the Harvey Boys present their mirthful boxing scena; Paul Ess and Billie Hoey a ski and skating dance turn; and vocal contributions come from Florence Yayman, Jack Hylton, W. G. Wesley, Selby and Myers, and Boden and Bell.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Price.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is played by Mr. Percy Norman's company, under the direction of Mr. A. B. Mackay. Mr. Sidney Barton makes a powerful Czar Nicholas; and Mr. Gilbert Standing gives a good impersonation of Amos Pauloff. The comedy is well sustained by Mr Ernest Kendrick as Peter Popples; Miss Margaret Noble is decidedly good as Roma Pauloff; and Miss Trixie Leighton gives an effective impersonation of Lola Kalnovsky.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Mr. J. A. Thomson's company is here with the sterling drama *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. James Stidwell makes a good Tom Cooper; and praise is due to Mr. Arthur Knight for his George Benson. Mr. Robert H. Howard is excellent as Mr. Arkwright; Abel Nathan and Jim Farren are well played by Mr. Reginald Weighill and Mr. Frank Medhurst; Nellie Benson is ably portrayed by Miss Ethel Knight; and Miss Zorma Dumoyne is clever in the comedy part of Biddy Bowan.

ACCRINGTON. — PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—The attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Her Secret Lover*. Mr. Arthur St. John submits a manly portrayal of the hero Gilbert Seymour; Mr. Walter H. Wilson is most efficient as Captain Darrell Rose; Mr. Alfred Stretton acquits himself with distinction as John Strange; and Mr. Robert Lord gives a telling assumption of Mr. Murfield. Mr. J. Newton-Cowling is seen to advantage as Jim Jones; the Rev. Arthur Holmes is ably enacted by Mr. Alfred James; and an amusing portrayal of Billy Burley is given by Mr. Victor Vernon. Miss Laura Walker gains the heartiest approval for her clever interpretation of Ivy Seymour; Miss Flora Leslie fills the arduous rôle of Alicia Royale effectively; and Miss Lynn Darlington is most satisfactory as Jane Marie.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The chief position here is occupied by Kitts and Windrum, who have one of the most mirth-provoking sketches imaginable in *The Cuckoo*. Edith Haley, versatile vocalist, has made herself a big favourite; Mlle. Renée, with a refined musical scena, proves herself an instrumentalist of the first order; Walker and Lake are an exceedingly witty couple of comedians; and Rhuart, in his burlesque productions, is heartily applauded. The Zampas, bâton manipulators and expert dancers, are cordially received; the Three Sisters Kilner, acrobatic dancers, submit a skilful exhibition; Horace Jones is a very good comedian; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is on a return visit with *A White Man*. Mr. Wilfred Forster is new to the part of Jim Carston, and deserves praise for the handling of this difficult rôle; Mr. Chas. Maunsell's Kerhill is ably presented; Mr. R. A. Brandon's Big Bill is excellent; Mr. Eric Hudson in his portrayal of the chief Tab-y-Wana, with natural dress and make-up, adds to the realism with his introduction of the Ute language; Mr. Frank Mayo as Cash Hawkins is capital; and Mr. Ray Raymond as Hardy is excellently placed. Miss Kathleen Maude's is a charming impersonation of the Countess of Kerhill; and Miss Ormonde Wynne's Countess is good. Misses Hilda Barita, Nora Nagle, Messrs. A. E. Warren, Harold Richardson, Gerald Valentine, John Rogers, Alexander Munro, and Jay Ellis also contribute to the success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The week's bill here is the domestic drama *Another Man's Wife*, one of Mr. Fred Granville's Productions Limited, the author being Mr. Miles Wallerton. Mr. Alfred D. Adams sustains with vigour and skill the part of Carlos De Vergas; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan interprets the varied phases of craft and cunning peculiar to the Russian adventurer, Paul Bernstoff; Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland scores as the young English doctor, Gilbert Eardley; notable characterisations, too, are those of Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles, a globe-trotter; Mr. Leonard Marshell as Andy Brommer; Mr. Fred Forde as Count Pelikoff; and Mr. E. Davies as Colonel Matterson, an American millionaire. Miss Lily Griffin as Maisie is amiable and forceful; Miss Dorothy Love as Lucy is all that the character suggests; Miss Lilian Radbourne as Inez De Castro finds in the character scope for impressive interpretation; and Miss Ruby Loncraine is satisfactory as Lucy De Vergas. The humour of Miss M. Mayne as Tibby affords comic relief.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem —This week a revisit is being paid by Mr. Raynor, the talented actor, and his company. On Monday evening Mr. Haddon Chambers' dramatic play, *Captain Swift*, was presented. Mr. Raynor sustained in his effective, nonchalant, yet forceful manner the character of Mr. Wilding, alias Capt. Swift; Mr. Joseph B. Montague as Marshall gave an effective impersonation; Mr. M. C. Curtis scored as George Gardiner, from Queensland; Mr. Clinton Baddeley as James Seabrook fully justified his choice in his able interpretation; Mr. Conrad Heywood as Harry Seabrook was quite equal to the demands made upon him; Messrs. Ed. Ashworth and T. Babbington were sufficient for all needs in minor parts. Miss Cecilia Dare as Mrs. Seabrook was sufficient for all requirements.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The "variety" portion of the Pavilion programme for the week includes some popular baritone songs, illustrated, by Mr. Alan Wright, the vocalist and lecturer; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists, give a good musical and patter turn; and Drummer T. Rogers, late of the Manchester Regiment, appears in his musical novelty, which includes performances on various instruments. It is a clever performance, a real artistic treat. "The Lassie fra Lancashire," Miss Lucy Lynd, as character comedienne sings and dances; some of her ditties are in the vernacular, and are highly amusing to a native audience. Beautifully displayed cinematograph films, including a fine historic one of Richelieu, depicting a portion of French history, continue to delight audiences.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments' Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The "palace of pictures and variety" here continues to pull audiences. The pictures are up to date and well displayed. The special interlude artists for the week are Miss Nelly Gannon, who sings some sweet songs, illustrated with lantern slides. The other artist is Mr. Harry Wright, a versatile singing comedian and extempore artist.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Luckie.—Admirably-developed films are exhibited here, including the great picture of the Spanish-American War, and others. The great interlude novelties are of the "star" order. Neven Tossau, the tramp artist, paints land and sea scapes while you wait; Gesta and How—the gentleman is a clever farmyard mimic, and the lady a neat top-boot and skipping-rope dancer.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing - Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The leading picture in this week's varied selection is Lieut. Rose, or, The Robbers of Fingall's Cave, which is full of exciting incidents. The Death Disc is an absorbing story of the days of Cromwell; full of pathos is Little Nell, the Drunkard's Child; Temptation and Forgiveness and Tempered with Mercy are both highly dramatic. Comic subjects are represented by The Porter's Dream, The Doctor's Monkey, Golf Mania, and An Unlucky Day. Mr. Hyam Thace, facial comedian, and Mr. J. Cooper Price, in illustrated songs, contribute to the programme.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—A programme of star subjects, including some of the latest productions, is drawing crowded houses nightly. The headliner is a thrilling drama of Indian scenes entitled Cowboy and Squaw. Other subjects are Votes for Women, Cyclist Carbineers, A Wife's Folly, Poet at any Cost, One Night, and then——, and one of the popular Foolshead series, Am I Mad? The Cecilias, lady instrumentalists, give a refined, clever, and pleasing musical act, which is highly appreciated. Mr. Guest's "Scarlet Band" add to the pleasure of the entertainment.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*New Frivolity* is the attraction here. The company is Mr. John Leopold's, and includes Mr. Jack Leopold and Miss Amy Hall, who sing well and dance better, Mr. Watson Hume, Mr. Harry Ugar, and the Four Kellys, who are responsible for a capital acrobatic display.

PICTURE PALACE.—Another comprehensive programme includes the interesting pictures The Spanish Girl, The Waves at Tontarabic, Lancelot and Elaine, On the Border, and The Albanian Rebellion.

BACUP.—COURT THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. John Walters.—Good business is being done this week with a picture and variety show. Miss Doris Myddleton is a versatile artist, and her acting in a sketch with Teddie Hugh is most praiseworthy. Little Vera contributes several songs in excellent style.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones company in *When Other Lips*, is making a welcome reappearance here.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, top the bill here; Juno Salmo, who bottoms the bill, is deserving of great praise; the Bustons are good as comedy acrobats; Tom E. Dean is a quaint comedian; the Sisters Desmond are well received; Ida Dorrie is a chic comedienne; Adela Varcoe is a good vocalist with illustrated songs; the Bros. Legardo are exceedingly clever as acrobats.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Mr. George Munro, with his répertoire company, is here, opening with *The Sleigh Bells*. He himself gives a clever portrayal of Matthias; and Miss Doris V. Horrocks presents a fascinating Annette. Mr. E. Diggle makes a clever Christian; and Mr. H. Lawrence as Hans and Mr. Ivor Barnard as Father Walter both do well. Miss Littlewood presents a good study of Catherine. *David Garrick*, *The Lyon's Mail*, *The Dead Heart*, and *The Corsican Brothers* are also billed.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Arthur Randal's costume company, entitled "Middies and Maids," give a capital entertainment. The company includes Messrs. Scott, Wood, and Kenworth, and Miss Maisie Everette and Miss Gladys Haysack.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Ando's Happy Little Japs, the premier turn here, present a unique combination of acrobatism, contortionism, equilibrism, and rope-walking; the mimicry and songs of J. P. Ling are perfection; Miss Adah Payne, a sweet soprano, is excellent in two good songs; Alf. Chester renews his popularity; and the Newen Brothers submit a classical turn of posing and equilibrism. Fred S. Howard as a lightning sketcher and Chummie La Mara, a great favourite, complete the programme.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The third visit of *The Country Girl* to Bath is proving the popularity of this West Country lass. Miss Anna Hickisch is, both vocally and personally, a most delightful heroine; Miss Dorothea Temple as Majorie Joy also comes in for much admiration, her sweet singing being greatly enjoyed; the Princess Melanch finds in Miss Newell another cultured vocalist; and Miss Hilda Darrell proves herself a lively and engaging Sophie. Amongst the gentlemen Mr. Coningsby Brierley is prime favourite by his humorous portrayal of Barry; Mr. Nelson Hancock as Geoffrey Challoner sings with capital effect; and Mr. St. John Hamund is an excellent Rajah.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Quite the feature of this week's bill is the staging of Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. F. Rawson Buckley's thrilling sketch *Before the Dawn*, in which Mr. Rawson Buckley and Master Reggie Connor in the two chief parts score an undoubted success. No more popular comedian than Morny Cash ever appears here, and his present repertoire is much to the liking of the audience. Rooke, Rorke, and company in their burletta *The Prince's Love Affair* provide a turn that is brimful of fun and capital vocalism. Irene Meldon is a dainty comedienne and dancer, and another lady who meets with a good reception is Vesta Nixon. Walter Aubrey dances with excellent results. The pictures include a fine film entitled In Old Kentucky.

BATLEY.—THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—The management have adopted the measure of producing drama twice nightly for a short season, and the initial experiment has met with success. The attraction this week is Mr. James E. Lewis's company in the musical dramatic play, *The Welsh Maid*. The acting and singing all round are all that can be desired. Miss Zeta Murdock is a dainty Jenny Jones, and infuses a pathetic interest into the character; Mr. Laurie H. Stuart as Jack Francis gives a good account of himself, and Mr. Victor Cannon as Caradoc Howell and Mr. Herbert de Ville in the rôle of James Seymour are both strong actors, and get the most out of their parts; Mr. William Pernon and Miss Madge Raymonde are responsible for the humorous element, and the Celtic Troupe of dancers also entertain.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*The Mummy and the Humming Bird* is being presented by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's capable company. Mr. Hamilton Stewart as the Mummy, otherwise Lord Lumley, gives a forcible and perfectly restrained rendering of the part; Miss A. Bruce Joy contributes a clever impersonation of Lady Lumley; Mr. Lewis Mannering acts in finished style as the Humming Bird; Mr. Lancelot Lowndes is excellent as the Italian; Mr. Percy Marmont is a pleasant Commander Lord Ronalds; and Miss Viola R. Garland is a charming Ruth Thornton.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Leedham Bantock and Fredk. Mouillot's company opened on Monday in the farcical comedy *Those Terrible Twins*. Mr. Bantock as William the Butler is decidedly successful; Mr. Harry Cane furnishes a capital impersonation of Samuel Pringle; and the rôle of Mrs. Pringle is ably sustained by Miss Margaret Skelton. Miss Louie Beckmann and Miss Edna Morgan as Violet Fairfield and Lillie Leyton are charming in their respective rôles; and congratulations are due to Mr. Charles Esdale for his finished impersonation of Charlie Pringle. Mr. James Harcourt is well suited to the rôle of the Hon. Harry Scott, into which he infused plenty of spirit; and Mr. Archie McCaig as Minks, the lift boy, has a part that fits him like the probial glove. The cast is completed by Miss Marion Hargrave as Maria. The one-act play, *Only a Clown*, forms an acceptable curtain-raiser, the various rôles being capably sustained by Miss Nora Walker and Messrs. Harry Cane, Jas. Harcourt, Charles Esdale, and George Rathbone.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The ever-popular *East Lynne* is produced by Mr. Tom Watt's company. Mr. Rayson-Cousens furnishes a clever impersonation of Archibald Carlyle; and the fine emotional actress, Miss Laura Hansen, gains a gratifying success in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine. Much humour is infused into the rôle of P.C. Bullock by Mr. Joe Rowland, who presents an unexaggerated portrait of this popular character; and Mr. Wilfrid Percy Mansfield as the polished villain, Frances Levison, furnishes an excellent impersonation. Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle is all that could be desired; and the rôle of Barbara Hare is in the safe hands of Miss Ida Heron, an actress of much ability. Mr. Tom Watt is effective as Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. Jerrold Manville furnishes a capital impersonation of Justice Hare. Miss Alice Moseley as Little Willie deserves a word of praise; and Mr. Eric Lugg as Richard Hare furnishes a skilful impersonation. Other rôles are efficiently sustained by Miss Ethel Ray, Miss A. Nunn, Miss B. Forbes, and Messrs. E. Elliot, Clifford Clifford, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —Fragson at the piano is the star turn here, and made a great hit on Monday. Frank Elliston and company appear to decided advantage in a costume-sketch *My Lady Betty*; Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are enthusiastically received; Lindsay and Harte appear in their droll Scotch comedy act; and the juggling feats of the Cromwells are marvellous. Also here are the Two Countees, harmonising duettists; Wardo Brothers, eccentric comedy acrobats; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—George Lashwood is here fresh from his American triumphs, and has achieved a notable success with his capital rendering of several songs; as a ventriloquist Vanando has few equals; and Edwards and Espinosa, in their musical dancing act, would be difficult to beat. Miss Marjorie Lawrence is a charming comedienne; and Harry Taylor a really funny Lancashire comedian. Also appearing are Carl Howard, comic conjurer; Chas. Robinson, character comedian; and the Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. Frank McGibney.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures here includes Laddie, Anarchists on Board, and The Heart of a Cowboy. The vaudeville element is sustained by Kendrick and Laura, in harmony and eccentric dancing; and Mr. Frank Boyce, character vocalist.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of Mr. Rogers some beautiful films have been shown here, including the House of Cards, Patricia and the Slave, and The Flirt. Miss Hether Belle, a talented Scotch character vocalist, appears with gratifying success.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J Tunstall.—The management here is introducing an innovation in the shape of dramas twice nightly. On Monday Mrs. Frank Bateman and her company appeared with *The Way Women Love*. Mr. Fred W. Goddard made a manly and convincing hero and Miss Camille Treherne was very successful as Violet; the passion and emotion incidental to the character of Verene Alabra were vividly brought out by Mrs. Frank Bateman; Mr. Percy Shaw was very good as Dick Palmer, and the remaining parts were well sustained. *Sapho* and *Camille* are also in the week's bill.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Arthur Phillips's company is fulfilling a week's engagement in *The Merchant of Venice*, and a large audience were much interested on Monday, when a fine intellectual and powerful performance of Shylock by Mr. Arthur Phillips was much appreciated. He was adequately supported by his company, notably so by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, who in every respect gave an admirable rendering of Portia. Mr. James Berry made good and careful use of his opportunities as Antonio; Mr. Cyril Vernon as Bassanio displayed exceptional ability; and Mr. Ross Shore exhibited considerable humour as Launcelot Gobbo. Other leading characters were well represented by Mr. Leslie Palmer, Mr. Stewart Vinden, Mr. Richard Fielden, Mr. Herbert Dancey, Mr. Scott Sutherland, and Miss Christie Laws. The scenic effects and costumes were excellent.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Arthur Prince, a remarkably clever and able ventriloquist, is the premier attraction here; Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, in *A Man of Spirit*, present a most enjoyable entertainment; and Mr. Ernie Myers, a patter comedian, with a sense of humour, is again scoring heavily. The Angelina Trio of comedy acrobats and jugglers are an acquisition to the bill; and other excellent turns are given by the Two Arnatos, entertaining comedians; Miss Lily Lonsdale, an accomplished vocalist; the Three Royal Temples, operatic duettists; Miss Maudie Forde, vocalist and dancer; Miss Frances Hanlon, a clever comedienne; and the Westbrooks, in a dancing scena. Brown's Royal Bioscope completes.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston. —Miss Lole Esmond's company, in *The Sorrows of Satan*, is filling the house twice nightly. Mr. Edward Neville is well suited as Prince Lucio Rimanez; Mr. Jack McCraig is an excellent Geoffrey Tempest; and Miss Rosie Neville appears to advantage as Lady Sybil Elton. Miss Lole Esmond is an admirable Diana Chesney; and Mr. Frank Wheatley, Mr. J. Le Fleming, and Miss Dorothy Dewhurst are also prominent.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company introduces the bright musical comedy *Dear Little Denmark*, and the performance is greatly enjoyed. The music, choruses, and individual numbers are delightfully rendered, and the scenery and dresses are magnificent. Mr. Henry Kitts is the Duke, and he works hard to make the character a success; Miss Netta Lynde as Christine and Miss Joan Penrose as Ophelia figure prominently, and share honours for pleasing vocal numbers; Mr. Arthur Staples as Hans Hansen is hightly amusing, and Mr. Conway Dixon acquits himself excellently. The Columbine ballet, led by Miss Gladys Beech, dance delightfully.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. J. M. Barrie's delightful play *Peter Pan* is again attracting crowded houses. Miss Pauline Chase is an ideal Peter Pan; and Wendy is played with great charm and natural grace by Miss Gertrude Lang. Others who deserve warm praise are Master Harry Duff and Master Herbert Hollow; Miss Margaret Fraser, the melodramatic Indian maiden; Mr. Frederick Annerley, as the humorous pirate captain; Mr. Walter Pearce, the affectionate father; and Miss Sybil Carlisle, as the mother.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Hall Caine's popular drama *Pete* is proving one of the most successful attractions ever presented at this house. Mr. Henry Smith is at the head of a clever company whose reception is striking evidence of the popularity of Mr. Hall Caine's plays in Birmingham. Mr. Austen Milroy, in the title-rôle, provides a splendid conception of the generous-minded Pete; and Miss V. Malcolm Barnett as Kate is particularly successful in the emotional situations. Mr. Alfred Gray shows restraint in his interpretation of Philip Christian; and Mr. Frank Stone is responsible for a clever study as Cæsar Cregeen. The remainder of the company is well chosen, and the stage effects are all that can be desired.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Audiences find the popular musical play *The Belle of New York* as pretty and tuneful as ever, and it is proving a great attraction this week. Mr. T. Bannister Howard's company has the piece in hand, and the dresses are tasteful, including exact facsimiles of the *Chantecler* dresses. Mr. Frank Lawson is conspicuous in a capable company for his whistling contributions in the rôle of Blinky Bill; and Miss Dorthea Clarke is a captivating personality as the Belle of New York. The other characters are in efficient hands, and the play is assured of a successful tour.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The many sensational incidents in the Melville drama *The Female Swindler* appeal strongly to audiences here, as

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

presented by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Miss Olive Warne acts with the requisite freedom of style as Lu Valroy, and Mr. Henry Lonsdale provides a powerful study as Jack Coulson, criminal investigator; Mr. W. T. Riley is seen to advantage as Geoffrey Warden, and Miss Irene Atchinson and Mr. Frank Howard make a typical pair as the young lovers whose fortunes play such an important part in the plot. Other good characters are represented by Mr. Fred Hudson and Mr. Fred De Vere, the latter scoring a distinct triumph in four different rôles.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—*The Coal King* is a drama that is making a strong appeal to audiences here this week, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company scoring a great success in the production. The features in the story includes a mine disaster, rescues, and scenes on the pit-bank. Mr. A. W. Norman has been well chosen for the title-rôle; and Mr. Henry Deane gives a clever impersonation as Tom Roberts. Miss Winifred Love as the heroine earns the sympathies of audiences; and other characters are capably filled by the Misses Effie D. Crawford, Lucy Caton, and Dennis Duncan, and Messrs. Sam Roberts, Frank Dalton, Robert Faulkner, and H. K. Williamson.

Carlton.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's powerful company is responsible for a thrilling presentation of the melodrama *Greed of Gold*. The company has been well chosen, and a feature of the production is the clever acting of Mr. B. M. Fox in the character of the dumb boy. Miss Mabel Phillips scores a success by her clever emotional acting as Dora Hood; and Mr. Carthage Caldclugh portrays a realistic type of adventurer. Mr. Herbert Leonards is a lively and entertaining personality as Con Crewer; and other characters are well represented by Miss Nora Bedford, Mr. Alf. Edwards, Master Bernard Fox, Miss Violet Leyton, Mr. Allan Gordon, and Mr. G. Newell.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—A strong bill is headed by Frank and Jen Latona, two smart entertainers, in a bright musical act. They introduce new business, which is warmly appreciated. George Newburn's impersonations of well-known performers are excellent, his voice mimicry being especially good; George French has some up-to-date songs which are highly amusing; a really funny act is that of Toch and Tard, burlesque athletes and wrestlers; Miss Gladys Hooley plays the violin delightfully; Stephens and Rennior are warm pantomime favourites here, and deliver humorous lyrics and patter; and other clever turns are supplied by Lillie Lassah, Kerr and Koe, and Essman.

Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Herbert Darnley's new three-act sketch, *Private Potts*, is meeting with enthusiastic approval. In the title-rôle Fred Kitchen is the heart and soul of the piece, and it is quite the truth to say that every line he speaks means a laugh. The irimitable Kitchen is ably supported by a strong company, and the piece is splendidly mounted. The Eighteen Lancashire Singers render their vocal numbers in perfect harmony, and with satisfactory effect; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane are pleasing entertainers; Rita and Roma appear in an original and versatile act; an exceptionally clever demonstration of juggling is given by the Blank Family; Sylvia Du Barry's songs are well received; Rauschle is responsible for clever impersonations; and Peter Bermingham has very funny Scotch patter.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Harry Roxbury's laughable sketch *Sergeant Longfellow* loses none of its mirth-provoking qualities as presented by Will Lytton and company, and the production is an excellent top-liner, Mr. Lytton being a conspicuous success in the leading part; Clara Coverdale's Dainty Dots appear in a charming vocal scena, *The Gipsy's Revels*; the Three Krakes keep audiences continually amused in their comedy act, *The Tram Conductor*; Ruby and Laws are pleasing vocal comedians; the Smart Set are clever society entertainers; the Yokels present a novel and tuneful musical act; Denby and Dent are an original pair of comedians; Charles Cardell is a pleasing vocalist; and the Malbans are successful mirth-provokers.

Hippodrome.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—A well-varied programme is attracting crowded audiences. Minola Hurst and her Miniature Marvels give a bright and interesting entertainment; a strong item on the programme is a farcical skit, entitled *A Suit for Divorce*, in which Hayman and Franklin appear to advantage; clever acrobatic feats, including the human bridge, are performed by the Braggs; the Forsythis give a "potted" version of *La Poupée*; Everhart is a smart hoop-manipulator; Nora Stockelle renders her songs in pleasing style; and other acceptable turns are given by Crawford and Johnson, Dolly Rois, George Campbell, and Stuart and Evans.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—*The Casey Army*, presented by Mr. Ernest Cadle, is proving a draw. Mr. Will Murray is a success as Mrs. Casey. Jack Sheridan is a favourite comedian and dancer; Blanche and Powell are a couple of clever society entertainers; Frank Weaver is a smart sand dancer; Syd Brandon appears in several striking character impersonations; Denby and Dent are original comedians and dancers; Ivy Aberdare is a dainty singer and dancer, and Harry Nelson a popular comedian.

Curzon Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—Capital colour photographs are prominently featured in this week's programme, a beautiful sacred picture entitled The Birth of Christ, arousing keen interest. Another popular subject illustrates the Shakespearean tragedy, *Antony and Cleopatra*. A striking series of photographs illustrates the construction of the Cape to Cairo Railway, and there are several dramatic films of an exciting type and comic pictures in great variety. Mr. Fred Brampton scores a success in a patriotic song scena, "For England and England's King," and Miss Lily Mulvaney is also a popular vocalist.

King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The management are reaping a good reward in the shape of well filled houses. The most striking pictures exhibited are The Highlander's Defiance, Don Cæsar, and A Motherless Waif. Other good subjects are The Land of Eternal Snow, The Flower Girl's Christmas, and The Cold Water Cure. The Edoras, gymnast, and Marion Blake, descriptive vocalist, also contribute acceptably to the entertainment.

Queen's Hall. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The entertainments provided at this picture hall are up-to-date in every respect. This week's programme includes several first-class dramatic subjects, and the juvenile element is well catered for by a good stock of humorous films.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Miss Florence Baines's company is here, in the successful play *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Mr. Chas. Williams makes the most of John Higgins, singing well; Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., is an effective Harry Higgins; and Mr. Billy Brereton a lively Herbert Fox. Miss Marie Lorenzi is a fascinating Eva Lancashire; and Miss Fanny Olive a typical Mrs. Thompson. Miss Madge Grey is perfect in her Lancashire dialect, and keeps the house in high spirits by her funny antics. Miss Alice and Mr. Chas Neilson give a remarkable violin and piano speciality.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—A capital bill included the Four Royal Scots, in a delightful musical turn; Lotto, Lillo, and Otto are wonderful trick cyclists; Mr. John Vert's songs are effectively rendered; clever comedians and dancers are the Brothers Hannaway; and Robb Wilton is a good comedian. Messrs. Leo and Roland are marvellous equilibrists, being especially smart on the ladder; and Ada Cerito is a most amusing comedienne. The Hipposcope films are very interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is here this week with *A Woman in the Case*. The part of Thompson is capitally played by Mr. James Lindsay; and Julian Rolfe has a capable exponent in Mr. C. W. Standing. Mr. Paul Winter as Jimmy O'Neil and Mr. Sydney Palfrey as Louis Klaufisky also do their work well. A better Margaret Rolfe than is supplied by Miss Kathleen Russell could not be desired; and Miss Winifred Pearson, who plays Claire Forster, is an actress possessing great dramatic power. *Her Ladyship's Guest* is the title of the curtain-raiser, which is very ably interpreted by Miss Gertrude Gwynne and Messrs. Christopher Steele and Mervyn Rentoul.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Merry Peasant* is being presented here this week by Mr. Courtice Pounds and company, who are meeting with well-deserved success. Mr. Pounds has a very congenial part in the title-rôle and sings delightfully; Stefan is ably accounted for by Mr. Percy Carr; and Lindoberer finds a good exponent in Mr. William Hindson. Little Mary Glynne as Little Rosalie and Miss Gwladys Gay as Annamal, are both seen to distinct advantage; whilst Miss Madge Vincent is a delightful Freda. The staging is a special feature.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Dolly Elsworthy and company are here this week, and appearing with considerable success in a romantic sketch entitled *Nana*. Rich and Rich, the comedians, nightly receive their usual warm reception; Niagara and Falls are clever acrobats; Elsie Robey sings well; Bessie Knight is a smart comedienne; Nellie Farrell sings Irish songs; and Dort and Lenard excel as comedy acrobats.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English opera company is paying its annual visit this week. The opera selected for Monday evening was Balfe's *Satanella*, with Mr. J. W. Turner as Count Rupert and Miss Sarah Williams as Satanella. Other operas in the week's répertoire are Gounod's *Faust*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, and Wallace's *Maritana*. The orchestra and chorus have been under the direction of Mr. T. Lawton.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Fred Karno's Comedians in their latest production, *The Yap-Yaps*, top the bill here, and are responsible for much boisterous fun. Other turns appearing are John G. Brandon and company in the American dramatic sketch *The Girl and the Tough*, being a story of the criminal quarter of New York. Les Marsumas, comedians on wheels, in the screaming absurdity, *The Navy's Rest*; W. H. Webb and Edna Branston, operatic duettists; Billy French, wooden-shoe dancer; D'Aulby, lightning painter; the Czars, a troupe of whirlwind dancers; Sabie Bizet, comedienne; Babs Lloyd, a dainty comedienne and expert dancer; Madeline Rees, comedienne; and Premier Imperial Pictures.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Yangar, the West African wonder, is appearing in a series of original mystifying illusions, and for which he is heartily applauded. Tom Woottwell, comedian, renews his acquaintance this week with a Bolton audience and is well received. Items are also contributed by Happy Attwood, "purveyor of patter and parodies"; Annie Heath, comedienne and dancer; the Beckett-ow Bros., in their pot-pourri act *The Eccentric Butler and Dude*; Rosie Lee, child comedienne, mimic, and dancer; H. Harold, coon vocalist and dancer; the Boisset Troupe in *The Bricklayers*; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The popularity of *The 10.30 Down Express* is demonstrated by the large crowds that assemble nightly to witness it. The company consists of Mr. T. Arthur Plummer, Mr. George Calsford, Mr. Edwin Clarke, Mr. T. B. Brabazon, Mr. Fred Seymour, Mr. Horace Stanley, Mr. Charles Williams, Mr. Ernest Griffiths, Mr. Fred Stephens, Mr. Harry Loates, Mr. George Jacques, Mr. Mark Lane, Miss Cora Linda, Miss Ida Fane, Miss Leila Drummond, and Miss Kate Kilpack.

Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—At the Winter Gardens this week Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale present Mr. Charles Heslop and Mr. Ernest Crampton's highly-successful musical comedy entertainers. The Brownies. The company includes Miss Maidie Field, Miss Vivien Stafford, Mr. Alec S. Clunes, Mr. Harvey Brinton, Miss Beatrice Willey, Miss Dorothy Webb, and Mr. Charles Heslop.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison were well received here on Monday in *Don*. Miss Hutchison, a great favourite at Bournemouth, adds another to her long list of successes in the part of Mrs. Bonington; Mr. Gordon Bailey is decidedly good in the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Willoughby as Canon Bonington presents a sincere and realistic portrayal of a Clergyman; and Mr. Chas. Tyrel gives a clever study of the irascible General Sinclair. Mr. Chas. Harley gives a clever character study of Albert Tompsett, and Miss Violet Harley provides a most sympathetic rendering of his ill-used wife. Miss Celia Gordon as Mrs. Sinclair, Miss Viola Garland as Ann Sinclair, and Miss Dorothy Gordon as the servant are all good. The chief piece is preceded by *Her Dearest Friend*, in which Miss Viola Garland deserves special mention.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Brilliant audiences this week cordially greet the popular actor Mr. Edward Compton, who is paying his annual visit, supported as usual by a fine company. *Davy Garrick* was presented on Monday night, and in the title-rôle Mr. Compton again won unstinted applause for the excellence of his acting. Miss Kathleen Leigh completely won her audience, too, with a charming impersonation of Violet Gresham; Mr. H. Crocker's Alderman Gresham was a capital performance; Mr. Frank Royde played the rakish Hon. Tom Tallyhaut capitally; and there was great merit in the Rumbelow of Mr. Philip Gordon, the Sowerberry of Mr. J. W. Austin, the Simkins of Mr. C. Marquand, the Mrs. Rumbelow of Miss M. Hassell, and the Selina of Miss Lorraine Stevens. The familiar comedietta *Tom Noddy's Secret* proved a most acceptable curtain-raiser. *A Reformed Rake*, *The Road to Ruin*, *The School for Scandal*, and a new adaptation of *Used Up* are the plays billed for representation during Mr. Compton's brief visit.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—An unqualified success has been achieved here by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning's company in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, with rare skill and power, represents the Colonial-bred, manly Jack Frobisher, and he has fine support from Miss Gwendoline Hay as his pleasure-loving wife Alethea. Mr. Rutland Barrington in a clever conception of the autocratic match-making Marquis of Steventon won unstinted marks of approbation; Mr. Russell Barry did well as the genial Hankey Bannister; Mr. H. Browning's Harry Dallas was a good performance; Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd was natural as Lady Westerby; very brightly Miss Hilda Sims played Lady Lucy; and amongst the most notable types of the "Smart Set" were Miss May Havellot as Mary, Miss Sylvia Jones as Miss Wyatt, Miss Muriel Wren as the Duchess of Skye, Miss Eva Westropp as Lady Porchester, and Miss Doris Digby as Tiny Mornington. Mr. Lambert Plummer as Bertram Hannaford, Mr. Eric Bridgeman as Lord Marchmont, Mr. Ben Barnett as Lord Drayton, and Mr. J. Douglas as Wilfred Renton were efficient; and in lieu of a curtain-raiser Mr. Barrington furnished a delightful entertainment, comprising songs, stories, and musical sketches.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The beautiful living statuary and the classical dances introduced here this week by Mlle. Irma Loraine, assisted by Marjah and Mlle. Leony, are very delightful features of a fine programme. G. W. Hunter, the popular comedian, and quaint Dusty Rhodes are individually responsible for much laughter; Adey Spencer as "the Girl from the Hat Shop" furnishes a bright turn; D'Arc's Marionettes are wonderfully lifelike and a marvel of mechanical skill; L'Incognita, who possesses a rich soprano voice of purity and culture, renders florid Italian songs and popular ballads in a manner which elicits very enthusiastic applause; with his Sexton Blake burlesque and general humour at the piano Phil Percival elicits great laughter; the Sisters St. Julian are a dainty pair of duettists and dancers; Kisbey, the call-boy, sings comic songs acceptably; and there are some amusing pictures shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Les Piccolinos, a smart versatile troupe, present a combination of skirt dancing, Russian dancing, wire-walking, sharp-shooting, trick cycling, and acrobatic feats which is not only clever, but unique, and well deserving the applause which greets it. Lisbon and Barker are good topical comedians; Walter Barrett sings some good baritone songs very acceptably; Rosie Archer at the piano is responsible for some excellent mimicry; there is originality in Joe Cookson's smart turn as a ventriloquist; clever instrumental work by Stidder and Dunbar is effective and greeted with applause; and in spasmodic style distinctly original Ted Waite submits good comedy.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The drama *Hush Money* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Horace Denton gives a masterly impersonation of Sexton Blake; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson merits warm praise for his admirable portrayal of John Shard; Miss Theresa Osborne submits a capital enactment of Lady Annie Montressor; Mr. J. H. Darnley is seen to great advantage as Lord Hervyn Dalgrave; Mr. Harry Hartley as Tinker and Miss Agnes Paulton as Euphemia Pattacake afford unbounded fun; and the remaining characters are ably sustained. The drama is finely staged and mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Smith.—Ernest Legh and company achieve great success in an original version of *David Garrick* and also in the farcical sketch *The Scotch Cousin*; Ching Ling Fee is a clever magician; the Two Lowells are effective in a novel musical jugglery act; the Sisters Robertson are capital duettists and dancers; Keir and Kempton, Scotch vocalists, are cordially received; Lace and Leno win hearty applause for their comedy songs and smart dancing; Ernest Clifford contributes some taking songs; Boutelle is an entertaining comedy juggler; Thelma Rivini, soprano vocalist, sings with artistic finish; and the Alhambra Picturegraph completes.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Reano and his band submit selections, which are enthusiastically appreciated; Albert Le Fre, a versatile comedian, achieves great success; the perfection of animal-training is exemplified in the performances of Renroff's dancing horse; the Six Juanitos are clever Spanish acrobats; Moon and Morris are droll comedians and capital dancers; Rolando Martin is an eccentric comedian; Madison and Webb are diverting in *My Husband*; and pleasing turns are also given by Fred Lyndo, comedian; Lily Hayes, comedienne and dancer; and Tom Lee, light comedian.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest Dare's company is here this week with *His Excellency the Governor*. Mr. Ernest Dare makes an admirable Captain Carew; Miss Eva Coleridge gives a charming enactment of Ethel Carlton; Miss M. Lowe-Dare acts brightly as Stella de Gex; Miss Irene Malvesyon is well placed as Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke; Mr. Edwin Ling is highly successful as the Governor; Mr. Robert Boriande is entertaining as Baverstock; and Mr. J. E. Savery submits a good impersonation of the Hon. Harry Carlton.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Franks' company is here this week with *Bevis*. Mr. Dudley Stewart is distinctly effective in the title-rôle; Miss Florence Radcliffe makes a delightful Rachael Hopkins, whose father has a clever exponent in Mr. Arthur Gibbons; Miss Dorrie Roberts merits high praise for her representation of Mrs. Pymm; Mr. Percival Madgewick gives an admirable enactment of Lord Herbert Penrose; and Miss O'Neil is splendidly suited as Lady Bewdley. The play is preceded by *The Tooth of Necessity*.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—Prominent among the animated pictures exhibited here this week is Jean Valjean, a splendid drama; Bessie's Wreath of Roses conveys a pathetic story; and The Curse of a Wandering Minstrel is a stirring drama. The Angry Sea is finely descriptive; and the comic films include the Cap of Fortune, Inspiration, Pals, and All on Account of the Milk.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Consens.—Attractive animated pictures are submitted here this week. A Trip Round Brighton and The Western Riviera are admirably descriptive; dramatic stories are conveyed by A Thrilling Rescue and The Squaw's Revenge; Richelieu is a fine historical film; and those of a comic character are An Old Maid's Valentine, The Box of Chocolates, and A Lady's Train.

BRISTOL. — Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company are here for the week. On Monday evening *Macbeth* was played to a full house. Mr. and Mrs. Benson successfully presented their well-known and highly finished expositions of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth; Mr. Eric Maxon and Mr. Murray Carrington both acted remarkably well their respective parts of Macduff and Banquo, and all the remaining parts were in competent hands. The staging was elaborate and appropriate. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *School for Scandal*, *A Winter's Tale*, *Richard the Third*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Julius Cæsar* are also billed.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Her Love Against the World* is being admirably played by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company, the staging being excellent. Miss Elsie Roberts plays Princess Iris in charming style; Mr. Fred Emery is decidedly convincing as Eric Earl o Strathmere; Miss Rosie St. John acts prettily as Lionel; Mr. Fred Rivers displays dramatic ability in the unpopular part of Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg; Mr. W. H. Hallatt makes a fine bluff soldier of Prince Othmar; and Mr. Henry Hallatt acts with dignity and effect as Prince Maurice of Saxonia. The comic parts of the two Pimpernickles, Katinka, and Gretchen, are cleverly undertaken by Mr. Allan Carruthers, Mr. John Mill, Miss Nana Flensberg, and Miss Hettie Ferguson.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Happy Fanny Fields is packing the house, singing new songs, which go well. A fine rendering of selections from *Il Trovatore* is given by Ethel Pender-Cudlip and Claude Anderson; the Creedons score with their comedy sports act; Little Frankie, juvenile Scotch comedian, is amusing; the Three Phydoras please with their comedy musical act; Jenny and Willie Fordyce do well with their dancing specialities; Cummin and Seaham do some smart comic acrobatic work; and animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—The programme here is headed by Margaret Cooper, her refined entertainment being warmly appreciated; Bains and company amuse with their comedy-acrobatic and dancing act *Humps and Bumps*; the protean spectacular sketch, *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*, is cleverly performed by the Jewells; Fred Conquest and company entertain with their comedy sketch *Something for Nothing*; Norris and Morgan are capable comedy artists; Ida Katherina, the dolly girl, pleases with her interlude, in which she introduces a smart dance; the Brothers Ford are expert dancers in the simultaneous style; and Gladys Warren is a pleasing vocalist and dancer. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The theatre has this week been devoted to twice-nightly performances, and on Monday the musical sketch *That Terrible Page* was given by Messrs. Edwin Garth and J. Fred Watson's company, including Mr. Fred Dale, Mr. T. E. Owen, Miss Marie Montague, and Miss Lily Hill. Afterwards some very good animated pictures were shown.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*Oh, Susannah!* put on here by Cecil H. Woodhouse's company, is greeted with hearty laughter. Mr. Woodhouse himself is seen in the rôle of John Sheppard, the handsome doctor, and Miss Aide Boyne is a delightful comedienne in the part of Aurora; Mr. Plant, the fussy solicitor, is capitally played by Mr. Alfred Ibberson; Mr. Frank Kingsley as Lieutenant Merry and Mr. Robert Laurence as Waverley Vane are a clever pair of jokers; and the lively Buttons is represented by Mr. Ivor H. Smith; the Sisters Ruby and Pearl are a vivacious pair as represented by Miss M. Leatham and Miss K. Webster.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—At the head of the programme here are Barnes and Ascot, who give a brilliant exhibition of simultaneous step-dancing; Morritt is an able illusionist, who also introduces "The Blind Man of Memory"; and the Four Powells, in their acrobatic sketch, are clever and pleasing; a charming comedienne is Ruby Roya, and J. W. Gallagher, comedian, is responsible for much laughter; Sim Morell is a wonderful Mahommedan contortionist; and Falco and Elda, in a ju-jitsu dance, show marked ability; Frank Lauri is clever in patter and song, "The old man"; and an amusing film is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Potted plays and poetry, as presented by Bert Shepard, are productive of continuous laughter; another fine turn is that of Harry Atkinson, "The Dickens Boy," with instrumental solos; the Three Alskarnos have good comic business; and the Lyons Trio are a combination of capital comedians; Ada Fawn has two good songs, and Max Carl and Harry Carr, comedians, who create endless laughter; Bert Maddison, the happy Welshman, a humorous film on the bioscope, and Alice Lingard, comedienne, complete the excellent programme.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Miss Florence Tyrrell's company are here with *The Woman in the Case*. Artists in the truest sense are Miss Florence Tyrrell and Miss Beth Elliot. The former, as Claire Forster, acts the spurned, revengeful woman with reckless abandon and dramatic intensity; Miss Elliot puts passion and pathos into the part of Margaret Rolfe; Miss Ethel Lodge as Mrs. Hughes is amusing; Mr. Cecil Newton is exceptionally good as Julian Rolfe; and the family lawyer is cleverly portrayed by Mr. W. T. Elworthy. The play is effectively staged and dressed.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is presenting *Little Phil's Mother*. Mr. Percy Ballard has an exacting part in Frank Towers, of which he gives a clever representation; Mr. Frank Thorne is excellent as Sam Perkels; Mr. John E. Tomlinson gives a clever character study of Bill Brisket; and Mr. J. P. Marsden is excellent as Donald Taggerty; Miss Maud Russell is eminently successful as Ruth Towers, Miss Violet Crauford as Elspeth, Miss Leslie Warner as Julia Worrilove, and Little Gertie Renaud as the crippled boy render valuable assistance.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures continue to attract big houses, and Fred Lloyd, comedian, and the Northcotes, vocalists, complete the bill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—J. W. Hall is a popular comedian; the Georgians appear to advantage in vocal and dancing scena; some clever musical effects on violin and harp are produced by Norman and Leonard; the Great Four Comedy Harmonists provide a most enjoyable turn; Marie Blythe possesses a deep contralto voice, which is used to great advantage; Atlas and Vulcana present a novel and interesting weight-lifting exhibition, Vulcana being also prominent in beautiful poses.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—A strong attraction here is *The Catch of the Season*. Mr. Murray King is responsible for the company, and also for the Duke of St. Jermyns, which he plays in his usual humorous way; Miss Gladys Guy makes an exceptionally charming Angela; Mr. Chas. C. Ommaney a distinctly good Lord Dundreary; Mr. Ardene Linden a humorous Sir John Crystal; Mr. Jas. Dallas in his old part of William Gibson is as diverting as ever; Bucket is played remarkably well by Willie West; Mr. Maxwell Stuart is a successful Capt. Rushpool; and Miss Belle Rivers (Duchesse St. Jermyns) and Miss Evelyn Shelley (Lady Caterham) are most pleasing. Miss Mildred Cottell's Lady Crystal is also well acted.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A delightful visit has been paid this week by Mr. Weedon Grossmith and company in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and the appearance of the eminent comedian after a long absence has been greatly appreciated. As Mr. Preedy Mr. Grossmith keeps his audience vastly amused, and adds materially to his popularity; Miss Ruth Mackay, as the Countess of Rushmere, charms everybody, her sweet voice proving a valuable asset in a rendition which lacks nothing; Mr. Frank J. Arlton is a sufficiently bombastic Mr. Bouncall; Mr. Frank H. Denton is successful in his well-made-up representation of Reginald Saunders; and the mannerisms of Belson are cleverly assumed by Mr. Arthur B. Murray. Miss Lydia Rachel as Mrs. Sidgrave, Miss Evelyn Kerry as Emma, and Miss Lynn Fontanne as Harriet Budgen are reliable artistes, and equally at home in their parts are Mr. Ed. H. Wynne (Mr. Sidgrave), Mr. Ronald Square (Lord Rushmere), Mr. Edward Bonfield (Hon. Jennerway), and Mr. Oswald Marshall (Lord Kinslow).

The Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manger, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—Sharing the premier position in a strong programme is the chocolate-coloured coon G. H. Elliott, whose delightful renderings of coon melodies in a sweet and clear voice made this talented artist such a huge success at the last Bristol pantomime, well remembered by Cardiffians; a great hit has been made by the Will o' the Wisps, vaudeville entertainers, in a pleasing mélange of music, melody, and dance, under the direction of Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn; the sensational "Globe of Life," performed by Wizard and Irene Stone, once again commands attention for a marvellous and daring entertainment; the Welsh humorists Ted and May Hopkins are as popular as ever; the eccentric dancing of Lupino Lane (Nipper), comedian, quite "makes" his performance; and the Bros. O'Brien in a horizontal bar act are "tip top" of their profession. Annie Purcell, a charming comedienne, renders her songs in a delightful manner; Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston in a sketch, *A Resourceful Lover*, are quite humorous; and Lily Palmer is a chic comedienne. The Bioscope is still to the fore.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—Good business has been done this week with Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in *For Love and the King*. The scenery and costumes are magnificent and picturesque. As Jarvel Mr. C. Watson Mill makes a conspicuous success with a clever piece of work; Mr. Alfred Maurice as Michael Obrenovic closely approaches perfection; and the Vladimir Obrenovic of Mr. C. H. Matthews is clever. The important rôle of Prince Dragomir is safe in the hands of Mr. F. K. Wickstead; and no more kingly impersonation of Kara Dragomir could be desired than Mr. Stanley Weston's. A pathetic and pleasing interpretation of Natiia is given by Miss Joan Ellis; and Miss Rosalind Tate as Edith Meredith could scarcely be improved upon. Miss Kitty Melville (Grazia Obrenovic) and Miss Laura Munro (Princess Milania) acquit themselves creditably. Mr. Oscar Power (Carl Oppenheim) and Mr. Geoffrey Chate (Duke Dragomir) give able delineations.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Heading an enjoyable programme are Will Douglas's troupe of Five Jolly Bakers, who give their great comedy Risley act *The Baker's Beano* with much success; Miss Lily Vine, with Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, in a delightful vocal and dancing scena, proves very entertaining; Les Zanonis, in a modern juggling scena, are no less pleasing; and a capital vocal turn is provided by Alfred J. Long, the gifted alto. Flo Warner (comedienne), Lennard and Vereker (in a pictorial song speciality), and Gena Manon (vocalist and soubrette) are others who delight the full houses nightly, the programme being completed by the Palace Perfection Pictures.

CARLISLE.—The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats are the centre of attraction here this week. Knife juggling, balancing, and bending are done by these clever artists with wonderful ease and dexterity. A smart sketch by Fred and Lulu Camplin was brightly worked; Miss Mildred Bryan has a charming and well cultivated voice, which she uses with effect; Lambert and Butler contribute patter and dance cleverly; George Geoffreys is a capital mimic; Ray Royal sings popular songs; and some excellent pictures conclude a fine programme.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company are here for the first time with *Judith, the Woman Who Sinned*. Miss Tullock presents an excellent interpretation of Judith; Mr. Edward Vivian successfully portrays the villainies of Eugene Darville; Mr. A. Young is happily suited to the character of Jack Carrington; Miss Dorothea Vivian invests the part of Hester Norris with much womanly sympathy; Mr. C. Hughes as Silas Norris gives a performance of merit; Mr. William de Lacy provides a good deal of fun as Percy Hogg; and Miss Amy Osborne acts with verve and sings with distinction as Maudie Green. Mr. Harry King is a decided acquisition to the comedy as Sergt. Jones; Bill Scamp finds a suitable exponent in Mr. H. Danby; and Blind Meg is well played by Miss Dot Dainton. Mrs. Sergt. Jones receives careful treatment by Miss Rose Watson.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here are Edward Crosland's melody-makers in a phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*. Their vocal efforts and amusing antics are decidedly clever. The McConnell Trio are loudly applauded for their clever song-sketch, *The Invalid*; Thornbury, lightning painter and ventriloquist, is deservedly praised on all sides; Shenton and Chicks in a speciality, *Uncle's Return*, come in for the heartiest appreciation; Sid Bandon, eccentric comedian, is on a return visit; Elly Adair is well received in Irish songs; Harry Tomlin's songs meet with approbation; and animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are still a prominent feature.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Malcolm Cumming and company are scoring in *A Tooth for a Bride*; Ronald George's musical act is quite appreciated; the dancing of Cliff and Kean is greatly admired; Franks pleases with his ventriloquial entertainment; De Biere succeeds in mystifying his audiences with a number of neatly worked illusions; The Rival Burglars is one of a series of amusing films projected by Lacey's Erascope. Ethel Piedce, comedienne, and Peter Pan, comedian, complete the bill.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—The leading item in the programme here comprises Mr. A. C. Lilley's company in *Drummed Out*, a sketch which is staged in a manner which reflects much credit on all engaged in the production; Lili Elfreda presents faithful imitations of many well-known music hall stars; Lydia Neilson and her boys and girls please all with their songs and dances; Clare and Pastor prove a highly entertaining couple. Other variety turns are the

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE opened on Monday to a crowded house, and the new venture, which has converted the old Victoria Rooms into a perfectly equipped picture palace, is assured success. The cinematograph chamber has been erected outside the hall, and the comfort and safety of the patrons in every way considered. On Monday the pictures were wonderfully steady and clear. A good programme was assisted by Miss Mollie Gwynne, who sang two capital songs.

THE ALBERT HALL, another building devoted to electric pictures, also opened on Monday night, on the two houses-a-night system. A good set of pictures were supported by the Two Reenos, Will Ivor, Marion Collette, Jack Morrell, Mabe D'Aubyn, Jack Colvil, and Annie Tate, comedy artists

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company are providing Cestrians with an exceptional treat, Monday's attraction being Saint-Saëns' maserpiece *Samson and Delilah*. Mr. Albert Bowyer's excellent tenor voice was heard to great advantage in the rôle of Samson; and his rendering of this exacting part was most artistic; Miss Helen Culver, who possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of high quality, interpreted the arduous part of Delilah to perfection; Mr. Dudley S. Marcus as the High Priest of Dagon was much admired for his rich baritone voice and finished acting; and the remaining parts were admirably sustained, and the chorus of thirty-eight voices earned well-deserved encomiums. The orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, did full justice to the score. The staging, scenery, effects, and dresses could not have been more complete. The following additional capable artists appear during the rest of the week :—Mesdames Beatrice La Palme, Lillian Matthews, Rita Wallace, Mary Norton, Grace Nicoll, Rosa O'Farrell, and Messrs. Graham Marr, William Anderson, John Child, William Farmer, in *Faust, Carmen, Il Trovatore, Tännhauser, Maritana*, and at to-day's matinée *Samson and Delilah* will again be presented.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — CHORLTON THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick J. Reece.—Messrs. Shiel-Porter and Garth's Repertoire company opened a six nights' engagement here on Monday, when *A Fool's Paradise* was presented. Mr. Harry T. Wood played Sir Peter Lund carefully; Mr. T. G. Vane was a capable Philip Selwyn; and Mr. Bartlett Garth an efficient Lord Normantower; Miss Ella Thornton filled the rôle of Beatrice Selwyn satisfactorily; Miss Gladys Morris made a charming Kate Derwent; Mr. J. Montgomery did well as Johnson; Mr. Shiel-Porter and Miss Doriel Dalvy as the Hon. Tom Verrinder and Kate Selwyn respectively created a fund of humour. *Still Waters Run Deep* is in the bill for the week.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard.—An attractive programme is headed by La Dor troupe of acrobats, whose efforts are well received; Jackson and May perform wonderful cycling feats on a miniature track; the Dolorosas are excellent in their double trapeze act; and other turns are Ko-Chi and Foo-Sing, the eccentric Chinese on horizontal bars; Lofton and Dewey, in "Coon Tit-Bits"; Fred. Fulton, comedian; and Mlle. Eugene, a lady baritone. The Bioscope completes a varied programme.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F Graham Macdona; Mr. Leo. King, for Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.—The top of the bill is Sidney Bedford and company, in the farcical comedietta *The Second Mrs. Chester;* Lalie Brooke, in her song-scena "Girls past and present," is an artistic success; Valvero's Naval Bombardment is a novelty in a variety of ways; the Soho Trio include an excellent soprano; Percy Dalton exhibits some really excellent dancing steps; Vasey and Ramsey appear in the comedy act *Jerks, the Butler;* and Gibbon and Bell give a good show, the male artist being an able contortionist.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Kitties Band is the star engagement here this week, and thoroughly deserve the terrific applause awarded. The remainder of the bill comprises Lottie Leighton, a smart little dancer; Wun Hi and Chung Soo, Chinese eccentrics and acrobats; Lilian Rose, juvenile entertainer; Hazel Ellis, lady conjurer; and Charles Sloman, eccentric comedian.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —Edwards and Ward top the bill here; Funny Fred Davis causes endless fun; and animated pictures conclude.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell. —The second week of the Hippodrome season opened here on Monday night. Wee Georgie Wood, who tops the bill, is most laughable; the Beelong Bros. give a daring exhibition of cycle balancing and cycle somersaulting; Signor Arvi and his troupe produce a series of coloured pictures and statuary with the aid of living models; Sam Elton supplies a turn which is provocative of continual mirth; the Gallimore Trio sustain the humorous side of the programme in their bustling comedy act; Arabella Allen gives two character sketches from Dickens; Cosgrave and Burns, duettists, are entertainers of considerable skill; and the Operascope show capital pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The bill of fare provided here is full of good things. The star turn is provided by Jan Rudenyi, a celebrated actor-violinist, who presents a dramatic musical sketch, entitled *The Power of Music*, in which he is supported by Miss Hilda Stewart and Mr. Drew Mackintosh. Castria, comedy juggler and acrobat, is accorded a good reception; Tom Lloyd's turn is enjoyable, as is that of Charles Penrose; an attractive turn on the wire is presented by Yetta; the acrobatic act by the Alaskas is very clever; Emmie Harlow renders her songs admirably; the Sisters Florence prove to be successful duettists and dancers; and the Palascope shows the Oxford and Cambridge Race, 1910, and some other excellent films.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's talented company is at this house this week playing *A Broken Heart*, by Mr. Chas. E. Clarke. Mr. Harry Cullenford takes the part of John Barnard, the blacksmith, with great success; Mr. Chas. Vivian as Gash Gills is effective; Mr. A. C. Holmes as Stephen Rayton is good; and Miss Sheila Walsh plays well in the rôle of Mary Barnard.

HIPPODROME.—The Amateur Thespians are occupying the boards this week, playing *Sweet Lavender*, and the funds go to benefit the local hospital.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—The top of the bill is an entirely new and original burlesque by Fred Karno, entitled *G.P.O.* Mr. Harold Wellesley as Perkins is most droll. He is well supported by a strong company, including Victor H. Smith, Frank Gallagher, Julia Bessell, Madge Rockingham, &c. The Forestiers present a dramatic playlet entitled *A Society Sinner*, by Ivan F. Gore; Mr. J. A. Wilson causes much amusement with his wonderful dog "Towser"; Ryde and Beeman are eccentric acrobats; La Vie appears in a series of art poses with success; and Lily Burnand, the fascinating burlesque actress; Dancit, the American dancing nugget, and Dave Carter, a popular Irish tenor, complete a capital programme.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, in *The Arcadians*, is giving great pleasure here. The scenery is very fine, and the dresses are rich and appropriate. Miss Marion Edwardes makes an enchanting Sombra, and her singing is exquisite; Miss Katie Yates is a charming Chryses; Miss Madge Haines is in her element as Mrs. Smith, and her presence is always welcome; Miss Mysie Devine makes a sweet and lovable Eileen Cavanagh; and other ladies who look attractive are Misses Rita Carr, Georgiana Fischer, Trixie Smith, and Daisy Bindley. Mr. Gus Onley enacts the rôle of Simplicitas with unctuous humour; Mr. Frank Collins is quaint and curious as Peter Doody; Mr. Roy Sidney sings and acts to perfection in the rôle of Jack Meadows; Mr. Roy Lorraine is well to the fore as Bobby; Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson is a commendable Sir George Paddock; and a good word is also due to Mr. Hubert Glenny (Percy Marsh), Mr. Percival Latimer (Reggie), and Mr. Patrick Evans (Sir Thomas Ryan). A noteworthy feature is the excellent orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Albert Bartlett.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—John Lawson and company are causing a sensation here in the weird sketch *The Monkey's Paw;* George Mozart, comedian, is exceptionally droll; the Sisters Tower are clever duettists and dancers; Walter King keeps the house agog with merriment; the Szarvasi Ferencz Troupe of Hungarian dancers and acrobats are marvellous; Cissy Lupino is a bewitching and expert dancer; Ben Albert is a popular comedian; Shirley and Ransome act with good effect in coster sketch *Jim's Pal;* Joe O'Gorman is a smart Irish raconteur; the Thompson Trio are humorous in sketch *Watch the Chalk;* and Ouida Macdermott is a pleasing vocalist.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Ian Robertson is here in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Mr. Robertson is the principal character, and holds the house from start to finish. Miss Parsons as 'Stasia gives a capital rendering; Miss Everest as Vivian must be congratulated on her clever handling of the part; Mr. Billington is a good Joe Wright; Mr. Woodall Birde is a convincing Christopher Penny; and Major Tompkins is taken by Mr. Twynan in an efficient manner.

HIPPODROME.—Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Percy Honri heads the programme this week with *Concordia*. Other artists include Thiessen's acrobatic and balancing dogs; Pat Lynch, the dancing demon; Dora Barrington, assisted by Miss Lesley Gray, in an operatic scena, *Sentiment and Jest;* Marco; Chas. Denton, comedian; and the Hipposcope pictures.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Donley.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company is making a welcome appearance here with *Our Miss Gibbs*. The play is handsomely staged and dressed, and excellent business is ruling. Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs is a host in himself; Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the Hon. Hughie Pierepoint is admirably suited; and Mr. J. S. Durant as Slithers is another capable comedian. As Lord Eynsford Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe does remarkably well; Mr. A. Gordon Begg plays with dignity and feeling as the Earl of St. Ives; Mr. David Miller acquits himself creditably as Mr. Beavis; and Mr. Eric A. Boyd merits mention as a taxi cabby; as also does Mr. Campbell Browne as Mr. Amalfy. In the name part Miss Effie Vincent, dainty and demure, plays, sings, and dances with grace and charm; and Miss Lilian Birtles is artistic and in every way successful as Lady Betty. Madame Jeanne has a clever and versatile exponent in Miss Ellaline Thorne; as the domineering Duchess of Minster Miss Amy Singleton shows an intelligent appreciation of the requirements of the part; and Miss Florence Hylton figures picturesquely and acceptably as Mrs. Farquhar. Misses Mollie Cole, Norah Nelle, and Olga Grey dance and sing agreeably. An augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bogetti, does excellent justice to the catchy music of this popular production.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—Wilfred H. Benson and company present a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Steam Hammer*, which proves a good attraction; the Musical Marvels are vocalists and instrumentalists of real ability; Griffiths and Carmen are a breezy comedy duo whose turn is greatly appreciated; the Mezzettis are acrobats of a clever and amusing order, and their act *The New Recruit* goes well; Bertie Crosbie intersperses his tuneful songs with neat dancing; Will Harris, comedian, makes himself distinctly popular; and Flo Delamere is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. The Bioscope adds to the general enjoyment.

DEVONPORT. — HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Charles Whittle is the chief attraction. Briff, Braff, and Broff are responsible for a really clever tumbling act, with which some comedy business is judiciously interwoven; Paul Cavalli entertains with interesting feats of strength; Mlle. Dalmere's performing rabbits, dogs, and rats go through all manner of tricks, evidencing much patient training; Little Tichbourne is an amusing comedian and dancer; Arthur Sutcliffe's songs are popular; and Nellie Wigley is a vocalist of merit.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Rogues of the Turf* provides an excellent evening's entertainment. As Lady Heathcote, an adventuress of the most uncompromising type, Miss Mabelle Barlow proves herself a really clever actress; Mr. John Preston does well as Joe Flaxman; and Miss Mabel Fare as Phillis Winzel is very amusing. Messrs. W. H. Barlow, Fred Laurence, and Tom Phillips give a realistic picture of the deception practised on the turf.

DEWSBURY. — EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield. —Corman's Juveniles present a clever scena, *The Waif;* Rose Elliott delights with her répertoire of catchy chorus songs; the Milstead-Bell Trio are seen to advantage in the musical comedietta, *Three Sharps in a Flat;* an excellent turn is given by Les Atans, aerial dental artists; Geo Antill furnishes a humorous turn; The Roxbys are clever singers and dancers; a capital equilibristic exhibition is given by the Millwards; the Two Kays are well received in a novel musical speciality; and Gladys Re-Vel, a pleasing vocalist, completes a good programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's répertoire company is here in *David Garrick, Caste*, and *The Marriage of Kitty*. On Tuesday night *Caste* was performed, Mr. Norman presenting a finished performance of Captain Hawtree. Polly Eccles was excellently depicted by Miss Beatrice Wilson; Mr. Norman Leslie submits a fine character study of Eccles; Miss Maud Trenchard wins sympathy by her excellent interpretation of Esther Eccles; Mr. Alec Williams meets with much success for his capable portrayal of Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr. Fred Lock Whitaker is a humorous Sam Gerridge; and Miss Bessie Stannard a dignified Marquise. *A Little Misunderstanding* is an admirable curtain-raiser.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—Mr. Charles Parker's company is here in the sketch, *The Professor's Academy*, in which are introduced some fine singing and dancing. Arthur Metz as the Professor and Walter Whittle as the would-be singer evoke much laughter. Andrews and Thompson in their vocal scena, *The Rube and Romany;* Miss Florence Raymond, an excellent lady ventriloquist; Charles Mentone-Ure, the soldier vocalist; Will and Roze, comedy acrobatic conjurors; Edna Deno, a smart comedienne and dancer; and films, both humorous and dramatic, complete the bill.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company in *The Face at the Window* drew a crowded house on Monday. The Paul Gouffet of Mr. T. W. Dunscombe won warm appreciation; Mr. Houghton Macaulay in the rôle of Le Loup was also popular; Mr. Alfred Warner as Henry de Brisson was well placed; and excellent support was given by Mr. Arthur Chisholm as the discharged clerk. Mr. John A. Stimson's quaint humour constituted him an ideal English tourist; Mr. T. Carter made a decided success as Jean Barbelon; Miss Clare O'Sullivan acted Marie de Brisson with abandon; and Miss Nina Imeson gave an artistic rendering of Barbette. Miss Constance Glenabyn's conception of La Pinau was admirable.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—On Monday a grand concert was given here by Mr. Henry B. Phillips, the following artists appearing :—Mme. Clara Butt, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, assisted by Miss Pauline Hook (soprano), Mr. William Green (tenor), Mr. Charles Barre (violinist), Mr. W. H. Squire ('cellist), with Mr. Arthur B. Godfrey as conductor. On Tuesday night the theatre was closed for the final rehearsal of Mr. Martin Harvey's revivals and first production of *Richard the Third*, which took place on Wednesday night.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—This week we have Mr. Mouillot's company, by arrangement with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, appearing in *Tom Jones*. Mr. Cyril Thompson acts with great perfection, and has a splendid voice, which was a pleasure to hear; as Tom Jones he would be hard to excel. Mr. Fred Seymour gave a clever and characteristic representation of the Old Squire; and as his servant Gregory Mr. Michael Dwyer was particularly good, and sang right well. Mr. Charles Goffrey and Mr. Clifton Yates were all that could be desired as Grizzle and Dobbin. Mr. E. Statham Staples was undoubtedly clever as the village barber Partridge; his quaint and original comedy kept the audience in roars of laughter from the beginning to the end of the opera. Miss Dorothy Castles gave a charming personation of the squire's daughter, Sophia, and sang her music nicely. Miss Clare Marsden played the part of her maid, Honour, in a most pleasing and effective manner, and won applause for her song and graceful dancing. Miss Ray Vivian, as the stern and severe Miss Western, acted her rôle admirably; Miss Edith Jeffries was excellent as Lady Ballaston; and Miss Gynne did very well as her maid, Etoff. Mr. Roland Stagg as Blifil and Mr. Edwin George as Squire Cloddy were both good in their respective parts. The remaining parts were exceedingly well fulfilled. The dresses and scenery were very pretty and artistic, and the choruses were excellently sung, and Mr. Ernest Hartman conducted in a highly efficient manner.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company occupy the boards here this week in *His Life for Hers*, which is excellently staged and capitally played by a strong company. Miss Henrietta Schrier gave a very effective and dramatic study of the rôle of Fuchsia Leach; Mr. Andrew Money represented the character of Prince Sergius Zouroff in a creditable manner; and Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy acted splendidly as Lord Jura. Mr. Roland Bridge also gave a good reading of the Duke of Mull and Cantire. Miss Nellie Statham was most successful in her portrayal of Lady Dolly Vanderdecken, and her daughter Vere Herbert was ably played by Miss Veronica Clinton; Miss Marie Ramuz submitted a clever study of the Duchess de Sonnaz. Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Raphael de Correyo and Mr. Geo. Mercer as Ivan both did full justice to their respective parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Marsh. — Harry Roxbury, with his own company, tops the bill here this week in a musical absurdity *On the Track*, which creates much amusement. Mike Nono has many friends here, and his songs and dancing were warmly appreciated; Merlin astounded all with his exceedingly clever and smart manipulation of cards; Ted E. Box was most amusing with his antics and clever songs; Mimi Thornton sings nicely and dances splendidly; Beatrice and Bert gave a refined and pleasing comedy act with great success; Welda and Wynne in their juggling and sand dancing were very good; Nellie Dallwood, comedian and dancer, and Vera Rochdale, soubrette, are also on the bill.

TIVOLI. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy. —The Ten Loonies are appearing here in a most amusing musical sketch, which goes well. Harry Mackenzie acquitted himself in clever style as a Scotch comedian; Durozcoe and Azella won rounds of applause for their smart equilibristic act; Harry Russell and company did a most laughable sketch, *Milk-Ho!* Deno and Dixon in duets and dances were well received; and Carlotta Wood sang some very pleasing melodies. A good duo was provided by Snowball and Mac; Cressie Leonard had a host of admirers, and her songs went excellently; Charles Grantley, comedian, also appeared

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The bright and amusing programme of the Irish Animated Picture Company given here is drawing excellent houses. A new and original selection of pictures are being shown, including Life of Cagliostro, The Heart of a Cowboy, Hunting with Exmoor Hounds, Mount Etna Eruption, Aviation Flights, California, and Grand National Steeplechase. The Gay Gondoliers Company of high-class musical vaudeville specialities, including Mr. George Robins, Mr. Alf Wharton, Mr. Leslie Burgiss, Miss Rowe, and Miss Mira Lorenzo, are a particular and special feature this week; and the orchestral work of the Royal Scots Fusiliers is very pleasing.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Huish.—The series of pictures shown here at this newly erected theatre, which opened its doors last Saturday, consists of the Eruption of the Etna Volcano, Pals, His Last Burglary, Dancing Tabloids, Winter Sports in the Vosges Mountains, and Cowboy and Squaw. The attendance at all the performances has been extremely large, and warmly appreciated the excellent programme.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James. —Here we have Harry Vernon, a capital sand dancer; Miss Nina May is a pleasing soprano vocalist; Tony Walton scores a big success as a comedian; the mysterious and clever conjuring tricks by Galligan are warmly appreciated; and Naye and Bray provoke much merriment in their sketch.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*A Life for a Life* is visiting here, Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company giving an effective representation. Mr. Lester in the principal rôle, Don Leon Fernandes, gives an impressive rendering; Mr. Hugh Travers is a convincing Pedro Li Calci; Mr. Geo. Draper an earnest and successful Kit Oswald; Wee Winnie Warden, a clever child actress; Miss Lallah Davis plays Eulalie with dramatic feeling; and Miss Dorothy Riddell is a complete success as Kate Evelyn.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Bleasdale.—The Martialo Trio, in a sensational juggling and balancing act of extraordinary cleverness, are at the head of affairs this week. The songs of Harry Luck, comedian, go with a good swing, and please the audience; the Gilberts are really remarkable on the bounding table; the Three Warners, whirlwind lady dancers, are deservedly appreciated; Chas. F. Best (Mac Bunker and Mountebank) is as eccentric as ever; Kennedy and Barry have many good jokes in a new comedy act; and the Bros. Ethairien are first-rate eccentric and acrobatic comedians. Maude Phillips, contralto, is in good voice, and the Empire pictures are enjoyed.

DUNDALK.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Urban Council.—Mr. John A. Thomson's pantomime company is here in *The Sleeping Beauty*. Miss Adele Roze makes a dashing Prince Charming; Miss Gertie Douglas is highly successful in the part of Princess Beauty; and Messrs. Harlin and Hanlon as Johnny Green and Simple Simon are the cause of abundant mirth. The merriment is also ably sustained by Mr. Henry Warren as Queen Ruby, who fits the part well. Able support is given by Miss Emmie King as Boy Blue and Miss Nellie Scorey as Bo-Peep. Miss Adele Florence fills the part of Jill with distinct credit.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. John Tiller's gorgeous production, *Amsterdam; or, The Mystery of the Black Tulip*, occupies the stage here, and has created quite a furore. The audience is kept highly amused by Mr. T. W. Volt's quaint impersonation of Frau van Stoop; Mr. Arthur Stigant as Theodore van Toozleveldt also proves invaluable in the cause of fun; Hendrik von Dunck is well characterised by Mr. Sidney Vincent; Mr. Charles V. Sandford as the Hon. Percy displays real comedy powers; and Jan has an admirable representative in Mr. Frederick Smythe. Miss Lulu Valli as Evelyn Anna (the up-to-date girl) plays in exhilarating style, and scores both in song and dance; Miss Dorothy Firmin as Gretchen sings and acts brightly; Miss Nancy Hearne is a vivacious Hans; and Katrina is cleverly undertaken by Miss Florrie Page. Mr. Charles Verno as Cornelius is an amusing donkey. Specialities by the Tiller Troupe and the Twelve Manchester Mites constitute a feature of this most attractive and pleasing show, as does also the brilliantly-executed solo dances contributed by Miss Enid Erroll. The orchestra is ably directed by Mr. Peter Flitcroft.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A most attractive bill is headed by the Seven Bramusas in their versatile brass band extravaganza, entitled *Music Afloat*, which is hugely enjoyed. The Bros. Egbert, the "happy dustmen," maintain the fun at high pressure; George Prince is vociferously applauded for his quaint songs; Cole and Rage present an acrobatic and comedy juggling act of an entertaining order; Vincent gives a very clever exhibition of tumbling; Allen and Austin are an accomplished couple, their dancing being good; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie, in addition to being really funny, sing in commendable fashion; the Sages (Jenny and Willie) submit a pleasing turn; and the Kingscope pictures are enjoyable.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A strong attraction here is Mr. Arthur Lee-Mitchell's company in the sensational drama *In the Shadow of Night*. Mr. Forbes Carrington displays considerable ability as the Squire of Hazlemere; Mr. Leonard Williams acts with distinction as Gordon Allington; Mr. Paul Beckett as the scoundrelly Clifford Yorke calls down much execration, the same compliment being extended to Mr. William Hayward for his realistic impersonation of the poacher, Jake Grudgewell; considerable amusement is caused by Mr. Ern Carlton as Tom Nainby, and Miss Kittie Roze, a particularly lively Mollie Woodstock; Miss Irene Arondel, a prepossessing Violet Kingston, acts with pleasing effect; Miss Kitty Johnstone's rendering of the little tramp Bob is very commendable; Mr. Fenton Wingate in the dual rôle of Joe Jackson and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope presents a finished performance; as Farmer Woodstock Mr. Harry Emmerson supplies a really good study; and the other characters are all in efficient hands. The scenery throughout is most effective.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The enterprising manager succeeded in securing a fine film of the Scottish Cup-tie at Ibrox last Saturday. The scenes in the sensational game are clearly depicted, and are followed with much interest by large audiences this week. Amongst other pictures shown are The Purse, Taming a Husband, The Man Hunt, An Equine Hero, and a humorous film entitled Am I Mad?

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—An excellent programme of pictures is accorded an enthusiastic reception here.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The principal attraction here is provided by Marie Santoi and company in *A Night in Japan*, which wins enthusiastic applause. Carl Lynn mimics animals realistically, and proves exceedingly popular; an original ventriloquial scena is given by Oakdene; Doyle and Gibson are entertaining cross-talkers and dancers; August, September, and May create merriment; Dolly Golden is a clever dancer; and J. J. Mannix is a good singer of coon songs.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here in *The Midnight Wedding*. Miss Margaret Brodie plays with much sympathy as Princess Astrea; Miss Gwladys Faunce is a satisfactory Rozel; Miss Jessica Black a lively, sparkling Kathie; Mr. Alfred Paumier a manly and interesting Paul Valmar; and Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes does well-defined and penetrating work as Captain Rudolf. Mr. Charles Whitlock, too, is an excellent Lieutenant Eugene; Mr. John Nesbitt is dignified and impressive as the Prince Leopold; Mr. Arthur Radford does suitable work as Kulman; Mr. Forbes Harrison is a fitting Father Gerard; and the comedy element is mainly in the hands of Mr. Algie Spalding, Mr. George Frere, and Mr. J. E. Page, who provide many hearty laughs.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is here, in *The Best People*. A well-balanced and exceptionally capable company includes Miss Lillian Hallows, whose charming voice and clever work generally make her performance as Mrs. Bayle conspicuously successful, and Miss Irene Lavington, who plays with very distinct ability as Lady Emsworth; Mr. Pennington-Gush is an entertaining and animated Gerald Bayle; Mr. H. Elliot-Ball is very happily placed as Lord Emsworth, and he acts with commendable point and naturalness; Mr. Arthur Dennis does consistently good work as Lord Wyrlea; and Mr. R. King helps as Jackson. *The Tooth of Necessity* precedes, and is well played by Miss Vida March, Mr. George Ainsworth, and Mr. King.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week is an intensely interesting and exceptionally well-played (in pantomime) melodramatic sketch, *Life*. Miss Margaret Carolee is a beautiful woman and an accomplished actress; and the work of Mr. Ernest Goslar and Mr. Antone Pascal is deserving of all praise. *The Plumbers* is one of the funniest sketches seen here for a long time, and the clever efforts of Mr. Tom Taylor are conspicuous; Miss Marie Jones is one of the smartest quick-change artists to be seen, and she is ably assisted by Mr. Ernest Munro in a sketch, entitled *Wanted, the Co-respondent;* Baby Wolff is a popular singer; Virto and Venelta are pleasing musicians; the Saletos skilful balancers; and Miss Mabel Moss, comedienne, and Mr. Dan Filmer, comedian, complete the bill.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, in the drama, entitled *Mother*, is here this week. Mr. J. O. Stewart as Duncan Fairweather acts throughout in a convincing manner; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Frank Rodney proves himself a capable actor; the character of Stephen Carrington is made interesting by Mr. Reginald Brown; Mr. Harry Foxwell as Jasper Rawden is responsible for a clever performance; Miss Grace Jones as Nellie Fairweather is pleasing and natural; Miss Mary Holmes as Little May is a pronounced success; and Miss Kathleen Hunt as Mrs. Baggot is responsible for a clever character sketch.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—In *Madame X*, presented here by Messrs. Baring Brothers, Mrs. Brown-Potter and a strong company gave a realistic rendering of a painful play. To the part of Jacqueline Fleuriot Mrs. Potter brings all the resources of an accomplished artist, and her interpretation of the rôle was marked by a fine display of emotional power; Mr. Douglas Alington played excellently as Raymond, particularly in the Trial Scene; Mr. Leonard Pagden, too, was notable as Louis Fleuriot, and Mr. Thos. Sidney's Perissard was another of the successes of the cast. The Laroque of Mr. Charles B. Bedelles, Mr. Frank Bradley, and Mr. Lionel C. Brock as Merivel and Noel respectively; Miss Emma Stockley's Rose and Miss Sara De Groot as Mme. Varenne were admirable impersonations; and the remaining parts found capable representatives. Repeated recalls followed the fall of the curtain.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—Miss Bessie Butt is an immense attraction in her male impersonations; Mr. Tom Leamore makes a success in his patter songs and eccentric dances; Pete and Minnie Lee are infinitely amusing actors, whose sketch, *A Scotchman's Visit to London*, goes with a laugh from first to last; Mr. Mike Gray's turn is always good, and his intelligent dog, Dooley, is worthy of the applause it receives; Miss Violet Ray proves herself to be a violoncello player of much merit; and "Dainty" Daisy Sloan dances in admirable style. Lady Mansel's comedy sketch, *A Concert Rehearsal*, shows her juvenile performers to advantage; Merton and Brydon are excellent entertainers; and turns in which trained animals figure largely are those of Captain Devereux and Piccolo and Fiori. The Haverleys are capital song illustrators, and interesting views are displayed by the King's Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—An excellent programme is headed by Mr. George Leyton with his successful military scena, *The Roll Call*, in which the artist is assisted, not only by a good chorus, but also by the presence of a number of Crimean and Indian veterans; Miss Alice Raymond and her players provide an enjoyable item in the spectacular musical production, *A Night in Egypt;* and the realism of the "Vampire" Dance is made interesting by Miss Alice Eis and Mr. Bert French. A pleasing performance is given on the "glassophone" by Miss Mabel Davis; some clever and diverting comedian and comedienne interludes are submitted by Little Ganty, Billy Hobbs, and Maudie Francis; and the comedy vein is also ingeniously exploited by Barrett and Knowles, who figure as the Green Lizard and his Friend, and by Les Martineks, their novel acrobatic act, styled *The Rag Doll*. The American Bioscope shows a series of fine pictures.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Several vivid pictures, including The Stampede, The Last Deal, and How the Old Pensioner was saved by Boy Scouts, form the leading features in this week's programme, with, in addition, a humorous series. Mr. Leslie Lynn is a clever entertainer and ventriloquist.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Richelieu, portraying Lytton's well-known drama in a series of artistic tableaux, is the notable picture here; but A Woman's Story and The Forgotten Watch and Tommy's Locomotive give food for laughter. Miss Jessy Jukes, comedienne and clog-dancer, and the Boston Twins contribute pleasing turns.

"THE BIRTH OF A SMILE."

A smile on the beautiful face of a young girl gives her a charm so irresistible that one is tempted to be always saying amusing things to her, so as to win her to laugh again and again. But, sad to say, there are many ladies whose smile has little or no fascination; and it is sometimes difficult to understand the reason.

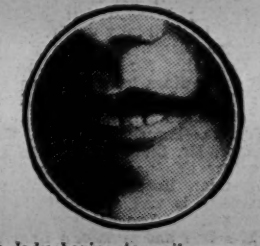

When a lady begins to smile, one expects the next instant to see two rows of pearly teeth glittering between the rosy lips, and how painful is the impression produced when this anticipation is suddenly disappointed.

It is a cause for great satisfaction that in recent times courage has been found to write upon this subject, and to bring to light a simple remedy. All that is necessary is a habitual regular care of the mouth and teeth with the assistance of Odol. Decay of the teeth and its inevitable consequence of impure breath are results of impurities and fermentation processes in the mouth, occasioned by millions of injurious bacteria which nest in the oral cavity. Odol absolutely debars the development of these bacteria, and as surely counteracts the processes of decomposition and fermentation in the mouth. And these beneficial effects of Odol are not limited to the brief moment during which the mouth is being rinsed with it, for its antiseptic qualities continue active for hours afterwards.

In this manner not only is sweet breath ensured, but, what is far more important, the teeth are preserved by the Odol from decaying. We therefore most strongly recommend you not to wait any longer but purchase at once a bottle of Odol. Of all chemists and stores.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—For the first three nights of the week amateurs presented *The Liars* on behalf of the local Sailors' and Soldiers' Institute. During the latter half of the week Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company are paying a welcome return visit with *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Edgard Kent excellently fills the title-rôle; Mr. George Mallett appears as the Vice-Admiral with good results; Mr Montague Love is a praiseworthy Major Thesiger; Mr. John Wheatman very capably characterising Michael Palliser. Mrs Cameron is charmingly played by Miss Florence Jackson; Miss Dorothy Ripley is very successful as Lady Hermione Wynne; and Miss Winifred Valiant as Viola Hood acts gracefully

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr Frederick Sandy.—The Zigeuner Quartette have charmed all by their pleasing melodies; the Selbinis accomplish a host of daring and clever cycle feats; Jolly Jimmy Walker is a breezy and cheery comedian; and Richard Finberg contributes excellently executed character studies from famous plays. Mary Law, a brilliant violinist, is well received; the Sisters Henderson are clever speciality artists; and Amy Burton a charming comedienne; the Hippodrome pictures completing an attractive programme.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is here this week in *The Tyrant*, which is excellently staged and exceedingly well dressed. Mr. Roy Fortescue in the title-rôle looks and acts the part to perfection; Miss Marie Robson fills the character of Tisbe with ability; Lady Catherine is well represented by Miss Jean Scott; and Miss Lallah Shelton as Edlie acts with becoming grace; Mr. Percy Folliss (the Avenger) has a strong part, and undertakes it with distinction; and Rudolph is well interpreted by Mr. Edward E. Louis. The humour of the drama is well supplied by Miss Katie Lever and Messrs. Wilson Summers and Fred Luard.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company presented *The Little Damozel* to full houses the first three nights of the week. Miss Ida Molesworth again charmed her numerous admirers in her latest rôle as Julie Alardy; and Mr. Mark Blow distinguished himself as the lackadaisical Hon. Fitzroy Lock. Mr. Frank Lacey brilliantly portrayed the character of Recklaw Poole; and Mr. George A. Brandram and Mr. Townsend Whitling proved their ability as typical men-about-town. The members of the orchestra at the Café Angélique were enacted to the life by Mr. Julian Cross, Mr. William Stack, and Mr. Reginald Hargreaves; Miss Eva Stuart was successful in the small rôle of Sybil Craven. The play was preceded by a pleasing comedietta, *Curing a Selfish Husband*. Mr. Gaston Mayer's company, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, is billed for the remainder of the week.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Lewers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A strong variety company opened here to good houses on Monday for three nights. It consisted of Consul, the almost man, who gave a remarkable example of animal training; Burnetti, a clever quick-change imitator and musician; the Almas, balancing and equilibristic act; Chas. Cranston, comedian; Miss Maggie Rimmer, dainty dancer; the Evalos, comedy gymnasts; and Mr. E., in picture illustrations and patter.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—A carefully trained chimpanzee, George the First, is leading the way at this house, and is immensely entertaining; the Merrions are highly amusing in a musical act; Tom Kelso and Edie George make a hit in *Yoicks and a Yokel;* Oliver Martyn, in the duologue *Boxing*, is appreciated; May Gibson daintily renders two pleasing songs; France and Stewart provoke much laughter in the sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance;* Percy Curry, a local comedian, finds favour; and the Kingscope provides a pleasing "turn."

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company in *Send Him Victorious* provides the attraction here. An extremely pleasing impersonation of Colonel Kaufman is given by Mr. Hugh Carmichael; Mr. Howard Hardy does the part of King Ravonia full justice; Capt. Frank Allison is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Herbert Skardon; Sergt. Max is well played by Mr. Frank Holyoake; the acting of Miss Sidney Crowe as Countess Kara leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Netta Mitchell as Ethel Harding creates a favourable impression.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith.—The principal films shown here this week are The Freebooters and The Albanian Rebellion. Joe Humphreys, character vocalist, is well appreciated.

Ravensworth Hall.—The chief pictures at this house are The Call and Aviator's Romance. An added attraction is F. W. Barrett, a clever comedian.

Black's Picture Palace.—*Taming a Husband* and *Fate* are the "star" lines here, and there are also two capital variety "turns" in the Carlsens on the bouncing table and Chas. Voltaire, a roller-skating expert.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—*The Fires of Fate* is presented in first-class style by Mr. Vedrenne's company. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart plays the Lewis Waller part (Colonel Egerton) most creditably; and two well-defined studies are seen in the Rev. Samuel Roden of Mr. Herbert Vyvyan and the James Roden, M.D., of Mr. Charles Francis. The ladies of the company are admirably chosen, Miss Ruth Bower for the part of the American girl, Sadie Adams; Miss Gwendolen Floyd for the Aunt; and Miss Alison Trent as Mrs. Belmont. Mr. Stanley Logan makes a hit as the languid young swell, Brown; the Frenchman is admirably portrayed by Mr. Gerald Merrielees; the other tourists, Brodie and Belmont being cleverly represented by Messrs. Herbert Moule and Edward A Coventry. Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe excels as the Dragoman; Mr. Frederick Worlock bears himself well as Capt. Archer; and the Rudkin of Mr. Arthur Ancell is also good.

King's.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The mystic play, *The Servant in the House*, is being given here for the first time in Glasgow, and, as interpreted by Mr. Henry Miller's company, is followed with evident interest. Mr. Matthew Boulton as Manson, a butler, acts the part of the servant most impressively. In striking contrast is the Drain-man of Mr. Harry Parker, a realistic and convincing performance; Mr. Ernest H. Paterson as the hypocritical Bishop of Lancashire plays well; and a specially fine rendering is given by Mr. Walter Gay of the Rev. William Smythe, whose wife is well played by Miss Nellie Hodson; their niece, May, having a clever exponent in Miss Laurie Flockton. Mr. Forrester Harvey as Rogers completes an able cast.

Royalty.—Sub-Lessees, The Scotttish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The success of the late St. John Hankin's play, *The Cassilis Engagement* has been so decided here that the run has been extended into this week. On Thursday a three nights' revival of *What the Public Wants* was begun.

Grand.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Macfachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. L. Sealy.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is presenting *Diana of Dobson's*, which is played with much spirit from start to finish. As Diana, Miss Emilie Polini acts with great earnestness, and invests the part with much interest throughout. Mr. Leslie Rea makes a very acceptable Captain Victor Bretherton; Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, Miss Nannie Hume, Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe, and Miss Cicely Oats sustain their respective rôles with effect. Miss Mary Ault deserves praise for her impersonation of Miss Pringle, a part she ably doubles with the old woman in the last act. Mr. Alfred A. Harris gives a characteristic study of the pompous Sir Jabez Grinlay; Miss Hilda Franks fulfils all the demands of the rôle of Mrs. Cantelupe; and Miss Mary Crewe plays naturally as Mrs. Whyte Fraser; as also does Mr. Leslie Crowther as P.C. Fellows. *Out West* precedes.

Princess's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is here with *Can a Woman be Good?* which was well received by a large audience on the opening night. Mr. J. Millane and Miss Blanche St. Albans as Manuel Errington and Esther Howard respectively gain widespread sympathy; Mr. Harry C. Robinson and Miss Florence Hunt fill their parts excellently. The play is effectively staged, and the dresses all that could be desired.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The attraction here is *The Nihilist*. Mr. Geo. Mitchell gives a manly rendering of Ivan Nowasky, the village blacksmith; the Princess Olga is finely depicted by Miss Mary Dawson; Alexina Orloff is effectively played by Miss Edna Clare; and the villain is ably portrayed by Mr. O. Silverstone. The child Alexina is pleasingly played by Little Minnie Halstan; the comedy is ably provided by Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina Zindoff, and Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart. Mr. Cowell Clark, Mr. C. Newton Buckland, Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey, Mr. Edward Dowds, Mr. James Hamilton, Mr. Morgan Dale, and Mr. S. C. Eugene complete an effective cast.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*A Fast Life* is presented by Mr. Walter Steele's company. Mr. Steele in the rôle of John Dixon, the repentant bank manager, shared the honours of the evening with Mr. Fred Garratt as Sir Oliver Franklin, his evil genius for the time being; Mr. Thos. Beasley as Harris Goldberg did all that was required of him as a money-lender; while Mr. James Selwyn as Lockfast, a warder, gave a spirited exhibition of brutality. The humour of Mr. W. Barratt as Tommy Burk, burglar, was interspersed with tragic seriousness, and his song and dance was a feature of the performance. He was ably assisted by Miss Maude Ryder, a dainty little lady, as Juliana; Miss Beatrice Hone as Lady Franklin drew quite a pathetic picture of wedded misery; Miss Lillian Ross as Mrs. Dixon had a difficult rôle, but kept her hold on the audience to the close; Mr. Ed. Kingsley as Lord Craven sang twice during the evening with good taste. The scenery and effects reflected great credit on all concerned.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The Mirza Golem Troupe head the bill here, and give a wonderfully varied and interesting turn; Wish Wynne is a comedienne of originality; that clever musical couple, Alexandre and Hughes, once more provide a most enjoyable turn of music and patter; Witty Watty Walton receives a hearty welcome, and obliges with his clever recitation, "Casey at the goal"; Marie Pera and Thos. Kennard take well in a comedy duologue; Alf. Gibson's eccentric songs and method once more secure him his due meed of applause; Gustave Fasola gives a clever display of Indian magic; Katie Moss, vocalist and violinist, submits an enjoyable turn; Frank Melvin contributes several clever parodies; and the Bioscope concludes.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—A cleverly arranged condensed version of *Trilby* occupies the leading place in the programme, and is ably enacted by Messrs. Chas. Garry and J. B. Gordon, assisted by their company, Miss Grace Illingworth making an extremely good Trilby. A little sketch, *Music the Conqueror*, serves to introduce a clever young Spanish violinist, Senor Angel Blanco, whose selections are much enjoyed; the Bros. Webb, musical clowns, provide a most acceptable turn; La Belle Morgan is a vocalist and comedienne of much more than average merit; Haley's Garden of Girls introduces a lot of smart young dancers and vocalists; Dick Tubb, as an eccentric comedian, took the fancy of the audience; Rose Cabani, a clever comedienne and expert dancer, and Larola, in his speciality turn, were both well received; Baddow, ventriloquist, completes a varied and interesting bill.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The new numbers of Maidie Scott, rendered in her own inimitable style, have gone far to enhance the reputation of this sprightly little artist; Victor Newman includes in his character impersonation an excellent representation of the late Sir Henry Irving in *The Bells*; a telepathic act is submitted by the Marriotts, who give an interesting display of thought-reading, &c.; the Whittington Trio of comedy acrobats get through a lot of smart work, and provide plenty of fun; a good appearance is made by Flora Macdonald, who is possessed of a good voice, and dances gracefully; Hilton, with his dummy Jock, supplies a good ventriloquial turn; Cromo and Hamilton, burlesque artists, are clever, a like remark applying to Tennyson and Wallis, comedians. The latest Palacescope films terminate.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A feature of the programme is the turn of Helen Trix, and the talented American comedienne is particularly popular; Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister's company present a capital Australian sketch, *The Sundowner;* Alec Hurley and company appear in *Cockneys in Japan*, which is carried through smartly; the dancing being neat and the songs catchy; the Three Cape Girls are always favourites; Vandinoff, who is assisted by Mlle. Louise, gives a capital exhibition of lightning painting in oil; the Comedy Meisters are possessed of excellent vocal qualities, and are also responsible for much genuine mirth; the Courtiers (under the direction of Paul Mill) are likewise old favourites, and their work is ever appreciated; the Bros. Redmond are funny in the acrobatic work , which is clever; the Stowe Brothers do many novel balancing feats. The Bioscope films are most enjoyable.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Good houses are still the order here. Staunch Comrades, Servant and Guardian, Punch the Benefactor, and An Outlaw's Sacrifice are excellent films, while unbounded hilarity is occasioned by many humorous subjects. The talking and singing number, When You Know You're Not Forgotten, goes very well. Pleasant variety is lent to the show by Jessie Fraser, with a tasteful rendering of "The Homeland," and Bob Campbell, a clever one-legged artist, in patter, song, and dance.

Panopticon.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—George Mackay sings several songs in fine style; and Chandos Brothers with amusing patter attract more than ordinary attention. Ruby Lester proves an acceptable comedienne and dancer; Jack Blair sings three songs with success; and Charles Coll, light comedian, and the Bioscope, with a list of pictures funny and dramatic, complete the programme.

Hengler's Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—There are crowded houses at Hengler's each night. The latest pictures include The Clown's Crime, The Livingstone Case, Taming a Husband, and The Garibaldian Boy. The Macdonald Troupe of dancers, with their clever exhibition of national dances, win rounds of applause. Miss Nellie Macnab, illustrated songstress, and Marcill, novelty ventriloquist, also add to the enjoyment of the evening.

Jungle and Arel.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank C. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Tudor.—This is the concluding week of this wonderful entertainment, which has proved highly popular. The sensation of the week is, of course, the wedding of a Glasgow couple in the steel arena, surrounded by a group of lions, which was fixed for Friday night.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal and Picturedrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—A good house assembled on Monday to see some fine pictures, most of the films being hand-painted. They included Robbery by Hypnotism, The Deserter, The Incendiary, Foolshead in Love, The Black Hand, The State Secret, Flower and Crowns, Reverse Side of Life, Tooth and a Slap in the Face. Mr. Raymond Synott is a capable vocal comedian; Miss Maudie Vere contributes catchy chorus songs charmingly; and the Suttons render duets excellently.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. B. T. Rea.—Mr. John Preston's company, in *Secrets*, is paying a visit here. Mr. Charles Homer is prominent as Lieut. Markham; Miss Hazel Dent wins sympathy as Ismalia; and Noureddin Ali is ably enacted by Mr. John Rochester. Mr. J. Temple Ellis gives a capital impersonation of Ibrahim; Kara Mustapha is well played by Mr. J. Cullen; Mr. Dan F. Roe is good as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; and suitable comedy is introduced by Mr. George Whillis and Miss Jennie Hackett as Peter and Winnie Wilkins. Mr. Hamilton as Breezy Bill is noticeable; and Miss Maud Rochester is well suited as Zuleika. Mr. F. Churchill appears as Alma Meleda with success; as does Miss A. Churchill as Thyrza Meleda. Speciality dances are introduced by the Three Jewels.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Horace Pollock and company, in Pinero's brilliant comedy *Hester's Mystery*, are very popular. Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane, in their sparkling comedietta *My Lady's Chamber* produce considerable mirth; Lilly Hales is a dainty singer and expert dancer; Aldro Lukos, in his man-monkey speciality, acts admirably; Ethel May, vocalist and comedienne, is well received; Sam Williams, character comedian, is extremely funny; and the Judges, with their well-trained cockatoos, parrots, and macaws, give a marvellous exhibition. The Edisonograph is good.

GREENOCK. — King's Theatre. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The Greenock Amateur Operatic Society is this week giving its annual operatic production in aid of local charities, the work selected being *Falka*, which is produced under the able direction of Mr. J. T. Savage. Special mention should be made of the exquisite scenery, painted for the production by Mr. John Panner, the scenic artist at the King's. Praise is also due to the chorus and augmented orchestra for their admirable work, under the direction of Mr. Percy Harmon.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The Sutcliffe Troupe of Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats top the bill here, and their turn is keenly enjoyed; Irve Hayman and company appear to advantage in their sketch, *Christmas Eve;* Gracie Graham as a comedienne and dancer is decidedly good; Harry Farrow, comedian, secures loud applause; and others on the list are Fame and Fortune, comedians and burlesque boxers; Helen Martin, ballad vocalist; and Hinton and Wooton, expert cyclists.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—A capital programme is provided here this week. The Launch of H.M.S. Colossus being the chief picture. This is an excellent film, which reproduces the principal scenes in connection with this important event, which took place in Greenock on Saturday last. The arrival of the guests, the launching ceremony by Lady Colebrooke, the big ship taking the water, and the movements of the vast crowd of spectators are all pictorially set forth. The programme also includes Villainy Defeated, The Cabby's Dodge, An Aviator's Romance, Held for Ransom, and others.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*A Thief in the Night* is here. Mr. Stanley Bedwell acts with vigour as Alan Escombe; Miss Marjory Fane is good as Joan Escombe; Mr. Leyton Cancellor gives a vivid representation of the Italian criminal, Michael Pagani; Miss Beatrice Homer represents the adventuress, Sonia Cleeve, in suitable fashion; Miss Jennie Hallworth gives an amusing portrayal of Happy Christmas; and Mr. Russell Bogue as Crake, Mr. Stenson Liddard as Richard Cleeve, and Miss Prudence Ayrton as Little Joan also accomplished good work.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Vernon Walford.—A novel spectacular speciality is provided in Rousley's *Greater London*, which includes some highly-interesting scenic and panoramic effects; Braatz's dogs are a clever troupe of animals, and perform remarkable acrobatic feats; Tom Joy is equalling his former success, and has some very amusing parodies; the Jackley Trio give a speciality that embraces many original features; Devon and Earle present new dancing business; Evelyn Taylor is a popular chorus-song vocalist; and Mamie Morris is a pleasing vocalist and dancer.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—A True Indian's Heart is a romantic drama of Wild West life, excellently realised; an excellent reproduction of the Grand National is shown; The Hunchback is another dramatic subject of interest; and comic films and an illustrated song by Mr. Max Edwardes complete a good programme.

GUERNSEY. — Theatre St. Julian's. — Joint-Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. A. Deighton.—The chief attraction here is Miss Ella's Troupe of educated lions. Some excellent films are again shown.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Dollar Princess* (Mr. George Edwardes's company) has played to packed houses. As Harry Conder Mr. Leslie Holland is admirable; Mr. Alec. Worcester acts the part of Freddy Fairfax with conspicuous ability and is a good vocalist; Mr. J. C. Neville as Dick gives an excellent character-study of the dude order; Mr. S. Lyndon is good as the Earl of Quorm; Sir James MacGregor is well played by Mr. W. Warde, jun.; that excellent comedian, Mr. W. H. Rawlins, does well as Bulger; Miss Madeline Seymour is a pronounced success as Olga; Miss Peggy Primrose is a winning Daisy; in the part of Alice, the dollar princess, Miss Effie Mann displays considerable ability, being also a sweet and effective singer. The play is beautifully dressed and mounted.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—George Brooks is a funny comedian with funny songs; Tschin Maa and his band of Chunchuses are a troupe of talented artists; Edie Reynolds is an accomplished violinist; Crosby and Walker, the jocular Eton boys; Norah Desmond, illustrated song artist; Lizzie Daniels, comedienne; and the Palace pictures complete.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Princess D'Aryaba gives a remarkably clever dancing scena; Edward Lewis and company appear with success in a farcical interlude, *The Five Wishes;* Linn and Darius contribute a good musical turn; the Keebles (two young ladies) are smart and clever dancers; and Bert Williams, the quaintly humorous ventriloquist, is popular. The New Macs, comedians and dancers; Carrie Wood, comedienne; and the pictures complete a good bill.

HAMILTON, N.B.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Hanvarr and Lee, in a clever and amusing comedy juggling act, are topping the bill here, and prove highly popular; Daisy Morell, coon comedienne, is a finished artist and really popular; Dan Fraser, Scotch comedian, is the possessor of an excellent voice; Walter Emerson is quaint; Gwennie Hasto is a pleasing vocalist and dainty dancer; Harmon does a really good musical turn; the Francoli troupe in *The Billposter* are funny; and Allis and Cassati, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

HANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is playing to packed houses this week. Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson, the laughing Lancashire lass, is simply great; Miss Issa Steel is good as Miss Lancashire; Mr. Sinclair Holden as Higgins is praiseworthy; Mr. Henry Lloyd is a capital butler; Mr. Joseph Burley and Mr. Payne Fletcher are well suited in good parts; Miss Amy Ross Clyde is excellent; Mr. Burt Barton as a Jew acts satisfactorily; and Mr. H. B. Peppen, Miss Mary Collier, and Mr. Hubert Mitchell are capable.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Maude Mortimer, the star attraction, is a great favourite here, having been principal boy at the Royal this Christmas, when her success was phenomenal. Her songs and dresses are alike excellent. Frantz's Comedy Five in "Happy School Times" are very good; Les Romanis, double cornet players, introduce a great novelty; the Eisteddfod Sextette sing and harmonise sweetly; Harry Bedford is as successful as ever; Bert Harrow, comedian, is well received; Esta Stella, the military maid, is good; and Bert Woodward, the cyclist, is well received.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Messrs. Williams and Dunn's company appeared in *Are You a Mason?* Mr. William Lockhart as Amos Bloodgood gave a vigorous and entertaining impersonation; Mr. Howard L. Tracey was highly successful in depicting Frank Berry; Mr. Archie Selwyn gave a really attractive performance of George Fisher; Hamilton Travers, in the hands of Mr. Stanley Arthur, furnished irresistible humour; Miss G. Denbeigh-Russell acted with charm and capability as Eva. Miss Lestrade and Miss Babs Stuart invested with infectious gaiety the parts of Lulu and Annie respectively; Miss Peggy E. Yeoman as Lottie, the servant, was distinctly good. For the concluding half of the week Mr. John E. Watson's company is appearing in *The New Boy*.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. R. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—A return visit is being paid here by Gaston Mayer's production of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Sophie Lingwood is an ideal representative of the unselfish and kind-hearted Mrs. Wiggs; the vindictive Mrs. Eichorn is finely depicted by Miss Beatrix A. Bell; Miss Violet Vivian gives a clever study of the part of Mrs. Schultz; very natural is Miss Ruhamah Catton as Lovey Mary; Miss Rhoda Beresford as Lucy and Mr. Norman Clifton as Mr. Bob are decidedly good; and great fun is created by Miss Rita Carlyle is Miss Hazy and Mr. Frederick Forrest as Stubbins.

Pier Pavilion.—General Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An excellent variety entertainment is opened by Walter Lintone, musical expert; Dainty Dorretta is a charming comedienne; some bioscopic pictures are shown; Len Hall is a good dancer; the Sisters Wayland are attractive comediennes and dancers; C. Ibbotson, America's black dame, is highly amusing; and a marvellous rope-walker is seen in Tamamoto.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company in *The Mockery of Marriage* provides the attraction here. Mr. W. Graham Arthur paints Dick Kenyon, or Sir Montague Jephson, in very lurid colours; Mr. G. Brown as Ned Stanley does full justice to the part; Mr. J. McKenzie as Seth Pearse plays satisfactorily; Mr. J. Barker's Old Peter receives unstinted applause; Mr. Fitzroy Wharton gives a grand rendering of Jack Stanley, the soldier lover; Mr. David Phillips is a funny farm servant; and Mr. J. E. McCann a typical P.C. Miss C. Middleton plays the part of Rose Verham gracefully; Miss Kate Hughes has a capital part in Mary Ann Barnicoat; and Miss Lucy Downs plays Nellie Kenyon with feeling. Miss Bella Liston's Alva Kenyon, the deserted wife of Sir Montague, is a most artistic and meritorious performance.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—Mr. Andrew Emm is presenting *The Diver's Luck* here. In the chief rôle of Martin Faber the diver Mr. William Macready is capital; as Helen Wyngate, the diver's sweetheart, Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff meets with success; Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Barney Bawn, Mr. William Dexter as Cranston, and Mr. Harry Bristow as the Nigger, give good impersonations; and Miss Phyllis Spalding, Miss Pearl Noyle, and Miss Mary Stewart contribute largely to the success.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—On Monday night a packed house enjoyed the lengthy programme, the chief items being The Stage Driver, Judgment, and the Mana Rapids. Miss Victoria Rich, lady baritone, makes a welcome reappearance.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—The star turn is Mr. John Warren, dramatic illusionist, and his company, in *The Conjuror at Home* and *The Magic Carpet*, both being very clever and mystifying. The L.V.O. Trio, in *Those Troublesome Slavays*, are very entertaining; Clarke and Mostol, comedians, are well received, their dancing being particularly smart; Miss Fanny Humber, novelty dancer and instrumentalist, wins favour; F. G. Fenn is an excellent elocutionist; and Jackson Collis, comedian, is very good. The Bioscope, with new and interesting pictures, completes.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Fred Karno's company is the chief attraction, playing *Perkins, M.P.*, and *The G.P.O.* That sound comedian, Albert Bruno, scores heavily, and is supported by a strong cast. Purvis and Partner are responsible for a harmonious duologue; the Four Jumels appear in a musical act; Miss Lola Patey has a cordial reception for her Dutch impersonation songs; the Sisters Oswald sing and dance gracefully; Leo Fields creates lots of laughter with his comedy characterisations. The pictures are well chosen.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A well-varied bill is headed by J. W. Rickaby, who has to sing four songs to appease the demands of his admirers. The Bros. Victor are a couple of neat acrobats; George Acre is a character vocalist with a good voice; Drew and Alders submit a funny medley, entitled *The Coastguard;* Misses Florence and Rose Showell sing duets with acceptance; the Four Vagabonds are a quartette of highly-trained singers; the Narow Bros. do a lot of clever and comical things on bicycles; and the pictures are interesting.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The Little Damozel* at the Grand this week is one of the most interesting plays we have seen for some time, and the company selected is of much excellence. Miss Roxy Barton, to whom is entrusted the principal part, is an artist whose acting is of the finest order; Mr. Alick Chumley gives a fine portraiture of Recklaw Poole; as Sybil Craven Miss Angela Murray is impressive, and furnishes a contrast to the study of Julie; and the Hon. Fitzroy Lock is well played by Mr. Guy Newall.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is the type of play that always meets with a great reception at this house. The title-rôle, allotted to the keeping of Miss Florrie Green, is well sustained; the Mark Glensdale of Mr. Gilbert is an interesting study; in heroic mould Mr. Roy Denman casts his rôle; the comic relief is well furnished by Mr. Monkhouse.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Mr. Oscar Mills and company present here an amusing sketch, *My Friend the Count;* another sketch of a more serious nature, entitled *A Gambler's Wife*, is cleverly presented by Mr. Jack Fortescue and company; Crawford and Johnson (colôured gentlemen), in song and sand-dance, are highly successful; and the Three Verns are excellent dancers. Mr. Harry Bland, comedian, is responsible for a couple of good songs; Ivy Leaf quickly sings and dances herself into favour; and Philip Levard, illusionist, is well received.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company is here with *The Eyes of the World*, Miss Ethel Van Praagh playing her original part of Helene de L'Orme, a powerful piece of acting. Miss Flora Hastings makes much of the cynical Esme, and Miss Nellie Garside is an excellent Susanne; Avice de L'Orme is charmingly portrayed by Miss Elsie Capel; Gaston de Carnac is played in a dignified manner by Mr. Will Casey; Mr. A. Wilson Wynne takes the part of Octave De Carnac; Mr. Charles O'Connor is a forcible Hector de L'Orme, and Achille Fanfarade was in the capable hands of Mr. J. Edward Whitty.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Raymond, the great man of mystery, heads the bill this week, and gives his delightful entertainment to crowded houses, and for over an hour bewilders and dazzles his enthusiastic audience; the Brothers Durrant create much fun with their eccentric airship and grotesque acrobatic work; Morris and Moore are a couple of excellent dancers; Luella Cross, assisted by Master Wilbur, sings pleasantly; Little Sunbeam is an excellent juvenile singer and dancer; and the Vampire dance by Les Grossi is weird and fascinating. Some good films on the Bioscope conclude.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. James Bell's company is paying a visit here with *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare proves herself a talented artist; and Mr. Cyril Austen Lee plays Philip D'Esterre forcibly. Mr. Henry Watson gives a manly portrayal of Victor Cashelle; Mr. Gordon Robey makes an excellent Prince Sergius; Mme. Sancterre is capably portrayed by Miss Frances Bruce; and Tatave and Anne have excellent representatives in Mr. H. Vivian Thomas and Miss Annie Megson.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—The Sarnthaler Troupe proved themselves so popular that the management induced them to remain until the end of the present week. The audience is most enthusiastic in its applause. Of Albany Ward's electric pictures, the *pièce de résistance* is Shackleton's Dash to the Pole; another most interesting film is A Trip Around the German Zoo.

KEIGHLEY. — Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. George Dance's company is delighting large and appreciative audiences here with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Miss Gertrude Melville is a fascinating Sally Hook; Miss Cissie Sephton is a big favourite as Mina; Mr. Edmond Russell causes much amusement as Mr. Hook; Mr. Arthur Ballance scores as the Bandmaster; Mr. Wood Mansey sings well as Captain Paap; Mr. Fred Dark is another big favourite; and Mr. G. Mudie, jun., deserves praise.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—This week the boards are occupied by Messrs. Stewart Lorraine's company, The Rainbows, in burlesque, comedy, and farce. An all-round comic display causes roars of laughter.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week Messrs. Elliman presented *A Heart's Desire* with great success. As Lord St. Ives Mr. R. Ferriss won great favour; Mr. Victor Howard showed much talent as Bertie Beresford; Mr. Edward Ray was good in the part of Luke Forrest; Miss Doris Brookes was a graceful Olya; Miss Flo Bevan a delightful Elsie Beresford; and Miss Linda Arthurs an effective Gwendoline Ross.

KIRKCALDY.—New King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah.—Mr. Chas. Majilton and company are here with *Round the Clock*, &c. As Gadforth Mr. Charles Majilton acts capitally; Mr. James Bond depicts Burke in fitting style; Mr. Jock Laughran as the Policeman exhibits qualities of low comedy which gain hearty applause; and Messrs. George Hunter and Tom Carrol and Misses Clifford, Christie, Valli, and Majilton are valuable members of the cast.

Corn Exchange Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Walker; Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A pictorial programme is submitted by the Safety Bioscope Company, in which that favourite A. B. art film, What Drink Did, tops the bill. Other spools contain equally good pictures, of which The Fireman's Wedding and Springheel Jack are worthy of mention. Variety turns have been successfully inaugurated here, and this week Messrs. Roy and Fenton, Mr. R. C. McGill, and the "star" turn, Rudge Whitworth, are appearing with great success.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—It is many years since *The New Barmaid* made its appearance here, but it is nevertheless still popular as presented by Miss Violet Osmond's company. As Bertie White Mr. Alexander Loftus is a success; Mr. Chas. Adeson as William White works hard; and as Captain Lovebury Mr. Burlington Rigg is successful. In the

Miss Vera Grafton gives a fine portrayal of Brenda Louth; Miss De Terry makes the most of Lady Moulton; and Miss Beatrice Erle plays the Lady Journalist to perfection.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is being played to large and appreciative audiences by Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company. Mr. George A. Fox invests Captain George Fielding with manly bearing; whilst Captain Edward Dudley finds a capable exponent in Mr. Robt. Gilbert. Mr. Edward Aldworth is also an admirable Hawkins; Mr. James Salter proves himself a clever comedian in the rôle of Silas Crump; and as Dare-Devil Dorothy Miss Gertrude De Lacy plays with much dash and vigour. Miss Kathleen Stewart gives a commendable performance of the part of Ruth Montrose; other characters being creditably portrayed by Mr. Deane Cliffe, Mr. W. H. Troutbeck, Miss Madge Delta, and Miss Nellie Harcourt. Excellent specialities are introduced by Miss Gertrude De Lacy, soprano; Miss Nellie Harcourt, soubrette; Miss Kathleen Stewart, vocalist; Misses Lillie and Iris Elvido, Continental dancers; and Mr. James Salter, comedian.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—Pictures and variety meet with the hearty approval of large audiences daily. Mr. Norman Griffin makes a very successful appearance in humorous items; and Mr. Harry Lewis, baritone, is as popular as ever.

LEEDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mr. Frank Lindo's popular play, *Home, Sweet Home*, is drawing good houses. Mr. Lindo takes the part of Stephen Armitage with much success; Miss Marion Wakeford is equally successful as Joan. The play is interspersed with songs and dances given by a number of children who recently took the principal parts in Mr. Laidler's Bradford pantomime. They give a most creditable performance.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Mr. Whit Cunliffe is a big draw here in some smart songs; Harold Nuttall's company appears in an interesting sketch, *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, in which Mr. Martyn Roland is a conspicuous figure as Hirst; Kathleen Gray is an attractive comedienne with good songs; Herbert Shelley appears in a protean play *Dan the Outlaw*; Walker and May are big favourites; Francis and Alfred appear in a clever act; and other favourites include Sydney James's Strolling Players, Leslie Brothers, and Betty Green.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford. —Charles Austin, in his sketch *Parker, P.C.*, causes endless amusement; Goodfellow and Gregson appear in clever comedy; Tom Gott is making a welcome return visit; and the Rangers, A. W. Scott, Bijou Juvenile Troupe, Dorothy Gould, Sims and Sims, Bertisch, and Emerson and Baldwin are all capital turns.

QUEEN'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A most effective sketch, *The Flood Tide*, is given by Harry P. Selwyn's company; Max Waldon's dancing and singing turn is highly appreciated; and other artists include Queenie May, Rowlands and Ford, the Lannons, the Three Comerfords, and Hal Bert.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Les Reubens are appearing in a picturesque gipsy encampment scena; and Martin Henry, assisted by Irene Ross, in a pathetic sketch, *The Silver Medal*.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—This place of amusement is opened for the week as a hippodrome. A good variety programme includes Vinto (ventriloquist), who gives a clever performance, Walter Ford (comedian), Blanche Ford (vocalist), and Master Sydney Ford (speciality artist, in songs). There is a capital series of pictures on the Bioscope.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—We are having a return visit this week of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company in the naval play *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Ralph Roberts does exceedingly well in the part of Richard Lascelles, and Miss Rita Johnson acts charmingly as Lady Hermione Wynne; and others who do full justice to the characters allotted to them are Mr. Fredk. Leister as Major William Thesiger, Mr. Mark Paton as Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley Wynne, and Miss Mabel Rees as Mrs. Cameron.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company are here in *The Old Home*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams as Hazel Dean and Mr. Evelyn A'Dell as the Rev. Eric Armstrong are both very good. Other parts are also admirably played by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame as Sam Adams, Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Polly Pop, Mr. Charles Frenmore as Daddy Dean, Miss Harrette Loydell as Bridget Donoghan, Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Lord Avondale, and Mr. Fred Stone as Timothy Twaddle.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The juggler par excellence, Cinquevalli, is here this week, and goes through a remarkable performance with a neatness and cleverness that evoke unstinted approbation. As an entertainer at the piano Tom Clare takes high rank, and he is also meeting with a hearty welcome; Winifred Ward is a charming male impersonator whose songs meet with well-merited appreciation; James Eadie and Cissy Ramsden again score a success in their quaint creation *Charlie's Visit*, the male partner being particularly smart; T. B. Vaughan and John Lawson's company are good in W. W. Jacob's dramatic sketch *The Bo'sun's Mate*; Syd May's mimicry of various stars is lifelike, and is a most popular item; the Haytors (Frank, Walter, and Winnie) create endless merriment in their comedy skit *The Electrician*; the Great Northern Troupe of international and speciality dancers are receiving their usual hearty reception; and Johnny Fuller, the acrobatic cat on the wire, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Miss Jessie Danvers and company take the lead this week in a thrilling episode of real life entitled *The Key*; Ross and Grayson, a really funny comedy couple of great versatility, are making a hit; the Donnas Trio present a clean, clever, and attractive gymnastic act on the trapeze; Silly Billy Elliott creates plenty of merriment with his tales and songs; May Paulton is a capital comedienne; in place of Rosie Cross, Linton and West, two local cross-talkers and dancers, are appearing. Pictures always loom large in the programmes here, and this week very fine films are shown in Lines of White on a Sullen Sea, A Spanish Bull Fight, and The Vagabond's Adventure.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig. —The principal picture this week is The Golden Spider, a beautifully coloured film. Eric Dean, vocalist and impersonator, is an attraction.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company is here in *A Destroyer of Men*. Mr. Stephen Langton shines conspicuously as the rascally Count Starevitch; Mr. Herbert Pearson, in the triple rôle of Karl Mishla, Herr Runz, and Uno, is deserving of considerable praise; Mr. James Jarrett is satisfactory as Michael Mishla; Mr. Jack Armitage is excellent in the dual rôles of Fedor Strelitzcke and Paul Starevitch; Miss Hilda submits a powerful portrayal of Countess Starevitch; Miss Mary Brammer gives a careful study of Vida Ravel; and Mr. Edward Keith and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande as Coco and Nina Pattacake are amusing.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The Geni Family of Risley acrobats evoke rounds of applause for their feats of daring and skill; Bennett and Martell, comedians, create much laughter; the Three Gascoignes, comedy jugglers, are clever and original; Bert Errol has a flattering reception; the Spanish Goldini Troupe display skill in a carpet-spinning act; the Emsons, comediennes and dancers, are well received; Bruce Green makes a funny Dame; the De Nebos provide an acceptable song and dance sketch; and the Hippodrome pictures are good.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Davidson.—Mr. Herbert Fuller has been here with his own company in his own play, *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, which has received a cordial welcome from large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Hubert Helliwell very ably fills the heroic rôle of the Rev. John Albery; and Miss Agnes Collier is successful as Alice Waters. Mr. Cuthbert Taylor is prominent as the hard-hearted squire, Jake Stonely; Mr. Louis Weston makes a good Nebucanezza Mozart; nice studies of an old couple are given by Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell and Miss Lilian Burne, who play Farmer and Mrs. Walters; and the comedy element is in the safe hands of Mr. Fuller as Timothy Slough and Miss Lily Fuller as Diana Vanderbout. A song by Miss Collier forms a pleasing feature of the last act. *Trilby* was billed for Wednesday and Friday, with Mr. Fuller as Svengali and Miss Collier as Trilby.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. George Victor Fogerty.—This week the Jameson Picture Company, direct from the Rotunda Theatre, is with us, and a pretty little vaudeville arrangement, including the clever sisters Colley, form a delightful combination. The theatre has been overhauled for the season's opening, and new scenery introduced to meet the needs of the patronage

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. J. A. Watson's company is paying a successful visit with *The New Boy*. Mr. F. G. Thurstan as Archibald and Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs. Rennick are especially successful.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—The Donaldsons had a big bill with *Sports in a Jungle*, a very diverting and effectively presented show. The Miltons give a skating act that is distinctly smart; Burley and Burley's contortion work is sensationally clever; and George Laurence, Colin Mail, Joan Deering, Norah Emerald, and the Palace Perfection Pictures complete an entertaining show.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A return visit of the D'Oyly Carte Company to Liverpool has given genuine satisfaction The week's stay opened on Monday night with *The Mikado*, in which Mr. Fred Billington occupied his customary place as Pooh Bah, playing with all his former oddity and humour; Mr. Henry A. Lytton was Ko-Ko, and pleased his audience immensely with his merry pranks; Mr. Henry Herbert capably filled the rôle of Nanki-Poo; an admirable Mikado came from Mr. Leicester Tunks, whose singing and acting were alike perfect; Mrs. Arthur Rousbey charmed everybody with her sweet singing as Yum-Yum, and gained repeated encores; Miss Louie Rene handled the part of Katisha in accomplished style; Miss Beatrice Boarer earned applause for her rendering of several numbers as Pitti-Sing, and Miss Marjorie Stone made a neat Peep-Bo. The chorus was admirable, the appreciation of their work being cordial in the extreme. On other evenings *The Gondoliers, Pirates of Penzance, Patience, Pinafore*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* were given.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The Liverpool public have this week had a first peep at *Pinkie and the Fairies*, presented by Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's full company, and the general opinion has been very approving, the lovely musical fairy play affording the utmost delight to everybody who witnessed it. All the little ones performed their duties in commendable fashion, Miss Iris Hawkins, as Pinkie, showing exceptional ability for a girl of her years; Miss Florrie Lewis was a particular favourite with her Queen of the Fairies, and danced in finished style; Master Philip Tonge did everything required as Tommy; Master Burford Hampden was a humorous and pompous Herald; Molly found in Miss Hilda Antony a most capable exponent; the aunts, Imogen and Caroline, were worthily represented by Miss Kate Forter and Miss Augusta Haviland; a funny Uncle Gregory was presented by Mr. Ambrose Manning; and other well-held parts were Mr. Irons (Mr. Walter R. Creighton), Cinderella (Miss Gwennie Brogden), Sleeping Beauty (Miss Dora Rignold), and Elf Pickle (Miss Patty Jacob). The choruses were delightful to listen to, the dancing gracefully executed, and the scenery beyond praise. Three matinées, well patronised, were given during the week.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomedy.—Here this week we are having Mr. Frank M. Thorne's strong drama *The Woman Pays*. Miss Alice Greenwood shows high accomplishments in the rôle of Madge Armstrong; Mr. Ramond Thomas impersonates Roger Marchant with much dramatic force; Cyrus Threadgold is ably handled by Mr. Beresford Innes; a charming Tibatha comes from Miss Florence Thorne; and the unfortunate Nell Morland was most creditably presented by Miss Kate Blair. Mr. Phil Harper was satisfactory as the fisherman, Sid Armstrong; Mr. Charles Arthur did well as Dr. Trevor; and some excellent comedy was furnished by Mr. Joseph McGrath (Micky Maloney) and Miss Lily Beverley (Patty Stokes). The mounting was a feature of the play.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction this week is Mr. Stanley Carlton's *Her Life in London*, which is being enjoyed by large audiences. As the young clergyman Mr. Carlton earns great popularity, his acting being greeted with loud applause; Miss Rubie Maude affords general delight with her tenderly portrayed Astra Bell; Mr. Claude Aymond shows a deal of talent as the blind burglar; a strong part is that of Collini, capitally handled by Mr. John Croudace; Miss Katie Randolph makes a natural lady detective, Madge Rendall; and Miss Evelyn M. Walton thoroughly grasps the part of the villainous Sarah Shafte. The lighter parts are in the good hands of Mr. W. Vernon (Percy Plunker) and Miss R. B. Douglas (Dolly), both of whom have capital songs and dances.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—An excellent company has been sent here this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke to present *The Bondman*. The character of Jason is admirably interpreted by Mr. Philip Darien; Mr. Stanley Harrison presents the exacting part of Michael in masterly style; very creditable work comes from Mr. W. H. Rotherham, who impersonates the grandfather and Father Ferrati; Miss Violet Macaree delights everybody with her Greeba; and also excellent were the efforts of Miss Madge Lanerton (Mrs. Fairbrother), Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith (Adam Fairbrother), Mr. Fred J. Walker (Doctor Boni), Mr. Alfred Fisher (Governor Testa), Miss Emelie May hew (Christian Ann), and Mr. Cecil H. Ford (Marshal of Police). The play was staged in Mr. Croke's well-known able style.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Mannere.—Topping a strong bill here this week is George Formby, who receives a nightly ovation, encores being in great demand. His latest, "Playing the Game in the West; or, Leading a reckless life in London," is richly enjoyed. That capital pair of eccentrics, the Bros. Griffiths cause endless laughter; Cyril Clensy and company provide an admirable sketch, *The Last Chance*, which gives Mr. Clensy opportunities of showing his histrionic powers in the impersonation of well-known actors and comedians. His supporters are George White, Archibald MacLean, and E. Gordon Philliott. Jack Lane, at the piano, makes a hit with his amusing version of the ditty "Kelly"; the Delevines keep the audience in a merry mood with their lively *Flipp and Flopp at the Village Inn*; Selkirk's Boy Scouts spectacle gains loud applause; the operatic vocal selections by Les Silas are much appreciated; some accomplished acrobatic work is gone through by the Avolos; Stewart and Morgan have a unique vocal speciality; and Ethel Beech, comedienne, also appears.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C Arnold.—Paul Barnes heads the programme here this week, and keeps his audience in shouts of laughter with his witticisms; the Eight College Girls have a beautiful scena, *Schoolgirls at Play*, into which they introduce some smart singing and dancing; Randolph King pleases immensely with his one-man show; Susie and Protti have a clever dancing creation, "The Human Tee-to-tum"; Harry Conlan brings his latest songs; Nellie Coleman dances and sings to everyone's satisfaction; much laughter follows *Elizabeth and the Baby*, a merry sketch by Benson and Rose; Kenneth and Kane, a lively duo, include in their latest, "Oh, oh, oh!" and Flo Bennett, chorus vocalist, provides a good turn.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Foremost this week are the Six Brothers Luck company with *The Demon of the Cellar*; Sandy McNab and company are causing roars of laughter with their funny sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*; the Columbia Comedy Trio receive a hearty welcome for their excellent turn; Fred Land is as eccentric as ever, and earns applause; Marie Paul is an accomplished violinist, and has a hearty greeting; *The Romps* proves a most satisfactory turn provided by the Bellew and Stocks' company of entertainers; Professor Welson shows ability as a gymnastic equilibrist on the Swedish bar; the coster songs and sayings of Phil Bransby take exceedingly well; and Jessie Templeton sings in good style.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —So great has been the success of the pantomime *Cinderella*, provided by the stock company, that a third week is being put in. The performance concludes with an amusing shadowgraph harlequinade, and specialities are provided by the Elduns (Viola and Fred), operatic duettists.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Ching Ling Soo is here this week with his marvellous conjuring feats and illusions; Heeley and Meeley cause endless laughter as eccentric tramps; Holden's mannikins prove as interesting as ever; Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard provide a brilliant vaudeville turn, which is rapturously applauded; the Korries have a neat musical act; Takio displays singular gifts as an imitator of sounds; Frank H. Fox shows himself to be a very funny comedian; Cumminger and Colonna are a couple of excellent dancers, and win rounds of applause; and Rossi Ashton has some pleasing "song sketching." The trial turns Thursday matinée are now an established success.

PAVILION. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—*The Yellow Fang* is here this week, ably supported by Messrs. George Pickett, Francis Annesley, Laurence Osborne, Aubrey Stuart, Edgar L. Hocking, and Miss Violet Campbell. The play is under the direction of Miss Mary Mayfren. Some capital xylophone playing is done by the Two Brilliants; Archie Glen tells rich stories and dances in good style; the popular Jennie Johns has a flattering reception for her songs; Charles Prelle's bijou circus is as interesting and amusing a ever; a very beautiful and greatly appreciated turn comes from Mlle. de Louvois and company, their posings being extremely artistic; the Six White Boys in song and dance afford satisfaction; Thomas and Taylor deserve the cordial reception they have for their quick-change comedy *Fun on the Midland*; and Arthur Aiston, comedian, is also in the list.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—The Dunlops, comedy cyclists and skaters, top the bill here, and give clever exhibitions. George Caselli contributes expert dancing; Dolly Brough is seen to advantage in song and dance; Karl is a smart juggler; Lillian Sivado presents a good gymnastic act; and Wee Doris finds favour in captivating songs. The Biographic Pictures are fully appreciated by enthusiastic audiences.

PIER PAVILION.—Secretary, Mr. Sam Hughes.—The orchestra under Mr. Walter Haigh continues to draw large crowds, the vocalist this week being Miss Rosina Beynon.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. Eustace Day's company is here with *For Love of a Woman*. Mr. Edmund Grogan ably portrays the part of Ned Merrick; Mr. Ernest Regent acts cleverly as the villain, Guy Manor; Mr. Eustace Day is good as Allen Paget, the blind grandfather; Mr. Chas. Ninian is sufficiently touchy as Major Hulmes; and Mr. Harry Angers as the dude, Albert St. Everamond, is amusing; Miss Dorothy Oswald as Nell Paget plays with feeling; Miss May Day is clever as the child Nance Manor; and Miss G. De Clifford as Marjory Hulmes and Miss Eva St. Vincent as Jane Manor fill their parts creditably.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Weisker's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The World in Motion entertainments here maintain their popularity, and the pictures this week are a very good series. Variety is provided by the Lynches (American song illustrators), Laurie Leyton (juvenile ventriloquist), and Vio Sand (comedienne).

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*With Edged Tools* is presented by a thoroughly capable company.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The bill includes The Tymes, in a well-rendered duet; Dan Yoxley, ballad vocalist; and Reg. Ewen, light comedian. The pictorial subjects include several highly instructive and interesting films.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Chas. Harrington's American combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is here this week. Mr. J. H. Boehm gives a capital impersonation of Uncle Tom as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. A. Hayes presents a finished representation; Mr. Chas. Harrington does full justice to the part of George Harris; Legree is well depicted by Mr. Tom Bowron; and Marks amusingly played by Mr. Reginald Kloof. Miss Hero Hathaway proves herself an excellent Eliza Harris; as Aunt Ophelia Miss Helen Douglas deserves praise; Miss Florence Tyler is a pleasing Emmeline; and as Little Eva Miss Gem Lloyd leaves nothing to be desired.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company are still here in répertoire, the event of the week being the production of Goldmark's *The Queen of Sheba* on Tuesday, a notice of which appears in another column.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. Herbert Sleath and company are here this week in that powerful play *The Woman in the Case*, and are playing to enthusiastic houses. Miss Violet Vanbrugh, as the decidedly unpleasant Claire Forster, scores an artistic success; Miss Ellis Jeffreys (often very reminiscent of Mrs. Kendal), plays exceedingly well as Margaret Rolfe; and Mr. Herbert Sleath plays with reserve as Julian. Mr. William F. Grant's study of Thompson, the solicitor, is clever and effective; whilst excellent support is rendered by Miss Mary Griffiths (Nell Hughes), Miss G. Wren (Elsie Brewster), Mr. Fred Benton (Louis Klanfferty), Mr. W. Kershaw (Jimmy Smith), and the remaining parts are all in capable hands. *By Mutual Agreement*, a neat curtain-raiser, is well presented by Miss Gwendoline Wren (very good as Muriel), Mr. W. P. Grant, Mr. Kershaw, and Mr. M. Tompson.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—A new play, *Subsidence*, was produced here on Monday. A notice appears elsewhere. The piece was followed by Basil Dean's one-act play, *Mother to Be*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—An interesting change of fare here is provided by Mr. Allan Wilkie and company in Shakespearean répertoire. The programme includes *Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, Taming of the Shrew, Othello, Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Richard the Third*; truly, an elaborate and exacting venture. Mr. Allan Wilkie, however, is cut out for the work, being seen to great advantage in principal parts; while ample talent is shown by the members of his company, of whom the next most prominent is Miss Carrie Baillie, the Ophelia on Monday night. The dressing and staging of the plays is admirably done, while the acting throughout is well-studied and enjoyable.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn. —Geo. A. de Gray and Harry Masterman's company are appearing here successfully in a pathetic drama, *The Angel of His Dreams*. Mr. Geo. A. de Gray makes excellent use of his opportunities as the Rev. Christian Esdaile; Mr. Wallace Campbell plays Major Ferrars with distinction; Mr. Charles Arnold as Sir Francis Tregarthen puts in forcible work; Miss Effie Bartlett gives a telling interpreation of Hilda Revelle, the woman who comes between; and very smart acting is done by Little Doris Brereton as Lulu. In lighter rôles Miss Etta Turner and Mr. Mayo Stanley cause considerable laughter.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company are paying a return visit in the popular drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Mary Fulton is still in her part of Mary Haysel, and her admirable work is well matched by that of Mr. Guy Hastings as the Rev. Alan Grey. Mr. Cecil Mannering as Stephen Haysel makes a good villain; and a good impersonation is also that of Capt. Thornton by Mr. Frank Liston; while great praise is due to Miss Marjorie Joy as Mary in the prologue. Acceptable humour is added by Miss Pollie Denville and Mr. Hugh Brady. The staging is very pleasing.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A capital programme here is headed by John Tiller's spectacular production *In Japan*, employing a company of fifty clever artists. The Mystic Hussars, a fine stage illusion, is also a special turn; while the Ellesmere troupe of trick cyclists are well to the fore. Other good things are provided by the Eight Cocktails, dainty dancers; Cissy Iris, comedienne and dancer; the Phillipi Brothers and company in their comic speciality; Baby's Park Parade, by May Merry and chorus; the Twelve Forget-me-nots, clever juvenile singers and dancers; and the Pavilion Serenaders, accomplished vocalists.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The beautiful series of fantastic and art dances by La Pia is one of the prime attractions here. Excellent and prominent also is the new musical fantasia, *A Duo in Dreamland*, presented by W. Talleur Andrews, the well-known tenor, and Vivien Talleur, *première danseuse*; while sharing the honours of the programme is Brinn, in his sensational "Pastimes on a Battleship." Other good turns are done by Dot Stephens, musical comedy actress; James Curwell, the wonderful boy musician; Great and Good, Australian comedians; Barney Armstrong (and Kelly), in a comedy act; Signor Persichini, mandolinist; and the Sisters Barnes, duettists and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mme. Elis Russell, the world-renowned prima donna, is here this week, and is accorded a great reception. The Albert and Edmunds troupe of comedians cause no end of fun in the sketch *The Tower of London*; Addie Dorina is particularly good in her protean act, *Dr. Spot's Patients*; A. Ba-Be's Picture Postcard Album introduces graceful posing; the Brothers Bright are neat athletes; Ryan and Hall are clever knockabouts; the Maples cause laughter with their skit *Hamper-ed*; and Victor's Juveniles are smart singers and dancers. On the occasion of our visit Tom Costello, the well-known comedian, did not appear, his place being successfully taken by Barney Armstrong (and Kelly). Some good pictures complete. On Thursday a flying matinée performance of *Samson and Delilah* was given by the Moody-Manners' Opera Company with great success.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The great Little Tich is here this week, and meets with a deserved big reception. Jack Lorimer, the versatile Scottish entertainer, is also very much to the front, and is well received. Young and Evans are good Hebrew comedians; Maurice is a great card manipulator; Ray Espinosa is excellent in a neat dancing scena; Curwen and Bell give a pleasing miniature musical comedy act; L. W. Harris is a first-rate light comedian; Lee and Bentley are good in *The King's Council*; and Hayes and Watson give some entertaining novelty dancing. A very good all-round show.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Foot Gera, the famous French comedian and mimic, tops the bill here this week with much success. Charming Billie Barlow, the well-known burlesque artist, scores as usual; the Sisters Selwyn are good dancers and vocalists; and other enjoyable items are contributed by Garti and Law, in novel vocal act; Angela Ward, in song-scena; Sewell and Dudley, in sketch *The Sun Bath*; Marie Lord, comedienne; and Ruby Emerson, comedienne. Some fine pictures complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's excellent company are the attraction here this week in Max Goldberg's successful play *Through the Divorce Court*, after two weeks' good business at the Royal Osborne and Grand Junction theatres. Miss Hattie Chattell is still in the company, and plays exceedingly well as Lady Dolores Penarth.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Fred Karno's company is here this week in the amusing extravaganza *The Dandy Thieves*, with George Hester as Sergeant Lightning, and, as usual, is greatly enjoyed. Another good turn is Wash. W. Evans and company in the American pocket musical comedy *Paradise Alley*. Wallace Whitney, a capital comedian, is well received; Burns and Bentley score a big success with their expert dancing; Lucy Coventry dances smartly, and is loudly applauded; and other good turns are those of Bert Bowden, comedian; Beattie Foster, comedienne; W. F. Reno, in comedy cycle act; and Chas. Baron's burlesque menagerie, introducing the boxing cats. Pictures complete.

VINOLIA
SHAVING STICK

VINOLIA lathers readily—abundantly. That is a consideration when you have to shave in a hurry—it saves both YOUR time and the razor's edge.

Vo 69

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—A first-rate all-round programme is offered here this week. Fred Field, a capital comedian, meets with a great reception; dainty Cecily O'Shea, who sings and dances nicely, makes her first appearance in England, and is deservedly well received; Harry Smith, tenor vocalist here for a third week, is encored at every performance; Gloria Sarti, a very clever mola soloist is greatly enjoyed; whilst other entertaining items are those of Ernie Percival, light comedian, and George Curzon, baritone vocalist. Selections on the piano are given by Willie Bailey.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, with *The Merry Widow*, was greeted by a packed house on Monday. Miss Mary Reaby was soon a favourite with her delightful rendering of Sonia; Mr. Robert Needham got no less hearty a reception as Prince Danilo, the famous waltz being encored time after time; Miss Mabel Rope successfully played Natalie, whilst Miss Nesta Laurie received hearty applause for her dancing with Mr. Harry Emario, who as Nisch scored a hit; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter was screamingly funny as Baron Popoff; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy sang well in the part of Viscomte Camile de Jolidon. The scenery and effects are good.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—The bill is headed by Miss Dorothy Grahame, who presents, with great success, her dramatic dancing playlet entitled *Ma Fille*, in which she is assisted by Mr. Paul Armand and Mr. Alex Clifton; Lucia Collins, comedienne, has given great pleasure by her songs, rendered in piquant style; Kydd and Kydd, comedians and dancers; the Three Orleans, harmonious vocalists; Harry Cooke, eccentric comedian; Kitty Leon, comedienne and dancer; and Bertini, instrumentalist, have all contributed acceptable items.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*The Better Land*, presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company, is here. Mr. Douglas Watson admirably fills the part of Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Leonard Booker gives an effective study of Hubert Radcliffe; Miss Kitty Terriss proves exceedingly amusing as Polly; Miss Margaret Trevosper makes a sympathetic Doris; Mr. Fred Richards amuses with his Tom Tadpole; Mr. Hill Cremer is successful as George Grave; and valuable support also comes from Miss Gertie Moody (Harry), Elsie Jones (Tessa), Bella Moody (Aunt Jemima), and Madge Trevelyan (Mercedes).

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Israel Price.—Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley top an excellent bill here, and other artists successfuly appearing are the Phœnix Trio, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, the Mayes, and Norman and Noyes. The pictures, as usual, are excellent.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. W. V. Garrod and company are this week presenting *Are You the Man?* Mr. W. V. Garrod gives a finely studied rendering of Captain Beaumont, whose treacherous cousin Sidney Beaumont is played with vigour and ability by Mr. Wm. Bradford; Mr. Frank Dallas is thoroughly at home in his impersonation of Solomon Moses; Mr. Chas. Halling does well as Joshua Beaumont; a droll village constable is found in Mr. Owen Redmonde; Miss Bertha Kingston plays the heroine, Lilian Brandon, with charm and grace; and Miss Ethel Crawford is an excellent Flo Dalton.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. William Mollison's company is meeting with well-deserved success for a fine presentation of *The Chorus Lady*. The title-rôle is most efficiently sustained by Miss Annie Hughes; and as Don Mallory Mr. William Mollison, who is a valued favourite in the iron town, is a pronounced success. The comedy is preceded by the playlet *The Touch of a Child*, with Mr. Mollison as Colonel James Fullard, D.S.O.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company are appearing in *Temptation*. Miss Carton is seen to distinct advantage as Hilda Dundonald, and Miss Selwyn capably portrays the character of the adventuress Ivra Blight. The other characters have been placed with care and discretion, and the drama is very well staged.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—The chief attraction here is provided by Barnold's animals, who present their surprising comedy sketch *A Hot Time in Dogville*. The antics of Dan, the drunken dog, are wonderfully clever and funny. Other good turns are supplied by Vere and Neildon, novelty artists; the Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers; the Glenroy Troupe of dancers; Rose and Challoner, variety entertainers; Miss Madge Brownie, comedienne; Tom Stuart, comedian; and the Empire Bioscope pictures. Good houses rule.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—The programme fully sustains the reputation of the "Hip," as one of the best picture halls in the country.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Mahatma, the "Queen of Second Sight," causes quite a sensation with her clever and mystifying performance; the Two Lees introduce a novelty musical act, which wins enthusiastic applause; Will Penn, comedian, and Fred Gilbert, a local descriptive vocalist, gain appreciation.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, is here this week. In the title-part Miss Phyllis le Grand is distinctly successful; Miss Ada Thomas acts with grace and ease, and her fine voice is heard to advantage in the various numbers allotted to Natalie; Miss Katie May is sweet and graceful as Frou-Frou, her dancing calling for special praise; Miss Lucie Donati is clever as Prascovia; Mr. Fred Leslie is fresh and debonair as the Prince; and Mr. Edward Darcy is exceedingly droll as the Baron. Mr. Fred Fowler is a source of continuous merriment in the rôle of Nisch; Novakovitch is cleverly enacted by Mr. Clifford Seyler; Mr. Ripley Evans sings with style and finish as De Jolidon; St. Brioche, Khadja, and Cascada are excellently depicted by Messrs. Sherry, Climpson, and Allison; Lo-Lo, Gow-Gow, Clo-Clo, and Margot are finely portrayed by Mesdames Midgley, Bingham, Baye, Pennington, and Wilde. The production is beautifully staged and dressed, and there is an excellent chorus under the bâton of Mr. Harry Burton.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint. General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The pictures here are attracting crowded houses. Comedy and tragedy are quite up to the usual high standard. A beautiful subject is A Midsummer Night's Dream.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—An attractive programme is headed by Ralph and Nellie Howard, who provide a capital musical comedy sketch entitled *Military Mad*. The artists also include Lucy Gillette and the funny dumb boys in an original juggling novelty. Martell, a clever equilibrist; the Primrose Quartette of male vocalists; the Zarachs, aquatic acrobats; Lew Peterman, Hebrew comedian; the Loveleces, song illustrators; and Jack Hayton, comedian and dancer.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, in *The Silver King*, is on a welcome return visit. Mr. Fred W. Davies sustains the title-rôle with much distinction, his interpretation of Wilfred Denver, John Franklyn, and Daft Dickey being highly meritorious; Mr. Sydney Wynn makes a powerful Spider; Mr. Edward J. George displays all his old power as the faithful Jakes; whilst a very fine portrayal of Elijah Coombe is supplied by Mr. Arthur Wright; Miss Mildred Surrey makes a charming Nellie Denver; and Olive Skinner is ably presented by Miss Mary Glanbrane. The production throughout is excellent.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—An immense success has been achieved by La Berat, in her wonderful fire and other dances. A capital programme has also been contributed to by Mr. W. McEwan and Miss L. Pollard, in a neat sketch *Duval Outdone;* Messrs. Reski and Reski, gymnasts; Mr. D. W. Watson in a musical interlude; Mr. Albert Sember and company in a mock melodrama; Mr. W. G. Webber, bass vocalist; and Mr. P. Burt, comedian. The animated pictures are instructive and entertaining.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, the New Brighton Pier Co.—*Why Smith Left Home* is giving satisfaction. The company is managed by Mr. Eric H. Aldbury, and every part is in safe hands, the audience laughing heartily over the comical situations.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Unusual interest has been shown this week in the visit of Mr. George Edwardes' special company, in *The Dollar Princess*. As Freddy Fairfax Mr. Leonard Mackay's cultured singing and smart acting make a strong appeal; Mr. W. Louis Bradfield as Harry Q. Conder receives unbounded appreciation; as Bulger Mr. Eric Thorne makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. Paul Plunket as John, Earl of Quorn, Mr. Howard Cridland as Dick, and Mr. Percy Davison as Sir James Macgregor, are excellently cast, the latter being exceptionally good in an eccentric duet and dance with Miss Norah Barry. Olga, the Lion Queen, is irresistible as played by Miss Norma Whalley; and Alice is delightfully portrayed by Miss Norah Barry. A charmingly piquant performance is that of Miss Daisy Elliston as Daisy.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society, in *Princess Ida*, occupies the boards here.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *How Girls Are Brought to Ruin*, is a powerful attraction here. Mrs. Morton Powell achieves success as Minnie Waters; Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne plays with tact and sympathy the rôle of Jessie Burton; Mr. H. Scott draws a manly portrait of Harry Hailing; and Mr. E. M. Heanley cleverly portrays the villain of the piece, Mr. Phillip Edge; Mr. A. Burton's Solomon Sleek is a fine performance; the rôle of Mrs. Burton is effectively sustained by Miss Kathryn Eckhart; and Miss Addie Adair as Mrs. Slutt and Mr. Sydney Bryant as Jack Jossle are also successful.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Variety turns are provided here by Polo and Florence, two smart Continental artists, in a speciality act; the Sisters Hula, vocalists and dancers; and Harry Bennett, a capital comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—The charm of Van Biene's music is never-failing, and this week the talented artist is as great an attraction as ever in a sketch which affords him opportunity for several rôles. Another great favourite is Horace Mills, who appears in a farcical sketch with great success; Siems, coin and card manipulator, performs some excellent new tricks with fine effect; and Harvey's American Boys and Girls appear in an original scena, with immense success. Miss Ray Wallace's imitations of popular music-hall celebrities are wonderfully clever; and Miss Millie Payne's new songs, including an up-to-date "Chantecler" ditty, were fully appreciated. A clever and entertaining turn is provided by Tom and Marie Motramo; and other attractions are Stang's Steeplejack Cyclists, Beatty and Blanche, and Frank Cass.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—*A Message from Mars* pays another most successful visit here. Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company presents the play excellently staged and capitally acted. Mr. F. Vernon Travers as Horace Parker gives a fine, polished rendering of his part; Mr. W. H. Brougham as The Messenger from Mars gives a striking and powerful interpretation; Miss Rose Helene is a graceful Minnie Templar. The electrical effects reflect great credit on the stage-management.

EMPIRE.—The most imposing turn on this week's strong programme is Rameses, the Egyptian wonder worker, who produces a series of mystifying illusions. Barnard's Mannikins are very clever; Miss Millie Engler and company are seen in the humorous sketch *Beauty and the Burglar;* a fine gymnastic display is given by the Rhoda Brothers; King and Benson in a musical burlesque are very popular; Florence, the lady mimic, gives some fine impersonations of well-known performers; and John Macauley sings excellent songs in character.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The chief subject this week is the world-renowned Faust, a most excellent film; A Child's Forgiveness is a sweetly pathetic story; and The Dancing Girl of Butte is a vivid Western romance. Amongst the comic films are The Policeman's Revenge and Foolshead at the Ball. Miss Margaret Payne has up-to-date songs.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*For Wife and Kingdom* is being presented here by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's capable company. As Captain Maximilian Lubeck Mr. Reginald T. Fox is deserving of high commendation; Mr. Frank Sutherland plays with ability as General Von Nestolde; Mr. Albert Guyon proves a capital Baron Breslaw; and Mr. Charles H. Gallier makes the most of Sergeant Offenbeck; as the Duchess Marie Miss Hettie Zillwood appears to considerable advantage; Miss Lillian Malvern as Esther is worthy of praise; and Miss Margaret R. Frame is clever as Camillie Von Nestolde. Some enjoyable comedy is introduced by Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt, and Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl Ludhayr.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The pictures here continue to draw large audiences. A Change of Heart proves a great attraction, and Bobby Wideawake, An Apish Trick, A Maiden's Suicide, and None but the Brave are all well received. Sam Redfern, the favourite negro delineator, comes in for a very hearty reception; the Redmonds, vaudeville artists, meet with general approval; the Two Acadias prove themselves to be a smart comedy duo; and Percy Hannen's songs gain him applause.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week here Ibsen plays are being produced. On Monday *Hedda Gabler* was given, the title-rôle being excellently rendered by Miss Octavia Kenmore, who deserves every praise for her powerful acting; Mr. Lovel was admirable in the part of the infatuated lover; Mr. Arthur Rodney did well as Judge Brack; Mr. Claud W. Sykes was good as Hedda's husband; and other characters were ably filled by Miss Daisy Rale, Miss Katherine Maynard, and Miss Gladys Everard. On Tuesday *A Doll's House* was given.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Hal Forde, who heads the bill here, is well received; Harry Levaine keeps the house in continued laughter; the Borellis are entertaining comedy artists; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford are amusing in their duologue *Getting Even;* Stirling and Love are successful in their *Harmony and Discord;* Hattie Petro and Pete Leon are clever comedy gymnasts; Wilson Hallett evokes smiles as a child humorist; and Chorley and Connor score with their comic patter and eccentric dances. The Hippo. Bio. pictures complete.

THEATRE DE LUXE (Old Victoria Hall), St. Andrew's.—The electrical Theatres (1908), Limited, opened this place on Saturday last, under the management of Mr. Edward W. Burgess, as a cinematograph entertainment continuous performance. The place has been extensively decorated, and the pictures are of the best and most interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Farney.—The charming children's play, *Alice in Wonderland*, is giving great pleasure to patrons here. Miss Ivy Sawyer plays Alice with delightful sweetness, her singing and dancing also being admired. Miss Girlie le Claire makes quite a lovable Cheshire cat; while Miss Bertha Schwartz (White Rabbit), Miss Doris Walker (March Hare), and Mr. Dan Leno, jun. (Caterpillar), all acquit themselves well. The haughty Duchess is represented by Miss Amy Fanchette, and the cook by Miss Yvonne Schofield. Mr. Franklyn Vernon is an amusing Mad Hatter; and a genuinely comical couple is seen in Messrs. Tom Graves and Ronald Henry as Tweedledum and Tweedledee. The trial of the Knave of Hearts creates hearty laughter, thanks to Miss Iris Damon and Mr. Edmund Goulding; and the ballets, under the supervision of Mlle. Lilian Leoffler, are cleverly executed.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Mr. Haklane Crichton's company, producing *The Cingalee*, is attracting large and appreciative audiences. In the rôle of Chambhuddy Mr. Jack Crichton uses with great effect his powers of comedy; Mr. Arthur Cartwright sings and acts well as Harry Vereker; and a successful Bobby is found in the person of Mr. Scott Cullen; whilst Messrs. Douglas Munro as Boobhamba and F. W. Ford as Sir Peter both work hard. Miss Florence Watson, gifted with a pleasing voice and presence, makes an excellent Nanoya; Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy Sabine does well; and Miss Pauline Hague as Lady Patricia adds no little to the success of the production.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—As musical specialists the Elliott Savonas hold high place, and their beautiful *Palace of Orpheus* attains a great success; Lydia Yeamans is equally at home in ballad and children's songs, her comedy being especially smart; Spry and Monti work assiduously in *The Song-writer and Soubrette;* John Scott and company have a clever sketch in *Dolly's Deception;* Wood, Wells, and Wilkins supply an entertaining vocal item; Florrie Gallimore gains in popularity by her bright songs; the Three Delaries produce some novel trapeze effects; Bertha Winder shows her expertness in dancing; and Phil Parsons proves an able comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—A powerful dramatic sketch, entitled *The Hold-Up*, is played realistically by an excellent company, including Messrs. E. E. Ashby, E. Webster, and Paul Lovett. Acrobatic feats by the Havannas troupe arouse excitement; Cissie Carlette's delightful vocalism is well rewarded; Tom E. Finglass comes in for a good share of applause; Brady and Johnson have an entertaining sketch; Mozzetto provides some clever juggling; Avon and Crest make a smart pair of eccentrics; Will E. Stopit proves both an acrobat and comedian; the Sisters Edwardes sing and dance in pleasing manner; and Harry Vardon's ventriloquism is decidedly smart.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy company is here. The bill includes Elsie Rubins, in her clever performance on the wire; the Three Recars, in their smart acrobatic and gymnastic displays; Wee Winnie, a child singer and dancer of much skill; and the Two Potters, in their eccentric trampoline act.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge.—The visit of the Moody-Manners opera company in grand opera has been eagerly awaited, and on Monday evening a good house was present to give them a hearty welcome. The opera selected for the opening night was Saint-Saëns' *Samson and Delilah*, and a rich treat was provided. Mr. Philip Brozel appeared in the rôle of Samson, and his singing gained hearty applause; Mlle. Zelie De Lussan as Delilah enjoyed a reception no less hearty, her singing being enjoyed to the full; Mr. William Dever as the High Priest of Dagon appeared with great success; Mr. Charles Moorhouse, Mr. C. Magrath, Mr. F. Davies, Mr. W. Bland, and Mr. R. Woolland also sang well. The chorus, a very powerful one, gave an excellent rendering of the various numbers, as did the augmented orchestra under the bâton of Herr Richard Eckhold. The programme also includes *Tannhäuser, Faust, Il Trovatore, Madame Butterfly, Carmen*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Her Marriage Vow* is being played here by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company, who have been well received; Miss Violet Lytton as Kate Walters acts admirably; Mr. Knowles gives a fine portrayal of Ned Benton, whose enemy, Gilbert Carlton, is made sufficiently villainous by Mr. Edward Avinal; Miss Nellie Shirley makes a capital Hester Norton, and Miss N. Waddington is very good as Almira; Miss N. Clare as Maggie Clare is a lively and capable artist, and along with Mr. R. Nugent as Larry Leary, provides excellent comedy; Mr. William Burgess acts cleverly as William Walters, and Mr. Harry Momber as Daffy Dan is capital; Mr. Chauncy Morris is very amusing as Eben Chobb, and Messrs. Keith and Simpson do well as Jim Burke and Jenks.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company opened to good business in *Sapho*. Miss Ada Abbott as Fanny Legrand won much applause, and Mr. Edward Ouston's acting as Jean Gaussin was excellent; Mr. John Drake proved his ability as Henri Dechelette, and Mr. Stephen Crossley was very good as Flamant; Mr. Edwin Keene was an amusing Uncle Ceasaire, and Mr. John Lester ably represented Caoudal; Miss Florence North made a dainty Lucy, and Miss Ethel Tinsley was capital as Aunt Divonne; Mr. Weedon Ross playing smartly as Old Legrand.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The pictures are excellent, Little Blue Cap being interesting. The Enchanted Vase is cleverly portrayed, and a picture of the sugar cane industry is well worth seeing. The Rivalry of the Two Guides is depicted with success, and The Lady's Train causes much amusement. Mr. Roger Alwyn is very successful with his songs.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—On the Watch is a good dramatic story. A Western Maid is also very exciting; The Engadine Mountains provide some fine scenery, and the Fire at Sea is thrilling. Playing Patience, One Night and Then——, and Invigorating Electricity are also in the bill. Mr. King contributes "The Holy City."

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—Faithful Unto Death is a capital film among a series of good dramatic and humorous pictures.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—A capital bill includes Faithful Unto Death, Fire at Sea, Phaedra (a fine picture), and Taming a Husband. Comedy films also provided.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL (SHAW).—Proprietor, Mr. A. Ashworth.—The Patriot's Daughter is a thrilling dramatic film, and an everyday drama is Innocently Suspected, and an attractive list of pictures are greatly enjoyed.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This, the last week of Mr. Milton Bode's variety season here, is proving also the most successful. Harry Tate's company in *Fishing* tops the bill and causes roars of laughter; the Woodwards give a thrilling performance in their cycle balancing act, and included in the really first-class programme are Alf. Holt, the American mimic and comedian; Miss Ethel Stephenson, in vocal titbits at the piano; J. Milton Hayes, a breezy comedian in song, story, and monologue; C. H. Charlton, a clever conjuror; and the Brothers Leo; and the programme concludes with the Premier Imperial pictures, the subject being the Grand National.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's stock company presented *The House of Mystery*, including (by special request) the resident-manager's popular wife, Miss Winifred Stuart. Mr. Karl Edwards was highly amusing as Teddy Tozer; Mr. Harry Leyton made a good impression as Roland Carr; and praise is due to Mr. E. Holland Day for a consistent rendering of Jack Desmond; Miss Elma C. Turner excelled with a clever portrayal of Muiga; Miss Vida Rogerson did well as Jenny Joyce; little Gladys Hunter was a capital Eve; Miss Mabel Parker was quite in her best form as Mrs. Tozer; and Miss Evie Conway worked strenuously as Margaret Carr; Miss Winifred Stuart gave a sympathetic study of Vera. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday was produced *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The management is again devoting a week to varieties, and an excellent company has been engaged. A highly diverting sketch, *Scots Folk's Wooin'*, is played by Lambeth and Robertson in characteristic style; the remarkable and clever show by Les Wambas, in their instrumental and trapeze act, arouses a deal of interest; Ray Raymond obtains much applause for her songs, rendered in dainty and pleasing style; Wren and Sadler are highly successful in their burlesque extravaganza; the Long Brothers are eccentric comedians and dancers; Mabel Cameron, in her song-scena, *The Boy Scout*, scores a success; Charles Ousley, coon vocalist and clog dancer, is a good turn; as a Scotch comedy artist Sheila McNeil is entertaining; and Græme Atholl is seen to advantage in his mystifying sleight-of-hand exhibition.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The Seven Perezoffs, who head the bill this week, present their original and hilarious juggling act, *An Animated Supper at Maxim's*, and meet with the applause they so well merit; the Brothers Corcorran furnish an exceedingly good and pleasing musical turn; Will Garvey, a popular and well-known comedian, causes a good deal of laughter; McLallen and Carson demonstrate their skill and ability on roller-skates by giving a marvellous exhibition; Stanley and Vandyke are responsible for much merriment in their novel comedy act; the Rosses win the heartiest applause for their artistic dancing; May B. Brilliant is a delightful vocal comedienne and dancer; Maxford and O'Neil are smart eccentrics and are well received; and the Bioscope forms, as usual, a pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lacy Lyne.—The special feature of this week's bill is Carlton, whose sleight-of-hand card manipulation and mysterious cross proves a tremendous draw. Henry Herne and company in a powerful sketch, entitled *The Colleen Bawn*, arouse much enthusiasm; Allsop and Beckwith are clever comedy artists; a laughable turn is given by Newham and Latimer; Percy Wright scores as a ballad vocalist; and interesting films are shown on the Tivoliscope.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Sears, the American illusionist, is a strong attraction here, the smartness of his tricks quite mystifying the audience. The Royal Tokio Troupe please both with the daring and grace of their performance; the Lavelle Bros. are clever comedy acrobats; Mr. A. J. Gamble is a quaint Scotch comedian and dancer; Miss Anita Wayman uses a well-trained voice with good effect; and Miss Marie Beresford, a pretty musical comedy artist, makes her chorus songs go.

PETERBOROUGH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The Faludy Troupe of Hungarian acrobats top the bill, and are deservedly encored; Edith Chantler, vocalist, meets with approval; Neville Delmar, comedian, pays a return visit, and is highly successful; Daisy Graham's birds are clever and entertaining; Norman Osbourne is a novel ventriloquist; Salida and Vone, singers and dancers, have a hearty reception; and Tom Drew is a funny comedian.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Horace Lingard and Arthur Shelton's company staged on Monday *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, to which full justice was done. As Fanny Miss Beatrice Moreau was responsible for a brilliant exposition of a trying part; Miss Gwenlyan Cattell well impersonated the frigid and immovable housekeeper, Jane Bennett; the Misses Rita Sponti and Miriam Holt gave a delightful old-world study of the maiden aunts, the Misses Wetherell; as Martin Bennett, the butler, Mr. Horace Lingard was the recipient of much approbation; Mr. Russell Davis was admirably suited to the part of Lord Bantock; Mr. Wilfrid Compton made a shrewd and business-like manager of George Lent; and Mr. Roland Hope was a satisfactory Dr. Freemantle. The piece was preceded by a first-rate curtain-raiser, entitled *The Admiral*, of which Mr. Lingard was the central figure. *Divorcons* and *Is Marriage a Failure?* are also in the week's bill.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Arthur Roberts and company in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife* are starred, and proved a very strong attraction, Mr. Roberts well sustaining his established reputation. The Five M.P.'s are responsible for an original and acceptable musical turn; the Three Cunards supply some finished and attractive dancing; Robins and Collier are hugely enjoyed in their diverting sketch, *The Lady and the Porter;* Daisy Hicks, comedienne, Witt Rhodes, comedian and vocalist, and Andie Burns, speciality dancer, are all of a high order of merit.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—Mr. Arnold Richardson and company are appearing with success in the comedy sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. Teresa da Silva has a fine contralto voice, and sings tuneful ballads; De Lilo and Metz present a smart acrobatic and equilibristic act; the Brennans are clever dancers; Marion Scott is a good character vocalist; Will Candlish, the dusky Scotchman, appears in a comedy musical speciality; and Will Lindsay has made himself a decided favourite with his funny patter and songs. The Alexscope show some excellent animated pictures

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*When it was Dark* is presented to good houses by Mr. Oswald Cray and company. The piece is excellently staged and the effects are good. The various characters are worthily filled.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The Great Albus, who introduces a most sensational head slide on the wire, tops the bill here this week; Little Lillie Shaw is a miniature Vesta Tilley; Hyman Travers is a capital coster comedian; the Maningos are marvellous equilibrists; Edna Barrett, expert dancer, makes herself quite a favourite; Speedwell, the "Wizard Painter," is a great success; and the King's College Boys and the Palascope, with up-to-date pictures, are other attractions in a good bill.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A return visit of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Brewster's Millions*, is being paid. Mr. Hutchison as the spendthrift, Monty Brewster, again wins golden opinions for his energetic impersonation; Miss Cicely Stuckey plays Peggy with charm and grace; Miss Lilias Earle as Mrs. Dande Mille is delightfully natural; Mr. A. P. Kaye is very successful as M. Bargie. The play is particularly well mounted, the steam yacht scene attracting great attention.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Percy Brown's company is paying a visit here with *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. John S. Milward acts the part of the hero in a vigorous and capable manner; Mr Wilson Coleman's interpretation of the villain, Felix Beverley, is very realistic; Miss Amy Ellam renders the part of the heroine, Mary, with great pathos and restraint; Mr. Percy Brown as Thomas, and Mr. Victor Raymond as Charles supply the humorous element. The following members of the cast deserve praise for their efforts; Mr. Creagh Hunt as Geoffrey Langdon, Mr. Cyril Grier as Col. Miles, Mr. W. Annesley as Arthur Bellairs, Miss Kathleen Magee as the Hon. Mrs. Sands, and Miss Winnie Goepel as Sweet Nancy.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The chief feature of an attractive programme is the visit of the Julius Gebhardt Troupe of Tegernseer, vocalists and dancers, who are enthusiastically applauded for their magnificent rendering of Bavarian mountaineer songs and dances; Cliff Diamond is a juvenile comedian and dancer, with a promising future. Lauri and Beatty present, with great success, a humorous, musical, and protean mélange; Zaleski is a remarkably clever contortionist; the Three San Remo Girls are charming and graceful dancers; Walter Wade is a versatile comedian; Paul Corrix and Co., perform clever equilibristic and juggling feats; Cissie Esdaile is a dainty soubrette; Payne's Bio-Photoscope concludes the performance.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Sam Mayo is the top line this week; Fred Russell's humorous dialogue with his automaton, "Coster Joe," is very entertaining; Lennie and Hast's musical idyll, "The Maid of Polaria," is appreciated; Ida Barr's songs and choruses catch on; Josh Dixon in an amusing eccentric comedian; the Wagners are clever instrumentalists; a daring wire act is submitted by the Onllaw Trio; the Eglington Trio are wonderful hand-balancers; Will Driscoll's song and dancing win applause.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—George Ali (the original "Buster Brown Dog") and company, in *Papa's Day Off*, heads the bill. As a wonderful animal impersonator, George Ali has few equals. His juvenile colleague, Tommy, likewise gains the favour of the audience. An amusing sketch, *Her Husband; or, The Burglars*, is presented by Walter Bird's company, Mr. Ernest Luck giving a highly humorous interpretation of a cowardly burglar; the Serenaders, in vocal scena, "Old Venice," are on a welcome return visit; the acrobatic act of the Carlens Trio is undoubtedly smart; Josie Delaine is admired for her singing and dancing, accomplished exponents of which are found in Pitts and Gould; W. E. Gillin's ventriloquial entertainment was highly amusing; the Oakes Duo present a laughable comedy act, *Making a Man of Her;* and Harriett Rose sings a good song.

GOSPORT THEATRE.—This new house of entertainment seems increasing in popular favour. The Idlers are a clever and refined vocal quartette; Maudie Carewe is a bright and diverting comedienne. The principal films from Ruffell's Bioscope are What's Bred in the Bone and The Cloister's Touch.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. J. Constant's No. 1 company is paying a special visit with *Florodora* this week. Mr. Johnnie Schofield is admirably suited with the part of Tweedlepunch; Mr. R. Courtier Dalton gives a good rendering of Frank Abercoed; Mr. Johnnie Junior is a capital Capt. Donegal; and Mr. Jack Parker makes up well as Leandro. Mr. Stanley White is satisfactory as Cyrus Gilfain; Miss Daisy Lake is decidedly good as Dolores; and Miss Louie Danby is a dainty Angela. Miss Kate Leicester is repeatedly recalled for the very chic rendering of her songs, and is a decided hit as Lady Holyrood.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—The Royal Banzai Family of Japanese artists, including "Little Togo," give a most wonderful exhibition of balancing, &c., and meet with vociferous applause; Billy Mersom, a comedian with something new, is paying a welcome return visit; the Three Favorites, with their burlesque *Park Pets*, render some excellent selections; Geo. Hyam is a quaint comedian; Chiko performs equilibristic and contortion acts; Nellie Rose is a pleasing serio and dancer; Harry Kirk, comedian, contributes some catchy songs; Beatrice Bonnie, a charming comedienne with a really good voice, is well received; Stylo introduces some novelties in the shape of hoop "juggling"; and an excellent film on the Bio concludes.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Will Casey's company, in the drama *An Unwedded Wife*, is a good one, and Mr. Leonard Crowther makes a most accomplished villain as Philip Blackstone; Mr. Gilbert Elvin is a manly John Hawthorne. The comedy element is in the hands of Mr. Will Casey, a humorous Napoleon Boomer, and Miss Annie Mitchell, who puts much fun

Hall (an Attendant at the Theatre). As for the ladies, Miss Violet Lewis undertakes with much skill the portraiture of Topsy Grey, the actress, who demands everything to be in accordance with her slightest whim and fancy; Miss Nellie Christie is a big success in her presentation of Mrs. McTurtle, the strong-minded agitator for women's rights; Miss Lucie Conway's Rosa Matilda, the beloved of poetical Twigg, is a capital piece of work; and the same remark applies to Mrs. Mark Kinghorne (Mrs. Pounceby), Miss Agnes Allen (Susan, maid at the McTurtle's), and Miss Dorothy Sellen (an atendant at the Frivolity Theatre). The special scenery and properties, all by Mr. Francis H. Bull, are quite new, and the whole production is under the capable supervision of Mr. Alfred Hemming. The comedy is preceded each evening by the new one-act play of dramatic type *A Fatal Likeness*, by Tod Anderson. In this the characters are capitally assumed by Mr. Gerald Alexander (Doctor Hatton), Mr. Kendal Chalmers (Dick Hansard, a convict, and Felix Hansard, a financier, twin brothers), and Miss Lucie Conway (Elsie Holton). The scene is laid at Dartmoor, and deals with the escape from prison of a wrongly-sentenced convict and the subsequent tragic death of his guilty brother. It was well received.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, The Manchester Electric Theatres Company, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—Another good selection of pictures is seen here this week, and includes Scenes in Washington, U.S.A., Brussels, Jean Valjean's Life in the United States Army, Man Hunt, Skating Carnival, and Cured by a Tip.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—*Charley's Aunt* is again here, played in first-class style by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Stanley Cook is inimitable as the *soi-desant* Charley's Aunt, his quaint impersonation causing roars of laughter; Mr. John Sims Woolley as Jack Chesney and Mr. Robert Burnett as Charles Wykeham both sustain their parts well; Mr. MacCausland Stewart acts effectively as Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Roy Byford is capital as the portly and amorous Mr. Spettigue; Mr. Sydney Compton is good as the stolid College Scout; Miss Audrey Stafford is admirable as the real Donna Lucia, and Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty Verdun, Miss Phyllis Back as Amy Spettigue, and Miss Bertha Wilson as Ela Delahay are all charming representatives of their respective characters. The play is preceded by *The Colour-Sergeant*, which is well acted by Messrs. S. Compton, R. Burnett, C. A. R. Shum, and Roy Byford, and the Misses Ruth Henton and Nancy Harding.

THE PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr. G. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—J. G. Graham and Zerlina Harrington appear here successfully in a dramatic episode, entitled *Olga's Oath*, Miss Harrington's impersonation being very powerfully rendered; Unita and Paul gave a novel gymnastic display; Fred Elton, an old favourite, appears in his popular scena *Life on an Ocean Liner*; Carlotta Levey sings very effectively; Johnson and Hart are dexterous hoop manipulators; the Boriskis, comedians and patterers, give an amusing turn; Seener and Fridkins, Imperial Russian Troupe, who are attired in rich national costumes, give a good exhibition of Russian singing and dancing; and the Bioscope, as usual, concludes an excellent show.

THE NEW CENTRAL SKATING RINK in West-street is now approaching completion, and will shortly be opened.

THE VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, West's Picture Palace, and Bio Picture Land are giving good shows of living pictures, and are all being well patronised.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Nacnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—*Was She to Blame?* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company. Mr. G. Kimberley, who is a local favourite, is highly successful as William Clark; and Mr. George Keene is very smart as Captain George Courtney. Mr. Henry Rutland does well as John Norman; and Mr. Clavering Craig is deserving of mention as Frank Roselle. Mr. F. Wilson Lowther scores as Dr. Forbes; and Mr. Fred Astley is seen to advantage as Jim Harford. Miss Florence Steyne effectively depicts the part of Alice Firearms; and Miss Nita Owen is sprightly as Sarah Swales. Miss Ellen Beverley is deserving of mention as Mary Norman; and Miss Constance Laurie is a capital Lillian Norman. Miss L. Addison (Mrs. F. G. Kimberley) as Mrs. Kate Rosselle gives a clever portrayal of a difficult part.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—James Hare and company present a clever dramatic and humorous episode, *Wrong 'Uns*; Alberto Troupe of lady equilibrists give a highly finished act; Mooney and Holbein are deservedly recalled; Edith St. Clare is a pleasing comedienne; Yost and York give a very clever and novel military imitative act; Sauleron Wonders are well received; Madge Allen is a sprightly and dainty dancer and comedienne; Clifton and Gibson are most amusing eccentrics; John Partington, the singing mill lad, is deservedly applauded; and the Hipposcope projects an admirable film, Building Trans-Continental Railway.

RYDE.—ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. George Aubert.—The patrons of the Theatre Royal continue to be well catered for, the films shown being interesting and up to date. Miss Lettie Lingard, soubrette and dancer, is a great favourite.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Miss Winifred Ward and her company are delighting audiences with *The Sins of a City*. The heroine, Seaweed, is excellently presented by Miss Winifred Ward; Mr. Arthur L. Read makes a capital hero of Sandy McDonald; Mr. Maurice Jones duplicates the parts of the twin brothers Joe and Jasper in an able manner; Mr. Mark Fenton as Jonathan Blyme and Miss Minnie Millwarde as Midge provide a lot of comedy business; Mr. Harold Heath, Mr. Morris Maud, Mr. Victor Du Cane, Miss Wingold Lawrence, Miss Mona Leslie, and Miss Gipsy Alexander give good studies of their various parts.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Austin Rudd, comedian, has some comical songs, which keep the house in roars of laughter; the funny animal impersonations in the sporting absurdity, *The Cockney Huntsman*, by Queen and Le Brun, are very clever; *One Night Only*, by Henry Carlton and company, is very smart; the Burnells, comedy artists, are well received. Other good turns include Harry Taft, whistler and amusing patterer; Ethel Thomas, soprano vocalist; Carina Sisters, in musical act; J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; and Maron Duo in their three-bar act.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*Spasms* is an extravaganza by Edward Thano which catches on; Leick and Keith (John S. and Mabel) give a clever cornet, &c., performance; Miss Eva Chadwick captivates the audience with her charming singing; Five Bohemians are capital musical entertainers; Ida Keesanly's troupe of fox terriers show excellent training; Rob Gilmour, comedian, is a favourite; Bert Raymond, a quaint singer of quaint songs; the Martons (Louise and George), in *Sweethearts Still*; and Penstone and San-go, in vaudeville varieties, fill a most enjoyable programme.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent New Animated Pictures (twice nightly) include a number of effective films. "Some day when dreams come true" is an illustrated song by Mr. Tom Sherlock, who is lustily assisted in the chorus by the crowded houses.

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—Pictures twice nightly are drawing big houses, who are also entertained by songs from Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—Full houses are (twice nightly) the rule here. Among the pictures are The Boatman's Daughter, Balloon Trip Over Turin, A Torpedo Attack, and Hamlet.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bench.—A good programme here includes the Pichel troupe of acrobats, Ben Richards (baritone), Harry Colton (comedian), J. H. Carney (comedian and stilt dancer), Wyndham and Kitty (wire artists), James Brady (eccentric joker), and Dalvere and Wallace in *By the Sideboard*.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*A Royal Divorce* is being excellently played here by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, including Miss Violet Ellicott as Josephine, Mr. Keith Fraser as Napoleon, Mr. J. H. Roberts as Talleyrand, Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise, Mr. George Hudson as Grimaud, Miss Dorothy Smith as Stephanie, Mr. Ernest Plumpton as General Augereau, Mr. Chas. Stirling as Marquis de Beaumont, and Miss Dorothy Hudson as the Little King of Rome.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—Baroness von Eckardstein's private band (conductor Mr. C. H. Allen) supplies excellent music here, being ably assisted by Mr. Oldbury Brough (humorous and musical entertainer), and Mr. B. B. Wilson and Miss Ethel Beetlestone (vocalists).

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Miss Olga Andre's company is here this week with *The Great Awakening*. Mr. Chris A. Olgar does well as James Selby; and Mr. Basil Mitchell gets in some capital heavy work as Jack Merton; Miss Ethel Tooney proves her worth as an emotional actress; and Miss Hetty Farrell sustains the lighter portions in conjunction with Mr. Walter Rousby as Billy Brass. Mr. Charles H. Mortimer acts strongly as Capt. Harry Lambert; Mr. Tom Arkinstall scores as Guy Logan; and Miss Olga Andre is successful as Lola Selby.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—*A Woman's Past* is being successfully presented here by Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company. David Heath is powerfully depicted by Mr. Percy Dawsone; Mr. Charles Locke finds ample scope for his ability as Frank Dellannoy; Clement Harper is efficiently embodied by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden; the villainy of Uriah Craven is effectively shown by Mr. James McLeod; Miss Dora Pass submits a capital portrayal of Bessie; Clara Darrell is skilfully enacted by Miss Phyllis Elton; Miss Cherry Veheyne as Dorothy Heath wins praise; Kate is well played by Miss Mabel Northam; and as Mrs. Brown Miss Laura Bitterne is good. The mounting of the play is admirable.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Adam Seebold.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Mr. Travis Green. Mr. Jerrold Heather makes an effective Zaco Malleto; Miss Hilda Shirley a forcible Myra Malleto; Mr. Colin Heather a studious Wilfred Grey, who is well supported by Miss Winifred Rutland as Lily; and Mr. Gerald Byrne as Paul, the half-witted, is decidedly good.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Bernard Shaw's whimsical play *You Never Can Tell* began a return visit on Monday. All the characters were cleverly acted by Messrs. Platt and Towers' company, special merit distinguishing the work of Miss Ida Southern as Dolly Clandon, Miss Winifred Beach as Gloria, Miss Edith Hunter as Mrs. Clandon, Mr. Graham Colmer as Valentine, Mr. Claude Haviland as the Waiter, Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Philip; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Fergus. The mounting was first rate.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's excellent company began a second week here on Monday, and appeared before a large audience in *A Sister's Sin*. The scenery was very effective, and the artists received hearty applause, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Miss Scudamore, and Miss Edie Macklin being cordially greeted by their many local admirers.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction*, the new realistic drama by Mrs. Morton Powell, was performed to a crowded house on Monday, when the capital scenery and admirable acting of Mr. Morton Powell's dramatic corps created a favourable impression. The two sisters, Ruth and Ruby, were acted in a graceful manner and with emotional ability by Miss Kate Sydney and Miss Maud Powell; Miss Maggie Stewart was a lively Bessie Butts; Miss Eva Norman secured keen sympathy as the cripple Ned; Mr. Leslie Austin earnestly portrayed the character of Robert Ray, a fine representative of the Mercantile Marine; Mr. F. C. Leighton was effective as Lucas List; and a striking character sketch was Mr. Henry Scathard's Octavius Screw; a distinct contrast being Mr. William Berson's study of a model clergyman. Other characters were well played by Messrs. Edward Swinton, Wallace Curnock, Mackintosh Clyde, W. Whitty, G. S. Darling, Miss Mabel Kelling, Miss Edith Taylor, Miss Rachel Rhodes, and Miss Doris Drude.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—An attractive variety programme was submitted to a big audience on Monday, the performers being Mr. Jack Pleasants, a comic singer with a quaint and laughter-provoking personality; the Two St. Johns; Miss Rhoda Paul, character vocalist; the well-known Kellino Troupe of acrobats in a humorous and smart tumbling act; Miss Madge Carew, Mr. Russell, and clever children in a pleasing little sketch; Mr. Nelson Jackson, drawing-room entertainer; Humsti-Bumsti, the screaming knockabout act; Mr. Tom Moore, comedian; Mr. Harry Friskey, a laughable burlesque juggler; and the handsome Parisian artist, Mlle. Liane D'Eve in catchy chansonettes and piquant sartorial displays. The Bioscope pictures concluded the generous programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Crowded houses are the rule here with the following talented artists: The Six Brothers Luck and company in *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Mr. James Basnett, vocalist; Miss Iris Banfield, comedienne; Mr. G. S. Melvin, vocalist; Miss Phœbe Mercer's farce company in *Mistakes Will Happen*; Mr. Lloyd Morgan, vocalist; Miss Iris Fox, serio-comic; Hayes and Merritt, novelty artists, as the "bounding tramps"; Mr. Ernest Rees, vocal comedian; the Eight Elves, vocalists and dancers; the Hippodrome artistic pictures; and Mr. Arthur Aldridge, ballad vocalist.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPO.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Mr. F. R. Benson's admirably balanced North company is here this week in a welcome and appreciated revisit, playing *Hamlet*, *The Tempest*, *King Lear*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *King Richard the Second*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth*. *Hamlet* was finely staged and enacted on Monday evening. Mr. Henry Herbert, the leading male actor of the company in the répertoire, took the part of the Prince of Denmark with consummate ability, his elocution, interpretation, and moderation being consistently commendable; Mr. John Cairns was talented as Claudius; Mr. Robt. Atkins played the part of Polonius with success, Mr. John Hood merited high praise as Horatio; Mr. Cyril Sworder made a thoroughly capable Laertes; Mr. Sharrow as First Player acquitted himself creditably; Miss Lilo Barclay was effective as Second Player; Mr. Atkins made an exceedingly good First Gravedigger; Mr. Chas. Sparrow as the Ghost of Hamlet's father acted with care and ability; Miss Kate Turner as Queen Gertrude acted conscientiously and well throughout; Miss Gladys Vanderzee spoke her lines with expression and gave a feeling interpretation of her exacting part; Miss Dorothy Radford took her part in commendable fashion as the Player Queen; and the minor parts were capably sustained.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Miss Renee Glendower and company supply the attraction here in *What a Man Made Her*. Dr. Mark Haven is befittingly portrayed by Mr. J. M. Olivert, who delivers his lines with good effect; Mr. George Arthur depicts the scheming Rupert Danescombe in a skilful manner; Mr. Martin Alwyne essays the character of Sir Ernest Cavendish in convincing style; Mr. Bert Goldin as the conventional Jew moneylender with a tendency towards comicality is received with roars of approval; and as Deborah Miss Tessa Myers makes a prepossessing Jewess. Miss F. Russell Spiers is a forcible Dowager Countess; Miss Stella Carmichael puts plenty of go into her impersonation of Lady Thora; and Miss Renee Glendower gives a finished delineation of Jane McAllister.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Girl from Kay's* has attracted good "houses" this week. Miss Florrie Millington gave a pleasing performance of the title-rôle; and the Misses B. Courtenay and J. Vere are clever as Ellen Chalmers and her maid, the latter dancing well. Mr. Henry Adnes as Max Hoggenheimer is particularly good; and other successful members of the cast are Messrs. J. A. Latham as Harry Gordon, R. Andean as Percy Fitzthistle, B. H. Heron as the porter, and W. H. Pink the page.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The artists here this week are Eli Hudson; Olga and Elgar, whose flute-playing is creating quite a sensation; Ian Colquhoun, bari tone vocalist; Mart and Pepe, tumblers and head-to-head balancers; Daisy James, comedienne; Bros. Hobs, comedy acrobats; and Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. Mouillot's capable company is appearing in two musical comedies, *A Greek Slave* and *The Geisha*, the former being presented to a large and appreciative audience on Monday. In the part of Heliodorus Mr. Edward Carlton is irresistibly quaint; Miss Adela Crispin was very successful, both histrionically and vocally, in her impersonation of Isis; Marcus Pomponius had a capital representative in Mr. Leonard Braham; Miss Aimee Gray depicted Maia in a charming manner, her vocal numbers being very well rendered; Mr. Walter J. Douglas submitted a capital study of the lovelorn Diomed; Mr. Sam Lockridge very efficiently represented the character of Archids; Miss Clarice Eldon was good in every way as Antonia; and Miss Renee Reel introduced some effective dancing.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott are presenting *Her Path of Sorrow* here. Mr. Charles Draycott is seen to advantage as Richard Burfield; Mr. Frank Eaglesfield makes an effective villain; Mr. Theo Balfour does well as Markham Ferrars; Mrs. Charles Draycott is charming as Pauline; Nellie Rayne is sweetly depicted by Miss Fay Garnet-Vane; Miss Nellie Freeland is good as Ma'mselle Lucille; and good comedy is introduced by Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green, Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions, and Mr. Wilson Saunders as P.C. Bridge.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The Abdullah Arabs, a marvellous troupe of acrobats, give a grand pyramid building and tumbling performance here; the Kratons submit an original hoop-rolling novelty "Hoopland"; Harry Herbert is a funny eccentric comedian; Fatmah Diard, prima donna, is well received, and sings in good style; and some good illustrated songs are introduced by Olive Lizette. Other items are supplied by Conan and Doyle (comedians and dancers), Musical Silvo (soloist on the musical glasses and the Silvo chimes), and C. J. Johnson (the Black Diamond). The Bioscope is attractive.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Heading the bill of varieties here is Tom Bassett, Shakespearean burlesque actor and vocalist. The Three Clarks in their speciality act of club throwing, juggling, &c., are good; Tom N. Mills as a descriptive vocalist is well received; Miss Nellie Langtry is a good contralto vocalist; and other turns of note are Fred Conway, the Two Midgets, and Lilah Brett.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. K. Stewart McDonald.—*Rollicking Rory* is delighting audiences here. Mr. Chalmers Mackey is in the title-rôle, and mirth is prevalent; and Mr. J. P. McBride is an excellent Desmond Fitzgerald.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's play *His Real Wife* is here this week. A fine impersonation of Martin Avondale is given by Mr. J. W. Evelyn; Mr. Clifford Rean is seen to advantage as Herbert Barton; Miss Ward as the heroine, Rose Avondale, presents a touching picture; as Lady Sybil Wilton Miss Gabrielle Romero plays with power; Miss Clarrie Yandell is a pretty and effective Betty Tuttlebee; Messrs. Charles Yorke (Colombe) and Mr. Walter Walmesley (Alf Snickers) are both successful in the portrayal of a pretty pair of rogues; and Mr. T. Edward Ward is excellent as Simon Bletherall.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—A fine performance is given by the great Stavordale Quintette, which is greatly enjoyed; Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, causes much laughter; Fred Spencer's facial contortions are excellent; Archie Royer's acrobatic feats are applauded; Pearce and Ward's patter is funny; and T. E. Johnstone's songs are always popular. Will Nosam also sings well. The Hipposcope picture concludes.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.—AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—General-Manager, Mr. M. Leopold.—Mr. Montague Lane and his brilliant little company appear in *Still Waters Run Deep*. The scheming adventurer, Captain Hawksley is remarkably well undertaken by Mr. Montague Lane; Mr. Hubert Woodward handles the part of Cotter with exceptional ease and skill; and Mr. Norman Cannon, in the character of John Mildmay, gives a natural rendering. Dunbilk is well portrayed by Mr. William Mallalieu; Mr. Scott Fraser and Mr. Leo St. Clair ably represent Langford and Markham; in the part of Mrs. Sternhold Miss Ida Chapman shows a delicacy and deep feeling; and Miss Gertrude Savage is excellent as Jessop. In the part of Mrs. Mildmay Miss More Dunphie gives an interpretation conspicuous for its winsomeness and charm.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Pete* has been much appreciated by large audiences. A fine and impressive impersonation of Pete is given by Mr. Frederick Victor; Philip Christian is sustained with marked power by Mr. Alfred Lugg; Mr. Ellis J. Preston makes a capital Cæsar Creegan; Nancy is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Alys Eden; and Miss Constance Bachner acts with pathos and feeling as Kate Creegan.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—That genuinely funny comedian Tom Foy and his company in *The First of April* evoke hearty laughter; the Three Borella Brothers perform clever gymnastic feats; Harry Bickley entertains with his patter; the Brothers Obo are amusing comedians; Amy Bellwood is a pleasing comedienne; and Harry Lowther, Hulo Hodgson, and company present a laughable sketch entitled *Barmaids* with much success.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart present their first-class company here in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. E. St. Alban scores a great success as Gaspard; Miss Vera Dorien makes a charming Gaspard's niece; and Miss Gurney Delaporte as Serpolette sings and acts well.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Venetians appear in a charming act, in which the arts of sculpture, singing, and painting are artistically presented. Bonnetti and Corrie, in an eccentric juggling act, Derrington Family, in a sensational cycling act, Hilda de Grey, a pleasing vocalist, the O'Hanlon Trio, in a scena, *Romps in a Drawing-room*, Dorma Morgan, a clever comedienne, Jack Holland, with popular songs, Tom and Eileen Melbourne, in a burlesque sketch, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is played here this week. Mr. Frank Adair appears with distinction as Eli, the Avenger; Miss Louie Adair is an excellent Mira Sampson; Miss Stanley Burt is good as May Berresford; and Mr. Ellis Carlyle deserves mention as George Berresford.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Arthur Burton.—The outstanding feature of the week's programme is the Gaumont Co.'s film production The Martyrdom of Adolf Beck. Juliat Mack, the talkative Dame, proves diverting; the Shadowgraphic act of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde is one of the best in its line; and also to be noted are Bill and Bellay; the Dancing Gilberts; Godfrey Price; the Unites; and Charles North.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, VARIETY HALL, AND PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Mint and Mart, smart paper manipulators, head the bill. Ike Bradley, Hebrew comedy cyclist, is very clever; Carrie Dale is a pretty dancer and refined comedienne; Harding and Preston foot the bill with a capital sketch called *The Editor and the Sub*; and the pictures include The Last Deal, The Postman, Foolshead's Crime, The Ugliest Queen on Earth, and Calino Plays Billiards.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. Alexander Leighton's company in *Havana* are attracting well-filled houses. Mr. William Pringle gives an intensely humorous performance as Nix, and, in conjunction with Mr. R. Edwards as Reginald Brown, arouses endless laughter; Miss Hebe Bliss is given a most flattering reception for her charming impersonation of Consuelo, the able artiste rendering her several numbers in meritorious style; Miss Winnie Brown finds general favour as Anita; an excellent Isabelita is provided by Miss Edith Barwell; the Don Aldolfo of Mr. Cyril K. Percival proves a source of merriment; Mr. Chas. Boulting is good as the scheming Diego; Mr. J. Brian Ridout is well placed as Frank Charteris; Mr. Savill Foster distinguishes himself as Jackson Villers; and worthy support comes from Mr. Lauri Aster.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Eeden; Acting-manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. J. E. Barnes' company is presenting *The Drama of Life*. Miss Pattie Hastings is in the rôle of Sylvia Beech, a part for which she is admirably suited; Miss Beatrice Hudson makes much of her character of Betty Black; and as Robert Beech Miss Bessie Chetwyn proves to be a clever juvenile. Mr. Grantham Woods gives a fine performance as Harry Beech; and Mr. George B. Davis is good as Richard Brenton. Villainy has capable exponents in Messrs. Archie Helsby (Walter Beech), Marshall Meade (Jack Lawton), and George Bryne (Count de Foi). The humour is in the excellent hands of Miss Alice Oliver as Lady Jane, and Mr. Sydney C. Cranston.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Eeden.—The Delroys, American comedians, head the bill and give a very acceptable item; Chas Tempest is an eccentric comedian of a high order; and Joe Dixon proves himself a master of mimicry. The principal picture is Cowboy and Squaw, a fine dramatic item.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managers, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company.—The Paul Kramer Trio is here with clever head-balancing and trapeze work; Seely, West, and Rhodesia, in juggling, music, and comedy, delight all; and Horace White gives a pleasing ventriloquial turn at the piano. Deer Feeding in Bavaria is a very interesting film.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Eeden.—Heading a good bill here is Mephisto, illusionist, who completely mystifies his audiences. The Four Mayos are very amusing in their roller-skating demonstration; Mabel Sinclair stands out among ventriloquists; Verno and Voyce are seen and heard to advantage in a clever sporting act; the Real McKays, juvenile artists, gave an entertaining turn, introducing skilful dancing; Elmo and Rego submit an uproarious knockabout act in capital style; Lydia and Amely dance in good style; and Frank Lynne is an entertaining comedian.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are here with *Way out West*. Mr. Booth is a manly Jack Hamlin; Col. Starbottle is successfully undertaken by Mr. Wm. Kenion; Mr. Harry Bannister is effective as Bat Masterton; Mr. J. Sanger provides a capable impersonation of Abner Byers; Jim Harkins is forcefully portrayed by Mr. Millar Anderson; Mr. Chas. H. Brooke sustains the part of Ah Foo with ability; Mr. Walter Langford is very good as Monte Pete; Miss Alice West gives a sympathetic rendering of Helen Masterton; and Miss Arethusa Byers is quaintly enacted by Miss Emmeline Rosselle.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—In addition to several humorous and singing films the programme includes those of The Ascent to the Sea of Ice, Romance of Insect Life, Cagliostro, The Newly Weds, Trained Birds, and The Cowboy and the Squaw.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. Edmund Tearle is here with his répertoire company, and on Monday presented *The Three Musketeers* to a good house. As D'Artagnan Mr. Tearle was all that could be desired, and was ably supported by Miss Kate Clinton as Miladi; King Louis XIII. of France and his consort were ably depicted by Mr. P. P. Millar and Miss Mary Campbell; Athos, Porthos, and Aramis were exceedingly well portrayed by Mr. Stuart Black, Mr. Ernest Lodge, and Mr. Henry Pettitt; Mr. Horace Price was good as Richelieu; Miss Constanti A. Brooks was a delightful Constance; and Mr. Richard Henry Lace was funny as Boniface. Other plays in the week's bill are *Jeanie Deans*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Hamlet*, *East Lynne*, and *It's Never Too Late to Mend*.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—A capital series of pictures is exhibited here to full houses. Among films of a dramatic nature are False Oath and In Little Italy. My Lady Nicotine is a fine scientific picture, and a Silkworm series proves instructive. Much fun is afforded by Vagabond's Adventure, Mustard Plaster, &c. Mr. F. Gilmartin is enthusiastically applauded for his two illustrated songs.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is appearing in *The Love of the Princess*. Prince Conrad is admirably portrayed by Mr. F. Harvey; and the villainous Count Danilo is cleverly played by Mr. R. Vane. King Josef is safely entrusted to Mr. Jno. Burton; Mr. B. Bould makes the most of Lieut. Orlans; Miss Dorothy Haigh gives a skilful interpretation of Princess Idalia; and Miss M. Steeple shines as Lady Irene.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—Mr. E. C. Gittin's Condensed Opera Company meets with great success; Karr and Kooney soon make themselves popular; the Three Langfords are well received; and Milton and Horton and Bert Williams also appear. The leading film depicts The Galley Slave.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Topping the bill in a satisfactory style are the Sisters Macarte. Pallas and Cussic create great laughter; Tiny Arnold takes well; and Perrier is a new star ventriloquist. Sandon, Jack Warman, and Tony Freedman do well. The Empiroscope shows some good pictures.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearce.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company is making a welcome reappearance here in *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Edgar Kent in the title-rôle is excellent; Mr. George Mallett makes a typical Admiral; Mr. Montague Love is seen to advantage as Major Thesiger; as the two Midshipmen, Mr. Hugh Wakefield and Mr. Olaf Hytten introduce much quiet humour; Mr. John Wheatman does well as Mr. Palliser; the part of Mrs. Cameron is undertaken by Miss Florence Jackson, who is as popular as ever; and Miss Dorothy Ripley is a charming Lady Hermione.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—This week a return visit of *When Knights Were Bold* is once more being well received, Mr. Langdon Bruce scoring a great success as Sir Guy de Vere.

SKATING PALACE.—Although the season is drawing to a close, the fancy dress carnival last week showed no falling off in the number of competitors or the excellence and variety of the costumes. The carnival was a great success.

GREAT HALL.—On Tuesday evening an amateur performance of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* was successfully given in aid of the local hospital.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is appearing this week in the drama *The Midnight Mail*. The leading parts of Harry Steyne and Mary Steyne are admirably filled by Mr. John F. Traynor and Miss Trissie Humphries.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The programme this week includes Ted Karno and company, pantomimical sketch artists; Sid Cotterell and company in a sketch entitled *The Substitute*; Elroy, the armless wonder; Billy Richardson, negro comedian and stump orator; the Mosaics, comedy couple; Bert Edwards, silfleur and raconteur; and George Castrey, actor-vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mlle. Jenny Mills, kaleidoscopic dancer, heads the bill, and is supported by the Gwynne troupe, sketch artists; James Hawkes, actor-vocalist; Dan Hendy, acrobatic comedian; Denny and Leo, knockabout comedians; Nora Doone, speciality dancer; and Mundill and Maude, in a farcical sketch.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The Denaro Brothers, acrobats, &c., head the bill, and are accorded a flattering reception. Blanche and Zeyna prove to be trick cyclists of exceptional ability; the Ellimans are seen to advantage in a refined musical act; Flo Melville, comedienne, is a dainty singer; Wall Langtry, comedian; T. W.'s Tiny Stars in song and dance; the Sisters Lillian, ballad vocalists; the Crown Trio, vocalists; and the Carney Brothers, comedians, also contribute to the programme.

PREMIER PICTURE HALL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 11, the Musical Comedy, by Paul Rubens and Austin Hurgon, entitled

"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

Miss Hook's reception on Monday evening was exceptionally enthusiastic, and as personified by Miss Marie Studholme she has provided attraction enough to crowd the capacious King's Theatre nightly. Apart therefrom, there is sufficient brightness in the entertainment furnished by Mr. Paul Rubens' delightful comedy to satisfy the most capricious of playgoers. The dialogue is smart and the music is of Mr. Paul Rubens' best, some very melodious music being included. Encores are most plentiful, and in many instances well deserved; while the Dutch scenery and costumes add much picturesqueness to the piece. Miss Marie Studholme, as stated above, is an attraction in herself, and in the part of Miss Sally Hook she proves herself to be a distinct gain both as actress and singer, her songs being prettily rendered and re-demanded. Mr. Frederick Hobbs deserves recognition for a capital impersonation of Captain Adrian Paap, his fine voice being heard to great advantage. As Lieut. de Coop, Mr. Lacey Mills is excellent; and Mr. Charles Ross is a capable Ludwig Schnapps. Most original and exceedingly comical is Mr. Alfred Wellesley in the character of Mr. Hook of Holland, and his performance is a thoroughly enjoyable one. A huge success is made by Mr. Frank H. Crimp as Bandmaster Van Vuyt, the lover of Miss Hook, his songs receiving ample applause. Mr. Burford Thorp as Hans Maas, Mr. Frank de Lane as Hendrick Draek, and Mr. Len Neville as Van Eck, are all equally efficient. Mr. Fred Lyne creates a good deal of merriment by his clever embodiment of the loafing Simon Slinks. Showing marked ability and skill, Miss Maud Denny's impersonation of Mina is one of the gems of the comedy. Her clear delivery of the songs allotted to her is alone worthy of the utmost praise, which the audience were not slow to recognise. Miss Lillian Constance is an attractive Gretchen; the Sisters Voos are vivaciously undertaken by Miss Hilda Gordon and Miss Lina Imperiali; and Thekla is charmingly played by Miss Violet Ashley. The numerically large chorus comprises pleasing singers and faces, and the orchestra is ably directed by Mr. Clement Locknane.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 11,

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

The late Mr. Wilson Barrett's play *The Sign of the Cross* is the attraction here, and the play apparently still possesses strong attractive powers. The mounting is most excellent, and the company engaged by Mr. William Greet is in every way a very capable one. Mr. Laweon Butt is responsible for the part of Marcus Superbus, and plays the character in a masterly fashion, with genuine ability and intelligence; Mr. W. Mayne Lynton plays impressively as Nero, Emperor of Rome, and Mr. Chas. Aldred as the tyrannical Tigellinus has plenty of scope in which to portray his unpleasant characteristics, and does so with great effect and power; Glabrio is humorously portrayed by Mr. Frank Wood, and Philodemus is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Harry Jones; Mr. H. Thurston Harris invests the part of Servilius with praiseworthy intensity and power; and Mr. Martin Palmer is decidedly good as Strabo, the spy; Mr. J. Weatherall acts with commendable care as Licinius, and Mr. Phil Ellis gives a graphic delineation of Virturius; Mr. Walter Fleet essays the rôle of Favius with marked success; Titus being ably depicted by Mr. Henri Raymond; Miss Winifred Delevanti plays the part of the boy Stephanus with an intensity that makes her performance very sound, her appeal being most effective; as Mercia Miss Evelyn Hope handles a difficult rôle with artistic delicacy and refinement; Berenice is ably delineated by Miss Dorothy Lart. The remainder of the numerous company ably contribute to the success.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 11, the Italian Opera,

"UN BALLO IN MASCHERA."

All the principals show to particular advantage in this opera. Signora Protti gives a very artistic and finished rendering of the music allotted to her, and the flexibility and sweetness of her voice are especially apparent in Act II., whilst she has able assistance from Signor Barbato's fine, powerful, and passionate vocalisation in the charming duet, "M'ami Amelia." Both artists act with verve and intensity. As Riccardo, Signor Barbato sings remarkably well in the scene in the saloon at the Governor's house; and Signora Protti is highly effective in her appeal to Renato in Act III., Scene 1; whilst both excel in the death scene of the finale at the masked ball. As Renato Signor Azzolini is quite at his best, and his impassioned and poignant expression of grief, as well as his rich, mellifluous tones in his song in Act III., Scene 1, win him a well-deserved encore. Signori Massia and Quintina are good as the conspirators, Samuel and Tom; Signora Gorrita is good as the sorceress Ulrica; and Signora Gavlosca discovers a remarkably clear and bell-like voice in the small part of the page, Oscar. A word of praise is due to Signor Wehils for his excellent and helpful work as conductor of the augmented orchestra. In *Ernani*, *Rigoletto*, and *I Puritani* a new and highly commendable baritone, Signor Modisti, makes his appearance. On Tuesday was presented *Il Barbière de Seviglia*; at Wednesday's matinée *Ernani*, with *Carmen* in the evening; *Rigoletto* on Thursday; and *La Favorita* on Friday.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled

"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

That old-established favourite, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, is being given this week by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company, and, judging by his reception at the hands of the fine audience, still finds many friends, the action of the play throughout being followed with intense interest. As Bob Brierley, the ticket-of-leave man, Mr. Albert Ward puts in some fine acting, and gives a generally all-round good performance; Mr. Fred G. Kay fully realises the brutal qualities of that hardened criminal, James Dalton; Mr. Arthur Hinton is an alert and chivalrous Hawkshaw; Mr. Travis Green, an excellent character-actor, makes the most of his opportunities in the part of Melter Moss; Mr. Charles Clifford makes a gentlemanly bill-broker of Mr. Gibson; and Miss Lelia Zillwood is a very effective May Edwards. Miss M. Canfield scores greatly as the loquacious Mrs. Willoughby; and Miss Effie Dene makes a precocious youngster of Sam Willoughby. The scenery and mounting are well done.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 11, the drama entitled

"THE SINS OF SOCIETY."

A distinct novelty to Brixton playgoers was presented here on Monday, when Mr. F. W. Bolam's company appeared in the highly successful Drury Lane drama above named. A crowded and highly appreciative audience gave Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton's play a cordial reception. The arduous rôle of Lady Marion Beaumont is faithfully portrayed by Miss Grace E. Leslie, who gave a pathetic, natural, and womanly rendition of the character. Miss Cissy Carlton may be warmly congratulated on her assumption of Lady Goldbury; her scenes with Hogg were wholly to the taste of the audience. Mr. Maitland Marler does every justice to the part of James Hogg, and he brought out capitally the humours of the good-natured vulgarian. Miss Rosamund Bunton makes a deeply interesting Lady Gwendolen Ashley; Mr. C. F. Collisge depicts remarkably well the villainies of Noel Ferrers; Mr. Morris finds a clever exponent in Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair; and his faithful servant in the hands of Mr. Edwin Palmer is a clever character study. Youthful, buoyant, and gay is Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson as Sir Dorian March; Policeman Bates' foibles find in Mr. Edward De Vere a useful exponent; the steamship captain is well represented by Mr. Percy Uden; the Duchess of Danbury is ably played by Miss Janet Hodson; Mr. Walter Schonberg (Colonel Gretton) and Mr. James Miles (Captain Thorpe) are deserving of praise; Mr. Edwin Palmer delivers the lines of the Rev. Martin Hope in a most effective manner; Miss Elsie Gardner is admirable as Mrs. Murgatroyd. A word of praise is deserving the drilling of the numerous auxiliaries, especially on board the steamship and in the church scene. The play is beautifully staged and dressed, and Mr. J. M. Glover's incidental music nicely rendered by the orchestra of the theatre under Mr. W. T. Gliddon's direction. Mr. Newman Maurice is, as usual, to the front as Mr. Fred Melville's capable manager; and Mr. Frank J. Pitt, the courteous manager for Mr. F. W. Bolam.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 11, the Musical Play,

"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Filled with tuneful melodies and replete with genuine fun, *The Dairymaids*, the farcical musical play by Messrs. A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, has been accorded a rapturous reception here by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company. In Mr. Edwin Dodds the company has found a strong asset, and his Joe Mivens, the sailor, who assists and upsets the plans of his officers with cheerful disregard of their feelings, is a very rich piece of work. His eccentric dancing and humorous singing are alike very clever. Mr. Dodds has an admirable colleague in Miss Edie Martin, whose maid-of-all-work shows a keen sense of character, her results, in the shape of much laughter, being achieved without any effort. Mr. William Spray is full of life and humour as the Lieutenant whose visit to his aunt's farm causes so much commotion. His work with Mr. Dodds was especially appreciated, the poacher duet being productive of intense amusement. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is a very dainty dairymaid, thoroughly suited to the lively lieutenant, her masquerading as a boy being notably piquant. Her principal "comrades" in the dairy and academy were Miss Vivien Carter (whose powerful voice made her a strong favourite), Miss Doris Hodgson, Miss Mina O'Dell, and Miss Elsie Bull, to mention only a few, and they enhance the popularity of the play by their charm. Of the remaining members of the cast Mr. Bernard Vaughan was very good as the Irish doctor.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 11, for the First Time in London, the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles Windermere, entitled

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"

Sir William Gregory...Mr. Charles Windermere
Harry ..... Mr. Edmund Hollick
General Rubbub ..... Mr. Leslie Norman
William Jolly ..... Mr. Rule Pyott
Joe Budge ..... Mr. Fred Lake
Policeman ..... Mr. T. Mackenzie
Lady Gregory ..... Miss Belle Donaldson
Phyllis Patterson ..... Miss Clare Manifield
Emily ..... Miss May Rosine
Eliza ..... Miss Zoe Davis

If it isn't the coat that makes the man, that garment certainly plays an important part in distinguishing the husband, to judge by the new farcical comedy *Where is William?* which is introduced to London this week at Fulham, having been originally tried at Richmond last September, and subsequently taken on tour. Though hopelessly exacting on the score of probability, the piece has many witty lines and is rich in ingeniously contrived situations that carry their humour on the surface. A crowded house at the admirably appointed Fulham theatre on Monday had their fill of wholesome fun, roaring their approval throughout three acts.

Details of the plot of the piece were given in our notice of its first production, but its chief features may be recalled. The search for William is carried on in the house of a retired grocer, who bears the name of Sir William Gregory, and between whom and his butler, William Jolly, an amazing likeness exists. It is only by the livery he wears that the butler can be distinguished from the baronet, and even that does not prevent Lady Gregory from kissing the man in mistake for the master. Complications are, therefore, numerous, and give rise to hilarious results. Jolly, who is married to Sir William's cook, receives a letter from his first wife Eliza, whom he had supposed to be dead, saying she is about to return from Australia, and in despair the butler resolves to shoot himself. His revolver comes in handy, however, for a burglar, who breaks in when Sir William and his man are alone in the house. The butler shoots and the burglar falls; but the latter is only shamming, and after allowing them to cover him with a cloth, substitutes for his supposed corpse a lay figure that stands in the corner of the room, and decamps. Sir William and the butler conceal the "body" in a settee, and Jolly rushes off with the design of going abroad. Left to face the situation, Sir William resorts to the whisky bottle to sustain his failing courage, and in his fuddled condition puts on the butler's coat, and is thus mistaken by his wife on her return from a party for the fugitive Jolly, her ladyship inquiring vainly, "Where is William?"

The first Mrs. Jolly turns up and claims Sir William, still garbed in his butler's coat, and unable to establish his identity, while Lady Gregory is dismayed to learn from the newcomer that Sir William is a bigamist. To add to the confusion her ladyship's father, a retired general, arrives to be introduced to Sir William, whom he had hitherto refused to acknowledge, and on hearing of his duplicity, resolves to chastise the bigamist. Matters are still further involved when Jolly is brought home by a policeman, who had discovered him floundering in a pond, and much fun is created by the spectacle of the General chasing Sir William and Jolly about the house with a whip in his determination to secure revenge.

The tangle is unravelled when Sir William and the butler, both hiding from the General, witness a meeting between the burglar and Eliza, who turn out to be man and wife, and thus relieve Jolly of his embarrassments. Sir William, discovering that he is wearing the wrong coat, changes it without delay, and is restored to his proper position.

The effect of the farce, as will be gathered, depends entirely upon the resemblance which can be attained between the two principals, and in this respect Mr. Charles Windermere was particularly fortunate in securing an actor, who in voice and appearance, was his absolute double. The author himself played Sir William, and made of the affable, h-less grocer a most whimsical personage, revelling in his own absurdities, and giving rise to peals of laughter by his quaint attitudes. Apart from the merit of his make-up, Mr. Rule Pyott, a clever comedian, gave a mirth-provoking performance of William Jolly, the butler's tragic expression of horror at the perpetration of his deadly deed, and his subsequent efforts to extricate himself from his difficulties, being particularly diverting. The two parts were admirably played, and the laughter aroused was well won. A pair of lovers were capitally presented by Mr. Edmund Hollick, a refined and well-spoken actor, and by Miss Clare Manifield, a dainty and prepossessing heiress, by whom the task of proposing to the penniless Harry was accomplished with charming artlessness. Miss Belle Donaldson was tall, graceful, and ladylike as Lady Gregory; and Mr. Leslie Norman, as her peppery father, General Rubbub, acted his part realistically. Miss Zoe Davis gave a droll caricature of Eliza; a skilful characterisation of a policeman was that of Mr. T. Mackenzie; Mr. Fred Lake was a typical burglar; and a thoroughly adequate cast was completed by Miss May Rosine as the buxom cook.

The comedy, which was preceded by *Clause No. 6*, a comedietta also by Mr. Windermere, produced some years ago, has caused the thermometer of mirth in Fulham to go up appreciably, and if Monday night's audience communicated their impressions to their friends, courteous Mr. Frederick Merer, the manager, has no doubt had the felicity of providing for overwhelming audiences throughout the week.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 11, for the First Time in London, the Comedy-Drama in three acts, by Joe Ellis, entitled

"FOLLY'S FORTUNES."

Folly Vaughan ..... Miss Maude Western
Biddy Boyd ..... Miss Maudie Lambert
Myra Burritt ..... Miss Ada Hender
Eleanor Vaughan ..... Miss Nellie Lambert
Ben Burritt ..... Mr. John Levey
Wilfred Esmond ..... Mr. Alex Alexander
Ralph Grimes ..... Mr. William May
George Foster ..... Mr. Laurie Lawrence
Alfred Vaughan Esmond .. Mr. W. Buckstone
Billy Boyd ..... Mr. Walter Buckstone

The customary bill of fare at this popular melodrama theatre is somewhat changed this week, for *Folly's Fortune*, which is making its first appearance in the metropolitan area, can be best described as a brisk mixture of singing, dancing, and dramatic action, but the story is so easily followed that the interpolations do not interfere with the enjoyment of the piece, which is capitally mounted and very suitably dressed.

Folly is the daughter of Squire Esmond in his less palmy days, and when the story opens he is living with, and under the impression he is lawfully married to, Myra Burritt, whose son, Wilfred, by a former marriage, the Squire has adopted. The Squire's real wife, who has not a scrap of evidence to prove her marriage, but is very eager to obtain it for her daughter's sake, seeks to enter her husband's service, but her disguise is penetrated by Wilfred, a dissipated man, who at the time is squeezing his father for money for debts, who denounces his stepfather, all the time realising the lever he has for blackmailing him. Determining to make reparation to his wife, he himself possessing their marriage lines, Squire Esmond repairs to his library for that purpose, and overhears a conversation between Myra Burritt and Wilfred, the latter now learning that his mother is also married to a loafer named Ben Burritt, and that all she wants is the Squire's money. Denouncing the pair, Esmond orders them from the house, but they, contriving to return, add murder to their wrongdoings by strangling the Squire. They endeavour to fix the crime on Eleanor, but through the good offices of Billy Boyd, Folly's admirer, who masquerades as a policeman, she escapes, and the precious pair are well content to let the murder go unsolved.

Their object now is to destroy the certificate of the Squire's previous marriage and so retain his wealth, and thus it is a battle royal between villainy, as represented by Myra Burritt and her son Wilfred, with the husband and father, Ben Burritt, skirmishing round, and virtue, in the persons of Eleanor Vaughan and her daughter Folly, with their ubiquitous friend Billy Boyd. One of villainy's fell designs is to consign Eleanor into a gorilla's den, but even here her champion, Billy Boyd, is to the rescue, coming to the place disguised as a youthful nigger (and incidentally giving a song and dance). He enters the den, kills the animal, dons its skin, and then and there puts their persecutors to flight. This is but the prelude to the triumph of virtue, for Myra is killed while impersonating Eleanor, Wilfred is hoist with his own petard through a bomb exploding which he had intended for others, and the end sees Folly and her mother establish their claims to Squire Esmond's wealth.

Miss Maude Western's company do adequate justice to the piece. Mr. Joe Ellis as Billy Boyd is a prominent personage throughout, and he is decidedly entertaining in his speciality numbers, his dancing being very loudly applauded. Miss Maude Western is charming and interesting as Folly, and her vocal numbers and impersonations win much favour. The part of Myra Burritt affords insufficient scope for the skill of Miss Ada Hender, whose acting is powerful; Miss Nellie Lambert's impersonation of Folly's mother, Eleanor Vaughan, is sincere and natural; Miss Maudie Lambert is a bright and attratcive Biddy Boyd; Mr. John Levey's unobtrusive methods are very effective in playing the sneakish Ben Burritt; Mr. Alex. Alexander portrays Wilfred Esmond with strength and conviction; Mr. Walter Buckstone is a fluent exponent of Squire Esmond; and Mr. William May is well placed as Ralph Grimes.

THE PAVILION, MILE END.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

Mr. Morton Powell's company is playing here in *A Girl's Temptation*, which is remarkably well received, the theatre being packed night after night with an appreciative audience. The play claims to "expose some of the temptations which are purposely placed in the way of many working girls, and to deal with subjects of every-day occurrence, which are of the greatest interest to and concern every man and woman." As Guy Warren, the hero, Mr. Frank Fenn played his part exceedingly well, and won much applause; Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Stirling, a working girl, was the favourite of the evening; Mr. Clifton Earle as Mark Klaw received much applause, which says a great deal for the excellence of his acting, as it is not usual for an East-end audience to acclaim the villain of the piece; Basil Warren was played in a very creditable manner by Mr. Charles Herbert; as Geoffrey Stirling Mr. Gerald Nolan displayed excellent dramatic ability; and Mr. Fred Mace as Jim Judd was good. Mr. Freddie Bentley was the cause of much laughter as Sammy Sniggles, a limb-of-the-law, his acting being very original. Mr. W. Grande as Karl Schwartz made a typical German. Miss Winnie Donovan deserves much praise for the fine rendering she gave of Lady Constance Heathfield. Miss Blanche Lee as Annie Brown acted "a victim of temptation" skilfully, delivering her lines in a clear and effective voice. The remainder of the company acquit themselves creditably.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 11, the Musical Play, entitled

"THE GIRLS OF GOTTENBERG."

Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon are this week presenting the Gaiety Theatre success *The Girls of Gottenberg*, which is keeping Dalston audiences in the best of good humour. The piece is produced by Mr. Austen Hurgon, and the full chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Bertram J. Paterson, the stage-manager being Mr. Charles Berkeley. Foremost in the cast is Mr. Phil Smith, who sends the audience into convulsions of laughter with his eccentricities as Max Moddelkop. Mr. Murray Moore is thoroughly well received as Otto, and the way in which he renders the song "The girls, they call me Otto" is quite sufficient to secure him popularity. In addition, he is encored for the song "Jericho," and takes part in a charming duet with Mitzi, a part sustained with considerable vivacity by Miss Hilda Vining. Miss Nellie Laurence is very entertaining as Clementine, the Burgomaster's daughter, and she accompanies Max in a duet which proves the ability of both artists. Mr. Ralph Forster is a quaint Burgomaster; Mr. George Robertson is equally amusing as an eccentric Town Clerk; and Mr. James Cook as a policeman sings in splendid bass voice a song about German beer, which, apart from its seductive attributes in this respect, is one of the prettiest little compositions in the piece. Miss Nan Stuart as Elsa sings nicely; while Miss Ethel Waine as Katrina, the only girl in Rottenberg, Mr. Charles Hoddy as Corporal Schmidt, Mr. Harry Clarke as Albrech, Mr. Charles Berkeley as a Sergeant of Hussars, Mr. Lionel Yaldwyn as a General, and Mr. Percy Clarbour as Colonel Finkhausen prove how admirably they have been cast for their respective parts.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

Lovers of strong dramatic fare will find all their hearts' desire at the Alexandra Theatre this week, where Mr. Cowen is presenting *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*. The play teems with moving incidents, and the interest in the contest between virtue and villainy is never allowed to flag until the curtain finally falls. As Nicholas Brophy, barrister-at-law, Mr. Henry Doughty is unremitting in his efforts to present the wrong-doings of this arch-villain in the most uncompromising light. Mr. E. Eardley-Howard is a very earnest hero, and as the wrongly-accused Robert Hall gains for the character its full share of sympathy. To Mr. Will Harman is entrusted the task of providing the greater part of the fun, and that he is thoroughly successful is proved by the roars of laughter his performance of Mr. Johnson evokes. As Beatrice Cuthbert Miss Violet Hammersley is duly pathetic, and Miss Dora Hammersley evinces power as an emotional actress in the part of Gertrude Grant. Miss Maggie Lindsay as Caroline Stranger does excellent work, and Rupert Dyke is presented in a quite original manner by Mr. John Sargent. Miss Constance Coopman is seen to great advantage as Mrs. Jenkins, and of the remaining parts special praise is due to Mr. Frederic Jacques for his well-considered performance of Sir James Hall, and to Misses Margaret Halstead and Doris Whyte for their clever sketches of the coster-woman, Sarah Isaacs, and the suffragette, Sylvia Trevor, respectively.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, April 11,

"OUR MISS GIBBS."

This famous Gaiety production is drawing overflowing houses at this theatre, and richly deserves its success. The bright and pretty musical play is admirably acted and sung, the dresses are rich and tasteful, and the scenery and appointments are excellent. Mr. Tom Shelford makes a hit as the Hon. Hughie; and Mr. Theodore Leonard is a richly-humorous Timothy Gibbs. Mr. J. E. Stevenson is a capital Slithers. Mr. R. M. Strachan as Mr. Toplady is very good. Mr. Henry de Solla is a clever Mr. Beavis. Mr. Ernest Darrell is a dignified Earl of St. Ives. Mr. Crauford Kent is a highly-satisfactory Lord Eynsford. Mr. Albert Cavendish is a typical Taxi-Cabby; and Mr. Murray Stephen is a competent Mr. Amalfy. Miss Kathleen Courtenay as Our Miss Gibbs is clever and attractive, and wins hosts of admirers for her charming performance. Miss Nancy Hervyn as Mme. Jeanne acts with ease and finish, and assists materially in the general success. Miss Jennie Richards submits a clever portrait of Mrs. Farquhar, Miss Winifred Knightly exactly realises the character of the Duchess of Minster; and Elizabeth is charmingly played by Miss Gladys Ivery. Other parts are well filled by Mesdames Nancy Alwyn (Nora), Dorothy Dickens (Sheilah), Violet Lingard (Kathleen), Ella Merton (Lady Connie), Susie Beardon (Lady Sybil), Marion Gordon (Lady Trixie), Cissy Gordon (Lady Angela), Kitty Mead (Lady Muriel), and Hilda Grundy (Lady Gwen). The chorus is strong in numbers and vocalisation and attractive in appearance. Mr. Cecil Klein is manager and Mr. H. de Solla stage-manager of the company.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled

"THE STILL ALARM."

After an interval of about two years, the ever green and highly-popular American drama *The Still Alarm* is making a welcome re-appearance, and, as usual, is attracting good houses. The elaborate and realistic scene in Act III., the Central Fire Station, New York, in which the two highly-trained horses Pegasus and Bucephalus appear, is the prominent feature, and continues to contribute in no small measure to the success of the play, which is accorded an enthusiastic reception from every part of the house. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gives a powerful rendering of the intrepid fireman, Jack Manley, which appeals to the audience, and is the recipient of flattering applause; Mr. Gerald Kennedy is entirely successful as the villain, John Bird, and offers a good representation; Doc Wilber is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Henry C. Gilbin, who scores considerably; Mr. Edward Hobart as Willie Manley has also a part that suits him nicely; Joe Jones is a quaintly-humorous individual in the capable hands of Mr. J. Sutton Pateman; Mr. Lewis Gordon gives a good delineation of Franklyn Fordham; Miss Beatrice Shirley as Elinor Fordham infuses sincerity and pathos into her characterisation; Miss Lydia Andre makes a piquant and attractive Carrie Wilbur, and acts with ease and charm; and Miss Mabel Veriton in the character of Mrs. Manley supplies a clever study of an old lady. The Lyric Comedy Four gain approval for their harmonious contributions.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 11, the play, entitled

"THE PROUD PRINCE."

A Lyceum success is the attraction at the Borough Theatre this week, and a well-filled house witnessed the performance of Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy's play on Monday night. All the original scenery and appurtenances are carried, and a strong cast has been engaged for the interpretation of the piece. Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan as that handsome despot King Robert looks the part well, and acts with much ability, afterwards portraying the monarch's humiliation when transformed into a misshapen jester with breadth and feeling, the contrast between the two parts being strikingly defined. Miss Eileen Kerin enacts Perpetua with a girlish grace well befitting the pretty maiden of the hills, and her agreeably clear enunciation is to be commended; Mr. Clifton Boyne portrays the scheming Count Hildebrand very powerfully; and as the Archangel Mr. Cowley Wright declaims his lines with much dramatic effect. Mr. Terence O'Brien submits a rugged, convincing portraiture of Theron; Mr. Frank Ward is responsible for a clever character sketch as Diogenes; Mr. Ernest Stidwell plays impressively as the priest Hieronymus; Mr. R. Leigh Ellis makes a soldierly Sigurd; and Mr. Charles Boult is duly dignified as the Archbishop of Syracuse. Miss Vashti Wynne looks handsome and imparts much histrionic ability to the unthankful character of Lysabetta, the Queen of the Courtesans, whose favourites and ladies have quite adequate representatives in Miss Esther Whitehouse, Miss Lilian Dacroy, Miss Nora Jones, Miss Ethel Miller, Miss Georgina Milne, Miss Doris Reynolds, and Miss Kathleen Ferrers. The orchestra is this week under the direction of Mr. Arthur Roby.

"Scene Painters of the Past" (Illustrated), by George Tweddell. Price 6d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

"LUCKY LIZA."

Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday, April 11.

Silas Slim ..... } Mr. Dickie Clare
The Judge ..... }
The French Waiter }
Peter Pettitoe ..... Mr. T. W. Benson
Paul Pettitoe ..... Mr. Leonard Maitland
William Biffins ..... Mr. J. W. Forest
Barnaby Blatherwick ..... Mr. Harry George
Tompkins ..... Mr. Bert Collins
P.C. McGuke ..... Mr. George Minto
Billy ..... Mr. Will Merry
Maude ..... Miss Amy Malvern
Lily ..... Miss Nellie Lister
Daisy ..... Miss Edna Evelyn
Sadie Potts ..... Mme. Constance Bellamy
Marie Pettitoe ..... Miss Belle Russell
Virgina Blatherwick ..... Miss Hettie Gale
Eliza Bird (Lucky Liza) .. Miss Vesta Browne

Lucky Liza was produced at the Paisley Theatre on May 7, 1906, and from that time up to the present has been maintaining a successful tour of the provinces. It was only on Monday last that it was first introduced to a London audience, when it was accorded a warm reception. Like numerous other musical plays of the present day, the comedy under notice contains but the vestige of a story; in fact, there is just sufficient plot to form an introduction for numerous songs, dances, jests, and amusing absurdities, which we may here state are rendered throughout, the comedy in a very lively and diverting fashion. The play is adequately mounted and dressed, and Mr. Dickie Clare, whose company it is, has surrounded himself with a number of very able artists, who keep the ball of fun rolling the whole evening.

In the first act the scene represents Two Villas up the Thames, with their gardens adjoining. One is inhabited by Peter Pettitoe, a barrister, his wife Marie, and their son Paul, a dude; while the other is occupied by Barnaby Blatherwick, also a barrister, and his daughter Virgina. Of course, the close situation of the gardens leads up to love-making "over the garden wall" by the young couple. Eliza Bird (Lucky Liza), who is the maid to the Pettitoe family, also finds time for "business" of an amorous description with the gardener next door. The advent of Silas Slim, a detective, who believes that Liza is about to inherit a large amount of money, leads to complications, which do anything but conduce to the peace of the two families, and the act ends with a ludicrous situation, which is made the most of. A very laughable Court Scene is presented in the second act, in which Mr. Dickie Clare as the Judge produces considerable hilarity, and he is amply assisted in this respect by Miss Vesta Browne as Lucky Liza, and the curtain falls to much laughter and applause. Numerous comical situations also occur in Act 3, the scene representing the Hôtel Pomme de Terre, in which Mr. Clare and Miss Vesta Browne again figure conspicuously.

Mr. Dickie Clare scores well in all three characters of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French waiter, and is well rewarded for his singing of "Silas Slim" and "Why" having to respond to several encores. Miss Vesta Browne is a clever comedienne, and her vivacious manner in the portrayal of the character of Lucky Liza produces for her emphatic expressions of approbation, and her numerous songs are rendered with plenty of "go." Among them are included "You pretty monkey," "Barney," and "My girl isn't a London girl." Her agile dancing is also duly appreciated. Mr. T. W. Benson makes an excellent Peter Pettitoe, and does ample justice to the part, particularly in the Court Scene. Mr. Leonard Maitland supplies a diverting characterisation as Paul Pettitoe, and his song "Tobe Mory" goes well. Mr. J. W. Forest is a comedian of no mean merit, and in the part of William Biffins proves the fact. Barnaby Bladderwick is well undertaken by Mr. Harry George. Miss Hettie Gale acts Virgina with charm and daintiness, and evokes much applause by her dancing and by her rendering of "Over the garden wall" and "Fishing for a husband." Mme. Constance Bellamy possesses a well-cultured and powerful voice, which she uses to the best advantage in the well-known songs of "Kathleen Mavourneen" and "Asthore," both of which are encored. Miss Belle Russell is suitably placed as Marie Pettitoe. The Jesmond Trio, consisting of Miss Amy Malvern, Miss Nellie Lister, and Miss Edna Evelyn, merit commendation for their assistance in many dances and songs, including "I could learn to love a soldier" and "Kissing-time." The comedy concludes with the concerted number entitled "Lucky Liza."

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

The thrilling story of the adventures of Bess, the naughty one, who, after all, is not so black as she is painted, has been drawing crowded houses to the Kingston playhouse. The exciting piece has awakened a lively interest amongst all classes of playgoers, and it says much for the excellent stage-management that the heavy work of arranging the quickly-succeeding events is carried out without a hitch. The title-rôle is sustained by Miss Violet Crossley, who artistically resists the many temptations to overdo the part. She was the prime favourite all through the play. The sympathies of the audience were divided between the fateful Bess and Gladys Erskine, excellently acted by Miss Daisie Cook. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves made a fine breezy naval lieutenant as Richard Marsh. A very fine picture was also presented by Mr. Frederick W. Freeman of the haughty Lord Erskine. Much of the success of the production is undoubtedly due to Mr. Luke Forster, who appears as the Jew, Barney Gordon, and invests the part with an interest of its own; as well as to Mr. George W. Montford, who, as the good-looking villain of the piece, earns his reward in the audible execration of the "gods." Some very good light comedy work is put in by Mr. Tom May, who, as Sammy Snozzle, serves to keep the house in roars of laughter, and in this he is ably assisted by Miss Amy Randolph as Sally Smithers. The general-manager and stage-director is Mr. Chris. Mason, and Mr. Fredk. Carr is stage-manager.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 11, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Founded on Ouida's famous novel, the above play, with its stirring incidents and pathetic episodes of love and self-sacrifice, proved very acceptable to local playgoers on Monday last, and the members of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company were received with great enthusiasm. Bertie Cecil Royellieu has an excellent representative in Mr. Douglas Murray, who gives a meritorious performance. Mr. Francis Curtis is a capable Berklie Cecil Royellieu; and Mr. Charles Brooke does well as Lord Royellieu; Mr. Harry Benson is accorded much applause for his humorous portrayal of the dare-devil, but loyal, Rake; and Mr. Arthur Redmond is a natural Lord Rockingham. The evil qualities of Colonel Chateauroy are well depicted by Mr. Charles E. Johnson; and Mr. A. Holmes as Capt. Claude de Chanrelion and Mr. Horace Stewart as Ezry Baroni contribute valuable assistance. Miss Agnes Verity enacts the rôle of Cigarette with considerable skill and energy. The quickly-changing moods of love, passion, and hate are faithfully portrayed, and the intensity of her acting makes a deep impression. A charming Princess Venetia Corona is seen in Miss Elizabeth Dundas; Miss Gwendoline Verschoyle appears as Lady Beatrice Guinevere; and Miss Mary Morrell is seen to advantage in the part of Lavinia.

THE LIONEL BROUGH SALE.

BY TOM CRAVEN.

"A sail, a sail, and I haven't got a catalogue!" Don't wince; I'm not going to spring the hoary-headed chestnut upon you. It was buried decades ago—died, poor beggar, of overwork and senile decay. This yarn was first pelted at me by my lost friend and sometime partner, Lionel Brough, oh! years and years ago, just when I was trying to look normal over my first pipe. Of the effects of the story I have but a hazy recollection, but I can taste that pipe as I write now, for Brough smoked shag, if you please. The first time I met him, I can faintly recall, he was in the York Hotel, Margate, and I was in petticoats. He gave me a shortcake and a long anecdote. Yes; that was the first time I met this late monarch of mirth, as they would put it in the variety theatre bill, and well over forty years later I bade good-bye to brilliant, easy-going, gentle-hearted Bohemian "Lal." Yes; I saw him a few hours, you might say, before he took his last "call."

I could tell I don't know how many original stories about this staunch and estimable "mate," but they would be digressive—it would be looking for the blue pencil, asking for trouble; but I knew him and all the members of his delightful family so long, so intimately, that all his cherished petted household gods were as familiar to me as my own. As a proof of this I had the honour of being chosen out of many willing scribes to write the programme appreciation for his grand testimonial matinée, which took place on June 15, 1905. As I write I have before me Brough's letter, thanking me in affectionate and all too eulogistic terms for my inadequate labour of love. In 1908 we toured together as theatrical partners, and I wrote him his last very own piece, *The Yarn-Spinner*, and before he realised that the end was within a stone's throw he chatted to me quite hopefully about renewing the partnership this coming summer. When touring we frequently stayed in the same hotels—he, his daughter (that unrivalled character-actress, Mary Brough), and myself. My pen gets the bit between its teeth here. I really must tell you this, even at the imminent risk of being blue-pencilled off the journalistic earth. We were playing at Brighton, and during the matinée I'd found I'd run out of grease paint—"make-up," you know—so I borrowed "Lal's." At the end of the first act of *Milky White* I laid predatory hands upon his violet-powder. During the evening show I begged the loan of his "lining" pencil, and later on put the copingstone on my beggary by imploring him to let me have a clean towel. "Daddy," as the company affectionately called him, didn't expostulate, but in his own dry, inimitable way soon got his own back, for when I entered our dressing-room next evening I found, neatly arranged upon my dressing-table, new specimens of all the articles I had borrowed, with the following laconic message pinned to the towel: "Is there anything else you'd like?" I turned towards him and saw the twinkle in his bespectacled, but still expressive, eyes, and replied that I would make out an exhaustive list of my dressing-room necessities. "No, no," he answered, "don't do that—make out a list of the things you possess—it will take up much less time." If the blue pencil will be merciful, I'll tell you just another little anecdote, and then I'll cut the cackle and get to the 'osses. It takes us to merry Margate once again—where Irving was wont to fraternise with Johnny Toole—where George Grossmith, Edward Lloyd, Arthur Sketchley ("Mother Gamp") used to entertain proprietor Edwin Villiers' patrons at the elegant old Assembly Rooms in Cecil Square, when Sarah Thorne, sister of Tom Thorne, of *Our Boys* fame, managed successfully the quaint old Theatre Royal—one of the few remaining patent theatres, and which was independent of a licence. Well, all right, I *am* a-moving on—here you are: My father, Villiers, Brough, and a Dr. Hamilton were chatting at the foot of the jetty, when Brough proposed that they should club together and have a few hours' line-fishing. Villiers at once volunteered to provide the "Henry Clays'," Hamilton the wine of the country, my father the edibles, and Brough a liberal supply of Bryant and May's matches—guaranteed to "strike on the box only." He did it in his humorous, pawky way, and raised a roar of expostulatory laughter. The only thing our bold fishermen caught was one consumptive, devoid of three legs, and very diminutive *crab*. This Brough, with infinite gravity and precision, tied somehow to a huge piece of rope, and told Villiers—who was by way of being a bit of a dandy—to lead it home to the Royal Hotel, have it dressed, and invite them all to supper. The jovial party reached the shore "fishless," and dreaded the ridicule with which they knew they would be greeted, but "Lal" rose to the situation. From his overcoat pocket he drew a somewhat bulky, greasy-looking parcel, and from it extracted a bunch of *Aberdeen Haddies*, very darkly smoked. "But," said one of the party, who had about as much sense of humour as a drayhorse—you know the sort of fellow I mean, aren't they thundering wet blankets?—"but, these rotten things will give us dead away—they're dressed and smoked." "It's all right," replied Brough, "they're respectable haddocks, so, of course, they're dressed; and we can say they were smoked by the sun."

The Lionel Brough sale, to be held at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, is of such proportions as to cover two days—Wednesday and Thursday, April 20 and 21. There are no less than 313 lots, and there are things being put up calculated to make the most exacting virtuoso smack his lips. The pictures are graced by the names of Sir D. Wilkie, Whistler, Alfred Bryan, Hogarth, and some 140 others, many of them presentations to Brough. There are no less than fourteen Phil Mays, all signed, and some eight or nine Cruikshanks. The second day's sale will be devoted to some valuable old china and theatrical relics. We have, too, a collection of punchbowls, drinking-cups, presentation cigar and cigarette cases, old-time breastpins, fobs, and what not; 203 is a "star turn" in lots, being a Sheffield-plated cigar-box, presented in 1863 by President Lincoln to Professor Anderson. As to books—well, they are too numerous to name in detail, but Dickens lovers will find something to please them vastly. Lot 284 is a remarkable autograph-book, the property of the late H. T. Craven, the mid-Victorian dramatist, and in it will be found interesting letters, ranging from George III. to Sir Henry Irving. It is to be earnestly hoped that Miss Mary Brough, the beloved daughter and sole executrix of Brough's estate, will reap a golden harvest when all the lots have fallen under the hammer. There will be no little sentiment in this sale and many must be anxious to secure some sort of memento of the genial, gifted actor who claimed hundereds of real friends and not a single enemy.

ON Monday, Councillor Harold Arnold, the manager of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, is to take a well-deserved benefit at that house, having recently been appointed manager of the Tynemouth Palace, which is leased by the same company that at present employs Mr. Arnold. The Mayor and Corporation of the town have signified their intention of being present at the "first house" performance, as also have the players of the Manchester United Football Club. The managers of the various houses of amusement in the district are giving their best support, and there is abundant evidence for the conclusion that the occasion will result in a bumper benefit to a gentleman who has made many sacrifices for the benefit of the public, and has always been popular with his patrons.

MR. FORBES-ROBERTSON IN NEW YORK.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson was the guest of the Lotos Club at a supper in its new clubhouse, 110, West Fifty-seventh-street, New York, on the 2nd inst. Mr. Forbes-Robertson sat upon Mr. President Frank R. Lawrence's right, and on Mr. Lawrence's left was William Winter, "dean" of American dramatic critics, who will soon celebrate his seventy-fourth birthday. Mr. Winter described Mr. Forbes-Robertson as a splendid survivor of the old school of actors, a school that he said seemed to be the subject of much disparagement in these days. The supper was attended by about 300 members. The menus, as is the rule of the Lotos Club, were artistic. They bore a steel-engraved portrait of Mr. Forbes-Robertson in the right-hand corner, with Mr. Forbes-Robertson as Hamlet below. In other parts of the card appeared the names of the plays in which Mr. Forbes-Robertson has gained his greatest fame, and around the whole was a quotation from William Winter expressing sentiments appropriate to the occasion.

"It is no new thing," said the President, Mr. Frank R. Lawrence, "for the Lotos Club to welcome a distinguished actor. In its early days the dramatic element in this club was large and influential. When I become a member John Brougham was its President, while among its active members were Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, John T. Raymond, John McCullough, and many other distinguished men of the stage.

"It therefore is appropriate that to-night we should have as our guest one of the most illustrious actors of the English-speaking stage. It is a delight to honour Forbes-Robertson, an actor who for so many years has illumined the stage of England and America. Our esteem and affection for him grow with the years, and may this night mean a nearer alliance in the future between this club and the stage."

"Your President," said Mr. Forbes-Robertson in reply, "has overwhelmed me with his kind words. The dinners of the Lotos Club are famous throughout the English-speaking world. You have entertained many of the most distinguished of my own countrymen, as well as your own, and I deem it the greatest of honours to be chosen as one to be the guest of this club.

"As to the drama and its interpreters, I am an optimist. I feel that in many ways the drama has advanced enormously. In England and in America the average acting of to-day is very high, and I may venture to say that I consider this average higher than ever before. We may not have as remarkable interpreters as of old, but the general level is higher than when I first became an actor.

"As regards the drama, I feel strongly that there have been and are plays, produced recently which are what I may call of a feverish nature. That only means one thing—they are just a little too spicy. There is no doubt that in recent years we have had an undesirable element of this kind, but I think it is but a wave, and that it will soon pass away."

Mr. Forbes-Robertson then spoke hopefully of the future of the New Theatre, of which he is a director. He said that the institution was sure to do good, and that he considered the undertaking a splendid one.

"That magnificent temple," he said, "will teach the man in the street that the drama is a great art, a sister art of music and painting and literature. There you have a young child that is doing wonderfully well. That child will have the measles and the whooping cough, but I am sure that Dr. Ames will be able to cure it."

"There was a time, perhaps," said Mr. Winter, "when I might have paid an adequate tribute to Forbes-Robertson. My meaning is earnest, but my words are few. My friend stands in the front rank of intellectual actors. As an actor he received in the old school, now sometimes disparaged, the training that made him what he is to-day." Mr. Winter said the conditions of the stage were deplorable to-day, but he added that he was happy to say he believed those conditions were only temporary. The best actors of to-day, he said, were Forbes-Robertson and Robert Mantell, who, he said, were "survivors of the old school or adherents to the old faith." Mr. Laurence Irving made a brief speech.

"BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT."

Episode in One Act, by R. A. Brandon and George Bull, Produced at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, April 11.

Muriel Dainty .....Miss G. Wren
Harry Dainty .....Mr. W. Kershaw
Carlton Brookes .....Mr. W. F. Grant
Parker .....Mr. M. Thompson

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene is the office of Carlton Brookes, lawyer, in which his clerk, Parker, is discovered completing the disposition of papers relating to the impending separation of Muriel and Harry Dainty. As an old friend of the families of both parties, Lawyer Brookes is much concerned about the serious step the young people are about to take, and he confesses to Parker his regrets and his intention to dissuade them, if possible, from their purpose. The attempt seems hopeless, but he is relying to some extent on the potency of a certain blue paper that lies upon his desk. Parker wishes him luck as he goes off. Muriel is the first to arrive, and with her the lawyer proceeds to discuss the situation. She is not amenable to argument. Her complaint is that her husband, who took her from a country home three years ago, and has given her the opportunity to enjoy life in society, wishes now to shut her up in a country home once more, away from all the pleasures to which she has grown accustomed, and which she is enjoying to the full. Even now she has so many immediate engagements that she has barely time to look at the agreement which the lawyer has drawn up for the necessary signatures; but instead of allowing her to append her name in so casual a manner, he persuades her to go into an ante-room and read the paper carefully through. This she is doing when the husband arrives. The change towards gaiety in his wife has its antithesis in Harry Dainty, whose liking for the pleasures of his set has taken a turn in the opposite direction. He takes the matter very quietly, realising that the separation is inevitable. There is a marked difference between his mood and the thoughtless frivolity of his wife. Suddenly the latter emerges from the ante-room, impatient of the agreement and the delay, and the parties to the arrangement are face to face. Now the matter is gone into in detail, interlarded with the further inducements of the lawyer for a reconciliation. There are houses to apportion, and the rest of it. Then, finally, finding all else fail, the lawyer brings out quietly his blue paper, embodying something which both, he says, appear to have overlooked. Everything belonging to them is to be equally divided, but who is to take possession of the grave of the little child they buried not so long ago? He leaves them to consider this intimate question, with the result that the chord he has touched in each brings about what all other argument has failed to do, and the deed of separation is afterwards torn up by the delighted lawyer.

Miss Gwendoline Wren played the part of Muriel Dainty exceedingly well, and as Harry Dainty Mr. W. Kershaw was quietly effective. Mr. W. F. Grant filled the rôle of Carlton Brookes with considerable sympathy and skill; while Mr. M. Thompson made a satisfactory Parker.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

A CHAT WITH W. PAYNE-SEDDON.

Observations upon theatrical business in the provinces by such an experienced manager as Mr. W. Payne-Seddon should prove invaluable.

"How is business in the country?" was our representative's first inquiry.

"Much as usual. If anything, a little better."

"You have not found skating rinks affect it?"

"I have heard managers attribute bad weeks to rinks and picture shows, but they must put it down to something. I think I would rather have a skating rink against the theatre in every town for twelve months than one General Election hovering over the country for six weeks. It appears to me that all such temporary booms in amusements must ultimately assist any permanent amusement business. It wakes the public and brings them out. Every pound lost to the theatre during the height of the skating boom will be returned tenfold."

"You think business depends more upon the management than the circumstances?"

"Undoubtedly. Just as there are farmers and people who farm, there are managers and people who manage. You do not often find a man take a 300-acre farm after a year's experience as a pupil, yet there are hundreds of men and women who take a theatre or a company on tour without the necessary capital or knowledge of the business. I do not know of any business where more money is lost through inexperience. In what other trade or profession would a man dare to take the control of management of a large establishment with as little knowledge or capital as some of your recent examples of bogus management. Such failures—or 'dry-ups,' as they are called—are taken as a matter of course in the small provincial towns. Theatres and touring companies spring up like mushrooms, and most of them disappear as quickly."

"You do not, then, consider the theatrical business speculative?"

"Not at all. The result is a foregone conclusion when undertaken by business men. I mean not only men of business, but men who have served their apprenticeship in every department of their particular business. I consider it as steady and safe as any other."

MR. W. PAYNE-SEDDON.

"Have you had experience of other businesses to enable you to make a comparison?"

"Oh, yes. When I left school I was for some years with my father, who was a corn merchant, miller, and brewer. I had several years in the country, attending the markets at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Hull, &c., and two on Mark Lane, and I think that the corn trade, with its fluctuations of the market, is more speculative than the theatrical business. For example, I bought a theatre from a local company which had never paid the shareholders a cent; the amount I paid for the building just cleared their mortgage and bank overdraft. The first year it showed a good profit, the second a better, and now it is paying well. I won't go into figures, the income-tax people already worry me about these. I have recently been offered double what I paid for it, but wouldn't sell it for treble.

"At Lincoln, where the population is 50,000, they have a music hall, picture show, and skating rink. I took the theatre over on a long lease three years ago. My partner, Mr. Ernest Pope, lives there and looks after the management. We book light attractions the first three nights, once nightly, and drama the other three nights, twice nightly, and get two distinct classes of audience each week. The receipts this year are exactly double those of any previous year when each company stayed six nights.

I had the management of the only place of amusement in Bridlington for six years. I booked one play, *Charley's Aunt* for three nights every season during that six years, and the average receipts were £100 in the three nights. Six years ago a new theatre was built, and for the next four years the piece was booked by my successor, and did the same average. The year before last I undertook the booking of this piece myself, and persuaded the local manager to book one night. The receipts were £132 some odd shillings (or nearly half as much again on the one night on its eleventh visit, as it took in any three nights in the previous ten years).

During my theatrical life I have visited every town in great Britain and Ireland, large and small, but have made a speciality of the small towns. I think when you know them they pay better than the large ones. At any rate, I had to start on my savings as an actor."

"How did you start in management without capital?"

"Well, I did not exactly start myself, and had no idea of going into management. I was playing a part and looking after 'the front' for Messrs. Erskine and Macdona, who were both travelling with the company. One Sunday when I brought them the weekly balance-sheet they told me they thought of sending out a fit-up company. Knowing that I had been on tour in the fit-up towns with Miss Maggie Moreton and others for several years, they asked me if I would care to book the tour and undertake the management on a salary and commission. I accepted their offer, and ran their fit-up companies until they dissolved partnership, when I took over two of their plays and started a company of my own, which happened to turn out all right."

"And you have kept to the small towns ever since?"

"Yes, with the exception of an occasional tour in the large towns. I have my books with the receipts and comments on each town for eighteen years."

FRIENDS of Mr. W. Christie Grant, manager of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, will regret to learn that his wife died on March 31 last, after having undergone an operation at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow. We tender Mr. Grant our deep sympathy.

"SUBSIDENCE."

A Drama, in Three Acts, by Fred E. Wynne, Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, April 11.

Ellen .....Miss Louise Holbrook
Jane Lythgoe .....Miss Darragh
Ab Hesford .....Mr. Edward Landor
Adam Lythgoe .....Mr. Charles Bibby
Walter Travers .....Mr. Basil Dean
James Bent .....Mr. Ian Maclaren
Mr. Elliot .....Mr. Leonard Mudie
Mrs. Holmes .....Miss Muriel Pratt
A Detective-Inspector of Police
Mr. Montague Elphinstone

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Fred E. Wynne's play, *Subsidence*, was followed with considerable interest by a large audience at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday evening last. Its prime merit is interest, made up of well-studied characterisation, a clever arrangement of material, and natural and pertinent dialogue. An element of originality pervades the theme, but the conclusion is apparently illogical and certainly unsatisfactory.

We are introduced to the affairs of Lythgoe's farm, on the borders of a Lancashire manufacturing town. The last of the Lythgoes, whose family has held the farm for the past two hundred years, is a bad-tempered, but probably honest, old man, whose pride in his antecedents is only equalled by his disappointment in having a daughter left to him by his dead wife instead of a son, and by the extraordinary violence of his temper for the things that cross him. A less amenable disposition it would be hard to conceive; but he is not ill-matched in temperament by his daughter, who is so passionate, selfish, and unfeeling that one really wonders at the devotion of the two men who are rivals for her hand. These two men, however, are themselves of not too admirable a character. One—the favoured one—is a bank clerk with potentialities for evil (he has already, by way of a hobby, made duplicates of the keys of the bank, and got himself "sacked" on suspicion); the other is a market gardener, who lounges jealously about, and has much to say in a common-sense, dogged fashion about his love for Lythgoe's daughter and things of current interest in general. Lythgoe just now is approached by a neighbouring colliery about the purchase of the coal under his freehold. It is common knowledge that the subsidence of the district must shortly engulf the farm, also that the colliery-owners will get the coal whether Lythgoe sells or not. But the old man is mulishly obstinate, and will not be guilty of converting the home and its associations into money. To his daughter Jane this means not only inevitable loss, but the continued curtailment of her opportunities to "live" instead of dragging out the unsympathetic existence her father has made for her by his masterful self-sufficiencies. The persuasions of his daughter of James Bent (the market gardener), and of Mr. Elliot (the manager of the mine, whom Lythgoe drives away with a stick) are all of no avail.

In these circumstances Jane is cast upon her chances with Walter Travers, the bank clerk. The latter's situation, however, is not what she thinks. His prospects rest upon the hope of a successful literary career, based upon nothing more substantial than an editor's acceptance of a story for two guineas. But he mentions the duplicate keys of the bank, intending to destroy them; and she, preferring him to Bent, and quite resolved to be rescued from her horrible home life, tempts him to use the keys for the purpose of stealing a hundred pounds, with which they may start life in London. It is to the credit of Travers that he repudiates the notion at first and consents only at last under the spell of his love for her, upon which she plays with effect. Some of their talk is overheard by Ellen, the charwoman, who subsequently communicates her knowledge to James Bent, such as it is. He surmises that Jane is going to London that very evening with Travers, but he cannot understand the allusion to "money out of the bank," since he believes Travers to have none there. Bent thus gets on the trail of the impending tragedy. That afternoon he goes for an interview with Travers, and utters some plain talk. While he is there Adam Lythgoe comes, too, meaning to have an end of Travers's interest in his daughter whom he designs for Bent; and neither suspects the presence behind the door of a previous visitor none other than Jane herself, who has come to make final arrangements about the robbery, and who at last comes out and treats her father and James Bent to a pretty scene. Old Lythgoe is seen at his worst here. The fight for mastery between father and daughter is powerful and dramatic. The former apparently conquers; but what he bids the girl to do, in token of obedience, she does because she sees an opportunity in it for a sinister end of the matter. She is to meet him on the waters of the subsidence in a boat laden with flour; and the next we hear of Adam is that he has been drowned in twelve inches of water. Certainly he was subject to fits but his daughter was in the boat, and did not help him; she has the satisfaction of riddance and of knowing that she is morally a murderess.

Things are bad at the farm on the night of the funeral. There are wind and rain, and the sound of the "flash" (the waters), and strange noises in the ceiling and the walls of the house. Terror is well suggested, not only by these omens but by the talk of one Ab Hesford, who is the last to go, and the awesome apprehensions of Ellen, the servant, who cannot work nor face the prospect of sleep, nor check her woful dread of the night. Meanwhile, Jane has intimated her desire to sell the coal under the house, and is feverishly awaiting a reply from the colliery. Pending its arrival, Travers makes a furtive entry. He has been to London, made his way back surreptitiously to commit the burglary, as arranged, and is now here with the proceeds, eaten with fear and remorse. The pity is that Jane has been unable to stop the project, deeming the money and the enterprise unnecessary since her father's death. More is it the pity that James Bent has meanwhile had Travers shadowed by the police, who are even now at the door. There is no escape. All Jane can do is to promise fidelity and a home for her lover when he has paid the penalty. So Travers is arrested, and Jane is left face to face with James Bent and their joint work. Bent's argument for tolerance and justification is rational enough, but she will not listen. She tells him the truth about herself, and about Travers's temptation. Travers seems the only sufferer. "Subsidence" solves the difficulty for the two remaining. The house begins to rock, the waters rush; Jane stands there and will not move, and Bent takes his place beside her. It should be added, by the way, that her resolve to die is due to the arrival of the expected letter, which informs her that the colliery cannot see its way to negotiations.

One cannot praise the acting of Miss Horniman's company too highly. Miss Darragh gave a remarkably effective rendering of Jane Lythgoe, a piece of intensely realistic and thoroughly consistent character delineation. As Adam Lythgoe Mr. Charles Bibby submitted one of the best things he has done, and that is saying a great deal. No better impersonation could be desired. Mr. Basil Dean's Walter Travers gave him fine opportunities for the exercise of his clear, incisive style, his acting in the second and third acts being really excellent. A quiet and perfectly-finished character-sketch of Ab Hesford was given by Mr. Edward Landor, and Mr. Ian Maclaren as James Bent acted with his usual studied force and finish.

"THE QUEEN OF SHEBA."

Karl Goldmark's Opera, in Four Acts, Produced, for the First Time in England, by the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Tuesday, April 12.

King Solomon .....Mr. Charles Victor
Assad .....Mr. Walter Wheatley
High Priest .....Mr. Alexander Richard
Baal-Hannan .....Mr. Hebden Foster
Sulamith .....Miss Beatrice Miranda
Astaroth .....Miss Annie Van Dyck
The Queen of Sheba .....Miss Doris Woodall

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Karl Goldmark's opera, *The Queen of Sheba*, was first produced in Vienna thirty-five years ago, and made its composer's name. It is a large, elaborate, and beautiful work, reminiscent at times of other great work, but opulent, stimulating, and satisfying. It tells of the love of Assad for the Queen of Sheba. But he is betrothed to Sulamith, the daughter of the High Priest. The action begins in the Hall of Solomon's Palace, where maidens sing the praise of Sulamith and her lover, and the High Priest holds forth to his daughter upon her forthcoming marriage with Assad. To the sound of a march Assad enters, and Sulamith greets him as becomes a lover. He, however, repudiates her, declaring that he is hers no more. Consternation ensues in the whole assembly, whose wonder waits upon Assad's relation to King Solomon of a vision he has seen of a lady at a forest well, with whom he has fallen in love. This has occurred during the fulfilment of the King's mission to him to meet the Queen of Sheba and bring her to his Court. Solomon responds with advice, and decides that the best remedy for Assad's ailment is to push forward his marriage with all speed. The entrance of the Queen ensues upon this, and when she removes her veil Assad sees that she is the lady of the well. Possessed by his infatuation, he addresses her; but she is discreet, and Solomon intervenes. Not to be entirely baulked, Assad, on opportunity, reminds her of an evening in Lebanon. She has not forgotten, but she still repudiates him, and the people imagine that his mind is unhinged. It is not till the twain meet in the palace garden that the Queen acknowledges him. There she sings alone of that evening in Lebanon, and it transpires that she had held Assad to her breast. Jealousy of the possibility of another loving him enters into her singing, and when Assad at length approaches her a passionate love scene takes place.

The wedding of Sulamith, however, cannot be put off, and in the Temple Scene that follows, when he takes the marriage ring from the hand of the High Priest, in the presence of Solomon and the Queen, he brings the situation to an issue by flinging the ring away. Madly he repeats his love for the Queen, but again the latter denies him. His declaration of passion amounts to a profanation of the Temple. The High Priest and all the people and priests rise and crowd about him in horror, demanding that he shall die. At the end Solomon decides to be Assad's judge. He has by this time suspected something, and now the Queen, prevented from going to Assad as he stands among the priests, falls at the King's feet in supplication. The following act is devoted to the intercession of the Queen and Sulamith for Assad's life. To the former Solomon refuses to concede anything, but the grief of Sulamith, whose intention is to join the Holy Virgins, softens him to sympathy. He afterward condemns Assad to exile in the desert, where we next see the unfortunate lover. The Queen comes to him here, eager now to enter his embraces, but Assad's love has changed; she is but a mocking temptress in his sight. When she has gone, he prays for death, and a sandstorm arises, which sweeps and darkens the desert, hiding him from sight, and leaving him in a dying state beneath a withered palm-tree. Sulamith enters, attended by twelve virgins from the neighbouring asylum, and the condolences of the latter with Sulamith reach the ears of Assad. He calls out to her, and when she takes him in her arms, begs forgiveness, and so dies.

The action is accompanied by beautiful love-music, wild and impressive marches, characteristic music of the Temple, brilliant openings and finales, with many other incidental varieties of masterly melodic and orchestral appeal. The staging and the dresses were magnificent too, and in keeping with the beauty and importance of the production a splendid rendering was given by a well-selected cast. Miss Doris Woodall as the Queen scored a triumph, her acting and singing being in every way worthy of the part and its responsibilities. Mr. Charles Victor as Solomon used his fine voice and good presence in an effective and dignified rendering. Mr. Walter Wheatley as Assad expressed well the passion and despair of the lover. The clear voice of Miss Beatrice Miranda was also heard to great advantage as Sulamith. Of the remainder, Miss Annie Van Dyck did well in the somewhat weird rôle of Astaroth; Mr. Alexander Richard was successful as the High Priest; and an acceptable effort as Baal-Hannan was added by Mr. Hebden Foster. The opera was produced under the joint direction of Messrs. Eugene Goossens and George Beale, and Mr. Fred W. Walmsley is responsible for the scenery, while the dresses are by Miss T. Harwood. *The Queen of Sheba* has been long in coming, but there can be no doubt it has come to stay.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 11, the Drama, entitled "TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

Military dramas are always a success at this house, and *Two Little Drummer Boys* is no exception to the rule. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is a most adequate one. Mr. Edward Bikker is seen once more in his original part as General Kingsley, V.C., and excellent he is in it. Mr. J. L. Leigh gives a fine performance as Captain Frank Carsdale; whilst Mr. Polson Turner as the villain of the piece, Captain George Darrell, shows his great skill in heavy parts. Mr. Vernon H. Vayne is decidedly good as Lieut. Allen Kingsley. A pair of really good comedians are Mr. Will Percy and Mr. Dick Seddon, who are Quiney O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer respectively. In the title-rôle Miss Maggie English is a plucky, but pathetic, little Eric Carsdale; whilst the bully drummer boy, Jack Smith, is cleverly acted by Miss Maude B. Douglas. As Margaret Rivers (Drunken Meg) Miss Violet Ingram gives a particularly effective piece of acting, and deserves high praise; Miss Violet Langley is a sweet and pretty Alma Kingsley. A lively performance, full of humour, is given by Miss Patricia Connaughton as Molly Meadows, the Regiment's sweetheart. The band of drums, bugles, and fifes play decidedly well, and the staging, both scenery and uniforms, is quite satisfactory. Mr. Edward Bikker also acts as Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's general-manager; whilst for Mr. Wentworth Croke Mr. Fred S. Jennings continues to act as general-manager with never-failing courtesy.

MR. WILLIAM A. BRADY has secured the American rights of *The Balkan Princess*.

THE North Shields Borough Theatre was burnt to the ground early on Saturday morning last, in the space of three hours from the actual time of the outbreak of the flames. The audience and attendants had left the building half an hour before the fire was discovered, and the theatre was ablaze from end to end in twenty minutes. The theatre was built some ten years ago as a circus, and subsequently converted into a first-class theatre by Mr. Arthur Jefferson. It afterwards passed into the hands of Mr. Black, cinematograph entertainer. The artists engaged (The Moncktons and Mr. Geo. Bernard) lost all their stage properties, including music, scenery, and uniforms.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree will conclude his Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's on Saturday, the 30th inst., with a performance of *The Merchant of Venice*, and on the following Monday will open at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. He will afterwards visit Dublin, Southport, Harrogate, Liverpool, Cardiff, Southampton, and Bournemouth. Sir Herbert's repertory will contain *The O'Flynn*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Trilby*. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who made such a success as Ophelia, will appear in her original part of the Lady Benedetta in *The O'Flynn*, and will play Portia in *The Merchant*.

The opening performance of the Theatre Club, Knightsbridge, will take place on Sunday, the 24th, under the patronage of Sir Herbert Tree. The programme will consist of three new one-act plays, two of which are by Miss Ella Erskine, *The White Hair*, founded on a French play, and *The Thirst for Knowledge*, adapted from the German of Felix Philippi, the celebrated Viennese playwright. In the former Miss Erskine and Mr. Cyril Keightley will be seen in the principal parts; and the Baroness Voynich will play the rôle of a French maid. Mr. Walter Pearce and Mr. Bruce Winston are appearing in *The Thirst for Knowledge*, Mr. Pearce's part being somewhat on the lines of Willy Beach in Arnold Bennett's *Cupid and Commonsense*, in which character he made such a great success at a Stage Society performance some two years ago.

The third play is by a young Irish author, Mr. Alfred Fahey, who has already won fame as an artist, having had no less than eleven pictures "on the line." One of these was the celebrated "Conception of the Cross," which created such a sensation two years ago, and which is now in the possession of Mr. Tindal-Atkinson, the well-known K.C. Mr. Fahey is also a member of the Middle Temple, and is at present at work upon a life of Goldsmith. Poor Noll is the principal character in his play *A Poet in Purgatory*, the scene of which is laid in Oliver Goldsmith's attic in Islington. Mr. Hubert Carter is playing Dr. Johnson; Mr. Arthur Curtis, Goldsmith; Mrs. Calhaem, Mrs. Fleming ("Goldy's" stony-hearted landlady); Mr. Arthur Machen (the author of "The Great God Pan") will be seen as a bibulous bailiff; and Miss Ella Erskine is to create the part of Mary Horneck, the beautiful "Jessamy bride," to whom "Goldy" would never declare his love because of a mistaken sense of honour. Many of the lines used in the play are those actually spoken by the different characters. This should lend a literary interest to the production. Mr. Dion Clayton Calthrop is designing the costumes, and arranging all the details to create the correct eighteenth-century atmosphere. Mr. Hubert Carter is responsible for the production.

From these particulars the members of the club and their friends may congratulate themselves that the opening performance will indeed be worthy of the high dramatic and literary aims of the club, and, if the future Sunday evening programmes are of this high level, the beautiful white theatre—a veritable temple of art—will be the favourite resort of the leaders of society and the aristocracy of art.

Everyone has been talking of the success achieved by Mr. Fred Terry's daughter, Miss Phillida Terson, as Viola in *Twelfth Night* at His Majesty's last week. Though only seventeen, Miss Terson shows remarkable talent and promise. She had been quietly obtaining experience in *Henry of Navarre* at the New Theatre, but her Viola was a surprise even to her best friends. Mr. Terry is to be congratulated on what is, we believe, his clever daughter's first essay in a Shakespearean character.

Coutts's historic bank in the Strand is to be transformed into a modern West-end playhouse, which, when finished, will hold nearly 400. The builders have started operations, and on or about Oct. 1 the "Little Theatre," as Miss Gertrude Kingston, the projectress, has decided to call it, will be opened. It has always been a belief of Miss Kingston's that London could do with a "little theatre." The repertory will chiefly consist of three-act comedies of a bright and lively character. There will be no orchestra, but a most comfortable foyer and tea-rooms will be provided. The "Little Theatre" will be open forty weeks in the year, with a stock company. The chief entrance will be in John St.

"Antony and Cleopatra" has been selected for the next dramatic reading of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and will be given on Monday afternoon next at University College, Gower-street, W.C., with Mr. Acton Bond and Miss Charlotte Granville in the name parts. Mr. Athol Stewart will be the Cæsar and Mr. Leonard Shepherd the Enobarbus. The cast will also include Mr. George Silver, Mr. J. Edwyn Holloway, Mr. Maurice Elvey, Mr. James Gelderd, Mr. Walter Armstrong, Mr. Herbert Lester, Mr. Roy Beard, Mr. L. A. Hutchinson, and Mr. H. L. Owen; Miss Eve Tame, Miss Dora Jesslyn, Miss Mona Hungerford, and Miss Victoria Addison.

The eighth annual dinner of the Incorporated Stage Society will take place at the Criterion Restaurant to-morrow (Sunday). The Right Hon. Sir John Eldon Gorst, K.C., in the chair, will propose the toast of "The Incorporated Stage Society." The speakers will also include Mr. Frederick Whelen, who will propose the toast of "The Repertory Theatres," Miss A. E. F. Horniman and Mr. W. B. Yeats, who will respond, and Mr. W. Lee Mathews. The next production of the Incorporated Stage Society will be *Champions of Morality*, a comedy in three acts, from the German, by Ludwig Thome.

Miss Isabel Jay, taking advantage of the present crisis in "matinée hats," with the assistance of Mr. Reville, of Hanover-square, has devised some charming toques. The hats were suggested by the delightful headdress worn by the popular prima-donna in the second act of *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales, and will be known as the Balkan Princess toque.

Mr. William Poel will superintend the revival at His Majesty's on Wednesday evening of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, under conditions as similar as possible to those of the early Elizabethan stage.

Mr. Fred Terry is busy rehearsing the play by Mr. Sydney Carroll which is to follow *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the New Theatre. In this Mr. Terry, whose powers of humour are boldly displayed at times in the present attraction at the New, will enact a shrewd and droll Jew financier, who falls in love with the leading female character, which will be sustained by Miss Miriam Lewes, Miss Phillida Terson appearing as the financier's daughter.

At the Wealdstone Sessions on Tuesday Frank Burgess, a well-dressed man, was charged with burglary at Grimsdyke, the residence of Sir William S. Gilbert. On the 9th, when the accused was discovered in the house, Sir William went to the assistance of his servants, and Burgess was secured, the police telephoned for, and the man, who had been bound with ropes, taken in Sir William's motor car to the police station. The accused was committed for trial to the Middlesex Quarter Sessions.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard will be accorded a testimonial benefit on Saturday, April 23, at the Crystal Palace Theatre. The programme will be of unusual length, and will include Act I. of *The Private Secretary*, given by kind permission of Mr. Eugene Stafford, the cast comprising members of Mr. Howard's companies, Cattermole being played by Mr. Howard himself, supported by Mr. W. Herbage as the Rev. Robert Spalding. The orchestra will consist of the Crystal Palace Military Band (by kind permission of Mr. Geo. O. Starr), under the conductorship of Mr. Herbert Godfrey. *The Private Secretary* will be followed by a grand minstrel entertainment by the "After Darks," a combination which includes many well-known artists.

The second half of the programme will comprise a variety concert, the artists taking part in it being Misses Venie Clements, Maisie Ellinger, Florence Hersee, Dorothea Clarke, Lily Gullick, and the Sisters Allen, and Messrs. Passmore Bros., Woodhouse and Wells, Herbert St. John, Arthur Helmore, Paddy Dupres, Arthur Poole, Stacey and Williams, Arthur Passmore, Harvey White, Scott Russell, Herbert Godfrey, and Gerald FitzGibbon. A programme of such length and quality should certainly draw a crowded house.

The Mayor of Stratford-on-Avon presided at an ordinary meeting of the Stratford-on-Avon Town Council on Tuesday. Councillor A. D. Flower said a suggestion had been made, not only by members of the corporate body, but also by the burgesses, that the time had approached when some public recognition should be made of the services rendered by Mr. F. R. Benson to the borough of Stratford-on-Avon. The obvious way to do that would be by admitting him to the honorary freedom of the borough; but under a certain section of the Municipal Corporations Act that could only be done at a special sitting called for the purpose. Should the Corporation be unanimous, he would like to ask the Mayor to call a meeting, in order that the matter might be considered and, if approved, duly carried out.

Mr. F. R. Benson's association with Stratford is wholly in connection with the Shakespearean Festival. The annual performances were first played under his direction in the spring of 1886, and he was again entrusted with them in the two subsequent years. In 1889 and 1890 Mr. Osmond Tearle was in command, but in 1891 Mr. Benson was again charged with the programme, and, with the exception of 1895, when Mr. Ben Greet took his company to Stratford, he has conducted the festival up to the present time. When Mr. Benson first went to Stratford the programme was confined to a week; in 1897 it was extended to a fortnight, in 1902 to three weeks, and at the present time it runs into a month. Mr. Benson has staged thirty-four out of a total of thirty-seven Shakespearean plays since he first went to Stratford, and that he and his company should be able to offer so diversified a programme as that presented during recent years speaks highly of his ability as an actor and actor-manager. Mr. Benson has also worked enthusiastically in connection with the recent movement for extending the scope of the festival.

The cast of *The Taming of the Shrew* at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday includes Mr. F. R. Benson as Petruchio, Mrs. Benson as Katharina, Miss Nora Lancaster as Bianca, Mr. Alfred Brydone as Baptista, Mr. H. O. Nicholson as Gremio, Mr. Eric Maxon as Biordello, Mr. Guy Rathbone as Hortensio, Mr. Murray Carrington as Lucentio, and Mr. Harry Caine as Grumio, in succession to the late Mr. George Weir.

In *Coriolanus*, which is to be given at the matinée on Tuesday, Miss Genevieve Ward will play Volumnia to the Caius Marcius of Mr. F. R. Benson, the Virgilia of Miss Nora Lancaster, and the Valeria of Miss Violet Farebrother. Mr. Nicholson plays Menenius Agrippa, the Two Tribunes are represented by Mr. Murray Carrington and Mr. Moffat Johnston, and Mr. Eric Maxon is the Tullus Aufidius.

Though never accounted one of the most popular of Shakespeare's plays with playgoers, *Coriolanus* has frequently held the stage in Mr. Benson's repertoire since first it was revived at Stratford-on-Avon in 1893. Miss Alice Chapin was then the Volumnia, Mrs. Benson the Virgilia, and Mr. Otho Stuart the Tullus Aufidius. Since then Mr. Benson has generally prevailed upon Miss Genevieve Ward to take the part of Volumnia, and her performance during the London seasons will be remembered. But in one series of performances given by Mr. Benson in the Northern towns a few years ago, Miss Elizabeth Robins was the Volumnia, and at other times Miss Frances Wetherall has played the part. Among Miss Nora Lancaster's predecessors in the rôle of Virgilia, in Mr. Benson's production, have been Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Mabel Hackney, and, of late, Miss Helen Haye.

Amongst the lots in the sale of the late Lionel Brough's collection next week are about 100 theatrical and other autograph letters from celebrated actors and actresses and others, from the collection of the late H. T. Craven, father of Mr. Tom Craven.

Mr. Walter Howard's drama, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, will be put on at the Lyceum at the close of the run there of the successful drama *The Fighting Chance*, and he has also finished a new piece called *The Boy King*, which will be seen at the Lyceum in September. Miss Annie Saker will play the heroine.

Mr. Frank Curzon was summoned at Bow-street on Friday for assault by Mrs. Blanche Eardley, who insisted on wearing a big matinée hat at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. After hearing evidence, the magistrate dismissed the case, with five guineas costs against the complainant.

"The Winter's Tale" was performed at the New Theatre, New York, on the 28th ult., and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison won new honours as Herimone. Following so closely as it did her signal success in the rôle of Sister Beatrice, Miss Matthison's praiseworthy interpretation of the Shakespearean heroine served to confirm the congratulatory expressions called forth by the announcement of her engagement at this theatre. The play was performed in the Elizabethan manner, without scenery. This in itself is no novelty here, but tradition was followed more closely than usual, for the stage was reconstructed and extended over the space usually occupied by the orchestra to give the effect of the "main stage" of olden times. At the back of this was the "inner stage," with an alcove which served to represent such places as a cave, a shepherd's hut, or a room in a palace. The two side entrances to the "main stage" were hung with tapestries. Faultlessly staged by Mr. Louis Calvert, the play was delightfully interpreted by the excellent company engaged for this revival. Mr. Henry Kolker appeared as Leontes, Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter played Perdita, Mr. Henry Stanford was the Prince Florizel, and Miss Rose Coghlan the Pauline.

Mr. Wentworth Croke will be the enterprising manager to introduce to this country the celebrated American play *The Dawn of To-morrow*, which he will present at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, of which he is managing-director, on May 2. A brilliant cast will include Miss Gertrude Elliott (Mrs. Forbes-Robertson), Mr. Henry Ainley, who will play the hero slum-boy, Mr Herbert Waring, Mr. Jameson Lee Finney—an American who was to have created the part—Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Charles Weir, Mr. John Tresahar, and Mr. Felix Pitt. The play will have its London production on May 9.

Mr. George Edwardes has made arrangements with Messrs. A. and S. Gatti to produce at the Vaudeville Theatre in May a new musical play entitled *Die Geschiedene Frau* (*The Divorced Wife*), written by Mr. Victor Leon, one of the authors of *The Merry Widow*, with music by Mr. Leo Fall, composer of *The Dollar Princess*. The cast will include Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Huntley Wright, Miss Clara Evelyn and Miss Phyllis Dare. Mr. Charles E. Brookfield will do the adaptation and Mr. Adrian Ross will write the lyrics.

"Chantecler" will be produced at Drury Lane in French on June 27, with the company, the dresses, and the scenery as have been used at the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin since February. Mr. Arthur Collins and M. Hertz, co-director with M. Jean Coquelin of the Porte St. Martin, have signed a contract for a visit of a fortnight, with the option to extend to a month. Guitry will play the Cock, M. Jean Coquelin will be the dog, and Mme. Marthe Mellot the Nightingale.

On Tuesday evening there will be produced in front of *The House of Temperley* at the Adelphi Theatre, the new "one-act tragedy," entitled *A Pot of Caviare*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The cast will include Mr. Murray Carson, Mr. Stratton Rodney, Mr. Claude King, Mr. A. G. Craig, Mr. A. Corney Grain, Mr. Arthur Burne, Mr. Arthur F. Thorne, Miss Hetta Bartlett, and Miss Dorothea Desmond. The period is 1900, the date of the Boxer Insurrection. Scene: The Professor's Bungalow in the Besieged European Quarter in Ichau, China.

Two members of *The Merry Peasant* company, Mr. Harry Bates and Mr. F. Bates, who are brothers, accomplished a very commendable piece of work at Croydon the other week. They came across a policeman who was being maltreated by about half-a-dozen rough characters, being attracted to the scene by the sound of the officer's whistle. Like true Britishers, they doffed their coats, and took the policeman's part, and, as a result of their efforts, the ringleader was taken into custody, and the other assailants were subsequently arrested and severely punished.

The police did not allow this incident to pass without placing on record the commendable conduct of the *Merry Peasant* actors, and a few days ago the latter received from New Scotland Yard the following letter: "Sir,—I am directed by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to convey to you his thanks for the valuable assistance you rendered to the police on the occasion of the arrest of a violent prisoner, at Addiscombe Road, Croydon, on the 30th ult. Had it not been for your timely aid, the constable concerned would no doubt have been more seriously assaulted. I am also to thank you for subsequently attending at the police-court and giving evidence.—Your obedient servant, C. Bathurst."

An appeal has been filed in the Bombay High Court on behalf of Mr. Maurice E. Bandmann, proprietor of the Bandmann Opera Company, against the judgment of the Hon. Mr. Justice Beaman, who, some weeks ago, awarded Mrs. Henrietta Torriano (professionally known as Miss Hettie Muret) Rs. 9,000 (£600) as damages for breach of contract, &c., with costs.

In the absence of Miss May Blayney, the title-rôle in *The Little Damozel* at Wyndham's Theatre, has been charmingly played by Miss Ruby Miller, a promising young actress, who recently made a pronounced success in *The Parents' Progress*, which precedes *The Little Damozel*.

Mr. W. V. Garrod's tour of *A Country Girl in London* is meeting with such sustained success that he will continue throughout the summer. This is Mr. Garrod's seventh year of travelling with his own companies, and in that time but seven weeks have been devoted to vacations, three of which were occupied in rehearsing.

Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Getting Married* was performed at the Lessing Theatre, Berlin, last Saturday, but met with a distinctly hostile reception, and the critics are unanimous in their condemnation of the piece, especially of the last act. It is pleasant to find our insular opinions endorsed by the best Teutonic thought.

Mr. William Lockhart, we are happy to learn, has quite recovered from his recent illness, and is once more playing with all his accustomed vigour.

Miss Edie Martin, who has been successful in the part of Eliza in *The Dairymaids* for three successive tours, has been re-engaged by Mr. Robert Macdonald for a further lengthy engagement with No. 1 company, commencing July next.

Mr. Harry P. Towers, Mr. Workman's business-manager at the Savoy, has purchased the production and entire British rights of *The Mountaineers*, the new comic opera by Guy Eden and Reginald Sommerville, which was Mr. Workman's first venture in management at the Savoy last September, and was only withdrawn to make room for the Gilbert-German opera *Fallen Fairies*. The entire production, with a number of the original London cast, will visit all the big provincial towns in the autumn, and an excellent tour has already been booked.

Various rumours have been circulated to the effect that, owing to the expiration of the present lease of the Garrick Theatre, *Dame Nature*, like *Lady Frederick*, would have to start on a grand tour of the West-End houses, Mr. Gilbert Porteous asks us to state that no move is in contemplation at present. Arrangements have now been satisfactorily settled by which the successful run of the play will be continued at its original home, and, as Miss Ethel Irving has now entirely recovered from the slight indisposition which kept her out of the bill for two nights, the play-going public are not likely to be deprived of the opportunity of seeing her in one of her finest performances.

The fourth performance organised by the Dramatic Sub-Committee of the Lyceum Club will take place on Wednesday, April 27, at 3.30, when two one-act plays will be given. *Jim's Sweetheart*, by Mrs. Wakeman Lathrop and Mrs. Annie Bonnett (first production), in which the characters are taken by Miss Jessica Salaman and Mr. Ivan Berlyn, and *A Hundred Years Hence*, by Margery Stanley Clark, which will be performed by Miss Muriel Currey as Astræa Dacres, a lady of the future; and Mr. John Beamish as the Hon. Billy Windermere, a strange survival from to-day. This will be the first London performance of the little piece, which was, however, successfully produced at the Royalty, Glasgow, in 1907, and toured in front of *Lights Out* in the provinces and suburbs. In the course of the afternoon Miss Beatrice von Holthoir will give some selections from her repertory.

Some significant observations will be found in a chat with Mr. W. Payne-Seddon, the well-known provincial manager, in another part of this paper. Mr. Seddon says:—"I have heard managers attribute bad weeks to rinks and picture shows, but I think I would rather have a skating rink against the theatre in every town for twelve months than one General Election hovering over the country for six weeks. It appears to me that all such temporary booms in amusements must ultimately assist any permanent amusement business. It wakes the public and brings them out. Every pound lost to the theatre during the height of the skating boom will be returned tenfold."

An interesting football match was played at Celtic Grounds, Belfast, on the 6th inst. between the Theatre Royal and Pantomime and the Grand Opera House, Belfast. The Grand Opera House won the toss, and played with the wind, but the Theatre Royal forward line got going, and a fine run by the centre-forward (S. Thompson, jun.) resulted in a goal. Play was fast, and the Theatre men kept at it, and from a crush in front of the Opera House goal S. Sullivan put through for the Theatre. The Opera House commenced to be aggressive, but the Theatre backs and goalkeeper put up a splendid defence until near half-time, when Jeff Mooney got through and scored for the Opera House, the Theatre leading at half-time by 2 to 1.

On the resumption of play it was a very one-sided affair, as the Theatre got through three times in about ten minutes. The Opera House played stubbornly, but there was no stopping the Theatre forwards, well backed up by the halves, and the final result found the Theatre successful by 8 to 1. The Theatre centre-forward (S. Thompson, jun., scored six goals and Sam got one, and S. Sullivan's one made up the eight. The staffs of both theatres and the entire pantomime company were present.

The Rehearsal Company will present Sheridan's *School for Scandal* on Monday afternoon, April 25, at the Rehearsal Theatre, with the following cast: Mr. Clive Currie as Charles Surface, Mr. W. R. Staveley as Sir Oliver Surface, and Miss Ursula Keene as Lady Teazle, supported by Messrs. Montague Mazeran, Osborn Adair, Victor Wiltshire, E. Shepherd, G. Carlton, C. Brown, and Dennis Clough, Misses Maud Bowyer, May Saker, Edith Carter, Clarice Laurence, Irene Delisse, and Mary Forbes.

"The Blue Bird" at the Haymarket Theatre now begins at 8.30 in the evening and at 2.30 at matinées, so those playgoers to whom dinner is a sacred function can enjoy the delightful fantasies without hurrying over their meal.

Owing to the change in the proprietary of the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman is relinquishing his appointment as resident-manager to take up a similar position at the Theatre Royal, Aston. Although Mr. Chapman's stay in Wolverhampton has not been of very long duration, he has, by his unfailing courtesy, made many friends, both in front and behind the curtain, and will carry away with him their sincere good wishes for his future welfare.

"The Upstart," a comedy, in three acts, by Tom Barry, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on April 9.

Mr. Frank Howard, who has just concluded his third engagement as general-manager for Mr. Walter Melville's *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* company, has been engaged by Mr. Douglas Bruce to play the juvenile part and discharge the duties of general-manager for his summer tour of *The Female Swindler*. Mr. Howard is re-engaged by Mr. Walter Melville for autumn and Christmas.

Miss Nora Lancaster will appear with Mr. and Mrs. Benson at His Majesty's next week, on Monday as Bianca in *The Taming of the Shrew*, and on Tuesday as Virgilia in *Coriolanus*. During the Festival at Stratford-on-Avon the accomplished young actress will enact the romantic part of Luce in *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Rosalind in *As You Like It*, Calphurnia in *Julius Cæsar*, Sylvia in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and Perdita in *A Winter's Tale*.

The Eccentric Club will give their annual ladies' afternoon concert at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen-street, Kingsway, on Tuesday, May 3. The concert is an event that is always looked forward to, and an entertaining afternoon is assured.

At the matinée which Lady Alington is arranging for the Waifs and Strays Society at the Playhouse on May 2, Miss Winifred Emery, Mlle. Gaby Deslys, Miss Louie Freear, Miss May Grey, Miss Rosalind Ivan, Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. James Welch, Mr. C. H. Workman, and Mr. Huntley Wright will appear, and Miss Gertrude Glyn, Miss May Hobson, Miss Ruby Kennedy, Miss Dorie Keppell, Miss Marion Lindsay, Miss Olive May, Miss Mickie, Miss Nancy More, and Miss Marjorie Napier will sell programmes.

Mr. Herbert Trench is rehearsing for eventual production at the Haymarket Theatre a comedy called *Priscilla Runs Away*, by the Countess Von Arnim, author of *Elizabeth and her German Garden*, in which Mr. H. Nye Chart and Miss Helen Haye will appear.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge has kindly lent the Shaftesbury Theatre for the production of Mr. Keble Howard's new three-act comedy, *The Cheerful Knave*, at a matinée there on May 10.

At a matinée at the Court Theatre on Monday, May 23, two new plays by Mr. Laurence Housman, entitled *The Lord of the Harvest* and *A Likely Story*, will be performed. In *The Lord of the Harvest* the principal parts will be sustained by Miss Sydney Fairbrother and Mr. Robert Farquharson. Miss Decima Moore and Miss Margaret Bussé will appear in *A Likely Story*.

Keith G. Kenneth's *Woman of Kronstadt* company again played to full enthusiastic houses at Sheerness last week. Miss Betty Fairfax is making a great success in the name part, getting overwhelming applause at the end of the second act.

Mr. Norman V. Norman is making a special production of the famous comedy, *Caste*, with Miss Beatrice Wilson as Polly Eccles. Mr. Norman Leslie will be the Eccles, Mr. Lock-Whittaker the Sam Gerridge, Miss M. Thenchard Esther Eccles, and Mr. Norman will play Captain Hawtree and George D'Alroy alternately.

Mr. Frank Bertram was the hero, or, rather, the victim, of the following amusing incident: During his last pantomime engagement at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, there was a postman's concert at a neighbouring hall, and the artists were asked to assist. Mr. Bertram arranged a "cod" scene with the Demon King, and after the show they walked over to the concert hall, where his friend mounted the platform and began to sing "The Diver." After the first line, Mr. Bertram exclaimed, in a loud voice, "What a rotten song!" The singer stopped and looked annoyed, and the audience shouted "Silence!" He started again, and Mr. Bertram shouted, "What a rotten singer!" when he was immediately pounced on by six postmen and thrown outside. His friend on the stage hastened to make an explanation, and Mr. Bertram was carried back to his place, but the song was not interrupted again.

Miss Constance Moxon, who returned to town thoroughly invigorated some time since, was among the artists who gave their services at a matinée benefit at the Borough Theatre, Stratford in aid of the funds of West Ham Synagogue and Schools, on Thursday last. Miss Moxon, who can recall many comic opera triumphs, never sang better, and looked the picture of health. Among other "stars" in the programme were Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Kate Carney, Mr. Ernest Shand, Miss Elise Craven, Mr. John Lawson and company, and Mr. Harry Paulton.

Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P., the esteemed manager of the Theatre Royal, Castleford, for the sixth time represents the largest ward in the town on the Council, on this occasion being returned unopposed. At the Council's first meeting Mr. Masterman was appointed one of the Overseers of the Poor.

"The Little Damozel" has made a triumphant entry into Hull, where Mr. Mark Blow and Miss Ida Molesworth's company has this week been playing to tremendous business at the Grand Theatre. The audiences have been most enthusiastic, and at the conclusion of each performance Miss Roxy Barton as Julie, Mr. Alick Chumley as Recky, and Mr. Guy Newall as Fitz have received veritable ovations.

Mr. Neil Forsyth, general manager of the Grand Opera Syndicate, Covent Garden, has written to the Paris Press, contradicting the announcement made by the Metropolitan Opera of New York in many French papers that Mme. Emmy Destinn will sing at the Châtelet in the Italian season, which is being organised in that theatre by the American management. Mme. Destinn could not be spared from Covent Garden.

Mr. A. E. Erlanger, who arrived in London on Tuesday, has decided, in co-operation with Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. Henry W. Savage, Mr. Joseph Brooks, Mr. William Savage, and Mr. A. E. Erlanger to establish in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago next autumn a European theatre where no American plays are to be presented. Mr. Charles Frohman has promised a visit of the company from his London repertory theatre.

We regret to record the death from pneumonia of Mr. Compton Coutts, which took place in Guy's Hospital early on Monday morning. Mr. Coutts leaves two sons.

Mr. Charles Hannan has been engaged for several months upon a new musical comedy, the book and lyrics of which he has now completed, and negotiations for its production in London are in progress. *Heather Belles* is the pretty title of the piece, which is in two acts, the scenes being laid partly in England and partly abroad. The score is by Mr. Waldemar Sommerfelt, a composer who has had long musical experience at Continental opera houses.

Mr. George Dance's *Our Miss Gibbs* company met the Wakefield County Hall team, who have this year carried all before them, at football on Saturday. Several hundred spectators lined the beautifully-situated enclosure adjoining the Wakefield Public Park, and thoroughly enjoyed the game, which was carried on at an extremely furous rate. The play of the *Gibbs* team entirely upset the calculations of the homesters, who had expected a "walk-over," that of Durant (captain), Burnaby, Beresford, and Erne being really fine. Neither side was able to obtain the coveted goal, although the *Gibbs* company in the last ten minutes, had to submit to a gruelling time, but score the County Hall team could not. It is interesting to note Saturday was the first home game the County Hall team had failed to win, and the visitors had a hearty reception.

Mr. James Willard's famous drama *In the Shadow of Night* has triumphed in Dundee. "House Full" is the order of the day, and the unimpressionable Scot is shouting himself hoarse with enthusiasm over the varied vicissitudes of the hero and heroine of the play, well put on and well acted from beginning to end.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge, with characteristic generosity, will present the entire receipts at the first anniversary of *The Arcadians* at the Shaftesbury Theatre on the 28th inst. to the Fresh Air Fund.

Mr. Charles Gibbon has acquired the rights of *The Little Stranger*, which had such a successful run at the Criterion Theatre, and intends sending it on tour shortly. For the title-rôle he has a remarkable "find" for smallness and talent, who is bound to create a sensation in every town visited. The cast will be a strong one, and will include Miss Nellie Clyde, who is making a host of fresh admirers by her charming performance of Annie Meadows in *Alone in London*. Mr. Gibbon is sending *Alone in London* on another long tour, starting August Bank Holiday, and is making arrangements for an important new production, of which we shall have some interesting details to communicate later on.

Miss Titiell-Brune will, by permission of Mr. H. B. Irving, appear as Chorus in Mr. Lewis Waller's revival of *Henry V.* at His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday.

The twenty-first annual meeting of shareholders of the Bolton Theatre and Entertainments, Ltd., was held at the registered offices on Wednesday, when the usual dividend of ten per cent. was declared, and the directors complimented on the results, especially considering that the state of trade in Lancashire is far from being prosperous.

The old Liverpool Prince of Wales's Theatre, which closed as a theatrical house some years ago, has been acquired by a firm of auctioneers. When last put up for sale the property, which has the finest site of its special character in the city, having an extensive carriage drive in front, was withdrawn at £10,000, but there was a private bid of £12,090. That was some three years or more ago, since which time the once popular resort has been a sad sight in a busy thoroughfare. "The little house in the Square" was noted for its charming and amusing pantomimes, and many members of the theatrical profession, now occupying front positions, will readily recall their visits to the theatre in days when success was a regular visitor there. And now furniture will be sold in it!

The commodious Stratford Borough Theatre was packed from floor to ceiling on Thursday afternoon at the special matinée in aid of the funds of the West Ham Synagogue and Schools. The theatre was kindly lent for the occasion by the proprietress, Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks, and the orchestra and staff gave their services. The artists who volunteered and appeared included Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Elise Craven, Miss Constance Moxon, Mlle. Dolli, Miss Violet Essex, Mme. Ethel Dyer, Miss Vera Witmond, Miss Raie Estelle, Miss Bella Terry, Mr. J. J. Dallas, Mr. Leonard Teel, Colley and Scott, Mr. Harry Zetter, Mr. Archie Gervase, Mr. Arthur Boyne, Mr. Harry Paulton, Miss Dolly Harmer, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Harry Brown, Miss Daisy Dormer, Mr. Harry Tate, in *Motoring*; Mr. John Lawson, in *The Monkey's Paw* and *A Quiet Evening*, in which Mr. Roland Bottomley, Mr. Robert Bottomley, and Miss Edith Bottomley appeared. Mr. Sam Fredericks (Theatre Royal, Stratford) stage-managed, and the musical directors were Mr. Ben Barrow (Borough Theatre) and Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus.Bac. (Stratford Empire), with Mr. Frank Rothsay "in front."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mrs. Billington's Experiences.

Mrs. John Billington, interviewed by a *Chronicle* representative, has said, in reference to her early life: "We did not earn such big salaries in those days, and we did not have the music halls to fall back upon. When I first went on the stage at Hull I received 5s. a week and had to find my own dresses. The dressmaker did not play such a part in pieces in those days as is the case now. When my husband was first engaged for 'general utility,' as it was called, he received 12s. a week. We had plenty of hard work, but we had also an excellent training in our profession. Even now, when I look back at the old playbills, I can hardly imagine how we got through so much. For instance, this is a typical week, when I and my husband were playing in a provincial company at Birmingham—Monday, *The Bottle;* Tuesday, *Seven Poor Travellers;* Wednesday, *Hamlet;* Thursday, *The Wren Boys;* Friday, *School for Scandal;* Saturday, *Ship on Fire.*

"My husband, who was playing at that time all the juvenile and light comedy parts, was never out of harness. I remember once, when we were at Glasgow, an actor complaining to the then manager of the Theatre Royal that he was worked so hard he never had a chance to see the country; but the manager was not sympathetic. He just called to a scene shifter to let down a rural drop. 'There, sir,' he said to the complainant, 'there is green grass for you, sir, and trees for you, sir, and miles of country for you, sir. What more can you want?'

"Macready, I remember well, Mrs. Helen Faucit and Fanny Kemble. Helen Faucit was the most fascinating love-maker in the world. When I and my husband joined the old Adelphi company, those were the great days of Paul Bedford, Wright, and Mme. Celeste. It was the patronage given by Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort that really made theatre-going fashionable; and it led to the front rows of the pit being changed into stalls. Queen Victoria came more than once to see *The Colleen Bawn* at the Adelphi."

Of Mrs. Dion Boucicault, Mrs. Billington said he was fond of practical jokes. "I remember once, when embracing me on the stage, she took the opportunity to slip a small piece of ice down the back of my neck. Ugh! It makes me shiver now to think of it!" Toole, said Mrs. Billington, anxious to work up the necessary emotion and tears for his part in *Dot*, was found behind the scenes with a big onion!

Dr. Cowen on Composers.

Dr. Frederic Cowen, the famous musical director, who will lead the Festival of Empire orchestra at each of the concerts to be given in the provinces on the tour, was recently invited to express some comment on the music of to-day and his views on the position of the British composer. "In all the history of music," said Dr. Cowen, "there was never a period when the British public was so ready and willing as now to recognise genius in a composer. And there was never a time when the public exercised so keen a discrimination. For genuine talent, for unmistakable genius, the public has ears and sympathy; rigorously it sets its face against the imitator, no matter how clever may be his imitation or how skilfully cloaked in modernity. Originality in theme and treatment will always command attention and appreciation. I know that among young composers there is a pessimistic feeling that genius waits in vain for adequate appreciation, but to those composers I would say: 'Convince yourself that the fault lies solely with the public.' To achieve success in music one has carefully to consider many prejudices. While the composer's work itself must ring true with the note of genius and individuality, his attitude towards his fellows in the social sense must be carefully studied.

"When a man comes to me and in a despairing voice villifies the public because it has refused, steadfastly, to recognise his talents, I am almost compelled to be sceptical regarding those very talents of which he speaks. If genius be there, the British public will detect and appreciate it, and no amount of influence—I care not from what quarter—can detract from a composer's genius once the public has made up its mind about it. 'It is weary work,' some composers complain, 'this waiting for recognition.' It is enough to point to the almost meteoric rise of Sir Edward Elgar or Richard Strauss to obtain corroboration of my statement that real genius is not allowed to languish. My advice to the young composer? Just this: 'Work, and work hard; avoid the pitfalls of imitation, and if your work merits it, recognition and success will come as a natural sequence.'

"All over the country, and especially in the provinces, there is a growing desire to pay homage to good music. This tour of the Festival of Empire orchestra is bound to arouse the interest of the music-loving public. The men who have been engaged and whom you see here to-day rehearsing, have been students in the best schools, and I feel sure that the public will appreciate the programme that is to be played. It is my experience that an orchestra concert finds greater favour with the public than a choral concert, but the merits of the orchestra must be undeniable. In the provinces, if I may say so without giving offence, the appreciation of good music is more marked than in London; there is no attempt to follow what may be termed the 'fashionable' in music."

A Happy Hamlet.

The American actor Creston Clarke, whose death we recently recorded, thought the public would better appreciate the uncompromising extremity of Hamlet's gloom if they first saw in the flesh the Hamlet of whom Ophelia, supposing him to be mad, regretfully and passionately speaks—the Hamlet she had known in the happy days, matchless in beauty, the leader of fashion, the mirror of elegance, the writer of love songs, or, as the "dear maid" calls them, "music vows"; the heir of Denmark's throne. He should come thus upon the stage (said Creston Clarke), not only as a word-portrait, but as a figure and a fact. And so, in a version of the tragedy given by Clarke in a small American town, he did.

A Cheery Tableau.

To the astonishment even of a South American audience, the play was preceded by the presentation of a tableau showing Hamlet, a gaily attired gentleman, strolling bravely and buoyantly about the room of state, evidently the pet of the entire Court; "as happy as a king who is not a king"; paying (in dumb show) witty compliments to courtesying beauty; actively hobnobbing with the sport and valour of the throng; and going up to his beloved father at intervals to kiss his hand and to have his head stroked in return. It was a risky experiment to make, but it passed off without any shooting being done; and a local paper alleged that the tableau was a great improvement.

Appropriate Productions.

A new theatre having been opened at Reno, Nevada, where the divorces come from, a local newspaper has suggested that the following plays be performed there: *Divorçons, The Great Divide, The Struggle Everlasting, Her Husband's Wife, The Girl He Couldn't Leave Behind Him, Just a Wife,* and *The Bachelor's Baby.*

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

On Monday Evening, April 11, at His Majesty's Theatre, Shakespeare's Tragedy,

"HAMLET."

Claudius	Mr. Edward Sass
Hamlet	Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
Polonius	Mr. William Haviland
Horatio	Mr. Norman Trevor
Laertes	Mr. Henry Ainley
Rosencrantz	Mr. Henry Morrell
Guildenstern	Mr. Shiel Barry
Marcellus	Mr. Harry C. Hewitt
Bernardo	Mr. Frank Esmond
Francisco	Mr. Clifford Heatherley
Priest	Mr. C. H. Croker-King
Ghost of Hamlet's Father	Mr. Lyn Harding
First Gravedigger	Mr. E. M. Robson
Second Gravedigger	Mr. Nigel Playfair
First Actor	Mr. Hubert Carter
Second Actor	Mr. Frederick James
Court Jester	Mr. Arthur Cleave
Gertrude	Miss Helen Haye
Ophelia	Miss Evelyn D'Alroy
Player Queen	Miss Hilda Moore

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree made his first appearance in the part of *Hamlet* at the Haymarket Theatre on Jan. 21, 1892, with Mr. Kemble as Polonius, Mr. Macklin as Claudius, Mr. Fred Terry as Laertes, Lady Tree as Ophelia, Miss Rose Leclerq as the Queen, and Mr. Fernandez as the Ghost. The success of the performance was complete and undeniable; and an equally enthusiastic reception was given to the revival of the play at His Majesty's on Monday, with Sir Herbert Tree in the part of the Prince. It is unnecessary, so well known is his rendering, to discuss or describe it in detail now. The clear, deliberate delivery of the lines of the poet; the conscientious development of the deeper meaning of every word and sentence; the plentiful ingenuity of the "business" with which the production is embellished; and the sensitive, expressive earnestness of the performance of the principal part, mark Sir Herbert's treatment of it in 1910, as they did his essay in the character of Hamlet in 1892. It is still the same original, effective, and picturesque performance. The cast, however, is new, and there are some interesting and excellent achievements. A bright, animated, and picturesque personage is Mr. Henry Ainley's Laertes. Mr. Ainley makes him a dashing, impulsive, spirited youth, warm in affection for his father, and with a very natural anxiety for his sister's safety. This view of the character makes Laertes' longing for revenge for the murder of his father more natural, and is well worth considering. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy won all hearts on her entrance by her "sweet petitionary grace" and refined and maidenly beauty, and retained her hold on the audience by the exquisite delicacy and sensitiveness, the fine expressiveness and the picturesque variety of her performance. Miss D'Alroy's depiction of Ophelia's madness was very unexaggerated and natural, and she spoke her lines with a pathos which was irresistible. Her singing of the snatches of old ballads was most melodious, and the gentle, sensitive Ophelia was depicted with a distinctness and tenderness that were worthy of the warmest praise. Mr. Edward Sass, an actor who can always be relied upon, was an admirable Claudius; and Mr. Norman Trevor ably suggested the honesty and affectionateness of Horatio. Mr. William Haviland's Polonius was a sound, careful, and characteristic rendering, and his delivery of the Lord Chamberlain's advice to Laertes was a model of elocution; and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern had excellent exponents in Mr. Henry Morrell and Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Harry C. Hewitt and Mr. Frank Esmond being quite satisfactory as Marcellus and Bernardo, and Mr. Clifford Heatherley doing well as Francisco. Mr. Lyn Harding, whose Ghost was, by ingenious contrivance, given an illusive air of mystery, spoke the lines of the part with mysteriously moderated emphasis; and Mr. E. M. Robson gave a rich, quaint, and mellow rendering of the First Gravedigger, Mr. Nigel Playfair well supporting Mr. Robson as the Second Gravedigger. Mr. Hubert Carter's delivery of the "Hecuba" speech was a fine instance of bold and flamboyant elocution; and Mr. Frederick James deserves praise for his performance as the Second Actor. An interesting performance was given by Miss Helen Haye as Gertrude. The lines of the Player Queen were spoken with excellent distinctness and emphasis by Miss Hilda Moore; and Mr. C. H. Croker-King was effectively stern and ecclesiastical as the Priest. The play was performed against a simple background, the effects being created by a clever system of lighting; and some fine incidental music was introduced to intensify the situations.

On Tuesday Afternoon, April 12,

"KING LEAR."

Lear	Mr. Norman McKinnel
King of France	Mr. Franklin Dyall
Duke of Burgundy	Mr. E. A. Warburton
Duke of Cornwall	Mr. J. Fisher White
Duke of Albany	Mr. Kenyon Musgrave
Earl of Kent	Mr. Charles V. France
Earl of Gloucester	Mr. James Hearn
Edgar	Mr. Charles Quartermaine
Edmund	Mr. Dawson Milward
Doctor	Mr. Edward Rigby
Fool	Mr. H. R. Hignett
Oswald	Mr. Norman Page
Curan	Mr. J. Sherard
Gentleman	Mr. Warburton Gamble
Herald	Mr. Cassells Cobb
Servant to Cornwall	Mr. F. Ridley
Captain to Goneril	Mr. R. W. Hutton
Attendant to Lear	Mr. W. R. Haines
Messenger	Mr. Dickson-Kenwin
Cordelia	Miss Ellen O'Malley
Goneril	Miss Ada Ferrar
Regan	Miss Marie Polini

Distinguished visitors have this week contributed to the Shakespeare celebrations at His Majesty's, the first to answer Sir Herbert Tree's invitation being Mr. Herbert Trench's Haymarket company, who staged *King Lear* at Tuesday's matinée. The production was in all respects the same as that given at the house opposite last autumn, and the cast remained practically unchanged. Headed by Mr. Norman McKinnel, the company gave a deeply interesting performance, and the close of each act was marked by enthusiastic applause.

It is in its rugged passion and intensity that Mr. McKinnel's Lear excels, and the actor was magnificently impressive in the depiction of Lear's rage, the kingly outbursts being declaimed with thrilling effect. The venerable figure of the dethroned monarch stood out impressively in every scene, and if the more emotional parts of the dialogue were not imbued with that depth of fervour which one would wish, the facial expression clearly denoted the anguish which the royal mind was undergoing. Miss Ellen O'Malley again charmed with her sweet and tender portrayal of Cordelia, admirable alike in its maidenly modesty and graceful expression. Miss Ada Ferrar represented realistically the venomous nature of Goneril, and the spiteful malevolence of the undutiful Regan was vividly pictured by Miss Marie Polini. Mr. Charles V. France repeated his fine performance of the devoted Earl of Kent, his artistic elocution being agreeably noticeable.

The artistic qualities of Mr. Charles Quartermaine's Edgar were once more recognised in a skilfully varied performance, and Mr. J. Fisher White again demonstrated his sterling dramatic ability as the Duke of Cornwall, his depiction of the fiery noble being eloquently expressive in voice and gesture. Mr. James Hearn gave his touchingly pathetic impersonation of the faithful Gloucester, and Mr. E. A. Warburton and Mr. Kenyon Musgrave as Burgundy and Albany respectively again submitted excellent readings.

One notable change in the cast was made in the case of Oswald, which was originally played by the late Mr. Trevor Lowe. The rôle on Tuesday was entrusted to Mr. Norman Page, who clothed it with a wealth of sinister suggestion that made the part quite fascinating. Mr. Franklin Dyall well interpreted the chivalrous and noble character of the King of France. Mr. Dawson Milward's fine physique lent added effect to his depiction of the recreant Edmund, and Mr. H. R. Hignett was a genial and resourceful Fool. The remainder of the parts were ably enacted by their respective exponents, and the mounting and effects lacked nothing of the breadth and elaborateness that marked Mr. Trench's former revival.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Arthur Bourchier and company were seen in a most interesting revival of

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Shylock	Mr. Arthur Bourchier
Jessica	Miss Enid Sass
Tubal	Mr. Michael Sherbrooke
Prince of Morocco	Mr. Bertram Forsyth
Prince of Aragon	Mr. George Bealby
Duke of Venice	Mr. Clive Currie
Antonio	Mr. Acton Bond
Bassanio	Mr. Arthur Wontner
Gratiano	Mr. A. Holmes-Gore
Lorenzo	Mr. Godfrey Tearle
Salarino	Mr. William Burchell
Salanio	Mr. Douglas Imbert
Salerio	Mr. Alfred Bristowe
Launcelot Gobbo	Mr. A. E. George
Old Gobbo	Mr. Claude Edmunds
Leonardo	Mr. Dallas Cairns
Stephano	Miss Daisy Markham
Clerk of the Court	Mr. C. Dallas
Portia	Miss Dorothea Baird
Nerissa	Miss Muriel Beaumont

The representation was announced "As played at the command performance at Windsor Castle, Nov. 16, 1905." But this, however, only refers to the arrangement of the scenes, and not to the cast, which, with the exception of two of its members, is entirely different to that playing at Windsor on the occasion referred to.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's well-considered embodiment of Shylock once more won the favour of a critical audience, who followed the play with the rapt attention one expects from lovers of Shakespeare. The antipathy against the merchant in the third scene of the first act was expressed with concentrated power, and there was a gleam of malignant triumph as Shylock uttered the words, "I will feed fat the ancient grudge I bear him." There was a tone of dignified protestation in the Jew's telling the merchant of his abuse. The crescendo of passion came when Shylock learns of his daughter's desertion, and the fit of hysterical rage in the presence of Tubal made its customary deep impression, the venom of hate towards Antonio being expressed with uncommon virulence. The great contrast came in the Trial scene, first in Shylock's servile adoration of the supposed lawyer, and in his affecting departure from the judgment hall.

Miss Dorothea Baird's Portia is new, and therefore the actress may be pardoned the nervousness which affected her opening lines with Nerissa; but she played the scene with a command of delicate raillery that captured the house. Later there was real feeling in the scene where Bassanio chooses the casket, and the maidenly apprehension of the heiress was very clearly expressed. She made Portia a Venetian maid of sense and sensibility, and the delivery of the famous mercy speech lacked nothing of elocutionary grace. Mr. Arthur Wontner's Bassanio rose to the heights of sentimental devotion in the choosing of the casket scene, and his chivalrous utterances to the fair chatelaine of Belmont were full of southern fervour. Mr. Bertram Forsyth's speech as the Prince of Morocco had all the simple dignity required; Mr. George Bealby realised the conceit of the Prince of Aragon; and the tender melancholy of Antonio found an apt and dignified interpreter in Mr. Acton Bond, who put much pathos into the farewell of Bassanio. The optimist of the play, Gratiano, who "speaks an infinite deal of nothing," was in the capable keeping of Mr. A. Holmes-Gore, whose speeches to the Jew in the Trial scene had their full measure of indignation. Mr. Clive Currie's Duke of Venice was sonorous and gently dignified in the appeal to Shylock to "glance an eye of pity" on the merchant's losses. Mr. Godfrey Tearle infused a strain of tender dalliance into the lines of Lorenzo in the moonlight scene with Jessica, sweetly played by Miss Enid Sass. Mr. A. E. George's Launcelot Gobbo was quite in the spirit of the Shakespearean clown, and was played on unctuous lines, without descending into mere buffoonery; and Mr. William Burchill, Mr. Douglas Imbert, and Mr. Alfred Bristowe, as Salarino, Salanio, and Salerio were responsible for spirited performances. Miss Muriel Beaumont's Nerissa had the true touch of comedy; and Mr. Claude Edmunds did well as Old Gobbo.

On Thursday Afternoon, April 14, Revival of

"HAMLET."

Claudius	Mr. Edward Sass
Hamlet	Mr. H. B. Irving
Polonius	Mr. A. E. George
Laertes	Mr. Arthur Wontner
Horatio	Mr. Eille Norwood
Osric	Mr. Stuart Musgrove
Rosencrantz	Mr. Frank Randell
Guildenstern	Mr. J. Patric Curwen
Marcellus	Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton
Bernardo	Mr. King Fordham
Francisco	Mr. Ronald Pertwee
Reynaldo	Mr. W. Graham
First Player	Mr. Frank Cochrane
Second Player	Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty
Priest	Mr. Charles Beaumont
First Gravedigger	Mr. Tom Reynolds
Second Gravedigger	Mr. Arthur Curtis
Ghost of Hamlet's Father	Mr. Henry Vibart
Gertrude	Miss Esmé Beringer
Ophelia	Miss Dorothea Baird
Player Queen	Miss Dora Barton

In continuation of the series of Shakespearean plays at His Majesty's Theatre *Hamlet* was played on Thursday afternoon by Mr. H. B. Irving and his company. Mr. Irving has appeared in several of the characters in which his distinguished father won fame, but no severer test of his ability to worthily follow in the footsteps of Sir Henry Irving could be found than the embodiment of the Danish Prince. All who were admirers of the father will rejoice in the fact that the son has come out of the severe ordeal with flying colours, and that his Hamlet is a performance upon which he can be sincerely and heartily congratulated. Old and experienced playgoers on Thursday afternoon discerned in Mr. Irving's rendering of the character many points of supreme excellence, and certainly clear evidence of a careful and conscientious study of a complex character, respecting which there has always existed amongst Shakespearean authorities much diversity of opinion. Mr. Irving's power of expressing intensity of feeling has been shown in other less trying parts, but the rôle of Hamlet allows him greater scope for the display of this power. He is also admirable in those passages which a quaint humour renders so effective; more particularly does this remark apply to the encounters with tedious old Polonius. Mr. Irving's Hamlet is not specially remarkable for the introduction of novel business; but in the scene with his mother he seizes the portrait of Claudius and, dashing it down on the table, extinguishes the taper, leaving only a single light burning in the rear of the stage. This proved highly effective. Mr. Irving was called before the curtain twice at the conclusion of the first and second acts and several times at the end of the performance. Finally, he spoke a few words, stating that he was proud of the privilege of taking part in the Shakespearean Festival at His Majesty's and of appearing before such an appreciative audience. He would take the opportunity of thanking Sir H. B. Tree for kindly permitting one of his own company—Mr. Edward Sass—to play, at short notice, the part of the King in the place of Mr. Frank Tyars, who had been taken suddenly ill. He and the members of his company were very grateful for the way in which they had been received that afternoon, and he thanked the audience with all his heart.

Miss Dorothea Baird did excellent work in the part of Ophelia, her portrayal being marked by much charm of manner, whilst in the "mad" scene she stirred the deepest sympathies of the audience. Mr. Edward Sass gave an admirable impersonation of Claudius, and Miss Esmé Beringer was successful in her rendering of the Queen. Mr. A. E. George was quite safe and sound in his performance of Polonius; Mr. Arthur Wontner played with commendable spirit the part of Laertes; and Mr. Eille Norwood was a satisfactory Horatio. Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, and Osric had good representatives in Mr. Frank Randell, Mr. Patric Curwen, and Mr. Stuart Musgrove. Marcellus and Bernardo were ably embodied by Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton and Mr. King Fordham. Mr. Frank Cochrane and Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty as the First and Second Players and Miss Dora Barton as the Player Queen did very well. Mr. Tom Reynolds was genuinely humorous in his impersonation of the First Gravedigger, receiving adequate support from Mr. Arthur Curtis as the Second Gravedigger. Mr. Henry Vibart as the Ghost spoke his lines impressively; and Mr. Chas. Beaumont as the Priest, Mr. Ronald Pertwee as Francisco, and Mr. W. Graham as Reynaldo completed a thoroughly competent cast.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON FESTIVAL.

The 1910 Stratford-on-Avon Shakespeare Festival celebrations bid fair to constitute a record. The Memorial Theatre of the quiet little Warwickshire town will in a week be the scene of a series of performances of Shakespeare's plays by the pick of England's actors and actresses, under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson. Pilgrims from America and the Colonies—an increased number of visitors from Canada is expected this year—will be there for the worship of Shakespeare, and they will be joined by hundreds of English trippers. Both the rich and the poor inhabitants of the town welcome these visitors, and there will be very few houses without a paying guest during the three weeks commencing next Saturday, and the hotels will be full.

Local ladies and gentlemen are very enthusiastic over this year's programme, and apart from the performances in the theatre there will be many interesting features and impressive ceremonies. One local gentleman has promised one mile of festoons towards the amount required to decorate three miles of town. According to Mr. F. R. Benson the Provisional Committee have worked hard to elicit the practical sympathy and support of enthusiasts throughout the civilised world, and birthday wreaths or their equivalent will be forthcoming from all parts of England and Scotland, from New Zealand, Canada, America, and from Weimar, the birthplace of Goethe. From Eton, Oxford, and Cambridge, and other centres of learning shields, wreaths, &c., will be sent. A fine collection of national flags has been augmented with emblems from New South Wales, South Australia, the Netherlands, Natal, India, the Cape of Good Hope, Servia, Bolivia, Peru, and Mexico. Over forty invitations have been issued to the representatives of different countries to take part in the unfurling ceremony.

Mr. Benson and the Memorial Committee have arranged a splendid series of performances, a special feature of which will be the prize play. The Memorial Committee offered a prize of £300 for a new play to be produced by Mr. Benson during the Festival. *The Piper* is the title of the successful play, and the authoress is Mrs. Lionel Marks, a lady not unknown in American literary circles. The competition was open to the world, and it is gratifying to Englishmen to know that the authoress of *The Piper* is connected with a Birmingham family. Mr. R. Halford, Mr. Benson's manager, became acquainted with this interesting piece of news through the following letter, which he recently received from Mr. Lionel Marks, the husband of the successful authoress: "It was the intention of Mrs. Marks to write to you yesterday, but her convalescence has not proceeded far enough to admit her to do it. It is her intention to sail from America on April 9 and to go to Birmingham, where my parents live. She will leave there her eighteen-months-old daughter and her one-month-old son, and then she will be willing and glad to assist Mr. Benson, should he desire it, in any way she can." So we may expect Mrs. Marks to see the production of her play on Thursday evening, May 5, after which she will be presented with the prize of £300.

"ORPHEUS" AT THE SAVOY.

On Tuesday afternoon the first of the six matinées of Gluck's *Orpheus* in English, produced by Miss Marie Brema, was given at the Savoy Theatre. For this occasion the chorus have been personally trained by Miss Brema and Miss Florence von Ettlinger, new scenery painted specially by Mr. Bruce-Smith for Acts 1, 3, and 4, and, to quote the programme, an endeavour made "to put as much Greek atmosphere as possible in Gluck's classic work, and to represent this latter, not as a conventional opera, but as a production in which song and dramatic action are as closely associated as in the Wagnerian drama." It was evident on Tuesday afternoon that great pains had been taken with the production of *Orfeo*, and the result was a complete artistic success. Miss Marie Brema's impersonation of Orpheus has long been known and widely esteemed for its fine pathetic expression and her delightful singing of the familiar "Che farò." Miss Viola Tree sang Eurydice's music with much sympathetic grace, and the part of Amor was charmingly sung and acted by Miss Pearl Ladd. After the first act Miss Brema was called on four times, and at the close all three artists had a most enthusiastic greeting. The solo quartett was admirably sung by Miss Dorothy Gandy, Miss Florence von Ettlinger, Mr. Hubert Bromilow, and Mr. Ernest Groom; and Miss Margaret Morris deserved special praise for her clever arrangement of the graceful classic dances, and her own efforts as principal dancer. Mr. Bruce Smith's lovely scene, The Elysian Fields, was greatly admired, and the conductor, Mr. Michael Balling, of Bayreuth, also shared in the honours of the afternoon. In this score used by Miss Brema the changes made are from the adaptation by Mr. F. A. Gevaert (Paris, Lemoine), and adopted in the performances she gave in Brussels and Paris. For the chorus "The god of love" a chorus from Gluck's *Echo and Narcissus* is substituted, and the three acts of the opera are arranged into four scenes, while the florid aria sung at the end of the first act is omitted.

Miss Brema's revival of *Orpheus* is given under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll.

THE REPERTORY THEATRE.

On Wednesday, April 13, at the Duke of York's Theatre, the Pierrot Play, in Three Acts, by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, Music by Joseph Moorat, entitled

"PRUNELLA."

Pierrot	Mr. Charles Maude
Scaramel	Mr. Arthur Whitby
Kennel	Mr. O. P. Heggie
Callow	Mr. Harold Chapin
Mouth	Mr. Frederick Lloyd
Hawk	Mr. Hubert Harben
Doll	Miss Mary Jerrold
Tawdry	Miss Evangeline Hilliard
Coquette	Miss Nell Carter
Romp	Miss Sybil Thorndike
Prim	Miss Florence Haydon
Privacy	Miss Penelope Wheeler
Prude	Miss Agnes Hill
Queer	Miss Ada Marius
Quaint	Miss Mary Barton
First Gardener	Mr. Whitford Kane
Second Gardener	Mr. Leslie Carter
Third Gardener	Mr. E. W. Garden
Boy	Mr. Donald Calthrop
Statue of Love	Mr. Lewis Casson
Prunella	Miss Dorothy Minto

There is a weird fascination about Messrs. Laurence Housman and Granville Barker's play, *Prunella*, which was originally produced at the Court Theatre on December 23, 1904. The simple theme is embellished with some neatly-turned and clever verse, and Mr. Joseph Moorat's sympathetic music adroitly heightens the effect of the situations. The Pierrot of this story is a queer, fantastic creature, who believes himself to be without a heart. Prunella, the heroine of the tale, is a young girl who has been secluded in the quaint old house whose Dutch garden forms the single scene of the play. Pierrot, who passes by with a troupe of mummers, ascends to the maiden's room by a ladder, and induces her to come down into the garden, where a Statue of Cupid, which becomes eloquent for a while, advises her to elope with Pierrot. Years afterwards Pierrot, who has lost sight of Prunella, returns to the Dutch garden; and now all the world is old for Pierrot. His masquerading friends are worn and decrepit, his spirits are low, and he has an aching heart. With his valet, Scaramel, he returns to the garden. He has bought the house of the proprietress, now grown poor, and he enters with his crew of stale revellers for yet another bout of folly. While he is indoors Prunella, in rags, enters the garden, is disclaimed by Scaramel, and is set by him to brush up the dead leaves. Then she disappears, and Pierrot, whose thoughts will return to her, in pure fantasy ascends the ladder to her room as he did when she ran away with him. The emptiness of the apartment strikes him with horror, and he conceives the idea of evoking the ghost of Prunella. After the Statue of Love has been re-animated, and has spoken wise words, Prunella appears from behind it; and when Pierrot realises that it is really his old love, and not her spirit, he takes her in his arms.

The part of Pierrot requires light and delicate handling, and Mr. Charles Maude was able to endow his reading with just the needed quaintness and oddity; Miss Dorothy Minto's delivery of the pretty lines which are put into the mouth of Prunella was clear and emotional, and the charm of her plaintive pathos was very tender and winning; the grim and cynical valet, Scaramel, had an excellent exponent in Mr. Arthur Whitby; and the three old maids were tactfully depicted by Miss Florence Haydon, Miss Penelope Wheeler, and Miss Agnes Hill. The speeches of the Statue of Love were delivered with commendable distinctness and point by Mr. Lewis Casson, the original representative of the rôle; and the three comic gardeners were humorously embodied by Messrs. Whitford Kane, Leslie Carter, and E. W. Garden. The motley crew of masqueraders were well represented by Messrs. O. P. Heggie, Harold Chapin, Frederick Lloyd, Hubert Harben, and Misses Mary Jerrold, Evangeline Hilliard, Nell Carter, and Sybil Thorndike; and Miss Ada Marius and Miss Mary Barton were excellent in every way as Queer and Quaint. All the subordinate characters in *Prunella* are individual, and are vividly sketched, and each impersonation deserves praise, the mummers' costumes being fancifully designed by Miss Pamela Colman Smith. Mr. Theodore Stier conducted an orchestra which rendered the incidental music perfectly well.

THESPIDS C.C. ANNUAL DINNER.

Mr. George Alexander presided over the second annual dinner of the Thespids Cricket Club at the Criterion Restaurant last Sunday night. A very full attendance was recorded, and a most enjoyable evening spent.

Mr. Geo. Alexander said he was glad to hear from their energetic secretary, Mr. Cameron, that the Thespids C.C. was in a prosperous condition, both financially and otherwise. He regretted that it had not been practicable to buy a ground, as had been originally intended, for their private use, but there was consolation in knowing that they had secured their old ground at New Malden. It always gave him very great pleasure to preside at these dinners, and it was an even greater pleasure still to congratulate Mr. Ernest Cameron, the secretary, on his splendid work in connection with the club, and in wishing good luck to and toasting the club, he had a pleasant task in coupling the name of Mr. Cameron with it.

In a brief response, Mr. Cameron expressed his pleasure in seeing Mr. J. M. Barrie present with them, and hinted that there was a possibility in another year's time of getting all the vice-presidents there. Mr. Cameron then read a letter from Mr. Aubrey Smith, their captain, who was in America, regretting his absence from the function. That gentleman, however, stated that he hoped to be back and in the best of form, by the end of May. In the meantime, Mr. Brian Egerton had been elected vice-captain, and would carry on the duties of chief in Mr. Smith's absence.

Mr. J. M. Barrie, in proposing the health of Mr. Geo. Alexander, made some characteristically humorous remarks. He mentioned that he was one of the few Scotsmen who were driven out of Scotland, and, like those who had preceded him, he came to the nearest place. The nearest place was London. But it was left to Geo. Alexander to be the first to lure him on to play cricket. As a slow bowler he was quite sure he was an extraordinary individual. He had seen slow bowlers at Lords, but he thought they should be labelled "fast." His bowling was so slow that against bad batting it was sometimes ineffective; but, strangely enough, good batsmen could do nothing with it. He remembered how Mr. Alexander once led an eleven to Esher to play a match against the oldest inhabitants. None of Mr. Alexander's eleven knew much about cricket. But going down in the train Mr. Alexander said: "Oh, don't worry; we shall do all right. Intellect is bound to tell in the end!" Remembering this statement of Mr. Alexander's when his side went into bat, Mr. Barrie thought it best to put Mr. Alexander in first.

The artists who contributed to an excellent programme after the few speeches had been recorded, were Mme. Perelli, Miss Saumerez, Miss Dolly Harmer, Mr. Leslie Stiles, Mr. Bleackley, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Archie Naish, and Mr. Harry Nye Chart.

Lady Hay's production of the Pageant of Empire at the Shaftesbury Theatre on May 30 and June 7, in aid of the Junior Branch of the Watford Habitation of the Primrose League, will be stage-managed by Mr. Charles Cruikshanks.

A "PROBLEM" PLAY.

Miss Mary Mannering, an American actress, after experiencing some difficulty in finding a good play, seems to have secured one at last that is well suited to her, and one that is pleasing to the public. The play was produced on Feb. 8 at the Comedy Theatre, New York. It is called *A Man's World*, and was written by Miss Rachel Crothers, who will be remembered as the author of *Three of Us*. The entire action of the play takes place in the different apartments of a boarding house occupied by artists, musicians, and literary folk. "Frank Ware" (Miss Mannering) is the pen name of a lady novelist who devotes her spare time to missionary work among women. She has adopted as her own a little boy known simply as "Kiddie," the nameless child of an unfortunate woman whom she met some years ago in Paris. The mystery surrounding the paternity of this child gives rise to a scandal in the house, there being a strong suspicion that the youngster is the son of "Frank Ware" herself and Malcolm Gaskell, a publisher, who is known to be in love with her, and who visits her frequently. Leonie, a singer, who boards in the same house, and who is very jealous of "Frank," is largely responsible for the growth of the scandal. It is she who discovers in a miniature portrait of "Kiddie" a resemblance between the child and Gaskell, and points it out to her fellow-boarders. "Frank" is shocked at the suggestion, and declares that the resemblance is purely imaginary. Then the repentant Leonie, seeing the pain she has caused, proceeds to argue from the general point of view in opposition to the decided opinions held by the heroine of the story. What these opinions are may be gathered from the bit of dialogue that follows:

Leonie: I'm sorry I stirred this up. I ought to have kept my mouth shut. It was imagination. You can see this thing in almost any picture. Let it alone. It's the wildest, most improbable thing in the world.

"Frank": You don't understand. Whoever "Kiddie's" father was, I've hated him all these years. Every time I look at the child and think that somewhere in the world is a man who branded him with shame, I boil with rage. Every time I see a girl who's made a mess of her life because she loved a man, I think of "Kiddie's" mother, with the whole burden and disgrace of it and the man scot free and going gaily on.

Leonie: But you can't stir up any man's life. You're lucky if it looks right on top. If you love this man take him—that's the point, and leave this thing alone. It's a man's world. That's the size of it. What's the use of knocking your head against things you can't change? You can't change anything to save your neck. Men are men.

"Frank": If women decided that men should be equally disgraced for the same sin, they would be.

Leonie: Oh, yes. If—if. That's easy enough to preach. When it comes to morality a woman never holds anything against a man. What good would it do if she did? She'd be alone.

"Frank": It's because women allow men to live on a lower plane, and then take them as husbands, that men are as they are.

Leonie: But look here, what if Malcolm Gaskell were "Kiddie's" father? You love him, and love is no joke with you. What are you going to do about it? Throw him over because you happen to find a little incident in his life that isn't creditable to him? Where will you be? What becomes of you? Not much fun for you for the rest of your life, with something gnawing inside of you like so many wolves. He's the man you want—take him, and thank your lucky stars you've got him. That's all I see in it.

"Frank" questions Gaskell, however, and when she names the child's mother he at once confesses that it was he who wronged the unfortunate girl who died in Paris. He denies having deserted her, however, and of the child's existence he has had no knowledge. But the fact remains that he is the father of an illegitimate child, and this makes it impossible for "Frank Ware" to marry him. She believes in the same moral standard for men as for women, and although she is strongly tempted to do otherwise, she remains true to her principles and dismisses him.

Miss Mannering played "Frank Ware" in an unaffected and womanly way, and won the sympathies of the audience. Mr. Charles Richman as Malcolm Gaskell gave a forceful portrayal of a practical business man. Miss Ruth Holt Boucicault was good as the jealous Leonie, and Miss Helen Ormsbee, as Clara Oaks, a miniature painter, contributed a clever characterisation.

"THE GREATER LOVE."

Play, in Four Acts, by Vincent Brown, Performed at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, on Monday, April 11.

Paul Penfold .....Mr. Campbell Goldsmid
Mrs. May .....Miss Marion Fawcett
Jack May .....Mr. William Clayton
Mary May .....Miss Violet Thorold
Andrew Isted .....Mr. Algernon J. Hicks
Rev. Arthur Warren .....Mr. Henry Nunn
Constable Drayton .....Mr. Harry Wren
Sarah Higgs .....Miss Ethel Russell
Ned Stubbs .....Mr. Arles Conway

(from our own correspondent.)

Tentatively produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, ten years ago, the above drama was revived, with unqualified success, on Monday evening last by Mr. H. Armitage and company. Founded on the text "Greater love hath no man," &c., the piece deals with the theme of a titled personage, who, having betrayed a village maiden, and refusing to make restitution, is murdered by the girl's brother. The murderer escapes justice by flying to a foreign land, leaving wife and children, widowed mother, and injured sister; and a friend of the unhappy family—a hunchback, and the hero of the drama—goes to the scaffold in the real murderer's stead. The dramatic power of the piece is beyond question; it quite thrilled the audience with its scenes and incidents in the court, within and without the prison, the details of the execution, and the developments of human strength and weakness, brotherly affection, passion, friendship, and repentance.

The performance was most effective throughout, going with the smoothness and precision of a well-toured production, and acted from first to last with admirable skill. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid achieved great distinction by his study of Paul Penfold, the hunchback, the characterisation of a well-drawn part being almost perfect; Mr. William Clayton gave a suitable rendering of the part of Jack May, the murderer, whose mother was represented with conspicuous ability by Miss Marion Fawcett; and to Miss Violet Thorold fell the rôle of the injured sister. A refreshing rustic lover was found in the Andrew Isted of Mr. Algernon J. Hicks; Mr. Henry Nunn made a fine manly curate of the Rev. Arthur Warren; the drolleries of the village constable, Drayton, were happily realised by Mr. Harry Wren; and the two remaining parts, Sarah Higgs and Ned Stubbs, were well filled by Miss Ethel Russell and Mr. Arles Conway. The heartiest demonstrations of approval were bestowed on the play and the players.

Mrs. Guy Mitchell, the authoress of *A Daughter of Doyle's*, which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, last week, has presented both Mr. Karl Seebold, the conductor of the orchestra, and Mr. Malcolm Spurgin, the stage-manager, with a set of waistcoat buttons as a mark of her appreciation of the services rendered during the production of her comedy.

"MY LADY BELLAMY."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Dorothea Moore, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, April 11.

King William III. .....Mr. E. H. Brooke
Lord Crawford .....Mr. Arthur Layland
Mr. Robert Tarfax ....Mr. Arthur Baxendell
Sir George Barclay .....Mr. A. Layland
Captain Van Hesler .....Mr. Arthur Linay
Capt. Oilley .....Mr. A. L. Burke
Sim Waring .....Mr. Patrick Alexander
Mr. Hemming .....Mr. Albert Burke
Sudwell .....Mr. Derek O'Connor
John Hemming .....Miss Nelly Lomas
Maurice Hemming .....Miss Norah Johns
Sir Gervas Bellamy .....Mr. Alex. Maclean
Queen Mary II. .....Miss Mary Palmer
Mrs. Bathsheba Hemming.Miss Maud Harcourt
Mrs. Mackie .....Miss Syril Maurisse
Henrietta Lady Bellamy ....Miss Laura Leigh

(from our own correspondent.)

Betrothed from the cradle, married from the nursery, parted from the husband at the church door, not to meet again until years of discretion were arrived at, seems to have been the fate of little maidens in the seventeenth century, and Miss Dorothea Moore has taken that subject for her well-written and all-absorbing romantic play of *My Lady Bellamy*. At its production on Monday night the many good points in the play were quickly grasped and fully appreciated by the audience, who followed the development of the story with keen interest.

In the first act, which takes place in the garden of Mrs. Hemming's house, Lady Bellamy is seen as a twelve year old child, playing with her cousins John and Maurice. Her life is dominated by her aunt Bathsheba, a strong adherent of William of Orange, and who plays upon the knowledge that poor Henrietta's husband is a Jacobite who is known to be hatching plots with the supporters of King James. When the Williamite spy, Tarfax, comes to the house with a view to trapping Bellamy, Henrietta overhears the plot that is being hatched against her husband, and determines to warn him of his danger. Hunted by the Dutch Guard, he seeks temporary shelter at the hands of his child wife, and both become, by the time the pursuers are thrown off the scent, aware of their relationship. There is to be a meeting the same night at the hut of Waring, a smuggler, at which Bellamy is to be betrayed, and Henrietta arrives in time to warn him and his companions of their contemplated capture. Lady Bellamy escapes with her "big man husband," getting to Edinburgh, but are followed and overtaken at the Bagpipes Inn by the relentless Tarfax, captured and handed over to the spy's care for removal to and trial at London, with the hope that Bellamy will be sent back to Scotland to be dealt with by the bloodthirsty Crawford, president of the Privy Council of Scotland, who wishes by torture to wring from him the name of the other principal conspirators.

The next act is set in a room at Kensington Palace, wherein there is a stormy interview between the prisoner and William of Orange. Bellamy candidly admits that he has plotted against King William, but he denies that bloodshed or assassination formed any part of his scheme. King William seems impressed with the manly bearing of the fearless and dashing young Irishman, both he and the Queen are influenced by the position of My Lady Bellamy, and the result of her pleading and the Queen's intercession is that Bellamy consents to banishment for four years, and to use his sword for King Philip. Before the period of Bellamy's banishment has fully expired, he is permitted to return and to rejoin his wife, who has been the Queen's ward, and who is now "a full-grown woman of sixteen."

To Mr. Alex. Maclean as Sir Gervas Bellamy, and to Miss Laura Leigh in the charming rôle of Lady Bellamy, most of the hard work fell, and it was done by both in a painstaking and realistic manner. Mr. Maclean was in turn the happy-go-lucky Irishman, the adventure-loving soldier and conspirator, and the tender lover, playing in a manner that left nothing to be desired. Miss Laura Leigh was a delightful Lady Bellamy, her impersonation of the child-wife being charming throughout. Mr. E. H. Brooke's rendering of William III. was excellent to a degree, and his acting elicited well-merited applause. Mr. Arthur Baxendell, in the unthankful rôle of the spy Tarfax, and Mr. Arthur Layland, in the equally thankless part of Lord Crawford, gave meritorious performances. Miss Mary Palmer made a captivating Queen Mary II.; and Miss Sybil Maurisse rendered good service as Mrs. Mackie. Mr. Patrick Alexander was good as Sim Waring, the smuggler. The remainder of the characters were all admirably sustained. *My Lady Bellamy* should enjoy a long run and should secure a good welcome in the provinces, where it is intended to tour before taking it to London. The authoress was called before the curtain and accorded hearty and encouraging applause.

"GARIBALDI."

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—I wrote, and produced in 1902, also toured for four years, a play entitled *On Circumstantial Evidence*, a tale of the English Brigade of Garibaldians, in which General Garibaldi was the central figure.

The principal incidents were taken from the private papers of my father, the late Colonel W. L. Clifton-Browne, who served for a number of years under, and was a personal friend of, the famous Liberator.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES CLIFFORD.

Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E., April 13.

The Dulwich Philharmonic Society will give a grand concert to-night (Saturday) in the Concert Hall of the Crystal Palace. Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" will be rendered under the conductorship of Mr. James Brown, Mus.Bac.Cantab. This society is very popular with the musical public.

The Crystal Palace has long been famous not only for its great musical festivals but also for its great shows, and of the latter the dog shows are among the most popular. Therefore the announcement that on Tuesday and Wednesday next (19th and 20th inst.) the Great Dane and Borzois Clubs will hold their annual joint show at the Palace should prove of great interest. The entries are of a record number, and the prizes include 50, 40, and 25 guinea challenge cups and numerous silver medals, as well as handsome money prizes.

At this season of the year the Crystal Palace Gardens are especially attractive. The gardens cover 200 acres of ground, and a walk through them is not only a feast for the eyes, but must certainly afford the greatest interest to botanists. Here one can see plants and trees not discernible anywhere else in England, many of the said trees, moreover, having stood the storms of nearly half a century. Not only are trees and plants in evidence, but there is a profusion of beautiful flowers, and Mr. Geo. O. Starr, the general manager of the Crystal Palace, is to be congratulated on having secured the services of Mr. G. Caselton, who has for many years filled the post of superintendent of gardeners for the company. Those connected with the Festival of Empire are fortunate in being able to command these gardens for their Pageant.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE MARRIAGE MART."

Musical Play, in Two Acts, by Gilbert Payne, Music by Gilbert Payne and Louis Elgar, Produced at Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, on Monday, April 11.

Richard Mannering (*alias* Darling) .....Mr. Hervey Bruce
The Rajah of Nanty Poro ..Mr. Lloyd Torons
Chutney .....Mr. Cliff Astley
Jumbo .....Mr. J. McLeod
Thumbi .....Mr. B. Colan
Jos Bunkum .....Mr. H. F. Housden
Ray Desmond .....Miss Nellie Dyson
Vera Mannering .....Miss Ethel Errol
Flossie Fluff .....Miss Fannie Adamson
Christopher Crackett .....Mr. Gilbert Payne

It is difficult to estimate the chances of success of a musical play by its first performance, but if bright and catchy music, smart comedy, and excellent scenery and effects go for anything *The Marriage Mart* makes a bold bid for popular favour. Richard Mannering has made an unhappy marriage and emigrates to India, leaving his wife behind. At Calcutta he opens a Marriage Mart, which proves a decided "frost," and he gets into serious financial difficulties. The "man in possession" appears on the scene just as Mannering secures a commission from the Rajah of Nanty Pore to procure a new housekeeper. If successful, this will free him from his numerous embarrassments. He is also visited by the heiress Ray Resmond, searching for a husband. Complications ensue when Vera Mannering turns up as companion to Ray Desmond, and recognises the proprietor of the "Mart" as her husband, from whom, unknown to him, she has already obtained a divorce. In the meantime Mannering and Ray Desmond have found an irresistible attraction in each other. Mannering, driven to desperation, resolves to impersonate the housekeeper himself. Christopher Crackett, the office boy, is imbued with the same idea. Flossie Fluff turns up at the Palace disguised as a boy attendant, and Ray Desmond and her companion, Vera, also gain admittance. In the end the tangle is unravelled. Vera finds in the Rajah an old lover, Mannering and Ray Desmond, with Crackett and Flossie Fluff, are made happy, and all embarrassments vanish.

Bright and sparkling music is undoubtedly the feature of the performance, and some excellent comedy scenes keep the audience in good humour. Mr. Gilbert Payne, a smart comedian with a quiet and unobtrusive style, is the principal funmaker, and scores at every opportunity. His song "Merry England," a topical ditty quite up to date, was rendered in excellent style, and he was also successful in a "Christy Minstrel" duet and in "Derby Day." Both of the latter were sung with Miss Fanny Adamson, who as Flossy Fluff soon won her way into favour. A bright and clever little soubrette, she had excellent opportunities in two capital songs—"Hold me just a little bit tighter" and a "Swing song" with a taking chorus, both of which met with well-deserved applause. Miss Nellie Dyson made a charming and dainty heiress, her skilful rendering of "Arabella" and "The blue moon"—two smart numbers with catchy choruses—being very successful. Mr. Hervey Bruce has a nice voice, which he used effectively in "The dear old home"; Mr. Lloyd Torons as the Rajah scored in a topical song; Mr. Cliff Astley made the most of Chutney; Miss Ethel Errol appeared with some success as Vera Mannering; Mr. H. F. Housden made a humorous Bailiff; the Godfrey Girls contributed a dancing turn; and admirable support was given by the chorus. The scenery was distinctly pretty and the piece nicely dressed and staged.

G. Bernard Shaw has reached Australia at last, and a crowded house at the Royal, Sydney, greeted *Arms and the Man*. Mr. Julius Knight was the Captain Bluntschli, the chocolate soldier, and he made the most of the Shavian mediocrity; Miss Katharine Grey let Raina into the secret of doing what seemed most expedient, a waste of a good actress on such a part; Miss Susie Vaughan limned the wife of the inept Major Paul Petkoff with all her acknowledged skill and finesse; and the Major himself had full justice done to him by Mr. Leslie Victor. The stiff, consequential, vacillating Major Sergius Saranoff gave Mr. Reynolds Denniston some good verbal exercise; and Mr. Sydney Stirling was a capital Nicola. The mercenary, cunning maid, Louka, could not have been better represented than she was by Miss Elsie Wilson. As a curtain-raiser Conan Doyle's *Waterloo* was billed, to let Mr. Julius Knight show his versatility. His Corporal Gregory Brewster was a very fine adoption of senility, pluck, and loyalty. No one could recognise in the rôle the man who played Napoleon, whom the Corporal helped to defeat. A strong cast of the one-acter was made up of Miss Florence Kelly (Nora Brewster), Mr. Reynolds Denniston (Sergeant Archie McDonald, R.A.), and Mr. Winter Hall (Colonel James Midwinter). The Royal will close at the end of this week until the Grand Opera company opens in *Madame Butterfly*, conducted by Signor Roberto Hagon, on March 26.

Mrs. Annie Yeamans, at the age of seventy-five is preparing for her next season's work on the stage. A part has been written for her in a musical play called *The Echo*, to be produced by Mr. Charles Dillingham.

Apropos of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's visit with his *Sapho* company this week to the Empire Theatre, Oldham, the following conversation, which took place in a local fried-fish shop, is recorded:—It was late evening, and the lady was ordering a "pennyworth on a paper." "Well," said the man as he turned the browning potatoes with his scoop, "how do you like *Sapho*?" "Oh, you know," was the reply, "I don't like Shakespearean pieces as a rule, but I think *Sapho's* a champion."

Mrs. Ethel Greaves and Miss Sydney Cowell, both natives of England, are guests of the Edwin Forrest Home at Springbrook, near Philadelphia. Sir Charles Wyndham, accompanied by Mr. Sam Sothern, called to see the ladies during his recent visit to Philadelphia, and found them very well cared for in the beautiful home founded by the eminent American tragedian.

Mr. J. C. Williamson, the well-known Australian theatrical manager, is a great racing man. His Blue Book by True Blue out of Lady Mar ran a dead-heat with Aborigine for the last Caulfield Cup, starting at the respective prices of 20 and 33 to 1. And now Mme. Melba, who was elected a member of the Victoria Racing Club (better known as the V.R.C.) last year, has registered her racing colours as olive-green, mauve sash, and white cap.

At a very interesting musical at-home, which was given at 2, Whitehall-court, on Monday, by Mrs. Charles Garvice, several rising artists appeared. Amongst them were Signor Chiti, who won, not long since, the Grand Prix for violin playing at the Bologna Conservatoire; Mr. Emerson Whithorne, a pupil of Leschetizsky, who is both pianist and composer; and Miss Margaret Huston, whose singing is based on a special method of voice production.

A concert on behalf of the North Stafford Infirmary was held in the Grand Theatre, Hanley, kindly lent by Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone, on Sunday night last. The North Staffs. District Choral Society, conducted by Mr. Geo. Clarke, rendered four pieces perfectly. The Hanley and District Orchestral Society (forty-two strong), conducted by Mr. J. H. Cartmell, of the Grand Theatre, gave four pieces in a masterly manner. Mrs. Hewitt (soprano) and Mr. Harry Ault (tenor) also successfully appeared. The house was well filled.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(from our own correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, April 14.—We have had a very busy week. The Ambigu opened the ball with *Prostitude*, a five-act drama by Henri Desfontaines, founded on Victor Marguerite's well-known novel. It is a sad story, dealing with the social evil, which had already been treated by M. Brieux in *Les Avariés*. It is grimly realistic, and the scanty plot is replaced by long-winded speeches that tend to become tedious. The object of the play is to bring about reform in the national treatment of prostitution and its consequences, but this problem cannot be discussed on the stage. Admirable acting added force to the message of the play, and caused it to be well received.

The Théâtre des Arts, whose mission is to encourage young dramatists, has brought out *Les Yeux qui changent*, by MM. T. Cyril and Maurice Froyez. The story, which plays in Russia, is intensely dramatic. Ivan Daniloff is the husband of Sonia, and father of two children. He was adopted by a certain Nicolas Ogareff, who stood him in father's stead, and, hearing that his benefactor has fallen seriously ill, he decides to go to his assistance. Sonia tries to dissuade him from undertaking the journey. She reminds him that the country is overrun with Napoleon's soldiers (for we are in 1812), and that many weeks will elapse before he can reach the sick man. But Ivan disregards her advice, and he departs, after having confided Sonia and his two children to the care of his faithful old servant, Catherine. Four months elapse. One night a knock is heard, and a man enters the room. The children, recognising their father, rush at him and smother him with kisses. But Sonia feels ill at ease. Her husband's manner seems not the same, and she notices a curious difference in the expression of his eyes. Ivan's kindness of heart was reflected in his looks, whilst Ivan who returned speaks in an abrupt tone to Catherine, and there appears at times a wild stare in his eyes. He explains that the trouble and hardships he underwent have had this effect on him, and Sonia tries to reason with herself that she is the victim of a hallucination. For all that, her fears do not leave her, and she gets up in the middle of the night to open her heart to the faithful Catherine. Whilst the two women are whispering their doubts to one another, the man enters. Sonia starts questioning him, and he replies in a hesitating manner. Suddenly Catherine shrieks that secret voices have told her that her master has been murdered on his way home by a man who is his double. On hearing this, Sonia goes mad, and, rushing at the man, chokes the life out of him.

"LE PHENIX."

Vaudeville, In Three Acts, by M. Raphael Valabrégue, Produced at the Nouveautés, on April 13.

Lola Prune.....Mlle. Carlix
Mme. Prune .....Mme. Caumont
Mme. Delamare .....Mlle. Bignon
Mariette .....Mlle. Parys
Valanetine .....Mlle. Rose
D'Outreval .....M. Germain
Docteur Delamare .....M. Coquet
Ducastel .....M. Gorby
Saint-Mamaet .....M. Landry
Tourbillon .....M. Laurent

The author of the above farce is not the Albin Valabrégue to whom we owe many amusing vaudevilles, but one of his relatives. This relative has not gone far out of his way in search after novel effects. He has constructed his farce on time-honoured lines, and most of the situations lack the charm of novelty. The plot, moreover, is a little complicated. There is a certain Dr. Delamare, married to a charming woman. He is faithful to her so long as he remains in Paris, but the moment he leaves town he indulges in wild pranks. He gambles, he seduces widows and virgins, yet he always manages to escape the consequences of his escapades, thanks to the "phœnix trick." Having read that this fabulous bird rises from its ashes, he follows the same course. In other words, he goes to watering-places, where he is sure to meet pretty women, under an assumed name, and when the place is beginning to grow too hot for him he goes with his friend on a tour in the mountains, and the friend returns an hour later crying that his companion has fallen down a precipice, and that his body can never be recovered. And whilst the wily young doctor assumes the names of Durand or Duval, his devoted companion gives himself out as Dr. Delamare, leading an exemplary life, so that Mme. Delamare, in Paris, and her father, M. D'Outreval, only hear the best reports about the truant husband. When the play opens Delamare—under the name of L'Escopette—has seduced Lola, the daughter of Mme. Prune, whose skill with the revolver secures her many engagements in music halls. His friend, Ducastel, who impersonates him as Dr. Delamare, then goes with him for a long walk, and returns with the usual story of L'Escopette's death. This time, however, things do not go so smoothly. Ducastel is suspected with having caused the death of L'Escopette, and in order to avoid arrest he has to rush off to Paris, where he finds Delamare in the bosom of his family. Then comes the usual imbroglio, and things end happily.

But the hit of the evening was the one-act farce *On Purge Bébé*, by M. Georges Feydau. The audience shrieked with laughter, for the farce is really irresistible. There is not a coarse word in the piece, yet it is not intended for prudish ears. The story is as follows. Folavoine is a porcelain manufacturer, a quiet, harmless bourgeois. His wife, however, although an excellent housekeeper and mother, has a terrible temper, and leaves her poor husband hardly any peace. They have a little boy, Toto, who, when the story opens is not very well. According to Mme. Folavoine he wants medicine, but he refuses to take the glass of Hunyadi, which his mother offers him with the promise of a cake afterwards. This simple incident is the cause of terrible trouble in the Folavoine household, for M. Folavoine has invited to luncheon a Monsieur Chouilloux, clerk in one of the Government offices, who is to help him to secure a Government contract. The luncheon is ordered, but the frantic mother will not dress herself nor listen to anything until Toto has taken his medicine. Whilst husband and wife are disputing M. Chouilloux arrives, and he, of course, is dragged by Madame into the discussion. Madame at last becomes so enervated that she forgets herself, and calls her visitor a name that is applied to those suffering from conjugal misfortunes. M. Chouilloux is so overcome that he seizes a glass on the table and drinks half its contents. M. Folavoine, likewise overcome, drinks the rest. It was the tumbler for Toto, but nobody notices this except Toto, who shows his mother the empty glass, and says, "Look, mother! I took my medicine!" "My darling!" cries Mme. Folavoine, and clasps her boy to her heart. This therapeutic and Molièresque farce was remarkably well acted by Mlle. Cassive, M. Germain, and M. Simon.

The French Shakespeare Society have scored another interesting success in the performance of *Les Joyeuses Commères de Windsor* at the Salle Femina. All the parts were played by an excellent company, who are becoming more and more Shakespearean in spirit as these performances proceed. The part of Dame Quickly had been allotted to M. Decaye, a remarkably funny young actor, but who ought to check his tendency of trying to be too funny for the benefit of the gallery. M. Menaud, as Falstaff, extracted all the fun he could out of the part, and the whole performance reflects much credit on the management.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Edward of Wales, witnessed the performance of *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Thursday evening.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS LEUTNANTS-MUENDEL."

Farce, in Three Acts, by Walter Leo Stein, Produced at the Luetspielhaus, April 8.

Von Bernewitz .....Herr Schindler
Dönhoff .....Herr Schonemann
Baron Liebenow-Memmingen ....Herr Dietsch
Von Norkitten .....Herr Impekoven
Flora .....Fraulein Cerigioli
Weber .....Herr Paulmuller
Meia .....Fraulein Waldmann
Milly .....Fraulein Euler
Ines de Sagasta .....Fraulein Mueller
Marie .....Fraulein Hiller
Punschke .....Herr Penkert
Goldstücker .....Herr Arnold
Otto .....Herr Bachwitz

(from our own correspondent.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 14.—An amusing novelty, very brightly interpreted, Herr Stein's efforts were rewarded with a distinct measure of success. The author was called before the curtain at the close of each act and warmly applauded, while the chief artists came in for their well-merited share of the appreciation. The plot is simplicity itself, and is told in a few words. A young officer of the Dragoons, Lieut. Horst von Bernewitz, has been made the guardian of the daughter of his father's friend for some reason or other. The ward, who is a native of Peru—Ines de Sagasta—is at a boarding-school in Germany, but appears one day in her guardian's rooms, to set everything and everybody by the ears. Ines has a will of her own; she has quarrelled with the school authorities and declines to return to them. Horst expects to find a child of twelve, and buys her a doll; but, greatly to his surprise, and not a little to his disgust, he finds his ward a very pretty girl of seventeen, and a flirt to her finger ends. Her heart is in the right place, however, and she does all sorts of generous deeds, paying some of her guardian's debts unknown to himself, and ordering in supplies of champagne and other delicacies appreciated by young officers. The end may easily be imagined. After various phases of wounded pride, annoyance, &c., the guardian is conquered. Horst is as good a fellow as ever was made, and soon falls in love with pretty Ines, who of course reciprocates, and all ends to the distant chime of wedding bells. The fun of the piece is in the dialogue and some of the "situations." There is plenty of good work for the actors, one of the characters—Goldstücker, Horst's moneylender—being a capital one. All the parts were admirably sustained, and the farce should enjoy a lengthy run.

The Lessing Theatre did not achieve much success with its first attempt at a Shaw production. It was the three-act play *Heiraten* (Marriage), translated and adapted by Siegfried Trebitz. In spite of faultless acting the piece fell very flat, the long discussions upon wedded felicity or otherwise being obviously a little wearisome to the audience. The critics—usually well disposed towards anything Mr. Shaw writes—are unanimous in considering this to be a weak production.

"Das Nesthakchen," a three-act comedy by Edmond Guirand, did not make a particularly favourable impression at the Hebbel on its production last week. It is the story of a youth, tied to his mother's apron-strings, and tyrannised over by her in the name of affection. He is released from bondage by a far-seeing old uncle, whose amiable character is the redeeming point of the piece. The interpretation was good, but a long run will scarcely be accorded to the play.

The event of the week has been the celebration of Frau Anna Schramm's seventy-fifth birthday. Frau Schramm has been a member of the Royal Schauspielhaus company for many years, and is undoubtedly the very best comedienne on the German stage. To see her is to laugh; to know her is to love her. All Germany combined to do honour to the famous actress. From the Emperor and Empress, from the Crown Prince and Princess and other members of the Imperial family, as well as from other Royal families, came signed letters or telegrams of congratulation couched in warmest words, whilst felicitations arrived—as a matter of course—from all Frau Schramm's colleagues and from prominent German citizens in every branch. Her house was transformed into a garden of fragrant blossoms, and the ovations were repeated when the popular actress appeared before the public at the Schauspielhaus on Tuesday as the old market woman Hanne in Neumann's comedy *Wie die Alten Sungen*, a rôle she has played hundreds of times with the same success. Frau Schramm is as active as ever. On the night of her birthday, when her friends thought she had left home merely to avoid the many ovations planned, she was acting the rôle of Hanne in Leipzig. She is also busy studying two new parts at the Schauspielhaus, and has not the least intention, she says, of retiring into private life for another quarter of a century. And all her admirers believe her.

Fraulein Kierschner, one of the leading members of the ballet at the Royal Opera House, is retiring from the boards to marry. She has been the recipient of many expressions of appreciation from the Emperor downwards, and receives, of course, a substantial pension from the State.

The Charles Mortimer Prize for composition at the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Nellie Fulcher, of Whitchurch, Salop. The examiners were Messrs. Arnold Bax, Neville Flux, and Daniel S. Wood. The Battison Haynes Prize for composition has been awarded to Adela Hamaton, of Uxbridge. The examiners were Messrs. A. von Ahn Carse, Percy Pitt, and J. C. Ames. The Goldberg Prize (basses) has been awarded to William J. Samuell, of Swansea, Harry Milner, being commended. The examiner was Mr. Frederick Keel. The Sterndale Bennett Prize (pianoforte) has been awarded to Evelyn Dawkin, of London, Adela Hamaton and Elsie Jones being commended. The examiners were Messrs. Russell Bonner, Fritz Read, and Graham P. Moore (chairman). The Louisa Hopkins Memorial Prize (for pianoforte) has been awarded to Evelyn Dawkin, of London, Adela Hammerton being highly commended. The examiners were Miss Elsie Horne, Miss Gertrude Peppercorn, and Mr. Ernest Fowles (chairman).

"The Palace of Truth," by W. S. Gilbert, was recently revived by the Ben Greet Players at the Garden Theatre, New York. This "fairy farce" is quite a novelty to present-day audiences. It had not been performed in New York, it was said, since Lester Wallack scored such a success in it a quarter of a century ago. King Phanor was played by Mr. Ben Greet. Miss Grace Halsey Mills was the Queen, Miss Violet Vivian the Princess, Mr. Douglas J. Wood the Prince, Miss Keith Wakeman the Mirza, and Miss Ruth Vivian the coquettish maid. Our theatre-goers are indebted to Mr. Greet for making them familiar with quaint plays that are quite out of the ordinary. The performance was enjoyed immensely, the audience being demonstrative in its approval. Three of Hawthorne's "Wonder Tales," adapted for the stage, were given at the daily matinées. The stories of *Pandora*, *King Midas*, and *Philemon and Baucis* in dramatic form proved decidedly interesting and enjoyable, especially to the youngsters, being presented with good taste and well acted. Mr. Greet played King Midas, while Miss Violet Vivian made a charming Pandora.

"The Masterman," a drama, in four acts, by A. Rosebery, with music by W. O. J. Damant, was produced for copyright purposes at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, on March 30. The play will be sent on tour, and opens at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on Monday, coming to the Pavilion, London, the following week.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 18.

Alice in Wonderland.—Grand T., Hull.
Almost His Bride.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Alone in London.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Amsterdam.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Angel of His Dreams.—Junction T., Manchester.
An Old Man's Darling.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Another Man's Wife.—T. R., South Shields.
Arcadians, The (No. 1).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Are You the Man?—O. H., Wakefield.
As Your Hair Grows White.—Gaiety T., Methil.
At the World's Mercy.—Grand T., Derby.
Baines, Miss Florence.—Court T., Warrington.
Bateman, Mrs. Frank.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Worcester.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—O. H., Kidderminster.
Better Land.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Bondman, The (Croke).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Breed of the Treshams.—Victoria T., Burnley.
Brewster's Millions.—T. R., Exeter.
Broken Heart, A.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Brought to Ruin.—T. R., Jarrow.
Can a Woman Be Good?.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Cassidy, Mr. J. Rice.—Prince's T., Preston.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Coronet T., W.
Catch of the Season.—County T., Bedford.
Charley's Aunt.—O. H., Leicester.
Chorus Lady.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Cingalee, The (A.).—T. R., Leigh.
Cingalee, The (B.).—Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.
Coal King, The.—T. R., Smethwick.
Compton Comedy Co.—Court T., Liverpool.
Country Girl.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Cruise of the Constance.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Pier P., New Brighton.
Dear Little Denmark.—New T., Cardiff.
Destroyer of Men.—K. T., Sutton.
Diana of Dobson's.—King's T., Greenock.
Diver's Luck.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Dollar Princess (N.).—T. R., Bradford.
Don.—Grand T., Southampton.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Fulham Theatre.
Drama of Life.—T. R. North Shields.
Draycott, Mr. Chas.—T. R., Barnsley.
East Lynne (Watt).—Queen's T., Dublin.
Eyes of the World.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Face at the Window.—Empire T., Oldham.
Fast Life, A.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Female Swindler.—Queen's T., Longton.
Fires of Fate.—O. H., Southport.
Flag Lieutenant (N.).—T. R., Aldershot.
Flag Lieutenant (S.).—T. R., Leamington.
Florodora.—T. R., Huddersfield.
For Love and the King.—T. R., Merthyr.
For Love of a Woman.—T. R., Sheffield.
For Old Times' Sake.—T. R., Macclesfield.
For Wife and Home.—T. R., Aston.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Frivolity.—Century T., Motherwell.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—O. H., Wakefield.
Gay Gordons.—Empire T., Swindon.
Geisha, The.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Ferndale.
Girl from Kay's.—New T., Aberdare.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—County T., Kingston.
Great Awakening.—P. O. W., Salford.
Greater Love.—T. R., Glasgow.
Guilty Gold.—T. R., Leicester.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—T. R., Manchester.
Havana.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Her Fatal Marriage.—T. R., Woolwich.
Her Life in London.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Her Love Against the World.—Pav. T., Mile End.
Her Marriage Vow.—Eden Th., Bishop Auckland.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Barnsley.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., Bolton.
His Real Wife.—Metropole Th., Manchester.
Hush Money.—T. R., Aston.
Idol of Paris.—Royalty Th., Chester.
In the Shadow of Night.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
King of Cadonia (Curzon).—T. R., Preston.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Hoddesdon and Dunstable.
Lighthouse Robbery.—Grand T., Walsall.
Little Damozel.—Grand T., Croydon.
Lodge Percy, Mr. J. C.—T. R., Batley.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart.—T. R., Bristol.
Love of the Princess.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Lucky Durham.—O. H., St. Helens
Lucky 'Liza.—Weymouth.
Marriage of Kitty.—West Hartlepool.
Master and Man.—T. R., Plymouth.
Merchant of Venice.—Aberdeen and Dundee.
Merry Peasant.—T. R., Edinboro'.
Merry Widow.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Midnight Wedding.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—T. R., West Stanley.
Miss Tommy.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Mockery of Marriage.—Castle T., Stockton.
Moody-Manners (A.).—King's T., Sunderland.
Moody-Manners (B.).—W. G., New Brighton.
Mother-in-Law.—Bexhill and Lincoln.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—T. R., Brighton.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
New Boy, The.—New T., Cambridge.
Old Home, The.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Only a Little Boy.—T. R., Tonypandy.
Our Miss Gibbs.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Our Miss Gibbs.—T. R., Hanley.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Passing of the The Floor Back.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Passion of Life.—Gaiety T., Methil.
Pete (N.).—O. H., Blackpool.
Pete (S.).—Colosseum, Oldham.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—T. R., Worthing.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Swansea.
Proud Prince.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Rainbows, The.—Grand T., Halifax.
Raynar's Repertoire Co.—T. R., Chatham.
Rollicking Rory.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Royal Divorce.—P.O.W., Gt. Grimsby.
Sexton Blake.—T. R., Norwich.
Shadow of a Crime.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
Sign of the Cross.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Silver King.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Sinner, The.—Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Sins of a City.—Grand T., Stockton.
Sister's Sin, A.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
Sorrows of Satan.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Still Alarm.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Temptation.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Thief in the Night.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Thief, The.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Through the Divorce Court.—Hippo., Salford.
Tom Jones.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Turner's Opera Co.—Grand T., Nelson.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Lyric T., Hammers'th.
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., Blyth.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Stockport.
Under the Iron Heel.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Sunderland.
Warner, Miss Grace.—O. H., Workington.
Was She to Blame.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
What a Man Made Her.—T. R., Rotherham.
What Every Woman Knows.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
When a Lass Loves.—P. T., Glasgow.
When it Was Dark.—Abertillery.
When Other Lips.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Where is William?—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
White Man, A.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Why Smith Left Home.—Keswick and Kendal.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., Bury.
With Edged Tools.—West Pier, Brighton.
Woman in the Case (N.).—T. R., Dublin.
Woman in the Case.—Aberavon and Ebbw Vale.
Woman of Kronstadt.—O. H., Dudley.
Woman of Two Lives.—King's T., Sutton.
Woman's Past.—Miners' T., Ashington.
World, the Flesh, and the Devil.—G. T., Luton.
Wrecker of Men.—Star T., Liverpool.
You Never Can Tell.—T. R., Halifax.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Leicester.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mabel Love—Saturday, April 16.
Bert Crosbie—Saturday, April 16.
Staffo—Saturday, April 16.
Gertrude Gilman—Sunday, April 17.
Hermann B. Darewski, jun.—Sunday, April 17.
Gabrielle Ray—Monday, April 18.
Helena Millais—Tuesday, April 19.
John Clempert—Tuesday, April 19.
Papa Brown—Thursday, April 21.
Frank Harcourt—Thursday, April 21.
Ada Rehan—Friday, April 22.
Hayden Coffin—Friday, April 22.
C. Haddon Chambers—Friday, April 22.
Brian Daly—Friday, April 22.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months ..	0	6 6	Three Months ..	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. M. C.—*If you wish to play your piece as a curtain-raiser at the theatres it must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. For the halls only six speaking parts are allowed for sketches.*

W. F. B. (Great Yarmouth).—*Dan Leno died at his home in Balham on Oct. 31, 1904, aged forty-three.*

E. Hague (Walton).—*We will make inquiries, and also search our records, and let you know next week. You have not spelt the name correctly.*

W. H. Reynolds.—*The award only refers to artists as to closing down. The manager is in a different position.*

Corn Exchange.—*You should write to the United States Consul, at St. Helen's-place, London, E.C., who will give you the necessary information.*

Adapter.—*You must get permission of the foreign author, as, under the Act of Paris, the foreign author has the right of translation for ten years from first production. If the right of translation has not been exercised within that period the play is free.*

H. E. Thomas.—*The law as to employment of children on the stage in the United States is different in each State. Write for the necessary information to the Actors' Society, 133, West Forty-fifth-street, New York.*

Coventry.—*No; there are tragedians and comedians. Very rarely are tragedy and comedy combined in one actor. Buckstone was a comedian; Gustavus Vaughan Brooke a tragedian, though he occasionally played comic Irish parts.*

Edwd. Davies.—*It depends on where the theatre is situated. In some towns, the licensing authority is a Watch Committee, in others an Urban Council, and in the large centres the Town Council. In London the safety of the building has to be passed by the London County Council before it is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. Make your inquiry more definite, and we will endeavour to answer it.*

R. C. Musgrave.—(1) *In response to a requisition signed by upwards of 400 influential merchants, bankers, and traders of the metropolis, soliciting a few performances at the City of London Theatre, Gustavus Vaughan Brooke (not "Brooks"), opened at that theatre on Oct. 16, 1854, playing in* Othello (*the Moor and Iago*), The Stranger, The Lady of Lyons, Virginius, *and* The Hunchback. *On Monday, Oct. 23, 1854, he played at the same house the part of Sir Giles Overreach (not "Overrich"). On Saturday, Nov. 25, 1854, he sailed for Melbourne.* (2) *No; his last appearance on the stage—as it unhappily proved to be—was at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Dec. 23, 1865, in the character of Richard the Third.* (3) *He went down in the wreck of the ss. London, Thursday, Jan. 11, 1866.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Raynor.—On April 12, at Gus Levaine, Esq.'s, cottage, Riddings, Mrs. Jack Raynor (Raynor and Esto, grotesque speciality), of a fine son. Mother and son doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Royce—Boyde.—At the Registry Office, Brixton, April 9, Arthur Royce to Violet Edwina Boyde, daughter of the late Edwin Boyde.

Stevenson—Bennett.—On April 12, at St. James' Church, Stockton, Harry Baroux (professionally known as) to Kitty Albert, both of "Concordia" company.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baroux, of *Concordia*, whose wedding took place Tuesday, April 12, wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Honri for their handsome cheque, and for their great kindness in providing the champagne lunch, at which the whole of the company and guests, numbering over forty, sat down. Also the bhoys and girls of *Concordia* company for their good wishes and numerous presents. Mr. Baroux would also like to take the opportunity on behalf of the company to thank Mr. Honri for his many acts of kindness in the past, which proclaim him "one of the best."

DEATHS.

Coutts.—April 10, at the Nursing Home, Guy's Hospital, Compton Coutts, actor.

Elliott.—Feb. 28, accidentally drowned at Hong Kong, Gus Elliott (of the Elliott Troupe), comic acrobatic juggler, age 30.

Grant.—March 31, after an operation, Mrs. W. Christie Grant, wife of the manager of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

Marner.—April 2 at Bournemouth, of consumption, Mrs. C. Foster Marner (Venie Belfry).

Schalkenbach.—April 2, at Trèves (Trier), Professor J. B. Schalkenbach, inventor of the electric orchestra (Orchestre Militaire) and professor of music, in his 86th year.

Thompson.—April 9, at 33, Barrow-street, Belfast, the dearly-beloved mother of Kennedy, Sandy, Jack, James Thomson.

Volta.—April 8, Charlotte Elizabeth Mary, the beloved wife of Edwin Volta (Sharpe), aged 51.

Weigelt.—April 11, at her residence, 59, Königrstrasse, Mariendorf, Berlin, Lizzie, wife of Hermann Weigelt, known as Abdel Kader, and eldest sister of the Brothers Webb. American papers please copy.

Witmark.—March 29, at his residence in New York, of heart failure, Marcus Witmark, music publisher, aged 76.

In Memoriam.

Adams.—In ever-loving memory of my darling brother, Albert George Down Adams (Bert Adams), only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Saml. Adams (Madame Cicely Nott), who fell asleep April 17, 1904. Ever deeply mourned by his loving sister, Ada Blanche.
Sleep, beloved, sleep.

Adams.—In loving memory of my darling brother Bert, who fell asleep April 17, 1904. Deeply mourned by his ever-loving sister, Edith Tully.

Barker.—In loving memory of John Barker, who died April 12, 1897. Never forgotten by his daughter.—Charlotte Thurston.

Delevanti.—In loving memory of John Delevanti, who died April 16, 1908. Never to be forgotten by his sons, Walter, Harry, and Arthur Delevanti.

Hamilton.—In fond loving memory of William Hamilton (W. Hamilton's Excursions), who died April 12, 1907. Sadly missed by his devoted wife and family.

Saunders.—In ever-loving and affectionate memory of Clarice Verrinder Saunders, who fell asleep April 16, 1909. Sadly missed by her loving sons, Burley and Burley.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Achurch, Miss J.
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. S.
Allan, Mr. J.
Atherstone, Mr. W.
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Beckett, Mr. J. B.
Bentley, Mr. W. E.
Bert, Mr. Hal
Blair, Mr. Wilfred
Blakeney, Mr. Geo.
Campbell, Mrs. B.
Carlton, Miss Cissie
Challis, Mr. R.
Clarions, The
Clements, Miss M.
Collins, Mr. Will
Cooke, Mr. Burton
Cooper, Miss Gladys
Cooper, Mr. Daley
Croneste, Mr. E.
Cumberlands, The
Dalton, Mr. Richard
Dardinies, The
Dartigan
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
Douglas, Mr. George
Draco, Mr. G. E.
Edgar, Mr. Richard
Edwards, Miss Alice
Edwards, Mr. Will
Elliott, Miss Rosie
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Elton, Mr. Fred
Epitaux, Mr.
Erroll, Mr. J.
Esty, Miss Alice
Evans, Mr. Wash
Feeley, Mr. Dan
Fields, Miss Fanny
Filippi, Miss Rosina
Fillis, Mme.
Findon, Mr. Arthur
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Forbes-Robertson, Mrs.
Froude, Miss Kate
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Garner, Mr. Booth
Gerado, Mr.
Gilman, Mr. A.
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Green, Miss Evie
Grossi, Prof.
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Hammond, Miss M. L.
Hayes, Mr. E. T.
Hayes, Mr. J.
Housely, Miss Jenny
Howard, Mr. Tom
Hunt, Mr. W. L.
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Kloss, Mr. Rudolph
Lane, Mr. Leonard
Langfords, The
Lawson-Wood, Mr. Geo.
Legarde, Miss M.
Leomas, The
Lupino, Mr. George
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Madden, Mr. M.
Madderson, Mr. Harry
Mansfield, Mrs. A.
Martyn, Mr. M.
May, Miss Daisy
McLellan, Mr. C. M. S.
Melbourne, Mr. A. E.
Merry, Mr. Bert
Miles, Mr. A.
Mill, Mr. Paul
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Montague, Mr. Harold
Munro, Mr. George
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Partridge, Mr. Norman
Patterson, Mrs.
Paul, Miss N.
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Pounell, Mr. Joseph
Piccolo and Fiori
Prosser, Mr. L. P.
Ray, Miss Belle
Raymonde, Miss Susie
Reano, Mr.
Reeves, Mr. Georges
Revelle, Mr.
Rham Singh
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Rignold, Mrs. Geo.
Riley, Miss Rubie
Rogers, Mr. Gilbert
Rowland, Mr. Harry
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sharman, Mrs. J.
Sheldon, Mr. George
Starkey, Mr. Gordon
Stewart and Morgan
Swallow, Mr. J.
Swears, Mr. Herbert
Symonds, Mrs. J. A.
Thorpe, Mr.
Tucker, Miss B.
Vaughan, Mr. J.
Vone, Mr. James
Walmer, Mr. C.
Willy Troupe
Winona and King
Yesslin, Mr. Theodore
Zillwood, Miss Ruth

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 5. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

Mr. Tom Hulme, a lad fra' Lancashire, is going big guns at the Palace, Battersea; and Elsie Kedward is pleasing the London audience with her own well-written number, "Maggie Lee."

On March 24 the action taken by Mr. Cayley Calvert against Mr. Leo Stormont to restrain the latter from performance of the sketch *Exposure* or *A Modern Andromeda*, was dismissed with costs, on the application of the defendant, for lack of prosecution. Mr. Calvert claimed that the title *A Modern Andromeda* belonged to him, and that the sketch had been based on a scenario submitted by him to Mr. Stormont. He applied in October last for an injunction to restrain Mr. Stormont from performing the piece, which was then being played with great success in London at the Hippodrome, with Mr. Herbert Waring and Mr. Henry Neville in the leading parts.

The injunction was, however, refused, pending the trial of the action, Mr. Stormont denying absolutely that he had derived either the title or the plot of the piece from Mr. Calvert. The title, in fact, belonged to Mr. J. E. MacManus, who collaborated with Mr. Stormont in writing the sketch, having been used tentatively by him as far back as 1894. Mr. Calvert failed to pursue his action, and in due course Mr. Stormont applied to have it dismissed, and obtained an order, with costs, against Mr. Cayley Calvert.

Dining one day in a mixed convivial party, surrounded by a set of merry wights, the French language and the pronunciation of that tongue became a subject of conversation. "Well! I'll bet any man in the room a new hat," exclaimed Emery, "and the wager shall be decided by the present company, that I both speak, pronounce, and understand the French language better than English." So extraordinary a declaration and challenge upon such a subject, from the rustic Emery greatly astonished the whole party. At length, however, one of them, not caring so much for the value of the bet, perhaps, as he did for the amusement which he thought would probably be afforded by putting Emery to the test, answered, "Well, Emery, I'll bet that you can do neither!" Emery, putting on a countenance grave as a judge, replied with avidity, "'Adone; 'tis a bet." Then, getting up, he addressed himself to an old friend who sat opposite, and who, he was aware, knew but very little of the French language. "Will you, my dear sir, do me the favour of just saying good-night in French?" The gentleman, with a pronunciation scarcely intelligible, replied, "*bon jour.*" Upon which Emery observed, "you are wrong, my dear fellow, that is good day; good-night in French is *bon soir*" (which words he pronounced very correctly). Then turning round to the company, he said, "There, gentlemen, I think you must undoubtedly admit that I have won my wager; for, from what you have all just now heard, you must, I am sure, be most perfectly satisfied that I certainly do both speak, pronounce, and understand the French language better than English." The justness of Emery's claim was most fully admitted on all sides when, to the great amusement of the company, it was explained to them that the name of the gentleman whom he had addressed on the subject of the French language was English. Emery got considerable credit for his contrivance of the joke.

"*I'll swear upon that bottle.*"—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S
BRONCHIAL
TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Roze Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S
MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

Rowland's
ODONTO,
a pure, fragrant, non-gritty Tooth Powder;
WHITENS THE TEETH,
prevents decay and sweetens the breath.
Sold by Stores, Chemists, and A. Rowland & Sons, Hatton Garden, London.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY,
Chartered Accountant.

Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

Published by
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE,"
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINE GORDON at a piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE GEISHA." Friday, "GREEK SLAVE."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday April 18, SHAKESPEARE COMMEMORATION WEEK. THE PLAYS OF SHAKESPEARE.
Matinées Wednesday and Saturday.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Open Daily.
Tuesday and Wednesday, Grand Annual Joint Show of the Great Dane and Borzois Clubs. Record entries. Fairy Archipelago, Organ, Bands, Wild Animals. Sat. next, Final Tie. Theatre. Gala Programme.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.
Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
At 6.40 and 9.10
Harry P. Selwyn's Co. in "The Flood Tide."
Arden and Abel in "The Town Hall To-night,"
Daisy Mayer, Dusty Rhodes, Gipsy Wolf and Co.,
John Donald, Lennie and Hast, Dan Conroy,
Madge Temple,
Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture-holder),
Frank Postlethwaite.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Percy Ford's Co. in "The Spy," Hugh Dempsey, Marie Bailey, Chas. Conway, Zimpa, the Gascoignes, Lenton and Lane, Kit Keen, the Walonells, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Albert Le Fre.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Harry Lauder, Bowman and Morton, Daisy Mayer, the Lyric Mummers, Dan Conroy, Lily Eyton, Cecil Curtis, Ruffell's Bioscope, Charles Coborn, Carrie Laurie's Kindergartens.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. Fred Karno's Co. in "The G.P.O.," Sam Williams, Cash and Clair, Five Joveys, May Henderson, Jenny Leslie, Dick Tubb, Allsopp and Beckwith, Bioscope, Lilian Rose, G. H. Chirgwin. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, April 18.
Messrs. J. A. and H. B. Jewel in "Change," Dover and Lee, Rosie Hart, Kessanley's Dogs, Milton and Horton, Henriette and Selina, Rosie Lloyd, Clown Argo, The Creedons, Brothers Matthews, Nelson's Newsboys, Bioscope, Jessie Albini, Bessie Slaughter.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE. One house nightly. Monday, April 18, Herbert E. Terry and Co., Basil Horsfall's Co., Dick Tubb, Bessie Slaughter, Marie Jones, Three Aza Boys, The Hulls, Jessie Buckle, Sam Williams, Tom Hulme, Elsie Redwards, Will Challiner, Edisonograph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sat. 7); commence 7.40 (Sat. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Maxini and Bobby, The Quaint Q's, Coram, The Balzars, Jury's Pictures, &c.
Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
GRAND NATIONAL and PUNCHESTOWN RACES ON THE BIOSCOPE.
GEO. ROBEY.
"EAST AND WEST" BALLET.
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Cornalla and Eddie, Elise Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
ANNA PAVLOVA, Russia's Greatest Dancer, supported by M. MORDKINE and Co., from the Imperial Ballet, HORACE GOLDIN, ALBERT WHELAN, &c., and Topical Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme.
Saturdays at 2.0.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Walking the Hoop, by Archie Goodall, the most Marvellous Sensation of the Age; Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, Clarice Mayne, Dan Crawley, Ernest Shand, Phil Ray, Walter King, Gladys Huxley, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Jack and Evelyn, Alick Lauder and Co., Queenie Essex, Rosie Lloyd, Daisy Dormer, John Lemm, the Champion Wrestler, Gertie Gitana, Bioscope. Open 7.25 Saturday Matinées, 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI. HARRY LAUDER.
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN, LOTTIE BELLMAN, VICTORIA MONKS, Ernest Shand, José Collins, Venie Clements, Phil Ray, The O'Gorman Bros., La Belle Nello, Queenie Essex, LIANE, a Musical Playlet, Rosie Lloyd, and G. H. Chirgwin.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commences Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, New Oxford-street, W.C.
Principals, Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President, George Edwardes, Esq.
SUMMER TERM begins on MONDAY, April 25.
"FOUNDATION" OPEN SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION, FRIDAY, April 22.
PRIVATE and CLASS LESSONS in Dramatic Art and Characterisation, Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Fencing, Opera and Musical Comedy, Singing, Voice Production, Choral and Sight singing, &c.
Special Complete Course of Studies for the Dramatic and Musical Professions.
Pupils have secured engagements with the following Managers:—Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Robert Arthur, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Sydney Blow, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. George Dance, Mr. St. John Denton, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mrs. Langtry, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Charles Macdona, Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ian Robertson, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Arthur Whittaker, Mr. Frank Wheeler, &c., and at the Empire, Hippodrome, Coliseum, &c.
EXCERPTS FROM EXAMINERS' REPORTS.
I congratulate you heartily on the work you are doing and the success that is attending it.
The pleasure that all your pupils take in their lessons is evident, and it seemed that, with scarcely an exception, their clearness of enunciation and knowledge of giving every word its proper value were remarkable.
To watch each pupil use his or her own individuality, and not all attack the same subject from the same point of view, was very interesting, and, I think, so important; whether they adopt the stage as a profession or not, they are, at any rate, learning how to speak so as to be heard and understood.
(Signed) CONSTANCE COLLIER.
GERALD DU MAURIER.

We were thoroughly satisfied with the excellent quality of the work and the admirable results achieved in the training of the students. We were particularly impressed by the clearness of the elocution shown by the great majority of those we heard. Altogether, the work which we saw did very great credit to the teaching of the school, which seems to be thoroughly practical and useful for anyone seeking to follow the musical or dramatic profession.
(Signed) H. B. IRVING.
ROBERT SYDNEY BROUGH.

We cannot let to-day's examination pass without a word of heartiest congratulation. The general efficiency amongst your pupils was so exceptionally high that it was indeed a most difficult matter for us to adjudicate the prizes. The intelligence shown by one and all was simply remarkable, and when added to that quality we had the thoroughness of your training, the whole effect was indeed splendid. Our sincere wish is that you should go on and prosper, for, to our minds, you have got hold of the right end of the stick—of training the young idea.
(Signed) ACTON BOND.
JAMES WELCH.
Apply SECRETARY. Telephone, Central 4287.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
April 30, Trinity Term begins. The Operatic Class resumes the Rehearsal of "Les Cloches de Corneville" on Wednesday, May 4, at 6.30 p.m.: Full particulars on application. SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, Oct. 17 and 24, for No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
The acknowledged premier Second-class Town in the Kingdom. Everything done to promote success. Working staff equal to any First-class Theatre in the World. Nothing too big, nothing too expensive.
All coms., J. F. Elliston, Managing Director.

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Whit Week, and one or two season dates open.
First-class Attractions Only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
May 16, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and others.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 Engagements:
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co., in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, May 9-23, June 6, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 2 (six nights), May 12, 13, 14 (three), all June.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Last week, "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
This week, MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.
Next week, "TWELFTH NIGHT."
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 15, 29 (Races Week), and Oct. 17.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant May 30.
Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with first-class attractions.
For vacant dates, apply as above.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.

Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.

Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cisale	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Richardson, Mr. Levant M.	May 22, 1909
Robertshaw, Mr. Jerrold	March 27, 1909
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS.
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE.
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hipp.).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1910.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

A letter which Mr. H. B. IRVING has written on the subject of the National Theatre expresses, we believe, the feeling of many in the profession with regard to the movement. Mr. H. B. IRVING says:

I attended a meeting held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, in the summer of 1908, when the Executive Committee for the Memorial Theatre was finally elected. As that Executive Committee was originally constituted, out of twenty members only two of them were members of the theatrical profession—Sir John Hare and Mr. Granville Barker. It was only as the result of very vigorous representations made to certain members of the committee at that meeting that the names of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and Mr. Forbes Robertson were added to that committee.

I confess that from that moment my feeling towards the scheme was one of mistrust, when I found that, among those who were proposing to found a National Theatre, there was so obvious a desire to dispense with the co-operation of the members of our own and Shakespeare's calling. It led me to believe that their scheme was going to be elaborate and high-sounding, but eminently unpractical, and I resented, as I believe my father would have resented, the slight put upon our calling

I am glad, however, to think that a more liberal and practical spirit now prevails, and that those ladies and gentlemen outside our calling who have interested themselves in the cause are willing to accept the co-operation of eminent actors, at any rate, as advocates of their scheme.

There are two things to be considered in connection with a scheme like the National Theatre. The first is, "Is it desirable?" and the second is, "Is it practicable?" The first query can only be answered in the affirmative. If an English equivalent of the Comédie Française could be immediately established in London, there can be no doubt that the existence of such a playhouse would be beneficial to the drama generally. The Comédie Française, with its "annex" the Conservatoire, has a valuable influence on French dramatic art. We need not discuss the *desirability* of a National Theatre. In connection with its practicability, there were, when the scheme was started, important obstacles. One was the difficulty of raising the necessary capital; the other was—as Mr. H. B. IRVING says—the exclusion from the committee of all the leading members of the profession, except Sir JOHN HARE and Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER. Though the sum of £70,000, which an anonymous donor has given for the National Theatre, was invested in the names of Lord AVEBURY and the Right Hon. ALFRED LYTTELTON, M.P., and the securities deposited in the London County and Westminster Bank, the subscriptions at first were slow in arriving. The idea that the provincial mayors would, each in his district, collect a goodly sum for the scheme proved illusive; and at the National Theatre meeting at the Mansion House very few of these magnates were present. The fact that no general subscription list was published was not encouraging to the imagination. We shall be glad at any time to publish such a list in *The Era*.

In one of our articles on the subject we suggested, as a possible solution of the financial difficulty, that His Majesty the King, who is so much interested in everything connected with the drama, should be asked to give his name and support to the National Theatre scheme; and we alluded to the Imperial Institute as an example of what might be done in the way of obtaining subscriptions for an object of which His Majesty approved. We have also pointed out from the first the impossibility of the National Theatre being made a success without the co-operation and influence of actors.

As both our suggestions have been now practically adopted, no cause of complaint remains to us. It is true that the King has not yet been asked to patronise the scheme, but action in the same spirit has been taken by enlisting the cream of the British aristocracy for a great Shakespearean Fancy Dress Ball at the Albert Hall on June 27, the idea of which came from the fertile brain of Lady TREE. When we mention that in the ladies' committee, which is presided over by Mrs. GEORGE CORNWALLIS-WEST, are to be found the Duchess of SOMERSET, the Duchess of MARLBOROUGH, the Duchess of SUTHERLAND, the Marchioness of SALISBURY, the Countess of WEMYSS, MURIEL Countess DE LA WARR, the Countess of LYTTON, CORA Countess of STRAFFORD, the Countess of LONDESBOROUGH, Lady GWENDELINE CHURCHILL, Lady HELEN VINCENT, Lady MAUD WARRENDER, Viscountess RIDLEY, Lady ASHBY ST. LEDGERS, Lady CUNARD, Lady HAMILTON, Lady JEKYLL, Lady PAGET, Lady SAVILE, Lady SPEYER, Lady WENLOCK, Lady WERNHER, and the Hon. Mrs. ALFRED LYTTELTON, it is evident that the co-operation of what used to be called the "upper ten thousand" has been secured. The idea that the dresses shall represent characters either from SHAKESPEARE'S plays or belonging to the Elizabethan period is an excellent one. With some three or four thousand people in Shakespearean costumes; with the advertisement given to the scheme by the ball; and with the flavour of fashionableness which will be added to the movement by this aristocratic patronage, the millionaires and magnates of London may be trusted to open their purses. With regard to the management of the scheme, the earnestness with which Sir HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE—an interview with whom on the subject we inserted some time since—and Mr. MARTIN HARVEY have thrown themselves into their advocacy, and Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON'S hard work in collecting subscriptions in America, are guarantees that practical advice will not be wanting, and that the experiment of an English National Theatre will, at any rate, have a fair chance of success. It behoves us, therefore, to give our goodwill to the scheme, now that our objections have been removed. As Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, in his eloquent speech at Lady DICKSON-POYNDER'S house, said the other day: "Let us not worry too much about the composition or the administration of the executive—all these things will right themselves in time. Let us feel nothing but indebtedness to the many distinguished ladies and gentlemen of our committee who are pledged to promote this scheme. Let us not dwell overmuch upon the cautious excellence of modern beginnings, but let us, remembering that it is the greatest name in literature we have to honour, do the big thing, and, as Lord MILNER would say, 'Damn the consequences.'"

There are many ways in which the leading London managers might help an English Comédie Française; and if only six of them were to give each an annual season or "festival" in the National Theatre, a great part of the year's *pabulum* would be assured.

"A DAUGHTER OF DOYLE'S."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sybil Michell, Played for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Thursday, April 7.

Lord Stair ..... MR. ARTHUR BECKINGHAM
Major Lightwood ..... MR. HAROLD TETHER
Colonel Doyle ..... MR. J. G. H. RICHTER
Parkins ..... MR. H. MORSE
Lady Stair ..... MRS. REDAWAY KING
Mlle. D'Arblay ..... MISS RUTH HEATHCOTE
Eleanor Doyle ..... MRS. GUY MICHELL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story which has been written round the subject of our notice is to be commended, but the authoress has not quite reached the standard set up by present-day comedy, and her piece requires a large infusion of material to make it appeal successfully for support. The curtain rises on a scene depicting the drawing-room at Kilkennan Castle, the home of Lord Stair, who is entertaining a house-party. Cards are indulged in, and the result is that Colonel Doyle becomes indebted to Lord Stair, whom he eventually pays with a forged bank-note. Lord Stair is in love with the Colonel's daughter Eleanor, but the latter learns of her father's trickery, and when his lordship asks her to become his wife Eleanor insists on him waiting a month for her answer, also stipulating that he must not see her in the meantime. The second act sees Lord Stair in his dressing-room at the Castle. The note he received from Colonel Doyle is placed in the drawer of his dressing-table, and it is round this that the interest of the act is centred. The hour is getting late, and Lord Stair dozes off in his armchair. He is awakened to find Eleanor in his room, she having gone there with the intent of placing a good note in the place of the bad one. The conversation between the two awakens the household, who come on the scene in the belief that there is a burglar in the house. By a smart move on the part of a friendly butler, Eleanor is enabled to leave the house by a side door.

In the third act, the scene of which is laid at Major Lightwood's house, Stair purposes visiting the Arctic regions on a voyage of discovery. Eleanor's father having died in the meantime, Eleanor is employed in a florist's shop, and in the course of her duties she is sent to decorate a fashionable house, where she meets Lord Stair. Matters are eventually explained, and the ultimate result is that Lord Stair cancels the arrangements that he has made for a trip to the Arctic regions.

Miss Ruth Heathcote's exposition of the rôle of Mlle. D'Arblay was delightful, and Mrs. Redaway King as Lady Stair acted well.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Mr. Martin Harvey, on Wednesday last, when speaking in support of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, suggested that our Society would prove a powerful organisation for the collection of subscriptions.

May I point out that at our recent annual conference, held at Seaford House, a resolution was passed to the effect that the British Empire Shakespeare Society would not give official help to the scheme as at present projected.—Yours faithfully,

ACTON BOND,
Joint Hon. General Director.

April 9, 1910.

MR. EDWIN T. HEYS recently delivered a lecture at the Leeds Art Club, the subject being "The Theatre of the Future." Mr. Alfred Turner, editor of the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, presided, and there was an animated discussion. Considerable prominence has been given to the meeting in the local press, where the proposal that Leeds should have a repertory theatre has met with much favour.

ON the termination of Mr. A. Bradshaw's long engagement as assistant acting-manager at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Saturday last, advantage was taken of the occasion by the staff of the theatre and a few friends to present him with a cheque for a substantial amount as a memento of the respect in which he has been held during his sojourn at the theatre.

"THE NAKED TRUTH."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by George Paston and W. B. Maxwell, Produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Thursday, April 14.

Bernard Darrell ..... MR. CHARLES HAWTREY
James Darrell ..... MR. ARTHUR PLAYFAIR
Mr. Hayter ..... MR. ERIC LEWIS
Teddie Lestrange ..... MR. ERNEST THESIGER
Dr. Masters ..... MR. LYLE
Prosser ..... MR. GEORGE BELLAMY
Mr. Sawyer ..... MR. HOLLIDAY ATTLAY
Mr. Freeman ..... MR. LIONEL WILLIAMS
Mrs. Darrell ..... MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
Mrs. Hayter ..... MISS MAUD CRESSALL
Norah Creighton ..... MISS PHYLLIS EMBURY
Mme. Rosalie Favre ..... MISS VERA MAITLAND
Mrs. Duckett ..... MISS CLARE GREET
Hammond ..... MISS GWYNNE HERBERT

The idea of persons naturally unveracious being forced by some magic spell to speak the truth has been frequently used on the stage, Sir W. S. Gilbert's *Palace of Truth* being a famous example. *The Naked Truth*, by George Paston and W. B. Maxwell, which was produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Thursday, is based on the supposition that a curious old ring can make anyone who wears it speak the whole truth. On whom is the obligation of veracity forced by the magic of the ring? On a suave, persuasive, plausible young man, named Bernard Darrell, otherwise "Bunny," the son of an adoring mother. Mrs. Darrell has devoted herself since her husband's death to the bringing up of her boy, and he is satisfactorily engaged to a nice young lady named Norah Creighton. He is conventionally agreeable, untruthful, and flattering. But "Bunny" has a weakness for flirtation, and has entangled himself with a certain Mrs. Hayter, the wife of an elderly and indifferent Oriental student. She turns up jealous and troublesome, and it is at this juncture that "Bunny's" Uncle James, who has made a fortune in India, gives "Bunny" the magic ring. With this upon his finger, the young man is compelled to speak the exact truth. He tells the directors of the Syrian Cement Company, of which he is secretary, exactly what a fraud the concern is, and there is a storm of indignation and abuse; he dictates honest replies to would-be investors, he reproves Mrs. Hayter for her immorality, he finds fault with his *ancée's* features and his mother's false hair, and is bluntly rude to his rich uncle. Mrs. Hayter arrives in a state of excitement, and talks most compromisingly to "Bunny," while Norah is listening in the next room. "Bunny" would fain defend himself by prevarication, but, like George Washington, he cannot tell a lie, and "all the fat is in the fire." His servants leave on account of his remorseless truth-speaking, and poor "Bunny" is in despair. Fortunately Mr. Hayter, who is a student of Oriental literature, discovers the secret of the ring, and Norah, to make certain that there shall be no more inconvenient veracity, drops it into the garden well.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey's famous excellences—his perfect polish, his unconsciousness, and his absolutely natural and easy style and bearing—are invaluable in the part of "Bunny"; and they double and treble the effect of the droll situation in which the unfortunate young man is placed. To see Mr. Hawtrey's facial suggestion of plaintive surprise when he is irresistibly impelled to say unpleasant things to people is to laugh heartily. The part, of course, is predominant in the play, but some excellent opportunities for character-acting are given to the "supporting" artists. Mr. Arthur Playfair's uncle from India is full of "peppery" tyranny and egregious self-importance, and is a study of real merit; and Mr. Eric Lewis contributes a clever and quaint creation as the irritable husband, Mr. Hayter. The part of Prosser, again, is individual and ingeniously conceived; and Mr. George Bellamy does full justice to the secretary's meanness and servility. Another amusing sketch is contributed by Mr. Lyle as the pretentious medico, Dr. Masters; Miss Frances Wetherall does good work as Mrs. Darrell; and Miss Vera Maitland is decidedly effective as Mme. Rosalie Favre, a French governess. An excitable shareholder, Mrs. Duckett, has a droll and active exponent in Miss Claire Greet; and Miss Gwynne Herbert is good as a high-toned domestic; that charming actress Miss Phyllis Embury being very sweet, clear, and natural as Norah Creighton. The other rôles have competent representatives. *The Naked Truth* had an encouraging reception.

"NEBULISTA."

An Original Mythical Light Opera, by John Birkett, junior, Produced at the Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, on Monday, April 11.

King Rampant ..... MR. J. HIRD
Duke of Dulcimara ..... MR. J. C. TOOLE
Gladiolus ..... MR. H. H. WRIGHT
Diddleus ..... MR. C. TURNER
Sir John Parsley ..... MR. R. C. TOOLE
Antony Dognut ..... MR. E. MASON
Poet Aster ..... MR. G. BATTY
King's Chamberlain ..... MR. H. C. TOOLE
Herald ..... MR. B. GELDERT
Page Boy ..... MASTER H. GELDERT
Policeman ..... MASTER J. DORNAN
Witch Yordas ..... MISS NELSON
Witch o' the Wisp ..... MISS J. KNIPE
Witch Hazel ..... MISS M. NELSON
Mary Melon ..... MISS M. WHITTAKER
Philomela ..... MRS. G. BATTY
Nebulista ..... MISS M. SHAW

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This entirely new and original light opera was produced on Monday by the Morecambe Amateur Operatic Society, under the direction of the composer, and author of the libretto, Mr. John Birkett, jun., of Morecambe, and it achieved an instantaneous success. The King is sick, and is supposed to have fallen a victim to an attack of gout, though in reality his life is ebbing through the administration of slow poison by his brother, the Duke of Dulcimara, who has obtained the pot on from the witch Yordas. He desires the death of the Princess Eleanor, and indeed of anyone else who stands in his way. The princess, who is unknown to her father's people, comes amongst them during their merrymaking disguised as Nebulista, the maiden of the mist. The Duke's designs having become so bad as to disgust even the witch Yordas, she decides to betray him. Dulcimara turns up at the merrymaking, where he affirms that Nebulista is the witch, and incites the people to burn her. She is saved by Philomela, but the duke effects the capture of the real witch and Gladiolus, who loves Nebulista, unaware that she is the princess, and throws them into prison. A royal decree offers the princess in marriage to anyone who will cure the king, and a syndicate run by a company promoter named Diddleus enter into competition for the fair prize, offering to cure the king with the aid of a machine known as the "Electro-gullem." Gladiolus and the witch escape, and the electro-gullem having failed to operate successfully, Gladiolus administers an antidote to the slow poison which is gradually killing the king, gains the princess, and the duke conveniently commits suicide by taking a dose of the preparation with which he had determined to finish the king.

The opera is a happy combination of drama, comedy, and broad fun.

AT the final fancy dress ball at Covent Garden on the 8th inst. there was a very large attendance. The music was provided by Mr. Dan Godfrey's band, and the dancing was kept up until early morning. There were special prizes for the two best waltzers and for the best "two-step" dancers.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"RICHARD III."

Shakespeare's Historical Play, Revived at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Wednesday, April 13.

King Edward IV. ..... MR. P. STONEY
Edward, Prince of Wales ..... MISS BRENDA GIBSON
Richard, Duke of York ..... MISS BEATRICE AINLEY
George, Duke of Clarence ..... MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Richard, Duke of Gloucester ..... MR. MARTIN HARVEY
The Duke of Buckingham ..... MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
The Duke of Norfolk ..... MR. C. GEORGE
Earl Rivers ..... MR. E. J. FRASER
Lord Stanley ..... MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN.
Henry, Earl of Richmond ..... MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Lord Hastings ..... MR. RICHARD NEVILLE
Marquis of Dorset ..... MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Lord Grey ..... MR. DAVID BAIN
Lord Lovel ..... MR. S. MCCARTHY
Sir William Brandon ..... MR. D. HOLM
Sir William Catesby ..... MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
Sir Richard Ratcliffe ..... MR. EDWARD COMBERMERE
Lord Mayor of London ..... MR. DENHOLM MUIR
The Bishop of Ely ..... MR. A. WILSON
Sir James Blount ..... MR. F. PERCY
Sir Robert Brackenbury ..... MR. H. GRAVES
First Murderer ..... MR. GEORGE COOKE
Second Murderer ..... MR. PERCY FOSTER
First Messenger ..... MR. PAUL BARRY
Second Messenger ..... MR. A. B. MCKAY
Third Messenger ..... MR. C. LEONARD
Sir James Tyrrel ..... MR. B. A. PITTAR
Queen Margaret ..... MISS MARY RORKE
Queen Elizabeth ..... MISS SYBIL WALSH
Duchess of York ..... MRS. A. B. CROSS
Page to Richard ..... MISS BESSIE ELDER
Margaret Plantagenet ..... MISS MURIEL O'SULLIVAN
Lady Anne ..... MISS N. DE SILVA

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Before a very large and distinguished audience, including His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Aberdeen, and the Viceregal party, Mr. Martin Harvey, on Wednesday, produced, and appeared for the first time in, Shakespeare's *Richard III.* The play was presented in five acts and eighteen scenes, the staging being magnificent. The scenery was by William Telbin and George J. Dodson, and was beautiful and artistic. The overture and incidental music, by Mr. William H. Hudson, added to the effect of the production.

In his latest assumption Mr. Harvey may truly be said to have added another to his long list of triumphs, and to have conceived a character which will appeal to the popular mind as effectually as his Sidney Carton or any other of his celebrated creations, so far removed as it, nevertheless, is from any of his impersonations. Mr. Harvey is at considerable pains to preserve his Richard from being repulsive, and in a large measure succeeds. His Crookback subjects the consciousness of his deformity to the realisation of his intellectual superiority, which dominates the play throughout. As a "bogie man" to frighten the children, Mr. Harvey's Richard is usefulness, but as a rollicking, scheming miscreant, revelling in his villainy, he could not be excelled. Vaunting, arrogant, boastful, but ever whimsical, Mr. Harvey succeeds in being quite fascinating, and plays the fiendish character in such a way as to make Anne's yielding to his wooing possible.

The part of the Duke of Buckingham had an excellent exponent in Mr. Charles Glenney, whose acting throughout was a most careful and clever study. Miss Mary Rorke was the Queen Margaret, and gave a very finished and superb performance. Mr. Owen Roughwood is worthy of praise for his reading of the Duke of Clarence; and as Lord Stanley Mr. Fred Wright, sen., fulfilled the part in a creditable manner. Miss N. de Silva acted the rôle of Lady Anne to perfection, displaying the utmost feeling; and Miss Sybil Walsh was most sympathetic as Queen Elizabeth. Mrs. A. B. Cross gave a highly-interesting study of the Duchess of York; as the young Princes, Edward and Richard, Miss Brenda Gibson and Miss Beatrice Ainley acted very nicely; Mr. P. Stoney did admirable work as King Edward IV.; and Mr. Richard Neville was most successful as Lord Hastings; the remaining parts being in very capable hands.

On the conclusion of the performance Mr. Martin Harvey was presented with a wreath of laurels, and Miss de Silva with several bouquets.

In response to prolonged applause, Mr. Harvey said that he would not detain the audience at that late hour of the night. He could only thank them for the warm-hearted welcome that they had given to himself and Miss de Silva, and for the noble reward that they had given to their efforts. He need hardly say that the preparation for a play like that had taken many months of anxious and careful work. When it was received in Dublin in such a whole-hearted manner they felt rewarded and proud to think that their work had received such a hearty welcome. He could only thank them once more, deeply and gratefully, for all their kindness. (Applause.)

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 12, at 32, Regent-street, there were present: Mr. R. A. Greene, in the chair; Mr. T. H. Mote, Hon. Solicitor; Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. H. De Quincey, C. F. Collings, C. Hayden Coffin, Henry Le Grand, Langford Reed, Leonard Shepherd, Murri Moncrieff, Edward Morgan, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. D. Young (Secretary).

The Secretary read a letter from the West End Theatre Managers' Society, and was instructed to thank Mr. Vedrenne for his letter, and to say that the Association would be only too glad to co-operate in any action with reference to bogus management.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Clemart's letter, and to say that the Council hoped the V.A.F. would use every endeavour to influence their members to curtail the prevalence of free trial shows, as the Council of this Association was doing.

The Chairman read letters from Messrs. Fred Morland and F. J. Arlton, and the Secretary was directed to thank them for their letters, which had been considered by the Council in debating upon the standard contract.

The Secretary tendered the report of the Sunday Defence Committee, and Mr. C. F. Collings gave notice of motion with reference to that Committee.

A further report relative to the recent Strand fiasco was also tendered.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan, and adopted.

After long discussion, several alterations to the form of contract submitted last year were agreed to, and the Secretary was instructed to present a properly corrected copy at the next meeting of the Council.

Miss Pereira drew attention to the death of the late Miss Elsie Gaunt, and the Council instructed the Secretary to tender their condolence and sympathy.

Election. Mary Dibley; Reinstatement, Archie Bradshaw; Nominations, Arthur F. Armstrong and Bernard Merefield.

THE cost of the French National Opera House, exclusive of the artists' salaries, was for the past twelve months £168,000, which shows an economy of £22,400 on the previous year's expenses. The average cost of mounting each opera was £680. Performances of *Faust* cost £6,800, of Wagner's *Twilight of the Gods* £3,320, and of *Monna Vanna* £1,520. The total of the employees' wages reached £8,000.

O.P. CLUB DINNER.

There was a goodly "Chairman's table" at the O.P. Club Dinner at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday last, Mr. A. E. W. MASON, the president, being flanked by Miss Dorothea Baird and Miss Lily Elsie, whilst also present were Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. James Carew, Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Algernon L. Collins (hon. treasurer), Mr. Anthony Hope, Miss Jessie Bateman, the Hon. H. J. Greenwood, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Robbins, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Harry Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hentschel and Miss Hentschel, Mr. George Spencer Edwards, Mr. Frank Desprez, Mr. R. L. Dixon, Mr. Algernon L. Collins (hon. treasurer), Mr. J. Davis Smith and Mr. Stanley Greig (joint hon. secretaries), Mrs. Charles Terry, Mr. T. McDonald Rendle, and Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth Croke. Miss Dorothea Baird and Miss Lily Elsie were the chief guests of the evening.

Mr. H. B. IRVING, in proposing the toast of "The Club," said:—I do not know that I am altogether the best person to propose the toast of "The Club," because there are one or two reasons why I am not in sympathy with the Club. One of your great pleasures is to talk about the drama on Sunday nights. One of my great pleasures is to get away from the drama on Sunday nights. In the days of my youth I used to like to come and talk to you about the drama Sunday nights; but I have grown out of that as I got older, and I would rather leave it to you to discuss the drama. A few weeks ago I was at a gathering of a somewhat similar character, and somebody in the confidence of the Club said to me: "It would be very interesting for you if you could be behind a screen some Sunday night and hear what they say about you." Well, I do not mind what you say about us on Sunday evening, as long as you administer to us the balm of so graceful an entertainment as you have given to us to-night. Another reason why I feel a slight resentment towards you is that the last few weeks have been rendered unhappy by the fact that my wife was going to address you this evening. Our home, until now a happy one, has been rendered depressed and anxious by the thoughts of to-night. I, in common with two other gentlemen, have been implored to furnish speeches. I furnished one I thought in every way admirable, and I was told "No, it is very silly; not at all the sort of thing I want." But, for these drawbacks, I have great pleasure in proposing to you the toast of yourselves, and I would congratulate you that you have as chairman to-night Mr. A. E. W. Mason. Mr. Mason is an author who was once a member of my profession. I once saw him act a part which originally had no name, but he insisted before playing it that it should receive a name. I think it is rather a dangerous precedent. Supposing that in the Shakespeare Festival all the first murderers and second citizens insisted on having names; it would lead to an extensive baptismal performance, which might delay the festival. I can only say with what pleasure I have to propose the toast of this Club, and I think I may congratulate you on the charming ladies who are your guests to-night. I am sure that we who are enjoying your hospitality to-night wish every success and prosperity to you in the future. I know that you are interested in the theatre and the drama; whatever you may say about us on Sunday nights, you come to see us Monday night. I look forward to the time when there shall be a beautiful gathering of all the old members of our profession whom you have been kind enough to honour—some day we shall make a very goodly number—that we may recall the kindness you have shown us.

Mr. J. D. A. JOHNSON, vice-president of the Club, having acknowledged the toast,

The PRESIDENT, in proposing "Our Guests, the Ladies," said they might now go to Paris, to Berlin, or to Vienna, and they would not see either in the care of the production or in the finish of the players anything with which our own stage need be ashamed to compare.

Miss Baird, Miss Elsie, and Miss Bateman were presented with fans and bags.

Miss DOROTHEA BAIRD said: I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness in giving me such a lovely memento of to-night. I shall always treasure it, and it will remind me of a very happy evening. I wish I could make a speech; but my gratitude, as Shakespeare says, must appear in other ways than words. You have done me the honour of asking me here to-night as representing the serious side of the drama. I have never spoken on any serious subject in my life, except about babies. There is not much in common between them, although they are both liable to suffer from indigestion as a result of improper and injudicious treatment. At the present time we can congratulate ourselves on the fact that the serious drama is in an exceptionally healthy condition. It is a great delight to us to see here the great actress, Miss Ellen Terry; we hope to see her for many years to come. We must all congratulate Miss Terry on the great success of her niece, Miss Phillida Terson, in her impersonation of Viola at His Majesty's. You will all feel that the drama of the future will not suffer if it has as interpreters those who have the love of the theatre in their hearts. We who belong to the stage may calmly look forward and may say "Our lot has fallen to us on a fair ground; yea, we have a goodly heritage."

Miss LILY ELSIE said: Mr. Playgoers, Mrs. Playgoers, and all the little Playgoers, I want to thank you more than I can say for the honour you have done me in asking me here to-night, and also for the beautiful dinner which I have not eaten, and for which I have been waiting a whole week. On this occasion I have to murder my own lines instead of somebody else's. It has fallen on my shoulders to return thanks for the ladies. On behalf of all the Merry Widows and all the Dollar Princesses here to-night, I thank you most heartily for your charming entertainment. I find myself in the midst of the most brilliant, handsome, and distinguished assembly in which it has ever been my lot to mix. I have so often seen you looking on at the theatre that it gives me great pleasure to return the compliment here. To those who smile, I smile, and to those who frown, I frown. The theatre owes so much to your support that we shall always feel a very, very big lot of gratitude to you. Playgoers, I am your very grateful and obedient servant.

Miss JESSIE BATEMAN said: I feel it a very great honour to be chosen to give the toast of "The Chairman" to-night. We have all been charmed by Mr. Mason's stories. Mr. Mason has also written some beautiful plays, but his *chef d'œuvre* is still unwritten. We look to him for an epoch-making play, which will put even Sheridan in the shade. Mr. Irving has referred to the fact that Mr. Mason was once an actor. He worked very hard with Mr. Benson and others; in a weak moment he became an M.P., but no sooner had he become associated with the O.P. Club than he was persuaded to abandon this career. I have said all there is to say of Mr. Mason's virtues and have generously overlooked his faults, and I ask you to drink his health with great heartiness.

MRS. GEORGE H. THOMAS, formerly Miss Maude Hollins a daughter of Mr. Redfern Hollins, the well-known English tenor, was severely injured recently at Yonkers, near New York City, through the cab in which she was riding coming into collision with an electric car. Mrs. Thomas is a niece of Mr. Julian Edwards, the composer of *Dolly Varden*, and numerous comic operas. Her two sisters, Hilda and Mabel, have made themselves popular in musical comedy. The Hollinses are Londoners, and Mr. Edwards is a native of Manchester.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

It is announced that Mr. Oswald Stoll has completed a project to acquire in the autumn a number of American vaudeville theatres in the North Western States of America, and to build others in New York and elsewhere to link up the circuit with the seaport cities.

A new company called the American British Corporation is being formed to work this enterprise, and Mr. Stoll will, it is understood, spend a portion of each year in America looking after its interests, which will, of course, be bound up with the Moss and Stoll circuit in England.

Mr. Gus Elen will go away salmon and trout fishing on Monday next, returning in about five weeks' time to the London Pavilion. At the termination of that engagement he will be off again to Scotland fishing and wild fowl shooting until the end of August.

Mr. John Lawson will pay a flying visit to Paris to-morrow and play three of his works. All scenery will be carried, and band and staff will also travel with the special company in support of Mr. Lawson. He will appear on Monday in his Zolaesque rôle of Faber, in *A Bride for a Living*.

The United County Theatres, Ltd., desire us to state that Mr. David G. Bliss is "not the managing-director of the company, nor the principal shareholder, and that he no longer has any part in the management and conduct of the business and affairs of the company."

Mr. Alfred Butt was successful early last year in securing the services of Mlle. Anna Pavlova when she was appearing at the Châtelet with the production of the first Russian ballet in Paris, and she will come to the Palace on Monday evening. She occupies the important position of *prima ballerina assoluta* of the Imperial Opera House, St. Petersburg. Last season she specially journeyed to London to give a private performance before their Majesties the King and Queen.

Mlle. Pavlova will be accompanied by M. Mordkine, a wonderful male dancer. In addition to his valuable assistance, Mlle. Pavlova will be supported in her concerted numbers by Mlle. Eduardova, Mlle. Korpowa, Mlle. Levionowa, Mlle. Polizkaia, and Mlle. Makazowa. The music of the concerted numbers will be selected from the works of Chopin, Tschaikowsky, Saint-Saëns, Rubinstein, and Glasoonov. The music of the several *pas de deux* danced by Mlle. Pavlova and M. Mordkine will be taken from various ballets.

Mr. Harry Tate will preside at the smoker organised by the Music Hall and Theatrical Football League at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday evening, at 8 p.m., when the famous burlesquer of motoring will present the challenge cup given by him to the victors in the matches—the Tivoli. To the members of the team will also be given a silver medal by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who takes a great interest in the staff's athletics. Mr. Phil Ray will present medals to the runners-up—the Edmonton Empire.

George Egbert has removed to Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, where he will conduct the booking for the South Wales Enterprises. Suitable acts can have six weeks.

Mr. Neil Kenyon makes his first appearance in musical comedy at the Apollo Theatre on Saturday next in *The Islander*, and by so doing reverses the usual progress. In December, 1878, the late Jenny Hill, before the days of musical comedy, appeared at the Gaiety in the title-rôle of *Jack the Giant Killer*, in which Connie Gilchrist, formerly on the music hall stage, and now the Countess of Orkney, played columbine. The Gaiety later secured Lottie Collins, Millie Hylton, Cissie Loftus, Charlie Ross, and others, and Dan Leno made a short stay in burlesque at the Old Strand Theatre.

Mr. Charles Hannan's one-act version of his successful three-act farcical comedy *The Electric Man* has been secured for immediate publication by Messrs. Samuel French, Ltd. It may be recalled that in its condensed one-act form Mr. Harry Nicholls made his first appearance on the music hall stage as the Electric Man about a year ago at the Chelsea Palace and Metropolitan Halls, repeating the success of his performances of the same part in the longer play during its run at the Royalty and Shaftesbury Theatres.

"Liane," a playlet by Walter Macnamara, will be presented by Alan H. Gardner's company at the Tivoli, with Miss Andrée Corday in the name-part. This artist was the original representative of Suzette, in *The French Maid*, in which musical comedy it will be remembered Mr. Joe Wilson, now the manager of the Tivoli, made the hit of his life as Jack Brown, the susceptible tar. Those supporting Miss Corday will include Miss May Hallom, and Messrs. H. Hardy, Jackson, and Charles D. Wright. Mr. Macnamara is writing something new in the shape of a revue for the West End.

Adeline Genee is scoring a success in *The Silver Star*, a piece specially designed for her. Towards the close of the first act she appears with the revelation of a huge Christmas tree, in the branches of which she is enthroned as the Spirit of Yuletide. She comes down from her niche and dances, first as a queen of the realm of snow crystals, then as a military damsel to march-time, then as a sailor lad to the merry horn-pipe.

A drama, in one act, written by Mr. Alfred Wilson Barrett, son of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett, entitled *The Last Moment*, in which Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, son of the novelist, will play the principal part, will be produced next Monday at the Crouch End Hippodrome. In 1888 Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine, the fathers of these two young men, collaborated in *Ben-My-Chree* at the Princess'.

A great house gave on Monday last at the New Cross Empire a right royal welcome to Mr. R. G. Knowles. The genial entertainer was in fine fettle and voice, and both in Charles Wilmott and Hermann E. Darewski's clever and tuneful "L.S.D." and in George Arthur and C. W. Murphy's "Costumes, Gowns, and Frocks," was received with spontaneous and enthusiastic applause, and the audience clamoured for more. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of these songs.

Very large and fashionable audiences are to be seen at the London Hippodrome, where Mme. Réjane seems to be drawing all London. Among the well-known people noticed in the stalls and boxes during the week have been Lord and Lady Henry Bentinck, Lord Lonsdale, Lord and Lady Monkswell, Lady Maitland, Lady Carew, Lady Gerard, Mrs. Astor, Mrs. Philip Martineau, Count and Countess Szcheny, Countess Pappenheim, Countess Pauline Pappenheim, Mrs. Hwfa Williams, Lord Robert Innes-Ker, Sir George and Lady Arthur, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Marie Löhr, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox, Mr. Ben Davies, Major Richardson, Miss Kate Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Eugen Sandow, Mr. and Mrs. George Grossmith, jun., Dr. Ucilborn (Consul-General of the Argentine), and many members of the French Embassy.

It may interest some artists, who find difficulty in showing their ability, that Mr. Herbert Raymond has arranged for special trial turns to be given at the Wednesday matinées at the Opera House next to, and in connection with, the Regent Theatre, Salford.

The Monckton and Mr. Geo. Bernard desire to thank the artists from the Empire and Pavilion, Newcastle, Borough Theatre, Wallsend, and the *Merry Widow* company, who so promptly assisted them last Saturday, when they lost everything in the disastrous fire at North Shields.

The Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, will be closed for alterations and repairs from after Saturday, June 18, until Saturday, July 16 next. Artists having dates during the closed period will kindly take note that the same are hereby cancelled, and that they are free to consider them as vacant dates.

The Mayor and Burgesses of Douglas, Isle of Man, are prepared to receive tenders for sites on Douglas Head. All lettings will be subject to the conditions of tenancy fixed by the Corporation, and the terms and conditions may be had on application to Mr. A. Robertson, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Douglas.

The Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, has been leased to Mr. Albert Leigh for a lengthy period, and for a short time is being run on the twice-nightly system with a variety programme. After Whitsuntide the theatre will close to be thoroughly overhauled, redecorated, and refurnished, and will open again on August Bank Holiday.

Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, is leaving to take up the management at the "Spanish City," Whitley Bay. Mr. Peuleve has done much for the house during his four years' work, and local playgoers, while rejoicing at his promotion, will lose his services with much regret.

At a late hour on Friday evening last, the 8th inst., the Borough Theatre, North Shields, which was owned by the late Mr. George Black, and has for some time past been successfully run with pictures and a vaudeville entertainment, was totally destroyed by fire.

Constructed of wood and corrugated iron, the building was opened some ten or twelve years ago by the late Mr. Henry Alvo, as a circus, and was afterwards transformed into a theatre by Mr. Arthur Jefferson. The damage is estimated at several thousands of pounds, and, if not entirely is, we understand, partly covered by insurance, but we regret to learn that the artists under engagement lost several articles of great value.

"Great Raymond biggest hit of any show ever in Ipswich. Packed houses. Seat sale for balance of week enormous. Breaking all records." This telegram, which reached us on Tuesday, is not from Raymond himself. No, gentle reader; it comes from Mr. E. H. Bostock, proprietor and manager of the Ipswich Hippodrome, who is showing the inhabitants of the Suffolk metropolis what a Northern caterer can do in the way of hustling.

At the Liverpool Olympia trial matinée on Thursday afternoon, a playlet, entitled *A Sister's Love*, by Mr. Percy Fullerton and Mrs. Haslingden Russell, won a favourable reception. The cast comprised Mr. Percy Bourchier (Tom Richards), Miss Daisy Irvine (Sarah Richards), and Mr. W. Felton (Herr Von Heim). The work was first produced at the Royal Victoria Hall on Feb. 15, under the title *The Three-Light Fitting*, when *The Era*, in its notice, suggested an alteration in the name.

A very pleasant function was carried out in the saloon of the Ealing Hippodrome on Monday evening. The occasion was the second anniversary of Mr. J. Molloy's management. In appreciation of his bonhomie and tact, a few friends had foregathered to present him with a handsome silver and crystal epergne, a gift that was made doubly welcome by the hearty words of good-fellowship with which Mr. Herbert Platt, who represented the donors, accompanied it.

At a meeting of the Penzance Town Council held on Wednesday, twenty-three tenders were received for the exclusive right of providing al-fresco entertainments in the Alexandra Grounds, opposite the promenade, during the coming season. The Council accepted the tender of Miss Lily Pritchard for her "Queer Qakers" Concert Party. In the event of Miss Pritchard desiring to commence her entertainments earlier than midsummer or to continue them after Michaelmas, the Council decided that the rent should be reduced.

To commemorate the sixth year of the opening of the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, a complimentary testimonial performance will be given to Mr. Will H. Boardman, the popular manager, on Wednesday afternoon, the 27th. The arrangements are in the hands of a committee of prominent local gentlemen, and as the principal artists from the leading Northern theatres have proffered their services for the matinée, everything points to a huge success. It may not be generally known that Mr. Boardman has been offered the position of general-manager of Thomas Barrasford, Ltd., but has not yet declared his decision in the matter.

There has been quite an epidemic of burglaries in Birmingham recently, and last week-end thieves visited the residence of Mr. T. H. Middleton, the manager of the Aston Hippodrome, at 39, Sir John's-road, Selly Park. He left the house securely locked up early in the evening, and upon his return found that the front door had been forced and the house ransacked. A desk had been broken open and the contents strewn about the floor, and ornaments had been overturned and broken. Singularly enough, however, nothing had been taken away, and sums of money left upon the mantelpiece and in the letter-box appeared to have been overlooked.

A quantity of cigars had been removed from the pantry and dropped near the front door, giving rise to the supposition that the thieves were disturbed in their work. Evidently they were under the impression that there was a big sum of money in the house, and they probably hoped to make a good haul from the theatre takings; but in this they were disappointed. The same evening the residence of a next-door neighbour was broken into and a quantity of jewellery and war medals were taken.

One of the most successful concerts held in the premises of the Keighley Cycling Club, recently renovated, was provided by Mr. T. Barrasford, the genial and popular managing-director of the Hippodrome in the town. The concert was entirely carried through by the variety artists from that place of amusement, and Mr. Barrasford himself occupied the chair. The Crisps, who were fulfilling a return engagement after an absence of one week only, scored a tremendous success in their various terpsichorean efforts; Harry Taylor's songs were well received; the Dunvilles lent capital aid, as also did Harley and Melton, Mamie Gannon, Alf. Lindsay, and Sydney Brandon. Hearty votes of thanks to chairman and artists concluded a most enjoyable evening.

Mrs. Wal Pink's illness is causing some anxiety to her friends. During her recent visit to the States she contracted a bad attack of croup, from which she had not recovered on her return to England. She is now having every possible care and attention in a nursing home, and will not be able to fulfil her immediate engagements.

A special general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Friday, May 6, at 12 noon, to rescind part of Rule 21. Any member wishing to propose other amendments to this rule must send them in to the Executive Committee not later than 12 noon on Tuesday, April 26.

Some interesting play was witnessed at the Vaudeville Club on Thursday, April 7, in the snooker pool match between six players of the Playgoers and Vaudeville Clubs. Each side won three games, but the result being determined by the aggregate points scored, the Vaudevillains proved victors by the handsome margin of 73.

Mr. Bay Russell, who is so well known in the musical comedy world, having played important parts for years, is now on the music halls with Lottie Bellman, at present starring at the Tivoli, where the turn has proved a huge success. Mr. Russell has set a new fashion in the way of a dove-grey dress suit.

At the Euston on Monday, for one night only, there will be two special performances of a sketch, *The Will of Allah*, a romance of the Sahara, from the pen of Mr. Lewis T. Dalrymple, with music by Mr. J. Parry-Cole, composer of several operas. The plot turns on the jealousy caused by the taking of a cinematograph picture of a Franco-Arabian dance, the chief feature of the production.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Mrs. Edwin Volta, the wife of Mr. Edwin Volta, originally a member of the celebrated Hanlon-Voltas, who, since his retirement from the stage, has, with his twin brother Taff, been popular in agency circles.

The deceased lady, who had been suffering for some time from an internal complaint, passed away at her residence, 23, Wynne-road, Brixton, on Friday, the 8th inst. Her maiden name was Muller, and she first married Edward Garcia, well-known as the Lancashire caterer, who was at one time or other proprietor of the Gaiety and then the Folly, Manchester, and lessee of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. The Folly Music Hall had a big reputation as a provincial hall in the early 'eighties. The late Mr. Garcia's name was associated with the company running the Canterbury in 1881, before the hall over the bridge was acquired by Messrs. Crowder and Payne. The late Edward Garcia died in January, 1893.

The interment took place on Wednesday, in Nunhead Cemetery. Those immediately following as mourners included the husband, Edwin Volta, Mr. and Mrs. Taff Volta and daughter, Miss Vivien Chadwick, Mrs. Wilson (Edie). Mr. and Mrs. Will Oliver were at the graveside with many private friends. The deceased lady was buried according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church.

Wreaths were sent from the husband, Mr. E. R. Sharpe (Ted Volta), Mr. and Mrs. R. Sharpe (Taff Volta) (brother- and sister-in-law), Edie and Dorothy Sharpe (nieces), "Vivien" to Ma, Mr. and Mrs. G. Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Anger, Mr. and Mrs. Will Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. T. Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, Mr. J. Smith, and Mrs. Farrell, "A Friend," and Mrs. R. E. Wilson.

Terrier Griff offers a gold medal for the best suggestion as to how to increase the attendance of the members of the Terriers' Association at the Sunday meetings. All suggestions should be forwarded to the secretary, Mr. Arthur Were, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., as soon as possible. The river outing will be held upon Sunday, June 26. The steam launch La Burgoine has been engaged.

Miss Ella Shields deputised last week at the Metropolitan for Miss Marie Lloyd, and the announcement of her name was the signal for a great reception. She rendered two new songs, "If you see Harry" and "I don't admire the girl in white." Both songs are from the pen of William Hargreaves, the first being published by Von Tilzer and Co., and the soldier number by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

Mr. Stephen Adeson produced at the Empress, Brixton, three weeks ago a humorous duologue, *The Housebreaker*, which, cleverly and drolly presented as it is by this capital comedian, should have a successful future. Mr. Adeson belongs to a famous stage family, and played Page for six consecutive seasons in Mr. R. Courteidge's pantomime *Cinderella*, and last year played one of the principal parts in *The Queen of Hearts* pantomime. For some time Mr. Adeson was with Tom Craven in that screaming farce *The Lady in Red*.

Miss Lottie Lennox met with a serious motor accident last Saturday night, which resulted in her sustaining a severe cut across the forehead and her legs being badly bruised. She had been deputising during part of the week for Miss Marie Lloyd at the Empress, Brixton. We are pleased to say that she is recovering rapidly, and desires to convey her sincere thanks through *The Era* to the numerous friends and brother and sister artists who have wired or written to her. The inquiries numbered between two and three hundred.

At the Council meeting of the Actors' Association on Tuesday, with reference to a letter from the Variety Artists' Federation, the Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. W. H. Clemart's letter, and to say that the Council hope that the V.A.F. would use every endeavour to influence their members to curtail the prevalence of free trial shows as the Council of the Association itself was doing. With reference to a letter from Mr. Ernest Bliss, it was resolved to send copies of the correspondence to the Secretary of the V.A.F., drawing their attention to the case mentioned.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon, when there were present Messrs. Tom Carney (in the chair) Pat Carey (treasurer), A. Drew, T. B. Brydge, S. White, and R. T. Baines (secretary). The balance-sheet for the year 1909 was submitted and approved. It showed a slight increase as compared with that of the previous year. Mr. Carey remarked that, with regard to its financial position, the Music Hall Sick Fund was the soundest of all the societies connected with the profession, and it was astonishing that the membership was not greater.

Arthur Royce, the popular entertainer at the piano, was married at the Registry Office, at Brixton, on Saturday, April 9, to Violet Edwina Boyde (daughter of the late Edwin Boyde and granddaughter of Jack Rowley). Arthur Royce has just finished playing the Syndicate halls, and his wife, a talented young artist, who has inherited much of her father's ability, will shortly be seen working the halls as a single turn, booked in conjunction with her husband. She is the winner of a scholarship at the George Edwardes School of Acting. Mr. and Mrs. Royce leave town next week for five months, returning in November to play the Syndicate halls, &c.

Miss Maude May Murray, who made her first appearance at the Empire, York, on Monday last, scored an immense success, her charming and graceful dancing, together with her weird and marvellous effects, quite taking the audience by storm.

The Easter business this year at Herne Bay has beaten all records, and Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, in his catering, is completely justifying the confidence reposed in him by the urban authority at that favourite seaside resort. This week Miss Nannie Goldman's company is doing good business with *Not Before the Missus*.

Mr. Bransby Williams's American tour came to an abrupt close, owing to disagreement in connection with certain methods, and Mr. Williams has been resting at his seaside residence at Selsey, Sussex. When he again commences he will be reviving many characters and imitations that he did years ago.

Mr. W. R. Dunkley has been accepted as a candidate for membership of the Terriers' Association.

The Marine Gardens, Portobello, Edinburgh, will open for the season on the 30th inst. Among other novelties there will be a Somali Native Village, and during the first week the band of H.M. Royal Horse Guards will occupy the bandstand. Wilson James's concert party "The Enterpeans" will appear in the concert hall.

Mr. Jack Fortescue and his company have been scoring a success all along the line in the dramatic playlet *The Gambler's Wife*, by Gordon Holmes, which is topping the bill this week at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston. Mr. Fortescue is seen in the picturesque part of Culver Pierce, and the heroine is played by Miss May Fortescue.

Miss Grace Lester, whose new sketch *A Ruined Life*, has been played with much success at the Palace, Bow, during the past week, will present the playlet at the Surrey Theatre on Monday, when she will be supported by a first-class company, including Mr. Hugh Montgomery. The pathetic little story has been specially well received by East-end audiences.

We are informed by his widow of the death of Gus Elliott, of the Elliott Troupe (late Le Diall), comic acrobatic juggler, who met his death by drowning at Hong Kong on Feb. 28. The young widow, with her little girl aged five, left Hong Kong on Feb. 23, arriving in London on March 30, and did not know of her husband's death until last Saturday (April 9).

It appears that Mr. Elliott, in getting out of a small boat on Feb. 28, slipped and fell into the water. No effort apparently was made to save him, and his body was not recovered until March 13. He was only thirty years of age, and leaves his widow in very straitened circumstances.

The "giddy goat" and "acting the goat" are phrases that are certainly not applicable to the performance of a troupe of miniature Tibet mountain deergoats, guided by Miss Ronna Shanara, at the Battersea Palace this week. They seem to anticipate their trainer's wishes, and go through their performance freely and with pleasure.

Amongst a variety of tricks may be noticed the ascension on a small globe up a long inclined plank; the poising with all four feet on the stem-end of an inverted wine-glass; and the leaping over a high obstacle *à la* the springbok. The little clown is a droll quadruped. The turn is well staged and handsomely costumed, and should appeal to those in search of a novel speciality.

Mrs. John Lawson will commence a tour with her three Grand Guignol playlets on Monday, April 25. Interludes will be by Mme. Florence Burns, the well-known contralto; Mr. Robert Foster-Hine, baritone; and Miss Mildred Gibbs, soprano. The front of the "house" will be in charge of Mr. Harry Miller, late of the Holborn Empire, Ilford Hippodrome, &c., whilst Mr. Henri Leon, late director-in-chief of amusement for the Sultan of Turkey, will be business-manager.

At a special meeting of the Sheerness Urban District Council, held on Tuesday night, an application for a renewal of the stage play licence of the Hippodrome was made by Mr. Pareezer, of the Lowestoft Marina, and the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, who produced references from residents at King's Lynn, among them being one from the Vicar, who wrote in eulogistic terms of the high tone pervading the entertainments under Mr. Pareezer's management. The application was for the licence on the same terms as hitherto.

Mr. Harris said the late management of the Hippodrome promised two years ago to provide a fire screen, and he thought they should have an assurance that one should be provided. It was arranged that the curtain should be fitted within six months. It was agreed that the licence should be granted on the same terms as before.

Mr. Walter Stockwell, so well-known in the profession, and now proprietor of Thompson's Hotel, Bridge-street, Bristol, wishes to thank the ladies and gentlemen who have already answered his appeal *re* Harry Jennings, comedian and dancer, now an invalid, who will not be able to do any more hard work.

Having known him for many years as a performer and an honourable man, Mr. Stockwell is getting up a concert for him on April 25 at Bristol, and would take it as a great kindness if any brother or sister artist would subscribe any small donation towards obtaining a little business for H. J. and family. For this very deserving case Mr. Stockwell acknowledges the following amounts:—G. H. Elliott, 5s.; Walter Stockwell, 5s. F. W., 2s.; T. W., 2s.; Gus Elen, 1s.; E. W., 1s.; Sal Grogan, 1s. Donations should be sent to Walter Stockwell, treasurer, at the above address.

An exceedingly clever musical quartette appeared on trial at the Glasgow Empire's matinée this week. The turn has been arranged as a sketch, entitled *The Fourth Man*, and the scenario, also the selection and arrangement of the music, &c., are the work of Mr. Harry Henderson, Mus.Bac., conductor at the Grand, Glasgow. The four members of the party are clever vocalists, the comedy business is exceedingly smart and is not allowed to interfere with the vocal items, and excellent use is made of a wheezy old barrel-organ in the humour of the sketch. The quartette should prove a welcome addition to any variety programme.

The Installation meeting of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860, was held on Thursday last at the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn, W. M. Bro. Douglas White, so well-known in the variety world, vacated the position of Worshipful Master and installed his successor, W. Bro. H. M. Lonergan into the chair. Our friend Bro. White performed the interesting ceremony with much impressiveness and clearness of diction, and was warmly congratulated afterwards by the brethren of the lodge. He had hoped to have initiated his son Douglas into the rites and ceremonies of Freemasonry, but this had to be postponed owing to an emergency call to his sailor duties. At the banquet which followed the lodge there were a number of guests, including W. Bro. Clarke, Bro A. Venner, and Bro. F. Stephens ("C. Douglas Stuart") of the Chiswick Lodge, No. 2,012.

A special matinée performance will be given at the Empire, Camberwell, on Thursday, May 5, on behalf of the sufferers through the recent tragedy which occurred at that house.

Mr. James Stewart, the original tramp at the piano, has been booked by Mr. Oswald Stoll to appear at the London Hippodrome for two weeks, commencing May 9 This is in addition to the tours he is already booked for with Moss' Empires, Ltd. He has *not* been deputising this week at Crouch End Hippodrome.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion (5), 3⅛; London Pavilion Pref (5), 5; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss' Empires (5), 4⅛; Oxford (5), 6⅞; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 21-32; Tivoli, New (5), 6⅛.

Mr. J. E. Wimperis writes:—"While thanking you for your paragraph in *The Era re* "Sophie" and the songs she is featuring at the London Coliseum this week, may I point out that the author is not, as stated by you, Arthur Wimperis, but myself." Mr. J. E. Wimperis is the cousin of Arthur of that ilk.

At the Central Criminal Court, before Judge Rentoul, two men, named Harry Ross, dealer, and William Thompson, fitter, were severally found guilty of being concerned together in breaking and entering the residence of Mr. George D'Albert, and stealing therein three diamond rings and other jewellery, worth £150 Thompson was ordered four years' penal servitude and Ross three years.

The 654th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices on Wednesday, when Mr. Fred Herbert (in the chair) was supported by Alf. Herald, Harry Herald, J. Rich, Charles Coborn, Harry Blake, Arthur Rigby, J. H. Milburn, Tom J. Morton, T. C. Callaghan, Harold Finden, John Alexander, Jeff Vendome, Lieut. Albini, H. Cee Mee, Billy Brown, and Harry Bancroft. A letter was read from the V.A.F., intimating that that society did not propose to continue the use of the branch office at Glasgow on the expiration of the present lease.

The general question of the branch offices was discussed, the general opinion being in favour of the Association continuing to use agents in Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow. On the motion of Mr. Blake, seconded by Mr. Finden, Mr. Callaghan was deputed to visit Glasgow, and secure suitable premises. Mr. Coborn gave notice to propound a scheme at the next meeting regarding the branch offices.

The committee sanctioned an increase of 10s. per week in the secretary's remuneration, and Mr. Douglas Stuart expressed his thanks. The weekly financial statement showed forty new members and a cash total of £55 17s. The monthly statement gave the following amounts:—Reserve account, £545 17s. 3d.; deposit account, £167 7s. 4d.; current account, £272 12s. 1d.; petty cash, £45—total, £1,030 16s. 8d. From October last to March 31 994 new members were enrolled, and there were 2,684 renewals.

Mr. Albert Wyndham, the only producer of Shakespeare in the halls, has been evoking enthusiasm at the Canterbury in his sketch, *Prince Arthur; or, The Days of King John*. In the course of his career Mr. Wyndham has given no fewer than five impersonations of the Bard's great characters in one week with a company supporting him. In the future, with extended licensing facilities, we may see at the halls "birthday" representations of the plays by the inspired genius of Stratford-on-Avon, but it must be remembered that Mr. Albert Wyndham has played the part of pioneer. He, in fact, has done the spade work.

A charming little song-scena, entitled *A Romany's Wooing*, makes its first bow to the public at the Camberwell Empire this week. Unfortunately it is all too short. The onlookers would enjoy it more if it were twice as long. Still, the staging is charmingly artistic, and the effects are beautifully arranged. There is no plot. Just the ordinary life of a gipsy is pictured; but the two artists who represent the *dramatis personæ* are endowed with fine voices, which blend harmoniously. Mlle. Lilian gives us the first song, "In all sincerity," and her deep, pure contralto voice swells almost like a distant organ. The second vocal effort is a duet, "The secret of my heart," in which Mr. Arthur Wade joins Mlle. Lilian, with fine effect. The final number also is a duet, "My love is like a raging storm," in which we hear the vocalists' best work. The scena is a great success.

On behalf of the Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May, secretary, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mr. G. H. Elliot, donation, one guinea (per Miss Irene Rose); Mrs. Joe Elvin (collecting box), £2 4s. 9d.; Miss India Smythson (result of Hoop-La), Hippodrome, Norwich, 5s.; Miss Madoline Rees (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. Lorimer, 5s.; A Friend, 1s.; Mr. W. Stanley, 6d.; Mr. Selbonain, 1s.; Mr. Frame, 1s. (per Miss Maude Mortimer); Mr. Geo. W. Morton, 2s. 6d. (collection); Miss Flo Banks, parcel of clothing. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Will anyone make an offer for the handsome model toy butcher's shop, fitted with joints, given by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vento? Can be seen any day at the Guild Rooms. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, 4 to 5 o'clock.

Benjamin Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank the following: Jack Woolf, of Wonderland, £2 2s.; Percy Ford, Empire, Camberwell, 5s. 3d.; George Manners, Empire Theatre, Liverpool, £1 0s. 4d.; and Papa Brown for parcel of men's very useful clothes.

Those who still have their collecting-cards for *The Era* Appeal are asked kindly to send them in to the hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, Tavistock-street, Strand. The collection this year has beaten the record, showing the interest taken in the Music Hall Home and the satisfaction given to subscribers. There are over 200 more cards to be returned, and, no matter how small the amount collected may be, it will help to swell the total. Gus Elen's handsome offer of placing one shilling upon every card sent in should be an encouragement to all to help the Home along. The next committee meeting will be held on April 21, at the Empire, Camberwell, at noon.

Mr. Leslie Faber has been confiding to an interviewer his opinions on the music-hall sketch. He emphatically declares that one of the chief essentials of a sketch is a strong element of humour. "Since my wife and I have been appearing in vaudeville, I have had numbers of one-act plays submitted to me, and only in a very small proportion of them has there been the faintest trace of comedy. Everybody seems to be aiming at serious work, for which there is really very little demand. Recently I read a sketch to a prominent music-hall manager, who admitted it was the most powerful thing he had ever listened to. 'But,' he added, 'it would never do for us. Were it a comedy as skilfully constructed and written, I would book it for two years. Laughter is what is wanted at the variety houses. Gloom can be got for nothing.'" How about *Humanity*, which has been running for fifteen years on the variety stage? This is scarcely a comedy sketch.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Reports from all parts of these islands arrive daily at Messrs. Francis and Day's giving glowing accounts of the success of what may be aptly termed the spring crop for 1910 of budding songs that will flower throughout the summer and autumn, and which will be yet in their full glory even when winter is with us. Like the splendid British body known as the Agricultural and Horticultural Association, which has done so much for flower gardening, and whose motto is "One and All," the great music-publishing house of Francis and Day continues to be the acknowledged home of experts in fostering the growth of the flowers of popular song, as it has been for decades, and the news of continued success is always gratifying, even if expected, and is ever welcome.

Messrs. Fred J. Barnes and Robert P. Weston's great new song "Tahiti" promises to be, in the immediate future, to them as profitable as a Para forest. With them is associated Maurice Scott, and the same trio's "I've got rings on my fingers" will be easily paralleled, or beaten, it is surmised, when Mr. Fred Elton produces the "Tahiti" number in town shortly, judging by the encomiums passed upon it by all at its rehearsal, even the barbaric *ad lib.*, with its quaint cry of "Rubber boom! Rubber boom!" being voted a scream. Needless to say, Messrs. Francis and Day have secured the song for immediate production.

Miss Ada Reeve has secured the sole rights for theatres and music halls of Edgar Bateman and Henry F. Greenfield's "And just then he fell out of bed!" a humorous song, which gives an artist unparalleled scope for strong contrasts in its six "conversational" choruses. It details what happened, in "five beautiful dreams and one nightmare," and whilst sleeping on a terrible boarding-house bed, to various people. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

Messrs. Francis and Day have secured Miss Helen Trix's new song, "Sam," by F. W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether. It was a great success on its initial production, and the success is increasing as this fine artist gets more and more used to a song fully in keeping with the reputations of its author and composer.

Miss Gladys Huxley's two latest songs have been secured by Mr. David Day's firm for inclusion among immediately forthcoming novelties. They are "Good-bye, everybody's girlie!" by Percy Edgar, Thomas Walters, and A. J. Lawrance, and "Won't you come to Colombo with me?" by the new triumvirate, F. W. Carter, Will Haines, and Donovan Meher.

Mr. Frank Harwood has published a most charming song with Messrs. Francis and Day, under the title of "I love you the best of all," a tender love-song, written in graceful style, and wedded to a melody the charm of which makes its repetition a thing to be desired. It is written and composed by Madgie Harwood.

The new song, "Will you sing this glee with me?" is a characteristic number which reflects much credit on the clever pens from which it emanates. Messrs, Francis and Day's well-known imprint will give a distinctive tone and finish to the title-page, which will also embody the legend, 'Written and composed by Worton David and George Arthurs. Sung by Wilkie Bard."

Frank Leo's fine song, "Keep whistling," sung by Miss Sable Fern in her *Boys in Camp* sketch, has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Mr. Imre Kiralfy has accepted the dedication of the up-to-date ditty, which will be issued shortly by Messrs. Francis and Day with the title of "Good old Japan in London!" It is written by T. F. Robson, and the music is by Henry E. Pether.

Mr. Arthur Lennard's new song, with which he has been winning laurels, was secured for publication during the week by Messrs. Francis and Day. It's name is "Put it there!" and it is by G. H. Fowler—a "new chum," we believe, among wielders of the pen—and Orlando Powell.

At every performance of *Trelawny of the Wells*, at the Duke of York's Theatre, that past-master of the "musick," Mr. John Crook, has shown what a good orchestra can do with material to match, and has called down upon himself and his able band unstinted applause for the masterly rendering of Messrs. Francis and Day's "Cadet" Two-step, by Herbert E. Hames.

A smart song is to see the light directly, and is called "I'm at home all day." It is sung by Mr. Harry Merrilees, and is by F. W. Carter and Fred Elton. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

The same firm (Messrs. Francis and Day) will shortly place upon the market yet another of those delightful numbers for which A. J. Lawrance is famed among artists and a great section of the music-loving public. It is entitled "In Fairyland To-day." Bert Lee is also associated with the morceau.

Cromo and Hamilton have bought a new song for their act, entitled "Would you cross the Irish Sea?" by Wilfred Chandler and John McColl. Raie Walters and Arthur Clifton will also be heard in town shortly with lyrics by the same writers.

"I'm taking my father's tea" is the title of a song which George Formby, the popular Lancashire comedian, is studying for immediate production. It contains the best humour of the William Hargreaves brand, and the combination of so witty a writer and so quaint a comedian is sufficient to ensure success.

Mr. Mark Sheridan has just purchased a new comedy number from Messrs. John P. Harrington and John Neat, which promises to be one of the biggest successes yet exploited by this clever comedian. The song, which is satirical and humorous to a degree, is entitled "Hear what the crowd say as they come out," and Mr. Sheridan will produce it at Willesden on Monday week.

Mr. John P. Harrington has been responsible for the words of several new songs accepted by leading artists during the past few days, viz.:—"I'm looking over the wall" (Miss Marie Lloyd), "Why do the nursemaids follow the uniform?" (Miss Bessie Butt) "You have a bit on the girl" (Miss Florrie Forde), and "Hear what the crowd say as they come out" (Mr. Mark Sheridan). The respective composers are Orlando Powell, John A. Glover-Kind, Maurice Scott, and John Neat.

Burt Shepard will produce on his return to London a new song-recitative, entitled "Robinson Crusoe." The idea deals with the many advantages old Robinson enjoyed as the solitary person on the island. It is the work of William Hargreaves, who wrote Mr. Shepard's present success, "The Budget as we judge it."

On Monday, March 28, Arthur Clifton opened at the Borough Theatre, Wallsend, top of the bill, when he introduced two new songs, "Oh, girls, be careful what you do," by H. and Chris. Carlton, also "The wife's come home to-day," by Eric Graham, both songs being very successful and well received by a packed audience, who joyfully sang the choruses.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

The directorate of the popular variety house in Piccadilly Circus have given their patrons new seating, and the very elegant mahogany-framed and comfortably upholstered stalls, with shelf accommodation in front of each sitter for hats, &c., mark the latest phase of comfort and convenience. But the programme is the thing to catch the fancy of the cosmopolitan throng that people this vast and ever-growing metropolis, and Mr. Frank Glenister's list of new and old favourites makes a brave show. Just about midway in the bill comes the diverting sketch *A Lamb on Wall Street*, presented by Mr. Bert Coote and company. One is not so much interested in the plot of this trifle as in the original sketch of a dude by Mr. Coote, who is responsible for as funny a piece of character acting as we have witnessed for some time. Miss Ada Russell is forcible and melodramatic as Eleanor Belding; and Mr. J. C. Aubrey makes the villainy of Randolph Horton sufficiently obvious.

Early in the evening Mr. Arthur Astill, who adopts the dialect and dress of a Yorkshire ploughboy, presents a farmyard scene, with some capital mimicry of the pig, horse, the duck, and other "wildfowl." A very fine imitation of the lark in its upward flight to "heaven's gate" from its watery nest may be singled out as a very pleasing number, and the note of the brown bird with speckled throat, i.e., the thrush, reflects in its rich melody the glorious harmonies of the spring. The song of the nightingale, too,, to use the words of Gascoigne in his "Complaynt of Phylomene," "had quite a grace" with its "jug, jug, jug." Mr. Astill, changing into evening dress, wound up his act on the night of our visit by whistling with musicianly correctness the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, which goes exceedingly well.

Osborn and Brookes sound a joyous note in their light-hearted banter. The mere man is an itinerant photographer, who deals out amusing comments at the expense of the fair sitter in short skirts, and the absurdity of the business is punctuated with laughter. Miss Ouida Macdermott is gracing the stage where both her father and mother scored their greatest triumphs. As a vocal comedienne she is fortunate in securing Hermann E. Darewski's spirited and stirring song "Betsy, the pride of Battery B." In satin coat and knickers she also scores with another success from the pen of the same composer. Barnes and West exhibit a great deal of facile energy and neatness in their step-dancing; and Dutch Daly, who recounts stories old and new in his own dry way, also delights everyone with the melody of Mendelssohn's "Spring Song."

La Milo presents a classical study, "Omnia Vanitas," which is a triumph of pose; Cruickshank's pictorial libels include Lord Charles Beresford, Lord Lansdowne, and Lloyd George; and we reach the limit of eccentricity in Mr. Tom Dunville's "They haven't made me sergeant yet," with some mirth-provoking gags. Miss Alice Pierce is somewhat intense in her impressions of theatrical and music hall celebrities; the Gothams offer nothing new in the way of comedy or vocal selections; for Miss May Henderson, who follows the prevailing fashion of gagging with the band, something funnier might be written; the Bros. Horne score their customary success in *The Biter Bit*; and other turns in the full and varied bill are Mr. Larry Lewis, Mr. Kit Kean, Mr. Jack Barker, Terry and Bentley, and the Pasqualis. Miss Zona Vevey was too indisposed to appear on the night of our visit.

THE BEDFORD.

There is no lack of variety in the programmes which Mr. B. P. Lucas and his genial manager, Mr. Arthur Edwards, put forward in order to secure the patronage of the amusement-seekers of Camden Town, who respond to their efforts by crowding this popular resort. Herbert Darnley and his company are presenting Mr. Darnley's latest success, *John Jay, Junior*, a bright concoction, dealing with a story of an airship and other trifles. It is most amusing, and Mr. Darnley in the title-rôle is capital, playing in a most natural and breezy manner, while he is capably supported by a good company, including Mr. Charles Bell, who finds ample scope for his talents as a comedian in the part of Peter, the office-boy.

Miss Daisy Stratton is a very chic comedienne, who, as an Irish colleen, captures all hearts by her rendering of a very taking Irish song, and winding up with a neat dance. Miss Julia Kent is presenting a delightful sketch, *Pistols for Three*, in which she impersonates a young lady who, in order to disguise herself and elope, dresses in man's costume, with most diverting results. Miss Kent acts delightfully, and the period being a century ago, the costumes are most picturesque. Miss Kent has the able support of two actors, who aid her materially, notably the one who plays the innkeeper, who is a comedian of much merit. The little play had a fine reception. A very pleasing comedienne is Miss Dolly Denton, who sings a catchy song, asking if anyone would like to be her sweetheart, and the reply of the audience is distinctly in the affirmative. Miss Denton is also an accomplished dancer. Stanley Ross, the man in violet, sings a song about picture-shows with success; Colley and Scott are a couple of amusing vaudeville artists, the lady is very smart and the male partner is a genuine comedian, and together they provide a turn of great merit. Parker's Coloured Entertainers give a show of the minstrel type, and their vocal efforts are much appreciated. Roper and Leo, the Quaker and the actress, are very diverting, and score heavily.

That droll comedian, Cliff Ryland, is as full of dry patter as ever. We have not seen him for some time, and it is pleasant to see him going as strong as ever. Alf. Brooks has a capital roller-skating song, which is made up of popular songs of the day. It is cleverly put together, and the comedian makes full use of his chances and causes huge delight.

Mr. Adderly Howard is presenting the ever-popular *Black-Eyed Susan*, which is proving a great draw. There is a capital company engaged in playing, who support Mr. Adderly Howard splendidly. The staging and naval costumes are on the most lavish scale. Dan Weldon, the singing newsboy, who has a good voice, and the Bioscope, complete the bill.

THE CANTERBURY.

While the first theatre in the kingdom is being devoted to the celebration of Shakespeare's anniversary, the popular house in the Westminster Bridge-road is doing its best to honour the poet's name by the production of an excerpt from one of his choicest works. Mr. Albert Wyndham experimented with Shakespeare on the halls a dozen years ago, and it was with *Prince Arthur*, which he is this week presenting at the Canterbury, that he began his venture, which has had gratifying results. The selection is from *King John*, and introduces that affecting scene wherein the little Prince Arthur pleads successfully with Hubert de Burgh, who has come to burn out his eyes at the command of the recreant King John. The actual words of the original text are used, the action being hastened, however, in order to provide for a happy ending, which sees Arthur proclaimed as King. Mr. Wyndham repeats his effective performance of the impressionable Hubert, delivering his lines with varied inflexion, while his acting gives evidence of deep study of the part. The boy Prince is gracefully portrayed by Miss Mona Shepard, who makes a comely youth, the scene in which she figures conspicuously being very touching. Mr. Charles Whiteley admirably impersonates the French ambassador; and Mr. Leo Devenidge is a grimly effective executioner. The sketch is mounted with every completeness, the men-at-arms introduced adding to the picturesqueness of the scene. The sympathies of the audience are held throughout, and at the close the principal actor has to acknowledge several recalls.

A comedietta called *The Ring* enlists the talents of Miss Ruby Celeste and Miss May Hallatt, who present an agreeable little love-tale, the vivacity and vocal ability of Miss Celeste serving to lighten the sentiment of the story. "Wait for the Finish" is an American importation which permits Guyer and Valle, "the gay boy and the quaint maid," to figure amusingly, the comedian's overtures to a beer barrel and his extraordinary dance with his prepossessing partner being especially diverting. Mr. Ernest Shand gains his customary tribute of laughs with "What will the congregation say?" and "Is England in Danger?" the yarns of an imaginative Nelson proving irresistible.

Something new is provided by the Poluskis, Sam's unavailing efforts to induce Will to carry out his allotted task in a coon duet and dance causing unbounded mirth. Mr. Lawrence Barclay adds unlimited patter to an eccentric policeman impersonation; Mr. Ryder Slone relies with highly successful results on his "Watchman" song, which has gained in quaintness; and Mr. Phil Ray, by nimble quip and crank, maintains his popularity, keeping the audience seated till near the end of the evening. Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, a troupe of versatile youths and maidens, give a varied selection of song and dance, in which humour and pathos are both to be found; Walton and Lester have excruciatingly comic burlesques of the conjuring art; Jennie Alexander secures many recalls for her imitation of Harry Lauder; Savori, boy violinist, pleases greatly with solos; and other names in a long and strong bill are those of Daisy Jerome; Hope Trevelyan, vocalist; Hughes and Elliott, in a singing and dancing act; Wallace Lupino, boy comedian and speciality dancer; Cliff Ryland, himself; May Fayre, soubrette; and Millie Doris, low comedy performer, with Ruffell's Bioscope in addition. Mr. Ernest Lepard is the capable manager; and Mr. A. W. Leggett ably directs the orchestra.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

An excellent programme is presented at Mr. Cecil Paget's popular house here this week. A notable item on the bill is Miss Muriel Harding, described on the bill as "the Anglo-French comedienne." She is a tall and shapely lady, with a keen sense of humour, and sings and recites with just a *soupçon* of a French accent in her voice. She renders a well-written song, "Expressions," with much cleverness, and brings down the house with her final effort, the recital of a scene from Daudét's *Sapho*, in which she exhibits much pathos and dramatic intensity.

Zithers is a versatile and comely young lady, who is generously applauded for her first song, after which she gives imitations of Daisy Jerome and Sam Mayo, and winds up her turn by an excellent rendering of "Somewhere" upon the cornet. Mr. Andie Caine is a very quaint comedian, with a distinct style of his own. He succeeds at once in getting on good terms with his audience, and his topical ditty, "There's no place like England," proves very popular, as does his other humorous contribution, "A Tale of Two Sparrows." Miss Lily Black, a young comedienne with a very attractive appearance, makes a good impression with her chorus song, and will do still better when she has stronger material to work with. Mr. Ryder Slone, the popular character comedian, wins golden opinions with his telling chorus song, "Sing, sing," which he renders in the garb of an American convict, and he is also very successful in another item, in which, representing an old warehouse night watchman, he laments the fact that though it is his silver wedding, he has never seen his wife since the ceremony, she being away from home all day, while he is away all night.

A very popular and artistic item is that provided by Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and her ladies in a series of picture poses, representing paintings of some of the most famous artists. The effect of the various beautiful pictures is heightened by the admirable vocal accompaniment of Miss Ella Maynard. The tableaux represents "La Source," "The Three Graces," "The Four Seasons," "The Morning Star," "Diana," "The Sirens," &c., and provide a perfect feast of beauty to the eye. The subjects are all of a classical nature, and the background to each tableau is most admirably painted.

Miss Clara Alexander and company appear in a negro sketch, *The Kentucky Courtship*, which serves as a framework for her clever impersonations of a pretty Southern belle, an old negro nurse, and an aged coloured gentleman, Uncle Jake. Miss Alexander has considerable powers of mimicry, and she is very well supported by a lady and two gentlemen, whose names are not on the programme. The Lerouxs give us a capital turn with their wonderfully sagacious bicycling monkeys, whose antics cause roars of laughter. Mr. T. E. Bates proves very amusing in his song "I'm a jockey," and subsequently is deservedly cheered for his smart song and dance, "The acrobat," the refrain of which he renders when standing upon his head. La Belle Linden, in appearance certainly justifies her name, and her graceful trick cycling feats are warmly applauded. The generous bill winds up with some most amusing films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, entitled Hercules in the Regiment. Messrs. Baker and De Sales, "pavement patterers," are also in the programme, but did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Quite a dazzling array of stars entice the theatre-going inhabitants of this neighbourhood to the Camberwell Palace this week, and it is not to be wondered at that full houses are recorded nightly. To begin with, we have Joe Peterman's *Belle of the Orient* company, with its pretty girls and clever comedians, and this alone would fill the building; but the management, far from believing in the old adage, enough is as good as a feast, have given us a surfeit of good things.

Queenie Leighton enchants us with the coster melody, "Down in Paradise Alley." She retires, and before the applause has ceased it commences again, for the new number appearing indicates that Ernie Mayne will shortly be with us, advising all present to "Have a banana." Then the Sisters Belmont make their bow, and enchant us with their graceful dancing. That romantic drama, *The Corsican Brothers*, so well known to all and always appreciated, has induced Fred Maxwell to write a sketch, giving all the principal incidents in a nutshell, and this is also well received. Lovers of ballad and operatic music, too, are catered for. Beatrice English, the charming Australian soprano, is presented, and enchants all her listeners.

An amusing sketch, *A Lamb on Wall-street*, written by Bert Coote, who takes the principal part, is very enjoyable. It literally bristles with wit, and is given a hearty reception. Arthur Ferris, the clever laughter-maker, keeps us all convulsed with his side-splitting song "James," and also renders a little song, entitled "Love," in a way which bring tears—happy tears—to our eyes.

No one's taste is forgotten, even lovers of juveniles have their whim satisfied, and two miniature little ladies are supplied, called Tiny and Mite respectfully, who sing and dance creditably and prettily.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Music-hall patrons in Chelsea—and they form a very considerable proportion of the population—are rejoicing this week over the introduction of Mark Sheridan to the Chelsea Palace, while Mark himself must have been rejoiced at the reception accorded him at each performance. Chelsea has received him, not with open arms, but with open mouths, from which proceed roars of laughter, as, in his own inimitable way, sandwiching song with joke, he has infected the house with a spirit of hilarious merriment. Mark Sheridan was welcomed at the Palace because of the high reputation he gained long ago; he will be welcomed hereafter for what the Chelsea people know of him. It says much for the quality of the entertainment provided that the other turns on the programme in no way suffer by comparison with the man who heads the bill. Daisy Jerome's admirers have ample evidence of the favourite artist's versatility in the three numbers which are barely sufficient to satisfy the audience.

Another lady who wins great favour is Dolly Harmer. Her description of the delights of being treated by a lady doctor is sufficiently alluring to convince the most rabid anti-Suffragist of the advantages which would follow woman's advent into the higher professions, while her wonderful grasp of the more intricate part of a constable's duties should ensure her an inspectorship at least. A decidedly novel item was that of Edie Gray, a vocalist of considerable ability, who appears with a couple of dancing boys. To give an acceptable rendering of the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* with two pairs of feet going pit-a-pat on each side of one sounds no easy feat, but she manages it with credit to herself and pleasure to the audience.

A smartly-written and cleverly-acted little production is *The Ring*, by Ruby Celeste and company. The story is that of an actress who gives up her lover at the behest of his parents, and finds out afterwards that he is about to become engaged to her former school chum. The latter learns the whole story, and resigns the man to his first love. As Phyllis Manners Miss Ruby Celeste played with charming spirit and ingenuousness; and Miss May Hallatt was a very successful Lydia Broughton. A compound of good jokes and good singing is the vocal comedy pantomime burlesque, *The Demon and the Fairy*, by Harry Claff and Alice Tremaine; and Fred Dunstone has some funny business. In their different ways the Grevini Sisters and the Five Whiteleys perform some clever acrobatic feats; and the pictures include a dramatic nautical episode, For Her Sake. It is a first-rate show from start to finish, and, with Mr. J. Norman Berlin and his capable assistant, Mr. George B. Andrews, in front, and Mr. Charles Aves presiding over the band, nothing is left undone which may ensure for the visitor a happy time.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The programme of entertainment here this week is one of exceptional merit, and the several items are so brimful of interesting and amusing incidents that there is not a single dull moment from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Another striking feature, and also a very pleasing one, are the increased audiences—a healthy indication that this outer metropolitan hall is gradually gaining the popularity and success which it deserves.

The principal turn this week is the world-famous illusionist Carl Hertz, whose mystifying performances are as wonderful as ever. He introduces many new and ingenious feats which simply

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

astound the audience and elicit the warmest and heartiest applause. Mr. Hertz is capably assisted in his unique performance by Miss Emeline D'Alton. Collette and Keith give a clever and intensely amusing juggling act, including some balancing feats which quite excite the audience by their wonderful exhibition. Collette excels with his balancing of a 49lb. cannon ball, which after each feat he catches on the back of his neck in astounding style. He is also very clever in his manipulation of a heavy bar-bell, which he swings round at a good speed whilst balancing the same with one hand. The Zanfrellas, novelty equilibrists, present a series of wonderful mid-air balancing tricks, and come in for a very hearty round of applause.

The Spy, a dramatic episode of the American Civil War, presented by Mr. Ernest Ball and company, is a strong feature of the programme, and supplies a very pleasing variety in the entertainment. The sketch abounds with interesting and thrilling incidents, and is very realistically portrayed by the several artists.

Will McIvor, a very capable tenor, is heartily applauded for his splendid rendering of "Nobody knows; nobody cares," and "If I had the world to give you," two songs in which his expression is very marked and praiseworthy. A novel act is J. P. Carroll, the soldier tambourinist, who gives some excellent representations on that instrument, including the march past of soldiers and an attack on a camp at night. His representations of a boxing match and the Militia falling out are two very funny items. Joe Archer causes continual merriment by his "puns" and "gags." His songs, "An Englishman's Home," and an answer song—as he terms it—to "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" are full of humour. He brings in the now topical phrase "Wait and see" in amusing fashion. Miss Lelia Roze, in her latest successes, Bert Marsden, in his speciality act of different styles of comedians, and Vi Laurie, comedienne and dancer, are "turns" of additional interest and well appreciated.

BOW PALACE.

The enterprising management is presenting this week a programme that is drawing crowded and appreciative audiences, and Manager Harman is to be congratulated on the business. After the overture, rendered in good style by the orchestra under the baton of J. J. Starck, the Sisters Harcourt give a smart display, and are followed by Stuart and Eno in a musical absurdity.

Harry Bancroft is well to the fore in that popular song "Johnnie, there's a locket in your pocket," the chorus of which is speedily taken up by the audience. For his second number he sang "Our wedded life over again" with marked feeling. This song, only sung to the public last week for the first time, has caught on, and should prove a great favourite. Grace Lister and company present a dramatic episode entitled *A Ruined Life*, in which the rôle of the divorced wife is enacted with truly passionate fervour by Grace Lister. The sketch continues to prove an attractive item.

Emmie Ames takes the audience by storm with an exquisite rendering of "The Stars in the Sky." This song was produced for the first time in London last week and at once met with success, although fully a year ago it was being appreciated by South African audiences. Her other song, "The Nursemaid," was greatly to the liking of the house.

That screamingly comedy skit *Roots, Rash Chemist*, is ably presented by Fred Maitland and company, and keeps the audience convulsed with laughter. It is quite safe to say that this sketch has a future, and that success will be met whenever and wherever produced. Fred Curtis and his "Pics" were quite at home, and proved themselves favourites.

The top of the bill is occupied by Bernard Martyn's company in *Nick Carter; the Adventures of the Black Hand*, a miniature melodrama in eight scenes, which held the audience for fully thirty minutes. As Nick Carter Bernard Martyn has a part for which he is admirably suited, and the entire company works in perfect harmony. The sketch is well received, Bernard Martyn especially being singled out for marked approbation.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Harry Tate and company, in *Fishing*, occupy pride of place in an excellent bill here this week. The sketch keeps the audience in a continuous ripple of merriment, and Mr. Tate's reception at its conclusion is extremely cordial. The dozen little maidens yclept the Manchester Mites supply an extremely clever scena of action songs and dances. The attractive youngsters put refreshing zeal into their work, and they reflect great credit on their mentor.

Les Marco Belli are a clever couple, who initiate the public into the mysteries of conjuring. One sedately performs sleight-of-hand tricks, after which his partner, while unobserved, gives the show away. Amelie de l'Enclos well merits the appellation of the "Vocal Phenomenon," for her marvellous high notes give the impression of her songs being written fully an octave higher than those of the average soprano. The rendering of her songs is enhanced by a prepossessing appearance and excellent delivery, and each is very heartily applauded.

The De Wynne Brothers present an athletic display which is typical of strength and skill without apparent effort. Strolling on the stage in ordinary attire, they execute several most daring and difficult acrobatic and balancing feats, and at the conclusion neither has turned the proverbial hair, and they make their exit with the same nonchalance as that with which they entered. An acquisition to their turn is the couple of well-trained dogs, who perform unaided and with the same imperturbability as their masters. Victor Travers has an amusing parody on the Boy Scout, which is a particularly good number for this nimble and flexible comedian, being in the best comedy vein and allowing his quaint methods full scope. Woodhouse and Wells arouse plenty of hilarity as cross-talk comedians and dancers, and have two excellent songs, which go exceedingly well. The Five Vernons supply a most acceptable xylophone performance, consisting of a selection of popular songs and national airs, and their act is deservedly applauded. Amy Marsden scores in a character ditty, rendered on broad comedy lines.

The Bioscope pictures are exceptionally good, and, as usual, earn their meed of applause; and the orchestra, under the able guidance of Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus.Bac., regale early comers with a selection from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The comfort of those in front is well studied by the energetic manager, Mr. E. J. Macdermott.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Mr. Fred Cockerill, the energetic young manager of the Grand Palace, Clapham Junction, has devised ways and means of packing the pretty theatre in his charge even on an "off" night. On Thursday evening last, for instance, standing-room only was to be obtained ten minutes or so after the doors had opened.

The programme submitted was a very compact and entertaining one. John Lawson's thrilling sketch, *The Monkey's Paw*, was the principal item, and the incidents in it were sympathetically watched by the huge audience. The jolly little Dutch girl, May Moore Duprez, was in excellent form, "behaving mineself," as she alone knows how. Her sabot dancing and merry jests at everybody's expense brought her quite a storm of applause.

Captain Kettle and his charming mate—in other words, Rose and Calvert—present a very laughable pot-pourri duologue, in which acrobatics, dancing, and burlesque wrestling all get a place. On the night of our visit Miss Ella Shields was prevented from appearing, we were informed, by reason of a severe cold. The Westwoods' cycling act gives some daring and clever work. The couple are good-looking, well-dressed, and present a clean and enjoyable show.

The remainder of the bill is contributed to by Lawrence Barclay, Kitty Upton, Steve Bartle, Geo Collins, Blake and Cranby, and Fred Karno's sketch, *Spring Cleaning*. One particularly finely-taken film was shown on the Bioscope, representing a thrilling encounter with smugglers by the French coastguard. The party of actors and actresses who took the parts of the characters making up the smugglers' gang must have had a very rough time with the waves and rocks when acting the incidents one sees on the screen. Indeed, on one occasion there was obviously a very narrow escape by one of the ladies from being dashed by a great wave against the rocks.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Still maintaining the programme at the same standard of excellence, the management are reaping the desired reward in the shape of phenomenal business. The principal feature of the present week's bill is Marie Lloyd, who is once again renewing her triumphs in the neighbourhood. On the evening of our visit Miss Lloyd gave three songs, "The lady," "The coster's ball," and "Hot." In all of these the artist's skill in making the most of a song was very evident, and the audience were most demonstrative in their applause.

A feature of considerable interest in the programme is Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, who is presenting his new scena, "Morning, Noon, and Night." Mr. Slater introduces into this a large number of items, all of which serve to emphasise his wonderful skill as a whistler. They included the overture to *The Bohemian Girl*, "The Bowery Boy," and a series of bird imitations. The whole turn was faultless, and the audience most enthusiastic. A word is due to the effective scene utilised, and the pretty lighting effects which represent the periods of the day indicated by the title.

The bottom of the bill is filled by Mr. Leslie Harris, a very clever entertainer at the piano, in a medley of song and story. Mr. Harris speedily got on the best terms with the audience, and told two or three capital stories, and sang two songs, the latter of which, entitled "It did go," fully justified its title. The audience accorded the artist some five calls, and were anxious to secure an encore. Cull Pitt, who opens the programme, presents some clever tricks and impersonations and is well received. The Prince Milner Trio are scoring a decided hit in an act embracing acrobatic juggling, hoop manipulating, comedy tumbling, and wire walking. It says something for the ability of the performers that everything introduced is performed so successfully. The wire walking is distinctly clever, and Mr. H. P. Milner claims to be the only artist who can pick a handkerchief up from the wire with his teeth whilst maintaining a balance with one knee only. Certainly it is a most difficult feat, and gained loud applause.

Messrs. O'Malley and Brown, comedians, present a somewhat original cross-talk show. Their dancing is very good, and their reception cordial. Miss Ethel Bourne, a contralto vocalist, displays a good voice to great advantage in "Farewell" and "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," the latter gaining great applause. W. J. Churchill is a great feature of the programme. He sings two songs, the first, "Faith, hope, and charity," and the second a patter song which enables him to air his opinions on most topics of the day. He caused some hearty laughter, and took several curtains.

Roma and Romani are presenting their well-known musical act. Their excellent contributions on the piccolo, saxophone, cornet, and bugle merit very great praise. The very handsome costumes and setting for their turn deserve mention, and they gain a flattering reception. The Bioscope, in some views of an active volcano and other items, is very interesting. Mr. Walter Greco's capital orchestra give an effective performance of the "Tarok Magyar" overture. Mr. Charles Marte, the acting-manager, and Mr. Cyril Percival, his assistant, are both courteous and attentive in front of the house.

"THE ROCKET."

A New Racing Comedy Sketch, by Wal Pink and Joe Elvin, Produced at the Hammersmith Palace on Monday, April 11.

Wilkie Waggler ..... Mr. Joe Elvin
Capt. Hindson ..... Mr. George Denham
Mrs. Waggler ..... Miss Grace Vicat
Lady de Dip ..... Miss Leonora Castelle
Jack Platt ..... Mr. Albert Douglas
Hon. Mr. Wirrier .... Mr. Kenneth Altarmont

With great success Mr. Joe Elvin produced on Monday last this new racing sketch. The plot is a somewhat familiar one—namely, the tampering with two horses alike in every way, except in one white patch on the forehead, and in their racing ability. "The Rocket," owned by Mr. Waggler, and "Frivolity" are the two horses. Frivolity apparently wins the race, but Lady de Dip has seen the fraud, and, of course, easily proves "The Rocket" to be the winning horse. The personality of Mr. Joe Elvin naturally pervades the whole sketch, and his unique voice and humorous methods, together with some smart patter, cause much laughter. He was probably funniest when criticising "Frivolity," and, altogether, Mr. Elvin scored one of his usual great successes. Mr. Kenneth Altarmont as the Hon. Mr. Wirrier was exceedingly funny. Miss Leonora Castelle did very well as Lady de Dip, the friend of Waggler, and an owner of racehorses, like himself.

The scoundrel of the piece, though he is not a very terrible one, is Capt. Hindson, and Mr. George Denham is entirely satisfactory in the part. Waggler's jealous wife is cleverly and humorously portrayed by Miss Grace Vicat; and Mr. Albert Douglas as Jack Platt, the head lad at Rigby's, is a typical stable lad.

The mounting of the sketch is most elaborate, the scenery being painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley. The costumes are also good, and the half a dozen racehorses are well trained for their work. The sketch received an excellent send-off from the audience, and should serve Mr. Elvin well for some time to come.

"FOR PEACE AND QUIET."

Comedy, in One Act, Adapted by Mme. Paul Blouet from *La Paix Chez Soi*, by Georges Courtelines, and Produced at the London Hippodrome on Monday, April 11.

John Jamieson Stoker ..... Mr. Leslie Faber
Valerie Stoker ..... Mrs. Leslie Faber

The Hippodrome since the advent of Mme. Réjane has drawn the rank and fashion of London, and Mr. Fred Trussell is rejoicing in two packed houses daily. On Monday Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber returned with a new sketch, based on more broadly comic lines than their previous essay. The playlet that Mme. Paul Blouet, the widow of Max O'Rell, the witty author of "John Bull and His Island," has adapted from the French of Georges Courtelines is a veritable storm in the domestic teacup. John Jamieson Stoker, a struggling writer of stories, is interrupted by his wife, who comes for her housekeeping money. She seems to us frivolous and unsympathetic, and her attitude to her hard-working partner is certainly not the correct one for a helpmeet. John hands out to her the sum of £26 10s., being £5 10s. less than her regular allowance. Being asked for the reason of this shortage he produces a little note-book, in which he has put down her various outbursts of temper and other domestic misdemeanours, with varying fines attached. Of course Valerie will not submit to such outrageous conduct, and vows that she will throw herself out of the window unless he relents. For answer he calmly opens the window. She then decides to go and live with her mother. Will he not say good-bye? He merely utters the words at his desk. But Valerie has something to confess. She has put his name to an order for a hall lamp, which she has smashed, and she must have that £5 10s. He rates her soundly for her forgery, and hands out the money. After all, he is a real good fellow, and placing herself in his arms she confesses as much. But he is finishing an instalment of his story. What will he write now? With the renewal of the gladness of life he replies, as the curtain falls, "To be continued." Mr. Leslie Faber plays with admirable sangfroid the kind-hearted and level-headed husband, and evokes laughter with the recital of his wife's domestic sins. Mrs. Leslie Faber realises the waywardness and peevishness of Valerie, and is particularly charming also in the reconciliation scene. The sketch is well written, and should do good service for the happily associated couple.

Miss Anna Chandler, the American comedienne, has been adding during the week a topical verse to her song "Don't make a noise." It concerns Lloyd George, the Veto, and the Budget, and is from the pen of Mr. Fred Trussell. It should add much to the popularity of the number, which this excellent artist gives with much unctuousness. Mlle. Anne Dancrey, the delightful French singer and dancer, who made her first appearance at the Hippodrome on Monday, scored an immediate success.

The Creedons, in their comedy sporting act, make their first appearance in town at the Bedford, Camden Town, on Monday next.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 21.)

The manner in which Mr. Mark Sheridan renders his now famous "Seaside" number is a veritable object-lesson to would-be comedians. The comedy notions and conceits wherewith he embellishes John Glover-Kind's lilting words and tuneful melody prove his fecund resourcefulness in discovering hitherto unexplored wells of wit, and the act he now proffers is a *tour de force* in every sense. On Monday next Mr. Mark Sheridan will produce at the Euston Palace, for the first time, a new comedy number from the pen of Will Letters, entitled "We're miles away from home." The publishers of the new number, B. Feldman and Co., are equally optimistic.

Miss Bessie Slaughter produced the new ballad, "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmidt, at the Oxford, and her other turns, with unparalleled success. The whistling obbligato by this charming vocalist was as novel as it was unexpected, and literally brought the whole house to her feet. Miss Slaughter will also sing "Beautiful garden of roses" at the Standard and Bedford next week, and will shortly "feature" several other ballads from Feldman's publishing house.

Miss Clarice Mayne is winning plaudits loud and long this week, both at the Oxford and Metropolitan, with Ballard Macdonald and Jas. W. Tate's comedy number, "Georgie took me walking in the park"; and at the latter house is also making "I'm waiting for someone to love me," by the same author and composer, her *pièce de résistance*, with most flattering results. It is, perhaps, superfluous to add that Feldman and Co. publish both these fine comedy numbers.

Mr. Gordon Stretton has been scoring heavily at Bristol, Tonypandy, and other provincial halls with John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey's tuneful number, "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" which Feldman and Co. publish, and it is undoubtedly one of the most pronounced hits in his very extensive répertoire.

Miss Lola Patey, at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield, this week, is scoring a tremendous success with Feldman and Co.'s publication, "I wonder who's kissing her now," which is also one of the principal features in Miss Florence Baines's musical play, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*.

Mr. Fred Barnes, at the Hippodrome, Southampton, this week, is more successful than ever with his great comedy chorus song, "I'd rather be by the fireside," by J. Glover-Kind, which is nightly chorused to the echo by his delighted auditors. Truly, this Feldman number should be a prominent feature in every pantomime throughout the length and breadth of the country this year, premature as it may seem to look so far ahead. Feldman and Co. are the publishers.

The Welsh are an eminently music-loving nation, and when they are regaled with charming melody allied to delightfully-phrased lyrics, as is the case in the two songs Mr. G. H. Elliott is exploiting at the Empire, Cardiff, this week, "Moon, moon, moon," by Edgar, Lawrance, and Gifford, and Gus Edwards and Ed. Madden's delightful coon romance, "By the light of the silvery moon," their enthusiasm knows no bounds. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. certainly have two big winners in these tuneful numbers.

Miss Barbara Babington has been received with demonstrations of delight by the habitues of the Holborn Empire this week, for her rendering of Feldman's light comedy number, "I wonder who's kissing her now," and the Arthur-street firm are to be congratulated on such an exponent of the song.

That delightful and charming artist Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, who produced the new march song, "Betsy," at the Empire, York, this week, in wiring to the publishers, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, says: "'Betsy' instantaneous success. Delighted with song.—Ethel Ra-Leslie."

Miss Jessie Albini has created quite a sensation this week at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, with a new low-comedy Chantecler song written by T. W. Connor, entitled "Cock-a-doodle-doo."

Harry Bancroft produced at the Surrey Theatre last week a descriptive chorus song, "'Tis years and years ago; or, our wedded life over again," by Chas. Ridgewell. The song was such a huge success that it was at once secured by the Star Publishing Company.

THE STANDARD.

Mr. Louis Cohen's extremely bright and interesting patriotic sketch *Nelson* gets pride of place in Mr. T. S. Dickie's bill this week at the Standard, Victoria. The story, it may be recalled, deals with the hard luck of Hardy Collingwood, R.N., who has been a little reckless and unlucky in matters sportive. In addition he has backed a bill for the beautiful Mrs. Liebmann, a magnificent adventuress, splendidly played by Miss Josephine Colona. That lady has no mercy on the handsome lieutenant, and threatens when she meets him in the reception room of the Venus and Adonis Club, overlooking Trafalgar-square, to inform his commander that he repudiates his obligations. Now O'Sullivan is Hardy's friend, and incidentally Mrs. Liebmann is his divorced wife. He overhears the lady's threat, and comes to the rescue of the lieutenant with the necessary money. There is also a stormy interview on the subject between the one-time husband and wife, very finely acted by Mr. Edmund Gilbert and Miss Josephine Colona. Later the troubled officer falls asleep, and dreams that Nelson has descended from his column in the Square and stands before him giving him advice. We are treated to some home truths on present-day naval happenings by the spirit of the hero of Trafalgar, all of which are very nicely put, and consequently the audience is gradually worked up to a pitch of enthusiasm and excitement by Mr. Arthur Max, who takes the part of Nelson's shade. Mr. Cohen may be complimented on the admirable way in which his sketch has been produced, and also on the conscientious work done by the four clever members of his company.

Another notable item in this programme is the re-appearance of Miss Kitty Arnold, the wife of Mr. Frederick Allwood, the well-known and popular musical director at the Standard. Miss Arnold is a taking singer and a clever dancer. Once more we laughed at the Bros. Horne in their evergreen boxing sketch *The Biter Bit*. Reg Beauchamp is a most amusing dame comedian, and Lily Black has a "mashing the audience" song that went extremely well. The rest of the programme was made up of very interesting items, provided by Elsie Ellis, Talbot and Clare, Tommy Clifford, Four Garricks, Sadie Stanley, Topsy and Cecil, and others.

In the case of Mr. Herbert Clifton *v.* New Tivoli (Limited), the artist's contract contained a term that, in addition to appearing every evening during the engagement the artist should also appear "on Saturday afternoon when required, in accordance with Clause 3." And Clause 3 read: "The artist agrees to appear at any matinées required by the management." . . . It was held on the 8th inst., by the Divisional Court, that the word "required" in Clause 3 meant "requested," and did not mean that the artist was to appear whenever the management had a Saturday matinée, and he could only claim payment for performing at a matinée when requested to do so.

FELDMAN'S

SPECI A SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

MISS JOSÈ COLLINS. *A Charming Singer of a Beautiful Number.*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE?

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

Previously Announced.

6,073 SHILLINGS.

Sums since received.

Collected by Miss Kitty Colyer, £11 5s. 6d.

M. M. and friends	25	Papa Davis	1
Brother Teddy	20	C. H. W.	1
Frank C. Petit	20	A. H. B.	1
Dr. Forbes Ross	20	Lulu	1
Harry Day	10	Barcham	1
Alf. Thomas, E. Freeman, Harry King	8	C. Kingsley	1
E. L.	5	M. S. Gillop	1
D. G. J.	5	Gertrude Bibby	1
J. L.	5	B. Wilson	1
C. Powell	5	Rattail	1
Kitty Colyer	5	J. Lewin	1
L. H. Litvin	4	W. A.	1
H. D.	2½	L. S.	1
Rubberneck	2½	R. J. R.	1
Ben	2½	Gentle Edwin	1
C. G. G.	2½	C. G.	1
F. R. V.	2½	J. S. W.	1
W. H. Emmens	2½	J. C.	1
H. March	2½	F. B. C.	1
J. B. Philipp	2½	Gwynne	1
B. W. Rolfe	2½	Rly Bepiola	1
F. C. March	2½	May Henderson	1
A. S. S. L.	2	Evelyn Taylor	1
S. L.	2	Raglus	1
H. L.	2	Theresa Moore	1
C. L. D.	2	Ella Shields	1
Nero	2	Pax	1
Krebs	2	Dan Crawley	1
J. S. McC.	2	Gabrielle Day	1
G. R. C.	2	A. Rigby	1
C. J. T.	2	Lew Loman	1
L. C.	2	Geo. Gulliver	1
R. W. Pendrigh	2	Dudley Hayes	1
Geo. Craig (Karno's)	2	H. H. Braham	1
G. Humphries	2	Dusty Rhodes	1
H.	1½	M. Tuffs	1
S. N. P.	1½	John Power	1
H. Devaux	1½	Bessie Benson	½
		Johnsons	½

Collected by Miss Lily Hayes, 6s.

Sisters Gladwin	1	D. Morris	1
Jack Lorimer	1	Geo. Moon	1
Jack Hayes	1	Jack Merritt	1

Collected by Mi Narom, 13s.

Miss Mi Narom	1	Sam Vincent	1
The Dunvilles	1	Leo Merode	1
Chard's Dogs	1	Arthur Danby	1
Lindus and Darius	1	Clarice Sefton	1
Quality Quartette	1	Albert, Ventriloquist	1
Annie Estelle	1	Dot	½
Phil Rees	1	Annie Lang	½

Collected by Miss Daisy James, £2 2s.

Daisy James	21	H. B.	2
J. F.	2½	A. C.	2
J. J.	2½	W. G.	2
Paul Pelham	2	H. H.	2
G. H.	2	L. C.	1
L. B.	2	N. M.	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, 17s.

W. G. Webber	1	Frank Saraski	1
Bert Williams	1	Thomas Leotard	1
A. B. A. B E.	1	Albert Earle	1
Arthur Astill	1	Bellong Brothers	1
Phinas and Aida	1	P. Valvero	1
Bros. Obo	1	Edmund Caselli	1
George Norton	1	Carlo and Maie	1
Rudge Whitworth	1	Mysticus	1
Ned Graydon	1		

Collected by Benj. Woodger, 5s.

Sammy Salter	1	Ted E. Box	1
Little Ganty	1	Ben Woodger	1
Sammy Salter	1		

Collected by "Stylo," 5s.

Beatrice Bonnie	2	Chas Cole	1
William Stylo	2		

Miss Marie Jones makes her fourth visit to the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday next, opening with her new success *Wanted, the Co-respondent*.

Rowland Sale's Agency is moving ahead very rapidly, having placed several acts in the West End, amongst others *Liane* at the Tivoli.

Miss Nesta Sandford has just secured from Miss Joan Pereira a novel dramatic sketch, entitled *A Queen's Honour*, which will shortly be produced at a West End hall.

A Celebrated Dancer.

Those who attended the entertainment which under the patronage of Princess Christian, was given the other day at the Ritz Hotel in aid of the English branch of the International Catholic Society for Befriending Working Girls and the Incorporated Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society, saw among the tableaux vivants which formed the chief attraction a living realisation of Lancret's little masterpiece in the Wallace Collection, "Mlle. Camargo Dancing." But though many know the oft-reproduced painting, it is not (says the *Westminster Gazette*) everyone who knows the history of the dancer.

Born at Brussels just two hundred years ago this month (April 15, 1710), Marie-Anne de Cupis de Camargo was one of the most famous and most exquisite artists of the eighteenth century. From one side she was descended from a noble Roman family, from the other from the old Spanish house of Camargo, under which name she made her début as a dancer at Paris on May 5, 1726, in "Les Caractères de la Danse," having danced, it is said, from the time she was only three months old, and, more recently, taken finishing lessons from Prevôt, the celebrated danseuse; she promptly supplanted in the esteem of a public that went positively Camargo mad, so that fashions—everything—were soon all à la Camargo, and especially the red high-heeled shoes seen in Lancret's picture of her at Hertford House.

Camargo's style of dancing was noted for quickness and grace, and she could do steps which no other dancer had found possible. She was famous for her improvisation of new dances, and was the first to perform that extremely difficult step, the entrechat, in which the dancer crosses her feet while in the air. This was in 1730, and she could make four crossings. Eight, it is said, are as many as any dancer has attained since.

Camargo was the first to abbreviate the skirt—till then reaching to the ankle; but in spite of this her dancing was always marked by great modesty, as well as rare grace and refinement of style. She was especially famous for "gavottes," "tambourines," and the "rigaudon," or "rigadoon," as it is known in English. It was remarked of her that though on the stage she was the incarnation of gaiety, off she was the reverse, and in private life was always grave, and even sad, though there seemed no particular reason why she should be. She retired in 1751, as popular as ever, and died in 1770.

A Cat at the Play.

One day last week the Charing Cross Post Office cat was missing. High and low they searched for him. At last he was found in the stalls of the Haymarket Theatre, waiting until the curtain should rise on Maeterlinck's *Blue Bird*.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE R.M.S. WONTDETAINIA."

Invented and Arranged by Fred Karno, Written by J. Hickory Wood and Chas. Baldwin, and Produced at the Paragon, Mile End, on Monday, April 11.

Patsy O'Flynn ..... Mr. Shaun Glenville
Percy Dart ..... Mr. Deane Tribune
Captain Nelsons ..... Mr. Chas. M. East
Desmond Marsh ..... Mr. Fellows Bassett
Maud de Vere ..... Miss Elsie Skillings
Sadie Vanderfelt ..... Miss Kitty Benyon

Undoubtedly, *The R.M.S. Wontdetainia* is the greatest, as it is also the most ambitious, of any production yet attempted by Mr. Fred Karno. As the title implies, the sketch, set in three magnificent scenes, is a skit on life on board a well-known line of steamships. In the first scene the whole breadth of the stage is taken up with a realistic representation of a big liner leaving the docks at Fishguard. The huge smoke-stacks are emitting steam, the officers and seamen are at their posts, cargo and luggage is being taken aboard, fond farewells are being spoken, and we are introduced to the two comedians, Patsy O'Flynn, the purser (Mr. Shaun Glenville), and Percy Dart, a dude (Mr. Deane Tribune); likewise two adventurers, Desmond Marsh (Mr. Fellows Bassett) and Maud de Vere (Miss Elsie Skillings). There is a good deal of rough-and-tumble fun that Mr. Karno's comedians have accustomed us to expect between Patsy and Percy as the huge liner is seen to sheer off from the quayside, and they all but get left behind. The illusion of the liner backing out into mid-stream is finely conceived and cleverly carried out, and was deservedly appreciated by a packed audience. But if this item was good, how much more so were the two succeeding scenes! The second was a superb picture of the huge craft in mid-ocean and moonlight. There on the main deck we find the two naughty characters plotting to get possession of Sadie Vanderfelt's (Miss Kitty Benyon) priceless diamond necklet. Both the purser and the dude get a chance at fun-making in this scene, and they do very well with it. One cannot do justice to the last scene, in which we get a sectional view of the grand dining-saloon of the *Wontdetainia*. The picture is a triumph of stagecraft, and the most realistic scene of the kind undoubtedly ever seen in a theatre. The beautiful dining-room is an art study in cream and gold. Sixty diners—ladies and gentlemen, in evening dress—are seated at the many tables, and the stewards are seen to be assiduous in their attentions to the passengers. Above, we get a picture of the officer on the watch and the star-lit sky and ocean. The whole scene is a moving one as the ship rolls and plunges through the Atlantic billows, giving a most vivid idea of the motion of a liner at sea. We listen to a speech by the skipper (Mr. Charles M. East), who announces that a dance will be held directly the stewards have cleared the tables. This proves to be a very pretty one, and taken part in by some splendidly-gowned young ladies and well-groomed young gentlemen. In the meantime, however, Maud and Desmond propose a hand at cards to Percy and another passenger, the idea being to "pay the expenses of the trip," of course, at the dude's expense. In spite of palmed aces, the dude contrives to win £100 from the precious couple, who can scarcely conceal their discomfiture. Later, when Desmond secures the diamonds and is in the act of passing them on to his fair accomplice, Percy, to the surprise of all, reveals himself as a man from Scotland Yard, and arrests the pair for the theft. There is no finer setting on the variety stage to-day than Mr. Karno's latest sketch. The comedians have scarcely had time to make the most of their parts, but a few more performances will doubtless set that right. Congratulations were rightly showered on Mr. Karno, and we have no hesitation in setting it down that *R.M.S. Wontdetainia* has many long and prosperous trips before her.

In addition to the foregoing, the Paragon boasts a bill second to none in London this week. There is Harry Lauder, for instance, singing "My heart's in the Hielans" and "Every lassie loves a laddie," Victoria Monks, Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton, and Daisy Dormer. Carrie Laurie's Juveniles have made a great hit with their quaint and clever idea, "When I'm a woman—when I'm a man," and so has our old friend of the famous Dandies, Henry J. Corner, with his new sketch, *A Bath Cure*. It is a laughable trifle, in which Mr. Corner himself acts well, and is extremely funny. Rosie Lloyd is here, too, together with Aida Martine, Brothers Deane, Sam Spira, Louize Tetland, Hughes and Elliott, Dale and O'Malley, Wild, Willie, and West, and Cissie Carter.

MISS DOLLY McCALLA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Regarding the disappearance of my daughter Dolly, reported in your columns last week, the facts are these: On the evening of last Saturday week (the week my two daughters were at the Dudley Empire), without mentioning her intentions to anyone, Dolly took a car from Dudley to go to Birmingham, to say good-bye to some professional friends who were concluding pantomime that night. She had plenty of time to do this and get back to Dudley in time for her turn. Unfortunately, at Birmingham, she was knocked down by a motor-cycle and she remained more or less insensible until two o'clock on Sunday morning. As soon as she was well enough to answer questions, the people who were kind enough to look after her wired and wrote to me, acquainting me with the occurrence. By mistake they sent their communication to Wolverhampton instead of Northampton, where my two girls were due to appear on the Monday. Owing to this mistake I did not receive these communications until Tuesday, by which time Dolly was well enough to join her sister, although not in a fit state to appear on the stage. In the meantime I had communicated with the Northampton press, who, on the Monday published details of my daughter's disappearance.

Without troubling to call at the Northampton Variety Hall and get further details, someone (no doubt acting with the kindest of intentions) sent cuttings from Monday's Northampton papers to many of the weeklies, with the result that details of Dolly's disappearance were published broadcast long after the mystery had been cleared up.

Had the people who kindly took Dolly to their house at Birmingham, immediately reported the matter to the police, I should, of course, have known at once where she was through the police at Dudley. As soon as she was well enough to understand, the people, as I said before, wired me, and the message would have been awaiting me at Northampton on the Sunday morning, but either through a mistake on Dolly's part or flurry on the part of the senders, they put "Wolverhampton" in error for "Northampton," and the same with a letter that should have reached me on Monday, consequently I did not get these communications till Tuesday. In the meantime the paragraph in question had appeared in the Northampton evening papers of Monday. As Dolly was back with us on Tuesday I, of course, did not write to any of the weekly papers. I hope you will pardon my repeating myself in my effort to make things clear.

I trust no one will look upon this as an advertising ruse, as it is nothing of the kind. If it were it would be a very paltry one.—Yours faithfully HARRY McCALLA.

Empire, Hull, April 12.

P.S.—I may add that the only newspapers I communicated with were the Northampton ones. Had I sent particulars of the matter to any of the weeklies due to be published on Saturday and Sunday I should certainly have sent them a wire immediately I found out where my daughter was.

DEATH OF HERR SCHALKENBACH.

The news comes to us from Trèves (Trier/, France, of the death of Herr J. B. Schalkenbach, who for many years starred at music halls, both British and Continental, with "L'Orchestre du Diable," his own invention. He was born at Trèves (where he died), his father, Nicholas Schalkenbach, being a merchant in that town. Soon after he came to London Professor Schalkenbach became organist of the Royal Polytechnic Institute, holding the position for seven years. He was also a hon. member of the French Académie Nationale, and in 1862 gave a concert before Napoleon the Third.

"L'Orchestre du Diable" made a great sensation in 1872, and was always a sure draw at the halls. At the Metropolitan in March, 1878, when Mr. Charles Merion was managing that hall for the late Mr. George Speedy, Schalkenbach was announced as the inventor and only performer in the world on his orchestre militaire electro moteur, and he drew what was then the enormous salary of £100 per week.

The following extract from an issue of the *Daily Telegraph* in March, 1878, will give a very good idea of the effects produced by the Schalkenbachian invention:—"Was there ever such an astounding musical instrument? Hear the Professor play his fantasia upon the 'Death of Nelson,' and wonder, for not only do we have the music, but the entire battle of Trafalgar, 'Along the line the signal ran.' We hear the thunder of the guns, the crash of falling masts and spars, the shouts of victory. Then the scene is changed, it may be to an Alpine valley, when we hear the lark in the air, the cuckoo in the woods, the roar of the cataract. Anon, the sky darkens, the wind rises, afar in the mountain 'leaps the live thunder,' and the lightning covers the precipices with vivid sheets of flame. This is no fanciful picture. Herr Schalkenbach does it all, and rouses the audience to unwonted enthusiasm. He

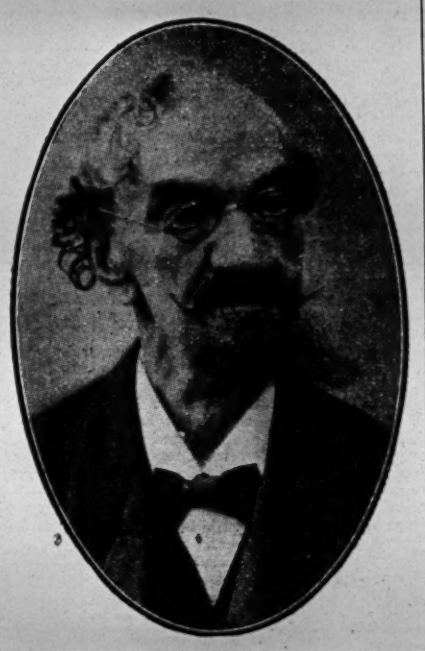

THE LATE HERR SCHALKENBACH.

was recalled with thunders of applause, and then gave a dashing fantasia upon military airs."

The deceased professor, who was born on May 16, 1824, passed away on Saturday, April 2, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. He was interred in the burial ground attached to the Church of St. Laurentius, Trier, on Tuesday, April 5. He married, in London, Mary Hayward, the daughter of a merchant, to whom he was devotedly attached, and her death in the late eighties was a great blow to him. He has left one son (Franz) to mourn his loss. Herr Schalkenbach was a clever and original musician and a distinguished member of the music hall profession, to which he was proud to belong.

THE SUNDAY DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

This committee was represented by Messrs. C. Coborn and Wm. Johnson, at a meeting held in the Town Hall, Reading, the Mayor presiding, which had been convened by the Imperial Sunday Alliance. Both the representatives of the Sunday Defence Committee spoke on the special objects of their committee. Among the other speakers were Mr. Thomas Kingscote, M.V.O., Chairman of the Sunday Lay Movement; Mr. John Kempster, J.P., Chairman of the Police and Citizens' Association; Alderman Frederick Rogers, L.C.C., Captain Watson, Secretary Church of England Men's Society; the Rev. Canon Bickersteth Ottley, M.A., Secretary, Imperial Sunday Alliance; the Ven. the Archdeacon of Berks, and Mr. Leonard Sutton. The meeting was well attended, and the following resolution was adopted:—

"That a local branch of the Imperial Sunday Alliance be formed in Reading, with a view to (1) Securing for all classes of the community one day's rest in seven; (2) Educating public opinion, strengthening the hands of the magistrates, and encouraging municipal action, by special by-laws, &c., to curtail unnecessary and unjustifiable Sunday amusements, trading, or other forms of unreasonable interference with that Sunday rest which is desired by the community generally. (3) Supporting other measures, having for their object the reduction of all forms of Sunday labour to the minimum consistent with proved public or private necessity. (4) Enlisting the co-operation of existing organisations and societies for social betterment in the objects and work of the local committee on the 'Sunday' question. (5) That the Mayor be requested to take the requisite steps for the formation of the Branch." Proposed by the Ven. Archdeacon of Berks, seconded by Mr. Leonard Sutton.

At a meeting of the S.D.C., held on Thursday at the V.A.F. Offices, Mr. Clemart in the chair, and other members present being Messrs. Duncan Young, Robson Paige, Charles Coborn, Charles Jesson, L.C.C., G. H. Dyball, and Wm. Johnson, the following additions to the list of Vice-Presidents were reported:—Mr. Thomas Kingscote, M.V.O., Captain Watson, Ald. F. Rogers, L.C.C., and Mr. W. F. Frame, president of the Scottish M.H.R.A.

A number of letters from clerks of County Councils, Borough Councils, and managers were dealt with. A donation of £1 1s. to the funds from Canon Ottley was reported.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday at 12 o'clock.

A new quick-step entitled "Die Vagabunden," composed by David Davies, a member of the Theatre Royal, Worthing, orchestra, was played at the theatre for the first time with great success last week.

Miss Louisa Peach will be back again next week at Mr. Raymond's Hall, Walthamstow—her sixth return within the last four months. This time she is doing a big sketch of *Ticket-of-Leave Man* in six scenes, supported by an excellent company, which includes Messrs. Edwin Bennett, Benson North, Charles Daly, Edwin Fergusson, Edmond Sydney, Miss Lilian Claire, and Mrs. Charles Daly.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, March 1.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. J. B. Moutrie.—After being closed for several months this popular theatre was reopened on Saturday evening last by Messrs. Meynell and Clarke, who have specially engaged Mr. George Willoughby and a selected London company for a short season. The piece chosen for the opening performance was the successful London farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*. There was a packed house. Mr. David James as Crosbie, the valet, gave a finished performance, his acting throughout being neat and convincing. Mr. James was recalled after each act and loudly applauded. Mr. George Willoughby as butler to the Duke of Hungerford was seen at his best. Mr. Willoughby's quiet humour "caught on" every time; he kept the audience amused the whole time he was on the stage. Another life-like sketch is Mr. Frank Frayne, and one of invaluable assistance to the success of the piece. Some of the best quiet work is between Frayne and Crosbie. Miss Mab Paul is happily placed as Gipsy Vandelier. The ungracious part of Lady Hampshire Miss Violet Paget touched delicately enough. Miss Paget is to be commended for her earnest endeavour to make Lady Hampshire a sentient being. Mr. Arthur Cornell made an acceptable Sir Charles Hampshire; a fine specimen of a City Alderman is supplied by Mr. Harry Overton; Mr. H. Halley as Bogle, hall porter at Melton Mansions, put in some good comedy work; Miss Amy Willard made a sprightly parlourmaid. There are a number of minor parts that were well attended to by the Misses Agnes Keogh, Stella Pater, and Messrs. L. Stach, G. Moulton, W. Brown, R. Fry, H. Benton, W. Spinks, and H. Parkes. *The Night of the Party* had a very favourable reception, and should enjoy a successful run.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The highly successful pantomime *Aladdin* can only be played for four more nights, the season closing on Friday evening next. On Saturday evening Mr. Julius Knight and Miss Catherine Grey will produce an American play, *The Lion and the Mouse*. The play ran for some time in Sydney, and should certainly be a success here.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—After a most successful season Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton made their final appearance here last Wednesday evening in the stirring drama *Count Hannibal*. At the close of the performance Miss Brayton was the recipient of a number of handsome floral tributes. On Thursday the company left for Sydney, where they play a three months' season, returning to Melbourne in June, an event eagerly looked forward to by Melbourne playgoers. On Thursday evening Messrs. Meynell and Clarke's comic opera company made their reappearance in the musical play, *Sergeant Brue*. Of the principal characters Mr. Cromwell as Crookie Scrubbs has a great deal to do, and he does it in characteristic style. Mr. Brett shares with Mr. Cromwell the main burden of the comedy business; in fact, it would be hard to say which has the largest measure of responsibility for keeping the audience amused. Both come through the ordeal with credit. Mr. Payne as the Police Magistrate is to be complimented on his character-sketch. Mr. Thorley as Michael Brue does some of the best work he has yet achieved with the company. Miss Edith Deverell (Aurora Brue) has a light soprano of pleasing quality and a natural manner; while others to lend valuable assistance in a satisfactory all-round production are Miss Orford, Miss Essie Perrin, and Mr. Sweeney. The orchestra was under the capable direction of Mr. Victor Champion.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Houdini is still the reigning attraction here, though his season is rapidly drawing to a close. Mr. W. A. Robyns (basso) has made a hit with Schumann's "Two Grenadiers." Mr. Robyns also sings a number of well-known songs in pleasing style. Mr. Fred Curran evokes much laughter with his quaint ditties; the Martine Brothers give a clever turn; the Australian Dartos, in an Apache dance, display considerable skill; and other artists appearing with success at present include the Donnellys, Will White, Bob Lloyd, Dorothy Swift, Ruby Wallace, the Two Colliers, Australian Little Tich, and a host of others.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* still continues to draw excellent houses. Miss Eugenie Duggan as the Princess Monica is seen to great advantage, while she is ably supported by a strong company. The scenery and mounting throughout are on a most elaborate scale. Judging from present appearances *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is likely to enjoy a lengthy and prosperous run.

SYDNEY, March 12.—The Asche-Brayton company is back under the Clarke-Meynell *ægis* at the Criterion. This time Mr. Oscar Asche presents an entirely new Shylock—a strong, consistent, and well-considered impersonation. The careful supervision of Oscar Asche and J. Fritz Russell was over all, and the scenery was superb, so was the costuming. Miss Lily Brayton was an ideal Portia, and in the scene with the Prince of Morocco, admirably acted and spoken by Mr. Herbert Grimwood, she was particularly fine. In the Court scene Portia and Shylock were absolutely perfect. The Duke of Venice (Mr. Fritz Russell) was dignified and careful. Mr. Charles Doran and Mr. G. Kay Souper were the Antonio and Bassanio, and both were sufficient. The two Gobbos, senior and junior, were handed over to Mr. Athol Forde and Mr. R. F. Anson, and they made the traditional fun. Mr. Ewan Brook was Lorenzo; Jessica herself was winsomely portrayed by Miss Caroline Bayley; and Nerissa was well depicted by Miss Elfrida Clement.

"A Waltz Dream" is having record booking, and will run until *Cinderella* is ready for Easter.

"The Man from Mexico" is revived at the Palace by the Hugh Ward Comedy Company, and the Fitzhugh of Mr. Ward gives as much delight as ever. Misses Grace Palotta, Celia Ghiloni, Maud Chetwynd, Florence Redfern, and Ruby Baxter, and Messrs. Reginald Wykeham, W. B. Beattie, Leonard Willey, Arthur Eldred, and others make the laughs and sing the music, and will continue to do so until the end of the Hugh Ward season a week hence.

The Tivoli has the Wille Brothers, Vasco, Alexander and Bertie, Kelly and Kingston, Lillie Langtry, Olga Grey, Bert Terrell, and Harry Marte.

West's pictures at the Glaciarium, Spencer's Theatrescope at the Lyceum, vaudeville at the National Amphitheatre, and many picture shows are all doing fine business.

The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs are meeting with great success in London. They appear next week at the Palace, Hammersmith, and Olympia, Shoreditch.

At a special meeting of the Sheerness Urban District Council on Tuesday an application was made for a renewal of the stage play licence of the Hippodrome. Mr. Pareezer, of the Lowestoft Theatre, made the application, and produced references from residents at King's Lynn, among them being one from the vicar, who wrote in eulogistic terms of the high tone that pervaded the entertainments under Mr. Pareezer's management. The licence was granted on the same terms as hitherto.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A very pleasing incident occurred last Saturday afternoon, and none the less important because it occurred in a quiet way; it shows that conscientious services do not always pass unnoticed. On the occasion referred to, Mr. James Welch presented his master carpenter, Mr. C. Entwistle, with a gold watch, suitably inscribed, for faithful and friendly services. This handsome present is very much appreciated by Mr. Entwistle, and also the words which accompanied the present. Mr. Entwistle has been with Mr. Welch for many years. He is a keen sportsman, and has competed with success on several occasions at the Annual Theatrical Sports.

Mr. H. G. Brooks, stage-manager at the Paragon Theatre, has secured a similar position with Moss' Empires, and is to be the stage-manager at the Holloway Empire. Mr. Brooke was formerly with Mr. Walter Gibbons at the Balham Hippodrome. This change is made owing to the closing of the Paragon as a music hall some time next month.

Mr. F. Anstey, who has already given several dinners to the Vaudeville theatre staff, has again invited the staff, at the conclusion of the run of *The Brass Bottle*, to dine with him, and the dinner will be given on Saturday evening at six o'clock in the Angel Hotel, Old-street, City-road, E.C.

Those who have not replied to the communication from the organisers of the Annual Theatrical Sports are urged to do so as soon as possible. No decision has yet been arrived at, but from the replies to hand, Tuesday in the last week of June seems to be the day most generally selected. If the staff at any theatre or hall have not been consulted by their stage-manager, to whom the letter from the Sports Committee was addressed, will they communicate with Mr. W. Johnson, of 29, Wellington-street, Strand, and he will supply them with a copy of the circular issued by the committee. It is advisable that no time should be lost in coming to a decision as to whether the sports will be given this year.

The annual general meeting of the Heads of Departments Association took place on Thursday evening, at 6 o'clock, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, Mr. G. H. Dyball, vice-president, presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the president; Mr. James Cullen.

The annual report was submitted and adopted. The audited statement of accounts was submitted and accepted. The statement is as follows:—

Receipts.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Entrance fees		6 9 6
Contributions, Class A	9 2 0	
,, ,, B	18 19 8	
,, ,, C	5 9 0	
		33 10 8
Benevolent Fund—		
Members' contributions	0 17 2	
Annual concert	10 0 0	
		10 17 2
Levies—1908 account		0 5 0
Riving outing		29 18 6
		81 0 10
Balance from 1908		122 14 7
		£203 15 5

Expenditure.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Office boy's wages		24 7 6
River outing		29 18 6
Printing		7 0
Share of cost of telephone		3 5 0
Postage, telegram, stationery		1 1 6
Honorarium to Wm. Johnson		10 0 0
Central Fund and G.F. of T.U. dues		3 2 4
Sowerbutt, Dispute pay	2 0 0	
Sowerbutt, Expenses	3 6	
		2 3 6
Sundry items		1 2 8
		74 19 3
Benevolent Fund grants		10 0 0
		84 19 3
Balance Dec. 31, 1909		118 16 2
		£203 15 5

Audited by Philip Sheridan and F. B. Fidge and found correct.
Countersigned by William Johnson.

The result of the election of the officers and committee.—The following were elected: President, James Cullen, master carpenter, the St. James's Theatre; vice-president, G. H. Dyball, stage-manager, the London Pavilion; hon. secretary, Philip Sheridan, electrician, the Strand Theatre; treasurer, Wm. Johnson. Committee: Messrs. A. Earnshaw, electrician, Duke of York's Theatre; Wm. Pullinger, master carpenter, the Globe Theatre; G. E. Willcox, property-master, the Garrick Theatre; David Sheridan, electrician, W. G. Wilton, property-master, the Vaudeville Theatre; John Brunskill, master carpenter, the Savoy Theatre; W. H. Marsh, electrician, Savoy Theatre; Philip Raphael, Lyceum Theatre; R. J. Carter, electrician, Terry's Theatre; F. B. Fidge, electrician, Lyceum Theatre; and H. J. Powell, property-master, the Globe Theatre.

The following nominations for the national committee were approved: President, J. Cullen; vice-president, G H. Dyball; trustee, Philip Sheridan; committee, Messrs. Pullinger, Fidge, and Philip Raphael.

The proposal to organise the annual dinner this year was deferred, as was the question of organising a river outing or a sea trip in the summer. These matters will be dealt with by the newly-elected committee.

Miss Nellie Brierley is taking a short rest after thirty-five weeks' most successful tour in G. W. Blythe's scena, "The Toilers." She commences again on May 9 on the Syndicate tour.

Mr. George Fox, advance agent, is lying seriously ill in the Royal Infirmary, M 3, M Ward, Manchester. He is under the care of Dr. Murray, the specialist. He would like to hear from all old friends. Letters should be addressed as above.

Miss Celia Claud, with her classical dances, will make her appearance for the first time in England at the London Pavilion on Monday, and the fact that she is an English girl lends her performance added interest. The Spirit Pictures of Dr. Wilmar will be also presented for the first time to the London public on the same evening by Mr. Frank Glenister. The marvellous part of this novel performance is that any photograph can be mysteriously reproduced on the stage.

Anderton and Rowland Show in the West.

Messrs. Anderton and Rowland's fine variety show is standing just outside Penzance, and is frequented nightly by large crowds. Our correspondent visited the show on Monday evening, when there was a crowded audience, and every item was thoroughly enjoyed. An excellent series of pictures are shown. Within the grounds are also Messrs. Anderton and Rowland's gondolas and hoop-las, and other stands which attract large crowds.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Allie Moore at Southampton.
Allie Moore has been giving a fine show at the Coliseum Rink, Southampton, this week.

The Aldwych Programme.
The attendance at the Aldwych Rink continues to be satisfactory. The central location of the rink naturally gives it great advantages over others in the metropolitan area. When the rink closes for a summer vacation, advantage will be taken of the opportunity to carry out certain structural alterations which will be in the nature of improvements. An entirely new scheme of internal decoration will be carried out, the floor will be enlarged, and for the present broad supporting floor pillars will be substituted smaller columns in fumigated oak.

One Mile Professional Championship.
At the Maida Vale Rink on April 25 the N.S.A. will decide the Mile Professional Championship of Great Britain (open to British subjects). Prizes to the value of £20 in cash will be given as follows:—First prize £10, second £5, third £3, winners of heats unplaced in final £1 each. There will also be a special prize of £2 for first unplaced competitor who has not previously been placed in the N.S.A. British Professional Roller Championship. Entrance fee 2s. 6d.; entries close April 19. Entry forms may be obtained from Mr. W. Stanton, hon. secretary Roller Dept. N.S.A., 1, Hatfield House, Great Titchfield-street, W.

Sergeant Lightning at Earl's Court.
As we were going to press last night high revel was being held at the Earl's Court Rink, the occasion being a complimentary benefit to Manager Izod, whose managerial ministrations have been much appreciated throughout the season. The programme combined carnival, gymkhana, and racing. The comedy element was strongly in evidence; a troupe of comic tramps interfered in a ladies' hockey match, and were put to flight by a posse of policemen led by the valiant Sergeant Lightning, so well known to carnival rinkers.

Fast Racing at Brixton.
Further evidence that the Brixton Rink is the fastest in the country was forthcoming on Monday night, when, in the Brixton Club's mile handicap, E. W. Bussey covered the distance in 3min. 13 3-5sec. in his heat, and in 3min. 11sec. in the final, beating D. H. Swain's record by 2 4-5sec. There were eleven starters in the event.

New Rink at Camberwell.
The Camberwell Skating Rink, Ltd., will be opened to-day (Saturday). This fine new skatery is situated in Coldharbour-lane, and a constant succession of the L.C.C.'s electric cars pass the doors.

Karno's Company to Play Hockey.
Fred Karno's company will play a hockey match on Friday, the 22nd, at three o'clock, at the Camberwell Rink.

Changes at Clapton.
Mr. Chas. A. Cartwright, who has been assistant-manager under Commander Leadbeater at Lower Clapton, left this week for Chesterfield, to take over the management of the Premier Rink there. It was thought he would succeed Commander Leadbeater, who severs his connection with the rinking world for purely private reasons. Commander Leadbeater was formerly at Finsbury Park, but since he has been at Lower Clapton he has shown that he can capably command a skating rink as well as a ship. His cheery smile and unfailing bonhomie went far in promoting the feeling of pleasure and sociability amongst the patrons of the rink. Mr. Alan K. Relton has been installed as manager.

£30 for Hospital.
An idea of the takings of skating rinks may be gauged from the results of the recent charity carnival held at the Cricklewood Rink, which is run by Mr. Leon Meredith, in partnership with Mr. Skuse. The total receipts were £67 14s. 3d., from which had to be deducted cost of prizes and other small expenses, so that a cheque for £30 was sent to the Willesden hospital.

Premier Rink, Finsbury Park.
A grand fancy dress carnival, the last of the season, took place on Thursday last, at the Premier Rink de Luxe, Finsbury Park. Prizes to the value of £50 were awarded for the most handsome, best home-made, most original, and most grotesque costumes.

Diplomats on Wheels.
Several members of the Spanish Embassy visited the Maida Vale Skating Rink on Monday last. Among those present were Mme. De Villa Urrita and the Marquis Del Merito, both of whom were receiving tuition from the instructing staff.

Carnival at Wandsworth.
On Wednesday last the management of the Central Hall Rink, Wandsworth, held their third Fancy Dress Carnival. As usual, it was a huge success; over 200 people competed for prizes and about the same number looked on. The floor presented a magnificent appearance. During the evening the Wandsworth Lancer Party gave an exhibition set of Lancers, which were intently watched by the spectators. Mr. Morley and his staff are to be congratulated on the result achieved. Alderman Surgeon-Major Mark Robinson distributed the prizes, and the judges were Mrs. Horace Joyce, Mr. Allan C. Rose, and Mr. Horace Joyce.

Boxing on Wheels.
At the Wood Green Skating Rink one night last week there was a novelty in the shape of a boxing match between F. Bowley and A. Amos, and the contest was fought on skates, Mr. Bowley being floor manager at the rink, and an ex-Navy man, while his opponent, now of Wood Green, is late of the Artillery. It was to have been a six-round contest, but after two rounds, which Amos spent mostly in falling down and getting up again, Bowley was declared the winner, Amos having twisted his ankle. Boxing on skates seems to be very hard work, and the winner showed good form all round.

Splendid Birmingham Gymkhana.
A crowded gathering of skaters and spectators heartily enjoyed an excellent programme at the first gymkhana organised by Dr. Humphries, manager of the American Skating Rink, Monument-road, Birmingham. The events included a lighted-candle race for ladies and gentlemen, a hoop race for children, skating competition for ladies and gentlemen individually, and a partners' race, in which blindfold gentlemen were driven through a number of obstacles by ladies. A bun-eating competition for gentlemen was productive of much amusement. A maypole dance on skates gracefully executed by a number of children was an enjoyable event on the programme; and a clever exhibition of waltzing and two-step was given by Mr. C. N. Dawes and Miss Fisher.

The events resulted as follows:—Graceful skating contest (ladies'), Miss Elsie Haynes; children, Miss Gladys Hill. Gentlemen's two-step competition, Mr. Stanley King. Partners' blindfold race, Miss L. Doherty and Mr. Greer. Lighted-candle race (ladies'), Mrs. Corson; gentlemen, Mr. Poddy. Bun-eating competition, Mr. Poddy. Children's hoop race, Miss Gladys Price.

Presentation to Bury Manager.
Mr. S. Reach, the manager of the Bury rink was presented last week with a purse of gold as a mark of appreciation by the patrons of the establishment. When the rink was first opened a few months ago everyone was in doubt as to whether it was going to be a success, but through Mr. Reach's efforts it has proved a great success. Mr. S. Reach, in acknowledging the gift, said it had come to him as a very great surprise. Since he had had the management of the rink he had tried to do his best for his employers. Next season, he might say, they were going to do as much as they could to draw attention as they had done in the past.

Last Events at Canterbury.
The management of the Canterbury Rink is closing the season with two important events, viz., hockey match between Canterbury and Gillingham (both unbeaten teams), which took place on Wednesday, and on Thursday evening, April 21, ladies' half-mile race for the Kentish championship for silver cup.

Roller-Skating in Cardiff.
The American Roller Rink, Westgate-street, Cardiff, affords daily proof of the popularity of rinking in Cardiff. The Central Rink on the Hayes is always crowded, the details of management in the hands of Mr. Trevethan leaving nothing to be desired for the comfort and convenience of the throngs who derive fun and relaxation and congenial stimulus to health. The pessimist who may imagine that the pastime is waning in popularity need only look in at the Olympia Rink, Queen-street, for evidence that the precise contrary is the case.

Deal v. Dover.
The Hockey Club formed in connection with the Pier Pavilion Rink, Dover, played its first match on Tuesday, Deal being their opponents. The event attracted a huge crowd, and, thanks in a large measure to the manager, Mr. Wilkinson, and his staff, everything passed off without a hitch. With regard to the play, Dover, mainly through lack of practice, were outclassed.

Summer Programme at Derby.
The management of the Derby Alexandra Rink have decided to turn their skatery into a concert hall during the summer season, commencing the second week in May. Arrangements are already in hand to adapt the place to this class of entertainment, for which there is a strong local penchant. Artists will do well to note this.

The New Hanley Manager.
Mr. Percy Swain, the new manager of the Hanley Olympia Rink, took up his appointment there last week. He went to the Potteries in August last as manager of the Stoke rink, and at once made a name for himself. Mr. Swain first gained his experience in the management of rinks at the Olympia, London, where he assisted in the management of that well-known rink. Leaving the Metropolis he next had the management of thousands of skaters who daily patronise the large White City Rink, Manchester, which, before the new Maida Vale Rink opened, had the largest skating surface in England, viz., 38,000 sq. ft. During Mr. Swain's stay at Stoke the rink was patronised by many well-known ladies and gentlemen of North Staffordshire—the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and his family being regular patrons before leaving Keele Hall. Mr. Swain was presented with a lovely diamond scarf-pin by the Grand Duke as a recognition of the manner in which his Imperial Highness was catered for.

Manager of Inverness Palace.
Mr. A. H. Morris is undoubtedly one of the most popular rink managers in the North, and at the Inverness Palace Rink, where he is in command, he is a firm favourite. Besides being an excellent organiser, Mr. Morris is a neat and graceful skater, a matter of no small importance. Mr. Morris has introduced many skating novelties—new competitions, new tricks, and new figures, and among these we may include the "eightsome," a roller-skating feat which is not so difficult as it looks, while being exceedingly amusing to skaters and spectators alike.

Lady Instructor's Presentation.
Inverness greatly regrets the departure of Miss E. M. Sloan, the popular lady instructor of the Inverness Rink. Miss Sloan how now terminated her engagement, and in spite of a strong desire on the part of the management that she should renew it, she has decided to go home to Liverpool for a rest. Miss Sloan began her rinking career at Birmingham, afterwards filling the post of lady instructor at Ayr, Dumfries, Stranraer, Govan, Greenock, Aberdeen, and Inverness. Miss Sloan on Wednesday evening last was the recipient of a parting gift from rink patrons.

D. M. Swain Wins at Leicester.
There was a large attendance at the Boulevard Rink, Leicester, last Saturday night, when the first contest for the Noble shield reached the final stage. The trophy is valued at thirty guineas, and is to be contested in the mile scratch races, and to be won three times in all before becoming the absolute property of the winner. The heat winners were C. Burdett, P. Robinson, L. Wilson (aged thirteen), and T. Dunn, all of Leicester; J. T. Cooper (Birmingham), D. M. Swain (London), and Leon Meredith (London), fastest loser. In the final Swain immediately showed in front, closely followed by Burdett. The latter fell in the second round, and Swain assumed a commanding lead, followed by Cooper and Meredith. Nearing the end Meredith dispossessed Cooper of second place, but failed to overtake Swain, who won by twelve yards. Time, 3min. 20sec. Officials: Starter, W. Jesson; judges, F. Snow, N.S.A., and Dr. Moss Blundell; referee, J. Noble; timekeepers, J. A. Jarvis and J. Shackleton.

Rink Pavilion, Limerick.
The patronage, even in spring temperature, accorded to the People's Palace is as extensive as ever. Racing, hockey, waltzing, and figure formula are the breezy items of the past week, and the craze to go on wheels has not in the least diminished. Director Edward Kidd will keep open-doors as long as the people appreciate his efforts. It may be remarked that it is the only indoor amusement which for years has united the classes and the masses in this city.

Dolly Mitchell at Mansfield.
Miss Dolly Mitchell, who is billed to appear at the Mansfield Prince's Rink, gave a clever and graceful exhibition on Monday evening. The best feature of her work is the ease and grace with which she carries out the numerous and intricate figures on the toes. The clever young lady had a hearty reception.

Robbery at a Rink.
Last Saturday, at Nottingham, Claude Stephenson, 20, a former employee at the Princess Skating Rink, Castle Boulevard, was remanded on bail, charged with breaking into the manager's office and stealing £5 9s. and a large quantity of cigarettes and chocolates on Easter Tuesday.

Pentre's New Manager.
Mr. Jack S. Pattison, the new manager of Olympia Rink, Pentre, Rhondda, frequently gives exhibitions of trick and fancy skating, which are witnessed with much interest by crowds of onlookers.

Perth Rink to Become Music Hall.
At a sitting of Perth Dean of Guild Court a petition was lodged by Kenmarks, Ltd., Victoria Roller Skating Rink, Perth, to make certain alterations on the premises occupied by them and to convert the building into a music hall. The Burgh Surveyor was satisfied with the plans. The plans were passed, subject to the approval of the Town Council with regard to the verandah, where it is proposed to erect the cinematograph.

Coming Southampton Carnival.
The management of the Southampton Skating Rink, Shirley-road, has arranged to hold its next fancy dress carnival on Wednesday, April 27.

Popularity of the Sydenham Rink.
The Sydenham and Forest Hill Public Hall and Skating Rink will be kept open through the summer months. The Crystal Palace Figure Skating Club will now hold its meetings there, making this rink its headquarters.

Changes at Ton-y-Pandy.
Business at the Pavilion Skating Rink, Ton-y-Pandy is flourishing, and encourages the directors to keep the rink open during the summer. They have secured the services of Mr. Studd as manager for a short time before he leaves the district for a very important appointment. Mr. A. H. Wilson, late of Olympia, London, has been appointed floor manager, and has already made many friends among the patrons. This rink is noted for its size, being the largest in the Rhonddas, and is becoming increasingly popular.

MAIDA VALE SKATING PALACE & CLUB, Ltd.,

Delaware-road, W., between Elgin and Sutherland Avenues. Only five minutes from Maida Vale. General and Vanguard Motor-buses (services Nos. 6 and 8). Great Eastern Co.'s Motor-buses and all the West Kilburn horse-buses and Harrow-road trams pass within two minutes of the rink. Largest and most luxurious Rink in the world. Full Military Band. Three Sessions Daily. Morning 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission 6d. Skates 1s. Afternoon 2.30 to 6 p.m. Evening 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. Admission 1s. Skates 1s. Books of Family Tickets (containing 30 Admission or Skate Ticket(s), £1 5s. Book of 60 Tickets, £2 10s. Table d'hôte Luncheons and Dinners and light refreshments served in magnificent restaurant at popular prices. The Reading and Writing Room, Bath Room, and Hair-dressing Saloons now open. 'Phone 3540 Paddi.

To Please Your Patrons,

To Ensure Large Attendances at Your Rinks,

To Avoid Heavy Repair Bills,

BUY 'BRAMPTON' ROLLER SKATES

Made by the leading firm of Cycle Fittings Manufacturers, "Brampton" Skates are without question the strongest & easiest running obtainable

Largest and most complete stocks of Brampton, Winslow, Phillips, and Union Roller Skates and repair parts. Promptest deliveries—lowest prices.

BROWN BROTHERS, LTD.,

GREAT EASTERN STREET, LONDON, E.C.

DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page* 11.)

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company are reappearing here this week in the popular play *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy again submits a powerful study of John Durham; Mr. Walham Calvert is well placed as Lord Mountfallon, and a really clever interpretation of the Hon. Reginald Steighton is that of Mr. Arthur Leigh; Mr. Charles Wemyss is natural as Mr. Vallerton, and a typical exponent of the Hebrew moneylender is Mr. W. F. Clitherow; Miss Florence Tressilian is a graceful and winsome Helen Vallerton, and Miss Frances Wolviston is a stately Lady Mountfallon; Miss Dorothy Turner is a chic Hon. Margaret Steighton, and Miss Nellie Bonser makes a capital Mrs. Durham. The staging is very effective.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden. —Eugene Stratton heads the bill here. The Kirbys are smart comedy and burlesque entertainers; Albert Letine is a clever female impersonator, and good patter marks Cavalli's entertainment as a ventriloquist; George Burnett, a local comedian and sketch artist, is well received; James Pullin is a smart comedian, and the Firmans are seen to advantage in the sketch *The Fire Station*. The pictures are good.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Good business is done here this week, and Louie Tracy is scoring well in a capital round of songs. She is a dapper artist, and her business is quite up to date; Vera Mayne is a charming comedienne, and Frank Stanert is a smart instrumentalist; Henri Bekker scores well with a series of humorous conjuring tricks. The pictures are good.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—*The Prisoner of Zenda* is being played here by an excellent company under the direction of Mr. R. J. Blacklin to crowded audiences. Mr. R. J. Blacklin is responsible for the delineation of the triple characters, Prince Rudolf, Rudolf the Fifth, and Rudolf Rassendyll, in which he scores a decided success, his acting being powerful throughout. Mr. Matt Smith undertakes the dual rôle of Duke Wolfgang and Michael of Strelsau, and acquits himself excellently, his acting being most realistic; a well-studied piece of character work is done by Mr. A. H. Bunting in the rôle of Colonel Sapt. Excellent work is done by Mr. W. Kinch, who undertakes the parts of Capt. Hentzau and Gilbert of Rassendyll. Others meriting praise for their respective delineations are Mr. Walter Burgess as Cardinal and Mr. C. G. Woodifield as Strakencz. Too much praise cannot be given to Miss L. Mudd for some impressive acting in the character of Antoinette De Mauban, and to Miss M. Kay for the exquisite grace and power with which she impersonated the rôle of Princess Flavia.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Little Zola, a "four feet two and a bit" of lively humanity, keeps his audience in a perfect paroxysm of laughter; Drum and Major, in an amusing scena, *The Broker's Man*; and Rich Taylor, that undoubtedly clever whistling ventriloquist, are old favourites whose popularity increases; Hetty King, "the young man sans-pareil," in some three or four songs, gains many admirers, her reception being very flattering; artistic banjo manipulation is accomplished by Stanley and Greenop; Marie Kendall, in taking song, is meeting with success; and Steve McCarthy executes dancing which for eccentricity and neatness would be difficult to excel.

WHITEHAVEN. — New. Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Miss Grace Warner and company are here in a series of popular dramas. On Monday *The Scarlet Clue* was the piece chosen. As Sal Scarlet Miss Warner gave a powerful representation, and was well supported by Mr. G. Gordon as Michael Stanton; Mr. L. Nanton was good as Billy the Rotter; and Mr. Roy Rhind acted cleverly as Crazy Jim. Miss L. Price as Mother Scrooge and Miss Estha Dean as Musette were both effective; and Miss Rita Corri was a clever child actress. *East Lynne* and *The Wages of Sin* are also billed.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. and Mrs. Rice Cassidy's company is here in *The Beggar Princess*. In the title-rôle Mrs. Rice Cassidy acts in charming style; Miss M. Cameron as Maggie Bolton and Miss Ada Roscoe as Countess Olga act with efficiency; Mr. Rice Cassidy is to be congratulated on his portrayal of the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh; and Mr. T. Royden fills the rôle of Duke Sergius in a powerful manner.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—At a great expense the management have secured the services of Miss Vesta Tilley, whose "star" is still in the ascendant. The Villions present an exceedingly enjoyable cycle performance; the Society Quartette give an entertaining turn, their step-dancing being most commendable; the Cavalottes are loudly applauded for their instrumental selections; Miss Olive Arundale renders pleasing songs; and others who contribute are Harry Grey ("the Australian nugget"), Harry Clyst, and Johnnie Walker.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company is here with *The Enemy of Woman*. As the hero, Captain Jack Merritt, Mr. Stuart Lomath succeeds admirably in eliciting the sympathy of the audience; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Major Stevens is the very acme of polished villainy; Mr. Lancelot Usher, as Digby Trant, presents one of the cleverest character studies seen here for some time; Mr. Jack Miller renders good service as Richard Manley; Mr. Victor G. Payne makes the most of his opportunities as Watty Cooper; and a realistic representation of a bibulous wreck is provided by Mr. George Wells as William Gibbs. Miss Helena Walbran creates an excellent impression as the heroine, Marian Merritt; Miss Amy MacNeil as Beatrice Trant is good; Miss Ellen Owen does well in the light comedy part of Kitty Crumpet; and Miss Ethel F. Greene as Teddy and Miss Dorothy Booth as Frankie both act creditably.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Superbly staged, and of all-absorbing interest, the dramatic episode *A Society Woman*, presented by Mr. Alan Holt's company, rouses the audience to a high pitch of excitement. Jack Marks, described as the smallest and youngest of Hebrew comedians, makes a tremendous hit; something absolutely original in the comedian line is at last found in S. W. Wyndham, who causes the house to simply shriek with laughter; three fine specimens of humanity are found in the Romas, herculean equilibrists, who contribute an artistic performance; Fred Evans causes much amusement in his protean comedy skit "Dreaming"; immaculately dressed, Madge Osmond is a dashing male impersonator; and Eric Vaughan, light comedian, completes an excellent programme.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company give first-class representations of *A Pair of Spectacles*, *Our Boys*, and *Caste* this week, Mr. Arthur Hare playing Benjamin Goldfinch, Perkin Middlewick, and Eccles in his usual clever and impressive style. Miss Madge Monte plays Lucy Lorimer, Mary Melrose, and Polly Eccles; and other characters are admirably filled by Messrs. Maurice Denham, H. St. Barbe West, Guy Vivian, Walter A. James, and Miss Mary Williams.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The films are very good, and the varieties include the Frohmans, with musical turn, and Jack MacCormack, with Scotch and Tyneside songs.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—Lovers of Shakespeare are this week being exceptionally well catered for by Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and her talented company. *The Merchant of Venice* was selected for the opening night, and proved one of the best performances seen here. In the part of Shylock Mr. Frank Cellier displayed to a marked degree his unquestionable histrionic ability as an actor; Miss Glossop-Harris effectively utilised her gifts in the Casket and Court scenes, and was most delightful in the final act; as Antonio Mr. H. P. Owen showed a most admirable conception of the part. On Tuesday *Romeo and Juliet* was played to an appreciative audience; *Twelfth Night* and *Taming of the Shrew* were staged on Wednesday, the former at a matinée; *Othello* was produced on Thursday evening; whilst the attraction last evening was *Much Ado About Nothing*. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be given this afternoon; but to-night a departure is being made from Shakespeare, and *The Duke's Motto* is to be presented In addition to the talented artists mentioned above, others in a well-selected cast are J. H. Irving, Vernon O. Crabtree, Arthur Seaton, Jas. Mason, Owen Ediss, Frank Mayes, Walter Carr, Maurice Ingram, Eugene Wellesley, Vickers Smith, Ian Baggerly, McCameron, Mary Goulden, Madge Spencer, Eileen Terence, Kate Canterbury, and Rosie Campbell.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The Barrington Trio (Fred, Maude, and Mabel) top the bill this week, and provide ample amusement in a pretty garden scene; Maude Robbins is a dainty soubrette; and the pictures, still the main feature of the entertainment, include The Stepmother (an interesting drama), Custom Officers Mystified, A Fisherman's Home, The Lucky Pie (a highly laughable film), &c.

YNYSHIR. — Workmen's Hall. — Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth. —Very great success attends this well known picture palace. Up San Juan Hill is a stirring dramatic production; The Life of Moses is also another fine production; the comic pictures include Oh, Uncle! A Fair Exchange, The Best Man Wins, Father's Baby Boy, and Two Sisters.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J Dacre.—*When a Lass Loves*, a drama with sufficient sensation to satisfy all, is being excellently played by Mr. Tom Craven's company. No end of amusement is caused by Mr. Louis Palgrave, who appears with great success as Slack, the office boy. Miss Josephine Middleton as Constance Lane gives a convincing performance; Rita Trakelle as Cynthia Bridge and Bert Stephens as Dr. Craes have parts in which they do themselves full justice; and the remaining members of a very able company do well.

Opera House and Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Sanford and Lyons head the bill and give a neat entertainment; Ethel Ra-Leslie introduces a couple of well-selected songs, which go well; the Bros. Carpalli, on the bars, give a very neat turn; and Miss Maude May Murray introduces some picturesque electrical and aerial dances. The Three Erros, on the silver chains, give a smart turn; George Payne's Wanderers sing tunefully; and Les Trippellos are musicians of the first rank.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The Call, an excellent picture full of life, is very popular; and the Theft of Diamonds is an exciting detective story. The Smalleys give an amusing turn.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Excellent films include The Cloister's Touch and The Rival Guides. W. H. Downs sings as well as ever.

"PECK OF PECKHAM."

A Comedy Sketch, Produced for the First Time at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, April 11.

Peck	Mr. Tom Holly
Mrs. Peck	Miss Ellis
Mr. Dicky Bird	Mr. Harry Pastor
Mrs. Dicky Bird	Miss Dorothy Clifton
Miss Skimpitt	Miss Murdock
Policeman	Mr. Leonard May
Jack Battin	Mr. Leigh Green
Hinky Dink	Mr. Frank Irwin

Messrs. A. Voyce and R. Perris have secured a sketch containing many opportunities and an abundance of comic episodes and situations. The piece affords much scope for genuine comedy business, and was well received here on Monday. The story tells of the troubles of a Mr. Peck, who, under the pretext of burying his aunt, endeavours to seek a few days' excitement and relief from his iron-willed and nagging wife by going for a short time to enjoy the delights of Mixum-on-Sea.

He duly arrives at the boarding-house kept by one Miss Skimpitt, and although not expected, makes himself perfectly at home in his new quarters until he is informed that his wife has also just arrived. Then the excitement and trouble begin. To hide his identity he disguises himself as a woman; but, in spite of this, has much trouble to escape the watchful eye of Mrs. P. In the second scene, in his endeavour to find a means of once more adopting the trousers, he makes the acquaintance of a thief, who is dressed in a large check suit and a red waistcoat, the description being well known to the police. Peck's change of clothes leads to still further complications. However, everything ends well, except that at the conclusion Peck is discovered by his wife. This time, however, the husband is one too many for her, and bundles her into a balloon, which sails away bearing with it the cause of much trouble.

Mr. Tom Holly is responsible for much merriment as Peck, and raises many a hearty laugh by his drollery. The energetic Mrs. Peck is very ably represented by Miss Ellis, and the part of Mr. Dicky Bird is humorously played by Mr. Harry Pastor. Mrs. Dicky Bird is effectively presented by Miss Dorothy Clifton, who plays a small part well. Miss Murdoch gives a characteristic impersonation of the boarding-house keeper, Miss Skimpitt; and Mr. Leonard May is particularly droll as the policeman. Mr. Leigh Green gives capital support in the rôle of Jack Battin, and Mr. Frank Irwin scores a success as Hinky Dink.

The new act which the Brothers Poluski produced on Easter Monday at the Oxford is from the pen of William Hargreaves, and promises to be the best laughing hit they have had for a long time.

It is with regret that we inform the many friends of Miss Bertha De Pas that she had to undergo a serious operation for complicated appendicitis at her residence in Wokingham last Tuesday. Her medical advisers say she is progressing as well as can be expected.

Madame Rejane, now at the Hippodrome, paid a visit on Wednesday to the Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia. By a coincidence, the Dowager Lady Holmesley paid a visit to the crèche at the same hour, and the two ladies made a tour of examination in company. After the working of the crèche had been explained to Madame Réjane by the nurse in charge, the famous actress submitted to be photographed. She selected two chubby creatures to sit on her knee, and placed the others picturesquely around her, and waited with a smile for the flashlight.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The Fairs ahead till the end of the month are: Luton, on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, and Midland; Bedford, on the London and North-Western; Devizes, on the Great Western; Bishop Auckland, on the North-Eastern; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Wareham, on the London and South-Western; Warminster, on the Great Western; Bewdley, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Bracknell, on the London and South-Western; Crediton, on the London and South-Western; Hatfield, on the Great Northern; Horwich, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Iron Acton, on the Midland; Lincoln, on the Great Central, Midland, Great Northern, and Great Eastern; Axminster, on the London and South-Western; Barnoldswick, on the Midland; Guisborough, on the North-Eastern; Ware, on the Great Eastern; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; Horncastle, on the Great Northern; Holmes Chapel, on the London and North-Western; Knutsford, on the Midland and Cheshire lines; Longtown, on the Great Western; Newchurch, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Alton, on the London and South-Western; Cobham, on the London and South-Western; Lancaster, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Leigh (Dorset), on the Great Western; Newick, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Norton St. Phillip, on the Midland and London and South Western; Ollerton, on the Great Northern and Midland; Poole, on the London and South-Western; Stockport, on the London and North-Western, Great Central, Midland, Cheshire lines, Great Western, Great Northern, and Sheffield and Midland; Stonehouse, on the Great Western and Midland; Bridge of Allan, on the Caledonian; and Pontypool, on the London and North-Western and Great Western Railways.

The Alexandra Circus on Tour.

The original Alexandra Circus—of which Mr. D. Taylor, sen., is the popular proprietor—visited Carmarthen and the surrounding towns and villages this week, and has been well patronised, a splendid programme being presented each afternoon and evening. The Brothers Zeena, on the horizontal bars, gave a wonderful and amusing performance; Mr. John Yelding, in his character act on horseback, is really clever; Kurio, the contortionist and jointless man, gives a remarkable exhibition, and is truly described as "the doctors' puzzle"; Mlle. Hettie appears in an exciting bar- and gate-leaping act; "Sleepy George" gives an amusing interlude; Hyatt, in his juggling performance, is warmly received by the audience; the Lo-Lo and May Trio of gymnasts give pleasing and astonishing feats on the trapeze; J. Yelding gives a fine exhibition of bare-back riding; "Bess," the performing mare, keeps up her wonderful reputation, and reflects credit upon her trainer (Mr. J. Brains); Comic and Hairpin, clowns, create roars of laughter with their jokes and funniosities; Maccan's Irish terriers and leaping dogs are remarkably clever, and give a wonderful exhibition of leaping; the Brothers Attilla, "the strongest men on earth," give an extraordinary exhibition of their weight-lifting powers; the circus band, under the direction of Mr. M. Corbett, supplies splendid music. On Saturday the circus visited Newcastle-Emlyn; Monday, Cardigan; Tuesday, Letterstone; Wednesday, Fishguard; and Thursday, Haverfordwest. At Carmarthen on Friday evening, in an interval in the programme, very interesting presentations took place. Mr. David Taylor, the proprietor, stepped into the ring, and, addressing the audience, said that he had been asked by the members of the staff of the circus to present to Hairpin (Mr. David Taylor, jun.), on their behalf, a handsomely-fitted leather travelling-bag, on the occasion of his attaining his twenty-first birthday that day, with their best wishes for his future happiness and welfare. He (Mr. Taylor, jun.) was a thorough Welshman—(applause)—having been born at Cardiff; and the cordial relationship which existed between him and the staff was to be found embodied in the handsome present which they had handed him for presentation that evening. (Applause.) He had also a father's pleasure in handing him a gold watch and chain as a souvenir of his twenty-first birthday. (Loud applause, and "For he's a jolly good fellow" by the band.) Mr. David Taylor, jun., in a few well-chosen words, thanked them for their kindness in making him the presentations. Continuing its successful tour, the circus visited Kidwelly, and was welcomed by enthusiastic crowds of patrons.

Notes from Wales.

Messrs. Crecraft, after an absence of nearly twenty years, are at Haverfordwest, doing excellent business. Some very fine dramatic, pathetic, and comic pictures are shown to delighted audience. Among the first-class varieties, special mention is deserved by that clever couple of thought-readers, Ritsen and Mira; the questions they answer are marvellous. Mr. Frank Reynolds, in his funny, artistic sketches, is good; Lodge and Lewis, in song and clog dance, are well received; and the Sisters May and Madge contribute towards a first-class programme.

Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard are on a return visit at Bridgend with some of the latest in animated photography with gratifying results. Mr. Glover is an excellent describer of the various subjects, ably assisted by Mr. Jeffries in recitations, &c. The clever couple of comedians, Kent and Earl, receive a good reception.

The Italian Circus at Dundee.

The Kinnaird Hall has been admirably adapted for the purposes of the circus, and, judging by the enthusiasm of Monday's packed houses, Signor Volpi can confidently look forward to a very successful season. The wonderful results achieved in the training of the host of animals—dogs, ponies, monkeys, goats, zebras, and elephants reflect the utmost credit on Signor Volpi. The animals are all beautifully groomed, and cleanness and refinement are outstanding features of this wonderful entertainment. Another pleasing feature is the excellent comradeship existing between the trainer and his charges, which seem to thoroughly enjoy going through their performance. The monkey Fasolin performs with almost human intelligence on the flying trapeze; and Jumbo, Junior, the baby elephant, displays marvellous sagacity in his solo on the bells. Mme. Batavia, the bear, is delightfully funny; the fancy-dress ball, in which twelve dogs take part, causes great merriment; and a brilliant act is provided by eight thoroughbred Arabian ponies. Signors Trufelli and Cembrani also introduce several animals, which they have trained, with striking results. The circus is well supplied with clowns, the interludes by Bishop and Winkles being mirth-provoking beyond description, while Dan Gregory is an exceedingly clever eccentric musician. The pleasure of a visit to the circus is much enhanced by the musical programme provided by an excellent orchestra under the direction of Mr. R. Niblett.

Frank Bostock's Jungle and Arena.

Mr. F. C. Bostock's Jungle and Arena, at present showing in the Scottish Zoo at Glasgow, have proved so popular there that the season has been twice extended. They close down, however, this week, as arrangements have been made for appearing at the Brussels Exhibition this summer, and the extensive collection of animals must be shipped at once for Belgium.

Restoration of the Scottish Zoo.

Councillor E. H. Bostock, of Glasgow, has decided to reorganise his Scottish Zoo, and immediately the premises are vacated by his brother's Jungle and Arena a new collection of animals will be got together. The manner in which the Glasgow public have supported Mr. F. C. Bostock's entertainment proves that the loss of the Zoo collection has been felt very keenly by the populace, and the new venture is assured of a strong measure of support.

Sanger's Circus on Tour.

In its peregrinations round the country, Lord John Sanger and Sons' mammoth show paid another visit to Nottingham on Wednesday and Thursday last. Enormous crowds witnessed the unique performances of this great travelling combination, and special mention should be made of an act by Coleman and Co., introducing clever horses and elephants; the Austins, in their smart bareback riding; the Maro Troupe of acrobats; La Belle Fondants, in a wire act; the Zampos, extraordinary feats in somersaults; a highly-trained horse by Miss Lena; and Hoffman's pony, Marvel; the little Teddy Bear, and an eccentric clown, and an incident in the Zulu War, in which a number of warriors are introduced. The usual parade took place each day, and the fine collection of wild animals proved a source of great delight.

Wrexham Fair.

An extraordinary array of amusements great and small are located at Wrexham this week. The bare enumeration is sufficient to indicate what we mean: Five large steam or electrically-driven roundabout machines; two immense cinematograph theatres; for the first three days, Sedgwick's wild beast menagerie, boxing saloon, and photo vans; Booth's sideshows, freak shows, shooting ranges and tubes, and long avenues of throwing games, houp-las, and circular and square pannum and toy stalls. The supply we very much fear was in excess of the demand, the population of Wrexham not being large enough in our judgment to demand so great a crowd of show novelties.

The principal shows were Mrs. Flora Collins's Wonderland cinematograph palace, George Green's colossal Temple of Light with animated pictures, Sedgwick's famous menagerie (for three days' visit only), Harry Hughes with school of boxers and athletes, J. R. Style's midget marvel, the perfect miniature gentleman (a great novelty in a ci setting), P. R. Collins's steam yachts and motor switchback, Relph and Pedley's two superb sets the racing motors and the Japanese airship, or wheeling the whirl, P. Collins's galloping horses, and sets of gem horses by Cordwell and Turner. Caddick's photo van was on its accustomed site, and Fossett's photo saloon and various side-show attractions complete the list of novelties other than stalls and throwing games. The splendid array of shooting galleries were headed by the well-known concerns of Fossett, Wright, and Turner; throwing games, houp-las, and stalls by Messrs. Caddick, jun., Hart, Cordwell, Turner, Salisbury, Simon, Greatorex, Hall, Wilson, and other caterers.

Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union.

An important meeting of the Union is advertised for Wednesday next, the 20th inst., at the Manchester headquarters. Members attending Hull Fair are urgently requested to attend.

"As Good as a Holiday."

Last Saturday the *Daily Chronicle* printed an excellent article on "The Picture Palaces of London." The writer is of opinion that a visit to a picture theatre "gives the tired sightseer an hour's respite from the noise and fatigue of the streets, and in some cases it dangles the tempting bait of 'afternoon tea gratis' before this type of prospective patron. To the regular theatre it stands in the same relationship as a 'snack' does to a formal luncheon. It is the resource of the man with only an hour to spare, the lady who doesn't like to be out late, the girl whose papa doesn't approve of theatres, the little boy who must be in bed at six, the hospital nurse who has only two hours off duty, and the family party from the provinces whose train starts at ten sharp." Then as regards the pictures the writer says:—"Most successful of all are the travel pictures, where scenery is absolutely realistic and the sense of motion admirably conveyed. No 'book of views,' however beautiful, can fascinate as this moving panorama does. It is as good as a holiday—and somewhat cheaper! Have the picture shows come to stay? Yes; they have filled a gap."

(*For Film Gossip, see page* 32.)

RHYL! RHYL!! RHYL!!!

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENTS.

RHYL AMUSEMENTS, Ltd., have taken a long lease from the District Council of the **Marine Lake** (over 40 acres of water) and **Pleasure Grounds** surrounding, for the purpose of laying out the whole as a **Pleasure Park.** Arrangements have already been made for a **Water Chute** and a number of other Successful Amusement devices. The Proprietors are prepared to LET SITES for any kind of

OUTSIDE AMUSEMENT (Marine or Otherwise), SIDE SHOWS, NOVELTIES, &c.

As all the larger Shows will be built over the Lake itself, the Illuminations will be made a Special Feature, and will be in themselves unique.

REGATTAS, GALAS, FIREWORK DISPLAYS and WATER CARNIVALS

will be given by the Proprietors on suitable occasions during the Season.

RHYL is a most Popular Resort, and is easily accessible from the Industrial Districts of the North and Midlands by Rail and Sea, being the first of the Famous North Wales Watering Places on the L. & N.W. Main Line.

Apply to the Secretary — **JAMES LUCAS, 26, Birley Street, BLACKPOOL.**

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT WREXHAM FAIR.

For three years past the organising chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, has held a conference with the prominent showmen and amusement caterers on the North Cheshire and Welsh Border Rounds, at Wrexham Fair.

This has served the useful purpose of bringing before an important body of showpeople the work of trade defence, so ably carried on by the Showmen's Guild. It has, in addition, served the equally useful purpose of bringing before public authorities and the public in general the important truth that showpeople as a body are deserving of much better treatment than has hitherto been their lot to receive.

For example, three years ago, it was regarded as a great discovery by the good people of Wrexham that the showmen were combined together for mutual help and protection, and that, in order to further the work, they had a trade society and an educational and religious work of great importance entirely maintained by the showpeople themselves.

The advent of the organising chaplain to conduct meetings and to preach at Guild services was an event of great interest and considerable surprise to the people of Wrexham.

The general effect of this part of the Guild work has been to uplift the show business in public esteem, and to secure for it greater liberty and recognition.

The Sunday Conference of Guildsmen.

Owing to the great pressure of business engagements in the Midlands, the president of the Guild, Mr. Patrick Collins, was not able to be present at the Sunday conference. Mr. Patrick Ross Collins was voted to the chair, and, as upon former occasions, proved himself, by his opening remarks, a capable and most worthy chairman.

Amongst the prominent showmen were Mr. Joe Caddick, Mr. John Fossett, Mr. J. Greatorex, Mr. J. Turner, Mr. J. R. Styles, Mr. C. Shaw, Mr. Kelly, Mr. G. Carter, Mr. A. Taylor, J. Caddick, jun., Mr. F. J. Green, Mr. J. Jones, Mr. J. Cordwell, Mr. J. Humphries, Mr. T. Relph, Mr. J. Symons, Mr. J. Clarke, and a large number of the employees and the small traders attending the fair.

Mr. P. R. Collins, in introducing Mr. Horne to the meeting, said that the Guild chaplain had made the journey expressly to put before that meeting the important work undertaken by the Guild. It was impossible to exaggerate the value of that work, and it could not be too well known that at every point of attack the Showmen's Guild stood as the defender of the many interests of the show business. Whether in Parliament, or in dealing with corporations, or in the necessary work of educating public opinion, the Showmen's Guild was a great power for good.

He was confident that that conference would derive great profit from what their chaplain had come to speak about, and it was with the greatest pleasure that he asked the rev. gentleman to address the meeting.

Vigorous Speech by the Organising Chaplain.

Mr. Horne, in his opening remarks, congratulated the showmen of Great Britain upon the great forward movement which the Guild had made during the past few years. Twenty years ago, the very thought of what they were able to do to-day with comparative ease would have been regarded as a Utopian dream.

He referred at considerable length to the fight for Mitcham Fair. His point in referring to this victory of the Guild was to show that, having achieved the honour of sending two representatives to the Parish Council of Mitcham, it might be necessary, at no very distant date, to make still greater enterprises, and to secure representation upon some of the great Borough Councils where difficulties might arise with regard to the show business.

He even went further, and said that under the stress of circumstances of a possibly adverse character, it might be necessary in the future for showmen like the other great organised industries of the country, to have direct representation in Parliament.

Veterans in the movement, like Mr. Caddick Mr. Fossett, and himself, might not see that vision fulfilled, but when he saw around him, as he did that day, the coming men of their movement—when they had so able a son of a celebrated father as their chairman that day to preside over their conference, and men like Joe Caddick, jun., James Styles, Fred Green, and others, worthy disciples of the Guild, to carry on its work and to maintain its power—he did not feel at all alarmed either about the stability of their movement or its possible adventures in the Imperial Parliament in days to come.

Recent Victories of the Guild.

He claimed that the return of two representatives of the Showmen's Guild on the Parish Council of Mitcham was a forward step of the greatest value and importance. The Showmen's Guild had made every effort during the past four years to bring about a just settlement of the fair-grounds dispute at Mitcham.

The last weapon left to the organised showmen was to make their power felt at the municipal election. As this election only happened once in three years, it was of vital moment that the action taken by the Guild should be decisive, practical, and effective.

The position at Mitcham now was that whenever the question of the fair arose at the Parish Council or in negotiations between the Parish Council and the Board of Conservators controlling the common lands, there would be always two representatives on the local governing body who would be able to speak with knowledge and authority for the showmen and for the fair rights of the people of Mitcham.

These two important interests had hitherto received but scant attention. They had been voiceless in the past, but in the future their claims would be championed with no uncertain voice.

It had been often asked at conferences of the Guild by showmen who took a very narrow view of life, or a very selfish one of the show business, what good could come to showpeople in the provinces by fighting the battles of showmen in and around London?

He asked them to consider what would be the immediate effect if the London fairs, or the southern county fairs were squeezed out of existence by the local authorities. There would be this inevitable effect: the south country showmen would be driven to the Midlands, the Northern Counties, on to the Welsh and West of England rounds, and the fight for a living on the fairgrounds would be intensified by the increased competition which the southern invasion would bring with it.

To the narrow-minded showman, and to that class of mind, he submitted that argument. But to the broad-minded, large-hearted, and far-seeing Brotherhood of the Road, he made no such narrow appeal. He claimed that when the Guild was defending a fair in any particular part of the country the local circumstances were but a small part of the interest involved, and that every fair saved was a security to every other fair throughout the United Kingdom.

They had won a notable victory at Mitcham, and their fight for Mitcham had had wide-reaching effects. Just before Christmas, he said, three other London suburban fairs were threatened with extinction—Hounslow Fair, Isleworth Fair, and the May Day fair at Heston Green.

The Guild had prevented the abolition of these three fairs. He was confident that their success in preventing the extinction of these three fairs was largely owing to the brave fight they had made at Mitcham.

The Home Secretary, in his answer to the petitioners who wished to abolish these fairs, said that he had made inquires; that he saw no reason why the people's fairs should be taken away from them.

It was the work of the Guild to take care whenever a fair was threatened to petition against it being extinguished, and to supply the information that would satisfy the Home Secretary that the people still wanted their fair.

The Importance of Saving the London Fairs.

He asked his hearers to consider the tremendous growth of London. A population equal to that of a moderate provincial city was added to London every year. Great London Town was spreading out and absorbing the small towns and villages in its onward march. In a very few years the towns like those he had already named would be swallowed up in the onward march of great London.

To his mind it became increasingly necessary—and in this view he was far from being alone—that these old charter fairs should be saved in order that the people of the future might have the wholesome and healthy open-air amusement that modern fairs provided.

To many who, like himself, regarded this question from the higher ground of public service, it was of the utmost importance that in years to come these old charter fairs should remain to bless the toilers and to give some little cessation from the labour of their lives, that they might be let free for a while to have some little enjoyment of life.

The old charters secured not only the right to hold the fair, but the equally important right of the people to claim a holiday whilst the fair lasted.

The second victory this year of the Guild Executive Council was the dropping out of the Handsworth Corporation Bill of the penal clauses against the show business.

When Parliament met this year, only two Corporation Bills contained clauses that threatened the interests of the fairground. Heywood wanted extraordinary powers over cinematograph exhibitions—in fact, a Cinematograph Act of its own.

When the Guild pointed out to the Heywood Corporation that every provision for public safety was secured by the general Act of Parliament under which cinematograph shows were fully controlled and licensed, the Corporation withdrew the objectionable clauses and the matter came to a speedy end. It was not so with the Handsworth Corporation. What that Council sought was power to stop entirely the show business within their boundaries. All the worst features of previous ill-considered attempts to penalise the travelling showman were embodied in the Handsworth Bill. Negotiations with a view to a settlement were at once opened up with the authorities at Handsworth, and with some promise of success. However, the Guild, in order to secure a hearing against the measure, had to send a petition against it, and set to work to prepare the case for the showmen. In these cases the way to secure peace is to be ready for war. Everything was in readiness. The legal advisers of the Corporation must have prevailed with that body for only that week the Guild had received the welcome news that the clauses objected to by the showmen would be dropped out of the Bill. This constituted the end of the Guild's Parliamentary defence work for the present year. It was a notable victory, and one that he was proud to be able to tell that meeting.

The General Work of the Guild.

The signal victories at Mitcham and at Handsworth were but significant incidents in the increasingly important work of the Guild. Local bylaws, private bill legislation, the vindication of show life in the public press, the education of a just public opinion with regard to the people's fairs and holidays; in fact, the whole range of their work had this end in view—the uplifting and the betterment of the showman's business and avocation in life. He confidently appealed to them to support the Guild, and to make it more and more fitted for its necessary and important work.

Mr. James R. Styles, in eloquent terms, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne. He referred to the great work Mr. Horne had done for the whole body of showmen. A recent writer on current events had said: "Here is a great emergency. Where is the man to undertake it and to rightly lead the people." With showmen he averred there were no such difficulties. However great the emergency, they had the man to meet it. He regarded their Organising Chaplain as their leader and their friend, their advocate and counsellor for every difficulty that beset their life. It was a pleasure to him and an honour to work with the leaders of the movement. He moved, with great gratification, the best thanks of the conference to their Chaplain for his able address. The motion was seconded by Mr. C. Shaw and carried by acclamation.

A like compliment was paid to the Chairman and the conference closed.

The following subscriptions were taken at the gathering, and subsequently a number of new members were enrolled: P. R. Collins, 5s.; J. Caddick, jun., 5s.; F. J. Green, 5s.; J. R. Styles 5s.; G. Carter, 2s. 6d.; C. Shaw, 2s.; J. Jones, 1s.; J. Clark, 1s.; A. Taylor, 1s.; J. Cordwell, jun., 1s.

Members Enrolled, 1910.

Messrs. Relph and Pedley, £1 1s.; Mr. T. Teague, 10s.; Mr. Cordwell, 10s.; Mr. James Turner 10s.; J. Greatorex, 5s.; J. Simons, 5s.

Guild Service at Night.

The usual evening meeting of the Guild took place in Collins's Wonderland Theatre; the congregation was a large one, and deeply interested in the service. Assisting the Guild chaplain were the Church Mission Band and Choir, led by Capt. and Mrs. Codling, of the Wrexham Branch of the Church Army. Three of the Parish Church clergy were present, and the Rev. T. Horne conducted the service and preached.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Mitchell:—Messrs. A. Julius, 5s.; T. Forshaw, 5s.; E. Brennan, 5s.; G. Bradley, 5s.; R. Layland, 5s.; Hughes and Marten, 5s.; C. White, 5s.; and Mrs. M. Thomas, 5s. Per Mr. Shuttleworth:—Mr. John Cottam, 5s.

THE

LAW OF COPYRIGHT

IN

KINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES.

BY

WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s

The Offices of "The Era" are "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
June 6, 13.
Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
May 2, 16, 23, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Feb. 27, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
May 16, 30, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, 15, Oct. 17, 24, 31, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Xmas, two weeks.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Reading, May 2, 16; Huddersfield, May 16.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, April 25, May 2, 16, 30, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Bookings include "The Arcadians," "Catch of the Season," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Flag Lieutenant," "The Dairymaids."
The Very Best Companies Only Entertained.
Vacant May 2 16, 23, 30, June 6, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
April 25, May 2, 9, 16, onwards.
Address: E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 25 and May 2.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
May 23, July 11, 18, Aug. 22.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
July 11.
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
May 9, 23, 30.
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
Vacant April 25, May 23, 30, Aug. 4.
Pareezer, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for May 9 and 30.
Wire immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 27 and July 11.
June 27 and July 11.
To play twice nightly.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted.
First-class Attractions,
Autumn, 1910,
Autumn, 1910,
Autumn, 1910,
Sept. 5, onwards.
Must be really good Companies.
Resident Orchestra of fourteen. Every convenience to ensure satisfaction.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Good and Sensational Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and printing, May 9, onwards, twice nightly. Particulars and lowest terms. Share or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes, Palace Theatre, Derby.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre.
May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
May 26 (3 nights), July 18, Aug. 22.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
May 30, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for April 25, May 2, 16, 23, onwards, including several first-class full season dates for No. 1 attractions.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic Attractions for May 23, June 6 and 20, July 4 and 18.
Apply, Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, April 25, owing to misunderstanding.
Address, Rich Waldon.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Aug. 1, 8.
Address, Rich Waldon.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must Play Twice Nightly.
Vacant Dates Summer and Autumn.
Apply,
Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant June 20, July 4, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in May, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.
"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST,
May 9, May 30.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
May 23, June 6.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
May 16, 30, June 13.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
May 9, 30, June 13 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
June 6, June 16 (3 nights).
Apply, F. Mouillot,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
KIRKCALDY, April 25,
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.
Wire or write, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Big No. 1 Attractions (Musical preferred),
Vacant April 25,
April 25, May 2, 23, 30,
to follow "Dairymaids," "White Man," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Merry Widow," "Flag Lieutenant," &c.
Address, Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 9, 10, 11,
May 30, 31, June 1.
Apply, William Peacock.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, June 23, Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Address, Wm. Morton.

ALEXANDER THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, May 30, Strong Dramatic Attraction.
Address, Wm. Morton.

WANTED, Special Attraction, May 9.
Fredericks, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
April 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
May 9 and 23.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 2 (or three nights, May 5, Musical Festival week), July 11, and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt, enlarged, holding £100 at ordinary prices.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Whit week, Musical Comedy preferred; also vacant June 20, 23, 30, and one or two later dates. All communications to C. Adolf Seebold, as above.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for Ap. 25, May 5 (3 nights), May 9, 12 (three nights each), May 26 and 30.
Flying Matinées easily arranged from Eastbourne, Brighton, or Tunbridge Wells.
Address, Manager.

WANTED, Something Good, May 9, 16, Aug. 1, 8, on, Grand, Radcliffe; also May 16 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, on, Grand, Chorley.
Sante, Radcliffe.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge,
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that draws the Smart Audience.
Now Booking Autumn.
WANTED, London Successes, for first vacant date Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, May 9.
Apply, Sherwood and Co.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Durie.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, April 25.

WANTED, Good Dramas, for Stock Season (North).
Edmund Tearle, Hippodrome, Todmorden.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company,
May 9.
May 9.
May 9.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE,
ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 23.
Jos. B. Ormerod.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
WANTED, First-class Companies (not Drama), May 19, 20, 21, all June, July 28, 29, 30, Aug. 11, 12, 13 (?), Sept. 19 (week), Sept. 25 (week).
Visit of Iron and Steel Institute, 1,000 to 1,500 delegates. Apply, Arthur Willoughby.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
A better Date than many that are called Good.
WANTED, Big Dramas, Musical Comedy, or Big Star Variety Combination, May 9, and Whit. Only the best entertained. All coms., Scottie, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Companies of Power and Attraction, Musical or Dramatic, for May 2, 9, and 30, May 2, 9, and 30 (through transfer), and various, onwards.
A. C. Moody, Lessee and Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19 (?), Oct. 10.
Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3 (?), Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (?), 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant May 2 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

WANTED, a First-class Company, May 2, for Theatre Royal, Leamington.
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 9, Whit Week (?), 23, 30, June, onwards, with exceptions.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for May 30 (?), June 27, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, June 13, June 20, Dec. 19.
William Coutts,
Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 9, 16 (Whit week, and big Holiday Date), 23, and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug., onwards.
Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, May 9 and 16.
Vacant through obliging.
Also 23rd and 30th, and a few later dates.
Apply, C. Trenchard, Theatre, Pontypridd.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 2, 16, and 30.
Apply, James Kiernan.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. Catlin, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

WANTED, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, First class Companies, May 2, onwards.
Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, MEXBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 2 and 9.
Address, W. H. Melton.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, on. First-class Companies, nothing too big. Electric light installed and stage enlarged. Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, good Company, May 16, Ton-y-Pandy. Lowest certainty. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER, DEAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Vacant April 28, May 12, July 7 (last 3 nights of each week). Apply Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Exeter, good Drama that can be played twice nightly, April 25. Wire, Managing-Director, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 9, 16, June 20, 27 (?), July 4, 11.
Aug. 1, 8, 15, on.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, April 25, May 9, 16, and Autumn. Bookings:
"Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Add., James P. Moore, King's Hall, B'ham

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 21, Aug. 4 and 11, Sept. 19.
Address, The Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, June 13, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, April 25, May 9, 16, June 6, 20, on. Alfred Manners.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, May 2, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 30, June 6,
Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 19,
Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 12.
Address, J. F. Elliston.

WANTED, Companies, vacant April 25, May 2, 9, Theatre Royal, Margate. Apply, Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Felix Hall, Felixstowe, will seat 800; rent or share. Apply, Girling, Estate Agent, Felixstowe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, G. M. Polini, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
THEATRE ROYAL,
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.
LEIGH, LANCS.

Sole Lessees, Sydney Tolfree and Harry Slingsby.

Under entirely new Management.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, This theatre has now been thoroughly decorated and upholstered throughout, and compares favourably with any in the Provinces.

For the week after Easter the following business with Miss Florence Baines' Company, "Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," is worth consideration from Touring Managers:—
Final returns for week ending April 9, 1910.

	£	s.	d.
Monday	21	10	1
Tuesday	33	15	9
Wednesday	38	9	5
Thursday	38	16	3
Friday	35	19	11
Saturday	68	3	3
	236	14	8

Refer S. R. Squires, Esq., Manager for Miss Baines. Vacant May 23 (?), 30, June 6 (?), 20 (?), 27 (?).

No Booking Autumn and Spring.

First-class Attractions only entertained.

Apply,
Sydney Tolfree, Theatre Royal, Leigh.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following Dates:
April 25, Fulham.
Whit Week, Kennington.
Whit Week, Newcastle.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

JERSEY AND GUERNSEY THEATRES.
WANTED, Musical and No. 1 Attractions, July 4, Sept. 5 and 12.
All excellent Season Dates.
Bookings include "The Arcadians," "The Merry Widow," "Girls of Gottenberg," "Hook of Holland," "The Gay Gordons," "Smith," &c., &c.
Edward Marris, 1, Douglas-house, Maida Hill, W.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20 27.
Apply, Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, Companies, weeks, odd nights, Flying Matinées. Address, Daniel and Franks, Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c. Vacant dates, May 2, 9, June 13, 20, 27, July 18, Aug. 4, 5, 8, onwards. Apply, J. H. Rowe, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Hanley, First class Attraction, for Whit Week, May 16.
Apply,
Chas. Elphinstone.

ROYAL THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, TORQUAY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 9 and 23.
July 11 and 18.
Wire or write, A. Pearse.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 20.
July 4, 11, 18.
Enormous Success of Twice Nightly System.
Wire, James Bell.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.
Lessee and Manager, Philip A. Lennon.
WANTED, First-class Theatrical Companies, for the Only Vacant Season Dates, three nights each and Comedy preferred, July 4, 7, 11, 14, Aug. 1, 4, 8, 11, 18, 24, Sept. 12 and 15.
The following are booked: "Cingalee," "The Follies," from the Apollo, "Charley's Aunt," Nellie Ganthony and Party, "The Gaieties," "Will o' the Wisps," Randall's "Middies and Maids," "The Euterpeans," "Les Vivandieres."

WANTED, Companies, now and on; also Big Attraction for Whit Week.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, good Attractions, for Whit Week, May 16, 23, 30, July 11, 18, 28, September, onwards. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, May 2, 9, 16.
A. D. Vernon.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, Nov. 28,
Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood." 30 Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30.
Douglas Bruce.
"Norwood," 30, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
"CINDERELLA." Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"RED RIDING HOOD." Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on.
Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly.
All particulars, Andie Caine, Filey, Yorks.

WANTED, for "Pair of Spectacles," or Repertory, May 2 and 9. Russell Rossi, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1 (?), 8, 29, on.
Big Company. Full Chorus.
Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery; new plant of printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Stockport.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this
Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
Eleventh year of Continuous Tour.
Once or twice nightly.
MR. JAMES SALTER
as
SILAS CRUMP.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
July 28 (three nights),
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 22.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
April 18, Pier Pavilion, New Brighton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, May 2, May 2, May 2, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21.
Address Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Good Theatre, 3 Nights, Aug. 11, 12, 13, to follow Llandudno, and Aug. 15, 6 nights.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, for "MISS TOMMY,"
Comedy-Drama, in 3 Acts, by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss Annie Hughes as Tommy.
Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

MR. C. W. STANDING'S CO.
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, May 23 (South), and June dates.
Sydney T. Palfrey,
This, O. H., Blackpool; next, Grand, W. Hartlepool.

MESSRS. HAMILTON AND LOCKE'S CO.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, May 30 (to follow Alexandra, Birmingham), June 6 (?), June 6 (?), June 6 (?), June 20 (to precede Palace, Newcastle), July 4 (between Newcastle and Hull), Aug. 1 (?), 15, Oct. 10, 17, on.
Add., Charles Locke, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 24, 31 (between London and Sheffield), Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Refer, Percy Broadhead, Esq.
All coms., Geo A. De Gray, Metropole T., Manchester; next, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

FRANK M. THORNE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31, and Nov. 14 and 21.
"THE WOMAN PAYS."
Frank M. Thorne,
71, Blackburn-street, Blackburn.

MR. GEORGE D. DAY'S NO. 1 CO.,
"THE PRODIGAL SON,"
By Hall Caine.
WANTED, Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24.
George D. Day,
3, Bedford-street, W.C.

"THE PIN AND THE PUDDING,"
by Barton White.
Direct from the Comedy Theatre, London.
Mr. Harry Bristow and First-class London Company, including Miss Pearl Noyle as Tamsie.
General-Manager, Mr. Percy Wentworth.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 13, 20, 27, various, July and August. Address all coms., Harry Bristow, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatres only, May 2, 16.
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Miss Sheila Walsh at Mary Barnard.
The Greatest of all Domestic Plays.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Crown Theatre, Eccles.
Next week, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, May 30, June 27, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
Frank Yearsley, Coronet Theatre, London.

WANTED, good Theatres, July 4 and 11, for "Her Fatal Past." Splendid production; strong Co. Address, T. E. Ward, Met., Manchester.

WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, and Xmas. "His Real Wife." Enormous Success. Address, T. E. Ward, Met., Manchester.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 12, 26, onwards, with exceptions.
REPERTOIRE CO.
Vacant Sept 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, and 28.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Feb., 1911, onwards.
Apply at once to Charles Draycott, T. R., Barnsley.

ARTHUR LEE-MITCHELL'S TOUR.
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."
Huge Success at Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.
Hundreds turned away. Refer management.
WANTED, Theatres; now Booking for Autumn. April 18, Gaiety, Ayr; April 25, Lyceum, Govan.

NEVILLE CLAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
WANTED, good Dates May 2 (week), onwards, with exceptions. Full Cast and Chorus.
Apply, Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 25, May 2, to precede Palace, Newcastle.
Horace Stanley.
Muncaster, Bootle. Next, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

ROBERT HEWLAND'S COMPANY.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, May 16 (?), to follow Met., Devonport, May 23, and various, onwards.
Walter J. Horne, Empire T., Cradley Heath.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS., "THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD,"
from Wyndham's Theatre.
WANTED, May 23, only Vacancy.
Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S CO'S.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, 17. Lyceum T., Ipswich.

Miss NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO.
"NOT BEFORE THE MISSUS."
By Cayley Calvert and J. Willoughby Woodward.
The Funniest Farcical Comedy ever written.
WANTED, April 25 (to follow Leamington). May 2, 9, 23 (to follow Douglas), 30, and onward. Wire, William Hollis, Globe Theatre, Deal, to-day; then, T. R., Leamington.

WENTWORTH CROKE'S CO. in
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Complete production.
WANTED, Theatres, May 16, 23, and June 6.
Apply, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, Lancs or Yorks.
Edward Lloyd, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Splendid Business at Hippo., Salford.
Played to Holding Capacity
Last Week.
June 20 (?), July 4, 11, Sept. 26, Oct. 10.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
Magnificent week at Alex., Hull.
Refer Wm. Morton, Esq.
May 9 (?), June 6, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
Big business at Royal, Bristol, last week.
Refer Mr. Alty.
May 9, June 6 (?), July 4, Sept. 19, 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Production,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Aug. 22.
Sept 5(?), 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 26, March 6.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW PLAY
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Grand Autumn Production.
Oct. 31. Date settled.
Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW PLAY
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
1911. Spring Production. 1911.
Date settled.
T. R., Belfast.
Vacant Feb. 6, 27, on.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.
Fit-up rights for disposal.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Let to Messrs. Leonard and Fox.
Managers requiring plays
apply
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Always Merry and Bright.
WANTED, June 6 and 13.
Dickie Clare, Pavilion, Weymouth.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, good Theatres, June, onwards. John Power and Robt. Faulkner, T. R., Aston.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, July 25,
August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12,
Xmas, Xmas, Xmas,
Jan. 2, 9, and various Spring, 1911, including Easter.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Everything carried. Refer B. Parcezer, Esq., Ben Court, Esq., &c.
Arthur Hinton, to-day, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.; Monday, T. R., Woolwich.

WANTED, June 6, June 6, June 20, June 20,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE."
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Hallijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
April 18, Queen's, Dublin.
Wire, wire, wire for June 6.
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant June 20, 27, July 4, and on, with exceptions.

WILSON BENGE'S TOURS.
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 7.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING,"
Vacant, May 23, May 23.
Vacant, Aug. 1, Aug. 1.
Letters, Elephant and Castle Theatre.

WANTED, through Theatre changing to Variety,
May 16,
for
ALLAN WILKIE
and Company of Thirty-five Artists, in Shakespearean and Standard Plays.
Each Play a complete Production.
Address, Albert Cavanah,
April 18, Theatre Royal, Bury.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, May 2 (to follow Gloucester), May 16 (follow Grimsby).
Either or both Plays.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire,
Lois Esmond, to-day, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
April 18, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," June 6, 20, July 4, 18, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12. Haldane Crichton. Bordesley Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. BRANDON THOMAS'S CO.,
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Vacant Dates, as follows:
Aug. 15 (through transferring),
Aug. 22 (three nights),
Oct. 24, 31,
Nov. 7, 14.
Address, Cecil Barth Opera House, Leicester.

WANTED, Wyndham's Theatre Comedy, "The Best People," April 28, May 9 (week), 23 (5), Lancs. or Yorks. Apply, Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, A few Autumn Dates Still Open.
Address, Chas. Gibbon, T. R., Chesterfield.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Aug. 22, 29.
Managers see this Play next week at Hammersmith; judge for yourselves. You will see it is one of the finest Shows on the road to-day. Fast Booking Autumn and Spring. Special Cast.
F. G. Kimberley, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.
Fit-up Rights to Let or Sell.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."

WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
April 25.
April 25.
Wire, wire, wire.
Also Vacant Whit week,
Also Vacant Whit week,
May 23, June 6, 13, 27, onwards.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."

Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
May 2,
May 2.
Also Vacant Whit week,
Also Vacant Whit week,

Managers with Vacant Summer Dates communicate.

"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."

Wanted, for this Novel Domestic Drama,
May 9
May 9
(between Ashton and Swansea),
also Summer Dates.

Re Dates, FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, care of "Pagoda, Liverpool."

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production July 18, Junction Theatre, Manchester.
London Production, Aug. 1, T. R., Stratford.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19,
Oct. 3, 10, 31,
and Dec. 26.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 10.
Oct. 10, Xmas.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

Fifteenth Consecutive Year of Tour.
Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Fairy Play.
Mirth. Music. Beauty. Romance.
The Magnificent Stage Settings
and
Picturesque Costumes
commented on in every town visited.
WANTED, May 30 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Only Vacant Date this Year.
Grand T., Lancaster.
April 18, six nights.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 12, 19,
Oct. 17,
Dec. 26, and on.
Possibly May 23, 30.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

MISS MARY NEIL.

"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 5 (?), and 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
GEO. KIRK,
55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, May 9, through Theatre closing, June 20, Aug. 8, only vacant dates until late Autumn; doing splendid business; refer J. Ormerod, Esq., this week, Accrington, worst night Monday; can be seen next week, T. R., Bolton; special cast, including Miss Laura Walker.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, May 2, 9 (to follow Palace, Bordesley, and precede Star, Liverpool), the old favourite drawing money still.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, May 9, 16, onwards, through extension of Tour. Special Band to parade. Refer re play and business this week, Lyric, Hammersmith.
Managers needing strong Holiday Attraction wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Rotherham; next, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO., with the new Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
By Russell Vaun (part author of "The Great Awakening.")

Solid Cast of Dramatic Artists.
Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank Ayrton,
David Curtis. Arthur Trail,
Madge Seymour, Anna Beaumont, Olga Kay,
and
Norman A. Overton.

Only vacant Spring Date, May 16, wire for May 16. follow T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 15 and 22, Sept. 5, 19, Nov. 21 (South, follow Ramsgate), Dec. 26 (precede Star, Swansea).
All coms.,
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Another Great Success this week at Pontypridd. Tuesday's house equal to Monday's.
Manager expects another big week.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1, 8, 29, follow the Broadhead Tour; Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 10, follow Barnsley. OSWALD CRAY, Pavilion T., Abertillery.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR.
"A FAST LIFE."
The Great Drama that is beating the big money-makers every week.
WANTED, June 27, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 19, Dec. 5.
WALTER STEELE, Paisley T., Paisley.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "CINDERELLA," "FORTY THIEVES," "ALADDIN," "BO-PEEP," "CRUSOE," "WHITTINGTON," or would let same on royalty. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL MUSICAL COMEDY.
The best and brightest Show on the road.
"ANDROCLES AND THE DANDY LION."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, April 25 (?), May 9 (?) and Whit Week, and a few Autumn Dates. Thirty Artists; all Special Scenery; unlimited Printing; can play twice nightly if desired. All coms. relating to this big Production, or Scottie's Colossal Variety Combine, address for week commencing 18th, SCOTTIE, Prince's T., Blackburn.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Music Halls, for J. GAR KIDDIE'S
"LITTLE BO-PEEP" COMPANY,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30, also Feb. 6, 13, and 20.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
Vacant Feb. 6, 13, and 20 only.
Thanks many Managers for Offers.
Write, J. GAR KIDDIE,
Victoria-chambers, Widnes.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON
in a Triple Bill of One-act Playlets.
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY,"
by
Mrs. Richard Pole,
CISSIE LAWSON as FAY FABER.

The Episode of Illusion.
"THE WOMAN AND THE APPLE,"
by Mrs. Richard Pole.
CISSIE LAWSON as SILVESTER VALMORE (La Volense);

and a Phantasy of the Hackney-road, E.,
"THE BRIDE FOR A LIVING."
by J. J. Spencer Sutcliffe;
CISSIE LAWSON as
"THE VIRAGO."

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
May 23 (?), 30;
June 13, 20, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 22, 29.

The Original and Special Scenery carried for each Production.

Communications,
V. C. NEWMAN,
49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

Wires, "Theaterban, London."
'Phone, 1292 Hop.

MR. CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."

WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with exceptionally strong Cast, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, the Flower Girl.
Wanted, Sept. 5 (follow Metropole, Glasgow), Oct. 17 (precede Lyric, Hammersmith, return), Nov. 14 (follow Queen's, Manchester, return).

"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
The Successful Farcical Comedy, from the CRITERION THEATRE.

For the Title-rôle in this piece Mr. Gibbon is presenting a
TINY MITE
who will create a
SENSATION.

Wanted, June 20, July 11 (precede Eastbourne), and on, with exceptions.

For both the above address,
Mr. CHARLES GIBBON, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
a Musical Farce in Two Acts.

North Co., including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as
"OUR MARY ELLEN."
Vacant June 13, June 13, June 13,
Between Hull and Yarmouth.
and various Autumn.

South Co.,
Spring Tour Complete
Vacant,
July 4, 11, Aug. 8,
and various Autumn.
In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."

Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, April 25 (?), May 2, 16 (Whit), June 6, on, with exceptions. "The King of Mystonia," the New Musical Absurdity. Everything carried. 30 Artists. LESLIE STANLEY, Empire, Fleetwood.

ARTISTS WANTED.

STAGE.

WANTED.—Principals and Chorus Required at once, for Stedman's Special Musical Comedy Class, "Floradora" (by special permission). Rehearsals conducted personally by Marshall Moore, the well-known Producer, and Kenneth Wynne, the celebrated Professor of Singing. Applicants must be young and attractive; splendid opportunity for young Professionals and ambitious Amateurs to play Parts. Voice trial Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 to 6; Saturday, 10 to 1. STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

STAGE.

WANTED, Principals and Chorus for Stedman's Musical Comedy and Dramatic Evening Classes, personally conducted by Marshall Moore, the celebrated producer. Applicants must be young and attractive. Voice trial daily, 10 to 6; Saturday, 10 to 1. 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.; or Windmill House, Shaftesbury-avenue (facing Trocadero).

STAGE.

WANTED, at once, for Stedman's Musical Comedy Class, "Florodora" (by special permission), a few more Sopranos, Contraltos, Tenors, and Basses, also good Baritone, for Abercoed, and singing eccentric comedian to play Gilfain. Voice trials daily, 10 to 6. Sats 10 to 1. 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

MISS MAGGIE MORTON'S AUTUMN TOUR.
"HAVANA."
WANTED, First-class Artists, for above, Principals and Chorus;
must be thoroughly experienced, and possess good, well-trained voices.
Address, in first instance, with full particulars, including age, height, photos., and recent references, to CHAS. ROAD-NIGHY,
Opera House, Wrexham.

PRINCESS THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Wanted, Artists,
for Special Week,
April 25.
Rehearse 21st, "EAST LYNNE."
Terms, RICH WALDON, Princess's.

WANTED, to Rehearse at Liverpool, Gentleman for small Aristocratic Old Man and Assist.-Stage-Management; pretty young Juvenile Lady, for small part; both must be refined and dress well on and off the Stage. Fullest particulars, photographs (useless applying without), and absolute lowest terms, to CHARLES GIBBON, T. R., Chesterfield.

WANTED, Refined, Bright, Lively, Light Comedienne, young, fair preferred; also tall, robust gentlemanly Character Comedian. MALCOLM, 29, Aylesford-street, Westminster, S.W.

WANTED, an Experienced Actress for Lady Dolly, to rehearse Tuesday. One who has played part preferred. Artists in or near Manchester. Apply, T. E. WARD, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman to Play Small Parts in Leading Repertoire Company. A. G. SMITH-NEILL, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

WANTED, good Yiddish Comedian or Character Actor, Jew preferred. Apply with photo., GLENDOWER, T. R., Smethwick. Monday, T. R., Rotherham.

WANTED, First-class Comedian, to play the part of Cat for London and Abroad in New Production. Must have had long experience. Address, Box, 7,552, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Young Gentleman Amateur, for Small Part in Artistic Production, First-class Music Halls, small premium, salary paid, long tour. Particulars to MANAGER, 82, London-street, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Talented Amateur Actor and Actress, for Autumn Tour of Important Play. First three months' services free. Small salary afterwards. Address, with particulars, Box 7,553, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Novices and Amateurs required for Rehearsal Class.
view the Production of Drama by Experienced Author. Terms nominal.
Write for appointment.
AUTHOR, 57, Abingdon-road, Kensington, London.

WANTED, Al Fresco Singers, to harmonise, for Serenading Terraces, Gardens, Private Shows, North Wales, Instrumentalists, portable Harmonium. Address, SYD GODFREY, Theatre, Wexford, Ireland.

WANTED, good Tenor Vocalist, for High-class Musical Act, Stage experience, slight knowledge of piano essential. Terms, particulars, Box 7,559, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Soprano, also Humorist at the Piano, 12 weeks certain, indoors. Letters, GEO. FAY, 21, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Boy Sopranos, for Musical Act,
London Boys preferred;
must be over fourteen.
Full particulars to J. T. MORRISON, E., S. Shields.

WANTED, Dancer, semi-classical, for Egyptian scena; must be refined, and have good figure and appearance; height about 5ft. 4in. Send photo and lowest terms. MARCON EVANS, Oxford House, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Belle Travers, Juveniles, Light Comedy.
132, Revelstoke-road, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by good Soprano; experienced. Address,
VOCALIST, 5, William-street, Savile Park, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Harold Pyott, the smallest man in the World, is at Liberty from April 16; height 23in., weight 24lb., age 24 years; not deformed in any way. Just concluded successful Tour with Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's Panto, "Hop o' My Thumb." Perm. add., J. S. BEELEY, 83, Market-street, West Houghton.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
Xmas, 1910.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines for Pantomime. Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Fairy Queens, Dames, Sisters, Comedians, Demon King, Specialities, 100 Chorus Ladies, not under 5ft. 6in. Quartette of Dancers. Quartette of Male Chorus. Address, with full particulars, stating age, height, experience, and references, and say where can be seen working for the next four weeks, to JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Pair of First-class Comedians, must be experienced in pantomime parts, with plenty of own gags and business.
Also pair of Sisters, good appearance, sing and dance well.

Write, with lowest terms and photos; also where can be seen working within the next four weeks, to
J. GAR KIDDIE,
Victoria Chambers, Widnes.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

THE EDINBURGH MARINE GARDENS, LTD.
WANTED, immediately, good Quick Scenic, for a few weeks.
Own brushes.
Letters addressed,
Scenic Artist, as above.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, Carpenter, to travel, must be teetotaller. Apply, with references, week of April 11, TOM HEARN, London Coliseum; or write, "Lyndhurst," Loughborough Park, S.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery of every description; good, effective work; cheap. THE NORTHERN SCENIC STUDIO, 16, Cross-street, London, N.

WANTED, Production, or Permanent Engagement. DAVIES MASSEY, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, immediately, Lady or Gentleman to finance two promising Theatrical Enterprises. Employment given if desired. Fullest particulars by letter, to Mr. A. BINGHAM, 8, Walden House, High-street, Marylebone, W.

WANTED, Clever Young Manager, for Band and Concert, Summer Season, of High-class Pleasure Palace and Gardens, Provincial City; experience necessary. State terms. Box 7,549, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Energetic Resident Manager, for an up-to-date fully licensed Music Hall in the South of England. Apply, stating terms and references to Box 7,557, c/o "The Era" Offices.

WANTED, for Tour of Musical Play, Smart Man as Manager.
One able to take small financial interest preferred.
Full particulars to Gala Palace, Durham.

WANTED, a Manager for an Act on the Halls. Must be able to Influence Bookings.
Apply, stating terms,
Box, 7,551, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Perruquier to make up Amateurs for eight performances "Mikado," May 9 to 18. PARKINSON, Theatre, King's Lynn. Endorse envelopes "Perruquier."

PUBLIC HALL THEATRE, MOUNTAIN ASH.
WANTED, Stage Carpenter, permanent; one that can take charge of stage, posting and window-billing, and make himself generally useful; steady man preferred. SECRETARY.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Stage Carpenter to look after Big Show.
Apply personally, between 11 and 1 on Saturday, at 28, Vaughan-road, Loughborough Junction, S.E.

WANTED, strong, willing Baggage Man, to speak a few lines. Letters only, MARTIN COMSTOCK, "Temptation" Company, Alexandra T., Birmingham.

WANTED, good Bill Inspector, willing to use brush; might arrange with as cleaner. Low est terms, last two references. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, reliable and experienced Bill-poster, as Working Manager, for small branch. Apply, giving references and wages required, Box 7,545, "The Era."

WANTED, Outdoor Man, to combine cleaning and window-billing; married preferred; wife to clean and be dresser. SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Pier, Kursaal, &c., Management or Assistant, by late Stage Manager for Mr. Chas. Frohman's Co. Good musician (can conduct and arrange full band), excellent testimonial from "the" James Glover, Esq. Has also held licence in hotel business. Very satisfactory references from last brewers. Wife thoroughly experienced in restaurant work. Joint salary. Address, C. W. C., 20 Sunnk Bank, South Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Manager, Provincial Engagement, up-to-date methods, followed by increase of takings sure, excellent references. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, by Energetic Variety Manager, appointment, London or Provinces, strictly temperate; excellent experience and references. Write, BELLAMY, 25, Parson's Green, S.W.

WANTED, position as Secretary or Treasurer in Theatre or Theatrical Office.
Shorthand, Typewriting, Book-keeping.
Age 27.
Box 7,569, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Peter Adair, acknowledged the smartest of Advance Agents and Advertisers. Thorough experienced showman. Travelled every part of the United Kingdom. Steady and reliable worker. Disengaged. Address, 8, Rumford-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Resident Engagement, by Practical Carpenter, steady and reliable, good refs.; own tools; Theatre or Music Hall; can touch up. Box 7,544, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musical Director. One fully experienced in Dramatic, Musical, and Variety Businesses. State instrument at which proficient.
Address, R. G. ELDER, Metropole T., Gateshead.

WANTED, for Plymouth, to open Monday, April 18, First Violin. Permanent engagement to a competent musician. Terms, refs., and particulars to MONT GILPIN, Andrew's Pictures, St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Reliable First Violin, Suburban Theatre. No deputies. State age, experience, references, and lowest terms. Box 7,547 "The Era."

WANTED, First Violinist, used to Variety, Sight-reader and Transposer. State age, references, and salary required. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, to join at once, Solo Cornet, Euphonium; terms 30s. per week. Craven Arms Sat., Ludlow Mon., Leominster Tues., Herefordshire.

WANTED, Solo Cornet,
used to Variety.
Reference and lowest terms to
MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, at Once, good Cornet for Rink, Peterborough, to open Monday. Lowest terms to B. M., 12, Gordon-street, Southport.

WANTED, First Cornet. Pitching. Terms, Mr. PFIEFFER,
34, Ancill-street, Fulham Cross.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, at once, also 'Cello, for May 14. Write to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, for the Great Lafayette, String BB Bass and B Clarionet, must be teetotallers. Call in person, Coliseum, between 3 and 4 p.m., with instrument.

WANTED, Bass Trombone, also Alto, for High-class Musical Sketch, probable long tour. Only first-class refined artists. Box 7,565, "The Era."

WANTED, B flat Bass and First Cornet, for Town and Promenade Band. State terms. P. KOHL, Bandmaster,
Durham Villa, Trinity-street, Llandudno, N. Wales.

WANTED, good Bombardon, for Skating Rink, in Blackpool, commence May 13. Terms, £2 per week. Address, TURNER, 18, Charles-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Experienced Lady 'Cellist (permanency), good appearance essential. High-class Café. Write, Box 7,564, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist for Hotel at Seaside. Long engagement. State full particulars. M. ROITT, 53 Harrington-street, Hampstead-road, London.

WANTED, Pianist, open Monday morning. Three Sessions daily. Wire terms (must be very moderate), MANAGER, Pier Rink, Folkestone.

ROYAL ENGLISH CIRCUS.
Proprietor, PAT COLLINS, Esq.
WANTED, immediately, through disappointment, Good Double Drummer and Trombone. Terms, &c., wire, HIRST, Bandmaster, Circus, Kettering.

WANTED, for Hoylake Season Band, good Double Drummer. Apply, age and references, and lowest terms, GROGE, B.M., 38, Ferndale-road, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, for Bostock's International Railroad Circus, competent Double Drummer; also Tenor Horn; must be used to Circus Business. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known,
High-class Concert Palace
and Pleasure Gardens,
in Provincial City,
is open to make bookings with
Good Bands, and Refined Concert Parties and Vaudeville Companies for Summer Season
(partly Alfresco).
Address, Box 7,550, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Band of the Royal Canadian Artillery (Regulars), BB Flat Bombardon, Euphonium, Baritone, Flute and Piccolo, and B Flat Clarionet Players; a good opening for time-expired or pensioned Bandsmen of good character and ability wishing to go to Canada; part cost of passage will be paid. For particulars apply, with copies of testimonials, to ALFRED LIGHT, Bandmaster, Kingston, Ontario.

CENTRAL PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, for Whit Week and Season, commencing July, Pianist, First Violin, Bass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums. Lowest, VAL. THOMPSON, 191, Woodchurch-rd., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Instrumentalists for Military Band, to open Whit Week; must be competent players. Terms and full particulars to J. T. MORRISON, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, a first-class experienced Music Hall Conductor will shortly be at Liberty to accept Engagement in London or Suburbs. Box 7556, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Conductor. Orchestral Pianist, or with High-class Concert Party; splendid library of Orchestral Music; experienced; highest references. TOM A. BEAUMONT, Liversedge, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Sydney Hampton, Conductor (Pianist, Violinist), Composer and Arranger, at Liberty. 14, Chatsworth-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin and Piano), to George Dance, Moss and Stoll Empires, G. P. Huntley, &c., at Liberty; highest refs.; excellent library; can supply Orchestra. Box 7,546, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, by First-class Violinist, with excellent references. Address, VIOLIN, 75, Kensington-road, Coventry.

WANTED, Known, Madeleine Tugmann, at Liberty (through closing), Violin or Piano, experienced all lines, orchestral preferred. 11, Darby-place, Folkestone.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by a Young Lady in Ladies' Orchestra, as Vocalist and Violinist. Write, VOCALIST, 17, Osborne-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Concert Engagements for Little Girl Violinist, age 7, during Aug. Seaside preferred; indoors. PRINCIPAL, Fulham School of Music, 2, Bovingdon-road, S.W.

WANTED, by First Violin, Re-engagement, can open Monday anywhere; experienced all lines; good refs.; thoroughly steady and reliable. Best offers. VIOLINIST, 4, Seabank-road, Ayr.

WANTED, Engagement by Brilliant Violin Soloist, exceptional répertoire. First-class picture show preferred. Address, A. HENRY, 48, Shenstone-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, First or Second, any business; experienced, good refs. F. BAKER, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, any business, at Liberty Saturday 16th, through closing. SHARP, Cornet, 43, Acacia-road, Sydenham, London.

WANTED, by reliable Solo Cornet or Trumpet, Summer Engagement, exceptional refs. Address, SOLO CORNET, c/o McEwen, 34, Blackhall-st., Greenock.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, an Engagement, excellent references. Address, T. F., Solo Cornet, 198, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED Known, H. A. Grey, at Liberty as Solo Cornet; first-class refs.; any Bus. (except rinks). 24, Albion-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, good Cornet, at Lib. Monday first, any business; first-class refs. Address, FLEETHAM, Cornet, Hippo., Todmorden.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Variety, Dramatic, or any business. G. F. BARON, 46, Athelstan-road, off Canterbury-road, Folkestone, Kent.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by good Cornet, First or Second, good Orchestral experience. Address, F. CLARKE, 39, New Fillebrook-rd., Leytonstone.

WANTED, by First-class Cornet Player, Theatre or Music Hall, Liberty 23rd inst. CORNET, c/o 157, Handcroft-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Cornetist, Theatre, Variety, or any business; also First-class Euphonium, at Liberty; distance no object. CARVER, 94, Prince Albert-street, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced, excellent refs. Liberty Monday. CORNET, 9, Eaton-avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, Summer Engagement, good references, any business. Address, CLARIONETTIST, c/o Mrs. Bourne, 165, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, String or Military; good refs.; experienced and reliable. T. ENGLISH, 12, Portland-place, Hastings.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Solo Clarionet or E Flat, eight years present situation. Apply, G. HARRISON, Grand Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet, 20 years' Professional experience. Theatre or good Orchestra preferred. HEATH, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Clarionet, combine Violin, Military, or Orchestral, Disengaged May 1. Good references. P. GRIFFITHS, 10, Harriet-st., Pollokshaws, Glasgow.

WANTED, by a Young Lady Double Bass, engagements. Ladies' orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTER, Engagement by Bassoon. Abstainer, thorough Musician.
BASSOON, 37, Hurlbutt-place, Newington Butts, S.E.

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any business, good, steady, and reliable; good refs.
9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass; well up in Variety Business; good references; at Liberty. W. GOTT, 40, Newcastle-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, good Engagement, Contra Bass; fully experienced in all branches, young; first-class references. JAS. LEAVER, Guide, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Bassoonist, owing to reduction of orchestra, wants permanent place, any business. F. A. BELLIS, Tanhouse-street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Summer or Permanent Engagement; would Deputise; high or low pitch; highest references. 91, Wilton-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Double Bass, combine Bombardon, any business; ex Army Bandsman; highest references. D. MOXON, Palace, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Contra Bass, Open for Summer Engagement.
142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, Theatre, Rink, Military, Strings; experienced Professional; London preferred; held good Shops. TROMBONE, 30, Cannhall-road, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, Offer by good Trombonist, Season or permanency; experienced any business; first-class refs.; young, reliable. J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, steady and reliable; any business. Address, H. S. WALKER, 5, Clifton-terrace, Batley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by First-class Trombonist, Re-engagement; life abstainer; excellent refs.; at Liberty April 23. 53, Acacia-road, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Trombone Player, Skating Rink or other business. Wire or write, J. COOPER, 24, Birchmore-rd., Gloucester.

WANTED, by Euphonium Soloist, combine Trombone, Engagement, other Instrument; excellent refs.; Orchestra or Military. Apply G. G., 45 Wynyard-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, by E Flat Bombardon, Summer Engagement, Seaside. Address, NORRIS, Temperance Cottages, Quidhampton, near Salisbury.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Alto Saxophone, Solo Instrumentalist, with good Band, work found as joiner. Address, SPURR, North View, South Ossett, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by E Flat Alto Saxophone, Re-engagement, any business; thoroughly experienced in all Lines. Box 7,543, "The Era."

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Horn Player, Summer Engagement, First or Second. HENDERSON, Grand Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business.
WM. PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Solo Saxhorn, experienced, any business.
C. S., 59, St. Nicholas-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Engagement; highest references; disengaged through termination of J. W. Turner's Grand English Opera Tour at Blackpool, April 30. Permanent address, WM. R. MORTON, 31, Richmond-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Oboeist, Re-engagement, Orchestra or Military, excellent credentials, abstainer, and reliable. CHAPMAN, 219, Lyham-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class 'Cellist (Soloist) at Liberty for Summer Engagement; first-class refs. Address, C. WOOLLEY, 36, James-street, Stoke-on-Trent.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any business. First-class references. Address, 'Cello, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by Viola, Second Violin, or Double Drums. Abstainer. Five years last engagement. King, 10, St. Ninian-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Solo Flute and Piccolo, Summer season. Several years in first-class orchestra, highest references. Would accept short season or deputising. James, 79, Grosvenor-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, any business, permanency or otherwise; young and steady. M., 55, Hunter-road, Thornton Heath, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, any business; good refs.
Flautist, 93, North-st., Edgware-rd., London, W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, experienced all Lines; young, abstainer; excellent references; any distance, South preferred. Flautist, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Player, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, London or Provinces; good refs. Flautist, 37, Claribet-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced and reliable Flute and Piccolo, any business. Ted Embley, 126, Audley-lane, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, any business, café preferred. Good references. Wire or write, C. B. Jones, 57, North-street, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo. Reliable and experienced, any business, seaside preferred. Goodwin, 4, St. Winefride's-gardens, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, any Business; good refs.; would deputise. Flauto, 11, Porten-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, Known, good experienced Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty, any Business; excellent refs. Flautist, 9, Harbord's-buildings, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Miss Celeste Baga, Brilliant Pianist and First-class Accompanist. Can accept engagements. Thoroughly accomplished in Orchestral and Concert Work. 45, Colebrooke-row, Islington, London.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Accompanist, available for Practice Work, Accompaniments written. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (A.G.S.M.) as accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Orchestral Pianist, Lady, Engagement, experienced, good sight reader. M. Payne, 75, Willifield-way, Golders Green.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Pianist, good hand-seller, planksman, &c., clever sight-reader, accompanist. Auctioneers, Pictures, &c. 4, Castleview-terrace, Skipton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. L. Major Hornsby, 8, Singlerow, Newfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne

WANTED, by Pianist, Summer Engagement. Sight reader, memorise, thoroughly used to alfresco. Morris, 78, Grove-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, Monday next or later, by brilliant Pianist, Engagement, Orchestral or otherwise; experienced all lines. Coates, 99, Judd-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, by good Pianist. Engagement, Al-fresco, Variety, &c.; Sight-reader, Transposer; young; Lancs. preferred. Pianist, 47, Cartwright-street, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement by Gentleman Pianist, age 27, capable. At Liberty May 15. Address, M. Sauvage, Poste Restante, Liege, Belgium.

WANTED, Engagement as First-class Drummer. Two years' reference. Season or permanency. Musician, Box 7,560, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Double Drums and Tymps, any business, good refs. Keyley, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Yorks.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, Glockenspiel, and Effects; excellent references; any distance. Sullivan, 27, Russell-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Engagement. Good refs. Drums, 54, Hatcham Park-road, Newcross Gate, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, good Double Drums and Effects, through closing; late Miss Handel's Orchestra, Aquarium, Scarbro'. J. Pearson, 24 Albion-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, good Double Drums and Effects, Tympani; splendid Xylophone Soloist; young; good refs. Drums, 1, Roseberry-terrace, Cowdenbeath, Fife.

WANTED, Engagement, by Drums and Tymps, any business. Highest references. Theatre Royal, Hanley; or, N. Evans, 63, Seaford-st., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass Drum and Cymbals, first-class Military Band, for Summer Season. Address, Musician, 70, Meanley-road, Manor Park, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military),
in Smart Uniform;
Vocalists, &c., if required.
For particulars, apply,
W. Murdoch, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)
WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bonâ-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to Mme. Manton-Myatt, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Shakesima Band, can supply Artists for the coming Season, Piers, &c.; extensive répertoire; all Soloists, including Vocalists. Conductress, Lansdowne, Falkland-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Apply, Dorothea Aug. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagements by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies.
Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, open for Summer. Exhibitions, Pavilions, Hotels. Also Vocalists and Dancers. Wilton Davis, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra have booked three months at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. At Liberty till July 15. Concert engagements accepted. Box 7,464, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, George H. Shaw, Royal Collier Lads (Registered) Orchestra want Season Seaside. Now at Olympia, Coalville. Terms, Musical Director, Olympia, Coalville.

WANTED, a Seaside Engagement for Englefield's Band (late of the 1st Life Guards); uniforms and extensive répertoire of music. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for Royal Hibernian Band, Military or String, extensive répertoire, magnificent uniforms. Address, Musical Director, The Rink, Dundalk, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagements, Town, Seaside, for Collini's Famous Rink Bands, Military, Orchestral. Terms, Stamford Hill Rink. Highgate Band free, Rink closing.

WANTED, Known, J. V. Caine's well-known Band is at Liberty for Summer Engagement; any number; highest testimonials and references. 22, Roseburn-place, Edinburgh.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

ERDINGTON SKATING RINK,
ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
Splendid Rink. Suitable for any kind of Show.
WANTED, Attractions for Summer; Miniature Circus, with Pictures or Good Variety Show.
Sharing terms.
Write at once, Manager.

WANTED, for Swallow's Circus, at once, reliable, steady Tent Master, also Cycle Tea-cup Track Rider, and two useful people doing more than one act. Lowest terms first letter. Young Stebbings write. Monday, Upper Mill; Tuesday, Holmfirth, Yorks.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers, and Foot Equilibrist. Seven acts. Good dresses, and one of the prettiest ring horses in the circus business. Liberty Whit Monday for the Summer season. Address, 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro the Great, Unparalleled and most Daring High-wire Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas.
Terms, 99, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Monday, April 25, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists April 25, and on. Lowest terms and references; also Stars willing to share. James Elphinstone, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, May 9, Hippodrome, Wigan.
For Herbert Darnley and Barney Armstrong's Combination. Address, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for First-class Picture Show, immediate and future Dates.
Full particulars and lowest terms first letter, Manager, Hengler's, Glasgow.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and on, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts,
April 25, onwards. Terms, lithos., &c.,
Useful Gala Acts, May 16, onwards.
Comedy Musical Act, Jan. 2, 1911.
Pantomime Artists, all Lines, for next Christmas.
Edgar Stebbings,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone, 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Artists. Always opening for Double Turns doing Singles, vents., Conjurers, &c. World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

VENTON'S ALFRESCO AGENCY.
WANTED, Alfresco Artists, all Lines. Bookings for over 20 Seaside Resorts. Artists must send list of songs, sketches, absolute lowest terms, also as many photos as possible, as it is necessary to send these out. State where can be seen working. Coms., 24, Devonshire-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Up-to-date Artists, for High-class Concert Pavilion, South Coast; preference given to Turns able to introduce Speciality. Apply, stating age, height, experience, and répertoire, married or single, absolute lowest terms. Mat Melrose, The Melroses, Empress, Brixton. Letters only.

WANTED, for Whit Week and on, Al-Fresco and Music Hall Artists, all Lines. Address, Jack Harris, Ashgrove, Barisheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Superior Alfresco Artists and good Specialities. State terms, age, and open summer dates to Fred Buxton, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for immediate weeks, April 25, onward. Exclusive Representative, Egbert's Agency, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Suitable Acts can have six weeks.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, April 25, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegrams, "Durhamlike, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines,
Cavill's Agency,
Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, S.E.
Large Room for Rehearsals.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 25, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, First-class Artists, for No. 3 Company, to commence May 16, Acrobats, Tumblers, Contortionists, all lines, young and smart. Full particulars, Will Douglas, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, High-class Al-Fresco Artists, also Brilliant Pianist, refined Serio; open June. Photos. and references. Suitable people can be fixed for Autumn and Panto.
Edward Marris, 1, Douglas-house, Maida Hill, W.

SURREY THEATRE.
Extra Turn Matinée,
Thursday, April 21, at 2 o'clock.
WANTED, Amateurs and Turns new to London, &c., are invited to appear at above Matinée. Send full particulars, time required, &c., to Manager. Over 100 Artists have secured engagements through these Matinées. No fees or charges of any description.

WANTED, Known, Grand Trial Turn Matinée will be Held at the Hippodrome, Hull, on Thursday, May 5, when many prominent London Agents will be present with a view to booking any Acts of merit. Mr. Walter Bentley will himself guarantee immediate bookings for suitable turns. Send in names and description of business to him at once, to the Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Stars, Specialities, and Novelties, free for the Continent.
Write full particulars with lithos and photos.
George Foster, 8, New Coventry-street, Piccadilly.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, Smart Variety Turns, Speciality and otherwise, must be entirely free from vulgarity. Turns who have worked Empire, Aberdare, please do not apply. Send immediate and other vacant dates to John R. Poole, Public Hall, Mountain Ash, South Wales.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, First-class Combination, June 13, for Leading Provincial Hall; also Big Tops and Bottoms, for immediate dates. List of bookings necessary on account of Barring Clause. Will Lund's Agency, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 682 Royal. Telegraph address, "Comedy, Liverpool."

O. MAUS DAYTON'S VAUDEVILLE COS.
WANTED, Good Comedy Acts and Artists all Lines, many weeks right through the summer. Sure money, comfortable Engagements.

Call, Monday, April 18, Hippodrome, Wigan (return): The Dayton Family, Mons. De Lil, Three Milfords, Ally Benson, Spanish Armadas, Huibert, Dorothy Marsden, Louise Dott and Jack Williams, Vernon's Bioscope, E. W. Selman, The Loraines, A. U. Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters, and others. Music Rehearsal Monday at 11 o'clock sharp.

Communications, with lowest combination summer terms, to The Dayton Family,
This week, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.
Next week (from Sunday, April 17),
The Hippodrome, Wigan.
P.S.—Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Impossible to answer all.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts only, for Britain and Continent.
Also Pantomime Artists (Principals only) for 1910-1911. Silence polite negative pro tem.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Novel Acts, Sensational Specialities, Clever Juvenile Troupes, Big Animal Acts, Pantomimical Sketches, Smart Musical Shows, &c., for April 25, onward. Address, with Lowest Terms and Full Particulars to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Variety Acts of all kinds, big Feature Acts communicate, immediate and later dates.
State Bookings and absolutely lowest nett salary.
Sears,
Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Sensational Act or Troupe, for August Bank Holiday, to give Two Shows.
J. C. Rodway, Sports Secretary, Lydney, Glos.

GALAS, SCOTLAND. AUGUST DATES.
WANTED, all Kinds of Outdoor Acts. State lowest terms, and send printing, &c.,
Dalton's Agency,
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Gala Acts, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Gymnasts, Novelties, Whitsun, and later dates. Astella Maro, Shing, write. Wood, caterer, Easton, Bristol.

WANTED, Good Gala Acts,
May 16, 17.
Triple bar act. Three Eltons wire.
Tom Diacoff, Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Star Acts, at Once, also good Comedy Acts; good Comedians, Sisters, and Specialities. Full particulars, full bookings, and terms (lowest). The Globe Agency (Manager, J. Cameron), Offices, Hippo., Heywood. 'Phone 109.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession for Immediate Dates in the North. Terms, full bookings, William Ainsworth, 135 Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted Wanted,
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Immediate Dates and on.

WANTED, Big and Little Acts, for Fêtes and Galas, Scotland.
Send lithos., list of vacant dates, and absolute lowest,
Northern Variety Agency,
Corsterphine, N.B.

WANTED, Big Feature Variety Acts and Specialities of Every Description,
Immediate and Later Time.

Send Full Particulars of Act and Lowest Nett Price for Combinations and Direct Booking in Several Big Halls.

Address,
Sears,
Town Hall, Falkirk.

WANTED, Acts, all Kinds, Three Days, Twice Daily, Aug. 1, for Northampton.
McAskell's Agency, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

WANTED, Good Novelties, Stars, anything that will draw. April 25, May 9, 16.
Will Smithson, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Sensational Star Tops, for May 16,
also for July, August, and Later Dates,
for Northern Town (outside any barring area).
Write or wire,
John Harrison,
Northern Counties Agency, Levenshulme, Manchester. Will all Artists who have done business with this Agency kindly post latest lists of bookings immediately? 'Phone 106 Rusholme. Wires, "Vaudeville, Levenshulme."

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates.
T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. Harry Taft, Regent, Salford; next, Alhambra, Salford.

JOHN ADAMS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, with odd weeks, also Artists in all Lines.
April 25.
Perm. Add., Hippodrome, Scarboro'. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, Al Fresco Performers, all Lines, for Aberystwyth.
Terms, photos., age, height, T. W. Johnson.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES.
NEATH, KETTERING, BARRY DOCK, LOUGHBORO', RUGBY, and EXMOUTH.
The above are not ordinary hired buildings, but specially-constructed Palaces, fitted up in the latest style, beautifully staged, seated, and upholstered and illuminated throughout by electricity.
WANTED, Smart People in all Lines (not acrobatic), from now onwards. Arthur Brogden, General-Manager, Barry Dock.

EMPIRES, SUNDERLAND & HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Artists working North who have odd weeks out are invited to send particulars of their acts, when last played above towns, permanent address, and absolute lowest terms to fill in to Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland. Please mark envelopes "Artist."

WANTED, few Ladies and Gents, for Sketch.
Write, stating age, height, last two refs.,
Richard Brandon and Co.,
15, Challoner-mansions, West Kensington.

WANTED, smart Comedienne and Dancer, for First-class Concert Party, twenty weeks' tour, best places only, must be young and refined; attend audition. Mr. Sutton, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, on Monday, April 18, at 11 o'clock.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ALEXANDRA PAVILION
ALEXANDRA PAVILION
and
SKATING RINK,
SKATING RINK,
Normanton-road, Derby.
Normanton-road, Derby.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, for the Summer Season,
Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes,
Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes,
Concert Parties, Pierrot Troupes,
and every class of complete Entertainment, for this Popular Resort.
Absolutely the best position in Derby.

Full particulars to
W. H. Innes, Manager.

WANTED, a smart Tumbler, for Comedy Act. List of Tricks, age, height, salary expected, to Guest, 23, Buccleuch-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Boy Dancers, those in Manchester District preferred. Send age, height, and photo. to Stylo, next week, Hippo., Ashton.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, that can Tumble a little, for Comedy Act. Send lowest terms, full particulars, Josh Clifton, 104, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Boy 13 or 14 years of age that has a fancy for Acrobatics, to learn. No premium. Inquire, 228, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.

WANTED, for Small Picture Hall, for Season, First-class Picture Show, on Shares; must be good. Apply in first instance to Manager, Picture Palace, Winchester. Open at once.

WANTED, Immediately, Assistant Operator. State age, wage, experience, refs., and lowest in first. Only steady, reliable men need apply. Permanency suitable man. Apply, Royal Canadian Pictures, Temperance Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, May 16, 23, 30. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements, by Miss Amy Wooderson, brilliant Soprano, latest Illustrated Songs, good appearance and Wardrobe. 3 Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, April 25, by Daisy Hicks, Charming Chorus Comedienne.
18th, Palace, Bristol; this week, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Della Ray, Successful Chorus Comedienne, May 9, 23, North preferred. April 18, Hip., Eastbourne; April 25, Imperial, Canning Town.

WANTED, Monday, Rossie and Cissie Roze, Instrumentalists, Duettists, and Dancers. Wire, 9, Linden-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Sisters English, Duettists and Dancers, April 25, May 2. This, Hippo., Blyth; next, Hippo., Leek, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, Vacant Monday, April 18, 25, and May 2; also Alfresco. First-class offers only. This, 12, Alexandra-avenue, Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 25, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian and Banjoist. Wire, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, by Henry A. Moore, Mimic and Monologue Artist, from Palace, Tivoli, &c., April 25, May 2, 9, and 16. 2, Prince's-st., Dover.

WANTED, Monday, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Lancashire's Collier Comedian, original songs, stories, &c., pictorial illustrations colliery life. Success, Empire, Widnes; after, Saturday, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Geo. Bernard, Topical, Chorus, and Actor-Vocalist, from Principal Halls. Wire, 31, William-street, North Shields.

WANTED, Next Week, Bu-Val, Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
9, Greek-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, later, Mysterious Sardou, Illusionist, Laughter-maker. Attraction Pictures, any Programme; Marie Riviers, Song Illustrator. This, Empire, Worcester; next, Albert Hall, Cheltenham. Wire.

WANTED, by Fred Fyne, for Summer Months, engagements with Pierrot troupe, share or salary. 36, Cabul-road, Battersea Park, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bert Powell, Military Comedy Conjurer, for 15 minutes' laughter. Wire, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Whit Week, onwards, by Walter Gray, Juggling and Balancing Act, "On the Lawn," concluding 32 weeks' tour. 21, Prospect-hill, Haslingden, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Henry D. Adams, the Juggling Page Boy. Vacant April 18, 25, May 2, 9. Add., 75, Bickley-street, Tooting, S.W.

Vacant Gala Season, Vacant.
Free for Seaside Towns, Free.
The Great VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Galas or Seaside Engagements, for the weeks of June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 8.
All communications,
This week, King's Theatre, Dundee;
Next week, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, with a style that pleases all, in his High-class Wrestling, taking on all comers, vacant April 25, May 2, 9. Share or Salary. Coms., 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, by Harry Keeble, Ventriloquist; Gladys Wells, Contralto; two sure successes. Monday, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent (return).

WANTED, Monday, April 18, by The Leonas, Musical Novelty Act; Gorgeous Electric Stage Set. This, Pal., Kettering; April 25, Pal., Barry Dock.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, April 18, Hippodrome, Keighley; vacant May 2 and 9. Address, Hippodrome, Keighley.

WANTED, Monday next, also 25th and Whit Week, by the Le Bruns (Edith, charming Vocalist and Premier Lady Juggler), Edgar (quaint Comedy Equilibrist). A unique novelty.
Add., 21, Shirley-street, Hove, Brighton.

WANTED, Monday, onward, with exceptions, Belasco, Refined Musical Act; also Isa Davis, Mimic. Address, 43, Paragon-buildings, Rodney-road, S.E.

WANTED, April 25, Ray and Douglas, the Elite and Original Comedy Couple. Away from all others. This, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port; next, Hippodrome, York.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, May 2, July 11, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22.
Address, Hippodrome, Hamilton.

WANTED, April 18, 25, Heyel and Weyman, Wooden Shoe Experts. Perm. address, 4, Beaufort-place, St. James's, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the Smart and Bright Vocal Comedy Duo, a success on any programme. Wire, 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Ryde and Beeman, Eccentrics, vacant April 18, 25. Wire, Empire, Coventry; after Sat., 1, Henry-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, by Will and Roze, Great Comedy Contortion and Conjuring Act. April 18, Grand Theatre, Aberaman.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, Vacant April 25 and May 2.
Wire, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, April 26, May 2 and 9, by Foiay and Francis, Comedians. Enormous success, this, Collins's M. H., London; April 18, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Comedy Act. This, Gaiety, Birmingham. Also Deputising, Hippo., Aston, for Naughton and Gold. Vac. April 18, 25. Wire, Gaiety.

WANTED, April 18 and May 2, the Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality; also Champion Somersault Dog Jack; own scenery, splendid lithos. Wire, Palace, Gateshead; after Sunday, 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23. Address, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Thanks for offers. 3, Hamilton-st., Clydebank.

WANTED, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, by The Flying Oreniuses (two ladies, two gentlemen), the most Sensational Flying Act in Vaudeville. This enormous success, Palace, Northampton (bottom). Offers invited for Galas, Fêtes, &c. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, May 2 and 16, by Atlas-Vulcana Troupe, Lady and Gentlemen Athletes (5), including Poses by the Wonderful and Beautiful Vulcana, the most Marvellous Lady Athlete and Artist of all time. The Originators of Ideas, whom so many have endeavoured in vain to copy. 18th, Palace, Nelson; 25th, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, April 18, 25, Bouncing Pops, Star Novelty. Salary or share. Wire, Rink, Hartlepool. Monday, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 2, 9, and 30, by
Rich Taylor, the Whistling Ventriloquist.
The Feature of every Programme.
All coms. to Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, 9, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist; big drawing Comedy Act. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, April 25 and May 2, by Valvo, Ventriloquist; also Free for Al Fresco. For a versatile performer, address, Hippo., Hastings.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Offers invited. Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, and a few immediate dates previous to Continental tour, by Picitt and Lizette, in their great Magical Extravaganza, "THE CRAZY COOK," from the Palace Theatre, London, and Coliseum, London. Everything carried; only clear Stage required. Good Lithos.
Wire, 81, Bristol-street, Hulme, Manchester.

THE DREADNOUGHT MASCOTS in "SAILORS' MERRY MOMENTS."
WANTED, Monday, April 18. This week, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, Liverpool. Greatest success at this house. Refer Manager, J. J. Arnold, Esq. All coms., 21, Guion-road, Litherland, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, surpassed by none, but still leading,
May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.
All coms. week April 18
Opera House, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, few Dates, by Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Address, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction. Big success, this, Palace, Battersea. April 25, Empire, York.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Entertaining Dog Act. At liberty, April 18 and 25.
The most finished Dog Act in front of the public.
This Show can follow any Animal Act.
Wire, King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known.
Leoni Clarke's 200 Royal Cats, &c.,
Vacant April 25, May 2.
Share or certainty.
With or without company.
Monday, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

WANTED, Mdlle. Doris and her Highly-trained Troupe of Dogs, including Football Match, the best Dog Show on the road; vacant Monday next and later; big Act for Galas, &c. This, Princess's Theatre, Llandudno; next, 160, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Known,
Greatest draw of present age.
CONSUL, THE GREAT.
At liberty May 16, through misunderstanding, on share or certainty. Communications, Neiman and Benn, 108, Strand. 'Phone, 8,488 Gerrard.

WANTED, Monday next, the Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; Lilian Sivado, Gymnast; two acts. Wire, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Juggling, Balancing, Somersaulting Cyclist. Big success, this, T. R., Colne; next, Hippodrome, Heywood. Few open dates.

WANTED, Known, Frank Hope, Sensational Trick Cyclist, Vacant for Galas, Whit, Aug., &c. Splendid printing. 12, Ablewell-street, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, "Football Match on Bicycles." Somersaulting Cyclists, vac. Mon., also 25th. The Gala Act. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Animal Impersonator, Acrobatic Pantomimist, height 5ft. 4in., age 24; good references. M., 18, Derby-street, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pantomimist, Comedy Acrobat, do Animal Impersonating, Tumbling, Middle Man and Catcher; also Comedy Rings or Trapeze, &c.; age 30, height 5ft. Address, Box 7,481, "The Era."

WANTED, to Supply Theatre or Hall with First-class Cinematograph Operator, Machine, Change of Films. Salary or Share. Poole, Hippo., Sheerness.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known,
Very Important.
That the Next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, will be held at Headquarters, THE BLACK LION HOTEL, SALFORD, on Wednesday next, April 20, at 2.30 p.m. Will all members who go to Hull Fair kindly attend. Important.

(Signed) T. Hurst, Secretary.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Petters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees, and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E.
Write for particulars.
Registered Trade Mark, "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, by Royal Letters Patent at Home and Abroad, the famous Oscillating and Zigzag Stairways, the rage of Paris, quick money takers, are manufactured by the Inventor and Patentee. Full particulars apply, J. E. Cooper, Albert Works, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. New Electric Rifle and Target Co., Ltd., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Japanese Fire Balloons, cheap, all sizes; splendid sample parcel 2s. 6d. White, 130, Francis-road, Leyton, Essex.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, all Showmen to Illuminate their Vans and Shows with the Gillett Light, 2,400 candle power for 1d. per hour; safe and simple. Particulars from THE UNITED KINGDOM GILLETT LIGHT Co., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Everything for the Fair at British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, London. Rifles, cartridges, glass balls, flare lamps, made on premises, swing ropes, wood balls, hoopla goods, targets, &c. Ranges fitted by contract. Estimates and lists free.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Living, Breathing, or Dead. A. E. PICKARD, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, to follow Tattooed Lady, Monday, 18th; Shares or Certainty. Wire, WHITTINGHAM, Automatic Exhibition, Pontycymmer, South Wales.

WANTED, Novelty Stands, for Warrington Trades Exhibition, May 24 to June 4 inclusive. Apply, ORGANISER, 8, Egypt-st., Warrington.

WANTED, Exhibition Workers, such as Silhouette and Sketch Artists, Gold Wire, Fountain Pen, Embroidery, Photographs, Pulled Candy, &c., &c., can hear of something to their advantage by applying in first instance to Box No. 7,468, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Exhibitions, Share or Rent. Apply at once, EXHIBITION MANAGER, County Hall, Salisbury.

WANTED, an Educated, Expert Phrenologist; must understand palmistry. Mr. Chilton and Mr. Gregory please write. HAWTHORNE, 23a, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Doorsman, Whitsun till end of season, a really good descriptive, steady, and respectable man, good wages. BERTRAM, Wonderland, Blackpool.

WANTED, Young Man for Auction Biz., able to play piano; also good floorsman; must be good packer. Fullest particulars first letter. W. KNIGHT, Auctioneer, Public Hall, Wisbech.

WANTED, Exhibitions, Carnivals, Galas, &c., for Harland's Fairy Fountains; hundreds of jets of water playing in various designs, and marvellous colour effects; can arrange novel Side Show, "The Fairy Grotto." Fountains built to order or let out on hire for any period. HARLAND and Co., 85, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Baggage, Doorsman, Advance. Three years with Mme. Levante's Company. Liberty May 30. This, P. O., Dunbar; next, Buckhaven, Hepton.

TRACTION ENGINES, &c.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap for cash, or on Hire-purchase, including 10 h.p. Wallis single cylinder, with cab, brass columns, &c.; 10 h.p. Aveling and Porter compound, 2 three-ton Wallis Tractors, Dynamos, &c. Send for list.
WHITE BROS. ENG. AND MACH. Co., LTD., High-street, Stratford, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell,
Forty Automatic Machines,
various kinds,
all in good condition,
fixed on first-class Pier,
Popular Seaside Resort,
and rights to place more.
Reason for disposal,
other businesses.
Box 7 566, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines, genuine bargains. Fortune, Love-letter, &c., 25s.; Mutoscopes, 45s.; Loops, 25s.; &c. EGGAR, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, all kinds, best makers. Sufficient to equip large arcade. Will sell separate. Phonographs, Mutoscopes, Mills' best pictures, punch-bags, lifters, electrics, vibrators, fortunes, electric pianos, models, singing birds. Also various amusement machines, &c. Apply SPORTS, 174, High-street, Shoreditch, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Money-getting Spirit Writers; Hindu, on stand (secondhand), 3 guineas; new Gipsy Queen, the real thing, with clockwork moving eyes, latest fittings, £5 10s.; spirit wands, to use without figures, 17/6 each; new slips, just over from States, 12s. 1000.
LESTER COMPANY, Importers, Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, to Sell, Let, Shares, Rental, Slot Machines. Would join to run Slots, Games, anywhere. Box 7,554, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, Great Moneygetter. Cost £10; sacrifice 60s. Sure living. EGGAR, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Juvenile Roundabouts, up-to-date, fitted up with either Teddy bears, pigs, horses, or donkeys, each set with two up-to-date motor-cars. Stamped envelope will oblige. For price and particulars apply J. DOUSTPIRE, Pasture-road, Goole, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Running Animals (11ft.), for Rifle Range, 120s.; Winchester rifle, 25s.; electric target, 80s. EGGAR, 77, Stonebridge-rd, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, a number of nearly new Animal Cages, all sizes, cheap to clear. BERTRAM, Wonderland, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Finest Side Show in England, similar to Johnstown Flood, with cheapest, best position seaside town. Anyone with £100 (cost £250), after inspecting, will grasp this opportunity. GEORGE, 33A, Apsley-rd., Gt. Yarmouth.

PROMENADE, PORTHCAWL, S. WALES.

WANTED, to Let, a Limited Number of Spaces, Stickybacks, &c. Good quick-showing Novelty for Season required; also Smart Girl for Gold Wire and Engraving. J. WHITTINGHAM. Automatic Exhibition, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, to Let, on Rental Terms, Large Space for Side Show, Trades and Inventions Exhibition, Mountain Ash, May 2 to 14. Apply, B. BARTON.

PALACE PIER, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Marine Front, Landscape, Rifle Range, Kiosk for Darts, Games, 40ft. Side Show, cheap. MANAGER, 34, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, good Set of Mirrors, splendid position. State terms. Apply, MANAGER, Marine-parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Hire for Season, or would Purchase, some really good Novelty, for Side Show. BERTRAM, Wonderland, Blackpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED, all whom it may Concern,
to Know
that I have
succeeded
in
securing
a very Large Space of Ground
at the forthcoming
FESTIVAL
of
THE EMPIRE and PAGEANT OF LONDON,
which will be held at
THE CRYSTAL PALACE,
LONDON,
during the months of
May, June, and July,
and will be of
UNPRECEDENTED MAGNIFICENCE,
15,000 Performers
appearing in it daily.

All the Best Shows in the Kingdom,
and all other
Respectable and Well-conducted
Attractions and Novelties,
Shooting Jungles and Fair Novelties,
are invited
to apply for Ground.

P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
'Phone, 80 Walsall.

LEICESTER MAY FAIR,
Thursday, May 5, to Tuesday, May 10.
Grand
PLEASURE FAIR
and
AVIATION MEETING.
Special Engagement
of
MR. LEO MERODE,
who will make Daily Flights on his
Blériot type
AEROPLANE.

Exhibition of Flying Machines.
Seen for the First Time on a Fair Ground
in Europe.
WE LEAD.
Imitators may follow,
that is, if they can?

WANTED, Known, that I have
Ground to Let
at this Fair, where there is sure to be
RECORD BUSINESS.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls, &c.,
apply at once to
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
'Phone, 80 Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

BIRMINGHAM
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR
will this year be
the Greatest and Best
ever held.
Having acquired
a Large Plot of Ground
from
the City of Birmingham Corporation,
nothing will be left undone
to make this
a Record Event.
WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c., to apply quickly
as ground fast filling up.
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let at LICHFIELD BOWER
for good Side-Shows, Joints, Stalls, Shooters, &c.
also
at
LUDLOW MAY FAIR,
for Cinematograph Exhibitions,
Cake Walk,
Side-Shows, and other Good Novelties.
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WOLVERHAMPTON
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR.
WANTED, Known, that I have
Ground to Let
on the
MARKET PLACE
for this old-established
and
well known
Fair.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls,
and other Attractions,
apply at once to
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
in the Gigantic New Building, specially erected at Old Hall-lane, Rusholme.
To be opened by the Lord Mayor of Manchester on May 12, for six weeks certain, but might possibly be extended.

WANTED, Known, there are now only a few Shops remaining unlet in "Old Manchester." Apply at once to avoid disappointment. Apply to INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXHIBITIONS, LTD., 20, Mount-street, Manchester, or Broad-street House, London, E.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Known, Manager Boys, vacant May 30, Rinking, Music Hall, or Theatre; can supply Staff if required; also Band; age 26. NORTH LONDON RINK AND ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, LTD., Wood Green.

WANTED, by Floor Manager or Instructor, Situation; 4 years' experience; excellent references; fancy trick skating. ATKIN, 23, Granville-ter., Carnarvon-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Known, Instructrees and Instructor are disengaged for any Summer Rink. Highest refs., photo., &c.; have uniforms. H. SHEPHERD, Skating Rink, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement as Skate Mechanic and Instructor; many years' experience; good reference; Seaside preferred. E. J., 100, Rossiter-road, Balham.

WANTED, by Skate Mechanic and Electrician, American Co., Summer Engagement. Highly recommend. S. RAMSEY, 5, Alford-street, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, as a Going Concern,
a Roller Rinking Pavilion,
a Roller Rinking Pavilion,
size 100 by 150, French Waterproof green canvas, real maple wood floor, finest ball-bearing skates, uniform, front, entrance, &c, &c.;
everything complete ready to re-erect anywhere else in a few days.
Can be seen in full operation at any time.
Expressly adaptable for a Seaside Resort.
Address for full particulars and price, O. K., 317, Messrs. Deacon's, Leadenhall-st., E.C.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Months, or portion thereof, in Sheffield, the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hanley-street, centre of City, size 336ft. by 120ft. Apply, THE MANAGER.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a Picture Hall and Skating Rink combined, as a going concern in main street at Leigh and Bedford, on a lease, rent only £2 10s. per week, clear of all rates and taxes. Reason of selling, bad health. Apply, 260, Chapel-street, Salford, Manchester, for full particulars.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont Chrono Machine, with arc lamp, lens, two resistances, six spools, re-winder, sheet, &c., &c., perfect order, as new. Terms moderate. Also Warwick Cinephone, very little used. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, His Majesty's, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Second-hand Film, all bargains to clear, every known make; all in good condition.
Write for Lists.
JURY'S, LTD., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 100,000ft. of Film, at ¼d. per foot, Comic and Dramatic. Apply, THE FILM EXCHANGE, 63, Whitechapel-road, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's Film, 1910 English Cup Final, 400ft.; will be despatched Saturday, April 30. Best offers to BRADLEY, Hippodrome, York.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Troupe of Performing Dogs, Novel Act, ready for Stage.
Apply immediately, Box 7,542, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Set of Sleigh Bells, 12 links, with stand, 30/-; B flat trombone, 15/-; post horn, with tuning slide, 6/-; copper bugle, 8/- W., 532 Caledonian-rd, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Large and Showy Musical Instrument, for Stage, 2 chromatic octaves, 3 aluminium tubes to each note, played with key and hammer arrangement, good loud tone, well made. Strong stand, with folding legs, fitted with electric light, fancy coloured globes, switchboard, cable, &c., 2 travelling baskets, fine appearance, cheap. W., 532 Caledonian-rd, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophone, the Gem, Concert, and Grand, very powerful, deep-toned Chinese Gong. LISLE, 309, Camberwell New road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, complete set, concert pitch, plated, strong stand (portable), beautiful tone, new, £3 10s. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Theatrical Hamper, quite new, waterproof lined, on rollers, by Crampton. WARD, Austral Hall, Cartwright-gardens, Russell-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 36in. Ventriloquial Cheeky Boy Figure, latest movements, winks, smokes, &c. List price £2 10s.; sell £1 2s. 6d. QUISTO, 11, Lammermoor-road, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, Coloured Song Slides, 12 Somewhere, 6s.; 12 Shadowland, 6s.; 10 Daddy, 5s.; 12 Excelsior, 6s.; others. MORRIS, Bioscope, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Robert S. Burgh, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland, has for immediate sale No. 7 Blick, £6; No. 8 Blick, £7; both as new.

WANTED, to Sell, Dramatic Episode, suit Leading Man splendidly, Three Characters, Successful everywhere. Particulars, HARRY LYONS, 101F, Station-street, Birmingham.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, a really fine, well-painted Oak Chamber, in perfect condition, suitable for West End production, Illuminated Landscape Cloth and House Piece; also Suit of Armour, Stage Carpet, and Tapestry Curtains.
Box 7,541, "The Era."

WANTED, best Light Chamber, also Oak or Special Set, must be in excellent condition, cheap for cash. Lowest price, full particulars. B. BYRNE, 79, Grove-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Circus Clowns' Dresses, fit man 5ft. 8in. No fancy prices.
Ross, 38, West-street, Stourbridge.

WANTED, to Buy, Collapsible Wooden Chairs, for Al Fresco use; must be good, no rubbish. TOM SHENTON, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, to Buy, Green Baize Carpet, 21ft. by 9ft., in good condition. Address, GUEST, 15, Richmand-terrace, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, to purchase, easy terms, large Tent, hold up to 1,000, new condition, poles, ropes, complete, no seats.
R. BROWN, 72, Thornton-road, Bradford.

WANTED, Medium-size Round Tent, Booth, or Marquee; also Van. State lowest.
Box 7,568, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, cheap for cash, about 200 Tip-up Chairs, suitable large Picture Hall. Apply, FRANK NEWBURY, Empire, Cowdenbeath.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Dramatic Club (established nearly fifty years) is open to consider Original Modern Comedy in three acts (small Cast), for production in Oct. Synopsis of plot and full particulars to A. D., c/o W. H. Smith and Son, Advertising Agents, Blackfriars, Manchester.

WANTED, Play, small cast, suitable for country audience.
Mrs. PAGET STEAVENSON, Hurworth-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Sub-let, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery, South Wales, from May 3 to 14. Apply, B. BARTON, Town Hall, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to Let,
First-class Theatre,
Over £2,000 has just been Spent on it.
Apply, Box 7,567, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Let, for Summer Season, well-known Suburban Theatre, in first-class order, and good staff. Suitable for stock season of really good-class players. Address, Box 7,562, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in April and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 21, Malden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Licensed Concert Room, &c., two days every week, with attached residence, long or short period, inclusive charge only a guinea weekly, suitable for Theatrical Academy and other purposes. Grand situation, within easy reach of the West End. There is also a good opportunity of earning something with regards catering, &c., on other days of the week. Address, OWNER, Box 7,555, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Large Room, for Practising and Rehearsing Sketches, &c. Terms moderate, with piano. BOB PENDER'S Training School, Kennington Hall, Kennington-lane.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2918 Mayfair.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

BANDSTAND.

WANTED, to let, for Alfresco Entertainments, the Covered Bandstand, Sheerness, and enclosure on rental or sharing terms. Hippodrome Assembly Rooms (close to sea front) can be used when the weather is unfavourable. Apply, JULIAN GRAHAM, Manager for B. Pareezer, Lessee, Hippo., Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Let, a Music Hall within 35 miles of London, 12,000 population, plush tip-up chairs, carpeted floor, plenty of scenery, holds about 600. Principals only. Very low rent. Grand opening for right man. Address, Box 7,572, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Lease, by well-known Manager, Variety Theatre in Good Provincial Town. Full particulars, which must bear investigation. Box 7,548, "The Era."

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Hire, Two Large Docile Elephants for about Two Months.
Apply, 75, The Drive, Hove.

WANTED, to Hire (might Purchase), for one week, First-class Oak Chamber, with French windows, large opening, and practical fire; must have plenty of pieces, and be seen near London. Particulars, RAYNOR, T. R., Chatham.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Smart Man as Partner, with £150 to £200, must be a worker, for the Giant Slot Delivery Machines in prinicipal towns. 100 slots, delivering tea, coffee, mineral waters, cakes, fruit, sweets, chocolate, fortunes, electric shocks, toys, &c. Each machine portable, and can be erected to suit any space, round, oblong, or square. Machine an exhibition in itself. Profits big, half share of profits. Advertiser known showman. Can secure good shops in Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow.
SLOT, 81, Bristol-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Partner, with £250, for First-class Portable Hippodrome, with new electric light engine, all seated and complete, open in large district at present. Principals only, apply, Box 7,558, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Share in Great London Comedy Success can be secured for £250, now on tour; long autumn tour now booking. Part or Assistant-Management could be arranged.
Box 7,570, "The Era."

WANTED, Active Partner for Old-established Reliable Variety Agency.
Or would arrange representation on commission basis. Strictest confidence observed.
Box 7,563, "The Era."

WANTED, Harpist (reader), join Violinist, Whitsuntide, September through, Premier Severn pleasure steamer. Shares, age. EDGAR, 154, Lower Queen-street, Whitehaven.

WANTED.—Young Lady requires Lady Partner, a good Dancer. State age, letters, R. H., 25, Sharsted-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, for Duologue, to join Well-known Actress, Comedian, Penley type. Letters only, 35, Minstead-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, all in the game to Know,
that they can Buy Anything
in the Cinematograph Business,
from a Screw to the Finest Machine on the Market,
and Films for Sale or Hire.
Why pay more
when you can engage the Best Comics and Tragedies ever placed on the sheet, and bang up-to-date, at 15s. per 1,000ft., that will Pack your Halls Nightly. All that hire from us are highly delighted with the films we send them week after week.
Car passes the door every two minutes from Deansgate, Manchester. The White House, World on Wings, Chapel-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E. Large Hall for practice.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Picture Postcards, printed in best quality Collotype from own photo. English work; German prices. HOFFMAN & Co., 4, Pitville-place, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 3s., 100 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Handbills, 5 by 7½, 5,000, 5s.; 10,000, 8s. 6d. Other sizes equally cheap. Samples free.
FRED JONES,
Wholesale Printer, Aston Cross, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
PIGOTT and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. REYNOLDS, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

WANTED, Known, the Champion Part Right Firm will supply you with part rights, from 1s. 6d. each; "The Chantecler Girl," "When I'm Off Duty," and 129 others ready on hand. Don't delay, but send to day. CLARENDON Agency, 91 Sotheron-road, Watford; and 29, Norfolk-road, Ponders End, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Melodies composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano part, 2s. 6d.; Band parts (10), 3s. 6d. E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Known, Roy Cochrane desires to thank Mr. Bert Lewis for taking up the part of Dougal in "Rob Roy," at Sadler's Wells Theatre, on Monday last, at two hours' notice, owing to the illness of Mr. J. Macmahon, and giving such an excellent performance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above, all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract.
CHARLES BARNARD,
On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known.
Wanted, Known.
Wanted, Known.
Wanted, Known.
I hereby tender my thanks to O. Stoll, Esq., for postponing my dates with Moss and Stoll Empires for 1910, thereby allowing me to accept a Six Months' Continental Tour with Oscar Carre's Royal Circus.
G. DE GRACIA
(Royal Assam Elephants).

WANTED, Known, Alfred South, Tattoo Artist, 31, Charing Cross, Trafalgar-square, London, S.W., undertakes Commissions to Tattoo Ladies and Gentlemen for Exhibition. Highest Class Work. Moderate Charges.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady (Elocution Teacher) requires lady to join her in her small flat, Maida Vale. Box 7,571, "The Era."

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.

Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Lights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."
WE WILL FIND IT!!!

THE TOWER,
NEW BRIGHTON.
RE-OPENS FOR SEASON,
SATURDAY, MAY 14th to OCTOBER 1st.

TO LET
A FEW EXCELLENT SHOPS IN THE ELEVATOR HALL AND THEATRE CORRIDOR.
Also GROUND SPACES AND BUILDINGS IN MONEY-TAKING POSITIONS FOR STALLS AND SIDE-SHOWS.
SHARE OR RENTAL.
Applications will be dealt with in order of receipt, and should be addressed with full particulars to
R. H. DAVY,
General Manager and Secretary.

SUPERB RINK FLOORING STOCKS,
2 in. wide for immediate delivery,
Apply,
F. M. THOMPSON & SONS, Ltd.,
WOLLATON STREET, NOTTINGHAM.

SKATING RINKS.
A well-known and highly-successful Exhibition Manager would like particulars of Rinks which may be available for one month about end of coming summer.
"Exhibition," Box 7561, "The Era."

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.
FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S
AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909.
Post free, 1½d.
PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD. & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Mme. Réjane, Belliclair Bros., Gladys Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Serenaders, Twelve Fezzans, Cruikshank, La Sylphe, Heeley and Meeley, Animated Pictures, Anne Dancrey.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Marie George, Gustave Fasola, King and Queenie, Stewart and Morgan, Abdullah Arabs, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Conan and Doyle, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes, Harry Herbert.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mme. Ella Russell, Dot Stephens, Maples, Conn and Conrad, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Verno and Voyce, Signor Persichini, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope, Frank and Jen Latona.

COLISEUM GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Leyton and Co. in "The Roll Call," Sam Elton, Chas. J. Johnson, Siems, Barrett and Knowles, Fatmah Diard, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard, Bros. Horne, Alice Kingsley.

GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW

First week, Stock Season: "In the Ranks."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track," Tom Hearn, Bioscope, Avolos, George Newburn, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Katie Butler, Dandies, Little Zola, J. W. Rowley.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Peter Bermingham, Millie Payne, Delevines, Melody Makers, Betty Green, Bioscope, Three Cape Girls, Bros. Griffiths, Arthur Lennard.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Horace Mills and Co. in "A Disgrace to the Force," Cheebert's Imperial Chinese, Frank Melvin, Witty Watty Walton, Lux's Dogs, Florence Cooper, Fanny Robina, Bioscope, Sandford and Lyons, Guyer and Valli.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

H. Crighton's Co. in "The Cingalee."

GRAND BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait in "A Man of Spirit," Olive West, Leo Tell, Ray Wallace, Stowe Bros., Lydia and Amelys, Bioscope, "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Gordon Brown.

PALACE LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Elliott-Savonas, Falco and Eida, Addie Dorina, Jack Lane, Mabel Sinclair, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Lydia Yeamans.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Lillie Lassah, Musical Silvo, Haytors, Rauschle, Margaret Parker, Ike and Will Scott, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Chas. Whittle.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Tom Foy and Co. in "First of April," Alec Hurley and Co. in "Cockneys in Japan," Phil Parsons, Ed. E. Ford, Talbot and Pearce, Gladys Mavius, Hanid Alexander, Bioscope, Blank Family.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Geo. All and Co. in "Papa's Day Off," Alf Gibson, Ruth Davenport, Marie Pera, Courtiers, Larola, Ryan and Hall, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, La Pia.

EMPIRE HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Evie Greene, Smythsons, Chas. Norton, Hall and Earle, Tom E. Hughes, Northern Troupe, Three Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, King and Benson, Stewart and Lorraine.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Cull Pitt, Roma and Romani, O'Malley and Brown, Prince Milner Trio, Arthur Slater, Ethel Bourne, Rosie Sylvester, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill, Toch and Tard.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Wontdetania," Tate and Tate, Orpheus, Brown and Le Clerq, Yamamoto, and Koyoshi, Lancashire Lasses, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Carpenter and Smith's Co. in "The Proud Prince."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Neville Claude's Co. in "The Girl from Kay's."

EMPIRE STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Mlle. Haydee, Fred Curran, O'Gust, Pat Rafferty, Findens, Alice Maydue, Bioscope, Carmos, Harvey Boys.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Cook's Man," The Great Lafayette, Keen and Waller, Francis and Alfred, Andos Japs, Millie Engler and Co., Rhoda Paul, Kitty Traney, Bioscope, Dan Lipton's "Songland," Anna Chandler.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Pleasants, Humpsti Bumsti, Lola Patey, Walker and May, Globe of Life, Harry Friskey, Stanley and Greenop, Two St. John's, Bioscope, 18 Lancashire Singers.

EMPIRE SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Will o' the Wisps, Bros. O'Brien, Lupino Lane, Amelie De L'Enclos, Lily Palmer, Bioscope, Ted and May Hopkins.

EMPIRE CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Florence Esdaile, Charles Vincent, Lukushimas, Four Regals, Eadie and Ramsden, Scott and Whaley, Bioscope, H. O. Wills.

PHILHARMONIC HALL CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Lyric Quartette, Cumminger and Colonna, Three Van Dammes, Larry Lewis, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Violette Stockelle, Empire Comedy Four.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," A Ba-Bes, Ethel Newman, Strolling Players, Henry Helme, Haig and Novel, Tom Moore, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Wish Wynne.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Marie Kendall, Bioscope, Steve McCarthy, Brennans, Bros. Bright, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Rossi Ashton, Ted E. Box, Loyal's Trained Dogs.

PALACE THEATRE HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mme. Albani, Alice Maple, Jan Zakovsky, Phil Percival, Wyndham and Kitty, D'Arc's Marionettes, Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Reano's Band, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Santon, Alexandra Dagmar, Dion Wade, Tom Davies Trio, Kerr and Koe, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Craggs.

EMPIRE SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing," Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Manchester Mites, Les Marco Belli, Five Vernons, Feilding and Hull, Woodhouse and Wells, Les Silas, De Wynne Bros.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Van Biene, Mabel Mavis, Takio, Glenroy Troupe, Sisters St. Julian, Frank Case, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Alice Raymond and Co., Bertha Winder, Vandinoff, Frank Lynne, Winifred Ward, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Staig's Steeplejacks, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Sam Mayo, Lottie Govell, Sylvia Du Barry, Jackley Trio, Spry and Monti, Frank H. Fox, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Kellinos, Frank Maura, Pete and Minnie Lee, Real McKays, Bioscope, Corman's Juveniles, Five Musical Marvels.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Adele Levey, Carl Howard, Maudie Francis, Walter Stanley, Edwards and Espinosa, Harry Taylor, Bioscope, Vanando.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The O. K. Dians, Geo. Westland, Ethel Beech, Welda and Wynne, Annie Purcell, Will Sullivan, Minnie Thornton, Bioscope, Herbert Shelley.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9157 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, APRIL 18.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD,
Matinée Thursday.
Francini-Olloms and Page, The Sages, Bert Maddison, Thiessen's Dogs, Harry Atkinson, Dorothy Dare, Geo. Geoffreys, Charburn's Young Stars, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Tan-Kwai Troupe, Lisbon and Barker, Joan Deering, Lyons Trio, J. W. Rickaby, Palace Perfection Pictures, Billy Elliott.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Arnold Richardson Co., Sisters Edwardes, Will Austa, Tina Frank, Godfrey Price, Vesta Nixon, Zellini, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
H. Roxbury and Co., La Belle Sylvia, Alf J. Long, Irene Meldon, Will Douglas and Co., Joe Belmont, Olympian Cycling Team, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ten Dixie Girls, Pictures, Chas. Woodward, Tom Hulme, Elsie Kedward, Tamanto, Chris Masters, The Menzies, "A Ruined Life," Chas. Carlile and Co.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Bromley and Fontein, Janowsky Troupe, Pictures, "Roots, Rash Chemist," The Arabellas, "King Nobbler," Lew Lake and Co., Hugh and High, Nellie Neil.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Lowenwirth and Cohan, Norah Desmond, Ena Compton, Joe Cookson, Stiddler and Dunbar, The Rangers, Burt Shepard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Alice Gill, Ben Richards, Pick of the Picture World, Geo. Bennett.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Geo. Formby, Sisters Darnton, Walter Barrett, The Seddons, Cairo Trio, Alice Lingard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Tschin-Maa Troupe, Chas. North, Lennard and Vereker, Amio Trio, Zanonis, May Poulton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Comedy Meisters, Bros. Victor, Johnny Cecil, Vera Mayne, Mamie Morris, Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Pictures, Stylo.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Piccolinos, Letine, Camplins, Geo. Acre, Newmans, Ray Royal, Kirbys, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Ross and Grayson, The Miltons, Wat Tyler, Sim Maree, Dorothy Vasey, "The Key," Pictures, Sisters Clare, Garden Troupe.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
"Adolf Beck" Pictures, Blair and Allen, Bob Hamilton, Jimmie Pullin, Rosie Archer, Yangar, Selim and Suitana.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Eugene Stratton, Three Alskarnos, The Keppels, Harley and Melton, Ada Fawn, The Villions, Cavalli, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM,
"What a Man Made Her."
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Alone in London."
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Narow Bros., Fimans, Bartholomew Girls, Chas. Erard, Beatrice Harris, Julian Mack, Mildred Bryan, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Morny Cash, Geo. Lawrence, Dancing Gilberts, Tennis and Laune, Dalmere's Animals, Bill and Bella Crosby and Walker, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Enzer, Bros. Gerrard, Damerell and Rutland, "Palestine," Gus Harris, Hulbert's Girls, Jos. Crook, Harrigan and Holt, Cadwell and Verne, Dainty Dornette, "Secrets of the Past."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Milner and Storey, A. C. Lilly and Co., Bernard Mervyn and Co., Lillie Danville, Eherslie Pyne, Sisters Robertson, Beale and Broadway, Gicardo, Mark Hanbury, Bessie Neilson.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Wee Georgie Wood, Geo. James, Cissy Brand, Delavine's Marionettes, Desda and Mona, Cosgrove and Burns, Carman and Kelsey, Sisters Harcourt, Ted Curtis and Pics., "Winkles."

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

TO SONGWRITERS
AND OTHERS.

SMART COMEDY CHORUS SONGS and SMART COMIC SONGS WANTED AT ONCE.
Brilliant Catchy Melodies
COMPOSED TO ANYONE'S LYRICS, &c.
BIG HITS SUNG BY
Seymour Hicks & Ellaline Terriss, Vesta Tilley, Gus Elen, Whit Cunliffe, Florrie Forde, George Robey, &c
PIERROTS & CONCERT ARTISTES
Send for selection of Big Chorus Songs, &c.
Just published. Three stamps for postage, &c.
MAURICE SCOTT,
The Popular Composer,
11, CHURCH ROAD, BRIXTON HILL, S.W.

FOR SALE BY TENDER.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON
NORTHUMBERLAND.

The Owners
INVITE TENDERS

for the Purchase of the MINERS' THEATRE, at ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, in the centre of a large and increasing mining population, and the only theatre in the place.

The site of the Theatre and other adjoining land is 1545 square yards, and is held with other land on leases which expire on Nov. 11, 1993. The proportion of yearly ground-rent is £12 17s. 6d.

The Theatre seats about 2000 persons, and is lit throughout with electric light supplied by the local Electrical Company.

The present tenancy of the Theatre, at a rent of £400 a year, expires on May 31, 1910, and the purchaser will obtain vacant possession.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale and Form of Tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. WATSON, BURTON, and CORDER, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Solicitors, to whom Tenders are to be sent on or before April 29, 1910.

Applications for Particulars must be accompanied by payment of £1 1s.

The Vendors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

NOTICE TO ARTISTES
Re
PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, will be closed for alterations and repairs from after Saturday, June 18, 1910, until Saturday, July 16, 1910, and that Artistes having dates during the closed period will kindly take note that the same are hereby cancelled, and that they are free to consider them as vacant dates.

For UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd.
E. J. HILLS, Secretary.

"MERELY MARY ANN" CO.
OWNER of SCENERY of above Company, Stored with Pickfords, Ltd., 68, Harrow-road, December, 1908, is requested to communicate with them at once.

GEORGE MACKNEY (late of the Music Hall Profession, also Sydney Arms and White Hart, Lewisham, and Belvedere, Pentonville-road), takes possession of the Telegraph, Brixton Hill, S.W., on Tuesday next, where he will be pleased to see old and new faces; handsome billiard saloon, 4 tables, under electric light, everything of the best quality only kept.

Members of the Profession will have every attention.

THEODORE YESSLIN.
An important letter awaits you at "The Era" Office.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington

PLEASURE BEACH, SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Building, 35ft. by 35ft., to let for Shooting Jungle.
Apply
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool

WEST END THEATRE TO LET.
Immediate Possession.
Apply to
Messrs. FLADGATE and Co.,
2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross, S.W.

WALMSLEY'S SCENIC STUDIO,
RIVERS STREET, PORTSMOUTH.
Scenery of Every Description.
MODELS. ESTIMATES.
"The scenery was designed and painted by Mr. Fred Walmsley, and gained great admiration." ("La Forza del Dest no," Carl Rosa Opera Co.)—Press.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BARRY DOCK.—Mrs. Corp, 5, Beryl-road, close to Palace; professional apartments, bath (hot and cold); terms moderate.

BELFAST.—Sitting, two bedrooms, bath (h. and c.), &c.; comfortable cooking, 5 minutes all theatres. Mrs. Barry, 55, Upper Arthur-st.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.—One Sitting, three Bedrooms; Comb. Piano; three mins. all amusements.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.W.—24, Brixton-road. Sitting room and one or two bedrooms; gas, piano, good cooking and attendance. Address F. B.

LONDON, W.—Piccadilly Circus (opp. Tube). Sup. furnished apartments. Bedrooms from 10s.; large ditto, and suites; pianos, bath. 6, Arundell-street, London, W.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st., Rhyl. Professionals' Apartments. Moderate terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

GOLDERS GREEN.
Fifteen Minutes from Theatre Land BY TUBE.
This Delightful Modern District Adjoins Beautiful Golders Hill Park and Hampstead's Famous Heath.
IDEAL SPOT FOR THEATRICAL FOLK.
HOUSES and FLATS close to Tube to be LET and SOLD.
LESLIE RAYMOND.
ESTATE OFFICES, FACING TUBE STATION.
Tel. 4033 P.O. Hampstead. Any appointment kept.

BRIXTON (ANGELL-ROAD).
FOR SALE.—Contains 8 rooms, bath, kitchen, scullery, and usual offices; lease, about 62 years; ground-rent, £8 10s. Price £375, or £25 down and balance by monthly instalments of £3 3s. Apply F. E. Widdowson, 398, City-road, E.C.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound.
Will sell cheap.
DA VON, LTD.,
114 Bethnal Green-road, London.

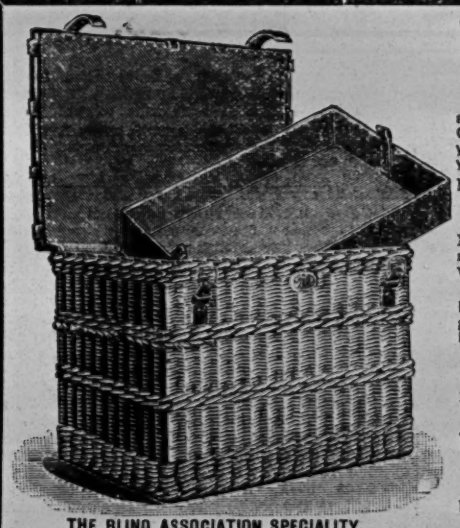

THE BLIND ASSOCIATION SPECIALITY.

THE FINEST HAMPERS IN THE WORLD

are made by the Blind at 258, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. Give us a call and you will be convinced that we can supply all your wants and execute your orders promptly
No. 9.—33 in. long, 21 in. wide, 21 in. deep. Price 30/6. Tray 4/-
Other sizes at proportionate rates.
Made close and very strong with extra wale round body, two straps and automatic lock, hard wood clogs, and lined with waterproof cloth Wheels fitted 2/- extra.
By placing your orders with us you not only get the best hampers that can be purchased, but at the same time you will be helping to support the Blind.
Terms: net cash with order. Carriage paid.
NOTE ONLY ADDRESS—
THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE BLIND.
258, Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.
Subscriptions towards the Pension Fund will be thankfully received by the Secretary,
H. E. MULLINS.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

This Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST is NOW OPEN, and will CLOSE on or before THURSDAY, the 21st day of APRIL, 1910, for both Town and Country.

PICTURE THEATRES, LIMITED

(ANIMATED PICTURES).

Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908 (whereby the liability of each Member is limited to the nominal amount of his Shares).

CAPITAL - - £50,000, divided into 48,500 Ten per Cent. Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of £1 each—£48,500; 30,000 Deferred Shares of One Shilling each—£1,500. Total, £50,000.

Of which 48,493 Ten per Cent. Cumulative Participating Preference Shares are now offered for subscription at par, payable as follows:—

1/- per Share on Application, 4/- per Share on Allotment, 5/- per Share one month after Allotment, and the balance in calls not exceeding 5/- each, at intervals of not less than two months.

The Directors will accept payment of calls in advance and will allow interest thereon at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The Cumulative Participating Preference Shares carry the right to a preferential and cumulative dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and are also preferential as to capital. After a dividend of 10 per cent. has been paid upon the Cumulative Participating Preference Shares, and due provision has been made for Reserve, the surplus profits will be divided equally between the two classes of Shareholders.

DIRECTORS.

GEORGE ASHTON, 33, Old Bond Street, London, W. (Director of Ashton & Mitchell, Limited; Ashton & Mitchell's Royal Agency) Chairman.

AUGUSTUS P. B. LOFTUS, 9, Queen's Gate Place, London, S.W. (On London Committee of The Knight's Deep, Limited; The Jupiter Gold Mining Company, Limited, &c.)

FRANK E. BUTCHER, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, London, E.C. (Director of W. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., Cinematograph Apparatus Manufacturers.)

Architect.—ARTHUR W. OSBORN, M.S.A., 90-91, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Solicitors.—SIMMONS & SIMMONS, 74, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Auditors.—ELLES HILL, BOOTHROYD & CO., Chartered Accountants, 79, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

Bankers.—THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED, 120, High Holborn, London, W.C., Head Office, 5, Prince's Street, Mansion House, London, E.C., or Branches.

Secretary and Offices (*pro tem*).—CHARLES CORNISH, Bank Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This issue of Shares is for the purpose of acquiring the established profitable Electric Picture Theatre at Kensington High-street, and of providing working capital for extending the business in other quarters where options on suitable sites have been or may be secured.

The Company will acquire a twenty-one years' lease of the new Theatre in Kensington High-street (hereinafter referred to as the Kensington Picture Theatre), which has been fitted up in a luxurious manner, all the latest improvements in construction and apparatus having been adopted. The regulations of the London County Council under the new Act have been complied with, the Theatre having been constructed in accordance therewith. This Theatre, having seating accommodation for 400 persons, was opened on Sept. 27 last by the Mayor of Fulham, and the Receipts up to date have been highly satisfactory. In an appreciative article, the "Morning Post" of Nov. 26 states: "On the whole, the Kensington Picture Theatre is much the best thing of its kind yet seen."

In addition to the above, negotiations have been entered into to acquire suitable sites and premises at East Dulwich, Tooting, Kilburn, Knightsbridge, Brixton, Islington, and Holborn.

Mr. Arthur W. Osborn, M.S.A., who has acted as Architect for the Vendors in connection with the Kensington Picture Theatre, in his Report, dated March 11, 1910, states:—

"In my opinion, all the Sites and Properties which I have inspected are in excellent positions for the purpose of Moving Picture Theatres, and cannot fail to be remunerative, if opened and fitted up in the same manner in which the Kensington Picture Theatre has been equipped."

The possibilities of lucrative employment of capital in this class of business are immense. The first cost of fitting-up premises and the necessary outfit is comparatively small, whilst the earnings are obtained at prices of admission within the reach of all. The performances given are generally continuous, and the spectators can enter and leave at any time, the pictures being repeated without interval and the programme changed twice a week or oftener if requisite. Animated pictures appeal to a section of the public to whom the ordinary Theatre or Music Hall offers little or no attraction, and once the Electric Picture Theatre is established, it becomes an institution, and receives the constant patronage of the surrounding residents.

PROFITS.

The Receipts for the twenty-six weeks ended April 2, 1910, during which the Kensington Picture Theatre has been opened, amounted to	£2171	8	1
While the Expenses, including depreciation, were	1596	0	6
Leaving a Net Profit from the working of this Theatre of	£575	7	7

An average of £22 2s. 7d. per week.

During the initial period, and until the Theatre became better known, the receipts were comparatively small. The takings for the last three months, however, were £1258 19s. 7d., equal to £96 16s. 10d. per week. Deducting the average weekly expenses, based on the figures certified by the Accountants (which include depreciation), the profit would work out at £35 9s. per week for the three months ended April 2.

According to the Report of Mr. Arthur W. Osborn, if the Company's Capital is fully subscribed, it would enable twenty-five theatres to be operated. Basing calculations upon the results obtained at the Kensington Picture Theatre, and taking the weekly profit at *only £20*, the figures would work out as follows:—

25 Theatres returning a profit per week of £20 each would amount per annum to	£26,000
Less Estimated Adminstration Charges	2,500
	£23,500
To pay 10 per cent. upon the total Preference Capital would take	4,850
Leaving for further distribution (subject to provision for reserve)	£18,650

That this is a fair estimate of profits is borne out by the report of ELECTRIC THEATRES (1908), Limited, presented to the Meeting held on Feb. 1 last, when the net profits were reported to be over £15,000 from the working of eighteen Theatres for the period ended Dec. 30, 1909, at which Meeting the Chairman said:—"I venture to say it is very few Companies which can claim to have paid 40 per cent. during the first year."

At the Meeting of the BIOGRAPH THEATRES, Limited, held on Dec. 15, 1909, when a final dividend for the Quarter ended Nov. 2, equivalent to 20 per cent. per annum, was declared (making 17½ per cent. for the year), the Chairman, Sir Brodrick Hartwell, Bart., said:—"Our receipts have consistently increased from quarter to quarter. . . . We are enormously increasing the number of our patrons, and proving that this class of entertainment is no mere passing craze, but has come to stay as surely as has the daily paper. I repeat again the belief I gave utterance to at the Statutory Meeting, held in February last, that the time is not far distant when the moving picture hall, with its daily changing display of the world's events, will be found everywhere, and will be the popular supplement to the daily paper."

An Agreement has been entered into by which the Company will secure the services, for a period of five years, of Mr. J. E. Park, of Bank Buildings, Kingsway, W.C., the present proprietor of the Kensington Picture Theatre, to act as Managing-Director after allotment.

The minimum subscription upon which the Directors may proceed to allotment is fixed by the Articles of Association at 25 per cent. of the Cumulative Participating Preference Shares now offered for subscription, but as 15,000 of these Shares have been underwritten at a commission of 10 per cent. on the nominal value of such Shares, the Directors will proceed to allotment immediately on the closing of the lists.

The qualification of a Director shall be the holding, in his own right, of Shares, of any class or classes, in the Capital of the Company of the nominal value of not less than £100.

Application will be made in due course to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange to grant a settlement in the Shares.

Applications for the Cumulative Participating Preference Shares may be made upon the form below, and sent with deposit to the Bankers of the Company. If an allotment is not made in full, the balance overpaid on application will be applied towards the amount payable on allotment. If no allotment is made, the deposit will be returned in full.

Complete Prospectuses may be obtained from the Bankers, Solicitors, and Auditors, and at the Offices of the Company.

Dated April 14, 1910.

THIS APPLICATION FORM MAY BE USED.

To be sent with a deposit of 1s. per Share to the London Joint Stock Bank, Limited, 120, High Holborn, London, W.C., Head Office, or Branches.

PICTURE THEATRES, LIMITED.

APPLICATION FOR CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES.

To the Directors of PICTURE THEATRES, LIMITED.

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £..... being 1s. per Share payable on application for ..... Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of £1 each in the above-named Company, I request you to allot to me that number of Shares, and I agree to accept the same or any smaller number that may be allotted to me upon the terms and conditions of the Prospectus, dated April 14, 1910, and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares so allotted to me, and I agree to pay the further instalments upon such allotted Shares as required in the terms of the said Prospectus.

Please write distinctly.

Ordinary Signature .....

Name (in full) .....

Address (in full) ..... (Please state if Mrs. or Miss)

Description ..... Date .....1910.

FILM GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Picture Theatres, Ltd.

This company is announced with a capital of £50,000, of which 48,493 ten per cent. cumulative participating preference shares of £1 each are now offered for subscription at par. These shares are also preferential as to capital, being further entitled to a moiety of any surplus profits after provision has been made for reserve. The company will acquire a twenty-one years' lease of an established profitable electric picture theatre at Kensington High-street, capable of seating four hundred persons, and at the present issue of shares will further provide working capital for extending the business to other districts where options have been or may be secured. During the half-year ending the 2nd inst., the receipts of the Kensington Picture Theatre amounted to £2,171, and the net profit, after providing for depreciation, was £575, giving an average of over £22 per week. For the second half of the period the profit is estimated to have averaged over £35 per week.

Twenty-five Theatres to be Operated.

The intention is to operate twenty-five theatres, and on the basis of a weekly profit of £20 each theatre the dividend on the preference capital would be covered, and £18,650 left for further distribution, subject to reserve as above. Mr. George Ashton, a director of Ashton and Mitchell, Ltd. (Ashton and Mitchell's Royal Agency), is the chairman of the board, which also includes Mr. Frank E. Butcher, of the firm of W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., cinematograph manufacturers, Farringdon-avenue, E.C. The subscription list closes on Thursday next.

Cricks and Martin's Enterprise.

Messrs. Cricks and Martin will send a free poster for each of their comic and dramatic pictures to any showman making application for the same. The display of the posters outside a show has a good effect on business—at all events they are worth a trial, and a post card will bring a sample. Messrs. Cricks and Martin are also busy preparing for the issue of "pictorials" with their subjects.

English Sweetmeat-Making.

Messrs. Cricks and Martin have produced one of the most notable films of the month in English Sweetmeat Making. The production of delicacies of this description calls for much ingenuity and the use of machinery of an extremely clever character, and the schoolboy will, if possible, take a still deeper interest in his bull's-eye and the lady in her chocolates, after learning the secret of their manufacture from this picture. It is, by the way, a matter for congratulation that an English firm should have taken the lead in this interesting and educational side of cinematography, and showmen who have not already had them would find it a good policy to feature The Watchmaking Industry, Candle Making, The Birth of a Big Gun, and other Lion's Head industrials, in addition to that already mentioned.

One of Tyler's Best.

My Maid is too Slow is an Eclair-Tyler film, 470ft. in length. A drawing-room scene introduces us to an awkward servant maid, who waits on her master and mistress and a gentleman guest with a provoking deliberation of manner which brings a sharp reproof from the lady. The latter has no effect whatsoever on the maid. A sharp push from her mistress, which sends her to her knees, causes her to remain there in a thoughtful posture for some time. The husband sees in the street a hawker offering for sale a battery which has the effect of quickening the movements of all to whom it is applied. He hastens to buy one, and at home shows it to his wife, with great glee at having discovered a means of putting some life into the girl. The battery is attached to one of the lady's old blouses, and the girl is summoned into the room and made to put it on. The results are remarkable.

Rough on the Poet.

Tylers have issued an amusing film, entitled A Poet at any Cost. A young married couple are annoyed at breakfast by an individual, who from an attic window opposite persists in addressing verse to the young woman. The husband goes to the poet's room and throws him out of the window. The poet falls on a porter, who throws him through a shop window. He mounts a lamp-post and continues to recite his verse. He is soon dislodged by people who are tired of his rhymes, and eventually find his way to the police-station.

New Aid to Recruiting.

A correspondent makes the suggestion that the popularity of the cinematograph shows now running throughout England should be utilised for the benefit of the Territorial Army. If the programme of each hall included a film showing the various arms at work, it would stimulate recruiting throughout the land. The time is close at hand for all regiments to proceed to camp, and this year particularly would produce some good films.

New Non-Flam Cinematograph Film.

At the Photographic Exhibition a demonstration has been given by the Sheffield Photo Company with a non-flam film. It is claimed for the new material that it may be exposed to the rays of the arc lamps for half an hour and not ignite. On the occasion under review, after the film, which was taken by the company, was completed, the operator allowed the intense rays of the lantern to play upon it for three minutes. The effect was merely a certain amount of frizzling. Again, when touched with a naked light, the new film burnt slowly, and could be easily extinguished, whereas the old type immediately flares up. The material experimented with is certainly a great improvement, and reduces the danger of serious fire to a minimum.

"By-Ways of Byron."

There was a new departure in electric theatres last Wednesday afternoon, when the management of the Electric Palace at Marble Arch presented a picture-play by Mr. Gilbart-Smith, entitled The By-ways of Byron. The audience saw the whole of Byron's romantic career, and lived for a time amid the scenes that Byron saw, including those which inspired portions of "Childe Harold." As the films appeared on the screen descriptive verses written and recited by Mr. Gilbart-Smith helped the audience to recreate each episode in the poet's career, including his famous swim across the Hellespont.

Percy Whiteley Comes of Age.

A benefit performance was held on Saturday last at the New Central Hall, Silverwell-lane, Bolton, on behalf of Percy Whiteley, son of the well-known amusement caterer, Mr. Thomas Whiteley, to celebrate the coming of age of the young gentleman. The function was a great success, and a very long programme was submitted. Mr. Percy was presented with a cheque for £25 and a motor-car by his father. His mother gave him a valuable camera for taking animated pictures. His eldest sister and brother-in-law presented him with a gold watch and guard; his sister Julia gave him a gold hunter; his sister Dolly presented him with a solid silver cigar-box; and his youngest sister, Kate, with a cabinet decanter. A splendid diamond ring, a silver-mounted pocket-book, a gold scarf-pin, a dressing-case, a silk muffler, a silver-mounted walking-stick, a silver match-box, and a cigarette-case were among the other numerous presents received.

Clapham's Picture Playhouse.

The Globe Electric Theatre, High-street, Clapham, was opened on Thursday last. There is to be a complete change of pictures every Monday and Thursday. Two of the finest bioscopes have been installed, namely, Gaumont's Chronos, and the proprietors have been enabled to secure the services of one of the best operators in Great Britain, Mr. A. E. Kidd (late chief operator to the Gaumont Co., Ltd). Mr. Manville Morton is the resident-manager. He has relinquished a similar post with another well-known company to take up the management of the Clapham Globe. It is the intention of the management to run weekly competitions, for which valuable prizes will be given, to both ladies and gentlemen.

"Armed Boers" Invade Greenwich.

Great excitement was recently caused in Greenwich and districts by the appearance of a commando of Boers, who were fully armed and mounted on sturdy ponies. The crowds who lined the streets were quite peaceful, and cheered the invading forces, which turned out to be a splendid advertisement idea for Selig's picture, The Highlander's Defiance, then being exhibited at the Greenwich Electric Theatre. On Saturday last a grand naval night was given to augment the funds of the Greenwich Battalion Navy Cadets. It was an animated scene when at 6 p.m. these smart lads marched down Bridge-street with colours flying, headed by their band. At the main entrance they were posted as a guard of honour to receive His Worship the Mayor of Greenwich (Chas. Newberry, Esq., J.P.) and the Mayoress. Mr. J. W. Chapman (the manager), who is a lieutenant in the corps, during the afternoon gave a stirring illustrated recital, entitled "The Pride of the Troop." As a result of the entertainment, a substantial amount was handed to the funds, and the Mayor expressed himself as being thoroughly pleased with the pictures and with the way the entertainment was organised.

Hurndall's King's Hall.

At Hurndall's King's Hall, in London-road, S.E., 5s. is paid on picture nights (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays) to fortunate people who have been cinematographed unawares in the street, and whose counterfeit presentment appears on the screen. On Thursday nights King's Hall is given up to boxing tournaments, and on Tuesdays and Saturdays to dancing.

Kensington Picture Palace.

The Kensington Picture Theatre programme for this week has included A Poet at Any Cost (Tyler), Sheep with the Six Legs (Tyler), Double Sight (Pathé's), New South Wales (Tyler), His Father's Voice (Gaumont), Coco Turns Nigger for Love (Cines), The Wrong Road (Pathé's), and The Final Settlement (American Biograph).

King's Hall, East.

The Commercial-road King's Hall has been open just twelve months. Before its cinematograph conversion the hall was used for Jewish wedding festivities. Large Biblical paintings still adorn the walls—three on each side, and one on either hand of the screen, which measures 16ft. by 14ft. The arched ceiling is of varnished oak. Between, over and above the mural artistry, red paperhangings impart to one's environment a warm, cosy appearance. The auditorium is 80ft. long by 30ft. wide. Mr. George Stone is the manager.

Latest Palace Pictures.

Paris Herself Again most aptly describes an admirable new series of "Kinemacolor" life-motion pictures in the actual tints of Nature lately taken from the deck of a Seine steamboat by Mr. Charles Urban, now an attraction to the Palace Theatre.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

The programme seen at the Theatre de Luxe this week has included the films The Usurper, A Child's Faith, The Old Maid and the Burglar, His Just Deserts, The Trials of a Chauffeur, and A Trip to the Moon.

New Bath Theatre.

Mr. Bannister Howard's new electric theatre in Westgate-street, Bath, was opened on Saturday last. On the preceding Friday a private reception was held, at which many of the prominent town officials and citizens were present. The building is a well-designed one, and apparatus is installed which reduces to the minimum any risk of an accidental fire.

Bath.

The recently-opened Electric Theatre at Bath is receiving a full measure of patronage, the films this week including The Grand National, The Boat-Race, Snow Scenes in Denmark, A Woman's Tragedy, He Adored an Advertisement, and several others.

New Dublin Picture Palace.

The Cinematograph Theatre, Lower Sackville-street, Dublin, was opened to the public last Saturday afternoon, and the attendance at the performances showed that the innovation is likely to prove very successful. The theatre is cosy and snug, and equipped with every comfort. It has a beautiful panelled ceiling, and the walls are panelled and decorated in red and white in the Georgian style, while the floors are carpeted with velvet pile. The seating, with separate chairs, is in green velvet, and the curtains and other hangings are made to harmonise.

Harrow's First Picture Palace.

For years the pretty and quaint old town of Harrow has languished as regards entertainments. Occasional concerts have been given in the public hall, and one night touring companies have occasionally visited the place. An enterprising company has, we are informed, now erected an up-to-date electric theatre, which will be opened on Saturday next.

Lancashire Cinematograph Theatres.

The Lancashire Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., which has a capital of £50,000, divided into 100,000 shares of 10s. each, is about to make an issue of 100,000 shares of 10s. each at par. The number of electric theatres is quickly increasing in various parts of the country, and Manchester and its neighbouring towns and districts are regarded as amongst the most promising fields for enterprises of this kind, having regard to the large surrounding population. As regards Manchester itself, cinematograph entertainments are given at the Grand Theatre, Peter-street; the Opera House, Salford; the Central Hall, Blackfriars-road; the King's Hall, City-road; the Picture Palace, Newton Heath; the Central Hall, Longsight; and a few other places.

New Theatre for Salford.

The Lancashire Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., have arranged to build an electric theatre in Regent-road, Salford, with a seating accommodation of 800, as well as other similar theatres in Manchester, Bolton, and Wigan.

New Theatre for Sheffield.

A company has just been registered, under the title of "The Sheffield and District Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.," with a capital of £50,000 in 10s. shares. The company has been formed for the purpose of erecting in the city of Sheffield and district cinematograph theatres on up-to-date lines. A most advantageous site has already been secured in the centre of the city, where it is proposed to erect and complete within three months a handsome block of buildings, to be known as Electra Palace, capable of seating 1,000 persons.

CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS.

The annual luncheon of the cinematograph operators will this year surpass their previous efforts to organise a popular function. The result is largely due to the energy and tact shown by Mr. A. Malcolm, the president, who will preside on Tuesday next. About one hundred tickets have been applied for, and among those who will be present are representatives of the directorate of the following firms:—Messrs. Hepworth, Messrs. Gaumont, Ltd.; Mr. Bloomfield, of the British and Colonial Films Co.; Messrs. Butchers, Ltd.; Mr. J. D. Walker, of Walturdaw, Ltd.; Mr. E. H. Bishop, of Messrs. W. Tyler and Co.; Messrs. Jury's Imperial Bioscope; Mr. Allen Williamson, of Williamson, Dressler, and Co., Ltd.; Mr. Cricks, of Cricks and Martin, Ltd.; Mr. Davies, of Messrs. Pathé Frères; Mr. R. Preur and Co.; The New Film Hiring Co.; the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.; Mr. Arton, of Artograph, Ltd.; Films, Ltd.; the Globe Film Co., and many others.

In view of the importance of this gathering every London operator who has not got a ticket and is able to be present should lose no time in applying for one, price 3s. 6d. each. Tickets are available to first post Monday morning, and may be obtained from Mr. A. Malcolm, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

On Tuesday the examination held by the N.A.C.O. took place at the office, 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The Examination Board consisted of Mr. J. D. Walker, Mr. E. H. Bishop, Mr. Kamm (of L. Kamm, Ltd.), Mr. A. Malcolm, Mr. John Wood, Mr. C. H. Mason, and Mr. H. L. Merritt.

Great satisfaction was expressed at the general excellence of the papers submitted, and the certificates awarded were as follows (these certificates will be presented by Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., at the luncheon; those operators not able to attend will receive their certificates immediately after the luncheon):—

Class A:—J. J. Fleming, Blackpool; F. Nall London; H. Jones, Morecambe; G. E. Prance, Devonport; A. Stott, Aberdeen; J. Rowe, North Shields; W. Kay, Preston; C. Emerson, Preston; W. Holmes, Halifax; S. E. Harper, London; A. McDonald, Chorley; J. P. Wilson, Oldham; J. L. Stein, London; J. S. Parker, London; H. T. Bell, London; R. J. Neil, London; C. E. Ralph, London; J. Clarkson, Risca; L. W. Thompson, London; A. Sayers, London; J. J. Warner, Stonehouse, Devon; A. T. Willis, Blackburn; A. Bartlett, London; C. Vernon, Berwick-on-Tweed; F. Howarth, Chorley; and A. Smith, Bradford.

Class B:—G. E. Gardner, London; S. Hyman, London; F. R. Edwards, London; W. J. Turner, London; T. H. Pike, Sunderland; and H. P. Mack, Twickenham.

Class C:—E. J. Cleves, Londonderry.

Programme and toast list for the luncheon:—"His Majesty the King," proposed by the Chairman. Presentation of the certificates by Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P. "Success to the Association," response by Herbert L. Merritt, hon. secretary. "Our Guests," proposed by Mr. Chas. H. Mason, vice-president; responses by Mr. W. C. Bowerman, Mr. W. A. Appleton, and Mr. C. F. Appleton. "The Trade," proposed by the Chairman. "The Examining Board," proposed by Mr. Ed. Catlin; responses by Mr. J. D. Walker and Mr. E. H. Bishop. "The Officers and Committee," proposed by Mr. Chas. E. Ralph, N.A.C.O.; response by Mr. A. Malcolm, president. "The Press," proposed by Mr. W. Johnson; response by Mr. E. T. Heron. "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. T. G. Weedon.

"Cinematograph Pictures." The law of copyright affecting the same. By William Jago, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—Ernest Montefiore and company present the interesting dramatic playlet *The Little Colonel*, in which Miss Ivy Laurel distinguishes herself. Will and Roze, comedy acrobatic conjurers, are warmly applauded. New and interesting pictures are shown.

ABERDARE.—New Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alfred Reid.—Jackson and May top the bill in their thrilling cycle sensation; Henry Hilton, magician and sleight-of-hand expert, is well received; Daisy Reid, comedienne, buck, and sand dancer, is a great favourite; the Glenisters, harmonising illustrated vocalists, complete the variety turns, and some excellent pictures on the Bioscope conclude.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—This week Aberdeen, not to be outdone in histrionic devotion to the Bard of Avon, has been worshipping at the shrine, under the ægis of Mr. Arthur Phillips. This rising young actor, greatly daring, has put his Shakespearean fortunes to the touch with a whole week of *The Merchant of Venice*, and it must be acknowledged that, with the excellent interpretive media at his disposal, he has more than justified the "bold adventure." His Shylock has made a most favourable impression; while the support accorded by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas (Portia), Miss Christie Laws (Jessica), Miss Dora Hole (Nerissa), Mr. E. Harcourt Williams (Bassanio), Mr. James Berry (Antonio), and others was most effective and distinctive.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —Mr. John R. Poole's Seven Bramusas, in the brass band extravaganza, *Music Afloat*, are the principal attraction this week; the Brothers Egbert (the happy dustmen) are also going strong; and other sterling turns are contributed by Hanvarr and Lee, in the *Golfer and the Maid;* George Prince, the crazy comedian; Bertha Evelyn, comedienne; Wee Mac, juvenile vocalist; Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers; and Vincent, acrobatic table expert.

ABERTILLERY.—Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Price.—Mr. Oswald Cray presented *When It Was Dark* to a crowded housce on Monday. Mr. C. Wordley Huise gives an admirable portrayal of Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Oswald Gray is excellent as the Rev. Basil Gortre; and Mr. Edward Valentine acts forcibly as Sir Robert Llewellyn; great praise is also due to Mr. Charles A. Baker as Harold Spence and Mr. J. Osmond Branningham; Ionides, is well portayed by Mr. George West, and Mr. Walter Manfree makes a capital Rev. Mr. Byars; Miss Lillian Herries is excellent as Gertrude Hunt, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle is good as Helena Byars.

Metropole Theatre.—Mr. J. A. Thomson's company is here with *The Unknown*.

ACCRINGTON. — Prince's Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's capital company is being well received here in the new domestic drama, *Mother*. Duncan Fairweather finds an able exponent in Mr. J. O. Stewart; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Frank Rodney plays with vigorous earnestness; Mr. Reginald Brown sustains the part of Stephen Carrington with marked ability; and Mr. Henry Culun furnishes a powerful impersonation of Jasper Rawden. Mr. Teddy Myles is responsible for an amusing portrayal of Tommy Noblets, being ably assisted by Miss Elsie Dene as Polly Crumpet; Miss Grace Jones deserves every commendation for an artistic rendering of Nellie Fairweather; Miss Amy Wood plays with distinction as Martha; and as Little May, Miss Mary Holmes proves herself a clever child actress.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, in a clever pot-pourri act, hold the premier position here; Harry Nelson has amusing songs and patter; Pearce and Ward (old pantomime favourites) sustain their reputations as burlesque boxers; Mr. and Mrs. Alaska, in their clever acrobatic comedy turn, draw appreciative applause; and Boden and Bell are well received. Jack Smiles, a comedian of the quaint order, wins hearty approval; H. Cotton, comedian, appears to advantage; and the Bioscope pictures prove very entertaining.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is a most charming play. Dick Lascelles is admirably played by Mr. Edgar Kent; right well does Miss Dorothy Ripley play Lady Hermione; Mr. George Mallett as the good-hearted admiral is delightful; and Miss Florence Jackson plays genially as Mrs. Cameron. Mr. H. Montague Love's Major Thesiger is full of good points; and Messrs. George Percy, Lionel Isted, Hugh Wakefield, Olaf Hytten, and Misses Winifred Vallant, Stella Leigh, and Ada Clarke also add materially to the success. Mr. Richard Collet is business-manager.

ASHINGTON.—Miners' Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Gould.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company in *A Woman's Past* is here. As David Heath Mr. Percy Dawsone undertakes the hero with distinction; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden is excellent as the doctor, Clement Harper; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh as Uriah Craven is particularly well placed; Miss Dora Pass as Bessie is sweet and pathetic; as Clara Darrel Miss Phyllis Elton plays with force; and Mr. Charles Locke as Frank Delamnoy and Miss Cherry Veheyne as Dorothy Heath are responsible for the comedy.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here with *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. Jno. F. Traynor puts intelligence and vigour into his interpretation of Harry Steyne, the engine-driver hero; Mr. Fred G. Evison, as Billy Brewer, enacts the ne'er-do-well with skill; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman invests Leonard Royle with kindly consideration and benevolent instincts; Mr. Frank S. Strickland is good as Hassan Padisha; Bill Barnley, a gamekeeper is finely acted by Mr. R. Banks; Mary Steyne, the driver's wife, is sustained with deep feeling and much vigour in the dramatic passages by Miss Trissie Humphreys; no less successful is Miss Mildred Carr a Nancy Brewer; Miss Jenny Weston as Lady Phyllis, Miss Primm as Parker, Miss Ethel North as Patty, and Miss Marie Longden as Miss Mildmay are efficient exponents of their respective characters.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem —A return to "variety" brings that excellent comedian, Billy Merson, in song and patter; Mitchell and Stoll are, as described, smart, clever gymnasts; a dramatic extravaganza by Edward Thane, under the title of *Spasms*, is remarkably funny; Geo. Hyam is a useful singing comedian; Stylo, clever hoop manipulator, provides a revelation in the art of juggling; Beatrice Bonnie is a pretty and charming comedienne; the famous Philipi Brothers furnish a laughable speciality, *Captain Fearnaught and His Raw Recruits;* Harry Kirk and Nelly Rose are a couple of clever artists, and Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie introduces a couple of boxing cats.

The New Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The Pavilion new pictures include A Roman's Awakening, and other films of dramatic, historical and humorous interest. The Whimsicals score in their bright entertainment, consisting of melody, mirth, and movement. Mr. Alan Wright, lecturer and baritone, sings songs illustrated.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—New films include Adventurees of the Gold Valley and the story of a Half Breed of the Gold Mines. The comic subjects are all well selected. The big variety "draw" is the favourite burnt cork celebrity, Billy Richardson.

The Picturedrome.—Lessees, Messrs. Welsker Bros; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Novelty of the vaudeville order supports the notable picture entertainment here. Mr. and Mrs. Matt Wilkinson in the clever sketch, *In a Registrar's Office*, are greatly diverting; Miss Violet Beatrice sings sweetly and dances neatly.

AYR.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*In the Shadow of Night* is well staged by Mr. Arthur Lee Mitchell's company. The plot is clearly set forth by a strong company, including Mr. Paul Beckett, who takes the part of the villain, Mr. Leonard Williams, the hero of the piece, and Miss Irene Arondel, the heroine, Mr. Forbes Carrington, Mr. Ern Carlton, Mr. William Hayward, Mr. Fenton Wingate, and Miss Kitty Johnstone, Miss Kittie Roze, &c. The introduction of water in two of the scenes adds realism to the show.

Picture Palace.—The pictures here include The Launch of Britain's Largest Warship—H.M.S. Colossus—at Glasgow, Pygmalion, A Corner in Wheat, and a grand war story, entitled Up San Juan Hill.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—For the second week in succession one of the musical comedy companies piloted by Mr. T. C. Wray occupies the boards, this occasion being devoted to *The Girls of Gottenberg*. Honours are secured by Miss Nan Stuart and Miss Hilda Vining, the first-named lady as Elsa proving herself to be a young vocalist and actress of charm, and the latter an equally pleasing and hard-working exponent of the part of Mitzi. Miss Nellie Lauraine is well-suited to such rôles of Clementine, as she can both sing and act with effect and humour. Miss Molly Geary dances nimbly when opportunity allows as Lucille. As Max Moddelkopj Mr. Phil Smith enacted a long and amusing character, and laughter reigns throughout the performance. Mr. Murray Moore scores a big success as Prince Otto. Mr. Harry Clarke does good work as Albrech, and as the Sergeant Mr. Chas. Berkeley exhibits ability both as a comedian and dancer. Others in a long list of parts add to the pleasure of the audience, and the chorus and orchestra under the experienced direction of Mr. Bertram J. Paterson deserve praise. The piece is admirably produced by Mr Austen Hurgon and well stage-managed by Mr. Charles Berkeley.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—A capital programme includes those wondrous Asiatic performers the Tschin-Maa Troupe, whose efforts have been crowned with success. Another skilful juggling turn is that given by Lily and Zanoni. Novelty in hand-balancing, gun-spinning, and gymnastic work is displayed by the Amio Trio. The pictorial speciality songs, as presented by Lennard and Vereker, are both new and effective. Chas. North, in a series of barrack-room ballads and recitations, is cordially welcomed. May Poulton, comedienne, has a good voice, and renders her song with animation. The pictures include A Lesson in Charity and A Sick Man's Dream.

Bath's Electric Theatre.—Gratifying attendances continue at this latest entertainment opened locally. The films shown for the early part of the week include An Angry Sea, The Honour of the Family, Playing Truant, Wanted a Mummy, and Beneath the Gas.

BATLEY.—Theatre.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—An exceptionally capable company is producing here the powerful society drama, *His Life for Hers*, an adaptation of *Moths*, by Ouida. Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and Jas. Martin's company includes Miss Henrietta Schrier as Fuchsia Leach and Mr. J. Lodge-Percy as Lord Jura, both characters being admirably played.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Excellent fare is provided in the shape of *The Catch of the Season*, presented by Mr. Murray King and company. Mr. King himself plays the part of the Duke of St. Jermyns with unflagging zest. Miss Glayds Guy is a bright and dainty Angela; and Mr. Charles D. Ommanney provides a capital study of Lord Dundreary. Mr. Ardene Linden as Sir John Crystal is most amusing; and Mr. Jamie Dallas as William Gibson is extremely good. Master Willie West provokes much laughter as the Page Boy; Miss Mildred Cottell is a sufficiently haughty Lady Crystal, whose charming daughters are cleverly impersonated by Miss Norah Dwyer and Miss Louie West. Miss Evelyn Shelley is a most entertaining Lady Caterham. The piece is excellently staged.

BELFAST.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The City Amateur Operatic Society commenced on Monday their fourth season of opera, when, under the patronage and presence of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Belfast, Mr. Sydney Jones's opera, *A Greek Slave*, was produced, the principal rôles being efficiently sustained by Miss Florence MacNaughton, Miss Annie Blakely, Miss Eileen Matthews, Miss Elsie Parrott, and Messrs. Stanley Hughes, T. Burrows, R. M. Hill, E. Wilson, &c. The augmented orchestra was skilfully conducted by Mr. C. J. Brennan, Mus.B. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings *Merrie England* was the attraction, and to-night (Saturday), *A Greek Slave* will be repeated.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Saimond.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company opened here on Monday with the beautiful play *A Daughter of the Sea*. The leading rôle of Sunshine (afterwards Lady Phœbe Hamilton) was sustained by a very clever and charming actress, Miss Florrie Green, whose delightful impersonation is worthy of high commendation; Mr. Lewis Gilbert furnished a powerful impersonation of the iniquitous Mark Glensdale; and Mr. Cole Aspinall was thoroughly efficient as Captain Ben Morrison; Mr. Roy Denman must be congratulated on his skilful interpretation of Ken Moreland; and Mr. Ashmore Vincent was all that could possibly be desired as Dan Glensdale. The humorous element was in the hands of Miss Allyce Wyllyams and Mr. J. O. Monkhouse, who in their respective rôles of Mollie and Billy were responsible for peals of laughter, and certainly their impersonations were hugely enjoyed. The rôles of Sir Maxwell Brentwood and Jack Strong, so ably sustained by Messrs. Carl Calgna and Cyril Craven completed the cast.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The star here this week is Princess D'Aryaba, who appears to advantage in her clever and fantastic dancing scena; Jan Rudenyi and company return with their capital sketch *The Power of Music*, in which Herr Rudenyi plays the violin so excellently, being accorded a tremendous reception; Wild, Willie, and West, acrobatic comedians, create roars of laughter with their smart act; and Mr. Paul Barnes, the droll American, makes a big hit with his up-to-date patter; Mr. L. W. Harris is one of the best of light comedians, with good songs; and Mr. Walter Emerson's comic songs have been hugely enjoyed. Also appearing are Curwen and Belle, burlesque artists; Miss Ethel Loftus, comedienne, who made a great hit on Monday; Mr. Alec Kendal, comedian; and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by the O. K. Dians, an exceedingly smart miniature musical comedy company. Their high-class programme met with a good reception, and deservedly so; another strong item on the bill is the Irish protean play, *Dan the Outlaw*, in which Mr. Herbert Shelley appears, his success being undoubted; Mr. George Westland is a capital Scotch comedian; and Miss Annie Purcell, a charming comedienne, sings some chorus songs, affording much pleasure; Weld and Wynne appear in their clever comedy and juggling act; and Mr. Will Sullivan is aptly described as a funny comedian. Also here are Miss Minnie Thornton, comedienne, who is a first-class dancer; Miss Ethel Beech, soubrette; and the Bioscope.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some interesting films are produced here this week, including Sexton Blake, A Tale of the West, Buried Alive, &c. The Vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Bob Stephenson, an exceedingly droll Irish comedian and capital dancer. The Kimberley Boys were unable to appear on Monday through indisposition, but Mr. Frank Boyce, comedian (from St. George's Hall), deputised with much success.

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of the popular manager, Mr. Rogers, some beautiful pictures are exhibited here, including Lord Blend's Love Affair, The Diver's Remorse, Over the Simple Pass, &c. Mr. Frank Boyce, a comedian of infinite resource, is encored nightly, and deservedly so.

Princess Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Some capital films are being shown here, including Dick Donovan, Kind-hearted Employer, &c.

BILSTON.—Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J Tunstall.—The Scena Vocas are successful song illustrators; the Jollions introduce a miniature opera, entitled *The Spider and the Fly;* the eccentric dancing of Will Harris is clever; and the pictures shown are good.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Bondman* constitutes a strong attraction. The half-brothers, Jason and Michael, are carefully and effectively played by Mr. Philip Darien and Mr. Stanley Harrison respectively; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith is a good Adam Fairbrother; and the rôles of Grandfather and Father Ferrati are well doubled by Mr. W. H. Rotherham. Miss Violet Macaree is excellent as Greeba; the part of Mrs. Fairbrother is well embodied by Miss Madge Lanerton; and remaining characters in a somewhat lengthy cast are all adequately represented. The scenic effects are elaborate, and good business has resulted.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Happy Fanny Fields, the clever Dutch impersonator, is the leading turn and renews previous successes. Milt Wood gives a marvellous exhibition as a dancer, and has made a hit; the New Macs, knockabout comedians of ability, are fulfilling a successful return engagement; and Signor Torti is a tenor vocalist of exceptional ability. Miss Madeline Rees, an accomplished comedienne, is a general favourite; and Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in a comedy duologue, are an acquisition. Cliff Diamond, juvenile comedian and dancer; Harry Clifford, comedian; Linn and Darius, musical artists; Johnny Walker, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope are all conspicuous. On Saturday last Mr. Clarke gave his annual matinée, when the whole of the proceeds were devoted to the Mersey Railway Benevolent Fund.

Hippodrome.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's répertoire dramatic company is appearing twice nightly. During the week *Almost His Bride* and *A Woman's Passion* have been produced. Leading rôles are admirably sustained by Mr. S. Pritt, R. F. Tracy, Arthur F. Dudley, and Miss Louie Peebles.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—"The Middies and Maids" costume party are appearing in a very agreeable entertainment here.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The Follies are making crowded audiences roll with laughter. Mr. Pelissier is admirably supported by Miss Gwennie Mars, Miss Muriel George, Miss Effie Cook, Miss Ethel Allandale, Mr. Lowis Sydney, Mr. Morris Harvey, and Mr. Douglas Maclaren.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. George Edwardes's company with *Our Miss Gibbs* is paying a first visit to this city, and big business is being done. There is a brilliant exhibition of dresses and scenery. The feature of the performance this week has been the admirable representation of the leading character by Miss Blanche Browne, who deputises for Miss Alice Pollard (indisposed). The comedy element is in the safe hands of Mr. George Gregory, who is continuously funny; Miss Marie Wilson is splendid as a wilful daughter of aristocracy; Mr. Lionel Mackinder as the amateur cracksmen works hard and renders his songs in fine style; Mr. Robert Nainby is amusing as the "professional crook"; Mr. Cropton plays the sentimental lover perfectly; and Mr. Nyles Clifton makes a smart Earl.

Alexandra.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Audiences are according a hearty reception to the play *Temptation*. Mr. Norman A. Overton as Hubert Thorne provides a clever study of stage villainy, and is a vigorous actor; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle as Sir Charles Tremaine shows that he has a thorough grip of the part; and Miss Nora Carton gives a sympathetic rendition of Hilda Dundonald; Miss Beatrice Selwyn also scores in the rôle of an adventuress; Mr. Frank Ayrton is a popular character as Bob Saunders; and Mr. Patterson Bradbury achieves a success in the part of an unscrupulous lawyer. The drama has undoubted drawing powers.

Bordesley Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The charm of *The Cingales* is captivating large audiences at this popular house, the production being in the hands of Mr. Haldane Crichton and his company. The musical items are well rendered, and the dancing is a delightful feature, the scenic effects and pretty dresses adding the necessary finishing touch. Miss Florence Watson gives a charming impersonation of Nanoya, the Cingalese girl, and her singing of "The Cinnamon Tree" is enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Arthur Cartwright appears to advantage as the Hon. Harry Vereker; Miss Ida Ernest makes a dainty Peggy Sabine; and Miss Pauline Hague displays versatility as Lady Patricia Vane. As the quaint Chambhuddy Ram Mr. Jack Crichton is the life and soul of the humorous situations.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The pathetic situations in the drama *The Old Home*, played by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's No. 1 company, find great favour with large audiences. Mr. Charles Franmore gives a striking portrayal of the old fisherman as Daddy Dean, and is repeatedly applauded for clever work in many emotional situations; Miss Nina Blake Adams is well chosen as Hazel Dean, the fisherman's wayward daughter; and Mr. Evelyn A'Dell represents with considerable skill the Rev. Eric Armstrong. Mr. Horatio Sinclair scores a success in the heavy character as Lord Avondale, and Miss Harriette Loydall earns appreciation in the part of Bridget Donoghan. Plenty of fun is supplied by Miss Ethel Ashleigh (Polly Popp) and Mr. Fred L. Connynghame (Sam Adams).

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—*Hush Money* is an exciting drama illustrating the adventures of the well-known fictional character, Sexton Blake. Mr. Horace Denton as the great detective has a fine opportunity to display his ability, and of this he takes full advantage; Mr. Harry Hartley as Tinker gives a clever impersonation, and the bloodhound Pedro also figures prominently. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as John Shard and Miss Theresa Osborne as Lady Muriel are also responsible for good characterisation; and Mr. J. H. Darnley scores a triumph in the rôle of Lord Walgrave.

Carlton Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The King of Crime* is capably presented by Miss Ethel Griffies' company. Mr. Haldane Dalton gives a striking portrayal of the central figure, Ronjarre, and is frequently applauded in many powerful situations; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam as Henriette is a clever emotional actress; Mr. Victor Gardom gives a good interpretation of Simon, the traitor; Mr. W. F. Glover acts cleverly as Pere Gandela, the miser; Miss Toxa Summer and Mr. Geoffrey Broughton are well chosen as the sailor and his sweetheart; and praise is also due to Miss Pamela Hodson (Clarisse) and Mr. Johnny Chippendale (Mick Mallony).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—A strong bill is headed by Mr. Horace Mills, who is supported by an excellent company in a mirth-provoking sketch entitled *A Disgrace to the Force*. Sandford and Lyons create much laughter, and their dancing is greatly appreciated; a successful first appearance is made of the Cheebert Royal Imperial Chinese Troupe in illusions and an athletic display; a remarkable exhibition of dancing concludes the turn of Charles Guyer and Dora Valle; and Witty Watty Walton is as witty as ever. Fanny Robina sings songs in good style; Frank Melvin is a comedian of great promise; Florence Cooper is a smart entertainer; and a clever performance is given by Lux and his dogs.

Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The immaculate Whit Cunliffe has a budget of new songs, which elicit enthusiastic applause; Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait appear in a laughable domestic episode, *A Man of Spirit;* Ray Wallace merits the plaudits she obtains for her clever entertainment at the piano; Leo Tell is responsible for a pleasing and up-to-date musical act; there are many thrilling and amusing incidents in the sketch *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, admirably played by Mr. Harold Nuttall and company, which includes Mr. Martyn Roland; and a delightful dancing act is presented by Lydia and Amelys.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The chief attraction in a good company is Ben Hur, athlete, who delights audiences with a number of remarkable feats of strength; Austin Rudd is popular in several amusing songs; and Geoffreys and Benson present a laughable sketch, in which humorous dialogue arises from an unusual case of mistaken identity; Beanland is a clever female impersonator, and his songs meet with much approval. The Whittakers provide an excellent turn in a representation of Dick Whittington and his cat; the Five Geraldos are an exceptionally smart company of jugglers; and other notable contributions are furnished by Farr and Farland, Charles Pastor, Johnny Dwyer, and Arthur Hill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Audiences laugh heartily over the eccentricities of *Parker, P.C.*, as portrayed by Mr. Charles Austin in his screaming farce. *The Deputy Sheriff*, presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, is another big attraction, Mr. Wilfred Payne and Miss Agnes McCarthy playing prominent parts; Max Sterling, a smart illusionist, has some puzzling tricks; Iris Banfield is a dainty comedienne with a very taking style; Harry Russon is a talented character actor; Garti and Law are an entertaining musical comedy pair; A. W. Scott is a popular coon delineator; and Lloyd Morgan causes mirth with his comicalities.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The Six Brothers Luck's company is a great attraction in the popular sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*. Frank Elliston and company present a pretty costume playlet, entitled *My Lady Betty*. The Four Burrells are entertaining in a brisk knockabout sketch; Fred Spencer causes roars of laughter by his comicalities; Edith Haley is a delightful vocalist; the Primrose Quartette receive a warm welcome; Benson and Rose present a bright comedy duologue; Tiny and Mite are popular juvenile artists; and the Royal Temples, including Madame Louie Gilbert, are talented vocalists.

Curzon Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—An up-to-date entertainment is attracting crowds. Two excellent features are Belshazzar's Feast, a beautiful Eastern production, and The Egyptian Maid, a sensational dramatic story. The Mexican's Vengeance is another exciting subject, and an interesting series depicts the manufacture of cork. Mr. Stuart Brampton is popular in an original song-scena, entitled "Our Gallant Lads in Blue," and Miss Lily Mullaney sings a couple of songs.

King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A romantic Spanish love story is told in the picture Senorita, and an exciting subject is entitled Up San Juan Hill. The humour contained in several films is of an excellent nature, the chief subjects being The Marvellous Cure and Juggins at the Photographer's. The vaudeville portion of the entertainment is supplied by Miriam Walters, a dainty comedienne, and Master Teddy Lennon. Crowds of enthusiastic skaters throng the Bijou Roller-skating Rink each day and evening.

Queen's Hall. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The pictures shown this week are well up to the usual standard, the dramatic subjects being a popular feature. Young and old alike laugh heartily over the humorous pictures.

Bingley Hall.—Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—The National Trades Exhibition is daily the rendezvous of pleasure-seeking crowds, who find delight in inspecting the splendid collection of trade exhibits and in witnessing interesting demonstrations of the manufacture of all kinds of articles. The "Theatre of Fashions" is an irresistible attraction for ladies, and there are many side shows where humorous entertainment is provided. Music is provided by the Blue Viennese Band, under Herr Moritz Wurm.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company are here in *Her Marriage Vow*. Mr. Knowles depicts, in a praiseworthy manner, Ned Benton; and a clever study of Daffy Dan is that of Mr. Harry Momber. Miss Violet Lytton is excellent as Kate Walters; and Miss Nancy Lawrence is a sprightly Maggie Clare. Messrs. Ed. Avinal, Wm. Burgess, Richard Nugent, Chauncy Morris, and Misses Nellie Shirley and Nellie Waddington portray their parts well. The scenery is good.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Venetians, in their painting, sculpture, and singing act, meet with much approval; Capt. Devereux's dogs provide a most entertaining turn; and Ted Waite is a funny comedian. Prof. Norton is a clever illusionist; and the Wedburns score in their musical scena. The Violas have a rousing reception with "Knight's Tour and Mental Telegraphy"; and Ruby Bijou is a smart barefoot dancer. A great deal of interest is being evinced in the Hipposcope film, which produces the English Amateur Cup Final, played here last Saturday.

Olympia.—General-Manager, Mr. Hubert J. Butler. —On Saturday last a children's carnival proved a very successful affair. Numerous prizes were awarded, and Mr. Butler succeeded in obtaining the services of Miss Madge Grey, of *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, to distribute them.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*Two Little Vagabonds* once more occupies the stage here, and the company responsible for the production has met with a favourable reception.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—Mr. D'Arcy Clayton is presenting his concert company as "The Gipsies." The entertainment is brimful of humour and the singing is excellent. The company consists of Miss Elsa McIntosh, Miss Marie Weir, Miss Louise Harvey, Mr. Evelyn Wood, Mr. Edgar Berte, and Mr. Will Gane.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company, in *A Country Girl*, opened here on Monday. Mr. Coningsby Brierley as Barry was the soul of the representation; Miss Myfanwy Newell as the Princess was remarkably graceful; Miss Anna Hickisch as Nan was successful in her presentation of a Devonshire lass; and Miss Dorothea Temple as Marjorie did full justice to her songs.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is on a return visit with *The Dollar Princess*, considerably revived and improved, and staged with great magnificence. There are many changes, too, in the company, and the largely augmented orchestra and chorus are ably directed by Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus.Bac.,

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

Copyright Design. Chemical Cleaning & Dyeing Co

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

Oxon. Monday night's crowded audience greeted the performance with hearty applause, and Mr. W. Louis Bradfield made a decided hit as the multi-millionaire, Harry Q. Conder; Miss Norah Barry supporting him very charmingly as Alice. Mr. Leonard Mackay used his fine voice well in an excellent performance of Freddy Fairfax, and Mr. Eric Thorne was screamingly funny as Mr. Buiger. Miss Daisy Ellison played Daisy very brightly; Miss Marjorie Maxwell filled the part of Olga finely; and Messrs. H. Cridland, P. Plunket, P. Davison, C. Hobson, R. A. Swinhoe, and F. Lidington sustained the parts of the needy Earls and Dukes exceedingly well.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—There is an immense amount of interest in the very romantic and finely-staged drama *For Wife and Kingdom*, which is being presented here this week to large audiences by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. The acting is good, and there is much realism in the incidents introduced. As the Grand Duchess Marie of Gotsburg Miss Hettie Zillwood achieves success, and Miss Margaret R. Frame is distinctly good as Camille Von Nestolde. General Von Nestolde has an able exponent in Mr. Frank Sutherland; Mr. Reginald T. Fox is excellent as the gallant Captain Maximillian Lubeck; Mr. Albert Guyon is very effective as the vile Baron Maurice Breslaw, Servian secret agent; and comic relief is afforded by the humour of Mr. F. Osmond as Karl Ludhayr, Mr. C. H. Gallier as Sergeant Offenbeck, Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt, and Miss Audrey Canning as Otilie Schwartz.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Wizard Stone and Irene Stone, whilst looping the loop on bicycles at an alarming rate inside a huge iron globe, provide some genuine thrills here this week. Jack Pleasants, the Bradford comedian, quaint as ever, is on a return visit; Harry Friskey gives a juggling entertainment which is very funny, very unique, and distinctly clever; Pipifax and Panlo in *Humpsti-Bumsti* are here again eliciting hearty laughter and applause; there is some fine part singing by Tysoe Smith's Eighteen Lancashire Singers; the Two St. Johns (Gale and Frank) give a capital performance as campanologists and step-dancers; May and Walker (blind comedian) are coloured entertainers who are very quaint; a clever banjo performance by Stanley and Greenop secures applause; Lola Patey, in winning style, submits Irish and Dutch songs; and the pictures shown by the Bioscope are amusing.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—In a very remarkable xylophone and concertina performance, combining acrobatic feats, Francini Olloms (assisted by his page) wins unbounded and well-earned applause here; and Harry Atkinson, "the Australian Orpheus," too, is distinctly clever with his imitations of musical instruments. Thiessen's acrobatic and balancing dogs are wonderfully trained; in a medley of patriotic and comic songs and dancing Leonard Charburn's Young Stars in *A Picnic up the River* are entertaining; and the excellent company also includes Bert Maddison, "the happy Welshman"; the Sages, vaudeville entertainers; George Geoffreys, mimic, comedian, and dancer; and Dorthy Dare, male impersonator. The Palace Perfection Pictures are pleasing features of the evening's amusement.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The promenade concerts in the Grand Pavilion by Mr. Norfolk Megone's fine orchestra attract good audiences morning and night. Mr. Megone has inaugurated a series of weekly concerts of chamber music. The first concert included Mozart's quintette for strings and clarinet, which was artistically played. Miss Dorothy White, an excellent soprano vocalist, concluded a week's successful engagement on Sunday evening, and this week the vocalist is Mr. W. A. Peterkin, basso. In the Royal Victoria Rooms the pictures are always enjoyable.

New Spa and Gardens.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Will Catlin's Pierrots continue to attract large houses in the theatre. Mr. Sid Frere's humorous songs keep his audience in constant laughter; Mr. Jackson Brown's songs are always well received; Mr. George Houghton uses his powerful tenor voice with fine effect; Mr. Golly Glyn is a clever lady impersonator; Mr. Albert Lyons shines as a coon comedian and very expert dancer, and Mr. Tom Catlin keeps the house highly amused with his comicalities. One of the most recent additions to the troupe is Mr. R. Edmanson, a rising young ventriloquist, whose clever patter with his lay figure keeps the house highly entertained. Mr. Fred Dennett is an able accompanist and solo pianist. The sketches played by the company are well received, *The Suffragettes* being an especial favourite.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Mr. Travis Green's company is here this week with *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather submits a powerfully effective impersonation of Zaco Malleto, and is admirably supported by Miss Hilda Shirley as Myra Malleto. Mr. Gerald Byrne gives a fine portrayal of Paul; Mr. Colin Heather is well placed as Wilfrid Guy; Mr. Percy Morton Wright displays able acting as Detective Smart; Miss Winifred Rutland makes a sympathetic Lily; and the humorous element is cleverly presented by Miss Laura Wright as Dolly Dimple and Mr. Tod Squires as Peter Pimple. The drama is splendidly staged and mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—The Brothers Ethairien, eccentric comedians, achieve complete success; Fred Poplar, comedian, is as popular as ever; Kitty Wager, a refined comedian, gives her songs in charming style; Steve Bartle's concertina and Edeophone selections are warmly appreciated; Zera and Zema are very smart in an equilibristic display; John Macauley is a good character ballad vocalist; Lily Esplin is a pleasing comedienne; Mlle. Le Breton is an accomplished gymnast; Fred Bronte, vocal comedian, gives a capital turn; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Harry Fragson evokes great enthusiasm with his songs at the pianoforte; Fred Conquest and company are delightfully entertaining and mirth-provoking in their farcical absurdity *Something for Nothing;* Regan and Ryan, eccentric comedians, are very diverting; Hayes and Merritt, clever bounding trampolinists, are heartily applauded; the Three Braggs are smart acrobats; Carlotta Levey, comedienne, is warmly received; W. E. Gillin submits a unique and humorous ventriloquial turn; the Forsythe appear with success in the musical comedy speciality *La Poupée;* Patty Yole is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Stuart and Evans are refined comedians.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company opened here on Monday, and submitted *With Edged Tools*. Miss Marie Leonhard gave a charming portrayal of Jocelyn Gordon; Mr. Hamilton Deane submitted a fine character-study as Jack Meredith; Mr. Charles Hartopp was highly successful as Guy Oscard; Miss Marguerite Cellier's Millicent Cheyne was admirably played; Mr. J. D. Geddes made a dignified Sir John Meredith; Mr. Charles Barrett was effective as Victor Durnoro; and excellent enactments were presented by Miss Alice Maude (Lady Cantourne) and Miss Elsie Whittaker (Lady Herries).

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Franks' company is here this week with *Facing the Music*. Mr. Percival Madgewick gives a sterling impersonation of the Rev. John Smith; Mr. Roland Daniel acquits himself admirably as the other John Smith; Mr. Dudley Stuart's Dick Desmond and Mr. Theodore Kelly's Colonel Duncan Smith are able enactments; Miss Dorrie Roberts merits high praise for her embodiment of Nora; Miss Kitty Crichton is a graceful Mabel; Miss Victoria Wray is a bright Miss Fotheringay; Mr. Arthur Gibbons does well as Sergeant Duffell; and Miss Florence Radcliffe is a capital Mrs. Pointing. The farce is preceded by *Dream Faces*.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—There is an attractive series of pictures exhibited here this week. The Triumphant Hero conveys a very stirring story; The Duke's Plan is highly dramatic; The Egyptian Maid is an interesting coloured film; The Brown Bear Hunt in the Rockies is exciting; and much amusement is afforded by Oh! Uncle, Callino Plays Billiards, and Merry Clowns. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in excellent style; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs gives the descriptive pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures very cleverly.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here prove very popular. Very interesting stories are submitted by The Usurper, The Trials of a Chauffeur, Mariella's Father Can't Find Work, and His Just Deserts. The Bulbeck Case at Haywards Heath, an up-to-date film, is appreciated; and those of an amusing character include The Old Maid and the Burglar and a Trip to the Moon.

BRISTOL. — Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Geo. Dance's principal company is here with the musical play *Miss Hook of Holland*. Miss Marie Studholme is pleasingly vivacious in the title-rôle; Mr. Alfred Wellesley presents a very clever character study of Mr. Hook; Mr. Fred Lyne is amusing as Simon Slinks; Mr. Frederick Hobbs is sucessful as Captain Adrian Paap; and Miss Maud Denny is exceptionally good in the comic part of Mina. All the remaining characters are carefully played, and the staging is very effective.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—The successful drama *The Enemy of Woman* is being well played here by Mr. Stuart Lomath's company. Mr. Lomath and Miss Helena Walbran both act excellently their respective parts of Captain Jack Merritt and Marian Merritt; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle is consistent and impressive in the heavy part of Major Stevens; Miss Amy Macneil displays much power and acts very effectively as Beatrice Trant; Mr. Lancelot Usher makes a capital study of Digby Trant; and Mr. Jack Miller is well placed as Richard Manley. The comic parts of Kitty Crumpet, Joe Stubbins, and Watty Cooper are taken in good style by Miss Ellen Owen, Mr. A. Jennison, and Mr. Victor G. Vayne; and the play is well staged.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Vampire Dance is presented here by the originators, Mildred Deverez and Tom Terris, the weird and fascinating scena proving highly attractive. The movements and dancing of Miss Deverez are most graceful, while her acting is expressively dramatic. Edward Lauri and May Beatty score with their protean mélange *In Her Boudoir;* Gwennie Llewellyn is a charmingly artistic juvenile vocalist, her voice having great range and power; Paul Cavalli does an effective "strong" act; Daisy Hicks is a pleasing chorus comedienne; Moon and Morris do some smart simultaneous dancing; Little Tichbourne, comedian and dancer, obtains applause; and Dan Whitley, eccentric comedian, is appreciated. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Helen Trix, descriptive comedienne and entertainer at the piano, is highly successful here, all her songs, &c., being very warmly applauded. Edward Mortimer and company do well with their dramatic sketch *The Riddle of the Red Crawl;* William Garland presents "Black America," with sixteen real American coloured persons of both sexes, their harmonising being very effective; Brull and Hemsley please with their speciality *The Soubrette and the Dude;* Palles and Cussick score with their comedy act *The Funny Side of Life;* Tom Dunmore, comedian, obtains applause; Grace Mortimer is a pleasing comedienne; the Hillands do well as comedy knockabouts; and Jock McNeil, Scotch comedian, is successful. Interesting animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Fred Morissy appears in the comic playlet *Brother Bill*, and the remainder of the programme (twice nightly) is filled by animated pictures.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Breed of the Treshams* is being given here by Mr. Frank Bertram's admirable company. "The Rat" is capitally played by Mr. Sydney Bland; and Batty, the faithful gutter child, is cleverly depicted by Miss Grace Harlington. A sweet Margaret is Miss Mildred Hodson; and Mr. Walter Graham makes a pleasing study of Francis Tresham. Mr. George Butler acts well the rôle of the cowardly Clement Hungerford; and Mr. George Traill does good work as Sir Henry. Other parts are well filled by thoroughly capable artists.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The bill here is made up of a series of brilliant turns. First place is occupied by the Eight Braatz Dogs in a wonderful performance of tricks, and introducing the dog drama, *The Burglar's Fate;* James and Jenny Jee are quite at home on the tight wire; and David Poole, ventriloquist, is a great mirth-provider. Tom E. Dean, comedian, is very funny; and George Rapley, another comedian, is received with hearty laughter. The Athlones are a pair of well-developed athletes, with smart tricks; and Driscoll and Felino are very funny in a scena, *Paddock Life*. An amusing film, Mr. Giddy's Revenge, by the Empire Theatrescope, is followed by an exceedingly interesting picture, The Belgian Army.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Les Piccolinos, a couple of miniature marvels, surprise and please the house; and the Kirbys, in burlesque, are responsible for a continuous scream of laughter. The Lewmans are particularly clever cyclists and unicycle riders, who are loudly applauded; and Albert Letine, in crinolines, contributes an excellent female impersonation. Fred and Lulu Camplin, in *A Dressing-room Interlude*, provide some up-to-date fun; and George Acre, character vocalist, is good. Ray Royal, with illustrated songs, is very good; and the Palace pictures conclude with A Gaiety Duet.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—The management is giving a variety and living picture show here this week. Some of the best films are being shown, including a realistic and interesting visit to Norway. In the variety part Miss Gladys Wells (contralto) is heard to advantage; Mr. Harry Keeble also does well with his ventriloquism; and Mr. Albert MacKelvin gives an amusing show.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson. A big attraction is provided in Mr. Allan Wilkie and company, who opened on Monday in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Wilkie appeared to advantage as Petruchio and Miss Carrie Baillie gave an excellent performance as Katherina; Mr. Alexander Marsh, in his usual finished style, played Lucentio, and others who did good work were Mr. F. J. Fay as Gremio; Mr. Houston Meharry as Grumio; Mr. Herbert Mansfield as Hortensio, Miss May Feilden as Curtis, Miss Hikia Plowright as Widow, and Mrs. Allan Wilkie as Bianca. On Tuesday *The Sleigh Bells*, followed by *David Garrick*, was presented. In the former Mr. Wilkie's Matthias was a masterly representation, his clever acting in the dream scene holding the audience spellbound. Mrs. Wilkie rendered good service as Annette. Mr. Alexander Marsh as David Garrick was particularly clever, his excellent elocution calling for special mention. Miss Carrie Baillie was a charming Ada Ingot, and Alderman Ingot was in the experienced hands of Mr. Houston Meharry. *The Merchant of Venice, Othello, As you Like It*, and *Jane Shore* are also in the bill.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures continue to attract good audiences. Madge Brown, vocalist, and Will Mitcham, in musical speciality, complete the programme.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Jock Whiteford dispenses Scotch humour effectively; the Great Virto and his daughter Venita, in musical speciality act provide a very enjoyable turn; Olive Ormidale is a dainty soubrette with good style and voice; Drummer T. Rogers in musical novelty, the Eight Tennessee Coloured Guards in American scena, Gertrude Lytton, vocalist; Burt Ward, silfleur and raconteur; Harry Grey, Australia's funny comedian; Three Comedy Chanters, in humorous interludes; and Pattie Burton, soprano vocalist, conclude an excellent bill.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. John E. Watson's company gave us *The New Boy*. Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Archibald was most excellent in the part; Dr. G. Candy had a convincing exponent in Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone; Felix Roach was cleverly played by Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood; Mr. H. J. Wildy scored a success as Bullock Major; Miss Phyllis Manners gave a good rendering of the bewildered Martha; Miss Evelyn Ormonde made the most of Nancy; and Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, Miss Vera Wallace, and Mr. F. G. East also gave valuable assistance. *The New Boy* was preceded by an amusing entertainment given by Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, assisted by Miss Vera Wallace, entitled *An Afternoon Call*. On Wednesday and Thursday *A Country Mouse* was played, and on Friday a new piece is announced, *The Strange Case of Mr. Regbie*.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Dear Little Denmark* is the attraction this week, and full houses have been the rule nightly.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—The inimitable Arthur Roberts appears in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*, unlimited fun being made out of this entertaining number. Mr. Roberts proves as amusing as ever, and good support is rendered by Miss Ida Furneaux, Miss Beatrice Hodson, Miss Jessie Burgwitz, Miss Nellie Lamport and Mr. Harry J. Worth. H. O. Wills provides a couple of well-acted humorous songs of a novel kind; Scott and Whaley "go down" well with their clever dancing and cross-talking; the feats of the Wonderful Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, are greeted with loud applause; the original Four Regals give a marvellous display of strength; the parody singing of Charles Vincent wins for that popular comedian a hearty approbation; James Edie and Cissy Ramsden gain appreciation; Florence Esdaile sings with much effect; and the Bioscope completes.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*A Heart's Desire* is presented by a talented company. Mr. Richard Ferriss is a handsome actor, who portrays Lord St. Ives with much skill; Miss Doris Brookes as Oiya has a part suited to her histrionic abilities; Mr. Charles Olive is happily placed as Eric May; and Mr. Edward Ray as Luke Forrest enacts his part with undoubted success; Miss Dora Warburton as the Hon. Bertie and Miss Linda Arthurs as Gwennie are delightfully fresh in their juvenile rôles; and another pleasing performance is Miss Flo Bevan's Elsie. Other characters are well portrayed by Mr. Jack de Clifforde, Mr. Chas. Clarke, and Mr. Chas. King.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—An exceptionally attractive programme has been drawing crowded audiences. Morny Cash heads the bill and causes uproarious mirth with his smart sayings; Mlle. Dalmere's table circus is entertaining, her performing rabbits, doves, rats, &c., being evidence of the highest form of animal training; Bill and Bellay, Continental eccentrics, are mirth provoking in their clever knockabout antics; George Lawrence, light comedian and actor-vocalist, has catchy songs; Tennis and Laune (Edie and Gertie) are a couple of pretty duettists, to whose sweet singing it is a pleasure to listen; Crossley and Walker, jocular Eton boys, are smart; and the Dancing Gilberts, in a novel act, and the usual interesting Bioscope films, add to the evening's entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The first visit of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* is creating an unusual amount of interest and enthusiasm. Mr. Ian Robertson, in the leading rôle, created a deep impression, the points of his moralising being made with masterly effect; the Slavey of Miss Helena Parsons was a clever character-sketch; as the Bookmaker Mr. Billington made a big hit; the Landlady of Miss Jeannie Thomas was a cleverly conceived and artistically worked performance; Messrs. Herbert Garthorne, Gedge Twyman, W. O. Billington, J. Wordall-Birde, Stanley Brown, and the Misses Drussilla Wills, Lena Delphine, and Blanche Ripley filled their parts with rare skill; and Miss Barbara Everest's sympathetic and clever acting was much admired. A clever little curtain-raiser, *Come Here*, was admirably played by Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Wilson Blake, and Miss Barbara Everest.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Vangar, described as the West African wonder, tops the bill in an illusion act. Bob Hamilton, the Scotch comedian, is a favourite, with new songs and mirth-provoking patter; Jimmie Pullin contributes a quaint and comical act; a pretty Eastern setting, dainty dresses, and excellent vocalism, make Selim and his partner a quite attractive turn; Rosie Archer's impersonations of popular artists, accompanying herself on the piano, are cleverly done; Blair and Allen are first-rate dancers and excellent vocalists; and Norah Desmond, in a picture-scena, scores heavily. A remarkable picture, entitled The Martyrdom of Adolf Beck, is the feature of the performance.

New Public Hall.—Lessee, Mr Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—Excellent fare is provided for picture-lovers again this week, the principal films being The Eruption of Mount Etna, a most realistic production, and The Deserter, an intensely dramatic story. Love ye One Another is also very popular. Other films, humorous and otherwise, include The Englishman and the Girl, The Maid and the Burglar, Richelieu and the Conspiracy, &c.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—A return visit is paid by *An Unwedded Wife*, played by Mr. Will Casey and company, who are presenting the drama, by arrangement with Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. T. Edward Whitty. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as the unwedded wife, Marion, gives a portrayal of the part which proves her to be an actress of exceptional ability; we like Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes's study of Philip Blackstone as a foppish sort of villain; as the subsidiary villain Kit Mr. Ernest Turner gives a fine character sketch; in the juvenile part of Frank Armstrong Mr. Arthur Cheeves plays well; and the same remark applies to Mr. Gilbert Elvin as John Hawthorne. Miss E. Spence gives an able representation, and is much appreciated, as Elsie; the Carraway Crumpet of Miss Annie Mitchel is sparkling and enjoyable; while Mr. Will Casey, an old favourite here, infuses plenty of humour into the part of Napoleon. P.-C. O. Runyin is made a most amusing personage of by Mr. Frank Masters; and Reggie receives effective treatment at the hands of Little Doris Sorsby.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A capital programme is headed by the Big Four Quartette, including Edward Lang, the happy Tid, in *Fun and Harmony*, and they create loud laughter; the Crisps, in a dancing scena, *The Little Deputy*, are neat and smart; Prof. Jennion's electric fantoche, on a miniature stage, is one of the best of its kind; considerable applause greets the contributions of that dainty and clever artist Marie Beresford; Tom Jones is responsible for much merriment as a Welsh comedian; Helen Guest gives a couple of illustrated songs, and is well applauded; Elton and Elma cause much laughter by their knockabout business; Watt, as an extempore vocal comedian, is again thoroughly well appreciated. Pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. are running strong.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—The attraction here is *Moths*, played by Mr. Raynor's company. Mr. Clinton Baddeley makes a powerful Zouroff; Mr. Raynor's Lord Jura is a most popular performance; Mr. Conrad Heywood and Mr. Milton C. Curtis do well in the parts of Correze and Duke of Mull; Miss Dora Dench gains sympathy by her representation of Vere Herbert; and Miss Hilda Blanche causes merriment as Fuchsia Leach.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Here we have Sammy Shields, a lively comedian, whose football item is particularly good; Lee and Kingston, in a highly amusing tabloid musical comedy, *The Resourceful Lover;* Madge Morley and company, with *After the Races;* Kloof and Ramsey in a musical scena; the Sisters Grovini—deputising for the Carlyles—with a smart display of acrobatics; Keane Harker, eccentric comedian; and Winnie Wentworth, comedienne.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*The Cruise of the Constance* commenced favourably on Monday, when Mr. Harry W. Lumley's company had a remarkably enthusiastic send-off from a crowded and delighted house. The new version is considerably amplified, now consisting of three acts instead of two, and the plot has undergone revision, with new lyrics and concerted numbers added. Mr. E. J. Steyne is responsible for the show, and he has spared no pains in giving it an effective mounting. The dresses are smart and pretty, and the scenery is charming. The leading comedy parts are in the experienced hands of Miss Irene Verona and Mr. Charles McNaughton. Miss Verona gives a bright, racy study of the plump and wealthy widow from Upper Tooting, and sings with due point "A most respectable man." As Potts, the ingenious and irrepressible deck-steward, Mr. McNaughton is the life of the piece, his dancing, patter, and comedy business being excellent. He made a big hit in a new song, "Potts' perfect pills." Associated with him is Miss Ruby Vyvyan, a chic and nimble, withal saucy, lady's maid, who sings brightly and dances nimbly. The lovers, Isobel Higgins and Lieut. Sir Walter Wensleydale, R.N., are agreeably represented by Miss Carlotta Sylvano and Mr. E. B. Davies, who took the place of Mr. Fred Hobbs at short notice, some pleasing duets being well rendered. Flirtatious Captain Jackson is represented in nautical style by Mr. Albert Cavanah; Mr. Charles McLagan is very amusing as Admiral Weber; and Mr. Lockwood Philpott imparts a mild touch of villainy to the part of Edward Hardy, the diamond thief, who, in this new version, is magnanimously forgiven by the wealthy widow. The stage-manager, Mr. Claude Casey, gives a droll study of the imperturbable deck-hand Mike; and Mr. Tom Prentice acts neatly as the Maltese Café proprietor. A trio of clever dancers, led by Miss Trissie March, who takes the part of Suzette, and a group of daintily dressed ladies and obliging tourists, make up the rank and file of Mr. Steyne's well-drilled company. "First-night" ceremonies were in evidence during the performance, the principal ladies receiving beautiful bouquets, and at the fall of the curtain author and composer had a great ovation. Captain Stacey (Cyril Wincombe), speaking for himself and Miss Gibbons (Violet Hatherley), said that both had been initiated into the mysteries of stagecraft, and spoke in high terms of the assistance and kindness of Mr. Steyne, whom he insisted on bringing forward to share in the honours of the initial professional performance. Mr Albert Vernon directed chorus and orchestra.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—*The Idol of Paris* is the attraction. Miss Annie Bell, an actress of great dramatic power, does infinite justice to the leading rôle of Flare Flare; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee gives a convincing interpretation of Philip d'Esterre; and as Victor Cashelle Mr. A. Grenville is distinctly good; the part of Rachel Bernhardt is capably played by Miss Pharo Anderson; Mr. Gordon Robey makes an excellent Prince Sergius; and as Mme. Sancterre, Miss Frances Bruce deserves praise for a correct and able portrayal of her character. The rôles of Tatave and Anne are capably acted by Mr. H. Vivian Thomas and Miss Annie Megson respectively. The play is well staged, and the remaining parts ably sustained.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—A week of variety began in this pretty house on Monday. Miss Evie Hamilton dances acceptably; the La Frasers are adepts in cross-talk; Barney Vox is an amusing ventriloquist; Mr. Coleman Davies and Miss Eunice Udall, in a sketch, entitled *The Grumbler*, are heartily received; Robb Gilmore keeps his audience well interested by funny patter; and Mr. Ernest C. Gittins' company gives a condensed version of popular operas.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard.—The premier position here is occupied by Mlle. Lumiere, in her kaleidoscopic serpentine dances; another turn, which is well received, is the Three Pirmans, American comedy gymnasts; Miss Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys, in a vocal and dancing speciality act; Miss Lilian Travelli, in her descriptive singing; Sam Dalton, comedian; George Reeves, comedian; Neil Nelson, Scottish character comedian; and the Bioscope are other attractions.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona; for Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., Mr. Leo King.—The Four Black Diamonds are topping here this week, and present some good vocal numbers, with just sufficient humour thrown in; St. George Sylvesta, illusionist, presents some capital business; Carl Lynn, who has a wonderfully happy style, is really clever with his mimicry; Bliss and Bliss, comedians, entertain in their well-known style; Les Zelovas, equilibrists, are a most refined turn; Daisy Silcott scores with her old favourite "Woman"; and Jack Heath is acceptable as an eccentric comedian.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moullot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The most popular turn this week is undoubtedly Ethel Stephenson at the piano; a smart turn is Selah, the card-playing automaton; Mysticus, chameleon artist, performs a number of excellent transformations; Bertini gives a good exhibition of instrumentalism; Kydd and Kydd, patterers, evoke much applause; Victor Courtney scores at the Grand piano; Little Victoria, comedienne and dancer, is a dainty little artist; and Arthur Boyne is also in the bill.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Tom Bassett, burlesque impersonator, is the chief attraction here. The Sisters Shadoni give an excellent exhibition of dancing; and animated pictures are still popular.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—The concluding week of the Hippodrome season opened on Monday. Mr. Bransby Williams' impersonations of Dickens' characters are clever studies, and heartily enjoyed. Mr. Frank Le Dent performs some skilful hat tricks and is highly amusing. Harry Dent and Fanny Harris achieve great success in their novel mélange "The Indian Bottle." McLallen and Carson are a smart pair of roller-skaters; Margit and Lener give a laughable burlesque entitled "Wot Paint;" Hendrick and Laura, comedians and eccentric dancers, give a pleasing turn; the Schaffer Four provide a novel musical turn; John Humphries and his company are responsible for a laughable farcette entitled *Ancient Britons*, and the Operascope films are diverting.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—Oswald Williams presents a startling illusionist turn, comprising the "Chair of Death" and "The Flying Chest;" Walter Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker* are diverting; Darozcoe and Azella give an equilibristic turn of much merit; Belford and Mars, comedians, are capital patterers; the Selwyn Sisters, comediennes and dancers, are very pleasing; Dene and Dixon are enjoyable in a comedy sketch, *The New Stage Boy;* Dolly Golden, dancer, and Nellie Dallwood, comedienne and dancer, also submits pleasing items, and Arthur Reece, light comedian, contributes capital songs. The Palascope pictures are interesting.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's principal company is here in *Two Little Drummer Boys*, by Mr. Walter Howard. A good house on Monday gave a warm welcome. The title-parts are successfully taken by Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas. Mr. Edward Bikker makes a typical General Kingsley.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome.—Heading the bill is a refined and unique musical treat given by Messrs. Hudson, Olgar, and Elgar, who render good songs and play several instruments; Harry Webber, with good songs and patter, is a favourite; George Rae creates much amusement with his eccentric dancing; Ambrose Thorne is a capital comedian; Messrs. Franco and Stewart appear in their racing comedy *The 100 to 1 Chance;* Victor's Juveniles provide an acceptable turn, their dances being exceptionally good; Richard Finberg supplies a number of fine character studies from well-known plays and books; Ray Espinosa is an expert dancer; Cummin and Seaham, in their comic absurdity *The Ragman and the Postman*, are very smart.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is rendering *The Little Damozel* and *Curing a Selfish Husband* here. In the first-named Mr. Frank Lacy is capital as Reckiaw Poole; Mr. Mark Blow just touches the right note as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. George A. Brandram receives quite an ovation, and is well to the fore as Captain Neil Partington; Mr. Townsend Whitling is good as Walter Angel; and adequate services are rendered by Messrs. Julian Cross, William J. Strick, and Reginald Hargreaves as Papa Batholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham. Miss Violet Ley has a fine stage presence as Sybil Craven; and Miss Ida Molesworth makes a palpable hit in the title-rôle.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Harry P. Selwyn's company, in *A $5 to 1 Chance*, is well received here; the Brothers Ford are smart dancers; Barnard's Mannikins are heartily applauded; Frank and Free are excellent comedy artists; Kitty Upton is a successful comedienne; Jay Laurier is an inimitable comedian; Haley's Juveniles submit a bright and entertaining act; Hayman and Franklin's players in *Toplitsky* deserve special mention; and others on the programme are Fred Keeton and Bert Brantford, comedians. Mr. Sydney Axford is an admirable musical-director.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is playing *Send Him Victorious* twice nightly. Mr. Hugh Carmichael gives a clever rendering of Colonel Henrich Kaufman; Miss Sidney Crowe as Countess Kara Von Mechlinberg is finely expressive; Mr. Howard Hardy gives an admirable performance of the King of Bavaria; and Miss Madge Palmer is good as Gretchen Holtz.

Hippodrome.—Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—"George the First," the almost human chimpanzee, heads the bill, and gains well merited applause; Cromo and Hamilton are clever burlesque artists; the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers are good; Charles Rowen, comedian, puts the house in a merry mood with his songs and humour. Other turns are Bert Harrow, comedian; Maidie Burker, comedienne; and Willie Atom and company in a farcical absurdity, entitled *Wiggles*. The Hipposcope has the latest pictures.

DARWEN. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper.—This house was opened on Monday under the above new management, whose intention is to supply drama in condensed form along with animated pictures at popular prices. This week's bill includes Harry Calden and company in *Love and Duty*, which proved welcome fare, Mr. Harry Calden creating much laughter in his part of Jim Duckworth. The Weimars give a good turn with funny musical instruments, concluding with trumpet and bugle calls by Trumpeter Duly (late 9th Lancers). The pictures include The Rocky Road and Combat between Buffalos.

Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. H. Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—A fine set of films includes McGregor the Detective, The Spanish Girl, Ancient City of Ostia, and The General's Conquest. The Sisters Dudley, duettists; Jack E. Roscoe, comedian; and Tom Lightbown, tenor, prove acceptable turns.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Donley.—This week Mr. Carr Loates's company are presenting a musical comedy-drama, entitled *At the World's Mercy*. The part of Skittles is excellently portrayed by Miss Cissie Milford, a comedienne of more than average ability, who does much to ensure the success of the piece; Mr. Carr Loates as Jabez Barber is capable in every way; the part of Alice

in a most acceptable manner; Estcourt, in a song scena, introduces smart juggling tricks; and Bert Lytton, swell comique, has some sensible chorus songs. The Bioscope concludes.

DEVONPORT.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The exciting play *Secrets* is well patronised. As Ismalia Meleda Miss Ethel Rainforth is a great success; Mr. John F. Preston is a characteristic naval lieutenant; and Mr. H. Barlow is quite at home in the rôle of Noureddin Ali. The other principals are equally capable, the most noticable being Mr. Horace Custins as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley, and Zuelleka, played by Miss Isabelle Barlow.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—A diverting sketch entitled *Three of a Kind* is star-turn, and is aptly described as a conglomeration of mirth, mystery, and muddle; the Three Krakes are responsible for another excellent bit of comedy named *The Electric Car Conductor;* Will Netta and his singing jockeys are brilliant vocalists and first-rate dancers; Lucy Gillet is entertaining in a juggling novelty, in which two dumb boys are very amusing; Charles Lilburn is an up-to-date comedian; J. A. Martell is an accomplished equilibrist; and Sadie Stanley is a smart male impersonator.

DEWSBURY.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Heading a strong programme here is Edward Lewis, who is making his first appearance in a farcical interlude, *The Five Wishes*, which is immensely popular. Bessie Mackenzie, the Scotch fisher-girl vocalist, appears in a very pretty scena, *Christina of Sketra*, using a remarkable voice with good effect; Florence and Rose Showell delight everybody with their singing; Guy Rider is both a good vocalist and whistler; the Luzellas in a pleasing gymnastic and wire act score a success; the Four Panamas in their pantomimical speciality *The Delineator* introduce capital acrobatic work and dancing; Harry Bickley, a quaint comedian, evokes hearty laughter, and the same may also be said of Monty Walker, the Lancashire knut. Miss Mayne is a clever dancer, and animated pictures complete the programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. Vivian Edmonds are appearing here in *The King's Romance*. Miss Austin as Vera Nevairre proves herself to be an actress of much ability; Mr. Edmonds plays Prince Andreas in excellent fashion, and receives much applause for his fine acting; the villainous Michel Vacurat is ably personated by Mr. George P. Porteous; and Mr. W. H. Dewhurst gives a fine interpretation of Paul Nevairre. Baron Cavonia is well portrayed by Mr. Walter A. Cheetham; Mr. Arthur A. Valentine deserves much praise for his rendition of Fragot; Miss Ethel Vinroy displays ability as Lizette; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards does well as the servant, Bartoy; Mr. G. Lyon Hastings as the Cure is satisfactory; and Miss Bella Power as Mme. Pomeroy and Mr. George Toft as Jean Pomeroy well sustain their parts. The staging is excellent. *The Cotton Spinner* was billed for Friday.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—An excellent display of animated pictures on the Harriscope is the leading feature of the bill. Sid Bedford and company appear in a laughable sketch *The Second Mrs. Chester*, the characters being ably portrayed by Miss Bessie Bedford, Messrs. Sid Bedford, Edward Clifford, Herbert Lawrence, and Arthur Delamere. Cestria, comedy juggler and acrobatic waiter, performs some clever feats and causes fun with eccentricities; a novel turn is that of Carvell and Dora in a ventriloquial act, *Tomkins, jun.*; the Belmoir Sisters sing and dance to everybody's satisfaction; Geo. Leavern amuses greatly; and Eugene, the girl with the male voice, meets with approval.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Heading the bill here is Consul, the almost man, whose feats, including roller-skating and cycling, render it difficult to define the line of demarcation between instinct and intelligence. The Saxony Sisters, comediennes and dancers, are very acceptable; Harry Drew, Welsh basso, gains popularity by his rendering of "The Wolf"; a daring turn is presented by the Almas in their pyramid balancing; Gladys Re-Vell, comedienne, is applauded to the echo; Ray Randall is a *persona grata* as a comedienne and dancer; Dan Daly, comedy parodist, is well received; and Fred Neiman, ventriloquist, is responsible for one of the prettiest little entertainments witnessed here for some time. The Empire Bioscope is becoming increasingly popular.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. Herbert Sleath, with a strong company, is here, in *The Woman in the Case*, which attracted a very large and appreciative audience. Miss Violet Vanbrugh displays her artistic abilities with excellent judgment in the rôle of Claire Forster; Miss Ellis Jeffreys gives a most interesting and efficient portrayal of Margaret Rolfe; and as her husband, Julian, Mr. Herbert Sleath acts the part in an artistic style and with entire satisfaction; as his friend and solicitor Mr. William F. Grant is extremely good; Miss Mary Griffiths supplies a clever and amusing study of Nell Hughes; Miss Gwendoline Wren submits an admirable reading of Elsie Brewster; Mr. W. Kershaw (Jimmy Smith) and Mr. Fred Benton (Louis Klanfferty) also appear with success. *By Mutual Agreement*, a capital curtain-raiser, is well received.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Leedham Bantock and Mr. Mouillot's company are appearing here in *Those Terrible Twins*, which has been well attended. The principal character, the Butler, is humorously played by Mr. Bantock; Mr. Harry Cane gives a really good impersonation of Samuel Pringle; and Miss Margaret Skelton acts Mrs. Pringle admirably. As Charlie Pringle Mr. Charles Esdale fulfilled the part in capital style; Mr. James Harcourt gives an admirable representation of the Hon. Harry Scott; Miss Louie Beckmann and Miss Edna Morgan act the respective rôles of Violet Fairfield and Lillie Leyton very nicely; and as Minks, the lift-boy, Mr. Archie McCraig submits a very amusing reading. Miss Marion Hargrave is successful in the rôle of Maria. *Only a Clown* preceded, and is ably acted.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*East Lynne* is being most successfully played here by Mr. Tom Watts' company. The Archibald Carlyle of Mr. Rayson-Cousens is exceptionally clever; Miss Laura Hansen plays the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine in a powerful and emotional manner. An amusing representation of P.C. Bullock is provided by Mr. Joe Rowland; as the villain, Francis Levison, Mr. W. Percy Mansfield acts with great effect; Miss Isabel Singleton is very good as Cornelia Carlyle; and Miss Ida Heron displays ability in the rôle of Barbara Hare. Mr. Tom Watt and Mr. Jerrold Manville fulfil the parts of Lord Mountsevern and Justice Hare in a creditable manner; Miss Alice Moseley does well as Little Willie; and Richard Hare is cleverly played by Mr. Eric Lugg.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Mr. George Lashwood holds the premier position here, and his excellent and clever songs are received with rounds of applause; Miss Adele Levey also appears with success; Maudie Francis does very well a a juvenile comedienne and dancer; Harry Taylor, Lancashire comedian, is very good; Edwards and Espinosa are warmly appreciated for their clever musical and dancing act; Carl Howard, in comedy and mysticism gains applause; Walter Stanley, comedian; Vera Rochdale, soubrette, also appear with success.

TIVOLI.— General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Banzai Troupe of Japanese are appearing here in their expert balancing and other feats; on the triple bar the Corpetti Brothers perform some very difficult tricks; a capital farcical absurdity, *The Boat Builder*, by Johnny Holland and company, provokes much amusement; Rose Finnette is pleasing in her songs and dances; and the Jewish comedians, Young and Evans, are most amusing in their songs and patter; Flo Chevalier's songs are heartily received; Friscary is most successful in his juggling; Walter Aubrey dances in capital style; and a grand vocal comedy act by the Four Hawkers, is enthusiastically received.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Company continue to attract appreciative audiences here. The Hunting Expedition with ex-President Roosevelt through Africa, Punchestown Races, Grand National Steeplechase, and the Great Fight Between Jack Johnson and Stanley Ketchell at California, and several native and comic films prove most enjoyable. Mr. Ernest Lord's vocal entertainers, The Excelsiors, are a very enjoyable company, including Miss Ona Ashton, Miss Nora O'Malley, Miss Alice Singleton, Messrs. Harker Holt, Frank W. Quinn, Frank Crawford, and Mr. Ernest Lord, who give pleasing and effective selections with great success.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The Blydons are very pleasing in their duets and dances; Annie Bunford renders ballads excellently; Harry Dunn is most amusing as a comedian; Kitty Lee is a comedienne with a pleasing manner; Dan Leslie sings and dances in clever style; and the Lemerions are a capital comedy couple.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth is presenting *The Woman of Kronstadt*, which is enthusiastically received. Mr. Kenneth shows the finished actor as Colonel Bonzo, and Mr. Bernard Copping gives an earnest and thorough rendering of Captain Paul Zazzoulic; Mr. Horace Sinclair ably represents the fiery General Steffanoff; Mr. Charles Ashwell is a diplomatic Baron Muller; Miss Evelyn Ward is seen to great advantage as Princess Marie de Hesse; Miss Isa Bellingham and Miss Marjorie Armstrong are two vivacious maidens as Vera and Olga; and Miss Betty Fairfax is charmingly natural and pathetic as Marion Best. The play is preceded by a scene from *Twelfth Night*, and followed by a one-act comedietta, *Collaborators*. *Under the Greenwood Tree* was billed for Friday.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. J. Bleasdale.—Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, in a vocal scena, *The Gipsies' Revels*, are on a welcome return visit; a refined and artistic comic novelty is presented by Elsa and Max Arbra; Sidney Brandon, in his dramatic impersonations, proves himself a powerful actor; Hinson Brothers, comedians and dancers, are smart; and the fun is fast and furious whilst Snowdon and Alexander occupy the boards with *The Football Intruder;* George Robinson, character comedian, is deservedly appreciated; and the Czar's Russian Troupe are truly described as whirlwind dancers; Jessie Jess is good as a low comedy artist. The Empire pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A packed and thoroughly delighted house welcomed *The Arcadians* on Monday. Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is a brilliant one, and the play is staged with completeness in every detail. Mr. Walter Passmore represents Simplicitas with irresistible comicality, and keeps the audience rocking with laughter; another successful comedian is Mr. Oliver J. Round, who makes a great hit as the jockey, Pete Doddy; Mr. Harold E. Pearce shines conspicuously as Jack Meadows, his acting and singing being of excellent quality; Mr. Louis Victor infuses much life into the part of Bobby, and dances nimbly; Mr. Ivan Cleveland is a forceful Sir George Paddock; and Mr. James Stevenson does justice to the rôle of Time. Miss Ethel Erskine acts and sings in captivating manner as Sombra, her various vocal numbers being rendered with much sweetness; Miss Mabel Munro is a sparkling and versatile Chrysea; and the other Arcadians are picturesquely represented by Miss Margaret Paton and Messrs. Douglas Phillips and Dalton Murray. A charming Eileen Cavanagh is found in Miss Billie Sinclair, whose dancing is exceedingly dainty; Mrs. Smith is played in real comedy spirit by Miss Veronica Brady, her various interludes with Simplicitas being hugely entertaining. A number of charming ladies form a strong and efficient chorus, and Mr. Edwin Thornton wields the bâton with marked success.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An excellent bill is headed by Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, who keep the audience highly amused throughout the whole of their versatile and racy act; Lady Mansel and Juveniles in *A Concert Rehearsal* form a bright and wholesome feature of the entertainment; Arthur Aiston is a truly humorous comedian; Oliver Martyn in his comedy sporting monologue, "The Boxing Contest," meets with well deserved applause; the Haverleys render several ballads illustrated in gorgeous colours pleasingly; Lavelle Brothers, acrobatic comedians, perform many dexterous tricks in amusing fashion; Selby and Myers work well together, their excellent dancing being a feature of their turn; and a series of films by the Kingscope completes a very entertaining programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—*The Nihilist* has drawn large houses. Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company is a strong one, and does full justice to the play. Mr. Geo. Mitchell gives a finished and effective performance as the blacksmith, Ivan Nowasky; a capable exponent of villainy is found in Mr. O. Silverstone, whose Prince Alexander is a sound performance; Mr. Cowell Clark submits a clever study of the Nihilist, Karl Orloff; the necessary comedy relief is well looked after by Mr. Henry Wright as Bobby Smart and Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina Zindoff; Mr. C. Newton Buckland does good work as Pietree Petoff; the exiled priest, Father Gourko, is judiciously portrayed by Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey; Miss Edna Clare acts charmingly as Alexina Orloff; Miss Mary Dawson gives an able and consistent performance as Princess Olga; and Miss Minnie Halstan, a promising young actress, must be congratulated on her sympathetic rendering of the part of Little Alexina. Messrs. Morgan Dale, S. G. Eugene, Edward Dowds, and James Hamilton all appear to advantage.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Business continues exceedingly brisk here. The finest picture is a beautifully coloured view, entitled The Cowboy and the Squaw. Other films are A Livingstone Case, An Original Revenge, and The Half-Breed. A popular item is the singing picture, entitled "Come, my lad, and be a soldier."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—A fine collection of films is exhibited here, and large audiences are the rule.

KINNAIRD HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus is meeting with much patronage. Much amusement is caused by the remarkable act of the Ten Musical Ponies, with Jumbo junior, the elephantine Sousa, as conductor. "March-past of the Highland Brigade" provides an example of animal training highly creditable to Signor Volpi. Much diversion is caused by the clowns, Bishop, Winkles, and Dan Gregory.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—An attractive bill is headed by the Sutcliffe troupe of pipers, dancers, and acrobats, who are well received. A turn hugely enjoyed is the Pichel Troupe, in their acrobatic feats; J. C. Scatter, in local song and patter, as usual proves a favourite; and Agnes Tina's impersonations do her much credit. The Carney Brothers, in song and cross-talk, maintain the fun; Shrillo as a whistler is satisfactory; Polo and Florence score with herculean equilibrism; and the Cathedoscope shows an amusing picture, The Theatre Pass.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here in *Where is William?* Mr. C. Windermere is again responsible for a large amount of genuine laughter in his clever work as Sir William; Mr. Rule Pyot also helps ably as Jolley; Mr. Edmund Hollick is a good Harry; Mr. Leslie Norman as the fiery General plays with good effect; and Mr. Fred Lake is an excellent Joe Budge. Miss Belle Donaldson succeeds admirably as Lady Mary; Miss Clare Manifield plays with zest and enthusiasm as Phyllis; Miss Zoe Davis extracts much fun from the rôle of Eliza; and Miss May Rosine is a satisfactory cook (Emily).

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company is here in *The Thief*. Mr. Bernard Limpus plays with commendable restraint as Richard Chelford; Mr. F. Morland as Raymond Leyton contributes a performance full of sympathy; Mr. Carl W. Lindsey undertakes an awkward part (Harry Leyton) with much skill; and Mr. W. Somerset is a well-defined Mr. Protheroe. Miss Georgina Wynter attains considerable success in the part of Marise, and Miss Mary Forrester is a womanly Isabel.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Miss Julia Kent, heading the bill here with a picturesque sketch *Pistols for Three*, receives clever help from Mr. Harry Buss as a comedian and Mr. H. G. May as Nicholas Roach. The Durant Bros. are again a great success in their sketch *An Airship Elopement;* Mr. Frank Dunlop is an amusing comedian; Messrs. Bex and Mars are clever trapeze comedians; Miss Delia Ray is a handsome singer of taking songs; Mr. Ronald George works hard and well as an instrumentalist; Messrs. Seigal and Fields are a good musical couple; and new pictures are shown.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A large audience filled this house on Monday, when Mr. Henry Miller's company began a week's engagement with *The Servant in the House*. Mr. Harry Parker, a comedian of much resource, has advanced his reputation by his fine impersonation of Mr. Robert Smith, the rugged humour and pathos of the part being shown with admirable skill; Mr. Matthew Boulton acted Manson, the Bishop of Benares, with impressiveness and dignity; Mr. Walter Gay's portrayal of the Vicar was a finished piece of work; and a clever character study of the Bishop of Lancashire was given by Mr. Ernest H. Paterson. Miss Nellie Hodson, in a type of part not usually associated with her line, displayed sincerity and feeling; Miss Laurie Flockton acts with girlish spontaneity and tenderness; and Mr. Forrester Harvey as the Page was very humorous.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—An enthusiastic holiday audience gave the heartiest welcome on Monday to Mr. Courtice Pounds and his company, who have brought the bright Viennese musical play *The Merry Peasant* to Edinburgh on a first visit. Mr. Pounds was most effective in his genial rendering of the old peasant, Mattheus Roiter, and sang delightfully. Other agreeable vocalists were found in Mr. Percy Carr, who played Stephan; and Miss Madge Vincent, in the spirited rôle of Freda; while Mr. Frank Wilson and Miss Gwladys Guy were quite at home as the rustic lovers, Vincent and Annamirl; and Mr. William Hindson as Lindoberer, the Mayor, with Mr. Sidney Johnstone as Lieutenant Von Grumow, helped the fun of the lighter scenes very amusingly. Mr. Ernest J. Langford gained the warmest commendation for his exceedingly humorous impersonation of Zoph, the village constable, whose antics produced perpetual merriment; Miss Tina Martini quite acceptably filled the part of Lizi, whose daughter, Rosalle, was daintily played by Little Mary Glynne. Scenery and dresses were charming.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—Miss Margaret Cooper, the dainty entertainer at the piano, is in her best form, her songs being rendered with the greatest possible humour; *Motoring* is played by Mr. Harry Tate's company with immense drollery, the fun of the situations being hailed with shouts of mirth; Baddow is a ventriloquist of much merit; Simeon the Seer, a mysterious mechanical figure, puzzled the audience by ready answers to questions; and further variety is imparted to an excellent entertainment by the admirably-rendered songs of Miss Grace Grahame; the drollery of Mr. Jack Hylton, comedian; the amusing fun of Cole and Raggs, comedy jugglers; and the buck-dancing of Mr. Chas. Rose. The King's Bioscope displays up-to-date pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Miss Marie George, the bright, winsome comedienne, is a favourite here; Messrs. Alexandre and Hughes are admirable artists, with a true sense of humour; Sahib Gustave Fasola, Indian juggler, excites interest by his extraordinary sleight-of-hand; Harvey's American Boys and Girls give an exhilarating turn, in which Mr. Frank Victor and Miss Daisie Dennis especially distinguish themselves by their pleasing singing; King and Queenie, in their act, *The Butler and the Cook*, display proficiency as musicians and skill as acrobats; the Abdullah Arabs, in their pyramidal and sensational gymnastic turn, are loudly applauded; Mr. Henry Herbert sings in amusing fashion; Little Ganty's droll business arouses laughter; and Conan and Doyle are good cross-talkers and dexterous dancers. The Bioscope shows an interesting story of love and crime.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Eruption of Mount Etna, Pine Ridge Feud, and To Save Her Soul, constitute the leading attractions in a varied programme here. Foolshead Wants to Marry and All On Account of the Milk serve their purpose of raising laughter; and Mr. Leslie Lynn, ventriloquist, continues his engagement from last week.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A series of interesting films, showing recent seismic disturbances at Mount Etna, is the principal feature in a programme which includes many other pictures, both of a dramatic and humorous nature. The variety entertainment is bright and amusing.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Heading the bill here this week are the Swift Duo, in their trick cycling act; Daisy Parkes is an entertaining comedienne; Art Harold causes much amusement as a knockabout comedian; the Sisters Carlton contribute a capital turn as duettists and dancers; and Arthur and Daisy present a comedy sketch, *The Railway Guard*. The up-to-date animated pictures are again most interesting.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—A crowded house, and one that was evidently delighted, welcomed Mr. Percy Hutchison and Miss Emma Hutchison's company on Monday, when with a first-class company they presented that successful comedy *Brewster's Millions*. The mounting is effective and realistic, and much enthusiasm was aroused, the curtain having to be rung up again and again. Mr. Hutchison, who is really clever and artistic, took the part of Brewster in rollicking style; whilst as Margaret Grey, Miss Cicely Stuckey gave a finished rendering. Mr. Frank Hill as Rawles provided a most amusing study of a small part.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr Frederick Sandy; Musical-Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford are at the head of the bill this week, their amusing duologue, "Getting Even," proving very successful; the McConnell Trio are responsible for an entertaining musical item, entitled "The Invalid"; W. B. Raby is loudly applauded for his quaint songs; Nellie Wigley, who adds a sweet voice to her other charms, proves exceedingly popular; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws are well received in their vocal and comedy act; and Phillips and Merritt prove themselves smart comedians and dancers. Teresa Da Silva possesses a rich contralto voice; and Eily Adair, Irish comedienne and dancer, and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* has attracted crowded audiences. Mr. Fred Leslie fills the part of Prince Danilo with all his accustomed verve and success; and Miss Phyllis Le Grand in the title-rôle secures the lion's share of applause for her bewitching and graceful acting and singing. The other parts are all capably filled, the principals being: Baron Popoff, Mr. Edward D'Arcy; Nisch, Mr. Fred Fowler; Vicomte Camille de Jolidon, Mr. Ripley Evans; Natalie, Miss Ada Thomas; Olga, Miss Winnie Bailey; Sylvanie, Miss Heather Featherstone; and Prascovia, Miss Lucie Donati. The piece is beautifully staged.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is responsible for a thrilling presentation of the romantic play *The Midnight Wedding*, which was heartily received on Monday by a crowded audience. Mr. Alfred Paumier gave a finished portrayal of the dashing swordmaster, Paul Valmar; Mr. John Nesbitt impressively enacted the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes as the rascally Captain Rudolf Von Scarsbruck imbued the part with the necessary amount of villainy, and was ably seconded by Mr. Charles Whitlock as Lieutenant Eugene Von Strelsburg; Mr. Forbes Harrison sustained the rôle of Father Gerrard in a capable manner; and Mr. Arthur Radford was quite good as Sub-Lieutenant Kulman. As the Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg Miss Margaret Brodie was superb, her stage presence being perfect and her elocution excellent; Miss Gwladys Faunce made an admirable Rozel; and Miss Jessica Black was decidedly clever as Kathie. An extremely humorous element is introduced by Messrs. James E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding as Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo respectively. The staging of the play is elaborate.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The bright and amusing programmes afforded by "The Poppies" are attracting excellent houses both afternoon and evening. Miss Winifred Fairlie is an exceedingly witty comedienne; Miss Helen Hart and Miss Katherine Craig render their songs in an attractive style; Mr. Harry Collard at the piano proves himself an able player; Mr. Reginald Jecks and Mr. Will Tissington entertain with songs; and Mr. Horace Carr is an expert dancer.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Lewers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Tudor's educated ponies head the bill, and the excellent company also includes the Itrams, who give a charming and clever gymnastic turn; the Brothers Leo, patterers; Dancit, clever lady clog dancer; Alpho, a novel ventriloquist; Mart and Pep, balancers and tumblers; and J. J. Mannex, coon comedian.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—"Starring" here this week is Tom Woottwell, a comedian with funny songs and an inimitable manner singing them; Paul Vandy is an entertaining juggler; W. C Wesley is one of the quaintest comedians ever seen here; Terry and Tate in a singing and dancing act deserve much praise; Frank White, coloured comedian and dancer, finds favour; Minnie Mace sings and dances with delicious abandon; The Westbrooks are seen to advantage in a dancing scene; and Bi-Bo-Bi, eccentric musician, and the Kingscope are other entertaining items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. George Munro's company is here this week in a repertoire of plays, including *Othello, Hamlet, The Bells, The Merchant of Venice, David Garrick,* and *The Robbery of the Lyons Mail.*

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—A new departure has been made at this house, the show running now once nightly. This week's bill includes a grand array of pictures and variety turns by the following artists: James Brady, comedian; Maude Clifton, comedienne; Little Violette, male impersonator and dancer; Harry Benet, comedian; and Fields and Lewis in a comedy act

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Films named The Light that Came and The Spanish Girl fill the leading lines at this house, and there is also an agreeable "turn" by Chas. Tempest, comedian.

BEACH'S PICTURE PALACE.—The important films here are The Cowboy and The Squaw and His Last Burglary, and, in addition, there are attractive entertainments by Billy Melia, comedian and dancer, and Li Chang Hi, Chinese conjurer.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Barnard Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Ridley.—The programme here is varied by Civetto, juggler, who executes a neat dance during one of his feats; Ben Jackson, clever in manipulating banjoes; Leon and Leo, with refined singing and dancing; and Alice Dora, comedienne.

HIPPODROME SKATING RINK.—This popular place of amusement was crowded on Wednesday in last week, when the manager arranged a beauty show for the three prettiest lady skaters, the patrons of the rink being the judges. The competition was followed by a confetti battle, which was a huge success in every way.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphreys.—After a very successful run in Edinburgh, Mr. H. Armitage introduced to a Glasgow audience *The Greater Love*. As Mrs. May Miss Marion Fawcett gives a striking representation of the sorrowing widow, imparting to her performance both pathos and passion; the outstanding character of the play is undoubtedly Paul Penfold, and Mr. Campbell Goldsmid's conception of this difficult part is a powerful one; as Jack May Mr. William Clayton gives a robust and spirited performance; as Mary May Miss Violet Thorold presents a modest yet attractive sketch of the dishonoured daughter; Andrew Isted and the Rev. Arthur Warren are in the capable hands of Mr. Algernon J. Hicks and Mr. Henry Nunn respectively. The drama is pleasantly interspersed with humorous episodes, for which Mr. Arles Conway as Ned Stubbs and Miss Ethel Russell as Sarah Higgs are largely responsible. As Constable Drayton Mr Harry Wren does himself great credit. The staging and effects are in harmony with the play.

KING'S.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Genuine pleasure is derived from the visit of Miss Horniman's company, which on Monday opened with *The Silver Box* before an encouragingly large audience. Miss Ada King presented a moving and affecting picture as Mrs. Jones; and Miss Hilda Bruce Potter gave a capital delineation of the Siren. Mention must be made of the air of weariness cleverly assumed by Mr. Basil Dean as Jack Barthwick; and the rough bluntness of Jones was finely shown by Mr. Ian Maclaren, well contrasted by Mr. Henry Austin's able assumption of Livens. The stereotyped opinions of John Barthwick and Mrs. Barthwick as set forth by Mr. Stanley Drewitt and Miss Darragh in their portrayals caused much laughter. Other parts admirably played were the Julius Holden of Mr. Esmé Percy, the Detective Snow of Mr. Charles Bibby, the Roper of Mr. Edward Landor, and the Marlow of Mr. Leonard Mudie. The play was preceded by the one-act comedy *Makeshifts*. *The Critic* and *Widower's Houses* are also in the week's bill.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—In presenting Mr. John Masefield's play *The Tragedy of Nan* at this theatre, the repertory company has given one of the most important productions of the season, which stirred the audience to a height of enthusiasm seldom reached. In Miss Irene Rooke the Glasgow Repertory Company possesses an actress of the highest gifts, and the emotional intensity she imparted to the character of Nan emphasised the fact, and fully justified the half-dozen recalls she was accorded at the close of the play; next to the part of Nan, the characters that have the greatest share in the unfolding of the tragedy are Mrs. Pargetter, her daughter, Jenny, and the lover, Dick Gurvil. The vindictive aunt was acted with grim fidelity by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon; Miss Muriel Pope ably seconded as the shallow and scheming Jenny; and the Dick of Mr. Norman M'Keown was well rendered. Mr. Campbell Gullan was good as the old fiddler; Mr. Laurence Hanray made a typical countryman as Pargetter; and a lively portrayal of Tommy Arker was given by Mr. P. Percival Clark. Mr. Cecil Brooking as a clergyman and Mr. Kenelm Foss as Captain Dixon were well suited. The lesser parts were ably filled by Mr. George Tawde, Mr. Cyril Griffiths, and Miss Irene Clarke. The tragedy was followed by Mr. J. M. Barrie's clever satire, *The Twelve-Pound Look*, in which Mr. M. R. Morand gave a capital rendering of the self-satisfied Sir Harry Sims; Miss Lola Duncan acted the subdued wife to a nicety; Miss Madge McIntosh as Kate gave Barrie's biting sarcasms with excellent effect; and Mr. Laurence Hanray ably completed the cast as Tombes. Masefield's tragedy was produced under the direction of Miss Madge McIntosh, and a special musical introduction was composed by Mr. Albert Cazabon, musical-director.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. L. Sealy.—The first annual stock season began on Monday with a highly-creditable production of *In the Ranks*. In the rôle of the hero, Ned Drayton, Mr. G. Roberts appeared with complete success; Miss Alice Defoe was the Ruth, and gave a very touching portrayal of the lines at this house, and there is also an agreeable part; Barbara Herrick had a winsome exponent in Miss Marie Rignold; and the young officer, Hol-

CONVINCING PROOF

Don Quixote said "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." The proof of the value of Mother Seigel's Syrup is in the personal experience of the hundreds of thousands of people whom it has cured of stomach and liver disorders. If you have no appetite, and cannot digest food, if you suffer from headaches, biliousness, constipation, anæmia, or any kindred trouble, arising from a disordered state of the stomach or liver, Mother Seigel's Syrup will cure *you*. The herbal extracts of which it is made will restore your stomach and liver to working order, give perfect digestion, make food nourish you, and thus keep you in excellent health.

THAT—MOTHER

SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Mrs. Huddleston, Eclipse Dining Rooms, near South Wigston Station, Leicester, says:—"I had severe indigestion—pains in the chest after meals, and gradually it got round my heart, giving me there a most awful pain, which made me feel sick. I couldn't sleep. My appetite left me. I was so run down I couldn't work. After only one bottle of Mother Seigel's Syrup I was *cured*."

CURES

STOMACH AND LIVER TROUBLES

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½d size.

croft, was fittingly represented by Mr. Cecil Renton. The villain, Blake, had a forcible interpreter in Mr. Fred Terriss; and the tramp, Belton, was effectually played by Mr. W. G. Robb. Good character acting was seen in the Colonel Wynter of Mr. Hulme Sharp and in the Farmer Herrick of Mr. R. B. Drysdale; Mr. Charles Danvers scored as the comic man, Buzzard; Mr. P. Alexander made a smart Sergeant Searle; other careful studies being the Timms of Mr. W. George, the Mrs. Buzzard of Mrs. Scott Watson, and the Mrs. O'Flannigan of Miss Maud Milliss. The play was mounted in excellent style, and the opening house augurs well for the success of the seven weeks' season.

Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Tom Craven's company is here, presenting *When a Lass Loves*, in which Mr. Louis Palgrave gives an amusing delineation of Slack, an office-boy; while Mr. George F. Ide enacts the farcical part of Reggie Stapleton, a stage-struck lawyer's clerk. The lawyer, Caleb Crass, is played with quiet dignity by Mr. Franc Stoney; while his heroic son, Dr. Allan Crass, is finely rendered by Mr. Reginald Stephens. Mr. P. Ramsey Foreman as Bertram Bridge acts the villain with ability; and his accomplice is strongly rendered by Miss Rita Trekella as Cynthia Bridge. A spirited portrayal is that of an ex-lady detective by Miss Josephine Middleton; Miss Ella Dixon as Nina May amusingly depicts a chorus girl of free-and-easy manners; while the elderly Mrs. Slack is well played by Miss Dorothy Maude. The other parts are satisfactorily filled by Messrs. Harry Newman, H. Ainger, L. Fass, R. Strete, and Jack Arthur.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*Under the Iron Heel* forms the attraction here. The company, which is a first-class one, is under the direction of Mr. Wilson Howard, who is seen to great advantage as Captain Maupassant; Miss Carlotta Anson performs the arduous part of Germaine Mirbleau with great credit; as Otto Marx, a Prussian captain, Mr. J. W. Richards is all that one could desire; Mr. John Talford makes an excellent Father Mirbleau; as Major Schromberg Mr. Dennis Clyde is extremely popular; Mr. Carl Vallender as Schultz, a gardener, is responsible for the comedy element, and most successfully at that; he is ably assisted by Miss Marie Angus as Andre; the part of Mme. Gouffe is in the able hands of Miss J. Douglas Hicks; Mr. Austin H. Longford makes an ideal Prussian sergeant. Dresses and scenic effects are alike good, and the stage-management calls for approval.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The attraction here is Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, in the new drama *Can a Woman be Good?* which has just had a successful week at the Royal Princess's. The play is well staged, and the leading parts, sustained by Messrs. H. C. Robinson and Joseph Millane and Misses Blanche St. Albans, Florence Hunt, and Winifred Barton are well rendered.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The all-round excellence of the Empire programme has attracted large houses. Mme. Ella Russell is in capital voice, and her various numbers are enthusiastically received; those old favourites, Frank and Jen Latona, are a great success; Signor Persichini is an expert mandolinist; Billy Hobbs is ever popular with his catchy negro melodies and dancing; the Maples present a laughable comedy skit, *Hamper-ed;* the work of Conn and Conrad, "aviating" comedians, is wonderful; Dot Stephens, another Glasgow favourite, proves quite attractive in her various numbers; Verno and Voyce's latest sporting sketch proves a winner; W. Selkirk presents a juvenile spectacle, entitled *The Boy Scouts*, and a host of local juveniles get through their work with much credit. The Scottish Cup Final proves an item of interest on the Bioscope.

Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The one and only Little Tich tops the bill here, and as a result even standing room is at a premium. The inimitable comedian is in his best form, and the audience are heartily appreciative. Louie Tracy is a smart and clever male impersonator; Mike Cray and his dog Dooley combine to make a most enjoyable turn, with juggling of a humorous kind as the staple commodity; Wilfred Burnand's impersonations are marvellously life-like; Helen Martin's singing of several ballads is a vocal treat; Yetta, in her wire-walking and dancing on the wire, contributes a novel and enjoyable act; Gwladys Soman is a vocalist of much merit; Donal M'Dougal, as a Scotch comedian, is making distinct headway; Frantz's Comedy Five give a lively acrobatic turn, entitled *Happy School Times*.

Palace. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Ross and Lewis, comedy artists, are the outstanding turn, and treat the audience to a capital musical and dancing contribution; La Berat provides a unique performance with her weird fire dance; Horace White is one of our foremost ventriloquists; and other artists include Little Pam, juvenile comedienne and dancer; Mary Moya, a talented comedienne and dancer; the Celestas Quartette of vocalists; Carr and Rose, comedy sketch artists and vocalists; the Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; and Allis and Cassati, comedy artists.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—George Leyton, in his new military scena, *The Roll Call*, tops the bill here, and, aided by a boys' choir and a dozen old Crimean veterans, gives an attractive turn; Brothers Horne repeat their clever boxing sketch, *The Biter Bit;* Siems, a young Danish coin and card manipulator, displays wonderful neatness and dexterity; Alice Kingsley, contralto, gives several illustrated and other songs; and another first-rate vocal turn is that of Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna. Sam Elton, in his eccentric business, still shows himself capable of making the Shah laugh, or any other person for that matter; Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard contribute a smart American vaudeville turn; Chas. J. Johnston is a clever coloured comedian and expert dancer; Barrett and Knowles, the well-known patterers, complete an enjoyable programme.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A highly-interesting, amusing, and instructive set of pictures was submitted to a large audience on the opening night. Excellent variety is provided by Gladys Ardane, serio comedienne and dancer, and Kram, a clever eccentric juggler.

Panopticon.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The combined vaudeville and picture show here continues to be very popular. Billie Smart, comedian, sings and dances in great style; Jack Linney makes a good appearance; May and June prove themselves capital entertainers in song, patter, and dance; Ella Gold, a chic comedienne and dancer, is very favourably received; and Miss Gertie Barton also shared in the general appreciation with songs illustrated by lantern slides.

Hengler's.—Proprietor, Mr. Alfred Hengler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Several fine pictures are shown, With Ex-President Roosevelt in Africa and From Smoke and Grime attracting particular attention. J. C. Lawrance, Scotch comedian, and the Delmore Comedy Trio give variety to the entertainment.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal and Picturedrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Some fine pictures are on view here. Miss Doris Yorke is a charming singer; Forder's Living Mannikins provide a clever show; and the comedy duo, *The Lady Barber*, is very laughable.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Will Lytton and Company are successfully presenting Mr. Harry Roxbury's latest comedy production, *Sergeant Longfellow*. The various characters are well placed, and greatly appreciated. J. A. Wilson and "Private Towser" are immensely popular in "Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant"; Frank H. Morton contributes baritone songs in an artistic manner; Hess and Chivers are clever skaters; Walter Dale is well received; Hunter and Bob are amusing; and Kitty Russell is a pleasing turn; the Four Oovana Girls appear in songs and dances.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An interesting and amusing series of pictures as shown here by the Monarchscope are much enjoyed by crowded houses. Clever variety turns are contributed by Erle and Godfrey, in musical comedy sketch, *Mary's Muddles;* Amber and Avon in a clever musical sketch; Mayfield Grove, dame comedian, who keeps the house in roars; Mlle. Du Roche, an excellent soprano vocalist; Walter Race, comedian; and Harry Maybee, comedian and dancer.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company are presenting *The Eyes of the World* here this week. Miss Ethel Van Praagh gives a clever and finished performance of Helene de L'Orme; Mr. J. Edward Whitty displays excellent comedy powers as M. Achille Fanfarade; Miss Flora Hastings plays well as Esme De Carnac; Mr. Harold Forde gives a clever character sketch of Bryard; Mr. Charles O'Connor is good as M. Hector de L'Orme; Miss Nellie Garside is a vivacious Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure; Mr. Fred Bentley gives a clever portrayal of M. Gaston de Carnac. The play is well mounted.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. G. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Madge Carey and company and six young people known as the Avril Juveniles present as the principal item in their entertainment a harvest scene, entitled *Little Gleaners*, in which good dancing and singing are the features. Gracie Bard, a clever comedienne, presents the speciality, "The Hottentot Drum Major"; Louie and Wally, in a comedy act, are good fun purveyors; and the acrobatic act by Gibbon and Bell is specially good. The Bioscope display is interesting.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is on a first visit here with *Diana of Dobson's*. Miss Emelie Polini in the title-rôle was delightful, and especially so in the scene with Captain Bretherton did she raise the audience to great enthusiasm; Miss Hilda Francks acted with great skill as Mrs. Cantelupe; and Miss Mary Crewe played effectively as Mrs. Whyte-Fraser. A capital study of the self-made man was submitted by Mr. A. A. Harris; Captain Bretherton had a clever exponent in Mr. Leslie Rea; the "old woman" by Miss Marie Ault was a clever character study; and Mr. Leslie Crowther as P.C. Fellows did well. The play is well mounted and staged. *Out West* proved an excellent curtain-raiser.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—A good bill this week is headed by the Ten Loonies, in their musical extravaganza, *Dotty;* Victor Newman, in his latest character impersonations, is vociferously applauded; Rose and Challoner, a clever comedy couple, appear with success; Jessie Wilton, comedienne, is popular; and Ess and Hoey, Canadian ski and skate dancers, submit a novel turn. The pictures are still as popular as ever.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The capital picture programmes provided here continue to draw large houses twice nightly. Among those shown this week An Equine Hero and The Clown and His Dogs are particularly noticeable. Other good films are Taming a Husband, The Man Hunt, Mary was a Housemaid, The Two Portraits, and Invigorating Electricity. "Excelsior" is given on the Cinephone.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—After seven years' absence *A Royal Divorce*, presented by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, is receiving a warm welcome. Mr. Keith Fraser gives a realistic study of Napoleon; Miss Violet Ellicott acts with much emotional power as Josephine; Miss Winnie Tempest achieves success as the haughty Austrian, Marie Louise; Mr. J. H. Roberts is excellent as the Minister, Talleyrand; and others who may be mentioned are Mr. Charles Stirling as the Marquis de Beaumont, Mr. Ernest Plumpton as General Augereau, Miss Dorothy Garth as Stephanie de Beauhernais, Miss Dorothy Hudson as the little King of Rome, and Mr. George Hudson, who gives an amusing impersonation of Grimaud.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Wolford.—Some capital burlesque and amusing pantomimic business is introduced by the Boisset Troupe, in their sketch *The Bricklayers;* the Stavordale Quintette give an entertaining musical speciality, their banjo playing being especially worthy of note; Rolando Martin, who is a favourite Grimsby pantomime comedian, presents some very laughable songs and business; the Brothers Werds are a couple of grotesque acrobats who accomplish smart feats; Madge Osmond achieves popularity as a male impersonator; Mark Leslie is a successful coon singer and dancer; and Mabel Mignon is an artist with pleasing songs.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—The Highlanders' Defiance is a stirring military picture of the Boer War, illustrating a Spion Kop incident; The Englishman and the Girl is another capital dramatic subject; and among other interesting films are Arthur Dear and The Skating Carnival. Mr. Maxwell Edwardes contributes a military song.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint-Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and Varieties still continue to please. Some excellent pictures are again shown, chief among them being A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Last Deal, and The Wrong Road. The Hero and Accompanied on the Tom-Tom cause intense merriment. Harry Mantle, comedian, contributes, and the Orchids score in their vocal duo.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Platt and Tower's company is playing Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*. There is not a weak spot in the company. Miss Edith Hunter's Mrs. Clandon is a superior performance; Miss Winifred Beech portrays the varying emotions of Gloria Clandon effectively; Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as the irrepressible Dolly and Philip Clandon are both very good; Mr. J. E. Pearce gives an excellent rendering of Fergus Crampton; Mr. Allan Jeapes' Finch McComas is a fine effort; as Valentine Mr. Graham Colmer plays with sound judgment; Mr. Bellenden Clarke is impressive as Bohun; and Mr. Claude Haviland's waiter is capital.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are renewing their former successes; the Two Lees are clever musicians, and introduce two entirely new instruments; Burt Shepard, in "Potted Poetry" at the piano, provides a treat; Edna Compton is a charming and versatile comedienne; the Rangers are clever trick cyclists; Joe Cookson is a success in a novel ventriloquial act; and Eddie Stidder and Gwen. Dunbar give a humorous musical item.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Sisters Geretti, aerial gymnasts, gain enthusiastic applause for a smart trapeze turn; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian, is well received. Other turns appearing are the Rainbows, in *A Twenty-first Birthday Party;* Josie Mooney, comedienne; Calile and Walker, comedians; Lionel Howard, impersonator of notable stars; Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers; and Vasey and Ramsey, in *Jerks, the Butler*.

HAMILTON, N.B.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—The Seven Perezoffs, in their clever juggling act, *An Animated Supper at Maxim's*, are topping the bill here; the Brothers Webb, musical grotesques, are clever and entertaining; Maxford and O'Neil, comedians, are successful; the Brothers Corcoran, in their musical speciality, *The Musical Shipbuilders*, prove a popular turn; Stanley and Vandyke are a smart couple of artists; Will Garvey, comedian, proves popular; and the Rosses, comedians and dancers; May Brilliant, comedienne and dancer, together with the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs* is proving a powerful magnet. Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs is decidedly clever; Mr. J. S. Durant as Slithers is a capital comedian; Mr. A. Gordon Begg plays with skill as the Earl of St. Ives; Mr. E. A. Boyd is commendable in a character part; Mr. Campbell Browne as Mr. Amalfy is very good; Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the Hon. Hughie has a command of persiflage; Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe as Lord Eynsford is a great success; and Mr. David Miller as Mr. Beavis is well suited; Miss Elfie Vincent is a picture of sweetness as Our Miss Gibbs; Miss Lilian Birtles plays Lady Betty delightfully; Miss Ellaline Thorne as Mme. Jeanne is interesting; and Miss Amy Singleton is a capital Duchess of Minster.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Star turn here is the Kremo Family of excellent Risley acrobats; also appearing are J. W. Hall, a comedian of merit; Carlisle and Wellwon, in a novel musical act; Baby Boden, a young artist of promise; Will Norrie, a Lancashire tenor; Josie Delaine, in a high-class song and dance act; and Bennett and Martell, in a screaming scena, *The Shipwrecked Mariners; Dobson's Day Off*, a farce presented by Maude Elliston and company, is well received; the Grand Pictures are enjoying great favour.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The Highlanders' Defiance is a very stirring film, and The Motherless Waif a deeply pathetic picture. Arthur Wyre sing sensible songs with success.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights variety held sway here, Maria Racko and company, a good acrobatic turn, being at the top of the bill. Mlle. Eldee, the girl in the golden frame, had a novel and pleasing turn; the Three Sisters Silcott made a decided hit; and Canard, the man on time, also went well; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright appeared in a merry little potpourri; and Drum and Major provided fun in *The Broker's Man;* Elmo and Rego were excellent knockabouts. Clown Paulo and his pony and Miss Gertie Martini completed the bill.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's large company is drawing crowded houses with *The Still Alarm*. Jack Manley, taken by Mr. Mathew H. Glenville, is an excellent impersonation; as is also John Bird, a finished study by Mr. Gerald Kennedy. Mr. Edward Hobart shows intelligence in the part of Willie Manley; Doc Wilber has a capital exponent in Mr. Henry C. Gilpin; Joe Jones, a typical New York fireman, with a fund of humour, is merrily played by Mr. Sutton Pateman; Miss Lydia Audre as Carrie Wilbur shines equally as actress and artist; as Elinor Fordham Miss Beatrice Shirley brings all the necessary amount of feeling to bear upon the impersonation.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Fred Ewing.—A capital programme is opened here by some effective films; a refined novel act is continued by Bert and Dora; Daisy Devonport, comedienne and dancer; Charles Valvo, military ventriloquist; Cedar and Elgar, novel comedians; the Soho Trio, vocal and dancing; Fred Herbert, vocalist; and Len. Lewis and company, in an amusing skit, are other attractions.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Fred J. Little's company is here, in *The New World*. Mr. Will Hee interprets the prominent character, Jack Hawley, in a clever manner; Mr. Fowler Thatcher is good as Joe Williams; Mr. George Fairhurst and Mr. G. M. Davidson are interesting in their stage villainy; and great amusement is caused by Mr. Fred Little, Mr. Walter Adams, and Mr. Will Hickes as Pete, Brown, and Smart. Charmingly natural is Miss Helene Mohr as Jenny Williams.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Durie.—Miss Violet Osmond's company in *The New Barmaid* opened on Monday to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Mr. J. Burlington Rigg's songs as Captain Lovebury are highly appreciated; Mr. E. Sykes is responsible for a fine, brisk interpretation of Colonel Claymore; Mr. Alex. Loftus keeps the audience convulsed, his Bertie White being highly amusing; Mr. Charles Adeson as William White, the waiter, makes the most of a good part; Miss De Ferry's portrayal of the aristocratic Lady Moulton is capital; Miss Beatrice Erle as Dora Heather has a part that suits her admirably; Miss Madge Prior as Ethel Joy, the new barmaid, is very winsome; and Miss Vera Grafton as Brenda Louth is decidedly good; Miss Marian Vyner is a charming Mary, the maid; and Miss Muriel Mascot a fascinating Mabel.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—This week Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is appearing with success in the two dramas, *The Power of a Wicked Woman* and *For Honour and Revenge*. On Monday the former play was presented.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—Mr. James E. Lewis's company is here in the musical drama, *The Welsh Maid*. Mr. Laurie H. Stuart possesses a nice voice, and as Jack Francis uses it to the best advantage; as James Seymour, Mr. Herbert De Ville is all that can be desired; Mr. Victor Cannon is an excellent Carodoic Howell, his elocution being commendable; the humorous element is well sustained by Mr. William Penn as Dafydd Thomas, and he is ably assisted by Miss Madge Raymonde as Sally Davis; in the rôle of Jenny Jones, the Welsh maid, Miss Zeta Murdock is delightfully charming, her acting and singing being equally excellent; Miss Theresa Spencer as Mrs. Jones is good; and Ruth Howell is well taken by Miss Phyllys Darwen. Special mention should be made of little Miss Josephine Allbutt, who has a very deep voice, and highly delights the audience with her singing. Some excellent dancing is accomplished by the Celtic troupe of dancers and the Sisters Beresford.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Crowded houses are gathering to see the Great Raymond, who is presenting his clever and mystifying illusions with the greatest success. In addition, there are a pair of nimble expert clog dancers, whose names are not given; Alf. H. Drinkwater, comedian; Les Grossi, in their vivid Vampire dance; Frank Sylvo, an amusing juggler; Miss Luelle Cross, who is assisted by Master Wilbur in songs; Montes and Welma, the male member of the pair doing some fine jumping; and Miss Maude Mortimer in taking and tuneful songs.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Eugene Stratton heads the bill here. Also appearing are the Keppels, a pair of tuneful singers; the Three Alekarnos, acrobats; Cavalli, a humorous ventriloquist; Harley and Melton, laughter-raising comedians; Miss Ada Fawn, in comedy and burlesque; the Villions, in their daring trick cycling and expert dancing; and the Palace pictures.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Alice in Wonderland* is a performance that is attracting much interest among the little ones of the city, and Lewis Carroll's delicate humour is heard to advantage in the way the lines of the play are delivered. Miss Ivy Sawyer is a charming little player, who realises Alice with fine sincerity.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Diver's Luck* is the sort of play that will take the public fancy where striking incidents and vigorous dialogue are appreciated. Mr. Wm. Macready plays the part of Martin Faber with skill; well placed is the character of Helen Wyngate in the hands of Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff; Tom Hall is a character cleverly drawn by Mr. Wm. Dexter; Miss Pearl Noyle as Peggy Mahoney and Mr. Ed. O'Grady as Barney Bawn fill in the comic rôles with great success.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—Agnes Molteno's delightful vocal scena, *An Old-Time Story*, is being received with marked approval. The feats of Miss Juliette's wonderful sea lions elicit admiration; Allan McAskell's burlesque conjuring is very laughable; Annie Martin and Ronald Brookes contribute several songs successfully. The picture show is praiseworthy.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Alfredo Marschall, a novel and sensational performer, tops the bill; Trefelyn David and Irene Marriott, operatic vocalists, are clever; and Howard Ward and Louie Davis, in *Wanted, a Typist*, are successful; the Brothers Deane are good patter comedians and dancers; Andie Burns, comedian and dancer, is well received; Sylvia Montrose, chorus vocalist, and Gladys Ray, comedienne and dancer, are acquisitions to the programme.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—Pictures still attract good houses here.

IPSWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Hal Forde has some taking songs; Wilson Hallett is on a return visit with his mimicry of children; Harry Levaine is a versatile comedian; Petro and Leon give a smart and novel trapeze performance; Signor and Mme. Borelli are excellent musicians; Sterling and Love have a good musical sketch, entitled *Harmony and Discord;* Chorley and Connor are agile dancers; and the Bioscope concludes.

Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's excellent company is here with *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Lord Lumley is played by Mr. Hamilton Stewart, and the various phases of that extraordinary character are given in a calm, dignified, and natural manner; the difficult parts of the two Italians, Signor D'Orelli and Guiseppi, are in the hands of Mr. Lewin Mannering and Mr. Launcelot Lowder respectively. Mr. Percy Marmont plays Lord Ronalds, R.N., and Mr. Eric Morden is a stately Judson. The emotional Lady Lumley is excellently portrayed by Miss A. Bruce Ivy; Miss Viola R. Garland is a vivacious Ruth Thornton.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—This week Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here with *Brought to Ruin*. Miss Isla Garner Vayne gives a good performance of Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott is a manly Harry Hailing; Mr. Edward M. Heanly a forcible Philip Edge; Mr. Sydney Bryant is well placed as Jack Jossie; and Mr. Alaric Burton makes the most of the part of Solomon Sleek; Miss Addie Adair is a first-class Mrs. Slutt; and Mrs. Powell as Miss Winnie Waters proves herself a capable actress.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—The great attraction here this week is Miss Ella's troupe of forest-bred lions, which is proving a tremendous draw. Of Albany Ward's pictures, two were most interesting, being Winter Sports in the Vosges and Wonders of Nature.

KEIGHLEY. — Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Yukio Tani is making his first appearance in Keighley, and his ju-jitsu exhibition creates bewilderment. Sims and Sims are here on a return visit, and are popular favourites. The Calcotts provide a clever musical turn. The Sisters Terry are loudly applauded for their baby mimicry. The Tivoli Trio, vocalists and dancers, are well received. Much amusement is created by Miss Daisy Marshall's sketch company in *Brass or Lass*. The Tissots, living marionettes, and Ida Dorrie, comedienne, complete the programme.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The patrons of this theatre are enjoying a rare treat in a visit from the F. R. Benson Shakespearean company. *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, Taming of the Shrew, Merry Wives of Windsor, School for Scandal*, and *Macbeth* have been the plays enacted. As usual, the company is well selected and strong all round, the mounting and staging being perfect. The casts include Mesdames and Misses Dorothy Waite, Florence Froissant, Emil Leslie, Constance Bromley, Marjorie Palgrave, and Messrs. Owen Evans, C. Warburton, Douglas Rubey, Norman Halle, Balliol Holloway, and Frank G. Weis.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Hippodrome performances are being given this week. The programme includes George Williams, eccentric comedian; Sisters Merrie; Minnie Love, comedienne; Saxo, on his musical instruments; Everard Denton, illusionist; and the dramatic episode *The Tempter*, by Ivan Coherney and company.

KIRKCALDY.—Corn Exchange Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Walker; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—An excellent display of pictures is given here this week. Sandy Beach is a clever dancer, and Nell Brough a capable artist.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's *Rollicking Rory* company is here with the author in the title-rôle and Mrs. Mackey playing the parts of Mrs. Ashleigh and Rosaleen. Miss Kathleen Emmett as Queen of the Fairies has a pleasing manner, and her singing is warmly appreciated; Desmond Fitzgerald finds an able exponent in Mr. J. P. MacBride, Mr. Edward Warden makes an excellent Stephen D'Arcy; Mr. Guy P. Ellis is good as General Ashleigh; and the comedy of Miss Connie Meadows as Rory's wife is good. The play is well staged.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—For the first three nights of this week we had a visit from Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company, which appeared to large and delighted audiences in *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Ralph Roberts in the title-rôle displayed great skill and versatility; Mr. Frederick Leister made his Major Thessiger a manly and soldierly figure, and Mr. Mark Paton gave a dignified portrayal of the Admiral. Miss Mabel Rees submitted a spirited rendering of Mrs. Cameron; Miss Rita Johnson's Lady Hermione displayed much charm; and Miss Una Venning's Viola Hood was a commendable performance; Mr. Stanley Groome and Mr. Guy Lanham made two admirable middies, and other characters were ably filled by Mr. W. J. Yeldham, Mr. Edward Mervyn, and Mr. Richard Dalton. For the latter part of the week Miss Nannie Goldman's company is announced in *Not Before the Missus*.

Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—The management conclude their season here this week with another very fine picture and variety programme. The two chief films are The Two Portraits and A Sister's Sacrifice, whilst pictures of an extremely interesting character are Newcastle United v. Swindon, The Oxford and Cambridge Boatrace, and the Lincolnshire Handicap. Mr. Harry Lewis again delights his audience with some well rendered illustrated songs, and the humorous items of Mr. Norman Griffin are loudly applauded. On Friday evening a complimentary benefit was accorded the manager, Mr. Plant, a special programme including local turns.

LEEDS.—The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Reano and his famous band are appearing here with unqualified success. The Tom Davies Trio give a thrilling performance on the egg-cup track; the Sisters Caselli take many curtains for their pretty songs an clever dancing; the Craggs appear to great advantage in a new acrobatic sketch; Alexandra Dagmar gains much applause for her songs and stories; and other excellent turns include Dion Wade, Kerr and Koe, Charles Santon, and Dot Hardy.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—B. A. Rolfe with Ye Colonial Septette is the hit of the bill here. The Florodoras are big favourites; the Verona Troupe of cyclists appear in a smart act; Blake and Amber create much amusement in a comedy act; and Flo Cecil, Watson and Naylor, Phil Bransby, the Oakes Duo, and the Tintos also are favourites.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—The Four Royal Scots, Oakdene, Bert Byrne, and Lawson Namon are some of the principal turns here.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—The mysterious Marriotts in a second-sight act are causing a sensation here. Harry Conlin's comedy songs please the audience immensely; George Caselli, a nice singer and wonderfully clever dancer, makes one of the hits of the programme; J. H. Hawtry's sensible songs are rendered in capital style; and Mlle. De Rose and Hilda Claremont's songs are highly appreciated. Smarte Bros., Guest and Newlyn, and May Gibson complete a good bill.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—Williams and Hayes (the Prima Donna and the Tramp) provide an excellent sketch; May Halsee proves a sweet vocalist; Sidney Raymond is a smart comedian and dancer; the Sisters English are capable duettists and dancers; and the Bioscope forms, as usual, a pleasing feature of the entertainment.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers. — Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here again with the evergreen *Charley's Aunt*, in which Mr. Stanley Cook repeats his conspicuous success in the principal part. *The Colour Sergeant* precedes.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The patrons of this drama house are again being entertained with Mr. Horace Stanley's company in the sensational drama *The 10.30 Down Express*. Good work is done by Mr. Horace Stanley as Sam Wagstaffe, Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggie Potts, Mr. T. Arthur Plummer as Jack O'Malley, Mr. George Gaisford as James Inderwick, Mr. Edwin Clarke as Huntley Mason, Mr. T. B. Brabazon as Cuthbert Leigh, Miss Cora Linda as Bessie Leigh; Miss Ida Fane as Letitia Leigh, and Miss Leila Drummond as Olive Coombes. The mechanical effects, as usual, are most effectively worked.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—R. G. Knowles, the famous comedian and raconteur, keeps the house in a roar of merriment. A big reception is accorded the Eliott-Savonas on a return visit in their superbly staged and magnificently costumed musical act *The Palace of Orpheus*, which delights all sections of the audience. Miss Lydia Yeamans, vocalist-actress, assisted by Mr. Frederick J. Titus, is also responsible for a delightfully clever and extremely popular turn; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire Rustic, receives his usual warm welcome; Mabel Sinclair, the talented lady ventriloquist, is scoring a well-deserved success; Addie Dorina is smart in her protean act, *Dr. Spot's Patient;* Falo and Eida are good in their Japanese ju-jitsu dancing speciality; and Tiny Arnold is a capital little comedienne and dancer.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—One continual roar of merriment is being created here by Arnold Richardson, who is supported by Miss Ethel Lonsdale and Mr. Gordon Laws, in the comedy sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. Mr. John R. Poole presents Godfrey Price in a new and original song scena *The Trumpeter*, which proves most popular. A successful first visit is being paid by Zellini, eccentric juggler; the Sisters Edwards, vocalists, drummers, and dancers, are very good. The other artists who entertain are Vera Nixon, comedienne and dancer; Will Austa, light comedian; and Tina Frank, soubrette.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—At this home of animated photography the usual fine picture programmes continue to be submitted. Annie Adams, a popular local chorus vocalist, is on a successful return visit.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby.—Mr. Haldane Crichton is this week presenting here *The Cingalee*. Miss Isa Bowman is a charming Nanoya; Mr. Frank Barclay an excellent Harry Vereker; Mr. Hylton Warde as Chambhuddy Ram makes the most of his opportun

being assisted by the capital work of Miss Florrie Greensmith as Peggy. Miss Ray Anderson pleasingly portrays Lady Patricia; Mr. Frank Lennard is a successful Boobhamba; Mr. Herbert Franklin an entertaining Bobby; Mr. Grafton Williams an amusing Sir Peter; and Miss Winifred Stone gives some clever and pretty dances.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The Brothers Luck in a comedy sketch entitled *The Burglars* evoke roars of laughter here. Miss Sara Rosebury in a capital turn is deservedly applauded; clever gymnastic feats are introduced by the Three Orros; Talberto and Douglas, acrobatic comedians, are decidedly amusing; Harry Clyst proves himself a clever vocalist; and Percy Curry, eccentric comedian, the Northcotes, vocal duettists, and the Hippo. pictures are other attractions.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A large audience warmly greeted Mr. Gilbert Payne, who appeared with a capable company in his musical play, *The Marriage Mart*. Mr. Payne was very happily fitted with the part of Christopher Crackett, the leader among the comic characters of the piece; and other diverting rôles were the Rajah of Mr. Lloyd Torons, the Bodyguard of Mr. Cliff Astley, and the Bailiff of Mr. H. F. Housden; while Mr. Hervey Bruce appeared acceptably as Richard Mannering. The prominent rôles of Ray Desmond, Vera Mannering, and Flossie Fluff had popular representatives in Miss Nellie Dyson, Miss Ethel Errol, and Miss Fannie Adamson; the chorus did its work commendably; and the Three Godfrey Girls introduced some striking speciality dances.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. George Edwardes has sent us a brilliantly clever company to play *The Merry Widow*, and every seat was occupied on Monday long before the rise of the curtain. Miss Mary Ridley in the title-rôle and Mr. Robert Needham as Prince Danilo won high favours, and the waltz was encored repeatedly. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter's Baron Popoff was extremely funny; an excellent Nisch was Mr. Harry Emeric; and Mr. Cecil Warrick was entertaining as the General. The De Jolidon of Mr. Ronald Pomeroy was artistic, and he sang well; and Mr. T. H. David's de Cascada was also commendable. Mr. Clinton Reynold created much hearty mirth; Miss Mabel Hope's Natalie was a contribution of note; Miss Eileen Clanford's Olga was bright; and Miss Neste Laurel made an engaging figure of Frou-Frou. Miss Enid Forde was applauded for her clever sketch of Prascovia. Mr. W. Brightwell conducted a strong orchestra and chorus.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—The Narow Bros., comedy cyclists, are presenting a sensational turn here. Julian Mack is a Dame comedian par excellence; the Fimans in *The Fire Station* exploit an amusing idea; the Bartholomew Girls have a smart song and dance act; and Charles Erard, mimic at the piano, Mildred Bryan, mezzo-soprano, and Beatrice Harris, a pretty dancer, help along a diversified programme, which the Palace Perfection Pictures wind up effectively.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Laurence.—The always popular Compton Comedy company are here this week. On Monday evening *Davy Garrick* was staged, with Mr. Compton in the title-rôle, and Miss Kathleen Leigh as Violet Gresham, a charming impersonation; Mr. H. Crocker handled the part of Alderman Gresham with tact; Mr. Frank Royde played the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut in commendable style; and the smaller parts were admirably undertaken by Messrs. Phillip Gordon (Rumbelow), J. W. Austin (Sowerberry), C. Marquand (Simkins), Miss Marie Hassell (Mrs. Rumbelow), and Miss Lorraine Stevens (Selina). *Tom Noddy's Secret* was the curtain-raiser. During the remainder of the week the stage was occupied by *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Road to Ruin*, *School for Scandal*, and, for the first time in Liverpool, *Used Up*, with *Hook and Eye* as a front piece.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Here this week we are having a return visit of Mr. Weedon Grossmith in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. The famous comedian repeats his delightfully funny impersonation of Preedy, and causes his audience to rock with laughter; Miss Ruth Mackay makes a charming Joanna; Mr. Frank H. Denton pleases greatly as Dr. Reginald Saunders; the John Bounsall of Mr. Frank J. Arlton is particularly rich in humour; Mr. Arthur B. Murray, as Bilson, helps with the fun; and worthy support also comes from Messrs. Ronald Squire (Earl of Rushmere), Edward H. Wynne (Sidgrave), Edward Bonfield (Jennerway), and Oswald Marshall (Lord Kinslow), Miss Lydia Rachel (Mrs. Sidgrave), Miss Evelyn Kerry (Emma), and Miss Lynn Foutanne (Harriet). *A Ball or a Motor* is the curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction here is Harry Foxwell's company, with *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Cullenford does well as John Barnard; Mr A. C. Holmes carefully plays Stephen Raylton; Mr. Charles Vivian makes an effective Gash Gills; Miss Sheila Walsh merits much praise for her excellent work as Mary Barnard; in the character of the curate Mr. Henry Carlisle is seen to much advantage; Miss Nancy Mitchell is Sally Travener and Miss Daisy Rochefort a sweet May.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—*A Wrecker of Men* is here this week with Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, including Miss Ruth Zillwood, whose assumption of the villainous Risca Mallinson is strong and effective. Mr. William Heilbron plays Pharosaphus with much care; Mr Arthur S. Pitt fills the part of Jim Murphy very satisfactorily; Ka ton is ably held by Mr. Richard Bosco; and other good supporters are Mr. Edward A. Brooke (Isaacs and Karnaphus), Mr. Arthur Robinson (Guise Strange), Miss Lydia Hart (Slopper), and Miss Gwendoline Talbot (Doris Melville).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Havana*, presented by Mr Alexander Leighton's company, is proving a draw; it is staged in good style, and has a big chorus. Miss Hebe Bliss, who possesses a capital voice, plays Consuelo with plenty of spirit, and earns a deal of popularity; Miss Winnie Browne is a fascinating Anita; Miss Edith Barwell finds favour as Isabelita; Mr. Saville Foster is an excellent Jackson Villiers; Mr. William Pringle proves a merry and lively Nix; the scheming Diego is well impersonated by Mr. Charles Boulting; and good support likewise comes from Mr. Reginald Edwards (Reginald Brown), Mr. Cyril K. Percival (Adolfo), Mr. J. Brian Ridout (Frank Charteris), and Mr. Lauri Aster (Bombito)

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Tom Foy, fresh from his big success in local pantomime, is here this week in his *First of April* sketch. The clever little comedian and his company are received with every delight. *Cockneys in Japan* is both a pretty and merry musical comedy, well presented by Alec. Hurley and company; Edward E. Ford causes screams of laughter with his facial expressions; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce present a very acceptable Japanese musical duologue and song scena; Gladys Mavis charms everybody with her chorus songs and speciality dances; the Blank family execute some marvellous juggling feats; Hanid Alexander has some taking songs at the piano; and Phil Parsons, comedian, also pleases.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold.—That amusing sketch *The Casey Army* is top of the bill here this week, with Will Murray as Mrs Casey; Captain Kettle shows much skill as a coin and card manipulator, completely mystifying his audience; La Freya presents some very beautiful studies, which are greatly appreciated; amusing parodies come from Ruhart; the Zampas show well as speciality dancers and baton jugglers; and others in the list are Ivey Aberdare, comedienne and wooden-shoe dancer, and Lena Leslie, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Hassan.—Heading the bill here this week is Miss Carrie Moore, who made a great hit in local pantomime here recently. The popular artist is having most flattering receptions. Goodfellow and Gregson are a couple of comedians affording every delight; the Eight Elves are clever juveniles, who go through a neat dancing, singing, and instrumental act; George S. Melvin, as a Scottish comedian and dancer, gives every satisfaction; the Kebbles are a particularly able couple of duettists and dancers, whose work is much above the average, their reception being a most gratifying one; Arthur Aldridge, possessed of a rich tenor voice, earned loud applause for his popular songs; the Markies have a neat vocal and instrumental scena, *The Professor's Studio*; and Ernest Rees proves droll as ever.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—After three weeks of successful pantomime the stock company here have reverted to drama, presenting this week *Woman Against Woman*, which was adapted from the French by Frank Harvey. The principal rôles were capably held by Messrs. Sydney Grant (Victor), R Seath Innes (Henri), Harry Tresham (Ferdinand), Tom H. Solly (Pierre), Miss Lina Nazeby (Clotilde), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Louise).

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Geo. Ali and company are foremost here this week with the laughable sketch *Papa's Day Off*, which is received with shouts of laughter; Mr. Ali's representation of the dog being particularly noticed; La Pia presents an artistic production, entitled "The Spirit of the Waves," which wins rounds of applause; the musical comedy mélange given by the Courtiers (under the direction of Paul Mill) is as much enjoyed as ever; Larola keeps his audience in roars of laughter with his funny ways; Alf. Gibson proves immensely diverting; Marie Pera and Thomas Kennard have a smart comedy duologue "Two Doors and a Passage"; the comic acrobatic work and wrestling match of Ryan and Hall proves one of the treats of the evening; Ruth Davenport sings several numbers in finished style; and Rose Cabani has some catchy songs.

PAVILION. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Foremost here this week are the Six Brothers Luck with *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which creates endless laughter; Theo. C. Le Gar's company please greatly with their dramatic playlet, *Music the Conqueror*, in the course of which Senor Angel Blanco, the Spanish violinist appears; a clever harmonised vocal burlesque, "Park Pets," is given in capital style by the Three Favourites; some extraordinary cycling work is executed by the Ellesmere troupe; Marie Blythe renders several songs with finish and taste; and contributions likewise come from Robb Rossi, tenor; Jack McKenzie, comedian; and Sullivan and Edwards, patterers and expert dancers.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—La Vie is seen to advantage in numerous living art panel poses; Harry Hutin, legmania artist, is exceedingly funny; Doris May, juvenile vocalist and buck dancer, and Lugie Dole, the patriotic girl, are well received; Chas. Bradford causes roars of laughter; and the Three Behans are expert dancers. The Bioscope pictures are good.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindsay Edwards.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is here on a welcome return visit with *The Merry Widow*. The production is well up to Mr. Geo. Edwardes' standard, and Miss Mary Ridley is very successful in the title-rôle. Miss Mabel Hope is heard to advantage in the musical numbers allotted to Natalie; Miss Neste Laurel as Frou-Frou and Mr. Harry Emeric as Nisch are highly appreciated for their delightful dancing; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter as Baron Popoff is droll; and Mr. Robert Needham makes a hit as Prince Danilo. Mr. Ronald Pomeroy as Jolidon renders his songs well.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*A Noble Brother* is presented by a highly-capable company, in which Mr. Chas. Carte (as Jerry, the tramp) gives a fine piece of character acting.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—A capital variety bill is delighting large and enthusiastic audiences. W. Penn scores a big success in two clever numbers; Daisy Dashwood succeeds in some really good chorus songs; Arthur Albert also figures prominently; and Probyn and Bates in their comedy act work hard to achieve success. The pictures include many novelties.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Fred J. Webb and his company are here in *For Old Times' Sake*. Mr. Fred J. Webb's Rupert Sidney is excellent; Mr. J. C. Carlyle submits a good portrayal of Paul Sidney; Jean Brook finds a capable exponent in Mr. H. C. Lanceley; Mr. R. Oliver gives a forcible rendering of Frank Rivington; Evan Berkley has a characteristic representative in Mr. E. Beverley; and as Dr. Heathcote, Mr. W. P. Acock does well; Miss Marie Danvers-Smith imparts much realism to the rôle of Sareta Berkley; and Miss M. Stanton is admirably suited as Phyllis Brook.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Attractive animated pictures include A Battleship in Action, The Two Orderlies, Pater's Patent Painter, The Mountebank's Son, and The Lady Bone-setter. Variety turns are given by Mlle. Hengler's Troupe of performing dogs, and the Rurals, who introduce a novel musical act.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Martin Harvey's production of *Richard III.*, which was given at Dublin last week for the first time, met with a gratifying reception here on Monday. By general consent this popular actor's version of Richard ranks among the best that has been seen, and, indeed, no further praise need be added to the encomiums passed upon his performance in last week's issue of this paper. Praise for the remainder of the company is also well-deserved, and wherever the play is seen the staging will be esteemed an artistic and attractive feature. *The Only way* is also in the week's programme.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here this week in *Tom Jones*, which still retains its popularity. The cast is a good one. Mr. E. Statham Staples plays Partridge in very good style; Miss Dorothy Castles as Sophia has a cultured and pleasing voice; Miss Claire Marsden as Honour is fully alive to the possibilities of the part; and Miss Edith Jeffries makes an excellent Lady Ballaston; while Mr. Cyril Thompson is quite equal to the demands of the title-rôle. The humorous parts are smartly handled by Mr. Fred Seymour (Squire Western), Messrs. Michael Dwyer, Charles Goffrey, and Clifton Yates as the three servants, and Miss Ray Vivian as the squire's sister, Miss Western. Mr. Ernest Hartman conducts.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—This week the theatre is occupied by the Irish Players, who have been seen frequently here in a characteristic répertoire, which is being repeated with some additions of interest.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company are here in *The Sin of Her Childhood*, which was played successfully at the Grand Junction Theatre last week

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company are here on a return visit with the successful emotional play *His Real Wife*, in which the clever young actress, Miss Ward, sustains the rôle of Rose Avondale in capital style, supported by Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Martin Avondale and Mr. Clifford Rean as Herbert Barton. Master T. Edward Ward and Miss Clarrie Yandel competently supply the comic element. The week includes a special performance of *Moths*, the occasion being a complimentary benefit to Miss Ward.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Brearley.—Last week's attraction at the Metropole, *The Angel of His Dreams*, is drawing good houses here. It is played by Messrs. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An excellent programme here is headed by Tom Hearn, the lazy juggler; Harry Roxbury and company, in the musical absudity *On The Track*; J. W. Rowley, the well-known comedian and dancer; and Little Zola, the mighty atom of fun and frolic—all of whom acquit themselves in the style of star turns. A very smart and enjoyable turn also is that of George Newburn, whose imitations of star artists are a triumph; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists give a sensational act; and other pleasing items are The Avolos, acrobats and somersault throwers; the Dandies, in song, mirth, and dance; and Katie Butler, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Chung Ling Soo is very much to the front here this week with his illusions and clever tricks and is accorded a fine reception. Edward Crosland's Melody Makers are exceedingly good in phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*; the Brothers Griffiths score, as usual, as comedians and burlesque wrestlers; George Newburn, the well-known and exceedingly clever mimic, is well received; Millie Payne, eccentric comedienne, is capita'; the Delevines give an excellent comedy legmania act; Peter Bermingham, Scotch patter comedian, takes well; the Three Café Girls are first-rate long-boot dancers; and Betty Green, a promising juvenile, is a mat dancer. Pictures on the American Bioscope complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—This week the great attraction here is the always popular Vesta Tilley, who was received with enthusiasm on Monday evening. Sandy McNab and company are also prominent in the bill, in their funny sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*. Other good turns are Ruby-Rao, comedienne and dancer; the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels; Daisy Taylor, comedienne and dancer; Habs, continental acrobatic eccentrics; Josh. Dixon, comedian and dancer; Fred. Evans, in a protean comedy sketch; and the Seener and Fridkins troupe of Russian singers and dancers.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Daisie Irving is charming all here this week with her artistic singing, and meets with a good reception. Martin Adison, well-supported by Clara Bernard, is vastly amusing in farcical incident *Dr. Maud's First Patient*. Phœbe Marcus and company cause much laughter in comedy sketch, *The Interviewer*; Ward and Wright give a very smart hoop-rolling and juggling turn; the Four Jumels are delightful in their well-known musical act; Rosie Bartlett is a neat male impersonator; and others who give enjoyable turns are Florence Somers, comedienne, and Charles Rothwell, comedian. As usual, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures are excellent. A good all-round show.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr James R. Trippett.—A considerable infusion of Tiller talent is responsible for a very bright programme here this week, the principal turn being *In Japan*, a production in which 50 artists take part; while the Mystic Hussars, in a novel act, are at the bottom of the bill. Other turns in the same interest are Baby's Park Parade, the Eight New Cocktails, the Pavilion Serenaders, the Twelve Forget-me-Nots, and Cissy Iris; smart comedy turns being added by Smith and Gibbs, comedy acrobats, and W. F. Reno, in his cyc'e act.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Dry.—Rousby's *Greater London*, an electrical review in three scenes, is, perhaps, the most artistic spectacular effect produced on any stage. It is a beautiful and wonderful creation, and is deservedly well received. Metz and Metz score a big success with very clever dancing; Bert Kayburn has some funny songs which he delivers in a quaint manner; Marry McKenzie take well as a Scotch comedian; the Two Brilliants give a clever and enjoyable zylophone performance; Walter Graham, the human marionette, is capital; the Zaid Trio make a bit in their unique ring act; Fanny Humber sings and dances nicely; Ray Beattie dances smartly; and the Great Four are good comedy harmonists. A series of interesting pictures complete.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Olly Oakley, the famous banjoist, is the chief attraction here this week, and meets with a deserved big reception. On Monday he played no less than nine selections. Arthur Holland is a first-rate light comedian, and is received with great applause; Alex. Rubinoff, Russian baritone, sings well in six different languages; Cecily O'Shea, here for a second week, charms with her singing and dancing; Andy Drew, comedian, causes screams of laughter; Dorothy Deane, soprano, sings well; and Eric Silverdale and Willie Bailey are entertaining at the piano.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Mlle. Suzanne De Verneuil, with her five prepossessing young ladies, heads the bill with a series of artistic poses; Zethus, a juvenile instrumentalist and mimic, is exceedingly good; Jessica Brooke, comedienne and dancer, scores well; and Fred E. Ellis, comedian, keeps the house in a roar of laughter. Tommy Clifford, ventriloquist, gives a clever show with his mechanical figure; Wun Hi and Chung Soo, Chinese acrobatic eccentrics, create a lot of merriment; Ghita and Renée, in a versatile vaudeville act, are good; and the pictures add variety to an all round programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*For Love and the King* was presented on Monday by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company. Mr. Mill capitally undertakes the rôle of Jarval; Mr. Alfred Maurice is successful as the old miser Obrenovic; Vladimir, his son, is ably sustained by Mr. Cyprian H. Mathews; Mr. Stanley Weston acts King Kara admirably; Mr. F. Wicksteed is an excellent Prince Uros; Mr. Geoffrey Chate does good work as Duke Fernand; Mr. Oscar Power is amusing as Carl; Natila is successfully sustained by Miss Joan Ellis; Miss Kitty Melville is happy in the part of Grazia; and Miss Rosalind Tate does well as Edith Meredith.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Phil Rees's Stable Lads provide an enjoyable turn; Kay and Lingard, in a comedy duo; Halma, juggler and equilibrist; Rene Ralph, soubrette and dancer; George Goldburn, comedian; and Connie Rubie, comedienne, also appear.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—The attraction this week is Mr. Herbert Fuller's company, in *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. Mr. H. Fuller is a capital Timothy Slough; Mr. Hubert Halliwell is well placed as the Rev. John Albery; Mr. Percy St. Clair makes a manly Jack Walters; Miss Lilian Burns a good Mrs. Walters; and Miss Agnes Collier acts with feeling as Alice Walters.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company is presenting *When Other Lips*. Mr. John Davidson gives a manly interpretation of Ted Daunton; Basil Cunningham is made thoroughly despicable by Mr. Juan D'Alberti; Mr. Arthur Ross does well as Robert Lingley; Mr. T. Arthur Jones makes the most of the part of Jenkins; Miss Marie Daventry plays with dramatic force as the heroine, Ruth Lingley; Miss Florence Melrose-Millett is eminently successful as Octavia; and other characters are ably sustained by Mr. Bob Anderson, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey, Mr. Arthur Prescott, and Miss May Neilson.

NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Will Hunter.—The star pictures are Fools of Fate, Diver's Revenge, A Wife's Ordeal, the Right to Love.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Messrs. Baring Brothers this week present, with well-deserved success, *Madame X.*, in which Mrs. Brown-Potter sustains in a faultless, fascinating manner the very trying rôle of Jacqueline Fleuriot; as the son Raymond Mr. Douglas Alington achieves success, especially in his brilliant speech in the defence of his mother; Mr. Leonard Pagden capably portrays the pitiless husband; and the humorous part of Perissard is in the able hands of Mr. Thomas Sidney.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company occupies the boards, with *A Thief in the Night*. The melodrama is excellently staged, well played, and much appreciated. Miss Beatrice Homer as Sonia Cleeve gives every satisfaction; Joan Escombe is capably delineated by Miss Margery Fone; Mr. Leyton Cancellor does full justice to the part of Michael Pagoni; and as Alan Escombe Mr. Stanley Bedwell proves himself very efficient.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Archie Royer, American comedian, goes well in song and patter; *No. 99*, as presented by a highly-valued favourite on Tees-side, Frank Lister, supported by a competent company, is much enjoyed; the Two Onarbos give a very amusing turn; the Three Laurelos are appreciated in their speciality act; Harry Bedford, comedian; Sid Bandon, character artist; Seton Black, comedian; and the ever-welcome Empire pictures all meet with unqualified approval.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—A first-rate programme of pictures attracts large and interested audiences nightly.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Delio and Metz head the bill, and introduce a very clever juggling and acrobatic act; Little Ena is a charming impersonator and mimic of juvenile precocity; a pleasing singer of pretty ballads is Adela Varcoe; and Frank Sinclair merits applause for his capital clog-dancing.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Mr. John Leopold's company is here in *Frivolity*. Mr. Jock Leopold sings well and dances smartly as Daniel Zeelting, Mr. Harry Agar is an amusing Samuel, Mr. Watson Hume is sufficiently aggressive as Oliver Buckwheat, and Mr. John Leopold appears as the deserted husband. Miss Kathleen Cavanagh is Mme. Cobweb, and Miss Amy Hall appears as Lucy Buckwheat. Mention should be made of the acrobatic display by the Four Kellys. The farce is preceded by an athletic comedy *The Stadium*.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogdon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—A most enjoyable programme is presented here this week. Pagodas in Rangoon is a very interesting subject; Dr. Phantom, who exercises his mesmeric influence over the burglars who try to rob his house, is full of sensational situations; A White Slave unfolds a domestic tragedy; a very fine subject is An Outlaw's Sacrifice; a fine spectacular scene is An Angry Sea; a very pathetic subject with a happy ending is Stealing Bread. Among the laughable pictures, our old friend Calino is much in evidence as The Brave Gendarme. Another most amusing item is The Hungry Motor. The celebrated Watsons, four in number, are an excellent addition to the programme as instrumentalists, vocalists, and comedians.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English opera company is attracting capital houses. *Il Trovatore* was presented on Monday, the production being in every respect a thoroughly enjoyable one. Manrico found a very capable exponent in Mr. F. G. Hargrave; Mr. Frank Clark used his strong, musical voice to advantage as Count de Luna; whilst Mr. Harry Reynolds and Mr. E. Jones as Ferrando and Ruiz respectively, were both in fine form; a very charming and artistic presentation of Leonora was supplied by Miss Sarah Williams, whose fine voice was greatly admired; Miss Doris O'Brien was a tasteful Inez; Miss Beatrice Hill's Azucena was very meritorious. *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Satanella*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, and *Maritana* are also in the week's bill.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Benson.—Among the best items of the bill are the Five Champions, including the renowned Atlas and Vulcana, whose weight-lifting feats are well received; the Child Trio of Musicians also have a fine reception. Other capital items are Penstone, who is aided by Miss San-Go, in what is described as a bouquet of mystic problem; the Dunvilles, instrumentalists; J. W. Darley, who presents an interesting domestic sketch, entitled *Music*, and introduces a smart little fellow known as Wee Monte Moore; Angelina and her two assistants, in a clever comedy acrobatic and juggling act; Wilbert and Lealand, the eccentric flying sailor; and Will Walton, the popular Lancashire comedian.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—A very great success has been achieved by the Moody-Manners' Opera Company, and crowded houses have received every opera with the utmost enthusiasm. Each production has been beautifully staged, and, needless to say, magnificently sang by a most capable company and chorus, the band also being the finest ever heard in this locality. The operas produced this week have been *Faust*, *Samson and Delilah*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, and *Maritana*. Next week the same company give a complete change of operas.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, the New Brighton Pier Company.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is the attraction this week, and finds favour with Pier patrons. All the characters are in safe hands.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* opened here on Monday. Miss Gurney Delaporte carried off the chief honours of the evening as the dashing Serpolette entirely in keeping with the traditions of the part, and Mr. E. St. Alban made the most of his opportunities as Gaspard, the other parts being ably represented.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. John Tiller's company is doing good business here with *Amsterdam*. Miss Lulu Valli gives a charming portrayal of Evelyn Anna; Miss Dorothy Firmin as Gretchen scores well throughout; the rôle of Hans is creditably undertaken by Miss Nancy Hearne, whose singing is much appreciated; Mr. Arthur Stigant is very droll as Theodore von Toozleveldt; Mr. T. W. Volt is capital as the Widow Frau van Stoop; Miss Florrie Page as Katrina sings and acts with much charm. Mr. Charles Verno, Mr. Sidney Vincent, Mr. Charles V. Sandford, and Mr. Barney Dixon give excellent support. Mr. Peter Flitcroft conducts the orchestra.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*Her Life in London* is here this week, played by Mr. Stanley Carlton and company. Mr. Stanley Carlton as the Rev. Allen Gordon, takes full advantage of his opportunities; Miss Rubie Maude wins admiration by her finished performance as Astra Bell; Mr. Claude Aymond displays exceptional ability as Gratton Gale; Mr. Edward Vincent is convincing as Sam Rendall; Madge Rendall receives excellent treatment at the hands of Miss C. Medwyn; Miss E. M. Watson is highly commendable as Sarah Shafto; and Miss G. Bostock does well as Mrs. Glendale. Mr. W. Vernon as Percy Plunker, along with Miss R. B. Douglas as Dolly Typirt, is responsible for the comedy element.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Amongst the variety turns here this week, great praise is due to James Brady, comedian; Little Violette, male impersonator and dancer; Maud Clifton, comedienne; and Fields and Lewis, in a musical comedy act.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Resident-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Owing to the inability of Miss Ada Reeve to appear, a troupe of Indian wrestlers have been engaged to give exhibition bouts in the catch-as-catch-can style. Charles R. Whittle is well to the front as a comedian, his quaintly-rendered songs and peculiarly amusing style causing no end of laughter; Ike and Will Scott have some new business as genteel hard-ups, and they conclude in a very tricky dance; the Haytors introduce a novelty, *The Electrician*, which has a good deal of crisp dialogue, the act ending in some clever dancing; Rauschle is wonderfully effective in his impersonation of illustrious personages; *Lucky Jim*, a dramatic sketch, is played acceptably by Margaret Parker and company; Little Lassah sings and dances admirably; Nellie Farrell contributes Irish songs; and Silvo performs melodiously on musical glasses.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The dramatic films include The Sins of the Fathers, a sensational story of Tennessee; Mary the Coster, of which the title tells the tale, as does On the Reef and McGregor the Detective. The comics comprise Beneath the Gas, Pals, and The Amateur Pugilist. Up-to-date illustrated songs are featured by Miss Margaret Payne.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The management here have introduced an innovation in the shape of producing dramas twice nightly for the summer season. This week Mr. J. E. Barnes's company is presenting *The Drama of Life* before appreciative audiences. As Sylvia Beech, Miss Pattie Hastings gives a clever portrayal; Miss Beatrice Hudson as Betty Black is particularly successful; and Miss Bessie Chetwyn makes a pleasing Master Robert Beech. Harry Beech finds an excellent representative in Mr. Graham Woods; Mr. Archie Helsby scores as Walter Beech; Mr. Marshall Meade displays much ability as Jack Lawton; Mr. George Byrne makes the most of Count de Foi; Mr. George B. Davis is a capable Detective Richard Brenton; and the comedy element is in the able hands of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston (Sir Dobson Wilde) and Miss Alice Oliver (Lady Jane Wilde), who are responsible for much hearty laughter.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The pictures here this week are attracting large audiences. The variety portion of the programme consists of the Three Welsh Singing Colliers, assisted by Helen Bourne, the lady tenor, who render their vocal numbers in excellent style; T. W. Barrett, comedian, receives his usual warm reception; the Dormonds appear in a speciality act

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—*Sexton Blake*, played by Mr. Murray Yorke's excellent company, is proving a strong attraction. Mr. Yorke himself gives an excellent rendering of the title-rôle, winning entire approbation; Mr. Edward McLean deserves praise for his impersonation of Roger Blackburn; and Mr. Paul Barry Lewers acts with force as Randolph Lovell. Mr. Sidney Barnes is effective in the part of a burglar; Mr. Stephen Nicholls is good as the Rev. Edward Grey; and Mr. Will Glaze is a humorous Tinker. Miss Elizabeth Watkins charmingly enacts Marjorie Lovell; Miss Betty Seymour is a vivacious Euphemia Patacake; and Miss S. St. Clair deserves praise as Philadelphia Kate.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The premier position here is occupied by Mr. William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads, who render their vocal numbers with humorous effect, and in their dancing display much ability. Lotto, Lillo, and Otto are wonderful trick and comedy

Be Fashionable!

This season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS

BRONZINE POLISHES

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

These polishes can be obtained in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour.

EXCELLENT FOR THEATRICAL PROPERTIES.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, & Ironmongers, 1/- per box.

Daily Demonstrations
JONES BROS.,
Holloway Road, N.
(Grocery Dept.)

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD.,
73, Leadenhall Street,
London, E.C.

cyclists; lovely, lively Lily Burnand meets with a hearty reception for her vivacity and humour; Tod Lowen, in old melodies with new words, creates laughter; Hampton and Bauman are successful with their Darktown entertainment; Harry Leybourn is a smart comedian and mimic; Harry Cooke is an amusing turn; Vere and Neldon as a novelty couple are appreciated; and the Hippo. pictures interesting.

Theatre de Luxe, St. Andrews.—Manager, Mr. Edward W. Burgess.—The continuous picture entertainment continues popular.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Walls of Jericho* is being capitally played here by Messrs. Douncey and Browning's company. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards plays with force as Frobisher; Miss Gwendoline Hay makes an effective Lady Alethea; Mr. Rutland Barrington adds a large share of humour as Lord Steventon; Mr. Russell Barry gives a breeziness to the part of Bannister; Miss Ethel Trevor-Lloyd brings experience to bear on the rôle of Lady Westerby; and Miss Doris Digby smartly outlines the diverting Tiny Mornington.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*The Silver King* still keeps its hold on patrons here, who applaud and hiss to their heart's content. Mr. Fred Daviss supplies a fine portraiture of Wilfred Denver; in Miss Mildred Surrey is seen a charming and sympathetic Nellie Denver; the smooth villainy of Captain Skinner is cleverly depicted by Mr. Sidney Lynn; and the unfeeling Geoffrey Ware finds an able exponent in Mr. W. Leslie Ellis; as Daniel Jakes Mr. E. J. George retains all his popularity; Coombe is well played by Mr. A. Wright; and minor rôles are creditably taken by Messrs. A. H. Warburton and Percy Stone, and Misses Hilda Bateman and Mary Glangrane.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Premier place is worthily occupied by Mr. Herbert Darnley's new sketch *Private Potts*. The name-part is filled by Fred Kitchen, whose exuberant humour is the very essence of quaintness; and Mrs. Herbert Darnley as the Colonel's daughter moves with sweetness and quiet dignity that is pleasant to see. The monologues and character-studies of Wish Wynne are not only smart, but artistically rendered; and a warm welcome is given her; Sydney James's Strolling Players supply some excellent numbers; and Ethel Newman is excellent in her monologue. Tableaux by A-Ba-Bee, songs by Henry Helme, the comedy act of Haigh and Novel, Ugo Nap (comedian), and Tom Moore (comedian) are all received with delight.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Miss Mary Mayfren's company, in the dramatic sketch *The Yellow Fang*, includes Mr. George Pickett as Hung Kow and Miss Violet Campbell as Judith Beck. The piece is one of great strength. Hebrew comedians are now fairly numerous, but few equal and none excel Jordan and Harvey. A true novelty in ventriloquial turns is presented by Perrier; Baine and company are a wonderful acrobatic and dancing trio; Henri Bekker, assisted by Miss Maie, does some capital comedy conjuring; Mlle. Pollo is seen to advantage on the single trapeze; Miss Minnie Leslie and Mr. Edgar Stevens have a good musical sketch; and George Campbell causes much laughter by his incessant patter. Dolly Ross and Molly Wynne are two dainty comediennes.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. H. Gordon Ingram is an entirely satisfactory Harry Raymond; Mr. Kingsley Roydon is clever in his stage villainy; Mr. Edward Bikker is good as Walter Hastings; Miss Cissie St. Elmo is a powerful Charzel; Miss Louisa Charlton plays Redempta with much skill; and Miss Mabel Scudamore is a charming Minnie Hastings.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lee Broadbent.—Mr. Richard Flanagan's production from the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, of *Twelfth Night* is proving a great attraction. Miss Margaret Halstan as Viola acts delightfully, and was the recipient of hearty applause. Miss Moira Creegan plays Olivia in varied and artistic style. Mr. Harvey Braban is admirably fitted as Orsino, and Mr. A. B. Imeson as Sebastian acts very well. Mr. W. H. Perrette makes a capital Antonio, and Mr. J. Darnley is good as the Sea Captain. Mr. Ryder Boys as Sir Toby Belch, Mr. S. A. Cookson as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, and Mr. Arthur Grenville as Malvolio keep the ball of merriment rolling to excellent purpose, and Signor Gherardi, as Feste, making good use of his opportunities. Miss Cicely Richards acts cleverly as Maria, and Mr. Walter T. Clifford is good as Fabian. Mr. Alfred Hilliard is excellent as Valentine, and Mr. D. Vaughan makes a capital Curio.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—The Lyceum Tours presented *Pete* to a good audience on Monday. Mr. Austen Milroy appears in the title-rôle, and his forcible portrayal was heartily enjoyed. Miss V. Malcolm Barnett, as Kate Cregeen, gives a clever delineation, gaining much applause. Mr. Alfred Gray is excellent as Philip Christian, and Mr. J. Edward Fletcher acts capitally as Ross Christian. Mr. Frank Stone as Cæsar Cregeen is very good, and Mr. Harry Pitt ,makes a capital Black Tom. Miss Lucy Murray is very amusing as Nancy. Mr. Chas. Clayton as Jonaique Jelly and Mr. Herbert H. Young as Postman Kelly also do good service. Miss Minnie Lake is excellent as Granny. Mr. F. Kirkland is very good as Constable Niplightly, and Mr. J. Williams a capital Dr. Mylechreest.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Face at the Window* is being played here by Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and Jas. Usher's company, and good business has been the rule during the week. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet acts the part of the detective cleverly, earning much appreciation. Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay as Lucia Delgado invests the character with due cunning; Miss Clare O'Sullivan makes a charming Marie de Brisson, in love with Lucian Cortier, ably played by Mr. Arthur Chisholm. Miss Constance Glenabyn as La Pinau makes the most of the character, and Mr. T. Carter as Jean Barbelon proves a capable artist. Miss Nita Imeson as Babette and Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter Pottleberry are responsible for much laughter. Mr. Jas. W. Chippendale as Dr. Le Blanc also contributes some smart acting.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H Kilrow.—A capital series of pictures show views of Italy, both past and present. Dramatic and humorous films also figure in the collection.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Power of the Press is a powerful American dramatic film, and A Sister's Sacrifice and a Child Benefactor are also very good. The bill includes views of Lucerna and The Black Knight Pageant. Mr. King sings Let Me Like a Soldier Fall.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—The Cowboy's Escape is a sensational picture. Peter the Great is a fine and well-acted historical film. Dramatic and humorous subjects are also treated. The vocalist this week is Mr. M. Mills.

Brown's Assembly Rooms.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Excellent pictures are being shown, the principal one (in colours) being Cagliostro, episodes in the life of the famous alchemist. A very interesting film shows Metal Works in France, and among the humorous pictures The Queen of Burlesque is very good.

Oddfellows' Hall (Shaw).—Proprietor, Mr. A. Ashworth.—Brothers in Arms is a dramatic picture of an exciting nature, The Stampede being sensational, and a thrilling film is A Cruiser in a Storm. Comic films include Pair of Trousers, Bob's Electric Theatre, and Tenor's Conquest.

OXFORD.—East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company are presenting an admirable production of *The Marble Heart*. Mr. Karl Edwards, ever versatile, is a great success as Jean Gautier, and Mr. E. Holland Day sustains the rôle of Carl Ricardo with decided power and force; Mr. Harry Leyton makes Silas Harkie prominent, and Mr. D. Carlton is well placed as Theophilus Tomkins; Miss Katie Norris possesses ability as Marie Loreny; Miss Vida Rogerson makes a sprightly maid of Kitty Manville; and Miss Mabel Parker comports herself well as Lady Rawdon. Miss Elma C. Turner enacts the arduous rôle of Ada Rawdon with telling dramatic power. Praise is due also to the representatives of the two statues. The scenery (by the resident artist, Mr. Frank Bull) and effects for the whole stock season are in every way adequate.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Walter Steele's company is here in *A Fast Life*. Mr. Fred Garratt as Sir Oliver Franklin plays admirably; a capital embodiment of John Dixon is furnished by Mr. Walter Steele; Mr. Bruce Warwick plays with success the part of Harris Goldberg; Mr. Edward Kingsley capably enacts Lord Craven; and the Tommy Burke of Mr. Willie Barratt is funnily presented. Miss Beatrice Stone is a capital Lady Franklin; Miss Lilliana Ross as Mrs. Dixon is to be complimented on a clever enactment; as Mrs. Wheatcroft Miss Violet Douglas acts well; and Miss Maude Ryder as Julianna is smart and sprightly.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Premier place is occupied this week by Howard and Harris, who, in their comedy episode *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are mirth-provoking; Mabel Thorne, comedienne, scores in all her songs, rendered in refreshing style; as a Scotch comedian J. A. Cassels scores in all that he does; the Sisters Melba, harmonising vocalists, have a cordial reception; the Zenary Brothers contribute a novel and expert acrobatic speciality, which is especially well received; Dorma Morgan is captivating and entertaining as a comedienne; Dalvere and Wallace, comedians, in their sketch *By the Sideboard*, are provocative of the heartiest merriment; quite a novel singing and dancing turn is given by the Four Figaros, whose *Ten Minutes on the Continent* gains unstinted applause; and the Bioscope is entertaining.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—This week another excellent company has been secured. Haley's Garden of Girls in a brilliant stage setting give a fine vocal entertainment; Miss Ray Raymond, a pretty comedienne, with a beautiful voice, draws the cheers of the audience; Les Wambas are equally successful in their instrumental and trapeze act; Græme Atholl performs some clever sleight-of-hand tricks; Lambeth and Robertson give an entertaining sketch, entitled *Scots Folks' Wooin'*; and Sheila McNeil creates much laughter with her pawky Scotch patter. Wren and Sadler keep the house convulsed in their extravaganza *Give Me a Shilling*.

PLYMOUTH.—Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—*The Slave Dealers* is the star turn, and provides a brilliant scenic spectacle, around which a wonderful exhibition of tumbling and acrobatic work is accomplished. The Three Phydoras renew old associations, their contribution being as acceptable as ever; Danvers and Rosslyn are genuinely amusing in a musical and comedy turn; Fred Elton has a first-rate drawing-room entertainment; Troy and Rich have an excellent assortment of patter; and Nayme Cannon is an attractive comedienne. Master Harry Clark also contributes to the bill.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Tom Didcoff.—Brayne and Lloyd head the bill in a screaming absurdity, *The Tree of Truth*; Rowland Hill, the popular pantomime dame, is a success with his funny patter and songs; Rita and Roma sing parodies of the latest songs, and conclude with equilibristic feats; Mappin and Webb are character duettists; Nellie Moore presents a musical act; and Lily Hales is an expert dancer. John Pardoe is clever on the tight-wire, and Edna Deno is a dainty comedienne and dancer. The Alexscope show some excellent films.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The Eight 'Varsity Girls are appearing here in their talented musical show; the Cheers, who introduce their troupe of highly educated cats, make a hit; Ruby Norton is a charming and dainty comedienne, and Les Marsumas are smart comedians on wheels; the girl aquatic marvels, Kirk and Saraski, receive unbounded praise; the Langfords, with their comedy trifle, provoke roars of laughter; the company of comedians headed by Chas. M. Daly appear in a most amusing sketch *I Must Have It*. The Palascope has all the latest films.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Broughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A large audience welcomed the introduction of *The Little Duke* by Mr. George Dance's company, and Miss Zena Dare, whose characteristic realisation of the name-part (Duc de Richelieu) was a feature of the play, met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Johnny Danvers was highly amusing as the Baron de Bellechase, Miss Nellie Dade sharing honours as the Baroness; Miss May Rawlinson rendered her vocal numbers delightfully as Diane; as the stately Duchess de Nodelles Miss Kate Graham-Beck played with distinction; Miss Gertrude Robertson was an effective Princess; the amorous Chevalier was seen to advantage as presented by Mr. Reginald Adair; Mr. Alec Johnstone successfully impersonated the Abbé de la Touche; Miss Nina Terri's graceful dancing lends variety in Act II. The dresses are rich and appropriate.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—This week Mr. Morton Powell's company is here in *A Girl's Temptation*. Mr. Frank V. Fenn undertakes the part of the hero in a very capable manner; and Miss Gertrude Gilbert deserves praise for her excellent portrayal of Kate Stirling. As Mark Klaw, the villain, Mr. Clifton Earle gives a vigorous display.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—An attractive bill of fare is provided here. The Selbinis, trick cyclists, acrobats, jugglers, roller-skaters, perform a series of astonishing feats; W. T. Ellwanger and company appear in an amusing American absurdity, entitled *Who Did It?* W. H. Fox, at the piano, gives an excellent turn; Robins and Collier present a humorous skit, *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*, introducing a tiny youngster, who gives a marvellous display of acrobatic dancing; Keir and Kempton, Scotch vocalists, are effective in several well-known songs; Fred Barnes, light comedian, sings two songs, which are much applauded; Monie Mine, soubrette, and the Sisters Adair, comediennes, are also charming chanseuses. Payne's Bio-Photoscope presents some new and interesting films.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Although the third visit, *Happy Holland*, as presented by Jake Friedman, with his powerful quaintly-dressed chorus and appropriate scenery, is as popular as ever; Lockhart's Elephants display the result of patient training in their wonderful performance; Cissie Curlette speedily sings herself into favour; Harry Ford's funny songs evoke hearty laughter; Chung Ling Hee and troupe of Chinese exhibit acrobatic daring, as do the Three Borellas Bros. Juggling has its exponent in Jack Rae; the "Coon's Lament" is sung with her usual success by Daisy Morrell; and some capital pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Crowded houses testify their appreciation of this week's entertainment. More than usually interesting are the living statues of present and past celebrities, "Makers of History," so artistically arranged by Albert Toft, and described by Mr. C. Lillford Delph; Herbert Darnley's spectacular Spanish comedy, *The Brigands of Tarragona*, is well staged and acted, Chas. H. Bell as the waiter, Pepo, being the chief fun-maker. An enjoyable musical turn is provided by El Tampicos, the Mexican Troubadours; marvellous acrobatic feats are performed by the Six Juanitos; Mme. Holt's Eight Juvenile Follies, attired as Pierrots, both dance and sing creditably; Holden's Mannikins are skilfully manipulated; Russell and Held's singing and dancing is clever and novel; Arthur Clifton and Alexandra Edwin are also in the bill.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—An enthusiastic welcome was accorded to Mr. Frank Curzon's excellent company in *The King of Cadonia*, which is staged in a magnificent manner. As the Duke of Alasia Mr. Johnnie Osborne convulsed the audience with his drolleries; Mr. J. Warren-Foster made an ideal Alexis, and sang the numbers allotted to him in fine style; Mr. Jack Martin was a most impressive General Bonski, and played the part well; Mr. Cameron Carr was good as Lieut. Laski; Mr. Edward Thrilby's portrayal of Brau was exceedingly funny; Mr. Cecil Tresilian was capital as Laborde; Miss Mabel Hirst was a vivacious Militza, and was frequently encored for her songs; Miss Florence Lelgarde made a dignified Duchess of Alasia; and Miss Alice Moffat portrayed the Princess Marie with the utmost charm. The augmented orchestra and the fine chorus were under the direction of Mr. H. R. Matthews.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Jennie Johns, who tops the bill, is a dainty comedienne, and a decided favourite; the Havannas Troupe of tumbling pantomimists perform some wonderful feats; the Georgians (twelve in number) gave a pretty vocal and instrumental and dancing scena; La Belle Duchesse presents her two wonderful boxing stallions and her highly-trained dogs and ponies; Bert Bowden, comedian, and S. W. Wyndham, comedian, contribute some catchy songs; Macline and Mac (J. W. and Jessie) have a humorous sketch; Lucy Coventry is a clever comedienne and eccentric dancer; Reed and Cully, in their comedy tumbling act, *The Bill-Sticker*, accomplish unique somersaults; Mlle. de Louvois presents a series of marble groups, bas-reliefs, &c., with her seven models, a most artistic turn. Poorluck's Honeymoon on the Bioscope concludes the programme.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. and Mrs. Rice Cassidy, in *The Beggar Princess*, fully maintain their popularity. Mr. Cassidy as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh is a host in himself; while Mrs. Cassidy gives a most excellent portrayal of the part of Seaweed. Mr. Alfred Boxal is good as King Olgar; Mr. T. Royden imbues the part of Duke Sergius with the necessary air of villainy; Miss Ada Roscoe gives a good portrayal of Countess Olga; Miss L. Hunt is decidedly good as Tommy Bolton; Miss Agnes Durham and Miss M. Cameron are effective in their respective parts of Marie and Maggie Bolton; David Douglas is a capital Abraham Bolton; Messrs. Villiers Stanley and William Melvyn are seen to advantage as Harry Lorrimer and Allen Armstrong. Scenery, dresses, and uniforms are very fine.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—The management have introduced a change for two weeks, during which Poole's excellent pictures fill the programme twice nightly. Some of the films are over 900 feet long, and remarkably clear and steady. The pictures are very realistic, and the comical subjects create much laughter.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—During the past week one of the best animated picture entertainments seen at this popular place of amusement has been put on, and large audiences have been the rule. Mr. Alfred West, in presenting Life in Our Navy and Our Army puts before the public a series of highly interesting and instructive pictures depicting scenes and incidents in both branches of the service that would be difficult to surpass. The pictures are graphically described by Lieutenant Sutherland, R.N.R.

Marina Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The animated picture shows this week have been extremely popular, some excellent films being exhibited. George Barry's illustrated vocalism has contributed materially to the excellence of the programme, and the Brothers Weltman, acrobats and dancers, have made a big hit.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—*The Arcadians* is proving an immense attraction. The play is exquisitely staged, and the costumes are dainty and tasteful. Miss Marion Edwardes acts well and sings with good expression as Sombra; Miss Mysie Devine acts with grace and charm as Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Katie Yates is a delightful representative of Chrysea; Miss M. Haines acts cleverly as Mrs. Smith; Mr. Gus Oxley is exceedingly good as the knowing caterer, James Smith; Mr. Frank Collins is highly diverting as Peter Doody, the jockey; Mr. Roy Sidney is a capital Jack Meadows; Mr. Roy Lorraine is good as Bobby; Mr. B. H. Hewetson plays the part of Sir George Paddock characteristically; Miss Hilda Stuart's dancing and acting deserve high commendation; and all the other parts are well filled. Mr. Albert Bartlett is an efficient conductor.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—Rosina gives a good instrumental performance; Amandus is a very clever facial mimic and "makes up" with a marvellous resemblance to a number of celebrities; the Three San Remo Girls are graceful and agile dancers; the Gilberts give a novel and clever bounding cable act, which is gone through in a very effective scenic setting of a military camp; Hope Trevelyan is a very promising actress-vocalist; the Ten-Ka Japanese Troupe perform extraordinary magical tricks; Arthur Gallimore Trio appear with success in their comedy pot-pourri; Harry Morris is an amusing comedian; and Sid Cottrell and company produce a highly amusing sketch, entitled *The Substitute*.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Miss Renee Glendower and her company are appearing in a smart society play, *What a Man Made Her*. Mr. J. M. Olivert presents an excellent portrayal of Dr. Mark Haven; and Mr. Edward Rawlinson is seen to advantage as Rupert Wogan Danescombe. Sir Ernest Cavendish is a fine part in the capable hands of Mr. Martin Alwyne; and Mr. Bert Goldwin is most amusing as Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein. Miss K. Murgatroyd does well as Nurse Arden; and Miss Tessa Myers is a sprightly Deborah. Miss F. Russell Spiers gives an aristocratic representation of Elfrida the Countess; and Miss Stella Carmichael is well received as Lady Thora Danescombe. Miss Renee Glendower essays the principal rôle of Janet McAlister, with delightful results. The mounting and scenery are elaborate.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—George D'Albert is at the top of the bill, and receives numerous recalls; the Ellimans present a pleasing musical turn; Leolin is responsible for a smart Indian club and juggling scena; Sadie Bizet is a sprightly comedienne; the Millwards produce a highly-sensational comedy equilibristic act; the Two Kays are local favourites; Richards Trio are amusing in their eccentric novelty acrobatic act; and the Milsted-Bell Trio are responsible for a screamingly funny musical comedietta, *Three Sharps in a Flat*. The Hipposcope still continues to present excellent films.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.—This theatre is now run under the twice-nightly system. This week we have an excellent programme of pictures, and Miss Dolly Patmore contributes several pleasing ballads. The comfort of the patrons is in the hands of the courteous local manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.

SALFORD.—P.O.W.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Great Awakening* is here again and doing well. Miss Olga Audré makes a great impression as Lola Selby; James Selby is well played by Mr. Chris. A. Olgar; Captain Harry Lambert is carefully handled by Mr. Charles H. Mortimer; Mr. T. Arkinstall is a capable Guy Logan; the comedy business is well presented by Mr. Walter Rousby as Billy Brass and Miss H. Farrell as Selina Worts; Miss Florence Zillwood is a charming heroine as Molly Merton; Mr. Andrew Esmond as Sir Henry Merton, Mr. Basil Mitchell as Jack Merton, Mr. Harry Hoyland as Richard Wilson, and the other members of the company do efficient work.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Hetty King had an enthusiastic reception on Monday, when, after she had given four songs, the audience wanted more; roars of laughter accompanied Hayman and Franklyn (Hebrew impersonators) in their skit *A Suit for Divorce; A Dude's Wooing* is also a funny sketch by Tom Bryce. Other good turns are given by Harry Luck, comedian; Owen McGiveney, in characters from Dickens; Chummie Le Mars, chorus comedienne; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; Harrison Brothers, the golfing Johnnies; Percy Johnson, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company are drawing excellent houses with *Through the Divorce Court*, which is very well staged. Mr. Robert Purdy ably sustains the part of Lord Robert Penarth; Miss Hettie Chattell makes an excellent heroine of Lady Dolores; Mr. Henry C. Cooper does fine work as the villain Mendoza; Mr. John Campling is successful as Leon di Valdis; Mr. Harry Colbeck as Patsy and Miss N. Sheffield as Dinah are responsible for comic business; Miss Edith Cruickshanks does well as Lady Hilda; Little Constance Dagmar charms with her portrayal of Sybil; Mr. Jack Denton is an amusing Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice. Mr. E. W. Thomas (Pettigrew, K.C.), Mr. V. Howard (Sharpe, K.C.), and Mr. W. Wilson (the judge) do smart work in the Trial Scene.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The films are of the usual good quality, and crowded houses follow them with interest and applaud the illustrated songs by Mr. Tom Sherlock.

Central Hall (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—Good business is done with the pictures, illustrated songs being given by Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—Among the films are the prize fight between Johnson and Burns, Mr. Jones Goes Shopping, Circumstantial Evidence, The Captain, Sausage Tree, and The Merry Widow Hat.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company is here with *The Education of Elizabeth*. Mr. W. Royce Milton gives a capital impersonation of Harry Fairfax; and Mr. Ernest E. Norris provides continual laughter by his droll depiction of Reggie Hankey. Mr. C. Holt as the Gendarme shows how a lot may be made of a small part; and Miss Helene Forrest as Lucy Middleton acts with ease and finish. Miss Georgette Thierry presents an entertaining Blanche Macyntyre, being especially good in the quarrel scene; Miss May Norris scores as the frigid and highly-refined Elizabeth Black.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. Frank Adair's company is fulfilling an engagement here with *The Heathen and the Christian*. Mr. Adair gives a vigorous exposition of the character of Li, the Avenger; Lieut. Lord Allendale is played in manly style by Mr. Gerald Shirley; Mr. Gerald Turner is a capable Admiral Freebold; as Petty-Officer Powell Mr. Douglas Ames contributes a clever study; Joshua Simpson finds a capable exponent in Mr. Fred Waring; Bah Lamb Gentle is cleverly sketched by Mr. Charles Tuck; Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson stands out prominently; May Beresford is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Stanley Burt; and Miss Eva Reid as Becky does well.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—The Joseph Poole's Myriorama is proving a big attraction. Beaumont's circus; Leopold Legleres, acrobats; Miss Ethel Lorch, contralto vocalist; Fil Gerrard, the facial king; Elsie Verona, dancing specialist; Frank Allen, comedian; Mr. George Dudley, actor-vocalist; Trevor and Ware, comedy artists; the Selbys, eccentrics; Mlle. Nanon, vocalist; and Fredico and Edgaro, knockabouts and hand balancers, make an excellent diversion from the pictures.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company is here. On Monday the curtain rose on *Carmen*. The opera was splendidly staged, and its performance by Miss Ina Hill (in the title-rôle), Miss Doris Woodhall, Mr. Alan Turner, and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt gave perfect satisfaction. On Tuesday *Faust* was presented, with Mr. Edward Davies, Mr. Hebden Foster, Mr. Arthur Winckworth, Miss Ina Hill, and Miss Phyllis Archibald in the cast. Principals and chorus received unstinted applause, and the costumes, scenery, and effects reached a high standard. The novelties were *The Queen of Sheba*, by Goldmark, and *Destiny* (Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*). The old favourites, *Il Trovatore* and *The Bohemian Girl*, were also included.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. Eustace Day's company opened here on Monday in *For the Love of a Woman*. The parts were efficiently played, and some effective scenery was provided.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Miss Lois Esmond, Mr. Edward Neville, and a good company appeared here on Monday and Wednesday in *Nana, the Rage of Paris*. *The Sorrows of Satan* was also billed.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The Albert and Edmunds Troupe is here in *The Tower of London*, and maintains its prestige. The artistic statuary and terpsichorean displays of Mlle. Irma Lorraine and her graceful assistants, are deservedly applauded; loud applause testifies to the continued popularity of the pretty, dashing, and talented Miss Marie Kendall, with her rattling Cockney ditties; Mr. Ted E. Box causes general amusement in his comic "Soldier" burlesque; and others appearing with success are the Brothers Bright, clever and graceful athletes; the Two Brennans, dancers; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, vocalists, &c.; Loyal's well-trained dogs; Rossi Ashton and Mr. Steve McCarthy, comedian. The Bioscope, with a pleasing dramatic film story concludes.

The Hippodrome.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—John L. Sullivan, the veteran champion, and Jake Kilrain are appearing here. The company this week also includes Mr. Harry Vardon, comedian; the graceful Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wild, in an original sketch; M. Mozzetto, juggling expert; Avon and Crest, Adams and Ward, Miss Marion Armitage, and Mr. Albert St. Clair. The new and artistic pictures are much appreciated.

Lord John Sanger's famous circus and menagerie are located on the Smithfield Market. The show opens to-day with *The Zulu War*, and a colossal programme.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippo.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Mr. W. Howard Scott's capable company is here with *Man and His Kingdom*, with the attractive one-act episode *Nina* as a curtain-raiser. In the former Mr. Howard Scott acts with consistent care and ability as Eric Duncombe; Mr. Sydney Hawton makes a successful Captain Clive; Mr. Claude Hamilton as John Scott, M.D., acts in a meritorious fashion; the part of the Hon. Bertie Simpkins, a dude, is capitally performed by Mr. C. Edwards-Horobin; Mr. Cuthbert Bradley as Sir Richard Temple gives a fine interpretation of the rôle; Mr. A. S. Scudamor as Barrington Lelmore, M.P., has a fine stage presence, and his acting is talented throughout; Mr. Ernest Hayes, the villain of the play, performs a rather disagreeable rôle creditably; and other male parts all find capable exponents. Miss Madé Clare is pleasing and refined as Vera Desmond; Miss Ruby Bourchier, in a difficult rôle, acts with judgment and effect; and Miss Margaret Linton makes a very good Stella. The piece is effectively staged.

SMETHWICK.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—The attraction this week is provided by A. Clifton Alderson's company in *The Coal King*. The exacting part of Tom Roberts, the mine manager, is capably undertaken by Henry Deane; Mr. A. W. Norman, in the title-rôle, is convincing; Mr. Robert Faulkner acts well as the unscrupulous Walter Hartford; Mr. Sam Roberts is genuinely amusing as Jim Williams, being ably assisted by Miss Effie D. Crawford as Araminta Green. Mr. Frank Dalton is a clever Dick Shirley; Miss Winifred Love as the heroine earns sympathy; and Miss Dennis Duncan gives a striking study of the character of Mad Ann.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company, in *The Butler's Concert*, contribute a remarkably good turn. Other names on the programme are Julian Ross, light comedian; Arthur Rigby, comedian; F. Y. St. Clair, author and descriptive topical singer; Rutter's dogs; Madge Allen, dancer; and Charlier, French novelty ventriloquist.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Clarkson.—Mr. Vedrenne's company in *The Fires of Fate* forms the attraction here. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart submits an excellent study of Colenel Egerton; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan invests the part of the Rev. Samuel Roden with commendable emphasis and point; Mr. Chas. Francis presents a realistic portraiture of James Roden, M.D.; the Dragoman Abdulla is characteristically essayed by Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe; Miss Ruth Bower enacts the rôle of the American girl, Sadie Adams, in an artistic manner; the chaperoning aunt has an entirely satisfactory representative in Miss Gwendolin Floyd; and other good character sketches were ably maintained by Miss Alison Trent, Mr. Stanley Logan, Mr. Gerald Merrielees, and Messrs. Herbert Moule and Edward A. Coventry.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is here, in *Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Alfred D. Adams is impressive as Carlos De Vergas; the villainous Paul Bernstoff is ably depicted by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan; Mr. Ambrose Pindar (Count Pelikoff), Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland (Gilbert Eardsley), and Mr. Edwin Davies (Colonel Matterson) are all good in their respective parts. Miss Ruby Loncraine submits a fine portrayal of Lucie De Vergas; Inez De Castro, the adventuress, is cleverly depicted by Miss Lilian Radbourne; Little Lucy finds a charming exponent in Miss Dorothy Love; and Miss Lily Griffin is a sweet Maisie. The comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles, Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer, Miss Marion Mayne as Tibby, and Mr. T. Vincent as Wilson.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier turn is Alice Raymond and her players, in *A Night in Egypt*, which is deservedly popular. Staig's steeplejack cyclists submit a wonderful cycling and motoring display; Winifred Ward, the immaculate boy, is well received; Frank Lynne is funny. Some good dancing is introduced by Bertha Winder; Johnny Fuller, the cat on the wire, is popular; and Eva Franklin, chic comedienne, Vandinoff, lightning artist, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge

ever-popular *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, capably presented by Mr. Charles Harrington's company, is again a pleasing attraction here. Mr. Charles Harrington ably impersonates the character of Mr. St. Clair; Phineas Fletcher is amusingly portrayed by Mr. A. Hayes; Mr. D. Blair acts effectively as George Harris; whilst Mr. Tom Burrow gives a powerful impersonation of Legree; Miss Hettie Johnson fills the part of Cassy with much ability; Eliza has a capable representative in Miss Hero Hathaway; Little Eva is charmingly played by Miss Gem Lloyd; and Mr. J. H. Boehm acts with sympathetic feeling as Uncle Tom. An abundance of talent of a highly entertaining character is provided in the plantation festival.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Kartelli, on the slack wire, accomplishes many marvellous feats which command well-merited applause. Other attractions are Billy, the educated horse, who calculates, plays cards, and tells the time, among other clever things; the Lizzette Troupe, a talented combination of vocalists, dancers, and expert acrobats; Sisters Volbecque, a pleasing comedy couple; Geo. Belrose and Maud De Velin, vocalists of much ability; Niagara and Falls, in a smart acrobatic entertainment; Molly Augarde, a charming ballad vocalist; and Wyllie, tramp musician.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is presented here by Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company. The leading rôle, Dick Kenyon, is in the able hands of Mr. Graham Arthur; as Ned Stanley, Mr. G. Brown is good; Mr. J. Barker makes an excellent Joseph Verham; Mr. Fitzroy Wharton plays Jack Stanley with great skill; Miss Mabel Liston makes an admirable Alva Kenyon; Miss Priscilla Barnard is good as Nellie Kenyon; and Miss C. Middleton is very clever as Rose Verham. The rest of the company include the talented artists Miss Kate Hughes, Mr. J. Parker, Mr. D. Phillips, Mr. J. E. M'Cann, Mr. Roland Devonport, Mr. J. Herbert, and Mr. E. Woolley. The drama is excellently staged.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The old favourite, Florrie Gallimore, heads the bill here, and sings some new songs, which meet with a hearty reception; Blanche and Zeyna are clever cyclists; Baby Vi Davis is a remarkable child with a good voice; Tom Stuart is excellent in his dramatic and burlesque impressions; Annie Estelle is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Newco and Sullo are comedians and dancers; Ragius is a funny and eccentric indiarubber scientist; and Arthur Woodville is a popular light comedian.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—*The Sins of a City* is presented here by Miss Winifred Maude's company. Miss Maude makes a charming Seawred; Mrs. Wingold Lawrence fills the rôle of Lesbia L'Estrange to perfection; Mr. Arthur L. Reed gives a capital rendering of Sandy McDonald; and Mr. Morris Maud provides an excellent portrayal of Ralph Blackwater. The play was well staged and enthusiastically received.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Highly popular and amusing is the successful extravanganza *The Dandy Thieves*, ably presented by Mr. Fred Karno's company. As Sergeant Lightning Mr. George Hestor is seen to great advantage; very diverting are the harmonies and comicalities of the Comedy Meisters, who meet with a most flattering reception; Tatten and Terry are smart dancers; Vera Mayne's illustrated songs are capably rendered; the Brothers Victor contribute a smart equilibristic act. Also here are Mamie Morris, Johnny Cecil, and the pick of the picture world.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—The visit of the Moody-Manners' Opera Company has been eagerly awaited, and on Monday a good house was present to give them a hearty welcome. The opera selected for the opening night was Saint-Saëns' *Samson and Delilah*, which gave great delight; Mr. Joseph O'Mara's excellent tenor was heard to great advantage in the rôle of Samson, and his rendering of this exacting part was most artistic; Mlle. Zelie de Lussan interpreted the arduous rôle of Delilah, and her lovely voice was well able to meet all the demands made upon it; Mr. Chas. Magrath presented a fine study as the aged Hebrew, and his rich bass voice was greatly admired; Mr. Wm. Diver's (the High Priest of Dagon) fine baritone voice and finished acting gained eulogium; clever work was also contributed by Chas. Moorhouse as Abimelech; Mr. F. Davies, a Philistine Messenger; Mr. Hill, the first Philistine; and Mr. R. Woollard, the second Philistine. The chorus was a powerful one, and the opera admirably staged. Herr Richard Eckhold wielded the bâton, and had his orchestra under fine control. The performance was a huge success, the principals being enthusiastically recalled at the end of each act. The programme also included *The Master Singers, Faust, Il Trovatore, Madame Butterfly, Tannhäuser, The Bohemian Girl.*

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—*The Village Blacksmith* is being well received here. Miss Maggie Edwards does much excellent work in the rôle of Kate Strong; Miss Pauline Garside as Harry is a clever juvenile; Mr. Sam Livesay, in the title-rôle, adapts himself skilfully to the part; Mr. Joseph Carter acts with much force as Captain Leo. Much good work also comes from Mrs. T. C. Livesay, Miss C. Le Grande, Mr. Edwin Maydrew, and Mr. Thos. E. Marshall. The comedy is in the hands of Miss Rose Kearn and Mr. F. Haming.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden.—A good and varied programme is drawing well-filled houses. Mackintosh and Royal, speciality dancers, are meeting with a hearty reception; R. G. Coates renders his songs in animated manner; and Daisy Clifford, comedienne, is also a success. The Livingstone Case, a detective story full of interest, is one of the principal pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company form the bill here. The President's Special is the principal film, and is a fine dramatic item. The Merrions, vocal and instrumental entertainers, keep their audiences in an excellent humour; Marie Santoi and her merry Japs have a pleasing novelty sketch *A Night in Japan*, which gives general delight.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Van Biene is having a flattering reception here, his fine 'cello playing being as much appreciated as ever; Maidie Scott is again captivating Sunderland audiences with her charming and irresistible manner; Frank Cass, character comedian, is making a big hit; the Glenroy Troupe of dancers are performing with much success; Mabel Mavis is a great favourite with her pleasing entertainment at the piano, and some novel work on the glassophone; Takio is popular for his mimicry, as also are Sisters St. Julian for their duet and dance, and Leah Arden, comedienne.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Seymour Hicks's production, *The Gay Gordons*, is the attraction here. Mr. Frank Lincoln gives a breezy portrayal of Angus Graeme; Mr. Edwin Dodds keeps the house amused as Nervy Nat; Mr. W. H. Desmond makes a quaint Edmund Siddons; Mr. Greville Hayes does well as Andrew Quainton; Janet McLeod is well taken by Miss Emily Mellon; Miss Florrie Groves deserves praise as Charlotte Siddons; Victoria Siddons finds a capable exponent in Miss Mabel Dent; Miss Tessa D'Alberti is a pleasing Mary McLeod; and Miss May Yates a bewitching Peggy.

TODMORDEN. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst. The attraction here this week is Mrs. Frank Bateman's company. On Monday night Mrs. Bateman presented *Sapho* to a good house, acting with great sympathy in the title-rôle. Mr. Fred W. Goddard was a manly Jean Gaussin; Mr. Percy Shaw, "the whistling comedian," had a hearty reception as Uncle Césaire; Miss Camille Treherne was a good Alice, and the remaining parts were well sustained. *The Way Women Love* and *Camille* are also in the repertory.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers—This hall still continues to show to good houses. The pictures are up to date and well displayed. Mr. L. Gilmartin sings two illustrated songs with success.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and J. Ussher present here an original drama, *Only a Little Boy*. Ambrose Pennington is well played by Mr. Elton Morgan; Mr. Oswald Douglas ably undertakes Steve Kingdom; and Mr. Marriott Watson is a forcible Jim Bragstone. Miss Dot Forde is capitally suited as Billie Bragstone, and admirable support is given by Miss Hettie Senior as Tag Rag O'Flinn; Miss Mabel Harland does well as Mrs. Pennington; and the Lady Meynell of Miss M. Ainslee is praiseworthy.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. WEE Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—Bonnie Goodwin's Picanninnies are doing remarkably well here; Speedwell is heartily applauded; and Peter Pan scores heavily. Flo Warner and Jno. E. Cardiff also give good turns.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Topping the bill here are the Bros. Gaudsmidts, clown acrobats, who are really smart; J. S. Leick, cornettist, and Mabel Keith, the Sousa Girl, are worthy of high commendation; Lily Edwards is well received; Miss Diana Hope and company present *The Altar of Duty*; Maxie and Pete are neat and clever cyclists; Mme. Adah Payne sings well; and the Empiroscope still finds favour.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Horace Lingard and Arthur Shelton's company is here in a series of plays, and on Monday presented *Fanny and the Servant Problem* to a large house. Miss Beatrice Moreau distinguished herself by an excellent impersonation of Fanny, her free and unaffected manner adding considerably to the charm of the part. Mr. Russell Davis was equally successful as her husband, and Mr. Roland Hope did well as Dr. Freemantle; as George Newt Mr. Wilfred Compton gave a studied impersonation, whilst Miss Rita Sponti and Miss Miriam Holt were exceedingly quaint as the two maiden Aunts; Miss Adeline Norman and Miss Mabyn Fay did well as the two maids; and the parts of Bennett and his wife were capably undertaken by Mr. Horace Lingard and Miss Gwenlyan Cottell.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. W. V. Garrod and company are presenting *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. Charles Halling gives an able delineation of Squire Hamilton; Mr. W. V. Garrod is excellent as Frank Gordon; Mr. Frank Dallas shines as Henrich Oppenheim; Mr. Owen Redmonde is responsible for much humour as Job Smithers; and Mr. William Bradford plays with vigour and ability as Geoffrey Clinton. Miss Bertha Kingston invests the part of the heroine, Marjorie Hamilton, with charm and emotional power; Miss Ethel Crawford acts well as Gwendoline Gordon; and Miss Alice Clarke is a pleasing Adelaide Wilberforce.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mephisto, the illusionist, is a strong attraction here, the smartness of his tricks quite mystifying the audience; Miss Alice Hughes and company provide a capital musical comedietta; Harold Heath is a smart coon vocalist and dancer; René, lady juggler, is clever; Goodall and Knox, acrobatic comedians, are popular; Miss Hilda de Grey, Tyrolean vocalist, sings sweetly; the Sisters Albert are dainty comediennes; and V. Wakeman, mimic, is very amusing.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Signor Arvi attains great success with his novelty, Les Metables; the Royal Tokio Troupe perform wonderful equilibristic feats; Les Trippellos, musical experts, assisted by Little Ralf Goodliffe, provide an excellent turn; Emilie Warren, operatic vocalist, sings charmingly; J. H. McCann, acrobatic roller skate dancer, has a good reception; and Vi Maylott, comedienne, and Le Witt, ventriloquist, complete a good bill.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Mr. Robert Monteigle and company are here, and on Monday night *David Garrick* was staged. Mr. Robert Monteigle infused much dramatic power into the title-rôle; Simon Ingot found an apt exponent in Mr. Ernest Walbourne; and the Richard Chivy of Mr. Harold Morrison could not well be improved upon. Ada Ingot was in the able hands of Miss Annie Anderson. During the week *Hamlet* has also been staged.

PREMIER PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. McDonald.—Business is as brisk as ever at this popular hall. The chief film this week is entitled The Fire at Sea. Tom Black, mimic and comedian, causes much mirth.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Managing-Director, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Miss Florence Baines and company, in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, are again the attraction here. The charming comedienne has again scored brilliantly. The company, who are identical with that which has previously scored here, maintain a high standard of excellence.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—George Formby heads the bill, and scores with new numbers; the Cairo Trio are heard to advantage in a delightful musical scena; Walter Barrett scores in ballad songs; Alice Lingard is a chic comedienne; the Barntons, charming duettists; and the Siddons are smart jugglers. The pictures are good.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—A remarkable turn is supplied by Maurice, whose manipulation of various packs of cards is exceptionally well done; the Maro Duo are clever triple-bar experts; the Society Quartette contribute delightful numbers; Ethel Thomas charms all with her songs; and Mark Stuart is a rare patter comedian. Capital pictures are projected.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—By arrangement with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, a very capable company has been drawing large houses to see *The Arcadians*, which is played and mounted in excellent style. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson plays the double rôle with irresistible humour and apparently unfailing vigour, whilst his "better half" is represented by Miss Gertrude Aylward with conspicuous intelligence. Miss Mollie McIntyre possesses a sweet voice and graceful methods; Miss Violet Roberts maintains the dignity of Chrysea in a way that emphasises the humour of surrounding situations; Mr. Alfred Beers as the jockey is altogether excellent; and Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald's rendering of Jack Meadows is another clever piece of work. Mr. Wells Knight directs the music capably.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville.—*The Woman in the Case* is being presented here by Mr. Herbert Sleath's principal company. As Claire Foster Miss Winifred Pearson enters thoroughly into the spirit of the difficult rôle entrusted to her; too much cannot be said in praise of Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret Rolfe, the interpretation being very powerful and impressive; Mr. C. W. Standing impersonates to the greatest advantage the rôle of Julian Rolfe; there is some bright acting by Miss Gertrude Gwynne as Mrs. Hughes and Mr. Sidney Palfrey as Louis Klauffsky. Mr. James Lindsay as Thompson has a rôle which he handles skilfully.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Thompson.—*On the Road* is the title of a fine risley production by the Kellinos. A musical mélange by the Five Musical Marvels is also a most acceptable number; Frank Maura's exhibition of feet equilibrism is wonderfully smart; Pete and Minnie Lee in *The Scotchman's Visit to London* impart humour to their act; the Real McKays (Jean and Neil), juvenile singers and dancers, are also good. A charming little vocal scena, "The Waif," is given by Corman's Juveniles. The Wednesday trial performances have resulted in the engagement of Aglaia, a clever contortionist. The Equine Hero, a good Bioscope picture, completes the bill.

WHITEHAVEN. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is appearing here in the musical absurdity, *Miss Plaster of Paris*. Mr. Chas. Tolcher proves himself a rare comedian as Numskull Nubbs, and Mr. Harry Ray is very amusing as the waiter; Mr. W. E. Brandon is funny as Oliver Cromwell and Mr. Sid Dean scores as Mrs. Nubbs. Miss Celestine Brandon makes a pleasing and entertaining Eliza Plaster, and the effect of the performance is heightened by the Three Berlin Belles, dancers, and the Sisters Holman.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Manager and Lessee, Mr. George Burton.—Dr. Bodie and his company has opened a short vaudeville season under the management of Mr. Burton here this week. Dr. Bodie is drawing great business, his turn evoking enthusiastic cheering. He is ably assisted by little Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Bill Waters, society ventriloquist; Bella Skene, a clever musical comedy artist; Jack Diamond, an expert dancer; Tom Gold, swell comedian; and G. W. Walker and W. H. Williams, comedians.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The popular pictorial pictures are still great favourites, and out of the excellent series on exhibition Her Terrible Ordeal ranks first. The variety turns are good, and include Messrs. Naughton and Gold, "élite entertainers"; Mr. Bob Peublo and Miss Victoria Cropp, creole duo; Miss Marion Adelaide, a pleasing vocalist; and Messrs. Percy Victor and Horace Louis, vocalists and humorists.

EMPIRE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Caldwell Bros.; Manager, Mr. G. C. Ford.—Premier position here is worthily held by Miss Daisy Graham with her marvellous performing cockatoos. Other entertaining items are provided by the McGregors (Helen and Arthur), up-to-date comedy entertainers; and Miss Lorna Lomond, a vocalist who pleases. The Bioscope pictures are par excellence.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, The Wigan Enterainments Company.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* is well staged here. Miss Maud M. Powell displays much skill as Ruby; Miss Kate Sydney admirably sustains the part of Ruth Wright; an excellent portrayal of Ned Cripples is given by Miss Eva Norman; Mr. F. C. Leighton is a capable Lucas List; Mr. Henry Scratchard acts vividly as Octavius Screwe; and excellent service is rendered by Mr. E. Swinton, Mr. M. Clyde, and Mr. H. W. Curnock.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—The Drayton Family are exceptionally clever risley performers; the Scottish Meister Comedy Quartette have a rousing reception for their vocal selections; an entertaining turn is given by Prof. Thornbury, an effective lightning painter; the Three Milfords are smart trapeze artists; the Louraines contribute several musical selections; Mons. De Lil mystifies the audience with his tricks; Dott and Williams sing and dance themselves into favour; W. Selman causes an ovation with his song, "When I'm dreaming"; and others who contribute are Dorothy Marsden, comedienne and dancer; Ally Benson, comedian; the Three Spanish Armadas; and J. Hulbert, ventriloquist.

WISHAW. N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Frances Letty, assisted by Mr. Jamie Sutton, Miss Leonie Breuer, and little Tommy Stanley, is topping the bill here, her special scena, *The Lovers' Bower*, being especially acceptable; Harmon goes well in a clever musical and dancing turn; Graham Moffat and company are excellent in an amusing Scotch sketch, *The Concealed Bed*; Lillie Le Main, Lilliputian artist, is smart and clever in her speciality, *The Living Marionettes*; Nellie Merton and George Rydon are a couple of pleasing comedians; and excellent films are shown.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Monday last was a red-letter day in the history of this popular house, for it not only marked a change in the management, but also the inception of twice-nightly dramatic performances, which bid fair to be a success. An excellent attraction for the occasion was secured in Mr. J. F. Preston's company with *Secrets*—. Mr. Charles Horner as Lieutenant Herbert Markham makes a dashing naval officer, ever ready to help beauty in distress; whilst as his friend, the Hon. Cecil Cholmondley, Mr. Dan F. Roe gives a good account of himself; Mr. John Richter does well as the amorous Caliph Noureddin Ali; Mr. J. Templar Ellis admirably fills the part of Ibrahim al Murad; and Mr. J. Cullen is good as Kara Mustapha; Mr. George Whillis as Peter Wilkins, and Miss Jenny Hackett as Winnie Wilkins seem to hit the popular idea of a pair of music-hall artists; Miss Hazel Dent acts sympathetically, and makes a prepossessing heroine as Ismalia Maleda.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Jack Lorimer is starring here on a welcome return visit; the Geni Family can lay claim to being the finest troupe of risley acrobats seen here, their performance being simply wonderful; Miss Lily Ray makes an excellent substitute for the sisters Hall; Rayburn and Dix present, with great success, a comedy sketch *Skits on the 'Phone*; Alec Lawson wins much applause for his acrobatic tumbling and dog dancing; and Lottie Leighton, comedienne and dancer; and Arthur Croxon, mimetic comedian, both contribute pleasing turns.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—Crowded houses are the rule here, the principal picture this week being The Feast of Belshazzar, a truly remarkable film, whilst the others are quite up to the usual high standard of excellence.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Professionals and amateurs are this week co-operating in the production of *Henry VIII.* for the Shakespearean Festival, members of Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) company receiving assistance from the local Shakespearean Circle, and the experiment has proved highly successful. Mr. Henry Herbert and Miss Gladys Vanderzee are seen to advantage as the King and his much-wronged Consort; and other members of the company appearing are Mr. J. Cairns (Cardinal Campeius), Mr. John Hood (Capucius), Mr. Robert Atkins (Cranmer), Mr. Cyril Sworder (Gardiner), Mr. H. S. Cohen (Griffith), Mr. John Hood (Surveyor), Mr. Eric Snowdon (Brandon), Mr. F. J. Richardson (Sergeant-at-Arms), Miss Dorothy Radford (Page), Miss Kate Turner (Anne Boleyn), and Miss Denham (Patience). The several other parts are filled by capable actors, amongst them being Mr. Ivor Thomas (Duke of Buckingham), Mr. A. R. Harris (Duke of Norfolk), Mr. Douglas Cross (Duke of Suffolk), Mr. L. R. Fairbairn (Earl of Surrey), &c. The production is elaborately staged and sumptuously dressed, and maintains the high standard set by previous festival performances.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Miss Grace Warner's company is appearing this week with *The Scarlet Clue*, in which Miss Warner plays with all her customary success. *East Lynne* is billed for two nights, and *The Wages of Sin* is also put on.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The Lyceum success, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, presented by Messrs. Paumier and Howard's principal company, opened here to excellent business on Monday. The uniforms have been much admired, and the excellent scenery carried also comes in for praise. Miss Stella Campbell in the rôle of Monica, Princess of Illyria, was admirable; and Miss Mona Hall exhibited a pleasing degree of capacity as the naïve young man Viola; whilst Miss Verity Page made a picturesque beggar maid. Mr. Ernest Cox displayed much virility in the part of Prince Olaf; the malicious Prince Hildred had a forceful representative in Mr. Alfred Goddard; and the pathetic figure of Prince Michael was finely portrayed by Mr. Victor Rae. Other prominent parts were played by Messrs. Herbert Burton, J. H. Vyvyan, Sydney Baylis, W. S. Hardy, and Henry Nelson.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Zasma, described as "the Society gymnast," gives a clever performance, for which he is rewarded by frequent and hearty applause; Miss Florence Carlow's buck and sand dancing is greatly appreciated. The Bioscope pictures are most varied and entertaining.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Dollar Princess* has proved a great attraction this week, Mr. George Edwardes's company being most heartily welcomed. Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Bulger is very droll; Mr. Leslie Holland makes a breezy Harry Conder; as Freddy Fairfax Mr. Alec Worcester is a distinct success; Miss Effie Mann as Alice is a charming singer with a graceful presence; Miss Peggy Primrose as Daisy has a part exactly suited to her; and Miss Madeline Seymour's Olga is distinctly successful.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The advent of Paul Cinquevalli is always looked forward to by the habitués of this popular resort, and his reception during the present week has been most cordial; the singing of Bert Errol has given general satisfaction; Arthur Kenny, a daring cyclist, gains much applause; Tom Hayton, with the Six Manchester Lads, provides an interesting turn; and the O'Hanlon Trio are daringly clever dances. Earle and Melville, who introduce some amusing patter, dance well; Nora Doone is also expert in the dancing line; Dan Fraser sings an Irish love ditty with much taste; and George Norton causes unbounded hilarity in his burlesque scena.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The greatly-improved seating arrangements at this resort have given general satisfaction, and everything is now quite up to date. This week Wray and Douglas introduce a clever turn; and Fred Locke is a quaint comedian.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Up-to-date pictures are proving very attractive here. Love Ye One Another and The Deserter are items of general interest; and Marion Scott is a singer whose methods afford much pleasure to large audiences.

A VALUABLE HINT.—Most people who value health and beauty of mouth and teeth take the precaution of providing themselves with a flask of Odol, the well-known antiseptic dentifrice and mouth-wash, when about to go on a journey, for they fully appreciate the advantages of having their favourite dentifrice with them. For the convenience of this large class some particularly elegant and chastely-designed flask-covers have now been manufactured, and are to be had at

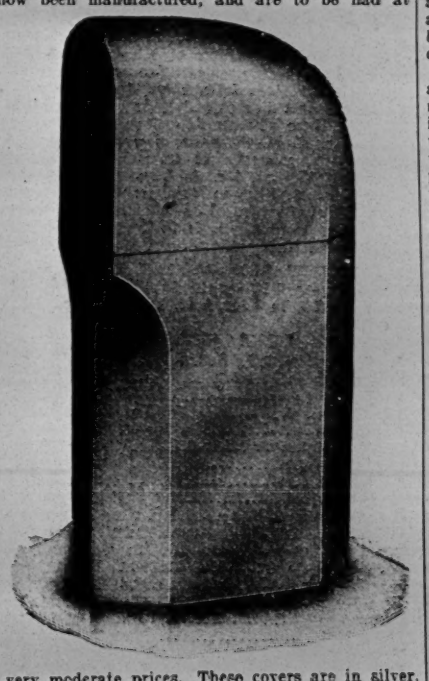

very moderate prices. These covers are in silver, of three different grades—solid silver, silver plated, and nickel silver—and are admirably adapted to their useful purpose—that of protecting the Odol flask from possible damage in the rough treatment of luggage often experienced when travelling. If not obtainable at your local chemists a post card to the Odol Chemical Works, 59-63, Park-street, London, S.E., will bring full particulars.

MESSRS. DOBSON AND SON will offer for sale, at the Talbot Hotel, Kirkgate, Bradford, on Thursday, May 26, freehold works and premises in Manningham-lane, Bradford. The property, the total area of which (including moieties of street and back street) is 1,406 square yards or thereabouts, is splendidly situated in one of the busiest and most important main thoroughfares of the town, and could at very reasonable cost be easily converted into a concert or music hall, theatre, or other place of amusement, for which purpose it is admirably situated.

THE performance given last week at the Grand Theatre, Forest Gate, of which the proprietor is Mr. F. R. Griffith and the local manager Mr. F. Ashcroft, was a record-breaker in regard to business. Miss Annie Blanchard's songs took the audience by storm, and she was repeatedly called before the curtain after singing three selections. Mr. Weimar, Lord Roberts' Bugler, in his comedy act, was well supported by his wife and daughter, who sang beautifully from the auditorium; Phil Taylor's musical dogs and miniature circus made its first appearance in England, and proved an American act of the first water; Mr. Taylor introducing his dog Bubbs, the only dog in the world playing a 'cello. The act aroused shrieks of laughter from start to finish. The Bioscope pictures were well received. Mr. Ashcroft, the manager, presented Mr. Taylor with a beautiful gold medal on Saturday night for his dog Bubbs, to celebrate the success of his act.

THE KAISER AND THE STAGE.

"The essence of the patriotic plays produced under his Majesty's supervision is what the Social Democrats call 'Hurra-Patriotism,'" says "Eulenspiegel" in an article on "The German Emperor and the Theatre," in the *Fortnightly*. "Like Nicholas Nickelby and Vincent Crummles' real pump the playwrights enjoying Imperial patronage have to write their plays around a definite object, the throne. The *Hohenzollernstücke*, to quote his Majesty's own phrase, seek to show the monarch in an ideal light, as the father of his people, the Elect of God, '*unbeirrt*' by such modern inventions as constitutions and parliaments, diffusing a ray of mild beneficence from the throne. Some incident, generally historical, runs through the play, which ends in the triumph of Right and the apotheosis of monarchy, *i.e.*, Hohenzollerndom amid a blaze of scenic splendour, brilliant dresses, and flashing accoutrements. These plays call for little acting but make great demands on the *Régisseur*, and it is just this office that the Kaiser discharges with the most conspicuous success. The finer nuances of acting do not interest him or encounter from him the same recognition as from George of Saxe-Meiningen. What William II. loves is a stage full of supers, a scene like the March of the Priests in *Aida*, or the Entry of the Guests in *Tannhäuser*.

"At present the Emperor takes most interest in the Berlin Opera. The Opera House is but a stone's throw from the Castle and he can easily run in and conduct rehearsals. It is entirely owing to his unflagging efforts that the productions at the Berlin Opera have attained to such a pitch of perfection in everything that concerns mounting, so that the revivals of *Aida* and *Les Huguenots* are now regarded as standing without a rival both for the historical accuracy of the dresses and the richness and taste of the setting. When the rehearsals of a play, in which the Kaiser is interested, are under way, he loses no time in going to the theatre to see whether the instructions which he has appended to the stage directions in the MS. are being properly carried out. Some morning when the vast stage of the opera is humming with activity the well-known primrose-coloured motor-car will drive up to the entrance, and the Emperor, accompanied only by a single adjutant, will emerge. In three minutes William II. will be seated at a big business-like table placed in the stalls, before him a pile of paper and an array of pencils. When he is in the house there is no doubt whatever in anybody's mind as to who is conducting the rehearsal. His General Manager stands at his side in the darkened auditorium and conveys his Majesty's instructions to the stage, for the Kaiser never interrupts the actors himself. He makes a sign to von Hülsen, scribbles a note on a sheet of paper, while the manager, who is the pattern of unruffled suavity, just raises his hand, and the performance ceases abruptly. There is a confabulation, the Emperor explaining, with that wealth of gesture peculiar to him, his views on the grouping of the supers, the positions of the principals, the dresses, the uniforms, the arms, using anything, pencil, penholder, or even his sword, to illustrate his meaning. Again and again up to a dozen times the supers will be put through their paces until the Imperial *Régisseur* is entirely satisfied that a dramatic effect has been obtained. All those who have been privileged to witness this Imperial stage-manager at work agree in asserting that the Kaiser possesses a most remarkable *flair* for the dramatic. Very often one of his suggestions about an entrance, a piece of 'business,' or a pose, will be found on trial to enhance considerably the effect of the scene. A story is told illustrative of the Emperor's insistence on accuracy and the minute attention he pays to details at rehearsal. After his visit to Ofen-Pest some years ago for the jubilee celebrations, which had included a number of Hungarian national dances, the Kaiser stopped a rehearsal of the ballet at the Berlin Opera while a Czardas was in progress and pointed out to the *baleteuses* certain minor details which were not correct.

"In his attitude towards the Court actors and actresses the Emperor displays that charm of manner which bewitches all with whom he comes in contact. He calls them 'Meine Schauspieler,' which makes one think of 'His Majesty's Servants' at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. This practice of the Kaiser sometimes has amusing results. Once when the Theatre Royal comedian, Dr. Max Pohl, had been suddenly taken ill, the Emperor said to an acquaintance, 'Fancy, my Pohl had a seizure yesterday,' and the acquaintance, thinking he was referring to a pet dog, replied commiseratingly, 'Oh! poor brute.' After rehearsal the Emperor often goes on to the stage and talks to the actors about their parts.

"At the recent revival of *Les Huguenots*, upon which the Kaiser lavished his whole attention to secure the most absolute accuracy of costume and armour, he assembled the principals around him and delivered a lengthy lecture on the period of the play. In the interval he was so occupied in discoursing to the assistant stage-manager on the weapons used in the production that he failed to hear the bell for the next act, with the result that the resumption of the opera was considerably delayed. Apropos, it is interesting to note that during the first years of his reign the Kaiser was an enthusiastic Wagnerian, but has latterly entirely forsaken Wagner for Italian and light German (Nicolai and Lortzing) opera.

"The Emperor has shown particular attention to the numerous Americans who sing at the Berlin Opera. One of his little jokes is to call Mr. Putnam Griswold, the American bass, who sings the kingly rôles in Wagner, 'my best colleague.' When he received the singer after the recent revival of *Aida*, in which Mr. Griswold played the King of Egypt in a particularly swarthy make-up, the Kaiser jestingly remarked, 'Thank heavens, Mr. Griswold, you are not as formidable as you look!' At the Berlin première of Puccini's *La Bohème* last year he sent for the American tenor, Mr. Francis McLellan, who sang Rodolfo, and Miss Florence Easton (who in private life is Mrs. McLennan), who sang Musette, and congratulated them on their renderings. The Emperor commented on the unique circumstance of a husband and wife appearing together in principal rôles in grand opera, and expressed the opinion that it was a good example which he should like to see followed.

"With his cosmopolitan tastes, it is a matter of course that the Emperor attends all performances given by foreign companies at the Royal theatres.

"When Sir Herbert Tree visited Berlin last year the Emperor witnessed the performance of *Richard II.* on the opening night, when he had a talk with Sir Herbert on the character of the unfortunate king. He also saw *Antony and Cleopatra*. He gave Miss Viola Tree a diamond bracelet and sent the English actor an unusually high Prussian order. His interest in the English actors did not prevent his going several times to the Monte Carlo Opera Company, which was performing at the Royal Opera House during the same week. The visits of these foreign companies attract His Majesty not only for artistic reasons, but because they afford him an opportunity of seeing how their stage settings compare with his and of collecting useful hints for future productions."

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In the last issue of *The Era* my name is included in the cast for the forthcoming production of *The Dawn of a To-Morrow*. Will you kindly correct this, as I am not appearing in the play.—Faithfully yours, FELIX FITT, 17, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W., April 16.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 18, the Drama by Frederick Melville entitled

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY"

The astounding success of Mr. Frederick Melville's drama at the Aldwych Theatre naturally caused great interest in the visit of his company to the King's Theatre this week. Thus the house was crowded to its capacity on Monday evening, and to judge by the laughter and applause the audience thoroughly enjoyed the piece. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves renders the part of Lieut Richard Marsh, R.N., in incisive and manly style, cleverly earning approbation in his painstaking efforts to win the girl of his choice. A thoroughly capable villain is Mr. Geo. R. Montford as Harry Gordon, and no better sign of his undeniable success can be stated than the howls of execration which greeted him on his calls before the curtain. Mr. Fred K. W. Freeman is a dignified Lord Erskine, and Inspector Laurence is well played by Mr. Charles Eustace. Mr. Tom May makes a very laughable Sammy Snozzle, the audience fully appreciating his comical antics and acting. Admirable is the Barney Gordon of Mr. Luke Forster, his enactment of the stage Jew leading to much merriment. A neat and distinctly skilful representation of Jerry Holmes is given by Mr. George Belmore, and Mr. James Selwin is good as the Rev. Mr. Evans. The part of John Moore is capably personated by Mr. R Duncan Bell. Miss Violet Crossley in the title-rôle (Bess Moore) is excellently placed, her free and easy acting just fitting the character. As her vindictive sister, Honour Moore, Miss Margaret Tueskie displays impassioned acting of merit. Mrs. Moore is pleasantly undertaken by Miss Guinevere Shilton, and Miss Daisie Cook is as winsome a Gladys Erskine as could be wished. The eighteen scenes are all of exceedingly good quality.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

The Geisha has been played here this week with great success. Miss Aimée Grey appears with immense credit as O Mimosa San. She has a bewitching presence and style, and her singing is delightful. As Molly Seamore, Miss Adela Crispin wins all hearts, her dainty dancing being keenly appreciated; and as Juliette Diamanti Miss Renée Reel contributes a clever and agreeable performance; Miss Mary Morrison as Lady Constance Wynne acts with tact and skill; and the guests are effectively embodied by Misses Olive Eileen, Cecilia Morris, and Jessie Hale. Miss Dorothy Clancy as Tom Stanley is full of briskness and vitality; and Mr. Walter Johnstone Douglas as Fairfax acts with manly confidence and sings with strength, spirit, and feeling. Messrs. Sam Lockridge, Hartwell D. Morice, and Sydney Langworth are good as the other officers; and Mr. Herbert Uzielli as Captain Katana pleases by his refined vocalism; Mr. Harry Reynolds as Takemine and Mr. Lionel Brahmam as the Marquis Imari are excellent; and the important part of Wun Hi has an admirably alert exponent in Mr. Edward Carlton. The mounting and dressing are liberal and effective.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 18, the Opera entitled

"ERNANI."

Ernani, which was presented on Monday by Cav. P. Castellano's opera company, formed the foundation of Verdi's European fame, and its bold, virile music is typical of the composer's earliest style. Signora Protti's vivacity and charm are exactly suited to the part of Elvira, the maid with many lovers, and the florid music brings out the range and strength of her voice to perfection. She is a good actress as well as a good singer, and the part suits her to a nicety. Signor Barbato as Ernani exhibits a voice of wonderful power, which is heard above all others in the strenuous choruses. With a little added sympathy and cultivation he should take a high place as an operatic artist. Signor Massia is well placed as the stern, relentless, proud Don Silva, and his deep, sonorous voice is heard to advantage. Signor Modesti makes a good Carlo V., and the King's song of pardon and freedom to the conspirators in Act III. is very finely rendered, and receives a well-deserved encore. The minor rôles of Giovanni, enacted by Signora Massia, and Scudiero and Iago, by Signori Antonini and Quintana, are capably rendered. *Ugonotti* was given on Tuesday; *Rigoletto* —a very first-rate performance, with especially noteworthy renderings of the name-part of the jester by Modesti, Barbato as the Duke, and Garlosca as Gilda—at Wednesday's matinée, *Lucia di Lammermoor* in the evening, *Carmen* on Thursday, and *I' Puritani* on Friday. *Il Barbiere di Seviglia* is set down for this afternoon, and this evening, being the last night of the three weeks' season, will witness a grand farewell performance in which all the artists will appear in acts from *Rigoletto*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Faust*, and *Ernani*.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 18, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

This favourite piece is attracting good audiences to the Shakespeare this week. Excellently staged and enacted by a really capital company, under the direction of Mr. William Greet, the piece was received on Monday evening with unstinted applause. Mr. W. Lawson Butt presented a striking portrait of Marcus Superbus, and graphically delineated the dauntless courage and passionate nature of the character. Mr. W. Mayne Lynton was very successful as Nero, and fully suggested the infirmness of this dissolute Emperor, both in appearance and delivery. Mr. Charles Aldred rendered the scheming Tigellinus in good style, and acted throughout in the most convincing manner. The brutal Licinius was excellently portrayed by Mr. J. Wetherall; and Mr. Frank Wood was very amusing as the wine-sodden Glabrio, his quaint characterisation and broad comedy-acting meriting warm praise. Mr. Harry Jones submitted a careful study of the effeminate Philodemus; and Mr. H. Thurston Harris as Servilius and Mr. Martin Palmer as Strabo contributed valuable assistance. Mr. Phil Ellis was an efficient Virturius; and Mr. Walter Fleet as Favius and Mr. Henri Raymond as Titus invested their rôles of the unfortunate Christians with the right tone of sincerity and resignation. In the rôle of Mercia Miss Evelyn Hope quickly won the sympathy of the audience, and her sterling performance stamps her as an actress of considerable ability. The steadfast religious faith of the character was depicted in a quiet yet telling manner, which made a deep impression on the audience. Miss Beryl Hamilton was very good as Poppœa; and Miss Esmé Lee fully brought out the fascinations of the irresponsible Dacia. Miss Dorothy Lart deserves warm praise for her clever impersonation of Berenice; and Miss Mary Newcombe made the most of her opportunity as Ancaria. Miss Winifred Delevanti enacted the part of Stephanus with boyish grace and emotion; and Miss R. Chapman rendered good support as Melos.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 18, the Play, entitled

"SAPHO."

A return visit is being paid here by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's representative company with a dramatised version, by Ada G. Abbott, of Alphonse Daudet's "Sapho," and good houses have ruled. In the part of Fanny Legrand, "the worst woman in Paris," Miss Ada Abbott scores a success, making a deep impression by her realistic acting. Mr. Edward Ouston submits a clever presentation of Jean Gaussin; Mr. Edwin Keene proved very amusing as Uncle Cesaire; and Mr. John Drake does justice to the rôle of Henri Dechalette. Flamant finds a useful exponent in Mr. Stephen Crossley; and Mr. John Lester is an able Caoudal. Mr. Weedon Ross is a capital representative of Old Legrand; Miss Ethel Tinsley very admirably sustains the part of Aunt Divonne; and Miss Florence North makes an engaging Lucy. Miss Rose Duncan is prominent as La Corinne; and Miss Marjorie Tennant is well cast as Michette. La Gouvernerie is capably represented by Mr. Jas. Meadows, and Hettema by Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown. *Sapho* is well mounted, the scenery being typical of Parisian Bohemian life. On Thursday and Friday evenings *Trilby* was presented, with Mr. Ernest R. Abbott as Svengali and Miss Ada Abbott in the title-rôle, supported by a capital company.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 18, the Drama

"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"

This well-written drama, from the skilled hand of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, is drawing excellent audiences to the above house. It is very well staged, and its interpretation leaves little to be desired. The company is headed by Mr. F. G. Kimberley, who gives an exceedingly good character study as William Clark, a broken-down actor; Mr. George Keene is a manly Captain George Courtney; as the Vicar of Beechwood, John Norman, Mr. Henry Rutland makes an excellent clergyman; Mr. Clavering Craig as Frank Rosselle, alias Franklyn Harcourt, is all that a stage villain should be; Mr. Chas. Rogers does effective work as Dr. Forbes; Mr. John Arthurs gives a good rendering of a Jew pawnbroker, Joseph Isaacs; as Jim Harford Mr. A. Smith is quite satisfactory, as also is Mr. Harry Stone, the village police-constable; as Mrs. Kate Rosselle, a retired actress, Mrs. F. G Kimberley (Miss L. Addison) acts with power and much charm; Miss Constance Laurier is a pathetic and sweet Lilian Norman; and Miss Ellen Beverley does well as Mary Norman, the Vicar's wife. Miss Florence Steyne is laughable as the drunken Alice Firearms. Some extremely funny comedy is provided by Mr. Francis Cavanagh as Timothy Swales and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 18, the Musical Comedy

"OUR MISS GIBBS."

Crowded houses, spirited performances, and constant encores have been the order at Kennington Theatre this week, where Mr. Robert Arthur's run of musical comedy reached its climax with the production of *Our Miss Gibbs*. The piece is presented by Mr. George Dance's company, now nearing the termination of a successful provincial tour, and nothing is wanting in dressing, staging, chorus, singing, or orchestration to appeal to those who want an evening's genuine amusement. The chorus is particularly good, and the White City scene is one of the most picturesque stage spectacles that have been seen at Kennington for a long time. The principals are all familiar figures in the musical comedy world, and the company is as well-balanced as it is strong in talent. Mr. Tom Shelford scored a big success on Monday as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, an amateur criminal, introducing a lot of genuine comedy. As the Earl of St. Ives Mr. E. Darrell was very good. The part of Miss Gibbs was admirably represented by Miss Kathleen Courtney, a bright and winsome lady who sings well and acts with much vivacity, her song "In Yorkshire" receiving a loud recall. Miss Gladys Ivery was an excellent Lady Elizabeth, singing delightfully. The life and soul of the piece was undoubtedly Mr. Theodore Leonard (Timothy Gibbs), who is a comedian of the first water, and whenever he was about—which was most of the time—the house was in roars. The rôle of Madame Jeanne was adequately filled by Miss Nancy Hervyn, and Mr. Henry de Salla was well placed as Mr. Bravis, the family solicitor. Mr. Craufurd Kent scored a big triumph as Lord Eynsford, his fine voice being used to great advantage, the song "My Yorkshire lassie" bringing down the house, whilst he acted with consummate ability. Miss Winifred Knightly was very successful as the Duchess of Minster, and Miss Jennie Richards deserves mention as Mrs. Farquhar, an impecunious Irish lady. The other members of the cast also played their parts in excellent style, those who should not be overlooked including Mr. R. M. Strachan, a wonderfully good Mr. Toplady, manager at Garrod's; Mr. J. E. Stevenson (Slithers), Mr. A. Cavendish (the taxicabby), Mr. M. Stephen (Mr. Amalfy), and the Misses Violet Lingard, Ella Merton, Susie Beardon, Marion Gordon, Cissie Gordon, Kitty Mead, Hilda Grand, Nancy Alwyn, and D Dickens.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 18, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled

"THE SINNER."

Monk Stretton, J.P., K.C.	Mr. Wilson Benge
Edgar Thornhill	Mr. Chas. Burdon
Paul Levaine	Mr. Alec Finlayson
Bill Stanton	Mr. Frank Radcliffe
Jim Stephens	Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow
Chris. Floppington	Mr. Jay Kay
Lord Ewen	Mr. Henry Danson
Jack Ewen	Mr. Harold Playfair
Hollam	Mr. Bert Roberts
Geordie McGregor	Mr. George Loreno
Chauffeur to Monk Stretton	Mr. Charles Mann
Detective Jason	Mr. G. Kennard
Sergeant Butcher	Mr. F. E. Thomas
Meg Stanton	Miss Mona Grey
Vera Ewen	Miss Geraldine Verner
Honor Thornhill	Miss Muriel Dean
Little Ned	Miss Dora Olga
Nora Stretton	Miss Sadie Smith

False accusations are the food of melodrama, and the new piece which has this week found its way to London thrives on them exceedingly. *The Sinner* which was originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, on July 26 last, has a full measure of dramatic incidents and a goodly share of appeals to the heart which have proved irresistible to large audiences at the Elephant and Castle. The gentleman to whom the appellation indicated in the title of the play attaches is Monk Stretton, who, in the capacity of J.P., has had to send to prison a woman named Meg Staunton, convicted of theft. Meg's boy, thus parted from his mother, is taken care of by Stretton, who places him in the care of an old farmer till his mother shall be released. Meanwhile Monk becomes engaged to Vera, the daughter of Lord Ewen, but that young lady's fortune is coveted by Edgar Thornhill, who proceeds to blacken Monk's character in every possible way. He tells Vera that Monk has betrayed Meg Stanton, and is the father of her boy, and secures Meg Stanton's support by informing her that Monk has neglected his promise to take care of her boy, and is unable to produce him. His statement is confirmed when the farmer to whom the lad had been entrusted comes with the news that the child is nowhere to be found. He has, in fact, been kidnapped by Paul Levaine, an accomplice of Thornhill's, and the pair further conspire to accuse Stretton of a diamond robbery, for which the latter is sent to prison, branded as a "sinner."

Out on ticket-of-leave Monk Stretton seeks seclusion at a quiet seaport town, where he dwells unknown as a fisherman with a little boy, whom he had found wandering on the road. He gains the friendship of Bill Stanton, Meg's father, who has sworn to revenge himself on his daughter's betrayer, whom he is told is Monk Stretton. Elegantly dressed, Meg comes to the village to see her father, who questions her as to the source of her fine clothes, and tears off the pearl necklace which she declares is the price of her shame. Later a storm rises, and Stretton is called upon to go out in the lifeboat. A yacht anchored off the jetty is that of Thornhill, who is enjoying a sea voyage. Unexpectedly he meets his former accomplice, Levaine, who demands money, but Thornhill tells him to take a boat out to the yacht, and arranges with the boatmen to throw him overboard. The lifeboat, however, is at hand, and it is Monk Stretton who rescues from a watery grave the man who had contributed to his downfall.

Meg has by this time learned that Thornhill is deceiving her, and intends to marry Vera, who has given a grudging consent to wed, and she goes to Lord Ewen's house to reveal his crimes, but the villain prevails upon her to remain silent, until Stretton discovers that the boy he has taken charge of is no other than her lost son, who testifies to his protector's care and kindness. With the evidence of Levaine, who is full of gratitude to his preserver, Stretton's honour is fully vindicated; but it is left to the last act to secure the doom of Thornhill, who meets with well-merited punishment, while Stretton's happiness is at length secured.

Adequate justice was done to the piece by Mr. Wilson Benge and company. Mr. Benge made a gallant and chivalrous hero, being particularly effective as the young boatman in a series of well-acted scenes. He should, however, guard against a tendency towards monotone, and a too rapid utterance which at times rendered his lines indistinct. Villainy was ably personified by Mr. Charles Burdon, who made Edgar Thornhill an object of detestation to all. Mr. Alec Finlayson is to be credited with a capable performance of Paul Levaine, a rascal with the redeeming quality of humour. Mr. Finlayson acted the part with a Jingle-like spirit of philosophy that was highly acceptable to the audience, to whom he was the cause of many a peal of laughter. Forcible expression was given to the wrath of Bill Stanton by Mr. Frank Radcliffe, an actor of ripe experience, who made the scene in which the old boatman loses his reason very impressive, while his resonant voice gave every effect to his lines. The ladies of the cast are particularly to be praised. Miss Muriel Dean was a prepossessing Honor Thornhill, acting throughout with rare refinement and grace. Miss Geraldine Verner played in equally agreeable fashion the rôle of Vera Ewen, wearing some stylish dresses very becomingly. Miss Sadie Smith was a fresh and girlish Nora, Stretton's youthful sister, and the bride of Chris. Floppington, a gilded youth with a stutter, who was obliged to break into song in order to express himself, thereby occasioning much laughter. That part was played with a constant flow of mirth by Mr. Jay Kay, who became a great favourite. A pretty impersonation was the Little Ned of Miss Dora Olga, who, however, would be well advised to overcome a kind of American twang, which mars an otherwise attractive performance. Miss Mona Grey admirably realised the rôle of Meg Stanton, presenting a faithful picture of the outcast in rags, and making a handsome personage in her elegant raiment of the later acts. Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow rendered good service as a young fisherman; and Mr. Henry Danson was a duly stern and aristocratic Lord Ewen. The drama contains some picturesque scenes, which were artistically set, and numerous calls before the curtain testified to the satisfaction of the audience.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 18, the Musical Play,

"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, presenting *The Belle of New York*, are delighting Dalston audiences this week with a most acceptable performance of the ever-popular musical play. Mr Frank Lawton is decidedly funny as Blinky Bill keeping the audience in almost continuous laughter; Mr. Paddy Dupres is a success as Ichabod Bronson, rendering the songs peculiar to the part with an apparent relish. Mr. Harold Wardroper is an efficient Harry Bronson, becoming quite a favourite with the audience. Mr. J. R Tate is the Polite Lunatic, and the audience follow his vagaries with keen excitement; while they are also greatly amused with the funny antics of Mr Lionel Yeoman and Mr. R. L. Cody as the twin Portuguese. Mr. Owen O'Brien acts realistically as Mr. Snooker, the reporter; Miss Dorothea Clarke impersonates the Salvation Army lass; and Miss Alice Nixon forms a contrast in the way of worldly vivacity as Fifi Fricot. Miss Maud Nicholls scores as Cora Angelique; and Miss Florence Herree is a distinct favourite as Mamie Clancy; Mr. Charles Rayne is funny as Peeper; and Mr. Dutton Nicholls as Twiddles is noteworthy.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 18, the Musical Comedy entitled

"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

A welcome change to musical comedy is being highly appreciated this week, and Mr. George Dance's well-selected No. 1 company in *Miss Hook of Holland* is, as usual, drawing large audiences. Miss Gertrude Melville in the title-rôle proves herself an engaging and talented actress, rendering her songs in good style, and speedily becoming a great favourite; Mr. Edmond Russell makes the most of his opportunities in the character of Mr. Hook, his highly-popular contributions securing many a hearty laugh. Simon Slinks, the loafing Dutchman, has an amusing exponent in Mr. Fred Dark, who produces considerable hilarity by his drolleries and unfailing humour; he is accorded a flattering reception. Mr. Wood Mansey makes a capital Captain Adrian Paap; he has a fine voice which he uses with ability and excellent effect. Mr. Arthur Ballance shows to considerable advantage as Bandmaster Van Vuyt, possessing a well-cultured voice; he affords much pleasure by the rendering of the various numbers allotted to him, and scores well. Ludwig Schnapps is capably handled by Mr. George Mudie, jun., and Mr. C. F. Hewett is seen to advantage as Lieut. De Coop. A praiseworthy interpretation of Mina is given by Miss Cissie Sephton, her "Petticoat" song gaining several encores.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 18, the Musical Play, in Three Acts, entitled

"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

The Girl from Kay's, which is no stranger to Stoke Newington, is paying a return visit, the company on this occasion being under the direction of Mr. Neville Claude. Every possible chance is given to the piece in the matter of production, both the scenery and dresses giving no grounds for reproach. An exceedingly happy selection has been made for the representative of the title-rôle, and to Miss Florrie Millington is due unstinted praise for her spirited and vivacious performance of Winnie Harborough. Miss Millington brightens and enlivens every scene in which she is concerned, and to her is largely due whatever success is achieved. Miss Blanche Courtenay is an acceptable Norah Chalmers, and scores with her vocal numbers, notably so with the "crying" song in the second act. As the maid, Ellen, Miss Irene Vere plays the part with considerable go and abandon; and Miss May Wiltshire is in every way a satisfactory Mrs. Chalmers. The idiosyncrasies of Max Hoggenheimer, now played by Mr. Henry Adnes, appear to cause as much amusement as ever; as do the inanities of Percy Fitzthistle as presented by Mr. C. A. Kingston. Mr. John A. Latham sings and acts well as Harry Gordon; Mr. Chalmers and Theodore Quench, K.C., have capable exponents in Messrs. Charles Leverton and Richard Adcan; Mr. Barron H. Heron raises a good deal of laughter as the hall-porter, Joseph; and a very clever and perky little page boy is found in Master W. H. Pink, who appears as Pepper. A special word of praise is due to a young lady, whom it is not possible to identify from the programme, for her song in the second act, "Sambo," and the dance that follows it. Other parts are filled by Miss Norah Gordon and Messrs. Jameson Thomas and Charles Power. The chorus, which is under the musical direction of Mr. D. Tom Lewis, lacks neither quantity nor quality.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

SHAKESPEAREAN WEEK.

It was a happy idea which suggested to Mr. Peter Davey, the managing director of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, the commemoration of the anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday by the production for a week of some of the most popular of his plays in the riverside town, for the venture, which was not without its risks, has turned out to be a great success artistically and financially, and one that is likely to leave a pleasant memory behind. A striking feature of the venture is the discovery, hitherto unsuspected, that in Kingston, which is supposed to be wedded to drama more than to any other form of stage play, there exists a very large section of the community who are lovers of the works of the great master, for not only were the higher-priced seats well filled at each performance, but many people had to be content with standing room in the pit and gallery. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris's company was engaged to appear in eight plays, and it may be said at once that their presentation of them was of an exceptionally creditable character. Miss Glossop-Harris, who took a leading part in each, earned golden opinions for the masterly manner in which she acquitted herself, and her company was immensely strengthened by the presence of that rising young tragedian, Mr. Frank Cellier, whose genius was first discovered as a member of a local dramatic society, and who undoubtedly has a brilliant career before him. On Monday night, the occasion of our visit, *The Merchant of Venice* was on the bill, with Mr. Cellier as Shylock and Miss Glossop-Harris as Portia. Of the performances of both nothing but words of praise can be written. Mr. Cellier, who has been on the boards at the Royal County before, surpassed himself in his delineation of the crafty, selfish, and spiteful money-lending Jew. It never once failed to be impressive, and the audience were several times so carried away by the portraiture that the artist was recalled three or four times at the end of the acts. Mr. Cellier's most successful moments were when he discovered the loss of his daughter and of his jewels, and when he furiously insists upon his bond in the great trial scene. It was here also that Miss Glossop-Harris made the greatest of her many hits, her pleading for the Jew's hapless dupe, with the familiar speech upon the attributes of mercy, standing out as a very fine piece of acting. Her mother and Mr. Edward Terry, the well-known actor, were spectators of her efforts. The part of Jessica was entrusted to Miss Ine Cameron, who was a great favourite with the onlookers, who could not but admire the alternately piquant and impressive picture she gave of the Jew's wayward daughter. Mr. J. H. Irvine was cast as Bassanio, and acquitted himself on the whole fairly well in the part, though his efforts were marred somewhat by the occasional inaudibility of his delivery. The Antonio of Mr. H. F. Owen and the Lorenzo of Mr. Murray Kinnell were also parts that called for more than passing commendation. A particularly bright and entertaining picture of the lad Lancelot was given by Mr. Gordon Philpott, whilst other parts were well filled as follows: Salarino, Mr. James Mason; Salanio, Mr. E. G. Cove; Gratiano, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree; Nerissa, Miss Nora Craigie; Stephano, Miss Madge Spencer Old Gobbo, Mr. Vickers Smith; Leonardo, Mr. Owen Edis; the Prince of Morocco, Mr. Arthur Seaton; Tubal, Mr. H. P. Owen; Duke of Venice, Mr. Eugene Wellesley; Clerk of the Court, Mr. H. Vickers Smith; Priest, Mr. Maurice Ingram. Great care had been bestowed on the dressing of the play, whilst the scenery was all that could be desired. On Tuesday night *Romeo and Juliet* was produced, on Wednesday at a matinée *Twelfth Night*, on Wednesday evening *Taming of the Shrew*, on Thursday *Othello*, and last night *Much Ado About Nothing*, whilst *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be presented at a matinée to-day, and *Hamlet* in the evening. A pleasing feature of the week has been the attendance of school children, who have been admitted at reduced prices.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 18, the Drama, entitled

"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

In the evergreen favourite, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton and company present for the current week a well-mounted and attractive play, which proves itself quite to the taste of patrons of this house. The interest is ably sustained throughout by a judiciously-selected cast. As Robert Brierly Mr. Walter Clarke distinguishes himself by a clever portrayal, and infuses dramatic effect into the character in a painstaking style, which is duly appreciated and applauded. Miss Lelia Zillwood essays the rôle of May Edwards in a powerful fashion, and deserves praise for an impressive rendering of this pathetic part, which is the outcome of the necessary experience and ability; she is amply rewarded for her efforts. James Dalton is judiciously undertaken by Mr. Fred G. Kay, who displays much talent in his representation. Mr. Arthur Hinton makes an excellent Hawkshaw, his lines being crisply and well delivered. Mr. Travis Green imparts much humour to his delineation of Melter Moss, and submits a capable study of the part. Mr. Gibson is suitably undertaken by Mr. Charles Clifford, who scores well. Miss Effie Dane is completely successful as Sam Willoughby, her rendering meeting with every sign of approval. Miss M. Canfield supplies a clever study of the old lady, Mrs. Willougby, which provokes much mirth. Assistance is also afforded by Mr. Rupert Lorry as Green Jones, Mr. A. N. E. Bodie as Maltby, and Mr. N. Avie as Brunton.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 18, the Comedy by J M. Barrie, entitled

"PETER PAN."

Mr. Chas. Frohman's company in J. M. Barrie's entrancing fairy play *Peter Pan* should attract all juvenile Stratford to the Borough Theatre this week. Their elders too should find *Peter Pan* much to their liking, for as a production the piece, with its aerial arrangements and stage traps, the beautiful scenery, the sparkling and humorously naïve dialogue, which represents J. M. Barrie at his best, interpreted by a strong cast, which includes Pauline Chase in her original part, should on its merits be one of the season's successes here. Repetition seems only to enhance the charm of Miss Pauline Chase's performance as Peter Pan, and the reception she gains is cordial in the extreme. Miss Gertrude Lang is a dear, delightful "little mother," very naturally depicting Wendy's maternal regard for and sweet superiority over the other children. Wendy's brothers John and Michael have intelligent, unaffected representatives in Masters Harry Duff and Herbert Hollam, and an exceedingly clever animal impersonation comes from Mr. Edward Silward as Nana. Mr. Frederick Annerley as Hook contributes a highly diverting burlesque of a bloodthirsty pirate captain, whose followers are excellently represented by Mr. George Shelton (Smee), Mr. Charles Trevor (Starkey), Mr. Charles Medwin (Cookson), Mr. Chris. Walker (Mullins), Mr. W. Luff (Cecco), Mr. James English (Jukes), and Mr. John Kelt (Noodler). The members of Peter's band are spiritedly portrayed by Miss Ninon Duckey (Tootles), Miss Nellie Bowman (Nibs), Miss Dorothy Bell (Curly), Miss Maidie Andrews (First Twin), and Miss Bertha Stewart (Second Twin), completed by Mr. A. W. Bascomb, very droll as Slightly. Mr. Walter Pearce does well as Mr. Darling; Mrs. Darling is charmingly portrayed by Miss Sybil Carlisle; and Miss Tessie Parke effectively doubles the parts of Baby Mermaid and the servant Liza.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE HOCHZEIT DER SOBEIDE,"

Play, in Three Scenes, by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Produced at the New Schauspielhaus, April 16.

Ein reicher Kaufmann	Herr Sibert
Sobeide	Frau Sorma
Bochtjar	Herr Hartberg
Sobeides Mutter	Fräulein Cramer
Schalnassor	Herr Reinach
Canem	Herr Christians
Gültstane	Fräulein Arnold
Sklave	Herr Garrison
Kamelreiter	Herr Lipschitz
Gaertner	Herr Haller
Gaertners Frau	Fräulein Brandt

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 21.—This is not a new work of the Viennese dramatist, but was given here some twelve years ago at the Deutsches under Dr. Brahm's management. The author terms it a dramatic poem. It is in verse, of course, and the scene is laid in the East. Whether the piece was worth the trouble of revival is a question. It possesses one big rôle, that of Sobeide, and Frau Agnes Sorma has included it in her repertory of late years, for which reason the play is now being given. Sobeide weds a wealthy Damascus merchant who is old enough to be her father, if not her grandfather. When the pair are alone after the ceremony is over and the guests have departed, the fair bride announces to her husband that she can never be his except in name, as she loves a younger man. The merchant is a philosopher. He makes neither a scene nor reproaches, but tells Sobeide to go where her heart dictates. Although she has not seen her lover for some months, Sobeide is quite sure of his faithfulness, and off she goes to obey her husband's behest literally and immediately. She has reckoned, nevertheless, without man's inconstancy, and finds her lover in a distinctly original situation, which is to the impartial spectator not without its comic side, though it is death to poor Sobeide. The young man—Schalnassor by name—is just in the act of thrashing his own father, who is his rival in another and not very reputable love affair. On Sobeide he has not cast a thought all these months. Her despair at discovering her lover's real worth is so great that she takes her life, throwing herself from a high tower and expiring in her husband's arms. Frau Sorma gave every phase of the rôle in a masterly manner, and was enthusiastically applauded; the other parts were also very satisfactorily sustained. This tragic fragment was followed by Bernard Shaw's one-act comedy *Wie er ihren Mann belog*. Frau Sorma played the part of Aurora with success.

"Goldene Herzen," a four-act volks-play by C. Karlweiss, was produced at the Schiller last week with good results, and a still better reception would have been the case were the piece not so spun out. The author has written a clever persiflage upon charity entertainments and their promoters. The piece is a series of loosely-connected scenes, with a number of incidental episodes. One of the chief figures is a commissioner of the poor who turns a tenant out of doors because he cannot pay his rent, and then deducts the rent from the proceeds of a charity bazaar in which he is concerned. Another rascal—a painter, who is as lazy as he is talentless—gets written up by a friendly journalist, who says the artist has attempted suicide under stress of poverty. The painter thus boomed enjoys the proceeds of various benevolent entertainments given for him by the "golden-hearted," and becomes famous. The acting was extremely good, and a very cordial reception will certainly be followed by a lengthy run.

At the Schiller Theatre, Charlottenburg, Gustav Davis's four-act comedy *Die Katakomben* is being given with a good deal of success. The piece was produced for the first time on any stage at the Lessing a good many years ago, and was at the time fully described in your columns. The "catacombs" is the nickname given by the clerks of the local civil service to their basement office, and the plot details the life of one of the more ambitious employees, who is released from durance vile later on and gets into a more congenial and remunerative berth. Foremost in the capital cast was Herr Köstlin, in the part of a particularly gruff official. The audience enjoyed themselves immensely, applauding unusually heartily and frequently by open stage.

FULHAM THEATRE.

Gilbert and Sullivan fill the bill at Fulham throughout the present week, and it says something for the taste of the public that they fill the house as well. The company began with one on their finished performances of *The Gondoliers* on Monday. The Duke of Plaza Toro was played by Mr. Henry Lytton with all his accustomed humour, and the Grand Inquisitor was in the hands of that great favourite, Mr. Fred Billington, who was as delightfully quaint as ever; Mr. S. Granville did well as Luiz; Mr. Henry Herbert and Mr. Leicester Tunks were admirable as the two Gondoliers; Miss Louie Reno was a stately Duchess, and the dainty Miss Mabel Graham charmed with voice and person as Casilda; Mrs. Arthur Rousbey's fine voice was heard to great advantage in the songs allotted to Gianetta; and Miss Beatrice Bearer sang and acted excellently as Tessa; Miss Edith Holmes did well the little that was required as Inez. Needless to say, the scenery and dresses were fresh and tasteful, and the chorus quite adequate, while Mr. François Cellier controls the music with his customary skill. *Patience*, *The Mikado*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Pinafore*, with *Trial by Jury*, are also in the week's bill.

"But a few days ago," writes Mr. Austin Brereton, "the Shakespearean revivals at the Lyceum were alluded to by a speaker, who was moved to ask, 'But how many of those revivals paid?' Well, sir, with two exceptions, they all paid, and some of them paid exceedingly well. I need only mention in passing the unequalled run of *Hamlet* for 200 nights at the Lyceum in 1874-75, as Henry Irving was not then his own manager. Yet it may be mentioned that there was a net profit of £10,000 upon that series of performances.

"When Henry Irving began his management of the Lyceum (Dec. 30, 1878) it was with *Hamlet*, which certainly 'paid.' A year later he revived *The Merchant of Venice*, and upon this—the first run at the Lyceum—there was a trifling profit of £18,000 odd. Then, in May and June, 1880, came *Othello*, which 'paid' to the extent of £3,805; *Romeo and Juliet*, revived in March, 1882, was played for 161 consecutive nights. During its first five months it drew £34,099, and, despite enormous expenses, it "paid" to the extent of £10,000.

"Those, however, are mere trifles in comparison with *Much Ado About Nothing*, the first revival of which lasted from October, 1882, to June, 1883, when it had to be withdrawn because of Irving's first visit to America, and upon which there was a profit of £26,000. *Macbeth*, revived on Dec. 29, 1888, enjoyed the longest run of the tragedy ever known, 151 performances, and the average receipts were £330 a night. Irving's next revival at the Lyceum was *Henry VIII.* It was a gorgeous and costly pageant (Irving's personal triumph as Wolsey is well known). A profit of £11,000 did not justify the enormous expenses and the tremendous risk. Nevertheless, it was a profit. *King Lear* and *Cymbeline* were comparative failures, 'in the pecuniary sense,' yet they 'paid' to the extent of £1,297 and £2,500 respectively.

"As a matter of fact, there were only two Shakespearean revivals at the Lyceum which did not pay—*Twelfth Night* (July, 1884) and *Coriolanus* (April, 1901). The loss on these was trifling, and was more than covered by the profits on almost any one of the successes."

"THE MASTER MAN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Rosebery, Produced at the Theatre Royal, at Plymouth, on Monday, April 18.

Frank Manley ..... MR. OTTO MINSTER
Bob Manley ..... MR. GEORGE H. ASQUIN
George Gold ..... MR. KENNETH BLACK
Sir Richard Gaythorne .. MR. FRANK ROBERTSON
Major Hawke ..... MR. CHARLES DICKENS
Tom Leader ..... MR. ARTHUR MINSTER
Will Sharp ..... MR. HERBERT GODDARD
Sergeant Scott ..... MR. ARTHUR ROSE
Joe Piper ..... MR. BARRY CHARLES
Tommy ..... MR. CHARLES BARCLAY
Mistress Leader ..... MISS ANITA PLAYFAIR
Trixie ..... MISS MARY STAFFORD SMITH
Dame Manley ..... MISS POLLY MARSH
Mary Gold ..... MISS MARIE DUNCAN
Blanch Pearl ..... MISS BESSIE RIGNOLD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A spectacular service drama from the pen of Arthur Rosebery, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal on Monday, has the making of an attractive play, but the dialogue should be cut down, the various characters at present having a tendency to speeches in lieu of conversation. The opening scene depicts a motor engineer's office, where it is learnt that Frank Manley is inventing a motive power which should revolutionise the navies of the world. It further appears that he has conceived an attachment for his employer's (George Gold) daughter, which will certainly be distasteful to the parent, who indulges the hope that Mary will eventually become the wife of Sir Richard Gaythorne, whose extravagances have forced him to sell his estate to Gold. Sir Richard, however, is in love with Blanch Pearl, a successful but much-abused actress. After the conveyance of the property, Sir Richard intends to leave for South Africa to earn his living in the ranks.

The earlier scenes in the second act produce some exciting business in South Africa, in which Gaythorne obtains the V.C. Meanwhile, at home, the villainous Major Hawke is plotting to secure the hand of Blanch, and obtains a hold over her by discovering her in the presence of a suicide, and threatening to denounce her as the man's murderer. In the third act the inventor completes his discovery, and requests the hand of his master's daughter. The request is refused with indignation, but Gold's anticipations are crushed by Gaythorne's acceptance of Blanch Pearl, whom he openly proclaims to be a wronged and innocent woman. The last act is a fine spectacle, setting forth the deck of H.M.S. Triumph, and the fulfilment of the inventor's ambition, after which comes the indispensable happy ending. Mr. Otto Minster sustains with energy and ability the part of Frank Manley; Mr. Charles Dickens endows Major Hawke with all the necessary villainy; Mr. Kenneth Black plays George Gold creditably; Mr. Frank Robertson appears as Sir Richard Gaythorne; Miss Bessie Rignold as Blanch Pearl acts with expression and earnestness; and Miss Marie Duncan as Mary does excellent work. Mr. George H. Asquin as Bob Manley, Miss Mary Stafford Smith as Trixie, and Miss Polly Marsh as Dame Manley are amusing and supply the necessary comic contrast.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

A very fine dramatic reading of *Antony and Cleopatra* was given in the Botanical Theatre, University College, on Monday afternoon last to a crowded audience. The reading was handled in masterly style by a full professional cast, including Mr. Acton Bond as Antony (by permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier), Mr. Leonard Shepherd as Enobarbus, Mr. Athol Stewart as Cæsar, and Miss Charlotte Granville as Cleopatra (by permission of Mr. Herbert Trench).

Twenty-five very capable actresses and actors comprised the cast, among them, in addition to the foregoing, being Mesdames Dora Jesslyn, Eve Tame, and Victoria Addison, and Messrs. Leonard Shepherd, Geo. Silver, H. L. Owen, L. A. Hutchinson, Roy Beard, Walter Armstrong, Herbert Lester, Maurice Elvey, Edwyn Holloway, and James Geldard.

The stage directions were read in the clearest possible way by Miss Mona Hungerford, and the greatest credit must be given for the speedy manner in which the proceedings were conducted.

Mr. Acton Bond's arrangement and rehearsal of the five acts and twenty-six scenes reflects the highest credit on that gentleman, for we all know that if not in capable hands *Antony and Cleopatra* is apt to drag and become tedious. This particular classic had been cut from the Henry Irving edition to bring it within the limits of a reading, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the many members, associates, and ardent students of Shakespeare present. Mr. Bond read the part of Antony with great distinction, speaking the blank verse admirably. Especially powerful in the later scenes, Mr. Bond's performance must rank amongst his highest achievements. The Cleopatra was Miss Granville, who was fascinating, subtle, and of "infinite variety." Mr. Athol Stewart was an intelligent Cæsar, while Mr. Maurice Elvey showed much vigour and dignity as Pompey. Mr. Leonard Shepherd was a very humorous Enobarbus. Mr. J. Edwyn Holloway as Eros and Mr. Walter Armstrong in several small parts did excellent work indeed. As this arrangement of the famous play should commend itself to every Shakespearean enthusiast, we reproduce the scenes selected from the various acts. The first act was taken in its entirety and represented: Scene 1, Alexandria: a Room in Cleopatra's Palace; Scene 2, Another Room; Scene 3, Another Room; Scene 4, Rome: a Room in Cæsar's House; and Scene 5, Alexandria: a Room in Cleopatra's Palace.

In Act II. the first, third, and fourth scenes were cut, leaving Scene 2, Rome: a Room in the House of Lepidus; Scene 5, Alexandria: a Room in the Palace; Scene 6, Near Misenum; and Scene 7, On Board Pompey's Galley, lying near Misenum.

The first two scenes in Act III. were omitted, and a start made with Scene 3, Alexandria: a Room in the Palace; then Scene 6 was taken, Rome: a Room in Cæsar's House. Scene 7, Antony's Camp, near the Promontory of Actium; Scene 9, A Plain near Actium; Scene 10, Another Part of the Plain; Scene 11, Alexandria: a Room in the Palace; and Scene 13, the same.

Ten scenes were taken in Act IV., being Scene 1, Cæsar's Camp at Alexandria; Scene 4, Alexandria: a Room in Cleopatra's Palace; Scene 5, Antony's Camp near Alexandria; Scene 6, Cæsar's Camp before Alexandria; Scene 8, Under the Walls of Alexandria; Scene 9, Cæsar's Camp; Scene 12, Between the Two Camps; Scene 13, Alexandria: a Room in Cleopatra's Palace; Scene 14, Another Room; and Scene 15, the same. A Monument. The finale was given in Scene 2, being The Monument, Alexandria.

MR. J. WELLESLY LYNN writes:—"I am anxious to trace the MS. of a play produced about twenty years ago, in which Mr. J. H. Barnes took part, entitled *The Grasshopper*. Can you help me in any way to this end by publishing this letter, which may come to the notice of the present owner of the MS.?"

MR. LYNN is not correct as to date. *The Grasshopper*, the second play with that title, was an adaptation by John Hollingshead from Meilhac and Halévy's *La Cigale*, and was produced at the Gaiety, on Dec. 9, 1877, with Nellie Farren in the title-rôle. Edward Terry as Pygmalion Flippit, J. H. Barnes as Adonis Stipple, Bob Soutar as Gyngall, Mrs. H. Leigh as Lady Buckram, John Maclean as the Earl of Bogland, and Teddy Royce as the Hon. Sidney Morass.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting, held on Tuesday, April 19, at 32, Regent-street. Present:—Mr. R. A. Greene (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Clarence Derwent, Chris Walker, F. H. De Quincey, C. Hayden Coffin, Murri Moncrieff, Langford Reed, Edward Morgan, C. F. Collings, Misses Joan Pereira, Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

With regard to a letter from Mr. Leonard Clark referring to a case of bogus management, the secretary was directed to thank Mr. Clark for his letter, and to say that the council were making inquiries from the different gentlemen mentioned.

The standard contract was further discussed and alterations agreed to. The secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Vedrenne as follows. The council of the Actors' Association believes that the enclosed contract offers a basis of negotiation between the artist and the manager, and the council would be glad if Mr. Vedrenne would place the contract before his committee for consideration.

Sunday Defence Committee. It was decided that the original resolution with reference to the Association agreement with the joint committee be rescinded, and that the following letter be sent to the committee in the terms suggested by the hon. solicitor:—"The council feel that the object for which the Association originally joined the S.D.C. having been accomplished, they wish to withdraw from the committee." The secretary was instructed to send a letter withdrawing the names of the representatives of the Association from the committee named. The Finance Committee's report was tendered by Miss Joan Pereira, and adopted.

Miss Beatrice Chester kindly promised to present four bells for the refreshment-room, and the council tendered her their thanks. The secretary reported five engagements through the Agency. Mr. R. A. Greene was, for special reasons, appointed chairman for the next meeting.

The secretary was instructed to write to several of the most prominent cinematograph film producers, acquainting them with the fact that if they are in want of artists the Association is in a position to supply them.

Elections: Beatrice Park, Ronald Squire, George Mudie, M. Hayden Hewitt, R. Arthur Lane. Nominations: Louise Melville, Campbell Cargill.

COLONEL MAPLESON'S RETIREMENT.

Colonel Mapleson, who will shortly complete his fortieth anniversary of opera and concert management, intends to celebrate the event by resigning his position as chairman of Mapleson and Co., Ltd., as soon as the shareholders have chosen a worthy successor. Colonel Mapleson represents four generations of Maplesons, who have been

COLONEL MAPLESON.

famous in the musical world before him. It was Colonel Mapleson's great-grandfather who produced jointly with Hill and Rossi Handel's opera *Rinaldo* in Italian, at the Queen's Theatre, Haymarket, on Feb. 24, 1711. Colonel Mapleson's father managed the Italian Opera at His Majesty's Theatre, Covent Garden, and Drury Lane Theatre for nearly fifty years, and presented for the first time *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Mignon*, *Carmen*, *The Niebelungen Ring*, and nearly all the operas which are the greatest attraction at the present time. Colonel Mapleson was for many years associated with his father, and they jointly managed grand opera in London and New York, when their companies included such artists as Patti, Nilsson, Titiens, Trebelli, Gerster, Minnie Hauk, Marie Roze, Foli, Santley, Sims Reeves, Campanini, Faure, and a host of celebrities too numerous to mention. Colonel Mapleson has taken an active part in the direction of musical enterprises throughout the Continent, and is Président de la Société Internationale de Musique. In recognition of Colonel Mapleson's services to lyric art the French Government conferred upon him the Cross of the Legion of Honour, and two years ago a public subscription was opened for a Colonel Mapleson testimonial, which realised upwards of £3,000.

MR. JAMES K. HACKETT, in the title-rôle of the five-act comedy *Beaucaire*, fulfilled an engagement last week at the West End Theatre, New York. Written by Booth Tarkington and Evelyn Greenleaf Sutherland, this play was produced about nine years ago by the late Richard Mansfield. Creston Clarke, recently deceased, also played the part. It is one that fits Mr. Hackett exceedingly well, and the romantic story of the nobleman who masqueraded as a barber, but finally won Lady Mary Carlisle, is well told.

The Retort Courteous.

THE great tragedian Macready was very irritable in the business of the stage, and always demanded from his companions the exact cue—or "property," as the case might be—and without these he could not, or would not, go on with the scene. On one occasion he was being supported by Ryder (who also had a temper of his own), and in the middle of a long and important scene Ryder had to say to him, "Take this purse of gold." When Ryder came to this speech he found that he had forgotten the purse, so he pretended to place it in Macready's palm. The great man, however, opened his hand, showing the audience he had received nothing, and growled to Ryder, "I cannot speak to this, sir!" Ryder answered in the same tone: "Can't you, by Jove! Then you can stand there mumchance all night!" and walked off the stage, leaving the irate tragedian to finish the scene as best he might.

"THE KING OF MYSTONIA."

A Musical Comedy, in Two Acts. Book and Lyrics by Edward Mervyn, Produced at the Empire Theatre, Fleetwood, on Monday, April 18.

Frank Warrington ..... MR. TOM LYLE
Reginald Mudwick ..... MR. RALPH SHORE
Fido Tennyson ..... LITTLE CHARLIE TOWERS
Peter Pip ..... MR. TOM ASHBY
Solomon Ikestein ..... MR. WILL KIRK
Signor Montana ..... MR. MARK HANCOCK
Cora Snyder ..... MISS CISSIE MAWSON
Violet ..... MISS KITTY VERNUM
Trixey Sherlock ..... MISS GRACIE HERN
Nussah ..... MR. FRANK NELSON
Sultan Je-hu-tah ..... MR. WILL PARKIN
Hado ..... MR. WALLEY WALTERS
Estulah ..... MISS MAY WARDEN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Edward Mervyn has succeeded in writing a clever musical comedy, the music being distinctly good, and the plot far above the average. The first act opens at the Hotel Europa, in the Far East, where Mr. Reginald Mudwick is staying with his pretty daughter Violet. Mudwick has resolved that his daughter shall, above all things, marry money. The Sultan Je-hu-tah has seen Violet, and engages one Solomon Ikestein, a mercenary Jew, to drug and kidnap the girl, with a view to putting her in the harem. Ikestein sees Mudwick, and tells him that the Sultan wishes to marry Violet, to which her father is quite agreeable. Lieutenant Warrington, however, is in love with Violet, and she will not hear of going to the Sultan's palace, as she suspects his vile purpose. Solomon, who has been plentifully supplied with cash by the Sultan, engages Fido Tennyson, the porter at the hotel, to help him to kidnap Violet. Fido, after having some drink, confides in Warrington that he has received the bribe from the Jew. Warrington appeals to his patriotism, and asks him (Fido) to help him to save the girl. This Fido agrees to do, and Warrington makes him his orderly in order to further his purpose. By calling a false alarm of fire at the hotel, Solomon attains his purpose, and abducts the girl, despite the intervention of Warrington and Fido.

The second act opens in the Sultan's palace, when Violet is brought in, and pleads for her release, which the villainous Sultan will not grant. He informs the distraught girl that he is going to sell her as a slave to another Sultan, who is momentarily expected. The other Sultan arrives, and turns out to be Fido. In an excruciatingly funny scene, Fido bargains for Violet, and attains his purpose, the resident Sultan giving him unlimited power while he remains in the palace. Fido exercises his powers to the full by ordering all and sundry who cross his path to be executed, when Warrington arrives on the scene, and all ends happily.

Mr. Charlie Towers is the life and soul of the piece as Fido, and keeps the audience in a continual ripple of laughter. Mr. Tom Lyle makes a first-class Frank Warrington, and Mr. Ralph Shore is excellent as Reginald Mudwick; Solomon Ikestein has a capable exponent in Mr. Tom Ashby; Miss Cissie Mawson is a sweet and winsome Violet, and Miss May Warden takes the part of Estulah, an Egyptian Princess, who is in love with Warrington, in a most convincing manner. Not only does she act well, but her voice is good, her rendering of "Someone" bringing her three encores on the opening night. Mr. Will Parkin is the Sultan, and a right good one he makes, his song in the second act bringing down the house. Miss Gracie Hern is very good as Trixey Sherlock. The chorus is well balanced, and the scenery all that could be desired. Mr. Will Parkin is stage-manager, and Mr. Tom Billington has the onerous post of business-manager, which he fulfils in a most capable manner. Mr. Leslie Stanley, the proprietor of the company, is to be complimented on an excellent production.

STAGE SOCIETY DINNER.

Sir John Grant presided at the eighth annual dinner of the Incorporated Stage Society, at the Criterion Restaurant, on Sunday evening, and amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Whelen, Mr. W. B. Yeats, Miss A. E. F. Horniman, Mr. Alfred Wareing, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Eadie, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Trench, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Spence, Mr. Carl Hentschel, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Hertz, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Quartermaine, Colonel Charles Campbell, Mr. Walter Crane, Admiral Sir Douglas Gamble, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. J. E. Raphael, and Miss Auriol Lee.

The chairman having proposed "The Incorporated Stage Society,"

Mr. Frederick Whelen proposed "The Repertory Theatre," and announced that the next play the Stage Society would produce would be a German one, which had met with great success in Berlin; and the last play of the season they were producing was the first work of a newly-discovered English dramatist. He believed that repertory theatres were needed in the gloomy and less pleasant parts of our great cities. Indeed, he hoped to see the time when the people would go out from the richer parts of the cities to the poorer districts, and produce there plays that totally differed in quality from those they had at present.

Mr. W. B. Yeats, who first responded, said in Ireland they wished to see represented on the stage the life that was most Irish. They had to-day in Ireland the cult of the peasant.

Miss Horniman, responding, next said they had made a good beginning in Manchester. There had been difficulties, for a sort of superstition existed amongst theatre-goers in the smaller towns, as well as large ones like Liverpool, Manchester, or Glasgow, that everything that was not musical comedy or melodrama with beautiful posters on the wall must be very dull, or immoral, and most likely by Ibsen. They had a sixpenny gallery at Manchester, and she wished in every large town in England there were such sixpenny galleries to make the public understand what art was. A lot of talk about "elevating" the drama was mere impertinence.

Mr. Alfred Wareing, Mr. Dennis Eadie, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine also made interesting speeches.

A SERIOUS difficulty has confronted Mr. George Tyler, who is to produce the successful American play *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, for the first time in England, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday week. The entire production, including scenery, properties, and all the essential impediments, was despatched from New York aboard the Minnehaha, and remains in one of the flooded foreholds, and there is very little hope of salving it in such a state as to be practicable. In consequence Mr. Tyler, who is the executive chief of Liebler and Co., has had to give instructions for an entirely new production to be built and painted, which has to be made within the available ten working days, and will constitute an exceptionally heavy undertaking.

WE regret to record the death of Mrs. C. H. Locke, the wife of the acting-manager at the Theatre Royal, Jarrow. She was only married last August, and went to Jarrow from London. She contracted a severe cold, and about six weeks ago was advised to have a change of air, and returned to her father's home in the metropolis. After a fortnight's stay there she had a relapse, and died of heart failure on the 10th inst. Mrs. Locke's death came as a great shock to both her old friends and to her new-made ones in Jarrow, and her husband has the deepest sympathy of all. The deceased was interred in London on the 15th inst.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE.

"The call of the footlights" came to Mr. William Pringle in his early twenties. At that time, knowing no one with any influence in the profession, he was compelled to start his career with any engagements that offered, and consequently he underwent some rough experiences, which, though uncomfortable enough at the time, are certainly amusing to look back upon. Those experiences might easily have quenched the histrionic spark in a youngster less fond of his art or less doggedly determined, but once gone through they undoubtedly did some good in knocking off the rough corners, and have probably helped in a measure to produce Mr. Pringle's present easy style of acting.

Being naturally musical and light of foot, Mr. Pringle soon found his way into pieces in which those qualities were imperative, and became associated with dancing parts, beginning with Dick Cunningham in *The Geisha*. Shortly afterwards, on account of his expert whistling, he was cast for Blinky Bill in *The Belle of New York*, a rôle he has played close upon six hundred times. An-

MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE.

other dancing part which brought success in its train was François, the French waiter, in *The Prince of Pilsen*.

Mr. Pringle's first pantomime engagement was in a comparatively small part at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, in 1903-4. Later, as Capers, the page, in Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's *Cinderella* at Brixton, he attracted the notice of Mr. Leslie Stuart, with the result that he obtained his first West End engagement at the Vaudeville in *The Belle of Mayfair*, in which his duet and dance with Miss Lillian Digges was one of the most popular numbers. Other London engagements followed at the Apollo in *The Three Kisses*, and at the Prince of Wales's as Ludwig Schnapps in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

It is often assumed that if a man can dance and play in musical comedy, he is, therefore, unable to acquit himself creditably on the legitimate stage. This may be true or not, but in Mr. Pringle's case it must certainly be regarded as a fallacy, for he has distinguished himself in comedy several times, notably as Hubert Grey in *A Snug Little Kingdom*, as George Fisher in *Are You a Mason?* and as Geoffrey Smith in *An Englishman's Home*, a part which suited him to perfection. Mr. Pringle prefers this class of work as being more artistic than musical comedy, and his ambition is to settle down in legitimate comedy in London.

MR. W. HENRY HARGREAVES.

After considerable experience as an amateur elocutionist and character actor Mr. Henry Hargreaves started his professional career by playing Sir Tristram Mardon in Pinero's farcical comedy *Dandy Dick*. A term of strenuous work followed

MR. W. H. HARGREAVES.

with Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Dartrey, playing such parts as Levison in *East Lynne*, Bob Brierly in *The Ticket-of-leave Man*, Rudolph in *Leah*, and Beauseant in *The Lady of Lyons*. A short tour with Mr. Chas. Harrington was followed by an engagement with Mr. Chas. Hartley for Lord Darlington in *Lady Windermere's Fan* and Sir John Harding in *The Idler*. More répertoire and some Shakespearean work with various managements came next, Mr. Hargreaves' parts including Alan Villiers in *The Red Lamp*, Sir Geoffrey in *King René's Daughter*, Louis XIV. and Huguet in *Richelieu*, Tom Stanhope in *The Glass of Fashion*, and Montano in *Othello*. Mr. H. V. Neilson then engaged him to play Harker in *A Bunch of Violets*.

Mr. Hargreaves never regrets his drama experience, which he considers to be absolutely necessary to an actor's training. His work in that department included tours as juvenile leading man with Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Robt. Perris, Mr. Walter Melville, and Mr. Beresford Whitcomb. Mr. Hargreaves then went to Mr. H. F. Maltby for that gentleman's first tour to play Gerald Wendover in that charming old-world play *The Youngest of Three*. A long stock engagement followed with Mr. John A. Thompson at Paignton, Mr. Hargreaves playing such parts as Sir Philip Marchant in *A Bunch of Violets*, Gerald in *The New Woman*, Brabazon in *Sowing the Wind*, Capt. Carew in *His Excellency the Governor*, Young Marlow in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Salem Scudder in *The Octoroon*, Shackleton in *Jane*, Citizen Sangfroid in *Delicate Ground*, Tullington in *Poor Jo*, and David Garrick.

Mr. Hargreaves then went on a most interesting tour through India, the Straits, China, Japan, Cairo, and the Mediterranean as juvenile leading man in the Bandmann Comedy Company, playing an enormous répertoire of West End pieces, changing the bill every night. At one of the Bombay seasons, to cite an example, the company played twenty-four pieces in twenty-six nights. Among the parts Mr. Hargreaves played on this tour were—Pasquali in *The Morals of Marcus*, Stephen Rollo in *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*, Trevor Lerode in *John Glayde's Honour*, Carney Griffin in *Niobé*, Peter in *Peter's Mother*, Lieut. Seton Boyne in *Beauty and the Barge*, Lord Brocklehurst in *The Admirable Crichton*, Bunny in *Raffles*, Arthur Weatherby in *The Earl of Pawtucket*, Jacky in *Sunday*, Horatio Drake in *The Christian* (new version), Larrabee in *Sherlock Holmes*, Frank Perry in *Are You a Mason?* and Harry Dallas in *The Walls of Jericho*.

On his return from the East Mr. Hargreaves played juvenile lead with Mr. Walter Melville in *Her Second Time on Earth*. Mr. Herbert Ralland then engaged him to play Filmer Jesson in *His House in Order*. His next engagement was with Mr. Wentworth Croke for Michael Sunlocks in *The Bondman*. A short engagement with Mr. Russell Rosse followed, and then Mr. Herbert Ralland re-engaged Mr. Hargreaves for his annual stock at the Gaiety, Douglas, during which he played one or two of his old parts—Sir Philip in *A Bunch of Violets*, Dick Desmond in *Facing the Music*, David Cairn in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, Ted Morris in *The Prude's Progress*, &c. A short engagement with Mr. Mark Blow in *The Prisoner of Zenda* came next, and then he was engaged for the part of Ned Drayton in *In the Ranks*.

Like many actors of recent years, Mr. Hargreaves has appeared on the halls. It will be noticed that Mr. Hargreaves has been a great deal in stock and répertoire companies, and in one year he played over fifty parts. He now finds the benefit of such strenuous work, because it has enabled him to acquire an experience, though only in his twenty-seventh year, of which many a man more than twice his age cannot boast. It is interesting to add that Mr. Hargreaves served two years with the Imperial Yeomanry in South Africa during the war, receiving the Queen's medal and four bars.

A BOHEMIAN CONCERT.

A pleasant evening was spent at the King's Hall Theatre, Covent Garden, on Thursday, April 14, when the new Ellesmere Club gave their first Bohemian concert and a one-act play. The Ellesmere Club has been formed for the purpose of holding dramatic performances, dances, whist drives, concerts, and other social gatherings, and, to judge by the large audience present on the 14th inst., the club should be a great success.

The first portion of the programme was devoted to vocal and instrumental items. Miss Rose Baker, who has a contralto of considerable power, sang "My Ships"; and Miss Athole Robertson gave a very effective recitation of "Lasca." Mr. Frank Desprez's popular poem. Mr. Douglas Wesley, who has a well-trained tenor voice, not of any great power, but remarkably sweet and pure in the upper notes, was heard in "My Dreams." Later in the concert Mr. Wesley achieved a distinct success with his artistic singing of Blumenthal's "The Message," one of the late Sims-Reeves' favourite songs. Although Mr. J. Duncan Porteous might have chosen a finer subject for his violin solo than W. Henley's "Hungarian Rhapsody," he proved a very able executant and won hearty applause.

Miss Jessie Reeve (who appeared by kind permission of Mr. Tom B. Davis) sang "Little Princess, look up!" (*Amasis*), Faraday, and received an enthusiastic encore. A recitation of comedy and tragedy was cleverly given by a Miss Hodges, whose name did not appear on the programme; while Mr. Walter Montagu delighted the audience by his funny stories and really admirable playing of the Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* on a one-string cigar-box violin. Miss Jessie Reeve was again heard in Max Strang's "Danion," and Miss Rose Baker in "The Enchantress," by Hatton. Mr. Clement Speed, a tenor, sang well, but if ever a song required a full rich baritone it is "Blow, blow, thou winter wind" (Sargeant).

After the interval, *Browne with an E*, an original farcical comedy, in one act, by Leopold Montague, was played. *Browne with an E*, it must be confessed, is a somewhat mild affair, but the little farce answered the purpose of amusing the audience. Mr. Robert Brown, on a trip to Switzerland, meets at the Hôtel Pension Rose des Alpes a charming young American lady, Miss Excelsiora J. Peak, who strongly objects to his name not having a final "e." Mrs. Gushington Nervesby is also at the hotel to meet her son-in-law, who does spell his name Browne, and as she has, it seems, never met him, complications naturally ensue with Mr. Robert Brown. There is a lively old German, Graf Von Donnerwetter-Nebermterhinterberg, at the same pension. Mr. Wilfred B. Emeon was effective as Robert Brown; and Mr. Bernard W. Siegle aroused much laughter by his performance of the old German. Mr. Sidney Foster was excellent as the waiter, M. Verifrau Pagon; and Miss Maude Evelyn did well as Mrs. Gushington Nervesby; while the part of Miss Excelsiora J. Peak was attractively played by Miss Ivy Sylvia. During the evening a selection of music was given by the club orchestra, under Mr. Henry J. Dolan.

A VERY interesting lecture on "Modern Scene Painting" was delivered on Monday last by Mr. Alfred Wareing, director of the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, to the students of the Glasgow School of Art in the theatre of the institution. The lecture was illustrated by many beautiful models of stages, with scenery and lighting arrangements complete, which the lady and gentleman students examined with great interest. Mr. Wareing did not entirely approve of electric light as an illuminant of stage scenery, as it threw too strong shadows, but preferred gas, as giving a softer light. On the other hand, the electric light was more under control, and minimised the risk of fire.

MR. WAREING traced the evolution of scene painting from the simple Elizabethan times till the exacting present day, and commented on the works of Clarkson Stanfield, Sam Bough, James Grieve, William Glover, and other artists who had exerted their influence on scenic art. He then referred to several artists of the present day, such as Mr. Joseph Harker, of whose work three splendid models were displayed, and Charles Ricketts, who had produced some beautiful stage settings.

At the close of the lecture Mr. Wareing invited any of the students who were interested in the subject to visit the painting room of the Repertory Theatre and see the process of scene painting, and even to try wielding the brush if so disposed. At the instance of the Head Master, Mr. F. H. Newbery, who was in the chair, Mr. Wareing was cordially thanked for his instructive lecture, and suitably replied. The lecture theatre was crowded with an attentive audience of both sexes.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree and company will appear this afternoon in *Hamlet* at His Majesty's Theatre, and this evening in *Julius Cæsar*. For the special bill to be given at the matinée on April 29, in addition to one act from *Othello*, one act from *Macbeth*, one act from *The Clandestine Marriage*, and the special recitation which Mrs. Kendal has kindly consented to give, the Screen scene from *The School for Scandal* will be performed, with the same cast as at His Majesty's last year. In this Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Henry Morrell, and Miss Marie Löhr will appear.

The joint benefit to Mrs. Billington and Mr. Herman Vezin will not take place until the autumn season. Meanwhile Mrs. Kendal has, with great generosity, secured Mrs. Billington freedom from anxiety until the matinée is given. Mrs. Billington cannot speak too highly of the kindness she has received from Mrs. Kendal.

Mr. George Alexander will pay a flying visit to the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Thursday, and will give there a special matinée of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Mr. James Welch's season at the Criterion Theatre will end on Saturday, May 21, and on the Monday following Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore will return to the theatre where they have so often evoked laughter and applause, and will give a few performances of *The Mollusc*, which will be followed by a revival of *The Case of Rebellious Susan*.

Mr. C. G. Compton's complimentary benefit at the St. James's Theatre, by permission of Mr. George Alexander, will take place on Friday afternoon, May 6. Mrs. Kendal will give a reading from *As You Like It*, to a musical accompaniment by Mr. Stedman's choir, and Sir Charles Santley, Mr. Frank Gleeson, Mr. Anderson Nicol, and Miss Marie Löhr have kindly offered their services.

Mr. Frederick Harrison and Mr. Herbert Trench will give a special matinée at the Haymarket on June 10 to raise funds to complete the equipment of the Keats-Shelley Memorial House in Rome, which was opened by the King of Italy just a year ago. Among the patrons of the movement are the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, who has kindly consented to act as president of the executive committee, of which the Countess of Crewe and Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild are vice-presidents. The programme will include tableaux, scenes, and recitations from the works of Keats and Shelley. Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Carlotta Addison, and Miss Genevieve Ward will appear, and Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Mr. Frank Dicksee, and Mr. Percy Macquoid will design the tableaux. Sir Hubert Parry, Mr. Coleridge Taylor, Mr. Norman O'Neill, Miss Maude Valerie White, Mme. Kirkby Lunn, and Mr. Gervase Elwes will supply the music.

Mr. Alex. Henderson will present at the Apollo Theatre this evening a new musical comedy, by Major Marshall, music by Philip Michael Faraday, entitled *The Islander*. The cast will include Mr. Sam Walsh, Mr. Fred Allandale, Mr. Laurence Legge, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. Neil Kenyon, Mr. Reginald Lawrence, Master Bobbie Andrews, Miss Ethel Morrison, Miss Mary Dibley, Miss Elaine Inescort, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Stephanie Stephens, Miss Mabel Burnege, Master P. Heron, and Miss Edris Coombs. The first act takes place On British Territory, and the second Somewhere in the Persian Gulf 51° 32′ North Latitude, 09 5′ 12′′ West Longitude. The play will be produced by Mr. Harry Grattan.

Mr. George Tyler has taken the Garrick Theatre and will produce there early in May Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's three-act comedy *The Dawn of a To-morrow*. The scenery used in America for Mrs. Burnett's piece went down in the Minnehaha, and even if recovered would be useless, so a new set of scenes is being painted. The play is to have a week's trial run at Liverpool, starting on Monday, May 2. The cast will include Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. James Lee Finney, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. James Hearn, Mr. James Geldard, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. J. Parish Robertson, Mr. Frank Bertram, Mr. John Tresahar, Miss Ada Dwyer, Miss Portia Knight, and Miss Gertrude Elliott.

Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Arthur Bourchier will, at the end of the run of *The Tenth Man* at the Globe Theatre, produce there an adaptation by Mr. Paul Potter of Emile Fabre's *La Rabouilleuse*, which was originally played at the Odéon, Paris. *The Honour of the Family*, as the English version is called, has already been performed with success in America. *La Rabouilleuse* is founded upon Balzac's *Ménage de Garcon*, and the action of the play takes place in the small French town of Issoudun, near Bourges, in 1824. The part of Colonel Philipe Bridau, the *soudard*, or rascally swashbuckler, who dominates the action, will be played by Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and the cast will include Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Oscar Adye, Mr. Frank Atherley, Mr. George Bealby, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Bertram Forsyth, Mr. Frederick Sargent, Mr. Drelincourt Odlum, Miss Marie Linden, Miss Rosalie Dupré, and Miss Gladys Mason.

Mr. Curtis Bennett's statement in the recent matinée hat case to the effect that a theatre ticket is nothing else than a revocable licence has raised the question of the playgoer's rights. The presence of a theatre-goer at any theatre is entirely subject to the consent and discrimination of the manager or lessee of that theatre. The possession of a ticket does not entitle the holder to admission to the theatre; nor, having once gained admission and occupied his (or her) seat, does it secure for the holder the right to remain till the conclusion of the performance. The management is within its rights in either refusing admission or demanding expulsion—even though the dress and deportment of the ticket-holder so treated leave no possible ground for complaint. A theatre manager can frame and enforce such regulations as he thinks fit, providing these regulations are made public before the commencement of the performance.

The London County Council some months since passed a resolution that "It is unnecessary to differentiate between the licences granted to theatres and to music-halls"; and instructed the Theatres Committee to consider and report what amendments should be made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as might be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments. The committee have come to the conclusion that nothing practical can be done in the direction indicated by the resolution without fresh legislation on the subject, and until it is known whether the Government contemplate taking any steps to give effect to the recommendation of the Joint Committee on Stage Plays, the London County Council Committee do not think that any useful purpose would be served by the Council at the present time promoting legislation to give effect to the recommendation. The Council is to be asked to proceed no further with the resolution.

Mr. H. B. Irving will end the run of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at the Queen's Theatre on the 29th inst., and on the following evening will revive *Louis XI.*, with himself in the title-part, Mr. Eille Norwood as Nemours, Mr. Charles Allan as Philip de Comines, Mr. Tom Reynolds as Coitier, Mr. Frank Tyars as Tristan L'Ermite, Mr. Henry Vibart as François de Paule, Miss Rosina Filippi as Martha, and Miss Dorothea Baird as Marie de Comines. Mr. Irving will also give three special matinées of *Hamlet* on May 4, 11, and 18.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has introduced two innovations, one of which is of a somewhat startling character, into his new version of *East Lynne*, which, while retaining the story right through, is a very workmanlike production. One novelty is the substituting of "Beauty's Eyes" for "When other lips," and the other is the appearance of little Willie in pyjamas instead of the traditional nightgown and bare feet.

In connection with the National Theatre movement to establish a theatre as a national memorial to Shakespeare, a meeting was recently held in the Newcastle Council Chamber, Sir Henry Newton presiding. Mr. Philip Carr, secretary of the Memorial Committee, in explaining the scheme, said that it was proposed to establish in London an institution similar to those in other countries in Europe. A permanent company of actors would be engaged, and there would be a constant change of programme. It was proposed to raise a capital of £500,000, and of this amount £78,000 had been raised. The company of actors would be divided into two parts, and one part would be constantly touring the provinces, and each place visited would be expected to guarantee the expenses incurred. A public meeting would be held in Newcastle in the autumn, and meanwhile collecting sheets with a minimum subscription of one shilling would be issued. On the motion of Mr. Gibbon, seconded by Mr. Jebblin, it was decided to form a local committee of those present, with power to add to their number.

Poor children will benefit materially by the anniversary performance of *The Arcadians* next Thursday at the Shaftesbury Theatre, Mr. Courtneidge having decided to hand over the proceeds to the Fresh Air Fund. The performance will be marked by special features. To the new numbers will be added "The Call of Arcady," which will be sung by Miss Florence Smithson. Mr. Alfred Lester now includes a version of "I've got a motter" which can only be described as extremely Anglo-French. It runs, "J'ai un motter. Toujours joli et gai." *The Arcadians*, moreover, will be entirely re-dressed, the display of new gowns including costumes which have been designed for the scenes representing Askwood Racecourse and the Arcadian Restaurant.

Miss Elizabeth Dexter, who has made many friends in the land of her fathers, is paying a holiday visit to the United States, sailing on the Minnewaska to-day. Mr. Bernard Shaw, by a political lecture, awakened her interest in eugenics, and she will endeavour to spread its tenets among her school mates and relations abroad. Her plans include visits to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Cincinnati. We wish Miss Dexter all success on her visit.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Annie Brophy, a once well-known actress, who passed away on Tuesday at Tufnell Park after a long illness, in the course of which she underwent much suffering. In private life Miss Brophy was the widow of the late Frederick Aubrey Thomas, physician, and was in her fifty-second year.

At the last meeting of the Theatres Alliance—which was the annual one—the following officers for the ensuing year were unanimously elected:—President, Mr. Wentworth Croke; vice-president, Mr. Ernest Stevens; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; auditors, Mr. Peter Davey and Mr. J. S. L. Moss; and hon. secretary, Mr. Moverley Sharp.

Mr. Edward Compton will to-morrow be the guest at dinner of the Manchester Playgoers' Club at the Midland Hotel. Afterwards Mr. Compton will read a paper to the members and their friends on "New Humour and Old Comedy." The reading of the paper will most probably take place in the theatre attached to the hotel.

Miss Annie Hughes terminates her very successful engagement as the Chorus Lady at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on May 21, and on the following Monday will turn her attention to the music halls, appearing with her own company at the Chelsea Palace in a sketch entitled *The Belle of the Washtub*. In this sketch Miss Hughes will enact the dual rôle of Madame Sans-Gêne and Catherine Duchess of Dantzig, and will have the support in the rôle of Napoleon of Mr. Henry Deas, an actor who made a great success as Dan Mallory in *The Chorus Lady* when this play was recently at the Coronet and Kennington Theatres. Fouché, Chief of Police, will be in the clever hands of Mr. Mayne Lynton, who is at present playing Nero in Mr. William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company.

Mr. Walter Reynolds, L.C.C., returned on Monday from his tour of the seaports of Morocco, the Canary Islands, and Madeira. Mr. Reynolds has been elected Chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee of the London County Council.

At this week's meeting of the London County Council, the Improvements Committee reported the granting of a six months' option for the lease of the Aldwych-crescent site to M. Ernest Gerard, who recently renewed the application laid before the Council in July, 1907. If the agreement is completed a lease will be granted for 99 years, at a rental of £55,000 a year. It is proposed by M. Gerard to form a syndicate with a capital of £1,000,000, a large portion of which, it is stated, has already been guaranteed in France.

The plans show a large building containing galleries for the accommodation of a permanent exhibition of arts and manufactures. On the Strand frontage and in the two side streets will be rows of shops with offices overhead. The centre of the site, which covers 24,000 feet, will be occupied by a theatre, a concert hall, a restaurant surrounded by courts, and other buildings.

The season of grand opera at Covent Garden will commence to-night with a performance of *La Traviata*. Mme. Tetrazzini will be the star, Signor Sammarco will be the Giorgio Germont, and Mr. John McCormack the Alfredo. On Monday the first cycle of the "Ring" will commence with *Das Rheingold*. Herr Van Rooy will be the Wotan, Herr Zador the Alberich, and Herr Bechstein the Mime. Six of the singers are English-speaking artists. *Die Walküre*, on Tuesday, will begin at 5 p.m., with a dinner interval after the first act. Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens will be the Brunnhilde, and a newcomer, Mme. Kent, the Sieglinde. Herr Sembach, the Siegmund, will also be new to Covent Garden. For Wednesday *Rigoletto* is chosen, and Tetrazzini will be supported by Signor Rostowsky, a tenor new to Covent Garden. On Thursday *Siegfried* will be given, with Herr Cornelius in the title-rôle, and Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens will be the Brunnhilde. *Götterdämmerung* will be sung on April 30.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's London company of *Don* scored a distinct success at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, this week, the reception being most enthusiastic, and the booking very heavy. Additional companies touring in the early autumn, under the entire control of this popular management, include *Smith* (North and South companies), *Brewster's Millions*, and *Arsène Lupin* at Christmas, when Mr. Percy Hutchison will appear as Arsène Lupin at the Opera House, Blackpool, the entire London production, including all the trick scenery as used at the Globe Theatre, being carried.

The Miners' Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland, is for sale, tenders being invited by the owners. The site of the theatre, which seats about 2,000 persons, and other adjoining land is 1,545 square yards, held on leases which expire on Nov. 11, 1993. Particulars of sale and form of tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. Watson, Burton, and Corder, solicitors, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Mr. Gaston Mayer's company, direct from the Vaudeville Theatre, where on Saturday, April 2, the curtain was finally rung down on the 244th performance of *The Brass Bottle*, will appear at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, next week. The suburban tour, which will then commence, is under the business direction of Mr. E. H. Bull, the advance management being in the hands of Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg.

Mr. Frank Withers has been re-engaged for the business management, on the autumn tour, of Mr. James Welch's company with *When Knights were Bold*.

We regret to hear that that well-known young actor, Mr. Edward A. Coventry, who has been playing the part of Mr. Belmont in Mr. J. E. Vedrenne's *Fires of Fate* company, during the struggle in the third act on Saturday afternoon at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, fell a distance of about twelve feet. He was conveyed in an unconscious state to the Royal Infirmary, where it was found that he had fractured his left shoulder and received a very severe shaking. Mr. Coventry, we are pleased to announce, is progressing favourably.

At the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, on the 15th inst., two new one-act pieces, *By Mutual Agreement* and *The New Life*, both by R. A. Brandon and George Bull, were played for copyright purposes by Miss Dorothy Duncan and other members of *A White Man* company. It may be added that the title of *The New Life* has been utilised twice before, once for a drama produced at the Theatre Royal, Barnsley, in March, 1884, and once for a one-act piece staged at the Avenue ten years later.

Mr. Lewin Mannering is shortly joining the ranks of regular managers. A new and powerful play is being written for him by a well-known dramatist, which Mr. Mannering will produce and tour shortly after Christmas.

Mr. Allan Wilkie's next addition to his extensive répertoire will be an elaborate revival of Shakespeare's comedy *Twelfth Night*. Special attention will be paid to the spectacular side of the production, and beautiful new scenery and costumes are being designed. It is confidently anticipated that Mr. Wilkie will be particularly well suited in the character of Malvolio.

Mr. Charles Windermere's new farcical comedy *Where is William?* scored a complete success on its first appearance in London last week at the Fulham Theatre, the business going up each night. The piece was received with roars of laughter, and four and five calls were taken after each act. Mr. Windermere has already been approached by a West End manager, and negotiations for a London run are now in progress. Should these fall through, Mr. Windermere will put it on himself at Christmas, having several return dates to fulfil in the autumn.

Mr. Fred Ball, late assistant-manager at the Hippodrome, Southampton, has taken up his duties as resident-manager at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton. Prior to his departure from Southampton occasion was taken by the staff at the Hippodrome and his many friends to make Mr. Ball a handsome presentation.

The Universal Theatrical Bureau, which has been established at 49, Bedford-street, Strand, undertakes to supply anybody or anything a theatrical or music hall manager, an actor, an artist, or an agent may require to assist him in the conduct of his business. No order will be either too great or too small to receive the prompt and careful attention of the firm. By concentrating all the many branches of the entertainment world—professional or amateur—in one centre, they believe that they can save their clients many hours of tedious work and much heavy expense. Probably no other business suffers so much from "emergencies" as theatrical and music enterprises, and by either ringing up Gerrard 3714, sending a telegram to "Utryburo, London," or writing to 49, Bedford-street, Strand, such emergencies will be easily dealt with.

Mr. Herbert Trench has secured a lively comedy of English life, by Mr. Rudolf Besier, called *Baldwin*, and will produce it in due time at the Haymarket.

Mr. R. C. Luxton, who has been for some time the manager for the Lowestoft Corporation of the various entertainments carried on by that body, has been appointed by the directors of the New Spa and Gardens at Bridlington to succeed Mr. Harry Tunbridge at that fashionable pleasure resort. Mr. Tunbridge has been appointed manager of the Britannia Pier, Yarmouth, and takes up his duties there at the end of May. During the two years in which he has had the management of the Spa Gardens and Theatre Mr. Tunbridge has made himself greatly popular, and he will leave Bridlington with the best wishes of his many friends for a successful career in his new venture.

The performance of *The Red Herring*, announced by the Play Actors at the Court Theatre for April 24, is unavoidably postponed till the following Sunday. All tickets issued for the prior date will be available on May 1.

The enthusiasm with which the Marie Brema *Orpheus* revival at the Savoy has been received has necessitated extra performances, and to meet the wishes of many who cannot attend matinées, two of these will take place on Tuesday evening (26th) and Friday evening (28th), the other two being arranged for Wednesday afternoon (27th) and Saturday afternoon (30th). As a rule, the garlands used in the tomb scene are "property" flowers, and the rose petals with which Orpheus strews Eurydice's grave are made of coloured paper. But such is the esteem in which Miss Brema is held by her company that on the first night the chorus (which has been specially trained by Miss Tita Brand, Miss Brema's talented daughter, and Miss Rose von Etlinger) prepared a charming surprise for Miss Brema by exchanging the stage garlands for real flowers and the "property" petals for fragrant rose leaves. One of the principal features of this remarkable production has been the Hellenic dancing of Miss Margaret Morris, the daughter of the well-known Manchester artist whose paintings adorn several art galleries.

Mr. Arthur Phillips and his company in *The Merchant of Venice* opened their tour auspiciously at Birkenhead last week, nearly five thousand persons paying for admission during the week. The magnificent scenery and dresses, together with the artistic merits of the company, were highly praised by the Liverpool Press.

Both performances at the King's Theatre, Gateshead, on Monday were exceedingly well patronised, when Councillor Harold Arnold, the manager, took a well-deserved benefit. The ordinary bill was supplemented by turns from the neighbouring music halls, and in a short address Mr. Arnold expressed his gratitude to those in front and intimated that he would still be in touch with the King's Theatre, although having to manage the Tynemouth Palace.

"The Little Damozel" will be at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, and Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, next week. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's two companies have done excellent business with this play, being rebooked at every theatre visited.

As the result of the competition just held at the Trinity College of Music, London, scholarships tenable for one year, with possible renewal, have been awarded as follows:—Organ, Sidney H. Sheppard; singing, Edith M. Davies and Lilian Goodson; violin, Dorothy I. Meallin. Free instruction has been awarded for one year to: Double bass, John H. Silvester; flute, Margaret E. Gibson. The following candidates were highly commended:—Leonard Gordon, Eric Hurst, Joseph Myers, Ruby L. M. Shepherd, and Winifred D. Bianchi.

The oil painting of the late George Daventry as "Nebu Singh" in "The Indian Mutiny" was won in the drawing by Mrs. Fred. C. Somerfield (Miss Marie Dagmar) by the number 23, Mrs. Daventry has received a charming letter from Mrs. Somerfield in acknowledgment, and is forwarding the picture to Warrington to the owner's residence.

The Elizabethan Stage Society, under the direction of Mr. William Poel, will present *Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings next, and at a matinée on Saturday. The company will be identical with that which has been appearing this week in Sir H. B. Tree's Shakespearean Festival, and the comedy will be acted on an Elizabethan stage. The Society will also present *Everyman*, the sublime old Morality Play, which will be acted on Wednesday afternoon and the evenings of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Having successfully launched his *East Lynne* tour, Mr. Wentworth Croke will now be turning his attention to his suburban tour of Herbert Leonard's popular drama, *The Girl of My Heart*, which he will send out on May 9 with a strong cast and the same complete production that characterises all Mr. Croke's companies. The piece will be produced by Mr. W. P. Sheen, who also plays his old part of Joshua Bradley.

As Mr. Mollison was appearing at Sir Herbert Tree's Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's on Thursday afternoon, he was unable to take up his part in *The Chorus Lady* at the Lyceum, Newport, but returned in time to impersonate Colonel James Fullard, D.S.O., in *The Touch of the Child* which on this night was played after the main piece.

An old-time Welsh comedian has passed away in the person of Mr. John E. Noakes, who succumbed to a long illness at New Mills, Derbyshire, at the age of seventy years. "Johnny Noakes," as he was more familiarly called, was some thirty years a shining light in the land of the Leek, and at Llanelly he was responsible for the erection of the Royalty Theatre. Mr. Noakes toured towns in South Wales and Monmouthshire with a portable theatre, staying as long as six months in one place at a time. He was a versatile and clever comedian, and was wont to appear nightly in different characters. He and his family were held in the highest respect wherever they went.

The dramatic and musical entertainment at the Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, on Thursday had many attractive turns, and one of them was a most interesting performance of some excerpts from Sheridan's famous comedy *The School for Scandal* by Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Bruce Winston. Naturally the two quarrel scenes between the tetchy Sir Peter and his young wife were chosen, and these were played with much animation, the gaiety and wit of the dialogue being well brought out. Miss Erskine's Lady Teazle was a most fascinating heroine of the picturesque period of powder and patches.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hargreaves have been engaged by Mr. Alan Wilkie to play Romeo, Bassanio, Orlando, Charles Surface, &c., and Nerissa, Phœbe, Constance, Maria, &c., in that gentleman's répertoire company.

Miss Daisy Smith, a member of the theatrical company which is playing *The Arcadians* in Dundee Theatre this week, was severely injured on Monday, by accident. The company arrived in Dundee on Sunday. A paper target was fitted up on one of the walls of the sitting-room of a boarding-house, and while Mr. Harold Gaze, another member of the company, was shooting at it with a miniature rifle, Miss Smith entered the apartment. Mr. Gaze pointed the gun at Miss Smith, and, unaware that the weapon was loaded, drew the trigger. Miss Smith threw up her arms, gave a piercing scream, and dropped to the floor. Mr. Gaze 'phoned for a doctor, and it was found that Miss Smith was badly wounded. She was taken to the local infirmary, where a medical examination showed that the bullet had entered the left side two inches below the heart, perforated the thorax, and passed through the liver, coming out near the spine. Miss Smith bore her suffering bravely, and steps were taken to communicate with her friends, who live in London. Miss Smith had been touring with Mr. Robert Courtneidge's *Arcadians* company since August last. She was a member of the chorus, and a great favourite.

Mr. Gaze was placed under arrest, and a formal charge of reckless discharge of firearms was made. He was brought before the Dundee magistrates on Tuesday, and liberated on bail.

The annual "Ladies' Concert" of the Playgoers' Club will take place on Sunday evening, at the Playhouse, which has been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Cyril Maude. The concert will consist of light music, and the London Pavilion orchestra, under the direction of Mr. A Bond Sayers, by permission of Mr. Frank Glenister, will accompany. The undermentioned artists have already accepted invitations to be present:—Misses Christine Birkett, Viva Birkett, Bessie Bowness, Ada Colley, Alice Esty, Olive Fox, Dora Grover, Clarice Mayne, Constance Montague, Decima Moore, Maggie Neil, Elsie Southgate, Edith Trevor, and Florence Venning, and Messrs. Wilkie Bard, J. H. Barnes, Hubert Connorton, Seymour Dicker, Alf. Hurley, C. Ibbotson, Randell Jackson, Harrison Latimer, Alfred Lester, George Mozart Henry Neville, Ernest Pike, H. Scott Russell, Harry Thornton, Sam Walsh, and Gwilym Wigley. The artists will appear by kind permission of the directors of the Palace Theatre, Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, and other managers.

"The Naked Truth" at Wyndham's is clothed in fascinating costumes, which give distinct character to each type of part. In the first act Miss Maude Cressall as the pleasure-loving Mrs. Hayter dons a graceful dress of a soft, deep Nile lily-blue satin charmeuse. Over it falls a long coat-like clinging tunic of Maltese lace of a duller shade of similar blue, woven with metal. All round is a border of dull, old-gold Maltese lace. Above the hem the tunic is of plain Egyptian, night sky blue, attaching to the blue metallesque lace with two bands of gold lace. The long lines of gold lace are caught high on the bodice, and again near the hem of the tunic, with star-shaped ornaments of oblong pearls in every shade of subtle blue with gold over. The bodice part, with sleeves all in one, is of chiffon over under-bodice of dull-gold, wide-meshed net; at the neck is a line of gold and bluish scarab-shaped pearls. A hat of paille d'Italie is worn in the natural bass straw colour, decorated with black Chantilly lace and a large bow of blue velvet, with little clusters of Louis Quinze roses of varied hue.

A charming contrast to the above creation is the simple frock worn by Miss Phyllis Embury. It is of pink silk crépon, a dull and subtle shade of rose. The skirt is pleated and the bodice finished with cords of the material down the front at either side of a vest of paler chiffon. There are ornaments at either side of buttons and loops of the material, which are also used on the cuffs at the elbow. A quilled frill of white lace, with a small black bow, finishes the neck, and at the waist is a band of antique gold galon. A mob-cap shaped hat of white spotted net is worn, the brim soft pleated frills of lace, with a galon round it of almost luminous blue-green, with a design of carnations in rose and white.

Miss Vera Maitland, who is reputed to be a Russian princess in her own right, has an exquisite clinging slim-looking dress of a peculiar shade of gold-green mousseline poplin, patterned over with a tiny sprig of black. At the hem the skirt is arranged in pleats, headed by a broad band of the material, into the design of which touches of ivy-geranium pink are introduced. Down the front are a series of closely-set loops and buttons. The bodice, fastened across in front, shows a vest below and above of floss silk embroidery in a bright shade of russet. The neck-band is a frill of lace, with a russet-satin ribbon band. The sleeves to the elbow are similarly finished. The hat, of dark blue Tagel straw, is high in shape, and finished with curling, white quill feathers. A blue sunshade lined with dull gold-green, like the dress, having a long gold-green handle and flat gun-metal top, completes the scheme.

In the second act Miss Maitland has a smart coat and skirt of ivory white and shaded-grey blue-striped cashmere suiting. The plain effect of the perfectly cut skirt is softened by a cascade effect at either side produced by slant-wise bands of the material piped with grey-blue silk. The coat is short, just clearing the hips. The fronts are laid back with two buttons and loops near the dainty collar of white lawn embroidered with grey-blue silk, and frilled with white lace, and the natty tie of grey-blue silk. There is a chemisette and high stand collar of white tucked net. There is a waistband of the material to the coat showing cunningly at the back, and at either side corners of grey-blue silk. The sleeves have long buttoned cuffs with pearl-blue buttons to the elbow. A white paille de Riz hat is worn, trimmed with white quills.

Simple but wonderfully effective is Miss Embury's dress in this act. It is a Russian coat of monthly rose-petal-pink zibeline tussore. It is made all in one, buttoned down one side with pink buttons and loops. Pockets are simulated with similar buttons and loops, and the turned-down collar of embroidered lawn is finished with a black silk broderie Anglaise tie. There is a waistband of patent leather and gold-green galon. A wonderfully chic cape of embroidered lawn in creamy hue is worn. It is in graduated points, with turned back revers and long ends of the pink fabric finishing with balls. The cuffs are turned back with embroidered lawn below the elbows. A black chip hat is worn, with a wreath of large pink cabbage roses without foliage round the crown.

Miss Cressall graces the scene in a cleverly conceived costume of foulard satin in an old-world shade of Marie blue spotted with white. The skirt, falling in pleats at the hem, is plain in front and pleated at the sides. The bodice is of blue chiffon. The low neck is finished with a tucker of quilled white lace and a deep band coming down in front of copperas green, blue, and white embroidery. From it are boatswains' cords of copperas green silk, to which a piece of carved jade and a coral bead are fastened. The cachet of this smart little gown is in a crossed pèlerine coat with a habit basque back of the foulard. In front the broad crossed bias bands, like those on the skirt, are edged with a gracefully, easily-falling deep pleat of the material, while revers are of black satin foulard. A black crinoline straw hat is worn with a wide brim and a high crown, having at one side a large velvet bow, from which rises a high black osprey.

Novel designs are also found in the third act, wherein Miss Cressall appears in a gown of black satin lumineuse. There is a long tunic of black pleated chiffon, having a deep hem of black satin. The tunic is over white. Down the front is a border at either side of silver cording in soft, rich gold work, à la Japonais. A corner of this novel, rich, soft work is carried up on to the bodice in front. The bodice is itself of black chiffon over silvery blonde lace. It is finished with a hem-stitched border of black chiffon round the square yoke, which is of soft deep old ivory-tinted net. The sleeves to the elbow are of chiffon over blonde net, finished with hem-stitching. A large black straw hat is worn, with a wide brim, over this falls first a handsome rich fringe of soft grey-blue ostrich feather, then one deep and rich of black, while a dark blue velvet bow is placed at one side.

Miss Maitland is becomingly arrayed in a lovely summer frock of yellow chiffon, patterned with white. The skirt falls in soft, beautiful lines, caught up at one side with a band of brown velvet, and showing an under-skirt of softest apricot-skin yellow, veiled with blonde lace. The bodice crosses, showing a square yoke of blonde lace, outlined with brown velvet, wrought in bronze bead work, of which the belt is also composed. The sleeves to the wrist are of blonde lace, with draperies all in one, with the bodice falling over the shoulders. The hat is Louis XIV. in shape, turned right up at the back, and of Tagel straw. It is finished in front with a bank of wallflowers that look as if they were growing.

A pure white dress worn by Miss Embury is of grenadine, sown all over with white china beads. It is all in one, and has deep insertions of white Irish lace, from which, once on the bodice and twice on the skirt, fall deep fringes of white china beads. There is one band of unfringed insertion round the skirt, and the yoke is outlined in lace unfringed. There is no collar band, and the yoke is of net, sprigged and finished with a line of white pearling.

Miss M. Lowe-Dare will appear in *His Excellency the Governor* next week at the Grand Theatre, Fulham.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Barrie and Pinero.

"PEOPLE are always curious to know what the playwrights are personally like who have written the plays that have pleased them," writes Mr. Charles Frohman in the *Saturday Evening Post* (American). "There is the sweetness of a gentle philosopher and the tenderness of a child in the face of J. M. Barrie, but in his speech and manner there is the shyness and diffidence of one who could never be expected to confide his philosophy or tenderness to the public at large. The plays of Sir Arthur Wing Pinero are seemingly the works of an austere, trenchant, slightly cynical observer of the world and its ways. One's first impression of him is of a cold, analytical, rather austere personality. As a matter of fact, the man is a great lover of fun, a simple, genial gentleman, kindly, courteous, considerate.

Pinero as a Host.

"IT was about three months before Arthur Wing Pinero was made Sir Arthur Pinero that I was a guest at his little house at 14, Hanover-square, London. On the night I speak of there also sat at his table J. M. Barrie, John Galsworthy, Alfred Sutro, and Granville Barker. That little party gave me my first full impression of Pinero, the simple, retiring, almost shy man, in contrast to the Pinero of many famous plays, known throughout the four corners of the world as one of the greatest of living masters of stage technic. If anything, it was the quiet, even bashful Barrie, who, sitting next to him at the table, saved Pinero from seeming the simplest big man I had ever met.

His Methods of Play-writing.

"IT is with the utmost precision and only after a solid year or two of reflection that Pinero will take up a pen to lay the foundation of a play. Then the work proceeds with all the deliberation and deftness of a superb architect laying the groundwork of a building that, once sketched out in the flat, must inevitably rise in but one way. Pinero's plays are like perfectly woven tapestries—except that, unlike tapestries, they read brilliantly whichever side is looked at. Or they are like perfectly proportioned mosaics, each word precisely placed in each sentence, each speech deftly thought out, exquisitely chiselled and always contributing to the whole; each act a combination of cumulative scenes, and the whole moving, like the inevitable march of Fate, to a conclusion that is about as easy to deny as the total sum of a correctly added column of figures.

Third Act First.

"BARRIE, on the other hand, is just as apt to start writing a play by beginning at the third act. Then, when by writing through the third and fourth acts he has reached the fifth and is nearly ready to commence the first, he thinks it great fun to decide suddenly that the third act shall be the first. That is the difference between the two men. They are like two architects—the one first sees his building as a drawing in the flat, which when finished in all the multiplicity of its details will rise inevitably as it was originally planned; the other first sees his building as a completed structure and then works inwardly from that picture to the gradual arrangement of details.

A Firm Friendship.

"THUS, having everything that Barrie has not, there is much in Barrie's equipment that Pinero is without; yet Pinero's admiration for Barrie the playwright, is only second, and just barely second, to his fondness for Barrie the man. Yet, admiring Barrie as he does, Pinero has an equal fondness for the German stage, especially for the manner with which in every detail the Germans put on Shakespearean plays. The thoroughness of the German mind, as it is revealed in the theatre, has a great fascination for him. I suppose it is this fondness for a copious, German-like detail that is seen in the wonderfully full and unmistakably clear stage directions that distinguish his manuscripts from the plays of any other writer. If, with a good cast, you take a Pinero comedy and strictly follow its stage directions and its stage business in producing it, interpolating as little as possible of your own ideas, you will evolve the most spirited and genuinely humorous performance possible to that comedy. Pinero might take any of his plays—he has each one privately printed, not typewritten, before it is performed—and mail it to an intelligent stage-manager in Australia, with no directions other than those contained on the printed pages, and if that stage-manager has a capable company he can give just as perfect a performance of the play as if Pinero himself were present directing the rehearsals.

Pinero's Condensation.

"I DON'T think I have ever cut out a single line from all the Pinero texts I have ever staged—and that because I could not afford to do so. His manuscripts are constructed with a most copious attention to details of speech and of action, but always it is a thrifty copiousness, with never a thought or a word too little or too much.

His Generosity.

"PEOPLE who really know Arthur Wing Pinero know a man of a large outlook on life, a free hand and an abundant generosity, characteristic of a personality given to continuous expression. Once, when John Hare came to Pinero for a play, the playwright listened to him, said little, promised less, and seemingly hoped for nothing. But in the seclusion of his study he was soon busy, not with pen and ink but in quiet thought, evolving a wonderful drama of everyday English life. When he had though it all out he reduced his ideas to manuscript and called the play *The Gay Lord Quex*. It quickly brought him renewed fame and Mr. Hare a great personal success—possibly suiting that actor better than anything else he ever did on the stage. And then Pinero gave Mr. Hare all rights to the play for America.

How He Rehearses.

"HIS custom at rehearsal is to sit at a table in the centre of the stage, with a stenographer at his left and another at his right, both of whom he keeps continuously employed taking down notes on the rehearsal that mostly consists of additional stage business, points in acting, or technicalities in the readings of the lines. Before the next rehearsal everybody in the cast is furnished with a typewritten copy of the additions, corrections, or suggestions that have occurred to the playwright with regard to the performance of his or her part.

"PINERO is relentless in his insistence upon the carrying out of these instructions. I remember an actor who was floundering among the lines that he should have memorised, but, instead, had hoped to master during rehearsals. Finally losing even his own amazing assurance he stepped forward with the remark: 'I know my lines, Mr. Pinero, I really do.' To which Pinero quickly answered: 'Yes, but not mine.'"

What He Really Wanted.

A WELL-KNOWN actor took out one of the Conquest-Merritt dramas, *For Ever*, on tour. In it he had to represent a curious being—half-man, half-monkey—called Zacky Pastrana. His face is almost covered with hair, and a hirsute waistcoat carried on and completed the resemblance to a monkey. The actor, in his rendering, endeavoured to endow the creature with pathos as well as grotesqueria. In one scene he had to make love to the heroine in language something like this: "Oh, Ruth, I love you with all my heart and soul! My form may be hideous, but my heart is pure. Give me your love!" when a voice from the gallery shouted: "Give him some nuts, miss; that's more in his line!"

LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

On Monday Evening, April 18,
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

Baptista	MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Vincentio	MR. JOHN HOWELL
Lucentio	MR. MURRAY CARRINGTON
Petruchio	MR. F. R. BENSON
Gremio	MR. H. O. NICHOLSON
Tranio	MR. J. MOFFAT JOHNSTON
Biondello	MR. ERIC MAXON
Hortensio	MR. G. B. RATHBONE
Pedant	MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
A Tailor	MR. ALFRED WILD
Katharina	MRS. F. R. BENSON
Bianca	MISS NORA LANCASTER
Widow	MISS WINIFRED DURIE
Singer	MISS CISSIE SAUMAREZ
Grumio	MR. HARRY CAINE
Curtis	MISS ELINOR AICKIN
Cook	MR. F. CONROY
Waiter	MR. NIGEL BARRIE
Nathaniel	MR. J. FRASER OUTRAM
Sugar Sop	MR. JAMES TURNBULL

The fourth week of the Festival which has been running its glorious course at His Majesty's began with a performance of *The Taming of the Shrew*, Mr. F. R. Benson suspending his labours at Stratford-on-Avon in order to contribute to the London celebrations. A crowded house was entertained with a performance carried out with wonderful spirit and elaboration, and embellished by ingenious bits of dumb show that added to the humour of the situations.

Ever one of his most popular impersonations, Mr. Benson's Petruchio has thoroughly matured, and is now a highly finished performance. Mr. Benson is a picturesque Petruchio—boisterous, unrestrained, and mirthful, but managing by many clever touches, to surround the character with an air of romance that is very welcome. Mrs. Benson abandons herself wholly to the demands of the part of Katharina. She makes her an hysterical shrew rather than a passionate, but her tantrums are skilfully diversified, while the contrast obtained in the latter scenes, when the scold, broken in spirit, moves on to eventual regeneration, is admirable. Both Mr. and Mrs. Benson were cordially greeted at their first appearance, and numerous curtain calls were bestowed upon them by a delighted house.

A young actress whose appearances at the West End ought surely to be more frequent, Miss Nora Lancaster, played Bianca with girlish freshness and grace. She has a voice capable of exquisite modulations, and in her love scenes her acting was tenderness itself. Mr. Alfred Brydone was happily placed as Baptista, and was the courteous and tactful old gentleman to the life. Another performance of particular merit was the richly droll Biondello of Mr. Eric Maxon, a comedian with a peculiar suave manner, who aroused much laughter.

Ripe humour also distinguished the performance of Mr. H. O. Nicholson, who acted the inebriated Gremio with remarkable naturalness. The elderly swain was realistically represented in the Hortensio of Mr. G. B. Rathbone. Mr. Murray Carrington was a handsome and lover-like Lucentio, whose father was capitally personified by Mr. John Howell, admirable in delivery, but rather young in make-up; and Mr. J. Moffat Johnston made an excellent appearance as Tranio. Curtis was brought into agreeable prominence by the artistic acting of Miss Elinor Aickin; and as Grumio Mr. Harry Caine, who rejoices in a striking appearance, loyally seconded Mr. Benson's efforts to create laughter. Miss Cissie Saumarez won honours for her cultured singing of "Should he upbraid," which she rendered with delicacy and feeling. Miss Winifred Durie adopted a duly tragic delivery as the Widow; and the remainder of the cast displayed adequate appreciation of their duties. It is a worthy tribute to Mr. Benson's efforts in the cause of Shakespeare that a travelling company bearing his name should be selected to figure in the celebrations at His Majesty's, and the enthusiasm of the audience showed that the choice was amply justified.

On Tuesday Afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their Shakespearean Company, appeared in Shakespeare's Tragedy,

"CORIOLANUS."

Caius Marcius	MR. F. R. BENSON
Titus Lartius	MR. JOHN HOWELL
Cominius	MR. EDWARD HARRISON
Menenius Agrippa	MR. H. O. NICHOLSON
Sicinius Velutus	MR. J. MOFFAT JOHNSTON
Junius Brutus	MR. MURRAY CARRINGTON
Tullus Aufidius	MR. ERIC MAXON
Two Volscian Guards	MR. ALFRED WILD; MR. JOHN HOWELL
Conspirators with Aufidius	MR. H. GASTON; MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
Young Marcius	MASTER J. PLINCE
First Citizen	MR. HARRY CAINE
Second Citizen	MR. GUY B. RATHBONE
Third Citizen	MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
Fourth Citizen	MR. ALFRED WILD
Fifth Citizen	MR. HAROLD MELTZER
Sixth Citizen	MR. J. FRAZER OUTRAM
Seventh Citizen	MR. J. H. CHARLTON
First Lord	MR. FRANK CONROY
Second Lord	MR. NIGEL BARRIE
First Servant	MR. ALFRED WILD
Second Servant	MR. J. PLUMPTON WILSON
Volumnia	MISS GENEVIEVE WARD
Virgilia	MISS NORA LANCASTER
Valeria	MISS VIOLET FAREBROTHER
Gentlewoman	MISS MARIAN FOREMAN
Dancer	MISS MARGARET CHUTE

Coriolanus is less often seen in London than most of Shakespeare's plays, and the size of the stage of His Majesty's Theatre, and the opportunity which it affords for the display of effective scenery, were all advantageous to the revival which Mr. Benson and his company gave on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Benson is, in many ways, well suited to the representation of Coriolanus. His features are aquiline, and he is an athlete. He realises admirably the bitter pride of the patrician, and his contempt and his hatred for the common people. There is an almost ascetic flavour about his Coriolanus, who, we are told, was distinguished from the patricians of his time by his indifference to pleasure and gain. When Mr. Benson first enters, calm and serene, amidst the angry mob, he strikes the note of pride which he consistently maintains till the final fall of Coriolanus in the last act. Miss Genevieve Ward's clear and sharp distinctness of delivery was very agreeable in the character of Volumnia, and she depicted with practised skill the triumphant exultation and patriotic spirit of the Roman mother. Miss Nora Lancaster was a very sweet, gentle, and charming Virgilia, Miss Violet Farebrother as Valeria admirably indicating the lively, agreeable, sociable style of a Roman lady of the period. Particularly good were Mr. J. Moffat Johnston and Mr. Murray Carrington as the two tribunes, Sicinius Velutas and Junius Brutus. They effectively represented two striking types of character. Mr. John Howell gave a fine, bold, burly embodiment of Titus Lartius; and a very keen and clever reading of the rôle of Menenius Agrippa was supplied by Mr. H. O. Nicholson, whose elocution and characterisation were equally excellent. Mr. Eric Maxon played Tullus Aufidius very creditably; and Mr. Edward Harrison was good as Cominius. Mr. Harry Caine was a praiseworthy First Citizen, Mr. Guy B. Rathbone enacted the Second Citizen ably, and the minor parts were all well represented. It should be mentioned, however, that the energies of the young people who represented the crowd needed repression. They were so loud and so eager that they often cut short the speeches allotted to the named characters, and many were evidently over-anxious to achieve personal distinction by exaggerated sound and action. The mounting and dressing of the piece were of the best, the scenery, especially that of a Street in Rome, with a temple in the background, being very artistic. In praising the smoothness and closeness of the performance, we must not omit to give credit to Mr. John Douglass, Mr. and Mrs. Benson's excellent stage-manager, and to his assistant stage-manager, Mr. Harry Stafford. The overture to Beethoven's "Coriolanus" was performed by Mr. Adolf Schmid's fine orchestra in one of the intervals.

On Wednesday, April 20, the Elizabethan Stage Society presented Shakespeare's Comedy,

"THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA."

Duke	MR. ARTHUR HANDS
Valentine	MISS WINIFRED RAE
Proteus	MR. GEORGE ELLIS
Antonio	MR. A. H. STEERMAN
Thurio	MR. FRANK COCHRANE
Eglamour	MR. FRANK DARCH
Launce	MR. LEONARD HOWARD
Speed	MR. EDWIN COATES
Panthino	MISS ISABEL MERSON
Host	MR. CLIVE CURRIE
First Outlaw	MR. W. H. MACKERSY
Second Outlaw	MR. ALFRED STEERMAN
Third Outlaw	MR. GILBERT HUDSON
Servant	MR. C. ANSON
Julia	MISS MARY MANNERING
Silvia	MISS OLIVIA GLYNNE
Lucetta	MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Nurse	MR. G. BUCKLER

This representation of one of Shakespeare's weakest comedies was curious rather than satisfactory. The cast was very uneven, being decidedly stronger on the female side. The play was performed on a stage part of which was built out over the orchestra, the background being a conventional porch and balcony with tapestry hangings. The allotment of the part of Valentine to a lady prevented any illusion; and though Miss Winifred Rae did the best in the circumstances, she was hopelessly handicapped by the injudicious arrangement. Mr. Arthur Hands was too much inclined to introduce senile comedy into his reading of the rôle of the Duke, but on the whole gave a sound and careful interpretation, a little wanting, perhaps, in weight and dignity. There was little that was aristocratic, either, in Mr. George Ellis's Proteus, and he was too anxious to suggest the duplicity of the personage early in the play. Proteus may be weak and fickle, but he is not an intentional traitor. We find no warrant in the text for attributing a "stiff leg" to Thurio, and Mr. Frank Cochrane's representation of the character as a limping dolt was purely fantastic. A very clear and polished reading of Sir Eglamour was, however, supplied by Mr. Frank Darch; and Mr. Leonard Howard, though inclined to lag and pause too much, was by no means bad as Launce; Mr. Edwin Coates being good as Speed. Mr. Clive Currie gave a firm and sound performance of the part of the Host, and the outlaws had bold and distinct representatives. Miss Mary Mannering contributed a very pleasing and appreciative embodiment of Julia, full of feeling and delicacy. Miss Olivia Glynne put plenty of earnestness and some excellent elocution into her delivery of Silvia's lines; and Miss Margaret Bussé was a vivacious Lucetta. The music was under the direction of Miss Nellie Chaplin. "Who is Sylvia?" sung to an Elizabethan tune adapted by Sir Frederick Bridge instead of to the customary Schubert setting, was agreeably rendered by Miss Isabel Merson. Mr. W. Nugent Monck was the assistant stage-manager for Mr. William Peel, the founder and director of the Society.

At His Majesty's, on Thursday, April 21, was given a Matinée Revival of

"KING HENRY V."

King Henry V.	MR. LEWIS WALLER
Duke of Gloucester	MR. PATRICK DIGAN
Duke of Bedford	MR. J. H. NAPPER
Duke of Exeter	MR. FRANKLIN DYALL
Earl of Westmoreland	MR. S. J. WARMINGTON
Archbishop of Canterbury	MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
Bishop of Ely	MR. J. H. IRVINE
Earl of Cambridge	MR. H. B. TABBERER
Lord Scroop	MR. CRONIN WILSON
Sir Thomas Grey	MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Sir Thomas Erpingham	MR. CRONIN WILSON
Captain Gower	MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Captain Fluellen	MR. A. E. GEORGE
Captain McMorris	MR. C. MCGUINNESS
Captain Jamy	MR. J. H. IRVINE
John Bates	MR. CATON WOODVILLE
Alexander Court	MR. LEWIS BROUGHTON
Michael Williams	MR. J. H. BARNES
Boy	MR. HARRY DUFF
Nym	MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON
Bardolph	MR. ROBERT BOLDER
Pistol	MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON
Charles VI.	MR. TOM HESLEWOOD
The Dauphin	MR. REGINALD DANE
Duke of Burgundy	MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Duke of Orleans	MR. H. B. TABBERER
The Constable of France	MR. WILLIAM DEVEREUX
A French Soldier	MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON
Montjoy	MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
Governor of Harfleur	MR. W. L. BRANSCOMBE
Queen of France	MRS. TAPPING
Katherine	MISS MADGE TITHERADGE
Alice	MISS DE SERVILLE
Hostess of Tavern	MRS. TAPPING
Chorus	MISS TITTELL-BRUNE

One of the most important and interesting of the series of Shakespearean performances at His Majesty's was the revival on Thursday afternoon of *King Henry V.*, in which Mr. Lewis Waller first appeared at the Lyceum in 1900. He again revived the play at the Lyric in November, 1908, so that the task of finding anything fresh to say concerning Mr. Waller's Henry V. is not an easy one. Criticism has been practically unanimous in agreement upon the many striking merits of his performance. It has been truly said of Mr. Waller that he combines the vigorous elocutionary power and strength of the old school of actors with the variety, grace, taste, and discretion of the new. These words of praise are specially applicable to his Shakespearean impersonations, and from the very first scene on Thursday afternoon Mr. Waller gripped the attention of the large audience and delighted them by as fine a performance as the most devoted admirer of Shakespeare's plays could wish to see. To paraphrase a term that has been often used in reference to another character—here was the King Harry that Shakespeare drew. The strong, dignified King, the brave soldier, the bold wooer of the timid Katherine of France—each varying phase of the character was admirably represented. The lines were delivered with just the right emphasis, and once more did Mr. Waller give the address to the English soldiers just before the attack on Harfleur with such spirit and fine elocution as to excite the warm enthusiasm of the audience. There were many calls for Mr. Waller in the course of the afternoon, and after the final fall of the curtain he came forward and said:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—As you seem to want a few words from me, my task is a very easy one—it consists of nothing but thanks. I have to thank Sir Herbert Tree for giving us the opportunity of playing in this splendid theatre, also I have to thank the members of my company, some of whom have appeared at considerable inconvenience to themselves, more particularly Mr. William Mollison—whose Pistol you have so heartily applauded this afternoon—who travelled all the way from Wales this morning, and is going back to-night. Finally, I have to thank you all for coming here this afternoon and giving us such a splendid reception. In the words of King Henry, 'We have everything to be thankful for.'"

Mr. Lewis Waller had excellent support from the members of his company. Mr. Halliwell Hobbes was a dignified Archbishop of Canterbury; and Mr. J. H. Irvine did well as the Bishop of Ely. Mr. Patrick Digan as the Duke of Gloucester, Mr. J. H. Napper as the Duke of Bedford, Mr. Franklin Dyall as the Duke of Exeter, and Mr. S. J. Warmington as the Earl of Westmoreland, were quite satisfactory in their respective parts; while the three traitors, the Earl of Cambridge, Lord Scroop, and Sir Thomas Grey, had praiseworthy representatives in Mr. H. B. Tabberer, Mr. Cronin Wilson (who also appeared as Sir Thomas Erpingham), and Mr. Frank Woolfe. Mr. A. E. George proved a capital Fluellen, and was ably supported by Mr. Frank Ridley as Captain Gower and Mr. C. McGuinness as Captain McMorris. Mr. William Mollison repeated his clever and amusing rendering of Ancient Pistol, Mr. Robert Bolder scored as Bardolph, and Mr. Alec F. Thompson was a droll Nym. The part of Michael Williams was quite safe in the experienced hands of Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Duff was particularly good as the Boy, Mr. Tom Heslewood deserves to be congratulated on his telling portrayal of Charles VI., and Mr. William Devereux was well placed as the Constable of France. Miss Madge Titheradge played with charm the rôle of Katherine; and Mrs Tapping doubled the parts of the Queen of France and the Hostess of the Tavern. Others characters were carefully sustained by Miss De Serville and Messrs. Caton Woodville, Lewis Broughton, and W. L. Branscombe. Miss Tittell-Brune, who acted as the Chorus, made a favourable impression. Mr. Lewis Waller was assisted in the production by Mr. Herbert Jarman. The battle scenes were excellently stage-managed, and the play was presented with a completeness of detail that was quite remarkable for a single performance.

"A POT OF CAVIARE."

Tragedy, in One Act, by Arthur Conan Doyle, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre, on Tuesday, April 19.

Professor Mercer	MR. MURRAY CARSON
Colonel Mannering	MR. STRATTON RODNEY
James Ainslie	MR. CLAUDE KING
Mr. Patterson	MR. A. G. CRAIG
Father Pierre	MR. A. CORNEY GRAIN
English Naval Officer	MR. ARTHUR BURNE
Ching	MR. ARTHUR F. THORN
Mrs. Patterson	MISS HETTA BARTLETT
Jessie Patterson	MISS DOROTHEA DESMOND

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's play, which was put on at the Adelphi Theatre, on Tuesday, in front of *The House of Temperley*, touches on the very nice point how near to certain death and torture one should be before committing suicide or merciful murder. The time is that of the Boxer Insurrection of 1900, and the scene is the bungalow of Professor Mercer, an entomologist, in the besieged European quarter in Ichau, China. Gathered together in the bungalow, and waiting for rescue to arrive in the shape of an English regiment, are Colonel Mannering, James Ainslie (of the Civil Service), Mr. Patterson (a missionary) and his wife and daughter, Father Pierre (a French Catholic priest), and a Chinese Christian servant. A dying Chinaman, who has been brought in, asks to see the Colonel, and tells him that the promised relief cannot arrive before three days. As there is no hope of keeping back the Boxers for more than a few hours, the Europeans are obviously doomed to death by slow torture; so the Professor poisons a pot of caviare and induces them all to eat of it. One by one they fall into the sleep of death, the Professor succumbing the last; but before he is quite dead there is a noise of firing, and a detachment of English troops enter. "Don't eat any of the caviare," cries the Professor, and then dies.

A very impressive and picturesque performance of the part of Professor Mercer was given by Mr. Murray Carson, who was remarkably well made-up; Mr. Stratton Rodney was smart, strong, and soldierly as Colonel Mannering; Mr. Claude King was free easy, and natural as James Ainslie; Mr. A. G. Craig was commendable as the Missionary, and Miss Hetta Bartlett and Miss Dorothea Desmond were capable representitives of his wife and daughter. Mr. A. Corney Grain endowed the French priest with delicate distinction and refinement; and Mr. Arthur F. Thorn was efficient as Ching. The curtain was three times raised at the conclusion of the piece in response to continued applause.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I, whilst thanking you for the friendly tone of the leading article in your last issue on the National Theatre, point out two small inaccuracies for the sake of record? The idea of the forthcoming Shakespeare concert ball, to be held at the Albert Hall on June 27, originated with the members of the Ladies' Committee, of which the chairman is Mrs. George Cornwallis West, and the vice-chairman the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton. Lady Tree is one of numerous ladies, not members of this committee, who have promised to help, and has undertaken to carry out a charming little conception of which at present I must not reveal the details. The other ladies you mention are amongst the list of patronesses of the ball, but are not all members of the Ladies' Committee.

It is a matter for rejoicing that the members of the acting profession, some of whom have hitherto opposed or been indifferent to our great project, are now evincing a more friendly and sympathetic attitude. Their fraternal co-operation will, I am sure, at all times be cordially welcomed by the committee.

With reference to your concluding paragraph, it should be stated that the object of the National Theatre (in addition to its significance as a memorial) is not to provide a home for "annual seasons or festivals," so much as to establish a highly-trained repertory company which will pass the best products of the classical and modern drama in regular review.—Yours faithfully,

H. S. PERRIS,
Organising Secretary.

Whitehall House, Charing Cross, S.W.
April 19, 1910.

Giving Him His Quietus.

PHELPS also was a very difficult actor for a nervous person to be on the stage with for the first time. He was a disciple of Macready, and, together with many of his master's excellencies, he had acquired some of his mannerisms, particularly a very awkward one of repeating in an undertone the words of his comrade's part while the latter was speaking them aloud. George Rignold, on the first occasion of his meeting Phelps on the stage, was greatly upset by this peculiarity. He was playing Adrien de Mauprat to Phelps's Richelieu, and during his long speeches in the chamber scene Phelps was accompanying him in a semi-distinct murmur. At last, Rignold could stand it no longer. Breaking off in the middle of a speech, and descending from poetry to plain prose, he said, aloud: "Mr. Phelps, if you don't leave off mumbling and grumbling, I can't go on." Phelps was struck dumb at the young actor's temerity, and the rest of the scene proceeded in silence.

THE "LAL" BROUGH SALE AT SOTHEBY'S.

BY TOM CRAVEN.

FIRST DAY'S SALE.

One of our leading London dailies remarks that "the attendance was disappointing—one expected to see the sale-room crowded with stage celebrities." Well, as a matter of fact, there were but four faces familiar to the theatrical firmament—Miss Ellen Terry, Lyn Harding, Arthur Williams, and genial, smiling little Harry Randall, who, by the way, we may shortly expect to see in musical comedy, in which, I feel sure, he would be extremely successful. The question will be put, "Why was the sale-room at Sotheby's not packed by 'Lal's' legion of friends and admirers?" Well, I can give two reasons why dealers were overwhelmingly predominant. Brough's pictures and engravings—to which the whole of Wednesday was devoted, no less than 151 lots falling under Mr. Snowden's hammer—had so recently been seen hanging on the venerable walls of our dead friend's beloved home, Percy Villa, that many of his famed comrades and intimates who had held the dear old gentleman in the most affectionate esteem, could not face the ordeal of seeing "Uncle Lal's" cherished household goods being "put up" and "knocked down," so they commissioned agents to bid for them. Mr. Fred Terry's representative, for instance, made successful bidding for several Phil May etchings. Did not every little item bring a lump to one's throat, a suppressed tear to one's eye, especially to such as had often accepted the famous comedian's delightful hospitality at that veritable "Liberty Hall"—the quaint old rambling residence in South Lambeth-road, where "open house" was found by the humblest to the greatest, where John Burns often sought an hour's recreation, and revelled in Brough's inexhaustible store of unrivalled anecdotes? Again, Wednesday was an unfortunate day for a theatrical sale, for is it not the great matinée day of the week, and are not most of our stars in harness? Still, I maintain that had the goods sold been once the property of a lesser man than "Lal" they wouldn't have fetched half the price. As it was, the first day's sale of pictures realised the comfortable sum of £235 17s. 6d. Theatrical portraits, ancient and modern, were, of course, greatly in evidence, for what man, dead or alive, loved his profession more than their sometime owner? There were Shuters, Garricks, Quicks—Quick always tickled the fancy of George III.—Siddons, and Foote. By the way, talking of Foote, Brough once chatted to me regarding "thinning out" his all-too-crowded picture collection. "If I ever could bring myself to offer at auction any of my dear old theatrical engravings, I hope I shan't put my *Foote* in it." Messrs. Tooth and Sons were the purchasers of an exquisite signed proof by Haig, "Mount St. Michael," which realised £28; an engraving of Sir Walter Scott brought £11 5s.; a solitary (attributed) Whistler, "Trees in Hyde Park," only secured a sovereign. Some very early rough sketches ranged from a guinea to £4 6s. apiece. Phil May's sepias, black-and-white, and water-colours fetched £49 9s.; a water-colour by David Cox, signed and dated 1840, tempted many buyers, but fell at £4 6s. An oil-painting of "Lal" by Spurrier was bought by an admirer for ten guineas.

The second day was relegated to the sale of old china, theatrical relics, books ranging from octavo *et infra* to quarto and folio volumes. Sidney Brough, that favourite actor and only surviving son of Lionel Brough, was in attendance, and many other notabilities. Lot 230, Charles Dickens's "Is She His Wife?" a comic burletta, Pierce Egan's "Show Folks" (plates, 1831), Geo. Colman's "Heirs at Law" (1808), autographed by Brough, fell to a bid of £5 15s. Lot 270, Ackermann's "Microcosm of London; or, London in Miniature," was purchased by Mr. Fred Terry for £20. The manuscript play of *The Heathen Chinee*, as represented in the extravaganza of *Bluebeard* "atte ye Globe," from Dec., 1874, to July 3, 1875, with about a dozen beautifully executed water-colour drawings by Groenhill, and graced by Brough's autograph, went for £4 10s. Mr. Spencer secured a most interesting photograph album for the modest sum of £3 15s. A splendid collection of water-colour and pencil drawings, including one by John Hayter (signed), two by Gainsborough, and three by Phil May, became the possession of a lucky gentleman for the moderate sum of £11. Malton's "View of Dublin" settled down at £4 16s. A really unique collection of old playbills relating to Drury Lane, 1814-1815, and containing such immortal names as Kean, Elliston, and Wallach, succumbed at £7; and a collection of engravings of ancient and modern masters found a contented buyer at £2 12s. Little things, such as matchboxes and whatnot, absolutely of no intrinsic value, fetched fancy prices because they had once been held in the hands of Lionel Brough. The result of Sotheby's sale, irrespective of furniture, came to £496 17s.

Many of those present left this memorable sale thinking and talking of the irreparable loss we have, one and all, sustained by the departure of a famous comedian, raconteur, and never-failing friend. Many would willingly have given a far higher price than that commanded by the disposal of his effects could they, by some miracle, have purchased his recall.

A Dish for a King.

WHEN Ennis Lawson was a young man he was offered, and accepted, the heavy lead at Astley's Amphitheatre, then carried on as part theatre, part circus, and menagerie. He was to open in a piece called *The Monarch of the Woods*. At rehearsal, when Ennis made his entrance in the third act, the stage-manager said to him, "Oh, Mr. Lawson, he follows you on here." Ennis looked round, but could see nobody on the scene but himself, so he naturally inquired, "Where is the gentleman?" "Oh, he's not here this morning!" "And do I address this long speech to him at night?" "No; you take no notice of him at all; but when you make your exit he follows you off." "And, pray, who is this gentleman who dogs my footsteps?" "Why, the lion, of course," said the stage-manager. "The Monarch of the Woods, you know. He's all right; he's old and quiet as a baby; he won't hurt you." "I'm not going to give him the chance," said Ennis, and threw up his part on the spot.

An Alarming Invitation.

WHEN Clarence Holt was with his company playing *New Babylon* at Sanger's Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, some of the actors were guests of William Sanger one night after the performance. Business was good, and William was in a jolly mood. He said to Holt, "What are you doing to-morrow, Clarence?" "Nothing particular," answered the tragedian. "Then come with me and we'll have a splendid outing. I'll drive you over to Margate, where Brother George's menagerie is stationed just now. We'll have a day with him; he'll show you everything worth seeing, and finish up by taking you with him through the den of lions." "Will he, by Jove?" said Clarence; "not if I know it. I've just remembered that my book's full for to-morrow. I've a particular appointment in town to-morrow. Thank you all the same!"

THE Gordon Highlanders stormed the Lyceum on Wednesday evening by invitation of the management, and thoroughly enjoyed the performance of *The Fighting Chance*. The men, in scarlet tunic, kilts, and tartan plaid, arrived in groups shortly before seven, and were accommodated in the dress circle, the officers being seated in the stalls. During an interval the orchestra played Scottish airs, and the dress circle lustily sang "Auld Lang Syne" to the music of the band.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Old Friends, piece, in one act, by J. M. Barrie (Repertory Theatre); Duke of York's, March 1.
The Sentimentalists, unfinished comedy, by the late George Meredith (Repertory Theatre); Duke of York's, March 1.
The Twelve-Pound Look, play, in one act, by J. M. Barrie (Repertory Theatre); Duke of York's, March 1.
Plain Fare, comedietta, by Lila Field; Playhouse, March 3.
The Goldfish, fairy play, in one act; Playhouse, March 3.
The Fighting Chance, drama, in four acts, by Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews; Lyceum Theatre, March 5.
The Way the Money Goes, play, in three acts, by Lady Bell (matinée production at the Shaftesbury on Feb. 14, 1910), placed in the evening bill; Royalty, March 7.
The Passing of the Ironside, dramatic incident, in one act, by P. E. Slayton; Rehearsal Theatre, March 7.
Double Dummy, play, in one act, by Mr. B. Macdonald Hastings (amateur production); Cripplegate Institute, March 8.
The Madras House, comedy, in four acts, by Granville Barker (Repertory Theatre); Duke of York's, March 9.
The Spider and the Fly, farcical interlude (produced privately); Criterion, March 10.
Spooner's Baby, farcical sketch (recently produced at the Tivoli, Manchester), privately produced; Criterion, March 10.
Two Merry Monarchs, musical play, in two acts, book by Arthur Anderson and George Levy, lyrics by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick, music by Orlando Morgan; Savoy, March 10.
Festa D'Aderno, drama (The Sicilians); Lyric, March 11.
What a Man Made Her, drama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell (originally produced at the Albert Theatre, Brighouse, Sept. 20, 1909); Elephant and Castle, March 14.
Her Path of Sorrow, drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, March 14.
Wat, play, in three acts, by Walter Savage Cooper (produced by amateurs); Cripplegate Institute, March 14.
Lady Betty, comedietta, by F. E. French; Royalty, March 14.
The Toymaker of Nuremberg, play, in three acts, by Austin Strong, matinée production; Playhouse, March 15.
Cavalier Pedagna, Italian comedy, in three acts (The Sicilians); Lyric, March 18.
The Old Home, drama, in four acts, by Roland Yorke (originally produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, May 11, 1908); Theatre Royal, Stratford, March 21.
Auld Robin Gray, play, in one act, by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles; Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, March 21.
The Artfulness of Ada, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Arthur Shirley (originally produced at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, Feb. 28, 1910); Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, March 21.
Miss Vassey, play, in one act, by Miss Elizabeth Baker; Court Theatre, March 20.
Cupid in Clapham, fantasy, in one act, by Miss Elizabeth Baker; Court, March 20.
The Frame, sketch, by Ronald Macdonald; Court, March 20.
The Gulf, sketch, by Affleck Scott; Court Theatre, March 20.
Count Festenberg, play, in one act, by Felix Salten; Shaftesbury Theatre, March 21.
Life's Importance, drama in miniature, by Felix Salten; Shaftesbury Theatre, March 21.
The Return, play, in one act, by Felix Salten; Shaftesbury Theatre, March 21.
The Marauder, play, in one act, by Mrs. Caleb Porter; Adelphi, March 21.
Alias Jimmy Valentine, drama, in three acts, by Paul Armstrong, suggested by O. Henry's short story, "A Retrieved Reformation"; Comedy Theatre, March 29.
The Raven's Cry, romantic drama, in three acts, by D. Janitsch; Strand Theatre, March 29.

Revivals.

The Scarlet Pimpernel, play, in four acts, by Baroness Orczy and Montague Barstow (originally produced at the New Theatre on Jan. 5, 1905); New, March 12.
Otello, Italian version of Shakespeare's tragedy (The Sicilians); Lyric, March 21.
The Whip, drama, by Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton; Drury Lane Theatre, March 25.
The Merry Wives of Windsor, Shakespeare's comedy, performed by Sir Herbert Tree and company for the inauguration of the London Shakespeare Festival; His Majesty's, March 28.

Provinces.

For Old Time's Sake, domestic romance, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill; Carlton Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham, March 21.
Red Ria, play, in one act, by Gertrude and Jack Landa (produced by Miss Horniman's company); Gaiety, Manchester, March 28.
The King's Romance, play, in four acts, by E. Vivian Edmonds; Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, March 28.
The Welsh Maid, musical drama, in prologue and three acts, by James Bateman, lyrics by C. F. Hornibrook, music by Harry Richardson; Prince's Theatre, Horwich, March 28.
The Beggar Princess, play, in four acts, by Mrs. L. C. Cassidy; Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, March 28.
Our First Dinner, comedietta, by Florence Lloyd; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, March 7.
Captain of the Hosts, play, in three acts, by Rutherford Mayne; Grand Opera House, Belfast, March 8.
The Truth About De Courcy, comedy, in three acts, by George J. Hamlen and Alfred Wareing; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, March 14.
The Last Man In, play, in one act, by W. B. Maxwell; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, March 14.
Miss Plaster of Paris, musical comedy, by Henry Wardroper and Henry L. Osmond; Pier Pavilion, New Brighton, March 14.
I Want To Be Loved, drama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell; Prince of Wales's Theatre, Great Grimsby, March 30.

Paris.

La Beffa, drama, in four acts, by Benelli, French version by J. Richepin; Théâtre Sarah-Bernhardt, March 2.
Rêve de Valse, operette, in three acts, by Oscar Strauss, French adaptation by Xanrof and Chancel; Apollo, March 3.
Leone, opera, in four acts, by Montorgeuil, music by Samuel Rousseau; Opéra-Comique, March 8.
La Conscrite, vaudeville, in three acts, by Raoul Hugo; Folies-Dramatiques, March 10.
Le Bois sacré, comedy, in three acts, by G. de Caillavet and R. de Flers; Variétés, March 12.
L'Ecole des Ménages, play, in five acts, by Honoré de Balzac; Odéon, March 14.
Xantho chez les courtisanes, comedy, in three acts, by J. Richepin; Bouffes-Parisiens, March 17.
Le jeune homme candide, in two acts, by P. Mortier; Bouffes-Parisiens, March 17.
Le Colonel Ronchonot, vaudeville, in three acts, by G. Frison; Cluny, March 18.
Chauffeur d'occasion, in one act, by F. Chapiseau and E. Dupont; Cluny, March 18.

Berlin.

Kalif Storch; four-act farcical opera, by M. Esmann; Volks-Oper, March 9.
Strcber, four-act play, by A. Ohorn; Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches, March 11.
Das Nachtlicht, farce, in three acts, by Miquel Zamacois; Residenz, March 17.
Luxuszug, comedy, in four acts, by Abel Hermant; Kleines, March 18.
Die Dorfcomtesse, three-act operetta, by R. Danziger; Thalia, March 18.
Der Liebestompel, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Otto and Rembe; Lustspielhaus, March 19.
Die Klapperstorch der Königin, three-act farce, by Karl Boetcher; Luisen, March 21.
Robins Ende, comic opera, by Eduard Kunecke; Komische Oper, March 23.
Ostern, drama, in three acts, by August Strindberg; Hebbel, March 24.
Die Rampe, four-act play, by Henri de Rothschild; New Schauspielhaus, March 26.
Die goldene Freiheit, three-act comedy, by Cosmo G. Lennox; Lustspielhaus, March 26.
Das Versöhnungsfest, comedy, in one act, by Rudolf Presber; Lustspielhaus, March 26.
Gawân, play, in five acts, by Eduard Stucken; Deutsches Chamber Plays, March 30.

CRICKET.

New Theatre (Cambridge) v. "Catch of the Season."

Played at the Old Chesterton Recreation Ground on the 15th inst. Rain stopped play, and the game ended in a draw. Scores:

New Theatre.—Simmonds, c Mallett, b Hogg, 2; Dye, c Ommanney, b York, 1; Laughton, c Mallett, b Ommanney, 29; Weedon, b York, 0; Gray, c Mallett, b Hogg, 11; Bennett, b York, 0; Hammond, b Barker, 1; Adams, b Barker, 8; Biggs, b Gale, 5; Squires, b Gale, 0; Noakes, not out, 15; Payne, b York, 0; extras, 7; total, 79.

"The Catch of the Season."—Hogg, b Simmonds, 22; Gale, c Dye, b Simmonds, 13; Parish, b Laughton, 10; Ommanney, b Laughton, 0; Barker, lbw b Simmonds, 2; York, not out, 1; Comber, c Adams, b Laughton, 0; extras, 2; total (6 wkts.), 50. Neale, Mather, Mallett, West, and Humphreys did not bat.

Mr. Maxwell Stewart, the manager, officiated as umpire. During the early part of the afternoon Messrs. Murray King and Clark, the managers of *The Catch of the Season* company, were interested spectators of the game.

A cricket match took place this week at Bedford, on Bedford Grammar School ground, between a mixed eleven from the Universities of Cambridge and the members of Messrs. Murray King and Clark's *Catch of the Season* company, captained by Mr. Charles C. Ommanney. Scores attached:—

"Catch of the Season."—Hogg, b Yorke, 0; Gale, not out, 31; Lamb, b Wigg, 0; Barker, c and b Wigg, 9; Fenton, c and b Amps, 7; Combe, c and b Amps, 3; Ommanney (captain), c Scales, b Amps, 4; West, run out, 3; Nailer I., b Wigg, 18; Dawson, b Wigg, 0; Nailer II., c Bennett, b Wigg, 0; extras, 4. Total, 79.

Cambridge Universities.—Wigg, b Fenton, 4; Parish, stumped Ommanney, b Fenton, 9; Amps, b Hogg, 1; Neale (captain), c Lamb, b Hogg, 4; Yorke, b Fenton, 0; Bennett, c Nailer, b Fenton, 4; Lindall, b Fenton, 0; Banyard, b Fenton, 0; Scales, b Hogg, 0; Brown, b Hogg, 0; Giordano, not out, 0; extras, 8; wides, 2. Total, 32.

Large and fashionable crowds are to be found at the Stow Hill Rink, Newport, at each session. On Thursday night a fancy dress carnival was held in aid of the Newport and Monmouthshire Hospital. The arrangements were in the hands of the Mayoress (Mrs. W. Blackburn) and a strong committee, who have been devoting a great deal of time to the necessary work. There were a large number of competitions for many prizes, and the events attracted a big entry.

DEATH OF MR. SYDNEY SHAW.

The death of Sydney Shaw, after a long and painful illness, which took place on Tuesday at Prairie Cottage, Barnes, S.W., removes a well-known figure from the ranks of musical comedy productions. Born in Liverpool forty-five years ago, Mr. Shaw was originally intended for the medical profession, but his passionate love of music was soon demonstrated. He first studied under the late Dr. Rohner, of Liverpool, and produced his opera, *Love's Trial*, at the Queen's Hall in that town at the early age of sixteen. He was then sent to the Conservatoire of Music, Leipsic, and passed all examinations with highest honours. While in residence there he received an invitation from the late Abbé Liszt, which to the end was one of his most treasured possessions.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Shaw produced his oratorio *Gethsemane* at St. James's Hall, London, with Mr. Ben Davies and Mme. Clara Perry as principals. A more recent composition, "The Irish Guards' March," was graciously accepted by her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The deceased musician was a brilliant pianist, violin, and violoncello player, and has conducted over a score of operas in every town in the United Kingdom, among the more notable works being Rossini's *Cinderella* (with the late Georgina Burns and Leslie Crotty), *Fauvette*, *Pepita*, *The Old Guard*, *Falka*, *Dorothy*, *His Excellency*, *The French Maid*, *Orlando Dando* (with the late Dan Leno), *The Silver Slipper*, *A Country Girl*, *The Girl from Kay's*, *the Duchess of Dantzic*, *Sergeant Brue*, *Miss Hook of Holland*, *Havana*, and *The Geisha*. He leaves a widow, known in musical comedy as Miss Adela Rane, to mourn his loss.

[*Photo by Angell.*

THE LATE MR. SYDNEY SHAW.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the Committee dealing with the Annual Theatrical Sports, held on Thursday night, Mr. J. Cullen, master carpenter of the St. James's Theatre, in the chair, and others in attendance being Messrs. C. T. Cory (Vaudeville), Philip Sheridan (Strand Theatre), Philip Raphael (Lyceum), H. Porter (Criterion Theatre), Wm. Pullinger (Globe Theatre), H. J. Kemp, C. Thorogood, A. Malcolm, and Wm. Johnson, Hon. Secretary, the replies received were read, and it was ultimately agreed that the committee undertake to organise the sports as usual, and that they be given on Tuesday, July 5, at the Stamford Bridge Sports Grounds.

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, has again consented to act as the hon. treasurer for the Sports Committee, and Mr. A. P. Horne, of the St. James's Theatre, will be the deputy-chairman. The following were appointed as a sub-committee with power to add to their number: Messrs Cullen, Dyball, Sheridan, Raphael, Kemp, Thorogood, Porter, Malcolm, and C. T. Cory. A well-known actor is to be invited to be the chairman of the committee, and further particulars of the arrangments will be issued as soon as possible. Those who have been invited to act as one of the representatives of the committee at the various halls and theatres are requested to kindly intimate their intention to the hon. secretary at 29, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. C. Porter, who held the position of master carpenter at Terry's, Shaftesbury, and other theatres, has been appointed to that position at the Apollo Theatre.

The dinner given on Saturday to the staff of the Vaudeville Theatre by Mr. F. Anstey, author of *The Brass Bottle*, was the third given by the author of this play to the staff. The dinner was provided by Mr. E. W. Kent, of the Angel Hotel, City Road, and was well served and of excellent quality. Forty-seven members of the staff attended. Mr C. T. Cory, the popular master carpenter of the theatre, presided, and was supported by Mr. L. Mercanton, Mr. Claude Vernon, and Mr. H. Norton, the latter of whom will be the stage manager of the company going on tour in England.

After the dinner an entertainment was given, consisting of toasts, songs, recitations, &c., contributed by members and friends of the staff. During the evening a telegram was received from the author expressing the hope that all present would have an enjoyable evening. As a matter of fact every one enjoyed himself, and the whole affair was a great success.

The latest quotations of theatres and music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion (5), 3⅜; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires, (5), 4⅛; Oxford (5), 6⅜; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1; Tivoli, New (5), 6¼.

A great wrestling match has been arranged to take place at the Oxford Music Hall on Monday next, at 3 p.m., between John Lemm and André Cherpillod, the two champions. The contest is for £100, in the catch-as-catch-can style, the best two of three falls, fifteen minutes between each fall, the match to be contested to a finish.

Mme. Réjane paid a visit on Wednesday to Mr. Pett Ridge's Home for East End Babies at Hoxton. No actress has ever had a younger or more appreciative audience. Mme. Réjane ran from cot to cot, and sympathy shone in her eyes as Mrs. Bland Sutton, one of the organisers, briefly explained something of the sadness of each case. "I have an idea," said Mme. Réjane. "Why not have a Birthday Gift Day, as we do in France? On a birthday or a day of remembrance for some dear loved one, let the kind-hearted make a donation to pay the expenses of such a home as this for one day. It is a trifle for some—but how much for these brave little ones!"

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(From our own correspondent.)

NEW YORK, April 5.—Mrs. Fiske began her annual engagement in this city on Easter Monday at the Lyceum Theatre, appearing in *Pillars of Society*, a play, in four acts, by Henrik Ibsen. This is the fourth play from the pen of the Norwegian dramatist in which Mrs. Fiske has appeared, and it may be remarked that such popularity as Ibsen enjoys in this country is largely due to her efforts. In 1902 her impersonation of Nora, in *A Doll's House*, at the Manhattan Theatre, aroused extraordinary interest. During the following year Mrs. Fiske appeared at Hedda Gabler at the same theatre, and during her engagement at the Lyric Theatre in December, 1907, she was seen for the first time as Rebecca West, in *Rosmersholm*. In *Pillars of Society* she enacts the rôle of Lona Hessel. The rest of the cast is as follows: Karsten Bernick, Mr. Holbrook Blinn; Mrs. Bernick, Mrs Virginia Kline; Johan Tonnesen, Mr. Edward Mackay; Hilmar Tonnesen, Mr. Cyril Chadwick; Dr. Rorlund, Mr. Henry Stephenson; Bummel, Mr. Fuller Mellish; Dina Dorf, Miss Merle Maddern; Aune, Mr. Sheldon Lewis; and Olaf, Master Gregory Kelly. Mr. Stephenson is remembered here as the Messenger, in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Mellish came here with Mr Martin Harvey, and has quite an honourable record on the American stage. He played the part of Rector Kroll, in Mrs. Fiske's production of *Rosmersholm*, and last season did good work as Sir Oliver Holt, in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*.

At Maxine Elliott's Theatre last week the Equality League of Self-supporting Women had a benefit performance, three plays being presented. Miss Elliott lent the theatre and recited a poem, and the sum of $1,000 was raised for the cause. The first play, *Before the Dawn*, by Bessie Hatton, illustrated the horrors of the days when young ladies were expected to marry, whether they wanted to or not. The young woman in the play is an exceedingly proper young person of twenty-four, born and brought up long before the days of suffragettes, and without any "rights" to speak of. The mother and father are hopelessly old-fashioned in their ideas. The former is delighted that Caroline is "getting on so beautifully with the 'Maiden's Prayer,'" and the latter declares that it is a woman's place to bring children into the world and attend to her husband's comfort. Accordingly, he vetoes the suggestion that the girl be sent to a finishing school, although the son must go to Rugby to be prepared for his proper place in the world. A clash comes with the appearance of a friend of the girl, an emancipated creature who has the temerity to ride in a hansom alone, a proceeding that shocks Caroline's mother beyond expression. This awful person suggests that Caroline go with her to Paris, there to become self-supporting. But the idea of her daughter earning a living for herself is too much for the mother, and, in the end, Caroline has to accept an undesirable suitor rather than face the awful danger of becoming an old maid. The second play was called *A Woman's Influence*, and showed how a Mrs. Lawrence tried to interest her husband in factory reform, and failed, while a flighty young widow played on his vanity and succeeded. The principal parts in this play were cleverly acted by Miss Haidee Wright and Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson. In the third play, *How the Vote was Won*, by Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John, the vexed question was answered quite easily, the solution of the problem being set for the "near future." The dependent women of the piece accept the edict of man, that their place is the home, and instead of making a living for themselves, settle on their nearest male relative. Several of them settle on a clerk, who earns a very moderate salary, causing him to become an earnest advocate of the "rights of women." The latter piece was extremely amusing, the arguments being presented in a vein of delightful satire, and the principal parts were admirably acted by Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, Miss Mollie Pearson, Mr. Ernest Glendinning, and Miss Kate Carlyon.

NEW YORK, April 13.—*A Skylark*, a musical comedy in two acts, by Wm. Harris, jun., with music by Frank G. Dossert, was produced by Mr. Henry B. Harris at the New York Theatre on the 4th inst. Miss May De Sousa had the principal singing part, and Mr. John Slavin was the chief comedian. The first act is laid on board the good ship Pegasus. A party of American tourists are on their way to Greece. In mid-ocean a storm arises and Neptune comes aboard and invites the travellers to accompany him to Mount Olympus. The second act is picturesque and quite different from the usual run of musical comedies. It shows the abode of Jupiter and the immortals, and is beautifully mounted. Jupiter welcomes the visitors, since it has long been his intention to introduce on Olympus the more modern ideas of earth. The gods and the mortals intermingle and fall in love with one another and the situations that arise are more or less amusing. Mr. Slavin, as Rubin Smith, a yokel, is comical. As Christine Parling Miss De Sousa sang "When love is there," a very pretty song that made a distinct hit, and her performance pleased the audience immensely. Miss Clarice Vance appeared as Juno, and her songs were very well received. She sang "And I believe him" in her effective conversational way, and her popularity was great. Mr. Eddie Garvey, who "doubled up" as Casey, a courier, and Cupid, was funny in both parts. Mr. John Dunsmure, too, who used to be with the Bostonians, first came on the scene as Captain Cook, and afterwards played Bacchus. Mr. Dunsmure sang well, and so did Mr. Harrison Brockbank as Neptune. Miss Hazel Cox was an attractive Venus, who rode in a chariot with illuminated wheels. Mr. Leslie Gage was good in a juvenile rôle. As Rosalie Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt was a charming flower-girl. Her song and dance with Mr. Slavin, "The chicken and the frog," was an entertaining item, and her impersonations of Puck and Diana were pleasing. The chorus and dancing girls were handsomely costumed, and the piece, as a whole, was well worth seeing.

The Ben Greet Players gave an excellent representation of *The Tempest* at the Garden Theatre last week.

Debussy's interesting opera *Peleas und Melisande* has been revived, after a long interval, at the Komische Oper, Berlin, meeting with the same appreciation as on its former production. Director Gregor is taking it in a few days on a lengthy provincial tour.

Mr. Edwards Davis, who used to be a minister in Oakland, Cal., is appearing at the New York vaudeville houses in a dramatisation of Oscar Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray." He impersonates Cyril Vane, and the name-part is played by his wife, who is known on the stage as Adele Blood. According to the newspapers Mr. Davis is an "M.A." and a "D.D." He once preached in the glaring red garb of Mephistopheles because "people would always listen to the Devil," and also waltzed with a chair for a partner to show his congregation that dancing was no sin. The dramatic sketch in which he is now appearing contains speeches that are admittedly not Wilde's but his own, such as "No woman is too good to be true, but many a man thinks it's too bad he has to be good." "I never could believe a woman who would tell her age; a woman who would tell her age would tell anything." "Man can be happy with any delightful woman as long as he does not fall in love with her." Mr. Davis also introduces a song composed by himself, called "Drink for ever." To an interviewer he said: "If I returned to the ministry with the knowledge I have gained as an actor I think I could do more for Christianity than I did before."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our own correspondents.)

SYDNEY, March 15.—Her Majesty's.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Manager, Mr. G. L. Goodman.—*Aladdin*, the Melbourne pantomime of "the firm," was transplanted here on the 14th, when, in spite of torrential rain, the house was packed. Miss Lily Iris is the Aladdin—comely, tuneful, and vivacious, becoming a favourite at once. A hearty welcome home was given to Harry Phydora, whose Widow Twankey kept the laughter-pot simmering all the time. The Emperor gives Mr. J. M. Campbell lots of opportunities for joke and songs. Mr. Edwin Lester is a genuine Demon King; and Miss Stella Selbourne presents a statuesque Pekoe. A little part, Nicee, gives Miss Nana Maher some bright moments; and Price and Revost are the acrobatic relief. Scenery, fire effects, fine chorus and ballet, good rousing orchestra, led by Andrew McCunn, and splendid crowds all well dressed make this a welcome bill of fare.

Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton are still playing *The Merchant of Venice* at the Criterion; but on Easter Saturday, the 26th, *As You Like It*, with Miss Brayton as Rosalind and Mr. Asche as Jaques, will be staged.

"A Waltz Dream" is transferred to the Royal, but it leaves for an Easter season at Perth, West Australia. Then the Royal, on the 26th, will be occupied by the Grand Opera Company. *Madame Butterfly* is in full rehearsal under Signor Roberto Hazon.

"The Luck of Roaring Camp," very little like the story save in the title, is filling the Palace, and will do so until Saturday next.

The Tivoli fills to see the wonderful feats of the Wille Brothers. Next come Vasco, the mad musician; Lillie Langtry; Kelly and Pearce, in a new sketch, *The Girl from Yonkers*; Dolly Dormer; Olga Grey, and a host already mentioned, who give Mr. Harry Rickards' patrons a very fine show.

Miss Ruby Isabel Michael gave her first vocal recital at the Y.M.C.A. hall on the 12th. The new soprano has a clear-cut, brilliant style, distinct enunciation, and attractive appearance. For concert work she will be a valuable asset. Among those assisting was Miss Mab Fotheringhame, a charming balladist.

MELBOURNE, March 14.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. J. B. Mouirie.—The laughter-provoking farcical comedy *The Night of the Party* continues to amuse large audiences. Messrs. Willoughby and James are well suited in their parts, and the company supports them very capably. Owing to the theatre being taken for Easter *The Night of the Party* can only be played for nine more nights.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—*The Lion and the Mouse*, produced by Mr. Julius Knight and Miss Katherine Grey, is a play which fully justifies the interest taken in it by the full houses which witness it nightly. The acting of Mr. Knight and Miss Grey is forcible throughout the piece, and they are ably supported by a strong company. Judging from present appearances *The Lion and the Mouse* will run for some considerable time.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—*Sergeant Brue* is now, after being made an inspector for two weeks, thinking of retiring from the stage. The last eight nights are announced. Full houses have attended this entertaining musical comedy since its opening night, and Melbourne playgoers will be sorry to say farewell to Messrs. Meynell and Clarke's popular opera company, who make their final appearance in Melbourne in this production.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* pursue the tenor of their way at this theatre. Miss Duggan has many opportunities in her part of Monica; and Mr. George Cross makes a very satisfactory Prince Olaf; while the rest of the company fill their various rôles satisfactorily. *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* will run till Easter.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The reappearance of Mr. Harry Marte, comedian and dancer, took place on Saturday. The last week of Houdini is announced; and the Brothers Martine will remain on the bill for the same limited time. Tom Parker and the other members of the company contribute excellent items to the programme. On Saturday evening next Mlle. De Dio will make her reappearance for a short farewell season.

Miss Nellie Stewart will inaugurate a season, under the direction of Mr. J. C. Williamson, at the Princess's Theatre on Easter Saturday with the production, for the first time in Australia, of J. M. Barrie's comedy, *What Every Woman Knows*.

A GRAMOPHONE RECITAL.

At Æolian Hall on Monday afternoon a gramophone concert, given by Mr. Alfred Hays, attracted a large audience. The platform was prettily decorated with flowers and plants, and a number of very fine gramophones. Mme. Clara Butt was the prima donna on Monday afternoon, and the great contralto was first heard in Liddle's beautiful song "Abide with me." It was curious to note how the gramophone brought out the masculine tones, one of the distinctive features of Mme. Butt's powerful voice. Mme. Butt was also heard in Handel's recitative and air "He shall feed His flock"; but the vocalist's most telling record was "O rest in the Lord" (Mendelssohn), which was superbly delivered by the fine instrument. The audience also greatly enjoyed "Lolita," the Spanish serenade of Buzzi Pecci, delightfully sung by Signor Caruso. In this record the castanet accompaniment was very distinct and effective. Signor Caruso was also heard in the "Flower Song" from *Carmen*. In this case, however, the opera orchestra tended slightly to confuse the tenor's notes. The very best results were obtained when the vocalist was alone heard on the record, accompanied by the small but excellent orchestra, conducted by Mr. Clarence W. Green, that greatly added to the attraction of the recital on Monday. The famous tenor sang the "Romance" from Meyerbeer's *Les Huguenots*, and was associated with Mme. Alda in the miserere scene from *Il Trovatore*. This was a perfect triumph for the gramophone, for the tenor's splendid ringing notes filled the hall as if he stood on the platform, and made one wish the modest record would have given an encore. Mr. Eli Hudson's piccolo solo "Birds of the field," was much admired; and the comic song of Mr. George Grossmith, jun., "Yip-I-Addy-I-Ay," and "The sergeant of the line," sung by Mr. Harry Dearth, were loudly applauded. Quite a feature of the recital was the Court Orchestra, under Mr. Clarence Green, who admirably played the intermezzo "Topeka," march "Under the banner of victory," and a pretty waltz of Davson. The large Æolian pipe organ was heard during the afternoon in the *William Tell* overture, in which the wind effects of the composer were finely displayed.

Mr. Chas. T. Aldrich, the famous American artist, tops the bill at the Empire, Newport, this week, and has met with a warm reception, and has again proved his wonderful ability. The Three Van Dammes are a laughable trio of clever acrobats; the Empire Comedy Four combined fun and cleverness; Jewel St. Leger is the possessor of a beautiful soprano voice, which she uses to great effect; Cumminger and Colonna are an unique pair of sand-dancers; Larry Lewis, a really quaint comedian, finds much favour; and Violet Stockelle, the Lyric Quartette, and the Empire Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

Not "Good in Parts" but good all through and all the time.

THE FINEST CANVAS,
THE PUREST RUBBER,
THE BEST WORKMANSHIP.
Consequently,
THE LONGEST MILEAGE,
THE LEAST FRICTION,
THE LOWEST COST.

Write for Booklet "ASK THE ROAD" from Sole Manufacturers, THE B. F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

Goodrich Tyres

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 25.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Grand T., Mansfield.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
AMSTERDAM.—P.O.W., Birmingham.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Osborne T., Manchester.
AN OLD MAN'S DARLING.—T. R., Stockport.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
ARCADIANS, THE (No. 1).—Newcastle.
ARE YOU THE MAN?—Gaiety T., Burnley.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O. H., Perth.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
BAINES, MISS FLORENCE.—O. H., St. Helens.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Smethwick.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Oswestry and Newtown.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—Royalty T., Chester.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—T. R., Plymouth.
BROKEN HEART, A.—Queen's T., Dublin.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Century T., Motherwell.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
CASSIDY, MR. J. RICE.—Queen's T., Manchester.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—T. R., Glasgow.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—County T., Reading.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—T. R., Bradford.
CHORUS LADY.—Grand T., Leeds.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—T. R., York.
CINGALEE, THE (B.).—Broadway T., Deptford.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Prince's T., Manchester.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—Tunbridge Wells.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—New T., Dinnington.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—T. R., Brighton.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—Grand T., Nottingham.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (N.).—New T., Cardiff.
DON.—Ipswich and Cambridge.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—T. R., Bournemouth.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Grand T., Doncaster.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—P.O.W., Mexborough.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—O. H., Burnley.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Prince's T., Accrington.
FAST LIFE, A.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
FIRES OF FATE.—T. R., Dublin.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
FLORODORA.—T. R., Edinburgh.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—T. R., Tonypandy.
FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Court T., Warrington.
FRIVOLITY.—O. H., Falkirk.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Pontypridd.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—Pier P., Hastings.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—T. R., Birmingham.
HAVANA.—Hippodrome, Blackburn.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—T. R., Ashton.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—County T., Kingston.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—Star T., Liverpool.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Castleford.
HIS REAL WIFE.—King's T., Longsight.
HUSH MONEY.—Empire T., Swindon.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—Lyceum T., Govan.
ITALIAN GRAND OPERA.—T. R., Glasgow.
KING OF CADONIA (CURZON).—T. R., Barrow.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Chipping Norton, Lydney.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—P. O. W., Great Grimsby.
LODGE PERCY, MR. J. C.—O. H., Wakefield.
LOMATH, MR. STUART.—Queen's T., Longton.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—New Hall, Bargoed.
LUCKY DURHAM.—O. H., Blackpool.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—O. H., Torquay.
MADAM X.—King's T., Glasgow.
MERCHANT OF VENICE.—H. M. T., Dundee.
MERRY PEASANT.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
MERRY WIDOW.—King's T., Greenock.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—T. R., Portsmouth.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Junction T., Manchester.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Worthing.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—T. R., Chatham.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—T. R., Hyde.
MISS PLASTER OF PARIS.—Workington.
MISS TOMMY.—Grand T., Leeds.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Grand T., Nelson.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—T. R., Leeds.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—Winter Gdns., New Bright'n.
MOTHER-IN-LAW.—Castle T., Stockton.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—Cambridge and Oxford.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—P., Eastbourne.
NAKED TRUTH.—T. R., Manchester.
NEW BOY, THE.—O. H., Leicester.
OLD HOME, THE.—King's T., Seasombe.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Star T., Swansea.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Court T., Liverpool.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Coronet T., W.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—King's T., Sunderland.
PASSION OF LIFE.—Paisley T., Paisley.
PETE (N.).—O. H., Southport.
PETE (S.).—T. R., Rotherham.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID—Gaiety T., Hastings.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
RAINBOWS, THE.—Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea.
RAYNARS REPERTOIRE CO.—Empire T., Oldham.
ROLLICKING ROBY.—T. R., Leicester.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Bolton.
SEXTON BLAKE.—T. R., Sheffield.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—T. R., Edmonton.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
SILVER KING.—Court T., Wigan.
SINNER, THE.—T. R., Stratford.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.
SINS OF A CITY.—T. R., Sunderland.
SISTER'S SIN, A.—Palace T., Bordesley.
SORROWS OF SATAN.—Palace T., Gloucester.
STILL ALARM.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
TEMPTATION.—T. R., Macclesfield.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
THIEF, THE.—Brighton.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—T. R., Bradford.
TOM JONES.—Grand T., Swansea.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Lyceum T., Newport.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Leigh.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Gaiety T., Methil.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Blythe.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Grand T., Lancaster.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
WHEN A LASS LOVES.—T. R., Bury.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Ebbw Vale.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—P. O. W., Salford.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—O. H., Cheltenham.
WHITE MAN, A.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—T. R., Whitehaven.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Rochdale.
WITH EDGED TOOLS.—Pavilion T., Weymouth.
WOMAN IN THE CASE (N.).—T. R., Nottingham.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—Abertillery and Mountain Ash.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
WOMAN'S PAST.—T. R., North Shields.
WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—Empire T., Southend.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Maurice Farkoa—Saturday, April 23.
Ernest Dottridge—Saturday, April 23.
W. Scott Phipp—Saturday, April 23.
Cyril Maude—Sunday, April 24.
Hutin Britton—Sunday, April 24.
Mabel Marshall—Sunday, April 24.
J. W. Cordiner—Sunday, April 24.
George Lashwood—Monday, April 25.
Douglas Campbell—Monday, April 25.
B. W. Garden—Wednesday, April 27.
Gabrielle Ray—Thursday, April 28.
Kate Terry—Thursday, April 28.
Mildred Blanchard—Thursday, April 28.
George Leyton—Thursday, April 28.
C. F. Collings—Thursday, April 28.
Cecil Morton York—Friday, April 29.
Alix Lukos—Friday, April 29.
Mrs. Chisholm Taylor—Friday, April 29.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

HUGO FORD.—(1) *The lady does not advertise in any of the professional papers, and we cannot therefore trace her movements.* (2) *We do not know.*

HELEN M. AVERILL.—"*Within recent years*" *is very indefinite. Fix the period, and we will endeavour to oblige. Do you place musical comedies in the category?*

R. B.—*It is impossible for anyone but the comedian himself to answer your question. Write to him, enclosing stamped, addressed envelope. He is on tour. You will find his address on our back page.*

LEVY (Express).—Santa Claus, Jun., *was produced by Robert Arthur at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Dec. 22, 1902, with Ada Reeve in the title-rôle and Miss Edythe Langton in the part of Ohana, the Japanese flower girl. Ed. Jakobowski was responsible for, at any rate, part of the music.*

CALDECOT (Camberwell).—*In our answer to you recently we were incorrect, as has been kindly pointed out by Mr. Edwin H. Spear.* Amy Robsart *was originally produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Sept. 24, 1870, and Mr. T. C. King, the well-known tragedian, played Varney on that occasion. The production in 1871 was a revival. The piece was adapted by Andrew Halliday from Scott's novel "Kenilworth."*

H. D. (Surrey).—*To copyright sketches have them played in a licensed theatre. Previous to this, however, they should be registered at Stationers' Hall, where you may apply for the necessary forms. A copy should then be submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, whose office is at St. James's Palace, S.W., for the Censor's sanction. The fee is one guinea for a stage play of less than three acts. Consult Albert Strong's* Musical and Dramatic Law, *published at our offices. See notice above.*

VOCALIST (Chesterfield).—(1) *For the songs you mention try Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew's, 16, Mortimer-street, London, W.; Charles Sheard and Co., 196, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.; and Tate, music seller, Aldwych, Strand, W.C. "My darling Nellie Ray" (not "Gray"), "The Little one that died," and "Her eyes don't shine like diamonds" were published by Messrs. Chas. Sheard and Co., and may be out of print. "A boy's best friend is his mother" is one of Messrs. Francis and Day' publications.* (2) Babil and Bijou *was produced at Covent Garden, Aug. 29, 1872, with the following cast: Melusine, Miss Murray; Skepsis, Mr. J. B. Howe; Pragma, Mrs. John Billington; Bijou, Miss Annie Sinclair; Phassilis, Prince of Lutetia, Mr. Joseph Maas; Typocompos, Mr. Wainwright; Auricomus, Mr. Lionel Brough; Mistigris, Mrs. Howard Paul; Lord Dundreary, Mr. G. Temple; and Princess Fortinbrasse, Leader of the Troops in the Silver City of the Moon, Miss Helen Barry, a magnificent specimen of womanhood, who played much more important parts in her later career.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

COHEN.—On the 18th inst., at the Paragon, Mile End-road, the wife of Jack E. Cohen, of a son.
DUNN.—April 16, the wife of Wallace Bosco, of a boy.

MARRIAGES.

ASHBROOK-JEFFERY.—April 15, at Sherborne, by licence, Alfred Jeffrey to Miss Blanche Ashbrooke (daughter of Tom Ashbrooke), both of Victoria Theatre, Sherborne.
FOLLISS-SCOTT.—April 14, at Kirkcaldy, by special licence, Mr. Percy Folliss to Miss Jean Scott.

DEATHS.

DEVENISH.—April 18, at Rotherham, after six weeks' painful illness, rheumatic fever, Edith, dearly beloved and only child of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff (Cliff and Kean), aged eight years. Interment Abney Park Cemetery, London, Saturday, April 23. Thy will be done.
LOCKE.—April 10, at her father's residence, in London, Mrs. C. H. Locke, wife of the acting-manager, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
ROLLASON.—W. A. J. Rollason, professionally known as Alf. Ellerton, jun., composer and arranger, late musical conductor Palace, Greenwich, the dearly-loved and only son of Mr. and Mrs. Rollason, professionally known as Mr. and Mrs. Ellerton. Fell asleep Sunday, April 17, from heart failure. Age 20.
SHAW.—April 19, at Prairie Cottage, Barnes, S.W., Sydney Shaw, conductor and composer, aged 46.
THOMAS.—On April 19, 1910, at 74, Lady Margaret-road, Tufnell Park, after long illness and much suffering, Anne Kathrine Thomas (professionally known as Annie Brophy), widow of the late Frederick Aubrey Thomas, physician, and beloved mother of Euphemia Thompson, in her 52nd year. R.I.P.
WALTON-HEMMING.—April 17, at the Infirmary, Bristol, Sarah, the widow of Richard Walton-Hemming, and dearly-loved mother of Louie Walton.

IN MEMORIAM.

COMBER.—In loving memory of Jane Comber, the dearly beloved mother of May (Staples) and R. S. Comber, who died April 25th, 1908.
"Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still."
GEORGE.—In loving memory of Henry George (Ratcliffe), who passed away on April 26, 1908. R.I.P.
ROBINSON.—Major J. Estcourt Robinson, West Ealing, April 18, 1909. In affectionate, ineffaceable memory of a dear and true friend.—ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

AT the Empress Rink, Newport, the attendance of skaters and spectators has been well maintained. Last Saturday the Empress hockey team journeyed to Neath and played a match on the Neath Rink, a return game being arranged at this rink on April 28.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Achurch, Miss J.
Albery, Mrs.
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. S.
Allan, Mr. J.
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Beaute, Mr. V.
Beckett, Mr. J. B.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Benet, Mr. Harry
Bert, Mr. Hal
Blakeney, Mr. Geo.
Brooke, Miss Sara
Brunton, Miss E. S.
Burgess, Mr. J.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Campbell, Mrs. B.
Carden, Mrs. Sidney
Challis, Mr. R.
Chard, Mr. F. W.
Clarions, The
Clark, Mr. L.
Clements, Miss M.
Clifford, Mr. N.
Collins, Mr. Will
Cooper, Miss Gladys
Cooper, Mr. Daley
Coverdale, Miss Clara
Croneste, Mr. E.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Czais, Troupe
Dardisles, The
Dare, Mr. R. C.
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Dartigan
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Digby, Mr Chas.
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Earle, Mr. Fred
Edgar, Mr. Richard
Edwards, Miss Alice
Edwards, Mr. Will
Elliott, Miss Rosie
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Elton, Mr. Fred
Epitaux, Mr.
Erroll, Mr. J.
Esty, Miss Alice
Evans, Mr. Wash
Feeley, Mr. Dan
Fields, Miss Fanny
Filippi, Miss Rosina
Fillis, Mme.
Findon, Mr. Arthur
Franks, Mr. Sidney
Forbes-Robertson, Mrs.
Froude, Miss Kate
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Garner, Mr. Booth
Geraldos, The
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Green, Miss Evie
Grossi, Prof.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hallworth, Miss Jenny
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Hammond, Miss M. L.
Hayes, Mr. E. T.
Hayes, Mr. J.
Hazel, Mr. W.
Herberte, Miss M.
Hepworth, Miss Maud
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houseley, Miss Jenny
Howard, Mr. Tom
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Hunt, Mr. W. L.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Johnson, Mr. T. E.
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes
Langfords, The
Lawson-Wood, Mr. Geo.
Legarde, Miss M.
Leglere, Mr. L.
Leonard, Mr. Bert
Leonns, The
Lewes, Mr. Harold
Leyland, Mr. R.
Lupino, Mr. George
Madderson, Mr. Harry
Manning, Mr. James E.
Mansfield, Miss A.
Mansfield, Mrs. A.
Mauritius, Mr. Theo.
May, Miss Daisy
Mayne, Miss Clarice
McLellan, Mr. C. M. S.
Mead, Mr. David
Melbourne, Mr. A. E.
Metcalf, Mr. F.
Meux, Mr. Alex
Miles, Mr. A.
Mill, Mr. Paul
Mudie, Mr. George
Munro, Mr. George
Newsome, Mr. S. T.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Partridge, Mr. Norman
Patterson, Mrs.
Paul, Miss N.
Piccolo and Fiori
Proeser, Mr. L. P.
Ray, Miss Belle
Raymonde, Miss Susie
Reeves, Mr. Georges
Revelle, Mr.
Rezene, Mr. Charles
Rham Singh
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Rogers, Mr. Gilbert
Rowland, Mr. Harry
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Sheldon, Mr. George
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Stewart and Morgan
Swallow, Mr. J.
Symonds, Mrs. J. A.
Thorpe, Mr.
Vone, Mr. James
Walmer, Mr. C.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. J.
Willy Troupe
Winona and King
Wray, Miss Maud
Yesslin, Mr. Theodore
Zillwood, Miss Ruth
Zolas, The Four

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

THE Lessing Theatre, Berlin, has just commenced one of its famous Ibsen cycles, consisting of thirteen plays in chronological order. The chief artists of this well-nigh faultless company are participating.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Edward and Prince George, witnessed the performance of *Alias Jimmy Valentine* at the Comedy Theatre on Wednesday. The Prince of Wales thus paid his second visit to the production.

"THE CHORUS LADY," is at the Lyceum, Newport, with Miss Annie Hughes and Mr. William Mollison in the principal rôles. Miss Hughes makes a palpable hit in the rôle of Patricia O'Brien, and combines quaint humour and a touch of the dramatic. Miss Elsie Vron-Neville's Nora is charming. A playlet, *The Touch of the Child*, preceded, the characters being ably portrayed by Misses Helen Oliver and Jeannie Fitzgerald and Messrs. Mollison and Dean.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 353, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 314,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England. (Patent No. 16388/09 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Nightly at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30
The Stirring Military Drama,
"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
By Ed. Ferris and B. P. Matthews.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

For dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres, address Mr. Mulholland, King's Theatre, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées Thursday 2.30.
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, April 25, the Great Lyceum Drama,
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

WEST END THEATRE TO LET.
Immediate Possession.
Apply to
Messrs. Fladgate and Co.,
2, Craig's-court, Charing Cross, S.W.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Open Daily.
Beautiful Gardens of 200 Acres.
Fairy Archipelago, Organ, Bands, Zoo, &c. Sat., C.P. Orchestral Society's Grand Concert. Ed. German's "Princess of Kensington," at 8 p.m.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth," Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.

Maud Prenton, Three Dixons, Creo Bros., Cliff Ryland, May Moore Duprez, Chirgwin, Sisters Hall, Angus Strong, P. Davey's Co., in "Cock-a-Doodle-Doo," Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Paul Cavalli, Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture-holder), Frank Postlethwaite.
6.30. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

Flo Maynard and Co., Elven and Percival, Nine Dainty Dots, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Babs Lloyd, Alice Edwards, Barney Stuart, Jennie Moore, Litz Bros., Harry Wright, Helen Guest.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.

Harold Nuttall's Co., in "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler," Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Herbert Rule, Cassie Walmer, Harvard Sextette, Harry Brown, Norman Wrighton, Maude Vera, Lawrence Barclay, Ruffell's Bioscope, Five X Rays.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. Brien McCullough and Co., in "The Midnight London Express," Sisters Allen, Harry Levaine, Johnny Walker, Lorna Wright, Young and Evans, Phil Ray, Bioscope, Sable Fern and Co., in "Boys in Camp," Cup Tie Final on Bioscope, Cyclomina, Gicardo. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, April 25.
William Garland "Darkest America," Andy Gilmmel, Albert Morrow, Jules Charmettes, Francis Delaval and company, "Iron Bars," Violet Romaine Mr. E. Bros. Dean. The Evalos Bioscope, Derwent Hall Caine, "The Last Moment," Saledos, Blanche Vincent.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, April 25. Haines and Borthwick, The Gothams, Marguerite Broadfoote, Emley, Moss and Co., Little Muffett, Seigle and Fields, Dammerell and Rutland, Gordon Girls, Lilian Rose, Bros. Matthew, Netta Tucker, Larry Peate, Edisonsograph. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sat. 7); commence 7.40 (Sat. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Maxini and Bobby, Sam Elton, Coram, The Baltars, Jury's Pictures, Cup Final, &c.
Ballet, "THE POLAR STAR."
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
CITY AND SUBURBAN and PUNCHESTOWN RACES ON THE BIOSCOPE.
GEO. ROBEY.
"EAST AND WEST" BALLET.
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, M. BOLM, M. PESHKOFF, BEATRICE COLLIER, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Cornalla and Eddie, Elise Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
ANNA PAVLOVA, MICHAEL MORDKIN, RUSSIA'S GREATEST DANCERS, and CO. from the IMPERIAL BALLET, HORACE GOLDIN, ALBERT WHELAN, &c., PUNCHESTOWN RACES on BIOSCOPE, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme.
Saturdays at 2.0.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Walking the Hoop (10), by Archie Goodall. Wilkie Bard (10.15), May Moore Duprez, Phil Ray, Dan Crawley, Mark Sheridan, Frances Letty in new Scena, Oswald Williams, the great Illusionist Daisy Dormer, Ernest Shand, Fred Elton, W. T. Ellwanger and Co., Gertie Gitana, Dale and O'Malley, Hanid Alexander, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ted Waite, Gladys Huxley, Bioscope. Open 7.25; Sat. Matinées 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN, LOTTIE BELLMAN, VICTORIA MONKS, Ernest Shand, The Martineks, Gladys Sears, Lily Black, The Julius Gebhardt Troupe of Tegernseer, Alpine Singers and Dancers, Phi Ray, and G. H. Chirgwin.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commences Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
April 30, Trinity Term begins. The Operatic Class resumes the Rehearsal of "Les Cloches de Corneville" on Wednesday, May 4, at 6.30 p.m. Full particulars on application. SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd., Bombay;
or,
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BATTERSEA. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Battersea Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 27, July 4, 25, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England —Sunday Times.
Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Vacancies in July for First-class Attractions.
Address, Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and others.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the
TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 12, 13, 14 (three nights), all June, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Last week, "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
This week, MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.
Next week, "TWELFTH NIGHT."
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 15, and Oct. 17.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700. Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 3, 17, 24.

SOUTH SHIELDS — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with first-class attractions.
For vacant dates, apply as above.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Sound Attraction May 9.
Now booking Autumn.
All communications to be addressed
Sherwood and Co., OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 2, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Bracewell, Late Mr. Joseph	April 17, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Cascilli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	May 22, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Dougias	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herberi	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Cordiner, Mr. J. W.	April 10, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cray, Mr. Oswald	May 29, 1909
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davy, Mr. R. H.	May 8, 1909
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graham, Mr. J. F.	May 8, 1909
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1910.

CLUBS AND PLAYS.

The recent raid by the police on the Willesden Radical Club, consisting of nearly a thousand members, has drawn attention to the excessive privileges possessed by these associations, and also to the very lax and indulgent way in which they have been treated, both by the authorities and by dramatic authors. With the drunkenness at the club, to which the police swore, we have nothing to do; what struck our eye in reading the report of the hearing at Willesden Police Court was that Sir ARTHUR WING PINERO's fine play *His House in Order* was being performed to an audience of 300.

There have always been performances of plays by amateurs, but they did not seriously compete with those given at the regular theatres. The principal amateur dramatic clubs used once a year to give a performance at St. George's Hall, the profits of which were usually given to charity. So insignificant commercially were these entertainments that a very low rate of fees was charged by the authors and owners of the acting rights, and in the agreement between the author and the manager there was a clause excepting "club rights," which were left in the gift of the author as not worth considering. As it was, there were many attempts by a certain class of amateur societies in the provinces to avoid even these moderate fees and play the pieces for nothing; and vigilance had to be exercised to obtain information of these evasions.

But the clubs which are attracting the attention of the Theatres Alliance, and should attract the attention also of all managers and dramatic authors, are not amateur, but social. The Working Men's Club and Institute is a union of over 1,100 working-men's clubs and associations, spread over the country, with about 400,000 members. It issues to its clubs associate and pass cards, which give the holder the privilege of honorary membership of the other clubs of the Union in all parts of the country. It is the custom in a large number of these clubs to give variety entertainments and performances of plays. A subscription of half-a-crown a quarter carries with it the right of the member to introduce to the club, for performances, free of charge, two women and two children; and gives him also the right to introduce one man at the charge of one penny. All that the introducer has to do on entering the hall is to buy for each of the party a 2d. programme, having attached to it a voucher for a reserved seat, so that he is able to entertain himself and five other people at the cost of one shilling and a penny. A member of an affiliated club has the right to visit the club during these entertainments.

It is evident that the entertainments given at these clubs will seriously compete with those at the regular theatres. The fact that the pits and galleries of some of our theatres are less patronised than they used to be is partly due to the fact that the working-man will not pay to go to a regular theatre when he can see the same play at his club, and, if he chooses, get "helplessly" intoxicated, at a very much lower rate of payment.

Another point on which it is desirable to lay stress is that these places of amusement are quite beyond the control of the County Council as regards public safety. Precautions against fire practically do not exist; there are rarely any fire-extinguishing appliances or hydrants, and no safety curtain. When we think of the meticulous care with which the authorities watch over the safety of the public who assemble in licensed theatres, the almost harassing attention which they pay to the provision, at the managers' expense, of safety appliances and extra exits, the entire liberty to endanger the lives of His Majesty's lieges which is allowed to these clubs is astonishing. The theatre manager is, indeed, at a great disadvantage as regards their competition. He has to pay very much higher fees to perform the same plays as those presented at the clubs. He may not serve intoxicating drinks in the auditorium, or give performances on Sundays; and he must provide expensive safeguards against fire and any number of "extra exits," whereas the clubs may be, and generally are, absolute death-traps.

It is useless to expect any improvement in this state of things from the Government. No Cabinet dare run the risk of offending the masses and alienating from itself the "working-man's vote" by interfering with his pleasures. What is possible is for dramatic authors to awake to the importance of these clubs, to their vast number, and to their tremendous profits, and charge them considerably higher fees than they demand from the managers, who are the dramatists' best customers, and therefore should enjoy preferential treatment. In the evidence respecting the Willesden Radical Club it was stated that the drink bill for the past quarter was £936, and a balance-sheet showed that over £10 a day was taken in beer. The profits of these clubs, therefore, may easily be imagined; and they are quite able to pay high fees if their members desire to see the best modern plays. So profitable is the supply of entertainments to these clubs that a "Club Dramatic Managers' Association" exists, with a committee and secretary, and fifteen regularly-organised companies. Until a holocaust of men, women, and children takes place at one of these places nothing will be done to place them under proper control as regards safety from fire and panic. But the dramatic authors have the game in their own hands, and must throw in their lot with the managers. The ever-watchful Theatres Alliance and its vigilant honorary secretary, Mr. MOVERLEY SHARP, are working hard to awake the dramatists to a sense of the situation. Two committees have already been formed to go into the matter—one from the Alliance itself—consisting of Mr. F. FREDERICKS, Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND, and Mr. WENTWORTH CROKE—and another from the Touring Managers' Association—including Mr. LESLIE MORTON, Mr. MUSKERRY-TILSON, and Mr. LEVEAUX—and on Tuesday next a deputation from the joint committee will meet the leading dramatists to discuss the question. We await the result of the meeting with sympathetic interest.

THE MATINEE HAT QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I beg, through your columns, to suggest a solution of the matinée hat problem. The decision given last Friday by Mr. Curtis Bennett at Bow-street, "that a manager has a right to insist on a lady leaving the theatre if she refuses to remove an obstructing hat," does not materially alter the situation.

Under present conditions it would be absurd for managers to insist on the removal of all hats at matinées, as the dressing-room accommodation is altogether inadequate. Take the case of the Prince of Wales's Theatre. At every matinée of *The Balkan Princess* there are over two hundred and fifty ladies present in the stalls and dress circle alone. A fashionable hat is a wonderful creation, costing from ten to twenty guineas, which from its construction cannot hang on a peg, and requires for its proper preservation a special compartment at least two feet square. Imagine two hundred and fifty ladies scrambling for their hats after a performance.

Another vital question is the coiffure. Ladies dress their hair to suit their hats, and consequently do not appear to advantage when these are removed. A vital question!

No. The solution of the knotty problem rests with Dame Fashion, who is infinitely more powerful than the laws made by "mere man"; consequently I must appeal to Dame Fashion to solve the question.

To be suitably dressed for the occasion has always been considered "good form," and as Fashion has decreed that no really well-dressed lady can wear a feathered hat on the river, why should she not make it "bad form" to wear a picture hat at the theatre?

I suggest to the leaders of Fashion that the wearing of small toques should be made *de rigueur*. They would not obstruct the view, the hair would be dressed to suit the toque, and should the wearer have to attend a lunch before the performance or a reception after, the position would be understood and the lady would be considered absolutely up-to-date.

In furtherance of this idea I have arranged with Messrs. Reville and Rossiter, of Hanover-square, to create a number of toques suitable for wear at theatres, concerts, and churches, which I propose to exhibit at a special reception on the stage at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, before a number of fashionable ladies on Monday afternoon, May 2.

The question is a most important one for "mere man," and, as most have suffered from—I will not say the nuisance—the "decrees of Fashion," I ask all editors to assist me in pleading our common cause. Experience teaches me to believe that ladies will yield to a humble suppliant what they cannot be coerced into doing; consequently I am sanguine enough to hope that Dame Fashion may smile on my scheme and remove a very heavy weight from the shoulders of all London managers.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK CURZON.

Prince of Wales's Theatre, April 20.

Made of Brass.

WHEN I was touring with *The World* company—writes Mr. Fred Dobell—we had a business-manager (Claude by name) who, owing to an accident in early life, was provided with an artificial leg. It was an ingenious affair, full of steel springs and made of boxwood, and save that he walked a little lame no one would suspect that one of his legs was false. One Saturday night at Burnley the house was packed as full as it could hold. Claude was standing at the pit pay-box when a miner, more than "half-seas over," came up and demanded admittance.

"You can't come in," said Claude.

"Whoy not?"

"Because the pit's full; and, besides, you're drunk."

"Drunk am I?" said the pitman, measuring Claude up and down. "I'll purr thee, thou blankety blank."

So saying, he retreated a step or two, and came forward with a running kick. Claude instinctively put forward his false leg and received the kick on it. The springs gave a loud "ping!" which so startled the man that he cleared off, saying: "Eh, thou's a funny 'un—made o' brass, by gum!"

MR. FRANK CURZON.

BY ONE WHO KNOWS HIM.

Love of work, thoroughness, complete self-control, and impenetrable urbanity, combined with extraordinary business astuteness, thorough knowledge of stagecraft, and the needs of his *clientèle* make up the ingredients which render Mr. Frank Curzon one of the most respected and successful managers of our day. To tell you in detail all about his career would but bring about my head the charge of plagiarism, for has he not since the first time he entered the managerial stakes, been as keen a manager, producer, and impresario as the late Sir Augustus Harris. Frank Curzon started his career in his father's offices, and possessing extraordinary business instincts, laid the foundation stone upon which he has undoubtedly built his present solid and honourable position. He was by way of being an exceedingly promising amateur performer, and subsequently discarded his clerical duties, and played all sorts and conditions of parts in Benson's and other "legitimate" migratory companies. He never told us he was clever—but he was—and, by Jove, he is. Gifted with a good presence, excellent speaking voice, and a plentiful supply of rare intelligence, he would assuredly have become an actor of no mean celebrity, but he knew a trick worth two of that. He made up his mind to "get there" as a business manager, and being in no way trammelled by that wretched interloper—conceit—he got there, he's there now, and, bar accidents, he'll remain there.

In 1896—only fourteen years ago, mark you—he was quite an ordinary touring manager. To those who couldn't see beneath the surface he was simply an unaffected peace-loving gentleman, managing and playing in a farcical comedy which nobody else before him had produced with conspicuous success. It was called, I think, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*. I had lost sight of him for many years until I saw him in this none too wonderful concoction. We chatted together for some time, and what struck me about the man was his placid optimism, his modest self-confidence, his quietly-expressed power to dominate those less "brainy" than himself, and in the doing of it maintain his own dignity, and yet not trespass on the feeling of others. In this respect let my pen glide into a siding. I have known Frank Curzon many years—"donkey's ears" as he puts it—and under the most tricky, critical, and tiresome circumstances he's as "cool as a cucumber." You can't ruffle him; no, not even the self-satisfied "principal boy" can "egg" him on to anything but squaring matters—putting things right, don't you know. He's got a way of making you think you've got *your* way, but suavely and quietly he's got *his*. His run of successes in all sorts and conditions of play has been nothing short of marvellous, and although he may have a swollen banking account the same adjective in no way applies to his well-shaped head—it's quite normal. A very little time ago he had under his capable control no less than six prominent West End theatres—the Strand, Avenue, Prince of Wales's, Comedy, Criterion, and Wyndham's—and heaven only knows how many travelling companies, and even then he was always accessible and unfailingly genial and encouraging to his old and less-gifted or successful friends. An actor in whom I was deeply interested called upon Curzon at his offices in Jermyn-street, with a view to getting "shopped" by our great managerial magnate. I met the suppliant later on in the day. "What luck with Curzon?" I asked. "Great!" he replied joyously. "He inferred I was no d——d good, but so politely that I'd rather have my services rejected by him than accepted by any other manager in the Three Kingdoms." Before Curzon became *the* Frank Curzon—before he had shown us all how to tackle ladies wearing matinée hats of the American roof garden order, and receive the highly complimentary congratulations of the presiding magistrate upon his "admirable conduct"—he most successfully produced a pantomime at a certain North London theatre. One snowy blizzardy night he sat in a box and followed with ever-watchful eye the progress of the "show." One of the alleged comedians lived at Brixton-hill, some miles from the theatre. Vehicles of every denomination were held up, and cabmen were declining fabulous fares. Our comedian bribed a stage-hand to induce a four-wheeler to get him to Brixton even at a walking pace. Frank Curzon, on leaving the theatre for the Hotel Cecil, found himself "cabless," but with his cute, far-sighted eyes he spotted the "comic's" solitary growler, and jumping into it told the cabby to drive him to his destination. "Sorry, sir," replied the man; "but this 'ere lot's engaged by Mr. ——." "Oh, I'll fix that up all Sir Garnet," answered Curzon. "You hop it, and I'll pay you double fare." The treacherous cabby accepted the liberal offer with alacrity, but just as he was 'er-movin' on the comic rushed from the stage-door gesticulating and shouting, "Hi, hi, hi! that's my cab!" "My dear boy, you're labouring under a mistake," said smiling, imperturbable Curzon; "it's my cab. But I can't see you landed in the snow like this. Jump in, and I'll drive you as far as the Hotel Cecil." It was all done so politely—so pleasantly—beamingly—that the comedian, after trudging through miles of snow from the Cecil to Water-lane (some five miles or so), awoke his wife up and told her how courteous Mr. Curzon had been in giving him a lift.

After the *Tom, Dick, and Harry* venture there was no looking back for our calm, collected, work-worshipping Curzon. I cannot give the history of his successes in chronological order, for I've a secondhand sort of memory, and I'm not going date-hunting, because you've heard all about it before; but I'll bet my bottom dollar that in my recollection no so young a man has backed the succession of winners selected and trained by Frank Curzon. I'll just name a few. You can fit in the missing ones by studying your "The Era Almanacks." *Message from Mars*, in conjunction with Mr. Chas. Hawtrey (his first West-End partner); *When Knights Were Bold*, in partnership with brilliant Jas. Welch; *Chinese Honeymoon*, a record-breaker as regards consecutive runs; *Miss Hook of Holland; An Englishman's Home, The King of Cadonia*, and date experts alone know how many more mascots. He was the first manager to lure Miss Marie Tempest—that unrivalled and delightful comedienne—from the varied notes of musical comedy to the top ones of high comedy, and at this present moment he is riding two histrionic horses which are already first favourites—*The Balkan Princess* and *The Naked Truth*, in which the delicious Charles Hawtrey, by the aid of a magic ring, is forced to tell the truth, the while Frank Curzon is compelled to display "house full" boards.

The subject of this all too inadequate appreciatory persiflage is as keen a sportsman as he is a manager. He can ride to hounds with the best of us, shoot, fish, golf; in fact, he's a good sort and a sportsman every time. "Jolly good luck to him," so say all of us. Go on soaring, my dear Mr. Frank Curzon. *You'll* never follow Mark Twain's advice: "Soar, soar, and the higher you soar the sorer you'll be"—not you.

MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON and Miss Annie Hughes are this week at the Lyceum Theatre, Newport, in *The Chorus Lady*. Miss Hughes is really charming in her portrayal of the heroine, her acting evoking much enthusiasm. Mr. Mollison, in the rôle of Dan Mallory, scored a triumph by sound acting, and shared the honours of the evening; Miss Elsie Vron-Neville as Nora O'Brien was also charming; and Mrs. O'Brien, acted by Miss Woodward, was a life-like impersonation.

T. P. O'CONNOR'S REMINISCENCES.

Mrs. Billington—writes Mr. T. P. O'Connor in "The Stage Then and Now" in *M.A.P.*—is one of the friends of the youth of the men of my epoch; I have seen her scores of times, and in more towns than one. She is now eighty-five years of age, and has behind her a career of sixty years. It is ten years since she last appeared. I am glad to hear that my friend, Herbert Tree, the most generous and sympathetic of men—especially to people of his own craft—is arranging a benefit for Mrs. Billington. I hope my readers will do their share towards making it a success. Old Henry Howe, who played beyond his eightieth year, and who was one of Irving's old associates and friends, used to be able to tell weirder stories than even those of Mrs. Billington—especially when the fortune of war brought these strolling players to the remoter parts of Scotland.

I suppose my readers know that the first theatre that was built in Scotland in modern times was promptly burned down by the shocked inhabitants. I believe that Howe could tell of times when he and the female, as well as male, members of his company were refused admission to any hotel or lodging, or even small inn, in these Scottish parts; and that sometimes, like gipsies or tramps, they had to spend their nights under the stars.

My own recollections of the stage when I was a boy are sufficiently weird. I can recall quite distinctly that little wooden caravan in the market square of my native town, wherein I was first introduced to those glorious realms which bring more real joy to childhood than all the materia. triumphs of a later epoch of life can ever bestow. It was the old story of the Mistletoe Bough—set dramatically; and the lady locked into the trunk not by accident, but by the designing villainy of the scoundrel of the play.

How well do I remember still the great scene of the play. The villain is charged by this person and that with the murder of the disappearing lady; and, with a look of Machiavellian triumph, he turns and asks "who accuses me?" And suddenly the lid of the chest opens, and the pale figure of a woman with very long hair, rises, and pointing her arm at the villain, says, "I accuse you, Edward"—or whatever the gentleman's Christian name was—and, thereupon, the villain collapses, and virtue is once more indicated in the usual way. What heroes these actors appeared to me, what divinities these actresses.

And, therefore, you will easily understand the shock of pained surprise that came over me, like a summer cloud, when the next day I saw the fascinating villain standing in the same market place listening to an itinerant Cheap Jack, who came to our provincial Irish town with Brummagem goods and Brummagem patter—and horror of horrors! the great artist wore trousers very frayed at the end.

There is in Dublin still, as there was in my boyhood, a good old theatre known as the Queen's Theatre. One of the legends gathered around it is, that it was on its boards Johnny Toole made his first appearance on the stage. I believe the legend is unfounded, but let it pass. The Queen's Theatre, in those days, played the same part in the theatrical life of Dublin that was enacted by the old Adelphi in London—that is to say, the plays were all full-blooded melodrama, wherein the virtue was more spotless than snow and the vice blacker than night.

I remember the name of one of the chief actors who was the god of all the boys of Dublin; it was Henry Vivals—gone to his rest, I have little doubt, many decades ago. Here, again, unkind destiny played me the trick of revealing to me in the public street the hero of my idolatry.

I can see him still, walking down the narrow and rather gloomy street wherein I was a visitor, and, somehow or other, that street and the poor actor seemed to me to have had a strange kinship.

For he also looked a dark, sombre, and squalid figure. He wore the then classic garments of the actor, that is to say, a soft, large sombrero-shaped hat—poor Bill Terriss affected, though in excellent tailoring, something of the same kind of histrionic costume up to the day of his tragic death—and Mr. Vivals also was caparisoned in a long black mantle—exactly like the cloak in which the villain dissembles and at the same time reveals himself, when bent on one of his dark deeds against at once suffering and innocent beauty. I also observed that he was unshaven, and that his cheeks were covered with a black-blue stubble. He looked rather a sombre and strange and squalid figure.

Shall I tell of that joyous and epoch-making moment in my life when first I was introduced into the world of Shakespeare? It was in a back-yard in a shed, and *Othello* was the play. I had been for years stupefying my poor young head and wasting my precious years in the hopeless attempt of learning two dead and entirely profitless languages, but I had never been even asked to look into that greatest marvel of literature—Shakespeare—and here, all at once, in these wretched surroundings, I came into that new world, and have ever since been a Shakespeare devotee.

I remember still the days when there were no stalls in theatres; that portion of the theatre now occupied by the stalls, or mainly by the stalls, was all pit.

And the real, the genuine, the frequent playgoer, always went to the pit by preference. It was there you found the wits and the dramatic students, the men about town; it was only gentlemen who brought their wives to the theatre and regarded a visit thereto as an unusual treat to be taken solemnly and ceremoniously—it was they only who took seats in the dress-circle and in the boxes. The men of real business went to the pit. In my young days there were two prices for the pit. The first for the whole performance, the second for the second half.

As the performance consisted in those days of at least three items, with probably a hornpipe thrown in, there was ample room for a man getting a good night's amusement, and therefore finding it worth his while to pay half price for getting half of it.

It is an old world, and a very remote one in thought, rather than in actual time. Has the stage improved? Has the actor or the actress improved with the change in their positions? I answer that question unhesitatingly in the affirmative. It is only the fool and the fanatic and the illiterate who will refuse to recognise the gigantic part which the Drama plays in life and in literature. With, perhaps, the exception of sculpture and of painting, the stage is, of all the reproductions of life which are called art, the most faithful and abiding.

It is the modern pulpit; and the pulpit to many thousands who will tolerate no other. Love, honour, patriotism, tenderness, the golden rule of doing unto others as you would they should do unto you—do you think these things cannot be taught as effectively by a good play as by the most eloquent sermon in the richest surroundings of ritual liturgy and architecture? And people who won't go to a church in this age of unrest and doubt will go to the play.

As to the position of the actor and the actress, it is only the due recognition of the high and useful part they play in the work, the teaching as well as the amusement of the world. They are the priests of culture and of art, and as such they are entitled to honour and respect. And they themselves have risen with the rise in their profession. To-day the respect given to the actor, the opulence, comparatively speaking, of those who succeed, the commingling with the most cultivated and the most intelligent men and women of society—all this has rested on them. The respect of others is of all agencies the best to produce self-respect, and all the virtues which self-respect brings.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE COSTAUD DES EPINETTES."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis, Produced at the Vaudeville on April 14.

Irma Lurette	MDLE. LANTELME
Eugénie	MLLE. CECILE CARON
Mme. Sauvalin	MME. ELLEN-ANDRÉE
Agathe	MLLE. CARÈZE
Marie	MLLE. DHERBLAY
Adèle	MLLE. FARNA
Doizeau	M. LÉRAND
Brévin	M. GAUTHIER
Oncle Tabac	M. JOFFRE
Chemard	M. LÉVESQUE
Gabriel	M. JEAN DAX
Sauvalin	M. BARON FILS
Chagnard	M. LUGUET
Gomez	M. LARMANDIE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 21.—The Vaudeville has secured a genuine success in the new work by MM. Bernard and Athis. It is a singular and charming play, now and then verging on melodrama, yet, always remaining light comedy, picturesque and amusing. The story can be summed up in a few words. A political man has written some compromising letters to a young damsel, who refuses to return them, whereupon the political man promises ten thousand francs to a burglar if he can bring him that correspondence. But the two clever playwrights have dealt with that flimsy plot in a masterly manner, and have given us three acts full of life and observation.

The scene of the first act is laid in a café, frequented by members of the criminal classes, and kept by l'Oncle Tabac, a kind of philosopher, whom we find in conversation with Doizeau, a usurer, and receiver of stolen property, prepared to undertake any "job" for a consideration. Doizeau, who has been commissioned by a gentleman to regain possession of the letters written to Irma Lurette, a cocotte, has come to find a burglar suitable for the work, whereupon l'Oncle Tabac introduces to him two young men, one, a timid boy, afraid of anything that presents any risk, and Claude Brévin, a good-looking youth, who has just joined the "profession." Educated, accomplished, and rich, Claude once moved in the best society. But he lost his money, fell lower and lower, and now resorts to crime for his livelihood. Being a beginner, he still has scruples, but he cannot resist the offer made him by Doizeau to lay his hands on the compromising letters, against a remuneration of ten thousand francs. In his inexperience he does not yet know how to set to work, and, therefore, awaits the instructions of the experienced Doizeau, who, a connoisseur of mankind, is convinced that this handsome, elegant youth will be able in a few hours to fascinate a girl of the Irma class, especially as Doizeau has taken the precaution of giving him a stolen ring which he can present to the lady.

In the second act we are in the ante-room of the big hall where a theatrical manager offers a banquet in honour of a play that has attained its three-hundredth performance. And here the authors have given free scope to their wit, as they parade before us actors, actresses, pressmen, and grumpy shareholders, who never expect to receive a penny dividend from the before-mentioned manager. Claude Brévin is among the guests, escorted by Doizeau, his mentor. The latter knows that Irma is expected, and he wants Claude to meet her. Claude feels ill at ease. It is his first "job"; he does not like the business, and begins to regret that he has not become a cabman, or something of that kind. But it is too late, for Irma makes her appearance, and she and Claude soon become acquainted. At first she holds back. She, however, is not proof against his good looks, and, without waiting for the banquet, the two go off together to Irma's apartment.

The last act plays in Irma's drawing-room, and we see the girl enter, followed by Claude, who carries in the pockets of his evening dress the necessary implements for forcing locks. The scene between the courtesan, accustomed to dispense her favours with a liberal hand, and the young burglar, who has not the courage of becoming a criminal, is striking. Claude begins by abusing Irma so as to pick a quarrel, but the girl answers in a gentle tone. He then bluntly tells that he has deceived her, that he is not the rich man he pretended to be, and that, in fact, he does not possess a cent. This does not upset Irma, who, in the course of her career, has frequently heard these confessions. Enervated by so much resignation, Claude then resolves to act. Irma having left the room for a moment, Claude switches off the electric light and hides behind the curtains, ready to pounce upon her when she returns. To Claude's surprise somebody else glides into the room. It is the timid boy we saw in the first act, who has mustered up courage to do some work on his own account, even if he has to strangle the lady in the operation. He is caught, half strangled by Claude, and allowed to depart. Claude's pluck and apparent magnanimity have conquered Irma, and she does not conceal her admiration for him. This is more than the poor would-be burglar can stand. He shudders at the thought that she takes him for a hero, and he makes a clean breast of everything. When he has finished his tale, Irma shrugs her shoulders. Like in most women of her class, there is pity in her heart for the stray sheep of humanity. She and he have wandered far away from the right path, and, having met, an unconscious sympathy draws them together. The situation is no longer amusing, it has become downright pathetic. And, in order to raise their characters above the ordinary level, the authors cause them to behave handsomely in the end; for, Irma hands Claude the bundle of letters, whilst Claude promises to make Irma a present of the ten thousand francs this correspondence will bring him in—a somewhat fairy-like but pretty ending to a very entertaining play. For many months people will flock to the Vaudeville to applaud *Le Costaud des Epinettes*.

The acting was beyond praise. Mlle. Lantelme felt thoroughly at home in the rôle of the fallen beauty Irma, and played the difficult scene in the last act with consummate skill. M. Louis Gauthier was a sympathetic burglar. That clever actor, M. Lérand, supplied a clever sketch of the sinister Doizeau, and l'Oncle Tabac had a splendid exponent in M. Joffre. The management had entrusted the minor parts to artists like MM. Levesque, Dax, Baron fils, and Mlles. Caron, Ellen-Andrée, and Carèze, thus supplying such an ensemble as is rarely seen on any stage.

Irving's Satire.

IN his younger days Henry Irving was entertained at a supper given in his honour at Edinburgh. As usual, after the good things had been discussed, the speeches delivered, and the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal" had arrived, the company settled down to song and recital. At last a local favourite, who had achieved notoriety by his supposed imitations of Irving, was pressed to contribute his quota, but hesitated to do so. The matter was explained to Irving (who was in the chair), and he said "Certainly. I should like to hear and see myself mimicked. Come forward, Mr. Tamson." Whereupon Tamson, thus encouraged, commenced "The Dream of Eugene Aram," in vile burlesque of the Irving manner. Irving endured it patiently till the end of the sixth verse, when he stopped the reciter, and said very suavely: "Excuse me, Mr. Tamson, but do you propose to give us the *whole* of the poem?" The mimic responded modestly that he had that intention. "It's not at all necessary, dear boy, I assure you," said Henry the great; "your object is already achieved. I can quite understand now why some people say I'm a shocking bad actor."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Vesta Tilley has sent a cheque whereby her own contribution to the Music Hall Home have been brought up to the magnificent sum of £100. Mr. Walter De Frece, as president of the Fund, also weighed in with £20, and Mr. Gus Elen's happy idea of contributing 1s. to each card sent in up to March 31 has resulted in a total of about £10.

Last week we were able to announce in these columns that Mr. Will H. Boardman, manager of the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, had been offered the position of general-manager of Thomas Barrasford, Ltd., but had not declared his decision in the matter. We are now informed, in an intimation from Randvoll House, Charing Cross-road, that "Mr. Will Boardman, of Newcastle, has been appointed manager for the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Ltd." This company has the direction of the Butt, Barrasford, De Frece, and Gibbons interests, reaching Paris, Brussels, and Berlin.

Mr. Boardman will commemorate on Wednesday next the sixth year of the opening of the house, which, however, came under the Barrasford *régime* late in December, 1903, when Mr. Boardman was transferred from the St. Helens Hippodrome to manage the new venture. The arrangements for Wednesday's matinée, which will take the form of a testimonial benefit to the departing manager, are in the hands of a most influential local committee, and everything points to a great success. Mr. Boardman's promotion will give much satisfaction to his numerous friends, though Novocastrians generally will regret his departure.

Mme. Réjane will be seen at the Hippodrome on Monday in *Madame Sans-Gêne*, the brilliant play in which she made the greatest of all her many successes. She will be supported by the members of her own company, who have expressly journeyed from Paris for this purpose. The production will be on an elaborate scale, special costumes and scenery having been prepared.

Of course we shall have the scene of the exalted Sans-Gêne's Reception, to which Queen Caroline of Naples and the Princess Bacciochi come, with the intention of creating a scene. They succeed, but not quite in the way intended. Addressing impertinent gibes to Sans-Gêne—whose failure to acquire stately manners irritates her exceedingly—they are more than taken aback by her unabashed retorts. Their impudence makes her lose patience to such a degree that she reminds them what they had been formerly themselves. It is quite true, she admits, that she used to wash chemises, but never theirs, for they had none!

In connection with Mme. Réjane's appearance in the character, it is interesting to learn that we are promised an English Sans-Gêne on the variety stage in the person of that consummate comedienne, Miss Annie Hughes, who will come to the Chelsea Palace on Monday, May 23, in a sketch entitled *The Belle of the Washtub*.

In this historiette of the kind-hearted *blanchisseuse*, who becomes the wife of a Marshal of France and a duchess, Miss Hughes will play the lowly Sans-Gêne in her humble surroundings and the "lady" who tries to realise the duties and the importance of her new station. In the rôle of Napoleon she will have the support of Mr. Henry Deas, an actor who made a great success as Dan Mallory in *The Chorus Lady* when this play was recently at the Coronet and Kennington Theatres. Fouché, Chief of Police, will be in the clever hands of Mr. Mayne Lynton, who is at present playing Nero in Mr. William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company.

Mr. Martin Beck, on his return to the States, had nothing further to say regarding the completion of the arrangements for his world-wide vaudeville circuit—the Butt-De-Frece-Gibbons-Barrasford scheme—except that it was assured that he would be playing Orpheum vaudeville from San Francisco to Berlin within another year. His arrangements with Mr. Butt for the Barrasford tour in the United Kingdom are completed, so we are informed by *Variety*, and it is only a question of settling a few minor details before the agreement assumes an actual working basis.

Dr. Wilnar's "spirit paintings" are, it appears, a greater success than Mr. Lloyd George's "spirit pictures," which last year glowed with anticipations of a largely increased revenue—anticipations which have been falsified by results. The materialisation of a work of art without apparent human aid is, by the way, being presented at the London Pavilion by Mr. P. T. Selbit, who has secured the sole rights of Dr. Wilnar's clever invention.

The Government has its hands too full to give legislative effect to the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Stage Plays which sat in the summer and autumn of last year to consider the question of the Censorship as well as the anomalies of licensing; and with the immediate prospect of another General Election it may safely be assumed that any practicable measure for the establishment of the uniform licence will be postponed for at least two years.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee in their report say:—"As the Lord Chamberlain is the authority for granting stage-plays licences for the greater part of London, and the Council is the sole authority for granting music licences, it would be necessary that an understanding should be arrived at with the Lord Chamberlain that he would grant his licence to any premises that were licensed for music and were structurally fit to be licensed for stage plays, and that the Council should grant a music licence for any theatre that was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.

"The division of jurisdiction that would result would probably give rise to considerable difficulty. The suggestion that a uniform licence should be granted which would enable either stage plays or variety entertainments to be performed was considered by the Joint Select Committee on Stage Plays (Censorship), 1909, and was supported by the Theatrical Managers' Association, but opposed by the Entertainments Protection Association and other proprietors of variety theatres." By the double licence which we have advocated in these columns the jurisdiction of both the Lord Chamberlain and the County Council would be undisturbed. The chief difficulty would be one of excise, which would also arise in any proposals for a uniform licence.

The question "Who is it that wears the shiniest topper in the profession?" may be settled as a dead heat between Mr. Fred McAvoy, manager of the Euston, and Mr. Whit Cunliffe. And, in connection with hats, it may be recorded that the "comedian in brown" once wore the glossy topper of no less a personage than His Majesty the King. It happened in this way. One night in hurrying from one hall to another Mr. Cunliffe, in a moment of forgetfulness, sat on his topper, placed on the seat of his brougham, and had immediately to send for another to the firm that also makes the King's headgear. The hat duly arrived, and was worn on the stage by the singer. On coming off he, however, learned that the topper he had been sporting belonged to the King, having been sent by mistake.

The Swiss Gardens, Shoreham, Sussex, are to be sold by order of the Public Trustee by Messrs. Jenner and Dell, who will offer them at auction at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on Thursday, May 19.

This freehold property, comprising about 4½ acres, including the ornamental lakes, is situate within a few minutes' walk of Shoreham-by-Sea railway station, five miles of Brighton, and four miles of Worthing, and for many years has been widely known as pleasure and tea-gardens, and originally included a dancing pavilion, theatre, observatory, tea-rooms, Swiss cottage, glasshouses, and conservatories, some of which still remain.

The sale will include the fully-licensed freehold premises, known as the Cottage Inn, annexed to the gardens, with entrance from the Old Shoreham-road. Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained of Messrs. Fitzhugh, Woolley, Baines, and Woolley, solicitors, 3, Pavilion-parade, Brighton, and of the auctioneers.

To the long list of Bristol amusement resorts is about to be added another in the shape of a hippodrome, or music hall, in the heart of Bedminster. This, it is true, is not an absolutely new proposal. A year ago plans were approved for a music hall to accommodate 1,700 persons, but the scheme remained in abeyance, and it has now assumed larger proportions, and the plans introduced by Mr. Bertie Crewe, on behalf of the Strand Syndicate, Ltd., were submitted on the 14th inst. to the Sanitary Committee and passed, the City Engineer informing the meeting that they were very well thought out.

The new place of amusement is to occupy the same site as that suggested a year ago. It will have a frontage of 74ft. to East-street, and in all will seat 2,156 persons. Seven hundred will find room in the gallery, a similar number in the pit, and the rest are accounted for by the accommodation of the circle, the stalls, and the private boxes. It may be pointed out that Bedminster is now far and away the most populous parish in Bristol.

On Wednesday all the woodwork and fittings of the F. C. Bostock Jungle and Arena, at Glasgow, were sold by auction, and next day the workmen were busily engaged in transforming the place into an enlarged and extended Scottish Zoo, which Councillor E. H. Bostock will re-open at the earliest possible moment.

The Tower, New Brighton, reopens on Saturday, May 14, and the season will continue to Oct. 1. A few excellent shops in the elevator hall and theatre corridor are to be let; also ground spaces and buildings for stalls and side shows, on share or rental. Mr. R. H. Davey, general-manager and secretary, will give all information.

Mr. A. H. Reid, residential manager of the New Empire, Aberdare, was joined in matrimony at St. John's Parish Church in that town on Sunday last to Miss Violet Lemmy, sister of Mr. Naylor, of Messrs. Watson and Naylor. The best man was Mr. Bert Richards, assistant-manager of Aberdare New Theatre. The bride was given away by Mr. George Upton, of the Cambrian Hotel.

During Mr. Alan D. Dunbar's régime, Sheffield's palatial and luxurious Empire Theatre has often been graced by representative audiences gathered together in the sacred names of Mercy and Charity. On Saturday last, the 16th inst., the latest of these special matinées took place, the entire proceeds of which will be devoted to the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nursing Institute.

The brilliant audience included the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam (the Lord and Lady Mayoress) and children, the Master and Mistress Cutler, the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, and the Duchess of Portland, and the leading civic and county notabilities of the district were present or represented.

A good programme was gone through, the professional artists including Mlle. Liane D'Eve, who was enthusiastically recalled after singing two songs, the applause culminating when Mr. Alan Dunbar's pretty little daughter presented the fair Parisian artist with a bouquet. Mr. Jack Pleasants, Mr. Nelson Jackson, and the Kellinos were also heartily applauded, the aristocratic occupants of the stage boxes being convulsed with laughter at the quaint humour of Mr. Jack Pleasants. A fine selection by the orchestra, conducted by the talented chef, Mr. H. Renton-Gardner, was a delightful item.

At the Palace Theatre, Baldwin street, Bristol, on Saturday night, at the conclusion of her performance, Happy Fanny Fields, who had been delighting thousands during the week, called Mr. Horace Livermore on to the stage and made a very pretty little speech, asking Mr. Livermore to accept the little present she had for him in the shape of a magnificent gold-mounted walking-stick, and also a gold-mounted umbrella. One he could use for sunshine and the other for rain.

Mr. Livermore, who was taken by surprise, and had an enthusiastic greeting from the audience, said that he hardly knew how to thank Miss Fanny Fields for her kindness. She was a charming lady both on and off the stage, and he could not speak too highly of her. Miss Fields then took hold of Mr. Livermore's arm, and both retired amidst a round of applause, but the audience were not satisfied until they came before the footlights a second time. The immense crowd was delighted with the pleasing incident.

Mr. Julian Graham has been appointed the resident-manager of Mr. B. Pareezer's Hippodrome, Sheerness, where his ability and geniality will undoubtedly gain him many new friends. Mr. Graham starts with plenty of experience in theatrical management. For eight years he was with Mr. Chas. Macdona's various musical comedies, and for two years on his own with *The Gay Goddess*. He was also with Messrs. Jay and Mann's *An Englishman's Home*, and other first-class productions. His two previous engagements as resident-manager were with Mr. Edward Marris at Grantham, and with Mr. W. W. Kelly at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

At the London Hippodrome are to be seen the smartest of West-End audiences, for Mme. Réjane apparently possesses a great fascination for the occupants of the stalls and boxes, as well as for the cheaper parts of that handsome house. Among the many fashionable and distinguished people to be seen there during the week may be mentioned Lord and Lady Helmsley, the Countess of Bective, Lady St. Helier, Mrs. Hwfa Williams, Sir Weetman and Lady Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higgins, Lord and Lady Willoughby de Broke, Mrs. Patrick de Bathe, Lord Stafford, Lord Tweedmouth, Baron and Baroness de Mayer, Mr. Gordon Lennox, Lady Crossley, Captain Littledale, the Hon Mrs. Harry Lawson, Lord Caledon, Mr. and Mrs. John Gilliat, Sir George Lawrence, the Hon. Arthur Brodrick, Lady Gerard, Lady Carew, Sir Squire Bancroft, Lord and Lady Henry Bentinck, Mrs. Francis Lowther, Miss Toupie Lowther, Mr. George Alexander, the Hon. Alex. Hood, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, and many members of the French, the Russian, and the Austrian Embassies.

Miss Daisy Jerome leaves this morning for Southampton en route to the Cape, sailing by the s.s. Norman. She is under contract with Mr. Sydney Hyman.

Miss Lottie Lennox made a very rapid recovery from her accident, reported in these columns last week, and on Monday was quite in her old form at the Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

Miss Madge Temple joins the London Pavilion bill next week, where she makes her first appearance. Miss Temple's songs are mostly from the pen of her husband, Mr. Hermann E. Darewski, jun., whose many great successes are whistled and sung by everybody.

Horace Gibb and Nita Mayeu have purchased the business of the Artichoke, Newington Causeway, where they settle down on Monday next, and intend to make it their study to deserve the patronage of professional friends, whom they will especially endeavour to please. They will cater for a select luncheon trade.

Mr. Harry Lauder was struck down with influenza on Tuesday, and has been confined to his bed ever since. His place on the Tivoli programme has been filled by Miss Clarice Mayne and Mr. James W. Tate, a very lucky choice, if we may judge by the great receptions accorded each evening to this most popular turn.

Miss Beatrice Allen, who came to the Palace for a short engagement six weeks ago, is still a member of the fine company at that house, and has recently been rebooked for a month. This fact must be most gratifying to her friends, and as she has the privilege of being in her seventeenth year, her success would seem to be assured.

Mr. Charles S. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum have just returned per R.M.S. Norman from a most successful tour in South Africa. After their opening night at the Empire, Johannesburg, with their *Cuckoo* sketch, they became fast favourites with the Colonials, and were personally complimented by Mr. Edgar Hyman.

At Wednesday's meeting of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund it was decided to arrange for the Music Hall Sports to be held at Stamford Bridge Grounds one day during the last fortnight of July. The opportunity was taken of presenting Mr. Albert Le Fre with an illuminated address in recognition of his valuable services in connection with last year's Sports.

A very cordial reception has been given to Miss Dolly Elsworthy at the Canterbury during the week, in the finely staged sketch, *Right's Right*. It is interesting to observe that Miss Dolly Elsworthy is a niece of that old Lyceum favourite, Miss Agnes Elsworthy. As a child actress Dolly was highly complimented upon her abilities by the late Sir Henry Irving. Her sketches, *The Orange Girl* and *Nan*, have gained considerable popularity with Miss Elsworthy in the title-rôles. In the recent pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, Miss Dolly Elsworthy took the principal boy part, Robin Hood, and was responsible for much of the success.

Miss Rachel Lowe, who has not been seen for some time in the centre of London, made a welcome reappearance at the Euston on Monday. Miss Lowe proved her right to the title of "the singer of novelty songs" by presenting two very original numbers—the first a quaint conceit, entitled "I'd trust my husband anywhere, but I like to hang around," depicting the humorous side of the suburban jealous wife. The music of the song is by James Brockman, and the lyrics by C. H. Bovill, the writer of the present Empire revue, *Hullo, London!* The second song is a weird song-story, entitled "My Boy Bill," the music of which was written by Mr. John W. Bratton, the composer of "Cosy Corner Girl," "Teddy Bears' Picnic," and numerous other songs and instrumental numbers highly popular on both sides of the Atlantic. The warmth of Miss Lowe's reception at Euston proves that the bright exponent of "Any rags" and "The lucky duck" has not been forgotten, and her many admirers hope to see her nearer the Strand within a short time.

While playing for Mr. George Robey's Stage team against the Press at Brentford on Wednesday, Mr. J. A. Molloy fell in the early part of the game and sustained a nasty dislocation of the ankle. He was conveyed from the field, after medical treatment, to his home, and a substitute was allowed to take his place. The Stage won the game by 6 goals to 1.

The annual smoker—the second of its kind—organised by the Music Hall and Theatrical Football League at the Horseshoe Hotel on Sunday, was animated by sportiveness and jollity. Mr. Phil Ray presided over the assembled sockers and their friends until the arrival of Harry Tate, who was received with musical honours, Phil conducting with a beatific smile and a hammer.

The Harry Tate cup, won this year by the Tivoli team, was confided by that popular artist to the care of Mr. W. A. Belfry, the captain of the Tivolians, and spoke of the pleasure he derived in meeting so many good sportsmen, and congratulating the team on their dogged perseverance. Mr. Joe Wilson, the manager of the Tivoli, then presented medals—given by himself—to each member of the winning team, and in doing so referred to the excellent work of Mr. L. Groth as secretary. Without Mr. Groth's perseverance and tact, he asserted, there would have been no league.

Mr. Phil Ray, who had an amusing colloquy with "Tivoli Ted," a very popular member of the staff of that hall, was responsible for the medals given to the runners-up, the Empire, Edmonton. A third set of medals, the gift of Mrs. Rush, was presented to the Gaiety team, the runners-up in the West End Football League competition also won by the Tivoli. Mr. Wilkie Bard, who was prevailed upon to make a few remarks, promised a handsome silver cup for next season, an announcement that was received with much cheering.

Mr. J. L. Shine, in his recent passage across the Atlantic, gave a mid-Atlantic performance of his well-known sketch, *Hogmanay*, with complete success. The landing of the lower promenade deck was utilised as a stage, and the audience, consisting of eighty cabin passengers, sat on the wide companion-way steps between the upper and lower promenade decks. In the fact may be detected (says the *Daily Telegraph*) another proof of the alleged favouritism displayed towards the variety as against the regular stage. Even the winds and the waves combine to promote the interests of the former.

The news of the death of Mr. Alf. Ellerton, jr., which occurred on Sunday last of failure of the heart, came as a shock to the many who knew and respected the bright young man, who, though but twenty years of age, was known throughout the profession as a composer and arranger of ability, and one of whom great things were expected. He had but recently been appointed musical director of the Palace, Greenwich, and the gentlemen of the orchestra sent a lovely wreath, as did the band of another establishment. The flowers were many, and included wreaths from Miss Queenie Leighton, Mr and Mrs. T. E. Dunville, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Mayne, Mr. Sam Aarons, the Leonards, and many others. He was buried at Tooting.

Mr. Fred Barnes is at the Empire, Portsmouth, this week. He has produced a new song from his own pen, entitled "Don't be an M. U. G.," which will shortly be published.

That great London favourite, Miss Gertie Gitana, has been deputising for Harry Lauder at the Empress, Brixton, since Wednesday, in addition to playing the Oxford, Shoreditch Empire and Clapham.

Among those present at the Palace on Monday night were Prince Francis of Teck, Lord Farquhar, Lord Boston, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Sir William Carrington, and the Hon. Mr. G. Keppel.

Mendel, the well-known blind pianist and composer, accompanied by his mother, sailed yesterday by the steamship Malwa for Australia for a six months' tour with Harry Rickards, and returns to the London Hippodrome in October.

Miss Daisy James, at the Hippodrome, Southend, last week, sang two exceptionally good songs, "Nice night to take a walk" and "Who's coming my way home?" She was recalled many times nightly, and the whole town is singing and whistling both numbers.

Miss Jessie Templeton was obliged to give up her engagement at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, last week owing to an attack of laryngitis, but was fortunately well enough on Monday to open at the Palace, Blackpool, where she is well known as the popular principal boy in last season's ballet.

Mr. William Robert Dunkley was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Harry Gribben, W.T., assisted by Terrier H. Cee Mee, V.T. Terrier W. L. Murray officiated as organist.

Mr. Edward Payne (of Johnson and Devere) is a candidate for membership of the Association, and has successfully passed the ballot.

The "Welcome Home" banquet to Terrier Griff, the president of the Association, will be held upon Sunday, May 29, at the Hôtel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W., at 6.30 p.m. Full particulars will be forwarded to all Terriers.

The river outing will take place upon Sunday, June 26. Terrier W. R. Dunkley has given a donation of £2 2s. to the River Outing Sports Prize Fund. The secretary will be pleased to receive further donations to this fund.

Terrier Griff offers a gold medal for the best suggestion on how to increase the attendance at the Sunday meetings. Terriers are requested to forward their suggestions to the secretary as soon as possible. Letters to be marked "Competition."

The next ladies' concert will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, upon Sunday, May 1, at 8.30 p.m. Terrier Bert Marsden has been appointed musical-director.

Mr. Daley Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait, who are enjoying enthusiastic receptions at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, this week, sail for Australia in November to fulfil important engagements with Mr. Harry Rickards. Miss Lait has been asked to play principal boy at Drury Lane this winter, but the Australian dates were booked before this offer was received.

Mr. Lewin-Mannering, who is at present touring with *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, in which he has been specially engaged to play the very important part of Signor D'Orelli, is producing, under his own personal direction, a powerful dramatic sketch on Monday at the Peckham Hippodrome, entitled *The Snake's Kiss*, by Mr. Roland Bottomley. Mr. Mannering has engaged a very powerful cast for it.

Much is often made by the younger school of critics of the occasional singing by comedians of sentimental ballads, but it must not be forgotten that George Leybourne at his benefits in the eighties was wont to sing "The anchor's weighed," which invariably brought down the house; and we have heard Jack Rowley give a rendering of "The village blacksmith" that would have been quite acceptable to a Queen's Hall audience.

"Hullo, London!" the up-to-date and topical revue, which is attracting great audiences to the Empire Theatre, is in process of complete revision, the author, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., just returned after his pleasant experiences in Paris, and Mr. Fred Farren, the producer, being hard at work arranging new and effective material for Mr. J. F. McArdle, Miss Millie Legarde, and the remainder of the fine cast.

Mr. Blyth Pratt produced on Monday evening at the Oxford, "a wonderful, novel, sensational act," presented by Mr. Archie Goodall, the international football-player. The entertainment consists of walking round the interior of a gigantic hoop, the feat combining science, wonderful skill, immense strength, a nerve like iron, and great pluck. These are all found in Mr. Goodall, who has been applauded to the echo by packed houses.

Mr. T. Reed Pinaud has brought his unique experience of the stage in all its details, and particularly his genius for scenic effect, to bear upon the elaboration of what he describes as "an original operatic burlesque." This will employ several comedians of distinction and a large chorus. Negotiations are practically completed for its production at a first-class West-End variety theatre.

Mr. Benj. Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to thank, on behalf of the committee, the following:—Arthur H. Burdett (Hippodrome, Boscombe), £2 1s. 8d.; P. C. Rowe (Empire, Swansea), £1 17s.; R. W. Duce (Granville, Walham Green), £1; Harry Slingsby (Empire, Hull), 16s. 6d.; Lewis De Burgh (Hippodrome, Southend), 15s. 3d.; and Alex Galley (Empire, Leeds), Chas. M. Jones (Tivoli, Dublin), E. McCormick (Empire, Greenock) for their kind help to the fund.

The secretary would be pleased to receive any men's old clothes or boots for the inmates of the Home. There are still a number of *Era* Cards to be returned yet, and as April 30 is the end of the financial year, kindly send them along, and help to build up the Home Fund.

Mlle. Pavlova, the accomplished Russian dancer, cherishes among her many triumphs her performance of Giselle, the title-rôle in the famous ballet of that name, produced at Her Majesty's, Haymarket, in March, 1842, with Carlotta Grisi, her husband M. Perrot, and Louise Fleury in the principal parts. The plot of the ballet was adapted by Théophile Gautier from Heinrich Heine, and the music was by Adolphe Adam. The ballet might might be revived with advantage in Leicester-square.

In the crowded audiences at the London Hippodrome during the week have been the Marquis of Anglesey, Lord Ribblesdale, the Hon. Diana Lister, the Earl of Lytton, Mr. and Lady Rosemary Portal, Lady Augusta Fane, Lady Cheylesmore, the Countess of Rosslyn, Lord Lawrence, Sir Richard and Lady Levinge, Lady Mary Pepys, Lord Waleran, Lady Lettice Cholmondeley, Colonel Forestier-Walker, Countess Cowley, the Marchioness of Blandford, Lady Norah Spencer-Churchill, Mrs. Dick Cunyngham, Mme. Janotha, Mr. Stuart Ogilvy, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, and the Consul-General for the Argentine.

Miss Hetty King has created a record at the Regent Theatre, Salford, this week. Special police have been requisitioned to keep the crowds back.

Miss Joan Derby, the popular boy-impersonator, will appear with Charles Collette all next week in H. C. Sargent's successful farce duologue, *Pyjamas*, at the King's Theatre, Southsea.

Mr. Wullie H. Frame appears this evening in the capital of the North, Inverness, the land of the "Frasers," where "The Man you Know" is a welcome Hielan' Man. Hooch, aye!

"The Great Raymond is breaking all records here this week. Largest number of paid admissions in the history of the house. Hundreds turned away nightly.—Robinson, Hippodrome, Huddersfield."

Madame Adah Payne, the well-known Australian soprano, late of Moody-Manners principal opera company, will complete her second Barrasford tour at the Brighton Hippodrome next week. Madame Payne contemplates visiting America shortly.

Mr. Cyril Twyford, whose sketch *Kiddie* was recently done by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ainley at the Hippodrome, has just completed a new one-act play entitled *The Solicitor of the Crown*. It is to be tried in the provinces, with the author and Miss Margaret Yarde in the principal parts, preparatory to being brought to London.

To the comedian in search of ideas and monologues, we may recommend a visit to Samuel French (Ltd.), of Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., who are issuing a series of monologues at the price of 6d. "The Cosmopolitan Elocutionist" is the latest to demand notice, and its variations of "The Charge of the Light Brigade," in various dialects, are as amusing as they are ingenious.

Mr. Walter Stockwell, proprietor of Thompson's Hotel, Bridge-street, Bristol, wishes again to thank the ladies and gentlemen who answered his appeal *re* Harry Jennings in our last issue, and would remind his brother and sister artists that he is giving Jennings a benefit on Monday next, the 25th, to enable him to go into a little business, as he is now an invalid. Walter will be pleased to receive any small donations, which will be duly acknowledged in these columns.

He has received the following sums: V.A.B.F., 20s.; Walter Stockwell, 5s.; G. H. Elliott, 5s.; J. E. Daveridge, 5s.; F. W., 2s.; T. W., 2s.; L. Barrett, 2s.; W. B. Webb, 2s.; Gus Elen, 1s.; E. W., 1s.; Sal Grogan, 1s.; J. Manning, 1s.; W., 1s.; Mr. Webley, 1s.; C. N. Harding, 1s.; A. J. T., 1s.; C. J. Mason, 1s.; W. E. Southcott, 1s.

Mr. Fred S. Jennings' new sketch, *The Spirit of Music*, which first saw light a fortnight ago at Willesden, starts next week on tour at the Kilburn Empire. It is a romantic sketch with a military setting, introducing Carl Junor, an exceedingly clever pianist. At Willesden it has met with an excellent reception nightly, and a large number of managers paid visits specially to see it. We understand that booking arrangements are in the clever hands of Fred Reeves and Son.

Mr. Arthur Helmore, the actor-entertainer, who will be at the London Hippodrome on Monday, is, like Mr. Charles Hawtrey, the son of a clergyman, and has always made fun in a very refined way of the elocutionary weaknesses of the "cloth." Those who had the good fortune to see his Rev. Robert Spalding in the first production of *The Private Secretary* will remember that his rendering of that character had many points of difference from both Sir Herbert Tree's and Mr. W. S. Penley's creations of the part. Of its immense quaintness, however, there was never the slightest doubt.

Of Mr. Helmore the Lord Bishop of Queensland once wrote:—"Mr. Helmore has the same capacity so fully possessed by the late Charles Dickens of seeing clearly tricks of voice and manner and reproducing them with almost photographic exactness. He has the good fortune to be humorous without being sarcastic; to provoke those who hear him to laugh with him rather than at those who are the models of his oratorical efforts. Many years ago Mr. Helmore cured me of one or two budding tricks of manner by showing me to myself as others saw me. For this I shall ever be grateful, and so should the good people who are fated to listen to me."

Mr. Oswald Stoll is to be congratulated on his recognition of home talent. He has engaged that clever young English dancer, Lola Lee, to appear at the London Hippodrome next Monday. Miss Lee will give imitations of a variety of famous dances. Her most notable item will be a Kate Vaughan waltz, given in the true Kate Vaughan manner. Miss Lee's professor is Mr. John D'Auban, who also taught Miss Kate Vaughan, though she had her earliest lessons in the art from Mrs. Conquest.

Owing to the enormous success of Mlle. Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, and company, who, by their natural gifts, trained in the best school in the world, can legitimately claim the title of classical dancers, Mr. Alfred Butt has arranged, in response to numerous inquiries, to give a special matinée at the Palace Theatre on Wednesday next at 3 p.m. On this occasion Mlle. Anna Pavlova and M. Michael Mordkin and company will present, in addition to the dances now being given by them, several other excerpts from popular ballets which it is impossible to include in the evening programme. Mr. Gwylym Wigley, the Welsh tenor of whom so much has been heard of recently in musical circles, will give selections from his répertoire.

Miss Melinda May (secretary), on behalf of the Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Miss Irma Lorraine (donation), £1; Mr. Joe Elvin (generous-hearted Joe), contributed 2s. 6d. towards a collection of 8s. 3d. made by Mrs. Chas. Coborn; Miss Jessie Star (collection), 10s.; Miss Cissy Stebbing (Manchester), collecting, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Bob Welding (Glasgow), donation, 1s.; Miss Lottie Albert, lady's new clothing; Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin, useful parcel of clothing.

Will friends in or out of the profession please note that a prize will be given to anyone collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months, commencing from Nov. 4 last? Will anyone make an offer for the handsome model toy butcher's shop, fitted with joints, all made by Mr. Harry Vento, and given to us by Mrs. Harry Vento (Clacton-on-Sea)? Can be seen any day at the Guild rooms. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed.

The 655th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.B.A. was held at the offices on Wednesday afternoon, with Mr. Harry Blake in the chair. Others present included Messrs. Jeff Vendome, Tom J. Morton, T. C. Callaghan, J. Miller Northern, J. H. Milburn, Albert Le Fre, Chas. Coborn, Billy Brown, and Lieut. Albini. After the usual routine business, Mr. Callaghan reported on his visit to Glasgow in search of new offices, and the matter was discussed. Mr. Coborn then submitted his scheme for dealing with the branch offices, but, after a discussion, the committee decided to continue the present system. Mr. Hockley, of the Poplar Hotel, Ilkeston, was appointed agent.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE has at Balham, the Canterbury, and the Camden been greeted with heartiest applause nightly for her spendid rendering of that choice and tuneful song by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, entitled "'Tis a faded picture," and also for "Rip Van Winkle," which is by Will E. Haines, Harry Staunton, and Hermann E. Darewski. Both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. DAVE CARTER writes enthusiastically of the receptions accorded that fine ballad, "If I had the world to give you," which he has been singing and receiving ovations for. He will sing it for the next twelve months. It is issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. DANIEL DAY'S firm has acquired a fine and characteristic piece of music, composed by Warwick Williams, and entitled "Dusky drummers patrol." It is certain to be in very great demand.

MISS OUIDA MACDERMOTT, at the London Pavilion, has been charming her audiences with that super-excellent march-song, "Betsy," and with "To welcome my Sadie to me," a ditty which will rank high among the songs of the year. Both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AMONG other numbers in the Press and about to be issued are: "We won't talk of foreign invasion" (sung by Pat Rafferty), by F. W. Carter; "Nobody waiting to greet me" (Ryder Slone), by H. Castling and C. W. Murphy; "I'll be waiting by the milestone, Mary," by J. P. Harrington and John Neat; "Shall be seventeen on Sunday" (Walter Munroe), by F. Murray and C. Collins; "It may be true what you say, Mister Coon" (Miss Ella Retford), by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski; "Castles of sand," by Sidney Davis and Hermann E. Darewski; "On the silvery sands" (Miss Madge Temple), by A. C. Findon and Hermann E. Darewski; "Little girlie mine," by Penyston Mills; "I was standing on the quay," by Herbert Rule and Jas. McGee; "La-la-la-la, sing this chorus with me," sung by George D'Albert and Herbert Rule, written by Herbert Rule and Thomas McGee; and "You don't want a night-light," by Terry Sullivan and Harry Carlton.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD will, on May 9, produce at the London Coliseum his new song, "O blow the scenery on the railway!" which will have an elaborate setting. It is by F. W. Leigh and George Arthurs. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of this noteworthy item.

MISS EDITH ST. CLARE has just purchased from John P. Harrington and Harry Marlow a new chorus song entitled "Along the prom-prom-promenade," of which she has great hopes, and intends producing immediately.

MR. HARRY MARLOW returns to town on Monday, appearing at the Olympia, Shoreditch, in the enormously successful song entitled "Come for a ride on the tramway car," written and composed by himself, and a new comedy number entitled "Don't forget the chorus," written and composed by Worton David and Fred W. Leigh, and published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.

TED SNYDER'S song, "My wife's gone to the country" is going stronger than ever in the revue *Hullo! London*, at the Empire, Leicester-square, and is earning showers of well-deserved applause for that incomparable comedian, J. F. McArdle. At Liverpool Empire this week Phil Parsons is getting four and five recalls for his rendering of this ear-haunting ditty.

"ROSES and memories" (also by Ted Snyder) is going stronger than ever this week at the Empire, Sunderland. And, after all, how could it fail to score when it is in the hands of that prince of violoncellists Mr. Auguste Van Biene? Mr. Van Biene will play this number at his recital on Sunday at Stanley (Durham).

MR. WILLY ROBERTSON, the celebrated Yorkshire violinist, played "Roses and memories" at a private concert in the West End one evening last week, and owing to the way it was received he had to repeat it entirely. Mr. Robertson's violin is a very fine specimen, the value of it approaching four figures.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS."

A Farcical Sketch, Presented by the Heriot Trio on Monday, April 18, at the Granville Theatre of Varieties.

Major Mumby / Hutchins ..... MR. WILTON HERIOT
Mumby Major ..... MASTER JACK COYLE
Kitty Wake ..... MISS JEAN GILMOUR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is an exceptionally bright and well-written sketch, full of cleanly fun and humour, and it is excellently interpreted by the Heriot Trio. The scene opens with the calling of Mumby Major upon Kitty Wake for the purpose of soliciting a signed photograph from her, in order to settle a boyish school bet. After some amusing by-play with Hutchins, in the course of which the boy learns that his father, Major Mumby, is in the habit of frequenting the flat, posing as a single man, consternation is caused by the announcement of the Major's arrival. Hastily concealing Master Mumby behind a screen, Kitty Wake, over the tea table, draws some amusing admissions from the amorous officer, much to his son's delight, who, when discovered at the finish, is "squared" by his father with the gift of a sovereign and sent back to school. In the dual rôle of Hutchins and Major Mumby Mr. Wilton Heriot was quite at his ease, playing the part of the footman with typical urbanity, and that of the Major with a fiery impetuosity quite in keeping with the character. Master Jack Coyle enacted the public schoolboy very naturally, and Miss Jean Gilmour portrayed Kitty Wake in a winning and appropriate way.

In the variety bill were Mr. Syd Walker, in his novel creation, "The Debt Collector"; Mr. Harry Pleon, in his burlesque shilling shocker, "The Bad Girl of the Family Journal"; Ralph and Nelly Howard in a comedy sketch, *Military Mad*; Michel Bros., agile acrobats; Miss Maud Esmond, the "Charlie Brown Girl"; Mr. Gus Garrick and Mr. Fred Lincoln, with their latest up-to-date ditties, and Mr. Walter Espinosa, with some wonderful dances, assisted by Mons. Stefan Halle, from the Châtelet Theatre, Paris. The band, under the skilful direction of Mr. Frank Thomas, performed admirably, and Mr. Robert W. Duce saw to everyone's comfort in front in his usual courteous way.

MLLE. PAVLOVA models herself on Taglioni—in her opinion the most perfect dancer that ever lived. The young Russian dancer practises two hours a day. Naturally, she likes "legitimate" dancing, and the bizarre forms so much in vogue recently do not appeal to her. A legitimate dancer must always object to "fakes" in the way of "steps."

THE many friends of Little Zola, the popular comedian, who last week appeared with such great success at the Empire, West Hartlepool, will be interested to learn that he intends shortly to introduce on the stage a new monologue scena, the subject of which will be Quilp. His little daughter has recently made her stage début as Willie Carlyle in *East Lynne*.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

We have this week Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *Wontdetainia*, which has made an instantaneous success. The plot is good, the story is told in smart and clever dialogue, and the entire sketch is a worthy successor of the many winners that have gone before. The ocean liner is a marvel of mechanical skill, such as we rarely see equalled, and, with a company of Karno's comedians, no opportunity is lost for getting fun out of the many amusing situations. The sixty ladies and gentlemen appearing in the sketch each do their very utmost to ensure success, notably Mr. Shaun Glenville as Patsy O'Flynn, whose performance kept the audience convulsed with laughter, and Mr. Dean Tribune, whose impersonation of the dude, Percy Dart, was a clever and effective piece of work. Mr. Charles M. East made a burly and imposing Captain Nelsons, and played the part capitally; Mr. Fellows Bassett as the unscrupulous Desmond Marsh was very good indeed; his equally unscrupulous partner in villainy, Maud de Vere, was admirably represented by Miss Elsie Skillings; and Miss Kitty Benyon was a charming Sadie Vanderfelt.

Tate and Tate made a great hit with their bright and clever entertainment, which won golden opinions from all present; Orpheus gave the turn which has made him such a warm favourite with music lovers, and in which he had a very warm reception; the popular favourites, Brown and Le Clerq, had an ovation, and kept up their long and deservedly high reputation. Yamamoto and Koyoshi contribute a clever turn, which was well received; the Lancashire Lasses came in for a fair share of approbation for their well-arranged and Harry Brown, whose rendering of "Nobody" is like nothing else we can remember, and similar distinction attaches to his voluminous "patter," so quaintly delivered as to compel laughter. Miss Daisy Dormer adds to her admirers with her singing and dancing and her captivating appearance. "Clogs and shawl" secures the popular comedienne many recalls, when she gives by desire her entertaining lyric "Don't say good-bye," to which a well-executed dance is added. The illusions presented by Mr. Fred Wilkinson, assisted by Miss Ruby Mayo, begin with the production of a refreshment bar, graced by a comely waitress within a hitherto empty cabinet, and ends with the instantaneous substitution of the gentleman for the lady, who has been locked in a strong box. The tricks are smartly accomplished and win general approbation. Other items of a strong programme are Lyster and Cooke, who perform on a variety of curious instruments; Cora Corina, in character dances; and Cissie Thompson, comedienne, with the latest pictures on Ruffell's Bioscope. Mr. William Payne continues to administer affairs at the hall with ability and courtesy, and in Mr. William Lynch finds a trustworthy assistant.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

At the head of the programme for the current week is Mr. George Mozart, who is back again after only a short absence, but is nevertheless very welcome, as his performance is always diverting and well varied. On this occasion he introduces his skit of the drama as seen at a cinematograph show, and very comic it is, causing endless laughter. Mr. Mozart also gives his famous skit on musical conductors, which remains as laughable as of old. His assistant, Corporal Slippery, continues to lend him aid with the big drum. The Hyde and Cody Trio present a comic and clever acrobatic act, performing many neat tricks maker second to none. Mr. Albert Bruno appears as Perkins, and whether he be wooing the electors or demanding the vote for the women in the House itself he is equally amusing, and the whole show is one long laugh.

THE EUSTON.

Mr. Fred McAvoy produced at this house on Monday for one night only a new dramatic sketch by Lewis T. Dalrymple entitled

"THE WILL OF ALLAH."

Jack Marsden ..... MR. CLAUDE AGNEW
Billy Dickson ..... MR. R. FOSTER
Arthur Goode ..... MR. O. MANN
Benin ..... MR. ARTHUR ESTCOURT
Hassan ..... MR. R. ASHTON
Zaidee ..... MISS CYRETA ZALMARNI

The author is said to have invented the dance round which this "romance of the Sahara" is written. As far as we could gather from the opening speeches of the English characters, which were mostly given in conversational undertones, Zaidee, an Arabian girl, has promised to dance in front of the camera of Jack Marsden, a cinematograph operator, anxious to procure interesting films; and the promise is made notwithstanding the Arab superstition that the camera is the evil eye, and anyone on whom it is focused will surely die. After some parleying with an Arab guide, Benin, Zaidee arrives, with her lover, Hassan, a young gentleman with a sinister aspect, a darksome purpose, and a dagger. The girl dances in Oriental fashion, with occasional deviations into the quicker movements suggestive of the ballets of Europe. Towards the finish of her solo Zaidee is joined by Hassan, and scarcely has she concluded her exertions than he attacks her, stabbing her in the back. He then advances in a threatening attitude towards the operator, who promptly settles him with a six-shooter. Curtain! Miss hurricane of applause, which, needless to say, is repeated after each of his songs. He is giving "My heart is in the Highlands" and "Every laddie loves a lassie." The demands for an encore after the last are so great that in response he sings one verse of "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" without orchestral accompaniment.

Some clever sleight-of-hand is shown by Austin Temple, who has a charming assistant in Miss Irene Vincent. He performs a number of tricks most skilfully, and so easily are they done that audiences are completely mystified. A great local favourite, Percy Dalton, scores with a couple of numbers, entitled "I can't think of anything but girls" and "Let's go out with the boys," and brings his turn to a conclusion with a droll exhibition of the terpsichorean art. Miss Ethel Pierce is the possessor of a tuneful voice, and a clever acrobatic display is given by the Seven Wulfranas, who introduce, with effect, a considerable element of comedy.

An amusing little sketch, entitled *Susan*, is being presented by Miss Noble and Mr. Fixott. Although the plot is certainly not original, it is very cleverly and brightly acted, and audiences are not slow to show their appreciation in the usual way. Alix Lukos, in a series of impersonations of celebrities, is seen to special advantage as the late William Gladstone, and as the late Sir Redvers Buller bidding farewell to his troops on his recall to England. A couple of coon ditties are sung by Pop Dearly, viz., "Since I can't love you" and "She's a lump of love," the latter number especially appealing to the house, the music being rather catchy.

John Lawson and company are again scoring here in *The Monkey's Paw*, another strong feature of the programme. All the parts are capably filled, and from the rising of the curtain till its fall the piece is followed with breathless interest. Harry Claff, who derives much assistance from Miss Alice Tremaine, a dainty comedienne, seems to be fairly bubbling over with humour, and the Renowned Lannons easily demonstrate their right to be called champion pedestal dancers. Other items towards a most pleasant evening are Victoria Monks, Queenie Essex, Gilbert Girard, and the Melroses, and last, but not least, the Edwards pictures in a most interesting series of films.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The popularity of the sketch at the Metropolitan is proverbial, and in Mr. William Bailey's excellent programme this week there are no fewer than three. *The Maid of Polaria* is labelled a romantic musical idyll, and though the habitat of this charming demoiselle is a *terra incognita* to the Cook's tourist, it has no little resemblance to Venice. The Duke of Dainsbury has lost his heart to a Princess, and his passion is returned; but the course of true love is arrested for a time just for the sake of comedy, and to enable Mr. Walter Hast to sing pretty melody and to join in a duet with Miss Peggy Lennie, who disguises herself daintily as a gondolier, and acts with gaiety and piquancy. There should be a very prosperous future for this extremely pretty sketch, with its atmosphere of romance and its unfailing flow of melody.

Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. George Abel have found a capital successor to *Three of a Kind* in the serio-comic sketch *Town Hall To-night*, which we noticed fully on its original London production at the Euston. Mr. Abel now plays the manager of the theatre, who is property-master, orchestra, stage-manager—everything but scene-painter. The view of London by the local whitewasher, who has never been there, is a fine specimen of comic scenery, and the glimpses of life behind the scenes in fit-up theatres are cleverly dovetailed into a story that sounds a deep note of pathos at the conclusion. Fortunately Miss Arden, who appears as the star actress, "who has been with Frohman," is equally at home in humour and sentiment, and Mr. Abel has never done anything better than his Hip Flitters.

The programme winds up with *The Flood Tide*, a military and dramatic episode, taken from the Drury Lane drama of the same name, and played by Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company. It was originally produced at the Surrey in January last. The story incidentally touches on the ragging question and the status of "rankers" with their brother officers. Captain Jack Champion, who has risen from the ranks, has a fierce and unscrupulous rival for the hand of Mabel, the heroine, in the aristocratic Lord Sutton, his superior officer, who, however, has not the slightest chance. The characters are effectively handled by Messrs. F. Derek-Powell, Fraser-Brunner, Charles Freeman, Norman H. Lee, Roy Jackson, and Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner.

Miss Madge Temple, looking very smart indeed in a chic coat and skirt, has the house with her all the time she is singing "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," which has all the swing and the melodious rhythm of a genuinely popular number. Madge is quite a *persona grata*. Another lady whose verve, prettiness, and grace make the most favourable impression is Miss Gipsy Woolf, whose vocal and dancing scena, *The Mermaids of Margate*, is a happy combination of brightness, mirth, and melody. Mr. Dusty Rhodes, in his own irresponsible way, is always on the track of fun, and as a sentimental singer he is really not so "dusty," if we may be allowed to say so.

There's homage to "oor Rabbie" in the entertainment presented by Mr. John Donald, who rouses the house to enthusiasm by his heartful rendering of such gems of Scotch melody as "Bonnie Mary of Argyle," "The Macgregors' Gathering," and "Auld Lang Syne." Miss Daisy Mayer presents some clever character studies. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope projects interesting films, and Dan Conroy also entertains.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

The remarkable ability which the management of this theatre possesses of picking out talent from obscurity has stood this theatre in good stead this week, for most of the seats are filled as soon as the doors are opened. No great star is on the bill, yet each lady or gentleman engaged is an artist to his or her finger-tips, and the programme is bright and entertaining from start to finish.

Albert Le Fre, styled a comedian, but really a very clever conjurer and juggler as well, has a great reception. He explains in song and action how things are done on the stage, fully deserving the roars of applause given him at the conclusion of his performance. Then, too, we have Lenton and Lane in a musical duologue, entitled *Unconsidered Trifles*, which is screamingly funny and very cleverly produced.

A touch of pathos is supplied by the sketch *The Spy*, written by Percy Ford, the genial manager of this comfortable hall, and depicted by actors of no mean ability. A novel turn is given by Pependra Bose, an Indian who imitates the animals of his native land as well as some of the more familiar animals of Old England. A humorous ten minutes is given us by Robert S. Williams, who styles himself the swell tramp, and who works his way into the hearts of all music lovers through the medium of a one-string violin. The Two Walonells on the trapeze are wonderful acrobats, and their daring tricks are most marvellous to witness. Charles Conway is always appreciated, but in Camberwell he seems, if possible, to be a greater favourite than elsewhere, and his character-sketches from Charles Dickens earn for him round upon round of handclaps.

An original act is introduced by Zimpa, entitled "A Holiday at a Farmhouse," in which he gives a description in mimicry of a concert and a stroll through a farmyard, and deserves the great applause he receives. Others who deserve mention are the Gascoignes, in their clever juggling act; Kit Keen, the coloured comedian; and Madeline cleverly-executed business; Mona Vivian was cordially received, as was Nelson Jackson; the remaining item in an excellent programme being some interesting pictures by the American Bioscope. Mr. Forbes Russell ably conducted the capital band; Mr. Walter Smith looks well after matters behind the curtain; while the comfort of patrons and the business management are in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Epitaux and his able lieutenant, Mr. H. Percy Parry.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

His Satanic Majesty figures among excellent company at the South London this week in a thrilling dramatic sketch, called *Man and the Devil*, wherein an artist is persuaded to barter his soul for wealth and fame, but after committing innumerable crimes at the instance of the Evil One, awakes to find that he has been dreaming. A glimpse of Hades is afforded in a tableau, and no opportunity is lost of indicating the sulphurous character usually associated with the doings of the arch-fiend. That rôle is undertaken with a mixture of grim humour and ferocity by Mr. W. J. Mackay, whose make-up is awe-inspiring. Good support is rendered by the members of Mr. Terence B. Macmanus's company.

South London favourites receive a hearty welcome, and the house revels once again in the drolleries of Mr. Dan Crawley, whose blithe steps between the verses of his song "We've all been doing a bit" are irresistible. His old woman impersonation, too, has lost nothing of its usual effect. Dale and O'Malley have embellished their "conversation" with fresh interpolations which cause many a hearty laugh, and the imperturbable air of dignity of the one "indifferent comedian" still remains undisturbed by the facetiousness of the other, to the great delight of the audience.

A unique specimen of the coloured comedian is with marvellous agility. Ina Lorrimer, a clever lady, is rapidly coming to the front by reason of her comedy powers. At Kilburn she gives her new Scotch song, which goes very well, and the dance with which she winds up earns for her a big round of applause.

Liane D'Eve, the famous French chanteuse, is presenting her novel turn and scoring heavily with it. The charming lady sings delightfully and gives a varied répertoire. Her dresses are very artistic, and her manner of changing them is certainly a new departure. Will McIvor has a fine tenor voice, which he uses to the best advantage, and his song introducing popular English, Irish, and Welsh airs was greatly appreciated. Jack and Evelyn are always amusing, and their present diverting interlude, *The Tobacconists*, is very laughable. Jack O'Connor keeps the fun going with his very up-to-date topical allusions; he is, indeed, a ready-witted comedian, who never misses anything that is moving in the everyday world. George French, the droll comedian, is causing merriment with his roller-skating song and also with his vivid account of his exploits at football.

A very acceptable turn is that given by the Garricks, two ladies and two gentlemen, who sing several taking songs, one of which is topical and very up-to-date. Their concerted numbers are artistically rendered, and the violin obbligato to a song by one of the ladies is most appropriate and well played. A bright number is that of the Three Aza Boys, who dance in most accomplished fashion, the three of them keeping step and time with wonderful precision.

Fred Karno's company is also highly successful with the doings of the famous Perkins—his latest exploit, *Perkins, M.P.*, to wit. It is well up to all the other productions, and as a laughter-maker second to none. Mr. Albert Bruno appears as Perkins, and whether he be wooing the electors or demanding the vote for the women in the House itself he is equally amusing, and the whole show is one long laugh.

THE EUSTON.

Mr. Fred McAvoy produced at this house on Monday for one night only a new dramatic sketch by Lewis T. Dalrymple entitled

"THE WILL OF ALLAH."

Jack Marsden ..... MR. CLAUDE AGNEW
Billy Dickson ..... MR. R. FOSTER
Arthur Goode ..... MR. O. MANN
Benin ..... MR. ARTHUR ESTCOURT
Hassan ..... MR. R. ASHTON
Zaidee ..... MISS CYRETA ZALMARNI

The author is said to have invented the dance round which this "romance of the Sahara" is written. As far as we could gather from the opening speeches of the English characters, which were mostly given in conversational undertones, Zaidee, an Arabian girl, has promised to dance in front of the camera of Jack Marsden, a cinematograph operator, anxious to procure interesting films; and the promise is made notwithstanding the Arab superstition that the camera is the evil eye, and anyone on whom it is focused will surely die. After some parleying with an Arab guide, Benin, Zaidee arrives, with her lover, Hassan, a young gentleman with a sinister aspect, a darksome purpose, and a dagger. The girl dances in Oriental fashion, with occasional deviations into the quicker movements suggestive of the ballets of Europe. Towards the finish of her solo Zaidee is joined by Hassan, and scarcely has she concluded her exertions than he attacks her, stabbing her in the back. He then advances in a threatening attitude towards the operator, who promptly settles him with a six-shooter. Curtain! Miss

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

White, vocalist. Hugh Dempsey, eccentric comedian, though first on the programme, deserves a better place.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

There is a good all-round bill at Mr. Lucas's pretty little theatre in this northern suburb this week. Last Monday night *The Last Moment*, by Mr. Wilson Barrett, the novelist, and son of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett, was produced here, with Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, the son of the author, in the principal part. It is curious to note how the sons have reversed the positions occupied by their fathers, as Mr. Hall Caine, sen., wrote a play in which the late Mr. Barrett appeared. Mr. Caine takes the part of a man who has struggled with misfortune for years, and at a time when his little girl is very ill is driven to desperation. He argues that the authorities must care for his little one, and is on the point of shooting himself when a man dashes into the room and confesses that he has inadvertently murdered another man occupying the ground floor rooms. He offers the despairing father £200 in notes to save him from the consequences of his crime. Taking the money, the poor fellow writes out a confession of the murder and places the notes beneath the child's pillow. Then, when he is about to shoot himself, the clerk to the murdered man, accompanied by a police inspector, arrives on the scene, and denounces the intruder as the murderer of his employer. The little girl's evidence as to who of the pair is her father settles the matter, and the real culprit is placed under arrest, and the poor man, left with money to get necessities of life and even luxuries for his sick child, utters a prayer of thankfulness.

Mr. Dan Weldon sings "Some day you'll come back to me" very well indeed; and Nelson's Newsboys combine high-class vocalism with clever comedy business. Their turn is most acceptable. The coloured member is greeted with storms of applause for his really clever sand dance with which their entertainment concludes. Player and Dupree are clever and entertaining comedy artists, and sing, dance, and patter with great success; the skilful dancing of Ernest Clifford is cordially received; and a popular turn is contributed by Ethel Donna, who sings "Au revoir, Mr. Moore." Claff and Tremaine are established favourites here, and the repetition of their pantomimical scena, *The Demon and the Fairy*, should tend to further enhance their popularity, as the patter is up to date and their vocal contributions rendered in the best style. May Fairclough introduces some excerpts from modern plays with a large measure of success, her Clare Foster from *A Woman in the Case* and Lady Frederick from the play of that name being exceptionally clever. Cliff Ryland receives an ovation for his irresponsible fund of patter, and for his humorous songs, "Somebody's mother" and "As long as you can." One of the most successful turns in the bill is Miss Rosie Lloyd, who has two melodious songs, "Meet me in rose time" and "Take me for a walk."

EAST HAM PALACE.

Miss Clarice Mayne, in new songs and selections, heads a very attractive bill here this week, and at each performance this dainty comedienne comes in for the warmest applause and hearty appreciation. Her two numbers, "Put on your ta-ta, little girlie," and "Georgie took me walking in the park," find full favour with the audience, whilst her impersonation of Miss Marie Lloyd in one of her coster songs is very clever. The Gothams, billed as "royal entertainers," provide the audience with a "royal" treat, and their sweet-toned harmonising is vociferously applauded and encored. Their other vocal imitations of church bells and banjoes are also very skilfully rendered, and send the audience into raptures of delight. The performance also teems with many eccentric, droll, and amusing items. Morris, Mick, and Maudie introduce a novel act, *A Medical Muddle*, creating roars of laughter throughout.

The queen of sand dancers, "My Fancy," further enhances her popularity with the Palace patrons by her exquisite dancing, and she can easily lay claim to being the premier step-dancer at present appearing. Two catchy songs, "Come under the table, Mabel," and "What a fuss to make about a man," are the popular numbers of Miss Maud Prenton, a bright and vivacious comedienne, with a swinging style of chorus that quite catches on.

Miss Edie Gray and Coons, in harmony and dance, are warmly received. The song "My Sweet Aroon" is sweetly rendered by Miss Edie Gray, and she also sings in capital style "The Soldiers' Chorus" (*Faust*). The step-dancing of two white coons is par excellence, and thoroughly enjoyed. Much mirthful business is introduced by Colley and Scott, comedy entertainers; and the boy comedian, Wallace Lupino, is well received with his clever singing and dancing. Viviana and company, in their original dancing act *The Toy Shop*, are full of rare ability. The imitations of dancing dolls is very unique, and endless amusement is caused by the funny antics and drolleries of the shopman in his attempts to sell some of the dolls to a lady customer. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues to be a very popular feature.

THE IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

A magnificent palace for the dockers must be the verdict of the visitor to this artistic and sumptuous home of variety, and we may extend hearty congratulations to Mr. Pearce Lucas, managing-director; Mr. Harry Day, general-manager; and Mr. Harry Goodson, comptroller of the stage department. For this week the premier position is occupied by Mr. Adderley Howard and company in the nautical spectacle *Black-eyed Susan*. The scene depicting Portsmouth is most realistic, every detail being carefully studied, the court-martial being cleverly reproduced. Mr. Adderley Howard plays William with vigorous emphasis. An exceptionally smart turn is supplied by the Six Buster Browns, a set of bright young fellows who amuse with tuneful solo and glee singing, but their speciality is dancing, at which they are experts.

Mr. Luis Hardt, described as the Sandow Boy, is a fine specimen of humanity, and although but 8st. 7lb., is able to do feats of strength that men twice his weight would have difficulty in accomplishing. Mr. Hardt has a novel little scena, in which he impersonates a dude, and describes how remarkably strong were all his ancestors, while he thinks it so ridiculous that they should have boasted of lifting men fully dressed in armour. Having taken wine rather freely, he soon falls asleep and a quick change displays a gorgeous hall with a staff of footmen, knights in armour, &c, and here the various exhibitions of muscle and strength are displayed. The little act is tastefully arranged, and well thought out, the actor being vociferously applauded.

Harry Zetter, legmania artist, has a good song in "We've all been having a pop at it," and for his second item provokes roars of laughter in original striped fleshings while singing a master number, the dancing in this being worthy of great praise. The Three Gellans, Continental comedy artists, provide much good fun with their clever tumbling act, the many funny properties used causing much merriment. Miss Ida Kathrina, the dolly girl, has a bright little doll scene, the lady emerging from a toy house and singing a pretty little song, after which we are given an exhibition of tricky dancing. Fine effect is caused at the conclusion, when all the dolls dance to the strains of the orchestra. The item is decidedly novel.

Bros. Dean open with a whistling duet, the remaining part of their time on the stage being taken up by displaying their wonderful art in dancing, which is certainly extraordinary. Alec Keith's company of Amateur Actors in a modern ridicule of modern drama, cause a great deal of laughter, their many skits being certainly true. Baby Woolf, described as the phenomenal child artist, is certainly talented, and fully justifies the title given. Miss Bessie Callow has a tuneful chorus number in "Anywhere is all right"; other good turns being Chas. Leighton, tramp pianist, and Fred Costin, quaint comedian. A most capable orchestra is presided over by Mr. A. J. Stephenson. Mr. Frank Clarke is the resident-manager.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The management have provided almost a record programme for the current week, containing no less than a trio of Star artists bracketed at the top of the bill. Harry Randall, whose name is a household word in the neighbourhood, is securing a big reception. His first song, sung in the guise of a "slavey," enables him to introduce a great deal of patter dealing with masters and mistresses, which causes any amount of laughter. His second song, which curiously enough also deals with an exceptional type of man-servant, is scarcely so good. His greeting was of that kind reserved for warm favourites. Ella Shields sings a couple of songs in her own charming style. The second enables her to appear as a military officer, the uniform suiting her admirably, and her reception is most cordial. Will Evans is introducing a song dealing with the complications with regard to his relations. It is very amusing and very much to the taste of the audience. For his second item he is presenting his new burlesque "Chantecler." This proves to be a happy-go-lucky skit on the French production of the same name. The costume he wears is very effective, and he receives good support from the three gentlemen who assist him. He had a very cordial reception. Esta Stella in a song and dance scored a success, her vivacity making her a favourite. Dan Crawley is appearing in a couple of songs; the first, "We've all been doing a bit," went well, and the second, a dance song, with some amusing patter, kept the house thoroughly amused. He gained several calls. Marshall and Parr in a drawing-room entertainment made a good impression, their vocal number at the end gaining for them great applause. George French is establishing himself as a firm favourite here. Both of his songs, the first on Roller Skating, and the second on Football, enable him to display his melancholy style to the best advantage, and his success was very emphatic. Powell and Visey in a musical comedy duologue *A Perfect Woman*, submit a capital show. The gentleman is a really good comedian, who caused some of the heartiest laughter during the evening, and the lady is a very dainty artist, and the dance with which they conclude is clever. The audience accorded them several well-earnt calls. Edna Latonne, who appears as a naval officer and looks very smart, has a taking song, which soon caught the ear of the house, and gained for the artist several calls.

The O'Gorman Bros. present one of the smartest dancing turns seen here, which secured immediate recognition from the house. They also introduced a couple of songs and some cross-talk, and altogether it is a very entertaining act. Gordon and St. Croix, who are at the bottom of the bill, are presenting a new romantic scena, entitled "The Romanys," written, composed, and produced by Jack Brownson, arranged by Henry May, the scenery being by Roberts and Co., and the costumes by H. and M. Rayne. The music is bright and melodious. Miss Beatrice Edwards plays the principal part, and is the possessor of a good voice, which is used to great advantage. Effective support is rendered by a number of ladies and gentlemen who are not billed, and a good chorus adds to the strength of the production. The audience followed the progress of the show with interest, and the fall of the curtain was the signal for great applause. Nash and Noel are also in the bill. The orchestra render invaluable services during the evening under the direction of Mr. T. Gray. Mr. B. Adams, the popular manager here, is very courteous and attentive in the front of the house. Business continues to be exceptionally good.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

The chief item in this week's particularly interesting programme is Kate Carney and company in *The Fun of the Fair*. The sketch, which is in three scenes, is well produced, and is responsible for much laughter. The plot is a slight one, but what there is serves to bring out some sterling acting on the part of Mr. Geo. M. Marriott as Hager the Witch. His "make-up" was truly wonderful. Miss Kate Carney, as Carmen the Gipsy Queen, was in fine form and rendered her songs in quite her best style. The comic business was in the hands of Messrs. Willie Phillips and Albert Mason, who managed to extract much laughter by their clever fooling.

Esta Stella, the military maid, is an artist with a refreshing style. Quite a welcome feature of her performance was a clever eccentric dance. The Rawsons in a pot pourri drawing-room entertainment were successful. The lady's voice in "Thora" was certainly heard to advantage, whilst a very pretty number was the coon duet to banjo accompaniment. Carney and Armstrong are always good, and their jokes and quips never tire or bore. Their methods are certainly peculiar to themselves. Another item quite to the liking of the audience was George Gilbey with his predictions for every month of the year. His patter was very amusing. The bill also included Alf. Mendes in a novel scena, entitled "The Musical Burglar"; Frank Fort, the Johannesburg Jester; Renee, instrumentalist; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, and Alice Hollander, whose fine contralto voice was heard to decided advantage, both her songs being presented with artistic feeling.

Mr. Austin Anderson, busy as ever, manages to find time to welcome all visitors.

Mr. Will S. Pearce, comedian, author, composer, and tutor, has just made arrangements to train and bring out talented beginners for the music halls at the Royal Oak Assembly Rooms, Glenthorne-road, Hammersmith. They will have the advantage of appearances on a real stage at weekly concerts.

The Four Hawkers are booking up well their smart act, having caught on from the first performance. There is much originality in their doings.

"LIANE" AT THE TIVOLI.

Musical Playlet, by Walter Macnamara, Music by Theodora Holland, Produced on Monday, April 18, at the Tivoli.

Frank Rowland .....Mr. H. Hardy-Jackson
Reggie Petersen .....Mr. J. Valentine
Charles Hawthorn ....Mr. Charles D. Wright
Tom .....Mr. Julian Garden
Elsie Wood .....Miss May Hollom
Liane .....Miss Carlotta Maxime

The danger of philandering has been taught in many a stage play, and in the romantic lives of poets of both northern and southern nationalities are to be discovered *affaires de cœur* taken only too seriously by the woman. "Man's love is of man's life a thing apart; 'tis woman's whole existence," says Byron; but the tragic truth of these lines did not occur to Frank Rowland when he had a flirtation in Paris with the *commère* of a revue at the Folies-Bergère. The happy hours in her company have been forgotten in the society of Elsie Wood, his fiancée, whom he is expecting at his flat every minute. Liane has written to say that she is on her way to London, and there is a prospect of the two women meeting—a *contretemps* to be avoided if possible. Elsie arrives first, and brings with her a number of theatrical chums and some impressionable Johnnies, who adore the favourites of the footlights, and are on quite familiar terms with them. They make merry with wine, song, and jest, and the gaiety of the frivolous crowd reaches its height with drinking to the toast of Frank and Elsie. The moment is inopportune for the advent of Liane, but she comes, and a chill afflicts the crowd. The awkwardness of the meeting with Frank is smoothed over by her not claiming his acquaintance, and by her plea that she has come into the wrong room. With an affectation of light-hearted gaiety she sings a drinking song, and draining a glass of wine, into which she throws a powder, she dies.

Miss Andrée Corday was too indisposed to play the title-rôle on Monday evening, and her place was taken successfully by Mlle. Carlotta Maxime. Mr. Hardy-Jackson is well suited in a "Cigarette" song, which he renders with culture and charm, though he should avoid a tendency to vibrato. Miss May Hollom, whom one remembers in Hippodrome and Coliseum productions, is a fascinating Elsie, and would give much greater effect to an ear-haunting number, entitled "Love," if she was more distinct. Mr. J. Valentine as Reggie contributes to the smartness and the wit of the piece by his pointed delivery of some good dialogue. The music is good; the pretty dresses are worn by pretty women; and the *ensemble* is excellent.

Messrs. Bennett Scott and A. J. Mills have just fitted Mr. Fred Barnes with a song, entitled "Tell 'em that I'm your uncle." The comedian is quite delighted with it, and considers the number to be quite one of the happiest efforts of these versatile song-authors. Fred Barnes has the sole rights.

Mr. H. Curline Baldry wishes to thank the Great Lafayette for his offer of secretary's position, which he is very sorry to be unable to accept.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Mr. Mark Sheridan at the Euston Palace on Monday last produced for the first time Mr. Will Letters' comedy chorus-song "We're miles away from home," and scored a most unequivocal success, the crowded audience joining in the catchy chorus like "one man," as the saying goes. Mr. Sheridan will reserve this number for his West-End engagements after Whitsun, as his great success, "I do like to be beside the seaside," is going so big at the Oxford and Tivoli at present that no change of programme is advisable. Both songs are published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.

Early next week at the Putney Hippodrome Mr Mark Sheridan will tentatively produce John P. Harrington and John Neat's new satirical comedy number, "Hear what the crowd say as they come out," which the genial Mark himself pronounces to be the absolutely best song he has had for years.

"Beautiful Garden of Roses," by Dempsey and Schmid, is rapidly proving its claim to be considered the ballad success of the present season. It is a sheer delight to listen to this number at the Oxford, Standard, and Bedford, at each of which the song receives a perfect ovation. Messrs. Feldman and Co. are the publishers.

A phenomenally successful light comedy song of the present season is E. W. Rogers and John Neat's dainty and piquant number, "The pretty little girl from nowhere." Its successful reign during pantomime time has in no way militated against its success both on the halls of variety and in pierrot land. It may safely be predicted that this Feldman song will be one of the biggest seaside hits of the year.

Two other Feldman songs which are in enormous demand just now for music-hall and alfresco exploitation are Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," and Harrington and Godfrey's "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" while a third Arthur-street publication, which is a close "runner-up," is the pastoral romance "My sweet garden queen," by Harrington, Rogers, and Neat.

That favourite performer, Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, at York last week nightly sang no less than three Feldman songs, to wit: "I wonder who's kissing her now?" "Longing for one sight of you," and "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," all of which were received with tumultuous acclaim. Miss Ra Leslie is on the eve of producing a new Feldman number, from the pens of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, entitled "I want to come home to Killarney," which gives every evidence of proving as popular as the same firm's (and writers') "Connemara."

At the Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, this week, popular Miss Lottie Lennox is cheered to the echo for her rendering of Feldman's popular chorus-song, "Put on your old plaid shawl," which is certainly one of the most successful songs in her present répertoire, and is joined in lustily by her delighted hearers.

The latest dainty exponent of Feldman and Co.'s big ballad winner, "Beautiful Garden of Roses," is Miss Violet Romaine, who nightly wins golden opinions from all and sundry among her auditors at the Peckham Hippodrome for her really exquisite rendering of this charming song. Miss Romaine will shortly feature several other publications issued by the same enterprising firm.

On Monday next Miss Gertie Gitana purposes producing at her London "turns" Feldman and Co.'s pretty pastoral song of the affections, "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and expectation runs high that this song will prove one of the most successful ever yet sung by this talented young artist.

Messrs. Feldman and Co. have acquired the publishing rights of George Formby's latest comedy song, "I'm taking my father's tea," written and composed by William Hargreaves, author-composer of "I put on my coat and went home." Feldman's also publish the last-named, as well as two other successful Formby numbers, "Since I had a go at my dumb-bells," and the excruciatingly funny creation "Playing the game in the West."

Miss Ada Reeve, during her Hippodrome, London, engagement, produced two Feldman numbers, "Nobody knows—nobody cares," and "I wonder who's kissing her now?" and was delighted with the reception each song received. She is producing immediately Harrington and Neat's strong comedy chorus number, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there!" published by the same firm, which she is confident will be one of the greatest successes she has ever had in the popular song line.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

A very heavy bill has been presented during the week at Mr. Harry Bawn's pretty house Edmonton way; but Mr. Fred Alexander, the energetic manager, makes light of the work entailed, and the succession of fine turns follow one another with a promptness that would be hard to equal.

Tom Lee, a genial comedian that one liked immediately he was seen, comes on very near the opening of the bill with a very fine song called "Seaside swank." Tom was neatly dressed from head to foot in white, and his number, being excellently rendered, got the audience into the best possible humour for what was to follow. Some very fine top-boot dancing was done by the Sisters Belmont, and Williams and Warden ("Dooley and his dear, dear friend") were responsible for a great deal of laughter. The Four Leons, well-dressed young fellows in purple suits, suggestive of Yankee tailoring, danced like clockwork. Their names were not on the programme, neither were those of Roy and Fenton or Lloyd and Maynard, two acts that did extremely well.

We have seen Reg. Beauchamp several times of late, and unless we are greatly mistaken, this comedian is going to be one of the big headliners on variety theatre bills before many years have passed. His dame make-up is excellent, his voice powerful and tuneful, and he gets thoroughly at home with his audience from the first moment. Edmonton wanted more—very much more—of him on the night of our visit. But time pressed, and already the waiting second house clamoured for admission, so Reginald had to bow off.

There are two very good sketches in this particular programme—one, *The Burglar-Bungler*, and the other *The Midnight London Express*. In the first Mr. Charles Levey very humorously takes the part of a criminal with virtuous instincts and a bad memory. He is a skilful pianist, and whilst anxious as to the whereabouts of the jewels, he is burgling a mansion for he cannot resist the temptation a Brinsmead offers to dash off a few popular melodies. So the jewels and the policeman have to wait, and there is much fun in the waiting process. That excellent Lyceum actress, Miss Mabel Mannering, takes the part of the kidnapped heroine of *The Midnight London Express* in fine style. There are three scenes, all of them excellent, but the last depicting a country station on a loop line, with signal-box, railway-bridge, and lines complete, is exceptionally well staged. Mr. Gerald Kennedy as Krymes, a procurer, has a semi-villainous humorous part, to which he does every justice. The old signalman has a good exponent, too, in Brien McCullough. The hero cavalryman, Captain Jack Hanlan, is well played by Sanderson Moffatt, and Miss Nellie Nelson's Betty Martin is very well acted indeed.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

MISS JOSÈ COLLINS. *A Charming Singer of a Beautiful Number.*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE?

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

MASONS AT WORK.

The last meeting previous to the installation of the new Master of the Chelsea Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on the 15th inst., and proved to be an exceptional one in various ways. First, the Worshipful Master, Mr. Walter H. Hitch, had the satisfaction of seeing all the offices filled by the regularly-appointed officers—viz., Messrs. H. Bawn, S.W., W. Walton, J.W., Geo. Dyball, S. D., L. G. Sharpe, J.D., Ernest Leicester, I.G., C. J. Doughty (Secretary), W. S. Lyon (Treasurer), Angelo Asher (Organist).

A ballot was taken, and proved unanimous in favour of admitting Messrs. A. G. Harman, W. J. Mackay, and Rameses into the Order, the ceremony being performed by Mr. Hitch, the Worshipful Master, who afterwards vacated the chair in favour of Mr. H. Coutts, Immediate Past Master. He advanced Messrs. O'Malley and Clifford, and retired in favour of Mr. J. W. Mathews, the first Master of the Lodge, who completed the final stage of the ceremony with regard to Messrs. Catlin, Dale, and Camp.

It was unanimously resolved to present Mr. W. H. Hitch with a Past Master's jewel and a silver-gilt loving-cup in recognition of his very valuable services as Master of the Lodge during the past twelve months. Mr. Harry Bawn was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the coming year, and Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon re-elected Treasurer, as was Mr. J. H. McNaughton Tyler.

It having been reported that Mr. Keeton, a member of the Lodge, was sailing that day for Australia, a telegram wishing him a speedy voyage and safe return was despatched to him on board the s.s. Osterley. There was an exceptionally large attendance of the members, including Messrs. Walter H. Hitch, W.M., Harry Bawn, S.W., W. F. K. Walton, J.W., Wolfe S. Lyon (Treasurer), C. J. Doughty (Secretary), G. H. Dyball, S.D., L. G. Sharpe, J.D., E. T. R. Leicester, I.G., Angelo A. Asher (Organist), A. E. Nicklin and G. H. Hill (Stewards), Henry Coutts, I.P.M., J. H. McNaughton, Tyler, James W. Mathews, Pete Murray, Wm. Ward, Harold Finden, Harry Bancroft, Josh. Clifton, Monte Bayly, Albert Telino, Douglas White, Willie Berne, Frank Hardie, Fred Neiman, John Grant, Fred Camp, B. Freidkin, E. B. Seener, Chas. Levey, Bowker Andrews, Ernie Mayne, Albert Christian, C. H. Burton, Harry Clifford, Herbert La Martine, B. J. Whiteley, H. C. Lovell, Bertie Ralland, Augustus Dale, Dan Lipton, Ed. E. Ford, Andie Caine, Albert Marchinski, A. G. Harman, W. J. Mackay, Frank Fort, Herbert Chenery, Horace E. Arrondelle, Will Fox, and the following visitors: Sidney E. Rendle, St. John, 1,306; Sydney T. Russell, St. John, 1,305; Bernard Cohen, Skelmersdale, 1,658; C. Vincent Adams, Eyre, 2,742; Harry Ray, Liverpool Dramatic, 1,609; Harry Claff, Liverpool Dramatic, 1,609; John Worth, Earl's Court, 2,765, P.A.G.P.; J. J. Orr, Earl's Court, 2,765; W. Rees, Imperial, 1,694.

At the conclusion of the business the members and their friends adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel for refreshments, where the Master embraced the opportunity of thanking all the officers for the assistance they had rendered him during his year of office.

At a dinner to be held by the members of the Genesius Club of Instruction at Frascati's on Sunday next, opportunity will be taken to present Messrs. W. Lestocq and W. S. Lyon with the regalia appertaining to the respective offices they have been appointed to in Grand Lodge, and which have been subscribed for by the various lodges of which they are members.

MR. OSWALD STOLL'S PLANS.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has made the following statement to the Press generally:—"As no doubt you know, we have frequently been invited to operate in America, and I have as frequently refrained from succumbing to the temptation because I did not wish to provoke retaliation from American interests with which we might thereby come into collision. But Mr. Martin Beck has now removed the ground for any such consideration, and, he having done so, I must confess that I rather look forward to the freedom of action that is thus conferred upon us.

"It is clear that our opponents seek for these alliances because they have difficulty in filling their programmes with competent artists; for we, undoubtedly, have the pick of the variety profession on our books. But whether this is their reason or not, the Moss Empires can usefully operate an American tour for quite another reason. For example, we continue to engage very many excellent acts and artists because we cannot let our opponents have them; so that these acts and artists will prove all the more valuable to us later in consequence of an American season giving them a rest from our British tour. Besides, their absence in America will leave room on our books for many acts that we would gladly accommodate, but which we cannot arrange at present.

"For the purpose of working an Anglo-American exchange of artists negotiations are already afoot for the Moss Empires to join in a circuit of the John Cort Theatres, a circuit which will parallel the Orpheum circuit, extensive as that circuit is.

"We are also making provision for taking over other houses—theatrical and variety—so as to afford easy travelling stages to this splendid American field. Mr. A. L. Erlanger has been over to England to see me, but he is not financially interested in this scheme of ours. He is the executive head of the American Theatrical Syndicate, which controls nearly seven hundred theatres!

"The finances of this new Anglo-American combine—or merger—will be provided by a new American and British corporation, which will pool our money and the money of investors. I am assured that the capital required can be underwritten in twenty-four hours if necessary. Without necessarily opposing any Eastern interest in the States, we can, we find, arrange to have variety houses in New York, Buffalo, and Chicago, with another fine house between New York and Buffalo."

Questioned concerning the statement published as to his proposal to duplicate the London Coliseum in Broadway, New York, Mr. Oswald Stoll said:—"That is the great part of the scheme. No one thought it possible to acquire a site on the right spot and in every way adaptable to the erection of such a building. But I have found it, and I may safely say that towards the end of the year there will be very considerable developments. For the working of my scheme, and for running it when finished, I have decided to pay two visits a year to America, each visit to occupy about five weeks."

MR. FRED BARNES, at the Empire, Portsmouth, this week is attaining a phenomenal success with Messrs. Feldman's song "I'd rather be beside the fireside." The song is again the rage of the town, being sung and whistled by the man in the street with great gusto. The song is now leading for al fresco performers.

MR. ALFRED BUTT, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Urban, is now including in the "Kinemacolour" section of the Palace Theatre programme a second edition of Paris Herself Again—the present-day Paris of the boulevards and the Champs Elysees, of the Halles, and the picturesque surroundings of the Golden Dragon of the Pont d'Alexandre III., thrown upon the screen in perfect chromatic melody. The itinerant hawkers, dear to Parisians, are everywhere, from the flower-girls to the pavement pedlars of those wonderful mechanical toys which Mr. Louis Brennan confesses gave him the idea of applying the gyroscope to his mono-rail car, and the series concludes with some magnificent views of the Gardens of the Tuileries.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MLLE. GHITA CORRI.

Mlle. Ghita Corri, the remarkable dramatic soprano and character actress, who has won a great reputation on the halls during the last four or five years, comes of a very old dramatic and musical family, being the great-granddaughter of the composer Domenico Corri—the friend of Haydn, and founder of the Philharmonic Society—and the daughter of Henry Corri, who was for many years leading baritone at Drury Lane and Covent Garden, and who afterwards founded the grand opera company bearing his name.

It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that Mlle. Corri's experiences have been professional since her earliest childhood, and when still in her teens she was a frequent principal vocalist at the big Crystal Palace concerts, under the late August Manns, on one of these occasions having the distinguished services, as pianist, of M. Paderewski, who, in the absence of the usual accompanist, most kindly volunteered to play "Let the bright Seraphin" for her, and played it, as Mlle. Corri gratefully avers, "like a full orchestra."

At this time she also appeared on the leading concert tours with Foli, Joachim, Piatti, Hollman, Janotha, the Ravoglis, &c.—on one tour deputising for the late Sims Reeves!—and later on joined the Carl Rosa Opera Company in London as prima donna, making a triumphant *début* as Margherita in *Faust*. Her general répertoire consists of no less than forty operas, in French,

[*Photo by Hellis.*

MLLE. GHITA CORRI IN "CALLER HERRIN'."

Italian, German, and English, besides over one hundred leading oratorios and cantatas, from the *Messiah* down to the latest modern works, the soprano rôles of which she has often been specially engaged to create. For five years she ran her own grand opera company, and is still an occasional giver of high-class concerts.

The late Charles Morton gave Mlle. Corri her first variety engagement, securing her for the Palace Theatre, and she then went on from one engagement to another, with the result that at the present time, with the exception of the Stoll tour, she has worked, with unvarying success, as vocalist and character actress, nearly every leading theatre in London and the provinces, not to mention Scotland, Ireland, France, and Spain. Her present successful song-scena, *Character Types*, introduces generally three or four well-marked popular characters from her huge gallery of impersonations—Georgian cavaliers and Italian peasant boys, Scotch fishwives (studied from the Broughty Ferry workers), Spanish cigarette-girls (from types noted at Barcelona during Mlle. Corri's professional engagement there), Eastern princesses (from the British Museum), old German musicians (from life), ragged beggar-girls, radiant English milkmaids, and scores of other minutely-studied impersonations, each with a character-song—viz., "If I had a thousand lives to live" for the Georgian cavalier, "Caller Herrin'" for the Scotch fishwife, "Cleopatra" for the Eastern princess, and so on.

Mlle. Corri, it is interesting to note, possesses the phenomenal range of three octaves and five notes—from the low bass G to E in alt.—entirely without a break; while her perfect Italian vocalisation enables her to sing the most exacting florid music, like Rosini's "Bel'Raggio," with the same consummate ease with which she declaims the sonorous and mighty recitatives of Handel. For the leading phonograph companies she has made numberless soprano and contralto records, and her physical strength is such that she has sung twelve grand operas in a week, and four concerts between 8.30 and 11. Above all, Mlle. Corri is immensely popular with the public, her breezy character acting, her inexhaustible vitality, her good humour, and her glorious voice winning her countless friends in every audience.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

MARCH.

Pride of Regiment, sketch, by F. D. Bone (originally produced at the Haymarket Theatre, Feb. 28, 1908); Holborn Empire, March 7.

The Merry Widower, comedy episode; Bedford, March 7.

The New World, sketch, in three scenes; Bow Palace, March 7.

The Queen of the Fair, musical play, in one act; libretto and lyrics by R. C. Thorp, music by Basil Horsfall; Empire, Camberwell, March 7.

Le Visiteur, play, in one act, in French, by Georges Numa; Palace Theatre, March 7.

The Fourth Kiss, dramatic episode, by W. Douglas Newton; Peckham Hippodrome, March 9.

Cupid's Arms, musical comedy playlet; Oxford, March 12.

The Mask Torn Off, sketch, in one scene, by Ward Bailey and Edward Thane; Empress, Brixton, March 14.

The Diver's Luck, sketch, in four scenes; Poplar Hippodrome, March 14.

The Reckoning, sketch, in one scene, by Ellen Lancaster Wallis; Empress, Brixton, March 21.

The Chinese Idol, sketch, in one scene, by Henry Gold; Camberwell Empire, March 21.

Cock-a-Doodle-Doo, satirical sketch, in one scene, by Mr. Andrew Stanley; Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, March 21.

Adventures of the Black Hand, a miniature melodrama, by Fred Moule; Sadler's Wells, March 28.

The Man of Forty Faces, sketch, dramatised by Leonard Mortimer from a story by T. W. Hanshew; Bedford, March 28.

She Pays the Penalty, Russian wordless play, music by Raoul Moreau; Tivoli, March 28.

Boys in Camp, musical interlude, by Frank Leo; Rotherhithe Hippodrome, March 28.

Her Husband, comedy sketch; Shoreditch Empire, March 28.

Phyllis, comedy sketch; Rotherhithe Hippodrome, March 28.

"LOOP-GOLF-HITS."

CHARLES FISHER'S GREAT INVENTION.

It is now seven years since Mr. Fisher first gave us his "Miniature Opera" productions on the variety stage. Everybody then wondered at his audacity in giving "opera in the halls." How well that venture of Mr. Fisher's succeeded is now ancient history. Mr. Fisher, in the past week, has sprung an even greater surprise on us, for he has presented the royal game of golf to the world in tabloid form. Briefly, Mr. Fisher has made it possible to indulge in a round with the clubs in one's drawing-room, spare room, or on board ship, without any danger whatever, and this was demonstrated a week ago at Anderton's Hotel, when Messrs. Taylor and Braid, the famous golf champions, brought all their wrist and fore-arm into play in putting the game to the test. One of the dailies remarked: "All present wondered that there was no accident."

After that demonstration, and the mutual congratulatory handshaking over, our representative managed to "bunker" Mr. Fisher for a few minutes' chat. Coming to the point at once our man lead off with the question: "What on earth made you think of this device?" Mr. Fisher's face positively beamed with delight, as he answered: "Why, my boy, hundreds of thousands of people, I feel sure, are anxious to learn golf. Thousands cannot get to the links after they have learnt. These people long for a round with the clubs. There are thousands who would like to learn how to handle a club before venturing on the links proper. What better opportunity can they have than at home, with no lynx-eyed caddy to giggle if they badly slice, pull, or top the ball, or perhaps, worse still, miss it altogether. Again, how many are there getting well into the forties or fifties who require some form of rejuvenating exercise. I contend that golf brings into play every muscle and nerve in the body. How many are there who could possibly negotiate an eighteen-hole course? It is all very well for some people with a superabundance of animal spirits to ramp about the green turf; but, unfortunately, we are not all made alike. Therefore, I thought of a something that would answer at least as a substitute, and at the same time be an adjunct to the great and royal game, golf.

"This arrangement for an outdoor or indoor practice game is entirely my own, and I hold all the patent rights. I have been working on it twelve months now. Never shall I forget my numerous visits to the great golf champions, Messrs. Taylor and Braid. I shall not forget either how, on one occasion, just when I thought I had it perfect, Mr. Braid put in one of his mighty strokes, and away went the ball. 'Now what's happened,' says he. 'What I wanted to happen,' I replied. 'That some of the conceit should be knocked out of me.' On another occasion I took him down a 12yds. length cord. He played with this in his workshop. I was truly astounded that only once out of fifty shots did the device turn over. On his last shot he very quietly made a remark: 'Well, if it will stand that, it will stand anything.'"

Our representative had to confess to Mr. Fisher that he unfortunately knew nothing whatever about golf when he inquired what the advantages of the game were to ordinary golfers or beginners.

"I claim," replied Mr. Fisher, "that 'Loop-Golf-Hits' is the alphabet to golf proper. By using it one can learn how to golf at home, or, rather, how to hit your ball the correct way before you venture on the links. Again, it teaches you how to pick up your ball with each club used, and at the same time loft it so that you can easily play out or over a bunker. The device will tell you if you play straight, for there are five loops. The centre one, if in playing a game, singles, foursomes, or single practice, counts three, next two, outer loop one. Therefore, if the cord gets in one of these loops, you may take it you have played a pretty straight shot, and at the same time a correct shot, for your ball must go over the device to score as you noticed during the play to-night.

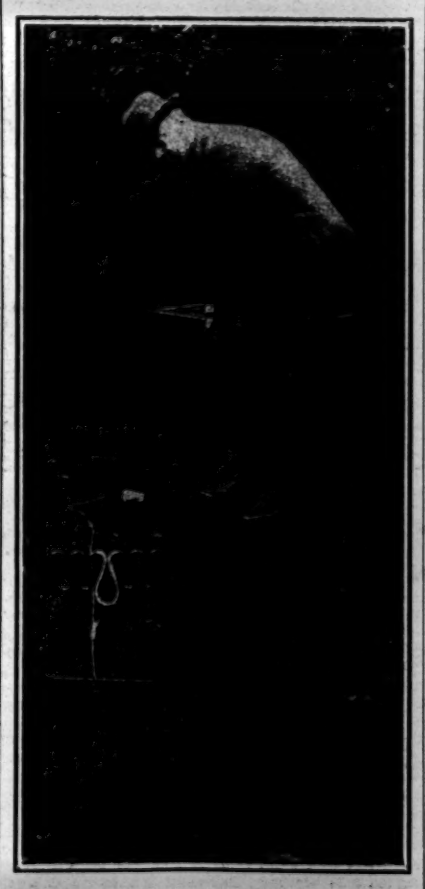

To become a decent golfer one must play equally well with all clubs, so that you must use them in the same way as you would on the links proper. Then, after grasping an idea of the way to hit your ball, and you fancy you would like to try the links, do so, and try to remember your faulty shots when playing there.

"'Loop-Golf-Hits' gives you every chance to quietly practice by yourself until you gain some confidence. You know when one starts on the links one absolutely knows nothing of the game—it is all so bewildering. How many are there, before commencing a round of the links, execute imaginary 'drives,' just to give them a kind of 'Nerve Tonic.' To such golfers 'Loop-Golf-Hits' prove of immense value. The same argument applies after a round of the links. There are faulty shots we would like—whilst in our memory and eagerness—to try and rectify at once, for if one is inclined to be of a nervous disposition, one easily gets disgusted with oneself and the game as well. You can put in as many shots in ten minutes over the device as you would in an hour or so on the links proper. Consequently, to a business man a round with the clubs in the morning or evening will keep him absolutely fit. Taking our own profession, it should become popular for stage golf practice, and even in the dressing-rooms between the houses twice nightly. Then the Army and Navy should find it very useful. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has graciously honoured me by accepting a set for his trip to Africa. This should set a fashion for the game on the great ocean liners.

"The stage rights are thoroughly protected, and I have one of the biggest tops of the bills in preparation. You might mention that if anyone would like to read my specifications they can do so at the Patent Office, and the number is 16297.

"I should very much like to take this opportunity of publicly thanking Messrs. Taylor and Braid for their great and unselfish generosity in assisting me in every possible way to thoroughly and impartially test 'Loop-Golf-Hits.'"

A BUSY SONG AND SKETCH WRITER.

MR. CHARLES D. HICKMAN.

Born in 1862, Mr. Chas. D. Hickman started as a showman at school, in conjunction with the late Walter Sealby, giving weird ghost entertainments in the coal-cellar. As a youth he appeared as a reciter at various West End entertainments, in company with other youthful aspirants, among them Miss Annie Hughes, Mr. Fred Grove, Mr. Fred Eastman, Mr. J. P. Preston, and Mr. George Arliss. At the age of sixteen he started song and sketch-writing, and several of his sketches

[*Photo by Nock.*

MR. CHARLES D. HICKMAN.

were at that time published by Messrs. Abel Heywood and Sons, of Manchester. About that time he wrote a nigger sketch for two young performers, now known to fame as Gus Elen and Tom Bassett.

Then followed his first monologue, *Obliging His Landlady*, which was performed by the late A. Melville and published by S. French, which firm has now several of Mr. Hickman's productions in their catalogue. Among Mr. Hickman's first song customers were the Sisters Williams, Alf. Chester, Harry Dowton, Teddy Mosedale, and G. H. Macdermott. Mr. Hickman was the first writer to supply Mr. George Robey with songs. This was when the now famous comedian was with Kennedy, the mesmerist, at the Royal Aquarium.

In the late 'eighties Mr. Hickman became stage-manager for Mr. Geo. E. Belmont, at the Sebright, where he was extensively advertised as "Druriolanus's Disciple." After three years with "Barnum's Beauty," he undertook the management of the Alhambra, Sandgate, for Mr. Tom Maltby, two years later succeeding the late Fred Law as manager of the Royal York Pavilion, Southampton, where one day there came a pleasant little lady with a letter of recommendation from the late Fred Gilbert. The applicant's demands were so moderate that Mr. Hickman booked her on top of the company already engaged, and an early success was thus made by Miss Connie Ediss.

After six years in Southampton, for part of which time he was licensee of the old Empire, in French-street, and a far from profitable experience in Colchester, Mr. Hickman again took up his pen, and during the Boer War wrote "A Clown's Appeal," with which Griff, by reciting it, gained a considerable sum for the fund raised by the *Daily Telegraph*. The same artist also did good work at the London Hippodrome with Mr. Hickman's lines written on behalf of the "Lifeboat Saturday" fund. Mr. Hickman wrote "The Costers' friendly lead" for Charles Coborn, and "Impudent Parney," which was a great sensation at the London Pavilion, for Herbert Campbell. His songs have also been sung by Arthur Roberts, R. G. Knowles, Dan Leno, Whit Cunliffe, Mark Sheridan, and many other stars of the past and present.

Mr. Hickman has also written for nearly every ventriloquist of note, including Arthur Prince, Tom Edwards, Prof. Dunning, Fred Russell, and Coram. His recent work includes sketches for the McConnells, Hillman and Russell, and Joe Elvin. With old clients still going to him, and with Mr. Chris Van Bern as a travelling representative, Mr. Hickman will doubtless continue a busy man.

"BOYS IN CAMP."

A Song-Scena, Written and Composed by Mr. Frank Leo, and Produced by Miss Sable Fern at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, April 18.

Scout Master ..... MISS SABLE FERN
Veteran ..... MR. J. C. RUSSELL

Miss Sable Fern has secured a well-written, bright, and catchy attraction, titled as above, and the reception accorded to it at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday was indeed cordial. As the curtain ascends a camp scene is exposed to view, and the boy scouts are observed performing the various duties appertaining to their respective posts. In the midst of their different tasks a bugle is heard in the distance, and the Scout Master (Miss Sable Fern) enters and instructs the boys by means of song in their duties in future life. She sings with telling effect "Teach the rising generation," and also scores in another number, "Keep whistling." The old veteran, a part skilfully undertaken by Mr. J. C. Russell, has a good song in "When the camp fire is brightly burning," for which he earns well-deserved applause, and two of the boy scouts, who possess really fine voices, sing in capital style "Be prepared," and are assisted in the chorus by the whole troop. As a finale Miss Fern supplies a capital rendering of "Only a boy," which is illustrated by means of pictures on one of the tents which form a screen. Portraits of Nelson, the Duke of Wellington, Napoleon, Lord Kitchener, Lord Beresford, and Baden-Powell are shown, and their boyhood days explained in verse. The scena is certainly a decided success, and should prove an attraction wherever performed.

"UNCLE WILLIE."

WHY W. J. CHURCHILL IS SO CALLED.

Everyone in the business knows "Uncle Willie" Churchill, the merry minstrel of "Happy Valley," Llandudno, fame. But everyone does not know how he came by the title.

It is a story dating back eighteen years, when Mr. Churchill was engaged to appear at a Liverpool music hall. The Saturday before he opened there he was troubled with the reflection that he was paying a return visit to the town with old business. Laying in bed an idea suddenly came to him for a new song. In a very short time he had written the words of two verses and a refrain, and had also set them to music. That song was called, and afterwards became famous as, "If I were only single." On the Monday, in fear and trembling, Mr. Churchill attempted to render the song. Being fearful as to loss of memory, he pasted the words inside his hat, but despite this aid, he got mixed up in the business he intended to do. In sheer desperation he started to patter, and told the audience a story in which he mentioned the fact that as he was Uncle Willie, he was above suspicion, and they could one and all confide their troubles in him. Before Mr. Churchill left the stage he had gagged sufficiently to enable him to remember the rest of the song, which was an immediate success. The following week he opened with Mr. Hargreaves at Roscommon, and was surprised to find himself billed all over the town as "Uncle Willie." He has been "Uncle Willie" everywhere ever since, and thousands of happy youngsters—and grown-ups too for that matter—throughout the length and breadth of the land have delightful memories of "Uncle Willie's" quips and jokes and novel doings when they met him in the past "by the sad sea waves."

Mr. Churchill commences his twenty-second season in the "Happy Valley" on May 9. Naturally, he looks forward to a good season, but he confesses ruefully that prospects are not as golden as they were when he first started in the business. In his young days the "Happy Valley" could be had at a rental of 15s. a week. To-day Mr. Churchill pays £275 for his pitch for the season, and even for that tremendous rent is only permitted to give one two hours' show each day. In addition to that he has to find his own seats, build his own dressing-rooms, buys his own "props," and pay a troupe of twenty-two entertainers—the biggest of its kind on the coast.

It can be truthfully said that "Uncle Willie" has made the "Happy Valley" what it is to-day.

"Uncle Willie" was absolutely born in the business, at Wolverhampton, and made his first appearance on any stage in 1870, at the Blue Bell, Portsmouth, at the tender age of two-and-a-half years. Churchill père and Crabtree at that time were partners, and little Willie was billed as the Infant Mackney, and did a "walk round" the others to the best of his ability. When Crabtree dissolved partnership with his father, the two Churchills started in business together as Churchill and Son. A little later another joined the combine, which became known as Churchill, Leo, and Little Tiny. The Leo of those days is now Mr. Tom Callaghan.

Mr. Churchill recalls a good story of his youth, when Vesta Tilley appeared in the same cast as himself. His father had been engaged to open at St. George's Hall, Nottingham, in "a great novelty," as the proprietor put it, entitled *The Collier's Dying Child*. This was the cast:

The Doctor ..... MR. TOM WINTER
The Collier ..... MR. W. J. CHURCHILL, SEN.
Jim (the child) ..... MISS VESTA TILLEY
Angels ..... MISS MARION WINTER, MISS MARIE BALFOUR
MR. W. J. CHURCHILL, JUN.

Now, as the usual business of Winter was that of a comic singer, and of Churchill, senior, a negro comedian, and the ages of the rest of the members of the cast ranged from four to five years, comment would be superfluous. One night during the storm scene there was trouble. There being no electric light in the theatre, it was the duty of the property man to blow powdered resin through a paper tube on to a lighted candle to get the requisite flash to represent the lightning. On one occasion as Churchill, senior, made his entrance in the death-bed scene, the property man blew the resin all over his face. So the negro-comedian-collier promptly hit the man, and promised him some more punishment when he came off. The property man's blood, however, was up, and he followed the elder Churchill on to the stage, and the audience was there and then treated to an entirely unrehearsed and unexpected "up-and-downer," which, sad to relate, they enjoyed far more than the actual and pathetic scene they had paid to see.

Mr. Churchill has played in twenty pantomimes, and his favourite part is Man Friday in "Robinson Crusoe." He recalls how when he started in the beach show business the performers were regarded as, and treated like, so many rogues and vagabonds. All that has now been altered, and in the majority of cases the seaside entertainer is looked up to. But the future of this particular branch of the profession is very black indeed, for holiday folk are nowadays too liberally catered for if anything, and there is too much competition in the providing of entertainment of all kinds. Everywhere local councils are raising the prices for pitches and pavilions to such an extent that there is now no longer even a living to be got out of them.

It may not be generally known that Mr. Churchill was the first to open with a regular troupe of minstrels on Douglas Head, Isle of Man, in 1882.

In his 'teens Mr. Churchill entered into partnership with another fine comedian by the name of Osler. Now the pair had been out of a shop for some weeks when Mr. Dannie Grannel offered them "Monday next" at his Liverpool house, at £4. Consequently, the two were not overburdened with "the ready." After due deliberation it was decided that they should cross the water to Birkenhead on the Saturday night and endeavour, by playing their banjoes and singing at a public house there, to raise a few shillings. It was a bit risky, but it was agreed that as they would be blacking up for the stage nobody would recognise them with white faces. At eight o'clock that night, when they knew all good pros. were at work, and not likely to see them, they started busking, and with immediate success. They had collected something like 18s. when the landlady invited them to play in the smoke-room. They accepted the invitation, and, during a breathing space, an individual whom they learned was the bill inspector of Mr. Grannel's theatre came in and proceeded to change the bill in the bar. Quick as lightning the banjoes were hidden behind a handy sofa. When the new bill was put in the frame "the top" read, "Welcome Return of your old favourites, the famous black banjoists, comedians, and dancers, Churchill and Osler."

"Uncle Willie" intends to take out a big minstrel show next October. It will be made up of nineteen tried and well-known entertainers. The business will be on quite new lines. The show will be all animation, concerted numbers will be a great feature, and limelight and special effects will prevail. The title of the show will be "Churchill's Happy Valley Jolly 'Uns," and it is registered.

MR. EVELYN BAKER and Harry Soutar, a younger son of the lamented Nellie Farren, have been engaged by Mr. Edward Lauri as musical director and stage manager respectively for his new production, *The Lady Bandits*, at the Palace, Manchester, on May 9.

DENBY AND DENT were very busy last week playing the Gaiety, Birmingham, and deputising at the Aston Hippodrome for Messrs. Naughton and Gold. Their new act, "I never did," proved a big success.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Bedford Fair.

The principal amusements at this fair were Thurston and Son's cinematograph theatre and the same firm's electric- and steam-driven roundabouts and other fairground novelties; Harris' roundabouts; and shooting galleries, houp-las, coker wheels, and all the fun of the fair by Messrs. Shaw, T. Harris, A. Johnson, and others.

Woodbridge Fair.

For this week-end Mr. Charles Thurston is holding a fair at Woodbridge, the principal attractions being Thurston's cinema palace, with up-to-date pictures and variety turns; Thurston and Barker's machines and other amusements; the throwing games, shooters, and variety stalls by various caterers on the Suffolk and Norfolk circuit.

The Fair at Pontefract Races.

The fairground had a great variety of entertainments and novelties for the race week. Chief amongst these were Farrer's and Tyler's cinematograph theatre; Morley's scenic railway; and Harniess' switchback motors.

Sedgwick's Wild Beast Show.

During its recent tour of the Lancashire cotton towns this famous menagerie was warmly welcomed and well patronised. The *Darwen Gazette*, in a recent issue, speaks of the visit of the show in the following appreciative terms: "This popular menagerie visited Darwen on Thursday night, when it was thronged by a large and appreciative audience. The wild beasts encaged there remind one of boyhood days, when this popular institution visited Darwen more frequently. There are several cages of forest bred lions, one cage containing six of these beasts, which are considered to be the finest specimens of their kind in the country. Several lionesses are to be seen in cub, as is also a leopardess. There is an excellent specimen of the Russian bear, whilst there is also a fine emu. Some half-dozen camels and performing elephants are also to be seen. A baby lion cub is an interesting object, whilst the wolves, looking fierce and in the prime of condition, recall their savagery in their native wilds. The tamer enters one cage with several boarhounds and they perform with a group of lions. In another cage the daring of the tamer is put to the severest test as he subdues the ferociousness of the lions and puts them through some remarkable manœuvres. Probably Sedgwick's wild beast show is the finest beast show in the country, notwithstanding the glamour that surrounds the name of other popular shows, and certainly the cage performances are far superior to any other wild beast performances in the United Kingdom. Mr. Sedgwick is to be congratulated on the high state of excellence of his show."

Showman Enterprise.

The monarch of modern shows, Mr. P. Collins, has secured a large space of ground at the Crystal Palace, and will arrange an up-to-date British Empire Fair, as a special auxiliary attraction of the Festival of Empire and Pageant of London.

Mr. Collins has called attention in our advertisement column to this, his latest enterprise, and to similar up-to-date ventures at the coming Leicester Fair, the Birmingham Whitsun Fair, Lichfield Bower, and Wolverhampton Whitsun Fair.

The special features of these important fixtures have been fully set out in their separate advertisements. Our only purpose in calling the attention of our showmen readers to this latest evidence of Mr. P. Collins's up-to-date enterprise is that all showmen may know of the good things under Mr. Collins's able management.

In addition to the fair at the Crystal Palace for the whole of the season of the Festival of Empire and Pageant of London, we note that Leicester May Fair will have a tremendous attraction for the first time on record at pleasure fairs of an aviation display, and that Mr. Leo Merode will give daily demonstrations of aeroplane flying on a Blériot type machine.

We congratulate Mr. Collins on his latest enterprise as the monarch of British showmen.

Marriage in a Lions' Den.

On Friday, 15th inst., an enormous crowd was attracted to Frank C. Bostock's Jungle and Arena at Glasgow, the special attraction being a wedding which was to be celebrated in the lions' cage. A long queue was waiting at the doors at six p.m. and at nine the crowd was still pouring into the huge building. The wedding was timed for 9.15 and prompt to time Mr. Harry E Tudor, manager of the Jungle, entered the large steel-barred arena, and in a short speech impressed upon the huge audience the fact that the wedding was a genuine one, the bride and bridegroom being Glasgow people, and that the ceremony would be carried through with all due solemnity according to the laws of the Scottish Church. Mr. Tudor appealed for perfect silence during the wedding, and warned the public not to be startled by the flash-light which would be used by the representatives of two illustrated dailies in taking photos of the unique scene. Trainer Tallon, who was in evening dress to do honour to the occasion, then brought in a group of six lions, and, having placed them on their respective perches round the front of the cage, the wedding party filed in, and took up their positions at a respectful distance from the danger zone. The party consisted of the bride and bridegroom, the officiating clergyman, the trainer and two assistants, and Manager Tudor. The ceremony was short, but impressive, and was carried through by the Rev. Lloyd Morris, who conducts the P.S.A. in the Palace Theatre every Sunday afternoon. This gentleman very kindly stepped into the position at the last moment, as the minister who originally undertook to conduct the ceremony had been debarred by his Presbytery from appearing. After the wedding, the Rev. Mr. Morris stepped a little further into the centre of the cage, and gave a short address to the audience on the novelty of the occasion, and the wedding-party, having been photographed, retired from the Arena. The intense interest which had been aroused in Glasgow by the event reflects infinite credit on Mr. Harry Tudor's knowledge of the gentle art of booming! The bridal couple were presented with the complete furnishing of two rooms as a wedding present from Mr. Frank C. Bostock.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, G. Biddall, J. W. Chipperfield, and A. Purchase at *The Era* office.

Lord John Sanger's Circus.

This permanent British institution, with its excellent programme of equestrian and hippodramatic novelties, paid a flying visit to Ilkeston on Friday in last week. The show received splendid patronage; crowded tent at both performances.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Shuttleworth, Messrs. Brookes and Fox, 5s.; per Mr. Mitchell, Mr. J. Stockwell, 5s.; per Mr. Caddick, jun., Mr. Lewis, 5s.; Mr. Latham, 5s.

Pitt's pictures are going strong at Pontypool, and the houses are packed nightly. A good selection of films is shown, and also variety turns. Mr. Pitt, the popular lessee, is now running an Empire at Abersychan and Blaenavon, which are both doing excellent business. All the halls are cosy and comfortable, and go to prove that the picture hall has come to stay.

CINEMA OPERATORS' LUNCHEON.

The third annual luncheon arranged by the National Association of Cinematograph Operators was given on Tuesday last at 2 o'clock in the Sheraton Hall of the Popular Café. Over ninety tickets had been sold, and about eighty members, friends, and representatives of the trade were present. Mr. A. Malcolm, the President of the Association, presided, and he was supported by Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., Mr. A. C. Bromhead, of Gaumont's, Ltd.; Mr. E. H. Bishop, of W. Tyler and Co.; Mr. J. D. Walker, of Walturdaw, Ltd.; Mr. W. A. Appleton, secretary to the General Federation of Trade Unions; Mr. E. H. Heron, and Mr. C. F. Appleton, solicitor to the Association. Among others present were Mr. E. F. Williams and Mr. Day, of W. Tyler and Co.; Mr. L. Kamm, of L. Kamm, Ltd.; Mr. A. J. Williamson, of Messrs. William and Dressler Co.; Mr. Squires, the Globe Film Co.; Mr. C. R. Fetiman, of the Edison Manufacturing Co.; Mr. F. Baker and Mr. Lauste, of Messrs. Butchers, Ltd.; Mr. G. H. Cricks, of Messrs. Cricks and Martin; Mr. J. E. Parry, of Films, Ltd.; Mr. A. P. Cross and Mr. E. V. Glenister, of Cross's Imperial Bioscope; Mr. Davies, of Pathé Frères; Mr. A. H. Henderson, the Clarendon Film Co.; Mr. A. H. Spoor, of Essanay Films; Mr. Arton, of Artograph, Ltd.; Mr. T. Lenton, of Messrs. Shanley's; Mr. E. H. Mason, vice-president, N.A.C.O.; Mr. H. K. Merritt, hon. secretary; Mr. John Hutchins, Mr. A. Smith, stage manager, the Shepherd's Bush Empire; Mr. C. H. McDermott, manager, the Stratford Empire; Mr. Sayers, Mr. T. G. Field, Bow Palace; Mr. T. G. Weedon, Mr. A. Penny, Mr. Hughes (Sadler's Wells), Mr. C. Hale, Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. Frank Nail, Mr. Green, Mr. Bronson, Mr. C. H. Ralph, Mr. Donnisthorpe, Mr. Woodhead, Mr. Hiscock, Mr. H. Turner, Mr. S. Walker, Mr. B. Steers, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. J. Saw, Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. T. Bolsi, Mr. H. Booth (Lux Films), the Rev. Tyldesly, of Poplar, Mr. A. Parker, Mr. S. T. Harper, Mr. William Johnson (General Secretary, N.A.T.E.), Mr. H. F. Last, Mr. Hedberg, and others.

After the Chairman had given the loyal toast, he called on Mr. Bowerman to present the certificates which had been awarded to a number of members in a recent examination. The members were cordially cheered as they received one by one their certificates from Mr. Bowerman.

Mr. A. C. Bromhead proposed the toast "Success to the Association," and in doing so he said last year he had the pleasure of making a few remarks, and it struck him the present gathering was of a more representative and ambitious character. He saw many new faces, and was glad to know the Association had made much progress since the last luncheon. Their business was one of the most fascinating and rapidly growing ones, and changing in many respects. Further changes were bound to come, and he thought they ought to bear this in mind, and be prepared to take advantage of their opportunities. During the past year they had had many difficulties and troubles to get through, the Act of Parliament and the L.C.C. regulations among others. These gatherings gave them an opportunity of learning to know one another better. The trade was like a man-of-war. There was the man on the bridge and the man in the engine-room, and they all had to pull together to get the best out of the ship. An association such as theirs could do much to make friction or to make harmony, and he hoped in following any line of policy they would consider the interest of the trade as a whole. Mr. Bromhead touched upon many other interesting points.

Mr. H. L. Merritt, the hon. secretary, responded, and said the Association had now been in existence for three years. They had done their best to avoid friction with anybody, and their only desire was to protect the interests and promote the welfare of the operators, and to do so without causing strife; but it could not be maintained that to cause an operator to work forty to fifty hours in a fireproof box for the sum of 20s. a week was either good for the trade or the operator. Mr. Merritt concluded by giving particulars of the objects and benefits of the Association.

Mr. E. H. Mason, vice-president, proposed the toast "Our Guests," with which he coupled the names of Mr. C. W. Bowerman, Mr. W. A. Appleton, and Mr. C. F. Appleton. Mr. Mason referred in very cordial terms to the assistance given by Mr. Bowerman, whom they looked upon as their Member of Parliament. With regard to Mr. W. A. Appleton, he was the secretary of a Federation representing 700,000 workmen, and was constantly brought into touch with employers in many kinds of business and some of the largest in the country. Mr. C. F. Appleton, their solicitor, was in close touch with other societies, some of whom had what they, the operators, wished to have, and that was a licence from the L.C.C. and similar authorities. He felt sure all their members would heartily respond to the toast. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. W. Bowerman, in replying, said he admired the work of the Association, and he thought their employers should appreciate their efforts, by these examinations, to encourage the widest knowledge and efficiency among their members. In doing this the Association was rendering a practical service to the trade, and it must be to the advantage of employers to be able to secure men upon whose skill they could rely. Mr. Bowerman briefly referred to the Sunday question, saying that an American newspaper proprietor tried some years ago to start a Sunday paper, and the trade with which he was connected decided that while they would not forbid their members to work on a Sunday they would not permit them to work more than six days a week, and those employed on a Sunday must be paid a special rate.

Mr. W. A. Appleton also replied, as did Mr. C. F. Appleton, the latter saying that in seeking to obtain a licence the operator should bear in mind that in other businesses where a licence was necessary there were also regulations, and a breach of these regulations was endorsed on the licence, so that in some cases the licence carried with it as many disadvantages as benefits.

The Chairman then proposed the toast of "The Trade," saying that these gatherings, bringing as they did master and man together around the festive board, did much to promote that harmony among them all so necessary in the interests of the trade. He had much pleasure in coupling the name of Mr. Thomas Clegg, of Charles Urban Trading Co., with this toast.

Mr. Clegg, in responding, paid a tribute to the operators, whose services did much to make the success of the moving picture theatre.

Mr. John Hutchins proposed the toast of "The Examining Board," which was responded to by Mr. J. D. Walker and Mr. E. H. Bishop.

Mr. C. E. Ralph proposed the toast of "The Officers and Committee," which was responded to by Mr. A. Malcolm.

The toast of "The Press" was submitted by Mr. Wm. Johnson and responded to by Mr. E. T. Heron. Mr. T. G. Weedon proposed the toast of "The Chairman," which was heartily received. The very enjoyable proceedings then terminated.

FILM GOSSIP.

"Byeways of Byron."

Mr. Gilbart-Smith's Byeways of Byron have attracted crowds to the Electric Palace, Marble Arch. Among the distinguished people who have already seen this splendid series are the Japanese Ambassador, Lady Emily Dyke, Lord Lamington, Lady Ulrica Thynne, Sir Charles and Lady Rivers Wilson, the Countess of Romney, the Earl and Countess of Ranfurly, and the Dowager Lady Hastings. The picture play is given daily at 2.45, 3.45, and 4.45 p.m.

Roosevelt in Africa.

This is a Cosmopolitan film, and the length is 310ft. President Roosevelt's recent trip to Africa lends considerable additional interest to this series of scenes of the life of this vast country, many of the places visited being those which Mr. Roosevelt also saw during his tour. The redoubtable ex-President himself is seen leaving Mombassa Station, travelling in rather a novel style. The opening shows the platform of Mombassa Station, crowded with white clothed and white helmeted European residents, keen for a glimpse at the distinguished tourist, of whom a capital view is then given. Mr. Roosevelt, in his desire for novelty, elected to travel with two companions on seats securely lashed on the front of the engine, and thus seated is seen waving his helmet as the train steams out. Some good views of life in the jungle follow. Some extremely good views are also given of the novel methods adopted in transferring passengers to the liners. Rowed up to the sides of the vessel in small boats, they are then transferred to a chair on a platform supported by the chain of a powerful crane, which swings the whole load up to the deck.

Fred Griffiths's New Hall.

Mr. Fred Griffiths has taken over the Theatre Royal, Darwen, and reopened the place on Monday, the 18th inst. The programme consisted of drama and pictures, including Mr. Harry Calden and company, in their great military drama *Love and Duty*. The prices of admission range from twopence to sixpence, while for a slight extra charge seats in any part of the house may be booked in advance. Mr. Griffiths is presenting the same class of programme that has made his London halls so popular.

Incidents of the Venice Murder Trial.

A 440ft. Itala film, Tyler Film Co., Ltd., with the above title, has just been issued. This picture brings the personality of the chief actors in this drama of real life, and the surroundings amidst which they are being tried for their lives, with a remarkable vividness, both living and still portraits being included of the Countess and others. A view of the house where Kamarowsky lived opens the film, followed by another of that in which the assassin sought refuge, then, following a portrait of Kamarowsky, a good view is given of the actual room in which he was wounded, the bedroom also being shown. Following comes a view of the hotel frequented by Tarnowsky, and now the object of much interest to the passers-by. Some remarkable views have also been secured of the Countess and Perrier, going to the assizes for trial. A head and shoulder portrait of the lady is followed by a scene on the landing stage of their place of confinement, whence they walk between two lines of police to the gondola which is to convey them to the prison. The latter is fitted with small cabins with barred windows, and the canal is guarded by police boats up to the prison. A scene outside the Court of Justice concludes the subject.

Open-air Cinematograph Entertainments.

At a special meeting of Linlithgow Town Council—Provost Jamieson presiding—a discussion took place as to the letting of a piece of ground at the West Port known as "Katie Wearie's Green" for a cinematograph entertainment during the Marches week. A letter was read from the representative of a proprietor of property in the neighbourhood objecting to the Council letting the ground for this purpose because of the annoyance to people resident in the vicinity. The Provost moved and Councillor Dowie seconded a motion that the ground be let as desired at a rental of £7. On a division the motion was carried by 8 votes to 3.

A False Alarm.

We are requested by the New Film Hiring Company, Ltd., to state that the fire which broke out in St. Martin's-lane on Friday night in last week did not originate on their premises, and had nothing whatever to do with the cinematograph films of the company.

New Picture Palace Opened at Leicester.

Leicester is now possessed of another picture house, which was opened on Monday evening by the Empress Picture Palaces, Ltd., on the Mere-road, which is situated a considerable distance from the centre of the town, but lies in a thickly populated neighbourhood, close to the Spinney Hill Park. It is the intention of the proprietors to change the pictures twice a week, and to submit the best procurable. There are to be two houses a night, with matinées on Thursdays and Saturdays. The building, which was formerly a mission hall, has had many alterations made to it, and it now presents a most comfortable appearance, the large dome at the main entrance giving it an inviting look. The opening ceremony was performed by Councillor H. C. Snow, Mr. P. W. Willard (London), and Mr. W. F. Freeman (Leicester). Mr. H. V. Horton, who has been associated with Cooks' tours, has been appointed the local manager. The same company, in a fortnight's time will open another hall in Belvoir-stret, one of the main streets in the centre of the town.

The Buffalo Music and Picture Hall, Ashington, of which the proprietors are Messrs. J. and E. Lamb, the manager being Mr. W. P. Carr, was opened to the public on Monday. The building, which has just been completed, is well furnished and most comfortable. The Australian Bush Boys proved an excellent turn, and the pictures were of a good order. A splendid audience appreciated the first house, and everything points to its being a popular place of amusement in the district.

Of Interest to All.

Making Parisian Dolls is the subject of a very good Urban picture. The film takes us through the whole process of doll-making as practised in Paris, where the prettiest and most life-like dollies of the world come from. Dexterous operators are shown mixing the wax, moulding, dipping and wiring, fixing the arms and legs by means of elastic, moulding and finishing the heads, putting on the complexion, and not forgetting the eyebrows, &c., and then dressing the dolls in socks, boots, shirts, and dresses; and finally we see a bright little girl happy in the possession of a really lovely doll.

Punchestown Steeplechases.

Barker's are issuing a good film of the Punchestown Steeplechases. It is a topical film of two days' rain and racing, in which incidents of triumph and disaster, pluck and endurance are depicted. Possibly the stiffest steeplechase course in the world, Punchestown bristles with ugly walls, deep ditches, and steep banks. The film starts with the arrival of the Vice-regal party and shows Lord and Lady Aberdeen very prominently. This is followed by pictures of the Conyngham Cup; scenes in the paddock; the start; fast riding; Kilsallaghan's last jump; wonderful falls and recoveries; a remarkable flight over a ditch and wall; and two jockeys colliding in mid-air.

Pictures take the Place of Wheels.

The Leytonstone Skating Rink is to be devoted to pictures during the summer months.

The Matinée Hat.

Two excellent stories were told in this week's papers. One is apropos of the matinée hat. In Australian theatres the following notice is thrown on a kinematograph screen before the play begins:—"Ladies under fifty years of age are requested to remove their hats." A writer in the *Westminster Gazette* claims for a driver of the Great Western Railway coach from Minehead to Lynton the credit of the authorship of this happy idea. In order to persuade the lady passengers to give the horses a little relief during the pull up the steep hill at Porlock the ingenious coachman used to call out, "All ladies under forty please get down and walk a little way up the hill." It was an appeal few ladies could resist.

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

THE CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS' LUNCHEON AT THE POPULAR CAFE ON TUESDAY LAST, APRIL 19.

MITCHAM AND ITS FAIR RIGHTS.

The return of two Councillors at the recent Parish Council election, with the avowed purpose of vindicating the people's Charter Rights, was bound to have a practical result. The first meeting of the Parish Council, on Tuesday evening, April 19, was almost entirely devoted to necessary formal business attending a first meeting of a public body.

In order to focus attention upon the question of Mitcham Fair, and to make a serious effort towards the solution of the difficulty which the events of the last four years have created, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift handed in the following resolution to be placed on the business agenda for the next meeting of the Council:—

"'Mitcham Fair.' That this Council, desiring to bring about a peaceful settlement of the question, resolves to approach all parties concerned with a view to co-operative action for the removal of the Mitcham Fair from the Fairgreen to a more suitable site, if the same can be accomplished without prejudice to the continuance of the fair and the ancient rights pertaining thereto."

This extremely wise and moderate resolution will determine what are the forces at work making for peace upon a question of great local importance. It will also indicate, as no other action could better do, who are the enemies of the people's fair. We have repeatedly in these columns testified with warm approval to the zeal of the local champions of the people's fair rights. Those champions have been held up to public scorn as being the supporters of the showmen, the real truth being that these gentlemen had acted, not primarily to defend the showmen's rights, but essentially to conserve the rights of the people of Mitcham.

It is admittedly true that in saving the rights of the people, the rights of the showmen are preserved.

But there is no need for any confusion of thought, because these two things stand or fall together. A man may be a perfectly honest Mitchamite, and at the same time a friend of the people's fair.

What Has Been Already Attempted.

As early as the month of April, 1906, the Showmen's Guild attempted to arrive at a proper understanding with the group of gentlemen who had set their hearts upon abolishing the fair.

Immediately before the fair of that year confident hopes were expressed that an understanding might be arrived at, and the fair removed by agreement to another part of the people's common.

The Fair Rights had passed away from the Bailey family to the present owners of the franchise. But, in the meantime, a great outburst of public opinion had demonstrated, to all right-thinking men, that the great mass of the people of Mitcham were not prepared to surrender their ancient Fair Rights.

It is true that in 1906 and in the following year certain showmen were placed under injunction for daring to assert their right to attend and to trade at a fair which had not been abolished.

The policy of the Guild all through the controversy has been to support the public demand for the maintenance of the Fair Rights.

This policy has received the seal of public approval, in the fact that at the last election the only two candidates for the Parish Council who stood out boldly as the champions of the Fair Rights were returned.

It is also a known fact that candidates utterly opposed to the fair were rejected. Mr. Pedgrift's motion is therefore doubly justified, first, as a necessary step to bring about the adjustment of conflicting interests, and, then, in the second place, as affording an opportunity for the Parish Council to take the right position as the champion of the rights of the people of Mitcham.

It will be possible now for the Parish Council to help in the solution of a pressing difficulty, and to bring all the parties concerned into conference.

It is, indeed, high time that it was fully recognised that no solution of the problem will be acceptable to the people of Mitcham, which does not provide for the continuance of its ancient Fair Rights.

What are the Difficulties in the Way?

We have devoted a great deal of time and thought to the matter, and, given a real desire to settle the question on practical lines, we are convinced that the difficulties are more imaginary than real.

For example, if mention is made of the Three Kings Common, obviously the best possible site for the fair, we are told that the Three Kings part of the common belongs to another manor, and all sorts of difficulties called "manorial rights" are conjured up to prevent efforts to secure that desirable site.

The people who raise these objections conveniently forget the powers vested in the Board of Conservators. We are quoting from memory (but the Act of Parliament is readily available) when we say that the Mitcham Board of Conservators have full powers to assign a new site on any part of the lands they control, if they can show first to the Board of Agriculture that the transfer will effect a desirable public improvement, and that the Home Office is prepared to agree to the transfer of the franchise of the fair to the new fairground.

Our reading of the powers of the Board of Conservators has confirmed our opinion that if, in accordance with the terms of Mr. Pedgrift's motion, all the parties concerned will only come together, a settlement could be quite easily effected—a settlement that would secure all the ancient rights and privileges of the fair, and would perpetuate for Mitcham and for South London an institution at once popular and useful as providing open-air amusements for the people.

In securing these advantages, other advantages would follow. For example, by agreement amongst the parties concerned a considerable revenue, to the easement of public burdens or for the improvement of the commons, would be at the disposal of the local authorities.

At any rate, we are confident that Mr. Pedgrift's motion is in the right direction, and we trust that it will be fruitful in good results.

Pageant of Empire Pictures.

At the daylight pictures which are to be shown in the grounds of the Crystal Palace during the Pageant of Empire Festival, seats will be provided for 2,000 persons at each display, and a further 4,000 will be able to see them also.

Latest Fight Pictures.

The pictures secured at Los Angelos of the fight between Flynn and Langford are stated to be the best fight pictures ever sent out.

A Fine Pathé Film.

The Smuggler's Hiding Places is a most exciting film, issued by Pathé, descriptive of the many adventures of a mountaineer in his endeavour to smuggle lace across the frontier. Suspicion falls upon him, but he eludes capture and takes refuge in a flour sack. His struggles to release himself from the sack after the pursuing party has passed are exceedingly amusing, but he has again to hide in a basket half full of potatoes. The officers are quite bewildered, and assist the owner of the basket to hoist it upon his back, and so the smuggler gets clean away under their very noses. He next slips into a wine barrel, and this time he is observed by his pursuers. Two of them approach the barrel and overturn it, but again they are foiled. The smuggler's next encounter is with the excisemen in a wood, and he is at length caught.

Davis's pictures are still going strong at the Tredegar Hall, Newport. Variety turns here include Mr. Maurice Marks, in illustrated song pictures, and Mr. Geo. Edney, a popular vocalist. Williams' original Welsh minstrels are a dainty turn of harpists and singers in Welsh costume.

IN PRAISE OF BRITISH PLUCK.

It is well known that Fistiana or scientific boxing remains a popular show at British fairs. Amongst the best shows of this kind must be ranked the school of boxers and athletes under the direction of Wm. Le Neve and Norah Sullivan, known as "The Sandows of the Fairground." Visitors to Le Neve's show during recent years, whether located at the World's Fair, Islington, or the Fun City, Olympia, will recall the figure of the veteran boxer and ex-Champion of the World, Jem Mace. A contributor to the *Manchester Guardian*, writing under the signature "H. B.," gives a most interesting account of a visit to Le Neve's show and an interview with the aged hero of many fights. Knowing as we do the wide circle of Jem Mace's friends in showland, we give extracts from the Manchester writer's account of his experiences at the show. After various exciting turns in the ring, "the master of the athletic revels announced 'Jem Mace, Retired Champion of the World,' in a felicitous speech, during the course of which he briefly summed up the veteran's adventurous career, so that when Jem Mace himself stepped out of the caravan on to the stage the most blasé of local youths could not forbear to cheer.

"Could the handsome, placid old gentleman in evening dress, with a crimson silk handkerchief rakishly tucked into the bottom of his vest, and respectable silk hat crowning his venerable head, bowing his acknowledgments of our cheers, be the 'painful warrier famoused for fight'? Was this the conqueror of Travers the Black, of the seventeen-stone Hurst, of Tom Allen, America's formidable champion? It did not seem possible. And yet as one closely scrutinized the leonine face, whose complexion still retains something of that swarthiness which brought Mace the nickname of the 'Norwich Gipsy' (although his family were of good English stock, living at the little village of Beeston, Norfolk), one noticed that the smiling mouth betrayed no sign of slackness or irresolution, and there was a flash of the eye which spoke of not quite extinguished fires when the 'Panopticon' proprietor referred to his deeds in the old days.

"Jem Mace was born on April 8, 1831, and he is consequently nearly in his eightieth year. But his figure is still athletic, straight, alert, and well set up—almost youthful. The only outward marks of pact battles is a great hump on the back of each hand, the effect of years of hammering on the bones and muscles. In fighting without gloves the hands sometimes gave out before the man. His face shows no marks at all.

"'I took particular good care they got precious few chances of hitting my face,' he explained to me, as I chatted with him in the caravan at the back of the stage, on the conclusion of the first 'house.' Mr. Mace was good enough to receive me in his sanctum sanctorum, a handsome little chamber like a ship's cabin, with a miniature kitchen range on one side. A buxom lady athlete—she of the pink fleshings—was giving a pleasant demonstration of the fact that Græco-Roman wrestling need be no bar to the domestic virtues, for she attended to the roasting of a chicken—'Mr. Mace's supper, sir'—while the urbane and courteous ex-champion fought his battles over again.

"Mr. Mace preserves lively recollections of his fights.

"Do you remember the chance blow you got from Tom King in your second fight with him?' I asked.

"'Perfectly,' replied the old gentleman. 'I had King well beaten at the beginning of the nineteenth round, and I'd got the office to finish off the fight I tried several times to land a knock-out, but missed it three times. I'd opened myself out for a fourth try, when my foot slipped on the wet clay, and Tom gave me the most awful cross-counter I ever got. I spun round and fell in a heap, and, although I came up to scratch again, I was too dazed to be of any more use.'

"King's victory was acknowledged to be a fluky one, by the way, and he refused a third match with Mace, explaining that he wished to marry and settle down. Nevertheless two years later he met and defeated John Camel Heenan (the 'Benicia Boy'), the huge American pugilist with whom Tom Sayers fought his dramatic and never-to-be-forgotten draw.

"Did nobody ever think of matching you against Sayers?' I asked.

"'Yes, just after he'd fought Heenan. I tried to induce him to give me a turn. But he was then in receipt of an allowance, the interest on about £3,000 subscribed by his friends, and this was only paid on condition that he never entered a ring again.'

"'So you never met?'

"Not in the ring. But we nearly came to blows once, though. It was when I was living in Liverpool. Tom, who had given way to drink, was over there on a visit, and I had been asked to try and get him home. I found him in a 'pub,' in a particularly wicked mood. He abused me roundly. On the mantelpiece of the room we were in was a picture with portraits of Heenan, Sayers, and myself. Tom staggered to the picture, pointed at Heenan with his stick, and says: 'He's a good man.' Then he touches his own portrait. 'And he's a good man too,' he says. Then he points at me and adds: 'But this is a bloomin' duffer.' I was nearly hitting him, but I kept my temper, and glad I was. Poor old Tom died a few months after of bad gin; and only thirty-eight," Mr. Mace added, with a sigh.

"Do you think you'd have beaten Sayers if you'd met him in a match?"

"Yes, I think so," was the confident reply. "He was game and clever, and as hard as nails. But I think I should have been too quick for him," replied the veteran.

At my request, Mr. Mace was good enough to place me in an attitude of defence on approved and orthodox lines. The right arm he brought over the chest, with the clenched hand (or "jook") resting lightly on the region of the watch-pocket; it was there for defence or attack, or, as the old military strategists would have said, *en potence*. The retired champion then slightly crooked the elbow of my left arm, bidding me double my fist (or "mawley") and hold it, knuckles out, about a foot from the chest. Then, these manœuvres being performed (somewhat stiffly and clumsily, be it said), I was at liberty to suppose myself in the attitude which had successfully foiled the ferocious attacks of the adamantine Goss, the bulky "Stalybridge Infant," and that cunning fighter Bob Brettle.

"Which hand did you make the most use of in your fights, Mr. Mace?" I asked. The veteran smiled indulgently.

"Why the left, of course," he replied. "The straight left. Keep a straight left and you'll always be right."

But experts differ. Mr. Mace's advice, it will be remembered, is in direct conflict with that of Isopel Berners, the fighting woman in "Lavengro." "It's no use flipping at the Flaming Tinman with your left hand. Why don't you use your right?" asked the tall girl of Lavengro, during the celebrated fight in the dingle.

Jem Mace is more or less forgotten by the sporting public of to-day. But he is not quite without honour in his old age, so the manager of the show tells me. When there is a glove fight at the National Sporting Club he is received as a guest in the best places. But he does not think much of glove fighting. "There is nothing like the raw hand," he says.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The first meeting of the London County Council since the Easter recess was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had elected Mr. H. J. Greenwood to be their chairman and Colonel W. F. Cavaye to be their vice-chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. Greenwood had also been elected to act as their representative on the General Purposes Committee.

UNLICENSED CINEMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Committee reported that proceedings had been taken against the person responsible for holding cinematograph displays, for the purpose of which inflammable films were used, at the Rivers Hall, Rivers-street, Islington, without a licence under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, having been obtained. The summons was heard at the Clerkenwell Police Court on March 22, when the defendant was fined £5 and ordered to pay the Council £2 2s. for costs.

SKATING RINKS.

The Committee had considered drawings submitted by Mr. E. E. Bird, of the Camberwell Skating Rink, in course of erection in Coldharbour-lane and Lilford-road, Camberwell. It is intended to apply for a music and dancing licence for the premises, which will have accommodation for about 1,000 persons. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be satisfactory for the purpose for which the licence is desired, and the Committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate to the owner on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the five drawings submitted.

The Committee also recommended approval of a drawing submitted by Messrs. J. and P. J. Groom, showing a proposal to form a new exit-way to lead into Bishopsthorpe-road from the Sydenham and Forest Hill Skating Rink, Silverdale-road, Sydenham, and to abolish the existing exit corridor leading into Silverdale-road.

Both recommendations were approvad.

ELECTRIC PAVILION, HOLLOWAY.

The Council, on Nov. 2, 1909, approved, subject to certain conditions, plans submitted by Mr. I. Davis of a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected at 643, Holloway-road. Drawings have now been submitted by Mr. H. Harrington, showing an amendment in the scheme of construction. The width of the frontage to Holloway-road will be increased, and the hall will be enlarged so as to accommodate about 850 persons. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, the proposals appeared to be satisfactory, and the Committee recommended approval of the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted. Agreed to.

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALLS.

The Committee had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. Saville and Martin, showing a cinematograph theatre proposed to be erected on the site of No. 560, Mile End-road, abutting upon Burdett-road. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the hall, which will accommodate about 760 persons, and subject to certain conditions being complied with the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The Committee recommended that a certificate be granted to the owner of the building on the usual conditions.

The Committee also recommended approval of a drawing, submitted by Messrs. Gilbert and Constanduros, showing a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected on the site of the Clapham Junction tramway depôt, St. John's-hill, Battersea. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the premises, which will have accommodation for about 830 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appeared to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired.

The Committee had also considered drawings, submitted by Mr. F. W. Foster, of a cinematograph theatre proposed to be erected on the site of Nos. 34 and 36, Oxford-street. The hall and gallery at the premises will have accommodation for about 370 persons. It is intended to apply for a music licence, and subject to certain conditions being complied with the premises appeared to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The Committee recommended that a certificate be granted.

These recommendations were agreed to.

HENGLER'S CIRCUS.

The Committee recommended approval of drawings, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a proposal to provide an additional means of escape from the dressing-rooms at Hengler's Circus, Argyll-street, in order to comply with the Council's requirements. Agreed to.

THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL LICENCES.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee submitted the following report:—

"The Council, on Dec. 21 and 22, 1909, resolved—"That, in the opinion of the Council, it is unnecessary to differentiate between the licences granted to theatres and to music halls"; and instructed us to consider and report what amendments should be made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council, under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as might be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments.

Licences for the public performance of stage plays are granted under the Theatres Act of 1843, and licences for the public performance of music, dancing, or other entertainment of the like kind under the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751. The grant of a stage-plays licence does not authorise a music hall entertainment to be given, and the performance of stage plays in a building which is licensed only for music and dancing is clearly illegal. It is not possible, therefore, in the present state of the law for any one licence to be granted which would enable a building to be used for either dramatic or variety entertainments at the option of the licensee. The object which the Council had in view might possibly be secured by licences for stage plays and for music and dancing being granted in respect of any building that was structurally fit for both licences. As the Lord Chamberlain is the authority for granting stage-plays licences for the greater part of London, and the Council is the sole authority for granting music licences, it would be necessary that an understanding should be arrived at with the Lord Chamberlain that he would grant his licence to any premises that were licensed for music and were structurally fit to be licensed for stage plays, and that the Council should grant a music licence for any theatre that was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. The division of jurisdiction that would result would probably give rise to considerable difficulty. The suggestion that a uniform licence should be granted which would enable either stage plays or variety entertainments to be performed was considered by the Joint Select Committee on Stage Plays (Censorship), 1909, and was supported by the Theatrical Managers' Association, but opposed by the Entertainments Protection Association and other proprietors of variety theatres. On this subject the Joint Select Committee recommended—

(1) That a single licence should be granted for both theatres and music halls giving freedom to produce whatever entertainment may best conform to the public taste.

(2) That the Council should be the sole licensing authority for London.

(3) That the music and dancing licence should be retained for assembly rooms, hotels, restaurants, skating rinks, &c.

In connection with the above recommendations the Joint Select Committee also made recommendations for an alteration of the law with regard to the licensing of stage plays and for extending the altered provisions to all words sung or spoken in any licensed place of entertainment.

It does not appear to us that anything practicable can be done in the direction indicated by the resolution of Dec. 21 and 22, 1909, without fresh legislation on the subject, and, until it is known whether the Government contemplate taking any steps to give effect to the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on the Stage Plays (Censorship), we do not think that any useful purpose would be served by the Council, at the present time, promoting legislation to give effect to some of the recommendations. We may remind the Council that it has now before Parliament a Bill to enable it to grant music licences at any period of the year, and to charge a fee for the licences. We recommend—

That the reference to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee on Dec. 21 and 22, 1909, to consider and report what amendments should be made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as may be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments, be discharged.

The report was presented after 7.30, when, under the Council's standing order, only unopposed business is taken. As the recommendation was opposed, it will come up again at the next meeting.

CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO LICENCES.

The following report and recommendation were also opposed:—

On Feb. 1, 1910, we reported the conditions that had been attached to the licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. Except in one case the licences granted for premises which are not licensed for music, &c., have been granted for short periods pending the completion of the works considered necessary to the premises. Since the issue of the licences the regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Act which are endorsed on the back of the licence have been revised and very considerably altered, and we therefore propose, instead of further extending the existing licences, to issue, as soon as possible, fresh licences containing the amended regulations. We think that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to add to the conditions imposed by the Council the regulation relating to standing in gangways which is enforced in all premises licensed for music, or music and dancing, or stage plays. We recommend—

That licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in respect of premises which are not licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage plays, be subject to a condition as follows—That persons be not permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and, if standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient room be left for persons to pass easily to and fro.

EXPLOSIVES.

The Committee reported that during the quarter ended March 31, 1910, explosives and dangerous substances were found to be in use in licensed premises on sixty occasions. The arrangements were not, in any case, found to be unsatisfactory.

INSPECTION.

The expenditure incurred during the quarter ended March 31, 1910, in connection with visits to unlicensed premises to ascertain whether public music or dancing was given thereat, and in connection with reports upon the character of the performances at licensed premises, amounted to £7 5s. 4d.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME.

The Council, on March 2, approved, subject to certain conditions, drawings of a music hall to be known as the Lewisham Hippodrome, and to be erected in Rushey Green and Brownhill-road, Catford. Further drawings have now been submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing how it is proposed to comply with certain of the conditions attached to the Council's approval. The Committee recommended approval of the arrangements shown on the four drawings submitted.

Agreed to.

SUNDAY CINEMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Committee reported that proceedings had been taken against the person responsible for holding cinematograph displays on Sunday at the premises known as Pleasureland, Station-road, Brixton, contrary to the condition inserted on the licence granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act. The summons was heard at the Lambeth Police Court on April 6, 1910, when the defendant was fined £2 and ordered to pay £1 3s. for costs.

Topmost on the bill at the Empire, Newport, is Charles T. Aldrich; his efforts to entertain are heartily appreciated. Mirth is created by the Comedy Four; the oddities with which the Three Van Dammes embellish their acrobatic display are productive of amusement; Jewel St. Loger, a charming and artistic vocalist, sings with sweetness; the eccentric humour of Larry Lewis gains abundant favour; and Violet Stockelle, a dainty comedienne, obtains a capital reception. Cumminger and Colonna dance with much energy, and meet with excellent approbation. The Lyric Quartette of harmonising vocalists have a warm welcome; and the programme concludes with an amusing series of pictures on the Bioscope.

Davis's pictorial entertainment supply the attraction at the Tredegar Hall, Newport, and excellent business is being done. Amongst the most popular films are The Life of Moses, A Dog's Thanks, Gambling with Death, A Western Maid, The Burglar and Little Phyllis, Beneath the Gas, Life in the Next Century, The Terror and the Terrier, and Herring Fishing at Boulogne. In the variety portion of the programme Mr. Maurice Marks, Mr. George Edney, and Williams's Welsh Minstrels contribute entertaining items, which meet with approval.

Mme. Tetrazzini had a delightful time and great success in America. "I have sung forty-five times in opera and in sixteen concerts all over America," she says to a *Morning Leader* correspondent. "Everything there is done in a great hurry except the examination of an artist's trunks. The taste for old Italian opera is on the increase in America. Certainly *Lucia di Lammermoor* was enthusiastically received. The people in America like plenty of melody, fine voices, and good singers. *The Daughter of the Regiment* pleased them greatly. I sang that rôle also in Washington, where one gets the House of Representatives, the Senators, and the diplomatic corps for an audience in place of the magnates of commerce, the various kings of business, as in New York."

"As the Daughter of the Regiment I saluted President Taft in the American style, and he spoke a little Spanish to me and gave me his photograph with the inscription, 'In grateful remembrance of the Polonaise from *Mignon*,' which I had introduced in the opera." "And do you drum as well as you sing?" "Certainly," said the diva; "I could give lessons in drumming."

"I might easily have been killed one night in *Lucia*, when the curtain descended and struck me on my head and arm. The baritone came to my assistance, and the audience was struck dumb with fear. But I waved my hand and called out 'Nothing, nothing!' and they cheered me."

HOW ELEPHANTS ARE TRAINED.

"To the average spectator who sits comfortably watching the performance of a group of trained elephants, the most interesting feature in connection with the show never occurs," writes A. W. Rolker, in *Cassell's Magazine*. "He sees before him gigantic grey mountains of flesh rearing on hind-legs or waltzing at command of a puny human, obediently as if they were so many puppies. He sees them lower their gnarled, bony heads to the ground and clumsily lift hind-quarters till they stand upside down, fat stump legs in air, like so many frolicking schoolboys. He sees them as they stand on ends of oak planks and bob up and down, playing see-saw with every evidence of the delight of five-ton babies; as they gingerly balance themselves on the top of a series of huge wooden bottles, or carefully poise themselves as they walk an enormous wooden cylinder. He sees them perform tricks too difficult for most humans, and notices in the faces and attitudes of the beasts the almost human expression of pleasure or painful anxiety. Yet how the trainer managed to make these dumb brutes understand what he wanted, and how he took the leviathans, outweighing him sixty times over, and step by step taught them their acrobatic tricks, are questions that suggest themselves only to the more thoughtful.

"As a matter of fact, teaching an elephant to perform tricks is simply a matter of teaching a gigantic, seemingly awkward creature with the mind and the friendly instincts of a two-year-old child. The monstrous bumpy skull, covered with warty hide, may seem an unpromising dome of wisdom; yet within the four inches of bone, which not even a rifle bullet can pierce, there is a marvellously developed brain, which glimpses forth only through the tiny twinkling eyes. In dread feet, in four-foot tusks, in the trunk that squirms ever restless like a huge python are death and destruction; yet not even the deer is more naturally timid than this almighty Lord of the Wilderness. The ponderous, slow-moving body may appear hopelessly awkward; yet within those heavy joints is the nimbleness of an acrobat. To these advantages add steadiness of nerve, quick perception of the hope of reward and the fear of punishment, and a natural craving to be patted and petted, and you have an idea of the sort of pupil the elephant trainer has before him.

"Time was when elephant trainers went at these overgrown babies hammer and tongs, using the most primitive methods to try to make them understand what was wanted, wasting half the time frightening the sensitive creatures nearly to death, and then assuring them that it was all right.

"To teach an elephant to lie down at word of command, for instance, blocks and tackle were fastened to beams of the training-barn over the elephant's head and to slings connected with each of the beast's four feet, and, every time the trainer gave the cue an army of men manned ropes and pulled legs from under the unfortunate, until, with a thud that shook the building, he would crash to the ground. The stall was heavily littered to prevent injury, of course; but the startling experience of the mysterious overhead rigging, of the groan and creak of the blocks, and of the thirty or forty keepers that each time produced the terrifying results spoiled many a fine beast. Trumpeting with fright, the poor creature would throw his trunk in a wild, vain effort for support, staggering, swaying, showing the whites of his eyes, as his feet were drawn closer and closer together until he realised he must fall.

"Panting, he would land in a pitiful heap, unable to understand what had happened or what was going to happen to him; and then the trainer would come with sugar and carrots, and try to win back his favour and make him understand that no harm was intended—until next time, when he would throw him all over again. Most of the animals learned in time what was wanted when they received their cues to lie down; but many a one, stung to resentment, quietly bided his time, grabbed a tormentor about the waist, and when he saw an opening whipped forth his trunk and hurled him crashing thirty feet clear to the roof of the elephant barn.

"It was not until Peter Barlow, a former Barnum and Bailey elephant trainer, went to Ceylon, that the white man took a leaf from the book of the little brown men on the other side of the earth, and learned really how to train elephants. In that land, where the boast of man is that he is half-brother to the elephant, no blocks and tackle were necessary to train these animals. Rarely even the ankus or elephant hook was used. Throughout long watches of the night men slept between the fore-legs of their beasts, talked to them, and treated them almost as if they were human creatures, and the animals learned with astounding rapidity. The identical tricks our trainers took from eight to twelve months to teach our elephants, by means of block and tackle, the natives of Ceylon taught in as many weeks.

"Barlow watched and learned, and returned home with a herd of thirty elephants, so green that they had ropes of jungle grass still about their necks. Inside of two months fifteen of the elephants were finished performers; and the other fifteen also performed all that season. For three or four years men marvelled at Barlow and his secret methods. Then one of his assistants started out for himself as an elephant trainer, and since then the East Indian method of training elephants has been adopted universally.

"By this method the expert proceeds scientifically upon the principle that the elephant is a creature of intelligence second only to himself, and that this giant, which, at one stroke, could wipe him out of existence, has really the heart of a good-natured, simple-minded boy, and is willing and anxious to obey, once his instructor has succeeded in explaining himself. Exactly as a trainer proceeds to train a performing horse the simple trick of raising a fore-foot at command, so the trainer teaches the elephant this trick; for the sake of uniformity starting always with the left foot, for the foot first broken in is the one the elephant will spring from ever afterward, when subsequently taught to rear on his hind-legs.

"Grasping a fore-leg between two hands, the trainer strains upward. 'Up! Up, Judy!' he says, and just as a green horse will raise a fore-leg when a shoer grasps an ankle, so the huge, warty leg, big round as a beer-barrel, is raised obediently. For ten or twenty seconds the trainer may hold a hand against the uplifted foot, signifying that it is to remain suspended; then 'Down! Down, Judy!' he says, and releases his hold, and down comes the ponderous member, with its two-inch sole of solid horn, noiseless as the tread of a kitten.

"For that wonderful piece of work Judy must have a lump of sugar, and she raises her trunk and opens her mouth so that the trainer can toss it into the triangular shaped little maw and thus save her time and trouble. Again and again the expert lifts the foot, which comes up more and more promptly, until by degrees the mere touch of a hand or whipstock, a bare pointing with the whip, a bare word of command, or an almost imperceptible motion with a lash, is enough to bring up the foot and keep it raised until the cue is given to lower. Then, in the same manner as the left foot was educated, the right foot and then the two hind-feet are broken in."

The Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., has shown the following pictures during the week:—The Cowboy and the Squaw, Train Ride Through Houw Hoek Pass, Before and After, How to Make a Large Cask, The Honour of the Family, Foolshead Pays a Visit, Flossie's Theft, Uncle's Eyes are opened, City and Suburban, and the Bulbeck Case.

HARRY LAUDER'S TRAVELS.

Leaving personal success out of consideration altogether, the thing that struck Harry Lauder most while he was on tour in the States and Canada was the extraordinary enthusiasm shown everywhere he went by the folks from the old country, and by this, of course, he means natives not only of "dear auld Scotia," but of England, Ireland, and Wales. In every city he visited the exiles seemed to revel in the hour or two they spent with the "wee collier comedian," and the memory of many pleasant meetings and "cracks" with those of them who came behind the scenes will remain with him all his life.

He has written a little brochure on his experiences on "the other side," and the book, published by George Newnes (1s.), contains one or two real criticisms of the comedian and his methods. Here are a couple of extracts from the criticism of a Chicago paper; the writer evidently remembered Albert Chevalier:—

"Overrated, but fairly good—such is Harry Lauder. He is more an entertainer than an artist, though he infuses some skill into the depiction of homely detail in some of the things he does. In the delineation of broad, easy types of the poltroon, the imbecile, and the bucolic dandy he is exact and humorous; but as for all the hullabaloo about Lauder being an artist, that is a case of tut-tut."

"The songs he sings have very little to recommend them. 'She's Ma Daisy' is pure doggerel, and touches on the amorous adventures of a bibulous, lazy, lying oaf in a Scotch regiment. The stanzas of the song are interrupted with a torrent of gabble in which certain confidential relations existing between the singer and the several are set forth with much particularity and gravity. The confidences are of a drunken nature and the cheek of them is monumental."

The following example of the enthusiasm of one of his countrymen is well worth recording:—

"At a matinée in the Odéon Theatre, St. Louis, an incident of a somewhat unusual character took place," writes Lauder. "I had just gone on the stage, and was on the point of commencing my first song, when a voice like a fog-horn yelled out from the balcony, 'Dinna be feart, Harry, ma cock! I'm here. Just let the Yankees see what the wee collier laddie can dae! Hurrah for Scotland!'

"I instantly recognised the voice; in fact, I could not possibly have made a mistake, for Rab McBeth's vocal organ must be one of the most powerful Scotland ever produced. It was years since I had seen or heard Rab McBeth, and I had no idea to what part of the world he had gravitated; but there he was in the balcony of the theatre. The audience all realised that a dramatic 'meeting' had taken place, and they cheered vociferously what time Rab's stentorian tones rang out again above the din: 'I'm here, Harry! Dinna be feart!'

"I know it was a terribly unconventional thing for an artist to do, but I held up my hand and, pointing a finger in the direction of the spot where 'the voice' came from, remarked: 'That's you, Rab McBeth. I ken your voice. Come roon' an' see me after the show an' we'll hae a crack aboot auld times.'

"'Right, Harry, ma cock, I'll be there!' yelled Rab in reply, and subsided into silence.

"Two yarns about Rab McBeth are worth telling here. Once Rab went up to Glasgow to see a brother away to Australia. The big ship had eased away from the Broomielaw, and Rab, standing on the quay, continued to shout parting words of cheer and advice to his brother.

"'Good-bye, Wull!' 'Buck up, Wull!' 'See an' behave, Wull!' 'Mind an' write, Wull!' These were a few of the farewells yelled by Rab, and he kept increasing the volume of his voice as the steamer crept farther and farther out into the river. The spectators were paralysed by the tremendous power of McBeth's lungs, and when the ship was fully three hundred yards away Rab again let himself go with a final 'Mind an' write hame, Wull!'

"A humorist in the crowd then went up to Rab and remarked, 'If Wull doesn't write you can just roar down to him in Australia; he'll hear you quite easy!'

"Rab was a man of many parts in his day, and amongst other things he occasionally essayed the rôle of vocalist. Once he organised 'a grand competition for singers, comics, dancers, &c.,' in the old Harmonic Hall, Hamilton—now an auction mart—and meeting me in Cadzow-street the night before, he prevailed upon me to enter for the 'comic' section. 'If you like to come, Harry,' he whispered to me, winking expressively, 'the medal's as good as yours—I'll see to that!' Thus assured of success from 'the man in the know,' I readily agreed to compete.

"Davie Graham, a very fair baritone, was 'first turn,' and he got a half decent reception and was allowed to finish his song.

"'You're next, Harry!' then said Rab to me, adding that the other competitors had not yet arrived, but would be sure to do so by the time I had finished.

"I boldly walked on and struggled through two verses of a comic song called 'Jock Tamson's Wife.' But the audience was too much for me—their free and easy comments and the general uproar unnerved me, and after singing two lines of the third verse I beat a hasty and ignoble retreat.

"'I'll soon quieten them,' whispered Rab McBeth, mounting the steps of the platform and leaving Davie and myself to wonder what had come over all the other competitors. But our attention was soon attracted by a terrific uproar in the hall—Rab's appearance had been the signal for an outburst of derisive laughter, catcalls, groans, and all sorts of noises, natural and unnatural. But he held his ground bravely and began to sing 'Row me o'er the Clyde.' He had only got through one line when a miner in one of the front rows yelled out, 'Here's the police!' and another burst into an imitation fit of weeping.

"This was more than Rab could stand. He stopped singing, walked to the front of the platform, and shrieked out, 'I don't give a damn for ony o' ye!' Then he challenged any two persons in the hall to 'come outside' and fight with him, and finished up by hurling some rather pointed epithets at the audience collectively and individually. He also shouted above the tumult that the competitors hadn't got fair play, that the concert was finished, and that the gas would be turned off there and then. That finished 'the great amateur competition.'

"It was only a week or two afterwards that I learned the whole thing had been a 'put-up job.' You see, Rab McBeth was a very wily chap. He had arranged with several pals to interrupt him whenever he made his appearance on the platform, and thus give him a chance to abruptly terminate the proceedings. The 'other competitors' Rab told us about were non-existent, and Davie Graham and myself had been 'used' to further Rab's little scheme of money-making. He got £20 in drawings at the door of the hall, and Davie and I are waiting for our medals to this day."

At the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, the pictures are again remarkably good, and are well received by the audiences:—Foolshead Receives, a very comical turn; The Mad Woman of Ruin Castle, a fine dramatic film; Grandeur and Decadence, a most dramatic story in Dimitri Donskoj; Servants and Masters, a side-splitter; A Tour through Jersey, a charming series of lovely views; Poor, but Honest, another fine dramatic turn; and A Coat of Fortune finishes an interesting and entertaining programme.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

A Fine Racing Skate.

The new "Talmo" racing roller skate has been introduced to meet the rapidly-increasing demand for a featherweight skate to screw on the boot. It is essentially a skate for the expert, and for racing, hockey, or figure-skating. The "Talmo" is British-made throughout, and constructed on the most approved lines, with substantial circular cushions of best quality rubber, which are adjustable to any desired tension. The wheels run on steel balls in case hardened bearings, accurately machined and finished with the same exactitude as a bicycle hub. The wheel-base being shortened by bringing the rear wheels well under the heel enables the skater to turn corners or describe curves with greater ease. The footplate is securely riveted to the wheel carriages, which are themselves braced together by a tubular strut. Only the finest materials are employed in the construction of the "Talmo" racer, so that it is light enough for the most fastidious skater, yet sufficiently strong to stand rough usage. The weight is only 34oz. per skate.

An Improved Brampton.

The Brampton "King o' the Rink" skates will in future be supplied in dull nickel finish throughout instead of enamel, as experience has proved that the plated finish is more satisfactory, and at the same time handsomer in appearance. Apart

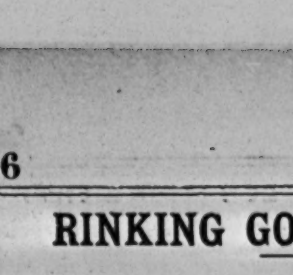

from this, the skate will be exactly the same in design as the previous model. A very considerable improvement has, however, been effected in the adjustment of the rubber cushions for both King o' the Rink" and "Duplex Girder" skates.

As may be seen from the accompanying illustration, the principal of the axis on which the swiveling of the wheel takes place is such as to result in the swivelling always bringing the wheels nearer to the centre of gravity of the skater, thus minimising side slip, especially on sharp curves. As the rubbers can be adjusted at both ends, the amount of adjustment can always be kept equal. There is no possibility of the nuts working loose through vibration, &c., as this is completely prevented by the spanner plate, which is held securely in place by a split cotter. This spanner acts as a lock nut. The strength of the axle box is now increased, as both sides are bonded together and equally take up any severe strain or blow on the wheels or axle (thus preventing one side of the cushion box giving way as hitherto). The axle is secured by a bridge piece riveted to the axle box, which effectually prevents any rotation or side movement of the axles relatively to the axle box.

Birmingham Trades' Carnival.

There was an infinite variety of cleverly-conceived costumes, representing historical, topical, and grotesque personalities and objects, at the first skating carnival held at the Empire Palace Skating Rink, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, and the comptroller (Mr. Stuart M. Johnston) is to be congratulated upon a very successful function. The judges were Mrs. Philip Baker and Messrs. Chapman and Mills (Leicester). The most effective costumes were those of "The Duchess of Gainsborough," "Primrose Day," "The Lady of Athens," The Rink Tower," "April Showers," "The Heavenly Twins," "The Alarm Clock," and "The Sleepless Husband." Pretty features of the evening were a grand match with limelight effects, and a graceful skating competition. The awards were distributed by Mrs. Philip Baker. The attendance numbered nearly 200 skaters and 600 spectators. It was announced that a trades carnival would be held on May 20, the proceeds of which would be devoted to the funds of the Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women.

A. E. Court's Benefit.

The large crowd which assembled at the Empress Rink last Monday evening testified to the popularity and esteem in which Mr. A. E. Court, manager, is held. An attractive programme of races had been provided, and in a one mile professional race, first prize a silver cup presented by Mr. Sam Strawson, and second a gold medal, there were four starters, T. P. Blakesley, sen., and T. P Blakesley, jun. (Boulevard Rink), Alfred Bear (Empress Rink, London), and E. Ball (Leicester). From the outset Bear took the lead and won a good race in 3min. 33sec. Blakesley, jun., was second, and Ball third. The racing was followed by a grand confetti battle, after which Mr. Court was presented with a beautiful diamond pin and ring, subscribed for by the staff.

Gymkhana at Earl's Court.

If only judged by the picturesqueness of its scenery there is no prettier roller-skating rink near London than that at Earl's Court, and in point of size there are few rinks to beat it. But the rink has never been seen to better advantage than was the case last Friday night, when a programme of special events was arranged to commemorate an evening set apart for the benefit of that most popular manager, Mr. Herbert W. Izod. The various events not only attracted a large number of competitors, but were also eagerly followed by a numerous company of spectators. The musical chairs' competition was productive of a great deal of merriment, and, after some scenes which led to something like hilarious merriment, was won by Mr. P. C. Pimply. Cycling *v.* skates produced an interesting race, which was won by a cyclist, Mr. H. Cook. The egg-and-spoon race, confined to ladies, resulted in a victory for Mrs. Hawthorne, and a half-mile partners race was won by Mr. and Mrs. Cook.

Lava Rink Dinner.

The Lava Skating Club held its first annual dinner at the Old Bell, Queen Victoria-street, last Friday evening. The chair was taken by Mr. B. E. Cadett (president). Mr. S. F. Casey, in toasting "The President," said he considered the great success the Lava Club had achieved was due in great measure to the encouragement given by the Lava Rink management to the club. Mr. Walter Stanton, who is a first-claim member to the Lava Club, spoke of a proposal to hold Olympic Games on rollers in about two years' time, and stated that although the Lava Club were in the premier position now, they must look to their laurels, as there were other clubs all improving, and walk-overs were now a thing of the past. A presentation, which took the form of an address and a silver cigarette case, and gold watch chain, was made to Mr. Chas. Knight in recognition of his hard work. An excellent musical programme was provided by the following:—Messrs. Ben Carpenter, S. J. Little, C. Wigginton, E. Adams, H. Y. Evans, Master F. Andrews, Miss Sadie Allen, and Mr. Clement Courtney at the piano.

Police Hero in Rink Band.

It is of interest to note that the Manningham-lane Rink, Bradford, band now includes ex-P.C. Whiteley, the heroic constable who, it will be remembered, lost his leg as the result of a gallant effort to stop a runaway horse.

Signor Guidi in Brussels.

Signor Guidi, the director-general of music for the many Empress Rink bands, goes to-day to Brussels for Mr. Frank Bostock to take charge of the musical arrangements in connection with the Jungle King's Exhibition enterprises.

Camberwell Rink Opened.

An excellent attendance marked the opening of the new Camberwell Skating Rink last Saturday. The building occupies a commanding site at the corner of Lilford-road, and has a frontage of 250ft. on Coldharbour-lane. The interior and exterior are extremely handsome, and the skating surface, which measures 200ft. by 100ft., justifies the special attention which the management has devoted to it. The rink will remain open until the end of June, and numerous attractions will be provided from time to time. The general-manager is Mr. A. F. Wilson, who has control of a number of rinks and electric theatres. Situated in the heart of a densely populated district, the Camberwell Rink is sure to prove popular, and with the moderate price of 6d. admission and 6d. for skates or use of floor, the rink should be a great success.

Palace Rink, Dublin.

The Palace Rink, Dublin will remain open until the middle of next month.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.

Despite the delightful weather conditions prevailing since the month began, there has been little change in the attendances at the various skating establishments in and around Glasgow, and taking the average, everything points to the pastime being as popular during the early summer months as it was last year. The enterprise of the Ibrox management in providing nightly attractions for their patrons is one that has met with success. Active preparations are being made for the masquerade fancy dress carnival to be held on the 29th in aid of the Lifeboat Saturday Fund. At the West End Rink, large crowds of enthusiasts continue to patronise the three sessions daily. The American Roller Rink continues to draw large crowds at each of the three daily sessions, an indication that this establishment, which was the pioneer of rinking in Glasgow, has lost none of its popularity. Interest is being well sustained in the Govan district, the attendances at the Summerton-road building in no way diminishing. At the Dennistoun Rink large attendances are the general rule.

Leicester Items.

At the Boulevard Rink the last carnival is announced to take place next Thursday. A picture palace is to be built by the side of this rink. The Belgrave Rink hockey team, having defeated the Loughborough team, has secured the hand some challenge cup and gold medals offered for competition by the directors.

Rinking Benefits Hosiery Trade.

An interesting fact is that the popularity of rinking has considerably benefited the hosiery trade. Several firms at Leicester, the centre of the hosiery trade, have introduced some new patterns in ladies' hosiery, and these are having quite a boom.

Notable Visitors at Maida Vale.

The Maida Vale rink has been lately honoured by august patronage. The Duchess of Argyll, Prince Leopold of Battenberg, members of the Spanish Embassy, Lady Huntingdon, and Lady Alwyne Compton are but a few amongst many notable recent visitors. The magistracy has been represented by Mr. Plowden, and the stage by Mr. Arthur Collins and the Misses Dare.

At Maidenhead.

Lady Desborough and the Marchioness Townshend were among the visitors at the Maidenhead Rink last Sunday.

Notes from Neath.

A carnival took place at the Crown Rink on Thursday, when several prizes were offered for the best comic and original costumes. There was a record entrance. The hockey match, The Gnoll v. Crown II., takes place next Tuesday.

Geo. Holt's Benefit.

On the occasion of the last carnival of the season at the Empress Roller Skating Rink, Nottingham, over 3,000 people were present. The occasion was Mr. Geo. Holt's benefit.

Last Night at Paisley.

To mark the close of the Paisley Rink for the season a grand sports night took place on Tuesday. All the contests were keenly contested for the prizes offered by the management. The large establishment was filled with interested spectators as well as rinkers. Mr. Jack R. Bostock, the manager, had charge of affairs, and conducted them in a businesslike way. After a successful winter's season the rink closes to-night (Saturday) for the summer.

New Rinks in the North.

The new skating rink at Philadelphia, near Fence Houses, has now been completed, and it will be opened shortly. A large rink is also being built at Houghton-le-Spring on a site situated in Newbottle-street.

"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

Sketch taken from the well-known Play, Produced at the Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, on Monday, April 18.

Robert Brierley	Mr. Edwin Bennett
James Dalton	Mr. Benson North
Hawkshaw	Mr. Edwin Fergusson
Melter Moss	Mr. Charles Daly
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Edmond Sydney
Maltby	Mr. Henry Rivers
May Edwards	Miss Lilian Clare
Mrs. Willoughby	Mrs. Charles Daly
Sam Willoughby	Miss Louisa Peach

"There may be some good in a ticket-of-leave man after all!" With a slight alteration the well-known "tag" might be made to apply with absolute truth to the play itself, and one finds oneself murmuring "There is some good in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* after all." Exactly how many times Tom Taylor's famous play has been "presented" throughout the entire English-speaking quarters of the globe would probably puzzle the brain of the most determined and enthusiastic statistician that ever burned the midnight oil poring over figures and going into calculations. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* has become an English classic since Henry Neville—still, happily, hale and hearty as ever—first took London by storm as the persecuted Lancashire lad, Bob Brierley, and Hawkshaw created a new type of character. In these days of "potted plays" and reduced dramas such a widely popular play was bound sooner or later to make its appearance on the variety stage, and it has been reserved for Miss Louisa Peach to produce *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* for some forty minutes' traffic of the stage. The result is eminently satisfactory. Divided into six scenes, the story is faithfully adhered to, and whoever is responsible for the sketch has done his work well. All the salient features of the play are essentially retained in condensed form, much of the original dialogue is used, and the general tone has been carefully kept up.

Miss Louisa Peach, a clever, experienced actress, has reserved to herself the good-hearted, cheeky, and irrepressible cockney urchin, Sam Willoughby, and a delightful impersonation it is from start to finish. Sam enlists the sympathies of the audience on the moment of his entrance, and retains them to the end. Trained in an excellent school, Miss Peach has all the best traditions at her fingers-ends. Her acting throughout is replete with the spirit of fun and good natured mischief, while her clear enunciation of her lines is a treat to hear in these days. Altogether, the Sam Willoughby of Miss Louisa Peach is not the least interesting of the long array of characters the talented actress has appeared in. Miss Lilian Clare is a very sweet and pretty May Edwards. Mrs. Charles Daly is altogether admirable as the amusing and loquacious Mrs. Willoughby. As Robert Brierley Mr. Edwin Bennett worthily follows in the footsteps of a long line of Lancashire lads, playing with earnestness, point, and feeling. Mr. Benson North is capital as Jim Dalton, the final struggle between these two in the churchyard is well worked up, and rouses the audience to enthusiasm. A very good account of Hawkshaw, the detective, is supplied by Mr. Edwin Fergusson, calm, incisive, and forcible as the character requires. Mr. Charles Daly is excellent as Melter Moss, not too aggressively Hebraic, but quite Hebraic enough. Mr. Edmond Sydney is quietly impressive as Mr. Gibson; and Henry Rivers makes the most of his opportunities as Maltby. The sketch is admirably staged, the scenery adequate, and the dressing irreproachable. Miss Peach has secured an attraction that should stand her in good stead for many a day to come.

Energy in Rhondda Valley.

The extraordinary success of rink hockey in the Rhondda Valley is undoubtedly due to Messrs. Rollinson, of the Porth Rink, who nearly every night at their place have a match between local talent. On Friday last Porth played Pontypridd. Result, 1 goal to nil. On Saturday, Porth *v.* Ton-y-Pandy. Porth, 2 goals; Ton-y-Pandy, 1. On Wednesday they met a local team of shop assistants, resulting in a drawn game. Another fancy dress carnival is promised in a few weeks' time.

Glaciarium Rink Reopened.

The Glaciarium Roller Skating Rink, Lord-street, Southport, was reopened last week. A delightful transformation has been brought about in the appearance of the rink. Several important additions have been made, and the improvement in the arrangement and furnishing of the café is one that is bound to be very greatly appreciated. Another important aspect of the work is the erection of a new band stand and large sounding board. The floor-manager is from the London Olympia, and the assistant-manager is from the Middlesbrough Rink—one of the largest rinks in the provinces.

Alec Payne at Tunstall.

Alec Payne concludes an engagement of twenty weeks with Gus Levaine's *Babes in the Wood* company at the Hippodrome, Burslem, to-night (Saturday). He opens at the Station-road Rink, Tunstall, on Monday, under the auspices of Mr. Temperley.

Inter-Club Racing at Wandsworth.

On Wednesday last the Wandsworth R.S.C. entertained the Catford R.S.C. at the Central Hall Rink, Wandsworth. Two events took place, viz., a relay race (sixteen laps) and a one mile scratch race. Wandsworth won the relay race by a lap. Time, 4min. 20 2-5sec. The teams were: Catford, Messrs. W. J. Pace, H. A. Lock, C. Harrington, and G. Masters; Wandsworth, Messrs. J. F. Lunn (capt.), H. A. Sutton, H. L. Collins, and F. Speaight. The mile scratch race was very closely contested. Each club was represented by four men. J. F. Lunn, of the W.R.S.C., won by a quarter of a lap; inches separated second, third, and fourth. Time, 3min. 58 2-5sec.

Wyman at Yeovil.

A great attraction for roller skaters has been provided at the Yeovil Skating Rink this week, Wyman, the acrobatic and trick roller skater, appearing and giving excellent performances. Wyman performed many difficult evolutions whilst skating, such as undressing, passing a hoop over his body and skating through a number of bottles arranged in a square. His most daring feat, however, was turning a somersault over a couple of chairs, which drew forth loud applause.

Lava S.C. Guests of Wandsworth.

To-night (Saturday) the Wandsworth R.S.C. entertain the Lava Speed Club. Some good racing is anticipated.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

Total Collected to Date.

7249, SHILLINGS.

Sums since received.

Walter de Frece	20	0	0
Vesta Tilley	18	19	6

Collected by Miss Kitty Colyer, £11 5s. 6d.

M. M. and friends	25	Papa Davis	1
Brother Teddy	20	C. H. W.	1
Frank C. Petit	20	A. H. B.	1
Dr. Forbes Ross	20	Lulu	1
Harry Day	10	Barcham	1
Alf. Thomas, E. Freeman, Harry King	8	C. Kingsley	1
E. L.	5	M. S. Gillop	1
D. G. J.	5	Gertrude Bibby	1
J. L.	5	B. Wilson	1
C. Powell	5	Rattail	1
Kitty Colyer	5	J. Lewin	1
L. H. Litvin	4	W. A.	1
H. D.	2½	L. S.	1
Rubberneck	2½	R. J. R.	1
Ben	2½	Gentle Edwin	1
C. G. G.	2½	C. G.	1
F. R. V.	2½	J. S. W.	1
W. H. Emmens	2½	J. C.	1
H. March	2½	F. B. C.	1
J. B. Philipp	2½	Gwynne	1
B. W. Rolfe	2½	Rly Bepiola	1
F. C. March	2½	May Henderson	1
A. S. S. L.	2	Evelyn Taylor	1
S. L.	2	Ragius	1
H. L.	2	Theresa Moore	1
C. L. D.	2	Ella Shields	1
Nero	2	Pax	1
Krebs	2	Dan Crawley	1
J. S. McC.	2	Gabrielle Day	1
G. R. C.	2	A. Rigby	1
C. J. T.	2	Lew Loman	1
L. C.	2	Geo. Gulliver	1
R. W. Pendrigh	2	Dudley Hayes	1
Geo. Craig (Karno's)	2	H. H. Braham	1
G. Humphries	2	Dusty Rhodes	1
H.	1½	M. Tuffs	1
S. N. P.	1½	John Power	1
H. Devaux	1½	Bessie Benson	½
		Johnsons	½

Collected by Miss Lily Hayes, 6s.

Sisters Gladwin	1	D. Morris	1
Jack Lorimer	1	Geo. Moon	1
Jack Hayes	1	Jack Merritt	1

Collected by Mi Narom, 13s.

Miss Mi Narom	1	Sam Vincent	1
The Dunvilles	1	Leo Merode	1
Chard's Dogs	1	Arthur Danby	1
Lindus and Darius	1	Clarice Sefton	1
Quality Quartette	1	Albert, Ventriloquist	1
Annie Estelle	1	Dot	½
Gail Rees	1	Annie Lang	½

Collected by Miss Daisy James, £2 2s.

Daisy James	21	H. B.	2
T. F.	2½	A. C.	2
T. J.	2½	W. G.	2
Paul Pelham	2	H. H.	2
G. H.	2	L. C.	1
L. B.	2	N. M.	1

Collected by Welda and Wynne, 17s.

W. G. Webber	1	Frank Saraski	1
Bert Williams	1	Thomas Leotard	1
A. B. A. B. E.	1	Albert Earle	1
Arthur Astill	1	Bellong Brothers	1
Phinas and Aida	1	P. Valvero	1
Bros. Obo	1	Edmund Caselli	1
George Norton	1	Carlo and Maie	1
Rudge Whitworth	1	Mysticus	1
Ned Graydon	1		

Collected by Benj. Woodger, 5s.

Sammy Salter	1	Ted E. Box	1
Little Ganty	1	Ben Woodger	1
Sammy Salter	1		

Collected by "Stylo," 3s.

Beatrice Bonnie	2	Chas Cole	1
William Stylo	2		

Collected by Roland, 3s.

Roland, Illusionist	3

Collected by My Fancy, 80s.

"My Fancy"	21½	"Another White Label"	1
H. Bawn	21		
Jones, Newcastle	20	Mrs. Widdicombe	1
H. Tate	1½	Mrs. G. Gilbey	1
Chas. T. Aldrich	1	Kitty Colyer	1
Jewel St. Leger	1	D. Warwick	1
L. F.	1	E. T. Phrils	1
Sam Elton	1	Billy Barlow	1
"White Label"	1	"The Heroine"	1
Jas. Dow	1	Mrs. Caine	1
Percival Goffin	1		

TO THE COLLECTORS.

There are still a few cards which have not been sent in. As the financial year of the Music Hall Home ends on April 30, the hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, will be glad if these cards can be sent in to be announced in the next issue of *The Era*.

Popular Potteries Manager.

Mr. Temperley, the manager of the Station-road rink, Tunstall, took up his appointment there in December last, coming from Sheffield, where he had been assistant manager of the Empire Rink Co., Ltd., who own one of the finest rinks in Sheffield. Mr. Temperley was accorded a very big benefit last week. This gentleman is keenly interested in rink hockey, and at one time was a member of the Ferns Park Club, Bolton, which had a very successful career. He was a vice-chairman of the club, and was instrumental in forming the Northern Union Hockey Association, and expresses a wish that such an association could be formed in North Staffordshire, much to the advantage of all clubs in arranging fixtures providing reliable referees, &c. One can only expect, therefore that Mr. Temperley would promote a hockey team at Tunstall. As a matter of fact, he has both a gentlemen's and a ladies' team. The ladies' club is the first of its kind in the Potteries. Under Mr. Temperley's careful and judicious management the Station-road rink has been doing good business.

Baby Swallowed a Threepenny Bit.

This is the title of a very amusing film seen at the Kensington Picture Palace this week. Every morning, before young Daddy Brown leaves home, he gives his three-year-old baby her daily allowance of 3d. for her saving's bank. Sister Nellie, of six, is jealous, and she desides to steal it. The opportunity arrives. Baby is sobbing because the threepenny bit is gone, but can't tell where it is. The frightened mother immediately surmises baby has swallowed it. Everybody is pressed into service to call a doctor, and the mother telephones Daddy Brown. Six doctors arrive and hold a consultation, but the affair is solved when sister Nellie calmly enters with a bag of candy. The doctors leave in disgust; Nellie gets a spanking, and is to be made to endure the torture of watching the baby sister eat the candy.

Kilburn's New Picture Theatre.

Princess Marie Louise of Bourbon (Duchess of Seville) opened the Kilburn Electric Empire, a cinematograph theatre, on Wednesday last. In a charming speech she said:—"It is not many years since the privilege of seeing the world was only possible to the extremely wealthy, but to-day, owing to this marvellous invention, the most beautiful scenery of the world can be admired for a few pence. The directors are to be congratulated on the pretty and comfortable theatre they have erected, and I feel sure that the residents of Kilburn will reward them for their enterprise by according their hearty support." The chief item in the afternoon's programme was the playing by Miss Jamotha of a piece called *Humoresque Sevigliana*, composed by herself, and dedicated to the Princess, and, as an encore, a Chopin nocturne. Before the close of the entertainment a collection was made on behalf of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 18, 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
June 6, 13.
Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
May 23, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD
May 16, June 13, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
May 16, June 6, 13, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for
May 16, 23, June 13, 20, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, on.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Whit week, May 16, at Huddersfield and Theatre Royal, Leicester. Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 2, 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
May 2, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
May 2, 16, 23, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Whit week.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 2, Bedford and Luton.
Wire, Falcon, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, May 16 (3 nights).
Address, E. G. Falcon, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
Proprietor and Manager, B. Pareezer.
May 23, July 11, 18.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
June 20, 27.
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
May 9, 23, 30, June 13, 20, July 11.
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
May 30, Aug. 4, 29, Sept. 5.
All communications to B. Pareezer, Head Office, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for
May 9 and 23.
May 9 and 23.

Wire immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 27 and July 11.
June 27 and July 11.
To play twice nightly.

Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies;
May 9, Whit Week (?), 23, 30, June, onwards, with exceptions.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
May 30 (?), June 27, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
three nights, May 12, 13, and 14,
also May 23, and all June.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction,
May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30,
June 13, 20 27.
Apply, Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, May 9, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, good Company, May 16, Ton-y-Pandy. Lowest certainty. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES, BLACKBURN and PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Blackburn and Preston, May 23, and on.
E. H. Page, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES

BEST, DURABLE, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL RINK SKATES ON THE MARKET.

"EASIEST AND LIGHTEST RUNNING SKATES ON EARTH."

Ball Bearing. Used in all Principal Rinks.

FINEST CONSTRUCTION. Longest Wear at Smallest Cost for Repairs,

Furnished with either Steel Combination, Fibre, or Boxwood Rollers.

Over two million pairs Henley Skates sold in the U.S.

Foot-plate spring steel. Will neither buckle nor break: guaranteed.

LARGEST ROLLER-SKATE FACTORY IN THE WORLD.

SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE. Write for Lowest Export Prices and information direct to

M. C. HENLEY, Richmond, Indiana, U.S.A.

HENLEY RACING SKATE.

Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere. Are also desirable for individual use where the finest and most complete skate is desired.

Extra Large Ball-Bearing Boxwood Wheels. Wide Trucks for High Speed.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant June 20, July 4, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 9, 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A handsome brick and stone building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in May, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.

"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.

"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.

"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams: "Carlton, Worcester."

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre.
May 9 (3 nights), 16, 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
July 18, Aug. 18 (3 nights).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
June 6, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Wanted Known,
May 9, Vacant for a High-class Attraction, through cancelling, also May 23, 30.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
May 23, 30 Vacant. All communications to Opera House to be addressed there. Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
KIRKCALDY, April 25,
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.
Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, Good Company, May 9, and a Few Autumn Dates. WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 2,
Vacant through breach of Contract.
Wire, OTTO C. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for Ap. 25, May 5 (3 nights), May 9, 12 (three nights each), May 26 and 30.
Flying Matinées easily arranged from Eastbourne, Brighton, or Tunbridge Wells.
Address, MANAGER.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Only, July 11, 18 and intermediate.
Address,
JULIAN MALVERN.

WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, May 23 and June 27. Address, Mrs. T. CULEEN, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

PAVILION THEATRE, LYTHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies,
July, Aug., and Sept.,
Musical Comedies preferred.
J. H. HARRISON, Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, May 9, 16, and Autumn. Bookings:
"Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Add., JAMES P. MOORE, King's Hall, B'ham

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, something good, May 16 (Holiday Friday and Saturday), Aug., on, Grand, Radcliffe; also Aug. 1, on, Grand, Chorley. SANTE, Radcliffe.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 9, 16, 23, Aug., onwards.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Theatre Royal, North Shields.
May 9, 23 (twice nightly).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Aug. 8, 15, and 22. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER, DEAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Vacant April 28, May 12, July 7 (last 3 nights of each week). Apply MANAGER.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
May 2, onwards.
FRANK MACNAGHTEN,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, May 9, 23 30.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

NEW GRAND PAVILION,
SHANKLIN PIER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Wanted, First-class Attractions,
Wanted, First-class Attractions,
for one or two Season Dates.
All coms. re dates, terms, &c.,
to
London Representative,
WILSON JAMES,
108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, for Paisley Theatre, Strong Attractions, May 16 and 23.
Address, J. H. SAVILE.

WANTED, First-class Comedy, July 11, week, and July 25, three nights, for Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Re-opening, Aug. 1 (three nights), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, MAX JEROME, Pier, Hastings.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19 (?), Oct. 10.
Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, 22 (?), Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3 (?), Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (?), 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant May 2 (?), Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
The only Theatre open all the year round.
March 28, "SUNDAY."
April 4, "ARE YOU A MASON?"
April 11, "A ROYAL DIVORCE."
April 18, LEONARD BOYNE'S "RAFFLES."
April 25, "THE DIVER'S LUCK."
Whit week, "ALICE IN WONDERLAND."
WANTED, Dramatic, Musical Attractions, and High Grade Variety Combinations,
May 2, June 6, also Pantomime, Jan. 9, 1911.
Also to thank the numerous Managers who have applied for Pantomime Production Date, same has now been settled with J. Gar Kiddie, who will return next season with
"LITTLE BO-PEEP."
The Opera House and Hippodrome is the most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough.
All communications re dates to
WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, for this Business Theatre, No. 1 Attraction,
May 2, May 2, May 2.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
Also a few later dates, write.
Address,
FEATHER, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
May 9, 16, June 27,
July 4, 11, Aug. 1, 8, 22.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Sept. 5, 12, and few special dates.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that draws the Smart Audience.
Now Booking Autumn.
WANTED, London Successes, for first vacant date Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Wanted, Attractions, May 16, 23, 30.
Coms., ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Drama, twice nightly, last three nights of Whit week.
Only vacancy this season.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Loughborough.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good and Sensational Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and printing, May 9, onwards, twice nightly. State full particulars and lowest summer terms, share or certainty, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, June 20, Comic Opera or Light Attraction for Royal Agricultural Show week. The best week in the year.
Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mans., 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, May 30 or May 23, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Address, WM. MORTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, Companies, May 2 and 16.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES DURIE.

WANTED, May 2, 16 (?) 23, for Theatre Royal, Margate.
WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Companies, Weeks, Odd Nights. Flying Matinées, at once.
DANIEL and FRANKS, Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 4, 11, and 18, Sept. 19.
Address, The MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for May 9, onwards, Grand Theatre, Nelson; and May 16, onwards, Victoria, Burnley.
Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

ARCADIA THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, TOURING PANTOMIMES
On Sharing Terms for the Following Weeks
Dec. 26, 1910,
Jan. 2, 1911,
Jan. 9, 1911,
Jan. 16, 1911,
Jan. 23, 1911,
Jan. 30, 1911.
Apply, stating terms and particulars,
W. CATLIN, Oakleigh, Gipsy-lane, Leicester.
The Arcadia Theatre holds 2,500 people, and is the most popular house in Scarborough.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, May 2, onwards, to play twice nightly. J. FRED WATSON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, July 18, 25, on, with exception. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, May 16, June 6, 20, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical or Dramatic, July 25 (reopening), Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, Dec. 5, and forward. Good pantos. write in. R. DEWHIRST, Hippodrome, Todmorden.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.
WANTED, good sound Dramas, Pantomimes, and Musical Comedies coming North for Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-1911. Sample printing and vacant dates.
A. E. PICKARD,
Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c. Vacant dates, May 2, 9, June 13, 20, 27, July 18, Aug. 4, 5, 8, onwards. Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKS.
A better Date than many that are called Good.
WANTED, Big Dramas, Musical Comedy, or Big Star Variety Combination, Whit week.
Only the best entertained. All coms., SCOTTIE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, G. M. Polini, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company; "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Acknowledged to be one of the most handsome and best equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Seating capacity, 2,000.
Estimated population, 100,000.
Ample Stage Room for the Heaviest Spectacular Productions Touring.
Now playing to splendid business and equally well patronised during the summer months.

Press says:—
To those who do not know the great development of this Northumbrian port a visit will come as a revelation. A fine protected harbour entrance, a busy harbour, finding accommodation for steamers of large size, and large shipbuilding yards and graving docks, all testify to the importance of Blyth as a shipping centre. It is situated fourteen miles from Newcastle and in the centre of the great Northumbrian coalfields. The lines of the N.E. Railway give direct and frequent service with all parts of the district and the whole of England.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Vacant Dates are:—
May 30, May 30, May 30,
Aug., 1910,
and various onwards, 1911.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Vacant Dates this Season,
June 27,
July 18-21, 25,
Sept. 8-10, Sept. 12, 19, 26.
All communications, Councillor CHARLES PRICE, Ramsgate;
or, W. MARTIN, 415, Strand.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
May 2, 23, and 30, Newcastle;
May 16 and 23, Edinburgh;
May 16, 30, and June 6, Glasgow.
Address, ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Vacant dates, Summer or Autumn.
Apply,
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions for June 6 and 20, July 4 and 18.
Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.
Please mark envelopes "Royal."

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
Population between Seventy and Eighty Thousand.
All Dates Filled to the Closing for Summer Vacation, Reopening End of August.
WANTED, Autumn Dates and Dec. 26, Jan. 19 and 23.
Extract from letter from D. Lyn Harding, Esq., Jan. 5, 1910:—I want to thank the directors and Miss Dod for the courtesy extended to our manager and "The Flag Lieutenant" company during their week's stay at your beautifully-clean and well-managed theatre. My partner and myself were very satisfied with the business.
Apply, Miss DOD, Lyceum, Ipswich. Tel. 290.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt, enlarged, holding £100 at ordinary prices.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Whit week, Musical Comedy preferred; also vacant June 26, 23, 30, and one or two later dates. All communications to C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, as above.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, and Sept. 12,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED Big Attractions,
First Vacant Date, July 25, Aug. 15, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 16 and 30
All companies corresponding note "New Brighton barred."
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 23, 30, June 6 27, and on. E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, through disappointment for the Public Hall, Exmouth, Combination Company, Drama or Musical Comedy, for May 13, 14, and 16, 1910. The Best Date of the Year.
The Devon County Show held at Exmouth for the first time on these three days.
Sacred Concert Sunday, 15th, if required.
Apply, LEON VINT,
Globe Villa,
Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

ERDINGTON SKATING RINK, VILLAGE GREEN, ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM, and LOZELLS RINK, ASTON (two magnificent halls).
WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Pierrot Troupes, Concert Parties, Miniature Circus, and Picture Shows. Apply, with full particulars, to A. T. C. BRIDGE, General Manager.

WANTED, First-class Company, May 16 (Whit week), that can play twice nightly. Wire, MANAGER, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Good Attractions, May 23, 30, June 27, July 11, 25, Sept. 1 8 19 (3 nights). PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, Nov. 28, DOUGLAS BRUCE.
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 23, 30, June 6.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Norwood," 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
"CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on.
Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly.
All particulars, ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this
Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Weeks of July 18 and 25.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1 (?), 8, 29, on.
Big Company. Full Chorus.
Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery; new plant of printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancashire.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
Once or Twice Nightly.
WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 28 (three nights).
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 15.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
April 25, New Lyric Theatre,
Dinnington, Yorks (opening week).

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORDS No. 1 CO.
WANTED, May 2, May 2, May 2, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, and on, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21.
Address POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 22 (three nights), 29 (three nights), Sept. 1 (three nights), also Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 24, and 31 (weeks), for
"MISS TOMMY,"
Comedy-Drama, in 3 Acts, by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss Annie Hughes as Miss Tommy.
Address, Miss ANNIE HUGHES,
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, May 16, to follow Grimsby.
Either or both Plays.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire, to-day,
LOIE ESMOND, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
April 25, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres Oct. 24, 31. Nightly received with enthusiasm on the Broadhead circuit. All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, Junction Theatre, Manchester; next, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANIES.
"EAST LYNNE."
Picked Company, Scenery Carried, New Pictorials.
WANTED, May 23, June 20, July 4.
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART,"
No. 1 Company, Scenery, Pictorial Printing only.
Naval and Military Uniforms, Supers,
Only vacant date, June 6.
"THE BONDMAN,"
May 23, Suburban.
Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (?), and 31.
Apply, FRANK M. THORNE,
Cloughton Newlands, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Good Theatre, 3 Nights, Aug. 11, 12, 13, to follow Llandudno, and Aug. 15, 6 nights.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
REPERTOIRE CO.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Feb., 1911, onwards.
Apply at once to CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
P. O. W., Mexborough.

ROBERT HEWLAND'S COMPANIES.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME," by Nita Rae.
WANTED, May 2, May 2, to follow London and precede Devonport. Write or wire,
WALTER J. HORNE,
Theatre Royal, Edmonton, London, N.

"MAN AND WIFE," by Walter Howard.
WANTED, for Miss Margaret Skelton's Tour of above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 2, on, First-class Co., including Miss Ethel Griffies. Address, E. VAN BIENE, T. R., Edmonton.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Nov. 14, 28 (?), Xmas, onward, for the New Play, "His Real Wife." Great Success of Twice Nightly, at Met., Manchester. Add., T. E. WARD, King's, Longsight, Manchester.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR.
"A FAST LIFE."
Money refused all parts on Monday at the Paisley Theatre. Refer H. J. Savile, Esq.
WANTED, June 13, 27, Aug. 1, 8, and Dec. 26.
WALTER STEELE, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, May 30, June 20, 27, Aug. 1 15.
FRANK YEARSLEY, Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S SKETCHES.
"BRIGANDS OF TARRAGONA"
and
"JOHN JAY, JUN."
WANTED, May 2,
North or Midlands.
Including the Celebrated Little Comedian, Chas. H. Bell.
Address, 44, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," June 6 20, July 4, 18, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12. HALDANE CRICHTON, Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

WANTED, May 9 week, 23, 24, 25 (Lancs or Yorks), Wyndham's Theatre success, "The Best People." WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street,, W.C.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 1, Lancs., for this Scream.
DICKIE CLARE, Opera House, Torquay.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, 28, and 1911. Fine Plant of Printing by Allens.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Star, Liverpool.

EDWARD S. PETLEY AND UNA GILBERT'S COMPANY in the
Recent Playhouse Success,
"LITTLE MRS. CUMMIN."
(By arrangement with Cyril Maude, Esq.)
WANTED, a Good Whit Week Date, share or certainty; also certain other Summer Dates; seaside preferred. All coms., E. S. PETLEY, Torquay Villa, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, for "Her Fatal Past," beautiful Production, July 4 and 11. Address, T. E. WARD, King's, Longsight, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Playing Everywhere to splendid business.
Refer or come and see it.
July 4, 11, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
Big Business in Each Town.
Refer Pavilion, London, last week.
Refer Prince's, Portsmouth, this week.
June 6, July 25, Aug. 22, Oct. 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
Pantomime Business.
Refer Alex. T. Hull.
Palace T., Newcastle;
Pavilion T., London;
&c., &c.
May 9, Wire, Sept. 26, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Production,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Aug. 22.
Vacant Sept. 5 (?), 19, Oct. 3, 17, Jan. 9, 16, March 6 and Whit, 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

TWO NEW PLAYS
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Productions
are
Settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Let to Messrs. Fox and Leonard.
To Let,
"Honour Thy Father," "Little Outcast," and New Plays.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN Present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Wanted, July 25, August Bank Holiday,
Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 2, 9, and various Spring, 1911.
Jerro'd Heather as Zaco.
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Refer Ben Court, Esq., &c., &c.
Absolutely New Plant of Scenery, and Everything Carried.
Production on First-class Lines.
ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, T. R., Woolwich;
Monday, Creek Side, East Molesey.

WANTED, Theatres, for the new Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
Now a great success. Receipts have gone up every night here; ask Mr. Stanley Rogers. General verdict of Manager, Patrons, and Staff: the funniest and best show that has visited Whitehaven for past three months. And the business verifies it. J. D. Swanston, Esq., saw "Miss Plaster" on Tuesday last and booked her for three autumn dates. Closed on Saturday last at Methil to £63 2s. 9d. So great was the demand that over 100 extra chairs had to be placed in Orchestra Stalls. Refer Mr. Burnett. Wire for May 2 and 16.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Whitehaven; next, Workington.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, May 9, June 20, May 9. Excellent Show. Refer T. R., Bolton, this week. Wire for May 9, to precede Sunderland (return).
"A SISTER'S SIN."
Wanted, May 9, May 9,
Only Vacant Date this year.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, May 16, May 16, 30,
May 16, May 16 and 30.
Wire, KIMBERLEY, Lyric T., Hammersmith, W.; Next, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
One of the Finest Productions ever Toured. Refer, re Play and Business, this week, Lyric, Hammersmith. Fast booking autumn, and spring, 1911. Many thanks for return date Nottingham, also Bordesley Contract. Managers who have not yet booked this play are urgently requested to see the piece.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Xmas Week, Aug. 29, Xmas Week.
Write, F. G. KIMBERLEY, next week, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
(Fit-up Rights to Let or Sell.)

MRS. BROWN-POTTER AND No. 1 COMPANY in
"MADAME X."
WANTED, First-class Towns, Aug. and Sept., with exceptions.
Apply, BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO.
Exceptionally Strong Cast of Dramatic Artists.
Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank Ayrton,
Arthur Trail, David Curtis,
Madge Seymour, Anna Beaumont, Olga Kay,
and
Norman A. Overton.
Present Russell Vaun's latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
Magnificently Mounted, Played, and Advertised.
Vacant May 16 (follow T. R., Birkenhead), Wire.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards. Now Booking 1911.
Refer this week, Lester Collingwood, Esq., re Production.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
T. R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, June 20, June 20, June 27, June 27.
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Hallijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL.
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, last week. 10,040 persons paid for admission during the week. Hundreds of people turned away on Saturday night.
Managers requiring a Sound Attraction and Sure Money-taker, wire or write.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant July 4 18, 25, and on, with exceptions.
April 25, Victoria O. H., Burnley.

WANTED, Monday next, "Daughter of Regiment," "Bohemian Girl"; 30 minutes each; everything carried. Five Artists. Wire, GITTINS, Theatre, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."

WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
Whit Week,
Whit Week,
Whit Week,
May 23, June 6, 13, 27, onwards.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."

Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
Whit Week,
Whit Week,
Whit Week,
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, onwards.

"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."

Wanted, for this Novel Domestic Drama,
May 9,
May 9,
May 9,
(between Ashton and Swansea).
Also Summer Dates.

Look Out for Grand New Production.

"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re dates, Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

Wires, c/o "Pagoda," Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production, July 18, Junction T., Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 19, follow Oldham, Oct. 3, 10, 31, and Dec. 26.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"

a Musical Farce in Two Acts.

North Co., including
Miss FLORENCE BAINES as
"OUR MARY ELLEN."

Vacant Sept. 26, Nov. 7, 14,

South Co.,
Spring Tour Complete
Vacant,
July 18 (?), Aug. 8, 15,
and various Autumn.

In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce by the Author of
"Miss Lancashire, Limited."

Address,
Miss Florence Baines,
Opera House, St. Helens.

MISS MARY NEIL.

"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
Geo. Kirk,
55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14, 21.

Address, Chas. Gibbon, Rotunda T., Liverpool.

MR. CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."

WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with exceptionally strong Cast, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5 (follow Metropole, Glasgow), Sept. 19, and Oct. 3 (precede and follow Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21.

"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
The Successful Farcical Comedy, from the CRITERION THEATRE.
Wanted, June 13 (?) (precede T. R., Portsmouth), July 4, 11.

For both the above address,
Mr. Charles Gibbon, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 15, 29, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 10.
Oct. 10, Xmas.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

Fifteenth Consecutive Year of Tour.
Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Romantic Irish Musical Fairy Play.
Mirth. Music. Beauty. Romance.
The Magnificent Stage Settings
and
Picturesque Costumes
commented on in every town visited.
WANTED, May 30 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Only Vacant Date this Year.
Theatre Royal, Leicester.
April 25 (six nights).

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Another Great Success this week at Abertillery.
Tuesday's House £2 more than Monday's.
Finished to a Packed House Saturday Night at Pontypridd.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1, 8, 29, (follow the Broadhead Tour), Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 10 (follow Barnsley). Oswald Cray, Palace T., Ebbw Vale.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON
in a Triple Bill of One-act Playlets.
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY."
"THE WOMAN AND THE APPLE,"
and a Phantasy of the Hackney-road, E.,
"THE BRIDE FOR A LIVING."
WANTED, Theatres, May 30, June 13, 20, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 22, 29. The Original and Special Scenery carried.
V. C. Newman, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.
Wires, "Theaterbau, London." 'Phone, 1292 Hop.

ERNEST CH. GITTINS' COMPANY.
WANTED, April 25, May 2, 9, 30, June 6, July 4 (?), "THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT," "THE BOHEMIAN GIRL," and really first-class Combination. Everything carried, splendid pictorials. Wire, Gittins, Theatre, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, Theatres, May 2 (to precede Palace, Newcastle), May 23, 30 (to precede Aston and Smethwick).
Horace Stanley,
31, East-street, Leicester.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-1911.
WANTED, Production Dates, for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on royalty. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRES WANTED.

SCOTTIE'S COLOSSAL MUSICAL COMBINE.

The only Organisation of its kind in the world.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 20, July 25, and few remaining Autumn dates. Can play once or twice nightly. The new Programme includes Scottie's complete Musical Comedy Novelty, a complete Summer Pantomime, "ANDROCLES AND THE LION."
Thirty-five Artists and Auxiliaries, fine Chorus, Troupe of Dancers, and some of the best Comedians extant. Played in Theatres as a full show with Specialities and in Music Halls as a Sketch, with Special Turns separate; also "Napoleon at Waterloo," "Whizzing the Whirl," "The Cry of the Children, &c., &c.
Every Turn a Star Act; every Item a Draw.

Wire to-day for May 2, 9.
Scottie, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., for H. Marvelle's Colossal Variety Combination. Every Turn a Star. No moons or dud turns. The Pay-box is the truth of my assertion. Wire, wire, wire, or write for immediate dates and terms for a £300 a week company to H. Marvelle, 23, Frome-street, Islington, London, N.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Comedians,
The Best.
WANTED, Chorus Ladies,
The Best.
WANTED, Actors,
The Best.
WANTED, Actresses,
The Best.

Full Company wanted for the immediate elaborate production of an original Operatic Burlesque at the most distinguished Variety Theatre in the West End of London.

Good business for good people only.

Address, T. Reed Pinaud,
Vaudeville Club, Charing Cross-road,
giving the fullest particulars of height, experience, &c.

Stature of Ladies, 5ft. 3in. to 5ft. 4in.

THE MELODRAMA PRODUCTION SYNDICATE, LTD. Proprietors of "Sexton Blake," "Convict 99," "Hush Money," &c.
WANTED, a few really capable Artists, for a New Production in London, week commencing May 23; must have good appearance and experience. Apply, The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., 21, John-street, Adelphi, W.C. Telephone, City 2431.

WANTED, to rehearse May 2, for New Farcical Comedy, Tall Leading Light Comedian; Juv. L. Com. Actress for Ingénue part, pretty, and have smart wardrobe; Char. Comedian. Addresses of recent references. Also, to rehearse Monday next, "Life for a Life" Tour, First-class Leading Man, Baggage Carpenter, capable small part. Chas. H. Lester and Bertram Damer, Star Theatre, Swansea. April 25, Met., Birmingham.

WANTED, good Heavy Gentleman, Responsible Gentleman, and Juvenile Lady, also Chambermaid (small part), to give services for one week, commencing May 2 (London); long tour if satisfactory (Dramatic Sketch); rehearse immediately. Letters only, Saville, 327, Winchester-house, Old Broad-street.

WANTED, Entire Company, with few exceptions, to open Saturday, 23rd. Those with turns preferred. Wire, James, Portable Theatre, Ledbury.

WANTED, Leading Gent, and Character Old Lady, for Stock Season, Grand, Glasgow. Rehearse Monday. Apply, stating lowest terms, enclosing photo (no application considered without same). Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Mark envelopes "Theatre Stock."

STAGE "FLORODORA" MUSICAL COMEDY.
By Special Permission.
WANTED, Young and Attractive Amateurs, for Principal Parts and Chorus, special Voice Trials daily, 10 to 6; Saturdays 10 to 1. Stedman's, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W., or Windmill House, Shaftesbury-avenue (facing Trocadero).

WANTED, Full Company, for Stock Season, six weeks (possibly ten), commencing about Whit week (Midlands). State lowest summer terms and particulars, also say whether engaged for Autumn. Edward Marris, 39, Prince's-place, Notting Hill, W.

"FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.
WANTED, for Autumn, Star Leading Lady for the Queen; must be of very pretty and youthful appearance, but have dignity and power. Refinement and bearing most essential. Also Leading Man, must be tall, possess fine voice, accustomed to military plays; youth and appearance most essential. Powerful Character Actor (small), for Gen. Hapsburg, capable of declamatory power.
All send photos., refs., and other full particulars, to J. A. Campbell, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, tall Lady, Princess Flavia, "Prisoner Zenda," two weeks, May 9. Photos., terms, height, references, Mark Blow, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

WANTED, young Amateur Lady also Gent, for High-class Touring Concert Party. Particulars and photo, Manager, 52, Chesterfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, good Boy Sopranos, for Musical Act, at once; must be over 14. Full particulars to J. T. Morrison, 38, Park-mansions, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Boys, age 14,
must be first-class Solo Singers.
Address, Box 7,573, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagement in Drama, Sketch, &c., by Young Lady Juvenile, 20, Indian or Gipsy parts. Address, Box 7,603, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Soprano, late of Moody-Manners' principal Opera Co, at Liberty May 9 and 23. Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, by Magnificent Contralto, Summer Engagement, Opera, Concert, Oratorio. Good Accompanist. Address, Madame M, Sutherland-avenue, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Known, Tenor Vocalist; excellent voice, extensive répertoire; sure to hit. Open to accept engagements, week-end and whole of August. In London Saturdays. Address, Box 7,584, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Well-known Comedian will accept Summer Season with First-class Concert Party, or accept recognised artist, lady or gentleman, as Partner. Box 7,618, The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Production, or Permanent Engagement. Davies Massey, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Known, Philip Small, Scenic Artist, desires to thank A. Mattison, Esq., Managing-Director of the Empire Palace, Middlesbrough, on termination of a very comfortable engagement at above; at Liberty very shortly. Present address, 16, Salisbury-terrace, Winter-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. Charles Sayer, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery of every description; good, effective work; cheap. The Northern Scenic Studio, 16, Cross-st., London, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STOCK SEASON AT MERTHYR.
WANTED, Capable Manager to Produce and Engage Artists for Above.
Must be experienced. Start May 16.
Apply, A. Jackson Withers.
Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn duties of Acting-Management, premium £30, returned in salary; first-class tour. First instance, Box 7,616, "The Era."

WANTED, Resident Manager, Energetic and Up-to-date, for Variety House (two performances nightly) in the South of England. Apply, with terms and photo., to Box 7,599, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Smart Advance Agent, to Book Grounds for my Novel Enterprise, The News of the World Tour, Big Advertising Car. Walter Payne, Picture Palace, Church-road, Acton.

WANTED, Scenic Carpenter, to Travel; under 35, single and abstainer.
Write,
Tom Hearn,
Lyndhurst, Loughborough Park, S.W.

SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
WANTED, smart Bill Inspector, to combine Props. State fully previous experience, lowest terms, and last two references, to Auguste A. Peulève, General-Manager.

WANTED, Known, Smart Manager at Liberty for immediate engagement. Dramatic or Variety; expert accountancy, advertising, bars, &c.; young, active, and with first-class experience. Highest credentials. Box 7,610, c/o "The Era."

To Proprietors and Syndicates.
WANTED, by well-known, young, energetic Manager, Appointment, Variety Hall, London or Provinces; smart appearance and excellent references, Disengaged May 2. Address, Box 7,609, "The Era."

WANTED, Management of Colonial Tour, by Manager of Twenty Years' Experience, just returned from Colonies, where good attractions can draw splendid business. Box 7,608, "The Era."

WANTED, Management of Provincial Hall, by London Manager of good experience, ability, and grit; one able to show increase of takings. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, position as Secretary or Treasurer in Theatre or Theatrical Office. Shorthand, Typewriting, Book-keeping. Age 27.
Box 7,569, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, H. Mac concluding eight months' Tour Tomkinson's Gipsy Co., Lib. May 2, Advance Stage-Manager, or Bill-Inspector. Corn Exchange, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Appointment, by thoroughly qualified Electrician (not switchboard attendant). Joe Parker, 66, Latimer-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Baggage, Advance, Doorsman; 3 years with Madame Levante's Co. At Liberty May 2. H. Hefton, P.O., Buckhaven, Fife.

WANTED, Engagement, by H. Ludwig, as Carpenter, Resident or Tour. At Lib. May 2. Abstainer; refs., tools. This, P. T., Eastbourne; next, W. P., Brighton.

WANTED, by superior widow, the care of one or two children; highly recommended by professional lady. Mrs. Shaw, 118, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for one month,
experienced and capable
Musical Director,
to commence in about a fortnight.
State full particulars,
Box 7,589, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Musical Director-Pianist (open May 2), to combine Violin or other instrument; must have large, up-to-date répertoire; permanency if suitable. Address, with lowest terms, references, age, to
Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

WANTED, Musical Director (piano). Must arrange and teach voice parts for "The Casey Court" and Army Cos. Will Murray, Lyric, Liverpool; next, Pavilion, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Powerful Tenor or Baritone Vocalist, able to conduct Orchestra. Full particulars and salary required to Box 7,604, "The Era."

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Rotherham, First-class Leader; must be used to variety, A.M.U.; permanency to suitable man. References, &c., T. Richardson, Conductor.

WANTED, good Second Violinist, ditto Bass, Solo Cornet, June 13 till Oct. 1, for travelling fortnightly in West of England. Apply, with references, Wm. Schottler, Musical-Director, Bath.

WANTED, a good First Violinist, permanent Engagement to reliable man, abstainer preferred. State age, married or single, references, and lowest terms, to C. Adolf Seebold, T. R., Worthing.

WANTED, by W. J. Churchill's Minstrels, Llandudno, Violinist and Pianist, to open May 9; all must black. All letters to 78, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, and Other Instruments, for Military Band, for Summer Engagement.
Three times daily, once on Sundays.
Must be good players, and members of the A.M.U.
Apply through Branch Secretaries to
J. B. Williams, General Secretary,
135, Moss Lane East, Manchester.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, Shares, weekly subsidy from Corporation, good business. Hosking, Bandmaster, Town Band, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Two Good First Cornets, Euphonium, Trombone, for summer season, skating rink. State terms. F. Gleeson, Cliftonville Skating Rink, Belfast.

WANTED, good Clarionet, for Bedford Professional String Band.
C. Voice, Sec., 9, Little Butt-st., Bedford.

WANTED, for Provincial Music Hall, First-class Trombone, Cornet, and Drummer, with all effects. Apply, Box 7,577, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Clarionettist, Seaside Rink, two sessions daily, May 14 to Sept. State refs., age, &c., Conductor, 116, Shirebrook-road, Heeley, Sheffield.

WANTED, Wanted, for Hanneford's Circus and Menagerie, a good Euphonium Player, Clarionet, and Trombone; those used to Circus Business preferred. Terms, 32s. 6d. weekly. Wire.
E. Hannaford, Circus, Kinsale, Sat.;
Bandon Monday.

WANTED, Good Euphonium, Queen's Rink, West Hartlepool, two Sessions, open Monday first. Apply, with terms and references, Lucas, Musical Director, Ormonde-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, a good E Flat Bombardon or Side Drummer, as an Attendant in a County Asylum; salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found; must be a single man.
Apply,
W. Grainger, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Experienced Lady 'Cellist (permanency), good appearance essential. High-class Café. Write, Box 7,564, "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cello, to open May 9. Apply, stating terms, references, and particulars, to Musical-Director, Hippodrome, Boscombe.

HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
WANTED, Brilliant Orchestral Pianist, at once, must be used to first-class Variety Shows and Standard Works. Apply, stating references, age, and salary required, to Ernest A. Widdop, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Good Pianist, Great Yarmouth Municipal Orchestra, twice daily, references, moderate terms; light music, no vocalists, no bioscope, no variety. Mr. E. Holland, Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth. Silence negative.

WANTED, Pianist for Pictures. One to make them talk. Write lowest terms,
Bowes, Picture Palace, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Pianist and Vocalist, Young Lady, smart appearance, for Smoke Room, live in. Apply, stating terms, age, also photo. (to be returned), to Proprietor, 10, Spurriergate, York.

WANTED, Practical Pianist, Monday next. One who thoroughly understands the art of Picture Playing. Competent Men only need apply. State lowest terms.
Leech, Broadhead's Pavilion, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, must be attractive, sight reader, MS., &c. Apply, with age, particulars, lowest terms, &c., Manager, Palace Electric Theatre, Wednesfield, near Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra,
Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra
Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra
Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra
Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra
Wanted, Ladies' Orchestra
of Twenty Performers,
to include
Vocalists
and
Instrumental Soloists.

Must be
young and attractive,
with showy uniforms.

One months' engagement guaranteed,
with probable run of
three months.

Lowest terms,
with full particulars,
to
Box 7,601. "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, reed and brass only, must be young; also Lady Vocalists and Acrobatic Dancers. Apply, Sam Richards, 37a, Electric-avenue, Brixton (office entrance, Greig's Gateway), Friday, Saturday, and Monday, 11 to 4.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, write, stating experience, must be good. Miss Dorothea Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, July 4, ten weeks, Seaside, Orchestral Instrumentalists, including Leader, First Violin, Cornet, &c., also few vacancies for earlier date, Concert and Variety. Silence a polite negative. Age, refs., and lowest terms. Harvey's Band Office, Sheffield.

WANTED, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist, for Hydro Band. Must be thoroughly experienced Soloists and Brilliant Players. Liberal salary. Address, giving full particulars, Box 7,617, "The Era."

WANTED, good Clarionets, Bassoon, Oboe, G and Tenor Trombones, Cornets, French Horn, and Drums, for Whit week (London). Lowest terms and references, J. T. Morrison, 38, Park-mansions, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Bandsmen, for a permanent Military Band in Canada, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Bass, and Horn players; ex-Army men preferred, and single. Fare advanced to the right man. Apply at once by letter only to No. 112, care of Hawkes and Son, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello, Flute, Cornet, Violins, Trombone, Bass, Pianist, Viola, Drummer, with good répertoire of xylophone solos. Conductor, 3, Seabank-road, Southport.

WANTED, for Season's Band, Small Military and Orchestra, Cornet, Euphonium, BB flat Bass, String Bass, and Double-handed Reeds, July 4, eight or ten weeks. Bellerby, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, a Small Band, for Biddall's Circus, First and Second Cornet, Trombone, or Euphonium; must be good, reliable, and sober, and make themselves generally useful, for tenting season. Apply by letter, stating lowest terms, to Biddall's Circus, Ceres, Scotland.

WANTED, East Coast, July, Aug., Military Instrumentalists, three times daily (Sunday excepted), terms, references, Concert Party early season. Reg. Ley.and write. Box 7,602, "The Era."

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Concert Party,
Vocal or Instrumental.
for Whit Week.
Send full particulars to
Kitchingman, Aquarium.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Expert Musical Director, young, brilliant pianist, at Liberty Whitsun through closing; First-class Concert, Mus. Com., Variety, Drama, &c. Box 7,592, "Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Conductor, Orchestral Pianist, or with High-class Concert Party; splendid Library of Orchestral Music; experienced; highest references. Tom A. Beaumont, Liversedge, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Sydney L. Hampton, Musical Director, Pianist and Violinist, Composer and Arranger, at Liberty. 14 Chatsworth-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin and Piano), to G. Dance, Moss and Stoll, G. P. Huntley, &c., at Lib.; highest refs.; can supply Orchestra. Musical-Director, 4, Rudloe-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal, Leader and Cornet, Disengaged Summer. Address, 137, Cannon-street-road, Commercial-road, E.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Summer Engagement, with good Concert Party. P., Denmark Lodge, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist, Engagement, Concert Party or Orchestra; pupil August Wilhelmj 7 years; highest refs.; fine accompanist. Box 7,585, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; excellent references. Address, Violinist, 8, Ranelagh-road, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Engagement by Brilliant Violin Soloist, exceptional répertoire. First-class picture show preferred. Address, A. Hessey, 48, Shenstone-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable First or Second Violinist, Theatre or Variety preferred, to open immediatey; excellent references. Box 7,579, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, any Business. Good references.
H. Clarke, 4, Prebend-street, Bedford.

WANTED, Experienced Violinist, Engagement, first or second. Good refs. Sober and reliable. Violinist, 58, Great Titchfield-street, London, W.

WANTED, by First Violin, Re-engagement, can open Monday anywhere; experienced all lines; good refs.; thoroughly steady and reliable. Best offers. Violinist, 4, Seabank-road, Ayr.

WANTED, by Violinist, Summer Engagement, Season or Permanency; experienced; abstainer. Horace T. V. Walpole, A.C.V., 34, Melrose-road, Eaton, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, any Business; can combine Clar.; good refs. Violinist, Langley, The Downs, Altrincham.

WANTED, by Two Good Orchestral Violinists, Engagement, from three to seven weeks, during July and August, in good orchestra. Apply, Horace Teague, Musical Director, Municipal Orchestra, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by Smart Young Violinist, Seaside, Orchestra preferred. Full particulars, &c., Apply Box 7,607, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, H. A. Grey, Solo Cornet and Conductor, at Liberty for Engagement; can also find good Band, three Sets smart Uniforms, large Library, any number of men; just concluded 18 months at Dundee and Edinburgh Marine Gardens; highest refs. Permanent address, 17, Wenlock-street, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, by First-class Cornet Player, Theatre or Music Hall, Liberty 23rd inst. Cornet, c/o 157, Handcroft-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Cornet, Good Summer Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Excellent references. Cornet, 3, Aston-villas, Oxted.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet or Trumpet, Summer Engagement, reliable, sober, exceptional refs. Address, Solo Cornet, c/o McEwen, 34, Blackhall-st., Greenock.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement in Rink, Seaside, First or Second. Abstainer.
Apply, Lawrence, 7, Millbrook-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, First or Second, any business; experienced, and good references. F. Baker, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business, Lib. May 2. Reuben Barber,
Poole's Myriorama, Guildford.

WANTED, Engagement, by good competent and experienced Cornet, any business. Wire or write, William Lewis, 9, Newton-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Reliable Solo Cornet. Excellent references. Liberty Monday. Harry Hodgkiss, 9, Eaton-avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, by experienced Cornet Player, 21, Engagement as First or Second, any business, competent, steady, reliable. Skinner, Buckscross, Chelsfield, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet or Horn, used to Tenting, join at once. Write or wire, Harry Maddison, Post Office, Worksop, Notts.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Clarionet, combine Violin, Military, or Orchestral, Disengaged May 1. Good references. P. Griffiths, 10, Harriet-st., Pollokshaws, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, String or Military; good refs.; experienced and reliable. T. English, 12, Portland-place, Hastings.

WANTED, Summer's Engagement, B flat Clarionet, young, steady, reliable, late Army and Worthing Borough Band. Willett, Bewl Bridge, Lamberhurst, Kent.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Orchestra or Military, by brilliant Clarionet and Saxophonist. Good refs. Perm. address, Wrigley, 49, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to join Seaside Orchestra, Octave or full. Experienced répertoire.
Address, Clarionet, Box 7,582, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, Double Bass, Engagements. Ladies' Orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Summer or Permanent Engagement; would Deputise; high or low pitch; highest references. 91, Wilton-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, long experience, age 33, first-class references. Letters only, Box 7,596, "The Era."

WANTED, by Bass, Engagement, any Business, good, steady, and reliable. Good references. 9, Haigh-street, Kingsway, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement by Bassoon or String Bass, any business. Steady and reliable. M. Lancaster, 5, Mount-pleasant, Ilkley, Yorks.

WANTED, by Experienced Double Bass, 'Cello, engagement, together, separate. Sea trip not objected to. Dickin, Orchestra, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, Theatre Closing, Liberty April 30, competent, sober, reliable, excellent references. James, 38, Nelson-st., Ayr.

WANTED, Known, Bassoonist, owing to reduction of orchestra, wants permanent place, any business. F. A. Bellis, Tanhouse-street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, competent and experienced, theatres and varieties, steady and reliable, excellent references. Box 7,612, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Trombone, at Liberty 23rd, through closing; abstainer; excellent refs. 53, Acacia-road, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone (good); experienced any business; first-class refs.; young, steady, and reliable. J. A. Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, experienced Professional, London preferred, Military, Strings, Rink; good references. Trombone, 30, Cannhall-road, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, by E Flat Bombardon, Summer Engagement, Seaside. Address, Norris, Temperance Cottages, Quidhampton, near Salisbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by good E Flat Bombardon, at Liberty through closing.
Apply, G. Heath, 53, Acacia-road, Sydenham.

WANTED, Engagement, as E flat Bombardon or String Bass; good refs.; experience, and reliable. J. Delafield, 44 St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, Military or Orchestral, thoroughly experienced; excellent refs.; at Liberty. J. Stone, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, String or Military.
W. P., 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any Business; first-class references. Address, 'Cello, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, any Business; excellent references. Write, 'Cello, 128, New-road, Bucklands, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Viola or Second Violin, Lady, experienced in Orchestral work.
Box 7,578, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, First-class Oboeist, open for Summer Engagement. Low or high pitch. W. BENSON, 11, Walton-road, Victoria-avenue, Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Oboe, at Liberty Whit, Deputising or Summer. DICKENS, 44 Manchester-street, Southampton.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Summer Engagement, many years' experience in high-class work, at Liberty in May. Highest testimonials. Mme. G. JAMES, 16, St. John's-rd., St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement in High-class Orchestra, by F. Hasiam (Solo and Orchestral Harpist), of Queen's Hall Concerts, and late Scottish Orchestra. Next week's address, G. F., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral Summer Engagement; experienced. Mme. HOPKINS, 64, Douglas-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Harpist. Good Soloist. Address, Box 7,606, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady Flautist and Pianist, Engagement in good Ladies' Band or Concert Party, town preferred. OLIVE MURRAY, 84, Alderney-street, S.W.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement, experienced all Dates; abstainer, young; excellent references; distance no object. FLAUTIST, 10, Tyrers-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, young, steady, and reliable; experienced, any business. TEDDY GOODWIN, 4, St. Winefride's-gardens, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced, reliable Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty the end of May. FLAUTIST, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-rd., Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Hummerston, Solo Pianist and Accompanist, good sight reader, MSS., &c., Liberty April 24, for Concert Party or Orchestra. 75, Links-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist; experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures, Cafés. PIANIST, 57, Wargrave, Avenue, Stamford Hill, London N.

WANTED, Known, Lady, good Pianist, will give services as accompanist free for sake of practice (at own home). Apply, Box 7,575, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Accompanist; experienced; excellent sight-reader and timist; practice work, 2s. hour. MISS GRINSTEAD, 130, Warwick-street, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Engagements. Accompanist has a few vacant dates. Accompaniments written. MISS KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Picture Pianist, generally useful if required; experienced; refs., Shanly's Pictures, Kilburn Picture Palace, &c. H., 28, Seven Sisters-road, London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Pianist; combine Violin or Viola. W. MOORE, 12, Knowles-st., Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drums, Viola or Second Violin, abstainer, six years last engagement. KING, 10, St. Ninian-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Engagement. Good refs. DRUMS, 54, Hatcham Park-road, Newcross Gate, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer (with effects), thoroughly experienced, Dramatic, Variety, any business; excellent refs. DRUMMER, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drums and Effects, any Bus., through disappointment; late Handel's Orchestra, Scarboro'. JACK PEARSON, 24, Albion-street, Darlington, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, Tymps., and Effects; Varieties or Theatre Bus.; good refs.; Manchester district preferred. KEYLEY, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Glasgow Professional Orchestra, Ltd., are prepared to Supply Bands of any number (String or Military), in Smart Uniform; Vocalists, &c., if required. For particulars, apply, W. MURDOCK, 167, Garrioch-road, Glasgow.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA. (Manton-Myatt Family.)

WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bona-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental Experience and Highest References. All communications to MME. MANTON-MYATT, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Apply, DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra open for Engagements, also Quartette and Trio, Vocalists and Dancers. WILTON DAVIS, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Ladies' Orchestra. Second Violin or Viola. Accompanist (Songs). Box 7,587. "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, International Ladies' Orchestra, from four upwards, England or Abroad, Hotels or Touring. Mme. SORTINO, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, the Royal Piedmont Hussars Military Band and Orchestra have booked three months at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. At Liberty till July 15. Concert engagements accepted. Box 7,464, "The Era."

To Municipal Bodies and Skating Rink Managers.

WANTED, by the fine Zingari Military Band, from ten to twenty performers, Engagements, splendid uniform and répertoire. Coms., Professor MITCHELL, Oates-square, St. Mark's-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Whit, onwards, Seaside, Town, for Collini's Military Orchestral Bands; Rink, Pictures, Piers. Splendid refs., Press notices. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Band at Liberty Summer Season. Exhibitions, Rinks, or any Bus.; smart uniforms, good répertoire. Box 7,556 "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, for Good Rink Band, six performers or more. For terms, apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Olympia Rink, Bishop Auckland, Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, good Small Military Band; late of Hampstead Skating Palace; Seaside or otherwise; experienced in Bandstand Programmes; Small Orchestra for Pictures. References, uniforms. MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Known, First-class Military Band, is open for engagements. All Soloists and Double-handed. Box, 7,605, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Sensational Wire-walkers and Novel Aerial Acts, for week's Carnival, London, commencing May 16. Terms, lithos., to CLAUDE ERNEST, Reliable Entertainment Bureau, 97, Wickrd., Homerton, London, N.E.

WANTED, Trapeze Artists, Flying Rings, useful Ground Acts, Clowns, Jugglers, also Cornet and Euphonium. Terms low; join once. DENNIS, Circus, Worksop.

WANTED, a couple of Acrobats doing other Turns. Lowest in first letter, Cairns and Davies' Circus, c/o P.O. Crossmaglen, Co. Armagh, Ireland.

WANTED, Smart Lady Trapeze Performer, to join Troupe at once. Apply, photo, &c., TRAPEZE, 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E.

BOSWELL'S EDUCATED PONIES.

WANTED, four smart young respectable Grooms, to open at once.

Wire or write, BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dates, from May 30, and on, including August Bank Holiday week, for BOSWELL'S ROYAL CIRCUS, with Full Company. Splendid programme. Good printing. Everything carried.

All communications, BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Lyvette, Society Musical Clown, Banjo, Phon-Fiddle, Polka Bells, Hand-bells, Conjuring, Song and Story, May 2 and 9. 45 Faith-st., Maidstone.

THE FAMOUS BROTHERS LLOYD, The World's Greatest Tight-rope Artists. The only Double Bounding Cable Act. Splendid Naval Scenery, viz., On Board a Man-o'-War, With Stage Attendant in Smart Naval Uniform. Effective D.R. Lithos. A Big Success Everywhere.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas. Managers and Agents requiring a Good Top or Bottom should communicate at once. Owing to unforseen circumstances, we are at Liberty until May 23. Wire, Wire, Wire, for Monday next, to 39, Lambeth-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Whit, Galas, Circus, &c., Gilbert Dunbar, Flying Loop, Trapeze and Teeth Performer. Always Successful. 4 Billington-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Elephant Trainer. Private or Circus. Advertiser can perform same time with his own Speciality Act (one Gentleman, two Boys). TRAINER, 332, City-road, London, E.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.

Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Monday, April 25, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, May 2, and on; also acknowledged Stars, willing to Share. Write, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, suitable for Picture Halls, must be refined.

Apply by letter only to SIDNEY BACON, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 2, onwards. Nothing too Big. Send private address to save time. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton. Telegram, "Durhamlike, London."

VERNO'S AGENCY, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 2, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Speciality and Comedy Acts, May 2, onwards. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, suitable for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 1, onwards. Double Acts preferred. Sample lithos, with lowest terms, to WILDERS, Agents, Great Francis-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, Doubles doing Singles, Lady for Illustrated Songs, Hall Small. Full particulars, lowest terms. MANAGER, Palace Electric Theatre, Wednesfield, near Wolverhampton.

WANTED refined Artists, all Lines, Double Patter Comedians, Sisters, Comediennes, Vents., Specialities, &c., &c., from now till end of Sept. Full particulars, lowest terms, bookings, perm. add., to MANAGER, 38, Roderick-road, Hampstead, N.W., until April 30. Will Syd Beckett write. Illustrated Vocalists communicate.

PALACE, WATFORD.

WANTED, for May 2, 9, 16, First-class Artists in all Lines, First-class Artists in all Lines. CADLE'S Agency, 105-106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Send absolute lowest, and full bookings essential, with pictorials, &c., to S. and W., Hippodrome, West Bromwich.. All acts known to Almon write.

WANTED, Known, Grand Trial Turn Matinée will be Held at the Hippodrome, Hull, on Thursday, May 5, when many prominent London Agents will be present with a view to booking any Acts of merit. Mr. Walter Bentley will himself guarantee immediate bookings for suitable turns. Send in names and description of business to him at once, to the Hippodrome, Hull

EMPIRES, SUNDERLAND & HARTLEPOOL.

WANTED, Known, Artists working North who have odd weeks out are invited to send particulars of their acts, when last played above towns, permanent address, and absolute lowest terms to fill in to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Please mark envelopes "Artist."

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, NEATH, BARRY DOCK, KETTERING, RUGBY, LOUGHBOROUGH, and EXMOUTH.

WANTED, Smart Turns, for above Circuit of Picture Palaces; must show good bookings. Address, ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Palace, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential. HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.

WANTED, Smart Variety Turns, Speciality and otherwise, must be entirely free from vulgarity. Turns who have worked Empire, Aberdare, please do not apply. Send immediate and other vacant dates to JOHN R. POOLE, Public Hall, Treharris, South Wales.

WANTED, First-class Talent for Picture Hall. Must be good, otherwise save stamps. Something that can follow the Four Cecilians (second week here). H. S. HOPKINS, Kino Hall, Clay Cross.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY, 33, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London.

WANTED, Biggest of Acts and Novelties for Continent. Note.—Sole Agency only entertained. Also, Star Acts for Britain, and Panto., 1910-11; Principals only.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool. Telephone, 2349 Royal.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Acts, Salary or Sharing. Big Acts, Salary or Sharing. Immediate Dates and on.

YARMOUTH AND LOWESTOFT HIPPOS.

WANTED, May 16, June 27, onwards, Big Acts of every description, good cheap Acts communicate for the Palace, Gorleston. A good Vocal Quartette, capable of playing small parts, for Spectacle; anything of a new and novel nature.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency, 2, St. George's-road, Yarmouth. Impossible to answer all.

WANTED, Acts all Kinds, three days, Aug. 1, twice daily; Northampton. MCASKELL'S Agency, 15, Tanner-street, Hyde.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c., May 16, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos, to EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Comedy Musical Act, one week, Jan. 2, 1911. Terms, lithos., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Wanted, the Biggest Acts in the Market, shares or salary, for immediate dates. Full particulars, lowest terms, in first instance.

WANTED, Acts of every description, nothing too big, big Top, with good Drawing powers, for May 9, also Al Fresco Artists. Send full list of bookings and absolute lowest. NORTHERN VARIETY Agency, Corstorphine, near Edinburgh.

WANTED, Acts, Large and Small, at Liberty May 2, 9, and 16, to communicate quickly, with particulars. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

SYLVESTER'S FETES, JULY and AUGUST.

WANTED, Novelty Acts, suitable for Open-air performances. State absolute lowest terms per day, not week. Specimen lithos, bills, &c. Letters only. No callers. 271, Clapham-road, London. Established 1878.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Big Spectacular Productions, Novel Musical Acts, Comedy Acrobats, Pantomimical Sketches, or anything absolutely novel and original, for May 2, 9, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

GRIMSBY CHARITY GALA, Thurs., July 21, 1910.

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Dumb Shows, for above. Performances afternoon and evening. Full particulars and lowest terms, F. VERNER WALFORD, Palace, Grimsby. Mark envelopes "Gala."

WANTED, Specialities, Novel Comedy Acts, Clever Juvenile Troupes. Will Alex, Olracs, Bianchi, the Sauteron Wonders, and the Recars send address to MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Novel Entertainment. Wanted, Novel Entertainment, suitable for in or outdoor; about one hour.

Probable date June 21 to 24.

Send full particulars and terms, HON. SECRETARY, Municipal Fêtes Committee, Town Hall, Jersey.

HIPPODROME, CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, good Combinations, with Star Tops, for May 2, and onwards, with exceptions. Only first-class shows entertained. Good shows can do good business. Must be able to follow the following: Louie Freear and Co., Fred Karno's Cos. Nat Travers and Co. Refer Mr. Nat Travers re terrific business last week and this week. Good sharing terms offered to right shows. Apply, FENN BROS., Hippo., Cambridge.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).

WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. HARRY TAFT, Alhambra, Openshaw. Next, Lyric, Liverpool.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY, 9, Monton-st., Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Top, for Monday next, Artists all Lines that can work two Halls nightly, for May 2. Best of talent apply as above.

SKIPTON AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL, July 16, 1910.

WANTED, Known, the Committee of the above invite Tenders from Public Caterers and Acrobatic Performers for two Acrobatic Performances, afternoon and evening (seven turns only, Punch and Judy included at each), at their Gala; amount not to exceed £35; also for a Firework Display, to cost £15. Tenders, Programmes, &c., to be sent not later than April 29, to W. C. JAMES, Secretary, 8, Union-terrace, Skipton, Yorks.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman for well-known Speciality Act; Instrumentalists preferred. Must share expenses. ROBERTS, 332, City-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, Young Lady or Gentleman Trick Cyclist, for Troupe. Particulars, salary, &c., to Box 7,595, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist for well-known Troupe. State age, height, photo, and tricks. CYCLIST, 33, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, smart Boy Dancers, in Manchester district preferred. Send age, height, and photo. to STYLO, next week, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, that can Tumble, for Comedy Act. Send full particulars re tricks, with lowest terms. Can open at once, long engagement to right party. Those that have written, please write again; mislaid letters. JOSH CLIFTON, 104, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, at once, a Good Tumbler, able to Work Comedy. Full particulars to Box 7,613, "The Era."

WANTED, smart lad, who can do a bit of Comedy Horizontal Bar work and Comedy Tumbling; good comfortable engagement to one who wants to get on, and is not afraid of practice. Apply, with full particulars, COUPER, Poole's Myriorama, Treharris, South Wales.

WANTED, a Boy 13 or 14 years of age that has a fancy for Acrobatics, to learn. No premium. Inquire, 223, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, smart little Lad, to learn Acrobatics with my son. WILL DOUGLAS, Palace, Bath.

WANTED, Operator, Experienced (both currents) and must make himself useful. Full particulars, lowest terms, and refs. MANAGER, Palace Electric Theatre, Wednesfield, near Wolverhampton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, to be Known that G. W. Gerald and Co., Impresarios and Business Managers, of Paris, London, and Leeds, wish to inform Directors and Managers of First-class Variety Theatres, also Secretaries of Fêtes, Galas, &c., that they have on hand some First-class Star Variety Acts, now appearing with gigantic success on the following Tours in England: Stoll, De Frece, Barrasford, and Gibbons, the London Syndicate Halls, Palace Theatre, London, and the William Morris Circuit, America, also the Principal Variety Theatres in France.

We have, through changing dates to oblige several Managers at home and abroad, at Liberty May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, several First-class Novelties, Specialities, and funny Comedy Acts new to England.

Kindly address all communications, FRANK COYLE, of Gerald and Co., 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds. 'Phone 4195 Leeds. Telegrams "Alarm, Leeds."

All London and Foreign communications, G. W. GERALD and Co., 25, Litchfield-st., London, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Raideg, London."

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer, May 9, 16, 23, to follow Empire, Camberwell, S.E., and Empire, Edmonton.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, May 16, 23, 30. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Daisy Hicks, Charming Chorus Comedienne. Wire, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, Novel and Refined Speciality Act, Banjoes, Piano, Refined Comedy, Eccentric Dancing, vacant April 25, May 2 and 9. Workmen's Hall, Pentre; next, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Eileen and May (Sisters), May 2, Bright Novelty Musical Act. Expert dancers. Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers, May 2, 9, 16. Per., 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in Themselves. A Big Hit Everywhere. At Liberty April 25, May 9. Address, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, Monday, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Original and only Famous Singing Boxmakers, three Sisters. Wire for sure success. 3, Wood-terrace, Worcester.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Herr Schuyler, Eminent Saxophonist, Original Elite Musical Act, Starring Speciality, from Harry Rickards's Australian Tours. Offers invited. Perm., 49, Peter-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Arthur Royce, "The Taxi-Driver at the Piano," Monday next, also May 2, through transferring Colchester and Margate. Address, 7, Durand-gardens, Clapham, S.W.; or DAVID HARY'S Agency. Telegrams: Royce, Comedian, London.

WANTED, by Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, Monday, April 25, May 2 and 9, and Al Fresco. This, Hippo., Rochdale.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, Songs, Stories, Extraordinary Pictures, illustrating Colliery Life. Wood-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, April 25, between Liverpool and Glasgow, by Ruhart, Comedy Parodist, in a Rapid Succession of Original Burlesque Productions. Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, Ted Vokes, Anglo-Continental Comedy, Musical, and Patter Comedian, Liberty May 23. Address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedienne, Liberty Monday. New Songs. This, Hip., Leigh; next, 18, Carter-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, May 2, by E. W. Selman, Character Comedian. If you want a good, clean, reliable act, write King's Theatre, Gainsboro'.

WANTED, Monday next, on, by Hal Lowe, Smart Patter Comedian. Wire, Flat 5, Holland-street, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Harry Bland, the Popular Comedian, May 2 and 9. Sure Success anywhere. Write or wire, April 25, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, by SAM ELLO, Versatile Comedian and Dancer. D.C. Lithos. and photo frames. Mon., P., Oldbury.

WANTED, by Sergeant Bert Powell, Military Entertainer and Illusionist, May 2, 9, and 16. Wire or write, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler, £100 Challenge, &c., keeping the Scotch wrestlers busy, Fifeshire. Coms., 4, Westminster-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; also Ada Whitton, Comedienne. One or both. Wire, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Known, the Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes. Big success, Hippodrome, Keighley, April 25, Empire, Portsmouth. Vacant May 2 and 9. Address, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, May 2, 9, Davies and Udall, in enormously successful Comedy, "The Grumbler," second Turn if required. Next, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

WANTED, Monday, onward, with exceptions. Belasco, refined Musical Act; also Isa Davis, Petite Mimic. Address, 43, Paragon-buildings, Rodney-road, S.E.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, 16, by The Wymans (Fred and Ivy), the great Novel Comedy Duettists and Cross-talkers. Hippo., Dumfries.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, May 2, July 11, Aug. 1 and 8. Address, Gaiety, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 2, by Louie and Wally, Smart Comedy Couple, through transferring Dates. Wire, Hippo., Yarmouth; next, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the Vocal Comedy two. Wire for a laughing hit. Per., 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. This, Hippo., Accrington; next, A. T., Pontefract; vac. May 2 and 16. Wire for one or two good Acts.

WANTED, Monday, and May 2, by Foley and Francis, Comedians. Wire for a sure success. Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, big hit of new Comedy Act, "I Never Did," vacant Monday next. Wire, Gaiety, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo, vacant April 25, May 2, 9. Address, 49, Walmesley-road, Bedford Leigh; after Saturday, 19, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, by Will and Roze, Great Comedy Contortion and Conjuring Act. Wire, April 25, Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Monday next, great Star Comedy Act. Big hit Grand, Newcastle. Wire, 33, Melbourne-street, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Wills and Warlock, Comedians and Novelty Dancers. Vacant Monday, also May 2. 106, Ernest-st., Middlesbro'.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, Four Van Earles, Beautiful Ballads, Marvellous Clog Dancers, Beautifully dressed; plays 20 minutes. Palace, West Bromwich.

WANTED, May 9 and 16, The Carsens, Comedy Trampolin Speciality; also Champion Somersault Dog Jack; own scenery; splendid lithos. Hip., Dewsbury.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Avrignys, Monday next, Harrogate Herald:—The Avrignys furnish an interesting turn. Their juggling tricks are well executed, but a smarter and novel performance is the manipulation of a monster Jack of Spades card by one of the company with his feet, whilst the spinning of sixteen bowls one after another, and the keeping of them going until all are in motion together, demands no small amount of dexterity upon another member of the troupe. A distinct novelty. Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, May 2 and 16, by Atlas Vulcans Troupe. Acknowledged World's Premier Athletic Artists. Conclude Pal., Nelson. Monday, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, by Sisters Gereiti, Premier Gymnasts, May 2, 9, 16, 23. Address, Empire, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Lo Lo and May Trio, Refined Gymnastic and Dancing Speciality, first vacancy Jan. 30, 1911. Note change of address, permanent, 74, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, May 16, 23, by Venola Bros. Comedy Gymnasts, from Moss Empires, &c., &c. May 9, T. R., Ilkeston. Address, Palace Theatre, Northampton.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, Bouncing Peps,, an Act consisting of money, brains, and talent. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Thanks for offers. Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, Known, Marzelos, in their Great Scotch Comedy Triple Bar Act, vacant May 2, 9, 23. Next week, King's, Edinburgh.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, 9, 30, by The Flying Orenius. Last week, Pal., Northampton (bottom). P. A., 67, Walcot square, S.E.

WANTED, May 2, 9, and 30, by Rich. Taylor, the Whistling Ventriloquist. First in the field with Novelties, Originalities, and Successes. All coms. to Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, May 2, 9 (to precede Southport), by Gulliver, Ventriloquist. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. King's Theatre, Gainsboro'.

WANTED, May 2, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist; also Al-Fresco, large Répertoire Songs, Concerteds, Sketches. This, Hippodrome, Hastings; next, Palace, Wellingborough.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist. A ten minutes' scream without vulgarity. Mon., Pavilion, Bangor.

MISS ELLA'S LION SHOW. Surpassed by none, and still leading.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Offers invited. Opera House, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Secretaries, Agents, requiring a Novelty and Attraction for Fêtes, Galas, Garden Parties, &c., to secure Mlle. Hengleur's beautiful and clever Russian Poodies, the only Troupe of its kind; the talk of every town they visit. Tremendous success Gala, Carmarthen. Next, Hippo., Bilston; only few vacancies for Galas.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Novel Troupe of Dogs, the show that always draws, at Liberty Monday next, also May 9 and 16. Share or certainty. Wire, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Monday and onwards, Lorenzo's Marvellous Dogs, Halls, Circuses, Pictures, Seaside, Gardens, &c. Sure Draw. 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, few immediate dates, CHARD'S Dog Circus, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Football Match on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles. Vac., May 2, 9, 23. Big act for Galas. Sure success. Next, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, April 25, May 2, Swift Duo, humorous cyclists. Wire, Hippo., Ellesmere Port. After Sunday, 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pauletti, the Cycling Acrobat, is open for Galas. This, Hippodrome, Heywood. Perm., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, the Hall and Wilson Trio, a new departure in Motor and Cycle Sensation. This, Empire, Rochdale, refer Management. An Act without its equal. Vacant June 6, 1910, onwards, with exceptions. Next, Public Hall, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Frank Hope, Sensational Trick Cyclist, vacant for Galas, Whit, Aug., &c. 12, Ablewell-street, Walsall.

WANTED, by First-class Operator and Electrician, re-engagement, Picture or Music Hall, Lancashire preferred. Thor. exper., reliable. Highest refs. DIGGLE, 102, Georgiana-street, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Animal Impersonator, Acrobatic Pantomimist, age 24, height 5ft. 4in.; good references. MOREL, General Post Office, Birmingham.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

PORTRUSH WINTER GARDENS CO.

WANTED, a Troupe, of six to eight Pierrots, from June 15 to Sept. 15; Sharing terms. Apply, D. MACLAUGHLIN, Secretary, Coleraine, for particulars.

WANTED, for Summer Tour of Concert Party, Refined Light Comedian, good appearance and voice essential; preference given to one who can play piano. Address, with full particulars as to age, height, répertoire, and previous experience, and salary required, to TOUR, Box 1,489, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists, for Concert Party, South Wales, to commence Whitsun. Send age, business experience, and salary required, to MANAGER, Pavilion, Ton-y-Pandy, Glam.

WANTED, Brilliant Al Fresco Pianist (male), for Margate, read and transpose at sight, with musical, juggling, or other Speciality preferred; no other vacancies. Rehearse May 23; open May 28, seventeen weeks. Absolute lowest, FRANK GEE, The Cedars, Maidenhead.

WANTED, for Aberystwyth, Al Fresco, Refined Comedians. Terms, age, photos., &c., TOM SHENTON, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, by good Soprano, Summer Engagement, Concert Party, Opera, or Al-Fresco; experienced. M., 14, Duke-street, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Harry Barlow, First-class Baritone, at Liberty May 23 for Summer Al-Fresco. Sketches, Concerteds, &c. This, Empire, Bradford; next, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Vocalists and Comedians, to try our Special Books, to contain from 12 to 20 piano copies. Sample book, 1s. 3d., post free. Fox and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.

WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. NEW ELECTRIC RIFLE AND TARGET CO., LTD., 142, Wardour-street, London, W.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Madame Réjane, Princess Baratoff, Bellclair Bros., Barry Lupino, Lola Lee, J. H. Scotland, Arthur Helmore, Serenaders, Alice Raymond and Co., Wyndham and Kitty, Animated Pictures, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Henri Leoni

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Ella Russell, Kellinos, Musical Silvo, Chas. J. Johnson, Frank Melvin, Siems, Margaret Parker, Staig's Steeplejacks, Kerr and Koe, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Hetty King, Marie George, Bioscope, Fatmah Diard, Baby Boden, Rauschle, George Newburn, Haytors, Harry Herbert, Blank Family, Tune Chewers.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Ali, Tom Hearn, King and Queenie, Frank H. Fox, Kratons, Rhoda Paul, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Conan and Doyle, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Second week Stock Season: "Harbour Lights."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, George Leyton, in "The Roll Call," Edie Reynolds, Stowe Bros., Verno and Voyce, Carl Howard, Jimmy Shields, Bioscope, Gladys Mavius, Ben Albert.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

R. G. Knowles, Bransby Williams, Jewel St. Leger, Francoli Troupe, Lux's Dogs, Madge Brownie, Bioscope, Courtiers, Frank Lynne.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Elliott-Savonas, Mabel Mavis, Addie Dorina, Dick Tubb, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Lyons Trio, Bioscope, De Wynne Bros., Russell Carr, Andrews and Talleur.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

F. G. Kimberley's Co., in "A Sister's Sin."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French, in "The Vampire Dance," Gustave Fasola, Andy McLeod, Muriel Harding, Talbot and Pearce, Harry Bedford, George Rae, Bioscope, Rachel Lowe, Zigeuner Quartette.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Madame Albani, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Kremo Family, France and Stewart, Dan Fraser, Empire Comedy Four, Jan Zakovsky.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Sylvia Du Barry, Arthur Woodville, Avolos, Duncan and Godfrey, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Bertha Winder, Alexandre and Hughes.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Wontdetainia," J. P. Carroll, Bensons, Melody Makers, Barrett and Knowles, Tom Stuart, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George French, Florrie Gallimore, Fred Lincoln, Conn and Conrad, Lancashire Singers, Vanando, Maples, Betty Green, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fragson, Florence Yaymen, Francis and Alfred, Twelve Fezzans, Henry Helme, Phillips and Merritt, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Harry Weldon.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, King and Benson, Tom E. Hughes, Hall and Earle, Chas. Norton, Findens, Northern Troupe, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Bros. Horne.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Cull Pitt, Roma and Romani, Donaldson Bros., O'Malley and Brown, Prince Milner Trio, Arthur Slater, Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Haldane Crighton's Co., in "The Cingalee."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Dance's Co., in "Our Miss Gibbs."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Orpheus, Six Lancashire Lasses, Tate and Tate, Florence Esdaile, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Liane D'Eve.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Cook's Man," the Great Lafayette, Sanford and Lyons, Manchester Mijes, Dutch Daly, Les Silas, May Mars, Smythsons, Bioscope, Hagedorn's Grotto, Renee.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Rossi Ashton, Brennans, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Ted E. Box, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Bros. Bright, Marie Kendal.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of being Another Man's Wife," Tom Moore, Charles Vincent, Lukushimas, Eadie and Ramsden, Cumminger and Colonna, Bioscope, H. O. Wills, Four Regals.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing," Lena Verdi, Walker and May, Drew and Alders, Amelie De L'Enclos, Harry May Hemsley, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions, Vernon Troupe.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ray Wallace, Falco and Eida, Bros. O'Brien, Dusty Rhodes, Marie Pera and Co., Bioscope, Ted and May Hopkins, Lupino Lane.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Vesta Tilley, Delomes, Jackley Trio, F. V. St. Clair, Lyric Quartette, Frank and Free, Bioscope, Heeley and Meely, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Emma Don and Co., J. A. Wilson, Delevines, Stanley and Greenop, Beaty and Blanche, Takio, Fred Earle, Tom and Marie Motramo.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Anna Chandler, Tom Lloyd, Lola Patey, Humpsti Bumsti, Dandies, Jack Lane, Harry Friskey, Two St. Johns, Bioscope, Jack Pleasants.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jewel's "Change," Maidie Scott, Bioscope, Adey Spencer, Sisters St. Julian, Glenroy Troupe, G. W. Hunter, Phil Percival, Kisbey, Globe of Life.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Mlle. Haydee, Alice Maydue, Pat Rafferty, Brown and Le Clerq, O'Gust, Horace Pollock and Co., Fred Curran, Adelaide Lamb, Bioscope, Carmos.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Craggs, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Santon, Gladys Hooley, Frank Maura, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Happy Fanny Fields, Ike and Will Scott, May Brilliant, Persichini, Frank Cass, Lillie Lassah, Pictures, Cavalli, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Brull and Hemsley, Woodhouse and Wells, Jennie Hartley, George Attill, Bioscope, Loyal's Trained Dogs.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Van Biene, Nellie Farrell, Jack Smiles, Graham and Barron, Dot Stephens, Bioscope, Alexandra Dagmar, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

O. K. Dians, George Westland, Lottie Govell, Will Sullivan, Annie Purcell, Ethel Beech, Ruth Davenport, Pictures, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, Adele Levey, Sam Dalton, Lillian Trevellie, Ryan and Hall, Maudie Francis, Billy Hobbs, Pictures, Elite Harmony Boys.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c, for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the Provincial Circuit to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to Financial, Commercial, and General Business Matters.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, APRIL 25.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Friend and Downing, Selim, Maro Duo, Bert Woodward, Sisters Maynard, Johnny Cecil, Arnold Richardson and Co., Arthur Stacey, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Alec Hurley and Co., Albert Letine, The Miltons, Jimmie Pullin, Chas. Erard, The Kirbys, Simeon, the Seer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Comedy Meisters, Wat Tyler, Connie Rubie, Alice Gill, The Newmans, George Goldburn, Ward and Davis, Thiessen's Dogs, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tan Kwai Troupe, Cissie Thompson, Charles Gardner, The Zampas, The Merrions, Mildred Bryan, Gillin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Viviana and Co., Lenton and Lane, Ellerslie Pyne, "Secrets of the Past," Hugh and High, Amy Bathurst, Kitty Arnold, Talbot and Clare, Edwardes and Edwards, "Nelson."

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Wee Georgie Wood, Chas. Woodward, Palestine, Sisters Harcourt, Cosgrove and Burns, Da Bovista, Chas. Carlile, Milner and Storey The Tymes, Damerell and Rutland.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Clarice Mayne, Bros. Victor, Walter Aubrey, Lennard and Vereker, Farr and Farland, Bert Maddison, Alice Craven, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"A Heart's Desire."

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Les Piccolinos, Geo. Geoffreys, Barrie and Wood Julian Mack, Joe Cookson, Derrington Family Palace Perfection Pictures, Pete and Minnie Lee.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Will Douglas Co., Tennis and Laune, The Fitzroys, Crosby and Walker, Tina Frank, Lily Edwards, Dalmere's Animals, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Eugene Stratton, The Sages, Stidder and Dunbar, W. G. Wesley, Sim Maree, Francini Olloms and Page, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Lowenwirth and Cohan, Sisters Darnton, Walter Barrett, Bros. Redmond, Lisbon and Barker, The Arlyns, Carl Lynn, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
"Adolf Beck" Pictures, Colin Mail, Les Arabellas, Floradoras, Nicklin Williams, Joan Deering, Lizzie Daniels, George Brookes, Three Alskarnos.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Charles R. Whittle, Bros. Hannaway, Norah Desmond, Wyze and Adna, Louie Tracy, The Villions Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
George Formby, Mamie Morris, Harry Atkinson, Burt Shepard, Ross and Grayson, Cairo Trio, Olympian Cyclists, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Pete."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Two Little Drummer Boys."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Morny Cash, Dancing Gilberts, Vera Mayne, Ena Compton, Bob Hamilton, The Rangers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
J. W. Rickaby, H. C. Lovell and Co., Irene Meldon, Three Phydoras, Charles North, Amio Trio, May Poulton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ten Dixie Girls, Bromley and Fontein, Pictures Geo. James, Tom Holme, Elsie Kedward, Little Cherub, Fred Maxwell, Connie Duprez, Barney Armstrong, Guy Ryder.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Enzer, Janowsky Troupe, Will Rhodes, Hulbert's Girls, Josephine Crook, The Settlement Henri Cazman, "Man of Forty Faces," Lee and St. Clair, Kitty Curtis, John McCauley.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Pictures, Harrigan and Holt, Nick Carter, Arthur Clifton, F. G. Royde, Bessie Neilson, Four Perriers, Four Sydney Girls, Ben Richards.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House, between the hours of 1 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.)
LONDON—NEW YORK—CHICAGO—MELBOURNE,
HAVE JUST THE SONGS YOU WANT FOR THE SUMMER SEASON.
BALLADS,
COMEDY SONGS,
CHORUS NUMBERS.
PUBLISHERS OF
"ROSES AND MEMORIES,"
Being played nightly by Auguste Van Biene.
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY! HOORAY!!
Being sung by J. F. McCardle in the Revue, "Hullo, London," also by Phil Parsons with great success.
Come up and see us, or send 7 stamps for sample copies.
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.
J. H. SQUIRE, Manager.

FOR SALE BY TENDER.
MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON
NORTHUMBERLAND.
The Owners
INVITE TENDERS
for the Purchase of the MINERS' THEATRE, at ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, in the centre of a large and increasing mining population, and the only theatre in the place.
The site of the Theatre and other adjoining land is 1545 square yards, and is held with other land on leases which expire on Nov. 11, 1993. The proportion of yearly ground-rent is £12 17s. 6d.
The Theatre seats about 2000 persons, and is lit throughout with electric light supplied by the local Electrical Company.
The present tenancy of the Theatre, at a rent of £400 a year, expires on May 31, 1910, and the purchaser will obtain vacant possession.
Particulars and Conditions of Sale and Form of Tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. WATSON, BURTON, and CORDER, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Solicitors, to whom Tenders are to be sent on or before April 29, 1910.
Applications for Particulars must be accompanied by payment of £1 1s.
The Vendors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender.

ONE CAMEL and Two Dromedaries, sound.
Will sell cheap.
De Vos, Ltd.
114 Bethnal Green-road, London.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS
NEW YORK.
"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-
INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.
American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.
ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. De Costa, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. Charles Grant.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Vacant for Sunday next, sitting and bed room, combined; piano, bath; near Hippodrome and Olympia. Mrs. Madge Watterson, 34, Fitzclarence-st. Highly recommended.

LONDON, N.—Residence and board if required, for artists; moderate terms, every comfort; near two Empires. 224, Fore-street, Upper Edmonton.

LONDON, S.E.—Camberwell Gate. Large Combined Rooms, vacant, bath (h. and c.), piano; moderate; board residence, 15/- weekly. 23, Grosvenor-terrace, S.E.

LONDON, S.W.—Sup. fur. aparts. sitting, double, combined and single bedrooms, bath (h. and c.), pianos. 18, Jeffreys-road (five minutes Kennington Theatre).

LONDON, S.W.—Near Earl's Court. Sitting and bedroom, adjoining, for one or two ladies. Terms moderate.—Box 7576, The Era.

LONDON, S.W.—Close Kennington, Brixton Theatres. Furnished apartments, piano bath; terms moderate.—Mrs. Whittingham, 28, Angell-road, Brixton.

LONDON, S.W.—Comfortable apartments; terms moderate; good cooking and attendance. Miss Tudor, 15, Trinity-square, Brixton.

MORECAMBE.—Apartments. Close to Promenade, West-end Pier and Winter Gardens. Address, 2, Claremont-crescent.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-street. Professional apartments. Moderate Terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. Walter Hewitt.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.

COMFORTABLE HOME.—Lady is prepared to receive at her old-fashioned farmhouse, children of professionals during their absence on tour; most bracing spot in Essex; every care, comfort, and education guaranteed. Terms moderate. Barton, Bicknacre Grange, Mayland, near Maldon, Essex.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price ***3/6.*** *Post free,* ***3/9.***

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909
"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.
All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.
THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.
HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.
All the American Theatrical News.
For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN
THE BILLBOARD.
AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.
It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.
London Office: 172, Temple Chambers, E.C.
Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Petters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.

WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars.
Registered Trade Mark, "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, by Royal Letters Patent at home and abroad. Telephone, Stratford 395. The famous Oscillating Zig-Zag Stairways. The Rage of Paris, quick money-takers, are manufactured by the Inventor and Patentee. Full particulars, apply J. E. Cooper, Albert Works, Chatsworth-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Known, Fairkeepers, Travellers, Shooting Ranges, &c. The British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, London. Supply everything. Send us your enquiries. Lists free.

WANTED, for World's Fair and Trades Exhibition, at Barry Dock, South Wales, Popular Seaside Resort and Big Shipping Centre, commencing May 23, Inside Exhibits (Trade or otherwise), Shops, Side Shows, &c., Automatic Machine on Share or Hire; also Pierrot Troupe, four or five in number, to Rent Pitch or Share; must be refined. For full particulars, plans, &c., apply, Harry Reynolds, Skating Rink, Barry Dock.

To Automatic and Novelty Owners.
Fun City.
WANTED, Attractions, Purchase, Hire, or Share, after Whitsun.
"American Bowling" communicate.
Details to Davies, 2, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, Exhibition Buildings, Forbesfield-road, Aberdeen, April 30 to June 11, 1910, inclusive.

WANTED, good Side Shows. For particulars, apply, Secretary, Exhibition Offices, 375, Union-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, &c., for Monday, 25th. Whittingham, Automatic Exhibition, Pontycymmer, South Wales.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, Slot Machines, and other Attractions, for Royal Victoria Pavilion, Promenade, Ramsgate. Particulars to Manager, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, a Dahomy Troupe, July and August. Also Troupe of Midgets, with Pony and Carriage.
Humber, Waxworks,
George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, an Educated, Expert Phrenologist; must understand palmistry. Mr. Chilton and Mr. Gregory please write. Hawthorne, 23a, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Pier, Summer Season. Photo. and age. Apply by letter to Proctoria, 51, Nassau-road, Barnes, London, S.W.

WANTED, Palmist, Fortune-teller; grand opening Business Woman; also Freaks. Shares or rent. Lingard's Royal Coronation Waxworks, 89, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Palmist, to take over Studio, Good Business all the year, fine opportunity, price £10; also Rifle Range adjoining, good moneytaker all year round, guns, targets, prizes, &c., price £10. Owner going abroad. Apply, Palmist, Winter Gardens, Southport.

WANTED, good Palmist, at Once, for the Season. Terms, particulars, to Melville, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Singer Girls, for Manchester Exhibition, May 12. Must be used to selling Sewing Machines.
Apply, Box 7,597, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, smart attractive young Saleswoman, at once for Manchester Exhibition; one with slight knowledge of florist's or millinery business. Full particulars, Box 7,591, "The Era."

WANTED, Doorman, for Photos.; must be smart; also Young Lady for Wire Work and Engraving. References, salary, &c., Manager, 10, Marine-drive, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Phillips, at Liberty. Manager Front; late Manager Aldgate White City, Johnstown Flood, Deluge, &c. 18, Allestree-rd., Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Auctioneer, at Liberty, Shops or Halls, strictly reliable and steady. Salary or commission, best references. Apply Box 7,580, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Carcass's First-class Punch and Judy, with champion Dog Toby, Liberty Whit and on. 90, Harley-road, Sale, Cheshire.

PASTIMES, LTD., 61 and 62, LONDON-RD., S.E.
WANTED, to Let, Space for First-class Sideshows; also space for Palmist-Stalls, &c.
Finest location in South London.
Apply, Manager (mornings).

WANTED, to Let, one or two Small Spaces, for Real Novelties, in Exhibition, County Hall, Guildford, May 3 to May 14 inclusive.
Apply, Manager Exhibition.

WANTED, Known, Splendid Position, for First-class Side-show. Apply, Manager, Marine Parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

THE TOWER AND GARDENS,
THE TOWER AND GARDENS,
MORECAMBE.
MORECAMBE.

Re-opens for the Season,
Saturday, May 14, to Oct. 1.

WANTED, to Let,
Several Fine Shops, facing the Promenade, about two acres of ground spaces, suitable for
Side Shows, Amusement Devices, and the like.
Side Shows, Amusement Devices, and the like.

Six or seven large rooms, adaptable to any purpose, Kiosks, and smaller pitches; all in money-taking positions.

Applications and full particulars to Tom Bradley, General-Manager.

PALACE PIER, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. Walkington, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, part of premises suitable for cheap Photographer, best position in Cliftonville. Manager, 10, Marine-drive, Margate.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors, for Summer Season.
Address, Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Space, Halls, Buildings, any size, for Refined Art Exhibitions and Side-shows. Manager, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Hire, about thirty Automatic Machines, in good working order. All coms., with terms, address, Secretary, Tredegar Rinking Company, Ltd., Tredegar, Mons.

WANTED, One Hundred Autos, also a Bicycle Roundabout or Switchback, to pay rent or share takings, two months, Fairyland. Free admission. Castle Rink, Northampton.

WANTED, Outfit, part of complete, Shooting Range, 30ft. long.
Address, Box 7,581, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Height and Weight Machine, and One Minute Camera. James, 26, Hawk's-terrace, Reedley, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, to Rifle Range Proprietors, 10ft. Running Animal Set, as new, sacrifice £6; Engine 80s. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, all whom it may Concern,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
to Know
that I have
succeeded
in
securing
a very Large Space of Ground
at the forthcoming
FESTIVAL
of
THE EMPIRE and PAGEANT OF LONDON,
which will be held at
THE CRYSTAL PALACE,
LONDON,
during the months of
May, June, and July,
and will be of
UNPRECEDENTED MAGNIFICENCE,
15,000 Performers
appearing in it daily.

All the Best Shows in the Kingdom,
and all other
Respectable and Well-conducted
Attractions and Novelties,
Shooting Jungles and Fair Novelties,
are invited
to apply for Ground.

P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
'Phone, 80 Walsall.

LEICESTER MAY FAIR,
Thursday, May 5, to Tuesday, May 10.
Grand
PLEASURE FAIR
and
AVIATION MEETING.
Special Engagement
of
MR. LEO MERODE,
who will make Daily Flights on his
Blériot type
AEROPLANE.

Exhibition of Flying Machines.
Seen for the First Time on a Fair Ground in Europe.
WE LEAD.
Imitators may follow,
that is, if they can?

WANTED, Known, that I have
Ground to Let
at this Fair, where there is sure to be
RECORD BUSINESS.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls, &c.,
apply at once to
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
'Phone, 80 Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

BIRMINGHAM
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR
will this year be
the Greatest and Best
ever held.
Having acquired
a Large Plot of Ground
from
the City of Birmingham Corporation,
nothing will be left undone
to make this
a Record Event.
WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c., to apply quickly
as ground fast filling up.
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let at LICHFIELD BOWER for good Side-Shows, Joints, Stalls, Shooters, &c. also at
LUDLOW MAY FAIR,
for Cinematograph Exhibitions,
Cake Walk,
Side-Shows, and other Good Novelties.
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WOLVERHAMPTON
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR.
WANTED, Known, that I have
Ground to Let
on the
MARKET PLACE
for this old-established
and
well known
Fair.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls,
and other Attractions,
apply at once to
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Road Living Van, 9ft. 6in. long by 6ft. wide, in good condition. No reasonable offer refused. Sully, 222, Lavender-hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, a Set of Flat Platform Gallopers, consiting of Horses, Cockerels; also 2 spinner, 4 h. centre engine, organ engine, and organ, electric light engine and dynamo. Excello lamps, trucks, and everything complete, in good working order. Apply, John Green, 9, Eastview, Preston.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine), Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Punch Ball Machine, penny slot, £7; Phonograph, 60s.; Loop, 20s.; Postcard, 20s.; Fortune, Love Letter, &c. Eggar, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Japanese Fire Balloons, cheap, all sizes; splendid sample parcel 2s. 6d. White, 130, Francis-road, Leyton, Essex.

CIRCLE SWING.
WANTED, to purchase,
Circle Swing.
Full particulars and price to
Carl Schaap, Wien, Austria, II/2 k. k. Prater 34.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Instructress, at Ton-y-Pandy Rink; own uniform. Send photo. and all particulars to Manager, 217, Court-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Known, Manager Boys, vacant May 30, Rinking, Music Hall, or Theatre; can supply Staff if required; also Band; age 26. North London Rink and Electroscope Theatre, Ltd., Wood Green.

WANTED, Engagement, by Floor Manager and Instructress, smart and well educated, desires change; capable of giving exhibitions.
Box 7,574, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager or Instructor, Disengaged for Summer; combine General-Management. Ernie Morris, Ynys Cottage, near Fair Ground, Aberdare.

Channel Isles.
WANTED to Sell, Freehold or to Let for Season or Term, rental or sharing, the largest, most central, and up-to-date Skating Rink and Hall in Guernsey; will hold over 1600 people; rink alone 60ft. square; large gallery; electric light; suitable for Circus, Variety, Promenade Concerts, or any Shows; practically no opposition.
Particulars, apply,
Owner, Empire Stables, Guernsey.

WANTED, to Let, Skating Rink, for Summer Months, for Cinematograph.
Apply, Manager, Public Hall, Tonbridge.

WANTED TO SELL.

SCOTTIE'S HIPPODROME, HOYLAND.
WANTED, to Sell, this splendid Property as Scottie's Vast Touring Enterprises do not permit of his giving sufficient attention to his Theatre, although it has shown magnificent profits, and the returns are far in advance of many of the so-called first-class houses—the worst weeks' receipts with drama has been £53. The average weekly takings have been over £80, and with exceptionally attractive shows the returns have been enormous.
The Theatre is a large, permanent, brick and stone building, situated in the very heart of a vast wage-earning area (coal and iron).
Holding capacity, 1,500. Enormous stage, with fine grid, capable of flying the biggest cloths. Well furnished with scenery, &c., &c.
The whole building has recently been repaired, cleaned, and decorated throughout to the full satisfaction of the West Riding Council, from whom was readily granted Stage Play and Cinematograph Licences.
Low price to immediate purchaser. Can be viewed any time. Write for appointment, Scottie.

WANTED, to Sell, or to Let on Lease, Music Hall (fully-licensed bars), in North of England, capable seating 800 to 1,000, good business to be done, valuation small, pictures could be introduced to advantage.
Apply
Box 7,593, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, complete, Scenery, Dresses, and Magnificent Carriage, "Cinderella" Panto; £25 the lot. Box 7,590, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Warwick Bioscope, complete with Lantern Objective, extra large lantern body, perfect order; also a Gaumont Machine, complete, and a few films. Great sacrifice. Goodchild, 39, Charles-street, Hatton Garden, London.

WANTED to Sell, Film, The Cup Final (Saturday, April 23), about 340ft. Can be sent immediately after performance, Saturday evening, April 30. Best offers. Manager, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, lovely Miniature Yorkshire Terriers, age 6 months, weight under 2lb., Chelsia Premier and Chester Laddie strain.
Can be seen by appointment.
Also Puppies.
Mrs. Hill,
Flat 25, Topsfield-parade, Crouch End, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Troupe of Performing Dogs, Novel Act, ready for Stage.
Apply immediately, Box 7,542, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, greatest One Dog Act, decided novelty, everything complete, fortune smart person. Hillyard, 29, Little Broom-street, Camp Hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, the handsomest and best Performing Dog living, age 2 years, no vice, child can work same. Chard, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, First-class Performing Cats' Act, also Four Highly-trained Fox Terriers, all good on hind legs. Mlle. Alice, 1 Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Moya Typewriter and case, nearly new, perfect condition, £4.
Henry, 2, Dudley-place, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Cannon Photo Machine, good condition, also Tripod, 300 plates, 1 gross Brooches. Advertiser, 132, Caerau-road, Caerau, Bridgend.

WANTED, to Sell, three Ladies' Stage Dresses and two beautiful Coats, a bargain. Apply, 1, Varna-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, 36in. Ventriloquial Cheeky Boy Figure, latest movements, smokes, winks, &c. List price £2 10s.; sell £1 2s. 6d. Quisto, 11, Lammermoor-road, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, set Tubular Bells, plated, complete, portable stand, handsome appearance, splendid powerful tone, £3 10s. Approval with pleasure. Newman, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, loudest eve. heard, Tubular Bells, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Organ Chimes, Resonators (protected). Lisle, 209 Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, American Song Slides, Pansies Mean Thoughts, 16 slides; Lily of the Prairie, 17 slides; both new, £1 each set. Lynch, Picturedrome, Haslingden.

WANTED, to Sell, 3 Automatic Soda Water Machines. Draw your own soda and syrups automatically; perfect condition; highest class Inquire, Pastimes, 61-62, London-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, 2 Babies' Dresses, 1 Boy's Velvet Suit, and Evening Dress. Mlle. Alice, 1, Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Bound Volumes, in good condition, of "The Era," for years 1865, 1866, 1867, and 1869. Best offers to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Screaming Farcical Sketch, "Matrimony, Limited." Five Characters; full of action; refined. Ernest Bliss, 37, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, good Bill-posting Business, in small country town; must be genuine. State lowest price and full particulars to Box 7,588, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, "Cinderella" Costumes, must be fit for a First-class Theatre.
Address, with particulars, Box 7,594, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a Set of Horizontal Bars, complete, either new or second-hand. State particulars and price to Pim Almo, Poole's Company, Treharris, Glam., South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Dramatic Club (established nearly fifty years) is open to consider Original Modern Comedy in three acts (small Cast), for production in Oct. Synopsis of plot and full particulars to A. D., c/o W. H. Smith and Son, Advertising Agents, Blackfriars, Manchester.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Handcuffs, Keys, Fakes, &c., anything useful; must be cheap, or useless. Permanent Address, 23, Bedford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, to Let, on rental, from May 23 to June 25.
Good opportunity for Stock Companies or for Picture and Diorama Shows.
Apply, Jas. Buck, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, Alhambra Music Hall and Alexandra Hotel, Sandgate, Folkestone. Fully licensed. The only Establishment of its Kind in population of 55,000. Alfred J. Burrows, Auctioneer, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in April and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay, 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, from May 14 to 21 inclusive, Band Kiosk, West View Park, Ilkley, to Good Band or Refined Concert Party.
Offers, with particulars of show, to
W. S. Bellerby, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire. Price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

PIER PAVILION, LYTHAM.
WANTED, to Let,
Advertising Curtains.
Address, J. H. Harrison, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, on Royalty, an entirely New Society Play, in three acts; also a Curtain-raiser. F. E. Archer-Smith, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, the A.U.M. Picture Song and Story Combine, now running its fortieth consecutive week at the Picture Palace, Risca, Mon., is open to Lease Licensed Hall or Theatre, where, in exchange for an up-to-date entertainment, a fair living can be made. References given and required.
Principals or their solicitors who really mean business address,
Wych Hazel, 4, Park-terrace, Penhill, Cardiff.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Lowest Estimate for Hire of 10,000ft. of newly released Film per week, for First-class Picture Hall (North). Leading firms only need apply.
Address, first instance, Box 7,611, "Era" Office.

WANTED, to Hire, Smart Car, for Street Advertising Purposes. Send full particulars, terms, photo., &c., to William Cooper, 761, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Applications from Two Gentlemen with £250, to complete Board of Directors of successful Manchester Theatre. Sound investment. Box 7,598, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser offers half share in theatre, monopoly of entertainments; population 25,000; capital £300 to £400 required; will stand investigation. Interview by appointment. Box 7,615, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner for Comedy Triple Bar Act. Everything ready and work booked.
State full particulars to Box 7,614, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Recognised Comedian will join good Artist or Manager of Concert Party as Partner. Touring company preferred. Box 7,619, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for big Dramatic Sketch, six specially-painted Scenes, Properties, &c., or would sell. M., 100, Gaisford-street, N.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co.,
5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, Le Mare and Son, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write in for Professional Copies of the new Song, "A Letter from Mary of Mourne," being a reply to Percy French's famous "Mountains of Mourne."
Enclose card to
Pigott and Co., 112, Grafton-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists to send for Lists and Samples Part Right Songs, Sketches, &c.; finest selection obtainable; Sole Rights at reasonable prices. Reynolds, National Variety Academy, 9, Leander-road, Thornton Heath, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, owing to change of Management of the above, all Engagements dated to commence after April 18 next are hereby cancelled in accordance with the terms of Contract.
Charles Barnard,
On behalf of The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Information as to the present address of Alice Mary Maude King (née Fortey), who about 1882 was connected with a Circus.
Address, Box 7,583, "The Era."

WANTED, the address of De Witt, Wax Modeller, London.
James Pattison, 18, Pearl-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, to thank all for replies last week. Some other time.
Will Douglas, Palace, Bath.

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

THE TOWER,
NEW BRIGHTON.

Re-opens for Season,
SATURDAY, MAY 14, to OCT. 1.

TO LET
A FEW EXCELLENT SHOPS IN THE ELEVATOR HALL AND THEATRE CORRIDOR.
Also GROUND SPACES AND BUILDINGS IN MONEY-TAKING POSITIONS FOR STALLS AND SIDE-SHOWS.
SHARE OR RENTAL.

Applications will be dealt with in order of receipt, and should be addressed with full particulars to
R. H. DAVY,
General Manager and Secretary.

TO LET for SUMMER MONTHS.
To Let for Summer Months,
To Let for Summer Months,
To Let for Summer Months,
a Magnificent
SKATING RINK,
SKATING RINK,
SKATING RINK,
SKATING RINK,
in
large manufacturing town
in Yorkshire.

A Pierrot Entertainment
combined with
Promenade Concerts
should do big business.

Would share
with
responsible and reliable Proprietor.

Apply,
Box 7,600, "The Era" Office.

PLEASURE BEACH,
SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Building, 35ft. by 35ft., to let for Shooting Jungle.
Apply
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"Utriburo, London."
WE WILL FIND IT!!!

SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST.
ILLUSTRATED.
By GEORGE TWEDDELL.
PRICE SIXPENCE.
Published at
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ENTERTAINERS.

STANLEY H. BELL,
Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism.
Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND,
the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer.
Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

CHARLES DUDLEY, Refined
Humorous Songs and Stories. Few summer weeks vac. for Piers, &c. 86, Keslake-rd., Kilburn.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society
Entertainer and Accompanist. Receptions, Dinners, Ladies' Orchestra for Dances, &c. Perm. add., 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers, Geo Robins, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

HARRY HEAP, Accompanist and Baritone. Concerts arranged. 28, Shore road, Hackney, N.E. 'Phone 1146 Dalston.

MAIE HOEY.
Drama, Comedy, Eastern and Classical Dancer. Seasides invited. C/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Galeties and The Enterpeans. Address, 108, Sumatra road, West Hampstead, N.W. Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

REGINALD JECKS,
The Ballad-monger.
Leas Pavilion, Folkestone.

MR. BEVAN JONES, Silver Handbell
Soloist. Open for Concerts, Dinners, at Homes, &c. 58, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

MRS. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
L.R.A.M. Pianist, Vocalist, Accompanist, Coach. Good sight-reader. 28, Chelverton-rd, Putney.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD, A.L.C.M.,
Brilliant Soprano.
Offers invited for Summer.
33, Oakhurst-grove, East Dulwich.

W. E. MARVIN,
Musical-Director (Piano), Black's Pictures. Permanent address, 11, Dundas-street, Sunderland.

MISS FREDA SHARLOTTE,
Monologues and Descriptive Songs. Dis. for Summer Season. Address, C/o "The Era."

HAROLD WESTON, Humorist,
requires offers for Summer, Lyric House, 24, Albert-st., Regent's Park, London, N.W. 'Phone 2161 North.

COSTUMES. — C. and W. MAY
(Sons of the late Samuel May of Bow-street).
COSTUMES on HIRE for Amateur Performances, FANCY BALLS, Tableaux Vivants, &c. The Newest Stock of Historical and Fancy Costumes, 9 and 11, GARRICK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C. Tel., "Shakespearian, London." 'Phone 6525 Ger.

MDME. JULIA BEAUMONT,
Theatrical Costumier (from Shaftesbury Theatre), 89, KENNINGTON-ROAD (opposite Lambeth Baths). 5 minutes from Bakerloo Tube. Ladies and Gent's costumes made to order. Pageants, Historical, Bal Masque, Operatic.
Wedding, Bridesmaids, Evening, and Dinner Gowns, Misses' Party Frocks to order, on the shortest notice.
Serio Costumes and Dancing Skirts a Speciality.
Estimates and Designs submitted.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.

THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Courtice Pounds and a good all-round company, vocally and histrionically, occupy the local boards this week with the entertaining musical piece *The Merry Peasant*. Needless to say, Mr. Pounds is a host in himself, and is admirably backed up by, amongst others, Mr. Ernest Langford, Mr. Percy Carr, Mr. Sidney Johnstone, Mr. Frank Wilson, Miss Gwladys Gay, Miss Madge Vincent, Miss Tina Martini, and Little Mary Glynne.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —Lady Mansel and her clever little band of burlesquers and vocalists make a most attractive turn this week. The brightness, intelligence, and vivacity of the talented youngsters is really wonderful. Others who help to keep the ball a-rolling are Ferguson and Mack, diverting droils; Arthur Aiston, a most capable comedian; Arthur Kenny, a daring trick cyclist; the Haverleys, American picture entertainers; Lavelle Brothers, acrobatic comedians; Oliver Martyn, with a racing monologue; and a very funny sketch, *The Barmaids*, by Hodgson, Lowther, and company.

ACCRINGTON. — Prince's Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company, in the sensational drama *The Face at the Window*, opened here on Monday. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe makes a good impression as Paul Gouffet; Mr. Arthur Chrisholm is a vigorous Lucian Cortier; Mr. Alfred Warner an excellent Henry De Brisson; Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay's assumption of the villainous Lucio Delgado is strong and effective; and Mr. Jas. W. Chippendale as the mad doctor, Le Blanc, plays with sound judgment; Mr. John A. Stimson is to be commended for a mirth-provoking portrayal of Peter Pottleberry; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is a charming Marie De Brisson; Miss Nita Imeson a winsome and captivating Babette; and Miss Constance Glenabyn is all that can be desired as La Pinau.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists present an interesting turn; the Eight College Girls have a refined musical and dancing scena; the Ted Moxon Trio, acrobatic eccentrics, have a fine reception; and Kenneth and Kane, in their comedy skit, appear to advantage. Tony Black, Scottish comedian and dancer, gives an enjoyable turn; F. S. Howard proves himself a smart entertainer; and Lena Leslie, a dainty comedienne. George Lennard is an acceptable light comedian, and the Bio. projects the latest pictures.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Musical comedy is forming a change, which is proving acceptable here this week, *The Girls of Gottenberg* as played by Messrs. Wray and Austin Hurgon's company being appreciated by full houses. Mr. Phil Smith is a comedian of a most versatile order, and as Max Moddelkoff makes the most of the opportunities afforded; Miss Hilda Vining gives a talented portrayal of the innkeeper's daughter, her acceptable dances and vivacious manner placing her among the chief favourites; Miss Nan Stuart has a charmingly chic style of acting, which causes her part of Elsa to stand out prominently; Miss Nellie Lauraine gives a capital conception of the Burgomaster's daughter in search of a husband, her comedy with Mr. Phil Smith being especially good; Mr. Murray Moore gives a clever impersonation of Prince Otto, his singing and acting being all that could be desired; Mr. Charles Berkeley gives a brisk and highly-acceptable enactment of Britti Botti; and Mr. Harry Clarke as Albrech also does well. Mr. Ralph Forster as the Burgomaster, Mr. Geo. Robertson (Adolph), Mr. James Cook (Policeman), Mr. Lionel Yaldwyn (General), and Mr. Albert Wallace (Waiter), who, with Miss Molly Cleary, contributes special dances, are well placed. A well-trained chorus is provided.

Wide-World Pictures.—Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—A patriotic military picture, which tells of the heroism of English soldiers on active service, is named A Dash for Help. Other pictures of dramatic interest include The Coiners.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company is here presenting Arthur Shirley's moral play dealing with the white slave horror, *Her Life in London*. The leading male figure in the story is the Rev. Allen Gordon, a young clergyman, played with great force and fervour by Mr. Stanley Carlton; Mr. Claude Aymond finds in the character of Gratton Gale, a blind burglar, a personality which appeals to his dramatic instincts; the study of Collini, the keeper of a gambling den, by Mr. Jno. Croudace is a finished piece of delineative work; Miss Rubie Maude as Austra Bell, an orphan in London, excites sympathy and pity; a woman detective is an interesting personality in a play, and Miss Constance Medwyn as Madge Rendell shows her qualifications for the embodiment of such a strong-minded woman; Miss Evelyn M. Walton gives a well-studied conception of an evil-minded female; for humour we have to turn to Mr. W. Vernon as Plunker, and to Miss R. B. Douglas as Dolly, the lady typist, who gives some acceptable songs.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem. —This week's bill is the drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*, by Mr. J. Campbell. The author's company has been well chosen. Mr. Guy Hastings cleverly sustains the lead as the Rev. Alan Grey; an admirable impersonation is that of Captain John Thornton by Mr. Frank Liston; Mr. Cecil Mannering capably enacts the part of Stephen Haysel; Mr. Hugh Brady is a good-hearted Irishman; Miss Maud Warburton as Mary Haysel by her graceful manner commends herself as the sinner; she is earnest and capable; Miss Clara Santley as Maria Haysel is a victim to the drink habit, and Miss Santley's interpretation makes the character sufficiently detestable; Miss Polly Denville is amusing as Lizzie Muggins, a servant, and Miss Lissa Young is precocious as Hannah Spry, a reformatory child; and little Gladys Brittain is a favourite exponent of the child Eric.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The cinematograph portion of the week's programme at the Hall is comparable to the usual high standard Mr. Marks has set up. The vaudeville artist for the week is Mr. Jack E. Roscoe, a comic singing comedian, who takes well.

The Picturedrome.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—There are pictures shown here this week which are really exciting to the ordinary visitor. For example, The Skipper's Yarn is thrilling in its details, and traces a murderer with unerring zeal, and finally brings him to justice. The new artist is Mr. Philip Ellis, a good baritone vocalist. "The Lifeboat" and "The Game of Life" are well sung.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The Cup-Tie Final is the principal film presented here this week. Other subjects include The Cardinal's Conspiracy, Redwing's Gratitude, In Little Italy, The Subterfuge, and The Two Artists. Comedy is represented by Baiting the Bobby, Escaping the Snapshotters, and Calino Goes Shopping. Mr. J. Cooper Price, in new songs, and Mr. Hal Berte, eccentric comedian, give appreciated turns.

Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The spirited policy of the management here is responsible for excellent business results. The Cup Final at the Crystal Palace is the leading feature of this week's varied programme, and vaudeville items are supplied by Miss Flo Melville, comedienne, in chorus songs, and Warren and Granville, speciality entertainers.

AYR.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*The Tyrant* is the attraction here, presented by Miss Marie Dagmar's company. The theatre will close for vacation on Saturday.

BACUP.—Court Theatre and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jno. Walters.—Morritt, the illusionist, tops the bill in his mystifying entertainment. He is supported by Mme. Beulah, blindfold phrenologist, who is clever, and the Blind Memory Man. A number of good pictures are shown.

BARNSTAPLE. — Albert Hall.—Proprietors, the Town Council; Manager, Mr. O. J. Nicklin.—Mr. Albert Chevalier appeared here for one night before a large and delighted audience. Mr. Chevalier was supported in an interesting programme by Miss Tresilian Davy and Mr. J. C. Holliday.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Mr. Frank Curzon's company with *The King of Cadonia* is here. Mr. Johnny Osborne makes a humorous Duke of Alasia; Alexis is played with regal dignity by Mr. J Farren-Foster; Miss Alice Moffat looks charming and sings nicely as Princess Marie; and Militza has a vivacious and clever exponent in Miss Mabel Hirst. Miss Olga Marsden as Stephanie, Miss Florence Lelgarde as Duchess of Alasia, Mr. Edward Thirlby as Bran, Mr. Cecil Tresilian as Laborde, and Mr. Jack Martin as General Bonski are also conspicuously successful.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Scarletcers, under the direction of Mr. Charles Hinchcliff, are still here, and give a complete change of programme.

Tivoli.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The following are on the programme here: Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels; Torli, the tenor; Everhart and company, hoop experts; Al and Lal, in a capital sketch; Stuart and Evans, dance and patter artists; Alice Hughes and company, in a humorous sketch; Happy Attwood, Amy Bellwood, and Vernon's Bioscope.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Arcadians* is creating a big stir with lovers of musical comedy in Bath. Mr. Gus Oxley, a chief member of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, scores a hit for his humorous impersonation of Simplicitas; Mr. Frank Collins is drollery itself as Peter Doody; Miss Marion Edwardes is heard to advantage in the pretty and florid ballads allotted to Sombra; a captivating Eileen Cavanagh is found in Miss Mysie Devine; and a better Mr. Smith than Miss Madge Haines can scarcely be imagined. Miss Katie Yates is a most pleasing Chrysea.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Lily Edwards, comedienne, opens the ball this week in a couple of well-rendered songs, and is followed by the Fitzroys in clever gymnastic feats; Tennis and Laune gain favour in their vocal duets; Crosby and Walker, the jocular Eton boys, live up to their title; and Tina Frank, soubrette, goes well. The two big turns are those of Will Douglas's troupe of Five Jolly Bakers, in their acknowledged comedy Risley act triumph *The Bakers' Beano*; and Mlle. Dalmere's table circus of performing rabbits, cats, dogs, doves, and rats, as queer a combination of small animals as one is likely to witness.

BATLEY.—Theatre.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—A variety bill is headed by the famous Consul, the almost man, and his performance has caused a sensation; Amandus, facial mimic, gives lifelike representations of Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone and other famous men; Mr. Fred Neiman gives a pretty entertainment with his ventriloquial minstrels; and Mr. Dan Daly keeps the house laughing with his humorous parodies on several well-known songs; the Almas are wonderfully clever as equilibrists and balancers, whilst Mlle. Rosina gives a charming and novel instrumental act; Miss Ray Randall is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and a number of up-to-date films are shown on the Bioscope.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The society comedy, *The Best People*, is this week being played by Mr. Frank Weathersby's company. Mr. H. Elliott Ball presents an admirable study of Lord Emsworth; the Hon. Gerald Bayle finds an able exponent in Mr. Pennington-Gush; and Mr. Arthur Dennis cleverly portrays Lord Wynlea. Miss Lillian Hallowes imparts grace and distinction to the part of the Hon. Mrs. Bayle, and Miss Irene Lavington gives an amusing rendering of the part of Lady Emsworth.

BELFAST.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company opened here on Monday with *The Education of Elizabeth*. Mr. Norris was decidedly successful as Reggie Hankey; and honours were also achieved by Mr. Royce Milton, who furnished a very clever impersonation of Harry Fairfax. Miss May Norris in the difficult rôle of Elizabeth B'ack was almost unsurpassable; and the part of Blanche Macyntyre was vivaciously sustained by Miss Georgette Thierry, an accomplished actress. Miss Helene Forest played Lucy Middleton with much credit; and Mr. Haro'd Wagner was all that could be desired as Mr. Whitby. Miss Una Erle had little to do as Lily Kerr, but made the most of her opportunities. Other rôles were adequately sustained by Messrs. Wilton Leonard, Hugh Peel, and C. Holt. Prior to the presentation of the comedy, Mr. Harold Wagner appeared with success in character impersonations from Charles Dickens.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*The Outcast of the Family* is produced by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company. Mr. Wybert Clive furnishes a dignified impersonation of Sir Henry Thorne; and the rôle of his son Harry Thorne is done full justice to by Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney. Miss Elsie Shelton, a good emotional actress, wins the sympathies of the audience with her pathetic impersonation of Ruth; and Miss Maud Leslie Cudd furnishes a powerful impersonation of Grace Redburn. The iniquities of Richard Martin are luridly portrayed by Mr. Bert Oates; and it would be difficult to equal Mr. Herbert Bentone's fine impersonation of the blacksmith, Stephen Barry. Humour is infused into the piece by Miss Freda Beckett and Mr. Tom Armitage, very funny in their respective rôles of Nancy Bray and Joe Bushell; Mr. Edward W. Cudd appears to advantage in his original part of Abram Waster; and other rôles are sustained by Little Arthur and Messrs. H. Reed, M. Platting, N. Horton, T. Carruthers, and E. Melville.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The leading attraction is the Banzai Troupe of Japanese entertainers, whose extraordinary performance has been enthusiastically received; Herbert Darnley and company appear with success in *The Brigands of Tarragona*, a most attractive musical comedy; and the Three Laurels, in their speciality act, gain universal favour. Mr. Fred Spencer is a really clever comedian; and Miss Dolly Golden is aptly described as a charming and refined dancer. Mr. Fred Lyndo is a funny comique; and Hammon and Wyatt, the original Australian Sandow Girls, furnish a novel performance. Also here are Benson and Rose, in their musical duologue, and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill is occupied by Frank and Jen Latona, whose comedy has been accorded a hearty reception. The Elite Harmony Boys in their vocal act are an acquisition to the bill; and Miss Adele Levey furnishes an enjoyable entertainment with her recitations. Mr. Billy Hobbs is a capital negro comedian; and Ryan and Hall are first-class acrobats, while their comic wrestling creates roars of laughter. Miss Lilian Trevellie is a capable ballad vocalist; and Miss Maudie Frances, juvenile comedienne, may be assured of a successful future. Also here are Mr. Sam Dalton, vocal comedian, and the Bioscope.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Interesting pictures exhibited here include The English Cup Final. The vaudeville element is sustained by Farrell and Dunn, clever Scotch comedians, and Friscary, hat manipulator, who is very popular.

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Capital films include The Conspiracy, Cleopatra, The English Cup Final, and The Mad Chemist. Squire Ashcroft, an accomplished male soprano, appears with unqualified success.

Princess Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among the many attractive pictures exhibited at Belfast's latest picture theatre may be mentioned His Only Child and A Russian Girl's Heroism. Mr. Pat White is a capable Irish comedian and fine dancer.

BILSTON.—Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Mlle. Hengleur, with her troupe of performing dogs, forms the chief attraction. The songs sung by Miss Eva Ward are well appreciated. Mr. Ryder Davis also proves a decided success. The Hippograph pictures include For the Flag, A Street Waif's Christmas, and A Midsummer Night's Dream.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—The Birkenhead Dramatic Society are appearing here for a week in Mr. Alfred Sutro's play, *The Walls of Jericho*. A commendable performance includes a clever rendering of Lady Alethea Frobisher, by Miss Therese Jackson.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—That popular artist Miss Kate Carney is on a welcome return visit and with the assistance of her capable company presents her humorous sketch, *The Fun of the Fair* with excellent results. Les Marsumas, in their comedy cycle entertainment, are a centre of attraction, and Miss Nellie Coleman, the lady comedian, is renewing previous triumphs. A liberal and enjoyable programme is also strengthened by the efforts of Mr. Edward E. Ford (the Australian Sundowner), Miss Ethel Newman, in a comedy monologue entitled *Her Wedding Day*, Pueblo and Cropp (American variety artists), Mr. Josh Dixon (comedian and dancer), Geeta and Hoe, in a pot-pourri act, and Brown's Royal Bio.

Hippodrome.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company in *A Destroyer of Men* attracts crowded houses twice nightly.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Always a big favourite here, Mr. Martin Harvey is attracting crowded audiences. He has an interesting répertoire, including *Richard III.*, which he played for the first time in Birmingham on Friday. In this and other plays he is ably supported by talented actors and actresses. In *The Only Way* Mr. Harvey represents the leading character admirably, and Miss N. de Silva is quite at home in her original part, that of Minsi. Other parts are splendidly taken by Mr. Leonard Craske, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., Mr. C. Glenney, Miss Brenda Gibson, and Mr. P. Hewland. On Wednesday and Thursday Mr. Harvey produced *The World and His Wife*, a convincing story, which was some months ago played here under the title of *Scandal*. The piece has been considerably strengthened, and should have a successful future.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Amsterdam* is the title of Mr. John Tiller's spectacular musical comedy, presented here this week by a crowd of pretty girls and exceedingly funny comedians. It is a good mixture of musical comedy and pantomime, and it contains elements which are highly amusing and pleasing. The scenery and dresses are arranged on a gorgeous scale, and the individual vocal numbers and choruses are well chosen. Miss Lulu Valli claims chief honours. She makes a charming Evelyn Ann, and sings her attractive songs with her usual vivacity. Mr. Arthur Stigant is very funny as Theodore; Frau Van Stoop is in the capable hands of Mr. T. W. Volt; Mr. Sydney Vincent makes an ideal dramatic landlord; Miss Enid Erroll contributes some delightful dances; and the Twelve Manchester Mites are warmly applauded.

Alexandra.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*How Girls are Brought to Ruin* is the title of a play of great human interest. Mrs. Morton Powell, the authoress, contributes greatly to the success of the piece by her clever acting as Winnie Waters; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne also provides a splendid study as Jessie Burton, a work-girl; Mr. Harry Scott is applauded for a bright impersonation of a sailor, Harry Hailing; and Mr. Edward H. Heanley scores a triumph in the dual role of Philip Edge and Philip Dare. The other members of the company lend able support.

Bordesley.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*A Sister's Sin* is a domestic drama full of exciting incidents dealing with gipsy life, and the story appeals effectively to audiences. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is a great attraction in the piece. Miss M. Scudamore as Minnie Hastings gives a powerful portrayal; and Mr. Dobson Clyde wins hearty approval for a realistic representation of the exacting part of Harold Raymond; Miss Iza Lyndon plays the character of Redempta with the requisite vigour and pathos; and Miss Cissie St. Elmo is capable as Charzel. Other parts are cleverly sustained by Mr. Harry Lydon, Mr. Ernest Frere, Mr. Sidney Fiennes, Mr. Kingsley Roydan, Mr. J. Russell Bogne, &c.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—A strong emotional drama, *A Life for a Life*, is rousing audiences to a high pitch of interest. The production is in the hands of Mr. Charles H. Lester and company, and the points of the story are brought out in a striking manner. Mr. Lester has appeared successfully on several occasions before Birmingham audiences, and he is as popular as ever as Don Leon Fernandez, alias Josh Harker; Venetta, the baby detective, is an important character, cleverly portrayed by Wee Winnie Warden, a clever juvenile actress, who uses a sweet voice to advantage; Miss Lallah Davis is well chosen as Eulalie.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—*Shall We Forgive Her?* is the title of an engrossing drama teeming with strong situations that are quite to the liking of Aston audiences. The principals have been well chosen, Mr. Ernest Rivarz carrying off honours as Oliver West. He is well partnered by Mrs. Gwendoline Verschoyle; Miss Doris Kelvey as Joanna Lightfoot plays a difficult part with excellent judgment; and other prominent members of the company are Miss Grace Emery, Miss Pollie Marshall, Mr. B. Ysidwyn, Mr. A. E. Holland, Mr. C. K. Francis, and Mr. R. Webb. When the title is repeated as a question at the conclusion, a tremendous chorus replies in the affirmative.

Carlton Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Audiences are well pleased with *The Octoroon*, as presented by Miss Ethel Griffies. Lawless doings in the Far West form the theme of an exciting drama, and in the hands of a capable company the situations are splendidly executed; Mr. Haldane Dalton makes a splendid figure as Salem Scudder, a typical Western character; and as Zoe, the Octoroon, Miss Nellie Thorne Hallem displays great emotional ability; Mr. Victor Gardon is well chosen as the villainous Jacob McClosky; Miss Yorn Summer gives a good portrayal as Dora Sunnyside; Mr. Johnny Chippendale proves himself a versatile humorist as Pete, the nigger; and other important characters are well interpreted by Miss Lily Revolge, Mr. Collins, Mr. N. Tracy, Mr. W. F. Glover, Mr. G. Broughton, and Mr. A. Dean

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—This week's programme is full of bright and interesting items. The Elliott-Savonas are accorded a cordial welcome. These clever musicians, in their spectacular act, introduce several new features which are greatly appreciated. A delightful entertainment is provided by Mr. W. Talleur Andrews and Miss Vivian Talleur in *A Duo in Dreamland*, written by Mr. H. C. Lomax, in which vocal and terpsichorean arts are seen in keen opposition; the Brooklyn Comedy Four please with their selections and their comedy business is really fine; Dick Tubb is a funny man with a bright future, his facial distortions are both grotesque and amusing; Russell Carr gives a pleasing ventriloquial entertainment; Addie Dorina is a clever protean actress; the De Wynne Brothers are smart in an athletic act; and considerable interest is manifested in the bioscope pictures, showing incidents in the Football Cup Final Tie.

Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster; Assistant-Man-

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement
TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS
by the
CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,
T. HARRIS, Manager.
ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

Copyright Design. Chemical Cleaning & Dyeing Co

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.
Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

ager, Mr. H. Lucas.—"The Vampire Dance" is a big attraction here, and crowded audiences pay warm tribute to the fascinating performance by Miss Alice Eis and Mr. Bert French. It is seldom such a musical treat is provided equal to that of the Zigeuner Quartette, which is well above the average; Sahib Gustave Fasola, the Indian fakir, presents mysterious illusions; Miss Rachel Lowe renders her songs in captivating style and with the highest artistic effect; Miss Muriel Harding gives impressions of stageland favourites with great success; Miss Clarissa Talbot and Mr. Albert Pearce appear in their delightful Japanese dialogues and song-scenas; and other good turns are given by George Rae, Andy McLeod, and Harry Bedford.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The sensational feats of strength performed by Bert Wickham, who claims to be the world's champion athlete, cause great astonishment. His most notable achievement is the holding back of two motor cars when set in motion. Quaint mannerisms are introduced into a capital instrumental turn by the Brothers Webb; Merry and Bright bear out their description in a very amusing sketch, entitled *Kiss Me Again, Dear;* the Cromwells are jugglers of more than average ability; Ryder Slone is well received in the descriptive song "Burglar Bill"; Luigi Salvino is a talented boy instrumentalist; Glenn is a popular comedian; Maidie Burker has a good reception; and Fred Walmsley is an amusing character comedian.

Hippodrome.—Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—There is an abundance of variety here this week, and large audiences enjoy the programme. A high-class musical treat is provided by Ye Colonial Septette, these talented musicians fully meriting the enthusiastic plaudits of the audience; a remarkable exhibition is given by Ranoff's trained horse; Rorke, Rorke, and company are responsible for a clever musical sketch, entitled *The Prince's Love Affair;* Tom E. Finglass, the coon delineator, is a big favourite; the Comedy Chanters are a humorous trio of harmonious comedians; Belrose and Develin render their duets in pleasing style; George Goodfellow and Jenny Gregson provoke hearty laughter; and Rolando Martin, comedian, with good patter; Harry Vardon, ventriloquist; and Mozetto, juggler, complete the programme.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—A screaming comedy sketch entitled *Three of a Kind* is presented by Ethel Arden and George Abel's company, and forms an excellent star attraction. The utmost humour is extracted from the absurd situations arising out of a strange case of confused identity; La Freya provides a popular entertainment by the clever manipulation of coloured slides; Osborne and Brooks are a popular musical comedy duo, and they are expert mirth provokers; Guest and Newlyn have some smart Yiddish patter; Willie Garvey is justly described as a "funny fellow"; the Three Rochesters present a neat drawing-room act; and Marie Braymen, Amy Russell, and W. B. Raby also figure largely in comedy business.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—The Lyceum tours, under the direction of Mr. Henry R. Smith, are responsible for the representation of *Two Little Vagabonds.* Mr. Frank Beresford capably handles George Thornton, and Mr. Dan Mining plays the Gaffer to a nicety; Miss Dorothy Milne is a charming Marion Thornton, and Miss Mabel Cooke does well as Barbara Scarth. The title-rôles are effectively presented by Miss Helen Glenville (Dick) and Miss Ivy Millais (Wally).

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Frank Lister and company are popular in their exciting sketch *No. 99;* Maybelle May is a good dancer; and Leolin is a clever juggler. The Three Permans are wonderful gymnasts, and Florence and Rose Showell are good duettists; Alf. Chester is a capable comedian, and A Ba-Be's Picture Postcard Album is greatly enjoyed. The Hipposcope films are good.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company is here this week with *Lucky Durham,* the title-rôle of which is very creditably played by Mr. Ermund Kennedy, who has during the week made himself a very warm favourite. Mr. Leigh gives a good account of the Hon. Reggie, whilst Mr. William Calvert as Lord Mountfallon and Mr. Charles Wemyss as Mr. Valerton also play their parts with credit and distinction. Miss Florence Tressilian makes Helen Valerton sweet and lovable, as the author intended, and Miss Nellie Bonser is quite a success as John Durham's mother. The play is well staged and dressed.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—After a long absence from Blackpool, Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is in possession here this week. *Satanella* was Monday night's attraction, and the performance was in every way a success. Miss Sarah Williams appeared in the title-rôle, and her fine singing was much appreciated, as also were the efforts of Miss Grace Parish as Dame Bertha, Miss Jessie Dennis as Stella, and Miss Doris O'Brien as Lolia. Count Rupert had a capital exponent in Mr. F. J. Hargrave, whilst Mr. Tom Griffiths as Arimanes and Mr. Frank Clarke as Bracachio also acted well and sang their numbers creditably. *Lily of Killarney* was played on Tuesday, when Mr. Turner as Myles na Coppaleen met with a big reception. *Il Trovatore, Faust, Tannhäuser,* and *Maritana* have also been played during the week.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Scott and Whaley, a pair of very clever coloured comedians and dancers, top the bill here this week; the Six Ontarios are also smart dancers; Maria Racko excels in an actrobatic transformation act; Radiant Radie Furman is a merry little Dutch girl; Gwennie Hasto sings and dances well; Walter Emerson is aptly described as "the six-foot comic"; Harry Bickley is a smart comedian; Gladys Revell sings chorus songs very well; and Frank Bromley comes in for rounds of applause in his ring and bar act.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Messrs. Dottridge. Longden, and Livesey's company is here in *The Village Blacksmith.* Mr. Sam Livesey once more appears in his inimitable impersonation of John Strong; Miss Maggie Edwards is seen to advantage as Kate Strong; Mrs. Livesey makes a capital Sal Parkins; and Miss Cassie Le Grande is effective as Ruth Parkins.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—The popularity of *A Royal Divorce* is evidenced this week by the hearty reception accorded Mr. W. W. Kelly's company. Miss Violet Ellicott presents a dignified and sympathetic Josephine; Mr. Keith Fraser gives a masterly likeness of the ambitious Emperor; Miss Winnie Tempest as the haughty Marie Louise is also good; Miss Dorothy Mudson acts charmingly as the little King of Rome; and the vivacity of Stephanie is pleasantly introduced by Miss Dorothy Garth. Talleyrand is capitally portrayed by Mr. J. H. Roberts; and General Augereau is well represented by Mr. Ernest Plumpton. Much humour is supplied by Mr. George Hudson as the drunken Grimaud; and Mr. Charles Stirling is excellent as De Beaumont.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—There is a good programme here of clever turns, comprising the Renowned Bellong Bros., cycle equilibrists; La Berat, the mystic grotto and fire dancer, in her various creations; Aidee Mellor, Lancashire singing mill-girl; Harry Morris, character comedian; Jack Ross and Sue Lewis, in their humorous dancing; Miss Kitty Colyer, expert speciality dancer; Miss Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws, in a smart vocal and comedy act; the Currys, in a charming Australian musical scena; the Great Albas, on the tight-wire, introducing his sensational head slide; and the Premier Imperial pictures.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—An excellent variety company here includes Walter Ellis and company, in the comedy sketch *The Sleepwalker;* Miss Alice Hollander, Australian contralto; G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellmon, composers, in their novelty musical act; the Four Hawkers, in their original street scene; Fred Colley and Minnie Scott, comedy entertainers; Maud Clifton, vocalist and comedienne; Hearne and Palmer, in an eccentric acrobatic act; Baby Woolf, "the little dancing kid"; Stevens and Brett, refined burlesque entertainers; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company are here in *Judith (The Woman Who Sinned).* The play is well staged. Miss Tullock was very successful in the title-rôle; as also was Mr. Alec Young as Jack Carrington; Mr. Ed. Vivian scored a success in his representation of Eugene Darville; and the remaining parts were ably filled.

Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—At the Winter Gardens this week Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale present the "Middies and Maids" costume party. The various items are contributed by Miss Maisie Everette, soubrette and dancer; Miss Gladys Haysack, soprano and pianist; Mr. Arthur Randal, humorist and raconteur; Mr. A. Mostyn Scott, bass; Mr. Clarence Woods, tenor and mimic; and Mr. Rex Harold, comedian.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—A packed and thoroughly delighted house welcomed the D'Oyly Carte Company in *The Mikado* here on Monday. Mr. Henry A. Lytton plays Ko Ko with all his acknowledged skill and humour; and the popular Mr. Fred Billington furnishes rich fun as Poo Bah. Mrs. Arthur Rousby makes a charming Yum Yum, singing her numbers with great daintiness and charm; Miss Beatrice Boarer as Pitti Sing acts well and has a fine voice; Miss Louis Rene makes a magnificent Katisha, and sings her songs artistically; the Mikado is in the very capable hands of Mr. Leicester Tunks; and Nanki Poo in those of Mr. Henry Herbert. Peep Bo is played with great success by Miss Marjorie Stone. With the perfect chorus and new scenery and costumes the performance was an unqualified success. *Iolanthe, The Gondoliers,* and *The Yeoman of the Guard* are included in the bill.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manger, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here with *Charley's Aunt,* and good audiences are again laughing heartily at the antics of Mr. Stanley Cooke as Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Roy Byford is a capital Stephen Spettigue, and Miss Audrey Stafford Plays Donna Lucia admirably; Col. Chesney has a good exponent in Mr. T. MacCausland Stewart; Miss Ruth Henton (Kitty Verdun), Miss Phyllis Back (Amy Spettigue), and Miss Bertha Wilson (Ela Delahay), fill their respective parts brightly, and Mr. J. Sims Woolley as Jack Chesney and Mr. R. Burnett as Charley Wykeham contribute largely to the fun. *The Colour Sergeant,* an excellent curtain-raiser, is well represented.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—For the first time here Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company appear this week in Mr. Max Goldberg's interesting play *Through the Divorce Court.* Miss Hettie Chattell is convincing in the part of the wronged wife, Lady Dolores Penarth, and as her husband, Lord Robert, Mr. Robert Purdie acts with well studied restraint; Mr. H. C. Cooper gives an effective performance of the scheming De Mendoza; Mr. J. Campling is earnest in his acting as the unfortunate Leon Di Valdiz; as a type of Johnnie Mr. J. Denton's Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice is very amusing; as the lawyer Pettigrew Mr. E. W. Thomas was bluff and entertaining; Miss Constance Degmar displayed intelligence in the child's part of Sybil Penarth; as the designing Lady Fitzmaurice Miss Edith Cruikshanks bore herself well, and there was much humour in the Pat Rafferty of Mr. Harry Colbeck and the Dinah of Miss Nellie Sheffield. The piece is finely staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Whit Cunliffe, the comedian, is here on a return visit and his smartness and buoyancey and the finished style in which he renders his songs make him very popular; Marie Kendall, the comedienne, too, is here again, and her songs are received with favour; the Albert and Edmunds troupe of comedians present their knockabout extravaganza, *The Tower of London,* with their customary success; there is some excellent harmony by Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in their humorous sketch, *The Piano Tuner;* Steve McCarthy is a good comedian and dancer, and Ted E. Box, too, is responsible for laughter with capital comedy; the Bros. Bright in an athletic performance as hand equilibrists, display exceptional skill and muscular power; Rossi Ashton, "War Correspondent," does some clever charcoal sketching; the Brennans are warmly applauded for their very clever step dancing; and excellent pictures of the Newcastle v. Barnsley Cup-tie shown by the Bioscope are much appreciated.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Friend and Downing present some good comedy here this week, and their patter is amusing; Selim, "the singing Sultan," and his Sultana are good vocalistes; in the light comedy style Johnny Cecil finds favour as a comedian; on the triple bar the Mars Duo give a capital comedy performance; Arthur Stacey is a good eccentric comedian and dancer; the Sisters Maynard are an attractive pair of duettists and dancers; Bert Woodward, the steeplechasing cyclist," is distinctly clever; *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* is a screamingly funny sketch, in which Arnold Richardson, Ethel Lonsdale, and A. Gordon Laws appear with success; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are very entertaining.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Proprietors, The Albert Theatre Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Martin Manley, Esq.—This week we have at this popular theatre Miss Violet Osmond's company with *The New Barmaid,* on its third visit. Mr. J. Burlington Rigg as Captain Lovebury is excellent; Mr. E. Sykes as Colonel Claymore is effective; Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White provides the humour, being ably assisted by Mr. Chas. Adeson as William White; Miss Madge Prior in the title-rôle gives a delightful performance; and Miss Beatrice Erle as Dora is chic.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is here this week with *The King's Romance.* Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives a masterly impersonation of Prince Andreas, afterwards King of Venantia; Miss Mary Austin makes a charming Vera Navairre; Mr. William H. Denburst submits a fine impersonation of Paul Navairre; Mr. George Porteous as the villainous Michael Vacurat merits high praise; Mr. Ernest Earlesmere's Count Cavonia is well played; and able support is given by Mr. Ernest C. Edwards (Bartoy), Miss Ethel Vinroy (Lizette), Mr. William Manning (Count Bavantia), and Miss Bella Power (Mme. Pomeroy). The play is admirably staged and dressed.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; General-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—O Hana San and company win very hearty applause for their Oriental scena, *A Vision of Japan;* the Gilberts are distinctly clever in a daring wire act; the Videos are highly successful in a skating speciality act; Lilian Farrar appears to great advantage in a pretty song scena; the Coynes are very amusing in a comedy duologue, *Jane and the Kid;* Harry Moore, newsboy comedian, tears his papers into artistic designs; Barn and Barnell submit a refined comedy act; Dolly Denton is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Harry Bland is an eccentric comedian; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Charles Austin is as diverting and popular as ever in his representation of "Parker, P.C."; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde are very clever in a shadowgraphy novelty; Sidney Brandon displays able acting as a character impersonator; Briff, Braff, and Broff appear in an amusing tumbling and acrobatic turn; Hayman and Franklin are very entertaining comedians; the Four Panamas, comedy acrobats and tumblers, are well received; Dolly Ross is a neat comedienne and dancer; Lloyd Morgan is a capital light comedian; Avon and Crest are speciality comedy artists; and effective turns are also given by Adah Payne (vocalist) and Esta Stella (comedienne and dancer).

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company is here this week with *The Thief.* Mr. Bernard Limpus submits a fine character study as Richard Chelford; Miss Georgina Wynter gives a highly artistic impersonation of Marise Chelford; Mr. F. Morland acquits himself admirably as Raymond Leyton; Miss Mary Forrester's portrayal of Isabel Leyton deserves warm praise; and Mr. W. Somerset as the Detective and Mr. Carl W. Lindsay as Harry Leyton make the most of their opportunities.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Frank's company appear here this week in *Our Flat.* Mr. Roland Daniel gives an excellent portrayal of Reginald Sylvester; Miss Florence Radcliffe makes a pleasing Marjory Sylvester; Miss Dorrie Roberts merits unstinted praise for her delightful representation of Bella; Mr. Theodore Kelly's Mr. McCullum and Mr. Arthur Gibbons's Nathaniel Glover are admirably enacted; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily represented.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—Prominent among the attractive series of animated pictures exhibited here this week is The Football Cup Final for 1910. The Sugar Cane Industry is instructive; and The Voyages of Christopher Columbus very interesting. The Heavenly Messenger is a touching drama; and much fun is afforded by The Newlyweds, The Monkey Courtship, No Followers Allowed, and Foolshead Wants to Marry. Baritone songs are admirably rendered by Mr. Osland Denner; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits praise for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—A capital series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Cup Final at the Crystal Palace is admirably depicted; How to Make a Large Cask is instructive; Flossie's Theft and The Honour of the Family convey dramatic stories; and much amusement is afforded by Before and After, Uncle's Eyes are Opened, and Foolshead Pays a Visit.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company is here with *Peter Pan.* Miss Pauline Chase is a charming exponent of the title-rôle; Miss Gertrude Lang is in every way pleasing as Wendy; Mr. Frederick Annerley makes a good burlesque melodramatic part of Captain Hook; Mr. Walter Pearce does well as Mr. Darling; Miss Sybil Carlisle is natural and expressive as Mrs. Darling; John and Michael are nicely taken by Master Harry Duff and Master Hubert Hollom; Mr. Edward Sillward presents a good study of the dog Nana; and all the remaining parts are capitally taken. The staging is pleasingly effective.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Way Out West* is being capitally performed here by Mr. Junius Booth's company. Mr. Booth acts effectively as Jack Hamlin; Mr. Miller Anderson displays considerable dramatic ability as Jim Harkins; Miss Alice West is pleasingly expressive as Helen Masterton; Mr. Charles S. Brooke is amusing as the Chinaman, Ah Foo; Miss Leta Scarlette presents a good study of Arethusa Boompointer Byres; and other important parts are carefully taken by Messrs. Cyril Delavanti, Norman Radford, Harry Bannister, J. Sanger, Fred Lodge, and Walter Jarvis. The drama is well staged, and the mail coach and horses add considerably to the effect.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—A. C. Lilly and company are very successful in the fine dramatic military sketch, *Drummed Out.* The playlet is well acted, the staging is excellent, and the uniforms are effective. The Singing Jockeys do well in their singing and dancing act; P. A. Martell is highly appreciated as an equilibrist; the McConnell Trio amuse with their comic sketch *The Invalid;* Lucy Gillet and her dumb boys do some clever comic juggling; Mayme Cannon is a pleasing comedienne; Harry Clark is a capable juvenile comedian and dancer; Eily Adair is a smart comedienne and dancer; and excellent animated pictures of the English Cup Final conclude the entertainment.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Carlton is highly successful with his card manipulation, &c., and he also scores with his "Mysterious Cross" illusion; Atlas and Vulcana, with the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, present with much success their fine "strong" act, and Vulcana also does some very graceful and artistic posing; May Fairclough is a really clever actress, her selections from *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Woman in the Case* being rendered in true artistic style; Violet Stockelle is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Berg Brothers do a clever cycle act; Larry Lewis, comedian, obtains applause; Henriette and Selina please with their musical entertainment; Lucy Coventry is a smart comedienne and dancer; Grant and Stewart amuse with their "Phantoms of the Wood" comedy act; and Ronald George is a competent instrumentalist. Animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—A good audience enjoyed the films set before them on Monday, including The Honour of the Family, Beneath the Gas, Southern Sweden, A Mexican's Revenge, Suicide as a Profession, and Nick Carter as an Acrobat.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*East Lynne* is being capitally played here by Mr. Tom Watts' company. Miss Laura Hansen earns the highest appreciation for her Lady Isabel; Mr. Rayson Cousens is well fitted for the part of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. W. P. Mansfield is admirably adapted to the part of Francis Levison; Cornelia Carlyle is in the praiseworthy care of Miss Isabel Singleton; and Miss Ida Heron is a charming Barbara Hare. Mr. Eric Lugg gives a capital interpretation of Richard Hare, and much laughter is created by Mr. Joe Rowlands, a droll Bullock.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The highest praise is accorded here to Signor Angel Bianco for his beautiful violin solos, displaying brilliant technique: the medium used is a pretty playlet, with the title *Music the Conqueror.* The acrobatic performance of the Gaudsmidts introduces many novel tricks, neatly executed, and Richard Taylor is a ventriloquist with a good voice and a fine fund of humour; Carlotta Levey sings two songs of a catchy type in a clear voice, and Maggie Rimmer, comedienne, is pleasant; Langleton and Gold, with some right down good patter, conclude with remarkable dancing; and Charlie Craston is funny.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—There is a host of entertaining turns here this week. Lowenwirth and Cohan are Hebrew comedians with a good supply of jokes; Carl Lynn, a wonderful animal mimic, keeps the audience greatly interested; and a good turn is supplied by the Darntons (Cicely and Gladys), in harmonising duets. The Bros. Redmond are lively and laughable acrobatic comedians, and the Arlyns are responsible for clever contortion and acrobatic work; Walter Barrett, baritone, sings well; and Lisbon and Barker, in their extemporising, add to the fun.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Another week of variety and living pictures has been provided by the management. Mr. Charles Ulrick, the barrel king and trancka wonder, is seen in a really marvellous performance; the famous Indian mimic Ranghit Bay meets with a flattering reception; and Little Dot Moss, in song, dance, and banjo performance, is thoroughly up to her work.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr. J McPherson.—Mr. Tom Craven's company gives a highly commendable performance of *When a Lass Loves.* Mr. Reginald Stephens renders the part of Dr. Allan Crass in manly style; Anthony Greig is successfully sustained by Mr. Harry Newman; Mr. Ramsey Foreman is excellent as the villainous Bertram Bridge; and Mr. Louis Palgrave imparts delightful humour to the part of Slack; Mina May is cleverly played by Miss Ella Dixon; Miss Rita Trekelle as Cynthia Bridge displays acting of real merit; and Miss Josephine Middleton is particularly good in a strong representation of Constance Lane.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—A new and interesting series of pictures continues to draw good houses. Edna Frances, coon vocalist, and W. G. Webber, basso, contribute good turns.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley are very entertaining in song and dance; A. Hadley Harman is a diverting comedian; Smith and Gibbs, quaint athletes; Bert Barden, comedian; Fanny Humber, vocalist and dancer; Brayne and Lloyd, in an original comedy; Phillipps and Bristow, wooden shoe wonders; Rylands, Brooks, and company, in a musical romance, entitled "In the Days Gone By"; and Dollie and Elsie, duettists and dancers, are all acceptable items.

CAMBRIDGE.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday Mr. Weedon Grossmith, supported by an excellent company, opened here in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess.* Mr. Grossmith as Preedy provokes hearty laughter; Miss Ruth Mackay looks and acts the Countess to perfection; Mr. Frank J. Arlton is highly successful as Bounsall; and Mr. Ronald Squire plays the young Earl of Rushmere with much success; a clever impersonation comes from Mr. Arthur B. Murray as a butler, and valuable assistancee is given by Mr. Frank H. Denton, Mr. E. H. Wynne, Mr. Oswald Marshall, and Mr. Edward Bonfield. A charming Emma is Miss Evelyn Kerry; Miss Lynn Fontanne makes a chic maid; and Miss Lydia Rachel a lovable old lady.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Much interest has been aroused by a long-anticipated visit here of *The Dollar Princess.* Mr. W. Louis Bradfield has not visited Cardiff for many years, and his successful performance of Harry Conder has quite charmed everybody; Mr. Leonard Mackay as Freddy Fairfax upholds his reputation; Miss Norah Barry's Alice is the esence of all that is sweet and vivacious; Miss Norma Whalley is equally successful as Olga; Mr. Eric Thorne, a great favourite in Cardiff, gives a performance of Bulger which further enhances his reputation; Miss Daisy Elliston is a dainty and sweet exponent of Daisy Conder; and Mr. Paul Plunket as Lord Quorn does remarkably well.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The head of the bill is occupied this week by one of Cardiff's greatest favourites, in the person of Harry Tate, who is appearing in his screamingly funny sketch *Fishing.* Ranking amongst the highest of animal performances is that of Miss Juliette and her wonderful sea lions. Cardiff audiences never fail to appreciate good singing, and give hearty receptions to Amelie de L'Enclos, "the vocal phenomenon"; Drew and Alders, in their original act, *The Coastguards,* once again cause unbounded merriment; the Five Vernons, experts in xylophone, prove to be entertaining with their well-rendered selections; Lena Verdi, a charming and talented young lady, gives imitations of well-known artists; Harry May Hemsley, child impersonator and clever caricaturist, is diverting; and Walker and May, coloured singers and dancers, are distinctly good. Amy Marsden, low comedy girl, and the English Cup Final on the Bioscope, complete an exceptionally strong programme.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—Billed for this week is *Man and His Kingdom,* by Mr. W. Howard Scott's company, but owing to the indisposition of Mr. Howard Scott and the inability to secure a suitable deputy no performance was given on Monday night.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Making a great hit at the Palace this week is the popular character comedian, J. W. Rickaby, who on Monday night, in his latest successes, caused considerable fun and laughter. A comical sketch, with intensely amusing incidents, is that of *The Queen of Sheba,* admirably presented by H. C. Lovell and company; the Three Phydoras, eccentric musical novelty artistes, are extremely clever; and the Amio Trio in a novel military display prove themselves most entertaining. Others who appear on the programme are Charles North, actor vocalist; May Poulton, comedienne; and Irene Meldon, "The Dainty Dot."

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. George Munro's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday in a répertoire of "standard plays," opening with *The Sleigh Bells.* Mr. George Munro's Mathias was dramatic and powerful; Mr. Ivor Barnard contributed an excellent study of Father Walter; Mr. Stafford Dawson gave excellent support as the Gamekeeper; and Mr. Howard Rose distinguished himself as Christian; Annette was brightly impersonated by Miss Dorris V. Horrocks; Miss Janet Hope made a lively Sozel; and the Catherine of Miss Gertrude Littlewood was a satisfactory piece of work. *David Garrick, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, The Taming of the Shrew,* and *The Robbery of the Lyons Mail* are to be performed during the week.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—A capital programme is submitted here this week. Charles Whittle, who heads the bill, is on a return visit; the Villions are clever comedy cyclists; the Bros. Hannaway's cross-talk is really funny; Louie Tracy is successful in male impersonations; Wyze and Adna give a pleasing and attractive musical comedy sketch; and Nora Desmond, with American picture songs, meets with appreciation. Some remarkable pictures of bird life are not the least interesting item of an excellent entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—*Her Secret Lover,* is presented here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company Mr. Arthur St. John as Gilbert Seymour rises to the trying scenes in the third and fourth acts; unstinted praise is due for the admirable portrait of Ivy Seymour by Miss Laura Walker; the rascality of John Strange is ably demonstrated by Mr. Alfred Stretton; and capital support is given by Mr. J. Newton Cowling, an amusing Jim. Alicia Royale is capably sustained by Miss Flora Leslie; and Miss Lynn Darlington endows Jane Maria with a spirit of true comedy.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A capital programme is headed by the Sutcliffe Troupe of acrobats, pipers, and dancers; Tiny and Mite, juvenile dancers and singers, win admiration; a good reception is accorded Akbar on the silver rings; Charles Cardie displays considerable talent as a singer of sensible chorus songs; and Bella Leaburn's contributions are greeted with applause.

CHATHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is paying a return visit. Miss Marie Studholme appears in the title-rôle, and proves a great attraction; Miss Maud Denny's ability as Mina is thoroughly appreciated; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is a very popular Van Vuyt; Mr. Charles Ross is successful as Schnappe, and is responsible for the stage-management; Mr. Alfred Wellesley's Mr. Hook is a clever and amusing representation, and the same remark applies to Mr. Fred Lyne's Slinks.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Here we have Park's Eton Boys and Gerton Girls, in a very entertaining song-scena; Maude Elliston and company create much merriment with *Dobson's Day Off;* Madge O'Neill is adding to the many admirers made during a recent pantomime engagement at the local Royal; the Zanfrellas give a skilful and daring equilibristic display; and considerable enthusiasm is aroused by the Edisonograph's pictures of the Cup Final at the Crystal Palace. Others appearing are Morris and Marte, Dolly Clair (comedienne), and Billy French (wooden shoe dancer).

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Mather and Mayer contribute a brisk little scena; Fred Evans scores in *Dreaming;* the Rhoda Bros. prove expert gymnasts; Geoffreys and Banton Benson give a lively sketch, entitled *Lucy Whitelegs;* Jay Barrie's song "I awoke" pleases the patrons; and Louis Taylor's company produce in commendable style *The Adder's Tooth.* Lily Mount, low comedy artist, and Montague Biggs complete the bill.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*Where is William?* is one of the funniest pieces we have had for a long time. Mr. Charles Windermere as Sir William Gregory and Mr. Rule Pyott as William, his butler, are irresistible, their acting being perfect; Miss Belle Donaldson plays Lady Gregory with perfect freedom and charm; General Rubbub is admirably studied by Mr. Leslie Norman; Mr. Fred Lake as Joe Budge does his burgling realistically; Mr. Albert Plant is an excellent policeman; Emily Jolly and Eliza are amusingly contrasted, and both capitally played by Miss May Rosine and Miss Zoe Davis; and Mr. Edmund Hollick is pleasing as the young lover, Harry.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. L. Glenbarber.—The principal attraction is Miss Millie Gordon, in her beautiful classic dances. The electric pictures shown are remarkably clear and free from vibration. The excellent programme is supported by Miss Mabel D'Aubyn, comedienne.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole and Shenton.—The capital pictures here continue to draw large houses, an entire change being made weekly. Miss Molly Gwynne is a favourite vocalist.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Bondman,* excellent in every detail, is the striking attraction this week. The half-brothers, Jason and Michael, are ably played by Mr. Philip Darien and Mr. Stanley Harrison respectively; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith capably portrays Adam Fairbrother; and the rôles of Grandfather and Father Ferrati are efficiently doubled by Mr. W. H. Rotherham. Miss Violet Macaree as Greeba proves herself a most sympathetic and clever actress; and Miss Madge Laverton does justice to the part of Mrs. Fairbrother.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.—Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company opened here on Monday with *Home, Sweet Home* to a good house. Mr. Lindo himself essays the part of Stephen Armitage with conspicuous ability; Mr. Norton Shields invests the part of David Armitage with the necessary pathos; Mr. Sidney Dench's Duke of Ancaster is commendable; Mr. Harry Belford as Gaffer submits a clever study of a countryman; Mr. Eric S. Crowther gives an able rendering of Dick Redmayne; Mr. Leonard Lawrence ably undertakes the rôle of Lucas Lyle; Miss Marion Wakeford, in the onerous part of Joan, is seen to advantage; Little Doris gives an interesting delineation of the child Dora; and Solomon Keary finds an efficient exponent in Mr. Tom E. Lewis. Mr. Bert Dench as the Hon. Percy and Miss Helene Thomson as Sybil Fay do much to enliven the evening. The staging is effective.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Dr. Bodie, with his well-known business, provided the big item this week. The remainder of the bill was as follows: Bella Skene, musical comedy artist; Billy Walters, ventriloquist; G. W. Walker, Scottish vocalist; Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Tom Gold, comedian; W. H. Williams, comedian; and Jack Diamond, slab and trick dancer.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The star turn this week is Mlle. de Verneuil and her five posing ladies, with a distinctly artistic show; Stacey and Williams are a popular pair of cross-talk comedians; Joseph Belmont, sifleur, presents a refined entertainment; Lily Belle, the bare-footed dancer, is rewarded with applause; Zethus

D'Aryiba, in a fantastic dancing scena, assisted by the Russian dancer, M. Barthelemy, a series of classical dances are gone through with good effect; Ethel Dancy sings some charming songs, for which she receives applause; the comedy patter duologue of Cliffe and Vanston is well gone through; R. A. Speedwell as "the wizard painter" gives some capital topical sketches; Harry Taylor, comedian, gives some pleasing and very clever representations; Ingram and Irving in an absurdity, *The New Office Boy*, are the source of great laughter; and the Palascope pictures continue to amuse.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Fred Granville's Production, Ltd., with a capable company, is occupying the above house this week with *The Better Land*, and was warmly welcomed on Monday. Miss Margaret Trevosper shows some clever acting in her interpretation of the mad woman Doris; Mr. Leonard Booker as Hubert Radcliffe is a success; Mr. Douglas Watson well sustained the character of Philip Radcliffe; and Miss Madge Trevelyan was responsible for some good acting as Mercedes.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Jock Whiteford takes first place on the bill this week. Kitty Tranoy gives a clever turn with her trained dogs and pony; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, is popular; Kavados is a clever juggler and equilibrist; Hal Bert, the elastic comedian, is a great contortionist; Spry and Monti give a comedy sketch entitled *The Songwriter and the Soubrette*; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford have an amusing sketch; the Four Burnells, comedy acrobats, are good in *Fun on the Links*; and the Bioscope shows Barnsley and Newcastle in the football match.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Keen interest is being taken here in the production of *The Proud Prince*. Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan shows histrionic ability, and has a real grip of the rôle of King Robert of Sicily; Mr. Clifton Boyne gives a sound performance as Count Hildebrand; Mr. Cowley Wright speaks his lines with expression as the Archangel; Mr. Terence O'Brien deserves congratulations for his portrayal of Theron; Mr. Frank Ward submits a clever impersonation of Diogenes; Mr. Ernest Stidwell sustains with dignity the part of Hieronymus; and a good word is due to Messrs. R. Leigh Ellis and Charles Boult as Sigurd and the Archbishop of Syracuse. Miss Eileen Kerin admirably enacts the rôle of Perpehia, giving the part due delicacy of treatment; Miss Vashti Wynne is quite equal to the responsibilities of the character of Lysabetta; and Misses Esther Whitehouse, Lilian Dacroy, and Nora Jones are attractive as Helena, Corinna, and Theodora.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's company is causing fun and jollity here in a new version of *The Mumming Birds*; Will Johnson is an entertaining comedian; the Poluski Bros. keep the house in a good humour; Tray and Rich sing and dance well; Frank Harwood, light comedian, is a success; Nash and Noel are clever dancers; Jose Collins is a charming comedienne; Jennie Alexander is a smart juvenile mimic; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery score in sketch, *Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama*; Ella Shields, comedienne, is received with cordial greetings; R. H. Douglas gives a praiseworthy monologue turn; and the Cup-Tie Final at the Crystal Palace is clearly shown on the Bioscope.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Richards.—As usual, the pictures here are drawing crowded houses. New subjects of a humorous, dramatic, or picturesque nature have been selected with care and discrimination.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper.—Mr. Harry Calden and company appear in *A Sprig of Shamrock*, in which Mr. Calden is conspicuous as Shaun O'Flynn. Of the pictures, In Little Italy is one of great dramatic interest, among the comic ones being Bring Me Some Ice and Cured by a Tip.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's principal company is presenting *The Woman in the Case*. As Clair Forster Miss Winifred Pearson is worthy of high praise; Mr. C. W. Standing's Julian Rolfe is a manly and capable assumption; Mr. James Lindsay deserves commendation as Attorney Thompson; Jimmy O'Neill receives full justice at the hands of Mr. Paul Wynter; and Mr. Christopher Steel is good as Klauffsky. The piece is excellently mounted. The play is preceded by a curtain-raiser entitled *Her Ladyship's Guest*, in which Miss Gertrude Gwynne and Messrs. Mervyn Rentoul and C. Steel appear to excellent advantage.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—The top-line turn is Harry Freeman, a capital comedian; Amy Anderson and company, in a breezy scena *The Banana Queen*, are highly diverting; the Days submit a clever and mystifying thought-reading act; Diamond and Hart are a versatile comedy duo and dancers of ability; Tom Clifford as a ventriloquist scores an immediate success; Macintosh and Royal, dancing experts, give finished exhibitions of their art; and Myrtle Grove, a juvenile comedienne, captivates her audience. The management is to be congratulated on the Bioscope film The Cup Final.

DEVONPORT.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*The Hand of Justice* is an interesting drama presented by Mr. J. F. Preston's company. As Sir Jasper Montgomery Mr. Preston gives a fine study of an English baronet; Mr. Horace Custins admirably impersonates his son Philip; Messrs. Ernest Fare and Alfred Wade make a whole-hearted pair of murderers as Count Vladimir and Resouf respectively; and Lilian Stanmore is well played by Miss Ethel Ransford.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Lamberti makes a hit with wonderful facial imitations and his undeniable musical ability; Dan Whitely with his comic business thoroughly deserves the hearty applause bestowed; Kirk and Soraski are responsible for interesting aquatic feats; Lilly and Harry Zanoni execute some skilful club throwing; Nellie Shand is a vocalist of pronounced ability; Moon and Morris have some very funny patter; and Frank Godfrey contributes a couple of good songs.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, in the domestic drama *Mother*, occupy the boards. Miss Grace Jones is to be complimented upon her excellent rendition of the part of Nellie Fairweather; Mr. J. O. Stewart gives an admirable portrayal of Duncan Fairweather; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Frank English displays much ability; Martha is well sustained by Miss Amy Wood; and Mr. Geo. Brooke deserves praise for his portrayal of Jasper Rawden. Mr. Reginald Brown as Stephen Carrington is responsible for some well-studied acting; Little May is excellently played by Miss Mary Holmes, a clever child actress; and Mr. Teddy Myles as Tommy Nobblets and Miss Elsie Dene as Polly Crumpet keep the house in continuous merriment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—George D'Albert sings in his inimitable style; Kitts and Windrum appear in a laughable sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Ada Fawn is a fine comedienne, and sings good songs; Elroy, the armless wonder, does with his feet almost anything that can be done with the hands; the Bros. Young submit a refined and artistic act; the Richards Trio, in a humorous acrobatic turn, score a success; the Simms are a clever pair of singers and dancers; Harry Cotton, comedian and dancer, is very funny; and a picture of the English Cup-Tie Final completes.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The Carlsens, in a comedy speciality *Fun in a Restaurant*, head the bill, their acrobatic work on the bounding table being very clever; the Two Countees, humorous vocalists, are popular; Tom Jones, Welsh comedian, makes a big hit; Carl and Carr introduce capital singing and dancing; Jack Truman's tenor voice delights everybody; Gertrude Blanche dances well and contributes good vocal items; and excellent films include The Power of the Press.

DOVER.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—The principal attraction is the popular sketch *The Plumbers*, submitted by Harry Gratton and company, which has been received with enthusiasm by crowded houses. The Sisters Belmont, duettists and dancers, contribute a charming turn; Rowland Hill achieves popularity with his songs and amusing patter; Johnson and Heart as comedy jugglers provide a smart turn; Eric and Nora prove extremely novel musicians; and Ted Cowan and Frank Dunlop, comedians, and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. Vedrenne's company is here with Conan Doyle's *The Fires of Fate*, with great success. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart fills the part of Colonel Egerton in manly style; as the Rev. Samuel Roden Mr. Herbert Vyvyan acts with considerable ability; Mr. Charles Francis is a natural Dr. Roden; Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe a clever Abdulla; Miss Ruth Bower a charming Miss Sadie Adams; and Miss Gwendolen Floyd submits a careful reading of Miss Adams. Mr. Gerald Mirriedes acts the Frenchman Mons. Octave Fardet in capital style; Mr. Stanley Logan does well as Mr. Brown of London; Mr. Herbert Maule as Mr. Bodie and Mr. Frederic Worlock as Captain Archer are both very good; and Mr. T. H. Nesbitt and Miss Alison Trent present an effective study of Mr. and Mrs. Belmont.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Dion Boucicault's excellent play *Arrahna-Pogue* is being presented here by Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company of Irish players. The popular part of Shaun the Poet was in the capable hands of Mr. Tyrone Power; Miss Monica Kelly appeared with her usual success as Arrah; Mr. Dan Clarke furnished an admirable study of the O'Grady; Mr. Wm. Byrne gave a humorous representation of Oiney Farrell; and Mrs. Glenville was again seen in her worthy position of Katty Walshe. Mr. M. Morley Carroll acted the Process Server capably.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Here we have Harry Foxwell's company, in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Foxwell displays considerable ability in his representation of Joseph Barnard; a clever study of Stephen Rayton is furnished by Mr. A. C. Holmes; and Mr. Charles Vivian fills the part of Gash Gills capitally. Miss Sheila Walsh submits an interesting portrayal of Mary Barnard; Mr. Henry Carlisle acts well as the Rev. Mr. Staunton; Miss Nancy Mitchell is a good Sally Tranner; and Little May is excellently played by Miss Daisy Rochefort.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An attractive programme is here this week. Mr. George Lashwood remains over from last week, and is meeting with great success in a lot of new songs. The O. K. Dians contribute a pretty musical performance; Herbert Shelley displays marked ability in his sketch, *Dan the Outlaw*, in which he impersonates several characters; the Scotch ditties rendered by Mr. George Westland are well received; Ethel Beech is warmly appreciated for her excellent songs; and Will Sullivan, comedian, and Miss Ruth Davenport, a cultured operatic vocalist, with delightful songs, also appear.

TIVOLI — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Fanny and Harry Dent appear in a novel mélange, *The Indian Bottle*, which is much enjoyed; Tom Isherwood is a good comedian; and a most amusing episode, *A Strange Meeting*, is cleverly presented by Rohde and Roche. Ford Williams sings ballads in a charming manner; Rose D'Aulby has a host of admirers as a comedienne. The other artists appearing are Wet Paint, Margit and Lener, Seymours, equilibrists, Rose and Jeanette, Wardon, Perry and Wilber, in their musical novelty.

ROUND-ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Company, although their last week here, continue to attract large audiences.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The following is the company appearing here this week:—The Lemertons, comedy artists; Dan Leslie, vocalist; Annie Ramford, ballad vocalist; Kitty Lee, comedienne; Harry Dunn, eccentric comedian; and the Blydons, dancers.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Huish.—The continuous shows here are being very well attended, and the pictures shown this week are:—The Terror and the Terrier, A True Indian's Heart, Foolshead on the Roller Skates, Crystal Palace Cup Final Match, Barnsley v. Newcastle United, Amongst the Tribes of High Nubia, and a dramatic comedy, Looking Through a Looking-glass.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The Arcadians* have taken Dudley by storm and met with a rousing reception. Mr. Charles A. Stephenson as Simplicitas is the embodiment of wit and humour; Mr. Alfred Beers as Peter Doodey is an exact opposite, but his lugubrious expression and delivery are quite as amusing; Mr. Arthur Macdonald is breezy and clever as Jack Meadows; Miss Gertrude Aylward has a fine presence and infectious laugh; Miss Molly McIntyre is charmingly sweet and graceful as Eileen Cavanagh; of the Arcadians Miss Sybil Tancredi as Sombra was a distinct success, her sweet, winning face and charming voice calling forth loud applause; she was ably assisted by Miss Violet Roberts, a very pretty artist. The comedy is elaborately staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Bleasdale.—Patrons of this popular house are puzzled by Signor Arvi with his scientific and artistic mystery the Metablescope. A patriotic sketch *For King and Country* is well rendered by fifty local boys and girls; the Vigaranto Trio are novel and sensational ring performers; Shenton and Chicks gain a rousing reception for good singing and dancing; St. Ruth and Conyers, operatic duettists, score heavily; Daisy Grahams with her birds and baby dog is greatly appreciated; and Johnny Dwyer, a favourite comedian, has new and popular songs.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Arthur Phillips' company is here in *The Merchant of Venice*, tastefully and effectively mounted. An exceedingly clever and finished performance is the Shylock of Mr. Phillips, his fiery vindictiveness and untutored rage against Antonio being cleverly manifested; Mr. James Berry's Antonio is a well-thought-out characterisation; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams deserves much praise for his work as Bassanio; Gratiano is invested with much spirit and gallantry by Mr. Herbert Dansey; while Salanio and Salarino are enacted with care by Mr. E. Stuart Vinden and Mr. Richard Fielding respectively. Mr. Scott Sunderland plays Lorenzo in a manner thoroughly in keeping with the character; Mr. Ross Shore is an amusing Launcelot Gobbo; Old Gobbo is pathetically impersonated by Mr. Arthur Fayne; Mr. Cyril Vernon is an impressive Duke of Venice; Mr. Leslie Palmer is a dignified Prince of Morocco; the Prince of Arragon is neatly interpreted by Mr. L. M. Briggs; Portia is delightfully presented by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, her artistic treatment of the character making an excellent impression; Miss Dora Hole must be congratulated on her admirable assumption of Nerissa; and Jessica is charmingly submitted by Miss Christie Laws.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A very entertaining bill is headed by Valazzi, whose juggling with a solid cannon ball weighting half a hundredweight creates quite a sensation; Hanvarr and Lee completely bring down the house with their racy act *The Golfer and the Maid*, in which they manipulate Indian clubs in a novel manner; Tom Woottwell is an immense favourite, and extracts much drollery from his ditty "In the little shirt my mother made"; Allis and Casatti contribute a lively turn; Bertha Evelyn's fine contralto voice is heard to advantage in her well-selected songs; Yetta offers an attractive and distinctly novel item; Terry and Tate keep the audience in hearty laughter; and the English Football Cup Final on the Kingscope is followed with interest.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—*A Fast Life* is proving to the liking of large audiences here. The drama is capitally mounted and admirably interpreted by Mr. Walter Steele's company. As John Dixon Mr. Walter Steele plays very earnestly and successfully; Mr. Frederick Garratt enacts Sir Oliver Franklin with considerable force; Mr. Bruce Warwick contributes a finished impersonation of the moneylender Harris Goldberg; Farmer Wheatcroft is capably undertaken by Mr. Hal Howels; Mr. Ed. Kingsley is an effective Lord Craven, and sings excellently; Lockfast, the brutal prison warder, is unsparingly drawn by Mr. James Selwyn; Mr. Willie Barratt as Tommy Burke the burglar bubbles over with humour, and along with Miss Maud Ryder, a particularly energetic Julianna, scores both in song and dance; Miss Beatrice Hone handles the rôle of Lady Franklin with sympathy and tact; Miss Lillian Ross as Mrs. Dixon plays very well; a satisfactory Mrs. Wheatcroft is found in Miss Violet Douglas; and Messrs. John Cummins, James Hamilton, Thomas Stead, and Bert Avis complete a strong cast.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—A varied programme of pictures is attracting large houses. Elephants in India proves an instructive film; Newlyweds is an amusing comedy of errors; The Girl and the Judge is a brilliant example of the sensational picture; and others shown include The Cowboy's Narrow Escape and Calino's Duel.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—This cosy house is becoming a favourite haunt of picture-lovers, and the programme submitted this week meets with the warm approval of patrons.

KINNAIRD HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus commenced the concluding week of its successful season here on Monday, when a large house enjoyed the entertainment. Under Signor Luigi Volpi's direction, the animals enter into their work with enthusiasm. The intelligence displayed by Jardini, the dancing pony, and Thursa, the calculating and musical pony, is really wonderful; Jumbo Junior, the baby elephant, is a huge favourite; and the interludes by the clowns Dan Gregory and Bishop and Winkles cause amusement to both old and young.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—The good programme presented here includes Zarmo, the wild juggler, whose performance creates laughter; Miss Fredirica's well-trained dogs and pony find much favour; Kerr and Shaw create roars of laughter; and J. G. Aitken, with Scotch songs and patter, is warmly applauded. The Mars Trio of military gymnasts give a capital exhibition; the Sisters Gaye, comediennes, dance smartly; Will Challoner scores with song and dance; and a Foolshead picture on the Cathedoscope conclude.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here in *The Still Alarm*, the staging of which is excellent. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville as Jack Manley dominates many of the scenes, and a pleasing, frank manner makes his performance a very enjoyable one; Mr. Gerald Kennedy does well-defined and capable work as John Bird; Mr. Edward Hobart is a bright, clever Willie Manley; Mr. Henry C. Gilpin contributes a fine character sketch of the drunkard, Doc Wilbur; Mr. Lewis Gordon does good work as Mr. Fordham; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman gives great help as Joe; the Lyric Comedy Four contribute excellent and popular glees; Miss Beatrice Shirley plays with grip and intensity in all her work as Elinor; Miss Mabel Veriton is a sympathetic and womanly Mrs. Manley; and Miss Lydia Andre plays well and sings very sweetly as Carrie Wilbur.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's production of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is here. Miss Sophie Lingwood achieves a very distinct success as Mrs. Wiggs, her acting being full of feeling and sentiment; Miss Rita Carlyle repeats a performance as Miss Hazy which is extremely clever and effective; Miss Beatrix Bell and Miss Violet Vivian are capital exponents of Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schulz; Miss Ruhamah Catton is satisfactory as Lovey Mary; and Miss R. Beresford helps as Miss Lucy. One of the evening's successes is the work of Mr. Frederick Forrest as Mr. Stubbins; Mr. Ernest Rushton plays with quiet effect as Mrs. Wiggs; Mr. H. G. Wright is a distinct and amusing Hunkerdunkus Jones; Mr. Robin Shiels is a smart, appropriate Sheriff; good work is done by Mr. Walter Hicks as Billy; and other parts are in capable hands.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here is a condensed musical comedy, *The Prince of Monaco*, and in this Mr. Tubby Edlin as P.C. Longfellow, supplies abundant humour; Messrs. Hurman and Arthur are a couple whose comedy work and juggling deserve special praise; Mr. L. W. Harris has a happy style as a comedian; Messrs. Parker and Bracey's "Yaller Coons" sing and dance capably; Mr. Alf Brooks has a good song about skating; Miss Ida Katherina is a very clever "doll" comedienne; the Hillands are funny knockabouts; and the Sisters Lindo sing and dance in good style.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Variety once more holds sway at this theatre, and a good bill is provided by the management. Miss Beatrice Bonnie is a charming comedienne; a novel and amusing turn is given by the Sixteen Mystic Hussars, whose dancing and other gyrations provide a pretty spectacle; the Baby's Park Parade by Miss May Merry and chorus goes with a capital swing; Mr. John Tiller's Eight New Cocktails are a clever troupe of dancers; the Eight Pavilion Serenaders sing some beautiful songs; the Twelve Forget-Me-Nots are clever Juveniles; Stylo is a wonderful hoop manipulator and juggler; the Wulfrunas in their comic speciality entitled *Fun in a Café* prove themselves capable acrobats; and Mr. John Tiller's company in the grand vocal and spectacular ballet entitled *In Japan* are responsible for a capital performance.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Miss Horniman's company has presented an admirable programme, consisting of Mr. G. Bernard Shaw's *Candida*, and *Widowers' Houses*, and Mr. J. Galsworthy's *The Silver Box*, all admirably acted and mounted. Opening on Monday with *Candida*, the chief honours of the play fell to Miss Darrach in the title-rôle, a part in which the actress displayed qualities of sincerity and charm. Mr. B. Iden Payne as the youthful poet, Marchbanks, was perfervid enough to please even the fastidious taste of the author, and an excellent performance of the Rev. James Morrell was given by Mr. Henry Austin. A feature of the representation was the remarkably able character studies by Mr. Edward Landor as Burgess, Mr. Basil Dean as the Curate, and Miss Ada King as the typist, Proserpone Garnett, a notably brilliant piece of work. The play was preceded by a clever comedietta, *Makeshifts*, effectively acted by Miss Muriel Pratt, Miss Louise Holbrook, Mr. Leonard Mudie, and Mr. Charles Bibby. The grim realism of *The Silver Box* was forcibly depicted on Tuesday by Mr. Basil Dean as Jack Borthwick; Mr. Stanley Drewitt as the pompous Liberal M.P.; Mr. Ian Maclaren as Jones, a splendid impersonation; Miss Hilda Bruce Potter as an Unknown Lady; Miss Ada King as Mrs. Jones, a true, pathetic performance; and by all the other members of the large cast, who acted with conspicuous finish. *Mother to Be*, a pretty playlet by Mr. Basil Dean, began the evening's entertainment. *Widowers' Houses* and *The Dear Departed* as a curtain-raiser were played on Wednesday and Friday with the careful attention to detail which marks every performance of these talented actors.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The universally popular *Florodora*, staged here this week by Mr. Charles Constant's company, has evidently blossomed into renewed attractiveness. With such a resourceful comedian as Mr. Johnnie Schofield in the part of Tweedlepunch the audience is kept thoroughly amused; and the singing of Mr. Martin D. Pitts and Miss Daisy Lake as Abercoed and Dolores forms one of many pleasant features in a very enjoyable performance. The Lady Holyrood of Miss Kate Leicester and the Gilfain of Mr. Stanley White are both well sustained impersonations; while Miss Florence Hersee dances herself into favour as a charming Angela. Mr. Johnnie Junior and Mr. Jack Parker give useful aid in the rôles of Captain Donegal and Leandro. The chorus work is good throughout, and the well-known favourite vocal numbers receive, as they deserve, the usual enthusiastic encores. The orchestra is to be commended for its excellent playing, under the direction of Mr. W. Neale.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—The popularity of Little Tich has been manifested by the fact that during his engagement here this week the management has given two performances nightly to crowded houses. Miss Helen Martin displays a cultured and expressive voice in her rendering of several tuneful ballads; Rose and Challoner are highly successful in their clever comedy sketch *The Porter and the Singer*; the Sellinis arouse loud enthusiasm by their graceful and daring cycling and acrobatic performance; and other artists in a varied programme include Ess and Hoey, smart ski and skate dancers; Mr. Henry Zetter, "the loose man in tights"; the Marzellos, burlesque horizontal bar experts; and Mr. Sid Bandon, character comedian. The King's Bioscope shows the latest films.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mme. Ella Russell has been the outstanding attraction this week, with a varied répertoire of operatic and ballad selections. The Kellinos contribute a most enjoyable and interesting risley performance in their spectacular production *On the Road*; and Siems makes a bright and pleasing impression by his clever manipulation of cards and coins. American vaudeville entertainment is presented in characteristic guise by Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard, as well as by Chas. J. Johnson, a coloured comedian and cake-walker; Miss Margaret Parker and company supply a stirring interlude in the sketch *Lucky Jim*; Staig's steeplejack cyclists motor and cycle successfully on a nearly vertical wall; Kerr and Koe show expertness in their step-dancing; Silvo does wonders on the musical glasses and silvochimes; Frank Melvin introduces whimsical parodies in amusing fashion; and pictures of notable football contests are displayed on the Bioscope.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A striking picture this week is entitled Across an Ice Sea, a fine series of films descriptive of scenery in the Italian Alps. Dramatic subjects are 'Twixt Red Man and White, The Cowboy's Ruse, and His Last Burglary, stories of American life; while Poorluck's Honeymoon is a droll tale. Mr. George Milby, an amusing artist, provides an excellent entertainment.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The Power of the Press, a picture full of hairbreadth escapes and stirring incidents with a love-story interviewer, is the outstanding feature in a good programme, which is further strengthened by other admirable subjects, the series called An Equine Hero being especially worthy of mention. Mr. Harry Carlton, character comedian, and the Sisters Brookfield, comediennes and dancers, contribute agreeable turns.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The attraction here this week is provided by Miss Nannie Goldman and company in that rollicking farce *Not Before the Missus*, which, as an experiment, the management are presenting twice nightly. Chief honours are shared by Miss Nannie Goldman, who is altogether excellent as Jane Parker, and Mr. Wm. Holles, who, as Barnaby Bunstone, is responsible for much amusement; Mr. Leonard K. Mansford does well as Augustus Whistler; Mr. Francis James is good as Vandyke Brown; Mr. Fred Cooke is well placed as Henry Dix; Bessie is cleverly taken by Miss Edith Bruce; in the rôle of Matilda Miss Ruth Wallace does good work; while as Constance and Julia respectively Miss Pattie Walton and Miss Helene Dale are both excellent.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical-Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—The Havanas, who occupy the premier position on the bill this week, contribute a comedy acrobatic act full of smart business; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists, are acrobats of exceptional merit; a clever and novel cycle-balancing act is introduced by the Woodwards; Harry Blake is one of the most popular comedians that we have yet seen here; Harry Karr and Walter Kooney are patter and vocal comedians of considerable merit; Sara Rosebury illustrates in happy fashion the happenings at *Our Folk's Party*; and Will and Roze, in an acrobatic comedy-conjuring scena, prove popular.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. John Leopold's company in the farcical absurdity, *New Frivolity* has held the boards all this week. The burlesque is well presented by the Original Leopolds and the four Kellys, whose incidental acrobatic performances are well received. Mr. Watson Hume fills worthily and well the part of Buckwheat; Mr. Jack Leopold makes a successful Daniel Teething; Mr. John Leopold, jun., looks and acts the part of Jules Vermiglio to the life; and Mr. Harry Ugar's Samuel Vermiglio is effective. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as Madame Cobweb, Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat, and Miss Jenny Leopold as Winnie Moore give capital support. *The Stadium* completes the bill.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*A White Man* is presented here by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company. Jim Carson is portrayed in masterly style by Mr. Wilfred Forster; Miss Kathleen Maude gives great satisfaction as the Countess of Kerhill; and Miss Ormonde Wynne acquits herself well as the sympathetic Dowager Lady Kerth. Mr. Eric Hudson is responsible for a clever impersonation of Tab-y-wana; Mr. Frank Mayo is a powerful Cash Hawkins; and Mr. R. A. Brandon's Big Bill is an excellent sketch. Miss Hilda Barita gains the sympathy of the audience as Nat-u-ritch; as Lady Mabel Wynnegate Miss Dorothy Duncan is all that can be desired; and the Earl of Kerhill is well depicted by Mr. Charles Maursell.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A variety company, under the direction of Mr. O. Dayton, is here, the principal item being the Dayton Family, in some remarkable acrobatic feats, given under the title of "Le Rendezvous." A. W. Workman's Scottish Meisters Comedy Quartette are clever singers, and appear to great advantage in their vocal extravaganza, entitled *Ancestral Spirits*; the Three Spanish Armadas (tight-rope performers), E. W. Selmon (eccentric comedian), J. Hulbert (ventriloquist), Dott and Williams (duettists), Dora Campbell (illustrated songs), and Mons. De Lil (illusionist) complete the bill.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local-Manager and Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold.—The bill here this week is topped by the Venetians, who introduce in their act living statuary and singing with dioramic effects. George Prince makes another hit with his quaint mannerisms; Alec Lawson, an accomplished acrobatic dancer, has an act which pleases immensely; Nellie Wigley, comedienne, sings two songs with charm; Montes and Welma introduce comedy and leaping into their "show"; and Tom Drew, comedian, Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, and pictures of the Football Cup Final are other attractive items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting *A Beautiful Fiend* here. Miss Sidney Crowe ably fills the rôle of Wanda Labinoff, and Miss Netta Mitchell is pleasing in the part of Nadine Strogoff.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—The variety turns on the bill at this house are the Bros. Curran, in a comedy boxing act; Reed and Stevens, in the comedy sketch *Married or Photographed*; and the Northcotes, vocal duettists. The chief attraction in the way of films is the Football Cup Final.

RAVENSWORTH HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Allan and McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. S. Newton.—The principal items at this hall this week are The Cowboy's Escape and The Fire at Sea. Mr. B-Is, ventriloquist, supplies the "turn."

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—In Old California and The President's Special are the "star" items here. Craig, Rose, and Craig, gymnasts, and Ray, Miles, and Ray, comedy jugglers, provide pleasing items.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—A first-rate audience extended a hearty welcome to Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Opera Co. on Monday, when they opened with an excellent performance of *Il Trovatore*. Signora Protti as Leonora, Signor Barbato as Manrico, Signora Gorreta as Azucena, and Signor Modesti as the Count di Luna formed an exceptionally good quartette of principals, and all the familiar numbers were imperatively encored. Signor Wehlis conducted. *Rigoletto*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Faust*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci* and *Carmen* complete the week's programme.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mrs. Brown-Potter appears here this week at the head of Messrs. Baring Brothers' company in *Madame X*. The distinguished actress gives a most telling portrayal of the leading rôle. Admirable support is given by Mr. Leonard Pagden in the part of the wronged husband, and as the son, Raymond, Mr. Douglas Alington makes a pleasing impression, another distinctly pleasant character being the Noel of Mr. Frank Bradley. The scheming lawyer Perissard is sketched by Mr. Thomas Sydney with facile art; the kindred part Merivel having an able representative in Mr. H. Lionel Brocknor. The light and airy Loroque of Mr. Charles B. Bedells tickles the audience; Mr. W. Thorne gives proper weight to the part of the Judge; and good work is also done by Mr. Cyril Ashford as Dr. Chisnell and Mr. R. Entwistle as Victor. Miss Sara de Groot is particularly smart as Mme. Varenne; and Helene is well played by Miss Freda Ashford.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scotttish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The success of Mr. John Masefield's powerful play *The Tragedy of Nan* has been so pronounced here that the run has been extended into this week, in place of a revival of another play. Miss Irene Rooke's performance as Nan has been universally commended. The after-piece, Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Twelve Pound Look*, forms a pleasing contrast to the pathos of *Nan*, and Mr. M. R. Morand, Miss Madge McIntosh, and Miss Lola Duncan are excellent in the leading parts. On Thursday Mr. John Galsworthy's grim play *Justice* was revived for three nights, with practically the same cast as on its original production last month.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Sealy.—The stock company here this week presents *Harbour Lights*,

MAKING THE BEST OF MATTERS.

THE NATURAL AND THE ARTIFICIAL.

It may seem strange to assert it, but it is nevertheless true, that if people took as much care of their teeth as they do of other parts of their system they would rarely have to resort to artificial substitutes. Teeth would last sound to extreme old age. Now that we have Odol, however—science's supreme achievement in dentifrices—available for keeping the mouth and teeth healthy and sound, these matters will improve in time, for Odol is the sure preventive of dental decay.

But we have now to deal with things as they are, and it has to be admitted that, chiefly from lack of proper attention, a great many people are compelled to have their dental defects made good by artificial teeth. And this is right and natural. It is a duty. Apart from considerations of appearance, health requires the substitution.

But it should

with Mr. G. Roberts as the hero, David Kingsley. Miss Alice Defoe is pleasing as the heroine, Dora Vane; Miss Marie Rignold is a pathetic Lina Nelson; Mr. C. Danvers as Tom Dossiter infuses plentiful humour into the part; Mr. Fred Terriss and Mr. C. Renton ably depict two scheming villains, Nicholas and Frank Morland; and honest old Captain Nelson has a fine representative in Mr. W. G. Robb. Mr. B. Johnstone makes a good Captain Hardy; and Mr. R. B. Drysdale a capable Mark Heistone. Mrs. Heistone is satisfactorily represented by Miss Maude Meliss.

Princess's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The play here this week is the ever-popular *East Lynne*. Miss Ada Oakley, who takes Lady Isobel, plays with telling effect.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—A hearty reception was accorded *For Honour and Revenge*, billed here for Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Mr. Montague Beaudyn's principal company was responsible for the production. In the leading part of Sir Gilbert Redville Mr. G. M. Montanini's dramatic power was well sustained, and he received valuable support from Mr. Harry Douglas as Arthur Redville. An interesting performance was that of Mr. Courtney Robinson as James Galston; Mr. Charles Russell submits a fine, manly portrayal of Harry Travers.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—This is the closing week of the season at the Lyceum, where Mr. Arthur Lee Mitchell's company presents the powerful drama *In the Shadow of Night*. Clifford York, the villain, is well played by Mr. Paul Beckett, ably supported by Mr. William Hayward as Jake, the poacher. Mr. Leonard Williams as Gordon Allington and Miss Irene Arondel as Violet Kingston make a charming hero and heroine. The humorous element is well looked after by Mr. Ern Carlton as Tom Nainby and by Miss Kitty Roze as Mollie Woodstock. Miss Kitty Johnstone makes a cheery beggar boy and boy scout

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Marie George is a comedienne of a specially attractive type, and her various songs were received with enthusiasm. Hetty King is always a welcome turn here, and she comes provided with a number of very enjoyable new songs this visit, all of which go well. The Blank Family are a quartette of acrobats of special merit, their feats being new and difficult, yet wonderfully neat; the Haytors contribute a lively interlude, entitled *The Electrician*, which causes much amusement; Fatmah Diard sings several operatic ballads in good style; Rauschle's impersonations of great men, past and present, are marvellously lifelike; that clever new musical turn, the Tune Chewers, in their original speciality *The Fourth Man*, which was produced at this theatre a couple of weeks ago, are now in the regular bill, and prove a welcome addition; George Newburn, in his impersonation of music-hall celebrities, is as good as ever; and Baby Boden, a smart little dancer, and Harry Herbert, eccentric comedian, complete a first-rate all-round company.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Margaret Cooper is the star here, and her daintily-rendered songs at the piano prove entirely to the taste of large audiences. The Seven Bramusas give a most enjoyable musical turn under the name of *Music Afloat*, and their efforts are heartily applauded; the Tenka troupe of Japanese include in their turn some most astounding and mystifying feats; Alexander Prince is a concertinist of very special ability, and his selections are much enjoyed; the Four Celestas are a comedy quartette who sing well and have a lot of original ideas; the Denaro Brothers, two clever young acrobats, give a neat display of head and hand balancing; Dolly Harmer's songs take well; and J. McCormack is a Scotch comedian of a new and novel description. The Adrias, in some wonderful feats of balancing, complete.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The appearance of that renowned ex-champion boxer John L. Sullivan has been the means of attracting quite a record gathering at the Palace all the week Paul Barnes's drolleries are enjoyable; in a most amusing sketch Tom and Eileen Melbourne prove quite a draw; Stanley and Vandyke are well received in a comedy act *A Broken Promise;* Weldz and Wynne get through a deal of good business in their comedy juggling and dancing act; another good dancer is Fred Land; Lambert and Butler are a good double turn; and Retta Halket, comedian and dancer, concludes the programme with the exception of the Palacescope, which at all times proves interesting.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Tom Hearn, always a strong favourite here, repeats his old success; George Ali's wonderful canine performance as Buster Brown's dog evokes much laughter in his sketch *Papa's Day Off;* the Abdullah Arabs display great agility in their pyramid building feats; Harvey's American Boys and Girls sing several songs in fine style; the Kratons' hoop-rolling is much above the average, as also are the singing and patter of Conan and Doyle. King and Queenie, in *The Butler and the Cook*, and Frank H. Fox, light comedian, round off a pleasing programme.

Panopticon.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. William Sinclair.—Saucer and Chaucer cause unbounded merriment with their amusing patter; and the Camerons' singing and dancing are highly appreciated. The Sisters Lylle attract more than ordinary attention; Florence Macormack is an able deputy for Clive and Vera; the Brothers Lomond's cross-talk elicits much applause; and Sam Osborne contributes Scotch songs in fine style.

Hengler's.—Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The Bioscope provides the greater part of the entertainment here. The variety programme is well sustained by Miss Edna Cragge, illustrated vocalist; Mabel Cameron, in a song-scena "The Boy Scout"; and the Metherells, comedy artists.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Neville, is presenting a trio of well-known plays. *The Sorrows of Satan* was played on Monday, Lucio Rimanez being cleverly enacted by Mr. Edward Neville; Mr. Jack McGaig was excellent as Geoffrey Tempest; and the Earl of Elton was suitably rendered by Mr. J. Le Fleming. Lady Sybil Elton was in the capable hands of Miss Rosie Neville; and Diana Chesney had a good representative in Miss Loie Esmond. Lord Lynton was creditably played by Mr. Frank Wheatley; and Miss Dorothy Dewhurst was a pleasing exponent of Mavis Clare. Other artists in the cast were Messrs. Percy Foreman, Hemnio Sisto, B. Anderson, Miss Cecil Bryne, and Miss May Morne. For the rest of the week *Nana* and *Sapho* are billed.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An attractive programme is headed by Mons. Slippere, blind entertainer and musician, whose clever performance wins applause; Will Candlish, comedian, keeps his audience in roars of laughter; the Three Sisters Volka provide an exceedingly clever and novel turn; and Miss Maude, serio and dancer, is equally successful. A fine exhibition of new animated pictures by the Monarchscope is greatly appreciated.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The principal item here is Flo Stanley's company in *The Prince of the Dandies*. Mr. Arthur Watson as Sprouts is decidedly funny; the Empire Girls introduce picturesque dancing; George Shurley, comedian, and the Sisters Robertson, comediennes, provide fun and harmony; Kitt Kenn, coloured comedian, sings and patters well; Lawson and Odell are loudly applauded; and Rosa Neilson in her international dances is well received. Amber Wyville and George Edwin Clive, in their dramatic episode, *Woman, the Vampire*, is also starred.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Morton Powell is presenting a first-class company in *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. Miss Maud M. Powell makes a charming heroine, Ruby Wright; Miss Leslie Austen is a manly Robert Ray; Miss Anna Corri ably depicts the villainy of Madame de Vera; Miss Maggie Stewart is a vivacious Bessie Bell; Miss Eva Norman plays well as Ned; Mr. George Child is excellent as Lucas List; and Mr. Edward Swinton is amusing as Billy Broad.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*The Merry Widow* has returned with its attractions undiminished, the audiences being large and appreciative. Miss Phyllys Le Grand in the title-rôle is particularly successful, her charming acting and dancing winning immense favour; Mr. Fred Leslie as the Prince gives an artistic portrayal, which is complete in every way; Mr. Ripley Evans is heard to much advantage in the songs allotted to him as Vicomte de Jolidon; as Natalie Miss Ada Thomas sings exceedingly well, and her acting is marked by grace and refinement; Mr. Edward D'Arcy simply revels in the part of Baron Popoff, and keeps the house in roars; Mr. Fred Fowler is another source of merriment as Nisch; Mr. William Allison as the Marquis de Cascada is good; and Miss Kate May as Frou-Frou excels in her dancing. The production is admirably staged, the dresses elaborate, the chorus strong and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Harry Burton.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The Four Vagabonds head the bill here with a clever vocal and comedy turn; Victor Newman remains another week, and proves a great draw; the Gordonettes submit some particularly smart gymnastic work; P. A. Hope, baritone, renders his numbers in artistic style; and others entertaining are Lille Le Main, who introduces her "living marionettes"; Elmo and Reigo, comedy acrobats; and Gertie Martini, descriptive vocalist.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—Crowded houses are the rule. The following films have been exhibited: The Cowboy and the Squaw, The Power of the Press, The Half-Breed, An Original Revenge, The Light that Failed, and The Livingston Case.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint-Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward: Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial electric pictures and varieties still continue to attract good audiences here. Hearty applause greets the popular manager, Mr. Deighton, in his ventriloquial speciality; and Mlle. Rossini's performing dogs provide a capital turn.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Walls of Jericho* is here. The part of Jack Frobisher is admirably played by Mr. E. Edwards; Mr. Rutland Barrington's Marquis of Steventon is a fine conception: Miss Gwendoline Hey gives a finished rendering of Lady Alethea; Mr. R. Barry is successful as Hankey Bannister; Miss May Havellot plays well as Mary; the minor parts are all admirably filled.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Miss Clarice Mayne is a talented artist, with an enchanting personality, and she is ably assisted by the gentleman at the piano, who is a quiet but genuine humorist; Farr and Farland are excellent comedians; Walter Aubrey is a clever and stylish dancer; the Brothers Victor are smart equilibrists of prodigious strength; Alice Craven, the Lancashire comedienne, is a success; Lennard and Vereker, pictorial song artists, are a popular turn; Bert Maddison, the happy Welshman, and the Palace pictures complete.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Great Raymond opened on Monday night to a house packed from floor to ceiling, and proved his art as conjurer and illusionist; the Vampire Dance presented by Les Grossi is another important turn; the Bros. Durant are clever laughter-makers; Luella Cross, assisted by Master Wilbur, contributes a successful vocal turn; the Victors are a troupe of four clever dancers; Little Sunbeam, comedienne, Morris and Moore, comedians and dancers, and A. G. Spry and Miss M. Ogilvie are also in the bill.

HAMILTON, N.B.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Howard and Harris, in their comedy act, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are delightfully droll; Mabel Thorne sings in a fresh and breezy manner, which takes the fancy of her audience; Dorma Morgan is a refined and dainty comedienne; the Four Figaros, in a vocal and dancing medley, entitled *Ten Minutes on the Continent*, are popular; Zenary Brothers, in their acrobatic act, *A Night at the Club*, are good; and G. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, the Sisters Melba, vocalists, Dalvene and Wallace, comedians, and the Bioscope conclude an excellent programme.

HANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*Raffles*, as played by Mr. Leonard Boyne's company, is a powerful magnet. Mr. Reginald Dance, in the title-rôle, is most effective; Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is charming in manner and elocution as Lady Ethel; Mr. Harold West as Harry Manders displays histrionic ability; Miss Kathleen Grey as the maid, Marie, is very telling; Mr. Edward Irwin as Curtis Bedford is successful; Mr. Oswald Griffiths as the Earl is well suited; and Crowley is a capital piece of acting by Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald. Crawshay (the burglar) is well played by Mr. Dalziel Heron; Miss Agnes Knights is a satisfactory Lady Melrose; Miss Frances Titheradge as Gwendoline is good; and Miss May Brooke plays Mrs. Vidal skilfully.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A fine bill here is headed by the Brothers Griffiths, who cause great laughter. Ernie Mayne also is a source of much hilarity; Sergeant Brennan is undoubtedly the world's champion diabolist; the Bros. Obo, laughing comedians, are a hit; the Spanish Juanitos are six smart acrobats; and the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; Fred and Lulu Camplin, in an orginal act; and *The Leaves of Memory*, played by Miss Beaumont Collins and company, are other attractions.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—Mr. Russell Rosse's company is here in répertoire. On Monday *A Pair of Spectacles* was in the bill, with Mr. Arthur Hare as Benjamin Goldfinch. Mr. Maurice Denham as Gregory displayed a fine Scotch accent; Mr. West was good as Dick; and Miss Ida Phillips as Mrs. Goldfinch was in every way suitable. Mr. Guy Vivian played Percy effectively. *Our Boys* and *Caste* are also in the bill.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshere.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are here in a triple bill. *Number Nine*, a condensed version of *The Lady or Ostend, The Rising of the Moon*, and *Love in a Railway Train*. Mr. Geo. Till is the vocalist, and proves himself a fine baritone.

St. James's Hall.—New Century Animated Picture Co., Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—The House of Cards is the film at the top of the bill here, and is a powerful story of the backwoods of America. The Pagodas of Rangoon is an interesting travel picture. Several new comic films go to make up an attractive bill. Miss Susie Belmore, a great favourite here, has been re-engaged for a second week.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures continue to attract packed houses twice nightly. The Girl and the Judge, Pauli, The Course of True Love, and the Skipper's Yarn are all excellent dramatic subjects clearly shown and well acted, whilst abundance of merriment is caused by That Second-hand Stove and The Light that Failed.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. The piece is produced by the author, Mr. Walter Howard, and the mounting is excellent. Prince Hildred is played in a robust manner by Mr. Alfred Goddard; the hunchback brother, Michael, is naturally interpreted by Mr. Victor Rae; Mr. Ernest Cox gives a finished piece of acting as Prince Olaf; and Mr. Henry Nelson makes a typical Bishop of Illyria. Miss Stella Campbell as Monica Princess of Illyria acts with a great deal of brightness and cleverness. The character of the beggar maid, Camiola, taken by Miss Elmie Kemp, is a perfectly admirable sketch. Miss Mona Hall is a charming Viola.

Hippodrome.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. Fred Ewing; Manager, Mr. W. L. Murray.—The Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., are presenting an attractive and varied programme. The films include Fleming Fishing, Duty and Conscience, and Foolshead Pays a Visit. A well-acted comedy scena is introduced by Violet Shelley and company, entitled *The Ideal Woman*. Bright and tuneful songs are sung by Miss Daisy Silcott; Mr. Harry Maynard renders his selections with great expression; Les Zelovas' acrobatic evolutions are graceful and expert; Bliss and Bliss are comedians of considerable versatility; Mr. T. C. Callagham, character comedian, imports genuine humour into his songs; St. George Sylvester is remarkably clever as a society illusionist and Court wizard; his illusion novelties are gracefully supported by Miss Vera de Courtney.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and company are paying a return visit in Shakespearean plays, including *The Merchant of Venice, Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, Merry Wives of Windsor, Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Othello*, together with Sheridan's *School for Scandal*. Quite superior acting is accomplished by the large company of artists, who personify their characters with marvellous fidelity. Mr. Frank Cellier as Shylock was admirable; Mr. Arthur Seaton infused much humour into the part of Launcelot Gobbo; Antonio was well portrayed by Mr. H. P. Owen; Mr. J. H. Irvine was successful as Bassanio, and Gratiano found a natural interpreter in Mr. Vernon Crabtree. Mr. Murray Kinnell faithfully represented Lorenzo; Miss Florence Glossop-Harris quite realised the character of Portia, and gave a performance of conspicuous ability. Miss Mary Goulden was an excellent Nerissa.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall. — Mr. Carr Loates's company is being well received in *At the World's Mercy*. In the combined parts of Skittles, the stowaway, and Kitty Knott, a music-hall star, Miss Cissie Milford meets with great success; Mr. Fred Mintz (Captain Manley), Mr. Carr Loates (a Solicitor), Mr. Fred W. Graham (Morris Goldstein), Mr. Will H. Irving (Charley Smart), Mr. Fred Overton, and Mr. Walter Leonard give excellent portrayals of their respective parts. Others who contribute to an enjoyable performance include Miss Maggie Hobart, Miss Minnie Dallow, Miss Lavender Jackaway, and Miss Alice Hunter.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—In an enjoyable programme presented this week interesting items are His Last Deal, An Angry Sea, and The Little Heroine. Dave Summerhill, Scotch comedian, is meeting with success.

HOYLAND.—Hippodrome.—Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—The attraction here this week is *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Charles Carte in the rôle of Jerry the tramp is excellent, and he is well supported.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—The newly-formed Amateur Dramatic Society have boldly taken the theatre for a week for their production of Sir A. Pinero's farce *The Schoolmistress*. The piece is well staged, and its many humorous situations are carried through with great spirit by the enthusiastic players.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Music is a strong feature in this week's bill, which includes Reano and his band. Jan Rudenyi's genius as a violinist is displayed in a little episode in which he is assisted by Miss Hilda Stewart and Drew Mackintosh. Shawlene is a fine whistler, and Harrison Bros. (comedians), Miss Ruby Bijou (dancer), S. Bedford and company in a sketch, Zaleski (contortionist), and Max Waldon in female impersonations also appear. The pictures complete.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The strong programme is headed by that popular comedian George Formby on a return visit. Also here are the Cairo Trio of versatile and accomplished musicians; Harry Atkinson, mimic; Miss Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer; Burt Shepard, in his entertainment at the piano; Ross and Grayson, a quaint and original comedy pair; and the Olympian Team of trick cyclists. The Palace pictures complete the list.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Morton.—The Follies made their first appearance in Hull, and the reception accorded them has been fully commensurate with their deserts. Mr. Pelissier is one of the best, and won his place at once in the hearts of local audiences. Miss Gwennie Mars gives a clever skit upon the work of Miss Margaret Cooper. The potted plays are mostly new to the city, with the exception of *The King of Cadonia*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Girl's Temptation*, by Mrs. Morton Powell, finds full favour with the patrons of this house. Miss Gertrude Gilbert plays the part of Kate Stirling with considerable skill. Mr. Frank Fenn is at home in the rôle of Guy Warren, and Mr. Clifton Earle makes a most acceptable Mark Klaw. The comic relief finds an admirable exponent in Mr. Freddie Bentley as Sammy Sniffles.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Trefelyn, David, and Irene Marriott are loudly applauded for their operatic selections; W. S. Hartford and company, in the naval sketch *Trafalgar Day*, are exceptionally good; Vere and Green are comedy acrobats of merit; and Harding and Preston are smart in song, patter, and dance. Thomas Brooklyn and Alys Hardy and company are seen in *Algy's Advertisement*. Zeta Russell, a clever comedienne and dancer, and Digby Wordsley, comedian, are also in the programme.

IPSWICH. — Lyceum Theatre.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company occupied the theatre for the first three nights of this week with *Don*. The part of Mrs. Bonington in the hands of Miss Hutchison was a very effective piece of acting, the emotional phases being finely interpreted; Miss Viola Garland's impersonation of Ann Sinclair was also excellent; Mrs. Sinclair was in the hands of Miss Ethel Royale: Elizabeth Thompsett was played by Miss Violet Harley; and Miss Dorothy Gordon was Fanny. Mr. Gordon Bailey so clever'y represented the quixotic Stephen Bonington as to make him entirely convincing; and as Albert Thompsett Mr. Charles Harley was a complete success. Mr. Arthur Willoughby as Canon Bonington was excellent; as also was Mr. Charles Tyrel as the fiery General Sinclair.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Eight Lancashire Lads are the leading line in this week's bill, and their excellent singing and clever dancing has made them very popular; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are smart and original trick cyclists; Hampton and Bauman are popular singers and versatile trick musicians; Harry Leybourne is an excellent mimic and comedian; Lily Burnand has a variety of smart songs; and Tod Lowin has some catchy numbers. Vere and Nelldon are a good novelty couple; and Harry Cooke, a quaint comedian. The Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—A change is provided here this week, a fine variety company giving two performances nightly. Harwood's Juveniles, in a pretty scena entitled *Christmas Eve*, are well received; Jimmy Thomas is an excellent comedian; Marlo a wonderful juggler; Zelda a most accomplished musician; Bert Byrne an up-to-date comedian; the Girl Pierrots are highly popular; Wal Owen appears in his humorous absurdity *Funniosities;* and Les Rallis give a clever sketch entitled *The Artist and the Monkey*, which causes no end of amusement.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—An excellent variety programme has been presented this week by Hugo and Smith, eccentric comedians, in their horizontal bar act; Violet Love, comedienne; Walter Lintone, musical specialist; Staffo, juggling butcher boy; Billy Hubbard, comedian; Cissie Sylvester, comedienne; Gore and Gore, dancers; and Bertini, the novelty instrumentalist.

KIRKCALDY.—Corn Exchange Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. W. Walker; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A pictorial and variety combination is submitted here. The pictorial part of the programme contains those high-class films The Smuggler King, The Convict's Revenge, The House of Svena Dring, I Love a Lassie, and An Adventure of Nick Carter. Variety has an able representative in George Hirste, comedian.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Miss Grace Warner, supported by Mr. Geo. Gordon and company, is occupying the boards here with *The Scarlet Clue, East Lynne*, and *The Wages of Sin*. The first-named piece was presented on Monday to a good house. In the rôle of Scarlet Sal Miss Grace Warner was most successful; Mr. George Gordon appeared to advantage as Michael Stanton; Mr. F. Esmonde did well as the twin brothers Jack and Harry Edmond; Mr. Louis Nanton gained approval for the comedy part of Billy the Rotter; and a word of praise is also due to little Rita Corne, who was quite a success as little Polly.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—An attraction of unusual interest is provided here this week, Leigh Lovel and Octavia Kenmore's company appearing in a series of Ibsenite plays. On Monday evening *Hedda Gabler* was performed to an appreciative audience. Miss Octavia Kenmore gave a careful study of Hedda; Mr. Lovel played Ejlert Lovborg with considerable distinction; Mr. Arthur Rodney proved himself a clever Judge Brack; and Mr. Claud W. Sykes a commendable George Tesman. Miss Daisy Race as the jealous Miss Elvested was worthy of much praise. Other pieces being performed during the week are *A Doll's House* and *When We Dead Awaken*.

The Electric Theatre.—Closed on Saturday last, the term of Messrs. Gillsmith's Ltd., lesseeship coming to a close.—On Friday evening Mr. Harry Plant, who has been a very popular resident-manager there, was accorded a complimentary benefit, when there was a crowded house. The programme, which included a magnificent series of pictures, and turns by the resident artists, Mr. Harry Lewis (baritone) and Mr. Newman Griffin (humorist), was augmented by special artists. Mr. Deighton Boyles displayed a well-cultured bass voice of exceedingly fine quality; whilst the Orpheus Quartette proved themselves to be a combination of unusual ability. During the evening Mr. Plant was presented with a handsome silver-mounted inkstand from the staff.

LEEDS. — Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director and Lessee, Mr. Jas. Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Chorus Lady* is paying a welcome visit here. Miss Annie Hughes sustains the leading character capitally; Mr. William Mollison submits a fine portrayal of Dan; Dick Crawford is well played by Mr. Henry Deas; and Mr. Fred A. Marston ably plays Patrick O'Brien. Nora O'Brien has a delightfully able exponent in Miss Elsie Vron-Neville, and Miss Mabel Durrant as a show girl and Miss Agnese Durrant as a wardrobe woman act amusingly.

Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—The Moody-Manners Opera Co. is paying a successful visit. The répertoire consists of such favourites as *Faust, La Tosca, Carmen, Maritana*, &c. On Tuesday a performance of *Samson and Delilah* was given, the latter character being taken by Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, whose splendid range of voice and fine acting made her the heroine of the evening. Mr. Joseph O'Mara gave an impressive and picturesque performance as Samson, and Mr. William Dever gave a good account of himself as the High Priest. The chorus was quite up to the usual pitch of excellence, and the orchestra was under the excellent conductorship of Herr Richard Eckhold.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Jewels appear in a weird spectacular production entitled *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*, in which Mr. James A. Jewel gives a good impersonation of a miser and Mr. Herbert S. Jewel that of an old sailor. The scenic effects are good. G. W. Hunter is still a big favourite both in song and story; Maidie Scott, a lady who has much talent, is unanimously encored; a sensational performance of "The Globe of Life" is smartly given by "Wizard" and Irene Stone; Phil Percival makes a big hit in a comedian piano act; the Sisters St. Julian are smart duettists and dancers; and the Glenroy Troupe, Adey Spencer, and Kisbey complete a good programme.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Alan Holt and company appear here in a sensational dramatic episode, *A Society Woman;* Ernest Rees creates a good impression as a patter vocalist; Daisy Wood possesses much talent, and has some popular songs. Other favourites include the Alberto Troupe, the Waldrons, the Markies, Phœbe Mercer and company, Albert St. Clair, and Garti and Laws.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—James Hare and company top the bill here in a clever sketch, *Wrong 'Uns*. Mlle. Marjutti gives a pretty acrobatic act, entitled *From Demon to Fairyland;* Victor and Lewis create much laughter, and intersperse their performance with some excellent singing; Len Teel has some good comic songs; and Clarke and Mustel, the Two Kays, and Hardie Palm also are favourites.

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Arthur Lennard, with his descriptive songs, is greatly appreciated. Old "Royal" pantomime favourites are Will Lindsay, who makes a big hit, and J. W. Hughes, whose fine voice is much admired. Josie Delaine is an attractive singer and pretty dancer; the Three Westbrooks give a clever dancing act; the Bros. Haps, eccentric acrobats, appear in the place of Dort and Leonard, who had an accident at rehearsal; Bros. St. Clair are clever bicyclists; and Athlone and Sinclair do a good speciality act.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—*Greed of Gold* made a strong appeal to audiences the first four nights of the week. Mr. B. M. Fox did well in the character of the dumb boy; Miss Mabel Phillips scored a success by her clever emotional acting as Dora Hood; Mr. Scott Leighton as Harry Hood portrayed a realistic type of adventurer; Mr. Herbert Leonards was lively and entertaining as Cou; other characters were well represented.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Mr. John E. Watson's company provides this week's attraction with *The New Boy* and the comedy *A Country Mouse*. In the former play Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Archibald Rennick made an excellent impression, being well seconded by Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone as Dr. Candy, Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood as Felix Roach, Mr. H. F. Wildy as Theodore de Brizac, Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs. Rennick, and Miss Evelyn Ormonde as Nancy Roach. Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, who is assisted by Miss Vera Wallace, appears in front of the play with selections from his répertoire, including *An Afternoon Call*, a capital little sketch.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmer Mackey's company is here in *Rollicking Rory*, in which the principal part is admirably sustained by Mr. Mackey, with Mrs. Mackey also scoring a well-deserved success as Mrs. Ashleigh and Rosaleen. Miss Kathleen Emmett both sings and acts capitally as Queen of the Fairies. Mr. Ernest Leonard as Desmond Fitzgerald, Mr. Edward Warden as Stephen D'Arcy, Mr. Guy P. Ellis as General Ashleigh, and Miss Connie Meadows as Rory's better half are also responsible for portrayals which call for special eulogium.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Mme. Albani is here, and encore after encore is demanded. The Empire Comedy Four in mirth and harmony score a well-deserved success; the Kremo Family of acrobats are marvels in their Risley performance; France and Stewart are excellent in their amusing sketch *The Little Puritan;* Dan Fraser is a capital Scotch comedian; Dot Hardy an entertaining comedienne and dancer; and Jan Zakovsky plays selections on the violin in good style. The Bioscope depicts the English Cup Tie.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The bill here is headed by the Comedy Meisters, comedians and vocalists; Thiessen's acrobatic and balancing dogs are put through a performance that is wonderfully artistic and clever; the Newmans are particularly smart in their sensational cycle and unicycle act; Howard Ward, the funny eccentric comedian, and Louie Davis, a dainty soubrette and expert dancer, are very good in their musical comedy duologue *Wanted, a Typist*; Wat Tyler, character vocalist, maintains his popularity; and Alice Gill, ballad and Tyrolean vocalist, George Goldburn, funny character comedian, and Connie Ruby, vocal comedienne, are also entertaining. The Bioscope again has some fine films.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—A full list of films here this week include such sterling ones as Before the Mast, The Clerk's Downfall, and Foolshead as Hero. In addition to the pictures, the Castles, vocalists, patterers, and comedy sketch artists, are making a successful appearance with an entertaining turn.

Empress Picture Palace.—Directors, Messrs. P. W. Willard and F. W. Freeman; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—This new picture house is now completed. The films shown are well up to date, and the series this week include Roosevelt's Tour, The English Cup Final, Through Africa, A Clown's Crime, Forbidden Fruit, Not What He Expected, The Capture of a Vagrant, Scenes on the Famous Axenstrausse, and Am I Mad?

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby.—Mr. Charles Harrington is on a welcome return visit with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm acts with earnestness as Uncle Tom; Mr. Chas. Harrington displays ability as St. Clair; the villainy of Legree receives the fullest illustration from Mr. Tom Bowron, ably assisted in a mirthful manner by Mr. Reginald Kloof as Marks; Mr. David Blair is a creditable George Harris; Phineas Fletcher has a capable exponent in Mr. A. Hayes; Miss Annie Watson makes a vivacious Topsy; Miss Gem Lloyd a clever Eva; Miss Hero Hathaway capably fills the rôle of Eliza Harris; and Miss Hetty Johnson as Cassy and Miss Florence Tyler as Emmeline are also pleasing impersonations.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Woolstencroft.—Mr. John Warren and company head an excellent bill with his well-known dramatic illusions and the Magic Carpet." The Milsted-Bell Trio are deserving of praise for the excellent sketch provided; a clever and interesting turn is supplied by Seely, West, and Rhodesia; Rozel exhibits great nerve and skill with his sensational act in mid-air; Allsopp and Beckwith, comedy artists, are clever and amusing; Niagara and Falls in an eccentric acrobatic act prove highly successful; Rose St. Eno, comedienne is a good singer of chorus songs; and the Bioscope completes.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The possibilities of tragedy and comedy are boldly exploited in Messrs. O. Silverstone and Hugh Montgomery's Russian drama *The Nihilist*, interpreted with much energy and success by a competent company. Mr. George Mitchell wins popularity by his strenuous acting as the village blacksmith, Ivan Nowasky; Miss Edna Clare gives due effect to the emotional rôle of Alexina Orloff, whose father, Karl Orloff, is strongly portrayed by Mr. Cowell Clark; Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey is powerful in the part of Father Gourko; the imperious and beneficient Princess Olga is made attractive by Miss Mary Dawson; little Alexina captivates the audience in the person of little Minnie Halstan; villainy, presented in full measure by the Prince Alexander of Mr. O. Silverstone and the Petoff of Mr. C. Newton Buckland, is duly execrated; and the comic element is developed very acceptably by Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart and Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina Zindoff

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur

Sevening), Mrs. Farquhar (Miss May Marton), and the Earl (Mr. Myles Clifton). The mounting, dresses, and chorus are admirable.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Another play new to this city—Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*—is being given here by a talented company, under the control of Messrs. Platt and Towers. The work is richly enjoyed, and all the artists receive cordial thanks for their efforts. In the rôle of Mrs. Clandon Miss Edith Hunter displays strong dramatic powers; Miss Winifred Beech is especially fine as Gloria; the other Clandons (Dolly and Philip) are presented in light-hearted fashion by Miss Ida Southern and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson; Mr. Claude Haviland's waiter proves one of the hits of the production; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Crampton, Mr. Bellenden Clarke as Bohun; and Mr. Graham Colmer as Valentine are all excellent.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Alone in London* is presented by Mr. Charles Gibbon's company. Miss Nellie Clyde soon earns the sympathies of her audience with her neat portrayal of Nan; Mr. Gerald Jordan plays strongly as Dick Redcliffe; little Hetty Hornsby makes a delightful child Paul; as the heroic John Biddlecombe Mr. Russell Norrie is entirely acceptable; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson infuses a deal of humour into Old Jenkinson, thief and philosopher; and Mr. Frank Caffrey (Charlie Johnson), Miss Carrie Young (Liz Jenkinson), and Miss Molly Monaghan (Mrs. Maloney) provide smart comedy.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—*Her Marriage Vow* is being staged here by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' company. Miss Violet Lytton is prominent as Kate Walters, which character she handles in able manner; Mr. Edward Avinal makes a sufficiently villainous Gilbert Carlton; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is excellent as Ned Benton; Mr. Harry Momber puts in good work with his Daffy Dan; Mr. Richard Nugent provokes much laughter as Larry Leary; and praise is also due to Miss Nellie Shirley (Hestor Norton) and Miss Nancy Lawrence (Maggie Clare).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is delighting good audiences with *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, the farce *Chalk and Cheese* being a front piece. Endless laughter is caused by Mr. George Mudie as the submissive Ponderbury; Miss Florence Wix plays Stella in admirable style; and Mrs. Ponderbury is presented most naturally by Miss Celia Gordon. The Peter of Mr. Percy Bell adds greatly to the fun; Miss Florence Wellesley earns much favour for her Ethel; and valuable support comes from Messrs. Stewart Dawson (Thorpe), Gilbert Clarke (Hyacinth), George Child (Captain Rumford), and Miss R. Silver (the Mayoress).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Big business is being done here with Karno's production, *Wontdetainia*. The stage spectacle is particularly well arranged, and the big ship a clever piece of mechanism. The audience accorded the show a most hearty reception, laughing uproariously at the antics of Mr. Shaun Glenville (Patsy O'Flynn), Mr. Dean Tribune (Percy Dart), Mr. Chas. M. East Mr. Fellows Bassett, Miss Elsie Skillings, and Miss Kitty Benyon. An amusing couple are Barrett and Knowles, "the green lizard and his friend"; Tom Stuart submits some clever dramatic and burlesque impressions; Nelson Jackson, at the piano, pleases; the Bensons have a very acceptable musical comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*; J. P. Carroll, soldier tambourinist, is loudly applauded; Edward Crosland's melody-makers afford considerable enjoyment with their musical act *The Burglar's Dream*; and Katie Butler earns favour for her songs.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold.—Austin Rudd heads the bill, and amuses everyone with his songs and mannerisms. Harry Taft is another comedian whose work is particularly funny; Frank Weaver shows ability as a sand dancer; *My Lady Betty*, a costume playlet, is presented in capital style by Mr. Frank Elliston and company; the Sisters Cora bring their latest pantomime successes; and also in the list are Will Nosam, coon vocalist, and Ethel Haley, vocalist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr Walter Hassan.—Delighted audiences are witnessing R. A. Roberts in his new playlet *Cruel Coppinger*, which is put on in first-rate style. At the close Mr. Roberts had a rousing reception for his excellent work in depicting seven characters. Simms and Simms, a couple of highly-talented musicians, are old favourites; *The Village of Shift 'Em* is a new act by the Three Prestons which arouses great laughter; Fred Conquest and company have in *Something for Nothing* a rattling absurdity; Tom Gott has some rich Yorkshire songs and stories; Iris Banfield sings and dances well; and acceptable contributions likewise come from James Basnett, vocalist; Curwen and Belle, burlesque artists; Harris Coonie, coloured comedian and dancer; and Addie Lennard, comedienne and speciality dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank O'Toole.—Good business continues to be done at this popular house. The stock dramatic company are presenting *The Temptations of London*, the principal characters being undertaken by Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (Dan Gage), Harry Tresham (Dick Stoyle), Sydney Grant (Viscount Maplemere), Miss Lina Nazeby (Adeline Stoyle), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Kitty Gage). The Bioscope shows The Call Boy's Revenge.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The always popular George French is causing great fun with his latest songs and a football burlesque; a welcome couple are the Bros. Egbert, whose beating of a carpet make their audience rock with laughter; Florrie Gallimore has a flattering reception for her latest songs; the part-songs of Tysoe Smith's Eighteen Lancashire Singers are listened to with rapt attention; Conn and Conrad, the aviating comedians, prove exceedingly diverting; Vanando presents a neat ventriloquial turn; *Hamper-ed* is a merry skit by the lively Maples; Betty Green as a juvenile comedienne pleases exceedingly; and Fred Lincoln has some comic character creations.

PAVILION. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Barnold's animal actors top the bill here, and give a performance that is thoroughly appreciated, the antics of the drunken dog Dan causing much laughter; Ernest Cadle's *Casey Army* goes as well as ever; an exceedingly funny trifle is *The Electric Car Conductor*, provided by the Three Krakes; Kartelli has a clever wire act; Walter Graham, the human marionette, is a smart turn; a pleasing entertainment comes from the Great Four, comedy harmonists; and also in the list are Barry McKenzie, Scotch comedian; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists; Yost and York, military boys; and George Robinson, character comedian.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—A good programme is headed by the Lancashire Singing Pit-Brow Girls, who are heartily applauded; H. O. Borie is a clever and comical juggler; Frank Boyce renders descriptive selections ably, and is in great favour; the Kellys, comedy duettists and patterers, are funny; two good songs come from George Bush; Les Atans prove attractive in an aerial dental act; and the Bioscope presents a large number of new films.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*The Eyes of the World* is a powerful attraction this week, the elaborate mounting and dressing, coupled with good acting, constituting a really enjoyable performance. Miss Ethel Van Praagh in the leading rôle is distinctly successful and is well supported.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Johnny Holland and company are responsible for a couple of clever and amusing sketches, *The Millionaire* and *The Boat Builder*; Vi Melrose does well in song and dance, and Louie and Wally contribute a comedy sketch. The picture subjects are good.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The Misses Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company is paying a visit with *Temptation*. Mr. V. W. Carlyle in the rôle of Sir Charles Tremaine achieves notable success; Herbert Thorne is powerfully depicted by Mr. N. A. Overton; Bob Saunders is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Frank Ayrton; and Mr. P. Bradbury as Mr. Blight, Mr. Arthur Trail as Stephen Rowe, and Mr. David Curtis as Jacob Single give capital impersonations. Miss Nora Carton is a delightful Hilda; as Ivra Blight Miss Beatrice Selwyn furnishes a decidedly clever interpretation; Miss Madge Seymour makes a vivacious Emily; and Miss Anna Beaumont a pleasing Mrs. Oxen.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager Mr. G. F. Knowles.—A fine topical picture is With Roosevelt in Africa. Three fine dramatic films are Leatherstocking, A Son's Return, and Incendiary. Pleasing variety turns are given by Francisco, equilibrist, Chester and Lee's Marionettes, and Judge's Cockatoos.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The first half of the week was taken up by Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in *The Best People*, which proved most entertaining. Miss Roberta Pulleyne was effective as the Hon Mrs. Bayle; and Miss Ida Chapman did good work as Lady Emsworth; Mr. Henry Watson won great applause as the Hon. Gerald Bayle, and Mr. Robert Noble as Lord Emsworth and Mr. Tom Taylor Vinson as Lord Wynlea sustained their parts with distinction. Mr. Escott Robson and Mr. Clifford Hicks completed the cast. As a curtain-raiser *The Tooth of Necessity* was ably given. The week is concluded with Mr. Robert Macdonald's talented company presenting *The Gay Gordons*.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A good house was attracted here on Monday by the performance of *The Little Damozel*, by Miss Ida Molesworth, Mr. Mark Blow, and company, including Mr. Frank Lacy. The story is entertaining and remarkably well presented, Miss Ida Molesworth being wonderfully effective in the title-part, while Mr. Mark Blow is capital as Lock, the insurance agent. Mr. Frank Lacy's Recklaw Poole is an accomplished piece of work; Mr. Townsend Whitling gives a lively rendering of Angel, the café proprietor; commendable also is Mr. George A. Brandram as Captain Partington; and Messrs. Julian Cross, Wm. J. Stack, and Reginald Hargreaves figure brightly as members of the café orchestra. Miss Violet Ley as Sybil Craven and Mr. Arthur Redmond as a servant efficiently complete the cast. The piece is preceded by a one-act play, *Curing a Selfish Husband*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. Edward Compton and his company are always welcome here, and his performance in *Davy Garrick* was much enjoyed on Monday, this being the first piece of an interesting répertoire. Mr. Henry Crocker as Gresham and Miss Kathleen Leigh as Violet were also prominent in a highly-efficient cast.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Novelty reigns here this week in the shape of *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, staged after the fashion of Shakespeare's day. Miss Mary Mannering as Julia and Miss Olivia Glynne as Silvia are both delightful, and fine work is done by Mr. George Ellis as Protheus and Miss Winifred Rae as Valentine, all the other parts being well rendered. *Everyman* was also played on several occasions. Mr. William Poel is responsible for the productions.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The Angel of His Dreams*, played by De Gray and Masterman's company at the Junction Theatre last week, is the attraction here.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A well-varied and attractive programme here is headed by Fred Karno's *The Yap-Yaps*, which is much enjoyed; while the celebrated Watsons are prominent in clever vocalism and comedy. Other good turns are Purvis and Partner in *The Postman's Knock*; Dorothy Watson, comedienne at the piano; Ernest Clifford, comedian and dancer; the Oswald Sisters, singers and novelty dancers; Ruby Roya, comedienne and dancer; and Madge Allen, a clever artist.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn.—An excellent programme includes Billy Merson, comedian, the principal turn; Rousby's company in *Greater London*, a fine show; J. Wright Aitken and company in *The Battle of Life*; Millie Engler and company in *Beauty and the Burglar*; Bert Raymond, a little lump of comedy; Bonair and Tess, Japanese quick-change artists; Renz Bros., comedy acrobats and ladder performers; Pattie Burton, soprano; and Burt Ward, siffleur and raconteur.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE--Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—A tried old favourite is here in *The Midnight Mail*, played by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. The company is a good one, and includes Mr. John F. Traynor as Harry Steyn, Miss Trissy Humphrys as Mary Steyn, Mr. Henry W. Hatchman as Leonard Royle, Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy, and Mr. F. G. Evison as Billy Brewer.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager Mr. H. Hall.—A fine programme here is headed by the ideal coon delineator, G. H. Elliott. George Leyton in his latest military scena, *The Roll Call*, and Ben Albert, the well-known smart comedian, deserve commendation. Other good turns are those of Carl Howard (assisted by Lily Foy, vanishing lady) in comedy and music; Verno and Voyce, the popular singing comedians; Gladys Mavius, the Canadian girl, in song and dance; Edie Reynolds and her violin; Stowe Bros., novelty equilibrists; and Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Bransby Williams, the famous character actor, and R. G. Knowles, the equally famous comedian, provide star turns here this week, and meet with big receptions. The Courtiers, under the able direction of Paul Mill, present with success a most delightful and clever musical comedy *mélange*; the Francoli Troupe are vastly funny in their pantomimic act *The Billposter*; and other good turns are those of Jewel St. Leger, soprano vocalist; Madge Brownie, comedy artist; Lux and his clever dogs; and Frank Lynn, comedian. Pictures complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—*The Slave Dealers*, a most elaborate Asiatic novelty scena, presented by Mirza Golem and ten wonderfully clever artists, is the top star turn here this week, and is followed with interest. Sam Mayo, the "immobile one," is, as usual, amusing in his own particular way; Wild, Willie, and West, the acrobatic comedians, in their capital act *The Bounding Navvies* are screamingly funny; Harry Russon, the actor-comedian, does a good turn; Margaret Ismay and coons are seen and heard to advantage in a smart singing and dancing act; Alec Kendal, the "simply natural" comedian, takes well; the Krags Trio give a clever and sensational gymnastic display; and Ethel Loftus is a pleasing comedienne. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mme. Maud Santley, the celebrated prima donna, is to the front here this week, and her selections from a well-varied répertoire are greatly enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas give a very smart and highly-finished acrobatic turn; Les Andres score a big success in their protean and dancing act; Les Wambas give a clever instrumental and trapeze act; and other exceedingly smart items are offered by Courtney and Wilton in a musical comedy duologue, *A Marble Flirtation*; Queenie West, comedienne; Mlle. Rene, lady juggler; and Nellie Dallwood, comedienne and dancer. A good all round show.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr James R. Trippett.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's excellent company are here this week in that emotional play *His Real Wife*, after a successful week at the Metropole Theatre.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Dry.—The mysterious De Biere tops the bill here this week in a series of bewildering illusions, and is deservedly well received. The Georgians are excellent in a high-class vocal, instrumental, and dancing act; Rutter's dogs in pantomime, *At the Football Match*, show evidence of clever training; the Lovelaces are popular song illustrators; and other good turns are contributed by Bruce Green, comedian; the Three Favourites, harmonising vocalists; Cara Magda, Continental lady gymnast; and the Starling Bros., bicycle and motor-cycle acrobats. A Pair of Schemers on the Bioscope is an excellent film.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—The Brownies, an excellent combination of entertainers, are the attraction here this week, and include Vivien Stafford, comedienne and dancer; Maidie Field, character comedienne; Charles Heslop, comedian; Alex S. Clunes, baritone; Harvey Brinton, light comedian; Beatrice Willey, soprano; and Dorothy Webb, at the piano. The concerted and burlesque items are particularly well done.

MANSFIELD. — GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mr. Stephen Pritt presents his company in *Almost His Bride*. Praise is won by Mr. Arthur F. Dudley as Philip Rowland; Mr. R. F. Stacey provides a telling study of Jasper Thorne; Mr. David McFarlane is good as the Earl of Ullswater, as also is Mr. J. Telly Dilsen as Squire Rowland; Miss Louie Peebles gives an effective rendering of Mona Gilchrist; Miss Adela Lidden is equally successful as Ruth Gilchrist; and Myra Thorne finds an able exponent in Miss Lily Prescot; Miss Nellie Hook is a clever Emma Baxter, and Mr. Stephen Pritt is capital as Simeon.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is this week presenting *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Douglas Murray plays with skill the rôle of Joe Mayfield; Miss Agnes Verity as Dynamite Ann ably sustains that character; Mr. Charles E. Johnston gives a vigorous interpretation of Martin Mason; the villainous Manuel Alverez has an able exponent in Mr. Ernest Clark; Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson gives a lifelike portraiture of the faithful Indian Wahketah; Maggie Mason is capitally interpreted by Miss Elsie Wood, and Miss E. Dundas is a pleasing Belle Gordon.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Topping the bill are the L.V.O. Trio, in an amusing absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*. Others rendering able support are Williams' Minstrels, in "Gems of Welsh Melodies"; Henna, weight-lifter on wheels; Sophie Knight, balladist; Harry Herd, comedian; and R. T. Chinn, concertinist, together with some excellent Biograph pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Charles Draycott and company are presenting *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. Charles Draycott gives a manly interpretation of Richard Burfield; Guy Lowther is forcibly portrayed by Mr. Frank Eaglesfield; Mr. Frank Etheridge makes the most of the part of Lionel Heathcote; and Mr. Theo Balfour (Markham Ferrers) and Mr. Chas. Reyne (Farmer Rayne) fill their rôles creditably. Mrs. Charles Draycott invests the character of Pauline Ferrers with infinite charm and grace; as Nellie Rayne Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne sustains a trying rôle with exceptional ability; Miss Nellie Freeland, as Mam'selle Lucille, Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green, and Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions acquit themselves well.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Mr. George Edwardes's company with *The Dollar Princess* is attracting large and delighted audiences. The cast is capital, and the acting and singing of a high order. Miss Effie Mann is admirably adapted to the title-rôle; as Freddy Fairfax Mr. Alec Worcester has opportunities of using his fine baritone voice, and he makes the most of the part. Mr. Leslie Holland is a capital Harry Q. Conder; as Earl of Quorn Mr. Sidney Lyndon is distinctly good; and Mr. W. H. Rawlinson is a most amusing Mr. Bulger. Miss Madeline Seymour makes a fine dashing Olga; and Miss Peggy Primrose as Daisy is a success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—At this popular drama house Mr. Fred Granville's company presents *Another Man's Wife*. Miss Ruby Loncraine is deserving of high praise for her portrayal of Lucie De Vergas; Mr. Alfred D. Adams gives every satisfaction in the part of Carlos De Vergas; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon as Paul Bernstoff, the Russian adventurer, is a success; and the Sam Smiles of Mr. Willie Reid meets with general approval.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—La Pia is once more the principal attraction here, and her pretty and graceful entertainment is much enjoyed. Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers; Leo Tell, with his wonderful mimicry of animals; the Three Orleans, vocalists and dancers; Bert Harrow, comedian; the Sisters Draycott, duettists; Waul Langtry, comedian; Bi-Bo-Bi, eccentric musician; and the pictures are well received.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Capital pictures continue to draw well.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Izon.—The star attraction at the Palace this week is undoubtedly Mlle. De Rose, in a drawing-room entertainment, introducing vocal and musical selections, being assisted by Hilda Claremont, a girl soprano of ability; J. H. Hawtrey possesses a good voice; and Joe Keeth, eccentric comedian, and Agnes Lee, "the singing factory lass," are other attractions.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Tom H. Taylor's company is here in *Can a Woman be Good?* Mr. J. Millane as Manuel Errington acts with quiet determination and force; Mr. Harry C. Robinson vividly enacts Steinberg the Jew; excellent indeed is the character work of Messrs. J. Archer and J. G. Maine as the dumb and blind victims of Steinberg's hate; Miss Blanche gives an emotional rendering of the part of Esther Howard, and Miss Florence Hunt puts the skill of an experienced actress into the part of Naomi Merrick. Miss Winifred Barton is fresh and engaging as Slithers, and Mr. J. R. Tyrrell is quaint and amusing as the little Cockney chauffeur. The scenery, dresses, and general effects are exceptionally good.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogdon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Excellent pictures are presented to good houses. The Sheep with Six Legs shows many dramatic incidents. A pathetic subject is His last Burglary; an exciting love romance is much admired in The Squaw's Revenge. Among the amusing subjects Poorluck's Honeymoon is a very laughable film. A very interesting picture is Sports in the Voges Mountains. Variety turns include Little Doris, child vocalist and buck dancer; The Leonas, in their musical and fencing act; and the Three Behans, comedy and quick-change artists.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company in the *Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. Arthurs ably presents Dick Kenyon in the prologue, and subsequently Sir Montague Jephson; Mr. Lowe McKenzie acts with power in the rôle of Seth Pearse; and Mr. S. Barker is an able exponent of Old Pete and Joseph Varham. The hero, Jack Stanley, is sustained by Mr. Fitzroy Wharton, and praise is due to Miss Mabel Liston for a very fine portrayal of Alva Kenyon; Miss C. Middleton makes a charming Rose Verham, and Mr. David Phillips as Toby Wright and Miss Kate Hughes as Mary Ann are good.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Benson.—The bill is headed by the great Pichel Troupe of risley acrobats, who accomplish a number of very clever feats. Mr. Howel Webb and company give an interesting sketch entitled *The Galley Slave*; and among other good turns are Tom Hayton's Six Manchester Lads, vocalists and dancers, and the Cecilias, instrumentalists. The programme is also contributed to by Little Claude, comedian, mimic, and dancer; Annie Martin, a young girl who possesses a beautiful voice; Violet Desmond, comedienne; and the Martinettes, in an amusing absurdity, introducing "Belivar," the elephant.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—The second week of the Moody-Manners Opera Co. has proved even more successful than the first. The operas performed this week include *Samson and Delilah*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *The Masked Ball*, *Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. The staging has been magnificent, and the company, including Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, have one and all scored a great success.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The New Brighton Pier Co.; Secretary, Mr. Campion.—A good vaudeville programme is presented here. Mr. Charles Coverdale, the comedian, scores, and his quips are received with hearty laughter. The Four Scoreys are clever in all they do, and make a good impression. The Nonentities and the Vendetta Bros. complete the bill.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Arcadians* is attracting crowded houses. In the dual rôle of James Smith and Simplicitas Mr. Walter Passmore is in his element, his spontaneous wit and inimitable drollery creating an immense amount of wholesome merriment. Mr. Oliver J. Round plays the part of Peter Doody, the jockey, in a manner which stamps him as one of our quaintest comedians; Mr. Harold E. Pearce as Jack Meadows and Mr. Louis Victor as Bobby put plenty of spirit into their respective rôles, their singing and dancing being especially noteworthy. A more delightful Sombra than Miss Ethel Erskine would be difficult to imagine, her sweet cultured voice being heard to great advantage; and a piquant personation of Eileen Cavanagh is presented by Miss Billie Sinclair. Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith is a source of merriment. The other characters are well sustained, and the efficient chorus and augmented orchestra is under the capable direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Much enjoyment was derived from the performance here on Monday of *The Servant in the House*, by Mr. Henry Miller's company. Manson was played with distinction by Mr. Matthew Boulton, and the Rev. William Smythe had an able exponent in Mr. Walter Gay; Mr. H. Parker's character acting as Robert Smith was responsible for most of the comedy of the piece, and another clever character study was that of Mr. Ernest H. Paterson as the Lord Bishop. Miss Nellie Hodson as the vicar's wife was responsible for some clever acting; Miss Laurie Flockton as Mary was vivacious and charming in her girlish confidences, and Mr. Forrester Harvey made the most of the part of a page-boy.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Frank Adair and company, in *The Heathen and the Christian*, form the attraction. Mr. Frank Adair gives a remarkably powerful study of Li (the Avenger); Mr. Fred Withers plays Lung Hi in excellent style; Mr. G. Shirley enacts Lord Allendale with marked ability; the part of George Beresford (the Missionary) is done ample justice to by Mr. R. Payne, and Mr. G. Turner makes an excellent Admiral Freebold. Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson plays throughout with considerable force; and a deeply emotional rendering is given by Miss Stanley Burt of the ill-used May Berresford. Good fun is obtained at the hands of Miss Eva Reid as Becky Febbins.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—At the head of a varied bill is *Private Potts*, in which Mr. Fred Kitchen is a never-ending source of amusement, and packed houses each evening testify to his popularity. As cross-talkers and patterers, Alexandre and Hughes are amongst the best, and their musical business proves most entertaining; the Avolos, in a new acrobatic performance, present marvellous tricks, and another acrobatic turn of more than average merit is that of Johnny Fuller, the "great little cat." A pleasing and interesting item is the song-scena of Sylvia Du Barry; and a clever coster sketch is given by Duncan and Godfrey, entitled *Me and 'Er*. Then Arthur Woodville, light comedian and dancer, and Bertha Winder, champion lady dancer, contribute turns of excellent character, the Cup Final on the Bioscope completing.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The pictures here this week are brought directly up to date with some excellent films. Interesting dramatic subjects are found in A Siberian Tragedy and The Honour of His Family. The comics are also good, especially Weary Willie Finds a Job. Miss Margaret Payne furnishes some excellent vocal items.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The enthusiastic reception accorded *The Woman in the Case* is well deserved by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, and the numerous curtain calls are a tribute to magnificent acting. Miss Violet Vanbrugh graphically portrays the part of Claire Foster; Miss Ellis Jeffreys plays Margaret Rolfe with a tenderness and womanly affection that are truly delightful; Mr. Herbert Sleath invests Julian Rolfe with the true spirit of manliness; Mr. W. F. Grant again proves his great histrionic attainments by an admirably conceived embodiment of the cool and far-seeing lawyer, Thompson; Miss Mary Griffiths makes an amusing Mrs. Hughes; Miss Gwendoline Wren is effective as Louise Mane; Mr. Fred Benton submits a capital interpretation of Louis Klauffsky, and the Jimmy O'Neill of Mr. William Kershaw is also successful. A little piece entitled *By Mutual Agreement* precedes the play, in which Miss Wren and Messrs. W. F. Grant and W. Kershaw are seen to great advantage.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company presents *Diana of Dobson's*, preceded by a very dramatic curtain-raiser, *Out West*. Miss Emillie Polini as Diana is a complete success, humour and pathos being equally and adequately portrayed; Miss Eva Leonard Boyne as Kitty Brant and Miss Nannie Hume as Miss Smithers do good work; an excellent Miss Pringle is found in Miss Marie Ault; Miss Hilda Francks is a capable Mrs. Cantelupe; and Mr. A. A. Harris makes a very amusing Sir Jabez. The rôle of Captain Brethertón is carefully played by Mr. Leslie Rea, and the remaining rôles are in the effective hands of Misses Cicely Oates, Winifred Trevor Lowe, and Mary Crewe, and Messrs. R. F. Beach, Leslie Crowther, and T. Pauncefort.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The dainty and incomparable Vesta Tiley is again charming huge audiences by her delightful rendering of new songs; the Jackley Trio present an expert acrobatic act; the Lyric Quartette make sweet music, and are deservedly rewarded; the vocal contributions of F. V. St. Clair are pleasing; the Royal Delomes dance spiritedly; while Frank and Free make for fun in no uncertain manner. An ingenious comedian is seen in Dion Wade, whose eccentric method calls forth unrestrained laughter. Bioscope pictures of the Cup Final are also shown.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The Six Brothers Luck in their new sketch, *H.M.S. Perhaps*, cause considerable mirth; La Belle Nello is an expert acrobat; Rita and Roma are vaudeville artists of the first class; Miss Florence Smithers and company, in a humorous sketch, are delightfully funny; the Maie Trio as acrobats and wire walkers have very little to learn; Ralph and Nellie Howard, in *Military Mad*, are as attractive as ever; Charles Stevens, with new songs, elicits applause; as a Dame comedian Michael Madden does extremely well; Queenie King has a dainty appearance and is a good dancer, and a very enjoyable programme is completed by some amusing pictures on the bioscope.

(*Continued on page* 25.)

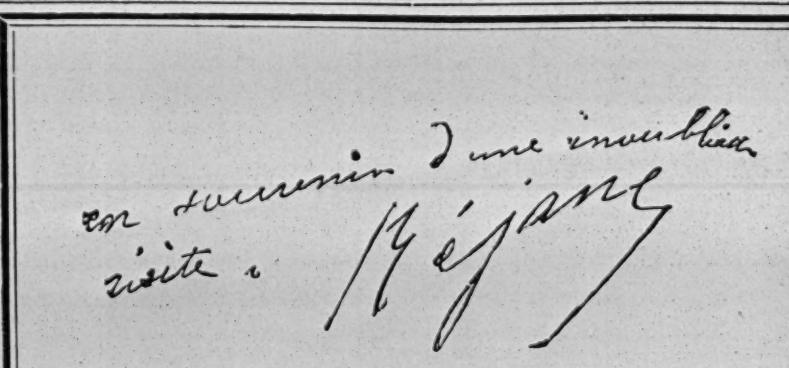

The popular French Actress, Madame Réjane, when visiting the babies of all nations at the Virol Eastern Nursery, evinced the keenest interest in the splendid specimens of babyhood. She nursed a number of the children, and before leaving made the above inscription in the Visitors' Book.

VIROL works wonders on delicate, small, or backward children; it builds the tissues of the body and forms firm flesh and lusty limbs. Virol has been given to many babies who have failed to thrive on ordinary diet, and a marked improvement has been visible almost at once, whilst many a baby whose life has at one time been despaired of has grown strong and vigorous when given Virol.

Used in over 800 Hospitals and Sanatoria.

VIROL

In Jars 1/-, 1/8, 2/11.

Virol Ltd., 152-166, Old Street, London, E.C.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Saturday, April 23, Verdi's
"LA TRAVIATA" (in Italian).

Violetta ..... Mme. Donalda
Giorgio Germont ..... Signor Sammarco
Alfredo ..... Mr. John McCormack
Flora Bervoix ..... Mlle. Egener
Annina ..... Mme. Bérat
Barone Duphol ..... Signor Sampieri
Dottore Grenvil ..... M. Morin
Gastone ..... Mr. D'Oisly
Marchese d'Obigny ..... Signor Sandrini

The grand season of Royal opera opened on Saturday night at Covent Garden with a performance of Verdi's *La Traviata*, in the presence of a brilliant house. Although, no doubt, it was a great disappointment that, owing to a severe cold, the superb artist, Mme. Tetrazzini, was unable to sing, yet the welcome reappearance of Mme. Donalda, who at very short notice undertook the rôle of the consumptive heroine, did much to console opera-goers for the absence of the great prima donna. If in the first act Mme. Donalda seemed somewhat timid she quickly recovered, and sang throughout the second act in the scene with the elder Germont and Alfredo with all her wonted charm and purity of tone. "Ah! fors e lui" was given with marked expression and beautiful vocalisation; while her pathetic acting and singing in the death scene of the last act proved how welcome Mme. Donalda's name will be in the cast of distinguished artists at Covent Garden this season. Mr. John McCormack sang the music of Alfredo with more freedom than on any former occasion, and his voice seemed to have gained in power. As Giorgio Germont that fine artist, Signor Sammarco, sang the charming music of the part with splendid effect. The characters of Flora Bervoix and Annina were cleverly undertaken by Mlle. Egener and Mme. Bérat; while Signor Sampieri, M. Morin, Mr. D'Oisly, and Signor Sandrini ably filled the smaller parts of Barone Duphol, Dottore Grenvil, and Marchese d'Obigny. The National Anthem was played before the opera commenced, and Signor Campanini, the conductor, who had a most hearty reception, secured a satisfactory performance of the familiar old opera.

"DAS RHEINGOLD" (in German).

Wotan ..... Herr Van Rooy
Donner ..... Herr Schutzendorf
Froh ..... Mr. Russell
Loge ..... Herr Sembach
Alberich ..... Herr Zador
Mime ..... Herr Bechstein
Fasolt ..... Herr Schlembach
Fafner ..... Herr Fonss
Fricka ..... Mme. Kirkby Lunn
Freia ..... Miss Edith Evans
Erda ..... Mme. Edna Thornton
Woglinde ..... Miss Elizabeth Amsden
Wellgunde ..... Mme. Knupfer-Egli
Flosshilde ..... Mme. Edna Thornton

Das Rheingold, the first performance of the two cycles of the Ring in German, was given at Covent Garden on Monday night under Dr. Hans Richter, and attracted a large audience. With the exception of some English performances which aroused considerable interest, and were directed by the same eminent conductor, *Der Ring des Nebelungen* has not been heard in German since the summer season of 1908. Great hopes were entertained during the English representations; but, in spite of some admirable singing by native artists, and the utmost pains taken by Dr. Richter, the project failed somehow to attract the musical public. One excellent result of the English version has been to give more knowledge of the great music drama to many who witnessed the fine performance of *Das Rheingold* on Monday night. Herr Van Rooy, as on many former occasions, made a most dignified Wotan, and the music of the part was powerfully sung. Herr Rooy's great experience gave conviction and importance to his acting, particularly noticeable in the scene where Wotan demands the gold from Alberich. Mme. Kirkby Lunn again sang the music of Fricka with delightful purity of tone and expression, for Mme. Lunn's impersonation of this character has never been surpassed. Mme. Edna Thornton also repeated her former successes, and sang charmingly as Erda. Other native artists—Mr. Russell, Miss Edith Evans, and Miss Elizabeth Amsden—greatly distinguished themselves in the parts of Froh, Freia, and Woglinde. Herr Zador was again excellent as the ungainly Alberich, who steals the gold; and a newcomer, Herr Sembach, created a most favourable impression by his capital acting as Loge. Herr Bechstein's quaint performance of Mime has always been admired; while Mme. Knupfer-Egli was very successful as Wellgunde. The two giants, Fasolt and Fafner, were undertaken by Herr Schlembach and Herr Fonss, the latter being vocally by far the more effective; and the part of Donner was ably filled by Herr Schutzendorf. The rich tone and fine performance of the orchestral portions under Dr. Richter were, of course, one of the chief features, and the distinguished conductor had a most enthusiastic greeting.

Tuesday, April 26, at 5, in Three Acts (in German), by Richard Wagner.

"DIE WALKURE.

Siegmund ..... Herr Sembach
Wotan ..... Herr Van Rooy
Hunding ..... Herr Fonss
Brünnhilde ..... Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens
Sieglinde ..... Mme. Kurt
Fricka ..... Mme. Kirkby Lunn
Gerhilde ..... Miss Baxter
Ortlinde ..... Miss Edith Evans
Waltraute ..... Mme. Edna Thornton
Schwertleite ..... Miss Alys Mutch
Helmwige ..... Miss Elizabeth Amsden
Siegrune ..... Frl. Anna Hofmann
Grimgerde ..... Miss Marie Wadia
Rossweisse ..... Miss Edith Clegg
Conductor ..... Dr. Hans Richter

Die Walküre, the popular and by many considered the most dramatic and powerful of all sections of the *Ring*, was performed before a large house at Covent Garden on Tuesday evening. Our trying climate in early spring plays havoc with operatic vocalists, and Herr Sembach, who achieved such success as Loge in *Das Rheingold* on Monday night, was evidently suffering from a cold. Apart from this Herr Sembach increased the good impression he has already made by his clever acting and the buoyant youthful spirit in which he played the young hero Siegmund. Another victim to the weather was Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens, who, it will be remembered, gave so excellent a performance of Brünnhilde in the English version of the *Ring*. Fortunately, Herr Van Rooy's fine voice was in even better conditon than on Monday, and his noble impersonation of Wotan was a tower of strength to the representation; indeed, it may be a question if Herr Rooy has ever given us anything finer than his majestic acting and singing in the scene with Brünnhilde in the second act. A new Sieglinde was forthcoming on Tuesday night in the person of Mme. Kurt, who greatly pleased the audience by her graceful bearing, good voice, and artistic singing, although the great duet in the first act missed some of its charm by Herr Sembach's loss of voice. The influence of our English artists was plainly shown by the fact that on Tuesday night the music of *Die Walküre* was sung and not declaimed. Mme. Kirkby Lunn as Fricka sang admirably, and Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens, in spite of being out of voice, made a handsome Brünnhilde and acted with distinction. The Hunding of Herr Fönss, although not particularly fierce or uncouth, was in many respects excellent. Among several talented native artists in the cast Miss Baxter and Miss Edith Evans rendered good service in the parts of Gerhilde and Ortlinde, while there was much to admire in Mme. Edna Thornton's Waltraute. The scenic effects were well up to the Covent Garden high standard, and it was a great musical joy to hear the splendid orchestra, so perfectly conducted by Dr. Richter.

His Majesty the King and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Edward and Prince Albert of Wales, and Prince Arthur of Connaught, and a large and fashionable audience were present at Covent Garden on Wednesday night, when Mme. Tetrazzini made her first appearance this season in Verdi's opera *Rigoletto*. A tenor new to Covent Garden, Signor Rostowsky, a Russian artist, sang the Duke's music with distinct success, and created a most favourable impression. Signor Rostowsky's voice is pure and very pleasing in quality, and his method so Italian in style that his Russian origin seemed strange. The new tenor's best efforts were in the love duet with Gilda and the fine solo of the third act. Signor Rostowsky acted with grace, and if he occasionally took some liberties with the time, as in the popular solo of the last scene, he will be a very welcome addition to the list of tenors this season. Signor Sammarco's Jester has always been greatly esteemed, and he sang and acted most artistically on Wednesday night, and was attired in one of the handsomest and most picturesque costumes ever seen in the part. Gilda is one of Mme. Tetrazzini's finest impersonations, and she sang superbly. Of course, "Caro Nome," with the wonderful high E, was received with a storm of applause, but it was a pity some of the great singer's admirers could not restrain their enthusiasm until the conclusion of the famous air. In the third act, from the first entrance of Gilda until the curtain fell, the audience seemed spellbound by Mme. Tetrazzini's dramatic power; every note in her beautiful voice was instinct with human feeling and pathos. The portrayal also of Gilda's evident confusion at being discovered in such a costume—or rather lack of costume—before the courtiers, was a happy touch of realism. Mme. Tetrazzini in this scene has never been equalled, and when she was called before the curtain with Signor Sammarco the house rang with cheers and applause. Mme. Edna Thornton was an excellent Maddalena, and the quartet in the last act went finely. For the rest of the cast, Mr. Murray Davey sang admirably as Sparafucile, and Signors Zucchi and Sandrini acted well in the parts of Borsa and Conte di Ceprano. Mme. Bérat appeared as Giovanna, and Mlle. Egener as the Contessa di Ceprano. The male chorus sang capitally, while Signor Campanini conducted with care and attention.

LITTLE CONSTANCE MONTAGUE.

One of the delightful items of the programme presented at the Playhouse last Sunday, on the occasion of the Playgoers' Club Ladies' Concert, was the marvellous dancing of a little girl, by name Constance Montague.

This little lady, we are informed, made her first

[*Photo by Ward.*

LITTLE CONSTANCE MONTAGUE.

appearance before the public on that occasion, and received an ovation that many an adult artist might be proud of as her reward for dancing the solo from *Coppelia*. Miss Constance's movements were perfect in detail, and in so young a child—she celebrated her sixth birthday on Nov. 15 last—showed an intuitive love for the beautiful art so representative of Genée.

Miss Montague was recalled time after time, and then danced a minuet with another little girl, Miss Dora Grover. Both these very young ladies are pupils of Mme. Cora Katti Lanner. Miss Constance, it is interesting to learn, is the niece of Edward Draper, well known within the portals of the Savage Club, and she is being thoroughly trained for the stage. She has done little more than six months' serious work as yet, but if the next six years are as productive as the same number of months have been, then a very great star will shed its lustre on the next generation of theatre frequenters.

PLAYGOERS' CLUB CONCERT.

Mr. Cyril Maude kindly lent the Playhouse to the Playgoers' Club for their ladies' concert last Sunday, and a very enjoyable entertainment was given. That always delightful artist Miss Decima Moore contributed her clever musical monologue "The Waltz Quadrille" with complete success, and was warmly applauded; Mr. Harrison Latimer sang the prologue to *I Pagliacci* in excellent style; Miss Elsie Southgate's violin solo was decidedly well rendered; and Mr. J. H. Barnes's fine voice and grand delivery secured the success of his recitation of "Over the Hill to the Poor-house," and of a very odd and quaint piece by himself entitled "The Mission of Judas." Mr. George Mozart's comicalities and electric picture history, "The Thief," proved excessively diverting; and Little Miss Constance Montague, a surprisingly clever juvenile, and a pupil of Miss Cora Lanner, danced a pretty *pas seul*, and won warm plaudits. Miss Ada Colley showed her surprising range of voice in "The Song of the Skylark"; Miss Florence Venning pleased greatly by her rendering of "Just You and I"; Miss Ruby Wilson won an encore for "Over the Garden Wall"; Mr. E. Thornley Dodge sketched cleverly in black and white; and others who also contributed to the very agreeable and interesting programme were Miss Viva Birkett, Miss Bessie Bowness, Miss Ruby Wilson, Mr. Mervyn Dene, Mr. H. Scott Russell, Mr. J. W. Tate, and Mr. Harry Thornton, acceptable items being also supplied by Mr. C. Ibbotson, Mr. Alfred Lester, and Mr. Hubert Connorton. Miss Dora Grover, another pupil of Miss Cora Lanner's, danced well, and the London Pavilion Orchestra, ably conducted by Mr. A. Bond Sayers, performed some very pleasing selections.

THEATRE CLUB ENTERTAINMENT

The Theatre Club of 221, Knightsbridge, gave its first dramatic performance on Sunday night. Three one-act plays had been announced, but the translation from the German was omitted, and its place taken by two recitations, "The Patriot" (Robert Browning) and "The Portrait" (Owen Meredith), which were given with excellent effect by Mr. Charles Bruce-Winston. A most agreeable item of the evening's entertainment was the piece, in one act, founded by Ella Erskine on a French play, entitled

"THE WHITE HAIR."

Sir Frank Chettle, Bart. ..... Mr. Philip Knox
Cecily ..... Miss Ella Erskine
Louison ..... Mrs. Moyle O'Connor

The White Hair, which was favourably noticed by us on its production at the Hyde Park Hotel some two years since, is a pretty trifle, founded on a French play, dealing with much originality with the old story of connubial misunderstanding and eventual reconciliation. The misunderstanding has been of eight years' duration, and the wife has determined to "have it out" with her husband on the day that she sees his first white hair. They are both such charming people that it really seems a great pity that she should have waited so long, and one can only hope that there will be less obstinacy and a little more mutual forbearance in the future. The husband with the one white hair—as he is in his forty-first year he should consider himself lucky that there is only one—was played at the beginning with gay insouciance, and later with deep but restrained feeling by Mr. Philip Knox. The wife, Cecily, was acted with much charm by the talented authoress of the play, Miss Ella Erskine, who was flippant and serious, angry and tender, a very "April's lady" of tears and smiles, each in its turn. She made an excellent impression by her bright and clever acting.

The second play presented on Sunday night was by Mr. Alfred Fahey, entitled

"A POET IN PURGATORY."

Oliver Goldsmith ..... Mr. Arthur Curtis
Samuel Johnson ..... Mr. Arthur Machen
Squeeze ..... Mr. Arthur Chesney
Slang ..... Mr. Patrick Curwen
Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming ..... Mrs. Calhaem
Miss Mary Horneck ..... Miss Ella Erskine

The piece dealt with an episode in the life of Oliver Goldsmith in the dark days of the poet, when he was living in squalid poverty, deep in his landlady's debt. To him comes the woman who loved him, Mary Horneck, the "Jessamy Bride," and finds him drinking and hob-nobbing with a couple of bailiff's men. Her chief desire is to be of help to him; and that she may have the right to do so, she tells him of her love for him. But he turns from her in shame; and it needs the timely arrival of the great Dr. Johnson to set matters right. Oliver Goldsmith is at first roundly scolded by the "Big Man," who then makes him an offer to get his new book, "The Vicar of Wakefield," published for him, and finds a publisher in the "Jessamy Bride." Oliver is deeply touched, and assures her of his heartfelt esteem.

Miss Ella Erskine again distinguished herself as Mary Horneck, a part which she played with great charm and simplicity, clad in a delightfully pretty gown of the period. Mr. Arthur Machen made Dr. Johnson an impressive and dignified figure; Mr. Arthur Curtis brought out the "artistic temperament" of the poet to the full; and Mr. Arthur Chesney and Mr. Patrick Curwen played the two bailiff's men on the good old rollicking lines. Mrs. Calhaem gave a finished and characteristic performance as a frowsy landlady.

"THE HOUSE DIVIDED."

Play, in Four Acts, by Mrs. C. Campbell Wardrop, Produced at the Balfour Institute, Liverpool, on Saturday, April 23.

Lady Beatrice Tranmer ..... Miss Margaret Kinson
Robert Tranmer ..... Mr. Henry Harding
Simmons ..... Mr. Frank W. Muir
Jack Harcourt ..... Mr. Harold Leighton
Sophia ..... Mrs. Harry Astley
Betty Torrens ..... Miss Violet Heenan
Abel G. Torrens ..... Mr. Harry Astley
Herbert Challoner ..... Mr. Robt. E. Evans
Helen Varrincourt ..... Miss M. A. Ford
Sir Digby Forsyth ..... Mr. Hugh Wills
Valet to Forsyth ..... Mr. Frank W. Muir

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Last year this authoress gave us *The Indiscretion of Elizabeth*, which found much favour, and her latest attempt at playwriting possesses even greater merits. *The House Divided* certainly has the common fault of over-abundance of episodes and side issues, which somewhat blur the central line of thought, but with some of these removed there should remain all the elements of a good sound play. Briefly, the story is that of Robert Tranmer, a young politician, believing his first wife to be dead, marrying the aristocratic Lady Beatrice. Soon afterwards, however, he is disturbed by the intelligence that the former spouse is alive, and an actress, using the name of Helen Varrincourt, and she, learning of his well-to-do position, commences a system of blackmail, he foolishly giving her, as a first instalment, £1,000. The brother-in-law of Tranmer, Herbert Challoner, who is Duke of Burlington, has become infatuated with the actress, and, after spending on her all the money he has, forges a cheque, which is held by Sir Digby. In order to save her brother Lady Beatrice visits Sir Digby and pleads for the return of the document, when she is discovered by her husband, he in turn being surprised by his first wife, who discloses their relationship. This entanglement is unravelled in a following act by the accidental death of Helen, and satisfactory explanations.

The amateurs engaged are to be complimented upon their work. Mr. Henry Harding showed talent as the awkwardly-placed Tranmer; Miss Kinson afforded satisfaction with her Lady Beatrice; Mr. Harry Astley was excellent in the rôle of the Yankee rich man, his voice and style suiting the character; Mr. Robert E. Evans thoroughly grasped the part of the spendthrift Challoner; Sir Digby was carefully undertaken by Mr. Hugh Wills; and Miss M. A. Ford proved particularly effective as the unrelenting first wife, Helen Varrincourt. The smaller parts were carefully handled.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. R. A. Greene (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Edward Morgan, Cyril Cattley, Murri Moncrieff, Langford Reed, F. H. De Quincey, and H. Le Grand, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Joan Pereira, and Mr. D. Young (Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary presented a printed copy of the new contract, likewise a letter from Mr. J. E. Vedrenne of the Society of West End Theatre Managers, promising his consideration of the said contract at the next meeting of this society.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester and adopted. With a view to ascertaining the approximate financial standing of the Association, the Secretary was requested to present a statement of subscriptions overdue, and submit the report at the next meeting.

Elections: Alex. F. Thompson, Barnard Merefield, Arthur F. Armstrong. Nomination: Eileen Maritz Desmond.

Miss Elizabeth Dexter will sail for America on the Minnewaska to-day, and not last Saturday as stated.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

MRS. J. W. BRAITHWAITE.

Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, who has been achieving success as Anna in Mr. George D. Day's company *The Prodigal Son*, commenced her stage career by portraying Tommy Cranberry in *Fun on the Bristol* at a moment's notice, and was retained in the rôle till the end of the tour. She next played Bella (the black girl) in the same production, and after that came Chambermaids in a round of stock. Her remarkable likeness to the late Queen Victoria brought her into prominence in the Diamond Jubilee year, 1897, when she appeared as Her Majesty in the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. "The opening night of the pantomime," says Mrs. Braithwaite, "is one that will live in my memory for ever, for when I appeared seated on the throne, there was dead silence for a moment, then, when the audience had recovered their breath, cheer after cheer filled the house, and they arose *en masse* to sing the National Anthem." Mr. Robert Arthur, under whose management Mrs. Braithwaite was playing, re-engaged her for Nottingham the following year. After that she went to Drury Lane to play in the

[*Photo by E. G. Brew.*

MRS. J. W. BRAITHWAITE.

production of *Hearts Are Trumps*, and gave her speciality of the Queen in the pantomime at the same house. Spring and autumn tours of *Hearts Are Trumps*, in which she enacted Mrs. Angerstein, were followed by pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, and it was during that time that the death of her Majesty occurred. Among some of Mrs. Braithwaite's recent successes are Mrs. Porter in Mr. Cyril Maude's company of *Beauty and the Barge*, Mrs. Pembury in *A Sailor's Sweetheart*, Sarah Rigg in *Walker, London*, Mrs. Pexton in *Jane*, Mrs. Birket in *Betsy*, Hannah in *Dandy Dick*, Aunt Clarissa in *Our Boys*, Miss Ashford in *The Private Secretary*, Madam Rouge in *Drink* with the late Chas. Warner's company, Biddy Mullins in *Two Little Vagabonds*, Biddy Farren in *Shadows of a Great City*, Biddy Donohan in *The Old Home*, Mammy Diable and Mrs. McMahon in Mr. Tom Murray's *Our Irish Visitors*.

MR. HOWARD L. TRACY.

Originally intended for a medical career, Mr. Howard L. Tracy became a prominent member of an amateur society, which led to his introduction to the theatrical profession some nine years ago. Before many months had elapsed, Mr. Tracy was engaged for a stock season at Edinburgh, playing a varied round of parts in some of the old pieces. Leaving Edinburgh, Mr. Tracy joined the late F. A. Scudamore's company with *Because I Love You*, for Professor Predate, a part he played for over 400 nights. Two tours with Mr. James Willard, in *The Shadow of Night* and *A Woman of Pleasure*, followed, and from this Mr. Tracy was engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona for the part of Frank Perry in *Are You a Mason?* which he played for six tours. At the end of this engagement he was secured by Mr. Lionel Rignold for

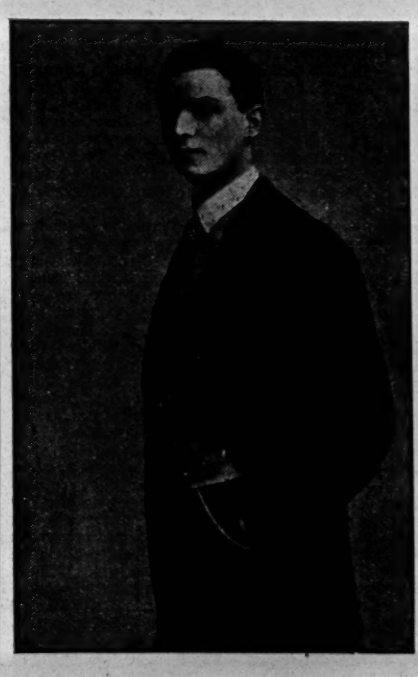

MR. HOWARD L. TRACY.

his répertoire of comedies, playing Lieut. Crosby in *The Wrong Mr. Wright*, Bob Walton in *Why Smith Left Home*, and Holder in *What Happened to Jones*.

Engagements with Mr. Neville Graham's sketch *The Man in the Street* and Mr. Sidney Cotterell's sketch *The Substitute*, playing the juvenile parts, followed, and then Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche re-engaged him for Sidney Clifford in *What the Butler Saw*. From this he went to Mr. Oswald Brooks for the title-rôle in his revival of *The New Housemaid*. At the end of the tour Mr. Tracy was engaged by Mr. Harold Smith to play the lead in the new farcical comedy *The March Hare*. He is repeating former successes in *Are You a Mason?*

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—You say in Saturday's issue that *Sexton Blake* is played by Mr. Murray Yorke's company. Kindly correct this statement, as the production belongs to the Syndicate mentioned below, Mr. Yorke being a salaried artist.—Yours faithfully, The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., 21, John-street, Adelphi, W.C., April 23.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"POIA."

Opera, in Three Acts, by Arthur Nevin, Produced at the Royal Opera, April 23.

Poia ..... Herr Kirchhof
Sumatsi ..... Herr Bischoff
Natosi ..... Herr Griswold
Episna ..... Fraulein Artot de Padilla
Natoya ..... Fraulein Easton
Nenahn ..... Fraulein Ober
Kokun ..... Frau v. Scheele-Muller
Mota ..... Fraulein Pacholski
Nepu ..... Fraulein Rothauser
Moku ..... Fraulein Parbs
Stuyi ..... Fraulein Gates
Ein Prairie Geist ..... Fraulein Peter

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 28.—This is unquestionably the most interesting work the Royal Opera has put upon its boards for a number of years. Its lack of appreciation on the part of the German portion of the audience was due principally to ignorance of the intrinsic character of the work. They judged it as American music alone, and overlooked the fact that the composer has—in the main—merely reproduced in skilful arrangement the ancient melodies of the North American Indians, and that the music was written round genuine Indian legends. Mr. Nevin has, like Mr. McClintock—the collector of the legends from which Randolph Hartley has drawn the text—passed several years among the Blackfoot Indians, in order to study them and their music, even, it is said, perpetuating the melodies by means of a gramophone. The music is very original, in most parts pleasing, and calculated to interest the student and average theatre-goer alike. The book is, as has been said, legendary, and has been translated into German by Fräulein von Hahn, who appears to have done the work commendably. Poia is a prophet who has no honour in his own country; his idealisms are ridiculed by the people, but he loves the pretty Natoya, and that consoles him. She, nevertheless, is wooed by Sumatsi, a warrior bold but wicked, and she has the bad taste to prefer him to Poia, who is marked by a terrible scar across the face. She tells poor Poia that if he returns to her without the disfiguring mark she will listen to him. In despair he goes off to find Natosi, the Sun-God, to beg his help, but the god will have none of him. Poia's bad luck, however, turns when least expected. News comes that Episna, Natosi's son, has been carried away by eagles and is in great danger. In vain the Sun-God tries to call the elements to his aid, and Poia finds his opportunity; he saves the boy and brings him back to his father, who as a reward eliminates the dreadful scar. Full of joy, Poia returns home; he has also a message from the Sun-God to his people—that they shall enjoy in future full protection and forgiveness if they turn from their backsliding to the god again. Natoya receives her lover with open arms, and Sumatsi, who creeps forward to stab Poia in the back, is slain on the spot by a ray of light from the Sun-God, whom we see enthroned in the clouds. The happy lovers, after Poia has delivered his message of peace to the people, go off together to dwell for ever in the brightness of the celestial realms. The mounting of the opera was a difficult task, but the result was very fine. The cast was exemplary. Miss Florence Easton (Mrs. Francis Maclennan) gave an admirable account of Natoya, in which rôle her beautiful voice was heard to full advantage; Fräulein Artôt de Padilla (Episna) was a charming Indian boy, and Herren Kirchhof (Poia), Bischoff, and Griswold were—as were the remaining artists—thoroughly satisfactory. An effective dance of the Four Seasons, by Indian girls, was introduced. The reception of the work was what is known as a mixed one, and the result was the reverse of edifying. The greater portion of the crowded audience consisted of Americans, who were naturally enthusiastic—perhaps a trifle too much so; the Germans, led by wrong impressions, as has been stated, objected to the loud applause and started to hiss, so that a regrettable show of personal feeling ensued, which lasted until the falling of the iron curtain. The composer and author were called times innumerable before the curtain in response to unending applause, and the artists had a well-merited share in the triumph.

"THE SILVER BUTTERFLY."

Romantic Spanish Opera, in Two Acts, Written by A. W. Bradshaw, Verses and Music by Bernard Page, Produced for the First Time at the Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham, on Monday, April 25.

Conchita ..... Miss Edith Robey
The Mayor ..... Mr. B. B. Venn
The Clerk ..... Mr. Everard L. Guilford
Mateo ..... Mr. Stuart L. Page
Professor Sir Hemlock-Stone ..... Mr. Harry Stiebel
Juanita ..... Miss Edyth Comery
Geoffrey ..... Mr. Archibald C. P. Coggan
Betty Hemlock-Stone ..... Miss Maude Cooper
Jack Hemlock-Stone ..... Mr. Wilfrid Thompson
Pedro ..... Mr. F. W. Ford
Carlos ..... Mr. A. T. T. Dugard
Jose ..... Mr. Jos. P. Dixon
Pepita ..... Miss Phyllis Vowles
Maria ..... Miss Jessie Vowles

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Nottingham "Scarecrow" Society has done excellent work the last four years, and their latest production, *The Silver Butterfly*, bids fair to eclipse all previous efforts. Mr. Bradshaw's plot is simple, but effective. Pedro, a native of Granada, has been outlawed for an offence of which he was innocent. He becomes the head of a band of desperados, and revenges himself by making captures of natives and tourists alike. Act I. finds him at Granada, on the fête day of the Patron Saint, accompanied by his band, disguised as monks. He desecrates the Saint's statue, and in the confusion escapes, only to return and make captors of some of the leading townsmen and a party of English tourists, among whom is a noted entomologist in search of a specimen of the silver butterfly.

Act II. takes place at the brigands' lair. Juanita, who is betrothed to Pedro, makes friends with the daughter of the entomologist, whose fiancée is also among the prisoners, and in procuring their release she also secures a pardon for Pedro. Mr. Page is to be congratulated on his pretty and melodious music, some of the numbers being of exceptional merit.

The rôle of Juanita was undertaken by Miss Edyth Comery, whose vivacious style, both in singing and dancing, was worthy of all praise. The cultured voice of Miss Maud Cooper gave full expression to the music of Betty. Mr. A. C. P. Coggan vocalised pleasantly as Geoffrey; Miss Edith Robey made an engaging Conchita; Mr. Harry Stiebel's assumption of the Professor proved an excellent mirth-provoker; Mr. F. W. Ford gave a spirited portrayal of the bandit chief Pedro, and was ably seconded by Mr. A. T. Dugard as Carlos. The dancing of the Misses Vowles was executed with neatness and finish.

Visitors to the Crystal Palace will see evidence of the enterprise of Mr. Geo. O. Starr, the ever-resourceful manager, for not only has the building been repainted, but the whole of the centre transept has been artistically rearranged, and the many statues of historical and artistic interest renovated and placed to advantage. The whole effect is unique, and should prove of great interest to foreign visitors, for nowhere can such fine statuary be seen.

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.

On Thursday, at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, were produced, under the direction of Mr. Frank Jackson, three new plays by Beatrice Haden Tebb. Each of them met with a good reception, the author being called at the conclusion of the afternoon's performance. It may be presumed that the productions were first attempts in dramatic authorship, and as such they were not devoid of merit, but none of them showed any special excellence. The weakest of the three plays was the first, which was entitled

"BETTY."

Mr. Varney ..... MR. A. B. TAPPING
George ..... MR. J. COOKE BERESFORD
Betty ..... MISS MAY TAVENER

Mr. Varney is a widower with an only daughter. Although a very humble member of society, he has managed to give her a good education, and, as he puts it, "made a lady of her." But she has, it seems, only been able to obtain an engagement as a dancer at one of the theatres. However, brilliant marriages by pretty young girls who have only held very subordinate positions on the stage are not unknown, and Betty has made a conquest of Sir Arthur Clees, who has promised her marriage. But the girl meets with a frigid reception from the haughty aristocratic mother of the young man, who it appears has just been appointed to a diplomatic post at a foreign Court. Betty decides that the time has come for her to make a choice between her own happiness and the future advancement in his profession of the man she loves. It will never do for him to marry a mere stage girl, the daughter of obscure people, and so on the day that was to have been her wedding-day she breaks off the engagement. Her father believes she is about to be married, and does his best to prepare a wedding breakfast, with the ready assistance of a young fellow named George, who is employed at a neighbouring restaurant. Betty returns home very miserable, and tells her father what has happened. George recognises in her the girl he has met, not knowing she was the daughter of his old friend, and secretly fallen in love with. From words that she lets fall, he guesses that she contemplates suicide, and he not only expresses his sympathy, but gives the unhappy girl some sound advice, at the same time hinting that he, too, is the victim of an unhappy love affair. Betty is evidently touched by his kindness, and diverted from her suicidal purpose, and probably in due course the humble admirer will receive his reward. Mr. A. B. Tapping gave a quietly effective embodiment of Mr. Varney; and Mr. J. Cooke Beresford was natural and earnest in his portrayal of George. Miss May Tavener did her best with the part of the lachrymose Betty.

The second play on the list was entitled

"THE MACHINATIONS OF MARIA."

Dick Heathcote ..... MR. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Muriel Heathcote ..... MISS SCOTT-LAUDER
Sybil Ormrodd ..... MISS NELLIE MORGAN
Maria ..... MISS LOUIE EMERY

The young married couple, Dick Heathcote and his wife Muriel, have fallen upon evil days, and are living in shabby apartments in a working-class neighbourhood. It is only by means of frequent visits to the pawnshop that they are able to pay their way, and having lived for some time on the proceeds of these compulsory transactions with "uncle," they are at last reduced to five shillings. The couple are waited upon by a slavey of the Belinda type. Though dreadfully untidy and grimy of face, Maria has the redeeming quality of a warm, sympathetic heart. But she is certainly rather rude to Sybil Ormrodd who, in the absence of Dick, calls to invite her friend Muriel to accompany her on a drive. At the same time she imparts the good news that her father is in a position to offer Dick a vacant post worth £200 a year. Maria objects to the visitor, believing her to be "stuck up" and slow to assist a friend in need. Sybil accidentally leaves behind her muff, containing her purse in which are £50 in notes and gold. This is found by Maria, who, foolishly acting on the impulse of the moment, places half of the notes and gold in the pocket of a coat belonging to Dick, believing she is doing him a good turn. Muriel on returning home meets her husband, who, having found the money, is under the impression that his wife has borrowed it from her friend. After he has quitted the house Sybil returns and discovers that she has been robbed. Muriel, thinking that Dick must have appropriated the money, takes the blame upon herself. Eventually, however, Maria owns up, and as she acted with the best of motives she is forgiven. Miss Louie Emery played the part of Maria in a broadly humorous style that proved highly effective. Mr. Lawrence Leyton was good as Dick Heathcote, Miss Scott-Lauder did very well as Muriel, and Miss Nellie Morgan was a satisfactory Sybil Ormrodd.

The third and last play was entitled

"MAN'S HERITAGE."

Hal ..... MR. J. COOKE BERESFORD
Jim ..... MISS DELPHINE GIBBS
Warder ..... MR. E. J. CARLIN
Ferguson ..... MR. A. B. TAPPING
Mrs. Ferguson ..... MISS ALICE FARLEIGH

The scene is Mrs. Ferguson's sitting-room, and the time Christmas Eve. The young man visitor, Hal, believes that the lady is a widow living alone with her little boy Jim, for whom he has brought toys as Christmas presents. Mrs. Ferguson receives a message. It is from her husband, a convict, who has escaped from prison. He had been sentenced for life, and she believed that she had seen the last of the man who had brought disgrace and shame upon her. Hal inquires the cause of her agitation, and she tells him her sad story. Her purpose had been to regard her husband as one dead and to save her boy the pain of knowing that his father was a convict. Hal declares that it had been his intention to ask her to marry him. As it is, he endeavours to persuade her to join him. As they are talking she sees a face at the window, but her companion believes she is mistaken. It is no mere fancy, for the convict husband enters and confronts the pair. He attempts to fire a revolver, but is seized by Hal. The convict, however, manages to pull the trigger, and fatally wounds his own son Jim, who, on hearing the disturbance, has rushed in. The convict is horrified on discovering that he has killed his child; but, warned that the prison warders are after him, he disappears. A shot is heard without, and the warder who enters will doubtless find that the man he is pursuing is dead by his own hand. Mr. J. Cooke Beresford deserves praise for his careful embodiment of Hal, and Miss Alice Farleigh was admirable as the supposed widow. Miss Delphine Gibbs was a pleasing representative of the boy Jim; Mr. A. B. Tapping deserves a word of praise for his capital embodiment of the escaped convict; and Mr. E. J. Carlin as the warder completed the cast.

M. GUITRY, who plays the name-part in *Chantecler*, is guaranteed by contract a minimum of £60,000, and 10 per cent. of the gross receipts. The play has reached its hundredth performance in Paris. For the first few weeks the average evening's receipts at the Porte St. Martin were between £450 and £500. They now average only £320.

PRINCE ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT was in the royal box at Covent Garden on Tuesday night to hear *Die Walküre*. Prince Francis of Teck was in the stalls, and the Earl and Countess of Portsmouth, the Countess of Plymouth, Lady Phyllis Clive, the Marquis of Ripon, Lady Maude Warrender, Lady Diana Manners, Lady Cory, Lady Carew, Lord Cecil Manners, Lady Marion Wilson, and Countess Fritz Hochberg were also present.

"AN OLD REPROBATE."

Play, in Three Acts, by John Knowles Lund, Produced, for the First Time on any Stage, by the Stretford Amateur Operatic Society, at the Saos Hall, Stretford, on Saturday, April 23.

"Colonel" Harrington .. MR. HENRY WORRALL
Rev. John Truelove ..... MR. F. FOLLOWS
Nathaniel Nelson, Esq. .... MR. R. H. BRANDER
Mr. Grainger ..... MR. L. WILKINSON
Mr. Roberts ..... MR. J. B. DAVIES
Mr. Spedding ..... MR. T. L. LUND
Mr. Fussingham ..... MR. A. B. LUCAS
Bradshaw ..... MR. THOMAS KNOWLES
Miss Esther Nelson ..... MISS H. HOLLANDER
Mrs. Dalby ..... MISS BENT
Mary Burton ..... MISS G. COOPER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Lund's play, *An Old Reprobate*, is devoted chiefly to the exploitation of a rather heroic character, who has one besetting weakness—drink. We have seen a similar character, treated on different lines, in *Sweet Lavender*, and in this case also there is at the end the saving grace of redemption; but there the relationship between Colonel Harrington and Dick Phenyl ends. Harrington never loses dignity nor self-conceit; he is upright and talkative upon his own merits, with a knowledge of subjects on which to write articles that do not particularly come within the range of a soldier's experience. Truth to tell, there is a doubt about the "Colonel's" credentials as a military man, though he looks one, every inch of him; and how he comes to be a derelict contributor to the *Willinghampton Weekly Spectator* is a further point for consideration. The fact that he is so, however, provides an interesting opening scene in the editorial office of the paper. There we see him "declined" with something less than thanks, for the office wants no more of his work. Pride, anger, dignity, despair serve in their turn to bring out the circumstances and something of the story of the man whom the editor openly scorns. What we eventually know of him is this: for years he has eked out an alcoholic livelihood by means of his pen; he has an adopted son, whom he put out to education for the Church at the cost of great privation, and who now is making his way as the Rev. John Truelove; he has also adopted the daughter, Mary, of his dead friend, Burton, who, in a quiet way, is doing well, after the manner of women; he is particularly abhorred by Nathaniel Nelson, Esq., proprietor of the *Weekly Spectator* and deacon of a chapel; and the editor, who, for the sake of charity, might publish some of Harrington's work under another name, would have us believe also that the old reprobate is wanted by the police for some crime or other, on the strength of a curious advertisement in a paper which he thrusts under the Colonel's nose. This hint of crime, however, is not altogether unjustified, for Harrington makes a sort of admission; only its nature is not revealed at any point of the play. Presently we are made aware that the Rev. John Truelove is the person selected by old Nelson to fill the place of minister to his chapel, subject to the approval of the deacons; also that there is every possibility, so far as Nelson's desire is concerned, of John marrying the old fellow's daughter, who is also of a rather tractish frame of mind. But Nelson is a self-righteous old tyrant, and will not lend his countenance to the preferment of the young parson unless the latter consents to give up the acquaintanceship of Harrington. Truelove responds as a parson should; besides, he cannot forget the days he and the Colonel spent together in earlier years, playing Crusoe and Co. in their modest room; furthermore, for the audience at least, there is the bond of blood between the two—John Truelove is the son of Harrington. The latter, in despair and guessing further trouble in this contact with the homecoming of his son, sees a way out of it all; and in the next scene he makes a long but pathetic attempt to poison himself. Mary Burton intervenes in the nick of time. Mary is a nice girl, with plenty of affection for the Colonel. She is full of grief and horror; but the coming of John, whom she has long secretly loved, puts a different complexion on affairs. The love-making of the young people, unexpected by Mary, but welcome, is deferred by the appearance of a man who has at last traced the subject of the advertisement referred to by the editor of the *Weekly Spectator*. Harrington leaves the room with him; while he is out, John and Mary come to an understanding; and when he returns it is to say that the object of the search for him is to acquaint him with the death of a relative who has left him a fortune. A remark of the Colonel's for a moment recalls the similar circumstance of Dorrit in the Marshalsea, but the mood is not developed. The happy party is interrupted by the advent of Esther Nelson with the news that her father has suddenly died. The sequel to all this is, briefly, the reformation of the Colonel, the marriage of John and Mary, John's knowledge of the truth of his parentage, the buying-up by Harrington of the *Spectator*, and the contrite servility of its editor, and, finally, the recognition by the Colonel of a portrait of himself as—one takes it—he wishes to be remembered, a spruce and temperate gentleman. As a whole, the piece is rather a story than a play, but it is cleverly done in point of dialogue and characterisation, in which real ability is shown. The part of the Old Reprobate was undertaken by Mr. Henry Worrall, who has made some mark on the legitimate stage, and who invested the character with all the essential depth and changes of mood. Especially the Poison scene was well done, the words ringing true, and the actions in keeping with the words. In Nathaniel Nelson the author has provided a very effective character-part, which was quite cleverly handled by Mr. R. H. Brander. As the Editor and Assistant-Editor of the *Spectator* Messrs. L. Wilkinson and J. B. Davies were efficient and at ease; Miss Bent gave a clever and humorous delineation of Mrs. Dalby, a talkative neighbour of the Colonel's; and as Esther Nelson Miss H. Hollander contributed a sufficiently effective impersonation. The Mary Burton of Miss G. Cooper was a very pleasant and sympathetic piece of work, which added to the human interest of the situation in the second and third acts; and an admirably natural rendering of the Rev. John Truelove was added by Mr. F. Follows, whose style and movement are much above the average, and who was certainly one of the most prominent successes of the evening. The play proved greatly interesting to a large audience, and might prove valuable to the stage if sharpened to a more dramatic point. It shows plenty of ability, and the author was deservedly called at the close. Mr. Henry Worrall was the producer.

"OTTO I., OTTO II., OTTO III." is the unusual title of a new burlesque-farce to be produced at the Thalia Theatre, Berlin, this evening. Jean Kren is the author, assisted by Herr Schoenfeld, the other manager and clever couplet writer. The incidental music is also by Herr Kren.

HERR SIEGFRIED LUTZ, the translator into German of *When Knights were Bold*, is contemplating the acquisition of another successful English farce, *The Naked Truth*. In the meantime *Die Goldene Ritterzeit* is filling the bill at the Neues Theatre nightly, and is to go on tour in Germany when it has run in Berlin a little longer.

A PLEASING innovation has been introduced in connection with the performances of *The Islander*, the successful musical play at the Apollo, scent or incense being used to perfume the theatre during the second act in order to suggest an Oriental atmosphere.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

DEATH OF BJORNSON.

Pathos and dignity, says the *Standard* correspondent, alike attended the last hours of Björnstjerne Björnson, who died in Paris on Tuesday. The famous author had been gradually growing weaker ever since last October, and the fleeting improvement of the last few days was one of the frequent precursors of the end. Up till almost the last, however, he continued to work on a "Cantata" in verse which has been set to music by Sinding, and on the language question in Norway, which was a point on which he felt and wrote strongly. Björnson's last article was on this subject; and a few hours before his death he said: "I have written something which ought to be a clou. Quick! Send it to a newspaper! It is in that drawer." When he felt death to be approaching he remarked: "I understand that there is a deep gulf between the thoughts of life and the thoughts of death. I have the impression that the thoughts of death hold fast to religion."

Twice in the course of Monday afternoon the doctors visited him, and Dr. Dubois stated that there was no longer any hope. Björnson's wife and daughter and son-in-law, M. and Mme. Ibsen, were with him when he died.

At Wednesday sitting of the Storthing at Christiania, at which the Ministers were present, the President delivered a speech in which he alluded in eloquent terms to the late M. Björnstjerne Björnson, to whom the House decided to accord a State funeral. The sitting was then adjourned as a sign of mourning. All the theatres were closed in the evening.

King Haakon was the guest on Tuesday evening of the Foreign Minister, but on the arrival of the news of the death of M. Björnson the party immediately broke up. His Majesty has sent the following telegram to Mme. Björnstjerne Björnson:—

"Accept the cordial sympathy of myself and the Queen in the irreparable loss which you, Norway, and we all have suffered."

The Government have telegraphed to Mme. Björnson in Paris an expression of their sympathy, which, they state, is shared by the whole Norwegian nation. The Presidents of both Houses of the Storthing have also expressed their condolences to Mme. Björnson on behalf of the members.

Born in the valley of the Dovrefjeld, at Kvikne, where his father was pastor, in 1832, the first six years of Björnson's life," so we learn from a prefactory note to his play *Laboremus*, published by Chapman and Hall, "were spent in a district, bleak, bare, surrounded by barren mountains, scarcely populated, and inhabited by a people who could count on but one harvest in five years. When Björnson was six years old his father was moved to Naes, in the valley of the Romsdal, a land of rich variety, full of beautiful scenery and the stir of life, and supporting a people frank, vivacious and capricious. Thus in boyhood was he able to learn and compare. His first essays in literature were songs, which the peasants sang, and by the time that he had devoured the sagas and fairy-tales amidst the scenes of his youth, he 'saw the peasant in the light of the sagas, and the sagas in the light of the peasant.' He revivified the saga style, and in *Synnöve Solbakken*, *A Father*, *The Eagle's Nest*, elevated by its grandeur the idyllic theme of the loves of Norwegian peasants. Popular song and legend were the fountains from which he drew the material for his art. It was because he glorified peasant life that Björnson's literary fame was quickly established, in spite of his new and strange style to a literary class who formed their ideal on the philosophic culture of Heiberg and the refinement and charm of Henrik Hertz. The national Liberals in Denmark and the Scandinavians in Norway were still in literature the friends of the peasant, and they took Björnson under their protection. In the peasant they looked to find the sound core of the nation, and works which delicately, poetically, and artistically glorified peasant life and love were welcomed in Denmark, and for the same reason were partially recognised in Norway.

"Björnson, nevertheless, early became 'a sign to be spoken against.' He desired to elevate and raise his people and to be one with them. He wanted to be a reformer in every domain. Dramas and poems followed his peasant romances, and as Director of the Christiania Theatre (1857-1858), he did his best to found a national theatre, and gained valuable experience for his own dramatic writing. Two plays of his first period, *Maria Stuart* (1864), and *Married* (1865), were remarkably successful on the stage, while as an example of his popular style, the ballad of *Nils Finn* may be taken, a ballad which Lobedanz has aptly compared to Goethe's *Erlköni*, and which Dr. Brandes considers undoubtedly stands the comparison. But Björnson at no time considered himself merely a poet and author. He early accepted a wider vocation. The great idea of his life, the determination to improve, to civilise his country, and to preserve the independence of the two kingdoms of Norway and Sweden, made him willingly do the work of journalist and orator. But it was not until Björnson's second period of literary activity, when he had exhausted his original stock of material, and after a silence of some years, that he represents men and ideas of his day in his work and brings his politics into his literature.

All the best works of his first period were written by the time he was a little over thirty, and in these, like almost all contemporary Scandinavian writers, he kept at a distance from all the thought and life of the day. If he represented them he did it unintentionally, and they appeared dressed in old Norwegian or ancient Scottish costumes. His work of this early period had remarkable qualities, but showed no development. It seemed that it was to be with Björnson as with many Danes, that before he reached the prime of his manhood his voice was to be heard no more, because he could not renew his strength. The North at this period was shut off from the intellectual life of the time, but in the early seventies a great change came.

"Scandinavia was stirred by a modern, intellectual, and literary movement, and Björnson, in studying the work of John Stuart Mill, of Darwin, Taine, Max Müller, awoke to a new life, and found new and rich springs welling up in him after his fortieth year. He had got, as he wrote to Dr. Brandes, 'eyes that saw, ears that heard.' The ideas of the century had come into his poet's mind, and fecundated it. A burning love of truth sets its mark upon him. He plunges into modern life with the drama *Bankruptcy*, and follows in quick succession with *A King*—an attack on the social order of a monarchy—*Magnhild* and *Leonarda* on the relation of natural to conventional morality, *The New System*, and *Captain Mansana*. It is now that he embodies the best of his nation He represents its self-criticism. By nature he was a popular spirit, a spiritual representative of the people. He has ever felt himself borne onwards by his country, its history and aims, and in this belief he has spoken, and he has had his whole nation with him and at his back, as have few poets, living or dead.

Björnson has not, like Ibsen, produced a new art, nor added new traits to his genius, but the old rivalry in the varied treatment of the same subject has, to a certain extent, remained. The old order is, however, reversed. It is now Björnson who, in 1883, treated in *En Hanske* (*A Glove*) the sexual problems which Ibsen had attacked in *Ghosts*; and in *The Wild Duck* of Ibsen may, according to Mr. Edmund Gosse, be found the key to Björnson's *Overalvne* (*Alone*). Similarly, shortly after Ibsen depicts Work shattered by Love in his last play, *When We Dead Awaken*, Björnson makes Work the redemption of the lover in *Laboremus*."

"SMILE, SMILE, SMILE."

LAST SATURDAY NIGHT AT STEDMAN'S.

From time to time in the pretty cream and gold Stedman theatre in Great Windmill-street performances are given in which the young—and for the most part prepossessing and charming—students of the famous theatrical academy take part. The idea is an excellent one, for it enables the stage aspirant to gain confidence before audiences. No visitor expects finished work, and that being so, last Saturday night's guests got a delightful surprise whilst witnessing the graceful and clever efforts of eighteen or more of Mr. Marshall Moore and Mlle. Lilian Leoffler's pupils. The entire proceedings were a revelation in budding talent, and it is a safe prophesy that many of the young ladies and gentlemen who made their début last Saturday night will be headliners at our best theatres in the near future.

It is stale news that Stedman's Academy has trained many stage favourites of to-day, and the very business-like directors—Messrs. Griffiths and Benwell—the latter, one of the most accomplished musicians of to-day—spare no efforts to maintain the standard on which the fame of the academy has been built.

The theatre was very crowded some time before the performance started, and a glance at the programme revealed the fact that one must expect a succession of varied dances and recitations. Miss Hilda Boot led off with a terpsichorean number of the ballet variety. This young lady looked really sweet in a dress of white and gold, and her every movement was graceful and showed the result of careful study. She was followed by Miss Diana Tunstall with a conventional Spanish castanet dance.

Very youthful Queenie Reader and Dorothy Pusey showed us how very natural, easy, and delightful it was to strew "Apple Blossoms" to a classical measure, and then to vary the proceedings Mr. Stanley Hughes gave us a sample of his elocution, reciting Robert Buchanan's "Fra Giacomo" forcefully and well.

One of the solo dancers—Miss Dorothy Edwards—whom we remember to have seen in the Court Theatre Production of "Alice in Wonderland" last Yuletide, gave a very finished operatic dance, and Miss Winifred Linder also tripped it right well in the cornflower dance from the same classic.

Miss Gracie Ingram is very fair of face, and a smiling face—"off"—but when on the stage and reciting "A Venetian Revenge" she showed us that her eyes could flash and her mouth could even assume a cruel expression, so well did her mind enter into the lines she was speaking. Miss Ingram's contribution was quite the best item in the long programme, very finished and thoroughly enjoyable.

Stedman's might take for its motto: "Smile, smile, smile; keep on smiling all the while." Every pupil is evidently taught to smile prettily whilst facing the audience, and right well the majority of them did it last Saturday.

"Can you tell me, please," lisped a little lassie to the writer, "when 'The Red Shoes' comes on, because I have got to sing in the choir, 'off.' Mr. Moore said he would fetch me, but—you never know, do you? Oh, if he forgets!" The agony of thought suggested by such a catastrophe almost overwhelmed this warbler of seven, with golden curls and a dress with quite four and a half inches of skirt to it. But Mr. Moore claimed her in time and averted an avalanche of tears.

Another clever little soul was Miss Cora Goffin, who gave us a dance, and then told us how her grandma danced the minuet long ago, but that in the present day grandma was kept busy darning grandpa's stockings.

We should like to say many nice things concerning the efforts of the Misses Meynell, Denzel, Ford, Newton, Cummerson, Tunstall, Brier, Block, Brown, and Bartlett, but space forbids.

It is an education on education to be priviledged to attend one of the private performances at Messrs. Stedman's, and we have to thank the principals for a very delightful evening, which was brought to a close with many floral and other offerings to Mlle. Leoffler, the clever teacher of clever pupils.

SHERIDAN AT THE REHEARSAL.

A repertory theatre on a small scale seems to have been instituted by Mr. Clive Currie in Maiden-lane, and so influential has the enterprise become that it is shortly to seek more extensive premises at the Court. A dozen important revivals and several new one-act pieces have been given during the past year in commendable style, but the company excelled itself on Monday afternoon last, when Sheridan's comedy, *School for Scandal*, was performed in a fashion worthy of a far larger audience than the little Rehearsal Theatre would hold.

A difficulty of a most provoking character faced Mr. Currie on Monday, the special scenery ordered for the production having failed to arrive. The piece had, therefore, to be confined to one scene, and it says much for the ability of the performers that the representation proved thoroughly enjoyable. Though, perhaps, not so courtly in style as one might wish, Mr. Currie was a buoyant and highly humorous Charles Surface, while the sentiment of the scene of the picture sale was admirably preserved. The honours of that episode, as indeed of the whole of play, were worthily shared by Mr. W. R. Staveley, who made a hearty and jolly Sir Oliver, with overflowing spirits and a delivery exactly suited to the words. Sir Peter Teazle was also in safe hands, Mr. Montague Mazeran combining the ponderous tones and impressive dignity of the part with the needed sense of humour. Miss Ursula Keene was a captivating Lady Teazle, and her gifts of light comedy bore the test of the quarrelling episodes very well. Her share of the screen scene, which was admirably enacted, was also creditably accomplished.

At first Mr. Osborn Adair inclined to over-accentuation both in gesture and delivery in the rôle of Joseph Surface, but as the play progressed he entered thoroughly into the spirit of the part and got through his arduous duties with conspicuous ability. Mr. Vivian Gilbert gave the drollest possible conception of Sir Benjamin Backbite, and was the cause of genuine merriment, his efforts being seconded by Mr. Victor Wiltshire, who acted Crabtree amusingly, being very well made up. He was also a spirited Careless, but would have done better had he modified his voice a little. An entertaining interlude was afforded by Miss May Saker, who as Trip submitted a study of the elegant flunkey distinguished by artistic skill and finish. Miss Clarice Laurence invested Maria with girlish grace and maidenly modesty, and Miss Maud Bowyer was a consistently haughty Lady Sneerwell, Miss Letty Paxton playing prettily as her maid. Mr. Keith J. Shepherd give a clever sketch of Moses, being, however, rather Cockney than Hebrew in his delivery, while his performance of Snake is wholly to be commended. Miss Edith Carter did excellent service as Mrs. Candour.

During an interval Miss Mary Forbes, who has been appearing in *The Fighting Chance* at the Lyceum, gave much pleasure by her recitation of "The Making of Song," acting and speaking with equal excellence, and as an agreeable contrast, rendered with humour Grossmith's "The Wife Who Sat Up." Miss Irene Delisse sang a French chanson with delicate expression, but lacking in power, and Miss Brenda Gayne and Mr. Joseph Schofield furnished much appreciated duets on piano and violoncello respectively.

THE hundredth performance of *Dame Nature* takes place at the Garrick Theatre this evening.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"BRIDGE,"

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Pierre Berton, from the Novel by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, Produced at Réjane's on April 22.

Jane Lambourne ..... MLLE. ARLETTE DORGÈRE
Billy Honour ..... MLLE. LUTZI
Lady Hales ..... MLLE. LAURE
Mme. Smith ..... MLLE. MILLER
Mary Delamere ..... MLLE. CARENE
Francis Delamere ..... M. CARRY
Baby Sheen ..... M. SIGNORET
Charles Smith ..... M. PUYLAGARDE
Grand Duc ..... M. VARENNES
General Blowel ..... M. BARRE
Philipot ..... M. GARNIER
Meredith ..... M. BOSMAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 28.—It is a pity that the public who witnessed the first performance of *Bridge* should not have been told that the picture of English life shown there was really a parody, for the result was that the audience were quite at sea, and went home with the idea that a country wherein the members of society behave in such an outrageous manner is certainly on the decline. There is a Duke of Cheshire, a cynical gentleman, who refuses to supply his second son, Frank, with any funds, and Frank's attempts to extract money from his elder brother, Tarpoley, likewise prove fruitless. Frank, therefore, is compelled to leave his regiment and to devise some means of earning a living. Having confided his troubles to his friend, Sir Edward Sheen, that gentleman advises him to adopt the profession of cheating at Bridge, a profession which is bringing him in a comfortable income. After some hesitation Frank accepts the suggestion, and becomes Sheen's partner. Frank loves Jane Lambourne. At his houseboat on the Thames he asks her to marry him, and is accepted. But Sheen has also a lady friend, Billy Honour, an actress, who, having found out that Sheen and Frank get money by cheating at cards, induces Sheen to leave his partner. Left to his own resources, Frank is again miserable, and finally confesses everything to Jane, suggesting that they had better quit this world. Jane, however, is practical, and she points out to her despairing lover that suicide would not advance matters, whilst if she took the place of the absent Sheen and helped to cheat at Bridge they could make plenty of money. And so they do, for in the third act they have amassed a large fortune. Unfortunately this happy state of things does not last. One of Jane's admirers, a certain Charles Smith, discovers the secret, but promises to hold his tongue if Jane proves herself a little more accessible. He even suggests that Frank is to lend him Jane, say for a week or so, a proposal that causes him to be kicked out of the house by the infuriated Frank. Once more Frank and Jane are at their wits' end, and once more the idea of suicide enters their mind. The scene of the last act is laid in the house of Mrs. Smith, Charles Smith's mother, where we meet an eccentric Grand Duke. Both the Grand Duke and Frank are drunk, and after Charles Smith has proved that Frank is nothing but a common cheat, the latter unblushingly admits that he has been "working" the cards for the last few years. This admission falls like a thunderclap on the assembly, but a telegram is brought in informing Frank that his brother Tarpoley has been killed in an automobile smash, so that he (Frank) is now Duke of Cheshire; and as a Duke cannot do wrong, the guests deal very indulgently with Frank, and agree that this card-playing affair was silly nonsense on his part. This somewhat disconcerting play was fairly well acted. Mlle. Arlette Dorgère, who is more at home in opérette, was a fascinating Jane, as far as looks went; and Mlle. Lutzi imparted much humour to the part of Billy Honour. MM. Signoret, Carry, and Puylagarde made the most of their rôles.

"LE SONGE D'UN SOIR D'AMOUR" is the title of a weird one-act play, by M. Henry Bataille, produced at the Comédie-Française. A famous young poet, betrayed by the woman he loves, seeks consolation with a fascinating courtesan. The latter, honoured by the visit of such a distinguished man, soon loses her heart to him, and anxiously waits for the moment that he will make his declaration. But as he utters the first word of love he hesitates, for an apparition glides into the room—that of his former mistress. Neither he nor the courtesan sees her, for she is, as she says herself, the image engraved in his heart, the "recollection" of happy days. She is coquettish, alluring, and she strokes his hand when he takes up his cup of tea, as if to remind him of the days when they, too, took tea together. In vain does the courtesan tempt him in every way. The graceful spectre always stands between her and the object of her love, and when the apparition whispers to him to tell the woman that he does not love her, he unconsciously repeats the words and slowly leaves the room, to return to the syren who enslaves him and will deceive him again at the first opportunity. The little act, written in blank verse, was admirably acted. Mme. Bartet incarnated with consummate art the shadow of the scheming, cruel mistress, terrible in her diabolical beauty. Mlle. Sorel gave a good account of the courtesan trying in vain to ensnare the poet; and M. Grand was an impressive lover. Special praise is due to the management for the manner in which they dealt with the light effects on the apparition, which imparted to it something unearthly that kept the audience spellbound. The clever act met with a first-class reception.

THERE is trouble, serious trouble, between M. Louys and Mlle. Polaire. M. Pierre Louys, the well-known author, wrote a play called *La Femme et le Pantin*. According to Mlle. Polaire the chief rôle therein was promised to her, whilst now it will be impersonated by Mlle. Badet. Mlle. Polaire is wroth with M. Gémier, but it is especially on M. Louys that she unloads her anger. She has threatened to shoot that author, and has already started against him a campaign of defamation, for which she may have to pay rather dearly. I am not in a position to say in how far M. Louys has broken his promise to Mlle. Polaire, but that talented artist is very ill-advised to pursue a course from which her friends ought to restrain her.

THE management of the Comédie-Francaise held its annual meeting, represented by MM. Mounet-Sully, Silvain, Férandy, Lambert, Paul Mounet, Berr, Leitner, Duflos, and Dehelly. M. Claretie, the director, having thanked the members of the House of Molière for the services rendered by them, M. Siblot read the financial report, which proved that the Comédie-Française is in a flourishing condition. The year 1909 shows a profit of £17,680, in consequence of which—after 10 per cent. has been deducted for the reserve fund—each share will receive £760. In M. Siblot's report the wish is expressed that the sociétaires who accept too many engagements in the provinces and in foreign countries may be induced to stick a little more to their posts.

THE Crystal Palace Orchestral Society will give a repetition of the concert selection of *The Princess of Kensington* in the concert hall of the Crystal Palace to-night (Saturday). The second half of the programme will be devoted to popular airs, including Sullivan's overture "Di Ballo," and the same composer's charming dances from *The Tempest*, the three dances from *Henry VIII.*, by Ed. German, and Gounod's ballet music of *Polyeucte*. The chief soloists will be Miss Clara Dow and Mr. Harold Wilde. Mr. Fred. W. Holloway will be at the piano, while the whole of the arrangements will be under the personal supervision of the musical director of the Palace, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 25, the Drama, entitled
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

Mr. Frederick Melville's company is entertaining crowded houses with *The Bad Girl of the Family*, the strong dramatic situations being followed with rapt attention. The piece is excellently staged, whilst the members of the company are judiciously placed. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves is seen to great advantage as Lieut. Richard Marsh, R.N., and his conception of the character is manly and sincere, without the slightest trace of affectation. As the unscrupulous Harry Gordon Mr. George R. Montford succeeds in obtaining the execrations of the audience throughout. Mr. Montford gives a careful and highly finished portrayal of a cool, gentlemanly villain. Mr. Frederick W. Freeman plays with earnestness and directness of method as Lord Erskine; and Mr. George Belmore realises the character of Jerry Holmes admirably, losing no opportunity for displaying his ability. Mr. Luke Forster submits a very funny sketch of the Hebrew character, Barney Gordon, and the unlimited scope the part offers him is taken due advantage of. Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle and Miss Amy Randolph as Sally Smithers keep the house in a ripple of merriment. Miss Guinevere Shilton deserves favourable mention for her excellent interpretation of Mrs. Moore. Miss Violet Crossley enacts the title-part, and her rendition is particularly forcible and clever. She seems eminently adapted for the part, and it would indeed be a difficult task to improve upon her reading. Honour Moore is capitally played by Miss Margaret Tueskie; and Miss Daisie Cook makes a charming and sympathetic Gladys Erskine, playing the part with tact and discretion. Mr. R. Duncan Bell plays with earnestness and directness of method as John Moore; and nothing but praise can be bestowed upon Mr. Charles Eustace's brief performance as Inspector Lawrence. The production is under the entire management of Mr. Chris. Mason, who also undertakes the arduous duties of stage-directorship, assisted by Mr. Fredk. Carr.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 25, the Farcical Play, by F. Anstey, entitled
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

It was laughter from beginning to end on Monday evening at the King's when *The Brass Bottle*, fresh from its long and successful season at the Vaudeville Theatre, commenced a week's engagement before a very crowded house, to whom the combination of Arabian Nights mystery and modernity irresistibly appealed. Comical indeed were the effects produced by the well-meant efforts of the Genie to express his gratitude for his release from the Brass Bottle, and Mr. Anstey's ably-written farce can be highly recommended as a certain cure for melancholy. Mr. Holman Clark's rendering of Fahrash-el-Aamash is ludicrously excellent, his make-up and acting being all that could be desired. Horace Ventimore is extremely well played by Mr. Lawrence Grossmith, whose easy acting proves him to be a worthy member of a clever family; Mr. Percy Marshall's characterisation of Professor Anthony Futvoye could not be bettered; and Mr. Rudge Hardinge interprets the sneaking Spencer Pringle in capital style. A very creditable performance of the astonished Samuel Wackerbath is given by Mr. Luigi Lablache, and Mr. Harry Norton as the bibulous Rapkin is deserving of praise. Miss Viva Birkett is a charming and intelligent Sylvia Futvoye, and Mrs. Futvoye is carefully played by Miss Lena Halliday. Miss Mary Brough's delicious picture of the lodging-house keeper Mrs. Rapkin is a treat to witness; Miss Armine Grace as Mrs. Wackerbath lends valuable aid; Miss Gladys Storey is a dainty Jessie; Miss Meta de Burgh as Zobeida dances with spirit; and the Chief of the Caravan (Mr. A. Spencer) and Head Effreet (Mr. John Carey) are impressive in their solemnity. The mystery effects are exceedingly well carried out, and the scenery is in every way praiseworthy.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 25, the Drama, entitled
"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."

Mr. Charles Darrell has a happy way of writing dramas that appeal strongly to the tender feelings of an audience, and at Hammersmith his works always play to good business. The above drama is no exception to the rule. It is being toured by Mis Renée Glendower with a most efficient cast. Miss Glendower herself plays in a most sympathetic and taking manner the part of the artist's model, Janet McAllister; Mr. J. M. Oliver plays in manly style the part of Dr. Mark Haven, and speaks his lines with telling effect; as the villainous Rupert Wogan Danescombe Mr. George Arthur proves an exceedingly good "heavy" man of much originality of style; Mr. Martin Alwyne does well as Sir Ernest Cavendish; Mr. Bert Goldin plays the moneylender Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein, giving a most humorous interpretation of the Jew; as his daughter Deborah Miss Tessa Myers acts in a lively manner, and proves very popular; Miss F. Russell Spiers is quite good in the somewhat colourless part of Elfrida Dowager Countess of Saxon Royal; as her detestable and drug-taking daughter, Lady Thora Danescombe, Miss Stella Carmichel shows conspicuous ability; and the minor characters are all well interpreted. The play is admirably staged throughout.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 25, the Musical Play, in two acts, entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

There were but few vacant seats at the Alexandra Theatre when *Our Miss Gibbs*, which is still crowding the Gaiety, was presented for the first time in Stoke Newington by Mr. George Dance's company on Monday evening last. The excellent ensemble that obtains in all Mr. Dance's productions is fully maintained in the present one, the cast being as well chosen and the same care and attention to detail in the matter of mounting and dressing being given as one now naturally expects to find in any organisation sent on the road under this management. A very popular personage is Timothy Gibbs as Mr. Theodore Leonard presents him, and deservedly so, for Mr. Leonard obtains his effects by legitimate means, and his performance is marked by a pleasing absence of the extravagances to which the part so easily lends itself. An altogether delightful representative of the title-rôle is found in Miss Kathleen Courtney, who, whether as actress, singer, or dancer, is equally charming. Mr. Tom Shelford is a capital Hughie Pierrepoint, and plays the part in an easy, good-natured way that makes for success, and needless to say his song in the second act, "Yip-i-addy," is irresistibly redemanded. As Lady Elizabeth Thanet Miss Gladys Ivery displays her fine voice to much advantage in the musical numbers allotted to the part, a part which she invests with no little daintiness and charm. Mr. J. E. Stevenson as Slithers, the professional crook, gives a neat and finished performance, and Mr. Craufurd Kent as Lord Eynsford is all that a musical comedy lover should be both vocally and histrionically. Miss Jennie Richards makes the utmost possible of Mrs. Farquhar, and Miss Nancy Hervyn is a fascinating Madame Jeanne, the Scotch-French modiste at Garrod's. The Earl of St. Ives of Mr. Ernest Darrell (particularly good), the Mr. Toplady of Mr. R. M. Strachan, the Mr. Amalfy of Mr. Murray Stephen, and the Duchess of Minster of Miss Winifred Knightby call for special mention, while to Mr. Henry de Solla, who in addition to appearing as Mr. Beavis is also responsible for the stage-management, an extra word of praise is due for the smoothness and spirit with which the performance goes from beginning to end. The orchestra and chorus are under the capable direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 25, for the First Time in London, the Drama in Four Acts, by Arthur Rosebery, entitled
"THE MASTER MAN."

Frank Manley ..... Mr. Otto Minster
Bob Manley ..... Mr. Bert Lloyd
George Gold ..... Mr. Kenneth Black
Sir Richard Gaythorne .. Mr. Frank Robertson
Major Hawke ..... Mr. Charles Dickens
Lieutenant Hardy ..... Mr. Herbert Morgan
Tom Leader ..... Mr. Harry Playfair
Will Sharp ..... Mr. Herbert Goddard
Sergeant Scott ..... Mr. Arthur Rose
Joe Piper ..... Mr. Barry Charles
Tommy ..... Mr. Charles Barclay
Mistress Leader ..... Miss Anita Playfair
Trixie ..... Miss Mary Stafford Smith
Dame Manley ..... Miss Polly Marsh
Mary Gold ..... Miss Marie Duncan
Blanche Pearl ..... Miss Bessie Rignold

Stirring situations and telling lines abound in *The Master Man*, "a dramatic romance of love and toil," produced last week at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, and accorded a very favourable reception on its first performance in London at the Drury Lane of the East on Monday last. The character which gives the play its title is Frank Manley, a young inventor, who soon after the opening of the play sells a valuable invention to Mr. George Gold, a wealthy engineer and shipbuilder, for £100. He would prefer to wait and see what his idea is worth and be paid by results, but the wily Gold insists on buying the invention outright, Manley, however, being taken into his employ. Gold's daughter Mary has been a witness to the transaction, and it is obvious that the young couple have fallen in love at first sight. When Manley has departed, another visitor is announced, Major Hawke, late private secretary to Sir Richard Gaythorne, who has squandered his wealth and is now penniless, having mortgaged his ancestral home, Gaythorne Court. Hawke is after a fresh situation, and Gold, anxious that his daughter should marry well socially, asks Hawke if he can arrange that he (Gold) shall purchase Gaythorne Court, his idea being that Mary shall eventually wed Sir Richard. In the third scene of this act, the interior of Gaythorne Court, Gold becomes the possessor of the estate, and Sir Richard, who has enlisted, is about to start for the front. Blanche Pearl, a notorious actress, in love with Sir Richard, would purchase the property for him, but she is too late, much to the gratification of Major Hawke, who evidently has no fondness for his late master, and is determined to wed Blanche himself. In the next act, "At the Front," we see Bob Manley, Frank's brother, in the same regiment as Sir Richard, the bearer of important despatches. He is shot by the enemy and disabled, and Sir Richard, donning his clothes, takes his place, and proceeds on his dangerous mission, in which he is successful and for which he is awarded the V.C. Meanwhile at home Hawke is plotting to secure the hand of Blanche, but that versatile young lady at a military fête, disguised as a fortune-teller, gives him a very unpleasant five minutes, and is not particularly kind to old Gold when he enters the tent and has his fortune told. One of her many admirers, who learns that his love for her is not reciprocated, shoots himself, and Hawke denounces her as a murderess, promising to keep silent if she will marry him. We next see the inventor, Frank, testing his model in a tank. So intent is he on his work that he forgets it is his mother's birthday, but that kind-hearted old lady receives much attention and many presents from her other relatives and friends, and is all excitement at the expected return of her other son from the war. Sir Richard comes home, and is given a rousing reception by the villagers, but the faithful Blanche is heartbroken as she sees him escorting Mary through the crowd. Hawke has been busy with his lying tongue and his evil schemes, and all Blanche's letters have been returned, Sir Richard being led to believe that her conduct has been most scandalous during his absence. He eventually proposes to Mary, but that young lady tells him she will always regard him as a true friend, but that her heart belongs to Frank Manley. That honest toiler has perfected his invention, and he can now ask her father for her hand and dictate his terms. Old Gold, however, will not hear of his daughter marrying Frank, and tells her so, and then proceeds to his cottage, gives him a month's notice, and bids his old mother quit the place within a week. He also demands to see the invention, declaring that it is his, as the materials of which it is made were taken from his premises. Frank refuses to let him see it, and is felled to the ground by a blow from a workman. Hawke, forcing the door of the apartment where the model is kept, is struck down by some explosive, which also renders Mr. Gold sightless. Previous to this Sir Richard has found out the truth as to the slanderous statements concerning Blanche, and ere the curtain finally falls the "master man" comes into his own, and there is happiness all round for the deserving ones.

The play was capitally acted throughout, Mr. Otto Minster making a very vigorous and convincing Frank Manley, particularly forcible being his acting in the scene where he refuses to part with the work of his brains, his performance throughout being very impressive. A finished portrayal of the unscrupulous Major Hawke was given by Mr. Charles Dickens, the actor skilfully indicating Hawke's passion for Blanche, his enactment all through being a very meritorious one. Mr. Frank Robertson is responsible for an easy but effective portrayal of Sir Richard; and George Gold has a quite satisfactory representative in Mr. Kenneth Black, the actor skilfully indicating the old man's love for his daughter Mary. Miss Bessie Rignold as Blanche Pearl, "the idol of all," played the falsely-judged woman of the world with the ease and effectiveness one expected from so experienced an actress, particularly impressive being the scene where she appeals to Sir Richard not to believe the lying tales of her traducers, her acting where she masquerades as a fortune-teller also being excellent; and Miss Marie Duncan gave a natural portrayal of the lovable and loyal Mary Gold. There was an abundance of welcome comedy relief throughout, those mainly responsible for it being that versatile and accomplished actress Miss Mary Stafford Smith as Trixie, a sharp-tongued but good-natured lady's maid; Mr. Bert Lloyd as her sweetheart Bob Manley, who is so elated on his return home that he breaks into song—a contribution that gave evident delight; and Miss Polly Marsh as the elderly Mrs. Manley, "her boys' darling," particularly appealing to Monday night's audience being the scene where she celebrates her birthday. The numerous other parts were all adequately enacted, and the dressing and mounting were admirable.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 25, the Naval Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Sidney Cooper are presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre the naval play *The Flag Lieutenant*, by Major W. P. Drury and Leo Trevor. The piece is produced by arrangement with Mr. Cyril Maude, and the acting is remarkably good all round. Mr. George Mallett as Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B., gives a life-like representation of the character. His make-up for the part is splendid, and he seems to bring with him on to the scene the very atmosphere of the sea. Mr. Vincent Fletcher is John Penrose, the Flag Captain, fulfilling the part admirably; and Mr. Edgar Kent is Richard Lascelles, the daring and self-sacrificing young Flag-Lieutenant. There is a breezy abandonment about Mr. Kent's acting in this part which renders the performance very acceptable. Mr. Montagu Love's Major William Thesiger is a manly performance; Mr. George Percy's Walter Crutchley, surgeon in the navy, is a remarkably good character-sketch; and Mr. Hugh Wakefield as Horatio Hood and Mr. Olaf Hytten as Edward Dormer-Lee, two midshipmen, are quite an acquisition to the cast, their high spirits being positively infectious. Mr. John Wheatman's rendering of the part of Michael Palliser, of the Eastern Telegraph Co., a personage who clears up some important points in the story, is excellent. Miss Florence Jackson does not fail to make the best of the many opportunities for good acting falling to the lot of Mrs. Cameron. The Lady Hermione Wynne of Miss Dorothy Ripley is a good performance; and Miss Winifred Valiant as Viola Hood, Miss Stella Leigh as Mrs. Gough-Bogle, and Miss Ada Clarke as Lady Dugdale, complete the cast.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 25,
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Les Cloches de Corneville drew big audiences at Kennington Theatre this week, where the opera was performed by the talented company which Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart have sent on tour. The singing of the principals is excellent, and the chorus is also exceptionally strong, so that the ear-haunting melodies so familiar two decades ago are treated very finely. The striking "Crusaders" chorus in the second act is splendidly rendered, and nightly brings down the house; while the enlarged orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Knight Pearce. The staging leaves little to be desired, the quaint Normandy peasant dresses harmonising effectively with the surrounding scenery of the village of Calvados and the grounds of the Château. The opera is presented under the direction of Mr. St. Alban, who also fills the rôle of Gaspard, the miser. Despite the strain entailed by the duties of stage-management, Mr. St. Alban gives a remarkably vivid sketch of the greedy and sordid selfishness of the old farmer, and in the great scene in the Crusaders' Hall, where he is frightened whilst counting his gold, he acted with consummate skill. In the lighter part of the Bailie, that well-known operatic comedian, Mr. Mark Leicester, won fresh laurels by the cleverness of his work. He introduced a lot of genuine humour, and his efforts were ably seconded by Mr. Alfred Selby as Gobo. Mr. Selby was always bubbling over with merriment, and occasioned a lot of fun. Miss Gurney Delaporte was a bright and vivacious Serpolette, acting with great spirit and singing and dancing well. Her song, "Just look at that," was rendered with much animation. As Germaine Miss Vera Dorien was excellent. She has a silvery voice of considerable range, which won her an enthusiastic encore for "Ding, dong, bells." Mr. Augustus Cramer made an impressive and imposing Marquis de Corneville, and his best song, "Fairest Maiden," was warmly received. Mr. Wensley's Russell's fine voice found ample scope in the part of Grenicheaux, and he captured the house with "On billows rocking," which was a decidedly good piece of vocalisation. Miss Lucy Kipling was a frolicsome Christophe; and the smaller parts of the village girls were creditably filled by Misses F. Hardy, E. Clifford, A. Hornsby, and M. Ross.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 25, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

Mr. George Dance's company has introduced *Our Miss Gibbs* to the patrons of the Notting Hill Gate theatre this week, and very warmly they have welcomed her. Miss Elfie Vincent, who plays the part of Mary Gibbs, the canny Yorkshire lass of commercial instincts and sentimental disposition, is bright, winsome, and graceful. Her rendition of "The Yorkshire lass" and "I'm Miss Gibbs" is highly attractive and pleasing. Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs is a very droll little comedian, and the audience roar with laughter at his many and varied perplexities. Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the very amateurish Raffles, the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, is in great form, and his "Yip-i-addy-i-ay" song goes with its usual verve. Mr. J. T. Durant is extremely alert and dexterous as the professional "crook" Slithers, and his exposition of the tricks of the light-fingered gentry is an eye-opener to the innocent and confiding. Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe sings agreeably and acts well as Lord Eynsford, who poses as a bank-clerk in order to win Mary Gibbs's affection. Mr. Frank Sealy is good as the manager of Garrod's, Mr. Toplady. Mr. A. Gordon Bigg as the Earl of St. Ives, Mr. David Miller as Beavis, the family solicitor, and Mr. Campbell Browne as Mr. Amalfy are all well in the picture. Miss Amy Singleton is amusing as the Duchess of Minster; and Miss Lilian Birtles is a "fetching" little Lady Elizabeth, her scapegrace daughter. Miss Ellaline Thorne is a charming modiste Mme. Jeanne, who is Scotch out of business hours. Miss Florence Hylton scores as Lottie Farquhar, the impecunious lady of fashion; and Misses Mollie Cole, Nora Neile, and Olga Grey, as "colleens" at the White City Exhibition, do good work. A bevy of beauty is engaged in the minor rôles of fashionable ladies, shop-girls, &c. Mr. David Miller stage-manages and Mr. Edmund Mogg-Beresford is business-manager for Mr. Dance. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bogetti.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, April 25, the Farcical Romance, by Captain R. Marshall, entitled
"HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR."

Mr. Ernest Dare is visiting the Fulham Theatre this week with an efficient company in Captain Marshall's amusing little play. Mr. Edwin Ling plays the rôle of the Governor, and makes much of the self-importance of that official and his brief attack of love-fever. Mr. J. E. Savery is a precise and dignified personage as the Colonial Secretary. Mr. Ernest Dare is brisk and cheerful as Captain Carew, and puts plenty of vigour into his work, with an excellent touch of humour. Not less humorous is Mr. R. Borlando as the solemn and ultra-official private secretary. Messrs. Glynn, Sutton West, and Waltham satisfactorily fill the parts of the military men as Captain Rivers, Major Kildare, and the Sentry respectively. Miss Irene Malvesyon does very well as Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke; and Miss Gladys Veevers acts prettily as Ethel Carlton. Miss M. Lowe Dare is quite a success in the rather difficult part of Stella de Gex. *His Excellency* was preceded by the well-worn *Box and Cox*, in which Messrs. Glynn and Borlande and Miss Malvesyon took part, the rendering of Mrs. Bouncer by the last-named being the most convincing of the three.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 25, the Drama entitled
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"

The attraction here this week is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company in the above drama, written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, under whose direction the play is produced. As Lilian Norman, the vicar's daughter, Miss Nancy Roberts acts throughout in a quiet and sympathetic manner; Mr. Clavering Craig gives a really excellent performance as the unscrupulous Frank Rosselle, alias Franklyn Harcourt; and Mr. F. G. Kimberley makes the most of the opportunities provided in the all-important part of William Clark, the kind-hearted, broken-down professional. Mr. Henry Rutland gives a dignified performance of the proud and stern John Norman, vicar of Beechwood; and Miss Ellen Beverley gives welcome assistance as Mary Norman. Mrs. F. G. Kimberley as Mrs. Kate Rosselle says her many speeches in a firm and incisive manner. A fine study of an unfortunate drunkard is provided by Miss Florence Steyne as Alice Fireworks; Miss Steyne's realistic impersonation of the degraded, drink-sodden woman is decidedly the best thing in the production, being a finished and clever performance. The humorous element is provided by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales, and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales. These two artists work hard throughout.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 25, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE GEISHA."

A hearty welcome was accorded this immensely popular musical play on Monday evening at the pretty theatre on Brixton Oval, and crowded houses have been present throughout the week. Mr. Fred Mouillot is responsible for the production, and he has provided an exceptionally able company to present the delightful "tale of a tea-house." The part of O Mimosa San is in the hands of clever Miss Aimée Grey, and her interpretation is highly to be praised. Gifted with a sweet voice and pretty mannerisms, Miss Grey soon made friends with her audience. Molly Seamore is a charming young Englishwoman as played by Miss Adela Crispin, and danced nicely; and these clever artists are most ably assisted by Mr. Walter Johnstone Douglas as Reggy Fairfax, who sang the music allotted him to the admiration of the house. Miss Mary Morrison is a stately and handsome Lady Constance Wynne; and as the vivacious O Juliette Miss Renee Reel scores a big hit. Likewise Mr. Sam Lockridge is a rollicking Lieut. Cunningham. Mr. Lionel Braham is ponderous and unctuous, with dry humour, as the Marquis Imari. To Mr. Edward Carlton unstinted praise must be given for his admirable Wun Hi. He was delightfully funny, and his comicalities caused roars of laughter. Miss Dorothy Clancy was pert and chic as the midshipman, Tom Stanley; and Mr. Herbert Uzielli did justice to the part of Captain Kantana. The guests of Lady Constance Wynne found ideal representatives in Misses Olive Eileen and Cecilia Morris; and Misses Clarice Eldon, Belle Murray, Estelle Twitchen, and Beatrice West made admirable Geishas. *The Geisha* is most handsomely staged and dressed, the chorus capitally sang the tuneful music, and a large augmented orchestra, under the skilful baton of Mr. F. Chevalier le Grande, did excellent work. *A Greek Slave* was played on Friday night by special request.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 25, the Comedy-Drama, in Three Scenes, Written by Tom Craven and Will Evans, entitled
"THE MYSTERY OF THE CLIFF."

Rev. Peter Crabb ..... Mr. Edward Cranston
Jack Sapling ..... Mr. Raymond Wood
Old Sapling ..... Mr. H. Lilley
Jenny ..... Miss Josie Hammersley
Elsie Delver ..... Miss Nellie Morris
Agatha Harm ..... Mrs. Bennett

There is plenty of excitement packed into the three short scenes of this interesting drama, which has every requisite of success. As Agatha Harm, that sterling and accomplished actress, Mrs. Bennett, had a rôle quite to her liking, from which she extracted every ounce of effect. Her fine stage presence, perfect elocution, and ripe experience soon secured for her the complete admiration of the emotional West Londoners. Miss Josie Hammersley was bright and pleasing as the *ingénue* Jenny, and rendered the ballad "Somewhere" with excellent taste. Miss Nellie Morris did the little she had to do as Elsie Delver ably and well; Mr. H. Lilley was entirely successful as Old Sapling; Mr. Raymond Wood, who spoke his lines in a clear and convincing manner, cut an earnest and manly figure as Jack Sapling; and that favourite actor, Mr. Edward Cranston, sustained the amusing character of the Rev. Peter Crabb with all his old ability and skill. In the course of the evening many good pictures were screened, amongst the best being Fools of Fate, The Right to Love, Sins of Society, and Where Prison Bars and Fetters were Useless. Mr. J. H. Shotton is the persevering and courteous acting-manager for Mr. F. R. Griffiths, of the New Bio-Trading Co., Ltd., and both gentlemen can be heartily congratulated upon the success of their joint efforts to popularise this old Marylebone playhouse. Appropriate music is played during the evening by the band under Mr. Ward Bailey's efficient baton.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 25, the Drama entitled
"SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON."

By arrangement with Mr. Matt Wilkinson, the author of *Sons of the Sea*, *Green Hills of Erin*, and numerous other plays, *Saturday Night in London* is being presented here this week by Mr. Beresford Whitcomb's company. The drama emphasises the various phases of human existence in London at the present day, from the luxury of the upper ten to the squalor and degradation of the lower five. Introduced into the play is also a boxing competition by local champions. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb essays the rôle of Roy Wilton in a spirited and manly fashion, and does ample justice to the part of the hero. Mona Clayton is pathetically portrayed by Miss Mabel Lowe, who infuses dramatic effect into her presentment, which meets with due recognition. Mr. Charles Lloyd undertakes the part of Sir Jasper Wilton in a painstaking manner, and is successful; the rascally and scheming Edward Mordaunt is well sustained by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; Mr. Rupert S. Carlton submits a good study of the murderous though cowardly Jew, Abram Shabner; Mr. Fred G. Kay is humorous as Jack Dornincourt, and scores well; Nicky Nobbs is ably impersonated by Mr. Tom T. Sinclair, who provokes much laughter; Mr. George Marriott, jun., makes the most of his opportunities as Jacob Giddens; Miss Dorothy Neville is amusing as Poll Hawkins; Miss Adrienne Lovell is convincing in the sympathetic part of Sara Shabner; and Miss Mabel Coleman does well as Maude Somerton.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 25, the Play, entitled
"THE WOMAN OF KRONSTADT."

A most praiseworthy interpretation of Max Pemberton's play *The Woman of Kronstadt* is being presented here for the current week. The play is suitably mounted, and the uniforms and dresses deserve commendation. Mr. Keith G. Kenneth, in the rôle of Colonel Benzo, offers a most capable delineation of this Russian military officer, and the kind heart which underlies a rough exterior is cleverly depicted, and his rendering is accorded a warm recognition. Miss Betty Fairfax as Marion Best, the English governess, infuses dramatic effect into her characterisation of the much-tempted and harassed girl. Mr. Bernard Copping as Captain Paul Zassulia also delivers his lines with good effect, the wavering between love and duty of the young officer being judiciously portrayed, and his success is never in doubt. General Stefanoff is ably undertaken by Mr. Horace Sinclair, whose occasional touches of humour, breaking through a despotic mien, are duly appreciated. Mr. Charles Ashwell offers a convincing study of Baron Muller and achieves distinction. Sergeant Seroff is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Hugh C. Bernard, and provokes laughter. Miss Edith Vogue emphasises the jealous nature of the Princess Mary de Hesse and proves herself a capable actress. Miss Cicely Clutterbuck as Mme. de Bellegarde and Miss Mynnee Kirk as Mme. de Repnine deserve praise for good renderings; while Miss Marjory Armstrong and Miss Isa Bellington as the twin sisters, Olga and Vera, are very diverting, and score considerably.

"A DAUGHTER OF POLAND."

A Play, in One Act, by Neilson Morris, Produced at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, at a Matinée on Saturday, April 23.

Feodor Ivanovitch Menchikoff ..... Mr. Ernest Young
Dimitri Petrovitch Dembinski ..... Mr. George Langton
Marya Petrovna Dembinski .. Miss Marie Polini

This new one-act play, written by the clever lady dramatist who uses the nom de plume of Neilson Morris, and is also an accomplished amateur actress, was produced at a special matinée given in aid of the Mayor of Islington's Fund for the Unemployed, and, under his patronage and that of the Aldermen and Councillors of the borough. The piece, performed by members of the amateur club known as the Twelfth Night Players, proved to be highly dramatic and effective. In the year 1864 Poland was in a very distressful condition, and it was in that year that the merciless troops of the Czar succeeded in trampling out the last embers of the insurrection of the oppressed and persecuted Poles. It is at this critical period in the history of Poland that the tragic events which form the plot of the play are supposed to happen. Dimitri Petrovitch Dembinski is a patriotic Pole who has incurred the suspicion of the Russian Government, and a troop of Cossacks, under the command of Captain Menchikoff, are under orders to arrest him. He is pursued and wounded, but just manages to reach his house, where he is received by his sister Marya. He denounces the enemies of Poland, more particularly "the little father," and warning his sister against the Cossack captain, places in her hands his revolver, which, however, contains but one shot. Loss of blood has rendered him too weak to be of any assistance to her in the time of need, and when sounds below announce the arrival of Menchikoff, Marya proceeds to conceal her brother as best she can by helping him to a couch and covering him with rugs. The Cossack enters and finds the girl alone, but he has little doubt that the man he is in search of is hidden somewhere close at hand. He is prepared to spare him and her on a certain condition, which she refuses to accept. He threatens her, and she attempts to shoot him, but he seizes the revolver and extracts the single shot it contains. Searching the apartment, Menchikoff has little difficulty in discovering the hidden man, but he is dead. Marya, seizing her opportunity and a knife stabs Menchikoff to the heart, and this brings the play to a tragic conclusion.

Mr. Ernest Young ably realised the character of the fierce, unscrupulous Cossack; and Mr. George Langton was excellent as the wounded man Dembinski. Miss Marie Polini played with commendable spirit and earnestness the part of Marya. The play was produced by Mr. Ernest Young, and was preceded by a praiseworthy performance of the late R. Buchanan's comedy *Sophia*, also produced by Mr. E. Young.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, April 25, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

Mr. Haldane Crichton's clever company in *The Cingalee* is the attraction here this week, and fulfils a very popular engagement, winning much applause at each performance. The staging is excellent, and the costumes are pretty and appropriate. The chorus is attractive and well trained, and all the conditions of success are present. Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambuddy Ram is the life and soul of the performance, and is greeted with loud bursts of merriment for his drolleries; Mr. Douglas Munro is a capital King of Kandy; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Harry Vereker makes an excellent impression by his earnest acting, fine voice, and pleasing personality; Mr. F. W. Ford as Sir Peter Loftus adds to the success of the performance by his clever impersonation; and Mr. Scott Cullen is very good indeed as Bobby Warren. Miss Kathleen Cotter's pretty dance is a pleasing feature, and is warmly applauded; Miss Florence Watson is a pleasing actress and delightful singer, and she makes a decided hit as Nanoya and sings sweetly; Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy Sabine is highly successful; and last, but not therefore least, charming Miss Pauline Hague makes herself hosts of friends by her clever and altogether charming impersonation of Lady Patricia Vane. Mr. Roland Wood is an able musical-director, and the orchestra aids well.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 25, the Drama, by C. Watson-Mill, entitled
"THE SINNER."

Mr. Wilson Benge's company in *The Sinner* is the attraction at the Stratford Theatre Royal, and on Monday night was very cordially received. Mr. Wilson Benge portrays Monk Stretton with strength and sincerity, and is highly popular in the part. Mr. Chas. Burdon acts naturally and effectively as that consummate schemer Edgar Thornhill, whose accomplice in villainy has a caustic and clever representative in Mr. Alec Finlayson. Mr. Frank Radcliffe submits a well-defined sketch of the rugged old fisherman Bill Stanton; Mr. Henry Danson is a duly dignified Lord Ewan; and as the stuttering Chris Floppington Mr. Jay Kay is original and amusing. Miss Mona Grey supplies an incisive portraiture of Meg Stanton; Vera Ewan is very appropriately impersonated by Miss Geraldine Verner; and Honor Thornhill has a charming representative in Miss Muriel Dean. Miss Sadie Smith is a pretty and vivacious Norah Stretton, and Little Ned is intelligently played by Miss Dora Olga. Minor parts are all in quite capable hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 25, the Play, by Wilson Barrett,
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

That evergreen play, *The Sign of the Cross*, is occupying the boards at the Borough Theatre this week, and is, as is its wont, filling the popular parts of this spacious playhouse. Many members of the cast have appeared here before, and have become familiar in their respective rôles, while the alterations quite uphold the high standard of excellence which is maintained in the piece under Mr. William Greet's *régime*. Mr. W. Lawson Butt is a virile and vigorous Marcus Superbus, and carries conviction with every line he utters. Mr. W. Mayne Lynton is responsible for a graphic sketch of the pusillanimous Nero; and Mr. Charles Aldred portrays the crafty Tigellinus with subtle force and directness. Mr. Frank Wood's rich and ripe performance as the tippling, philosophical Glabrio remains a prominent feature; and Mr. J. Weatherall is excellent as Licinius. Mr. Walter Fleet is an impressive Favious; and Mr. Henri Raymond plays Titus very appropriately. Miss Evelyn Hope as Mercia looks the part of the pure-minded Christian girl admirably, and acts with a natural charm and sincerity. Miss Beryl Hamilton makes a regal Poppæa; Beronice is advantageously played by Miss Dorothy Lart; Miss Esmé Lee is well placed as Dacia; Miss Mary Newcombe is a praiseworthy Ancaria; and Miss Winifred Delevanti is very successful as Stephanus. Remaining parts all receive careful treatment.

The disposal of their interests in the King's Theatre, Gainsborough, by Messrs. Lievers and Bennett will oblige Mr. Walter Norman, their resident-manager, to seek fresh fields and pastures new. Walter has recently received from Mr. Chas. Williams, touring manager of *Are You a Mason?* company, a silver match-box (engraved) in acknowledgment of the way he worked up the business.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Edward, and Prince Albert saw *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's Theatre on the evening of the 22nd inst.

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

Stratford-on-Avon has assumed a gala appearance. Lining the principal streets of the town are tall masts festooned with over a mile of evergreens. The masts are painted, some with red and white spirals to represent St. George of England, some with the Tudor colours, green and white, some black and gold to represent the poet's colours. Some of the masts bear panels with paintings of flowers mentioned by Shakespeare, others the coat of arms of characters in the plays. The universities, colleges, and great schools of England have presented shields with their arms, and others show the arms of the old craft guilds. Wreaths have been sent from elementary schools all over the country and from the British Dominions overseas; and the Americans have decorated their own fountain with wreaths, flowers, shields, and ribbons.

CELEBRATIONS AND CEREMONIES.

On Saturday the ceremony of unfurling the flags of all nations in Bridge-street took place. After the singing of the "Old Hundredth," a signal was given by the Mayor, and fifty national emblems floated out upon the breeze. Amongst the distinguished visitors who unfurled their national flags were the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Alderman W. H. Bowater), Count Mensdorff, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, and Sir George Reid, the High Commissioner of the Australian Commonwealth. There were also members of the Corps Diplomatique or other representatives, who took charge of the flags of practically all the nations of the world, from the United States to China. Two well-known Birmingham men, Sir Hallewell Rogers and Sir James Smith, were entrusted with the flags of Canada and Cape Colony respectively, and Mr. J. S. Taylor, Chairman of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, unfurled the West Australian flag.

The visitors then proceeded to the Town Hall, where they were formally welcomed by the Mayor of Stratford (Alderman Deer). The Mayor said that the number of national flags had been increased this year by ten, bringing the total number up to half a hundred. He extended a special welcome to Count Mensdorff, Sir George Reid, the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and the Ministers representing Mexico, Servia, Bolivia, Hayti, and Chili.

Count Mensdorff, speaking on behalf of his colleagues of the Corps Diplomatique, said he heartily reciprocated the very friendly feeling which had promoted that gathering. That day they were very happy to pay their humble tribute to the memory of the immortal genius of the great national poet, who was not only the proud possession of the English race, but the common heritage of the whole world. There was, he said, no civilised country in the world in which the masterpieces of Shakespeare were not studied and admired. Speaking of his own country, he could assure them that the tragedies and comedies of Shakespeare had always, so far as his memory went back, been a most important feature of the répertoire of all the great theatres in Vienna. Shakespeare's plays had been given on the stage as frequently as the works of Goethe and Schiller. If it were true that the works of genius formed a common heritage for the whole human race, there was no instance where this was so apparent as in regard to the masterpieces of the great genius whose last resting place they were going to visit that day.

Sir George Reid said he felt very fortunate so soon after his arrival from Australia to be honoured with a request to visit the birthplace of William Shakespeare, and to come on behalf of the Commonwealth he represented upon this memorable occasion. During a very long and strenuous career he had trained himself to speak at the shortest possible notice on every conceivable subject, but it just happened that he had never yet had to direct his attention as a speaker to the illustrious subject which was before them. He felt, therefore, it would be safest in the circumstances to gratefully appropriate the admirable address which had been delivered by his Excellency—(laughter) who represented an Empire with which the people of England has been on terms of the closest friendship for so many centuries.

Even in Australia there seemed to be quite a Shakespeare revival. In that new land of gold, in that new country far away from the inspiration of the birthplace of William Shakespeare, those living monuments of his genius could be seen crowding to see his plays as if some rubber transaction were to be engaged in. This fact surely spoke well, not only for the genius of Shakespeare, but it spoke well for the hope that that glorious mind of his would be brought more vividly in touch with the minds of the generations of to-day. They boasted with justice of the marvellous spread of literature. They saw every day books rushed through the press on every conceivable subject, but there was one book which he should like to see published, and that was "How Best to Recover the English Language." (Laughter.) Shakespeare showed centuries ago the marvellous capacity and elasticity of this noble language of ours. He could sound the most profound depths of human nature; he could speculate as to the hidden secrets of this marvellous world, and rise to the heights of the most brilliant philosophy in words not too long for an infant's intelligence.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham also spoke, and with characteristic humour referred to the interest of the midland capital in Stratford, an interest which made the people of the city regard the birthplace of Shakespeare as a suburb only a little too remote to be annexed. (Laughter.)

The distinguished visitors then visited the birthplace, and after an inspection of Shakespeare's first home took part in the solemn procession to Holy Trinity Church, where the memorial service was held.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. R. S. De Courcy Laffan. Shakespeare, he said, was not only the greatest name in our literature, but he was also the greatest Englishman in those qualities which had made England great, and it was those qualities through which he made his appeal to the great heart of the world.

The Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich was the special preacher yesterday, the Mayor and Corporation attending matins in civic state. The Dean observed that one could safely affirm Shakespeare's wide grip of the Bible in its spiritual meaning. The whole dealing with Shylock by Portia was the very essence of Pauline explanation of Christianity. He had a considerable insight into Christian doctrine, and a special love of mercy which was in Christ. Shakespeare had little feeling for the ascetic. His genius was cheerful and sociable. Yet he was most severe upon some sins that come from easy yielding to suggestion, and drunkenness especially he condemned. Religion in its highest meaning was to be found in Shakespeare's writings.

The first of the series of twenty-four performances in connection with the Shakespeare Festival celebrations at Stratford-on-Avon was given on Friday, April 22, the place of honour being given to *Hamlet*. The cast was as follows:

"HAMLET."

Claudius	Mr. Eric Maxon
Hamlet	Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
Polonius	Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Horatio	Mr. Murray Carrington
Laertes	Mr. Henry Ainley
Rosencrantz	Mr. J. P. Wilson
Guildenstern	Mr. W. W. Caithness
Osric	Mr. Harry Caine
Marcellus	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Bernado	Mr. Alfred Wild
Francisco	Mr. John Howell
First Player	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Second Player	Mr. J. Moffatt Johnston
First Gravedigger	Mr. Edward Harrison
Second Gravedigger	Mr. J. P. Wilson
Priest	Mr. John Howell
Ghost	Mr. Alfred Brydone
Gertrude	Miss Helen Haye
Ophelia	Miss Marie Löhr
Player	Miss Marion Forman
Page	Miss A. P. Nicholson

It will be noticed that the parts, other than the rôles of Hamlet, Ophelia, Laertes, and the Queen, were taken by members of Mr. Benson's company, reinforced by the welcome return of Mr. Alfred Brydone. There was a crowded house, and the performance was received with great enthusiasm. Except for an appropriate rural background to the grave-digging scene, the play was acted throughout to a dignified background of sumptuous tapestry, and the unaccustomed simplicity of his surroundings threw into stronger relief Sir Herbert's rich, varied, and virile conception of "the moody Dane." Miss Marie Löhr threw a spell over the audience by the intense sensitiveness and fascinating delicacy of her rendering of Ophelia. Mr. Ainley's delineation of Laertes showed some not unpleasing divergence from orthodox canons, and in his hands Ophelia's brother became not only an impetuous and impulsive, but also at times a tearful and almost tender figure. Miss Helen Haye, as quite a recent recruit to the ranks of old Bensonians, was revisiting the scene of many former triumphs, and had a hearty welcome. Mr. Alfred Brydone's Ghost, like Mr. Ainley's Laertes, showed some determination to break away from conventional trammels, and conveyed the impression rather of a resurrected King than of a "spirit walking in death." Mr. Murray Carrington gave us a frank and manly Horatio, Mr. H. O. Nicholson a finished portrait of the garrulous, sapient, and fussy Polonius, and Mr. J. P. Wilson a clever character sketch of the First Gravedigger. The principals were ably supported by the remainder of the Benson company, and the performance went without a hitch from start to finish.

On the evening of April 22 Mr. Benson and his company performed

"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

Baptista	Mr. Alfred Brydone
Vincentio	Mr. John Howell
Lucentio	Mr. Murray Carrington
Petruchio	Mr. F. R. Benson
Gremio	Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Hortensio	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Tranio	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Biondello	Mr. Eric Maxon
Pedant	Mr. W. W. Caithness
A Tailor	Mr. Alfred Wild
Grumio	Mr. Harry Caine
Curtis	Miss Elinor Aickin
Cook	Mr. F. Conroy
Walter	Mr. Nigel Barrie
Nathaniel	Mr. J. Fraser Outram
Sugarsop	Mr. James Turnbull
Katherina	Mrs. F. R. Benson
Bianca	Miss Nora Lancaster
Widow	Miss Winifred Durie

Following wise precedent, Mr. Benson omitted the irrelevant induction. This comedy, believed to have been adapted by Shakespeare from "a pleasant conceited Historie," is situate on the borderland between comedy and extravaganza, and within the realms of farce. The utter improbability of its incidents throws a heavy burden on whomsoever would essay to hold the attention of a mixed audience to its stilted conceits. That Mr. Benson should have succeeded in holding a crowded house interested and amused from start to finish is a tribute to his genius and versatility, and to his ripe and spirited conception of Petruchio. He successfully, and without apparent strain, extracted from the piece the maximum of refined bufoonery within the scope of stagecraft, and threw over the crudities of its construction at least the veil of vraisemblance. And Katherina gave Mrs. Benson an opportunity of showing the best that is in her. It is her favourite rôle, and alike as shrewish maiden, as rebellious bride, and as chastened and subdued wife, she aroused the enthusiasm of the house. Mr. Alfred Brydone was a courtly-mannered and dignified Baptista, with a shrewd eye to the financial side of matrimony; Mr. Murray Carrington gave a graceful and debonair portrayal of Lucentio; Mr. H. O. Nicholson's delineation of the punctilious old roué Gremio was piquantly amusing; Mr. Guy Rathbone proved a breezy Hortensio; Mr. Caithness gave us a clever character sketch of the Pedant; Mr. Harry Caine put a lot of humorous business into the part of Grumio; and the veteran Miss Elinor Aickin had a warm greeting as she stepped the boards as Curtis.

On Saturday, April 23, Mr. Benson presented

"TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA."

Duke of Milan	Mr. Alfred Brydone
Valentine	Mr. Murray Carrington
Proteus	Mr. Eric Maxon
Antonio	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Thurio	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Eglamour	Mr. W. W. Caithness
Host	Mr. John Howell
First Outlaw	Mr. F. R. Benson
Second Outlaw	Mr. J. P. Wilson
Third Outlaw	Mr. Frank Conroy
Speed	Mr. Harry Caine
Launce	Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Panthino	Mr. Edward Harrison
Singer	Mr. Dennis Drew
First Lord	Mr. Alfred Wilde
Second Lord	Mr. Harold Meltzer
Julia	Mrs. F. R. Benson
Silvia	Miss Nora Lancaster
Lucetta	Miss Violet Farebrother
Ursula	Miss Winifred Durie

Mr. Brydone gave us a sagacious and paternal Duke, and held his anger in dignified restraint in the ladder scene. Mr. Eric Maxon portrayed the fickle and treacherous Proteus with skill, and Mr. Murray Carrington was a courtly and chivalrous Valentine. Launce, in Mr. Nicholson's hands, was a quizzical, worried, and whimsical figure; and Speed, ably impersonated by Mr. Harry Caine, a clownish but discerning servitor. The vain and foppish Thurio, played by Mr. Moffat Johnston, reminded us a little of Cyrano de Bergerac; and Mr. Guy Rathbone cleverly fulfilled the rôle of the peremptory and choleric Antonio. Mr. Benson and his comrade outlaws would have been suitable recruits for the Legion Etrangère had it then existed; and Mr. Dennis Drew, a rich baritone, was several times encored for his singing of "Who is Sylvia?" Miss Violet Farebrother scored a deserved triumph as the dainty, discreet, and respectful Lucetta; and Mesdames Benson and Lancaster portrayed the leading feminine rôles with considerable charm.

At the close of the performance the Mayor of Stratford tendered to Mr. Benson and his company a warm welcome on behalf of the inhabitants of the ancient borough. "You have done more," he said, "to make this Festival the success it deserves to be than any other living man. Welcome, welcome, once again." Mr. Benson eloquently responded, saying that he looked to the Festival in its broader aspects as not only calculated to solidify the Anglo-Celtic race, but also to improve the comity of nations.

The performance was played to a crowded and enthusiastic house, and the leading players were many times recalled.

On Monday evening, April 25, Mr. F. R. Benson's company presented

"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

Sir John Falstaff	Mr. H. O Nicholson
Fenton	Mr. Eric Maxon
Shallow	Mr. W. W. Caithness
Slender	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Ford	Mr. Murray Carrington
Page	Mr. Edward Harrison
Sir Hugh Evans	Mr. Harry Caine
Dr. Caius	Mr. F. R. Benson
Host of the Garter Inn	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Robin	Miss Marjorie Patterson
Simple	Mr. F. M. Conroy
Rugby	Mr. Alfred Wilde
Bardolph	Mr. J. Fraser Outram
Pistol	Mr. Eric Maxon
Nym	Mr. John Howell
Mrs. Ford	Mrs. F. R. Benson
Mrs. Page	Miss Violet Farebrother
Anne Page	Miss Nora Lancaster
Mistress Quickly	Miss Elinor Aickin
Fairy Queen	Miss Winifred Durie
Singing Fairy	Miss Marion Forman

Of the comedies of Shakespeare, this is the masterpiece of the Bensonian répertoire. It is acted throughout in a spirit of rollicking, boisterous, breezy fun. Mr. H. O. Nicholson, who has usually taken the part of Slender, on this occasion essayed that of the Fat Knight, and added another to his series of triumphs in the portrayal of Shakespeare's humorous characters. Mrs. Benson is never seen to better advantage—except possibly as Katherine the Shrew—than as Mrs. Ford, and she and Miss Violet Farebrother played the wives with great vivacity. Mr. Eric Maxon capably doubled the parts of the braggart Pistol and the ardent lover Fenton; Miss Elinor Aickin, probably the best known living exponent of Mistress Quickly, took her share in the mischief with complete naturalness; Mr. Benson, with his usual self-effacement, contented himself with an artistic presentment of the rôle of Dr. Caius; Mr. Harry Caine was an amusing Sir Hugh Evans; and Mr. Moffat Johnstone a jovial Host of the Garter; Miss Marjorie Patterson deserves a special word of praise for the opportunities she seized in the minor rôle of Robin; Mr. Guy Rathbone earned much praise as the simpering, timorous Slender, egged on in his amours by Mr. Caithness as a querulous and doddering Shallow; and the remaining parts were capably filled. The final scene in Windsor Park was a triumph of stage management.

On Wednesday afternoon, April 27, Mr. Martin Harvey and his London company presented

"HAMLET."

Claudius	Mr. Charles Glenney
Hamlet	Mr. Martin Harvey
Ghost of Hamlet's Father	Mr. Philip Hewland
Horatio	Mr. George Cooke
Polonius	Mr. Fred Wright, sen.
Laertes	Mr. Owen Roughwood
Rosencrantz	Mr. A. Field
Guildenstern	Mr. Leonard Craske
Osric	Mr. Alfred Mansfield
First Player	Mr. B. A. Pittar
Second Player	Mr. Edward Bach
Marcellus	Mr. Denholm Muir
Bernardo	Mr. Richard Melville
Francisco	Mr. David Bain
First Gravedigger	Mr. Percy Foster
Second Gravedigger	Mr. E. Combermere
Reynaldo	Mr. O. T. Earle
A Priest	Mr. H. Barber
A Messenger	Mr. H. Graves
Gertrude	Miss Mary Rorke
Player Queen	Miss Brenda Gibson
Ophelia	Miss N. de Silva

There was a crowded house, interest in the performance being enhanced by the opportunity of comparing Mr. Harvey's production with that of Sir Herbert Tree in the previous week. Mr. Harvey made several variations from the conventional rendering and arrangement, the general result tending to increase and emphasise the part of the King to the corresponding diminution of those of Ophelia and her father, and to make more lucid and comprehensible the vagaries of the title-rôle. Mr. Harvey is to be thoroughly congratulated on a most painstaking, natural, and artistic presentment of the "distempered" Prince and on the extremely picturesque setting in which the play proceeds. Mr. Charles Glenney's conception of the King was as of a man imperious in his moods, luscivious in his nature, forceful, at times almost too strenuous. Miss Mary Rorke—unlike many of her predecessors in the past—looked as the Queen not a day too young to be the mother of Hamlet, and sustained her rôle with grace, dignity, and the needful emotion. Miss N. de Silva's interpretation of Ophelia was interesting in its quaintness and departure from traditional channels. Polonius was depicted by the veteran Fred Wright with skill and humour, Mr. Percy Foster gave us a properly gruff and rugged gravedigger, and the remainder of the parts were all in capable hands. The principals were again and again recalled.

On Wednesday, April 27, Mr. Benson revived

"THE WINTER'S TALE."

Leontes	Mr. F. R. Benson
Mamillius	Miss Hetty Kenyon
Camillo	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Antigonus	Mr. Edward Harrison
Cleomenes	Mr. Nigel Barrie
Dion	Mr. Harold Meltzer
Polixenes	Mr. Eric Maxon
Florizel	Mr. Murray Carrington
Old Shepherd	Mr. Harry Caine
Clown	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Autolycus	Mr. H. O. Nicholson
A Mariner	Mr. Barry
A Gaoler	Mr. Alfred Wild
1st Lord	Mr. W. W. Caithness
2nd Lord	Mr. John Howell
Hermione	Mrs. F. R. Benson
Perdita	Miss Nora Lancaster
Paulina	Miss Violet Farebrother
Emilia	Miss Marion Forman
Mopsa	Miss Leah Hanman
Dorcas	Miss A. P. Nicholson
1st Lady	Miss Winifred Durie
2nd Lady	Miss Eleanor Elder
Chorus	Miss Marjorie Patterson

This stately and picturesque tragedy was presented to a crowded house. Mr. Benson himself poignantly depicted the unreasoning jealousy—and, later, the deep remorse—of the King of Sicilia, Mrs. Benson admirably sustaining the tragic rôle of Hermione. Polixenes was portrayed with dignity by Mr. Eric Maxon, and Miss Violet Farebrother imbued the part of Paulina with passionate indignation at the King's severity to his wife. Miss Nora Lancaster was a charmingly ingenuous Perdita, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson as Autolycus was excellent. Mr. Murray Carrington played the romantic Florizel with his usual grace; Mr. Harry Caine's Old Shepherd was a fine performance; and Miss Marjorie Patterson proved herself a polished elocutionist as The Chorus. Miss Leah Hanman had a hearty welcome on rejoining her old company, and her graceful and spirited dancing at the sheep-shearing revels was repeatedly encored. Miss Hetty Kenyon is a delightful addition to the ranks of our child-actresses, and both spoke and acted her small part of Mamillius bravely.

On Tuesday evening, April 26, and on Thursday afternoon, April 28, Mr. Benson's company performed

"THE KNIGHT OF THE BURNING PESTLE."

Speaker of the Prologue	Mr. Harold Meltzer
A Citizen	Mr. H. O. Nicholson
His Wife	Miss Violet Farebrother
Ralph	Mr. Harry Caine
Venturewell	Mr. Edward Harrison
Humphrey	Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Merrythought	Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Jasper	Mr. Murray Carrington
Michael	Mr. Alfred Wild
Tim	Miss Marjorie Patterson
George	Mr. John Howell
Host	Mr. W. W. Caithness
Tapster	Mr. Nigel Barrie
Barber	Mr. J. P. Wilson
Three Men	Mr. Frank Conroy, Mr. John Charlton, Mr. C. Trevor Roller
Sergeant	Mr. F. Conroy
George Greengoose	Mr. W. W. Caithness
Soldier	Mr. Fraser Outram
Luce	Miss Nora Lancaster
Mistress Merrythought	Miss Marion Forman
Woman	Miss Winifred Durie
Pomponia	Miss Daisy Carmichael
Attendants	Miss Margaret Chute, Miss Dorothea Wright, Miss Lytton
Gallants	Mr. G. C. Brown, Mr. Geoffrey Dennys
First Boy	Miss Leah Hanman
Second Boy	Miss Molly Terraine

This mirth-provoking burlesque by Beaumont and Fletcher is introduced by its authors as "a merry passage, here and there interlaced with delight," and first appeared in 4to form in 1613. It is a piquant satire on the contemporary stage, with Shakespeare as the obvious butt of several of its shafts, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Henry* being in turn burlesqued. The whole comedy is played to the background of a stable, changes of scene being indicated by cards, as "A Forest," "A Deep Forest," "A Deeper Forest," "In the Depth of the Forest," and so forth.

The humour of the skit was led by Mr. Harry Caine, who kept the house rippling with laughter as the prentice boy who sets off as a knight errant à la Quixote. Mr. H. O. Nicholson and Miss Violet Farebrother, as the worthy grocer and his wife, were admirable in their quaint comments on and interferences with the course of the play, and the whole of the company threw themselves into the merriment with zest and abandon. Mr. Benson is heartily to be congratulated on a welcome and interesting revival.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE URBAN CLUB.

Sir J. Crichton Browne presided at the dinner at the Gaiety Restaurant on Saturday, at which the Urban Club celebrated the birthday of Shakespeare. Amongst those present were Sir William Richmond, R.A., Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Acton Bond, and Mr. Norman McKinnel.

After the loyal toasts,

Sir J. Crichton Browne, in proposing "The Immortal Memory," said each new discovery in brain function confirmed the fidelity to fact of Shakespeare's etchings of insanity. It was in his consummate knowledge of the normal workings of the human mind, in every variety of character and temperament and in ever-changing vicissitudes, and in his own bitter experiences, that Shakespeare found the material for his life-like delineations of mental disorder. In writing the tragedies and the sonnets—and it was in the tragedies that the great studies of madness occurred—Shakespeare, it had been said, went near to the edge of the abyss and imperilled his own mental integrity. He struggled under the burden of human sorrow and suffering in their direst shapes, and was all but crushed by it.

Hundreds of essays, pamphlets, leaflets, and books had been published to prove that Hamlet was mad or was not mad, but not one, as far as he was aware, to support the quite tenable theory that he was both. Was it not just possible that, having put an "antic disposition" on, it got the better of him? It was a dangerous game to feign madness, and he who began by being mad merely north-north-west might ultimately find himself mad at all points of the compass. It was a question worthy of consideration whether Hamlet, having feigned insanity, did not to some extent fall under its power. He suggested that Hamlet became, not mad in any crude sense, but the victim of an obsession which blunted his feelings and impaired his power of self-control. It seemed as if the fell spirit he had conjured up to do his bidding had overpowered him, and must have made a madman of him outright but for Laertes' poisoned rapier.

Sir J. Crichton Browne then discussed Shakespeare's connection with Scotland. There was, he said, a reasonable presumption that Shakespeare found his way to Aberdeen. Professor Raleigh admitted that Shakespeare often went with his company of actors on their summer tours in provincial towns, and it was certain that a company of London actors, who bore the title of the King's servants and had a special letter of recommendation from his Majesty, visited the granite city, and that the chief of that company was Lawrence Fletcher, who belonged to the company of players in London which included Shakespeare. In *Macbeth* Shakespeare exhibited a correct and intimate knowledge of Scotland which could scarcely have been possessed by anyone who had not visited it at that date; and, further, he showed an acquaintance, which could surely only have been acquired on the spot, in those days of no newspapers and scant intercourse of any kind betwixt North and South, with the details of a series of trials for witchcraft which took place in Aberdeen in 1597, four years before the date of the company's visit. The Provost, Bailies, and Town Council of Aberdeen conferred in 1601 the freedom of the borough on Lawrence Fletcher. What a proud city Aberdeen would be to-day had it included in its list of new burgesses the name of William Shakespeare.

The toast was drunk in silence.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. Charles Fache), who acted as vice-chairman, proposed the toast of "The Guests," coupling with it the names of Sir William Richmond, Mr. H. A. Jones, and Mrs. Acton Bond.

Sir W. Richmond, in responding, touched upon the question of the illustrating of Shakespeare. For his part, he often wished the Shakespeare illustrator had never existed. His advice to Shakespeare illustrators was "Leave it alone."

Mr. H. A. Jones noted the difference between the conditions under which the artist and the dramatist achieved success. The artist had to please one patron; the dramatist, if he did not please the boy in the gallery, had his displeasure signalled to him in a very disagreeable and often brutal fashion. In his view, the great dramatists were distinguished by their common-sense and their large sanity. That was the characteristic that marked Shakespeare, Sophocles, Molière. The late George Meredith, in an essay that was born classic, paid, in prose of the highest distinction, a delightful tribute to the last. But he forgot, or at any rate did not pay enough attention to, one habit of Molière—the habit of reading his plays to his housekeepers. They had lately listened to a work of Meredith's in the theatre. It was in chiselled, unjewelled English. Nothing like it, it was said, had ever been heard on the English stage. But the great public went further, and said they never wished to hear anything like it again. Mr. Meredith had not read it to his housekeeper. It was, indeed, not a play at all. To-day women largely dictated to the dramatist. It was they who filled our theatres. He was told the other day by the box-office clerk that at a certain matinée performance at which he happened to be present, 169 ladies passed the ticket-office before a single man appeared; and he was a curate. He was asked why he didn't write a play about some other passion than love. The women would not have it.

Mrs. Acton Bond said that Shakespeare had delved into woman's heart to discover moods women themselves had never really understood. To such an extent had her husband's enthusiasm for Shakespeare gone, that he even insisted on their being married at Stratford-on-Avon. She had had fears that Shakespeare would prove a stumbling-block in the way of real happiness; but her fears had been dispelled.

Mr. and Mrs. Acton Bond, Miss Violet Essex, Miss Doris Fâche, and Mr. Walter Grace contributed enjoyable items to the Shakespearean entertainment in the course of the evening.

PUBLIC RECORD EXHIBITION.

The Shakespeare Reading Society, which has for its president Sir Herbert Tree, gave an exhibition of original documents of Shakespearean interest at the Public Record office on Shakespeare Day. Dr. William Martin, the well-known Shakespearean writer, arranged with the deputy keeper of the public records, Sir H. C. Maxwell-Lyte, that the choicest manuscript treasures relating to the dramatist should be on view between the hours of two and four in the museum. The items exhibited included the "Signet Bill," by which the Lord Chancellor was authorised to grant Letters Patent to Shakespeare and his associates; the "Memorandum and Account Book of the Master of the Revels," which gives interesting details of the production at Court of some of Shakespeare's most notable plays; "Proceedings in the Star Chamber, December, 1598," which show how the old Globe Playhouse was built from the materials of an older theatre at Shoreditch, where Shakespeare acted when he first came to London.

SHAKESPEARE FOLIOS.

On Shakespeare Day South Londoners were allowed to see the precious first four folios together in one case at the Southwark Central Reference Library. These volumes, lent by Messrs. Maggs and Bartholomew Robson respectively, represent a value not less than £3,000. The third folio, handsomely cased to match the choice bindings of its companion volumes, is in the original binding. With these were exhibited a choice selection of books current in Shakespeare's day, and such as the poet would be likely to have read.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S LECTURE.

Mr. F. R. Benson gave an interesting lecture on *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the Technical School, Stratford-on-Avon, on the 21st inst. The chair was taken by the Deputy-Mayor (Councillor J. A. Priest). Mr. Benson, in the course of his lecture, remarked that Shakespeare was first the child of nature, then the actor, next the dramatist, then the courtier, a citizen of Stratford-on-Avon, and a citizen of the world. He (Mr. Benson) thought Shakespeare owed much to his universality, to the fact that he had learned to approach life from the actor's point of view when he adopted the calling of poet and artist. They would agree with him that *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* was one of the very earliest of the poet's plays. It might have covered that portion of his life in which he seemed to be wandering for awhile through the valley of the shadow, when things were not going harmoniously with him; when the world appeared out of tune, and he seemed entangled in some strange passion for the woman with the dark chestnut hair. They could note in the play the germs, the beginnings of many characters that cropped up afterwards. In Thurio they saw the beginning of Osric, Roderigo, and many another character of the same sort, the conventional light-comedy merchant, as he was called on the stage. In Launce and Speed they had the prototype of so many of the Shakespearean clowns, the ancestors of Launcelot, Gobbo, Bottom, and others. Perhaps it would be tedious to trouble them by pointing out the innumerable parallel passages of the play. Where was Shakespeare to get women to play women parts? He was unable to do so, and in the case of Julia, as with Portia, Rosalind, and her sweet sisters, the heroine changed into a boy's costume, and he (Mr. Benson) thought that this might possible have prevented Shakespeare dealing with the theme of love so successfully in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* as he did later on. There was a splendid passage to the effect that "love's a mighty lord," and "his servant happiness," which reminded one of many other passages, and especially one in *Love's Labour's Lost*. And though he seemed to have felt the power and might of love as a force illuminating and sharpening his writings as a poet, he had not yet learnt to express it as a dramatist, and his difficulty in that respect was enhanced from having to cast boys for the women parts. Mr. Benson went on to make an interesting comparison between Julia and Juliet, and said in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* they were looking at the cradle of the perfect thoughts they met with in later plays. That alone made it one of the most interesting of Shakespeare's plays. With reference to its construction, he did not think it fair to quarrel over it as much as many critics did. The story stood out pretty clearly, the climax came at the right place, the untying of the knot did not come too soon, and so the interest was maintained to the very end. Shakespeare was as great a master of plot as any man who ever lived, and though in this play he seemed so blinded with the splendour of life, so amazed and carried away with the different types of humanity he had already met, that he was half-puzzled as to which character he should most develop and elaborate, there was the beginning of all his wonderful greater plays. There was the making of a Romeo in Valentine, the possible making of an Iago in Proteus.

Miss Horniman made a clever speech at the Shakespeare Commemoration Banquet at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Saturday last. She wittily opposed the talk about "elevating the drama," and its exploitation by capital, and blamed the people who were well off, and too well fed, who had supported rubbish in London and the rich towns, and so made it pay to take such performances round the country, with the result that the taste of the whole nation had become deteriorated. Miss Horniman criticised the way in which Shakespeare was generally played in England, and said she had had to go to Munich for the best Shakespearean performance she had ever seen.

Members of the London Shakespeare League attended the Mansion House by invitation of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on the evening of the 22nd inst., when a number of morris dances, old singing games, and folk-songs were given by students of the Physical Training College, South-Western Polytechnic, Chelsea. The smaller children taking part in the games came from the London County Council Elementary School, Cook's Ground, Chelsea.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree's Shakespeare Festival at His Majesty's, which ends this evening, has been a complete success. At the conclusion of the performance of *The Merchant of Venice* Sir Herbert will announce his arrangements for the autumn, and tell of a certain acting "combine," which will secure to him the co-operation of two important leading artists.

There are not many pictures or sculptures connected with the stage in the Royal Academy Exhibition this year. Mr. G. Leigh Hunt has a moderate-sized portrait of Sir Charles Wyndham in Gallery IV., and Sir Luke Fildes' portrait of Mr. George Alexander, already described by us, looks well in Gallery II. In Gallery X. there is a fine full length portrait, by Mr. Harold Speed, of Miss Lilian Braithwaite in a blue dress, and Mr. Hugh Riviere's picture of Mr. F. R. Benson in boating costume, an excellent likeness, hangs in a good place in Gallery VI. In the Lecture Room is a clever medallion in low relief representing Sir Herbert Tree as Svengali, blowing out cigarette smoke. Mr. Gilbert Bayes's memorial to the late Constant Coquelin, which was recently presented by the English actors to the Comédie Française, will also attract attention. It is about 4ft. high, and is in green bronze. Beneath the façia of a classic temple a figure holds a palm branch and a wreath, and the memorial is suitably inscribed.

The list of stewards at the Royal Literary Fund dinner at the Hotel Metropole on Thursday includes, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Henry Lowenfeld, Sir W. S. Gilbert, Sir A. W. Pinero, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Somerset Maugham, Mr. John Galsworthy, Mr. J. B. Fagan, Mr. H. H. Davis, Mr. Stanley Weyman, Mr. Robert Hichens, Mr. A. E. W. Mason, Mrs. Henry de la Pasture, Miss Elizabeth Robins, Mrs. de Courcy Laffan, and the Duchess of Sutherland. The chair will be taken by Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins.

Mr. George Alexander did not propose his amendment to the recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council on Tuesday as the recommendations were not reached early enough in the day. The Committee, it will be remembered, recommended that the reference to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee on Dec. 21-22, 1909, to consider and report what amendments should be made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as may be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments, be discharged.

Mr. Alexander's amendment runs: That all words after the word "That" in line 1 be omitted, and the following words substituted therefor:—"As the performance of stage plays in buildings which are licensed for music and dancing only is illegal, the Council, when considering applications for music and dancing licences, will have regard to any evidence which may be submitted as to illegal production of stage plays at places of entertainment licensed for music and dancing only." When proposed, the amendment is likely to lead to an interesting argument.

Mr. George Edwardes will commence rehearsing *The Divorced Wife* at the Vaudeville Theatre on Monday. Mr. Robert Evett, Miss Clara Evelyn, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Huntley Wright, and Mr. Rutland Barrington all have important parts in the new musical play.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, the Marquis of Tullibardine asked the Home Secretary whether he would initiate measures to prevent the violation of the Sabbath day by political clubs, which were in the habit of holding variety entertainments and social functions of a similar nature every Sunday morning and evening, thus leading to a great increase of drink upon the premises.

Mr. Churchill said in reply: "I cannot accept the suggestion that Sunday entertainment in clubs ought to be wholly suppressed. If they lead to offences against the law the remedy lies in legal proceedings. One of the objects of the Licensing Bill of two years ago was to strengthen the law with regard to clubs, and I see no opportunity of reviving those provisions at present."

Mr. Charles Coltson wishes, through *The Era*, to thank heartily all the subscribers to the handsome testimonial which was presented to him in their name by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday last.

The Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre project are sending out some interesting leaflets explanatory of the scheme. Mr. William Archer writes on "The claim of the theatre on public generosity," recent speeches delivered by the Ven. Archdeacon Bevan, D.D., Rector of Chelsea, the Rev. R. F. Horton, and others in support of the scheme are reprinted, and there is a paper of suggestions for the use of local committees for practical effort on behalf of the cause.

Mr. W. Archer quotes with approval the remarks of a member of the Committee:—"The theatre is literally making the minds of our urban populations to-day. It is a huge factory of sentiment, of character, of points of honour, of conceptions of conduct, of everything that finally determines the destinies of a nation"; to which Mr. Archer adds—"This is absolutely and exactly true. A Shakespeare National Theatre will not only be a much-needed monument of England's pride in her great past, but an indispensable instrument towards the shaping of her greater future. It will do more permanent good than many hospitals."

Mr. Martin Harvey, supported by his company, appeared as Hamlet at Stratford-on-Avon on Wednesday afternoon in the presence of an audience which thronged the Memorial Theatre. The popular actor had a most enthusiastic reception, and there was an ovation at the end of the play. Every seat was sold for this performance nearly a week before it occurred, and a large number of people were disappointed of admission. Mr. Harvey will appear next week at Portsmouth, and at Oxford the following week, thus concluding his successful spring tour.

The run of *Louis XI.*, which Mr. H. B. Irving will revive at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, to-night, and the continuation of the special matinées of *Hamlet* can only be for a short period, as Mr. Irving has acquired a new play which he has agreed to produce during May. This is *L'Enquête*, the English rights of which have very courteously been transferred by Mr. George Alexander to Mr. Irving. It was Mr. Alexander's intention to produce this piece at the St. James's Theatre during the season, but the success of *The Importance of Being Earnest* has defeated that project. *L'Enquête*, which was originally produced by M. Antoine, and was presented by him in London at the Royalty Theatre on July 23, 1906, where it made a deep impression, is by M. Georges Henriot. It is in two acts, and, although very powerful, is not sufficiently long for the entire bill. Mr. Irving is therefore considering another piece in which he will appear, to be acted with it, and in this connection an interesting announcement will be made by him this evening.

A thousand actors and actresses have promised their help for the theatrical garden party which is to be held in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, on Tuesday, June 28. Last year's gathering established a record both in profits and attendance, and the executive committee has decided to limit the issue of tickets this year. The hon. secretary, Anslow J. Austin, earnestly requests that applications for tickets should be made to him as early as possible in order to relieve the strain of the final arrangements.

The cast of *Parasites*, which is to be played for the first time at the Globe on Thursday, May 5, will include, in addition to the artists already mentioned, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Drelincourt Odlum, Mr. Bertram Forsyth, Mr. Frederick Sargent, Mr. Frank Atherley, Mr. George Bealby, Mr. Oscar Adye, Mr. Dallas Cairns, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Marie Linden, and Miss Rose Dupre.

Mr. Henry R. Smith, of the Lyceum, naturally has great faith in the revival of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* at his theatre this evening. "You see," he remarked to an *Era* representative, "this piece was taken off in the height of its success in order that *Pete* might be presented, according to the arrangements we had already made. In the ordinary way of things it should have a very good run, and the advance booking, I may tell you, is excellent. Many of the favourites of the Lyceum's dramatic company are, as you know, under contract to appear, and—well, it will do no harm to reproduce the entire cast, will it? There is, of course, Mr. Eric Mayne as Hildred, the brother of Prince Olaf of Sylvania, the latter represented by Mr. Godfrey Tearle, and Miss Annie Saker will be the Princess Monica of Illyria. The other characters will be taken by Messrs. Hallwell Hobbes, Frederick Ross, Hastings Lynn, S. Major Jones, Herbert Lester, Sidney Vautier, Henry Pollard, J. R. Gillespie, Henry Armstrong, Cowley Wright, Arthur Poole, and the Mesdames Maxine Hinton and Ethel Patrick.

"Future arrangements? Well, I am a great believer in drama of the domestic order—the kind, you know, that is full of pathos relieved by broad comedy. We have such a drama, if needs must, ready to put on to follow the final curtain of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, whenever that may be. But—and this is a very big 'but,' mind you—there is also another script in our possession of which we think a very great deal. Subject and title? Oh, no, I can't tell you yet. But it is historical, with plenty of love and fighting in it. The scene will be laid not so very far from Land's End, and now you can guess just as much as you want to about Spanish Armadas, pirates, smugglers, Sir Walter Raleigh, Queen Elizabeth, Devonshire pixies, junket, tin mines, or St. Michael's Mount. Good-bye."

In connection with Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Arthur Bourchier's choice of the title, *The Parasites*, for their new production, it is interesting to recall that a piece by Miss Rose Mathews bearing that name was produced at the matinée she gave at the Scala Theatre, on June 25, 1908 and was noticed by us on June 27 of that year. The play was produced privately in the June of 1907 at the Bedford-street Theatre by the Play Actors. Miss Mathews intends to tour the play shortly.

The cast of the new comedy, in three acts, by Anthony Hope and Cosmo Gordon Lennox, entitled *Helena's Path*, which Mr. Charles Frohman will present at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, includes Mr. Charles Bryant, Mr. Charles Maude, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Mr. O. P. Heggie, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Mr. Leslie Carter, Mr. Whitford Kane, Mr. C. E. Vernon, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Mary Jerrold, and Mies Mary Barton.

Miss Eva Moore and Mr. C. V. France will appear in a new play by Mr. Louis Cowen, which will be produced at a matinée on May 10, in the Grand Hall of the Criterion, at an entertainment for the benefit of the Actresses' Franchise League. Amongst many well-known artists who will appear are Miss Constance Collier, Madame Alice Esty, Madame Marie Brema, Mr. Percy French, Miss Decima Moore, Mr. H. V. Esmond, Miss Helen Mar, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. James Welch, and Miss Lena Ashwell.

The next "At Home" of the Actresses' Franchise League will be held on Friday, May 6, in the Grand Hall of the Criterion, at three o'clock. The guests will be received by Mrs. Saba Raleigh, and the chair will be taken by Madame Alice Esty. The speakers include Mrs. Arncliffe-Sennett, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Dr. Stanton Coit, and Mr. Roy Horniman.

Managers of Birmingham theatres and music halls are manifesting keen interest in the forthcoming Whit-Tuesday sports meeting, to be held at Villa Park. These gentlemen are members of the Theatrical, Variety Theatres' and Aston Villa Football Club Charity Sports Committee, and they attended the meeting held at the Woolpack Hotel on Tuesday. Favoured by propitious weather, this year's meeting should break previous records. Mr. A. W. Matcham (the Empire) reported that subscriptions promised amounted to nearly £50. This announcement was received with applause. The committees responsible for advertising, donations, and prizes reported satisfactorily, and a suggestion was made that the Aston Villa football team be invited to participate in the procession and display the numerous trophies won by the club. Mr. F. W. Rinder (chairman) promised to bring the matter before his directors. It was decided to hold the Whit-Tuesday meeting under the A.A.A. and N.C.U. rules.

Information has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from His Majesty's representative at St. Petersburg to the effect that the terms of the Russian Customs Circular of June 27/July 10, 1902, regarding the levying of duty on the importation of theatrical properties, are being strictly enforced. The circular in question provided that no arrangement could be made for the refund of duty paid on properties imported by artists for performances in Russia when such properties were taken out of the country. Applications which have recently been made for such refund have been unsuccessful, and there is no likelihood that any alteration of the procedure will be made in future cases.

Mr. William Haviland, when he played Polonius for the first time with Sir Herbert Tree a few night ago, established what is perhaps a record for any living actor—he has played every male part in *Hamlet*, from the title-part downwards, besides sustaining every male part in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Haviland, whose reputation as an exponent of the difficult art of speaking blank verse is second to none, has received so many requests for some time past to give instruction in the art of elocution and correct delivery to actors, clergymen, and barristers, that he has at length decided to devote a portion of his time to a few special pupils. He is also willing to coach professional ladies and gentlemen in their parts prior to rehearsal, and the advantage of such tuition to the clever, but not very experienced artist, who has been so fortunate as to secure an engagement entailing the performance of a part which may be a little beyond his or her scope for the time being is hard to over-estimate.

Mr. W. W. Kelly is making a remarkable success of his new Liverpool theatrical venture—Kelly's Theatre—and, by means of a skilfully varied series of programmes, has succeeded in playing to a surprisingly high average of attendances since he opened his fine playhouse last autumn. Mr. Kelly has now on offer for the autumn and the spring of next year a choice covering attractions of practically every known kind, having received no less than nine applications for one particular date.

Mr. Kelly has a remarkably low series of prices for the attractions that he is offering, and his success proves that there is a public ready to take advantage of fine theatrical bills at cheap rates. His bookings for the future constitute a surprising list, and now that he has proved that Kelly's Theatre, as conducted by him, is a satisfactory venture, he has set himself to the task of securing better attractions still.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones will read a paper on "The Delineation of Character in Drama" to the members of the Ethnological Society on Wednesday evening, at 35a, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square. The chair will be taken by Mr. A. B. Walkley.

Mr. Charles Frohman's revival of *Caste* at the Empire Theatre, New York, last Monday, was a "big" success; and Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mr. Graham Browne, and Miss Marie Tempest, whose Polly Eccles was a triumph, shared the honours of the evening. Mr. Huntley's Eccles is stated to have been quite a revelation.

Mr. F. R. Benson is to be granted the freedom of the city of Stratford-on-Avon in recognition of his services in helping the public to a more lively and abiding sense of the true value of the works of Shakespeare. The freedom will be conferred on him at the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council.

The many admirers of Miss Lucy Wilson, will be pleased to learn that she has sufficiently recovered from her recent accident to repeat her fine performance of *Everyman* at Manchester next week. Miss Wilson was to have been the Julia in the recent matinée of *Two Gentlemen of Verona* at His Majesty's Theatre, but was prevented by her unfortunate mishap.

Mr. Ian Robertson, who has been delighting large audiences at Carlisle with his dignified rendering of the part of The Stranger in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, was on the 22nd inst. the first guest of the "Round Table," a coterie of citizens associated with music, literature, art, science, or the drama. One of the original objects of this recently formed body is to bring player and playgoer into closer personal touch in this agreeable manner, and in replying to the toast of the evening Mr. Robertson expressed his approval of this happy idea.

Booking by wireless is the latest instance of the application of science to the stage. On the 22nd inst. four stalls were secured by Marconigram from a Cunarder in mid-Atlantic for the 200th performance of *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket on Wednesday of this week.

A new one act tragedy entitled *The Law of the Zincali*, from the pen of Frances Ayton Gostling, the authoress of the book entitled "Bretons at Home" and the sketch *Joan's Kiss*, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Tuesday next.

Maeterlinck's delightful fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, reached its 200th performance at the Haymarket Theatre on Wednesday. The success of the piece is phenomenal, and, especially at the matinées, the house is crowded to the last seat.

M. Maeterlinck has telegraphed to Mr. Herbert Trench as follows:—"On the occasion of the 200th performance of *The Blue Bird*, pray, my dear director, accept and be kind enough to transmit to its courageous interpreters my thanks and congratulations; and my hope to be present with them in the highest spirits on the next three-hundredth performance."

The King, with the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Edward and Prince Albert of Wales, and Prince Arthur of Connaught, went to the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday night for the performance of *Rigoletto*.

The Australian rights of *The Balkan Princess*, which has settled down into a pronounced success at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, have been secured by Mr. J. C. Williamson, and the South African rights by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. The piece has already been translated into Hungarian, and will shortly be produced at Buda-Pesth. *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's is doing splendidly. Mr. Frank Curzon is to be congratulated on having two such prominent successes running at his theatres.

Miss Dorothy Richardson has been engaged to play May Edwards in *Ticket-of-Leave* and Zoe in *The Octoroon* next week at the Theatre Royal, Luton.

Miss Ada Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow have secured from Mr. Charles Hawtrey the rights of *The Naked Truth*, which was an instantaneous success, and is now playing to the capacity of Wyndham's Theatre. They will start on tour with a very strong company August Bank Holiday.

Mr. Edward Thane has been engaged by the Melodrama Production Syndicate to create the part of Julian Croft in their new play *The Master of the Mill*, to be produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on May 23.

Mr. W. Wilson Blake will shortly conclude a long tour with Mr. Ian Robertson as stage-manager for *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. A few weeks ago Mr. Blake was called upon to take up the part of Joey Wright, the old bookmaker, which he played with great success, and again on Tuesday night at the King's Theatre, Sunderland, he undertook the rôle of Christopher Penny, the artist, at very short notice, and was complimented by Mr Robertson upon his excellent performance.

Miss Maisie Hanbury, who to-night concludes a special engagement as Bessie, in *A Woman's Past* company, has been engaged for the summer stock season at the Grand Theatre, Brighton.

Mr. Eric Hudson will conclude on May 7 450 performances as Tab-y-wana in *A White Man* with Mr. Herbert Sleath's company. The actor's wonderfully realistic make-up has been the source of many encomiums, and speculation has been rife in many towns as to his being a genuine Red Indian. It is a picturesque assumption, and has created a great impression everywhere.

Foreign training was at one time thought to be imperative in the making of an opera singer, but the success at Covent Garden of our London-taught artists has brought into prominence the advantages of home teaching. Amongst those who have distinguished themselves during the recent Beecham season at the Royal Opera are Miss Carrie Tubb, for seven years a pupil at the Guildhall School of Music, Miss Betty Booker, and Mr. Byndon Ayres, each of whom is claimed by the same musical *alma mater*. Miss Edith Clegg, of the Royal Opera, also studied at the same institution, where, it may be added, a fully equipped stage, and classes in acting and gesture, enable the aspirant to undergo a really practical operatic course.

Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney appeared in *The Three Daughters of Monsieur Dupont*, a play in four acts by Eugene Brieux, at the Comedy Theatre, New York, on the 13th inst. The English translation was made by Mr. Irving, and is practically the same as the original version. Mr. Irving scored a double success on this occasion, for the work had been rendered into English in an apt and effective manner, and in his handling of the principal rôle (Monsieur Dupont) he was conspicuously successful.

Mr. Irving's Monsieur Dupont is a graphic portrayal with many humorous touches. It is a finished characterisation that proves his innate cleverness, and is the best thing he has done in this country. Miss Hackney's Julie, too, is an excellent portrayal, and the performance from beginning to end is highly interesting. The action takes place in and near a French provincial town at the present time.

Mr. W. Payne Seddon is to be congratulated on the success which is attending his innovation at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, of which he is part lessee. The first three nights of each week are devoted to musical and light attractions, once nightly; and the last three nights to drama, twice nightly. The average receipts at this theatre have steadily increased for the past six years, and during the latter half of that period doubled those of the previous three years.

The "once nightly" bookings for the present season include *The Dairymaids*, *The Belle of New York*, *The Gay Gordons*, *Girls of Gottenberg*, *The Merry Widow*, G. Brydon Phillips' pantomime, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Edward Compton, *Toddles*, *Flag Lieutenant*, *The Thief*, and *When Knights were Bold*; while "twice nightly" attractions comprise *A False Wife*, *The Dandy Fifth*, *At Duty's Call*, *Lucky Liza*, Walter Melville, Millar Anderson, Thompson Carruthers, &c.

The Opera House and Hippodrome, Londonderry, of which Mr. W. Payne Seddon is proprietor, gives drama and variety twice nightly. There being no boats from Derry after the performance on Saturday night, this town serves most conveniently for dramatic companies and variety artists to precede Dublin or Belfast. Other enterprises of Mr. Seddon's are the New Theatre, Hawick, with drama and variety twice nightly; and the Spa, Whitby, which is visited by the leading attractions. In addition, Mr. Seddon runs a booking agency for theatres and halls and companies of repute. Mr. Seddon will be abroad for three weeks from Monday, May 23, to Saturday, June 11.

The tour has just concluded of *Dick Whittington*, the pantomime produced at the King's Edinburgh, in December last by Mrs. Lillie Williams, and which, after a huge success there, has been on the road since. The libretto of this pantomime is by that clever writer the late Fred Locke, and shows the vitality that remains in a really smart and well-constructed book. Several of his pantomimes have been tried in recent years with equally good results.

Miss Marie Brema has found it necessary to again extend her season at the Savoy with *Orphéus*. After this week eight further performances will be given from May 3, Tuesdays and Fridays being set apart for evening performances, and matinées taking place on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The cast will be the same as before, Miss Marie Brema repeating her famous impersonation of Orphéus, while Miss Viola Tree has postponed her departure for Italy in order that she may again sing the part of Eurydice.

Mr. F. R. Griffiths, the responsible managing-director of the West London Theatre, has installed Mr. H. Nugent as his general-manager there, an appointment which bids fair to be a deservedly popular one.

A varied assortment of musical comedy productions will be found for sale by a reference to our advertisement columns. They consist of the Apollo production of *Mr. Popple*, the No. 1 productions of *The Earl and the Girl*, *The Three Little Maids*, *The White Chrysanthemum*, Daly's Theatre production of *The Duchess of Dantzic*, and the fit-up productions of *The Toreador*, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, and *A Country Girl*. The provincial right of performing most of the above plays can be included by arrangement.

Mr. Brember Wells, who was acting the foppish young Captain Larolle at Rochdale last week, unfortunately sprained his ankle, and was unable to reach the floor with his right foot. He did not allow his predicament to interfere with the effectiveness of his performance, and hopped about in a very lively way during two acts. Indeed, it is doubtful whether the audience would have noticed that there was anything wrong if Mr. Norman had not craved their indulgence, and it might have been supposed that the hopping was only one of the young officer's many idiosyncrasies.

Mr. Austin Hurgon will to-night, at the Strand Theatre, try the experiment of offering *The Merry Monarchs* to the public at popular prices. Mr. Leslie Stiles, Mr. Lennox Pawle, and Miss Daisy Le Hay will resume the rôles which they sustained at the Savoy, and Mr. George Giddens and Mr. Hayden Coffin will replace Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Mr. Roland Cunningham respectively. Mr. Hurgon has also secured a comedian whose name is not mentioned, but who is described as being a real *trouvaille*.

"Her Marriage Vow" finishes a three years' run at Dundee on May 14. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company then go for a short stock season to Aberdeen, and on August Bank Holiday Mr. Knowles produces *Nick Carter*.

Mr. Lawrence Derrick has been specially engaged by the Melodrama Syndicate to create the name-part in their new drama, *The Master of the Mill*, which is to be produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, on May 23. He has also been engaged by the same syndicate for the autumn tour of their successful play *Hush Money*, to play the lead, Sexton Blake, opening on August Bank Holiday, at Reading. In the latter engagement he will be joined by Miss Marian Brereton, who is to play Mary Woodford, a strong character part.

Mr. Allan Wilkie has secured from Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale the theatre rights of the "Lindo" version of *David Garrick*. This version introduces several novel and dramatic situations, and is at the same time full of excellent comedy.

"The Brass Bottle," transferred in its entirety from the Vaudeville Theatre, has scored an unmistakable success at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. The business this week has been so great that Mr. Mulholland has arranged with Mr. Gaston Mayer to extend the engagement over next week, during which this delightful farcical play will be given nightly at eight, with a matinée on Thursday. Monday night being the 250th performance by the company, the occasion will be marked by a souvenir in the shape of Mr. Anstey's novel, "The Brass Bottle," being given to a section of the audience. A run of "six nights only" has so long been the rule at the King's that the extension of this will be watched with interest. Seeing, however, that the prices charged are only about half those of the West End houses, and that Mr. Mulholland is presenting the actual West End company, his spacious theatre should be crowded at each performance.

Mr. Edward Compton received the following letter:—"Sir,—Somewhere about twenty years ago you and your wife were playing at Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen. I was an apprentice engineer, and probably the most inveterate stammerer you ever heard. I went on Monday night and heard you, and all the week I overcame minor difficulties at the end of the week to obtain the necessary to get in. After, I quietly and steadily practised your magnificent style of elocution as I learnt from carefully observing you. Owing to various causes and ill-health, I have not been a success in life; I am merely an advertising canvasser, but that requires a fluent tongue, and that I owe to you. I have often thought of writing you, but felt rather nervous. Any way, sir, one man thanks you heartily from the bottom of his heart for giving a splendid lesson—you may say unconsciously, but, nevertheless, I benefited by it."

"Chantecler" is coming to London in the autumn, and will be produced by Mr. Charles Frohman in English. Mr. Louis N. Parker has completed the adaptation, and the piece will be acted by an entirely English company.

Manchester was the scene of more than one "flying" feat on Thursday, for on that day Mr. George Alexander and his company accomplished the formidable task of playing the same piece in that town and in London as well. They appeared in *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, in the afternoon, and returned to town in time to present the piece at the St. James's.

The birthday of *The Arcadians* was celebrated on Thursday at the Shaftesbury, where for a whole year the bright and melodious piece has entertained consistently crowded houses. No souvenir marked the occasion, but Mr. Robert Courtneidge, with laudable beneficence, devoted the whole of the proceeds of the evening to the Children's Fresh Air Fund. Several new items have also been introduced, including a lively number, "All down Piccadilly," in which droll Mr. Dan Rolyat figures prominently, and an effective ballad, "The Call of Arcady," exquisitely rendered by Miss Florence Smithson. Both are from the pen of Mr. Lionel Monckton, who is highly to be complimented on his work. Mr. Alfred Lester is as indefatigable as ever in provoking mirth, of which he creates an abundance. Miss Cicely Courtneidge has succeeded Miss Phyllis Dare in the rôle of Eileen, and does complete justice to the part, both in singing and acting.

Mr. Philip Leslie has been engaged by Mr. George C. Tyler to play Lord Tommy in his forthcoming production of *The Dawn of a To-morrow* at Liverpool and in town.

Mr. Edward S. Petley and Miss Una Gilbert have secured *Little Mrs. Cummin*, by Richard Pryce, the recent Playhouse success, by arrangement with Mr. Cyril Maude, and are about to tour it. The company, besides Mr. Petley and Miss Gilbert, includes Christina Rayner, Jessie Clapham, Caralene Fenton, Edgar Stevenson, and Gordon Hamilton.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh and Mr. Henry Hamilton read to Mr. Arthur Collins on Tuesday a completed scenario of the new Drury Lane drama, the first act of which takes places in Harley-street. There will be a strong naval element in the play.

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson scored a great success at the New Theatre, Oxford, the first week of term. The popular players were enthusiastically received and called before the curtain each night.

Mr. Hugh Fleming, whose recent attack of influenza left him with a dangerous malady of the eyes, has undergone a successful operation in Brussels, and returns to London next week completely recovered and ready for fresh engagements.

A meeting of the creditors and contributories of the Crystal Palace Company was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, before the Assistant Official Receiver of the Companies (Winding-up) Department. The Chairman stated that unless some scheme were put forward which could offer the first debenture holders some reasonable prospect of security for the future, there would be no course left open but to dispose of the property at break-up prices.

He attributed the failure of the company, among other causes, to its outlay having been nearly ten times greater than was anticipated, to the fire of 1866, which destroyed the north end of the building and its contents, to a great storm and three landslips, to litigation with one of the refreshment contractors, and difficulties with the railway companies; and to the competition in later years of more accessible and attractive places of amusement.

The Receiver for debenture holders said that a very advantageous arrangement had been made with the directors of the Pageant Festival of Empire. It was stated that a proposal for reconstruction had been prepared, which could not be discussed now, and £150,000 would have to be found. It was resolved to leave the liquidation in the hands of the Official Receiver.

The funds of the Charing Cross Hospital are to be augmented by a Japanese Matinée, which will be given on Thursday, June 23, at the Adelphi Theatre. The entertainment will consist of three plays, all dealing with the land of the chrysanthemum, viz., *The Mirror*, founded on a Japanese legend by Rosina Filippi; *A Japanese Revenge*, dramatised from a short story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; and *Jappy Chappy*, a musical extravaganza, in which about forty children will take part. The plays are being produced by Miss Italia Conti.

From Detroit, Mich., U.S.A., comes news of the production of a new musical comedy called *The Echo*, in which Mrs. Annie Yeamans impersonates a "coquettish hotel typist" and Miss Georgie Drew Mendum represents a newspaper correspondent. Mr. Fred G. Latham has staged the piece quite handsomely, it is said, and Mr. Richard Carle, the chief comedian, seems to have made a hit. He appears as a wealthy soap manufacturer who flees to a New England hotel to escape the notoriety he has won by writing a comic song. He had forgotten the song, when it suddenly became popular, and rose up to haunt and pursue him everywhere.

The following charming letter has been received by Joska Szigeti, the seventeen-year-old Hungarian violinist, from the Queen of the Belgians: "Palais de Bruxelles, April 20, 1910.—Sir,—Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians is most conscious of the courtesy which you showed to her on your recent journey through Brussels. The Queen commands me, sir, to repeat again how much pleasure it gave her to hear you, and how greatly she appreciates your talent. Her Majesty has the most pleasant recollection of your artistic performance, and she hopes soon to have the opportunity of applauding you once again, and to be able to reiterate her great admiration. In memory of that delightful afternoon the Queen has herself chosen a jewel for you, which I am forwarding by this same post. Her Majesty wishes you to accept it as a token of her goodwill, and as a precious sign of the pleasure she had in hearing you play. With best wishes, yours faithfully, Grand Master of the Household of Her Majesty the Queen, Baron H. de Woelmont."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Sullivan's Losses.

"The parallel case of Sir Walter Scott naturally comes to mind," says the *Daily News*, "when one reads how Mark Twain lost his life's savings in the collapse of the publishing house in which he had invested them. Twice in his career Sir Arthur Sullivan, after building up a tolerable fortune, was placed in the same unenviable position, as was Mark Twain when, in 1895, his 'rainy day' balance disappeared in the failure of a concern in which he was interested. And the famous composer met financial disaster with the same equanimity as did the author.

His Heroism.

"By far the greater of the two financial disasters which overtook Sullivan happened in 1882, and the news reached him under very dramatic circumstances. In that year *Iolanthe* was produced at the Savoy, and, as usual, its composer conducted the first performance. On the day fixed for the production the bankruptcy was announced of the firm in whose keeping Sir Arthur had entrusted all his securities, and the news of the crash reached the composer just as he was setting out for the Savoy Theatre. In a moment the result of the work of a lifetime and of economy had been swept away. From the monetary point of view he had to make a beginning all over again. But, unmoved by his ill-fortune, he conducted the first performance of *Iolanthe* that night."

A Descendant of Shakespeare.

Mr. William Shakespeare, gardener, was born at Wasperton, a little village close to Charlecote, and lives now in a humble cottage by the waterside. There is no manner of doubt that this lowly cottager is a genuine survivor of the family that gave Shakespeare to the world. He has no formal pedigree, but he can show at least that for generations upon generations his equally lowly ancestors have borne his name in the villages of Longbridge, Wilmcote, Rowington, and Snitterfield—the last of which, one of the trimmest and prettiest villages in all Warwickshire, was unquestionably the birthplace of old John Shakespeare, the poet's father.

Quite apart from Stratford's pomp and pageantries he has his own little celebrations, and each 23rd of April his country neighbours call in and wish him "Many happy returns" over a glass of home-made rhubarb wine. None the less, at the very hour when pilgrims from far and near were making speeches and scattering flowers over the grave of William Shakespeare the departed, William Shakespeare the living was toiling in "the eye of Phoebus," alone and unremembered, over his garden borders.

Shakespeare's Awakening.

"He happened, with it all, to be a cheery old fellow, ungiven to philosophise upon 'man's ingratitude' like his supreme relative, and perhaps a little disappointing as a literary heir. As he chatted with me at his cottage door," says the *Chronicle* man, "with the swans sailing by in the twilight, he told, with immense conviction and gusto, the story about the poet having gone to sleep for twenty-four hours under a crab-apple tree, after a convivial evening, and 'missing a day.' 'You may be certain sure that it's true,' said he, 'for I had it from my father, and the crab-tree is still there. And d'you know what he said when he woke up? "Why, bless me," he says, "To-day's to-morrow!" Them was his very first words! You may be certain sure they were!'"

A Railway Smash.

"About 1874," writes Mr. Tom Green, "I was the principal comedian at what was then called the Lyceum Theatre, Workington. The proprietor was Mr. John Clifford. 'Honest John' he was called, because he always paid his actors. During the long season we used to have a number of well-known 'stars' pay the usual six-nights' visits. Charles Dillon, Henry Loraine, Julia Seaman, 'Vady Don,' and many others. One week we had Tom Glenny, one of the most versatile actors that ever trod the boards. Saturday night another big attraction, i.e., *Jessie Brown; or, The Relief of Lucknow* and *The Scamps of London*. In the last piece, Glenny, who, I may mention, was a very stout gentleman, was playing old Tom Fogg. In the great sensation scene Fogg is tied to the railway lines, and the express train is expected to dash into him at any moment. The 'express train' consisted of three or four frames painted to look like like an engine and carriages. The property-man, who had one good eye, the other being a little faulty, insisted that he should go first with the engine. He did, but, unfortunately, his good eye was next to the scenery, and not being able to see well with the other the result was most disastrous.

An Unlucky Accident.

"Glenny was lashed to the rails on his back, and was working up the excitement splendidly, when the square corner of the engine struck him in the stomach. Over went engine and the property-man; the other carriages, with their attendants, followed suit; and amidst screams of laughter from the front, Glenny was making fine speeches not in his part, and, fortunately, *not* heard by the audience.

Upsetting the Throne.

"A few weeks after I came to grief on the same stage. The piece on this occasion was *Timour the Tartar*, and the climax comes when the two rival Chieftains fight their great sword combat. I was selected for one rival, as I used a sword fairly well. The other Chieftain was a gentleman twice my size; but, as I had to kill him at the finish, his size did not worry me. The eventful moment arrived. The King and Queen mounted on their throne at the back, composed of two chairs on some boxes covered with red Turkey twill. Then the band started. So did we—'round eights,' "sevens,' 'fives,' 'threes,' 'single and double point,' and other stock stage blows too numerous to mention. All the time I was fighting I felt something like a rolling-pin prodding me in the middle of the back. All of a sudden there was a crash, and, turning round, I saw what I had done. In my terrific exertions I had pushed the King and Queen off their boxes, and they lay flat on the stage together."

"The Colleen Bawn."

"A good many amusing incidents," continues Mr. Green, "are connected with this well-known Irish drama, and most of these have generally occurred in the famous sensational Water Cave Scene. Fred Neebe, a well-known comedian, and afterwards the lessee of the Theatre Royal, Exeter, was never at a loss for a 'Cut Cave Scene' when on a fit-up tour, and *The Colleen Bawn* was put up for a special night. He generally told the property-man to glue a lot of sheets of brown paper together, and lower the lights, so that the audience couldn't see what it was. On one occasion I was playing Danny Mann, and I made the usual entrance with Eily in the boat. This was worked on what is termed a 'boat-truck,' and pulled on by a stage-hand at the side. When we arrived in the centre of the stage, and I spoke my first line, 'Step out on to the rock, the boat's leaking,' the man at the wing gave an extra pull with the rope; and, instead of stopping out, we both fell out in a most undignified manner. A short time after I played Miles-na-Coppaleen, who has to swing on a rope from one rock to another on the opposite side of the cave. The property-man had neglected to place anything at the back of the rock for me to land on, with the result that I came back to the middle of the stage, clinging to the rope. There was no help for it; get off somehow I must. So, dropping into the water up to my waist, amidst the screams of the audience, 'I *walked* off.'"

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

On Monday, April 25, was revived Shakespeare's Comedy,

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Shylock	Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
Bassanio	Mr. Henry Ainley
Antonio	Mr. William Haviland
Gratiano	Mr. Yorke Stevens
Duke of Venice	Mr. Edward Sass
Prince of Morocco	Mr. Hubert Carter
Prince of Arragon	Mr. W. R. Creighton
Salanio	Mr. Frank Esmond
Salarino	Mr. Harry C. Hewitt
Salerio	Mr. Frederick James
Lorenzo	Mr. Shiel Barry
Tubal	Mr. J. W. Braithwaite
Launcelot Gobbo	Mr. Nigel Playfair
Old Gobbo	Mr. W. G. Fay
Leonardo	Mr. C. E. Clarke
Balthazar	Mr. Henry Morrell
Stephano	Mr. Clifford Heatherley
Clerk of the Court	Mr. W. Smithson
Jessica	Miss Hilda Moore
Nerissa	Miss Margaret Bussé
Portia	Miss Evelyn D'Alroy

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's production of *The Merchant of Venice* is famous and familiar to all. Sir Herbert appeared in the character of Shylock at His Majesty's in the April of 1908, with Mr. Basil Gill as Bassanio, Mr. William Haviland as Antonio, Mr. Charles Quartermaine as Gratiano, Mr. Norman Page as Launcelot Gobbo, Mr. G. W. Anson as Old Gobbo, Miss Auriol Lee as Jessica, Miss Dorothy Minto as Nerissa, and Miss Alexandra Carlisle as Portia. Mr. William Haviland and Mr. W. R. Creighton are available for the present revival, and both play their parts with unabated excellence. Mr. Haviland's Antonio is a sound, firm, and carefully considered performance, and deserves to be praised. Mr. W. R. Creighton repeats his clever representation of the Prince of Arragon—an ingenious reading and well warranted in its details. As for Sir Herbert Tree's Shylock, it has been so widely and warmly commended that we need only say that it is the same powerful and picturesque performance as it was in 1908. The audience at His Majesty's on Monday rewarded Sir Herbert's efforts with enthusiastic applause, and the impression he created was strong, intense, and universal. From beginning to end it was replete with imagination, invention, and the imagery of genius. Mr. Henry Ainley's fine personality, the ease and grace of his bearing, and his excellent elocution, made him an unimpeachable Bassanio, and his expressive acting rendered Portia's infatuation quite probable. As the heiress of Belmont Miss Evelyn D'Alroy showed sweet refinement, tender sensitiveness, and an aristocratic delicacy which was quite appropriate to the great lady she represented; and Miss Margaret Bussé as Nerissa cleverly realised the playful and pleasant companion. Miss Hilda Moore as Jessica put plenty of fervour into her delivery of her loving lines, and made a becoming boy; and Mr. Yorke Stephens gave an original reading of the rôle of Gratiano. Mr. Edward Sass was a dignified and urbane Duke; and Mr. Hubert Carter was duly solid and serious as the Prince of Morocco. Mr. Frank Esmond and Mr. Harry Hewitt were good as Salanio and Salarino; Mr. Frederick James was a good Salerio; Mr. Shiel Barry was a fervent and spirited Lorenzo; and a very quaint performance as Tubal was supplied by Mr. J. W. Braithwaite. Another dry and curious bit of acting was Mr. W. G. Fay's Old Gobbo, to which Mr. Nigel Playfair's well-rounded Launcelot Gobbo was an effective foil. Mr. C. E. Clarke was satisfactory as Leonardo; and Mr. Henry Morell as Balthazar and Mr. Clifford Heatherley as Stephano both did good work, Mr. Smithson being efficient as the Clerk of the Court. The play was mounted in the same effective manner as in 1908, and was received with the same hearty encouragement. Amongst the very acceptable musical embellishments were the song to "Portia," Act I., second scene, composed by Roger Quilter; Morocco's March, composed by Raymond Roze; some Hebrew chants in Act II., first scene, selected from "Mogen Dovid," and composed by the Rev. Herman Davids; the casket song, "Tell me where is fancy bred," composed by E. Humperdinck; the "Wedding March," composed by Raymond Roze; and incidental music arranged by Adolf Schmid. The tenor solos were tunefully rendered by Signor M. Bacci.

On Wednesday, April 27, was revived Shakespeare's

"KING RICHARD II."

King Richard II.	Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
John of Gaunt	Mr. Henry Ainley
Edmund of Langley	Mr. Hubert Carter
Henry of Hereford	Mr. Lyn Harding
Duke of Aumerle	Mr. Shiel Barry
Duke of Norfolk	Mr. William Haviland
Earl of Northumberland	Mr. Jules Shaw
Henry Percy	Mr. Frank Esmond
Bishop of Carlisle	Mr. Henry Morrell
Sir John Bushey	Mr. Harry C. Hewitt
Sir William Bagot	Mr. Frederick James
Sir Thomas Greene	Mr. W. R. Creighton
Duke of Surrey	Mr. Eric Ward
Earl of Salisbury	Mr. Frank Esmond
Lord Scroop	Mr. C. H. Croker-King
Lord Berkeley	Mr. Clifford Heatherley
Lord Ross	Mr. Arthur Cleave
Lord Willoughby	Mr. Stuart Graham
Lord Fitzwater	Mr. William Abingdon
The Lord Marshal	Mr. Norman Trevor
Sir Piers of Exton	Mr. H. Smithson
Keeper of the Dungeon	Mr. Noel Jackson
The Gardener	Mr. Edward Sass
Second Gardener	Mr. J. W. Braithwaite
The Queen	Miss Iris Hoey
First Lady	Miss Hilda Moore
Second Lady	Miss Marie Hemingway
Third Lady	Miss Isabel Jeans
Fourth Lady	Miss Edith Streeter

Sir Herbert Tree rescued *King Richard II.* from the comparative oblivion which had fallen on the piece by reviving it at His Majesty's Theatre on Sept. 10, 1903, and since then he has several times reappeared as Richard II. In the 1903 production Mr. Tree was supported by Mr. Lyn Harding as the Duke of York, Mr. Oscar Asche as Henry of Hereford, the late Mr. Lal Brough as the Gardener, and Miss Lily Brayton as the Queen. The play, one of the most curious and interesting, if not one of the strongest, of Shakespeare's, held an appropriate position in the London Shakespeare Festival, and its performance at His Majesty's on Wednesday was witnessed with pleasure by an appreciative house. There are few parts which Sir Herbert Tree has made more specially his own than this of Richard II. He depicted with great skill the alternations of frivolity, melancholy, and energy in the character of the King, who, thoughtless and extravagant in prosperity, sinks in adversity to the level of didactic despair. The subtleties of the character were admirably expressed, and the poetical speeches which Shakespeare has allotted to the unfortunate, but eloquent, monarch, were delivered by Sir Herbert with great delicacy and feeling. Mr. Henry Ainley played John of Gaunt with remarkable power and picturesqueness, delivering the old man's denunciations of Richard with telling effect and distinct success. Mr. Lyn Harding made Henry of Hereford a thoroughly manly and vigorous personage, and his stalwart stature was well suited to the magnificent armour which he wore in the character. Miss Iris Hoey looked very handsome as the Queen, and acted with an impulsive earnestness and womanly loyalty which were very appealing; and a really fine rendering of the small, but striking, part of the Gardener was given by Mr. Edward Sass. Mr. Shiel Barry was expressive and spirited as the Duke of Aumerle; and Mr. William Haviland contributed a sound and well-considered rendering of the rôle of the Duke of Norfolk. *Richard II.* contains a large number of less distinctive characters, and all of these were carefully and creditably sustained. Mr. Hubert Carter supplied an excellent reading of the rôle of Edmund of Langley, Duke of York; and the smaller rôles of Bushey, Bagot, and Greene had efficient and intelligent exponents in Mr. Harry C. Hewitt, Mr. Frederick James, and Mr. W. R. Creighton. Mr. C. H. Croker-King doing good work as Lord Scroop. Mr. Frank Esmond being quite satisfactory as the Earl of Salisbury and Henry Percy, and Mr. Jules Shaw ably representing the Earl of Northumberland. Mr. H. Smithson was effectively energetic as Sir Piers of Exton. Most of the fine features of the original mounting were reproduced; and, under the supervision of Mr. P. Ambrose Lee, the York Herald, this splendid spectacle of the middle age was revived with broad and strong effect, the tableau of the Coronation of Henry IV. in Westminster Abbey, and the dazzling stage picture representing the lists at Coventry, being especially admired.

On Friday afternoon a special bill was given at His Majesty's Theatre. The first item was an act from Macbeth, in which Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and Miss Marie Illington appeared. This was followed by an act from *The Clandestine Marriage*, interpreted by Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. Fred Lewis, Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. H. B. Irving abandoned their original intention of presenting a scene from *Othello*, and in its place the Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet* was given, in which Miss Constance Collier, making her first appearance after her recent American visit, appeared as Juliet, with Mr. Henry Ainley as Romeo. Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Basil Gric, Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Henry Neville, and Miss Marie Löhr appeared in the screen scene from *The School for Scandal*. Owing to the early hour at which *The Era* goes to press on Friday, it is impossible to notice this performance at length, but a full account will appear next week.

[*Photo by Daily Mirror Studios.*

DINNER TO SIR HERBERT TREE.

Sir Herbert Tree was entertained at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday by the London Shakespeare Committee, in recognition of his services in connection with the Shakespeare Festival. A profusion of red roses adorned the table, and a bust of Shakespeare occupied a prominent place. The committee included Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Herbert Trench, and Mr. Lewis Waller. Mr. F. R. Benson, the senior actor present, occupied the chair.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

In order to ascertain the feeling amongst the leading London managers as to the National Theatre scheme, we have asked them to acquaint us with their opinions on the subject. In the case of Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Martin Harvey, correspondence was unnecessary, as they have already defined their views in interviews and speeches:—

SIR HERBERT TREE.

Sir Herbert Tree, in a recent interview in *The Era*, said: "I can hardly suggest the spirit of an Endowed Theatre better than by a quotation from an article by Miss Annie Besant, in which, envisaging a Socialistic state, she says, 'The daily bread being certain, the tyranny of pecuniary gain will be broken; and life will begin to be used in living, and not in struggling for the chance to live. The desire to excel, the joy in creative work, the longing to improve, the eagerness to win social approval, the instinct of benevolence—all these will start into full life, and will serve at once as the stimulus to labour and the reward of excellence.' A National Theatre would appeal to the the intellectual class which only visits the theatre occasionally. It is impossible for any manager unsubsidised and unendowed to present a succession of literary and intellectual plays. As you know, *False Gods* comes off on the 6th, and I produce M. René Fauchois' *Beethoven* on the 18th. In the interval I must put on *Trilby*. It is not the fact, as Mr. Augustine Birrell says, that the actor turns with delight to the cheaply popular and easy achievement. At the bottom of every actor worth his salt is the desire to excel, to do his best even if the doing be difficult. But one has to make both ends meet, and the result is a 'divided duty.' Now the manager of an Endowed Theatre would be as superior to these sordid considerations as the manager of the Comédie-Française. Though even those commercial considerations assert themselves, all he would have to think about would be Art. If it paid, so much the better; if not, it would not matter."

MR. MARTIN HARVEY.

Mr. Martin Harvey, in a speech on the subject at a meeting presided over by the Countess of Wemyss on April 6, said: "It must be a Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre, and it will come. The public is ready for it. Look at the renewed interest there is in Shakespeare and his works; renewed largely because the tendency of modern Shakespearean scholarship has been to humanise the great author himself. In every important centre in the British Isles is growing up a branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, which will, I venture to say, prove to be a powerful organisation for the collection of subscriptions for our Memorial Theatre. Mr. Benson renews his Shakespearean Festival at Stratford-on-Avon under happier auspices than ever before; and Sir Herbert Tree is also able to announce no less than five weeks' festival at His Majesty's Theatre. Surely this last spectacle alone is enough to win over any who may be sceptical as to the possible success of our enterprise. I am sure we of the executive of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre are grateful to Sir Herbert Tree for proving to us at the critical moment the readiness of the public to support the undertaking and a great series of Shakespearean plays. The mere fact that so many distinguished members of my calling have lent their names to the Festival at His Majesty's Theatre is surely proof of their desire to honour Shakespeare in the most practical way, and indirectly to show their sympathy and belief in the ultimate destiny of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. And that belief in its destiny will be realised. It is surely coming."

MR. ROBERT COURTNEIDGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have to say that I regard the institution of a National Theatre as highly desirable and quite practicable if the requisite amount of money be forthcoming for its establishment and maintenance.

A National Theatre on such a scale as that of France would lend dignity to our calling, give opportunities to authors, actors, and producers, and set a standard of excellence in all branches of our art.

But is the erection, equipment, and maintenance of a National Theatre in London the best possible panacea for the ills that beset the poor drama? Would that alone vitalise the body dramatic, debilitated by a course of long runs? Would it suffice to nurture the rising talents, sustain their higher flights, and become the repository of all the great traditions?

As there is always difficulty in raising money for artistic objects, and as a second fund could scarcely be raised if the first failed of its purpose, it behoves us very carefully to consider whether the vast amount of money which must be expended upon a National Theatre might not provide wider and fuller results if laid out in other ways.

I venture to believe that the capital subscribed might be used more wisely and profitably by dividing the income into yearly grants for the encouragement of any worthy dramatic endeavour either in London or the country.

I think that private enterprise at His Majesty's Theatre and the Duke of York's s even now giving us performances equal to anything which a National Theatre could provide, and that it would be better to support and strengthen these ventures than to undermine them by competition.

The name of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree is a synonym for the best our stage can show in the way of Shakespearean productions. The series now being given at His Majesty's shows the greatness of Sir Herbert's methods, the largeness of his views, his ability to influence others, and his expertness in mingling the best elements in the dramatic crucible. He is a notable stage-manager—full of resource, sparkling with ideas, possessing the happy faculty of choosing his players with an instinctive knowledge of that which is suitable and attractive. For one instance of this, let me recall the stroke of genius that combined Ellen Terry and Madge Kendal in *The Merry Wives*.

Then again, can anyone desire finer performances of comedy than those now being given at the Duke of York's Theatre? To Dion Boucicault and Granville Barker I convey my respectful admiration; to the ladies and gentlemen of the company my fervent gratitude. The stage management is perfect; the performances leaves us impressed with a delightful memory.

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and Charles Frohman have both shown themselves capable of administering. They have displayed courage and devotion to high ideals. They deserve the heartiest support. Therefore I would prefer to discharge the debt of public gratiture to these gentlemen before building a dramatic palace. I would like to make sure that they may be able to continue the good work they have begun. And in order to make certain that they will not fail I would subsidise them if they would accept such aid.

I would assist in like fashion all those whose aims are high, and who would, by the nature of their venture, take uncommercial risks for the sake of doing good work. I would extend help and sympathy to Miss Horniman and to promoters of repertory theatres in all parts of the country.

On these lines I think a better result would be attained than by the institution of a National Theatre in which the best actors and plays might, indeed, be worthily housed, but which would surely be in danger of that ossification which sooner or later attacks art when it is too carefully sheltered and protected.—Yours faithfully,

ROBERT COURTNEIDGE.

The Shaftesbury Theatre,
Shaftesbury-avenue, W.
April 22, 1910.

MR. FRED TERRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I cannot think for one moment that a National Theatre is necessary. The London theatres are in themselves one huge repertory theatre, and it would be difficult for a National Theatre to secure to themselves the services of such a band of players as would be necessary to adequately enact such a vast range of plays—from farce to tragedy—as a National Theatre would be called upon to produce.

With regard to the practicability of the scheme, I would sooner leave it to those who have already essayed the experiment of a repertory theatre—Mr. Frohman and Mr. Trench—to express an opinion thereon.—Yours faithfully,

FRED TERRY.

New Theatre, April 13, 1910.

MR. FRANK CURZON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reply to your letter, I have already expressed my opinion of the National Theatre, which is that I cannot see the want of it, and I am sure it would become a dramatic dustbin.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK CURZON.

Prince of Wales Theatre, W.
April 13, 1910.

QUEEN'S HALL.

On Thursday afternoon, April 21, Mr. Rudolf Weinman, the violinist, made his reappearance in London at Queen's Hall after a most successful Continental tour. Mr. Weinman was assisted by Mr. Paul Schramm, pianist, pupil of Leschetizky, who, on Thursday afternoon, appeared for the first time in England, and both performers had the advantage of the fine Queen's Hall orchestra, conducted by Mr. Henry J. Wood. Mr. Weinman was first heard in Wieniawski's Concerto No. 2, in D minor, a favourite with violinists, and the artist secured a most refined interpretation of the charming romance, while displaying great command of his instrument in the dashing Finale (Alla Zingara). Mr. Weinman was also much applauded in "Havanaise" (Saint-Saëns), and in a group of solos, accompanied on the piano by Mr. Edward Brightwell, the violinist played Sarabande on the G string with organ (Sulzer), organist Mr. Stanley Marchant, and gave a delightfully finished performance of Bach's Gavotte in E, for violin alone. Other examples were Beethoven's Menuett in G major, a Berceuse of the violinist's own composition, and Concert Etude for violin alone (Fiorillo-Weinman). Although Mr. Weinman's tone was somewhat small for so large a concert-hall, he played with great expression and faultless execution, and had a most hearty greeting from the audience. Mr. Paul Schramm's first appearance in this country, in the recital on Thursday, proved an undoubted success, for it was at once evident that Mr. Schramm is a pianist of power and resource. In Tschaikowsky's Concerto No. 1, in B flat minor, his massive playing of the beautiful opening movement and masterly technique throughout the concerto aroused considerable enthusiasm, and how admirably he was supported by Mr. Wood's orchestra can be well understood by those who have heard this esteemed conductor's interpretation of the Russian composer's music. After a most brilliant performance with orchestra of Liszt's "Ungarische Fantasie," Mr. Paul Schramm was recalled many times, and had to concede a short solo as encore.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 20.—*Beethoven*, a dramatic biography in three acts, by René Fauchois, was produced at the New Theatre on the 11th inst. Mr. Henry Grafton Chapman was responsible for the English version. The original play was produced at the Odéon Theatre, Paris, on March 9, 1909, and Mr. Louis N. Parker's English version was performed at His Majesty's Theatre last November. The three scenes represent a public garden near Vienna, about 1809; a room in Beethoven's lodgings a few years later; and Beethoven's rooms in the old house of the Spanish Blackfriars, in Vienna, on March 26, 1827. Throughout the play selections from Beethoven's music are used to emphasise and illustrate the action. The play deals with the growing fame of the composer in Vienna, his approaching deafness, his unfortunate love affairs, and finally with his complete loss of hearing, his poverty, his loneliness, and his death, which occurs during a thunderstorm after he has seen a vision of his nine symphonies, these being represented by young women. Although this "dramatic biography" is hardly calculated to attract the general public, it is a highly artistic and tasteful production, and one that is distinctly creditable to the management of the New Theatre.

Mr. Donald Roberson gave an excellent interpretation of the title-rôle, and at the close of each act was warmly applauded. Others who earned praise for their impersonations were Mr. J. H. Benrimo as Beethoven's friend, Anton Schindler; Mr. Frank Currier as Johann, the composer's brother; Miss Helen Tracy as the brother's wife; Miss Rebecca Warren and Miss Gertrude Bennett as Bettina and Giuletta, with whom Beethoven was in love at different periods of his life; Mr. Stanley Dark as the Archduke Rudolph of Austria; Mr. Robert Vivian as Councillor Von Pless; and Mrs. Sol Smith as the composer's servant, Nanny.

"Hannele" was Mrs. Fiske's offering piece at the Lyceum Theatre for the third week of her engagement. It would seem that nothing is impossible to a clever artist when a lady who has portrayed Becky Sharp, Tess, and Hedda Gabler, can depict the simplicity of childhood as faithfully as Mrs. Fiske does in Hauptmann's pathetic dream play. Her performance was wonderful, and it was evident that the production had been most carefully prepared. *Hannele*, translated by Mr. Charles Henry Meltzer, was produced in New York about fifteen years ago under the author's direction. The play at that time aroused much discussion, but since then, with the exception of some performances in German at the Irving-place Theatre, it has not been seen here. The present version is by Mary J. Safford and Percy Mackaye.

Mr. Holbrook Blinn as Gottwald, Mr. Fuller Mellish as Mattern, Mr. Henry Stephenson as Dr. Wachler, and Miss Alice John as Sister Martha played their parts admirably.

The play was preceded by *The Green Cockatoo*, a "grotesquerie" in one act, by Arthur Schnitzler, translated from the German by Philip Littell and George Rublee. The title refers to a Paris cabaret near the Bastille in 1789. The keeper of the cabaret is one Prospère, who was once a theatrical manager. His place is patronised by the gallants and aristocrats of the town, who are attracted by the performances of a troupe of shabby actors who impersonate the most vicious criminals and perform tragic plays. The leading man is called Henri, and he is famous for his realistic recitals of murders he is supposed to have committed. On this particular night he comes to tell his companions that he is about to marry the beautiful Leocadie, whom he has loved for years, and go into the country to live. But he is told by one of the company that the woman is faithless, and has had an affair with the Duc de Cadignan. Worked up by the news, Henri draws upon his imagination, and recites for the company the story of his love for Leocadie, and how he found her untrue, for which he killed the Duke. At that moment the crowd bursts into the cabaret with the news that the Bastille has fallen, and among those who enter is the Duc de Cadignan, upon whom Henri falls murderously, letting out his life. And the woman kneels by the corpse and moans: "Never was I worth so much as this!"

Mr. Holbrook Blinn appeared as Henri, and gave an impressive portrayal. Mr. Henry Stephenson played Prospère, and Mr. Fuller Mellish was the Marquis de Lansac. The piece was finely acted and the stage-management was very good indeed.

"Lulu's Husbands," a farce in three acts, adapted from the French of Maurice Soulie, by Thompson Buchanan, has made a hit at Maxine Elliott's Theatre. Lulu Rogers is a vaudeville actress with a yearning for notoriety. She invokes the aid and imagination of her press agent, A. Lyre, and he advises her to advertise for a husband, and attract attention to herself by refusing to marry him at the last moment. This she does, and receives numerous answers. Instead of sending her own photograph, however, to the favoured suitor, Algernon Brown, she sends one of her friend, Mrs. Marguerite Morrison, never thinking that he will ever meet the lady. Brown plays a similar trick on her by sending a photograph of his barber. At the Clove Blossom Inn, near New York, Lulu goes to meet Brown and encounters Mrs. Morrison, who has just eloped with Albert Schwartz, and has been arrested with him for exceeding the speed limit in his motor-car. Dr. Morrison has heard of his wife's escapade, and comes in pursuit of her. All sorts of complications arise, and there is the usual mixing of identities. Morrison is so befuddled that he actually serves as his wife's best man at a bogus wedding without knowing who she is, as she is heavily veiled. In the second act he is terribly frightened because the disappointed Brown is "thirsting for his gore," believing him to be the cause of all the trouble. Brown wants his wife, thinking she is Lulu. Morrison denies his identity, and Brown wants to kill Schwartz, mistaking him for Morrison. Schwartz falls in love with Lulu, but she swears she is married to Brown in order to protect Mrs. Morrison from a charge of bigamy. The complications are not straightened out until it is found that Brown was married in New York on a New Jersey licence.

Miss Mabel Barrison as Lulu and Mr. Harry Conor as Dr. Morrison are the principal funmakers, and they make the most of their opportunities. The piece is briskly acted and proves uproariously funny.

Mr. Henry E. Dixey is appearing at the vaudeville houses with Mr. William B. Mack in a one-act play called *Over a Welsh Rarebit*.

The operatic situation in New York has undergone a startling change. It is stated that the Metropolitan Opera House has secured Mr. Hammerstein's Philadelphia Opera House, and all rights regarding operas, contracts, artists, scenery, and costumes. Mr. Hammerstein's New York Opera House will be retained for purposes other than opera. Mr. Hammerstein, it is understood, is being bought out by a powerful syndicate, headed by a wealthy Philadelphia banker, who are paying him the sum of £420,000.

At the Old Bailey on Thursday, Mr. Herbert Bernhardt, concert agent, of Regent-street, W., who was charged with committing perjury in an affidavit, was found not guilty and discharged, counsel for the prosecution saying that Mr. Bernhardt had honestly made a mistake.

The annual Toy Dog Show opens at the Crystal Palace on May 10 for two days. It includes this year many extra classes, and is always very popular with the ladies, who thus for two special days in the year allow their pets to be "on show."

"THE STRANGE CASE OF MR. BEGBIE."

A Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Law, Produced at the New Theatre, Cambridge, on April 23.

Ferdinand Begbie .....Mr. F. G. Thurstans
Ferdinand Begbie .....Mr. F. G. Thurstans
Thomas Garthwaite ..Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood
Turnbull .....} Mr. Alfred Field Fisher
Taplin .....}
Juniper .....Mr. J. E. Watson
Tom Spinks .....Mr. Dudley Walton
Mrs. Garthwaite .....Miss Madeline Du Val
Jessie Garthwaite .....Miss Evelyn Ormonde
Emma .....Miss Madge Elswick
Matilda Gamage .....Miss Phyllis Manners

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Arthur Law's new play contains abundant possibilities, which, added to the entertaining features it already possesses, would ensure success. In the first act we are introduced to old Mr. Begbie, who is on the verge of discovering a powder to produce "perpetual youth," but something always happens to thwart him, the latest mishap being an explosion that nearly settles the old chap. He is overwhelmed with his misfortunes, more particularly as his father had worked out the same idea successfully, but died without imparting the secret to his son. While Mr. Begbie is being put to rights by his housekeeper, a grandson, Mr. Ferdinand Begbie, calls with his fiancée, Miss Jessie Garthwaite; but, on giving a fictitious name, the old chap will not see him, and Begbie, jun., leaves on the table a photo of his sweetheart. On Mr. Bebgie's return he immediately falls in love with the original, and laments his continual failure to find the powder. In the midst of his lamenations an old portrait luckily falls down, and at the back thereof the housekeeper discovers a packet, which, on examination, is found to contain the long sought for powders. The old man promptly mixes and swallows one, falls unconscious to the ground, rises up looking and feeling like twenty-five, and starts out to have the time of his life.

In the second act we find Mr. Begbie so transformed that his housekeeper does not know him, and on Miss Garthwaite coming in a second time he recognises the original of the photo, and she thinks he is her sweetheart. A series of complications arise between Mr. Begbie and Matilda (whom he has promised to marry), Miss Garthwaite, her father and mother, and Ferdinand Begbie, jun., ending by Mr. Begbie ordering Matilda to meet him at the railway station. Suspicion is roused by the disappearance of old Begbie and the appearance of this young man who calls himself Walter Robinson, and the matter is placed in the hands of the police.

The third act takes place in the garden of the Hollyhock inn, where old Begbie, calling himself Walter Robinson, turns up, as does also Turnbull, a detective, on the look-out for the supposed murderer of Mr. Begbie. The old man, in desperation, tries to hocuss the detective by giving him one of the powders. Several funny incidents here occur, and finally Mr. Begbie himself drinks the whisky and water primed with the magical powder, totters on to the stage in his natural character, and everything is explained.

Mr. J. E. Watson's company did admirable work with the materials provided. Jessie Garthwaite was charmingly portrayed by Miss Evelyn Ormonde; the detective was well rendered by Mr. Alfred Field-Fisher; and the housekeeper was admirably played by Miss Phyllis Manners. Mr. F. G. Thurstans, in the dual parts of the Begbies, worked particularly hard and was well received. Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood and Miss Madeline Du Val as Mr. and Mrs. Garthwaite were satisfactory; Mr. J. E. Watson made the most of the country landlord, Juniper; Miss Madge Elswick was a comely and smart Emma; and Mr. Dudley Walton is good as Tom Spinks.

Mrs. Lionel Marks, the fair American who carried off from 300 competitors the £200 prize for the original play to be produced at Stratford-on-Avon on May 14, is (says the *Chronicle*) young, pretty, soft of voice and quiet of manner, full of a curious old-fashioned grace that tells of her native Boston, and an almost unbelievable contrast to the strident type of American woman that most of us know and all have heard. She is the wife of the Professor of Engineering at Harvard. Professor Marks is a Birmingham man, but it was a mere chance that his wife happened to hear of the Stratford competition, thousands of miles away, and her play was chosen solely on its merits. Her maiden name was Peabody; she is a connection by marriage of Nathaniel Hawthorne, and her people, if they did not actually go over in the Mayflower, all belong to the New England aristocracy of Boston and Salem. Like all good Americans, she has already made one pilgrimage to Stratford-on-Avon. This time, being a good Boston mother, she has brought her two little children with her.

The play itself, which is called *The Piper*, is a dramatisation of the famous old legend of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, but is on entirely new lines. "What I should like to emphasise," she says, "is that it is not merely a play for children. It is symbolic and emotional, and instead of being a supernatural figure, the piper himself is entirely human with no magic about him whatever. Indeed, it is the development of his character that is the principal thing in the play. In the main, the Hamelin townsfolk represent the worldly, pragmatical element; the piper is an idealist, and that is what attracts the children. The rats, I might mention, are all cleared off before the curtain goes up.

"Together with the higher qualities, there is a certain brutality in the piper's character, and this is where my heroine's purpose comes in. She is to be played by Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Benson playing the piper, and I am hoping that the audience may be at any rate a little moved by the scene where she pleads with him to give the children back. I only know I shed some tears over it myself, though I may tell you that the play has a happy ending."

The play is, it may be added, in verse. For this Mrs. Marks apologised. "I would have avoided verse most willingly if I could," she pleaded, "but when you can't help it, surely it is right!" It is a significant fact, too, that it is an almost direct product of the dramatic classes held at Harvard University under Professor Baker. "I attended Mr. Baker's lecture on Christopher Marlowe," Mrs. Marks said, "and the result was that I was moved to write a play on the life of the poet himself. That was my first dramatic effort, and it was acted by Mr. Baker and the Harvard students. This pied-piper play is my second attempt, written originally simply to please myself. It has just been published in America, and the first reviews were waiting for me in this country. I am glad to see that they have all been very flattering."

"Dobson's Day Off" is meeting with continued success at the Gaiety, Chatham, this week, Maude Elliston having toured it for the last three years.

The Channel Islands raise other good things besides flowers and fruit. This statement is proved by the fact that three prominent laughter-makers in the current London Coliseum programme hail from Jersey and Guernsey—Messrs. Seymour Hicks, Geo. H. Smythson (Smythson comedy company), and "Dutch" Daly—truly a good array.

"FLIGHT."

Drama in Four Acts, by Charles March, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Stanley, on April 25.

John Trevor .....Mr. Charles March
Spencer Wilmot .....Mr. Percy Ballard
Ben Bolter .....Mr. E. Hall Eldon
Rice Pritchard .....Mr. Henry Compton
Arnold Meynard .....Mr. A. G. Holroyd
Chevalier Brissent .....Mr. G. Marshall
George Toner .....Mr. J. Harrell
Mr. Betteley .....Mr. Arthur Fairfax
Sir Roland Fairfax ....Mr. Arnold Maxwell
Detective Bland .....Mr. A. Lockhart
Warder Jackson .....Mr. Wilson Burton
Farmont .....Mr. Preston Wardon
Pauldon .....Mr. Percy Hall
Mrs. Trevor .....Miss Violet Crawford
Elsie Maynard .....Miss E. Yates

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Flight, a drama in four acts, by Charles March, was produced at the Theatre Royal, West Stanley, on Monday evening. The story is one of thrilling interest, and relates how a young English engineer, John Trevor, invented the aeroplane, which he offered for sale to the British Government. They, however, refused to listen to him. He then opened negotiations with a foreign power, but before he could complete his arrangements he was arrested and imprisoned for trafficking in Government secrets at the instigation of Spencer Wilmot, who afterwards, along with an accomplice, Pritchard, stole the plans of Trevor's invention and followed out the scheme, built the machine, and were about to conduct the trial flights, when John Trevor arrived on the scene and put a stop to their game. In the Hangaar scene a full-sized Bleriot machine is used, and both this and the Aerodrome scene are the acme of stagecraft. The part of John Trevor is played with great power by the author; Mr. P. Ballard is excellent as Wilmot; Mr. H. Compton gives a good reading of Rice Pritchard, and the comedy lacks nothing in the hands of Mr. E. Hall Eldon. Miss E. Yates is very winning as Elsie Maynard, and Miss Violet Crawford plays Mrs. Trevor with credit. The minor parts are well played by Messrs. Court Harvard, J. Harrell, P. Quinn, Percy Hall, A. G. Holroyd, and A. Lockhart.

LYCEUM CLUB.

The fourth performance arranged by the dramatic sub-committee of the Lyceum Club was given at the Club House, 128, Piccadilly, on Wednesday afternoon last.

The programme was made up of three items, the first a fifteen minutes' human incident, *Jim's Sweetheart*, by Mrs. Wakeman Lathrop and Mrs. Herbert Bennett, adapted from Mrs. Lathrop's "Autobiography of a Charwoman." It was originally announced that Mr. Ivan Berlyn would play the part of Jim Jakes, the shoemaker, but Mr. Herbert Bird was seen in the character of the unlucky cobbler when the curtains were drawn aside better late than never. The story is an excellent one. Betty is Jim's sweetheart, and the day before they are to be married at a registry office she visits the little home Jim has got ready for her for the first time. But Jim is strangely altered, and naturally Betty wants to know the reason of it. At last he confesses that news has come to him only that day that his first wife, whom he had believed dead, is alive. Now, although Betty had made just one little slip in the past, and a small boy is in existence as evidence of the fact, she scorns Jim's suggestion that as they cannot get married they shall live together. He pleads with her in vain, and not being a bad sort really, he allows her to leave him with a couple of presents for the kiddie, whom he had intended to bring up and treat as though he had been his own boy. And so Betty goes from him; but not for long. She returns, and sobbingly tells him of her great love for him, and that she will brave the world's scorn for his sake. But Jim has pulled himself together in the meantime, and gently, but firmly, he tells her that this may not be, and that they will hope and wait. Miss Jessica Salomon as Betty was extremely good and natural in a difficult part, and Mr. Bird made a very earnest study of the shoemaker whose luck was out.

A number of French recitations were next given by Mlle. Beatrice Von Holthoir. Her terse style and quaint mannerisms won her the heartiest applause. "A fanciful forecast," entitled *A Hundred Years Hence*, by Mr. Stanley Clark was also given, in which Miss Muriel Currey and Mr. John Beamish appeared. This amusing trifle has recently toured the provinces as a curtain-raiser, and should be seen in London.

One significant line of the programme may be quoted: "Ladies are most earnestly requested to remove their hats." And with but very few exceptions hats were conspicuous by their absence, but "woman's glory," arranged in the many entrancing fashions of the day, was a notable feature of the assembly.

The College paper at Cambridge, *The Granta*, has been commenting cautiously on the recent bad behaviour of the undergraduates at the New Theatre. *The Granta* says: "The behaviour of undergraduates at the New Theatre is becoming a serious reproach to the University. It is intolerable that a small section of mannerless schoolboys should be allowed to monopolise the house, while decent people cannot attend the performances without feeling ashamed and disgusted at the behaviour of their neighbours.

"We notice that the programme for this term at the New Theatre is of an exceptionally high order, and we congratulate the management on having taken the first and most effective step towards eradicating the nuisance.

There are, however, more parties to the case, and we must return for a moment to the undergraduate. As we have hinted, the section of undergraduates which collects at the theatre with the honourable object of emphasising any possible double meaning is very small and very unimportant in the University. These are, probably, in their own estimation graduating for the position of 'sportsmen,' and think it just as much the duty of a conscientious 'nut' to shout indecencies in a theatre when an actress's 'purity' is alluded to as to imbibe unnecessary whisky or adopt a studied vapidity. There is little hope that they could ever be induced to understand that they are behaving like unmitigated cads."

The Stage Society's next production, which will be given at the Aldwych Theatre on the evening of May 8 and the afternoon of May 9, is called *Champions of Morality*, and is a translation by Messrs. A. H. Hertz and Frederick Whelen of *Moral*, by Franz Thoma, a satirical comedy which has already been performed in Germany and Austria some 300 nights.

The Hebbel Theatre, Berlin, will produce to-night a new three-act drama, the plot of which treats of competition in business circles. The title is *Konkurrenten*, and there is a prologue, entitled *In der Pension*, which is practically another act, and shows the two principal characters as boys in a boarding school.

At the Theatre Royal, Norwich, on Saturday, Miss Senna St. Clair was presented with a handsome bouquet by the members of the *Sexton Blake* combination on the occasion of her severance from the company after a tour of sixty weeks, during which she has appeared as Philadelphia Kate.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday, at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Sir Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL LICENCES.

As happened at last week's meeting, the adjourned recommendations of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee were not reached until after 7.30, when only unopposed business can be taken. The Committee's report appeared in last week's *Era*. The first recommendation had reference to music and dancing and stage-play licences. The Committee recommended that the reference to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee on Dec. 21-22, 1909, to consider and report what amendments should me made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as may be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments, be discharged.

Mr. George Alexander has given notice of the following amendment: That all words after the word "That" in line 1 be omitted, and the following words substituted therefor:—"As the performance of stage-plays in buildings which are licensed for music and dancing only is illegal, the Council, when considering applications for music and dancing licences, will have regard to any evidence which may be submitted as to illegal production of stage-plays at places of entertainment licensed for music and dancing only."

CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO LICENCES.

The Committee recommended that licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in respect of premises which are not licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage-plays, be subject to a condition as follows:—That persons be not permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and, if standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient room be left for persons to pass easily to and fro.

The following notices of amendments to the recommendation have been given by Mr. Thomas, to be seconded by Mr. Lambert:—That all words after the word "to" in line 2 be omitted, and the following words substituted therefor: "conditions as follows—(i.) Persons must not be permitted to stand or sit in any part of the gangways; and (ii.) overcrowding must not be permitted in any part of the premises." By Mr. J. D. Gilbert, to be seconded by Sir John MacDougall:—That all words after the word "gangways" in line 3 be omitted.

JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

The only unopposed recommendation of the Theatres Committee was one having reference to six drawings submitted by Mr. F. White, with regard to the arrangement of buildings at the Congress Hall and Cinematograph Hall at the Japan-British Exhibition, Shepherd's Bush. The Committee recommended approval of the arrangements, provided that certain stated conditions be complied with, and after an appeal had been made by Mr. Greenwood, chairman of the Committee, the recommendation was agreed to.

In the Chancery Division on Monday Mr. Justice Warrington dismissed, with costs, an action brought by Mr. Frank Curzon against Mr. John Highfield Leigh, which involved the question of which of them was responsible for the payment of the excise duty in respect of the sale of intoxicating liquors at the bars of the Prince of Wales Theatre, the position being that Mr. Curzon holds a seven years' lease of the theatre from Mr. Leigh, but has no interest in the bars, which are run by Mr. Edgar Bruce. Mr. Terrell, K.C., for the plaintiff, said that Mr. Curzon sold no excisеable liquors at all, but for the purposes of the theatre he had to obtain a theatre licence from the Lord Chamberlain. Having obtained that, it was not necessary under the Excise Acts to get a licence direct from the Justices. You could obtain one from the Inland Revenue Office, but they would only grant an excise licence to the person holding the Lord Chamberlain's licence. So, though Mr. Curzon had no interest whatever in the bars, he had to take out the excise licence and pay the annual fee of £20. Counsel asked for a declaration that Mr. Leigh was liable to repay the amount to Mr. Curzon. Mr. Cave, K.C., for the defendant, submitted that Mr. Leigh could not be compelled to repay Mr. Curzon, whatever the case might be against Mr. Bruce. His Lordship held that the excise duty was not included in the outgoings that the landlord covenanted to pay, and that there was no obligation expressed or implied upon the landlord to pay it. Mr. Curzon was not compelled to take out the excise licence. It was a voluntary payment by him, and he was not entitled to the declaration asked for.

Many years ago, when in Brechin, Wullie Frame, "the man you know," was approached by a Miss Jukes, who asked him to sing a few songs at the almshouses to cheer the old folk. "Wullie" not only came, but brought his company with him. It was "Wullie's" birthday, always remembered by the company, the people of Brechin and Miss Jukes taking every interest in the affair. In the course of time Miss Jukes passed away, but in order that the old people in whom she took so much interest should not lose their yearly holiday and entertainment, she left an annuity to provide a day's holiday for them to enjoy the entertainment, which "Wullie" has promised to give as long as he lives. This incident proves that though music-hall entertainers are often subject to undeserved slights, there are broad-minded people who can appreciate at its true value the kindly thought of a highly-popular artist.

Mr. E. T. Wilson, Acting Under Sheriff, sat with a jury at Preston Sessions House on Wednesday to assess damages in an action for slander, which was undefended, and in which the plaintiff was Walter Mould, 262, Burnley-road, Accrington, manager of the new Hippodrome, Accrington, and the defendant Samuel A. Mewha. Mr. Frank Rowland represented plaintiff. Early this year the Accrington Garrick Amateur Dramatic Society approached Mr. Mould and arranged to take the house from March 14 to March 19. The first performance took place on Monday, March 14, and consisted of *The Silver King*. It was the duty of the manager to collect the money taken at the door, and to make a return from the returns supplied by the people in the various offices, and then an epitome of these representing the money he had in his possession or tickets to that amount. Copies of this final return he gave, in this instance, to the treasurer and secretary of the Dramatic Society, and to his directors, who were his employers.

Mewha, the defendant, was the stage-manager of the society, and on the Monday night was standing behind the scenes with Mr. Hawkins, treasurer, who, with Mr. Upton, the secretary, had seen the returns for the night checked. Mr. Hawkins showed the return for the night to Mewha, and defendant then made a most extraordinary charge. He said: "What! Only £19? The house is blued; we are being diddled." Although Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Upton checked the returns again, and Mr. Mould made explanations to them about the returns, the accusations were continued. The directors of the Hippodrome sent for Mr. Mould, and told him they had heard of the accusations, and that he must clear himself or clear out. The jury found for plaintiff, with £50 damages.

THE BOHEMIAN LODGE.

The installation of Bro. W. S. Tafner, P.P.G.Std., as W.M. of the Bohemian Lodge, 3294, took place on April 23 at Thornton Manor, Thornton Hough, by the kind invitation of Bro. W. H. Lever, P.P.G., Warden. There was a large gathering of brethren, the ceremony taking place in the beautiful music room, and being of a most impressive character.

The members present were W. Bros. W. H. Lever, P.P.G., Warden, R. Romer, W.M., A. H. Taylor, P.P.G.D.C., W. S. Tafner, S.W., J. Mathison, J.W., A. J. Thompson, P.P.G.W., W. J. Kerr, P.M., H. Keays Bentley, treasurer, G. R. Jones, P.M., Eli Brookes, P.P.G.D.W., Lan., J. Taylor Davies, P.G.S.W., Frank Collier, S.D., Robert E. Goffin, J.D., J. C. Cross, I.G., George Mathison, S.S., Edgar Dow, P.M., E. H. Godsland, A.S., E. Wighton, A.S., E. E. Keel, A.S., W. S. Strafford, A.S., Frank Weston, J. F. Wood, R. W. Baxter, Walter H. Hook, George Prince, W. J. Kerr, A. Richards, F. A. Parker, Fred Holliday, Arthur Russell, T. Wood, M.M., and E. Heaton, E.P.

The visiting brethren included W. Bros. A. J. Fishlock, P.P.G.A.D.C., Charles A. Young, P.P.G.A.D., E. R. Latham, P.P.G.D., D. Hunter, P.P.A.G., Sec., Samuel Rowe, P.P.A.G.D.C., C. F. Penny, P.P.G.St., J. Fenna, W.M., 1,166, R. B. Mathison, P.M., 2,294, J. Phillips, Sec., 323, E. C. Heaton, W.M., 203, R. Eakins, 667, P. Lawdon, 1,473, M. Darby, P.J., G.D., Norman Russell, 680, E. T. Pearson, P.M., W. H. Roberts, S.W., 3,435, Alex. Saunders, P. M., 447, J. T. Jones, P.M., 667, A. M. Latham, M.M., 2,705, James Kiernan, 1,609, George Swallow, P.M., Walter Barrett, M.M., Albert R. Field, S.W., B. Webb, 1,620, E. McMullen Ford, M.M., 3,098, T. F. Young, M.M., 3,030, G. J. Garnett, C., 2,923, H. Lodge, S.D., 894, W. D. Jones, P.M., 594, T. Weathwall, S., 1,609, J. Billam, 1,609, H. Brown, 1,609, T. M. Williams, W. H. Roberts, H. C. Regan, W.M., 594, Stephen Graves, 2,215, William Pryce, W.M., 3,236, C. G. R. Stephens, S.W., 3,236, William Hayes, S., 3,236, C. Duncan, 667, J. Crossley Praie, 1,505, J. G. Agamazong Lawson, 3,236, J. Bateman Thompson, 2,433, M. Robertson, W.M., 2,657, D. Currie, P.M., 1,094.

The installation ceremony being concluded, W. M. Tafner installed his officers as follows:—Bros. Henry Mathison, S.W., H. Keays Bentley, J.W., W. J. Kerr, Treasurer, Will Jones, Secretary, Ernest Wighton, Assistant Secretary, F. Collier, S.D., R. Goffin, J.D., A. J. Thompson, D.C., F. Weston, A.D.C., G. R. Jones, Almoner, J. C. Cross, I.G., G. Mathison, S.S., A. J. Wright, J.S., F. T. Skutil, A.S., Fred Bulmer, A.S., Fred Fitchen, A.S., E. E. Keel, A.S., R. A. Baxter, A.S., J. A. Warton, A.S., E. H. Godsland, A.S., W. S. Strafford, A.S., A. Russell, A.S., W. W. Hook, A.S., H. Goldin, A.S., George Lashwood, A.S., and W. R. Romer, I.P.M., charity representative.

Following the installation, luncheon was partaken of, the ladies joining the gentlemen. Several well-known artists in the theatrical world were present, and the programme, which was arranged by Bro. E. Wighton, of the Olympia, Liverpool, included such names as Chung Ling Soo, Suey Seen, Ed. E. Ford, Vera Elmore, Happy Fanny Fields, Milt Wood, A. Aldridge, Ruth Davenport. Other well-known guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Kelly (Birkenhead), Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wighton, Mr. N. E. Goffin (New Brighton Tower), Will Jones and the Misses Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Brewer, Mr. Charles Hand, Mr. A. Leighton, Mr. S. Carter, Mr. F. Parker, Mr. J. Moir, Mr. A. Richards, Mr. A. Prince, Mr. F. and Mrs. Weston (Birkenhead), and Winnie Browne, *Havana* company. Letters of apology were read from Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Duke of Devonshire, Oswald Stoll, Edward Terry, J. M. McLeod, Will Sley, Walter de Frece, and Miss Vesta Tilley, Bro. and Mrs. Fred Bulmer, Bro. and Mrs. Gar Kiddie, Bro. and Mrs. A. T. Wright, Bro. Horace Cole, Bro. Walter Hassan, Bro. Harry Arnold, and Lord Derby, and others.

Tea was partaken of on the terraces, and at the conclusion the brethren and guests met again in the banqueting hall, when a list of toasts was submitted.

W. Bro. Taylor gave "The Charities," which was heartily drunk.

In a neat and appropriate speech W. Bro. Romer gave the toast of the evening, "Our Master," saying that he was sure the Lodge would prosper under the guidance of their newly-elected W.M. He would add to its lustre, and members would feel a justifiable pride in belonging to the Bohemian Lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in response, made a happy speech, in which he promised to do all he could for the prosperity of the Lodge. That was one of the proudest moments of his life, and he trusted he would fully justify the honour they had conferred upon him.

W. Bro. A. J. Thompson submitted "Our Hosts." He alluded to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Lever in receiving them at the Manor and giving them an open house. They knew in Masonic matters what Bro. Lever had done for their charities, not only locally, but in connection with the central institutions. Bro. Lever had invited the Bohemian Lodge, later in the year, to a garden party at Thornton Manor, so that instead of being tired of them, he wanted them there again. Bro. Thompson proceeded to state that he had received a piece of stone which had come from the wailing place of the Jews, which was the outer wall of the temple of King Solomon of Jerusalem. They had placed a small portion of the stone in a brooch, which they wished to present to their hostess. He had the greatest pleasure, on behalf of the members of the Bohemian Lodge, in presenting that little token. The stone, as she would see, contained an inscription as follows:

"This stone is from the wailing place or outer wall of King Solomon's temple at Jerusalem."

Mrs. W. H. Lever, having received the gift, was loudly cheered. She replied, addressing the gathering as "brothers and sisters," a remark which elicited loud applause. She briefly expressed her gratitude for the exquisite gift.

Similar brooches were presented also to Mrs. Tafner and Mrs. A. J. Thompson.

W. Bro. W. H. Lever, in replying to the toast, alluded to the pleasure it gave him and his wife to receive the guests, and made a humorous and characteristic speech, terminating with a pleasant surprise by pointing to the walls of the banqueting hall and selecting a beautiful water-colour picture of the Holy Land in which a letter-writer was depicted in his work, and asking Bro. Thompson to accept it from him as a memento of his visit to the Holy Land and the piece of stone which had been forwarded to him from the temple of King Solomon.

W. Bro. Thompson suitably replied, saying he would treasure the gift all his life.

The Senior Warden gave the health of the ladies, and

W. Bro. Taylor gave the toast of the "Immediate Past Master," and presented him with a Past Master's jewel and a large framed portrait of himself. He further presented a handsome rose bowl to Mrs. Romer.

The portrait was the work of Bro. Russell, who has offered to present a portrait of the I.P.M. each year.

W. Bro. Romer responded in suitable terms.

Other toasts followed. Songs were given by Miss Maude Hughes, who delighted the audience.

The menu card was designed and printed by Will Jones, of Liverpool, and enclosed in a bandana handkerchief to represent a Bohemian dinner. The brooches were designed and made by Messrs. Oldfields, Ltd., of Old Post Office-place, Liverpool. The Hebrew inscription was written by the Rev. W. L. Walter, Professor of Hebrew at St. Aidan's College, Birkenhead.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 2.

Alice in Wonderland.—T. R., Plymouth.
Almost His Bride.—T. R., Bristol.
Alone in London.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Angel of His Dreams.—Crown T., Eccles.
An Old Man's Darling.—T. R., Ashton.
Arcadians, The (No. 1)—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Are You the Man?—Empire T., Fleetwood.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Paisley T., Paisley.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Leicester.
Bad Girl of the Family.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Baines, Miss Florence.—T. R., Bury.
Bateman, Mrs. Frank.—Mansfield.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Norwich.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Aberystwyth and Carnarvon.
Best People.—O. H., Blackpool.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Brewster's Millions.—T. R., Torquay.
Broken Heart, A.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Brought to Ruin.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Can a Woman Be Good?—Prince's T., Preston.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Grand T., Derby.
Cassidy, Mr. J. Rice.—Hippodrome, Keighley.
Castellano's Opera Co.—T. R., Glasgow.
Catch of the Season.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Charley's Aunt.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Cingalee, The (A.).—O. H., Coventry.
Cingalee, The (B.).—Lyceum T., Pentre.
Coal King.—T. R., Chatham.
Compton Comedy Co.—Grand T., Leeds.
Cruise of the Constance.—T. R., Brighton.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Destroyer of Men.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Diana of Dobson's.—T. R., Bradford.
Don.—Prince's T., Manchester.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Grand T., Southampton.
Draycott, Mr. Chas.—Alexandra T., Hull.
East Lynne (Croke).—Star T., Liverpool.
East Lynne (Watt).—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Eyes of the World.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Fanny and the Servant Problem.—Weymouth.
Fast Life, A.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Female Swindler.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
Fires of Fate.—T. R., Manchester.
Flag Lieutenant (N.).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Florodora.—Newcastle.
For Love and the King.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
For Old Times' Sake.—Osborne T., Manchester.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Court T., Wigan.
Frivolity.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—T. R., North Shields.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—Grand T., Chorley.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Havana.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Heathen and the Christian.—T. R., Belfast.
Her Life in London.—T. R., Stockport.
Her Marriage Vow.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Her Path of Sorrow.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Secret Lover.—Grand T., Stockton.
His Dishonoured Wife.—Hippodrome, Hoyland.
His Real Wife.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Hush Money.—Queen's T., Longton.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Lydney and Llandrindod.
Lighthouse Robbery.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Little Damozel.—T. R., Bath.
Little Duke.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Lodge Percy, Mr. J. C.—Junction T., Manchester.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart.—T. R., Stratford.
Love of the Princess.—T. R., Merthyr.
Love the Conqueror.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Lucky Durham.—King's T., Seacombe.
Lucky 'Liza.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Merchant of Venice.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Merry Peasant.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Merry Widow.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Message from Mars.—West Pier, Brighton.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Nelson.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Waterford.
Miss Hook of Holland.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Nottingham.
Moody-Manners (B.).—New T., Oxford.
Mother-in-Law.—Harrogate and Scarborough.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—Bedford.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—T. R., York.
Naked Truth.—T. R., Bath.
New Boy, The.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Nihilist, The.—T. R., Sunderland.
Noble Mother, A.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Old Home, The.—Birkenhead.
Only a Little Boy.—Devonport.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Borough T., Stratford.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Grand T., Fulham.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—G. T., Middlesbrough.
Passion of Life.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Pete (N.).—Broadway T., New Cross.
Pete (S.).—T. R., Barnsley.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.
Raffles.—O. H., Southport.
Rainbows, The.—Kursaal, Bexhill.
Raynar's Repertoire Co.—Hippodrome, Dover.
Rollicking Rory.—Empire T., Oldham.
Royal Divorce.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Scapegrace, The.—Palace T., Manchester.
Servant in the House.—O. H., Belfast.
Sexton Blake.—T. R., Bolton.
Shadow of a Crime.—Weston-super-Mare.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand T., Croydon.
Silver King.—T. R., Hanley.
Sinner, The.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Sin of Her Childhood.—King's T., Longsight.
Sins of a City.—T. R., Darlington.
Sister's Sin, A.—T. R., Smethwick.
Still Alarm.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Temptation.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Thief in the Night.—O. H., St. Helens.
Through the Divorce Court.—T. R., Leeds.
Tom Jones.—New T., Cardiff.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., South Shields.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Castle T., Stockton.
Under the Iron Heel.—O. H., Perth.
Village Blacksmith.—Court T., Warrington.
Walls of Jericho.—G. T., Hull.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Sheffield.
Was She to Blame?—T. R., Aston.
What a Man Made Her.—Grand T., Brighton.
When a Lass Loves.—New T. R., Birkenhead.
When Other Lips.—P. O. W., Salford.
Where is William?—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Whom God Hath Joined.—T. R., Stratford.
Why Smith Left Home.—O. H., Workington.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R. Blackburn.
With Edged Tools.—T. R., Gloucester.
Woman in the Case.—T. R., Worcester.
Woman in the Case (N.).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Woman in the Case (S.).—Kennington T., S.E.
Woman of Kronstadt.—T. R., Edmonton, N.
Woman's Past.—T. R., Crook.
World, The Flesh, and The Devil.—Sheerness.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Castleford.
You Never Can Tell.—Coronet Theatre, W.

Miss Millie Payne had the honour of being the first artist to introduce the *Chantecler* to the music halls, the first hall being the Oxford, London, where Mr. Blyth Pratt personally complimented Miss Payne, and extended her engagement four weeks. The success of this number has been repeated on the Moss-Stoll tour, on which she is now appearing. She will be seen at the Tivoli on May 30, in songs portraying Phil May characters.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

Hague (Walton).—*The gentleman about whom you inquired is alive. We do not know his address.*

H. Cleaver (Oldham).—*Mr. George Alexander has not taken the chairmanship of any L.C.C. Committee, Mr. Walter Reynolds having succeeded him as Chairman of the Parks Committee.*

Arthur J. Cannon.—*We cannot help you unfortunately. You might write to Miss Macready at Weston-super-Mare; or to Colonel Macready, 8, Neville-street, Onslow-square, S.W. Mr. Burdett-Coutts might also be able to give some information.*

Eclair.—The Merry Widow, *produced May 1 at the Berliner Theatre as* Die Lustige Wittwe, *is by Victor Leon and Leo Stein, music by Franz Lehar.* The Dollar Princess *is by A. M. Willner and F. Grünbaum, music by Leo Fall. The latter piece was produced, we believe, in Vienna. We will make inquiries.*

R. N. (Hanover Gate).—*The Sisters Arundale (Grace and Sybil) made their first appearance at the New Oxford on Oct. 30, 1893, under the management of the late Mr. Charles R. Brighten. (2) You are misinformed about the lady's marriage. There was an engagement to the gentleman you mention, but it was broken off.*

E. Carne (Globe).—(1) *During the proprietorship of the late Mrs. Poole, of the South London Music Hall, Charles Godfrey produced a song-scena, entitled* The Night Alarm, *by Joe Tabrar.* (2) The Still Alarm *is a drama by Joseph Arthur and A. C. Wheeler, produced at the Fourteenth-street Theatre, New York, Aug. 30, 1887; Princess's, London, Aug. 2, 1888.*

F. J. Sheldrake (West Hartlepool).—(1) Butterflies, *musical play, in three acts, founded by W. J. Locke on his comedy* The Palace of Puck *(Haymarket, April 2, 1907), lyrics by T. H. Read, music by J. A. Robertson, was originally produced at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on April 29, 1908.* (2) *It was produced in London at the Apollo on May 11, 1908. The only alteration was in the comedy* The Palace of Puck, *which the author, Mr. W. J. Locke, adapted to suit the requirements of a musical comedy. See notice above.*

Miss M. E. Gaskell (Manchester).—Jane Eyre *has been dramatised at least four times. The first version produced at the Surrey on Nov. 16, 1867, was in two acts; the second, in five acts, by John Brougham, is published by John Dicks (Arundel-street, Strand); the third, in three acts, by T. H. Paul, produced at the Amphitheatre, Oldham, Oct. 13, 1879; and the fourth and most important, by W. G. Wills, given at the old Globe Theatre, Newcastle-street, Strand, W.C., on Dec. 23, 1882. There was also a version by James Willing, in a prologue and four acts, produced at the Park Theatre, Camden Town, N.W., on Aug. 27, 1879. This was entitled* Poor Relations; or, Jane Eyre.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

Cullen.—April 23, at Brighton, Enid Fedora Cullen, suddenly, of heart failure, the dearly loved daughter of Maude Montagu and the late Richard Limmere Cullen.

Fish.—April 20, at her residence, 2, Wolsey-avenue, Forest-road, Walthamstow, Eliza Rachael Fish, the beloved wife of Augustine F. Fish (Fred Fisher), deeply mourned by her husband and her two daughters, Adele Wilford and Minnie Fisher (Mrs. K. Draco), also her granddaughter, Dora Fisher.

Frank.—On April 25, at Plantagenet-street, Cardiff, John Constantine Frank, dearly beloved father of Bessie and Tina Frank. R.I.P.

Halford.—April 17, at Woodfield-road, Birmingham, Alfred Halford, the dear father of Agatha Halford. R.I.P.

Maus Dayton.—On April 24, 1910, at 6, Catherine-street, Macclesfield, Mary, aged 31 years, the wife of O. Maus Dayton, of the Dayton Family. Dearly beloved by husband, children, and relations. Passed away, but never to be forgotten. —O. Maus Dayton and children.

In Memoriam.

Villiers.—In loving memory of R. E. Villiers, who died April 29, 1904.—Jack.

White.—In memory of Edgar Chas. White, the dearly loved husband of Minnie White, who died suddenly at Birmingham, April 28, 1909. Late cicerone to the Harry H. Hamilton's Excursions. A devoted husband, loving father, and faithful friend. Sadly missed by his sorrowing wife and family.

For memory is the only friend
That grief can call its own.

For Sympathy.

The Late Alf Ellerton, jun.

Will the kind friends and sympathisers in our sad bereavement kindly accept our heartfelt thanks for their kind expressions of sympathy, which were too numerous to acknowledge privately?—Faithfully yours, Mr. and Mrs. Ellerton.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Tom Costello—Saturday, April 30.
May Palfrey—Sunday, May 1.
Edgar Romaine—Sunday, May 1.
Jessie Preston—Sunday, May 1.
Maud Allan—Sunday, May 1.
Jerome K. Jerome—Monday, May 2.
W. L. Abingdon—Monday, May 2.
Peggy Pryde—Monday, May 2.
Robert Ayrton—Friday, May 6.
Douglas White—Friday, May 6.

By permission of Mr. B. Pareezer, the lessee, Mr. Ted Williams, formerly resident-manager of the Hippodrome, Sheerness, had a complimentary benefit matinée here on Wednesday.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

1 Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Acharch, Miss J.
Albery, Mrs.
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. S.
Allan, Mr. J.
Ash, Mr. Harold
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Beaute, Mr. V.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bert, Mr. Hal
Bright, Mr. Arthur
Brooke, Miss Sara
Brunton, Miss E. S.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Cameron and Alexander
Carden, Mrs. Sidney
Challis, Mr. R.
Clark, Mr. L.
Clements, Miss M.
Clifford, Mr. N.
Clive, Mr. E. E.
Cooper, Miss Gladys
Cooper, Mr. Daley
Corri, Madam G.
Croneste, Mr. E.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dardinies, The
Dare, Mr. R. C.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Dartigan
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Denham, Mr. Geo.
Digby, Mr Chas.
Earle, Mr. Fred
Edgar, Mr. Richard
Edwards, Mr. Will
Elliott, Mrs. C.
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Elton, Mr. Fred
Englefield, Mr.
Epitaux, Mr.
Erroll, Mr. J.
Evans, Mr. Wash
Fields, Miss Fanny
Filippi, Miss Rosina
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Forbes-Robertson, Mrs.
Froude, Miss Kate
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Garner, Mr. Booth
Geraldos, The
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glenny, Mr. Chas. H.
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Graham and Conyers
Green, Miss Evie
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hallworth, Miss Jenny
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Harris, Mr. Cecil
Hayes, Mr. E. T.
Hepworth, Miss Maud
Hickman, Mr. C. D.
Hollister, Mr. H.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houseley, Miss Jenny
Howard, Mr. Tom
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Hunt, Mr. W. L.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Jackson Family
Jacobs and Jephson
Johnson, Mr. T. E.
Josephs, Mr. Harry
Keir and Kempton
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirkdale, Mr. R. D.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes
Langfords, The
Legarde, Miss M.
Leicester, Mr. Geo. F.
Leonas, The
Lewes, Mr. Harold
Leyland, Mr. R.
Lloyd, Mr. F. F.
Lofina, Mr. Alexander
Lupino, Mr. George
Madderson, Mr. Harry
Maitland, Miss Kitty
Manning, Mr. James E.
Mauritius, Mr. Theo.
May, Miss Daisy
Mayne, Miss Clarice
McLellan, Mr. C. M. S.
McEwan, Mr. Walter
Mead, Mr. David
Melvin, Mr. Chas.
Metcalf, Mr. F.
Meux, Mr. Alex
Michel Brothers
Mill, Mr. Paul
Munro, Mr. George
Newark, Mr. A.
Newsome, Mr. S. T.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Paton, Mr. Chas. E.
Patterson, Mrs.
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Payne, Mr. W.
Piccolo and Fiori
Prosser, Mr. L. P.
Rajah
Raymonde, Miss Susie
Revelle, Mr.
Rexos, The
Rezene, Mr. Charles
Rham Singh
Ridley, Mr. Geo.
Rigby, Mr. Fred
Schofield, Mr. G.
Scott, Miss D.
Scroggs, Mr. Charlie
Sharman, Mr. John
Sheldon, Mr. George
Sprake, Mr. H.
Stewart and Morgan
Thorpe, Mr.
Vayne, Miss F. Garnet
Walmer, Mr. C.
Walter, Mr. T. N.
Willard, Mr. J.
Willy Troupe
Winona and King
Wray, Miss Maud
Yesslin, Mr. Theodore
Zillwood, Miss Ruth
Zolas, The Four

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, March 23.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. J. B. Moutrie.—*The Night of the Party*, which has had a successful run at the Princess Theatre, will be withdrawn after to-morrow night. The piece has proved a great fun-maker, as large audiences have enjoyed themselves immensely over Mr. David James as the obsequious butler and other bright characters. Next Saturday evening is fixed for the appearance of Miss Nellie Stewart in J. M. Barrie's comedy *What Every Woman Knows*. Miss Stewart will sustain the character of Maggie Wylie.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The up-to-date American play, *The Lion and the Mouse*, was repeated at Her Majesty's Theatre on Saturday evening. The very large house exhibited the most hearty appreciation of the play. The leading parts are sustained by Mr. Julius Knight and Miss Katherine Gray, an American actress of distinct merit. The central idea of the play is so clearly defined in the first act that the interest of the house is at once gripped. The play abounds in strong situations.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—On Saturday evening a large and enthusiastic house witnessed the performance of *Sergeant Brue*. The doings of the gallant sergeant and his comrades were followed with delighted interest. The play is full of good things, and the fun never flags from start to finish. The cast is an excellent one, and the staging matches it in excellence. The last performances are now announced. On Saturday evening next *The Arcadians* will be staged for the first time in Australia.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* was repeated on Saturday evening. The building was packed in every part, and the pleasing drama was repeated with all the success which has hitherto characterised its career. On the first night the best judges pronounced that *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* would prove an effective draw, and so it has. The last nights are, however, now announced. Saturday evening next sees the first performance of *A Thief in the Night*.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—On Saturday night Mlle. De Dio was heartily applauded by a large audience for her graceful prismatic dances, which were the leading feature of the evening. This is the second season of Mlle. De Dio, whose charming and novel turn can scarcely fail to please. The dance has many embellishments, being full of colour and vivacity. The rest of the programme was as good as ever.

Children on the Stage—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Roze Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

ROWLAND'S
MACASSAR OIL
FOR THE HAIR
Preserves, Beautifies, Nourishes it, and Prevents it Falling off or Turning Grey. Nothing equals it. 120 years proves this fact. Golden Colour for Fair Hair.
Of Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and Rowland's, 67, Hatton-garden, London.
Sizes—3/6, 7/-, 10/6.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 to £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY,
Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts," by Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.), shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s. 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

Published by
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM
Nightly at 8.
Matinée every Wednesday at 2.30.
Revival of the Famous Romantic Drama,
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
By Walter Howard.
Box office 10 to 10. Tels. (3), 7617-8-9, Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."
Vaudeville Theatre Co. Second Week.

For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE LITTLE DUKE," Miss Zena Dare and Co
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, May 2,
VARIETY WEEK, Twice Nightly.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Open Daily.
Gardens of 200 Acres. Fairy Archipelago. "Human Laundry." Organ, Bands. Zoo "Bay of Naples," Maze, &c. Sat., R.S.P.C.A. Festival and Prize Distribution. Toy Dog Show, May 10 and 11. Grand Show.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak, New Version of the "Mascot Moth." Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.

Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.

Cliff Diamond, Cora Corina, Ed. Forde, Amy Augarde and Co., Lloyd Morgan, The Venetians, Lily Hayes, "Gentlemen, The King!" Peggy Pryde, Wild, Willie, and West, Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.

Alice Hollander, Victor Courtney, Lena Pinand, Griffiths and Carman, Dora Daly, Bertram Noel, H. C. Lovell and Co., Desmond and O'Gorman, Mamie Lux, Jeapes' Animated Graphic.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.

Sam Mayo, Sylvia Cavalho and Co., in "The Fortune of War," Ed. E. Ford, Gipsy Woolf and Co., in "The Mermaid of Margate," Barney Armstrong, Gladys Huxley, Paul Cavalli, Sisters Hall, Ruffell's Bioscope, The Harvey Boys, in their Boxing Sketch, "That Was Me."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. The Boissetts in "The Bricklayers," Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Henri Bekker, Harry Bedford, Minnie Mace, Bioscope, Syd Walker, Nellie Beal, Shirley and Ransome, Dolly West, and Julie Mackay. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, May 2.
Adderley Howard and Co., "Minister of Police," Edouard Jose, Les Argentellos, Marie Reeve, Snowball and Dobbs, Bolo, Charles Lee, Stella Dell, Berg Bros., Maudie Alexander, Archie Gervase, Vena Greene, Young and Evans, Bioscope, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL (facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, May 2, Syd Walker, in "The Debt Collector," Esther Phillips and Co., Carney and Armstrong, Walter King, Hargreaves Trio, Amy Clevere, Sisters Allen, Carr and Rose, Ford and Maxwell, Rose Tilley, Kitty Corelli, Morris and Marte, Edisonograph, and others, and Grand Company Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sat. 7); commence 7.40 (Sat. 7.15). Tele., 803 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Maxini and Bobby, Francis Marty, Sam Elton, Coram, The Balzars, Jury's Pictures, "THE POLAR STAR, &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
GEO. ROBEY.
"EAST AND WEST" BALLET.
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN, &c.
Jessie Broughton, and Dennis Creedon.
Castor Watt, Petit Roberto, Cornalla and Eddie, Elise Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8. Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
ANNA PAVLOVA, MICHAEL MORDKIN, RUSSIA'S GREATEST DANCERS, and CO., MARGARET COOPER, HORACE GOLDIN, ALBERT WHELAN, TOPICAL PICTURES on BIOSCOPE, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.0.
Special Matinée, Wednesdays, at 3.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Walking the Hoop (10), by Archie Goodall, Wilkie Bard (10.15), May Moore Duprez, Phil Ray, Dan Crawley, Mark Sheridan, Oswald Williams, the great Illusionist, Daisy Dormer, Ernest Shand, Fred Elton, W. T. Ellwanger and Co., Gertie Gitana, Dale and O'Malley, Hanid Alexander, O Hana San, Yvonne Lamor, The Howards, Stella Troupe, Ted Waite, Bioscope. Open 7.25; Sat. Matinées 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN,
LILIAN HOERLIN. VICTORIA MONKS.
La Belle Alva, Renée, the Goddess of Music, Ernest Shand, The Martineks, Gladys Sears, Lily Black, Phil Ray, and G. H. Chirgwin.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time. Summer Term commenced Monday, April 25.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
April 30, Trinity Term begins. The Operatic Class resumes the Rehearsal of "Les Cloches de Corneville" on Wednesday, May 4, at 6.30 p.m. Full particulars on application. SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Address, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANN.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL,
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 27, July 4, 25, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant Spring date, June 6, 7, 8. Full term time. Wanted, bright attraction. Silence a polite negative.

CANNING TOWN, E.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Imperial Music Hall. Address, "Dramaticus," c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Vacancies in July for First-class Attractions.
Address, Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EDMONTON.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Edmonton Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
Aug. 3, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and others.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 Engagements:
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs"; Percy Hutchison, in "Brewster's Millions"; James Welch, in "When Knights Were Bold"; Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co., in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co.; Zena Dare, in "The Dashing Little Duke"; Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; Vedrenne Waller Co., in "The Fires of Fate"; Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark"; Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany"; D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, May 9-23, June 6, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 12, 13, 14 (three nights), all June, Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NEWPORT, MON.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical and Music Hall Reports weekly.—Address, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
May 23, 30,
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday) and Oct. 17.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700. Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Open all the year round with first-class attractions.
For vacant dates, apply as above.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
6 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.),
CONTENTS.

Act of Paris.
Adaptation.
" copyright in.
Assignment.
Author, meaning of.
Berne Convention.
British Museum.
Composer, entitled to copyright.
Copyright.
" assignment.
" duration of.
" infringement.
" international.
" in United States.
" performance.
" registration of.
" union.
Dance music, registration of.
Dramatic piece, meaning of.
Entry at Stationers' Hall.
" false.
" order to vary or expunge.
Importation of copyright music, unlawful.
Infringement of copyright.
International copyright.
Licence to publish.
Mechanical Instruments.
" " The Phonograph and Aeolian.
Musical Compositions Acts, 1882 and 1888.
Notice on music.
Performing right.
" " assignment of.
" " duration of.
" " infringement.
" " registration of.
Publication.
" simultaneous.
Registration.
Stationers' Hall.
Title, registration of.
" right to use.
United States, copyright in.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 2, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Slater, Mr. Arthur	May 1, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1910.

THE MATINEE HAT.

Mr. FRANK CURZON'S courageous and skilful method of dealing with the matinée hat question has attracted attention to a matter of serious importance to theatrical managers and the public, and illustrates the difficulty of dealing rationally with irrational arrangements. At first it may seem a simple thing to insist on every lady removing her hat at a matinée; but the practical manager has a very large section of his patrons to consider. The extent to which matinées at theatres are attended by the fair sex is hardly realised by the mere man; and the manager has to decide if it will pay him to offend his best supporters. For it is a curious fact that the opposition to the matinée hat usually comes not from women but men. The freemasonry which exists between members of the so-called "weaker" sex must not be recklessly disregarded. Apparently there is a tacit agreement amongst ladies to allow their view of the stage to be obstructed by the hats of other ladies, provided that the first section are allowed to obstruct the view of others behind them. The pleasure of exhibiting the hat thus seems to compensate for the imperfect view of the stage. But here again we are met by a mystery. It has always been an axiom that women decorate themselves with hats and other absurdities in order to attract the attention of men. As matinées are chiefly composed of women, what result do they obtain by the display of hats? Is it that there is a spirit of competition amongst the women as to which shall wear the largest and most flamboyant hat? We cannot tell.

The decision given by Mr. CURTIS BENNETT at Bow Street that "a manager has a right to insist on a lady leaving the theatre if she refuses to remove an obstructing hat" is excellent as far as it goes; but it does not touch the real crux of the matter. The manager is between two fires—the male and the female. The male who finds himself at a matinée with his view of the stage reduced to a mere slice by a grove of immense hats naturally looks to the manager for protection and support. On the other hand, the manager has his popularity and that of his playhouse to consider. Under present arrangements, the female sex enjoys great advantages. They may hit the men, but the men must not hit them back again; and the same female who resists coercion in most strong-minded style can suddenly fall back on her status as an alleged weakling as soon as there is any attempt at "removing" her. One of the many humorous postcards which came out a short time since relating to the suffragist movement showed a diminutive clerk contemplating with dread an immense and athletic female suffragist at a male meeting. He was represented as saying to her, "Madame, will you leave quietly, or must I use force?" But even with "force" at one's command it is hardly expedient to use it. A lady who defies a manager to remove her from her seat *vi et armis* places that manager in a very awkward predicament. Considerable exertion of strength is needed to extract from a stall a strong female who takes a firm grip of the furniture. The result is a "painful scene," in which the sympathies of the audience are sure to be on the side of the "poor, weak" woman and opposed to the "great, rough, blackguardly men" who are "ill-treating" her. In ejecting the suffragettes from a meeting at the Albert Hall it was found necessary to invert them; and this method, harmless except for the inevitable flow of blood to the head, excited the greatest indignation. If a man gives a woman a push in turning her out, what is easier than for her to fall on the floor, say she has been knocked down, and faint away? It is all very well for Mr. CURTIS BENNETT to rule that the manager has a right to "insist" on a lady leaving her seat if she refuses to remove an obstructing hat; but insisting is useless unless accompanied by forcible action. Glendower boasted that he could call spirits from the vasty deep; but Hotspur very sensibly enquired whether they would come when they were thus summoned. Mr. CURZON, in his recent engagement, succeeded—as so many able generals have succeeded—by taking advantage of a mistake on the part of the enemy. There were the usual obstructive hats, the usual male complaint, and the usual refusal to remove them. Then Mr. CURZON imitated the strategy of WILLIAM OF NORMANDY at the battle of Hastings, when he induced the Saxons to leave the strong position which had proved impregnable. He sent a messenger to the ladies, and they went out into the corridor. This was a strategic error which enabled Mr. CURZON to win his battle. It is, as we have said, almost out of the question to "remove" a lady from the stalls in the sight of a sympathetic audience. But it is easy, when once you have her out in a corridor, to oppose her re-entrance. Here the greater weight and solidity of the male figure are invaluable. This manœuvre gained for Mr. CURZON the victory. He could place himself in the way of the ladies, and throw upon them the onus of attack. It was a masterly stroke; but it will not work "next time." The obstructionists will be on their guard, and will refuse to leave their strongholds and give battle in corridors.

Nevertheless, Mr. CURZON'S courage in facing the difficulty, and his craft in meeting and overcoming it, were beyond all praise; and we trust that the ladies generally, with whom, apart from his managerial responsibilities, Mr. CURZON is a great favourite, will visit in their hundreds the exhibition of theatre *toques* which he has arranged for Messrs. REVILLE and ROSSITER to give on the stage at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Monday afternoon, and reward his bravery with fair play, retrenchment of headgear, and reform.

MR. CHARLES COLTSON'S TESTIMONIAL

A luncheon was given in the dome of His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday, the 26th inst., to Mr. C. I. Coltson, the respected secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, to serve as a vehicle whereby an illuminated address and a handsome cheque could be presented to that indefatigable official.

Sir Herbert Tree presided at the function and eulogised the admirable qualities of Mr. C. I. Coltson. Only the personal friends of Mr. Coltson were present, and these included Messrs. J. D. Langton, Henry Evill, R. Clay Sudlow, E. H. Bull, Sydney Paxton, Chas. Cruikshanks, and F. H. Pedgrift. There were nearly one hundred of the best-known signatures in the theatrical world affixed to the address.

This luncheon and presentation gave one an indication of the extremely busy man Sir Herbert is, for despite the fact that he had been rehearsing all the morning, and would be doing so again in the afternoon, with a performance to follow in the evening, he yet found time to be present at a function to do honour to an old associate and colleague, and also to be present at a meeting of his brother managers to discuss vital questions in connection with theatrical interests.

A beautiful album, bound in red morocco, contained the address and the names of the subscribers. Sir Charles Wyndham, as President of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, signed the address. The following is the text:

"Presented to Mr. C. I. Coltson by some of the friends of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, as a token of their affectionate regard and of their high appreciation of the manner in which he has discharged the duties of secretary during the past twenty-one years.

"(Signed) CHARLES WYNDHAM,
"President."

The names of the subscribers to the testimonial were:

Abrahams, Morris	Kendal, W. H.
Addison, Carlotta	Lestocq, William
Ainley, Henry	Lewis, Eric
Alexander, George	Loraine, Robert
Allan, Charles	Marriott, Horace
Ashwell, Lena	Maude, Cyril
Aynesworth, Allan	May, Akerman
Bancroft, Squire	Mayer, Gaston
Barnes, J. H.	McKinnel, Norman
Beveridge, J. D.	Millar, Gertie
Blanche, Ada	Millard, Evelyn
Blande, Edith	Moore, Mary
Boucicault, Dion	Morand, M. R.
Bourchier, Arthur	Neilson, Julia
Braithwaite, Lilian	Nicholls, Harry
Brereton, Austin	Paulton, Harry
Bull, E. H.	Pellissier, H. G.
Carew, James	Rignold, Lionel
Carte, Helen D'Oyly	Roberts, John F.
Chudleigh, Arthur	Rock, Charles
Chute, J. M.	Rothschild, Leopold de
Compton, Edward	Sarjeant, W. A.
Courtneidge, Robert	Sinden, Topsy
Cruikshanks, Charles	Spalding, A. F. M.
Curzon, Frank	Stidolph, E. Spencer
Dana, Henry	Sudlow, R. Clay
Davis, Tom B.	Terry, Edward
Emery, Winifred	Terry, Ellen
Esmond, H. V.	Terry, Fred
Emney, Fred	Thomas, Brandon
Evill, Henry	Tree, Herbert Beerbohm
Gay, Lina	Vanbrugh, Irene
George, A. E.	Vanbrugh, Violet
Gore, A. Holmes	Waller, Lewis
Harding, Lyn	Webster, Ben
Harvey, Martin	White, J. Fisher
Harrison, Frederick	Williams, Arthur
Hawtrey, Charles	Wyndham, Charles
Irving, H. B.	Langton, J. D. (*Hon. Sec.*).
Jay, Isabel	
Jones, S. Major	

SONGS IN "EAST LYNNE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to a paragraph in last week's issue of your paper anent Mr. Wentworth Croke's version of *East Lynne*, in which you mention as a novelty that "Beauty's eyes" will be sung in place of "When other lips," I should like to draw attention to the fact that that song has been sung in Miss Grace Warner's version of the piece for at least five years, also that the chief novelty of that lady's version, apart from the part of Little Willie being played by a boy, is the fact that the piece itself is not a new version of this famous novel, but a most realistic portrayal of the old, old story which is so familiar to us all.—Yours faithfully,

April 28, 1910. ROY RHIND.

MR. RICHARD MOULD, chief librarian and curator of the Southwark Public Library, writes: "Steps have already been taken by the Southwark Public Libraries and Museums Committee for the provision of a public Shakespeare library in London. It will be part of their Central Reference Library, which is located in the district with which the poet's London life was most prominently identified, and within a stone's throw of the site of the old Newington Theatre, where he acted and produced his plays before the more famous Globe was built. The object of the Southwark Library authorities is to house a Shakespearean Memorial Library in an apartment at the Central Library, fitted and furnished in the Elizabethan style, and formally to dedicate it in 1916—the tercentenary year.

"THE ISLANDER."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Major Marshall, Music by Philip Michael Faraday, Produced at the Apollo Theatre on Saturday, April 23.

Captain Alderson Jarrett ..... MR. SAM WALSH
Lieut. the Hon. D'Arcy Langton ..... MR. FRED ALLANDALE
Lieut. Reginald Hume ..... MR. LAURENCE LEGGE
Midshipman Jackson Mauleverer ..... MASTER BOBBIE ANDREWS
Capt. Grant ..... MR. WILFRED SEAGRAM
Lieut. Maxwell ..... MR. PERCY CLARIDGE
Lieut. Bailey ..... MR. OTTO ALEXANDER
Lieut. Ferguseon ..... MR. MONTAGUE SYRETT
Lady Birkenhead ..... MISS ETHEL MORRISON
Wilhelmina ..... MISS MARY DIBLEY
Georgina ..... MISS ELAINE INESCORT
Kitty McIan ..... MISS ELSIE SPAIN
Sir William Pickerton ..... MR. LAURENCE CAIRD
Mirza Makh Ali Khan ..... MR. NEIL KENYON
Hakim Sirdar ..... MR. REGINALD LAWRENCE
Mahmoud ..... MASTER P. HERON
Boatswain ..... MR. CARYLL STORRS
Quartermaster ..... MR. MURRI MONCRIEFF
Steward ..... MR. WILLIAM GUILBERT
Kubardar ..... MR. HARRY DANBY
Hon. Gwendoline Cholmondeley ..... MISS STEPHANIE STEPHENS
Princess Haidee ..... MISS MABEL BURNEGE
Sister Katherine ..... MISS LESLEY EVERELL
Zeeba ..... MISS EDRIS COOMBS

Mr. Alexander Henderson's new production at the Apollo is a bright, lively, and amusing piece, which only requires a little judicious revision to make it a complete and lasting success. It starts with well-chosen surroundings. The Navy has always been a popular service, and the success of *The Flag Lieutenant* has shown the deep interest which is taken by the British public in anything naval, if well represented on the stage. And the scene of the first act of *The Islander* is remarkably realistic and complete. Two long guns, which have an illusive appearance of solidity, protrude from an armoured fort, practicable ladders lead up to decks on which stand officers and look-out men, and the whole effect is most imposing. It appears that the mission of this magnificent ironclad is the annexation of a certain island in the Persian Gulf. But Sir William Pickerton, the local Commissioner, has lost the despatches which contained the instructions which were to direct the movements of the captain of the vessel, who consequently takes action on his own responsibility. A party of English ladies come on board, including Lady Birkenhead, a globe-trotter; Wilhelmina and Georgina, her daughters; and Kitty McIan, her ward.

Scarcely have these been shown over the ship when the approach is announced of Mirza Makh Ali Khan, the local Pasha, who, after receiving much diplomatic compliment, reveals himself as a canny Scotsman who has obtained the position of Pasha by marriage. Captain Jarrett explains the object of his mission, and the Pasha agrees to do a "deal" for the island, if the captain and his officers will come and dine with him on shore. In the course of this act there are frequent love-passages between Lieut. the Hon. D'Arcy Langton and Kitty, and Lieut. Reginald Hume and the Pasha's daughter, the Princess Haidee, an artless but beautiful Oriental.

The second act takes place in the beautiful gardens of the Pasha's Palace, where the ladies of the harem are singing, dancing, and reposing. It was the Pasha, it appears, who caused Sir William's papers to be purloined, and he is going to drive a hard bargain for his share of the spoil. In this he succeeds admirably, especially as the island has belonged to England all the time. He recognises in Kitty his daughter by his first wife, and she consequently becomes a Princess. The young people pair off prettily, and the merry musical comedy concludes.

Much of the success of *The Islander* was doubtless due to the excellent way in which each character was sustained by a cleverly-chosen cast. The success of the evening was won by that charming artist, Miss Elsie Spain, as Kitty McIan. Miss Spain had a part which suited her exactly, and she won the warm approbation of the audience by her arch and animated acting, her sweet and expressive singing, and her dainty dancing. Her triumph commenced with the song "Kitty" in the first act, and was continued throughout the piece. Her picturesque appearance, both in English and Persian costume, the vivid expression which she put into the delivery of her dialogue, and her bright, winning, and piquant personality won the enthusiastic applause of the house again and again. Miss Spain had a part worthy of her talent, and she scored in it to the highest possible degree. All her songs were encored, and she was frequently and enthusiastically applauded. Another strikingly successful rendering was Mr. Neil Kenyon's Pasha. The "pawky" humour of the creation, the dry, quiet style of Mr. Kenyon's acting, and the admirable ease and self-restraint of his whole performance made it intensely enjoyable. Mr. Sam Walsh gave full force to the peremptory vigour of Captain Alderson Jarrett; and Mr. Fred Allandale acted with brisk vivacity as Lieut. the Hon. D'Arcy Langton, and sang his songs capitally. Mr. Laurence Legge doing excellent work as Lieut. Reginald Hume, and playing the part with skill and spirit. A word of praise is due to Master Bobbie Andrews, who made a sharp "midshipmite"; and Miss Ethel Morrison was duly aristocratic and self-important as Lady Birkenhead, Miss Mary Dibley and Miss Elaine Inescourt being alert and agreeable representatives of the two daughters. Mr. Lawrence Caird, whose style and appearance were excellent, acted quite in the comedy spirit as Sir William Pickerton; and Mr. Reginald Lawrence was quaint and characteristic as the Pasha's High Treasurer, Hakim Sirdar. Miss Mabel Burnege not only looked picturesquely handsome as the Princess Haidee, but sang a very sweet, sentimental song in the second act with deep feeling and expression; and Miss Lesley Everell gave a neat performance as Sister Katharine. The minor rôles were well and carefully represented; and a solo dance in the second act by Miss Sybil Warren was much admired. The piece was carefully produced by Mr. Harry Grattan. The naval uniforms and costumes were made by Messrs. Nathan from designs by Karl; and Mr. Bruce Smith must be warmly praised for his elaborate and effective scenery.

Turning the Tables.

CHARLES MATHEWS and Frank Matthews were playing together at the St. James's Theatre. Charles at that time was in pecuniary difficulties, and had the reputation of never paying his debts. Frank, on the other hand, was a steady man, whose word was his bond. Frank had a pint of stout sent in every night from a neighbouring hostelry, which he paid for once a week. The boy brought it in as usual one night, and was intercepted by Charles, who said to him: "I'm going to Mr. Matthews's room and will give it to him." So, thinking to take a rise out of Frank, he knocked at his door, and imitating the boy's voice, said: "I've brought your beer, Mr. Matthews." Frank shouted through the closed door: "Put it down on the shelf outside, boy."

Charles, still imitating the lad's voice, said: "Please, Mr. Matthews, my master says I'm not to leave it without the money. He has his doubts about you."

By this time Frank had tumbled to the deception, and turned the tables on Charles by saying: "Oh! it's evidently Mr. *Charles* Mathews you want. The beer—*and the message*—must be for him."

MR. COMPTON ON COMEDY.

Mr. Edward Compton, in his lecture on "New Humour and Old Comedy," at the Manchester Playgoers' Club on Sunday last, said:—It is recorded in the annals of Olympus that when Hephæstros, better known as Vulvan, limped on a fine morning into the midst of the divine assembly his peers laughed immoderately. The limp alone was funny enough, but the knowledge that his deformity was the result of a kick from the father of gods and men added intensely to the risible character of the situation. The theatrical "gods" of to-day gain a similar delight from the spectacle of a human being (whose appearance is eccentric on account of mauve eyebrows, or emerald nose, or conical head) suddenly tripped up, and flung with violence upon the stage by the ingenious accomplice who assists him to earn a large salary and infinite applause.

This primitive type of humour probably dates back to the acrobatic originals of mankind. The first laugh was probably at the expense of some unskilful ape, whose tail "let him down" rather badly. It would, perhaps, be hazardous to speculate further about these prehistoric jests, but I think we should be safe in a conjecture that the offer of an empty cocoanut was the first practical joke.

The latter still earns a hearty laugh. Children still offer eggshells upside down to unsuspecting governesses. Comedians still present explosive cigarettes to innocent companions. The humour lies rather in expectation than realisation; in the existence of a large body of initiated persons and one dupe.

Now, although these unsophisticated and childish jests "make the judicious grieve," they have a considerable value, inasmuch as the judicious are rare birds—outside the aviary of dramatic criticism.

It is useless to pretend that only the gallery and the pit are diverted by the misfortunes of others. It is true that the inhabitants of boxes and the frequenters of stalls do not nudge one another with the same ecstasy of appreciation; but observe what apologetic smiles betray the human hearts beneath the well-starched shirt-front and the courtly corsage.

When a young lady informs you that Shakespeare's humour bores her it does not mean that the cocoanut joke bores her, but that she is not sufficiently mistress of her own language to enjoy Elizabethan wit. For though acrobatic humour still engages our delight, I fear that acrobatic wit is out of fashion, and *Chantecler* just a *succès de costume*. Yet, notwithstanding the indisputable fact that it is possible for an audience composed of entities widely divergent in their views of life to be temporarily united under the great banner of laughter, it is equally indisputable that such an emotional event is hardly ever recorded at the present time.

The most disquieting tendency in modern English drama is the continually widening breach between—what shall I say?—sophistication and unsophistication, complex and simple, fustian and plush. After all, any attempt to divide a great nation so arbitrarily is absurd, and yet the division unhappily exists.

Speaking broadly, the erstwhile frequenters of the popular parts of the theatre now patronise to a great extent the music halls. "'Tis true 'tis pity, and pity 'tis 'tis true." This is due partly, I think, to the often feeble fare (from their point of view) provided by the theatres, partly by the usurpation of their privileges by the suburbs.

At one time the upper circle was *par excellence* the haunt of the denizens of the latter, but whether the burden of the middle classes has driven them to sink their respectability in cheapness, or whether the increased facilities of transit have tempted them to go to the theatre more often, causing them to pay four separate shillings rather than four shillings all at once, I do not know. At any rate, I will venture to wager that you will not find at a modern comedy a single representative of the masses.

Neither do you find them to any great extent at the musical comedies; and, because they have been banished, the London theatre of to-day is a barren place.

The theatre audiences, therefore, lack in a great measure the unanimity of enjoyment which infects a popular music hall. In proportion to the amount of real life on the stage, the real life in the audience is decreasing. It applauds not because it wants to applaud, but because it thinks that loud appreciation is a politeness. The latter, speaking generally, has become as meaningless as the conventional call after a dinner or dance.

There is no need to worry about the absence of culture among costermongers, but there is great need to fret over the excess of culture in Surbiton.

I propose to elaborate my contention by contrasting eighteenth-century comedy and twentieth-century comedy, as I think that the former may serve as a sign post, or, rather, danger signal, to the road which the drama is following. I know from a very happy personal experience that the former is still able to attract a much more representative audience than the latter. You are always told by the critics that the eighteenth century was the age of artifice. You are expected to believe that it was imposed on the rest of time, as one of its own patches was imposed on the cheek of one of its own wise and witty women. You are told by the painters and novelists that it was the age of sentiment, by the parsons that it was the age of scepticism, and by the dramatists that it was the age of highwaymen, high-spirited young men, and high play.

They are all more or less wrong. It was essentially the age of commonsense—cool, sound, calculating commonsense, and as such a great deal nearer to us than the high-falutin' century which intervened—that romantic epoch which began with the Revolution, went on to keepsakes, perpetrated the Albert Memorial, and expired with the Yellow Book.

Dr. Samuel Johnson was the representative figure of the eighteenth century—the man who summed up in himself his period, who was regarded by his contemporaries as the epitome of their noblest emotions, their most admired virtues—the advocate of their most cherished prejudices, and the orator of their profoundest commonsense.

"Johnson, thou shouldest be living at this hour. England hath need of thee." We have far too many loud "inglorious Miltons."

I confess I should like some Boswell of the daily Press to invite his opinion on—but were I to specify what, I fear I should trespass upon the borders of the uncharitable.

What I like about Johnson, and what his contemporaries liked about him, was that they knew where they were with him. He wrote an unconscionable amount of bosh, and held an enormous number of wrong-headed views, but he was absolutely sincere, and he had a wonderfully keen scent for a charlatan.

Among the many good and great things which he condemned was Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*. He said it was low, in so far as it introduced a number of low characters. He stigmatised it as farce, not comedy. In fact, he summed up the opinion of the first audience that saw it performed. *Now* our modern critics are apt to be so much engrossed with their own opinions that they fail to discover the opinion of the audience at all.

Johnson was wrong; the first audience was wrong. *She Stoops to Conquer* survived the double censure, and is still vital enough to attract gallery, pit, and boxes. So is *The School for Scandal;* so, in a lesser degree, is *The Rivals*.

No doubt their *reputation* is, to a certain extent, responsible for this; but it would be a great mistake to suppose that reputation alone is sufficient to endow bygone literature with present life. The pundits of criticism do not influence more than their contemporaries. No conspiracy of praise, no admiring claque lends them an ephemeral rejuvenation. The applause that hails their repetition is not the greeting of ghosts—no; no—the public still enjoys their performance. Familiarity certainly helps an audience to appreciate them, but the passion of humanity for twice-told tales is very ancient. The onlookers are not hampered by the need of following an unfamiliar story. This allows free play to their artistic faculties. The Elizabethan dramatists and the Greek dramatists always chose well-known stories for their plays. Unbound by the intolerable chains of invention, they could devote the best of their gifts to the elaboration, or simplification, or novel presentation of an old theme, and their listeners or readers were able to give this aspect of their plays a fuller and worthier attention. The progress of the tale was, as it were, an instinct.

In so far as the relation of the history moved them, it moved them by its very familiarity. The emotion of irony, as the Greeks called it, was one of the strongest artistic emotions possible to conceive.

All round those gigantic stone amphitheatres, during the slow progress of a tragedy, sat the populace of Athens, equal in wisdom to the high gods—equal to them in knowledge, but without power to deter the beloved hero from his doom.

This same love of irony possesses the soul of the present playgoer. Sit in the popular parts of a provincial theatre, and you will hear a continual murmur of explanations all round you. Mrs. Smith does not believe that Mrs. Jones *can* enjoy a situation unless she is made acquainted with it. The last thing an audience likes is a surprise. Observe with what passionate reiteration Mrs. Smith insists that Lady Teazle is actually behind the screen. She is terribly anxious for Mrs. Jones to appreciate the irony of Sir Peter's revelation of his innate goodness to Joseph Surface.

What is the motive of all old comedies? Mistaken identity—the simplest mechanical device to give even an unfamiliar audience this sense of irony. And rightly, too, for a comedy is, after all, only a laughable tragedy. It must be to some extent artificial. If it were not, it would be a tragedy, and this tragedy itself must have a drop curtain to end it or it would be insupportable.

I remember that once, when Mr. Henry James was paying me a visit, he went to watch the performance of the *School for Scandal*. When I asked him how he liked it, he replied: "A curious old play, a very curious old play." Now Mr. James's conception of drama is a psychological one. For him, the artless arrangements of Sheridan have no more interest than an old piece of furniture. He regards life from an utterly different standpoint. A master of analysis, he has no patience with so synthetic a presentation of emotions. The value of the play, for him, is destroyed by the inherent absurdity of the psychological situations. But what he did not understand was, that to an audience lacking as a whole any fine mental acuteness, the dramatic revolutions of Lady Teazle's temperament could only be expressed in the way it is. An audience prefers an effect to a cause, and I am inclined to think that the drama was invented to present effect in the form most comprehensible to the majority. The *School for Scandal* is merely a conventional and theatrical expression of a series of temperamental platitudes. It appeals to a base idealism in its advice "Be generous before you're just." It is fundamentally immoral, and yet it affords an extraordinarily workable theory of life. Were I to seek to emulate the subtlety of Mr. Henry James, I would say that the continual success of Sheridan's comedy is due to the fact that while the conscious audience is loudly applauding the worst side of it, the sub-conscious audience, infected by the comic spirit, is all the while laughing at the banality of itself. While the former says, "There is nothing more noble than a man of sentiment," the latter replies, "Oh, damn your sentiment!"

The truth is that our modern comedy is based on a topsy-turvy theory of art and life. The new playwrights claim that drama should be stripped of conventions, and in their desperate eagerness to bring down the curtain of the last act between the first and second lump of sugar of a cup of tea, in order to avoid anything so dramatic or unexpected as a third lump, they forget that they are already fairly on the way to a convention of their own. Moreover, obsessed and overweighted by the responsibility of avoiding the dramatic, they are forced either into the contemplation and reproduction of the undramatic side of life or into the necessity of inventing a dramatic side of a life that only exists in their own daring and unconventional minds.

Life without conventions would cease to have any dramatic value. The characters in most of our modern comedies, choked by their own loquacity, expire of dramatic inanition. They are presented by their authors as real people. Their manipulation is extolled because the strings are invisible; they are congratulated because they do not talk in asides; but, indeed, they talk so much and so frankly to each other that there is no need for asides.

You have only to watch the faces in the theatre to see the disastrous effect of the new humour. Instead of being led by the comic spirit to a genial and refreshing view of the world—instead of being filled with a sense of ampler existence, a deeper knowledge of humanity, and an honest desire to eat a hearty supper—these pallid enthusiasts stream out from the comedy exhausted with conversation, exasperated with the censor, and only saved from despair by the prospect of reading at home the play they have just seen performed.

I confess that our modern dramatists do not impress me with this sense of passionate impulse. There is too much dawdling for the sake of dawdling. A digression can only be forgiven when it serves to knit the whole closer together. There is too great a tendency nowadays to affirm that everything possesses a dramatic value. This same want of determination displays itself in all the other arts. I believe it has arisen from a misapprehension of the aims of the Parnassians, the Symbolists, the Impressionists, and the rest of the artistic associations. The correlation of the Arts is an excellent working theory up to a point, but it is apt to lead enthusiasts into unwise appropriation; too much "shop" has led to "shop lifting."

An accentuation of the value of the personal equation seems to me another dangerous tendency. I cannot agree with those people who say that the point of view is the main importance, that windows opening on to bottle-haunted backyards, and summits of the wind-swept Apennine, are equally worth two guineas a week. The extra charge for light is inevitably so much heavier in the former apartment.

Moreover, with Solomon, I'm inclined to think that Impressionism is not so new as Whistler. Art has been a hole-and-corner affair for some time, and justified as such by the limitation of human vision. The landscape painter argues with reason that the reproduction of every feature with meticulous exactness is false, since no man can include so much in an impression. Now, if a great man works on this principle, all goes well, but, unfortunately, it has been used to justify the methods of the small man. Go to any picture exhibition at present, and you will come away from it with that consciousness of petty interests which invariably accompanies the burden or delight of looking through a friend's collection of photographic snapshots. It is the same with the novel, the play, the poem, and the musical composition. A tremendous decentralisation in Art is everywhere apparent.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The amount collected to date through the shilling fund for the Music Hall Home has reached the total of £365 16s. 6d.—just a pound a day for a year. The profession must be heartily congratulated on such a splendid result.

The Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund Sports will be held on Thursday, July 21, at Stamford Bridge. Many novel events are promised, and with a committee of sportsmen there should be many interesting competitions and a big crowd.

An event of particular municipal interest occurred on Thursday at the Church of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, when the marriage ceremony was performed by the Mayor of Westminster, the Rev. F. Harcourt Hillersdon, the bride being Nina Margery, daughter of the well-known and popular Councillor Henry Tozer (chairman of the Syndicate Variety Theatres), and the bridegroom Hubert Barham, of Lloyds'. The beautifully-decorated church was crowded, and the guests were afterwards received by Councillor and Mrs. Henry Tozer at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole.

Miss Marie Loftus is just recovering from a second attack of shingles, not in mild form, but one of the severest cases known to the medical profession. It is expected she will be able to leave the nursing home some time next week. She had not completely recovered from her first attack when she suffered a relapse, with all its agonising pains. Miss Loftus has been ill for over sixteen weeks.

Mr. George Hestor, who has just concluded a three years' engagement as principal comedian in Mr. Fred Karno's *His Majesty's Guests* company, has signed a contract with Mr. Robert Courtneidge for the autumn tour of *The Arcadians*. Those who have enjoyed his Sergeant Lightning can easily imagine him in the part of the doleful jockey, Peter Doody. Mr. Courtneidge appears to have a very great appreciation of Mr. Karno's comedians, for it will be remembered that Mr. Dan Rolyat was at one time a representative of Sergeant Lightning.

Collins's is for sale. The old-established hall facing Islington Green is to come under the hammer at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, on Tuesday, May 31, the auctioneers being Newbon and Shephards, of Upper-street. The establishment stands on ground originally forming part of the Lansdowne Arms, from which tavern it took its original name. When Sam Collins took it over he rechristened it, and at his death it became the property of Mr. H. Watts, and it was carried on for some time by his widow, who had as manager Mr. Herbert Sprake, her nephew.

Under the proprietorship of that gentleman, the place flourished exceedingly. The present house, which has seating accommodation for 1,114 people, besides eight private boxes, was erected in 1897 in a most substantial manner, and the valuable fixtures, fittings, and accessories will be included in the sale.

Mr. Bransby Williams's new entertainment *Bookland and Stageland* is a great success on tour. At the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday the young actor had to make speeches at both houses, his welcome back from his host of friends among Mancunians being especially hearty. He has this week secured the English rights of his first play for his first theatrical venture. It is written by Miss Beatrice de Burgh, assisted as part author by Mr. Sydney Valentine. The title of the play at present is *Kit Careless*, the period 1798. It is a fine romantic play with a strong story, and full of incident. It is his intention to tour the principal cities as soon as pantomime ceases. He of course plays the title-rôle.

Mr. Charles Coborn sends us some Mark Twain gossip. He says:—"Late in 1900 I was in New York, and Major Pond invited me to visit the Press Club on the occasion of the reception given to Mark Twain after his last lecturing tour round the world. It was all very interesting and amusing. The president of the club, Colonel Brown, was in the chair, but instead of allowing the chairman to introduce him Mark introduced the chairman, pointing out with comic seriousness the clear indications of every kind of crime and evil intent in the worthy Colonel's big, round, innocent countenance.

"There were a number of speeches (some affectionate, but mostly of the 'roasting' order, for which Mark had given the cue), but the hit of all was made by the treasurer of the club, a Mr. Hennessy, I think. He said: 'I have been called upon to second an expression of welcome to the guest of the evening, but I cannot but think that the task might have been placed in fitter hands, as I have never seen the gentleman before, nor have I read any of his works.' For a moment there was a gasping silence, succeeded by a roar of laughter.

"When Mark responded he said, with an amusing affectation of annoyance and nervousness, 'I must say I felt rather hurt at the remarks of the gentleman who seconded your resolution, and also somewhat puzzled when he said that he had not read any of my works, because he *looks* like an intelligent man, but how *can* he be an intelligent man if he hasn't read any of my works?' This speech restored the balance of things, and the game was honours divided.

"I sang 'The Newsboy' and 'Four fingers and a thumb,' and the great humorist was good enough to mark (oh!) his approval of my humble efforts. At the conclusion of the meeting all the boys crowded round Twain like flies round a treacle-pot to get him to autograph their invitation cards; but not so your Charles. I had no desire to assist in smothering him, so quietly waited till next day, when I sent mine to his private address, giving my reason for not bothering him the night before, and saying how greatly I should esteem his conferring the same favour upon me. The result was that I received my card again, covered by a nice little note, which is now one of my greatest treasures."

Miss Lillie Langtry, the electric spark, is making a great success in Australia. She is finishing sixteen weeks with Mr. Harry Rickards, who has re-engaged her for another twenty weeks. Lillie likes Australian audiences. She says when you are once a favourite you are never forgotten. She has never missed one performance, and is singing four songs and doing a dance nightly, as well as at matinées.

At the London Hippodrome Mme. Réjane's presentation of a scene from *Madame Sans-Gêne* seems to be highly popular, and last week among the well-known people to be recognised in the boxes and stalls were "the flying man," Mr. Henry Farman, Lady Troubridge, Lady Jessell, Lord and Lady Alington, Countess Eugene Kinsky, Sir Ernest Paget, the Earl and Countess of Poulett, the Marchioness of Townshend, Lord Harewood, Mrs. Rupert Beckett, General Brabazon, Captain and Mrs. Berkeley Levitt, Mr. Aurel Batonizi, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Meyer, and Mr. A. G. Vanderbilt.

The Liverpool Lyric Theatre Company was registered on April 21. The company has been established for the purpose of taking over the Lyric Theatre, Everton Valley, Liverpool.

The new Coliseum, Whitley Bay, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, which will accommodate 3000 persons, will open for the season on Saturday, May 14. Mr. Fred Patterson, late of the Tynemouth Palace, has been appointed resident-manager.

The directors of the Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd., have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ending April 30 at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum, payable on May 2, which is the same as was declared for the corresponding period last year.

Mr. Joseph Lawrence, manager of Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Leicester Pavilion Theatre of Varieties, announces a trial turn matinée at that hall on Tuesday afternoon, May 17, the entries for which will close on Thursday, May 12. Mr. Frank Macnaghten, Mr. Sydney Arthur (provincial booking manager), Mr. Frederic Baugh (London booking manager), and several proprietors, managers, and agents will be present to select suitable turns for salaried engagements. Competitors are invited to compete from any part of the kingdom.

Managers of Birmingham theatres and music halls are manifesting keen interest in the forthcoming Whit-Tuesday sports meeting, to be held at Villa Park. These gentlemen are members of the Theatrical, Variety Theatres, and Aston Villa Football Club Charity Sports Committee, and they attended the meeting held at the Woolpack Hotel on Tuesday. Favoured by propitious weather, this year's meeting should break previous records.

Mr. A. W. Matcham (the Empire) reported that subscriptions promised amounted to nearly £50. This announcement was received with applause. The committees responsible for advertising, donations, and prizes reported satisfactorily, and a suggestion was made that the Aston Villa football team be invited to participate in the procession and display the numerous trophies won by the club. Mr. F. W. Rinder (chairman) promised to bring the matter before his directors. It was decided to hold the Whit-Tuesday meeting under the A.A.A. and N.C.U. rules.

The Palace, Maidstone, commenced a new era of history and prosperity on Monday, the management being taken over by the new lessee, Mr. Ewart C. Potter, who brings energy, business tact, and a fund of geniality to his aid. Mr. Stanley Baskerville, who has just relinquished the position of manager, was presented on Saturday night, on behalf of the orchestra and staff, with a silver cigarette and cigar case and an illuminated address. The artists for the week presented Mr. Baskerville with a silver cigarette-holder as a mark of esteem.

Mr. A. E. Pickard, the enterprising manager of the Panopticon, Glasgow, is organising a big excursion from that city to Blackpool on Glasgow Fair Monday, July 18. The trippers will leave the Central station on Sunday at 12 midnight, and are due to arrive in Blackpool about 7 a.m. They will have fourteen hours in which to sample the various delights of "breezy Blackpool," and are timed to arrive home in Glasgow early on the Tuesday morning. From what we hear, the trip is likely to be taken advantage of by large numbers.

Dr. Walford Bodie writes that he has just crossed the Border, finishing his eight months' Scotch tour, which has been a veritable triumph. He opened at the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, playing to record business, his electrical wonders and his feats in bloodless surgery creating quite a sensation in the town and district.

On Friday Mr. Baird, the chief electrician of the Runcorn and Widnes transporter bridge, challenged Dr. Bodie to pass—as he claimed—30,000 volts through his body from a huge 12in. spark induction high tension coil. Dr. Bodie, in the presence of several electricians, members of the Press, and other gentlemen, accomplished this great feat of endurance, and kept the huge audience spellbound. At the conclusion he was loudly cheered. This week he is startling the garrison town of Colchester, giving his demonstration, assisted by "La Belle Electra," twice nightly to large and enthusiastic audiences.

There was a large assembly representing stagedom and its habitués at the Great Northern Hotel, Leeds, late last week, the occasion being a complimentary dinner to Mr. T. Gerald Morton, of Leeds. As the district manager of the Yorkshire circuit of the Moss' Empire Halls, Mr. Morton has made many personal friends in Leeds by admirable work on behalf of the charities of the city generally. A representative company of about a hundred, presided over by Mr. Arthur Willey, sat down.

In an appropriate speech, freely garnished with humour and witticisms, Mr. Arthur Willey presented Mr. Morton with a handsome gold watch and a jewelled scarf-pin and stud. In a brief speech Mr. Morton expressed his deep sense of gratitude for these tokens of friendship and regard.

The toast of the evening, "Our Guest," was submitted by Mr. Fred R. Spark, who said they had met to honour one who was worthy of honour. Mr. Spark recalled the commencement of the Empire charity matinées under the kind and zealous direction of Mr. Morton. "A man with a better or bigger heart," he said, "does not live in this city of Leeds." It was in connection with the Empire charity matinées that a Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress appeared for the first time on a music hall stage in England.

Mr. Percival Craig, of the Bradford Empire, "dropped into poetry" somewhat Walt Whitmanesque in form. Unhappily he had a defective memory, and an effort to extemporise resulted disastrously for the moment; but no one enjoyed the joke more than Mr. Craig himself. A pleasing feature of the evening was the presence of the Empire orchestra, under Mr. Louis Myers. By special arrangement half a dozen of the oldest members of the Empire staff were entertained at the presentation.

Mr. Walter Stockwell, of Thompson's Hotel, Bristol, once more thanks the ladies and gentlemen who have already answered his appeal *re* Harry Jennings. He also wishes to state that the subscription list will close on Monday next, and any small donation will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. The following sums have been received:—V.A.B.F., £1; Elliotts and Savonas, 10s.; G. H. Elliott, 5s.; Walter Stockwell, 5s.; Atlas and Vulcana, 5s.; J. E. Daveridge, 5s.; W. J. Churchill, 2s.; T. R. Gannon, 2s.; F. W., 2s.; T. W., 2s.; L. Barrett, 2s.; Sam Plaster, 2s.; W. B. Webb, 2s.; Gus Elen, 1s.; Sal Grogan, 1s.; G. Manning, 1s.; D. W., 1s.; Mrs. Webley, 1s.; C. W. Harding, 1s.; Mr. Richards, 1s.; Mr. Thomas, 1s.; F. W. Chanter, 1s.; W. E. Southcott, 1s.; C. J. Mason, 1s.; A. G. T., 1s.; Mr. Driazel, 1s.; F. A. Smith, 1s.; Mr. Ward, 1s.; F. Bird, 1s.; Fish Snacks, 1s. 6d. Treasurer, Walter Stockwell.

Mr. Harry Lauder is still on the sick list, but is progressing favourably, and will, it is expected, make his reappearance at the Tivoli on Monday, May 9.

Mr. Frank Gerald, who is no stranger to Australia, sailed for that country on Friday (yesterday) by the ss. Ormuz. He has various commissions on hand, and may be away for six months or longer.

Among a large circle of professional friends the news of the death of Mrs. O. Maus Dayton will be received with sincere regret, and the bereaved husband and family have been the recipients of many telegrams from all parts of England expressing the deepest sympathy.

The deceased lady had suffered much during her illness, and passed away on Sunday morning last at Macclesfield at the early age of thirty-one. Mrs. Dayton was born at Sherborne, Dorset, on May 2, 1878, and on her marriage eleven years ago became associated with the famous acrobatic family known as the Dayton Family. Held in high esteem in the profession generally, it is in this little group of performers that her loss at so early an age will be felt as a crushing blow.

It was her great desire to be buried in Macclesfield, and about two weeks ago she was, under the doctor's orders, transported thither by ambulance van from Nelson. The knowledge that she was in Macclesfield brought her some relief in her last hours. The funeral took place in the cemetery there on Tuesday, the obsequies being attended by the whole of the Dayton Family, the relatives, and many friends. Wreaths came from all parts of England. Mr. Dayton, a German by birth, came to England fourteen years ago, but for the last six years he has been a naturalised British subject.

Mr and Mrs. P. A. Sley are shortly to be "mine host and hostess" at the Equestrian, next to the Surrey, an item of news which will be duly appreciated by the many members of the profession who know the high reputation of this genial pair.

Mr. Charles Green was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Harry Gribben, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier H. Cee Mee, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist.

The officers of the Terriers' Association for the month of May are as follow: Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T.; Terrier Tom Packer, V.T.; Terrier Fred A. Hooper, W.D.; Terrier C. W. Kloof, Y.B.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; Terrier Arthur Were, Organist.

A ladies' concert will be held on Sunday next at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington-road, at 8.30 p.m.

The banquet to Terrier Griff will be held upon Sunday, May 29, at the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W. The annual river outing is fixed for Sunday, June 26.

Terrier Griff offers a gold medal for the best suggestion on how to increase the attendance of the Sunday meetings. All suggestions must be forwarded to the secretary on or before May 14.

Mr. Herbert Shelley has just concluded his second tour of Ireland with *Dan the Outlaw*, receiving the highest praise from all classes for his exceedingly correct insight into old-world Irish character in both humour and song. His "Colour of my coat" ballad has gone all over the world, and bids to become a standard national song.

Miss Louisa Peach had a most enthusiastic reception last week at Mr. Raymond's hall, Walthamstow, where she is a big favourite. Her sketch of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* proved an enormous success, and she returns again May 30, with a sketch of *The Colleen Bawn*. Next week Miss Peach is at Gravesend with *The Settler's Daughter*.

Mr. Thomas Barrasford, of the Hippodrome, Brighton, formerly of Leeds, founder of the Barrasford Music Hall Syndicate (owning twenty-one halls) and managing-director of the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died on Feb. 1, left estate valued by the widow (Mrs. Maud Barrasford), the executrix, at £17,337 10s., of which £2,990 14s. 3d. is net personality.

The will, dated Dec. 2, 1909, reads as follows:—"This is the last will of me, Thomas Barrasford, of Brighton, music hall proprietor. I appoint as my executors my wife, Maud Barrasford, and my friend Frederick Eley, of Leeds, bank manager. I give all I die possessed of to my said wife, absolutely, after payment of my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses."

Messrs Carl and Carr, the twentieth century comedians, are opening new ground this season at Selsey with their Merry Pierrots, and have bought the land, which they will call the "Pierrot Gardens." An open-air Oriental café will occupy a part of the space required. The popular comedians have been booked by Mr. Elliston to play Dame and principal comedy part in his next pantomime.

The Luna Park and Palace of Amusements (Southend), Ltd., is the name of the company now running the Kursaal, Southend, which is being converted into a first-class ornamental park and open-air amusement and pleasure ground. A scenic railway is now in course of erection, and the place will be an ideal spot for shows of every kind. There is to be a grand opening in June. Mr. T. W. Hilton is the managing-director.

Mr. Charles Coborn, who roused Londoners just a few years ago when he sang at the Oxford "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo," is a member of Mr. Frank Glenister's excellent company at the London Pavilion, where his character songs have certainly caught on. It was at the Trocadero opposite that Charlie used to delight the b-hoys with "Two lovely black eyes," which came to be known as the Trocadero anthem.

Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells were working last week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, where Harry Tate was topping the bill. When journeying to business on Friday evening Mr. Tate had the misfortune to break down, and until his arrival Mr. Lewis Vincent, the manager, asked the clever pair to go on again. Readily consenting, they submitted an encore on distinctly different lines, and had a most gratifying reception. Such an occurrence is, to say the least, uncommon; but the true artist is always equal to "turning the dust of servile opportunity to gold."

Miss Ada Reeve has presented Edgar Bateman with a magnificent sea rod in appreciation of his new song, "And just then he fell out of bed," which the great artist has lately secured. Mr. Bateman was to have had a similar presentation on Saturday night last at the Horseshoe Hotel, when the Lychnobite Angling Society's annual dinner took place, the Earl of Hardwicke being in the chair, but the Cockney writer was unavoidably absent. The health of the progenitor of "The grateful crab" and "The Tortoise with the ball-bearings" was drunk, and the hope expressed that Mr. Bateman's forthcoming annual fishing tale would sound as truthful as did his previous ones.

Mr. J. L. Graydon, who has retired from the proprietorship of the Middlesex after four decades of successful music-hall management, was specially honoured on Thursday, the 21st. On that date he was entertained at a testimonial banquet by past and present members of the Entertainments Protection Association.

Mr. T. Ernest Polden, one of Mr. Graydon's co-directors on the board of the Palace Theatre, Limited, took the chair, and he was supported by Mr. Alfred Butt, managing-director of the Palace Theatre, Mr. E. Cremetti; Mr. Harry J. Hitchins, manager of the Empire; Mr. Walter de Frece and Mr. Walter Gibbons, of the Variety Theatres Controlling Syndicate; Mr. Richard Wake, a former proprietor of the Royal Standard, Pimlico; Mr. T. S. Dickie, the present proprietor (hon. treasurer of the testimonial); Mr. John Brill, a former proprietor of the Royal Music Hall; Mr. Philip J. Rutland, J.P. (hon. secretary of the testimonial), and others.

Letters of regret at their absence were read from Mr. Henri Gros—who was prevented by illness from being present to do honour to his friend of many years—from Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, and others.

After the loyal toast, the chairman, in a few heartfelt sentences, proposed "Our Guest," speaking very highly of Mr. Graydon as a man and as a manager, and also referring in felicitous terms to Mr. Graydon's excellent work in connection with the Entertainments Protection Association, which brought him to the main purpose of that happy gathering.

Mr. Polden then presented Mr. Graydon with a splendid gold watch, which was inscribed as follows:—"Presented by past and present members of the E.P.A. to James Lawrence Graydon, of the Middlesex Music Hall, as a memento of twenty-two years' honorary services as secretary.—April 21, 1910."

On the framed and signed vellum was inscribed the following:—

The undersigned past and present members of the Entertainments Protection Association hereby record their appreciation of the untiring and successful services both in the interest of the music-hall industry and of the public of

JAMES LAWRENCE GRAYDON

as Honorary Secretary of the Association for twenty-two years. Presented with an inscribed gold watch at a banquet held at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly, London, W., on the 21st day of April, 1910.

Mr. T. S. Dickie proposed the toast of "The Chairman," to which Mr. Polden gaily replied; and Mr. Alfred Butt, in proposing "The Health of Mr. Dickie," spoke in flattering terms of that gentleman's exertions in connection with the hon. secretaryship of the testimonial. Mr. Rutland and Mr. Walter de Frece also spoke.

Mabel Sinclair, England's premier lady ventriloquist, after a long and highly-successful tour in the provinces, returns to London for the season, opening May 2 at the Empire, Hackney.

Mr. Lawrence, stage-manager at the Tottenham Palace, and brother to Miss Vesta Victoria, is vacating his position at the end of May on account of ill-health, and will sail for Australia, that climate having been recommended him by his medical adviser. A testimonial is on foot to give him a "send-off."

Three young officers occupied a box at the Opera House, Cork, on Saturday night, and during Mr. Bransby Williams's performance they continually giggled and made very audible remarks. They were most talkative when he was giving his excerpt from *Hamlet*, and consequently he stopped to apply a reprimand. "I am surprised at the conduct of these people in the box," he said, pointing to the three offenders. The audience at once took up the cue, and showed its approval by applauding the actor.

"I regret that I have nothing sufficiently inane in my répertoire to amuse the occupants of the box, but I am pleased to know that the performance I am giving is acceptable to the pit, stalls, circle, and even the gallery," said Bransby Williams. This caused a perfect uproar, but the occupants of the box did not heed it. As Mr. Williams returned to the stage as Shylock, they threw chocolates and caramels on the stage, and at the close of the selection the actor addressed the audience once more. "I know that the gentlemen—if I may be pardoned the word—are not Irish. They are——," (mentioning the regiment).

Here the audience broke in with yells, and made such a demonstration against the occupants of the box that they left their places. Mr. Williams had not been back in his dressing-room many minutes when he was informed that an officer wanted to see him. When shown in, the actor recognised him as one of the three in the box. He had the audacity to ask what Mr. Williams meant by attacking them from the stage.

Hot words followed, and at last Mr. Williams threw him neck and crop out of the room. He continued to blackguard him near the stage entrance, so Mr. Williams invited him to prove that he was a soldier and a man. But the "soldier" fled, much to the amusement of the stage hands. The funny part of it all is that Mr. Williams knows nothing about "bruising" or "boxing."

At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday consent was, on the recommendation of the Building Acts Committee, given to the erection of an iron and glass shelter in front of the Theatre of Varieties, High-road, Balham, in accordance with plans submitted in connection with the application of Mr. B. Crewe on behalf of the Electric Theatres, Ltd.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, the first of the celebrated Russian dancers to capture London, is to have a further opportunity for the expression of her artistic genius in a "Series of Dance Ideals." In these charming and difficult classical movements Mlle. Lydia Kyasht is to have the co-operation of M. Bolm, the principal dancer of the Imperial Opera House, St. Petersburg, who has already been sharing her success in the delightful "Danse des Papillons" in the ballet *East and West*. The introduction of the new dances will in no way affect the ballet. Mlle. Kyasht and M. Bolm will be supported by the highly-trained coryphées of the Empire.

Mr. Benjamin Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank the following:—Arthur H. Burdett (Hippodrome, Boscombe), £2 1s. 8d.; P. C. Rowe (Empire, Swansea), £1 17s.; R. W. Duce (Granville, Walham Green), £1; Harry Slingsby (Empire, Hull), 15s. 6d.; Lewis De Burgh (Hippodrome, Southend), 15s. 3d.; Chas. M. Jones (Tivoli, Dublin), 5s. 4d.; Ernest Bridgen (New Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields), 8s. 2d.; Will A. Jackson (Palace and Hippodrome, Cardiff), 15s.; Sidney W. Winter (Royal Hippodrome, Eastbourne), 5s. Also Alex. Galley (Empire, Leeds), E. McCormick (Empire, Greenock), George Weldon (Hippodrome and Circus of Varieties, Dewsbury), for their kind help to the Home Fund. The Secretary will be pleased to receive the contents of the collecting-boxes before the end of April, that being the end of the financial year. The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday next, May 5, at noon, at the Empire, Camberwell.

A revised version of the revue, *Hullo! London!*, was given at the Empire Theatre on Wednesday evening. A new attraction to appear on Monday next is Le Petit Roberto, the remarkable boy instrumentalist.

Collins's is now under the general-management of Mr. Arthur L. Williams, who has a hard-working lieutenant in Mr. G. Ivor Sprake, the acting-manager. During the short time the hall has been under their command it seems to have gained much of its old popularity.

With the real opening of the London season, Mr. Alfred Butt is surely to be congratulated on the engagement of Mlle. Pavlova, N. Mordkin, and the other talented dancers who have come from Russia to show us what dancing really means. The stall area at present might be compared to that of the Grand opera, so distinguished are the visitors. On Monday Miss Margaret Cooper returns to her first variety home, and brings with her a new and varied répertoire of songs, of which much is expected.

David Bliss, a music-hall agent, of Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, appeared before Mr. Marsham at Bow-street on Tuesday to an adjourned summons charging him with committing wilful and corrupt perjury when giving evidence in Westminster County Court during the hearing of an action between the United Counties Theatres, Ltd., and Messrs. Ferguson and Mack, comedians. It was alleged that the defendant had falsely sworn that he had not released the comedians in question from an engagement to appear at the Hippodrome, Devonport.

The case for the prosecution having been concluded, Mr. Marshall Hall submitted that there was no case for him to answer. The most that the prosecution had proved was that in the multiplicity of his engagements the defendant might have made a mistake as to whether he had, on the telephone, released these comedians or not. The prosecution had not put Messrs. Ferguson and Mack into the witness-box. Why was that? Because if they gave evidence it would be seen at once that this was a prosecution, not by them, but by the Variety Artists' Federation. Ferguson and Mack did not say that the defendant had committed perjury, and had been performing for him since.

The defendant had come into conflict with the Federation, and aroused their animosity. It had been indicated from the first, on the part of the defendant, that this was not a prosecution by Messrs. Ferguson and Mack, so there was no excuse for not calling them. There was no evidence that there had been anything of a wilful and corrupt nature. At the most there was a suggestion that the defendant had made a mistake. He (counsel) suggested that the mistake had been made by others who had given evidence in the case, and not by the defendant.

Mr. Marsham said the real point he had to consider was whether wilful and corrupt perjury had been committed. His own view of the matter was that no jury would consider that there had been. Mistakes had been made, no doubt, but there was not sufficient evidence to put the defendant on his trial for wilful and corrupt perjury, and the summons would be dismissed.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following: Mrs. Charles Coborn (collecting), 2s. 10d.; Miss Dolly Harmer (collecting in South Africa), £1 0s. 6d. Miss Irene Rose writes that her guessing competition, "Teddy Bear's Name" ("Hugh") has been won by Mr. Harry French, Knowle, Bristol.

A case of considerable importance to the profession was heard at the Sheriff's Court held at Preston on Wednesday, when the jury awarded Walter Mould, the manager of the New Hippodrome, Accrington, £50 damages for slander against Samuel A. Mewha, the stage manager of the Accrington Garrick Amateur Dramatic company. Defendant did not appear, and was not legally represented.

Mr. Rowland, for the plaintiff, submitted that the slander was of a most cruel nature. The Hippodrome was taken by the Dramatic Society for a performance of *The Silver King*, from March 14 to March 19 last, upon sharing terms. Upon the first evening Mr. Mould, after checking the receipts and the tickets with Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Upton, the secretary and treasurer of the Dramatic Society, presented his return of the takings, which amounted to £19. The secretary and treasurer were perfectly satisfied with the return, but upon it being shown to the defendant he remarked: "What, only £19? The house is blued. We are being diddled."

Defendant continued the accusations, and the directors of the Hippodrome, who live in the Midlands, hearing of them, sent for Mr. Mould, and told him he must clear himself or clear out. The slander was repeated to the committee of the dramatic society. Plaintiff held a very responsible position, and his livelihood depended upon his honesty and integrity. Therefore he asked the jury not to assess the damages at a frivolous figure, because that would undo the good which would otherwise ensue. Plaintiff bore out counsel's opening statement, and the jury, after a short deliberation, assessed the damages at the figure named.

The Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. met on Wednesday afternoon at the offices, the following being present:—Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), J. Miller Northern, Jeff Vendome, Arthur Rigby, Tom J. Morton, John Alexander, Jack Crawley, Harry Bancroft, J. H. Milburn, Charles Coborn, and Bert Williams. Besides the usual routine business, the question of the Glasgow branch was further discussed, and a new agent appointed in Mr. Cockcroft, Mason's Arms, Barrow. The weekly statement passed showed twenty-seven new members and a cash total of £49 11s.

Frequenters of Collins's in the years that are gone were familiar with the form of Mr. Frank M. Nilen, who made himself very popular "in front." He was then in the first blush of youth, and relinquishing his connection with the "halls" became manager of the Rockingham, a large house in the vicinity of the Elephant and Castle. He has since become a licensed victualler, and last year was chosen Governor of the Incorporated Society and Licensed Victuallers' School. At the conclusion of his year of office last week Mr. Nilen was specially entertained at dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, and presented with a service of plate.

The presentation was made by Mr. W. R. Coysh, Mr. Nilen's successor in office. From the inscription engraved on the silver salver we learn that the articles of plate were presented by the Incorporated Society of Licensed Victuallers to Mr. Nilen, Governor of the Society, 1909-10, as a mark of their appreciation of the able and energetic manner in which he discharged his duties. In his reply Mr. Nilen said the tangible expression of the Society's appreciation was valued very highly. It was, he thought, a great event in a man's life to enjoy such honour as had been paid to him that evening.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

A WEIGHT has during the last few days been lifted from the shoulders of the lesser music publishing firms of the Metropolis, and they are severally thankful that much worry and thought have been spared them. The master song of the year has forestalled Halley's Comet, and the greatest thing in the air just now beside aeroplanes is the air of Miss Florrie Forde's newest number, "Flanagan."

THE same great artist's song sensation, "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" had been thought the last word in popular song-writing, but the author and composer—Messrs. Will Letters and C. W. Murphy—were ill content to rest on even so splendid a laurel, and so on the 20th inst. they handed to her the precious M.S. of their *magnum opus*, and on the Friday, at the fine house at Balham, the music hall was nearly wrenched from its foundations by the chorus. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

MR. FRED ELTON, the entertainer at the piano, whose song-scena "On Board of an Ocean Liner" is now an admired feature on every programme in which it features, has just been secured for the ensuing five years by Messrs. Moss and Stoll. His new "rubber boom" song, "Tahiti," promises to be a craze, and both he and Barnes, Weston, and Maurice Scott are to be heartily congratulated. The publishers are Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, who on May 9, at the London Coliseum, will soothe ruffled Cockaigne—whose umbrage at his long absence from town is pardonable—by singing his latest eye-opener, "O blow the scenery on the railway," has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day, who are also placing the "railway" item on the market, a laughable song, from the practised pen of T. W. Connor, entitled "The girl with the rooster in her hat."

MR. W. J. CHURCHILL, whose merry quips and jests are just now amusing London, and who a few days since was seen in Charing Cross-road expatiating to an inquiring Cockney song-writer on the delights of fishing, has just had accepted by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication his current song, "Faith, hope, and charity." It is by W. H. Wallis and Fred E. Terry, and is fully worthy of the reputation of the writers.

DENHAM HARRISON has composed and Richard Elton written a song, which Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing under the title of "A cargo of love." Messrs. Terry and Bentley are producing the same.

MR. JOE ARCHER'S latest song, "It's a mad, mad world," is by Robert P. Weston and Fred J. Barnes, and will shortly be published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. FRED HASTINGS, whose "Tommy Dodd, I'm laying the odds," is one of the most talked-of humorous songs of the time, has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day his laughable ditty "Beastly awfully jolly, don't you know." It is written and composed by himself.

GEORGE STEVEN, a writer whose songs are highly esteemed, has, in conjunction with Henry E. Pether, produced a charming ballad, named "Shine, star, shine." No more desirable conjunction of ability and genius could be possible in the world of popular song, and Messrs. Francis and Day, in securing the item for publication, have only followed the precedent set by themselves of obtaining the best of the pick of the song market.

To look at George Arthurs, the popular writer, if one were a stranger, one would settle it in one's mind that a man of his scholarly and refined bearing could be guilty of a poetic song nor would one be wrong. Notwithstanding that more than one of Wilkie Bard's best comic creations emanated from Mr. Arthurs' brain, he can and has done serious and beautiful work, and his graceful song, "There is an old English garden," which Messrs. Francis and Day are placing on the market, will rank high in the estimation of people of culture. With him in the song is Alf. J. Lawrance, who is, as ever, melody personified.

A PRETTY song, called "The garden of love," has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford. Other numbers the famous house is producing are "Dennis, dear," by Weston, Barnes, and Scott, and Miss Rosie Lloyd's arch song, "Are you looking for a girl like me?" by those past masters of the art of writing, E. W. Rogers and Orlando Powell.

MISS FLORRIE GILLMORE has made a tremendous hit with her chorus song, entitled "Sammy played the saxophone," and has written in enthusiastic strain to her publishers, Messrs. Francis and Day, anent its success. The number is by Charles Wilmott and Maurice Scott.

AT noon to-day (Saturday) at Euston a number of friends will assemble to bid farewell to Mr. Louis Dreyfus, of the great New York house of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter. Mr. Dreyfus's visit to Europe has been fraught with pleasant memories and matters of satisfactory and high import to the solid structure in America of which he is so worthy a pillar.

MR. DAVID DAY, on Saturday evening last, at the Queen's (Small) Hall, was for a time chairman at the concert organised for the benefit of the widow of the late W. M. Davies, who had for many years been connected with the music trade as a "knight of the road," notably with Messrs. Ascherberg. Every great publishing house was represented, and a splendid array of talent appeared, including Miss Madge Temple, who was accompanied on the grand pianoforte by her talented husband, Mr. Herman E. Darewski. A financial success accrued, which was in no small measure due to the strenuous work put in by the hon. secretary, Mr. R. S. Strauss.

MR. LAWRENCE BARCLAY, who is making tremendous strides in his profession, has in his song "My wife's run away with the baker"—a song which Messrs. Francis and Day have published—a number that combines with funny words an infectious chorus. His forthcoming number, "Cuthbert, call Clarence at once!" is by John L. St. John, and will be voted a fine specimen of the art of the jovial young pilot, who has done, and is doing, such yeoman service as a song-writer for such high lights as Mr. Robey and others.

MR. JOE TABRAR'S song "For nights and nights and nights" (though similiar in a way to his other song, "Months and months and months" as to title) looks like eclipsing in public favour even that rage, which lost nothing in the safe hands of Mr. Jack Smiles. Mr. Syd Walker is singing the newer number.

MR. FRANK POOLE, the energetic manager of Barrasford's Hippodrome, Sheffield, has written and composed a waltz-song, under the title of "Empress of Home, Sweet Home," a pretty and tuneful melody, which has been harmonised and orchestrated by Mr. J. G. Hahn, conductor of the Hippodrome orchestra. It has been played as the overture each evening this week with marked success. Both gentlemen are to be congratulated.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

"La saison Russe" is in full "flight" at the Palace, and Russian art will probably loom as large in our public amusements during the next three months as Japanese. Mr. Alfred Butt has certainly introduced us to several more or less classical dancers, but nothing in the way of terpsichorean art presented at the Palace has ever approached the delightful interpretations of classical music by Mlle. Anna Pavlovna and M. Michael Mordkin. In writing of the lady, who is in the early spring of her youth, we may well adapt the lines of Milton and say, "Haste thee, nymph; come trip it as you go, and dance to strains of linked sweetness long drawn out," and also add Shakespeare's well-known lines from *The Winter's Tale*, "When you do dance, I wish you a wave o' th' sea, that you might ever do nothing but that." In the opening *pas de deux* arranged by Michael Mordkin that danseur joins Mlle. Pavlovna in an "Adagio" by Bleichman, both artists giving a fine interpretation of the dreamy rhythm of the music; but it is the Automne Bacchanale in which their dramatic expression is so advantageously displayed; and a very remarkable example of their art is the "Valse Caprice," by Rubinstein, in which they obtain special honours. Their eight companions are perhaps at their best in Liszt's Rhapsodie Hongroise (No. 2), of which the fine character dancing of Mlle. Eduardova and M. Monakoff is the best feature. We often hear it said that the charms of ballet are waning; but it depends so much on how it is done. At the Palace the fashionable crowds in the stalls give enthusiastic welcome to two of the most gifted dancers that have been seen on the London boards since the days of Lucille Grahn, Cerito, and Taglioni.

Mr. Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, who, we believe, is fulfilling his first engagement at the Palace, may be congratulated on his great success. He has very much improved his entertainment since his recent stay in America. He has a capital skit on operatic singers, the verse being witty and the music lively. His whistling and mimicry of Harry Lauder and Chirgwin are still popular features of an entertainment that is warmly acclaimed. Riley's athletic fox-terriers are equal to very remarkable feats in the way of somersault, and the final football match is a screamer. Miss Beatrice Allen has a skating song, which she sings in fascinating style; the Palace Girls are as chic and charming as ever in their dance; and the violin playing of the lady known as La Contadina evokes considerable applause. The Great Goldin still leads the way in lightning illusions, which include the creation of a fully-furnished bedroom from an empty cabinet, the fascinating Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli playing the part of the sleeping beauty in peignoir. Bromley and Fontein in their entertainment *The Man Behind the Music Stand* repeat their former success, and keep the house in a state of merriment, and Selbo and Lily Hayes, comedienne, also entertain. The Bioscope is presenting films of Mr. Grahame White's great aeroplane flight, and a very interesting domestic subject, illustrated with Kinemacolor effects, is Choosing the Wall Paper.

BOW PALACE.

The current programme here is a particularly interesting one, and includes the dramatic episode *A Divorced Woman*, presented by Fred Maxwell and company. Mr. Fred Maxwell plays Mateo with all his accustomed strength and finish. Miss Margaret Watson is particularly good as the divorced woman Stella Raby, acting throughout with intense emotion and true womanly feeling. The part of Marie Alleyn, the "villainess" of the piece, is in the capable hands of Miss Minnie Sadler. Good work is also done by Mr. Leonard Harrison, Mr. Fred Bailey, and little Miss Grace Warden.

Barney Armstrong is seen in his very best form, which means that he is decidedly funny. Able assistance is rendered him by little Kelly. Their simultaneous song and dance act is a "scream" from beginning to end, and the house literally rocks with laughter. Tom Hulme is good in his "Girl Medley" song, and has some very good stories and humorous patter.

Bromley and Fontein amused us very much with their bright and breezy display, and the clever fooling while the lady is singing "Il Bacio" creates much laughter. George James sings "Mine's all right, how's yours?" and "The old high hat"; Elsie Kedward dances well; and both Guy Ryder and Connie Duprez have good songs. The Ten Dixie Girls have a very pretty song scena in "The Silver Coon," the dances being particularly attractive. One of the troupe has a fine number in "Somebody loves you, dear," which she sings in taking style. Will De Shara's little Cherub, comedienne and dancer, and the usually good Palace pictures are also in the bill.

THE HIPPODROME.

On Monday, April 25, Madame Réjane and company in a selection from Victorien Sardou's drama,

"MADAME SANS GENE."

La Maréchale Lefebvre .....MME. REJANE
Napoleon I. .....M. CHAUTARD
Caroline, Queen of Naples ..MME. ARCHAINBAUD
Elisa, Princesse de Lucques ..MLLE D'ARTIGNY
Comte de Neipperg .....M. ALERME
Roustand .....M. DERIVES

It would have been a thousand pities had Mme. Réjane returned to Paris without having given English audiences a taste of her quality as Mme. Sans Gêne, which she played for the first time on the production of Sardou's wonderfully effective drama, at the Paris Vaudeville, on Oct. 27, 1893. The famous French comedienne, who is drawing the most distinguished members of the English nobility to the beautiful house in Cranbourn-street, has selected one of the most crucial and most interesting scenes in the play. The action takes place in the Palace of Compiègne.

Napoleon is in his study, poking the fire, while taking his coffee. The Duke de Rovigo, who has replaced Fouché as Police Minister, informs him that the Comte De Neipperg is about to depart, and this affair being settled satisfactorily, Napoleon sends for his sisters. When left alone with them he forthwith proceeds to "laver son linge sale en famille," as he used to say. He reprimands them for their dissolute conduct, which causes unseemly scandal; the sisters fall out, begin to abuse each other in the Corsican dialect, and the Emperor intervenes in the quarrel in the drollest style, exclaiming in a towering rage, "Basta, Basta!" Sans Gêne is introduced, and the Emperor tells her without preamble that she must agree to a divorce. She refuses point blank, and, bristling up according to her wont, enumerates her services as vivandière—which Napoleon had ignored until then; but the word *blanchisseuse* grates on him. If it were a crime to be a laundress, she gently insinuates, it enabled her at least to give credit to a young officer, whose lodging used to be on the *quatrième étage*, and he still owes her sixty francs. The production of the tattered little bill enables the Emperor to realise the debt that he still owes Mme. la Maréchale, once vivandière and laundress. He is quite disarmed, and when Sans Gêne confesses to a sneaking affection for him, the arbiter of the destinies of Europe shows quite a *tendresse* for the benefactress of his struggling days as a sous-lieutenant. He is taking his leave of her laughingly when, as the door opens, a noise is heard in the corridor, and a man is seen advancing towards the Empress's apartment. Napoleon seizes the imprudent intruder, who is none other than Neipperg. A scuffle ensues, during which the Emperor tears off the Comte's epaulettes. The latter draws his sword, and Napoleon, calling his guard, orders his assailant to be shot at dawn. The De Neipperg incident is not historic, but is the invention of Sardou. Everybody knows that after refusing to accompany her husband to Elba, Marie Louise became De Neipperg's mistress and married him at Napoleon's death, but his appearance at the French court as early as 1810 is an anachronism.

At this period of his career (1810) Napoleon seems to have adopted a brutal attitude towards the gentler sex, and Mme. Réjane makes it quite clear that in her dealings with men the exalted *blanchisseuse* possessed a fine tact. The presentation of the little bill to the great conqueror is done half deprecatingly; and the Emperor becomes the mere man under the blandishments of the born coquette, whose hand he kisses with the true gallantry of a son of Corsica. The scene was perfectly admirable, and its charm irresistible. M. Chautard, who was the Lauriston in the original production in 1893, was responsible for a portrait of Napoleon that for once familiarised the London public with the realities of the greatest historic figure in French history. In the encounter with Neipperg the Emperor's anger was like a tornado. Neither must we omit to praise the fierce impetuosity of the Comte de Neipperg, as presented by M. Alerme, an excellent actor. Mme. Archainband and Mlle. D'Artigny were also well placed as Caroline and Elisa. The interior of the palace at Compiègne was a sumptuously furnished apartment, with an elaborate realisation of the artistic beauty of the period.

A most successful newcomer to the Hippodrome is Miss Lola Lee, who presents a series of dances amply proving her versatility. She is admirably dramatic in a bolero, and looks quite Castilian in her pretty costume. An American danse excentrique is a number that is given with much brio; and when one hears the strains of Offenbach, Miss Lee, by her wonderful dash, brings back to us memories of the days of the Second Empire. Her final number is a Kate Vaughan waltz—an apt revival of the skirt dance of one of the most fascinating performers of the nineteenth century. Sinuously graceful and dream-like is this young dancer in this most expressive revival of a great dancer's methods, and her receptions at every representation have been of a most cordial character.

Mr. Arthur Helmore's lecture on "Mother Hubbard" is about the funniest thing in the programme; and a singer with a fine voice, a good method, and a sense of humour is found in Mr. J. H. Scotland, who gives "Father O'Flynn" and "Dumbledum Day." Mr. Henry Leoni is an artistic Anglo-French chanteur, and the Princess Baratoff is delightful in her chansons, accompanied by her on the guitar.

THE CANTERBURY.

The managerial eye has glistened with satisfaction at the sight of the large audiences that have crowded the Canterbury, and Mr. Ernest Lepard is heartily to be congratulated on the prosperity which is being maintained at the old-established house. Top position in the current bill is occupied by Mr. Joe Peterman and George Ricketts' company in *The Bells of the Orient*, in which tuneful music, plenteous fun, and pretty dancing combine to form an attractive entertainment. Miss Victoria Monks has in the Canterbury one of her chief strongholds, and her welcome on the night of our visit was appropriately warm. Miss Monks, however, could only oblige with one song, excusing herself from further contributions on the ground that she had other engagements to fulfil, and was already half an hour late. Her one song was her latest, that about "Judgment Day," in which an old negro preacher is represented as holding up the day of doom to the evil-doers of his congregation. One does not look for missionary work in the music hall, but if the old darkey's exhortation induces any among the more reprobate of the audience to count the reckoning it will have been achieved by methods certainly no less edifying than those adopted by parading the streets with tambourine and big drum. Apart from that, the song is greatly relished by those who enjoy a rousing refrain.

Chorus songs have obtained for Miss Florence Cooper enviable popularity, to which her rendering of "The stars are angel faces" has principally contributed. Miss Cooper has a strong and cultivated voice, and she sings in a fashion that quite wins the hearts of the audience. A first-class favourite is also Mr. Gus Garrick, whose "Tit-bits from the halls" are selected with a keen sense of the humorous. He satirises the lazy comic and the Scotch comedian with hilarious results, and his burlesque danseuse again puts the audience into roars of merriment.

Boys in brown might well be the title of the Harvard Sextet, who indulge in concerted singing and dancing. One of the young men, who smartly sings a song which is accompanied by a boot obbligato, earns particular favour. Expert dancing is also furnished by the O'Gorman Brothers, who arouse enthusiasm by their smart stepping; Carrie Laurie's juveniles are as precocious and harmonious as ever; and contributions to the programme are made by Celia Retford, comedienne; Haig and Novel, in comedy act; Gwen Howard, comedienne; Will Driscoll, swell comedian; Carson Hicks, singer and eccentric dancer; the Pasquali Bros., equilibrists; Viviana and Co. in *The Toyshop*; and Walker and Lake, patter purveyors; while The Final for the English Cup is vividly portrayed on Ruffell's Bioscope.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The vogue of the rooster play has reached the halls, and the current bill at the Metropolitan is distinguished by a satirical sketch, in one scene, by Mr. Andrew Stanley, entitled *Cock-a-Doodle-Doo*, which was originally produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, under the auspices of Mr. Peter Davey. The scene of the broodings and crowings of these wonderful fowl is by a convolvulus-decked hedge, bordering the farmyard. Theodore Roosterfeldt is a gallinaceous personage, who has set quite a value upon himself, and will not submit to the muttering discontent of his chief partner Christabel, a broody hen. Incidentally, Theodore has been attracted by the beauty of a young hen pheasant, and even lends a sympathetic ear to the recital of the trials of Arabella, the duck, whose opinions are naturally sage, and who has a violent antipathy to green peas. The solos and concerted pieces are bright and tuneful, and the "business" throughout amusing. The dialogue, too, should lend itself to further comic development, and there should certainly be plenty of engagements in store for this capital *pièce d'occasion*. The dresses are admirably fashioned, and the trifle is well acted.

Chirgwin looms largely in the bill. On the night of our visit he told us that "Bill Bailey had come home"—a complimentary reference to Manager Bailey, who, after an absence of many years, has come back to a new and glorified Met. amid a chorus of congratulations. It is in such little confidences as these that the White-eyed Kaffir rejoices, and with his beloved fiddle as accompaniment he sings "My fiddle is my sweetheart" with great acceptance. In his patter he touches on the topics of the hour, and in a word maintains those cordial relations with his listeners which have resulted from a successful career of at least three decades.

Miss May Moore Duprez disports herself as the "jolly Dutch girl," and her entertainment, which is highly popular, is strongly reminiscent of another lady who goes in for sauce Hollandaise. Cliff Ryland is generous in his quaint patter, which has all the flavour as well as the smartness of the Yank, and though Cliff has been quite long enough on this side to even be guilty of Cockneyisms, he is happily able to sport humour of the best Transatlantic brand, and very acceptable it is. Miss Maud Prenton has a capital voice and an impressive style; the Sisters Hall are hardly out of their novitiate, but have tuneful voices, which might be turned to good account with judicious training; the Creo Brothers present acrobatics in novel fashion; Miss Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten Boys and Girls are popular; Angus Strong has a good voice, which will be all the better for further training and attention; and Paul Cavalli and Ruffell's Bioscope are also announced on the bill.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

Standing room only, and very little of that, was the order when we visited this hall on Monday evening, and Mr. Albert H. Adams, the courteous manager, was hard pressed to find room for all. The chief place on the bill is filled by T. E. Dunville, who has splendid material to work with, and he keeps all in a fine humour. His first song "Rub it in" is a certain laughter-raiser, and his policeman number, with its racy patter, caused immense amusement, and an encore being demanded, Mr. Dunville essayed a few remarks on the Seven Ages of Man, which were very full of wisdom and wit.

That diverting sketch *Toplitsky* is being presented by Hayman and Franklin's company, and it goes as well as ever. The story of Abraham Levy and his terror at the supposed approach of the end of the world never fails to raise shouts of laughter, and it is briskly played by the company engaged. That well-known comedian Dan Thomas is giving us another of his "dame" impersonations; this time it is an old-time ballet dancer, who has long since retired and revives old memories of her halcyon days. Mr. Thomas is particularly good, and infuses much humour, as well as a touch of sadness, into the song. A very dashing comedienne is Miss Daisy Yates, whose talents deserved a longer turn than she was allotted to give, for her appearance as a coster was very smart and a clever piece of work. The Whitworth Trio give a clever cycling turn, the youngest member of the troupe being particularly clever. Arthur Reece is always sure of a big welcome for his chorus songs, and he goes splendidly on this occasion, notably with his number "Good-bye to bachelor days."

T. B. Vaughan and John Lawson's company are playing *The Bosun's Mate*, which is, we believe, adapted from a story by W. W. Jacobs. It is a bright and breezy little sketch and capitally played, the actor who plays the amorous Bosun being decidedly good. A young lady with a future before her is Miss Marjorie Laurence, a pretty and dainty damsel, with a tuneful voice, who can also dance in the most delightful manner. Miss Laurence is very smart in her military costume and scores with "D'Arcy of the Guards." Lillian May is another young lady who makes a striking success with her song, which she sings most charmingly. Jack and Willie give a neat balancing act; and Cestria, a clever acrobat, also indulges in some comic juggling. The Eight Sunrays soon dance themselves into favour, and give a fine display of their art. A neat and clever act is that of Dunn and Reano. The one partner is very clever on the rings, while his mate, a very droll fellow, is also an accomplished performer in

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

the same line. That well-known hero of fiction Sexton Blake is being portrayed here by Miss Carlotta de Yonson's company, and on this occasion the special case the detective is engaged on is that of *The Kidnapped King*. It is very exciting, and capitally played by Mr. C. D. Carlyle as Sexton Blake, who acts with his accustomed ability. The Bioscope, with Cup Final films, concludes.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The Holborn Empire is doing its usual big business this week, and Mr. Leslie Conroy, the manager, is smiling in broader style than ever as he directs the throngs of people entering and leaving the house.

There are seventeen items in the programme, but the one calling for most attention undoubtedly is Rabbotini, with his international band. Rabbotini indulges in much of the style Sousa and Reano have accustomed us to when conducting the conventional and well-known selections. His humorous medley, in which all his bandsmen revolt, go on strike, and walk off the stage, leaving him to face the audience as best he can, is very laughable. The men, it seems, are tired of playing nothing but classical music, and so, to get them back, he allows them one and all to return, each man playing his favourite melody. The band is an extremely good one, smartly disciplined, well dressed, and there is much laughable business done that is new to combinations of this particular kind.

Mr. Berte Coote brings along a laughable sketch, *A Lamb on Wall-street*, and plays the part of the "lamb" in excellent style. Miss Ada Russell as Eleanor Belding is a very vigorous worker, and looks decidedly charming. Mr. Walter King, who chooses to be known as "the doleful comedian," has a great deal of patter quite to the liking of the Holborn patrons. The Chanticleer Girls are nine pretty damsels in red, whose dancing is extremely good. They are followed by the pastmistress in the art of making a cyc'e do anything wished by the fair rider, Minnie Kaufmann. Minnie fully keeps up to standard the great reputation the name of Kaufmann has established for everything that is wonderful in "wheel stunts."

That bright and vivacious comedienne, Ella Retford, is a very popular number in Mr. Conroy's programme, and contributes her latest successes. Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait keep the house in merry mood during the time allotted for their turn. In "A Man of Spirit" Mr. Cooper poses as a military man with the greatest of success, his amusing antics, combined with the vivacious work of Miss Lait, going to make a very finished act, of which we should see a great deal in future variety programmes elsewhere.

There is, in fact, not an indifferent turn in the remainder of the bill, which includes Edna Latonne, a male impersonator; Milt Wood, who dances in wooden shoes with a chair; Chinko, a juggler whose youth makes his act all the more remarkable; the Cavalotti Bros., smart instrumentalists; Natalia and Diana on the trapeze; the Pasquali tumblers; and that remarkable football enthusiast, Sammy Shields.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

In an exceptionally strong programme Phil Ray is, perhaps, the bright particular star, and his breezy methods are distinctly appreciated. That lively pair the Sisters Allen sing about "Every morning I meet Rosie," finishing with a spirited step dance; Cyclumina is certainly a wonder on wheels, his many varied tricks showing neatness and ease. The performance, which is warmly applauded, is considerably enhanced by special electrical scenic effects.

A capital little song scena, entitled *Boys in Camp*, is presented by Sable Fern and company. The setting of the scene is a boy scouts' camp, which makes a very effective background for the different songs which are given. Sable Fern has several, the best of which are "Teach the rising generation," "Keep Whistling" (a very taking number), and "Only a boy." Mr. J. C. Russell, who enacts the rôle of an old veteran, sings "When the camp fire is burning brightly," and three of the boys have a stirring melody in "Be prepared," which they sing in capital style. The scena is a very pretty one, well produced, with good scenic effects, and going with a decided swing from start to finish. It should prove an acceptable item in all programmes.

Young and Evans, the "Yiddisher bhoys," infuse plenty of "go" into their turn, and quickly get on good terms with the audience. They have one good song with a catchy chorus, and heaps of smart patter of quite a clever and humorous nature. Gicardo, the boy juggler, no matter whether manipulating bottles, hats, billiard balls, or plates, is quite at home.

The dramatic sketch, *The Midnight London Express*, is presented by Brien McCullough and company, and proves very exciting. As the old signalman Mr. Brien McCullough has a part that suits him admirably. Miss Mabel Mannering acts with feeling as Laura Deene, whilst the necessary manliness to the character of Captain Jack Hanlan is given by Mr. C. F. Collings. The humorous villain, Krymer, has a worthy exponent in Mr. Gerald Kennedy. Minor parts are taken by Miss Nelly Nelson and Mr. Sidney Cawthorne.

Songs by Harry Levaine, comedian, Johnny Walker, comedianon, and Ethel Pearce, in her old favourite, "By the mill," together with some very interesting Bioscope subjects, complete the programme. We were pleased, on the occasion of our visit, to see Mr. Morris Abrahams back again in managerial harness, after his long illness.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Manager T. S. Mayne has an excellent all-round bill this week, and he and his worthy assistant, Mr. Harold Nuttall—who, by the way, has just recovered from a serious illness—are given plenty to do coping with the substantial audiences that attend twice nightly. In the current programme drama and sentiment are conspicuous by their absence, giving way to all comedy and the lighter side of the business. At the top we have Jake Friedman's *Happy Holland*, so frequently reviewed in these columns that to even mention its popularity is bordering on the superfluous. Suffice it to say that as the picturesque Dutch scena grows older it loses none of its brightness or entertaining powers. The genial Jake, of course, shines brightly in his quaint part, and has introduced much new humour into the piece. Tottenham likes *Happy Holland* exceedingly. Sterling and Love—happily-conceived names!—introduce us to a new act—of course, instrumental. It has the merit of being original and clever, and, in consequence, interesting. Sterling and Love are single—this, of course, in the story—and rent adjacent flats. Each is in turn annoyed at the "atrocious" musical practice of the other, and some rare fun ensues when the pair try to play each other off the earth. Eventually they complain to the landlord, and demand a change of rooms. He agrees, and transfers them, but when they come to take possession they find they have simply changed over rooms. So far, they have not made each other's acquaintance, but when the concert starts again they quickly come to grips, and harmony, both in music and mind, follows a brief explanation. So all ends happily. *Discord and Harmony* is the appropriate title of this act, which should serve Sterling and Love as a successful number for a long time to come. It received a great reception on the night of our visit. Hughes and Elliot contribute their always refined singing and dancing act, and come in for their full share of praise. Haines and Borthwick, with their farcical sketch, *Half a Dollar*, and a capital company are not long before they compel, by their screaming situations, the audience to get their hands together in approbation. Still more comedy is presented in the turn of Vinlana and company, in their Toyshop scena. A dainty act is this, which served to introduce some excellent dances. Lily Hayes, charmingly arrayed in rose-pink silk, soon sings and dances herself into favour. Her song "Mandalay" is brightly rendered, and followed by some neat stepping. Dan Conroy submits "Sullivan, that's him," and his listeners find plenty to laugh at in his turn. Time permits of his doing but one number here. More would be welcome. Miss Bessie Slaughter has appeared during the week up to Friday, when indisposition claimed her, and her place in the bill was filled by Miss Jessie Burgh, an accomplished violinist. Her solos were extensively appreciated. Len Hale, in comic song and dance; Hanid Alexander, a bright little lady with a gift of entertaining at the piano; and a full twenty minutes' pictures projected by the Bioscope completes a sound entertainment.

"JIMMY THE FEARLESS."

A Sketch in Five Scenes, Produced at the Stratford Empire, on Monday, April 25, by Chas. Baldwin and F. O'Neill, under the direction of Fred Karno.

Jimmy ..... Mr. Charles Chaplin
Jimmy's Father ..... Mr. Arthur Dandoe
Jimmy's Mother ..... Miss Emily Seaman
Alkali Ike ..... Mr. Bert Williams
Washti Wampa ..... Mr. A. Austin
Bartender ..... Mr. E. Stone
Gwendoline ..... Mrs. B Williams

Mr. Fred Karno's latest sketch, *Jimmy the Fearless; or, the Boy 'Ero*, is for this prolific producer a new departure, and is probably intended as an up-to-date skit against the pernicious "penny dreadful" habit, which the present-day youngster is wisely forsaking for the Boy Scout movement. Thus it would be unfair to make a comparison between it and the highly-popular sketches with which Mr. Karno's name is associated.

Jimmy, returning home late at night, much to his parents' annoyance, polishes off the supper left for him, and when comfortably seated alone in the room, he dives into the doings of his favourite hero. Sleep soon overtakes the lad, and anon he becomes part of the action. The scene is transferred to the saloon of a settlers' camp in the Wild West; bushrangers and Indians abound; pistols are fired galore; a lonely maiden is kidnapped and brought in by the bushranger chief, and is rescued single-handed by the valiant Jimmy, who subsequently, with the aid of friendly Redskins, vanquishes the robbers, in addition to defeating their chief in a duel with swords. Once again the scene is changed to Jimmy's home, ten years later, which sees his parents being turned out penniless. Enter the now properous Jimmy, and the homestead is saved. As even dreams have a finality, so the end sees Jimmy awakened from his slumbers by a wrathful father, who puts the would-be hero across his knee and soundly trounces him. The sketch is capitally played by the members of Mr. Karno's company, and it is exceedingly well mounted.

Mr. Ryder Davis, has been fitted with a new song entitled "When the old times come again," by Harry Luck.

"PIPPINS' MOTHER."

A Dramatic Sketch, Produced for the First Time at Collins's, on Monday, April 25.

Pippins ..... Miss Lloyd Archer
Mrs. Marsh ..... Miss Evelyn Shaw
Bob Marsh ..... Mr. Frank Breunell

Miss Lloyd Archer, who for five years past has taken boy parts in many of our leading theatre productions, has renounced the lengthy play for its smaller brother, the music-hall sketch, and not without success. She has secured a piece which, although only containing three characters and playing for about twenty minutes, contains a plot sufficiently strong and exciting to hold the close attention of an audience from beginning to end. Pippins is a rough newspaper boy who has been adopted by Mrs. Marsh, much to the disgust of her son Bob, a ne'er-do-well, just home after a term of imprisonment. Whilst selling his papers Pippins has been fortunate enough to find a purse containing five pounds which he honestly declares he will return to the owner directly he sees him. This does not quite suit the requirements of Bob, who would rather take it back himself, or, in other words, keep the money for his own use. However, his wish is not gratified, so when Pippins hangs his coat on the hook Bob extracts the money from the purse and places the contents in his own pocket. At Mrs. Marsh's suggestion Pippins agrees that the find shall be taken to the police-station, and when the purse is handed over to the good lady it is found that the money has disappeared. She then suspects Pippins of evil intentions and orders him from the house. He goes, but directly afterwards she regrets her action, and sends her son Bob after him. In the meantime the newspaper lad returns and swears his innocence, and retribution quickly follows in the wake of the erring Bob. He is shortly after carried in, having received fatal injuries by being knocked down by a motor. The missing money drops from his pocket, and the guilt is placed upon the shoulders of the proper culprit.

Much praise is due to Miss Lloyd Archer for the energetic manner in which she discharges her duties. As Pippins her acting is distinctly powerful and wonderfully impressive. Miss Evelyn Shaw is decidedly good and particularly motherly as Mrs. Marsh, and Mr. Frank Breunell scores a success as the callous Bob Marsh. The playlet is extremely well staged, is cordially received, and should have a long run.

Owing to her success at the London Hippodrome, Miss Lola Lee, the charming dancer, has been retained by Mr. Oswald Stoll for another fortnight at that house.

The following are the latest quotations of music-hall shares:—Alhambra, 1½; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; Gaiety, 1½; London Pavilion (5), 3½; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empires (5), 4½; Oxford (5), 6½; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1; Tivoli, New (5), 6½.

"IN THE SHADE OF THE GUILLOTINE."

An Original, Dramatic, and Musical Sketch, Produced at the Standard, Victoria, on Monday, April 25.

Paul Trevor ..... Mr. Arthur Moss
Marie Lablache ..... Miss Lilian Ramford
Gabrielle de Varville, disguised as Gaston Dubois ..... Miss Mabel Emley

Scene, Gaston Dubois' apartment, Paris, during the French Revolution.

There is undoubtedly a glut of French revolutionary sketches to be seen at the variety theatres just now, and to the already long list on Monday last, at the Standard, was added a nice little dramatic and musical incident, entitled *In the Shade of the Guillotine*.

One of the reasons probably why stories of this period are selected for presentation is the effective mode of dress that prevailed at the time, and the opportunities it gives to-day of making a good stage picture. In the sketch under review the scene was undoubtedly a good one, and in many respects novel.

Gaston Dubois poses as a director of music, but he is in reality Gabrielle de Varville, who intends, the very evening on which the story opens, to return to England. But "he" has counted without Marie Lablanche, one of "his" best pupils, falling not only in love with "his" art, but also the director of music as well. Just as Gaston is about to leave "his" rooms and Paris, Marie is announced and entreats the professor to give her another lesson. Thinking it the quickest way to get rid of the girl, Gaston sits down at the piano and plays a very brilliant overture. Miss Mabel Emley, who takes the part of Gaston, is to be complimented on her fine execution of an undoubtedly difficult number, and also on her forceful acting. Now Paul Trevor is an English squire who loves Gabrielle de Varville very dearly, and, disguised as one of the revolutionaries, has insisted on accompanying her when she journeys to England and safety. As Marie is declaring her passion for the supposed man, Paul comes forward, and a declaration is made by Gabrielle as to her absolute identity, and the reason she is in Paris masquerading as a music teacher. Further revelations are made by the unhappy girl to the effect that to get to Paris and save her brother's fortune she had even surrendered her honour. Paul, her lover, shrinks from her on hearing the avowal, and seeing this Gabrielle begs him to shoot her. This, to everyone's surprise, he does, and the curtain descends.

Apart from the last incident, which one could wish might be in happier vein, the little sketch is very interesting and well played by the three actors concerned, and each merited the hearty applause obtained.

On Thursday, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Nina, the daughter of Mr. Henry Tozer, of Brookdene, Catford, the popular director of the Syndicate Halls, was married to Mr. Hubert Barham, of Sidcup.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

MR. JACK SMILES. *The Popular Comedian.*
FISH SAUCE.

MISS ALICE TREMAYNE (*Mr. Harry Claff's "Demon and the Fairy."*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have certainly secured a star of the first magnitude in Miss Ada Reeve, who, on Monday next, commences a provincial tour of the Stoll halls at the Empire, Liverpool, and on her opening night will specially produce two new songs, published by the Arthur-street firm—to wit, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there!" a sparkling comedy chorus number, by John P. Harrington and John Neat, and "Foolish questions," by William Lee and A. Baldwin Sloane. Miss Reeve is also featuring two other Feldman numbers throughout her entire tour, viz., "Nobody knows—nobody cares" and "I wonder who's kissing her now?"

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have been the recipients of a letter from the famous chocolate-coloured coon, Mr. G. H. Elliott, anent the phenomenal success that has attended his rendering of that melodious and ear-haunting song, from the joint pens of Edgar, Lawrance, and Gifford, "Moon, moon, moon," at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, this week, where the number has been loudly acclaimed. On his return to town, early in May, this song and his great number, "By the light of the silvery moon," another Feldman publication, will be his two metropolitan hostages to fortune.

Miss Clarice Mayne, at the Palace, Halifax, this week, is repeating her London success with the two Feldman numbers, "I'm longing for someone to love me" and "Georgie took me walking in the park," both by Ballard Macdonald and Jas. W. Tate, which are nightly received with enthusiastic delight.

Mr. Mark Sheridan expresses himself highly delighted with the success of his new comedy chorus number, "We're miles away from home," by Will Letters, on its "trial trip" at the Euston Palace, and will be featuring it in town next week. The publishers of this worthy successor to the other great Sheridan "winner," "I do like to be beside the seaside," Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., now have this sparkling song in the Press, and it is safe to augur much pantomime popularity for it.

For alfresco purposes this year Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are offering an exceptionally fine budget of winners, and those troupes who have not yet had a selection of the Arthur-street firm's offerings in this department may be recommended to make speedy application for them. The outstanding tit-bit of the present season is indubitably that fascinating song "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," a number which should be even more ubiquitous at the seaside than it was in pantomime. Other really fine numbers for pierrot business are "Beautiful garden of roses," "By the light of the silvery moon," "Moon, moon, moon," "My sweet garden queen," "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," "Come by the drum in the big brass band," "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" "Do you miss me in the dear homeland?" "Ev'ry girl loves a military man," "They can't find Kelly," and that screamingly funny song of Jack Pleasant's, "Fetch John Willie."

Messrs. Feldman and Co., being desirous of fittingly advertising all seaside entertainers featuring the firm's songs during the present season, earnestly request all troupes singing the Feldman songs to advise the firm as speedily as possible of all numbers being used, together with the names of the individual singers who are rendering them. Troupes who have not yet started their seasons will be well advised to let Feldman's know what songs of theirs they purpose using.

In consequence of the multitudinous and ever-increasing inquiries that daily reach Messrs. Feldman and Co. anent the popular "Kerry Mills Barn Dance," special orchestrations for both full orchestra and military bands are now ready, and will be supplied to bandmasters making application for same to the Arthur-street firm. This is undoubtedly one of the greatest instrumental successes of the season.

Miss Rose Elliott, who was one of the earliest singers of the famous Feldman publication "Somewhere" in this country, will shortly exploit the new Chas. K. Harris ballad, "I'm longing for one sight of you," published by the same firm, when she opens at the Canterbury in a fortnight's time. She also purposes featuring several other songs published by the same firm, which she now has in study.

That popular comedian Mr. Jack Smiles continues to win success along the line with that quaint song "Fish Sauce," by Collins and Davis, and at the Empire, Belfast, it proved one of the biggest triumphs ever sung by this universal favourite. Messrs. Feldman and Co. have just issued this song in their popular "Sixpenny Edition," with two very effective presentments of the genial "Jack" and his co-singer, Mr. Chas. H. Whittle.

The verdict of the London Press is that "On the sands," Miss Madge Temple's new song (Francis, Day, and Hunter) will be one of the best numbers of the season. On Tuesday morning, the *Daily Mail, Standard, Evening Standard, Daily Express, Morning Leader*, and all the evening journals spoke of its production at the London Pavilion in eulogistic terms. The authors are Darewski and Findon.

The originality of the song "Queen of Old Samara" was the cause of a surfit of geographical songs being written, with more or less success; but J. F. Lambe, the author-composer of the above song, has, in conjunction with Alf. J. Lawrence, gone one better in their latest, entitled "The lily of Zamora." This charming number will be heard at nearly every seaside resort this coming season.

Miss Elsie Hulbert and her singing and dancing girls are one of the successes at the Surrey this week. The troupe of pretty girls first appear in charming Dutch costumes, and their song and sabot dance receive a well-deserved encore. Miss Elsie's ballad, "Someone is longing for you," follows, and the chorus is taken up by the audience. The scena concludes with a lightning clog-dance. The entire scena was specially written for Miss Hulbert by J. F. Lambe.

J. F. Lambe and Alf. J. Lawrence have supplied Miss Mina Greene with a new number, entitled "I must go to Colombo to you," being a sequel to Mr. Lambe's popular song "Won't you come to Madeira?" Miss Greene will feature the song next week, and on the Gibbons tour.

An important engagement at the Hackney Empire next week is that of Miss Anna Chandler, the new American comedienne, who made such a success at both the London Hippodrome and Coliseum. Anna Chandler's performance is an amusing burlesque of a Yankee comedienne, while her style is the happy medium between refined comedy and farce. In a selection from her répertoire Miss Chandler gives an idea of how some Americans would sing a coon song, then a clever representation of a baritone in distress. Anon she sings "The Yiddisher rag," which is a broken time melody, with plenty of "go" and swing in it, and invites you to join in. Her songs are all full of fun. In a word, Anna Chandler is distinctly refreshing.

RINKING GOSSIP AND NOTICES.

Mock Fire at Clapton.
A FALSE alarm of fire was given, by way of experiment, last week at the roller skating rink at Lower Clapton. The public were warned by large bills that they could have "all the excitement of fire without danger" in order to prove the excellent arrangements that were made for their safety. Punctually at 9.35, when the rink was crowded with skaters, the alarum bells sounded, and the notice on the electric sign read, "Clear the floor." Everyone entered into the spirit of the thing. Very valiantly the young men took possession of the ladies they cherished, and drew them pluckily to the emergency exits. After the "fire" had been extinguished the lights were turned on, and the couples rinked until closing time, talking of the exciting and hazardous time they had experienced.

Skating for the F.A.F.
SKATERS had an opportunity last Friday night of assisting the Fresh Air Fund, thanks to the kindness of the proprietor of the Great Hampstead Roller Skating Palace, who devoted the entire admission money to the fund. The "gala night" attracted a large attendance of skaters, who divided their attention between Mr. J. E. Rendle's amusing spectacle, "The Gorilla Hunt," and the rink.

Holland Park Rink.
IN circumstances somewhat similar to those which curtailed the rinking season at Olympia, Holland Park will shortly be obliged to suspend its operations as a fashionable skating-rink in order to fulfil its long-ago-contracted obligation to afford a home for the "Fair of Fashions" next month. Holland Park has been well able to hold its own among its compeers, and possibly both its management and its patrons feel some regret at the enforced closure. After the passing of the "Fair of Fashions," however, and other functions for which the building has been engaged, opportunity will be taken to make elaborate preparations of an early commencement of next season's campaign.

Championship Skating at Maida Vale.
THE Maida Vale Skating Rink had a record attendance last Monday evening to witness the one-mile professional championship of Great Britain. There were sixteen competitors, including C. J. Wilson (holder) and S. Greenall, the mile and a half ice professional champion. The race was divded into four heats, the winners of the heats—H. A. Bear, W. N. Curtis, jun., C. J Wilson, and S. Greenall—competing in the final. Bear and Wilson outclassed the other competitors, and soon drew out fifty yards in the lead. Wilson fell in the last lap, and lodged an objection against Bear for fouling. Both competitors were called before the judges, the result being that Bear was disqualified.

Second Day Results.
ON Tuesday evening the one mile professional championship, which was declared void on Monday, was decided, with the following result:—C. J. Wilson (holder), 1; W. N. Curtis, jun., 2; S. Greenall, 3; Hal Berte, 4. Won by ten yards; six yards between second and third. Time, 3min. 20sec. The Maida Vale Rink has offered £10 for a match of the best of three races between C. J. Wilson and H. A. Bear.

A Lancers Competition at Wandsworth.
ON Monday next, May 2, the Blackheath Lancer Party will meet the Wandsworth Lancer Party in a competition at the Central Hall Rink, Wandsworth.

Wimbledon Olympia.
THE petition of Allen and Co., for the compulsory winding up of Wimbledon Olympia, Ltd., again came before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the Companies Winding Up Court on Tuesday last. Counsel said the petitioners were judgment creditors for £127 and costs, and the company was also indebted to the petitioners for £1,355 1s. 11d., the architects having given their certificate for that amount since the petition was presented. The company was incorporated in July, 1909, with a capital of £10.000. His Lordship directed that a meeting of shareholders be convened for next Tuesday to consider if they could find the money, and whether they should take the matter out of the hands of the present directors. Counsel for the company undertook, on his lordship allowing the petition to stand over for a fortnight, not to go into voluntary liquidation in the meantime.

Rinking in Bradford.
THE Bradford rinks continue to do good business with the large number of patrons who have got the rinking habit fixed. At each—the Manningham Lane, the Coliseum, the Towers Hall, and the Hippodrome—the management is, by its careful attention to the comfort and convenience of every patron, not a little responsible for the assiduous patronage which is the reward of its painstaking efforts. Every rink now boasts a hockey team.

Jessie Darling at Bournemouth.
THE pretty American expert, Jessie Darling, has been fulfilling an engagement at the Westover Garden Rink this week with her customary success.

Gollywog Rink Mascots.
THE Derby Alexandra hockey team were at home to Loughborough on Saturday last, and a keen contest resulted in a win for the homesters by two goals to nil. Rather amusing were the mascots with which the Derby boys entered the fray. These took the shape of golliwogs, and were made by one of the team's most charming well-wishers.

Dover Wins at Hockey.
LARGE crowds continue to patronise each session at the Dover rink, and with the advent of a hockey club the exhilarating pastime has become increasingly popular. On Tuesday the hockey club played a match with the Duke of York Royal Military School Students. There was a very good attendance, excellent arrangement being made by the manager, Mr. Wilkinson, and his staff. The result was an overwhelming victory for Dover.

A Popular Dundee Manager.
SINCE Mr. Alfred Ross took over the reins of management the popularity of the Melrose Skating Rink has gone up by leaps and bounds. The rinkers are loud in their praise of Mr. Ross's tact and never-failing courtesy. The excellent band is a feature of this rink. At the Dundee Olympia Skating Palace business continues brisk. The display of pictures at the evening session has proved a popular innovation.

The Success of the Season.
"A GREAT night!" This was the universal verdict at Durham Olympia Rink on Wednesday, at the conclusion of a masquerade carnival and confetti battle. The patrons congratulated the manager (Mr. Vivian D'Alby) on what was well termed "the success of the season." The costumes and dresses were representative of all kinds of characters and objects, and the scene, with moonlight and rainbow effects, was most picturesque and charming. Handsome prizes were presented for the following:—"Genii of the Ring," "Halley's Comet," "Fernery," "Skeleton" advertising "Dolly Tint" and "Bass's," Lazy Lizzie, "Weary Willie," boy "Chanticleer," girl "Red Indian." After the judging the great Lanhol gave an excellent exhibition of trick and fancy skating. The evening concluded with a confetti battle, in which both skaters and spectators entered with gusto.

Aristocratic Glasgow Rinkers.
LADY INVERCLYDE and daughter are now regular patrons of the West-End Rink, Glasgow.

Clever Ipswich Roller Skater.
THE management of the Ipswich Empress Rink have every reason to be proud of Mr. Ridley Prentice, an Ipswich gentleman, who has won the coveted roller skating medal of the National Skating Association. The judging took place at Cambridge, Mr. W. Stanton, the British amateur figure skating champion and hon. secretary of the roller skating section of the N.S.A., being among the judges. Mr. Prentice had not seen the inside of a rink until he visited the Empress a few months ago, thus showing what may be accomplished in a short time by perseverance.

Monohan at Newport.
THERE was the ring of great appreciation in the applause which followed the performance of "the Great Monohan" at Snow-hill Rink, Newport, on Monday night. He had given a remarkable exhibition of trick and fancy skating, and the spectators were thoroughly pleased. Attired in tunic and knee-breeches of scarlet, spangled with silver, and wearing his medals, he did the spreadeagle backwards on the heels, describing the figure 8; then he did the kettle-drum step, beating out the tap and roll of the drum with his feet; next he skated on a barrel—his most difficult feat—balancing himself on the uncertain footing of four wheels, and propelling the barrel with the other foot. He gave graceful and clever illustrations of the variations of the two-step, which he took much more slowly than is customary at Newport. The rink was darkened, and sixteen lighted candles were set out on the floor at regular intervals of four rows of four. Monohan skated upon his toes in and out among the points of light, threading his way in all directions, and hardly causing a flame to flicker. In response to a recall which was not to be denied, he gave a display of figure-skating, and concluded with some remarkable performances on heels and toes.

Presentation at Reading.
A handsome travelling dressing-case and testimonial has been presented to Mr. Frank Pearce, the popular and greatly esteemed manager of the Reading Staking Rink. The gift, which came as a surprise to the recipient, was subscribed for by habitués of the rink in recognition of his courtesy to and kindly consideration for the comfort and pleasure of the patrons.

New Reading Rink.
MAY 2 is the date fixed for the opening of the Reading Central Roller Skating Rink in Weststreet. The premises are now nearing completion. It will be well and comfortably fitted and appointed, and its accessible situation will doubtless attract a large number of skaters.

Round the Rhondda Rinks.
RINKING hockey has become quite a craze in Rhondda for ladies as well as gentlemen. A ladies' team has been formed, and will shortly be having matches and issuing challenges to all comers. The secretary pro tem is Miss Windeatt, a very energetic young lady. The gentlemen's hockey club, of Porth, visited Pentre Rink on Thursday last, and defeated Treorchy by three goals to two. Fixtures have been arranged with Mountain Ash and Weston-super-Mare.

Salisbury Carnival.
A FANCY-DRESS carnival was held at the Victoria Rink, Salisbury, on Friday last, and proved a great success. The various attractions included a burlesque hockey match, which was highly amusing, battle of confetti, musical chairs, gentlemen's hat-trimming competition, grand march past, and an exhibition was given by Mr. R. Frith, who won the cup and medal for the championship of Salisbury (amateurs). On Saturday last the season was brought to a close, when a hockey match was played between Salisbury and Trowbridge. A fast and exciting game was played, the home team winning by five to nil. The rink will reopen again immediately after the summer vacation.

At the Southampton Rinks.
ROLLER-SKATING carnivals are all the rage at Southampton just now, the last three Wednesdays having witnessed successful scenes at the Coliseum, Royal Pier, and Shirley skating rinks. The children's carnival at the Pier was a brilliant success, and handsome prizes were awarded. On Wednesday evening the costumes at the Shirley rink were pretty and artistic, and great praise is due to Mr. Geo. Leo. Lloyd, the manager, for the excellent arrangements. On Wednesday, May 11, another carnival is announced at the Coliseum.

Stoke's New Manager.
THERE are few rink-managers who can boast of such an all-round experience in their business as in the case of Mr. Fred S. Hockenhull, the esteemed manager of the Stoke Rink. Born in Yorkshire, he was educated at a well-known English college, and after completing his scholastic work, went to reside in Manchester. Here Mr. Hockenhull became a premium apprentice for four years to a big firm of architects and surveyors practising in that city. It was while living in Cottonopolis that Mr. Hockenhull first attempted roller-skating, and later he entered the profession at the White City Rink. Very shortly after his appointment Mr. Hockenhull received an offer from the Stoke Rink, and it was on Sept. 26 of last year that he first came to the district. In February last he was appointed floor-manager of the Stoke Rink. On the occasion of the visits to the Stoke Rink of the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and his family, Mr. Hockenhull was requisitioned to instruct the distinguished patrons, and on their leaving he was the recipient of a testimonial and substantial present for services rendered. Early in this month Mr. Hockenhull was appointed to the position of manager of the Stoke Rink. The confidence which the directors of the rink have in Mr. Hockenhull speaks for itself.

Holmeside Rink.
THE Holmeside Rink, Sunderland, has been reopened. The interior of the rink has been painted in a scheme of green and white, the bandstand has been moved to the middle of the skating surface, so that the music will be better distributed over the floor. The military band will be under the bâton of Mr. Fred Lucas, and during the interval, at 8.30, that accomplished musician and his sister, Miss Lucas, will give violin and piano recitals in the café at the rink edge. The rink is now called "Whitehall," and is under the management of Mr. Frank L. Twemlow.

Hockey Enthusiasts at Widnes.
RINKING is still booming in Widnes. The Borough and Albert Hall Rinks are the only two remaining out of five. Both possess first-class hockey teams, especially the former. Only the other day the Borough First obtained the highest single match score in the Liverpool League, beating Birkhenhead by nine goals to nothing. The scrorers were Randles, Price, and Peacock, three each. We understand the Borough First will compete in the English Amateur Rink Association competition (Northern Counties). The prize is a cup valued £20, with gold medals for the runners-up.

Yarmouth Whitsun Arrangements.
ARRANGEMENTS for Whitsuntide at the Yarmouth rink has been made by the manager (Mr. A. A. Cash) for a well-known member of the Aldwych (London) Skating Club to bring down a team to complete in an inter-team race with the Yarmouth club.

WATER LILY ENTERTAINERS.

The neighbourhood of Covent Garden has been aptly chosen for the blossoming forth of the Water Lilies, a troupe of entertainers who gave an afternoon recital at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Wednesday. Dramatic and vocal excerpts were included in the programme, figuring conspicuously in the former being Miss Freda Sharlotte, who appeared in three pieces, each of which had a liaison for its motive. Chief among them was Alfred Sutro's one-act play, *The Correct Thing*, in which Miss Sharlotte gave an eloquently expressive rendering of a cast-off mistress whose lover is about to marry. The varied emotions of the part were well displayed, the actress's expression of contempt being very fine. Miss Sharlotte had the assistance of Mr. George T. Greig, a young actor of good appearance and excellent delivery. He also took part in Miss Bertha N. Graham's little piece, *A Lost Chance*, acting a dramatic author well, and giving excellent support to Miss Sharlotte, who played an unscrupulous disturber of the domestic hearth realistically. Another of Miss Graham's pieces was a monologue entitled "From the Past," in which Miss Sharlotte recited quite cleverly the story of a lady who receives a visit from the woman who had robbed her of her husband. The reciter pictured the scene very vividly, and was thrice recalled by an audience small but appreciative.

"America's Black Duchess" also figured in the programme in the person of Mr. Clarence Ibbotson, who made up cleverly as a negress attired in "Gibson girl" fashion. In this way he imitated the lady's rendering of a ballad to 'cello accompaniment, and also pattered amusingly. Mr. Ibbotson was likewise responsible for an impersonation of a Frenchman singing a song with a striking chorus. Mr. Herbert Mackie displayed an effective baritone in "The Bandolero" and "Three for Jack"; Miss Lily Garwood, who possesses a sympathetic and tuneful mezzo-soprano, sang tastefully; and Miss Gladys Elsmere rendered several light-comedy lyrics in pleasing style. Mr. John Wilson officiated at the piano.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

TOTAL COLLECTED
7316½ SHILLINGS.
£365 16s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Collected by Vesta Tilley	100	0	0
Collected by Kitty Colyer	65	13	0
Walter De Frece	20	0	0
Collected by Dick Tubb	10	3	0
Collected by Harry Conlin	6	15	0
Collected by May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
Collected by Ted E. Box	4	17	0
Collected by Berry Hope	4	15	0
Collected by My Fancy	4	0	0
Collected by Geo. Gulliver	3	18	0
Collected by Mr. Hymack	3	14	6
Collected by Bertha De Pas	3	0	0
Collected by Elliotts and Savonas	2	12	0
Collected by Hannaway Bros.	2	11	0
Collected by Horace Wheatley	2	11	0
Collected by Welda and Wynne	2	2	0
Collected by Daisy James	2	2	0
Collected by Queenie Leighton	2	1	0
Collected by Little Fred Zola	1	18	0
Collected by Beatie and Babs	1	16	0
Collected by Geo. French	1	13	0
Collected by Francisco	1	12	6
Collected by Harry Conlin	1	11	6
Collected by The Craggs	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
Collected by Miss Florrie Forde	1	11	0
Collected by Jenny Johns	1	11	0
Collected by Tom Branson	1	11	0
Collected by Ben Brown	1	10	6
Collected by Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
Collected by Gertie Gitana	1	8	6
Collected by Hayman and Franklin	1	8	0
Collected by Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
Collected by Fred Sinclair	1	7	0
Collected by Sister Cora	1	7	0
Collected by D. Kloof	1	7	0
Collected by Miss Josie Mooney	1	6	6
Collected by Seener and Fridkins	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
Collected by Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Marie Blythe	1	6	0
Collected by The Emsons	1	6	0
Collected by Miss Ray Ford	1	6	0
Collected by Mrs. Cestria	1	5	0
Collected by Miss Aggie Nolan	1	5	0
Collected by Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
Collected by Jimmy Shields	1	5	0
Collected by Elton and Elma	1	5	0
Collected by Miss Fanny Robina	1	5	0
Collected by Dave Carter	1	5	0
Collected by Carl Hertz	1	5	0
Collected by Sid Cotterell	1	5	0
Collected by Jack Smiles	1	5	0
Collected by John Bramham	1	5	0
Collected by Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
Collected by Theodore Jones	1	4	0
Collected by Fred Land	1	4	0
Collected by Vivian Evans	1	3	0
Collected by Charles Cardow	1	3	0
Collected by Smith and Johnson	1	3	0
Collected by Cissie Lupino	1	3	0
Collected by Atroy	1	2	0
Collected by Harry Taft	1	2	0
Collected by W. Pratt	1	2	0
Collected by Andie Burns	1	2	0
Bros Webb	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Collected by Cullen and Carthy	1	1	0
Collected by Frank Coyle	1	1	0
Collected by A. R. Hollands	1	1	0
Collected by Fred Kitchen	1	1	0
Collected by W. J. Churchill	1	1	0
Collected by Miss Daisy Wood	1	1	0
Collected by Bert Chapman	1	1	0
Collected by A. N. Hennessey	1	1	0
Collected by Olgar, Elgar, Hudson	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
John Lawson	1	0	0
Collected by The Alaskas	0	18	0
Collected by Conway and Leland	0	18	0
Collected by Fred Herbert	0	18	0
Collected by Abel and Welsh	0	18	0
Collected by Mr. Barry Gilmore	0	17	0
Collected by Regan and Ryan	0	16	0
Collected by Carl and Carr	0	16	0
Collected by the Wedburns	0	16	0
Collected by Louis Rosenberg	0	16	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Collected by Ben Obo	0	15	0
Collected by F. and M. Mulvey	0	15	0
Collected by W. Purvis	0	15	0
Collected by Hanid Alexander	0	15	0
Collected by Master H. Clark	0	15	0
Collected by Kirk and Saraski	0	14	0
Collected by Newham and Latimer	0	13	0
Collected by the Lovelaces	0	13	0
Collected by Will Harris	0	13	0
Collected by Mi Narom	0	13	0
Collected by Achmed Ibrahim	0	12	6
Collected by Mr. Walter Norman	0	12	0
Collected by Mrs. Geo. Formby	0	12	0
Collected by Will Johnson	0	12	0
Collected by Sisters Melba	0	12	0
Collected by Young A. Elvy	0	11	6
Collected by Bliss and Bliss	0	11	6
Collected by Morrisey	0	11	0
Collected by Harry Gribben	0	11	0
Collected by Sam Williams	0	11	0
Collected by Alice Digby	0	11	0
Collected by Legardo Bros.	0	11	0
Collected by Rosie Gaston	0	11	0
Collected by Gladys Henderson	0	11	0
Collected by Lucy Coventry	0	11	0
B.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Syd Godfrey	0	10	0
Collected by Will Lindsay	0	10	0
Collected by Robb Gilmore	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Collected by Steel and Laing	0	9	0
Collected by Cummin and Seaham	0	9	0
Collected by Flo Stanley	0	9	0
Collected by C. Cornish	0	9	0
Collected by Ethel Donna	0	8	0
Collected by Lizzette Trio	0	7	0
Collected by Sterling and Love	0	7	0
Collected by Fields and Lewis	0	7	0
Collected by Minnie Wheaton	0	7	0
Collected by H. Bancroft	0	7	0
Collected by Mrs. J. J. Fruin	0	7	0
Collected by Shenton and Chicks	0	6	0
Collected by Miss M. Murray	0	6	0
Collected by Fred Moule	0	6	0
Collected by Ben Whiteley	0	6	0
Collected by Folay and Francis	0	6	0
Collected by Lily Hayes	0	6	0
Collected by Dale and Vale	0	5	6
Collected by Milsted Bell Trio	0	5	0
Collected by Benj. Woodger	0	5	0
Collected by Stylo	0	5	0
Collected by Rene Clayton	0	4	0
Collected by Len Hale	0	4	0
Collected by Henri Bekker	0	4	0
Collected by the Michel Bros.	0	3	6
Collected by A. Gallimore Trio	0	3	6
Collected by Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
Collected by Lillie Hales	0	3	0
Collected by Harry Luck	0	3	0
Collected by Syd Crossley	0	3	0
Collected by Henry Hilton	0	3	0
Collected by Roland	0	3	0
Collected by Rappo and Ella	0	2	0
Collected by Cash and Clair	0	2	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0

Collected by Miss Dora Lyric, £1 5s.

Rose and Challoner	2	Soho Trio	1
Bobbie Comber	1	Peggie Lennie	1
A. Rigby	1	Walter Hast	1
F. Masters	1	Wilman	1
Alf. Gibson	1	E. J. Smith	1
H. Le Maistre	1	Phil Parsons	1
M. D. Pitts	1	Mr. Harris	1
Guy Rider	1	Mrs. Harris	1
Roland Bros.	1	Geo. Mozart	1
Tommy	1	Old Soft Fellow	1
B. Parks	1	Amos Parker	1
George Power	1	A Lyric Admirer	1

Collected by F. V. St. Clair, 15s.

Mrs. F. V. St. Clair	5	Geo. Gulliver	1
Mr. F. V. St. Clair	5	Clarence Mossie	1
James Fox	1	J. T. Robertson	1
A. Daunton Shaw	1		

Collected by Steve Buckingham, 7s. 6d.

Walter Buxton	2½	Dick Sutherd	1
Norman Osborne	1	Walter Buxton	1
Prof. Alderson	1	Agent, Stoke	1

Collected by Arthur Were, 7s.

Syd Walker	1	Jake Were	1
G. P. R. Burgess	1	Nowell Were	1
Arthur Were	1	Louis Sterling	1
Mrs. Arthur Were	1		

Collected by Burnetti, 6s.

Mr. Burnetti	1	Burnetti's mother	1
Mrs. Burnetti	1	Mr. Argo	1
Burnetti's father	1	J. Booth	1

Collected by Sam Elton, 7s.

Sam Elton	5	Story-Gofton	1
Mark Daly	1		

In the above list Mr. Gus Elen's contribution is listed as one guinea, but in addition to this sum he added one shilling to 185 collectors' cards, thus making his total contribution to the Fund £10 6s.

There are still a few cards not yet sent in. Will the collectors please forward to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, so that the list may be closed.

THE FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE.

The King and Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales have graciously intimated their intention of being present at the first Empire Concert to be held in connection with the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace. The Festival, the principal feature of which is the Pageant of London, commences on May 23, but Tuesday, the 24th, has been fixed for the official opening. The concert, which their Majesties and their Royal Highnesses will attend, is to be given by the Imperial Choir of 4,000 voices, under the direction of Dr. Charles Harriss. The vocalist of the day will be Madame Clara Butt, and her contributions, "The Enchantress" (Hatton) and "Land of Hope and Glory" (Elgar). The great orchestra will comprise 480 performers, and the conductors include Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Hubert Parry, Bart., and Mr. Henry J. Wood.

The final scene in the Pageant of London takes the form of an Imperial masque, written by Mr. F. H. Markoe, with music by Mr. Frederick Corder, F.R.A.M. The growth of Empire is beautifully symbolised in the masque, and the contingents who are coming from oversea will assist.

Some very important personages will take part in the various scenes of the Pageant. Lord Howard de Walden has very kindly consented to take the part of the Black Prince in the scene entitled "The Age of Chivalry." In this scene will be given a representation of a famous tournament at which were present Queen Philippa and Edward, the Black Prince, freshly returned from his victories in France. The scene, "Mourning Triumph," being the receipt of the news of the capture of Quebec and the death of Wolfe and Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham, is to be taken by Woolwich, and Princess Loewenstein, daughter of the fourth Earl of Mexborough, will play the part of Lady Coventry.

"The Triumph of Conquest" depicts the return of King Henry from Agincourt, and the City of Westminster has undertaken the scene. Sir Simeon Stuart, Bart., will play King Henry, and the organisers of the scene are assured of an ideal principal. The news of Agincourt, history tells us, reached London before the King's return, and a solemn thanksgiving had been offered by the Mayor and Aldermen. In the Pageant of London the citizens will be seen going forth to meet their victorious monarch. Viscount Hill has agreed to play the part of his ancestor, Lord Hill, in the scene, "The End of the Great War," which Croydon is providing. Viscount Hill will wear the sword and cockade of his illustrious ancestor.

Following is a list of the boroughs and other organisations which are taking scenes: Greenwich, "Foundations of the City"; Camberwell, Bermondsey, and Southwark, "The Dawn of History" and "The Norman Conquest"; Kensington, Chelsea, and Fulham, "Spacious Days of Queen Elizabeth"; Lambeth, "New Discoveries"; Lewisham, "Merrie England"; Marylebone, Holborn, and St. Pancras, "The Age of Chivalry"; Paddington, "First Discoveries"; Poplar and Stepney, "Trade with India"; Wimbledon, Merton, Putney, Wandsworth, and Hammersmith, "The Passing of Mediævalism"; Shoreditch, Finsbury, Islington, "Civic Freedom"; Stoke Newington and Hackney, "Canterbury Pilgrims"; Sydenham, "Beginnings of Empire"; Westminster, "Triumph of Conquest"; Woolwich, "Mourning Triumph"; Blackheath, "The Dawn of New London"; Ealing, "Rise of the English Theatre"; Croydon, "End of the Great War." The scene "The Schools of London" is being taken by the schools of London, and "Social Upheaval" by the London hospitals.

"THE SNAKE'S KISS."

A Sketch, by Roland Bottomley, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, April 25.

Dr. Andrea Daintrey ..... MR. JACK FORTESCUE.
Lucy Daintrey ..... MISS LYDIA BUSH
Jack Trant ..... MR. HENRY AINSWORTH

The above exciting sketch, produced last Monday by Mr. Lewin Mannering's company, has for its leading motif a real live snake, round which the action revolves. It is a well-written playlet, and caused the good folks of Peckham many thrills during its brief traffic of the stage. It should have a successful career at the halls. On the rising of the curtain we are introduced to Doctor Daintrey, an Indian half-caste, and an expert in poisons, whose wife, Lucy, is carrying on an intrigue with his friend, Jack Trant. The doctor has bought a snake from India whose fangs are deadly poison, but it is chloroformed, and only dangerous when excited. Daintrey finds a letter from Trant to his wife, which proves her infidelity. He pretends to go away on a journey, but remains hiding in the garden, from whence he espies his wife in Trant's embrace. He takes the snake out from the box, manages to excite it, and puts it into an adjoining room. The false wife and her lover start to elope, but the husband has locked them in the drawing-room. The only means of exit is through the room where the snake lies hid. Trant enters, a loud groan is heard; the snake has seized him. The distracted wife follows him into the room, but meets with the same fate. She upbraids her husband for his action, and tries to stab him, but falls back dead; the snake's kiss has been the kiss of death. As the curtain falls the sinister doctor is seen bending exultantly over his wife's dead body, and waving the snake in the air.

Mr. Jack Fortescue, admirably made up, supplied an excellent character sketch of the mysterious inexorable Doctor Daintrey; Miss Lydia Bush acted with much intensity at the faithless wife; and Mr. Henry Ainsworth as Jack Trant made an impassioned lover.

"What Ripping Skates they Provide!"
is the kind of remark you will often hear at your rink if you supply
"BRAMPTON"
ROLLER SKATES
for the use of your patrons.

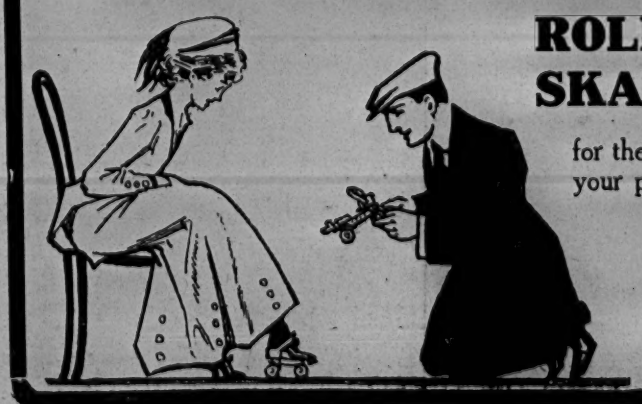

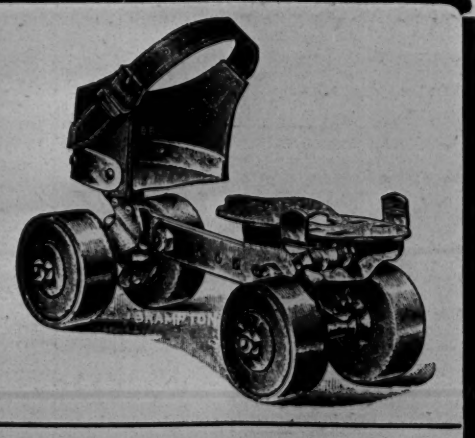

Write for particulars of these—the finest Rink Skates ever made—and also for our low prices on Winslow, Union, and Phillips. Largest Stocks; Promptest Deliveries.

BROWN BROTHERS, LD.,
Great Eastern Street, E.C. Deansgate, Manchester.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR MAY.

ENGLAND.

2 Castleacre (1,284)
2. Cleobury Mortimer (1,500)
2. Coventry (68,877)
2. Dudley (48,805)
2. Heckmondwike (9,459)
2. Heston Green
2. Leominster (5,826)
2. Longridge (4,300)
2. Ludlow (4,552)
2. Tenbury (1,700)
3. Barton-on-Humber (5,671)
3. Bury (58,038)
3. Darlington (44,500)
3. Horncastle (4,038)
3. Ipswich (66,600)
3. Kirkbampton (906)
3. Maldon (5,600)
4. Bishop's Castle (1,378)
4. Boston (15,667)
4. Chesterfield (27,195)
4. Gosport (28,879)
4 Guildford (15,934)
4 Hereford (21,400)
4. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
4. Wooler (1,615)
5. Dorking (7,670)
5. Garforth Feast (3,253)
5. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,600)
5. Loughborough (21,500)
5. Mirfield (11,246)
5. Newbury (11,061)
5. Northallerton (4,000)
5. North Walsham (4,000)
5. Orpington (4,249)
5. Stamfordham (900)
5. Wigan (60,770)
6. Abingdon (6,500)
6. Consett (9,694)
6 Glossop (21,500)
6. Ivinghoe (1,300)
6. Looe (2,549)
6. Macclesfield (34,700)
6. Oakham (5,293)
6. Princes Risborough (1,230)
6. Pleasley (1,607)
7. Braintree (5,330)
7. Bramley Carnival (9,000)
7. Leintwardine (1,500)
7. Market Bosworth (1,881)
7. Richmond (Yorks) (3,836)
9. Hindon (500)
9. Keighley (40,000)
9. Spilsby (1,500)
10. Beaconsfield (1,570)
10. Bodmin (5,353)
10. Farnham (6,124)
11. Clun (1,709)
11. Colne (23,000)
11 Holbeach (5,032)
11. Spalding 12,293)
11. Staines (6,700)
11. Swaffham (3,400)
12. Chelmsford (12,394)
12. Congleton (10,706)
12. Haverhill (4,863)
12. Lambourne (1,101)
12. Leicester (211,600)
12. Lymington (4,200)
12. Much Wenlock (2,227)
12. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,386)
12. Sturminster Newton (1,877)
12. Wadebridge (2,300)
12. Worstead (781)
12. Wetherby (2,212)
12. Yaxley (1,590)
13. Chertsey (12,762)
13. Haslemere (1,311)
13. Long Sutton (2,534)
13. Maryport (11,896)
13. Pembridge (1,100)
14. Purwell (1,974)
14. Caistor (Lincs) (2,000)
14. Carlisle (45,478)
14. Clayton-le-Moors (7,163)
14. Egremont (Cumb.) (5,761)
14. Hartlepool (22,800)
14. Kendal (14,200)
14. Malton (4,800)
14. Millom (10,400)
14. Newark (14,985)
14. North Shields (50,000)
14. Nuneaton (25,000)
14 Preston (113,100)
14. Rothbury (1,300)
14. Runcorn (15,500)
14. Stafford (20,894)
14. Redruth (10,451)
14. Stagshawbank (1,400)
14. Southwell (3,167)
14. Sutton (724)
14. Tideswell (3,600)
14. Tyldesley (14,843)
14. Wellington (6,273)
14 Wolverhampton (94,179)
16. Amersham (3,209)
16. Appleby (1,704)
16. Bakewell (2,850)
16 Biggleswade (5 129)
16. Bilston (24,024)
16. Birkenhead (110,926)
16. Blackheath (21,000)
16. Blockley (1,521)
16. Cartmel (754)
16. Castleford Feast (17,372)
15. Cheltenham (49,439)
15. Clevedon (5,893)
16. Cockermouth (5,255)
16. Coltishall (1,000)
15. Dalton in Furness (13,000)
16. Evesham (7,101)
16. Garston (17,289)
15 Great Harwood (11,000)
16. Hampstead Heath
16. Helston (3,088)
16. Hendon (23,456)
16. Hinckley (11,300)
16. Horbury Feast (6,736)
16. Ilkley (7,755)
16. Jarrow-on-Tyne (24,294)
16. Lichfield (7,902)
16. Malvern (16,500)
16. Middlesbrough (91,303)
16. Morecambe (11,798)
16 New Brighton (10,961)
16 Newcastle-on-Tyne (226,571)
16. Northampton (87,000)
16. Oulton Feast (1,684)
16 Portsmouth (189,160)
16. Reigate (26,000)
16. Richmond (Surrey) 31,667)
16. Rushden (12,500)
16. Ryde (11,000)
16. Salford (Trinity Market) (220,500)
15. Southport (48,087)
16. South Shields (97,300)
16. St. Ives (Hunts) (2,900)
16. Taunton (21,078)
16 Torksey (400)
15. Wanstead Flats
16. Wormwood Scrubs
16. York (77,793)
17. Alford (2,500)
17. Ashford (12,898)
17. Bognor (6,189)
17. Brentford (15,171)
17 Camborne (14,726)
17. Earlestown (9,020)
17. Fakenham (2,912)
17 Halesworth (2,549)
17. Haslingden (18,500)
17. Leighton Buzzard (6,331)
17. Longton (35,815)
17. Melton Mowbray (7,454)
17. Methley Feast (4,268)
17. Newton-le-Willows (16,703)
17. Penrith (9,200)
17. Sheffield (380,717)
18. Askam-in-Furness (4,500)
18. Barnard Castle (4,421)
18. Bedworth (7,170)
18. Broadway (Worcester) (1,414)
18. Broughton-in-Furness (1,139)
18. Elmley (1,400)
18. Hitchin (10,072)
18. Leek (15,184)
18. Over (Cheshire) (7,000)
18. Truro (11,502)
18. Workington (26,141)
19. Adwalton Feast (1,650)
19. Bacup (22,505)
19. Birmingham (522,182)
19. Buckingham (3,151)
19. Long Melford (3,808)
19. Ulverston (10,064)
20. Barrow-in-Furness (57,587)
20. Cleethorpes (12,578)
20. Deptford (110,122)
20. Derby (105,785)
20. Louth (9,500)
21. Ashford (Derby) (663)
21. Brackenfield (344)
21. Bristol (328,843)
21. Felling (8,550)
21. Grimesthorpe (4,750)
21. Keswick (4,500)
21. Snowshill Wakes (242)
21. Standish (6,303)
21. Bidford-on-Avon (1,466)
21. Hounslow (11,377)
23. Pool (1,600)
23. Southwold (2,800)
24. Fiskerton (283)
24. Hayle (1,684)
24. Holmfirth (9,000)
24 Kirkby Stephen (2,495)
25. Craven Arms (1,006)
26. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
26. Briston (1,200)
26. Chepstow (3,067)
26. Ely (7,713)
26. Penzance (13,100)
28. Astwood Feast
28. Bridgnorth (6,049)
28 Iron Bridge (2,889)
28. Outwood Feast (5,500)
29 Skipton (11,983)
28. Thorpe (Surrey) (600)
30. Crowle (2,748)
30. Messingham (1,264)
30 Ossett Feast (12,886)

SCOTLAND.

2. Aberdeen (153,108)
2. Stewartown (2,858)
7. Hawick (15,000)
10 Jedburgh (2,222)
10. Renfrew (10,000)
14. Kilmarnock (33,142)
16. Edinburgh (316,522)
17. Alyth (3,000)
24. Burntisland (4,720)
25. Langholm (3,973)
27. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)
27. Inverness (21,193)
27. Stirling (14,355)
31. Airdrie (20,500)

WALES.

3. Brecon (6,111)
3. Montgomery (1,034)
5. Llanelly (25,617)
6 Llanidloes (3,875)
10. Talgarth (1,446)
12. Crickhowell (1,253)
13 Monmouth (5,095)
14. Abergavenny (7,795)
15. Cardiff (164,420)
16. Merthyr Tydvil (69,227)
16. Mold (4,263)
16. Newport (67,790)
17. Denbigh (6,433)
17. Knighton (2,139)
20. Risca (9,661)
21. Treorchy (12,000)
28. Porth (5,600)

Glowing Tribute to a Travelling Mummer.

The *South Wales Weekly Argus* has the following tribute, which we gladly reproduce, to the memory of the late John Noakes. Noakes was one of the old school of travelling mummers, his portable theatre was held in the most affectionate regard by the toilers in the out-of-the-way places of Wales and other parts of the United Kingdom. It is pleasant to have such excellent testimony to a genial showman's memory.

"There are various ways of achieving fame. 'Johnny Noakes' was not born great, nor was his greatness thrust upon him, but his fame was of a character which has earned for him a place in the minds and affections of perhaps even more people than to the hearts of whom greater men have found their way. He was merely an actor, 'a barnstormer,' or, as an old unrepealed statute would have it, a 'vagabond,' but he will, nevertheless, be kindly remembered by thousands of people, the winter of whose discontent he on many occasions turned to glorious summer. Not only in South Wales, but in other parts of the country, in towns where properly-appointed theatres were not in existence and where they were, his portable playhouse was welcomed with an enthusiasm which to-day seems hard to understand. What was the secret of this man's power? Was it the people's inherent love of play-acting or this humble actor's cheery personality which made for 'Johnny Noakes' such an abiding place in the esteem of the multitude? It was a strenuous life he led, and he encountered many difficulties, but, like Robert Louis Stevenson, who said he had done his fiddling so long under Vesuvius that he had almost forgotten to play, he was always possessed of that bright optimism which enabled him to think 'And still it's good fun.'

An Incorrigible Optimist.

"It was always 'good fun' with 'Johnny Noakes.' When Stevenson lay in a dark room at Bournemouth because his eyesight was endangered, and with his left arm in a sling to prevent hæmorrhage of the lungs, he sang the lines, which are found in his 'Child's Garden of Verses,' beginning:

"The world is so full of a number of things,
I am sure we should all be as happy as Kings.'

"And—worshippers at the shrine of 'R.L.S.' will forgive the comparison—'Johnny Noakes' was similarly an incorrigible optimist, and in his small way he spread sunshine around him. He could not read a word, it is stated, but he knew four hundred songs! Twenty years ago, in a small Worcestershire town, 'Johnny Noakes' and his company paid a visit which was to have been of a month's duration. He staged for six months, and even then did not outlive his welcome. There was a catch phrase in use for years afterwards. 'Noakes's Theatre is coming again,' one would say. 'When?' was the eager query, and 'By and by' came the triumphant answer. But he never came again. 'By and by' has been superseded by 'Wait and see' and, in the interval, many other catch phrases, while 'Johnny Noakes' has passed away. He was only a strolling player, but his motto was 'Don't worry,' and his memory will not fade while the generation lasts."

Darlaston Wakes.

For the amusement of the people at this wakes were Collins' No. 1 Wonderland show, the No. 1 motor-car set, and the Brooklyn cakewalk machine, Davies' three-abreast jumping horses, and Willett and Miller's helter-skelter tower. Amongst the minor amusements were houp-las, coker sheets, stalls, and novelties by Brennan, Walton, Birch, Humphrey Bros., Hodgkis, Swann, Brown, and other caterers.

Devizes Spring Fair.

The principal amusement caterers at this fair included the local firm—Jennings Bros.—with two sets of roundabouts and minor amusements; J. Coles, with switchback railway, and W. Cole, with helter-skelter tower. There were also a large contingent of pannum and fancy goods stalls, twenty houp-la frames, three sets of park swings, four football frames, and four coker sheets, supplied by caterers on this round.

"Time's Sweet Revenge."

About the year 1870 Birmingham, like many another great town in the provinces, came to the conclusion that fairs belonged to a past age. The City Fathers held that the people were beginning to need less and less recreation, and that any kindly compulsion to curtail the opportunities of cessation from toil would be a step in the right direction.

Time, however, has proved that from all points of view, economically, physically, and mentally, this was a wrong conclusion.

London, that banished its fairs about this time, thirty years later was making provision under the County Council to revive the banished fairs, and to find room for them at holiday times on the great open spaces at Hampstead Heath, Wormwood Scrubs, Blackheath, Wanstead Flats, and half a dozen other possible sites.

Manchester, in a similar manner, was ringed round at holiday times with half a dozen suburban fairs. The same was true of Liverpool, Leeds, and all the great centres of industry, stretching from Leicester to Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Birmingham, within the last twenty years, has looked with great kindliness upon the tremendously successful work and enterprise of Messrs. P. and J. Collins.

These well-known amusement caterers had by sheer force and enterprise, through good days and bad days, maintained the glories of Birmingham's ancient fairs at Whitsuntide and at Michaelmas.

Now we draw our readers' attention to "Time's Sweet Revenge," and we refer to it with the greatest possible satisfaction, as it affords us an opportunity of according the highest possible meed of praise to all parties concerned. It is no small matter for a great corporation to reverse decisions, and to go back upon ancient policy though that policy may have been dictated by mistaken considerations.

The Corporation of Birmingham has had the courage to recognise that the policy of trying to abolish the fair was a mistaken one, and that the time has now arrived not only to frankly admit the mistake, but as far as possible to restore to the people of Birmingham its ancient fairs under municipal control.

Mr. P. Collins has secured from the Corporation of Birmingham the lease of a fair ground which will, in its full accommodation and ample provision, be worthy of the city of Birmingham.

We congratulate all parties concerned, especially Messrs. Collins Brothers, whose long years of perseverance in maintaining the people's fair at Birmingham has been so handsomely recognised, and we confidently anticipate that Birmingham's great Onion Fair and the Whitsun week fixture will grow and prosper immensely, to the people's great delight and satisfaction.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

The Rev. T. Horne will hold two meetings next Sunday, May 1, at Ipswich Fair. The place of meeting will be Charles Thurston's Vaudeville and Cinema Theatre. The afternoon meeting will be at 3.30, and the Guild service in the evening at 8.15. It is hoped that all the showmen and amusement caterers on the Norfolk and Suffolk round within easy distance of Ipswich will make an effort to be present at the afternoon meeting, when important matters concerning the interests of the show business will be under consideration.

Pontypool Fair.

The principal amusements at this fair were provided by John Studt, who exhibited the cinematograph show and motor-car machine. T. Butlin, with juvenile roundabouts, houp-la circle, and throwing games; Wyman, with gem roundabout, shooting gallery, park swings, houp-la and coker sheets; C. Gage, with houp-la circle and watch-la frame; J. Scarrott's school of boxers, and Frank Gess with similar concerns; Lester's novelty booth; and Messrs. Smith, Gorman, Davies, and other caterers, with novelties, stalls, and throwing games.

Illness of Arthur Dashwood.

We feel sure that all showmen will be very sorry to hear that Mr. Arthur Dashwood, the showman's advance agent, is lying very ill with neuritis and pleurisy at his residence, Roseberry-road, Smethwick, Birmingham. After finishing the season with Bostock's Jungle, Glasgow, he contracted a severe cold, which has led to the above illness, but we are pleased to state that under the care of W. H. Motteram, physician, Smethwick, he is gradually returning to health and strength, and will be able to resume his duties in a week or two's time.

Death of Well-known London Showman.

One of the old school has passed away in the person of Frederic Freeman, who died at Wood Green on the 18th inst., aged seventy, after three weeks' illness and suffering from bronchitis. In our issue of the 2nd, dealing with the Alexandra Palace Fun Fair, we called attention to "that good old showman Freeman with his nearly fifty years' experience," then alive and hearty. He was almost one of the fixtures of the Palace, with his popular weighing chairs and other show paraphernalia. The present writer knew him when quite a young man in the early 'sixties acting as foreman for Mr. Justin at the Crystal Palace in connection with the camera obscura, chairs, and working models. Freeman left his old employer to start in business for himself in the show line first at the Albert Hall, then the Alexandra Palace, and various other places of note. He was a man whose appearance belied his good heart and generous nature, being always a friend to those in misfortune. Owing to an accident in his youth, one eye was affected, and so it remained a life-long disfigurement. He stood in the relationship of first cousin to the late Mr. Wood, of Working Models notoriety at the Crystal Palace; and those now showing by Freeman's niece, Miss Helena Greedus, at the Alexandra Palace, were the outcome of the family's genius. This show lady now would willingly find a purchaser for some of this stock in trade, which still attract the nimble pennies and are not to be despised on account of age. Poor Freeman was laid at rest on Tuesday, the 21st, in the New Southgate Cemetery, and the old familiar face at the corner of the Alexandra Palace Exhibition Hall will be missed by many a holiday frequenter.

Lord John Sanger's famous circus opened to mammoth audiences at Sheffield on Saturday, and the "big top" has been crowded each day at day and night performances.

Happy Event in Showland.

We heartily congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Fred Plinston on the birth of a son. Both the mother and child are doing well. Master Plinston made his appearance on Wednesday, April 27. The happy event occurred at the permanent address of the family—Bermondsey.

Warminster April Fair.

The entertainments here were chiefly provided by the local showmen—Jennings Bros. and Coles Bros. With these caterers were associated Messrs. Gratton, Haines, Shaw, and Smart, with the usual attendance of local stallholders. The attractions provided included steam roundabouts, gliesade tower, houp-la circles, bottle batteries, shooters, coker-shies, throwing games, and stalls.

Whitsun Fair at Walsall.

We draw our readers' attention to the advertisement of a fair at Walsall in our showmen columns this week. It is a corporation fair, and application for sites must be made to the lessee.

Bewdley Fair.

This annual pleasure fair was held on the 22nd inst. and two following days. Chipperfield's cinematograph theatre was the principal show. The side shows were: R. Chipperfield's Teddy bear jungle and Robins' peep-shows. The machines and minor novelties included T. Clarke's racing motor-cars, helter-skelter tower, and throwing games; F. Wilson's shooting saloon and houp-la circles; variety frames, toy and gingerbread stalls, by local and other caterers.

White City, Old Trafford.

The season opens on Saturday, May 7, with the band of the Royal Artillery, and the grounds will be full of side-shows and outdoor riding, &c., devices—scenic railway, water chute, &c.—which were very popular last summer.

The immense ballroom and skating pavilion have been well occupied by large crowds during the winter, and will continue throughout the summer.

The grounds, which have had some alterations made in the arrangement of the flower-beds, &c., are beginning to look very beautiful.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, G. Biddall, J. W. Chipperfield, and Chas. Thurston and Sons at *The Era* Office.

Messrs. Charles Taylor and Son will sell by auction at their sale rooms at 1, St. George's-road, Elephant and Castle, Southwark, S.E., on Thursday, May 5, at two o'clock p.m., precisely, a large selection of highest-class automatic machines made by the Mills Manufacturing Company of Chicago, equal to new, in perfect condition, comprising illustrated songs and phonographs, Siville fortune tellers, front-wind picture machines, athletic machines, Harper's electric piano, automatic soda fountains, &c.

Mr. Victor Travers, eccentric comedian, through an attack of tonsillitis, is out of the bill at the Kilburn Empire.

Mr. Henry Herne, Miss Ida Millais, and company, including Mr. Felix Pitt, are meeting with much success on the Gibbons' tour.

At the Winter Gardens, Morecambe, of which the proprietors are Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son, there are opportunities of hiring groundspace for shows. The position faces the Promenade and adjoins the Winter Gardens.

Mr. Fred Morgan will play a part in Mr. Arthur Williams's sketch, to be produced at the County Theatre, Kingston, on Monday next, and also goes to the Kennington Theatre again this year as heavy leading man in Mr. Robert Arthur's stock company.

The Dunning and Kahn Trio are finishing their seventeen weeks' engagement with Willie Frame, the famous Scotch comedian, who for thirty years has run his well-known company round Scotland, and whose annual visit is looked forward to by all his patrons.

A telegram from Danville, Illinois, states that on Wednesday evening a herd of nine elephants broke loose from a travelling circus which had pitched its camp in a field on the outskirts of the town, and stampeded madly through the streets, causing a wild panic amongst the inhabitants. Twenty people, it is reported, were injured by being knocked down and trodden upon by the animals.

The statutory meetings of the creditors and shareholders of the Crystal Palace Company were held on Thursday in the Throne Room of the Holborn Restaurant, Mr. H. M. Winearls (Official Receiver) presiding. A statement of affairs showing the position of the company as on February 18, 1909, was given.

Mr. G. M. Edwards inquired whether any steps had been taken to obtain the assistance of His Majesty the King to preserve the Palace, which was originally erected as a memorial to his illustrious father. The Chairman replied that he understood that point had not been overlooked by the gentlemen who had the reconstruction scheme in hand. Upon the motion of Mr. W. B. Keen (a director) the resolution by the creditors to leave the liquidation in the hands of the Official Receiver was unanimously confirmed.

FILM GOSSIP.

"A Ranch Girl's Legacy."

Essanay's will release on May 7 A Ranch Girl's Legacy, an excellent humorous story of how Jack Tyler is left a big legacy by his uncle on condition that he marries his fair cousin Carrie. Curiously enough, Cousin Carrie is left a similar amount on condition she marries her cousin Jack. Jack journeys off to the West to see what sort of a girl Carrie really is. Carrie has thought that if she can disgust her would-be suitor with her he will give her up, refuse to marry her, and so she will be able to retain her fortune. Jack, dressed as the most hopeless fop, meets Carrie dressed up in curious fashion, half a dozen revolvers being a conspicuous part of the "ornamentation" of her dress. The lady makes love to him, but he will have none of it, and signs a note to the effect that he relinquishes all claim to the legacy. A local cowboy hearing of Carrie's fortune makes love to her, but she refuses his attentions, and when he meets and takes her in his arms Jack, of course, is handy. The cowboy is knocked down by Jack, and the cousins recognise each other. A little love scene follows.

"Living Canada."

An interesting cinematograph lecture on "Living Canada" was given at the Albert Hall, Barnstaple, last week, by Mr. A. Ward, of Toronto. The Mayor of Barnstaple was present, accompanied by his son. Mr. Ward dealt with the subject in a very pleasant and entertaining manner. He is a very effective lecturer. Mr. Ward has only recently returned from the Dominion. Some of the "living pictures" shown were:—Embarkation of Passengers at Liverpool, and Sailing of the Canadian Pacific R.M.S. Empress of Ireland; With the Canadian Settlers; John Bull's Breadbasket; Ploughing by Oxen, Horses, and steam, 350 miles of Furrow per day; Reaping a 600-acre Wheat Field; Thrashing 3,000 Bushels of Grain per day; The Settler in Canada: First Year, Second Year.

Photographic Materials for Siam.

Moving pictures were introduced to the Bangkok public about five years ago, becoming at once very popular, and at present they form the most-sought-for amusement of all classes in Siam. Two new places have recently been opened, making in all five cinematographs in Bangkok, namely, Krung Thep, Ratana, The New Japanese, Siam Papayon, and Bangrak. Most of the films in use are of French make. An increased demand for photographic materials also may be expected in the near future, as the Siamese are very fond of pictures, and the country affords a fine field for the amateur photographer. Some of the Royal family are expert amateur photographers, and have done much to encourage the art in Siam.

A Stock Exchange Picture.

The interest taken in the rubber boom led to a great deal of excitement in Throgmorton-street one day last week, when a cinematograph operator appeared in a large van and commenced to make moving pictures of the members of the Stock Exchange at work. The "House" itself and the surrounding tea-shops and offices emptied hundreds into the street. While many faced the music voluntarily, some turned up their collars, pulled their hats over their eyes, covered their faces with handkerchiefs, and others promptly bolted. But altogether the result was a very interesting picture of Living London, which is being shown by the Picture Theatres under the management of the Electric Palaces at the Marble Arch, Lewisham, Brixton, and Thornton Heath.

Animated Art.

A very interesting interview with Mr. Robert Pearson has just appeared in the *Bradford Weekly Telegraph*. Mr. Pearson has been connected with picture and other entertainments all his life. "Lecturing for animated pictures is evidently a new thing for Bradford," he said. "Of course, I don't believe in talking the audience to death, but some of the stories told by the films are very complicated, and are so full of incident that some explanation is necessary. I'm not sure that people always realise that when they see an event reproduced by the cinematograph they are looking at it just as they would have done had they been there at the time. The large firms have operators placed all over the civilised world, ready to take pictures of anything that may happen in their district. So accurate are some of these pictures that I remember that on one occasion, while a certain great ship was being launched and many people were killed owing to the collapse of a platform at the docks, the whole catastrophe was faithfully reproduced."

The Picture Story.

Not only is the cinematograph useful for recording events, but it also has proved very popular on account of the "picture stories" it tells. "In order to make these films," said Mr. Pearson, "very clever actors and actresses are engaged. In fact, some of the finest geniuses of the day have been engaged, including Madame Sarah Bernhardt herself. The author of the production writes the plot and tells each member of the cast what he or she is to do. The piece is then acted, but not all at once, as the public sees it, but in sections. For instance, part of the play may be in natural surroundings, for which purpose a park, or even a public street, has to be selected, while sometimes it is inside a room, which is arranged by means of scenery on a stage. Of course, the difficulty is for the actors and actresses to convey their meaning without the use of words. For this purpose the French are better than the English, their lips, features, and mannerisms being more expressive."

Novel Property-finder.

A few days ago, at the Coliseum, one of the attendants picked up a first-class season ticket to Newport and a gold bangle a few minutes after the afternoon performance had begun. Reporting his finds to Mr. C. Dundas Slater, the popular manager of the Coliseum, the latter had an announcement flashed on the screen of the bioscope, with the result that the owners of both the bangle and the season ticket were enabled to claim their property before leaving the theatre.

Letters of allotment and regret have been posted in connection with the issue of Picture Theatres, Ltd. (Animated Pictures).

The Alexandra Palace Theatre has always an attractive display of animated pictures, and recently the exhibition, which is continuous, included a very fine film, entitled A Tour Through Scotland (Gaumont).

Kensington Picture Palace.

A beautiful Gaumont film has been shown during the week at the Kensington Picture Palace, entitled "Flowers and Fruits of the Riviera." This depicts the magnificent fruits and flowers grown and produced in a most lovely part of Southern France, and the anticipation of receiving them is sufficient to set one's mouth watering.

The Poly Cinematograph.

Over one and a half million people have visited Mr. Alfred West's cinematograph entertainment at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, during the past eleven years. This world-renowned institute the mother of technical schools, and the first to show moving pictures, is to be entirely rebuilt.

Electric Empire, New Cross Gate.

This popular place of amusement is now under the management of Mr. B. C. Helps, a smart business man. Some important changes will shortly be made at this establishment by Mr. Helps.

New Electric Theatre for Derby.

The promoters of the new electric theatre undertaking at Derby is the Midland Electric Theatre Co., Ltd. This company has been formed for the purpose of erecting picture palaces in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, and Leicestershire, and they have already erected a theatre opposite the Great Central Station in Nottingham which has achieved a great success. The company has secured a site for the erection of the theatre in Derby at the bottom of Babington-lane—on the premises, in fact, until recently occupied by Andrews' motor garage. There have been difficulties in the way, but these have been overcome and the work is now in hand, and the theatre will be erected on the land adjoining the Municipal office in Babington-lane, and cover the old entrance to the motor garage and the premises until recently occupied by Mr. Rose. The building is to be completed in seven weeks' time. The front of the building will be of a handsome and effective character, and the interior scheme of decoration will be in white and blue; the best seats, or fauteuils, will be covered with blue velvet, and the carpets and curtains are to match. The contractor is Mr. Joseph Dickenson, of Ashbourne-road, and the architect Mr. Arthur Eaton, of St. James's-street, Derby.

"Better than Sydney Cooper."

Kinemacolor pictures will be presented at the new Derby theatre. Many people are asking "What is Kinemacolor?" We are all acquainted with living pictures, but not with the kinemacolor, or life-motion pictures, in all the hues and tints of nature. Hitherto the only method of showing coloured pictures on a cinematograph screen has been the laborious and costly process of hand-painting the ordinary black and white films, which only gives very imperfect results at best. By the Urban-Smith process a picture can be taken in the afternoon and exhibited in all its colours the same evening, and until quite recently this process has only been exhibited at three places in the world—the Palace Theatre, London, the Folies Bergéres at Paris, and Winter Gardens in Berlin. But the Midland Electric Theatre Company are now busy exploiting the results of the invention. The great improvement in the apparatus for projecting cinematograph pictures now enables the pictures to be exhibited with marvellous steadiness. A well-known Derby gentleman, who is also an art critic, was watching the Kinemacolor pictures at Nottingham a few days ago, and a picture appeared on the screen showing cows quietly resting in a field. The picture had apparently been taken on a day when there was practically no wind, and for the first few seconds, although the film was being reeled off at over over 2,000 pictures per minute, there was apparently not the slightest movement among the cattle, and the gentleman remarked to his friend "that it was exactly like a picture by Sydney Cooper," when suddenly one of the cows turned its head. This caused the gentleman to exclaim that it was very much better than a picture by Sydney Cooper, because it contained not only all the advantages and beauties of the picture, but that it was a living picture produced by the greatest of all artists, viz., Nature herself.

The County Electric Pavilion, Northampton, was opened on Wednesday evening, the 27th inst., when the elegance and tasteful decorations of this bijou place of entertainment were greatly admired by all the numerous visitors. A succession of pictures were shown during the evening, including The Thread of Destiny, Mexican Faith, Foolshead Learns to Skate, My Maid is too Slow, Isabella of Arragon, The Ticket-of-Leave Man, &c. Appropriate music was provided. A novelty here was the Vivaphone, an ingenious combination that synchronises the music with the action of the pictures. Having a number of these shows about the country enables the company to change their pictures twice weekly. The managing-director of the company, Mr. F. P. Aulton, M.I.E.E., was present to superintend the opening. Mr. Lyle Edwards is the resident-manager.

Linn and Darius produced last week at the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, a charming ballad, entitled *If Dreams Were Only True*, which proved a great success. This clever duo will shortly be seen at the London Pavilion.

Lilian Herlein, the beautiful American singer, will make her appearance at the Tivoli on Monday next. This lady has been starring the United States under the management of Lew Fields, whose prima donna she has been for some time. The artist is said to possess a fine voice and considerable personal attraction.

At a meeting held at the Leicester Town Hall recently in connection with a suggested Hospital matinée at the Leicester Palace in aid of the Children's Hospital and the Infirmary, it was stated that Mr. Oswald Stoll had not only granted the use of the Palace on May 26, but had also undertaken to provide artists, staff, and orchestra. Mr. Finch Hatton, in answer, said he was trying to get the printing done free. If he could do that he might possibly bring off the bill-posting free, in which case the entire receipts, without any deduction, could be handed over to the funds. It was agreed at the meeting to send a vote of thanks to Mr. Oswald Stoll for the use of the Palace.

John Fletcher, superintendent of the staff at the Canterbury, appeared before Mr. Horace Smith, at Westminster, to a summons for assaulting Francis Woodcock, of 15, Wear Bay-crescent, Folkestone, who visited the Canterbury with his lady housekeeper on the night of the 14th. Mr. Duerdin Dutton, for the management, said they would not offer an apology. Many of the audience protested against Woodcock's disgraceful language.

Mr. John Barons, who was with his wife in the stalls on the night in question, said the conduct of the prosecutor and the woman with him was disgraceful. They carried on in an awful manner, using very bad language. Several ladies in the stalls must have heard the language used. The summons was dismissed.

The late Johnny Noakes, the old Welsh comedian, whose death we recorded in our last issue, was very diminutive in stature, while his wife was tall and graceful. On one occasion Mr. and Mrs. Noakes, with their two children, were looking for lodgings. The landlady at one house where they applied scanned the quartette very closely, and eventually said, "Well, I can find room for Mrs. Noakes and the two children, but that other little boy—meaning Johnny—will have to go somewhere else."

Mr. Walter Melville sued the Rover Company, of London and Coventry, in the Official Referee's Court on Tuesday, to recover damages for breach of warranty with respect to a 16-20 horse-power motor-car purchased by him. The order was given in December, 1905, and the car was delivered in June, 1907. Only the chassis was purchased from the defendants, and £423 15s. was paid for it. The car was always going wrong and wanting repairs, and £52 was paid for repairs up to August. The defence to the action was that the car was frequently overloaded and driven in a negligent and unskilful manner over unsuitable roads, and that the working parts were unsuitably lubricated, and that the car had been badly adjusted. Mr. Melville having given evidence, the hearing was adjourned till Thursday, when judgment was given for the defendants, with costs, the Official Referee saying that he came to the conclusion that the car was reasonably fit for the purpose for which it was sold.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 9.)

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company with the new drama *A Woman's Past* is proving a strong attraction here. Mr. Percy Dawsone creates a favourable impression as David Heath; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden scores as Clement Harper; and Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Uriah Craven sustains the part with marked ability. As Bessie Miss Dora Pass deserves commendation; Miss Phyllis Elton achieves success as Clara Darrell; Miss Laura Bitterne is good as Mrs. Brown; Miss Mabel Norham makes a pleasing Kate; and some amusing comedy is supplied by Mr. Charles Locke as Frank Delannoy, and Miss Cherry Veheyne as Dorothy Heath.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—A most enjoyable programme is again being presented here this week, which includes the Lashmars, the Komic Komedy Couple; Walter Cambo, the musical monkey; Charlie Tempest, eccentric comedian; Alex Milne, ventriloquist; and the Palace pictures.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr. Neville Claude's company is here, in *The Girl from Kay's*. Miss Florrie Millington as Winnie Harborough pleases everyone with her vivacious singing and acting; Miss Blanche Courtenay deserves much praise as Nora Chalmers; and Miss Lilian Rignold is equally attractive as the maid, Elkn. Miss May Wiltshire is successful as Mrs. Chalmers; Mr. Henry Adnes causes much laughter as Max Hoggenheimer; Mr. C. Adrian Kingston as Percy Fitzthistle is humorsome; Mr. Charles Leverton is good as Mr. Chalmers; and Mr. John A. Latham equally so as Harry Gordon, Mr. Richard Andean ably representing Theodore Quench.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W Fitt.—The Great Geni Family of risley acrobats head the bill this week. Dora Lyric pleases with her catchy songs and choruses; the marvellous Child Trio are much appreciated; Walter Wade gains favour in his monologue; Fox and Melville are successful as American song illustrators; Charles Rowen raises laughter as a quaint comedian; Edna Barrett is a pleasing singer and dancer; and Mlle. Pollo a clever and graceful trapeze artist.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lee Broadbent.—The second week's engagement of Mr. Richard Flanagan's company in *Twelfth Night* has been most successful. Miss Margaret Halstan acts delightfully as Viola; Miss Moira Creegan is a capital Olivia; Miss Cicely Richards acts cleverly as Maria; and Mr. Ryder Boys as Sir Toby; Mr. Arthur Grenville as Malvolio; Mr. S. A. Cookson, as Sir Andrew; and Mr. Walter T. Clifford as Fabian support those characters with spirit and humour. Mr. Harvey Braban does good work; Mr. A. B. Imeson acts capitally as Sebastian; and Mr. W. H. Perrette is a forcible Antonio. The comedy is capitally staged and well dressed.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm Eastwood.—*A Thief in the Night* was presented here on Monday by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Miss Beatrice Homer as Sonia Cleeve acts in excellent style; Miss Mary Pemberton makes the most of her part as Joan Escombe; Mr. Stanley Bedwell is a manly Alan Escombe; Miss Irene Chalmers does well as Lady Romilly; and Mr. Hugh Wallace is good as Lord Romilly. Mr. Leyton Cancellor is a sufficiently venomous Michael Pagani; Mr. Stenson Liddard does well as Richard Cleeve; and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Happy Christmas and Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby find endless opportunities for laughter-making. Mr. Robert Merrick as Detective Laxton is excellent.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—This week Mr. Raynor and company occupy the boards in répertoire. *Moths* was the selection for the first portion of the week, Mr. Raynor playing the part of Lord Jura in a manner at once cool and unaffected; Miss Cecilia Dare acted well as the Duchess de Sonnaz; Miss Frances Waring made a capital Lady Dolly; and Miss Dora Dench as Vere Herbert did well. Miss Hilda Blanche was very good as Fuchsia Leach; and Mr. Clinton Baddeley made a good Zonroff.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Final Settlement, a good film, tells a story of love and weakness; The President's Special is a capital railway picture; and A Visit to a Metal Works is very interesting. The Cup Final is also most acceptable.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—This week the bill of fare includes a picture of the Cup Final, a thrilling film of Indian life, The Cowboy and the Squaw, and other interesting subjects.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—The summer term's engagements began last week with Mr. Mouillot's company in a return visit with *The Message from Mars*, which was received with the greatest delight by capital houses. This week Mr. Norman V. Norman's company has scored a big success with *The Marriage of Kitty*. Mr. Norman V Norman gives a finished and interesting impersonation of Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr. F. L. Whittaker is admirable as Travers; Miss Vera George is very good in the trying part of Mme. de Semiano; Miss Betty Stannard is a smart French maid; and Miss Beatrice Wilson's Kitty is most charming and fascinating.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company continues popular. *Under Two Flags* and *The Dumb Man of Manchester* fill the week's bill In *Under Two Flags* Mr. Harry Parr sustains the dual rôle of Bertie Cecil and Louis Victor with distinction, and Mr. E. Holland Day gives a good rendering of Berkeley Cecil. Mr. Harry Leyton makes an impressive Colonel Chatewy; Mr. D. Carlton is a robust Lord Rockingham; Mr. Edwin Firth does conscientious work as Ezra Baroni; and Mr. Karl Edwards adds considerable life to the piece as Rake Flannigan. Miss Mabel Parker is successful in the small part of Biddy; Miss Katie Norris is the Countess; and Miss Vida Rogerson makes a winsome Maria. As Cigarette Miss Elma C. Turner is again enabled to show her great versatility and dramatic skill.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*As Your Hair Grows Whiter* is being presented here by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company. Mr. Hubert Helliwell as the Rev. John Albery is praiseworthy; Mr. Percy St. Clair makes a manly Jack Walters; Mr. Louis Weston a humorous Mozart; as Timothy Stough Mr. Herbert Fuller is funny and amusing: Mr. Percy Byres is creditable in his embodiment of Governor Farragh; and Mr. Cuthbert Taylor is capital in his delineation of Squire Jack Stondy. Miss Agnes Collier plays with ability the part of Alice Walters; Miss Lilian Burns makes a good Mrs. Walters; Miss Lily Fuller is a smart Diana Vanderbout; and Miss Emily Lewis gives a characteristic study of Nurse Von Grip.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The Ten Loonies, who head the bill here this week, are very entertaining in their musical act and sketch, *Dotty*; Archie Royer, American comedian, submits a smart and versatile turn; Ernie Myers keeps the audience in the best of humour by his funny patter and originality; Lily Lonsdale is an artistic soprano vocalist, and sings descriptive songs, which gain applause; Robb Wilton is a comedian of droll methods; Queenie May charms by her delightful singing; the Dancing Paceys as expert dancers are well received; Merton and Rydon submit a humorous entertainment; and the Bioscope concludes.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—In addition to an excellent series of pictures, the programme this week includes several clever turns, Jean Kram, juggler, the Delorosas, trapeze artists, and La Dor Troupe, acrobats, being all experts in their line. The vocal element is pleasingly contributed to by Miss Ethel Edwards, Maclaine and Mac, and Mike Nono, the latter of whom is, in addition, an excellent dancer.

PETERBOROUGH. — Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Starring here this week are the Davis and Gledhill Trio, in their cycle and motor racing on a patent track. The exhibition is warmly applauded. Percy Johnson, an amusing comedian has a style of his own; Coda and Danton are highly successful in their comedy act, *Half a Man*; Daisy Dashwood is a favourite comedienne; Alfred Wood and company present a sketchlet, *Ten Minutes*, which is received with much appreciation; Rosie Archer is delightfully entertaining as a mimic at the piano; Harry Edgar, comedian, is well received; and the Karnoscope concludes.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Brewster's Millions* is on a return visit with practically the same company as that which created so excellent an impression last year. As Monty Brewster Mr. Percy Hutchison is as formerly the life and soul of the production, his remarkable expedients for dispossessing himself of his fortune being excrutiatingly funny. Mr. Aubrey Mather is well placed as the warm-hearted Scot, Joseph McLeod, and Mr. Henry Hampson is a smart Archie Golding. Miss Cicely Stuckey is delightful and fascinating as Peggy Grey; Miss Pauline Straus works hard as Janice Armstrong; and Miss Lilias Earle has a fine stage presence and manner as Mrs. Dan de Mille. *Chalk and Cheese* precedes, the leading characters being undertaken by Mr. A. P. Kaye, Miss Pauline Straus, and Miss May Seton.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccanninies execute some first-rate dancing; Brinn performs some wonderful feats of balancing and heavy-weight business; George Lawrence scores with a number of humorous songs; Walton and Lester are an amusing pair of eccentrics; Lauri and Beatty are popular in a diverting farce, entitled *In Her Boudoir*; Earle and Melville have some first-rate patter and smart dancing; Minnie D'Aubyn renders catchy chorus songs; and Ambrose Thorne is a comedian of ability.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—The Four Pawels head the bill in a sketch entitled *After the Matinée*. The Great Stave appears in a novel musical act; the Sisters Herbert, juvenile duettists and dancers, have made themselves decided favourites; Phil Kaufmann is a prime favourite in his songs; and Fred Tenby is a good comedian and dancer. Will Beanland, female impersonator, and Pearce and Ward, entertainers, are paying return visits. The Alexscope shows some excellent films.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Messrs. Dagmar and Brown's company is here in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. Wilson Coleman is exceptionally good as Felix Beverley, and Mr. John S. Milward impersonates Jack Sterling in a capable manner; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt is capital as Geoffrey Langdon; and Colonel Miles is in the able hands of Cyril Grier. Messrs. Percy Brown, Victor Raymond, and W. Annesley are most amusing as Thomas, Charles, and Arthur Bellairs respectively; Mr. Harland Brookes makes an excellent Detective Banks; Miss Amy Elian is a graceful Mary, and Miss Kathleen Magee shows herself to advantage as the Hon. Mrs. Sands. Miss Minnie Goepel makes a hit as Sweet Nancy.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—La Faille Troupe are expert risley acrobats; Beattie Bloom is a dainty comedienne; and Harry Luck, with his original songs, is very funny. Miss Annie Schuberth presents a song-scena, *The Deputy; or, A Private Rehearsal*, quite captivating the audience with her charming voice and manner. George Greville is a droll, bashful dame comedian; Wisper, a resourceful comedy juggler, is very smart; Michel Bros., head-to-head balancers and tumblers, are exceedingly neat; and the Bioscope presents the latest films.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A return visit of Mr. Fred Mouillot's company with *A Message from Mars* is interesting playgoers here. Mr. F. Vernon Travers skilfully portrays Horace Parker; a powerful conception of the Messenger is afforded by Mr. William H. Brougham; a fine impersonation of the aunt, Miss Parker, is given by Miss Aubrey Ashton; Miss Rose Helene delicately characterises the unselfish Minnie Templar; worldly Mrs. Clarence has a capable exponent in Miss Mary Buckstone; Mr. Cecil Kerr smartly realises Arthur Dicey; and Mr. Norman Clark does well as the Tramp. The staging is all that could be desired.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Idol of Paris* is being presented here. The acting of Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare is quite the feature of the performance; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee gives an excellent reading of Philipe d'Esterre, the villain; Mr. Alfred Grenville makes a handsome and debonair hero; Mme. Sancterre is admirably portrayed by Miss Frances Bruce; Mr. Gordon Robey as Prince Sergius Zoresky, Mr. St. John Medley as Gustave Langlois, Mr. Vivian Thomas as Tantave, and Miss Annie Megson as Ann Sancterre also act capably. The play is well mounted.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The *pièce de résistance* is the vocal scena "Songland," presented by Dan Lipton's company. Miss Eva Kelland, the "principal songstress," renders several tuneful selections. The Lannons are remarkably clever wooden shoe and pedestal dancers; Keen and Waller arouse roars of laughter by their humorous antics; Teresa la Silva's fine voice is heard to effect in a couple of songs; the Three Delaries perform marvellous acrobatic feats in their "Demon Grotto act." Other good turns are:—Meynard and Lloyd, in a comedy duologue, *The Dummy*; Sam Williams, character comedian; and the Tissots, living marionettes. Payne's Bio-Photoscope concludes an excellent performance.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The great attraction is the Kilties Concert Band, assisted by the Clan Johnstone Troupe of pipers and dancers. Barnes and Ascot are wonderfully expert dancers. The sketch *Before the Dawn* is powerfully acted by Messrs. G. Sheldon and Rawson Buckley's company; Leo Dryden's powerful voice is heard to advantage in verses suggested by "The White Man" and "The Only Way"; Ray Espinosa dances gracefully; Kitty Clinton sings with spirit. The special film is The Barnsley and Newcastle Cup-Tie.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Magic and conjuring take the place of honour this week, with the engagement of Techin-Maa and his band of Chunchuses Mountebanks, their marvellous feats exciting great attention. Charles Collette and Ivan Derry create much amusement in their farce duologue *Pyjamas*; the Three Braggs perform their acrobatic feats very cleanly; Lydia Yeamans is a versatile artist; the Carnia Sisters provide a refined musical turn; Harry Grey scores as a lady impersonator; and other pleasing turns include Regan and Ryan, the Forsyths, Patty Yole, and Dolly England. The popular picture was the Barnsley and Newcastle Cup-Tie.

Gosport Theatre.—Ted Gill, possessor of a fine tenor voice; Stallman and Russell's playlet *Borrowed Plumes* is well acted. The chief pictures are The Power of the Press, Two Portraits, and the English Cup Final.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—*The Mummy and the Humming Bird* is presented by an admirable company. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gives an excellent rendering of the part of Lord Lumley; Mr. Lewin Mannering is to be congratulated on his very clever portrayal of the unenviable character of Signor D'Orelli; Mr. Percy Marmont is quite at home as Lord Ronalds; Mr. Lancelot Lowder gives a very fine character sketch of Giuseppe; and Miss A. Bruce-Joy depicts Lady Lumley in a realistic manner; Miss Ethel Carlyle is successful as Ruth Thornton; and Miss Blackstone is a capable Cummings. Messrs. Eric Mordan, J. E. Turner, and Geo. Branton, in the respective rôles of Judson, Markham, and Thomas, are good.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Bardell.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine provides a most artistic number in her living replica of famous Continental works of art, and Mlle. Leony and Marjah present some entrancing Eastern dances; Miss Mary Mayfrew's company, in the dramatic scena *The Yellow Fang*, is a big success, Miss Violet Campbell acting Judith Beck cleverly; Marie Blythe pleases with well-rendered contralto songs; Dave Carter, Irish tenor, meets with a good reception; Sullivan and Edwards are expert dancers; Jack McKenzie is a smart comedian, and his songs go well; the Two Brilliants are marvellous performers on the xylophne; the Harringtons give a novel and clever juggling act interspersed with singing and dancing; the Great Virto, assisted by his talented daughter Venita, give a finished performance on various musical instruments. The Power of the Press on the Bio. concludes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Harry Tilbury's company in the drama *His Dishonoured Wife*, is well suited to the taste of patrons. Mr. A. Geo. Fry gives a manly portrayal of Frank Lindon, and Miss Bella Tilbury wins the full sympathy of the audience as Florence Lindon; Mr. Gilbert Hall as Lord Devant, and Mr. Edwin Brown as Tom Redmond imbue their respective parts with sufficient villainy to suit the most fastidious; Mr. Fred Owen is a capital Neil Locksley; Mr. Harry Tilbury as Micky Doolan is responsible for much of the comedy element, and he receives excellent support from Miss Mildred Eversleigh, a most amusing Araminta Dustpan; Miss A. T. George as Alice Harvey is excellent; Little Priscilla is a gifted child actress; and Miss Florence Hayward a charming Mabel Lindon. The play is well mounted.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Murray King and company are presenting *The Catch of the Season* here. Mr. Murray King himself impersonates the bluff Duke of St. Jermyns in excellent style; Mr. C. C. Ommanney, who is an accomplished vocalist, is very satisfactory as Lord Dundreary; Mr. A. Linden as Sir J. Crystal, Mr. J. Dallas as Mr. Gibson, Mr. C. A. Hogg as Lord Yatten, and Mr. M. Stewart as Captain Rushpool, are all good in their respective parts; Miss Gladys Guy makes a great success in the part of Angela, her singing is also highly appreciated; Miss E. Shelley is commendable as Lady Caterham; Miss N. Dwyer is good as Honora; Miss Louie West is vivacious as Sophia. Praise is also due to Miss Belle Rivers (the Duchess), Miss Olive, and Miss M. Cottell (Lady Crystal). Master West is a clever representative of Bucket. The Gibson Girls add to the effect of the scene. The other parts are well filled, and a full chorus do justice to the concerted music.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—Staley's Transformation is a very effective and novel speciality, in which the Staley Trio extract music from hoops, barrels, anvils, the work-bench, and other articles. The magical change from the workshop to the drawing-room and back again is also well carried out. The Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio display their skill and agility in a vocal and terpsichorean act, *Romps in a Drawing-room*; Dorothy Dundas is a dainty vocalist; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas appear in some highly dramatic scenes from Dickens; and Flo Banks, comedienne; Bert Wilson, in songs and observations; Witty Wattie Walton, character comedian; the Melroses, musical comedy artists—all appear with success. The Football Cup Final is depicted on the Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—The Lyceum company, under the management of Mr. Henry R. Smith, is here this week with *Pete*, and is receiving excellent support. Mr. Austin Milroy is strong in the title-part, and Mr. Alfred Gray plays with great effect as Phillip Christian; Mr. J. Edward Fletcher is seen to advantage as Ross Christian, and Mr. Frank Stone scores highly as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Harry Pitt does well as Black Tom, and Mr. Charles Clayton is deserving of mention as Jonaique Jelly; Mr. James Williams as Dr. Mylechreest and Mr. Harry Brooks as Lord-Lieutenant are well-filled parts. Miss Lucy Murray is smart as Nancy, and Miss Minnie Lake is effective as Granny; Miss Enid Wilde does well as Mary, and Miss Ruth Eyre scores as Meg; Miss Maie Duncan is seen to advantage as Annie, and Miss V. Malcolm Barnett is pleasing and sympathetic as Kate Cregeen. The mounting and scenery are elaborate.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—The Four Royal Scots present a novel musical act, and receive a well-deserved recall here; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, bring down the house with a particularly smart act; the Luzellas are responsible for a clever and refined gymnastic mélange; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard are most amusing in the comedy sketch *Coming Home*; Lilian Lowe is a charming vocalist; Harry Conlin does well in a comedy turn; J. J. Mannix, the coffee-coloured coon, makes good friends; and the Fimans are very funny in *The Fire Station*. The Cup Final is shown on the Hipposcope.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.—This week we have another fine selection of films. Miss Leuce Lovelle, vocal comedienne, is deserving of special notice for her character songs.

SALFORD.—P.O.W.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Life's Sweetest Sins* is paying another visit here, and on Monday a full house followed the story and excellent acting by Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his company. Captain Harold Marston is well played by Mr. T. Arthur Jones; Ernie Wodston is in the capable hands of Mr. John Davidson; Mr. Juan D'Alberti as Doctor Colbrooke, Mr. Albert H. Clarke as Kimberley Coutts, and Mr. Arthur Prescott very creditably present villainy; Mr. C. Preece (Bob Tanner), Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey (Martin), and Miss May Neilson (Bess Grayson) furnish some good comic business. The heroine is well sustained by Miss F. Melrose Millett; and Miss Marie Daventry cleverly plays Fay Colbrooke. The staging is very good, the scene in the submarine being especially realistic.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond.—Braatz' Dogs do some very clever tricks, and cause much laughter with their sketch, *The Burglar's Fate*; Charles Pastor, comedian, is much applauded for his comic singing; Leslie Lyn and Willie harmonise well, and do some very funny business; Werds Brothers are a couple of smart and comical acrobats. Other acceptable turns include Peter Kelly, character comedian; Sisters Brenton, dancing experts; Jack Hayworth, Scotch comedian; and May de Rouse, a pleasing comedienne and dancer.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Among some really good turns are the Bouncing Dillons; Jennie Johns, dainty comedienne; Four Mayos, in their comic skating scene; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; Mysterious Marriotts, mind readers; Doughty and Laney (Geo. C. and Molly), in *A Woman's Way*; George Hyam, comedian; Charles Baron's burlesque menagerie; and Nellie Rose, comedienne and dancer.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent New Animated Pictures include Lady's Train, Hidden in the Mattress, President's Special, His Last Burglary, and Brother's Redemption. Mr. Tom Sherlock furnishes variety with his songs.

Central Hall (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond; Company-Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures and Mr. Gilbert's songs are well patronised. Among the films are Five Minutes to Twelve, Where are My Keys, Flossie's Theft, The Flirting Wife, At the Picture Show, and Price of Fame.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—For Daddy's Sake, Aviators' First Trials, The Blind Man and His Boy, and Cricket on the Hearth are among this week's pictures.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—A crowded house greeted Mr. Albert Chevalier when he gave one of his famous recitals. The popular entertainer's first item was "The Workhouse man," which was followed by "Wot's the good of hanyfink," "The future Mrs. 'Awkins," "A fallen star," and a new number, "Right as ninepence," which proved very popular. Miss Tresilian Davy has a good soprano voice, and her charming manner made her very popular; Mr. J. C. Holliday's pianoforte solos contributed much to the success of the evening. The management is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Ingle.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The Adams comedy cyclists are clever and amusing; Alfred Holt, comedian and mimic, is well received; Ormonde Penstone does an acceptable turn; George St. Helen is a pleasing vocalist; Cowley and Rich are good comedians; Ethel Ra Leslie is distinctly successful; and James Stewart, in *The Tramp and the Piano*, contributes an exceptionally good turn.

New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*The Diver's Luck* is being played here by a highly capable company, in which Mr. Wm. Macready enacts Martin Faber, Mr. H. J. Walton Maurice Wyngate, Mr. Williams Tom Hall, Mr. Edmund O'Grady Barry Bawn, Mr. Harry Bristow Snowball, Miss Pearl Noyle Peggy, Miss Phyllis Spalding Winnie Hall, and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff appears as the heroine.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—An attractive programme was submitted here on Monday by the Gipsies and their Jester (under the direction of Mr. Will Gane). Baroness von Eckardstein's private band (conductor, Mr. C. H. Allan) continues to give satisfaction.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company are here with *The Old Home*. Mr. Charles Tranmore deserves the highest praise for his artistic and touching portrayal of Daddy Dean; and Miss Nina Blake Adams gives a delightful performance of his daughter, Hazel Dean. The Rev. Eric Armstrong is played with much power by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell; and the warm-hearted Bridget Donoghan receives a clever rendering from Miss Hariette Loydall. Mr. Fred L. Connynghame gets in some good comic work as Sam Adams, the villain, Lord Avondale, being powerfully rendered by Mr. Horatio Sinclair. Miss Ethel Ashleigh gives able assistance as Polly Popp; and the fine scenic effects are cleverly arranged.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and a selected company, is paying one of his welcome periodical visits. *The Octoroon* was presented on Monday, and as Salem Scudder Mr. Tearle added to his reputation. The week's repertory embraces *Ingomar*, *East Lynne*, *Shall We Forgive Her?* and *Jeanie Deans*.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Nat Travers and his merry little band in a coster scena, *The East-End Aristocracy*, are proving an irresistible attraction; Greco, a clever juggler, secures hearty applause; Arthur Rugbey, comedian, creates roars of laughter; Lillian Devon, chic comedienne and dancer, has a good reception; Gibbs and Page, dancing marvels, make a hit, and Katie Weston, comedienne, is successful. Joe Shear, described as the fly-weight champion of England, and Bert Moughton, bantam-weight champion of Ireland, complete.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The delightful Steadman production of *Alice in Wonderland* is again giving pleasure to old and young. The pretty scenery, quaint costumes, and charming dances contribute to the general success, and the artists, headed by little Ivy Sawyer, a charming and refined representative of Alice, Mr. Dan Leno, jun., Mr. Franklyn Vernon, and Mr. Tom Graves, all seem thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Lewis Carroll's whimsical creations.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. Murray Yorke's company opened to a good house on Monday in the thrilling drama *Sexton Blake*. Mr. Murray Yorke acted with all the requisite sang-froid and gentlemanly audacity as the popular detective hero of the hour; Miss Elizabeth Watkins made a graceful and engaging Marjorie Lovell; and other characters were cleverly acted by Miss S. St. Clair, Miss Betty Seymour, Mr. Edward McLean, Mr. Sydney Barnes, Mr. Stephen Nicholls, Mr. Will Glaze, and Mr. Paul Barry B. Lewers. The play was effectively mounted.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is here in the pathetic play of domestic interest, *A Noble Mother*. Miss Agnes Collier in the title-r le was loudly applauded on Monday by a large audience, and the incidents of the story and its pleasing *dénouement* made a most favourable impression.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The wonderful illusionist, Chung Ling Soo, heads this week's bill; and the other performers are Mr. J. A. Wilson and his clever soldier dog, the intelligent "Towser"; the popular Delevine Trio, pantomimists; Beatty and Blanch, novelty artists; Mr. Fred Earle, comic singer; the talented Motramas (Tom and Marie), musical and burlesque artists; Takio; Miss Emma Don's company, in a smart sketch; Miss Kathleen Grey, vocalist; Stanley and Greenup, two clever entertainers; and the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures.

The Hippodrome.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. Percy Honri, accompanied by the graceful Mlle. Quetia Papacci (from the Chatelet Theatre), and a company of thirty artists, opened here on Monday in *Concordia*. Palles and Cussick are two old Sheffield favourites; and other talented artists this week are the Beketow Brothers; Bertisch, Watson, and Naylor, the Columbia Trio; Mr. George Campbell, vocalist; and Miss Flo Cecil, a pleasing artist. Bio concludes with topical films.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Some attractive variety turns and bright pictures are the fare here this week. Lottie Lennox tops the bill with her capitally-rendered songs, including the latest favourite, "Put on your old plaid shawl"; Arthur Lewis is a fine dancer and champion diabolist; Lena French is a talented male impersonator; and the Cumberlands are an exceedingly clever troupe of cyclists.

SMETHWICK. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Local theatre-goers are having a week of Shakespearean plays. The house was well filled throughout on Monday night, a large number of students taking advantage of the visit. The production was the highly popular *Merchant of Venice*, and as presented by Mr. F. R. Benson's North company, it left no room for complaint. The piece was admirably staged, and the audience was most attentive and appreciative. Mr. Henry Herbert won golden opinions for his Shylock, and was warmly cheered for his sterling study; Bassanio was in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Sparrow; Mr. Robert Atkins was fully equal to the part of Antonio; Mr. Joseph O'Dowd was well placed as Lorenzo; Mr. Eric Snowdon does well as Tubal; Miss Kate Turner as Portia was seen to advantage in every act in which she appeared; Miss Barclay was a charming Nerissa; Miss Dorothy Radford was a capable Jessica; Mr. H. S. Cohen was very amusing as Launcelot Gobbo. On Tuesday *King Lear* was well received. *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Hamlet* are also in the bill.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Crowded houses are welcoming Mr. George Dance's company, who, with Miss Zena Dare in the title-rôle, successfully present *The Little Duke*. Miss Dare is excellent as the Duc de Richelieu, her dashing rendering being greatly to the liking of the audience; Mr. Johnny Danvers keeps the house in a continual roar, and scores a great success as the Baron; his efforts being ably seconded by Miss Nelly Dade as the Baroness; Miss Agnes Imlay is a stately Duchesse; Miss May Rawlinson sings delightfully as Diane; Miss Gertrude Robertson a fascinating Princess; and Miss Doris Dickens a dainty Cesarine; Mr. Reginald Adair scores as the amorous Chevalier, his robust singing being a feature of the production; and Mr. Alex. Johnstone gives a fine impersonation of the Abbé. Miss Nina Terri contributes a graceful dance, and the singing of the chorus, under the bâton of Mr. H. H. Shaw, is admirable.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Joe Elvin's *Rocket* sketch goes with a bang, the sporting element is strongly in evidence, and jovial Joe scores a big hit in the part of Wilkie Waggler, a sport in every sense of the word. Mr. Elvin is well supported, and the introduction of real racers add an acceptable touch of realism; Jack Lorimer is another prime favourite, his Scotch songs going effectively; the Three Sisters Macarte present a pretty Japanese scena which is well acclaimed. Others appearing are Aida Martine, Jack Rae, and Daisy Morrell.

Palace.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—The top-liners here are the great Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats, whose feats are truly wonderful; the Merrions are clever entertainers; Cissie Thompson, a dainty singer; Mildred Bryan, an artistic singer of Irish songs; Chas. Gardner, a droll comedian; and the Zampas complete.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The attractions here include the Vampire dance, by Tom Terriss and Mildred Deverez; Little Sophie, child actress; Frank Seeley, comedian; Jackson Family, instrumentalists; Mark Hanbury, comedian; the Forest Combination, in comedy sketch; and the famous Lockhart's elephants.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Cowen presents *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, a drama which is well sustained by a strong cast. Mr. Henry Doughty as Nicholas Brophy is responsible for excellent acting, and as Mr. Johnson, Mr. Will Harman is highly humorous; Miss Dora Hammersley as Gertrude Grant acts throughout with marked ability.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*Pete* was presented here for the first time on Monday by the Lyceum company, under the direction of Mr. H. R. Smith. The title-part received a capital interpretation at the hands of Mr. Frederick Victor, who depicted the rugged nature of the character with effective emphasis and point; Miss Constance Bachner enacted the rôle of Kate with admirable effect; Mr. Ellis J. Preston submitted a praiseworthy sketch as Cæsar Cregeen; the Deemster had a distinctly successful representative in Mr. Alfred Lugg; the Mayor of Douglas was well played by Mr. Charles Arthur; Mr. Maurice Yorke gave an efficient portrayal of Ross Christian; and Black

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier turn here is done by Happy Fanny Fields, who has an excellent reception; Cavalli, ventriloquist, is a local favourite; Ike and Will Scott are full of farcical funniosities; Frank Cass, vocal character comedian, is well received; Lillie Laszah is an excellent dancer; Persichini submits an excellent mandoline performance; and May Brilliant, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope, with new and interesting films, complete the entertainment.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Messrs. Shiel-Porter and Garth's Répertoire company is appearing here, and on the opening night *Still Waters Run Deep* was effectively produced. Mr. Garth played with great skill the character of John Mildmay, and as Captain Hawksley Mr. T. G. Vane proved successful; Mr. Arthur McCulloch was well received as Mr. Potter; Miss Gwen Stewart gave a finished portrayal of Mrs. Hector Sternhold, and Miss Gladys Morris as Mrs. Mildmay was very good. Other pieces billed include *The Money Spinner* and *Caste*.

Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The programme is topped by the Ormsides; Pie and Pip in *The Hebrew and the Maid* are an enjoyable turn. The A. B. pictures include the English Cup-tie.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Miss Florence Baines is drawing big houses with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, this week. Miss Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson is inimitable. She is a power in herself with her droll sayings and laughter-provoking manner and her sweet and well trained voice does full justice to the many popular songs which fall to her share; John Higgins is well assumed by Captain Gerald Gambier; and Mr. Sinclair Holden is natural and unaffected in the character of Harry; Miss Eva Nelson is a pretty and merry Eva Lancashire; John Henry Thompson and Mrs. Thompson are delightfully depicted by Mr. Payne Fletcher and Miss Maud Locker; and much amusement is caused by the clever impersonation of Moses Goldburg by Mr. Burt Burton. Mr. Loader took his benefit on Wednesday.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The entertaining programme presented here this week is headed by the New Macs, whose performance is greeted with roars of laughter; Randolph King's entertainment is exceedingly interesting and clever; Beattie Foster wins a good many admirers; and the Keppels are greatly applauded; *The Altar of Duty* is well acted by Miss Diana Hope and company; Corcoran Brothers please with their musical items; Wallace Whitney takes the popular taste; and Duncan and Brasque are good in the playlet *My Lancashire Wife*.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The domestic drama *An Old Man's Darling* is making a first visit here this week, and, capitally presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company, has met with a most cordial reception. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe sustains with manly power the character of George Ricroft; as Jack Lee Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts with ability; and Mr. W. R. Winning makes a thoroughly capable villain, Cuthbert Blacksland. As Billy Barlicorn, Mr. Miller Wilson is distinctly funny; Miss Nina Vaughton acts with sympathetic charm as Bessie Earnshaw; Mary Winters is creditably impersonated by Miss Beryl Fernedez; Minnie is sweetly played by Miss Emilie Entwistle; and a pleasing character is Molly Maloney in the hands of Miss Florrie Hall.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Jordan and Harvey, who occupy the premier position on the bill this week, are amusing Hebrew comedians. Among others appearing are Vesta Nixon, a pleasing comedienne and smart dancer; the Norman Leonard Trio are entertaining in their musical sketch *The Itinerant*; Geo. Marston, Yorkshire comedian and mimic, pleases with his imitations; Carney Brothers are capable vocal duettists; and the Grovini Sisters excel as acrobats.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mrs. Mark Kinghorne presents the farcical comedy *Mother-in-Law* here this week. Mrs. Kinghorne appears with distinction as Mrs. Pounceby; Miss Violet Lewis is very good as Topsy Grey; Miss Agnes Allen makes a capital Susan; and Miss Lucie Conway as Rose Matilda and Miss Nellie Christie as Mrs. McTurtle also do well. Mr. Fred Kaye is a clever Major McTurtle; Mr. Edward Jephson a good Talfourd Twigg; and Mr. Alfred Hemming is well suited to the part of Pounceby.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Tom Foy and company score a great success here in *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; Leonard Charburn's Young Stars appear in a pretty vocal scena, "A Picnic up the River"; Elton and Elma are clever knockabouts in a triple bar act; Doyle and Gibson are up-to-date comedians and dancers; the Ellimans give a good musical entertainment; V. Wakeman is good as a humorist and mimic; and *Suzan?* a cosmopolitan muddle, presented by Miss Yolande Noble and Mr. C. Young Fixote, and Harry Thurston, burlesque comedian, are also in the bill.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Haley's vocalists and dancers give a charming sketch; the Bros. Ashley are well received in their comedy boxing act; Williams and Warden are good Irish comedians; and Sammy Foster, Mlle. Du Roche, Ray and Douglas, Doc Thomas, and the Three Eltons all provide entertaining items.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — The Hippodrome. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton. — Eugene Stratton renews his acquaintance with the patrons of this house, with whom he is most popular. Another striking and telling exhibition is that of Francini, Olloms, and Page in a miscellaneous combination of acrobatics and concertina and xylophone solos, excellently rendered; the Sages are smart in their vaudeville act; Stidder and Dunbar appear in a novel musical and comedy act. Other contributions are by Sim Moree and W. G. Wesley.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. Ian Robertson and company are playing *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* to crowded and appreciative audiences. Mr. Ian Robertson plays throughout with much earnestness as the Stranger, making the character stand out in bold relief; Mr. W. O. Billington excels as the Satyr; and Mr. J. Woodall-Birde, Mr. Stanley Browne, and Mr. Herbert Gathorne all do skilful work in their respective rôles of the Coward, Rogue, and Cad. Miss Jeannie Thomas is a typical Landlady, and submits a finished study. Mr. Twyman is most realistic as the Major, and Miss Delphine gives a clever rendering as his wife; as Vivian, Miss Barbara Everest displays great discernment and ability; and Miss Helena Parsons scores with her natural presentment of the Slavey. Clever portrayals are also rendered by Miss Drusilla Wills and Miss Blanche Ripley as Miss Kite and Mrs. de Hooley.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Miss Winifred Maud and company are here in *Sins of a City*. As Seaweed Miss Winifred Maud plays throughout with telling effect; Miss Wingold Lawrence displays histrionic ability in the part of Lesbia L'Estrange; Mr. Arthur L. Reed is good as Sandy McDonald; Donald McIvor is well portrayed by Harold Heath; and Mr. Maurice Jones excels in his two rôles; Mr. Morris Maud as Ralph Blackwater proves himself a capable exponent of villainy, as also does Victor du Cane as Isaac Levi. Miss Minnie Millwarde is excellent as Midge.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—An excellent programme is drawing large audiences. Read and Wright cause much amusement with their funny patter, and score heavily with their dancing; Florrie Vannen renders some pretty songs in capital style; and Billy Melia, comedian and dancer, is making a hit. The Girl and the Ranger and A Mexican's Faith are two fine dramatic films.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Craggs perform many skilful and daring feats, and cause roars of laughter; Miss Winifred Ward, "the immaculate boy," scores well with three capital songs; the Sisters Caselli give general delight with their vocal duets and dance; Frank Maura displays wonderful dexterity in his exhibition of foot equilibrism; Gladys Hooley contributes some excellent violin solos; Chas. Santon is well received for his vocalism—both baritone and soprano; Corman's Juveniles supply an attractive item; and Vadinoff, lightning artist, wins applause.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—*Hush Money* is here this week. Mr. Horace Denton furnishes an effective representation of Sexton Blake; John Shard is successfully portayed by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson; Mr. Robert Barton capably plays the Earl of Montresor; Mr. J. H. Darnley powerfully enacts Lord Mervin Walgrave; Mr. Harry Hartley makes a popular Tinker; Miss Theresa Osborne as Lady Muriel Montresor acts with feeling; and Miss Agnes Paulton plays Euphemia Pattacake in a sprightly manner.

TODMORDEN. — Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—This week we are favoured with a visit from Mr. Eustace Day's company with *For Love of a Woman*. Miss May Day's delineation of Nance is capital; Miss J. de Clifford is a charming Margery; and Miss Dorothy Oswald an impressive Nell Paget. Mr. E. Douglas gives a finished portrayal of Ned Merrick; Mr. E. Regent as Guy Manor imbues the part with the necessary amount of stage villainy; and Mr. J. Redfern is exceedingly good as Police-constable Sam Holland.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Royal. — General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill, supported by his No. 1 company, is here in *For Love and the King*. Mr. C. W. Mill is praiseworthy as Gerald Meredith; Mr. A. Maurice does well as Michael Obrenovitch; the part of Vladimir Obrenovitch is capably undertaken by Mr. C. H. Matthews King; that of Kara has an able exponent in Mr. S. Weston; and Prince Uros is well played by Mr. F. K. Wicksteed. Edith Meredith is admirably embodied by Miss Rosalind Tate; Princess Milania is well depicted by Miss L. Munro; Miss Joan Ellis acts with effect as Natalia; and Miss K. Melville is suitably placed as Grazia Obrenovitch.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. E. Harper.—Topping a good bill here is Bill Rees and his troupe of kiddies. Bill and Bailey meet with a hearty reception; Ray and Lingard score highly; Ireno Ralph and the Boriskis also merit approbation. A fine selection of pictures is shown.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Miss Maude Mortimer is recalled again and again here; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington present a cleverly-played sketch; Ross Warren soon becomes popular; La Belle Linda is a clever cyclist; Marie Dreams, girl baritone, scores well; and Alick Lauder and Gibbon and Bell are favourably received. This week a local artist, Mr. Ben Thomson, has been engaged to sing an illustrated song.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky 'Liza* is occupying the boards here. Miss Vesta Brownie in the name-part is popular and dances well; Miss Hettie Gale is an attractive Vergina; Miss Belle Russell does equally well as Marie Pettitoe; as the two barristers, Mr. T. W. Benson and Mr. Harry George are well placed; and Mr. Bert Collins is an amusing Court Usher; Mr. Dickie Clare appears in the rôles of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French waiter, in each of which he causes much merriment; Mr Leonard Maitland is also successful.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Mr. Harry Lumley's company, in *The Cruise of the Constance*, has had a very favourable reception, and the merry and bright musical comedy promises to have a successful run. Miss Irene Verona as the volatile Mrs. Hope makes a great hit, and Mr. Chas. McNaughton as the steward of the yacht has elaborated this most amusing rôle, and simply bubbles over with humour. Miss Carlotto Sylvano makes a charming heroine, and Miss Ruby Vyvyan succeeds in imparting more than ordinary importance to the rôle of lady's maid. Mr. Fredk. Hobbs as the lover also plays admirably, and two humorous studies are given by Mr. Chas. McLagan as a Franco-Swiss Admiral, who woos the widow, and Mr. Albert Kavanagh as the very gallant Captain of the yacht. Mr. Lockwood Philpott is excellent as the villain of the piece; Mr. Tom Prentice furnishes an amusing Anglo-Italian café proprietor; and Mr. Claude Casey a realistic deck hand. Minor rôles among the ladies of the company are admirably filled by the Misses Lilian Turner, Mary Dandredge, Maudi Jennings, Sybil West, Tressie March, Phœbe Dickinson, and Molly Shine. The mounting, particularly the deck of the yacht, is admirable.

TYLDESLEY.—Miners Hall.—Manager, Mr. Chris Matthews.—The fine programme submitted here this week is drawing large audiences. The varied selection of pictures shown is highly popular. Snowball and Mac are successful comedy entertainers; Kitty Hildrew is a dainty artist; and Barry Mills, comedian, makes a hit.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is appearing here. On Monday *Moths* was produced. Mr. Andrew Money admirably portrayed the rôle of Prince Zouroff; Mr. Roland Ward was good as the Duke of Mull and Cantire; Mr. F. Douglas Howard sustained with marked power the part of Correze; Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy was seen to advantage as Lord Jura; and Mr. George Mercer proved effective as Boris. Principal honours fall to Miss Henrietta Schrier for her talented and artistic rendering as Fuchsia Leach; Miss Veronica Clinton made a delightful Vere Herbert; Miss Nellie Statham was charming as Lady Dolly; and Miss Marie Ramuz was a dignified Duchess de Sonnaz. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* is also billed.

Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Cheebert's Royal Imperial Chinese give a novel gymnastic display; the Sisters Geretti are graceful and daring trapezists; Tony Iveson causes great merriment in his amusing musical act; the Comerford Trio of acrobats provide a capital turn; De Lilo and Metz, lady contortionist and juggler, are smart; Payne's Wanderers, in a vocal scena, *The Gipsy's Encampment*; Frank Solby, comedian; and Gordon Stretton, coon vocalist, contribute to an excellent programme.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The educated chimpanzee, George the First, is an attraction, his wonderful feats displaying great intelligence; the Crisps, in a scena, *The Little Deputy*, contribute some excellent dancing; Dewson pleases with his turn at the piano; Henry Hilton is a clever conjurer; Maisie Dene is a dainty soubrette and dancer; Ike Bradley is exceptionally smart on wheels; Miss Carrie Ford is a pleasing Irish vocalist; the Stewarts, Scotch comediennes, prove popular; and Mint and Mart, patterers and artistic paper-tearers, merit approval.

WALLSEND.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Horace White, ventriloquist at the piano, is here this week, and on Monday night was accorded a flattering reception. The following artists are also appearing: The Danbys, comedians; Patty Avis, vocalist; Bu-Val, billed as "the happy Dutchman"; the Boston Twins, comedians; Watson and McQue, in comedy act; Carmen Barrie, comedienne; the Emsons, duettists and dancers; and John Bennet and Charles Martell, comedians.

Premier Picture Hall.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—Mr. McDonald has been fortunate in obtaining a capital film of the English Cup Final at the Crystal Palace last Saturday. Jack Barrie, Scotch comedian, is paying a welcome return visit.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here in *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Frank G. Sutherland as General Von Nestolde scores well; Mr. Reginald T. Fox makes the most of Captain Maximilian Lubeck; as the unscrupulous Baron Brislaw Mr. Albert Guyon is effective; and the lighter side of the play is well developed by Mr. Charles H. Gallier as Sergeant Offenbach, Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl Ludhayr, Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt, and Miss Audrey Caning as a corpulent cook. Miss Hettie Zillwood as the Grand Duchess Marie acts with charm and dignity, and Miss Margaret R. Frame is good as Camille.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—The Dorrington Family are trick cyclists, and their turn is much appreciated. Les Piccolinos, midget performers, are seen to advantage as Russian dancers, wire-walkers, acrobats, sharpshooters, and trick cyclists. Julian Mack is here again with plenty of up-to-date patter; George Geoffreys is a smart comedian, mime, and dancer; Dolly Barrie and Juan Wood are smart vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Joe Cookson supplies a novel ventriloquial turn; Pete and Minnie Lee score well in the musical sketch, *The Scotchman's Visit to London*. The pictures, especially the films showing The Two Sisters, are very attractive.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. John Waters.—A good programme is here this week, and August, September, and May ably lead the way in a turn full of humour. J. H. Greener scores well as the "singing pit lad"; the Milford Brothers are good vocalists and dancers; and Rose Sard is a chic comedienne. The pictures are good.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Beaudyn.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn and his clever company are here. Miss Irene Munro has firmly established her reputation. The permanent stock season of drama twice nightly is an assured success. On Monday was performed *The Princess and the Vagabond*, with Mr. Beaudyn and Miss Munro heading a capable cast.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.—There is a host of good things at this popular house this week. Marjorie Ward is a contralto vocalist with an excellent voice; Jack Harris is a comedian and raconteur who keep the audience in merry mood; Rénee and Wallis give a clever comedy and dancing act; and Signor Alfriedo Nardi, the blind violinist, proves a great attraction. Nell Alma, a dainty comedienne; Almon, an upside down marvel; Nancy Renshaw, a clever singer, and eight ladies, described as "charming daughters of Eve," in representations of famous paintings and sculpture, are other attractions.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The bill is headed by Auguste Van Biene, who is delighting well-filled houses with his new sketch *Van Biene's Baby*, pretty 'cello solos being introduced. Dainty Dot Stephens charms all with her piquant style and sweet voice. In dashing song and amusing patter Alexandra Dagmar maintains her high place in favour. More life-like figures than Holden's Mannikins could not be imagined. Jack Smiles makes all smile who hear him, his jokes and comedy being irresistible. Nellie Farrell (Irish comedienne), and Graham and Barron (comedians and dancers) contribute pleasing turns, and the programme terminates with an excellent and amusing film, the subject of which is At a Bioscope Theatre.

Palace.—An excellent display of the justly popular Black's Pictures is varied by a clever exhibition of illusions by Li-Chang-Hi, a Chinese conjurer, who is gracefully assisted by the charming Tai Mao. Fred Horsfell is a clever mimic and amusing comedian.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. Horace Lingard and Arthur Shelton's company is here in *Fanny and the Servant Problem*. Mr. Horace Lingard gives a thoroughly sound and artistic portrayal of Martin Bennet; Mr. Russell Davis scores a success as Lord Bantock; Mr. Roland Hope is a praiseworthy Dr. Freemantle; and Mr. A. E. Jackson's George Newte is entitled to encomiums. Mr. A. Lightowler does well as Ernest Bennet; Miss Beatrice Moreau shows dramatic ability above the average as Fanny; Miss Gwenlyan Cattell is conspicuously successful as Susannah Bennet; Miss Rita Sponti as Miss May Wetherall and Miss Miriam Holt as Miss Emily Wetherall are charming; and Miss Adeline Norman, Miss Mabyn Fay, Miss Ida Blakeley, and Miss Ruby Rosale all deserve eulogy for their respective impersonations. The piece is preceded by a pretty playlet, entitled *The Admiral*.

WEYMOUTH. — Pavilion Theatre. — Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is here in *With Edged Tools*. Miss Marie Leonhard scores a distinct success as Jocelyn Gordon, and Mr. Hamilton Deane as Jack Meredith makes a well-nigh perfect hero; Mr. Charles Hartopp as Guy Oscard is exceedingly good, and Mr. J. Geddes gives a fine delineation of Sir John Meredith; Miss Marguerite Cellier is excellent as Millicent Cheyne, and Miss Alice Maud makes a charming Lady Cantourne.

WHITEHAVEN. — New Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Mr. E. H. Albury's company is engaged here in the comedy *Why Smith Left Home*. Mr. Eric Albury is intensely amusing as the Count; Mr. Vernon Sansbury proves himself a capable actor as John Smith; the General Billet-doux of Mr. Charles Clarke is a mirth-provoking study; Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence makes the most of the part of the Major; and Miss Edna Eden as Mrs. John Smith; and Miss Maud Sheldon as Lavina Daly submit creditable performances; and minor characters are in able hands.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. George Burton.—An excellent programme is presented here by Scottie's Variety Company. The pantomime burlesque, *Naughty Androcles and the Lion*, causes endless merriment. Miss Kitty Aaen is a charming Princess Octavia, and Miss Dolly Boston a realistic Androcles; Mr. Steve Knoto gives a true representation of a lion, and Mr. Cecil Dashwood is a kingly Titus. *Napoleon at Waterloo* is a thrilling episode full of excitement and pathos. Mr. Scott Alexander wins much favour in the title-rôle, and Miss Kitty Aaen is a gifted Kitty O'Moore. Another popular item is the sketch *The Cry of the Children*. Miss Kitty Aaen appears with a considerable amount of success as the dying waif, with Mr. Scott Alexander a genial London policeman. Whizzing the Whirl is a sensational form of entertainment; Dana Royal, champion of roly-poly pillow fights, vanquishes local competitors with ease. Other clever turns are provided by Knoto, the boneless man; Will Warren, the patriotic vocalist; Little Pink Rose, juvenile and chic comedienne; Sisters Charlton, singers and dancers; and Freda and Frank, acrobatic dancers and club swingers.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The Primrose Quartette (male voices) present a very pleasing turn; Mr. Cyrus Dare gives a really clever show, embracing singing and mimicking; Mr. Reay is a versatile entertainer; and Mr. Leonard Kendrick and Miss Muriel Laura provide a singing and eccentric dancing entertainment. Faust is the principal picture.

Empire Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. Caldwell Brothers; Manager, Mr. G. C. Ford.—In addition to the attractive series of moving pictures, the following artists appear, Mr. Edwards and Mme. Ward, the smart comedy duo; Miss Nellie Varcoe, pleasing singer; and Mr. Sydney Raymond, comedian and dancer.

WIGAN.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is here in *The Silver King*. Mr. Fred D. Davies displays much talent as Wilfred Denver; Mr. Edward J. George gives an excellent portrayal of Daniel Jaikes; Mr. A. H. Warburton is eminently successful as Samuel Baxter; Mr. Sydney Lynn is exceptionally good as Captain Herbert Skinner; Miss Mildred Surrey as Nellie Denver proves herself a talented actress.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Fred Karno's comedians are here in the sketches *Perkins, M.P.*, and *The G.P.O.* Mr. Albert Bruno takes the leading rôle in each, and causes endless laughter. The Stavordale Quintette are responsible for a very clever musical entertainment; the Three Cunards are original dancers who are encored for their exhibition; R. C. Note is loudly applauded for his songs; much amusement is caused by Little Zola, the quaint comedian; the Sisters Barnes sing and dance themselves into favour; Rappo and Ella are artists worthy of much merit; and Gracie Grahame is a vivacious comedienne and talented descriptive vocalist.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. Edward Ranier's company is here with *A Son's Devotion*. The principal characters are in the hands of Messrs. Edward Ranier, A. Field-Fisher, John Evelyn, G. Gregory, Miss Phillis Wells, and Miss Juliet Hanley.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Harry Ford heads the bill here, and elicits rounds of applause for his comedy songs; Fred Russell, with his automaton "Coster Joe," submits a ventriloquial entertainment far above the average; Fred Barnes scores heavily in his song scena "The Black Sheep of the Family," and has another success in "By the Fireside"; Ida Barr, actress vocalist, makes a hit with a couple of good songs; Maud and Sidney Wood are a dainty pair of duettists and dancers; Belle Braham sings illustrated songs; and the dual dancing of Metz and Metz is much appreciated.

Electric Theatre.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—Roosevelt in Africa is the star film here. Also in the programme are Spanish Girl's Love Story, Vice Versa, The Honeymoon, Ski-ing, and Foolshead Again.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Will Lytton and company are this week appearing in Harry Roxbury's production, *Sergeant Longfellow*. Mr. Lytton is extremely amusing in the title-rôle, and Miss Ethel Ramsay (Princess Miskah), Miss Hettie Hillier (Mamie), Mr. Oliver Rogers (King of Frascati), Mr. F. H. Morton (Prince Ali), and Mr. Norman Carn (Jack O'Neill) give good support. The Cowana Girls sing and dance in spirited fashion, and George Hunter and Bob, in their comedy combination act, are extremely amusing. Hess and Chivers display agility and ingenuity on skates; Kitty Russell is an accomplished comedienne and dancer; Walter Dale an excellent raconteur; George Rapley a successful comedian.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Miss Winifred Chalmers produces *Miss Plaster of Paris*, one of the smartest and funniest thinge ever seen here. Mr. Harry Ed. Ray as Alexander, a waiter, is screamingly funny; Mr. Chas. Tolcher as Numskull Nobbs runs him a good second; and Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon also does some clever acting as Nephew. Miss Celestine Brandon as Eliza Plaster is charming in song and dance; the Berlin troupe of lady dancers are capital in style and finish; the Sisters Holman would be hard to excel; and Miss Chalmers makes a dainty hostess.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—Effective pictures include The Ranger and the Girl. The Two Daniels do some very funny negro work; and Bandoni, with a one-man band, is clever.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—This week the theatre boards are occupied by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Paumier invests the part of Paul Vidmar with actuality; as Captain Rudolf Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes does good work; Mr. Charles Witlock makes an excellent Eugene; Mr. John Nesbit does full justice to the part of the Crown Prince; and Mr. Forbes Harrison is suited to the rôle of Father Gerrard. The part of the Princess Astrea is played with sympathy by Miss Margaret Brodie; Miss Gwladys Faunce is a satisfactory Rozel, and the part of Kathie is well played by Miss Jessica Black. The comedy element is capably sustained by Messrs. James E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding as Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo respectively, and they provide many laughs.

St. James's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Scott and Mansfield.—The local Amateur Operatic Society are producing *Olivette* here this week.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—La-Vie, poseuse enchantreuse, appears in a series of living art panel poses, including Jane Shore, Joan of Arc, Burnt at the Stake, and Grace Darling; Charles Bradford, a clever comedian, is also a great draw. The pictures include A Squire's Romance, The Defence of the Fatherland, Curing a Flirting Wife, and The Thunderbolt on the Mill (a fine trick film).

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Cingalee* is remarkable for its all-round excellence. Miss Isa Bowman is entitled to unlimited praise for her graceful impersonation of Nanoya; Miss Florrie Greensmith is lively in the extreme as Peggy Sabine; Miss Ray Anderson is a prepossessing Lady Patricia; as Harry Vereker Mr. Frank Barclay is a distinct success; Mr. Grafton Williams makes Sir Peter a most amusing personage; Mr. Frank Lennard uses his fine voice with great effect as Boobhamba, giving a thoroughly amusing impersonation; and Hylton Warde, in the popular rôle of Chambhuddy Ram is to be congratulated on a humorous representation.

Opera House and Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—J. W. Hall is having a most hearty reception this week; the Musical Marvels are also a great success; Rhonna Shanara is a popular turn; and Telma, on the billiard table, performs some wonderful tricks; Susie and Protti are Continental dancers of the first rank; Victoria Cross sings sweetly; E. J. Sheldon looks well and whistles with taste; Reski and Reski are gymnasts of the first rank; and Bob Gilmore is a comedian of merit.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.
Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
June 13, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 23, Aug. 1 8 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 13, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 17 Nov. 28, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 13, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for
May 16, 23, June 13, 20, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, on.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
May 30, June 6, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
May 9, 16, 23, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Whitsuntide, May 16 (3 nights). Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Whit week, May 16.
E. G. Falcon County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
Proprietor and Manager, B. Pareezer.
May 23, July 21, 22, 23, Sept. 19, 26.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
June 20, Nov. 14.
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
June 20, July 11.
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
May 23, 30, Aug. 4.
Write direct to R. Pareezer.
All communications to B. Pareezer, Head Office, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 6 and 27.
June 6 and 27.

Wire immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
July 25 and Sept. 26.
July 25 and Sept. 26.
To play twice nightly.

Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Vacant dates, Summer or Autumn.
Apply,
Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Sensational Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and printing, May 16, on. Twice nightly. Applicants must state terms. Share or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, for this Business Theatre, No. 1 Attraction,
May 23, May 23, May 23.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
Also Vacant, May 30, and on, with exceptions.
Address,
Feather, Theatre, West Hartlepool.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant June 20, Aug. 22, Sept. 5 (?), onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A Handsome Brick-and-stone Building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.

"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 25, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.

"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.

"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
The Royalty is now playing to far better business than at any time during the last three years. The altered conditions and improvements made to the Theatre are greatly admired and appreciated by the Visiting Managers and Patrons. Refer to Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, J. W. Turner, Alexander Leighton, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Fredk. Mouillot, G. M. Polini, Charles Windermere, &c.
Future bookings include among others the following: "The Earl and the Girl" (return), Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's "Pete," Armitage and Leigh's Company in "Edged Tools" and "The Greater Love," "The Silver King," George Dance's "Miss Hook of Holland" (return), "Are You a Mason?" (return), Frank Curzon's Company in "The King of Cadonia," all Paumier and Howard's Attractions, "Charles Windermere's "Where is William?" Miss Florence Glossop-Harris (return), George Edwardes' own Company, "The Merry Widow" (return), "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Co. (fourth visit), &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for May 30 (?), June 27, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, MEXBORO'.
Under New Management.
WANTED, good Dramas and Comedies for Autumn Dates.
All communications to be addressed to the SECRETARY, Mexborough Theatre Co., Moxborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Autumn, last three nights only, first three can be arranged at Lynn, grand Reopening of Season, Aug. 29 (last three), onwards, with exceptions. Address, J. A. CAMPBELL.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, May 9, onwards, Good Drawing Dramas, twice nightly. Particulars, ROSKN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, London. T.A., "Twopence, London."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, and 22.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, good Companies, June 2, 27, Sept. 1, 8, 19, 26, Oct., onwards.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company, May 16. Wire lowest certainty. CARLTON, Worcester.

WANTED, something good, Musical or Dramatic, May 9 (?), Aug. 1, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Also Aug. 1, Grand, Chorley. SANTE, Radcliffe.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, May 9. Wire, SHERWOOD and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction, June 6 and 20. Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Comedy, July 11 (week) and July 25 (three nights), for Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, York, First-class Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 8, 15, Race week, Aug. 22. Musical preferred. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, Dramatic and Musical Companies, now and on,
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company, Whit week, General Holiday here; nothing Dramatic since Easter. Address, GERALD HARDING.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
WANTED, May 16, 23, strong Dramatic Attractions, new to Stratford.
Apply, A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date, July 25, Aug. 15, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy or Drama (two houses a night), for Xmas week. State certainty and full particulars to H. A. JORDISON,
117, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c., vacant dates May 2, 9, June 13, 20, 27, July 18, onwards. Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, May 30, onwards, small complete Stock Company, with up-to-date répertoire of Condensed Plays. Own script, costumes, and scenery. To work in conjunction with Pictures. Terms and particulars, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19, Oct. 10 (?), 31, Dec. 5, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov 14 (?), Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 20, 27, April 3, 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that draws the Smart Audience.
Now Booking Autumn.
WANTED, London Successes, for first vacant date Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, May 16, June 27, July 4, 11, and later.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Few Special Dates for Best Attractions.
MORTON POWELL,
Queen's Theatre Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
EDINBURGH, May 16 and 23.
NEWCASTLE, May 30, June 6 and 13.
GLASGOW, May 16 and 23.
NOTTINGHAM, May 16 (Whit week).
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, S.W.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre.
May 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
July 18, Aug. 18 (3 nights).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
June 6, July 11, 18.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
May 30.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
May 23, June 6.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
May 16, 30, June 13.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
LEITH, May 23 (5 nights), and on.
Also for Autumn Dates at
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY.

Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

Success! Success!
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
The Fashionable Twice Nightly Dramatic Theatre, under the direction of Walter de Frece.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Vacant June 6, 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 15, and few dates, onwards.
Address all communications to
EDWIN LESLIE, General-Manager for Walter de Frece,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton,
or 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.
WANTED, good sound Dramas, Pantomimes, and Musical Comedies coming North for Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-1911.
Sample printing and vacant dates.
A. E. PICKARD,
Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, weeks, odd nights, Flying Matinées, immediately.
DANIEL and FRANKS, Palace Pier T., Brighton.

PALACE THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
Lessees and Managers, Messrs. JAY and MANN.
In the summer "the" popular theatre of Brighton.
WANTED, Attractions (musical preferred) for the few remaining Season Dates.
Address, HERBERT JAY, Wyndham's Theatre, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1, and Several Good Autumn Dates.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 23, 30, July 18, 25, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, May 16, June 6, 20, on.
ALFRED MANNERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 12, 19, and onwards.
JAMES BELL,

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 4, 11, and 18, Sept. 19.
Address, The MANAGER.

HIPPODROME (late Queen's T.), KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, strong Dramatic or Musical Attractions, June 6, 27, July 18, Aug. 8.
Apply, T. HOLMES,
16, St. John's-road, Brixton, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, May 23, 30, June 6.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, May 16 and Various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Address, communications, MANAGER, Opera House, Kidderminster.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Pay-box Propellers, May 16, 23, 30.
Coms, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

WANTED, good Attraction, for Whit week, must be first-class, also First-class Concert Party, for Whit Sunday; no Picture Shows.
MANAGER, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

PAVILION THEATRE, LYTHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies, July, Aug., and Sept., Musical Comedies preferred.
J. H. HARRISON, Manager.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 25, 28, Aug. 22, 25, 29, Sept. 5, 12, and 16, two or three nights, Hunstanton to precede or follow.
ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, TENBY. Vacant July, Aug., and Sept., with exceptions. Apply, BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, Nov. 28,
DOUGLAS BRUCE.
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-st., London, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, London, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
"CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on.
Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly.
All particulars, ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 25 and Aug. 22.
Weeks of July 25 and Aug. 22.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, July 25 (?), Aug 8, on,
Big Company,
Chorus, Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery and printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Castle Theatre, Stockton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 28 (three nights).
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 15.
Sept. 5, 12.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
May 2, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

MRS. BROWN-POTTER AND No. 1 COMPANY
in
"MADAME X."
WANTED, First-class Towns, Aug. and Sept., with exceptions.
Apply, BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

HORACE LINGARD
in
"FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM,"
Jerome K. Jerome.
Sardou's Great Comedy,
"DIVORCONS."
The Screaming Farce,
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
WANTED, July 4, and onwards, with exceptions. SHELTON, N. T., Weymouth.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA,"
the rage of Paris.
WANTED, Whit Week, May 16.
Either or both Plays.
Once or twice nightly.
Whit, 1907,, T. R., Sheffield. Record business.
Whit, 1908, Royalty, Morecambe.
Another huge week.
Whit, 1909, H.M.T., Carlisle.
Played to holding capacity.
Wire (to-day), LOIE ESMOND, Palace T., Gloucester.
May 2, Grand Theatre, Nottingham (return).

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14, 21.
Address, CHAS. GIBBON, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production with exceptionally strong Cast, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5 (follow Metropole, Glasgow), Sept. 19, and Oct. 3 (precede and follow Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21.
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
The Successful Farcical Comedy, from the CRITERION THEATRE.
Wanted, Only Vacant Dates this Year, July 4, 11, 25.
For both the above address,
Mr. CHARLES GIBBON, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
REPERTOIRE CO.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Feb., 1911, onwards.
Address, CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, Aug. 29. Only Autumn Vacancy, through transferring Liverpool to oblige Mr. Wentworth Croke (between Liverpool and Leeds). WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, good Theatre, three nights, Aug. 11, 12, 13, also Aug. 15, six nights.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (3 nights), 18 (3 nights), Sept. 19, for "Miss Tommy," by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as MISS TOMMY.
Miss Hughes is not appearing as "The Chorus Lady" in the Provinces after May 21.
All engagements complete for "Miss Tommy."
Miss ANNIE HUGHES, 79, Beulah-hill, Norwood, S.E.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, June 20 (between Leeds and Southend). FRANK YEARSLEY, T. Royal, Glasgow.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, May 23, 30.
Sept. 12, 19.
Miss ANNIE BELL as Flare-Flare.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (?) and 31.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE,
Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 23, June 6, 20, July 4, 18, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, Xmas. Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Deptford Theatre; next, Grand, Hull.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
Playing excellent business everywhere.
Vacant
July 4, 11, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
a Great Money-drawing Play,
Vacant
June 6, Sept. 26, Dec. 5, 26, April 17, 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
One of the Most Popular Successes ever Written.
Vacant
June 6, July 25, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Production,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Aug. 22.
Only Four Vacant Dates this Year, viz., Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 5.
Only Five Vacant Dates in Spring.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

TWO NEW PLAYS
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Titles and Full Particulars Shortly.
Already Booked well into 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN'S
Autumn Tour,
with an Entirely New Play Specially Written by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
in
New Play
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Address, pro tem., c/o MORTON POWELL,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Let to Messrs. Fox and Leonard.
To Let,
"Honour Thy Father," "A Little Outcast," and others, with or without scenery and painting.
New Plays.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Aug. 29 (?), Xmas.
Vacant Aug. 29 (?), Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 10.
Oct. 10, Dec. 5.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
This remarkable Play has caused a sensation in every town visited so far. Kindly refer to Managers re Printing, Scenery, Company, and Business.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5 and 12 (follow the Broadhead Tour), Oct. 3, 10, 17, and 24 (follow Barnsley), Nov. 28, Dec., and Spring. OSWALD CRAY, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"GREED OF GOLD."
Powerful Cast; new Scenery; every Scene greeted with outbursts of applause. Opening night the worst of the visit. Re show refer any theatre visited.
WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 12, onwards. Fox and LEONARD, Empire, Cradley Heath. Wire re August Bank Holiday, Share or Certainty.

ROBERT HEWLAND'S COMPANY.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, May 16 (Whit week) to follow Devonport, and various onwards.
WALTER J. HORNE,
Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, for "His Real Wife," the successful new Play, good Theatres, Aug. 28, Nov. 14 and 28, also Xmas, onwards. Another glorious week at King's, Longsight. Address, T. E. WARD, Colosseum, Oldham.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Nightly received with enthusiasm on the Broadhead circuit. GEORGE A. DE GREY, Osborne T., Manchester; next, Crown T., Eccles.

WANTED, Dates, for "The Married Widow," "Battle of the Belles," &c.; all good Comedy Shows. FRED MOULE, Capworth-street, Leyton.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 20, 27, and July 4.
DICKIE CLARE, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

MURRAY KING
AND COMPANY, in
"THE CATCH OF THE SEASON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Autumn Tour starts Aug. 1.
Address, KING, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MURRAY KING AND COMPANY, in
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
The enormously successful Pantomime, produced last Xmas at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, and which broke all records at Eastbourne, Hastings, and Folkestone.
WANTED, Theatre, for Xmas Season. Address, KING, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR, "A FAST LIFE."
Great success at the Gaiety, Dundee. Money refused nightly (refer). "A Fast Life" is the premier twice-nightly Attraction touring.
WANTED, June 27, July 11, 18, Oct. 31, and on.
WALTER STEELE, T. R., Whitehaven.

SILVERSTONE and WRIGHT'S CO.
"THE NIHILIST; or, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING." A vast reception at Leith. A packed house vastly delighted. We followed the holiday, but close on 1,000 paid gallery alone Monday. Tuesday an average Monday house.
WANTED, June 27, Sept. 12, 19, 26, on. Above is the record twice-nightly Attraction.
SILVERSTONE, T. R., Sunderland.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY."
A Feast of Really Natural Irish Wit.
Superbly Staged and Costumed.
Thanks Andrew Melville, James Kiernan, Fred Wilmott, A. C. Harrison, Hugh Robertson, Chas. Imeson, for Offers.
Only one Vacant Date this year.
WANTED, May 30 (Lancs. or Yorks.), CHALMERS MACKEY,
Empire, Oldham, May 2 (six nights).

GASTON MAYER'S LONDON PRODUCTION.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Whit week, Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS MARY AUSTIN & E. VIVIAN EDMONDS' COMPANIES.

There is no reason why "The King's Romance" should not be worth a King's Ransom to the author.—London Weekly Dispatch.
"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
Written by E. Vivian Edmonds.

A Magnificent Production.
Everything carried.

The Grand Theatre, in a word, this week, has a play of the highest refinement, and of the most enthralling interest; and lovers of the stage have an opportunity of a real intellectual treat. No expense seems to have been spared in completing the luxurious fittings of the various beautiful stage pictures; and only crowded houses can repay the generous management for their lavish profusion at this noted house of popular prices. Without exaggeration it may safely be affirmed that the play, as presented here, would do credit to any of the West End houses in the metropolis itself. The usual habitués of the theatre received the production with the highest approval and the heartiest applause on Monday, and the curtain had to be raised again and again for the recall of the principal actors.—Brighton Gazette.
At the Brighton Grand Theatre yesterday evening, a fine presentation of Mr. Vivian Edmonds' play, "The King's Romance," was given by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' powerful company. The parts are all in excellent hands, and their efforts were thoroughly appreciated by a large and enthusiastic audience, the curtain having to be repeatedly raised after each act in response to loud and prolonged applause. The piece was excellently staged, and the varied and pretty scenery and the splendid dresses and uniforms added greatly to the effectiveness of the acting.—Sussex Daily News.
An Easter egg that will remain fresh and wholesome for a considerable time.—Brighton Standard.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 5, onward. All communications,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Alexandra T., Birmingham.

"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
MUSICAL COMEDY.
MUSICAL COMEDY.
MUSICAL COMEDY.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 30, May 30, June 6, 13, onwards.
Once or Twice Nightly.

Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.
Company of 25 Performers, 25.
An ideal Season Attraction for Seaside Towns.

Re dates, address FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

NORA CARTON and BEATRICE SELWYN'S CO.
Exceptionally Strong Cast of Dramatic Artists, including
Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank Ayrton,
Arthur Trail, David Curtis,
Madge Seymour, Anna Beaumont, Olga Kay,
and
Norman A. Overton.
Present Russell Vaun's latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
Played, Staged, and Advertised.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres, Aug. Bank Holiday onwards.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, good Theatres, for Miss Florence Baines' Companies.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
a Musical Farce,
in two acts.
Summer Tour complete.
June 20, Yarmouth;
June 27, Lowestoft;
July 4, Sheerness;
July 11, Southend;
July 18, Ramgate and Deal;
July 25, Torquay;
Aug. 1, Devonport.
Vacant
Aug. 15, 22,
Sept. 26 (?),
Nov. 7, 14.
In active preparation,
a New Musical Farce,
by the author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address, Miss FLORENCE BAINES,
Theatre Royal, Bury.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH,"
or West End Répertoire.
WANTED, May 16, 23, June 13, to follow Blackpool.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, July 25, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 2, 9, and various, Spring and Autumn, 1911.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Everything carried; absolutely new plant of scenery.
Refer Ben Court, Esq., Grand, Brighton (rebooked Oct, 1911).
Refer H. Bowman, Esq., Ramsgate (rebooked Sept, 1911).
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
Creek Side, East Molesey.

"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
By Walter Howard.
WANTED, for Miss Margaret Skelton's Tour of above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 2, on,
First-class Company,
including Miss Ethel Griffies.

Printing by Allen and Moody.
Good Scenery, Wardrobe, and Properties.

Address coms.,
E. VAN BIENE,
T. R., Edmonton;
or,
Miss MARGARET SKELTON,
Grand Theatre, Swansea.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on royalty. E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, Lancs. or Yorks.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

MURRAY KING and CLARK'S NEW PANTO. PRODUCTION, due Eastbourne next Christmas.
WANTED, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Add., KING, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Wyndham's Theatre Comedy, "The Best People," May 23, 24, 25, Lancs or Yorks. WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, London, W.C.

EDWARD S. PETLEY and UNA GILBERT'S CO.,
in
"LITTLE MRS. CUMMIN,"
by Richard Pryce.
from The Playhouse, London
(by arrangement with Cyril Maude, Esq.
WANTED, May 12 (3), 23, 30, June 20, 27, July 4. Cast now complete.
All coms., E. S. PETLEY, Torquay Villa, Chiswick, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Attraction,
Whit Week,
Whit Week,
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, onwards.
"THE BETTER LAND."
Wanted, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
May 23, June 6, 13, 27 onwards.
"AN OLD MAN'S DARLING."
Wanted, for this Novel Domestic Drama,
May 9,
May 9,
Look Out for Grand New Production.
"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re dates, Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda," Liverpool.

WANTED, June 20, June 20, June 27, June 27,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE,"
containing the character of "P. C. Bullock," and Prologue (with special scenery), depicting the "Murder of Halijohn."
Specially selected cast includes
Miss LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISOBEL;
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as "P.C. BULLOCK."
Tremendous Success of Spring Tour.
Playing to Big Business Everywhere.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11, 10,040 persons paid for admission during the week. Hundreds of people turned away on the Saturday night.
Managers requiring a Sound Attraction and Sure Money-taker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Also Vacant July 4 18, 25, and on, with exceptions.
May 2, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

The New Musical Comedy.
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
Enormous Success at Whitehaven.
Monday the worst night of the week. Receipts went up every night, culminating on Saturday with all parts of the house packed at early doors. Refer Stanley Rogers, Esq. "Miss Plaster's" success at Whitehaven rapidly spread to Workington, where she met with a big reception from a bumper house.
(20) Twenty Artists. (20)
Thanks Messrs. Manners, Feather, Falcon, Robertson, Vernon, Drurie, Turner, Rogers (North Shields), for offers of May 9, but as I draw Pantomime business I want Pantomime terms.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 9, 16. Wire.
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
Owing to the phenomenal success of the above, Mr. Osmond is prepared to receive offers from Managers of Good Theatres for Summer Dates, viz., May 23, 30, June 6, onwards, including Aug. 1 (B. H.). All I require from the Resident Manager is plenty of light on stage and a good band.
Wire for May 9 and 16.
Opera House, Workington; next, Bishop Auckland.

MISS MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
Geo. Kirk,
55, Doddington-grove, Kennington, London.

WANTED, for "Sherlock Holmes," First-class Theatres, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 10; and for "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," Aug. 1 and 8. H. Hamilton Stewart, T. R., York.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S CO., in
"EAST LYNNE,"
including a Company of specially picked Artists.
The Entire Production carried.
WANTED, May 23 and June 20.
Apply,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, and 1911 dates.
J. Forbes Knowles, H.M.T. Aberdeen (sixth visit).

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, a Big Theatre, Whit Week.
The Greatest Play of the Day.
Wire, Harry Foxwell, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
May 2, Palace Theatre, Bordesley.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., for H. Marvelle's Colossal Variety Combination of Stars. Thanks to proprietors for four Contracts last week. Wanted, May 9 and 23. Wire or write.
23, Frome-street, Islington, London.

ARTISTS WANTED.

Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM MACLAREN'S CO'S.
"CLAUDIAN" and "PROOF."
WANTED, for Autumn Tours, experienced Artists in several lines. Apply, with permanent addresses, age, height, latest references, recent photos. and lowest terms. No interview unless by appointment. No wires. William Maclaren, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

HORACE LINGARD and ARTHUR SHELTON'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Lady, for Character Part; also Juvenile Lady. Full particulars, photo, &c. Silence a polite negative.
Shelton, N. T., Weymouth.

WANTED, Artists for "The Little Stranger" Co. All applications must be accompanied by photographs, with full details, height, references (Farcical Comedy), and absolute lowest Summer terms. Rehearse June 6, London. Charles Gibbon, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, immediately, for Miss Ada Lauderdale's "Great Awakening" and Répertoire Company; good Responsible Lady and Gentleman, quick study, dress well on and off, capable of any line; Sing preferred. Address, age, height, lowest summer terms (long tour). High-street, Steyning.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, for Strong Char. Actor, for Jim Selby, Juv. Man (strong actor), Pretty Juv. Lady. Lowest terms. Olga Andre, Theatre, Darlington; next, Leith.

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Light Comedy Juvenile, must be a gentleman, tall, good-looking, manly, bright manner. Lowest terms, photo., age, height, full particulars. Personal interview imperative Charles Windermere, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

WANTED, for different Companies, a few really capable Artists (ladies and gentlemen), used to High-class Plays, quick and sure studies, for Répertoire and Stock. Summer terms, &c. Letters (N.B.—No callers) to Ernest Shiel-Porter, Heather Lea, Birch-grove, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, also Producer, for new Farcical Play, for production in July. Must have played in farce. Apply by letter, stating qualifications, photograph if possible, &c., to Mr. Cowen, 8, Thames-chambers, The Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, clever Actors and Actresses, in various lines, for Summer and Autumn Tours. All particulars to T. Edward Ward, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman to play Responsibles and Small Parts in a Leading Répertoire Co. G. Smith Neill, T. R., Peterboro'.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentleman (young), for Comedy, for Whit week; those in Manchester district preferred.
Box 7,649, "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Juvenile Gentleman, for Heavy Parts, Sketch, May 9.
Apply, Box 7,647, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, for Guiseppi, must be powerful and capable of great pathos. Photograph, lowest terms, and references, Hamilton Stewart, Theatre Royal, York.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, smart Juv. Gent (Lewis Waller style). Photo, full particulars, to W., 784, Holloway-road, N. Silence a polite negative.

STAGE.
SPECIAL NOTICE TO AMATEURS.
WANTED, intelligent young Amateur, desirous of playing Parts in the Public Performances of Shakespearean Plays, Musical and Modern Comedies, periodically given in Stedman's Theatre. Apply personally to the Secretary, Stedman's, Windmill House, Shaftesbury-avenue (facing Trocadero). Hours 10 to 8 daily.

WANTED, good Amateur Actor and Actress, for Autumn Tour; small premium, returned in salary. Address, giving full particulars, Box 7,642, "The Era."

WANTED, a Gentleman (amateur not objected to) to play a part and willing to invest £50 to become equal partner in a big music hall sketch by well-known London author.
Box 7,653, "The Era."

WANTED, by West End Manager, several Ladies and Gentlemen of Refinement (without experience), for small Parts and Walking-on in new London Production. Address, Box 7,620, "The Era."

WANTED, Artist to take part in Dramatic Sketch for the Halls. Sharing terms. Apply, letter only, S. Coelho, 61, Comeragh-road, W. Kensington.

WANTED, immediately, refined young Light Baritone or Tenor (one who can play the piano preferred) for Long Tour with well-known party.
Call, with songs, Sunday, three o'clock.
Scott, 42 Ackers-street, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Robust Tenor or High Baritone Vocalist. Able to conduct orchestra for musical show. Full particulars and salary required to Box 7,657, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Soprano, capable of Quartettes and Concerteds, also Pianist, with Monologues, twelve weeks certain, not open air Concerts. William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, smart attractive Lady Vocalist; long engagement; pictures. Write age, height, range, &c, Box 7,639, "The Era."

WANTED, Boys, age 14, must be first-class Solo Singers.
Address, Box 7,573, "The Era."

WANTED, Dancers, Singers, Improvers, and Beginners. Every style of Dancing and Singing Coached, Taught, and Arranged by experienced Teachers. Apply, Wednesday next, 4 to 6. Madame, Rehearsal Room, 160, Great Portland-street, W.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, all Artists to Know that "Stage Facts and Figures" may now be obtained from Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand, price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d.

News of the World says: An invaluable little book.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, by a refined young lady, Engagements at First-class Seaside Resorts, &c.; Ballad Concerts, Garden, Pier, &c., first-class refs. Address, Box 7,646, "The Era."

WANTED, Responsible Gent, capable of Lead. Also Lady, for Responsibles, with turn. Property Man write. James, Theatre, Ledbury.

WANTED, Known, a Lady would be glad to join River Party on Houseboat, in May. Terms moderate. Address, Box 7,636, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, age 15, Engagement as Vocalist, Soprano. F. P., 350, Wick-road, South Hackney. Tel. 994 Dalston.

WANTED, Known, J. Burlington Rigg, Principal Baritone, at Liberty, Musical Comedy, First-class Concert Party. Albert T., Brighouse.

WANTED, Known, Tenor Vocalist; excellent voice, extensive répertoire; sure to hit. Open to accept engagements, week-end and whole of August. In London Saturdays. Address, Box 7,584, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil B. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. Charles Sayer, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Business-Manager to take over First-class Company, on Tour. Investment essential. Exceptional opportunity.
Fullest particulars, C. R.,
Box 7,659, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman to learn the duties of Assistant-Manager in new London Production (part open also); premium £20 on receipt of guarantee.
Box 7,622, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Gent, as Acting-Manager. First-class Concert Tour, Pavilions, and Theatres; business thoroughly taught; small premium returned in salary, to start at once. Particulars, Box 7,655, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman to learn the Duties of Acting-Management.
Premium £30, returned in salary.
High-class Tour.
Address first instance,
Box 7,662, "The Era."

WANTED, Scenic Carpenter, to Travel; under 35, single and abstainer.
Write,
Tom Hearn,
Lyndhurst, Loughborough Park, S.W.

WANTED, Man to take charge of Stage for New Production. Knowledge of electricity. Only competent men need apply. References and terms to Alice Raymond, Hippodrome, London.

WANTED, First-class Mechanic. Liberal salary to competent man. Only those who understand all kinds of Automatic Machines. Apply, with refs., to Charles, 271, Ecclesall-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, at once, good Window-biller and Doorsman, must be a willing worker, or useless. Write lowest terms, age, height, and copies of last three references, which will be taken up, to
Bowmaker,
Palace, Northampton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted, Billposter, for Country Town,
must be smart and reliable.
Apply to Box 7,633, "The Era."

SWALLOW'S CIRCUS (Tenting).
WANTED, young, single, thoroughly trustworthy practical and respectable Billposter, to travel with agent (as above); also experienced, to mind Horse and Van; only man thoroughly capable need apply; must be teetotal; comfortable situation for right man; 23s. weekly to commence. No fares advanced. W. C. Burns, 10, Oxford-street, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

WANTED, to join at once, Smart Billposter and Window Biller, must be able to look after horse and van. Address, Agent, Circus, Kenfig Hill, Monday; Aberkenfig, Tuesday.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser at Liberty for General-Management, past experience, Theatre, Halls, and Gardens, good Organiser, tactful, and resourceful, and thoroughly acquainted with the best attractions; moderate terms. Interview solicited. Highest references and security. Haque, Grand Rink, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Manager, well known, Disengaged, thorough experience in all branches; Variety business; expert advertiser; moderate salary. Box 7,645, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. Walter Norman, Manager, King's Theatre, Gainsboro', will be open for Engagement after May 14, Music Hall or Theatre.

To Proprietors and Syndicates.
WANTED, by Young Man, Appointment as Assistant-Manager or Similar Position; Variety Hall or Theatre; smart appearance; thorough business experience; highest refs. G. Hempstead, Wattam's Hotel, 8, Aldgate High-street, E.C.

WANTED, Acting or Assist.-Management of Theatre, Music Hall, or Pictures; 9½ years' experience; excellent references; can open at once. Dunlevy, 132, Queen's-street, Rushden, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, Managers, for London and Provinces. Letters only, stating age, salary required, and qualifications. Premier Electric Theatres, Ltd., Spencer House, South Place, Finsbury, London, E.C.

WANTED, by experienced man, Managership, Music Hall or Electric Theatre; good references. H. Clontarf, The Parade, Cowes.

WANTED, Engagement, by Practical Experienced Electrician, first-class Theatre or Music Hall, generating station exp.; ex. refs.; terms mod. Electrician, 7, Ashdown-rd., Worthing.

WANTED, by Jim Meadows, Master Carpenter and Scenic Artist, good offers for Whit, Tour or Resident, M.H. (S.M.) or Theatre preferred. This, Lincoln; next, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Liberty May 15, experienced Wardrobe Mistress, capable big productions, any period; first-class references. Town preferred. Dyball, c/o Martin Harvey Co., T. R., Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Maid, position with Star Artist going to South Africa, good dressmaker; Colonial experience. M., 100, Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, by Advertiser, situation Evening Work. Limes, assistant props., or ass. electrician. Good refs. London. Ford, 130, High-street, West Norwood.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, smart young Musical-Conductor, to Compose and Arrange, for Tour, eight weeks certain, and probably long engagement. Box 7,634, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Leader, for Small Orchestra; used to Dramatic, Musical, and Variety; permanent engagement to competent musician. State age, experience, references, and lowest terms, to Box 7,664, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Gentleman for Violin and Mandoline Class Teaching.
Permanent, 5, Gilmore-place, Edinburgh.

THE GREAT LAFAYETTE.
WANTED, First-class strong Cornet and Trombone, must be tectotalers, good readers, and extra strong players. None others need apply. Co.iseum, 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.

WANTED, Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Cornet and Trombone; others may write; terms, 32s. 6d. Leader, H. James, 15, Lower Drayton-place, West Croydon, Surrey. Letters to be forwarded.

WANTED, First and Second Cornets, to open May 9, permanency to suitable men, must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business. State terms, age, and references, Heyes, Musical-Director, Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, good Cornet, open May 9.
Will Smithson,
Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, good Cornet, for Buff Bill's Circus, Tenting, Ireland; join at once. Terms, 32s. 6d. Monday, Kilmaloe; Tuesday, Cappamore, Bainbridge, Bandmaster.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, at once, for Seaside, only really good players need apply.
Box 7,650, "The Era."

WANTED, Clarionet, Flute, and Piccolo, Pleasure Steamer; young, and read well. Lowest, refs., Miller, G.P.O., Dolgelly, N. Wales.

TIVOLI, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Double Bass and Double Drums (with all Effects). Age, references, and terms for permanency; well up in Varieties; Bass to open May 9, Drums May 16. Hulley, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Flute and Clarionet, for Season, commence May 14, rehearse 12th (Soloists essential), single and abstainers. Terms to live in. Mus.-Director, Cunningham's Holiday Camp, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, a good Flautist, to open Monday, May 22; must be well up in Variety Business. Wire terms to Conductor, Alexandra T., Pontefract.

WANTED, Smart Lady Pianist, Pictures, Provinces.
Write lowest terms, particulars, age,
Box 7,638, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist, also Bioscope Operator. Only those who thoroughly understand their business need apply, stating salary required, age, and last two references.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, immediately, Pianist, must be used to Pictures and Variety. Permanency if suitable. Terms, refs., &c., Manager, Theatre, Gosport.

WANTED, good Double Drummer, Opera House, Cheltenham, for four weeks, commencing Saturday, May 14. Apply, stating terms, to Drummer.

WANTED, Tenders for good Band and Attractions for Aug. Bank Holiday Centenary Fête, in Victoria Park, Leamington, for £60, £80, and £100.
Apply, J. Smith,
6, Russell-street, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, for Military Band, Gorleston-on-Sea, Solo, Second, Third Clarionet, Flute and Piccolo, Solo and First Cornet, First Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon (Double B preferred), nine weeks from July 7, two performances daily, Sundays excepted. Refs. and lowest terms, apply Chapman, 16, Anson-road, Great Yarmouth.

CO. ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Tenor Slide Trombone, must be competent players, age not over 35, and single, wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45 and according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform.
Apply to The Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, July 4, ten weeks, Seaside, Orchestral Instrumentalists, including Leader, First Violin, Cornet, &c., also few vacancies for earlier date, Concert and Variety. Silence a polite negative. Age, refs., and lowest terms. Harvey's Band Office, Sheffield.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Stage Band (London), Whit week, E flat Clarionet, Flute, and Piccolo, Clarionets, Bassoon, Cornets, Trombones (tenor and G), French Horn, and powerful String Bass. First-class men only. Apply (callers bring instruments) Sunday, with references and lowest terms, to J. T. Morrison, 38, Park-mansions, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, good Bass Trombone (G) and 2nd Tenor Trombone (Slide),
Yeomanry Training, May 6 to 20 inclusive.
None but good players and mounted men need apply. Good terms.
Must enrol. No other Vacancies.
Bandmaster,
40, Outram-road, Wood Green, London.

WANTED, Tenting with Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, good Double Drummer and Effects, young man. Cook, Tiffield, Northants. N.B.—Give time for redirections.

WANTED, Wanted, for Hanneford's Circus and Menagerie, a good Euphonium Player, Clarionet and Trombone; those used to Circus Business preferred. Terms, 32s. 6d. weekly. Wire,
E. Hanneford, Circus, Killarney.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, W. Pickard, Musical-Director (Piano and Viola), Disengaged May 2, celebrated Composer and Arranger; First-class Theatre, Variety, or Travelling; thoroughly experienced and reliable; splendid library of up-to-date music; excellent references; 12 years present shop. 148, Buxton-road, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Conductor, Violinist, speaks French, German, Italian, Russian fluently. Good Variety Hall, here or abroad. Highest refs. Box 7,627, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Mus.-Dir. or Leader, through closing, young, competent, and experienced; excellent testimonials; any business. Taylor, Conductor, New Century Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (Violin), at Liberty, any Business; excellent library; highest references. Ball, 164, Great Mersey-st., Kirkdale, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical-Director, Violin (Lady Pianist if required); London refs.; library. F. W. Manser, Home Glen, 609 Kingston-rd., Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Harry Petersen, late Conductor 6½ years Palace, Walthamstow, open for Engagements, Conductor or Piano-Conductor. 2, Wilson-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement shortly, by smart Conductor, brilliant Pianist, excellent references, up-to-date Orchestral Library. Conductor, 12, Crowtree-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, H. A. Grey, at Liberty. Managers wanting first-class Band, any number, any business, write me. (See last week's advt.). 17, Wenlock-street, Luton.

WANTED, Engagement, by F. Smith, Mus.-Dir., Pianist, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, at Liberty May 9; experienced, Pictures, Variety, Drama.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Musical Director (violinist), any business. Can supply first-class orchestra. Extensive library. Swingler, 166, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin and Piano), to G. Dance, Moss and Stoll, G. P. Huntley, &c., at Lib.; highest refs.; can supply Orchestra. Musical-Director, 4, Rudloe-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Leader or First Violin, at Liberty May 7; thoroughly experienced, Variety and Dramatic. George Harris, T. R., Coatbridge.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, double with Piano; good library for Quartette. Kate Husband, 20, Sudeley-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, engagement, Violin or Piano, thoroughly experienced all lines, any business. Liberty Monday. Madeleine Tugmann, 11, Darby-place, Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, all round experience. First-class references, strictly sober and reliable. Violinist, 58, Great Titchfield-street, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, for Whit Monday. Kirkman c/o Moody-Manners Opera Co., this week, Winter Gardens, New Brighton; next week, Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, at Liberty, seeks Re-engagement, Summer Season or permanency, any business; good references; total abstainer. Horace T. V. Walpole, A.C.V., 34, Melrose-road, Eaton, Norwich.

WANTED, by experienced young Violinist, Engagement in good Concert Orchestra, accept small salary for further experience. Violinist, 37, Fairfield-road, Montepelier, Bristol.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Second Violin, through close of season; sober, reliable, competent; good refs. E. W., 23, Alverstone-avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, First or Second; can combine Clar. Violinist, Langley, The Downs, Altrincham.

WANTED, by First Violin, Re-engagement, can open Monday anywhere; experienced all lines; good refs.; thoroughly steady and reliable. Best offers. Violinist, 4, Seabank-road, Ayr.

WANTED, Engagement, by Charles Goddard, Violin or Viola, First-class Concert, Theatre, Variety, experience; late Mus.-Dir. Hull and three Tours Grand Opera; abstainer. Lois Crescent, Albemarle-street, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Violinist, as First or Second, to open May 9; first-class references. Violinist, 27, Orcheston-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by thoroughly competent Cornettist, Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or any business; genuine refs.; distance no object. Carver, 94, Prince Albert-street, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Cornettist; thoroughly experienced; total abstainer, and thoroughly reliable. Address, Cornettist, 44, British-street, Bow, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, any business. Address, Cornet, c/o Lawrence, 94, York-st., Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Cornet. Disengaged, A.M.U.
Will Wigelsworth, 30, City-road, Bristol.

WANTED, by Experienced Cornet, 21, engagement as first or second, rink, or any business, abstainer. Norman Skinner, Buckscross, Chelsfield, Kent.

WANTED, by First-class Cornet Player, Theatre or Music Hall, wire or write, distance no object. Cornet, c/o 157, Handcroft-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, age 18, Military, Rink, and Orchestral experience; open as Second. Louis Collins, 6, April-grove, Anfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced, reliable. First-class ref. Can open Monday. Cornetist, 49, King-street, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Cornet, First or Second; can join immediately; any business. Lawrence, 7, Millbrook-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet or Trumpet, Summer Engagement, Military or String; reliable. Solo Cornet, 34, Blackhall-street, Greenock.

WANTED, re-engagement by First-class Solo Cornet and Trumpet, thoroughly experienced. At Liberty Whitsuntide. Herbert Wrenn, Orchestra, Spa, Scarborough.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, one capable of doing the business and reliable. Joe Heath, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, Engagement; good references, any business. Address, "Clarionet," c/o Harrison, chemist, corner of Farrow-road, Sharrow, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Summer or Permanent Engagement; would Deputise; high or low pitch; highest references. 91, Wilton-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, competent and experienced, theatres and varieties, steady and reliable, excellent references. Box 7,612, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Contra Bass, any business.
Box 7,628, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, Theatre closing, Liberty April 30, competent, sober, reliable; excellent references. P. James, 38, Nelson-street, Ayr.

WANTED, Engagement Bassoonist, 12 years military experience. Steady and reliable. Any cap. Good refs. Address, 28, Talbot-road, Twickenham, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by Bass Player, either Summer or Permanent. Thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. Good refs., steady and reliable. H. Richardson, 132, Brinnington, Stockport.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, thorough Musician, abstainer, permanency, in or near London; can deputise Bass and Piano. Bassoon, 114, Archway-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, town, Quadrille business, country two weeks in summer. F. Bass, 207, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by Bass and E Flat Bombardon, Engagement, any business; experienced.
Basso, c/o Humphries, 39, High-street, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Bassoonist, owing to reduction of orchestra, wants permanent place, any business. F. A. Bellis, Tanhouse-street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Summer Engagement. Sober and reliable. Seaside or Sea Trip. Good refs. Dickens, Orchestra, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, by Young Lady Double Bass, Engagements; ladies' orchestras please note. Free dates. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputise, Trombone, London preferred; experienced Professional; satisfactory references. Trombone, 30, Cannhall-road, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Trombone, Brass or Military, for London, at Liberty May 9. Address, A. Magnus, 90, Upper Clapton-rd., N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone (good), experienced, any Busines; first-class references; sober and reliable. J. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, good Trombone, Double Bass, Touring with First-class Opera, Liberty May 7, good refs.; Summer or permanent. Trombone, 2, Henry-terrace, Palin-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombonist, reliable any business, would Deputise, at Liberty at once. Trombonist, 29, Stowe-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by ex Army Bandsman, as E flat Bombardon, Second Violin if required; efficient and reliable; good refs. Bruce, Maltravers-street, Arundel, Sussex.

WANTED, by E Flat Bombardon, Summer Engagement, Seaside. Address, Norris, Temperance Cottages, Quidhampton, near Salisbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bombardon; experienced man, Rink, or any business. F. Walters, 29, Stewart-terrace, Gorgie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Euphonium, combine Violin; reliable, abstainer. Apply, Eupho, 13, Ingrave-st., Battersea, London.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Long Summer Engagement Military or Orchestral. Charles Grice, Orchestra, Palace Skating Rink, Roseberry-terrace, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, Known, two French Horns (mates) at Liberty Whit Week, Military or Orchestral; later preferred, Seaside. Apply, Hornists, 92, Lower Villier-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced French Horn Player, Summer Engagement, First or Second. Henderson, Grand Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, at Lib., Horn, experienced, any business, season or permanency. Wire or write, Horn, 12, Wiltshire-avenue, Crowcroft Park, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, through closing; any business; young, good rep. Waterman, 7, Akroyd-place, North-parade, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement by French Horn, Orchestra or Military. Good refs. W. Pattison, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Second French Horn. Thoroughly experienced in Orchestra and Military. Highest references, reliable, abstainer. J. W. Roberts, Almondbury, Huddersfield, Yorks.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist (Solo, Chamber Music, Orchestra), short Summer Engagement; highest references; Hotel party preferred; no uniform. Box 7,626, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class 'Cellist, at Liberty for Summer Engagement, any business; excellent refs. 'Cello, 36, James-street, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, good, abstainer, seeks Engagement. L. H. Bellamy, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Great Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello at Liberty, any business, first-class references. Address, 'Cello, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, at Liberty for Engagement; excellent references. Add., Bernard Goodall, 128, New-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, First-class Viola, Disengaged through reducing Orchestra; excellent references; can combine piano. Parsons, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Engagement, highest references, Disengaged after May 7. Wm. R. Morton, 31, Richmond-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Harpist. Good Soloist.
Maud Grundy, 78, Parkhill-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, young, steady, and reliable; good references; any business. Goodwin, 4, St. Winefride's-gardens, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, would accept 3 to 6 weeks, any town between Glasgow and London, open at once. Wire, Flute, c/o McLean, 27, Nicolson-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by Italian Flute Player of first-class professional knowledge. Any distance. F. C., 14, Stanhope-street, N.W.

WANTED, by Flautist, First-class, Summer Engagement, String or Military, Piccolo Soloist. Address, A. J. Hancock, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, First-class Flautist, at Liberty for Shop; any business. Flautist, 53, Trowbridge-rd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced, Reliable Flute and Piccolo. At liberty the end of May. Flautist, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, also Clarionet, Engagement, any business; good refs. Cullen, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, Military, Theatre, Music Hall, London or provinces. FLAUTIST, 37, Claribel-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Accompanist, Composer, Singers coached, available for Hotels, Political Meetings, &c. Miss KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Accompanist; experienced; excellent sight-reader and timist; practice work, 2s. hour. Miss GRINSTEAD, 130, Warwick-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, young, good sight reader, Seaside Engagement with First-class Orchestra; good references. CLARKE, 80, George-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Variety, Pictures. PIANIST, 57, Wargrave-avenue, Stamford Hill, London, N.

WANTED, Monday, May 9, by John Brierley, Pianist, Conductor, through closing, any business; steady and reliable. Address, 53, Shuttle-street, Tyldesley.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, Tymps., and Effects; Varieties or Theatre Bus.; good refs.; Manchester district preferred. KEYLEY, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by Drummer, all effects, at Liberty May 9; steady and reliable; Theatre closing. MARK MEAD, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Tympanist, smart Xylophonist, with over twenty Solos, own Tymps., Drums, and Effects; good ref. Address, GUS PAUL, 7, Ackroyde-place, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Double Drummer (with effects), Dramatic, Variety, any business, excellent refs. Can join at once. DRUMMER, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Engagement. Good refs. DRUMS, 54, Hatcham Park-road, Newcross Gate, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, May 21, Tymps. and Drums, any business. Highest refs. Theatre Royal, Hanley; or R. EVANS, 63, Seaford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, as good Double Drums and Effects, at Lib. now, any Business. Write quick, JACK PEARSON, 24, Albion-street, Darlington, Co. Durham.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
(Manton-Myatt Family.)

WANTED, Known, that this Celebrated Orchestra of Nine Performers, all bonâ-fide members of one family, is still fully booked for the present. Managers of high-class hotels, pier pavilions, &c., please note that this combination is the ideal attraction for a select establishment, combining refinement of execution and appearance with unique range of répertoire. Extensive British and Continental experience and highest references. All communications to MME. MANTON-MYATT, 28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Apply, DOROTHEA AUG. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, the Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, open for Summer, also Quartette and Trio for Hotels, &c. WILTON DAVIS, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by British Hungarian Military Band; finished Continental Tour; brilliant reception everywhere. Sole Agent, LEVANE, 10, Kendoa-rd, Clapham.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Belles, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements by Madame Angelo's Orchestra of Ladies.
Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, High-class Trio, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist, at Liberty for a few weeks, commencing June 1, Seaside Resort, good Hotel, &c.; individual Soloists.
All class of ensemble playing.
Box 7,635, "The Era."

WANTED, by Blaker's Famous Band, established 1901, Engagement Whit, onwards. Now concluding long engagement with Ponty-Now concluding long engagement with Ponty-Refinement and ability guaranteed. Splendid uniforms, extensive répertoire. No amateurs. Immediate communication. CHAS. BLAKER, Olympia, Pentre, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, Known, Goy's Celebrated Military Bands are going strong as ever. He comes from the Midlands, where he has opened many Rinks with his Bands. He is still open to supply Bands at reasonable terms to Rinks, Piers, &c. All coms., M. D., American Rink, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Bands at Liberty, Exhibitions, Piers, Rinks, any business. Brilliant uniforms, good répertoire. Band office, 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Whit, onwards, Seaside, Town, for Collini's Military, Orchestral Bands, Rinks, or any business. Rinks this season, Highgate, Stamford Hill, Stratford, Woking; splendid rep. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Military Band, at Liberty; 20 to 25, all double-handed and fine Soloists. Apply, Box 7,661, "The Era."

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Smart Orchestral Band; Rink, Pictures, Ball-room, &c. Special Summer Terms. Uniform; evening dress. PALMER, M.D., Grovehill-road, Beverley.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Band, for Rink; any number supplied; good music, experienced. Apply, Box 7,624, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Rink Band, of six or more; uniform and excellent music.
W. G. DODD, 91, Graham's-road, Falkirk.

WANTED, through closing, Engagement by String Band of Eight. Splendid library. Any business. FRED DRAKE, Musical Director, Pavilion, Abertillery.

WANTED, Engagement, for Small Band (Brass or String); just finishing season, Rink, near Manchester; good library. Address, BAND, 36, Spring-gardens, Stockport.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, smart Lady Trapeze Performer to join Troupe at once. Apply, photo, &c., TRAPEZE, 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Known, Known, the Three Royal Ohmys, wonderful bareback riders, on one, two, three, and four trained horses, have made the greatest success ever known in Norway. Cheered to the echo by a big crowd on the opening performance. Everybody that saw the act says it is the greatest and grandest riding act ever seen in a circus ring. Complimented by Director K. Norbeck after the first performance, and offered six months' longer engagement, but sorry cannot accept. There never was an equestrian act ever made such a sensation in this country before. Will soon be the talk of Norway. The Three Royal Ohmys thank Circus Proprietors for kind offers, but are not at Liberty till next Dec. Address till further notice, THE ROYAL OHMYS, c/o Director, Norbeck, Christiania, Norway.

WANTED, Known, the Stephenson Family will be at Liberty end of May for Summer Season; the Best All-round Circus Family in the Business. STEPHENSON, Collins' Circus, Market Harborough.

WANTED, Known, Signor Lorenzo, the King of all Aerial Performers, now performing for Studts on his High Mast, at Liberty on June 21. Wire or write, Post Office, Abertillery, Mon.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES.
Neath, Barry Dock, Rugby, Loughborough, Kettering, and Exmouth.
WANTED, Variety Artists.
ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Barry Dock.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.

Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, May 9, onwards.
JOHN ORTON HAYES,
People's Theatre, Bridgwater, Som.

WANTED, Monday, May 16, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, May 9 and on, Variety and Specialty Artists (salary); also Stars, willing to share. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, May 9, full particulars, lowest terms. BOUNCING DILLONS, Holly Cottage, Morden-road, Merton. Letters only.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and on, with exceptions. Apply, MANAGER.

CHAPPELL'S OPEN-AIR CONCERTS,
GREAT YARMOUTH.
Lessees, E. V. BARR, LTD.
General-Manager, Mr. HARRY BARKER.
WANTED, Summer Season, June, Sept., Artists all Lines, to complete Company, Double Comedians and Dancers, Scotch Comedian and Dancer, Vent. doing Second Act, Pair of Sisters with Speciality for Second Part, Comedienne and Dancer, &c., &c. All must have good voices, good wardrobe, of smart appearance, and capable of taking part in Concerted Pieces and Sketches. Give full particulars of business, lowest terms, where to be seen performing during next four weeks. Perm. address and photos. stamped envelope for return), if any, to HARRY BARKER, General-Manager, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, for Picture Palaces in Midlands, two weeks, easy journeys, Variety Artists with Refined Shows, Comedians, Comedy Couples, Musical Acts, Clever Juvenile Troupes, Good Lady Vocalists, with Best Slides. Box 7,637, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, for Seaside Halls. Terms and particulars to
BROOKS'S Agency, 76, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Speciality and Comedy Acts, May 9, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for May 16 onwards, all Lines. Hall small. Lowest terms,
MANAGER, Theatre, Gosport.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 9 on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

HIPPODROME, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, Artists for June 13. Artists for July 4 and 11, Novelties for Aug. 15 and 29.
Address,
T. HOLMES, 16, St. John's-road, Brixton, S.W.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Tops, June 20, and odd weeks.
Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarborough.
'Phone 388.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 9, onwards.
Telegrame, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, May 23, for T. R., Worthing. Terms, &c., to W. H. FARLEY, 54, Shenley-road, Camberwell, S.E. No callers.

THE STAR VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Houghton-chambers, 15, Houghton-st., Liverpool.
'Phone 2549 Royal.
WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts.
Full Bookings, Terms, Photos, Lithos., and all particulars.

WANTED, for Fred Boulton's Pavilion, Cheltenham, good Versatile Al Fresco Artists, Low Comedian and Contralto, must do doubles singles, and open May 16, rehearse 11th. Send absolute lowest, with age, height, and experience FRED BOULTON, 33, Gloucester-place, Cheltenham.

EMPIRES, SUNDERLAND & HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Artists working North who have odd weeks out are invited to send particulars of their acts, when last played above towns, permanent address, and absolute lowest terms to fill in to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Please mark envelopes "Artist."

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, Smart Variety Turns, Speciality and otherwise, must be entirely free from vulgarity. Turns who have worked Empire, Aberdare, please do not apply. Send immediate and other vacant dates to JOHN R. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, for Whit Week, Star Turn, strong attraction, with or without full company on sharing terms. Artists required all lines for above. One performance nightly. Submit terms, lithos, GEORGE BURTON, Alexandra T., Widnes.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, First-class Variety Combinations (twice nightly) for the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, May 23 and 30, and all June and July.
All communications to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London.
WANTED, Biggest of Acts and Novelties for Continent.
Note.—Sole Agency only entertained.
Also,
Star Acts for Britain,
and Panto., 1910-11; Principals only.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Immediate Dates and on.

WANTED, Acts of Every Description. Nothing too Big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Middles of Bills, with good drawing powers.
For Syndicate Tours, York, Barnsley, &c.
Specimen lithos., lowest terms, &c.,
Address,
G. W. GERALD and Co.,
25, Litchfield-street, London, W.C.; or
FRANK COYLE,
160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds.

WANTED, smart Acts, from now onwards; Whit week vacant for Neath and Exmouth. Address, ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Vint's Electric Palace, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c., May 16, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos, to EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Speciality Acts, Novel Musical Shows, Big Spectacular Productions, Pantomimical Sketches, and anything with magnetic drawing powers; must be absolutely the best, or useless, for May 16, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, May 9 and onward, Star Acts in all Lines.
Star Acts in all Lines.
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Acts, May 9, 16, onwards. Also Gala Acts, May 16. Silence not polite negative. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, May 9, Glasgow, Dublin, Rochdale, Belfast, S. Wales, Variety Acts. Full bookings, last appearance in towns named inoperative. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Novelty Acts, for Galas, August Bank Holiday, onwards, specimen lithos., lowest terms per day, permanent address. SYLVESTER, 271, Clapham-road, London. Leo Merode, Aviator, communicate. No callers.

WANTED, Speciality Act, for May 16.
LOTTO'S Agency, 10, Greek-street, London, W.

WANTED, Specialities, Novel Comedy Acts, and anything with drawing powers. Will Abex, Olracs, Bianchi, and the Decars send address? MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Specialities for Seaside town during July, Aug., and first two weeks in Sept.; Hall small, so terms must be low. Apply by letter only to FRED and HORACE REEVES, 31, Grove-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Guinness's Annual Fête, Smart and Novel Specialities, one week commencing Monday, June 20, 1910. Full particulars, lowest terms, and lithos., to CHARLES FREEAR, c/o Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Novel Specialities on Shares, Doubles, doing Singles, &c., open here May 9, small place. ESCOURT, Lyric Theatre, Dinnington, Rotherham.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, big Drawing Novelty, May 16, and few later dates.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C

ASHBURN'S AGENCY,
295, Kennington-rd., S.E. 'Phone, 5,467 Central.
WANTED, Sensational and Attractive Tops, new to England preferred.
Can arrange immediate dates.
or Combination Tours for really Big Acts.
Salary or Sharing Terms.
Send full list of bookings, particulars, terms, and specimen lithos.

WANTED, Big Top, May 16. Also Tops and Class Numbers for Aug. 1, on, for Town (outside Barring Area of Moss, Stoll, Barrasford, De Frece, or Macnaghten Tours). Big sensational acts communicate for August.
J. HARRISON, Northern Counties' Agency, Levenshulme, Manchester. Wire, "Vaudeville, Levenshulme." 'Phone, 103 Rusholme.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates.
T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Monson-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
WANTED, Big Top for Monday next, also for May 9, 16, 23.
Artists all Lines that can work two houses nightly. Only Best of Talent need apply.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners (I am booking all over the country). Artists for Halls, Galas, Pictures. Permanent and up-to-date booking list imperative. 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. HARRY TAFT, Lyric, Liverpool; next, Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, May 16 and onwards, Musical Clowns, Comedy Skaters, and other Variety Acts. TEMPLE'S Agency, 124, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 1 next, a First-class Performing Animal Act, also Comedy Three-bar Act for Yorkshire district. Lowest terms, sample lithos., to WILDERS', Agents, Great Francis-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, two respectable Young Ladies, perfect in Acrobatic and Step Dancing, for Variety Stage, for a Song and Dance Trio; every home comfort; personal interview daily between 4 and 5. Mr. CASTOR WATT, 21, Wardour-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, two Juveniles (girl over 14); must be experienced dancers, and good voices, for "Gordon Girls." Apply,
GIBSON, 68, Fentiman-road, S.W.

WANTED, Petite Lady, to assist Lady Illusionist, must give financial security for secrets; returned in salary. Long engagement. Amateur considered. EVANS, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, Male, Banjo, Tambourine, Bones, and Guitar Players, immediately, for London; good voices essential; coloured singers (men) also required. Apply, J. ROWLAND SALES, 16, King William-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, for well-known Troupe. Age, height, photo., and tricks, CYCLIST, 33, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, at once, smart Tumbler, for Comedy Act. Send full particulars, lowest terms in first letter. JOSH CLIFTON, 104, Loughboro'-park, Brixton, S.W. N.B.—Amateurs and would-be Tumblers save stamps.

WANTED, Smart Ground Tumbler, to join Act immediately. Full particulars, letters only, F. O., 3, Lancaster-rd., Westbourne Park, W.

WANTED, smart Coloured Boy, to assist Illusionist, long engagement to suitable youth. State age, height, references, Box 7,629, "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
WANTED, First-class Operator (with own complete electric outfit) for above Theatre, opening Whit Week. Send lowest terms and references to STANLEY ROGERS.

WANTED, May 14, Operator, with machine to comply with all requirements of New Act. Address, Mrs. T. CULEEN, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners Prin. O.C., at Lib. May 9 and 23. Hip., Brighton; next, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, May 16, 23, 30. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Rosaline Thorne, Descriptive and Illustrated Vocalist, May 2 and 9. P. address, 32, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer, May 9, 16, 23. Big hit, E., Camberwell. Monday, Empire, Edmonton, London.

WANTED, Known, Lillie Le Main, only Lady Lilliputian Artist. The most perfect imitations of living dancers possible. Vac. May 9, 30. This, Hippo., Greenock; next, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, by the Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers, May 16 and 30. Perm., 50, Lloyd-street, Greenhays, Manchester.

WANTED, May 9, 23, 30, and June 6, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers, to precede Manchester. Monday, Castle T., Rugby. Offers invited.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in Themselves, a Great Hit Everywhere, at Liberty May 9. Address, May 2, Hippodrome, Runcorn.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 23, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Original and Only Famous Singing Boxmakers (three sisters), a sure draw. Add., 3, Wood-terrace, Worcester.

THE THREE DANCING DUGGANS.
WANTED, Monday, May 9 and 16, to follow Lowestoft, introducing Buck Dancing on genuine Roller Ice Skates; simultaneous Sand-dancing and good Song. The Only Girls on the Variety Stage doing a Skipping-rope Dance on Roller and Ice Skates. This week, Hippo., Yarmouth; next, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Ted Vokes, Anglo-Continental Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty May 16, 23. Address, 15, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Arthur Croxon, Monday next, May 2.
161, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, May 2, 9 (previous to Porth), also a few Vacant Dates in June and July, for Ugo Nap Act, Burlesque Scena, "Home Without a Mother." Would entertain Piers or a First-class Al-Fresco Party. Wire, GERALD MOUNT, 34, Angell road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, May 9 and 16, by SAM ELLO,
Versatile Comedian and Dancer. D.C. lithos. and photo frames. Monday, Theatre, Bridgwater.

WANTED, May 9, July 18, by Schuler, Eminent Saxophonist, "Ten Minutes with Great Composers." Per., 49, Peter-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Will Owen, Dame and Com. Dutch Comedian, May 2, 9, 16; also for Al-Fresco, 12, Alexandra-av., Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Cambo, the Musical Monkey, two Acts if required. Wire, Palace, North Shields; after Sat., 5, Hattersley-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Henry D. Adams, the Juggling Pag Boy. Vacant May 9, 16, 23. Address, Empire, Bolton.

WANTED, Next Week, Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina). Hippo., Wallsend.

WANTED, Monday next, and May 9, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian and Banjoist. Wire, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, May 16, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, copyright Songs, Stories, Colliery Pictures. Next, Theatre, Darwen; 9th, Queen's, Farnworth.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the greatest Bantam-weight Wrestler living, £100 Challenge, draws packed houses always, Share or Salary. Coms., 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, May 30, by Stelfane, Lady Magician, Electric Fit-up. This, T. R., Pontypool; Monday next, Palace, Blaenavon, Mon.

WANTED, Monday next, 9th and 16th, by Sergt. Bert Powell, famous Military Illusionist and Entertainer, concludes to-night Hippodrome, Rochdale; next week, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, next week, through Boro', Shields, Fire, to precede Wigan, by Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Conjurer. Wire, Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Edmond Samson, the Ideal Strong Man. Liberty May 16. Perm., 322, Edmund-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, May 9, 16, 23, by Rozel, the Greatest Sensational Speciality Artist. A Sure Draw. Add. this, Hippo., Leigh; May 2, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, May 9, June 13, various, on, The Monckton's (Fred, Lillie), the Comedy Duologuists, with entirely new wardrobe, presenting their screaming comedy episode, "A WOMAN'S CURIOSITY." May 2, Black's Picture Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, through transferring Dates, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in their Latest Novelty Act. "Yoicks and a Yokel," introducing song, dance, and story. If you want a refined New Novel Comedy Act, wire for the above. Well dressed and mounted; own scenic effects carried. Till Sunday, 34, Angell-road Brixton. Monday, 35, Cremorne-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Ward and Davis (Howard and Louie), Monday next. Great Musical Comedy Duo. Wire, Pavilion, Leicester. Monday, 93, Hackforth-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Monday, also May 16 and 23, by Ray and Lingard, Comedy Duologue Artists; also Rene Ralph, Smart Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Known, The Levans (Geo. and May) thank John H. Tomkinson, Esq., Royal Gipsy Co., for eight months' comfortable tour. Thanks for Offers, also Will Lund, Esq., for Contracts. First Vacancy June 20. May 2, Boro' Theatre, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday, May 2, and few Immediate Dates, by the Chadwicks (Charlie and Sadie). A Mark Melford act, "Not 'Arf," without vulgarity. Singles if required. Gratton-chambers, 54, Blythe-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, May 9, also Whit Week, by the Two Le Bruns (Edith, Vocalist and Premier Lady Juggler; Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist). Address, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, originators of Living Marionettes. Big success, Empire, Portsmouth. Vacant May 9 and 16.
Add., 5, Sutton-st., Holloway Head, Birmingham

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. This, A. T., Pontefract; next Albert Hall, Darwen, Lancs. Vac. May 16. Offers to above.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb May 16, 23, 30.
Address, 4, Speedham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant the Comedy Conversational Duettists. Wire for a laughing hit. 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Monday next great Star Comedy Act. Big hit Queen's, Gateshead. Wire, 41, Southcoates-avenue, Hull.

WANTED, May 9, 23, June 27, Carlo and Maie Trio, Comedy Acrobatic Pot-Pourri Act. Sure success; only few vacancies this year. Address, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Galas, &c., Zarinellis, Comedy Juggling Acrobatic Speciality; one or two acts. Late Drury Lane Theatre. 4 Cleveland-road, Canonbury.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, May 9, 16, 23. Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Three Eltons, Comedy Triple Bars, Marblesque Trio, Statuary Tableaux, two Star Acts, Liberty May 2, 9. Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, May 9 and 30, on, by The Woolhafs, Great Comedy Act; Gorgeous lady costumes. This, Col., Glasgow. May 2, Emp., Sunderland.

WANTED, May 9, on, exceptions, by Herman and Evelyn, Herman and Evelyn, in their great refined Wire Act.
Also Cosselly, Great Acrobatic Table Act. For a sure success wire or write offers, this, Daly's Hall, Consett; next week, Theatre R., Thorney.

WANTED, May 9 and 16, The Carlzens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality; also Champion Somersault Dog Jack. Own scenery; splendid lithos. This, Hip. Dewsbury; Mon., Emp., Southport.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 30, The Flying Oreniuses (two ladies, two gentlemen), Stage Aerial Act. Wire, 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, May 2, 9, Bouncing Peps, best Bouncing Performance on the Stage. Star novelty. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 2 and 9, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. 7, St. John's-place, Perth.

WANTED, Monday next, May 2, and 9, by the Bouncing Dilions. Bouncing Competition. The Funniest Show on Earth and a Record Draw. Salary or Sharing Terms. Wire, Hippodrome, Salford; after Saturday, Holly Cottage, Morden-road, Merton.

WANTED, May 9, 16, 23, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Offers invited. Kino Hall, Clay Cross.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bert Williams, Ventriloquist. Wire for Novel Act; sure success, Empire, Camberwell; or "Exciteful, London."

WANTED, Monday, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist. This, Pavilion, Bangor (bottom), and what a success! Wire best offers.

WANTED, May 23, 30, June 6, between Southport and Peckham, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, May 9, on, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist and Entertainer, Halls or Al-Fresco. This, Palace, Wellingborough; next Arcadian Pavilion, Leeds.

MISS ELLA'S LION SHOW.
Surpassed by none,
and still leading.
WANTED, May 9, 16, 23, and 30.
Opera House, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur and her beautiful Russian Poodles. Next two weeks resting prior to Alfresco and Gala Season commencing. Few vacancies for Galas, &c. First vacant week, Oct. 17. Thanking Jazon and Lund offers next two weeks. HENGLEUR, Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, Mlle. Doris and her Highly trained Troupe of Dogs, the Best and Smartest Show in the Business. Vacant May 9, 23. The Gala Attraction. Monday, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's famous Dramatic Dogs and Pugilistic Scena, the only show of its kind before the public. At liberty Whit Monday. Big show for Galas, &c., share or certainty. Sure draw.
Address, Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, May 2, 9, 16, Chard's Dog Circus, the Greatest and Most Marvellous Act in the Universe. Challenging any dog show appearing in Great Britain or elsewhere. Aquarium Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers of First-class Halls. If you want something new, look out for E. Hodgini's Great Comic Equestrian Act, new everywhere, first tour in England. E. HODGINI, JUN., Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; Lillian Sivado, Novel Trapeze Act; two distinct acts. Vacant May 9, 23, on, Big Acts for Galas, &c. Monday, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Sensational Somersaulting Cyclists and Football on Wheels, vacant Monday, also 9th, 23rd. Always a success. This, Regent Theatre, Salford. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Pauletti, Acrobatic Table Act on Bicycles. Les Caros, Gymnastic Act. Thanks Wilder, Fioni, Burton contracts. Perm., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Barnard's Mannikins, June 6, Nov. 7, Dec. 12 and 26, the only Marionette Act that has visited Australia twice in a little over two years with remarkable success, playing eleven consecutive weeks at the Opera House, Melbourne, on our second visit; specially engaged for the Kursaal, Harrogate. Offers invited to FREDERICK BARNARD, 42, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Le Mere's Original Clown Cricketers are at Liberty for Whit Monday, May 16, onwards. Particulars, 1A, Cyril-street, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Will Lorenzi, Versatile Comedian, at Liberty to join any Sketch. Don't be afraid; I am reliable.
Coms., 17, Senega-road, Bedford-road, Clapham.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

PIER PAVILION THEATRE, TEIGNMOUTH.
One of the Cosiest Pavilions round the Coast.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties, May 30 (opening date), June 6, 13, July 18, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 12, on Sharing terms.
None but the absolute best entertained.
Everything really well worked and personal management. Full particulars,
E. A'DELL, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

PORTRUSH WINTER GARDENS CO.
WANTED, a Troupe, of six to eight Pierrots, from June 15 to Sept. 15; Sharing terms. Apply, D. MACLAUGHLIN, Secretary, Coleraine, for particulars.

WANTED, Concert or Pierrot Party, for two months, from May 23; large hall, electric light, populous city.
Send particulars to
Box 7,632, "The Era" Office.

SYDNEY GARDENS, BATH.—CONCERT PAV.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties with vacant dates. Particulars, photos., &c. CARL FREDERICKS, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, First-class Troupe of Entertainers or Pierrots, for Summer Season. Full particulars, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagements, Concert Parties, Pictures, &c., Miss Amy Wooderson, Soprano, brilliant voice, good appearance, experienced, Illustrated Songs. 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Vocalists and Comedians, to try our Special Books, to contain from 12 to 20 piano copies. Sample book, 1s. 3d., post free. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 2, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Mme. Réjane, Bellclair Bros., J. H. Scotland, Alice Raymond and Co., Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Nina Wood, Spissell Bros. and Mack, Wyndham and Kitty, Animated Pictures, Arthur Helmore, Henri Leoni, Princess Baratoff.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Van Biene and Co., Johnny Fuller, Bertha Winder, Haytors, Ike and Will Scott, Winifred Ward, Rauschle, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chanti, Chas. Whittle, Lillie Lassah, Melody Makers, Serenaders, Little Ganty, Staig's Steeplejacks, Kerr and Koe, Bioscope, Kellinos.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Karno's "Wontdetainia," Bioscope, Nellie Farrell, Carl and Carr, George Rae, Rose Challoner, Fred Lincoln, Margaret Parker, Lydia Yeamans.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Third Week, Stock Season, "Bells of Haslemere."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Indian Wrestlers, Ouida Macdermott, C. J. Johnson, Eight Empire Girls, Five Whiteleys, Sanford and Lyons, Vanando, Korries, Baby Boden, Bioscope, Jack Lane, Edward Blondell and Co. in "The Lost Boy."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Marie George, William Mollison and Co., Barrett and Knowles, Loyal's Trained Dogs, Hagedorn's Grotto, Horace Wheatley, Jessie Buckle, Bioscope, Bensons, Dick Tubb.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing," Bioscope, Speedwell, Les Marco Belli, Eight College Girls, Black and White, Persichini, Dan Fraser, Madge Brownie, Pat Rafferty.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Foxwell's Co. in "A Broken Heart."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ella Russell, Betty Green, Arthur Leslie, J. W. Rowley, Alexandra Dagmar, Mona Garrick, Poole and Maguire, Bioscope, Tom Hearn, Bros. Griffitha.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Craggs, Tom Moore, Brull and Hemsley, Mitchell and Cain, Five Vernons, Florence Smithers, Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Geo. Ali and Co., Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Jackley Trio, Spry and Monti, Carmos, Leo Tell, Waul Langtry, Gardner and Stoddard, Humpsti Bumpsti.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Carl Howard, Ellis Barrieton, Dandies, Little Zola, Les Andres, Rita Rhyfle, Bioscope, Edward Lewis and Co. in "The Five Wishes."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bransby Williams, Harry Weldon, Fanny Robina, Stowe Bros., Fred Barnes, Bros. Redmond, Florence Cooper, Bioscope, Arthur Lennard, Harvey's Boys and Girls.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Will Evans, Anna Chandler, Orpheus, Matthews and Cowper, Horace Pollock, Three Van Dammes, Mabel Sinclair, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Esta Stella, La Berat.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Florence Yaymen, Francis and Alfred, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Henry Helme, Phillips and Merritt, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lew Lake and Co. in "King Nobbler," Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Tom E. Hughes, Hall and Earle, Jewel St. Leger, Chas. Norton, Frank Hartley, Northern Troupe, Three Sisters Kilner, King and Benson, Bioscope.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Smith and Carpenter's Co. in "Pete."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Cull Pitt, Roma and Romani, Brown and Le Clerq, O'Malley and Brown, Prince Milner Trio, Arthur Slater, Alice Kingsley, Bioscope, Bros. Horne.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Cook's Man," the Great Lafayette, Haydee's Mannikins, Three Laurels, George French, Bert Weston, Channings, Bioscope, Chas. T. Aldrich, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Emma Don and Co., Delomes, Delevines, Peter Bermingham, Beaty and Blanche, Frank H. Fox, Motramos.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jewels' "Change." Lena Verdi, Walker and May, Drew and Alders, Ray Wallace, Talbot and Pearce, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Vesta Tilley, Falco and Eida, Lulu Williams, Findens, Fred Curran, Cumminger and Colonna, Addie Adell, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

John Warren and Co. in "The Magic Carpet," Harry May Hemsley, Charles Vincent, Lukushimas, Four Regals, Eadie and Rameden, Bioscope, H. O. Wills, Amelie De L'Enclos.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Evie Greene, Jennie Hartley, Lupino Lane, Bros. O'Brien, W. Fulbrook, Dusty Rhodes, Sisters Caselli, Katie Butler, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Tom Stuart, Gladys Mavius, Francoli Troupe, Les Silas, Ben Albert, May Mars, Blank Family, Wish Wynne.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Maidie Scott, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Rossi Ashton, Bros. Bright, Ted E. Box, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Brennans, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Barry Lupino, Heeley and Meeley, Millie Payne, Bioscope, Lola Patey, Harry Friskey, Stanley and Greenop, Two St. Johns, Danby, Piddock, and Co.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Dan Crawley, Liane D'Eve, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Ernie Garner, Six Lancashire Lasses, Yamamoto and Koroshi, Tate and Tate, Florence Esdaile, Marco Twins.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Selkirk's Boy Scouts, King and Queenie, Phil Parsons, D'Arc's Marionettes, La Freya, Alice Maple, Bioscope, Musical Marvels.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Zelhus, Frank and Free, Arthur Woodville, Great Vincent, Bioscope, Gratton and Delaine, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Brinn, J. P. Carroll, Rhoda Paul, Gus Garrick, Herbert Shelley, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track," Takio, Vandinoff, Ted and May Hopkins, Larola, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, Fred Earle.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, Ethel Dancy, Yokels, Billy Hobbs, Ryan and Hall, Siems, Lillian Treville, Sam Dalton, Bioscope, Elite Harmony Boys.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Abdullah Arabs, Fatmah Diard, Conan and Doyle, Ruth Davenport, Frank Maura, Bioscope, Mayvilles, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAG LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: Miss AMY ROBINSON.

General Business Manager for the Circuit: Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager: Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 2.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
George D'Albert, Sergt. Brennan, Cairo Trio, Clark and Hayden, Dancing Gilberts, Bros. Victor, Comedy Meisters, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
David Fuller, Les Arabellas, Flo Burnett, Cavalli, Madison and Webb, Charles Erard, Harry Atkinson, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pete and Minnie Lee, Jimmie Pullin, Irene Meldon, Arthur Stacey, Vera Mayne, Durazcoe and Azella, Phono, The Camplins, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Techin Maa and Troupe, Flo Warner, L'Incognita, George Lawrence, The Kirbys, Dalmere's Animals, Ten Dixie Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Janowsky Troupe, Geo. James, Madge O'Neill, Fred Maxwell and Company, Dene and Douglas, Dandy Page, Ernie Westo, "Midnight London Express," Kitty Curtis, Guy Ryder.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Letine, Pictures, Beattie Lyndon, Frances Letty, The Cumberlands, Fred Maxwell and Company, Chas. Leighton, Harry Webber, The Lindos, Beale and Broadway, Cadwell and Verne.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Eugene Stratton, Colin Mail, The Miltons, Selim and Sultana, Bartholomew Girls, George Geoffreys, Arnold Richardson and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Her Fatal Marriage."

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Francini Olloms and Page, Walter Aubrey, The Sages, Lizzie Daniels, George Brookes, The Villions, Farr and Farland, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Tan Kwai Troupe, The Zongaras, Beatrice Harris, Adolf Beck Pictures, John Macauley, Harry Martell, The Merrions.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Thiessen's Dogs, Captain Ellis and Son, Mildred Bryan, Bros. Hannaway, Zanfrellas, Norah Desmond, Vaudeville Trio, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Olympian Cyclists, Tina Frank, Four Sydney Girls, Will Douglas' Co., Simeon, the Seer, Julian Mack, Sammy Shields, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Will H. Fox, Monie Mine, Dickeson and Co., Mamie Morris, Bert Maddison, Bob Hamilton, Clark and Mostol, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
George Formby, Raymond and Ivy, Three Alskarnos, Ethel Entwistle, Sisters Darnton, Ella Elgar, Walter Barrett, Narow Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Dan Lipton's "Songland," Kitty Clinton, Stidder and Dunbar, Clive Cattley, The Simms, Lennard and Vereker, Friend and Downing, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"10.30 Down Express."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Jeff Martin and Co., Ross and Grayson, Ethel Bourne, Joe Cookson, Sisters Maynard, Bardoff, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Burt Shepard, Lisbon and Barker, Chas. Gardner, The Zampas, Maro Duo, Lily Edwardes, Palace Perfection Pictures, "The Key."

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Milo and George, Ellerslie Pyne, Chas. Carlile's Co., Wee Georgie Wood, Cosgrove and Burns, Rosie Fern, Ben Richards, "Xmas Eve," Chas. Woodward.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Palestine, Bessie Butt, "My Pal Jerry, Sisters Harcourt, Tom Hulme, Elsie Kesward, "A Ruined Life," Arthur Rose, Leon and Lee, Andos Troupe.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Milner and Storey, Jos. Crook, Little Cherub, Leeton and Lane, Crystal and Saville, The Cattle Thief, Arthur Stevens, The Tymes, Dan Conroy, Nellie Lunelle, Henri Cazman.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

TED SNYDER MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. (Inc.)
LONDON—NEW YORK—CHICAGO—MELBOURNE,
HAVE JUST THE SONGS YOU WANT FOR THE SUMMER SEASON.
BALLADS,
COMEDY SONGS,
CHORUS NUMBERS.
PUBLISHERS OF
"ROSES AND MEMORIES,"
Being played nightly by AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.
MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY! HOORAY!!
Being sung by J. F. MCCARDLE in the Revue, "Hullo, London," also by PHIL PARSONS with great success.
Come up and see us, or send 7 stamps for sample copies.
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.
J. H. SQUIRE, Manager.

TO THEATRE MANAGERS AND PROPRIETORS.
FOR SALE
NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.
The following Musical Comedies:—

MR. POPPLE	(Apollo Production)
EARL AND THE GIRL	(No. 1 Production).
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC	(Daly's Theatre Production).
THREE LITTLE MAIDS	(No. 1 Production).
WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM	(No. 1 Production).
TOREADOR	(Fit up Production).
A CHINESE HONEYMOON	(ditto.).
A COUNTRY GIRL	(ditto.).

Various Scenery, Furniture, Properties and Wardrobe belonging to the "School Girl," "Dr. Wake's Patient," "Catch of the Season," "The Messenger Boy," &c.; Stage Cloths, Fit Ups complete, Baskets. The provincial Rights of performing most of the above plays can be included by arrangement.
NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.
MUST BE SOLD.
Offers to . . . .
R. H. GILLESPIE, 29a, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

HOUSE TO BE SOLD.
84, Castlenau, Barnes,
containing 3 sitting-rooms, 5 bedrooms, garage, 2 rooms above, carriage drive.
To be seen any time.
Apply, ARTHUR, 84, Castlenau, Barnes.

THE VERY VALUABLE OLD-ESTABLISHED FREEHOLD FULLY-LICENSED THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
for nearly fifty years past known as
COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL,
ISLINGTON GREEN,
UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON,
together with the TAVERN, known as
THE LANSDOWNE ARMS,
with the commodious Dwelling-house over.
The present Theatre, which has seating accommodation for 1,114 people, besides eight private boxes, and the premises fronting Islington Green, were erected in 1897 in a most substantial manner, and the valuable Fixtures, Fittings, and Accessories will be included in the Sale.
The WHOLE, with possession, are to be
SOLD BY AUCTION,
as a going concern, by
NEWBON and SHEPHARDS,
at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on TUESDAY, May 31, 1910, at 2 o'clock precisely.
Particulars and conditions of sale, with plan, may be had at the Mart; of C. R. Enever, Esq., Solicitor, 47, Broad-street House, New Broad-street, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, 274 and 275, Upper-street, N.

To Refreshment Contractors, Entrepreneurs, Syndicates, Caterers, &c.
By Order of the Public Trustee, C. J. Stewart, Esq., Executor of E. A. Smith, Esq., Deceased.
THE SWISS GARDENS, SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.
Messrs. JENNER and DELL
WILL SELL BY AUCTION,
At the OLD SHIP HOTEL, BRIGHTON,
On THURSDAY, May 19, 1910, at Three o'clock precisely, with Possession,
This FREEHOLD PROPERTY, comprising about 4¼ acres, including the ORNAMENTAL LAKES, situate within a few minutes' walk of Shoreham-by-Sea Railway Station, five miles of Brighton, and four miles of Worthing, and which was for many years widely known as a Place of Public Resort as PLEASURE and TEA GARDENS, and originally included a Dancing Pavilion, Theatre, Observatory, Tea Rooms, Swiss Cottage, Glass Houses and Conservatories, some of which still remain, Lakes with Fishing and Boating, affording a very enjoyable Resort, frequented by thousands in the Summer Season. With a moderate outlay the Property could, no doubt, be successfully revived for a similar purpose. The Sale will include the FULLY-LICENSED FREEHOLD PREMISES known as THE COTTAGE INN, annexed to the Gardens, with entrance from the Old Shoreham Road. In a separate Lot a small enclosed PLOT OF FREEHOLD GROUND, on the West side of Freehold Street.
Should the Property be desired as a Building Site, it has extensive frontages to Victoria-road, Old Shoreham-road, and Freehold-street.
Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained of Messrs. Fitzhugh, Woolley, Baines, and Woolley, Solicitors, 3, Pavilion-parade, Brighton; and together with Orders to View, at the Auctioneers' Offices, Regency-square, Brighton, and 54, Church-road (corner of Grand-avenue), Hove.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BARRY DOCK.—Mrs. Corp, 5, Beryl-road (close to Palace). Professional Apartments; bath, hot and cold. Terms moderate.
BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.
EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.
GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.
HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-st. 2 sitting-rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 combined; piano; bath (hot and cold water); 5 minutes from halls, station. Nat. Tel., 334Y7.
ILKLEY, YORKS.—Comfortable apartments and board; terms moderate. Address, 15, Wellington-road.
LONDON, N.—Residence and board if required; moderate, every comfort; near two Empires. 224, Fore-street, Upper Edmonton.
LONDON, S.E.—Drawing-room and bedroom, also bed-sitting rooms, for Sunday. Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.
LONDON, S.W.—61, Vauxhall Bridge-road, combined room, clean and comfortable; terms 7s.
LONDON, S.W.—Winchester Lodge, 10, Effra-road, Brixton Hill. Comfortabl apartments, bath (h.c.), good cookery, attendance. Close to theatre, music-hall. No cards.
MANCHESTER.—Comfortable, respectable apartments, drawing-room set, dining-room set, bath, &c.; good piano. Mrs. Hope, 16, Grafton-street, Oxford-road.
PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.
RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional apartments. Moderate terms.
SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 minute from Empire and O. H., sea; piano, bath (h., c.), w.c.
WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS.—Mrs. Rudge has removed from 103, Balham Park-road to Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Healthy situation, near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams. Entire charge taken.
COMFORTABLE HOME.—Lady is prepared to receive at her old-fashioned farmhouse, children of professionals during their absence on tour; most bracing spot in Essex; every care, comfort, and education guaranteed. Terms moderate. Barton, Bicknacre Grange, Mayland, near Maldon, Essex.
UNIQUE FLAT for Professional. Close to Olympia (Addison-road Station); unfurnished or partly furnished; bath, electric light, and attendance, can be arranged; 10s. to 30s., according to requirements. Gratton-chambers, 54, Blythe-road, West Kensington, W., overlooking Gardens, G.P.O.

THE STANDARD Folding Typewriter.
Price - - £12 12s.
Possesses advantages that can be found in no other typewriter AT ANY PRICE.
LIGHTNESS ... ... Weight 5¾lbs.
PORTABILITY ... 10in. by 8in. by 4in.
Visible Writing, Two-Colour Device, Aluminium Frame, Steel Wearing Parts, etc., etc.
Suitable for the Office, Private Use, or Travelling Purposes.
Particulars Post Free.
HIDALGO MOYA
(DEPT. 2.)
LONDON: 85, STRAND, W.C. *LEICESTER:* 22, LONDON ROAD.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE
For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a
PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE
is installed at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

SPARROW & SON
EST. 1765. NOTTINGHAM. TELE. 187.
THEATRICAL DECORATIONS.
FIBROUS PLASTER. ART PAINTINGS.
PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS ARE INVITED TO SEND FOR SKETCHES & ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE PREPARED FREE OF ALL CHARGE.
PRESS COMMENTS on some of the THEATRES, &c., DECORATED by SPARROW & SON.
"One of the most charming theatres in the provinces." "Carried out in admirable taste." "One of the most beautiful concert halls in the world."
"Messrs. Sparrow and Son, of Nottingham, well known for their Theatrical Decorative work, carried out the interior Decorations in exquisite style."

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.
THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.
HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A.
All the American Theatrical News.
For Sale in London at PALL MALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE; Carlton-street; Regent-street; Daw's S.S. Agency, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.; and Murray's Exchange, 3, Northumberland-avenue, W.C.

IF YOU CONTEMPLATE AN AMERICAN TOUR SEND THE NEWS AHEAD THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN
THE BILLBOARD.
AMERICA'S LEADING THEATRICAL WEEKLY.
It has the largest circulation in the United States of any paper in its class. Special Professional Advertising Rates, 8s. 4d. per single column inch. This double column space, 16s. 8d. single insertion.
London Office: 179, Temple Chambers, E.C.
Copies may be purchased at "The Era" Office, Price 5d. Post free, 6d.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE LUNA PARK AND PALACE OF
THE LUNA PARK AND PALACE OF
THE LUNA PARK AND PALACE OF
AMUSEMENTS (SOUTHEND), LTD.
AMUSEMENTS (SOUTHEND), LTD.
AMUSEMENTS (SOUTHEND), LTD.
(Late Kursaal.)
(Late Kursaal.)

Under New Proprietorship.

Vacant Spaces for Whitsuntide.
Vacant Spaces for Whitsuntide.
Vacant Spaces for Whitsuntide.
Vacant Spaces for Whitsuntide.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

All Kinds of Outdoor Shows.
All Kinds of Outdoor Shows.
All Kinds of Outdoor Shows.

The buildings include the
Magnificent Theatre
now known as
His Majesty's Opera House and Theatre of Varieties.

The Estate (some 25 acres in extent)
is being converted into a
First-class Ornamental Park
First-class Ornamental Park
First-class Ornamental Park
and
Open-air Amusement and Pleasure Ground.
Open-air Amusement and Pleasure Ground.
Open-air Amusement and Pleasure Ground.

Figure Eight now in course of Erection.
Figure Eight now in course of Erection.

Scenic Railway now in course of Erection.
Scenic Railway now in course of Erection.

And other Splendid Attractions to follow.

In fact,
a
Veritable and Ideal Show Ground,
Veritable and Ideal Show Ground,
Veritable and Ideal Show Ground,
will shortly be in Full Swing.
will shortly be in Full Swing.
will shortly be in Full Swing.

GRAND OPENING IN JUNE.
GRAND OPENING IN JUNE.
GRAND OPENING IN JUNE.
GRAND OPENING IN JUNE.

For Whitsuntide,
A Large Portion
of these Desirable Grounds
is vacant for
Suitable Entertainments.
Suitable Entertainments.
Suitable Entertainments.

Letters and telegrams immediately
to
T. W. Hilton,
Managing-Director.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
WANTED, Known, the Inventors, Patentees and Sole Makers are Taylor, Plinston, Bros., and Co., 94, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Write for particulars.
Registered Trade Mark, "Cake-Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets and Houp-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

THE KING OF AUTOMATICS.
WANTED, Known, Electric Rifles and Targets, with all latest improvements, Coin in Slot, suitable for Amusement Parlours, Exhibitions, Theatres, Skating Rinks, immense money-earners. Wholesale Agents wanted; also Foreign Patents for sale. New Electric Rifle and Target Co., Ltd., 142, Wardour-street, London W

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, by Royal Letters Patent, at Home and Abroad. 'Phone, Stratford 395. The famous Oscillating Zig-Zag Stairway, the rage of Paris, quick money-takers, are manufactured by the Inventor and Patentee. Full particulars, J. E. Cooper, Albert Works, Chatsworth-rd., Stratford.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Pat Collins, Esq., the Showman King, says the Standard Gillett Light is the finest he has ever seen, and is far superior to electric.
Write to him for particulars, or to
The United Kingdom Standard Gillett Light Co., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IMMEDIATELY,
IMMEDIATELY,
IMMEDIATELY,
IMMEDIATELY,

SIDE SHOWS,
SIDE SHOWS,
SIDE SHOWS,
SIDE SHOWS,
SIDE SHOWS,
GAMES,
GAMES,
GAMES,
GAMES,
GAMES,
NOVELTIES, &c.
NOVELTIES, &c.
NOVELTIES, &c.
NOVELTIES, &c.
NOVELTIES, &c.

Good Shows Get the Money Here.
Good Shows Get the Money Here.
Good Shows Get the Money Here.
Good Shows Get the Money Here.
Good Shows Get the Money Here.

Apply, Manager,

WHITE CITY,
WHITE CITY,
WHITE CITY,
ALDGATE, E.
ALDGATE, E.
ALDGATE, E.

WANTED, good Side Shows, Riding Devices, Games, &c., plenty of room under cover; Share or Rental. Larcher, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, good Showing Novelties, for Summer Season, on half shares, with paintings or posters. Write or wire, S. Baker, Fair Fields, Tenterden, Kent.

WANTED, good Novelties, Freaks, and Performers, May 9, onwards, Edinburgh and Dundee. Terms, &c., Fredk. Stewart, Waxworks, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Living, Breathing, or Dead.
A. E. Pickard, Glasgow.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Pier, Summer Season. Photo. and age. Apply by letter to Proctoria, 51, Nassau-road, Barnes, London, S.W.

WANTED, Palmist, Fortune-teller; grand opening Business Woman; also Freaks. Shares or rent. Lingard's Royal Coronation Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Palmist and Clairvoyant, for private practice. Apply, stating age, experience, and wages, to Box 7,631, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED,
WANTED, all whom it may Concern,
to Know
that I have
succeeded
in
securing
a very Large Space of Ground
at the forthcoming
FESTIVAL
of
THE EMPIRE and PAGEANT OF LONDON,
which will be held at
THE CRYSTAL PALACE,
LONDON,
during the months of
May, June, and July,
and will be of
UNPRECEDENTED MAGNIFICENCE,
15,000 Performers
appearing in it daily.

All the Best Shows in the Kingdom,
and all other
Respectable and Well-conducted
Attractions and Novelties,
Shooting Jungles and Fair Novelties,
are invited
to apply for Ground.

P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
'Phone, 80 Walsall.

LEICESTER MAY FAIR,
Thursday, May 5, to Tuesday, May 10.
Grand
PLEASURE FAIR
and
AVIATION MEETING.
Special Engagement
of
MR. LEO MERODE,
who will make Daily Flights on his Blériot type
AEROPLANE.

Exhibition of Flying Machines.
Seen for the First Time on a Fair Ground in Europe.
WE LEAD.
Imitators may follow,
that is, if they can?

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let
at this Fair, where there is sure to be
RECORD BUSINESS.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls, &c.,
apply at once to
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
'Phone, 80 Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

BIRMINGHAM
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR
will this year be
the Greatest and Best
ever held.
Having acquired
a Large Plot of Ground
from
the City of Birmingham Corporation,
nothing will be left undone
to make this
a Record Event.
WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c.,
to apply quickly
as ground fast filling up.
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let at LICHFIELD BOWER
for good Side-Shows, Joints, Stalls, Shooters, &c.
also
at
LUDLOW MAY FAIR,
for Cinematograph Exhibitions,
Cake Walk,
Side-Shows, and other Good Novelties.
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WOLVERHAMPTON
WHITSUNTIDE FAIR.
WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let
on the
MARKET PLACE
for this old-established
and
well known
Fair.
Proprietors of Good Shows, Stalls,
and other Attractions,
apply at once to
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, good Palmist, at once; splendid opening; rent or shares; references required. Apply sharp, Charles, 271, Ecclesall-road, Sheffield.

To Showmen and Others.

WANTED, to Let, Sites,
for Great Aviation Meeting.
Write first, with offers and particulars, to
Aero, Box 7,623, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, one or two Small Spaces, for Real Novelties, in Exhibition, County Hall, Guildford, May 3 to May 14 inclusive.
Apply, Manager Exhibition.

WANTED, to Hire, Halls, Spaces, Buildings, any size, for Refined Art Exhibitions; distance no object. Manager, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, a large Tame Bear, must be docile.
Apply, Hales, 76, The Drive, Hove.

WANTED, to rent Shop or Kiosk, on fashionable Pier, or Gardens, by thoroughly respectable and accomplished Lady. Phrenologist, and Palmist. State rent, full particulars, Zeta, Providence-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, Seaside Season, up-to-date, Palmist, Phrenologist, or for low rent take studio on pier. Turner, 26, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, for Season, Lady Palmist and some Smart Girls, for Shooting Range and Hoop La. Arnold, Novelty Exhibition, High-street, Southend.

WANTED, two reliable Lady Character Readers; long engagement for the right people. State age, experience. Madame Vesta, Royal Arcade, Harrogate.

WANTED, Phrenologist, on Share or Rental, good-class clientèle.
Manager, 10, Marine-drive, Margate.

WANTED, good live Pianist and Comedian steady, opening in Barrow-in-Furness in three weeks; can join at Stockton at once. Bloom, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, smart young lady, for Wire Working and Engraving. References, &c.,
Manager, 10, Marine-drive, Margate.

WANTED, to Travel with Auction Mart and Bioscope, a good Comedian and Plankman, with a good répertoire of Songs and Gags; also a good Descriptive Vocalist. Edwards and Page, Garnant, Carmarthenshire.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Whit Week, onward, Punch and Judy Performing Dog Toby. Wm. Durham, 8, Sycamore-street, Oldham-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Tiny Town, at Liberty for Monday. A Troupe of Tiny People. Wire, Manager, Tiny Town, White City, Aldgate, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Submarine Diving Show, consisting of Large Tank, Air Pump, Diving Dresses, Helmets, &c., &c., and Booth, all ready for opening. Apply, J. Norman, Fair Ground, Northwich.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, a Set of Flat Platform Gallopers, consisting of Horses, Cockerels; also 2 spinner, 4 h. centre engine, organ engine, and organ, electric light engine and dynamo. Excello lamps, trucks, and everything complete, in good working order. John Green, 9, East-view, Preston.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Punch-ball, £7; Phonographs, 60s.; Mutoscopes, 50s.; Loopo, 20s.; Electric, 30s.; Models, &c. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer. Sure living for worker. Cost £8, sacrifice 50s., complete. Doll frame (30 dolls), 60s. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, American Picture Machines, Tivolis, Mutoscopes, Lifter, Punch Ball, Weigher, Blower, Piano Roller, Loop. Address, Box 7,630, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, New Toboggan Slide, 120ft. long, suitable for Fêtes, Exhibitions, &c., for sale, on realisation of partnership property, has proved very popular. Apply, Oswald Hanson and Smith, 44, Hammersmith-road, London, W., Solicitors, of Grey and Co., Boulevard-chambers, Weston-super-Mare, Solicitors.

WANTED, to Sell, Everything for the Fair, Rifle Saloon Requirements, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, Sticks, Rings, Balls, &c. List free. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Good Portable Slip (lighthouse pattern.) Haunted House or Katzengammer Castle, of any other good Amusement Device for Indoor Use.
Must be in good condition.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cockshy, best pitch, Fair Ground, Southport, Sharing terms; money for nothing for Novelty; commence Saturday before Whit, during week, and season if suitable. Johnson, 3, Castle-street, Southport.

WANTED, all Kinds of Automatic Machines for Bognor Pier; now converted into a Gigantic Skating Rink. Racing floor 300yds. long. Best sharing terms. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-rd., South Hampstead.

WANTED, Distorting Mirrors, Concave and Convex, 6ft. by 3ft.
Apply, with lowest price and particulars, immediately, to
Taylor, 143, High-street, Gateshead.

WANTED, Estimate for a Dutch Village for Bazaar, to accommodate about 12 Stalls in covered Hall, about 60ft. by 100ft.
Apply,
Jim, W. H. Smith and Son's Bookshop, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, for Whitsun, Expert Exhibition Skaters and other Rink Novelties. Apply, giving full particulars, testimonials, and Press Notices, and salary required, by letter only, to M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W. No Agents.

WANTED, by First-class Manager, Position on Large Rink; at present managing one of the largest rinks in the North; thoroughly qualified and experienced; expert Exhibition Skater. Only those requiring first-class man need apply. Box 7,651, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by smart Instructress at Summer Rink; expert Skater; young, experienced. Miss F. Benn, 3, Union-terrace, Union-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Prof. T. Butterworth and Master Eric Butterworth (the Boy Wonder), for Summer. Terms and vacant dates, address Queen's Rink, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Prof. Bannister, Rink or Floor Manager, Seaside preferred. Give exhibitions, own uniforms. 30, Arliss-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Manager wishes to recommend Instructor, first-class skater, good appearance and highest refs. Apply, Box 7,625, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, at Summer Rink, by Floor-manager Instructor; sole charge if required: experienced. Ernie Morris, Ynys Cottage, near Fair Ground, Aberdare.

WANTED, to Sell, two maple floors, now in use, best offer per 100 superficial feet as it lays; buyer to take them up; one 160ft. by 60ft., about 100ft. by 40ft., in good condition.
Can be seen in London.
Apply by letter to Box 6,014,
C/o Hewitt's Advertising Offices,
24, Bartlett's-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Best Rink Ground Pumice Stone, bankrupt stock; price 19s. per cwt., 10s. ½ cwt., 28lb. 5s. 6d., carriage paid. Cash with order. Chelsco, Pont-st., Hirst.

WANTED, to Buy, 250 pairs Ball-bearing Skates, good condition. Sample and particulars. Stacey and Co., Ltd., High Wycombe.

WANTED, Known, that M. W. Shanly can Fit-up Skating Rinks with Up-to-date Cinematograph Plant. Machines, Accessories and Chairs to any number (same as used in the Royal Parks). On sharing terms, with a small guarantee. Shanly's Animated Pictures, 2 Capeners-yard, Knightsbridge.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a Set of Flat Platform Gallopers, consisting of Horses, Cockerels; also 2 spinner, 4 h. centre engine, organ engine, and organ, electric light engine and dynamo. Excello lamps, trucks, and everything complete, in good working order. John Green, 9, East-view, Preston.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Punch-ball, £7; Phonographs, 60s.; Mutoscopes, 50s.; Loopo, 20s.; Electric, 30s.; Models, &c. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer. Sure living for worker. Cost £8, sacrifice 50s., complete. Doll frame (30 dolls), 60s. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, American Picture Machines, Tivolis, Mutoscopes, Lifter, Punch Ball, Weigher, Blower, Piano Roller, Loop. Address, Box 7,630, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, New Toboggan Slide, 120ft. long, suitable for Fêtes, Exhibitions, &c., for sale, on realisation of partnership property, has proved very popular. Apply, Oswald Hanson and Smith, 44, Hammersmith-road, London, W., Solicitors, of Grey and Co., Boulevard-chambers, Weston-super-Mare, Solicitors.

WANTED, to Sell, Everything for the Fair, Rifle Saloon Requirements, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, Sticks, Rings, Balls, &c. List free. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Good Portable Slip (lighthouse pattern.) Haunted House or Katzengammer Castle, of any other good Amusement Device for Indoor Use.
Must be in good condition.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cockshy, best pitch, Fair Ground, Southport, Sharing terms; money for nothing for Novelty; commence Saturday before Whit, during week, and season if suitable. Johnson, 3, Castle-street, Southport.

WANTED, all Kinds of Automatic Machines for Bognor Pier; now converted into a Gigantic Skating Rink. Racing floor 300yds. long. Best sharing terms. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-rd., South Hampstead.

WANTED, Distorting Mirrors, Concave and Convex, 6ft. by 3ft.
Apply, with lowest price and particulars, immediately, to
Taylor, 143, High-street, Gateshead.

WANTED, Estimate for a Dutch Village for Bazaar, to accommodate about 12 Stalls in covered Hall, about 60ft. by 100ft.
Apply,
Jim, W. H. Smith and Son's Bookshop, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Urban Bioscope, two resistances, lenses, &c., £9, cash.
Write, Raymond House, Garrick-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, complete Walturdaw Bioscope Outfit, Fireproof Spool Boxes, £18, bargain, all as new. Particulars, 4 Cleve-and-road, Canonbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Film of Cup Final at the Crystal Palace, length 400ft. (Gaumont's), good photographic quality; price £2 (two pounds). Can be dispatched on Saturday night.
Address, H. Hamilton, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell,
300 Tip-up Seats, mostly plush,
nearly new, cheap for cash.
Write, Box 7,658, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Quartette of Saxophones, Electro-plated, superior class, practically new, by Buffet, catalogue price £93 10s., price £55; Ballade Horn, by Hawkes, Class A, £7; 'Cello, by Lupal, worth £60, price £35. Address, Wrigley, 49, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, loudest ever heard, Sleigh Bells, Marimbas, Rattles, Tunable Resonators (protected), Macaronis. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, 60ft. Circus Tent Poles, Ropes, Stakes, Seating all complete, in good condition. No reasonable offer refused. Address, Greenwood, 18, Norfolk-st., Nelson, Lancashire.

WANTED, to sell, No. 7 Blick Typewriter, as new, £5; No. 8, 6 guineas; rare bargains. Burgh, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Inflated Jumbo Policeman's Dress, complete, as new. Dress covering helmet, whiskers, wig, and foot bellows. The lot £5. Photo on approval. Money returned if not satisfied. Tom Verne, Manager, Roller Rink, Wishaw, N.B.

WANTED, to Sell, Fifteen-minute Three-handed Dramatic Playlet, by well-known Author (band parts, printing, &c.), successful in London and Provinces. Several years' work for good Leading Man. Very moderate price. For particulars, address, Harry Lyons, The Falstaff, Bull-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Entire Rights of Musical Comedy, "The Flower Girl," music alone worth the price. Gliddon, Brixton Theatre.

WANTED, to Sell, several new and original Sketches, by F. L. Shepherd, author of "Planted," "A Lesson in Fencing," "The Fugitive." Apply, 14, Linacre-road, Willesden Green, N.W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, Wild Animals of every Description, must be in good condition.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap, or Hire, smart miniature Trick Pony, used to Ring without Fence. Steadman, 12, Clonomendy-view, Mil.bank-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Buy, Carpet, in good condition, about 16ft. square, also Stage Furniture, modern, of oak. State lowest price and particulars to Harry Snelson, Empire, Fleetwood.

WANTED, a good Oak Chamber, two doors, fireplace, French window, 2 2ft. pieces; flats, 17ft. Charles Windermere, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

To Authors.
WANTED, good Comedy, for Trial Production, by London Manager, exceptional opportunity. Fullest particulars to B. L., Box 7,660, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Good Version of "Trilby," with Music.
Address, T. E. Wood, Colosseum, Oldham.

WANTED, Up-to-date Sketch; must contain good Middle-aged Female Character; Strongly Dramatic or Broadly Farcical. Recognised authors only. Mrs. Mark Kinghorne, "Mother-in-Law," Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, to buy, First-class Original (must be funny) Comedy Duologue (musical number for Lady preferred). Monckton Black's Picture Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Piano and Septet parts, fair condition, Two Steps, Waltzes, Barn Dances, Marches, &c., for cash. Cooper, 23 George-street, Summertown, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, to Let, on rental, from May 23 to June 25.
Good opportunity for Stock Companies or for Picture and Diorama Shows.
Apply, Jas. Buck, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Popular Hippodrome and Theatre in Midlands, full Dramatic Licence; holding capacity 3,000.
Box 7,648, "The Era."

THE REHEARSAL THEATRE,
WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, Private Performances, Concerts, Meetings, Trial Shows, &c. Low charges. 'Phone Gerrard 2633. Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay, 21, Malden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in May and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

Electric Theatre.
WANTED, Known, Large and Commodious Building in Glasgow; suitable for above, can be adapted to seat up to 1500; no opposition. Address, Theatre," Wm. Porteous and Co., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, Known, the Central Rehearsal Rooms, opposite Stage Door, Wyndham's Theatre. Available for Rehearsals, Auditions, Classes, Whist Drives, &c. The best-equipped rooms in London. Terms, 2s. 6d. an hour. Address, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire. Price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list.
E. G. Falcon County Theatre, Bedford.

PIER PAVILION, LYTHAM.
WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtains.
Address, J. H. Harrison, Manager.

"LITTLE GRASSHOPPER."
WANTED, to Let, Best Version of Celebrated Musical Comedy (three acts), so successfully acted at Variétés Theatre, Paris, and Gaiety, London. Terms, address, C. S., 2 in 3, Little James-street, Holborn.

WANTED, to Let, Screamingly Funny Top-line Sketch, suit Dame Comedian. Can influence Bookings. Crozier, 295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Comedy by Known Author, now on Tour. Scenery and Properties for Sale, also Dates. Apply, Box 7,641, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, a large Tame Bear, must be docile.
Apply, Hales, 76, The Drive, Hove.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner.—Gentleman required, with £50, for Share in the reproduction of great Pavilion Success, Production Booked.

Particulars at interview only, to
Box 7,621, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, Lady or Gentleman, in High-class Seaside Costume Party business. Principals only. Box 7,640, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, as Manager, for High-class Touring Picture Palace, invest £50-£100. Salary and share of profits. Box 7,643, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for Sketch; scenery by Bull, costumes by Raynes, props. by Mannon. Apply Lux, 4 Carpenter's-flats, Mount-st., Mayfair, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3560 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, Frock Frills, Leno Plain with Ruche, 3s. 11d. per dozen; Accordion Pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. King, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, Le Mare and Son, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., Edward Harrison,
Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Melodies composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano part, 2s. 6d.; Band parts, 3s. 6d. (ten). E. Western, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Artists to secure Foster's Gag Book, nearly 900 testimonials already received, post free 1s. Foster, Author, Ashville, Halifax.

WANTED, Known: "People desirous of adopting the stage as a profession could do nothing better than possess themselves of a copy of 'Stage Facts and Figures,' an invaluable little guide, &c., &c."—The News of the World, April 17. Price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, Plays for Stock or Tour, "The French Spy," "Rogues and Vagabands," "Life's Story," "Traitor's Wife." Fred Benton, P. O. W. Theatre Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, we beg to thank, on behalf of the Fund for Clothing and Feeding Poor Children in Dudley, Fred H. Anderson, Esq., for lending the Empire, Dudley, on Friday, April 8, 1910, gratis, the Staff and Artists who gave their services, viz., George Payne's Wanderers, Will Willis, Sisters Lewis, Winnie Clarke, Lily May, Manites, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, The Raynora, Unita and Paul, Madame Aston, Miss Nellie Porter, Mr. Ernest Davies, Mr. George Powell, Ernie Garner. Signed, H. Barney, L. C. Honey, Hon. Secs.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—In fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"Utriburo, London."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

WANTED,
A THEATRE or LARGE HALL
IN LONDON OR SUBURBS,
AT A RENTAL.
Communications confidential. Responsible.
Address, Box 7644, "The Era."

RATES and TAXES.
To Theatre, Music-Hall, and other Public Hall Proprietors.
If dissatisfied with your Assessment, or you desire advice with reference thereto, write, 'phone, or consult by appointment
FAIR RATE & CO.,
Rating Specialists,
26, Balcombe-street,
London, N.W.
Telephone 3803 Paddington.

NOTICE to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, that I, Dan Maxford (Maxford and O'Neill) dissolved partnership with Tom O'Neill, April 23, 1910.
(Signed) Dan Maxford, 58, Guelph-st., Liverpool.

REAL TEDDY BEARS.
Smallest Ever Exhibited.
Consignment now on hand.
Book quickly as supply is limited.
Cross,
MENAGERIE, LIVERPOOL.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley).
Disengaged May 23. New T., Cardiff.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT.
Address,
6, Carey-mansions, Westminster, S.W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
"None of your little 1d. trumpets."
Hippodrome, Bolton.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business. Autumn offers invited.
May 9, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

MR. BREMBER WILLS & FLORENCE WYNN. F. W. at Liberty; B. W. at Liberty July. 5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
Address,
43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW (Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Man., London Hippo.; E. S., in "Topside Dog," Camden.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD,
At Liberty.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. and MRS. GRAHAM WOODS, Tisbe, "The Tyrant"; Harry Beech, "Drama of Life." Offers invited. Autumn. Palace, Derby.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Messrs. Mouillot and Bantock's Co., "Those Terrible Twins." Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
The F. R. Benson (South) Co.
Bangor and Denbigh.

MR. NORMAN YATES,
"The Scarlet Pimpernel."
New Theatre, W.C.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK
General-Manager, Herbert Darnley's Cos.
44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. 'Phone 2564G.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER

ENTERTAINERS.

THE APOLLO MALE PRIZE QUARTETTE. For Concerts, Pier Pavilions, &c. Brilliant and Refined. Dates, apply GEORGE MARSDEN, 51, Monmouth-street, Sheffield.

STANLEY H. BELL,
Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism.
Mya, Bromley Common, Kent.

HARRY BRAND,
the Versatile Humorous Society Entertainer.
Silverdale, Coombe-gardens, Malden.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Society Entertainer and Accompanist. Receptions, Dinners, Ladies' Orchestra for Dances, &c. Per., 210, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers Oct., on. GEO. ROBINS Woodbine, Salisbury-rd., Wimbledon.

HARRY HEAP, Accompanist and Baritone. Concerts arranged. 28, Shore-road, Hackney, N.E. 'Phone 1145 Dalston.

MAIE HOEY,
Drama, Comedy, Eastern and Classical Dancer. Seasides invited. C/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

MR. BEVAN JONES, Silver Handbell Soloist. Open for Concerts, Dinners, at Homes, &c. 58, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

G. LESSITER-THOMPSON, Entertainer at the Piano, Speciality, Burlesque Impressionist. Concluding 14 months' tour May 6. Perm., The Poplars, Windsor-road, Maidenhead.

MRS. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, L.R.A.M. Pianist, Vocalist, Accompanist, Coach. Good sight-reader. 28, Chelverton-rd, Putney.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD, A.L.C.M., Brilliant Soprano. Offers invited for Summer. 33, Oakhurst-grove, East Dulwich.

MISS FREDA SHARLOTTE,
Monologues and Descriptive Songs. Summer settled. Disengaged for Autumn. Address, c/o "The Era," or agents, HENRY and KINGSLEY.

HAROLD WESTON, Humorist, requires offers for Summer, Lyric House, 24, Albert-st., Regent's Park, London, N.W. 'Phone 2161 North.

MISS LUCY WILSON.
Pianist. Disengaged. Any business. Thoroughly experienced. 4, Radbourne-avenue, South Ealing, London, W.

INSTRUCTORS.

MISS BATEMAN (Mrs. Crowe).
Complete Training for the Stage.
Resident Pupils.
Full particulars, apply by letter only to Miss DOLLING, 88 PHILBEACH-GARDENS, S.W.

NEVILLE'S PRIVATE DRAMATIC STUDIO, 524, OXFORD-STREET, W.—Patrons:—Sir Charles Wyndham; Sir H Beerbohm Tree; E. S. Willard, Esq.; Cyril Maude, Esq.; F Harrison, Esq., &c. Established by, and under the Personal Supervision of Mr. HENRY NEVILLE. Thorough practical instruction for the Stage, Voice Production, Elocution, Gesture, and Performances. Lessons in Studio Theatre. Introduction to Profession.
Address The Principal, Mr. G. R. Foss.

MADAME KATE FLINN, Professor of Singing. Voice Production and Style a Speciality. All pupils successful. Mme. KATE FLINN receives Pupils at her residence, 11, HENRIETTA STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE, W.

MRS. BRERETON DOUGLAS'S ACADEMY, 30, DORSET-ST., PORTMAN-SQUARE, W. Patrons: Mrs. Kendal and the late Sir Theodore Martin, K.C.B., K.C.V.O. Elocution, Department, Dancing, and Acting, Recitation, Public Speaking, Reading, Defective Speech, and Physical Culture. Classes and Private Lessons.

MADAME HELEN TOWNSHEND, Professor of Voice Production and Singing. Studio, 125, OXFORD-ST. A List of M. Townshend's Pupils now in Prominent Positions in West End Theatres on application. Classes now forming.

THE NEW SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

E. GILES, LTD.,
THEATRICAL and VARIETY EXPERTS.
Every class of Theatrical and Variety Business taught by Expert Instructors.
Singing, Dancing, Elocution, Deportment, &c.
Engagements secured for all pupils when proficient.
Only pupils with talent entertained.
Tuition Dept.,
31 and 32, GOSCHEN-BUILDINGS, BEDFORD-STREET, STRAND.

MDME. JULIA BEAUMONT,
Theatrical Costumier (from Shaftesbury Theatre), 89, KENNINGTON-ROAD (opposite Lambeth Baths). 5 minutes from Bakerloo Tube. Ladies and Gent's costumes made to order. Pageants, Historical, Bal Masque, Operatic.
Wedding, Bridesmaids, Evening, and Dinner Gowns, Misses' Party Frocks to order, on the shortest notice.
Serio Costumes and Dancing Skirts a Speciality.
Estimates and Designs submitted.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Her Marriage Vow*, as exploited by a capable company under the command of Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, presents many thrilling features, while the elaborate mounting could not well be bettered. Supporting Mr. Knowles are Miss Violet Lytton as Kate Walters; Mr. Edward Avinal as Gilbert Carlton, Miss Nellie Shirley as Hester Norton, Mr. Harry Momber as Daffy Dan, Mr. Richard Nugent as Larry Leary, Miss Nancy Lawrence as Maggie Clare, Mr. Chancey Morris as Eben Chubb, and Miss Nellie Waddington as Almira.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Valazzi, expert juggler and balancer, tops the bill; the Arthur Gallimore troupe of fun-makers; Tom Wootwell, comedian; Allis and Casati, Cromo and Hamilton, Billy Rex, Yetta, and Terry and Tate also contribute to the entertainment.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's excellent company is here in *The Eyes of the World*. Miss Ethel Van Praagh, in the arduous rôle of Helene de l'Orme, appears to conspicuous advantage; Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Achille acquits himself with distinction; and Mr. Charles O'Connor is a meritorious Hector. Mr. Fred Bentley makes a most dignified Gaston; and as Octave Mr. Robert Wynne makes a good impression. Mr. Wilton Bedford does ample justice to the part of M. Paul Roqueville; and Mr. Harold Forde is quite satisfactory as Brigard. A charming portrayal of Avice is submitted by Miss Elsie Capell; Miss Flora Hastings is a convincing Esmé Carnac; and Miss Nellie Garside a vivacious Susanne.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Seven Bramusas, an all-British family of juvenile musicians, introduce here a brass-band extravaganza, *Music Afloat*, which is received with great approbation; the New Macs, with amusing patter, supply a good turn; Osborne and Brookes, musical comedy duo, provoke loud applause; and Marie Braymen proves a delightful comedienne. Will Nosam is a capital coon vocalist; Ivey Aberdare wins golden opinions for her wooden-shoe dancing; Fred Spencer is very popular as a facial mimic; and the Bioscope concludes.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Little Damozel* is being presented by a talented company under the management of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow. Miss Eva Stuart, a talented actress, has a fine conception of the Little Damozel; Mr. Alick Chumley's Recklaw Poole is a huge success; Miss Elsie Leigh Hunt's portrayal of Sybil Craven is excellent; Mr. Guy Newall gives a clever enactment of Fitzroy Lock; Mr. J. Henry Twyford as Captain Partington is exceptionally good; whilst Messrs. Wm. Matthews (Walter Angel), Chas. R. Stone (Papa), and Chas. Clarke, Richard Ravenscroft, and Arthur Redmond are also well placed. A capital curtain-raiser is *Curing a Selfish Husband*, in which Miss Dorothy Blackader and Messrs. Guy Newall and J. Henry Twyford take part. Both comedy and farce are well staged.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—One of Mr. Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., *An Old Man's Darling*, by Mr. D. C. M. Granville, is being presented here by a selected company. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe essays the leading rôle, that of a Yorkshire squire, George Ricroft, and brings to its interpretation a manly presence, and a vigorous and convincing manner; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon as Jack Lee, the lover of Bessie, the old man's darling, shows earnestness and ability; the evil genius, Cuthbert Blacksland, is well hit off by Mr. W. R Winning; Mr. W. Hudson Pointon as Enoch Earnshaw, is a capable exponent of character; Mr. Miller Wilson is a humorous Billy Barlicorn; Mr. Frank Masters and Mr. E. W. Duxbury do good work as a cool American and a village parson; Miss Nina Vaughton is a tender and lovable Bessie; Miss Beryl Fernedez as Mary Winters gives a finished character study; Minnie is charmingly played by Miss Emily Entwistle; and Miss Florrie Hall is a smart Molly Maloney. Miss Florrie Lucerne does well as the boy, Dick.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem—Herbert Darnley's comedy company is here in the spectacular Spanish musical comedy, in four scenes, *The Brigands of Tarragona*. The other artists for the week are a couple of experts, Milton and Horton, comic triple horizontal bar artists; Bert Wood, a clever comedy siffleur and raconteur; Dave Carter, tenor; La Belle Duchess puts through their paces two boxing stallions, two ponies, and some clever dogs; Bert Rayburn is a quaint comedian; Cora Magda, a neat and expert lady gymnast; Tom Franks, an amusing ventriloquist; Dolly and Elsie, neat duettists and dancers; and Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley, in new songs and dances.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, in *Send Him Victorious*, is here. Mr. Howard Hardy is a dignified King of Ravonia, and Mr. Hugh Carmichael a capital Colonel Kaufman; Mr. Charles Higgins does well as Major Strauss, as also does Mr. Henry Hellier as Sergeant Max; Mr. Herbert Skardon makes a gallant Captain Frank Allison, and Miss Netta Mitchell a sweet Ethel Harding; Mr. Bert Woodin as Geordie Walker and Miss Madge Palmer as Gretchen Holtz are very amusing, and the part of Countess Kara Von Mechlinberg is beautifully done by Miss Sydney Crowe.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Charles Hinchcliff's "Scarleteers" are here still, and again give an interesting change of programme.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The premier turn here is supplied by the Three Prestons in an exceedingly humorous sketch; Austen Temple, assisted by Miss Irene Vincent, performs some exceedingly smart conjuring tricks; Wyllie, the tramp musician, gives a bright and diverting turn; Marie Golding sings her ballads in nice style; Hanley and Melton have some quaint patter; Blanco and Emilio are smart song and dance artists; Harry Drew is a singer with ability and a good voice. Vernon's Bioscope contributes some interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Newman's British Empire Picture and Variety Company are proving a great draw here, the pictures being most interesting. Captain Devereux, with his dogs, is accorded a flattering reception.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—After three weeks' musical comedy, *The Little Damozel* is making her bow to Bath audiences, through the medium of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. A young lady in whom much interest centres is Miss Marguerite Unett, from Australia, who shows histrionic talent of no mean order as Julie Alardy; mention should also be made of Mr. William J. Stack and Mr. Reginald Hargreaves as Franz Pepo and Abraham. *Curing a Selfish Husband* is a more than usually uncommon curtain-raiser.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The management bill in big type this week those wondrous Chinese performers, the Tan-Kwai Troupe; the Merrions return to amuse as purveyors of vocal instrumental merriment; Beatrice Harris, with a pleasing appearance and a clear voice, is a distinct acquisition to the programme; John Macaulay repeats his former success; a young dancer of merit is Harry Martell; and the Two Zongaras, burlesque artists and dancers, also meet with favour.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week Mr. Gaston Mayer's company is presenting *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* to excellent houses. Miss Sophie Lingwood's sympathetic and engaging personality goes far towards making her assumption of the inimitable Mrs. Wiggs an artistic success; Mr. Harry G. Wright does splendidly as H. Hunkerdunkus Jones; Mr. Robert Shiells merits warm commendation for his portrayal of Sheriff; the Mr. Wiggs of Mr. Ernest Ruston is a clever character study; Miss Florence Mitchell gives grace and distinction to the part of Mrs. Eichorn; Asia is pleasingly played by Miss Marie Stella; Miss Ruhamah Catton as Lovey Mary obtains sympathy by her simple pathos; Mr. Walter Hicks is amusing as Billy Wiggs; capital assistance is forthcoming from the rest of the company.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Henry Miller's company opened here on Monday with the modern play *The Servant in the House*. A great success was achieved by Miss Laurie Flockton in the rôle of Mary, her acting being quite irreproachable; and honours were also achieved by Mr. Harry Parker, whose clever assumption of the rôle of Mr. Robert Smith reflected the utmost credit on this capable actor. The rôle of James Ponsonby Makeshyfte, D.D., fitted Mr. Ernest H. Paterson like the proverbial glove; and Mr. Walter Gay may be congratulated on his able impersonation of the Rev. William Smythe. Mr. Forrester Harvey furnished a humorous impersonation of Rogers, the page boy; and the rôle of Manson could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Matthew Boulton. Miss Nellie Hodson appeared to the utmost advantage as Auntie, the Vicar's wife.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the fine drama *The Heathen and the Christian*, presented by Mr. Frank Adair's company. Mr. Adair himself appears as Li, the avenger, and furnishes a powerful impersonation; and the clever actress, Miss Louie Adair, appears with unqualified success as Mira Sampson. The iniquities of Lung Hi were done full justice to by Mr. Fred Withers; and Miss Stanley Burt gains the sympathies of the audience with her fine acting in the trying rôle of May Beresford. The humorous element was sustained by Miss Eva Reid and Mr. Charles Luck, who appeared in their respective rôles of Becky Fibbins and Bah Lamb Gentle, Miss Reid speedily making herself a favourite with her capitally rendered songs and clever dancing; while Mr. Fred Robins as the Postman was also very laughable. Mr. Reginald Payne was all that could possibly be desired as George Beresford; and other rôles were adequately sustained by Messrs. Herbert Sydney (Harold Garth), Jas. Severn (Gerald Shirley), Gerald Turner (Douglas Ames), and Fred Waring.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Miss Clarice Mayne, an accomplished comedienne, who made a big hit on Monday, and deservedly so; the hoop-rolling performance of the Kratons gains much appreciation; and the comic songs of Mr. Austin Rudd have been hugely enjoyed. Miss Daisy James is a vivacious comedienne with good songs, who delights the audience and elicits rapturous applause; and Mr. Carl Lynn is one of the best mimics and imitators of animals before the public. The comedy act of the Three Krakes is very entertaining. Also here are Mr. Archie Glen, storyteller and dancer; Kartelli, in his wire act; the Kepples, operatic vocalists; and the Hipposcope, in The Biter Bit.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction is provided by the Abdullah Arabs, whose tumbling feats have been enthusiastically received; the comedy act of Hemsley and Ambrose is one of the features of the bill; and Miss Rose D'Aulby sings some chorus songs, which have afforded much pleasure. Miss Ruth Davenport, operatic vocalist, has a good voice, which she knows how to use; and Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, Fatmah Diard, vocalist, Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder, and the Bioscope, are also included in the bill.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A capital variety company includes Mlle. Florrie, Clown Paulo, with the performing pony, Tiger; Beattie Foster, comedienne; and a highly amusing comedian, Wallace Witney. Among several good films is The Great Bank Smash, which is very exciting.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Exercising a very wise discretion, Mr. Kelly has for the summer season reverted to the two houses a night system, the inauguration taking place on Monday, when crowded houses testified to the popularity of the innovation. Mr. Tom Craven's company, in a condensed version of *When a Lass Loves*, gave great satisfaction; Miss Josephine Middleton's fine rendering of the ex-lady detective, Constance Lane, being received with acclamation; Mr. Louis Palgrave as Slack scores heavily; Mr. P. Ramsay Foreman depicts the rascalities of Bertram Bridge in vivid colours; Mr. George F. Ide is a capital Reggie Stapleton; Cynthia Bridge is well played by Miss Rita Trekelle; the remaining parts are well placed.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Miss Jennie Johns, a clever and charming comedienne, is a leading attraction. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, comedian and raconteur, is again meeting with his accustomed success; and Mr. Tom Taylor and his company present a capital sketch, entitled *The Plumbers*, which is received with enthusiasm. Mr. Wilson Hallett, impersonator of children, is a favourite turn; and Miss Carlotta Levey, a talented comedienne and descriptive vocalist; the Quality Quartette of vocalists and dancers; Ingram and Irving, in an entertaining sketch; the Brothers O'Gorman, cross-talkers and dancers; Mr. Bert Byrne, comedian; Miss Anna Heath, vocalist and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete the company.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company are playing *The Old Home* twice nightly with excellent results. Mr. Charles Franmore is prominent with a capital performance of Daddy Dean; and Miss Violet Ingram as his daughter is unexceptionable. Mr. Horatio Sinclair is a capable Lord Avondale, and the company generally is thoroughly capable.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—The Galavanters Concert Party and Wishart, in his mystifying entertainment, form an attractive combination.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree has a big following in Birmingham, and patrons are enjoying the privilege of seeing the famous actor and his company in four different plays—on Monday and Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice*; on Wednesday and Thursday *The O'Flynn*; Friday and Saturday, *Trilby* and *The Man Who Was*. Limited space forbids a lengthly eulogy of Sir Herbert's performances. They are excellent. He is supported by a well-chosen company, including Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, Mr. Arthur Wontner, Miss Nigel Playfair, Miss Gladys Harvey, Mr. Shiel Barry, and Miss Hilda Moore.

PRINCE OF WALES'.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Woman in the Case* is the great attraction here. Mr. Herbert Sleath is supported by a strong company, and it is no exaggeration to say that Mr. Charles Fitch's play is the talk of the town. The most striking feature is the finished and effective acting of Miss Ellis Jeffreys as Mrs. Rolfe, "the good woman." It is not easy to impersonate the "hopelessly bad woman," but Miss Violet Vanbrugh is a versatile actress, and succeeds admirably; Mr. Herbert Sleath is an excellent Julian Rolfe; and considerable praise is due to Mr. William Grant for his characterisation of the Solicitor.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Guest.—There are many thrilling incidents in the melodrama *The King's Romance*, written by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. Mr. Edmonds makes an ideal Prince, and is a big favourite. He is supported by a strong company, including Miss Mary Austin, an actress of considerable ability, as a charming heroine, Mr. William H. Dewhurst, and Mr. George P. Porteous. The scenery and costumes make an effective display.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart* is entertaining lovers of sensational drama, the piece being exceedingly well acted. Mr. Foxwell is well qualified for the part of John Barnard, the blacksmith, and Miss Sheila Walsh, as Mary Barnard, plays naturally and gracefully; Mr. A. C. Holmes acquits himself well in the strong part of Stephen Rayiton, and Mr. Charles Vivian is responsible for a good interpretation of the difficult character of Gash Gills. Mr. Newton Pearce scores a success as Tony Tibbets, and Miss Nancy Mitchell is praiseworthy as Sally Travner. The drama is excellently staged.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Scottie and his Colossal Combine are billed in a novel programme, the principal feature of which is a pantomime production entitled *Androcles and the Lion*. The piece is most laughable and goes with a successful swing, the characters being presented by a capable body of artists. A military episode, *Napoleon at Waterloo*, arouses great excitement, and another important feature is a sporting novelty, "Whizzing the Whirl," competitions being taken part in by local amateurs. The Operatic Ballet Troupe appear in *The Cry of the Children*, and other popular contributors are the Sisters Charlton, Will Warren, Knoto, Freda and Frank, and Little Rose Pink.

ASTON ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Managers, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris.—The melodrama *Was She to Blame?* is scoring a great success here. Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, the authoress, appears as Mrs. Kate Rosille, and fully realises the opportunities afforded by the part; Mr. F. G. Kimberley has a difficult rôle as William Clark, a broken-down actor, but he sustains interest very cleverly, especially in the light comedy asides; the character of Mary Norman is effectively presented by Miss Ellen Beverley; and Miss Nancy Roberts capably portrays the part of Lilian Norman, the heroine. Miss Florence Steyne provides a clever character study; and the other parts are in efficient hands.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Carlton stock company is enjoying a highly successful season. This week Miss Ethel Griffies presents *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. Haldane Dalton proves his ability in the exacting character of Tom Cooper, and as his sweetheart, Nellie Standish, Miss Nellie Thorne Hallem is responsible for some clever acting; Mr. Victor Gardom is well suited to the part of George Benson, and Miss Motie Everett deserves much praise for her interprettion of a warm-hearted Irish girl; Mr. Johnny Chippendale is amusing as Jim Farren, and praise is also due to Mr. Norman Tracy, Mr. Geoffrey Broughton, and Miss Yoxa Summer.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Harry Tate is a big attraction in his absurdity *Fishing*, and crowded audiences simply roll with laughter while the inimitable comedian is on the stage. Pat Rafferty, character comedian, is as popular as ever; a pleasing entertainment is provided by the Eight College Girls, in song and dance; Les Marco Belli give a fine exhibition of juggling, the comedy element being very effective; Speedwell's "lightning" sketches are much admired; Black and White are eccentric acrobats and genuine mirth-makers; Madge Brownie is a charming comedienne; Scotch humorous songs are rendered by Dan Fraser; and selections on the mandoline are admirably played by Signor Persichini.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas. Crowds are gathering to hear Mme. Ella Russell render her well-chosen songs in delightful style; as the lazy juggler Tom Hearn is irresistibly funny; Alexandra Dagmar is always a big favourite here, and she well merits the hearty reception accorded her; the Brothers Griffiths, with their wrestling sketch, provide a highly amusing turn; Mona Garrick strikes a note of originality in her impersonations of plays and players; Arthur Leslie is a clever and entertaining mimic; Betty Green dances beautifully and sings sweetly; and others who contribute to a strong programme are J. W. Rowley, Dora Poole, and Fred Maguire.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Jack Pleasants, the inimitable Yorkshire comedian, is sending audiences into roars of laughter with his quaint songs; Harriet Vernon, the popular burlesque artist, receives a warm welcome, and her song-scena, "Emblems," is accorded deserved applause; *The Sundowner* is the title of a clever melodramatic sketch, played by Frank Lister and company; Alex. Prince is a talented concertina soloist; the Derrington Family of trick cyclists appear in sensational feats; Leslie Rase is a popular comedian; the Westbrooks are successful in a pretty scena, "Two Little Maids from School"; and Maudie Ford is a bright comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, shows marvellous powers of quick change in his sketch *Cruel Coppinger*, and his work meets with enthusiastic approval; Regan and Ryan are very funny men, and their dances are cleverly executed; a particularly smart troupe of trick cyclists are the Veranos, who perform some daring and skilful feats; a humorous entertainment above the average is provided by the Columbia Trio; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde perform adequately in their drawing-room act; Honors and Le Prince are skilful eccentric acrobats; Patty Yole is a chic comedienne with pleasing chorus songs; and other good items are given by Marion Armitage and Flo Cecil and George S. Melvin.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—A well-acted sketch is *The Leaves of Memory*, presented by Miss Beaumont Collins and company, which heads the programme. Miss Collins provides an effective study as Ruth Challoner, being assisted by Messrs. David Baird, George Ingleton, and John Laurence. The Tom Davis Trio are responsible for a startling sensation, "Motoring in Mid-Air"; Randolph King is a very clever quick-change artist; the Godfreys are successful in a musical speciality, *The Slavey and the Coon*; the Alaskas are smart comedy acrobats; Susie and Protti are well applauded for original Continental dances; Boden and Bell are popular vocalists and dancers; and Dolly Ross is an attractive comedienne.

CURZON HALL.—Lesse, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—Great interest is aroused by a splendid film, illustrating the great aerial race from London to Manchester. Having regard to the conditions under which they were taken, the photographs are remarkably clear, and much enthusiasm is accorded the series, showing Paulhan alighting at the end of his flight.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy. So popular are the cinematograph entertainments here that during the week numbers of people have had to be turned away. The favourite subjects in the programme are Two Women and a Man, The Triumphant Hero, and Indian True Heart. The Comic Pictures are in great variety.

QUEEN'S HALL. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Programmes here are kept up to date in every respect, and are thoroughly enjoyed by full houses. Dramatic subjects play an important part in the entertainment, and many hearty laughs are caused by the comic films. The programme is rendered more acceptable by attractive variety turns.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Miss Winifred Chalmers' company is here in *Miss Plaster of Paris*. Miss Celestine Brandon is admirable as Eliza Plaster; and Miss Chalmers plays Medea Hamilton effectively. Mr. Chas. Tolcher is a most amusing Numbskull Nubbs; and Mr. Harry Ed. Ray (Alexander) and Mr. Sid Dean (Mrs. Nubbs) intensify the fun, the songs of the two latter being highly appreciated. Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon appears as Tom Flubbs successfully. Pleasing specialities were introduced by the Berlin Belles (dancers), Miss Celestine Brandon, and the Sisters Holman (duettists and dancers).

HIPPODROME, — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Six Brothers Luck produce their two amusing sketches, *The Demon of the Cellar* and *Lift-Ems, Ltd.*, and are well received; Les Trappellos are a marvellous musical trio; and Williams and Warden are good. The Alberto

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement
TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS
by the
CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,
T. HARRIS, Manager.
ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to
6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.
Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

troupe give a fine equilibristic act; and included in the bill are Dunn and Reano and the Fitzroys, comedy artists. The Hippo films are interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is here with *The Best People*. Mr. H. Elliott-Ball contributes a remarkably clever sketch of Lord Emsworth, and the Hon. Gerald Bayle is a part which exactly fits Mr. Pennington-Gush; Miss Irene Lavington scores a complete success as Lady Emsworth, and Miss Proberta Pulleyne, who plays the Hon. Mrs. Bayle, is an actress possessing many qualifications.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—*The King of Cadonia*, played by Mr. Frank Curzon's capable company, is again the attraction here. The title-rôle is well accounted for by Mr. J. Warren-Foster, and Princess Marie finds a capable exponent in Miss Alice Moffatt; as the chief mirth-provider Mr. Johnny Osborne, who plays the Duke of Alacia, fully merits the ovation he receives; whilst Mr. Edward Thrilby as Bran and Mr. H. Hartley-Summers as Panix are also worthy contributors. Mention should also be made of the success attained by Miss Mabel Hirst as Militza, and Mr. Jack Martin as General Bonski.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—May Henderson, the dusky comedienne, is going well here; the Two Anartos are also well received; the O'Gust is acclaimed a very clever mimic; the Rangers, comedy cyclists, Josie Delaine, dancer, Joe Martin and Lona, in an acrobatic act, Verno and Voyce, vocal comedians, Sisters Cora, duettists, and Tom Collinge, light comique, also merit approbation.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—*Sexton Blake, Detective*, is here, the title-rôle being played with conspicuous success by Mr. Murray Yorke; Mr. Paul B. Lewers is well cast as Randolph Lovell; the Philadelphia Kate of Miss Lydia Mannington is a clever piece of work; Miss Elizabeth Watkins is an acceptable Marjorie Lovell. The comic relief is in the capable hands of Mr. Will Glaze as Tinker, and Miss Betty Seymour is an agreeable Euphemia Pattacake.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—One of Bolton's greatest favourites is here this week in the person of Tom Foy, comedian, who, along with his company, is appearing in the screamingly funny absurdity *First of April*. The rest of a good company comprise Metz and Metz, comedians, with a unique dance; Victoria Dagmar and comedy assistant, in an artistic gymnastic display on the horizontal bar and rope; Florence and Rose Showell, duettists; the Miles Stavordale Quintette; Elsie and Max Arbra, in a comic novelty act; Annie Lang, dainty comedienne and speciality dancer; the Carney Brothers, vocal comedians; the Courtiers, including Paul Mill, in a delightful musical mélange; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Managing-Director, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—An entertaining programme is provided here by Adams and Ward, acrobatic eccentrics; Woolmer Young, vocal comedian; Helen Martin, vocalist; the Oakes Duo, in a comedy concoction, *Making a Man of Her;* Witty Wattie Walton, mirth provider; Marguerite Ismay and Girls, in a local and dancing scena; J. W. Darley and company, in *Music;* Lomax, one-legged equilibrist and jumper, assisted by Miss Cissie; Mr. Louis Taylor's company, in a dramatic episode, *The Adder's Tooth*, and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—At the Muncaster Theatre this week Mr. John F. Preston presents *Secrets of the Harem*. Mr. Chas. Horner was successful in the character of Lieut. Herbert Markham; Mr. John Richter did well as Noureddin; Mr. Dan. F. Roe scored a success as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; and Miss A. Churchill is a delightful Thyrza Meleda.

Winter Gardens. — Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—At the Winter Gardens this week Mr. Oscar Mills presents the celebrated *Nonentities*. Miss Louie Counsell, the popular light comedy vocalist, was very successful in her charming songs; Mr. Oscar Mills takes very high rank as a humorist; and much mirth was created by Mr. Fred Everett, the lady impersonator. An artistic item was that rendered by Miss Mariana Carozzi, the Italian soprano; and other pleasing turns were contributed by Miss Mary Pitcairn, contralto; Mr. Oliver Hardwick, tenor; and Mr. Gordon Garratt, baritone.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. George Dance's principal company in *Miss Hook of Holland*, is here with Miss Marie Studholme in the title-rôle. She is ably supported by Mr. Alfred Wellesley as Mr. Hook and Miss Maud Denny as Mina. The other parts are all capably filled, especially Mr. Fredk. Hobbs as Capt. Paap, Mr. Frank H. Crimp as the Bandmaster, and Mr. Fred Lyne as Slinks.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company, on a return visit with *Diana of Dobson's*, furnishes very enjoyable fare for Mr. Hart's patrons. Miss Emelie Polini elicits unstinted applause for her admirable impersonation of Diana Massingberd; Mr. Leslie Rea supports her well as Captain Bretherton, and very excellent and entertaining efforts are the parts of shop assistants filled by Mesdames Nannie Hume, Eva Leonard, Boyne, and Cicely Oates. Miss Hilda Francks is an excellent Mrs. Cantelupe; Mr. A. A. Harris a diverting Sir Jabez; and Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe as Miss Morton, Miss Marie Ault as Miss Pringle, and Miss Mary Crewe as Mrs. Whyte Fraser leave nothing to be desired. *Out West*, a stirring and romantic curtain-raiser by Mr. A. Chance, is exceedingly well played by Miss Boyne and Messrs. Harris, Leslie Rea, and Pauncefort.

The Prince's.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidlaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—We have the rare experience here this week of a pantomime in May, Mr. Laidler having revived the recent successful *Forty Thieves*, and with the exception of the adult chorus, and the part of the donkey (cleverly represented by Mr. Chris Le Brun) the characters are all played by the smart juveniles who were so great a feature of the Christmas production, and, if we may judge by the attendance and the applause, the novel experiment has proved a genuine success. The book of the pantomime has been somewhat revised, and to Mr. Laidlaw, Mr. J. A. McAlister, and Miss Madge Donald the credit of training the children is due; and considerable talent and ability is displayed by Miss Lena Booth as Ali Baba, Miss Marjory Holmes as Morgiana, Miss Minnie Grossman as Abdallah, and Miss Alice Pammenton as Ganem, the rest of the characters being filled by the children with intelligence.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—That marvellous Oriental illusionist Chung Ling Soo is on a return visit here this week, astounding the large audiences with weird mysticism; Tom and Marie Motramo, with music and humour, are again responsible for roars of laughter; the Delevines are here again too, successful as ever in their clever legmania act, *Flipp and Flopp;* the Royal Delomes, in *Phantom Clogs*, give a clever display of step-dancing; Emma Don's smart male impersonations are features of her vocal scena, *On the Thames Embankment;* Frank H. Fox is a capital and agile comedian of the light comedy type; Kathleen Gray's fine presence and good voice are advantages in her character songs; Beaty and Blanche, duettists, are dainty step-dancers; Peter Bermingham's Scotch songs and patter are amusing; and the Bioscope shows some fine films of Grahame White's flight.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—George D'Albert is introducing here this week some capital songs; Clark and Hayden win success which is well merited; Victor Brothers give a fine athletic and equilibristic performance; John R. Poole's Cairo Troupe are skilled instrumentalists, who present a unique performance; in a clever diabolo exhibition Sergeant Brennan's dexterity as a performer is warmly applauded; the Dancing Gilberts give a capital turn; the Comedy Meisters, entertaining as ever, are on a return visit; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are, as usual, a well-appreciated item.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The promenade concerts continue to be successful, and Mr. Norfolk Megone, the talented conductor, is constantly giving his audiences fresh numbers. Miss Violet Oppenshaw, a lady with a rich contralto voice, has been a great favourite, and Mr. Fowler Burton is a fine baritone vocalist.

New Spa and Gardens.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Catlin's Royal Pierrots entered upon the last week of their present engagement on Monday. Mr. Sid Frere contributed some of his best humorous songs; Mr. George Houghton sang some fine tenor songs; Mr. Edmanson and his ventriloquial figure came in for well-deserved applause; and Mr. T. Braham-Fox (Mr. Tom Catlin's new stage name) gave some of his comic effusions with great effect. Mr. Golly Glynn's impersonations are very clever; and Mr. Jackson Brown and Mr. Albert Lyons are always humorous and pleasing. Some clever sketches are given this week, including the amusing farce *Uncle's Return*.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Miss Renée Glendower and company are here with *What a Man Made Her*. Mr. J. M. Ollvert gives a manly and popular impersonation of Doctor Mark Haven; Miss Renée Glendower wins hearty applause for her thoroughly artistic enactment of Janet McAllister; Mr. George Arthur is powerfully effective as the villainous Rupert Wogan Danescombe; Miss Stella Carmichael's representation of Lady Thora Danescombe merits praise; Mr. Martin Alwyne's Sir Ernest Cavendish and Miss F. Russel Speer's Dowager Countess are well played; Miss Tessa Myers is a vivacious Deborah; and Mr. Fred Acton is amusing as Gunnerstein. The play is finely mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Taree, "the Australian bushman," gives a clever musical turn, which is enthusiastically appreciated; Arabella Allen gives impersonations of characters from Dickens in admirable style; the Mezzettis are smart and diverting in their clever horizontal bar act, *The New Recruit;* the Four Louberts are good comedy acrobats; Will Smythe, comedian and acrobatic dancer, is well received; Queenie Major is a charming comedienne; Ethel Pierce, comedienne and dancer, wins applause; Jack Crawley comedian, appears with Fluffy, "the canine prima donna," and achieves much success; Bert and Dora submit a refined comedy act; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—The Mirza Golem Troup submit a novel and much appreciated turn with *The Slave Dealers;* Brataz's dogs are wonderfully clever in *The Burglar's Fate;* James Basnett, vocalist, wins hearty applause; the Karistons are skilful trapeze artists; the Carina Sisters are highly successful in their musical act; W. G. Wesley is a capital comedian; Paul Conchas displays some extraordinary feats of strength; the Three Comedy Chanters, harmonious comedians, are distinctly effective; the Havannas Troupe of eccentric acrobats are clever and entertaining; Cedar and Elgar are capital comedians; Damerell and Rutland are good comedy sketch artists; and Goodfellow and Gregson, the musical comedy duo, are very favourably received.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company is here with *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Vernon Travers merits warm praise for his admirable portrayal of Horace Parker; Mr. W. H. Brougham makes a dignified and impressive Messenger; Miss Aubrey Ashton gives a very fine impersonation of the aunt, Miss Parker; Miss Rose Helene submits a graceful and charming enactment of Minnie Templar; Mr. Norman Clark is well placed as the tramp; and the other parts are ably sustained.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Frank's company is here, in *Caste*. Miss Elsie Roberts makes a charming and emotional Esther Eccles; Miss Dorrie Roberts is a bright and captivating Polly Eccles; Mr. Percival Madgewick gives a fine portrayal of the Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr. Dudley Stuart is an excellent Captain Hawtree; Miss Victoria Wray-Holmes is a dignified Marquise; the bibulous Eccles is capitally enacted by Mr. Roland Daniel; and Mr. Theodore Kelly presents a diverting representation of Sam Gerridge.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here. The Memento and The Girl and the Judge convey stirring dramatic stories; Candle-Making is an interesting and instructive film; In the Land of Eternal Summers is a splendid coloured picture; The Waiter's Dream is a trick representation; and much fun is afforded by The Wishing Charm and Foolshead on Skates. Mr. Arthur W. Briggs gives appropriate pianoforte accompaniments, and Mr. Osland Denner sings new baritone songs.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The animated pictures exhibited here are very attractive. A Victim of Bridge and A Brigand's Kindness of Heart are full of exciting incidents; The Ticket-of-Leave Man is highly dramatic; An Act of Honesty conveys a good comedy story; A Train Ride Through Lawry's Pass is highly interesting; and the films of an amusing character include Too Many Admirers and The Test.

BRISTOL. — Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here with the London success *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Alice Pollard, who was an immense favourite here as principal girl in the last pantomime, acts most charmingly the name-part, singing and dancing also in her accustomed pleasing style; Mr. George Gregory is really amusing as Timothy Gibbs; Mr. H. V. Crofton acts excellently as Lord Eynsford; Mr. Ellis Holland does capitally as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Myles Clifton makes a stately Earl of St. Ives; Mr. Robert Nainby makes the most of Slithers; Mr. Ernest Mahar does well as Mr. Toplady; and Mr. Campbell Bishop is a business-like solicitor as Mr. Beavis. Miss Marie Wilson acts prettily as Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss Grace Wixon is a dignified Duchess of Minster; and all the remaining parts are carefully played. Miss Florence Phillips scores with her clever dance in Act II.; the chorus is strong and tuneful; the augmented orchestra does well under the direction of Mr. Harold Lonsdale; and the play is excellently staged.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Almost His Bride* is being well played here by Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, the play being staged in good style. Mr. George R. J. Austin and Miss Yhda Moores act excellently their respective parts of Philip Rowland and Mona Gilchrist; Jasper Thorne and Myra Thorn have effective exponents in Mr. R. F. Stacey and Miss Lily Prescott; Mr. Stephen Pritt makes a good part of Simon Simson; Miss Cissie Clarke is amusing as Emma Baxter; Miss Adele Liddon is sufficiently stately as Ruth Gilchrist; and the Earl of Ullswater and Squire Rowland are well played by Mr. David McFarlane and Mr. Felly Dillson. The play is excellently staged, and the musical effects obtained by gramophone add considerably to the attraction.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, is here for the week. He has a most enthusiastic reception, and all his new songs and clever dances are fully appreciated. Arthur Roberts and company score with their farcical sketch *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife;* Kirk and Saraski perform with much grace their evolutions in the tank, one of the ladies being stated to hold the record for endurance under water; Lily and Harry Zanoni do some smart juggling and club throwing; the Lyric Mummers (Frank and Lilian) score with their vocal and comedy speciality; Nellie Strand is a pleasing comedienne; J. C. Inman, light comedian, is appreciated; Agnes Tina successfully mimics popular artists; and Frank Godfrey, comedian, obtains applause. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Horace Mills and company amuse with their comic sketch *Off Duty;* George Lashwood, comedian, is successful with his new songs; Barnold's animal actors do admirably in *A Hot Time in Dogville;* the dogs, cats, and monkeys are all admirably trained, Dan, the drunken dog, being a marvel; Charley Harvey and company entertain with their sketch *The Broken Statue;* Mabel Thorne is a pleasing comedienne; Ernest Tilbury is a good tenor vocalist; Lillian Oates sings a Maori song, and accompanies herself on the violin, obtaining considerable appreciation; the Kenna Brothers score with some novel acrobatic work; and the entertainment concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Cramer; Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Under the superintendence of Mr. Cecil A. Melton the drama *The Shadows of a Great City* is being presented. The sailor hero, Tom Cooper, is well sustained by Mr. Milton; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh capably undertakes the double rôle of Annie and Nellie Standish; Mr. Leonard Clarke as George Benson, Mr. H. M. Clifford as Abe Nathan, Miss Ethel Tooney as Biddy Roonan, and Miss Esmai Ellys as Mrs. Higgins do good work in their various characters. Mr. J. P. Marden is amusing as the sneak thief, Jim Farren.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Delighted and crowded audiences are here thoroughly enjoying the tuneful music, pretty dances, and excellent joking embodied in *The Dollar Princess*, as presented by Mr. George Edwardes's clever company. Nothing could be more pleasant than the charming acting and beautiful singing of Miss Norah Barry, in the rôle of Alice, and Mr. Alex Worcester is possessed of a good voice, which is heard to advantage in Freddy Fairfax; Miss Madeline Seymour is of striking beauty and fine stage appearance as Olga, and Miss Peggy Primrose as the lively Daisy is also very good indeed. Mr. Leslie Holland brings out the fun of the millionaire, Harry Conder; Mr. J. Cranston Neville is sufficiently foppish as Dick; hearty laughter is easily created by Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Bulger; and Mr. Sydney Lyndon makes a pleasant character of John Earl of Quorn. The chorus and orchestra are under the management of Mr. Ernest Vousden.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Highly interesting acrobats are the Croisit Trio, whose performance is neatly and cleverly carried out; great excitement is created by a sensationally dramatic sketch with the title *A Society Woman;* and Miss Dora Barrington is a clever turn, with songs in an operatic scena. The Santeron Wonders introduce plenty of fun into their jumping act, and Will Willis has some humorous songs; Sid Bandon is responsible for songs with catchy choruses, and Dan Hendy, comedian, can sing funny songs. The Empire Theatrescope pictures No Excitement.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Sammy Shields' excellent joking here provokes a continuous roar of laughter, his football songs also being very acceptable; the Olympian Football Cyclists give a highly-interesting and exciting match awheel, and also organise a local competition; Tina Frank is a dainty soubrette; the Four Sydney Girls are good vocalists and dancers; the mysterious automaton "Simeon the Seer" causes much amazement, and Julian Mack has a host of good jokes well told; the Five Jolly Bakers, comedy risley acrobats, are accorded much appreciation; and Scouts to the Rescue is shown by the Palace Pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Vaudeville and living pictures continue to draw good houses. Miss Grace Wynne, "possessor of a good voice," is heard to special advantage; Mr. Nat Lewis's impersonations of children cause roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Arthur gives an original and finished entertainment, consisting of song and recitation; and excellent films are shown.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Fred Mouillot's company is here for the week. For the opening night *The Greek Slave* was staged, and was as successful as on a previous visit. Miss Annie Grey as Maia was a commanding figure, and she also sang and acted with charming effect. Miss Clarice Eldon was remarkably good as Antonia; Miss Adela Crespin rendered her songs with taste and danced with grace as Isis; Mr. Edward Carlton was particularly good as Heliodorus; Mr. Lionel Braham made a hit as Marius Pomponius, a part full of comedy; and Mr. W. J. Douglas and Mr. Sam Lockridge as Slaves were also thoroughly good. *The Geisha* is billed for the concluding three nights of the week.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Tom Jones*, on a return visit, is presented by Mr. Mouillot's company by arrangement with Mr. Robert Courtneidge. Miss Dorothy Castles, in the rôle of Sophia, charms all; a vivacious representative of Honour is found in Miss Clare Marsden; Partridge is well portrayed by Mr. E. Stratham Staples; Mr. Cyril Thompson's capital voice makes his delineation of Tom Jones one of particular merit; as Squire Western Mr. Fred Seymour causes many a genuine laugh; Mr. Michael Dwyer is quite at home in the rôle of Gregory; Mr. Roland Stagg makes the most of his opportunities as Blifil; Mr. Alworthy is safely entrusted to Mr. A. J. Nicholls; Miss Edith Jeffries as Lady Ballaston is particularly fascinating; Mr. Ernest Hartman is in charge of the full chorus, the latter being a feature of this elaborate production.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—Vesta Tilley is the centre of attraction, and it is doubtful if this popular lady has ever been accorded a more spontaneous, genuine, and flattering reception than Cardiffians have given this great favourite this week. The Brothers Egbert ("the happy dustmen") and Fred Curran (the popular comedian) are scarcely less successful in gaining hearty approbation; the Findens (Mr. and Mrs. Harold) appear in a capital sketch; Falco and Elda, in their interesting exhibition of Ju-jitsu, provide a most instructive turn; Cumminger and Colonna, a dancing couple, fully merit the plaudits accorded their skilful performance; Miss Addie Adell, in two Irish songs, gains much appreciation; and Little Lulu Williams, a Cardiff juvenile comedienne, shows exceptional promise. The Bioscope concludes.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—A welcome return visit of Mr. Oswald Cray's company in *When It Was Dark* is being paid this week, and good business has been done throughout. Mr. C. Wordley Hulse submits a weird rendition of Constantine Schwabe, endowing the difficult part with considerable realism; Mr. Oswald Cray fills the rôle of Basil Gorire with exceptional skill; Mr. Chas. A. Baker acquits himself of the responsibilities of Harold Spence with the ease of an experienced actor; as Sir Robert Llewellyn Mr. Edward Valentine plays the character to perfection; and the Rev. Mr. Byars is quite safely entrusted to Mr. Walter Manfree. Miss Lilian Herries achieves a great success as Gertrude Hunt; and Helena, at the hands of Miss Rosalie Notrelle, is very sweet. Mr. Sidney Claydon as Charlie Gayfly and Miss Madaline Grande as Gracie Goldeye prove diverting.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—At the head here is Burt Shepard, with potted poetry. One of the best class sketches yet seen on the Palace stage is that of *The Key*, by Jessie Danvers and her company. The acting throughout is of a high standard; and Miss Jessie Danvers as Bess, Gilbert Heron as Ted, and Victor Huntley as Dick, all contribute to make this intensely interesting playlet a thrilling performance. The Zampas, vocalists, dancers, and bâton swingers, obtain well-merited approbation for a clever item; and Libson and Barker, topical comedians, cause considerable merriment. The Maro Duo, eccentric triple-bar performers; Chas. Gardiner, comedian; Lily Edwardes, comedienne; and the Bioscope pictures are other attractions.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—A return visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* is again a big attraction. Miss Phyllys Le Grand, who now appears in the title-rôle, has everything in her favour—appearance, histrionic ability, and an excellent voice enable her to fit the part like the proverbial glove, and she is a big success throughout. Mr. Fred Leslie as the Prince is always in the picture, and makes admirable use of his many opportunities; Miss Ada Thomas is again Natalie, and sings and acts with delightful freedom and skill; and Miss Katie May dances charmingly as Frou-Frou. Mr. Edward D'Arcy is, if possible, funnier than ever as Popoff. With many new gags and all the best of the old ones, this clever comedian keeps his audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Ripley Evans's fine voice is heard to advantage in all his numbers; Nisch is most amusingly portrayed by Mr. Fred Fowler; and Mr. Adrian Beaumont creates merriment as the Waiter. The orchestra is under Mr. Harry Burton.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Mr. Harry Atkinson is paying his first visit here with imitations; Les Arabellas are wire artists above the ordinary; Cavalli is an excellent ventriloquist, with smart and original patter; Charles Erard, pianist and mimic, gives quite an attractive turn; and Flo Burnett meets with success as a chorus vocalist. David Fuller's baritone ballads are most impressive; Madison and Webb in a comedy-sketch, and a very fine picture of the Cup Tie conclude a most interesting programme.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—*A Wrecker of Men* is presented by Mr. C. Watson Mills' company, under the direction of Mr. Thompson Carruthers. As the unscrupulous Risca Miss Ruth Zillwood acts with vivid and realistic force, which merits no little eulogy; Doris Melville is played with care, precision, and grace by Gwendoline Talbot; Mr. Lydia Hart causes frequent laughter as Slopper; as Pharosaphus Mr. William Heilbronn gives a strong and telling performance; while Jim Murley is powerfully enacted by Arthur S. Pitt. Mr. Richard Bosco is to be commended for an able portrait of Railton, and the foppish and effeminate Hon. Reggie is well hit off by Mr. William A. Armour; Mr. Arthur Robinson acts consistently as John Strange; as Eric Melville Mr. Thompson Carruthers displays ability and skill; as Ezekiel and Karnaphus Mr. Edward A. Brooks merits praise. To-night this theatre closes until August, and, in the meantime, the building is to be cleaned and overhauled.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—An attractive programme is headed by Charles M. Daly and company, in a laughable comedy sketch *Where There's a Will*. The Adras are a talented pair of acrobats and head-balancers; Frank Dunlop renders some good songs, and causes much amusement with his patter; Minnie D'Aubyn is a charming contralto vocalist, with chorus songs, and the Sisters Wingrove are bright and graceful dancers and vocalists; Fame and Fortune keep the audience hugely entertained with clever knock-about business and patter; Sam Williams is a character vocalist who pleases; and the pictures of the Loyal Dominion Company are entertaining.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Bert Lytton, light comedy artist; Mlle. Ottino, with neat conjuring tricks; Bowman and Morton, a very entertaining couple, whose scena *Mixed Pickles*, has an excellent reception; the Four Panamas, in a smartly-worked pantomimical speciality, *The Delineator;* Ted Cowan, with a taking ditty "Sing a song"; Jack Fortescue and company, in their dramatic playlet *A Gambler's Wife;* and the Cavalottis, who create a highly favourable impression with their musical act *Ten Minutes with the Great Composers*.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Topping the bill is Miss Flo Stanley's musical comedy success *Prince of the Dandies*, presented by Arthur Watson, who scores throughout as Sprouts. Miss Flo Stanley appears as Daisy Highclass, and gives a bright performance; Gordon's Scottish songs are freely applauded; the Lannons dance in their well-known style. The programme also includes Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian; Victoria Glenn; Ford and Hanson, in musical scena; Blanche and Powell, society entertainers; and new films by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, in *The Arcadians*, proves a huge attraction. Mr. Gus Oxley as James Smith and the transformed "Simplicitas," with his inimitable drollery, puts the house into hearty laughter; Mr. Frank Collins as Peter Doody, the jockey, was equally successful with a different, yet none the less pleasing, style of humour; Mr. Roy Sidney was very pleasing as Jack Meadows, and Miss Mysie Devine as Eileen Kavanagh, his inamorata, sang and acted delightfully. Miss Marion Edwards as Sombra was irreproachable, her singing being much enjoyed; Miss Katie Yates as Chrysea was always charming; Miss Madge Haines as Mrs. Smith was a huge success. Mr. Berkeley Davies as Time made a difficult part convincing; Mr. Frank Henry was a picturesque Astrophel; Mr. W. Dawson looked well as Strephon; Mr. Roy Lorraine did well as Bobby, and Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson was well placed as Sir George Paddock; Mr. Hubert Glenny as Percy Marsh, Mr. Percival Latimer as Reggie, and Mr. Patrick Evans as Sir Thomas Ryan were good, as also were Mr. Leslie Gray as Harry Desmond and Miss Daisy Bindley as Damœtas. Mr. Albert Bartlett capably directed the excellent chorus and augmented orchestra.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. L. Glen-Barber.—Miss Millie Gordon is the principal attraction this week, her beautifully artistic dancing and brilliant exponency of the "dans seul" proving a huge draw. Johnnie Phillips gives some clever bone solos, and does some smart acrobatic dancing; and Ernest Clark is an acceptable descriptive vocalist.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Race Week attraction is an excellent variety bill. Phil Ree's Stable Lads give an exciting and well-acted novel racing sketch, entitled *Not a Crook;* Vesta Nixon is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Will Huston, an original and smart coster comedian; Polo and Florence astound with their herculean equilibristic feats; and Helene Mohr charms her audience with skilful dancing and racy songs. Bonnetti and Corrie provoke much amusement by their eccentric juggling acts; Carson Hicks, a novel singer and dancer, scores a well-merited success; and Hinton and Wooton give an exceedingly clever turn by presenting a football match on bicycles. Vernon's biographic pictures conclude.

CHORLEY.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Dereve.—An excellent company, headed by Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, is presenting Shakespearean plays, the répertoire including *The Merchant of Venice, The Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Twelfth Night*, and *Othello*. A hearty welcome was given to the company by a large audience on Monday when *The Merchant of Venice* was presented. As Portia Miss Florence Glossop-Harris was in every way admirable; Mr. Cellier as Shylock was most successful; and others who contributed to a most enjoyable performance were Mr. J. H. Irvine as Bassanio, Mr. Gordon Philliott as Launcelot Gobbo, Miss Nora Craigie as Nerissa, and Mr. Murray Kinnell as Lorenzo.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. H. Flockton-Foster's costume comedy company opened a six nights' engagement here on Monday. Miss Enid Hamilton, in a pretty song-scena, was ably assisted by Miss Rita Vincent, and Messrs. Tom E. Roma and Ernie Le Butt; Mr. Donald Gilbert and Mr. James Craig sang effectively a humorous duet; Mr. Flockton-Foster powerfully recited a Kipling ballad; and two musical sketches elicited applause, Miss Ray Morgan being an amusing Jemima.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Neville Claude's company, in *The Girl from Kay's*, opened to a nicely-filled house on Monday. As Hoggenheimer Mr. Henry Adnes was drollery itself, never allowing the interest to flag; Miss Florrie Millington was an undoubted success in the title-rôle; Miss Lilian Rignold extracted much from the character of Ellen; Miss May Wiltshire was excellent as Mrs. Chalmers; and the part of Norah was ably sustained by Miss Rosie Burnett. Mr. Baron H. Herron was immensely funny as the irrepressible Joseph; and Master Walter H. Pink made a nimble Pepper. Mr. John H. Latham was an efficient Harry Gordon; Mr. Chas. Adeson was an excellent Hon. Percy; and Mr. Richard Andean a capable Quench, K.C.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—That charming musical play *The Arcadians* is delighting audiences here. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson as Simplicitas extracts the maximum of fun and frolic from the part, and the dry, droll character of Peter Doodey is portrayed by Mr. Alfred Beers in a manner which evokes constant mirth. Miss Gertrude Aylward is highly popular as the amorous Mrs. Smith; Miss Sybil Tancredi sings delightfully as Sombra; and the singing and dancing of Miss Mollie McIntyre as Eileen is charming and picturesque. Mr. Arthur Macdonald works well as Jack Meadows, and the chorus sings in excellent style.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Messrs. Shiel-Porter and Garth's company is here this week. *The Money Spinner* was presented to a good house on Monday. Mr. Garth as Lord Kengussie proved to be a very capable actor; Baron Croodle was ably played by Mr. McCullock; Mr. Vane made an interesting Harold Boycott; and Mr. Bickell a capital Jules Faubert. Miss Thornton was successful as Millicent Boycott; and as Dorinda Miss Coleman excelled. *Still Waters Run Deep* was billed for Wednesday, and *Caste* for Friday.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—An amateur company is presenting here *Saturday to Monday*, by Fred Fenn and Rd. Pryce, preceded by *Sheilah's Dilemma*. The performance is in aid of local charities.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thos. P. O'Brien.—Lamberti, impersonator of famous musicians, gives a refined and artistic performance; Rose and Jeanette, in a singing and dancing act, win applause; Flo Chevalier, burlesque artist, contributes a pleasing turn; Dart and Leonard, comedy acrobats, give a clever display, and manage to wedge much humour into their turn; Ford Williams, a powerful baritone, contributes a couple of delightful numbers; Radie Furman, "the jolly little Dutch girl," evokes laughter by her clever singing and whimsical dancing; the Leymens introduce a clever and skilful equilibristic juggling act; Vera Rochdale remains over from last week, and continues a favourite; the Carpate Brothers, Roumanian bar performers, are the best pair of bar performers seen here at any time—their performance is daring; and the Palascope pictures are the newest.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Cingalee* is just as successful as on its first visit here, the company being Mr. Haldane Crichton's. As Chambhuddy Ram Mr. Hylton Warde proves the life and soul of the play; Mr. Frank Barclay as Harry Vereker and Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Bobby Warren give well-rendered impersonations; Miss Flossie Greensmith is clever as Peggy Sabine; Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Patricia Vane is a capable actress, and possesses a charming voice; Miss Isa Bowman is clever in the character of Nanoya; Mr. Frank Lennard and Mr. Grafton Williams as Boobhamba and Sir Peter Loftus are amusing.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The principal turn is provided by Gustave Fasola, the Indian fakir, who does all sorts of bewildering tricks. *The

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company is winning approval here. Miss Evelyn Hope is admirably suited to the part of Mercia, acting with sweetness and dignity; the rôle of Stephanus offers scope for the exquisite acting of Miss Winifred Delevanti; Miss Dorothy Lart acts powerfully and is a handsome Berenice; Miss Esme Lee is successful as Dacia; and praise is due to Miss Beryl Hamilton as Poppæ and Miss Mary Newcombe as Ancaria. Mr. W. Lawson Butt enacts Marcus Superbus with telling effect; Mr. W. Mayne Lynton just touches the right note as Nero; Mr. Charles Aldred is expressive as Tigellinus; Mr. Frank Wood makes a droll Glabrio; Mr. Phil Ellis is commendable as Virturius; and convincing impersonations of Flavius and Titus are given by Messrs. W. Fleet and H. Raymond.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—*The Flood Tide* is capitally acted by Harry P. Selwyn's company; the Meymotts are excellent in the humorous sketch, *My Artful Wife*; Zaleski gives a remarkably clever contortionist act; Gertie Gitana is first-rate in a vocal and comedy turn; Iris Fox is a charming comedienne; Lawrence Barclay is a whimsical comedian; Carney and Armstrong are an entertaining pair; Madge Osmond is a smart male impersonator; Ted Waite, comedian, is good; and others who please are Queenie Essex, vocal comedienne; and Sam Mayo.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Miss Winifred Maude's company, with *The Sins of a City*, is giving two shows nightly. Mr. Arthur L. Read as Sandy M'Donald, appears to great advantage; a fine rendering is given by Mr. Harold Neath of Donald M'Ivor; Mr. Maurice Jones is clever in the parts of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh; Mr. Morris Maud does well in the heavy lead; and Mr. Victor du Cane is a typical Jew. Miss Minnie Millwarde sings and dances in the part of Midge, and is well received; Miss Winifred Maude is admirable as Seaweed; and Mrs. Wingold Lawrence shines as Leabin L'Estrange.

HIPPODROME THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Vivian and company, in *The Toyshop*, head the bill, and prove very popular; Mlle. de Rose, the lady Foli, assisted by Miss Hilda Claremont, make a great hit as vocalists; the Melbournes are clever; the Lesters, vaudeville artists, go well; J. H. Hawtrey sings some sensible songs; Alf. Chester, comedian, keeps the house in a merry mood. Nellie Wigley and the Hipposcope pictures conclude a fine programme.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Owner and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Denley.—This week is devoted to the annual Carl Rosa visit, and the occasion is being largely taken advantage of by local lovers of the lyric drama. The all too brief season opened on Monday night with a production of *Tannhäuser*. Mr. B. C. Hedmondt, who took the title-rôle, gave a magnificent performance, acting where required as well as singing with fine dramatic effect; Miss Gertrude Vania, as his partner in several trying duets, displayed the possession of a voice of wide range, exceptionally rich in the higher notes, and she also possesses an admirable stage presence; Mr. Alan Turner's Wolfram was successful from every point of view; whilst the superb bass of Mr. Arthur Winckworth was heard to rare advantage. The Shepherd Boy's music was sweetly sung by Miss Lawson Taylor, and the minstrel songs had excellent justice at the hands of Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. Charles Brierley, Mr. Albert Felton, and Mr. Wm. O'Connor. The entire performance was in accordance with the best traditions of the company, and the band and chorus were on a scale commensurate with the importance of the piece. *The Queen of Sheba* (Tuesday), *Faust* (Wednesday), *Il Trovatore* (Thursday), *Destiny* (Friday), and *Carmen* and *Maritana* (Saturday) were the other operas billed.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—The premier attraction here is presented by Haines and Bothwick, and their comedy sketch *Half-a-dollar* is in every way successful. Second place is deservedly allotted to Rappo and Ella, gymnasts of excellent ability; the Three Clarks, jugglers and club manipulators, accomplish much that is clever and neat; Madame Adah Payne, a delightful soprano, makes herself eminently popular; Stephens and Rennior as burlesque comedians create hearty laughter; Will Mitcham, instrumentalist, gains deserved applause; and Fred Herbert sings topical verses in a smart style. The Bioscope concludes a good bill.

DEVONPORT.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Only a Little Boy*, as played by Messrs. Watson and Ussher's company, proves an excellent attraction. Miss Dot Forde plays the name-part in a way which earns universal admiration; Mr. Watson carefully delineates the drunkard Bragstone; Miss Florence E. Florence is a creditable Jane; Miss Mary Ainslie is well suited as Lady Meynell; and Mr. Oswald Douglas does well as Steve Kingdom.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The military tabloid play *Drummed Out* is excellently performed by Mr. A. C. Lilly's company; Mastro and Mlle. Oretta execute some first-rate jugglery; Dancit's dancing abilities are most pronounced; Frank Seeley soon gets on good terms with his audience; Earle and Melville are responsible for some first-rate patter; and Will Harmony ably impersonates some well-known stars. Ethel Campbell, an attractive comedienne, supplies the remaining number.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is paying a return visit here. Dorothy is capably taken by Miss Gertrude de Lacy, whose singing is much enjoyed; Mr. James Salter as Silas Crump keeps the house in continuous merriment; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith sings and dances admirably; Miss Kathleen Stewart does well as Ruth Montrose; Mr. Geo. A. Fox makes a popular hero of George Fielding; and the villainy of Captain Dudley is fully illustrated by Mr. Robert Gilbert, who receives much assistance from Mr. Edward Aldworth as Hawkins. Mr. Deane Cliffe makes a humorous Featherstone Haugh; Mr. W. H. Troutback is good as Smith; and some excellent dancing is introduced by Misses Iris and Lillie Elvido.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. R. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Heading a good bill here this week are the Four Black Diamonds, who score well with their capital singing and dancing; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, surprise everybody with their performance; an interesting turn is provided by the Austral Trio in a refined scena, *A Musical Evening*; Tom and Neal bring down the house with their burlesque boxing and wrestling; Wilman proves himself to be an excellent musician; the Fimans cause roars of laughter in *The Fire Station*; Lilian Lowe is well applauded for her singing; Williams and Hayes, the prima donna and the tramp, go well; and animated pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris.—An attractive bill is provided here, a series of animated pictures on the Harriscope being a leading feature. The principal variety turn is supplied by Marek Shah, the Indian necromancer, in mysterious illusions; Lytton and De Silda meet with favour; Phil Terris's comic creations evoke much laughter; John Budd has an excellent baritone voice; Chris. Masters excels as a character vocalist; and Master Bedford, a cornetist, does well. The Daintees supply some good singing and dancing.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A clever juggling contribution is sponsored here by Cole and Rags; Mark Stuart, patter comedian, is deservedly popular; and Gladys Hooley, in her original scena *Fiddle and I*, is an artist bristling with possibilities. The Spanish Goldini Troupe, in their rôle as carpet-spinning acrobats, constitute a novel feature; Leo Fields, comedian, is particularly sparkling; Maud Bettison's pretty voice wins golden opinions; Carlos Ménard, novelty musician, creates a furore; and the concluding item, *F. Aeronaut and company in the laughable sketch An Airship Elopement*, is humorous and quaint.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Whitbread's company, now in their second week here, is playing *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Tyrone Power gives an excellent study of Conn; Father Doolan is in the capable hands of Mr. Dane Clarke; and as Conn's mother Mrs. Glenville fills the part with her accustomed ability. Mr. Henry C. Ward acts the part of Corry Kinchela very well; and as Harvey Duff Mr. Morley Carroll does excellently. Miss Monica Kelly plays Moya in capital style; Robert Pfolliott is in the capable hands of Mr. Kendrew Neilson; and as Captain Molyneux Mr. Fred Lloyd does capitally.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. P. Wright.—This week we have Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company in *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. Graham Arthurs takes the part of Dick Kenyon, afterwards Sir Montague Jephson, in which he displays his ability with great success; Miss Mabel Liston acts the part of Alva Kenyon in a very finished manner; Miss C. Middleton is pleasing and effective as Rose Verham; and the other parts are capably filled.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—The company here this week includes Frank and Jen Latona, in their musical act; Siems, the Danish coin-card manipulator; Ryan and Hall, acrobats and comic wrestlers; and the Elite Harmony Boys, in their harmonised choruses, songs, and dances. Billy Hobbs, Lillian Trevellie, the Yokels, Sam Dalton, and Ethel Dancy also appear.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—This week the artists are Emerson and Baldwin, the famous American jugglers, Carlisle and Wellman in their novel musical act, Lucy Coventry, Fred Lyndo, Benson and Rose, Baby Wolff, Wright and Ward, Stanley and Vandyke, and Denby and Dent.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—Here we have the Two Extremes (comedians and dancers), little Bert Allen (vocalist), Alice Leigh (ballad vocalist), F. Wilson Forest (monologuist), and Sylvester Stuart (coon and dancer).

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—This house opened on Monday night (for two weeks) as a picture palace, and the many films shown were much enjoyed by large audiences. *The Merry Widow* is booked to open the theatre on Whit Monday.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—Included in an attractive programme are the Arthur Breton Troupe in a screaming knockabout act, *A Sleepless Night*; Venola Brothers, gymnastics; Delvene's Marionettes; René, clever little lady juggler; 3 Rochesters, speciality dancing act; Dainty Doretta, comedienne and dancer; Nell Alma, comedienne; Bert Bowden, quaint comedian; and the Empire Pictures.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A hearty welcome was accorded *The Merry Peasant* on Monday evening, on its first visit to Dundee. As the Merry Peasant, Mattheus Roiter, Mr. Courtice Pounds submits a really delightful study of the part; Stefan is pleasantly undertaken by Mr. Percy Carr, who sings and acts with good effect; as Annamiri Miss Gwladys Gay makes a decided hit; and Little Mary Glynne is a huge favourite, her rendering of Little Rosalie being marked with conspicuous ability. Mr. Ernest J. Langford as Zoph, the village constable, is mirth-provoking in the extreme, his extraordinary dancing being unique; Lindoberer is well sustained by Mr. William Hindson; and Vincent excellently played by Mr. Frank Wilson; Mr. Horace Dawson acquits himself with distinction as General Count Von Grumow; and Mr. Sidney Johnstone is an amusing Lieut. Grumow; Miss Madge Vincent as Freda sings and acts delightfully; and Miss Tina Martini does extremely well as Lizi.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An excellent all-round bill is submitted here this week. Ferguson and Mack score in their laughing absurdity *The Dimple Sisters*; Lawson and Francis Namon appear with success in an unusually clever cycling and ball-punching act; H. Hodgson and H. Lowther and company, in the farcical comedietta, *Barmaids*, provide any amount of fun; Bi-Bo-Bi is a thorough musician; and Ada Fawn scores a hit in her song, entitled "I'll wear your little band of gold"; Leolin appears in an effective juggling scena; Rose and Calvert are popular in their sketch, *Captain Kettle and His Charming Mate*; Harry Herbert is diverting with a capital repertoire; and the programme is completed by the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—*The Outcast of the Family* occupies the boards here, and is admirably interpreted by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company. Mr. Wybert Clive essays the part of Squire Thorne with much power; Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney bears himself bravely as Harry Thorne; Mr. Bert Oates handles the rôle of the villainous Richard Martin with a realistic touch; as Stephen Barry, the blacksmith, Mr. Herbert Bentone is responsible for a fine character study; Abram Wasper, the bailiff, is effectively played by Mr. Edward W. Cudd; the comedy relief is capably handled by Mr. Tom Armitage, a comical Joe Bushell, and Miss Freda Beckett, a bright and amusing Nancy Bray. Miss Elsie Shelton supplies a really good delineation of Ruth, and instils the necessary amount of emotion into the character; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd's rendition of Grace Redburn is marked by much grace; and the child's part of Little Rob is intelligently rendered by Little Arthur. Messrs. Herbert Reed, M. Platting, N. Horton, T. Carruthers, and E. Melville complete a strong cast.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—Corman's Juveniles, in a pretty scena, *The Waif*, are topping the bill here this week; A-Ba-Bé's Picture Postcard Album shows some effective pictures; Tom Child has an enthusiastic reception; and Hall and Wilson Trio, with a sensational cycle act, prove favourites; Robb Gilmore causes merriment with his quaint songs and patter; the Hoston Twins, versatile comedians, meet with well-merited appreciation; and the Northcotes sing in good style. The Cathedoscope shows the Cup Tie Final.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is appearing here in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox as Prince Olaf gives a bright, animated, and pleasing performance; Mr. Alfred Goddard imparts much character and penetrating effect to his work as Hildred; Mr. Victor Ray is a pointed and expressive Prince Michael; Mr. Herbert Burton is a refreshing, frank, and happy Captain Hector; Mr. J. H. Vyvian is well placed as Carl Stromburg; Mr. Sydney Bayliss is impressive as Nathan; and other gentlemen take the remaining parts in satisfactory manner. Miss Stella Campbell imparts much interest and cleverness to her work as Monica, the beggar maid; Miss Elmie Kemp is a complete success as a sympathetic and able Camiola; and excellent help is given by Miss Mona Hall as Viola.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is paying a return visit here in *The White Man*. Mr. Wilfred Forster is very happily cast as Jim Carton, and his work is easy, natural, and effective; Mr. Frank Mayo is a bold and convincing Cash Hawkins; Mr. Charles Maunsell is a successful Kerhill; Mr. Eric Hudson repeats a conspicuously realistic performance as the Indian Chief; Mr. Ray Raymond is a strong, capable Sheriff; Mr. Alexander Wills is a gentle, pleasing Mr. Petrie; and Mr. R. A. Brandon is a striking and consistently clever Big Bill. Miss Kathleen Maude is a pretty, womanly, and sympathetic Countess of Kerhill; Miss Ormonde Wynne does earnest work as Lady Kerth; Miss Hilda Barita is a picturesque Nat-u-rich; and Miss Dorothy Duncan is a bright, attractive Mabel.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here are the Sutcliffe Family, and these Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats rouse the audience to enthusiastic applause; Mons. Jules Charmettes is a popular eccentric comedian; the Luzzellas give a very clever and varied turn as gymnasts and wire performers; Mr. Rowland Hill is a funny and original comedian; Solo and Mayo dance and sing in amusing and able manner; Royburn and Dix are a couple of laughter-making patterers; Miss Eva Noel sings and plays the cornet, and new pictures are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company in *The Angel of His Dreams* is here. Mr. De Gray as the Rev. Christian Esdaile gives a capital performance; Mr. Wallace Campbell as Major Dudley Ferrars is to be complimented on his natural impersonation; Sir Francis Tregarthen has a very capable representative in Mr. Charles Arnold; Mr. Robert Hall is well suited in the part of Roy Ferrars; Miss Effie Bartlett as Hilda Revelle gives a clever assumption of the part; Miss Edna Earl as Milly St. Austell is all that could be desired; and other characters are in capable hands. The scenery is very effective.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The production of *The Merchant of Venice* by Mr. Arthur Phillips, brought from the Court Theatre, London, is an interesting and attractive performance. Mr. Phillips submits a good study of Shylock, whose thirst for revenge is strong y emphasised, other and better aspects of the character not being overlooked. Mr. James Berry is convincing as Antonio; Bassanio has an excellent representative in Mr. E. Harcourt Williams; Salanio, Salarino, and Gratiano are portrayed with commendable spirit by Messrs. Stuart Vinden, Richard Fielding, and Herbert Dansey; Mr. Leslie Palmer and Mr. L. M. Briggs fairly realise their rôles of Morocco and Arragon; and the Duke of Mr. Cyril Vernon, as also the Lorenzo of Mr. Scott Sunderland, are good characterisations; while the two Gobbos, father and son, are well played by Mr. Arthur Payne and Mr. Ross Shore. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas makes a very charming Portia, being particularly effective in the Trial scene; Miss Dora Hole is to be congratulated on her Nerissa; and Miss Christie Laws creates a favourable impression as Jessica.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. John Clyde and company are here this week with the evergreen drama *Jeanie Deans*. Mr. Clyde plays the part of the Laird of Dumbiedykes with much pawky humour, and he is admirably supported by the members of his company. Miss Lydia Donovan acts with force and feeling in the title-rôle; and Miss Jean Mackintosh is a sweet and tender Effie. Mr. W. S. Stevenson is an imposing, robust David Deans; and Mr. Herbert Evelyn is an emphatic Geordie Robertson. Miss Florence Lambeth plays effectively as Madge Wildfire, and she sings the snatches of songs in the part with expression; Mr. Jas. Finlayson is good as Radcliffe; and Mr. George Delamore is excellent as the Counsel for the Defence. Minor characters are well enacted by Mr. Jas. Kilspindie as Reuben Butler; Mr. George Elliott as Black Frank; Mr. J. Oswald as Tyburn Tim; and Mr. Charles Aitken as the Lord Justiciary, a small part, played with great tact and intelligence. The play is carefully staged, and is drawing large audiences.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—There is a highly-meritorious programme here this week. De Biere, a very clever sleight-of-hand performer, executes various tricks with extreme deftness, and his cabinet mystery puzzles the audiences; Mr. W. Ellis and company act in an amusing fashion a laughable piece, entitled *The Sleepwalker*, which evokes loud applause; Miss Dolly Golden dances with great neatness and charm; La Belle Nello gives a graceful exhibition in her bathing scena; and Mr. Neville Delmar contributes an artistic whistling turn. Professor Thornbury's lightning sketches and ventriloquial entertainment are exceedingly well done; the Vetter Bros. present a dashing gymnastic performance in *The Page's Recreation*; and Mr. Leonard Teel, comedian, and views shown by the King's Bioscope complete an excellent bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—At the head of this week's list of artists stands Mr. Van Biene, the actor musician, who, assisted by Miss Violet Vaughan and Mr. Munroe, makes use of a new and pleasing sketch, entitled *Van Biene's Dilemma*, to charm the audience with a series of selections played on the 'cello with the popular and talented musician's well-known skill. The Leslie Bros. also provide a clever musical entertainment, mingled with buffoonery, which affords considerable amusement; a comedy skit by the Haytors, styled *The Electrician*, has the merit of novelty, and is smartly performed; Ike and Will Scott show to advantage as diverting comedians and expert dancers; and another clever exhibition of dancing is given by Bertha Winder. Impersonations of famous historical characters are successfully presented by Rauschle, whose repertory includes many notables, past and present. Other enjoyable single-handed turns are supplied by Winifred Ward, who masquerades in male attire; by Frank Cass, a strenuous vocal comedian; and by Johnny Fuller, whose antics and gambols and wire-walking in the guise of a kitten are very natural. Good football films are shown on the American Bioscope.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A thoroughly up-to-date series of films in this week's programme gives an excellent representation of incidents during Mr. Roosevelt's recent hunting expeditions. Supreme Recognition is a strong Russian drama; The Open Gate and The Cowboy and the Squaw are pleasant love-stories; and humour is shown in such subjects as Foolshead as Reporter and The Newlyweds.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The President's Special is a remarkably fine picture in an admirable series here, and there are many others, both dramatic and humorous, which afford variety enough to suit all tastes. The musical programme is a capital one, and includes good singing and other turns.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Topping the bill this week is Miss Amy Allnutt, who is deservedly applauded for her rendering of several up-to-date songs each performance; a humorous comedian and dancer is seen in Fred Dice; Edwards and Ward, in a smart comedy act, score with song and dance; a much-appreciated contribution is supplied by Prof. Jennion's Marionettes; and films depicting latest interesting events are thrown upon the screen in a very clear manner by the Hippodrome Bioscope.

IF I MUST BE WASHED
WASH ME WITH
VINOLIA

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*A Son's Devotion* is staged here twice nightly by Mr. Edward Ranier's company. Captain Eric Farnham is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Edward Ranier; Esther Farnham is sympathetically played by Miss Harrison; and Mr. A. Field Fisher is a thorough-paced stage scoundrel as Captain Rutland. The humorous element is well supported by Mr. G. Gregory as Sergeant O'Mailly, cleverly assisted by Miss Phillis Dane as Drummer Knight.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical-Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—The Vampire Dance, which is being presented by its originators, Mildred Deverez and Tom Terriss, has a weird fascination about it which is proving tremendously attractive to Exonians; the Warsaw Brothers in their Australian comedy musical act are exceedingly popular; the Stein Esthor Trio contribute a daring and smart hand-jumping act; Fred Walmesley, the dotty poet, has a happy style; the Cheers, in their original scena, introduce some highly-trained cats; the Melroses are two amusing musical comedy artists; and Olive West sings and dances excellently.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—The management has initiated a short season of vaudeville this week. The famous "B. B." living pictures fill the bill for the most part. Miss Nellie McNab, Scottish vocalist, sings illustrated songs successfully; Cinephone selections are given at intervals.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company is appearing with much success here in *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. Charles Halling is excellent as the Squire of Langdale; Mr. Garrod himself enacts the part of Frank Gordon in a realistic manner; Mr. William Bradford has the trying part of Godfrey Clinton, an adventurer, and he comes out of the ordeal with great success; Job Smithers has a capable exponent in Mr. Owen Remonde; Mr. Frank Dallas, as Heinrich Oppenheim, keeps the audience in good humour, in which he is ably supported by Miss Alice Clarke. The title-rôle is in the hands of Miss Bertha Kingston, who quickly establishes herself a favourite by her clever acting; Miss Ethel Crawford as Gwendoline Gordon also gives a first-class rendering. For the latter three nights of the week *Are You the Man?* was announced.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here in the American drama *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville as Jack Manley plays with sincerity and sympathy; Miss Beatrice Shirley makes a charming Elinor Fordham; a good study of Franklyn Fordham is given by Mr. Lewis Gordon; while Mr. Gerald Kennedy as the villainous John Bird is excellent. Miss Lydia Audre is an admirable Carrie Wilbur; much amusement is afforded by Mr. Henry C. Gilpin as Doc Wilbur; and Mr. Edward Hobart is well placed as Willie Manley; Miss Mable Veriton scores as Mrs. Manley. The play is well staged.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—This popular place of entertainment continues to grow in favour, and a most enjoyable programme is afforded by the Go Bangs. Miss Amy Brook is excellent at the piano; Miss Kate Conway must be commended on her choice of songs; Miss Elsie Norris is also excellent in her song, "The bonnie blue 'kerchief"; Mr. Bryan O'Sullivan, a cultured baritone, scores a marked success; Mr. Edward Lacy keeps everyone in roars throughout; and Mr. Charles Conyers is excellent in his ventriloquial entertainment.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Mr. Charles Carte's company is here this week, playing condensed versions of *A Noble Brother* and

Drink, on the two-shows-a-night principle. In the former piece Mr. Carte again gives his well-known impersonation of Jerry the tramp, well supported by Miss K. Birchley as Nana, Miss Alice Ballard (Mrs. Leigh), Miss Amy M. Gross (Rosie), Mr. Sidney Gordon (Col. Leigh), Mr. Frank Carlile (Henry Travers), and Mr. Henry Childs (Jack Elsworth).

GATESHEAD. — King's. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Heading a bill composed of most excellent items submitted here this week are the Four Royal Scots, in a vocal, instrumental, and comedy act, the accomplished ladies provoking loud applause; Hanvarr and Lee juggle and tumble with their accustomed grace, and make the usual hit; Olive and Owen in a vocal scena, *The Roadside Tinkers*, provide most agreeable fare; the Bros. St. Clair play a football match on cycles with much skill; a powerful Yorkshire tenor, Ted Gill, is specially good; the Rosses show an expertness in dancing which is vociferously recognised; Bertha Evelyn, comedienne, and the Kingscope complete the list.

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and a specially selected company, are appearing here this week in a répertoire of plays, comprising *The Octoroon, Jeanie Deans, Shall We Forgive Her? East Lynne*, and *It's Never Too Late to Mend*.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. G. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—The picture programme here includes Newcastle United Winning the English Cup and Hearts are Trumps. Harry Tate's company in *Motoring*, and Dan Daly, comedian, are attractive turns.

Black's Picture Palace.—The principal films here this week are The Thead of Destiny and The Prisoner of the Golden Isle. In addition to the pictures Tom Casey, the singing newsboy, and Isa Gibson, comedienne, provide entertainment.

Ravensworth Picture Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. Allan and T. F. McDonald; Manager, Mr. R. Allan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. S. Newton.—The star items are Rivalry of the Two Guides, The Livingstone Case, and the English Football Cup Final. Tom Berrick, comedian and dancer, adds variety to the entertainment.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—Cavalière Castellano's Italian Opera Company began their second week here with a presentation of Verdi's *Ernani*, to which all the artists did ample justice, the quartette and chorus in Act 3 evoking much enthusiasm. Signora Protti gives a fine rendering of Elvira; Signor Barbato makes an effective Ernani; Silva is admirably portrayed by Signor Massia; Carlo V. is well interpreted by Signor Modesti; and Signora Massia as Giovanna, Signor Antonini as Scudiero, and Signor Quintina as Jago complete a satisfactory cast. *Lucia di Lammermoor, Un Ballo in Maschera, Carmen, Rigoletto, and Cavaleria Rusticana, with I Pagliacci*, are also in the week's bill.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A return visit is paid by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company with *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*. As before, the comedy is well staged, and all the members of the company work well together. Mr. George Mudie is capital in the part of Mr. Ponderbury and causes much amusement; Miss Celia Gordon's portrayal of Mrs. Ponderbury has much to commend it, and displays an excellent grasp of the character; while Miss Florence Wellesley makes a capital Ethel. Mr. Stewart Dawson acts in accomplished fashion the rôle of Mervyn Thorne; Mr. Percy Bell provides a good study of Peter; Stella, played by Miss Florence Wix, is an exceptionally brilliant performance; and Mr. George Child does well in the small part of Captain Rumford. The comedy is preceded by *Chalk and Cheese*, a bright and amusing curtain-raiser, the characters in which are undertaken by Miss Jessica Thorne, Mr. J. Stewart Dawson, and Miss Ethel Wellesley.

Royalty.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—On Monday the Repertory Players gave the first performance out of London of Messrs. Housman and Barker's poetical play *Prunella*, and this interesting work was accorded a very hearty reception by a crowded house. Mr. Milton Roomer acted with excellent effect as Pierrot; Miss Ethel Evans scored a decided success as Prunella; the three maiden aunts were portrayed with grim fidelity by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Irene Rooke, and Mrs. Arthur Milton, and their serving-maids by Misses Lola Duncan and Alice Mansfield. Mr. M. R. Morand is not afforded much scope in the part of Scaramel, but what he had to do was well done. The other members of the Pierrot troupe were well played, with varying degrees of eccentric humour, by Messrs. Campbell Gullan, Cecil Brooking, Cyril Griffiths, and Arthur Milton, and Misses Norah Delaney, Irene Clarke, Blanche Pearl, and Muriel Pope. Very clever studies of character were given by Messrs. Norman McKeown, Walter Roy, and Lawrence Hanray as the three old gardeners, and by Mr. George Tawde as the gardeners' boy. Mr. Kenelm Foss played the statue of Cupid and spoke his lines with weird impressiveness. The play was produced under the direction of Miss Madge McIntosh and Mr. Kenelm Foss. Special scenery by Mr. T. F. Dunn gave the appropriate setting to the play.

Grand.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Sealy.—The third week of a most promising stock season opened with an elaborate production of the Adelphi play *The Bells of Haslemere*. Mr. George Roberts as Frank Beresford (the young squire) gave a bright and interesting portrayal; Mr. R. B. Drysdale likewise gave a clever performance of Matthew Brookfield; Mr. Fred Terris as John Silkstone put in his unpleasant work in a very effective manner; Mr. B. Johnstone as Benjamin Tremble, the oldest inhabitant, looked the part; Mr. W. G. Robb as Joseph Thorndyke, the scheming trustee, was capitally fitted; while Mr. Cecil Renton as Captain Vere was always interesting. Mr. Charles Danvers as Reuben Armstrong extracted a wonderful amount of good humorous business out of the part, and was ably seconded by Miss Sadie Neville as Dorthy Tremble. The combination are also lucky in the inclusion of such excellent exponents of their art as Miss Alice Defoe, Miss Marie Rignold, and Miss Maude Melliss in the rôles of Evelyn Brookfield, Mary Northcote, and Norah Desmond respectively.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—An entertainment of special merit is provided here by Mr. Lewis Gilbert, who presents the drama, of which he is the author, *A Daughter of the Sea*. Mr. Gilbert takes the part of Glensdale, a villainous lawyer, and gives a realistic study of an old man; the heroine, Sunshine, as played by Miss Florrie Green, is bright and winsome to a degree; another attractive village girl being seen in the Mollie of Miss Allyce Williams. Mr. Cole Aspinall has a fine part in Captain Ben Morrison; the young fisherman Moreland has a pleasing representative in Mr. Roy Denman; in the comedy part of Billy Mr. Jo. Monkhouse gives a clever character sketch; Mr. Ashmore Vincent looks and acts well in the rôle of young Glensdale; as Sir Maxwell Brentwood Mr. Carl Caigna is admirably suited; and the parts of Jack Strong (Mr. Cyril Craven). Harris (Mr. J. W. Gonne), and Banks (Mr. John Meadows) are also well played.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Charles R. Whittle is highly popular here. In their phantom scena *The Burglar's Dream* Edward Crosland's Melody-makers are worthy of the highest praise; the Kellinos in their spectacular risley production introduce much clever work; a dainty lyric scena is *Old Venice*, for which the Serenaders are responsible; much praise is likewise due to dainty and Winsome Lillie Lassah; Staig's steeplejack cyclists are daring and clever; Chanti, "the modern Porteus," gets through his work with grace and ease; Little Ganty makes mountains of mirth with his skit on the Boys' Brigade; Kerr and Koe are smart comedians and dancers; and the Bioscope presents the English Cup Final.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The principal turn in this week's bill is the new sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, presented by the Six Brothers Luck. It is full of healthy fun, and the audience are kept laughing from start to finish. Violet Lorraine takes well in her various catchy songs; Albert Le Fre contributes a smart *pot-pourri* entertainment; the eccentric songs of George Prince are all funny; the Brothers Werde contribute one of the best knockabout acrobatic turns seen here for a long time; the Soho Trio include two wonderful dancers and a lady vocalist of considerable merit; Ruhart's comic conjuring, &c., is extremely funny; Karl Cynski, the one-man band, contributes an enjoyable musical act; and the Sisters Edwardes prove themselves vocalists and dancers of much ability.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The principal item of an excellent programme is the vocal scena "The Gainsborough Girl" a reproduction of the famous picture, within which Miss Dora Lind, the well-known English soprano, wins applause for her singing. Haley's Garden of Girls, a combination of vocalists and dancers, are cordially received; and other prominent artists include Guest and Newlyn in a smart vocal and comedy act; Vena Valma, dainty comedienne and dancer; Edie Day, a clever new comedian and dancer; Gladys Re-Vell, popular chorus vocalist; Margit and Lever, in the refined acrobatic act *Wet Paint*; Harry Conlin, comedian; and Wadham and Sterling in the vocal and artistic sketch *The Maid and the Artist*.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Fred Karno's new production *Wontdetainia* proves a big hit here, both scenically and for the fun introduced by those clever comedians Shaun Glenville and Deane Tidbune. Fred Lincoln, in the other part of the programme, gives a clever character sketch of a burglar; Lydia Yeamans once more delights with her baby impersonations and her inimitable rendering of "Sally in our alley"; in a clever playlet, *Lucky Jim*, Margaret Parker does well in the title-part, and is ably supported by the members of her company; Max Carl and Harry Carr are very funny in a comedy interlude; Geo. Rae gets a big reception for his eccentric Scotch turn; Nellie Farrell sings her Irish songs with good effect; and Edward Rose and Dora Challoner in their duo complete a first-rate bill.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A specially attractive picture programme is submitted here, and there was a large audience on the opening night. The principal films, depicting instructive and amusing subjects, include Visit to a Duck Farm, The Prisoner of the Golden Isle, The Winning of a Father, A Slippery Dog, Elephants in India, and Caught in His Own Trap. A variety programme is well sustained by Fred Collins, the popular comedian, and Dolly Marney, the "pocket Vesta Tilley."

Panopticon.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—The Three Comps are responsible for an act introducting some clever dancing; J. H. Maddock is an exceedingly clever musician; Kate Darroch, deputising for Mable St. Clair, renders two songs in admirable style; Horace Horner dances well; and Stevens and Dunn in *The Traveller and the Porter* are well received.

Hengler's.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—This popular house is still being attended by large and enthusiastic audiences. In an extensive and varied list the more interesting films are those of Hop Frog, the Jester and The Eleventh Hour. Agreeably interspersed are vocal numbers by Miss Ethel Edwards, a chorus vocalist of more than ordinary merit, and Miss Sheila McNeil, a pleasing Scotch comedy artist; while in Mr. M. R. Nolan, "the boy from Ennis," we have a young Irish comedian who bids fair to maintain the popularity of an honoured name in variety.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal and Picturedrome.—Good houses continue, a capital selection of films being shown nightly. Included in a pleasing selection are Life's Game of Cards, The Unlucky Winner, A Gipsy Lover, The Decoying Song, Death in the Mountains, &c. The concluding feature of the season is a film depicting the £10,000 aviation flight from London to Manchester.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—*With Edged Tools* is being played here by Messrs. Leigh and Armitage's company. Mr. Hamilton Deane is an excellent Jack Meredith; Victor Durnoto is capitally depicted by Mr. Charles Barrett; Sir John Meredith has a capital representative in Mr. J. D. Geddes; and Guy Oscard is ably sustained by Mr. Charles Hartopp; Miss Marie Leonhard is effective as Jocelyn; Millicent Chyne is well enacted by Miss Marguerite Cellier; Miss Edith Anton-Laing is a commendable Lady Herries; and Miss Alice Maude is noticeable as Lady Cantourne; Mr. J. Graham Pockett deserves mention as Maurice Gordon.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Drama gives way this week to a welcome visit of *Lucky 'Liza*. As Silas Slim Mr. Dickie Clare is excruciatingly funny; Miss Vesta Brownie is popular as Lucky 'Liza; Mr. T. W. Benson plays well as Peter Pettitoe, and Mr. Leonard Maitland is an amusing Dude; the eccentricities of Mr. Bert Collins cause a lot of fun; Mme. Constance Bellamy's charming voice is heard to advantage; Virginia is charmingly played by Miss Hettie Gale; and Mr. Harry George is good as Barnaby Bladderwick.

GREENOCK. — King's Theatre. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The attraction for the closing week of the present season is provided by Mr. Richard Waldon's company in the emotional drama *East Lynne*. Mr. W. S. Palmer makes a capital impression as Archibald Carlyle; a realistic portrait of Lord Mountsevern is submitted by Mr. J. H. Oakden; Francis Levison is enacted with decision by Mr. Austin Mortimer; Mr. J. Randle Wilson ably undertakes the rôle of Justice Hare; and Richard is well interpreted by Mr. Will Ellythorn. Miss Ada Oakley essays the rôle of Lady Isabel, and her emotional passages are most effective; Miss Lily Roselle appears to advantage as Barbara Hare; as Cornelia Carlyle Miss Jennie Macintyre shows marked ability; and Miss Alice Eugene as Little Willie deserves a special word of praise. The other rôles are all efficiently sustained.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The chief attraction here is provided by Howard and Harris in their clever comedy episode, *The Adventures of a Tramp*; the Le Dor Troupe, in their acrobatic act, are exceedingly smart; and Ethel Stephenson, contralto vocalist, pleases with her numbers; Jules Kiaro, equilibrist, Lambert and Butler, comedians and dancers, the Dolorosas, in a trapeze act, and the Dromoscope pictures are other attractions.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—A bright representation of the musical comedy *Havana* is being given by Mr. Alexander Leighton's company. Mr. William Pringle's dry humour as Nix is highly diverting; he is well assisted in the comedy scenes by Mr. Reg. Edwards as Reginald Brown; Miss Hebe Bliss sings with splendid effect the charming songs allotted to Consuelo, and her acting is also excellent; Miss Winnie Brown infuses plenty of dash and vivacity into her representation of Anita, and her dancing is much admired; Mr. Savill Foster sings well as Jackson Villiers; Mr. Charles Boulting makes an impressive conspirator as Diego; Miss Edith Barwell is good as the eccentric Isabelita; and Mr. J. Brian Ridout as the Hon. Frank Charteris, Mr. Lauri Aster as Bombito del Campo, and Mr. Cyril K. Percival as the Don Adolfo also accomplish excellent work.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Much interest is being taken in the visit of Consul, the "almost man." The wonderful degree to which this intelligent ape has been educated, has evoked the greatest admiration; Will Nettas's singing jockeys give a pleasing vocal turn, and introduce good comedy; Curtis Leo gives a smart juggling performance; Bert Harrow is a successful comedian, his cricket burlesque being very well received; the Three Romas are clever gymnasts with good head and hand balancing business; Selby and Myers secure approval as comedians and dancers; and Gracie Lawn is a popular balladist.

The Picturedrome.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maxwell Edwardes.—Corilosto, the Hypnotist, is a thrilling subject that is very successful; Cupid and the Motor Boat is a film of much interest, and For the Honour of His Family has much dramatic interest, whilst there is a big variety of humorous pictures.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint-Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Albany Ward's electric pictures and varieties still continue to attract. The Mahatma, in her clairvoyant demonstration, is intensely interesting.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore's company is here with a series of Ibsen's plays. On Monday *A Doll's House* was produced. Miss Kenmore undertook the part of Nora Helmar very successfully, and was well supported by Mr. Lovel as Torvald Helma; Mr. C. W. Sykes (Dr. Rank), Mr. Arthur Rodney (Nils Krogstadt), Miss K. Maynard (Mrs. Linden), Miss Daisy Race (Ellen), and Miss G. Everard (Anna). *Hedda Gabler* and *When We Dead Awaken* have also been played.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Eugene Stratton is proving a big attraction here; *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* is a very humorous sketch, in which Mr. Arnold Richardson plays with marked success, and is well supported by Miss Ethel Lonsdale and Mr. A. Gordon Laws; the Miltons are clever figure and comic skaters; the Bartholomew Girls, duettists and dancers, are well received; Colin Mail, light comedian, gives a pleasing turn; George Geffreys, comedian and dancer; Selim, the singing Sultan and his Sultana; and the Palace pictures complete.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Reano and his celebrated band are meeting with a hearty welcome. "1812" is nightly applauded to the echo; J. W. Hall scores his usual success with his funny songs, and quaint patter and dancing; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer, meets with success; Les Henris, equilibrists, give a good show; Mike Cray is a really funny juggler, and is assisted by a highly-trained terrier, "Dooly"; Elsie Denby is a refined and attractive comedienne; Felix and Fisher give an excellent bar act, the gentleman being funny yet clever and daring; St. Ruth and Conyers, classical duettists, are very good. The pictures complete an excellent bill.

HAMILTON, N.B. — Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Rene Clayton.—The Ten Loonies, in their musical absurdity *Dotty*, are topping the bill and going well; Queenie May is a dainty little artist who possesses a distinctive personality; Archie Royer, acrobatic comedian, is clever and amusing; Ernie Myers is a funny little chap, who keeps the house in a roar; Miss Lily Lonsdale is a pleasing soprano vocalist; Rob Wilton is a comedian who "gets there" without any seeming effort; Merton and Rylon are an amusing vocal comedy couple; and the Dancing Paceys, together with the Bioscope, conclude an excellent programme.

HANLEY. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Manging-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin F. Melford's company in *The Silver King* is drawing large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Fred D. Daviss as Wilfred Denver and Miss Mildred Surrey as Nelly Denver are admirably suited; Mr. Sidney Lynn as Spider and Mr. W. Leslie Ellis as Geoffrey Ware are villains of the refined type; Mr. E. J. George still enacts Daniel Jaikes to perfection; Mr. Arthur Wright as Coombe is well suited; and Mr. A. H. Warburton as Sam Baxter is excellent.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A capital programme includes Charles Cardow, comedian; Little Maude Olmar, a marvellous child dancer; Kathleen Cogan, a dainty and charming comedienne; the Brothers Starley, trick motor cyclists; the Three Comerfords, tumblers of decided merit; and the Three Cunards are a fine dancing turn. Paulhan's Great Flight is realistically shown on the screen. Joe Reichen's Dog Show is unique, and success is scored by the star turn, Julius Gebhardt's Tegernseen, Alpine singers and dancers, in *A Sunday Morning on the Alps*.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Managers, Capt. F. Shaw and Mr. C. Hazlewood.—The sensational fight, Johnson v. Ketchell, is a capital picture. Also in the series are The Anarchists and the Bank, Lady Charity Winning the V.C., The Dancing Fiend, and An Unstoppable Cycle. Herbert Bates is a great success.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Mrs. Mark Kinghorne's company was here for the first three nights of the week in *Mother-in-Law*, the clever farce by the ever-popular Geo. R. Sims. Mr. Fred Kaye was excellent as Major McTurtle; and Talfourd Twigg had an able exponent in Mr. Edward Jephson. Mr. Wylie A. Thompson was well placed as Percy D'Amaine; Miss Christie as Mrs. McTurtle was very good; and Mrs. Kinghorne as Mrs. Pounceby made a distinct hit. Small parts were in reliable hands. The farce is well mounted and dressed. For the rest of the week variety was in the bill.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshere.—Mr. Horace White, the ventriloquist at the piano, goes well; Miss Violet Elliott is possessed of a lovely voice, which she uses to great advantage.

St. James's Hall.—New Century Animated Picture Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Boden.—An interesting picture is one of the A.B. Series, In a Hempen Bag. A beautiful travel subject is The Valley of Sessa. Saved by His Sweetheart and A Trip Through Jersey are very entertaining. Mr. Paul Freeman is a popular entertainer.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—The early part of the week Mr. Robert Macdonald's company held the boards with *The Gay Gordons*. As Angus Graeme Mr. Frank Lincoln greatly distinguished himself; the old showman, Nervy Nat, is admirably represented by Mr. Edwin Dodds; Mr. Bernard Vaughan makes a dignified American millionaire; Miss Edie Martin is natural as Nat's wife, whose daughter is admirably played by Dorothy Grasdorff; as Peggy Quainton Miss May Yates gives a performance of conspicuous ability, and the minor characters are well supported.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An excellent variety entertainment is given here. The principal artist appearing is Carlton, a humorous card manipulator and wonderful sleight-of-hand illusionist; Will Conn is a good singer and dancer; an attractive turn is seen in Enid Harcourt, comedienne; Tom E. Conover is highly amusing in his topical songs; some clever clog dancing is shown by the three Langfords; the Hon. Evie O'Conour is a typical Irish contralto at the piano; and the Bioscope introduces a series of new pictures, including The Little Detective.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainley and Hall.—This week Miss Marie Dagmar's capable company is here in *The Tyrant*. Mr. Roy Fortescue as Angelo was a decided success; and able renditions of their respective parts were given by Mr. Percy Folliss (Homodei), Mr. Edward E. Louis (Rudolph), Fred Gurd (Nobbo), and Messrs. T. Ashmore, and T. Wilson Summers. Miss Jean Scott took the part of Lady Catherine with success.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The best turn in the bill is provided by Caryl Wilbur, who, assisted by Miss Zoe Gilfillan, gives a fine spirited rendering of his clever little comedy, *61, Prospect Street*. Other items are Ernest Cadle's Casey Army, a troupe of lively youngsters; the Lovelaces, in illustrated songs; Miss Annie Purcell, comedienne; F. V. St. Clair, in his topical compositions; Miss Sara Rosebury, Lancashire dialect comedienne; and Zellini, a diverting juggler. The pictures are interesting.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The top of the bill is taken by Dan Lipton's company in the vocal scena *Songland*, in which Miss Eva Kelland appears with success as principal, and the whole production is charming. Others in the bill are the Sims, a pair of dainty ladies who sing and dance with grace; Lennard and Vereker, with artistically illustrated songs; Clive Cattley, comedian; Friend and Downing, laughter raisers; Miss Kitty Clinton, comedienne; and Stidder and Dunbar, in a clever musical act. The pictures are good.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—The reception accorded to Louie Tracy, male impersonator, is as hearty as it is deserved; Jack Hayworth's songs take very well; Granville Morris has a good voice, which is heard to advantage; Mlle. Marjutti's graceful performance is applauded; the Brothers Melford's songs and dances are very enjoyable.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Captain Permane and his Teddy Bear family present an act which commands attention; James Storey and company, in *Sweet Seventeen*, are cordially received; Evie Daunton, comedienne and dancer, provides a pleasing turn; Earle and Godfrey score in song, dance, and patter; Nellie Denver, a lively little vocalist and dancer, wins admiration; Maud May Murray is clever in electric dances; and George Porter, comedian, successfully contributes to a good programme.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company occupy the house this week with his farcical comedy, entitled *Where is William?* Mr. Charles Windermere himself fills the principal part in a most effective and humorous manner, being well supported by Mr. Rule Pyott as the Butler Jolly; General Rubbub, the Indian veteran, is played by Mr. Leslie Norman; Mr. Edmund Hollick does well as Harry Gregory; and Mr. Fred Lake is effective as the burglar. Miss Bella Donaldson is an excellent Lady Gregory; Miss Clare Manifield a charming Phyllis; and Miss May Rosine as Jolly's wife and Miss Zoe Davis as Eliza evoke much laughter.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Geni Family of ten acrobats heads the bill this week. The Child Trio of musicians are extremely popular; Mlle. Pollo is daring and graceful on the trapeze; and Fox and Melville are song illustrators of no mean order. Walter Wade is a comedian with an excelent voice; and Edna Barrett, an American singer and dancer, makes herself popular; Charles Bowen is an eccentric comedian; and Dora Lyric has some good songs.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Enthusiastic audiences congregate here nightly, and show their appreciation of Mr. Albany Wad's pictures. A Fire at Sea is a very thrilling incident, and Jean from Aberdeen is a fine example of the gramophone and kinematograph running conjointly. The English Cup Final and the Jack Johnson v. Stanley Ketchell Fight are also prominent. Mlle. Rossini's miniature menagerie is a leading feature of the entertainment.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy's company, in *The Beggar Princess*, is here this week. Mrs. Cassidy is very successful as "Seaweed," a Slavonian Princess, and Mr. Cassidy is a humorous Algernon Fitzhugh. Mr. Villiers Stanley scores as Allen Armstrong; Mr. Tom Royden is a capable Duke Sergius; Mr. Alfred Boxall does well as King Olga; Mr. William Melvyn is well suited to the part of Harry Lortimer; and Miss Ada Roscoe displays much ability as Countess Olga.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—For the first three nights this week the boards were occupied by Mr. John E. Watson's excellent company. On Tuesday the farcical play *The New Boy* was produced, chief honours being taken by Mr. F. G. Thurstons, altogether excellent as Archibald Rennick, and Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs. Rennick. Mr. T. Weldon Anderson did well as Dr. Condy; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood was well placed as Felix Roach; Theodore de Brizac (a French master) was cleverly taken by Mr. Alfred Field Fisher; Mr. H. J. Wildy as Bulloch Major was characteristic; and Nancy Roach was prettily played by Miss Vera Wallace. Each evening Mr. Alfred Field Fisher, assisted by Miss Vera Wallace, gives an excellent entertainment preceding the plays.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week Mr. George Edwardes's company have presented *The Merry Widow* to good houses; Miss Mary Ridley is the Widow, and her charming voice and manner are greatly appreciated; Miss Enid Forde is an admirable Prascovia; Miss Alice Humphrys as Sylvanie is delightful; Miss Eileen Clanford as Olga is a success; Miss Nester Laurel as Frou-Frou presents some most graceful dances; and Miss Mabel Hope as Natalie is an exceptional actress and singer. Mr. Robert Needham as Danilo shows much ability; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter as the Baron is very funny; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy as Jolidon is excellent, both in voice and acting; Mr. Harry Emeric is a great favourite as Nisch; and Mr Cyril Warwick maintains the eccentricities of Novakovitch.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Ellis Fredericks and Abrahams.—Mrs. John Lawson and company are here with three playlets—*The Devil's Sunday, The Bride for a Living*, and *The Woman and the Apple*. Mrs. John Lawson well sustains her reputation in each play, and Mr. Hamilton Leicester, Mr. Cohen Owen, Mr. J. L. Boon, Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale, Mr. J. Gee, Miss D. Williams, Miss Gertie Grosbie, and Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh acquit themselves creditably.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*In the Shadow of Night* is capitally presented by Mr. Arthur Lee Mitchell's company. Mr. Forbes Carrington sustains the rôle of John Allington with dignity; Mr. Leonard Williams appears to advantage as Gordon Allington; Mr. Fenton Wingate in the double rôle of Joe Jackson, a postman, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope is decidedly good; and Mr. William Hayward as Jake Grudgewell makes a capital poacher. Miss Irene Arondel gives a charming study of Violet Kingston; Miss Kittie Roze is a pleasing Molly Woodstock; and Miss Kitty Johnston does very well as Bob. Much comedy is introduced by Mr. Ern Carlton as Tom Nainby.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is appearing to delighted audiences in *Sapho*. Miss Florence Halton gives a very artistic rendering of the title-rôle, and Mr. Edward Ouston plays Jean Gaussin with considerable success; Mr. John Drake as Henri Dechelette wins distinction; Mr. Stephen Crossley is effective as Flamant; and Miss Ethel Tinsley is a commendable Aunt Divonne. Other characters are meritoriously fulfilled. The company also gave two performances of *Trilby*.

LEEDS. — Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Edward Compton was very cordially received on his appearance in *The Rivals*, and played Bob Acres with his usual characteristic effect; Mr. J. W. Austin had a highly popular part as Faulkland; and the testy Baronet was in the worthy hands of Mr. Henry Crocker. Mr. Frank Royde ably played the Captain; Mrs. Malaprop found an amusing exponent in Miss Marie Hassell; Miss Nell Compton daintily portrayed Lydia; and Julia and Lucy were ably undertaken by the Misses Kathleen Leigh and Lorraine Stevens, and Mr. Clifford Marquand and Mr. Laurence Mead gave forcible representations.

Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*Through the Divorce Court* is presented by Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton. Miss Hettie Chattell gives an admirable impersonation of the wronged wife, and Lord Robert is excellently played by Mr. Robert Purdie; Mr. Henry C. Cooper appears to every advantage in the part of Guzman Di Mendoza; Mr. Jack Denton as Algy proves himself a genuine humorist; Mr. John Camplin ably plays Leon Di Valdiz; Mr. E. W. Thomas as Pettigrew, K.C., is quite a convincing barrister, as also is Mr. Vincent Howard as Sir Edward Sharpe, K.C. Miss Nellie Sheffield as Dinah and Mr. Harry Colbeck as a servant are very amusing, and Miss Edith Cruikshanks and Miss Pattie Groves take prominent characters with success.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Mr. R. G. Knowles makes a welcome return in new songs and some very smart patter; Frank Danby and J. C. Piddick shine in a musical comedy playlet, entitled *Cupid's Arms*; Barry Lupino, besides being a good comic singer, excels as an eccentric dancer; Millie Payne is on good terms with the audience in some new songs; Lola Patey is a favourite in some Dutch dialect songs; and others supporting a good bill include Heeley and Meeley, Harry Friskey, Stanley and Greenop, and the Two St. Johns.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts, with a capable company of artists, are presenting *The Belle of the Orient*; Jack and Evelyn are appearing in a new sketch, which is brimful of mirth; Tennyson and Wallis make a welcome return with some very funny patter; the Sisters Brenton are skipping-rope dancers of ability; Willie Atom and company appear in a sketch, entitled *Wiggles*; Iris Banfield sings sweetly; and other artists include Eastbury, Avon and Crest, and Curwen and Belle, in a bright musical act.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Leonard Charburn's young stars appear in a pretty musical scena; Marie Blythe's fine voice is much admired; Lillie Le Main appears in a Lilliputian act and also dances successfully. Harry Thurston, the Livrons, Peter Pan, and Shanara's Mountain Goats are also favourites.

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Fanny Harris and Harry Dent supply the principal turn; Percy Ford and Edward C. Webb's company go through a thrilling performance in *The Spy*; Yolande Noble makes herself very popular; the Six Ontarios, Edgar Budden, Millie Denham, and the Athlones are successful.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—*Pansy's Birthday*, a most elaborate and refined musical scena, presented by Messrs. Coverdale and Huxley's Bijou Juvenile Troupe, is the star turn here, and thoroughly appreciated; Mr. Alf Grady, comedian and dancer, meets with a capital reception for his humorous rendering of popular songs; and the Bioscope presents a large number of amusing and interesting pictures, including the Cup Final.

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

To be fashionable this season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS
BRONZINE
POLISHES

These polishes can be obtained in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour. Do not rub off on the hands or dress.

Excellent for Theatrical Properties.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, & Ironmongers, 1/- per box.

Daily Demonstrations at JONES Bros., Holloway Road, N. (Grocery Dept.)

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD., 73, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

MIDAS BRONZINE POLISHES — PATENT APPLIED FOR — MADE

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—A capital attraction is provided by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company in the romantic play *The Proud Prince*, which is beautifully staged. King Robert of Sicily is rendered full justice by Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan; Miss Eileen Kerin as Perpetua is also deserving of high commendation; Miss Vashti Wynne is very good as Lysabetta; and others in the cast who deserve praise are Mr. Clifton Boyne as Count Hildebrand, Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as the Archangel, Mr. Terence O'Brien as Theron, Mr. Frank Ward as Diogenes, and Mr. Ernest Stidwell as the Priest.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—We are receiving another visit of Mr. Carr Loates's company in *At the World's Mercy*. Miss Cissie Milford displays great versatility and cleverness in the dual rôles of Skittles, the stowaway, and Kitty Knott, a music hall star. Mr. Fred W. Graham as Morris Goldstein well maintains his popularity as an actor of ability; Mr. Fred Mintz is excellent as Captain Manley; Mr. Carr Loates as a solicitor plays with his accustomed skill; and Will H. Irving as Charley Smart is also a success. The drama is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Alice Eis and Bert French are a special attraction here in their famous Vampire Dance, which is given in a realistic and artistic manner. The Craggs are on a welcome return visit, and score a big success in the acrobatic conception *Territorials;* G. W. Hunter is a raconteur and comedian who is thoroughly entertaining; William Mitchell and John J. Cain as the Frenchman and the ostler fellow create plenty of merriment with an original act; Florence Smithers, supported by Owen Dacre and company, is responsible for a side-splitting comedy sketch, entitled *Our Mary Jane*, in which Miss Smithers is a conspicuous success as the servant; the Five Vernons are delightfully entertaining in their xylophone speciality; Tom Moore is a clever character comedian with a fine voice; Elsa Brull and Arthur Helmsley are amusing in their skit *Fun in a Music Shop;* and the Bioscope shows the replayed Cup Tie.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The lead is taken by Pete and Minnie Lee, who are making a well-deserved hit in their Scotch comedy success *A Scotchman's Visit to London;* the Camplins are very good in their musical comedy act; Durazcoe and Azella display great smartness and neatness as equilibrists; Vera Mayne is popular with her illustrated songs; and Irene Meldon (the dainty dot), Jimmie Pullin (character comedian), Arthur Stacey (eccentric comedian and dancer), and Phono, described as the human record, are others who offer entertaining turns. The pictures are again of the best.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The popularity of this hall is well maintained, Mr. F. R. Griffiths continuing to provide first-class programmes, this week's list including The Cattle Raiders, A Tantalizing Young Lady, The Hungry Child, An Obstinate Mule, The Mexican's Revenge, The Pierrot's Desertion, and Students on the Spree. Tom Desmond, a local descriptive vocalist, is paying another visit.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—One house a night is now the rule here, with the prices somewhat reduced. The films shown are, without exception, of the very highest class, and quite new to the town. The opening list on Monday evening included The Death Disc, Pine Ridge Feud, Incorrigible Mary, The Rice Harvest in Japan, The Welsh-Daniels Fight; Coco and the Earthquake, and Indian's True Heart.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—In *The Great Awakening* Miss Olga Andre finds herself fitted with the part of Lo'a Selby, an unprincipled adventuress, and the interpretation is rendered with much skill; Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is prominent with Miss Florence Zillwood as the hero and heroine; Mr. Arthur Wimpenny, Mr. Andrew Esmond, Mr. Wood, and Mr. E. A. Andrews strongly delineate the respective parts of James Selby, Sir Henry Merton, Jack Merton, and Gibbs. Mr. Harry Hoyland acts powerfully as Lola's father, and Mr. Tom Arkinstall is effective as the accomplice Guy Logan. Mr. R. J. Turner finds opportunities for comedy in Sergeant Brew, and the audience are also vastly amused by Billy Brass and Selina Worts in the persons of Mr. Walter Rousby and Miss Hetty Farrell. The piece is well-staged.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Excellent business is being done here this week with the Follies, who make a first appearance at a theatre in this city. The opening part of the programme consists of a capital selection of songs and stories, which are richly enjoyed; then come the "potted" plays, *Henry of Navarre*, *The Fires of Fate*, and *King of Cadonia*. These are greeted with uproarious laughter, the peculiarities of well-known actors and actresses being imitated to a nicety. The burlesque of a modern music hall likewise finds great favour—in fact, the whole entertainment is voted exceedingly good and uncommon. Mr. H. G. Pélissier is ably supported by the Misses Ethel Allandale, Effie Cook, Gwennie Mars, Muriel George, and Messrs. Morris Harvey, Lewis Sydney, Dan Everard, and Douglas Maclaren.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—For notice of a new production here see another column.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction this week is Mr. Harry Foxwell's company with *Mother*, which is receiving a fair measure of success. Mr. J. O. Stewart is Duncan Fairweather, and shows much ability as a character actor; Miss Grace Jones plays Nellie with a deal of earnestness and a natural touch; as the heroic Frank England Mr. Alexander J. Haviland deservedly earns general favour; Miss Elsie Dene makes an amusing Polly Crumpet; Mr. Teddy Myles as Tommy Noblets also assists in the fun; and Miss Amy Wood carefully plays Martha. The drama is well staged.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The always-popular *East Lynne* is here this week, presented in capital style by Mr. Wentworth Croke. Mr. Leonard Yorke acts with much dramatic strength as Archibald Carlyle; a capital Lady Isabel comes from Miss Muriel Marsden; Miss Dorothy Clifton efficiently holds the part of Barbara; and excellent support is given by Messrs. S. Herbert Humber (Francis Levison), Thomas Barry (Justice Hare), John Blake (Richard Hare), Miss Mary Hardacre (Cornelia), and Miss Doris Zola (Little Willie). The play is put on in excellent style.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Are You a Mason?* is affording satisfaction here to big audiences, the company being under the direction of Messrs. Williams and Dunn. All the artists combine in excellent manner to extract all the fun possible out of the comedy, among those to the fore being Messrs. William Lockhart (Amos Bloodgood), Howard L. Tracey (Frank Perry), Archie Selwyn (George Fisher), Stanley Arthur (Hamilton Travers), Miss Agnes Maude (Mrs. Bloodgood), and Miss Peggy E. Yeoman (Lottie).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The favourite Miss Ada Reeve tops the bill here this week, and is having great receptions for her songs; Edward Lewis and company are also prominent here with the merry farce, *The Five Wishes*, which causes endless laughter; Carl Howard is an exceedingly popular turn, his comic conjuring being immensely enjoyed; a pretty musical mélange, *Our Audiences*, is excellently presented by the talented Dandies; Little Zola proves a most amusing artist; Les Andres have a smart protean and terpsichorean act; Ellis Barrieton, the double-voiced vocalist, earns applause; and Rita Rhylle, comedienne, pleases greatly.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Heading the programme here this week are the Vays, with an appreciated comedy and pathetic scena, *Life in the Slums*, which finds much favour; Harry Nelson, a smart comedian, affords great pleasure with his latest songs; the Corcoran Brothers go through a clever musical speciality and quick-change act; some accomplished work as a lightning cartoonist and painter is shown by Flake White; Talberto and Douglas are a couple of able comedians; McBride and Logie raise many a laugh with their eccentric acrobatic novelty, *Canadian Lumbermen;* and Elsie Kerry, comedienne, is also in the list. Next week this theatre will be closed, reopening on Whit Monday with a two-houses-a-night dramatic show.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Jake Friedman and company, with the picturesque *Happy Holland*, are prominent here this week, affording as much pleasure as formerly. There is a capital chorus, and the principal parts are in the good keeping of Messrs. Jake Friedman, Leigh Ellis, G. Latimer, C. Mavern, Miss Florence Hunton, and Miss A. Lennon. The Ten-Ka Troupe of Japanese magicians go through a surprising performance; Tom E. Finglass has some capital coon songs; Chorley and Conner, as Scotch comedians and dancers, are a smart turn; Harry Russon, actor-comedian, finds general favour; Fred Hastings brings his latest songs, which are received with satisfaction; as operatic duettists, Belrose and Develin come in for well-deserved applause; Renroff's dancing horse shows remarkable training; and others who appear are Dorothy Sephton, vocalist; and Bessie Heins, comedienne.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Dan the Rake* is being played here this week by the stock dramatic company, principal among whom are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood, Leo Montgomery, Sydney Grant, R. Seath Innes, Tom H. Solly, E. D. Allen, Harry Tresham (Dan), Miss Lina Nazeby, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle. Brown's Bioscope shows A Dream of Paradise.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Bransby Williams is a great favourite in Liverpool, and his appearance here again is being received with great acclamation; Harry Weldon keeps his audience in shouts of laughter with his football description and "Dick Turpin" story; Arthur Lennard is another big line, his latest songs earning for him rounds of applause; Harvey's American boys and girls afford much satisfaction; Daisy Dennis, with her "Teddy bear" song, and Frank Victor, with his "Santa Fee" cowboy ditty, being particularly popular; the Brothers Redmond, of "Willie, come here" reputation, prove as amusing as ever; Florence Cooper reaches her audience with some charming songs, well rendered; Fred Barnes finds favour for the scena, *The Scapegrace;* as novelty equilibrists the Stowe Brothers show capital talent, and come in for a deal of applause; and Fanny Robina pleases with her medley of old songs.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The beautiful Irma Lorraine heads the bill here, and, assisted by Marjah and Mlle. Leony, provides an exquisite show of living statuary, which meets with rounds of applause; Jan Rudenyi, the celebrated violinist, and company, present a pleasing episode, *The Power of Music;* Rousby's company, in *Greater London*, is a fine panoramic view of the Metropolis; the Georgians have a capital vocal, instrumental, and dancing scena; an amusing football match is played by Rutter's dogs; the Seven Wulfrunas are exceedingly diverting acrobats with their speciality, *Fun in a Café;* Johnson and Hart show high powers as hoop rollers and jugglers; and contributions also come from Alf Brookes, comedian and patterer; Phillips and Bristow, wooden shoe dancers; and W. B. Raby, comedian.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—The Michael Williams Welsh Minstrels head the bill, and are well received; Annie Casey is a popular comedienne; Morelli and Moore are very funny musical eccentrics; Charles Chard and Doris Yorke find favour; Sisters Belmoir are smart duettists and dancers; and Forde's Merry Mannikins are extremely clever. The Biograph pictures are good.

LONDONDERRY.—ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—This week Mr. Williams presented a capital programme, which drew enthusiastic audiences. Topping the bill is the famous American illusionist, Sears, who is quite bewildering in his feats. Mr. Sears is supported by a capital company. Bella Leeburn, vocalist, and George Westland, comedian, are on welcome return visits; Flora McDonald, comedienne and dancer; Mrs. Lillie Williams, vocalist; the Farrows, an amusing pair; Motorscope complete the bill.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The "World in Motion" has a very fine set of pictures this week, including a striking representation of The Death and Passion of Christ, and an American Biograph film, The Honour of His Family, which is an excellent picture story of the Civil War. The variety turns are given by Mr. J. H. Wakefield, coon dancer, who quickly made himself popular; Miss Violet Beatrice, boy impersonator; and the Matt Wilkinson Trio, in their comedy sketch, *The Registry Office.*

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager Mr. G. F. Knowles.—The London to Manchester Flight is the star film here. Other effective pictures are A Tea Plantation, The Girl Detective, King and Soldier, and The Seventh Day. Variety turns are given by J. P. Ling, a popular mimic; and the Victas, acrobatic barrel jumpers.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The bill is headed by the Dayton Family, who give a smart acrobatic and Risley performance, entitled *Le Rendezvous;* Dan Whitley is a clever comedian; Jessie Templeton delights the audience with chorus songs; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are clever in song and dance; J. A. Wilson and his performing dog "Towser" appear in *The Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant;* Sydney Brandon gives some good impersonations. Vere and Nelldon, entertainers; Chas. Lilburn, comedian; and the electric pictures are also in the programme.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Vedrenne's company is playing here in *The Fires of Fate*, which was well appreciated by a very good house on Monday. The cast is an excellent one. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart plays admirably as Colonel Egerton; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan gives a very effective rendering of the Rev. Samuel Roden; and Mr. Charles Francis makes a successful Dr. Roden. As Miss Adams Miss Gwendoline Floyd is especially pleasing; and Miss Ruth Bower is also clever and engaging as Sadie; while among other interesting characters that of Ali Wad Ibrahim is capitally rendered by Mr. Everard Vanderlip. The scenery is beautiful and much applauded.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The story of *Don*, Rudolf Besier's comedy, was followed here with considerable interest and appreciation by Monday's audience. It is played by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. Charles Harley submits a fine piece of acting as Thompsett; and Miss Violet Harley is excellent as the wife. Mr. Gordon Bailey as Stephen Bonington is also very good; Miss Emma Hutchison plays very naturally as Mrs. Bonington; and Mr. Arthur Willoughby is equally lifelike as the Rector. *Her Dearest Friend* is a pleasant curtain-raiser.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—This week sees here a revival of *The Critic*, which was produced by Miss Horniman's company a few weeks ago with so great a success. The cast employs all the best talent of the company; and the piece is preceded by an equally well-rendered one-act play, by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, *The Searchlight*, in which Miss Darragh as Miss Williamson and Mr. Ian Maclaren as Major Travers score.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Fred. J. Webb and company are here in *For Old Times' Sake*. Mr. Fred. J. Webb as Rupert Sydney and Miss Marie Danvers Smith as Sareta Berkly are well to the fore; and in heroic parts Mr. Richard Oliver and Miss Mamie Stanton are adequate. Humour is well supplied by Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Miss Marie Robertson, and Mr. Edwin Beverley.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—An enjoyable programme here is topped by Fred Karno's *Perkins, M.P.* (Albert Bruno in the title-part), the same company and comedian being seen in *The G.P.O.;* De Bassell, clay modeller, adds a very good turn; and other pleasing acts are Tommy Ellis, quaint character actor; Flo Banks, comedienne; Three Aza Boys, simultaneous clog-dancers; and Marion St. John, dancer.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The programme here is headed by Miss Mary Mayfern's company in *The Yellow Fang*, a highly dramatic episode of an opium den in San Francisco; the Mysterious Marriotts, mind readers, are also prominent and very smart; and S. W. Wyndham, comedian, adds an excellent turn. Other enjoyable items are *Murphy's Affinity*, a comedy sketch; Harry Kirk, comedian; the Four Mayos, in their burlesque skating act; the celebrated Watsons, a quartette of very smart entertainers; and the Becketow Brothers, in pot-pourri.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Briarley.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company in répertoire are drawing good houses here. They opened in *Mr. Barnes of New York* on Monday, when distinguished work was done by Miss Henrietta Schrier as Marina Paoli, Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Danella, and Mr. Andrew Money as the Lieutenant, Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy being seen in the title-rôle. The company, however, is efficient throughout. Other plays on the programme are *Frou-Frou* (two performances) and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* (a benefit performance to Miss Henrietta Schrier).

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr James R. Trippett.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company once more entertained local audiences in the well-known moral drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*. In the prologue Little Gladys Brittain as Mary Haysel (aged nine) is still a successful feature; while in the play Miss Maud Warburton impersonates the same character grown up quite effectively. Mr. Guy Hastings as the Rev. Alan Grey remains a strong element in the success of the play; and other good parts are well rendered by Mr. Cecil Mannering as Stephen Haysel and Miss Clara Santley as Marie Haysel. Mr. Hugh Brady as O'Reilly is funny.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. William Mollinson and company are presenting here with great success an effective playlet, *The Touch of a Child;* Ye Colonial Septette give a delightful vocal turn, including selections on the cornet by Charles Edwards; the Bensons make a hit as *The Page and the Maid;* Hagedorn's wonderful grotto, an electrical creation of surprising beauty, is greatly enjoyed; Barrett and Knowles are highly-amusing talkers; Dick Tubb, the well-known eccentric comedian, meets with a deserved big reception; Horace Wheatley, the genuine Irishman, dances neatly; Jessie Buckle is a pleasing comedienne; and Loyal's trained dogs give a capital performance. Up-to-date pictures on the Bioscope complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—J. L. Sullivan, famous boxer, is to the front here in his enjoyable monologue, and is also seen in a three-round boxing exhibition with Jake Kilvain; Fred Russell, as usual, scores a huge success with Coster Joe; the Zigeuner Quartette give an exceedingly clever musical turn; Morny Cash, the Lancashire comedian, makes a hit; Maud and Sidney Wood are capital dancers; and others who offer good turns are Addie Lennard, comedienne and dancer; Three Borela Brothers, in a neat gymnastic act; and George the First, the almost human chimpanzee. The Palace pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilks; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Lillian Barnes, the London contralto, tops the bill here with deserved success; Hal Forde, the popular light comedian, meets with a good reception; Nancie Hearne, a pleasing comedienne, makes a big hit; Stuart Alexander presents those excellent entertainers the So-and-So's; good dancing is done by Dorothy Knight, comedienne; Vera Clifford sings well; Lydia Neilson and her quintette of boys and girls are seen in smart scena; and Linn and Darius do well in a musical and vocal act. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures are also included in the programme.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Dry.—Harry Ford, the well-known comedian, is to the front here this week, and his whimsicalities cause no end of laughter; the Great Virto, assisted by Venita, his talented daughter, is heard to advantage in a charming musical speciality; Stylo gives a wonderfully clever turn as a hoop manipulator and juggler; Percy Williams' Juveniles are good in songs and dances; Nellie Engler and company are capital in farcical episode, *Beauty and the Burglar;* whilst other enjoyable items are offered by Robb Rossi, tenor vocalist; Jack McKenzie, comedian; Smith and Gibbs, quaint and quiet athletes; and Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne. The Power of the Press on the Bioscope is good.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Madeline Rossiter, a charming and versatile artist, scores a huge success; G. W. Desmond as a light comedian and dancer is also exceedingly well received; Gilbert Fernie, who acts as deputy for Sydney James, captivates the house; Nellie Seymour James, soprano, Frank Halpin, basso, and Jack Austin, tenor, all sing well; and Dorothy Belmore is entertaining at the piano.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—This pretty theatre, which was opened on the 30th ult., seems to fill a want in the district, as it is crowded twice nightly, as well as at the matinées. The pictures are selected from all the best film-makers, and on Monday they included The Plot That Failed, Tommy's Locomotive, The Winning of Father, The Lost Banknotes, He Wanted to be a Jockey, and A Friend in Need. Excellent singing was also introduced.

MANSFIELD. — GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and company are here in *The Way Women Love*. Mrs. Frank Bateman plays in characteristic manner the part of Verena Alabra; Miss Camile Treherne is effective in the part of Violet Tremayne; Miss Sadie Underhill is a good Frank Tremayne; Miss Amy Manfree is successful as Lottie Gray; Mr. Fred W. Goddard handles the part of Captain Tremayne in good style; Mr. Percy Shaw shines as a humorist as Dick Palmer, his introduction of whistling specialities being a feature of the show; Mr. Harry Aynsleigh is an excellent Leslie Lumont; John Barringford is capably portrayed by Mr. George Herbert; Mr. Herbert Barrs is good as Joe Alaros; and Mr. Will White plays the butler successfully. On Wednesday evening Mrs. Frank Bateman played the title-rôle in *Camille*.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*The Love of the Princess* is presented by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company. Miss Dorothy Haigh creates a favourable impression as the Princess, and Mr. Frank Harvey acts well as the Prince; as the traitorous Count Nicholas Mr. Richard Vane is effective and capable; Lady Irene and Constantia (Miss Maud Steeple and Miss Josephine Lee) are quite capable; and the remaining characters are all suitably undertaken.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Atlas and Vulcana Troupe of athletes are renewing their former successes; Harry Luck is a smart comedian; Miss Adela Masson scores in an original triple song-scena; Mlle. Eugene (Lady baritone), Bros. Weston (comedians), Bert and Dora in a novel patter and singing act, and Biograph pictures provide the turns here.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—The attraction is supplied by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, in *The Power of a Wicked Woman*. Mr. G. M. Montanini is very successful as Horace Winter; Mr. Courtney Robinson portrays the rôle of Phillip Carey in a fine manner; Mr. C. Russell is good as Lord Arthur Dumley; Miss Amy Dalby acts well as Denise Carey; Miss Renée Wreanfort scores as Nellie Montague; and Miss Muriel Inglis's interpretation of the part of Helen Terraire is exceedingly well done. The staging and dressing leave nothing to be desired.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Mr. Jas. E. Lewis is presenting the musical play *The Welsh Maid*. Mr. Victor Cannon's interpretation of Carodoic Howell is very fine; Jack Francis is cleverly played by Mr. Laurie H. Stuart; the rascally James Seymour is forcefully presented by Mr. Herbert de Ville; Mr. Wm. Pemm is enjoyable and breezy as Dafyd Thomas; Miss Zeta Murdoch is charming and winning as Jenny Jones, and sings pleasingly; Miss Theresa Spencer plays creditably as Mrs. Jones; Miss Madge Raymond is an entertaining Sally Davis. The Celtic Troupe of dancers contribute specialities, and Miss Josephine Allbutt, the child bass vocalist, renders songs in good style.

NEW PICTURE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Melton, late manager of the local theatre, has taken over this hall, and after decoration and refitting, opened it on Monday with a capital programme, the leading picture being a reproduction of the Cup Final.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Ian Robertson and his company are meeting with deserved approval for their fine performance of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. In the title-rôle Mr. Robertson is seen to distinct advantage. Throwing himself thoroughly into the part, he delineates the character with artistic taste and skill; Miss Helena Parsons as a slut is really clever; Miss Jeannie Thomas is smart as a cheat; and as a hussy Miss Barbara Everest commands commendation. The other characters have been placed with much care and discretion. *Come Here!* precedes the play.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher present *The Face at the Window*. Mr. W. Houghton Macaulay as the Chevalier Lucio, alias Le Loup, fully sustains his reputation as a character actor; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe is successful in the detective part of Paul Gouffet; and as the "mad doctor" Mr. Jas. Chippendale is much appreciated. Miss Clare O'Sullivan and Miss Constance Glenabyn as Marie de Brisson and La Pinau meet with approval.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Miss Helen Trix, the American comedienne, displays to full advantage her great versatility in a capital budget of character songs, and the large audiences highly enjoy her performance; "Lydia" Dreams gives his ventriloquial show with as much success as on former visits; and the Four Figaros, vocalists and dancers; the Three Orros, gymnasts; the Five Bombays, in a vocal and speciality act; Frane and Stewart, comedians; Miss May Gibson, vocalist; James Stewart, comedian; and the Empire pictures are all good.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Pictures continue to draw well at the "Hip."

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—A startling "turn" this week is Sim Maree, termed the indiarubber Mohammedan; Della Ray, with a charming stage presence, contributes some popular vocal items and arouses warm encomiums; Long Amos, 6ft. 5in. of funniosity, causes roars of laughter; and Edna Deno, a pretty comedienne and dancer, is quite a favourite.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—Gilbert Payne and company are this week appearing in *The Marriage Mart*. Mr. Hervey Bruce sings and acts with grace and ease as Richard Mannering; Miss Nellie Dyson is sweet and charming as Ray Desmond; Vera Mannering is capitally enacted by Miss Ethel Erroll; Miss Fanny Adamson being distinctly successful as Flossie Fluff, a typist. Mr. H. F. Housden is a portly and imposing Rajah Bunkam, his bodyguard being humorously enacted by Mr. Cliff Artley. The bulk of the comedy work falls to Mr. Gilbert Payne in the rôle of the office boy, Crackett. Mention should be made of the dancing of the Godfrey Girls. Scenery and dresses are alike good, and there is a well-drilled chorus, under the bâton of Mr. Louis Elgar. At the end of this week the theatre will be closed for the usual summer vacation.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogdon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—A very interesting and instructive programme is given here this week. To the variety part of the programme Salida and Vone, singers and dancers, and the Wagners, singers, dancers, and xylophone players, successfully contribute.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—Mr. Tom Jones, Miss Ethel Newman, Mr. Harry Ellison and company, Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, Mr. V. Wakeman, Slippere, and the Frohmans all make pronounced successes here. The new and comfortable theatre has become an immediate favourite place of resort.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The New Brighton Pier Co.; Secretary, Mr. E. W. Kampion.—Variety is still presented here with success, and this week's programme includes La Vie, in graceful poses; the Middies and Maids' Concert Party; Mr. H. O. Borie, juggler; and the Big and Little Four, vocal quartette.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A capital audience greeted the welcome reappearance of *Florodora*. Mr. Johnnie Schofield takes the part of Tweedlepunch, and is a huge success, his quaint style and rich humour finding ample opportunities; Miss Florence Hersee plays Angela Gilfain in a charming and piquant fashion; Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood is also quite successful; as Frank Abercoed Mr. Martin D. Pitts is well suited, his fine voice being heard to advantage; Mr. Johnnie Junior gives a spirited personation of Captain Arthur Donegal; Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus Gilfain is also quite happy in the part; and as Dolores Miss Daisy Lake gives a finished performance.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A large audience on Monday thoroughly enjoyed *A Pair of Spectacles*, presented in excellent style by Mr. Russell Rosse's company. Mr. Arthur Hare takes the part of the good-natured Goldfinch with great success; Miss Ida Philips acts admirably as the charming Mrs. Goldfinch; Mr. Maurice Denham is very natural and convincing as Uncle Gregory; a capital study is Mr. H. St. Barbe-West's Dick; Mr. Guy Vivian gives a good representation of Percy Goldfinch; and the rôles of Lorimer and Bartholomew are suitably filled by Mr. Walter A. James and Mr. George N. Williams. Miss Madge Monte is sufficiently vivacious as Lucy Lorimer, and Miss Marion Williams is also very good as Joyce.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Large audiences have attended the performances of Mr. Morton Powell's company in *A Girl's Temptation*. Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays with care and ability the part of Guy Warren; Mr. C. Earle sustains the character of the villain, Mark Klaw, with realism; Mr. Charles Herbert makes a dignified and successful Basil Warren; Mr. Tom Handley is well placed as the Hon. Charles Clade; Mr. Gerald Nolan effects good work as Geoffrey Stirling; an amusing portrayal of Sammy Sniggles comes from Mr. F. Bentley, ably assisted by Miss A. Corallie as Jemima Gorsap; Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Stirling plays with dramatic skill; Miss Blanche Lee acts forcibly as Annie Brown; and Miss Winnie Donovan is a capable Lady Constance.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—The wonderful dog impersonator, Mr. George Ali, is this week delighting Newcastle audiences in a sketch entitled *Papa's Day Off; Humpsti Bumpsti*, an acrobatic sketch, by Pipifax and Panlo, is a clever acrobatic and eccentric act; Spry and Monti meet with well-merited success in the *Schoolmaster and the Soubrette;* Gardener and Stodard, American entertainers, give a capital show; and the Carmos, in an elaborate juggling act, perform many marvellous feats. Other notable turns are Maudie Francis, comedienne and dancer; Jackley Trio, comedy acrobats; Leo Tell, musical mimic; and Waul Langtry, with some genuinely funny patter.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*A Life for a Life* is capitally played by Mr. Chas.

MOTHER

SEIGEL'S SYRUP

This standard remedy for indigestion, biliousness, headaches, constipation, and all other complaints arising from a disordered state of the stomach, liver, and bowels, has behind it the solid reputation of forty years' unbroken success. It has never failed the people who have used it. It will not fail *you!* If you feel out of sorts, fit for nothing, played out; if you can't eat, work, or sleep, take a few doses of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and you will be delighted with the change. Mother Seigel's Syrup — the herbal tonic made of roots, barks and leaves — exerts a remarkable curative and tonic effect on the stomach, liver, and bowels. Thus it makes food nourish you, clears your system of the poisonous products of undigested food, and gives you the vigour and tone of robust health. "We have known the value of Mother Seigel's Syrup for over twenty years," say Mr. and Mrs. Rodway, Hillesley, Wotton-under-Edge, "and have never known it fail to cure stomach troubles."

GIVES

STRENGTH TO THE WEAK
ENERGY TO THE LANGUID
COMFORT TO THE DYSPEPTIC

GOOD DIGESTION TO ALL

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size.

H. Lester's company. Mr. E. Ashby appears in the leading rôle of Josh Harker successfully; Miss Lallah Davies as Eulalie displays excellent emotional power, and is most effective in the trying rôle; Pedro Li Calic, a scoundrel whose villainy is of the blackest description, is played by Mr. Hugh Travers with great efficiency; a comedian of amusing versatility is Mr. Fred Yarnold, who very capably enacts the part of Tim McCarthy; Miss Dorothy Riddell admirably portrays Kate Evelyn, the heroine. *Sorrows of Satan* was announced for Friday.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy A. Wilde.—A noteworthy feature in the current programme is *The Magic Carpet*, in which John Warren and company succeed in mystifying the audience with some clever illusions; Charles Vincent achieves success with a couple of good songs; brilliant vocalism is furnished by Amélié De L'Enclos, the hearty reception accorded the Lukushimas, a troupe of Japanese entertainers is well deserved; James Eadie and Cissy Ramsden, in a crisply written comedy duologue, *Charlie's Visit*, are popular; the wonderful dental act of the Four Regals gains unstinted applause; Harry May Hemsley, child impersonator and caricaturist, supplies pleasing variety in the entertaining programme; H. O. Wills' song, patter, and business are very funny. The Bioscope is always good.

NORTHAMPTON. — Temperance Hall.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Messrs. Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A fine sporting picture show the Replayed Football Match for the English Cup between Newcastle and Barnsley. Miss Margaret Payne's vocal contributions are "Love's dearest eyes" and "As long as the world rolls on."

The County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—On Friday last the management were able to show some interesting views of the London to Manchester Flight, and have brought them into this week's programme; another fine set is With Roosevelt in Africa.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Percy Brown's company with *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* has drawn large audiences. Mr. Wilson Coleman gives an excellent rendering of Felix Beverley; Mr. John Millward skilfully portrays Jack Stirling; Mr. Craig Hunt is capital in his delineation of Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. Cyril Grier proves a capable Colonel Mills; Mr. Percy Brown is good as Thomas; and the same may be said of Messrs. Victor T. Raymond and W. Annesley as Charles and Arthur Bellairs respectively; whilst Detective Banks finds an able exponent in Mr. Harland Brookes. As Mary, Miss Amy Ellam enacts the rôle with admirable effect; Miss Kathleen Magee gives a characteristic study of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel makes a hit as Sweet Nancy.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—An attractive bill-of-fare is drawing large audiences here. Will Godwin, versatile artist, is a great favourite; Cissie Carter, comedienne and dancer, has been accorded a hearty reception; Josie Neilson is a clever young entertainer; the Vedras are a smart pair of acrobatic eccentrics; and another fine series of pictures make up an enjoyable programme.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. Morgan.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company came here on Monday evening with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Mr. Henry Herbert admirably portrayed the character of Falstaff; Mr. Robert Atkins was excellent as Mr. Ford; Mr. Cyril Sworder was equally so as Mr. Page; Mr. John Cairns did well as Sir Hugh Evans; Mr. Andrew Leigh admirably acted the part of Dr. Caius; Miss Gladys Vanderzee deserves much praise as Mrs. Ford; Miss Kate Turner was very good as Mrs. Page; Miss Dorothy Radford was appreciated as Anne Page; Miss Betty Ward did well as Mrs. Quickly; and Mr. John Hood as Shallow and Mr. H. S. Cohen as Slender ably accounted for their respective parts. On Tuesday *The Tempest* was given.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Heading an excellent programme here are Mooney and Holbein in their pleasing vaudevillian entertainment. The Daunton Shaw Troupe give some astounding and clever cycling feats; the Rohda Bros, as society gymnasts evoke applause; the Bros. Dean, original dancers in white, gain much approbation; Violet Stockelle pleases in her vocal items; Harry Lewis is popular; and Miss Florence proves a clever mimic; Will Garvey causes much laughter, and the Hippo-Bio. Pictures are interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The Moody-Manners company commenced a week of répertoire on Monday with *Tannhäuser*. Mr. Joseph O'Mara sang the music of the hero with exquisite taste and expression; Madame de Vere-Sapio played the part of Elizabeth with true sympathy; Mr. Lewys James sang and acted with grace as Wolfram; and Mr. Charles Magrath's sonorous voice gave the music of the Landgrave additional beauty. Miss Toni Seiter made an admirable exponent of Venus, and the chorus numbers were rendered with animation and feeling. *Samson and Delilah* on Tuesday was a success from every point of view.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—The company of Miss Loie Esmond gives a capital rendering of *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Edward Neville looks the cynical Prince Lucio to the life; Miss Rosie Neville supplies an excellent portraiture of Lady Sybil; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst makes a sympathetic Mavis Clare; Miss Loie Esmond is delightful as Diana Chesney; Mr. Jack McGaig offers an interesting study of Geoffrey Tempest; and Mr. J. Le Fleming is successful as the Earl of Elton.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Miss Evie Greene is giving the greatest delight to audiences here by her charming vocalism. Alexander and Hughes excel in smart and humorous patter; the versatility of Dusty Rhodes is well exemplified; *Astronomy* is capitally played by W. Fulbrooke and company; the O'Brien Bros. show agility in double somersaults; and Lupino Lane, eccentric dancer; the Sisters Caselli, dancers; Katie Butler, comedienne; and Jennie Hartley, comedienne and dancer, also contribute to the programme.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—A visit by Little Tich is always welcome, and the quaint comedian, with his mercurial spirits and constant flow of banter and jokes, keeps everybody in the merriest of humours. Another attractive item is the astonishing and skilful acrobatic feats of the Gaudsmidts, given with a neatness and finish that arouse enthusiasm. A pleasant instrumental turn is provided by the five M.P.'s; a musical sketch by Rorke and company is well received; Tom Clifford ventriloquises effectively; a smart sketch entitled *The Boat-builder* is cleverly played by Miss Rita Warne, Mr. J. Holland, and Mr. E. W. Edmonds. Items are also given by the Ted Moxon Trio of acrobats, Harriett Rose, comedian, and Dan Filmer, comedian.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is occupying the boards with *Love the Conqueror*. The Brian Norval of Mr. Frank Lindo is a masterful piece of work; Mr. Sidney Dench successfully depicts Sir John Mortimer; Mr. Leonard Laurence ably presents the despicable character of Count Leon Lascelles; Mr. Norton Shields is good as Captain Rupert Armadale; Mr. Harry Belford as Andrew Albertree is a typical Boniface; Mr. Bert Dence amuses the audience as Peter; Mr. Eric S. Crowther is a dignified William of Orange; Miss Nellie Benson's rendering of Dame Norval is well received; and Miss Helen Thomson is good as Susan Shortly. Miss Marion Wakeford shows fine capabilities in her charming portrayal of Mistress Beatrice Mortimer. The play is dressed and staged in excellent style. To-day *Home, Sweet Home*, will be played by special request.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—Closed for summer vacation.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. T. Edward Ward and company opened here on Monday in the new drama *His Real Wife*. Miss Ward as Rose Avondale acted most capably; Miss Gabrielle Romero as Lady Sybil proved a most capable actress; Miss Clarrie Yandell as Betty Tuttlebee, and Miss Celia Howard as Mrs. Creele were well suited in their parts; Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Martin Avondale acted in a clever manner, and Mr. Clifford Rean as Herbert Barton was well placed; Mr. Chas. Yorke as Colombo infused much vim into his acting; Alf Snickers was very amusing as played by Mr. Walter Walmsley; Mr. T. Ed. Ward made a capable landlord; and Mr. Bernard Elliott did well as Randall Meredith.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*Rollicking Rory* is staged here. In the part of Rory O'Donohoe Mr. Chalmers Mackay appeared quite at home; Mrs. Mackay as Rosaleen was quite successful; Miss Connie Meadows was equally good as Rosie O'Donohoe; and Miss Jeanette Lyons made an excellent Widow O'Callagan. Mr. Lawrence Derrick as Desmond Fitzgerald was very good indeed; and Stephen D'Arcy was well played by Mr. Edward Warden. Mr. Lawrence Sullivan as the despicable agent Shaun Brady made a capable exponent; and Miss Kathleen Emmett was a good Queen of the Fairies.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The top-liner this week is the fourth part of the Life of Moses, and, needless to say, is a great success. The other pictures are equally good, and are witnessed with great interest. Much amusement is caused by the Wibberley Wob competition; Mr. Roger Alwyn also contributes to the programme.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Adventures of the Golden Valley is an excellent story, and The District Attorney a powerful dramatic picture.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—The latter half of last week Mr. Weedon Grossmith paid us a successful visit with his company in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. On Monday the Moody-Manners Opera Company began a satisfactory week's engagement here with *Samson and Delilah*, which earned the entire approval of a full and delighted house. Mr. Albert Bowyer is an ideal Samson. In appearance, in acting and singing, he satisfied the most exacting critic, and fully merited the continuous applause lavished on him. Miss Helen Culver's Delilah was also a first-class performance, fully realising the sensuous and fascinating woman; her singing was a positive treat. Mr. Dudley S. Marcus sang well and acted with excellent judgment as the High Priest of Dagon; Mr. Graham Marr made an admirable Abimelech; and Mr. W. Anderson was duly impressive as the aged Hebrew. The chorus was strong and well-balanced, and did good work under the control of Mr. Harrison Frewin, who admirably conducted an augmented orchestra, who did full justice to the delightful music. During the week *Lohengrin, Faust, Il Trovatore, The Masked Ball*, and *Carmen* are billed for performance.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company is this week presenting interesting and admirable productions of *Called Back* and *The Streets of London*. In *Called Back* Mr. E. Holland Day again gives proof of solid ability and sound study as Gilbert Vaughan; Mr. Harry Parr makes an excellent Dr. Ceneri; and Mr. Fred Biron is very capable as the villain, Paulo Macari. Mr. Harry Mascot is bright as Arthur Kenyon; and Mr. Edwin Firth fills the rôle of Louis Petroff successfully. Mr. Karl Edwards in the rather small part of Anthony March easily sustains his good reputation; Miss Katie Norris is effective as Mary Vaughan; and Miss Mabel Parker, with her sympathetic temperament, makes Priscilla very attractive. Miss Elma C. Turner is, as usual, highly successful as Pauline March.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Herbert Fuller with his company is in possession here for another week, and giving good all-round performances of the two plays *A Noble Mother* and *Trilby*.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Heading the bill, and giving a wonderful exhibition of trick and comedy cycling, are Lotto, Lilo, and Otto; the Norman and Leonard Trio provide a pleasing and refined musical turn; and the programme includes Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws, in a vocal and comedy act; A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian; Dolly Barrie and Juan Wood comedy duo; the Denaro Brothers, juvenile hand equilibrists; George M. Baker and Lilian Balfe instrumentalists; Chummie La Mara, comedienne, and the Bioscope.

PENTRE.—Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lacy Lyne. — Mr. Haldane Crichton's company is here in *The Cingalee*. Miss Florence Watson as Nanoya sings and acts with much charm; Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram gives a clever delineation; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as the Hon. Harry Vereker uses his well-trained voice to advantage; Miss Pauline Hague gains admiration as Lady Patricia; and Mr. Scott Cullen's Bobby Warren is a praiseworthy performance. Miss Ida Ernest is a lively Peggy Sabine; and Messrs. Douglas Munro (Boobhamba) and F. W. Ford (Sir Peter) are good in their respective parts. An efficient orchestra is under the leadership of Mr. Rowland Wood.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—*Under the Iron Heel* is played by Mr. Wilson Howard's company. Mr. Howard takes the part of Rene de Maupassant with distinction, and he is ably supported by Miss Carlotta Anson as Germaine Mirbeau. Other members of the company who help to make the production noteworthy are Mr. J. W. Richards, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Dennis Clyde, Mr. Gerald Smythe, Mr. R. Merring, Mr. Carl Vallender, Mr. Austin Longford, Mr. F. M. Best, Mr. A. E. Rose, Mr. M. J. Douglas-Hicks, and Miss Marie Angus.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson are here in *The Marriage of Kitty*. Mr. Norman V. Norman as Sir Reginald Belsize gives an interesting study; Mr. F. Lock Whittaker is successful as John Travers; as Kitty Miss Beatrice Wilson gives a fine performance; Miss Vera George as Mme. de Semiano is well placed; Mr. Norman Leslie is very good as Norbury; and Miss Betty Stannard is satisfactory as Rosalie.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mat Lynton's company is presenting the great dramatic episode, *The Tempter*, the various parts in which are capitally enacted by Mr. Ivan Coherney, Mr. Morley Carroll, and Miss V. St. Lawrence. A. G. Spry arouses much enthusiasm in his comical songs; Mark Leslie scores successfully as an eccentric dancer; Rousby and Rene, in Lancashire comedy study *Fine Feathers* make a decided hit; George Norton, in "Cleaning empty houses," is loudly applauded; Godfrey Rumford, ballad singer, is well received; and Rosie Lloyd in several songs has a fine reception.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Large contingents of the younger members of the community have thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the Royal this week, where *Alice in Wonderland* is the attraction. As Alice Miss Ivy Sawyer receives much well-merited applause; Messrs. Tom Graves and Roland Henry as Mock Turtle and Gryphon in the first part, and subsequently Tweedledee and Tweedledum, are a brilliant pair of comedians; Miss Doris Walker is a dainty little March Hare; Mr. Franklyn Vernon a most meritorious Mad Hatter; and Master Dan Leno as Caterpillar is responsible for clever dancing.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The brilliant spectacle afforded by the Elliott-Savonas is the principal attraction at the Palace, and some wonderful harmony is produced from novel instruments, culminating, as usual, in a blaze of colour; Hayman and Franklin, in a Hebrew skit, entitled *A Matrimonial Agency*, are responsible for fifteen minutes' amusement; Senorita Elvina is a graceful and daring gymnast; Charles Grantley is well described as an erratic comedian; Mlle. Florence is heard to advantage in some tuneful songs, accompanied by lantern slides; the McConnell Trio score in a vocal omedy sketch, entitled *The Invalid*; and Miss Eily Adair is a dainty comedienne.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre of Varieties. — Mr. John Lawson and company head the programme in the episode *Humanity*. The piece is excellently staged. The Newmans present a unique trick cycling act, introducing an exhibition of boxing on unicycles; the Lauri Brothers are smart acrobats; the Robinis star as hat jugglers and club throwers; Vera Saunders is a comedienne and dancer of merit; the Dutrees appear as cartoonists; C. Ibbotson causes amusement with his patter; Saro gives a novel musical act; Cissy Esdale is a charming comedienne; and the Alexscope shows the English Cup Final.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Ritter and Foster top the bill here; Mabel Le Roy is a burlesque artist; Bert Woodward a steeple-chasing cyclist; Chas. Mildare, whistling comedian; the original society gymnasts, the Fitzroys; and Chas. Penrose, comedian. *Father's Footsteps*, a most amusing farcical sketch, presented by the Heriot Trio; Hunter and Maris, in a comedy novelty; and the Palascope, with the latest films, are the other attractions.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A large and appreciative audience assembled on Monday, when Mr. Martin Harvey, supported by Miss N. de Silva and company, opened with *The Breed of the Treshams*. The thoroughly artistic development of the various incidents by the distinguished actor and his company keenly interested those present. On other nights *The World and His Wife*, *The Conspiracy*, and *Hamlet* have been submitted.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, in his romantic drama *For Love and the King* occupies the boards. Mr. C. Watson Mill himself powerfully impersonates Gerald Meredith; Mr. F. K. Wicksteed skilfully portrays Prince Uros Dragomar; the peasant girl Natua is sympathetically played by Miss Joan Ellis; Miss Rosalind Tate is successful as Edith Meredith; the remaining characters are in capable hands. Pictures, as usual, precede.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—This comfortable hall is particularly inviting, with its new scheme of decoration and crimson drop curtain. The special feature is wrestling, with Tarro Miyake, the famous exponent of the Ju-jitsu defence, the efforts of various aspirants to the prizes offered causing considerable excitement; Kitts and Windrum take well in their funny sketch *The Cuckoo*; the Musical Keiths are entertaining; Harry Leybourne as a mimic at the piano scores well; the Bristons are clever acrobatic cyclists; the songs and patter of Ambrose Thorne kept the audience amused; and Shenton and Chicks are appreciated.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—A great attraction is provided by Joe Elvin and his company in his racing sketch *The Rocket*, the two scenes introducing racing stables, course, and four horses imparting realism to the production. Jack Lorimer's quaint singing and dancing is thoroughly enjoyed; the Juggling Geraldos exhibit great dexterity with hoops and clubs; Henriette and Selina contribute a pleasing instrumental turn; Les Videos, showily costumed, display skill on roller skates; Mark Sheridan, jun., made a successful appearance; Nash and Noel are clever in their comedy business; and Mabel Mignon is a chic singer and dancer. An exclusive film, the R.M.L.I. and South Bank football match, attracts attention.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—A brisk and entertaining programme this week includes La Pia, with her series of spectacular and weird dances; Harry Tate's company in *Fishing* are highly amusing; part song vocalism and drollery find exponents in the Empire Comedy Four; the Eight Elves sing, dance, and play instrumental music; Telma is a wonderful contortionist; exceedingly droll and amusing comedians are Paul Barnes and Ernie Mayne; James R. Sinclair forcibly impersonates some of our greatest actors; the Society Quartette and Moon and Morris are smart entertainers.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late M. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—*Madame X.*, with Mrs. Brown-Potter in the title-rôle, is a big attraction here. Mrs. Brown-Potter is entitled to the highest praise for her wonderful and enthralling presentment of Jacqueline Fleuriot; Mr. Leonard Pagden is also seen to advantage as Louis Fleuriot; Mr. Frank Bradley is an excellent Noel; Mr. Douglas Alington as Raymond Fleuriot is another good actor, and delivers his address (in the last act) to the jury in a most impassioned and impressive manner; Mr. Charles B. Bedells is clever as Laroque; an excellent bit of acting is contributed by Mr. Thomas Sydney as Perissard; and Mr. H. Lionel Brocknor as Merivel, Miss Freda Ashford as Helene, Miss Forbes Phillips as Marie, Miss Sara de Groot as Mme. Varenne, and Miss Emma Stockley as Rose, are each and all excellent.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Miss Minnie Kaufman performs some most difficult feats with her bicycle; Chinko the juggler presents some remarkable novelties, and Graham, in a sketch entitled *The Lilliputian Wonder*, presents a pleasing and novel turn; Brayne and Lloyd, in a quaint comedy, *The Tree of Truth*, cause much laughter; Dix and Dox give a capital musical turn; Fanny Humber proves herself a smart dancer, vocalist, and instrumentalist; the Zaid Trio are clever Oriental contortionists; Harry Marlow, light comedian, is appreciated; the Tennessee Coloured Guards in *Camp Life Down South are* a capital turn, and introduce several specialities.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Clarkson.—The drama *Can a Woman be Good?* is a capital attraction here. Mr. J. Millaine gives a manly portrayal of Manuel; Mr. Henry C. Robinson as the unscrupulous Herod Steinburgh and Mr. J. L. Jackson as Ralph Desmond imbue their respective parts with the necessary stage villainy; Miss Winifred Barton as Slithers and Mr. J. R. Tyrrell as Curly Dabbs fully succeed in their efforts to keep the house in good humour; Miss Blanche St. Albans gives a finished rendition of the part of Esther Howarth; Miss Florence Hunt is excellent as Naomi Morrick; and Miss M. Rose is a charming Magdala Fawcett.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—The interesting military drama, *The Scapegrace*, has been put on this week by a capable company, under the direction of Mr. John Levey. The dramatic situations, particularly those on the "illimitable veldt," are made the most of, and are extremely effective. Mr. John Levey is excellent in the rôle of Bill Burke; and Miss Nellie Lambert plays with marked skill and power as Nellie Burke. The other parts are capably handled by those to whom their presentation is entrusted.

Marina Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—At the Marina this week Mr. Manager Attack has put up a fine programme, and there have been large and appreciative "houses" to see the picture shows. Variety is provided by Nelson Hardy, whose ventriloquial sketches are enjoyed.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. John F. Preston is producing *Rogues of the Turf*. The leading parts are well sustained by Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as the adventuress, Marion, Lady Heathcote, and Mr. John F. Preston, who acts in first-rate style as Joe Flaxman, the trainer. Nellie Flaxman is well impersonated by Miss Ethel Rainforth; Mr. Arthur Hartley as Sir Gerald Heathcote, Mr. Edward Ray as Arthur Somerton, and Mr. Arthur Leighton as Steve Burton act with ability; and "the rogues of the Turf" are characteristically personified by Messrs. W. Howard Barlow, F. Laurence, and Tom Phillips. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Horace Custens as Sammy Flaxman and Miss Marie Brian as Phyllis Wurzel. The sporting scenes are well staged, and the race for the Manchester Cup, in which three real racehorses take part, forms an exciting climax.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco.—The Selbinis perform a variety of the most daring and clever feats in juggling, acrobatics, roller-skating, and cycling. The Eight Lancashire Lads are warmly applauded for their excellent singing and dancing; Thomas Brooklyn and Alys Hardy and company present a very amusing comedietta entitled *Algy's Advertisement*; Kloof and Ramsey give a good musical turn; the Primrose Quartette appear with success in an original Welsh song scena; Eva Ellis sings and dances cleverly; Agnes Molteno and company appear in a pathetic song-scena, entitled *An Old-time Story*, which is illustrated by effective tableaux; L. B. Athol presents a vocal scena, *Dreamland*, in good style; and some excellent films are shown on the Bioscope. The recent ticket benefit on behalf of the Reading Football Club realised £31 3s. 10d.

All the Cinematograph shows are doing good business.

ROTHERHAM.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—A splendid company is here this week. Radford and Valentine are highly diverting in their jolly juggling and mirth; Max Waldon presents lifelike impersonations of celebrated stage stars; Miss Ethel Thomas, the Welsh nightingale, is rapturously applauded; Phil Percival is a most amusing entertainer; Elton and Elma are highly successful knockabouts in the triple-bar act; Eva Simpson is a dainty little song and dance artist; Harry Bickley is clever; and Miss Sadie Simpson is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. An excellent series of pictures are shown on the Hipposcope.

SALFORD.—P.O.W.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his company commenced a second week here on Monday with *When Other Lips*, which was well received by a good house. Mr. John Davidson was an excellent Ted Daunton; Miss Marie Daventry as the heroine, Ruth Lingley, played with charming ability; and Miss Florence Melrose Millett made an impression as Octavia. Mr. Juan D'Alberti did good work as Basil Cunningham; Mr. Bob Anderson as Tommy Neccles, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey as Duddle Topwash, Miss Jane Watson as Kitty Topwash, and Miss Irene Tracey as Nancy Jenkins kept the audience in excellent humour throughout. Mr. T. Arthur Jones as Jenkins and Mr. Arthur H. Clarke as the pickpocket Sharpy, and the other members of the company, gave able support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond. — Jock Whiteford, with his Scotch humour and songs, is a great favourite; Mabel Bright has a very pleasing act, "Aladdinette," in which she very cleverly represents several characters; the Avolas are smart acrobats. The following turns are also well received:—Bent and Gerda, in old Swedish peasant songs and dances; J. J. Mannix, coffee-coloured coon; Hammon and Wyatt, in novel singing act; Amy Russell, soprano; and Baby Vi Davis, a clever child vocalist and actress.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—A well-arranged programme is again presented, and much fun is got out of Billy Merson, comedian; Yost and York, military boys, are very clever; the Royal Banzai Family of Japanese artists do some wonderful balancing; *The Girl and the Tough* is a pleasing sketch by John G. Brandon, Rosie Vernon, and Leslie Tyler; the second-sight by the Days is marvelled at; Baby Myrtle Grove, pierrot, Stevens and Brett, burlesque entertainers, and Mitchell and Stott, in *The Clever Tramps*, also appear.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Cowboy and the Squaw, a thrilling Wild West picture, Seeing the Real Thing, Elephants in India, and Double Sight are the principal films, interspersed by welcome songs by Mr. Tom Sherlock.

Central Hall (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond; Company-Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The pictures include Adventures in the Golden Valley, Football Final, 1910, Old Man's Valentine, Two Portraits, Weary Will Ballet Girl, Vice Versa, and On the Reef, with songs by Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—The Trooper's Bride, The Hanging Lamp, Hiccoughs, A Fight for Honour, Dumb Sagacity, Saved from the Cannibals, Ups and Downs of a Hat, Man's Most Fearful Enemy—Alcohol, are among the films shown twice nightly.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—Tom Lloyd tops the bill here, and is very popular; Phil Bransby is successful as a coster comedian; Dacey and Lewis prove highly entertaining; and George Rapley finds favour as a comedian. A turn of considerable merit is provided by the Sylvester Trio; Reed and Cully are capital comedy tumblers; and John Trevellian appears with success as "the man in the street." The pictures on the Bioscope are excellent.

New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Tully.—Variety was the order here for the first half of the week, the artists appearing being the Bros. Webb, clever musical clowns; the Carlo Maie Trio, in wire act; the Habs Bros., eccentric acrobats; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in a well-acted comedy sketch, *Coming Home*; Bros. Lavelle, comic acrobats; the Sisters Gretti, in a smart gymnastic display; Blanche and Zeyna, in sensational cycle act; and George Castrey. *Mother-in-Law* is billed for the second half of the week.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—Exceptionally large attendances are the rule at this popular resort. Mr. Nelson Jackson appeared in humorous and musical recitals on the first three days of the week, and proved exceedingly popular.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company fulfils a welcome re-engagement here with *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy repeats his former brilliant success in the title-rôle, and Mr. William Calvert gives a powerful rendition of Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Arthur Leigh is as good as ever, which says much, as the Hon. Reginald Steighton, and Mr. Vallerton is cleverly drawn by Mr. Chas. Wemyss. Miss Florence Tressilian presents a most winsome and attractive Helen Vallerton, Lady Mountfallon being strongly played by Miss Frances Wolviston; Miss Dorothy Turner is successful as the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Nellie Bonser is a delightful Mrs. Durham.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—*Flight*, a drama dealing with aviation, is being successfully presented here by Mr. Charles March's company. As Jack Trevor, Mr. Charles March stands out prominently with a vigorous portrayal; the rascally Stanley Wilmot is skilfully treated by Mr. Percy Ballard; Mr. E. Hall-Eldon is a popular Ben Bolter; Rice Pritchard finds a careful exponent in Mr. Henry Compton; a well-defined study of Arnold Maynard is contributed by Mr. J. Court Harvard; the Chevalier Brissent is smartly interpreted by Mr. G. Marshall; Miss Kathleen Yates gains hearty encomiums for her interpretation of Elsie Meynard; and as Mrs. Trevor Miss V. Crawford is successful.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham. —*The World, The Flesh, and The Devil* is here. Gertrude Grant is ably portrayed by Miss Dora Hammersley, Mr. Henry Doughty acts with power and ability as Nicholas Brophy, Mr. Frederick Jacques submits a careful study of Sir James Hall, Mr. Will Smith gives a fine portrayal of Rupert Dyke, Miss Doris Whyte makes a charming Beatrice Cuthbert, Mr. Eardley Howard a manly Robert Hall, and much amusement is caused by Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Johnson and Miss Florence Vickers as Mrs. Jenkins.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—In Mr. Robert Courtneidge's successful production here of *The Arcadians* Mr. Walter Passmore fairly revels in the congenial part of James Smith, and Mr. Oliver J. Round's clever impersonation of Peter Doody is not only screamingly funny, but remains a sound piece of comedy acting. Mr. Harold E. Pearce acts and sings in characteristic musical comedy fashion as Jack Meadows; Mr. Ivan Cleveland is first rate as Sir George Paddock; and Mr. Louis Victor is good. As Bobby Miss Billie Sinclair continues to be the incarnation of girlish grace and refined vivacity as Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Veronica Brady is very amusing as the lively, good-natured Mrs. Smith; and Miss Ethel Erskine's piquant appearance and melodious singing as Sombra makes this talented young artist a general favourite. The chorus is first rate, and Mr. Edwin Thornton is an efficient conductor.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Miss Grace Warner opened to a good audience on Monday in *The Wages of Sin*. Mr. George Gordon gains a large share of popular approbation for his manly and sympathetic acting as the Rev. George Brand; Miss Grace Warner as the ill-fated Ruth exercised her wonted power over the audience, and her fine performance frequently evoked enthusiastic applause.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Diver's Luck* was revived here on Monday. The well-drawn character of Martin Faber gave Mr. William Macready every opportunity for the display of his histrionic ability; the hearty humour of Big Barney Bawn was well expressed by Mr. Edward O'Grady; and Miss C. Bickerstaff fully realised the womanly faith and sympathy of Helen Wyngate.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The programme this week is contributed to by Mr. Whit Cunliffe, the popular "swell comique," in new songs and old favourites; Mr. Ben Albert, the philosophical comedian, who discourses in a witty manner on current topics; Miss May Mars, a handsome and vivacious burlesque actress; the Blank Family, Continental Risley artists and jugglers; the Francolis, pantomimists and acrobatic drolls; Mr. Tom Stuart, humorist; Miss Gladys Mavius, a chic entertainer; Les Silvas, operatic vocalists; the Lyric Vocal Quartette; and Miss Wish Wynne, comedienne. Topical pictures conclude.

The Hippodrome.—The Thomas Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Miss Maud Santley, the charming vocalist, heads the bill this week, and the company also includes the Tintos, comic acrobats; the Markes, instrumentalists; Mr. Tom Gott, comedian; Mr. Bruce Green, humorist; the Three Carlens, clever gymnasts; Miss Gwennie Morgan, vocal comedienne; the Six White Boys, variety artists; Mr. Rolando Martin, eccentric comedian; the Florodora Girls in a pleasing act; and Sandy McNab and company in the successful screaming absurdity *The Egyptian Mummy*. The Bioscope pictures of up-to-date events are well received.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Les Vivandières, a capable and artistic company of vaudeville entertainers, are providing an attractive and varied bill of fare. Miss Della Fredricks is a tuneful singer and agile dancer; Mr. Wilfred Dane a droll and eccentric character comedian; Miss Gertrude Russell sings well; Mr. Eddie Noble's musical sketches are novel and clever, and his entertainment refined; Miss Dora Gaye, soprano, merits praise

'THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, Produced for the First Time in England at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, May 2.

Sir Oliver Holt ..... Mr. Herbert Waring
Mr. Oliver Holt ..... Mr. Jameson Lee-Finney
Sir Bowling Burford ..... Mr. J. H. Barnes
Dr. Heath ..... Mr. James Hearn
Dr. Satterley ..... Mr. James Gelderd
Lord Tommy ..... Mr. Philip Leslie
Dandy ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
The Thief ..... Mr. J. Parish Robertson
Barney ..... Mr. Frank Bertram
Jem ..... Mr. John Tresahar
The Bat ..... Mr. Creighton Hale
The Kid ..... Master George Hughes
Bedell ..... Mr. Ernest C. Joy
Powell ..... Mr. Sam Pearce
Inspector Barnes ..... Mr. Charles Weir
Inspector Murray ..... Mr. Leslie Owen
Policeman ..... Mr. Edward Chester
Butler ..... Mr. Charles King
Bet ..... Miss Ada Dwyer
Polly ..... Miss Jane Comfort
Feathers ..... Miss Marie Boyd
Mimi ..... Miss Maude Buchanan
Suzan ..... Miss Magdaline Cotta
Manette ..... Miss Violet Cragie
Madge de Lorme ..... Miss Portia Knight
Glad ..... Miss Gertrude Elliott

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's play, which has been a great success in America, was presented on Monday at the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre prior to its introduction to a London audience next week. The manner of its reception in the Mersey city is some considerable assurance that the play will prove a big success. Londoners especially will be impressed by the faithfulness of the pictures of East-End life, which occupy a fairly large portion of the story. The theme is one that conveys a powerful lesson in hope amidst difficulties, and such being preached by a waif of the slums, its strangeness is all the more pronounced, and, perhaps, all the more effective with those who are prepared to accept moral encouragement. The beauty and strength of the play, which thoroughly grips the audience, lies in its simplicity and its close adherence to human feelings and passions. There is nothing unnatural about it, and the onlooker is driven to admit that here is a perfect reflection of people and things of everyday life. One scene in particular—that of Apple Blossom Court, a squalid hole—brings before the eye an actual reproduction of countless spots to be found in East London. The indication of a fog, through which dim lamp-jets are endeavouring to struggle, is one of the best pictures of its kind that has been seen on the stage for many a long day. This instance of completeness and detail is only one of several to be found in the drama.

The narrative starts in the London house of Sir Oliver Holt, where three medical men are in consultation regarding that baronet's nervous breakdown, the conclusion come to being that unless he braces himself up an imbecile's death can be the only ending. One of the trio, however, holds the opinion that he may possibly recover through the influence of a power greater than that possessed by physicians, such as a new interest in life. The baronet overhears the conversation between the medicos, and resolves to commit suicide rather than lose his reason. With this intention he dons the rough clothing of a working man, and, putting a revolver into his pocket, journeys to the East End of the city, bent upon doing away with himself there in order that his identity may not be discovered.

The second scene finds him in the wretched surroundings of Apple Blossom Court, with the deadly weapon in one hand, while with the other he is throwing away some gold which he found in his pocket, thinking it would do some poor creature good. The sound of the jingling coins arouses a young girl, nicknamed "Glad," who has been sleeping beneath some sacks; and her sudden appearance, quickly followed by a cheerful remark not to use the weapon upon himself, arrests the man's attention. Seeing that she has caught his thoughts, the girl follows up her advantage by unfolding in a bright, confidential way, a gospel strange to him, which she was taught whilst in hospital, viz., that "things are never so black as they look," and "to-morrow's are always worth living for." Sir Oliver is gradually, but surely, impressed by the earnestness of the girl, and it is soon clear that his suicidal ideas are retreating into the background. He commences to show an interest in the inhabitants of the district, being completely influenced by the sunny nature of the little slum girl, who obtains such power over him that he unconsciously learns the valuable lesson of "hope for the morrow." The introduction of a police hunt for Dandy, Glad's sweetheart, who is falsely accused of a crime, and is eventually proved innocent through the girl's exertions, adds an element of keen excitement to the play. In the end everything is straightened out, and the influence of Glad restores Sir Oliver's health.

For all those who have been admirers of Miss Gertrude Elliott's acting in former pieces, a delightful surprise is in store. Even had *The Dawn of a To-morrow* lacked strength, the distinguished actress would, by her own ability, have raised it to a high level. "Glad" is a type of character which enables her to show emotional powers of a high order. Particularly noticeable was her perfect Cockney accent. The whole of the cast were well suited to their work. Mr. Herbert Waring was impressively great as the medically-sentenced Sir Oliver, and the grimness of despair was shown in his every movement, until the advent of Glad, when interest in life gradually expressed itself. Mr. Henry Ainley portrayed with striking truthfulness the terrified and hunted thief; Mr. Jameson Lee-Finney did everything necessary with his profligate Oliver Holt; an amusing coffee-stall holder came from Mr. Frank Bertram; Messrs. J. H. Barnes, James Hearn, and James Gelderd naturally portrayed the physicians; and Miss Ada Dwyer made the quarrelsome Bet a capital piece of character acting. At the close of each scene the artists were greeted with enthusiasm and prolonged applause.

A word of praise is due to the management, who, in the course of a very short time, succeeded in getting the whole of the scenery and properties painted, the original ones, as already stated, having been lost in the wreck of the Minnehaha.

Mr. William A. Brady has joined hands with the Shuberts, and a company has been formed in America with a capital of one million dollars. Its title is the William A. Brady Company. Mr. Brady is the president, Mr. Lee Shubert the vice-president, and Mr. J. J. Shubert the secretary and treasurer. The plans of the company include the building of two more theatres in New York, one to be called the New Netherlands and the other the Edwin Booth, and the providing of big productions for the Manhattan Opera House when opera is not being given there. These productions will be similar to those made at Drury Lane Theatre.

The house on Riverside Drive, New York, that was owned by the late Richard Mansfield, was recently bought by Mr. William A. Brady for his wife, who is known professionally as Miss Grace George. The price paid was $51,000. Mansfield spent a great deal of money on the house when he bought it about ten years ago. The library is a beautiful room, and the house contains many rich cabinets built into the walls for the bric-à-brac which the late actor had a fondness for collecting.

EDWARD COMPTON ASSAULTED

Mr. Edward Compton appeared as prosecutor on the 28th ult. in connection with a charge of assault against Mr. John Hyde, a coal merchant, of Monton-street, Moss Side, Manchester. The defendant did not answer to the summonses

Mr. W. R. W. Murray represented Mr. Compton, and said the prosecutor had been appearing at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester. There were altogether three summonses against the defendant, two taken out by Mr. Compton and one by Mr. John Gray, his chauffeur.

The summonses taken out by Mr. Compton were for assault and for wilful damage to his motor-car, and the summons by the chauffeur was for assault.

On Monday evening, after the performance, continued Mr. Murray, the prosecutor was being driven in his car, and on reaching Cavendish-street crossing the chauffeur slowed up. The defendant was then on the other side, and he deliberately turned round and tried to obstruct the prosecutor's car.

The chauffeur was compelled to pull up dead, but thinking there was going to be no further trouble, he started again. The defendant proceeded towards Gray, seized him by the shoulder, and tried to pull him off the car. That, said Mr. Murray, was a most dangerous thing to do. The car was moving, and anything might have happened.

The chauffeur fortunately kept his head. Keeping his left hand on the wheel, he pushed the defendant off the car with the other hand.

After that Mr. Compton thought there was going to be no further bother, and he waved on the chauffeur. The prosecutor had both his windows up, and the defendant went round to one of them. He struck the plate-glass window a blow with his fist, scattering the glass over Mr. Compton's two daughters, part of the glass striking the prosecutor's face and injuring him, only temporarily.

"Mr. Compton's face, we all agree," went on Mr. Murray, "is his fortune. At least, I agree with it; I don't know whether you gentlemen do." There was great risk of the glass going into his eye, and there was a risk of his face being seriously damaged. They knew perfectly well that Mr. Compton's was a difficult place to fill so far as his plays on the stage were concerned. Fortunately no serious injury was done.

Mr. Compton went round to the man, who was under the influence of drink, and asked him what he meant. The defendant replied: "You are not the only —— gentleman on the road with a motor-car." Later, however, he altered his language and referred to Mr. Compton as "My Lord Duke."

"My Lord Duke," said Mr. Murray, tried to persuade the defendant to have no further bother, and with the assistance of the chauffeur and two other gentlemen he was got into Cavendish-street.

The police could not take any part in the business, so Mr. Compton insisted on the man giving his own name and address. He gave it, and Mr. Compton gave his own name and address, saying he would summon the defendant for the assault and damage to the car.

Since then Mr. Compton had received messages asking him to "square" the matter. "Mr. Compton," added Mr. Murray, "had no vindictiveness. He has taken the matter up as much in the interests of motorists as anything else. Of course, this sort of thing cannot be allowed to go on with impunity. If the defendant had turned up this morning and apologised to the Court and paid the damage and the costs Mr. Compton would have withdrawn without any pressure on the part of the defendant.

Mr. Hyde when he found he could not "square" the case appears to have forgotten all about the affair. His wife tells me that she has wired to him and that the wire was returned, but when I say I will go to the Post Office she says "Oh! there is no need to go there." The man appears to be treating it very lightly, and he ought to know a good deal better.

Service of the summons having been proved, Mr. Compton went into the box to formally bear out Mr. Murray's statement: "Every word of it is true," said Mr. Compton, "except, of course, the remarks about my face." (Laughter.)

The magistrates said they could not proceed with the case in the absence of the defendant, and they would grant a warrant.

Mr. Murray said he would like to give the defendant notification of that proceeding to give him an opportunity of surrendering.

The Clerk: Very possibly he will be arrested to-night, and may be here in the morning.

Mr. Murray added that Mr. Compton was in Leeds next week, and it might be very inconvenient for him to come.

The warrant was issued, and it was left to Mr. Murray to take it up.

Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein were present at the performance of *Die Walküre*, at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday evening

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"SUMURUN,"

Pantomime, in Five Scenes, by F Freksa, Music by Victor Hollander, Produced at the Deutsches Chamber Plays, April 28.

Alter Kaufmann ..... Herr Wegener
Sein Sohn ..... Herr Von Winterstein
Sumurûn ..... Fraulein Wiesenthal
Nur al Din ..... Herr Moissi
Der Buckelige ..... Herr Schildkraut
Tänzerin ..... Fraulein Konstantin
Sklavenhändler ..... Herr Pagay
Dienerin ..... Fraulein E. Wiesenthal
Ein Blinder ..... Herr Kuehne
Ein Dieb ..... Herr Richard

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, May 5.—This is quite a new departure for the Deutsches company. It is pantomime in its literal sense—a play without words, and as such was brilliantly acted and mounted; indeed, the mounting forms the chief attraction of the piece, if we except the charming dancing of the Sisters Wiesenthal. The author has drawn his work from Oriental fairy tales, possibly the ever-popular "Thousand and One Nights." Sumurûn is the young wife of a wealthy old merchant, and, despite the danger of such a proceeding, loves, instead of her rightful lord and master, the handsome young tradesman (carpets are his particular wares) Nur al Din, who returns her passion adequately. The love scenes, though set in Eastern colouring, are up to date in other ways, with "Parisian" details to give the desired piquancy. Nur al Din goes though a good many adventures, and so does the poor cripple who loves a fair maid with a hopeless passion. The latter, for instance, take poison after his inamorata has finally repulsed his advances, and his dead body is unluckily put into a huge hamper ostensibly full of silks, but which in reality conceals Nur al Din, who adopts this means to be smuggled into his sweetheart's palace. After some complications, a good deal of fun, and more than a good deal of love-making, the cripple turns out not to be dead after all. The plot is a secondary consideration all round, the chief stress being laid upon a series of brilliantly effective pictures and graceful dancing. Whoever is a friend of these dumb shows will doubtless find much to his liking, but the piece is far too long, and the audience yawned in places unreservedly. The music, though not in the least original, is very pleasing, and well adapted to the setting. Author and composer, with the principal artists, were called before the curtain frequently in response to hearty and general applause.

The boards of the Hebbel were turned to account one night last week by a new association for the "promotion of art." The Hebbel company—an excellent one—gave the association their services for the production of a very poor play entitled *Konkurrenten* (Competitors), by Fritz Peters, a dramatist hitherto unknown, and whose reputation will certainly not be enhanced by the present work. It is in three acts and a prologue. It opens in a boarding school, where the two rival boys fight for the love-letters of a neighbouring school maiden; in each succeeding act the rivalry increases—in business, in love of a more mature kind, and even after death in the matter of eulogies. Only the excellent acting saved the crude piece from utter failure.

The Imperial Russian Ballet from St. Petersburg is about to pay us a second visit, this time to the Komische Oper instead of the Royal Opera. The first performance will take place on the 15th, and the booking is already brisk.

In consequence of the great success of *The Islander*, at the Apollo, matinées will be given every Wednesday and Saturday until further notice.

At the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Wednesday night, John Mackay, an attendant, was seriously wounded. An Italian opera company is at present appearing at the theatre, and half-a-dozen Italians from the audience started quarrelling in the corridor. Mackay went to keep order, and caught hold of one of the men. The foreigner, it is alleged, drew a revolver and shot Mackay in the groin. The man was seized by a plain clothes constable, and the three Italians were incarcerated, while Mackay was taken to the infirmary.

The Berlin Opera House, instead of being pulled down and replaced by another, and one worthy of this fine capital, is to be patched up once again. There are all sorts of alterations and improvements necessary on the stage and in the wings and dressing-rooms—necessary for the safety of the artists in case of fire—and these will take several months' hard work as well as swallow an enormous sum of State money. Accordingly the house closed on May 1 until October or even November. The company has removed to the New Royal Opera—still better known by its more popular name of Krolls—where performances not demanding too great dimensions will continue to be given until the holidays. Whether now a gala opera will be performed in honour of Mr. Roosevelt appears to be doubtful.

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD

AS "MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

Miss Sophie Lingwood submitted a thoroughly artistic impersonation of the warm-hearted, lovable, and forgiving Mrs. Wiggs. Her delightful comedy and touches of tender pathos, with her charming rendering of the quaint philosophy associated with the part, secured her frequent and well-deserved applause.—Sussex Daily News (Brighton).

Miss Sophie Lingwood in this rôle is delicious and life-like, and does not over-act, as do many of the others. Her way is her own—not that of previous exponents of the part. She was shrewdly clever in the "match-making" episodes.—Daily Mail (Hull).

Miss Sophie Lingwood plays the part of Mrs. Wiggs in a tender and sympathetic manner; the quaint sayings of the original character and her lovableness and tender-heartedness are given with point and feeling deserving of considerable praise.—Chatham Daily Mail.

At the head of the list is Miss Sophie Lingwood, whose acting in the title rôle is admirable. As the sunny Mrs. Wiggs she has a part in which she is able to show her histrionic abilities to the full, and she was the recipient of hearty applause on Monday evening, having to appear again and again to recalls.—Eastbourne Gazette.

The rôle of Mrs. Wiggs was cleverly portrayed by Miss Sophie Lingwood, who handled her part with infinite skill, her performance being always natural.—Folkestone Herald.

Miss Sophie Lingwood brought out the intense human character of the part admirably. She was always the loving mother of lively children, the sympathetic friend of the less fortunate, and finally the forgiving wife of an erring husband, and the more exacting calls of the last phase were met as adequately as the earlier. She is the moving spirit of the play, and it is her cheery optimism, warmth of heart, and breadth of sympathy that leave the most abiding impression.—Huddersfield Examiner.

Mrs. Wiggs is made a very lovable character by Miss Sophie Lingwood, the actress's sunny personality influencing the whole performance.—The Record (Bedford).

Mrs. Wiggs, as portrayed by Miss Sophie Lingwood, is particularly lovable, the actress's cheery personality pervading the entire performance.—The Stage.

Miss Sophie Lingwood is an ideal representative of the unselfish and kind-hearted Mrs. Wiggs.—The Era.

"THE LAW OF THE ZINGALI."

One-Act Tragedy, by Frances M. Gostling, Played, for the First Time, at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Tuesday, May 3.

Tawno Chinkno ..... Mr. Cecil A. Collins
Tanguy Lescure ..... Mr. Marcus D. Draper
Mongette ..... Miss Beatrice Whitney
Pepita ..... Miss May de Launey

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

There was a large audience to witness the initial production of this powerful tragedy at the Theatre Royal on Tuesday evening, and it was generally conceded that the authoress had penned a piece which was dramatically effective. The plot is of a sombre nature, and deals with the love and hatred of gipsies. The scene of the play is laid in a farmhouse kitchen. A gipsy named Tawno Chinkno tells the farmer and his wife of the revenge he intends to take for the desertion of his sweetheart, Pepita, who has left him for someone in the neighbouring castle. Pepita, overcome by the bitter weather, is discovered prostrate on the doorstep. Chinkno demands to know whether or not she has killed her lover at the castle, and the reply is in the negative. Pepita and Chinkno leave the farmhouse together, but immediately that they have crossed the threshold a heavy groan is heard, and Pepita is found dying on the doorstep, she having been murdered by Tawno Chinkno. Thus is the Law of the Zingali enforced.

The characters in the tragedy are very heavy, but all the artists did themselves full justice. Miss De Launey was successful in the portrayal of Pepita's varying moods; and Mr. Collins was forceful in the character of the revengeful Tawno. An excellent interpretation of Mongette was given by Miss Beatrice Whitney; and at the conclusion there were loud calls for "Author!" and when Mrs. Gostling appeared she was accorded a hearty ovation.

Brussels is at present in the enjoyment of an operatic festival, which is being held at the La Monnaie Opera House. It commenced this week with a Gluck cycle, which included *Iphigénie en Aulide*, *Iphigénie en Tauride*, *Alceste*, *Armide*, and *Orphée*. At the end of the month *Salomé* and *Elektra* will be performed, and will be followed by a cycle of the "Ring." Among the artists taking part in the festival are Mesdames Mary Garden, Kirkby Lunn, Saltzmann-Stevens, Claire Friché, and Marie Beral, MM. Van Dyck, Van Rooy, and Zador.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MON AMI TEDDY."

Play, in Three Acts, by André Rivoire and Lucien Besnard, Produced at the Renaissance, on April 29.

Madeleine ..... Mlle. Yvonne de Bray
Mme. Roucher ..... Mme. Chrirel
Francine ..... Mlle. Gravier
Mathilde ..... Mlle. Bordoni
Yvonne ..... Mlle. Stylite
Juliette ..... Mlle. Valois
Teddy ..... M. Tarride
Didier-Morel ..... M. Dubosc
D'Allonne ..... M. Boucher
Bertin ..... M. Vappellani
Verdier ..... M. Berthier
Dominique ..... M. Cogney

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, May 5.—This bright and amusing piece met with an excellent reception. The hero, Teddy, is a rich American. He has made the acquaintance in Paris of D'Allonne, a caricaturist, who has introduced him to his married sister, Mme. Madeleine Didier-Morel. Teddy at once feels attracted towards the lady. He pities her for being married to a man much older than herself, a pompous ass, a Deputy, solely interested in politics, and a great friend of the elderly Mme. Roucher, the wife of an ex-President of the Republic. Teddy takes a practical view of the situation. He loves Madeleine, and wants her to become his wife, and as Didier-Morel and the scheming Mme. Roucher are so fond of one another, all Teddy has to do is to make Didier-Morel divorce Madeleine, pass her over to him, and the two marriages can take place on the same day. Teddy then invites the Didier-Morels and Mme. Roucher to spend a few weeks with him in his villa at Trouville. He gives the Deputy and Mme. Roucher every opportunity of being alone, and cleverly arouses in Madeleine a kind of jealousy towards Mme. Roucher. And when things have reached boiling-point, Teddy brings about a violent explanation between Madeleine and her supposed rival. Madeleine's temper is roused. She says she has long suffered in silence, but since her husband prefers his elderly friend, he may as well marry her. All she, Madeleine, asks is a prompt divorce. Teddy is delighted. His scheme has succeeded, and he has now only to come forward and inform Madeleine that what she has taken for friendship on his part was in reality love. But something happens which he never could have foreseen. Jacques Bertin, a young diplomat, a kind of lady-killing nonentity, suddenly comes back upon the scene. For some time past he has been worrying Madeleine with his attentions, and by an unfortunate chance he happens to be present at the scene when Madeleine tells her husband that she intends to divorce him. When she has finished her violent tirade she turns towards Jacques, and informs him that now she is ready to become his wife. Jacques is not at all pleased. He wanted a mistress, not a wife; but he has not the courage to draw back. As to Teddy, he almost feels inclined to commit suicide when he thinks what he has brought about. Didier-Morel certainly was a fool, but he was an honest man, whilst now Madeleine will become the wife of a little blackguard. Her second marriage will even be much more terrible than the first. And her brother, D'Allonne, realises this very well when he reproaches his friend Teddy with having set this scheme on foot and made a mess of the whole business. The fact is that Teddy is at his wits' end. However, he summons up pluck, and, from a conversation with Jacques gathers that the latter only marries Madeleine, so to say, on compulsion, and that he looks upon this union as detrimental to his interests. Teddy at once decides to act vigorously. In Madeleine's presence he asks Jacques to let him take his place, and almost puts his rival out of the house. Madeleine resents this proceeding very much. She is even on the point of saying some rather unpleasant things to her American admirer, when it dawns upon her that he has been actuated by good motives, and that he is far from being indifferent to her. All difficulties are now overcome, and Madeleine will become Teddy's wife. The first act is a little gem, and although the other tableaux are less successful, *Mon ami Teddy* is a capital play that is certain to enjoy a good run at the Renaissance. As the phlegmatic yet passionate American, M. Tarride proved himself an artist in the highest sense of the word, M. Dubosc supplied a fine sketch of the boring politician, Mlle. de Bray was an ideal Madeleine, and the minor rôles were also very ably held.

"LE MARIAGE DE TELEMAQUE."

Lyric-Comedy, by Jules Lemaître and Maurice Donnay, Music by Claude Terrace, Produced at the Opéra-Comique on May 4.

Hélène ..... Mme. Marguerite Carre
Nausicaa ..... Mlle. May-Lutz
Pénélope ..... Mlle. Beriza
Arêté ..... Mlle. Jurand
Euryméduse ..... Mlle. Cocyte
Adresté ..... Mlle. Canteri
Ulysse ..... M. Fugere
Télémaque ..... M. Francell
Ménélas ..... M. Delvoye
Alkinos ..... M. Azema
Eumée ..... M. Dupre

MM. Jules Lemaitre and Maurice Donnay have compiled a libretto from Fénélon's "Télémaque," which we all remember from our schooldays. They call it a lyric-comedy, but the term "operette" would be far more suitable. It was originally intended for the Renaissance, which explains the effaced rôle the music plays in the work. The personages seem to belong to the domain of operette, and we cannot take them seriously. Ulysses is anxious that his son Telemachus should marry Nausicaa. Hélène and Ménélaus are also in favour of this match. But Télémachus pays little attention to Nausicaa. He falls in love with the beautiful Hélène, and begs her to elope with him. Hélène, who does not hanker after any more love affairs, pretends to accepts the youth's offer, but arranges matters in such a manner that Nausicaa, thickly veiled, is to take her place. With Minerva's help Télémacus is induced to accept the inevitable, and content himself with the little princess. To this farcical libretto—more suited to an Offenbach or a Hervé—M. Claude Terrace has written some pale music, wherein some of the old masters are more or less parodied. Many years ago M. Maurice was one of the artists of the once famous "Chat Noir," where, in fact, he made his début as a poet. And it seems as if he has not quite been able to dissociate himself from these early recollections. The work was very well interpreted, especially by Mme. Carré, a most fascinating Hélène.

M. Dalmores, the French tenor, sang the part of Samson in Saint-Saëns' opera *Samson and Dalila* at the New Royal Opera, Berlin, on Monday, achieving considerable success. The artist is already known there, having made a very favourable impression at that house last summer in the Gura opera season. Frau Goetze sang the part of Dalila in her usual good style.

The Miners' Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland, is for sale by tender. The theatre seats about 2,000 persons, and is lit throughout with electric light. The present tenancy of the theatre, at a rent of £400 a year, expires on May 31, 1919, and the purchaser will obtain vacant possession. Particulars and conditions of sale and form of tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. Watson, Burton, and Corder, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to whom tenders are to be sent on or before May 13.

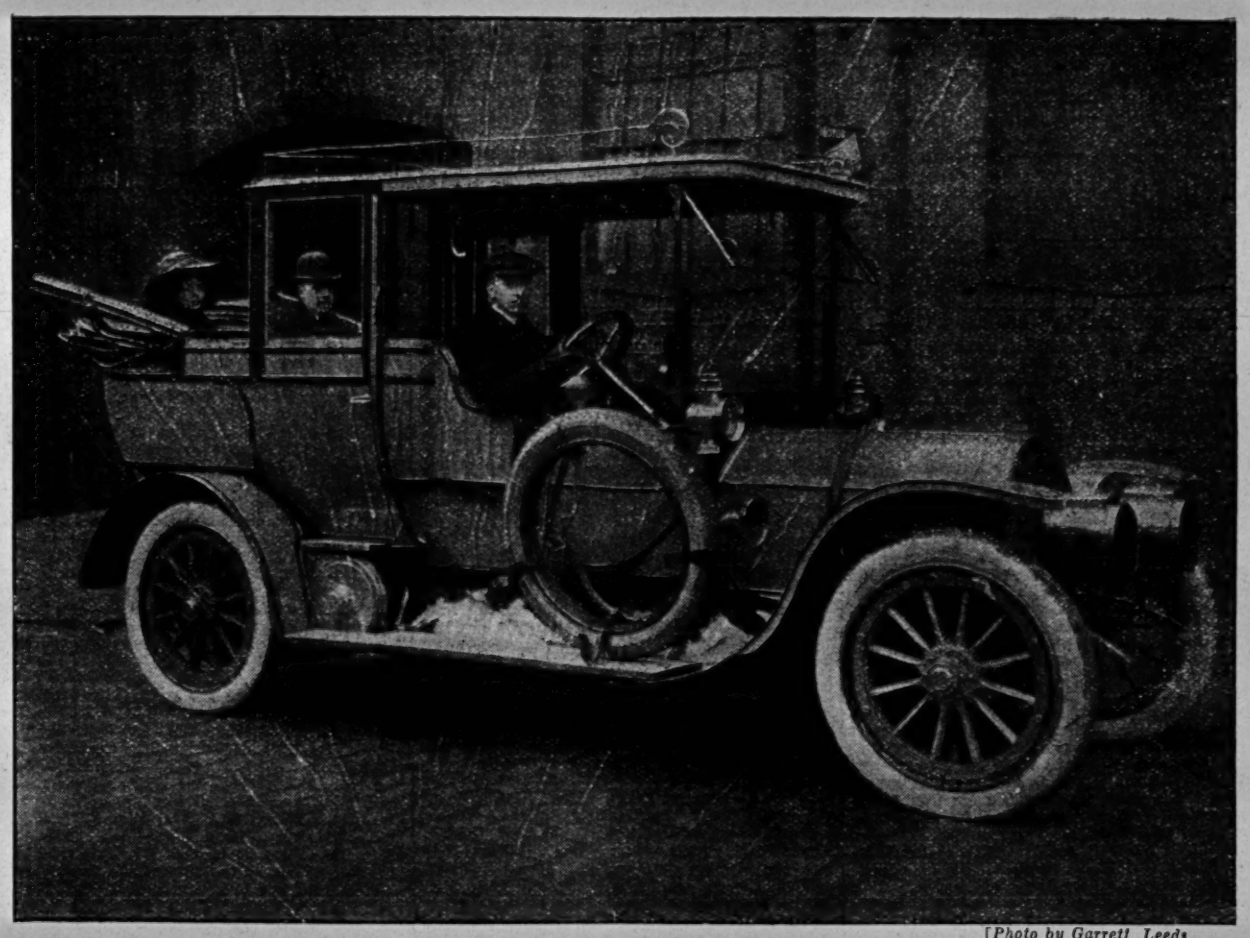

[*Photo by Garrett, Leeds.*

MR EDWARD COMPTON AND HIS SECOND DAUGHTER IN HIS ELECTRIC BLUE 45-H.P. MERCEDES, "ARCADIA."

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 2, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE LITTLE DUKE."

The Little Duke, the original London production, in its entirety, is paying its first visit here, and well deserves the hearty welcome extended to it, for in the hands of Mr. George Dance's accomplished company, including Miss Zena Dare, the play has all the elements that make for success. The principals are talented, the chorus is pretty, tuneful, and well up to its work, and the lavish way in which the play is mounted and staged shows that the matter of expense has been a very secondary consideration. Miss Zena Dare makes a fascinating Duc de Richelieu, acting, singing, and dancing with a gracefulness and charm which endear her to all hearts. Miss May Rawlinson is a captivating Diane de Noaille, and her voice is heard to advantage in her several songs. Mr. Reginald Adair, who has a voice of very fine quality, and whose enunciation is perfect, acts and sings with great charm as the Chevalier de Matignon. Mr. Alec Johnstone, with his clear, ringing voice, is excellent as the Abbe de la Touche, and his duet with Mr. Reginald Adair is one of the hits of the play. Mr. Johnny Danvers undertakes the part of Baron de Bellechase; and he and Miss Nellie Dade as the Baroness de Bellechase make the house rock with laughter. Miss Finlay as the autocratic Duchesse de Noaille acts the part in a most praiseworthy manner; and Miss Doris Dickens is a winsome Cesarine de Noce. Miss Gertrude Robertson is well placed as the Duchesse de Burgoyne; and the graceful dance by Miss Nina Terry in the second act is much appreciated. Mr. Langley Wyatt is Mr. George Dance's business-manager, and Mr. H. H. Shaw the very capable musical-director.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Comedy, entitled
"YOU NEVER CAN TELL."

Messrs. Platt and Towers' company is appearing this week at Notting Hill Gate in Mr. Bernard Shaw's brilliant comedy *You Never Can Tell*. This piece is written in Mr. Shaw's cleverest and most cheery style, and though satirical in the extreme, it is entirely free from the somewhat sordid cynicism which spoils other work by this gifted but erratic author. If only for the classic character of the dear old waiter, "William," the play is worth seeing. The patient resignation and benevolent philosophy of the old man does one's heart good to contemplate. The part is most excellently played by Mr. Claude Haviland, whose manner and speech are in perfect consonance with the part, and he receives his reward for good acting in the way in which the audience hangs on his every sententious saying, and eagerly watches his discreet movements. Mr. J. Edward Pearce is admirable as the irritable old Curmudgeon Fergus Crampton, whose complex character requires deft handling. Miss Winifred Beech gives a well-thought-out rendering of the cryptic character of Gloria Clandon, the product of modern methods of higher education, which are powerless to overcome a substratum of natural sentiment and common sense, and her performance is an eminently pleasing one. Mr. Graham Colmer is alert and convincing in the rather disappointing part of Valentine, the five-shilling dentist and practised lady-killer, who falls a victim to Gloria's charms. Mrs. Clandon is enacted by Miss Edith Hunter with a sense of character and proportion. Miss Ida Southern is a bright and mischievous *enfant terrible* as Dolly Clandon, imbuing the part with a loveable drollery. Mr. Geoffry Wilkinson as her equally emphatic brother, Philip Clandon, who also possesses a wide "experience of human nature," is distinctly droll, and Mr. Bellenden Clarke exactly hits off the truculent manner of the successful K.C., Walter Bohun. Mr. J. Allan Jeayes causes considerable amusement as the sensitive solicitor, Finch Comas. Mr. E. J. Trollope stage-manages the show, and Mr. E. Taylor Platt (general-manager) is represented by Mr. Douglas Jeffries as acting-manager for the company.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Play, by Clyde Fitch, entitled
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

That striking and powerful play *The Woman in the Case* was presented at Kennington Theatre this week by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, under the immediate direction of Mr. Sydney Palfrey, and it scored an immediate success. The acting of Miss Kathleen Russell and Miss Winifred Pearson especially captivates attention, and as the leading ladies in what is a distinctively woman's play, they enact the principal parts of Mrs. Margaret Rolfe and Miss Claire Foster respectively in a style which should take them to the front rank in their profession. In the great scene in the third act, when Claire Forster is lured into confessing the truth by Margaret Rolfe, Miss Pearson and Miss Russell on Monday achieved a great triumph, which had its reward in a triple curtain call. It was magnificent acting all the time, and it would be difficult to distinguish in skill between the clever performance of Miss Russell as the devoted wife, the strain on whose patience and tact in her efforts to unravel the tangle of her husband's innocence had nearly reached the breaking point, and the vivid portrait of the *demi-mondaine*, which was so brilliantly drawn by Miss Pearson. Mr. C. W. Standing was an admirable Julian Rolfe, making a manly and striking figure; while Mr. Paul Wynter was excellent as the warm-hearted Jimmie O'Neil. Mr. James Lindsay gave a wonderful sketch of the part of Thompson, the solictor, endowing it with great force and vim. Mr. Sydney Palfrey was intensely amusing as Kluffsky; and Mr. Christopher Steele deserves more than a passing good word for his careful study of the rôle of Walters, the butler. Mr. Mervyn Rentoul was good as the granitic Police-Inspector; and Miss Gertrude Gwynne was largely responsible for the lighter side of the play for her impersonation of the garrulous Mrs. Hughes. Miss Pamela Hope, Miss Joan Temple, and Miss Janice Deane were pretty and sympathetic as the girl friends of Margaret, playing with great naturalness. The first-named made an attractive and unaffected Elsie Brewster. *The Woman in the Case* was preceded by *Her Ladyship's Guest*.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama, entitled
"HOW GIRLS ARE BROUGHT TO RUIN."

The patrons of Mr. Charles Barnard's famous South London theatre insist on richly spiced fare, and they certainly have no cause for complaint in the menu for the current week. *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*, produced last year at the Shakespeare, Clapham, is described by the authoress, Mrs. Morton Powell, who also plays in the piece, as "a great human story, founded on facts." It is a highly sensational drama, greatly to the liking of Surrey-side playgoers, who go through eternities of anguish and anticipation, and are worked up to the highest pitch of excitement as they witness "How Men Win Women," "How Men Treat Women," and "How Women Treat Women." The incidents going to make up the first, second, and third acts entitled as above, may be all very improbable, but they constitute the fabric of a thrilling drama of the new order, in which it seems to be the fashion for the low comedy people to almost pantomime their parts.

Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne is Jessie Burton, the poor girl who is forced to receive the attentions of the lustful Philip Edge. Great praise should be given for her splendid performance of this difficult rôle. Mr. Harry Scott makes a splendid hero of the Jack tar Harry Hailing, and he has a breezy, manly way with him. Mrs. Morton Powell is also a great favourite as Miss Minnie Waters, a woman who has seen life and has profited by the experience—a fine actress with a good fund of humour. Mr. Edward M. Heanley is the unscrupulous Philip Dare, the man who lives a double life, one as an eminent lawyer, the other as a roué of the most debased type; his treatment of this part leaves little to be desired. Mr. Sydney Bryant is a good comedian, and does well as Jack Jossle; Mr. Alaric Burton makes a good study of the Stiggins-like Solomon Sleek; Miss Kathleen Eckhart fully realises the part of the bad-natured Annie Burton.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama entitled
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

The playgoers of Clapham are never slow to show their appreciation of anything good, hence a crowded and enthusiastic audience were present at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday evening to witness Mr. Fredk. Melville's remarkable drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, which commenced a fortnight's run there. It is an interesting production, and well suited to a popular audience. Miss Violet Crossley as Bess Moore scores a complete success, her impersonation being thorough and convincing; Miss Margaret Tucksie as the callous sister, Honour Moore, acts with intelligence; and Miss Guineveve Shilton is a satisfactory Mrs. Moore. Miss Daisie Cook is a refined and charming Gladys Erskine, her acting in the emotional scenes being very impressive; and Miss Amy Randolph's Sally Smithers is a refreshing and diverting impersonation, causing the audience hearty laughter throughout the evening. Mr. Dudley Winton enacts the rôle of the hero, Lieut. R. Marsh, with great power and dramatic skill; and Mr. Fred W. Freeman is an aristocratic and dignified Lord Erskine. Mr. Geo. R. Montford submits a polished and consistent delineation of the scheming Harry Gordon; and Mr. Luke Forster enlivened the part of the wily money-lender, Barney Gordon, with some grim flashes of humour. Mr. Tom May was very amusing in the rôle of Sammy Snozzle; and Mr. George Belmore furnished a capital portrayal of Jerry Holmes. The minor parts were capably sustained; and Mr. Chris Mason worthily fulfils the duties of general and stage-manager for Mr. Fredk. Melville.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama, entitled
"THE SINNER."

With a drama full of interesting and dramatic situations, well written and constructed as all Mr. C. Watson Mill's plays are, Mr. Wilson Benge's company is meeting with hearty approval from big audiences at the above house. Mr. Benge is to be congratulated on his clever performance as Monk Stretton, J.P., K.C. As his false friend Edgar Thornhill Mr. Chas. Burdon is an effective villain. His accomplice in crime, Paul Levaine, is played in an easy manner by Mr. Alec Finlayson. Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow gives a good character-study as Bill Stanton. In the part of Chris Floppington Mr. Jay Kay's amusing performance raises many a laugh. As Lord Ewen Mr. Henry Danson does well, as also does Mr. Harold Playfair as his son Jack. Miss Muriel Dean acts sympathetically as Honor Thornhill, and wins much favour; Miss Geraldine Verner is a satisfactory Vera Ewen; and Miss Sadie Smith a sweet and vivacious Nora Stretton, deservedly proves popular. Little Ned is cleverly played by Miss Dora Olga. The minor characters are all well filled, and the staging is satisfactory.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama, entitled
"ALONE IN LONDON."

Once again melodrama reigns supreme at Mr. Fred Melville's popular playhouse, and good audiences have given the late Robert Buchanan and Harriett Jay's evergreen play a hearty reception. *Alone in London* is presented by Mr. Charles Gibbon's company, who give a vigorous rendering of their respective characters. To Miss Nellie Clyde must be awarded high praise for her pathetic portraiture of Nan, the flower-girl. Her acting is of high merit, and won the plaudits of the audience. Mr. Gerald Jordan is well cast as Dick Redcliffe and gives a powerful representation; Mr. Russell Norrie is at home in the part of the heroic John Biddlecombe; the thief philosopher, Old Jenkinson, is a humorous creation in the hands of Mr. J. W. Wilkinson; as Paul, the child, Little Hetty Hornsby is sweet and lifelike; Mr. Frank Caffrey is to the front as Charlie Johnson, and provides plenty of laughter; Miss Molly Monaghan also causes merriment as the loquacious and kind-hearted Mrs. Maloney; Liz. Jenkinson is capitally sustained by Miss Carrie Young; Mr. J. Vernon Shaw does well as Mr. Burnaby, the banker. Mr. Charles Gibbon produces the drama; and is to be congratulated; he also plays skilfully as Walter Burnaby. Miss Lena Vernon as Ruth Clifton is sweet and graceful; and Miss Laurie O'Neil is very good as the faithful Tom. *Alone in London* has exceptionally heavy scenery, and the sets of the suice gates, and the other Metropolitan scenes deserve praise. Mr. Newman Maurice as the genial manager for Mr. Fred Melville is indefatigable in studying the comfort of his numerous patrons.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Comic Opera,
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart's company is presenting here the ever-green comic opera *Les Cloches De Corneville*, which remains one of the brightest and most tuneful of entertainments. H. B. Farnie and Robert Reece's adaptation of the French story and the sparkling music of Planquette charm as completely as ever, with the result that encores are the order of the evening. The introduction of modern allusions into an old piece adds zest to the performance. The full band and tuneful chorus is under the conductorship of Mr. Knight Pearce. The scenery, by Mr. J. J. Markwell Davis, is decidedly good, and the stage management is entrusted to Mr. George McCloskie. The opera is produced by Mr. E. St. Alban, who also plays Gaspard. His chief scene, that in the Crusaders' Hall, where he mistakes visitors for ghosts and loses his reason, is decidedly powerful, and the childish weakness which follows in the final act of the opera is cleverly portrayed. Mr. Augustus Cramer as the Marquis de Corneville brings the necessary touch of romance to bear upon the character. His extolling in song of his ancestors, in the Crusaders' Hall, is splendid, the audience demanding a repetition. The air, "Dost thou remember, 'twas in September?" is also finely rendered, and is encored. Mr. Wensley Russell as the fisherman, Grenricheaux, sings and acts with evident care, and his rendering of his opening number, "On billow rocking," has quite the heave of the ocean about it. "That night I ne'er regret" is also nicely sung. Mr. Mark Lester makes a decided hit as the Bailie. Gobo, as played by Mr. Alfred Selby, is a most amusing creature, and his agility is remarkable. Miss Vera Dorian gives a neat representation of Germaine, being encored in the song descriptive of the bells of Corneville. "By your side" is also sweetly sung. Miss Gurney Delaporte is an animated Serpolette, her song, "Just look at that, just look at this," being quite a lesson in vivacity. Miss Lucy Kipling, Miss Florence Hardy, Miss Ethel Clifford, Miss Alice Hornsby, and Miss Mabel Ross complete the efficient cast. The business manager at the Dalston, Mr. W. R. King, has the delectable task of finding accommodation for the crowds that are flocking to witness the favourite comic opera.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama entitled
"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

Throughout this week the theatre has been packed with an enthusiastic audience to give that popular play *The Female Swindler* a hearty welcome. Mr. Douglas Bruce is to be congratulated upon the excellent manner in which the play is produced. As Jack Coulson, criminal investigator, Mr. Henry Lonsdale is unremitting in his efforts to promote the interest of the play; Mr. Fred Hodson as Abraham Mikestein makes a typical Jew; Mr. Arthur Vasey makes a fine hero in the person of Detective Dixon, his acting being very smart; Miss Gertie Henderson wins much applause as Mary Ann Mee; Miss Irene Atchinson makes a capital May Andrews; Mr. W. T. Riley as Geoffrey Warden is certainly "as bad as they make 'em," which says much for his acting; James Oliver, a retired merchant, is portrayed in a capable manner by Mr. Kenyon Gray; Mr. Frank Howard is very humorous as Harold Travers; Lu Valroy is played to perfection by Miss Olive Warne; and Mr. Fred De Vere is provocative of laughter in the part of an ambitious young man.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Musical Comedy, by "Cryptos," &c., entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

The Fulham Theatre has been doing well this week with Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs*. The company is an excellent one, strong at all points, and the scenery and the dresses are quite first-class. The sprightly Miss Gibbs finds an admirable exponent in Miss Effie Vincent, whose personal charm and clever acting, singing, and dancing make her a prime favourite from the first. Other good performances are those of Miss Amy Singleton as the Duchess, Miss Ethaline Thorne as Madame Jeanne, and Miss Florence Hylton as Mrs. Farquhar, while Miss Lilian Birtles sings very nicely as Lady Betty. Mr. Eustace Burnaby is bright and amusing as Hughie Pierrepoint, and his singing and dancing are excellent; Mr. Gordon Begg is dignified enough as the Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. J. S. Durant is light-hearted and light-handed as Slithers. Mr. Arthur S. Radcliffe plays Lord Eynsford in a sincere and manly fashion; and Mr. Frank Sealy does well in the rôle of Toplady. Of course, the chief laughter-maker is Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs, and when he was in full swing the house fairly rocked with laughter. His resource is never-failing, and his business and facial play are screamingly funny. The ladies and gentlemen of the chorus are quite distinguished in their way and look well in their admirable costumes. Altogether the management may be congratulated on a bright and clever presentation of a good specimen of the genus musical comedy. Mr. D. Miller stage-manages for Mr. Dance, and the music is under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bogetti.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 2, the Drama, entitled
"SHALL WE FORGIVE HER?"

For the current week Messrs. Eden and David are presenting the well-written domestic drama, *Shall We Forgive Her?* from the pen of the late Frank Harvey. The drama is adequately mounted, and the members of the judiciously-selected cast deserve the flattering reception which is accorded them. Mr. Ernest Rivarez submits a powerful rendering of Oliver West, an artist's engraver. Mr. Rivarez is an experienced actor, and delivers his lines with good effect. Mr. Richard Webb gives a good portrait of James Stapleton, and puts plenty of force into his acting; Mr. Charles K. Francis as Paul Elsworthy submits an impressive characterisation. The vagabond, Neil Garth, is ably undertaken by Mr. Burton Taldwyn, the depraved nature of the man being judiciously indicated. Mr. Arthur E. Holland submits an amusing delineation of Reggie Walton, and is ably seconded in his endeavours by Miss Grace Emery, who supplies a lively impersonation of Nellie West. Miss Mabel Coleman in the rôle of Grace West essays the part in a pathetic manner which goes to the heart of her hearers, and she meets with a large measure of success. Joanna Lightfoot is excellently portrayed by Miss Doris Kelvey. Miss Pollie Marshall does well as Aunt Martha, and becomes very popular. Dr. McKerrow is capably played by Mr. Percy Warlow; and Mr. George Gordon is suitably placced as Jerry Blake.

A PATRIOTIC MATINEE.

The Court Theatre was devoted on Tuesday afternoon to a performance in aid of the British Girls' Patriotic League. The object of the League, which numbers among its vice-presidents Miss Winifred Emery, is to stimulate interest in Imperial matters, to give girls an opportunity of serving their country as effectively as their brothers and fathers, and to "show a way" to active patriotism. One means of furthering the aim of the society, it is instanced, is for women, "the shoppers of the world," to combine to exclude from their purchases everything but British-made articles, when the effect upon British industry, it is urged, would be electrical.

It was decidedly a home-made article that was selected for the performance on Tuesday, when a house crowded in every part witnessed a highly enjoyable representation of Mr. R. C. Carton's charming play *Sunlight and Shadow*, in which Mr. George Alexander made one of his brilliant hits on its production at the Avenue nearly a score of years ago. Well-known names figured in the cast on the occasion under notice, and an artistic rendering of the play was the result. Mr. Leslie Hamer made a distinguished appearance as the middle-aged lover, Mark Denzil, whose reprobate wife, thought to be dead, turns up unexpectedly to cast a shadow athwart the sunlight of his affection for the sweetheart of his boyhood. Mr. Hamer has a nicely modulated voice, which he uses effectively, and his acting was thoroughly impressive. The sorely-tried Helen was played with feminine tenderness by Miss Mabel Aldridge, who, however, lowered her voice at times so as to render her lines indistinct, but did very well in the affecting interview where the deformed George Addis declares his love. That part was pathetically played by Mr. Jules Shaw, by whom the play was produced. His delivery was delightfully distinct, and the feeling he imparted to his performance made it deeply affecting. A thoroughly successful achievement was the Maud Latimer of Miss May Leslie Stuart, a youthful actress with a melodious and penetrating voice which carried the droll remarks of the impulsive young girl to every part of the house and set it laughing heartily. Miss Stuart has a deliciously fresh and girlish appearance, well set off by some exquisite dresses, and she acted in a manner that gave every indication of a brilliant career. She is clearly among the most promising of recent debutants bearing an honoured name. Mr. C. H. Croker-King was responsible in no less degree for the merriment of the afternoon by a drily droll rendering of the passive and obedient suitor Bamfield, and Mr. Arthur Chesney made Dr. Latimer a typical country gentleman, with the keen sense of humour required. Mr. Arthur E. Holland's gardener, too, was a capital character sketch, and Miss Violet Sterne made the depraved Janet Felton grimly realistic. Mr. Lewis Casson acted as stage-manager. Two patriotic songs, "The Banner of St. George," sung by Miss Christine D'Almayne, and "England, my England," rendered by Mr. Charles Copland, also figured in the programme.

The Prince and Princess of Wales saw *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the New Theatre on Wednesday night.

THE LYCEUM.

On Saturday, April 30, Revival of the Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."

Prince Olaf ..... Mr. Godfrey Tearle
Hildred ..... Mr. Eric Mayne
Michael ..... Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Capt. Hector ..... Mr. Frederick Ross
Lieut. Karl Stromberg .... Mr. Hastings Lynn
Col. Wellenberg ..... Mr. S. Major Jones
Capt. Karsburg ..... Mr. Herbert Lester
Capt. Schwartz ..... Mr. Sidney Vautier
Capt. Sudermann ..... Mr. Henry Pollard
Lieut. Welder ..... Mr. J. R. Gillespie
Lieut. Schultz ..... Mr. Henry Armstrong
The Bishop of Illyria .... Mr. Cowley Wright
Nathan ..... Mr. Arthur Poole
Viola ..... Miss Maxine Hinton
Camiola ..... Miss Ethel Patrick
Princess Monica ..... Miss Annie Saker

The romantic drama has before found popularity at the Lyceum under various managements, and that history repeats itself was proved by the great crowd that came to welcome on Saturday night Mr. Walter Howard's *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, a most effective and well-written piece, which was first produced at the popular playhouse on June 6, 1908, with Mr. Lauderdale Maitland in the rôle of Prince Olaf of Sylvania and Miss Norah Kerin as Princess Monica. Mr. Howard infuses a touch of poetry into many of the scenes, and though deeply sentimental, as every properly constructed romantic piece must of necessity be, we escape the gruesomeness and the morbidity that too often distinguish drama of the twentieth century. The characters, too, are virile, the dialogue is often smart, and there is a poetic charm that is almost Elizabethan about the heroine that not only makes the love interest idyllic, but constitutes a gracious contrast to the stern military element that pervades the piece.

The country of Illyria breathes the spirt of chivalry; and when, therefore, the fair Princess Monica assumes the lowly state of a singing beggar maid and goes to the great hall of Wellenberg Castle to plead with the callous Prince Hildred for a cessation of strife, the glamour of poetry is upon us. By the unlucky chance of a dropped handkerchief her identity is discovered, and she is only saved from insult by the more chivalrous brother of Hildred, Prince Olaf. Like Portia, Monica has singled him out as the man of her choice, and the remainder of the piece is devoted to his saving her from the desperate cruelty of Hildred, who by holding her to a hastily-expressed oath that she will marry the man of his choice, tries to force a union between her and his hunchback brother Michael. Of course, the real lovers are united at last.

Mr. Godfrey Tearle, who is new to the part of Prince Olaf of Sylvania, has the romantic air so necessary for an Illyrian prince, and does yeoman service to the representation by his gallant bearing and his spirited style. He is a true knight errant of the stage. Miss Annie Saker as the beggar maid in the first act gives a delightful touch of comedy to the part, and looks exceedingly picturesque in her rags. Later in the drama, when the distraught woman is so sorely put to it to escape a union so distasteful, Miss Saker holds the house by the power of her protests and the expressiveness of her devotion. Mr. Eric Mayne again takes up the part of Prince Hildred, a consistently drawn character, and introduces us to a polished rascal, with a complete indifference to the happiness of others, but possessing at the same time perfect manners. Mr. Mayne cuts a fine, soldierly figure, and delivers his speeches admirably. Mr. Frederick Ross repeats his great success, too, in the character of Captain Hector, the commander of the Princess's bodyguard. The staunch servitor has no sympathy with young people in love, but is eventually caught in the toils himself. The captain is always interesting, but especially so when suborned by Cupid. Mr. Halliwell Hobbes, another of the original cast, gives fine expression to the despair of the mis-shapen Prince Michael, being genuinely pathetic in the scene of the interrupted wedding, where Michael's better nature finally triumphs over the machinations of statecraft. Mr. Hastings Lynn and Miss Maxine Hinton as the young lovers keep the house laughing at the indiscretions inseparably associated with the union of Mars and Venus. Mr. S. Major Jones is a bluff, soldierly Colonel Wellenberg; Mr. Cowley Wright gives clerical dignity to his assumption of the Bishop of Illyria; Miss Ethel Patrick is always interesting and sometimes pathetic in the part of Camiola; and Mr. Arthur Poole's gesture play makes the part of the dumb servant Nathan stand out to advantage. Messrs. Herbert Lester, Sidney Vautier, Henry Pollard, J. R. Gillespie, and Henry Armstrong play the parts of officers of the Sylvanian Army, and do so with real intelligence and aptitude. The incidental music, composed and arranged by Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke, is very finely played by the excellent band under his direction, and the military uniforms and accoutrements by Morris Angel and Son make a brave show. The Lady Chapel in the Cathedral at Illyria and the Great Hall of Wellenberg Castle are imposing interiors by Mr. E. C. Nicholls.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 2, the Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

The highly attractive and excellently mounted and dressed play, *The Flag Lieuenant*, by Major W. P. Drury and Mr. Leo Trevor, is here this week, and proves itself as much a "drawing" production as ever. The talented and judiciously selected company is under the guiding hands of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper. As Richard Lascelles Mr. Edgar Kent submits a very breezy and rollicking interpretation of the devil-may-care officer, and soon becomes popular. Mr. George Mallett offers a clever and realistic study of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B., and his rendering of this important part is thoroughly convincing. Major William Thesiger has a capital exponent in Mr. Montague Love, who provides a most acceptable performance. Mr. Hugh Wakefield and Mr. Olaf Hytten, as the two larking midshipmen, Horatio Hood and Edward Dormer Lee respectively, are the source of much amusement. John Penrose, the flag captain, is capably played by Mr. Vincent Fletcher. Mr. John Cross makes the most of his opportunities as Christopher Neate. A good study of Walter Crutchley, the surgeon, is given by Mr. George Percy. Mr. James Holdsworth is mirth-provoking as Charles Penny; Mr. Lionel Isted is good as General Gough-Bogbo; and Mr. John Wheatman is excellent as the Irish telegraphist, Michael Palliser. Miss Florence Jackson is seen to considerable advantage as Mrs. Cameron, and her able characterisation is duly recognised and rewarded. Miss Dorothy Ripley is charming as Lady Hermione Wynne, and the remaining characters are all admirably impersonated.

The North Staffordshire Symphony Orchestra and Festival Choral Society, conducted by Mr. John Cope, gave a concert at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, on the 28th ult., when Miss Grainger-Kerr, Mr. Webster Millar, and Mr. Charles Tree were the principal soloists. The success attained was very gratifying, the orchestra excelling itself in Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody.

"Children on the Stage." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday night, April 28, *Siegfried* was performed at Covent Garden by a familiar cast. In the part of the young hero Herr Cornelius has often been heard, and if his impersonation is somewhat lacking in the youthful and impulsive characteristics of Siegfried, he always, both in acting and singing, displays great intelligence. Madame Saltzmann-Stevens played Brünnhilde, and, although her voice this season does not seem quite so powerful as on former occasions, there was much to admire in her fine acting and stately bearing. Of course, the music of Erda was splendidly sung by Madame Kirkby Lunn, while Herr Van Rooy gave a magnificent performance of Wotan, who in *Siegfried* appears as Der Wanderer. Herr Bechstein's Mime is incomparable, and his weird impersonation of this strange being on Thursday night was as fine as ever. There was no little charm in Miss Amy Evans's singing of the Waldvogel music, and the fierce Dragon of Herr Fönss was capital and most awe-inspiring. Some changes in the business are made in this scene, and the great fight is rendered more impressive and realistic. Herr Zador was an excellent Alberich, and the scenic effects and forging of the magic sword were admirably accomplished, while to the fine orchestra, conducted by Dr. Richter, there is nothing but praise to award.

Madame Tetrazzini appeared in *La Traviata* on Friday night, April 29, and again charmed the audience with her beautiful vocalisation. Though not entirely free from the indisposition that prevented her singing in Verdi's early opera on the opening night of the season, Madame Tetrazzini gave such a superbly dramatic and pathetic rendering of the closing scenes in the opera, especially the death of the unhappy Violetta, as to deeply impress her hearers. Of course, Madame Tetrazzini's perfect singing and the wonderful high notes aroused the greatest enthusiasm; but both in *Rigoletto* and *La Traviata* the accomplished vocalist strikes a deeper dramatic note, which makes even the consumptive heroine of Verdi's old opera a convincing personality. The rest of the cast remained the same as on the opening night. Mr. John McCormack as Alfredo has never sung better or with greater freedom and expression; and Signor Sammarco once again gave a fine impersonation of the elder Germont. How was it that Madame Tetrazzini appeared in modern dress and all the other characters in costumes of the period? Signor Campanini conducted, and secured a very finished performance.

On Saturday, April 30, Wagner's Opera,
"GOTTERDAMMERUNG."

Siegfried ..... Herr Stratz
Gunther ..... Herr Schutzendorf
Hagen ..... Herr Fonss
Alberich ..... Herr Zador
Brünnhilde ..... Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens
Gutrune ..... Miss Elizabeth Amsden
Waltraute ..... Mme. Kirkby Lunn
Woglinde ..... Miss Amy Evans
Wellgunde ..... Mme. Knupfer-Egli
Flosshilde ..... Mme. Edna Thornton
First Norn ..... Mme. Edna Thornton
Second Norn ..... Mme. Knupfer-Egli
Third Norn ..... Miss Amy Evans

Owing to the indisposition of Herr Cornelius, Herr Strätz undertook the part of Siegfried in the performance of *Götterdämmerung* on Saturday evening. Herr Strätz may be a capable actor, but his vocal methods are so completely German in character, with the music declaimed and not sung, as to seem entirely out of harmony with all modern ideals. In all performances of the "Ring" the best results are gained by having, as far as possible, the same artists in the principal parts, but owing to our unfortunate climate this does not appear practicable. Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens remains unaffected by the weather, and gave on Saturday evening the finest embodiment of Brünnhilde she has secured this season. Always graceful in action and singing admirably, Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens displayed great ability as an actress in the pathetic closing scenes of the Twilight of the Gods. Brünnhilde, in the last section of the "Ring," has many moods, and of all these this talented artist showed keen artistic perception. A certain lack of power in particularly strong situations is certainly evident at times in Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens's singing, but more experience will remedy this and give greater confidence. Neither Herr Schützendorf as Gunther nor Miss Elizabeth Amsden in the part of Gutrune was entirely satisfactory, but the Hagen of Herr Fönss had many excellent features; while Mme. Kirkby Lunn, who played Waltraute, sang with her usual charm and refinement. Herr Zador proved himself a most useful artist in his rugged and picturesque reading of Alberich; and the efforts of Mme. Knüpfer-Egli as Wellgunde, and Mme. Edna Thornton in the parts of Flosshilde and First Norn, were successful. The scenic effects were beautiful at times, and all the supreme power and richness of Wagner's wonderful score were brought out by Dr. Richter, who received quite an ovation when the curtain fell.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, May 2, the Play, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine and Louis N. Parker, entitled
"PETE."

The new version of the famous Manx novel has been very warmly received here, and each artist accorded a hearty welcome. Mr. Frederick Victor's Pete is a fine, manly performance, holding the audience firmly from start to finish. Miss Constance Bachner is a gentle and womanly Kate Cregeen, with all the necessary power in the great situations. Mr. Alfred Lugg is very good indeed as the gentlemanly scoundrel, Philip Christian; Mr. Maurice Yorke is good as Ross Christian; Mr. Ellis J. Preston presents a fine character sketch of Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. J. Lingard is good as Black Tom; Messrs. Will L. Clement (Jonaique Jelly), R. A. Robinson (Postman Kelly), Wenlock Brown (William), Frank Allen (Constance Niplightly), R. Sinclair (Dr. Mylechreest), Wilfred Edmunds (Lord-Lieutenant), Charles Arthur (Mayor), William Davies (Adam Quirk), Alfred Davidson (Johnny Dumbell), and Herbert Ponton (Clerk of the Court) were all successful in their efforts to make every part well acted. Miss Alys Eden is a bright and lovable Nancy; Miss May Wright is good as Grannie; Miss Amy Venimore is a capital Mary; Miss May Yardly as Meg is well placed; and Miss Lucy Raymond makes an excellent Anne. Scenery, dresses, and appointments leave nothing to be desired.

Visitors to the Crystal Palace during the past few weeks must have been agreeably surprised at the vast improvements made therein, and provided the weather is kind there is every reason to believe that this summer will be a record in the annals of the Palace, which, despite many difficulties, is still the great centre of amusement, and is, we hope, "good" for many a long year to come. Palace patrons should note that full information regarding the Festival of Empire, its Pageant, its concerts, &c., can be obtained from the daily programme, which is quite an interesting little guide. In connection with the Festival a short series of University lectures have been arranged, and on May 12, at 5.30, a lecture on "Early and Mediæval London" will be given, followed on May 19 by "Elizabethan and Later London," on May 26 by "Ancient India," on June 2 by "The New India," The Colonies, "England Across the Seas," on June 9 by "Its Beginnings," and on June 15 by "Its Expansion."

The King witnessed the performance of *Alias Jimmy Valentine* at the Comedy Theatre on the evening of the 29th ult.

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

Sir Herbert Tree's fine theatre was full to capacity on the afternoon of April 29 to witness a "special bill" which gave us the last act of *Macbeth*, the dressing-room scene from *The Clandestine Marriage*, the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, the screen scene from *The School for Scandal*, and a simple little recitation "Jim's Mother," by Mrs. Kendal. Conspicuous in the fashionable audience were a large number of Japanese ladies and gentlemen, who followed every item supplied with the keenest interest.

There were those present who were inclined to cavil at the introduction of the works of anyone else but the Bard at a Shakespearean Festival, but those were certainly not our Eastern visitors, who keenly followed the death struggle between Macbeth and Macduff, laughed unrestrainedly at the second childhood of Lord Ogleby, were as sympathetic as they well could be with Romeo and Juliet's love story, and marvelled at the treachery of Joseph Surface. They were always equally enthusiastic, whether Colman, Garrick, Sheridan, or Shakespeare was being played.

The programme was decidedly of great interest. The last act of *Macbeth* gave Miss Violet Vanbrugh, who appeared by permission of Mr. Herbert Sleath, a splendid chance in the sleep-walking scene. Miss Vanbrugh was very impressive, and her gestures convincing. One could have wished possibly that at times her intonation had not been so long drawn out and sonorous; but, apart from this, her interpretation of the part of the unfortunate Lady Macbeth was in every sense admirable. The fight between Macbeth (Mr. Arthur Bourchier) and Macduff (Mr. Cyril Keightley) was extremely vigorous and well rehearsed. Special mention must be made of Miss Marie Illington's acting as the gentlewoman attending on Lady Macbeth.

Next in order we saw Mr. Cyril Maude as Lord Ogleby in the dressing-room scene from *The Clandestine Marriage*. This is certainly one of the cleverest of this clever actor's studies in senility. He was recalled before the curtain no less than five times. It is but fair to record that this result was very largely due to the very excellent way in which Mr. Maude's lead was supported by his exceptionally clever company, which included Messrs. Fred Lewis, Sydney Paxton, John Harwood, and Miss Maidie Hope.

Miss Constance Collier and Mr. Henry Ainley appeared in the Balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*. Miss Collier made Juliet dreamy, languorous, and passionate. Mr. Ainley was very lover-like, and as nobody can speak Romeo's impassioned lines better than he, this particular performance can be put down perhaps as a most brilliant effort in an afternoon of brilliant efforts.

The Screen scene from *The School for Scandal* was a very spirited performance, in which Sir Herbert Tree, who played Sir Peter Teazle, was supported—and most efficiently supported—by the picked company who appeared in the comedy with him at His Majesty's not so very long ago. Sir Herbert's presentation of Sir Peter as a middle-aged man is as good as ever; Mr. Robert Loraine is a light-hearted, reckless Charles Surface; and Mr. Basil Gill a quite plausible Joseph; and Miss Marie Löhr's Lady Teazle is a charming conception cleverly carried out.

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, in a short speech at the end of the afternoon, excused the omission of the scene from *Othello* on account of the influenza from which he had been suffering throughout the festival. Those who had seen his many performances during the "run" could hardly believe that he had been battling against illness, and yet such was the case.

At the fall of the curtain on *The Merchant of Venice* on Saturday evening, the last night of the Shakespeare Festival, there was a scene of unbounded enthusiasm, the audience cheering loudly and showing no disposition to depart. Eventually Sir Herbert Tree, in response to demands for a speech, said:—"This is our last night of our five weeks' Festival. It is my pleasant duty to tell you that it has been throughout most prosperous, and I think I may say that not a single hitch has occurred from beginning to end. That is an achievement to be proud of, and it is an achievement which is due to the loyal and whole-hearted co-operation of my fellow-workers. Firstly, I have to acknowledge the splendid help volunteered by my brother managers. It had always been my hope that this Festival should partake of something of a national character, which it could not do if restricted to my own individual efforts. To them one and all I offer my thanks and warm congratulations.

"We have been fortunate enough to see on this stage during the past five weeks nearly all those who are identified in the public mind with the presentation of Shakespeare's works. The splendid audiences we have had throughout have been an ample justification for the somewhat strenuous labours of the past five weeks. I cannot allow this occasion to pass without publicly expressing my thanks to the members of my staff who have so loyally supported us, and I would specially like to mention my stage-manager, Mr. Cecil King, and his coadjutor, Mr. Stanley Bell, also the head of the stage staff, Mr. Darer. They and the others on the stage have worked not only during the day, but through the night on many occasions.

"To the Press, who have so generously supported and encouraged our work, I tender my thanks. To those to whom it is not given to appreciate us I tender my sympathies.

"It is often said that our productions of Shakespeare are merely commercial appeals to a sensation-loving public. I modestly claim that we sincerely endeavour to present Shakespeare in such a way as we believe he would have approved. It is very gratifying to me that Shakespeare as we present him here is always sure of a hearty welcome at the hands of the public. But even if they were satisfied with what is called an adequate presentation, I, as the artist, should not be. I am the servant of the public, but I am the master of myself. It is sometimes said by pedants that Shakespeare himself desired only this adequate treatment of his plays; but these epicures of mediocrity forget one important factor—that it was Shakespeare's love of the spectacular that caused the Globe Theatre to be burned down by the firing of the guns in *Henry VIII.* This brings me to my future plans. It is this very play, *Henry VIII.*, that we shall give you in the autumn. It will be produced in a reprehensibly Shakespearean manner. I am happy to be able to make the further announcement that I hope to have the artistic co-operation in this production of my brother manager and friend, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, in the character of Henry VIII., and that of his gifted wife, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, in the part of Queen Catherine. The part of Cardinal Wolsey will be played by myself.

"As you are aware, next week, with my company, I enter upon a tour in the provinces, and during my absence the theatre will be occupied by my friend, Mr. Beecham, to whose season of light opera here I wish the greatest success. His distinguished enterprise at Covent Garden is evidence of the spirit in which he will conduct his season here.

"Among other plays which I hope may be given after *Henry VIII.* in this theatre in the near future is a play by Mr. Zangwill which deals in an ethical spirit with world politics. Also a play by my friend Mr. Louis N. Parker—a pageant play; also a play by a young writer who has already made his mark as an English poet, Mr. Alfred Noyes; and a play which I have just secured, *Typhoon*, by an Hungarian author, of which the characters are mainly Japanese resident in Europe.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I cannot withdraw without thanking you for having been still my friends. I consider myself fortunate indeed in having been permitted for so long to work for the art which I love in the city in which I was born."

AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

On Thursday, April 28, in continuation of the Stratford-on-Avon Festival, Mr. Benson presented the Historical Drama,

"RICHARD II."

King Richard II. .....Mr. F. R. Benson
John of Gaunt .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Edmund of Langley ....Mr. Edward Harrison
Henry of Bolingbroke..Mr. Murray Carrington
Duke of Aumerle .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Thomas Mowbray .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Bushey .....Mr. John Howell
Bagot .....Mr. F. M. Conroy
Earl of Northumberland..Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Henry Percy .....Mr. Alfred Wild
Lord Willoughby .....Mr. Trevor Roller
Bishop of Carlisle ....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Sir Pierce of Exton ....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Groom .....Mr. M. A. Lacker
Gaoler .....Mr. F. M. Conroy
First Murderer .....Mr. Walter Plinge
Bolingbroke's Herald .....Mr. John Lauder
Mowbray's Herald .....Mr. M. W. Elder
First Gardener .....Mr. Harry Caine
Second Gardener .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Mowbray's Page .....Miss Leah Hanman
Bolingbroke's Page .....Miss A. P. Nicholson
Queen to King Richard ..Miss Nora Lancaster
Duchess of Gloucester ..Miss Marion Foreman
First Lady .....Miss Winifred Durie
Second Lady .....Miss Elinor Elder
Singer .....Miss Marion Foreman

The play was staged and costumed with Mr. Benson's usual care and accuracy, and he himself was at his happiest in giving expression to the dreamy, vacillating, incompetent, but lovable character of the ill-starred monarch. Mr. Alfred Brydone was an incisive and impressive John of Gaunt, and Miss Nora Lancaster a gracious and tender Queen. Mr. Murray Carrington, though hardly physically endowed for the part of Bolingbroke, played his part with consistency and artistic finish; and Mr. Moffat Johnstone was effective as the Bishop of Carlisle. Mr. Alfred Wild gave us an interesting Hotspur; Miss Marion Foreman as the Duchess of Gloucester, Mr. Eric Maxon as Mowbray, Mr. J. P. Wilson as Aumerle, and Mr. Edward Harrison as the Duke of York, were all conspicuous for fine acting; and the remainder of the parts were all efficiently and harmoniously filled.

On Friday evening, April 29, Mr. Benson submitted the second part of

"HENRY IV."

King Henry IV. .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Henry, Prince of Wales .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Thomas, Duke of Clarence..Miss A. P. Nicholson
John, Prince of Lancaster ..Mr. Alfred Wild
Humphrey, Prince of Gloucester..Mr. F. Denny
Earl of Warwick .....Mr. Nigel Barrie
Earl of Westmoreland .....Mr. J. Charlton
Gower .....Mr. Harold Meltzer
Sir William Gascoigne..Mr. Murray Carrington
Servant .....Mr. Walter Plinge
Sir John Falstaff .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
His Page .....Miss Leah Hanman
Bardolph .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Pistol .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Poins .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Shallow .....Mr. Harry Caine
Silence .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Davy .....Mr. John Howell
Mouldy .....Mr. Frank Conroy
Shadow .....Mr. J. Fraser Outram
Wart .....Mr. E. Coplestone
Feeble .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Bullcalf .....Mr. Edward Harrison
Fang .....Mr. J. Dennys
Snare .....Mr. Trevor Roller
Hostess .....Miss Elinor Aicken
Doll Tear-sheet .....Mrs. F. R. Benson

Mr. Alfred Brydone presented a wonderful picture of the distraught and sleepless king, come to his crown by devious ways, anxious that his son should wear it by surer title and with better ease. Mr. Eric Maxon excelled himself as the gay and handsome Prince, throwing behind him his dissolute past as he inherited the royal responsibility; and was truly kingly on his reconciliation with Gascoigne. Mr. Murray Carrington was a grave and dignified Lord Chief Justice. Mr. H. O. Nicholson's Falstaff improves upon acquaintance, and rose to real pathos as he finds his hopes of wealth and honour under the new king dashed to the ground; and Mrs. Benson played Doll Tear-sheet with verve and abandon. But the great successes of the evening fell to some of the younger members of the company. Mr. Harry Caine acquitted himself excellently of the most important part—that of Shallow—yet entrusted to him; Mr. W. W. Caithness, weak in the flesh but willing in the spirit, gave as a fine character sketch of Feeble; Mr. John Howell deserved his praise as "Marry, a good varlet"; and Miss Leah Hanman put a lot of animation into "that upright rabbit," the page. The remainder of the parts were admirably sustained.

On Saturday afternoon, April 30, Mr. Benson presented

"HENRY V."

King Henry V. .....Mr. F. R. Benson
Duke of Bedford .....Mr. Harold Meltzer
Duke of Gloucester .....Mr. Nigel Barrie
Duke of Exeter .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Earl of Westmorland .....Mr. H. Elder
Archbishop of Canterbury
Mr. Murray Carrington
Bishop of Ely .....Mr. Frazer Outram
Earl of Cambridge ....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Lord Scroop .....Mr. John Howell
Sir Thomas Grey .....Mr. Walter Plinge
Sir Thomas Erpingham ....Mr. Frank Conroy
Gower .....Mr. John Howell
Fluellen .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
McMorris .....Mr. Harry Caine
John Bates .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Michael Williams .....Mr. Harry Caine
Pistol .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Nym .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Bardolph .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Boy .....Miss Leah Hanman
English Herald .....Miss A. P. Nicholson
Charles VI. .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Lewis..... Mr. Murray Carrington
Duke of Orleans .....Mr. Alfred Wild
The Constable of France..Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
French Prisoner .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
French Page .....Miss Day
A Camp Follower .....Miss Marion Foreman
A Camp Follower .....Miss Hanman
Isabel, Queen of France ..Miss Winifred Durie
Katherine .....Miss Nora Lancaster
Alice .....Miss Eleanor Elder
Hostess .....Miss Elinor Aickin

Of Shakespeare's historical plays there is none in which high and stirring sentiment can in unworthy hands descend so easily to bathos. Mr. Benson and his company steered a safe course between the Scylla of overstrained melodrama and the Charybdis of a great opportunity missed. The blare of war rang through these moving pages of English and French history, and never a false note was struck. Mr. Benson's Henry V. is almost beyond praise; it is the finest jewel in his histrionic casket. Whether in his anxiety to avoid needless "waste of brief mortality," or in his stirring appeal "Once more unto the breach," or in his dignified answer to the Dauphin's insulting present of tennis balls, or in his halting suit to Katherine, he never overstrained his part, he never did discredit to the dignity of the text. The play was throughout magnificently staged, and thanks to judicious and discriminate cuts the final curtain fell within three hours of the start. Mr. Alfred Brydone as the dotard King of France, playing cards with the Court Fool whilst his kingdom was tottering about his ears, afforded a pathetic figure, occasionally waking for a brief moment from his lethargy to shout defiance; and then relapsing into the follies of his second infancy. Mr. Murray Carrington in the first scene effectively doubled the parts of a grave but militant Archbishop and the gay and dissolute Dauphin, toying with his mistresses and prating of his horse on the eve of battle. Mr. Guy Rathbone realised his opportunities as the Constable of France struggling against adversity, the one manly figure in a dissolute court and camp, who recognised—till too late—the prowess of his adversaries. Mr. John Howell was a stalwart and simple Gower, and Mr. Moffat Johnston a valiant and punctilious Fluellen. Miss Elinor Aickin fulfilled the purpose of her part in announcing, with genuine pathos, the passing of Falstaff, "babbling o' green fields." The lighter elements in the play serve as an admirable foil to its sterner purposes. The trio of swashbucklers, Bardolph, Nym, and Pistol, were picturesquely represented by Messrs. J. P. Wilson, H. O. Nicholson, and Eric Maxon; and Miss Leah Hanman as their camp boy was blithe and impish as her rôle demanded. Miss Nora Lancaster was prettily ingenuous as Katherine, and all the other "persons of the drama" gave adequate support. As is Mr. Benson's wont, the battle scene is given as a motionless tableau instead of as an unconvincing melée; and the scene in the French camp on the eve of Agincourt affords an artistic setting to a dance full of grace and vivacity by Miss Hanman.

On Saturday evening, April 30, Mr. Benson and his company, with the aid of Mr. Otho Stuart and Miss Genevieve Ward, presented

"RICHARD III."

King Edward VI. .....Mr. Edward Harrison
King Edward IV. .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Edward, Prince of Wales..Miss A. P. Nicholson
Richard, Duke of York ....Miss Leah Hanman
George, Duke of Clarence ....Mr. Otho Stuart
Richard, Duke of Gloucester..Mr. F. R. Benson
Henry, Earl of Richmond ....Mr. Eric Maxon
Duke of Buckingham..Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Duke of Norfolk .....Mr. Charlton
Earl of Surrey .....Mr. Frazer Outram
Earl Rivers .....Mr. F. Conroy
Earl of Oxford .....Mr. N. Barrie
Lord Hastings .....Mr. Harry Caine
Lord Stanley .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Sir Richard Ratcliff .....Mr. Frank Conroy
Sir James Tyrrell .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Sir William Catesby .....Mr. Alfred Wild
Sir James Blount .....Mr. H. Meltzer
Sir Robert Brackenbury .....Mr. J. Howell
Lord Mayor of London .....Mr. Nigel Barry
First Murderer .....Mr. A. Wild
Second Murderer .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Elizabeth .....Miss Violet Farebrother
Duchess of York .....Miss Elinor Aickin
Lady Anne .....Mrs. F. R. Benson
Queen Margaret .....Miss Genevieve Ward

Better to explain the play, the first act was preceded by Scene 6, Act 5, of *Henry VI.*, Part 3.

The grim figure of Richard Crookback, "the slave of nature and the son of hell," "the troubler of a poor world's peace," was portrayed with masterly finish and subtlety by Mr. Benson. Moody, restless, ambitious, "hating idle pleasures," this conscious and consummate villain, deliberate, unrepentant, masterful, Machiavellian—on his own confession "subtle, false, and treacherous"—strides with ungainly gait through scene after scene towards the goal of his desires, the crown, stalking "Pell-mell, If not to heaven then to hell," striking down with remorseless hand every barrier in his route. Of all Shakespeare's villains there is none more skilfully delineated by Mr. Benson, as uncle, brother, nephews, courtiers, one by one, fall at his gruesome will "into the blind cave of eternal night." Truly he says, "There is no creature loves me, and if I die no soul shall grieve me."

Mr. Guy Rathbone is a pathetic Edward IV. anxious to see the world at peace before he dies—a weak soul full of sorrow. Mr. J. Moffat Johnston as the Duke of Buckingham is an obedient accomplice to Mr. Benson's Richard, till even he will go no further in the career of crime. Miss Genevieve Ward received an enthusiastic welcome to Stratford in her part of Queen Margaret, a haggard, soured sibyl, hissing forth, Cassandra-like, denunciation and warnings of impending fate, and she and her tragic sisters in despair, Miss Violet Farebrother and Miss Elinor Aickin, are truly "poor breathing orators of miseries."

The whole play is so dominated by Richard that the minor characters have few opportunities. Mr. Eric Maxon makes a gallant appearance towards the end of the tragedy as Nemesis in the shape of Henry Earl of Richmond, to realise Queen Margaret's prophecy anent Richard that "Bloody thou art and bloody will be thine end." Mr. Otho Stuart gives us an interesting picture of the Duke of Clarence, Miss Hanman and Miss Nicholson are pretty boys as the Princes going to their fate, and all the other parts are in good hands, loyally subordinate, as Shakespeare doubtless intended, to the great arch villain.

On Monday afternoon, May 2, Mr. Benson Revived

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

Don Pedro .....Mr. Murray Carrington
Don John .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Claudio .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Benedick .....Mr. Robert Loraine
Leonato.....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Antonio .....Mr. Alfred Wild
Borachio .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Conrad .....Mr. J. Howell
Friar Francis .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
A Sexton .....Mr. Nigel Barrie
Dogberry .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Verges .....Mr. Harry Caine
Seacole .....Mr. W. Fraser Outram
Hero .....Miss Nora Lancaster
Beatrice .....Miss Violet Vanbrugh
Ursula .....Miss Marion Foreman
Margaret .....Miss Winifred Durie
Boy.....Miss Molly Terraine

Advantage was taken of Miss Vanbrugh's engagement at Birmingham, in *The Woman in the Case*, to secure her co-operation in the Stratford Festival, and Mr. Robert Loraine came specially from London to take his old part of Benedick. *Much Ado* is a product of Shakespeare's second, and riper, period of activity, and it is impossible to treat it either as tragedy or as pure comedy. In it, as Hazlitt says, "the ludicrous blends with the tender," and it is with that conception that Mr. Benson's company approach the play. It hardly needs to be said that Miss Vanbrugh was a very charming Beatrice, quick of wit, lively of intelligence, gay in exterior, wilful in action; but always tender at heart. Mr. Loraine gave an acceptable and popular rendering of Benedick, and with Miss Vanbrugh was many times recalled before the curtain. Mr. Eric Maxon's part of Claudio suited his capacity for the gallant and romantic, and Mr. Murray Carrington was equally at home as the Prince of Aragon. Miss Nora Lancaster achieved conspicuous success as Hero; of all the many parts she is playing in this Festival, this performance will probably stand out as her chief triumph. Mr. Nicholson's Dogberry and Mr. Harry Caine's Verges were thoroughly in harmony with the Shakespearean tradition; and the other parts were all well filled.

On Monday evening, May 2, Mr. Benson Revived

"CORIOLANUS."

Caius Marcius .....Mr. F. R. Benson
Titus Lartius .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Cominius .....Mr. Edward Harrison
Menenius Agrippa .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Sicinius Velutus .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Junius Brutus .....Mr. Murray Carrington
Tullus Aufidius .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Two Volscian Guards .....Mr. Alfred Wild, Mr. John Howell
Conspirators .....Mr. H. Gaston, Mr. W. W. Caithness
Young Marcius .....Master J. Plinge
First Citizen .....Mr. Harry Caine
Second Citizen .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Third Citizen.....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Fourth Citizen .....Mr. Alfred Wild
Fifth Citizen .....Mr. Harold Meltzer
Sixth Citizen .....Mr. Frazer Outram
Seventh Citizen .....Mr. J. H. Charlton
First Lord .....Mr. Frank Conroy
Second Lord .....Mr. Nigel Barrie
First Servant.....Mr. Alfred Wild
Second Servant .....Mr. J. Plumpton Wilson
Volumnia .....Miss Genevieve Ward
Virgilia.....Miss Nora Lancaster
Valeria .....Mr. Violet Farebrother
Gentlewoman .....Miss Marion Foreman
Dancer .....Miss Margaret Chute

Of all Shakespeare's plays this is probably the most difficult with which to grip the sympathies of a popular audience. There is hardly a lovable character in it. It is a play without a hero, without a heroine, without a thoroughly vicious villain, and even without a conscious clown. Its interest depends on its successful treatment as a moving picture of Roman life and manners about 500 years B.C., and there is little evidence in the play that Shakespeare had specially informed himself in that branch of study. So that Mr. Benson is thrown back on the opportunities *Coriolanus* affords for a display of real genius in the realistic presentation of a stage mob, and in that direction Mr. Benson had established a reputation almost before we heard of Mr. Granville Barker. Alike in Act I., Scene 1, in Act II., Scenes 1 and 4, in Act III., Scene 1, and in Act IV., Scene 3, the populace is real, vivid, vibrant, pulsating, entirely convincing.

Mr. Benson as Coriolanus gives us a puzzling study, despising "the many-headed multitude," contemptuous of their unwashed faces and neglected teeth, scornful of the tribunes, "the tongues of the common worth," and disdaining all the arts by which statesmen enlist the sympathy of the people. "He would not flatter Neptune for his trident." He would have sympathised with the late Lord Salisbury's dictum that what the people really wanted was a circus instead of a parish council, and yet, like Lord Salisbury, he was a patriot, and many were ready to speak well of him had be been a little more human. Had Rome been perpetually at war, his indomitable bravery and his skill in generalship would have hid out of sight his instinctive aloofness from "the common herd." But he was out of place in a democratic state. All this Mr. Benson suggests to us. Where he finds it difficult to make Shakespeare convincing is in the departure of Coriolanus, on his defeat at the polls, to the camp of his city's enemies. However, in a rôle with which Kemble and Kean have wrestled, Mr. Benson at least succeeded in investing his part with constant interest. Mr. Moffat Johnston put the flavour of Tower-hill (and the Marble Arch on Sundays) into the character of Sicinius Velutus, and Mr. Murray Carrington was a properly sour and jealous Junius Brutus. Mr. H. O. Nicholson presented the only male part of any kindliness or sympathy; his Menenius was dignified, at times pathetic, shrewd in his criticisms of the foibles of the age. A prime feature of the play is Miss Genevieve Ward's Volumnia, in vain counselling her son to dissemble his aversion for the outward forms of democratic government, but successful in her fine pleading on behalf of Rome in the last act. All the other members of the company worked hard and well to realise the spirit and atmosphere of the narrative, and the play, despite its unsympathetic nature, evoked real enthusiasm from the audience.

On Tuesday afternoon, May 3, there was a great reunion of Old Bensonians on the stage of the Memorial Theatre, and the theatre itself was packed to the ceiling. A selection was the first scene of the fourth act of

"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Shylock .....Mr. F. R. Benson
The Duke of Venice ..Mr. George Fitzgerald
Antonio .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Bassanio .....Mr. Otho Stuart
Gratiano .....Mr. Cyril Keightley
(By permission of Mr. Arthur Collins)
Salerio .....Mr. F. Percy Soper
Salanio .....Mr. Stanley Howlett
(By permission of Mr. H. B. Irving)
First Clerk of Court ....Mr. J. Bernard Fagan
Second Clerk of Court .....Miss Ella Tarrant
Tubal .....Mr. J. P. Wilson
Nerissa .....Miss Elizabeth Kirby
Portia .....Mrs. F. R. Benson

This was followed by the first and second acts, played as a continuous scene, of

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."

First Singing Fairy .....Mme. Agnes Nicholls
Second Singing Fairy ....Miss Cissie Saumarez
First Speaking Fairy ....Miss Elizabeth Nash
Puck .....Miss Leah Hanman
Oberon .....Mr. Henry Ainley
Titania .....Miss Jessie Bateman
Lysander .....Mr. H. R. Hignett
Hermia .....Miss Frances Dillon
Demetrius .....Mr. Charles Quartermaine
Helena .....Miss Lilian Braithwaite
Bottom .....Mr. E. A. Warburton
Quince .....Mr. William Haviland
Snug .....Mr. Leonard Buttress
Snout .....Mr. Gordon Tomkins
Flute .....Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Starveling .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson

Then came the first and second acts of

"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

Petruchio .....Mr. F. R. Benson
Baptista .....Mr. Alfred Brydone
Lucentio .....Mr. Cyril Keightley
Hortensio .....Mr. Roper Sykes
Tranio .....Mr. Stanley Howlett
Gremio .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Grumio .....Mr. Nigel Playfair
Biondello .....Mr. E. Lyall Swete
Major-domo .....Mr. H. Jalland
Bianca .....Miss Olive Noble
Katherina .....Mrs. F. R. Benson

Where all are "stars" it would be invidious to single out individuals for special praise. On these occasions *noblesse oblige*, and when artists of the calibre of Mr. William Haviland and Mme. Agnes Nicholls are loyally content to figure as "Guests, Servants, &c.," the vocabulary of laudation would soon be exhausted. Suffice to say that one and all were gathered together as old comrades of Mr. F. R. Benson, and that their efforts were received with great enthusiasm, those old Bensonians who had, like Mr. Warburton, Mr. Cyril Keightley, and Miss Olive Noble, been members of the company as recently as last year, coming in for a specially hearty recognition.

At the final fall of the curtain the company were joined on the stage by Miss Ellen Terry and Miss Marion Terry. In response to repeated calls, Mr. Benson made a short speech. He said he felt indeed a proud and happy man on that occasion. He was especially grateful to Mr. Otho Stuart, by whose generosity the whole party was being conveyed to and from London; to Mr. Lyall Swete, for his action in organising the party, and to all his old colleagues for their true-hearted comradeship in coming so far to rally round him once again. The lesson of the reunion was one of love and good fellowship, and he was grateful to his very kind old friends at Stratford for affording the opportunity.

Mr. Otho Stuart, in expressing the delight of all the company on being reunited with their old chief once again, announced that he had received many letters and telegrams of apology for enforced absence. One of the scoundrels—(laughter)—had wired: "Would I were fluffing with you. Love to the old crocks. Deepest sympathy with the audience."

Company and audience then joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," after which Mme. Agnes Nicholls led the National Anthem. The Old Bensonians left by special train for London at 4.50. Hundreds of Stratfordians gathered at the station to give them a parting cheer, and to express the hope to see them all back again next year.

On Tuesday evening, May 3, and on Wednesday afternoon, May 4, Mr. Benson's company repeated their performance of *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, noticed in our last issue.

On Wednesday Evening, May 4, the Play presented was

"JULIUS CÆSAR."

Julius Cæsar .....Mr. Guy B. Rathbone
Octavius Cæsar .....Mr. John Howell
Marcus Antonius .....Mr. F. R. Benson
Popilius Lena .....Mr. F. Conroy
Artemidorus .....Mr. J. Howell
Marcus Brutus .....Mr. Otho Stuart
Cassius .....Mr. Eric Maxon
Casca .....Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Trebonius .....Mr. Alfred Wild
Metellus Cimber .....Mr. W. W. Caithness
Decius Brutus .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Varro .....Mr. Harold Meltzer
Claudius .....Mr. Alfred Wild
First Citizen .....Mr. Harry Caine
Second Citizen .....Mr. Frank Conroy
Third Citizen .....Mr. James Turnbull
Pindarus .....Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Cæsar's Servant .....Miss A. P. Nicholson
Lucius .....Miss Leah Hanman
Calphurnia .....Miss Nora Lancaster
Portia .....Mrs. F. R. Benson

If *Coriolanus* is a play without a hero, so *Julius Cæsar* might be said to be a drama with four heroes, for at least it contains four great and almost even parts. And when these are sustained by such a quartette as Messrs. Guy Rathbone, Eric Maxon, Otho Stuart, and F. R. Benson, what wonder that a crowded house received the play with great enthusiasm. As in *Coriolanus*, too, the stage crowds were excellent in their naturalness.

Mr. Benson's Marc Antony is one of his best performances. Noble and impressive in the Senate scene, his great speech, "Lend me your ears," utterly belied his modest disclaimer that "I am no orator as Brutus is." Mr. Guy Rathbone showed us a hard, strong, cold Cæsar, "constant as the northern star" in his refusal to reopen the case of Publius Cimber. Mr. Eric Maxon, in the earlier scenes realised to the full Cæsar's saying that "Yon Cassius hath a lean and hungry look," and cleverly brought out the envious, plausible, scheming, and splenetic character of the conspiring Senator, attaining almost to nobility in the closing act. Mr. Otho Stuart as "the noblest Roman of them all," Marcus Brutus, loving the name of honour more than he feared death, was a very fine study, and suited his part to perfection. Mr. Moffat Johnston ably doubled the parts of the specious Decius and the swarthy Pindarus; as did Mr. Alfred Wild the Senator Trebonius and the servitor Claudius. Miss Leah Hanman as Lucius gave us another proof of her amazing versatility; and all the other members of this admirable company played their parts well, and seemed Romans to the manner born.

OLD BENSONIANS AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

The high esteem in which Mr. F. R. Benson is held by former members of his theatrical companies was illustrated yesterday (Tuesday) in a remarkable manner at a matinée at the Shakespearean Festival, Stratford-on-Avon, when scenes were given from *The Merchant of Venice*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*, by a large party of "Old Bensonians," which included the following popular theatrical celebrities:—Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Frances Dillon, Miss Elsie Chester, Miss Olive Noble, Miss Agnes Nicholls, Miss Helen Haye, Miss Jean McKinlay, Miss Frances Wetherall, Miss Leah Hanman, Miss Elizabeth Kirby, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Lyall Swete, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr. Chas. Quartermaine, Mr. W. Haviland, Mr. A. E. Warburton, Mr. Alfred Brydone, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Mr. J. B. Fagan, Mr. Henry Vibart, and Mr. Charles Bibby.

Mr. Otho Stuart, the organiser of the matinée, is indebted to the various managements who granted permission for the artists to appear at Stratford-on-Avon.

A special train for the accommodation of the party left Paddington at 9.30 a.m., and reached Stratford-on-Avon at 11.25 a.m. The return train left Stratford-on-Avon at 4.55 p.m., and reached Paddington at 7 p.m. Luncheon and dinner were served en route. The following was the menu of the dinner:—

HORS D'ŒUVRES.

"Why dost thou whet thy knife so earnestly?"—*Merchant of Venice.*

SOUP.

Consommé Excelsior.

"Do as adversaries do in law,
Strive mightily, but eat and drink as friends."
—*Taming of the Shrew.*

FISH.

Fillets of Sole, Chevreuse.

"Eat it up all, if thou lov'st me."—*Taming of the Shrew.*

ENTRÉE.

Sweetbread Financière.

"After many ceremonies done, he calls for wine."—*Taming of the Shrew.*

JOINT.

Roast Lamb. Mint Sauce.

"What is this? Mutton?"—*Taming of the Shrew.*

"The meat was well if you were so contented."—*Taming of the Shrew.*

ROAST.

Roast Duckling.
New Potatoes and Peas.
Asparagus. Sauce Mousseline.

"A dish that I do love to feed upon."—*Taming of the Shrew.*

SWEETS.

Pears Melba.

"Feed him with apricocks and dewberries."—*Midsummer Night's Dream.*

CHEESE AND SALAD.

"Will you give thanks or else shall I?"—*Taming of the Shrew.*

To render it possible for this matinée performance to be given at Stratford-on-Avon and for many of the artists to perform in London at night, it was necessary that there should be not only strict punctuality of trains, but that the whole of the arrangements should be carefully planned and efficiently carried out, and this was most successfully done by Mr. Otho Stuart and the Great Western Railway Company.

The Great Western route to Stratford-on-Avon will be considerably shortened by the opening for passenger traffic in July of the company's new line to Birmingham and the North.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

In the case of Leveaux v. Caine in the King's Bench Division on Thursday, in order to establish the fact that there had been a production of the play for copyright purposes, Mr. Eldon Bankes, K.C., read to his Lordship a record which was contained in "Plays of the Month," a list of produced plays which appear in *The Era* newspaper, the official organ of the dramatic profession. The record was as follows:—"*Jan, the Icelander; or, Home, Sweet Home*, produced for copyright purposes at the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, on Saturday, Nov. 24, 1900."

We regret to record the death of Mr. Barrington Foote, who died at Clapham, on the 20th ult., at the early age of thirty-one. He was the son of the celebrated baritone, Barrington Foote, grandson of General Foote (who passed away last year), and nephew of Colonel Barrington Foote. The deceased actor's first engagement was with Mr. William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company, with which he remained three years. He was with Mr. George Alexander in *The Prisoner of Zenda, Rupert of Hentzau, The Ambassador, The Tree of Knowledge*, and other plays, and served under Mr. Frank Curzon in *The Wisdom of Folly* and *Mrs. Willoughby's Kiss*. He created the part of David Copperfield in *Little Em'ly* at the Adelphi; played the Imp in H. V. Esmond's *When We Were Twenty-One*, and understudied Hugh Ardale in *Iris* with Mr. Bourchier at the Garrick. Under Mr. Weedon Grossmith's management he appeared in *The Night of the Party*, and also figured in many other plays, including *The Golden Age* and *The Skeleton in the Cupboard*.

At the time of his death Mr. Foote, who had developed symptoms of rapid consumption, was playing Sexton Blake in *Hush Money*, it being his second tour with that company. He played this part until March 19, when he had to give up and return to town owing to the advanced state of his illness, thus having literally "died in harness." During the past five years he has been well-known upon the music hall stage, in his own famous duelling sketch, *The End of a Story*, which, with Miss Diane D'Orsay, he played in almost every music hall of note in London and the provinces. *The Fight for Honour, The Duke*, and *The Deception of Kits* and others of his sketches. Mr. Foote was buried at Streatham Cemetery on the 22nd ult.

There is a charming portrait, hung on the line in Gallery II. of the present Royal Academy Exhibition, of one of the youngest members of the "peerage of the stage"—Olivia, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Forbes-Robertson. The painter, Mr. Edmond Brock, is to be congratulated on a work which captivates the beholder by its sweet simplicity and truth. The child looks down upon one from the wall with big, blue, thoughtful eyes; she is dressed in a little white smock, white socks, and blue shoes. From her hand dangles a well-beloved doll, and other toys are sketched lightly upon the floor.

The annual meeting of the Rehearsal Club will (by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander) be held at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday afternoon next, at three o'clock. The chair will be taken by Miss Fanny Brough, and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein has graciously promised to be present. The meeting will be addressed by Miss Constance Collier, Miss Compton, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, the Countess of Bective, the Bishop of Kensington, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Lyn Harding, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine. Tickets of admission may be obtained on application by letter of the honorary treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, 101, Queen's Gate, S.W.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will preside at the Hotel Cecil on the 22nd inst., when the New Vagabond Club will entertain Mr. James Welch in commemoration of the great success of *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Carl Hentschel is one of the vice-chairmen.

Mr. Martin Harvey's week at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, concluding last Saturday night was one of the most successful the popular actor has ever played in the city, crowds having to be turned away each evening. To-night Mr. Harvey concludes another prosperous stay at Portsmouth, and on Monday opens the concluding week of his tour at Oxford, where prior to the performance of *The World and His Wife* on Wednesday evening Miss N. de Silva will appear in her original rôle in *An Idyll of Seven Dials*.

Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, we learn from New York, is to be married this summer to Mr. Swinburne Hale, a young Wall-street lawyer. Fortunately, Miss Forbes-Robertson, who joined the New Theatre at the beginning of the season, will not abandon the stage. Miss Forbes-Robertson is an ardent Suffragette, and it was one of her speeches that attracted the attention of Mr. Hale, who sought an introduction to the young actress, with the felicitous result now announced.

At the Shaftesbury Theatre, at a special matinée to be given by permission of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, on Tuesday, *The Cheerful Knave*, a new comedy, in three acts, by Keble Howard, will be produced, with a cast including Miss Marie Illington, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Lydia Rachel, Miss Isabel Merson, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Leslie Faber, Mr. Henry Kitts, Mr. W. Lemmon Warde, Mr. J. Napper, and Mr. George Elton. The scene is laid at Castle Bacchus, a mansion in the depths of Warwickshire.

Mr. H. B. Irving's appearance in an English version of *L'Enquête* at the Queen's will take place some time this month, the promised revival of *Robert Macaire* forming part of the bill. The version used will be that done by Fechter in 1861. The rights of this version are the property of Mr. Fred Terry, who has very kindly transferred them *pro tem.* to Mr. Irving.

Mr. Henry Joseph Loveday, of Daisy Cottage, Trafalgar-road, Strawberry Hill, manager to Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum since 1878, and after Irving's death to Mr. Martin Harvey, and formerly leader of the orchestra at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, who died on March 29, aged seventy-one years, has left estate valued at £2,328 gross, with net personalty £2,177 13s. 10d.

We congratulate Miss Julia Neilson on her recovery from her recent illness, and on the pleasure she must have derived from witnessing Miss Phillida Terson's delightful performance as Vio'a in *Twelfth Night*, at His Majesty's Theatre, on Saturday afternoon last. Mr. Fred Terry is very hopeful of the future of his clever daughter, and intends to give her an opportunity of appearing in such parts as Rosalind, Beatrice, Ophelia, Juliet, and Desdemona, himself impersonating Touchstone, Benedick, Hamlet, Mercutio, and perhaps Iago. The performances of both father and daughter in these parts will be intensely interesting.

The greatest interest was manifested in the appearance of "Smith," comedian, who was cast to play at the Strand Theatre on Saturday night Rolandyl, the assessor of taxes, Mr. C. H. Workman's original part in *Two Merry Monarchs*. "Smith," it may at once be stated, scored an undoubted success, but it is idle to pretend that he is not an actor of tried ability. In fact, he is that fine comedian, Mr. Philip Smith, who for so long has played Edmund Payne parts on tour.

The fifth annual dinner of the *Peter Pan* Golf Club took place at the Trocadero on Sunday last. It was a very great success and one of the most enjoyable evenings imaginable. Nearly all the members of the company were present, also many old "lost boys" and pirates, and a number of guests, including Lord George Wellesley, a young peer who takes a great interest in the drama. Miss Pauline Chase, an exceedingly gracious chairwoman, presented the many handsome trophies won on the links. Mr. Charles Frohman's trophy was won by Mr. Baskcomb, Mr. Barrie's by Mr. Silward, Miss Chase's by Miss Robinson, Mr. Dion Boucicault's by Mr. Ernest Hollom, Miss Trevelyan's by Miss Margaret Fraser, Mr. Walter Pearce's by Master H. Hollom (the youngest of the "Darlings"), and the father of the Darling family, Mr. Walter Pearce, won Mr. William Ogg's trophy. There were also many others.

The menu was most amusing, the courses being described by quotations from the play. There was much excitement caused by the speculations as to what "Had he a tail, Captain?" or "I won't go to bed" might be. The dinner finished up with a "Now I feel like a snooze," but as a matter of fact everyone seemed particularly wide awake. There were several excellent speeches, among the speakers being Mr. Frederick Annerley, the present Captain Hook and the secretary of the Golf Club; Mr. Loring Fernie, who made a success as Hook some three years ago, and who spoke of the honour and joy it was to have been associated with so beautiful and fantastic a play as *Peter Pan*; Miss Sybil Carlisle, who, when called upon to speak, said she hadn't "run away the day she was born," but she certainly wished she had.

Mr. Walter Pearce, in a witty little speech, proposed the health of "The Ladies," and ended up with a new version of the Pirates' song:—

"Yeo ho—yeo ho, the ladies dear,
Let's drink to them in this,
And, if they love their 'Darling' well,
He'll give them all a kiss."

The "Pirates" and others joined in the chorus with great enthusiasm.

After dinner there was an excellent entertainment, a splendid programme having been provided. The most enjoyable items were Mr. Albert Whelan's inimitable songs, a charming dance by Miss Chase, a clever "doll" song and dance by Miss Nellie Bowman, and the Helen and Modus scenes from *The Hunchback*, which were delightfully played by Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Walter Pearce. There was universal regret when, owing to the laws of our land, a most successful evening had to come to an end.

The Incorporated Stage Society will open its eleventh season at the Aldwych Theatre on Sunday with a comedy, in three acts, by Ludwig Thoma, translated by H. A. Hertz and Frederick Whelen, and entitled *Champions of Morality*. The cast will include Mr. Jules Shaw, Mr. Clifton Alderson, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Miss Von Appen, Miss Marianne Caldwell, Miss Rosamund Mayne Young, Mr. Frank Esmond, Miss Annie Hill, Mr. A. S. Homewood, Mrs. Theodore Wright, Miss Adah Barton, Mr. Leon M. Lion, Mr. Alfred Bristowe, Mr. Leonard Shepherd, Miss Sarah Brooke, Mr. Frank Ridley, and Mr. Leon Quartermaine. The place is Emileburg, the capital of the Duchy of Gerolstein, and the second act takes place at the Central Police Offices there. Thoma, a Bavarian, is one of the best-known humorists in Germany, a contributor to *Jugend* and *Simplicissimus*, and the author of numerous essays and tales, chiefly treating of peasant life, and of several comedies, the best-known of which are *Die Lokalbahn* and *Moral*.

At the "one-act play" matinée, which will be given at the Court Theatre on Monday, the 23rd inst., there will be presented two new pieces, *A Likely Story* and *Lord of the Harvest*, by Laurence Housman, and a third by Miss Rose Mathews called *The Smack*. Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Margaret Bussé, Miss Bessie Hatton, Miss Aimée de Burgh, Miss Christine Rayner, and Messrs. Leon Quartermaine, Laurence Leyton, and Robert Farquharson will be in the casts, and Miss Irene and Miss Annie S. Spong will contribute some Greek and Irish songs with appropriate dances.

Mr. William Gillette has finished a new three-act comedy, to be called *Mrs. Electricity*, and Mr. Charles Frohman hopes to produce it at one of his West-End theatres next season, after its first performance at the Park Theatre, Boston, on Sept. 25, with Miss Marie Doro in the leading part. In the May of next year Mr. Gillette will make his reappearance in England at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, where he will play for a month, afterwards acting in Paris and Berlin.

Students of the Academy of Dramatic Art gave a performance of Zola's *Thérèse Raquin* at Terry's Theatre on Monday afternoon. Miss Enid Rose appeared in the title-rôle, and displayed intelligence and skill that went far to justify the high hopes we have previously expressed with regard to her future. Mr. Harold Holland as Laurent also gave excellent promise; and other creditable performances were those of Grivot by Mr. Richard Carfax, Camille by Mr. Valentine Penna, and Mme. Raquin, by Miss Dorothy Bowden.

Miss Pauline Chase, who plays the name-part in *Peter Pan*, left Waterloo, London, on Wednesday morning on a flying visit to New York, where for a few hours she will sell at the Actors' Fund Fair the autograph portraits of Sir John Hare, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Sir Arthur Pinero, Mr. H. B. Irving, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mesdames Melba, Tetrazzini, and Réjane, and Misses Ellen Terry, Gertie Millar, Edna May, Gertrude Elliott, and Irene Vanbrugh.

A startling announcement has again been secured for the Theatrical Garden Party, at the Royal Botanic Gardens, on June 28. Mr. Cyril Maude will once more provide the chief item of the histrionic programme, which will take the form of "an entirely new and entrancing psychophysicode in the form of a tragicomipastoral or realistic idyll of modern life, in four acts, specially written by Mr. Leo Trevor." Mr. John Harwood will be responsible for the actual production.

Mr. Geo. Bull, the well-known Press manager of the Shaftesbury Theatre, has invented, registered, and in every way fully protected a remarkable advertising device, which will doubtless be seen in the West End streets shortly. It can be adapted to the requirements of any artist, but is more especially suitable to the comedian who has accustomed the public to a special facial make-up. The picture of the face only is reproduced in colours on a double-crown poster, and by a simple little contrivance the eyes are made to squint, to turn up, to recede, and to bulge out. In fact, every movement of the sandwich-man carrying such a poster occasions a new kind of stare. The effect is startling in the extreme, and one has simply got to look. The first theatre or comedian to secure a monopoly of Mr. Bull's patent will have acquired the best publicity device at present in the market.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has just had specially painted at his Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, studios by Mr. T. Holmes, for his tour of *East Lynne*, a very beautiful prologue set, which the company is now touring.

The Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre is organising branch committees in important districts and towns to further the interests of the movement and to raise local contributions. The campaign has met with much success, and during the last few weeks important meetings have been held. At Richmond, by permission of the Thames Valley Shakespeare Society, active efforts in support of the local fund were promised. A most successful meeting at Mrs. Saxton Noble's, Kent House, Knightsbridge, was well attended, addresses being given by Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Comyns Carr. At Sheffield the Lord Mayor, Earl Fitzwilliam, has accepted the presidency, and in the autumn active work is to be begun by the local executive. Leeds University promises substantial help, as the Principal and several Professors are on the Committee.

The inaugural meeting of the Woolwich Committee, the Mayor and ex-Mayor actively assisting, has also been held, Mr. W. Gannon, Principal of the Woolwich Polytechnic, being the secretary. The Mayor presided at the inaugural meeting at Wimbledon, where great enthusiasm was manifested. A newly-constituted committee at Edinburgh has started the work well, the Marquess of Linlithgow having accepted the presidency, and Sir Robert Cranston will serve as chairman of the local executive. At Newcastle-on-Tyne a good meeting was also held, Alderman Sir H. Newton in the chair, the executive committee and officers being appointed. The Duke of Beaufort is the president at Bristol, and a good start has been made.

Arrangements for the Fancy Dress Ball on June 27 at the Royal Albert Hall are progressing rapidly, and the grand tier boxes are all sold. Tickets can only be obtained from the members of the Committee, or from Mr. G. Sherwood Foster, 4, Whitehall House, Charing Cross. Dances from the plays will be arranged by various ladies, the following having already promised:—Lady Jekyll, *The Tempest*; Mrs. George Cornwallis West, *Twelfth Night*; Lady Salisbury and the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttleton, *Much Ado About Nothing*; Lady Paget, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; and Lady Wemyss, *King Henry VIII.*

Owing to the very elaborate nature of the production of *The Piper* (the prize play) at Stratford-upon-Avon, Mr. F. R. Benson was obliged to postpone the first performance from Thursday last to Wednesday afternoon next, the 11th. The greatest interest is being displayed by the townsfolk and visitors in the production of the new play, the subject of which is, of course, the Pied Piper of Hamelin, but treated in an entirely new manner. Mr. Benson himself will be the Piper, and Miss Marion Terry will appear as Veronika.

The final of the D'Oyly Carte Golf Handicap was played on Friday, the 29th ult., over the Meyrick Park Links, Bournemouth. After an interesting struggle Cyril Flamsteed (received 19) beat H. A. Lytton (scratch) by 3 up and 2 to play.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson sent the following telegram received from Toronto to Messrs. George Tyler and Wentworth Croke, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, respecting Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's play, in three acts, *The Dawn of a To morrow*, which was produced at the Shakespeare on Monday:—"Heartiest wishes to-night. Please commend my wife and myself to Liverpool playgoers."

Miss Fanny Brough expressed hearty and sincere sympathy with the movement when on Thursday she opened the Women's Press, a shop and publication department for the Women's Social and Political Union, in the Charing Cross-road. In her profession, Miss Brough observed, women were doing their best, but owing to the flagrant publicity given to their work they could not be too careful of what they did and how they did it. There was too much advertisement about it. Referring to the Anti-Suffrage League, she said they were all grieved about such an extraordinary and unwomanly action. She could not understand women working against women.

A few days previous to the Asche-Brayton production of *As You Like It* at the Criterion Theatre, Sydney, Mr. George Relph, the Orlando, whilst rehearsing the wrestle, had the misfortune to break a small bone of his wrist. He was, nevertheless, able to appear on the night of production, and news to hand speaks highly of his acting of the part.

Miss Grace Harlington (Mrs. F. R. Gwyn-Richardson) is, we regret to learn, undergoing an operation at Jessop's Hospital, Sheffield. During her convalescence she will be very pleased to hear from all friends.

The Ben Greet Players, after appearing in *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, closed their ten-weeks' engagement at the Garden Theatre on the 23rd ult., and journeyed to Philadelphia, where they opened at the Adelphi Theatre.

Mr. Herbert Sleath, at the close of the present tenancy, will take over the lease of the Garrick Theatre, and will commence operations with Mr. George Tyler's production of *The Dawn of To-Morrow*.

Mme. Melba has returned to London to take part in the grand season at Covent Garden, where, before her departure for Australia, in 1908, at the close of the opera season, she sang for twenty consecutive seasons. Prior to her reappearance in opera Mme. Melba will sing at a concert at the Albert Hall this afternoon.

Mr. George Tyler will give the first performance in London of *The Dawn of a To-morrow*—which was produced at Liverpool on Monday night with immense success—at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday.

Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein were present at the performance *Die Walkure* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Max Beerbohm, the dramatic critic, was married on Thursday to Miss Florence Kahn, the American actress. The first week of the honeymoon will be spent in the country, after which Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm will go abroad.

Mr. Ernest Pope took his benefit at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on Wednesday, when the inhabitants of the town presented him with a handsome silver tray. In making the presentation on behalf of the donors, Mr. Payne Seddon congratulated his partner "upon the present season having been the most successful in the existence of the Lincoln Theatre, and upon the spontaneous and handsome proof that he had earned the regard of the public amongst whom he lived, having, to use the most appropriate quotation he could think of, with all due reverence, 'Done his duty in that state of life which it pleased God to call him.'" Mrs. Pope was also presented with a gold bracelet from the patrons of the theatre.

Mr. Thomas Beecham's season of opera comique opens at His Majesty's on Monday with *Tales of Hoffman*. An interesting engagement is that of Mlle. Mignon Nevada, the eighteen year old daughter of Mme. Emma Nevada, the famous prima-donna. Mlle. Nevada has a high flexible soprano, and achieved an immediate success on her *début* at the Constanza, Rome, where she appeared as Rosina in *The Barber of Seville*, and this opera has been specially included in the autumn programme for her. An English singer, Miss Lydia O'Bree, will also make her *début* in England during the season.

Encouraging reports were submitted on Wednesday at a meeting of the shareholders of the Glasgow Repertory Theatre, over which ex-Deacon Convener Macdonald presided. That of Mr. Alfred Wareing, the managing-director, showed a steady improvement since the commencement of the venture, the present season in particular being very much better than the two preceding ones. The chairman pointed out that £867 of additional capital had been subscribed to carry on the enterprise after May 28, when the present season ends; but he pointed out there still remained 1,133 shares to be taken up before the directors would be justified in leasing the theatre for another year.

In response to the appeal of the chairman, the meeting at once subscribed additional capital, and resolved to do all in its power to further the interests of the undertaking. Mr. Wareing submitted a scheme for running the theatre all the year round, with the exception of the month of July, producing during the summer such plays as *One Summer's Day, The Adventure of Lady Ursula, The Tyranny of Tears*, and *When We Were Twenty-one*. The autumn programme will include new plays by John Galsworthy and Neil Munro.

Mr. Cyril Maude will produce on Tuesday afternoon in front of *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* at the Playhouse a short wordless play, called *The Broken Pitcher*.

Miss Ethel Irving will take *Dame Nature* from the Garrick Theatre to Terry's on Saturday next, when a special matinée of the successful play will be given.

At the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, this week, a great attraction is the appearance of Miss Maude Moy Murray, who gives a series of beautiful aerial dances with marvellous effects, and her aeroplane flight is nightly received with great enthusiasm. This novel act should find its way to the West End.

Mr. Oswald Lingard, who made such a success on the original tours of *The Breed of the Treshams* and *The Bondman*, has been engaged, through the agency of Harry Ward and Co., for the stock season at the Pavilion Theatre, E., opening on May 16 as Private Mason in *Tommy Atkins*.

Owing to the great success of Miss Grace Lester's sketch *A Ruined Life*, Mr. Hugh Montgomery has been compelled to refuse several summer offers for stock, &c., in order to continue with it. Mr. Wentworth Croke has engaged Miss Marie Harcourt for *The Girl of My Heart*, and both have been retained for a forty-two weeks' tour from August by Mr. Percy Williams.

"On and after Monday, May 23, dramas twice nightly," is the announcement made by Moss' Empires, Ltd., regarding the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham. This innovation follows variety performances, melodramas, musical comedy, and pantomime.

The Playhouse was lent by Mr. Cyril Maude on Monday for a matinée in aid of the Church of England Homes for Waifs and Strays. Princess Christian, accompanied by Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, was among a distinguished audience. An attractive entertainment was supplied by artists who gave their services. The organising secretary, in proposing a vote of thanks to all concerned, announced that the matinée had resulted in a clear profit of £350.

Miss Dora Pass, who was taken suddenly ill at the Prince of Wales, Salford, has been out of the cast of *A Woman's Past* some three weeks. We are pleased to learn she is resuming work this week.

Mr. Edwin Brett and Miss Emmeline Orford have just returned from Australia, after an absence of over two years, having fulfilled a most successful engagement with Messrs. Denton, Bode, and McKenzie's comic opera company. They speak in glowing terms of the appreciation and enthusiasm of the Australian audiences, and have arrived home with many trophies and tributes of our Colonial cousins' generosity. They are particularly proud of the fact that they were the principal comedian and soubrette in the Australian record pantomime (*Cinderella* season, 1908-9), which ran for eight months in Melbourne and Sydney alone.

Miss Sophie Harriss, who was beginning to despair of ever finding a worthy successor to *The Prince of Pilsen*, during her recent round of the principal Continental theatres, has hit upon a musical comedy containing a part after her own heart, and is hard at work completing the necessary preliminary formalities for its production at the earliest possible date.

The full cast of Mr. Keble Howard's new three-act comedy, *The Cheerful Knave*, which is to be produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Tuesday afternoon next, consists of Miss Marie Illington, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Lydia Rachel, Miss Isabel Merson, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Leslie Faber, Mr. Henry Kitts, Mr. Lemmon Warde, Mr. J. Napper, and Mr. George Elton. The scene is laid at Castle Bacchus, a mansion in Warwickshire, and the three acts occur during an afternoon in August, the same night, and the next morning. It may be added that a copy of Mr. Keble Howard's new six-shilling novel, founded on the play, will be presented to every purchaser of a reserved seat.

We regret to learn that, owing to a breakdown in health, Mr. Keith Fraser has had to relinquish the part of Napoleon in *A Royal Divorce*.

Miss Florence Kahn, of Tennessee, the wife of Mr. Max Beerbohm, the critic, who is half-brother to Sir Herbert Tree, is best known for her performances of such parts as Mrs. Elvested in *Hedda Gabler*, Irene in *When We Dead Awaken*, Rose in Sudermann's *Battle of the Butterflies*, the Countess Zicka in *Diplomacy*, and the wayward heroine of Ibsen's *Doll's House*. Miss Kahn was for some years leading lady with Mr. Richard Mansfield.

At the Kingston Police-court on Thursday Antoine Paillasson, whose address was given at the Savoy Hotel, chauffeur to Mme. Réjane, the celebrated French actress, was summoned for exceeding the twenty miles an hour speed limit along the Portsmouth road at Kingston Hill on April 22. Mme. Réjane was in the car at the time. According to the police evidence the car covered a measured distance at the rate of 27½ miles an hour. The defendant, through an interpreter, said he had only been in the country a short time, and was unaware of the regulations. He did not think he was driving at a greater speed than seventeen or eighteen miles an hour. The Bench imposed a fine of £1, with 8s. 6d. costs.

Gratifying success has attended the transference to the Grand Theatre, Oldham, of Mr. Richard Flanagan's recent revival of *Twelfth Night* at the Prince's, Manchester. When the curtain was rung down on Saturday night there was loud applause, and, in response to an emphatic demand, Miss Margaret Halstan (the Viola) came forward and, like other members of the company, was presented with a handsome bouquet, for which she warmly thanked her admirers. Miss Halstan, in compliance with a demand for a speech, said she and the other members of the company had enjoyed themselves very well during the fortnight they had been in Oldham.

Mr. Ernest Dottridge, the popular manager of the theatre, to whose enterprise and ability local playgoers were indebted for the production, in the course of a neat little speech, said that although they opened up somewhat badly, he was very glad to tell them they had done double the business in the last week, and that, on the whole, they had a fairly successful time. He warmly thanked those who visited the theatre for their unstinted appreciation of the artists' efforts. He had, Mr. Dottridge added amid applause, been able to arrange with Mr. Flanagan to transfer the revival in Manchester next season in its entirety to Oldham.

Miss Sophie Lingwood concludes to-night her spring tour of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Lingwood has been starring as Mrs. Wigge, making a great success in this fine part, which combines pathos with real comedy.

Mr. Fred Morgan has been re-engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur as heavy leading man for the Kennington stock season this year.

Miss Marjorie Clive (Mrs. Sydney Alport) is for the second time to enter into the holy bonds of matrimony, and will be married on June 4 to Mr. Vaughan Dryden. Mr. Dryden is one of the editors of the *Globe*, and is responsible, among other literary work, for that diverting column "By the Way" which graces the pages of our old-established contemporary.

Miss Winifred Pearson, who is playing Claire Foster in *The Woman in the Case*, has been re-engaged by Miss Annie Hughes for her old part of Vivian Morrison, the adventuress, in *Miss Tommy*.

Mr. Charles Frohman had secured the English rights in *Le Costaud des Epinettes*—the Apache piece, which was recently produced at the Paris Vaudeville—before its production in the Gay City; and Mr. Cosmo Hamilton has already completed a version, which is to be seen before long in London.

Mr. Edward J. George, whose continued success in the part of Jaikes in *The Silver King*, which he has played 6,000 times, is recorded in our "provincial" columns, has celebrated his seventieth birthday by signing a contract to appear in the part for another long period.

Mme. Susanna Cole, A.R.A.M. (Mrs. William Offord), the octogenarian vocalist and colleague of the late Mme. Jenny Lind-Goldsmith, has been elected to an out-pension at Huggens' College, Northfleet, Kent. The value of the pension is £52 per annum, and a residence was also placed at Mme. Cole's disposal, which she declined, as she preferred to remain in London. We offer our congratulations to the distinguished cantatrice, and sincerely hope that her life may be prolonged for many a day to enjoy her well-deserved pension.

The King's Theatre, Greenock, closes to-night for the usual summer vacation, reopening for the autumn season in August. Under the experienced management of Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright, who were enabled to secure excellent companies, the season has been a successful one. They are now booking for the autumn and spring, and have already completed some first-class engagements.

The anniversary performance of *The Arcadians* at the Shaftesbury Theatre on the 28th ult., enabled Mr. Robert Courtneidge to hand over a cheque for £330 to the Fresh Air Fund.

Mr. George Munro, at the conclusion of his engagement at Her Majesty's, Carlisle, not only arranged for an early return visit, but has placed the future booking of his tours with Mr. Thos. Courtice, the manager of the theatre. At practically every house visited Mr. Munro has arranged to return with his excellent company, including Miss Doris V. Horrocks.

The Rehearsal Company will present two new one-act plays on Thursday, May 12, at 2.30, at the Rehearsal Theatre, *The Bishop's Fortune*, by Benson Plinge, and *Love is Passing*, by Mrs. Angelo Savi. Act II. of Robertson's *School* will be given by request. The casts will include Misses May Saker, Evelyn Vanderyll, Marjorie Hodges, Letty Paxton, Irene Delisse, Evelyn Grey, Adah Dick, Edith Carter, and Eva Balfour; and Messrs. Montague Mazeran, Osborn Adair, Keith Shepherd, Victor Wiltshire, and Clive Currie. Miss Brenda Gayne and Mr. Joseph Schofield will provide incidental music.

The vexed question of payment for rehearsals was introduced into a case at Bloomsbury County Court on Monday, when a professional vocalist, named Tom Parry, sued Mr. Thomas Quinlan, concert agent, of Regent-street, W., for wages which, he said, were due to him as a chorus singer at Covent Garden Opera House, claiming two weeks' salary in lieu of notice. Solicitor for the defence submitted that the plaintiff had dismissed himself owing to his refusal to attend rehearsals, which was a part of his contract. The plaintiff was engaged as a chorister in connection with a syndicate producing important operas, some of which had not previously been presented in this country. It would be impossible to carry on such business if any members of the chorus thought they could take upon themselves to stay away from rehearsal just whenever they pleased.

Plaintiff, who conducted his own case, said he thought he was entitled to payment for attending all rehearsals. "Whoever heard of such a thing?" retorted Judge Bacon. "What do you think would become of these operas if people took it upon themselves to absent themselves from rehearsal?" Plaintiff urged that his point was that he was wrongfully dismissed.

In delivering judgment his Honour pointed out that the terms of the contract were that the plaintiff should undertake to sing at all performances during the season, conform to all rules, and attend all rehearsals, and that any infringement of rules should be subject to a fine. He did not think it was unreasonable that the plaintiff should be expected to attend all rehearsals. No operatic venture could be successfully carried out if there did not exist power on the part of the management to enforce certain rules. The plaintiff did not only fail to attend rehearsal, but stated that he did not intend to do so. Such conduct as that rendered a chorus singer a most unsatisfactory person. The judge finally decided in favour of the plaintiff to the extent of £2, with certain costs.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mrs. Kendal on Faces.

MRS. KENDAL, interviewed by the *Chronicle* on "Our Faces: What We Can Make of Them," said:—"A great man has said somewhere that if we could make ourselves we should all be handsome and other women ugly. As it is, God makes us, and that is best. Speaking as an actress, I would say that physique sets its limits to what we may be. Age sets its limits too. There comes a time when an actress must look into her glass and say, 'Farewell, Juliet.' Portia she may claim for a few years yet. A manager with a leading lady of sixteen, who has a tip-tilted nose, rosebud mouth, and innocent blue or brown eyes, may cast her for Lady Macbeth, and support his choice by the theory that King Duncan was lured to the castle by her youthful beauty and fascination.

"BUT that does not make her that woman who says, 'Had he not resembled my father in his sleep, I'd have done it.' Or could utter such words as 'I have given suck and know how tender 'tis to love the babe that milk me.' Lady Macbeth belongs to the woman in the forties.

"'How do you like the "roaring forties," Mrs. Kendal?' a gentleman said to me on one of our voyages. Well, I have my very strong opinion about those 'roaring forties'—the period at which I believe someone has said woman ought to be put into a lethal-chamber. The actress comes into her kingdom then so far as nearly all the great characters of tragedy and the drama are concerned. She knows life.

"NEVER think that a woman can really make make herself appear younger than she is, either on or off the stage. The powers of the make-up are greatly exaggerated. An actor may take the most elaborate pains, and in two minutes his voice and personality will reveal him. I never painted much. Emotion and exertion usually made me quite red enough. I made-up 'au naturel'—that is, just accentuating my eyebrows and eye-lashes.

"TRYING to cheat Nature and other people by tying something round your head at night and strapping up to get rid of the fat under the chin—and all that sort of thing, too—is all pure delusion. If I see a woman painted (the horror of it!) in the daytime, I feel inclined to take a spray of lilies of the valley to her. 'Look at this,' I would say, and then, holding it close to her—'see the form, the perfect colour of the leaf and bud—how fragrant, how delicious! He who made this was a Colourist.'

"I BELIEVE that the limitations of feature—for histrionic parts—and of age at all times must be accepted. But never forgetting this—that it is we who write there, in our faces, the good and bad in us. That can be read. I look into a woman's eyes, on or off the stage, and can tell by them if she be good and pure. The eyes can't deceive. The mouth can be controlled. You may be the most consummate humbug, but the eye is so close to the brain it cannot lie. Oh, the revelation in the eyes! Think of the flash of red and yellow in the lioness's. I feel I should know a murderess by her eye. I don't think, though, that I have ever seen one. But I am quite sure the sinister look of Cain was his 'mark.'"

Madame Melba Locked Up.

"MME. MELBA," says the *Mail*, "has some anecdotes to tell of her recent tour in Australia. 'When I arrived in Melbourne,' she said, 'it had been arranged that a female choir of some 1,500 voices should greet me; but, unfortunately, the crowd was so dense that I could not hear the choir. In fact, the crush at the railway station was so great that the police had to lock me up in the telephone room.'

A Sad Bouquet.

"THERE was a pathetic incident at this stage. A little girl of ten had been deputed to present the prima donna with a bouquet, and she was attired in her best white muslin frock for the occasion. Mme. Melba, shut up in the telephone room, patiently awaiting the dispersal of the crowd, was disturbed by the weeping of a child in evident distress. An official was sent out to investigate, and a bedraggled child in a tattered frock was ushered in, holding forth in forlorn fashion a bunch of melancholy stalks—all that remained of the bouquet she had hoped to present to Mme. Melba.

An Elevated Audience.

"ON another occasion, at Rockhampton, the house was 'sold out' long before Mme. Melba arrived, but a crowd of several hundred people congregated outside and, finding a ladder, mounted to the roof in order to hear her through the skylight. The caretaker, discovering the ladder against the building, removed it, and the crowd on the roof had to spend the night in that uncomfortable position.

A Big Debt.

"'ONE of the prettiest compliments I have ever had paid to me,' said Mme. Melba, 'was at one of the smaller Australian towns—Mount Morgan by name. Two little boys were unable to gain admission to the hall, and I let them come in and sit behind the orchestra. At the end of the concert I told them that they owed me a guinea apiece. The elder of the two rose to his feet, saluted, and said, "Madam, we owe you much more than that." Don't you think that was a great compliment?' said Mme. Melba."

No More Stage Jews.

MR. PERCY G. WILLIAMS has promised the Rev. Joseph Silverman, a prominent New York rabbi, not to allow any more offensive caricatures of Jews in his theatres. The rabbi said in a recent address that the stage Irishman had been banished from the vaudeville stage, and the so-called Hebrew comedians ought to be similarly treated. Dilating on this subject he said: "The invidious effect of ridicule is hard to overcome It is a great weapon in the hands of clever and unscrupulous men. The character of Barnabas, by Christopher Marlowe, was an insolent misrepresentation, and Shakespeare's Shylock was but an imitation of Marlowe's Barnabas. Because it was more cleverly drawn it is more pernicious It was a prostitution of Shakespeare's talent. He played to the gallery.

"THE character of Shylock as portrayed by Shakespeare was a reversal of the real character of the historical personage he set out to picture. He made Shylock demand the pound of flesh to win the plaudits of the audience, and in doing so violated all the canons of truth and justice. It is against public policy that *The Merchant of Venice* should be read in the public schools. Among the English writers Carlyle, Thackeray, and Dickens were particular offenders in their misrepresentations of the Jew. It was done to curry favour with their readers.

"THE gross caricature of the Jew as he appears in some of the magazines, in some of the newspapers, and on the stage, is an injustice to the Jewish people. The stage Jew is a stench in our nostrils, a disgrace to the country, an insult to the Jew, and a discredit to the stage. He is merely used to cater to prejudice and to the box office receipts. The aim of the stage should be to uplift, refine, and educate—to hold up a mirror which will reflect the truth, not a trick mirror which reflects a monstrosity. Certain yellow journals on occasion indulge in frivolous references and fine insinuations against the Jew which deserve the contempt and derision of all right-minded people."

THE QUEEN'S.

On Saturday, April 30, Revival of the Drama, Adapted by Dion Boucicault, from the play by Casimir Delavigne, entitled

"LOUIS XI."

Louis XI.	MR. H. B. IRVING
The Dauphin	MISS DORA BARTON
Duc de Nemours	MR. EILLE NORWOOD
Philip de Comines	MR. CHARLES ALLAN
Jacques Coitier	MR. TOM REYNOLDS
Tristan L'Ermite	MR. FRANK TYARS
Oliver le Dain	MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
François de Paule	MR. HENRY VIBART
Cardinal d'Alby	MR. CHAS. A. STAITE
Count de Dreux	MR. STUART MUSGROVE
Monseigneur de Lude	MR. H. ROBINSON
Count de Dunois	MR. C. TREVOR ROPER
Montjoie	MR. ALEX. SCOTT-GATTY
Toison D'or	MR. A. SYNGE
Marcel	MR. CLIFFORD BOWN
Richard	MR. J. PATRIC CURWEN
Officer of the Royal Guard	MR. W. H. GRAHAM
King's Attendant	MR. ROLAND PERTUIS
Martha	MISS ROSINA FILIPPI
Marie de Comines	MISS DOROTHEA BAIRD

There were few parts in which the personal gifts of the late Sir Henry Irving served him better than in that of *Louis XI.*, and there are not many in which Mr. H. B. Irving, who inherits so many of his father's advantages, shows to greater advantage. The Irving type of figure and feature is so well suited to the impersonation of the French King, whose strikingly contrasted qualities make him everlastingly memorable, that the part would seem to have been written for Mr. H. B. Irving and his celebrated parent. It is impossible to remember every detail of the production of *Louis XI.* by Sir Henry in the seventies; but it is equally difficult not to be struck by the wonderful resemblance between Mr. Irving's reading and that of Sir Henry. At times this resemblance is almost startling in its vividness. It is probable, however, that at many points Mr. Irving has reconsidered details and altered ideas, for he is by no means a servile copyist of his sire. Mr. Irving's performance is, at any rate, a very fine one; and one hardly knows which to admire most—the quiet, intense characterisation of the earlier acts, the magnificently powerful outburst of rage and terror after Louis's narrow escape from assassination, or the great death scene, which Mr. Irving, if we mistake not, has somewhat curtailed in length, making the conclusion more close, condensed, and dramatic. He has excellent support. Mr. Frank Tyars's bold and vigorous style is exactly suited to the portrayal of the stern ruffian Tristran L'Ermite; and a very clever and well-calculated impersonation of Olivier le Dain is supplied by Mr. Arthur Curtis. Miss Dora Barton makes a tender and modest, yet bold and royal Dauphin; and Miss Dorothea Baird plays Marie de Comines with earnest expression and delicate sentiment. Mr. Eille Norwood's Duc de Nemours is full of fire and vigour, and he acts the part with commendable energy; and Mr. Henry Vibart is a magnificent François de Paule. Mr. Charles Allan plays Philip de Comines with the authority, dignity, and weight which only ripe experience and thorough training can create, and looks the character capitally; and Mr. Tom Reynolds does full justice to the blunt honesty of Jacques Coitier, delivering his speeches with sturdy strength and manly spirit. Mr. Chas. A. Staite gives a capable and creditable embodiment of the Cardinal d'Alby; and Mr. Stuart Musgrove's Count de Dreux is an excellent piece of work, Mr. H. Robinson being quite efficient as Monseigneur de Lude, and Mr. C. Trevor-Roper doing well as the Count de Dunois. Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty's Montjoie is effective and adequate; and Mr. A. Synge supplies a satisfactory rendering of Toison d'Or. Special praise is deserved by that always able and agreeable actress, Miss Rosina Filippi, whose Martha is quite worthy of her reputation; and Mr. Clifford Bown and Mr. J. Patric Curwen are acceptable as Marcel and Richard, Mr. W. H. Graham and Mr. Roland Pertuis giving careful performances as the Officer of the Royal Guard and the King's Attendant. The drama is dressed and mounted with the care and liberality which Mr. Irving always expends on his productions. He was called before the curtain again and again at the conclusion, and took the opportunity of announcing that at an early date, in addition to *L'Enquête*, the piece taken over from Mr. George Alexander, he—Mr. Irving—would give a revival of *Robert Macaire*, which he hoped to make as amusing as possible.

On Wednesday Afternoon, May 4, Revival of "HAMLET."

Claudius	MR. FRANK TYARS
Hamlet	MR. H. B. IRVING
Polonius	MR. CHARLES ALLAN
Laertes	MR. ARTHUR HOLMES-GORE
Horatio	MR. EILLE NORWOOD
Osric	MR. STUART MUSGROVE
Rosencrantz	MR. STANLEY HOWLETT
Guildenstern	MR. J. PATRIC CURWEN
Marcellus	MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Bernardo	MR. KING FORDHAM
Francisco	MR. ROLAND PERTUIS
Reynaldo	MR. W. GRAHAM
First Player	MR. FRANK COCHRANE
Second Player	MR. ALEX. SCOTT-GATTY
Priest	MR. H. R. COOKE
First Gravedigger	MR. TOM REYNOLDS
Second Gravedigger	MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Ghost of Hamlet's Father	MR. HENRY VIBART
Gertrude	MISS ESME BERINGER
Ophelia	MISS DOROTHEA BAIRD
Player Queen	MISS DORA BARTON

A concession to a generally expressed desire has been made by Mr. H. B. Irving in his revival for a series of matinées at the Queen's of *Hamlet*, and a house well filled in the popular parts accorded hearty support on Wednesday. That the educational opportunities thus afforded were taken advantage of was proved by the presence among the audience of a large number of children, who were enabled to enjoy the beauties of Shakespeare's sublime verse allied to acting of the most eloquent description. Mr. Irving's Hamlet is, up to the present, the crowning achievement of a career marked by unfailing brilliancy. The part suits his personality more than any other in the wide range of his répertoire, and, by its subtlety, its elocutionary skill, its almost morbid melancholy, and its infinite variety, fascinates and thrills. If there is one scene more than another that dwells vividly in the memory it is that of the play, when the young Prince grovels on the floor, awaiting with feverish impatience for some sign of his uncle's guilt, until he springs to his feet with a ferocity that sends the monarch fleeing in terror from the room. One recalls with pleasure, too, Hamlet's interview with his mother, in which the mental anguish of the young Prince is indicated by faltering tones and emotional accents. Mr. Irving's Hamlet is as finished a study of the arduous rôle as can be furnished by the contemporary stage, and many recalls awaited the fall of each curtain.

A triumph is also achieved by Miss Dorothea Baird, whose gentle and submissive Ophelia of the earlier acts hardly prepares the spectator for the frenzy of the later. Sweet sadness and dreary despair are pictured in the "mad" scene when Ophelia's plaintive accents give a true sense of the utter desolation that chills the heart of the demented girl. The scene exercised an irresistible effect, and secured the actress a special call.

The cast of the present revival differs in some particulars from that of the recent Festival performance at His Majesty's, when Mr. Frank Tyars was unable through illness to play the part of the King. Mr. Tyars is now restored to health, and gives a robust performance of the unscrupulous King, majestic in mien but unrelenting in villainy. Mr. Charles Allan has succeeded to the part of Polonius, of which he gives a whimsical rendering, betraying by many clever touches the vanity and conceit of the old man.

Miss Esmé Beringer repeats her assumption of the Queen which won merited eulogium on the recent performance at His Majesty's. Her portrayal is an artistic and impressive one, and marks her out as a real Shakespearean tragedienne. Miss Dora Barton invests the Player Queen with commendable clearness of voice and regal appearance; and Mr. Frank Cochrane is excellent as the First Player.

The rich tones of Mr. Henry Vibart's voice vibrate powerfully in the speeches of the Ghost, whose momentous utterances are delivered with admirably judged emphasis. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore is as virile and outspoken a Laertes as could be wished; and Mr. Eille Norwood again makes a comely figure of Horatio, and displays dramatic skill in a consistent rendering of the part. Rosencrantz and Guildenstein have courtly exponents in Mr. Stanley Howlett and Mr. J. Patric Curwen; and Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton and Mr. King Fordham effectively realise Marcellus and Bernardo. Mr. Tom Reynolds's exposition of the First Gravedigger's quaint philosophy, somewhat curtailed from the original, is distinctly droll; Mr. H. R. Cooke expresses himself with commendable clearness as the Priest; and as Osric Mr. Stuart Musgrove is praiseworthy. The special matinées of *Hamlet* are to be continued on Wednesdays, the 11th and 18th

ECCENTRIC CLUB CONCERT.

The Eccentric Club held its Ladies' Annual Concert at the Connaught Rooms this year. The festival is always looked forward to with much pleasure, and last Tuesday's proved no exception to the rule. The genial Mr. Richard Warner received the artists to lunch in the Crown Room, where Mr. Jack Harrison, Mr. William White, Mr. S. Pallant, and other of the stewards made the time pass merrily enough. It is somewhat difficult to make distinctions in such a long array of talent as that which appeared at the concert which followed. Miss Florence Venning sang a charming ballad, with violin accompaniment. Miss Rachael Walker delighted everyone by her remarkably fine rendering of an operatic selection. It is sufficient merely to mention the names of artists like Mr. Arhtur Prince, the ventriloquist, and Mr. Horace Golden, the conjurer, to indicate how the ladies enjoyed their entertainments. Pretty Miss Ruby Wilson contributed a song; imitations by Mr. J. J. Dallas and Mr. Gilbert Girard were much appreciated; a very beautiful child, Miss Norah Roylance, danced with much grace; Miss Elsie Southgate played the violin with depth of feeling, her technique being admirable; Mr. Walter Walters talked about his eyeglass; and Mr. Tom Clare's song "When the cow died" created roars of laughter. The Hon. Mrs. Stuart Anderson sang, Miss Gertrude Shrivington was warmly applauded, Miss Gladys Archbutt gave an Irish song, Miss Eily Beadell rendered "Pretty bird" pleasingly, Miss Clara Hubbard supplied a clever skit on the art of acting and showed fine dramatic force, and Miss Muriel Harding did some powerful imitations, that of Madame Jane Hading being very clever. Mr. Chas. Wreford, Mr. Sam Spira, Mr. Nelson Keys, Mr. Norman London, Miss Olive Fox, Miss Mary Wynne Hulm, and others contributed largely to an excellent entertainment.

Mr. Norfolk Megone's orchestra performed in the balcony of the lofty Connaught Room, which provided excellent accommodation; and the tables, banked with beautiful bouquets for the artists, looked sweet and refreshing.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on May 3, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Fred Morland, Edward Morgan, F. J. Arlton, Chris Walker, Langford Reed, C. Hayden Coffin, Robson Paige, F. H. de Quincey, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. D. Young, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The secretary presented a statement showing receipts from all sources to date, also an approximate list of outstanding payments due and the financial status of the Association up to April 30. The Council thanked the secretary for his clear statement, which was very satisfactory.

The following circular was ordered to be sent to all members whose subscriptions were outstanding:—"The Council of the Actors' Association beg to inform you that your subscription for the current year is still unpaid. The Association having informed you already of this fact, you are requested to note that this is the final reminder. Members who have not paid their subscriptions, or at least two quarters, by May 31 will be struck off the books, and not permitted to use the rooms of the Association."

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Mr. F. J. Arlton, and adopted. The secretary reported four engagements through the Agency.

With reference to a circular from the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, the secretary was directed to write to the chairman of that committee stating that so long as the Council of the A.A. had no official representative on the National Theatre Committee they must decline to have anything to do with the matter.

In reply to an entry in the Suggestion Book, the secretary was instructed to display a notice to the effect that no member will be allowed to retain the use of *The Era* or other paper longer than ten minutes after being requested for its use by any member.

Elections: Louise Melville and Campbell Cargill. Nominations: Lyonel Watts and Leon Quartermaine.

NEW THEATRICAL WATERING-PLACE.

In an article which recently appeared in the local and county Press regarding Blyth, Northumberland, the suitability of the place as a "booking" for touring proprietors and managers is explained. Last year its coal exportation alone amounted to 4,063,251 tons, and to keep pace with its continual and rapid rise of export the Commissioners have spent something like £1,000,000 in deepening the river, making dock accommodation, erecting greater and more numerous coal staithes and quays, and in protecting the harbour. In the space of a few months a big fish industry has been created, which has brought to Blyth about 1,000 girls and between 500 and 600 men, and double that number are expected before the end of this month. Up to the present 18,000 loads of timber have been landed, an increase of no less than 10,000 loads over the previous twelve months. The plans of Lord Ridley, the landowner, include a sea-wall and esplanade along the Links, a pleasure pier, and a new Grand Avenue from Newsham Station to the Links. This avenue is to be 100ft. wide along the first half of the distance, and is to open out to the magnificent width of 250ft. on to the seashore. All these facts point to the conclusion that Blyth is a good paying theatrical place, and will be more than good in the near future.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales and Princes Edward and Albert witnessed the performance of *The Merchant of Venice* at His Majesty's Theatre on the evening of the 29th ult.

"HELENA'S PATH."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Anthony Hope and Cosmo Gordon Lennox, Produced at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, May 3.

Lord Lynborough	MR. CHARLES BRYANT
Roger Wilbraham	MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Leonard Stabb	MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Mr. Stillford	MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Col. Wenman	MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
John Goodenough	MR. LESLIE CARTER
Mr. Peters	MR. WHITFORD KANE
Green	MR. C. E. VERNON
A Photographer	MR. W. WILLIAMS
A Yokel	MR. E. SIDNEY
Footman	MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
The Marchesa di San Servolo	MISS IRENE VANBRUGH
Lady Norah Mountliffey	MISS MARY JERROLD
Miss Gilletson	MISS MARY BARTON

Helena's Path is a very pretty, bright, pleasant, vivacious, and agreeable entertainment of the stage. The story is slight, but it is not felt that it is too thin for the dialogue until near the conclusion, where a certain tendency to over-elaboration and an exaggeration of fantasy caused a feeling of strain, and on Tuesday drew some rude comments from persons in the gallery. It was, no doubt, a breach of good manners for a "god" to remark "and so say all of us!" at the end of the reading of a manifesto from one of the lovers to the other; but the authors had themselves partly to thank for the interruption. Up to that point the piece had been very favourably received, and if they can modify the "solemn-ridiculous" spirit which does undoubtedly pervade this part of the play, it will be even more certain to be repeated with success.

The Marchesa di San Servolo, a most gracious and fascinating lady, has bought the beautiful Nab Grange Estate, and we see her there with her solicitor, her companion, Miss Gilletson, her female friend, Lady Norah Mountliffey, and her military admirer, Colonel Wenman. But there is a crumpled leaf on her bed of roses. Through her garden runs a right of way, a footpath which has been used for years by the local population. The Marchesa determines to close it, barricades the gate with furze, has a large padlock affixed, and erects a notice-board stating that the garden is "Private." Her neighbour, Lord Lynborough, an adventurous "original," who has travelled in foreign parts, and is a lover of women, has been accustomed to use the path on his way to bathe, and he writes protesting against the Marchesa's high-handed proceedings. She replies in a hostile spirit, and the two parties, as her lawyer says, "join issue." Lord Lynborough has the padlock carefully removed, and sends it to the Marchesa by messenger. He then presents himself at the gate, and when Lady Norah tries to prevent his entrance by standing inside and refusing to move, he jumps over her head, and thus places himself in the garden. A stalwart retainer of the Marchesa's is ordered to arrest his progress; but his lordship throws him off his guard, pushes him down on the ground, and, having overcome all obstacles, goes calmly on his way to the bathing-place.

In the second act, on the village cricket-ground at Fillby, the parties continue their contest. Lord Lynborough, by insidious courtesy and by the temptations of a luxurious luncheon-tent, wins Miss Gilletson and the Colonel to his side, and the Marchesa, by her personal fascinations, detaches from their allegiance Lynborough's antiquarian chum, Leonard Stabb, and his secretary. Meanwhile, love has sprung up in the hearts of Lynborough and the Marchesa, neither of whom, however, will give in, though he certainly has right on his side. In the last act, he sends to her a mock-heroic document, in which he proposes to come and see her personally. When he arrives, he kneels at her feet, and finally, after *pourparlers*, takes her in his arms and kisses her.

The atmosphere of the play was pleasantly supplied by some delightful scenery, the Garden set for the first and third acts being especially charming, and the acting was excellent. Miss Irene Vanbrugh has seldom seemed more bewitching than she did at the Duke of York's on Tuesday in the part of the Marchesa di San Servolo. Exquisitely dressed, she endowed the character with irresistible feminity, and played the part in a piquant, yet tender, style which cast a spell over the audience, and almost completely obscured the slightness of the "story." Miss Mary Jerrold as the lively, witty, and smartly sensible Lady Norah Mountliffey acted with a crisp vivacity and a merry animation which deserved warm praise; and Mr. Charles Bryant was enabled by his physical advantages to present a very real and plausible portraiture of the adventurous Lord Lynborough, acting throughout with ease and ability. Mr. Charles Maude did admirable work as Roger Wilbraham; and Mr. Arthur Whitby gave a quaint and humorous reading of the rôle of Leonard Stabb. Mr. O. P. Heggie was entirely effective as Mr. Stillford; and a quaint, well-controlled, and very natural performance was supplied by Mr. Frederick Lloyd as Colonel Wenman, Mr. Leslie Carter being distinctly humorous as John Goodenough, and Mr. Whitford Kane contributing a clever sketch of low comedy as Mr. Peters. Mr. C. E. Vernon made the small part of Green stand out by bold and firm treatment; and Mr. W. Williams and Mr. E. Sidney were seen to advantage as a Photographer and a Yokel, Mr. Harold Chapin being efficient as a Footman. Miss Mary Barton played Miss Gilletson with much tact and thoughtfulness, the diffidence and anxiety of the companion, and her struggle between inclination and customary rule being quite cleverly indicated. The earlier acts of *Helena's Path* were evidently enjoyed, and all that the piece needs is a little closing up and condensation in the approach to what everyone sees from the first is the inevitable end. The new piece is preceded by *The Twelve Pound Look*, in which Mr. Edmund Gwenn and Miss Mary Barton repeat their previous successes; and Miss Hilda Trevelyan gives a very clever and quite original rendering of the rôle of Kate, previously performed by Miss Lena Ashwell.

Knight Thoughts.

"THE ARCADIANS" appears to be running as strongly in New York as in London, and Mr. Percival Knight, who is playing the part of the lugubrious jockey who never wins a race is referred to in one of the New York journals in the following lines, which smack of "Father O'Flynn":—

"Percival Knight, there's a delicate quality
Shown in the gravity of your frivolity,
Shown in a lack of the obvious jollity,
Making comedians mournfully trite.
Many the jesters that sadden and weary us,
But, with your manner impassive and serious,
Nose that is vinous and voice that is beeryous,
Percival, you are a joy and delight.
Percival, when you us
Touch with your tenuous,
Quiet, unstrenuous,
'Merry and b-r-right'
Manner, we say to you,
'Briton, good-day to you,
Whoop! and hooray!' to you,
Percival Knight!"

AN extra matinée will be given on Whit Monday of Mr. Frederick Melville's successful play *The Bad Girl of the Family*, which is still drawing crowds to the Aldwych.

"PARASITES."

Play, in Four Acts, Adapted by Paul M. Potter, from "La Rabouilleuse," by Emile Fabre, Produced at the Globe Theatre on Thursday, May 5.

Colonel Philippe Bridau	MR. BOURCHIER
Jean Jacques Rouget	MR. A. E. GEORGE
Commandant Max Gilet	MR. NORMAN TREVOR
Joseph Bridau	MR. ACTON BOND
Borniche	MR. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
General Carpentier	MR. BERTRAM FORSYTH
Captain Potel	MR. FREDERIC SARGENT
Captain Renard	MR. FRANK ATHERLEY
Commandant Mignonnet	MR. GEORGE BEALBY
Ors' Anto	MR. OSCAR ADYE
Kouski	MR. DALLAS CAIRNS
Flora Brazier	MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER
Madame Bridau	MISS MARIE LINDEN
La Vedie	MISS ROSE DUPRE

When a play has started by being a French philosophical satire, has been transformed into a Parisian dramatic success, and, finally, has become a rousing comedy with a predominant part for the principal performer, it is not necessary to catalogue it too carefully. We have simply to take it for what it is worth at present; and certainly Mr. Paul M. Potter's workmanlike adaptation of M. Emile Fabre's version of Balzac's *Ménage de Garçon* fulfilled all the functions of amusement up to the end of its third act. The infatuation of an old man for a pretty woman young enough to be his daughter is always effectively comic on the stage, and this is the leading motive of *Parasites*. Old Jean Jacques Rouget has taken to himself as mistress and housekeeper a handsome young peasant, Flora Brazier, and she has obtained complete command over him. The old man's avarice, however, is at war with his infatuation with Flora, and she has to work hard in order to get him even to consider the notion of making over to her his personal property. This once attained, Flora intends to run away to Paris with a good-looking young officer, Commandant Max Gilet, who frequents Rouget's house. When affairs are in this state, Madame Bridau, Rouget's sister, comes to Issoudun and asks him to advance a sum of money to help her son, Colonel Philippe Bridau, who is in prison awaiting his trial for an alleged conspiracy against the Government. On being refused, Madame Bridau reproaches her brother with his subjection to Flora, and alludes to the latter's intrigue with Gilet. Flora, however, asserts her influence on old Rouget, and by feminine wiles, furious protestations, and hysterics, makes him promise to have nothing to do with his relatives. The latter are entirely defeated, and Max and Flora are triumphant, when, at the end of the first act, Colonel Philippe Bridau, who has been acquitted on the charge of conspiracy, arrives on the scene. He is a Napoleonic swashbuckler, all vigour, audacity, acuteness, and bluster, and he demands to see his uncle.

It now becomes a duel of wits between Flora and Philippe, and the contest is very brisk and spirited. In order to soften Rouget, Flora, at the advice of Max, pretends to run away to Bourges, where Rouget's notary lives, so that the old man may follow her and be induced to make the desired arrangement as to his personal property. But she has reckoned without Philippe, who explains to his uncle the character and intentions of Flora, and informs him of her relations with Gilet. Philippe also extracts from Rouget information as to the extent to which his uncle's senile credulity has already gone, and obtains possession of a will leaving Flora everything. He meets every move of her's and Max's with a clever counter-stroke, and at the end of the second act remains master of the situation.

It is evident to Max that his audacious enemy must be "removed," and this Max proposes to do by a duel. Philippe has given out—quite falsely—that his sword-arm has grown weak, and Max thinks that if he can manage so that he shall be the insulted party, he may get the choice of weapons, and select swords

In the third act old Rouget has conceived a bitter hatred for Max, and implores Philippe to kill him, which Bridau is quite ready to do. Some of the exiled Napoleon's old officers are the guests of Rouget; and, as they are carousing, Bridau enters, and is introduced. He is warmly received as a martyr to the cause; but Max, at the first opportunity, picks a quarrel with him. Philippe is quite ready to take offence, and insults Gilet unmistakably. A duel is arranged, Max having the choice of weapons. Flora, who fears for her lover, tries all her tricks to soften and delude Philippe, who lets her exercise her most seductive fascinations, and then laughs at her..

The last act strikes a weak and unexpected note. Flora, whose hatred for Philippe is now intense, encourages Max's faithful servant Ors' Anto to assassinate Bridau as he is approaching in a fog. A shot is heard, and Philippe enters, making the dry remark that "there is a man outside who requires attention." And then he turns Flora out of doors, and sits down to dinner with his uncle and his mother.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier is an adept in the art of finding parts which suit him exactly, and we can imagine him revelling in that of Colonel Philippe Bridau in *Parasites*. The play up to the end of the third act brims over with incident and energy, and Mr. Bourchier dominates the action in his inimitable "bluff" and his quaint and almost impish drollery. His performance as the comic "swaggerer" is one which it is impossible to forget, and amusing to remember. Miss Constance Collier enacts Flora Brazier with rare zest and ability, the sharp, sly, yet active and ardent character of the adventuress, her tricks and grimaces, and her occasional earnestness and sincerity being admirably expressed. Mr. A. E. George gives a marvellously realistic representation of amorous old age as Jean Jacques Rouget. His make-up, attitudes, and voice are excellent, and his analysis of the character is exceedingly acute. Mr. Norman Trevor is exactly fitted for the part of Max. He presents a faithful picture of the mixture of soldier and parasite, and plays the part with much subtlety and spirit. Mr. Acton Bond has few opportunities as Joseph Bridau, but in a little episode connected with some pictures he acts with all the necessary ease and ability; and Mr. Drelincourt Odlum is excellent as the harassed corn dealer, Borniche. The invited officers are nicely distinguished by Messrs. Bertram Forsyth, Frederic Sargent, Frank Atherley, and George Bealby; and Mr. Oscar Adye is effectively earnest and intense as Ors' Anto, Mr. Dallas Cairnes being smart and brisk as Kouski. Miss Marie Linden plays Madame Bridau distinctly and decidedly, and Miss Rose Dupré is acceptable and amusing as La Vedie. The piece was well produced by Mr. Gustav Von Seyfertitz, of the Empire Theatre, New York, and Miss Collier's pretty dresses were made by Lucile, Ltd.

MR. W. PAYNE SEDDON'S tenure of the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, was wound up on the evening of the 29th ult. by a complimentary benefit to him. J. M. Barrie's charming little play *The Professor's Love Story* being cleverly rendered before a good house. The cast included Mr. and Mrs. W. Payne Seddon as Henders and Lucy White respectively, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pope as Professor Goodwille and Effie, ably supported by a number of local amateurs. The piece was stage-managed by Mr. T. M. Green, and the special scenery introduced was very effective. At the close of the play Mr. Payne Seddon came before the curtain and made a capital speech appropriate to the occasion.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 27.—The revival of *Caste* at the Empire Theatre last Monday has aroused more interest than many a new production. The newspapers have devoted columns to the history of this fine old play and the performance at the Empire. It is forty-three years ago this very month that it was first produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. The Americans snapped it up immediately, and it was done here at the Broadway Theatre in the following August. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence and Mrs. G. H. Gilbert were members of the company. The last notable revival of the play in this city occurred at the Knickerbocker Theatre on January 18, 1897, when Mr. John Hare (as he was then) and the Garrick Theatre company visited America. Mr. Hare was Eccles; Mr. Frank Gilmore, George D'Alroy; Mr. Frederic Kerr, Hawtree; Mr. Gilbert Hare, Sam Gerridge; Miss Susie Vaughan, the Marquise; Miss Mona K. Oram, Esther; and Miss May Harvey, Polly. Three members of the company now appearing at the Empire Theatre took part in the important revival of *Caste* at the Haymarket Theatre in 1902, namely, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. Julian Royce, and Mr. Browne. In the present revival Mr. Browne not only appears as Sam Gerridge, but is responsible for the stage-management, and his work in both directions has received well-deserved praise.

Mr. G. P. Huntley as Eccles was a revelation, as he had been seen previously in musical comedy only. As the lazy, drunken, and loquacious old man he was splendid. As the witty and light-hearted Polly, Miss Tempest was a constant delight. What a favourite she is on this side of the water! Mr. Julian Royce was a capital Hawtree, and Mr. Edwin Arden was very good as the lisping D'Alroy. Miss Elsie Ferguson scored a distinct success as Esther, and Miss Maud Milton was an excellent Marquise. The audience was large and enthusiastic. One newspaper says the revival ought to run till next September, and another remarks that if this is a "cup-and-saucer comedy" the public would like a whole set of dishes of the same sort.

Mme. Nazimova opened the theatre that bears her name on the 18th inst., appearing as Rita Allmers in the first performance here in English of Ibsen's *Little Eyolf*. New playhouses have been springing up in such profusion in this city of late that one more opening attracts little more than ordinary attention. Nazimova's Thirty-ninth-street Theatre, to give the house its full title, is almost next door to Maxine Elliott's Theatre, and directly opposite the side entrance of the Casino. The Shuberts book the attractions for all three of them. The new theatre is one of the smallest playhouses in the city, having a seating capacity of less than 700. The exterior of the building is in the style of the Italian Renaissance. The interior decorations are in the Louis XVI. style, with ornamentations in plaster relief work, the colour scheme being old rose, with antique gold bronze decorations. The building is completely detached, as all theatres erected in this city have to be under the new building and fire laws. The older theatres have no side courts opening directly into the street. The little theatre has a very cosy and tasteful appearance.

Mme. Nazimova gave a highly intelligent and effective portrayal of the Ibsen heroine, who is so strangely jealous of her own child that her husband even accuses her of wishing that little Eyolf were dead. Early in the first act the crippled boy falls from a wharf and is drowned, and the rest of the play is made up of lamentation and remorse. Little Eyolf is supposed to be "lured" into the water by the Rat Wife, a mysterious beldame who in early life lured men by means of her beauty. As the audience sees her she is an old hag who rids houses of rats by luring them into the water with the aid of a dog. Miss Gertrude Berkeley's embodiment of this repulsive creature was sufficiently realistic and vivid to cause a general shudder. Miss Ida Conquest acted Asta Allmers in a sympathetic and womanly way, and made a very good impression. Mr. Brandon Tynan as Alfred Allmers and Mr. Robert T. Haines as the engineer Borgheim played their parts well. Master George Tobin was clever as little Eyolf.

"Molly May," a comic opera in three acts, by Walter Browne and Julian Edwards, has been well received at the Hackett Theatre. Miss Grace La Rue, from the vaudeville houses, is the "star," and Mr. James E. Sullivan, the "polite lunatic" of *The Bells of New York*, is the chief comedian. Mr. Sydney Grant, another vaudeville favourite, plays Jack Willoughby, a clubman, and makes a big hit. As a singer and dancer he is decidedly clever. There are more than twenty numbers, and the most popular of these are "I only drink for friendship's sake, but I have a lot of friends," "A baby grand," "Clap hands," and "Molly May," an entrancing waltz that runs through the opera. The story is all about an old gentleman and his son-in-law, who attend a ball and become involved in a flirtation with Molly May, which leads to all sorts of humorous complications. Miss La Rue is very popular, and deservedly so, for she sings and dances delightfully and wears the sort of costumes that the ladies describe as "perfect dreams."

"The Spendthrift," a play in four acts, by Porter Emerson Browne, was produced at the Hudson Theatre on the 11th inst. Frances Ward, who brings her husband to ruin by her extravagance, is the spendthrift of the title. Richard Ward is very much in love with his wife, and lets her have her own way in everything. When she learns that he needs twenty thousand dollars to save him from bankruptcy she procures the money. Richard supposes that she has obtained it from a rich aunt, but he learns that it came from a man named Thorne, who never gave anything without receiving something in return. In spite of his wife's denials and Thorne's corroboration of her statements, Richard believes the worst of her. She leaves him, but he discovers his mistake and a reconciliation follows. The play is cleverly acted, the company having been well chosen. Mr. Edmund Breese plays Richard Ward in his forceful and incisive way, and adds one more to his series of successful characterisations. The dialogue is witty and provokes much laughter.

Miss Olga Nethersole began an engagement at the Academy of Music, New York, on the 18th ult., appearing in *Sapho*. As the heroine of Daudet's novel, adapted for the stage by the late Clyde Fitch, Miss Nethersole invariably plays to large and appreciative audiences. She has acted the part nearly two thousand times, and her portrayal is so powerful that it leaves a lasting impression. Miss Nethersole was ably supported by Miss Charlotte Tittell, Miss Alice Gordon, Messrs. Harrison Hunter, O. B. Clarence (Cesaire Gaussin), Albert Perry, and Hamilton Mott. Four plays from her répertoire, *Carmen*, *Camille*, *The Writing on the Wall*, and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, are the offerings for this week.

Miss Pauline Chase has taken to America with her a number of "golliwogs" made by "Gladys." These dolls are caricatures of well-known actors and actresses modelled in lamp-shade paper, and those that accompany the popular Peter Pan include such favourites as Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, George Robey, Gertie Millar, Vesta Tilley, Joseph Coyne, Maud Allan, Violet Vanbrugh (as the Woman in the Case). Happy Fanny Fields, Chantecler, and last, but not least, Miss Chase herself, as Peter. Similar dolls, representing the principal characters in *Our Miss Gibbs* and *The Dollar Princess*, may be seen in the smoking saloon of the Gaiety Theatre and the foyer of Daly's.

Miss Nannie Goldman and company are presenting the farcical comedy, *Not Before the Missus*, at the Theatre Royal, Margate. Mr. William Holles as Bunstone and Miss Nannie Goldman as Jane have been remarkably successful in their respective rôles. Miss Ruth Wallace has also given a vigorous presentment of the part of Matilda Hanbury, and efficient support has been given by the other members of the company, especially Miss Pollie Walton as Mrs. Constance Bunstone, Miss Helene Dale as Julia and Miss Edith Bruce as Bessie (Bunstone's daughters), Mr. Leonard K. Mansford as Augustus Whistler, Mr. Francis James as Vandyke Brown, and Messrs. Fred Cooke, W. P. Boyle, Toby Jones, and G. Winchester in the remaining characters in the cast.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, lecturing on Wednesday night at the galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists, at a conversazione in connection with the Ethological Society, on "The Delineation of Character in Drama," ventured to affirm that a play to be permanently successful—to have a three-weeks' hold upon any theatre-going public that was, or ever would be, in existence—must always have a definite connected series of doings, and not an indefinite unconnected series of sayings. Let them pour as many ideas as they pleased into the play; let them open their treasures of philosophy and ram their moral ideas down the throats of the public; but let them do all this implicitly, and, as it were, unconsciously, behind a carefully planned scheme of action. If they could not do this let them put their ideas and their philosophy into a pamphlet.

There is a rather good story of an American actor going the rounds just now, and which concerns a hitherto unpublished incident which took place at the finish of the dress rehearsal of his play, which was successfully produced in the provinces a short time ago. This particular actor, whom we will call Mr. Z., came to this country with a terrible idea of the character of the average British stage hand. His fellow actor-managers in the States had "kidded" him that our stage men took a frantic delight in spoiling situations and scenes, and that the only way to get them to be friendly was to provide them with an unlimited allowance of beer. Mr. Z. determined to go one better than that. During rehearsals he charmed every stage hand, flyman, and limelight man with the courteous way in which he gave instructions. Early in the proceedings he notified them all that they had done so well that he intended to give them each and every one two days' extra salary. The men were delighted, and vowed they had "never had such a guv'nor." The dress rehearsal took place before "Press and friends only," and as an additional inducement to the stage staff refreshment was supplied in generous quantities. Everything went splendidly and without a hitch until the final lines were spoken and the curtain should have descended. Somebody impatiently whispered "Curtain" to the S.M., who was ringing his bell furiously. A shout of "Curtain" to the flies brought no response, and those in the auditorium tittered. Determined to be courteous to the last, Mr. Z. said: "May we have the curtain, please?" In response a loud snore was heard. On the S.M. going aloft, he found all the men up there asleep. "Well, you see," explained the head man later, "the guv'nor's such a jolly good sort, and we drank his health so much that——!"

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. HERBERT FORD.

Educated privately in London and at Bedford Grammar School, Mr. Herbert Ford left at a very early age to join his brother on a cattle ranch in Colorado, U.S.A. After two years' rough life in the West, he returned and entered his father's (an architect) office for three months. He organised a small company, playing workmen's clubs and institutes, and eventually accepted an engagement to tour as Levison in *East Lynne*. Then followed *Our Flat* and *Bootles' Baby*, after which he returned to town, and again took up club work with Mlle. Gratienne, which he regards as the most valuable experience of his early career, for he played over one hundred parts of every description in a little over a year, including rôles in *Peril*, *The New Magdalen*, *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, *Esther Sandraz*, *Ruy Blas*, and *Barnes of New York*. He then appeared in the Independent Theatre Society's productions, notably *The Duchess of Malfi*. A short tour with Miss Maude Millett in a triple bill was followed by a spring tour with Miss Fortescue with répertoire *The School for Scandal*, *The Honourable Herbert*, *Comedy and Tragedy*, *Pygmalion and Galatea*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, &c. Then began a long association with Mr. Frank Curzon in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, during which Mr. Ford played every part possible, and incidentally in many curtain-raisers. Afterwards came a tour of *Truthful James*, followed by a most valuable comedy experience in Mr. Edward Terry's répertoire, playing in *Sweet Lavender*, *An Innocent Abroad*, *Weak Woman*, &c. During this engagement Mr. Ford had the honour of appearing twice before the King (then Prince of Wales). Forsaking comedy for a time, Mr. Ford played De Coucou in *The Grip of Iron* for a tour, afterwards essaying management with a melodrama of his own writing, *The Mask of Death*. This was not a success, and an engagement followed to play the heavy part in *How London Lives*. Then the late Willie Edouin engaged him to play in *Qwong Hi* and *Our Flat* for a short season, after which he created the light comedy part in *The Wild Rabbit*. Quite an unusual engagement followed this, Mr. George Edwardes selecting him to play Lawrance

MR. HERBERT FORD.

d'Orsay's part in *The Runaway Girl*, the only musical comedy in which Mr. Ford has ever played. The revival of *How London Lives* brought him to the Princess's Theatre, with the late Charles Warner as the star. Then came a short suburban tour of *Drink* and *It's Never too Late to Mend*, followed by an engagement at the old Strand Theatre, during the runs of *Facing the Music*, *The Mysterious Mr. Bugle*, and *In the Soup*. Many parts in curtain-raisers fell to Mr. Ford's share during this engagement. Then a year of "odds and ends" found him playing in *The Liars*, *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, *Caste*, *A Marriage of Convenience*, *Aunt Jack*, and *Sunshine and Rain*, leading to his engagement by the late Austin Melford for the part of Wilfred Denver (*The Silver King*), which Mr. Ford played during thirteen tours. Alternating with this were engagements by Mr. Fred Melville in *The Beast and the Beauty*, a stock season of *Our Boys*, *The Moneyspinner*, *Caste*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, *Uncle*; also a year's music-hall engagement, to create Tom in *Three of a Kind*. After *The Silver King* Mr. Ford was engaged to play a suburban tour as Olaf in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. A summer tour followed, to star in *Captain Swift* and *The Idler*, then a short music-hall engagement in Phillips Oppenheim's sketch, *The Money Spider*, while rehearsing for Hugh Coleman in *Idols*, the summer being again filled in at the music hall, producing his own playlet, *Nerve*. Mr. Ford has recently concluded a tour of *The Explorer*, playing Mr. Waller's part.

The funeral of the late eminent dramatist M. Björnstjerne Björnson was attended by the King and Queen of Norway. King Edward was represented by the British Minister. The orchestra of the National Theatre played Grieg's funeral march, after which the officiating clergyman spoke of Norway as M. Björnson's mother, and referred to the sincere love which existed between the author and his country.

The new City Theatre, in East Fourteenth-street, New York, was opened on the 18th ult., with Miss Anna Held in Smith and Englander's musical comedy *Miss Innocence* as the initial attraction. This new playhouse has a main floor almost as large as that of the Academy of Music, and three large balconies. It is directly opposite the latter house, and will undoubtedly succeed to its patronage when it eschews the drama and turns to moving pictures for its staple attraction. The architecture of the new theatre is in the style of the French Renaissance. The seating capacity is 2,500. The colour scheme of the auditorium is in rose and olive green, with the ceiling in lighter tints of rose, decorated with old gold. The house follows the modern style of theatre construction, the arrangement of the seats resembling the shape of an open fan. The owners of the City Theatre are Messrs. Timothy D. Sullivan, George J. Kraus, and William Fox.

Miss Ana Held has announced her determination not to appear on the stage again for at least two years. In 1912, her husband, Mr. Florenz Ziegfeld, expects to open his theatre, the Folies Bergère, with a genuine Parisian revue, such as has never been seen in New York. To an interviewer Miss Held said: "For the present, at least, I am tired of stage life. I am sick of its artificialities, and I want to be natural while I am still young. My intention is so well fixed that I have just refused a very big offer to play in vaudeville. I am not as rich as John D. Rockefeller, but I have a little money, and I want a rest. My work has begun to tell upon me. I have had to be so vivacious!"

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The next meeting of the Theatrical Sports Committee will be held on Thursday, May 12, at 6 o'clock prompt, in the office, 29, Wellington-street, Strand. Mr. James Carew (chairman) has arranged to be present. All those who wish to submit suggestions regarding the arrangements or the programme of events for the consideration of the committee should send them in writing to the hon. secretary in time for this meeting.

A general meeting of the members of the Operators' Association was held on Tuesday, at 10.30 a.m., at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, Mr. A. Malcolm (president) in the chair. There was a good attendance of members. A number of new members were elected, and the question of a minimum rate of pay for each class of business was further considered. Several offers of halls for Sunday shows were reported.

The Amalgamated Musicians' Union is taking up a strong attitude on the Sunday entertainment question, and, in view of its very largely-increased membership in London, its action will have considerable effect. The entrance fee for membership of the London Branch has been increased to £1 1s. The following resolution is being submitted to the vote of the members of the Union:—

"That, in order to safeguard those engaged in the entertainment profession from a compulsory seven day's week, and to strengthen the hands of the Sunday Defence Committee, consisting of the Variety Artists' Federation, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees, no member of the A.M.U. shall be allowed to take part in Sunday concerts, except those given by the National Sunday League, the Queen's Hall Sunday Concert Society, the Royal Albert Hall Sunday Concert Society, the Beecham Orchestra, or any society affiliated to the Sunday Defence Committee."

The Sunday Defence Committee have prepared a pamphlet for publication, giving full particulars of its aims and objects. This will be distributed free to members of the profession, and, as the matter is of the greatest importance to actors, artists, musicians, operators, and employees generally, the committee hope that all concerned will obtain a copy of this pamphlet and carefully consider its contents. Copies may be obtained from Mr. Wm. Johnson, hon. secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

The staff of the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, were successful in finishing second in the competition promoted by the Oldham F.C., winning silver watches. The close of the game saw them beaten by seventeen points to nothing.

A caution to neglectful servants was given at the Marylebone Children's Court on Monday, when Mrs. James Hearn, wife of the popular actor, residing at 46, Alexandra-road, South Hampstead, summoned her former nursemaid for neglecting, abandoning, and exposing her thirteen-month-old baby girl, Beatrice, in a manner likely to cause the child unnecessary suffering or injury to health. The prosecution stated that Mrs. Hearn had three children, aged thirteen months, three years, and four years. On the evening of April 16, Mr. and Mrs. Hearn went out together, leaving the three children at home with the defendant, the housemaid, and the cook. Their intention was to dine out, but Mrs. Hearn afterwards decided to return home after dinner, and on arriving about 8.30 she was astonished to discover that all the servants had gone out, leaving the children entirely unprotected.

Candles, lamps, and gas-jets were alight in the house, and serious accidents might have happened had the children got up, which they might well have done, as there had been a thunderstorm. As it was, the baby was crying in the nursemaid's bedroom, but fortunately nothing serious occurred. The nursemaid was expressly left in charge of the baby, but nothing more was seen of her until after she had been served with a summons. While not desiring to press the case vindictively, Mrs. Hearn regarded the matter as being very important, and thought it was one that ought to be brought before the Court.

Defendant said she understood from the housemaid that Mrs. Hearn would return about eight o'clock, and as they were all very miserable they decided to go, and left the house at eight o'clock. Mr. Paul Taylor told her that her conduct showed a very inadequate consciousness of her duty as a nurse to the children committed to her care. She had been guilty of a serious moral delinquency, and as a warning to other nursemaids he fined her 40s.

Miss Florence Tyrrell's company is appearing in *The Woman in the Case* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing. Miss Tyrrell as Claire Foster shares the honours with Miss Beth Elliot in the rôle of Margaret Rolfe. Each has a part of infinite possibilities and strong characterisation, to which full justice is done. Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Thompson is admirably suited; Mr. Cecil Newton plays the part of Julian Rolfe with admirable restraint; Miss Ethel Lodge provides a delightful touch of comedy as Mrs. Hughes; and the other parts are capably filled by Mr. Sidney Porter (Jimmy O'Neil), Mr. Bruce Lindley (Louis Klauffsky), Mr. Geo. Owen (Walters), Mr. Stuart Clother (Inspector Williams), Miss Gwynfa Lewins (Elsie Brewster), Miss Lillian Perrott (Dora Miller), and Miss Eily Wilson (Louise Mane).

In Vol. III. of "The Drama" an account of the origin of Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer* is given, in which a jest is ascribed to a Mr. Grummet, of Lincolnshire, as practised on a commercial traveller. In Otridge's splendid edition of his works, the scene is laid in the town of Ardagh in Ireland, and in the Supplement to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. XC., the subject of the comedy is attributed to a circumstance of the poet's own life as follows:—Some friend had given the young poet a present of a guinea, on his going from his mother's residence in the town of Ballymahon to a school in Edgeworth's Town, where it appears he finished his education, of which he received the rudiments from the Rev. Mr. Hughes, vicar of the parish of Ballymahon. He had diverted himself on the way, the whole day, by viewing the gentlemen's seats on the road until nightfall, when he found himself a mile or two out of his direct road, in the middle of the street of Ardagh. Here he inquired for the best house in the place, meaning an inn; but being wilfully misunderstood by a wag, a fencing-master of the name of Kelly, who boasted of having been the instructor of the celebrated Marquis of Granby, he was directed to the large old-fashioned residence of Sir Ralph Fetherstone, the landlord of the town, where he was shown into the parlour, when he found the hospitable master of the house sitting by a good fire. His mistake was immediately perceived by Sir Ralph, who, being a man of humour, and well acquainted with the poet's family, encouraged him in the deception. Goldsmith ordered a good supper, invited his host and the family to partake of it, treated them with a bottle or two of wine, and at going to bed ordered a hot cake to be prepared for his breakfast; nor was it till his departure, when he called for the bill, that he discovered, that, while he imagined he was at an inn, he had been hospitably entertained in a private family of the first rank in the country.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, March 29.—Mr. J. C. Williamson produced Puccini's opera *Madame Butterfly* at the Theatre Royal on the 26th. Signor Roberto Hazon, reimported for the occasion, conducted, and an enormous house listened and watched. The one-act play was well known here, having been acted by Miss Ethel Knight Mollison (now Mrs. Alderman T. H. Kelly) to open the rebuilt Her Majesty's Theatre. Mlle. Bel Sorel was the present Cho Cho San, and her piquant characteristics and clear-cut voice suited the part of the naval officer's betrayed plaything. Mr. John Zerga, a pronouncedly Italian singer, was the Lieutenant Pinkerton. Signor Antonio Zanelli acted and sang the part of the kind-hearted American Consul admirably. Miss Rosina Buckmann, albeit Suzuki's music was lowered to suit the "star's" range, sang her portion delightfully, and made one wish to hear her as the Geisha wife. Miss Fanny Bauer had little to sing and less to do as Mrs. Pinkerton.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, under the management of Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell, changed their bill to *As You Like It*.

"Aladdin" at Her Majesty's is filling the J. C. Williamson treasury, and delighting the many thousands now in the city for the Royal Agricultural Easter Show.

At the Palace Messrs. Allan Hamilton and Max Maxwell have a fine company, playing *Woman and Wine*, headed by Miss Beatrice Day, who plays the heroine, May Andrews, as Miss Beatrice Day plays every part given to her. Miss Jenny Pollock is the adventuress, Marcelle Rigadout, and her duel with Miss Vera Kernee (La Colombe) is one of the features of the performance. Mr. Max Maxwell is the hero, Dick Seymour, a pronounced success; and Mr. Arthur Styan enthralls the audience with his strong delineation of Caliban. Mr. Charles Brown has a good time making fun as Professor Sawter. The aggressive widow, Janet Marlow, has Miss Muriel Dale to care for her peculiarities.

The Tivoli has Mr. Harry Rickards' biggest card in the not-to-be-fettered Houdini. His performance is as amazing as it is costly, and the booking to see him eclipses all Tivoli records. To describe Houdini and his work would be to insult your readers, who must all have seen him many a time and oft. The Wille Brothers, Olga Grey, Maud Fanning, Lily Langtry, the Two Prices, the Three Mascottes, Ted Kalman, Les Warton, George Sorlie, Tom Dawson, Hilda Lane (the fine soprano), Dorothy Fottils, and Brown and Robinson are some of Mr. Rickards' big list of fine performers at the Tivoli.

Wirth's Circus opened on Easter Eve in Prince Alfred Park. Master Welby Cooke, bearer of an honoured name in equestrian circles when Hengler reigned supreme, is an attractive rider. Every item in a long ring and menagerie programme is of high order, and the audiences are large.

The manager of a Vienna municipal theatre has received a play in thirty-five acts and a prologue, the author promising to call and explain the beauties of his work. It is stated that the manager has sought refuge in flight.

Dr. John Warriner, in his inaugural address at the opening of the new term course on the training of teachers at the Trinity College of Music, lectured on "The curse of the musical profession." He said that it was doubtful how far the organisation of specialists benefited art, though the process might be necessary for the protection of the individual. Professional etiquette should be founded on ethics and not on selfishness; the basis should be the common good and not that of individuals. The ignorance, apathy, and indifference of the general public was often made an excuse for a low standard of aim on the part of the teacher or artist, but such a policy in the long run defeated itself.

There were many curses of the musical profession, but the worst lay in the professionalising and degrading of art, and in the members of it acting unfairly and ungenerously towards each other. Public taste had improved very considerably during the past twenty years, and it must be their aim to improve it still further. At the same time they must not lose sight of the fact that they must, to a large extent, give the public the kind of music that it wanted, and not merely what they thought it should have. A fatal mistake made by many English people was that of selling the customer what they thought he ought to have rather than what he wanted.

Mr. Sidney Lee, in a lecture entitled "Shakespeare's Conception of Tragedy," before the Elizabethan Literary Society at Toynbee Hall on Wednesday, dealt entirely with *Othello*. He said the deep impression that *Othello* had made on the popular mind was proved by its many contributions to popular speech. In point of construction it was the very best of the tragedies. Every incident had an immediate bearing on the main issue and there was no halting in the action. The progress was in regular order, nicely balanced, and held one spell-bound from end to end. The play had the advantage over *Hamlet* that it dealt with a subject not remote from common experience, in the hero's distrust of his wife's fidelity; but for artistic purposes and to avoid the pitfall of being too realistic the scene was laid on unfamiliar ground in Cyprus, while the hero was a Moor, and Desdemona was the daughter of a Venetian Senator. The story would have been insupportable without a touch of romance. Otherwise the personages were such as might be met with in ordinary life, but no two characters ever excited pity in quite the same degree as Othello and Desdemona.

The master-touch was seen in the way Iago wove his spider's web out of the very good nature of his victims, and in his gradual shaking and ultimate shattering of Othello's peace of mind. Othello's was a nature that neither passion nor the fortunes of war could shake. He was not naturally jealous, and probably he was not versed in the ways of women. He was a man of action, but he had a good stock of ordinary prudence. To understand how such a man could be led to entertain suspicion it was necessary to understand Iago, who injected the jealous sentiment like an irritant poison. Iago was a perfect piece of intellectual cynicism, though apparently a bluff and humorous young officer. It was notable, however, that in all his witticisms there was a touch of malignity. The lecturer proceeded to discuss the other personalities of the tragedy, which, he said in conclusion, was a real page of human life, on which the only comment could be "Oh, the pity of it."

Miss Geraldine Farrar, of Grand Opera fame, on Tuesday afternoon sang to 1,000 convicts in the Georgia State Penitentiary, Atlanta. They had learned that Miss Farrar, together with Caruso, Scotti, and Madame Gadski, would be giving a week of grand opera in the State capital, and invited Miss Farrar to appear before them.

The soprano at once agreed, and drove to the prison, where she found the convicts, amongst whom were Mr. C. W. Morse and five other bankers once prominent in the business world, gathered in the large auditorium. Miss Farrar played her own accompaniments on the piano. Her songs included "Annie Laurie," "Coming through the rye," "My Old Kentucky Home," "Swanee River," and "Home Sweet Home."

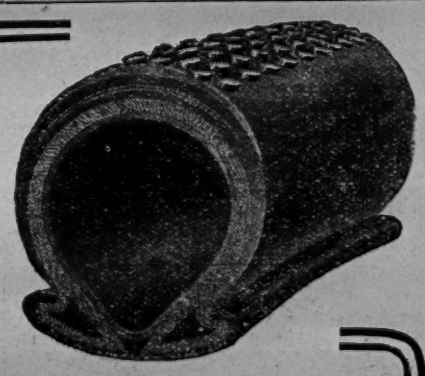

The Value of Resiliency in Motor Tyres.

Just as speed in a car levels the hills and demonstrates valuable reserves of power, so resiliency in tyres smooths out the roads and effects incalculable economies at every mile.

IF YOUR CAR COULD SPEAK, IT WOULD SPECIFY

"GOODRICH" TYRES

MANFD. BY THE B. F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, SNOW HILL, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 9.

Alice in Wonderland.—O. H., Leicester.
Alone in London.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Amsterdam.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
Angel of His Dreams.—O. H., Coventry.
Another Man's Wife.—T. R., Stockport.
Are You the Man?—Empire T., Oldham.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
At the World's Mercy.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
Baines, Miss Florence.—T. R., Rochdale.
Bateman, Mrs. Frank.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Bangor and Denbigh.
Best People.—O. H., Belfast.
Best People (B Co.).—Pavilion, Weymouth.
Bondman, The (Croke).—T. R., Aldershot.
Brewster's Millions.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Broken Heart, A.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Grand T., Derby.
Cassidy, Mr. J. Rice.—Prince's T., Blackpool.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Catch of the Season.—Leamington and Worthing.
Charley's Aunt.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Chorus Lady.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Cingalee, The (A.).—O. H., Burton.
Cingalee, The (B.)—Grand T., Hull.
Coal King.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Nottingham.
Cruise of the Constance.—Grand T., Swansea.
Dare-devil Dorothy.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Destroyer of Men.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Diana of Dobson's.—Grand T., Leeds.
Diver's Luck.—Grand T., Southampton.
Don.—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Drama of Life.—Palace T., Derby.
Draycott, Mr. Chas.—Queen's T., Manchester.
East Lynne (Croke).—Court T., Warrington
Esbi Lynne (Watt).—Castle T., Stockton.
Eyes of the World.—T. R., Batley.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Leeds.
Fanny and the Servant Problem.—Tyne T., Newcastle
Fast Life, A.—O. H., Workington.
Female Swindler.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Fires of Fate.—T. R., Brighton.
Flag Lieutenant (N.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Florodora (Constant).—Blackburn.
For Love and the King.—Grand T., Brighton.
For Old Times' Sake.—Houghton-le-Spring.
For Wife and Kingdom.—King's T., Seacombe.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Empire T., Oldham.
Gay Gordons.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Geisha.—Broadway T., Deptford
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—T. R., Darlington.
Girl from Kay's.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—T. R., Bury.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—New T., Oxford.
Her Life in London.—Prince's T., Preston.
Her Marriage Vow.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Her Path of Sorrow.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., Smethwick.
His Dishonoured Wife.—T. R., Leicester.
His Real Wife.—Court T., Wigan.
Hughes, Miss A.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
In the Shadow of Night.—Whitehaven.
King's Romance.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Barmouth and Carnarvon.
Lighthouse Robbery.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Little Damozel.—T. R., Cardiff.
Lodge-Percy, Mr. J. C.—King's T., Longsight.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Love of the Princess.—Ferndale.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Sheffield.
Lucky Durham.—Victoria T., Burnley.
Lucky 'Liza.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Man and Wife.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Many Merry Muddlers.—Gaiety T., Methil.
Marriage Mart.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
Master Man, The.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Merchant of Venice.—King's T., Glasgow.
Merry Peasant.—T. R., Glasgow.
Merry Widow.—T. R., Worcester.
Message from Mars.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Stockton.
Midnight Wedding.—O. H., Cork.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Mockery of Marriage.—T. R., Belfast.
Moody-Manners (B.).—New T., Cambridge.
Mother-in-Law.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—O. H., Southport.
Munro, Geo. and Co.—T. R., Blyth.
New Boy, The.—Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Nihilist, The.—T. R., South Shields.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Plymouth.
Old Home, The.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Only a Little Boy.—T. R., Bristol.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—West Hartlepool.
Pete (N.).—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Pete (S.).—O. H., Doncaster.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Private Secretary.—West Pier, Brighton.
Raynar's Repertoire Co.—Empire T., Ashton.
Rollicking Rory.—T. R., Sunderland.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Preston.
Salome.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Sense of Humour.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Servant in the House.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Sexton Blake.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Shadow of a Crime.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Sherlock Holmes.—O. H., Southport.
Silver King.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Sinner, The.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Crown T., Eccles.
Sorrows of Satan.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Temptation.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Thief in the Night.—T. R., Stanley.
Through the Divorce Court.—T. R., Mansfield.
Tom Jones.—P.O.W., Birmingham.
Tree, Herbert Beerbohm.—T. R., Dublin.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Hippo., Stalybridge.
Two Little Vagabonds.—T. R., York.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Under the Iron Heel.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Village Blacksmith.—O. H., St. Helens.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Leigh.
Was She to Blame?—T. R., Smethwick.
What a Man Made Her.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
When a Lass Loves.—T. R., Stratford.
When it was Dark.—Llanelly.
When Other Lips.—Queen's T., Longton.
Where is William?—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Whom God Hath Joined.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Why Smith Left Home.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Junction T., Manchester.
With Edged Tools.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Woman in the Case.—County T., Bedford.
Woman in the Case (S.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Woman of Kronstadt.—Grand T., Luton.
Woman of Two Lives.—Colosseum, Oldham.
World, The Flesh, and The Devil.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Bolton
You Never Can Tell.—T. R., Bradford.

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

R. D.—*The song "Two Little Wooden Sabots," is published by Messrs. Chappell and Co.*

Betty.—*You had better write to Mr. John D'Auban, 166, High Holborn, W.C., and 77, New Oxford-street, W.C.*

J. G. G. (Manchester).—*Charles Fechter played Don Cæsar de Bazan at the Lyceum Theatre on May 15, 1865.*

Herbert K. C. (Ealing).—*The four sisters, Marie, Alice, Grace, and Daisy (Wood), appeared together at a complimentary matinée given to Miss Marie Lloyd at the Oxford on Nov. 2, 1891.*

A. L. E.—*It is quite possible that the name in the touring company was the actress you mention. We could not say for certain, as names are so often duplicated. The last time we saw the lady she was on the variety stage; but that is some years ago. She has not been appearing in London for years.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Conan.—May 2, at 11, St. Leonard's-road, East Sheen, the wife of John E. Conan, comedian (Molly Lawler), of a daughter.

Long.—On April 29, at 22, Green Park, Bath, the wife of Lewis A. Long (of the Theatre Royal, Bath), of a daughter.

Morton.—On April 29, at her mother's residence, 125, Belgrave-gate, Leicester, Irene, the wife of Jimmy Morton (Irene and Morton), of a fine daughter. Both doing well. Papa also.

DEATHS.

Bjornson.—April 26, at Paris, Björnstjerne Björnson, Norwegian dramatist.

Cullen.—On Saturday, April 23, 1910, at Brighton, Enid Feodora Cullen, suddenly of heart failure, the dearly beloved daughter of Maude Montagu and the late Richard Limmere Cullen.

De Vere.—May 2, at Duke-street Hospital, Glasgow, Fred De Vere.

Dumayne.—May 2, in the Bristol Royal Infirmary, Miss Norma Dumayne (Eliza Caroline Burgess).

Foote.—April 20, at 29, North-side, Clapham Common, of rapid consumption, Vere Cecil (Barrington Foote), aged 31, eldest son of Frank Barrington Foote.

Keand.—April 29, at Ye Hermitage, Robin Hood's Bay, Evelyn Talbot (Mrs. Arthur Keand).

Phelps.—May 3, at Wigan, Charles H. Phelps, after much suffering.

Sidney.—On April 22, at Ocala, Florida, Frederick W. Sidney, eldest son of the late William Sidney.

Tate.—May 3, at Tufnell Park-road, Charlotte Louise Tate (Lottie Collins), comedienne, aged 43.

In Memoriam.

De Lorme.—In loving memory of my darling mother, Jenny, who died May 6, 1909. The sweetest soul that ever looked with human eyes. —Blanche.

Scott.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear mother, Rebecca Scott, who was taken to rest, from Maesteg, May 7, 1907. Deeply mourned by her sons and daughters.

Scott.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Rebecca Scott, who passed away May 7, 1907. Never forgotten by her loving daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren, Lizzie and Ned Hanneford and family.

Scott.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear mother, Rebecca Scott, who was taken to rest, from Maesteg, May 7, 1907. Deeply mourned by her youngest daughter Amelia.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

J. Norton Wilson—Saturday, May 7.
Harry Blake, Saturday, May 7.
Minnie D'Aubyn—Saturday, May 7.
Eugene Stratton—Sunday, May 8.
Sophie Harriss—Sunday, May 8.
J. M. Barrie—Monday, May 9.
Freda Fredericks, Monday, May 9.
Tom Tinsley—Monday, May 9.
Fred Astley—Monday, May 9.
Pollie Emery—Tuesday, May 10.
George D. Fox—Tuesday, May 10.
Frank Hardie—Tuesday, May 10.
Harry Mountford—Wednesday, May 11.
Francis—Thursday, May 12.
Vesta Tilley—Friday, May 13.
Lieutenant Albini—Friday, May 13.
Nellie Sheldon—Friday, May 13.

The George French Troupe of cyclists and the Snow Family of skaters are creating something of a sensation in Northampton this week with their two clever shows, and are drawing crowds of delighted people to the Opera House nightly.

Miss May de Launey and her company played *Caste* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Monday and Wednesday, the house being well filled on each occasion. Miss de Launey charmed her audience with her vivacity as Polly Eccles, and Esther found a most capable exponent in Miss Beatrice Whitney; the rôle of the Marquise de St. Maur being enacted by Miss Caroline Fenton; Eccles was exceedingly well played by Mr. Stanley Lathbury; Mr. Marcus Draper was successful as the Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr. Cecil Collins made a good-natured Captain Hawtrey; and Mr. Edgar Payne found favour in the rôle of Sam Gerridge. On Tuesday a new one-act tragedy, entitled *The Law of the Zingali*, from the pen of a local writer, was presented, and a notice of the production will be found in another column. In addition, the audience were treated to a delightful interpretation of the amusing play *'Op o' My Thumb* and the farce *Turn Him Out*. For the remainder of the week the boards of the theatre are occupied by Miss Fyfe Alexander's company in *A Sense of Humour*.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Achurch, Miss J.
Albert, Mr. Arthur
Albery, Mrs.
Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. S.
Allan, Mr. J.
Archbutt, Miss Gladys
Armadale, Miss Sybil
Ash, Mr. Harold
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Barnes, Miss E.
Barrett, Mr. Alfred
Beaute, Mr. V.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bennett, Mr. Chas.
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W
Brooke, Miss Sara
Brunton, Miss E. S.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Caline, Mrs. Jack
Cameron and Alexander
Campion, Miss May
Carden, Mrs. Sidney
Cato, Mr. G. P.
Challis, Mr. R.
Clark, Mr. L.
Clements, Miss M.
Clifford, Mr. N.
Clive, Mr. E. E.
Cooke, Mr. Burton
Corri, Madam G.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dare, Mr. R. C.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Day, Mr. Geo. H.
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Denham, Mr. Geo.
Digby, Mr Chas.
Earle, Mr. Fred
Edgar, Mr. Richard
Edwards and Ward
Edwards, Mr. Will
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Englefield, Mr.
Erroll, Mr. J.
Evans, Mr. Wash
Fergusson, Mr. L. S.
Filippi, Miss Rosina
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Forbes-Robertson, Mrs.
Francis, Mrs. Joseph
Frank, Miss Bessie
Froude, Miss Kate
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Garner, Mr. Booth
Geraldos, The
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Gunn, Miss Winnie
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Handel, Miss Z.
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Harris, Mr. Cecil
Hepworth, Miss Maud
Hickman, Mr. C. D.
Hollister, Mr. H.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Hunt, Mr. W. L.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Jacobs and Jephson
Jackson Family
Johnson, Mr. T. E.
Josephs, Mr. Harry
Keeble, Mr. H. W.
Kingsley, Mr. Gordon
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirk, Mr. Geo.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes
La Dor, Mr. John
Langfords, The
Lawton, Mr. E.
Legarde, Miss M.
Leonas, The
Lewis, Mr. Harold
Leyland, Mr. R.
Lloyd, Mr. F. F.
Loftus, Mr. Alexander
Mackersey, Mr. W. A.
Maitland, Miss Kitty
Mauritius, Mr. Theo.
May, Miss Daisy
Mayne, Miss Clarice
McCullough, Mr. Brian
McEwan, Mr. Walter
Mead, Mr. David
Melvin, Mr. Chas.
Metcalf, Mr. F.
Meux, Mr. Alex
Michel Brothers
Mill, Mr. Paul
Missouri, Mr. Ted
Montefiore, Mr. E.
Morgan, Mr. Clifford
Morrison, Mr. Graham
Morritt, Mr. Chas.
Nanakusa, Mrs.
Nelson, Mr.
Nero, Mons. M.
Newark, Mr. A.
Newsome, Mr. S. T.
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Parsons, Mr. Phil
Paton, Mr. Chas. E.
Payne, Mr. W.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Poel, Mr. William
Rajah
Raymonde, Miss Susie
Rexos, The
Rezene, Mr. Charles
Ridgewell, Mr. Geo.
Ridley, Mr. Geo.
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rodney, Miss Nellie
Sarron, Miss Celia
Schofield, Mr. G. W.
Scott, Miss D.
Scroggs, Mr. Charlie
Spray, Mr. W.
Tayler, Mr. D.
Terry, Miss Marion
Thorpe, Mr.
Toser, Mr. C. A. N.
Travers, Miss Marie
Valentine, Mr. Paul
Walter, Mr. T. N.
Warlow, Mr. Percy
Winona and King
Wray, Miss Maud
Wyndham, Miss Pattie
Zillwood, Miss Ruth

Blackmore's Theatrical Agency, 11, Garrick-street, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
Breaking Records for Big Business Everywhere.

Savoy Turkish Baths.
The Largest. Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

Birkbeck Bank
Established 1851.
Southampton-buildings, High Holborn, W.C.
2½ per cent. interest allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 per cent. interest on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
Almanack, with full particulars, post free.
C. F. Ravenscroft, Secretary.

Accidents of all kinds, sickness, employers' liability, burglary and fidelity guarantee risks
Insured Against by the Railway Passengers' Assurance Co.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, Cornhill, London.
A. Vian, Secretary.

MONEY £5 to £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

Bureau de Change
Specially recommended. Hands and Co., 16, Strand, Charing Cross Railway Station, London, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Roze Mapleson.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Typewriting.
Mrs. Marshall, 126, Strand, W.C.
Prompt Books and Actors' Parts.
Translations from and into all Languages.
Adaptations of French and German Plays Undertaken.
Shorthand Dictation in French or English. References to many Leading Authors and Managers.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 21215/99.)
TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 514,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 504004.
Compress Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Original Velvet Grip Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM
Every evening at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday, at 2.30.
Revival of the Famous Romantic Drama,
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
By Walter Howard.
Box Office, 10 to 10. Tels. (3) 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.
Extra matinée Whitsun Monday, at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"THE SILVER KING."

For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly at 7.30. Matinées, Thursday, 2.30.
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, May 9,
VARIETY WEEK, Twice Nightly.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
All communications as to
Future Dates and Bookings
to be addressed to
Alex. Watson.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OXFORD-CIRCUS, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
"The Little Chantecler," the New Magic Cloak.
New Version of the "Mascot Moth." Mr. Maskelyne, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and Mr. Devant, at every performance.
Seats 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Lily Eyton, Len Hale, Dale and O'Malley, Cavalotti Bros., Mr. C. Maude Courtney, Gladys Huxley, Eight College Girls, Frances Letty and Co., Pictures, "Darracq."

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Wadham and Sterling, Adella Masson, Shannon and Noble, Haydee's Marionettes, The Deafiores, Swift Duo, Sybil Montague, Capt. Ellis and Son, Peggy Pryde, Halma, Martin Henderson, Jeapes' Animated Graphic.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Cyril Clensy and Company in "The Last Chance," Daisy Dormer, Kirk and Saraski, Cliff Diamond, Eight College Girls, Percy Hannan, Maud Prenton, Ruffell's Bioscope, Dale and O'Malley, The Schimettans.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. The Harvey Boys, Aggie Nolan, Calile and Walker, Alice Lingard, Bros. Smarte, Bioscope, Edith Haley, Fred S. Jennings' Co. in "The Spirit of Music," My Fancy, Frank Boyce. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, May 9,
Dolly Elsworthy and Co. in "Nana," Gwen Francis, Will Brockton, Lydia and Amelys, Claymore Trio, Three Aza Boys, Larry Peate, Lallie Stone's "Four Marzipans," Mabel Emley and Arthur Moss, Tod Lowen, Jose and Louie, Agnes Molteno, Rosalie Jacobi, Bioscope, "An Ape's Devotion."
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, May 9, the March Hares (including Mr. Davy Burnaby), Kitts and Windrum and Co., Frances Letty, Gene Morelle, Emmie Ames, Wallace Lupino, Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Kenneth and Kane, Harry Bancroft, Gladys Whitton, Desmond and O'Gorman, Syd Kemp, Edisonagraph, &c. Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30 (Sat. 7); commence 7.40 (Sat. 7.15). Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Charles Barow, Maxini and Bobby, Francis Marty, Coram, The Balzars, Jury's Pictures, "THE POLAR STAR (last nights), &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST," FRED FARREN, &c.,
Petit Roberto, Cornalla and Edd.e,
Elsie Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
ANNA PAVLOVA, MICHAEL MORDKIN, RUSSIA'S GREATEST DANCERS and CO., MARGARET COOPER, CLARICE VANCE, ALBERT WHELAN, KEMPTON JUBILEE on BIOSCOPE, &c. Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.0.
Special Matinée, Wednesdays, at 3.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Walking the Hoop, by Archie Goodall, Wilkie Bard, Phil Ray, Dan Crawley, Oswald Williams, the great Illusionist, Daisy Dormer, Ernest Shand, Fred Elton, W. T. Ellwanger and Co., Wilfred Burnand, George Antill, Scott and Whaley, Hanid Alexander, O Hana San, Yvonne Lamor, The Howards, Stella Troupe, Ted Waite, Bioscope. Open 7.25; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD, LILIAN HERLEIN, RUTLAND BARRINGTON, VICTORIA MONKS, Scott and Whaley, Edward Bondel and Co., The Tyrolean Singers and Dancers, La Belle Alva, Ernest Shand, The Martineks, Gladys Sears, Lily Black, Phil Ray, and G. H. Chirgwin.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Trinity Term began April 30. The Operatic Class resumed the Rehearsal of "Les Cloches de Corneville" on Wednesday, May 4. Full particulars on application. SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

THE ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND.
President—Mr. CYRIL MAUDE.
The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the FUND will be held at THE PLAYHOUSE on FRIDAY, May 27, 1910, at four o'clock.
Business—To receive the report and the balance-sheet for 1909; to elect the necessary officers; to determine the election by voting papers of the executive committee to serve until May 1911.
The Right Hon. Lord ALVERSTONE, K.B., G.C.M.G., in the Chair.
Tickets may be obtained, free of charge, from A. J. Austin, Hon. Secretary, 25, Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and
Most Up-to-date Theatres
in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT. - THEATRE ROYAL
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Besch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 27, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911. Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Have July 11 & 25 open for First-class Attractions.
Address, Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EDMONTON.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional Reports of the Edmonton Palace.—Address, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HALIFAX. — MECHANICS' HALL.
Vacant Dates at Whitsuntide.
Dates open from May 13, forward.
New Regulations for Cinematographs complete.
Summer price, £3.8 per week.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and others.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

IPSWICH. — LYCEUM THEATRE.
Population between Seventy and Eighty Thousand. All Dates Filled to the Closing for Summer Vacation, Reopening End of August. Wanted, Autumn Dates and Dec. 26, Jan. 19 and 23. Extract from letter from D. Lyn Harding, Esq., Jan. 5, 1910:—I want to thank the directors and Miss Dod for the courtesy extended to our manager and "The Flag Lieutenant" company during their week's stay at your beautifully clean and well-managed theatre. My partner and myself were very satisfied with the business.
Apply, Miss Dod, Lyceum, Ipswich. Tel. 290.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, May 12, 13, 14 (three nights), all June, Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.
Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.
Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. Jackson Withers, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
May 23, 30.
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday) and Oct. 17.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700. Stage, 35ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WALSALL.—Correspondent Required to supply weekly reports of the theatres and music halls.—Apply, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Musical Comedy for Whit week.
C. Adolf Seebold.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 29, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Malsie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Moule, Mr. Fred	Dec. 25, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russell, Mr. Fred	June 26, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Turner-Elliott, Miss Elizabeth	Sept. 11, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1910.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Now that the Actors' Association has comfortably settled down in its new premises in Regent Street, Piccadilly, it is interesting to recall the circumstances of its origination. The leading spirit was Mr. ROBERT COURTNEIDGE, whose recent generosity to the Fresh Air Fund has won so much well-deserved recognition. In the speech which Mr. COURTNEIDGE made at a meeting at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Feb. 1, 1891, he explained that the proposed Association would be formed "for the removal of abuses and the amicable adjustment of commercial relations between managers and actors." Amongst those who wrote eagerly supporting the movement were the late Mr. CHARLES WARNER, Mr. ARTHUR WILLIAMS, Mr. FRANK COOPER, the late WILLIAM TERRISS, and Miss SUSIE VAUGHAN. Sir—then Mr.—A. W. PINERO wrote: "I am in sympathy with any measure which may be adopted to suppress the cruel bogus manager, and the framing of explicit and equitable agreements between actors and managers; and the consequent abolition of vague and obsolete provisions in such agreements also seem to me to be useful work. But I cannot help expressing a hope that no combination will be formed which has for its purpose the setting of actor against manager. Certainly I could not support a movement with such a tendency." Mr. COURTNEIDGE, in conclusion, combated the idea that there was any idea on the part of the promoters to strike. A motion that an Actors' Association should be formed on the basis of the four resolutions already passed dealing with the bogus manager, the insanitary dressing-room, and the principle of arbitration, was proposed by Mr. F. R. BENSON, seconded by Mr. BRODIE, and carried; and the Actors' Association was formed.

In a chat the other day with the earnest and energetic secretary of the Association, Mr. DUNCAN YOUNG, that gentleman informed us that—now that the Association has entirely returned to the right path, and has abandoned the regrettable errors into which it was temporarily led by evil counsellors—the Society is in a more satisfactory state than ever. The artistic temperament is always imaginative and impressionable. It is inclined, in the warmth of its heart and under the influence of eloquent argument, to believe in all sorts of short cuts to a millennium. But there is this to be said for it: as soon as it is convinced that it has been mistaken it reverts to common sense with absolute conviction. The thorough way in which, at its last election, it purged itself of its idealogues and impossiblists showed this most conclusively. The prosperity of the Actors' Association, in its reformed state, is a pleasing contrast to the fate of the unhappy Actors' Union, which, founded in March, 1907, and registered in October, 1907, as a trade union, is apparently, to all intents and purposes, extinct.

The Actors' Association was partly established to combat bogus management; and it is now busily engaged in doing so. The difficulties which it finds are those which *The Era* has always experienced in trying to "tackle" these gentry. In times past, when bogus management in its worst sense was much more prevalent than at present, we again and again refused advertisements from "bogus" managers, only to have them sent in later under different names. This Protean faculty of the theatrical swindler makes it very difficult to deal with him. Actors and actresses may be warned against Mr. SMITH as a "bogus" manager; but the warning is useless when he turns up as Mr. JONES, anxious to engage another company. Publishing likenesses does no good. A manager, who cannot exactly be termed a "bogus" one—for he paid his company regularly for a long period before his *débâcle*—has, we are credibly informed, shaved his moustache, dyed his hair, and completely altered his identity. The "bogus" manager is, indeed, as slippery as an eel.

Only one means of identification remains, the handwriting; and here the Association has adopted an excellent expedient. It files the letters of proved "bogus" managers and posts their names in its rooms, so that all who enter them may fix on their minds the "fist" of the offender. It is hardly possible for him to alter his handwriting continually, and fortunately these people do not usually indulge in the luxury of a typewriter. But, besides this, the Association keeps steadily on the track of the "bogus" manager, and makes it difficult for him to "bob up serenely" after having swindled one set of victims, in order to secure another batch.

It is satisfactory to know that, thanks no doubt to the vigilance of the Association, the "bogus" manager is gradually being stamped out. It is unfair to describe as "bogus" the too sanguine organiser of a provincial company, who by an unexpected run of bad luck, or some fatal misfortune such as illness in his company, &c., is compelled to part with his artists while they are in his debt. The old-fashioned "bogus" manager never meant to pay his company. He lived by engaging innocent novices, stage-struck incompetents, and "bogus" actors; and he never expected to make more than just sufficient to render it worth his while to leave his victims in the lurch. Of course, according to strictly logical argument, a manager ought never to embark on a tour without having at his back capital enough to provide for all imaginable mishaps and misfortunes, including strikes, "heat waves," and irresistible counter-attractions; but the theatrical business has always been a speculative one; and, in most cases, the members take risks, when they are obliged to, with their eyes open, and do not complain when the game goes against them. But there are still occasional instances of heartless dishonesty and vile trickery which should be punished with all possible severity. The difficulty, as Mr. YOUNG tells us, is to "catch your hare," and thus the Actors' Association finds plenty of work. Its members may rest assured that their interests are attended to by their council in this, as in other respects, with unflagging energy.

THE ARRIVAL OF "SMITH."

"Smith" is in London. Not Smith major, minor, minimus, or maximus, but simply plain "Smith." There is no doubt about it. He has arrived, and, unlike that bright exhalation in the evening spoken of by the late Cardinal Wolsey, he will become a permanent star. Indeed, he is by way of beating Halley's comet in the race for notoriety. As a mere matter of record, we may mention that Smith took up the part of Rolandyl, postmaster-general and assessor of taxes in the pretty and effective musical comedy *Two Merry Monarchs*, which was transferred on Saturday evening from the Savoy to the Strand—without Mr. C. H. Workman, the originator of the part. Who found Smith? It was the use of bold advertisement to which we may attribute his rapid run into the zone of popularity. We are told that he was chosen from a hundred others for the part which he is now playing.

If we were to enlarge on the dramatic deeds of the many distinguished actors who have given distinction to the name, from "Obi" Smith to Albert Smith, we might prove quite easily the immense versatility possessed by this most ancient and honoured family, and the latest member of it is certainly well charged with ability. The part of Rolandyl enables him to show his real grit as a comedian, and he is well endowed in every respect for the rôle. He is never lacking in comic business, and his droll expressiveness and capital elocution are at once passports to favour. He is not a mere imitator, and while brisk and alert, he is content to play his part as it is set down for him. He has a fine turn for eccentricity in his dancing, and his rendering of "What's the good of calling on a man when he's out?" is genuinely droll. In a word, "Smith" is a great success, and "Philip" is his front name.

Mr. Lennox Pawle's Utops has gained in whimsicality since the first night, and he is particularly good in the number "I'm one of the boys." He is indeed a jocund monarch. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., as King Paul of Esperanto, with a penchant for shady conduct, has added many little touches of humour to his impersonation; and Mr. Leslie Stiles makes a bright and breezy Helvanoise. Mr. Hayden Coffin has taken the place of Mr. Roland Cunningham as Prince Charmis, returning to the musical comedy stage in a character to which he does complete justice. He is well served in the ballad "The love of my life." Of the brightness of Miss Daisy Le Hay as Princess Cynthia we have before spoken; and though the impersonation has gained in freedom, it is one of supreme delicacy and charm. Miss Alma Barber's Iris, too, has gained in animation and grace; and the speeches of the public agitator Caroline lose nothing of their force or spirit in the keeping of Miss Lily Mills. Mr. Neville George is responsible for a clever study of the ancient Mandamus, Lord Chief Justice of Utopia; Mr. Francis Pater puts plenty of character into his sketch of the head flunkey at the Palace; Mr. Alfred Vigay as Prince Frederick is eloquent in his every gesture. The ladies-in-waiting make a pretty sextette. They are Miss Aileen Peel, Miss Ella Daincourt, Miss Josset Elis, Miss Joan Adair, Miss Betty Heaps, Miss Adeline Waterlow. The piece has been beautifully produced by Mr. Austin Hurgon, the manager, whose experiment of converting the Strand Theatre into a house of the musical comedy type, at popular prices, has our heartiest wishes for its success. It is an excellent idea, and if Mr. Hurgon can only maintain the standard he set last Saturday night his success is assured. With five-shilling stalls, and other prices in proportion, to say nothing about the capital entertainment provided, the fortunes of the elegant house should turn. Mr. Hurgon has a courteous acting-manager in Mr. Bernard L. Braithwaite.

"NEW HUMOUR AND OLD COMEDY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you will allow me space enough to point out one or two trifling errors in your report of my paper on "New Humour and Old Comedy." Apart from certain patent printer's errors, you have not indicated the lacunas, which makes the matter read rather inconsequently at times. Towards the end of the second column, "Our modern dramatists do not impress me with that passionate sense of impulse" refers to the methods of Balzac alluded to by me in an omitted passage, and *not* to the paragraph which immediately precedes it in your report. Apologising for troubling you,—Yours faithfully, EDWARD COMPTON.

Grand Theatre, Leeds, May 4.

PLAY ACTORS' PRODUCTIONS.

"THE RED HERRING."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Ronald Macdonald. Produced at the Court Theatre on Sunday, May 1.

Casimir de Mont-Lussac ..... MR. LEON QUARTERMAINE
Mr. Rendle ..... MR. BENEDICK BUTLER
Clara ..... MISS BEATRICE CHESTER
James Adderley Canfield ..... MR. JACKSON WILCOX
Marquis of Cottersdale ..... MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Miriam, Marchioness of Cottersdale ..... MISS MARY FORBES
Major George Luttrell Thwaites, D.S.O. ..... MR. CECIL KINNAIRD
Charles Suffick ..... MR. ARNOLD LUCY
Myraphne Ffolliot-Wilson ..... MISS ESMÉ HUBBARD
Hon. Evelyn St. Elvyn ..... MISS GEORGETTE DE SERVILLE
A Footman ..... MR. RALPH GAFFAGAN
Mayfield ..... MISS MARGARET DAMER
Thomas ..... MR. WALTER CROSS
Alexander Macliwrath ..... MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON
Inspector of Police ..... MR. HUGH B. TABBERER

The power of the Press, magnified beyond all reason, is the motive force of *The Red Herring*, with the production of which the Play Actors' concluded their season on Sunday. The last has not, in this instance, proved the best, for the piece was found to be a series of shallow situations, none of which could boast the merit of originality, while the dialogue, intended to be smartly sarcastic, only occasionally succeeded.

The leading character is perhaps the best drawn if only he could be made possible. He is an intellectual genius, prepared to set the world right, from Prime Minister to police, named Casimir de Mont-Lussac, a member of the French Embassy. In such circumstances it is only mildly surprising that his uncle, the Marquis of Cottersdale, and Prime Minister of England, should come to him for aid in an extremity. We gathered that a treaty affecting some West African territory was to be signed within four days, but that an article was in preparation for an influential newspaper, which would stir up opposition and destroy the possibility of peace. The marquis wants his nephew to use his influence to prevent the appearance of the article, and the latter does so by manufacturing a counter sensation that puts the West African affair into the shade. The methods by which the end is reached are complicated. Unknown to her husband, Miriam, the marquis's young and handsome wife, has visited Casimir to ask him to allow her to negotiate at his house with a pair of blackmailers, who hold compromising letters affecting her brother, to whom she is devoted. By the exercise of approved Sherlock Holmes methods, Casimir obtains the letters; but, in revenge, the discomfited blackmailer plants the seed of jealousy in the Marquis's breast by informing him of Miriam's visit to Casimir. There is a scene between the Marquis and his wife, and Miriam leaves him in anger.

Meanwhile, Casimir has arranged to elope with the Hon. Evelyn St. Elvyn, the Marquis's ward in Chancery, her guardian withholding his consent to the marriage because he conceives it his duty to find her a husband of higher rank. Miriam has taken refuge at a bungalow in Cotterzdale Park, which is to form the headquarters for the elopement, and thither Casimir persuades the Marquis to go in order to make friends with his wife. No sooner does he enter than he is pounced upon by Casimir and his friend, a reporter for the Asmodean News Agency, and left bound to a chair, while furniture is strewn about the room in a way that gives every evidence of a burglary. Having thus engineered the desired counter-sensation, Casimir goes blithely off to his wedding, and the Asmodean reporter sees that the news appears in the morning papers, to the utter extinction of the West African business. The political trouble is thus averted, the Marquis and his wife are reconciled in a conventional way, and Casimir pockets a £50 note as the result of a bet with his uncle over his marriage with Evelyn.

The talents of an excellent cast were sparingly employed in the piece, and the very cleverness of the acting made the weakness of the play more apparent. Mr. Leon Quartermaine displayed highly agreeable light comedy gifts to advantage, but the self-satisfied smile which accompanied every observation became somewhat oppressive. Most of the other characters were simply pawns in a dramatic game of chess, with Casimir as the player. The Marquis of Cottersdale had to submit himself entirely to his nephew and few opportunities were thus given to Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton to display his skill, but he succeeded in looking the Cabinet Minister to the life. A handsome Marchioness, exquisitely gowned, was found in Miss Mary Forbes, whose emotional voice was invaluable in the brief scene where husband and wife are parted. Miss Georgette de Serville, also elegantly arrayed, was very natural in her love-making as Casimir's betrothed, and the vivacity of Miss Esmé Hubbard had only meagre opportunities in the part of a young but eccentric Irish widow. Mr. Jackson Wilcox made a typical American hustler of James Adderley Canfield, the reporter; and as a love-stricken Major, prepared to go to the ends of the earth for the Irish widow, Mr. Cecil Kinnaird acted ably. Mr. Arnold Lucy supplied a clever study of Charles Suffick, a would-be blackmailer, whose pale, ferret-like face and shifty glances, added to the effect of a finished impersonation. Expert sketches of character were also furnished by Mr. Alec F. Thompson, who created much laughter as a weird little Scotchman; by Mr. Benedick Butler, a keen and resourceful manservant; by Miss Beatrice Chester, a stately parlourmaid; and by Mr. Hugh B. Tabberer, a smart inspector of police. A highly enthusiastic audience gave the author a hearty call, but there was no response.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The inaugural lecture of the new term course for the training of teachers was given by Dr. J. Warriner at Trinity College on Wednesday afternoon, the subject being "The Curse of the Musical Profession." After referring to the close professions of Law, Medicine, and the Army, Navy, and Church, Dr. Warriner said there were at the present day many important musical societies and guilds, but in music nothing like the strict professional etiquette of law or medicine. A doctor would not think of taking up a case in charge of another medical man, but musicians, on the other hand, often took the pupils of other professors away, and even accepted lower terms. The lecturer referred to music being taught at 4d. and 6d. a lesson, but said in spite of such things the general standard of music was much higher. Only a few years ago the *Tannhäuser* overture was said to be unplayable, and yet at the present day it was often performed even by amateurs. One great fault of the English was trying to make a customer buy what the shopkeeper wished and not the customer, and this applied to our young composers, who produced dull, worthless compositions, and then complained they would not sell. Dr. Warriner advised all students to read Sir Charles Santley's clever work on "Cant," and ponder on the writer's remarks on the lack of earnestness so often displayed by students. "The ignorance, apathy, and indifference of the general public is often made an excuse for a low standard of aim on the part of a teacher, but such a policy defeats itself." "The curse of the musical profession lay in professionalising and degrading art and acting unfairly to others." Dr. Warriner gave several instances, and suggested some remedies which he thought would be of benefit to musical art generally.

THE HALL CAINE CASE.

Mr. Hall Caine was the defendant in an action, the hearing of which commenced before Mr. Justice Channell and a special jury, in the King's Bench Division, on Tuesday. Mr. Montague Vivian Leveaux, the well-known theatrical manager, as plaintiff, claimed the specific performance of an agreement in writing, dated July 23, 1908, for the granting by defendant to him and Mr. Derwent Hall Caine (defendant's son) of the sole and exclusive rights of production in a play originally called *Home, Sweet Home; or, Jan, the Icelander*, and later on *The Unwritten Law*. The agreement provided that the full manuscript should be handed over by Nov. 1, 1908, but this was not done. The contract was admitted, but ill-health was pleaded as a justification of the breach. In the first instance, Mr. Derwent Hall Caine was joined as plaintiff, but on his father's application he was struck out on the ground that he was a minor.

COUNSEL'S OPENING.

The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Lush, K.C., and Mr. Colam (instructed by J. H. Mote and Son). Mr. Eldon Bankes, K.C., and Mr. McCardie (instructed by Langton and Passmore) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Lush, in opening the case, said the complaint Mr. Leveaux made, put shortly, was this: That he entered into a contract with Mr. Hall Caine under which the latter was to deliver to Mr. Leveaux the play on which Mr. Hall Caine had been engaged; and the complaint was that Mr. Hall Caine failed to deliver the play; that he broke his contract; and then by Mr. Leveaux had suffered very heavy loss. It was not disputed that the contract was made, but the excuse which Mr. Hall Caine set up for non-fulfilment was that the contract was subject to the implied condition that his health and ability to work should continue. He said that in August of 1908 and afterwards he became seriously ill through nervous exhaustion and insomnia, and was unable to work on the play. Mr. Hall Caine's contention was that by illness he became excused from the consequences of non-fulfilment. The question of fact for the jury to consider was whether Mr. Hall Caine was so seriously ill that it became impossible for him to carry out his contract.

In June or July of 1908 Mr. Hall Caine's son Derwent, who was a very great friend of Mr. Leveaux, went to see Mr. Leveaux, and told him he had a play of his father's. He explained what the idea of the play was, and suggested that Mr. Leveaux should arrange with him to take the play on tour through the provinces on the terms that Mr. Leveaux was to do all the financing and that the profits of the tour should be divided—Mr. Leveaux to get two-thirds and Mr. Derwent the other third. Mr. Derwent further explained that there was a part in the play which he wished to take himself, and it was arranged—provided, of course, that in Mr. Leveaux's opinion the part was suitable to Mr. Derwent—that Mr. Derwent should take that particular part at a certain salary—he thought £10 a week. On the other hand, it was arranged that Mr. Leveaux should be entitled to debit the profits before the distribution, with the sum of £10 per week to cover the costs of managing the play for the first and second tours in any season, and £5 per week for later tours. Early in July of 1908 Mr. Leveaux received a letter from Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, who wrote from Greeba Castle:—

"I have discussed the terms of the new play with my father, and the following is his view of what, under the circumstances, would be a fair scale of royalties. On receipts up to £200, 5 per cent.; above £200 and up to £400, 7½ per cent. straight; above £400, 10 per cent. straight.

"I may mention that in the case of *The Christian*, *The Bondman*, and *The Prodigal Son*, royalties rose as high as 20 per cent. in a sliding scale beginning at 5 per cent.

"You will therefore see that these terms are easy, and that the scale given above will enable us to win largely on the high receipts."

Shortly afterwards, added counsel, the agreement in question was entered into between Mr. Leveaux and Mr. Derwent Hall Caine on the one part, and Mr. Hall Caine on the other. It recited that Mr. Hall Caine was the author and owner of a new play, at that time entitled *Home, Sweet Home; or, Jan, the Icelander*, and that he gave the managers—as Mr. Leveaux and Mr. Derwent were called—the sole and exclusive rights of production in the United Kingdom, Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man. The agreement continued:—

"In consideration of the above the managers agree to pay to the author on the gross weekly receipts up to £200 per week, 5 per cent.; given the weekly receips, £400, then 10 per cent. thereof. These terms are for all towns except 'fit-up' towns, for which the managers shall pay to the author 2½ per cent.

"The author agrees to hand to the managers the full manuscript of the play by Nov. 1, 1908, which condition shall be of the essence of the contract."

Mr. Hall Caine undertook to hand over the full manuscript by Nov. 1, 1908. Mr. Leveaux at once began to busy himself in making the necessary arrangements for the tour.

Later on there were delays, and eventually Mr. Hall Caine wrote from St. Moritz:—

"It is with the greatest regret that I am compelled to tell you that owing to the failure of my health, beginning in November, and the necessity of leaving home in the hope of recruiting my strength, I now find myself unable to fulfil to date the conditions of the agreement we entered into in relation to *The Unwritten Law*.

"I am sorry to say that at the present moment I am quite unfit to complete the play, and that any attempt to do so would probably result in injuring the work and therefore imperil its success with you as touring manager.

"Under these circumstances I feel compelled to ask you to allow me to postpone its production in the provinces until my health is sufficiently recovered."

In the end, added counsel, his client instituted proceedings.

MR. LEVEAUX'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. M. V. Leveaux, in giving evidence, said he had one or two dates (bookings) arranged for February. Witness discussed with Mr. Hall Caine as to the suitability of Mr. Derwent taking a prominent part. They were both anxious that he should do so. He understood that at the end of November Mr. Hall Caine was going to St. Moritz to complete the play and the story of *The White Prophet*.

Witness said that if the play were to be brought out in February it was necessary the contracts should be completed. Mr. Hall Caine told him the play was going to be produced in London in the spring by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree. When witness first discussed the play with Mr. Derwent he thought it was complete. Some time afterwards Mr. Derwent handed him two incomplete plays, which he said would give witness an idea of the story. He had not been sued for damages in regard to the contracts he had made.

Onestioned about the profits he would have made if he had succeeded in running the play, witness said he proposed to have three companies running—one in the North, another South, and a fit-up company. In the big towns his takings would have been £393 a week. His working expenses he had put down at £75, to which had to be added the author's fees of £30 per week. On the basis of previous plays by Mr. Hall Caine he estimated that he would be able to command 60 per cent. of the takings. That would give him £237, leaving, after deducting expenses, £132 profit. With the three companies he estimated the profit at £330. If he ran the three companies for forty-eight weeks the total would be £15,840. In the second year, assuming he only did one-half as well, the profit would be £7,920, and in the third year, if he only did half as well again, the profit would be £3,960, giving a total for three years of £27,620. He had not included £10 per week he was to have as manager.

MR. LESLIE MORTON IN THE BOX.

Mr. Leslie Morton, theatrical manager, said he was at the present time financially interested in five plays which were at present touring the country. It was not his experience that 1909 was a bad year. He could not recall one of Mr. Hall Caine's plays which had been a failure in the country, and his experience was that there was this peculiar feature with regard to Mr. Hall Caine's plays, and that was that the return visits were often better than the first. At the Theatre Royal in Dublin *The Prodigal Son* was played to £522 on Sept. 10, 1906, and on Nov. 25, 1907, *The Christian* played to £406. *The Bondman* had attracted £342 at Bournemouth and £288 at Southampton, where *The Christian* had been played to £274. He had no reason to doubt that if this play had been produced it would have been successful. He considered that it was quite reasonable to conclude that there would have been a profit on the play of £5,000.

MR. MULHOLLAND'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland, proprietor of the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, and chairman of the Marlborough Theatre, Ltd., stated that, having regard to Mr. Hall Caine's reputation as a dramatist, he had no doubt that the play would have been a success. He considered the plaintiff's claim of £5,000 was a reasonable figure for the profits of the period in question.

Mr. Arthur Bertram, theatrical business manager, stated that a claim of £395 per week on a play written by Mr. Hall Caine was reasonable.

This concluded the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Bankes, having opened the case for the defendant, the case was adjourned.

On Wednesday, Mr. Hall Caine, who was suffering from illness, went into the witness-box, and gave evidence at length.

Mr. Lush remarked to Mr. Caine in cross-examination: I have no doubt you realise that the contract states you were the author and owner of a new play?—Yes.

Was there a play?—There was not a play, and the fact escaped my observation at the moment, as did also the other fact that my son, a minor, was made a party to the contract.

Has there never been a play written by you on the subject?—Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, the son of defendant, said he had chosen the profession of an actor. In July, 1908, he came across a short story written by his father. He was pleased with it, and wanted to act a part in a play that might be based on it. He had an interview with Mr. Leveaux, whom he knew, and told him that he had found in the pigeon-holes at his father's house the rough draft of a story that his father had given as a lecture in America, and he said he thought it might be written into a fine play. He suggested he might play the leading part of Jan. Plaintiff agreed that a successful play might be produced. After the agreement was signed he handed to Mr. Leveaux a couple of the acts and discussed proposed alterations. He gave the plaintiff clearly to understand that the play was not written, and that was the reason why an interval, until November, was allowed.

Miss Wood, for five years secretary to Mr. Hall Caine, stated that plaintiff received two rough acts of the play, which were made before the contract.

Mr. Wentworth Croke, in giving evidence, said he had half-a-dozen companies touring the provinces at the present time, most of them appearing in Mr. Hall Caine's plays. He would sooner take a London failure on tour than a piece which had not been produced in town. The year 1909 was absolutely the worst year for touring companies that he had ever experienced, but the spring of the present year was the "limit." He attributed this to the General Election and the opening of skating rinks and cinematograph shows. The expenses in connection with a tour with one of Mr. Hall Caine's plays were very heavy. His expenses in conection with *The Bondman* averaged £180 or £185 per week. *The Prodigal Son* was the cheapest, the figure in that case being about £120. *The Christian* came in between the two. The amounts he had given included the author's fees and everything. *The Christian* was supposed to be an enormously successful play, and yet in the autumn of 1909 he never touched £300 any night. At the Shakespeare Theatre, at Liverpool, in the autumn of 1909, *The Christian* attracted about £1,800 for the week.

The hearing was again adjourned.

The Case Arranged.

On Thursday Mr. Hall Caine, being recalled, stated that he had discovered that a copyright performance of *Jan the Icelander; or, Home, Sweet Home*, took place at the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, on Nov. 24, 1900.

There was, in fact, a play in existence on July 23, after all?—There was a skeleton play, no doubt—a play in that sense only, but a play which could be described as being prepared for rehearsal there certainly was not.

But was it or was it not a play within the description in this contract of July 23? It would be sufficient so to justify me in saying I was the "owner and author of the play."

I want to know what has become of that play?—I have not the slightest idea, but I feel sure it must be at my home in the Isle of Man; and if his lordship thinks that the document is necessary, and has to adjourn the case for the purpose of its production, my secretary can be sent over to search for it.

His Lordship: Now your memory has been refreshed, do you now think that when the contract was sent to you for signature you had it in your memory that there had already been a copyright performance?

Witness: I do, and that it may have since passed out of my memory.

His Lordship: Of course, this accounts for your signing the document, a matter which had very much puzzled me.

Eventually it was announced it had been arranged between the parties that a juror should be withdrawn, that Mr. Hall Caine should complete the play, and that the agreement should be carried out with certain modifications.

His Lordship: I was just going to say that after the very expensive advertisement of the last three days there seems to be a possibility that Mr Leveaux may get some of those very large profits we have heard about.

AN OLD "FIRST-NIGHTER."

Major Charles Enthoven, R.E., and but recently appointed Chief Parks Officer of the London County Council, left his legion of theatrical friends on the longest of all furloughs, a victim to pneumonia. The death, at the premature age of forty-three, occurred at his London residence, 97, Cadogan-gardens, on Saturday last. Miss Enthoven has always been deeply interested in the theatre, and has many friends among the theatrical profession, among whom are Ellen Terry, Sarah Bernhardt, Salvini, Jane Hading, Mme. Bartel, Maeterlinck, and most of the well-known actors and actresses on the London stage. Miss Enthoven's collection of theatrical programmes is the best and most comprehensive in England, dating back to 1726, and including some rare, if not quite unique, bills of the period of Garrick, Miss Cibber, and Peg Woffington. But a week or so ago Miss Enthoven, little dreaming of the irreparable loss she was so soon to sustain, attended the Lal Brough auction sale at Sotheby's. Miss Enthoven will shortly publish a theatrical book, the chief interest in which will be an exhaustive description of her world-famed playbill collection.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Cecilia Loftus, who comes to the Coliseum on Monday, has added Mme. Réjane and other well-known artists to her repertory of imitations, and she will also present an entertaining monologue.

The next Alhambra ballet will treat of the history of dress from an early period. There will be many beautiful creations, ancient and modern, the latter including *le dernier cri* from Paris.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite were present at the Palace Theatre on Tuesday night, and witnessed the whole of the performance, including the wonderful Russian dancers. The Prince of Wales was also present at the Palace last Saturday week, so that His Royal Highness has paid two visits to this popular house within ten days.

At the Hippodrome on Monday the name of Yvette Guilbert will add lustre to an already brilliant programme. It is understood that Mme. Guilbert will introduce one or two new songs, and that she will repeat her delicious rendering of the song "Mary was a Housemaid," also sung very cleverly by Miss Claire Romaine. Next week will be the last of Mme. Réjane's season.

Mr. Rutland Barrington will appear at the Tivoli on Monday in a new sketch, *The Judge and the Lady*. This will be found to have no connection with *Trial by Jury*, in which his lordship on the bench is so anxious for a flirtation with the fair plaintiff—at least he was when Mr. Barrington appeared as the arbiter of the musical breach of promise proceedings at the Ellen Terry Jubilee Matinée.

At the conclusion of her highly successful engagement in the States, Miss Adeline Genée comes to England for her marriage. The ceremony is to take place on Saturday, June 11, at All Saints' Church, Margaret-street, W., at two o'clock, and the bridegroom is Mr. Frank S. N. Isitt. After the wedding the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle will give a reception to a large number of guests at the Hyde Park Hotel.

A special matinée will be given at the Oxford on Thursday, May 26, in aid of the University College Hospital's Appeal, for which £10,000 is required immediately, otherwse a hundred beds must close. A strong list of theatrical and variety artists is promised, and it is hoped that a large sum will be handed over to this deserving charity. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Rosebery, and other notabilities have kindly given their patronage.

The rumour that one of London's best known variety theatres may, next season, be converted into an up-to-date opera house has been again revived; Mr. Beecham's future plans for the production of opera probably accounting for the widespread belief with which the statement has been received. As there is no official corroboration of the story it is obviously indiscreet to disclose the name of the variety house.

Mr. G. H. Elliott has been revisiting Bristol, the scene of his pantomime triumphs in the rôle of Chocolate in Mr. Chute's pantomime at the Prince's Theatre. At the Palace, the popular coon has attracted enormous houses, and the enthusiasm was so great at the second house on Tuesday that the Bristol favourite had to appear time after time in front of the tableau curtains. He is singing with great success a new song, "Mr. Owl," which was given for the first time at the Ardwick Empire.

No fewer than three platforms were requisitioned on Saturday morning last at Euston when the Mauretania's passengers slid out at intervals of five minutes in three trains for Liverpool, and a contingent of Londoners were present to bid farewell to Mr. Louis Dreyfus, of the great Anglo-American music publishing house of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter, who had been sojourning in England's capital on business and pleasure bent. Among the people present to see him off were Mr. and Mrs. David Day, Mr. Charles Wilmott, Mr. John Abbott, Mr. Hermann E. Darewski, and Mr. Edgar Bateman.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, one of the daintiest artists Russia has lent to England, appeared at the Empire on Thursday in a series of "dance idylls," which immediately captured the house. The first was a phantasy, "The Princess and the Slave," the music for which was taken from Luigini, Grieg, Thomé, and Rubinstein. In this Mlle. Kyasht was supported by M. Adolf Bolm. Subsequently she appeared as a Bacchante in a carnival dance, finishing up with a Valse Idyll to Weber's music. This was perhaps the most successful of all, and the Victorian ballet dresses worn by the ballerine were particularly delightful.

Miss Lottie Collins, whose death, at the early age of forty-two, is announced in another column, was one of the finest dancers that ever stepped in shoe leather or clogs. She could put poetry into an ordinary jig, and she was so finished in her art, that before her great hit in "Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay" in *Cinderella* at the Gaiety she was secured just for a solo dance in the production of *Monte Cristo, Jun.* At that time both the legitimate and lesser stages were crowded with dancers, and Lottie Collins was second to none. Her meteoric rise in popularity came through her original treatment of a number which in other hands would probably have gone without a hand. It was a case of the singer making the song.

It is not often that a popular music-hall song is deliberately parodied by a great poet. Such a fate, however, befell "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay," the song that did so much for the fame of Lottie Collins. John Davidson became obsessed with its haunting melody, and he thought the tune was worthy of a resetting, so he supplied new verses, and the revised version of "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" may be found in Davidson's "Ballads and Songs." Another favourite of the halls which Mr. Davidson though it worth while to rewrite was "After the Ball."

Mr. Benjm. Cooper writes to the *Daily News* of the origin of "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay." He says: "I have made this branch of study somewhat of a hobby, and, in my own mind, I have no doubt whatever the tune is an adaptation of one of the Jubilee songs sung by the Jubilee Singers, who came from the States thirty years ago. The song is called 'I've been Redeemed,' and the refrain is the chorus of 'Ta-ra-ra.' There are thousands of volumes of their songs in this country, and students of music can verify this for themselves."

A fully-equipped model of a dirigible airship was exhibited as one of the "turns" in the programme of the London Hippodrome on Monday afternoon. The airship, a cigar-shaped balloon of silk, carries car, motor, and propellors, and in its flight through the theatre it had all its movements controlled by its inventor, Mr. Raymond Phillips, by means of wireless electricity installed on the stage. The balloon, about 12ft. long, sails very gracefully from the stage round the auditorium. While turning in mid-air, the inventor released two birds, for which, in warfare, dynamite could be substituted. We understand that Mr. Phillips intends to sell his rights in the invention to the Government

The Alhambra Music Hall, Sandgate, is now under the sole management of Mr. T. Holt. It will re-open on Whitsun Monday.

Mr. Sydney B. Stringer has been appointed manager of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, in succession to Councillor Harold Arnold, who goes to the Tynemouth Palace. Mr. Stringer was for some time at the Palace, Sunderland.

Beattie and Babs, having completed a most successful three months' engagement at Folies Bergère, Paris, are taking two weeks' rest at breezy New Brighton, previous to opening their Whitsun engagement at the Oxford and Canterbury.

Captain Permane, of Teddy Bear fame, has an enforced holiday next week, through the fire at Poole's Myriorama at Clay Cross on April 23. The whole of the Myriorama was destroyed, the damage being about £3,000. Permane had part of his "props." destroyed, and his circus mat has to go to the factory to be repaired.

A large building in Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow, presently occupied by Messrs. R. Wylie Hill and Co., cabinet-makers, &c., has been purchased by a syndicate, who intend to adapt the premises to suit the purposes of an electric theatre and numerous other attractions, including an international exhibition, with stalls, side-shows, and amusements of all kinds.

The Monckтons (Fred and Lillie) wish to heartily thank Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the popular and esteemed manager of the Empire, South Shields, for the collection received by them from his many matinée patrons on Wednesday afternoon last.

Mr. Bridgen very kindly made an appeal from the stage previous to the performance of their comedy sketch *Two in a Flat*. In his usual courteous manner, he asked for help to make good the entire loss of wardrobe, band-parts, and properties sustained by these artists in the recent disastrous fire at the Borough Theatre, North Shields. With hearty cheers the audience most liberally responded.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bancroft (Miss Emmie Ames) have had a whole sheaf of telegrams and letters of congratulation on the birth of a son. The new arrival must be credited to another Mr. and Mrs. H. Bancroft of the theatres. Miss Emmie Ames has been scoring brilliantly in London during the last six weeks.

At a meeting of the Lodge of Glasgow St. Mungo, No. 27, on Wednesday evening, Bro. Joseph Arbuckle, R.W.M., manager of the Scottish Zoo, referred to the strenuous work done for the lodge by Bro. George Neil, I.P.M., in many capacities, more particularly as Master of the Lodge, and on behalf of the brethren presented him with a solid tea and coffee service to mark their appreciation.

The notice in our last week's issue of Little Constance Montague's recent performance at the Playhouse has brought that diminutive dance prodigy several offers, a very flattering one coming from the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, which, of course, she is unable to accept on account of her age. Her mistress, Miss Cora Katti Lanner, is naturally much gratified at the success of her small pupil.

The Empire Theatre, Sheffield, had a large and representative audience on Thursday, the 29th ult., when the Moody-Manners Opera Company gave a matinée performance (under the direction of Mr. Charles Manners) of the new spectacular opera, *Samson and Delilah*. The principals, chorus, and ballet numbered 130, and the orchestra was increased to forty-five performers. The performance was a great success.

An accident happened during an acrobatic performance at the second "house" at the Exeter Hippodrome on Thursday evening, April 28. The victim was Mr. J. F. Hayes, aged thirty-four, and staying temporarily at 36, Howell-road. He and a colleague, named Merritt, take part in a turn under the title of the world's champion bounding trampolinists. They are clever performers, swinging and somersaulting in mid-air with daring skill. While thus engaged Hayes had the misfortune to injure one of his knees.

He was taken off the stage and examined by Dr. Pereira, who was called in, and who advised his removal to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, whither he was conveyed on the police ambulance by Sergt. Wreford and P.C. Russell. Dr. Lilley made a further investigation at the institution, but could find no signs of a broken bone, Hayes was detained, and the knee was examined under the X-rays, the ligaments being badly strained. Hayes is, however, progressing very favourably.

The Hippodrome Palace of Varieties, Hastings, a sumptuous modern music hall, of freehold tenure, situated on the main esplanade, is to be sold by auction at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, on Friday, May 27 next, at two o'clock precisely, by Messrs. Marler and Marler. The house is capable of holding 1,500 persons, and its equipment is on the most up-to-date lines, with spacious promenades and large open-air loggia overlooking the sea. Particulars may be obtained of the auctioneers, 176, Sloane-street, S.W.

Graham has been a most successful feature of the revue at the Paris Olympia, where the English music hall of 1875 and 1910, as presented by this fine character-actor and "human marionette," has created immense interest. They always appreciate clever Britishers in *la ville lumière;* and in the same way the Americans do not lag behind; for we hear that Graham, who has been booked solid until 1912 by Marinelli, has been engaged by the great Lafayette as a special feature in his combination.

Peter Adair, the well-known music hall and circus athlete, and one of England's greatest road walkers, has challenged Edward Payson Weston, America's greatest road walker, to a thousand-mile walk, as Weston is willing to walk any man in the world his own age (seventy). Adair is in his sixty-ninth year. Peter started a walk from Manchester to London last Tuesday, and travelled via Wilmslow, Congleton, Crewe, Stafford, Penkridge, Wolverhampton, and Dudley, and arrived at Birmingham on Thursday at 6 p.m., and will reach London this Saturday.

A presentation was made on Saturday last at the King's Theatre, Gateshead, to Councillor Harold Arnold, who leaves the hall to take up a similar appointment at the Tynemouth Palace. On behalf of the staff, Mr. Alf Clare handed over a massive gold guard and seal, and in doing so spoke of the many kindnesses which the staff had received at the hands of Mr. Arnold, and their regrets that he was leaving them, and assuring him of their good wishes for his future welfare. Mr. Arnold responded feelingly, saying that he had never had under him a more able and willing staff, and that he would always retain a happy memory of his managerial days at the King's.

Mr. Harry Tate, whose penchant for novelties connected with the latest sporting crazes is so pronounced, will on Whit Monday produce at the Oxford the skit on the most recent fad, viz., *Flying*.

Mr. Wal Pink is the author, and the volatile and versatile Tate will introduce the last word in aviation—"Veri ot Taterplane." To those who are conversant with his *Motoring, Fishing, Gardening*, &c. (and who is not?), *Flying* would appear to offer a huge slice of fun. A special scene representing an aerial shed has been painted by Syd Cook, and the music has been composed by Brae Banks.

Blondel and Co., a new American turn of which report speaks very highly, will appear at the Tivoli on Monday in a farcical skit entitled *The Lost Boy*.

Mr. Henry Kemble, who returned from Australia a few weeks ago, secured while there a novelty musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Gay Countess*, which he intends producing shortly.

Mr. Harry Nation has launched a new enterprise, having taken over that well-known hostelry the Blue-eyed Maid, Borough, S.E., where he will be pleased to meet old and new friends. Everything of the best.

France and Stewart produced their new and original sketch, *The Little Puritan*, at the Palace, Leicester, last week. It met with instantaneous success, and promises to be as popular with audiences as *The 100 to 1 Chance*.

Selbo, the famous juggler, who has thrice appeared before Royalty, has been retained for a further four weeks at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, and is re-engaged to return in 1911. Thanks to Pacey's Agency.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday next at 4 p.m. All members in town are invited to be present.

Mr. Wm. Bailey, jun., son of the other Bill Bailey, the popular manager of the Metropolitan, has just composed a Chantecler waltz, the dedication of which has been accepted by the poet Edmond Rostand, the author of the *Chantecler* play and of *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

"The Midnight London Express" is paying a return visit this week to Sadler's Wells. The last scene, the loop line of a country railway station, is certainly one of the most intensely exciting scenes we have ever witnessed, and would make the fortune of any sketch. The audiences were held spellbound.

Mr. Wentworth Croke is about to make an excursion into the music halls by producing a sketch version of *East Lynne* at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on June 20. This half-hour's version of the famous play will be presented by an exceptionally strong company and mounted in a handsome manner.

Mr. Leonard Robson who has managed and played principal parts with Mrs. Lewis Waller for so long, will shortly be seen in a new romantic sketch, written on an episode in the French Revolution by George Sheldon, whose successful sketch, *Before the Dawn*, is now in its second year of tour.

Miss Lola Lee is again in the bill next week at the London Hippodrome, where her dancing continues to attract the attention it deserves, and the applause which the young artist receives at each performance gives ample proof that the revival of this most graceful of all styles of dancing is highly appreciated.

Miss Florrie Forde leaves town on Monday for the Queen's, Leeds, where she is certain of a great reception after playing in such a successful pantomime at the Theatre Royal last season. Her new songs, "'Tis a faded picture," "Rip Van Winkle," and "Flanagan," have been creating a furore at the Hippodromes, Poplar and Woolwich, this week.

La Belle Alva, in her new dance scena, *The Gipsy Peasant Girl*, is having gratifying receptions this week at the Tivoli, where she has introduced some entirely different dances in her pretty scena since she played at the London Pavilion a few weeks ago. She scores a big hit with her clever French toe dance, and the barefoot sand dance also is received with marked appreciation.

The Elliott-Savonas, in their beautiful and impressive act, *The Palace of Orpheus*, finished at Birmingham on Saturday their fourth tour of the Moss-Stoll bookings; and have been receiving the highest encomiums for their grand playing of high-class selections. They are the fortunate originators of an act that can be booked in any country in any building; for fine music appeals with a universal language, and can never be out of place in a people's entertainment.

The M.H.A.R.A. committee held their 667th meeting Wednesday, when the following were present:—Messrs. Harry Blake (in the chair), Chas. Coborn, Lieut. Albini, T. C. Callaghan, J. Miller Northern, J. H. Milburn, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). With regard to the proposed new Glasgow offices, it was finally resolved to leave the matter over till next week.

It is proposed to hold a conference with the representatives of the Ocean Insurance Company at an early date. The weekly statement, showing an increase of forty-five new members, and receipts of £55 11s., was passed. The treasurer's report for the last six months was also submitted. This report shows 1,156 new members and 3,144 renewals for the period, as again 1,208 new members and 3,254 renewals for the corresponding period last year. Cash in hand, £45; current account, £243 19s. 10d.; deposit account, £167 7s. 4d.; reserve account, £545 17s. 3d.; total funds, £1,002 4s. 5d.

Mr. C. Blyth Pratt presided over a genial gathering of the b-hoys at the Vaudeville Club's smoking concert on Sunday evening. Thanks to the completeness of the arrangements of Manager T. H. Case a capital programme was got through. Among the contributors were Arthur Aldridge, Humphrey Bishop, Noel Fleming, Bob Fearns, Story Gofton, Walter Hast, Ted Honeyman, Eli Hudson, Harrison Latimer, Leipzig, Clifford Morgan, Dave O'Toole, Arthur Reece, Frederick Ross, Gurney Russell, Scott Russell, Vardon, Perry and Wilber, Walter Walters, Elliston Webb, Charles Wreford, and the Club Trio.

At the Bloomsbury County Court on Wednesday, Judge Bacon had before him the action of Mr. Tom Leamore against Mr. Frank Macnaghten to recover the sum of £30. Mr. C. F. Appleton, solicitor for the plaintiff, mentioned that the amount claimed had been paid, but he applied for proper costs to be allowed, as the amount had not been paid with an allowance of five clear days. A contract between the plaintiff and the defendant had been broken by the defendant. Judge Bacon: Have you given notice to the other side?—Mr. Appleton said a representative of Messrs. Blackwell, solicitors, was present. Judge Bacon: You have had all you have asked for?—Mr. Appleton: The money should have been paid within five days. The cheque came on Friday. The cheque is dated Thursday, the 28th. Judge Bacon: That is not five clear days. You must have the costs.

The next committee meeting of the Music Hall Home will be held on Thursday next, at 12 noon, at the Empire, Camberwell.

La Milo since her acquittal has had so many letters and telegrams of congratulation and sympathy that she finds it quite impossible to reply to them personally. She trusts that her friends in and out of the profession will understand and accept this intimation of her heartfelt thanks.

Mrs. John Lawson, who opens at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, with her triple bill of one-act playlets, will be well supported by a first-class cast for each. Mme. Florence Burns, Mr. Robert Foster Hine, and Miss Mildred Gibbs will sing during the evening between each playlet.

When Master Cliff Diamond made his first appearance at the Canterbury over a year ago, we predicted a bright future for him, and he has been kept busy ever since he began. The marked improvement he continues to make justifies the confidence of numerous managers who have wisely secured his services until the end of 1911.

The death is announced of Mr. Wilmot Edson, who was at one time with Mr. Hugh J. Didcott. When quite a youth he was "in front" at the Trocadero, at one time under the control of the deceased agent. He was suddenly taken ill at Bargoed, which town he was visiting with a combination company. His condition becoming serious, he was removed to Merthyr Hospital, where he died. He was buried at Cefn Cemetery, Merthyr.

At the Hippodrome, Poplar, on May 9, and during the week, Mr. Albert Wyndham announces his last performance in the East End of London of his popular Shakespearean sketch *Prince Arthur; or, The Days of King John*, in consequence of the production of the sequel to the above, *Magna Charta*, which will be duly announced. This will deal, so far as history relates, with the usurping King and the death of Prince Arthur.

Both M. Paulhan and Mr. Grahame-White visited the Alhambra Theatre on the evening of Friday, the 29th ult., to see the animated pictures of their flights. By telephone Mr. Grahame-White invited M. and Mme. Paulhan to come and share a box with him, his mother, and sister. The invitation was gladly accepted, and Mr. Grahame-White sent his motor-car to the Hyde Park Hotel to bring his guests. M. Paulhan was introduced to Mrs. Grahame-White.

Side by side the two flying men sat in the box, unperceived by the audience, until the lights went down. The lamps in the box were kept burning, so that everyone in the house could see the two men clearly. The whole theatre resounded with cheers. Men stood up in the stalls and called for "three times three" for the aviators, and again for cheers for Mme. Paulhan and Mrs. Grahame-White. Then there were cries for a speech.

As the host of the evening Mr. Grahame-White spoke first. "I can only repeat," he said, "that the better man won. It is an honour to be beaten by the finest aviator of all—M. Paulhan." Speaking in French, M. Paulhan said: "I had hoped that we should both reach Manchester together. It was the bad luck of wind and weather which beat my friend."

Fred S. Howard, the young artist entertainer, who is now on a successful provincial tour with his novel interlude *London Life*, has just completed a series of large water-colour drawings, representing scenes in the hunting-field and incidents of the old coaching days, which will be shortly published. It can be truly said that Mr. Howard was born in the profession, his father and mother being well-known performers and proprietors of pictorial entertainments.

After a varied career in the legitimate, during which he played many parts, from little Willie in *East Lynne* to Tony in *My Sweetheart*, Mr. Howard turned his attention to art and literary work, contributing to some of the principal magazines and illustrated papers. By a curious coincidence he was associated at the same time with two of the most costly enterprises of the day, the *Tribune* and the *Crown*. As to the merits of his new act on the halls, contracts extending to 1913 tell their own story.

The late Mr. J. H. Callan, who was recently cut off suddenly in the prime of life, leaving a widow with eight young children, not one of whom is capable of earning a livelihood, was an able and popular vocalist, and ever ready to give his services in any charitable cause. That his fellow-vocalists have rallied to the support of his family in their sad tribulation is evidenced by the fact that, in addition to the City Musical Union and "Ye Blarers" Musical Society, some ninety ladies and gentlemen are giving their services as artists.

The most attractive concert will be held in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday next, at 8 p.m., and the Hon. Sir Joseph Walton, a Judge of the King's Bench Division, has kindly consented to preside. Tickets, price 2s. 6d. and 1s. each, can be obtained from the Orpheus Music Stores, Moorgate Station Arcade, E.C., and a numerous committee resident in North and Central London. Donations can be sent to the hon. treasurer, Mr. E. P. Refferty, 5, Willoughby-road, Hornsey, N., and the hon. secretary, Mr. B. G. Laws, 21, Nelson-road, Stroud Green, N., would be pleased to answer any inquiries.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee of the above, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mrs. Thorburn, Edinburgh (donation), £1; Mr. Geo. Wal Manton (collection), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Bob Wilding, Glasgow (donation), 1s.; Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), collecting, 16s. 6d.; Mr. Karl Kremo, gentleman's suit, per Miss Louie Davis; Mrs. Harry Randall, 10/-; Mr. C. Foot, 2s.; Miss Maggie Bowman, 1s.; Mr. Max Erard, 1s.; and smaller sums from other artists, amounting to 3s. 1d.; collected by Mrs. Charles Coborn, 17s. 1d. altogether; Miss Lottie Albert, twenty babies' new woollen vests; Miss Cissy Conyers, babies' clothing; Mr. Bob Wilding, gentleman's jacket and waistcoat; Miss Fox and Miss F. Fox (Teignmouth), useful clothing; parcel clothing, Anonymous, from Shepherd's Bush. The butcher's shop is not yet sold. Will anyone kindly make an offer for this handsome model?

The secretary of the Music Hall Home, Benj. Woodger, desires to acknowledge the following amounts:—Miss L. Baylas (Royal Victoria Hall), £1 1s.; Percy Ford (Empire, Camberwell), 6s. 6d.; Mrs. O'Brien ("Rule's," Malden-lane), 16s. 8d.; The *Encore*, Ltd., 10s. 6d.; F. H. Kolher (Joiner's Arms, Denmark-hill), 3s. 2d.; A. J. Carter (Palace of Varieties, Manchester), 6s.; Will A. Jackson (Palace and Hippodrome, Cardiff), 15s.; H. Yardley (Hippodrome, Southampton), £1 15s.; Geo. H. Marsh (Empire, Dublin), £1 5s. 8d.; Walter Hassan (Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool), £2 10s.; Henry C. Arnold (Lyric, Liverpool), 7s. 8d.; H. Wood (Tivoli Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness), 2s. 6d.; George Weldon (Hippo Picture Palace, Dewsbury), 16s.; Walter Norman (King's Theatre, Gainsborough), 5s. 6d.; and Dayton Family, 5s., being box collections to the Home Fund.

Mr. James Ross Elvio, of the L.V.O. Trio, has successfully passed the ballot for membership of the Terriers' Association.

Zalenki, the human spider, was initiated into the mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T., assisted by Terrier Tom Packer, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist.

Members of the Committee of the Terriers' Association are particularly requested to attend the Committee meeting on Friday next. Important business. All suggestions for the "Griff Suggestion Competition" must be forwarded to the Secretary on or before May 14, 1910.

Tickets (3s. each, ladies or gentlemen) for the "welcome home" banquet to Terrier Griff on Sunday, May 29, at the Hotel Boulogne, may be had on application to Arthur Were, Secretary of the Terriers' Association, 69, Kennington-road, S.E. The annual river outing is fixed for June 26.

A special general meeting of the Terriers' Association will be held on Sunday, June 5, to consider the advisability of revising certain rules.

We are given to understand that Miss Winnie Derson, daughter of Harry Anderson, the veteran comic singer, will be married on June 4 to Mr. A. G. Cuthbert.

Mr. Clifford Marle and Miss Josephine Colona, having secured the sole rights of Louis Cohen's charming sketch *Nelson*, are playing it with considerable success this week at Olympia, Shoreditch, and are rapidly filling immediate and future dates.

The 8½-inch artesian bore-hole well at the Palace Theatre, so successfully inaugurated through the enterprise of Mr. Alfred Butt, has been sunk to a depth of 371ft. below mean sea-level, or 451ft. below street-level. It is in good working order, and gives great satisfaction to the theatre authorities. Analysis has proved the water raised to be of first-rate quality, and it is in daily use throughout the building.

With only 12½ revolutions per minute—instead of 16, which the pump can readily accomplish—720 gallons per hour are raised into the highest tank upon the roof. The pump, by means of a float, is automatically brought into and put out of action, and thus the tanks are kept full. The cost of working results in a maximum charge of 6d. per 1,000 gallons, and an annual saving of at least £240 per annum will have been effected on the present charges of the Metropolitan Water Board.

The average rateable value of a London theatre is about £5,000 per annum. The average payment with the acknowledged rebate to the Metropolitan Water Board amounts to £200. The mean annual saving with a private water supply may be taken at £150. Of course in many instances it is far above this amount, for the mean includes not only West End, but East End and suburban places of amusement.

Each instance has to be gauged on its own merits, and, as an example of this, the fact stands out that in a recent example of a property reported on by the Metropolitan Private Water Supply Syndicate the annual saving has been proved to be a minimum of £1,770; and this is not the least, for at the motor garage at Kennington, where the annual payment to the Water Board amounted to £3,000, the artesian well supply has produced a saving of at least £2,500 a year, including the repayment of the sinking fund.

An original whimsical entertainment, "The Jollies," was produced on Saturday last at the Grand Theatre, Clorley. In addition to original features incorporated in the attractive entertainment, there is a striking novelty act by Frank Pickard and Marie West, known in the music-hall world as Pickard and West. Their gymnastic display is strikingly clever, and versatility is also exhibited in the comedy portion, the sterling character of the musical setting being likewise a noteworthy feature. "The Jollies," which is appropriate alike for al fresco or other attractions, was produced under the direction of Mr. Edgar Dereve.

Amongst those who have attended at the London Hippodrome this week are the Marquis and Marchioness of Downshire, Lady Wolverton, Earl Winterton, Viscount Cranborne, Lady Llangattock, the Hon. Sir Hedworth and the Hon. Lady Lambton, Sir Humphrey and Lady de Trafford, Lady Barrymore and Miss Helen Post, Mr. Montague Eliot, Lady Martin and Miss Ida Martin, Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Lord Headley, Mrs. Van Raalte, Mr. Claude Grahame-White and Mrs. and Miss Grahame-White, Mrs. William James, and Mr. Roger Wallace, K.C.

The genuine force and freshness of Mr. Charles Coborn's comedy enable that fine artist to make his mark at the London Pavilion, and it is pleasant to hear the laughter and applause greeting his turn. It must be more than gratifying, too, to "Charlie" to know that the British public appreciate the real comedian of the halls when he has good matter, and not only knows how to give his lines point, but is a master of character—Cockney or Gaelic, Dutch or Whitechapel. Coborn, the versatile, learned his business in the splendid school of experience, and every movement of his on the stage, every gesture, proclaims the finish of a perfect technique.

Mr. Alfred Butt will re-introduce to the Palace Theatre audiences next Monday that popular American artist, Miss Clarice Vance, in some new coon songs. According to Miss Vance, the accepted "coon singer" of this country is altogether wrong in method. In her own words Miss Vance states: "The coon singers I have heard over here are not singing the real thing at all. The coon is the laziest thing on earth. When he hears music at home in Kentucky, where I was born, he can't help dancing; but he is too tired to lift his feet off the ground. The real 'coon shuffle' is known to us as the 'buck step.' I have been studying coons from my childhood, and so I reckon I am a bit of an expert. Coons are really delightful people to study, so long as you don't believe what they tell you."

A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Jack Barker and W. Burg upon their reappearance in the kennel on Sunday last, when a ladies' concert was held at the Three Stags Hotel, Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T., being in the chair, supported by Terrier Tom Packer, P.W.T. The following artists contributed to an enjoyable programme, arranged by Terrier Bert Marsden, the musical-director:—Miss Carlotta Lunn, "Skate, skate"; Miss Violet Murray, recital, "The Women of Mumble's Head"; Terrier Chas. Cornish, "The preacher and the bear"; Terrier Jack Barker, "Dutch Song"; Terrier Ernest D'Almaine, "Star of my life" and "Gather, gather, gather"; Terrier Tom Packer, "Hush! hush! hush!"; Terrier Harry Brown, "Winter Time"; Terrier George Cooper and Miss Cooper, "Alice, where art thou?"; Terrier Martin Henderson, concertina solo; Terrier Bert Marsden, "Why?" and "Thank you"; Messrs. Scott and Whalley, duet; Mr. Matt Bee, imitation of Mr. Harry Tate in *Motoring*; and Mr. Digby Worsley, parodies. Mr. J. Charles Moore was an efficient accompanist.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE capacious letter-box attached to Messrs. Francis and Day's Charing Cross-road establishment has had its resources severely taxed during the past few days owing to the number of inquiries for Miss Florrie Forde's successful new song "Flanagan," by Will Letters and C. W. Murphy. Miss Forde's excellent number, "'Tis a faded picture," is also going great guns, and its author and composer, Lester Barrett and Herman E. Darewski, are to be congratulated on a number which is pregnant with interest.

MR. FRED ELTON has had perforce to lay off for a night or two through throat trouble, but his great song anent the rubber boom, entitled "Tahiti," has taken London by storm already, and inquiries for copies are very much in evidence. Messrs. Barnes and Weston and Maurice Scott are to be heartily congratulated on a work fully in keeping with their other London rage, "I've got rings on my fingers." Both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

EDGAR BATEMAN and Henry F. Greenfield, whose duet, "Do you remember?—How can I forget?" for Mr. Wallis Arthur, and "The Great Invasion play" for Miss Maidie Scott, are remembered items, have been trying their hands on an alleged humorous song entitled "Has anyone found a girl?" The twain have sold it to Miss Florrie Forde, and Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing the same.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE has made a sensational hit with her new chorus song, "Sammy played the saxophone," and a recent letter from the popular lady tells of its great and continuing vogue. It is a fine example of the collaboration of Charles Wilmott and Maurice Scott. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

GIVEN Mr. George H. Elliott and Alf. J. Lawrance and universal approbation is assured, and Messrs. Francis and Day do the rest. These three things synchronised a day or two since. The title of the song is "Mister Owl." No greater success has ever been chronicled—instantaneous and complete. Copies will be ready directly. Some novel scenic effects are advantageously employed during the song's progress.

MISS HILDA JACOBSEN has never been heard to greater advantage than in her new song, "I'm in love with you, dear Cigarette," which Messrs. Francis and Day have secured for publication. It is by F. W. Carter, Will E. Haines, and Donovan Meher. The popular lady's "Cairo," by Harry Staunton, Haines, and Meher, is in great demand, and is published by the same firm.

MR. HARRY BROWN is still making everybody happy with his new song, "Ma Mary." It is in the press, having been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A SONG entitled "I do love a dear old pal," from the practised pens of Gilbert Wells and Robert Gorman, has been acquired by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter for immediate publication.

FOR refined and delightful vocalisation and perfect enunciation Miss Madge Temple would be hard to beat, and when one has thrown in a pleasing stage presence the tout ensemble is hard to excel. At the London Pavilion—ever one of the most critical of audiences—Miss Temple has more than maintained her reputation. Her songs, "On the silvery sands" and "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," fit the lady like the proverbial glove, and both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A SONG over the signature of E. W. Rogers always commands attention, and the author of "Following in father's footsteps" and "Skylark"—to mention two widely divergent specimens of his art—in his latest number, "Let's go to the church," has been splendidly aided and abetted by Charles Collins, who as a melodist is hard to beat. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers. Miss Ida Barr and Mr. Gus Harris are singing the number.

MR. WALTER MUNROE'S new song, "Patsy Brannigan," by Charles Collins and Fred Murray, will shortly see the light in published form, Messrs. Francis and Day having the number in the press.

MR. TOM COSTELLO has acquired from T. W. Connor, a writer of renown—who can forget his songs for Harry Randall, Herbert Campbell, and George Beauchamp?—a number entitled "The convict and the bird," and Messrs. Francis and Day have published it.

ALF. J. LAWRANCE, since removing to No 2 Arthur-street, has surpassed himself in the matter of production. No fewer than eight songs have during the past few days been published by him with Messrs. Price and Reynolds and B. Feldman and Co. His great "Owl" number for Mr. G. H. Elliott is said to be a revelation. Messrs. Francis and Day have secured that.

THAT refined artist Miss Winifred Hare has been singing with marked success a charming song entitled "My Island of Dream," in which Clifton Bingham's lyric—one in every way worthy of the favourite author's reputation—has been set to a melody by Edith Fortescue which is a thing of beauty. It has been issued by Messrs. Morley and Co. in no fewer than three keys.

"TELL 'EM THAT I'M YOUR UNCLE" is the title of a comedy chorus-song, written and composed by Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. And it promises to be another of the many big songs these famous writers have turned out. Mr. Fred Barnes is the sole singer.

"MY LANCASHIRE QUEEN" is the taking title of a new chorus-song now being sung with gratifying success on the Moss-Stoll tour by Miss Rhoda Paul. It will be featured in next year's pantomimes, and is from the pen of Herbert Shelley.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"THE NEW BUTLER."

Sketch, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, May 2.

The New Butler .....MR. JIMMY LAW
The Husband .....MR. COUTH GRIFFITH
The Wife .....MISS LULU LANGLEY

This is an unpretentious but amusing trifle, evidently designed as a setting for the acting, vocal, and instrumental abilities of Mr. Jimmy Law, who was for some years with the Strolling Players. The new butler, with his trained dog, gets a situation at the house of a gentleman whose wife has temporarily lost her reason, and is consequently subject to violent fits of passion. The unsuspecting young man soon becomes her victim, and some amusing knockabout business takes place. Ultimately she is cured of her complaint, but not before the new butler has been thrown downstairs and otherwise woefully damaged, his faithful dog and himself both appearing limping and covered in bandages. Mr. Jimmy Law was very humorous as the eccentric new butler, and his instrumental selection on the piano was excellent. Miss Lulu Langley played the wife with much spirit, her sleep-walking scene à la Lady Macbeth causing much laughter. Mr. Couth Griffith acted well and sang successfully as the husband, his rendering of "The Bedouin's love song" being loudly applauded.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Mr. Blyth Pratt as a caterer has the gift of intelligent anticipation, as one learns from the current programme, which is blessed by the production of a dainty Japanese scena which should become immensely popular during a season devoted to the development of the Jap-British entente cordiale. The first five scenes, some of the prettiest in the land of the chrysanthemum, lead up to a realisation of the quaint little shagi of O Hana San, whom we see taking tea and smoking a tiny pipe. Later, as a geisha she dances one of the "Miyako Odori," or Cherry dances and is joined by her company, who twirl parasols of different shades and coquet with quaint fans. The kimonos worn are beautiful, the one elaborately embroidered having a particularly rich appearance. The white sashes, it appears, are historical; at any rate, they are very pretty, and the whole production is as dainty as it is interesting. The big crowds nightly assembled at the Oxford give O Hana San and her company the heartiest of welcomes.

The Oxford, in fulfilment of its most cherished traditions, is presenting an athletic sensation—this time an all-British one; and we are bold enough to state that a more remarkable sensation than that sponsored by Mr. Archie Goodall has never been seen there. It is entitled "Walking the Hoop"—a modest description indeed for an act that requires nerves of steel and muscles of iron. The "circle" has a circumference of fifty feet, and like a human fly Goodall, with wonderful pluck and coolness, walks to the summit, and standing head downwards, commences a real labour of Hercules by supporting a very flexible contortionist while he locks his legs round his neck. Other feats are performed even more difficult from the point of view of endurance, and the final tour-de-force is reached when he "holds up" the contortionist and a more juvenile performer during their performance of a series of tricks. Then commences the descent, probably as difficult as the climb. Mr. Goodall, who is, of course, known as an "International Footballer," is enthusiastically cheered, but bears his honours modestly, as becomes a true sportsman. His success as an original athlete is well assured.

The spindle side of the company at the Oxford includes Miss Daisy Dormer, whose personality is most alluring. She chooses that very well-written number "The girl in the clogs and shawl," in which she gets a rousing reception. Miss Dormer's turn is all too short for her admirers, who are attracted by the little girl with the almost Oriental beauty, the charm of the true artist, and the real love of her profession. That immense favourite of Oxford audiences, Miss Gertie Gitana, has returned there to enchant her listeners with her singing of "Anna Gray," and her coon song with a quaint incidental dance. Gertie has to answer many recalls.

A fine quartet of comedians, Ernest Shand, Mark Sheridan, Phil Ray, and Wilkie Bard, sustain the high reputation of the house for the best comedy procurable on the variety stage; and laughter is at its loudest when the funny American, W. T. Ellwanger, presents the amusing farce *Who Did It?* which has been making London smile for some months now. Dale and O'Malley, so cleverly contrasted in styles, make even the most ancient of jokes go well; we see the Stella Troupe of dancers sporting gaily in bathing dresses in the waves of a cinematographic sea; and the absence of Miss May Moore Duprez on the night of our visit let in a very clever American trio, Vardon, Wilbur, and Perry, who will become very popular on this side. They play instruments with the tone and something of the appearance of large guitars, and they sing in delightfully harmonised strains. Mr. Fred Elton has been another absentee through indisposition. Other turns in the fine bill are Mr. Ted Waite, the spasmodic comedian; the Howards; Miss Yvonne Lamor; Miss Hanid Alexander, the clever little girl at the piano; and Mr. Oswald Williams, a smart magician. Mr. Leon Bassett directs an excellent band here.

EALING HIPPODROME.

This week, as usual, Mr. J. A. Molloy presents a well-selected variety programme to his patrons. Ventriloquism never fails to amuse, and Mr. David Poole's vocally endowed dummy is a remarkably good patterer, is sufficiently impudent, and in his song "My Pal" shines as a vocalist. Miss Kitty Upton sings her "Dear Old Bow Bells" with the charm she lends to all her songs. She only gave one number on Monday evening, and the house would have willingly had more of such good fare. The Hyde and Cody Trio dub their turn "eccentrics in insane tricks." They have a good "cut" for their scena representing the grounds of the new Grand Hotel. A pretty waitress is discovered who tells how that the customers who come for a day stay for a week, which, looking at the saucy soubrette who does the chattering, is not to be wondered at. Anon customers arrive in the funniest of motor-cars. Things now commence to hum. The new-comers are clever acrobats, their swinging leaps over the barriers at the garden being very neatly executed. Mr. Jay Laurier is a favourite here, his methods meeting with great favour, especially with the "goddesses," who never cease laughing at his comical faces, while the family diamonds to his fiancée, but delays the gift thereof to a later moment. News comes that her former associate in crime, Dick Trench, has escaped from prison. This is a strong part, and is excellently played by Mr. Graeme Campbell. At large, the villain seeks his unfortunate victim. At first she resists him, but on his threat to murder her lover she agrees to assist him in stealing the diamonds. Barbara Hurst (Miss Hester Newton) makes a last appeal to the scoundrel's better nature. Her lover, unseen, assists at the interview, the escaped convict is bought off, Lord Elton clasps the tortured girl to his breast, and all portends an early ringing of the marriage bells as the curtain falls. Mr. Will Johnson sings of "I am going to see," while the Bioscope shows some funny films. Mr. J. Malcolm Park's band renders the incidental music with excellent effect.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

At the head of a long bill here this week is Mr. Carl Hertz, the illusionist, assisted by Miss Emeline D'Alton, who is nightly meeting with his usual success. His tricks mystify the audience completely. Miss Carlotta de Yonson and company are presenting a Sexton Blake adventure entitled *The Case of the Kidnapped King*. The company is a capable one, the actor playing Sexton Blake being especially good. Another highly-popular turn is that of Miss Frances Letty, who sings "Come back to earth" with much point. She is fortunate, too, in having such excellent assistants as Miss Leonie Brewer and little Tommy Stanley, who in a step-dance with Miss Letty fairly bring down the house. Mr. James Sutton is the able accompanist for this item.

The Four Amaranths, lady acrobatic dancers, win hearty applause for their particularly clever contortionist while he locks his legs round his neck. Other feats are performed even more difficult from the point of view of endurance, and the final tour-de-force is reached when he "holds up" the contortionist and a more juvenile performer during their performance of a series of tricks. Then commences the descent, probably as difficult as the climb. Mr. Goodall, who is, of course, known as an "International Footballer," is enthusiastically cheered, but bears his honours modestly, as becomes a true sportsman. His success as an original athlete is well assured.

The spindle side of the company at the Oxford includes Miss Daisy Dormer, whose personality is most alluring. She chooses that very well-written number "The girl in the clogs and shawl," in which she gets a rousing reception. Miss Dormer's turn is all too short for her admirers, who are attracted by the little girl with the almost Oriental beauty, the charm of the true artist, and the real love of her profession. That immense favourite of Oxford audiences, Miss Gertie Gitana, has returned there to enchant her listeners with her singing of "Anna Gray," and her coon song with a quaint incidental dance. Gertie has to answer many recalls.

A fine quartet of comedians, Ernest Shand, Mark Sheridan, Phil Ray, and Wilkie Bard, sustain the high reputation of the house for the best comedy procurable on the variety stage; and laughter is at its loudest when the funny American, W. T. Ellwanger, presents the amusing farce *Who Did It?* which has been making London smile for some months now. Dale and O'Malley, so cleverly contrasted in styles, make even the most ancient of jokes go well; we see the Stella Troupe of dancers sporting gaily in bathing dresses in the waves of a cinematographic sea; and the absence of Miss May Moore Duprez on the night of our visit let in a very clever American trio, Vardon, Wilbur, and Perry, who will become very popular on this side. They play instruments with the tone and something of the appearance of large guitars, and they sing in delightfully harmonised strains. Mr. Fred Elton has been another absentee through indisposition. Other turns in the fine bill are Mr. Ted Waite, the spasmodic comedian; the Howards; Miss Yvonne Lamor; Miss Hanid Alexander, the clever little girl at the piano; and Mr. Oswald Williams, a smart magician. Mr. Leon Bassett directs an excellent band here.

Bonnie Miss Venie Clements comes along with chanson and tale. As a raconteuse with her children tales she is inimitable; but in her song "Marie Louise" she shows that she is a dangerous rival to her other self. This is a song of the washing-tub, and is wedded to a tune that lingers long upon the ear. Every word of tale and song comes home, for pretty Miss Venie's diction is beautifully clear, and her turn is a real treat. Les Paolias produce a new athletic entertainment, *At Home with a Modern Athlete*. With the aid of his fair partner some remarkable lifting feats are shown, exhibiting great strength. Afterwards, in the nude, and with strong lighting effects, the athlete shows how it is done, and, looking at the development of his back, loin, and arm muscles, one ceases to wonder at the ease with which he accomplishes his excellent work.

Rameses, the Egyptian mystic, surrounds himself with an atmosphere of Oriental splendour. We see the Fire Goddess, consumed by flame, reappear unscorched from the midst of the audience, mysterious flowers produced from nowhere, while the Egyptian temple seems literally to vomit wonder upon wonder. Rameses, who is assisted by several damsels picturesquely dressed, has a good reception, and his numberless tricks of sleight-of-hand are triumphs of deception.

The Graeme Campbell company present *Broken Fetters*, by Geraldine Campbell. It is the tale of a girl who early in life has fallen into the power and become the tool of an unscrupulous villain, and who, withdrawn from his evil influence, becomes the fiancée of Lord Elton, Secretary to the British Embassy in Paris. The scene opens in Barbara Hurst's flat in Paris. Lord Elton (Mr. F. Joynsen Powell) has just exhibited his tale of the "cow and how Mary got the milk" made everyone roar.

Miss Dolly Harmer is exceedingly droll in her two contributions, first as a somewhat wide-awake hospital nurse, and anon as a lady who marries a policeman and imitates his dress and deportment most amusingly. Percy Murray and company provoke a continual stream of merriment in their comedy sketch *The Wager*, the acting of Mr. Murray himself (whose whiskers, however, leave room for improvement) as William, Mr. Fred Musto as Capt. Stewart, and Miss S. Butter as Molly leaving nothing to be desired, and keeping the ball of fun rolling merrily. Clifford Morgan is a vocal comedian with an exceptionally fine voice, and made up as a trooper, apparently of the 11th Hussars, as he would appear when performing stable work, sings with splendid effect, and in Rudyard Kipling's "Follow me" acts as well as he sings. Mr. Clifford Morgan makes an immediate and unmistakable success.

An illusionist of much originality, a neat worker of wonders, is Fred Wilkinson, who puzzles as much as he delights the audience with his apparently magical powers. Some of his tricks appear quite novel, and the whole may be described as one of the most attractive illusionist shows seen on these boards for many a day. Mr. Wilkinson is ably assisted by a pretty girl, Miss Ruby Mayor, who acts well up to her chief, and seems to enjoy rather than otherwise the many mysterious things she is called upon to do. Musically speaking, the "treat" of the evening is supplied by Miss Bessie Slaughter, whose magnificent contralto—or perhaps mezzo-soprano—voice, rich in quality and remarkable in compass, is heard to great advantage in "Love rules the world," beautifully rendered, and in Sullivan's ever-welcome "Lost chord." In this some of Miss Slaughter's lower notes are remarkably rich. Great amusement is created by Astley's American Circus. The various animals introduced—"Circus Girl," described as the fastest pony in the world, "Sloper," the unrideable mule, even the goat and the sheep engaged—perform as cleverly as high training can make them do, while the pony and mule may be regarded as the perfection of beauty. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with some excellent pictures, wind up an admirable programme.

THE FORESTERS'.

One is always sure of a good dramatic sketch when visiting this cosy and capably-conducted establishment in the East End, and for this week Mr. Fred Maxwell and company are playing an interesting romantic episode entitled *A Divorced Woman*. The story deals with a certain adventuress, Stella Raby, who schemes, with success, to divorce Madame Sinclair, her object being to marry the husband, who is so horribly rich. While staying as guest with the Vernons Stella places Madame Sinclair in a compromising position with a lover of hers, at the same time acquainting the husband with the fact, and the couple are divorced. Fortunately, the truth leaks out, and the husband implores his wife to return home. Honours are due to Miss Margaret Watson for her clever acting of Stella Raby; and as the wronged wife Miss Minnie Sadler played delightfully throughout. Mr. Fred Maxwell as Mateo, a small part, was quite up to his usual high standard; and Mr. Leonard Harrison, Mr. Fred Bailey, and Winnie Goodwin sustained the smaller characters capably.

Miss Frances Letty, with Mr. James Sutton, America's brilliant ragtime pianist, little Tommy Stanley, and Miss Leonie Brewer, in *The Grandee's Pavilion* has surpassed all her previous efforts, for in this little scena she has ample opportunity of displaying her ability. Good music, good songs, and excellent dancing are embodied in this trifle, and the lady is ably assisted by Mr. Sutton at the piano, and Little Stanley, whose dancing is remarkable for one so young, his business during the song "Come back to earth" being especially good. At the conclusion of the act Miss Letty is recalled again and again.

Harry Webber causes laughter with his funny stories regarding his Yiddisher friends; Beale and Broadway are two smart young dancers; Mr. Albert Letine looks well as one of the weaker sex, the costly dresses worn being particularly tasteful. He has a couple of bright songs, and at the finish gives a smart dance which is greatly enjoyed. The Cumberlands, an exceptionally smart troupe of English cyclists, perform many daring acts, the strength of the senior partner being enormous. The comedy portion throughout is far above the average. Cadwell and Verne (Fred and Daisy) in a little scena, *Early-Closing Day*, depict the doings of a couple of shop assistants, and are bright and full of go. Other good items are the Lindos (vocalists and dancers), Miss Beatrice Lyndon (comedienne), and Perfection Pictures. The orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Bert Pennell, the comfort of patrons being well cared for by the energetic resident-manager, Mr. Chas. Harvey.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

One of the best all-round variety programmes that has been offered to patrons at the Royal County Theatre is the verdict on this week's bill. Perhaps the most remarkable item in the bill is the performance of Cestria, "the comic juggler and acrobatic waiter," which is well worth travelling a long distance to see. In many of its particulars it is new to patrons of the riverside playhouse. Cestria manipulates dinner plates, balls, cardboard cubes, &c., with remarkable deftness, but each manipulation has a very different ending to the one expected, and one that generally leads to a laugh. His acrobatic performances that accompany the tricks are as remarkable as they are amusing, and give one the impression that the little man must be made of indiarubber. He is the only artist who has ever shown Kingstonians how to turn a somersault standing still from one foot on to the same foot. Dan Lyall, the "eccentric comedian," is also very good, his patter, full of grotesque allusions and comparisons, fairly bringing down the house.

Kennard, a magician, shows some remarkable tricks with cards, empty hats, and flower-pots, ending up with the production of two live rabbits and many artificial flowers from a receptacle where it was supposed they could not possibly be concealed. Miss Violet Romaine, who sings several songs, surprises her hearers by the fullness and power of a contralto voice that would atract notice in a musical play. A most cordial reception is being given to those two comedians Miss Gladys Warren and Mr. Arthur Carlton, who on former occasions had made themselves favourites in Kingston pantomime. Hayes and Watson give a capital exhibition of dancing; and the Lurraines, two young ladies, exhibit remarkable proficiency in playing a number of musical instruments. An extra turn by the Sisters Oswald consists of a dance in which the audience are amazed at the apparent facility with which the performers raise their legs on high until they find out that they are dummies. The sketch entitled *Sir 'Erbert*, by Mr. Barton White, is noticed in another column.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Although no star of surpassing brilliance appears on the programme Mr. Pierre Cohen places before his patrons this week, it possesses one inestimable merit, and that is that the most captious of critics could not honestly point his finger to one weak spot in the dozen items of which it is composed. Maud Prenton is a comedienne with a pleasing presence, a good voice, and a capital style. Her rendering of "Come under the table, Mabel," at once ensures success, and in her suffragette song Miss Prenton proves herself to be a good actress as well as an agreeable singer. Jack Barker is an excellent vocalist with a decided talent for the better class of mimicry; his Dutch song, his laughing ditty, and his servant-girl imitation are all artistic. Miss Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, always popular at this house, are in capital form this week, and manage to secure some of the heartiest applause of the evening. A comedian of very considerable talent is Harry Bedford, whose amusing song, "It's bound to come in fashion by and by," is well received, while his weird rendering of a "Salome" song proves him to be an actor of much grotesque power.

Miss Dolly Harmer is exceedingly droll in her two contributions, first as a somewhat wide-awake hospital nurse, and anon as a lady who marries a policeman and imitates his dress and deportment most amusingly. Percy Murray and company provoke a continual stream of merriment in their comedy sketch *The Wager*, the acting of Mr. Murray himself (whose whiskers, however, leave room for improvement) as William, Mr. Fred Musto as Capt. Stewart, and Miss S. Butter as Molly leaving nothing to be desired, and keeping the ball of fun rolling merrily. Clifford Morgan is a vocal comedian with an exceptionally fine voice, and made up as a trooper, apparently of the 11th Hussars, as he would appear when performing stable work, sings with splendid effect, and in Rudyard Kipling's "Follow me" acts as well as he sings. Mr. Clifford Morgan makes an immediate and unmistakable success.

An illusionist of much originality, a neat worker of wonders, is Fred Wilkinson, who puzzles as much as he delights the audience with his apparently magical powers. Some of his tricks appear quite novel, and the whole may be described as one of the most attractive illusionist shows seen on these boards for many a day. Mr. Wilkinson is ably assisted by a pretty girl, Miss Ruby Mayor, who acts well up to her chief, and seems to enjoy rather than otherwise the many mysterious things she is called upon to do. Musically speaking, the "treat" of the evening is supplied by Miss Bessie Slaughter, whose magnificent contralto—or perhaps mezzo-soprano—voice, rich in quality and remarkable in compass, is heard to great advantage in "Love rules the world," beautifully rendered, and in Sullivan's ever-welcome "Lost chord." In this some of Miss Slaughter's lower notes are remarkably rich. Great amusement is created by Astley's American Circus. The various animals introduced—"Circus Girl," described as the fastest pony in the world, "Sloper," the unrideable mule, even the goat and the sheep engaged—perform as cleverly as high training can make them do, while the pony and mule may be regarded as the perfection of beauty. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with some excellent pictures, wind up an admirable programme.

OWING to the striking success at the Palace Theatre of Mlle. Pavlova, M. Mordkin, and the clever company of Russian dancers, it has been decided to continue the series of Wednesday matinées, at which several numbers impossible in the ordinary evening programme will be submitted.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOL

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

UNDER THE TROPICAL MOON.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE SWEETEST SONG OF ALL.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Mr. G. H. Elliott, writing to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. anent Edgar, Lawrance, and Gifford's "Moon, moon, moon," informs them that it is going bigger than ever this week at the Palace, Bristol. It certainly has great pantomime potentialities. At the Ardwick Empire last week Mr. Elliott was specially requested to sing "By the light of the silvery moon" (another Feldman publication), and on the Thursday night of that week it created a veritable furore. Mr. Elliott will feature both these numbers when he opens in town shortly.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, in addition to his "Beside the seaside" number, has found another Feldman "winner" in his latest comedy chorus song, by Will Letters, "We're miles away from home," and the genial comedian purposes working this "catchy" new number throughout his forthcoming provincial tour. Mr. Sheridan's latest hit will assuredly be in great demand for pantomime this year.

At the Granville, Walham Green, and Ealing this week, Miss Venie Clements has scored an instantaneous success with "Marie Louise," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, a number greatly to the liking of West-End auditors, at the Tivoli the previous week. It is published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., who have certainly found a rival in popularity to the same authors' "French bonnet," published by the same firm.

Mr. Fred Barnes, after a very big success at Wolverhampton with "I'd rather be by the fireside," by John A. Glover-Kind, is this week going "great guns" with the same number at the Olympia, Liverpool, where the chorus is sung again and again by his delighted hearers.

Miss Alice Kingsley, who is this week appearing at the Empire, Stratford, is about to feature the Feldman ballad, "Beautiful garden of roses," on the Stoll tour. She will also exhibit special slides illustrating various phases in the story.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, at the Olympia, Shoreditch, produced for the first time on Tuesday evening his satirical song "Hear what the crowd say as they come out," by John P. Harrington and John Neat. The witty lines were received with hilarity, and the finish of the song was the signal for tumultuous applause. Mr. Sheridan will make the number one of his principal provincial offerings, and introduce it up West on his return to town. He has also specially commissioned the same writers to equip him with a new number of a "cod" military nature, to produce on his forthcoming provincial tour.

The Sisters Bartholomew have made a pronounced success at the Palace, Halifax, with Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's charming song "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," surely one of the most taking numbers Feldman and Co. have ever issued. As a seaside number it has already been phenomenally successful.

Miss Edna Craggs has been achieving a most flattering success at the Palace, Kilmarnock, this week, with Chas. K. Harris's song of sentiment, "A little child shall lead them," one of the most effective ballads published by the firm of Feldman. This talented artist will shortly be featuring several other ballads issued by the same house.

EDINBURGH MARINE GARDENS.

This charming place of resort, which was so much appreciated by the Edinburgh public last summer, was opened for the present season on Saturday of last week. The day was an ideal one for the occasion; the weather was mild and genial, with a gentle breeze, which barely rippled the peaceful waters of the Forth. The opening ceremony was performed by Lord Provost Brown in the concert hall, which was filled to overflowing. His Lordship was accompanied to the platform by several of the magistrates of the city, and a touch of picturesqueness was given to the company by the presence of the city halberdiers. The Lord Provost in a short speech declared the gardens to be opened, and the company afterwards dispersed themselves among the grounds, and listened with pleasure to the admirable playing of H.M. Royal Horse Guards Blue, under the direction of the able conductor, Mr. Manuel Bilton. The usual amusements of scenic railway, figure eight railway, mountain slide, and river caves, afford diversion to the visitors; and there is a spacious skating rink for those who love the exercise. For the entertainment of visitors in wet weather, a large billiard saloon with six tables has been added to the other attractions. There is also an interesting exhibition in the form of a Somali village, showing native kraals, inhabited by a number of African warriors and their wives and children. Performances are given from time to time of javelin-throwing and other sports, which are supposed to represent the diversions of the natives in their own country.

A good concert party has been engaged for the opening week. Mr. Wilson James's vaudeville company, the Enterpeans, under the direction of Mr. Percy Watson, have given performances daily, and the programme is strengthened by the artistic singing of Mr. Robert Burnett, the well-known Scottish baritone; Mr. George Short, pianist; and Mr. Essler Kessen, a smart conjuror.

The general-manager of the Gardens is Mr. G. B. Smith, and the amusements are in the hands of Mr. J. C. Lumsden.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Despite the countless attractions elsewhere, there is no appreciable falling-off in the audiences here, for whom the management cater both wisely and well.

Among the turns is Mr. Edward Ind, a refined and clever comedian, who sings quite cleverly of topical events, and is distinctly welcome. The Sprees—there are two of them—open fire with a quaint medley, entitled *Twickenham Ferry*, although this has little to do with the show; but the Sprees are a clever couple, and boast a *répertoire* that is both attractive and tuneful. Perhaps the best of their efforts is the dainty "Slumber Song" from *Falka*, which long ago charmed all London.

As a contrast to the light humour of the Sprees we have H. M. Paull's sketch, *The Intruder*, which is admirably represented by Miss Lucy Sibley, and seemed to please the audience amazingly. "Of girls, curls," and other items sings pert and pretty Ethel Beech. Quite early she wins the attention of the audience, and her methods are essentially smart, while her vocal range is quite remarkable. Ethel's success of the evening is, however, her quaint rendition of a sweetheart ditty, "Come around on Sunday." The audience cheered it to the echo. Scotland is capably represented by Mr. John Donald, evidently a worshipper at the shrine of Robbie Burns, and of whom he chants, recites, and generaly eulogises. John has a powerful voice, and it is heard to extreme advantage in "A Scottish Exile's Dream."

For a novelty in acrobatic acts the Three Genlins may lay claim without fear of contradiction. The trio work hard, and are indescribably funny The child is a genius in her way, and the whole act is deliriously amusing. A happy soul is Jack Hylton, who sings a ditty touching on the weaknesses of his neighbours. In a philosophical strain he confesses "He don't grumble—oh, dear, no." With a wonderful amount of energy The Three Dixons literally dance themselves into the hearts of the audience.

"THE FRAME."

Dramatic Episode, in One Scene, by Ronald Macdonald, Played at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, May 2.

Anatole Montolieu .....Mr. H. A. Saintsbury
Celestine Lebas .....Miss Omar
Mme. Fanchette .....Miss Barbara Fenn

Several of the Play Actors' productions have already found acceptance in the professional market, and the latest to be accorded that distinction is *The Frame*, which was produced by the enterprising society alluded to on March 20 last. *The Frame* fits very well on the music-hall stage, and though the figurative rhapsodies of the chief character proved somewhat trying to the audience, the piece received an attentive hearing. We gave a full description of the story in a recent issue, and it only needs now to say that it concerns a Neapolitan artist, named Anatole Montolieu, who has sent his masterpiece "Death" to the Paris Académie, and is awaiting the verdict. To celebrate his birthday his mistress had, unknown to him, purchased a picture-frame on which the artist had set his heart, and hidden it in a cupboard in his room until the letter announcing his success shall have arrived. Anatole, who has drunk deeply, imagines that Celestine, who keeps strict guard over the cupboard, has hidden a rival artist, of whom he is madly jealous, and in a moment of fury stabs his mistress to the heart. At that moment the letter of acceptance arrives, and Anatole, realising his error, precipitates himself from the window into the street below.

The intensity of Mr. H. A. Saintsbury's acting as Anatole gripped the audience, and caused them to follow the piece with close attention. He depicted the debilitating effect of drink with eloquent expression and with wonderfully varied facial play. Miss Omar as the devoted Celestine well suggested the dog-like fidelity of the girl, even towards the man who has caused her death. A grimly humorous touch is obtained by the playing of a cornet outside, which rouses Anatole from his morning slumber and begins again at the moment when the tragedy of the piece is accomplished. Mr. Saintsbury won a success with the sketch, and there was a genuine ring about the cheers that at the close summoned the principals to the footlights.

A dramatic military sketch, *Before the Dawn*, played by Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. Rawson Buckley's company, has been an attractive item in the programme this week at the Hippodrome, Margate, and the characters, Col. Alwynne (Mr. Fredk. Levison), Major Stetson (Mr. F. Rawson Buckley), Dick Alwynne (Master Reggie Connor), and the Ramah (Mr. John Hampden), have been admirably portrayed. The Matthews Bros., coloured comedians and dancers; Ian Colquhoun, baritone, who sings splendidly; Lily Palmer, comedienne and dancer; the Reays, gymnasts; Little Victoria, juvenile comedienne and dancer; and Cash and Clare, comedians and dancers, also appear each evening with marked success.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MR. TOM LLOYD.

The well-known comedian, Mr. Tom Lloyd, is a native of Manchester, and like many more of his brethren of the profession, started his career by singing at the free-and-easies in and around his native town. His successes encouraged him to further effort, and his position in the variety world to-day shows that his ambitions have been realised. His first music-hall engagement was at the Empire, Wigan, under the management of Mr. Royal Murray. Since then he has appeared at most of the principal music halls in the United Kingdom, and he has also toured with great success in South Africa. Recently he has been appearing on the Moss and Stoll circuit, and is booked with that firm till 1912. He has been fortunate in securing excellent songs, his latest being two numbers from the pen of that talented author and composer, Mr. Harry Castling, viz., "Votes for Women" and "The sausage and the saveloy."

[*Photo by Bustin.*

MR. TOM LLOYD.

Like numerous others, Mr. Lloyd experienced many ups and downs before making headway. Some years ago, after fulfilling a week's engagement with a combination at Stockton-on-Tees, he received for his salary the handsome amount of 10s., and as the fare to his next town (Glasgow) was 16s., he was placed in a very awkward position. With the 10s. he booked as far as Berwick, and upon his arrival there appealed to a fellow-passenger to help him to continue his journey; but his friend for the time being appeared to become deaf and dumb. It was somewhat of a shock to the comedian when he was forced to leave a warm and comfortable carriage and transfer to a cold platform on the borders of Scotland at four o'clock on a winter's morning. There he had to remain for six hours, and was eventually allowed to complete his journey on the security of his "props."

Another curious experience befell Mr. Lloyd a few years ago when working a small music hall in Lancashire. He was surprised to learn that he was to be given a benefit on the Friday night without ever having been consulted in the matter. Special bills were distributed announcing a "complimentary benefit to Tom Lloyd, the great comedian, previous to his tour around the world." The benefit was a big success, but when Tom presented himself to the manager and asked for his share, he was told that he (Tom) was "too familiar." That ended his tour round the world.

"GARGE."

Incident, in One Act, by Robert Ganthony, Produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday, May 2.

Mr. Bluff .....Mr. L. R. Cathie
Spigot .....Mr. Arthur Jackson
Chump .....Mr. Neild
Wurzel .....Mr. Bruce
Polly .....Miss Kinrose
Garge .....Mr. Robert Ganthony

A pleasant little sketch, *Garge; or, The Yokel Millionaire* boasts little in the way of plot, but it is quietly humorous and delightfully lifelike. Garge, the yokel, is told that his uncle in Australia has died and left him everything. "Everything" consists, *inter alia*, of £1,000,000 in solid gold, and Garge is delighted. He goes to London to see the sights, but finds that there he is a fish out of water. He returns to Buckhurst, and the whole play consists of his relation of his experiences in the capital. Mr. Robert Ganthony makes this molehill of a story into a veritable mountain of humour, and his descriptions to the village folk in native dialect are great. He has the country brogue, the gait of the yokel, and the clothes of a sporting millionaire, and with these three attributes contrives to shape a seemingly weak story into a sketch which convulses the onlookers with laughter. Mr. Cathie makes a typical country landlord; Spigot, the oldest inhabitant, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Jackson, who illustrates that talkative old fellow to the life; and Mr. Neild as Chump, the postman, is very good. Miss Kinrose provides a pleasant contrast to the men, and looks sweet and charming as Polly, the landlord's daughter.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY ARTISTS' FEDERATION.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

A special general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation was held yesterday (Friday) at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, W.C., for the purpose of rescinding that part of Rule 21 which reads:

"From such levy the Executive Committee shall be empowered to pay necessary funeral expenses immediately, and in case of members accepted prior to Feb. 18, 1910, to pay any balance to the person nominated on the form provided for that purpose, or failing such nomination or production of a will, to the next-of-kin. In the case of new members, no death levy will be made unless a nomination form has been filled up."

Mr. W. H. Clemart was in the chair, and said the meeting was called with the purpose of putting everyone on the same footing with regard to the death levy. It was for those present to consider the three amendments that had been put upon the paper. The first one reads:

"From such levy the Executive Committee shall be empowered to pay necessary funeral expenses immediately, and to pay any balance to the person nominated on the form provided for that purpose, or, failing such nomination or production of a will, to the next-of-kin."

That amendment meant putting everyone on the same footing. Amendment No. 2 was a suggestion from Mr. Bartram, and read:

"From such levy the Executive Committee shall be empowered to pay necessary funeral expenses immediately, and failing the production of a nomination form executed by the member concerned, to pay any balance into the funds of the Variety Artists' Federation."

No. 3 is Mr. Austen Lenton's idea, and is the same as No. 2 with an addition, and reads:

"From such levy the Executive Committee shall be empowered to pay necessary funeral expenses immediately, and failing the production of a nomination form executed by the member concerned, to pay any balance into the funds of the Variety Artists' Federation. This rule to apply to each and every member in full benefit, and to come into operation on and after Oct. 31, 1910."

Miss Cecilia Macarte proposed, and Mr. Howard Warde seconded, that amendment No. 1 be adopted, This, on being put to the vote, was carried unanimously, and became the proposition.

The amendment to this, proposed by Mr. Bertram read No. 2 on the business paper. Mr. Bartram said they had considerable difficulty where no will had been made by one of their members, and they had had in some cases to take out letters of administration before they could pay the funeral money. Mr. Davis seconded Mr. Bartram's amendment. This amendment was put to the vote and was lost.

The third amendment was withdrawn by Mr. Austen Lenton.

The first amendment consequently is now embodied in Rule 21.

"FREDDIE'S FLAT."

Sketch, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, May 2.

Jack Foy .....Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm
Patricia Kileroney .....Miss Olive Tempest

This proved to be a merry and well-written duologue, giving us some fifteen minutes of continuous laughter. It should prove very popular at the halls. Patricia Kileroney, a comely bachelor girl, has been lent the use of his flat at 12, King Edward's Mansions, by her brother, who is away. By some mistake she enters the flat opposite, which is numbered 12a, and belongs to her brother's chum, Jack Foy. Bubbling over with girlish fun, being all alone and having nothing better to do, she puts on what she imagines to be her brother's garments, and much fancies herself in a shooting costume. Unfortunately, Jack Foy then enters, and as she does not like to compromise herself by stating she is a woman, Jack naturally believes her to be a man, and an amusing situation arises. Jack insists on his newly-found friend having a cigar and a whisky and soda, much to her discomfiture, and altogether the lady is in a most uncomfortable plight. At last certain articles of feminine attire which she has discarded and vainly tried to hide behind the sofa, are discovered, and the young man finds out that the intruder is a pretty girl, and his chum's sister. Ultimately the young lady says "Good-bye," and goes off to her brother's flat, making a promise to meet Jack on the morrow.

Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm's success in character parts at the West End houses is well known, and his Jack Foy was a natural and admirable piece of character acting. Miss Olive Tempest, a shapely and tall young lady, played with much cleverness as the hoyden Patricia Kileroney, making a handsome lad in her masculine attire.

Miss Lilian Durand, the dramatic soprano, supported by a company of well-known artists, opens on Monday next at the Camberwell Palace, presenting a spectacular scena with choir, organ, special scenery, and effects.

In consequence of fire, a sale by auction will take place at Messrs. Chadwick and Sons, 64, Long Acre, W.C., on Friday next, May 13, when the whole of the stock of the New Film Hiring Co., 97, St. Martin's-lane, will be sold without reserve. Upwards of 1,000 films of up-to-date subjects and in good condition are for disposal.

The chief attractions at the Hackney Empire on Monday are American, and the announcement of the return of Mr. R. G. Knowles, one of our greatest comedians, should draw big audiences at that popular house. He brings with him on his present visit a heap of new songs and new patter. Chas. T. Aldrich, the other Yank, is responsible for some of the quickest changes on record, introducing life-like impressions of David Garrick, Colonel Cody, Fagin the Jew, and others. He is not the least mirth-provoking as a tramp juggler, accompanied by a remarkable bulldog.

An order for an injunction against Mr. Will Evans, of the London Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., was made, on an application on behalf of the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Palaces, Ltd., upon a motion for judgment before Mr. Justice Darling, on Saturday. The case made for the plaintiffs was that Mr. Evans, a variety artist, performed at the Olympia, Shoreditch, one of the defendant's theatres, in breach of an agreement not to appear at any place of amusement within two miles of the Hackney Palace of Varieties during the continuance of his engagement with the plaintiffs. The injunction was granted.

It must surely be unique for a male artist to receive floral tributes at a London music hall. Such was the gratifying experience of George Mozart recently at the second house at Shoreditch Olympia, when Rameses roses found their way back to the stage as a tribute to the popular comedian. Ramases, whose turn preceded Mozart's, had distributed some fine flowers and buttonholes to the audience. At the conclusion of Mozart's turn someone threw one of Rameses' roses to him. He picked it up and commenced to put it in his coat, when a shower of similar floral tributes were flung on the stage, literally at Mozart's feet. He seemed surprised and touched by so novel and pretty an appreciation, and, looking shyly round, he said: "Is there anything else to come?" Needless to say, his quip meets with great applause.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
OH, BOYS! I'VE SEEN YOU THERE!
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. FOOLISH QUESTIONS

MISS ELLA RETFORD. *The Brightest and Best in her Line,*
MOLLY O'MORGAN. GIRL UP NORTH.

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

MR. JACK SMILES. *The Popular Comedian.*
FISH SAUCE.

MISS ALICE TREMAYNE *Mr. Harry Claff's "Demon and the Fairy."*
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." elephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"A SCAMPER ROUND THE WORLD."

Sir Edward Moss went holiday-making in the East last year, and Lady Moss kept a diary. The result to-day is an extremely interesting record of fact, fancy, traveller's tales, and even trouble encountered, to be found within the white and gold covers of a book published this week by John Ouseley. Plentifully sprinkled throughout its large-type pages are dozens of snapshots—and excellent ones, too—of unique scenes in America, China, Japan, Ceylon, Egypt, and even Honolulu, all taken by Lady Moss herself.

From a careful perusal of "A Scamper," it is evident that Lady Moss has been at endless pains to give this literary effort a popular as well as a finished touch.

And so we get interspersed with good factive matter, well-known, of course, to the born globe-trotter, a wealth of anecdote of interest to all.

Naturally, the wife of one of the world's best entertainment-providers would be quick to comment on her first visit to a theatre in China. She was keenly critical of everything she saw, to the smallest detail. Lady Moss tells us that "the price of admission for Europeans was a dollar, and the house consisted of stalls, pit, a large circle, and a gallery at the back of the auditorium holding about twelve hundred people. The place was crowded—in fact, the management insisted on turning some natives out of their seats to make room for our party."

Sir Edward's comments on Chinese theatre management would be interesting at this juncture; but, like a wise man, he refrains.

"There was no scenery on the stage, or footlights, and the orchestra, consisting of tom-toms, various stringed instruments, and so on, sat at the back, behind the actors. A policeman patrolled the platform, evidently to keep order, for the audience seemed to have free access to the stage and its precincts. The stage-manager, who was also the property-master, and smoked a pipe continually, never left the stage, but remained in full view of the audience the whole time, arranging chairs, tables, and other accessories, which were supposed to represent mountains, trees, &c., according to the requirements of the scene. I cannot say that I was particularly struck with the charms of the leading lady, whose chief attraction seemed to be the smallness of her feet. Women, of course, are not allowed to act as a rule in China. But as Hong-Kong is under British rule, the prohibition is not in force there. Later, we saw male actors taking women's parts, and, for the purpose, I suppose, of giving 'verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing' masquerade, they actually wore *false* small feet!"

Lady Moss got a gentle hint as to the smallness of this world of ours when she arrived at Miyojima, in Japan. At breakfast she ordered tea, and the waiter went straight to a sideboard, and took out a handful from a canister labelled "Lipton."

There is quite a pretty pen picture of Japan's Sacred Island, and the visit paid to it by the great variety magnate and his wife. "Everyone, I suppose," remarks her Ladyship, "pictures Japan as an ideally beautiful place, full of gorgeous colouring, with masses of bloom and flowers. Certainly this island fully realises the most extravagant ideas one may have entertained regarding the country. Apart altogether from this, the Sacred Island has a unique and peculiar character of its own. To start with, every living thing is sacred, even the crows, and no births or deaths are allowed to take place on its soil. There are no conveyances of any kind, and the sacred animals that live on the island are so tame that they feed out of one's hand. Although the Jap ladies have not yet started to ape the European fashions, they were extremely interested in my own garments. One man rushed up to me on one occasion with a baby in his arms, and rubbed it against my dress for several seconds. I was told this was to bring it luck."

In Yokohama Sir Edward took a snapshot of a Chinese tailor's sign, which read "T. F. Cock-Eye, Tailor." Lady Moss does not inform us whether her lord has added a frock-coat suit, duly hall-marked, to his wardrobe or not by this quaintly-named son of the shears.

Lady Moss tells how she met with a lady the proud owner of a hundred kimonos, and was extended a cordial invitation to view the garments. It is decidedly unkind of her ladyship to close the chapter abruptly directly she has recorded this fact.

At a place called Kozu Lady Moss had a unique experience. "To get any sort of a wash," she says, "we had to go to the public bath-room, and perform our ablutions in the presence of a number of interested spectators. I could not shake them off when I returned to my bedroom, for they were tremendously eager to see me do my hair, standing round and discussing my actions the whole time. This hair-dressing business, by the way, resolved itself into quite a difficult feat, for, there being no furniture of any kind, I had to prop my small hand-mirror against the bed, and, kneeling on the floor, complete my toilet as best I could. The mere man may not realise what this means, but I know I should have had the sympathy of any of my own sex in my predicament. Not that my husband was unsympathetic, but he was too much occupied with his own troubles to worry about mine, four mousmees insisting on staying in the room to watch him shave and dress. Nothing moved them, and he had to sumbit to this unrehearsed 'dress rehearsal' with as much grace as he could muster. They were like so many children buzzing about, full of the most intense curiosity and interest in everything we were doing."

It would scarcely be fair to quote at greater length from Lady Moss's delightful "Scamper," but we must ask her forgiveness for reprinting her allusion to a Jap honeymoon couple who boarded the train on which she and Sir Edward were, and who were being seen off by a crowd of friends: "The bride—a pretty blushing young thing—was clad in Japanese costume, but the bridegroom, whether in honour of the occasion or not, I cannot say, had got a complete European outfit, brand new, and most uncomfortable to look at. His coat, meant to be a frock coat, swept the floor behind him as he walked; his trousers were extremely ill-fitting; his waistcoat was bright violet with green spots; and his tie a vivid yellow. To add to his misery—and he certainly did look miserable—his brown leather boots were far too small for feet that were obviously unaccustomed to such luxuries, and so had, perforce, to be left unbuttoned. Like all his countrymen, he sat on the seat of the train in cobbler fashion, with his legs tucked under him, and in this Buddha-like attitude he presented, with his *outré* European clothing, quite the most comical figure I have ever seen."

A SENSATIONAL feature of this week's programme at the Empire, Manchester, is the wrestling of India's catch-as-catch-can champions, Gama, Imam Bux, Ahmed Buksh, and Gamu, all British subjects, who invite exciting contests nightly. Edw. Blondell and company are very entertaining in the American comedy success, *The Lost Boy*; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, gives a popular turn; Vanando's novelty ventriloquism is enjoyable; the Five Whiteleys are seen in their acrobatic wire-walking musical pot-pourri; Sanford and Lyons, comedians and simultaneous dancers, are, as usual, a big hit; and other pleasing turns are Onida Macdermott, the charming vocal actress; the Three Empire Girls, vocalists and dancers; C. J. Johnson, the Black Diamond; the Korries, in a novelty musical act; and Baby Boden, a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer.

DEATH OF LOTTIE COLLINS.

By the death of Lottie Collins the variety stage loses one of the most notable stars of the last years of the nineteenth century. In the 'nineties the famous comedienne reached the apogee of her popularity with the song and dance which took London and New York by storm. The frenzied activity, the fierce energy, the complete abandon of the whirl-dance which followed the verses of "Ta-ra-ra-Boomdeay" made an enormous hit, and probably laid the foundations of heart trouble, to which the popular artist succumbed on Sunday last, at the age 42.

Miss Lottie Collins was dedicated to the stage in early childhood, her father having been a member of one of the very early minstrel troupes. He was an accomplished step-dancer, but he entrusted the training of little Lottie to Charlie Buckingham, the husband of Mlle. Cerito, at one time a very popular dancer in America, and the father of the late Miss Patti Rosa. With Lottie were Lizzie and Marie, and the trio performed as the Sisters Collins. They used to appear with particular success at the Oxford, where they danced under the management of Mr. J. H. Jennings in a ballet arranged by Mr. Paul Valentine, entitled *Skiptomania*, and at Lusby's, where they found a very great friend in Mr. Charles Crowder, afterwards partner with Mr. G. Adney Payne. They performed in three pantomimes at the Pavilion, Mile End—where Ada Reeve had her early training—a theatre that has been a veritable nursery for stage talent. They played also at the old Oriental Theatre (now the Queen's Palace), Poplar, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. About the age of fifteen Lottie left the trio of sisters and appeared on her own.

On her first appearance at the Tivoli she sang "The whistling coon," and also at the London Pavilion. Through her sand and other dancing at the Syndicate houses she was named the Kate Vaughan of the music halls—a title of which she was very proud. Like other famous music-hall performers before her, the deceased lady became a member of the Gaiety company on the production of Richard Henry's burlesque melodrama of *Monte Cristo, jun.*, in which she played the part of Mariette. The cast was quite a remarkable one. It included Nelly Farren, Fay Templeton, Agnes Delaporte, Jenny M'Nulty, Florence Beale, Sylvia Grey, Fred Leslie, E. J. Lonnen, Charlie Ross (another recruit from the halls), Windham Guise, George Honey, and George Stone.

The great event in her stage career was the production of "Ta-ra-ra-Boomdeay," which became the rage of England and America, and was introduced into burlesque, pantomime, and musical comedy at the theatres in both countries, becoming the vogue both on the greater and the lesser stage. The song was of American origin, and it may have been sung at camp meetings by devout negroes. Miss Collins's husband heard the song in the States, but its potentialities were not discovered until Lottie sang a specially adapted version of it by Mr. Richard C. Morton at a morning performance at the Tivoli, where it aroused immense enthusiasm, and was promptly reproduced in the evening. This was in 1891. The management of the Grand, Islington, secured Lottie for the part of Alice Fitzwarren, and also for the celebrated song and dance. At the finish of the Islington engagement, March, 1892, Miss Collins went to the Gaiety, and by permission of the Syndicate was allowed to brighten one of the scenes in *Cinderellen* with the famous number.

The deceased comedienne visited America again and again with her own companies, making one of her early successes in that country with *The Circus Rider*—a piece played in this country by Miss Cora Stuart under the title of *The Fair Equestrienne*—and touring later with the Lottie Collins' Troubadours. About 1895 she appeared at the Palace Theatre under the management of Mr. Charles Morton, and went on Feb. 12, 1896, to the Avenue Theatre to play the part of Dora in *The New Barmaid*, afterwards taking the title-rôle—Ethel Joy. The piece was transferred to the Opera-Comique in June.

It was in August, 1900, she went to Australia, under the management of Harry Rickards, and sang at the Tivoli, Sydney, for nine weeks. On the last night of her performance there she was presented with a handsome manicure set and dressing-case suite, which were handed across the footlights by several lady friends. The gift was inscribed:—"Presented to Miss Lottie Collins from a few admiring friends, Sydney, N.S.W. March 5, 1901. Of late the health of the deceased lady had prevented her appearance on the stage.

Miss Lottie Collins was twice married, her first husband being Mr. Stephen Cooney, a theatrical manager, who died at Saratoga in 1901. Her second marriage was with Mr. James W. Tate, the well-known composer and comedian at the piano. Of the deceased artist's sisters Lizzie is partner in the well-known music-hall combination, Athas and Collins. Miss José Collins, who is a well-known performer in the West-End halls, is a daughter of the deceased.

The remains of the deceased artist were interred at the Islington Cemetery, situated at East Finchley, on Thursday afternoon. All the way from her home in the Tufnell Park-road to the cemetery crowds of people watched the funeral procession pass. The chief mourners were Mr. James W. Tate (husband), who came especially from Belfast, where he was fulfilling an engagement, Miss Marie Collins and Miss Lizzie Collins (sisters), Miss Jose Collins, Miss Lucia Collins, Miss Ada Collins, Miss Marie Collins (daughters), Mr. Albert Collins (brother), Miss Elsie Athas (niece), Mr. Athas, Roma and Romani, Nina Cargill, Phillips, and others. The hearse was filled with beautiful wreaths from relatives and friends of the deceased singer. A tribute came from Miss Marie Lloyd and one from Miss Letty Lind. Another of the wreaths bore the following inscription: "I hope you are at rest—to my dear sister Lottie, form Marie." The grave was lined with evergreens, and on the coffin were inscribed the words: "Charlotte Louise Tate. Died May 1, 1910. Aged 42 years."

THE LATE LOTTIE COLLINS.

"AN UNINVITED GUEST."

A Comedy Sketch, Presented at the Granville Theatre of Varieties on Monday, May 2.

Mrs. Jenkins ..... MISS MARIE MURRAY
Mr. Jenkins ..... MR. FRANK ERNEST
Cabman ..... A. GROWLER
George Verdant Green ..... MR. FRED RAINS

Although the plot of this sketch is of a very slender character, there is, nevertheless, plenty of genuine humour in it, and at times it provoked much hearty laughter amongst the Walham Green variety goers. Owing to a misdirected letter, Mrs. Jenkins returns home to her flat, and is astonished to find in possession of it Mr. Green, who, through a misunderstanding, is in the wrong apartments. Before a satisfactory explanation can be arrived at Mr. Jenkins' voice is heard on the stairs. Having been to a friend's birthday party at the club, Mr. Jenkins is somewhat elevated, which gives his wife time to hastily garb the "uninvited guest" is some rather ludicrous feminine attire. The eventual exposure at last takes place, and with the satisfactory explanations that Mr. Green is able to furnish, amity once more reigns.

As Mrs. Jenkins Miss Mary Murray plays intelligently and well, and gave good effect to her lines; Mr. Frank Ernest enacted the bewildered husband in a capable way, and Mr. Fred Rains portrayed George Verdant Green admirably, his actions and make-up being decidedly humorous, and his eccentricities in female attire were devoid of any suggestiveness.

Other attractions in a well-arranged programme comprised Mr. Tom E. Leamore, in some of his successful ditties; Miss May B. Brilliant, a chic comedienne; Mr. Fritz Van Liston, a remarkable operatic siffleur and bird imitator; Miss Clara Reid and John Power, in an amusing playlet, *The Chambermaid*; Mr. Herbert Rule, the comedian with a finished style, who scored highly with his latest successes, "La La" and "Standing on the Quay," and Miss Venie Clements, with her cleverly delivered stories of baby life, and her pretty rendering of a simple yet withal effective song, "Molly Louise."

Great Scot, the Ladder King, thrilled all with his sensational balancing feats, and the Smart Set, including Miss Georgie Martin, were excellently received in their refined vocal drawing-room act. The band, under Mr. Frank Thomas's skilful direction, played their selections faultlessly, and Mr. Robert W. Duce is a courteous manager.

WARM thanks are due to Mr. Albert Bushell, who successfully organised the concert at the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, last Sunday evening in aid of the unfortunate football club.

MR. FRED BARNES is still scoring very heavily with the big song by Gloverkind, published by Messrs. Feldman and Co., entitled "I'd rather be beside the fireside." This song promises to be the alfresco favourite this year.

IN our notice last week of Fred Maxwell's company at the Bow Palace, we mentioned the good work done by little "Grace Warden." This part, we are informed by Mr. Fred Goodwin, has been taken since April 25 by Winnie Goodwin, who has just returned from a tour with Max Montesole's company, *Pinkie and the Fairies*, in which play for the last few weeks she took the part of Elf Twinkle.

"SIR 'ERBERT."

A Sketch, in One Act, by Mr. Barton White, Produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames on Monday, May 2.

Arthur Corsellis, J.P. ..... MR. FRED MORGAN
Vera ..... MISS EMILY SPILLER
Smiler ..... MR. EDWIN BARWICK
Moucher Mike ..... MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS

Forming the chief item in a varied programme, Mr. White's little sketch met with a most favourable reception when it was produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, on Monday night and during the week, "Sir 'Erbert" is the playful patronymic of a tramp, and his introduction into the sketch is doubtless intended as an object-lesson to those whose misdirected sympathies lead them to squander much valuable charitable effort upon undesirable objects. A typical example of this class of person is Mrs. Vera Corsellis, the young wife of a Justice of the Peace, who has conceived the idea that there is no coat so ragged that it does not cover some virtues, and that this is more true of tramps than of any other class that has failed in the struggle for existence. And giving a practical application to her sympathies by relieving every tramp that calls at her house, the place quickly becomes known amongst the fraternity, through the agency of private marks chalked upon the front gate, with the result that the visits of mendicants—good, bad, and indifferent—are more numerous than Mr. Corsellis, who does not share his wife's fancy, appreciates. And it is in order to convince his wife of the error of her ways that he gets up the little story in which Sir 'Erbert plays so important a part. It appears that Smiler, his lugubrious butler, has a broken-down actor friend, nick-named Sir 'Erbert, who is great in "making up," and this person, unknown to Mrs. Corsellis, is invited to come to the house disguised as a tramp, where he is to be treated right royally, and given every opportunity of annexing whatever valuables he fancies, and, of course, restoring them when the loss is discovered and the lesson has had its effect.

On the appointed day the tramp appears at the luncheon hour, and to his apparent great surprise is invited into the house and offered a seat at the hospitable board. His antics, no less than his personal recollections at table, are of the most mirth-provoking character, and are immensely enjoyed by Mr. Corsellis and his butler, who are "in the know," though the lady is not altogether charmed with her visitor. During the meal Sir 'Erbert, as he is dubbed, improves the shining hour by stealthily annexing all the silver knives and forks within his reach, and then, gorged to repletion, he is left alone for a few moments, so that he might have an opportunity of stealing whatever else he fancied. Strong in her hobby, Mrs. Corsellis leaves behind her a valuable diamond necklace, and Mr. Corsellis added to the temptation by leaving his gold watch and chain beside it. These were the first articles that Sir 'Erbert pounced upon and secreted about his person.

Next he seized a silver clock; all the silver on the table, including the remainder of the knives and forks, the silver salvers, and the soup tureens and entree dishes, which he managed to hide into capacious pockets on the inside of his overcoat. Then, forcing open a desk, he found a pocket-book full of bank notes, a cheque book, a box of cigars, a box of cigarettes, and other articles, and, heavily loaded, he takes his departure. When Mr. and Mrs. Corsellis return to the room and discover their loss, the lady's grief may be imagined, but, when the lesson has had time to work, Mr. Corsellis hastens to assure her that all is right, and discloses the little plot he had prepared for her. But her joy and her husband's satisfaction are rudely changed to consternation when the butler enters the room and announces a telegram from the actor, stating that he had broken his leg and could not come, and the truth then flashes on them that the supposed amateur tramp was a real one after all.

The story is admirably conceived and constructed and for twenty minutes furnishes material for genuine and hearty laughter. It gives opportunity also for the display of some capital character acting by Mr. Arthur Williams and Mr. Edwin Barwick, who play the parts of Moucher Mike, the tramp, and Smiler, the butler, respectively. Mr. Williams gives a realistic picture of the ragged mendicant, that is punctuated by many little drolleries that never fail to provoke a laugh; and Mr. Barwick as the long-faced butler is equally successful. Mr. Fred Morgan makes a capital Arthur Corsellis; and a clever portraiture of Vera is given by Miss Emily Spiller.

LIFEBOAT SATURDAY FUND MATINEE.

Under the patronage of the Mayor of Islington (Councillor H. J. Clarke, J.P.) and Lord Charles Beresford, J.P., a matinée in aid of the Lifeboat Saturday Fund (Islington Branch) was given at Collins's Music Hall on Friday. The entertainment was organised by a strong local committee, with Ald. T. W. Saint as chairman, Councillor T. H. Dey as vice-chairman, and Councillor F. Hallam as hon. secretary. The use of the hall was kindly granted by Mr. H. A. Sprake, the proprietor. The attendance more than realised the expectations of the committee, and a substantial sum will be handed over to the Lifeboat Fund. The programme opened with the overture "A life on the ocean wave," by the orchestra, conducted by Mr Alf. Petersen, and the early turns included Miss May Glenister, who sang "Within your heart"; Miss Olive Young, male impersonator; Mather and Mayer, with song and dance; Miss Violet Essex, who sang with charm and expression; and the Sisters Glynn, banjoists and dancers. Mr. Robert Anthony gave "The lifeboat men" in capital style, and Miss Grace Rosaire, as an Irish colleen, was successful with "The old plaid shawl." Miss Janet Reeve was applauded for her rendering of "Only a penny," and her sisters, Mabel and Hester Reeve, scored in a duet, "Life's dream is o'er." Juvenile talent was well represented by Irene Velma, Maggie Roling, and Amy Amos. Other contributors were Tod Lowen, Hughes and Elliott, Claude Gardner, Maude Esmond, Chas. Dillon, Louis Seymour, Maisie Dene, Maude and Stafford, Jennie Claremont, Sid Turner, Clive and Clarke, Chas. Robinson, and Chas. Sloman. The stage-managers were Messrs. Will Conley, Will Clinch, and Joe Cohen, and the following artists acted as programme sellers: The Misses Ethel Eden, Jennie Alexander, Kitty Leon, Mabel Hester, Ruby and Janet Reeve, Olive Young, and Flora Mill. Mr. G. Ivor Sparke was the assistant-manager. Councillor T. H. Dey, on behalf of the committee, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. H. A. Sprake, the proprietor of the hall, Councillor A. L. Williams, the manager, the artists, the orchestra, and staff, who had generously given their services. He said that the name of Sprake was quite a household word in Islington, for the late Mr. Herbert Sprake had always been foremost in the cause of charity, and his son was evidently following his excellent example.

Mr. H. E. Sprake, in response, said it had given him great pleasure to grant the use of the hall for the matinée. He was sure that the artists, the orchestra, and the staff would always be willing to give their services in a good cause.

AT the meeting of the Brighton Town Council on Thursday a resolution, submitted by the Aquarium Committee expressing the opinion that the time had now arrived for the provision of a permanent house for the municipal orchestra was approved by a large majority. The committee have now to submit a detailed scheme to the council.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

TOTAL COLLECTED 7344½ SHILLINGS.

£367 4s. 6d.

Collected by Cole and Rags, 12s.

C. Cole	1	Harold J. Pounds	1
W. Stylo	1	P. Roxby	1
Chas. Norton	1	Jack Lorimer	1
A. M. Pounds	1	Flo Melville	1
Mollie Shields	1	Tom Joy	1
Sammy Shields	1	C. Cole	1

Collected by W. H. Atlas, 13s.

Kate Vulcana	1	Winnie Atlas	1
W. H. Atlas	1	Mona Atlas	1
Gwen Atlas	1	Arthur Atlas	1
Maud Atlas	1	Willie Atlas	1
Gus Atlas	1	Alice Atlas	1
Hedley Atlas	1	Harry Page	1
Nora Atlas	1		

Collected by Miss Lillie Lassah, 3s.

Lillie Lassah	1	Baby McCarthy	1
J. McCarthy	1		

There are still a few cards not yet sent in. Will the collectors please forward to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, so that the list may be closed.

MR. MACNAGHTEN APPEALS.

On Wednesday, in the case of Macnaghten v. the Proprietors of the *Stage*, before Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Moulton, and Farwell, an application was made by the plaintiff for a new trial of the action heard before Mr. Justice Ridley and a special jury. The action was for damages for an alleged libel, and the substantial defence was that the article complained of, which appeared in the *Stage*, was fair comment on a matter of public interest.

Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., and Mr. Martin O'Connor (instructed by Messrs. W. B. Blackwell and Co.) appeared in support of the appeal; Mr. Lush, K.C., and Mr. Charles Doughty (instructed by Messrs. Woodham Smith and Borradaile) for the defendants.

The plaintiff, who had about twenty-seven music halls, in 1907 agreed with Messrs. Scott and Brodie that they should produce a sketch, entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, at a series of music halls, beginning at Bow on Dec. 9, 1907, and going to, among other places, Sadler's Wells Music Hall, where they were due on Dec. 23. On Nov. 27 the plaintiff was convicted at a police-court for permitting two stage plays to be performed at the Surrey Music Hall, and his manager found that if the Scott and Brodie sketch were to be produced at Sadler's Wells Music Hall further proceedings would result. The plaintiff's manager asked Messrs. Scott and Brodie to take their company to Southampton, and perform there instead of at Sadler's Wells, but this was refused, and they sued the plaintiff for £25, the sum which would have been payable for appearance at Sadler's Wells. The county court judge held in favour of the plaintiffs, but the Divisional Court reversed that decision, holding that the main defence, namely, that the production of a stage play at Sadler's Wells Music Hall was illegal, was a good defence to the claim.

On May 28, 1908, the defendants, in commenting on the result of Messrs. Scott and Brodie's action in the county court—the case had not then been heard by the Divisional Court—published in the *Stage* the article which constituted the alleged libel. In the course of the article it was said:—"The Macnaghten management, which appears with unenviable frequency in the law courts, sought to evade a contract on the ground that within the knowledge of both parties the contract was illegal, as Sadler's Wells was unlicensed for stage plays. . . . Mr. Macnaghten was not content to abide by the merits of the case, but relied on the discreditable defence just referred to. We say discreditable because, in our opinion, it goes behind the contract, and breaks the faith that lies in a man's word. . . . Mr. Macnaghten, with his own undertaking before him, tries to skulk out of it . . . in order to cover up a fault on his own side. . . . Sketch artists cannot afford to take the risks involved in a contract that an unscrupulous manager may repudiate at any moment. It is not advisable to take it where a man is cynically indifferent enough to try to prove in court that his bond is worth nothing, and that his word behind the bond is a delusion and a snare." At the trial Mr. Justice Ridley held that the defence of fair comment was a good defence. In his opinion there was nothing to be left to the jury, and judgment accordingly was entered for the defendants. A stay of execution was, however, granted, pending an appeal to this court.

After hearing arguments, Lord Justice Vaughan Williams said: We are all of one mind—that the case was improperly withdrawn from the jury.

Mr. Lush.—Then it is useless my arguing the case further if there is to be a new trial.

Mr. Hall.—I ask for the costs of this appeal in any event.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams.—Yes; the usual order.

MR. CHARLES COBORN has arranged with Mr. Fred Baugh to appear at several of the London Macnaghten halls, commencing on the 16th inst.

THE Wednesday picture matinée performances, in which trial turns are introduced, and which were inaugurated by Mr. Ernest Bridgen, manager of the Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields, are proving very successful and drawing packed houses. Gratton and Delaine, who are appearing at the Empire Palace Theatre this week, were selected from one of these matinée trial performances, and are being well received.

THOMAS WILLIAM JESSHOPE, the discharged fireman charged with the murder of John Healey, stage-carpenter at the Camberwell Empire, on Easter Monday, was sentenced to death on Friday last week at the Old Bailey.

THE prisoner's mental condition was the defence offered, and Mr. Frank G. A. Hitchcock, of Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, the solicitor for the condemned man, has, we are informed, obtained further evidence in support of the plea of temporary insanity, and the question of lodging an appeal or petitioning the Home Secretary is under consideration.

JOHN HOLTUM, the original Cammon King, is on the road "tenting" in California, and writes to us under date April 16:—"Although I will be sixty-five on Oct. 29, I am in sturdy health, bodily and mental. I hope and intend to visit old England—good old England!—to lecture and perform on my own accord. This little show started from Oakland, California, about six weeks ago; only one ordinary clown and a trick pony unable to do anything. I occupy the 50ft. 'Round-top' (or one half of the programme), lecturing in seven languages. This is an ideal day, a perfect summer day, about 85deg. I am looking at the Sierra Nevada Mountains covered with snow. In 1863 I visited the same spot by waggon, and am doing it again to-day for health and money. I enjoy camping life myself. Best wishes to all my admirers in days gone by in good old England. Kindly say that I am fully alive, and will return after this season if God spares me."

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Hindon, on the London and South-Western; Keighley, on the Great Northern; Spilsby, on the Great Northern; Beaconsfield, on the Great Western; Bodmin, on the Great Western; Farnham, on the London and South-Western; Clun, on the London and North-Western; Colne, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Holbeach, on the Great Northern; Spalding, on the Great Northern, Great Eastern, and Midland; Staines, on the Great Western and London and South-Western; Swaffham, on the Great Eastern; Chelmsford, on the Great Eastern; Congleton, on the North Staffordshire; Haverhill, on the Great Eastern; Lambourne, on the Great Western; Leicester, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Lymington, on the London and South-Western; Much Wenlock, on the Great Western; Stow-on-the-Wold, on the Great Western; Sturminster Newton, on the London and South-Western and Midland; Wadebridge, on the Great Western and London and South-Western; Worstead, on the Great Eastern; Wetherby, on the North-Eastern; Yaxley, on the Great Northern; Chertsey, on the London and South-Western; Haslemere, on the London and South-Western; Long Sutton, on the Great Northern; Maryport, on the Maryport and Carlisle; Pembridge, on the Great Western; Burwell, on the Great Eastern; Caistor, on the Great Central; Carlisle, on the London and North-Western, Midland, Maryport and Carlisle, North-Eastern, North British, Glasgow and South-Western, and Caledonian; Clayton-le-Moors, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Egremont, on the London and North-Western and Furness; Hartlepool, on the North-Eastern; Kendal, on the London and North-Western; Malton, on the North-Eastern; Millom, on the Furness; Newark, on the Great Northern and Midland; North Shields, on the North-Eastern; Nuneaton, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Preston, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Furness, and North British; Rothbury, on the North British; Runcorn, on the London and North-Western; Stafford, on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, and North Staffordshire; Redruth, on the Great Western; Stagshawbank; Southwell, on the Midland; Sutton, on the Midland; Tideswell, on the Midland; Tyldesley, on the London and North-Western; Wellington, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Wolverhampton, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Western; Jedburgh, on the North British; Renfrew, on the Glasgow and South-Western; Kilmarnock, on the North British; Talgarth, on the Cambrian; Crickhowell, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Monmouth, on the Great Western; and Abergavenny, on the London and North-Western and Great Western Railways.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

On Sunday (to-morrow, May 8) the annual meeting of the Showmen's Guild on the Midland Circuit will take place in P. Collins's show, the fair ground, Leicester. The speakers will include the president, the chaplain, and the Parliamentary solicitor. The chair will be taken at 3.30 prompt. In the evening the usual guild service will take place at 8.15 in the same show.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Wm. Mitchell: Mr. J. Dearden, 5s.; Mrs. Henshaw, 5s.

Manchester Industrial Exhibition.

Rusholme, where the Exhibition buildings and grounds are located, is the centre of a teeming population. We draw our readers' attention to the advertisement with regard to side shows in this week's issue.

Stockport May Fair.

As usual, this fair was supplied with all kinds of shows and other attractions. These included the exhibits of the local firm, J. Hibbert and Sons, their novelties being racing birds, jumping horses, and park swings. The principal shows were Captain Tom Payne's No. 2 bioscope and Layland's marionette theatre. The side-shows included Furniss's boxing booth and the freak show of the same proprietor, and Petana's school of athletes. The other riding machines at the fair were John Green's racing motors, Mitchell's careering cockerels, Walter Shaw's steam swings, and juvenile roundabouts by Phillips, Montgomery and Chaplain; Winchester ranges and shooting galleries by Humphrey, Booth, Starkie, and Burton; square and round houp-las by Humphries, Walker, Harrington, Thomas, Brennan, Clayton, and Chaplain; cokers and varieties by Wright, Smith, Stott, and Murphy.

Alton Fair.

This Hampshire fair was under the sole control of Mr. Matthews, the local showman, who provided a capital array of amusements, including steam circus, park swings, houp-la circles, shooting ranges, throwing games, toy and other stalls.

Notes from Wales.

Miss Ada Alexander's circus visited Neath on Friday, April 29, and presented an excellent programme. Maccan's Dogs go through a very clever performance; Kurio, the enigma and doctor's puzzle, proved very popular; the Bros. Zeena are a clever couple on the three horizontal bars; Mr. John Yelding is very smart in his acts on horseback; Mlle. Hettie very cleverly goes through her dashing bar and gate act; Hyett, the society juggler, is a strong attraction, and met with well-deserved applause; Lo-Lo and May go through a pleasing and graceful performance on the trapeze; the whole of the company successfully appear in *The Brigands;* most amusing are the sayings of Hairpin, Chicken, and Sleepy George, three excellent clowns, and worthy of notice; and Mr. J. Brains is a capable ring-master; and Mr. J. Yelding as equestrian director is well placed; Bess is a clever performing mare. The orchestra, under Mr. Corbett, contribute with some well selected music.

Helston Flora.

Wednesday, May 11, is fixed for the holding of the historical Flora Dance, which promises this year to be more attractive than ever. Messrs. Anderton and Rowland have already opened the great World's Carnival on the Lower-green with a greater amalgamation of amusements than in previous years, including their great picture palace and empire theatre of varieties, gondola switchback, shooting saloons, park swings, houp-las, &c. The chief attractions of the show following the new animated pictures shown, are the variety turns, headed by Miss Daisy Graham, with her marvellous troupe of educated cockatoos, ravens, and pigeons, also her performing dog, Nap. The Balzens, in their novel entertainment, "Japanese at Play," the ever-popular comedian, Charlie Bruno, in new songs, and the Frolics, society entertainers, all of which go to make the show a success. Messrs. Anderton and Rowland are reaping the benefit of bringing a good show down West by playing to crowded houses nightly, and maintaining the good name made by the late proprietor, Prof. Anderton.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. Anderton and Rowland and J. W. Chipperfield at *The Era* Office.

"Cinematograph Pictures." The law of copyright affecting the same. By William Jago, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REVIVAL OF ST. GEORGE'S FAIR, IPSWICH.

Following upon the interesting fair at Woodbridge, chronicled in our Showman World columns of last week, Mr. Charles Thurston, by arrangement with the Corporation of Ipswich, revived the old St. George's Pleasure Fair. This ancient fair has been in abeyance for many years past, owing to the fact that there was no fairground available for modern show concerns.

Like many another town, Ipswich some years ago neglected to provide adequately for the continuance of the fairs. The showmen were practically prevented by this means from maintaining the fair.

It is a noticeable sign of recent years, and an encouraging one, that corporations are beginning to realise the importance of providing adequate accommodation for shows and other entertainments on corporation-controlled fairgrounds

The St. George's Fair at Ipswich was revived under somewhat unfavourable conditions as regards the weather, and for that reason Mr. Charles Thurston's enterprise did not meet with the reward it so well deserved. However, we are confident that sufficient public support and appreciation were given him to encourage the hope that the fair may be persevered with, and that Mr. Thurston's enterprise will meet with the success it undoubtedly deserves.

The fair was well set out, under the able management of Mr. Thurston, and his business-manager, Mr. Norman. The centre of attraction was the cinema theatre, with its magnificent organ front and its beautiful completion of decoration both inside and out. The range of up-to-date pictures, submitted by Mr. Thurston, delighted the audiences that thronged the picture palace.

In the centre of the ground Thurston's superb set of racing motor-cars afforded much delight to the numerous patrons of the fair.

Prominent amongst the side shows was Lewis' serpent jungle, with the startling performance of Flora, the serpent queen and snake charmer. Shooting galleries, houp-là circles, and various throwing games were provided by Messrs. Westrop, Harris, Barnard, and other amusement caterers on this circuit.

The Norwich Press on the Showmen's Guild.

The *East Anglian Daily Times*, of Monday, May 2, has the following appreciation of the showmen at the fair, and their trade society:

"On Sunday afternoon a very interesting, not to say remarkable, religious service was held on the Fair Ground in Portman-road. It was conducted by the Rev. Thomas Horne, the now celebrated 'Showmen's Parson,' to whom the establishment of the Showmen's Guild is mainly due. This admirable institution—which is doing quite unique social and spiritual work all over the country, among a number of men and women who find it difficult to avail themselves of the ordinary ministrations of religion, or to indulge in the social amenities of those who have a fixed habitation—owes its existence as well as its present flourishing condition almost entirely to the Rev. Thomas Horne. He is a man of very remarkable individuality and force of character, and is, moreover, a singularly forcible, not to say dramatic preacher. His preliminary discourse and subsequent sermon secured the rapt attention of the very large gathering assembled in Mr. Charles Thurston's handsome and spacious Cinema Tent on the Fair Ground, and the whole proceedings were marked by an unconventionality and fervour which were extremely stimulating.

"Before the service, the Rev. T. Horne, who was supported on the platform by the Rev. W. H Kerr, Vicar of St. Peter's, explained the origin and objects of the Guild. Starting as a Trades Union over twenty years ago, with the object of protecting and vindicating the interests of showmen, which were threatened by proposed unduly restrictive legislation, Mr. Horne said that he was called by the prime movers to become the first hon. chaplain. He had accepted and retained that position ever since, and in the course of his duties he had travelled all over England and Wales, and, wherever possible, he had secured the appointment of hon. local chaplains. It was customary, where there was a show or fair, for the proprietor of the principal tent to lend it for the purpose of a church or chapel, and not only the showmen, their families, and employees were invited to attend service, but also the general public. Nobody was asked to pay, there was no collection—in fact, everyone could come and go without payment. The services were given in a tent or structure on the show-ground, because those concerned were usually working up to very late at night for the amusement of the public and for their own living, and they had also to work long after that in putting things away, attending to their financial business, and so on. They were, therefore, generally too tired to sally forth on the Sunday and attend service. If they could not go to church, the church must go to them. He had always had the hearty co-operation of the local clergy in the towns he had visited, and that day the Vicar of the parish in which was situated their showground was on the platform, and his church workers were also lending assistance.

"A short but extremely interesting service was then proceeded with, the prayers, as well as the hymns, being joined in with the utmost fervour and heartiness by all present. The hymns were sung to an orchestral accompaniment and harmonium, and an officer of the Church Army read a portion of the 14th chapter of the Gospel of St. John. The Rev. T. Horne selected as his text the verse from the Gospel read, 'Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life.' It is not often one's lot to hear a preacher who is blessed with such a fine resonant voice, and such a dramatic, albeit natural and sincere style. His sermon was brief, but it was so fervent and really eloquent, that his hearers would gladly have listened to him at much greater length. He pointed out how God dwelt as much in that humble booth as in the mightiest cathedral raised by the genius, inspiration, and faith of man. With racy anecdote and vivid illustration he brought home to his hearers the necessity for simple faith, unworldliness, and unselfishness. At the conclusion of the service the Rev. W. H. Kerr pronounced the Benediction, and the general congregation dispersed. The Rev. T. Horne requested the showmen and their wives and children to remain, and proposed the Rev. W. H. Kerr, vicar of St. Peter's, as hon. local chaplain. This was carried by acclamation, and Mr. Kerr, in responding, expressed the delight with which he had attended the service that afternoon, and how greatly it had impressed him. He hoped whenever those present came to Ipswich they would renew their acquaintance with him, and regard him as their friend. The proceedings then terminated.

"The Rev. T. Horne has a very high opinion of the class among whom he so unselfishly lives and labours. He considers that they compare favourably with any industrial or trading class in the community, both as regards their domestic life and also general character and citizenship. They are, he maintains, honourable and upright in their dealings, and bad characters are the reverse of numerous among them. They are also, as a rule, well educated and intelligent. Speaking from the experience of a lifetime, he does not consider that the conditions of van-life have a deteriorating effect, but rather the reverse, and in all matters of decency and morality the people, whom he knows and loves, and who know and love him, stand well."

Progressive Showland.

Under the above heading the *Woodbridge Reporter and Wickham Market Gazette* has the following interesting article, which we gladly reproduce as showing the increasing esteem with which the itinerant showfolk are regarded in country places:

"The coming of the showmen at this season is as certain as that of spring. Pence are put by some weeks beforehand in anticipation of a ride on the motor track or for a sight of the living pictures. Watching, as I have done, the advance of shows and showland for some years past, both in and out of print, I cannot but be struck by the fact that Woodbridge is by no means behindhand. The name of Barker and Thurston is always certain to produce everything that modern and up-to-date ingenuity is capable of. When it is known that one machine alone runs into something like £3,000 (I refer to the motor track) and must be driven by electric power, all of which must be taken as additional expense, it may be readily understood what a gigantic enterprise is catering for the people's amusement.

"The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, a society formed for the protection of all branches of the showmen's trade and having as well branches for the religious and educational side of the van dwellers' life, has done much to bring the modern showman before the general public. The fact that it is self-supporting and has its own chaplain besides being on a perfectly organised basis shows what can be done by a keen business-like body of men.

"The 'Showmen's Parson,' as the Rev. T. Horne is called, now gives up his whole life to following the fairs and conducting business meetings, to all of which the general public are invited. Battles have been fought and won with corporations over the desired removal of some of our ancient fairs, but showmen combined with the voice of the people, have carried the day.

"Each returning visit brings a novelty with it, and this year the 'Cake Walk' has attracted its crowds, more to look on than to walk on. Do we take money out of the town? Yes, but we also bring money in and we spend it ourselves as well. For it must be remembered that the showman's wife knows how to cater for a hungry husband and family.

"One word for the Church work on the fair grounds. In a very large number of towns of varying size services are held on the fair Sunday in one of the large bioscope theatres, and conducted by the showmen's chaplain or the honorary local chaplain. The keenest interest is evinced by the showmen who act as sidesmen and otherwise attend to the comfort of their brother showmen and the general public who as a rule attend these services in full force. There are still some fanatic souls who rage against the fair ground methods of catching the public eye. I take considerable pleasure in arguing with these people and take it the standard of thought is low who cannot give a toilworn mind the open air amusement so sorely needed

"May each recurring spring bring the people's friend and entertainer."

Guild Meeting at Norwich Fair.

A business conference of the Guild was held on Sunday afternoon in Thurston's show, immediately after the Guild service. Mr. Charles Thurston was voted to the chair, and in opening the meeting referred to the excellent work done by the Showmen's Trade Society.

He had always identified himself with trade defence and with every good movement to uplift the show business. He welcomed in the name of his fellow showmen the organising chaplain, and called upon him to deliver an address on the work of the Guild.

The Rev. T. Horne said that after the delightful gathering they had had, and the encouraging signs of public approval and support the Guild had received from the crowded congregation at the afternoon service, he did not propose to speak at any length.

He could not, however, neglect the opportunity now that he had practically every showman and show-woman on the fairground before him of explaining to them the work of the society, so well supported by their chairman and by most of the showpeople present.

Over twenty years ago, the Guild was organised to vindicate the character of the travelling showman, and to maintain his right to carry on his business without being hindered and penalised by restrictive class legislation.

Out of that movement other great and important enterprises had arisen; for example, the Parliamentary defence work, the opposition to oppresive bye-laws, and the religious and educational work of which their afternoon gathering had been so signal and successful an example.

At the end of last year, the Guild committee expressed the hope that there would be no further attempts to pass oppressive legislation through Parliament. That anticipation, however, was a little too optimistic; one corporation, the Urban District Council of Handsworth, near Birmingham, had introduced a private Bill containing restrictive and penalising clauses with regard to the show business.

Despite the fact that only last year the Corporation of Oldham had been condemned to pay the costs of the Showmen's Guild in opposing similar restrictive clauses, the Handsworth District Council persevered with their Bill. The Guild had been compelled in the defence of the show business, to lodge a petition against the Handsworth Bill, and to prepare their case in opposition to it.

Success of the Guild.

He was glad to be able to tell that meeting that their determination to oppose the Handsworth Bill had resulted in complete success. The District Council, because of their strenuous opposition, had consented, at the last minute almost, to withdraw the objectionable clauses, and to comply with the reasonable requests of their Society. This was altogether satisfactory, but he must remind them that such work, absolutely necessary and of the utmost importance to every amusement caterer in the country, was very expensive. Apart from the question of the arduous labour trade defence entailed—labour if the showmen had to pay for at its full value would more than double the cost of their trade defence work—the expense was always great.

He was quite sure that with the example of their chairman, and with the loyal support of other showmen on the Norwich circuit before them, that he need not say anything more with regard to impressing upon them the duty and the privilege of supporting with adequate means the work of trade defence.

Miss A. Welton, of Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge, hon. local Guild secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne, and it was seconded by Mrs. Charles Thurston, and carried with acclamation. A similar compliment was paid to the chairman, and the meeting terminated.

The Guild chaplain was the special preacher at St. Peter's Church, Ipswich, in the morning, and at night at St. Mary's (the parish church), Woodbridge. The chaplain was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Welton at Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge.

What's in a Name?

Two Pounds. This sum will be paid for the best suggestion for a descriptive and distinctive name for a Cinematograph Theatre Company to apply to all its theatres, which are of the highest class and give continuous performances. Each reply will be numbered, and the first selected will receive the award. Reply to C. T. C., care of Ingram, Cree, and Co., Gamage Building, Holborn, London, E.C.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FILM GOSSIP.

A Good Pathé Picture.

The Unmasking of Herbert is the story of a lover's clever ruse, and how he conquered the aversion of his fair one's parents. It is issued by Pathé. Dauber, an artist, is madly in love with Norah, who returns his affection. Her parents are against the match, and when Herbert, a successful barrister, is introduced into the family, and also falls in love with Norah, they urge his suit upon her. Dauber confides his troubles to Julia, a lady friend, and she agrees to help him. Julia dispatches a note to Herbert, expressing her admiration for him, and asking him to call at her studio. When he does so she introduces him to some very Bohemian friends, and the whole party get jolly, and the highly-respectable Herbert is induced to don the costume of a Roman warrior. Just at that moment Norah and her parents, who have been summoned thither by a note, enter, and when they see their beloved Herbert their contempt is limitless. Dauber seizes the opportunity to ask for Norah's hand.

A Hepworth Novelty.

Electric theatres nowadays undoubtedly provide a very popular form of amusement. One of the few faults which can be found with modern moving pictures is that, although there is plenty of animation, it is all in dumb show, and one misses the music and words accompanying stage effects or the noises produced by the actions illustrated in so life-like a manner. To some extent it is possible to imitate quite well the starting of a train, the clattering of horses' hoofs, the firing of guns, or the smashing of glass, but much skill is needed to prevent the sound preceding the action which causes it, or lagging unduly behind it. When it comes, however, to accompanying a picture showing a band playing or a performer singing, with both music and words, the difficulty is greatly enhanced, and many attempts have been made to obtain synchronism between the moving-picture and the gramophone. It is possible, at very heavy cost, to obtain synchronism by means of electric motors driving the cinematograph projector and the gramophone respectively. Where initial cost is a consideration, or where no electric supply is available, both these systems are out of the question, and the Vivaphone synchroniser has therefore been designed by the Hepworth Manufacturing Company, of 15-17 Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C., as a cheap but extremely sensitive device for use under all conditions, and with every class of cinematograph apparatus and gramophone.

"The Woes of the Picture-Maker."

The latest Lux film depicts the woes of the picture-maker. We are shown the departure of the artists, a motley throng in their full war-paint, accompanied by the camera men. The journey has not progressed very far when the wheel comes off the carriage and the horse is injured. All attempts to repair the damage are fruitless, and the party have to drag the vehicle to its destination. At a suitable spot an attempt is made to begin the performance, but a runaway horse upsets all calculations, and the picture is spoiled. An adjournment is made for luncheon, after which the party seek a new rendezvous, and just as all is in readiness for the photographers the police come on the scene and demand to see permits. These not being forthcoming, the whole party are hauled off to the magistrate, and thus ends a day of excitement and adventure.

Cricks and Martin's Enterprise.

Messrs. Cricks and Martin announce that they are issuing a fine semi-topical film, entitled How Scroggins Found the Comet. Halley's Comet is, of course, due to appear on May 19, and the film will be released on May 14, in plenty of time for all showmen to include it in their programmes. The length is 550ft.

Grahame White's "Flight" on the Cinematograph.

Mr. Grahame White's flight on a biplane from London to Lichfield has been exhibited at many picture halls during the week. Messrs. Gaumont had special operators following Mr. White in motor-cars. The film depicts the start, the flight across country, and the damaged machine at Lichfield, and is very interesting and instructive.

New Addresses.

Messrs. Pathé Freres have acquired extensive new premises in Wardour-street, W. The Natural Colour Kinematograph Company, Limited, and Kineto, Limited, are also removing, and will occupy premises in Wardour-street adjoining those of Messrs. Pathé Frères.

Moving Picture Companies.

The last few weeks have seen the issue of a number of prospectuses of moving picture theatre companies, and there seems to be no diminution in the stream of capital which is being directed towards these enterprises. There are at present we believe, 500 Picture Palaces in London, and 2,000 in the provinces, and even yet there are countless people who have not seen a moving picture, and there are numerous towns and cities yet to be tapped. It is stated on good authority that between five and six millions of money are now invested in the moving picture industry.

Recent Registrations.

Among companies recently registered and formed to carry on this form of entertainment are the Burnley Entertainments, capital £3,000 in £1 shares; Manor Park Cinematograph Theatre, £4,725 in £1 ordinary and 1s. deferred shares; Victoria Development Syndicate, £20,000 in £1 shares; and the Dioptic Kinematograph Company, £12,500 in 10s. shares. The satisfactory experience of many of the existing companies is no doubt responsible for the steady growth in the number of new concerns. In the main the capitals are modest. It is probable that some six subsidiaries of Provincial Palaces (Limited) are to unite into one company in the course of the next two or three weeks.

An Operator's Expenses.

A well-equipped cinematograph company has men on the road all the year round. Whether it be in England, on the Continent, in America, or in the Far East, there is always something going on worth reproducing on a screen, and when topical events are not sufficiently numerous to keep the operators busy, a staff of actors and actresses supply the material for the pictures. Good light is indispensable for the taking of the photographs, and so, when winter invades Paris, remarks the Paris correspondent of the *Globe*, and the skies are dull and grey, the operator and a party of forty or fifty artists migrate to the South of France, to the mountains, or to the sun-lit coast of Biarritz, where the light is clear enough to enable the work to go on without interruption. Here are two items which indicate what it costs to satisfy the public's weakness for pictures: 1,100ft. of the highest form of stage representations known as art films—cost £800 to produce; and the expenses of one operator during a foreign trip amounted to £1,600.

"Byeways of Byron."

In consequence of the interest taken in the Byeways of Byron, and the large audiences attracted by this novel picture-play, the management of the Electric Palace, Marble Arch, has determined to continue its run. All other items of the programme are changed twice weekly, and include every topical event of importance. Mr. Gilbart-Smith's picture-play is given twice daily, at 3.15 and 4.45 p.m.

From Chapel to Picture Palace.

The old Surrey Chapel, which is situated in Blackfriars-road, was built in 1782, and was opened on June 8, 1783, the Rev. Rowland Hill preaching the first sermon. The chapel is, in its way, of considerable historic interest, for here it was that the first Sunday-school in London was held, while the Religious Tract Society and the Ragged School Union both held their inaugural meetings within its walls. The annual sermon of the London Missionary Society was also preached here, and it saw the birth of the first Chapel Benevolent Society. The building will shortly be opened as a Picture Palace.

Highgate Archway P.P.

Last week-end the new theatre at Upper Holloway, which will seat a thousand people, was formally opened. Another is to be built at the foot of Highgate Hill, facing the Archway Tavern. Building operations in connection with this picture palace are to be commenced at once, and the interior is to be constructed on the usual lavish scale and to have a seating capacity of a thousand. The company responsible have already palaces in active operation and earning dividends at the Marble Arch, Brixton, Lewisham, and Thornton Heath.

The Strand Theatre de Luxe.

This week's programme of pictures shown at the Theatre De Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., has included: Miriam Maxine's Disappearance, Manufacturing of Plate Glasses, All's Well that Ends Well, From Storm to Sunshine, A Mistake, Bridget Serves the Tomatoes, A Father's Love, and Paulhan's Aerial Flight.

Ashton-in-Makerfield New Picture Palace.

Messrs. J. and W. Rylance, the proprietors of the New Era Animated Pictures, which have been so successful at the Central Hall, Pemberton, have embarked on a new hall at Ashton-in-Makerfield. The hall should prove a welcome addition to the public buildings in the town, and is equipped in up-to-date style. The interior dimensions are 65ft. by 35ft. Lighting is provided both by gas and electricity, and the hall, which will be heated throughout, will accommodate 500 in "tip-ups." In addition to the two front entrances, there are three exits on to a side street. The operating chamber is outside the main wall, thus complying with the requirements of the Cinematograph Act in the fullest possible manner. The work of erection has been carried out by Messrs. Rylance and Sons, Ltd., of Wigan, the architects being Messrs. Ormrod and Pomeroy, of Bolton. The hall was opened on Monday last.

Record Stay at Hull.

The stay of the Globe Animated Pictures at the Hull Circus has proved a record for any entertainment in that city. They have occupied the building for well over twelve months, and are likely to continue for some time yet. During the stay they have become extremely popular with Hull audiences, and under the management of Mr. E. Emerson there is no doubt that these pictures have become Hull's premier cinematograph exhibition.

Hulme (Manchester).

A pretty building has just been put up on the extreme western boundary of the city, and was opened on the 30th ult. Mr. Thomas Morrison, the proprietor and manager, has called it the Bijou Electric Theatre. It is in a densely populated district, and has been filled each time it has been opened. It has a very artistic proscenium front by Alberti, the well-known sculptors, of Manchester. The decoration is in yellow, green, and terra-cotta. The films shown are of very good quality.

Manchester Industrial Exhibition, RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.

OPENS MAY 12, for Six Weeks certain.

'OLDE MANCHESTER' Section

under cover in best portion of Exhibition.

Will all the Concessionaires who have booked please turn up as quickly as possible, so that I can attend to their requirements?

OWING TO A MISUNDERSTANDING, I MAY HAVE

ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT.

15 feet front by 26 deep.

Good Sharing Terms to a really High-class Show. Marionettes preferred.

. . . I can Place . . .

Portrait Sketch Artist

(will Frank Durra write) or Silhouettist, on Shares or Rental.

Caricature and other Photographers please apply. There is money here for smart people, but I want no rubbish. Those used to best Exhibition work write at once to

WALTER STENNING, as above.

RINKING GOSSIP.

The Improved Brampton.

MESSRS. BROWN BROS. inform us that the new rubber adjustment noticed at length in our issue of April 23 will only be fitted to the new King o' the Rink and not to the Duplex Girder model.

About Walter Stanton.

MR. WALTER STANTON, the enthusiastic hon. secretary of the Roller Department of the National Skating Association, is a skater of nineteen years' standing. Mr. Stanton and roller-skating first made each other's acquaintance at the Central Hall, Holborn, in 1891, and, though boxing ambitions tempted him for a short time, skating has always been "his true love." From the veteran, Mr. North, he received his first notions of correct figure-skating, with the result that he has passed not only the third and second class N.S.A. tests, English style, but the third and second class International. At the present moment he is the only man who has been successful in the second-class International. Twice has the Eastbourne challenge trophy for figure-skating come into Mr. Stanton's hands..

His Brilliant Exhibitions.

No one is more ready to afford information than Mr. Stanton on N.S.A. matters, to help in forming clubs, or explain in words and patient, practical demonstration any knotty figure or portion thereof which an enthusiastic tyro may be trying to master. Mr. Stanton regards properly formed clubs as the only means to regulate and keep the art and sport with us, and to counteract the carelessness of some rink-managers. Mr. Stanton is the winner of the 100 Guinea Richardson Challenge Cup for the Amateur Roller Figure Skating Championship of Great Britain in International Style, which was competed for at the Maida Vale Skating Rink on Wednesday, March 16. The total number of points he gained were 282, against his nearest opponent's 210. Mr. Stanton's brilliant exhibition was full of variety, his jump and finishing spin being especially noticeable.

Lunn Wins Rowley-Leeks Cup.

ON Saturday last the Wandsworth R.S.C. held a mile scratch race for the Rowley-Leeks challenge cup, presented to the club by G. F. Rowley, Esq. (president), and W. A. Leeks, Esq. (vice-president) The cup has to be won three times consecutively before becoming the property of a member. Fourteen members entered for the race, which was run off in four heats. The winners of the heats were:—Heat 1, S. Halsall, time 4min. 9 1-5sec.; heat 2, J. Hayward, time 4min. 25sec.; heat 3, H. L. Collins, time 4min. 25sec.; heat 4, J. F. Lunn, 4min. 17sec. Lunn took the lead in the final, and eventually won by half a lap, time 3min. 57 1-5sec. Result:—Lunn, 1; Collins, 2; Hayward, 3; Halsall, 4. The winner received a gold medal and the three runners-up silver ones. Mr. G. F. Rowley presented the prizes, Mr. L. Morley acted as starter, and Mr. A. W. Cox (hon. secretary) as timekeeper. To-night (Saturday) J. F. Lunn will try to create a club record for the mile. He will be paced by Mr. W. Doland (club handicapper) and Messrs. Sutton and Collins.

John Davidson at Bath.

VOTARIES of the rink at Bath are this week able to witness the marvellous skating of John Davidson at the Central Rink. The local manager, Mr. George C. Mansell, does all possible to make frequenters enjoy themselves at the daily sessions and that he fully succeeds is evident by the large attendances that are maintained.

Allie Moore at Bradford.

CONSIDERABLE interest was aroused in roller-skating circles last week by the appearance at the Hippodrome Rink, Barkerend-road, of Allie Moore, one of the foremost exponents of roller-skating before the public. Moore has now been in England over a year. His performance at the Hippodrome was chiefly of a sensational nature, including a barrel-jumping exhibition of particular difficulty, and also chair jumping, standing and skating jumps, wheelbarrow, table, and see saw feats, finishing with his greatest feat of all, a rush down an inclined plank, wheeling a barrow over a see-saw, and ending with a jump over seven chairs.

Blackheath Win Lancers Competition.

ON Monday last the Wandsworth Lancer Party met the Blackheath Lancer Party in a competition at the Central Hall Rink, Wandsworth. Some fine waltzing was seen, and after a very closely contested competition Blackheath were declared winners. These clubs have now met twice, each winning one contest.

Skating in Croydon.

MR. KENDRICK is still the courteous manager of Croydon's large and comfortable rink. Skating has fairly caught on in this town, and has certainly come to stay. Everyone of any importance dons the roller-skates, and visits Mr. Kendrick's establishment.

New Rink for Dunoon.

THE Dunoon Entertainment and Roller Skating Pavilion has been registered with a capital of £4,000 in £1 shares, to lease a piece of ground at the Castle Gardens, Dunoon, and to construct thereon an entertainment and roller skating pavilion.

Edinburgh Olympia's 10 p.c. Dividend.

THE directors of Olympia (Edinburgh), Ltd., after deciding to pay out of revenue the sum of £2,000, items of capital expenditure, in connection with the erection and equipment of the building, have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ended March 5 at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.

THAT interest in rinking is in no way diminishing in Glasgow is evidenced by the large attendances which continue to be the rule at the West-End establishment, where the facilities afforded the enthusiast are of the best. The skating surface is in splendid order. The enterprise of the management of the Great Eastern Rink in providing their patrons with special nights is meeting with deserved success. Rinkers in Crossbill and district continue to bestow excellent patronage on the American Rink, Victoria-road. The hockey tournament organised by the management of the Ibrox Rink, which was held last week, proved a splendid attraction. The proprietors of the Dennistoun Rink seem to have a craze for novelties, and the idea is one that pays, as was evidenced at the gymkhana held last week, when the building was crowded in every part. At the Summertown-road rink, Govan, interest in the sport is as keen as ever.

Ordered to Abate Noise.

GLOUCESTER Olympia Skating Rink has been closed for a short while in order to effect the necessary alterations to deaden the noise caused by the skating. An injunction restraining them, and ordering them to abate the noise was granted in the High Court.

Fine Gloucester Carnival.

THERE was a brilliant gathering of skaters and spectators at the India-road Skating Rink on Thursday evening in last week, the occasion being a fancy dress carnival and confetti fight. Handsome prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The waltzing and two-step competitions were very exciting and difficult to judge, especially the latter, but the popularly endorsed verdict decided upon Miss E. and Mr. L. Dean (waltzing), and Miss Muriel and Mr. Ivor C. Jones (two-step). The judges were Messrs. H. R. Ford, W. Warner, jun., J. Brow, and W. K. Dawkins. Mr. W. Arnold, the manager, was responsible for all the arrangements connected with a highly-successful carnival.

Jas. F. Smith at Govan.

THE Summerton-road rink, Govan, is now under the management of Mr. Jas. F. Smith, who was connected with the King's Park Rink since its opening.

Alec Payne in the Potteries.

ALEC PAYNE'S previous visit to the Potteries district was twenty-five years ago. It was at the old Wooden Circus at Hanley, in "The Carnival on Ice," where Mr. Payne acted as principal solo skater. In this act he had not the perfect floor such as was at his disposal last week at the Tunstall Station-road rink. In place of maple wood, the floor for his performance was made of a few thin boards laid on the sawdust-covered ground. "As the old ones must give way to the new," Mr. Payne says that he is looking forward to seeing his 100 miles skating record being beaten. How it was that he came to accomplish this feat is best described in his own words. "I had beaten Joe Eden, of Leicester, in a ten-mile race, for £20 a-side, and my backers, Morey and Janet, commission agents, of London matched me for £100 aside against Fred Gould, of Leytonstone to race 100 miles, and I won." His average speed during the race, which was run on Sept. 11, 1883, was twelve miles per hour.

Leicester Items.

AT the Empress Rink, Mr. Court continues to receive the patronage of the best class of rinkers, and to promote entertaining attractions. On Tuesday evening the Belgrave Rink beat the Empress Rink by seven goals to one, Burgess scoring the whole of the goals for Belgrave. This week there is a grand pierrot tournament, a hockey match between the Boulevard and Empress Rinks, and a ladies' and gentlemen's beauty competition. A special feature of this rink is Moody's English military band, which discourses at all sessions selections of music that are most appropriate for rinking, being thoroughly up to date and played in a manner that adds much zest to the pastime. At the Boulevard Rink on Monday evening the Empress Rink beat the Boulevard by three goals to one at hockey. At the Belgrave Rink Mr. Cockram is well to the front with novel attractions. A skating gymkhana is arranged for, in which a number of events are included of all descriptions, which will terminate with a confetti battle. The mysterious Mr. Raffles will also be present.

Maida Vale Rink.

AT the Maida Vale Skating Palace on Saturday a presentation was made to Mr. Edward Lanthe, the assistant-manager, who left owing to ill-health. The presentation was given by the entire staff of 200, and was presented by Prof. Voorzanger, the bandmaster. The gift was a purse of money, and a gold-mounted walking stick given by the lady skate-fixers. Mr. R. F. J. Moore, the Press and advertising manager, succeeds Mr. Larthe as assistant-manager. This gentleman has been connected with rinks ever since the latest craze existed.

At Norbury.

THE Norbury Skating Rink, which has been so long under the direction of Mr. Spencer, is well patronised, and an enjoyable time can always be spent there.

Reading's New Rink Open.

In the presence of a large and influential gathering the Mayor of Reading (Mr. W. Frame) performed the opening ceremony at the Central Skating Rink in West-street on Monday afternoon. The promoters of the company have equipped a rink on which the exhilarating and delightful pastime of roller-skating may be pursued amid admirable surroundings. The surface available for skating is 5,400ft., and the floor is of rock maple, laid on a floor of deal and a bed of concrete, while between the maple and deal is a layer of felt to deaden the sound. The lofty building has a plentiful supply of light from a glass roof during the day, while when evening shadows fall it is illuminated by fourteen 400 candle-power Osram lamps suspended from the roof. Round the walls are electric light brackets, while should the lamps fail a supply of gas can be turned on immediately. In the elegant and commodious balcony—reached, by the way, by a wide carpeted staircase—comfortable chairs and attractive tables tempt the tired skater to linger over tea and other refreshments, while if he does not care to leave the floor the skater can refresh the inner man at a buffet. A fine exhibition of trick and fancy skating by Mr. Colin Gorman was given on the opening night, after which there was a heavy demand at the skate-room.

A Sheffield Project.

SEVERAL well-known speculators in Sheffield will shortly acquire the Royal Alexandra Skating Rink, Hawley-street, Sheffield, for important boxing contests. The only hall in Sheffield at the present time in which boxing contests are held is the New City Club, Carver-street.

Stockton Royal Rink.

FUN and frolic reigned supreme at the Royal Rink, Stockton, last Friday night, when a "Ladies' Night" was held. The entire management of the rink was taken over for the evening by a number of ladies, whose efforts met with great success. The duties of the manageress were carried out by Miss B. Stephenson, whilst Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Armstrong, and Miss Miller acted as floor M.C.'s. At the close a confetti battle was waged with great zest by the skaters.

Manager's Benefit at Stourbridge.

MR. H. F. WHARTON had a bumping benefit on Monday last. The occasion was a seaside and summer carnival, and the rink was thronged. The costumes were exceptionally smart, and there were twenty-two valuable prizes—two worth six guineas each. The feature of the evening was an exhibition of fancy and trick skating by Stanley King, and another was a May Day spectacle by some twenty-seven youngsters trained by Mr. Wharton. The whole evening went with a swing, and finished up at 12.30 with a confetti battle. Our correspondent, Mr. C. E. Evason, again won the first prize for the most original costume—this time "A Lighthouse." He also won the first prize at Smethwick on Wednesday for the most original costume with his "Alarm Clock." This makes fourteen prizes out of sixteen attempts this season.

Ton-y-Pandy "Grand National."

SINCE the advent of Mr. F. T. Studd as general-manager at Ton-y-pandy (Pavilion Rink), several improvements have been effected. On May 5 a novel seaside carnival was held, at which the most noteworthy items were the "Grand National" on skates, in which the obstacles were almost Aintree-like in their difficulty, and the ladies' balloon race. The evening concluded with a confetti battle.

Dolly Mitchell at West Hartlepool.

THIS exceptionally clever and charming little lady skater has been delighting the patrons of the Queen's Rink with an exhibition of trick and fancy skating which has been alliteratively described as "deft, daring, dainty, and delightful." From the moment Miss Mitchell took the floor she at once became the idol of the people. On Saturday Miss Mitchell was presented with a huge bouquet by the directors of the rink in appreciation of her services. This week she has been appearing at the Rugby rink.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (Chairman) presiding.

THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL LICENCES.

The recommendations in the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, brought up to the Council on April 19 and opposed on that date, and also on April 26, were not reached until 10 o'clock. The first of these recommendations had reference to the licences granted to theatres and to music halls. The Committee recommended that the reference to them should be discharged, and Mr. George Alexander had on the agenda an amendment, "that as the performance of stage-plays in buildings which are licensed for music and dancing only is illegal, the Council, when considering applications for music and dancing licences, will have regard to any evidence which may be submitted as to illegal production of stage-plays at places of entertainment licensed for music and dancing only."

As Mr. Alexander had left the hall, Mr. Greenwood, the chairman of the Theatres Committee, agreed to allow the recommendation to stand over until the next meeting.

CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS—STANDING IN THE GANGWAYS.

The second paragraph of the Committee's report was then taken. It was as follows:—"On Feb. 1, 1910, we reported the conditions that had been attached to the licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. Except in one case, the licences granted for premises which are not licensed for music, &c., have been granted for short periods pending the completion of the works considered necessary to the premises. Since the issue of the licences the regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Act which are endorsed on the back of the licence have been revised and very considerably altered, and we therefore propose, instead of further extending the existing licences, to issue, as soon as possible, fresh licences containing the amended regulations. We think that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to add to the conditions imposed by the Council the regulation relating to standing in gangways which is enforced in all premises licensed for music, or music and dancing, or stage plays. We recommend—

"'That licences granted under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in respect of premises which are not licensed for music, music and dancing, or stage plays, be subject to the following condition: That persons be not permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and, if standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient room be left for persons to pass easily to and fro.'"

Mr. Thomas moved the following amendment:—"That all words after the word 'to' in line 2 be omitted, and the following words substituted therefor—'conditions as follows—(i) Persons must not be permitted to stand or sit in any part of the gangways; and (ii) overcrowding must not be permitted in any part of the premises.'"

He said that the object of his amendment was to restore the rule laid down by the last Progressive Council with regard to overcrowding in places of public amusement. This rule remained in force up to February last year, when it was altered, and persons were permitted to stand in the gangways if sufficient room were left for persons to pass easily to and fro. It was now proposed to apply this new rule to picture palace shows of all kinds, but he held that these places were not on all fours with theatres and music-halls. In the first place they were much more dangerous in case of fire. These places had become deservedly popular, and were greatly frequented by children. He had seen at least 100 children waiting outside one of these shows, and the Council could imagine what would happen in the case of an alarm of fire in a hall filled with children, and some standing in the gangways. The result would be disastrous. The small picture halls were often overcrowded; and in the public interest people ought not to be allowed to stand in the gangways. He hoped that the Chairman of the Theatres Committee would accept his amendment in the interests of the public and disregard the interests of the proprietors of these shows. The Council had popularised the theatres and music halls, &c., because the public believed they were as safe as they could be made, and if people got the idea that the Council were relaxing in any way their regulations, it might have disastrous results.

Mr. Lambert seconded the amendment. He thought that the real point was that in case of a panic the cinematograph theatres were very much more dangerous than ordinary theatres, and therefore greater care should be exercised in regulating such places. They could not be too careful in protecting the people assembled in places of entertainment.

Mr. Matthews said he intended to support the amendment, as the rule at present in force permitted standing in the gangways if room were left for persons to pass. Some people might pass easily, but bulky persons might have great difficulty. His contention was that there ought to be something more definite in the wording of the rule.

Mr. Walter Reynolds said he regretted that Mr. Thomas has imputed motives to the Committee, he having stated that the regulations had been made in the interests of the proprietors of places of amusement. The Committee were unanimous in favour of adopting the regulation in question. No one in that Council was more anxious regarding the safety of cinematograph exhibitions than he was, and he claimed to be the parent of the legislation the object of which was the protection of the public from fires in public buildings. But under the Council's regulations he was convinced there was at present no danger to the public from fire in cinematograph shows except where there was gross carelessness, and this would apply to any theatre. Being interrupted at this point Mr. Reynolds remarked: "When those clowns have done laughing I'll proceed."

Mr. May: Is it in order, Mr. Chairman, for any member to call another a clown?

The Chairman having intimated that he was not prepared to call upon Mr. Reynolds to withdraw the remark,

Mr. May said: I object to anyone calling me a clown. I claim your protection, Mr. Chairman. I was not one of those who interrupted the hon. member, and I submit that you should rule his remark out of order.

Mr. Reynolds: I did not mention any one by name, but if a member chooses to fit the cap on his own head let him wear it. If objection is taken to the word I'll say Merry Andrew instead. Continuing, Mr. Reynolds said it had been shown that a theatre of average size could be emptied in three minutes, and a cinematograph theatre could be emptied in about one minute. A number of the cinematograph theatre proprietors had applied for a dancing and music licence, and had therefore been granted those privileges which had been granted to ordinary theatres. Of course, in any case where an alarm of fire was raised there was danger, which nothing could prevent.

Mr. J. D. Gilbert, who had given notice of an amendment "that all words after the word 'gangways' be omitted," said he was prepared to withdraw it in favour of that of Mr. Thomas. He had always been opposed to permitting standing in theatres or music halls. When, on Feb. 9, 1909, the Committee recommended an alteration in the regulation with regard to standing in the gangways it was strongly opposed by members on that side of the chamber. He was prepared to admit that there was a difference between theatres and music halls, as people had been permitted to walk about in certain parts of the halls, so that it was difficult to apply the same regulations to both places of amusement. He was surprised that Mr. Reynolds should defend the Committee's recommendation, as he had always shown such a great interest in getting cinematograph shows placed under proper regulations. The London theatres and music halls were specially built for the purpose for which they were used, and had plenty of exits, but a great many of the cinematograph shows were in old buildings or shops which were never intended to be used as places of entertainment, and were without proper exits, &c. Another point was that these shows were generally given in the dark, while the ordinary music hall was well lighted while the entertainment was being given, so that the exit doors could be easily seen. He raised this question at a previous meeting, and the Chairman of the Theatres Committee agreed to take back the recommendation. He was sorry to find the same recommendation brought up again.

Mr. Jesson supported the recommendation because he wanted to see all the places of amusement in London placed on the same footing. The same conditions that applied to theatres and music halls should apply to picture palaces. With regard to the question of danger, he thought that the great test was how quickly could a place of amusement be cleared in case of fire or panic? By compliance with the Council's regulations as to exits, &c., a hall could be cleared in two or three minutes.

Mr. Greenwood said he was sorry he was unable to accept the amendment. He was glad, however, that Mr. Gilbert had withdrawn his amendment, because if it had been carried standing would have been permissible in the greater part of a theatre or hall. He could not accept the amendment for the simple reason that it would be practically unworkable. At the meeting on Feb. 9, 1909, the Council decided that the best way to deal with overcrowding was to adopt the regulation which it was now proposed to put in force in the case of cinematograph theatres—about 150 in number—which were not licensed for music and dancing. He thought that the same rule should apply to all the various places of amusement. He felt sure that no greater danger from fire or panic existed in the cinematograph palaces than existed in theatres and music halls. The most stringent regulations had been enforced, and great alterations had been made in the buildings used for cinematograph shows, while every precaution was taken to render the machinery perfectly safe. The provision of adequate gangways and exits was insisted upon, and the apparatus used was, in many cases, actually outside the building. And, moreover, the exhibitions were often in buildings of only one floor, without galleries or stairs. He thought that some members had been led astray by the use of the term gangway, which did not necessarily mean the narrow passages along which people passed, but applied to the spaces in the rear and at the sides. He could assure the Council that the Committee had given the greatest attention to this matter, and that the chief officer of the Fire Brigade had no anxiety as to the conditions regarding standing which were agreed to by the Council in February, 1909. The regulations had not been adopted with the idea of benefiting any particular class of people, and the shows were being worked with the very smallest risk of danger.

Mr. May said it seemed to him that the chairman of the Committee had done some special pleading in favour of the Committee's recommendation—not in the interests of public safety, but rather in the interests of the proprietors of the cinematograph halls. These halls were not nearly so capacious as the ordinary halls, their exits were often narrow, and they were mostly patronised by women and children. The entertainment was given in the dark, and if any serious mishap were to happen they would have great difficulty in justifying their regulations. Why they should disturb a rule that had worked well for many years he failed to understand. He submitted that the public interests should receive the first consideration, and not the interests of the owners of these shows. It was wrong for a question affecting the public safety to be made a party one.

Sir John McDougall considered that there should be some differences made where performances were given in the dark. Another point was that it was mainly children who went to these entertainments. Their duty was to care nothing about the interests of anyone except the public and to secure their safety as far as possible. If any disaster were to happen while standing was permitted in the gangways of places of entertainment the Council would be very severely blamed.

The Rev. Stewart Headlam said he wished to point out that in the biggest music halls the last turn was often an exhibition of cinematograph pictures, and they would therefore have to make special regulations with regard to gangways. He thought it was absurd not to allow standing.

The amendment was then put, and on a show of hands declared to be lost. The refusal of the Chairman to grant a division caused a scene of disorder, but eventually he gave way, and a division was taken, with the result that the amendment was lost, 42 voting in favour of it and 55 against.

The New Brighton Tower Gardens.

THE management have provided a most attractive programme in the pleasure park for the holiday season, commencing on May 14. The water chute has been made even more attractive than last season. "Laughterland," a new show, is bound to be a big draw. "The Museum of Tortures" will interest the student of ancient history. There will be balloon ascents in Whitsun week, and each night a big firework display. The band of the 4th West Lancs. Rifles will play daily in the gardens, and there will be dancing in the ballroom all day long, variety and cinematograph shows and popular concerts in the theatre and music-room. The end of Whitsun week will be marked by the twelfth annual brass band contest, when prizes to the value of £155 will be competed for.

Open-air Skating at Wandsworth.

A LARGE and comfortable open-air rink to be used during the summer will be opened at Central Hall, East-hill, Wandsworth, S.W., on Friday next. Patrons of this rink will have the advantage of not only skating in the open, but, should the day be dull, cold, or wet, of using the permanent rink adjacent. On and after Tuesday, May 17, the prices will be reduced to 6d., to include admission, hire of skates, or use of floor.

The Cinematograph Act.

JAMES WATT, of Langley Lodge, Bromley-road, Catford, was summoned at the instance of the London County Council for keeping a cinematograph theatre at the Victoria Hall, Archer-street, Notting Hill, without a licence. Mr. Simes supported the summons, and reminded the magistrate that under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, all cinematograph shows had to be licensed. In this case the defendant applied for and subsequently obtained a licence, but before the licence was actually granted he threw open the hall to the public. Mr. J. Bell Jackson, for the defendant, urged that it was purely a technical offence. The magistrate imposed a fine of 40s., with 2s. costs.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 10.*)

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The D'Oyly Opera Company is receiving a right royal welcome. On Monday *The Mikado* was played to a large and enthusiastic audience. A very old local favourite is Mr. Henry A. Lytton, who as Ko Ko simply revels in his part; Mr. Fred Billington furnishes rich humour as Pooh Bah; and Mr. Leicester Tunks scores as The Mikado, a part which fits him like a glove. Mrs. Arthur Rousby (Yum Yum), Miss Beatrice Boarer (Pitti Sing), and Miss Marjorie Stone (Peep Bo) all sing and act delightfully, and Miss Louie Rene scored her usual big success as Katisha. Nanki Poo is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Herbert, and the excellent chorus sing delightfully under the skilful direction of Mr. Francois Cellier. *Iolanthe* was given with complete success on Tuesday, and the other operas played during the week are *The Gondoliers*, *Patience*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. Leonard Boyne's company in *Raffles* is fulfilling an engagement here. Mr. Reginald Dance submits an admirable impersonation of the title-rôle, Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is a piquant Lady Ethel, Mr. Harold West in the part of Harry Manders is commendable, the Earl of Amersteth has an entirely satisfactory exponent in Mr. Oswald Griffiths, Mr. Edward Irwin is successful as Curtis Bedford, Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald depicts Crowley creditably, Crawshay is capitally delineated by Mr. Dalziel Heron, Miss May Brooke gives a praiseworthy representation of Mrs. Vidal, and Miss Francis Titheradge is good as Gwendoline.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. H. R. Smith's company is appearing in *Two Little Vagabonds*. The parts of Dick and Wally are delightfully performed by Miss Helen Grenville and Miss Ivy Millais; Miss Dorothy Milne submits a powerful portrayal of Marion Thornton; Miss Mabel Cooke is good as Barbara Scarth; George Thornton is ably delineated by Mr Frank Beresford; and Mr. Renand Lockwood is good as Capt. Darville. Mr. Dan Mining, Mr. Philip Beaufoy, and Mr. Frederick Archer all do good work as Bill Mullins, Dido Bounce, and the Cough Drop. Miss Maud Arnold is excellent in the character part of Biddy Mullins.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Herbert Darnley's company, including Mr. Fred Kitchen, in the military comedy *Private Potts* receives a warm welcome. Mr. Kitchen's inimitable drollery as Private Potts evokes continuous laughter. He is well supported by Mrs. Herbert Darnley, Miss Jessie Crammond, Messrs. W. Wilbey, Jack Williams, and Harry Lappo. Fred Gration and Kathleen Delaine in a refined musical item *Drawing Room Leisure* are very successful; the great Vincent, table expert, is well received; Arthur Woodville, light comedian, scores and accomplishes some excellent dancing; good mimicry is displayed by Zethus; and the programme includes Frank and Free, comedy artists, and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Of a strong bill of varieties Harwood's Juveniles are the special attraction; J. C. Scatter is a first-class Tyneside comedian; Les Rallis, "The Artist and his Monkey," are very clever; the Sisters Henderson are skilful instrumentalists; and Foley and Francis (comedians) and Marlo (a juggler) constitute the remainder of the programme.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The A.B. Picture Company's special subjects are The Lightweight Championship between Fred Welsh and Jack Daniels, Across the Ice Seas, The Diver's Wife, The Keeper of the Light, and The Cowboy's Narrow Escape.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Leader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Carlton Wallace's company with *A Thief in the Night* is here. Mr. Stanley Bedwell in the difficult part of Alan Escombe displays much power; Michael Pagani is the worker of evil, and has an exponent of ability in Mr. Leyton Cancellor; Mr. Hugh Wallace does well as Lord Romilly; as Joan Escombe Miss Mary Pemberton's acting is most effective, her charming appearance adding greatly to the effect of the representation; and Miss Beatrice Homer is to be praised for her clear enunciation and otherwise admirable rendering of the part of Sonia Cleeve. Little Joan is nicely played by Miss Prudence Ayrton.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Royal Tokio Troupe introduce some novel features into their always excellent programme. Abel and Welsh are a couple of eccentric performers; Jack Smiles produces those signs of merriment wholesale; Fred S. Howard is clever in black and white; Smith and Johnson are good; and Tony Black is a capital dancer.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Her Life in London* is pleasing large audiences. Mr. Stanley Carlton sympathetically impersonates the character of the Rev. Allen Gordon; as Grutton Gale Mr. Claude Aymond is thoroughly effective; Mr. Templeton has a capable representative in Mr. C. Franklyn; and Mr. W. Vernon is decidedly funny as Percy Plunker, excellently supported by Miss R. B. Douglas as Dolly. Miss Ruby Maude acts charmingly as Astra Bell; Sarah Shafto and Mrs. Glendale are admirably played by Miss Evelyn M. Walton and Miss Jenny Bostock; whilst Miss C. Medwyn acts cleverly as Madge Rendall.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Ted Karno and company in a pantomime sketch, *Hotel de Quick*, are the chief attraction, and provide an abundance of fun; the Five Musical Tritons are clever vocalists and instrumentalists; Stewart and Morgan in their vocal speciality, "Leaving Ireland," are highly successful; Walter Emerson, comedian, is amusing; Welda and Wynne display ability as juggl'ers and sand-dancers; Maude Vera is a delightful vocalist; and Jack Rae is a smart juggling gymnast.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Charles Harrington's combination is presenting *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The negro chorus is a first-class one, and the scenery and effects are very attractive. Mr. J. H. Boehm plays admirably the rôle of Uncle Tom; Mr. Charles Harrington is excellent as Mr. St. Clair; and Mr. Tom Bowron fills the part of the infamous Legree extremely well. Merry plantation songs and dances receive loud applause.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Blake and Amber, clever burlesque artists, head the bill; Thora, an expert ventriloquist, gave an excellent sketch in *The Lady and the Page*; the Bentleys give a delightful musical act; Goodall and Knox are funny; Chris Baker is a popular comedian, as is also Joe Humphreys; Marie Kay is a charming comedienne and a dainty dancer; Newman and Knight are clever comedy jugglers; and Les Supriskis are marvellous lady gymnasts.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley present their company in the drama *Her Secret Lover*. Miss Laura Walker makes a

capital Ivy Seymour, and Mr. Arthur St. John scores a great success as Gilbert Seymour. Other principal rôles are cleverly sustained by Miss Flora Leslie, Miss Lynn Darlington, Mr. Walter H. Willson, and Mr. Alfred Stretton. The play is well staged.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Perfection in animal training is fully exemplified in the exhibition given by Theesen's balancing dogs; a novel and interesting equilibristic act is presented by the Zanfrellas; the Vaudeville Trio are smart and well-trained dancers; Captain Ellis and son are accomplished cornettists. Also here are Mildred Bryan, the Brothers Hannaway, and Nora Desmond, with picture songs. The pictures are exceptionally fine.

STOURBRIDGE. — Alhambra Theatre and Variety Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The M.M.'s head the bill here with their Chinese scena, entitled *The Maid and the Mandarin*; Miss Ivy Proudfoot is a turn much appreciated; the Kendricks give a most amusing act; the Two Manites, with their *Fun in a Tea-garden*, show a smart comedy juggling act. The pictures are above the average and complete a first-class show.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company is playing here this week in *The Nihilist*, before crowded audiences. Miss Florrie Kelsey gives a fine portrayal of Princess Olga; Miss Edna Clare plays with dramatic effect as Alexina Orloff; and Miss Minnie Halstan does well in the juvenile rôle of Little Alexina. Mr. George Mitchell does good work as Ivan Nowasky; as also do Messrs. Cowell Clark (Karl Orloff), and J. Brunelle Harvey (Father Gourko). Mr. O. Silverstone in the rôle of Prince Alexander proves himself to be a stage villain of high order; and Mr. C. N. Buckland is good as Pierlree. The lighter vein is in the excellent hands of Mr. O. Silverstone (Katrina) and Mr. Henry Wright (Bobbie).

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Foremost on a good programme here this week are the Five Musical Marvels, in a vocal and instrumental mélange; La Freya submits a pleasant spectacular turn; D'Arc's marionettes cause great amusement; Will Beanland, comedian, keeps his audience in a capital humour; Jack Lumley gives a clever and amusing performance; Phil Parsons has an encouraging reception for his humour; Alice Maple is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and King and Queenie cause intense amusement with their diverting comedy act, *The Butler and the Cook*.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A capital programme is drawing large audiences here. Hayman and Houten, comedians and dancers, are scoring a success with their cross-talk, songs, and dancing; T. W. Barrett, comedian, is receiving encores nightly; Arthur Wynn, with his dexterous manipulation of the bicycle, is also a favourite. Pictures are up to the usual high order.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Hamilton Picture and Variety Co.—The Fordyces are giving much pleasure here this week, with their pleasing songs and tricky dances; Miss Frederica's performing pony and terriers give evidence of careful training; the Pichel Troupe of acrobats are eminently successful in their display; and a capital travel picture is shown, entitled Beautiful Windermere.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—*The Bondman*, as presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, is proving a great draw. A powerful portrayal of Jason is submitted by Mr. Philip Darien; Mr. Stanley Harrison's conception of Michael Sunlocks is excellent; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith is an admirable Adam Fairbrother; Mr. W. H. Rotheram provides clever studies of Grandfather and Father Ferrati; Doctor Boni finds a capable exponent in Mr. Fred J. Walker; Mr. Alfred Fisher is well placed as Governor Testa; Miss Madge Lanerton makes a pleasing Mrs. Fairbrother; Miss Emelie Mayhew is a satisfactory Christian Anne; and Miss Violet Macaree's skilful rendering of Greeba evokes the sympathy of all.

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The film of the Great Western Railway Works and town of Swindon continues to interest the public, and other pictures included in the programme are Isabella of Aragon, Ticket of Leave Man, Spirit of the Sword, Message of an Arrow, and a good supply of comics.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst. — Miss Florence Baines is presenting Miss Madge Grey in *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, which opened on Monday to a crowded house. Miss Grey is the life and soul of the piece as the Lancashire Lass; Miss Isa Stelle charmingly portrays the rôle of Eva Lancashire; Miss Mabelle Clinton is a graceful Bertha; Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., skilfully enacts the rôle of Harry Higgins; John Higgins is capably delineated by Mr. Ralph Whinery; Mr. Alan Servington makes an excellent Moses Goldberg; and Mr. L. Meadows gives a well-studied impersonation of John Henry Thompson.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Big houses still continue to visit this place of amusement. There is a capital series of films, and Mr. F. Gilmartin is greatly appreciated in his two illustrated songs.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. F. Granville's No. 1 company is this week playing *The Better Land*. Mr. Douglas Watson gives a manly exposition of Philip Radcliffe; as Hubert Radcliffe a success is scored by Mr. Leonard Booker; Mr. H. Cremer is well placed as George Grant; Mr. Frank Daleno makes the most of Tom Tadpole; Miss M. Trevosper is a sympathetic Doris Radcliffe; and Miss Madge Trevelyan a successful Mercedes. Polly Perkins at the hands of Miss K. Terris receives ample justice; and Miss B. Moody plays well as Aunt Jemima.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. E. Harper.—Miss Marie Jones pays a welcome return visit; the La Faille Troupe are clever Risley artists; R. T. Chinn, concertinist, is well received; as also are Chant and Chant, and Bob Morgan, a local baritone, in illustrated songs.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—The Woodwards, in their cycle-balancing act, create a sensation; the Gondolier Glee Singers meet with a hearty reception; and so does Monty Walker. Kendrick and Laura present a smart and eccentric dancing act; Rosie Bartlett is a clever male impersonator; Marguerita does a graceful trapeze act; and Will Rhodes is a droll comedian.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying a first visit here in *Brewster's Millions*. In the principal character of Monty Brewster Mr. Percy Hutchison keeps the house continually amused from beginning to end; Miss Cicely Stuckey admirably filled the rôle of Peggy; and Miss Lillias Earle made a charming Mrs. Dan de Mille. The part of Miss Armstrong was capably taken by Miss Pauline Straus; Miss M. Seton appeared with success as Trixie Clayton; Mr. Robert Forsyth created a good impression as Mr. Grant; and Messrs. Gordon Ash, A. Andrews, Henry Hampson, and Aubrey Mather were also much in evidence. Mr. Frank Hill was decidedly quaint as Rawles.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Mr. Ernest Norris's company, in *The Education of Elizabeth*, has proved one of the best comedy combinations which has visited here. Mr. Norris himself as the inane Reggie gives a very clever character study, while Miss May Norris as Elizabeth is equally successful in portraying his entirely opposite temperament of Elizabeth before and after education; Mr. Royce Milton is excellent in the rôle of the fiancé, while Miss Georgette Thierry gives quite the requisite *bravura* interpretation of Blanche. Mr. Harold Wagner is effective in the sinister rôle of Whitby, and Miss Helene Forest gives a very sympathetic rendering of Lucy Middleton. Other minor parts are meritoriously filled by Mr. Wilton Leonard as the manservant; Mr. Hugh Peel, the French waiter; Mr. C. Holt, the Gendarme; and Miss Una Erle as the third chorus girl. The piece is preceded by clever Dickens' impersonations by Mr. Harold Wagner.

The Great Hall.—On Tuesday Miss E. Gould produced a Greek ballet, *Pandora's Box*, invented and arranged by herself, in which all the parts were played by her pupils, who also gave a display of art dancing. The action of the ballet follows the familiar Greek legend, and Miss E. Gould ably took the part of Pandora, with Miss E. Andrews as Epimetheus. A series of clever Arabian, Japanese, and French dances were given by Miss May Gould.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*An Unwedded Wife* is being played by Mr. Will Casey's company. Mr. Gilbert Elvin gives an able impersonation of John Hawthorne; Mr. E. St. Claire Forbes cleverly portrays the villainies of Philip Blackstone; good comedy is introduced by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer, and Miss Annie Mitchell as Caraway Crumpet; Mr. Arthur Cheeves proved a capital Frank Armstrong; Miss Chrissie Dunbar gains the heartiest approval for her sympathetic rendering as Marion; Miss Ethel Spence is admirable as Elsie Langham; and Little Doris Sorsby displays ability in a juvenile part.

New Empire.—Proprietor, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The Great Raymond is attracting packed houses, and his wonderful illusions receive well-merited approbation; the Five Victors are expert dancers; Morris and Moore are a capital pair of comedians; Les Grossi contribute the Vampire Dance in weird and excellent style; Luella Cross is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Ryde and Beeman, eccentric comedians, cause much laughter; and Horace Jones, comedian, has a good reception.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. James Willard and company, in a thrilling sketch *The Devil's Box of Bricks*, score an undoubted success; the Selwyns, vocalists and dancers, are smart; Rozel, gymnast, gives a fine performance; Mr. Charles F. Best, comedian, is a success; and Mr. Barney Murphy, comedian and mimic, and Mr. Fred Horsfall, vocalist, are well received.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—*The Village Blacksmith*, presented by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, is reappearing here, and the work of Mr. Sam Livesey as John Strong, Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong, and Mr. J. Carter as Captain Leo is as popular as ever.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Another remarkable cycling turn is seen here this week, and the trick riding of the Villons is very fine. There is also a spicy fund of humour associated with their work which makes it very entertaining. Francini, Ollems, and Page again score a big success with their juggling, acrobatic, and comedy turn; Farr and Farland are smart patterers and their business is quite original. Walter Aubrey is a smart dancer; and the Sages score well in a vaudeville turn. Lizzie Daniels is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and George Brookes makes himself popular with good songs.

Royal.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—The Kebbels (Nora and Edie), as duettists and dancers, have won the hearts of all; Tom E. Deane is a smart comedian; and the Sisters Saxony score as dancers. Newcombe and Sullivan are rare knockabouts; and the pictures are again a special feature.

WATFORD.—Palace Theatre.—So'e Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—J. W. Rickaby constitutes the star turn of an excellent programme, which also includes Miss Lily Rosebury; Master Pan, "the Juvenile Swell"; Miss Nellie Coleman, described as "the Only Female Comedian"; Victor Travers, a more than usually clever coon comedian; Ross and Lewin; and Bonnie Goodwin.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Beaudyn.—Mr. Beaudyn is producing *A Collier's Daughter*, a romantic play dealing with the life of a Yorkshire girl, by David Muskerry. Miss Irene Munroe as Bess is a fine study, full of charm and vivacity; while Mr. Beaudyn admirably portrays Dick Silver. Mr. Chas. D. Pitt is good as Jasper Bargrave; Mr. Francis Cavanah as John Digby, the collier, also does his work well; Miss Maude Hastings as Irene Gallimore and Miss Phyllis Rae as Lady Kathleen Hartland are good, the other parts being in capable hands.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.—In addition to excellent up-to-date pictures capital turns are provided by Lorna Lomond, a very pleasing contralto; the MacGregors, clever comedy entertainers; Empress, a skilful lady of mystery; the Czar troupe of Russian dancers, whose work is very striking; Maud Hughes, a young lady with a fine soprano voice; Snowden and Alexander, in a comedy sketch; and the Martials Trio, whose balancing feats are really sensational.

WEXFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Mr. George Mallin's pantomime *Aladdin* met with a rousing reception on its return visit, and the theatre, which has recently undergone extensive alterations and improvements, looked very cosy and comfortable. The scheme of decoration has been well conceived, and reflects great credit on the management and on the local artists who were entrusted with the work of carrying it into effect. Miss Lena Lewis made a dashing Aladdin, her songs and dances being thoroughly enjoyed; Miss Lily Richardson quickly gained the favour of the audience by her graceful impersonation of the rôle of the Princess, and her several numbers were loudly encored; Miss Nance Howard as the Genie of the Ring was well suited to the part; and Miss L. Danesbury as Zoo Cho looked and acted well. Mr. George Mallin kept the house in a roar by his antics as Widow Twankey; Mr. Clifford Spencer, an excellent comedian, extracted all the fun possible from the rôle of Abanazar; Mr. Rickard V. Howard was a great favourite as Chi-Chi, and had to repeat several of his songs; while Mr. Herbert Lemley as the Emperor, La Hung Chu, was very amusing. The minor parts were in capable hands, and the chorus was efficient, while the band, under the direction of Mr. J. Mortimer, left nothing to be desired.

WEYMOUTH. — Pavilion Theatre. — Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—*Fanny and the Servant Problem* is staged here, with an excellent company. Miss Beatrice Moreau is a perfectly natural and charming Fanny, and Mr. Horace Lingard is exceptionally good as the old retainer. The Misses Rita Spink and Miriam Holt are admirable as the maiden aunts; Mr. Roland Hope's Dr. Freebody is a finished piece of acting; Mr. A. S. Jackson is capital as George Newte, and Mr. Russell Davis gives an admirable study of Lord Bantock; Miss Fay as Susannah Bennett, the housekeeper, does full justice to the part.

WHITEHAVEN. — New Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—Mr. Walter Steele's company is here in the drama *A Fast Life*. Mr. F. Garratt as Sir Oliver Franklin submits a creditable performance; as John Dixon Mr. W. Steele is excellent; and Mr. J. Cummins is good as Crawford. Mr. B. Warwick as Goldberg and Mr. Willie Barrat as Tommy Burke are both prominent in their respective characters; and Miss Beatrice Hone is a pleasing Lady Franklin. Miss Maud Ryder is lively as Juliana; and Miss Lilian Ross makes the most of Mrs. Dixon.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Burton.—Yukio Tani holds premier place in an excellent variety programme; his demonstration with another ju-jitsu champion, Adam King, is exceptionally clever and interesting. Local competitions are prominent features of the entertainment. Shawlene provides a turn of exceptional interest, and his whistling qualifications are displayed to full advantage. The Marblesque Trio, in some classical poses, are well received, and other excellent turns are provided by the Eltons, comedy acrobats; Three Tivoli Girls, coon vocalists and speciality dancers; Miss Elsie Gray, male impersonator; Miss Victoria Cross, Scotch comedienne; Mr. Yorke Stephen, baritone vocalist; and Mr. George Gallagher, Irish comedian.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The Four Musical Scoreys top the programme, and introduce several amusing and novel instruments; Mr. Bert Anderson is a magician and conjurer of excellent quality. Other turns are provided by Mr. Witt Gesta and Miss Wynn Hoe, farmyard mimic and dancer respectively; and Mr. Tom Garland, ventriloquist. The pictures are exceptionally good. The Lie, a dramatic and pathetic film, being the best.

Empire Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. Caldwell Bros.; Manager, Mr. G. C. Ford.—Excellent turns are presented by the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, musical, vocal, and terpsichorean artists; Mr. Frank Solesby, comedian; and the Albano Girls, musicians and dancers. The pictures are *par excellence*, and include The Cup Final between Newcastle and Barnsley.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here in *For Wife and Kingdom*. Miss Hettie Zillwood makes a charming Grand Duchess Marie; Miss M. R. Frame is eminently successful as Camille; Mr. Reginald T Fox is a powerful Captain Maxmillian; Mr. A. Guyon is conspicuous as Baron Maurice; Mr. F. Sutherland acts in a capable manner as General Nestolde; and Mr. Henry Smythe as Paul and Mr. C. H. Gallier as Sergeant Offenbeck impersonate their respective parts with credit.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The premier position here is occupied by Mephisto, who mystifies the audience with his tricks; a sketch, *The Wrong 'Uns*, is well presented by Mr. James Hare and company; the Cromwells deserve special mention for their juggling exhibition; Lucy Lynd scores with her patter and songs; Eileen and May, in their musical and dancing act, find much favour; Nellie Brierley, the pit-brow soprano, has a capital reception; and other interesting turns include Milton Heyes, entertainer; Ariana, and Rowlands and Ford, comedians.

WISHAW, N.B. — Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Rene Clayton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Bennet and Martell in their amusing speciality, *The Shipwrecked Mariner*, top the bill; Zenany Bros., in an expert acrobatic act. *A Night at the Club*, are a popular turn; Ess and Hoey, Canadian ski and skate dancers, are clever in the extreme; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, is a big favourite; Musical Silvo is clever and entertaining as an exponent of musical glasses and the silvochimes; and capital films are shown on the Bioscope.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Excellent fare is provided by Miss Hilda Beverley's company with *A Destroyer of Men*, and crowded houses are the rule. Premier honours are due to Miss Hilda Beverley for her excellent assumption of the rôle of Olga Mishla. At times she holds the audience completely spellbound by the intensity of her acting. Mr. Herbert Pearson works hard, appearing with much success as Karl Mishla, Herr Runz, and the hunchback Uno; Mr. Stephen Langton furnishes a powerful impersonation of Count Starevitch; Mr. James Jarrett acts with intelligence and vigour as Michael Mishla; Mr. Jack Armitage doubles the parts of Fedor Strellitzke and Paul Starevitch, in both of which he displays ability; Mr. Edward Keith makes a humorous Coco Tatehoski; Mr. Arthur Swain is good as Colonel Linicvitch; Miss Mary Brammer gives an artistic rendering of Vida Ravel; and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande is full of life and go as Nina Pattacake.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—A strong bill here is headed by the Jackson Family in a musical entertainment of an unusually high standard; Josh Dixon, an eccentric comedian with a style peculiarly his own, scores heavily; Harry Russell and company cause roars of laughter in their sketch, *Milk Oh!* the Two Walonells, under the cloak of excellent fooling, display remarkable agility in a triple bar act; Maxey and Pete are clever trick and comedy cyclists; Jessica Brooke is a dainty comedian with a taking manner; Grogey does well as a Sussex yokel and in an impersonation of an old soldier; and Lily Belle is a smart little barefoot dancer.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—At the top of the bill is that eccentric comedian Will Saunders, who keeps the house in roars of laughter, and equally a favourite is May Vincent, whose catchy choruses hit the taste of the audience to a nicety. Among the most noticeable of the pictures are a new dramatic film A Plucky Little Girl, Two Comrades, The Seventh Day, and A Persistent Suitor.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Hamilton Stewart's company in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird* is appearing with a large amount of success. Mr. Stewart gives a wonderfully realistic impersonation of Lord Lumley; Miss W. Bruce-Joy is a graceful and winning Lady Lumley; to Mr. L. Mannering is entrusted the objectionable rôle of the Humming Bird, in which, however, he appears with perfect success; and Mr. Lancelot Lowder is in every way excellent as Guiseppe. The mounting is first class.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—Everything is up to date at this popular establishment, the film being full of novelty. The Two Friends is a pathetic scena, and The Converts and the Mad Woman of the Ruined Castle are full of life; Sisters Gaye are expert comediennes and dancers.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Seymour and Curtis, in their musical speciality, are well received. Of the pictures the most popular are A Sailor's Crime, Judith, and A Scene in Japan.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—A remarkably strong company is led by that charming comedienne, Hetty King, who, on her first visit, has attained remarkable success. She is wonderfully clever. Canard, the man on time, is deservedly applauded; Tom Drew causes amusement by his quaintness; the Crisps produce a sensational dancing act, which goes well; Donna Morgan, of elegant appearance, sings with delightful charm; and Les Atans are aptly named dental gymnasts. Winona and King are expert rifle shots; and a most amusing sketch, entitled *Her Husband*, is given, in which Ernest Long, a versatile comedian, is seen to advantage.

THEN AND NOW.

In the palmy days of music halls—writes Mr. Fred Bowyer—there was no curtain, not the barest suggestion of scenery, scarcely a platform. The music hall forty years ago was a much simpler, homelier place. Space did not matter; you sat about at tables and drank at your ease from pewter pots as fashion then demanded. It was a great honour to drink with the "chairman," the president of the assembly, an honour to which only a regular guest could aspire. The performers did not rush on for a "turn" at a flicker of a number dial, but were announced with solemn majesty by the autocratic chairman, after he had rapped silence with his mallet. It was more of a friendly smoking-room concert than a show.

At the old Canterbury, the performers all used to line up on the platform, and sing a rattling opening chorus, while the audience applauded with pewters and sticks and boots with unrestrained ardour. It was the same sort of thing as the Christy Minstrels, and the comic man used to take the side, just as the "corner man."

Make-up was scarcely ever attempted. A song stood or fell on its own merits and the skill of the singer. The "great" Vance, who introduced the "howling swell" to the halls, used to swagger about the platform dropping silk handkerchiefs to show his illimitable wealth. The comic man would wear a little bijou hat on the back of his head, but that was all. The impression of reckless prodigality, moreover, in the "great" Vance was rather damped when his little page followed him picking up the priceless handkerchiefs. There was no drop-curtain then.

One of the first halls was the New Music Hall in Hungerford Market, afterwards known as Gatti's (Arches). There you heard a wonderful collection of the English ballads, such as to-day you might chance to hear at the Queen's Hall. Younger readers may think it strange that half a century ago such classics as "The Blue Bells of Scotland" and "The Last Rose of Summer" were sung at the music hall; that the Shakespearean lyrics were still regarded as national songs and performed on the nightly programme to an enthusiastic music-hall audience.

The old music-hall song had one advantage over the modern, which might easily be remedied. As a rule, they were set to any old well-known tune, so that there was no tricky air to be mastered before a song came into favour. A man wrote a song, say, "A Trip to Brighton." He took no trouble about the music, but just wrote in "To the air of 'An old cork leg,'" and the job was done.

Salaries have been revolutionised since the early days. When the new Canterbury was opened thirty years ago George Leybourne, the Robey of the day, was offered the princely salary of £20 a week. At that time the Canterbury was the chief hall in London. All the town travelled over the water to see the ballet, and the Great Vance, Arthur Roberts, Nelly Power, and Phyllis Broughton were the stars of the day.

Now, when most artists have a motor, it is curious to recall that Leybourne was presented by Bill Holland, of the Canterbury, with a carriage and pair, on the express understanding that he drove about in it "by way of advertisement."

But great as has been the change in the fortunes of the artists, it has even been greater with kind friends in front. From being a resort for men the variety theatre nowadays is for the family, and especially for the women of the family. The modern luxurious conditions and the decrease of drink are among the causes of the modern music hall growing in favour with women of every class, and none exist now to which a man will not feel perfectly secure in escorting his relatives of the other sex. The reasons given by a well-educated woman recently for her obvious pleasure in vaudeville were significant. "Some years since I used not to go, not because other people didn't go, but because, judging from what I saw in the announcements, I knew I should only be bored. Now, however, I am sure of an excellent evening's entertainment. I can have a ballet if I want it, good singing, a short play, excellent dancing, and plenty of fun—a little of it vulgar sometimes, perhaps. Also, I can pick up some really good 'tips' on new fashions—some of the American and French mimics bring delightful frocks with them—and then one needn't stay any longer than one wants to." But the curious thing is that women do sit the whole programme through. They come early and stay to the end. When he is alone a man will dine and stroll to the club, and then drop in in time for his favourite turn. But when he brings his wife he has to come early and leave only when she has had enough, which is generally after the bioscope.

Without doubt, the most popular "turn" with lady patrons at all the halls is dancing, whether classical, French, or fantastic. The Russian dancers who were recently at the Coliseum had a great vogue amongst women, and many returned again and again to see them. Their beauty, their inimitable grace, their exquisite costumes—modest as well as beautiful—won them a chorus of praise from all classes. One well-known American hostess secured them for her party, and built a large temporary stage on the terrace of her house.

"To the presence of women in increased numbers," writes a well-known society woman, "may be ascribed in some measure the enormous vogue of the thirty-minutes' 'sketch.' As the most ardent theatregoers the sex appreciate the opportunity of seeing their favourite hero or heroine, and obtaining their emotions in tabloid form. A feminine influence may also be traced in the refinement of the woman entertainer, and in such a detail as the dress of gymnasts and wire-walkers. Formerly the conventional costume consisted of flesh-coloured tights and a spangled garment, with sometimes the addition of a ballet skirt in the case of the woman. But all this is now changed, and these turns—always favourites with every section of the house—have increased in charm as in difficulty. It is hard to imagine anything more beautiful of their kind than the feats of a quartet recently performing at the Alhambra. A delightful costume, consisting of white satin breeches, white silk shirts, and white powdered wigs, was worn by a Continental troupe of acrobats in their graceful act at the Coliseum. Gracefulness, beauty of dress, and extreme skill are characteristics of most of the entertainments of this class. The popularity of such turns is undeniable."

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

M. Kopski, who has taken the place of Mr. Hugo Rignold as *chef d'orchestre* of the County Theatre, Kingston, commenced his duties there on Monday night, and had a flattering reception.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
May 23, July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
June 13, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
May 23, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD
June 13, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 7, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON
Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 13, 27, July 4, Aug. 1, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for
May 23, June 13, 20, July 18, 25, Aug. 1 (six nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, on.
Apply Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
May 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
May 30, June 6, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
May 16, 23, 30, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Whitsuntide, May 16 (3 nights). E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Whit Week, May 16.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Good Attractions,
KING'S LYNN, NEW ROYAL THEATRE,
May 23, June 6, 13 (big County Show).
SHEERNESS, HIPPODROME THEATRE,
July 11, Aug. 4 (3), 15, Sept. 12, 19.
SOUTHEND, EMPIRE THEATRE,
Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, 19.
LOWESTOFT, MARINA THEATRE,
Proprietor and Manager, B. Pareezer.
March 6, April 3, onwards, with exceptions.
All communications to B. Pareezer, Head Office. Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 6 and 27.
June 6 and 27.
Wire immediately,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 27 and July 25.
June 27 and July 25.
To play twice nightly.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Aug. 1, 15.
Address, Rich Waldon.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY,
for Autumn, 1910.
Wire or write, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, EDMONTON, LONDON, N.,
under Messrs. Van Biene's Management.
WANTED, through cancelling Stock Season, June 6, 20, (?), July 4 (?), 11, Strong Dramas, Musical Shows, or Big Combinations with Stars; must be Big Attractions, to follow several of Morton Powell's Greatest Successes.
Address, E. Van Biene, T. R., Edmonton.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE
and
OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 27, Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Drama, Twice Nightly, Last Three Nights of Whit Week, May 23, and on. Owing to the success of Drama twice nightly the season will be prolonged to end of June for Drama only.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Companies, May 16 and Various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Dairymaids," "Little Widow," "Florodora," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson, "Country Mouse," &c. Address, communications, Manager, O. H., Kidderminster.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 16, 23, July 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Now in course of construction.
A Handsome Brick-and-stone Building, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000.
Wanted, High-class Opening Attraction, for date in July, 1910.

"ALADDIN," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, onwards.

"BABES IN THE WOOD," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, onwards.

"CINDERELLA," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 6, onwards.

"PUSS IN BOOTS," Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, onwards.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Acknowledged to be one of the most handsome and best equipped theatres in the Provinces.
Seating capacity, 2,000.
Estimated population, 100,000.
Ample Stage Room for the Heaviest Spectacular Productions Touring.
Now playing to splendid business and equally well patronised during the summer months.
Press says:—
"To those who do not know the great development of this Northumbrian port a visit will come as a revelation. A fine protected harbour entrance, a busy harbour, finding accommodation for steamers of large size, and large shipbuilding yards and graving docks, all testify to the importance of Blyth as a shipping centre. It is situated fourteen miles from Newcastle and in the centre of the great Northumbrian coalfields. The lines of the N.E. Railway give direct and frequent service with all parts of the district and the whole of England."
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Vacant Dates are:—
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday)
and various onwards, 1911.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
June 27, July 4, 11, 18.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

Success! Success!
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
The Fashionable Twice Nightly Dramatic Theatre, under the direction of Walter de Frece.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions,
Vacant June 6, 20, 27, July 4, Aug. 15,
and few dates, onwards.
Address all communications to
EDWIN LESLIE, General-Manager for Walter de Frece,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton,
or 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19.
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

ROTUNDA THEATRE,
LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction,
Aug. 1, 1910.
Apply, M. MONTGOMERY.

PALACE THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
Lessees and Managers, Messrs. JAY and MANN.
In the summer "the" popular theatre of Brighton.
WANTED, Attractions (musical preferred) for the few remaining Season Dates.
Address, HERBERT JAY, Wyndham's Theatre, W.C.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
First Vacant Date, July 25 (?), Sept. 26,
Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

LIVERPOOL LYRIC THEATRE CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
All must Play Twice Nightly.
Vacant Dates, Summer or Autumn.
Apply, HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing Director,
Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Ltd., Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, through misunderstanding,
First-class Drama,
May 23, also June 6, 13, 20.
E. L. GARSIDE, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
May 13 (Whit week), unexpectedly Vacant.

Wire, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, Week commencing May 30,
High-class Drama preferred.
New to Bolton.
Apply to J. F. ELLISTON (no telegrams).

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.
May 23, 30 (twice nightly).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for
July 4 and 25.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Dramatic Season.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction,
twice nightly, May 30, onwards.
Address, FEATHER, Grand Theatre, W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, for Gaiety Theatre, Burnley, First-class Attractions, June 13, 20, July 18, and Aug. 1. Address, Mrs. T. CULLEN.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c.
Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, odd nights, Flying Matinées, immediately.
DANIEL and FRANKS, Palace Pier T., Brighton.

KURSAAL THEATRE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

WANTED, good High-class Dramatic Companies, Musical Comedy, Farcical Comedy, and any good Attractions, for June 13 and 20. Flying Matinées easily arranged from Eastbourne, Brighton, or Tunbridge Wells.
Address, MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 1,
Bank Holiday,
Aug. 1,
Bank Holiday.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19, Oct. 10 (?), 31, Dec. 5,
Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov 14 (?),
Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, 27,
March 20, 27, April 3, 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Fred J. Elliston, Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson, Mr. L. Collingwood, Mr. Chas. Windermere, and, in fact, practically the whole of the first-class managers of the country.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for June 6, 13, 27, and July 4, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre.
May 26 (3 nights), 30, June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
July 18, Aug. 18 (3 nights) (?), Sept. 26.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
July 11, 18.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
Acknowledged to be one of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 23, 30, July 4 (3), 11, Oct. 10,
17, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives,
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
for May 30.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, MEXBORO'.
Under New Management.
WANTED, good Dramas and Comedies for Autumn Dates.
All communications to be addressed to the SECRETARY, Mexborough Theatre Co., Moxborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Autumn, last three nights only, first three can be arranged at Lynn, grand Reopening of Season, Aug. 29 (last three), onwards, with exceptions.
Address, J. A. CAMPBELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company, May 16.
Wire lowest certainty. CARLTON, Worcester.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Best Attractions, for Sept. 19, Oct. 10, and Jan. 9. Silence a negative.
SIDNEY COOPER.

GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Company,
May 30.
Apply, HEYS, as above.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 23, 30, June 27, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911,
First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
Apply, with full particulars, to
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.

WANTED, First-class Dramas,
Musical Comedies and Pantomimes
coming North.
Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-1911.

Full particulars and vacant dates.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 25, 28, Aug. 22, 25, 29, Sept. 5, 12, and 15, two or three nights. Hunstanton to precede or follow ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, TENBY. Vacant July, Aug., and Sept., with exceptions. Apply, BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, complete Companies, May 14, onwards, also Costume Parties, for outdoor Bandstand. ANGLESS, Sole Lessee.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, Good Attractions,
June 13 and 20.
June 13 and 20.
Address, H. SHERRIFF HOWARD, General-Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 8 and 29, onwards.
JOS. B. ORMEROD.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., onwards. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, to oblige, good Drama, week commencing July 25, for Theatre Royal, Scarboro'. Apply first instance, T. E. WARD, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 1, 19, 26, 29, Oct. 3, 17, 20 (three nights), onwards.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 6, 13, 20, on.
ALFRED MANNERS.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 4, 11, and 18, Sept. 19.
Address, The MANAGER.

ST. ALBANS COUNTY HALL.
Holding capacity nearly 1,000.
WANTED, good Companies, for Autumn, electric light throughout, dimmers. Bookings include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Arcadians," "Fires of Fate," "Havana," "Pete," &c. Sharing terms only. Apply, A. ROWDEN, St. Albans.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
Holding Capacity at Ordinary Prices, £30.
The Smart and Popular Theatre that does the Business.

Season's bookings include Mr. Ian Robertson and Co. in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Edward Terry and Co.; Mr. George Alexander's Co.'s "Builder of Bridges" and "The Thief" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); Mr. Walter Melville's Co.'s; Mr. F. R. Benson's Co. (return); "When Knights were Bold" (return); "The Dairymaids" (return); "Fascinating Peggy"; "Cingalee"; Hiss Horniman's Répertoire Co. (return); "The Woman in the Case," &c., &c.
WANTED, London Successes, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Summer Season.
WANTED, First-class Companies of Vaudeville Entertainers, to follow The Will o' the Wisps, from middle of June, onwards. Can book for a season of four weeks or more.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, May 23, 30, June 6.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

PAVILION THEATRE, LYTHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies,
July, Aug., and Sept.,
Musical Comedies preferred.
J. H. HARRISON, Manager.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12.
DOUGLAS BRUCE.
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 23, 30, June 6.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
"CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on.
Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly.
All particulars, ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this
Phenomenal Success,
Weeks of July 25 and Aug. 22.
Weeks of July 25 and Aug. 22.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
July 25 (?), Aug 8, on,
Big Company.
Chorus, Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery and printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.

WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, 27,
July 28 (three nights).
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 15.
Sept. 5, 12.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
May 9, Hippodrome and T. R., Wolverhampton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14 21, and Dec. 26, for this wonderful Moneymaker.
Letters or wires, BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.

WANTED, Dates Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

Mr. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for
Aug. 15 (Midlands or North),
Aug. 22, 3 nights, ditto;
Sept. 19 (North);
Oct. 17 (Midlands).
Address, CECIL BARTH, Prince's T., Manchester.

"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
By Walter Howard.
WANTED, for Miss Margaret Skelton's Tour of above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 2, on,
First-class Company,
including Miss Ethel Griffies.

Printing by Allen and Moody.
Good Scenery, Wardrobe, and Properties.

Address coms.,
E. VAN BIENE,
T. R., Edmonton;
or,
Miss MARGARET SKELTON,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

ROBERT HEWLAND'S COMPANY.
"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, May 16 (Whit week), 23, between Devonport and Sheffield, June 6, 20, and various onwards. WALTER J. HORNE, Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., vacant, "Who is She?" Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21; "King and the Unknown Woman," Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, C/o "The Era."

LYN HARDING and SIDNEY COOPER'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "Tantalizing Tommy," good Seaside Tours for July 25 and Aug. 15 (?), Only Vacant Dates this year; also Nov. 14, for "The Flag Lieutenant," between London and Birmingham.
Address, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BROWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, Lancs. or Yorks.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would let same on royalty. E. G. FALCON County Theatre, Bedford.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
WANTED, June 6, 20, July 11 (South or Midland).
HARRY TILBURY, T. R., Leicester.

WANTED, for "A Pair of Spectacles" or Répertoire, May 16 and 23.
RUSSELL ROSSE, Managers' Club, Savoy-mans., W.C.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (?) and 31.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE,
Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, good Theatre, three nights, Aug. 11, 12, 13, also Aug. 15, six nights.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
One opinion only:
Great Money-maker.
July 4, 11, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant, Sat.; Pav., London, Mon.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
The Strongest Drama Touring.
June 6, July 25, Aug. 22, Oct. 24.
MORTON POWELL, Elephant, Sat.; Pav., London, Mon.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
A Wonderful Money-maker.
June 6, Sept. 26, Dec. 5.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Production Aug. 22,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Bookings include:
Grand, Fulham; Pavilion, London; Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Belfast, Sheffield, Nottingham, Bordesley, Swansea, Bristol, Portsmouth, Devonport, Stratford, &c., &c.
Vacant,
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Jan. 9, 16, June 5, 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.

Mrs. Charles Sugden's
Autumn Tour,
in
New Play
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.

"GREED OF GOLD,"
Let to Messrs. Fox and Leonard.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
"LITTLE OUTCAST,"
and
New Plays
to Let.

Scenery Bought or Sold.
Full Plants for New Productions
Made on Shortest Notice at Lowest Terms.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. CHARLES GIBBON'S
TOURS.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production with exceptionally strong Cast,
including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5 (follow Metropole, Glasgow), Sept. 19, and Oct. 3 (precede and follow Queen's, Dublin),
Oct. 17, Nov. 14.
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
The Successful Farcical Comedy, from the CRITERION THEATRE.
Wanted, Only Vacant Dates this Year.
July 4, 11, 25 (?).

For both the above address,
Mr. CHARLES GIBSON,
Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

Mr. CHARLES GIBBON'S CO.
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14. Address,
Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, Aug. 29. Only Autumn Vacancy, through transferring Liverpool to oblige Mr. Wentworth Croke (between Liverpool and Leeds). WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (3 nights), 18 (3 nights), Sept. 19, for "Miss Tommy," by
Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as MISS TOMMY.
Miss Hughes is not appearing as "The Chorus Lady" in the Provinces after May 21.
All engagements complete for "Miss Tommy."
Miss ANNIE HUGHES, Grand, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," May 23, June 13, 20, July 4, 11, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Xmas.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand, Hull.

WANTED, good Theatres, Nov. 14, Xmas, and Jan., for the great success, "His Real Wife."
T. E. WARD, C. T., Wigan.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON and
TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, July 25,
August Bank Holiday.
Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas,
Jan. 9, 16, and various Spring and Autumn, 1911.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Refer Frank Macnaghten, Esq., &c., &c. Absolutely new plant of scenery and everything carried.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
Creek Side, East Molesey.

"LUCK 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 27,
for this scream.
DICKIE CLARE, Marina, Lowestoft.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Nightly received with enthusiasm on the Broadhead circuit. GEORGE A. DE GREY, Crown T., Eccles; next, O. H., Coventry.

"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."
WANTED, Dates, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards, big Cast, full Chorus. Apply, Z. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, May 23, between Leamington and Tyne Theatre, Newcastle; Aug. 29, Sept. 5 (3), 12, Oct. 31, and Nov. 14 and 21 (North).
CHARLES WINDERMERE, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
WANTED, May 16.
"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE,"
Vacant May 16.
"JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR,"
Vacant May 23, June 13.
ERNEST E. NORRIS, T. R., Sheffield.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, a Big Theatre,
Whit Week.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Palace, Bordesley.
May 9, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, May 16, unexpectedly Vacant.
Wire for this Great Holiday Attraction.
MESSRS. ELLIMAN, 26, Wrottesley-st., Birmingham.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatre.
May 23,
May 23,
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire,
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

EDWARD S. PETLEY & UNA GILBERT'S CO. in
"LITTLE MRS. CUMMIN,"
by Richard Pryce.
From the Playhouse, London, by arrangement with Cyril Maude, Esq.
WANTED, May 30 (?), June 27, July 4.
All coms., E. S. PETLEY, Torquay Villa, Chiswick, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
WANTED, for this Great Attraction,
May 23, 30, June 6, 13,
onwards, with exceptions.

"THE BETTER LAND."
Wanted, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
May 23, June 6, 13, 27, onwards.

Look out for the Grand New Production,
"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re dates, FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda," Liverpool.

"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."

MUSICAL COMEDY.
MUSICAL COMEDY.
MUSICAL COMEDY.

WANTED, Good Theatres, May 30, May 30, June 6, 13, onwards.

Once or Twice Nightly.

Screamingly Funny.

Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.

Company of 25 Performers, 25.

An Ideal Season Attraction for Seaside Towns.

Re dates, address FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

PANTOMIME 1910-1911.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."

"ALADDIN."

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."

WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates, for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
By Charles Darrell.
Production, July 18, Junction T., Manchester.
WANTED, Sept. 19, follow Oldham,
Oct. 10, 31,
and Dec. 26.

Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Colosseum, Oldham.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, May 23 and 30,
two of the
greatest financial successes touring.
Beautifully Mounted and Dressed.
The magnificent two-manual Organ
alone costing £140.
Two recent Fridays:
T. R., Belfast, Feb. 25, £38 18s. 5d.
New T., Cambridge, April 8, £35 5s. 10d.
Wire to-day, LOIS ESMOND, Grand T., Nottingham (R); May 9, P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Each Production guaranteed to be Perfectly Played, Mounted, and Advertised.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Xmas. All coms. re above Companies, Gaiety Theatre, Methil, Fife; others to Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
"MANY MERRY MUDDLES."
A Farcical Musical Comedy.
A Three Hours' Laugh.
Not a Comedians' Gag Show, but a well-written Farcical Comedy, with Music.
WANTED, Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3.
BEAUDYN and MONTANINI,
Gaiety Theatre, Methil, Fife.

MISS MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
GEO. KIRK,
277, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
REPERTOIRE CO.
Vacant Sept. 26, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, 26.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Feb., 1911 (with exceptions).
Address, CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Opera House, Southport.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD,"
from Wyndham's Theatre, W.
WANTED, July 28, 29, 30, Aug. 1, 4, and 8.
Opera House, Southport.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, June 20, June 20, June 20 (between Halifax and London), one of the greatest successes on the road to-day. Refer this week G. T., Stockton-on-Tees. This play fast booking 1911.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
By Walter Howard.
Wanted, May 30, June 6, 13.
Special Band to parade. Everything done to ensure success. Managers needing good sound Attractions wire, KIMBERLEY, T. R., Aston; next, Smethwick.

KIMBERLEY, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Refer D. Barnard, Esq., re Play and Business. Only a few dates vacant Autumn and Spring. Guaranteed one of the finest mounted Plays on the road.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Xmas, and Jan. Managers specially invited to see this great Novel Play. Write for dates to
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
This, Aston; next, T. R., Smethwick.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
A Musical Farce, in two Acts.

Vacant Aug. 8 and 15, Nov. 7 and 14.

Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES, Royal, Rochdale.

In active preparation, a new Musical Farce, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S TOUR.
"MOTHER-IN-LAW."
by Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, May 30,
to follow Prince's Theatre, Manchester.
H. CHISWELL BILLING, Grand, Blackpool.

MISS NANNIE GOLDMAN AND CO.
in the Screamingly Funny Farcical Comedy,
"NOT BEFORE THE MISSUS!"
WANTED, May 23 (to follow Douglas), June 6 (to follow Bath), and onward. Wire,
WILLIAM HOLLES, T. R., Chatham.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, June 20, June 27,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
includes
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISABEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
There are almost as many versions of the Worcestershire romance as there are ways of cooking a potato, but the best is the Heath-Wilson Barrett adaptation, which contains the character of the policeman Bullock.—South Wales Argus, Feb. 1, 1910.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.

Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

Vacant June 20, 27, July 18, 25, and on, with exceptions. May 9, Castle Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
CHARLES GRAHAM,
with his London Company, including
MISS WINIFRED SCOTT,
in
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
by R. N. Stephens and E. Lyall Swete.
Produced by E. Lyall Swete.

This enormously successful play recently played to £646 in the week at Glasgow, and has played to very heavy business wherever staged. Brilliant costumes and magnificent scenery, exact replica of Mr. Lewis Waller's production. Finest plant of printing on the road, especially cut for this production.

Bookings include Blackpool (Grand), Harrogate, Buxton, Scarborough (Londes), Middlesbrough, Lowestoft, Worthing, Tunbridge Wells, Huddersfield, Norwich, Wolverhampton, Seacombe, Woolwich, Weymouth, Newport, &c., &c.
Only Vacant Dates till 1911.
June 20 (through disappointment), Aug. 1.
June 20 (through disappointment), Aug. 1.
June 20 (through disappointment), Aug. 1.
Wire. Wire. Wire.

All coms. to
Fred Penley, Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, W.C.

MR. and MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, for this Great Production, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
Every scene and property carried.
Special Printing by David Allen and Sons.
Thanks Dan Barnard, Esq., F. Macnaghten, Esq., E. H. Page, Esq., J. Ormerod, Esq., H. Masterman, Esq., Arthur Carlton, Esq., &c.
Harry Lyndon, T. R., Smethwick.
Next, Royal, Chesterfield.

Miss NORA CARTON'S CO.
Autumn Tour with the Successful Drama of Thrilling and Domestic Interest,
"TEMPTATION,"
by Russell Vaun (part author of "The Great Awakening"). An exceptionally Strong Cast of Dramatic Artists. New plant of printing by Uptons, Allens, and Dangerfields. First vacant date Aug. 22, follow T. R., Barnsley.
WANTED, Sept. 5 and 19, Oct. 10 and 24, Nov. 7 (precede Ramgate), Dec. 26 (precede Star, Swansea), Feb. 27, 1911 (precede Grand, Brighton. All coms., Martin Comstock, T. R., Birkenhead.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Oct. 10.
Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
This remarkable play closed to over £40 last Saturday night at the Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale, in spite of Jacob Studt's Fair, and Picture Show, and a fine night. Refer E. Tilney, Esq., or any Manager visited, re printing, scenery, company, and business.
WANTED, big Theatres, Aug. 1 and 8, Sept. 5 and 12 (follow the Broadhead Tour), Oct. 3, 10, 17, and 24 (follow Barnsley), Nov. 28, Dec., and Spring. Oswald Cray, T. R., Cardiff; next, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

THE MELODROMA PRODUCTION SYNDICATE, LIMITED.
"SEXTON BLAKE, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Dec. 5 (London) and Spring, 1911 (seventh Tour); "CONVICT 99," a few vacancies in Aug.; "HUSH MONEY; or the Disappearance of Sexton Blake," Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3 (through a misunderstanding with regard to terms), also Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and 21; "THE MASTER OF THE MILL," Aug. 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, also Spring, 1911, for all four productions.
Apply, A. H. Grahame,
21, John-street, Adelphi, W.C. 'Phone City 2431.

WANTED, May 23, 24, 25 (Lancs. or Yorks.), Wyndham's Comedy, "The Best People."
Weatherbsy's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, or Rinks, &c, suitable for Cinematograph Shows, to send full particulars, stating lowest rental, seating accommodation, and what voltage of electric supply, at once to J. H. Cornwell, c/o Mrs. Hughes, 17, Rodney-street, Wigan.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Stock Season, at Broadway Theatre, New Cross, commencing May 30, rehearse week previously, Stage-Manager (with scripts), to play Parts, Leading Parts (Lady and Gentleman), Heavy Parts (Lady and Gentleman), Juvenile Gentleman, Character Lady and Gentleman, Comedian, Chambermaid. Reply, enclosing photo., stating lowest terms (no application considered without same), to Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Mark envelopes "Theatre Stock."

STOCK SEASON, GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, Artists for Stock Season (five or six weeks), open May 23 (rehearse 16th). Must be experienced and hard-working. Send absolute lowest terms, photos where not known, height, and other particulars to John Darlison, as above.

WANTED, for the Revival of Old Comedies (Répertoire Company), young smart Juvenile Leading Gentleman (good wardrobe essential), also pretty Juvenile Leading Lady, Character Actress (one who can speak Lancashire dialect), Smart Soubrette, Walking Lady, Walking Gent, tall Baggage Man for small parts. Photos., age, height, and references, lowest summer terms, to Raymond Dudley, 42, Charlwood-street, South Belgravia, S.W. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Those who have played in "Tommy Atkins," "In the Ranks," "Harbour Lights," and similar plays preferred; commence May 23. Photos and particulars to R. G. Elder, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Envelopes to be marked "Stock."

WANTED, Juvenile Gent., Light Comedian, Char. Com., Old Man, Aris. Old Lady, &c. Arthur Lowry write. Comedy, 115, St. George's-road, S.E.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, Whit Week, played "Facing Music," "Two Drummer Boys." Call, Weatherbsy's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Actors and Actresses of good repute for Stock Season at important London Suburban Theatre. Apply, with photo., in stamped addressed envelope for return, stating salary required, &c. Start June 6, one week's free rehearsal. Apply, Dramatic, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, to rehearse at Cheltenham Monday next, smart young Chambermaid, with good voice, for "Girl from Kay's" Co. Apply, full particulars, Z. Andrews, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Small Child Actress (over 14), speak a few lines, special week. A. B. Mackay, this, New Theatre, Bargoed, South Wales; next, Hippo., Birkenhead.

WANTED, for Summer Stock, Comedian and Chambermaid, sing and dance. Joint entertained. Rehearse next week. Photos, particulars, references, and terms to Leonard Thackeray, 9, Stockwell Park-walk, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Lady, must be stout build, for part in one of W. W. Jacobs's farces. Must be humorous. V. Newman, Palace Theatre, Glasgow, marked "Bosun's Mate."

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Character Actor, for Travers, in above, must have played part before, open Monday next. Call 12 o'clock, C. W. Standing, Kennington Theatre.

WANTED, for Long Tour, Farcical Comedy, First-class Character Actor, for Peppery Old Gentleman (Cattermole type). Send full address of recent references, or useless, and all particulars. B. Byrne, 79, Grove-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Open Monday first, May 9, experienced Actor with strong, telling voice; capable of Lead and Heavies, for Talking Pictures. Lowest terms, wire, Reynolds, 49, Eamont-gardens, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, good Amateur Actor and Actress, for Autumn Tour; small premium, returned in salary. Address, giving full particulars, Box 7,682, "The Era."

WANTED, for Society Comedy Company, Lady and Gentleman, Amateur, willing to give services in exchange for Tuition; no travelling. Manager, 14, Salisbury-road, Richmond.

WANTED, immediately, for Production, Dramatic Sketch, Juvenile Lady, young, good appearance good voice essential; Responsible Gent., Comedian, combine Baggage. Terms, references, photos., Royston Dene, 39, Sinclair-mansions, Richmond-road, West Kensington Park.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately,
Graceful Young Dancer,
good figure, with experience in posing.
Apply, with practice dress,
midday, Saturday or Monday,
Stage Door, Alhambra, W.

WANTED, Smart All-round Dancers, good appearance and small. Call, with practice dress, between 11 and 1 Monday morning at The Rifleman, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Bass, for good reliable Quartette, equitable share. Write or call, Reynolds (late Canadian Quartette Tour), 2, Prairie-street, Lavender Hill.

STAGE.
SPECIAL NOTICE TO AMATEURS.
WANTED, intelligent young Amateur, desirous of playing Parts in the Public Performances of Shakespearean Plays, Musical and Modern Comedies, periodically given in Stedman's Theatre. Apply personally to the Secretary, Stedman's, Windmill House, Shaftesbury-avenue (facing Trocadero). Hours 10 to 8 daily.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, all Artists to Know that "Stage Facts and Figures" may now be obtained from Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand, price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d.

News of the World says: An invaluable little book.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagement, Concert Parties, Pictures, &c., by Miss Amy Wooderson, Soprano; brilliant voice, good appearance. Illustrated Songs. 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Principals and Chorus for Next Season's Pantomimes.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, full Pantomime Company (Provincial), First-class Artists only. Apply by letter, enclosing latest photo., lowest terms, and full particulars, Jas. Preston, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. Charles Sayer, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. High-class, effective Scenes at lowest prices. Re-painting. W. B. Robinson, 170, King's-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Stage Manager and Producer, one thoroughly competent in producing Dramas for Stock Season at important London Suburban Theatre. Only those who have done similar work need apply. Applicants must send in a list of the plays they have produced, and would be required to play small part if desired. State salary. Rehearsals start May 30. Apply, Box 7,664, "The Era."

KINGSTOWN PAVILION, IRELAND.
WANTED, Smart Young Manager.
Full particulars and photo to
Fred McCrea, Gloucester.

KINGSTOWN PAVILION, IRELAND.
WANTED, Young Man to take charge of Stage and make himself generally useful.
Apply, Fred McCrea, Gloucester.

WANTED, immediately, Young Gentleman, to learn the duties of Acting-Management (can play small part if desired), thorough tuition; premium £30, returned in salary; high-class tour.

Apply first instance, Box 7,681, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Experienced Electrician, with knowledge of Bioscope.
George Wright communicate. Apply,
W. H. Boardman, Pavilion T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Acting Manager, requires post, Theatre or Music Hall. All routine. Highest credentials. Address, M., 30, Marion-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, by experienced London Manager, Management of Provincial Hall in six weeks' time, or London immediately. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Resident, Touring Manager, Theatre, Variety, Rinks, highest credentials, Liberty shortly. Harry Hunter, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser (tall) seeks Situation; experience gained in places of amusement; can undertake as well clerks' duties. Write, F. N. G., at Horncastle's, Cheapside, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. C., Wardrobe Mistress, 15, Santos-road, West Hill, Wandsworth, S.W. Dis. few weeks.

WANTED, Situation as Useful Maid, to Professional Lady, good refs., willing, domesticated, age 26. L. K., 102, Arodene-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Ladies' Orchestra, experienced Violinist (leader), also Pianist, for Café Work. State terms, references, &c. Box 7,688, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Gentleman for Violin and Mandoline Class Teaching.
Permanent, 5, Gilmore-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First Violin, Season Engagement, or London, experienced and reliable; good refs. Add., Violinist, 58, Great Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, good Cornet Player, combining Bugle, for Ocean Liner.

Call 415, Strand, Tuesday, at 3 o'clock, bringing instruments.
Also good Pianists Wanted.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Solo Cornet, join at once; terms 30s. per week. Old Tredegar, Sat.; Rhymney, Mon.; New Tredegar, Tues.; South Wales.

WANTED, for Croydon Town Band, good steady Cornet Player; term, shares. Letters only. Mr. Raines, 7, Lower Drayton-place, Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, to open Monday, May 19, thoroughly competent and reliable Solo Cornet, must be experienced in Variety Business; permanency to suitable man. Apply, with latest references, to H. F. Miller, Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, Clarionet, Two Weeks (nine shows each), commencing Monday.
Wire lowest terms,
Musical Director, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, good Bassoon, for Whitsuntide Seaside, one week, commencing next Friday, 13th; Two Concerts Daily. Lowest terms to Norfolk Megone, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Swallow's Circus, Trombone; terms 30s.; open May 16. Address, Horrocks, Leader. Monday, West Auckland; Tuesday, Ferry Hill; Wednesday, Durham.

WANTED, good Bombardon Player or Side Drummer, as an Attendant in a County Asylum, single man, salary commencing £34, increasing to £49, all found. Apply, with copies of testimonials,
W. Grainger, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist. Age, references, lowest terms, photo,
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Pianist, smart in Varieties, also play from Second Violin copies if required. Age, terms, and refs., Conductor, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, smart Pianist, must be well used to Variety. Terms, 30s.; half salary matinées. Age and references to Wm. Doring, Musical-Director, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, competent Pianist, for Poole's Pictures; good répertoire and extemporiser; commence Saturday, May 14. Lowest terms to F. Mayer, Corn Exchange, Chichester.

WANTED, Pianist, quick Variety, Whit Week, £2 10s.; Season to follow; also Trombone, Flute, and Piccolo, £2 5s.; and Double Drums, £2 2s. E. H. Stevens, M.D., Kursaal, Southend.

WANTED, Smart Pianist, used Pictures and Variety; good permanent shop for right man, willing assist billing, &c.
Address, Frank Newbury,
Empire Picture Palace, Cowdenbeath.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, for Picture Show for May 16.
Apply, with lowest terms and references,
Charles Hermann, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Double Drummer, for Military Band, Gorleston, from July 7, for 9 or 10 weeks; two performances daily, Sundays excepted. Chapman, 16, Anson-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, with Tymps. and full Effects, smart in Varieties. State age, terms, and refs. Conductor, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Double Drummer, join at once.

Old Tredegar, Sat.; Rhymney, Mon.; South Wales.

HANNEFORD'S CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.
WANTED, a good Euphonium Player, Clarionet and Trombone; those used to Circus Business preferred. Terms 32s. 6d. weekly.
Wire, E. Hanneford, Circus,
Saturday, Abbeyfeale, co. Limerick;
Monday, Newcastle West, Ireland.

WANTED, for Ladies' Band, experienced Leader, young, also Flauto, Clarionet, Cornet, 'Cello, Bass, and Drums, Vocalists preferred; six months' engagement abroad, start Oct. Box 7,679, "The Era."

WANTED, Whitsun, Season, Lady Musicians. Leader Violin, Flute, Cornet, Bass, Pianist (combine other instrument); good appearance. Box 7,684, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies' Bijou Orchestra, own costume, Pianist, Cornet, Violin, and Double Bass. Apply, W. H. Innes, Alexandra Pavilion, Normanton-road, Derby.

WANTED, to complete well-known Military Band, for three months' season on South Coast. Musicians. All instruments write in. Good Double Drummer, with Effects. All must be competent Musicians.
Box 7,670, "The Era."

WANTED, E flat and B flat Clarionet, Cornet, Trombones (tenor and G), and String Bass immediately. Must be first-class. Apply J. T. Morrison, 38, Park-mansions, Battersea, S.W.

CO. ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Tenor Slide Trombone, must be competent players, age not over 35, and single, wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform.
Apply to The Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, Musicians to write for comfortable Apartments to Mrs. Howarth, 109, Hornby-road, Blackpool. Central, near to Rinks and Theatres.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement Varieties, First-class only, London preferred. Address, Musical-Director, 25, Comyn-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (Violin), at Liberty any Business; excellent library; highest references. W. Ball, 50, Tunnel-road, Waverlee, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement shortly, by smart Conductor, brilliant Pianist, excellent references, up-to-date Orchestral Library. Conductor, 12, Crowtree-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Conductor; open Monday, any bus.; steady and experienced. F. Smith, 158, Baird-street, Coatbridge.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist, Engagement, Concert Party or Orchestra; pupil August Wilhelmj 7 years; highest refs.; fine accompanist. Box 7,672, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Violinist (Lady), requires Engagement in London.
Box 7,665, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Edythe Reeve, Violinist, Engagements, any business, open for Whitsun and Summer. 60, Kimberley-gardens, Green Lanes, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, double with Piano; good library for Quartette. Kate Husband, 20, Sudeley-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Violin, any business, anywhere, excellent refs.; steady, reliable. Jean Edouard Berger, 3, Hestercombe-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Charles Goddard, Violin or Viola, High-class Concert, Theatre, and Variety. Lois-crescent, Albemarle-street, Hull.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Second Violin, through close of Season; sober, competent; good refs. E. W., 23, Alverstone-avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin, Rept., or Second, can combine Clar.; good refs. Chas. Marshall, Orchestra, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, thoroughly experienced in all Lines; good refs. Violinist, 165, Camp-road, Leeds.

WANTED, by Violinist, Re-engagement, Summer Season or Permanency; good references; total abstainer; any business. Horace T. V. Walpole, A.C.V., 34, Melrose-road, Eaton, Norwich.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, experienced, any bus.; Season, Permanency, or Tour; Disengaged. Holmes, Portland-st., East Kirkby, Notts.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by a smart reliable Young Violinist, experienced any business, good player; excellent references. Violinist, 9, Ambra-vale, South Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, to open Monday, by reliable Violinist, as First or Second. Any business, good references. Violinist, 27, Orcheston-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement as Violinist, experienced in Dramatic or Variety Business. Good refs. Apply, Violinist, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by First Violin, experienced, Re-engagement; can open Monday; good refs.; abstainer. Phipps, c/o Clements, 176, Great George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ida Angless, Solo and Orchestral Cornet, Disengaged. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Season or Permanent Engagement, by Solo Cornet or Trumpet, experienced, reliable. Address, Solo Cornet, c/o McEwen, 34, Blackhall-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced, good references, Lib. May 16. Tom Anderson, 11, Brown-square, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, good First or Second, London preferred.
Musician, 53, Chichester-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornettist; well experienced in any Business; good references. John Phillips, 34, British-st., Bow, E.

WANTED, by G. H. Stowell (Clarionet), Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Summer Engagement, or String Bass; reference; abstainer. Address, 10, Collings-park.

WANTED, an Engagement, as Clarionet Player.
X., 82, Robert-street, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet, experienced and up to the Business. Joe Heath, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Clarionet, Military, Orchestra, or Rink.
Previous experiences, refs., &c.
Newman, 30, Markeaton-street, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing as Solo Clarionet or Double Bass; thoroughly experienced all lines; excellent references. Wainman, 32, Whamond-street, Motherwell.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist, Engagement; good references, any business. Address, "Clarionet," c/o Harrison, chemist, corner of Farrow-road, Sharrow, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, two Ladies, Double Bass and 'Cello, require Engagement. M. Smith, 35, Islip-street, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, short season, Pier or Music Halls, Bass. Harris, 36, Lancaster-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, steady and reliable; open at once. Harry Hare, c/o McIntosh, 48, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contra Bass, experienced any bus.; good refs. Address, David Thomas, 1, Hill-terrace, Penygraig.

WANTED, by Professional Trombonist, Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or Concert, Orchestra. Trombone, 75, Deans-avenue, Hindley, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone (good), experienced any business, first-class references, steady and reliable. J. Albert Matthews, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement as Trombone; could combine Euphonium. Address, A. Bostock, 5, Fox-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, good Trombonist, late Blackpool and South Coast Concerts, at Liberty for Season, Orchestra and Military. Box 7,685, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Euphonium, Engagement (professional musician); experienced; excellent refs., any business. J. Stone, 20, Old Orchard-st., Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by good ex-Army Euphonium Player, steady, reliable, used to Chappell's Journals. Moore, 8, Hardwicks-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon or String Bass, experienced reliable, good refs.; ex Army. Basso, c/o Mrs. Frost, 65, Clough-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by good E flat Bombardon, any Bus.; at Liberty through closing. Apply, G. Heath, 8, Sloane-st., Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bombardon Player. Rink, Stage, or any business; steady and reliable. Arthur Blunt, King's T., Seacombe.

WANTED, Engagement by Brilliant Bombardon. Summer Season. Excellent references. Apply, Mott, Bower-street, Newtown, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon and String Bass, Disengaged May 7, any business, thoroughly experienced and reliable; good refs. Bentuba, 9, Denmark-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Solo French Horn, E flat, permanent Engagement; 18 years' military experience; sober and reliable; any business. E. G. Cunningham, 23, Rothwell-street, Mumps, Oldham.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced French Horn Player, Summer Engagement, First or Second. J. Henderson, Grand Opera House, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, Orchestra or Military; good refs.
W. Pattison, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo or First Saxhorn, Military, Rink, or any business; highest abilities and experience. Saxhorn, 111, Victoria-street, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, at Liberty for Engagement; excellent references. Add., Bernard Goodall, 128, New-road, Portsmouth.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, good, abstainer, seeks Engagement; good refs. L. H. Bellamy, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Great Grimsby.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist (Solo, Chamber Music, Orchestra), short Summer Engagement; highest references; Hotel party preferred; no uniform. Box 7,626, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Cellist; Theatre or Variety Business; good refs.; or would deputise. London preferred. Box 7,674, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any business, first-class references. Address, 'Cello, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class 'Cellist; experienced and reliable. Howard, 2 St. Dunstan's-villas, Acton, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, Liberty June 14, can double with Cornet, competent, sober, reliable. Address, W. J. Davies, Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, First-class Viola, Disengaged through reducing Orchestra; excellent references; can combine piano. Parsons, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, First-class Viola or Violin Player. Particulars, V. Turner, c/o Williams, Hillbeck-st., South Church, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Engagement by Well-known Professional Viola Player. Credentials, references, &c. Viola, c/o Mr. Allcroft, 59, Great Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Boy Harpist (Solo and Orchestra), Afternoon Tea-rooms or short Seaside Season. Box 7,668, "The Era."

WANTED, by two Ladies, Seaside Engagement, with Concert Party or Orchestra, Flute, Piccolo, Violin (Soloists), Vocalist, experienced Accompanist.

S. J., 189, Ladbroke-grove, W.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Flute and Piccolo also Clarionet, Engagement; good refs. Cullen, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo (lady); good refs.; Disengaged June 1. Bessie Pratt, Lucia, St. Swithin's-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by exp. Flautist, Orchestral, Military, Theatre or Music Hall, would deputise. Box 7,686, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, steady and reliable. Shortly at Liberty through closing. Flautist, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Concerts, Banquets, At Homes, &c., Accompanist, Composer, Singers Coached. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Miss M. Geddes, Pianist and Accompanist; thoroughly experienced. Address, 23, Brunswick-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.) as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist. Fred Hooton, 14, Clarendon-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, through theatre closing, by experienced Pianist, combine Violin or Viola. W. Moore, 12, Knowles-street, Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Pianist seeks Re-engagement. Liberty, May 23. Geo. B. Smith, Hippodrome; or 5, Museum-street, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist (Soloist and Accompanist), any business. Apply, Todd, 3, Glenfield-avenue, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, First-class Tympanist and Double Drummer, Disengaged, excellent refs.; own Tymps. Address, Tympanist, 74, Marsland-road, Sale, Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Eng.; good refs. Drums, 54, Hatcham Park-rd., Newcross Gate, S.E.

WANTED, Situation as Double Drummer, with effects, any business, tympani if permanent. Good references. Box 7,663, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, any Bus.; good refs.; can play Tubular Bells. Morris, 79, High-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drums and Effects, any business, at Lib. at once. Jack Pearson, 24, Albion-street, Darlington, co. Durham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Drummer; have own Drums, Cymbals, Tympani, and Effects. Address, Drummer, 29a, Thornton-lane, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Effects; Liberty for Whitsun; experienced, reliable; any business. 27, Towson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drums, &c. Billy Palmer,
St. Peter's Tavern, St. Peter's-rd., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart Double Drummer, with Effects; Military, Orchestra, or Rink; excellent references; steady, reliable. 27, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Madame Marie Levante's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies; established 1893. Seventeenth year of continued success. All applications, 3, Church-street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements for Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Summer. Great success New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth (nine consecutive seasons). Smart Costumes, up-to-date Répertoire. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.
WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame Manton-Myatt,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, The Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra, Disengaged; also Quartette and Trio for Hotels; also Vocalists and Humorists. Wilton Davis, 1, Arlington-square, N.

WANTED, by Blaker's Famous Band, established 1901, Engagement Whit, on. Now concluding long engagement with Pontypridd and Rhondda Links, Ltd. Refinement and ability guaranteed. Splendid uniforms, extensive répertoire. No amateurs. Immediate communication. Chas. Blaker, 3, Avery-cottages, Avery-lane, Brockhurst, Gosport.

WANTED, Seaside, Town, for Collini's Military, Orchestral Bands, any business, Rinks this season, Highgate, Stratford, Woking, Stamford Hill. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Eng., good small Military or Orchestral Band, any business, experienced in Bandstand Programmes; highest references; uniforms. Maddison, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Known, The Æolian Trio (Ladies) is free for At Homes, Concerts, and Summer Engagement. 215, Camden-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Bands at Liberty, Exhibitions, Piers, Rinks, &c., &c. Brilliant uniforms, good répertoire. Band Office, 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Holiday Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violinist-vocalist, 'Cellist, and Pianist), at good Hydro or Hotel. Box 7.662, "The Era."

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Smart Orchestral Band; Rink, Pictures, Ball-room, &c. Special Summer Terms. Uniform; evening dress. PALMER, M.D., Grovehill-road, Beverley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Rink Band (Sutton), Wind Instruments, eight performers, including Pianist, from June till end August. Uniform; splendid répertoire. SALES, 67, Clarence-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, through closing, Eng., by String Band of eight or upwards, good Library, any business. F. DRAKE, Mus.-Director, Band, Stratford-on-Avon.

WANTED, Engagement for Brass Band of Six; just finished season; Skating or Dancing. Box 7,673, "The Era" Office.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

STEPHENSON'S COLUMBIA CIRCUS.
WANTED, for Tenting, a good Top Liner, something to draw; also useful Circus Artists in all lines, Singing and Dancing, Comedians, and anything that will go Tenting; a good Circus Agent, must be Circus Agent, others save stamps; also Brass Band, Leader (Cornet), First Cornet, two good Trombones, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Drums to open May 30, 21 weeks' engagement. All letters, FRANK STEPHENSON, Royal Circus, Leicester.

WANTED, for Circus, a good Barebacked Horse Rider, four of a Brass Band, and Advance Agent for the Season, tour through Scotland. All communications to
J. RINTOUL,
Jigburn House, Dunfermline.

HANNEFORD'S CIRCUS, TENTING IRELAND.
WANTED, a good reliable Tentmaster, to open at once.
Address, Saturday, Abbeyfeale, co. Limerick; Monday, Newcastle West, Ireland.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that Signor Lorenzo, King of Aerial Performers, now performing for Studts on his High Mast, at Liberty on June 21. C/o Post Office, Hereford.

WANTED, Known, The Ostieers, Ring and Bar Performers, Liberty Galas, Whit week. Wire. Add., 5, Trafalgar-street, Walworth, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines. For Artists unknown to me can arrange trial show near Manchester. W. LOVELL HURT, Churchgate House, Stockport.

WANTED, Monday, May 23, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Picture Shows, North, Acts new to Stanley, Consett, Thornley, Blaydon, Whitley Bay, Spennymoor. Send vacancies, lowest terms, and permanent address, to STEVE SMITH'S Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

CHAPPELL'S OPEN-AIR CONCERTS, YARMOUTH.
Lessees, E. V. BARR, LTD.
General-Manager, Mr. HARRY BARKER.
WANTED, Good, Sound, Reliable Artists, all Lines, Refinement Essential, for Season June to September. Full parties, lowest terms, refs., where performing. Perm. add. and photos, if any, to HARRY BARKER, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth. Silence a polite negative pro. tem.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, May 16, onwards. Terms, bookings, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-st., Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

E. GILES, LTD.,
Theatrical and Variety Experts,
31 and 32, Goschen-buildings,
Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for London and Provincial Halls, also America and Continent, also full Cast for three London Pantomimes. Apply as above.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 16, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 16, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

PALACE, WATFORD.
WANTED, for May 9, 16,
First-class Artists, all Lines.
First-class Artists, all Lines.
Letters only, CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
Important Notice.
Star Artists. Star Artists.
WANTED, Known, Star Artists, now booked at the Paragon Music Hall, who have received the usual eight weeks' Notice of Closure, are hereby informed that should they wish to retain those dates in the East End of London,
MR. FREDERIC BAUGH
will be pleased to make an appointment with a view to arranging to play them at
THE FORESTERS' VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
Immediate Vacancies for Star Acts only.
Write (no wires),
Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre,
Cambridge-road, London, E.
Telegrams, "Stageyness, London."
Telephone, Avenue, 5,954.

EMPIRES, SUNDERLAND AND HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Artists who have disappointments through Northern Halls closing may be able to arrange same by submitting particulars of their Acts and absolute lowest filling-in terms to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.
Please mark envelopes "Artists."

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Stars, May 16, also Stars willing to share for other dates. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Stars and Big Speciality Acts for Summer Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Turn, also Speciality, for May 30, Hippo., Aldershot; Combination terms. BANCROFT, 21, Colnbrook-street, London-road, London, S.E. Letters only.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES.
Neath, Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughboro', Rugby, and Exmouth.
WANTED, Smart Turns, for May, June, and July, including Comedy, Musical Acts, Vocal Quartettes, Clever Juvenile Troupes. Address, ARTHUR BROODEN, Gen.-Man., Barry Dock.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn; Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, those who are Sure of their Value, such as Minola Hurst's Marvels, and Everhart, who played Tivoli, Barrow, last week, on share, to packed houses nightly. Ask Signor Pepi. I require Best Talent for North and Midlands, for all Dates. The Northcotts wire quick. Important.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London.
WANTED, Biggest of Acts and Novelties for Continent.
Note.—Sole Agency only entertained.
Also,
Star Acts for Britain,
and Panto., 1910-11. Principals only.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, good Comic Acts, Sensational Specialities, Spectacular Productions, good Troupe of Comic Acrobats, big Animal Acts, and any Novelty with Drawing Powers, for May 16, 23, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, Smart and Up-to-date Acts for above. Speciality and otherwise, but must be strictly free from vulgarity and refined. Turns who have worked Aberdare don't apply. Send full lists and lowest terms.
J. R. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, First-class Combination for May 30 and June 13 for First-class Music Hall. Also Big Acts on Salary or Sharing Terms for immediate dates.
Full Particulars, List of Bookings, WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone, 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy, Liverpool."

WANTED, First-class Variety Combination, nothing too big, not less than 9 turns, for Grand Theatre, Nelson, May 16 and 23.
Wire terms, HORNER, Burnley.

DURSLEY FETE (22nd Annual),
Saturday, July 16.
WANTED, Wanted, Attractions.
Particulars and terms to
ALBERT BAILEY, Gazette Office, Dursley, Glos.

WANTED, Specialities, all Lines; must be New to Jarrow and Ashington. All coms., Lamb's Buffalo Palace, Ashington. Les Trippetos also Sisters Henderson write.

WANTED, good Specialities, for week Aug. 8, to play Queen's, Castleford, and include a small Gala on the Saturday. State absolute lowest. BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. HARRY TAFT, Palace, Greenwich; next, King's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Big Top Liners, Artists all Lines, Halls, Galas, Pictures, Performing Cats, Aug. Holiday week. PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Novelties, Specialities, Refined Comedy Acts, and anything with drawing powers. Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Troupe of Entertainers, on Sharing Terms only, for Summer Season in the Theatre, Bedford. Popular prices. Full particulars, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, May 9, two or three Ladies or Gentlemen, Ground Acts, also two Knockabouts, Comedians, and two Sisters (Singers and Dancers). Will Geo. Batt.e write in? HANCOCK, Coliseum, Looe, Cornwall.

WANTED, Show Girls and Men; must be tall and smart appearance. Call, ALEXANDRA VARIETY AGENCY, Gloucester-mansions, Cambridge-Circus, W.

WANTED, Ladies, Gentlemen all Lines, for Picture Work. Apply personally, to-day 12 noon, UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU, 49, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, Lady, young, powerful Mezzo or Soprano, Vocalist, good appearance. Write, with photo. if possible, VOCAL, 1, Arlington-sq., N.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, for well-known Troupe. Age, height, photo., and tricks, CYCLIST, 33, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Star Comedian for Star Part in Farcical Sketch, London Halls, must be under 40, short, and able to box; grand opportunity for the right man. Box 7,680, "The Era."

WANTED, few Coloured People for parts in Animated Photographs. No interviews except by appointment. W. BOOTH, Wyke Green, Isleworth, W.

WANTED, at once, smart Tumbler, for Comedy Act. Send full particulars, lowest terms in first letter, JOSH CLIFTON, 104, Loughboro'-park, Brixton, S.W. N.B.—Amateurs and would-be Tumblers save stamps.

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
WANTED, First-class Operator (with own complete electric outfit) for above Theatre, opening Whit Week. Send lowest terms and references to STANLEY ROGERS.

WANTED, Operator, to supply Cinematograph Machine and Films, and attend to same; two sets weekly, for Queen's Hall, Rhyl. State terms and full particulars to SECRETARY, Queen's-arcade, Rhyl.

WANTED, Smart First-class Operator, with Up-todate Machine, and Complete Outfit, Whit Week. Terms and all particulars, PARKINSON, Central Hall, Gainsborough.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Lucy Lynd, Lancashire (Rising) Star Comedienne, May 9, 16, 30.
Notice.—Proof of my Success.
Three return dates at increased salary for Alhambra, Openshaw
Manager Jackson, of Hippo., Rochdale, saw my turn. Result is
Booked two dates.
Booked Hanley with four return dates.
This week, tremendous success, Hippo., Wigan.
Wire above; or to
CLIQUOT'S Agency, Manchester.

WANTED, May 9, 16, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Empire, Edmonton, London; or 93 Liverpool-road, Islington, London, N. Wire.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, June 6 and 13. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, Banjoists, in Novel and Refined Drawing-room Act. Vacant May 9, 23, 30, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, to fill in May 16, by Dolly and Madge McCalla, between Grimsby and Southend. May 9, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, May 23, on, by Stelfane, Lady Conjurer, in Oriental Magical Scena, Electric Fit-up. Thank McAskell for Contracts. Monday, Empire, Blaina. Mon.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
J. A. Wilson
and
Private Towser,
the best Performing Dog on the Road,
are at Liberty two weeks only,
May 23 and 30.
This week, Palace Theatre, Maidstone.
Next week, Empire Palace, West Hartlepool.
Where write or wire best offers for
May 23 or 30.
May 16, Empire Palace, York.

WANTED, by Lucknow, the Anglo-Continental Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty May 16, 23. Address, Queen's Palace, Shipley.

WANTED, 16th, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Collier's Songs, &c., extraordinary Colliery Pictures. T. R., Darwen; next, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, by Will Owen, Dame and Dutch Comedian, May 9, 16, 23. This, Palace, Oldham; next, 12, Alexandra-av., Princess-road, Manchester.

WANTED, May 16, 23, and July 11, Fred S. Howard, in "London Life." A Novel Act appealing to Stalls and Gallery alike. Address, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday, and May 16th by Sam Ello, Versatile Comedian and Dancer. D.C. Lithos and Photo Frames. Theatre, Bridgwater.

WANTED, by Gene Brant, May 16, two acts, Comedian, Grotesque Dancer, also Splendid Song Scena. May 9, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, May 23, 30, Aldro Lukos, Man-Monkey, Swinging Perch and Comedy Tumbling Act. Offers, LUKOS, 22, Osborne-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, May 16 and 23, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the Famous Military Illusionist and Entertainer. Wire or write, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagements, by Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler. Sensational £100 Challenge. Coms., Tivoli, Pentre.

WANTED, Monday next and June 13, various, on, The Moncktons (Fred, Lillie), the Comedy Duologuists, with entirely new wardrobe, presenting their screaming comedy episode, "A WOMAN'S CURIOSITY." 47, Stanley-st. West, North Shields.

WANTED, Whit Booking by Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley; turn, or two hours. Address, St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, May 9 and 16, by The Detroys (Flo and Billy), American Laughter Makers. For a sure hit wire, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Known, the Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, are vacant Monday, also 16th. Address, 5, Sutton-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hulme, Versatile Comedian, also Elsie Kedwards, Comedienne and Dancer; just finished Macnaghten Circuit, Liberty May 16, on. Com., this, Surrey, S.E.; next, Grand T., Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, Comedy Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act, vacant May 16, June 27. Next, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, May 23, onward. Just a New Act to the British Isles. ROHDE and ROCHE, Palace, Blaenavon, Mon.

WANTED, Monday next, May 9, also 16th, The Dunvilles, Unrivalled Comedy Musical Pot-Pourri Act. For a success wire, New Palace, Kettering.

WANTED, May 16 and 23, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie, Vocalist and Premier Girl Juggler; Edgar, Comedy Equilibrist). Address, Picture Palace, Longton.

WANTED, by Tommy Ellis, Quaint Comedian, Marion St. John, Dainty Soubrette and Dancer, six nights May 9, Halls or Picture Shows. Wire, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester. After Monday, 145, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Monday next, May 9, by Mlle. Du Roche, Vocalist; also Mayfield Grove, Dame Comedian. Wire, 7, Mayfield-grove, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, May 9, 16, through transferring Dates, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in their Latest Novelty Act, "Yoicks and a Yokel," introducing song, dance, and story. Wire for Monday. 36, Cremorne-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, May 9 and 16, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, including Champion Somersault Dog Jack. Own scenery; splendid lithos. Success everywhere. Wire, Emp., Southport; after Sun., 40, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, May 16, 23, 30.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, by Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo, May 9, 16, 23, 30.
Address, 9, Charles-street, St. Helens.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. This, A. H., Darwen; next, return, Emp., Hull. Vac. May 16 and June 6.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Whit Week; the great Comedy Act, a Star Turn, sure success. Wire, Palace, Morley, Yorks.

WANTED, May 23, June 6, 13, for Malcolm Cumming Trio, in Comedy Act, "A Tooth for a Bride." Hippodrome, Ealing.

WANTED, May 16, by The Milsted-Bell Trio, Musical Farcical Comedy, full of life and laughs. Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Dancing Duggans, Vocalists and Skate Dancers, introducing Buck Dancing on genuine Roller and Ice Skates, simultaneous Sand Dancing. This week, Hippodrome, Lowestoft (Bottom of Bill); after Sat., wire, 119, Lombard-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Beautiful Mlle. Sylvesto, and Funny Assistant, the Lady Contortionist with a Figure. Great Success on Tour with Collins' Circus. Liberty May 23, onwards. Address, permanent, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, Bon and Babs, the School-kids. Novel Eccentric Juggling Speciality. Wire, BON, 119, Laughton-road, Dinnington, Rotherham.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti Premier Gymnasts, May 16, June 20, July 11 and 25. Address, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, May 9 and 23, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Hippodrome, Greenock.

WANTED, May 9, 23, The Flying Orenius's (2 l. 2 g.), Stage Aerial Act. 67, Walcot-square, S.E. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, May 9, Bouncing Peps, best Bouncing Performance on the Stage. Star novelty. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 16, 23, and 30, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, in the World's Greatest Athletic Entertainment, including the only really classic posing extant by the beautiful Miss Vulcana. Conclude Temperance Hall, Merthyr; Monday, Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, May 9, 23, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, King Hall, Clay Cross, Saturday; after then, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, immediate Dates, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist.
Address, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, May 16 and Aug. 1, Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, featured everywhere. Monday, Normanton. Address, 22, Park-avenue, Pontefract.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Vent. and Conjurer, May 16 (between Northampton and Worthing). This week, Starring (return), Co-operative Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Dates, for "The Married Widow," "Battle of the Belles," &c.; all good Comedy Shows. FRED MOULE, Capworth-street, Leyton.

WANTED, Whit Week, May 23, and 30 only, by Andie Caine's Entertainers, Seven in Number, all males. Coms, ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

MISS ELLA'S LION SHOW.
WANTED, May 16, 23, 30, and all June prior to Continental Tour.
Com.
18, Gloucester-street, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengieur's Beautiful Russian Poodles. Great attraction and novelty for Galas, Garden Parties, &c. Always a success. Specially engaged Whit Monday and Tuesday, Longton Park. Coms., Tudno House, Rhyl, North Wales.

WANTED, by Lorenzo's Marvellous Dogs, Monday, and onwards, Halls, Circus, Pictures, Alfresco, &c. This act stands alone. Challenge all, colour or country, and they know it.
Perm. address, 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Famous Pugilistic and Dramatic Dogs, most novel Dog Show before the public, Liberty May 30. Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED May 9, 16,
Chard's Dog Circus.
31, Queen'-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Mlle. Doris and her Highly-trained Dogs, vacant May 23. Away from all other. Mon., Black's Picture Palace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Football on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles, vacant Monday, also 23, 30. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Swift Duo, Funny Cycling Speciality. Monday next, Empire, Camberwell; vacant May 16, 23. Add., 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Animal Impersonator, Acrobat, Pantomimist; height 5ft. 4in., age 25, weight 8st 12lb. MOREL, 40, Hercules-road, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, by Barnard's Mannikins, June 6, Nov. 7, Dec. 12 and 26; the only Comedy Mannikin Act before the public, portraying "The Coon's Revelry," a Piccaninny burlesque, by Pete and Rastus, the most lifelike Mannikins ever seen, introducing their Comedy Rooster "Chantecler." Just terminated with remarkable success the Moss and Stoll Tour, our ninth visit. Offers invited to FREDERICK BARNARD, 42, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, for New Alexandra Pavilion, Derby, Pierrot Troupes, Concert Parties, and complete Entertainments of every description, May 30, onwards; Share or Certainty. Apply, W. H. INNES, Alexandra Pavilion, Normanton-road, Derby.

WANTED, immediately, a Young, Refined Tenor, or Light Baritone, or Light Comedian, with good voice, for Twenty Weeks' Tour with established and well-known Costume Party. Call with songs, Sunday, between three and five, or Monday, eleven till 12.30.
MR. SCOTT PERCY,
Hall Percy-street, Tottenham Court-rd., London.

WANTED, Al Fresco Comedians, night shows only, rehearse 12th, open Whit. Terms, photos., MANAGERESS, 73, Broughton-hill, Garden City, Herts.

WANTED, by Esaline Thorne, smart rennet Comedienne, large rep., Chorus Songs, well up in Concerteds, Sketches. 37, Vassall-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hulme, Versatile Comedian, also Elsie Kedwards, Comedienne and Dancer, Liberty from May 16, for First-class Al Fresco or Concert Party. Com., this, Surrey, S.E.; next, Grand T., Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Walton, Operatic and Mus. Com, Baritone, Vac. for Al-fresco &c.; 3 years' exp.; young, steady, and smart. 15, Bloom-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Vocalists and Comedians, to try our Special Books, to contain from 12 to 24 piano copies. Sample book, 1s. 3d., post free. Fox and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move.
Quick Money-takers.
Apply for full particulars to
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co.
WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen to send for Samples, Song Books, Budgets (twenty-four songs).
Words and Music, Quick Sales, Big Profits.
E., 52, Stoney-lane, Houndsditch, E.C.

WANTED, Known, by Royal Letters Patent at Home and Abroad. 'Phone, Stratford 395. The Oscillating Zig-Zag Stairways. The Rage of Paris. Paid for itself six times in seventeen weeks. J. E. COOPER, Albert Works, Chatsworth-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Known, British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, supply everything for the Fair. Rifle Ranges fitted and supplied with all requirements.

WANTED, all kinds of Automatic Machines, on Shares, for the New Entertainment Pavilion, Tea Gardens, and Amusement Courts. Apply, W. H. INNES, Alexandra Pavilion, Derby.

WANTED, good Steam Roundabout; excellent position; private ground on main road. Town of 100,000 population, for June month. Also sets of Swings, Helter Skelter, and similar Amusements. For terms, apply J. D., Box 1,590, c/o Willing's, 125, Strand.

WANTED, Good Side-shows, Games, Swings, &c., also to Hire, Roundabouts for Season. What offers? H. W. LARCHER, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Wrestlers, Boxers, also spaces to let for all kinds of Throwing Games, Waxworks, Side Shows. MUSEE OF MIRTH AND SPORT, 159, Bradshawgate, Bolton.

WANTED, for Barron's Exhibition, 74, High-st., Aldershot, Quick Showing Novelties, Monday, 9th, and on. Salary or Sharing Terms.

WANTED, at once, Second Sight Artist, Conjurer, and Lady Snake Charmer.
Col. BAKER, Whatmore, Wokingham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR MAY.

ENGLAND.

7. Braintree (5,330)
7. Bramley Carnival (9,000)
7. Leintwardine (1,500)
7. Market Bosworth (1,881)
7. Richmond (Yorks) (3,836)
9. Hindon (500)
9. Keighley (40,000)
9. Spilsby (1,500)
10. Beaconsfield (1,570)
10. Bodmin (5,353)
10. Farnham (6,124)
11. Clun (1,709)
11. Colne (23,000)
11 Holbeach (5,032)
11. Spalding (12,293)
11. Staines (6,700)
11. Swaffham (3,400)
12. Chelmsford (12,394)
12. Congleton (10,706)
12. Haverhill (4,863)
12. Lambourne (1,101)
12. Leicester (211,600)
12. Lymington (4,200)
12. Much Wenlock (2,227)
12. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,386)
12. Sturminster Newton (1,877)
12. Wadebridge (2,300)
12. Worstead (781)
12. Wetherby (2,212)
12. Yaxley (1,590)
13. Chertsey (12,762)
13. Haslemere (1,311)
13. Long Sutton (2,534)
13. Maryport (11,896)
13. Pembridge (1,100)
14. Burwell (1,974)
14. Caistor (Lincs) (2,000)
14. Carlisle (45,478)
14. Clayton-le-Moors (7,163)
14. Egremont (Cumb.) (5,761)
14. Hartlepool (22,800)
14. Kendal (14,200)
14. Malton (4,800)
14. Millom (10,400)
14. Newark (14,985)
14. North Shields (50,000)
14. Nuneaton (25,000)
14. Preston (113,100)
14. Rothbury (1,300)
14. Runcorn (16,500)
14. Stafford (26,894)
14. Redruth (10,451)
14. Stagshawbank (1,400)
14. Southwell (3,167)
14. Sutton (724)
14. Tideswell (3,600)
14. Tyldesley (14,843)
14. Wellington (6,273)
14 Wolverhampton (94,179)
16. Amersham (3,209)
16. Appleby (1,704)
16. Bakewell (2,850)
16 Biggleswade (5 129)
16. Bilston (24,024)
16. Birkenhead (110,926)
16. Blackheath (21,000)
16. Blockley (1,521)
16. Cartmel (754)
16. Castleford Feast (17,372)
16. Cheltenham (49,439)
16. Clevedon (5,393)
16. Cockermouth (5 255)
16. Coltishall (1,000)
16. Dalton in Furness (13,000)
16. Evesham (7,101)
16. Garston (17,289)
16 Great Harwood (11,000)
16. Hampstead Heath
16. Helston (3,088)
16. Hendon (23,456)
16. Hinckley (11,300)
16. Horbury Feast (6,736)
16. Ilkley (7,755)
16. Jarrow-on-Tyne (24,294)
16. Lichfield (7,902)
16. Malvern (16,500)
16. Middlesbrough (91,300)
16. Morecambe (11,798)
16 New Brighton (10,961)
16. Newcastle-on-Tyne (226,571)
16. Northampton (87,002)
16. Ounton Feast (1,684)
16 Portsmouth (189,160)
16. Reigate (26,000)
16. Richmond (Surrey) (31,667)
16. Rushden (12,500)
16. Ryde (11,000)
16. Salford (Trinity Market) (220,500)
15. Southport (48,087)
16. South Shields (97,300)
16. St. Ives (Hunts) (2,900)
16. Taunton (21,078)
16. Torksey (400)
15. Wanstead Flats
16. Wormwood Scrubs
16. York (77,793)
17. Alford (2,500)
17. Ashford (12,898)
17. Bogner (6,189)
17. Brentford (15,171)
17 Camborne (14,726)
17. Earlestown (9,020)
17. Fakenham (2,912)
17 Halesworth (2,549)
17. Haslingden (18,600)
17. Leighton Buzzard (5,331)
17. Longton (35,815)
17. Melton Mowbray (7,454)
17. Methley Feast (4,268)
17. Newton-le-Willows (16,708)
17. Penrith (9,200)
17. Sheffield (380,717)
18. Askam-in-Furness (4,500)
18. Barnard Castle (4,421)
18. Bedworth (7,170)
18. Broadway (Worcester) (1,414)
18. Broughton-in-Furness (1,139)
18. Elmley (1,400)
18. Hitchin (10,072)
18. Leek (15,184)
18. Over (Cheshire) (7,000)
18. Truro (11,502)
18. Workington (26,141)
19. Adwalton Feast (1,650)
19. Bacup (22,506)
19. Birmingham (522,182)
19. Buckingham (3,151)
19 Long Melford (3,808)
19. Ulverston (10,064)
20. Barrow-in-Furness (57,587)
20. Cleethorpes (12,578)
20. Deptford (110,122)
20. Derby (105,785)
20. Louth (9,500)
21. Ashford (Derby) (663)
21. Brackenfield (344)
21. Bristol (328,843)
21. Felling (8,560)
21. Grimesthorpe (4,750)
21. Keswick (4,500)
21. Snowshill Wakes (242)
21. Standish (6,303)
21. Bidford-on-Avon (1,466)
21. Hounslow (11,377)
23. Pool (1,600)
23. Southwold (2,800)
24. Fiskerton (283)
24. Hayle (1,684)
24. Holmfirth (9,000)
24. Kirkby Stephen (2,495)
25. Craven Arms (1,005)
26. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
26. Briston (1,200)
26. Chepstow (3,067)
26. Ely (7,713)
26. Penzance (13,100)
28. Astwood Feast
28. Bridgnorth (6,049)
28 Iron Bridge (2,889)
28. Outwood Feast (5,500)
28 Skipton (11,983)
28. Thorpe (Surrey) (600)
30. Crowle (2,748)
30. Messingham (1,264)
31 Ossett Feast (12,886)

SCOTLAND.

7. Hawick (15,000)
13 Jedburgh (2,222)
10. Renfrew (10,000)
14. Kilmarnock (33,142)
16. Edinburgh (316,522)
17. Alyth (3,000)
24. Burntisland (4,720)
25. Langholm (3,973)
27. Berwick-on-Tweed (13,437)
27. Inverness (21,193)
27 Stirling (14,355)
31. Airdrie (20,500)

WALES.

10. Talgarth (1,446)
12. Crickhowell (1,253)
13 Monmouth (5,095)
14. Abergavenny (7,795)
15. Cardiff (164,420)
15. Merthyr Tydvil (69,227)
16. Mold (4,263)
16. Newport (67,790)
17. Denbigh (6,433)
17. Knighton (2,139)
20. Risca (9,661)
21. Treorchy (12,000)
28. Porth (5,500)

WANTED, 100 Strikers, Ball-punching, Automatic Games, Electric Shooting Ranges, indoors, Large town; no similar attractions. Apply for terms to J. D., Box 1,590, c/o Willing's, 125, Strand.

WANTED, several reliable men, open immediately. Address, PRINCE SAMOUDA, Post Office, Bodmin.

WANTED, Young Lady as Engraver (will Tina Sanderson reply?), also Pierrot Troupe for Outside Stage, on shares. LARCHER, Lofthouse, Wakefield.

WANTED, Electric Engraver, no rubbish, cheap, "A.E.P." make preferred. RUSSELL HATTON, 2, Bristol-terrace, Old Southend-rd., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Two Smart Men as Lecturers and Showmen. Also Coloured Man for Front of Show. Those with Drawing Abilities and Genteel Appearance. Season's engagement. GOODWIN, 49, West-street, Southport.

WANTED, by Palmist, Lady Phrenologist, Palmist, and Clairvoyant, Engagement for Season. Write, PALMIST, 28, Windmill-st., Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Auctioneer (experienced) at Liberty, strictly steady and reliable, salary or commission; good references. Apply, Box 7,667, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers. Situation required as Auctioneer and Watchmaker. Address, Box 7,678, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Johnny Wood, at Liberty, good all-round man for Auction Mart; a Worker. 8, Cross-view, Nevill's Cross, Durham.

WANTED, to Let, Market Hall and Yard, best position centre of town, Cinderford. Suitable for Auctioneers, 6½d. bazaars, and shows, travelling theatres, &c. E. TROTTER (proprietor), Haywood-road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, at Ballot Box, near Harrow, for large free Fête, on Whit Monday, for Roundabout, Helter Skelter, &c. SMART, 19, Brownlow-road, West Ealing.

WANTED, to Let, splendid Spaces for Side Shows, Bazaar, Games, sea front, cheap. MANAGER, Sea View Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, one space only, 6ft. by 6ft., Handkerchief or any Novelty not already Let. Marine Parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) WORKING IN CONJUNCTION (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 9, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Madame Réjane, Yvette Guilbert, Bellclair Brothers, J. H. Scotland, Raymond Phillips' Airship, Alice Raymond and Co., Lola Lee, Marquis's Cobs, James Stewart, Animated Pictures, Princess Baratoff, Henri Leoni.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen in "Private Potts," Phil Parsons, Bioscope, Leo Tell, Carmos, Avolos, Lillie Lassah, Sylvia Du Barry, Chas. R. Whittle.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Alice Eis and Bert French in "The Vampire Dance," Danby Piddock and Co., Bertha Winder, Andy McLeod, Five Whiteleys, Dandies, A Ba-Bé's Album, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Bioscope, Frank Hartley, Muriel Harding, Frank Fort, Lyons Trio, Chas. Mildare, Johnny Fuller, Eighteen Lancashire Singers, Julia Kent and Co.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Fourth Week Stock Season: "Master and Man."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Wontdetainia," Mlle. Eldee, George Rae, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Frank Lister and Co., Alf. Gibson, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

The Great Lafayette, Musical Sylvo, Bioscope, Chas. Dare's Minstrels, Rhoda Paul, Lydia Yeamans, Cragge.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Lorimer, Woodhouse and Wells, Recco, Bensons, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, May Henderson, Brull and Hemsley, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, H. O. Wills.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Douglas Bruce's Company, in "The Female Swindler."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Chas. Vincent, Hilda Jacobsen, Mitchell and Cain, Carl Howard, Campbell and Barber, Burt Shepard, Alice Pierce.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Vesta Tilley, Jennie Hartley, Nicklin Williams, Lupino Lane, Les Marco Belli, Stanley and Greenop, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, La Pia.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Frank H. Fox, Bioscope, Lux's Dogs, Dusty Rhodes, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Frank and Free, Leslie Brothers, De Wynne Brothers, Jack Lane.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Sorene Nord, Ouida Macdermott, Eight Empire Girls, Dick Tubb, Alexandra Dagmar, Rauschle, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope, Alice Kingsley, Tom Hearn.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Frank and Jen Latona, Hagedorn's Grotto, Kerr and Koe, Little Ganty, Serenaders, Margaret Parker and Co., Powell and Vesey, Bioscope, Jessie Buckle, Tom Leamore, Van Dammes.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Chas. T. Aldrich, Haytors, Katie Moss, Mezzettis, Harry Leybourne, Sisters Jerome, Dan Fraser, Bioscope, Sandford and Lyons.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Harry Marte, Mabel Sinclair, Esta Stella, La Berat, Heeley and Meeley, Channings, Matthews and Cowper, Gothams.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Madame Albani, Jan Zakovsky, Florence Yaymen, Francis and Alfred, Horace Pollock, Twelve Fezzans, Henry Helme, Phillips and Merritt, Bioscope, Harry Weldon.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

F. Mouillot's Co., in "The Geisha" and "A Greek Slave."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Jewel St. Leger, Tom E. Hughes, Chas. Norton, Lawrence Barclay, Hall and Earle, Northern Troupe, Three Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Charlier.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Cecilia Loftus, Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Cook's Man," Amelie De L'Enclos, New Macs, Loyal's Dogs, Arthur Woodville, Lukuslimas, Four Regals, Hubert Carter and Co., Bioscope, George Lashwood.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Maidie Scott, Liane D'Eve, Brothers Redmond, Tom Stuart, Gladys Mavius, Manchester Mites, Dacey Lewis, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Ben Albert.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Fragson, Lola Patey, Findens, Fred Curran, Harry May Hemsley, Falco and Elda, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Sam Mayo, Ray Wallace, Orpheus, Chas. Santon, Wyndham and Kitty, Harry Friskey, Sisters Caselli, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly's "Drummed Out."

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Juliette's Sea Lions, Bros. Egbert, Bioscope, Lena Verdi, Talbot and Pearce, Walker and May, Amy Marsden, Drew and Alders.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing," Nelson Jackson, Bioscope, King's College Boys, Addie Dorina, D'Arc's Marionettes, Cumminger and Colonna, Ryan and Hall, Jack Pleasants, Les Silas.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Bioscope, Vanando, Gardner and Stoddard, Empire Comedy Four, Kratons, La Freya, Lottie Govell, Ernie Mayne, Barrett and Knowles.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Kathleen Gray, Emma Don and Co., Vincent, Takio, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Harry Merrilees, Delevines, Tom and Marie Motramo.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Evie Greene, Tom Moore, Rossi Ashton, Ted E. Box, Marie Kendall, Brennans, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Humpeti-Bumsti.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Cull Pitt, Roma and Romani, George Newburn, O'Malley and Brown, Prince Milner Trio, Arthur Slater, Helene Donald, Bioscope, King and Benson.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chanti, Jackley Trio, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Graham and Barron, Two St. Johns, Bioscope, Wish Wynne, Drum and Major.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., Illustrated Song, Spry and Monti, Les Trippellos, Carl and Carr, Fred Lincoln, Pictures, Brothers Bright.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Kellinos, Five Vernons, Goodfellow and Gregson, Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Anna Chandler, Pat Rafferty, J. A. Wilson, May Mars, Victor and Louie, Gladys Hooley, Bioscope, James Hare and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Abdullah Arabs, Fatmah Diard, Conan and Doyle, Katie Butler, Fred Barnes, Frank Maura, Pictures, Hemsley and Ambrose, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Romanys, Dan Hendy, Yokels, Siems, Harry Thurston, Zethus, Pictures, Millie Payne.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAG LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 9.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Jeff Martin, Bardoff, Three Alskarnes, Beatrice Allen, The Camplins, George Acre, Bartholomew Girls, Bros. Webb, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Charburn's Young Stars, The Hessey Family, The Seddons, Harley and Melton, Kitty Clinton, Geo. D'Albert, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Jack Pardoe, Violet Rivers, Clive Cattley, Sisters Maynard, Cairo Trio, Zanfrellas, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Eugene Stratton, Two Unites, Adah Payne, Arthur Stacey, Crosby and Walker, Jackson Family, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Palestine, Arabella Allen, Johnny Hurley, Beale and Broadway, The Deadbeat, Josephine Crook, Cassie Walmer, Queenie and Le Brunn, Cissy Carter.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Geoffrey and Benson, Our Mary Jane, Bert and Dora, Irene Meldon, A Ruined Life, Gladys Clinton, Kitty Arnold, Lamanto, Wilfred Bernard.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
"Songland," Vesta Nixon, The Arabellas, Dancing Gilberts, The Merrions, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"Two Little Drummer Boys."

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Olympian Cyclists, Douglas's Bakers, Ena Compton, Stidder and Dunbar, Mildred Bryan, A. Richardson and Co., Colin Mail, Palace Perfection Pictures. **PALACE THEATRE, BATH.**
The Kirbys, Mona Garrick, Andos Troupe, Alfred Long, Geo. Lawrence, Maro Duo, Ten Dixie Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"The Key," Alice Craven, The Simms, Norah Desmond, Edwards and Edwards, Harry Martell, Zellini, Cavalli, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Theissen's Dogs, Lizzie Daniels, George Brookes, The Sages, Lennard and Vereker, The Miltons, Pete and Minnie Lee, Francini Olloms and Page, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Harry Atkinson, Ethel Bourne, Madison and Webb, George Geoffreys, Zenora, Chas. Woodward, Vera Mayne, Vaudeville Trio, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
The Villions, Julian Mack, Bros. Victor, Farr and Farland, Flo Burnett, Comedy Meisters, Friend and Downing, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Will H. Fox, Monie Mine, Sergt. Brennan, "Roots, Chemist" Co., Courtiers, Raymond and Ivy, Bert Madison, Palace Perfection Pictures, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"A Sister's Sin."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
"Adolf Beck" Picture, Florence and Rose Showell, Lisbon and Barker, Connie Rubie, George Goldburn, Canard, Simeon, the Seer.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Harry Roxbury's Co., Joe. Cookson, Gracie Hunt, Ross and Grayson, John Macauley, Bobbie Burns, Paul Collard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Maples, Helen Martin, Pictures, Milner and Storey, Janowsky Troupe, Madge O'Neil, Cattle Thief, Kitty Curtis, Harry and Dot, Marjory and Maud.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Leline, Pictures, Beattie Lyndon, Banzai Family, Little Cherub, Fred Maxwell and Co., Guy Ryder, Bessie Neileon, Diamond and Hart, Gordon Girls, "Avenged."

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Annie Blanchard, Ellerslie Pyne, McCullough and Co., "East Lynne," Ada Harrison, Billy Whitlock, Talbot and Clare, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane, Elgin and Percival, Valvero.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London at the FORESTERS' THEATRE CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury street, London.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES
INCLUDING
HAT,
LATEST PATTERN.
Price 14/6
Postage... ... ... 6d.

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. (Holborn.) & BENETFINK & Co. Ltd. (Cheapside)

"Brevity is the soul of wit"
When free from immorality;
But nothing makes a bigger hit
Than real originality.
"ALL MEN ARE LIARS."
I will assign this song to any Comedienne with ability on the understanding that if it is not a thorough success no payment shall be made.
I have several Good Songs in Stock.
Write, W. A. WILLIAMSON, 43, Belmont-rd., Ilford.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
THE ALHAMBRA MUSIC HALL, SANDGATE.
This Hall is now under the Sole Management of MR. F. HOLT, to whom all communications should be directed.
RE-OPEN WHITSUN MONDAY.

WILL LADY (Actress) take as Companion Refined, Educated Girl (16), recently left school, who would have opportunity to study for profession? Highest references.
Box 7,671, "The Era" Office.

GEORGE BURCH,
The American Tailor,
392, Strand, LONDON, W.C.
(Directly opposite the Hotel Cecil).
Patronised by the Elite of the Profession.
I am anxious to have you inspect personally my New American Models and Natty Fabrics at the above address.
Gold medal awarded—American Exhibition.

WHITE'S TIGHTS
50 Years' Reputation.
Postage 3d. per pair.

	s.	d.
Cotton Tights, Flesh, Black, and White	2	6
,, ,, All other shades	2	9
Silk Lustre, all shades	3	9
Superior Silk	5	6
Best ,,	10	6
Stout Worsted	6	6
,, Cashmere	7	6

Telegrams: Tights, Bobbers Mill
Send stamp TO-DAY for List & Patterns.
WHITE & SONS
(Dept. E),
Telephone: 1288
BOBBERS MILL, near NOTTINGHAM.
London Agent: Gamage, Ltd., 128, Holborn.
Edinburgh Agent: F. A. Lumley, 161, Leith-street.

Theatrical, Music Hall & Fancy Costumiers, Naval and Military Outfitters. Attendants' Uniforms all Designs.
L. BENJAMIN & CO.
99, MIDDLESEX ST., BISHOPSGATE, E.C.
Established 1840. 'Phone 7668 London Wall.
SAVE 40% AND DEAL WITH US.
We Lead, Follow who can.
Customers waited upon Personally by Mr. Benjamin.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

CHATHAM.—Comf. apartments. Two Bedrooms, three beds, one large Sitting-room; gas, bath, piano. Mrs. Sampson, 12, Batchelor-road, Chatham.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-st. Two Sitting, two Bedrooms, two combined; piano, bath (h. and c.); five minutes from halls and station. Nat. tel. 334Y7.

LIVERPOOL.—The Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square.—This hotel is now under the personal supervision of the Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. George De Silva ("Cossie Noel"), late of Theatrical and Music Hall Profession. Artists paying a visit to Liverpool will be heartily welcomed at the Royal Court, where they will receive every courtesy and attention. Cossie Noel will always be more than pleased to see her brother and sister artists.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-rd. Mrs. Peers. Sitting and bed rooms; bath, and pianos. Also combined room. Good cooking and attendance.

MORECAMBE.—Mrs. Ramsden, Beulah House, 106, Clarendon-road, two sitting, six bedrooms, piano, bath, near Alhambra, West-End Pier. (Bandsmen preferred.)

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

HOUSE TO LET.
Exceptionally charming detached double-fronted residence known as The Limes, 18, Flodden-road, Camberwell New-road, S.E. Quiet, respectable neighbourhood, just off main road, within two minutes trams to all bridges and within three minutes rail. The accommodation comprises six bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), three reception rooms, and large well-kept gardens back and front. Rent, £60 per annum.
Apply, F. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS

— FOR —

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How th Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

Published by "THE ERA" LIMITED, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Let, Shop on Penarth Pier, suitable for Fancy Goods or Palmistry. Write, Larcher, 22, Royal-arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, large Distorting Mirrors, for the Summer Season. Address, Mirrors, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, Booth, 36 by 18, nearly new, also four Flaring Lamps. W. R., 43, Great King-street, Hockley, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, a great bargain, Cake Walk, by Taylor and Pinstone, new last spring. Cost £300; can be seen built up. Address, Tom Norman, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, Known, penny slot machines, Punch Ball, £8; Mutoscopes, 40s.; Phonographs, 60s.; Kalloscopes, 25s.; Fortune, Loops, &c. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny-in-slot Piano, by Keith, Prowse, cost £46, suit Picture Palace or Skating Rink, in perfect condition, ten tunes, a bargain, take £15 for quick sale. Branson, Queen's Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, a penny in slot Polyphon, good as new, cost £2 2s.; 12 tunes; take £3 for quick sale. Branson, Queen's, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Spirit Writer Slips, best American, 12s. 1000; several Queens and Hindus, very cheap. Lester Company, Importers, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, to Sell, Fairy Floss Candy Machine. Direct current, perfect condition; £25. Box 7,666, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, End of Tour Sale. Set of Six Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft. 6in., 2 good Illusions, Automatic Machines, Shooting Range, &c., &c. Can be seen working at County Hall, Guildford, till May 14. Apply, Manager, Exhibition.

WANTED, to Sell, best Rolled Gold and Pearl Brooches, 4s. dozen.
Best Gilt Rings, 6s. gross.
Knight, Market Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, to Rifle Range Proprietors, 10ft. Running Animal, lot complete, cost £12, sacrifice £6; engine, £5. Eggar, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Mempheite Mummy, date 2,000 B.C., rare, glass case, £2; suit Showman. Huggett, 138, Wick-road, Homerton.

WANTED, to Buy, good Rail Living Van. State length, where door, age.
Bloom, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, smart two-load Portable Show, Walk-up one, for three months, for Pictures, with engine for light. Stanton, P.O., Seasend, Spalding.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, First-class Skating Act for Seaside Rink, Whitsun week. Write particulars and absolute lowest terms to Box 7,692, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by Manager of large London Rink, similar appointment, Theatre, Music Hall, Tour or Rink; thoroughly capable Business-Manager, Organiser, Advertiser, &c.; age 28. Box 7,676, "The Era."

WANTED, Someone with a Large Portable Skating Rink.
H. Lane (Floor Manager, Sydenham Rink) and troupe of High-class Skaters will join on sharing terms.
The Palace grounds during Festival preferred.
Lane, 10, Sunnydene-street, Lower Sydenham.

WANTED, Known, Manager of important London Rink desires change, thorough knowledge of every department of the business; age 28; good address; first-class offers only entertained. Box 7,677, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known Manager, position on First-class Rink, ten years' experience; Exhibition Skater, good Organiser. Box 7,683, "The Era."

WANTED, by Floor Manager and Instructress, change, First-class exhibition Skaters, smart appearance, 12 years' high-class references. Box 7,675, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

MUSIC HALL.

WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, modern Music Hall, in Midlands, good reasons for sale. Principals and solicitors only write first instance, Hall, Box 7,690, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, contents of a comfortable four-roomed Furnished Maisonette; owner going abroad. Write for appointment. 45, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, excellent Pantomime and other Scenery and Dresses, in good condition. Box 7,669, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties.
Apply, Ormesher's, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Back Cloth, 4 Apron Wings, 2 Borders, Set Piece, Garden, also Front Cut Cloth, new, cheap. Loft to Let.
Clifton, 40, Kennington Park-road.

WANTED, to Sell, 10 Bioscopes, Outfits, Spool Boxes, Travelling Case, &c. Big bargains to clear. Write for lists.
Jury's, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Kamm's Latest and Best Universe Bioscope, iron house, sheet, all accessories. First reasonable offer.
Price-Evans, Grosvenor Lodge, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, a Klatz Mecklenburg Violin, fine tone. What offers? Apply, Mrs. Trasdel, 2, Chester-street, Caversham, Reading.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, large quantity of secondhand Films, all in good condition, all makes, Comics, Dramatic, Travel, and Coloured Subjects. Big bargains to clear. Write for lists.
Jury's, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, the Cup Replay Film, Barnsley v. Newcastle, at Liverpool, Thursday, April 28. Length about 300ft. (Warwick film). Price 30s. Can be despatched on Saturday night.
A. Hamilton, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, Paulhan and White's Aerial Flight, London to Manchester, length about 340ft.; will be sent immediately after performance this (Saturday) evening, May 7. Best offer. Manager, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Paulhan-White London to Manchester, perfect copy, 350ft., Warwick, 2d. foot. Will dispatch on Saturday. Blake Bros., Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Films of Paulhan and White London to Manchester flights. Wire immediately best offers. Poole, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, England's Aviator, Grahame White's Re-start, Polesworth to Manchester, price £3 each. E. Barker, Bioscope, Bedworth.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, a 4-pole protected type Dynamo, compound wound, 110 amps. 110 volts, rev. 1,100 per minute, made by Lancashire Dynamo Company, Manchester, reason for selling getting larger machine. Fred Connor, Hippodrome and Circus, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, for Sale, Pageant Castle Scene, Properties, Papier-maché Armour, Shields, Weapons, Trophies of every description and period. Dymond, Wyndham-arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, an exact Working Model of Zeppelin II. Airship, 8ft. long, as good as new. Cost £35; will take £10; suitable for Side Show.
Apply, Paul Schultze, 38, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Spring Motor Auto Piano, walnut, full size, 150 yards music, 21 selections, perfect, £15. Hotel boarding-house, with public lavatories, to let, cheap. Manager, Sea View Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, loudest ever heard, Tubular Bells, Macaronis, Rattles, Sleigh Bells, Glockenspiels, Gongs. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, six Cinephones, splendid condition.
Jury's, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, several new big Stage Illusions and Apparatus, at reasonable prices, Original, novel. Illusions, 212, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a handsome White Bull Terrier, age 23 months, been brought up with children. Price £2. Bryant, Queen's-chambers, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, fine No. 7 Blick Typewriter, as new, 95s. Note address for future use. Burgh, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, a Lady has some Nice Dresses that would be Effective for Stage that she would sell at a low price. Address, G. M., 3, Wellbeck-court, Addison Bridge.

WANTED, to Sell, 65 New White Round Tent, with wallings, ring, quarter and side poles, ropes and stakes, complete for erection. Box 7,687, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, New Illusions, Educated Goldfish, £5; "Defying the Budget," empty cabinet changes to saloon bar with barmaid, &c., £7 10s. Wilkinson, 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, to Sell, an Interest in Two Plays, one a London Success, the other a New Play ready for Production.
Parts Open. Sleeping or active interest. First-class management. Fullest particulars to Box 7,691, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Musical Comedy; completed two years' tour; low price for immediate purchase. Bargain. Williams, M.D., Brixton T.

WANTED, to Sell, Top Liner, Musical Comedy Sketch, by well-known author, music and scenery. Reason for selling, cannot get off contracts already entered into to allow owner to play and superintend. None but principals and known artists treated with.
Box 7,689, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Script and Music, Complete, of my Half-hour Panto, "Goody Two Shoes."
Coms., Andie Caine, Filey, Yorks.

WANTED TO BUY.

Shares
WANTED in Music Hall and Picture Palace concerns. State number and price to Investor, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Quick-change Cloth (one room to another), ditto Furniture; hire or purchase.
Harry Liston, P.O., Flint.

WANTED, to Buy, large piece of secondhand Cocoanut Matting, also Dummy Monkeys, cheap for cash. Hengleur, Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Buy, perfectly trained High School or Liberty Act, no entires; also matting. Full particulars, Northcote, 74, Walworth-road, S.E.

WANTED.—Dramatic Star Actress and Vocalist (Contralto) desires Duologue suitable for First-class Music Halls. Address, Fedora, 100, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, a copy of "The Era" dated Dec. 1 1900. Address, The Manager, "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, we can place Songs, Music, Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Monologues &c. Only the best. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, to Let, on rental, from May 23 to June 25.
Good opportunity for Stock Companies or for Picture and Diorama Shows.
Apply, Jas. Buck, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in May and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Rehearsal Room, Afternoons and Evenings. Apply, Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Sketches, to rehearse at the Central Rehearsal Rooms (opposite Wyndham's Theatre Stage Door). Terms 2s. 6d. an hour.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.
WANTED, Known, Large and Commodious Building in Glasgow; suitable for above, can be adapted to seat up to 1500; no opposition. Address, Theatre," Wm. Porteous and Co., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, with own furniture, would like Professional Lady to join in taking flat. E., 75, Denbigh-st., Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, to transfer through illness, Irish Pitch Bandstand, Seaside, Pierrot Troupe (eight). Theatrical, 22, Garden-row, London-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Comedy by Known Author, now on Tour. Scenery and Properties for Sale, also Dates. Apply, Box 7,641, "The Era."

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire. Price 10s. per 1,000ft. Send for list. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, to Let, for Tour or Stock, Gipsy Jack, "Mafeking," and a new version of "The Unknown," also Scripts of "Called Back," "Moths," "Barnes of New York," "The Woman in White," &c.; good printing. Apply, Henry Bedford, 99, Halton-road, London, N.

WANTED, to Hire, with option of Purchase, a Mechanical Orchestra, suitable for building 25,000 square feet, must use paper rolls, electric power.
Send particulars to J. D.,
Box 1,590, c/o Willing's, 125, Strand.

WANTED, Good Dramas for Stock Season. Must have good printing. Not be too old-fashioned, and moderate size as to cast. Proprietor of "Second to None" please communicate.
John Darlison, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Smart Comedy Three-bar Performer seeks Situation; or will join Partner. Address, Fred Wood, c/o G.P.O., Oldham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co.,
5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterlooroad, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, Le Mare and Son, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., Edward Harrison,
Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Authors and Artists, with good Sketches; we will produce them for you. Pay us back when you earn it.
Sketch Dept., Giles, Ltd.,
31 and 32, Goschen-buildings, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Melodies composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano part, 2s. 6d.; Band parts, ten, 3s. 6d. E. Western, 19, Beryl-road, Hammersmith, London.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus.

WANTED, Known: "People desirous of adopting the stage as a profession could do nothing better than possess themselves of a copy of 'Stage Facts and Figures,' an invaluable little guide, &c.. &c."—The News of the World, April 17. Price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Gentleman to Sell Foreign Films in England.
One in the Trade and able to invest £500 in Preference Shares preferred.
Established connection will be handed over.
Salary, £200 and Commission.
Should mean £500 per annum and Directorship to a Good Man.
Write, 613, Sell's, Fleet-street, London.

WANTED, Known, a straight opportunity for smart business man with £300. I have made my pile in ten years; you can make yours. I am giving up; you start. No bluff; facts. Proof given. To principals only, bankers' refs. given and required. Particulars, Barber, South Elmsall, S.O., Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Three Little Mites wish many happy returns of his birthday to Mr. E. Lepard, Manager, the Canterbury Music Hall.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"Utriburo, London."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

PLEASURE BEACH,
SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Next Tram Terminus.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Apply, Secretary,
Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

TO THEATRICAL SPECULATORS, CINEMATOGRAPH COMPANIES, ELECTRIC THEATRE COS., SAILORS' HOMES, AND OTHERS.

SHEERNESS-ON-SEA.
Important Freehold Premises.

Mr. O. D. LEVY
Respectfully begs to announce he has received instructions from the Directors of Budden and Biggs Brewery, Ltd., to

SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION
At TOWER'S HALL, MILE TOWN, SHEERNESS,
On THURSDAY, May 19, 1910,
At 3 o'clock in the afternoon precisely,
The Important
FREEHOLD PROPERTY,
Until recently licensed, and known as

THE CRITERION MUSIC HALL,

Possessing a return bold frontage to the main HIGH-STREET, BLUE TOWN, SHEERNESS, of 72ft., with three principal Entrances.
Large up-to-date Public and Saloon Bars, Smoking Room, Scullery, and extensive Cellarage.
On the First Floor: Sitting Room, Kitchen, Store Room, Large Club Room, Principal Bed Room fitted with large wardrobe Cupboard.
On the Second Floor: Six excellent Bed Rooms.
Adjoining, at the rear, with separate Entrances,
A fine Brick-built

MUSIC HALL or THEATRE.

Capable of seating about 700 persons, the interior is fitted with a bold shaped Gallery, Private Boxes, Proscenium, good Stage, Artists' Dressing Rooms, Sun Light, Trapeze Rails, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Lavatories, and every convenience for Variety Entertainments. The situation of the Property is unique, immediately facing His Majesty's extensive Dockyard, within 200 to 300 yards of the Pier, affording practically the only access to the Home Fleet and others landing at Sheerness, the L. and C. Railway Station, and the only Premises in Blue Town available for Entertainment purposes, also admirably adapted for a Sailors' or Soldiers' Home, Restaurant, and other commercial undertakings requiring a good area of accommodation.
May be viewed at any time before the Sale (keys at the Crown and Anchor Hotel), and Particulars, Conditions, and Plan may be obtained at the Crown and Anchor, Blue Town, Sherness; the Crown Hotel, Mile Town, Sheerness; of Messrs. PRALL, SON, and PRALL, Solicitors, High-street, Rochester; or at the Offices of the Auctioneer, Strood Hall, Rochester, Holborn-lane, Chatham, or Preston-street, Faversham. Telephone: Chatham 509.

By order of the Liquidators of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society, Ltd.

HIPPODROME
PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HASTINGS,

a sumptuous modern Music Hall, of freehold tenure, situated on the main esplanade, facing the sea, with a fine terra-cotta front and splendid auditorium, capable of holding 1,500 persons. Luxuriously furnished and appointed throughout, and equipped on the most up-to-date lines, with spacious promenades, foyer, saloons, and large open-air loggia overlooking the sea. Fully licensed and open to the public, but with vacant possession on completion of the purchase.

Messrs. MARLER & MARLER
will offer the above for
SALE BY AUCTION
at the MART, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.,
On FRIDAY, MAY 27 next,
at Two o'clock precisely.

Particulars, with view, plan, and conditions of sale, may be obtained from Messrs. Gribble, Oddie, Sinclair, Rowlatt, and Johnson, Solicitors, of 38, Bedford Row, London, W.C., and, together with permits to view, of the Auctioneers, as above, of 176, Sloane St., London, S.W.

WINTER GARDENS,
MORECAMBE.

Proprietors - - W. H. Broadhead & Son.

GROUND SPACE TO LET
Facing the Promenade and adjoining the WINTER GARDENS.

WANTED,
Emmas, Football, Air Gun Range, Strength Triers, Aerial Flight, Water Chute, Toboggan Slide.

Best position in the North of England, Rates free. Only applications from respectable Tenants with good shows considered

AUCTION ROOM
under the New Glass Verandah on the frontage of the Winter Gardens. Shutter 11ft. square, Room 20ft. by 11ft., Frontage 30ft. by 14ft.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY.

Apply
A. H. REED, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

FOR SALE BY TENDER.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON
NORTHUMBERLAND.

The Owners
INVITE TENDERS
for the purchase of the MINERS' THEATRE, at ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, in the centre of a large and increasing mining population, and the only Theatre in the place. The site of the Theatre and other adjoining land is 1,554 square yards, and is held with other land on leases which expire on Nov. 11, 1993.
The proportion of yearly ground rent is £12 19s.
The Theatre seats about 2,000 persons, and is lit throughout with electric light, supplied by the local electrical company.
The present tenancy of the Theatre, at a rent of £400 a year, expires on May 31, 1910, and the purchaser will obtain vacant possession.
Particulars and Conditions of Sale and Form of Tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. WATSON, BURTON, and CORDER, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Solicitors, to whom Tenders are to be sent on or before May 13, 1910. Applications for particulars must be accompanied by payment of £1 1s. The Vendors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender.

TELEPHONE
CALL OFFICE
For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a
PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE
is installed at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

Price, 6d. Post free, 7½d.

A VAGABOND'S IDEA.
BY
GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON.

Address,
The Publisher,
"The Era" Limited,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 4747 and 1433, Central.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S
POCKET
DATE BOOK.
A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.

Price ONE SHILLING.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
and the
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, W.C.
'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic address—"The Era, London."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

[On next Friday the Postal Arrangements are such that our Correspondents are requested to post one day earlier than usual all reports intended for our next issue (May 21).]

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—This is what may be truthfully declared as a thrillsome week at His Majesty's, Mrs. John Lawson and a very able company presenting a triple bill that ought to satisfy the most inveterate seeker after sensation. The three pieces presented are *The Devil's Sunday*, *A Bride for a Living*, and *The Woman and the Apple*, all of which are exploited for all they are worth. Supporting Mrs. Lawson are Mr. Cohen Owen, Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, Mr. H. E. Herbert, and Mr. Sam Springson. Between the pieces songs are capably rendered by Mme. Florence Burns, Miss Mildred Gibbs, and Mr. Robert Foster-Hine.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The Schichti Marionettes top the bill; other turns being supplied by Leolin, Indian club expert; Nellie Farrell, Irish comedienne; Rose and Calvert, in their *Captain Kettle* scena; Ada Fawn, comedy and burlesque actress; Bi-Bo-Bi, eccentric musician; Rastus and Banks, clever coloured entertainers; and Harry Herbert, comedian.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is paying a return visit with *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Foxwell as the hero, John Barnard, displays considerable dramatic power; Mr. A. C. Holmes ably depicts the part of Stephen Rayiton; and Mr. Charles Vivian plays Gash Gills with exceptional skill. Mr. Henry Carlisle as the village curate, the Rev. Mr. Staunton, is all that could be desired; and Tony Tibbets has a mirth-provoking exponent in Mr. Newton Pearce. Miss Sheila Walsh's acting as Mary Barnard is full of grace and tenderness; Miss Mamie Thorpe is a charming Grace Fanshaw; and Miss Nancy Mitchell deserves praise as Sally Travner. Miss Louise Millward makes the most of her opportunities as Mrs. Barnard; and Little May finds a capable representative in Miss Daisy Rochefort.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Miss Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots are scoring a success in a delightful scena, *Gipsy Revels*; Abel and Welsh provide a capital eccentric acrobatic turn; and Frank Weaver is a coloured sand-dancer who makes himself popular. The Almas are extraordinary equilibrists; the Sisters Cora are smart duettists and dancers; and Amy Russell, vocalist, is heard to much advantage. Susie and Protti are expert whirlwind dancers; Charles Pastor is a successful comedian; and the Bioscope completes a varied programme.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's talented company are giving a capital interpretation of *The Bondman*. Mr. Philip Darien gives an artistic conception of Jason, his physique, voice, and mannerisms being ideal. Mr. Stanley Harrison, who is renewing the acquaintance of the Royal patrons, contributes a talented portrayal of Michael Sunlocks; and in the dual rôle of Grandfather and Father Ferrati Mr. W. H. Rotheram is decidedly good. Miss Violet Macree provide an excellent conception of Greeba, her characterisation of the different phases of that difficult rôle stamping her as a talented actress. The staging reflects credit on Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, the visiting stage-manager, and on the resident staff, the sulphur mines scenes being very realistic.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The revisit of the musical drama *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, to the Theatre Royal is taking well. Mary Ellen Thompson, the laughing Lancashire lass, is this time sustained by Miss Madge Grey; Miss Mabelle Clinton does well as Bertha; and Miss Isa Steel as Eva Lancashire is also very effective. Mr. H. B. Peppin is an amusing John Higgins; Mr. Sinclair Holden is a smart Harry; and Mr. Lonnen Meadows as John Henry Thompson is the good-hearted yet fiery-tempered old man to the life. Mr. Allan Servington as Moses aids greatly to the success.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem—This week the Raynor company of dramatic artists is here with *Moths*, *Black Sheep*, and *The Idler*. Mr. Raynor's Lord Jura, in *Moths*, is a favourite character study; Miss Cecilia Dare as the Duchess de Sonnaz is powerful; Miss Dora Dench makes a deeply-interesting Vere Herbert; and Miss Frances Waring a worldly-minded Lady Dolly. Miss Hilda Blanche's Fuschia Leach is amusing; Mr. Clinton Baddeley makes a remorseless Zouroff; Mr. Conrad Heywood a courageous Correze; and Mr. Milton C. Curtis a sufficiently forceful Duke of Mull. Mr. Ed. Ashworth is also good as Boris.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The Georgian Troupe of vocalists and instrumentalists (twelve in number) appear in a high-class musical programme, interspersed with a dancing scena and rendezvous. The animated pictures conclude.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—This week's animated photos at the Palace are fully up to date. The Passing Shadow is a very striking film, and of thrilling interest is The Love of Lady Irma. The variety artist is the versatile comedian, Tim Carlyle, who sings comic ditties in quite an original style.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—"The-World-in-Motion" entertainment is still a big draw. The special variety turn here is a young lady vocalist of prepossessing appearance and a fine voice. She sang "Always look on the sunny side" and "The camp-fires are gleaming."

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope. — The principal dramatic pictures here this week are The Two Orphan Girls, The Bonesetter's Daughter, and Maggie's Dolly. A Journey through the Middle of the Earth is a smart coloured trick picture; the comic element is represented by The Lamp and Burglary by Airship. Mr. Arthur Betts, comedian, and Sizaire, chorus vocalist, provide acceptable turns.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—The star picture in this week's admirable selection here is a most absorbing series dealing with Dr. Nikola and his exploits. Mr. A. Gordon, vocalist, is making his first appearance here, and meeting with success. The Scarlet Band, under Mr. Guest's able direction, is still a popular feature.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs. Hinton and Green's company in *Her Fatal Marriage* are playing to good houses. The various parts are ably sustained by Mr. Jerrold Heather, Miss Hilda Shirley, Mr. Colin Heather, Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Gerald Bryne, Mr. P. M. Wright, Mr. Tod Squires, Miss Winifred Rutland, and Miss Laura Wright. The scenery is good and all the parts are well dressed.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—Topping a strong bill, fully appreciated by big houses, are Barnes and West, who give a fine turn. Natalia and Diana are charming lady gymnasts; the Pasquali Brothers are clever tumblers; Queenie May, the prize packet, is very good; Mlle. Bartenelli has a novel act in "The Golden Column"; Selby and Myers are droll comedians; Baddow is a pleasing ventriloquist; Will Penn, a capital comedian; Les Andres appear in a terpsichorean act; and the Palacescope throws good pictures.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The Royal Canadian Picture Company still draws packed houses.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here in *A Beautiful Fiend*. Miss Sidney Crowe invests the title-rôle with much force and all the requisite callousness; and Mr. Herbert Skardon is a manly Major Ivan Paulovitch. Miss Netta Mitchell is a gentle and winning Nadine Strogoff; and Messrs. Hugh Carmichael (Count Fedor Karateff), Howard Hardy (Sergius Strogoff), Charles Higgins (Trolski), and Henry (Captain Hardy) appear to great advantage; while Mr. Bert Woodin provides many humorous moments as Christopher Crackles.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are the premier turn here, and their excellent entertainment is much appreciated; Howe and Ardie combine some really smart gymnastic tricks with capital humour; Gertie Mason is a pleasing comedienne; the Evalos in a gymnastic and juggling display are good; Dorman Morgan renders her songs in good style; Mr. "E.'s" descriptive picture songs are much enjoyed; Morelli and More give a novel musical turn, and are clever dancers; Vernon's Bioscope depicts interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. — Newman's British Empire Picture and Variety Co. are proving more popular than ever, capital business being the result.

BARRY DOCK.—VINT'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—Topping the bill here are the Wagners, in a speciality; Salida and Vone (old favourites here) gives a refined show; and the pictures are of the usual high standard.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Closed this week, reopening on Monday.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Continued success is to be reported of this charming bijou theatre. The pictures this week include Alderman Krantz's Picnic, Confession, Egyptian Maid, Cocoanut Plantation, Romantic Young Lady.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The Andos, a sextette of Japs, who thrill the audience with their daring and graceful feats, are here; welcome return engagements are being fulfilled by the Ten Dixie Girls, in their popular vocal and terpsichorean scena, "The Silver Coons," and the Kirbys, who supply merriment in songs and comedy business; Mona Garrick shows high dramatic talent in scenes from several modern plays; the Maro Duo, in their triple-bar act, combine both cleverness and laughter; George Lawrence is one of the best light comedians on the road; and the pure, natural alto voice of Alfred Long is heard to advantage in "Tatters" and "I sing thee songs of Araby." The pictures include an educational film of great interest in Wild Birds in Their Haunts.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Miss Florence Tyrrell's company is presenting *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Tyrrell herself plays the title-rôle with much power; Miss Beth Elliott gives a clever portrayal of the wife, Margaret Rolfe; Mr. Cecil Newton plays convincingly as Julian Rolfe; Mr. W. T. Elworthy impersonates the Lawyer with the necessary astuteness; Miss Ethel Lodge renders an amusing sketch of the talkative Mrs. Hughes; and the other parts are all in capable hands.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company opened here on Monday with the three-act comedy, *The Best People*. In the rôle of Lady Emsworth Miss Irene Lavington was completely successful; and much praise must be accorded Miss Roberta Pulleyne for her delightful interpretation of the Hon. Mrs. Bayle. The rôle of Lord Emsworth fits Mr. H. Elliott-Ball like the proverbial glove, and he was thoroughly convincing; and Mr. Pennington-Gush is entitled to high commendation for his able impersonation of the Hon. Gerald Bayle. Mr. Arthur Dennis as Lord Wynlea was all that could be desired; and Mr. Hal Charlton was excellent as Mr. James Spofforth. Mr. Leslie Bennett as Jackson completed the capable cast. *Cinders*, by Lily Tinsley, forms a most acceptable curtain-raiser, the rôles of Amelia Ann and Jack Warrener being effectively presented by Miss Viola March and Mr. Hal Charlton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is *The Mockery of Marriage*, presented by Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company. Miss Mabel Liston acts with consummate skill as Alva Kenyon; and the rôle of Dick Kenyon is cleverly presented by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs. Mr. Fitzroy Wharton acts naturally as Jack Stanley; and Miss C. Middleton appears to the utmost advantage as Rose Verham. Much humour is introduced into the piece by Miss Kate Hughes and Mr. David Phillips, who create the heartiest laughter in their respective rôles of Mary Ann Barnicoat and Toby Wright. Mr. Lowe furnishes a powerful impersonation of Seth Pearse; and Mr. J. Barker handles the part of Joseph Verham with considerable skill. Miss Priscilla Barnard is admirable as Nellie Kenyon; and other rôles are ably sustained by Messrs. G. Brown, J. E. McCann, and Roland Devonport.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is Consul, and this extraordinary ape performs some remarkable feats. Mr. Ryder Sloane's songs, especially "The Watchman," are popular; and "The Trip to Coontown," in which many real negroes appear, is one of the features of the programme. The Three Prestons create much mirth with their comical act, *The Village of Shiftem*; and Emerson and Baldwin are clever juggling comedians with some novel effects. Miss Elsie Kerry, a charming vocalist, made a big hit on Monday with her Irish songs; and also in the bill are Smith and Johnston, coloured vocalists; Mr. Will Nosam, vocalist; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading feature of this week's bill is the romantic scena, *The Romanys*, ably presented by Gordon and St. Croix's company, which includes the charming actress, Miss Beatrice Edwards. Miss Millie Payne is a talented eccentric comedienne, with capital songs and original methods. Siems is a marvellous coin and card manipulator; and the Yokels afford much pleasure with their novel scena, *Harvest Home*. The cornet soloist and mimic, Zethus, gains a gratifying reception; and also here are Mr. Dan Hendy, acrobatic comedian; and the bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some beautiful films exhibited here include The Mexican's Faith, In the Nick of Time, and The Skipper's Yarn. Also appearing are Denby and Dent, in their smart comedy act; and Mr. J. A. Cassels, a droll Scotch comedian.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some capital films include Jean Valjean Old Sleuth, Cupid and the Motor Boat, &c. Mr. Tom Wheatley, the ventriloquial coon, gains a favourable reception.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Edwin G. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—The artists appearing here include the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats and dancers; Fremel and Fremel, comedy duo; and Molly Augarde. Among some fine pictures shown by the Hippograph are White Sea Fisheries, Barnsley *v.* Newcastle, and The Aeroplanist's Secret.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—A condensed version of the drama *Temptation*, supported by Nora Carton and Beatrice Selwyn's company, fills the theatre twice nightly. Miss Carton is seen at her best as Hilda Dundonald; Miss Selwyn gives a powerful rendering of the unpopular rôle of Ivra Blight, the adventuress; Hubert Thorne is excellently played by Mr. Norman A. Overton; and the Sir Charles Tremaine of Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle is a most meritorious impersonation. The comedy element is capitally supplied by Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders, and by Miss Madge Seymour as Araminta. Remaining parts were well filled, and the production has created a very favourable impression here.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Billy Merson, a comedian with an excellent reputation in this town, heads a capital company. Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, in their farcical musical comedy, *Trixie*, have made a decided hit; and Mr. James Willard and his very able company are appearing in the dramatic episode, *The Ace of Hearts*, with pronounced success. Fanny Dent and Harry Dent, clever burlesque artists, are an acquisition; Miss Nancy Thornton, a charming and accomplished comedienne, is a general favourite; and Mr. Phil Bransby, coster comedian, Poole and Maguire, vocal comedians; Miss Venie Clements, comedienne and dancer, and Brown's Royal Bioscope, complete.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Percy Norman's company in *A Woman Worth Winning* is an undoubted attraction here. Played twice each evening, excellent business is done, and Mr. Karl Kerso is prominent with a spirited performance of General Borinski. Fergus Lavinski is finely represented by Mr. A. B. Mackay; Miss Lillie Lewis is an admirable Roma Pauloff; and the cast generally is most efficient.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Stuart Alexander's So-and-So's company, in a smart comedy and operatic entertainment, furnish a most attractive programme here.

BIRMINGHAM.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—The King's death has undoubtedly affected the attendances this week, but, taken on the whole, *Tom Jones*, the bright comic opera, is being well supported. It is capitally played by Mr. Mouillot's company. The piece is full of happy numbers, songs, and choruses, and the picturesque dresses are greatly admired. As Sophia Miss Dorothy Castles is charming. She plays well throughout, and sings delightfully; Mr. Cyril Thompson, in the title-rôle, is seen to advantage; as Honour, Miss Clara Marsden is a bright, cheerful actress, and plays a prominent part in the success of the piece, and the comedy element is considerably strengthened by the clever antics of Mr. E. Statham Staples as Benjamin Partridge. Warm praise is also due to Mr. Fred Seymour and Miss Edith Jeffries.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*The Sorrows of Satan*, by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company, is being thoroughly enjoyed by large audiences. Mr. Hinton gives a striking impersonation of the exacting rôle of Prince Lucio, and Mr. Green as Geoffrey Tempest is very convincing; Miss Leila Zillwood is excellent as Lady Sybil Elton, and a sympathetic delineation of the character of Mavis Clare is given by Miss Mabel Coleman. Other rôles are in capable hands.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is presenting the sensational detective drama, *The Female Swindler*, and gives a vigorous and striking interpretation. Miss Olive Warne scores a triumph in the title-rôle, and Mr. Henry Lonsdale as Jack Coulton, the criminal investigator, gives a true representation of the character. Miss Irene Atchinson is clever as May Andrews, the heroine, and Mr. W. T. Riley as Geoffrey Warden, alias Captain Stanton, makes a capital villain. Mr. Fred de Vere (Billy Binks) and Miss Gertie Henderson (Mary Ann Mee) provide plenty of merriment, and the other characters are capably sustained.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. John F. Preston's No. 1 Company is presenting *Rogues of the Turf*, and the production is well received. Mr. Preston is a popular figure as Joe Flaxman, the trainer, and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow in the difficult character of the Duchess acts with great ability; Miss Ethel Rainforth gives a charming portrayal of Nellie Flaxman, and Miss Marie Brian as Phyllis Wurzel is a vivacious artist; Mr. W. Howard Barlow gives a good interpretation of the heavy character of Captain Clifton, and Mr. Fred Laurence and Mr. Tom Phillips also play an important part in the story; Mr. Horace Custine is successful as Sammy Flaxman, and Mr. Edward Ray makes a good impression as Arthur Somerton.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Manager, Mr. F. Martin Morris. — Mr. Frank Lindo is scoring a great success in *Love, the Conqueror*, a drama written by himself. He takes the part of Brian Norval, and whilst he is on the stage there is no flagging interest. Miss Marion Wakeford as Mistress Beatrice Mortimer proves an excellent counterfoil; Miss Nellie Benson is clever as Dame Norval; and Miss Helene Thompson and Mr. Bert Dench are together responsible for a good deal of refreshing humour. Mr. Norton Shields plays strongly as Captain Rupert Armadale, and other prominent characters are taken by Mr. E. G. Crowther, Mr. S. Dench, and Mr. L. Lawrence.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Miss Ethel Griffies' company is enjoying great popularity with lovers of good melodrama. This week the production is *Gipsy Jack*, an attractive story of the adventures of a gipsy youth who became a baronet. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Mr. Haldane Dalton, who makes the most of his many opportunities; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam is well suited as May Harvey, and great praise is due to Miss Yoxa Summer, in the character of Dorothy Dexter; Mr. Victor Gardom is at home in the part of Gerald Skinner, the villain, and is well supported by Mr. Willis Collins; Mr. Norman Tracy is successful as the Rev. Francis Harvey, and the other characters are well portrayed.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Jack Lorimer, the Scotch comedian, heads a good all-round programme with new and effective numbers; dusky May Henderson is an expert mirth-maker and a big favourite; H. C. Wells is truly a "funny man with a funny voice"; Woodhouse and Wells have up-to-date songs and gags; the Bensons are smart entertainers in their musical comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*; Elsa Bruce and Arthur Hemsley are highly diverting in their act, *Fun in a Music Shop*; Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi give a demonstration of remarkable equilibristic feats; Stella Stahl is a pleasing comedienne, and Recco is a smart burlesque acrobat. Interesting Proclamation scenes are shown on the Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Considerable interest is being evinced in the appearance of Mlle. Irma Lorraine, who gives a fine statuary and living picture exhibition, assisted by Marjah, late principal dancer to the deposed Sultan of Turkey, and Mlle. Leony; much amusement is afforded by the comedy cycling feats of Campbell and Barber; there is an abundance of genuine fun in the act of Messrs. W. Mitchell and J. C. Cain, who appear as "The Frenchman and the Ostler Fellow"; Burt Sheppard submits "Potted Poetry"; Miss Alice Pierce is a big attraction, her animated impressions of star performers winning for her hearty applause; Miss Hilda Jacobson is an accomplished vocalist; Carl Howard is very mirth-provoking, and Charles Vincent is a bright comedian.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Harry Tate's No. 1 Company is to the fore in the laughable sketch *Motoring*, and the artists engaged are responsible for a first-class performance. Hodgson and Lowther's company are very amusing in the piece *Barmaids*, and Les Rappos, society entertainers, appear in several clever tricks; the Spanish Goldini troupe provide a novel carpet-spinning entertainment; Vere and Neldon are a popular couple; Sydney Bach is an entertaining Welsh artist; Queenie Morris is a dainty comedienne; Frank Harwood is a favourite light comedian, and the Gaietoscope contributes up-to-date pictures.

HIPPODROME. — Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Little Tich is here, and crowded audiences are enjoying the clever little laughter-maker's latest business. He is as droll as ever, and his burlesque "Queen of the Fairies" is a real scream. Sinclair and Whiteford are responsible for a pleasing entertainment, and another excellent musical turn is provided by Simms and Simms; a strong man who performs wonderful feats is Bertisch; the Narow Brothers are clever athletes; Tom Gott has some exceedingly funny Yorkshire dialect songs; and others who contribute to a strong programme are Olive Conroy, Dorothy Sephton, Chorley and Connor, and The Tintos.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The Royal Tokio troupe of Japanese artists are the principal contributors to an excellent programme. Their balancing feats on a three-length ladder arouse great enthusiasm; *A Daughter of Pleasure* is cleverly presented by J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington, and Austin Rudd's topical songs and sketches meet with popular approval. The Corcorans are accomplished musicians and quick-change artists, and Lindsay and Hart contribute a fund of pleasing Scottish humour. Beattie Foster is a popular low comedienne; R. C. Note sings acceptable songs; Wallace Whitney is a smart character comedian, and the Sarony Sisters are applauded for wooden shoe and whirlwind dancing.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—Each evening, Saturday excepted, Mr. Jeffs is giving an appropriate illustrated memoir of his late Majesty, King Edward VII., illustrating the principal events in the life of the late Sovereign, and giving excellent photographs of other prominent members of the Royal family. A grand historical reproduction of the Arrest of the Duchess du Berry, illustrating a story of the reign of Louis Phillippe, attracts much attention, and there are numerous other new pictures, including clever humorous productions. Mr. Frank Clarke is well received in vocal selections from an excellent répertoire.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A varied programme of animated pictures contains many subjects of topical interest. The chief features which meet with public approval are entitled A Duel in Mid-air, Anarchists Abroad, Faded Lilies, and The Innkeeper's Daughter. The comic subjects also play a prominent part in the entertainment. The contributors to the vaudeville portion of the programme are Ida Idris, in her "Mary Jane" speciality; Arthur Wyre, tenor vocalist; and Valledo, gymnast.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—An entirely new list of topical pictures arouses keen interest. The dramatic subjects are well chosen, and much ingenuity is diplayed in the humorous films. The entertainment is enhanced by variety turns contributed by clever artists.

BINGLEY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—There is no falling off in the attendances each day at the popular Trades Exhibition, and all sections of the exhibits, including trades, manufactures, and machinery in motion, come in for inspection, whilst the numerous side shows receive excellent patronage. Scoma's orchestra has been delighting crowds of interested sightseers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. H. Armitage's company in *The Greater Love*. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is a powerful Paul Penfold; Mr. William Clayton is just the Jack May required; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks plays Andrew Isted in a painstaking manner; and Mr. Henry Nunn is certainly in his right place as Rev. Arthur Warren. Humour is evinced in the rôles depicted by Mr. Harry Wren (Constable Drayton), Miss Ethel Russell (Sarah Higgs), and Mr. Arles Conway (Ned Stubbs). Miss Marion Fawcett is a delightful Mrs. May; and Miss Violet Thorold a good Mary May.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Cumberlands, in their acrobatic cycling turn, are enthusiastically received; Bob Winter is a popular comedian; and J. G. Aitken, who is of the "Scotch" type, enjoys similar popularity. Clarke and Mostal are excellent comedians and dancers; and Sadie Bizet a charming comedienne. Austen Temple, who is assisted by Irene Vincent, provides a clever turn of trickery; and the Ekdras also contribute to a good bill. The Hippodrome films are interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Leonard Boyne's company is playing *Raffles* here this week with considerable success. The title-rôle is carefully handled by Mr. Reginald Dance; and Mr. Harold West assumes with great credit his original part of Bunny. Mr. Edward Irwin gives a faithful portrayal of Detective Bedford; and Mr. Dalziel Heron ably depicts Crawshay, the burglar. Miss May Brooke displays unquestionable ability as Mrs. Vidal; whilst Miss Frances Titheradge acts in a winsome and ladylike manner the part of Gwendoline Conran. *Playing the Game* is the title of an interesting curtain-raiser, which ventures on a forecast of a test match in 1913 between England and Australia.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mrs. Mark Kinghorne and company are here this week with *Mother-in-Law*. Mr. Fred Kaye has a part that suits him completely in Major McTurtle; and Miss Nellie Christie does well as Mrs. McTurtle. Mr. Alfred Hemming as Pounceby and Mrs. Kinghorne as Mrs. Pounceby likewise merit commendation.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Hetty King tops this week's bill, and her efforts are loudly applauded; the Stowe Bros. give a really wonderful equilibristic exhibition; and the Waldrons bring down the house with their comedy act. Herbert La Martine does some eccentric dances; Tom E. Finglass sings coon songs; Emily Delmere is a pleasing comedienne; the Cape Girls contribute songs and dances; Wilman is a master musician; Gladys and Alber appear in a comedy mélange; and new star pictures are shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is this week presenting *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Ruth Zillwood is deserving of praise for her portrayal of Risca Mallison, and in the dual part of Ezekial Izaacs and Karnaphus Mr. Edward A. Brooke is distinctly successful. The other characters are in able hands.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A good bill is placed before the patrons here, comprising Bella and Bijou, society entertainers; Prof. Norton, expert magician; Newman and Knight, in a comedy juggling act; J. P. Ling, comedian and mimic; Lady Mansell and Juveniles in their comedy speciality, entitled *A Concert Rehearsal*; the Violas (White Mahatmas) in their mental telepathy; the Crown Trio, speciality vocalists; Hugo and Smit, comedy acrobats and knockabout single-bar performers; Harry Luck, eccentric comedian; Jennie Johns, comedienne, and the Four Royal Scots, in a novel musical act.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The Six Bros Luck are here in their comedy sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*. Other turns on the bill are Ruby Norton, comedienne; the Haverleys, song illustrators; Josh Dixon, comedian; the Boys of England, in barrack-room ballads; Belle Sylvia, contralto; Stevens and Bennior, burlesque comedians; Ted Karno and company in a funny pantomimical sketch *Hotel de Quick*; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Bobbie Allandale and Mr. Ludwig Blattner; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—The chief attraction is Harry Tate's No. 1 company, in the farcical sketch *Fishing*, which is well staged and extremely amusing, the audience being kept in a continual roar of laughter. Bernard's Big and Little Quartet of American comedy harmonisers contribute a pleasing entertainment; the Sylvester Trio give a clever exhibition of speciality dancing; Mr. Bob King is a mimic of no mean ability; and

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

other successful items are contributed by La Vie, Miss Lila Vesta, and Miss Mollie Edwardes.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—The London Cinematograph Co. are presenting interesting pictures, including Pauthan's Flight to Manchester, Race for a Bride, Pine-apple Industry, Spirit of the Sword, Teak-wood Industry, Rags and Old Iron, and President Roosevelt in France.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The third visit of Messrs. Platt and Towers' company in Mr. Bernard Shaw's delightful play *You Never Can Tell* is again affording pleasure to Mr. Hart's patrons. Mr. J. Edward Pearce reappears in his admirable impersonation of the sour-tempered Fergus Crampton, but with this exception the company is changed. Miss Edith Hunter is the Mrs. Clandon, and she fills the part with skill and determination; Miss Winifred Beech submits a clever study of Gloria Clandon; the mischievous Dolly Clandon is a bright impersonation by Miss Ida Southern; as Philip Clandon Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson is very entertaining; the solicitor McComas is amusingly represented by Mr. J. Allan Jeayes; the ruthless K.C. Bohun Mr. Bellenden Clarke portrays capitally; Mr. Claude Haviland's acting as the discreet, reserved, and conscientious old waiter, William, is admirable; Mr. Graham Colmer is a convincing Valentine; and Miss Sylvia Dawson embodies the Parlourmaid well.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—The May pantomime *The Forty Thieves* is staged here for the second week, and the juveniles who sustain the principal parts are exceedingly popular, hearty applause from large audiences greeting their efforts.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—With a piquancy and dash essentially Parisian, Mlle. Liane D'Eve submits a series of original chansons and transformations which are artistic, "chic," and finished in execution; Maidie Scott displays exceptional powers as a versatile comedienne in well-sustained character impersonations; Ben Albert's comedy is screamingly funny; Dacey and Lewis do some clever acrobatic work in their singing and dancing act; the knockabout comedy and clever feats of the funny Brothers Redmond elicit laughter and applause; Tom Stuart evinces a keen sense of humour in his character-sketches and mimicry; the Lyric Quartette's harmony is good and prettily illustrated; Gladys Mavius, comedienne, dances exceedingly well; the Twelve Manchester Mites sing and dance cleverly in their pretty little scena; and there are some fine pictures of the Royal Proclamation.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Bardoff, "the Russian strong boy," is doing some very wonderful feats of strength here. The Risley act by the Three Alskarnos is clever and very humorous; Jeff Martin with success presents "The Sport of One Hundred Years," with photos of prize-ring celebrities; the Brothers Webb, musical clowns, are on a welcome return visit; and the Camplins, with musical comedy; George Acre, comedian; Beatrice Allen, comedienne; the Bartholomew Girls; and the Palace Perfection Pictures make up a fine programme.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. D'Arcy's Costume Concert Party, "The Gipsies and their Jester," opened in the Grand Pavilion on Monday. The company is under the direction of Mr. Will Gane, and the programme was a most entertaining one from start to finish. Mr. Norfolk Megone and his fine Municipal Orchestra are giving their promenade concerts in the newly-decorated Floral Pavilion, the vocalist this week being Miss Ida Farrar, a very charming contralto. The animated pictures in the Royal Victoria Rooms are a great attraction.

New Spa and Gardens.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge; Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The Sabots, under the direction of Mr. Walter Walters, opened here on Monday, and were accorded a hearty reception; Miss C. Stroud Wilson's songs were charmingly rendered; and Miss Winnie Browning's songs and dances were cleverly given. Mr. Harry Runing is a versatile comedian; Mr. Sydney Warwick delights with his songs; and Mr. Walters' humorous items are remarkably clever delineations of the "Johnnie" character.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Proprietors, The Albert Theatre Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr Martin Manley.—Mr. Sydney Arnold's stick season commenced here on Monday with *Sapho*. As Jean Gaussin Mr. Sydney Arnold gave an excellent performance; Henri Dechelette was played with vigour by Mr. Eric Vayne; Flamont had a capital exponent in Mr. Walter Henty; Uncle Cesaire was well represented by Mr. John Hignett; Hettama was ably embodied by Mr. V. Shannon, as was Caoudal by Mr. D. Lennard; the title-part was played by Miss Florence Russell, who gave a finished and artistic performance, though taking up the part at twenty-four hours' notice; Irene was cleverly depicted by Miss Madge Severn; and Miss B. Steele was good as Alice Doree. The remaining rôles were all in good hands.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here this week with *For Love and the King*. Mr. Mill submits a masterly impersonation of Gerald Meredith; Miss Rosalind Tate merits warm praise for her charming enactment of Edith Meredith; Miss Joan Ellis imparts much sympathy to her embodiment of Natila; Mr. F. K. Wicksteed is an admirable Prince Uros Dragomir; Mr. Alfred Maurice is highly effective as Michael Obrenovic; Mr. Oscar Power makes an amusing Carl Oppenheim; Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews is well placed as Vladimir Obrenovic; and able support is given by Miss Kitty Melville (Grazia) and Miss Laura Munro (Princess Milania). The play is finely staged and mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Miss Madge Morley and company win hearty applause for their admirable representation of *His Master's Wife;* Verne and Green are clever and diverting comedy acrobats; the Countess Bekoffska, the lightning flower painter, achieves much success; the Hon. St. Vincent Ellesmere, baritone vocalist, is warmly received; Norman Scortt, assisted by Alice Garvis, submits a very pretty flag act; Dora Daly is a charming comedienne; the Melroses are pleasing in the comedy duologue *The New Page;* Henriette and Selina are artistic vocal and instrumental entertainers; Sylvine and Florina are skilful equilibrists; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Lamberti, an accomplished pianist and violinist, is enthusiastically applauded for his clever impersonations of celebrated musicians; the Brothers Griffiths evoke hearty laughter with their burlesque duelling and comic wrestling match; Mildred Deveres and Tom Tarrise are very effective in their Vampire Dance; Ed. E. Ford, a very humorous comedian, is delightfully entertaining; Carrie Laurie's clever juveniles sing and dance themselves into great favour; Paul Barnes is very happy in his funny stories and quaint songs; Geo. S. Melvin is a pleasing Scotch comedian and dancer; the Society Quartet are capital vocalists and dancers; Honors and Le Prince are eccentric acrobats; and other turns are ably given by Watson and Naylor, comedians and dancers; and Marion Armitage, comedienne.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here this week with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Geoffrey Guise is very entertaining as the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. Hargreaves presents a clever character study as the peppery Mr. Cattermole; Mr. Frederick Tyrrell acquits himself admirably as Gibson, the tailor; Mr. Francis Trevor's Mr. Marsland, Mr. Sam Wilkinson's Harry Marsland, and Mr. Arthur Claremont's Douglas Cattermole are well played; Mrs. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford and Miss Cicely Wade as Mrs. Stead merit praise; and pleasing support is rendered by Miss Elsie Blythe and Miss Aimee Gratton Clyndes.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Franks' company is here this week with the farcical comedy *Jane*. Miss Dorrie Roberts gives a clever and delightful impersonation of Jane; Mr. Arthur Gibbons is distinctly successful as the butler, William; Mr. Roland Daniel merits unstinted praise for his enactment of the much-perplexed Charley Shackleton; Mr. Theodore Kelly displays admirable acting as the trustee, Mr. Kershaw; Miss Victoria Wray-Holmes is a pleasing Mrs. Chadwick; and able support is given by Miss Kitty Crichton, Miss Mabel Campbell, Mr. Perceval Madgewick, and Mr. A. E. Mann.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here this week. The Proclamation of King George V. is a splendid picture; A Victim of Bridge presents a powerful story, full of exciting incidents; A Sailor's Crime and The Brothers are strongly dramatic; Pretty Flowers is a beautifully coloured picture; The Clown and His Donkey is a clever trick film; and great amusement is afforded by All's Well that Ends Well, The Last of the Dandies, and A Race for a Bride. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in artistic style.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The animated pictures here continue to attract good houses. The Proclamation of King George V. is admirably depicted; The Legend of a Ghost is a clever and interesting film; The Disappearance of Miriam conveys a highly dramatic story; and the pictures of an amusing character include All's Well that Ends Well and A Mistake.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Brewster's Millions* is capitally staged, and well played by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. Hutchison gives an excellent study of Monty Brewster. He is both energetic and entertaining, and interest in the play never flags while he is on the stage. Miss Cicely Stuckey and Miss Lilias Earle do excellently in their respective parts of Margaret Grey and Mrs. Dan de Mille; and the remaining parts are very carefully played.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company is here with *Only a Little Boy*. Miss Florence E. Florence acts with subdued power in a clever exposition of June Pennington; Mr. Oswald Douglas plays in manly style as Steve Kingdom; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson presents a fine character study of the brutal loafer, Jim Bragstone; Miss Dot Forde and Miss Hettie Senior do excellently as Billie Bragstone and "Tag-Rag" O'Flinn; Miss Flo Norman supplies a good study of the drunken Mona O'Flinn; Mr. Elton Morgan and Miss Mabel Harland are effective as Mr. and Mrs. Pennington; Mr. Aubrey Winn and Miss Mary Ainslie make the most of the parts of Sir Philip Meynell and Lady Meynell; and the comic rôles of Deborah Pennington, Joshua Snell, and Daniel Dust are capitally undertaken by Miss Amy Rudd, Mr. Cecil Raymond, and Mr. J. Abbott. The play is staged in picturesque style.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Elliott-Savonas head the programme with their exceptionally fine musical act, entitled *The Palace of Orpheus;* Joe Reichen's dog show is interesting, the animals all evincing perfection of training; Senorita Eloina presents a graceful and skilful act on the trapeze; Mlle. Florence is successful with illustrated songs; Maestro and Mlle. Oretta are smart equilibrists and jugglers; Harry Cotton, comedian, is successful; Allan and Austin entertain with cross-talk and simultaneous dancing; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Lew Lake and company amuse with their two comic sketches, *The Bloomsbury Burglars* and *My Pal Jerry;* the Luzellas score with their acrobatic, gymnastic, and wire act; the Six Buster Browns are successful with their American vaudeville singing and dancing turn; Lallie Brooke, "an old-fashioned girl," amuses with her skits on former styles of ladies' dress; Box and Mars are smart comedy knockabouts; Eric and Nora entertain with their novel musical act; and Dorothy Gould is a pleasing vocal comedienne. As an extra turn a lad sings with much taste in falsetto; and animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's capital company is presenting *Lucky Durham*, and receiving the heartiest appreciation. The dawdling young waster, Reggie, is perfectly represented by Mr. Leigh, and Mr. Edmund Kennedy as John Durham is very good. Miss Florence Tressilian makes a delightful Helen Vallerton, and Miss Bonsor as Mrs. Durham gives a sweet portrayal. Scenery and effects are excellent.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Sandy McNab and company, in the sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*, arouse screams of laughter, and Atlas and Collins, in burlesque drama, are another pair of mirth-providers. A good acrobatic turn is given by the Three Bros. Huxter, whilst Cummin and Seaham, in funny acrobatics, are very clever. Matrimonial troubles are humorously portrayed by the Eustances, and Little René is a very clever girl juggler. Kitty Kearns, comedienne, is pleasant in song, and Setting Back the Time is illustrated by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Williams' Eight Jubilee Coloured Singers give vocal selections, concerted and solo, of a very high order, and Francini Olloms and his page are brilliant in acrobatics, zylophone, and concertina solos; the Miltons perform many difficult feats on roller skates, including funny falls, and Lennard and Vereker are up to date with illustrated songs; the Sages dance very cleverly, whilst Thiessens demonstrates the smartness of his dogs; Pete and Minnee Lee introduce some good Scottish comic element; George Brooks, comedian, is good, and Lizzie Daniels, comedienne, is successful.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company, with *The Cingalee*, is the attraction here. Miss Isa Bowman adds to her reputation by a bright and pleasing impersonation of Nanoya; Miss Flossie Greensmith is clever and entertaining as Peggy Sabine; and Miss Ray Anderson, a capable actress and vocalist, is enthusiastically received in the rôle of Lady Patricia Vane. The idiocyncrasies of Chambuddy Ram are most amusingly portrayed by Mr. Hylton Warde; extremely droll are Mr. Frank Lennard (Boobhamba) and Mr. Grafton Williams (Sir Peter Loftus). Mr. Frank Barclay and Mr. Herbert Franklyn also render valuable aid.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—The Glossop-Harris Shakespearean Company is paying its first visit to this town, and opened on Monday with an admirable representation of *Twelfth Night*. Mr. Frank Cellier gave a finished and artistic performance of Malvolio; Mr. H. P. Owen struck quite the right note in his Sir Toby Belch, and was ably seconded by Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree as Sir Andrew Aguecheek and Jordan Phillott as Fabian; Orsino was cleverly played by Mr. J. H. Irvine; and the same may be said of Mr. Arthur Seaton as Antonio. Murray Kinnell is to be complimented on his Sebastian; and Mr. James Mason was good as Feste. Miss Glossop-Harris proved a delightful Viola, all the effective points of the part being cleverly handled; Miss Ino Cameron as Maria and Miss Madge Spencer as Olivia were excellent. *Romeo and Juliet, Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Hamlet* are also in the week's bill. The staging and mounting leave nothing to be desired. On Tuesday evening Mr. Otto C. Culling, the popular general-manager for the Northern Theatres Company, took his annual benefit, and the house was packed from floor to ceiling. A monster bill was provided, including J. P. Ling, Jennie Johns, Glossop-Harris company in Screen scene from *School for Scandal*, and other professional and amateur turns.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures are still the chief attraction, and are relieved by two excellent variety turns—Violet Romaine, a vocalist possessing a beautiful voice, and Richard Finberg, in his clever and artistic character studies.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—A good all-round bill includes Baby Wolff, in imitations of famous actresses; the Four Mayos, in burlesque skating scene; Dan Weldon, vocalist; Luther's Dogs, in a scena, *At the Football Match;* Zera and Zema, equilibrists; Johnson and Hart, jugglers and hoop-rollers; Harry Marlow, in catchy songs; Die and Dox, musical experts; and Mr. Louis Taylor's company, in a dramatic episode entitled *The Adder's Tooth*.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A pleasant return visit after a considerable absence is being paid thnis week by *The Prisoner of Zenda*. Miss Marie Polini gives a delightful impersonation of the Princess Flavia; Mr. Mark Blow plays the King effectively; Mr. Julian Cross is the bluff and honest Colonel Sapt to the life; Mr. William J. Stack is an efficient Fritz Von Tarlenheim; and Mr. George A. Brandram as the Black Elphberg Michael plays cleverly throughout. Mr. Wrenham Ryott is natural as Captain Hentzau; Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as Detchard is worthy of praise; Mr. Eric G. Merrie as Bertram Bertrand could scarcely be improved upon; Miss Agnes Verity in the rôle of Antoinette de Mauban shows exceptional ability.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor. — Sam Mayo makes a most successful appearance here; Miss Ray Wallace, the charming and delightful mimic, again proves eminently entertaining; *Drummed Out* is once again presented by A. C. Lilly and company; Harry Friskey, the unique American comedy juggler, is undoubtedly well worthy of the prominent position accorded to him on the bill; Wyndham and Kitty gain much appreciation for their wonderful wire-jumping act; and others who contribute are Dot Hardy, the quaint character comedienne; Orpheus, "the master of melody"; the Sisters Caselli, expert dancers and high kickers; and Chas. Santon, a vocal phenomenon. The Bioscope completes.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—*Hush Money* is the title of the drama put forward by the management this week. The plot centres around the popular detective of fiction, Sexton Blake, and this character is most successfully impersonated by Mr. Horace Denton. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson has a prominent part to portray as John Shard; while Mr. J. H. Darnley is equally well placed as Lord Walgrave. Mr. Harry Hartley is particularly good in an impersonation of Tinker, Miss Agnes Paulton working well with him in the comedy rôle of Euphemia. Miss Theresa Osborne makes a graceful and skilful exponent of the principal lady's part of Lady Muriel.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Premier position is taken this week by Harry Roxbury's production *The Cowboy Millionaire*, which is proving an excellent draw; Mr. Tubby Edlin shows himself an artist of undoubted ability; a quaint comedy couple are Ross and Grayson; Bobbie Burns is a clever Scotch comedian with eccentric dancing; and others on the bill are Paul Collard, pianist and mimic; John Macauley, a popular vocalist; Joe Cookson, ventriloquial cartoonist, Gracie Hunt, dainty chorus comedienne; and the ever-pleasing Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—George D'Albert, a clever comedian with a bright and breezy style, tops the bill. Leonard Charburn's Young Stars contribute a capital song-scena, entitled *A Picnic Up the River;* a versatile comedienne, dainty, and with good style, is Kitty Clinton; smart comic patter is provided by Harley and Melton; a musical act by the Hersey Family is one of the most popular items of the programme; and clever grotesque and legitimate juggling by the Seddons and some really fine pictures complete a much-appreciated entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties. —Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and William H. Emerson.—An attractive programme here is headed by Tan Kwai and his troupe of Chinese jugglers, acrobats, &c.; Bennett and Martell have a laughable sketch in *The Lunatics;* as an extra turn a new sketch was produced here for the first time on Monday, entitled *Finger of Fate*, by Austin W. Hine. The sketch is very neatly presented by Mr. Nelson Ward as Malcolm Vane, Miss Emily Pickles as Evaline Vane, and Mr. J. W. Mower as an ex-convict wrongfully imprisoned, and an attentive audience showed much appreciation. Ivy Gallard, a vocalist with a winning style, gains applause for some neat dancing; E. W. Selman, comedian, in a laughable scena, "When I'm Dreaming," provides a capital entertainment; the Emsons (Rita and Kitty) are greeted with much applause for their dainty dancing; Master George Doonan pleases with song and dance; and pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. close the evening's entertainment.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The Three Merrills, trick cyclists, astonish all by their daring and dexterity; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew comedians, are adding to their established popularity in "The Gossipers" and "Sport Goldstein"; the gods take up the chorus of Johnny Cecil's song "Put me a girl inside"; the Brothers Lavelle are nimble comedy acrobats; Daisy Stratton is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Brothers Gerrard and Charles Rivers score with their patter; and Lacey's Erascope has an interesting film in The Horrors of a Strike.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—A great treat is furnished by a visit by Mr. Bransby Williams, who delights his audiences with impersonations of various Dickens characters, and as an example of his versatility convulses them by a clever representation of an old-time penny showman. The Phydoras merit their title of eccentric musicians; Miss Molly Maguire makes an admirable Irish "bhoy"; the Eight Elves win all hearts with music, song, and dance; and the programme also includes Rose Gaston, comedienne; Tom Lee, a light comedian with taking style; and Maxwell and Frances, in a flirtation vocal comedy scena.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Topping an excellent variety bill are the Bellong Bros., who give a daring display of cycle and equilibristic feats; May Poulton scores a success as a comedienne; Tom Reed provokes much mirth with new comedy business; and Ethel Brailsford is a vocalist of distinct merit. McEwan and Pollard present a clever and well-acted old comedy costume sketch, entitled *Duval Outdone;* Atlas and Miss Vulcana, the society athletes, astound and charm the audience with their graceful feats of strength; Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company began a six-nights' engagement here on Monday, when *Sapho* was presented. In the title-rôle Miss Ada Abbott displayed considerable ability; Mr. Edward Ouston gave a laudable reading of Jean Gaussin; Mr. John Drake was decisive as Dechelette; Mr. Stephen Crossley, in the part of Flamant, was impressive; Mr. John Lester, as Caoudal, delivered his lines effectively; Mr. Edwin Keene gave a capital rendering of Uncle Cesaire; Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown's Hettema was ludicrously funny; Mr. Weedon Ross drew a convincing picture of the frailties of Old Legrand; Miss Ethel Tinsley as Aunt Divonne, and Miss Marjorie Tennant as Nichette, were the cause of much merriment, the latter singing agreeably; Miss Florence North made a demure Lucy; and Miss Gladys Armice a sufficiently ill-tempered Joseph. Staging and dresses deserve mention. *The Man of Her Choice* and *Trilby* are also in the bill for the week.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—The Great Rapoli is the leading turn, and his juggling extremely smart and versatile; the dramatic episode, *A Society Sinner*, enacted by Miss Marion Forestier and Messrs. Tom Forestier and Dick Harcourt, proved an absorbing item; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville, in "Jack's Jacket," indulge in up-to-date topical jokes and witticisms; Zeta Russell makes a good impression with some very classy dancing; Andie Burns dances in good style; Miss Burley and partner executes some very good varieties; Maudie Laurel does well with her acrobatic dancing; and Hilda Desmond and Mabel Diss shine in the vocal scena "Roses."

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The top item is *Paradise Alley*, a miniature musical comedy, from which plenty of fun is evolved; Little Sophie, a phenomenal child artist, gives a really clever performance; Le Hurst, ventriloquist, proves very acceptable; the Three Whites give a fine exhibition of ball-punching; Mildred Parr does well with songs at the piano; Fred Costin appears to advantage as an eccentric comedian; Hans and Lux work hard as cross-talk comedians; and Laura Maxted appears as a vocalist.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Ernest Dottridge, with a good vaudeville company, is here. Harwood's Juveniles top the bill with a pretty song scena, entitled *Christmas Eve;* Jimmy Thomas, comedian, is a success; Zelda, instrumentalist, is clever; and the Girl Pierrots are well received. Les Rallis have a funny sketch, entitled *The Artist and Monkey*. Animated pictures conclude.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Walter Howard's company in *The Midnight Wedding* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Mr. Alfred Paumier as Paul Valmar proves himself a finished actor; Miss Lilian Hallowes as Princess Von Strelsburg (the heroine) gives an impressive and appealing portrayal of the rôle; the villain (Capt. Von Scarsbruck) of Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes is an artistic study; Mr. John Nesbit is an excellent Crown Prince; Mr. Charles Whitelock as Lieut. Von Strelsburg fills the part well; Mr. James E. Page as Sergt. Max, Mr. St. George Frere as Corpl. Otto, and Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobo give a comic rendering of their respective parts; and Miss Jessica Black as Katie is vivacious.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—Caryl Wilbur in his comedy *61, Prospect-street* gives a clever and refined performance; Kartelli, a wire-walker, gives a daring turn; Percy's Premier Juveniles in songs and dances are most entertaining; the Avrignys, a troupe of Japanese jugglers and equilibrists, provide a pleasing performance; Sam Dalton, comedian, renders some good songs; Lilian Travellie, comedienne, sings a couple of pleasing songs; and Lucy Coventry, eccentric dancer, pleases. The Palascope Pictures are the newest and best.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Messrs. Geo. A. de Gray and Harry Masterman's company is here this week in *The Angel of His Dreams*, by Mr. George A. de Gray. The author, in his interpretation of the Rev. Christian Estaile, meets with the success he deserves; Miss Effie Bartlett well sustains the trying character of Hilda Revelle; Miss Edna Earl is seen to advantage as Milly St. Austell; Little Doris Brereton as Lulu is very pleasing.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Stage-Manager, Mr. Wright.—The Coventry Amateur Operatic Society are performing *Iolanthe* every night this week.

Empire.—A first-class programme is provided for this week.—The Six Brothers Luck present a highly amusing pantomime entitled *Lift-ems, Ltd.;* the Vagabonds, vocal comedy quartette, are very good; Nellie Wallace, the eccentric comedienne, captivates the house with her drolleries; the Chandon Trio of gymnasts, do some daring feats; the Warsaw Bros. give a comedy musical act; and other artists are Maudie Ford, comedienne, Joe Conway, burlesque comedian, and Fred Lyndon, eccentric.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. E. Jay.—*The Five Wishes* is being rendered here by Edward Lewis and company; Manson and West are good in the duologue, *Telling the Tale;* Fred Russell is a smart ventriloquist; T. B. Vaughan and John Lawson's company is well received in *The Bo'sun's Mate;* Dan Thomas is an inimitable comedian; Nellie Lunelle is a clever soubrette and dancer; Herbert Clifton's exquisite voice is heard to advantage; Emily Millard, vocalist, is applauded; Daisy Yates is an entertaining comedienne; George Gilbey is a diverting comedian; and the bioscope pictures are up to date.

Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Richards.—The animated pictures here are doing well. The variety of subjects seem inexhaustible, and are specially selected to entertain and cause laughter. They are very steady and clear, and the sloping floor enables them to be seen from any part of the house.

Queen's Hall.—A very good programme of bioscope pictures is submitted here, and the large number of visitors are amply catered for.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper.—Harry Calden and company are still here this week, presenting the condensed drama *Hurrah Boys, Hurrah!* in which Mr. Harry Calden and Mr. H. Buxton are conspicuous. Andy Fagan is a good comedian and dancer; and the Musical Mills, instrumentalists, are appreciated. Excellent pictures include The Gambler's Fate.

Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Ted Farrer, concertina player, is applauded; Miss Edna Francis is a dainty vocalist; and Miss Annie Martin uses her voice to advantage. Among the capital pictures shown are The Grand National, 1910.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Denley.—Mr. Edwardes has been fortunate enough to secure George Robey to open the variety season here; and that inimitable comedian maintains his reputation by drawing bumper houses. Chung Ling Hee and company, jugglers and magicians, submit a turn remarkable alike for novelty and skill; the Birkenhead Family, in a capital song scena, *Her Boy's Birthday*, gain unstinted applause; the Ted Moxon trio of comedy acrobats are smart all-round entertainers; Mlle. Tudora's highly trained ponies are thoroughly enjoyed; the Dancing Paceys are tuneful singers and clever ragtime steppers; Dan Filmer is a droll comedian; and Harriet Rose, with catchy chorus songs, makes herself distinctly popular. The bioscope with humorous films concludes.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—Variety gives place to drama at the above house, and this week Mr. T. E. Barnes and company present *The Drama of Life*. The principal characters are ably sustained by Mr. H. Graham Woods as Harry Beech, Mr. Archie Helsby as Walter Beech, who makes an accomplished villain; Miss Pattie Hastings as Harry's wife; Miss Beatrice Hudson, a lodging-house keeper; Mr. Marshal Meade, "in the pay of Walter"; Mr. Vernon Daly as Davy Crane; Mr. George B. Davis, a detective; and other parts are allotted to Mr. Geo. Bryne and Miss Betty Chetwyn. The necessary humour is provided by Mr. Sidney C. Cranston and Miss Alice Oliver. The piece is admirably presented, and reflects credit on all concerned.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—A highly-amusing sketch, *The Christening*, by Alick Lauder and company, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Isabel Mavis is responsible for a skilful and highly-accomplished musical entertainment, a noticeable feature being piano-playing with the elbows and one hand; Lillie Soutter as a comedienne is a strong attraction; and Victor Niblo, with his wonderful talking birds, Coo-Coo and Laura, presents a most interesting entertainment, the birds speaking three languages. Alec Kendall's wonderful stock of droll yarns are, as on former occasions, received with roars of laughter, and the Lyric Mummers are heard to great advantage in some vocal numbers, whilst the comedy side of the turn is excellent.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The attraction this week is *The Shadow of a Crime*, a play most aptly described as of intense human interest, from the pen of Nita Rae. Mr. Robert Harland's company are responsible for the production.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Jas. Bell's company opened her on Monday in *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare is seen to great advantage; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee impersonates the villain, Philip d'Esterre, with exceptional ability; Mr. Alfred Grenville submits an excellent study of Victor Cashelle; Mr. C. St. John Medley is well placed as the solicitor, Gustave Langlois; Mr. Gordon Robey depicts Prince Sergius Zeresky in good style; Miss Frances Bruce is to be congratulated on her very able portrayal of Mme. Sancterre; Mr. Alfred Harvey cleverly enacts the part of Bracqueth; and Mr. H. Vivian Thomas as Tatave and Miss Annie Megson as Ann provide much amusement. The play is excellently staged.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Radford and Valentine keep the house in a continuous roar of laughter with their funniosities and comedy juggling; Abbas performs some exceedingly clever feats on the tight wire; wonderful harmony is produced from novel instruments by the Four Jumels in a very attractive musical scena; Cliff Dacre, a very fine baritone vocalist, is popular; Gus Hindell scores a great success in his song scena, "Boys will be boys"; Elton and Elma are screamingly funny in their knockabout triple bar act; the ventriloquial sketch of Tommy Clifford is much enjoyed; Stevens and Brett, burlesque entertainers, introduce some good patter and dancing into their act; Little Ena Corelli is a clever and dainty song and dance artist; and excellent pictures are shown on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—At the head of a bright and entertaining programme are Briff, Braff, and Broff, who perform the latest feats in the way of acrobatics, the funny and clever antics of the comical waiter evoking screams of laughter. The Lovelaces are heard to advantage in some sweet songs, beautifully illustrated with lantern slides; Drury and Lane, contribute capital dancing; Harry Cove makes a decided hit as a versatile vocalist; Lillie Hales, comedienne and dancer, is accorded a very hearty reception; Teddy Day is a funny comedian, and goes well; and an excellent series of pictures include a fine film of The Cyclists of Belgium.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A real treat was provided here on Monday in the presentation by the Lyceum Tours of Hall Caine's *Pete*. Every unit is an artist bristling with qualifications, and the deeply sympathetic and emotional parts were effectively and beautifully negotiated. Mr. Austen Milroy achieves success in the title-rôle; Mr. Alfred Gray's treatment of the part of Philip Christian is conspicuously clever; in his delineation of Ross Christian Mr. Edward Fletcher attacks a number of difficult situations with skill; Cæsar Cregeen is effectively portrayed by Mr. Frank Stone; Miss V. Malcolm Barnett as Kate Cregeen proves herself to be an actress of great ability.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree's company opened here on Wednesday night with *The Merchant of Venice*. For Thursday *The O'Flynn* was announced; for Friday *Trilby* and *The Man Who Was;* and to-night *The Merchant of Venice*.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—This week the theatre is occupied by a local company of amateurs in *Les Cloches de Corneville* and *La Fille de Madame Angot*.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing - Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. Henry Miller's company, in *The Servant in the House*. Miss Laurie Flockton is pleasing and vivacious in the rôle of Mary; Mr. Walter Gay is very sound in his study of the Vicar, and as the Bishop Mr. Ernest H. Paterson is very good. Miss Nellie Hodson acts admirably as the Vicar's wife, and Mr. Matthew Boulton as Manson and Mr. Harry Parker as the cast-off brother fill their parts with credit.

Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—The Abdullah

Glenroy Troupe of dancers, Naughton and Gold, Marie Coates, comedienne and dancer, Croist Trio, in their scena "From the Time of the Crusaders," and Mozzetto are also here.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—The Two Extremes, comedians and patterers; F. Wilson Forest, comedian and monologist; Alice Leigh, soprano vocalist; Little Bert Allen, favourite comedian; Sylvester Stuart, coon impersonator.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' company, in *Her Marriage Vow*, is playing to good houses. The play is nicely mounted, the Highhead Railway Crossing scene being highly realistic. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles invests the rôle of the hero with clear enunciation and histrionic ability; Miss Violet Lytton's Kate Walters is an excellent piece of acting; Mr. Edward Avinal submits a sound performance as the rascally Gilbert Carlton, his accomplice in villainy, Hester Norton, being capably undertaken by Miss Nellie Shirley; Daffy Dan is represented with much ability by Mr. Harry Momber; Mr. Wm. Burgess acts well and with restraint as William Walters; Miss Nancy Lawrence infuses a deal of life and movement into her interpretation of Maggie Clare, her scenes with Larry Leary, amusingly played by Mr. Richard Nugent, being exhilarating in the extreme. Mr. Chauncy Morris and Miss Nellie Waddington, as Eben Chubb and Almira, are responsible for some thoroughly amusing comedy business; Mr. H. Keith creditably enacts the part of the depraved signalman, Jim Burke; and Mr. J. Turnbull is a satisfactory Jenks.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—At the head of a capital bill is Mark Sheridan, who is paying his first visit here; he has been accorded a magnificent reception, his gags and sallies keeping the house in fits of unrestrained merriment; Margit and Lener, in their eccentric act, *Wet Paint*, are amusing and clever; Rose and Challoner present their witty and racy comedy sketch, *The Porter and the Singer*; Nellie Wigley gets a rousing reception; Sisters Edwardes win hearty applause for their neat and versatile act; Billy Rex proves very entertaining; Vetter Bros., in their gymnastic act, *The Page's Recreation*, show clever work on the trapeze and rope. The Kingscope has the latest pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Several fine films include a thrilling picture, Girls of the Range, which depicts two sisters' exciting experiences with the outlaws in the rough Western cattle country. Among others shown are The Empty Cradle, Ranson's Folly, A Hero in Spite of Himself, and The Fence on Bar y Ranch.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—The picture programme here this week is an excellent one, and good houses are the rule.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—A most attractive programme is headed by W. Ellis and company in *The Sleepwalker*, which creates a continuous yell. The Bros. Ethairien are capital fun-makers; the Musical Bentleys are loudly applauded; the Bros. St. Clair prove favourites with a clever exhibition of trick cycling; the equilibristic and acrobatic feats of the Two Adras are well appreciated; Dan Pedley, comedian, gets a good share of applause; and the Spadonis are expert dancers. The Cathedoscope shows the Cup Final at Everton.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Miss Fyfe Alexander and her company are appearing here this week in *A Sense of Humour*. Miss Helen Holmes is an interesting Lady Hutton; Miss Fyfe Alexander does very capable work as Mrs. Hay; and Miss Violet Oakley is a clever and natural lady's maid, Stanner. Mr. Frank Wolsey is an excellent Sir William; Mrs. James Hartop works hard and well as Captain Archibald; and Mr. Henry le Grand makes much fun out of the part of Meakin. *The Call of Birth* precedes.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Under the direction of Mr. Robert Macdonald a capital company is appearing here in *The Gay Gordons*. The clever work of Mr. Frank Lincoln as Angus Graeme deserves the highest praise; Mr. Edwin Dodds, too, is a smart and versatile Nervy Nat; Mr. W. H. Desmond provides plenty of laughter as Edmund; Mr. Bernard Vaughan is a happy, refined Andrew Quainton; Mr. Gordon Allison a most appropriate John Smith; and other parts are well filled. Miss May Yates is a petite and fascinating Peggy; Miss Dorothy Grasdorf is a charming Victoria; Miss Ada Mellon a sympathetic and womanly Janet McLeod; Miss Edie Martin as Charlotte keeps the fun going strongly; and Miss Tessa D'Alberti, Miss Norah Guinness and Miss Eva Rosslyn help ably as Janet, Lady Graeme, and Lady Millicent.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week is Miss Queenie Leighton, very popular in all her songs; Mr. Johnny Holland, supported by Miss Rita Warne and Mr. E. W. Edmonds, plays the sketch *The Boatbuilder* very brightly; the Creedons give a very skilful and smart exhibition of juggling and ball-punching; Mr. Chas. Leo is an expert dancer and comedian; Mr. Andy Gimmell is a very effective Scotch comedian; Snowball and Dolia are well qualified dancers; Miss Ethel Donna sings and dances very pleasingly; and new films are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Guy Hastings as the Rev. Allen Gray gives an artistic performance; Mr. Frank Liston, in the character of Capt. John Thornton, is responsible for a very capable piece of character acting; Stephen Haysel has a capital representative in Mr. Cecil Mannering; Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly proves himself a first-class comedian; Miss Maud Warburton as Mary Haysel thoroughly merits the applause with which her efforts are rewarded; Miss Polly Denville as Lizzie Muggins causes much laughter; Miss Lissa Young as Hannah Spry acts effectively. The play is excellently mounted and dressed.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The interest aroused by a visit of the Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company has been evidenced by large and enthusiastic audiences. Opening on Monday with *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, Signor Folco achieved the highest success, both as singer and actor, in the rôle of Turiddu, and artistic singing marked the renderings of Santuzza, Lola, and Alfio, by Signor Protti, Signora Rocco, and Signor Vail. In *Pagliacci* Signor Siroli's Canio was an outstanding performance, well supported both by Signor Modesti as Tonio, Signor Vail as Silvio, and Signor Barterra as Aniecchino, with Signorina Bianchi as Nedda. On Tuesday *Rigoletto* gave Signor Modesti an opportunity of charming his hearers by his singing in the part of the Jester; Signor Siroli was conspicuous as the Duke of Mantua; and Signorina Bianchi appeared with distinction as Gilda; while Signora Rocco's Magdalen and Signor Massia's Sparafucile were excellent impersonations. Signor Wehils conducted all the above works with great ability. *Faust* was presented on Wednesday, the cast including Signor Folco, Signor Vail, Signora Protti, and Signora Massia in the principal rôles. The ever-popular *Il Trovatore* filled the bill on Thursday, and *Lucia di Lammermoor* on Friday, with *Carmen* set down for Saturday, completed the week's list of attractions.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Sir Francis Burnand has done better work than *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, which Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is playing here this week. The comedy betrays its French origin; but it wears well, and the members of the company enact it in merry fashion. Mr. Geo. Mudie as the henpecked Ponderbury is extremely diverting in his simulation of somnambulism, and he is admirably supported by Miss Celia Gordon as the Lucretian, Mrs. Ponderbury, a capital study; by Miss Florence Wix, a bright and vivacious Stella; by Mr. Stewart Dawson, a spirited Mervyn Thorpe; and by Miss Florence Wellesley, a graceful Ethel. Mr. Percy Bell, an actor of all-round excellence, is notably good as the elderly butler; and smaller parts are capably played by Mr. Gilbert Clark as Hyacinth Grayling, Mr. George Child as Captain John Rumford, R.N., and by Miss Jessica Thorne as Lady Baring. The comedy is preceded by the farce *Chalk and Cheese*, and both pieces are well mounted.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Mascard.—Miss Dora Lind, who heads the bill here, gives in her representation of "The Duchess of Devonshire," by Gainsborough, and other poses, an attractive turn, which is enhanced by appropriate songs and effective settings. The production is carried through by Mr. Richard Frank, a blind artist. Mr. Chas. M. Daly's company presents a mirth-provoking farce entitled *I Must Have It*, in which Mr. Daly himself is conspicuously successful. Mr. Ernie Myers, a clever patter comedian, provides a very clever turn; Miss Marie Jones, assisted by Mr. Ernest Munro, submits a smart quick-change act, in which she plays seven distinct characters; Mr. Cyrus Dare, in his vocal and instrumental selections proves himself to be a capable musician; and other artists whose singing is meriotrious are Miss Lily Lonsdale, Mr. Will McIvor (an admirable vocalist), and the Forde Trio, who are also good instrumentalists. The Zenary Bros. are dashing acrobats, and the King's Bioscope shows several interesting Parisian scenes.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Fred Kitchen as Private Potts in Mr. Herbert Darnley's comedy production of that name is the chief attraction this week, the audience being kept in convulsive laughter all through the three scenes of this very amusing sketch. Good support is given by Mrs. Herbert Darnley, Miss Jessie Cramond, and Messrs. W. Wilbey, Jack Williams, Harry Lappo, and a company of over fifty performers. Another pleasing comedian turn is supplied by Charles R. Whittle, whose quiet method is much to be commended, his song "Come and have a drink with me" fairly bringing down the house. Leo Tell gives a humorous display of cleverness in imitating the sounds of motors, horses, and many musical instruments; the Avolos show some novelties as acrobats and somersault-throwing; and the Carmos also introduce something new in feats of balancing and strength. Sylvia Du Barry makes a very acceptable appearance as a vocalist in a song-scena entitled *Andalusia*; Phil Parsons increases his popularity as a light comedian; and Lillie Lassah wins favour as a comedienne and dancer. An interesting series of Bioscope films include the London to Manchester Aeroplane Flight and The Proclaiming of King George V.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—An up-to-date series of pictures shows Paulhan's London to Manchester flight, and Winter Sports at St. Moritz is a very pretty and interesting film. The Converts is a strongly dramatic subject, while *The Wrong Man* evokes roars of laughter.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The programme here includes several striking pictures, excellent examples of varied subjects being found in The Thread of Destiny, Rogues of the Turf, and A Slippery Dog. Lillian, "the human encyclopædia," gives a very mystifying performance.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The weather during the early days of this week has been rather adverse to open-air amusements, especially in the evenings; but the Gardens have been well patronised, and entertainments such as the rink and other indoor attractions have drawn large crowds. The death of King Edward VII. has necessitated the return of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) band to London, and the band of the 5th Royal Scots, under the leadership of Mr. J. A. Bunch, has been engaged, and gives selections daily. In the concert hall the Gems, who are under the direction of Mr. Wallace Kennedy, provide admirable programmes of vocal and instrumental music.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company opened here on Monday in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Gus Oxley as James Smith brings out to their fullest extent the humorous possibilities of the part; Peter Doody, as depicted by Mr. Roy Sydney, is another mirth-making character; Miss Madge Haines is a big success as Mrs. Smith; Mr. Roy Lorraine an excellent Jack Meadows; Miss Mysie Devine sings with charm as Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Marion Edwardes as Sombra is a vocalist of exceptional merit; Miss Katie Yates as Chryses is particularly fascinating; and as Time Mr. Berkeley Davis is very acceptable. Mr. Frank Henry is a picturesque Astrophel, and Mr. W. Dawson and Miss Daisy Bindley are good as Strephon and Damœtas.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—Chas. Harvey and company, who are at the top of an attractive bill, appear in the farcical absurdity *The Broken Statue*, a clever little sketch; the Bros. Obo are comedians with infectious laughing propensities; Bert Weston is another mirth-maker; Gibbon and Bell appear in a clever acrobatic dancing speciality; the Lannons are dancers of considerable merit; Lily Edwards possesses charm and ability; Norman Osborne appears in an up-to-date ventriloquial turn; Dorothy Dundas is a graceful comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures are also among the attractions.

FLEETWOOD. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Miss Marie Dagmar is presenting her powerful company here in *The Tyrant*, and good houses are the rule. In Angelo, the tyrant, Mr. Roy Fortescue has a part worthy of his abilities, and right well he acquits himself; Miss Marie Robson as Tisbe is excellent in a part requiring histrionic powers of a high order; Mr. Percy Follias as Homodei, the avenger, is decidedly clever; and Mr. Edward E. Lewis as Rudolf is a hero of the highest quality. Lady Catherine has a most capable exponent in Miss Jean Scott; the part of Eddie is very well portrayed by Miss Lallah Shelton; and Miss Emmie Burns, Miss Katie Lever, Mr. T. Ashmore, Mr. Wilson Summers, Mr. Fred Luard, and Mr. Stanley Whyte are all good. The mounting is excellent, and Mr. Charles E. Warne is the capable acting-manager.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A Lyceum success is the attraction here this week, and a well-filled house witnessed the performance of Walter Howard's romantic love story *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* on Monday night. The play is well staged by a capable company under the direction of Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox distinguished himself by a fine portraiture of Prince Olaf of Sylvania, his manly bearing and spirited style securing admiration; Monica, Princess of Illyria, is enacted with great emotional power by Miss Stella Campbell, who elicits the fullest sympathy; Mr. Alfred Goddard as the revengeful Prince Hildred of Sylvania is quite successful; as the crippled Prince Michael Mr. Victor Rae furnishes an effective performance; Mr. W. S. Hardy acts in a convincing manner as Colonel Wellenberg; Mr. Oswald Waller provides a masterly study of Colonel Schwartz; Messrs. Frank Rawlings and E. Strange give able support as Captain Harsburg and Lieut. Felsburg; and Mr. Herbert Burton is a pleasant Captain Hector. Lieut. Carl Stromberg is in the capable hands of Mr. J. H. Vyvyan. Miss Elmie Kemp, the possessor of a sweet voice, acts the character of Camiola ably, and Miss Mona Hall is quite good as Viola. The scenery and uniforms deserve praise.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Military Mummers, a capable and artistic company of vaudeville entertainers, are providing an attractive and varied bill of fare. Miss Enid Cutler captivates the audience with her taking manner, and is loudly applauded for her songs and dancing; Miss Rosa Mellish, a delightful singer, makes herself eminently popular; Mr. Alex. B. Gilbert in his humorous songs evokes much merriment; Mr. Archie Scott, a pleasing comedian, sings well; and Mr. Will Avis is greatly appreciated for his clever shadowgraphy and sleight-of-hand.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold; Local Manager, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Fergusson and Mack, eccentric comedians, are stars here this week; Milke Cray, with his well-trained dog "Dooley," introduces much humour into his juggling business; the Darntons (Cicily and Gladys) are entertaining duettists; Ida Barr sings two capital songs effectively; Ethel Stephenson, a contralto of merit, gets much praise; Fred Hallam is an amusing comedian; Neville Delmar is a smart and alert comedian; and the Kingscope provides an enjoyable item.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Chas. Harrington's company is here in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. A striking impersonation of Uncle Tom is supplied by Mr. J. H. Boehm; Mr. Chas. Harrington is an effective St. Clair; Legree is rendered sufficiently repulsive by Mr. Tom Bowron; Mr. David Blair is seen to advantage as George Harris; Miss Ethel Vernon faithfully portrays Ophelia; Miss Annie Watson is a vivacious Topsy; Cassie is well looked after by Miss Hettie Johnson, and Little Eva is cleverly embodied by Miss Gem Lloyd.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphreys.—The latest musical comedy to reach here is *The Merry Peasant*, and despite the gloom hanging over theatrical affairs at present, Mr. Courtice Pounds and his clever company were received by a fairly good house. In the principal rôle Mr. Courtice Pounds charmed the audience with his tuneful rendering of the various numbers in the part, and the vocal honours were shared by Miss Madge Vincent as Freda; Mr. Ernest J. Langford was intensely funny as the amorous policeman, and his eccentric dancing was much enjoyed; Mr. Percy Carr acted and sang well as Stefan, and Mr. Frank Wilson was a dramatically strong Vincent; Miss Gwladys Gay made the most of the shrewish Annamird; little Mary Glynne played her part well as Rosalie, and danced neatly; Mr. Wm. Hindson as the Mayor, Mr. Sidney Johnstone as Lieut. Grumow, Mr. Horace Dawson as the Count, and Misses Tina Martini, Amy Preston, and Molly Preston completed a clever cast.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Arthur Phillips is here this week with *The Merchant of Venice*, in which he has made such a favourable impression with his powerful acting as Shylock; Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as Portia gives a performance of much charm and vivacity; as Antonio, Mr. James Berry bears himself with fine dignity; the Bassanio of Mr. C. Harcourt Williams is another pleasing impersonation; Salanio, Salarino, and Gratiano are played on good robust lines by Messrs. E. Stuart Vinden, Richard Fielding, and Herbert Dansey; a dashing Lorenzo is seen in Mr. Scott Sunderland; and clever studies are the Tubal of Mr. Verril and the Launcelot of Mr. Ross Shore. The parts of Nerissa (Miss Dora Hole) and Jessica (Miss Christie Laws) are gracefully filled; Mr. Leslie Palmer takes the rôle of Prince of Morocco with admirable effect; and Mr. Cyril Vernon makes an impressive Duke of Venice.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—For the second week *Prunella; or Love in a Dutch Garden* successfully provides the entertainment. Mr. Melton Rosmer as the Pierrot and Mr. M. R. Morand as Scaramel stand out in bold relief; a rare conception of the innocent Prunella is presented by Miss Ethel Evans; Messrs. Lawrence Hanray, Walter Roy, and Norman M'Keown are good, their gloomy though interesting dialogue being interrupted from time to time by the Gardener's Boy, Mr. George Tawde, who is decidedly quaint and amusing; Miss Alice Mansfield, Mrs. Arthur Milton, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Irene Rooke, and Miss Lola Duncan portray cleverly the rôles of Queer, Prim, Prude, Privacy, and Quaint. *Prunella* was followed by the capital one-act play by J. M. Barrie entitled *The Twelve Pound Look*.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Sealy.—The stock company here is presenting during this week *Master and Man*, in which Mr. George Roberts gives a vigorous delineation of the hero, Jack Walton; Mr. Fred Terris is responsible for a telling portrayal of Humpy Logan; and Miss Agnes Defoe makes a pleasing Hester Thornbury; Miss Maud Mallise is Kezia Lightfoot gives a good impersonation; Miss Sadie Neville does well as Lettie Lightfoot; Mr. R. B. Drysdale makes a respectable-looking Ironmaster; Mr. W. G. Robb is excellent as the wronged workman, Jim Burleigh; and tension is relieved by the lively comedy of Mr. Charles Danvers as Tom Honeywood, and Mr. Cecil Renton as St. Jones; the two showmen are graphically represented by Mr. B. Napier and Mr. Clark Keith; and their reluctant apprentice has a charming representative in Miss Pearla Gardiner.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The "Met" patrons have excellent fare provided for them in the pathetic drama *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, played by Mr. Herbert Fuller and company. The hero, the Rev. John Albery, is admirably played by Mr. Hubert Helliwell; Miss Agnes Collier is a sympathetic Alice Walters; the droll play of Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough "catches on"; and Miss Lily Fuller acts with spirit as Diana Vanderbout; the villainous propensities of Jake Stoneley are ably emphasised by Mr. Cuthbert Taylor; and Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell as Farmer Walters and Miss Lilian Burns as Mrs. Walters act their parts creditably.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The weird and gruesome Vampire Dance of Alice Eis and Bert French occupies the leading place on the bill, and proves interesting if not attractive to Empire patrons. The clever sketch *Cupid's Arms*, as given by J. C. Piddock and Frank Danby, is extremely well done, music and dialogue being alike smart, while the acting of the two principals is thoroughly enjoyed. Winifred Ward's studies of young men are neat and take well; the Dandies give an enjoyable musical mélange; Andy McLeod as a raconteur and instrumentalist has made a hit here before, and is equally successful this visit; Bertha Wonder's step dancing is as neat as ever; A Ba-Be presents her post card album poses, and Frank Cass scores both as a comedian and a vocalist; the acrobatic and wire-walking feats of the Five Whiteleys are smartly carried through, and the Bioscope, showing the Manchester aviation flights, completes a varied and attractive programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Nowhere does Miss Clarice Mayne receive a heartier welcome than in Glasgow, and as this clever comedienne comes with a budget of new songs, in addition to a few former favourites, and is assisted by Mr. Jas. W. Tate at the piano, her reception is more cordial than ever. An excellent musical turn, the Zigeuner Quartette, is here for the first time, and judging by the enthusiasm they have created, are certain to become frequent visitors; Hal Forde as a light comedian has rapidly and deservedly come to the front, and the star honours are shared by that old favourite Joe O'Gorman, whose songs and patter take well; the Ellimans are well received for their vocal and instrumental items; Baby Vi Davis is a smart young comedienne; the cycling turn of Bert Woodward is exceedingly neat; and the acrobatic feats of the Sisters Grovini are wonderfully well done. The orchestra, under Mr. Howard W. Galpin, is always an additional attraction here.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The attraction this week is the return visit of Mr. John Lawson. *Humanity* is again the production, and once more Mr. Lawson in his original part, the Jew, is seen to great advantage; his work is capital, and praise must be given to his talented company. A very taking little episode is *Rags and Tatters*, given by the Calcotts, whose instrumental work is of a high order; Les Marsumas as trick cyclists introduce comedy; the La Dor troupe of acrobats get through a lot of daring and clever work; Marie and Lona are well received in their original juggling acrobatic act; J. K. Macfarlane, Scotch comedian, sings in his own pawky manner; Vera Saunders is a comedienne with a good voice; Ethel Edwardes, chorus vocalist, takes well, and the Palacescope film this week, The Engineer's Romance, is dramatic.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The programme is headed by Whit Cunliffe, the popular comedian. Another pleasing performance is that of Charles Mildare; and the artistic impersonations of stageland favourites by Miss Muriel Harding are also favourably received; Tysoe Smith's Eighteen Lancashire Singers render several part songs with fine spirit, and are heartily applauded. Other notable turns include Frank Fort, a clever patter comedian, the Lyons Trio, comedians and dancers; Julia Kent and company in the old-time comedy *Pistols for Three*; Johnny Fuller, slack wire artist and dancer; and Frank Hartley, juggler.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The religious picture-story, The Life of Moses (Part V.) is followed with evident appreciation. Other serious films are The Romans, and a pathetic one is The Little Patriot. The two variety turns are Billy Davis, eccentric comedian, and Ella Gold, comedienne and dancer. The talking and singing picture Looking for a Sweetheart is greatly appreciated.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The Cashlings, military comedy duo and dancers, occupy the principal position here; Bob Campbell is an amusing one-legged dancer; Madge Yorke, a clever wooden shoe dancer; Bob Ross, Scotch comedian, contributes a special piping and dancing item; James Franks is successful as a vocalist and dancer; and the Bioscope is specially entertaining.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The films are both of the comedy and dramatic order, amongst them being The Squaw's Revenge, The Loveless Home, The Countess's Revenge, The Theatre Pass, and many others. The Auxetophone is responsible for fine musical selections; William McNally, the Dulcimer King, has a hearty reception.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Variety is the fare this week, and the bill is headed by that clever troupe of acrobatic comedians, the Boissets, who present their well-known sketch, *The Bricklayers*. The Whitworth Trio are a smart trio of trick cyclists, and Lazern is a remarkably dexterous sleight-of-hand performer; Mather and Mayer are good comedy entertainers; Miss Lottie Leighton is a talented soubrette and dancer; the Frohmans present a really good musical act; Messrs. Kyd and Kyd are amusing patter comedians; and the Palacescope concludes.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—This week an exceptionally strong programme is submitted here. Harrison Brothers, comedians and dancers, score heavily; Lucretia and Josephine, burlesque artists, also make a hit; Alf. Grady, comedian, is equally successful; and the Monarchscope films are of a varied and interesting nature.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Charles Gibbon is presenting a special selected company in *Alone in London*. Miss Nellie Clyde gives a charming portrayal of Nan; Mr. Charles Gibbon plays well as Walter Burnaby; Mr. Vernon Shaw makes a dignified Mr. Burnaby; Mr. Russell Norries gives a clever character sketch of John Biddlecombe; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is very amusing as Jenknison; Mr. Wallace Dunlop is good as Spriggins; Miss Irene Stanhope is excellent as Ruth Clifton; Little Hetty Hornaby as Little Paul is a very clever child actress; Mr. Frank Caffrey and Miss Carrie Young cause a lot of fun as Charles Johnson and Liz Jenkinson; and Miss Laurie O'Neil is very good as Tom Chickweed.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—John L. Sullivan proves a big draw here in a boxing act with Jake Kilrain; the Whittington Trio are clever comedy acrobats; Anita Wayman is a soprano vocalist of more than ordinary merit; Richard Taylor, ventriloquist, submits a distinctly novel turn; Graham Moffat and company appear in a highly amusing sketch, *The Concealed Bed*; and other prominent turns are offered by Karl Cynski, described as the one-man band, and A. J. Gamble, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The pictures shown are fully up to the high standard established here. The principal film is The Mexican's Faith, a powerful drama full of strong situations. The Message of the Arrow is another thrilling picture; Brothers is particularly touching; The Ranger and the Girl and The Witch's Ballad both prove interesting; and much laughter is occasioned by Coco and the Earthquake, They Would Roller Skate, and Too Many Admirers.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is being presented by Miss Lois Esmond's company. Mr. Edward Neville plays Prince Lucio with suitable mystic suggestion; Mr. Jack McGaig is equally good as Geoffrey Tempest; Miss Rosie Neville represents Lady Sybil Elton with much feeling; and others who may be mentioned are Miss Dorothy Dewhurst as Mavis Clare, Miss Lois Esmond as Diana Chesney, and Mr. Frank Wheatley as Lord Lynton.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—A most attractive display of juggling with and balancing heavy and uncommon articles is given by Brinn, in his speciality, "Pastimes on a Battleship"; a condensed version of the popular Irish drama *The Colleen Bawn* is excellently played by Henry Herne and company; Rex Fox gives a unique combination of wire-walking and ventriloquism; Lydia Neilson and her quintette of boys and girls appear in a bright musical and dancing act; and other good turns are contributed by Dolly and Madge McCalla, comediennes and dancers; Walter Emmerson, a tall and amusing comedian; and Gwennie Hast, a pleasing dancer.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Are You a Mason?* is paying a return visit. Mr. W. Lockhart is excellent as Amos Bloodgood; Mr. H. L. Tracey is a success as Frank Perry; Mr. A. Selwyn is good as George Fisher; Mr. B. J. Hinge takes the part of John Halton with credit; Mr. G. Blyth gives a good portrayal of Ernest Morrison; Mr. S. Arthur's Hamilton Travers is excellent; Miss Agnes Maude's Mrs. Bloodgood is praiseworthy; as Eva, Lulu, and Annie, Miss G. Denbigh-Russel, Miss R. de L'Estrade, and Miss Babe Stuart all do well.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Elite Harmony Boys, a quintette of good singers, gain applause; Ess and Hoey, dancers on roller and ice skates, give a good turn; Marco is a versatile conjurer; Juffan Ross, comedian, Ernest Cadle's *Casey Army*, Norris and Morgan, and the pictures complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Les Arabellas, wire artists, provide a turn in which a daring and agile young lady gives a remarkable exhibition of wire-walking and dancing; Dan Lipton's company prove a big success in *Songland*, an elaborate vocal scena; the Burdettier Brothers are two clever hand-balancers; Vesta Nixon is an accomplished dancer; the Merrions, comedy entertainers, the Dancing Gilberts, and the Palace pictures complete.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr Rene Clayton.—Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, comedy and trick cyclists, are topping the bill; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in a musical episode with an old-world air, entitled *Ye Squire's Dance*, are excellent; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws are pleasing in a vocal comedy turn; Denars Brothers, a pair of exceptionally clever juveniles, appear in an equilibristic act; Chummie La Mara sings a couple of songs in finished style; Dolly Barrie and Jaun Wood Comedy Duo are popular; La Belle Lumiere is seen in Le Fairy Gotto act; and George Baker and Lilian Balfe, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—The visit of *The Dollar Princess* is proving a magnet. Mr. George Edwardes's company is a very strong one, and the various situations and numbers win alternate cheers and laughter. Miss Madeline Seymour is a fascinating Olga; Miss Norah Barry as Alice plays charmingly and sings tastefully; Miss Peggy Primrose as Daisy does full justice to the part; Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Bulger causes great hilarity; Mr. Alex Worcester as Freddy Fairfax looks well and sings successfully; Mr. Leslie Holland is well suited as Harry; Mr. J. C. Neville as Dick is decidedly good; Mr. S. Lyndon as John, Earl of Quorn, plays successfully; and dresses, scenery, and chorus are admirable. Mr. S. Vousden conducts.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—*Van Biene's Baby*, a capitally-written sketch and excellently played, is the star turn here. In it Mr. Auguste Van Biene introduces three capital 'cello numbers, which bring down the house. Tom and Eileen Melbourne are very well received; Carlotta Levey, in new songs, wins much favour; the Brothers O'Brien, in a horizontal bar act, are loudly recalled; Payne's Wanderers, in a caravan scena, are an original troupe; Frank Couch, patter comedian, is a hit; the Four Sisters Netherlands, singers and barefoot dancers, are loudly applauded; August, September, and May, comedians, are favourably received, and the Grand pictures are clever. Business is very good.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Managers, Captain F. Shaw and Mr. C. Hazlewood.—Excellent business is again done. The chief pictures are The Plot that Failed, Grahame White's Flight, The Course of True Love, In the Nick of Time, and several humorous films. Doris Snowdon, comedienne, appears.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—The variety show here is headed and footed by the Great Raymond. Many and wonderful are his mysteries. He is ably assisted by a capable company, chief among them being Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, who make one of the hits of the bill; Les Grossi are a clever pair of dancers; Moore and

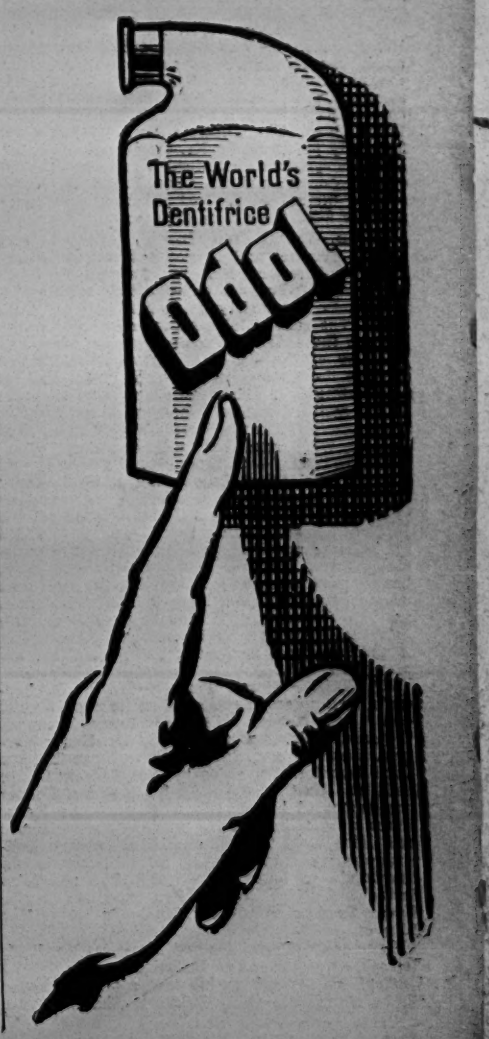

Moore are good clog-dancers; and Luella Cross contributes a song. Little Sunbeam goes well, and the Four Victors complete.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Monday night was set apart for a special memorial concert for King Edward. The artists for the week are Miss Nellie Ganthony and Mr. George Carncross. Miss Alice Verlet is announced for a special concert on Saturday.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Excellent films are being shown this week. The one depicting A Sister's Sacrifice is exceptionally fine. There are other amusing and interesting pictures.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. H. Armitage's company is presenting *With Edged Tools*, which proves a thrilling production. Mr. Hamilton Deane as the hero, Jack Meredith, gives the character power and dignity; Sir John Meredith (his father) is a most able impersonation by Mr. J. D. Geddes; Mr. Charles Hartopp intelligently sustains the character of Guy Oscard; as the thoroughgoing and impressive miscreant Victor Durnovo Mr. Charles Barrett is very effective; Mr. Graham Pockett is an admirable comedian, and quite distinguishes himself in the part of Maurice Gordon; as Millicent Cheyne Miss Marguerite Cellier gives a most intelligent performance; Alice Maude is an ideal representative of Lady Cantourne; Marie Leonhard is delightfully natural in the character of Jocelyn Gordon; and Miss Edith Anton-Laing shows artistic skill in the dual parts of Marie and Lady Herries.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An interesting and varied entertainment is opened by a laughable sketch, *Turned Up Again*, which creates great fun as represented by Mr. J. D. Hunter and his clever little combination of artists, including Charles Hawker and the Misses Eva Bayley, Blanche Bayley, and Vera Dudley; Mr. Fred Beck sings in humorous fashion; the George French Troupe of trick cyclists give a clever display; an elaborate draped scena of a novel description is shown by Les Minnets; Mr. Alix Lukos in a series of character studies is popular; Miss Kathleen Cogan, comedienne and dancer, is greeted with encouraging applause; and a skating carnival by the Snow Family is an artistic as well as a laughter-provoking performance.

HEREFORD.—Garrick Theatre.—Director, Mr. T. Sidoli; Manager, Mr. Wm. Brown.—A very enjoyable programme of pictures is given here. The Gold Prospector, The Poacher's Revenge, and The Bargee's Daughter are followed with rapt attention, the humorous films causing loud laughter.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company is appearing with success in *For Old Time's Sake*. Excellent readings of their respective parts are given by Mr. Fred J. Webb (Rupert Sidney), Mr. J. C. Carlyle (Paul Sidney), Mr. W. Pallister Acock (Dr. Heathcote), Mr. Tom J. Taylor (Jimmy Jeppe), Mr. H. C. Lanceley (an outcast), and Mr. Edwin Beverley (Wallace Rivington). Miss Mamie Stanton as Phyllis, Miss Marie Robertson as Polly Pearson, Miss Marie Danvers-Smith as Sareta Berkley, and Miss Agnes Gagan as Mrs. Hale were also well received on Monday night by a full house.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—Crowded houses are appreciating the interesting and enjoyable programme, features of which are Cupid and the Motor-boat, Bear Hunt in the Rockies, The Keeper of the Light, and The Adventuress.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The top of the bill is provided by Conn and Conrad, two daring trapeze artists. The Royal Delomes, two expert clog dancers; Miss Mabelle May, comedienne; Bert Byrne, comedian; Miss Victoria Dagmar and assistant, in a horizontal bar act; the Boccaccios, three amusing and finished musicians; and J. W. Hall, the favourite comedian, with new songs and patter, complete.

Palace.—Paul Mill's well-known refined troupe of entertainers are appearing here with their usual success in a well-arranged vocal medley. Bert Maddison, comedian; Harry Raymond and his charming little daughter Ivy, who sing and dance with acceptance; Miss Monie Mine, comedienne; Will H. Fox, in his well-known entertainment at the piano; Sergt. Brennan, an expert in diabolo manipulation; Fred Maitland and company in sketch; and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas, in some finely-acted scenes from Dickens' works, with the pictures, complete the bill.

HULL. — Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Maler.—*The Cingalee* is the attraction at this house this week, and, notwithstanding the national sorrow, good business is being done. As Chamhuddy Ram Mr. J. Crichton's dry droll manner affords the audience ample amusement; to the Nanoya of Miss Mollie Woolstenholme charm is added by her effective voice; and the Peggy Sabine of Miss Ida Ernest is an interesting study. The rich baritone voice of Mr Arthur Cartwright is much appreciated, as well as the reading of the rôle of the Hon. Harry Vereker.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Old Home* is a drama built upon lines that are such as to prove attractive to the patrons of this playhouse. The leading rôles are well sustained, and credit must be accorded Miss Violet Ingram for her reading of Hazel Dean. The dissolute Lord Avondale was faithfully presented by Mr. Horatio Sinclair; Mr. Fred Connynghame sustained with success the rôle of Sam Adams; and Mr. Chas. Franmore painted a good picture of the old fisherman. The remainder filled their rôles effectively.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—Scottie's combination of dramatic and variety artists hold possession this week. The most notable items in an entertaining bill are the sketches *Napoleon at Waterloo*, and *The Cry of the Children*. Mr. Scott Alexander sustains the leading part in both pieces, and his representations of widely disimilar characters prove his versatility. Others who figure prominently are Freda and Frank, Steve Knoto, Sanday and Ramsey, W. Warren, the Merries, Ivy Cornwallis.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—The place of honour is held this week by Shirley Liggins and company of coloured artists in a vocal absurdity, entitled *A Twilight Serenade;* Cissie Esdaile wins favour as a comedienne; and Foley and Francis, patter comedians, score. Sergeant Munford, wire performer, has a good reception; Nellie Denver, the little magnet; and Maud May Murray, in electric dances, are here for another week owing to their success; and Ada Tilley, Harold Wagner and company, in *A Call to Arms*, and Mark Hall, comedian, are also in the bill.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company, on its annual visit, opened on Monday with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Falstaff was played by Mr. Henry Herbert, Ford by Mr. Robert Atkins, Page by Mr. Cyril Sworder, Dr. Caius by Mr. Andrew Leigh, and Mr. John Cavins was Sir Hugh Evans. Slender was presented by Mr. H. S. Cohen. The Merry Wives were delineated by Miss Gladys Vanderzee and Miss Kate Turner, and Miss Dorothy Radford was sweet Anne Page. Mrs. Quickly was in the hands of Miss Betty Ward. The répertoire includes *Twelfth Night*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Tempest*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, and *As You Like It*.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mooney and Holbein, a "pair of Vaudevillians," head the bill with a popular versatile performance; the Daunton Shaw troupe, trick cyclists, are paying a return visit; the Rhoda Bros. are clever gymnasts; and Miss Florence is a capable mimic. Larry Lewis, an old favourite, has a flattering welcome; the Bros. Dean are clever dancers; Will Garvey is an amusing comedian; and Violet Stockelle contributes some catchy songs. The Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. H. Lionel Locke.—A variety company is well received, and includes the Eltons, the well-known bar performers, who score quite a success; Mr. Tom Child, the noted Yorkshire tenor, who receives numerous encores; Shrillo, an excellent siffleur; the Boston Twins, a capable pair of comedians; May St. Hilda, in a novel scena, *The Studio;* Sid Bedford and company, in a screaming farcical comedy, entitled *The Second Mrs. Chester*, which causes no end of amusement; and M. Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio, in a clever statuary turn.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Albany Ward's electric pictures are both interesting and instructive. The film A Trip Through a French Metal Works and the magnificent coloured production Cagliostro are simply grand. The wonderful Mahatma as queen of second sight, assisted by Professor C. H. Steen, rivets the attention of the audience; Miss Cissy Gordon, vocalist, kept the audience in good spirits with her smart repartee and songs.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Carlton, the great card manipulator, is meeting with well-deserved success here; the breezy style of Karr and Kooney, comedians in red, is very refreshing; Jack Hylton, comedian, is a great favourite; Miss Ada Oxley and company create much amusement in a Yorkshire sketch, *Peggy;* the gymnastic turn of the Fitzroys is much appreciated; a good item is provided by the Threo Hilberts, bouncing experts; and the performance concludes with the sensational illusion The Mysterious Cross.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*Why Smith Left Home* is presented by Mr. Eric H. Albury and a capable company. As John Smith Mr. Vernon Sansbury is very good, and Miss Gladys Lloyd as his wife gives an excellent portrayal. Mr. Charles Clarke and Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence as the General and Major respectively are capital, and Mr. Eric H. Albury is a host in himself as the Count. Miss Ethel Dunbar works hard as Julia, the maid, singing nicely, and Miss Maude Shelton is amusing as the Cook. Other parts are well filled.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Messrs. Murray King and Clarke's company appeared here in *The Catch of the Season*. Mr. Murray King, in the rôle of the Duke of St. Jermyns, proved himself a comedian of unusual brilliancy, whilst as Angela Crystal Miss Gladys Guy played with much freshness and charm; Mr. Ardene Linden gave an effective delineation of Sir John Crystal; Mr. Charles C. Ommaney was commendable as Lord Dundreary, and Master Willie West was exceedingly clever as Bucket. Mr. Maxwell Stewart displayed a well-cultivated tenor voice in the character of Capt. Rushpool, whilst the parts of Lady Crystal, the Duchess of St. Jermyns, and Lady Caterham were well sustained by Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Irene Carrington, and Miss Evelyn Shelley. The piece was admirably staged, and the effective chorus and augmented orchestra were under the direction of Mr. Wilson G. Dibble.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is appearing here in *Diana of Dobson's*. Miss Eleanor Delaporte plays the title part in a convincing manner, and Mr. Leslie Rea as Captain Bretherton gives an artistic representation. The self-made draper is excellently embodied by Mr. A. A. Harris; Miss Hilda Franck sustains the rôle of Mrs. Cantelupe in an easy, unaffected manner. That of Mrs. Whyte-Fraser is ably played by Miss Mary Crewes. The old woman is represented by Miss Mary Ault, and in a like manner Mr. Leslie Crowther is natural as the constable. The play is preceded by *Out West*.

Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*The Face at the Window* is here. Mr. W. A. Haughton Macaulay and Mr. Arthur Chisholm undertake two leading characters with success; Miss Clare O'Sullivan and Miss Constance Genabyn represent female personages; and Miss Nita Imeson and Mr. John A. Stimson appear in amusing rôles.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Miss Evie Greene charms everyone by her delightful vocalism here, and also submits an excellent recitation; Pipifax and Paulo in *Humpsti-Bumsti* are smart acrobatic comedians; Marie Kendall has several rollicking songs; Tom Moore is a character vocalist of much ability; and Ted E. Box does some tuneful whistling. Other good turns are those of Rosie Ashton, who is a good sketcher, The Brennans, and Steve McCarthy.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. —General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Jake Friedman is topping the bill here in his amusing sketch *Happy Holland;* the Seven Bramusas do a clever musical act; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde, in a shadowgraph act, are highly popular; and Arthur Aldridge proves himself a fine tenor vocalist. Comedians well to the fore are Harry Nelson and George Campbell, and other favourites include Fred Hastings, Tiny and Mite, and the Three Carlews.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Morny Cash proves himself very popular in three smartly-rendered songs; Mona Vivian mimics various music hall celebrities and also shines as a dancer; the Michael Bros. are smart hand-balancers; Miss Alice Golding is a very popular singer of chorus songs; and other favourites are Harry Hayton, Yost and York, and Manek Shah

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Florrie Forde, a favourite, is here with several new numbers; the Cecilians are very able lady instrumentalists; Clarke and Hayden take well in a comedy act; and other good turns are those of Will Netta's Singing Jockeys, Felix and Fisher in a clever gymnastic creation, the Sisters Wingrove, dainty vocalists and dancers, and Marlow, juggler.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—Miss Violet Osmond's company occupy the boards in the musical comedy *The New Barmaid*. Miss Madge Prior ably sustains the title-rôle, Miss Vera Grafton gives a fine portrayal of "the Old Barmaid," Miss De Terry is good as Lady Moulton, Miss Beatrice Erle plays the Lady Journalist to perfection, Miss Murielle Mascot as Mabel is praiseworthy, Mr. J. Burlington Rigg as Captain Loveday acts with conspicuous ability, and humour is well supplied by Mr. Alex. Loftus as Bertie White and Mr. L. C. Hughes as William White. The comedy is well staged, and the music, dancing, and singing good.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday evening last, owing to the death of the King, the Royal Opera House, the Theatre Royal, the Palace Theatre, the Pavilion Theatre, the Empire Picture Palace, the Empress Picture Palace, the Empress Rink, the Boulevard Rink, and the Belgrave Rink remained closed as a mark of respect.

Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—A delightful performance of *Alice in Wonderland* is being given by Steadman's versatile company. The leading part of Alice is played by little Ivy Sawyer in a pleasing and captivating manner. Excellent support is given by Mr. Dan Leno, jun., Mr. Tom Graves, Mr. Franklyn Vernon, Miss Doris Walker, and Mr. Roland Henry. The staging and dressing leave nothing to be desired.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—This week's attraction is provided by Mr. Harry Tilbury's company, who presented on the first four nights of the week *His Dishonoured Wife*, and for the closing two nights *My Native Land* is underlined. The various parts are capitally performed, the company including Mr. Harry Tilbury and Miss Belle Tilbury.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—England's leading male impersonator, Miss Vesta Tilley, is the big attraction here. She is being accorded her usual magnificent reception, and has to sing four songs. At the other end is La Pia, in a series of pure art dances, enhanced by beautiful electrical effects. Les Marco Belli are thoroughly entertaining comedy conjurors; Stanley and Greenop are past masters in the art of banjo playing; Lupino Lane is a first-rate comedian, storyteller, and dancer; the Sisters Julian are attractive duettists and clever dancers; Jennie Hartley is a vivacious comedienne and smart dancer; Nicklin Williams, a townsman, is seen and heard to great advantage in his song-scena, which is well staged; and the Bioscope shows the recent flight from London to Manchester.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The leading turn is supplied by the Zanfrellas, remarkably smart novelty equilibrists, whose clever act is done on a pedestal 8in. in diameter and 8ft. high. John R. Poole presents the Cairo Trio of instrumentalists in a versatile show, which is effectively staged; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard are first-rate sketch artists who create plenty of merriment; and other entertaining turns are contributed by the Sisters Maynard, duettists and dancers; Violet Rivers, comedienne; Clive Catley, light comedian; and Jack Pardoe in wire-walking, bending, and tumbling. The Bioscope is again to the fore with a Trip to the Deep Sea Fisheries, Grahame-White's Flight to Manchester, and Bleary Oh; or, The Village Aviator

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The two prominent pictures are Resurrection and The Detective's Son, which are supported by other excellent films. Charles Relph, a very popular and entertaining vocal comedian, is on another of his numerous visits, and goes as well as ever

Empress Picture Palace, Ltd.—Resident-Manager Mr. H. V. Horton.—Up-to-date pictures are the rule here.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby; Manager, Mr. W. H. Leo King.—Miss Grace Warner and company opened here on Monday with *The Scarlet Clue*. Mr. Geo. Gordon displays considerable skill and ability in his representation of Michael Stanton; Mr. Frank Esmonde cleverly portrays the dual rôle of Jack and Harry Esmond; Mr. Frank Hertu is well placed as Edward Croker; Miss L. Palmer enacts Elsie Dane in a praiseworthy manner; Miss Grace Warner as Sal Scarlet gives a sympathetic and able reading of a difficult rôle; the comedy is well looked after by Mr. Louis Nanton as Bill the Rotter and Miss Estha Dean as Musette; and Mr. Roy Rhind admirably portrays Crazy Jim.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—At the head of an excellent bill of fare are the Ten Loonies in a musical sketch, *Dotty*, and their humour is irresistible. The Crisps are deserving of great praise for the clean and clever scena *The Little Deputy;* the Carney Bros. vocalism is greatly enjoyed; Mal Vern makes a big hit with his laughing songs; the Hyde and Cody Trio of eccentric comedians provide an excellent comedy turn; the Mars Trio are loudly applauded for a sensational gymnastic act; Watson and McQue, comedy duo, are very smart; and Carmen Barrie, comedienne, and the Hipposcope pictures complete.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert, in his own romantic play *A Daughter of the Sea*, makes an excellent character study of the octogenarian scoundrel Mark Glensdale; and Miss Florrie Green's impersonation of Sunshine is cordially applauded. The part of the young hero, Ken Morland, is acceptably played by Mr. Roy Denman; Mr. Ashmore Vincent makes the most of the weak Dan Glensdale; as also does Mr. Carl Caigna with the rôle of the short-lived profligate Sir Maxwell Brentwood; and hale and breezy renderings of a retired sea captain and a coastguard are given by Mr. Cole Aspinall and Mr. Cyril Craven. Mr. J. O. Monkhouse is to be credited with a good portrait of Billy, the village idiot, who provides, with the Mollie of Miss Allyce Wyllyams, the broader fun of the piece, to which Mr. J. W. Gonne as a flunkey and Mr. John Meadows as a drunkard also contribute.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. Alexander Leighton's company is offering local patrons their first taste of *Havana*. Miss Hebe Bliss as Consuelo sings brilliantly and acts charmingly, while Miss Winnie Browne, a warm favourite in Lincoln, scores with her dashing performance of Anita, her burlesque of the *Merry Widow* and *Chanticler* being very amusing. Mr. Reginald Edwards is a mercurial Yacht's Boy, and Mr. William Pringle as the lugubrious Nix contributes endless amusement. Mr. Savill Foster sings well as Villiers, and Mr. J. Biron Ridout scores as Charteris, while Mr. Charles Boulting gets a lot of capital out of the part of the conspirator Diego. Mr. Lauri Aster as Bombito, Mr. Cyril K. Percival as Adolf, and Miss Edith Barwell as Isabelita are also highly successful, and Mr. J. H. Yorke conducts an excellent chorus.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Simeon the Seer, a mechanical head of amazing powers, is mystifying local audiences greatly; Florence and Rose Showell, duettists, sing very tastefully; the Sims, as an extra turn, are dainty dancers; and Canard, "the man on time," has a novel comedy contortionist act. George Golburn (comedian), Lisbon and Baker (extemporists), and Connie Rubia (comedienne) win great favour, and the Adolf Beck film provides an enthralling item.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians* pay a welcome return visit, which is to last a fortnight. Mr. Walter Passmore is Simplicitas, and it is needless to record that he keeps his audience in shouts of laughter; Mr. Oliver J. Round repeats his screamingly funny picture of the doleful Peter Doody, and seems, if anything, more comical than ever; Mr. Harold E. Pearce fits the part of Jack Meadows to a nicety, singing and acting in able fashion; Miss Billie Sinclair is a sweet Eileen Cavanagh, acquitting herself admirably and singing delightfully; Miss Veronica Brady makes a most amusing Mrs. Smith; Miss Ethel Erskine earns considerable favour for her Sombra, singing melodiously; and Miss Mabel Munro makes a talented Chrysea. The mounting and dresses are excellent.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Here this week we are having a thoroughly appreciated visit of Miss Horniman's company with *Candida*, *The Silver Box*, and *Widowers' Houses*, along with the curtain-raisers *Woman's Rights* and *Makeshifts*. In the first-named on Monday evening Mr. Henry Austin was the Rev. James Morrell, a character which he handled with fine tact and discretion; Mr. B. Iden Payne fully realised the intentions of the difficult part of Marchbanks; Mr. Francis Hope as Mr. Burgess afforded great satisfaction, his character-sketch of the coarse individual being thoroughly enjoyed; Miss Ada King showed her high talents as an actress with an able portrayal of Prosperine; Miss Darragh was a homely and natural Candida, playing with artistic ease; and Mr. J. V. Bryant proved a successful Rev. Mr. Mill.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we are having Mrs. Frank Bateman's company with *The Way Women Love*, *Sapho*, and *Camille*, which have attracted large audiences. Opening on Monday with the first-named, Mrs. Bateman was seen to much advantage as Verene Alabra, which she presented in a markedly strong manner; the rôle of Violet Tremaine found in Miss Camille Treherne a capable exponent; Miss Amy Manfree filled the part of Lottie Gray with every satisfaction; as Leslie Lammon Mr. Harry Aynsleigh was prominent; Mr. Percy Shaw caused endless laughter with his Dick Palmer; Mr. Fred W. Goddard handled the character of Captain Tremaine with much discretion; and others who lent valuable assistance were Messrs. George Herbert (John Barryford), Will White (Ben Barcombe), Herbert Barrs (José Alaros), and Miss Sadie Underhill (Frank). The pieces were staged in excellent manner.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*A Woman's Past* is the attraction, the company presenting it being that of Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke. Prominent is Miss Dora Pass, whose portrayal of Bessie finds general approval, and is greeted with loud applause; Mr. Percy Dawsone cleverly undertakes the rôle of David Heath; Mr. Charles Locke is excellent as Frank Dellannoy; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh makes the most of Uriah Craven; and creditable work also comes from Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden, Tom Chapman, and the Misses Laura Bitterne, Mabel Northam, Cherry Veheyne, and Phyllis Elton.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Messrs. Barnard and Eden are presenting here *Shall We Forgive Her?* which is receiving considerable patronage, the play being put on in good style and well handled. Mr. Charles K. Francis proves eminently successful as the missionary, Paul Elsworthy; Mr. Burton Yaldwyn makes an impressive vagabond with his Neil Garth; as Oliver West Mr. Ernest Rivary plays with much power; Mr. Richad Webb is to be commended for his James Stapleton; Miss Cicile Anson gives a most pathetic rendering of the part of Grace West; and among others who are prominent may be mentioned Mr. Arthur E. Holland (Reggie Walton) and Miss Gracie Emery (Nellie West).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners. — The main attraction here is Serene Nord, described as "the diving Venus." The artist gives a most interesting display of complicated forms of diving, in graceful manner, and finishes with a daring high dive. Tom Hearn, "the laziest juggler on earth," is as funny as ever, and gets a big round of applause; Alexandra Dagmar, with her new songs and breezy stories, pleases immensely; Dick Tubb proves an exceedingly amusing comedian; the efforts of Rauschle in his impersonations of "Makers of History" prove exceedingly interesting; a refined vocal and dancing act comes from the Eight Empire Girls; Ouida Macdermott has some popular songs; Billy Hobbs, the nimble nigger, is very droll; and Alice Kingsley, possessed of a pleasing contralto voice, renders several numbers in good style.

Royal Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hasan.—Top of the bill are Alan Holt and company, with the excellent dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*, which is witnessed with close interest; the exhibition of trick cycling shown by the Verona Troupe calls forth loud applause; Adams and Ward, acrobatic comedians, keep their audience in a good humour; Tennyson and Wallis are a couple of diverting patterers and capital dancers; some smart work as acrobats is gone through by the Juanitos Troupe; Robb Wilton, an old favourite, is as amusing as ever; the Oakes Duo have a clever musical speciality; Flo Cecil sings and dances to the general satisfaction; a merry farce, *Mistakes Will Happen*, is given by Phœbe Mercer and company; and Rolando Martin, comedian, also appears.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here is giving *Those Bells of the Sleigh*, an adaptation of "Le Juif Polonais," by Horace Allen. The principal rôles are undertaken by Messrs. Sydney Grant (Matheus), Harry Tresham (Christian), Miss Lena Nazeby (Catherine), and E. D. Allen (the Jew). Brown's Bioscope shows Held for Ransom.

Olympia. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Frank and Jen Latona are here delighting everybody with their particularly smart musical act; Hagedorn's Grotto is a charming and artistic spectacle; Tom Leamore has a rousing reception for his funny songs and eccentricities; a clever and humorous turn comes from the Three Van Dammes, acrobats and tumblers; Margaret Parker and company present a neat interlude, *Lucky Jim*, which proves immensely pleasing; the Serenaders have an artistic vocal scena, *Old Venice;* Little Ganty is as funny as ever; as comedians and dancers Kerr and Koe earn rounds of applause; Pip Powell and Katie Vesey afford every satisfaction with their musical comedy duologue, "A Perfect Woman"; and Jessie Buckle delights with her singing and dancing.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter. — Great laughter follows the work of Fred Karno's company in *Perkins, M.P.*, with Albert Bruno in the title-rôle; Ernest Rees convulses his audience with amusing songs and stories; Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, please; an artistic musical speciality act is provided by the great Virto, assisted by his talented daughter Venita; La Belle Duchess presents her smart animal performers; Smith and Gibbs go through a quiet but quaint athletic turn; the Litz Bros. earn much favour for their trick and comedy cycling; Olive and Owen are a couple of droll comedians; and Fanny Humber as an instrumentalist, vocalist, and dancer, affords satisfaction.

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Metz and Metz top a good bill here, and their efforts are warmly applauded; Victoria Cross contributes some good Scotch songs; Ford Williams has a capital voice; Willie Warton mystifies the audiences with some clever conjuring; Hyam Merry is a quaint comedian; and Grenville and Williams complete.

Pier Pavilion.—Secretary, Mr. Sam Hughes.—The augmented orchestra, under the personal supervision of Mr. Arthur W. Payne, F.R.C.M., commence to-day, when Mme. Conly and Charles Tree will be the vocalists.

LLANELLY.—Royalty.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Resident-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Oswald Craig's company in *When it was Dark* is meeting with much success. Mr. Wordsley Hulse gives a good portrayal of Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Craig takes the part of Basil Gortre exceptionally well; as Harold Spence Mr. Chas. H. Baker is very good, as is also Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewelyn. Miss Lilian Herries is most successful as Gertrude Hunt, and Miss Rosalie Nottrelle is charming as Helena. Miss Madeline Grand and Mr. Sidney Claydon as Charlie Gadfly and Gracie Goldeye do extremely well, and Mr. W. Manfre is very good as Mr. Byars.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — Temperance Hall. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—Continued success attends the "World in Motion" entertainments. The pictures this week include The Pine Ridge Feud, a dramatic story of a Western American vendetta, and A Sister's Sacrifice, with some good comedy subjects. Mr. George Russell, comedian, and The Levans, song illustrators, provide variety.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Following a run of drama we have a refreshing change this week in the musical comedy *Lucky Liza*, and the bright singing and dancing (by the Jesmond Trio) make up a most enjoyable entertainment. Mr. Dickie Clare—who is well remembered here in pantomime—works cleverly in his various disguises and character-sketches, and is admirably supported by Miss Vesta Brownie, who gives a bright and vivacious piece of acting, singing and dancing in the name-part. Mr. Leonard Maitland affords much amusement as Paul, and Mme. Constance Bellamy appears in excellent voice in her allotted numbers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—A capital variety bill includes The Great Airship Flight amongst the pictorial subjects. Enjoyable turns are afforded by Will Black (the eccentric Scot), R. S. Williams (musical tramp), and D. W. Watson (cornet and post-horn soloist).

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The St. Louis Animated Picture Company opened here on Monday for a short season. The films shown are admirable, especially worthy of mention being The Life of Moses, In Little Italy, Sins of the Father, Rag Merchant's Wedding, and Short-Sighted Sportsman. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Tom Norman, comedian, his songs being well received.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The bill here is headed by the well-known Selbinis, who, in their remarkably smart cycling act, rouse the audiences to enthusiasm; Robins and Collier put on a very amusing sketch, entitled *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg;* Miss Belle Green is a humorous entertainer at the piano; Joe Archer and Ted Cowan do well with their songs and drollery; Miss Elsie Ellis and Miss Lily Esplin, comediennes, are also good; and the electric pictures prove attractive.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, and company are appearing here this week in a répertoire of Ibsen's plays. *A Doll's House* was given on Monday with complete success, Miss Octavia Kenmore being particularly good as Nora Helmer, and Mr. Leigh Lovel quite at home as Torvald; while among others, Mr. Arthur Rodney played with distinction as Nils Krogstadt. The other plays are *When We Dead Awaken* (and the fourth act of *Brand*), and *Hedda Gabler*.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*Charley's Aunt* is the attraction here. Mr. Brandon Thomas and his company render the old favourite with all the accustomed spirit and fun, and there is not a dull moment throughout. Mr. Stanley Cooke retains his part of Babberley, and Miss Bertha Wilson plays Ela Delahay very nicely, the rôle of Colonel Chesney being still in the hands of the author. It is preceded by *A Highland Legacy*, a one-act piece from the same pen.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—The fare here this week is *Widowers' Houses*, preceded by Mr. Basil Dean's short play *Marriages are Made in Heaven*. The chief feature of interest in Monday's performance of the first-named play was Mr. Edward Landor's rendering of the part of Lickcheese, by way of deputy for Mr. B. Iden Payne, who is particularly good in this rôle. Mr. Landor's assumption was excellent. Mr. Charles Bibby repeated his fine impersonation of Cokane; Miss Edyth Goodall gave a virile rendering of Blanche; Mr. Montague Elphinstone made a capital Waiter; and Mr. Stanley Drewitt proved an acceptable Sartorius; while Mr. Basil Dean played Dr. Trench in his usual easy style. Miss Louise Holbrook was good as the Parlourmaid; and Mr. Athol Johnstone as the Porter completed an excellent cast.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company are here in *Her Path of Sorrow*, an effective drama by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Mr. Charles Draycott as the heroic Richard Burfield is admirably placed; and equally happy in her part is Mrs. Draycott as Pauline Ferrara. Mr. Frank Eaglesfield is sufficiently villainous as Guy Lowther; and as a warning to girls the betrayed and deserted Nellie Rayne is strongly presented by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne. Lighter interest is well supplied by Mr. Will Hook as Tommy Onions, Miss Nellie Freeland as Mlle. Lucille, and Miss Daisy Carlton as Polly Green.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A good programme here is headed by the popular comedians Cullen and Carthy, supplemented by Little Culey; Diana Hope and Monty Bayly are also prominent in their dramatic episode *The Altar of Duty;* and another excellent turn is that of Dave Carter, the well-known Irish tenor. Enjoyable items are added by Mlle. De Louvois and company in living picture groups; Dolly and Elsie, dainty duettists and dancers; A. H. Drinkwater, light comedian; the Eight Tennessee Coloured Guards, in their American scena; Golden and Chance, in a novel act; and Cara Magda, lady gymnast.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Harry Foxwell's company is once more delighting local audiences by their performances of the homely and popular drama, *Mother*, by Sheila Walsh. Mr. J. O. Stewart as Duncan and Miss Grace Jones as Nellie are the principals in a thoroughly competent cast.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his company of Shakespearean players resume their circuit of local theatres here this week. *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* are in the programme for the first half of the week. The plays are well interpreted and admirably staged.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr James R. Trippett.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company are again this week entertaining local audiences in répertoire. Monday's play was *Plot and

the prince of ventriloquists, tops the bill here; while in the second place of honour are Jack and Evelyn, in their latest comedy creations. Edward Lauri, May Beatty, and company appear successfully in *The Lady Bandit*; Tim O'Connor, comedian, is very well received; and other good turns are the Three Orleans, vocalists and dancers; the Ten Genis, in a clever Risley act; S. W. Wyndham, comedian; Jack Marks, juvenile Hebrew comedian; and Daisy James, the popular London comedienne.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes.—Florrie Gallimore is the popular top turn here this week; and Herbert Dickeson and company, supported by Miss Violet Gwyn-Lytton, present a successful musical comedy, *A Fair Exchange*. Good turns are added by Dower and Denville, in a speciality act; Lulu Langley, comedienne; Lona de Paiva, operatic vocalist; Sam Williams, comedian; Josie Delaine, comedienne and dancer; and the Vanderbilts, comedy duo.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Cheebert's Chinese Troupe top the bill this week, and are very clever and well received; Jan Rudenyi and company, in *The Power of Music*, is also a strong item; Ernesto gives a good juggling and equilibristic act; Harry Conlin, comedian, is smart and enjoyable; Harrigan and Holt are funny as the Inspector and the Policeman; and other good turns are Alf. Brookes, patter comedian; the Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats; the Days, wonderful exponents of second sight; and Baby Myrtle Grove, the Pierrot.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Here for a second week are the Royal Strolers, including those capable artists, Madeline Rossiter, comedienne; G. W. Desmond, light comedian; Gilbert Fernie, entertainer; Nellie Seymour James, soprano; Dorothy Belmore, at the piano; Jack Austin, tenor; and Frank Halpin, basso.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—Excellent new films are again shown this week. Full houses twice nightly and at matinées are the result. A Fickle Girl, A Lady's Train, Foolshead Wants to Know Is He Mad, The Judge and The Girl, Poor Pa Pays, Rival Alpine Guides, A Vile Plot, and Mr. Giddes' Revenge are among the pictures this week.

MANSFIELD. — GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Clayton.—Messrs. Henry Chattel and Jack Denton's company is appearing in *Through the Divorce Court*. Mr. Robert Purdie gives a strong portrayal of Lord Penarth; Mr. Henry C. Cooper is effective as Mendoza; Mr. John Campling is good as Di Valdiz; Mr. Jack Denton is excellent in the humorous part of Algy Fitzmaurice; Mr. E. W. Thomas deals successfully with Peter Pettigrew; and Mr. Harry Colbeck scores as Rafferty. Miss Hettie Chattell gives a sympathetic rendering of Lady Penarth, playing with great pathos and feeling; little Constance Dagmar is a winning Sybil Penarth; Miss Edith Cruikshanks presents a successful character study of Lady Hilda Fitzmaurice; Miss Patty Groves is praiseworthy as Rachel; and Miss Nellie Sheffield capably presents the part of Dinah. The scenery and effects are adequate.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—*The Scapegrace* has been here this week. The part of Bill Burke is played with great dramatic effect by Mr. John Levy, and other characters in his company are sustained with success by Messrs. F. Dudley, W. A. Buckstone, H. F. Cresswell, Larry Clements, J. Ballard, T. Chapman, J. Willoughby, Misses Maude Lambert, Beatrice Weston, Nellie Lambert, and Maude Western.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—Heading the programme this week is the clever Wolowsky Troupe of Russian troubadors and expert whirlwind dancers. Their entertainment is a striking one, and includes their tuneful orchestra of twelve performers with national instruments. Tom Franks, ventriloquist, does an amusing turn, and other contributions to an interesting programme include Madge Brownie, a dainty comedy artiste; Lylie Read, comedienne, the Sisters Wayland, duettists and dancers; the Two Walonels, in their comedy bar act; and George Grogie, comedian.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mrs. Morton Powell presents *How Girls Are Brought to Ruin*, a drama brimful of incident. Chief characters are ably sustained by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne as Jessie Burton, Mrs. Morton Powell as Winnie Waters, Mr. Harry Scott as Harry Hailing, and Mr. Edward M. Heanley as Philip Edge.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The bill includes Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers; Charles Sewell and Sara Dudley, in the sparklet *The Sun Bath*; Lawson and Dell, comedy duo and dancers; Cooper's Mannikins; Joey Sterling, comedian; and Dorothy Dene, comedienne. The high standard of the pictures is maintained.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Mr. Chas. Carte is this week presenting *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Chas. Carte plays with rare dramatic skill as Jerry, the tramp; Mr. Henry Childs plays well as Jack Elsworth; a vigorous impersonation of Henry Travers is given by Mr. Frank Carlile; Mr. Sydney Gordon makes the most of the part of Colonel Leigh; Miss K. Birchley plays with charm and sympathy as Nana Leigh; Mrs. Leigh is ably impersonated by Miss Alice Ballard; and Miss Amy Le Gras is a pleasing Rosie.

NEW PICTURE HALL.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Leading pictures in a capital programme this week are Sugar-Cane Industry, The Man Hunt, An Outlaw's Sacrifice, and humorous pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. C. W. Standing's small but well-chosen company is presenting *The Marriage of Kitty*, in which Miss Myra Swan, a local lady, makes her first professional appearance. Her interpretation of Kitty is deserving of high praise. Miss Winifred Pearson as Madame de Semiano is distinctly clever, and the rôle of Sir Reginald Belsize is admirably filled by Mr. C. W. Standing. The comedy is preceded by *The Man in the Street*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—*The Outcast of the Family*, as played by Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company, meets with a hearty welcome. As Stephen Barry, the village blacksmith, Mr. Herbert Bentone is deservedly well received, and the other characters are in competent hands. The drama is well staged.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Mr. Will Lytton and company appear with success in an Egyptian musical comedietta; Hanvarr and Miss Annie Lee, in *The Golfer and the Maid*, give a refined and clever show; *Half a Dollar* is admirably and funnily played by Haines and Borthwick; the Northcotes, operatic duettists, Miss Maud Vera, comedienne, Harry Vardon, ventriloquist, Peter Bermingham, Scotch comedian, and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Todd.—Pictures continue to draw well here. The show is changed twice weekly.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Porter.—Variety holds sway here this week, a capital bill being presented. The top star is supplied by Mikado, the mind-reading dog; Miss Marie Lord, comedienne, is greatly appreciated for her refined singing; and other contributors are those of Fritz Von Liston, siffleur and mimic, who impersonates with much skill the principal characters in *Chantecler*; Miss Gracie Bard, chorus comedienne; Worth and Worth, in their comedy sketch, *Hunting*; Paul Pry, comedian; Mlle. Marvelle, with her educated cockatoos, macaws, and magpie pigeons; and Ascott and Dewey, in an interesting ballooning scena.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—An excellent programme is headed by the Four Phillipi Bros., who, in their amusing sketch, *Sergeant Fearnought and His Raw Recruits*, introduce some clever acrobatic feats; Les Supriskins are lady gymnasts of more than ordinary ability; and capital turns are also supplied by Hall and Wilson, championship cyclists, the former going through many difficult tricks on rollers; Will Atom and company, in a farcical absurdity, entitled *Wiggles*; the Martons, in comedy duologue; and Molly Seymour, comedienne and violinist. Other contributors are Purvis and Partner, in a screaming comedy, *The Postman's Knock*, and Ida Dorrie, a dainty soubrette.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Delightful comedies are being thoroughly appreciated by large audiences. *A Country Mouse*, splendidly staged and capitally acted by Mr. J. E. Watson's company, was well received, and the farcical comedy *The New Boy* caused roars of laughter. As a first piece *An Afternoon Call* is played.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The New Brighton Pier Co.; Secretary, Mr. E. W. Kampion.—A vaudeville programme is presented here by the Brownies, a smart concert party; the Child Trio, two girls and a boy, talented instrumentalists; Elliot and Lane; also Hayes and Waller, dancing experts. The Pier orchestra plays several selections.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The Follies are here this week. The first part of the programme, consisting of solos and concerted numbers, proves exceptionally delightful. The trio "Down by the Wangaroo," by Gwennie Mars, Douglas Maclaren, and Dan Everard, is charmingly rendered; whilst a tuneful number, "In my garden of roses," is effectively sung by Miss Effie Cook. Mr. Lewis Sydney is happy in a characteristically clever pianoforte sketch; and many other attractive items are submitted, including a series of entertaining quartettes, "Port," "Cider," and "Rum." In the second portion Pelissier succeeds to the utmost in his laughable potted plays, *Henry of Navarre*, *Fires of Fate*, and *The King of Cadonia*.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Horace Lingard and Arthur Shelton's company opened here on Monday with *Fanny and the Servant Problem*. Miss Beatrice Moreau in the title-part plays with credit. She has much dramatic skill, and has a happy style. As Martin Bennet Mr. Horace Lingard is irresistible, and his acting is responsible for much merriment; Mr. Russell Davis enacts Lord Bantock remarkably well; Miss Baring submits an excellent character study of Susannah Bennet; Miss Coldridge and Miss Mabyn Fay are to be congratulated on their acting of the two aunts; the rôle of George Newte is admirably played by Mr A. E. Jackson; and other parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Roland Hope, Mr. A. Lightowler, Miss Phyllis Brent, and Miss Hilda Lane.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company in *The 10.30 Down Express* is here. Mr. T. Arthur Plummer played with care and ability the part of Jack O'Malley; Bessie Leigh was portrayed with great power and sympathy by Miss Cora Linda; Mr Fred Wilberforce as James Inderwick performed very creditably; Mr. Horace Stanley as Sam Waggstaffe extracted plenty of humour from the rôle and was ably assisted by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts; Mr. T. B. Brabazon gave a thoroughly convincing study of Cuthbert Leigh. Mr. Evan Roland as Seth Coombes acquitted himself satisfactorily; and Mr. Edwin Clarke as Hunt ley Mason was worthy of praise.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Miss Ada Reeve holds the premier position here, her delightfully rendered songs, combined with her own charming personality, fairly captivating the crowded houses. An amusing and clever instrumental turn is presented by Leslie Bros.; another turn if merit is that of the De Wynne Bros., the "sangfroid athletes," who, in ordinary attire, perform some remarkably clever and difficult feats. Dusty Rhodes, a quaint comedian with a quaint style proves most amusing; and another laughable item is presented by Frank and Free, comedy artists. Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, gives a most enjoyable and laughable performance, and is responsible for a good deal of wholesome merriment; and other capital turns are done by Frank H. Fox, active comedian; Lux and his dogs; and W. Selkirk's Boy Scouts; the Bioscope completing the bill.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Responsible Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—The Play Productions Company present *A Heart's Desire*, under the direction of Messrs Elliman.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy A. Wilde.—The eccentricities of the Brothers Egbert, the happy dustmen, are more than ever a source of amusement; the performance of Miss Juliette's educated sea lions is popular; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce combine comedy and excellent vocal ability; Drew and Alders succeed in arousing hearty laughter with their comical act *The Coastguards*; Lena Verdi does remarkably well in song and mimicry; and Amy Marsden finds many admirers. Walker and May earn a flattering reception with their Darktown ditties and excellent dancing. The Bioscope pictures complete an entertaining programme.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* makes a very picturesque film subject, and is deservedly applauded. Pokahunta is a Red Indian story, and The Cowboy's Narrow Escape is also a thriller; No Smoking, and Pity the Blind are good comics. Miss Margaret Payne sings two good songs, "One sweet rose" and "Meet me to-night in dreamland."

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle-Edwards.—Amongst the principal films are The Leper of Aosta, Barbeine, and The Alpine Chasseurs. Foolshead learning to somersault is one of the best of comics. Miss Gertie Francis is the pianiste.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is presenting *Miss Plaster of Paris* here, which has had an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Charles Tolcher as Numskull Nubbs gives a most amusing impersonation; Mr. Harry Ed. Ray as Alexander, the waiter, keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon makes a capital Tom Flubbs; and Mr. Sid Dean is smart as Mrs. Nubbs. As Eliza Plaster Miss Celestine Brandon makes a great hit; and Miss Chalmers proves an effective Medea Hamilton. Specialities are successfully introduced by the Three Berlin Belles, dancers, Miss Celestine Brandon, and the Sisters Holman, duettists and dancers.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—A good bill of fare has drawn large audiences. Billy Richardson, black-faced comedian, gives a clever and amusing performance; the Three Sisters Duggan, song and dance artists, receive well-merited approbation; Maud Tuch, comedienne, has made a hit; the Brothers Armstrong prove themselves popular comedians; and a capital series of films meet with much appreciation.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Closed for the week.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Joe Peterman and Mr. George Ricketts present *The Belle of the Orient*, in which Messrs. George Ricketts, Chas. Hylton, Walter Williams, and Miss Rosali Jacobi appear; the Lafaille Troupe of gymnasts and equilibrists display much ability; Arthur Croxon is a first-class mimetic comedian; Fred Herbert is a great favourite; Moon and Morris receive much applause for their unique dancing; Sergt. Bert Powell scores as an illusionist; the Rosses are expert dancers; and May B. Brilliant proves a chic comedienne.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The Compton Comedy Company is attracting large audiences. On Monday evening *Davy Garrick* was presented, and the title-rôle was sustained by Mr. Edward Compton in his own inimitable manner. Mr. Henry Crocker filled the part of the Alderman with distinction; and Mr. Frank Royde presented an admirable study of the Hon. Tom. Messrs. Gordon, Austin, and Marquand left nothing to be desired; and Mr. Laurence Meade as the servant and Mr. Frank Snell both did good work. As Violet Miss Kathleen Leigh looked very sweet and acted charmingly; while Misses Hassell and Stevens acquitted themselves efficiently. *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Road to Ruin*, *The School for Scandal*, *Used Up*, and *The Rivals* are also in the week's bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is presenting *Can a Woman be Good?* In the leading rôle Miss Blanche St. Albans uses her highly-developed powers to excellent advantage, and is ably assisted by Mr. J. Millane as Manuel Errington. In the villain's part Mr. Harry C. Robinson demonstrates his possession of histrionic abilities of no mean order; and Miss Florence Hunt as Naomi Merrick adds no little to the success of the presentation. Mr. J. Leicester Jackson and Mr. Ernest St. John work hard; and Misses Mabel Rose and Norah Melton are deserving of commendation. The production reflects great credit upon all concerned.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Harry Tate, in his droll sketch *Fishing*, divides honours with Jack Pleasants, whose unique manner of being funny has much to commend it; at the other end of the programme Nelson Jackson holds his own in his well-known refined and pleasing style; Ryan and Hall present their acrobatics in an eccentric fashion that compels loud and prolonged laughter; and Cumminger and Colonna dance themselves into favour. Addie Dorina's quick changes are remarkable; and the imitations of the "stars" by D'Arc's Marionettes are wonderful. Les Salas demonstrate their possession of marvellous voices; and King's College Boys present an enjoyable turn. The usual Bioscope pictures are this week of exceptional interest.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—An Oriental turn, set in eastern splendour, is that of the Mirza-Golem Troupe, an act at once gorgeous and interesting and possessing distinctly novel features; Mr. J. Wright Aitken and his company in the dramatic sketch *The Battle of Life* do good work, and achieve excellent results; Nellie Dallwood is a comedienne and dancer of merit; and Albert St. Clair has remarkable vocal gifts. The Two Mackays create much mirth; and the Richards Trio in their acrobatic act are smart and funny. The Four Sidney Girls dance and sing satisfactorily; and an acrobatic turn that goes with a snap is that of the Three Orros. Chris. Baker creates laughter; and the Bioscope pictures of Paulhan's flight are highly interesting.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company is here with *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford plays the hero, Tom Manley, with success; Mr. J. Summerville is powerful as James Hammond; Mr. S. Fortescue is a satisfactory William Farren; Mr. J. Cameron makes the most of his opportunities as David Morris; Mr. Rupert Talbot as Sam Kidder successfully handles the light part of the play; Miss Hilda Baynton as Rosa Prescott is a charming heroine; Miss Clarice Jenner is a vivacious Ruth Manley; Miss Alice Dent acquits herself well as Mrs. Manley; and Baby Freda secures much applause for the clever manner in which she fills the pathetic rôle of Little Nellie.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This theatre was closed last Saturday owing to the King's death, and remained so till Thursday, when Mr. Martin Harvey opened with *The Only Way*. Mr. Harvey was announced to fill a week's engagement here, but preferred not to open for the first three nights out of respect to the late King.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company is giving a creditable presentment of *Secrets*. Mr. Harry Parr gives a robust portrayal of Lieut. Herbert Markham. Mr. Frederick Biron makes the most of the Caliph; and Mr. Harry Leyton does good work as Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Mr. Edwin Firth shows experience and skill as Ibrahim; and Mr. E. Holland Day is a success as Kara. As Peter Wilkins, Mr. Karl Edwards is again to the fore, and scores an undoubted success; Miss Katie Norris is full of life and energy as Winnie Wilkins; Miss Viva Rogerson is well suited in every way as Kasicki; and Miss Mabel Parker makes a good Theresa Meleda. Miss Elma C. Turner imbues Imalia Meleda with all the sympathy and grace which is naturally at her command.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—There is being presented here this week by Mr. Wilson Howard and company *Under the Iron Heel*. As Rene de Maupassant Mr. Wilson Howard gives a sound performance; Mr. J. W. Richards as Otto Marx displays ability in a powerful rôle; Mr. John Talford submits a faithful embodiment of Father Mirbeau; a capital enactment of Major Schomberg is supplied by Mr. Dennis Clyde; Mr. Carl Vallender sustains well the comedy part of Schultz; Mr. Austin H. Longford gives an admirable interepretation of Sergeant Bleucher; and capital renderings of Michaelolnet and Colonel Muller are given by Mr. Gerald Smythe and Mr. R. Merring respectively. Miss Carlotta Anson plays with charm and ability the part of Germaine; an excellent exponent of Mme. Gouffe is found in Miss J. Douglas Hicks; and Miss Marie Angus furnishes a delightful portraiture of the boy part, Andre.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Lily Morris, the popular comedienne, is proving a decided draw; a sensational turn is provided by the Tom Davis Trio, whose motor-cycling on a suspended track is of a daring nature; the Austral Trio delight with a refined and versatile act, entitled *A Musical Evening*; Bruce Green, comedian, is entertaining; the Werds Brothers display ability in their acrobatic exhibition; Walter Wade scores as a comedian; Alf. Guest and Dorothy Newlyn contribute a pleasing and enjoyable turn; Les Wartanas provide an excellent juggling speciality; and the Bioscope this week, besides other pictures, depicts the London to Manchester aviation flight.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An attractive programme is headed by the Brooklyn Comedy Four in harmony and humour. Little Hackenschmidt (the boy wrestler) creates much interest by his challenges to local wrestlers; a clever lightning club throwing act is contributed by the Zanonis; Mi Narom proves herself to be a most versatile comedienne; and up-to-date pictures shown.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—Life of Moses (Part V.), Death of Brigand Chief, and Lady's Maid are included in a fine picture programme. The Four Watsons are versatile artists.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The Gallimore Trio take premier place in a capital programme this week; Persugal is a smart ventriloquist; Hargadon and Cole give an entertaining musical comedy sketch; and the Brothers Long are capital dancers. A fine series of pictures include The Ranchman's Rival.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.— Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The principal attraction is the marvellous display of hoop-spinning given by Everhart, the world-famous hoop expert; Minola Hurst and her Miniature Marvels are a complete success; George James is a pleasing comedian; Signor Torti, Italian tenor, is possessed of a very fine voice; the Six Manchester Lads create much enthusiasm by their excellent dancing; Doris Lane is a delightful singer and dancer; Alice Hughes and company provoke endless laughter with their comedy sketch *Star of the Bazaar*; and the Karnoscope concludes with new pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's talented company opened a week's engagement on Monday, when *The Marriage of Kitty* was presented. As Sir Reginald Belsize Mr. Norman proves himself to be a capital exponent of light comedy; Miss Beatrice Wilson does brilliantly as Kitty; Miss Goolding is quite at home as the excitable Mme. de Lemiano; and Mr. Lock Whitaker acts the family lawyer, John Towers, firmly. On Wednesday *David Garrick* was staged.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—A fantastic scena by Princess D'Aryata is the chief attraction here, the four scenes being characterised by some splendid dancing and brilliant effects; Thora, a ventriloquist disguised as a lady, deserves the applause bestowed; Dort and Leonard are responsible for some first-rate tumbling; Agnes Tina, a mimic of tender years, is successful; the Zosquarus are amusing burlesque artists and dancers; Beresford, a local bluejacket, performs some clever conjuring feats and smoke drawings; and Syd Walker is a comedian of ability.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Ronna Shanara's miniature Thibet Mountain Deer Goats head the programme with a clever performance; Corrix presents a pleasing turn as an herculean equilibrist, being ably assisted by an expert juggler; Wyllie as a tramp musician delights his audience; and other turns are Tiny Arnold, comedienne; Kitty Bell, comedienne and dancer; Florrie Ellis, character vocalist; and Snowball and Mac, in a comedy sketch *Hunting*. The Alexscope depicts An Apish Trick and Golf Mania.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*A Life for a Life* is performed here by Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company. Mr. Edward G. Ashby is good as Don Leon Fernandez, Mr. Hugh Travers is a capable Pedro Li Calci; and Mr. W. H. Carr a capital John Evelyn. Mr. Harold Kinton scores as Bunker Ben; Mr. Geo. Daiper is an admirable Kit Oswald; Mr. Fred Yarnold is a funny Tim M'Carthy; Miss Jennie Clare plays as Nancy; Miss Lallah Davis Eulalie, Miss Winnie Warden Venetta, and Miss Dorothy Riddell gives an able rendering of Kate Evelyn.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd., Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies, under the direction of Miss Lillie Vine, top the bill here. Ray and Lingard present an amusing comical duologue, *The First of April*; Madge Beresford's chorus songs are quite the rage; the Estor Trio are marvellous equilibrists; the San Remo Girls are good speciality dancers; Arthur J. Hill gives a wonderful Liliputian act; Gracie Grahame repeats her successes here, winning the hearts of all; and the Bioscope projects excellent pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—This house resounded on Monday night to the merry music of *The Mikado*, by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. On Tuesday a thoroughly enthusiastic audience applauded *The Gondoliers*, and welcomed two old favourites in Mr. Henry A. Lytton as the Duke of Plaza Toro and Mr. F. Billington as the Grand Inquisitor, both comedians investing their impersonations with the raciest humour. Mrs. Arthur Rousbey's beautiful soprano voice was heard to great advantage as Gianetta, while Tessa had a fascinating exponent in Miss Beatrice Boarer; Miss Louie Rene was quite at home as the stately Duchess, Miss Mabel Graham scoring as Casilda; both Messrs. Leicester Tunks and Henry Herbert as the gondoliers, Guiseppe and Marco, were most successful, Mr. Sydney Granville doing well as Luiz. The powerful chorus sang with precision and effect, under the direction of Mr. François Cellier. *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, and *Patience* are billed for the rest of the week.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Sinner*, an exciting melodrama, presented by Mr. Wilson Benge and company, is the attraction. The outstanding feature of the performance is the fine acting of Mr. Wilson Benge, who enacts Monk Stretton in a vigorous manner. All the other parts are in capable hands, and the play is well staged.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The chief item on the programme is a tabloid musical comedy, presented by Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley, entitled *The Prince of the Dandies*. The Empire Girls, by their charming and graceful dancing, and Arthur Watson, by his humorous rendering of the part of Sprouts, ensure the success of this miniature comedy. Harris Coonie's wonderful exhibition of wooden-shoe dancing excites the admiration of the audience; Merton and Rydon provide much mirth by their humorous songs and amusing antics; Will Norrie possesses a fine tenor voice, and his rendering of "Thora" is much applauded; Edie King gives a clever exposition of various national dances; the Bros. Curran contribute an amusing fistic act; Dancit fully sustains her title of "Queen of the clog"; the Four Pawels are knockabout acrobats; Payne's Bio-Photoscope exhibits a film of the race through the air from London to Manchester.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Happy Fanny Fields apparently infects the audience with her own merry humour, and is enthusiastically applauded; Arthur Lennard's songs are pleasing; Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts, supported by a numerous company, amuse with *Slaterstein's, Ltd.*; Max Waldon is an exceptionally clever female impersonator; Irish songs have a melodious exponent in Walter Munroe; Lily Palmer sings and dances; and the Gilberts are at home on the wire, their Camp scene being picturesque.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Mr. Peter Davey presents *Cock-a-Doodle-Doo*, his skit on *Chantecler*, the stage being arranged as a farmyard with a chicken run, in which the birds, represented by Misses M. Sadie, Nellie James, and Theodore Roosterfeld, the cock, by Mr. W. Lazard, disport themselves; an exhibition of canine intelligence is given by Richard Braatz in the dog drama, *The Burglar's Fate*; Paul Conchas excites attention by his handling of heavy shells, a torpedo, and cannon-balls; music and singing have exponents in the Three Comedy Chanters; a sensational acrobatic display is provided by the Five Havanas; the Sisters Karlteson are seen to advantage as gymnasts and contortionists; and other notable turns are Harry Taft, comedian and whistler; A. W. Scott, coon delineator; and W. G. Wesley, comedian.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—W. W. Kelly's London company in *A Royal Divorce* is, as usual, doing good business this week. Mr. Frederick Moyes gives an excellent presentation of Napoleon; Miss Violet Ellicott gives a most pathetic portrayal of the Empress Josephine; Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise proves herself an accomplished actress; Mr. J. H. Roberts is exceedingly good as Talleyrand; and Mr. Charles Stirling as Marquis de Beaumont and Mr. Ernest Plumpton as General Augereau are capable in their respective parts. Mr. George Hudson as Grimaud is a welcome mirth-provider. A word of praise is due to Miss Dorothy Garth for her dainty rendition of Stephanie.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Harry Ford is making a huge hit here this week, and is, if possible, more popular than ever; Robb Rossi is a tenor vocalist far above the average, and meets with vociferous applause and encores nightly—a really good artist; Miss Millie Engler and company in Geo. R. Sims's farcical episode *Beauty and the Burglar* are excellent, Miss Louie Tinsley as Polly being a low comedienne of the first water; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists, contribute a pleasing turn; Four Hawkers, in glees, songs, and dances, are decidedly original; Ronald George is an exceedingly clever instrumentalist; Pichel and Scale contribute an eccentric comedy acrobatic act; Les Lanas (Kitty and Ada), vocalists and speciality dancers, are a pleasing turn; and the Two Hillands, in a musical acrobatic and dancing absurdity, are most amusing.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company in *Her Life in London* is this week's attraction. Mr. Stanley Carlton is decidedly well suited to the part of Rev. Allen Gordon; Mr. Claude Aymond is equally good in a totally different way as the villainous burglar; and the comedy parts are in good hands, Mr. W. Vernon as Percy Plunker, supported by Miss R. B. Douglas as Dolly making the utmost of their respective parts. Miss Constance Medwyn displays much ability as Madge Rundall, and as Astra Bell Miss Ruby Maude is entitled to the highest praise.

RAMSGATE.—MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The animated pictures exhibited here each evening continue to be of a most attractive character. They cover all kinds of subjects—topical, dramatic, humorous. A very clever act is supplied by Sydney Brandon, whose dramatic impersonations of characters from famous books and plays are first-rate features of a thoroughly good programme.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—An excellent show of animated pictures has been given at the Palace this week, interspersed with pleasing varieties. Trillo, a clever ventriloquist, gives thoroughly popular turns, as do also Dean and Watson (sketch artists, who contribute an item, entitled *Tit-Bits*), and Miss Rosie Beech, who sings in capital style.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is appearing this week in the domestic drama *The Better Land*. The principal characters of Philip Radcliffe and his wife Doris are sustained with much power by Mr. Douglas Watson and Miss Marguerite Trevosper. The part of Hubert Radcliffe is characteristically taken by Mr. Leonard Booker; Harry and Tessa are cleverly impersonated by Miss Gertie Moody and Miss Elsie Jones; and other parts are ably sustained by Messrs. Hill Cremer, Fred Richards, Paul Milne, J. F. Hughes, Miss Madge Trevelyan, Miss Kitty Terriss, and Miss Bella Moody.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—The Betsons, comedy cyclists, give a clever performance; the Korries make a welcome reappearance in an original musical act; Mlle. Ottino, an expert lady conjurer, gives a very acceptable turn; and Annie Heath is a pleasing comedienne. The chief attraction of the evening is undoubtedly that of Rousby's company in *Greater London*, which is divided into three scenes depicting the White City, An Incident (the Tourist's Dream) in the National Gallery, and A Grand Panoramic View of Mighty London in 1910, seen from the roof garden of a West End hotel. A series of extremely clever dioramic and mechanical effects are introduced, including beautiful illuminations and coloured cascade effects, the flip-flap and air-ships in the White City, a volcano eruption, and a most realistic representation of a torrential storm, followed by a glorious sunset and bright moonlight night in the last scene. Crawford and Johnson, Creole instrumentalists and dancers, give a good turn; the Smythsons appear with success in a comedietta, *Our Suite*; Happy Attwood gives a droll performance; the Garricks, musical quartette, are well received; and some good pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

THE NEW CENTRAL SKATING RINK continues to be well patronised. A grand masked carnival is being arranged for.

VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Some excellent films are being exhibited here, including a representation of the Proclamation of King George V.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—The films shown here this week include Hearts are Trumps, The Girls of the Range, Where Teak Wood Grows, and His Hundredth Birthday.

BIO. PICTURE LAND.—A capital series of animated pictures are being projected here.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Hollands.—Zona Vevey del

Vernon, who has often given pleasure at this house, gets much applause for her songs, including "Emblems." Louie Tracy, smart male impersonator, also is a great favourite; Charles Lilburn keeps the house in roars with his songs and patter. The programme, which is an excellent one, also includes turns by Leslie Race, vocal comedian; E. J. Sheldon, comedian; T. E. Johnstone, topical character vocalist; J. H. Ellis, comedian; Lucy Gillett, a clever young juggler; and Williams and Warden, comedians.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*The Enemy of Woman* drew a good house on Monday, when Mr. Stuart Lomath ably sustained the hero, Captain Jack Merritt. The erring wife Marian was impressively portrayed by Miss Rosa Mervyn. Villainy was well represented by Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Major Stevens and Miss Amy MacNeil as Beatrice Trant. Mr. Launcelot Usher created much laughter with his Digby Trant; the boys Teddy and Frankie had excellent exponents in Miss Ethel F. Greene and Miss Dorothy Booth. Miss Ellen Owen (Kitty Crumpet), Mr. Jack Miller (Richard Manley), Mr. Victor G. Vayne (Watty Cooper), Mr. Geo. Wells (William Gibbe), and Mr. A. Jennison (Joe Stubbins) also gave satisfactory support.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent New Animated Pictures this week pack every house, and include a pathetic story, entitled Brothers, Poor Pa Pays Again, Caught in His Own Trap, The Message of an Arrow, His Last Deal, The Carmen's Dream; with songs by Mr. Tom Sherlock.

Central Hall (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Company; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include The Ticket-of-Leave Man, Seeing the Real Thing, Foolshead Rinking, Poor Pa Pays, Brothers, Winning of Father, The Girl and the Judge, and also songs by Mr. A. H. Gilbert.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—This week's pictures include The Last Cartridge, Banana Skins, Cinematographed, The Idyll of the Doctor, The Fatal Sneeze, Invisibility, The Coiners, &c.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—Haley's Garden Girls top the bill and prove highly entertaining; the Rangers are clever trick cyclists; Alfred Wellesley and company appear in an amusing sketch, *Uncle's Courtship*. Charles Rowan is a good comedian; and the efforts of F. V. St. Clair are greatly appreciated. Minnie D'Aubyn is a pleasing chorus vocalist; and Fox and Melville are successful song illustrators. Some interesting pictures are shown.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Mephisto occupies premier position here, and is very popular; Dene and Dixon are successful in the sketch *The New Page Boy*; the Donatos are clever one-legged acrobats; Tom and Neil are responsible for a very amusing wrestling act; J. Milton Hayes is well received; the Four Scoreys appear in a musical mélange, and also introduce Palmyra, the elastic lady, who is exceptionally clever; and a good musical and ventriloquial act is provided by Al and Lal. Other good turns are given by Amy Bellwood, comedienne; the Milsted Bell Trio, in the sketch *Three Sharps in a Flat*; and David Fuller, baritone vocalist.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—The vocalists for the week are Miss Rachel James (soprano) and Mr. Sam Hempsall (tenor). Excellent programmes are submitted by Baroness Von Eckardstein's private band, Conductor Mr. C. H. Allan.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company presents *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Frank Sutherland is a forceful and determined General Von Nestolde; Mr. Reginald T. Fox scores well as Captain Maximillian Lubeck; Mr. Charles H. Gallier gives a vigorous performance of Sergeant Oppenbeck; and the villain, Baron Maurice Breslaw, is skilfully enacted by Mr. Albert Guyon. The comic element is chiefly in the hands of Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl Ludhaye, who proves himself fully equal to the task. The performance of Miss Hettie Zillwood as the Grand Duchess Marie is convincing; Miss Margaret R. Frame is a satisfactory Camille; and Miss Audrey Canning an amusing Ottillie Schwartz; Miss Alice Buckland doing well as Nita Constadt.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—An exceptional treat is provided here this week by the appearance of Messrs. Shiel Porter and Garth's répertoire company. *The Money Spinner* was presented on Monday to a delighted audience. Mr. Garth was clever as Lord Kingussie; Harold Boycott found a capable exponent in Mr. Vane; Mr. McCulloch gave a sterling portrayal of Baron Croodle; as Jules Faubert Mr. Bickell submitted a finished reading of the part; Miss Ella Thornton won high encomiums as Millicent; and Dorinda was made a captivating character by Miss Coleman.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Appearing here are Relwyskow, the royal wrestler; Elsie Lloyd, comedienne; Leo and Jerry, ventriloquist; Clarice Sefton, comedienne and dancer; Allan Hanbury, comedian; Jessie Star, Scotch comedienne; Elmore and Evens, in original burlesque drama; Frank Morrel, comedian and dancer; and Stalman and Russell company, in his latest success, *Borrowed Plumes*.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Monday *Our Miss Gibbs* was played for the first time in Sheffield by Mr. George Edwardes's No. 1 company. Mr. George Gregory was responsible for many mirthful moments as the quaintly humorous Mr. Timothy Gibbs; Mr. H. V. Crofton made a smart and well-groomed Lord Eynsford; Mr. Campbell Bishop an alert solicitor as Mr. Beavis; Mr. Lionel Mackinder an amusing Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; the Earl of St. Ives was represented with characteristic *savoir faire* by Mr. Miles Clifton; Mr. Ernest Mahar was successful as Mr. Toplady; and Mr. Robert Nainby did well in the part of Slithers. As the piquant Miss Gibbs Miss Alice Pollard was the incarnation of girlish naïveté and feminine charm; Miss Marie Wilson was first-rate as the Lady Elizabeth Thanet; and the Duchess of Minster as portrayed by Miss Grace Wixon was a clever portrait of a familiar aristocratic type. The graceful pas seul of Miss Florence Phillips was enthusiastically encored; and Mr. Harold Lonsdale's careful conductorship conduced to the general success.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—*The Love that Women Desire* was acted here on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company, and proved exactly to the taste of the drama-loving of the Royal habitués. Leading characters were carefully played by Miss Hastings Walton, Miss Ada Tilley, Miss Laura Hope, Miss Georgette Thierry, Miss Una Rule, Mr. Royce Milton, Mr. Tom Kelly, Mr. Edward Beddy, and Mr. Ernest E. Norris. The play was most effectively mounted.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The King's Romance*, a romantic play, full of interest, colour, and movement, was received with loud applause here on Monday. The members of Miss Mary Austin's company all acted with convincing earnestness. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds made a typical hero of romance as the brilliant young King of Venantia, and he had a worthy consort in Miss Mary Austen, whose beauty and grace made her Vera Nevazzie a charming and sympathetic impersonation. Mr. George E. Porteous was a bold and picturesque Michael Vocurat; Miss Ethel Vinroy as Lizette was full of vivacity; and well-played characters were Mr. Henry Earlesmere's Baron Cavonia, Mr. W. Manning's Count Bavanta, Mr. Ernest Edward's Bartoi, Mr. G. L. Hasting's Curé, Miss Belle Power's Mme. Pomeroy, Mr. Geo. Tott's Pomeroy, and Mr. Frank Eastley's Gerantaigne.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar. — Mr. Fred Karno's new comic skit *Jimmy the Fearless; or, The Penny Dreadful Hero's Dream*, was presented on Monday, and the comical incidents burlesquing the Dick Darcall type caused roars of laughter. Some good scenery was provided, including a realistic mountain set. La Freya's graceful figure was displayed artistically in several classical poses; Mr. Ernie Mayne made the welkin ring with laughter and applause; the talented and amusing American frivolists, Miss Marie Stoddart and Mr. Grant Gardner, made a great hit; Miss Lottie Govell danced in a smart manner; the Kratons did a clever hoop act; and others engaged are Knowles and Barrett, Vanando, a humorous ventriloquist, &c. Good pictures of the Royal Proclamation and scenes in London proved full of topical interest.

The Hippodrome. — The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. R. A. Roberts is appearing to large houses in his thrilling and Stevensonesque protean melodrama, *Cruel Coppinger*. Acting and scenery are alike artistic. Yetta is a graceful and expert wire performer; Belrose and De Vellin are good duettists; the Sisters Brenton are popular in song and dance; and Mr. Fred Land, comic vocalist, Miss Bessie Heins, serio-comic vocalist, the great Teu-Ka Troupe of Japanese illusionists cause general wonderment, and Mr. Rearoff's well-trained horse is heartily applauded. Local and London scenes during the Proclamation are received with sympathetic cheers.

SMETHWICK. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Was She to Blame?* this well-written drama from the skilled hand of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, is drawing excellent audiences to the above house. The authoress, as Mrs. Kate Roselle, fully realises the opportunities of the part; Mr. Roland Henry, as William Clark, keeps the interest well sustained; Miss Ellen Beverley treats the part of Mary Norman in an effective manner; Miss Nancy Roberts is good as the heroine; Miss Florence Steyne is responsible for a capital bit of characterisation; Mr. George Keens is a manly Captain George Courteney; Mr. Henry Rutland, an excellent clergyman; Mr. Clavering Craig as Frank Roselle, alias Franklyn Harcourt, is all that a stage villain should be; and much amusement is caused by Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales, and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Arcadians* is being played here by a powerful company, including Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson, who, in the dual rôle of James Smith and Simplicitas, proves himself an accomplished comedian; Mr. Alfred Beers as Peter Doodey, the jockey, creates roars of laughter; Miss Gertrude Aylward as Mrs. Smith impersonates a difficult character perfectly; and the remaining characters are well sustained.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—An excellent all-round company includes Joe Elvin and company, in a comedy sketch *The Rocket*; Victor Courtneidge, light comedian; Ada Martine, comedienne; the Cromwells, jugglers; Joe Belmont, comedian; Chas. Bankes, humorist; and Rosie Lloyd, comedienne.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Conlson.—Messrs. O. Silverston and H. Wright's company is here in *The Nihilist*. Mr. Geo. Mitchell makes an heroic Ivan; the part of Prince Alexander is invested with the necessary amount of villainy by Mr. O. Silverstone; Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey is good as Father Gourko; and the same may be said of Mr. C. Newton Buckland as Pierttree Petoff and Mr. Cowell Clark as Karl Orloff. Miss Florry Kelsey submits an excellent portrayal of Princess Olga; Miss Edna Clare is good as Alexina Orloff; and Little Alexina is ably depicted by little Minnie Halstan. The comedy is ably supplied by Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart and Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina Zindoff.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Harry Roxbury and company in a musical absurdity *On the Track* have an excellent reception; the Bros. Bright, athletes, do some wonderful hand-balancing, &c.; Spry and Monti in *The Song Writer and Soubrette* are very amusing and deservedly applauded; Waul Langtry, dialect comedian, is popular; Les Tripellos submit a clever musical act, introducing little Ralph Goodliffe, Signor Trepello, saxophone soloist, and Miss Elsie Clair, 'cello soloist; and the programme also includes Carl and Carr in an interlude *My Long-lost Brother*, Fred Lincoln, comic, and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Miss Olga Andre and her company give a good representation of *The Great Awakening*. Mr. Tom Arkinstall undertakes the part of Guy Logan ably; and in that of the hero Mr. Wood is seen to advantage. Mr. Arthur Wimpenny as James Selby performs well; and Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is very good as Captain Harry Lambart. The success of the piece is the powerful work of Miss Olga Andre, an actress of a high order, as Lola Selby. Miss Florence Zillwood gives a careful study of the rôle of Molly Merton; and Miss Hetty Farrell as Selina Worte creates much amusement.

Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—W. Adams heads the bill here, and comes in for much favour by his songs and patter; the pictures, by the A.B. Company, are interesting.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company pay a return visit this week with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey is an ideal Blacksmith, and the impersonation at his hands gains strength and realism; Captain Leo is excellently portrayed by Mr. Joseph Carter; while Lucas Marler is in the capable rendering of Mr. Edwin Maydew. Mr. Fred Hanning is greatly applauded as Billy Twigg; and admirable character sketches are given by Mr. Thomas E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins and Mrs. F. C. Livesey as Sal. Miss Cissie Le Grande is very good as Ruth Parkins. Miss Maggie Edwards's sympathetic acting as Kate Strong gains her much appreciation.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Albert and Edmunds' company is exceedingly amusing in the big production, *The Tower of London*; Marie Braymen has a rousing reception; and the same may be said of Osborne and Brooks. Marguerite Ismay and her Girls are pretty and dainty singers and dancers; McBride and Logie are clever acrobats; and Maxey and Pete do some smart cycle tricks. Dolly Ross sings well; and Flake White's cartoons are good. Cliff Dixo provided a capital turn.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Another Man's Wife*, a domestic drama of much interest and capably presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company has been an excellent attraction here. Mr. Alfred D. Adams gives an impressive impersonation of Carlos De Vorgas; Mr. Stephen B. Scanlan's acting is powerful as Paul Bornstaff; Gilbert Eardley is admirably portrayed by Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland; and Mr. Leonard Marshall amusingly fills the part of Andy Brommer. Miss Ruby Loucraine acts with deep pathos and feeling as Lucie De Vorgas; thoroughly capable is Miss Lillian Radbourne as Inez De Castro; whilst Maisie Matterson has a pleasing representative in Miss Lily Griffin.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. Herbert E. Terry and company in a Canadian sketch, entitled *Wanted*, are the chief attractions here this week, and have interested large audiences; Barnard's Mannikins, in *The Coon Revelry*, are genuinely entertaining; Phono is a clever and amusing mimic; Walter Barrett, baritone, sings ably; Ella Olga, in songs at the piano, is a pleasing vocalist; Maie Rello sings and dances delightfully; and Fred Shephard, comedy vocalist, is received with much favour.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Grand Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—*The Midnight Mail* is here. Mr. John F. Traynor is capital as Harry Steyne; Miss Trissie Humphreys is an admirable Mary Steyne; and others deserving of mention are Mr. F. S. Strickland, Mr. H. W. Hatchman, Miss Mildred Carr, and Miss Jeannie Weston.

Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Tom Watt presents his company in the popular play *East Lynne* here. Miss Laura Hansen does well in the part of Lady Isabel; Miss Ida Heron plays Barbara Hare with ability; Mr. Rayson-Cousens is responsible for a good portrayal of Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Joe Rowland is a popular P.C. Bullock.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Columbia Comedy Trio head the bill here in a musical absurdity; the Gordonetts are clever trapeze performers; Elroy, the Armless Wonder, does remarkable things with his feet; Steve Bartle is good as a concertina soloist; Elise Malpass is a clever child mimic and dancer; Alf. Chester presents a clever comedy act; Harold Heath is a popular coon singer and dancer; and De Lilo and Metz are marvellous contortionists and jugglers.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company is here this week in *Rollicking Rory*. Mr. Chalmers Mackey in the title-rôle gives an excellent Irish character study. Mr. Chalmers Mackey does meritorious work as Mrs. Ashleigh, as also does Miss Connie Meadows as Rosie Callagan. Miss Kathleen Emmett and Miss Jeanette Lyons do well as Peggy O'Moore and Widow O'Donohoe. Mr. Edward Warden in the rôle of Stephen Darcy proves himself a capable exponent of villainy; and Mr. Charles M. Julian is capital in the part of Capt. Ashleigh. The efforts of Messrs. Lawrence Sullivan (Shaun Brady) and Claude Seaton (Sergeant Gallagan) receive high appreciation.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A good and varied programme is being submitted here. Young Ashcroft, comedian and dancer, is having an encouraging reception; the Maynards, comedy duo, are also entertaining with their song and patter; Pattie Burton is a vocalist of a high order; and two good films are Saved from the Tide and The Leper.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading a good programme this week is Chanti, the quick-change artist. Wish Wynne, versatile comedienne, created a furore with her captivating manner, and was compelled to respond to two encores; the Jackley Trio of acrobats were also given an enthusiastic reception; Wood, Wells, and Wilkin rendered some ballads in fine style; Graham and Barron, comedians and simultaneous dancers, were warmly applauded for their clever exhibition; Drum and Major were highly entertaining in their comedy scena *The Broker's Man*; the Two St. Johns, comedians, contributed some clever and original dancing; and Alec and Fred Gratton and Kathleen Delaine were highly successful in their musical comedy item.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Large audiences are being attracted by a well-diversified programme here this week. Sahib Gustaf Fasols, the Indian Fakir, causes great consternation with his weird performance, and is having a warm welcome. Madame Holt's Juvenile Follies are also creating a sensation.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Large audiences greet Mr. George Edwardes' company in *The Merry Widow*.—The title-rôle is charmingly occupied by Miss Mary Ridley, her singing and dancing being delightful. Mr. Robert Needham is highly successful as Prince Danilo; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter keeps the house amused as Baron Popoff; Jolidon is finely rendered by Mr. Ronald Pomeroy; Mr. Harry Emeric makes a capital Nisch, and, with Miss Neste Laurel as Frou-Frou, is conspicuous for excellent dancing; Mr. Cecil Warwick does remarkably well as General Novakovitch; and Natalie is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Mabel Hope.

County Electric Pavilion. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The films this week include The Empty Cradle, The Man, A Race for a Bride, Field-Marshal Villars, and Grahame-White's Flight to Manchester.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. Carr Loates's company in *At the World's Mercy* opened on Monday to a good house. Mr. Fred Muntz bears himself bravely as Captain Frank Manly; Mr. Carr Loates and Mr. F. W. Graham handle the parts of the villainous Jabez Barber and Morriss Goldstein realistically. Charley Smart is effectively played by Mr. Will H. Irving; Miss Cissie Milford capably undertakes the double rôle of Skittles and Kitty Knott; Miss Maggie Hobart's rendition of Alice Lloyd is marked by much grace; and as Dot Miss Livander Jackaway is very good.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—A good programme is being appreciated by big houses. The film most appreciated is a very clear one, showing the Cup Final, Everton v. Barnsley. Other good pictures are the Cloister's Touch and In the Nick of Time. Mr. F. Gilmartin sings illustrated songs successfully.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Royal. — General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are here. In the first half of the week *Way Out West* was presented. Mr. J. Booth was eminently praiseworthy as Jack Hamlin; as Col. Starbottle Mr. C. Delavanti was well placed; and Mr. Norman Radford did well as Judge Alpheus. The part of Pequita was in the safe hands of Miss Lilian Deere; Miss A. West was good as Helen Masterton; and Miss Lela Scarlett scored as Arethusa Byers. For the second half *Monte Cristo* was staged.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone.—Wisper heads a good programme here in great style; Hunter and Moris also do very well; the Heriot Trio are commendable; Beattie Bloom is a sparkling comedienne; and Baby Watkins also does well. The leading films are The Indian and The Engineer's Daughter.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Peter Gotz is proving a great draw here; Irve Hayman and company are good in a sketch *Christmas Eve*; Miss Rayford is a clever dancer; Linn and Darius score heavily, as also do the Four Panamas; and Ernest Tilbury also achieves success.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Edward Ranier's company in *A Son's Devotion* is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. W. O. Rossiter does very well as Sir John Wilton; Mr. Edward Ranier capably sustains the rôle of Eric Farnham; Mr. Edmond Sydney is seen to advantage as Capt. Rutland; the part of Sergt. O'Mailly is made very amusing by Mr. George Turner; and Miss Phyllis Hume looks well as Drummer Knight. Miss Maud Haywood makes a pathetic Mrs. Farnham; and Miss Gertrude Harrison acts with power as Esther Farnham. *The Bank Robbery* is played as a curtain-raiser.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. James E. Lewis's company is appearing here in the musical play *The Welsh Maid*. Mr. Victor Cannon gives an excellent delineation as Carodori Howell; Mr. Laurie H. Stuart distinguishes himself as Jack Francis; Mr. Herbert de Ville ably portrays the villainies of James Seymour; Mr. William Penn is responsible for much humour as Dafyd Thomas; Miss Zeta Murdoch as Jenny Jones acts with delightful sweetness and sings admirably; Miss Madge Raymond as Sally Davis does well; Miss Theresa Spencer is a clever Mrs. Jones; and Miss Josephine Allbutt, vocalist, and the Celtic Troupe, are smart dancers.

New Empire.—Porprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Miss Minnie Kaufmann scores a big success with her clever trick cycling act; Chinko delights with fine juggling; R. Beauchamp, comedian, creates plenty of merriment with patter and songs; Leo Fields is a versatile comedian; W. H. Downs, coloured vocalist, has a good reception; Roxborough and Bright, comedy duo, provide a most acceptable vocal and dancing act; and Jack and Willie, coloured equilibrists, perform clever feats.

Hippodrome.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Dr. Walford Bodie and company are drawing packed houses on a first visit. Dr. Bodie's electrical demonstrations and hypnotic performance met with great approbation; Bella Skene is a dashing comedienne; Billy Walters provides a capital ventriloquial act; Mr. G. W. Walker, Scottish vocalist, sings well; and La Belle Electra, the electric marvel; Dolly Dobson, vocalist and dancer; Tom Gold, comedian; Jack Diamond, trick dancer; and W. H. Williams, eccentric comedian, ably contribute.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here in a popular version of *East Lynne*. Miss Muriel Marsden supplies a careful interpretation of Lady Isabel; Miss Dorothy Clifton is a charming Barbara; and restrained humour marks Miss Mary Hardacre's portrayal of Cornelia Carlyle. Miss Doris Zola is well placed as Little Willie; Mr. Leonard Yorke as Archibald Carlyle is excellent; and all the remorseless nature of Francis Levison is well developed by Mr. F. Finch Smiles. Mr. Charles E. Dering is a dignified Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. Thomas Barry as Justice Hare and Mr. John Blake as Richard Hare do good work. The staging is effective.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—The Olympian Team of cyclists are here, and their football match is quite a novel turn. The competition promoted for local aspirants of the wheel is very amusing. Arnold Richardson and company score in the sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*; Will Douglas's troupe of Jolly Bakers are capital in the risley act *The Bakers' Beano*; Eddie Stidder and Gwen. Dunbar are smart entertainers; Colin Mail is a smart comedian; Eva Compton wins favour with good songs; and Mildred Bryan delights all with her vocalisation. The pictures are good.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—J. H. Darley and company, including the smart juvenile Wee Monty Moore, have a capital sketch, the last-named being a rare comedian; W. H. Deacon's illustrated songs are much enjoyed; Blair and Albu are rare comedians and dancers; Mostol plays several instruments in good style; and Miss Vera Clifford renders several ballads in pleasing style. The pictures are much enjoyed.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Beaudyn.—An interesting domestic drama is being presented by Mr. Beaudyn this week in *The Dear Homeland*, by David Muskerry, in which Miss Irene Munroe appears with much success as Judith Tremaine. Miss Phyllis Rae has a dual rôle, which she well fills; and Miss Maude Hastings is very capable as Doreen Trevelyn, Mr. Chas. D. Pitt having a part well suited to him as Roy Trevelyn, and Mr. Arthur Britton as Duncan Tremaine being also distinctly good.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—Ted E. Nolan is a clever and amusing comedian, with some capital songs; Ivy Francis is a remarkable child vocalist and dancer who should go a long way; Wat Tyler is a character vocalist whose efforts meet with much success; and Hart and Ashby, smart comedians and dancers, and Flo Hilton, a male impersonator of more than usual ability, filling a bill which also includes pictures.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—A treat that is being well appreciated is the engagement this week of Mr. Ian Robertson and his company in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, in which Mr. Ian Robertson undertakes the rôle of the wanderer. As 'Stasia, the slavey, Miss Parsons submits some capital character work; Miss Thomas as Mrs. Sharp and Miss Wills as Miss Kite are excellent; and a decided success is achieved by Miss Everest as Vivian. Mr. Woodall-Birdo is impressive in the character of Christopher Penny. The piece is preceded by a cleverly-written playlet, entitled *Come Here*.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Sympathy for the dead King Edward VII. was shown by closing this place on Saturday and loyalty to the new King George V. by beginning each performance on Monday with the National Anthem. The programme for the week is one of all-round excellence. Anna Chandler, an American comedienne, finds many admirers; the dramatic episode *Wrong 'Uns* is well played by James Hare and company; Gladys Hooley captivates all with her violin solos; *The Golfer and the Caddy* is the title of an original and amusing act by Victor and Louis; May Mars in her vivacious style enjoys popularity; and J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser and Pat Rafferty are also in the bill.

Palace.—Manager, Mr. W. Ball; Lecturer, Mr. V. Verney.—Black's Pictures continue to be especially good. Variety is added to the programme by George Bernard, actor-vocalist, and Bell and Dryden, whose funny business keeps the audience thoroughly amused.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. Arthur Lee-Mitchell's company is appearing here in the drama *In the Shadow of Night*. Mr. Forbes Carrington is good as John Allington; and Mr. L. Williams is well cast as his son Gordon. Mr. H. Emmerson makes a typical farmer of James Woodstock; and a good character sketch is that of Mr. W. Hayward as Grudgewell, a poacher. Miss Irene Arundel is a pleasing Violet Kingston; and Miss Kitty Roze is well suited to the part of Mollie Woodstock.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*His Real Wife* is being presented here by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company. The character of Rose Avondale is extremely well portrayed by Miss Ward; Miss Cissie Gandell causes endless laughter as Betty Tuttlebee; and is ably assisted by Mr. T. Edward Ward as Simon Bletherall. Mr. Clifford Rean deserves special mention for his impersonation of Herbert Barton; Randal Meredith is in the capable hands of Mr. Bernard Elliott; and Mr. C. W. Spencer as General Barton sustains the part with considerable success.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Herbert Darnley and company cause much hilarity in the sketch *John Jay Jun.*; *The Brigands of Tarragona* is also an amusing production; the tricks of Li Chang Hi, the Chinese magician, are particularly interesting; Peter Rhodes, the singing collier, has a rousing reception; Barney Armstrong, assisted by Kelly, score with their droll songs and sayings; Lily Tottles sings and dances herself into favour; J. D. Maclaine and Jessie Mac sing well together; and others who contribute are Jack Russell, entertainer; and Milton and Horton, who are skilful horizontal bar performers.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Bell.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company is paying a return visit with that hardy perennial *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, which has lost none of its old attractiveness. Mr. George Fox essays the part of the hero, Captain George Fielding, and his soliderly bearing, combined with a capital baritone voice, make him very popular; Mr. Robert Gilbert, as Captain Edward Dudley, is a really good villain, being careful to avoid too boisterous declamation; the little Mr. Edward Aldworth has to do as Hawkins is done remarkably well; Mr. Deane Cliffe, as Featherstone Haugh, and Mr. H. Troutbeck as Smith cause amusement; Mr. James Salter as Silas Crump and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith contribute in no small degree to the general success; Miss Kathleen Stewart is effective as Ruth Montrose; whilst Miss Gertrude de Lacy, in the title-part is all that could be desired. Clever dances are introduced by the Misses Lillie and Iris Elviedo, and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Harry Richardson.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—The farcical absurdity *Something for Nothing* is proving a big attraction. Most of its success is due to Mr. Fred Conquest's inimitable character study as the moneylender Grabbit, but he has the advantage of being supported by an excellent company. Jack Sheridan is irresistibly funny; Regan and Ryan prove very popular as comedians, patterers, and dancers; Johnson and De Vere, trick cyclists, provide a novel and clever turn; Ian Colquhoun, baritone, wins applause for his ballad singing; Daisy Morrell scores heavily in coon songs; and a clever and artistic gymnastic act is provided by the Three Borella Brothers.

Picture Palace.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—Intense interest is taken in the films shown depicting the Proclamation of King George V., which are witnessed by large audiences. The other pictures are quite up to the usual high standard of excellence.

WORCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A return visit of *The Merry Widow* is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company is a most capable one, and the farcical comedy is superbly dressed and staged. Miss Phyllis Le Grand is captivating in the title-rôle; and Mr. Fred Leslie is a delightfully breezy Prince. They are equally good as vocalists and dancers. Miss Ada Thomas is a fascinating Natalie; and Mr. Ripley Evans is well suited as Jolidon. Mr. Edward D'Arcy as Baron Popoff and Mr. Clifford Leyler as Novokovitch are highly amusing; and Mr. Fred Fowler contributes his full share of the fun as Nisch. He and Miss Katie May as Frou-Frou contribute some excellent dances. Mr. Adrian Beaumont is a comical waiter. There is a numerous and well-balanced chorus and an augmented orchestra.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—Monday evening saw *Don* staged here for the first time, and the clever comedy was exceptionally well received by an audience of fairly good dimensions. It was presented by one of the companies controlled by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison, the former successfully portraying the part of Mrs. Bonnington. Mr. Gordon Bailey was in excellent humour as Stephen Bonnington; and Mr. Charles Harley gave an excellent character study of Albert Thompsett. An admirable delineation of the part of General Sinclair was given by Mr. Charles Tyrel; whilst the kindly Canon found an excellent exponent in Mr. Arthur Willoughby. The rôles of Mrs. Sinclair and her daughter Ann were in the capable hands of Miss Ethel Royale and Miss Viola Garland respectively; and Miss Violet Harley in a sympathetic manner played the part of Eliza Thompsett. The cast was completed by Miss Dorothy Gordon. A most entertaining curtain-raiser, entitled *Her Dearest Friend*, preceded the comedy. *The Catch of the Season* came on Thursday.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The great attraction here is supplied by the Leopold Zeglers, who as acrobats and sensational somersault throwers are of wide renown; another turn which commands the favourable attention and applause of the audiences is supplied by Fredrico and Edgaro, clever comedy knockabouts and hand-balancers. The pictures include A Mother's Fault, The Merry Widow, and Uncle's Legacy. Mlle. Nanoni, soprano vocalist, is a pleasing addition to the programme.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Some comical pictures are given here; and Miss May McPherson, as usual, delights with illustrated songs. The accompanist is Mr. Frank Kingsley.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, May 8, the Play, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

That a drama, after constant touring for over a quarter of a century, should still have power to attract large audiences, points conclusively to the greatness of Messrs. Henry Arthur Jones and Henry Herman's human and interesting play. To see the crowded house on Monday evening at the King's listening spellbound to all the clever lines, and attentively watching the cleverly constructed situations, was well worth a visit. Every familiar line told and every incident was warmly applauded. Deserving tribute must be paid to the capability of Messrs. Polini and Melford's company. Mr. Fred D. Daviss succeeds to the part of Wilfred Denver, and proves a worthy exponent, his acting being quite equal to the calls made upon him. Mr. Edward J. George's rendering of Daniel Jaikes needs no recommendation; it remains, as it has always been, a perfect piece of acting. As Captain Herbert Skinner ("Spider") Mr. A. H. Rooke gives a splendid representation of the cool, gentlemanly villain; Mr. Ralf Leon is a smart Henry Corket; and Elijah Coombe is amusingly played by Mr. Arthur Wright. Cripps finds an adequate performer in Mr. Fred May; and Mr. W. Leslie Ellis is sufficiently painstaking as Geoffrey Ware. Mr. A. Hornby Warburton is the sharp and incisive Samuel Baxter, detective; and Frank Selwyn is deftly played by Mr. Charles Birch. Mr. Percy Store's presentation of Mr. Parkyn is distinctly humorous; and Mr. John Randall raises laughter as Gaffer Pottle. Tubbs is well portrayed by Mr. Leslie Parker; and Mr. Charles Grant's deep voice amply serves for the Railway Inspector. Cissie and Ned Denver are cleverly impersonated by Miss Hilda Bateman and Master Eric Dene. Most sympathetic, and displaying much artistic ability, Miss Mildred Surrey wins approbation in the part of Nellie Denver; Miss Mary Glanbrank is successful as Olive Skinner; and Miss Mabel Gardiner causes smiles as Mrs. Gamage. Tabitha Durden is well characterised by Miss Augusta Harriss; and Miss Margaret Rooke makes a pretty waitress, Susie. The scenery is quite adequate.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, May 9, the Comedy entitled
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."

Large audiences have witnessed the performances of *A Message from Mars* here this week, and the play, with its novel surroundings, although seen here on several occasions previously, has again been extolled and voted most interesting. The outstanding and commanding character in the play is, of course, that of Horace Parker, and Mr. F. Vernon Travers, an actor of power and merited popularity, has every opportunity of displaying his abilities, and his success is most emphatic. Mr. William H. Brougham presents with fine effect the Messenger from Mars and Mr. Norman Clark submits a really fine impersonation of the Tramp. Mr. Cecil Kerr distinguishes himself as Arthur Dicey, and Mr. Percy Tyler (Dr. Chapman), Mr. Eustace French (Sir E. Vivian), Mr. Howard Leslie (Mr. Fergusson), and Mr. Danelle Greene (Policeman) also deserve mention for their valuable services. Miss Rose Helene is a fascinating Minnie Templar, and her artistic portrayal, although she was obviously suffering with a bad cold, compelled great admiration. There was real earnestness in Miss Aubrey Ashton's acting as Miss Parker, and Miss Mary Buckstone displayed finished acting as Mrs. Clarence. Miss Ray Denton as Bella merits praise, and the numerous other parts are in fairly satisfactory hands. Nothing but praise can be written with regard to the stage-management of Mr. Percy Tyler, assisted by Mr. Howard Leslie, the mounting of the piece, which is somewhat elaborate in its proportions, being carried out with masterful effectiveness.

THE CORONET.
On Wednesday, May 11, the Drama, entitled
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

Owing to the lamentable loss suffered by the nation in the death of King Edward VII. this theatre was closed till Wednesday, when it reopened with Mr. Herbert Sleath's clever West End company in Clyde Fitch's play *The Woman in the Case*, with practically the same cast as at the Garrick and New Theatres during its successful London season last year. As "the woman who did," Claire Foster, Miss Violet Vanbrugh supplies an alternately terrible, sordid, and pitiful picture of the degraded and revengeful courtesan. Miss Vanbrugh has lost none of her power and personality, and presents a most thrilling embodiment of consistent wickedness. Miss Ellis Jeffreys as Margaret Rolfe supplies the foil to the adventuress, and by her sweetness and sympathy endears herself to the audience. The part of Julian is played with admirable restraint and much nervous force by Mr. Herbert Sleath. The part of the solicitor Thompson is rendered with admirable feeling and delicacy by Mr. William F. Grant. Mr. Fred Benton as Louis Klaufferty still continues to provoke amusement by his loudly-advertised desire for someone to "put him amongst the girls," and brings out forcibly all the vulgar characteristics of the part. Mr. William Kershaw as Jimmy O'Neil brings the part into pleasant prominence. Miss Mary Griffiths as Mrs. Hughes and Misses Gwendolin Wren, Eileen Orby, and Cicely Gray are all well in the picture.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, May 9, the Farcical Play, by F. Anstey, entitled
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

Intense amusement and hearty laughter have ruled throughout the week at the Kennington Theatre, where the long run of Mr. F. Anstey's farcical play, *The Brass Bottle*, which commenced at the Vaudeville, has been in a manner continued. The original company and production have been transferred by arrangement with Mr. Gaston Mayer, and the result has been that those who were unable to see the play in the Strand have had it brought nearer to their doors. Although *The Brass Bottle* relies considerably upon highly ingenious mechanical effects—which were worked at the Kennington with as much success as if they had been in progress there for months—it is undoubtedly one of the best farces that has seen the limelight for many years. And it is played by the present company in exactly the right spirit, one that allows no slackening, but rushes through at break-neck speed, as should always be done with a farce. Chief honours are taken by Mr. Lawrence Grossmith as the volatile, rattling, architect, who releases the Djinn from the receptacle in which he has been confined for countless centuries. Mr. Grossmith, by his clever acting, would sufficiently indicate the family to which he belongs if he went under another name. Mr. Holman Clark's Djinn is another excellent piece of characterisation, and he almost makes one believe in the existence of this venerable person. The Spencer Pringle of Mr. Rudge Harding is exactly on the author's lines, and he showed with much skill the discomfiture of this priggish person in the last act, when all but he and the architect have, by the Djinn's magic, forgotten the wonderful events that followed the opening of the brass bottle. The Professor, who is turned into a one-eyed mule, and his wife were admirably portrayed by Mr. Percy Marshall and Miss Lena Halliday, while their daughter had an able and charming representative in Miss Viva Birkett. Miss Mary Brough has repeated her very humorous performance of the landlady, whose tippling husband was cleverly played by Mr. Harry Norton. Mr. Luigi Lablache as Samuel Wackerbath was very funny when commanded by the Djinn to crawl on "all fours." Another good word must be given for the clever manner in which the various scenic and other changes were managed; some, indeed, reminded one of Mr. Maskelyne's entertainment, so cleverly were they worked.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.
On Monday, May 9, the Drama, entitled
"THE COAL KING."

In spite of the general depression occasioned by the national mourning, there was a good house assembled to witness the performance by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company of that well-known drama *The Coal King*, which presents so vivid a picture of life in the great Lancashire coalfield. The scenes depicting the mine are well done, that showing it after the explosion being most impressive. As the Coal King Sir Reginald Hartford, Mr. A. W. Norman is a distinct success, imparting the necessary touches of dignity and kindness to the part; Mr. Henry Deane makes a handsome and manly hero as the mine manager Tom Roberts, the idol of his men; Mr. Robert Funkner is powerful as the despicable villain Walter Hartford; Mr. Sam Roberts, a humorist, keeps the house in a constant roar in his impersonation of the would-be P.C. Jim Williams. He receives excellent support from Miss Effie D. Crawford, who plays well as Araminta Green, the saucy parlourmaid; Mr. Frank Dalton makes a good study of the part of the sub-manager, Dick Shirley; Miss Winifred Love is a pretty and engaging heroine; and Miss Dennis Duncan does well in the character of Mad Ann.

FULHAM THEATRE.
On Monday, May 9, the Play, in Four Acts, by Justin Huntly McCarthy, entitled,
"THE PROUD PRINCE."

Those who like romantic plays, with a dash of love and fighting, did well to visit Fulham and see *The Proud Prince*. There is an excellent company, under the stage-direction of Mr. Ernest Carpenter, who did ample justice to that romantic play. Mr. E. Vassall Vaughan takes the title-rôle, the proud Robert of Sicily. Mr. Vaughan made such a handsome and princely figure as the king that one grudged the time during which he had to appear as the Fool. Nor is that all, for he is a fine actor, and scored a distinct success. Mr. Clifton Boyne also was a smart and dashing representative of Hildebrand; Mr. Ernest Douglas was most impressive as the Archangel, and delivered his fine speeches under the limelight with great effect; Mr. Terence O'Brien played Théron with a quiet dignity and tenderness quite in keeping with the part; Mr. Frank Ward's impersonation of the fool Diogenes was powerful and full of passion; and Mr. E. Stidwell was good as the priest Hieronymus. Mr. R. Leigh Ellis was a noble figure as Sigurd; and Mr. Charles Boult was a properly-dignified Archbishop. The fair Perpetua was admirably played by Miss Eileen Kerin, a clever young actress, who will make her mark; Miss Vashti Wynne was a most captivating and seductive Lysabetta, and could hardly be bettered in that exacting rôle. The dresses were unusually fine, and the scenery was excellent, particularly the first set. Mr. George Martin acts as stage-manager, and Mr. Arthur Roby presided over the music.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, May 9, the Play, by Charles Darrell, entitled,
"WHAT A MAN MADE HER."

Miss Renee Glendower and company have been presenting this week, at the Dalston Theatre, the society play, *What a Man Made Her*, which is remarkably well acted. The business and stage-manager is Mr. J. D. Lindsay-Ellis, who also enacts the part of Lord Taporley. The hero, Dr. Mark Haven, represented by Mr. J. M. Olivert, has a rough time of it in the course of the story, but he comes out remarkably well as an actor; Mr. George Arthur as Rupert Wogan Danescombe, sixteenth Earl of Saxon Royal, is a representative heavy villain; Mr. Martin Alwyne is effective as Sir Ernest Cavendish; the audience is supplied with a full share of fun by Mr. Fred Acton in the character of Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein, a rich moneylender, who is an excellent type of humorous Jew; Gunnerstein's daughter Deborah, as played by Miss Tessa Myers, becomes a decidedly interesting character. Society women are represented by Miss F. Russell Spiers as the Dowager Countess of Saxon Royal and by Miss Stella Carmichael as Lady Thora Danescombe, her daughter. Others in the cast include Mr. Carl Bailey, Miss V. Thomas, and Miss K. Murgatroyd, while Miss Renee Glendower herself undertakes the somewhat trying part of Janet McAllister, an artist's model, whose love of gambling leads her into serious difficulty, but at the same time renders her a decidedly interesting and sympathetic character so far as the story is concerned.

THE BRIXTON.
On Monday, May 9, the Drama, entitled
"PETE."

The announcement of the performance of this highly successful drama drew a large house on Monday evening, and good audiences have been present throughout the week. Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's company gave a spirited rendering, and, each part being well played by competent artists, aided by beautiful scenery and effects, local playgoers have been warm in their enthusiasm. With the play produced under the personal direction of Mr. R. H. Smith, the staging left nothing to be desired. Mr. Frederick Victor realises capitally the sturdy, manly character of Pete; and depicted with skill the love and affection for erring Kate Cregeen. In this part Miss Constance Bachner was very good; sweet and womanly throughout, she rose to fine acting in the pathetic situations of the play. Mr. Alfred Lugg proved himself a smart actor as the villain, Philip Christian; while as his relative, Ross Christian, Mr. Maurice Yorke does useful work. A noteworthy character-study is presented by Mr. Ellis J. Preston of the miserly Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. J. Lingard makes a good Black Tom; and Mr. Herbert Ponton is effective as Clerk of the Court. Mr. R. Sinclair does justice as Dr. Mylechreest; and Mr. Wilfred Edmunds likewise as the Lord-Lieutenant. Mr. Will L. Clement plays capitally the part of Jonaique Jelly. The other male parts in Messrs. Louis Parker and Hall Caine's play were most effectively sustained. Miss Alys Eden is delightful as Nancy; Miss May Wright admirable as Grannie; Miss Amy Venimore a pleasing Mary; Miss May Yardly very useful as Meg; and Miss Lucy Raymond makes a capital Anne. The Bank Holiday attraction is *The Scales of Justice*.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, May 9, the Drama entitled
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

Mr. Cowen is presenting here this week the sensational play, by "Lesser Columbus," entitled *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*. The fine and dramatic scenes which characterise the piece, and the good staging deserve warm praise. Mr. Henry Doughty as Nicholas Brophy is a most thorough and effective heavy lead. The part requires hard work, and is sustained throughout with ease, the interpretation attaining a high standard of excellence in the final scene where Brophy obeys the summons of his master the Devil, the appearance of the latter forming a strong stage effect. The part of Gertrude Grant is played by Miss Dora Hammersley with spirit and fire, her acting as the betrayed girl in Rupert Dyke's flat showing her aptitude to appreciate rightly the scope the scene affords for her abilities. Her performance in the scene when the discovery is made that she is the daughter of the very man who has aided in her ruin brings the house down. Mr. Will Smith is excellent in his rendering of Rupert Dyke. His make-up is perfect; he is to the life the drink-sodden, shifty, debased tool of the scoundrel, and his final revolt against the man who has murdered his wife, betrayed his daughter, and fostered his vices to serve his own ends is a climax of intense realism. A necessary and welcome touch of comedy is ably supplied by Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Johnson. He never fails to elicit a laugh from the audience, his duologue with Miss Florence Vickers as Mrs. Jenkins being an amusing exhibition of a henpecked husband and nagging wife. A pretty and spirited Beatrice Cuthbert is Miss Doris Whyte, and Mr. Eardley-Howard as Robert Hall makes the most of his part. The minor rôles are well interpreted, Miss Ethel Deane deserving praise for her impersonation of the suffragette.

BROADWAY THEATRE.
On Monday, May 9, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE GEISHA."

Mr. Fred Moulton's company is the attraction here this week with *The Geisha*, billed for five nights and a matinée, and *The Greek Slave* for Friday. *The Geisha* had a most cordial reception. All the well-known numbers were excellently rendered and warmly applauded. The scenery and costumes leave nothing to be desired, and the chorus is tuneful and numerous. Miss Aimée Grey is charming as O Mimosa San; Miss Renée Real is a delightful Juliette; Miss Adela Crispin as the pleasant English girl Molly Seamore exactly realises the character; Miss Mary Morrison is an ideal Lady Constance Wynn; Miss Belle Murray is very good as O Kinkoto San; and Miss Clarice Eldon is a vivacious O Hana San. Mr. Edward Carlton is a clever and amusing Wun-Hi; Mr. Lionel Braham is excellent as the Marquis Imari; Mr. Sam Lockridge is very good as Dick Cuningham; Mr. W. Johnstone Douglas is a capital Reginald Fairfax; Mr. Harry Reynolds is commendable as Takamine; and Mr. Herbert Uzulli is well cast as Captain Katana. Mr. F. Chevalier le Grand is the able musical-director.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, May 9, the Farcical Comedy entitled
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"

That extremely amusing farcical comedy, "Where is William?" written by Mr. Charles Windermere, who essays the principal rôle, is being presented here this week. Cleverly contrived situations abound throughout the play, and roars of laughter are evoked. The cast is admirably chosen, and all working well together secure most successful results.

Mr. Charles Windermere plays the part of the retired and knighted grocer, Sir William Gregory, in extremely humorous fashion, and his witty sayings and ludicrous attitudes are the source of considerable merriment. He has a very hearty reception. Sir William's double, William Jolly, the butler, is very ably undertaken by Mr. Rule Pyott, who presents a very diverting study of the character, and scores highly. Mr. Edmund Hollick merits commendation for a good representation of Harry, and is very happily suited; General Rubub, a cantankerous old retired officer, is vigorously characterised by Mr. Leslie Norman, who is the recipient of emphatic expressions of approbation; Mr. Fred Lake supplies a fitting delineation of the burglar, Joe Budge; and the part of the policeman is capably performed by Mr. Albert Plant. Miss Belle Donaldson submits an admirable portrait of Lady Gregory; Miss Clare Manifield makes a charming and dainty Phyllis Patterson, and achieves distinction; Miss May Rosine gives a good account of herself as Emily, the cook; and Miss Zoe Davis provides much amusement as Eliza. The comedy is preceded by a comedietta entitled *Clause No. 6*, also written by Mr. Charles Windermere, in which Mr. Robert Urquart and Miss Clare Manifield appear as Charlie Spotter and Dorothy Meadows respectively.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
On Monday, May 9, the Comic Opera
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

This week's attraction is that evergreen comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, presented by Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart's company, and although, being the principal house of entertainment in the eastern suburbs, the patronage is nightly curtailed owing to the prevalent national mourning, the piece is received by those present with all its wonted cordiality. As Germaine Miss Vera Dorian sings delightfully, and acts throughout with charm and expression; Miss Gurney Delaporte is a vivacious and girlish Serpolette, and wins much favour vocally; long familiarity with the part of Gaspard in no way diminishes the merit of Mr. E. St. Alban's delineation of the old miser, which is as powerful as heretofore; Mr. Augustus Cramer is a buoyant and breezy Marquis de Corneville, and his songs go wonderfully well; as Grenicheaux Mr. Wensley Russell is in excellent voice; Mr. Mark Lester (a local pantomime favourite) makes a decided hit with his unctuously droll impersonation of the Bailie; and Mr. Alfred Selby is an alert and amusing Gobo. In less prominent rôles Miss Lucy Kipling, Miss Florence Hardy, Miss Ethel Clifford, Miss Alice Hornsby, and Miss Mabel Ross appear to advantage; and a special word of praise must be bestowed upon the very tuneful chorus.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
On Monday, May 9, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Tom Craven, entitled
"WHEN A LASS LOVES."

There are all the essentials in *When a Lass Loves* for a popular drama. Mr. Reginald Stephens has a good appearance and acts convincingly as Dr. Allan Crass; as Bertram Bridge, a sneak and blackguard of the lowest type, Mr. P. Ramsay Foreman adopts a suitable cynical style, but speaks his lines without variety; Mr. Louis Palgrave is decidedly entertaining as the ubiquitous office boy Slack; and Mr. George F. Ide is also very amusing as the stage-struck solicitor's clerk Stapleton. Mr. Frank Storey plays Caleb Crass appropriately, and Mr. Harry Newman makes the most of his opportunities as Anthony Greig. Miss Josephine Middleton displays much ability as the plucky Constance Lane; Miss Rita Trekella portrays the utterly callous Cynthia Bridge with admirable restraint; and Miss Ella Dixon does well as Nina May.

Comedy and Realism.

"THERE were some amusing incidents," says the *Liverpool Courier*, "at an amateur performance of *Othello*, given recently in Liverpool. Amongst the properties provided was a tree trunk, upon which one of the actors was intended to be seated during the delivery of a soliloquy. When the actor sat down, however, he found the tree was not quite convenient, and quite oblivious of the fact that the tree was supposed to be rooted, he coolly moved it into a better position. Another actor in the same performance had to make a tragic entrance with a message. As he rushed on, however, with his 'My lord——' his flowing cloak caught in the doorway, and pulled him up sharply. He went back and released the garment, only to be twice served in the same way. The third time his ejaculation was not 'My lord,' but something not in the play. If realism were wanting in parts of the performance, however, there was too much of it in the tragic scene in which Desdemona is smothered by the Moor. The Moor did his work not wisely but too well, so well that it was necessary to apply restoratives to Desdemona. This was realism with a vengeance."

By permission of Mr. Albert Leigh, manager of the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, the proceeds from the first performance on Monday evening at that house are to be devoted to the National Lifeboat Fund.

"THOMAS MUSKERRY."

Drama of Irish Life, in Three Acts, by Padraic Colum, Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, May 5.

Christy Clarke ..... MR. U. WRIGHT.
Felix Tournour ..... MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN
Myles Gorman ..... MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Thomas Muskerry ..... MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Albert Crilly ..... MR. ERIC GORMAN
Crofton Crilly ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Mrs. Crilly ..... MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Anna Crilly ..... MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
James Scollard ..... MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Mickie Cripes ..... MR. F. R. HARFORD
Thomas Shanley ..... MR. AMBROSE POWER
An Old Man ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Thomas Muskerry is one of those pictures of the sorrows and vices of poor folk which appeal with poignancy to the coarse and the cultured. Thomas Muskerry is an elderly widower, the master of the Garrisowen Workhouse. Albert Crilly, his grandson, a weak-minded youth, whom Muskerry has taken temporarily into his office, finds out that Corvey, a dealer—an influential personage who is mentioned, but not seen—has delivered only fifty tons of coals out of a hundredton contract, obtaining, through the failing powers of Muskerry, a receipt for the larger amount. Should the guardians become possessed of this knowledge before Muskerry resigns, it will lead to his summary dismissal with loss of pension. Crilly's mother, Muskerry's daughter, a scheming creature, who keeps a small grocer's shop, suggests that Muskerry shall resign, take his pension before the mistake is discovered, and come to live with her. This the old man eventually agrees to do.

In the second act, Corvey, after inducing young Crilly to back a bill for £300, leaves him in the lurch, and the local bank deducts the amount due from the £400 which the Crillys have there on current account. A certain James Scollard has been appointed workhouse master in succession to Muskerry. He is about to marry Anna Crilly, whose dowry consists of £80, left her by her grandmother, but long in the possession of her father or mother. (It was with the object of her future son-in-law obtaining the mastership that Mrs. Crilly induced her father to resign.) Muskerry asks Mrs. Crilly for £50 that he may refund to the guardians the amount of the public loss through Corvey's roguery, but what with the loss over the bill and Anna's dowry, she has no money left. Muskerry leaves his daughter's house for ever, and goes to the workhouse to make confession to the guardians. In their presence, he is seized with an apoplectic fit, and is carried to the infirm ward.

Muskerry, on his recovery from his fit, wants to leave the workhouse and live alone, but this does not suit Mrs. Crilly, who is afraid of the tongues of the neighbours. She points out to Scollard that he cannot allow the old man to leave the workhouse without the doctor's authority. The wardmaster turns him out of the select room, and tells him to make his bed among the paupers in the common infirm ward; and, heartbroken and alone, old Tom Muskerry dies.

Mr. Arthur Sinclair's Thomas Muskerry was a very fine performance, full of the deepest pathos, and impressive by its simple truth and depth of feeling; Miss Sara Allgood showed subtle skill and keen intelligence in her performance as Mrs. Crilly; and Mr. Eric Gorman was excellent as the son Albert. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as Crofton Crilly and an Old Man was both humorous and characteristic, and was always effective and original. *Thomas Muskerry* had an enthusiastic reception.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, May 10, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent in the chair, Mr. W. H. Mote, hon. solicitor, Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. Morland, Langford Reed, F. J. Arlton, C. Hayden Coffin, F. H. De Quincey, Leonard Shepherd, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Resolutions of condolence with the King, Queen, and Queen-Mother, which were here passed, appear elsewhere.

The Secretary was instructed to thank Mr. Vedrenne for his letter, and to say that the Council will be glad to give any assistance possible to the Society of West End Theatre Managers when they take action with reference to bogus management. The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton and adopted. Mr. Cattley suggested the enlarging of the Finance Committee, in view of the inability of so many of the members constituting that committee to attend, and the matter was referred to the Finance Committee to report on at the next meeting.

The Hon. Solicitor reported progress in two legal matters and recovery of money for a member.

The Secretary was instructed to see that a notice was placed on the board to the effect that the rooms of the Association would be closed on Whit-Monday, and also on the day of the funeral of the late King Edward VII., the 20th inst.

Mr. Arlton moved that a board, upon which members could display disengaged cards at a charge of 3d. each, should be placed in the rooms of the Association, and it was agreed that 100 cards should be printed, and a charge of 3d. per week should be made for the cards, which would be enclosed in a glass case and arranged alphabetically.

Election, Eileen Maritza Desmond; reinstatement, Charles Medwin; nominations, Blanche Ripley and Ethel Hodgkins.

"MR. H. B. IRVING'S announcement that one of his next productions at the Queen's Theatre will be *Robert Macaire* recalls," says the *Pall Mall Mall Gazette*, "the fact that this was one of the parts his father played, not only at the Lyceum, but in his earlier days at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, where he appeared as the devil-may-care rascal of the famous old play on Feb. 18, 1865. The greatest of all Robert Macaires was the French actor, Frédéric Lemaître. His performance has thus been described by that admirable critic, G. H. Lewes:—'The colossal buffoonery of the conception carried you at once into the region of hyperbole and Aristophanic fun which soared beyond the range of criticism. It disgusted and subdued you at once. In every sense of the word it was a creation. A common melodrama without novelty or point became in his hands a grandiose symbolical caricature. The costume in itself was a magnificent effrontery. It struck the keynote; and as the piece proceeded all was felt to be in harmony with that picture of ideal blackguardism. For the peculiarity of Robert Macaire is the union of a certain ideal grace and *bonhomie* with the most degraded ruffianism and hardness. . . . If he danced, it was not until he had first pulled on a pair of hyperbolically tattered kid gloves; and while waltzing with incomparable elegance he could not resist picking the pocket of his fair partner. . . . You laughed at his impudence; you admired his ease and readiness, and yet you would have killed him like a rat. He was jovial, graceful, false, and cruel.'"

ON Wednesday afternoon and evening, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, the Aldbourne Village Players were presented by Mr. Charles McEvoy in *The Village Wedding*, a cottage drama in four acts by Mr. McEvoy. The performances were curious and entertaining, being a repetition of those which took place recently at the Aldbourne Village Theatre under Mr. McEvoy's initiative and direction.

THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL.

On Thursday Evening, May 5, Mr. Benson and his Company performed
"THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

Sir Peter Teazle ..... MR. H. O. NICHOLSON
Sir Oliver Surface ..... MR. EDWARD HARRISON
Joseph Surface ..... MR. MURRAY CARRINGTON
Charles Surface ..... MR. ERIC MAXON
Careless ..... MR. GUY B. RATHBONE
Old Rowley ..... MR. J. MOFFAT JOHNSTON
Trip ..... MR. ALFRED WILD
Moses ..... MR. HARRY CAINE
Snake ..... MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
Joseph's Servant ..... MR. JAMES TURNBULL
Lady Sneerwell's Servant ..... MR. JOHN HOWELL
Sir Benjamin Backbite ..... MR. HARRY CAINE
Mr. Crabtree ..... MR. F. R. BENSON
Lady Sneerwell ..... MISS MARION FOREMAN
Lady Teazle ..... MRS. F. R. BENSON
Mrs. Candour ..... MISS ELINOR AICKEN
Maria ..... MISS NORA LANCASTER

After a fortnight of Shakespeare, with only one exception in favour of Beaumont and Fletcher, it was an agreeable change both to actors and audience to turn from battle, murder, and sudden death to the period of powder, patch, and periwig, and it gave a welcome opportunity to several of the younger members of the company to display their talents. From Mrs. Benson and Mr. H. O. Nicholson we were not disappointed in expecting very fine and finished portraits of Lady and Sir Peter Teazle; and Messrs. Murray Carrington and Eric Maxon gave us admirably contrasted studies of the brothers Surface. Mr. F. R. Benson was capital as Crabtree. Miss Nora Lancaster and Miss Aicken were alike excellent in their respective rôles; Miss Marion Foreman as Lady Sneerwell had her first real opportunity during the festival, and achieved a complete success; Mr. W. W. Caithness cleverly delineated the crawly and obsequious Snake; and Mr. Edward Harrison was a blunt and jovial Sir Oliver. Mr. Moffat Johnston's Old Rowley stood out well as a simple, good-hearted fellow in a world of "coiners of scandal and clippers of reputation"; and Mr. Harry Caine assumed in turn and without difficulty the utterly varied rôles of the elegant gallant, Sir Benjamin Backbite and Moses, the low-comedy financial agent. The play was well staged, well dressed, well acted—an almost flawless performance of a delightful and evergreen comedy.

On Friday Evening, May 6, Mr. Benson presented
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Duke of Venice ..... MR. EDWARD HARRISON
Prince of Morocco ..... MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Antonio ..... MR. MURRAY CARRINGTON
Bassanio ..... MR. OTHO STUART
Lorenzo ..... MR. ALFRED WILD
Shylock ..... MR. JAMES CAREW
Tubal ..... MR. J. P. WILSON
Gratiano ..... MR. J. MOFFAT JOHNSTON
Salanio ..... MR. GUY B. RATHBONE
Salarino ..... MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
Launcelot Gobbo ..... MR. HARRY CAINE
Old Gobbo ..... MR. J. P. WILSON
Balthazar ..... MISS MOLLY TERRAINE
Stephano ..... MISS A. P. NICHOLSON
Clerk of the Court ..... MR. JOHN HOWELL
Portia ..... MISS ELLEN TERRY
Nerissa ..... MISS VIOLET FAREBROTHER
Jessica ..... MISS WINIFRED DURIE

Prior to the raising of the curtain the whole audience joined in singing "God Save the King." The main feature of this performance was the return of Miss Ellen Terry to her world-famed rôle of Portia. She played it with all the old grace and charm, just as no one else in the world could play it. Mr. James Carew's Shylock was an agreeable surprise, almost an innovation. The Jew, in his conception, was not an old man, not a day too old to be the father of a Jessica looking about seventeen. Mr. Carew speaks his lines in a silvery voice, musically, rapidly, volubly, nervously, just as one might hear the Hebrew-Spanish spoken in the streets of Salonica to-day. His Shylock has a distinctly Oriental appearance, and is a simple, natural, unaffected, sad, almost wistful Jew. There is nothing grotesque about his make-up. He is neither a Fagin nor a *Cloches de Corneville* miser. He is in the vigour of middle age. In short, Shylock, as presented by Mr. Carew, is an entirely natural and convincing picture. Mr. Otho Stuart's Bassanio was a graceful and easy performance, as was Mr. Murray Carrington's dignified Antonio. Miss Winifred Durie is by nature suited to the part of Jessica, and played it with charm and style. Equally delightful was Miss Farebrother's Nerissa; and all the other parts were in trained and capable hands. Miss Ellen Terry had a tremendous ovation at the close of the play, and was the recipient of an avalanche of floral tributes.

NEW BUILDINGS AT WHITLEY BAY.

This rising North-country seaside resort, so long without a theatre proper, is at length to be supplied with two handsome and commodious theatres, both opening to-night.

The Coliseum, situate in the Arcade, is right in the centre of the township, and is in an excellent position for the convenience of the residents. It is capable of seating 3,000 people, and thoroughly up to date in its equipment. Although no attempt has been made with any imposing façade, the main structure is substantially built of brick, with numerous entrances and emergency exits. The interior of the auditorium will accommodate: Orchestra stalls, 180; circle and side balconies, 700; and a large pit to seat about 2,000. The orchestra will provide ample room for a good dozen of musicians. The seating is principally "tip-up" chairs, handsomely upholstered. The scheme of colour-decoration pervading is pink and cream. The roof is ornamentally panelled, lofty, and well ventilated. There are also two comfortable boxes at the side of the proscenium opening, which will each seat ten persons. The stage has an opening of 30ft., with a depth of 25ft. Excellent dressing-rooms are provided for the artists, and private rooms are set apart for a resident caretaker.

There is a special operating chamber for cinematograph exhibitions, which is walled off from the auditorium, thus minimising danger from fire to the audience. The lighting is by electric chandeliers and standards, the fittings being in ornamental brass. The building has been erected and completed according to the plans approved of and passed by the local authority, and permission was given at the last local Petty Sessions for a temporary licence for music, dancing, and cinematograph, pending a later application for a full theatrical licence.

The "Spanish City," that has proved such a huge success during the past few seasons, under its new title of "The Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.," with a capital of £30,000, also will be formally opened to-day. The undertaking evidently has the approval of the local authority, as the chairman (County Alderman Robert Mason), of the Whitley and Monkseaton Urban District Council, is announced to inaugurate the proceedings, when he will be supported by the other councillors in a body, who, doubtless in response to the directors' invitation to honour the occasion, recognising the draw that this scheme of entertainment will be to further increase the visiting-list to the popular watering-place, and also to the strong local following and personality of the popular alderman, are attending.

It is surprising the amount of work that has been got through by the contractors, Messrs. Davidson and Millar, who have carried out the original plans, as laid down in the prospectus, to the letter. There is now an expansive frontal elevation facing the links and promenade, that is at once attractive and impressive, whilst the effect from seaward is extremely striking.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE death of King Edward has cast a temporary gloom over the play-going public, and the closing of the theatres, and the consequent loss to managers and employees, would have added to the sadness. The late King would have been the last to wish his death to be the cause of distress and disaster; and the King, in ordering the re-opening of the theatres, has acted in the true spirit of his beloved sire.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM arrived in town on Saturday last, after his very successful American tour. He and Miss Mary Moore, who is completing her rest cure at Folkestone, will commence their season at the Criterion early in April with a revival of *The Case of Rebellious Susan*.

WE are pleased to learn that Lady Bancroft, who for some time past has been ill at Sandgate, is making steady progress towards recovery.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has entered into partnership with Mr. Herbert Sleath, and will join that gentleman as lessee and manager of the Garrick Theatre for the period of Mr. Sleath's twenty-one years lease. The theatre will henceforth be under their joint control, and they will sublet it to suitable tenants. In the autumn Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh appear in Sir Herbert Tree's revival of *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's.

SIR A. W. PINERO, who is recuperating at Bath, has been making himself acquainted with the theatrical associations of Bath. Under the guidance of Mr. J. F. Meehan, he has also been making a "personally conducted" tour of the city.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY will conclude at the New Theatre, Oxford, to-night his spring tour of the provinces, which has been one of continuous success. The chief feature was, of course, the revival of *Richard III.* at Dublin, which was produced under circumstances of the highest theatrical, literary, and social interest, and the few performances that it has been possible to give since have proved to Mr. Harvey that his revival of the tragedy was wisely undertaken, and that it bids fair to be a permanent success as an item of his repertory.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN will present Miss Elizabeth Baker's four-act play, *Chains*, at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday next. The cast will include Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Mr. Donald Calthrop, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Sybil Thorndike, Miss Florence Haydon, and Miss Dorothy Minto. The piece will be produced by Mr. Dion Boucicault.

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S play, *The Fires of Fate*, will be performed at the Adelphi Theatre in a series of matinées on Mondays and Fridays, commencing about the 23rd inst. Mr. J. D. Beveridge will again play the Rev. Samuel Roden, and Mr. Ben Webster as Colonel Egerton, Mr. Spencer Trevor as Mr. Browne, Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Mr. Brodie, and Miss Agnes Thomas as Miss Adams will resume their original rôles. Mr. Bassett Roe as Dr. Roden, Mr. Gerald Mirrielees as M. Fardet, Mr. A. S. Homewood as Abdullah, and Miss Dorothea Desmond as Mrs. Belmont will be newcomers to the cast.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST will not reappear on the London stage until May next year, as she has determined to have a second season in America, where she has been immensely successful.

THE last act of *Parasites* at the Globe has been remodelled, much to the advantage of the piece. At this theatre a comedietta entitled *A Suffragette*, by Cuthbert Morley, will shortly be put on in front of *Parasites*. The characters include two women and a burglar.

MR. AND MRS. LAURENCE IRVING will arrive in England to-day, after a successful season in New York. On August Bank Holiday Mr. Irving will begin a short provincial tour in Birmingham.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has arranged to give a special matinée of Maeterlinck's charming fairy play *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre on Whit-Monday, at 2.30 p.m.

MR. W. W. KELLY has received the following letter from one of his patrons at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. The amount mentioned has been forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund:—"3, Wellington-field, Sefton Park, Liverpool, May 8, 1910. The Proprietor, Kelly's Theatre, Paradise-street. Dear Sir,—I understand that it is proposed to return the money, if desired, for seats booked for your performance last night, but I shall be obliged if you will kindly, in my own case, pay the same to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, i.e., 10s. 6d. for the box as per ticket herewith. I would take this opportunity of expreseing my sympathy with yourself and all other members of your profession for the serious financial loss entailed by the sad event recorded yesterday.—I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully, ARTHUR C. AUDEN."

MR. QUINLAN, Mr. Thomas Beecham's operatic agent, has returned from a tour in Italy and France. He has secured for Mr. Beecham the services of Miss Mignon Nevada, the young daughter of Mme. Emma Nevada, who has been trained by her mother, and made a successful *début* as Rosina at the Constanzi, Rome, and since then has met with success in Barcelona, Madrid, and Milan.

MR. QUINLAN has also arranged for two vocal recitals by Mr. Charles Gilibert, the well-known baritone, whose first recital is announced to take place at the Bechstein Hall on the 20th inst.

GARRICK VILLA, Hampton-on-Thames, until recently the country house of Sir Clifton Robinson, the tramway king, which was for many years the residence of the great actor, is to be sold by auction at The Mart, on June 8, the islet, Garrick Ait, being included in the sale. Garrick Villa for years past has been the headquarters of Molesey Regatta.

AERIAL advertisement has a certain connection with *A Message from Mars*, and this week North Londoners have been made familiar with the visit to the Marlborough Theatre of Mr. Ganthony's famous play by means of aeroplane-kites soaring high in the air and also by a huge balloon hovering over the theatre, while a fleet of free small balloons have been daily released from the roof and flown over wide area. An ascent of a dirigible airship is being arranged for to-day by Mr. Douglas Eley, Mr. Mouillot's manager of the company.

DURING the illness of Miss Ida Molesworth the part of Julie Alardy in *The Little Damozel* on tour has been played by Miss Eva Stuart. This charming young actress has made a decided hit in the part, displaying great histrionic ability, and has certainly a future before her.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON was discovered on the stage of the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on Friday evening, before the performance of *Used Up*, surrounded by his company. Stepping to the footlights, Mr. Compton, speaking with great feeling, said, "Ladies and Gentlemen,—The news to-night from Buckingham Palace is of so grave a character that the greatest anxiety for our beloved Monarch prevails over the civilised world. The issue lies with a 'greater Power than we can contradict,' but we are all loyal subjects here in Leeds, and I ask you to join with me in singing with voice and heart 'God save the King.'" The whole audience then rose and, led by Mr. Compton, sang the National Anthem with great fervour.

MR. W. W. KELLY, of the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, and Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, has decided to run a season of twice-nightly dramas at the former house during the summer months. The new move was inaugurated last Monday week, and was an instantaneous success. On Monday he will stage Mrs. Morton Powell's play *Brought to Ruin*, in which the authoress will be supported by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne, Mr. Harry Scott, and Mr. Edward M. Heanley. The succeeding attraction will be *His Real Wife*. *The Village Blacksmith* will be the Whit-Week entertainment at Kelly's Liverpool.

THE Thomas Beecham Opera Comique season at His Majesty's opened with *Tales of Hoffmann* on Thursday. At to-day's matinée *Hansel and Gretel* will be performed with the following cast:—Hansel, Miss Ruth Vincent; Gretel, Miss Muriel Terry; Witch, Miss Carrie Tubb; Sandman, Miss Carmen Hill; Dewman, Miss Betty Booker; Mother, Miss Christine D'Almaine; Father, Mr. Harry Dearth. This evening Sir Charles Stanford's *Shamus O'Brien* will be given with the undermentioned cast:—Shamus, Mr. Albert Archdeacon; Father O'Flynn Mr. Robert Radford; Mike, Mr. Joseph O'Mara Captain, Mr. John Bardsley; Nora, Miss Edith Evans; Kitty, Miss Caroline Hatchard; Banshee, Miss Carrie Tubb; Sergeant Cox, Mr. R. Scrope Quentin.

THE number of visitors who yearly make pilgrimage to Shakespeare's birthplace continues to increase. The trustees and guardians, at their annual meeting on the 6th inst., welcomed for the first time a new colleague in the person of Lord Curzon of Kedleston, recently elected a life trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Theodore Martin. Mr. Sidney Lee presided, and the attendance included the Earl of Warwick the Marquis of Hertford, Lord Redesdale, Mr. Lionel Cust, and Mr. F. R. Benson.

THE Chairman said, in spite of the dismal weather of the past season, the total number of last year's visitors, 43,510, exceeded the previous year's record by 4,616, and only fell behind their topmost figures, 44,213, which were reached in the year 1907, by 703. He hoped that their average attendance, which seemed now to have settled down to a point well above 40,000 persons, would before long rise to 50,000.

THE committee recommended that the trustees should ask the Government to place the Public Record Office in a position by an increased grant of public money to calendar and index those papers among the national archives which were most likely to throw new light on Shakespeare's career and work. It had just been announced, however, that the Prime Minister was about to appoint a committee of inquiry, and the trustees had been invited to submit suggestions as to the terms of reference. The whole working and organisation of the Public Record Office was to come under survey.

THE Chairman then moved the adoption of the report. Lord Curzon, in seconding the motion, said when anyone who knew anything about Shakespeare came to Stratford-on-Avon he saw in the room in which Shakespeare was born, in the streets in which he walked, in the surrounding country scenery which influenced his phraseology, and his whole outlook on life, something which gave him greater width of knowledge, greater depth of comprehension, greater sympathy with the Master whom they all revered. What, of course, they would like to know was more of Shakespeare as a man and as a man of letters. Every single discovery that had been made, every addition to their knowledge that had been acquired, had added sharpness to the identity and the individuality of Shakespeare as a man, a poet, a consummate genius, and had justified them in regarding with supreme contempt the fantastic imaginings which had been allowed to collect around his name.

THE report was adopted, and among the other business transacted was the appointment of a committee consisting of Lord Redesdale, Mr. Sidney Lee, and Mr. Cust to represent the views of the trustees regarding the terms of reference for the inquiry into the working of the Public Record Office.

MR. JUAN BUONAPARTE, whose remarkable likeness to the great Napoleon confirms his claim to be a direct descendant of that famous personage, will produce at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 30th, a Napoleonic drama entitled *The Man of Fate*. The new piece is in four acts, and is from the pen of Richard A. Greene. Mr. Buonaparte, it may be mentioned, has recently figured in the music halls in a sketch by George R. Sims entitled *Buonaparte's Boy*.

FRIENDS of the well-known Australian tenor and character actor Mr. William Walshe will be sorry to learn that he is at present ill in Charing Cross Hospital.

MISS BEATRICE FORBES-ROBERTSON, the niece of Mr. Forbes-Robertson, who is to be married early in the summer to Mr. Swinburne Hale, made her first appearance at the Criterion Theatre in 1900 as Winifred in *Mamma*, and was afterwards very successful on the English stage. She has been in America only two or three years. Her father is Mr. Ian Forbes-Robertson, and her grandfather on the mother's side was Joseph Knight, critic and editor of *Notes and Queries*. In New York she has played in *The Morals of Marcus* and *The Mollusc*, and this season she joined the New Theatre company.

BUILDING operations have already been begun on the site of the Borough Theatre, North Shields, which, it will remembered, was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago, and we learn that it is the intention of the proprietors (Messrs. Black Brothers) to erect a handsome, up-to-date theatre, with a holding capacity for upwards of three thousand persons, and with stage accommodation for the heaviest productions touring. Mr. Weir, of Howdon-on-Tyne, who successfully carried out the alterations at the Tynemouth Palace last year, is the contractor, and Mr. Steinlet, of North Shields, the architect. It is expected that the new place of amusement will be ready for opening on August Bank Holiday.

THE Actors' Fair in New York was opened on Monday by President Taft, who was escorted round the fair by a dozen of the most popular actresses, including Miss Marie Tempest and Miss Billie Burke. The promoters expect to raise £50,000 for a professional pension fund, and the utmost enthusiasm is being shown in the cause by artists and public alike.

PRESIDENT TAFT delivered a sympathetic little speech, amid cheers, at the opening of the fair. "I should be wanting in personal gratitude," he said, "if I did not seize this opportunity to come here and give my thanks to the profession to which I personally owe so much. I do not like to compare you either with lawyers or politicians. (Laughter.) There is one respect, though, in which we are alike. The money we make seems to come easy and go easy. (Laughter.) You are different from lawyers and politicians in that out of the generosity of your hearts you take care of those who have played their parts in your profession, and have reached a time when they are dependent upon others. There is nothing I know of in a nerve-straining life that equals the relaxation of a good play well mounted and well played, and you put all human kind under an obligation by holding the mirror up to nature."

A FLYING visit from England was paid by Miss Pauline Chase, the popular Peter Pan, who sold by auction photographs of professional and political celebrities. Mr. Roosevelt was knocked down at $150, and portraits of Mr. J. M. Barrie, Miss Ellen Terry, Mme. Melba, Sir Herbert Tree, and other English favourites fetched good prices. Miss Chase only stayed in America some sixteen hours, and sailed for this country on Wednesday morning. In the autumn she again crosses the Atlantic, having been selected by Mr. Frohman for the title-rôle in *Our Miss Gibbs* when it is produced in the States. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., will then be Cousin Timothy.

MISS BABS STUART, we regret to learn, was taken seriously ill on Wednesday of last week, and has not been able to resume her part of Annie Bloodgood in *Are You a Mason?* The rôle is at present being played by Miss Claire Townshend.

AT the Theatre Royal, Albert Hall, on the afternoon of the 31st inst. two new plays will be produced. One of them, a farcical comedy in three acts, entitled *Uncle Robert's Airship*, will be preceded by a sketch called *Between the Soup and the Savoury*, both pieces being by Miss G. E. Jennings. Mrs. Adrian Ross, Miss Margaret Fraser, and Mr. Harold Chapin will be in the cast of *Uncle Robert's Airship*.

THE Stage Society have postponed the production of Ludwig Thoma's play *Champions of Morality* at the Aldwych until Sunday, the 22nd inst.

MISS MAIE HOEY will appear as Paupukeewis in Sivori Levey's *Hiawatha* to be given at the Emily Harris's Home, Alfred-place, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday, the 22nd inst.

MR. S. COLERIDGE-TAYLOR, who has received a commission from Sir Herbert Tree to write the music for Mr. Alfred Noyes's new play at His Majesty's Theatre, will conduct the Norfolk (Connecticut) Festival, and sailed on Saturday for America. The choice of works was arrived at by vote, and Verdi's *Requiem* and Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's *Hiawatha* headed the list. Mr. Coleridge-Taylor has written an orchestral rhapsody on negro melodies, which will be performed for the first time at the festival.

MR. FRED BULMER informs us that he has entered into an arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar to take over the very successful play *The Tyrant*. It is Mr. Bulmer's intention to keep the drama up to its usual high standard, several of the present company being retained. The tour commences next autumn.

THE fiftieth performance of *Two Merry Monarchs* took place on Thursday night at the Strand Theatre, where the presentation of musical comedy at popular prices is proving attractive. A special matinée will be given on Monday.

OWING to the indisposition of Mr. Leonard Boyne last week, the part of Sir Lucius O'Trigger in *The Rivals* was played by Mr. Reginald Dane.

MISS JOAN HARCOURT (daughter of the late Sidney Harcourt) has just concluded a two years' engagement in the Far East under the Bandmann management. Amy Brown in *The Englishman's Home*, Tiny Mornington in *The Walls of Jericho*, Viola Hood in *The Flag Lieutenant*, Maria in *The School for Scandal*, and Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice* are a few of the parts in which Miss Harcourt has appeared with distinct success.

MR. CECIL BROOKING, who has played the Governor of the Prison in *Justice*, the Lieutenant in *The Man of Destiny*, Cecil Graham in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, and many other parts at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, since Christmas, has been released by the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Wareing to take up the rôle of Matthew Barron (Dolly's father) in *Dolly Reforming Herself* on Mr. Silvanus Dauncey's forthcoming tour of that piece. Afterwards Mr. Brooking goes to Mr. Percy Hutchison to play Dallas Baker in *Smith* for the autumn.

THE forthcoming French theatrical season will include a series of representations of some of Shakespeare's plays by German actors at the Théâtre Réjane. The company of the Deutsches Theater of Berlin is to appear in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet*, and to give representations of *Ghosts*, Oscar Wilde's *Salome*, and Goethe's *Faust*.

MISS EDITH COLE (Mrs. W. W. Kelly) has been engaged by Mr. August Van Biene to appear for a special week, commencing Monday next as the Duchess in *The Broken Melody* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

STATEMENTS which have been made to the effect that a director of the Orchestral Publishing Company went to Paris and that a special meeting of the administrative council of the French Society (meaning the Société des Auteurs, Compositeurs, et Editeurs de Musique) was called to meet him, and that a reciprocal alliance was formed which gave to all British composers who are members or who should become members of the British Society of Composers the rights enjoyed by all French composers, having been brought to the notice of the council of administration of the Société des Auteurs, Compositeurs, et Editeurs de Musique, the council has authorised its British representative, Mr. Pierre Sarpy, of 32, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., to officially deny that anything in the shape of an alliance has been made by the Société with the British Society of Composers, or that any director of the Orchestral Publishing Company has been authorised by the Council to represent it or to collect fees on its behalf, and further, Mr. Sarpy is instructed to state that he is, as he has been for some years past, the sole representative of the Société in this country.

MR. ERNEST POPE, the highly popular resident-manager of the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, took a complimentary benefit on Wednesday week, when the cosy house was crowded to overflowing. *The Professor's Love Story*, by J. M. Barrie, was staged, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pope appearing respectively as the Professor and Effie, while Mr. and Mrs. W. Payne Seddon also played, the former being Henders and the latter Lucy White. The play was admirably staged and mounted, and aroused tumultuous applause.

AT the close Mr. Ernest Pope gratefully thanked his patrons for their support, and announced that the receipts had been double what they were the previous season. He promised an adherence to the policy during this season, which has proved so successful in the past. He was leaving the stage when Dr. Bone, a local practitioner, stepped forward and asked Mr. Pope's acceptance of a massive and handsome silver salver, subscribed for by considerably over a hundred patrons of the house, while to Mrs. Pope was handed a very beautiful gold curb bangle. There were speeches by Mr. W. Payne Seddon and others, and the curtain eventually fell amid loud cheers for the lessees.

THE holidays will bring a busy time for Mr. Frank Weathersby, who, in addition to his agency, will have five companies playing Whit Week, comprising *The Best People*, *Oh, Susannah!* *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and two companies of *Facing the Music*. He is filling in his spare time by organising a summer stock comedy company for the Opera House, Torquay.

MR. WALTER GAY, who finishes an engagement with *The Servant in the House* on May 21, has been re-engaged for the leading business at the Kennington Theatre during Mr. Robert Arthur's stock season, and opens on May 30. Mr. Gay has not yet settled his autumn work.

AT the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, on Monday, a crowded house assembled for the benefit of the Lifeboat Fund. To mark the occasion Miss Maude May Murray, who was re-engaged by Mr. Leigh for this week, produced some beautiful new effects.

MR. FRED BARNARDO, late business manager for Mr. Lester Collingwood at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, has joined Mr. Frank Lindo as business representative.

AT a meeting of the Birmingham Theatrical Charity Sports Committee held on Tuesday evening at the Woolpack Hotel, the following resolution was passed:—"As a token of respect for our late King, and as a mark of sympathy with the Royal Family in their bereavement, it is resolved that the sports be postponed from Whit Tuesday until Saturday, June 11.

A NEW comedietta, called *Make-Believe*, by E. C. Rackstraw and W. Muskerry, will be produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday next.

WE are requested to state that the private view of the collection of antique furniture and works of art of the late Sir Wm. Q. Orchardson, R.A., at 13, Portland-place, to be sold by auction by Messrs. Gillows on the 24th inst. and three following days, will take place on Thursday, May 19, instead of Friday, May 20 (as originally announced), owing to the funeral of his late Majesty on the latter date.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, who has lately concluded the second tour playing Arnold Faringay (Mr. Dawson Milward's) part in Mr. Geo. Alexander's company, *The Builder of Bridges*, has been engaged by Mr. Auguste Van Biene for a special week at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, to play his old part General Ivanoff, in *The Broken Melody*. Mr. Ludlow has enacted the rôle throughout the British Isles and Australasia, and has also visited South Africa with this money-making play.

THE Theatre Royal, Edmonton, reopens on Monday under entirely new management, the sole lessees and managers being the Van Biene Theatres Co., and the resident-general-manager Mr. Edward Van Biene. The theatre, which has a double licence, will be run as a drama house at popular prices.

MR. W. V. GARROD'S company, in *A Country Girl in London*, in the autumn will include Messrs. Chas. Halling, Wm. Bradford, J. Sutton-Pateman, Seymour Perry, Fred Wilberforce, and Frank Dallas; Misses Ethel Crawford, Alice Clarke, and Maude Merrick. *The Prodigal Parson* company will embrace Messrs. Ernest Vaughan, Owen Remonde, Carthage Caldcleugh, Roland A. Bridge, and Mr. Garrod (in the title-rôle); Misses Madge Douglas, Mollie Shine, Celia Barnard, and Bertha Kingston.

WE record with regret the death of Miss Maud Hayden, who passed away at Paignton on Tuesday at the early age of thirty-eight. Miss Hayden began her professional career at the Rotunda, Liverpool, a quarter of a century ago, playing Paul in *The Octoroon*. Stock seasons, extending over some years, followed, and subsequently she toured as juvenile lead with Miss Deering in *A Woman's Vengeance*. She was the original Maud Charteris in the version of *Mr. Barnes of New York*, produced by Yorke Stephens and Rutland Barrington, called *To the Death*. Engagements with the late Captain Pomeroy Gilbert, John Tully, J. F. Preston, Lester Collingwood, and many other prominent provincial managers were also fulfilled, and she figured in principal parts in pantomime in Liverpool. In 1891 she married Mr. Frank Heath Saunders, and during the past years she was obliged through ill-health practically to relinquish her profession. The deceased actress was an enthusiastic supporter of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild and was one of the first subscribers to the Actors' Orphanage Fund.

REGINALD SHEARWOOD, of Montpelier-road, Kentish Town, was charged on Monday, in the Children's Court, Bow-street, with stealing a watch and chain, worth £5, belonging to Mr. Leslie Stiles, an actor engaged at the Strand Theatre. On Tuesday last week the prisoner applied for admission to the Grotto Boys' Home, Paddington-street. It was found that he then had in his possession a lady's gold watch and chain, a gentleman's watch and chain, and a purse containing 15s. Upon being questioned by the superintendent, he admitted that he had stolen one of the watches from the Strand Theatre. He was taken there by the superintendent, and the gentleman's watch and chain found upon him were identified by Mr. Stiles as his property. They had been taken from his dressing-room during the performance on the Monday night. Shearwood was given into custody, and told Detective-sergeant Collins that he had stolen the lady's watch and chain and the purse from a public-house near Charing Cross-road, but on going into that neighbourhood with the officer, he said he was unable to find the place. Detective-sergeant Collins said that in March last the prisoner was bound over at Peterborough after committing a theft at the Hippodrome there. The prisoner was remanded.

THE attractions at the Theatrical Garden Party in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, which will take place at the Botanic Gardens on June 28, are very numerous. As already stated, Mr. Cyril Maude will "present" a "melodrama in real life," by Leo Trevor, called *The Pick of Oakham; or, The Girl with the Bad Habit*. Mr. John Harwood will be the producer.

To the usual hat-trimming competition will be added a hair-dressing competition by actors and actresses. Both will be under the direction of Miss Phyllis Broughton. A costume display of the various methods of combat will be given by well-known actors, and will include examples from *Troilus and Cressida*, *Richard III.*, *Hamlet*, and *The Three Musketeers* — Cardinal's Guards *v.* the Three Musketeers and D'Artagnan—quarterstaff, rapier and dagger, cloak and dagger, and rapier and lanthorn. This display will be directed by Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, and Professor W. Mortlake Mann.

OTHER attractions will be a cricket match, under the direction of Miss Vane Featherston; a golf putting competition; Jarley's Waxworks, provided by a company headed by Miss Jessie Bateman; and the Royal Palladium, with an entertainment contributed principally by variety artists. Miss May Warley will direct "The World's Picture Palace," in connection with which pictures taken in the grounds showing the progress of the garden party will be shown at short intervals on the screen. In the Anglo-American Shooting Gallery competitions will be arranged by Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Lily Elsie, Miss Gertie Millar, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Mr. C. M. Hallard, and Mr. Guy Standing; and Mr. Gerald Du Maurier and Mr. George Grossmith will be seen in characteristic entertainments.

A DOLL, in a costume similar to that worn by Miss Irene Vanburgh in *Trelawny of the Wells*, dressed by the actress herself, will be sold by auction; Miss Compton and Mrs. L. Gay, assisted by many well-known actresses, will sell signed photographs and picture postcards; Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Evelyn Millard, and Mrs. A. E. Mangles will preside in the Ice Cream Tent; Miss Lena Ashwell and Miss Eva Moore will look after the Lake Tea Chalet; and Miss Lilian Braithwaite will control the Strawberry-and-Cream Tent.

OTHERS who have promised to assist are Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Miss Carlotta Addison, Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. George Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Ada Blanche, Rev. Arthur Brinckman, Miss Fanny Brough, Mrs. C. L. Carson, Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Coltson, Miss Constance Collier, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, Mr. Kenneth Douglas, Mr. H. V. Esmond, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Constance Hyem, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Irving, Miss Ethel Irving, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. W. Locke, Miss Marie Löhr, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr. Chas. Maude, Miss Mary Moore, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. H. G. Pélissier, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Sims, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Terry, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Miss Ellaline Terriss, Sir H. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Willard, Mr. C. H. Workman, Mr. Huntley Wright, and Mrs. Fred Wright.

MR. DANIEL V. ARTHUR, in conjunction with the Shuberts, is going to build a new theatre in Forty-eighth-street, New York, near Broadway, to be opened in the early winter by his wife, Miss Marie Cahill. He announces that Mr. Weedon Grossmith will visit America next season and appear under his management in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Mr. Grossmith was in New York in 1902, and it is safe to say that no one who saw him then has forgotten his Mr. Crosbie in *The Night of the Party*.

THE first season of the New Theatre, New York, came to an end on the 30th ult., *Beethoven* being the closing attraction. After extensive alterations in the auditorium, which have been previously described, the theatre will reopen in October with Maeterlinck's fairy play *The Blue Bird*. The season began on Nov. 8, and lasted twenty-five weeks. Of the twelve plays presented, four were classical and eight modern. The list of these, with the number of performances, is as follows:—*Antony and Cleopatra*, 17; *The Cottage in the Air*, 9; *Strife*, 17; *The Nigger*, 24; *The School for Scandal*, 29; a one-act curtain-raiser called *Liz, the Mother*, 1; *Don*, 15; *Twelfth Night*, 21; *The Witch*, 10; the fourth act of Ibsen's *Brand*, 8; *Sister Beatrice*, 10; *The Winter's Tale*, 7; and *Beethoven*, 26.

THE Belasco Theatre, in West Forty-second-street, New York, built by Oscar Hammerstein, was originally called the Theatre Republic. Mr. Belasco named it after himself when it passed into his hands, and when his other theatre, in West Forty-fourth-street, was built from his own plans he called it the Stuyvesant. Now it is announced that the former house is to be called the Republic once more, and the Stuyvesant is to be known as the Belasco.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE will appear in another American play in the near future, following her success in *The Writing on the Wall*. In the meantime she has announced that her next venture will be *La Samaritaine*, by Rostand. Miss Nethersole is undecided about returning to America next season. She intends to visit the capitals of Europe and Egypt, as well as Buenos Aires and Rio Janeiro. Then she has been asked to make a tour of Australia, a country she has not visited for sixteen years.

MISS ELSIE LESLIE, who as a child made herself famous in the title-rôle of *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, reappeared on the stage recently in the part of Rose Lane in *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, now running at Wallack's Theatre, New York. Miss Leslie is Mrs. Jefferson Winter in private life, being the daughter-in-law of the distinguished American essayist and critic, Mr. William Winter.

AT the Clerkenwell Police-court, on Monday, Major Wilson, a commercial traveller, of Cricketfield-road, Lower Clapton, was charged with stealing from the cloak-room of the Marlborough Theatre a £5 note, the property of James Barron; also with stealing from the office of the theatre a gold pencil-case and other articles, value £10, the property of John Herriot. James Barron, giving an address at Crouch End, said that he went to the Marlborough Theatre, and left his overcoat in the cloak-room. When he had it back, after the performance, he missed a case which contained the note. Mr. Herriot, the manager of the theatre, said that he missed a pencil-case, a diamond pin, a silver match-box, and a gold watch. They had been in a drawer in his office desk at the theatre. Detective-sergeant Powell said he told the prisoner that he had information that he changed the £5 note, and asked him for an explanation. The prisoner had a vesta-box in his possession, which was afterwards identified. The case was remanded.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

King Edward and Irving.

THE late King Edward, in his younger days, was very fond of paying a visit behind the scenes. The following interesting description of one of these visits occurs in Mr. Bram Stoker's reminiscences of Henry Irving: "One night—it was Oct. 18 (1880)—the Prince of Wales came behind the scenes, as he was interested in the working of the play (*The Corsican Brothers*). It was known he was coming, and though the stage hands had been told that they were not supposed to know that he was present, they all had their Sunday clothes on. It was the first time his Royal Highness had been 'behind' in Irving's management; and he seemed very interested in all he saw. King Edward VII. has, and has always had, a wonderful memory. That night he told Irving how Charles Kean had set the scenes, the rights and lefts being different from the present setting; how Kean had rested on a log in a particular place; and so forth. Some of our older stage men, who had been at the Princess's in Kean's time, bore it out afterwards that he was correct in each detail. That night the men worked as never before; they were determined to let the Prince see what could, under the stimulating influence of his presence, be done at the Lyceum, of which they were all very proud. That night the tableau curtains remained down (during the preparation of the Opera House scene) only thirty seconds—the record time."

Royalty at Islington.

MISS EMILY SOLDENE, in her amusing book of recollections, gives a description of a visit in the winter of 1872 to the old Philharmonic Theatre: "In 1872 the Prince went to the Cattle Show. Over the pen of the prize pigs hung a framed picture. When his Royal Highness was through with the pigs, he took in the picture. 'What is that?' he inquired. 'That, sir, is the portrait of Miss Soldene as Drogan in *Geneviève de Brabant*, now being played at the Philharmonic Theatre.' 'And where is the Philharmonic Theatre?' inquired the Prince. 'Near the Angel, your Royal Highness.' His Royal Highness smiled. 'A very good position indeed,' said he. A day or two after came an order from Mitchell's for a Royal box. That was a great night at the 'Phil.' A large box and retiring-room were specially fitted up, and Mr. Morton provided some wonderful cigars for the occasion. His Royal Highness came and was treated with the greatest respect and consideration by his Majesty's lieges of Islington. When he left the theatre after the performance the corridor was, of course, crammed, but the audience ranged themselves. There was no crowding, or pushing, or policemen, and a broad path was kept for the Prince by the People."

Cunning of Fence.

"THE last time King Edward came to my theatre," said Mme. Bernhardt to a *Daily News* interviewer on Thursday, "was when I was playing *Les Bouffons*. After the performance the King and Queen Alexandra came to my dressing-room, and were very charming. Suddenly King Edward said to me: 'You showed on the stage just now a perfect knowledge of weapons. Do you think you could disarm me as easily?' I replied that I thought not. Then the King proposed to hold an assault-at-arms there in my room. I don't mind telling you that that was not by any means the same thing as on the stage."

IN MEMORIAM.

Sleep, gracious Sovereign! Sleep at last is best
For King as peasant: sleeping in the glow
Of deeds most truly royal, we bow low
To them and thee. God give thee perfect rest!

Thy task fulfill'd—Peace folding East and West,
Dovelike and smiling, 'neath her wings of snow—
Well may a King lay down his crown who so
Leaves realm and subjects so supremely blest!

Thy reign was much, yet is its lesson more;
And this, Evangel-like, shall live and sway—
An essence indestructible—a core
Of splendour in thy memory! So shall say
All men: "His glory was the love he bore
Unto his people; he shall rule alway!"

F. H. DE QUINCEY.

Actors' Association, Regent-street, W.

Albeit great love surely wrapped him round—
A faithful love won from a people great—
Serene and easeful Death came with no sound,
Called him, and made a nation desolate.
A nation grieves for him, for he was such
As had the heart and kindness overmuch
Of one who knew his people and their need.

R. HENDERSON BLAND.

Green Room Club, Leicester-square, W.C.

AN APT QUOTATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Do you not think the following is in keeping with our great loss?—

"Hung be the heavens with black: yield day to night.
Comets, importing change of time and states,
Brandish your fiery tresses in the sky,
And with them scourge the bad revolting stars
That have consented to King Edward's* death."
—*Richard III.*

—Yours faithfully,

JOHN HASTINGS BATSON.

*I use "King Edward's" in place of "King Henry's."

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Mr. Chas. I. Coltson, the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, has sent the following letters to Queen Alexandra and the King:—

Actors' Benevolent Fund,
8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

To the Queen Alexandra's Most Excellent Majesty.

MADAM,—

I am desired by the Council and officers of the Actors' Benevolent Fund to convey to your most gracious Majesty their inexpressibly deep sympathy in the terrible loss your Majesty has sustained in the death of your beloved husband, our deeply lamented and much loved Sovereign, King Edward. That God may grant your Majesty strength to bear up against such a heavy blow is the earnest prayer of the Council and officers of this Fund.

I remain,
Madam,
Your Majesty's most obedient servant,
CHAS. I. COLTSON.

Actors' Benevolent Fund,
8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

SIRE,—

I am desired by the Council and officers of the Actors' Benevolent Fund to respectfully tender to your gracious Majesty their deep sympathy in the irreparable loss your Majesty has sustained in the death of your beloved father, our deeply lamented and much loved Sovereign, King Edward VII. I am also desired to express to your Majesty the ever most loyal devotion of the Council and officers of the Fund.

I remain,
With most profound respect,
Sire,
Your Majesty's most obedient servant,
CHAS. I. COLTSON.

DEATH OF KING EDWARD.

A PATRON OF THE DRAMA.

By the death of King Edward the stage and amusement professions lose a firm friend and patron, whose life-long kindness and courtesy can never be forgotten. Added to the general grief was the sad thought of how many in the profession would suffer by the gloom cast over society by his demise. Filled with the kindly forethought and consideration for the welfare of his subjects which characterised the late King, his Majesty George V. on Monday took steps to minimise, as far as possible, the distress, and commanded the Lord Chamberlain to publish the following message:

Knowing so well the feelings of my beloved Father, I am sure that it would be contrary to his wishes if there were any interruption in the enjoyment of the Public during the Whitsuntide Holidays. I therefore hope that the general mourning will not prevent my people from taking the usual advantages of the various opportunities afforded them for rest, relaxation, and amusement in the coming days.

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

Sir Herbert Tree as the President of the Theatrical Managers' Association, and Mr. George Alexander, as President of the West-End Managers' Association, on Monday received the following communication:

The Lord Chamberlain has received the King's orders to the effect that in view of the number of people who would be thrown out of employment by a prolonged closing of the theatres his Majesty wishes that the theatres should be opened, except on the day of his late Majesty's funeral.

Sir Herbert and Mr. Alexander sent the following reply to the Lord Chamberlain:

My Lord,—We have to inform you that the document you communicated to us this afternoon, to the effect that his Majesty the King wishes that the theatres should be opened except on the day of his late Majesty's funeral, was communicated to the London managers. We need hardly say how deeply this gracious and thoughtful act of his Majesty is appreciated by them and by all the theatres throughout the country. We desire to assure your lordship the managers as a body intended, as a voluntary act of loyalty, to close their theatres until after the funeral of our late beloved Sovereign. May we ask you to convey to his Majesty our deep appreciation of his kind consideration. The West End theatres will reopen from next Wednesday.

A meeting of the Society of West-End Theatre Managers was held on Monday afternoon to make arrangements to reopen the theatres in accordance with the expressed wishes of the King.

At a meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, representing about 350 theatres in the United Kingdom, which was held at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday morning, with Sir Herbert Tree in the chair, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That the Association of Theatrical Managers, representing three hundred and fifty theatres in the United Kingdom, humbly desire to express their deep sorrow at the loss of their beloved Sovereign, and beg to be allowed to tender most respectfully their sympathy to her Majesty Queen Alexandra, to their Majesties the King and Queen, and to the members of the Royal Family."

The Theatres Alliance have sent the following letter:

To the Right Honourable
Lord Knollys, G.C.V.O.,
Buckingham Palace.

My Lord,—At the monthly meeting of the members of the Theatres Alliance (which represents all the London suburban and a number of provincial theatres) held yesterday, I was instructed to express the sincere and respectful sympathy of all the members with her Majesty Queen Alexandra, their Majesties the King and Queen, and the other members of the Royal Family in their personal bereavement, and their deep feelings of sorrow at the great national loss sustained by the death of his Majesty King Edward.

I was also instructed to request that you would be good enough to offer to his Majesty King George the loyal duty and affectionate homage of the members, and their respectful thanks for his kind and sympathetic interest in the welfare of those connected with the theatrical profession.

I have the honour to be your lordship's most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. MOVERLEY SHARP,
May 11, 1910. Hon. Sec.

At the meeting of the Actors' Association on Tuesday the Council confirmed the action of Mr. Derwent in having sent, on Friday, the 6th inst., the following telegram to his late Majesty King Edward VII.: "The actors and actresses of the United Kingdom have heard with the utmost regret of your Majesty's unhappy illness, and unite in wishing your Majesty a speedy return to health. The Council of the Actors' Association." The following reply was received: "The King sends sincere thanks for message of good wishes.—Knollys." It was decided that this communication should be framed and placed in the rooms of the association.

The following resolutions were read by the Chairman and passed in silence by the Council—all standing: "That this Council of the Actors' Association, on behalf of the actors and actresses of the United Kingdom, desire to tender to their most gracious Majesties King George and Queen Mary, their humble expressions of sympathy on the occasion of the death of their late beloved Sovereign King Edward VII. The Council desire to humbly offer their sincere and loyal condolences to their Majesties in this great affliction."

To the Queen-Mother Alexandra: "That the Council of the Actors' Association, on behalf of the actors and actresses of the United Kingdom, desire to tender to your Majesty their humble expressions of sympathy on the occasion of the death of their late beloved Sovereign King Edward VII. With heartfelt sorrow the Council tender their sincere and loyal condolences, united with the hope that Divine Providence will help your Majesty, and all who revere and cherish the memory of our most Gracious King, to bear the heavy load of affliction with fortitude and resignation."

The Secretary was instructed to have the letters engrossed.

The resolution was moved by Mr. Moriand, seconded by Mr. Arlton, and agreed to unanimously: "That this Council of the Actors' Association, on behalf of the actors and actresses of the United Kingdom, humbly desire to express their gratitude to his most gracious Majesty King George V. for his thoughtful consideration in desiring that the theatres should be reopened with as little delay as possible."

At His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday, when Mr. Thomas Beecham's postponed season opened with the first performance, in English, of Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffman*, the front of the circles and the boxes were hung with purple.

At Covent Garden on Thursday night the first performance since the news of the national bereavement was published consisted of the revival, for the first time this season, of *Samson et Delilah*. The Royal box was, of course, empty. It was not draped with black. Nearly all the ladies present wore black, and jewels were abandoned.

Owing to the death of his Majesty the King, the Actresses' Franchise League matinée musicale, fixed for Tuesday, has been postponed till Tuesday, the 24th.

In consequence of the death of his Majesty King Edward, the matinée for the Keats-Shelley Memorial House in Rome, which was to have been given at the Haymarket Theatre on June 10th, is postponed till next year.

An incident which took place at the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, on Monday evening, afforded a striking illustration of the deep impression which was made on the heart of the people by the death of King Edward. As the curtain was rung down at the close of the performance, the band played the National Anthem, and the reverently-standing audience fixed their gaze on the white screen, where hitherto each night had been displayed a portrait of his late Majesty. "The New King" was the expectant phrase upon everybody's lips, and a thrill went through the house as a picture of his Majesty George V. appeared.

In Stratford-on-Avon King Edward's death was known about half-past twelve on Saturday morning. Most of the decorations, including the fifty wreaths and national flags along Bridge-street had been removed before breakfast time, and the few flags that remained floated half-mast high. Before retiring to rest Mr. Benson held a council and resolved to abandon the festival. In the morning he called together his artists and generously offered them half salaries in consideration of their remaining at Stratford and rehearsing. Mr. Benson will have another season there towards the end of July, when the prize play, *The Piper*, will be produced. Mr. Otho Stuart decided to postpone also the presentation of the cheque, to contain which he has had made a simple oblong silver casket on legs, with a head of Shakespeare carved on the top. The Corporation postponed to the same season the conferring of the freedom of the town on Mr. Benson.

"The Prince of Wales and the Comédie Française" is the title of an article in the Paris *Gaulois*, written by M. Frédéric Febvre, who, writing of the late King when Prince of Wales, says:

"One evening at the foyer of the Comédie Française, as his Royal Highness was talking to Sarah, to Croizette, and to me, while his friends were standing some way off, what was not my bewilderment to see a stranger go up in a familiar manner to his Royal Highness and ask him, with incredible impertinence, what he thought of the play. Without showing the slightest surprise, the Prince turned to him and answered with a gracious smile, 'I do not think I have spoken to you.'

"Here is another souvenir. When his Royal Highness was so good as to applaud me at the Royalty, and when I apologised for receiving him under conditions so inappropriate, he replied, with a kindly smile, 'That does not matter, my dear Febvre, you will make up for it in the Rue Richelieu.' Then, a few days after my retirement, the Comédie started for London to give a series of performances at Drury Lane, under the direction of M. Grau and Sir Augustus Harris. On July 1, when I no longer belonged to the Théâtre Français, the Prince of Wales had the goodness to grant me a private audience, during which his Royal Highness gave me a very valuable souvenir."

M. Febvre adds: "His Royal Highness, of whom I retain a grateful memory, always honoured me with peculiar kindness, which rendered me his respectful servant, but nothing authorised me to make any pretension to such a title. I loved the Prince of Wales for his kindness, his courteous simplicity, and I am proud that I have not been a stranger to the admirable Sovereign whom I mourn from the bottom of my heart."

The Theatre, Norwich, where during last week Mr. F. R. Benson was giving a Shakespearean Festival, was closed on Saturday, as also were the Hippodrome and other places of amusement, in consequence of the national calamity.

MISS HORNIMAN PROTESTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—When I heard that the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, was open on Saturday, May 7, I was both disgusted and angry that the good example of the other theatres had not been followed. Unless proper regret is shown in the Press by the directors my subsidy to the National Theatre Society will cease immediately, instead of continuing until next November.—Yours faithfully,

A. E. F. HORNIMAN.

Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, May 11, 1910

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the committee held on Wednesday evening of the General Staff Branch, N.A.T.E., London, a resolution was adopted expressing its great regret at the death of his Majesty King Edward VII., and its respectful and loyal sympathy with the Royal Family, and that the committee wishes to express its appreciation of the kindly consideration shown to theatrical employees by his Majesty King George in his announcement regarding the reopening of the theatres. The committee felt that all sections of employees would have suffered had the theatres been closed as long as was originally intended. They recognise that the Managers' Association were only anxious to show their respect, and that many of its members might have paid full wages to all their employees in the circumstances.

The Sunday entertainments in picture theatres and music halls, involving as they do at present seven days' work upon the employees engaged on Sundays, is causing communications to be addressed by men in various localities to their representative on the L.C.C., and already attention has been drawn to the matter by one member of the Council acting on behalf of some of his constituents.

The attention of musicians and others connected with theatres, music halls, and picture palaces is drawn to the advertisement appearing in the "Musicians' Wants" column. Publicity is there given to the decision of the A.M.U. The resolution mentioned in this column last week has been carried by the vote of the members of the Musicians' Union, and this, considered in connection with the action of the Sunday Defence Committee, may be understood to mean that very drastic action may arise if the present state of affairs continues much longer.

The *Strand Magazine* is publishing samples of the art of the British working man, and among these is a reproduction of a water-colour painting by Mr. Matthew Mooney, now employed at the Strand Palace, but formerly employed as the timekeeper at Drury Lane Theatre. Mr. Mooney is a son-in-law of Mr. Taylor, master carpenter at the Scala Theatre, himself an amateur painter who, it will be remembered, has presented several oil paintings as a prize at the Theatrical Sports. Mr. Mooney was formerly valet to Cardinal Vaughan, and has also seen much of the world in the service of the Royal Mail Steamship Co.

Mr. Wm. Milne, a carpenter employed at the Shepherd's Bush Exhibition, and at the New Theatre in the evening, met with an accident last Saturday, and is now in St. Thomas's Hospital suffering from a broken arm.

At a meeting of the Cinematograph Operators' Association Committee, held on Tuesday at the office, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, Mr. A. Malcolm, president, in the chair, a number of applications for membership were granted. In view of the number of applicants for certificates issued by the Association it was considered desirable to hold examinations quarterly. A new departure as to the examination was also considered. The committee having been informed that there are several joint committees formed by the L.C.C. in connection with several trades to deal with matters of educational interest to these trades, and consisting of representatives of the Employers' Associations, the Trade Union, and the L.C.C., it was felt that this system was one the Association might consider as a means of securing examinations, and to issue certificates to operators that would command the support of licensing authorities and employers.

The terms of a Bill, mentioned in the journal published by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and under the consideration of the local authority for the city of Baltimore, was considered, and as it is on the lines of the legislation desired by the Operators' Association in this country the following extracts may be of general interest:—

The Bill is to be known as the "Moving Picture Machine Operators' Law." "Whereas, in most professions in which responsibility as to damages to persons or property is involved, the custom prevailing or the law of the State of Maryland requires all persons having or wishing to assume such responsibility to be examined by skilled and competent examiners, said professions being in part those of attorney, physicians, dentists, plumbers, engineers, horseshoers, and others: and

"Whereas, There is more danger to life and property from explosions caused by the carelessness and incompetency of moving picture operators: and

"Whereas, Heretofore no provision has been made by law requiring moving picture operators to undergo an examination before being allowed to pursue their avocation: and

"Whereas, It is deemed a fit and proper subject of legislative action, with a view to the proper protection of life and property, that a law be enacted by which none but persons who are skilled in the avocation of moving picture machines or electrical apparatus should be allowed to pursue that calling, and to that end a board of examining picture machine operators should be created whose duty it shall be to examine moving picture machine operators desiring to follow that trade and give such as may possess the proper requisites a proper certificate of proficiency."

The Bill defines the term "moving picture operators" as including any person engaged in the operation of electrical moving picture machines or electrical projecting apparatus, install, erect, or repair any lighting fixture, devices, and the necessary wiring in connection with same, in a theatre, moving picture parlour, or hall, where employed as a moving picture machine operator. The Board is to consist of three persons, one from the Board of Fire Underwriters' Association, one master electrician, to represent the Building Inspector's office, and one operator.

All operators engaged in the city of Baltimore must within sixty days from May 1, 1910, comply with the provision of the Act. A fee of ten dollars is charged for a licence, renewable each year for a further fee of five dollars.

The Board has power ". . . to suspend or revoke the licence of any operator who is negligent or operates any moving picture or electrical apparatus in a dangerous or improper manner so as to be dangerous to the safety of life or property." No licence or renewal of same shall be assignable or transferable. The Board are to give five days' public notice of the time and place of each examination.

The Association will probably take steps to have a Bill of a similar nature introduced into the House of Commons.

Mr. T. Pounds, the vice-chairman of the Middlesbrough Theatres Sick Benefit Society, being about to leave the district, the members, at their meeting last Sunday, presented him with a travelling bag and umbrella, and to Mrs. Pounds a satchel, as mementos of services rendered to the Society. Mrs. T. Fletcher, the treasurer, made the presentation, and conveyed the good wishes of the members for their future prosperity.

ANNUAL THEATRICAL SPORTS.

A meeting of the committee formed to organise these sports was held on Thursday evening at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. Mr. James Carew, the chairman of the committee this year, presided. Among those present were Mr. A. P. Horne (deputy chairman), St. James's Theatre; Mr. J. Cullen, Mr. C. T. Cory, Mr. Philip Sheridan, Mr. H. J. Kemp, Mr. Philip Raphael, Mr. J. Atterton, Mr. C. Thorogood, Mr. Ed. Stow, Mr. A. Malcolm, Mr. J. Hunt, and Mr. Wm. Johnson, hon. secretary.

Mr. J. Cullen, on behalf of the old members of the committee, cordially welcomed Mr. James Carew and Mr. Horne, and expressed the satisfaction of the committee in having their co-operation.

Mr. Carew in reply said it had given him much pleasure to accept the position. The Chairman evinced a keen interest in the proceedings, and made some valuable suggestions, as did Mr. A. P. Horne. It was obvious that every effort will be made to ensure a better result this year. It was decided to invite several well-known gentlemen to join the committee. The Secretary reported that the Stamford Bridge Ground had been secured for Tuesday, July 5, at a charge of £9 9s. It was agreed that a letter, over the signature of the Chairman, should be sent to all business managers and others connected with theatres and music halls to secure the appointment of a member of the staff to act in the house as a representative of the Sports Committee, to receive entries, sell tickets, distribute printed matter and notices from the committee.

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, has again kindly consented to act as Hon. Treasurer, and to collect prizes and donations for these sports.

It was decided to have 500 double crown posters, 500 window cards, 10,000 handbills containing list of events and other information, 10,000 gummed notices of the date and place of the Sports, 1,000 entry forms, &c. The Chairman undertook to invite a distinguished actress to distribute the prizes on the day, and to communicate with the past and probable donors of a prize or donation to the prize fund. It was decided to engage from the A.M.U. a band, as formerly, for the day of the sports.

The list of events was approved as follows:—

100 Yards Running Handicap.
100 Yards Veterans' Running Handicap. For men over 50 years of age.
Quarter-mile Running Handicap.
Half-mile Running Handicap.
50 Yards Blindfold Race.
Quarter-mile Obstacle Race.
120 Yards Obstacle Sack Race.
Four Lap Relay Race. Open to three men from any Theatre or Music Hall (eligible to compete)—one to run, one to walk, and one to cycle. For Challenge Trophy presented by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and Medals.
One Mile Walking Handicap.
One Mile Cycling Handicap.
Five Miles Cycling Championship. If more than 15 enter, the best 15 may be selected. For the Championship Shield presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P. To be won three times in succession.
Tug-of-War Competition. For *The Era* Challenge Shield and 10 Medals. Open to teams of five men from any Theatre of Music Hall. One reserve man allowed to be entered with the team. Weight of team limited to 60 stone. Two teams from one house allowed.
100 Yards Boys' Running Handicap. Sons under 12 years of age of employees eligible to compete.
50 Yards Boot Race.
Ladies' Race—50 Yards Egg and Spoon Race.

The entries will close on Tuesday, June 14.

Anyone who will assist the committee are cordially invited to do so, and to communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wm. Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

At the Baths Pavilion, Whitley Bay, the films are interestingly diversified. The star variety turn is Sabino, the musical marvel.

At the Neath Palace the pictures are, as usual, of high-class quality; Lloyd's Royal Welsh singers receive great applause.

Judgment was given Mr. W. D. Nixon, in the King's Bench Division last week, who claimed damages against Messrs. Crawford and Wilkins for wrongful dismissal. Mr. Nixon was awarded £50.

At the Pavilion, Wishaw, N.B., Maud Mortimer is at the top of the bill, and is a big favourite; Ruhart, comedy parodist, is also popular. Marie Dreams, the girl baritone vocalist, goes well; Percy D'Alton, comedy and eccentric dancer, is decidedly clever; Montes and Welma have a clever and dainty jumping act; and the Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

The star turn at the Alhambra Theatre and Palace of Varieties, Stourbridge, is Lockhart's Elephants, who are quite child-like in their docility, and admirably trained; Marie Narivona is a first-class comedienne; Mappin and Webb give a capital vocal act; Ingram and Buckley score with *Waiting for the Christening;* and the Three Pirmans foot the bill with a first-class gymnastic act. The pictures include Cracksman at Work, Town Traveller's Revenge, and a Thrilling Rescue.

Miss Lilian Durand and company are meeting with great receptions this week at the Camberwell Palace. Their spectacular vocal scena, *The Waif*, is beautifully presented, the falling snow and the lighting effects being well done. Miss Durand impressively sings "Ora pro nobis," and the touching story is well enacted by the company to great effect. In the finale she is supported by the orchestra, choir, organ, and chimes, in a burst of melody that results in quite an enthusiastic reception, the tableau of angels being well conceived.

To Mr. William Mollison's success in *The Touch of the Child* is due the tempting invitation from Mr. Oswald Stoll to play the piece on the Moss-Stoll Circuit, commencing last week at the Hippodrome, Manchester, where the actor's success was instantaneous and assured. The calls were numerous, and Mr. Mollison was cheered each night most enthusiastically. He will be seen in *The Touch of the Child* at one of the West End halls very shortly. The verdict of the Manchester Press is a "great performance."

The outings of the year were inaugurated on Sunday, when the staffs, numbering 77, of the Grand and Royal Theatres, Hanley, held their eighth annual excursion, the party going by brake to Little Haywood. Arrangements had been ably made by Mr. Bert Wilbraham, stage manager of the Grand. Mr. A. Rand, manager of the Grand, was in charge of the party. Dinner was served at the Lamb and Flag Hotel, where an excellent menu was provided. After a stroll over Cannock Chase and through Lord Lichfield's grounds, which were in beautiful condition, the party returned home, reaching Hanley at 9.30. Cheers were heartily given for Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone (managing-director), Mr. A. Rand, and Mr. Wilbraham.

Children on the Stage—Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the "Complete Act" can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

The Bookworms, play, in one act, by Catherine Evelyn; West London Theatre, April 1.
Almost His Bride, romantic drama, in four acts, by Stephen Pritt (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Preston, Sept. 13, 1909); Lyric, Hammersmith, April 4.
Where is William? farcical comedy, in three acts, by Charles Windermere (originally produced at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, Sept. 9, 1909); Grand, Fulham, April 11.
Folly's Fortunes, comedy drama, in three acts, by Joe Ellis; Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Lucky 'Liza, musical comedy, in three acts (originally produced at the Paisley Theatre, May 7, 1906); Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, April 11.
The Naked Truth, farcical comedy, in three acts, by George Paston and W. B. Maxwell; Wyndham's Theatre, April 14.
The Sinner, drama, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, July 26, 1909); Elephant and Castle, April 18.
A Pot of Caviare, tragedy, in one act, by Arthur Conan Doyle; Adelphi, April 19.
The Islander, musical comedy, in two acts, by Major Marshall, music by Philip Michael Faraday; Apollo, April 23.
The White Hair, piece, in one act, founded by Ella Erskine on a French play; Theatre Club, Knightsbridge, April 24.
A Poet in Purgatory, play, by Alfred Fahey; Theatre Club, Knightsbridge, April 24.
The Master Man, drama, in four acts, by Arthur Rosebery (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, April 18, 1910); Pavilion, April 25.
The Mystery of the Cliff, comedy-drama, in three scenes, by Tom Craven and Will Evans; West London, April 25.
Betty, playlet, by Beatrice Haden Tebb; Rehearsal Theatre, April 28.
The Machinations of Maria, playlet, by Beatrice Haden Tebb; Rehearsal Theatre, April 28.
Man's Heritage, playlet, by Beatrice Hayden Tebb; Rehearsal Theatre, April 28.
A Daughter of Poland, play, in one act, by Neilson Morris; Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, April 23.
Jim's Sweetheart, human incident, by Mrs. Wakeman Lathrop and Mrs. Herbert Bennett, adapted from Mrs. Lathrop's "Biography of a Charwoman"; Lyceum Club, 128, Piccadilly, April 27.
A Hundred Years Hence, fanciful forecasts, by Mr. Stanley Clark; Lyceum Club, 128, Piccadilly, April 27.

Revivals.

Julius Cæsar, Shakespeare's tragedy (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 2.
The Rivals, revival of Sheridan's comedy; Lyric, April 4.
Trelawny of the 'Wells,' comedietta, in four acts, by Sir Arthur W. Pinero (originally produced at the Court Theatre, Jan. 20, 1898); Repertory Theatre, Duke of York's, April 7.
Twelfth Night, Shakespeare's comedy (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 7.
Hamlet, Shakespeare's tragedy, arranged and presented by Sir Herbert Tree (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 11.
King Lear, Shakespeare's tragedy, presented by Mr. Norman McKinnel and company (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 12.
The Merchant of Venice, presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier and company (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 13.
Hamlet, Shakespeare's tragedy, arranged and presented by Mr. Henry B. Irving (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 14.
Orpheus, opera, by Gluck, in English, presented by Miss Marie Brema and company; Savoy, April 12.
The Taming of the Shrew, Shakespeare's comedy, presented by Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 18.
Coriolanus, Shakespeare's tragedy, presented by Mr. F. R. Benson and company (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 19.
The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Shakespeare's comedy, presented by the Elizabethan Stage Society (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 20.
King Henry V., Shakespeare's historical play, presented by Mr. Lewis Waller and company (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 21.
The Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare's comedy, arranged by Sir Herbert Tree (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 25.
King Richard II., Shakespeare's tragedy (London Shakespeare Festival); His Majesty's, April 27.

Provinces.

The Touch of the Child, adapted by Leon M. Lion from the story by Tom Gallon; Grand Theatre, Blackpool, April 4.
By Mutual Agreement, episode, in one act, by R. A. Brandon and George Bull; Prince's Theatre, Manchester, April 11.
Subsidence, drama, in three acts, by Fred. E. Wynne; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, April 11.
The Queen of Sheba, opera, in four acts, by Karl Goldmark (originally produced as *Die Königin von Saba*, libretto by Mosenthal, at the Hofoper at Vienna, March 10, 1875), for the first time in England (Carl Rosa Company); Theatre Royal, Manchester, April 12.
My Lady Bellamy, romantic play, in four acts, by Dorothea Moore; Theatre Royal, Margate, April 11.
The Marriage Mart, musical play, in two acts, by Gilbert Payne, music by Gilbert Payne and Louis Elgar; Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, April 11.
A Daughter of Doyle's, comedy, in three acts, by Sybil Michell; Theatre Royal, Worthing, April 7.
Nebulista, an original mythical light opera, by John Birkett, jun.; Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, April 11.
Richard the Third, Shakespeare's historical play, revived by Martin Harvey; Theatre Royal, Dublin, April 13.
The Master Man, drama, in four acts, by Arthur Rosebery; Theatre Royal, Plymouth, April 18.
The King of Mystonia, musical comedy, in two acts, book and lyrics by Edward Mervyn; Empire Theatre, Fleetwood, April 18.
The House Divided, play, in four acts, by Mrs. C. Campbell Wardrop; Balfour Institute, Liverpool, April 23.
An Old Reprobate, play, in three acts, by John Knowles Land (produced by amateurs); Saos Hall, Stretford, April 23.
The Silver Butterfly, romantic Spanish opera, in two acts, written by A. W. Bradshaw, verses and music by Bernard Page; Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham, April 25.
The Strange Case of Mr. Begbie, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Arthur Law; New Theatre, Cambridge, April 23.
Flight, drama, in four acts, by Charles March; Theatre Royal, Stanley, April 25.

Paris.

La Bête, play, in four acts, by Edmond Fleg; Antoine, April 4.
Tais-toi, mon cœur! vaudeville, in three acts, by Maurice Hennequin and Pierre Vébe; Palais Royal, April 6.
Prostituée, drama, in five acts, by Henri Desfontaines; Ambigu, April 7.
Le Phénix, farce, in one act, by Raphaël Valabrègue; Nouveautés, April 13.
On purge bébé, farce, in one act, by Georges Feydeau; Nouveautés, April 13.
L'Ami de cercle, comedy, in one act, by Camille Molleville; Vaudeville, April 14.
Les Costaud des Epinettes, comedy, in three acts, by Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis; Vaudeville, April 14.
Bridge, play, in four acts, by Pierre Berton and Cosmo Hamilton; Réjane, April 22.
Le Songe d'un Soir d'Amour, play, in one act, by Henry Bataille; Comédie Français, April 26.
Mon ami Teddy, play, in three acts, by André Rivoire and Lucien Besbard; Renaissance, April 29.

Berlin.

Das Strumpfband, operetta, in three acts, by A. Ferry; Volks-Opera, April 2.
Das Leutnants-Mündel, farce, in three acts, by Walter Stein; Lustspielhaus, April 8.
Heiraten, comedy, in three acts, by Bernard Shaw; Lessing, April 9.
Das Nesthäkchen, comedy, in three acts, by Eduard Guiraud; Hebbel, April 12.
Goldene Herzen, Volks-play, in four acts, by E. Karlwiss; Schiller, April 13.
Das Gesetz des Herzens, play, in six scenes, by Dr. K. Wende; Luisen, April 15.
Die Hochzeit der Sobeide, play, in three scenes, by H. v. Hofmannsthal; New Schauspielhaus, April 16.
Ein verschwiegenes Atelier, burlesque, in one act, by W. Gerike; Folies Caprice, April 22.
Eine gründliche Kur, burlesque, in one act, by Satyr; Folies Caprice, April 22.
Poia, opera, in three acts, by Arthur Nevin; Royal Opera, April 23.
Die Schule des Lebens, play, in five acts, by H. Rauzsch; Rose, April 27.
Sumurun, pantomime, in five scenes, by F. Frekss; Deutsches Chamber Plays, April 28.
Konkurrenten, play, in three acts, by Fritz Peters; Hebbel, April 28.
Die Leben Ottos, musical farce, by MM. Kren and Schoenfeld; Thalia, April 31.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

Dare Devil Dripping, sketch, in three scenes, by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls; Surrey, April 4.
The Sicilians, sketch, in one scene, by Hugh Wynter, music by Ernest Vousden; Chelsea Palace, April 4.
Cook's Man, musical play, in one act, by Seymour Hicks, music by Frank Tours; Coliseum, April 4.
A Muddled Model, sketch; Royal Standard, Victoria, April 4.
Lolotte, playlet, by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy (Mme. Réjane); Hippodrome, April 4.
The Spirit of Music, sketch, with music, by Fred S. Jennings; Willesden Hippodrome, April 4.
The Rocket, racing comedy, by Wal Pink and Joe Elvin; Hammersmith Palace, April 11.
For Peace and Quiet, comedy, in one act, adapted by Mme. Paul Blouet from *La Paix chez Soi*, by Georges Courtelines; Hippodrome, April 11.
The R.M.S. Wontdetainia, invented and arranged by Fred Karno, written by J. Hickory Wood and Charles Baldwin; Paragon, April 11.
Father's Footsteps, farcical sketch; Granville, April 18.
The Will of Allah, dramatic sketch, by Lewis T. Dalrymple, music by J. Parry Cole; Euston, April 18.
Liane, musical playlet, by Walter Macnamara, music by Theodora Holland; Tivoli, April 18.
Boys in Camp, song-scena, written, composed, and produced by Frank Leo; Shoreditch Olympia, April 18.
The Ticket-of-Leave Man, music-hall version of Tom Taylor's play of the same name; Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, April 18.
Madame Sans-Gêne, scene from Victorien Sardou's play (Mme. Réjane and company); Hippodrome, April 25.
Jimmy the Fearless, sketch, in five scenes, by Charles Baldwin and F. O'Neill; Stratford Empire, April 25.
Pippins' Mother, dramatic sketch; Collins's, April 25.
In the Shade of the Guillotine, dramatic and musical sketch; Royal Standard, Victoria, April 25.
The Snake's Kiss, sketch, by Roland Bottomley; Peckham Hippodrome, April 25.

The Question of Tights.

The question of the wearing of tights was recently agitated in two American Law Courts. Some time ago Miss Henrietta Lee secured a verdict against Messrs. Hurtig and Seamon of over four thousand dollars for breach of contract, alleging in her complaint that she was dismissed because she refused to wear tights. The managers appealed to the Appellate Division, which confirmed the judgment; but the Court of Appeals at Albany reversed the decision, and has ordered a new trial.

Sweet Reasonableness.

Judge Werner, who wrote the prevailing opinion, holds that the question of the reasonableness of the regulation as to costumes was the theory upon which the case should have been submitted to the jury. Judge Edward T. Bartlett, in a dissenting opinion, thinks the judgment should have been affirmed.

Short Skirts.

"It is quite apparent that the last sketch submitted to Miss Lee," said Judge Bartlett, referring to a sketch of a military costume in which she was supposed to appear in tights, "was intended to bring about a breach of contract. Hurtig had already learned from Miss Lee that she was unwilling to appear in public even when the skirt came only to the knees, and he has assented, as president of the defendants, to a modified costume where the skirt came to the boot tops. Without any further negotiations he sent her a sketch which she described as an insult—a sketch that was without a skirt—practically a costume entirely in tights, and one which she as a modest woman was unwilling to wear in public performances."

Hated a "Fake."

The second case came before the Supreme Court in the action of Florenz Ziegfeld, jun., against Nora Bayes and Jack Norworth, in the attempt to make permanent a temporary injunction which was granted some time ago restraining this couple from appearing under any other management but Mr. Ziegfeld's. Miss Bayes's defence was that she objected to wearing tights, and said she had never appeared in them and never would. Moreover, she objected to riding on a "fake" elephant's back. Other allegations entered into the case, such as the question of songs and the featuring clause. The Court reserved its decision.

Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company, is meeting with a hearty reception on her return visit to the Palace, Southampton, this week, for her excellent interpretation of Tosti's "Goodbye," also of "Your eyes have told me so," which bids fair to become a standard song.

"Rayne's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

GREEN ROOM LODGE.

More than fifty members of the Green Room Lodge assembled at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent-street, on the 6th inst, when Mr. Hubert Willis was installed as the eighth Master. The ceremony of inducting Mr. Willis was performed by the retiring Master, Mr. Charles Macdona, who delivered the various addresses very impressively. Mr. Hubert Willis appointed his officers as follows:—Messrs. Charles Macdona, I.P.M.; J. H. Ryley, S.W.; Blake Adams, J.W.; W. S. Penley, P.G. Treasurer, as Treasurer; Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G. Std. B., Secretary; E. Vivian Reynolds, S.D.; Frank Vernon, J.D.; Fred Annerley, I.G.; W. P. Besley, Chaplain; W. Lestocq, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; Sydney Lawrence, A.D.C.; J. W. Macdonald, Almoner; Arnold Lucy, Assistant Secretary; Douglas Gordon, J. Cooke Beresford, A. R. Raynor, and J. R. Crauford as first, second, third, and fourth Stewards (Mr. A. E. Raynor also being invested as Organist); and Mr. E. J. Nesbitt, Tyler, all of whom were in attendance, with the exception of the Treasurer, the Chaplain, and the fourth Steward, and were invested with the insignia of their respective offices. There were also present Messrs. Harry Nicholls, P.G. Std. B.; Akerman May, L.R.; and E. H. Bull, Past Masters of the Lodge; Messrs. James Fernandez, P.A.G.D.C.; James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Percy Fitzgerald, P.G. Std. B.; Leslie Carter, H. Nye Chart, Thalberg Corbett, A. E. George, Hubert Harben, Frank Harding, Lyn Harding, Edward Jones, Cyril Keightley, Luigi Lablache, P.M., L.R.; Walter Maxwell, Robert Minster, Lionel Rignold, P.M., L.R.; and D. J. Williams, members of the Lodge; and the following Visiting brethren:—

Messrs. Edward Terry, P.G. Treasurer of England; Henry Times, P.D.G.D.C.; Arthur R. Owst, P.P.J.G.D.; W. P. Metchim; A. Stenning; W. H. Dickson; Lionel Carson; H. Wooldridge; H. Bawn, W. J. Harvey, P.M., L.R.; J. Powell, P.M., 2,127; W. J. C. Swift, I.P.M.; Tom Clare, W.M., 3,016; Herbert Chenery, P.M., 1,319; Arthur T. Chamberlain, I.P.M., 862; and Robert Horton, P.M., 2,244.

The secretary, after the formal business had been despatched, announced that Messrs. Vincent Erne and George Lestocq had been nominated as candidates for admission to the privileges of the fraternity.

Apologies for non-attendance, &c., were received from Messrs. Henry Ainley (Rev.) W. P. Besley (the Chaplain), J. D. Beveridge, P.M., L.R., Alfred Brydone, John Cabourn, Lytton Grey, Percy Nash, W. S. Penley, P.G.T. (the Treasurer), Herbert Shelley, Fred Terry, and Spencer Trevor, also from several Grand Officers who are honorary members of the Lodge.

At the banquet which followed, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been honoured, Mr. Edward Terry responded for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," Messrs. Arthur T. Chamberlain and W. J. Harvey for "The Visitors," Mr. Harry Nicholls for "The Past Masters," and Mr. J. H. Ryley for "The Officers of the Lodge." The toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," which was proposed by Mr. Charles Macdona, was received with enthusiasm, and was neatly responded to by Mr. Hubert Willis, who proposed the health of his immediate predecessor, Mr. Macdona, and presented him with a handsome P.M.'s jewel from the brethren, as a token of their appreciation of his unflagging and successful efforts to maintain the traditions of the Lodge.

A most agreeable entertainment which followed the dinner was provided by Miss Annie Bartle, Miss Florence Venning, Miss Olive Fox, Miss Marguerite von Bibra, and Mr. Franklin Clive, Mr. T. Sterndale Bennett, Mr. Arthur Helmore, Mr. Walter Churcher, and Mr. Tom Clare, the entertainment being under the direction of the last-named.

The Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, has closed for the summer vacation.

A slight error occurred in our notice of *Shall We Forgive Her?* at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, last week, the name of the impersonator of Oliver West being given as Ernest Rivarez. The correct spelling is Rivarz.

The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, will reopen on Monday next with drama twice nightly, a newly-formed company having decided to abandon variety business. Smoking will be allowed. Mr. Henry C. Arnold will be managing-director.

At the Redditch Public Hall Miss Maggie Morton's company opened on the 6th and 7th with the ever-popular military play *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which met with a big success. The company gave a good account of themselves.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's admirable book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which is published at this office, has now reached a third edition, which contains many important additions and improvements. An exhaustive notice will appear next week.

Mr. Fred Bauer (late of the Grand Theatre, Hanley, &c.) has been confined to his bed in that town for the last six weeks, suffering from an internal complaint, and has had to cancel several engagements. The doctors anticipate that their patient will be about again in a few weeks' time.

Following on a season of pictures, the Gaiety, Musselburgh, made a return to drama on Thursday with a visit of Mr. A. W. B. Kingston and company. Last week's bill was composed of *East Lynne, The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and *The Silver King*. The opening attraction this week was *Arrah-na-Pogue*, in which Mr. Kingston played Shaun the Post. He was ably supported by Messrs. J. M. Richardson and Tom Mortimer as Beamish McCoul and Colonel O'Grady, and Misses Madge F. Young and Maud McNally as Fanny Power and Arrah. Mr. Teddy Mooney as Michael Feeney was excellent. During the week the following pieces will be staged: *The Black Lady of Inveresk, Love and Revenge, Rollicking Barney, Old Edinburgh*, and *The Face at the Window*.

The following paragraph is supplied by a Brooklyn agent:—"Probably the first case of profit-sharing between employer and employees in the theatrical business will take place at the end of the season in the Columbia Burlesque Company, now at the Star Theatre, Brooklyn. When the season opened Mr. J. Herbert Mack, the proprietor, agreed to divide 10 per cent. of the profits of the year equally among the members if the organisation remained intact, and if each would strive to maintain the excellence of the performance. In thirty-two weeks there has not been an absentee, and not a fine has been inflicted for a breach of discipline, and a goodly sum will be divided among the fifty men and women of the organisation."

Dolly Mitchell at Rugby.

On Monday and during the week before thousands of spectators Dolly Mitchell has been giving most delightful exhibitions of fancy and trick skating. Miss Mitchell carries a most extensive wardrobe, which is the admiration of all. Miss Mitchell leaves Rugby with a contract for a return visit. Next week she appears at the Winter Gardens, Cheltenham.

Skating Rink Burned Down.

The Alexandra Skating Rink, situated near the Bramall-lane football ground, Sheffield, was demolished by fire last week. Allie Moore was trying a new trick of skating through fire during the night after the rink was closed. Petrol was placed on the wooden floor and set fire to. Moore was severely burned, but the conflagration did not break out until several hours after this performance. The damage is estimated at £4,000.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 16.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—Hippodrome, Scarborough.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
AMSTERDAM.—O. H., Blackpool.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Prince's T., Bradford.
ARCADIANS, THE.—T. R., Plymouth.
ARRAH-NA-POGUE.—T. R., Aston.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O. H., Bury.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
BAINES, MISS FLORENCE.—T. R., Dewsbury.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—O. H., Cheltenham.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Mold and Market Drayton.
BEST PEOPLE.—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—O. H., Blackpool.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—T. R., Birkenhead.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—P. T., Bordesley.
CASSIDY, MR. J. RICE.—P. O. W., Salford.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—T. R., Birmingham.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Junction T., Manchester.
CINGALEE, THE (B.).—T. R., Bradford.
COAL KING.—T. R., Woolwich.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—King's Hall, Ilkley.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—Palace T., Watford.
DARK DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Norwich.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Grand T., Stockton.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
DON.—New T., Oxford.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—T. R. Chatham.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—T. R., Bolton.
DRINK.—T. R., Sheffield.
EAST LYNNE (CROKE).—O. H., St. Helens.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Court T., Wigan.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Barnsley.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM.—King's T., Glasgow.
FAST LIFE, A.—T. R., Crook.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Borough T., Stratford.
FIRES OF FATE.—New T., Portsmouth.
FLAG LIEUTENANT (N.).—New T., Portsmouth.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Grand T., Leeds.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Prince's T., Preston.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Belfast.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
GIRL OF MY HEART.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—T. R., Rochdale.
GREAT AWAKENING.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
HAVANA.—Grand T., Hull.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—New T., Ferndale.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Bolton.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Sunderland.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Prince's T., Accrington.
HONOUR AND REVENGE.—Empire T., Oldham.
HUSH MONEY.—T. R., Bristol.
IDOL OF PARIS.—Alexandra T., Hull.
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.—T. R., Worthing.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—O. H., Workington.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Carnarvon and Bangor.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Prince's T., Bristol.
LITTLE MISS CUMMIN.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
LODGE-PERCY, MR. J. C.—Crown T., Eccles.
LOMATH, MR. STUART.—Osborne T., Manchester.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—T. R., Cardiff.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
MERCHANT OF VENICE.—T. R., Newcastle.
MERRY PEASANT.—T. R., Manchester.
MERRY WIDOW.—Broadway T., Deptford.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Coronet T., W.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Darlington.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—O. H., Belfast.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—T. R., Stockport.
MOTHER.—Colosseum, Oldham.
MOTHER-IN-LAW.—Pier T., Southsea.
MRS. PONDERBURY'S PAST.—O. H., Stockport.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—Castle T., Stockton.
MUNRO, GEO., AND CO.—Colne.
NEW BOY, THE.—T. R., Whitehaven.
NIHILIST, THE.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
OLD HOME, THE.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Court T., Warrington.
OUR FLAT.—T. R., Margate.
OUR MISS GIBBS.—Grand T., Blackpool.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—T. R., York.
PASSION OF LIFE.—Grand T., Lancaster.
PETE (N.).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
PETE (S.).—T. R., Scarborough.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID.—T. R., Bournemouth.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
RAINBOWS, THE.—O. H., Cork.
RAYNAR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—King's T., Manchester.
ROLLICKING RORY.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Blackburn.
SEND HIM VICTORIOUS.—Grand T., Doncaster.
SERVANT IN THE HOUSE.—O. H., Leicester.
SEXTON BLAKE.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—St. James's T., Long Eaton.
SILVER KING.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
SINNER, THE.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Metropole T., Manchester.
SISTER'S SIN, A.—Hippodrome, Stalybridge.
SPENCER, SIDNEY.—Grand T., Chorley.
TEMPTATION.—King's T., Sutton.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—T. R., South Shields.
THOSE TERRIBLE TWINS.—Grand T., Southampton.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
TOM JONES.—Aquarium T., Yarmouth.
TREE, HERBERT BEERBOHM.—T. R., Dublin.
TUDOR'S FLUTTER.—Kursaal, Bexhill.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Jarrow.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Gaiety T., Leith.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Grand T., Leek.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
WHEN A LASS LOVES.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Grand T., Mansfield.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—T. R. Leamington.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., Hanley.
WITH EDGED TOOLS.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—T. R., Colchester.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—T. R., Chesterfield.
WOMAN WORTH WINNING.—T. R., Stratford.
WOMAN'S PAST, A.—Grand T., Walsall.
WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Miner's T., Ashington.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Harrogate and Cambridge.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—O. H., Wakefield.

MARK SHERIDAN has just produced a new song, entitled "Fancy meeting you in the Isle of Man!" written and composed by William Hargreaves, which promises to be the hit of the year. The publishing rights have been secured by Von Tilzers.

MISS PANSY MONTAGUE (professionally known as "La Milo") last week sued Messrs. White, Chatton, and Co., who carry on business as the Old Times Furnishing Company, for the recovery of furniture which she had stored with the fendendants. The defendants alleged that the furniture was that of Mr. Ferdinand Eggena, and, alternatively, if they were the goods of the plaintiff they claimed for storage.

THE Lord Chief Justice said the defendants had no right to detain the goods after Miss Montague wrote for them, offering to pay the warehouse charges. He very much regretted that any respectable firm should have thought fit to suggest that they were entitled to hold the goods as against the debt of Eggena. He would order the goods to be returned to the plaintiff, who should pay whatever sum was agreed in respect to the storage. Judgment was entered for the plaintiff, with costs.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months	0 6 6	Three Months	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. D.—*50, New Bond-street, London, W.*

MARJORIE.—*All places of amusement will be closed undoubtedly.*

J. C. R.—*The Act is entitled Prevention of Cruelty to Children. We have a few copies on sale, post free, 3d. each.*

R. H. MOODY.—(1) *Buffalo Bill appeared at Earl's Court.* (2) *"Venice in London" was produced at Olympia, Addison-road, London, W.*

DANCER.—*We do not inquire into the private affairs—names or otherwise—of actors and actresses. If they give the information voluntarily, then we can publish it. Why not write to him?*

J. HARVEY.—*Mr. Gus Leach left his post as chairman at the Middlesex at the end of January, 1889. His successor was Mr. George Lacey. Mr. Leach became associated in February, 1889, with Harwood's, Hoxton, which became Leach's Varieties.*

EDWIN LANG.—*The mimic you name has been on the legitimate stage; and his age is about thirty-three. We cannot say if he comes of a theatrical family, as we have no record of him. We have asked for the monologue you name, but it is not known under that title. Sorry we cannot help you.*

RICHD. L. ALEXANDER.—*The comedian you mention has never appeared in serious or grand opera. His successes have been mainly confined as an old Savoyard to the works of Gilbert and Sullivan, but he has also appeared in* The Geisha, San Toy, The Cingalee, *and other musical plays. He does not lay claim to a voice that would be capable of doing justice to a passionate air in opera at Covent Garden; but many a singer might take him as an example for clearness of utterance. He has very probably played at the Coronet Theatre. Write the management.*

H. W.—*The cast of principals in* Erminie, *when produced at the Comedy Theatre, Panton-street, W., was as follows:—Marquis de Pontvert, Mr. Fred Mervin; Eugene Marcel, Mr. Henry Bracy; Vicomte de Brissac, Mr. Horace Bolini; Delaunay, Miss Kate Everleigh; Sergeant, Mr. H. D. Pierrepoint; Dufois, Mr. George Marler; Simon, Mr. J. W. Bradbury; Chevalier de Brabazon, Mr. Percy Compton; Henri, Mr. Stanley Betjeman; Pierre, Miss Lottie Leigh; Ravennes, Mr. Frank Wyatt; Cadeau, Mr. Harry Paulton; Cerise Marcel, Miss Melnotte; Javotte, Miss Kate Munroe; Marie, Miss Edith Vane; Clementine, Miss Delia Merton; Princesse de Gramponneaux, Miss M. A. Victor; Erminie de Pontvert, Miss Florence St. John*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BOWYER.—May 10, at 14, Jubilee-terrace, Wakefield, the wife of Albert Bowyer (Miss Olive Westwood), of a son.

MCPHERSON.—May 13, the wife of Quinton McPherson (Mr. Hymack), of a daughter.

DEATHS.

ELWELL.—On April 23, Joe Elwell, clown and dog-trainer, aged 80 years.

HEATH-SAUNDERS.—At midnight, on Tuesday, May 10, at Hurst Dene, Preston, Paignton, South Devon, Mary Philomena Laurencia Josephine Maud (Maud Hayden), the dearly-loved wife of Frank Colin Semmes Heath-Saunders, and only daughter of the late Patrick Joseph Hayden, Esq., of Liverpool, aged 38. At rest after much suffering. Of your charity pray for the peace of her soul.

HEATH-SAUNDERS.—May 10, at Hurst Dene, Preston, Paignton, Mary Philomena Laurencia Josephine Maud (Maud Hayden), the dearly-loved wife of Frank Colin Semmes Heath-Saunders.

MURRAY.—May 4, at her residence, Southwark Park-road, London, after a short and painful illness, the mother of Will Murray, Palace, Blackburn. Irish and American papers please copy.

PHELPS.—May 3, at Wigan, Charles H. Phelps, the husband of Florence Lloyd.

WOLFOWSKY.—May 8, at Folkestone, suddenly, of heart disease, Boris Wolfowsky, of the Wolfowsky Troupe.

IN MEMORIAM.

BOORN.—In loving memory of our dear sister, Emma Boorn, who fell asleep May 14, 1907. Never forgotten by her sisters, Ella and Ellen. "Sleep on, beloved."

BUTE.—In loving memory of Olive Bute, who entered into her rest May 15, 1900. Never forgotten by her sorrowing friend, VIOLET ELLICOTT. "Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still."

DUNDAS.—In ever-loving memory of my husband, Henry Dundas, who passed away May 13, 1907; and our dear father.—Jessica Thorne and Elizabeth Dundas.

HARCOURT.—In loving memory of Sidney Harcourt, who passed away May 11, 1905.

LEICESTER.—In loving memory of Chas. A. Leicester, who passed away May 16, 1907. Never forgotten by (Muriel) Florrie Groves.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

APRIL 2.—Mrs. C. Foster Marner (Venie Belfry).
" 2.—Professor J. B. Schalkenbach, aged 85.
" 4.—Elsie Gaunt.
" 6.—Dick Thomas, aged 37.
" 8.—Mrs. Edwin Volta (Sharpe), aged 51.
" 9.—Mrs. Thompson.
" 10.—Mrs. C. H. Locke.
" 10.—Compton Coutts.
" 11.—Mrs. Hermann Weigelt.
" 17.—Mrs. Richard Walton-Hemming.
" 17.—Alfred Halford.
" 17.—W. A. J. Rollason (Alf. Ellerton, jun.), aged 20.
" 18.—Edith Devenish, aged 8.
" 19.—Sydney Shaw, aged 45.
" 19.—Anne Kathrine Thomas (Annie Brophy), aged 51.
" 20.—Vere Cecil Foote, aged 51.
" 20.—Eliza Rachel Fish.
" 22.—Frederick W. Sidney.
" 23.—Enid Feodora Cullen.
" 23.—Joe Elwell, aged 80.
" 24.—Mary Maus Dayton, aged 31.
" 25.—John Constantine Frank.
" 26.—Björnstjerne Björnson.
" 29.—Evelyn Talbot (Mrs. Arthur Keand).

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abcabe
Albert, Mr. Ben
Albery, Mrs.
Allan, Mr. J.
Allen, Dr. F. J.
Archbutt, Miss Gladys
Armadale, Miss Sybil
Ash, Mr. Harold
Baker's Hippodrome
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bannister, Prof.
Barnes, Miss E.
Barraclough, Mr. Sidney
Bennett, Mr. Chas.
Bergeron, Mr. T. C.
Beringer, Miss Esme
Bogannys, The
Bollinger, Les
Bottomley, Mr. R.
Brooke, Miss Sara
Brunton, Miss E. S.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Caline, Mrs. Jack
Cameron and Alexander
Campion, Miss May
Clark, Mr. L.
Chirgwin, Miss Clara
Clifford, Mr. N.
Clive, Mr. E. E.
Cole-Aspinall, Mr. R.
Cooke, Mr. Burton
Corri, Madam G.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dare, Mr. R. C.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Day, Mr. Geo. H.
Dellar, Mr. Kyburn
Delmar, Miss Georgina
Denham, Mr. Geo.
Derrie and Brereton
Digby, Mr. Chas.
Earle, Mr. Fred
Emney, Miss L.
Englefield, Mr.
Evans, Mr. Wash
Fancourt, Mr. Charles
Fergusson, Mr. L. S.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Ford, Mr. Herbert
Francis, Mrs. Joseph
Fraser, Mr. Dan
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Geraldos, The
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gordon, Mr. Ben D.
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Gunn, Miss Winnie
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Heale, Mr. Jack
Healy, Mr. B. R.
Hemming, Mr. J. W.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Hylton, Mr. A M.
Jacobs and Jephson
Jackson Family
Johnson, Mr. Kid
Joyce, Mr. L. P.
Kingsland, Mr. Geo.
Kingsley, Mr. Gordon
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirk, Mr. Geo.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes
Landon, Mr. J.
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Lewis, Mr. Harold
Leyland, Mr. R.
Lingard, Mr. Horace
Lloyd, Miss Rosie
Lloyd, Mr. F. F.
Lloyd, Mr. Tom
Loftus, Mr. Alexander
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Maitland, Miss Kitty
Mauritius, Mr. Theo.
May, Miss Daisy
Mayne, Miss Clarice
McEwen, Mr. Walter
McDermott, Capt. J.
Mead, Mr. David
Melvin, Mr. Chas.
Metcalf, Mr. F.
Meux, Mr. Alex
Mignon, Miss Mabel
Mill, Mr. Paul
Missouri, Mr. Ted
Montefiore, Mr. E.
Morgan, Mr. Clifford
Morgan, Mr. C. F. T.
Morrison, Mr. Graham
Nanakuss, Mrs.
Nelson, Mr.
Nero, Mons. M.
Newark, Mr. A.
Newsome, Mr. S. T.
Noble, Mr. Robert
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Parsons, Mr. Phil
Payne, Mr. W.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Pitt, Mr. Felix W.
Poel, Mr. William
Polini, Mrs.
Rexos, The
Rezane, Mr. Charles
Ridgewell, Mr. Geo.
Ridley, Mr. Geo.
Roberts, Mr. Arthur
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rodney, Miss Nellie
Sarron, Miss Celia
Schofield, Mr. G. W.
Scott, Miss D.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Scroggs, Mr. Charlie
Sharman, Mrs. J.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Smith, Miss Maisie
Soldene, Miss Emily
Spray, Mr. W.
Stuart, Mr. Leslie
Terry, Miss Marion
Tozer, Mr. C. A. N.
Travers, Miss Marie
Valentine, Mr. Paul
Vine, Mr. Tom
Warlow, Mr. Percy
Warren, Miss Gwynne
Wilbert, Mr. William
Willard, Mr. J.
Winona and King
Wray, Miss Maud
Wyatt, Miss Alice
Wyndham, Miss Pattie

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Sir Squire Bancroft—Saturday, May 14.
Hall Caine—Saturday, May 14.
Carl Hertz—Saturday, May 14.
Winnie Browne—Saturday, May 14.
Mrs. Brown Potter—Sunday, May 15.
Matheson Lang—Sunday, May 15.
Sir John Hare—Monday, May 16.
Auguste Van Biene—Monday, May 16.
Ida Rene—Monday, May 16.
Shaun Glenville—Monday, May 16.
(Miss) Ellis Jeffreys—Tuesday, May 17.
H. Naylor Grimson—Tuesday, May 17.
Mme. Melba—Thursday, May 19.
Gladys Mavius—Thursday, May 19.
Dorothea Baird—Friday, May 20.
Pauline Chase—Friday, May 20.

THE Southend Hippodrome was crowded on Wednesday afternoon, when a benefit performance was given in aid of the summer wages fund of the Southend United Football Club.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

On FRIDAY NEXT the Postal Arrangements are such that Advertisers are requested to POST ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL

All Advertisements intended for our next issue (May 21).

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

SAVOY TURKISH BATHS.
The Largest, Best Heated, Ventilated, and Most Luxurious in London.
91 & 92, Jermyn Street, S.W.,
All Night Baths, never closed (Gents). During the day, 3s.; at night, with bed, 5s.
Open daily, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 1 p.m.
Savoy Street, Strand, W.C. (Gents).
9, Caledonian Road, King's Cross, N. (Gents).
459 & 461, Brixton Road, S.W. (Ladies and Gents).
24, Railway Approach, London Bridge (Ladies and Gents).
12, York Street, Jermyn-street, S.W. (Ladies only).
Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E. (Ladies only).
ALL KINDS OF BATHS MAY BE HAD AT ALL THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA"
IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.
J. ROLAND KAY & CO.,
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,
from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA"
IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

LYCEUM.
Every evening at 8.
Matinées every Wednesday, at 2.30
Special Matinée Bank Holiday, at 2.30.
The Famous Romantic Drama,
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
By Walter Howard.
Box Office, 10 to 10. Tels. (3) 7617-8-9 Gerrard.

ALDWYCH
THEATRE.—STRAND, W.C.
FREDK. MELVILLE'S
Production,
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
Nightly at 7.45.
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.
Extra matinée Whitsun Monday, at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Whit week at 8. Matinée Thursday.
"The GEISHA" and the "GREEK SLAVE."

For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45. Matinées, Whit Monday and Thursday, 2.30.
"THE SILVER KING."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Monday, May 16,
"THE ARCADIANS."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
Special Programme, including Animated Photographs of notable events in his late Majesty' reign.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. Box office now open.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.—WILKIE BARD—LILIAN HERLEIN, RUTLAND BARRINGTON and COMPANY, The Tyrolean Singers and Dancers, La Belle Alva, Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Harry Randall, Tom Woottwell, The Schmettans Daisy Wood, The Warsaw Brothers, King and Benson, Daisy Dormer, and others.
Open 7.30; Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Dr. Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, presented by Mr. P. T. Selbit. The Poluskis, Lottie Lennox, Five Jees, Court Cards, George Prince, Ella Lorraine, Minnie Mace Hinton and Wooton, Victor Newman, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Mary Neil and Co., Fred Durban, The Menzies, Alec Kendall, Berfini, Bros. Curran, Perce Upton, Wade and Jenner, La Belle Greta, Sivioni, Lional Landon, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Mrs. Mark Melford and Co.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Kate Carney and Co. in "The Fun of the Fair," Ted E. Box, Edward Laurie, May Beatty and Co. in "The Lady Bandits," The Alaskas, Jessie Templeton, Arthur Leslie, Mimi Thornton, Tony Black, Ruffell's Bioscope, Gertie Gitana.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday, May 16. Jack Lorimer, Geo. Rapley, Billy Merson, Billie Burford, Newman and Knight, Arabellas, Kenneth and Kane, Bioscope, Queenie Essex, Lois du Cane in "The Russian Princess," late King's Funeral Procession. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, May 16,
Alec Hurley, Ella Randolph, Frank Hick, Gus Harris, Lillian Oates, Edie Veno, Bioscope, Edith Finlay and Co., &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Whit Monday: Phil Ray, Florrie Forde, Billy Merson, Geo. Elliston and Co., Four Figaros, Five Hunters, Callie and Walker, Milner and Storey, Sisters Silvere and Assistant, Marie Lord, Bros. Girard, Tom Royde, Sisters Robertson, Hettie Amber, The Lafolles, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 6.45 Monday, 7 o'clock Saturday, 7.30 rest of the week. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
The Favourite Parisienne,
MLLE. GABY DESLYS (Last Nights).
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Three Sisters Athletas, Rothig, Charles Baron, Francis Marty, Coram, Jury's Pictures, "THE POLAR STAR," &c.
Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST," FRED FARREN, &c.,
Petit Roberto, Cornalla and Eddie,
Elsie Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russie's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Margaret Cooper, Clarice Vance, Albert Whelan, Proclamation Ceremony, &c., on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme. Saturdays and Whit Monday at 2. Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate in "Motoring," Victoria Monks, Chas. Whittle, Morny Cash, Ed. Lauri and May Beatty, playing "The Lady Bandits," Kitty Colyer, Geo. Newburn, Violet Loraine, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Beattie and Babs, Josie Delaine, Minnie Mace, Ernie Mayne, Larola, José Collins, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Open 7.20. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

WILLIAM NASH deceased. Pursuant to the Law of Property Amendment Act, 1859. All CREDITORS and other persons having any claims against the Estate of WILLIAM NASH, late of 7, Walnut Tree-walk, Kennington, in the County of London (who died on the 18th August, 1909, and of whose Estate Administration was granted to Cecily Tull by the Principal Probate Registry, on the 9th February, 1910), are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Administratrix, on or before the 14th June, 1910. And Notice is Hereby Given, that at the expiration of that time the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the Assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which she shall then have notice.
Dated May 10, 1910.
WOODROFFES & ASHBY,
18, Great Dover-street, S.E.

LOUISA ELIZABETH DINAH NASH deceased. Pursuant to the Law of Property Amendment Act, 1859. All CREDITORS and other persons having any claims against the Estate of LOUISA ELIZABETH DINAH NASH, late of 7, Walnut Tree-walk, Kennington, in the County of London, Widow (who died on the 5th September, 1909), and whose Will was proved by William Augustus Ashby & Cecily Tull in the Principal Probate Registry on the 29th September, 1909), are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims to me, the undersigned, the Solicitor for the Executors, on or before the 14th June, 1910. And Notice is Hereby Given, that at the expiration of that time the Executors will proceed to distribute the Assets of the Testatrix among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice.
Dated this 10th May, 1910.
C. G. WOODROFFE.
18, Great Dover Street, London, S.E.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time and are received for a single subject or the course. The operatic class meets on Wednesdays at 6.30, and is now rehearsing "Les Cloches de Corneville," with a view to public performance. Full particulars on application.—Shelley Fisher, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W. On Friday, May 20, the day of the late King's funeral, the college will be closed.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

FUNDS, &c.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.
ACTORS' SATURDAY, Jan. 29, 1910.

	£ s. d.
Alexander, George	100 0 0
Courtneidge, Robert	100 0 0
Grant, G. L.	100 0 0
Moore, Miss Mary	100 0 0
Wyndham, Sir Charles	100 0 0
Tree, Lady Beerbohm	100 0 0
Carte, Mrs. D'Oyly	50 0 0
Hawtrey, Charles	25 0 0
Curzon, Frank	10 10 0
Mayer, Gaston	10 10 0
Norfolk, Duke of	10 10 0
Brinckman, Rev. A.	10 0 0
Lewis, Eric	10 0 0
Terry, Ellen	10 0 0
Wharton, Mrs. W. H. A.	10 0 0
Vanbrugh, Miss Irene	6 6 0
Dutton, Frank M.	5 5 0
Hart, John	5 5 0
Moore, Mrs. W. W.	5 0 0
Ross, G. Lockhart	5 0 0
Ward, Miss Genevieve	5 0 0
Egerton, A de Tatton	3 3 0
For evidence in "Shine" case, per Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree	3 3 0
Grimes, Miss A. M.	3 3 0
In Memory of Robb Harwood	3 3 0
Oldendorff, E., per G. Alexander, Esq.	3 3 0
Turner, Sir Alfred and Lady	3 3 0
Bull, E. H.	2 2 0
Chase, Miss Pauline	2 2 0
D'Alroy, Miss Evelyn	2 2 0
Danby, Miss A.	2 2 0
Elliston, J. F.	2 2 0
George, A. E.	2 2 0
Ledward, Mrs. A. P.	2 2 0
Matthews, Andrews, per G. Alexander	2 2 0
Nicholls, Harry N.S.T.C., per H. S. Boyhard, Esq.	2 2 0
Paulton, Harry	2 2 0
Sassoon, David	2 2 0
Venne, Miss Lottie	2 2 0
Gillespie, Mrs.	2 0 0
Robertson, Forbes	2 0
Morgan, Rev. E. J.	1 5 0
Addison, Miss Carlotta	1 1 0
An Admirer of the Profession	1 1 0
Bennett, H. Dudley	1 1 0
Casson, Lewis	1 1 0
Chippendale, James	1 1 0
Courtice, Thomas	1 1 0
Cruikshanks, Charles	1 1 0
Douglas, W. L.	1 1 0
Evans, Thomas	1 1 0
Gay, Mrs. Chas.	1 1 0
George, Mrs. A. E.	1 1 0
Goldsmith, Miss Ina	1 1 0
Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Charles	1 1 0
Haines, W. Rebton	1 1 0
Halliday, Miss Lena	1 1 0
Hallat, W. H.	1 1 0
Hardacre, J. Pitt	1 1 0
Harding, Rudge	1 1 0
Jecks, Miss Clara	1 1 0
Jennings, Miss Viola	1 1 0
Levettez, Miss Emily	1 1 0
Lowe, Miss Louisa	1 1 0
Mattheson, Miss Wynne	1 1 0
Morand, M. R.	1 1 0
Overton, Norman	1 1 0
"Prince and the Beggar Maid" Company	1 1 0
Ringwood, Owen	1 1 0
Rivington, Miss Constance	1 1 0
Rock, Charles	1 1 0
Slee, Miss Edith	1 1 0
Shelton, George	1 1 0
Spurgin, Mrs. W.	1 1 0
Tapping, A. B.	1 1 0
Taylor, J. Milne	1 1 0
Warley, Miss May	1 1 0
Webster, Ben	1 1 0
Haines, W. Ribton	1 0 0
Hodgkinson, Miss E.	1 0 0
Pringle, Wm.	1 0 0
Wagner, Harold	1 0 0
"Sins of Society" Company, per Edwin Drew, Esq.	0 18 0
Bartlett, J. J.	0 10 6
Beaumont, Miss Lucy	0 10 6
Brabazon, T. B.	0 10 6
Elliot, Mrs. Catherine	0 10 6
Ellis, Lionel	0 10 6
Greet, Miss Harriett	0 10 6
Leslie, Miss Vera	0 10 6
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	0 10 6
MacKinlay, J. S.	0 10 6
Mannering, Miss Mabel	0 10 6
Sutcliffe, F. C.	0 10 6
Weare, Miss Emily G.	0 10 6
Webster, Miss Davies	0 10 6
Williams, E. Harcourt	0 10 6
Cameron, Charles J.	0 10 0
Cordiner, J. W.	0 10 0
Davies, Coleman	0 10 0
Grahame, Miss C. E.	0 10 0
Haynes, T. P.	0 10 0
Ledward, Miss D. H.	0 10 0
Ralland, Herbert	0 10 0
Stone, Charles R.	0 10 0
Walker, Chris.	0 10 0
"ARCADIANS" COMPANY, No. 1.	
Morgan, W.	2 2 0
Passmore, Walter	2 2 0
Brady, Veronica	1 1 0
Pearce, H. E.	1 1 0
Round, Oliver J.	1 1 0
Cleveland, Ivan	0 10 6
Erskine, Miss Ethel	0 10 6
Sinclair, Billie	0 10 6
Stevenson, James	0 10 6
Thornton, Edwin	0 10 6
Victor, Louis	0 10 6
Marshall-Herbert	0 5 0
Munro, Miss Mabel	0 5 0
O'Brien, M.	0 5 0
Whitehouse, Robert	0 5 0
Barnard, Miss Ethel	0 2 6
Brady, Miss Rosie	0 2 6
Drayson, Miss Edith	0 2 6
Feyett, Miss Isabel	0 2 6
Leslie, Ivan	0 2 6
Lumley, Miss Mabelle	0 2 6
Meredith, Miss Kathleen	0 2 6
Morrison, Jack	0 2 6
Murray, Dalton	0 2 6
Phillips, D.	0 2 6
Rivers, Miss Edie	0 2 6
Robbins, L.	0 2 6
Sayer, Kathleen	0 2 6
Smith, Gerald	0 2 6
Yates, Gretchen	0 2 6
Yates, Adrienne	0 2 6
Burne, Miss Geraldine	0 2 0
Gray, Miss Dorothy	0 2 0
Laurie, B.	0 2 0
Musgrave, Pat	0 2 0
Clarke, Miss Lilian	0 1 6
Craigie, Beryl	0 1 6
Glover, Miss Elsie	0 1 6
Powell, Miss Isabel	0 1 6
Powell, Jimmy	0 1 6
Vincent, Queenie	0 1 6
Adams, Geo. H.	0 1 0
Barsendon, Aidie	0 1 0
Brian, C. E.	0 1 0
H. G.	0 1 0
J. L.	0 1 0
Lamb, J. C.	0 1 0
Smith, Miss	0 1 0
Ward, H.	0 1 0
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER. MR. R. COURT.	
NEIDGE'S "CINDERELLA" COMPANY.	
MacDermott, Miss Ouida	1 0 0
Humphries, John	0 10 6
Laurier, W. T.	0 10 6
Macnaughton, C.	0 10 6
Monkman, Miss Phyllis	0 10 6
Nolan, Hugh	0 10 6
Rignold, Miss Marie	0 10 6
Victor, Lionel	0 10 6
Layton, Miss Phyllis	0 5 6
Agar, Dan	0 5 0
Beckman, S.	0 5 0
Dane, Wilfrid	0 5 0
Higley, Reginald	0 5 0
Langham, Miss Dora	0 5 0
Tailleur, Miss Vivian	0 5 0
Stella, Miss Ester	0 5 0
Vaughan, Miss Dora	0 5 0
Cunningham, W. J. R.	0 2 6
Hobson, Miss E.	0 2 6
James, Miss Jennie	0 2 6
Parte, W. Geo. W.	0 2 6
Buckley, Miss Doris	0 1 0
Sharples, Miss	0 1 0
LA COMEDIE ANGLAIS COMPANY.	
Dobell, Wm. L.	1 1 0
Merryweather, Miss Madge	0 10 6
Baker, Miss Nora	0 5 0
Wright, H. M.	0 2 6
ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.	
Lawrence, Arthur	1 1 0
Thorne, Miss Maude	0 10 0
Panto, Fines	0 13 0
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" COMPANY.	
Beecher, Edward	0 10 6
Beresford, Frank, and Milne, Dorothy (Mrs. F. Beresford)	0 5 0
Ludlow, Charles L.	0 5 0
Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred	0 2 6
Cooke, Miss Mabel	0 2 6
Grenville, H.	0 2 6
Lockwood, T. R.	0 2 6
Beaufoy, P.	0 2 0
Fairfax, C. Arthur	0 2 0
Millais, Miss Ivy	0 2 0
Mitchell, A. C.	0 2 0
Russell, F.	0 2 0
Maude, K.	0 1 0
Taylor, Miss Ida	0 1 0
HAYMARKET THEATRE.	
Harrison, Fredk.	25 0 0
Watson, Horace	1 1 0
France, C. V.	1 1 0
Sevening, Miss Nina	0 10 6
Titheradge, Miss Madge	0 10 6
Brenda, Miss Gladys	0 2 6
"ARCADIANS" COMPANY.	
Blyth, J. H.	1 1 0
Chorus, Ladies'	0 16 0
Collins, Frank	0 15 6
Oxley, Gus	0 15 6
Blythe, E. R.	0 13 0
Devine, Mysie	0 13 0
Edwardes, Marion	0 13 0
Sydney, R.	0 13 0
Bartlett, Albert	0 10 6
Davies, Berkeley	0 10 6
Davies, Adye	0 10 6
Smith, C. Fielding	0 10 0
Henry, Mr. and Mrs.	0 5 0
Hewetson, C. H.	0 5 0
Lorraine, Roy	0 5 0
Yates, Miss Katie	0 5 0
Evans, Patrick	0 2 6
Stringer, L. M.	0 2 6
Austin-Gray, L.	0 2 0
C. B.	0 2 0
Latimer, Percival	0 2 0
Ryce, Walter	0 2 0
Dawson, Fredk.	0 1 6
Dawson, William	0 1 6
Dudley, A. J.	0 1 6
Glenney, H.	0 1 6
CHARLES HARRINGTON'S COMPANY.	
Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. Chas.	1 1 0
Harrington, Miss Sylvia Stella	0 2 6
Harrington, Charles, jun.	0 2 6
Hathaway, Hero	0 2 6
Blair, David	0 2 0
COMPTON COMEDY COMPANY.	
Compton, Edward	5 5 0
Crocker, Henry	1 0 0

FUNDS, &c.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS
(continued.)
ACTORS' SATURDAY, Jan. 29, 1910.

	£ s. d.
Compton, Miss Nell	0 10 6
Gordon, Philip	0 10 6
Gratton, Charles	0 10 6
Leigh, Miss Kathleen	0 10 6
Meade, Laurence	0 10 6
Royde, Frank	0 10 6
Compton, Miss Virginia	0 10 0
Austin, J. W.	0 5 0
Marquand, Clifford	0 5 0
Hassall, Miss Marie	0 5 0
Hoile, E. V.	0 2 6
Pass, Richard	0 2 0
Snell, Frank	0 2 0
Stevens, Lorraine	0 2 0
NEW THEATRE.	
Neilson, Miss Julia, and Mr. Fred Terry	25 0 0
Brand, Miss Tita	2 0 0
Hodges, Horace	1 1 0
Merivale, Philip	0 10 0
Terry, Miss Phyllis N.	0 10 0
Harte, J.	0 5 0
Bramble, A. V.	0 4 0
Dale, J. L.	0 4 0
Vandersee, Miss Evelyn	0 3 0
Elvey, Maurice	0 2 6
Garrett, A.	0 2 6
Groves, F.	0 2 6
Mason, Miss Lilian	0 2 6
Pickering, R. Easten	0 2 6
Terry, Miss Beatrice	0 2 6
Wright, H. N.	0 2 6
Brookes, H. V.	0 2 0
Gardner, Miss	0 2 0
PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.	
Rodgers, Limited	3 3 0
Graham, J. F.	2 2 0
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.	
Tempest, A. Vane	2 2 0
Blayney, Miss May	1 1 0
Playfair, Arthur	1 1 0
Driver, Hubert	0 5 0
Greet, Miss Clare	0 5 0
Lion, Leon M.	0 5 0
Mason, Miss Gladys	0 5 0
Miller, Miss Ruby	0 5 0
Tarva, E. W.	0 5 0
Thesiger, Ernest	0 5 0
Warren, T. G.	0 5 0
Addison, Guy H.	0 2 6
R. D'OYLY CARTE'S OPERA COMPANY.	
Bellamy, H. E.; James, Albert; Granville, S.; Herbert, J.; Graham, Miss; Blackmore, Mr.; Edgar, F. G.; Royston, Miss Amy; White, E. A.; Sinclair, G.; Russell, G.; Hewett, Frederick; Brewerton, Miss Alice; Morris, A.; Steward, Frank; Engholm, Miss Lillias; Swaine, Godwynne; Armit, Miss Ethel; Bull, Miss; George, Miss; Bethell, Miss; Holmes, Miss; Andean, Miss; Griffiths, Miss; Stone, Miss; Snelson, Miss; Rousby, Mrs.; Lewis, Miss; Boarer, Miss; Gledhill, Miss; Coote, H.; Morgan, Mr.; Wright, Geo. H.; Ruff, Mr.; Davidson, Mr.	5 13 6
ADELPHI THEATRE.	
Roe, Bassett	1 1 0
Adams, Blake	0 10 6
King, C.	0 10 6
Homewood, A. S.	0 10 0
Rodney, J.	0 10 0
Turnbull, Stanley	0 10 0
Davis, Reginald	0 5 0
Joyce, Francis	0 5 0
Ridley, J.	0 1 0
SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.	
Dare, Miss Phyllis	5 5 0
Rolyat, Dan	5 5 0
Smithson, Miss Florence	5 5 0
Courtneidge, Mrs.	2 2
May, Akerman	2 2 0
Monckton, Lionel	2 2 0
Thompson, A. M.	2 2 0
Wimperis, Arthur	1 1 0
Blanche, Miss Ada	1 1 0
Doherty and Yell	1 1 0
Grattan, Harry	1 1 0
Lester, Alfred	1 1 0
Millar, D.	1 1 0
Sylvian, Gladys	1 1 0
Talbot, Howard	1 1 0
Courtneidge, Miss Cicely	1 0 0
Elton, George	0 10 6
Graham, Keith	0 10 6
Keys, Nelson	0 10 6
Majilton, A. H.	0 10 6
BOX COLLECTIONS.	
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne	2 5 0
King's Theatre, Hammersmith	1 6 6
Theatre Royal, South Shields	1 0 0
Sums under 10s.: Berkley, Horace; Cazalet, Miss; Nicholson, Miss, per Horace Watson, Esq.	

Offices, 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

APOLOGY.

11, Toronto-road, Portsmouth.
To Mr. Wilson James,
Proprietor and Manager of THE GAIETIES,
108, Sumatra-road, N.W.
Sir,—
On behalf of myself and the other members of my Company, viz., Miss Ella Bagshawe, Miss Sallie Chambers, Miss F. Hawkins, Mr. A. Saunders, and Mr. Sidney Monckton. I hereby express my regret for having inadvertently infringed your rights by having used the name of your Company "THE GAIETIES" recently at Portsmouth, and in consideration of no further proceedings being taken by you, I hereby on my own and their behalf undertake with you that we will not nor will any or either of us at any time hereafter give or take part in any entertainment under or otherwise use the name of The Gaieties, or any colourable imitation thereof, and you are at liberty to make such use of this letter as you may think fit.
Yours, &c.
J. J. Cornelius,
Manager.
Witness: M. Newton, 3, Toronto-road, Portsmouth.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Birch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 27, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 5,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season: Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
Managing-Director, J. F. Elliston.
Always openings for really first-class attractions in all lines. Others please save stamps.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dram

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates,
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and others.
First-class attractions only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the
TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
WILLIAM MORTON.

1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Probably vacant, Grand Theatre, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, for Musical or other High-class Attractions.

Address, WILLIAM MORTON.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, June 13, 27, Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.

Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.

Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.

Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.

Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. JACKSON WITHERS, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Vacant dates, May 30 and July 25 (Musical Comedy). Vacant next spring, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 24.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply OWEN HILL, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, PERCY HUTCHISON.

Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WALSALL.—Correspondent Required to supply weekly reports of the theatres and music halls.—Apply, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100. Wanted, good Companies, June 20, 25, also August Bank-holiday. C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

THE LATE FRANK HARVEY.

Mr. H. B. IRVING would feel much obliged if the executors of the late Frank Harvey would communicate with him at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

On FRIDAY NEXT the dislocation of the Postal Arrangements are such that Advertisers are requested to
POST ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL
All Advertisements intended for our next issue (May 21).

"The Era" Offices,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1910.

THE LATE KING EDWARD.

By the time these lines appear in print the first intense grief of the nation for the death of the late KING EDWARD will have given way to the sorrowful resignation which is so much more lasting. By none will his loss be mourned longer and more deeply than by the theatrical and variety professions. The late King was, all his life, a firm friend of the drama and of amusement in all its forms. In this he resembled his mother, Queen VICTORIA, who loved a merry farce and was a warm admirer of SHAKESPEARE. Every Christmas for ten years CHARLES KEAN directed the celebrated Yuletide theatricals at Windsor Castle. In 1850 MACREADY took part in them, playing Brutus in *Julius Cæsar* to KEAN'S Antony and WALLACK'S Cassius. There was no Puritanism in the way in which the late King was brought up. When just over four years of age he enjoyed his first theatrical entertainment, going with his father and mother and his eldest sister to ASTLEY'S Amphitheatre in the Westminster Bridge-road. On the night of the visit of the Royal babes the entertainment included *The Elephants of the Pagoda* and a highly-popular spectacle called *The Rajah of Nagpore*, in which the celebrated Mr. BATTY, proprietor of the theatre, appeared with "his wondrous Arabian mare Beda."

The Prince's introduction to the drama proper was at Windsor Castle on Jan. 4, 1849, at the age of eight, when the programme consisted of DION BOUCICAULT'S *Used Up*, in which CHARLES MATTHEWS played Sir Charles Coldstream, and *Box and Cox*, in which BUCKSTONE, HARLEY, and Mrs. STANLEY appeared. The Royal children soon made an attempt at amateur acting. In January, 1852, some scenes from RACINE'S *Athalie* were presented in private with the following cast:

Abner	Prince of Wales (aged 11).
Athalie	Princess Royal (aged 12).
Josabeth	H. Seymour (aged 10).
Joad	Princess Alice (aged 10).
Levite	C. Phipps (aged 9).
Levite	H. Seymour (aged 10).
Zacharia	Princess Louise (aged 5).
Salomith	F. Seymour.
Joas	Prince Alfred (aged 8½).
Agar	Princess Helena (aged 7).

The young Prince of WALES took lessons in elocution from GEORGE BARTLEY, a well-known actor. An important and entirely elevating part of the theatrical education of the late King when Prince of WALES was the Shakespearean productions to which we have alluded. A colour-print of CHARLES KEAN'S production at Windsor Castle of *The Merchant of Venice*, in 1848, shows the then Prince of WALES sitting on the steps of the daïs at his father, Prince ALBERT'S, feet. The Royal children also arranged some *tableaux vivants* suggested by THOMSON'S "Seasons." These *tableaux* were presented in honour of the fourteenth anniversary of the wedding of Queen VICTORIA, and to the Prince of WALES was allotted the rôle of Winter. He appeared, wrote the Baroness BUNSEN, who was present, "in a white beard and a cloak with icicles (or what looked like such), and the Princess LOUISE, warmly clothed, seemed watching the fire; the Prince also recited well a passage altered from THOMSON."

As Prince of WALES, King EDWARD was a warm friend of the drama. M. SARCEY, in an account of the visit of SARAH BERNHARDT to the Gaiety Theatre in the spring of 1880, tells the following anecdote: "The Prince came the other night to pay his compliments to Mdlle. BERNHARDT. He was accompanied by the King of GREECE, whom he presented to the actress. 'My brother-in-law,' he said. Mdlle. BERNHARDT bowed, and remained *tête-à-tête* with the King. She called him 'Monsieur' all the time, and talked right and left in her usual cavalier style. But time pressed, and she had to return to her dressing-room. 'Well,' said her colleagues, 'what do you think of the King of GREECE?' 'What king?' she asked. 'The king to whom you have just been talking,' they answered. On this she ran off to the Prince of WALES. 'Ah, Prince,' she exclaimed, 'it was treachery not to tell me that it was the King of GREECE.' 'But I told you it was my brother-in-law,' said the Prince. 'Your brother-in-law,' replied Mdlle. BERNHARDT; 'but how was I to know? He might have been a tallow merchant.'"

It was not surprising, perhaps, that the late King as Prince of WALES should have been fond of theatres; but ALBERT EDWARD'S love of the drama lasted all his life. In 1909, among the thirteen plays witnessed by His Majesty were *An Englishman's Home, The Earth, L'Assommoir, Henry of Navarre, The Dancing Girl, The Woman in the Case, The Wreckers*, and *The Whip*. The command performances at Sandringham and Windsor in the late King's reign were numerous. The late Sir HENRY IRVING, Sir HERBERT TREE, Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, Sir JOHN HARE, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Mr. LEWIS WALLER, Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON, Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, Mr. H. B. IRVING, Mr. CHARLES HAWTREY, Mr. SEYMOUR HICKS, and Mdlle. GENÉE—all were honoured by these welcome "commands" between 1902 and 1909.

KING EDWARD was a good judge of a play, and his judgment as to the prospects of a production were very sound and correct. Nor was he afraid to show his disgust when it was excited by an unworthy entertainment. Two years ago, when His Majesty was at Marienbad, he attended the theatre one night, and was so disgusted with the indecency of the piece presented that he walked out of the house in the middle of the performance. The King's judgment of plays was testified to by no less good a judge than M. COQUELIN *aîné*, who said: "My introduction to the Prince dates from the year when the Comédie Française emigrated to London during the evil days of the Commune. He would ask me not infrequently to pay him a visit in the Royal box and talk to me of dramatic art. He displayed in his conversation a remarkable knowledge of things theatrical and an uncommonly good judgment in the matter of plays and players."

As Prince of WALES and as King ALBERT EDWARD insisted that no announcement should be made beforehand to the Press or otherwise of his intention to be present at a theatre. On one important occasion, when he gave more than the customary few hours' notice of requiring the Royal box on a particular night, the actress-manageress sent out a circular announcing his intention. His Majesty caused a communication to be addressed to her to the effect that the order for the box was cancelled; but, with characteristic good nature, at the last moment he relented, and was present at the performance.

In connection with the above "command" performances at Windsor and Sandringham, the late King took a personal interest in the arrangements for the comfort of the actors. When the late Sir HENRY IRVING and his company played *The Bells* and *The Merchant of Venice* at Sandringham in 1889, Sir HENRY had arranged for supper for all the party in the train home. But King EDWARD—then Prince of WALES—would not, says Mr. BRAM STOKER, "hear of such a thing. He said that the players were his guests, and that they must eat in his house." And it was he who, when Prince of WALES, set the example to the leading hostesses of London of inviting leading members of the profession to their houses, and he always included some of them in his invitations to garden parties at Marlborough House.

KING EDWARD was fond of opera, and often went to Covent Garden. He listened attentively throughout the acts, rarely leaving before the end of the performance. At plays he showed consideration for the audience and actors, and was almost always in his seat in good time.

But it was in his personal relations with actors that KING EDWARD showed his love for the stage. Before he came to the throne he honoured every great actor and actress with his friendship. As Prince of WALES he would often go "behind the scenes" to express his approval. As King he sent for the actor or the actress to receive, in the Royal box, his recognition of their efforts. The late Sir HENRY IRVING, Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT, Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, Sir HERBERT TREE, and Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER had continual proofs of the late King's interest in their work. But we need not multiply instances of King EDWARD'S kindness to and sympathy with the dramatic profession.

The present King, though his naval duties have prevented him from being a frequent playgoer, is what is called "an excellent audience," and loves the theatre. King GEORGE has endeavoured to minimise the financial loss which will inevitably be the result of King EDWARD'S death by intimating his wish that the period of closing of theatres should be curtailed. In this he only imitates the kindly forethought and sympathetic consideration of the beloved monarch whose memory will always be held dear by the dramatic profession.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I hope to be able to express my view on the subject of a National Theatre later, but my general view is that such a theatre is desirable, and that it would be best secured by creating a dual theatre, properly endowed or supported, and publicly recognised, consisting of one large and one small theatre. It has come to be seen by Continental directors and critics that only by this dual theatre method can all kinds of plays be adequately presented. This method has accordingly, I believe, been followed in most of recent municipal theatres on the Continent.

The New Theatre in New York instantly proved too large for intimate modern comedy, and I believe that I am right in stating that plans for a new comedy theatre, on the roof of the New Theatre, have been prepared already.

Speaking for myself personally, and without any authority from the committee of the National Shakespeare Memorial, I consider that a properly endowed union of two existing theatres, one large, for spectacular effects and music; the other small, for intimate comedy or tragedy, would be at once the cheapest, most practical, and most efficient National Theatre that could be devised.

But I would guard myself by saying that it is useless to provide the shell unless you provide the *personnel* in such an institution. The success of a National Theatre depends above all upon persons, and also upon the cordial co-operation of artists and actors of England, and upon distinguished and experienced managers, such as Mr. Benson and others, whose names will readily occur.

Without a great deal of sympathy and active support of professional men of this stamp, the National Theatre project, with all its paraphernalia of committee men from thirteen Universities, and so on (largely modelled, I understand, upon the trust deed of the British Museum), may come to nothing.

At all events, I am sure that it is only upon the dual theatre basis that success is likely to be obtained in this National Theatre plan.—Yours faithfully,
HERBERT TRENCH.
Haymarket Theatre, S.W. May 9.

HALL CAINE AND DRAMATIC COPYRIGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Evidence given by Mr. Hall Caine when defending a recent lawsuit strikingly illustrates the strong vitality of some of the many superstitions surrounding the subject of dramatic copyright.

According to the reports of the case Mr. Caine gave the Court this somewhat racy description of a so-called "copyright" performance:—"A skeleton play has to be prepared and deposited in the office of the Lord Chamberlain. I have done it countless times. Then all that is done to make the copyright performance valid is to print a bill, post it outside the theatre, make a prohibitive charge—generally of £1. The performance generally takes place in the early part of the day—generally at eight o'clock in the morning. One person pays his pound, the money passing over the counter, and then the actors walk through and read the parts put into their hands."

In the first place, the above process does not confer copyright at all; it has, in fact, nothing whatever to do with copyright. Its sole purpose is to enable a manager, not the author of the play, to procure the Lord Chamberlain's licence to perform the play on the stage. Copyright, or, more correctly, "performing right," exists the moment that an author has completed the MS. of his dramatic piece.

Mr. Caine went on to reveal his anxiety to have this hole-and-corner performance before the completion of the serial publication of his story. "Obviously," he said, "the dramatic copyright performance had to take place on the date of the conclusion of the story at the very latest." But why? Seemingly Mr. Caine does not know that others are free to dramatise any of his stories, even though he himself has prepared a dramatic version thereof, and this precious "copyright" performance has been given, the only proviso being that none of the actual dialogue invented by Mr. Caine may reappear in such plays.

A year ago the Court of Appeal laid it down that what Mr. Caine calls the "skeleton" of a play—presumably an original series of events, constituting the valuable part which draws, and holds the attention of, an audience—does not enjoy protection under the existing law. However absurd it may appear, it is the actual words spoken on the stage which are alone protected, and the "skeleton," &c., may be appropriated by anybody.

That an author so distinguished as Mr. Hall Caine should be found propagating such superstitions in a Court of Law, uncorrected by the learned Judge, and, apparently, aided and abetted by the learned counsel engaged, makes one despair of the advent of that long delayed legislation which shall give to authors complete protection for the original creations of their brains.—Yours faithfully,
W. GUNN GWENNET.
196, The Grove, Hammersmith, W. May 9.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The above dramatic company was booked to play at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, next week, but will not now do so, as I have cancelled the engagement. The reasons for my action need not be particularised, but as I acted on principle, and to please myself, the members of my company will receive their salaries just the same.—Your obedient servant, for and on behalf of Lesser Columbus, Ltd.,
L. COWEN,
Managing Director.
8, Thames Chambers, W.C.
April 12, 1910.

AT the Opera House Winter Gardens, Southport, *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, presented by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's capable company, is paying a return visit. Mr. Stewart depicts Lord Lumley in a realistic and convincing manner; Miss Bruce-Joy invests the rôle of Lady Lumley with commendable skill and charm; the Humming Bird has a clever representative in Mr. Lewis Mannering; Giuseppe, the Italian, is well played by Mr. Lancelot Lowder; Miss Ethel Carlyle efficiently portrays Ruth Thornton; and Mr. Percy Marmont does well as Lord Ronald. The play is capitally mounted.

ONE of the latest improvements in hampers and baskets for theatrical travelling is in the locking. There is a double lock, and when the lid is closed it immediately locks at each end, and is unlocked by one key in the centre. There is also a new lid, which is made transverse, with sticks back to front, cannot be bent, and is unbreakable. The sole patentee, inventor, and maker is Mr. M. L. Hills.

"SIR HERBERT."

Farce, in One Act, Produced at the St. George's Parochial Hall, Westminster Bridge-road, on May 11.

Hamilton ..... MR. L. HENNINGS
Stanley ..... MR. A. GRANT
Miss Barker ..... MISS T. KONRATH
Maria ..... MISS G. KNIGHT
Willis ..... MR. E. KERGAN

Decided gifts for comedy writing were revealed in the little play above named, which figured in an entertainment given on Wednesday evening last at the St. George's Parochial Hall, Westminster Bridge-road. Though founded on a familiar theme, the piece is treated in a fresh and diverting fashion, the fun lying in the fact that a young man, with a limited income, is called upon at a few minutes' notice to provide a substitute for his distinguished ancestor, Sir Herbert, whose suit of armour, last used in the fourteenth century, had been entrusted to his care by his wealthy aunt. In an access of impecuniosity the youth had sold the heirloom, and, when he receives the news of the intended visit of his aunt, has visions of being cut out of her will. In his extremity he induces Maria, the maid-of-all-work, to envelope herself in a sheet, and pose as the mail-clad figure, the aunt being informed on arrival that it has been cleaned and must be kept covered over for some days. In the course of her travels the aunt had been impressed by the tales of a spiritualist, who informed her that she could put her into communication with the long-defunct Sir Herbert. She had also interested herself in foreign suits of mail, and proceeds to point out the various ways in which they differ from those of the English, using the sheeted Maria as an object lesson. All goes well while the aunt contents herself with prodding with her umbrella the tea-tray which Maria holds in her hand in order to secure the necessary metallic sound; but when the visitor begins to poke her in the eyes, Maria's patience is exhausted, and she thrusts the sheet over the head of the aunt, who imagines that the spiritualist's prediction has been realised, and that Sir Herbert has returned to the terrestrial sphere. After indulging in a fit of hysterics, she is only to glad to leave the house, giving her nephew strict injunctions to get rid of the uncanny object without delay.

Much laughter was aroused by the little piece, due chiefly to the droll impersonation of a stolid and circumspect "slavey" given by Miss G. Knight, who made up excellently. Miss T. Konrath was a youthful maiden aunt, and fainted realistically. The two bachelor friends were smartly played by Mr. L. Hennings and Mr. A. Grant, the former displaying the commendable fault of speaking too deliberately. The sketch has any number of witty lines, and with a little condensing and smartening up might well be adapted for the purposes of the professional boards. No author's name was given on the programme, but it was announced from the stage that it was the work of Miss Irene Fox, and the enthusiastic calls were acknowledged by a young lady of some seventeen summers, who we understand is a pupil at the neighbouring Convent of Notre Dame.

MR. MANNERS AND MR. CROKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As I have got into very bad repute throughout the country for allowing my company to perform Mr. Hall Caine's play *The Bondman* at Swindon on Saturday evening last, I should be very much obliged if, in justice to myself, you would find room for the following brief correspondence. I may tell you that Mr. Pool, my manager for the company, telephoned from Swindon to my London office for instructions. Unfortunately, I was in Liverpool at the time, and he was told to telephone me there. This he did, and I gave him distinct instructions that the company were not *under any circumstances to play*. Therefore, imagine my surprise and disgust on returning to London on Monday to find that they had played. On hearing this, I sent the following letter to Mr. Manners, the proprietor of the Empire Theatre, Swindon:—

[COPY.]

DEAR MR. MANNERS,—On returning to my London office this morning from Liverpool I am more than surprised to find that you insisted on my company playing on Saturday night last, the night after the death of the King. My manager telephoned the office for instructions, and was of course told not to play. You have more to lose by this than I have, and I should think the Swindon population must be very disgusted at your opening the theatre on this night. Of course, this national calamity has been a very serious loss financially to both touring and resident-managers. I myself closed the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, and the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, and forbade any of my touring companies to play; therefore, imagine my surprise at finding *The Bondman* playing. I shall be glad to have your explanation by return of post.—Yours faithfully,
(Signed) WENTWORTH CROKE.

In reply to the above Mr. Manners writes me as follows:—

[COPY.]

DEAR MR. CROKE,—Yours to hand. Had I went entirely by my own personal feelings I should have been of the same opinion as yourself. I, however, took the advice of those interested in the town. They were of the opinion that if we announced that we were closing on the day of the King's funeral it would be sufficient. This seems to be borne out by the fact that on Sunday evening we had a concert here, with the Mayor being present, and had a packed house, as you will see by the newspaper cutting. We have also had two crowded houses to begin with this week. Perhaps there is a precedent for it in the fact that when the late Queen died the late Mr. Carpenter never closed either on the day of her death or on the evening of her funeral, which, to say the least, was distinctly disloyal.—Yours sincerely,
(Signed) A. MANNERS.
Empire Theatre, Swindon, May 11.

To which I have to-day replied as follows:—

[COPY.]

DEAR MR. MANNERS,—Yours received this morning is really no answer to mine, as you have quite evaded the question. The harm has been done and cannot be undone. You say that when the late Queen died the late Mr. Carpenter never closed either day, which, as you say, was distinctly disloyal. This, I think, applies to the present case, only more so, as the late King was the best friend the theatrical profession ever had, and the least that we theatrical managers could do would be to have closed our theatres on Saturday night last. In my opinion, any manager who allowed his theatre to be open on Saturday night last richly deserves to be boycotted by the town, and to be asked to resign should he be a member of the Theatrical Managers' Association.—Yours faithfully,
(Signed) WENTWORTH CROKE.
May 12.

I need hardly say that Mr. Hall Caine is as much upset and disgusted that the piece should have been performed on this night as I am myself.—Yours faithfully,
WENTWORTH CROKE.

MR. CHARLES MAJILTON'S company has performed *Round the Clock* at the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, and on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *The Plumber*, a screamingly comical American success. Mr. Majilton as Gadforth is amusing; Mr. Jim Bond as Bartle Burke is extremely funny; Mr. Hunter is good as Gee Gaw; Mr. Tom Carroll plays the lawyer with much success; Mr. W. Jecks as the cabman also deserves praise; Miss Nellie Clifford as Saprunella is very winsome and ladylike; and Miss Maddie Majilton is good as Bertie.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

To the many eloquent tributes to the great qualities of a great King, we need only add the simple words of a variety artist, who remarked to the writer: "What a splendid chap he was!" This expression of a sense of personal loss will be endorsed by everyone of the thousands of the profession who loved Edward the Peacemaker as a fine sportsman and a kindly gentleman.

King George the Fifth comes into a great heritage of loyalty and love; and amongst the most dignified expressions of that fealty and affection we may place the address of the Variety Artists' Federation, which reads as follows:

"We the Variety Artists' Federation, representing the Music Hall Artists of the United Kingdom, humbly desire your Gracious Majesty's acceptance of this our expression of deepest sympathy and regret at the loss which your Majesty, her Majesty Queen Mary, and Her Majesty Alexandra, the Queen Mother, have suffered by the death of his beloved Majesty King Edward; and to convey to you our heartfelt appreciation of your kindly consideration in the expression of your wish that the theatres should be opened except on the day of his late Majesty's funeral.—To his most gracious Majesty, King George V., Buckingham Palace, S.W."

It can never be forgotten by the profession that the late King, as soon as possible after the period of mourning for his mother had expired, gave official recognition to the music hall artist by a command to Dan Leno to appear at Sandringham on Nov. 26, 1901.

In our issue of Nov. 30, of that year, we made the following comment:—"It is significant of the Royal recognition of the importance of the variety profession as a factor in the amusements of the people that at the first command performance of his Majesty since the death of his beloved mother, he should invite the acknowledged head of the music-hall profession to entertain his guests.

"This gracious recognition no one has done more to obtain than Mr. Leno, and the congratulations that have poured in upon him, both from the members of the variety and acting professions, have filled him with pride and gratitude."

As Prince of Wales the late King saw most of the regular turns in town, in more or less private state, and the late "Jolly" John Nash used to tell a pleasant story of his experiences when he and Arthur Lloyd were invited to sing at a party at which the then Prince of Wales was a guest.

Nash, who was then at Weston's, afterwards the Royal, and now the Holborn Empire, danced on to the stage as "Racketty Jack," wearing his hat on the back of his head, and one of the guests called out to him to take his hat off. The laughing comic stopped, appealed to the Prince as "Mr. Chairman," and obtained a laughing order from his Royal Highness to sing his song exactly as he would have done it at a music hall.

Mr. Bransby Williams, Mr. Albert Chevalier, Mr. Harry Lauder, and Mr. Eugene Stratton were among other variety entertainers who received "commands" from his late Majesty. In *The Performer* Mr. Stratton tells the following anecdote, that is an eloquent tribute to the wonderful tact of the dead monarch:—"While waiting to do his show, 'Gene' had been chatting to Lord Knollys, and had told him several stories. Lord Knollys asked 'the dandy coloured coon' to tell them to the King, and together they proceeded to another room of the Palace, in which 'Gene was introduced to the King. Here he repeated the stories, and the King laughed heartily.

"When the opening of the entertainment was announced, his Majesty said to Stratton that he had been glad to meet him, and extended his hand to shake hands. 'Gene was, of course, blacked up, and, in conventional nigger-minstrel style handed the monarch his elbow, upon which the King asked the reason, and 'Gene explained that, his hands being blacked, his Majesty would soil his hands with the cork. King Edward asked how long 'Gene had been wearing cork, and was told 'Nearly every night for twenty years'; whereupon His Majesty grasped him by the hand and said, 'Well, if it has not hurt you in all that time, I am sure it cannot hurt me.'"

Mr. William Archer, the well-known critic and translator of Ibsen, has apologised to the Palace Theatre, the management of which served him with a writ for libel some time since. He writes: "With reference to the last paragraph of an article by me which appeared in the *Nation* for Dec. 25, 1909, I am glad to take this opportunity of correcting a wrong impression it seems to have made. I had no intention of conveying any reflection whatever on the management of the Palace Theatre, and was surprised to learn that the management thought my words capable of any such interpretation. I certainly saw no one in the audience whom the management should have kept out, or could have kept out, and in point of respectability the audience was unexceptionable. It seemed to me quite up to the standard of the audiences at the most popular West End theatres.

"My remarks expressed a purely personal point of view with regard to the wealthy amusement-seekers who frequent the more expensive seats at all West End theatres. If, in expressing this point of view, I inadvertently used terms that could reasonably be construed to the detriment of the Palace Theatre or its management, I regret and withdraw such terms; for I was, and am, satisfied that it is an excellently conducted establishment, and that, in fact, it holds a place equal to our best musical comedy theatres."

Among the artists presented by Mr. Joseph Wilson at the Tivoli on Whit Monday will be Wilkie Bard, Lilian Herlein, King and Benson, Victoria Monks, Cinquevalli, Harry Randall, and T. E. Dunville.

After a stay of over ten years at the London Hippodrome as producer, Frank Parker severs his connection with that theatre on May 21 next. During that decade Mr. Parker's name became almost a household word. Certainly on more than one occasion the thrilling spectacles for which he was responsible were the talk of London. *The Redskins*, *The Flood*, *The Avalanche*, *Tally-Ho*, *The Sands of Dee*, *The Motor Chase*, and *The Volcano* are perhaps the best-remembered of his many triumphs of stage ingenuity. During his term of office Mr. Parker rebuilt the Hippodrome stage to his own designs, and produced there no less than fifty-seven stage spectacles with trick scenery. He is now considering two important offers for Australia and America, and one British theatre magnate is also negotiating for his services.

"Captain Billy," which was originally produced as a first piece at the Savoy on Sept. 24, 1891, is to be reproduced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Whit Monday. It was written by the lamented Harry Greenbank, the author of so many fine lyrics for musical comedies, and Francois Cellier, the Savoy conductor. Mr. Helier Le Maistre, who originally played the title-rôle, has secured the rights of production from Mrs. D'Oyly Carte. In the original cast also were Miss Rosina Brandram as Widow Jackson and Miss Decima Moore as Polly, with Rudolph Lewis as Samuel Chunk.

A Leigh-on-Sea and Southend theatre train is to be instituted on the District Railway in June. It will leave Charing Cross Station at the foot of Villiers-street at 11.40 p.m., and arrive at Barking 12.10 a.m. in time to connect with the midnight express from Fenchurch-street.

Mr. Harry Burns and his wife (Miss Helen Charles) are now on their way back from New York on the Mauretania, which left New York on Wednesday.

Mr. Eric Victor was operated on at his London residence three weeks ago, and is now recovering rapidly in the balmy air of Paignton, South Devon, where he is commencing a five months' season with Mr. Fred Spencer at the Pavilion on the Green.

Miss Dorma Morgan, refined versatile comedienne, comes south next Monday to the Empire, Islington, with entirely new business, including her new song, "Verily, verily prudence," which has captivated her Yorkshire admirers.

We are asked to express, through our columns, the gratitude of the committee to the artists who so kindly gave their services at the Camberwell Empire matinée on Thursday, May 5, in aid of the fund for the sufferers through the tragedy at that house.

Miss Winifred Hare, who is now on her second visit to Johannesburg, is again delighting the inhabitants of the Rand with her charm and versatility at the local Empire. She has been absent from home since March, and returns to England and the Stoll tour on June 4.

Mrs. John Lawson has been playing to full houses at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, with her triplé bill of sketches, and has met with very flattering receptions all round. Next week this artist will be seen at Dundee, returning to town on May 23 to resume her variety engagements.

The annual dance of the Glasgow Pavilion was fixed for last Friday night, and at 11.30 that evening a merry party assembled to do honour to the occasion. Some time after midnight, however, the melancholy news of the death of King Edward reached Glasgow, and the Pavilion manager, Mr. Evan Good, at once stopped the proceedings, and the company dispersed, overwhelmed at the national calamity.

The United County Theatres, Ltd., have appointed Mr. Sydney Stringer to succeed Mr. Harold Arnold in the management of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, the latter gentleman having been appointed manager of the Tynemouth Palace. Mr. Stringer has had an extensive experience of theatrical business in London, Bristol, Aberdeen, Sunderland, Dundee, &c. Mr. John Morgan retains his position of assistant-manager.

The "Kilties" Band have been scoring a big success at the Southampton Hippodrome this week so big, in fact, that they have been specially retained on Whit Sunday to give a grand "In Memoriam" concert. Mr. T. P. J. Power, the manager of the band—who, by the way, were twice commanded by his late Majesty King Edward VII.—sent a telegram of condolence to Queen Alexandra on behalf of Canada's Concert Band, and received a message of sincere thanks from Lord Knollys.

Miss Bertha Stuart, the Scotch contralto, who can sing "Caller herrin'" so dramatically, has returned from Australia after a most successful engagement under the ægis of Mr. Harry Rickards. At one of her appearances Mme. Melba was an interested listener, and none applauded more heartily Miss Stuart's singing than the great Australian prima donna. A prolongation of her engagement in the land of the Commonwealth was offered to Miss Stuart by Mr. Rickards, but previous contracts precluded her acceptance.

Mr. Walter Norman, whose engagement as manager of the King's Theatre, Gainsborough, terminates on the 21st inst., owing to change of proprietorship, took his benefit at that house on Wednesday. The ready way in which Walter has always given his services to charitable and social events in the town during his management has made him very popular, and the old Moore and Burgess corner-man leaves behind him the recollection of a genial disposition and more than one good song.

The Hippodrome, Hastings, is to be submitted to public auction by Messrs. Marler and Marler at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, on the 27th. Although a variety theatre, it is practically equally usable for a stage playhouse, being a properly constructed theatre, with ample stage for dramatic productions. It is to be sold by order of the liquidators of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society, and will therefore not be offered at any fancy reserve. It is a fine property of freehold tenure and fully licensed.

Mr. W. H. Melton, who for nineteen years has been connected with the Mexborough Prince of Wales's Theatre, for many years as manager, has severed his connection with that house, having taken over, as proprietor, the Garden-street Picture Hall, which has been thoroughly overhauled. He has been presented with a handsome gold-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed, by the stage-staff and members of the orchestra. Mr. T. Hardiman handed over the present. The Picture Hall taken over by Mr. Melton has been renovated and brought up to date.

What was certainly one of the most successful charity matinées ever held in West Hartlepool was that recently arranged by Mr. Richard Thornton, the managing-director of the Empire Theatre. Mr. Geo. F. Thompson, the resident-manager, the artists, staff, and orchestra, all worked together to bring about this success, and, as a result, about £110 was handed over to the management of the Cameron Hospital in that town.

The artists who were appearing at the Empire during the week gave their services, and others travelled from neighbouring towns to take part. Most enjoyable turns were given by Auguste Van Biene (actor-musician), Jack Smiles (comedian), Holden's Mannikins, Graham and Barron (comedians and dancers), Dot Stephens (vocalist), Nellie Farrel (singer of Irish songs), Alexandra Dagmar (the popular comedienne), the Casselli Sisters (comediennes and legmania dancers), May B. Brilliant (comedienne and dancer), Albert Rogers (baritone vocalist), and Charburn's Juveniles, all were very highly appreciated.

Col. Rosson, J.P. (ex-Mayor), proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. R. Thornton, Mr. G. F. Thompson, the artists, orchestra, and staff, and this, on being seconded by Ald. R. Sargeant, J.P., was carried with enthusiasm. Alderman Sargeant suggested that the matinée be an annual event. Mr. Thompson, in reply, regretted the unavoidable absence of Mr. Thornton, but he had no doubt that Mr. Thornton would be most willing to make it an annual event. The £110, we might add, included a cheque from Happy Fanny Fields, who was unable to be present.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, after twelve years of continuous hard work, is taking a well-deserved holiday at Biarritz. His latest song "Mister Owl" is in great demand.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild will hold a jumble sale in Room 63, Albion House, 61, New Oxford-street, on Tuesday, May 24, commencing at twelve o'clock. All are cordially invited. Please come, and bring as many friends as possible.

The installation of Brother Harry Bawn as W.M. of the Chelsea Lodge has been postponed until May 27, owing to the death of H.M. King Edward VII.

"Clothes and the woman" shortly describes the subject of the new ballet *Femina*, to be produced at the Alhambra on the 23rd inst. Dress on the stage is always interesting—even more so than undress.

"We are having a splendid trip up till now and perfect weather. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, Mendel, the blind pianist, en route to Harry Rickards' Tivoli, Sydney."

Miss Lillie Langtry has quite fallen in love with Australia. She writes:—"Am in best of health and having a happy time. Hope to live here some day on my farm in Queensland."

The M.H.A.R.A. offices, both in London and the provinces, will be closed on Friday next, the date fixed for the funeral of the late King. Artists are particularly requested to note this, and to have their names placed on the vouchers not later than Thursday next.

At the monthly meeting of the Music-Hall Sick Fund on Wednesday there were present Messrs. Pat Carey (in the chair), A. E. Drew, S. White, H. Clifford, F. Boyce, and H. Jennings (trustee). The vacant post of treasurer was filled by the election of Mr. Pat Carey.

Owing to the death of the King, John Lawson has had to postpone his Grand Guignol season at the Royalty Theatre. The idea, however, will not be dropped, and we hope to see *The Monkey's Paw* put into the bill there, this episode by W. W. Jacobs being the finest produced by Mr. Lawson.

Mr. Frank Glenister, who has returned to the London Pavilion from his Continental trip, has booked several exceptional novelties, which will in due course grace the programme at the Piccadilly-circus house. During the absence of his chief Mr. William Cobbett has been officiating in front with unfailing courtesy.

Mr. Fred S. Jennings's company, in *The Spirit of Music*, the new romantic sketch, introducing Carl Junor, the great pianist, supported by a strong company, will be at the Holborn Empire next week. This number proved a huge draw at the Kilburn Empire, and is being rapidly booked up by Fred and Horace Reeves.

Miss Katie Lawrence, the famous singer of "The bicycle made for two," on Monday next will return to the scene of many triumphs, viz., Collins's, where she will renew her acquaintance with Islingtonians in a topical song "Don't you believe it," with up-to-date verses by Edgar Bateman, author of "The houses in between" and "A great big shame."

Through the indulgence of Director Norbeck the Royal Ohmys did not perform on Saturday last at the Norbeck Circus, Christianssand, owing to the death of our beloved King, thus proving their loyalty by forfeiting a day's salary. The Norwegian public have been in complete sympathy with the artists, whose self-sacrifice has been very favourably regarded.

Mr. Herbert Darnley was on Thursday, May 12, the recipient of a valuable presentation in the shape of a gold hunter watch and a gold combined soversign purse and match-box, on the occasion of his birthday, from Mrs. Herbert Darnley, the members of his *Private Potts* company, headed by Mr. Fred Kitchen, *John Jay* company (Mr. Chas. H. Bell), the managerial staff, headed by Mr. Cecil Morton York, and a few friends, including Messrs. Frank Parkes, W. J. Calder, Somers and Warner, Ernest Pyke, W. Thornton, B. Armstrong, David Williams, Mrs. C. M. York, and others. The presentation was made by Mr. York on behalf of the subscribers, and in a feeling speech Mr. Darnley spoke warmly of the regard shown him by his companies and other friends.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant will reopen St. George's Hall on Saturday, May 14, at 3 and 8 p.m., when they will present a special programme, including a series of animated photographs of notable events in his late Majesty's reign.

Sandy McNab has just finished the Barrasford tour, on which he has been drawing crowded houses.

Miss Louie Tracy, "the Dapper Dandy Boy," concludes to-night, at the Regent Theatre, Salford, a most successful nineteen weeks' provincial tour. Miss Tracy commences a short season in town on Monday next at the Palace, Camberwell.

The Smythsons have been scoring heavily this week at Reading Palace, with their revived big comedy number, *Our Suite*. They return to town on Monday, opening at the Empire, Holloway, with *The Lie-Alarm*.

At the conclusion of the usual meeting of the Terriers' Association upon Sunday last the "Dead March" in Saul was impressively rendered by Terrier Martin Henderson. The secretary was instructed to forward letters of condolence to His Majesty King George and Queen Alexandra.

Mr. James Ross Elvio was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T., assisted by Terrier Tom Packer, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Harry Wright, G. W. Smythson, and Russell Brandow upon their reappearance in the kennel. Messrs. Tom Melbourne and Wallace Kingston are candidates for membership of the Association and have successfully passed the ballot.

Tickts for the "Welcome Home" banquet to Terrier Griff may be had upon application to the secretary, Arthur Were. Terriers are reminded that their friends may attend this function. Tickets (ladies or gentlemen) 3s. each.

Terrier W. R. Dunkley has presented the Association with four new embroidered cloths for the tables, and Terrier Russell Brandow has promised to defray the cost of renovating the robes.

At the Royal Standard, Pimlico, Mr. T. S. Dickie's Whitsun programme is blessed by the sunny presence of Florrie Forde and Phil Ray; and the comic sketch *That Brute Simmons* will be presented by Geo. Elliston and company. The Four Figaros, the Five Hunters, Calile and Walker, Milner and Storey, the Sisters Silvere and comedy assistant, Marie Lord, the Bros. Gerard, Tom Royde, and others will also entertain.

The popular manager of the Paragon, Mr. Jack E. Cohen, was accorded a complimentary benefit, by kind permission of the directors, on Friday, May 6, which proved a great success. Amongst the many artists who kindly proffered their services were Marie Lloyd, Victoria Monks, Ella Retford, Ethel Loftus, Madge Temple, Bessie Slaughter, Florrie Forde, Lily Burnand, Jenny Alexander, Harvard Sextette, Haig and Novel, Nine Dainty Dots, Geoffreys and Benson, Wilfred Burnand, Rex Fox, Victor Widdicombe, Capt. Kettle, Russell Carr, Crosby and Walker, Dale and O'Malley, Dan Crawley, Chas. Coborn, Len Hall, Fred Karno's Six Little Burglars, and Chas. Austin, in *Parker, P.C.*

Much amusement was caused during the second scene of this sketch, in which Mr. Austin explained that, unfortunately, his own men were prevented from appearing, and that he had, therefore, been forced to get a scratch crowd, which he hoped the audience would excuse. The names of the deputies were then read out, and they all turned out to be well-known gentlemen connected with the profession. The amateur supers were P. C. Leon Zeitlin, Fred McAvoy, Walter Payne (South London), Arthur Hill (East Ham Palace), Chas. Beecham (Beecham and Wheeler), C. Abrahams (Coach and Horses), Young Josephs (light-weight boxing champion), and Jack E. Cohen.

Mr. Fred Baugh as a Fireman found it a little difficult to get the coat to meet round his slender form, and the little by-play that followed was heartily enjoyed. At the finale of the show a happy gathering was found in the cosy buffet, many old friends having popped in to offer congratulations to the beneficiare, who in a few well-chosen words thanked all those who had helped to make the occasion a grand success.

MISS A. M. ALLEN'S MARRIAGE.

There was a numerous congregation at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, on Saturday afternoon, to witness the marriage of Miss Annie Maud Allen, daughter of Mr. Frank Allen, of Woodlawn, Kingston Vale, to Mr. Douglas Johnston, son of Mrs. Johnston, of Offley House, Surbiton Hill.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a gown of ivory charmeuse with tunic of minon de soie, trimmed with Duchesse lace (the gift of the bridegroom's mother), and pearl and bugle embroidery, full Court train of satin and tulle veil edged with Duchesse lace, worn over a wreath of orange blossom. Her ornaments were a diamond pendant and a diamond and sapphire brooch, and she carried a choice bouquet of white exotics and orange blossom. Miss Evelyn Johnston, sister of the bridegroom, was the bridesmaid, and she wore a dress of pale mauve satin veiled with ninon, and a large black straw hat, trimmed with white lace. She carried a bouquet of mauve and white lilac, and a silver chain bag, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. Gordon J. H. Bosworth accompanied the bridegroom as his best man. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. R. Gamble.

The reception which followed the service was held at the Hans Crescent Hotel, the guests including Sir Bryan and Lady Leighton, Sir Edward and Lady Moss, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Straithie, Dr. and the Misses Bosworth, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Stoll, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Slater, Mrs. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Butler, and about one hundred other friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Johnston left later in the day for Cornwall for the honeymoon, the bride wearing a travelling dress of mauve cloth, and an absinthe straw hat covered with roses.

[*Photos by J. W. Debenham.*

MISS A. M. ALLEN. MR. DOUGLAS JOHNSTON.

The University College Hospital matinée, which was announced to take place at the Oxford on May 26, has been postponed on account of the death of the King.

Mr. Leo Vint is announcing the opening of the Loughborough Theatre Royal as Vint's Electric Hippodrome on Whit-Monday, and has an attractive entertainment billed.

Released from the Imperial Opera Houses of St. Petersburg and Moscow, through the closing of the Russian season, practically the entire ballet, as arranged by Mr. Stoll during his visit to St. Petersburg last year, will invade London on Monday, dividing themselves into two groups, one appearing at the Coliseum, the other at the Hippodrome.

The incomparable dancer, Mlle. Karsavina, who, with Mlle. Baldina and Mons. Theodore Kosloff, the principal male dancer of St. Petersburg, created so much enthusiasm at the Coliseum last July, will reappear at that house with the full complement of dancers, in *Giselle* or *La Sylphide*. The music of this beautiful terpsichorean poem was written by Adolphe Adam, the composer of the opera *Le Postillon de Longjumeau*, and all the greatest Russian dancers have taken the title-rôle.

This ballet, originally produced in Paris in 1841, was chosen particularly to enable Mlle. Karsavina to display her marvellous talents. The story is enthralling in its tragic simplicity. A young girl, deceived by a nobleman, dies of a broken heart; and after her death is transformed into a fairy of dazzling beauty, who dances with frenzied abandon until she enthrals her sweetheart and passes with him in a mad whirlwind of ecstasy to the realms beyond.

Tschaikowsky's ballet divertisement *Le Lac des Cygnes* is the piece chosen for the Hippodrome, and will be interpreted by Mlle. Olga Preobrajensky, assisted by Mlle. Ludmilla Schollar and Georges Kyaksht, together with the other eighteen principal dancers from the St. Petersburg and Moscow Imperial Opera Houses. At these houses it is worthy of note that not one dancer is allowed to take part in the ballet unless she or he can take the respective principal parts at a moment's notice. So it is with the artists appearing on Monday.

"The Lake of the Swans" (*Schwonensee*) was first produced at Moscow in 1877, and the well-known musical critic in Moscow, Mr. Kachkine, then said that "Tschaikowsky's music had wonderful merits, and the more it is played the more the public will appreciate it."

A young Prince, Siegfried, is ordered by his mother to find a bride. When hunting, he sees a flock of wild swans in a beautiful lake, and discovers that these swans are young girls bewitched. In the day-time they are compelled to take the form of swans, but as the moon rises they regain their original form. Siegfried falls in love with the Queen. During her disenchantment she tells him that if ever he is false to her, she will be in the thrall of the evil magician for ever. He remains true, and they "live happily ever after."

Miss Melinda May (secretary), on behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., begs most heartily to thank the following: Miss Nellie Wallace, 2s. 6d. (per Miss Harmer), Mr. W. Watts (collecting), 1s. 6d.; Mr. Chas. Deane (collecting), 1s. 6d.; Miss Ada Martina (collecting), 1s. 6d.; Miss Dolly Harmer (collecting), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Bob Wilding (Glasgow), donation 1s.; Mrs. George Smythson, babies' new clothing; Miss Val Gerald, useful parcel clothing; and Miss Mary McNeill (Edinburgh), useful clothing.

Presented by the Sisters Macarte a full croquet set for eight people, nearly new. Will anyone make an offer for the same? It is on view at the Guild Rooms. We have also some very handsome fancy-dress costumes for sale; can be seen any day. The model toy butcher's shop is still for sale, given by Mrs. Harry Vento. Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday from four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Will subscribers please make cheques and money orders payable to Music Hall Ladies Guild?

The 658th meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday, Mr. Chas. Coborn presiding. Messrs. Arthur Rigby, Lieut. Albini, Harry Bancroft, Johnny Alexander, T. C. Callaghan, J. Miller Northern, Jack Crawley, J. H. Milburn, and C. Douglas Stuart were also present. After the preliminary routine business, the meeting rose in silence as a mark of respect to the late King. It was also decided to close all Association offices on Friday and to send a telegram of condolence, sympathy, and loyalty from the Association to the King.

The Secretary announced that a concession had been secured from the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, who have agreed to issue single tickets at the principal towns on their line. The weekly statement showed an increase of twenty-one new members and receipts of £47 14s. It was decided to send out to ballot the names of Messrs. Chris Van Bern and Tom Packer, candidates for a vacancy on the Committee. The new Glasgow offices are to be at 36, Renfrew-street, and the tenancy will commence on May 30.

An exceptionally strong Palace Theatre programme has been prepared for Whitsun by Mr. Alfred Butt. Newcomers to the programme are Mr. Malcolm Scott, with his entertaining chatter; and Mr. Jack Lorimer, who was hailed in America recently as "Harry Lauder's only rival." Miss Clarice Vance, with her sunny smile and typical Southern coon songs, is with us once more with a budget of new songs. Other items are Mr. Albert Whelan, the entertaining whistler; Selbo, whose juggling has received so much favourable comment; the Palace Girls; and Miss Margaret Cooper. Mr. Butt will give a special matinée on Whitsun Monday at reduced prices.

The comedy duologue *It*, as produced and played at the Ealing Hippodrome on Monday evening by Lily and Antley, bristles with merry-making situations, and as a medium for laughter would be hard to beat. The "It" in the case is a henpecked husband, whose better half lords it over him right royally. He has been trying milk as a nerve and vigour producer, but is now advised to try whisky. The lady, bidding him to look well after the safety of the house, disappears to dress, and, as she does so, accidentally drops a note from an admirer, inviting her to accompany him to a ball.

The discovery of this note and continuous doses of the new stimulant transform the down-trodden one into a veritable demon of jealousy, and while the lady is completing her toilet he disguises himself as a fire-eating major. Returning to the room, and face to face with an apparent stranger who volleys reproaches at her, this up-to-date Katherine changes her song to another metre, and the erst domineering wife is made to hop, skip, and jump until, believing herself the victim of a lunatic, she collapses. The removal, however, of whiskers and moustache discloses the mere "It" as her subduer. The dual character of the submissive husband and the irate son of Mars were capitally rendered by Mr. Lily, who was excellently supported by Miss Antly. The little comedy was well received and should have a long life.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII. was ever interested in a song dealing with the Services, and more than one member of Messrs. Francis and Day's staff have been, on bygone occasions, gratified by receiving an intimation from the Private Secretary that the Monarch had accepted copies of songs submitted. Among the more recent songs thus honoured were "For King and Sireland," by "Edward Montagu," and "Bravo, Territorials!" by Chas. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun. A patriotic song in vogue some years back, also published by the firm, met with a like honour, "The ship that belongs to a lady," which was accepted by the Monarch when Prince of Wales.

THE myriads of alfresco artists who have been eagerly watching and waiting for the advent of Messrs. Francis and Day's summer books, will be made happy by the announcement that the volumes are now ready. Never before, perhaps, in the history of the house has so fine a collection of the first songs of the day been collected together in two volumes. One contains a hundred coon, soubrette, and chorus numbers; the other a hundred humorous songs, the pick of the basket, including many of the eleventh hour acquisitions of the firm. As heretofore, they will be despatched to bonâ-fide applicants, who must state which volume is required, and sixpence for postage of each book must be enclosed with application. Thrice is he armed for the coming campaign who has these choice collections of ditties to hand, and the motto of the great house is "First come, first served." *Verb. sap.*

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD'S new songs at the London Coliseum have been received with delight during the week, and Birmingham will on Bank Holiday doubtless endorse London's verdict. "There's another fellow looks like me" is a laughable number with an infectious chorus, and "Oh! blow the scenery on the railway!" apart from its comedy lines and tunefulness, is an item that is bound to be talked about, the wonderful effect of the express train at full speed, with the comedian singing the final chorus in his swaying brake-van, with its red tail light complete, forming a finale not easily forgotten. Fred W. Leigh's always-admired handiwork is apparent in both numbers, and Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of each.

THE remarkable vitality and longevity of a really good song was never better exemplified than on Monday night last, when at Willesden that splendid artist Mr. G. H. Elliott, the "Chocolate Coloured Coon," in great voice and form, received an ovation for his artistic rendering of Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski's classic "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." In his final contribution, yet another of Messrs. Francis and Day's publications, Mr. Elliott again had his whole audience heart and soul with him, the item being "I want to go to Idaho," and A. J. Lawrance's melodious cadences caught and held the ear as ever has been their wont.

AT Leeds, at the Queen's, Miss Florrie Forde has nightly been the recipient of almost regal receptions, and has easily held her right to the style and title of the "world's greatest chorus singer." Her new songs, "'Tis a faded picture," "Rip van Winkle," and "Flanagan," form a trio that are unsurpassable in popular estimation, and Messrs. Francis and Day anticipate a large enquiry for the same. The popular lady returns to town on Monday.

MR. FRED ELTON, who, as he humorously expresses it, has "'struck 'ile' with his 'rubber boom' song," has in "Tahiti" one of the very best songs of the time, and his fine stage presence, firm and masterly command of the pianoforte keyboard, and powerful voice add distinction to a distinctive success. It is by the writers of that other great success "I've got rings on my fingers," F. J. Barnes, R. P. Weston, and Maurice Scott. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON'S newest song "You don't want to linger any longer" is by J. P. Long. Messrs. Francis and Day are issuing it shortly.

A LAUGHABLE comic song, fully in keeping with that which is expected always from Mr. Harry Bedford, has been secured for publication by Mr. David Day's firm. It is named "It's bound to come in fashion by and bye," and is by Barnes and Weston.

LONDONERS will shortly have an opportunity of hearing Mr. Whit Cunliffe in a new song from the same pens as Mr. Harry Bedford's latest comic one, and the title is "It's got to be done!" Messrs. Francis and Day will produce it in sheet music form.

MESSRS. C. W. MURPHY AND WILL LETTERS have published with Messrs. Francis and Day three new songs, the titles of which are "She put a bunch of roses in her old straw hat," "Don't take me to the seaside," and "Will you no come back again?" The numbers will be very much in evidence at seaside resorts, as they will be worked by the members of Will Letters' own concert party when that fine combination open under the ægis of Messrs. Adeler and Sutton for the forthcoming season.

MR. MARK SHERIDAN'S newest comic song "Hear what the crowd say as they come out!" has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by J. P. Harrington and John Neat. The same house is also issuing Fred Murray's laughable song, entitled "Let's have a basin of soup."

A PRETTY song by George A. Stevens, with characteristic music by Henry E. Pether, has been put in hand by Mr. David Day's firm. It is called "Any little girl with ways like yours."

THE series of "Sixpenny Pops" inaugurated by Messrs. Francis and Day has been further extended recently by the addition of the following half-dozen songs:—"On the same place every time," Miss Vesta Victoria's laughable roller-skating song; "Sweet seventy-two," Mr. Arthur Lennard's fine number; "Sweet Caroline," Miss Gertie Gitana's tuneful ballad; and the three songs sung in Dan Lipton's *Songland*, and entitled "In my bouquet," "Take me back to Pompeii," and "At Gretna Green." The number of songs and pieces included in the "Sixpenny Pops" has thus reached to no fewer than 599.

ALREADY preliminary preparations are being made at Messrs. Francis and Day's two London establishments to handle the vast masses of printed matter that in a few weeks' time will be issued to an expectant music trade, who are awaiting with keen interest the firm's twenty-ninth Song Annual and twenty-ninth Dance Album.

HENRY A. MOORE, the well-known entertainer, has set to music a lyric by Frank Bentz, and the result is a pretty ballad of the popular type, entitled "There's a little ray of sunshine left for you." It has been sung during the week by Mr. Albert Chapman (late of the Carl Rosa company) at the Paragon with great success.

(*Continued on page* 20.)

MISS EILY BRADELL writes to state that at the recent Eccentric Club concert she sang "The Irish Grass," by request, and not "Pretty Bird."

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

The present programme at the Empire is a strong and attractive one. The revised edition of *Round the World*, entitled *East and West*, opens the evening's entertainment admirably; and that amusing *revue Hullo . . . London!* has been embellished with many piquant and additional items. In the variety portion of the bill a decided success has been made by Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, a dancer of great expressiveness and skill. Her Dance Idyll, "The Princess and the Slave," is quite dramatic. The scene represents a glade in a forest, where a beautiful Princess is ardently wooed by a Slave, a chocolate-coloured athlete. She alternates between pity for the lover and distaste for his colour and appearance. When he is behind her, she hesitates. When she gazes upon his features, she revolts. This pantomime is interwoven with a great deal of terpsichorean movement, in which Mlle. Kyasht shows herself a mistress of her art. Her half-yielding to the strains of Luigini's music or to a variation by Greig or Thomé is most eloquent; but, at the conclusion, when she sinks upon a bank exhausted, to an air from Rubenstein, she still repels the swarthy suppliant. Miss Kyasht is ably assisted in this duo by M. Adolf Bolm, who is very earnest, active, and spirited as the Slave. A second part of their performance is a lively little Carnival dance, in which Mlle. Kyasht and M. Bolm appear in picturesque costumes. The concluding item is a Valse Idylle. When the curtain rises, we see groups of coryphées standing with bended heads, dressed in pink, and making charming masses of colour. From the centre of one of these groups rises Mlle. Kyasht, and does a very beautiful *pas seul*. Then she and M. Bolm scatter rose-leaves on the coryphées, making a pretty effect; and the sketch concludes with an artistic picture, and a fall of golden rain. The "Princess and the Slave" was produced by Mr. Bolm, the *mise-en-scène* being designed and supervised by Wilhelm, and the dresses being made by Miss Hastings. Wulff and Waldorf do some wonderful things on the horizontal-bar, and display extraordinary muscular power and activity; Cornalla and Edie's turn succeeds chiefly by the extravagant drolleries of the comic partner in the game; Little Roberto plays nicely on the xylophone; and Bacchas and Mealan do some smart and eccentric dancing. The Bioscope, with an exclusive series of films representing the Proclamation of George V., is a very interesting item of the entertainment. Mr. H. J. Hitchins and his able acting-manager, Mr. A. Aldin, have plenty to do in attending to their many patrons; and the fine orchestra, under Mr. Cuthbert Clarke's careful and clever direction, performs some very enjoyable items in first-rate style.

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister has reintroduced to his public at the London Pavilion Mr. Charles Coborn, who, after a lapse of years, seems to lack nothing in the way of versatility and freshness. We once again feel the magnetism of the singer of "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo" and "Two lovely black eyes." But the solemnity of the nation's sorrow has inspired Coborn the singer to become Coborn the author. Collaborating with Mr. Medley Barrett, he has written a plain song of praise of "Good King Edward, great Victoria's son," under the title of "That's why the British loved the King." The verses, in their simple, natural eloquence, appeal with irresistible effect to an audience deeply touched by the universal grief; and it is only at the end of the song that the enthusiasm breaks forth. The tribute to the late King—"heart and soul an Englishman"—does honour to singer and composer, and there should be a great vogue for the number, which is published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.

The so-called spirit paintings by Dr. Wilmar cause a good deal of speculation as to how it's done. Mr. P. T. Selbit, who presents this "riddle of the century," invites the attendance of two gentlemen on the stage as a committee. By them the canvases are examined, and the pictures that are desired to be produced are chosen by number—apparently haphazard. Two empty canvases are placed in a large frame, and on the night of our visit a beautiful figure of a girl by Greuze gradually filled the canvas, but for Landseer's celebrated picture, "On Guard," indicated by the second number chosen, the equally famous "Dignity and Impudence" was substituted. The mystery is cleverly worked.

The Smart Set, in their refined drawing-room act, introduce a clever little lady in a coon song. The same comedienne also burlesques the vocal aspirant who comes to have her voice tried. There are lively choruses, and the sentimental lady vocalist is particularly chic and attractive. Early in the evening Miss Bessie Butt rejoices in a lively middy impersonation; and Mr. Tom Joy's doleful views of life are voted quaint. That charming actress-vocalist, Miss Cressie Leonard, is successful in her comedy song; and Mr. Chris. Van Bern, who calls himself, quite appropriately, an eccentric monologist, is something much more than that. He patters without ceasing, while working with much cleverness a few conjuring tricks, and is quite equal to a sentimental solo, as well as a burlesque on the banjo. Miss Eileen Douglas, who is accompanied at the piano by Mr. Edgar Favells, sings "Why can't a girl be a soldier," and cuts a very attractive figure as "Dolly, the dairymaid," who, however, loses her bucolic freshness after a visit to the great metropolis. The man at the piano assists "Dolly" in her comedy, and the turn is certainly an attractive one. Mr. Harry Claff, assisted by Miss Alice Tremayne, adopts the conventional stage costume of Mephistopheles in his fantasy *The Demon and the Fairy*. Miss Tremayne plays with charming naïveté, and sings with real charm a pretty ballad. The devil is quite merry and bright in his prattle concerning topical events, and the final duet is loudly applauded. Mr. Gilbert Girard has much improved his animal and instrumental mimicry, which meets with much favour; Mr. Berte Coote is as droll as ever in the melodramatic farcelet *A Lamb on Wall-street*; and other turns on the bill are Mr. Charles Carr, dancer; the Sisters Allen, duettists; Mr. Fred Walmsley, comedian; Mr. James Fawn, comedian; the Borghettis; and Henry and Tyler, trick cyclists.

THE COLISEUM.

Miss Cecilia Loftus is sharing the honour of heading the bill at this magnificent house, to which she returns with new imitations and some favoured old ones. Among the latter we may mention Harry Lauder, which is distinguished by rare fidelity to inflexions of voice and intonation. Nothing could be more exact, either, than the reproduction of the mannerisms and voice of Miss Ada Reeve in "Sue," with its concluding dance. This is a very triumph of counterfeit. Among the imitations new to the writer is that of Mme. Clara Butt in her singing of Liddle's setting of the hymn "Abide with me." In this we get an impression of the deep tones of the great contralto and of her majestic singing. For her imitation of Caruso Miss Loftus uses a very fine gramophone record of a solo by the great tenor, reproducing his exact tones by the side of the instrument. The experiment—a curious one—is justified by its complete success, and Coliseum audiences are once more delighted at the immense versatility and cleverness of an artist who is quite unapproachable in her line.

A most interesting interlude of the current bill is

"PUNCHINELLO,"

A Comedy in One Act, Adapted from the French by Hubert Carter.

Punchinello ..... MR. HUBERT CARTER
Nanon ..... MRS. CALHAEM
Diderot ..... MR. C. CROKER KING
Elise ..... MISS LUCIE MILNER

This little piece has been altered somewhat since its production in 1903 at the Grand Theatre, Fulham; but in its main features it remains much the same. The scene is Diderot's study, where the famous author of "The Paradox" has for his protegée Elise, the niece of a rich and stony-hearted banker. Punchinello, the banker's boon companion, comes to gossip, and persuades Diderot to let his publisher wait while he tells him how his wealthy patron has offered to take him to Switzerland; but he could not tear himself away from his beloved Paris. The banker is, however, suddenly taken ill, and dying intestate, his niece Elise will come into a fortune. Diderot looks through the dead man's papers—left with him—and discovers a will in which the old worshipper of Mammon has left his huge fortune solely to the drunken Punchinello. No one knows of the will, but Diderot hesitates to destroy it, and snatches it from the hands of his housekeeper after giving it to her to light the fire. Punchinello returns much the worse for liquor, and utterly disgusts Diderot with his boastings of the vain uses to which he will put the money. But the distress of Elise touches him to the quick; his better nature asserts itself; and he tears up the document that makes of him a rich man. Mr. Hubert Carter as the careless, good-humoured rascal who wears the motley is a graceful, finished actor, whose clear elocution penetrates to every part of the vast auditorium. Mr. Croker King is a good exponent of the philosophic Diderot; Mrs. Calhaem is quite equal to emphasising the humour of the kindly Nanon; and Miss Lucie Milner is a pathetic Elise.

Loyal's dogs seem to have reached perfection as acrobats and jugglers. One white poodle on horseback catches rings over his nose, also a number of sugar-loaf hats; but is even a greater marvel when he somersaults from a spring board over a number of attendants. Amélie de L'Enclos sings a romance, in which she reaches the B in *Alt*; Lukushima's Japanese pictures are highly interesting; and the Four Regals give a fine exhibition of muscular strength.

Mr. George Lashwood, known as the "vaudeville Beau Brummel," returns to this house time after time with renewed success. He has a particularly novel number in "Blow the scenery on the railway," in which, as a railway guard, he muses comically on the spooning of a newly-married couple on a honeymoon journey. The scene is the railway station at Sloppy Town, with a fine bit of pastoral country in the distance. The appearance of rapid movement in the second scene is secured by the production of special cinematograph effects; and there is no shadow of doubt that the number is in for a long run. Other turns in the bill include Arthur Woodville, light comedian; the New Macs, comedians and dancers; and the sketch, *Cook's Man*, already noticed in these columns.

THE TIVOLI.

The national sorrow for the loss of a beloved King has naturally affected the attendances at the halls, but to the complete closing of the theatres on Monday was undoubtedly due the large audience to be found at the Tivoli on that evening. The current bill presented by Mr. Joe Wilson is blessed with two comic sketches, the first of British origin, the second of American. Mr. Rutland Barrington and company appear in number one, which is entitled

"THE JUDGE AND THE LADY."

Mrs. Butterfield ..... MISS TREVOR LLOYD
Olive Lucker ..... MISS HILDA SIMS
Fred Wyatt ..... MR. LAMBERT PLUMMER
Bates ..... MR. ERIC BRIDGEMAN
Judge Lucker ..... MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON

Sir W. S. Gilbert in his work for the stage is no respecter of persons, especially of judges; but the author of the above trifle goes much further than the writer of *Pinafore* in loading with ridicule a member of the Judicial Bench. Judge Lucker is on circuit with his daughter and his confidential valet. As the song says, "Though his love is somewhat extensive, his past is really inoffensive." But Bates, who is getting his lordship's bath when the curtain rises, has knowledge of his master's little adventure some years ago at Liverpool, and readily defies that same master to get rid of him. Left for the night, the judge is disturbed by the arrival of Mrs. Butterfield, who has escaped from the country jail where she is incarcerated on a charge of bigamy, and comes to implore the judge not to condemn her. She is the heroine of the Liverpool escapade, and their mutual recognition is followed by an imperious demand that the judge—her old flame—shall let her off. As he is in his night attire, the situation for the judge becomes acute with the return of the judge's daughter, her fiancé, and Bates, and, hastily putting her on the couch, he covers over her and her baby. Mrs. Butterfield's claim to be Mrs. Lucker is endorsed by the judge for the purpose of fooling Bates, but his lordship does not count on becoming the father of the baby produced. Eventually it is discovered that Bates is the first husband of Mrs. Butterfield, and we may conclude that the bigamy charge is not proceeded with. Mr. Rutland Barrington cuts a comical figure in a bath-gown and slippers as the judge; Mr. Eric Bridgeman makes an alert and effective Bates; Mr. Lambert Plummer is a breezy Fred Wyatt; Miss Hilda Sims an attractive Olive Lucker; and Miss Trevor Lloyd an acidulated Mrs. Butterfield.

Mr. Edward Blondel in *The Lost Boy* plays a village zany, who comes on a visit to a fashionable lady living in good style in town. Comic cunning, clumsiness, and general stupidity are the qualities to be displayed by the comedian, who might, however, drop the prayer so unnecessarily introduced. A religious exercise of this description may at times add to the strength of a melodramatic situation, but in the sketch under notice it is quite unnecessary and out of place. Mr. Blondel is, however, genuinely humorous, and will undoubtedly become a favourite with the public. Miss Gladys Sears is announced as the American girl with many dialects, and justifies her description; Mr. Ernest Shand has a capital character in his "old tar"; and Mlle. Renée as an instrumentalist is equal to an obbligato on the ocarina, a posthorn galop, a selection on the cornet, and a saxophone solo, playing also a fantasia on a Brinsmead grand. A pretty woman and a most gifted performer.

The American contingent now in London has been increased by those clever and quaint dancers, Scott and Whaley, black eccentrics of the first water, who are cheered to the echo; Chirgwin introduces his bom-bass without a flourish of trumpets, and makes a good deal of fun; the Martinetts have a remarkable rag doll act, which has never been surpassed by any similar performance; and Miss Lillian Herlein, labelled the beautiful American songstress, sings operatic selections with culture and charm. The Alpine Singers and Dancers open their entertainment, "A Sunday Morning in the Alps," by singing "Ave Maria," and their harmonies, their jodelling, and their dancing make up a number that is very much applauded. Miss Victoria Monks and Mr. Phil Ray are old favourites here; and other turns include La Belle Alva, the gipsy peasant girl, who presents a particularly attractive turn; and Miss Lily Black. Ruffell's Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Despite recent events and when one might well expect to see a slump in business, the Holborn Empire is still playing to capacity. There is a very good all-round bill headed by the Messrs. Jewel's "comedy-drama," entitled *Change*. In the first scene we get the interior of a tavern where an intoxicated mariner informs us that fifteen years before Skipper Chamney, as his ship was going down, entrusted to his care a box for his daughter, but the inebriated one lost it. Silas, the brother of the dead skipper, occupies adjacent Chamney's Castle, where a ghost appears with the greatest regularity once nightly. Silas is a miser, and has in some way become possessed of his dead brother's gold—the money that was intended for his niece. The girl, who resides at the inn, has a sailor lover, and that individual organises an expedition to lay the ghost, and in doing so goes through many laughable adventures, and, incidentally, recovers his sweetheart's lost fortune. *Change* is well acted, and is undoubtedly a fine exhibition of stage craft. Every article of furniture about the baronial apartment of the haunted castle transforms itself into some terrifying item. Chairs turn into giants, a table changes form, and the meal that was spread upon it becomes a skull. Transformations too numerous to recall are seen, and Silas himself, on leaving his bedroom at the top of the staircase, gets a bad shock. Demons spring out from all sides and pitchfork him into a blazing fire. It is an amazing illusion, well thought out—well carried out. *Change* will be pounced upon by all variety managers who want a real attraction.

Velanche's football dogs are splendidly trained, and a big laugh. They play the game with all the zest of humans, and certainly excel our race on the score of energy. Dale and O'Malley were in good form on the night of our visit. The dancing of the Four Ascots is magnificent, but there should be no need for them to sing. Like clockwork they rain a hurricane of beats on a kind of wooden mat. Their act is smart, well-dressed, briskly presented, and was very welcome.

Ella Shields is a great favourite at the Holborn. She gives two numbers, and the boys want more. She sings of an airship built for two, and also the kind of girl they like in the army. Arthur Reece did very well, too, with his new song, "Bachelor days, good-bye!" Manager Leslie Conroy—alert, affable, smiling always—has the Brothers Berg, Norman Telma, Harry Champion, the Carina Sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Meymott, Wild, Willie, and West, and Gladys Revell included in this bill. During the week a magnificent picture of the Royal Heralds proclaiming the accession of King George V., and also scenes outside Buckingham Palace, and incidents in the life of the late King Edward VII. have been shown by the bioscope.

THE SURREY.

Loyal music hall frequenters in the South have taken full advantage of the gracious intimation of the new Sovereign that his subjects should not deprive themselves of amusement on account of the national calamity, and the Surrey has been more than ever crowded. Mr. Roy Cochrane, the energetic manager, relies to a large extent on dramatic pieces, and mounts them with a liberality that can hardly fail to make them attractive. His latest production is that of *Avenged*, a sketch by Eva Elnes, in which a thrilling story is followed by a novel climax. It

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE CORSICAN MAID.
MISS EVIE GREENE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SUMMER BOOKS NOW READY.

100 HUMOROUS SONGS 100
100 COON, SOUBRETTE, and CHORUS SONGS 100

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

tells how an unscrupulous German captain and cardsharper lands at Dover, where he gets into his toils the brother of the women he uses as a decoy. The latter insists that her brother shall be spared, but the gambler, nevertheless, fleeces him of his money, and offers to return it to him plus a goodly sum if he will surrender some important dispatches. The young officer indignantly refuses, and in a quarrel that ensues is stabbed to the heart. His sister determines on revenge, and, seizing the knife, challenges the foreigner to a duel. A prolonged struggle takes place, and the woman is nearly overcome, when the searchlight of a man-of-war lying in the harbour shines through the window full into the eyes of the man, who staggers back before the dazzling glare, and thus falls an easy victim to his adversary. The excitement of the playlet was well maintained by Miss Edith Lewis and her company, Miss Lewis acting with power and eloquent expression. Mr. Frederic Monti made a gallant and typical British officer, and Mr. Harry Seymour gave a properly sinister portrayal of the German spy. The effects of the piece are skilfully gained, the powerful lights obtainable at the Surrey enabling the chief scene to be presented with thrilling results.

The other dramatic piece of the bill is *A Divorced Woman*, presented by Mr. Fred Maxwell and his company. Mr. Maxwell was among the first to show the way in which a sketch might be mounted on the music hall stage, and in his latest production nothing is spared in the direction of realism, and the culminating scene of a "doss-house," wherein the adventuress of the piece meets with her deserts at the hands of an infuriated mob of women is capitally done. Mr. Maxwell is a rare favourite at the Surrey, and has quite an ovation on his appearance in the part of an Italian who follows his unfaithful mistress to England and takes a deep revenge. It is a part somewhat out of Mr. Maxwell's line, but he is quite equal to it, and completely realises the passionate nature of the Italian, gripping the house with the intensity of his acting in the last fateful scene. Miss Margaret Watson, in whom we seem to recognise an actress who trod the boards of the Surrey in leading parts before it was given over to variety, plays the adventuress on the most approved lines, as she has ofttimes done before, and her hypocritical smile is quite irresistible. Miss Minnie Sadler wins sympathy for the persecuted wife, whose mistaken husband is creditably impersonated by Mr. Leonard Harrison. Mr. Fred Bailey is responsible for the part of a young doctor, and a juvenile flower-seller is prettily played by Miss Grace Warden.

From the varied bill of fare might be selected for particular praise the performance of the Banzai Troupe of Japanese, whose acrobatic, balancing, and risley feats are performed in finished style before a gorgeous scene typical of Eastern magnificence. Another popular turn is that of the Gordon Girls, who in many pretty dresses grace the platform of a railway station, and go through a number of entertaining songs and dances, with interludes of humour provided by a porter with a delicious Scottish accent. Mr. Guy Ryder, who has a pleasing voice, wins favour for some clever whistling. Mr. Albert Letine makes quite a comely figure in crinoline, and also appears as an up-to-date serio; and other contributors to the bill are Miss Beattie Lyndon, comedienne; Diamond and Hart, comedians; Little Cherub, comedienne; and Bessie Neilson, in illustrated songs, together with a varied series of pictures. Mr. Carl Hamlin leads the band with his accustomed ability.

THE BEDFORD.

In conformity with our usual experience, we find that Mr. B. P. Lucas has a varied and interesting programme on hand for the current week. Miss Dolly Elsworthy, who heads the bill, is presenting the sketch *Nana*, a petite drama, dealing with the life of an actress. Miss Elsworthy plays with her accustomed skill, and gives a fine delineation of the title-rôle. She has excellent support from Mr. Benson Northy.

Rosali Jacobi, so aptly described as a dainty singer of dainty songs, makes a decided hit with her two numbers. The first, "I've got to stop at home and mind the baby," is very lively, the chorus being soon taken up. The second, of the ballad type, is entitled "I wonder if you'd miss me," which the vocalist sings most charmingly. Miss Lottie Stone's Four Marzipans sing and dance with much success; Gwen Francis, a dainty comedienne, has a taking song, "You want a sweetheart," and her little dog plays his part well, adding much to her success. Will Brockton's number, "A parson and a man," is a strong card, and delights the audience. A novel turn is given by Miss Agnes Molteno, who sings a song at the piano, the story of which is illustrated by a series of living pictures, most tastefully arranged.

Those who love a thrilling sketch should be well satisfied with Mr. Leon Dubois' production, *An Ape's Devotion*, which is the story of a pet Simian who lays down its life to save that of a child. Mr. Leon Dubois gives a fine impersonation of the ape, his make-up being wonderful. His various antics very cleverly realise the movements and gait of a monkey. Tod Lowen, a diverting comedian, keeps his audience in continual merriment; Lydia and Amelys present some characteristic French dances, and finish off with the popular Danse d'Apaches, which is capitally executed. The Claymore Trio are very neat in their work, which consists of dancing and club-juggling at the same time; the Aza Boys also provide a bright turn with their dancing, which is of the highest order, and their success is most marked. Larry Peate and his fights with his conductor provide an amusing interlude. An extra turn was announced on Monday, that of Mike Eman, a Hebrew comedian, whose initial effort here was most successful. He has some good patter and diverting parodies. He is also to be congratulated on the absence of exaggeration, to which comedians of this type are somewhat addicted. Mr. Arthur Edwards, the genial manager, is, as usual, at his post making all welcome.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

The inhabitants of Holloway and neighbourhood are well catered for at this handsome and commodious building, as a long succession of attractive programmes shows. This week many excellent and interesting turns figure in the bill. Mr. Fred Camp presides with great skill over the orchestra, and opens proceedings with a spirited rendering of Weber's overture "Oberon." One of the principal attractions is Will Evans, who first of all sings "Facts and figures," the humour of which is greatly enhanced by the comedian's droll delivery, followed by his up-to-date and amusing burlesque on the French play *Chantecler*, which is received with the heartiest laughter, the business throughout being screamingly funny.

Harry Marte scores with "White girl," and is seen to great advantage in his concluding dance, putting in a myriad of intricate steps with much skill; Mabel Sinclair, the premier lady ventriloquist, is very favourably received; and a refined vocal and instrumental act, contributed by the Channings, is rewarded with much applause. Esta Stella gets a good reception for her two songs, "I'm not at home to Charlie" and "The naval girls' brigade," and also scores with her neat and agile dancing.

The clever interlude of Heeley and Meeley, American knockabouts, is introduced by a comic entry from a loft that has considerable originality. Their performance is exceedingly smart, and the audience would fain have more of it. Acrobatism of the most eccentric kind runs riot throughout their performance, and the exertions of this clever duo bring down the house. A dancing novelty is introduced by La Berat, it being a unique and interesting performance, and welcome as a change from the ordinary items of a variety programme. La Berat's reception at the close was most cordial. The Gothams are responsible for plenty of harmonising vocalism, practical fun, dancing, &c., and are recalled again and again. Matthews and Cowper's sketch *When the Clock Went Wrong* added vastly to the gaiety of the audience; and great interest was centred in the up-to-date picture on the Bioscope of the proclamation of King George V. Mr. Bertie Ralland is the efficient acting-manager at this hall.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

In common with all places of amusement, this popular house has felt the effect of the recent national calamity, and on the occasion of our visit this week the attendance was poor in comparison with the usual state of affairs. The management, however, is extremely up to date, and among the Bioscope pictures that were of peculiar and pathetic interest were several showing the crowds in the vicinity of Buckingham Palace and in connection with the Proclamation of King George. Although there are no stars of outstanding brilliance this week, the company is of general excellence. Bert Errol gives an imitation of Miss Ruth Vincent in "Little Princess, look up," a popular number from *Amasis*, and subsequently sings "Il Bacio"; Cissie Lupino, a speciality dancer, has a great reception, obtaining the compliment of an encore; the Carlo Maie Trio, in a comedy acrobatic and wire act, *Fun on the Lawn*, provoke shouts of laughter with much that is new. Even the old business is well received. Webb, Branston and company, in a song-scena, *The Battle Eve*, display their fine voices to much advantage.

A sketch new to this house is presented by the Carlotta de Yonson company of players, including the famous pedigree bloodhound "Pedro." It is true "Pedro" has only a thinking part, but he fills it admirably. The sketch, entitled *The Case of the Kidnapped King*, is founded on one of the adventures of Sexton Blake, the detective, who is ably sustained by Mr. C. Douglas Carlisle; Messrs. Lee Gilbert, Geoffrey Lewis, Jas Duncan, J. Langford, and Chas. Carlisle give good support. Carlotta de Yonson takes the part of the Princess Ingra. The sketch is thoroughly well cast, well constructed, and the interest is well maintained. Other items on the programme are Baby Boden, Cole Cliffe, and Everard Denton.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

A capital entertainment is submitted to the patrons of this comfortable hall this week, and, considering all things, the attendance is very satisfactory. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, the leading attraction, scores a signal success with his three tuneful numbers—"I used to sigh for the silvery moon," "I want to go to Idaho," and "Moon, moon, moon." The choruses are taken up with enthusiasm by audiences, and his most artistic dancing is much appreciated.

Mr. Jack Fortescue, supported by a capable company, presents that well-known dramatic playlet *The Gambler's Wife*, which is inadvertently billed here as *The Price of a Life*. The villainous character of Culver Pierce is excellently sustained by Mr. Fortescue; the part of the gambler is undertaken with the greatest possible success by Mr. G. Casiello; and the smaller parts are well filled by Messrs. F. Vivian and C. Roe and Miss May Thomas. The sketch is greatly to the liking of the audience, and the company fully deserve the reception accorded it. Ted Waite, a comedian with an original style, keeps the house amused with his recital of the pessimistic view of life. A very entertaining ventriloquial show is that presented by Lydia Dreams with original ideas that cause much merriment. George and Tom Scholey score heavily in their comedy sketch *Winning a Wager*, the impersonation of a lady being very well done. Their two songs, "My maid of Mexico" and "Don't run after the men," both go very well. Cyclamina, as his name implies, presents an illuminated cycling speciality, which is greatly appreciated; Martinett and Wallace are responsible for a novel musical entertainment; Rita and Roma, the popular vocal duo, are heard to advantage in a musical number, "You naughty, naughty girl"; and Maggie Carr, Doris Warsaw, and Bert Brantford are also appearing. The Bioscope, with the portrayal of incidents connected with the life of our late King, brings the evening to a close. The orchestra is under the able leadership of Mr. H. Hatley, and Mr. L. F. Maloney, assisted by Mr. F. Durham, presides successfully over the destinies of the house.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

There is no lack of variety in the programme submitted to the patrons of this hall for the current week, and, a good standard of merit being maintained, the management are in consequence reaping their reward in the shape of full houses. At the top of the bill are Leonard Mortimer and company, in a three-tableaux sketch, *The Man of Forty Faces*, the author being Mr. T. W. Hanshew, which includes a series of riddles solved by ex-criminal Hamilton Cleek. The one chosen this week is *The Riddle of the Red Crowl*, which portrays some exciting situations produced by the endeavours of Hamilton Cleek to discover a gang of thieves who have stolen some important State documents from the office of Baron Carjorac, in the French capital. The sketch—a bustling one—is very popular, and is accorded loud applause at the finale. Hamilton Cleek is judiciously essayed by Mr. Leonard Mortimer, whose handling of this most prominent character satisfies all requirements, and a hearty welcome is bestowed upon his efforts; Mr. D. J. Hennessey is good as the Baron De Carjorac; Mr. E. H. Templeton makes the most of his opportunities as the dumb Craston Meroote; Dollops is humorously rendered by Mr. Howe Brough; while Margot and Ailsa Lorne are capably undertaken by Miss Constance Elgin and Miss Ida Clifford respectively.

Reg. Bolton offers a laughable comedy scena, *The Editor's Imp*, and his patter and songs catch on, and to mention one, "Always," goes well, and he meets with a cordial reception; Batt and Lynn, deputising for Jock and Willie, are extremely amusing in their chatter, the imitations of a shop-walker and also assistant producing much hilarity. Their clever dancing display also affords much pleasure, and they are duly rewarded. Molly Moore, a dainty comedienne, is heard to advantage in the song "In the Isle of Wight." Her other songs and dances are greatly appreciated. The juggling waiter, Essman, gives a clever exhibition, his numerous balancing feats with plates, bottles, and lighted lamps being neatly and successfully executed; Vera Wooten is a charming and popular turn, and fetches the audience in the song "Never let your left know what your right hand's doing," and her other song, "I've locked the parlour door, and I'm sitting on the key," goes well. Her dancing also has strong claims on the popular favour.

Paul Pelham scores highly in his contributions of "Good-night" and a descriptive song, "Two little drummer-boys." Jennie Lynwood trills her ditties in a pleasing fashion; and Claude Gardiner, who is a deputy for Barney Armstrong, sings in good style "I'm going to meet my girl" and "I do want a girl, I do," which are greatly appreciated. Several interesting films on the Bioscope, depicting recent historic events that have occurred in the life of our late King Edward VII. are sympathically though patriotically received.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

Under the tactful management of G. Wells, this popular outer-metropolitan hall continues to thrive in a very gratifying way, the increase in the audiences being quite a notable feature. The public, indeed, are responding well. An amusing sketch, which teems with funny situations, is *Toplitsky; or, The End of the World*. As Abraham Levy, a skinflint, Mr. Frank Bernard excels in a very diverting rendering of the Jew, who is a staunch disciple of the prophet Toplitsky; Sam, his son, is well played by Mr. Frank H. Dale; and the character of Esther, Sam's sweetheart, is in the capable hands of Miss Edith Martyn.

Miss Elsie Roby, an artist of considerable versatility, the original slavey at the piano, causes a great deal of hearty merriment, her droll impersonations of star performers being extremely funny and amusing. Harry Barford and company present a very emotional playlet *Cottage or Palace*. The company is a strong one, and includes the West End favourite, Mr. Albert Ward, who, in the character of Stephen Armitage, a fisherman, plays superbly. The other characters are well supported by the artists.

Miss Kitty Colyer is a very dainty and vivacious comedienne, and her song, "I'll be your gipsy man," was loudly applauded. Ventriloquism is capitally supplied by David Poole with his saucy shoeblack figure, and Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, is as popular as ever with his novel tumbling turn. He is also very amusing with his imitation of the hero in a drama. The Five Jovers are extremely clever in their acrobatic gymnastic novelty, some of their feats, especially with the springboard, being really astounding in their execution. The Sisters Geretti come in for rounds of deserved applause for their clever aerial trapeze act, and the lightning rapidity with which they perform numerous tricks is wonderfully exciting. Taree, the musical Australian bushman, gives a novel performance on two toy instruments, namely, a harp and a mouth-organ. His playing of "Whistling Rufus" and various imitations of a bagpipe, a drum and fife band, &c., are very clever and pleasing. Miss Rosie Bartlett, as a male impersonator, has a hearty reception, and Miss Victoria Monks heads the bill. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope remains a strong feature of the programme.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*

I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.

MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*

PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.

I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*

YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

Mr. GEORGE LASHWOOD. *The Music Hall Beau Brummel.*

MISTER PAT O'HARE.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*

GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*

NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*

IN THE ARMY.

COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

MR. JACK SMILES.
The Popular Comedian.
FISH SAUCE.

MISS ALICE TREMAYNE
Mr. Harry Claff's "Demon and the Fairy."
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 19.)

Mr. George Lashwood has during the past week been highly successful at the Coliseum with his finished rendering of Benjamin Hapgood Burt's naive comedy song, "Mister Pat O'Hare." The song recounts the adventures of a plausible Irishman, who induces the Sultan of Turkey to allow him to look round the latter's harem, on the pretext that the Hibernian's wife is hiding herself therein. Mr. Lashwood will also shortly exploit the same well-known American author's song "Sing, Kate, sing," with verses specially written for the English star by John P. Harrington. Both songs are published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.

In a telegram from Miss Ada Reeve is recorded the pleasing intelligence that Charles K. Harris's great American ballad "Nobody knows, nobody cares" is "enormously successful" with her at the Empire, Newcastle, where she is this week appearing. This is one of Feldman and Co.'s finest ballad publications.

A veritable triumph has been achieved by clever Miss Ella Shields at the Holborn Empire, where she is starring this week, and her two really great songs, "In the Army" (in which she asserts her decided preference for "the girl in black") and the simply irresistible chorus song, "Come by the drum in the big brass band," have been vociferously applauded by delighted auditors at every house. Both songs are written and composed by Mr. William Hargreaves, and are published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.

Miss Lilian Herlein, who is at the Tivoli, has just arranged with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. to "feature" immediately at all her engagements their two publications, "Every girl loves a military man," by Harrington, Godfrey, and Powell, and "I wonder who's kissing her now," by Hough, Adams, and Howard, with both of which numbers Miss Herlein is confident she will "make good" in the near future.

Numerous inquiries are now reaching the Arthur-street firm about the ballad "The mirror of your eyes," by Damerell, Lane, and Neat. All ballad vocalists in search of a number decidedly out of the ordinary may be recommended to make early application to the publishers for permission to sing this certain "winner." Miss Joan Deering, the "Gainsborough girl," is specially featuring it on the Macnaghten tour.

A song which certainly should prove one of the biggest ballad successes of the year is the new number, by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves, which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are publishing, and Mr. Charles King, of King and Benson, is producing at the Tivoli on Monday night, entitled "All in a day." The sentiment of the new ballad is eminently human, and the melody is quite out of the beaten track. We shall hear much of "All in a day" this season.

At the King's Theatre, Dundee, Mr. Mark Sheridan has been winning the suffrages of all auditors with his delightful rendering of "I do like to be beside the seaside," for which he has had yet another special scene painted. He is even more popular with this song at Dundee than he was at the Oxford and Tivoli recently. Another Feldman song with which Mr. Mark Sheridan will do well in the country is that catchy number, by Will Letters, "We're miles away from home."

At the London Pavilion during the current week dainty Miss Cressie Leonard has been received with acclaim in her rendering of "The green, green ribbon," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and other Feldman numbers, and her success has been as marked as it has been deserved.

At the Camberwell Empire during the present week Miss Lena Pinaud has been successfully exploiting a prominent number from the Feldman house, entitled "Hello! little girl," by Mellor, Gifford, and Godfrey, and the admirable chorus is taken up with avidity in all parts of the auditorium.

Miss Alice Tremayne, who, in conjunction with Mr. Harry Claff, is so successful at the London Pavilion and Collins's nightly in that delightful sketch *The Demon and the Fairy*, still continues to achieve a great artistic success with her cultured rendering of the charming Feldman ballad "I wonder if it's true?"

At the County Theatre, Kingston, Miss Barbara Babington is received with acclaim for her piquant interpretation of the popular Feldman number "I wonder who's kissing her now," and she will, in addition, sing the beautiful ballad, published by the same firm, "Beautiful garden of roses," when she opens at the Grand, Clapham, on Monday next.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

A programme containing the name of Marie Lloyd would have no difficulty in attracting large audiences anywhere, so that it was with no surprise that we noticed every seat was occupied when the curtain went up at Shepherd's Bush the other evening. England's premier comedienne was in as fine form as ever, and sang four songs, widely differing in character, in a manner that fully sustained her deservedly great reputation. Marie Lloyd is a genuine artist, and one has only to listen to her sing a couple of songs, such as, for instance, "The lady from over the water" and "The costers' ball," to be compelled to recognise this. The change from Marie Lloyd in the first song—beautifully gowned in a fashionable pale blue costume—to the Marie Lloyd in the second is one in which the costume really plays only a comparatively insignificant part. More remarkable changes are those that take place in the voice, walk, gestures, and general demeanour of this talented burlesque actress and singer. After singing "The Costers' Ball" Miss Lloyd reverts somewhat to the style of her first song, and—again beautifully dressed, this time in black—sings a number the title of which was not obvious, the first line of each chorus, however, commencing with the query "Hot?" Responding to the enthusiastic applause, Miss Lloyd sings another character song—an extremely clever and amusing one—entitled "I'll live in hopes, if I dies in despair."

Helene Donald, a soprano with an excellent voice, sings a song called "Sweetheart days," which is illustrated by pictures thrown upon the screen; and Cull Pitt causes great amusement with a really clever entertainment, in which conjuring is a prominent item. Roma and Romani are responsible for a good turn, playing cleverly upon a variety of musical instruments; and O'Malley and Brown are rewarded with much laughter for their excellent work as comedians.

Mimicry is always entertaining, and George Newburn is amongst the best of mimics. This week, in addition to giving imitations of Mark Sheridan, Sam Mayo, Harry Lauder, and George Lashwood, he gives an imitation of George Formby which fairly brings the house down. Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," contributes a turn which gives much pleasure; and the Prince Milner Trio give a pot-pourri act of considerable merit and originality, introducing wire-walking, acrobatic tumbling and hoop-manipulating.

King and Benson prove as popular as ever with their musical burlesque, entitled *Around the Town*, their singing and humorous acting being of high quality. The Bioscope this week, in addition to depicting a comic story, is showing interesting pictures of the proclamation of King George V.

The management of the hall continues in the more than capable hands of Mr. Lewis Vincent, and he has an admirable assistant in Mr. Herbert Mack.

RINKING GOSSIP.

John Davidson's Doings.

JOHN DAVIDSON has this year performed at Earl's Court, and no less than seven suburbs of London. Among the towns he has been in England in his professional capacity are Bedford, Birmingham, Nottingham, Worcester, Sheffield, Carlisle, Rochdale, Bournemouth, Bristol, Cardiff, and also Belfast. His entertainment is entirely different from the regular routine taken up by other professional skaters, and includes several very difficult and dangerous performances. One of the features of his entertainment is the speed at which his tricks are executed. He started his skating on the ice, and has been all over Europe and in England, on artificial ice rinks at London and Brighton. When he has finished his present tour in England, Mr. Davidson intends going to Australia.

Allie Moore for Bournemouth.

THERE are some big attractions for Whitsuntide at the Westover Gardens Rink, Bournemouth. An engagement with Allie Moore has been arranged for the week commencing May 23. He will, therefore, be following very shortly after the starring engagement of Jessie Darling.

A Rink Romance.

AT the Garden Rink, Bridlington, Mr. Lawrence A. Williams, the genial manager, has been receiving the congratulations of the frequenters of this popular resort upon the manner in which he has contrived to "wheel" into the heart of the lady instructor, Miss A. M. Illingworth, and as it was "secretly" known that a wedding might be the outcome of their rinking instructions to each other, their friends had prepared themselves to attend at the marriage ceremony with motor-cars and a large supply of confetti. Mr. Williams, however, is very shy; so the couple went quietly off to church on the Sunday morning a week before their friends expected the event to take place, and were on duty on the Monday as if nothing had happened. The joke was much enjoyed, and in spite of being "had," their many friends joined in wishing them long life and happiness, and a hope that they may "rink" together through life on a "smooth floor."

A Rush for Instruction.

MR. HARRIS'S offer to instruct a hundred ladies in the art of waltzing, two-stepping, and square dancing at the Rupert-street Rink, Bristol, met with such success that another hundred were taught during the afternoons of the week just closing.

Brighton Skating Rinks.

A FEATURE of the English Skating Rinks at Brighton—the Grand Rink, West-street, and the Olympia, Church-street—is the sporting events. In this direction Mr. Reed and the management have made a new departure, by arranging a series of hockey matches between the lady teams representative of each rink. To give the events an added zest, handsome gold medals are offered for the team which wins the first three matches out of five.

Clacton Palace of Varieties.

IN a report to be submitted to a statutory meeting of the shareholders of the Clacton Palace of Varieties and Skating Rink, Ltd., at Clacton, the directors say that the takings have exceeded their expectations, and in view of the fact that these takings are spread over what is admittedly the worst period of the year so far as a seaside resort such as Clacton is concerned, the board regard the success which has been obtained as a most happy augury for the prosperity of the company during the ensuing summer season. The directors attribute much of the success which has been obtained to the fact that it has been their aim to offer the best possible entertainment at popular prices. The directors believe that the company will have a valuable revenue producer in the extensive palace grounds, and in view of the proved success of out-door rinks at other seaside resorts they intend to make the fullest use of these grounds by constructing a large open-air rink to accommodate about 1,000 skaters at a time.

Crewe Rink.

THERE was a record crowd at this popular little rink on Saturday last, on the occasion of a ladies' hockey match between the Ladies' Rink Hockey Club and the Tunstall Station-road Hockey Club, which, after an interesting game, resulted in a clever win for the Crewe ladies by four goals to nil. The goal scorers were: Miss Badger (2), Miss Allman (1), Miss Kitchen (1). This is the ninth match played by this clever team, and they have not yet been defeated. A two-step competition is announced for this week, the final of which will take place on Whit-Monday.

The Dundee Rinks.

OWING to the death of King Edward, the Gala Sports Week at the Olympia Skating Palace has been postponed until after the funeral. The date will be duly announced. At the Melrose Terrace Rink Mr. Alfred Ross, the new manager, has everything in fine working order. The floor is in the pink of condition.

Ilford to Keep Open All Summer.

THE grand fancy dress masked carnival, to celebrate the anniversary of the opening of this rink, was held on Friday of last week, and thanks to the splendid efforts of all concerned, the result was a stupendous success. There was a very large gathering of skaters in fancy costume, and the rink was quite an array of colour. It speaks volumes for the excellent management of Mr. Fred Leighton and his staff of assistants that everything went off without the slightest hitch. Numerous prizes were awarded for the most original, grotesque, and prettiest costumes of both ladies and gentlemen. In addition to the masked carnival, a very pretty Maypole performance was given by eighteen local boys and girls, in costumes representing various countries of the world. Mr. Leighton announces that the rink will be open throughout the summer.

Skating Rink for Long Eaton.

LAST week the Alexandra Skating Rink, just erected in Long Eaton, was formally opened by Mrs. F. W. R. Wallis, in the presence of a large attendance. The rink is built on the corner site of Broad-street and Albert-road, off the Sawley-road, and has a skating space of 150ft. by 70ft. The total space of the building is 170ft. by 100ft. The floor is of rock maple.

Maida Vale Rink.

MR. R. F. J. MOORE, the press and advertising manager of the Maida Vale Rink, has succeeded Mr. Larthe as assistant-manager there. He is thoroughly capable and competent for the post, and should prove a worthy acquisition to the managing staff. Although young, he has had considerable experience in the amusement world, having been connected with other rinks in a similar capacity. In 1905 he visited Australia (where he first started as a journalist), South Africa, and Spain, and his journalistic energies found full scope in several of the Colonial papers. On returning to England he again took up the profession, with which he has been connected ever since. His appointment should prove a popular and successful one.

Maidenhead Rinking.

THE Maidenhead Rink was closed last Saturday on account of the death of the King, but good business is being done this week. The building has been enlarged by providing additional accommodation for onlookers.

The Phillips Trio.

THE Phillips Roller Skating Trio of Manchester—Fred, Frank, and Doris, aged 17, 12, and 10 years respectively—appeared at the Pavilion Roller Rink, Prestbury-road, last week, and delighted the excellent crowds of spectators which assembled with their remarkably clever exhibitions of fancy and trick-roller skating. Considering that the trio have only been skating for ten months, and only turned professionals about two months ago, owing to being debarred from amateur competitions, anyone who saw the exhibition will agree that the skaters should have a successful career in the rinking world. Already they have appeared at a number of the leading rinks in the country. The wonderful tricks by Fred, especially on the pair of skates with only front rollers, were of a very clever character. The very graceful style of the girl skater was also greatly admired, and, on the whole, the exhibition was the best yet seen in Macclesfield.

Mansfield to Close for Summer.

THE closing of the Mansfield rink for the summer vacation has been postponed until May 21.

New Rink at Philadelphia.

IN the presence of a large and representative company, a handsome and commodious new skating rink was opened on Monday last. Later in the evening the skating arena was taxed to its utmost capacity, and the arrangements made by the management were of a perfect order. The new rink is in close proximity to the Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring, cars passing frequently.

Keen on Hockey in Rhondda.

THE Rhondda Ladies' Hockey Team visited Tony-pandy rink, and met a representative gentlemen's team, and were defeated by three goals to one. The ladies had plenty of pluck, and must be congratulated on playing such an excellent game. The Porth ladies are very anxious to meet any ladies' team, and would esteem it a great favour if secretaries will communicate with their manager, Mr. Ernie Price, 11, John-street, Porth. On Tuesday last a hockey match took place between Mountain Ash and Porth, the home team (Porth) winning by two to nil. This match was the finest game that has been played here. The one mile challenge race issued by the Mountain Ash Hockey team to the Rhondda was held at the Porth rink on Tuesday last. Mr. Baker, of Penygraig, was the winner by nearly half a lap. In conversation with our representative, Mr. Rollason, the manager of the rink, outlined a scheme in connection with the rink which will gladden the hearts of the Rhondda rinkers. It will be announced very shortly.

To Please Your Patrons,

To Ensure Large Attendances at Your Rinks,

To Avoid Heavy Repair Bills,

BUY 'BRAMPTON' ROLLER SKATES

Made by the leading firm of Cycle Fittings Manufacturers, "Brampton" Skates are without question the strongest & easiest running obtainable

Largest and most complete stocks of Brampton, Winslow, Phillips, and Union Roller Skates and repair parts. Promptest deliveries—lowest prices.

BROWN BROTHERS, LTD.,

GREAT EASTERN STREET, LONDON, E.C.

DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS IN DICKENS-LAND.

To fulfil a promise of some years' standing, Mr. Bransby Williams appeared this week at the Gaiety, Chatham, and presented a series of his Dickens impersonations to crowded and enthusiastic audiences. As was to be expected of so ardent a Dickensian, Mr. Williams made his professional visit to the heart of Dickens-land one of pleasure also by taking the opportunity of revisiting once more the numerous places of note associated with the works of the great novelist. Like a true Pickwickian, he not only stayed at the Bull Hotel, Rochester, but occupied the famous Pickwick bedroom therein. He found the old inn somewhat modernised, but was delighted to discover that Mr. Snell, the present proprietor, was doing all in his power to make the hotel worthy of the great associations it has with a great book of a great writer.

During his stay in Rochester Mr. Williams, accompanied by Mrs. Williams and their friend, Mr. B. W. Matz, the editor of the *Dickensian*, visited Gad's Hill Place, the Leather Bottle, Cobham, Chalk, Shorne, and, of course, all the historical places of interest in Rochester and Chatham. Of the latter, the one thing that interested him more than another was the Watts historic charity of the "Six Poor Travellers." Having gone all over the building during the morning, and learnt all that was to be known about it, he obtained permission to visit it again in the evening, in order to have a chat with the six poor travellers assembled for the night. And so, dressed in the costume of the Dickens period, he was admitted in the evening, and had audience of the men. Mr. Matz spoke a few words in introducing Mr. Williams, but found it almost unnecessary, as all knew him by name, and some had seen his performances. The men represented the following trades: Florist, cabinet-maker, gardener, labourer, and bricklayer; and, after a friendly chat, Mr. Williams entertained them with a recital from Dickens's books. Before leaving he presented each with a packet of tobacco and a sum of money to be added to the fourpence they would receive by right in the morning.

It was an interesting event, and carried the mind back to the day when Dickens himself did a similar action, which resulted in the publication of the Christmas story of "The Seven Poor Travellers," Dickens reckoning himself as the seventh.

On another day during his stay Mr. Williams went to Dover, but was terribly disappointed to learn that, beyond the sacred little spot in the Market Square there, nobody seemed to be interested in the Dickens association with the town. He also visited Canterbury and its Dickens houses. But in the cathedral the spots that riveted his attention most were those associated with Becket, which brought back to him vivid scenes of Irving's great impersonation.

On Thursday evening Mr. Williams was entertained to supper at the Bull Hotel by members of the local branch of the Dickens Fellowship.

MR. RICHARD MORTON, the writer of "Ta-ra-ra," has contributed to *John Bull* some account of its origin and development. Says he:—"It was Mr. Cooney who sent his wife, from America, a copy of a song called 'Ta-ra-ra-boum-der-é,' described as by Henry Sayer. It contained two verses only, and the melody did not indicate the famous "boom" which, with the clash of the drum and cymbals, was the feature of the production. Miss Collins showed me the song in its original immature state, and, with the genius of a true artist, pointed to the weak spot and told how she would remedy it. 'Write me some fresh verses,' she said; 'these American ones are no good—they never are!—and leave the dance to me.'

"I wrote the song of 'Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay,' as sung by Miss Collins, while we sat at the dinner-table, altering and adapting the lines of the American edition, and adding third and fourth verses of my own. One adapted verse and my two original verses formed the song that Miss Collins produced with electrical effect within seven days. It was one of the quickest 'studies' I have ever known.

"REGARDING the age and origin of the air of 'Ta-ra-ra,' I proved at the time in the columns of *Truth* that the melody was that of an old folk-song from the neighbourhood of the Balkans. Taken to America by emigrants, it became a kind of rough chorus in the nigger houses. The rest of the story I have now told here. I need only add that, in the days of the 'Boom,' *Punch* wrote my epitaph. I have not yet had occasion to use it."

MR. BEN WOODGER, Secretary, Music Hall Home, desires to thank the following for gifts as indicated:—Walter Norman, King's Theatre, Gainsborough, 5s. 6d.; the Dayton Family, 5s.; Geo. Weldon, Hippo. Picture Palace, Dewsbury, 16s.; Harry Smith, "The Old Bell," Wellington-street, Strand, 10s. 6d.; Henry C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, 7s. 8d.; H. Wood, Tivoli Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness, 2s. 6d.; Walter Hassan, Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, £2 10s.; Geo. Marsh, Empire, Dublin, £1 5s. 8d.; *The Encore*, Ltd., 10s. 6d.; Nelson Francis (Empress, Brixton), £2 10s.; Arthur R. Harrison (Hippodrome, Bolton), 8s. 6d.; also Jim Marco, of the Marco Twins, for presenting one of the inmates of the Music Hall Home with useful clothes, and Mr. Edwards, Montpelier, Walworth-road, for kindly taking a pence collecting box.

A NUMBER of collecting cards are still out, and the holders are asked to return them, with the amounts, to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. A committee meeting will be held June 2 at the Empire, Camberwell, at twelve noon.

MR. CHARLES URBAN has made the most complete arrangements for presenting at the Palace Theatre in due course scenes of the funeral of King Edward the Seventh, which should be gratifying news to thousands of loyal Britons who from various reasons will be precluded from witnessing the sad pageant of Friday next in actuality.

MR. WALTER NORMAN, manager of the King's Theatre, Gainsborough, and a popular Terrier, wired condolence to Queen Alexandra and King George V. on Saturday, and on Monday received the following telegraphic acknowledgments: "The King thanks you for your kind message of sympathy.—Equerry." "Queen Alexandra deeply appreciates your kind sympathy."

THE new *fantaisie chorégraphique*, designed by M. Adolf Bolm and executed by Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, the *première danseuse* of the Empire Theatre, in conjunction with M. Bolm, has proved in every way a further revelation of their art. "The Princess and the Slave" is particularly attractive with its "pas de fascination," and their "Valse de Fleurs" and "Valse Idylle," with the delightful early Victorian costumes, similar to those worn by Taglioni, has also been specially singled out by enthusiastic audiences at the Empire. Pictures showing the historic Proclamation of King George V. were exhibited on the screen at the Empire on Tuesday.

AT the Stoke-on-Trent Hippodrome Miss Jessie Danvers and company present with dramatic effect an incident of real life, entitled *The Key*. Zellini as a comedy juggler provokes amusement; Edwardes and Edwardes are smart in a musical speciality and dancing act; the Lancashire dialect contributions of Alice Craven are heartily received; and Norah Desmond has excellent slides for her picture songs. Also to be noted are Cavalli, Harry Martell, and the Perfection Pictures.

"THE DEADBEAT."

A New and Original Dramatic Episode of Western Life, by John Raynor, Produced at Sadler's Wells on Monday, May 9.

The Pard ..... MR. WEBSTER NORCOTT
The Scottie ..... MR. MAX COPLAND
The Long'un ..... MR. WEILAND FISCHER
The Broncho ..... MR. SCOTT ADIE
The Wife ..... MISS MAMIE RENDLE
The Baby ..... BY HIMSELF
The "Deadbeat" ..... MR. BERNARD MERVYN

In *The Deadbeat*, Mr. Bernard Mervyn has undoubtedly got a winner. It is human, it is natural, it is simple, and, well acted as it is, goes right to the heart. The "Deadbeat" and the Pard have dissolved partnership because a girl with whom both of them are in love has chosen the Pard. After their marriage, the "Deadbeat" has gone to the dogs, and has spent most of his time drinking in the bar of the Rest and be Thankful. In due time a son and heir comes to the Pard and his young wife, and after that the christening.

All the boys in the camp are invited, except the "Deadbeat," and whether by accident or design, he finds himself left out in the cold. This he takes very badly, and tells the miners who are taking presents for "the little Nib" that he intends to turn up too. And he keeps his word. Just as the revelry is about to start, in stalks the "Deadbeat" into the Pard's cabin, where one and all have been admiring the baby, safely tucked up in his cradle. He puts his hand into his pocket to take out the present he has brought for "the Kid," but the miners, thinking he intends to do the baby harm, cover him with their revolvers. The "Deadbeat" is broken-hearted at this treatment, and appeals to his former Pard to trust him. Whereupon the two shake hands, the miners are bidden to put up their "guns," and the "Deadbeat" draws from his pocket a big bag of gold—all that is left of the division when he and the other man had "dissolved"—and gives it to the little chap in the cradle. That he is not trusted by his fellow-men goes to his heart, and he leaves the cabin. There is the sound of a revolver shot——!

Mr. Bernard Mervyn may be heartily congratulated on his latest creation—the "Deadbeat." He is always forceful, manly, and gets everything to be got out of a part that fits him like a glove. The drolleries and the canny behaviour of Mr. Max Copland as Scottie are extremely good. In fact, the entire cast is an extremely capable one.

Johnny Hurley, a character coster comedian with a nice taking, quiet style, and a good voice, also in this programme, will be well appreciated wherever he goes. Cissie Carter's jodelling is extremely good, and Beale and Broadway are smart dancers.

Gus Harris is a Hebrew artist who sings of the promised land with all the fervour of the patriot he is. The scenery for this song is very fine. Mr. Harris rather forces his voice, and works very hard. His act is undoubtedly novel. The Dickens girl, Arabella Allen, was responsible for two character studies from the master: Uriah Heep and Little Nell's Grandfather. Very clever studies, both.

The Drury Lane comedians, Queen and Le Brun, were in good form, and tickled the ribs of their audience very frequently during their ten minutes' turn, and Josephine Crook sang two illustrated songs very nicely.

"LITTLE JOHNNIE JONES,"

Light Comedietta, Words by H. M. Vernon, Lyrics by Preston Wynee, Music by Frank Toms, Dances Arranged and Produced by Fred Farren, Musical-Director Mr. Ernee Woodville, Produced at the Tottenham Palace on Monday, May 9.

Little Johnnie Jones ..... MR. JOHN HUMPHRIES
Fannakapan ..... MR. CHARLES CAUTLEY
The Nightingale Queen-Mother ..... MISS BEATRICE GROSVENOR
Aurelia, Princess Royal ..... MISS MABEL DANBY
Righto ..... MR. CHARLES SEGUIN
Jinks ..... MR. P. PRESANO

There is not a dull moment of the thirty minutes that this sketch occupies the boards of the Tottenham Palace this week. The number is replete with merry and bright situations, songs, and dances, woven round a story which, if not particularly strong, is, nevertheless, sufficiently interesting to claim the immediate attention of its audience. Little Johnnie Jones is a nautical man with an ambition which soars very high. In short, he desires to become an aeronaut, and in an experimental trip with Mr. White, the flying machine takes a "John Gilpin" fit and bolts away with the pair to "lands beyond the seas." The erratic plane finds a resting-place in Do Do Land, an isle which has just lost its king. Legendary lore decrees that a white man shall reign some day over the natives, which, by the way, include as bonny a bevy of dusky maidens as ever De Rougemont could conjure up in his mind's eye. Whilst the Grand Vizier is announcing the decree from the throne the aeroplane drops from the skies, causing consternation and wonderment amongst the copper-coloured tribe. The great prediction has come to pass, and Little Johnnie Jones steps into the vacancy, and is duly proclaimed King of Do Do Land. How the girls love him! How they worship his milk-white skin and lily-white hands! How do they pet and pat him! All this goes on under the jealous eye of the Grand Vizier, who, but for the appearance of Johnnie Jones, would himself have become the king, according to the laws of Do Do Land. His male satellites, too, can see themselves usurped in the affections of the ladies by the little sailor, and together they conspire to burn him at the stake. Faggot on faggot is piled round their victim, but, ere the flaming brand is applied Princess Aurelia comes to the rescue, and severs the bonds which hold her white lover from the skies. Then a battle royal commences, and things look awkward for Little Johnnie Jones, until Jinks, of H.M.S. Destruction, puts in a timely appearance and makes things "happy ever after." Filling the title-rôle, Mr. John Humphries displays a rich fund of humour; Mr. Charles Cautley as the plotting Grand Vizier is awe-inspiring in his methods; and Miss Mabel Danby interprets Princess Aurelia in charming fashion.

THE QUEEN-MOTHER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—

"We are thy warriors, lady,
True to the Cross and thee;
The spirit of thy kindling words
On every heart shall be,"

These words, by Mrs. Hemans, naturally rise to the mind on reading the profoundly pathetic and moving appeal to the British nation of our revered Queen-Mother, Alexandra. Could it be given her to read the thoughts of those who have known her so long, and loved her so sincerely, it would relieve her own sorely-burdened heart, if any vestige of doubt as to the abiding hold which her goodness, charity, and untiring interest in her people's best interests have given her upon the heart of the entire nation. Amongst the names of the great ones who have adorned and beautified the high places of this wondrous Empire, surely will that of Alexandra fill a most prominent place! The heartfelt and sincere sympathies of all connected with the stage, in the prosperity upon which she has always bestowed a most sympathetic and encouraging recognition, will go freely out towards her as Queen, as widow, as mother, and as woman. That she may live long amongst us to continue the good and gracious work which has always been her delight is the earnest prayer of us all.—Yours truly,

CHARLES COBORN.

London Pavilion, W., May 12.

"FATE."

Dramatic Episode, in One Scene, by Gerald Wyatt, Produced at the Balham Hippodrome on Monday, May 9.

Frank Dawson ..... MR. JACK BYAM
Wang Toe ..... MR. ALFRED WIGLEY
Head Warder ..... MR. ALEC MARSH
Jack Caven ..... MR. GERALD WYATT

Sharing with Mr. Fred Russell premier place in the bill is a sketch called *Fate*, which does not attempt to deal in any academic manner with the problem suggested by the title, but provides a quarter of an hour of dramatic excitement, ending with a decided thrill. The booming of guns at the outset of the playlet denotes the escape from Dartmoor of a prisoner. He seeks refuge in the cottage of an explorer, who has become the possessor of a jewel taken from the Kimberley mines, and tells his tale to the startled inmate, showing how it is due to fate that he was wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to penal servitude. The convict is bidden to go upstairs to bed, while his benefactor dozes in a chair. Then a bony arm steals through the window and unfastens the latch, and the gaunt figure of a Chinaman creeps into the room, stabs the sleeping man, and, securing the jewel, departs by the way he came. The convict, aroused by the murdered man's death shriek, returns to the room and withdraws the knife that is still embedded in his breast, just as the police authorities enter, and find in the weapon in the convict's hand convincing proof that he is the assassin—another instance of the inexorable "fate" that has dogged him throughout. The exciting incidents were effectively portrayed by Mr. Gerald Wyatt and company, Mr. Wyatt giving a dramatic rendering of the convict, and delivering a long, descriptive speech with eloquent expression. Mr. Jack Byam, an actor with a remarkably resonant voice, played sympathetically as the Explorer; and Mr. Alfred Wigley created a sensation by the realistic way in which he made the Chinaman accomplish his bloodthirsty deed. Mr. Alec Marsh was good as the Head Warder.

Humour is the chief recommendation of the other sketch which adorns Mr. E. W. Hancorne James's well-assorted bill. It is found in *The Honeymoon Baby*, the diverting incidents of which are thoroughly sustained by Mr. Cameron Matthews and his company. Mr. Fred Russell is the cause of many mirthful moments with his favourite "Coster Joe," who is as bright and perky as ever. Impressions of series are furnished by Miss Daisy Yates, who cleverly contrasts the singing by Miss Julia Mackay of "Say au revoir" with the impersonation of a jaunty "coster millionaire." Miss Yates also figures as an "up-to-date comedienne," in the course of which she sings a coon song, accompanying herself with a cleverly executed acrobatic dance.

The "light fantastic" is also indulged in by Mr. Dan Thomas, who adds to his "dame" song a burlesque of what is known as the classical dance, his antics in tights under the rays of the limelight causing a good deal of laughter. An old friend is seen in Captain Kettle, who this time figures in the capacity of the "king of coin manipulators," and varies his tricks with cards and coins with some amusing "patter." The Five X-Rays carry through with indefatigable spirit an "acrobatic cyclone of comedy"; excellent pictures of a train-ride through Canada are exhibited on the Bioscope; and other items of the programme are contributed by Stuart and Morris, comedy pair; the Two Vestas, clever juveniles and dancers; Maud and Sydney Wood, duettists and dancers; and Stanley Bart, comedian. The orchestra is skilfully led by Mr. Lawrie Owen.

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.

A programme of interesting variety is being placed before the patrons of the above comfortable hall this week. A particularly pleasing feature of the performance is the appearance of Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lilian Roseberry in their successful sketch *The Would-be Actors*. It would be difficult to find a piece of its kind containing more genuine humour. Mr. Carter Livesey in the rôle of the country actor-manager is exceedingly funny; Miss Lilian Roseberry ably supports him as the heroine; and a more absurdly mild villain that Mr. Leo Minster could scarcely be imagined. The sketch, which goes with a swing from start to finish, is much appreciated. Miss Gladys Warren is a comedienne of no mean order; and Wyotti proves himself a skilful juggler of a jocular description, who does much of a highly-entertaining nature. Mr. Larry Peate has a good song in "I'll do you a little bit of good," out of which he creates a vast amount of merriment. He has a bet with the musical-director that he (the musical-director) will not sing the chorus by himself, but this gentleman is quite equal to the task, and sings the required chorus amidst much applause. Mr. Chas. Carr proves himself a smart vocalist and a particularly good dancer. His songs, "Gee! I wish I had a girl" and "I don't want your elegant motor-car," are rendered in a manner worthy of warm praise.

The Maid of Polaria, as presented by Miss Peggy Lennie and Mr. Walter Hast, was fully reported in our columns a short time ago, and it was then stated that their little piece should prove successful wherever performed. This prophecy was quite fulfilled here on Monday, when the scena went with unmistakable appreciation. Mr. Walter Hast uses his fine rich voice to advantage in his number "With you, sweetheart, with you"; and Miss Peggy Lennie sings with charm and skill "Come and catch me if you can." Mr. David Urquhart is a very satisfactory Antonio, the gondolier.

Mr. Arthur Leslie's quaintness successfully carries him through his songs. He impersonates Wilkie Bard and sings "Sneezes," and afterwards, as Mark Sheridan, contributes "The old days." In each case his voice and mannerisms are so well adapted that it would be difficult to tell him from the artist he imitates. Victor's Juveniles, a clever band of miniature vocalists, dancers, and mimics, give a fine display of their ability; Miss Kitty Colyer dances with considerable neatness and precision; Mr. Albert Le Fre has no difficulty whatever in arresting appreciative attention, his whole performance being the essence of humour throughout.

A playlet containing the genuine comedy element is found in *A Man of Spirit*, presented by Mr. Daley Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait. The story tells of a wife who has a liking for soldiers, and who imagines she would like a military husband with spirit, and one who would knock her about if necessary. Her husband overhears this, and determines to act according to her wishes, and dresses in an old uniform he has by him. However, his harsh manner does not quite appeal to the wife, who eventually comes to her senses. The sketch creates roars of laughter. The entertainment concludes with a display of the latest films by the Empire Bioscope. Mr. T. G. Richards is the energetic and courteous general-manager here, and the orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Wm. McDonald.

MR. CHARLES COBORN produced at the London Pavilion last Monday a revised version of a song originally written by Mr. Medley Barrett, entitled "Why did the British love the King?" the wording of which Mr. Coborn has altered to accord with the present situation. The song, which was inserted by Mr. Glenister in the current programme, has met with most gratifying success, and Mr. Coborn will be pleased to give permission to other artists to sing it should they so desire. The music and words can be obtained from Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing Cross-road, W.C., who are the publishers of the original song.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Amersham, on the Metropolitan; Appleby, on the Midland and North-Eastern; Bakewell, on the Midland; Biggleswade, on the Great Northern; Bilston, on the Great Western; Birkenhead, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Blackheath, on the South-Eastern and Great Northern; Blockley, on the Great Western; Cartmel, on the Furness; Castleford, on the Great Northern and North-Eastern; Cheltenham, on the Great Western, Midland, and Midland and South-Western Junction; Clevedon, on the Great Western; Cockermouth, on the Cockermouth, Keswick, and Penrith, and Metropolitan and Carlisle; Coltishall, on the Great Eastern; Dalton-in-Furness, on the Furness; Evesham, on the Great Western and Midland; Garston, on the London and North-Western; Great Harwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hampstead Heath, on the North London, Metropolitan, and Metropolitan and District; Helston, on the Great Western; Hendon, on the Midland; Hinckley, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Horbury Feast, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ilkley Feast, on the Midland and North-Eastern; Jarrow-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern; Lichfield, on the London and North-Western; Malvern, on the Great Western and Midland; Middlesbrough, on the North-Eastern; Morecambe, on the London and North-Western and Midland; New Brighton, on the Wirral; Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern and North British; Northampton, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Midland; Oulton Feast, on the Midland; Portsmouth, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast and London and South-Western; Reigate, on the South-Eastern; Richmond (Surrey) on the London and South-Western, North London, Metropolitan, and Metropolitan and District; Rushden, on the Midland; Ryde, on the Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Central, London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western; Salford, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and London and North-Western; Southport, on the London and North-Western, Great Central, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Cheshire lines; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; St. Ives (Hunts), on the Great Eastern and Midland; Taunton, on the Great Western and Midland; Torksey, on the Great Central; Wanstead Flats, on the Great Eastern; Wormwood Scrubs; York, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, North-Eastern, Great Northern, and Midland; Alford, on the Great Northern; Ashford, on the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover; Bognor, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Brentford, on the London and South-Western; Camborne, on the Great Western; Earlestown, on the London and North-Western; Fakenham, on the Great Eastern and Great Northern; Halesworth, on the Great Eastern; Haslingden, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Leighton Buzzard, on the London and North-Western; Longton, on the North Staffordshire; Melton Mowbray, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Methley Feast, on the Midland and Great Northern; Newton-le-Willows, on the London and North-Western; Penrith, on the London and North-Western; Sheffield, on the Great Central, Great Northern, Midland, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Askam-in-Furness, on the Furness; Barnard Castle, on the North-Eastern; Bedworth, on the London and North-Western; Broadway (Worcester), on the Great Western; Broughton-in-Furness, on the Furness; Elmley, on the London, Chatham, and Dover; Hitchin, on the Great Northern and Midland; Leek, on the North Staffordshire; Over (Cheshire), on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Truro, on the Great Western; Workington, on the London and North-Western and Cleator and Workington; Adwalton Feast, on the Great Northern; Bacup, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Birmingham, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Western; Buckingham, on the London and North-Western; Long Melford, on the Great Eastern; Ulverston, on the Furness; Barrow-in-Furness, on the Furness; Cleethorpes, on the Great Central; Deptford, on the South-Eastern and East London; Derby, on the Midland, London and North-Western, Great Northern, and North Staffordshire; Louth, on the Great Northern; Ashford (Derby) on the Midland; Brackenfield, on the Midland; Bristol, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Midland; Felling, on the North-Eastern; Grimesthorpe, on the Midland; Keswick, on the London and North-Western and Workington, Carlisle, and Penrith; Snowshill Wakes, on the Midland; Standish, on the London and North-Western; Bidford-on-Avon, on the East and West Junction; Hounslow, on the London and South-Western; Edinburgh, on the London and North-Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, North-Eastern, North British, Glasgow and South-Western, Highland, and Great Western; Alyth, on the Caledonian; Cardiff, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, Rhymney, and Taff Vale; Merthyr Tydfil, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Mold, on the London and North-Western; Newport, on the Great Western; Denbigh, on the London and North-Western; Knighton, on the London and North-Western; Risca, on the Great Western; and Treorchy, on the Taff Vale Railways.

Horncastle Fair.

THE centre of attraction at this fair was Hall and Procter's cinematograph theatre, and the same enterprising firm exhibited their fine sets of racing motor-cars. Both these concerns were deservedly well patronised. Amongst the other amusement caterers were Barwick, with houp-la circles, rifle ranges, park swings, and throwing games; Angus, with coker sheets, skittle alley, and Emmas; Bloomfield, with football penalty frames and rifle saloons; and a number of local traders with toys, stalls, and confectionary.

Recovery of Arthur Dashwood.

UNDER the skilful treatment of Dr. Mottram, of Smethwick, Birmingham, Mr. Arthur Dashwood has so far recovered that he has been able to resume his duties, and is now piloting W. Sedgewick's American menagerie through South Wales. It is to be hoped that the bracing mountain air of Wales will soon bring him back to robust health and strength. Mr. Dashwood is the oldest advance agent now on the road, and was for several years general-manager for Fletcher's Palace of Varieties, the first music hall in Swansea. His name is still kindly spoken of by music hall patrons of that town, and they will be glad to see him once again amongst them.

MR. DASHWOOD is a most popular man at the World's Fair, Agricultural Hall, London, where his duties take him every Christmas, and we trust he may be spared for many years to his ever-increasing circle of friends throughout the showman world.

Leicester May Fair.

OWING to the usual date of this fair clashing with Whitsun week, it was held this year a week earlier. The fair, despite the gloom cast over the whole nation by the King's death, was held with great acceptance, the fairground being thronged by crowds of people.

THERE is no doubt whatever that under less mournful circumstances the 1910 fair would have established a record. Mr. P. Collins provided one of the most attractive and varied aggregation of fairground novelties ever seen upon a British fairground.

CHIEF amongst the attractions were Collins's British circus, Collins's No. 2 "Wonderland" show, Collins's haunted castle, Collins's aeroplane, Collins's racing motor-cars, Collins's galloping horses, and Collins's bicycle track. E. Davies's steeplechasers and great airships; C. Relph's midget and giant girl show; Wortley's model colliery show; Lang's Teddy Bear jungle; Harry Cullis's school of boxers; Hart's sea-lions and seals; Mrs. Wortle's fine-art show; Huting's freak show and numerous side-show novelties; Miller's helter-skelter tower; Kent's juvenile horses; S. Bolesworth's bicycle track, and shooting galleries and ranges by Dodson, Humphries, and Parkin; a long avenue of houp-la circles, provided by Powell, Lang, Bolesworth Bros., and other caterers; and throwing games in splendid array by Warwick, Campfield, Wood, Parkin, Hayes, Humphries, Clayton, Young, Beach, Stokes, Holt, Myles, Hadfield, and Houldsworth; and gingerbread stalls by Langton, Lovett, Goodnight, Lewis, Stokes, Westrop, and others. There were also avenues of stalls, toy bazaars, and fairground varieties, the whole providing the perfection of open-air amusements for the people.

Leicester Pleasure Fair.

OUR Leicester correspondent writes:—Mr. P. Collins is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has succeeded in maintaining for the people of Leicester their time-honoured pleasure fairs in May and October, which at one time seemed threatened with total extinction, which would have been a calamity, as these fairs are looked forward to by many thousands in the borough and county and in the neighbouring towns, special trains bringing many thousands of visitors to the town. Leicester people have nothing but praise for the enterprise displayed by Mr. P. Collins. The weather cannot be said to have been altogether ideal, but we have experienced much worse on many festivals of this kind.

THE ground is situated on the Ross's Walk, leading from the Belgrave Road, and presented an animated appearance on Thursday, May 5, when it opened. An attraction seen for the first time on any fair-ground, and the first aeroplane seen in Leicester, was the special engagement of Leo Merode, with his Blériot monoplane of 25 horse-power. Leo Merode is the first music-hall artist in England to fly an aeroplane, the only other known being Houdini, who has one abroad. Leo Merode is well-known as Le Diabelo, who will be remembered for his remarkably sensational performance of Looping the Loop. The fair terminated on Tuesday evening.

Manchester White City Reopening.

SATURDAY last was set for the beginning of the fourth season at Manchester's White City, but the sudden bereavement visited upon the country caused a postponement of the event until Monday, at which time all the usual ceremonies were gone through with, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather and the general uncertainty as to amusements the opening was in all respects a most successful and enjoyable one, and one that gives every promise that it presages the best season in the history of this the most popular of Northern resorts. Army regulations prohibit bands of the line from playing until at least the funeral of King Edward has been held, hence the band of H.M. Royal Artillery were compelled to cancel their engagement for the first week of the season, and their place has been filled by Stephens' Military Band, and most splendidly have they filled the breach. All the rides and shows of last season have been retained, and a number of good additions have been made to the list. Great improvements have also been made in the gardens, where Mr. Paul, the specialist in floriculture of the Royal Botanical Society, has made many of the waste spaces of the White City to blossom in all the glory of spring flowers. Numerous new walks, lounges, and resting-places have been placed about the grounds, and the bandstand has been erected in one corner of the lake, and is entirely surrounded by water, with all the shores of the lake seated with chairs and benches, and most of them under shelter in case weather conditions require it. The policy of last season by which the ballroom, the skating rink, and nearly all the big riding devices and shows are given over free to the use of the visitors is again in force, and is proving as popular as when first introduced. This policy could not be followed were the concessions in the White City as in other pleasure parks; but here Mr. Calvin Brown, the proprietor of the White City, is also the owner of all these shows, &c., and his idea of an inclusive gate charge can be made without reference to what others may think. Strange as it may appear, it is a fact that every concession not owned by Mr. Brown enjoyed much better receipts last season after the inclusive gate was inaugurated than before, and all independent concessionaires are strongly in favour of its continuance this season. During Whit Week a number of special features will be seen at the White City, and Manchester people who cannot afford to go away for the holidays will be entertained at home. On the day of the King's funeral, which is really the best money day in the year in Lancashire, all Manchester outdoor amusements will be in operation, and at the White City a special programme of music has been arranged, and during the hour of the funeral memorial music and the Dead March will be played, to be followed by the National Anthem, in which all the staff and visitors will join in singing. A change in the lighting of the White City has been made, and now alternate red, white, and blue electric lights sparkle and twinkle all about the grounds.

Salisbury.

BARTLETT'S Fun City opened for a short season on the Gaol Ground, and are meeting with a large share of patronage. In addition to the galloping horses are swing-boats, shooting saloons, throwing games, stalls, two houp-la circles, which are much patronised, and a host of minor attractions. They have a fine electric installation, which is much admired. Will showmen, &c., kindly note this site is now available for their use, is centrally situated, and has recently been fitted up with sanitary arrangements? For terms, apply to 56, Devizes-road. Circus and menagerie proprietors please note this.

Notes from Wales.

WE have it on very good authority that the veteran Welsh showman Mr. Walter Haggar has acquired a valuable site in Llanelly, whereon he intends to build a permanent picture hall at once. Mr. Haggar is very popular in the Llanelly district. He, many years ago, was the owner of a portable theatre that used to visit the tinplate town and do well.

THE Llanelly May Fair was, as usual, well attended, Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son having two of their largest machines on the ground. Messrs. Haggar's No. 2 Bioscope Show was here also, with the latest films, as well as a large variety of houp-las, shooters, and cokernut chics by the Messrs. North, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. W. Roberts, Mr. James Day, and others.

Telegram received from Mr. Collins.

"We close Birmingham Fair Friday. Will make arrangements to hold Memorial Service.

"COLLINS."

Showmen's Letter-box.

LETTERS await Messrs. Anderton and Rowland and J. W. Chipperfield at *The Era* Office.

THE LATE KING AND SHOWMEN.

The spontaneous grief of the nation at the loss of King Edward VII. found full expression amongst his loyal subjects of the fairground at Leicester on Sunday last.

As previously announced in these columns, the annual meeting of the Showmen's Guild for the Midland Circuit took place in P. Collins' cinematograph theatre on the fairground, Leicester.

As with all other organisations and societies in the Empire, the business of the moment was completely swallowed up in the overwhelming consternation and grief caused by the sudden death of the beloved King.

It is no figure of speech to say that the annals of the British monarchy provide no record of a king more in touch with all the concerns of his people than King Edward of Blessed Memory.

From his earliest days down to the end of his life he was a man who identified himself fully with the amusements as well as with the serious concerns of his people.

There are innumerable instances of the keen interest he took in shows and showmen, and there are many showmen to-day who will remember with pride the occasions upon which His Majesty's interest and gracious condescension was shown in the hearty way in which he patronised the shows and amusements at the fair.

This, however, is not the moment to record these instances of his appreciation of show life; they were but a manifestation of that complete identity and comradeship with his people that so notably marked his genial and cosmopolitan character.

The Showmen Join in the National Grief.

The president of the Showmen's Guild, Mr. Patrick Collins, presided over the meeting, and he was supported by the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, and Mr. T. Watson Wright (Guild solicitor), Messrs. E. Davies, F. Stevenson, R. Scott, C. Shaw, H. Cullis, W. Harris, T. Dobson, C. Relph, W. Cook, C. Bliss, W. H. Hadfield, H. Powell, Bolesworth Brothers, Jones, Jeffries, Wood, Miles, Mrs. R. Yelding, Mrs. R. Parkin, Mrs. Crockett, Miss Etherdo, Miss Transfield, and many others.

The President of the Guild moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting of the Showmen of the United Kingdom is deeply grieved and greatly shocked at the irreparable loss sustained by the whole nation by the death of our beloved and noble King, and tenders its heartfelt condolences to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra and the rest of the Royal Family, and humbly assures our Sovereign Lord King George that he has no more loyal subjects than the showmen of the Empire."

Under the stress of manifest emotion, Mr. Collins briefly referred to the grief the whole nation was now suffering—a grief that, he felt sure, was fully shared by every travelling showman. He had many sweet memories of the personal interest taken by their beloved late King in the shows and in the amusements that the showmen provided for the people.

In the respect of the popular amusements of the people the late King not only patronised them, but thoroughly enjoyed them. It was with the utmost sense of reverent admiration that he ventured to claim for the late King the distinction of having always been from his youth upwards a friend and patron of the travelling showpeople.

Death had come suddenly, and the grief of the nation was heartfelt and real, but the world demanded not only respect and reverence for its dead but also regard for the living.

The resolution he had submitted conveyed the heartfelt sympathy of every showman and showwoman for the bereaved Queen-Mother. That was a sympathy that touched the very well-springs of human life. At the same time they had as loyal subjects to remember that the death of King Edward had laid a burden of tremendous responsibility upon the King that the nation now was proclaiming with ardent loyalty and earnest prayer that he would be blessed and sustained in the great work of kingship. He called upon Mr. Watson Wright to second the resolution.

Mr. T. Watson Wright said there could be no doubting the sincere and unanimous grief of all the peoples in the great British Empire, over which their late King had ruled with such signal success and beneficence. Of all the Kings of England it was the especial glory of King Edward VII. to be acclaimed as "The Peacemaker."

The resolution expressed their heartfelt sympathy with the widowed Queen, and it also expressed their unswerving loyalty to the Throne and to its new occupant in the person of King George V. He claimed for the showpeople that they were as loyal in their attachment to the Throne and to the person of the King as any other class in the community.

It had ever been his proud boast that the showmen of the Empire were loyal subjects of the King, and it was no mere figure of speech when in the resolution before them they assured King George of their loyalty and attachment to the Throne.

From the bottom of his heart he supported the expression of sympathy to the widowed Queen, and the expressions of their condolence and loyalty to the Royal Family.

The Guild Chaplain on the Nation's Grief.

In speaking to the resolution, he referred in touching terms to the grief the whole nation experienced when the news came with its awful suddenness of the King's death. It seemed impossible that one who had filled so large a space in public life, one who had identified himself so closely with every aspect of human life, would no more be seen in his accustomed place as the father, the friend, and the leader of his people.

Death, the great messenger of God, knocked without distinction at the gate of the King's palace as well as at the door of the poor man's cottage.

The poor man dying by the roadside, the King, surrounded by everything that love could provide, were just as much under the compulsion of the summons of God, for death is the great leveller of all men and of all things.

He would ask them only to regard that intensely human—intensely common—but, oh, so truly pathetic sight, the widow sorrowing over her dead. Here was the touch of nature that makes the whole world kin.

All the pageantry, all the pomp and circumstance of State, were swallowed up in that heartrending picture of our common humanity—sorrow for the dead.

The grief-stricken nation tendered to the bereaved Queen and all those near and dear to her—each in their measure bereaved and grief-stricken—its reverent, its tender and loving sympathy.

It was not, he ventured to say, the right moment to attempt any proper appreciation of the life-work of their beloved and lost King. But this he ventured to state: above all the characteristics of the late monarch there was one trait of his character pre-eminently conspicuous, it was its humanness. He was in every sense of the word a man. A man amongst men, with a great grasp of human affairs, tact that never failed to say the right thing at the right moment, and to do the right thing in the best possible way; a man yet always a King amongst men.

It is for this great loss that the nation grieves, and amongst those who will miss him the most must be reckoned the travelling showpeople. Many, many times did the late King display a keen, a kindly and sympathetic interest in the concerns of showland.

They joined, therefore, first of all in tendering their heartfelt sympathy to the Queen-Mother in her irreparable loss and bereavement, to Their Majesties the King and Queen and the rest of the Royal Family, and they sincerely hoped that the God of all comfort would be with them in this hour of darkest sorrow.

The words of the resolution were then read and passed in profound silence, the audience standing. The Chaplain was requested to send a telegram of condolence to the Royal Family expressing the grief of the showmen of the United Kingdom at the national loss.

Guild Committee and Enrollment of Members.

A meeting of the Committee of the Showmen's Guild was held, but only necessary business was despatched and members enrolled.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

E. Davies, £1 1s.; P. Collins (second subscription), £1; H. Cullis, 5s.; W. H. Hadfield, 5s.; H. Mills, 5/-; F. Stevenson, 5s.; T. Dobson, 5s.; Walter Harris, 5s.; W. Cook, 5s.; R. Scott, 5s.; C. Bliss, 5s.; Mrs. R. Yelding, 5s.; Mrs. R. Parkin, 5s.; per Mr. Mitchell, Mr. James Blackledge, hon. member, 10s.

The Guild Service at Night.

Collins' cinematograph theatre was filled at night by showmen, their friends, and the general public. The Guild service, conducted throughout by the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, took the form (as at all other churches throughout the Empire) of a commemoration of the late beloved King. The Guild Chaplain in his sermon, after dwelling upon the events of the great Festival of Ascension-tide, pointed out how even that great festival—the crowning of the King of Kings, had its connection with the kingdoms of this world. That our Ascended Lord enthroned in heaven was King of Kings and Lord of Lords, whose kingdom would ultimately include all earthly dominions, principalities, and powers.

The King whom they now mourned so deeply derived his authority in its highest aspect from the Kingdom of God. He referred in touching terms to the grief-stricken Royal Family, and claimed that the heart of the nation was in fullest sympathy with the bereaved Royal Family.

At the end of the service the Chaplain used one of the collects from the Burial Service, and after the Benediction the congregation joined in singing one verse of the National Anthem.

The Showmen's Expression of Sympathy.

The following are the terms of the telegram sent by the Showmen's Guild to the Royal Family:—"The Showmen of the United Kingdom through their representatives in meeting assembled, most humbly tender to Your Majesties, to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, and the Royal Family, their profound sympathy and most heartfelt condolences in the hour of bereavement. His late Majesty King Edward endeared himself to all his loving subjects, but to none more than the showmen of the Empire.—PATRICK COLLINS, President Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, Guild Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. May 10."

His Most Gracious Majesty King George, through his private secretary, has sent the following reply to the address of condolence given above:—

"To Patrick Collins, president. The King sincerely thanks the showmen of the United Kingdom for their telegram of sympathy with their Majesties and the Royal Family in their great bereavement. May 11, Buckingham Palace."

We are quite sure that every showman in the Empire will appreciate this gracious answer of the King and the Royal Family to their humble and loyal subjects in showland.

P. Collins' Royal English Circus.

WE made special reference at Easter to Mr. Collins's enterprise in sending out a circus to travel the British fairs. It was our privilege at Leicester Fair to see the circus in full swing—to notice the completeness of the enterprise, and especially to notice the splendid talent secured for the touring season by Mr. Collins. Some of the greatest names in the circus world of Great Britain appear on the programme, and the proud title "The Royal English Circus" is fully borne out by the fact that the company contained members of the oldest circus families in the world, such as the Yeldings, the Scotts, the Crocketts, the Austins, the Vokes, the Transfields, the Stephensons, and others.

THE circus is run on lines that recall the palmy days of the British circus at our fairs. There is a good band, and the outside parade of both horses and performers is a marked feature of the enterprise.

THE director and manager for Mr. Collins is Mr. Frank Stephenson, the ringmaster is Mr. H. Stephenson, and the leader of the band is Mr. J. Hurst.

THE programme of over twenty excellent numbers includes Messrs. Robert Scott and Robert Yelding, in their great double jockey act; the Brothers Lysando, balancers and acrobats; Mme. Montero, in the High School and Menage act; Miss Jennae Etherdo, on the slack and tight wire; Mme. Lena, on the rolling globe; Miss Transfield, serpentine dancer on horseback; Miss Flora, equestrienne; M. Platter, comedy juggler; the Spangeletti's Troupe of performing dogs and baboons; Mlle. Sylvesto, contortionist and flexible marvel; Harry Stephenson, the champion jockey act rider of the world; and the following splendid company of clowns and ring humorists: Funny Crockett, Rumbo Austin, Ned Vokes, Funny Stepho, the Brothers Reno, and Auguste's Shadows, Happy and Otto.

WE were more than delighted with the excellent performance, vindicating our opinion that the British circus, run on up-to-date lines, will draw the public as much to-day as ever in the past. We congratulate every member of the company, and, above all, Mr. P. Collins, for affording the British public such excellent entertainment at popular prices at the fair.

A Showman's Palace.

A BEAUTIFUL and spacious caravan which is claiming much admiration in Cardiff at present has been designed and manufactured by the Bute Steam Joinery Co. (Ltd.), of Dumballs-road, Cardiff, to the order of Mr. Sidney White, showman, of Tin-street, Cardiff. With woodwork of mahogany and cypress panels, the caravan is so constructed that in case of any damage being sustained any panel or piece of framing can be easily removed and replaced without disturbing in any way the general structure of the van. The principal measurements of this up-to-date and well-upholstered vehicle are: Length 24ft., width 7ft. 9in., and height to crown 7ft. 3in. It consists of a living room, bedroom, store and tank-room, and lavatory. The outside is elegantly polished, representing light relief round panels, with mouldings picked out in gold, whilst the interior is polished a rich mahogany. The furniture and fittings of the doors, &c., are in antique copper colour to match. The windows are glazed with bevelled plate-glass, with brilliant cut relief work and monogram of owner worked in the centre. The fanlights are of blue-coloured glass, with brilliant cut star in centre. In the living-room is fitted a most compact range for cooking and heating, this being of bright steel and enamel, with coils for hot-water circulation. The van is lighted throughout with electricity. Surmounted by a circular-shaped roof, this is covered on the outside with 16-gauge zinc and asbestos, and on the inside with mahogany rails and light-coloured panelling. Ventilation is provided by fanlights, and these are ingeniously constructed to prevent draughts, whilst at the same time giving thorough ventilation to the various rooms. The interior of the van is fitted up in a most up-to-date, compact, and luxurious manner, the space being so well utilised as to secure the maximum of comfort. The van was designed by and manufactured under the supervision of the works foreman (Mr. Turner).

FILM GOSSIP.

"A Victim of Bridge."

THIS is the title of an extremely good Edison film. The young wife of a well-to-do Wall-street man is a victim of Bridge, and piled up losses which she dared not tell him. On the night when the winners have made especially strong demand for payment her husband brings home a little gift, a bottle of peculiar imported perfume. She has previously sent out her maid to pawn her jewellery, and is horrified to learn that the amount it brings falls short of what is required. Later, the maid puts some of the new perfume on the handkerchief of her mistress. When dinner is over the card-sharpers invite her to join in the game. Again she loses. She is driven to desperation at their demands and threats of disclosure. Entering the music-room, she discovers that a valuable diamond pin on the shoulder of the lady at the piano is loose and about to fall. Pretending to pat her hostess on the shoulder, she covers the loosened pin with her handkerchief and takes it away. Later the loss is discovered. A maid is suspected, and arrested. Through the odour of the peculiar perfume the husband concludes that his wife is guilty, as he knows more of her losses than she suspects. Quietly he holds out his hand in wordless demand to his wife. Hesitating a moment, she places the handkerchief containing the jewel in his hand. He seizes the opportunity, and slips the jewel into a crevice in a nearby chair. During the search which the officer makes the jewel is found. When they return to their own home the crisis is faced. He believes he cannot forgive her. She packs up her belongings to leave, but he stops her, tears up her confession, and folds her in his protecting embrace.

Fuller's N.Z. Enterprises.

OF the six theatres or halls devoted to public entertainments in Wellington, New Zealand, four are utilised exclusively for the display of kinematograph pictures—King's Theatre, His Majesty's Theatre, the Town Hall, and St. Thomas's Hall—and in each case standing room is at a premium. It is calculated that approximately 6,000 people spend the evening between eight o'clock and ten o'clock gazing at animated pictures, whilst about another 2,500 go to see *Peter Pan* and Fullers' Vaudeville Company (at the Theatre Royal). Messrs. John Fuller and Sons have no fewer than ten shows going in New Zealand—three in Dunedin, two in Christchurch, three in Wellington (Theatre Royal, Town Hall, and His Majesty's Theatre), one in Auckland, and one in Invercargill.

Maskelyne and Devant's Enterprise.

MESSRS. MASKELYNE AND DEVANT will re-open St. George's Hall to-day (Saturday) at three and eight p.m., when they will present a special programme, including a series of animated photographs of notable events in King Edward's reign.

Provincial Cinematograph Theatres.

PROVINCIAL CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES, LTD., has been formed to erect first-class cinematograph theatres in Belfast, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Portsmouth, and Sheffield. The prospectus states that the directors have taken great pains to procure the finest sites in all these cities. A careful census has been taken of passing traffic, and sites have been chosen upon the returns obtained as to the number of foot passengers, either shoppers and visitors in the daytime or amusement-seekers at night. The Dublin theatre has been opened for one month, and the receipts, after allowing for a share of central expenses, depreciation, and reserve fund, have resulted in a profit at the rate of 50 per cent. per annum. The theatres will be perfect examples of comfort and convenience, and will be superior to anything of the kind hitherto attempted in the provinces. The company is opening fourteen theatres, with an average seating capacity for 650 persons. Assuming that the theatres are only filled one and a half times out of a possible eight performances each day, the gross annual takings, on the basis of six days per week, will amount to £122,850, the expenses from all sources are estimated at £54,600, leaving a balance of £68,250, or sufficient to pay a dividend of 50 per cent. upon the total capital of the company.

Pictures of the Week.

AMONG the new pictures which have been introduced into the programmes at the London picture theatres this week are several thrilling dramas. In Saved from the Tide the heroine is shown galloping along the seashore to rescue her lover, lying senseless on the sands, at the mercy of the incoming tide. She saves him, and the villains who left him to die meet with their just fate. There is a moral in Gold is Not All, where tragedy enters the mansion of the rich while happiness abides in the cottage of the poor. Mamma's Angel Child is a humorous film. The angel child is shown in the manner of youth playing alarming practical jokes on dignified relatives, but never shaking his mother's faith in his unblemished goodness. Her faith is justified, for the last scene shows him grown up, preparing his next Sunday's sermon in his study.

Sunday Bioscope Shows.

WHEN the Bermondsey Bioscope Company, of 48, Mark-lane, E.C., were summoned at Tower Bridge Police-court on Wednesday for giving an exhibition on Sunday, Feb. 27, at the London Bridge Picture Palace, in contravention of a licence granted by the L.C.C. under the Cinematograph Act, it was contended for the defence that the L.C.C. were wrong. Mr. C. Stanley Thomas, for the defendants, said that the Cinematograph Act was passed with a view to the public safety, and the L.C.C. had no power to go beyond the scope of the Act. Mr. Cecil Chapman, the magistrate, said he was inclined to the view that the L.C.C. were wrong in including in their licence a condition which was outside the scope of the Act. Mr. Cecil Chapman reserved his decision.

Kensington Picture Palace.

AT the Kensington Picture Theatre the following films have been shown this week: Town Traveller's Revenge (Itala), Count Nomo, the Traitor (Brockless), The Valley of Brathland (Novdisk), Calino's Duel (Gaumont), Saved from the Tide (Selig), The Spirit of the Sword (Pathé), The Ruins of Old Delhi (Pathé), Cagliostro (Pathé), and Proclamation of King George V.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

AT the Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., the following films have been shown this week: A Trip Through Beautiful Windermere, The Ranchgirl's Legacy, Ride on a Goods Train through Calden, Cape Colony, Lady Candate's Diamonds, A Child of the Prairie, Fits and Misfits, Proclamation of George V., Manufacturing Yachts, The Forgotten Watch.

Ayr Picture Palace.

THE Gaiety Theatre being closed, the Picture Palace is, in consequence, the only continuous pleasure resort here at present, and full houses are the order. For the opening part of this week the leading pictures are: The Highlanders' Defiance, a tale of the South African War; A Western Maid; and Winnipeg, the Wheat Centre of the World. For the latter part of the week: Aviation at Los Angeles, and Romolus, the Founder of Rome, are the chief films.

New Cardiff Picture Theatre.

NEGOTIATIONS are practically complete for acquiring premises between Windsor-place and Charles-street, Cardiff, for the purposes of a cinematograph theatre by a London syndicate.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

SKATING RINKS.

Recommendations of the Theatres and Music-Halls Committee were approved with reference to a drawing submitted by Mr. B. Crewe, showing alterations proposed to be made to the main entrance, and the conversion of the tea-room on the ground floor into lavatories and cloak-rooms, at the Hammersmith Skating Rink, Brook Green-road. Also with reference to drawings submitted by Mr. W. R. Phillips, showing a re-arrangement of the sanitary accommodation and of the exit leading into Lisson Grove, at the skating rink, Lisson-grove, Marylebone.

The provisional licence for music granted on Nov. 26, 1909, for the Chelsea Skating Rink was confirmed, also the provisional licence granted on Nov. 26 for the Sydenham and Forest Hill Skating Rink.

CINEMATOGRAPH CHAMBERS.

The Council approved of cinematograph chambers proposed to be constructed in the dress circle saloon at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington-road; also a cinematograph chamber proposed to be constructed at the Finsbury Park Empire.

ISLINGTON PALACE.

The Council approved a drawing submitted by Mr. J. Jeffrey showing how it is proposed to comply with a requirement made by the Council for the improvements of the exits leading to Barford-street and Berners-road from the Islington Palace.

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALL.

There was a cry of "Opposed" when a recommendation was submitted by the committee with reference to a drawing submitted by Mr. G. Duckworth, showing a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in Lower Clapton-road. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the premises, which will have accommodation for about 840 persons; and the committee stated that, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appeared to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired.

PROPOSED RINK.

The Council on Oct. 19, 1909, approved drawings of a skating-rink, which it was proposed to erect in Queen-street and Great Church-lane, Hammersmith. The Council's approval was subject to a condition, *inter alia*, that the work of erecting the rink be commenced within six months from the date of the approval. The work was not commenced within the specified time, but we are informed that it is intended to commence the work shortly, and an application has now been made for the renewal of the Council's approval. The committee recommended that, provided that the works shown on the four drawings submitted by Messrs. Charles Heathcote and Sons, on July 21, 1909, with regard to a roller-skating rink proposed to be erected in Queen-street and Great Church-lane, Hammersmith, be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with.

Agreed to.

ESTIMATES—THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

The Council proceeded with the consideration, for the purpose of voting expenditure, of the annual estimates of expenditure on capital and on rate and revenue accounts for the financial year 1910-11. The Theatres and Music Halls Committee's estimates were as follows:—Theatres and music halls—surveying (salaries and wages, &c.), £2,415; music and dancing licences—printing and incidental expenses, £195; cinematograph licences—printing and incidental expenses, £50; total, £2,660.

ANOTHER POSTPONEMENT.

The consideration of the recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee with reference to music and dancing and stage-plays licences, and to which Mr. George Alexander has given notice of an amendment, was again postponed with the consent of the Council.

The Bard on the Bioscope.

TALK about Potting Plays! Why, cinematographing Shakespeare is a thousand times more complicated. It takes over twelve hours to photograph a play that will ultimately be shown to the public in twelve minutes. Of course, scenery has to be arranged, costumes changed, and points discussed. But to reproduce six of Shakespeare's plays on the bioscope over four and a half miles of film have to be used, and over seventy people have to be hard at work for a fortnight. When you realise that sixteen pictures are recorded per second by the machine, thus producing nearly 1,000 per minute, you begin to regard it with the awe and reverence it deserves. And the total result can be seen in under two hours!

Making a Newspaper.

A FEATURE of the Home Exhibition in Manchester is the cinematograph display in the lecture hall. The films show every stage in the production of a great newspaper—the receipt of the news in the office, the editorial department, the setting up of the type on the "lino" machine, the formation of the matrices and the stereotyping of the pages for the gigantic printing machines, and, finally, the piles of printed and folded papers coming from the machines at wonderful speed. The display has proved intensely interesting to all who have seen it. The pictures are being shown five times daily.

THE Northampton Picture Palace, of which the proprietors are Messrs. J. F. Bentley, and the general manager Mr. J. W. Borrowman, was opened on Monday. It is being run at popular prices, on the two-houses-a-night principle, with a change of pictures twice a week. The opening subjects were: The Heroine of Mafeking and The Sentinel's Romance, good dramatic films; Cologne to Bengen, a fine succession of views on the Rhine; and plenty of comics, including Incorrigible Mary and A Seaside Flirtation.

C.D.L. and the Royal Family.

THE Executive Committee of the Cinematograph Defence League held a special meeting in their board-room last Saturday morning, and resolved that the following telegrams of sympathy be sent to His Majesty King George V. and also to H.M. Queen Alexandra:—"The Cinematograph Defence League tender to your Majesty an expression of their deep and sincere sympathy on the terrible loss we have all sustained. May the Almighty in His mercy comfort you and your Consort, together with all the Royal Family, in your hour of sorrow." To Her Majesty Queen Alexandra: "The Cinematograph Defence League tender to your Majesty an expression of their deep and sincere sympathy on the terrible loss we all have sustained. May the Almighty in His mercy comfort you, together with all the Royal Family, in your hour of sorrow."

IN reply the following telegrams have been received:—"Buckingham Palace. The King thanks you for your kind expression of sympathy." "Buckingham Palace. Queen Alexandra sends her sincere thanks for your kind expressions of sympathy in her sorrow." The Executive Committee instructed the secretary to send to every member of the League a telegram worded as follows:—"Committee advise closing Saturday, Sunday, and day of funeral. This action is general."

"CINEMATOGRAPH BILL, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, THE PUBLISHERS, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE CALLAN BENEFIT CONCERT.

The Hon. Frank Russell, K.C., took the chair on Thursday night last at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on the occasion of the Bohemian Concert given on behalf of the widow and family of the late Mr. J. H. Callan, who, whilst apparently in excellent health, died suddenly on March 6 last. The widow is left unprovided for, with eight young children to support, not one of whom is capable of earning a livelihood. Mr. Callan was an able and popular vocalist, ever ready in his love for the art to give his services in any good and charitable cause. As a mark of respect to his memory, and as a means of helping his widow in her present distressing circumstances, many of his friends and admirers identified themselves with this concert scheme, with the result that the benefit was a big financial success.

The great King's Hall was, long before eight o'clock, crowded in every nook and corner, and it became apparent that an overflow concert must be held. Accordingly, the Throne Room was hastily requisitioned, and the supply of artists being plentiful, two simultaneous concerts were given with the greatest success.

Ninety artists were down on the programme, and by far the greater number appeared at one or other of the entertainments, among them being Mesdames Nellie Beare, Lillie Cass, Kate Cherry, Carrie Crisp, Rosa Dallow, Emilie Hayes, Alice Motterway, Grace M. Powell, Gladys Robinson, Lilian Smith, Hettie Stammer, Melanie Castel, Bertha Gelder, Esther Franklin, Hope Jackson, Hannah Jones, Locke, Naci Talbot, Ala Wilson, Edith Eatherley, Lilah Estelle, Katie Graham, Ida la Rondo, Mollie Seymour, and Edith Ward; Messrs. Vivian Bennetts, Selwyn Davies, James Davis, Herbert Emlyn, Cynlais Gibbs, Walter Grace, Frank Hobbs, Sidwell Jones, Wallace Jones, Hector Lightfoot, Samuel Masters, Charles Morton, John Probert, Stanley Ridout, Herbert Thompson, Elliston Webb, Frederick Addison, Albert Carpenter, Thomas Crook, J. L. Haddon, W. J. Haswell, Graham Smart, David Smith, Hamilton Spencer, Clay Thomas, Carl Brandt, Alick Capener, Conrad Formes, Adolph Fowler, W. R. Gregory, Edward Halland, Thomas Powley, Egbert Roberts, W. L. Allen, Will Ballard, Will Bentley, Arthur Chapman, Arthur Clarke, Will Edwards, Bert Griffin, J. H. Lansley, Bert Meredith, George O'Hagan, Will Randall, Fred Reynolds, Wilfred Stracey, Edward Sydney, Wally White, Fred Willett, Fred Wilson, Frank Wood, Charles Young, Charles F. Frood, H. Nowell, Norman Grant, Charles E. Nott, Reginald Prince, David Blascheck, Arthur Foxon, Charles Pond, Percival Reed, George Miles, and Garnet Chandler; and the Ariel Quartette, the Harmony Glee Singers, and the "M.A." Quartette.

The pianists and accompanists during the evening were Miss Edith Baldry, A.T.C.L., Mr. Jack Brittain, Mr. W. R. Edwards, Miss Maggie Godsmark, Mr. Vernon Grant, Mr. Albert Jordon, Mr. Ralph Norris, Mr. G. H. Pownall, Miss Marguerite Probert, and Mr. H. Smith-Webster. Messrs. Selwyn Davies, Adolph Fowler, W. J. Haswell, and the honorary secretary, Mr. B. G. Laws, acted as musical directors.

Mountain Ash Flannel and Pleasure Fair.

THE amusements were provided by John Studt, who exhibited the picture palace and the Gordon-Bennett set of racing motor-cars, and Messrs. Freeman, Gorman, and other caterers, with hoopla circles, shooting galleries, throwing games, and variety stalls.

Guild Meeting in the West of England.

THE next important meeting of the Showmen's Guild will be at Redruth Fair, on Sunday next—Whit-Sunday—at 3.30 in the afternoon. The place of meeting will be Hancock's Show, on the fair-ground, and there will be the usual Guild service in the evening.

White City, Old Trafford.

THE opening of this beautiful amusement park for the fourth summer season should have taken place on Saturday, the 7th inst., but was postponed until the 9th, in consequence of the death of his Majesty King Edward. Although the weather was inclement and the general bereavement affects all classes, the attendance has been excellent, and all the riding devices (water-chute, figure eight, &c.) have been in full swing. Fireworks by Joseph Wells, of Earl's Court, are to be displayed every Wednesday and Saturday evening during the season, and last season similar displays were much appreciated.

LINN AND DARIUS are meeting with great success on their provincial tour, this being their fifth week. They return to town for a London season, opening at the Hippodrome, Poplar, June 6, with an entirely new and up-to-date scena.

AFTER a successful operation under the care of Dr. Murray, Mr. George Fox, advance agent, is getting strong again, and will soon be able to commence work. He desires to thank those friends who have sent him cheerful and welcome letters during his long illness.

THE latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. pd.), 12; Empire (10s. pd.), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 3½; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5½; Metropolitan, 2; Moss Empires (5), 4½; Oxford (5), 7; Palace Theatre (9s. pd.), 1⅛; Tivoli, New (5), 6½.

"LIFE IN THE DESERT OF SAHARA" is the very latest "Kinemacolor" subject to be presented in animation and the actual tints of Nature to Palace Theatre audiences, and for richness of local colouring and artistic portrayal of Arab life and incident the pictures are remarkable. In ten minutes the spectator sees the events of months—camel caravans crossing the great Desert, tourists in the garden of Allah, negro and Bedouin musicians, a negro bride being taken from her native village, the Kaid and his caravaneers, &c.

MR. J. COATES LOCKHART, the tenor soloist, who is singing "Nearer my God to Thee" on Sunday, and whose vocal efforts have been so rapturously received throughout the week at the Southampton Hippodrome, appeared at the old Prince of Wales' Theatre (now the Hippodrome) as Grenicheux in the late Mr. William Hogarth's *Les Cloches de Corneville* Co. exactly twelve years ago. It is an interesting reminiscence, and Mr. Lockhart, who has been a great globe-trotter, and made rapid strides in his profession since his first appearance in Southampton, in 1898, has met many old friends during the week.

LAST week Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas paid their fourth visit to the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, being the star attraction for the week. Each evening they gave different selections from the works of Dickens. On the Thursday they gave the whole evening to characters from the "Pickwick Papers." These were so successful that they were asked to repeat them on Saturday. At the conclusion of their engagement they were complimented by Mr. Dan Godfrey, who offered them a return engagement at an increase of salary. This week the happily associated pair are again scoring an emphatic success at Huddersfield. They commence next week their fourth Moss and Stoll tour at the Hippodrome, Manchester, with scenes between Mr. Pickwick and Sam Weller, also between Mr. Pickwick and Mrs. Bardell, the characters of Sam Weller and Mrs. Bardell being played by Mrs. Lucas.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

On FRIDAY NEXT
the Postal Arrangements are such
that Advertisers are requested to
POST
ONE
DAY
EARLIER
THAN
USUAL

All Advertisements intended for our next issue (May 21).

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
F, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 13, 27, July 4, Aug. 1,
Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for
June 13, 20, July 18, 25, Aug. 1 (six nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
June 6, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
May 30, June 6, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
May 30, June 6, Aug. 15, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT;
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND;
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS;
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.

Early Vacant Dates at King's Lynn.
Communications re dates next week only, Southend; afterwards to Head Office.

B. PAREEZER, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for
June 27 and July 25.
To play twice nightly.

Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE.
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 6 and 20.
June 6 and 20.

Wire immediately.
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

LIVERPOOL LYRIC THEATRE CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must Play Twice Nightly.
Vacant Dates, Summer or Autumn.
Apply, HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing Director, Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Ltd.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday) and 8.
Only Big Attractions need apply.
Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
July 11, 25, Aug. 15 (three nights),
Sept. 15 (3 nights), and Sept. 19.
Address, GENERAL-MANAGER.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Pantomimes coming North, Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-1911.

Full particulars and vacant dates,
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 27, Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 23, 30, July 4 (3), 11, Oct. 10, 17, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

KING'S THEATRE, SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.
KING'S THEATRE, SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
June 6 and 13.
June 6 and 13.

Wire or write,
MARK LORNE,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant June 20, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 23, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Wanted, Big Musical Attraction, for Opening date in July, also for following vacancies:
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 5.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Acknowledged to be one of the most handsome and best equipped theatres in the Provinces.
Seating capacity, 2,000.
Estimated population, 100,000.
Ample Stage Room for the Heaviest Spectacular Productions Touring.
Now playing to splendid business and equally well patronised during the summer months.
Press says:—
"To those who do not know the great development of this Northumbrian port a visit will come as a revelation. A fine protected harbour entrance, a busy harbour, finding accommodation for steamers of large size, and large shipbuilding yards and graving docks, all testify to the importance of Blyth as a shipping centre. It is situated fourteen miles from Newcastle and in the centre of the great Northumbrian coalfields. The lines of the N.E. Railway give direct and frequent service with all parts of the district and the whole of England."
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Aug. 1 (B.H. week),
Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, and Oct. 24.
Only vacant dates 1910.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
The Premier Theatre.
May 26 (3 nights), June 13, 20, 27.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
July 18, Sept. 26.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
July 11, 18.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY,
for August and Autumn, 1910.

Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, BLACKBURN.
The most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Aug. 15.
One or two other autumn dates possibly vacant. Now booking spring, 1911. Might arrange for First-class Pantomime, Jan. 2 or 9.
Address all communications re dates to
HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 19 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., onwards. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions (three nights).
Address, MAX JEROME, Royal, Rochdale.

HARROGATE & SCARBORO' OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, No. 1 Company, June 6 (week), three nights each town, vacant through obliging a Manager.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, immediate applications from Companies for Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions. Bookings: "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "Mrs. Wiggs," F. R. Benson, &c. Address all coms., MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
One of the most beautiful and up-to-date Theatres in the Provinces. Holding capacity over 3,000.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, including Aug. 15 (Race Week), First-class Companies do good business here. Amongst the Companies booked: "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "The House of Temperley," "Girls of Gottenberg," "Message from Mars," "Merry Widow," &c. None but the best and biggest attractions entertained. All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for May 30,
and Pantomime for Christmas.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, May 23, May 23 (unexpectedly open through transferring), Good Drama, Comedy, or Musical Play. Apply, H. O. RADFORD, General-Manager, Theatre and Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, May 30, June 6, 13, 20, Theatre Royal, Margate.
WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales T., Salford, First-class Companies for May 23, 30, June 27, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 8 and 29, on. Jos. B. ORMEROD.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Autumn, last three nights only, first three can be arranged at Lynn, grand Reopening of Season, Aug. 29 (last three), onwards, with exceptions.
Address, J. A. CAMPBELL.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 6, 13, 20, on.
ALFRED MANNERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, May 23, 30, June 6.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19, Oct. 10 (?), 31, Dec. 5, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov 14 (?), Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 20, 27, April 3, 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

KING'S THEATRE, W.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for May 23.
Address, Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND,
King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
Holding Capacity at Ordinary Prices, £30.
The Smart and Popular Theatre that does the Business.

Season's bookings include Mr. Ian Robertson and Co. in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Edward Terry and Co.; Mr. George Alexander's Co.'s "Builder of Bridges" and "The Thief" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); Mr. Walter Melville's Co.'s; Mr. F. R. Benson's Co. (return); "When Knights were Bold" (return); "The Dairymaids" (return); "Fascinating Peggy"; "Cingalee"; Miss Horniman's Répertoire Co. (return); "The Woman in the Case," &c., &c.
WANTED, London Successes, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies of Vaudeville Entertainers, for Summer Season, to follow The Will o' the Wisps, &c., from middle of July, onwards. Can book for a season of 4 weeks or more.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 4, 11, 18, and 25.
Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

GAIETY THEATRE, METHIL.
Population, nine miles' radius, 90,000.
Electric Trams pass the Theatre.
Only Vacant Dates,
Oct. 10, 1910.
Dec. 5, 1910.
Dec. 26, 1910.
Feb. 6, 1911.
March 13, 1911.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedy or Pantomimes, for these dates, sure or certainty.
J. D. SWANSTON, Redburn-chambers, Kirkcaldy.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, May 26-7-8 (through disappointment).
Apply, ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, for the NEW THEATRE, WATFORD,
May 23, and onward,
First-class Attractions.
All the best productions required.

Watford is the best town in the Provinces for its size, always providing you have the goods to suit the Public.
Apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER, as above.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, August Bank Holiday week for First-rate Musical Attraction, Aug. 8 (?), Aug. 29 (?), for any High-class Attraction.
WM. MORTON.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
Apply, with full particulars, to
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, really First-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., Jan., and Feb. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, &c., to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, May 30, and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c.
Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Something Good, May 23, 30, Aug. 1, 8, on, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 1, 8, 15, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Letters only. SANTE, Radcliffe.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Dramatic Season.
Twice Nightly. Twice Nightly.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and later.
Address,
FEATHER, West Hartlepool.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, High-class Dramas for Aug. 1 and 8.
State Lowest Certainties; also Sharing terms.
Address, CHAS. ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, through obliging, First-class Drama Companies, May 30, June 6, several good Autumn dates open for Musical Attractions only.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Alexandra Theatre, Hull, June 13, Good Melodramatic Attraction.
MORTON.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

PAVILION THEATRE, LYTHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies, July, Aug., and Sept., Musical Comedies preferred.
J. H. HARRISON, Manager.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date, July 25 (?), Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the finest, largest, sumptuous, and most up-to-date Theatres in the country.
Holding capacity, 3,500.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), onwards, including Race week, Aug. 15, one of the best weeks in the year.
Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies in the Theatrical World, including "The Arcadians," with Mr. Walter Passmore, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Girls of Gottenberg," "Belle of Brittany," "King of Cadonia," "The Dashing Little Duke," Miss Ellaline Terriss, The Moody-Manners Opera Company, Carl Rosa's Opera Company, "The House of Temperley," "Dear Little Denmark," "Brewster's Millions," D'Oyly Carte Répertoire, "Miss Hook of Holland," including Miss Marie Studholme, "The Whip," from Drury Lane, Mrs. Brown Potter, Mr. Geo. Edwardes's "Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow," &c. As to business done at this theatre refer to Geo. Edwardes, Esq., Robert Courtneidge, Esq., Frank Curzon, Esq., George Dance, Esq., &c. Nothing but the biggest London successes booked.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Fred J. Elliston, Mr. B. Hill Mitchelson, Mr. L. Collingwood, Mr. Chas. Windermere, Mr. W. W. Kelly, and, in fact, practically the whole of the first-class managers of the country.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for June 6, 13, 27, and July 4, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 1, 19, 26 (3 nights), onwards. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. Douglas Bruce.
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, May 23, June 27, July 11. Douglas Bruce,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls. "CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, on. "RED RIDING HOOD," Vacant Jan. 16, on. "BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on. Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly. All particulars, Andie Caine, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of August 22 and 29.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, July 25 (?), Aug. 15, on.
Big Company.
Chorus, Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

Once or Twice Nightly.

WANTED, June 13, 20, 27, July 28 (three nights), Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 26.

All communications, J. W. Cordiner, May 16, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON AND COMPANY.
MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON AND COMPANY.

Autumn Tour, 1910.

Only vacant date, Nov. 14, to follow Leeds and precede Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Write or wire,
R. Halford Forster,
11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, and 25, Seaside only; also Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.

WANTED, Dates Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, good Theatre, three nights, Aug. 11, 12, 13, to follow Llandudno.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (3 nights), 18 (3 nights), Sept. 19, for "Miss Tommy," by Jerome K. Jerome.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as MISS TOMMY.
Miss Hughes is not appearing as "The Chorus Lady" in the Provinces after May 21.
All engagements complete for "Miss Tommy."
Miss Annie Hughes, Prince's, Manchester.

Ireland's Representative Comedian.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARING OF THE GREEN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Sept., on, 1911.
T. R., Sunderland;
next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

MESSRS. HAMILTON AND LOCKE'S TOUR.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 30 (to follow Alex., Birmingham), July 4 (to follow Palace, Newcastle).
Refer Harris Fineberg, Esq.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19, and on, with exceptions.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire, Charles Locke, Star, Liverpool; Write, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1 and 29, Sept. 5 and 12, follow the Broadhead Tour, Oct. 3, 17, and 24, Nov. 28, December, and Spring. Many thanks to W. W. Kelly, Esq., Andrew Melville, Esq., W. Forsdike, Esq., C. W. Poole, Esq., W. Payne Seddon, Esq., and many others. Oswald Cray, New Hall, Bargoed.

WANTED, for the New Success, "His Real Wife," Money-making Theatres, Nov. 14, Xmas, onwards. Can play twice nightly.
Address, T. E. Ward, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Always Merry and Bright.
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date July 4. Dickie Clare, T. R., King's Lynn (R.).

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6. Managers make enquiries about this mascot. George A. De Grey, O. H., Coventry; next, Prince's T., Bradford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
July 11, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
June 6, Sept. 26, Dec. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
July 4, 25, Aug. 22, Oct. 24, Nov. 7.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Mrs. Charles Sugden's
Autumn Tour,
in
New Play
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.
"GREED OF GOLD,"
Let to Messrs. Fox and Leonard.
To Let:
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
"LITTLE OUTCAST,"
and New Plays.
Scene Factory.
Scenes made to order at lowest price.
Scenery bought and sold.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MISS MARY NEIL.
"FROM SHOP GIRL TO DUCHESS."
By Charles Darrell.
And New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 15 (to follow Prince's, Preston).
Oct. 10, Dec. 26.
Only Vacant Dates in 1910.
A Few Dates in January and February Vacant.
Geo. Kirk,
277, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Fine Plant of Printing by Allens.
Production August Bank Holiday, London.
Only Vacancies this Year.
WANTED, Sept. 19 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, Also Jan. 2, on, with exceptions, 1911.
J. Forbes Knowles, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen (Seventh Visit).

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
WANTED, June 20, June 20, June 20 for the great successful play,
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Special Cast, including Miss Laura Walker.
May 30, May 30, May 30.
WANTED, for the great Favourite,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

Wire, Kimberley, T. R., Smethwick; next, T. R., Leeds. Vacancy Autumn for good Leading Gent.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, and HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Aug. 29, only few dates vacant this Autumn, fast booking next year; the play that draws. Wire, F. G. Kimberley, T. R., Leeds.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
By Charles Darrell.
Production, July 18, Junction T., Manchester.
WANTED, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, 21, and Dec. 26.

Miss Hilda Beverley, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COS.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
REPERTOIRE CO.
Vacant Sept. 26, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, 26.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Feb., 1911, onwards (with exceptions).
Charles Draycott, T. R., Bolton.

WANTED, E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., vacant, "Who is She?" Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21; "King and the Unknown Woman," Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, C/o "The Era."

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME," by Nita Rae.
WANTED, June 6 (between Sheffield and Pontypridd), June 20 and various onwards.
Apply to-day,
Walter J. Horne,
Metropole, Devonport; next, St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton.

MR. SYDNEY SPENCER'S CO.
Musical Comedy Repertoire.
"PEG WOFFINGTON," "MY SWEETHEART," "A WONDERFUL WOMAN."
WANTED, May 30, to oblige Mr. Tolfree, Also June 6. Also June 6.
Company of 14. Own Mus. Director.
Wires, T. R., Glossop. Letters, G. T., Chorley.

WANTED, for Wyndham's Theatre Comedy, "The Best People," May 23, 24, 25 (Lancs. or Yorks.). Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, London.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Address, Frank M. Thorne,
Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, July 4, 11, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, Xmas.
Haldane Crichton, Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, June 9, 10, 11, for "Our Boys," to follow New Theatre, Oxford. Brydon Phillips, Manager's Club, Savoy Mansions, Strand.

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, May 23, between Leamington and Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, Aug. 29 (?), and on.
Charles Windermere,
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

HORACE LINGARD
in
"FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM,"
Jerome K. Jerome.
Sardou's Great Comedy,
"DIVORCONS,"
The Screaming Farce,
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
WANTED, July 4, and onwards, with exceptions. Shelton, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, June 13 and July 4. Fast Booking Autumn. Offers invited.
Power and Faulkner, T. R., Woolwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this Phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
May 23, June 13, 27, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, Aug. 1, 15, 29, and later.

Look out for Grand New Production,
"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."

Re dates, Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda," Liverpool.

PANTOMIME 1910-1911.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates, for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

May 23 and 30.
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, May 23 and 30, various, on.
In view of the excellent business attracted now and regularly by these plays, Miss Esmond is desirous of extending the tour, given, of course, suitable dates.

Practically the same cast for four years.
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
Mr. Edward Neville as Prince Lucio Rimanez (as played by him over 1,200 times),
Miss Esmond as Diana Chesney (over 1,000 times),
Miss Rosie Neville as Lady Sybil (over 500 times).
"NANA."
Miss Esmond as Rose Mignon (over 400 times),
Mr. Neville as Hector Bruneau
(a revelation in the art of impromptu),
Miss Neville as Nana (over 400 times).
Exquisite West-end and Parisian Costumes.
The Magnificent Two-manual Pipe Organ exhibited and played in both pieces.
Local organists are frequently invited to test this beautiful instrument.
Either or both plays. Once or twice nightly.
Wire, Lois Esmond,
To-day, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.
May 16, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

"THE NIHILIST, or, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING." Last week return to Sunderland. Local manager said: "A vast improvement all round. Monday to Thursday not a pound below Monday."
WANTED, Theatres, June 27, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24, on, Xmas wanted. The cream of twice-nightly Drama. All Managers invited to see at Lyric, Liverpool. Great Holiday Attraction next week. Wires, Silverstone, T. R., South Shields; Monday, Lyric, Liverpool.

"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
By Walter Howard.
ETHEL GRIFFIES & MARGARET SKELTON'S TOUR.
WANTED, for above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
First-class Company, including Miss Griffies.
Good Scenery, Wardrobe, and Properties.
Address coms.,
Griffies and Skelton,
Kildare, West Park-road, Southampton.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, July 25, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas,
Various Spring and Autumn, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton,
To-day, Alex., Birmingham.
Monday, Elephant and Castle Theatre.

Nothing succeeds like the success that draws a crowd! The latest in Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
May 9, T. R., North Shields; 16th, Central T., Amble; 23rd, Grand T., Stockton; 30th, T. R., Blyth.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant June 6, 13, 20, Aug. 1.
Twenty Artists, including HARRY ED. RAY as the Melancholy Waiter.
Henry L. Osmond, North Shields; next, Amble.

"SMITH."
WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 28.
Percy Hutchison,
4, Finchley-road, N.W.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' CO.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
A Musical Farce, in two Acts.
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 8, 15, Nov. 7, 14, and various Spring.
New Musical Farce in Active Preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address, Miss Florence Baines, Royal, Dewsbury.

ETHEL VAN PRAAGH and J. EDWARD WHITTY'S CO.
WANTED, good Theatre, June 20, in consequence of Theatre closing for Summer.
J. Edward Whitty, T. R., Barnsley.

JUNIUS BOOTH AND HIS COMPANY IN "WAY OUT WEST."
WANTED, Theatres, May 30, June 6 and 13 (precede Prince's, Bradford). Wire, Millar Anderson, this, T. R., Ton-y-pandy; next, C. T., Pontypridd.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatres, Music Halls, or Pier Pavilions,
May 23, 30, and June 6, for
Bliss and Bliss Bohemian Co.
Bliss and Bliss Bohemian Co.
Bliss and Bliss Bohemian Co.
(seven in number).
Our only vacancies this season, owing to altering arrangements.
Special Printing,
and one of the Best Shows in the Country.
Share or Certainty.
Wire or write,
George and Leo Bliss,
Pavilion, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Theatres, for Dandy George and First-class Co. of Vaudeville Artists, selected from the principal Music Halls, including George the First, the almost human Chimpanzee, and The Crisps. Refer to Managers: A. J. Carter, Esq., Palace, Manchester; W. Wolstencroft, Hippodrome, Leigh; Claud Shayler, Esq., Empire, Dewsbury. Vac. May 30, June 27, July 4 and 11, Aug. 1 and 8. Will Lund, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 682 Royal. Wires "Comedy, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres and Music Halls, on sharing terms, First-class Halls Only; good stages and capable of holding money.
Signor Arvi's Star Attraction,
"LES METABLES."
Scientific Mystery,
and Sensational Statuary Materialisation, &c., and full Variety Company.
Turns already booked arranged for
Apply, Johnstone Arthur (Arvi Mystery), 42, Lynwood-road, Blackburn.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, June 20, June 27, THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play, "EAST LYNNE" (BULLOCK VERSION), by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO. includes
MISS LAURA HANSEN as LADY ISABEL.
MR. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. BULLOCK.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
There are almost as many versions of the Worcestershire romance as there are ways of cooking a potato, but the best is the Heath-Wilson Barrett adaptation, which contains the character of the policeman Bullock.—South Wales Argus, Feb. 1, 1910.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.
Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

Vacant June 20, 27, July 18, 25, and on, with exceptions. May 16, Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
Autumn Tour with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success, "TEMPTATION." Staged, played and advertised.
Read what the Press says this week at W. W. Kelly's Beautiful Birkenhead Theatre. Birkenhead Advertiser, Wednesday, May 11, 1910.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Monday and last evenings this popular house of amusement was filled with large and appreciative audiences, who thoroughly enjoyed the piece staged. The attraction in question was the new and thrilling drama by Russell Vaun (part author of "The Great Awakening"), entitled "Temptation." On no previous occasion has this production been to Birkenhead before, and that the management made a happy choice in booking it cannot be disputed for a single moment, the audiences showing their approbation in no stinted manner. Of the piece itself one cannot speak in too eulogistic terms. The plot is a most enthralling one, and deals with the story of a true woman's love and a designing and unscrupulous adventuress, while every single character is taken by artists of real ability. The scenic effects are in every sense of the word admirable, while the costumes are also of a very attractive character. As Hilda Dundonald, Miss Nora Carton is really admirable, and received widespread admiration at the hands of the auditors, and it can be said, and said with confidence, that a better, more enjoyable, and finer staged play it has not been our privilege to witness for some time. There is not a single weak character in the whole of the cast.
Please refer W. W. Kelly, Esq., re Company, Play, and Productions.
WANTED, Aug. 22, follow T. R., Barnsley, Various Dates in the Autumn. Wanted, Dec. 26, precede Star, Swansea. All communications, Martin Comstock, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

Pantomime Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, Production Dates, for "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," "Aladdin," "Bo-Peep," "Crusoe," "Whittington," or would Let same on Royalty. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

ARTISTS WANTED.

MR. HENRY KEMBLE'S CO.
"THE GAY COUNTESS."
WANTED, First-class Artists, in all Lines, able to sing and dance, for above Musical Comedy Sketch. Photo and full particulars to Henry Kemble, 111, Rusholme-rd, Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, for Summer Stock Season, twice nightly, commencing May 30, First-class Juvenile and Heavy Gentleman, Comedian, and Responsible, Leading Lady, Heavy Lady, Juvenile Lady, and Chambermaid. Address, Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.
No personal interviews. Silence in all cases a polite negative. Mark envelopes "Stock."

WANTED, a Lady and Gent. to play Responsible Parts, few weeks summer; also Lady and Gent., Small Parts, in Mr. N. V. Norman's Co. Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

Stock, Twice Nightly.
EMPIRE THEATRE, STOCKPORT.
WANTED, First-class Comedian and Chambermaid. Rehearse May 23. Open May 30. Lowest terms, photos and references, to M. Montgomery, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Experienced Actor, Parts and S.M. Summer, and possibly Autumn, when joint may be arranged for low. com. and aristocratic parts. Good worker and sound, useful artist. Height, experience, photo, and refs., to T. E. Ward, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, Responsible Gentleman, capable of Lead or Heavies, also Singing Chamber maid; joint if possible. Property Man write. James, Theatre (Portable), Ledbury.

WANTED, a Gentleman'y Young Actor, for Juveniles, about 24; must have power; rehearse 24th, open 30th. State experience in costume plays, age, height, photo. (stamped envelope), lowest terms, references, Frank Elliston, Hippo., St. Helens.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman. Photo, age, height, references, terms to Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, for Farcical Sketch, London Halls, Handsome Juvenile Leading Lady, tall, young, and capable; Chambermaid, for splendid comedy part, young and pretty, and must have a keen sense of humour; Juvenile Gent'eman, tall; Gentleman for peppery old General; Big Man, 6ft. or over, to represent the retired Champion of the World, must have good knowledge of boxing.
Photos. and references to
Frederic Baugh,
Forester's, Mile End, E.

WANTED, to rehearse next week, for production of new Sketch, the following Artists: First and Second Heavy, must be slim built, and make up as Orientals, strong Acting Parts; good sound Actor, to look fifty, tall; a thoroughly experienced Actor, to play small part and Stage-management; reliable man to take charge of Scenery.
Please send full particulars and terms by letter to Fred Eustace, 14, Gaskarth-road, Balham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Clever Amateur Actress and Actor, in good Dramatic Repertoire; excellent opportunity for gaining experience. Address, Box 7,698, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, immediately, two good Dancers, also smart Girl Buck Dancer; strong voices. Write age, height, experience, Rosie Ring, 43, Ormeley-road, Balham.

WANTED, at Once, Eight Children, from 8 to 10, to Train for Stage Dancing. Apply by letter to Mlle. Cora Katti-Lanner, 40, North-side, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, all Artists to Know that "Stage Facts and Figures" may now be obtained from Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand, price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d.

News of the World says: An invaluable little book.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, by a Refined Young Lady, engagements at First-class Seaside Resorts, Pier Pav., Garden Party, &c. Sacred, sentimental, and refined. Address, Box 7,709, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Well-known London Concert Bass-Baritone, an engagement for the Summer, or would go abroad. Box 7,696, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIME.
Xmas, 1910.
"CINDERELLA,"
Alexandra Opera House, Sheffield.
"CINDERELLA."
Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Royalty Theatre, Chester.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines for above, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Second Boys and Girls, Fairy Queens, Quartette and Trio of Speciality Dancers, Principal Comedians, Dame, Sisters, Demon Kings, Knockabout Comedians, Male Quartette of Vocalists, 100 Ladies not under 5ft. 6in. for Ballet and Chorus.
Address, stating age, height, photo (with stamped envelope for return of same), experience, and recent reference, and say where can be seen working for the next four weeks, to James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, well up in all kinds of work, permanency to the right man, must be quick, steady, and reliable. Terms, &c. Letters only, Charles Sharp, Theatrical Contractor, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, must be quick worker and able to undertake big work. The Tiller Schools and Stores, Healdgrove, Rusholme, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, large or small. Contracts carefully carried out, artistic work, good joinery, large studio, and workshop. Charles Saver, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. High-class, effective Scenes at lowest prices. Re-painting. W. B. Robinson, 170, King's-road, S.W.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Good Electrician, with own tools, to take charge of large plant. Terms and latest references to T. A. Edwardes, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Good Window Billers for Nottingham, Bristol, and Sunderland. Open at once. Wire, Ralph Pringle, Picture Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart, Steady Young Billposter, to travel with Circus Agent.
Address, Fred Lewis, 39, Earl-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Resident, Touring Manager, Theatre, Variety, Rinks, highest credentials, Liberty shortly. Harry Hunter, Princess Rink, Nottingham. Correspondence Invited.

WANTED, Engagement by H. Mac, Monday, through misunderstanding, Stage Manager, Advance, or Bill Inspector. Wire, 69, Regent-street, Nuneaton.

WANTED, by Gentleman, position as Assistant Acting-Manager, Theatre, Music Hall, or on Tour.
Good Premium offered.
Reply, Box 7,694, "The Era."

WANTED, appointment Acting or Business Manager, Theatre, Music Hall, or Tour. First-class refs. Address, Manager, 13, Daulby-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Walter Norman, Manager, King's Theatre, Gainsboro', will be open for Engagement after May 21, Music Hall or Theatre. Coms. as above.

WANTED, by Expert London Manager, Provincial Management in six weeks' time. Energy, ability, and grit. A. B. C., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, appointment as Manager, permanent Hall, 25 years' successful touring; abstainer, non-smoker; absolutely honest, and a worker. Banker's reference. Address, Box 7,710, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Props. or Baggage. Steady and reliable. Can open immediately. W. Nash, Orchard Cottage, St. Augustine's, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement by D. Bird, Practical Carpenter, Theatre or Music Hall, late Duchess, Balham, Palace, Bradford. Address, 173, High-street, Kirkcaldy, Fife. Distance no object.

WANTED, Known, B. W. Watkinson, the working Bill Inspector and Advertising Manager, at Liberty. 2½ years Hippo., Sheffield; 12 years' experience. Highest credentials. 7, Chippingham-place, Sheffield.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violinist, to enlist in a good Line Regiment, stationed at home, must have experience, young man of 20 or 21, excellent opportunities, good bonus.
Apply, No. 127,
C/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly Circus, London.

WANTED, for Ladies' Orchestra, experienced Violinist (leader), also Pianist, for Café Work. State terms, references, &c. Box 7,688, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, must be experienced Orchestra Leader.
References and experience to Box 7,703, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin Leader and Solo Cornet, used to Hotel and small Band, High-class work, London engagement, low salary, but permanency to right men. References to Box 7,711, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman for Violin and Mandoline Class Teaching.
Permanent, 5, Gilmore-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, for London Suburban Music Hall, open May 30, one house nightly. Terms and refs.
Box 7,714, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Hull City Police Band, First B flat Clarionet, and Second Horn;
must be good performers, and stand 5ft. 8in. in height, and not more than thirty years of age.
Write, J. Barrett, Deputy Bandmaster, Hull Police.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Clarionet, for Windermere Steam Yachts and Pavilion Orchestra, open June 1 to Sept. 10. Lowest terms, age, refs., height, and measurements, BATESON, Windermere.

WANTED, for Llandudno Town and Promenade Band, at once, good B Flat Bass Player, must be good reader in Bass and Treble Clef, one used to pitching preferred. Terms 35s. per week. Apply, Mr. KOHL, Durham Villa, Trinity-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, to open at once, Double Bass, for Churchill's Happy Valley Minstrels, must black. All letters to Llandudno.

WANTED, Bass, Trombone, and Drums, one week, commencing May 23. Lowest terms first letter. SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Wanted, Trombone, Good Appearance. First-class Military Band, £2 10s. Address, MILITARY, Wm. Porteous and Co., Glasgow.

YEOMANRY TRAINING, May 25 to June 8.
WANTED, good Euphonium Player. Lowest terms to Bandmaster S. J. DAVEY, Yeomanry, Lincoln.

WANTED, 'Cellist, immediately, thoroughly experienced Variety. Terms, references. MANAGER, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, for Monday, Flute and Piccolo, must be steady, reliable man, permanent engagement for suitable Musician used to Variety business. MANAGER, Empire, Croydon.

WANTED, a Piano Player, one than can Lecture preferred. Apply, MANAGER, New Central Hall, Middleton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Pianist and Trombone, to start at once for Bosco's Circus, Ireland. Apply, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, competent Pianist, open Monday, May 23; also Clar., at once. Age and terms. Apply, F. BROWN, Mus.-Dir., Boro' Theatre and Hippo., Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, smart Pianist, to lead Orchestra for Pictures and Varieties, sing well, and change music weekly. BOULTWOOD, Electric Theatre, Devonport.

WANTED, at once, Pianist for Auction Mart, Sight-reader, and used to the business. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Abertridwr, near Caerphilly.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist. Age, references, lowest terms, photo. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Gentleman, single, open to-day, or rehearse Monday morning at March, Cambs, Concert Party; long tour. Wire lowest, BARRETT, 19, Bedford-street, Wisbech.

WANTED, First-class Drummer and Second Cornet Player, to open Whit Monday at Reading. Apply immediately with lowest terms and references. MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Full Orchestra. Apply, with terms and references, SYKES, Musical-Director, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Southend Town Band, Cornet, Clarionet, Bombardon, steady and reliable. Terms, shares. J. GIFFORD, 4, Richmond-avenue, High-street, Southend.

WANTED, Ladies' and Uniformed Military Brass Bands, first-class only, for Continent. GUISE, Concert Direction, 25, Bonham-rd., Brixton Hill. Appointment only.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Musicians to Note
that the following Resolution
was passed at the last meeting of the
London Branch of the
Amalgamated Musicians' Union:—

"That in order to safeguard those engaged in the entertainment profession from a compulsory seven days' week, and to strengthen the hands of the Sunday Defence Committee, consisting of the Variety Artists' Federation, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees, no member of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union shall be allowed to take part in Sunday entertainments given in any London Theatre, Music Hall, or Picture Palace, except those given by the National Sunday League, the Queen's Hall Sunday Concert Society, the Royal Albert Hall Sunday Concerts, the Beecham Orchestra, or any society affiliated to the Sunday Defence Committee."

The Committee hope that all Musicians, for their own sakes, will support their action in this matter.

Secretary,
C. JESSON,
9, Great Newport-street, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement Varieties, First-class only, London preferred. Address, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 25, Comyn-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, by well-known Musical-Director, Engagement from June 13 to Aug. 1, Seaside preferred. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, St. Lawrance, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, by smart Musical Director (Pianist), Re-engagement, London or suburbs only; large library; excellent refs.; T.T.; thoroughly reliable. Box 7,713, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement shortly, by smart Conductor, brilliant Pianist, excellent references, up-to-date Orchestral Library. CONDUCTOR, 12, Crowtree-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement by Richard Abbott, Conductor, Violin, Viola, Pianoforte. Thoroughly experienced all branches. Address, Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Conductor (Piano or Violin), Variety, Drama, or Concert, good refs. SYDNEY ALDRETT, c/o White Lion Hotel, Market-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Harry Petersen, late Conductor, 6½ years, Palace, Walthamstow, open for engagements, conductor or piano. CONDUCTOR, 2, Wilson-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor or Cornet, any business, up-to-date répertoire. Can supply Good Band. FISHBURN, 4, Fewston-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (violin), disengaged, any business, excellent library, highest references. Address, WILFRED BALL, 50, Tunnel-road Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, through closing, young and thoroughly experienced; excellent refs. TAYLOR, 250, Exeter-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, competent, reliable; excellent references. Wire or write, VIOLINIST, 21, Hartington-road Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Clara Wiese, Leader or First Violin at Liberty for Whitsun and Summer Engagement. Address, 451, York-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist, Disengaged May 21. Address, 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead, S.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, through Closing, position as Leader or First Violin, any business. At Liberty May 23. J. MARSH, Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, just finished Tour Moody-Manners, any business. Write or wire, KIRKMAN, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, First or Second, any business. Can combine Clar. Good refs. CHAS. MARSHALL, Orchestra, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, re-engagement, Second Violin, any business. Sober; good refs. E. WARD, 23, Alverstone-avenue, Wimbledon Park, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Violinist, First or Répétiteur, open Monday or season Engagement; first class refs. VIOLINIST, 25, Messenger-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, any business; competent, and capable of Leader; good refs. J. FURNISS, 26, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, by First Violin, Season Engagement, or London, experienced and reliable; good refs. Add., VIOLINIST, 58, Great Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, by First Violinist, Re-engagement, anywhere; experience all Lines; abstainer, good refs. PHIPPS, c/o Clements, 176, Gt. George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ida Angless, Solo and Orchestral Cornet, Disengaged. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Cornet, well experienced, any business; excellent references; young; abstainer. JAS. HILLIER, 4, Avenue-road, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornet, any business; excellent testimonials and references. Apply, R. CURRIE, T. R., Coatbridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and Trombone, together or separate; good refs., any business. HOYLE, Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, by good Cornet, Engagement, thoroughly experienced all Lines, sober, reliable; good refs. TAYLOR, 36, Spring-gardens, Stockport, near Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, at Liberty May 16; experienced, reliable. Address, A. F., 48, Frewell-buildings, Bourne Estate, Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, first-class experience. Orchestra and Military, good Transposer. Highest reference. CORNET, 38, Upper Lewes-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, two First or First and Second Cornets, Disengaged end of May, require situations, any business. FORD, Waterside, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement through closing as Solo Clarionet or Double Bass; thoroughly experienced all lines; excellent references. WAINMAN, 32, Whamond-street, Motherwell.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Military or String. C. STEAD, 1, Beaufort-bldngs, Pittville, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Clarionet, Orchestral, or Military, experienced, references, at Liberty May 21. W. T. CLUCAS, Concert Hall, Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, First Clarionet, reliable, efficient, immediate engagement, good refs. DAVID GRAY, 22, Uckfield-road, Enfield Lock.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Orchestra or Military, by Brilliant Clarionet and Saxophonist; good refs. Perm. address, WRIGLEY, 49, Peter-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, known, Disengaged for Summer Season, Miss Maud Jones, Double Bass. Perm. add., 44, Cranmer-road, N., Brixton.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Double Bass, engagements. Ladies' orchestras please note. M. N., 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, any business, disengaged through closing; good ref. T. HOPKINS, Upper-street, Fleet, Hants.

WANTED, by String Bass, experienced, Engagement, Sea Trip, any business. Refs. DICKEN, Parker's-terrace, Basford, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass or Violin, reliable, any business; best refs.; abstainer. THOS. A. WATT, 56, King-street, Coatbridge, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, reliable Double Bass, experienced, any business. Free through Hippodrome closing, May 21. Excellent testimonials. M. A. CHISHOLM, 1, Mackerrell-st., Paisley.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, short season, Pier or Music Halls, Bass. HARRIS, 36, Lancaster-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass Player, good refs. Address, DAVID THOMAS, 1, Hill-terrace, Penygraig.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, steady and reliable; open at once. HARRY HARE, c/o McIntosh, 48, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bass E Flat player, Principal preferred, in High-class Season Band only. T. BAKER, 2, King's-row, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombonist, in good Orchestra or Military Band; highest references and experience; no salary unless satisfactory every way. TAYLOR, 41, Wharf-road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Professional Trombonist, Theatre, Variety, or Concert Orchestra. Address, TROMBONE, 75, Deans-avenue, Hindley, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone (good), any business. First-class refs., steady, reliable. J. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester. Would deputise few weeks.

WANTED, Known, Trombonist, at Liberty. Military Band or Orchestra. TITO ALTOBELLI, 83, Northcote-avenue, Southall.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, through disappointment, steady and reliable, any business. Address, TROMBONE, 119, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, by good Military Trombone Soloist, Engagement, experienced any business. Address, F. MOGG, Castle Coffee House, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Long Summer Engagement. At Liberty May 28, Military or Orchestral. CHAS. GRICE, Palace Rink, Rosebery-terrace, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Engagement, Bombardon, any business, steady and reliable. A. BLUNT, 2, Florence-road, Seacombe; next, 28, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Horns, from May 23 to July 20. Address, MESSRS. E. A. and W. CHAPMAN, 6, S. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business. W. A. PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by French Horn any Business; at Liberty May 21. Address, HORN, 12, Wiltshire-avenue, Crowcroft Park, Manchester.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist (Solo Chamber Music; Orchestra), short Summer Engagement; highest references; Hotel party preferred; no uniform. Box 7,626, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Cellist; Theatre or Variety Business; good refs.; or would deputise. London preferred. Box 7,697, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cello, or would dep. Town. Good refs. Soloist. GEORGE CHALDER, 9, Sylverdale-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, good, abstainer good refs., seeks Engagement through reducing Theatre Orchestra. Address, BELLAMY, 44, Freeston-street, New Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement by Young, Reliable 'Cello. Any line of business, good references. Wire or write, H. COOTE, 41, Alderman-rd., Ipswich.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any Business. First-class references. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Oboe; excellent references; Liberty May 16. W. HALLIWELL, Horshold, Hebden Bridge, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flute and Piccolo, well up in Opera and Variety business, sober and reliable; highest ref. FLAUTIST, 12, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, Theatre closing; absolutely steady and reliable; highest references. FLAUTIST, 9, St. George's-street, Chorley, Lancs.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, engagement, experienced all lines, abstainer, excellent references, any distance. FLAUTIST, 31, Musjid-road, Battersea, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced and Reliable Flautist, Good Piccolo Soloist. ROBERTS, 17, Walker-st., West Derby-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady, Flute and Piccolo, experienced any business. Good refs. Disengaged after Whitsuntide. Box 7,707, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Concerts, Banquets, At Homes, &c., Accompanist, Composer, Singers Coached. Miss KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, variety, pictures. 57, Wargrave-avenue Stamford Hill, London, N.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, through Theatre closing, engagement by First-class Pianist. Excellent references. CHARLES DAWSON, Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, by Pianist, Orchestral or Var., Engagement for Whit week. Terms, 45s. and fares. Apply, D., 12, Camden-st., Islington, London.

WANTED, by Lad, 16, smart Pianist, Engagement, S.E. district, Variety or Picture Palace, reads sight, M.S., son of well-known Variety Artist. J. D., 40, Ravensbourne-road, Catford.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, Effects, own Tympani, Season or Permanent Eng.; good refs. DRUMS, 54, Hatcham Park-rd., Newcross Gate, S.E.

WANTED, by experienced Drummer and Tympanist, through closing, or Deputising. DRUMMER, c/o Mrs. McCourt, 4, Clarence-st., Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Lib. May 21, Tymps and Drums, any bus.; highest refs. T. R., Hanley; or, R. EVANS, 63, Seaford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer, with effects, now at Liberty, any business; sober, reliable. HAYES, 27, Towson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Double Drummer, experienced. Wire or write, DORIS TOFTS, Perm. Add., 8, Pease-street, Hull.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by smart Double Drummer, all Effects; experienced Military, Orchestra, Rink, &c.; excellent references. Eddlewood, Russel-street, Falkirk.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, any business, Military or String; good references. Particulars, &c., MORRIS, 79, High-street, Glasgow.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.
WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame MANTON-MYATT,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagements for Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Summer. Great success New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth (nine consecutive seasons). Smart Costumes, up-to-date Répertoire. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Disengaged for Season. Large Répertoire, effective costume, including vocalists. CONDUCTRESS, Lansdowne, Falkland-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for First-class Engagements, the Finest Bijou Military Band extant. Twelve solo performers, extensive répertoire, smart uniform, highest credentials. Correspondence invited. BANDMASTER GEO. A. WESTON, Rupert-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Eng., good small Military or Orchestral Band, any business, experience in Bandstand Programmes; highest references; uniforms. MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Seaside, Town, for Collini's Military, Orchestral Bands, any business. Rinks this season, Highgate, Stamford Hill, Stratford, Woking. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Smart Orchestral Band; Rink, Pictures, Ball-room, &c. Special Summer Terms. Uniform; evening dress. PALMER, M.D., Grovehill-road, Beverley.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Rink Band, Wind Instruments, eight performers, including Pianist. Will combine. Lib. June. SALES, 67, Clarence-rd, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement by String Band of Eight. Good Library. Any business. F. DRAKE, Mus. Dir., Band, Stratford-on-Avon.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by small Band, just concluded ten months' engagement, Brass or Military, Liberty May 30. Apply, TURNER, 54, Grove-road, Luton.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Circus, one or two good Acts. Aerial Act preferred; also steady young man as Agent. PINDER ORD'S Royal Circus, Creetown Mon., Gatehouse Tues., Kirkcudbrightshire, N.B.

WANTED, for Circus, a good Barebacked Horse Rider, four of a Brass Band, and Advance Agent for the Season, tour through Scotland. All communications to J. RINTOUL, Jigburn House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Sober, Reliable Tentmaster, for Bosco's Circus, Ireland. Age, terms, and references to 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, the world-known Musical Talking and Knockabout Clown, with Entrées, Liberty Monday. Wire, 19A, Briggate, Shipley.

WANTED, J. Block will be at Liberty as Agent, Door-Manager, or Stud Groom, May 28, on, through closing of a Touring Circus. Address, J. BLOCK, Midland Inn, Suffolk-street, Birmingham. Will the Zolas write?

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GLOBE AGENCY,
HIPPODROME, HEYWOOD.
'Phone 109. Managing-Director, J. CAMERON.
WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, immediate work. Full list of bookings, permanent and lowest terms. A few of our bookings this week: Nancy Laurell (seven weeks), Madame Barret Stone (four weeks), Silly Billy Elliot (six weeks), Beaty Sullivan (three weeks), Tim Carlyle (three weeks), Queenie Royal (three weeks), Sisters Volbequo (six weeks), Marie Golding (four weeks), Cissie Ferndale (three weeks), Edgar Cook (two weeks), Hilton and Wallace (two weeks), Three Kings (four weeks), Wills and Warlocks (two weeks), Forbes Gilbert (three weeks), Arthur Page, Osmond Penstone, Sisters Beatrice, Retta Haiket, Horace Monto, Sam Voss, The Blyndons, Three Harringtons, Bert Seddon, Una Lindley and Co., The Birkenhead Family, Marcus Boyle, Ada Whitton, Charles Bignell, Sisters Ardell, Bert Rayburn, Six Yorkshire Lasses, &c.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all kinds.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY Requires Star Numbers.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY Pleased to see any Act.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY Write, write, write,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY 18, Adam-st., Strand.
'Phones: Any hour, Sydenham 1093; Offices, City 615. Telegrams, "Chorusina, London."

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, for June and July, all Lines, for Jarrow-on-Tyne. Apply, T. C. RAWES, Palace, Durham.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Monday, May 30, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, wire for Monday, on, Hall small. LEONARD KENDALL, Emp., Melton Mowbray.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, one week only, June 6, for Jarrow. Send very lowest terms, and say when last in Jarrow. J. W. CRAGG, 51, Market-street, Hanley, Staffs.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
Important Notice.
Star Artists. Star Artists.
WANTED, Known, Star Artists, now booked at the Paragon Music Hall, who have received the usual eight weeks' Notice of Closure, are hereby informed that should they wish to retain those dates in the East End of London,
MR. FREDERIC BAUGH
will be pleased to make an appointment with a view to arranging to play them at
THE FORESTERS' VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
Immediate Vacancies for Star Acts only.
Write (no wires),
Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre,
Cambridge-road, London, E.
Telegrams, "Stageyness, London."
Telephone, Avenue, 5,954.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Specialities, &c., for immediate dates, South Wales; can arrange trial week in London, Acts wishing to be seen. EGERT'S Agency, Exclusive Agents Tivoli, Pentre, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy, &c., Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 'Phone 6519 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Egbertency, London."

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 23, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for First-class Combination. Please state if Act played in No. 1, No. 2, or full set, and lowest terms and particulars, to Box 7,702, "The Era."

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 23, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES,
Neath, Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughboro', Rugby, and Exmouth.
WANTED, Known, Summer dates vacant for well-known Artists, Comedy Teams (Vocal and Instrumental), clever Juvenile Troupes, or any smart, up-to-date Act (not acrobatic). Have already booked a number of First-class Turns. Address, ARTHUR BROGDEN, Manager, Barry Dock.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 16, onwards. Letters, R. FORDHAM, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, May 16, onwards, also Big Tops for odd weeks.
Perm. add., Hippodrome, Scarboro'. 'Phone 288.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Immediate Dates, for several Halls in the North. Apply, SIGNOR PEPI, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

FRANKLIN'S GARDENS, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, Call May 16, at 11 o'clock, for Tudora's Ponies, Callie and Rennie, Henri Foden, Lomas, Les Henris, Sing Ling Ching, Bodey Brothers, Musical Korries. Sole Agent, ALLAN MCASKELL. Lashmars wire address.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars,
Big Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for
July and later,
Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Stars,
and
Big Speciality Acts
for
Summer Dates.
Terms and particulars to
BROOKS'S Agency,
35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for May 23, and onward, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency,
105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, for Orphan Home Gala, Grimsby, Thursday, Aug. 11, Good Turns for Entertainment Stage, including Swimming (in the lake). E. HUDSON, 46, Stirling-street, New Clee, Grimsby.

WANTED, on June 25, for Carnival, all kinds of Turns for outside entertainment, Musical or otherwise.
Please state terms to
Secretary, THOMAS ALLINSON,
Priory Band, Guisborough, Yorks.

WANTED, smart Variety Turns, for Picture Halls. State vacant dates, lowest terms. Letters only, PICTURES, 142, Long Acre, W.C.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

HENGLER'S,
GLASGOW.
WANTED, Big Specialities, commencing about middle of November. Say where can be seen during the next few weeks if not known, and also when and where in Glasgow before.

YARMOUTH & LOWESTOFT'S HIPPODROMES.
Wanted, all kinds of Big Shows for Yarmouth, Refined Acts for Lowestoft, suitable for First-class Audience.

THE PALACE,
GORLESTON-ON-SEA.
Wanted, middle July, on, Refined Artists.
Lowest terms must be stated and fullest particulars.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road, Great Yarmouth.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big and really Funny Speciality, with own Scenery preferred, Novel Musical Acts, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, big Animal Acts, Sensational Specialities, &c., for May 23, June 6, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of posters and lithos, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Specialities all Lines, must be new to Jarrow and Ashington.
All coms.,
LAMB, Buffalo Palace, Ashington.

WANTED, Specialities, Musical, Dancing, Vocal, Refined Entertainers, Light Comedians, requiring a week in Summer at Popular Seaside Town, to send vacancies and lowest terms at once to Box 7,712, "The Era."

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy Acts, or anything with good drawing powers (refined). Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London.
WANTED, Biggest of Acts and Novelties for Continent.
Note.—Sole Agency only entertained.
Also,
Star Acts for Britain,
and Panto., 1910-11: Principals only.

WANTED, Big Specialities, all Lines. Top Liners write. Palace, Jarrow; Buffalo Picture Palace, Hirst, Ashington. General Manager, J. C. PADDEN.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Acts, salary or sharing.
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Immediate Dates and on.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.
WANTED, Comedy Acts, Top-liners, for next week,
also May 23, 30,
for Midlands and North.
Apply as above.

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, Smart and Up-to-date Acts for above. Speciality and otherwise, but must be strictly free from vulgarity and refined. Turns who have worked Aberdare don't apply. Send full lists and lowest terms. J. R. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, for Hancock's Coliseum, good Ground Acts, also good Knockabout Comedian. Would like to hear from Troupe of Dogs. Can join at once. Apply, until Monday, HANCOCK'S Coliseum, Moore's Fields, Redruth.

WANTED, Startling Novel Acts, for Fête and Gala, for Aug. 24 and 25. Apply immediately, lowest terms for one or two days. E. DE HAGUE BODY, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, good Variety Companies, with a big Attraction at the Top of the Bill, for immediate dates, for Hippodromes in the North. Signor PEPI, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Small Variety Companies for Manor House Theatre, Ringwood. No pictures, singers, and dancers. Shares. Apply MANAGER.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now, and onwards. HARRY TAFT, King's T., Portsmouth; next, Alhambra, Paris.

WANTED, May 23 and 30, big Tops, on Sharing Terms, for First-class Music Hall; also First-class Acts all Lines. Bookings and lowest terms in first instance, WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy, Liverpool."

WANTED, Top Liners and Acts of all descriptions, for immediate dates. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms. Artists all Lines. Full particulars, where can be seen, HARRY WARD, 140A, Shaftesbury-avenue. 'Phone 13,136 Central.

WANTED, Doubles doing Singles, Illustrated Songs, May 23, on. Lowest (no best offers) hall small. Address, PICTURES, Public Hall, Gravesend.

WANTED, immediately, for Music Hall Sketch a smart young lady, pretty, a good figure and voice, age between 20 and 25 years, not more, and must have had good experience. Replies only are invited, in confidence, from good Artists, stating full particulars, together with recent photograph, which will be returned. Salary must be reasonable. CHARLES WILSON, 12, Deyne-avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, to open at once, smart young men, Tumblers, Comedy, Acrobats, Contortionists, long and comfortable engagements to the right people. Particulars, WILL DOUGLAS, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, a good Comedy Waiter, able to mimic a cat an advantage. CHARLES WILSON, 12, Deyne-avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, for well-known Troupe. Age, height, photo., and tricks. CYCLIST, 33, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, a good Lecturer, for Pictures, one doing Variety Turn preferred; Tour of 26 weeks for Ireland. Terms, particulars first instance. Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Kemp's Cinematograph Shows, a good Lecturer, with smart appearance; also several respectable young men, used to the business, and single. Fair Ground, Congleton, Cheshire.

WANTED, Experienced Operators, used to Two Hours Show, for Nottingham, Bristol, and Sunderland. Open once. Wire, RALPH PRINGLE, Picture Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, 16th, also June 6, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Wire, 93, Liverpool-rd., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Madame Margarita Nicoli, Illustrated Songstress (own slides), Sketch Artist, &c., Liberty now, North if possible. 16, Olive-street, Park-lane, Sunderland.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) WORKING IN CONJUNCTION (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 16, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Yvette Guilbert, J. W. Pigott and Co., Marquis' Cobs, Alice Raymond and Co., Princess Baratoff, Henri Leoni, James Stewart, Violet Romaine, Animated Pictures, Raymond Phillips' Airship.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Clarice Mayne, Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Frank and Free, Pat Rafferty, Lux's Dogs, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Julia Kent and Co., Andy McLeod, De Wynne Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Ellaline Terriss, Maie Ash, Stanley Brett and Co., Speedwell, Wullie Walker, Phil Parsons, Bioscope, Carmos, Queen and Le Brun, Sisters Tower.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," J. C. Scatter, Leo Tell, Avolos, Mlle. Eldee, Poole and Maguire, Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Harry Lamore, Merlin.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Fifth week Stock Season: "Hands Across the Sea."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Maidie Scott, Lancashire Singers, Margaret Parker, Staig's Steeplejacks, Devon and Earle, Alfred Wood's Co., Ada Martine, Bioscope, Kellinos, Frank Hartley.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 10.30 a.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Lyric Quartette, Lulu Russell, Campbell and Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Conan and Doyle, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope, Latonas, Humpsti Bumsti.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Neilson Duo, Miss Burley, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Chas. Mildare, Fred Shepherd, Lena Verdi, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Hagedorn's Grotto.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Tom F. Taylor's Co., in "Can a Woman be Good?"

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Serene Nord, Ouida Macdermott, Eight Empire Girls, Serenaders, Nelson Jackson, J. J. Dallas, Arthur Slater, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Alexandre and Hughes.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Two St. Johns, A Ba-Bes, Herbert Shelley, Alf. Gibson, Bros. Durant, Fatmah Diard, Arthur Woodville, Bioscope, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Fred Lincoln, Bros. Bright, May Henderson Alexandra Dagmar, Marco Belli, Carl and Carr, Johnny Walker, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fragson, Ike and Will Scott, Five Whiteleys, Toch and Tard, Lillie Lassah, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Hubert Carter and Co., Sybil Lister, Chris Van Bern.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

William Mollison and Co., Rhoda Paul, King and Queenie, Abdullah Arabs, Harry Herbert, Frank and Gracie Sumner, Harry Merrilees, Bioscope, Gustave Fasola, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Great Lafayette, Bioscope, New Macs, Ed. E. Ford, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Andos Japs, Dandies.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Smythsons, Harry Leybourne, Mezzettis, Frank Lynne, Haytors, Bioscope, Nellie Wallace, James Stewart.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m for:—

Evie Greene, La Berat, Esta Stella, Van Dammes, Matthews and Cowper, Mabel Sinclair, Sisters Jerome, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Will Evans.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Edwardes's Co., in "The Merry Widow."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Stock Company and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Dan Crawley, Harry Weldon, Phillips and Merritt, Florence Yaymen, Addie Dorina, Horace Pollock, Henry Helme, Francis and Alfred, Channings, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Walker and Lake, Charles Vincent, Romano Trio, Three Merrills, Goodfellow and Gregson, Gwennie Hasto, Bioscope, Geo. Ali and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Sam Mayo, Empire Comedy Four, Tom Moore, Barrett and Knowles, La Freya, May Mars, Great Vincent, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

La Pia, Orpheus, Chas. Santon, Wyndham and Kitty, Lulu Williams, D'Arc's Marionettes, Harry Friskey, Sisters Caselli, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Sisters St. Julian, Bert Williams, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, G. W. Hunter, Talbot and Pearce, Ryan and Hall, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Tom Clare, Seven Perezoffs, Chas. J. Johnson, Pindens, Dot Hardy, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Fred Curran, Les Silas.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Gaston Chevallier and Co., in "The Rat," Carl Howard, Lizzie Glenroy, Conn and Conrad, Woodhouse and Wells, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Bioscope, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Tate and Tate, H. O. Wills.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mark Sheridan, Waul Langtry, Falco and Eida, Dot Stephens, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Courtiers, Rauschle, Bros. Redmond, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Anna Chandler.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Liane D'Eve, Tom Stuart, Francoli Troupe, Gladys Mavius, Ben Albert, Manchester Mites, Lindon Lang, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, Frank Maura, Emma Don and Co., Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, W. F. Frame, Takio, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Wish Wynne, Motramos.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lew Lake and Co., Signor Persichini, Tom H. Hughes, Chas. Norton, Amelie De L'Enclos, Hall and Earle, Northern Troupe, Three Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Bellclair Bros., Robins and Collier.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

John Lawson and Co., Rossi Ashton, Jack Lane, Hilda Jacobsen, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Bioscope, Heeley and Meeley, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Peter Bermingham, Illustrated Song, Frank H. Fox, Pictures, Jackley Trio, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Howard and Harris, Marie Kendall, Brennans, Mitchell and Cain, Stanley and Greenop, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Siems.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Ada Colley, A. G. Spry, Leo Fields, Saxonia Family, Lyons Trio, Kathleen Cogan, Bioscope, Horace Wheatley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Romanys, Bertha Winder, Dan Hendy, Fred Land, Prince Milner Trio, Ian Colquhoun, Zethus, Harry Thurston, Pictures, Millie Payne.

Artists please note.—A Matinée will be given on Whit-Monday in lieu of the Evening Performance.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jack Pleasants, Johnny Fuller, Frank Cass, Marsumas, Fred Barnes, Katie Butler, Pictures, Park's Eton Boys and Girls.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAG LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: Miss AMY ROBINSON.

General Business Manager for the Circuit: Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager: Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 16.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Harry Roxbury's Company, Dan Conroy, Alice Craven, J. J. Maunix, Burdetter Brothers, Madison and Webb, Will Douglas's Bakers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Friend and Downing, Shifley and Ransome, Clive Cattley, Kate Gourley, Gwen Francis, Leolin, Vaudeville Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
"Saved by Wireless," The Belmonts, Lisbon and Barker, The Miltons, Captain Ellis and Son, Norah Desmond, Bert Crosbie, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"The Yellow Fang," Stevens and Brett, Kitts and Windrum, Burt Shepard, Maro Duo, The Janowskys, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Letine, Pictures, E. D. Nicholls and Co., "Little Cherub," Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane, Rayburn and Dix, Jessie Wilton, Bessie Neilson, Winnie Barr, Billy Whitlock, Ling and Long.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Henri Cazman, The Rangers, Ellerslie Pyne, "The Cattle Thief," Kitty Curtis, The Malbans, Ernestine Desboro, Chas. Coborn, Josephine Crook, Ethel Pearce The Big Four.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Gaudsmidts, Geo. Lawrence, Arthur Stacey, Mildred Bryan, Canard, The Sages, Fred and Lulu Camplin, Blanche Marlon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Niblo's Birds, Raymond and Ivy, Cumminger and Colonna, Zanfrellas, George Acre, Vesta Nixon, Bartholomew Girls, Comedy Meisters, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Beaumont Collins Co., Florence and Rose Showell, Edwardes and Edwardes, Johnny Cecil, Reid and Power, Dan Fraser, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Geni Family, Chas. Banks and Dog, Cassie Walmer, Bert Maddison, Cissie Thompson, Sisters Maynard, Jack Hamilton, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
George Formby, Sergeant Brennan, Beatrice Allen, Cairo Trio, Colin Mail, Sissie Brand, Arnold Richardson and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Carlton, Harry Martell, Cavalli, Adie Lombard, "The Showman," Sydney Brandon, Susie and Protti, Brothers Hannaway, "The Mysterious Cross," Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Atlas and Vulcana, Stidder and Dunbar, Ethel Bourne, Mona Garrick, The Simms, Barrie and Wood, Pete and Minnie Lee, Tom Florence, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Broughton and Creedon, Smarte Brothers, Yangar, Flo Burnett, Jenny and Daisy, Syd Walker, Virto, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
"A Sister's Sin."

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Woman of Kronstadt."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Six Buster Browns, Crosby and Walker, Don and Dixie, Ada Pawn, John Macauley, Three Alskarnos, The Wedburns, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m.
Adolf Beck Picture, Ten Dixie Girls, Kitty Clinton, Geo. Geoffreys, Burt Ward, The Newmans, "The Last Halt."

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ross and Grayson, Pictures, Our Mary Jane, Beattie Lyndon, "The Deadbeat," Annie Blanchard, Ethel Christie, Lenton and Lane, Sisters Wren, Welda and Wynne, "Drink," Brian McCullough's Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Irene Meldon, Arabella Allen, Chas. Carlile's Co., "The Adder's Tooth," Pender's Bright Sparks, Eight Stella Girls, Emily Fitzroy, Ethel Campbell, The Lindos, Barnes and West.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Helen Martin, Pictures, Harry Moore, "A Secret of the Past," Madge O'Neil, Gladys Clinton, Eric and Nora, Evelyn and Chip, Sketch "Nelson," Rosie Gaston, Guy Ryder.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES
INCLUDING
HAT.
LATEST PATTERN.
Price 14/6
Postage ... ... 6d.

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE. E.C.

SPARROW & SON

EST. 1765. NOTTINGHAM. TELE. 187.

THEATRICAL DECORATIONS.
FIBROUS PLASTER. ART PAINTINGS.

PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS ARE INVITED TO SEND FOR SKETCHES & ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE PREPARED FREE OF ALL CHARGE.

PRESS COMMENTS on some of the THEATRES, &c., DECORATED by SPARROW & SON.
"One of the most charming theatres in the provinces." "Carried out in admirable taste."
"One of the most beautiful concert halls in the world."
"Messrs. Sparrow and Son, of Nottingham, well known for their Theatrical Decorative work, carried out the interior Decorations in exquisite style."

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

BY

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

SOLICITOR.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BELFAST.—Comf. rooms, good cooking, bath, piano, 5 min. theatres, good refs. Belvoir-terrace, 8, University-street.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Two sitting, 2 bedrooms, and 2 combined, piano, bath (h. and c.), near Halls and station. Nat. Tel. 334Y7. Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-street.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen's-square, fully licenced; first-class accommodation. Special terms. Mr. and Mrs. De Selva (Cossie Noel).

LONDON, N.E.—Near Empire. Central Pavilion, Foresters', and Shoreditch. Mrs. Hallen, 18, Beck-road, Hackney. Piano, gas. Vac. Sunday.

LONDON, S.E.—Furnished apartments. Every convenience, very homely (central). Hillingdon House, 208A, Hillingdon-st., Kennington-park.

LONDON, S.E.—One or two bed-sitting rooms, also drawing-room vacant for Sunday next (15th). Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-rd.

LONDON, S.W.—Winchester Lodge, 10, Effra-road, Brixton Hill. Comfortable apartments, bath (h. c.), good cooking, attendance.

LONDON, S.W.—Kensington (South). 75, Drayton-gardens. Drawing-room 12s. 6d.; Parlour Flat, 15s. 6d.; Bed-Sitting, 7s. 6d., 5s. 6d.; Board-residence, 15s. 6d.

MORECAMBE.—Mrs. Smith, 14, Sea View Parade. Bed-rooms and Sitting-rooms; bath and lavatory; home comforts. Close to Halls and Piers.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professionals' Apartments. Moderate Terms.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Budge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

HOUSE TO LET.
Exceptionally charming detached double-fronted residence known as The Limes, 18, Flodden-road, Camberwell New-road, S.E. Quiet, respectable neighbourhood, just off main road, within two minutes trams to all bridges and within three minutes rail. The accommodation comprises six bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), three reception rooms, and large well-kept gardens back and front. Rent, £60 per annum.
Apply, F. K., 38, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

At a very low reserve to ensure a sale, with possession. No. 2 STOCKWELL PARK-ROAD, STOCKWELL, S.W. This excellent Leasehold Non-basement Residence, close to the trams and Stockwell Station (C. and S.L.R.).
FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the Mart, E.C., on Monday, May 30, 1910, at 2 o'clock.

Particulars of Messrs. Milner and Bickford, solicitors, 10, Moorgate-street, E.C.; of Mr. G. R. Hebden, surveyor, 12, Old Jewry-chambers, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, Messrs. Herring, Son, and Daw, 12, Old Jewry-chambers, E.C., and 352, Brixton-hill, S.W.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS

— FOR —

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Ruthie Vollmer, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, June 6 and 13. 39, Tassie-street, Shawlands, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Harvey wants Mon., May 16, June 6 and 13. Descriptive and Chorus Vocalist. Wire, Palace, Oldbury, Staffs. Perm. add., 11, Gardenwall-street, Salford.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Ducttists and Dancers, May 30, June 20. 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Company, at Liberty for May 23 and 30. Thanks Frank Macnaghten, Esq., and E. H. Bostock, Esq., for offers. To-day, Palace, Southampton; next week, Alex. Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, by Eileen and May, Sisters, Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers, May 23, June 13. Pier Pavilion, Rhyl.

WANTED, May 30, also June 6, 13, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the famous Singing Boxmakers (three sisters). Add., W. H., Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Sisters, Lucretia and Josephine, May 23 and 30, through barring, Harmonising Duettists and Artistic Dancers. Best halls booked. Return, Monday, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Three Van Earles, May 30, June 6. Beautiful Ballads, Yorkshire Nightingales, Marvellous Clog Dancing. Monday, Palace, Staveley, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to see the Latest Novelty; tremendous attraction, Beatrice Bonnie and her Dancers on the Stairaphone. May 16, Hippo., Bury.

WANTED, Percy Maye, still scoring. Now on five weeks South Wales tour. This, an absolute sensation, New Empire, Aberyschan; next, Blaenavon. Thanks Messrs. C. Parker, F. Carlton, and others, also for offer of the Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale tour. A few open dates in July and August only. Managers please communicate early, en route, or perm.,
2, Claremont-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, May 23, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, Original Scenas, Colliery Pictures, &c. Queen's T., Farnworth; next, Palace, Jarrow.

WANTED, for July 4 and 11, also Aug. 22 and 29, by Rich Taylor, the Popular Entertainer, in his most successful items.

Managers of Piers, &c., are invited to write for particulars, Low Moor, Clitheroe.

WANTED, Monday next, 16th, by Ryder Davis, Real Comedian. Wire, Public Hall, Gravesend; after Saturday, 11, Camberwell-grove, S.E.

WANTED, May 16, 23, 30, by Schuler, Elite Musical Act. Starring Speciality; splendid fit-up. Wire, 49, Peter-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Ted Lucknow, Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty Monday. Wire, Queen's Palace, Shipley; after, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, May 16, by Ralph Waldo, Talker, Parodies, and Concertinist. Wire, 58, Guelph-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Summer, A. Coombes, Banjoist and Light Comedian, Concerteds, Sketches, late Clacton, Herne Bay, Birchington. 40, Percy-road, Kilburn, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jack Crew, Versatile Comedian and Dancer. Second week, Empire, Melton Mowbray.

WANTED, Whit Week, Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina). King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Eric Graham, Man in the Street Comedian, and George Lambton, the Ideal Swell; singly or jointly. Wire for Monday, Victoria Hall, Blackburn; or, 25, Regent-street.

WANTED, May 23 and 30, JEAN SEUL. Address, next week, Hippodrome, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, by Wilton Warton, Magician, May 23, 30, June 13, and few Summer Dates. This, Prince's, Llandudno; next, 94, Great Mersey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by De Megio, Speciality Entertainer, Ventriloquist, Conjurer, Smoke Painting, Chapeaugraphy; own lithos; Piers, Pavilions. Perm. address, Chadwick-road, Eccles.

WANTED, Known, Will Dexterri, Classical Society Juggler Extraordinary, astonishes all; also George Holbrook, Dramatic Character Impersonator, presenting Scenes from Famous Plays and Authors. Now working Al Fresco; at Liberty shortly; offers invited. Sure success.

444, Bolton-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, on, by Vallino, the great Comedy Military Juggler, in a Scena, "At Camp." Wire, VALLINO, Fashoda, Lutterworth.

WANTED, Known Little Hackenschmidt, the Most Successful Bantam-weight Wrestler Living. £100 challenge. &c. Tivoli, Pentre, return. Vacant May 23, 30. Coms., Palace, Ferndale, Wales.

WANTED, May 23 on, by Herman and Evelyn, Great Wire Act; also Cosselly, Acrobatic Table Act. Offers invited. This, 14, Railway-terrace, North Shields; next week, Coliseum, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; also Ada Whitton, Comedienne; one or both. Wire, 35, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie and Edgar), in their clever and refined Vocal and Juggling Novelty. Wire, Picture Palace, Longton.

WANTED, June 13, 27, on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Premier Duologuists, presenting sparkling, screaming absurdities: "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat." Thanks Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Contracts. Monday, Tivoli, Palace, South Shields.

WANTED, by Lily and Antley, in Comedy Duologue, "It," May 16, 23, 30. Hippo., Ealing; or, 84 Hambalt-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Monday next and 23rd, by King Leo, Ventriloquist, and Jessie Star, Lady Scotch Comedian. Wire, Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, Monday next, The Walons (Renée and Willie), smart Comedy Singing Act; Arthur Richards, Character Comedian. 53, Barrowhill, Chesterfield.

WANTED, by the Tissots, originators of Living Marionettes, May 16 and 23. Wire, 5, Sutton-st., Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday and May 23, Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch; also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. A Sure Success. Wire, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, by Rohde and Roche, a new Act, "A Strange Meeting." A pretty, artistic opening, with a clever, refined, comedy finish. Highly complimented. Enormous success Palace, Blaenavon. May 16, Empire, Blaina, Mon. Vac. May 23, 30. June 6.

WANTED, Known, Grey and Grey, in Original Comedy Act, "A Private Rehearsal," vacant May 16. Wire, 15, Park-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, May 23, 30, July 11. Borough Theatre, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Grotesque Comedians, May 16. Wire, 104, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Norman and Noyes, the Singing, Dancing and Patter Comedians, May 23. 70, Hirwain-street, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Monday next, 16th, The Dunvilles, unrivalled Comedy Musical Pot-Pourri Act. For a draw wire, 28, Horsemarket, Northampton. Thanks for offers.

WANTED, by Marzelos, Great Scotch Comedy Triple Bar Act, May 23, 30, June 6. Next week, Palace, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, May 23 and 30, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog Jack, own scenery, splendid lithos. Success everywhere. Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday next, and 23rd, The Eldras, Canine Acrobatic Novelty Act. Wire tonight, Hippo., Bishop Auckland; after Sunday, 31, Holker-street, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, the Four Scoreys (two ladies and two gents), Musical Mélange, Novel Instruments, Genuine Comedy. Through transferring dates, free May 16 and June 6. Thanks Hamilton and Hughes for paying salary in full last week. Address, Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti Premier Gymnasts, May 16, June 20, July 11 and 25. Address, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto and Comedy Assistant, the Lady Contortionist with a figure, the most novel and refined Act before the public, Liberty May 23, on. Address till Mon., C/o Collins, Circus, Walsall; after, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E., to be forwarded.

WANTED, May 23 and 30, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Finish to-night Glasgow; next, Hippodrome, Shrewsbury. Wanted, smart Youth, Acrobat.

WANTED, May 23, The Bouncing Peps, Best Bouncing Performance on the Stage. We entertain the Public. Monday, return, Empire T., Hull.

WANTED, May 23, June 13, 20, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. Hippo., Wednesbury.

WANTED, May 30, June 6, North or Midlands preferred, by Guiliver, Ventriloquist. Address, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Karl Burvell, Novelty Ventriloquist, big show, figures and fit-up, Liberty Monday. Music Hall, Market-place, Shirebrook, Derbys.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 1, by Harry Keeble, the Drawing Power, Ventriloquist. Bottoming Palace, Normanton. Wires, 22, Park-avenue, Pontefract.

MISS ELLAS'S EDUCATED LION SHOW. Acknowledged to be the Best and Cleanest in the Profession. Surpassed by none.

WANTED, May 23, 30, all June and July. Com., 18, Gloucester-street, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Most Attractive and Original Dog Show in the World. The act that takes the audience by storm. Liberty June 6, Hippo., Bedford Leigh.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Football on Wheels, Somersaults on Bicycles, vacant 23rd, 30th, June 6. A big Act for Galas. Next, Peel Park Gala, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, the Great and only St. Clairs, Comedy Trick Cyclists, Liberty June 6, 13, 27, Oct. 24, 31, return Moss and Stoll Dec. This week, Durham Palace; next, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Swift Duo, Funny Cycling Act, conclude Empire, Camberwell; vacant Monday next, also 23rd. Address, 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Pauletti, Bicycle Act, Monday, Grantham; Tues., Ruston; Wed., Mansfield. Two good Acts, Galas. Per., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Seaside Variety Engagement, for girl 15; smart and small; quick to learn Child's Parts; dance or sing. Nothing but expenses required. Reply, Box 7,700, "Era."

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, by The Silver Moons, Al Fresco pitch within thirty miles of London. 42, Rectory-road, Stoke Newington. 'Phone Dalston 1211.

WANTED, Covered Stands, Pavilions, Gardens, for High-class Al Fresco Party, for June; Share. Ross-WALLACE, 5, Brunswick-square, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Pierrots and Choir Vocalists and Specialities, for Kennedy's Komiks, summer. Apply, KENNEDY and MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham. Original Komiks communicate, KENNEDY and MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Troupe of Entertainers, on Sharing Terms only, for Summer Season, in the Theatre, Bedford. Popular prices. Full particulars, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for the Imperial Pierrots, Truro, Baritone, Tenor, Contralto, Soprano, Pianist, Versatile Comedian, young, good appearance. State age and salary required (open 23rd) to DAVIN POWER, Oswestry.

WANTED, by Vera Varna, Comedienne and Dancer, Summer Engagement, first-class show only entertained. Experienced, young. 11, Carlton-terrace, Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist and Vocalist, Engagement with Refined Concert Party, July to Sept.; extensive répertoire, good accompanist, sight reader, MSS., used to Concerteds. MUSICUS, 233, Elgin-avenue, Maida Value, W.

WANTED, Summer Season, by Edward Streem the eminent Versatile Comedian. Big rep. First-class offers. 6, Grant-street, Crown-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, that can sing at piano; also good Funny Comedian. Particulars, JOHN HARRIS, Tredegar Hall, Newport.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, I am open to take Management of any First-class Concern, large or small, travelling or stationary, for the season, or will purchase anything suitable at a reasonable price. TOM NORMAN, Silver King, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and a Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Pat Collins, Esq., the Showman King, says the Standard Gillett Light is the finest he has ever seen, and is far superior to electric. Write to him for particulars, or to THE UNITED KINGDOM STANDARD GILLETT LIGHT Co., Greengate, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Genuine Freaks, Attractions, follow Lucy Moore, Blue Man; also buy, rent distort mirrors. LINGARD'S Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Midgets, Ladies and Gentlemen. Apply between 2 and 3 o'clock. ARIZONA, 5, Fitzroy-st., Tottenham Court-road, W.

WANTED, smart Monogram Workers, for Season, commencing Whit Monday. Fainlight write. KING, 19, Royal-arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Madame Zeta, the Premier Lady Phrenologist, Astrologist, Clairvoyant, and Palmist, still at Liberty for First-class Pier or Gardens only. 12, Providence-street, Ipswich.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Temple, genuine Bearded Lady, most attractive Freak, seeks Re-engagement. 290, Great Western-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Carona, the Human Bear, wonderful living Freak, is at Liberty for Whit Week. 34, Douglas-street, Deptford.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager, Pal. Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid 7 h.p. double crank compound Fowler showman's road loco., with all showman's fittings and Dickinson's dynamo. Also Foster's compound steam motor tractor, with showman's fittings and dynamo. GRAVEN, Ely, Cambs.

WANTED, to Sell, a great bargain, Cake Walk, by Taylor and Plinston, new last spring. Cost £300; can be seen built up. Address, TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Juvenile Roundabouts, up-to-date, fitted up with either Teddy bears, pigs, horses, or donkeys, each set with two up-to-date motor-cars. Stamped envelope will oblige. For price and particulars apply J. DOUBTFIRE, Pasture-road, Goole, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, a Juvenile Roundabout, Twenty Horses, in good condition; truck to carry same. Price £30. Apply G. WILSON, Hampstead Heath during the Holidays; or, Fair Ground, Upton Park.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars Licences. Illustrated Catalogue Free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Purchase, Exhibition Novelty, floor space 6ft. by 5ft., not automatic; also one larger; must be money-takers. State price, &c. MANAGER, 32, Prince's-square, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Someone with a Large Portable Skating Rink. H. Lane (Floor Manager, Sydenham Rink) and Troupe of High-class Skaters, will join on sharing terms. Open for engagements as Instructors or the Troupe would give a highly amusing show, suitable for the seaside. LANE, 10, Sunnydene-street, Lower Sydenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Floor Manager, off First-class Rink; tall and refined; at Liberty from Whit week through closing; seaside preferred; possess uniform and evening dress. Refs. Address, Box 7,701, "The Era."

WANTED, by Floor Manager and Instructress, change, First-class exhibition Skaters, smart appearance, 2 years' high-class refs. Box 7,675, "Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Floor Manager, on First-class Rink only. Seaside preferred. Al exhibition given. Box 7,706, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Floor Manager (Lib. May 30) by D. D. M'Allister and Walt. Price, Instructor. Ref. Square Dances a Speciality. 20, Ida-view, Stourton, Leeds.

WANTED, by Floor Manager and Instructress, engagement at Summer Rink. Young, experienced. Offers invited. E. MORRIS, Rink, Aberdare.

WANTED, Known, smart young man requires post as Floor Manager or Instructor; good experience and refs. Apply, B., 50, Lansdown-road, Swindon.

WANTED, Known, Alf. H. Bear, Champion Speed Skater of Great Britain, just finished Second Successful Season, Earl's Court Rink, seeks Engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor; years of experience. Also Lady Instructress. Seaside preferred. Address, 71, Moore Park-road, Fulham.

WANTED, to Sell, 100 pairs of Richardson's Ball Bearing Roller Skates, practically new, to be sold cheap. Address, Box 7,703, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease, Corner Site (special position), Electric Theatre could be erected by private arrangement, seat 1,000. Plan, COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham. Interview by appointment only.

WANTED, to Sell, 90ft. Round Circus Tent, green waterproof, in good condition, suitable for small circus, skating rink, or big side show; also a Large Captive Advertising Balloon, by Spencer Brothers, only been used four times, good as new, splendid advertising medium. Price of Tent, £40; Balloon, £20. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Theatre, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, the Magnificent Pantomime Production, "Babes in the Wood," which broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, last season. Scenery and Costumes practically unsoiled. Will sell very cheap, as room wanted for next season's production. FRANCIS LAIDLER, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties. Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Film, Pauhan and White's Aerial Flight, length 340ft., condition as new; 30s. MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Films, Pauhan and White's Aerial Flights, London to Manchester, length about 350ft. Can be sent immediately after performance this (Saturday) evening, May 14. BOSTOCK, Zoo Buildings, Glasgow.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Somersault Dog. Young, strong Fox-Terrier, £4. ALLEN, People's Palace, Scarborough.

WANTED, to Sell, Jap. Trick, producing seven full size solid wooden chairs from empty parasol. MANAGER, Assembly Rooms, Broadstairs.

WANTED, to Sell, Self-folding Harmonium, good condition. Cost 8 guineas; 5 stops, price 55s. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Excellent New 24ft. Proscenium Front, suitable for Picture shows. Price £2 10s., carriage forward. GREEN, 19, Leith-road, Wood Green, N.

WANTED, to Sell, set of Tubular Chimes, plated, E flat, Orchestral pitch, splendid tone, polished mahogany stand (portable), £3 10s. Bargain. CONDUCTOR, 9, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, loudest ever heard, Organ Chimes, Glockenspiels, Marimbas, Tubular Bells, Rattles, Tubaphones. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, a Mecklenburg Klotz Violin, beautiful tone. What offers? Mrs. TEASDEL, 2, Chester-street, Caversham, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Gymnastic Apparatus, 16ft. by 8ft., Trapeze, £10. MORANDER, British Fleet Hotel, Oldfield-road, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Pierrot Costumes, 5s. and 7s. 6d. each; Nainsook Skirts and Knickers combined, 6s. 6d.; Leno, 10s. 6d. Miss FISHER, Riviera-drive, Southend.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno Plain with Ruche, 3s. 11d. dozen; Accordion Pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, the well-known Successful Melodrama, "A Destroyer of Men," with scenery, printing, uniforms, music, &c. Reasonable terms to a responsible manager. Seen May 16, Stockton; May 23, Alexandra, Hull. JAMES HARE, to-day, Empire, West Hartlepool; next, Empress, East Hartlepool.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy for cash, "Sleeping Beauty" Pantomime, for next season's production, for large Theatre, must be in perfect condition. Full particulars to Box 7,695, "The Era."

WANTED, several hundred Chairs (bent wood preferred). Lowest price to MANAGER, 6, Silverdale, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap, Film, "Trip to the Moon." BANNISTER HOWARD, 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, to Purchase, Glass Stereoscopic Slides or Transparencies. Manufacturers send prices (trade) for quantities. GOULD, 136, Leyland-road, Burnley.

WANTED, to Buy, good Performing Dogs, for cash. Write soon. WATTS, 126, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, a Musical Scena written for Gipsy Woolf and Troupe. Apply, WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel.

WANTED, a copy of "The Era" dated Dec. 1 1900. Address, THE MANAGER, "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED Known, we can place Songs, Music Plays, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Sketches Monologues &c. Only the best. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M. WANTED, to Let, on rental, from May 23 to June 25. Good opportunity for Stock Companies or for Picture and Diorama Shows. Apply, JAS. BUCK, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, immediate possession, the T. R., Leigh, Lancs. Fully licensed, and holds 2,000. Population within three miles radius over 90,000. Apply, SYDNEY TOLFREE, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in May and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Assembly Rooms, Broadstairs, situated on sea front, nightly, weekly, or for the season. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let during Summer, Large Hall, near centre of Leeds; suit Cinematograph; working-class ditrict. Box 7,699, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Advertisement Curtain, 26ft. by 22ft., and three-fold programme, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, to let. Apply, ALICE ROCHEFORT, above address.

WANTED, to Let, Top-line Sketch, for Star Child Actress. Little Mother part. Could influence bookings. CROZIER, 295, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, in the West End of London Hall or Theatre, for good-class entertainment; seating capacity, 1,000 and upwards; position must be excellent; afternoons only would be considered. Please send full details as to rent, lease, &c., to S. K., c/o May's Advertising Agency, 29, John-street, Bedford-row, W.C.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £250, to run a new and profitable entertainment of a sensational character, which has already been tried and approved in London; a gentleman of good appearance, capable of delivering a descriptive speech to audiences preferred. Address, Box 7,704, "The Era."

WANTER, Partner, for Comedy, Share Expenses. No Amateurs. Box 7,705, "The Era."

WANTED, Funny Comedian, able to Sing, Dance, and Patter, to join Straight Man for well-known Act. ALMO, Hippo., Margate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Bronghams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., EDWARD HARRISON, Studio, 90, Hodgson-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known: "People desirous of adopting the stage as a profession could do nothing better than possess themselves of a copy of 'Stage Facts and Figures,' an invaluable little guide, &c., &c."—The News of the World, April 17. Price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Melodies composed, 1s. 6d.; full Piano part, 2s. 6d.; Band parts, ten, 3s. 6d. E. WESTERN, 19, Beryl-rd., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known, Widow of the late Joe Elwell, Clown, is left unprovided for and partly blind. Assistance, however small, will be thankfully received. C/o Mrs. BOYLE, c/o Mrs. O'Conner, 126, Abbey-street, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

"GRIP OF IRON" CO.

WANTED, Known, if the Scenery Effects, stored here by Mr. Fred Powell for Mr. Knight, are not removed, claims paid within seven days, will be sold. MACKIE, 99, Stockwell-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Terry tender their Sincere Thanks to Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes, of the Hippodrome, Runcorn, for paying full week's salary, after only playing 5 nights, hall being closed on Saturday through death of the King.

WANTED, to thank Ralph Pringle, Esq., for paying salary in full last week. CHESTER and LEE'S FANTOCHE.

WANTED, the Owners of "Paul Kauvar" and "A Trip to Chicago" to communicate with LOVERIDGE & Co., Dramatic Author's Agency, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Dashwood begs most respectfully to tender his kindest thanks to all friends who so kindly sent letters and telegrams during his late illness for their very kind sympathy, and to state that he has resumed his duties once again as Business Agent to W. Sedgwick's American Menagerie, on Tour through South Wales. Best wishes to all.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714.
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

PLEASURE BEACH,
SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Next Tram Terminus.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.
Apply, SECRETARY, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

Notice to Theatre Managers and Others.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr. J. St. Clair, formerly employed as manager of one of my companies, is no longer in my service, and has no authority to give or accept orders on my behalf or to receive any monies payable to me.
(Signed) CHARLES MANNERS.
Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., The Hyde, Hendon.

PARTNERSHIP.
Business man, with limited capital, seeks Partnership where his services would be beneficial. All references and strictest investigation necessary.
Music Halls or Cinematograph not objected to.
Address in first instance, M. E. B., C/o Dawson's, 121, Cannon-street, E.C.

WALMSLEY'S SCENIC STUDIO,
RIVERS STREET, PORTSMOUTH.
Scenery of Every Description.
MODELS. ESTIMATES.
"The scenery was designed and painted by Mr. Fred Walmsley, and gained great admiration." ("La Forza del Dest no," Carl Rosa Opera Co.)—Press.

VARIETY ARTISTES AND AGENTS.

FULL TEXT OF
MR. ASKWITH'S AWARD,
FEBRUARY 15, 1909.
Post free, d.
PUBLISHED AT
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE (GRAND THEATRE).—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—Henri Bekker, comedy conjurer, assisted by Miss Maie, provokes great mirth; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer, has a fine reception for his latest success, "The old collier's story"; C. E. Stelling and his funny dog "Kiswaski" are popular; and the standard of bioscope pictures is maintained.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alfred Reid.—Burns and Bentley, an artistic dancing team, top the bill. Lottie Leyton, comedienne and clog dancer, is well received; Lona, in her musical speciality act, deserves great praise; the Lavelle Brothers, comedy acrobats, create roars of laughter; and excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here presenting *A Broken Heart*. The principal parts are in the able hands of Mr. Harry Foxwell as John Barnard, Mr. C. Holmes as Stephen Dalton, Mr. H. Carlisle, and Miss S. Walsh as Mary Barnard.

PAVILION.—A series of animated pictures are on show at the Pavilion; the principal being Fishing in the North Sea and The Cripple's Revenge.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in *His Real Wife* is attracting excellent houses here. Mr J. W. Evelyn sustains with much merit the part of the old farmer, Martin Avondale; Mr. Clifford Rean achieves a success with his clever representation of Herbert Barton; and Randall Meredith finds a able exponent in Mr. Bernard Elliott; Mr. C. W. Spencer acquits himself admirably as General Barton; Mr. Charles Yorke satisfactorily fills the rôle of Colombe; and Mr. Walter Walmesley presents an amusing study of Alf Snickers. Mr. T. Edward Ward creates a good deal of hilarity as Simon Bletherell; and worthy support is given by Miss Clarrie Yandell as Betty. Miss Ward delights everybody with her strong and sympathetic acting as Rose Avondale; Miss Gabrille Ramero makes a deep impression with her admirable portrayal of Lady Sybil; and Miss Celia Howard is seen to advantage as Mrs. Creele.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Waldrons, who are the outstanding turn here, appear with great success in the farcical absurdity *The Silly Burglar;* McBride and Logie, the Canadian lumbermen, in an eccentric acrobatic novelty turn, arouse enthusiasm; Benson and Rose, in a highly diverting duologue, prove entertaining; and the Westbrooks, in a dancing scena, take equally well; the Keppells provide a most enjoyable turn, which is much applauded; Elsie Kerry is a charming comedienne; Maxie and Pete are mirth-provoking comedy cyclists; and Cliff Dixon, swell comedian, also appears.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—After a short spell of the "legitimate," variety has again become the order, a good programme being presented as the Whit Week attraction. Alice Hoodless tops the bill with a number of tableaux, which are highly appreciated; Berg Brothers are a capital turn as cyclist comedians, the ladder and one wheel act being especially clever; the Frohmanns as musical entertainers are decidedly good; Edgar Forrest's comedy company in a farcical interlude, *My Friend the Enemy*, are amusing; Kydd and Kydd, in patter and burlesque song, do well; and Sophie, a juvenile artist with a good future before her, is loudly encored for her character songs. Ena Millard, chorus singer, and Chas. Lee, comedian, are also well received.

ASHINGTON.—BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Business-Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—The Three Dancing Duggans, in their skating dancing turn, are excellent, and the same may be said of Bandoni, in his "one-man band" turn.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Weallans; Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Miss Isa Gibson, an old pantomime favourite here, is delighting the patrons with her Dutch dancing; Mr. Chas. Chantler, baritone, and Joe Henderson, comedian, are very good. The pictures are exceptionally fine.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manger, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in *Are You the Man?* is doing complete justice to the piece. Mr. Chas. Halling as the country gentleman, Mr. Joshua Beaumont, impresses the audience with his strong personality; Mr. W. V. Garrod as Captain Jack Beaumont depicts the hero in striking colours; Mr. William Bradford makes Sidney Beaumont a cunning rascal; Mr. F. Dallas is good as Solomon Moss; Mr. Seymour Perry as Private Tom Hopkins acquits himself creditably; Dotty Dalton is cleverly hit off by Mr. H. Fredericks; a Scotland Yard Detective, a Rural Constable, a Fisherman and Poacher, a Colonel of the Old School, and a Registrar's Clerk are all capably sustained by Messrs. W. Vincent, Owen Remonde, E. Ashton, F. S. Stewart, and C. Mitchell. Miss Ethel Crawford exercises her abilities to good effect as the adventuress Flo Dalton; Miss Alice Clarke is an amusing and good-natured lady's maid; and Miss Bertha Kingston distinguishes herself by her powerful delineation of Lilian Brandon.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—A change to "variety" is made for Whitsun week, the "stars" being the celebrated Elliott-Savonas, the musical marvels, who appear in *The Palace of Orpheus*. They introduce their latest novelty instrument, the Sorruasophine, Quartette, and provide a musical feast, enhanced by a picturesque vision of spectacular splendour. The other artists are Fanny Humber, instrumentalist, vocalist, and dancer; Yost and York, the military boys, a good duo of entertainers; Henry Conlin, a very useful singing comedian; Smith and Gibbs, a couple of quaint and quiet athletes; Dix and Dox, clever musical grotesques; Fallows and Beaumont, in a laughable vocal comedy act; and Miss Millie Engler and company, who enact the farcical episode, *Beauty and the Burglar*.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The popularity of the animated picture entertainment is still unabated. The week's films are a mixture of historic events, adventure episodes, and some humorous pictures. The management have hit upon a change of programme on alternate evenings.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Mr. Marks is ever on the qui-vive for some new departure to amuse his patrons. He is securing good pictures and capable vaudeville artists. The week's "bill" is up to date, and the artists are a comedian of some original ability and a singer of ballads.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Mr. Leckie's enterprise is being rewarded by good houses. The pictures are well selected, and the artists for interlude are Wills and Worlock, clever comedians and dancers.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing - Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A strong holiday programme is presented here, a special feature being the latest A.B. film The Twisted Trail. Other interesting pictures include A Duel in Mid-Air, How Scroggins Found the Comet, and Jones Buys a Bird Cage. East and West (Tom and Stella) present a comedy speciality act which is much appreciated.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Crowded houses have been drawn by a diversified and attractive holiday "bill." The leading picture, His Only Daughter, has found much favour, equally acceptable being one of the popular Western dramas, The Ranch Girl's Legacy. Interesting vaudeville items are given by Mr. Colin Coop, a pleasing light comedian; and the Warners, in a taking speciality act, entitled *A Musical Rehearsal*. The Scarlet Band, in appropriate selections, is still a popular feature.

BACUP.—COURT THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jno. Walters.—The famous Irwell Springs Prize Band tops the bill, and, judging by Monday's reception, will undoubtedly do big business. Little Doris May is a clever dancer and, sings in a pleasing manner; Dan Desmond supplies the humour successfully; the Sisters Lingard are capital singers and dancers; and the Three Behans, in the novel quick-change comedy act, are worthy of note.

BARNSLEY. — ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—The attraction here this week is Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company, in *The Eyes of the World*. Mr. Alex. W. Wynne is a manly Octave de Carnac; as Achille Fanfarade Mr. J. Edward Whitty is all that can be desired; as Hector de L'Orme Mr. Charles O'Connor is excellent; and Mr. Fred Bentley as Gaston de Carnac is very good. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. Harold Forde as Brigard and Miss B. Hulment as Antoniette. Miss Elsie Capel is a sympathetic Avice; and Misses Flora Hastings and Nellie Garside as Esmé de Carnac and Susanne Pomfleur respectively are capable. Miss Ethel Van Praagh in the rôle of Helene de L'Orme gives a powerful delineation of that character, displaying great histrionic ability.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Charles H. Lester and Bertram Damer's company is here with *The Egyptian*, a mystical farce, by Myles Willoughby. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as H'Emma acts in her own inimitable manner; Mr. Walter Beaumont as the vegetarian, Dr. Dale, is admirably suited; the Ramuel of Mr. Chas. H. Lester is a well conceived character; Mr. Frank Hudspeth is good as Spriggins; and Miss Ruby Belasco makes the most of the part of Mrs. Dale.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Will o' the Wisps, under the direction of Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn, are here for a season of four weeks. A first-rate programme of concerted pieces, solos, sketches, &c., is given by this clever company, which includes Miss Cynthia Cooper, Miss Sara Drubell, Miss Ethel Walker, Mr. Arthur Gurlay, Mr. Conway George, Mr. Ronald Bagnall, and Mr. Thomas Sutton.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mr. Fred Conquest and company are the premier turn here with a farcical absurdity which keeps the audience in roars of laughter. Bernard's Mannikins, in a coon's revelry, furnishes a clever marionette entertainment; Barney Murphy is good in some clever patter; Mrs. Delda Gray sings in excellent style; The Martons sing duets with humour; Clarke and Mostel have some quaint patter, and their dancing is clever; and J. S. Aitkin is a comedian with a style of his own.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Fred Newman's British Empire Pictures Variety Company continue to draw crowded houses.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*A Pair of Spectacles* was well received on Monday. As Benjamin Goldfinch Mr. Arthur Hare does well; Mr. Henry West makes a capital Gregory; Miss Ida Phillips enacts Mrs. Goldfinch with becoming grace; and a bright Lucy Lorimer is found in Miss Madge Monte; Dick and Percy are capably undertaken by Mr. Frank Tennant and Mr. Guy Vivian; and Mr. Lorimer is played by Mr. Walter A. James; Mr. George N. Williams and Miss Marion Williams portray the smaller parts of Bartholomew and Joyce.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Johnny Cecil, a light comedian, starts the holiday bill here, and is followed by Edwards and Edwards, speciality dancers; the duets by Florence and Rose Showell arouse immense enthusiasm; Clara Reid and John Power know how to entertain; Dan Fraser once again drives dull care away with his Scotch ditties; and in *The Leaves of Memory* Miss Beaumont Collins displays her acknowledged histrionic talents as Ruth Challoner. The pictures include a flying film, in which Mr. Grahame-White is the hero.

BATLEY.—BATLEY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Manager, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor.—*An Unwedded Wife* is capitally staged and well produced here this week by Mr. Will Casey's company, and local interest is added by the fact that the play is from the pen of Mr. Whitty himself. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Marion scores a great success, as also does Mr. Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company this week presents *Facing the Music*. Mr. Edward Mervyn is funny as John Smith; Mr. Philip Durham is seen to advantage as the Rev. John Smith; Mr. Robert Grey as Dick Dennard supplies a deal of fun; Miss Rhoda Beresford and Miss Janice Deane are charming in their respective parts.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Alfred Paumier and Mr. Walter Howard's company opened here on Monday with *The Midnight Wedding*. Miss Lilian Hallows, an exceedingly clever actress, furnished a sympathetic impersonation of the Princess Astra; Mr. Alfred Paumier shared the honours with his skilful impersonation of Paul Valmar; and Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes was excellent as Captain Rudolf Von Scarsbruck. Mr. John Nesbitt was all that could be desired as the Crown Prince Leopold; and Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg was in the safe hands of Mr. Charles Whitlock. Miss Jessica Black was a charming and vivacious Kathie; and the comic element was sustained by Messrs. James E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding, who as Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo kept the audience highly amused. Miss Ruth Wingrove may be congratulated on her treatment of the rôle of Rozel.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—A revival season commenced at this theatre on Monday, under the direction of Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. The piece selected for this week is the romantic drama, *For Wife and Kingdom*, which met with a great reception. Mr. Frank Sutherland plays the rôle of General von Nestolde with much credit; and Miss Hettie Zillwood gains a gratifying success in the part of the Grand Duchesse Marie of Gotsburg. Mr. Reginald T. Fox cleverly plays the rôle of Captain Maximilian Lubeck; and it would be difficult to excel Miss Margaret R. Frame's impersonation of Camille von Nestolde. The villainies of Baron Maurice Breslaw were realistically portrayed by Mr. Albert Guyon. The humour of the piece was in the capable hands of Miss Alice Buckland, Miss Audrey Canning, and Messrs. Chas. H. Gallier and Fred Osmond, who were responsible for much merriment in their respective rôles of Nita Constadt, Ottillie Schwartz, Sergeant Offenbeck, and Karl Ludhay.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Mr. Paul Conchas, whose remarkable feats of strength have been accorded a terrific reception; Caryl Wilbur presents with much effect the sketch *61, Prospect Street;* and German's Juveniles, in their vocal scena *The Waif*, provide one of the best items on the programme. Mr. Josh. Dixon is a really funny comique; and Miss Dolly Harmer is one of the most capable comediennes before the public. The Three Orleans delight all with their harmonious items and smart dancing; and the Corcoran Bros. appear in their clever musical act. Also here are Mr. Jack Marks, juvenile Hebrew comedian, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Mr. Jack Pleasants tops the bill, and this inimitable comedian made a big hit on Monday; Park's Eton Boys (assisted by Girton Girls) furnish a most enjoyable entertainment; Mr. Fred Barnes is a capital light comedian with a good style; and the Marsumas, clever comedians on wheels, are deservedly applauded. Mr. Frank Cass is an amusing character comedian; and Miss Katie Butler's capital songs find much favour. Also here are Mr. Johnny Fuller, the Great Little Cat, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—The most interesting series of films are those representing the great fight, Johnson v. Ketchell. Among others exhibited are Napoleon Outwitted, Bootmaker's Ten-Pound Note, and Late at the Office. The vaudeville element is sustained by Pueblo and Cropp, Creole artists, and Lyall and Bert, speciality artists.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Capital films here include From Cabin Boy to King and Little Blue Cap. Miss Anna Hope, a pleasing contralto, is very good.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—For the holiday attraction we have *The Sins of a City*, presented by Miss Winifred Maude and her capable company.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—The season was opened here on Monday with a first-class entertainment by the Royal Cadets.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Morton-Powell's company in *Brought to Ruin* provides a capital holiday attraction. Played on the two houses a night principle, it affords ample scope for a telling performance, and the much-wronged heroine, Jessie Burton, is admirably impersonated by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne; Mr. Harry Scott gives a forcible rendering of Harry Hailing; and the roué of the piece, Philip Edge, receives careful treatment at the hands of Mr. Edward M. Heanley. Mrs. Morton-Powell is conspicuous by a fine performance of Miss Winnie Waters; Miss Jeannie Risley is interesting as Lucy Lawton; and Miss Addie Adair, Miss Kathryne Eckhart, Miss Addie Cuthbert, and Messrs. Sydney Bryant and Alaric Burton also appear with distinction.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Radford and Valentine, juggling jesters and comedians, are high in favour; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington, with the dramatic episode *A Daughter of Pleasure*, occupy a prominent position in the company, and very effective turns are also given by Miss Marie Blythe, descriptive vocalist; Farr and Farland, comedians; Jack Sheridan, comedian and patterer; the Elité Harmony Boys, excellent vocalists; Miss Rosie Archer, mimic and pianist; Baby Wolff, child vocalist; Loyal Leeder, variety artist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Dinney is musical director.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Eric H. Albury's company in the comedy *Why Smith Left Home* is doing well here. Mr. Albury as the Count is irresistibly amusing, and the engagement has proved very attractive.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Dooley.—A capital holiday programme is supported by Blattner's Bohemian Orchestra.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Charley's Aunt* is the holiday attraction here, and again it draws the crowds. Mr. Brandon Thomas is supported by an excellent company. As the jovial, good-natured Sir Francis Mr. Thomas is quite at home; Mr. Stanley Cooke, in the title-rôle, takes a prominent share in the success of the piece, and he is warmly applauded; Mr. Roy Byford gives a capital characterisation of the rôle of the irate solicitor; warm praise is due to Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty Verdun; and Miss Phyllis Back as Amy Spettigue. A bright curtain-raiser, written by Mr. Thomas, is entitled *A Highland Legacy*.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. Edward Compton is presenting an interesting series of plays, including *Davy Garrick, The Road to Ruin, The School for Scandal, The Rivals* (Thursday matinée), *She Stoops to Conquer* (Thursday evening). Mr. Compton's acting is excellent, and among his talented company Miss Kathleen Leigh and Mr. Henry Crocker are prominent. *Davy Garrick* is preceded by *Tom Noddy's Secret*.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Audiences during this week have accorded a warm welcome to Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company in *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs gives an admirable portrayal of the heavy character Sir Montague Jephson; and as Alva Kenyon Miss Mabel Liston scores a decided success. Miss C. Middleton is clever as Rose Verham; and Mr. Fitzroy Wharton is well suited as Jack Stanley.

BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*Can a Woman be Good?* is produced by Mr. Tom Taylor's company; Miss Blanche St. Albans acts charmingly in the title-rôle, and gains unstinted applause; Mr. J. Millane as the hero comes in for a good share of honours; and Mr. Harry C. Robinson as Herod Steinberg and Miss Florence Hunt as Naomi Merrick are conspicuous. The play is effectively staged.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—An enthralling story of sea life is told in the drama *The Girl of My Heart*, which Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting here before crowded houses. The company is an exceptionally strong one. Miss Gladys Purnell is always a favourite in the part of Mary Graham, and Mr. Ernest Owttram makes a success as Will Stewart. There are many striking situations, particularly in the Court-martial scene, and much praise for clever acting is due to Mr. Henry Hare as Major Alfred Fulton and Mr. Ernest Rivarz as Captain Bridge; Mr. Charles Herrick as the deserter, Mr. Philip Renouf, Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. Arthur Chappell, and Miss Marie Auckland are also prominent.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman:—*Arrah-Na-Pogue* is being produced by Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, before full houses. The staging is effective, and the costumes and uniforms are a notable feature of the production. In the character of Shaun Mr. Glenville creates a good impression; and Miss Lalla Stanhope wins much applause for her portrayal of the title-rôle. Mr. H. C. Gilpin proves himself capable as Michael Feeny; and Miss Lydia Andre is responsible for a delightful impersonation of Fanny Power. Other clever members of the company are Mr. E. E. Hobart (Beamish McCoul), Mr. Wilton Reed (Col. O'Grady), Mr. Fred G. Kay (the Sergeant), and Mr Frank McCelliant (Major Coffin). The humorous characters are in capable hands.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Carr Loates' company is presenting with conspicuous success *A London Outcast*. The outstanding feature is the performance of Miss Cissie Milford in a difficult dual rôle. As Treacle, a waif, she is always a big favourite with her quaint repartee. Mr. Carr Loates cleverly sustains the character of Elga Hall, and Miss Maggie Hobart earns the sympathies of audiences as Mabel Reymond, the outcast; Miss Lavender Jackaway is a clever juvenile actress; and other characters are well represented. The improvements lately effected in the animated picture apparatus have greatly popularised this portion of the entertainment.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—George Lashwood heads a strong bill, and introduces new songs, all of which are well received; a beautiful act bears the name of Hagedorn's Grotto, in which a combination of electricity and water produce some wonderfully artistic effects. A novel tumbling entertainment is provided by Miss Burley, assisted by "a funny little man"; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are clever trick cyclists, who introduce some attractive comedy business; the Neilson duo are up-to-date musicians and dancers; and others who contribute to the programme are Charles Mildare, comedian and whistler; Lena Verdi, vocalist and mimic; Amy Marsden, low comedian; and Fred Shepherd.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Serene Nord, a young lady of pleasing presence, described as the "Diving Venus," gives a picturesque aquatic exhibition, and the act is greatly appreciated; Alexandre and Hughes keep the audience in merry mood; Nelson Jackson is responsible for a bright drawing-room entertainment; a vocal treat is provided by the Serenaders, Italian operatic vocalists; J. J. Dallas is an effective comedian of considerable experience; Arthur Slater pleases immensely with his whistling selections; the Eight Empire Girls are graceful dancers; Ouida Macdermott sings her songs delightfully; and Jewel St. Leger is a tuneful soprano vocalist.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal turn in a good holiday programme is provided by Jake Friedman and company, in the rollicking burletta *Happy Holland*, which comes in for great applause; Gus Garrick is as amusing as ever in his music-hall "Tit-bits"; Mona Vivian, a clever juvenile dancer and mimic, is extremely popular; Mora Martini gives a clever gymnastic exhibition; the Hargreaves Trio appear in a mystifying ventriloquial turn; the Cheers present a troupe of cleverly-trained cats; Clarice Sefton is a pleasing comedienne; Leigh and Lawrie are popular merchants of mirth; and the Gaietyscope exhibits good pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—La Milo, the beautiful statuary artist, is a big attraction, and her new series of tableaux are more fascinating than ever; *The Pawnbroker*, a lively sketch, is played by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts; the Havannas are an exceptionally clever troupe of acrobats; Tennyson and Wallis are up-to-date entertainers, their cross-talk being highly amusing; Les Bertos are skilful and graceful dancers; the Society Quartette merit hearty applause for their singing and dancing; and others on the bill are the Oakes Duo, in a comedy sketch; W. G. Wesley, and Fred Hastings, comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—A series of clever illusions, presented by the American artist, Sears, are the outstanding feature of an attractive programme; Flake White, a lightning cartoonist of ability, entertains with a number of neatly executed drawings, with colour-effects; and the Sisters Terry are popular comediennes, who sing Scotch and Irish songs. Ena Compton, vocalist and dancer, creates an excellent impression; Abel and Welsh are clever eccentrics; Charles Pastor has some effective comedy; Earle and Melville are good in song and dance; and Edith Chantler also contributes acceptably.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The entertainments given during the Whitsuntide holidays have met with deserved success. The beautifully coloured tableaux, illustrating The Story of Esther, is a leading feature of the programme, and demonstrates in striking fashion the artistic side of cinematography. The comic films amuse all sections of the audiences, and pleasing vocal items are contributed by Miss Leah Pinnick and Mr. Frank Clark.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A strong attraction here is the film illustrating the fight between Johnson and Ketchell for the heavy-weight boxing championship of the world, and during the holidays crowds of people interested in the art of self-defence have applauded the picture. Madame Rosini's canine circus plays a prominent part in the programme, and the vocal contributions of Mr. Herbert Bates are also keenly enjoyed. The Bijou skating rink has proved a great attraction during the holidays.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A grand programme of pictures and vaudeville is attracting crowded houses. The chief films include: The Best Man Wins, The Child's Benefactor, In a Window Recess, The Jealous Doll, and The Mad Drain-pipe. The popular Birmingham vocalist, Miss Mabel Kington, contributes pleasing songs. On Thursday night a successful benefit was given to Mr. Will George.

BINGLEY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. George Stanley.—Crowds of sightseers have spent many profitable hours at the National Trades Exhibition. To inspect the exhibits is a task that entails a considerable amount of time, and one could well spend a whole day in the building. The amusements are diversified, the chief attraction this week being the performances of Signor Scoma's orchestra.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—On Whit Monday two capital houses were provided with a grand "picture" programme, amongst which The Livingstone Case, The Antwerp Zoo, and His Last Burglary stood out most prominently.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Norman and Leonard Trio in their musical sketch have a great reception here; the Three Orros give a capital turn with their silver chairs; Georgina Leno (daughter of the late Dan Leno) is a clever comedienne and dancer; Spry and Monti produce an entertaining scena, *The Song-writer and Soubrette;* and Dale and Vale are good dancers. The Essens are very clever with their performing dogs, and Dan Day is a popular turn. The Hipposcope films are most interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Once again is *Brewster's Millions*, as presented by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, drawing crowded houses here. Mr. Percy Hutchison again faithfully depicts the prodigal Monty, and Miss Cicely Stuckey is still the charming Margaret Grey; Miss Lilias Earle is well suited to the part of Mrs. Dan de Mille, and the other characters are in efficient hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is doing remarkable business here with *Our Miss Gibbs*, which is staged and acted in the most complete manner. Miss Alice Pollard in the title-rôle is just delightful, her acting, singing, and dancing being equally good; Miss Marie Wilson does well as Lady Elizabeth Thanet, whilst Miss Grace Wixon as the aristocratic Duchess of Minster and Miss Dora Sevening as Mme. Jeanne also play their parts with credit. Mr. George Gregory as Timothy Gibbs is a huge success, and makes the fun fast and furious; Mr. Lionel Mackinder, who plays the Hon. Hughie, is another very clever comedian, and Mr. H. V. Crofton, who is seen to advantage as Lord Eynsford, is a vocalist of high order. Mr. Harold Lonsdale conducts a capital orchestra.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Tom Foy, the popular Yorkshire comedian, worthily tops a big bill here; Wild, Willie, and West, the acrobatic comedians, receive their usual warm welcome, and J. W. Hall is another favourite comedian; Bert Harrow and Marion Walker are paying a return visit with their comedy duologue; the Denaro Brothers do some remarkable tumbling feats; Arthur Gallimore is a great fun provider; Ethel Loftus is a clever comedienne; Brull and Helmsley present a very comical sketch, and Marguerite Broadfoote sings very acceptably.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. H. Armitage's company is appearing here successfully in *The Greater Love*. Mr. William Clayton gives a vigorous impersonation of Jack May; Mrs. May being ably represented by Miss Marion Fawcett; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is good as Paul Penfold; and Miss Violet Thorold won favour as Mary May. Capable also are the efforts of Messrs. A. J. Hicks, Henry Nunn, Harry Wren, and Misses Ethel Russell and Arles Conway.

THE Hippodrome and West's Picture Palace are running excellent picture programmes.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

SPRING TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYE. CO.

Thoroughly Rain-repellent.
Every Fibre Impregnated.
The Ideal Process for Garments.
No Immersion in Water, consequently No Shrinkage.
Fit and Shape retained like Dry Cleaning.
Colours not affected.
Absolutely Non-poisonous.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

company is presenting Mrs. Kimberley's latest drama, *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. Charles Draycott gives a manly impersonation of Richard Burfield; and Mr. Frank Eaglesfield portrays, in striking fashion, the iniquitous Guy Lowther. Mrs. Charles Draycott is eminently successful as Pauline Ferrars; and the unfortunate Nellie Rayne is admirably delineated by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne. Capital humour is introduced by Mr. Will Hook and Daisy Carlton as Tommy Onions and Polly Green.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A strong attraction is the great Bolton favourite, Miss Hetty King, the clever male impersonator. Others in the programme are Sadie Simpson, comedienne and dancer; Roy Beavis, conjurer; the Clement Trio, in their novel comedy stage flying trapeze act; Dave Samuels, Hebrew comedian; Gosling and Merrall's Troupe of Australian Bush boys in their patriotic scena, *Bright Eye's Birthday*; Rene, lady juggler; Dolly Ross, comedienne; Walter Bird's company (including Ernest Luck, comedian), in the screaming comedy sketch, entitled *Her Husband*; and the Premier Pictures.

Empire Hippodrome, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The top turn here is Wee Georgie Wood, the boy phenomenon, who appears in nursery rhymes, and is well received. Other turns are Mabel Florence, comedienne and dancer; Thomas Morris, concertina soloist; Denby and Dent, comedians, in comedy act *I Never Did*; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard, in farcical sketch, *True Blue*; Cosgrove and Burns, comedy duettists; Violet Romaine, vocalist; Walter Aubrey, wooden shoe dancer; Hanvarr and Anna Lee, in their comedy juggling act *The Golfer and the Maid*; and the Hippodrome Bioscope pictures.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Bobbie Allandale and Mr. Ludwig Blatiner; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—An entertaining programme is headed by Mr. Ed. Chas. Gittins' Pocket Opera company in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, in which Mlle. Adele Prescott displays her exceptional talent as a singer; another vocal triumph is that of Signor Sorti, the Italian tenor. Other interesting items are contributed by Kennedy Allen, a clever comedian, the Lauri Bros., and Miss Lily Ewart.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here this week in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Victor Ray presents a masterly impersonation of Prince Michael; Miss Stella Campbell imparts much sympathy to the part of Monica; Mr. Alfred Goddard is effective as Prince Hildred; Mr. Ernest Cox gives a sincere rendering of Prince Olaf; Mr. Herbert Burton plays Capt. Hector in manly style; Mr. Sydney Bayliss supplies a good study of the dumb Nathan; and Mr. J. H. Vyvyan as Lieut. Carl and Miss Mona Hall as Viola provide the light comedy.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company in *The Cingalee*, splendidly staged, furnishes excellent holiday fare. A clever and irresistibly funny impersonation of Chambhuddy Ram is submitted by Mr. Harry Ed. Ray; Miss Ida Ernest supports him finely as the sprightly Peggy Sabine; Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme sings sweetly, and fills the part of Nanoya with effect; as Boobhamba Mr. Douglas Munro is quaint; Mr. F. W. Ford as the blustering Sir Peter Loftus is amusing; Miss Pauline Hague gracefully sustains the part of Lady Patricia Vane; Mr. Arthur Cartwright's good voice is heard to advantage as the Hon. Harry Vereker; as Bobby Warren Mr. Scott Cullen is diverting. The Parahara dances are cleverly executed, and under Mr. Rowland Wood's baton the fine chorus is well controlled.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Angel of His Dreams* is presented by Geo. A. De Gray and H. Masterman's capable company. Mr. G. A. De Gray is convincing in his acting as the heroic but sorely tried Rev. Christian Esdaile, and with effect Mr. Wallace Campbell fills the part of the scheming Major Ferrars; Mr. Charles Arnold bears himself well as Sir Francis Tregarthen; as the erring dupe, Roy Ferrars, Mr. Robert Hall acts with power; as the scheming adventuress, Hilda Revelle, Miss Effie Bartlett is effective; with grace Miss Edna Earl portrays Milly St. Austell; Mr. Mayo Stanley as Sam Tippett and Miss Etta Turner as Bessie Sparkles contribute acceptable humour, and the acting of Little Doris Brereton as Lulu is full of promise.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The immobile comedian Sam Mayo is responsible for much laughter here, and the Empire Comedy Four amuse greatly with their humour and capital part singing; A. C. Lilly and company are here again with the well acted sketch *Drummed Out*; La Freya presents a charming artistic novelty in a series of dissolving visions; in manipulating musical glasses Silvo displays great taste and skill; Barrett and Knowles, the Green Lizard and his Friend, are responsible for much laughter. There are some capital Bioscope pictures, and Tom Moore, character comedian, May Mars, a very charming songstress, and Great Vincent, a clever acrobatic table expert, complete the excellent company.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Tubby Edlin and company are here again with Harry Roxbury's bustling, laughable absurdity *The Cowboy Millionaire*, and the fun is rampant. *My Husband* is a laughter-provoking sketch given successfully by Lila Madison and Freddy Webb; Alice Craven scores with Lancashire songs, and J. J. Mannix, "the Coffee-Coloured Coon," sings and dances capitally; Dan Conroy's Irish songs and patter are amusing; the Burdetter Brothers do some clever head and hand balancing; the smart Will Douglas troupe, in their Bakers' Beano act are applauded for clever acrobatic work, and the Palace Perfection Pictures are amusing.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The holiday programmes at this popular resort have been greatly enjoyed by thousands of visitors. Mr. Norfolk Megone and his municipal orchestra have been very popular at the promenade concerts in the Floral Pavilion; Mr. Joseph Lycett, the vocalist, has been rapturously encored for his well-rendered bass songs. In the Grand Pavilion "The Gipsies and their Jester," under the management of that versatile comedian and dancer, Mr. Will Gane, have drawn crowded audiences. Miss Marie West is a charming soprano vocalist; Miss Elsa McIntosh shines as a comedienne and dancer; Mr. Evelyn Wood possesses a fine baritone voice; and Mr. Edgar Berte is an excellent comedian and raconteur. Mr. Byden Currie, banjoist and ventriloquist, is remarkably clever, and his performing dog has been trained to perfection. Mr. Will Gane is the life and soul of the company, his grotesque dances being a great feature of the entertainment; Miss Louise Harvey is a proficient solo pianist and accompanist; and the sketches given by the company are artistically performed. In the Royal Victoria Rooms the animated picture shows have drawn crowded houses.

New Spa and Gardens and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge; Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Julian Kandt and his famous band appeared at the Sunday evening concert in the Opera House, a crowded audience being delighted by the artistically-rendered selections. The vocalists at the concerts are Miss Grace Ivell, a lady with a pure and rich contralto voice, and Mr. A. Edward Oldbury, tenor. "The Salestos" are highly popular in their sparkling entertainments, Miss Winifred Browning's songs and dances and Miss Stroud Wilson's soprano songs being particularly favoured; Mr. Harry Ruming is a versatile artist, his musical contributions on bicycle bells, &c., being very clever. Mr. Sydney Warwick's baritone songs are well rendered; and Mr. Walter Walker's humorous effusions cause hearty merriment.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company is here this week with *A Diver's Luck*. Mr. Edmund O'Grady gives a very fine enactment of Barney Bawn; Mr. William Macready is highly successful as the diver Martin Faber; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff makes a charming and sympathetic Helen Wyngate; Mr. William Dexter is forcible as the scheming Tom Hall; Mr. James Burt is well placed as Pedro; Mr. Herbert J. Walton's Maurice Wyngate is capitally played; and much fun is afforded by Miss Mary Stewart as Daffodil Bolter and Mr. Harry Bristow as Snowball. The drama is admirably staged.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Joe Elvin is highly successful in two comedy sketches, *Billy's Money-box* and *Deaf*; Jean Wallace is very effective in songs and dances; Staffo, the "juggling butcher boy," is clever and entertaining; the Pemms are capital in cross-talk and knockabout business; Jessie Stuart sings in artistic style; Monahan and Sheehan win great favour with their varied musical selections; George Phillips is a pleasing light comedian; Ardel and Odell are well received in their eccentric and comedy acrobatic act; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and instructive.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Arthur Prince, the popular ventriloquist, wins enthusiastic applause for his clever and amusing turn; R. A. Roiffe presents "Ye Colonial Septet" in *An Olde Tyme Hollowe'en* with success; Rameses, "the Egyptian wonder-worker," is a very accomplished illusionist; Rorke, Rooke, and company are extremely diverting in the musical burletta *The Prince's Love Affair*; George Campbell is a capital patter comedian; Frank Couch, comedian, is favourably received; Harry Jolson, American travesty vocalist and burnt cork comedian, affords amusement; the Quality Quartet of male vocalists, contribute pleasing selections; the Stowe Brothers are novel and daring equilibrists; and Dorothy Sephton, comedienne, appears in her latest successes.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mrs. Brown Potter and company are here this week with *Madame X*. Mrs. Brown Potter gives an intensely realistic impersonation of Jacqueline and is stirringly effective in the scene of the murder; Mr. Leonard Pagden submits a thoroughly artistic portrayal of Louis Fleuriot; Mr. Thomas Sidney is an admirable Perissard; Mr. Douglas Arlington merits warm praise for his enactment of Raymond Fleuriot; and the remaining characters are ably represented.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Franks' company is here this week with *Oh Susannah!* Mr. Roland Daniel gives an excellent impersonation of John Sheppard, whose wife, Flora, has a pleasing exponent in Miss Elsie Roberts; Miss Victoria Wray-Holmes is well suited as Susannah; Mr. Arthur Gibbons as Mr. Plant submits a capital enactment; Mr. Percival Madgewick's Lieutenant Merry is ably played; Miss Dorrie Roberts achieves distinct success as Aurora; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here this week. The Adventures of the Golden Valley conveys an exciting story of the Wild West, The Ruins of Old Delhi is a superb film, Rogues of the Turf is a fine drama, Calino's Duel is a comic trick picture, The Livingstone Case is a detective story, and much fun is furnished by Magic Pills, A Lady's Tram, and the Winning of Father.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here continue to attract good houses. A Trip Through Beautiful Windermere is charmingly picturesque, The Little Plotters submit a pleasing story, exciting incidents are portrayed by the Ranch Girl's Legacy and A Child of the Prairie, the Manufacture of Matches is instructive, while Fits and Misfits and The Forgotten Watch are very funny.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Mark Blow's company is here with *The Prisoner of Zenda*. Mr. Mark Blow is highly successful as Rudolph Rassendyll, and later as Rudolph V.; and Miss Marie Polini is very pleasing as Princess Flavia; Mr. George A. Brandram displays considerable power and acts cleverly as Black Michael; and other important parts are carefully taken by Miss Agnes Verity, Mr. Eric G. Merrie, Mr. William J. Stack, Mr. Julian Cross, and Mr. Wrenhan Ryott. The play is excellently staged and costumed.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Hush Money*; or, *The Disappearance of Sexton Blake*, is the attraction here, the play being well staged. Mr. Horace Denton takes full advantage of all his opportunities as Sexton Blake; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson makes a good part of John Shand; Miss Theresa Osborne is pleasing as Lady Muriel Montressor; Miss Agnes Paulton is amusing as Euphemia Pattacake; the heavy part of Lord Mervyn Walgrave is well played by Mr. J. H. Darnley; and Mr. Harry Hartley does well as Tinker. The bloodhound, Pedro, is evidently well trained.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Valazzi heads the programme; he does some inimitable juggling, and concludes with "Sloping the Slope" on an ordinary solid cannon ball. Dort and Leonard are remarkably smart comedy acrobats and tumblers; Thora is a clever lady ventriloquist; the Sisters Allen are expert and graceful dancers; Alick Lauder and company amuse with their sketch, *The Christening*; Irve Hayman and company please with their pretty sketch, *Christmas Eve*; Boden and Bell are smart juvenile vocalists and dancers; Lillie Souttar is a pleasing comedienne. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Fred Karno's company amuse with their new production, *The G.P.O.*; the Royal Tokio Troupe of equilibrists and balancers do an excellent turn, concluding with their celebrated ladder act; Wilson and Waring, comedians, score with their speciality, *A Bit of Nonsense*; Lydia and Amelys are clever Continental dancers; Jennie Hartley, comedienne, is entertaining; King's College Boys do well in *A Student's Concert*; Edna James is a pleasing comedienne; the Melbournes obtain appreciation; as also does Dan Filmer, comedian; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

Zoological Gardens. — Superintendent, Capt. E. W. B. Villiers.—There was a very large attendance here on Whit Monday. The variety company, provided, as usual, by Mr. Tom Wood, of Whitehall-road, Bristol, included the Rizarelis, lady gymnasts; Wyman, acrobatic trick skater; Norman and Allan, patter comedians and dancers; Marcus, in Herculean feats; the Deroneys, in a comedy sketch, introducing wire-walking and spade-dancing; Reignor, tumbler and side-somersault thrower; P. J. Durney, in his speciality on the rolling globe; and the Three Recars, eccentric Chinese acrobats. Mr. George Walker presided at the piano. There was the usual country fair, Mr. Tom Weymouth's quadrille band played selections and for dancing, and Messrs. W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham, provided a fine display of fireworks.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horne.—Animated pictures are installed here, and the programme provided is of exceptional merit. This week, in addition to the films, Miss Sylvia Bond, a sweet soprano, and Mr. Albert Masey, an excellent tenor, sing several items.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—At the head of the bill here are Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, excellent singers, dancers, and musicians. Dalvers and Wallace, comedians, provide merriment; Flo Hinton is a lively comedienne in masculine attire; Tom Gott adds to his popularity as a fun maker; and Chiko is a smart equilibrist and contortionist. Ruby and Laws have a pretty song scena; and a good acrobatic turn is given by Hattie Petro and Pete Leon. The Empire Theatroscope concludes.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—*Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* is brimful of good fun; George Formby, with droll songs, evokes roars of laughter; Sergeant Brennan works wonderful skill in diabolo throwing; the Cairo Trio are excellent musicians; Sissie Brand and Beatrice Allen are fascinating comediennes; Colin Mail is a good light comedian; and the Palace Pictures are highly interesting.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—A strong variety programme drew large Bank Holiday audiences here. The original Vampire Dance, presented by Mildred Deverez and Tom Terris, is weird and fascinating; the Vanderbilts (Harry and Edith), American comedy artists, score in patter and song; Jack Rae, speciality comedy gymnasts, are clever and amusing; roars of laughter greet Clifton and Gibson in their original and amusing business; Amy Belwood, a dainty comedienne, soon dances herself into favour; the Katos, with their Komical Kidgets, the Lilliputian wonders, are likewise in demand; and in a screaming farcical absurdity, entitled *The Substitute*, Sid Cotterell and company keep the ball of fun rolling. On the Operascope the pictures included The Proclamation of King George V.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The theatre was reopened on Monday night by a visit of the King's Lynn Amateurs in aid of local charities. The piece played was *The Mikado*, and everyone must be congratulated on the success achieved. Miss Clara Dow was, of course, the star of the performance, and as Yum Yum she was as delightful as ever.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Little Damozel* is the attraction this week, large audiences being the rule each night. Miss Emelie Polini in the title-rôle shows exceptional ability; Mr. Alick Chumley portrays the character of Recklow Poole with gaiety and spirit; Mr. Guy Newall as Fitzroy Lock is quite capable; Miss Eva Stuart is a handsome Sybil Craven; Mr. D. Henry Twyford as Captain Partington and Mr. William Matthews as Walter Angel are two excellent representatives. The piece is preceded by a capital curtain-raiser entitled *Curing a Selfish Husband*

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—After a long absence we have a visit here from the popular Marie Lloyd, who has been accorded unusually enthusiastic receptions; Dion Wade, the clever comedian and mimic, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in a novel racing act, and Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce, in a delightful Japanese musical scena, are prominent on the bill. Others who contribute are G. W. Hunter (the well-known comedian and raconteur), Ryan and Hall (two acrobatic comedians), Bert Williams (a clever ventriloquist), Vandinoff, assisted by Mlle. Louie (the lightning artist in oils), and the Sisters St. Julian (duettists and dancers), with the American Bioscope to complete.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Cambrian Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. E. Clay.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in the romantic play *The Love of the Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey gives a thrilling presentation of Prince Ramona; Mr. Richard Vane is a good Count Danilo; Mr. John Burton (Josef, King of Ilarnia), Mr. Francis Serle (Duke Scarle), and Mr. Edgar Morgan (Boris) are exceptionally clever exponents of their respective characters; Mr. Beckett Bauer is a striking Lieut. Orlans; and considerable credit is also due to Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff. Miss May Beatrice wins admirers in the rôle of Princess Idalia, and Miss Josephine Lee (Constantia) and Maude Steeple (Lady Irene) could scarcely be improved upon.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The exceptionally fine holiday programme *en evidence* at the popular Palace has had the effect of drawing crowded houses. Pride of place is given to Mr. Wilfred H. Benson's company in a stirring episode entitled *The Last Halt*. A sensational drama on the cinematograph is entitled The Martyrdom of Adolf Beck. The Newmans, Australia's greatest trick cyclists, also obtain unlimited approbation, and the Ten Dixie Girls in a vocal and terpsichoerean scena, *The Silver Coon*, are bright and musical. Geo. Geoffreys (mimic, comedian, and dancer), Burt Ward (comical siffleur and raconteur), and the Miltons (skating comedians) all contribute to a fine programme.

CARLISLE.—The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Friend and Downing, who are the chief attraction, are very properly described as the "laughter fiends"—their style is so original and their cross-talk and patter so quaintly comical that roars of laughter greeted their every effort; Leolin gives an Indian club and juggling scena, which is as pretty as it is clever; Gwen Francis is a pleasing and dainty comedienne; and Kate Gourley's smart dancing met with well-deserved approval. The Vaudeville Trio also shine as dancers, and are in addition excellent vocalists; Clive Cattley, a smart light comedian, appears again with great success. Perhaps the most popular turn is that contributed by Shirley and Ransome, in their humorous and pathetic sketch *Jim's Pal*, a most interesting playlet, which gives these clever artists ample scope for displaying their undoubted histrionic abilities. Some excellent pictures conclude.

H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thomas Courtice.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, who is always a big favourite here, commenced a summer stock season on Saturday last with the popular drama *Jeanie Deans*, which met with the utmost appreciation from a full house. For the Bank Holiday *Shall We Forgive Her?* attracted a large audience, and much favourable comment was made on the excellent representation given by Mr. Tearle's stock company. Mr. Tearle and Miss Kate Clinton filled the leading rôles with all their well-known skill, and were well supported by Mr. Ernest Lodge in the heavy part, Miss Nancy Blackwood as Joanna Lightfoot, Messrs. Stuart Black, John Taylor, Dennis Hogan, Miss Ray Parry, and Miss Mary Campbell. The piece was well staged and dressed, and was a distinct success. *It's Never Too Late to Mend* is also to be produced during the week.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—An admirable company here was headed by Signor Arvi and his scientific and artistic mystery "Les Metabies"; Bert Bowden is making a success with a couple of quaint songs; Ariana, a well-trained dog, is introduced by Chas. d'Aix; Nancy Renshaw as a dusky songstress and bone manipulator is loudly applauded; the Carney Bros. are vocal comedians of considerable merit; Warren and Granville, in a vocal and instrumental act, *His Brother's Fiancée*, find plenty of admirers; and animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. complete an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—This week marks the first appearance at the Theatre Royal of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. *The Mikado* was staged on the opening night before a splendid house. In the title-rôle Mr. Leicester Tunks was excellent; Mr. Henry Herbert's performance as Nanki Poo was greatly enjoyed; Mr. Henry A. Lytton made the hit of the evening in his amusing and finished impersonation of Ko Ko; Pooh Bah was in the safe keeping of Mr. Fred Billington; Mrs. Arthur Rousbey delighted all as Yum Yum; and Miss Louie Rene was applauded throughout in the part of Katisha. The week's bill also includes *The Gondoliers*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Iolanthe*.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. and Mrs. Benson and company are here, and opened on Monday with *Macbeth*. Mr. Benson's impersonation of the guilty Thane was impressive and always interesting. Mrs. Benson acted with her customary intensity and skill as Lady Macbeth; Mr. Murray Carrington gave an admirable impersonation of Banquo; Mr. Eric Mason was capable as the Thane of Fife; Mr. Guy B. Rathborne skilfully doubled the parts of Duncan and the Doctor; Mr. Alfred Wild was a picturesque Malcolm; Mr. John Howell made a gallant figure as Leyton; Miss Marion Foreman was natural as Fleance; and the Three Witches were weirdly represented by Mr. E. Harrison, Mr. H. O. Nicholson, and Miss Violet Fairbrother.

Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—A sloping floor and other improvements have made this pavilion one of the best equipped in the country, and the opening of the season on Monday by the Middies and the Maids was attended by happy auguries of success. The entertainment is delightfully bright, and artistic. The "maids" are Miss Gladys Haysack and Miss Maisie Everette, the former a vocalist of fine voice and graceful methods, and the latter a chic and charming little lady, whose songs and dances are brimful of life and gaiety. Mr. Mostyn Scott, in his dialect songs, is a great favourite; Mr. Rex Harold is the humorist *par excellence*; and Mr. Arthur Randal does some capital work, Miss Everette and he scoring heavily in a Dutch duet; Mr. Kenworth gives an excellent musical monologue, "Baby Bill." One of the funniest things o' the evening is the concerted sketch *The Aeroplane*

Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—The pictures shown are remarkably clear and realistic. The Magic Whiskers and The Uncontrollable Motor-cycle appeal very much to the audience. Miss Mollie Gwynne's illustrated songs are enjoyed.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Glen-Barber.—The pictures here continue good. Mr. Harry Edwards' conjuring and ventriloquial turn is clever and entertaining; Miss Alice Warner is a bright and engaging vocalist; and Mr. Fred Stuart gives a versatile show.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Marie Santoi and her merry Japs present their bright and melodious miniature musical comedy *A Night in Japan*, and capture the hearts of a delighted audience. Happy Attwood introduces excellent new patter and parody business; Gertrude Blanche, a dainty soubrette, is a taking vocalist and dancer; Alf Holt a clever American mimic; and D'Aubey a most capable lightning scenic colour artist. The remaining items of the bill are Charles Rowen, an acceptable comedian, Vernon's bioscopic pictures, and the Cattaneo company in their original and clever acrobatic sketch.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Messrs. Shiel-Porter and Garth's répertoire company is paying a welcome return visit. On Monday *A Snug Little Kingdom* was presented to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Garth, as Bernard Gray, gave a well-studied representation of an exacting part. Herbert Gray, M.D., was cleverly played by Mr. T. G. Vane; and an enjoyable piece of characterisation was Mr. Arthur McCullogh's Ben Kershaw. Miss Esmai Ellys was especially good as Mrs. Blower, and Miss Doriel Dahy presented a realistic study of Amelia. Miss Gladys Morris made a vivacious Sister Hope, and Miss Lisa Coleman was happily suited in the difficult rôle of Dolly. The staging of the piece left nothing to be desired. *The Money Spinner* and *Caste* are also in the week's bill. The tour is under the direction of Mr. J. A. Whitehouse.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—By arrangement with Mr. Herbert Sleath Miss Florence Tyrrell is presenting *The Woman in the Case*, and on Monday the piece was received with every show of appreciation. The three characters which stood out most prominently were the Margaret Rolfe of Miss Beth Elliott, the Thompson of Mr. W. T. Elworthy, and the Claire Foster of Miss Tyrrell, and the repeated curtains awarded this trio were ample proof of the quality of their acting. Mr. Cecil Newton was an acceptable Julian Rolfe; Mr. Sydney Porter was well groomed and very natural as Jimmy O'Neil; and Mr. Bruce Lindley extracted a large amount of humour from the part of Louis Klauffsky.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The holiday top is Albas, in a very fine and daring wire act; Maurice, the Mystifier, is a really good and attractive turn; Dalvaine's Marionettes reflect the utmost credit upon the producer; Miss Madge Brownie, the dainty comedy artist, has a good reception; Tom Franks, ventriloquist, wins generous applause; Tom Lee excels as a tight comedian; and Jessica Brooke scores in song and dance. The reintroduction of the Bioscope is meeting with the greatest approval.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company are here with *A Daughter of the Sea*. As Mark Glensdale Mr. Lewis Gilbert is responsible for some capital stage villainy; Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine is a charming heroine; Ken Morland is in the capable hands of Mr. Roy Denman; and Mr. Ashmore Vincent is quite at home in the difficult character of Dan Glensdale. The comedy parts are well sustained by Miss Allyce Wyllyams, Mr. Jo Monkhouse, and Mr. J. W. Gonne.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—The Rainbows, in a musical sketch, opened a week's engagement here. The soloists include Miss Marie Craven, Mr. Harry Daunt, Miss Norman Russell, Miss Bettie Ray, and Mr. Charles Hutchins. Mr. Lionel Howard gives some clever impersonations of famous actors.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—George French, comedian, contributes clever character songs; Pearl and Halton, a musical comedy couple, are diverting in lively music and patter; Miss Mina Denvil, vocalist, possesses a sweet and sympathetic voice; Elton and Edwin, banjoists, are clever; a skilful juggling display is contributed by Mozetto; Miss Barry Eldon pleases in her songs and dances; Mlle. Pollo is a graceful gymnast; Duncan and Godfrey, in their coster comedy, entitled *Me and 'Er*, keep the house in good humour; and the Palascope pictures are very entertaining.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction*, by Mrs. Morton Powell, and produced by Mr. Morton Powell's company, is proving a good holiday attraction here. As the hero, Robert Ray, Mr. Leslie Austin gives a capable impersonation; Mr. George H. Child is successful as the villain; Miss Kate Sydney and Miss Maud M. Powell as Ruth and Ruby Wright respectively fully deserve their success; and Miss Anna Corri ably portrays the terrible Madame De Meral. Mr. Edward Swinton as the tax-collector and Miss Maggie Stewart as Bessie Betts both give capital accounts of themselves.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. E. Wright.—The house was crowded on Monday at both performances. Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company present *A 33 to 1 Chance*, in which Mr. Ben Jordan, the undefeated champion feather-weight of the world, and John Sullivan, the American champion, appear; Haley's Juveniles give a very fine vocal scena; Florrie Gallimore pleases the audience with her "fetching" songs; Rich Taylor gives a good ventriloquial scena; and other artists are Maude Vera, dainty comedienne; Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist; Ted Lowen, comedian; and the Five Vernons, xylophone specialists. The pictures deal with incidents in the life of the King.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—The holiday bill here consists of *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Violet Crossley submits a creditable rendering of Bess Moore; Miss Margaret Tueski acts with dramatic effect as Honour Moore; Miss Guinevere Shilton is commendable as Mrs. Moore; Miss Daisy Cook is a womanly and affectionate Gladys Erskine; and Miss Amy Randolph makes a vivacious Sally Smithers. Mr. Dudley Wynton is a fine, manly Lieutenant Richard Marsh; Mr. George R. Montford is suitable as Harry Gordon; Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman is well placed as Lord Erskine; Mr. Luke Forster gives a capital character sketch of Barney Gordon; Mr. Tom May is droll as Sammy Snozzle; and Mr. George Belmore deserves a word as Jerry Holmes. The company carry excellent scenery, which is manipulated with credit.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. Jay's Whitsun bill of fare is of a palatable nature. Leonard Mortimer and company make a hit in a sketch *The Riddle of the Red Crawl*; Valvero's Naval Bombardment is a novel and clever show; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs give a marvellous acrobatic act; Zona Vevey and Max Erard are great in musical scena, *My Lady's Bower*; Rich and Rich, comedians, deserve praise; Harry Bancroft, chorus vocalist, is well received; Elsie Roby is successful at the piano; Harry Rogerson is an amusing comedian; Emmie Ames, comedienne, is quite up to the mark; Frank Fort, Johannesburg Jester, is applauded; Vera Wootton is a charming comedienne; and the Bioscope Pictures are worthy of mention.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's comp any is here with *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. John F. Trayner as Harry Steyne is excellent; Mr. F. G. Evison as Billy Brewer works comedy into a very exacting part with success; Mr. Harry W. Hatchman is capital as Leonard Boyle; Mr. Frank S. Strickland does well as Hassan Padisha; Miss Trissie Humphries as Mary Steyne wins favour by her dainty acting; Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer is clever;; and Miss Jeannie Weston is a smart Lady Phyllis Eustace. The animated pictures shown after the drama are new.

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—A big holiday bill is headed by George D'Albert, who scores with his songs. Mr. C. does well with his singing and talking; and other good turns are the Dartons, duettists; Blanco and Emilie, in a musical and dancing act; Victor Louis in vocal comedy; Maude Courtney, comedienne; Harley and Melton, the pattering pair; the Three Phydoras, musical novelty act; and the Hipposcope pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper.—Cliffe Dacre, baritone and character vocalist, is well applauded; Hebden and Richards are appreciated in their sketch, *The Stolen Violin*, which includes solos on that instrument by Mr. Percy Richards; Alf Grady, comedian, causes laughter. The pictures include The Passing Shadow and The Cowboy and the Squaw.

Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Dennis J. McCarthy is amusing in his sketch, *At the Bar*; the Three Kings, juvenile singers and dancers, are clever; as also are the Sisters Page, vocalists. Capital films include Taming a Husband and In Southern Tunis.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Denley.—A capital holiday programme is headed by Percy Honri and company in *Concordia*; Herr Julius Walther, of Carl Rosa fame, in his standard selections, is as tuneful as ever; the Brothers Ethairen are eccentrics of an entertaining order; Arthur Astill, as a farmyard mimic, proves himself an artist of ability; Cole and Rags perform their juggling tricks in a smart and amusing manner; the Gregson Trio do well in a comedy sketch, entitled *An Ideal Maid*; Charles Grantly, comedian, with quaint songs and patter, makes himself a firm favourite; and Nellie Dashwood sings and dances in a manner distinctly pleasing. The Bioscope concludes with a humorous film.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—At this house Miss Augusta Tullock and company present a drama, entitled *Judith, the Woman Who Sinned*, and in the title-rôle Miss Tullock gives a fine impersonation. Jack Carrington is ably rendered by Mr. Alec Young; the rôle of the evil genius is capably portrayed by Mr. Ed. Vivian; and Miss Dorothea Vivian sustains her part in a highly-creditable manner.

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable preparation than

ENO'S

'FRUIT SALT'

THE OLD TIME, EVER-POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY FOR

Biliousness, Sick Headache, Errors in Diet (Eating or Drinking), Giddiness, Constipation, Thirst, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold with High Temperature and Quick

DEVONPORT.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The Ten Loonies keep the house in roars of laughter; Joe Reichen and his performing dogs give a wonderful turn; Stewart and Morgan supply some artistically-rendered Irish songs, which are loudly re-demanded; Hunter and Maris entertain with a clever and original comedy act; Olive Martyn is responsible for plenty of fun with a boxing burlesque; Madge Beresford, as a comedienne, is distinctly above the average; and 'Losqo Brown, coloured comedian, is equally efficient in song and dance.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*One of the Best* supplies a first-rate attraction. As Lieutenant Dudley Keppel Mr. James Stillwell scores brilliantly; Mr. John Sargent is a fine military martinet in the rôle of Lieutenant-General Coventry; Mr. Leonard Cardale makes a welcome re-appearance in the rôle of Dr. Penrose; Miss Jessie Yatman capably and prettily plays the part of Mary Penrose; and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe is a capable Philip Elsworth.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Miss Florence Baines and company are making a welcome re-appearance here. Miss Baines fairly revels in her original part of Mary Ellen Thompson, and keeps the audience in continuous laughter; as John Higgins Mr. David Donaldson is responsible for some excellent acting; Mr. Burt Burton as Moses Goldburg is humorous; Mr. Payne Fletcher as John Henry Thompson does well; Miss Maud Locker ably portrays the part of Mrs. Thompson; the character of Eva Lancashire is in the able hands of Miss Eva Nelson; Mr. Sinclair Holden as Harry submits an excellent study; and Miss Mary Collier (Bertha) and Mr. Hubert Mitchell (George) do good work.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—A brisk and entertaining programme is provided here, the principal turn being Sandy McNab and company in the successful screaming absurdity *The Egyptian Mummy*, which keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. J. R. Poole presents the Seven Bramusis, in a novel musical scena; Bert Byrne submits some original patter; and Guest and Newlyn, the Hebrew and the soubrette, are clever singers and dancers. The Three Delaires, in *The Demon Grotto*, perform some daring feats on the triple trapeze and swinging ropes; Iris Banfield sings good songs; and Sam Spira is successful as an entertainer. Cromo and Hamilton, burlesque artists, were unable to appear on Monday.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. Jack Harris; Musical-Director, Mr. R. H. Riley.—Marie Jones, in her clever quick-change act, *Wanted, a Co-respondent*, gives a highly-diverting entertainment, assisted by Ernest Munro; Thornbury is a capital ventriloquist and lightning painter; George Bernard has a capital patriotic song; Lottie Holland delights everybody by her singing and dancing; the Wagners contribute a pleasing instrumental turn, introducing also a clever ice skate dance; Gertrude Seaton sings good illustrated songs; Escourt exhibits much skill in juggling; and La Somnambula, mystifier, also appears.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—Much laughter is caused here by the comic films, and some excellent dramatic subjects are thoroughly enjoyed. Illustrated songs are also rendered at intervals.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The Whitsuntide holiday attraction is the romantic drama *Send Him Victorious*. A dignified bearing distinguishes Mr. Howard Hardy's representation of the King of Bavonia; in lighter vein, Mr. James Archer secures a triumph as the Governor of the State Prison; Mr. Hugh Carmichael wins appreciation and applause; Mr. Charles Higgins is also loudly acclaimed for his impersonation of Major Carl Strauss; Captain Frank Allison is convincingly and artistically submitted by Mr. Herbert Skardon; and Mr. Frank Holyoake must be commended for his Sergeant Max and Mr. Lionel Carteret for his John Arany. Miss Netta Mitchell is a refined Ethel Harding; and Miss Sidney Crowe, who revives pleasant reminiscences, loses none of her popularity as the Countess Kara.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—The holiday attraction at the Grand Theatre has been the new and original comedy, written by Cayley Calvert and J. Willoughby Woodward, entitled *Not Before the Missus;* Miss Nannie Goldman, a vivacious comedienne, as Jane Parker, the general, secured hearty laughter; Miss Ruth Wallace was bright as Matilda Hanbury; Mr. Leonard K. Mansford was a genuinely funny Augustus Whistler; and Mr. W. Patrick Boyle made a droll Alphonse Durprez. Mr. Francis James as Vandyke Brown acted with sincerity; Mr. William Holles presented an excellent stage portrait of Barnaby Bunstone; the Mrs. Bunstone of Miss Pattie Walton was entertaining; and Miss Helena Dale and Miss Edith Bruce were pleasing. The other parts were adequately filled. The comedy was well staged. The *pièce de résistance* was preceded by a musical comedy mélange, in which Miss Nannie Goldman, Mr. Francis James, and Mr. William Holles were entirely successful. The Grand orchestra, which was of great service, is under the capable direction of Mr. H. A. Dowson.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Fox.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company, in *The Lady of Ostend*, have delighted appreciative audiences at the Gaiety Theatre during the week. The Baron de Longueville of Mr. Lawrence Brough is a study in character always artistic and amusing; another clever bit of stage portraiture is the Toby Krockitt of Mr. Watkin Wynne; Mr. Arthur Staples as Dick Whortles imbued his impersonation with the semi-tragic note which emphasises farcical comedy; the Joseph Carbury of Mr. Fred Morland was a good performance; Mr. W. Mayne Lynton was persuasive as the manager of the cinematograph companies; and Mr. H. Ray Cody excellent in the little part of Thompson. Miss Nora Royston looked well, and played well as the Lady of Ostend; and Miss Amy Singleton made a most impressive Mother-in-law. The Dorothy Whortles of Miss Beatrice Park was effective; Miss Olga Esme was delightful as the strawberry and cream maiden, Milly Grace. The piece was lavishly mounted, and Mr. Lawrence Brough's stage-management was perfect. As a curtain-raiser a petite comedy, written by Mr. Frank Stayton, was given.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox.—In addition to dancing to the witching strains of Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra, which is the chief *raison d'etre* of the Palace, the management rely on their roller-skating rink, and have provided an excellent variety programme in the Opera House. The Twelve Young Stars pleased in a novel vocal scena, "A Picnic Up the River"; Miss Lillian is a daring lady cyclist; Les Napiers contain a smart juggler; the Four Craigs are clever gymnasts; the comedy acrobatic act of the Unites secures laughter; Miss Ida Kessanley and her troupe of performing fox terriers are much appreciated; but the feature of the entertainment is the beautiful singing of the Douglas Male Choristers, under the conductorship of Mr. Noah Moore.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—This is the only place of amusement in Douglas which is open all the year round. The management rely on the two-houses-nightly policy, and animated pictures, relieved by variety turns, are their strong card. The pictures combine comic and dramatic. Mr. James Carr, a clever actor and a cultured singer, presents an illustrated song scena, "Fall in My Lads," which goes with a bang. Messrs. Mead and Wall are funny comedians. Mr. Cecil Bevan is the pianist. Other amusements in Douglas are Buxtons, with roller-skating and high-class pierrot concerts, and Mr. Charles Dare's Burnt Cork Comedians on Douglas Head.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and His Majesty's Theatre company entered on their second week's engagement here on Monday. Sir Herbert in the rôle of Svengali achieved his accustomed artistic success, and Miss Gladys Harvey was an ideal and clever representative of Trilby. In *The Man Who Was*, which followed, Sir Herbert played the part of Austin Limmason. On Tuesday night a magnificent performance of *The Merchant of Venice* was given before a very large audience, the staging and scenic settings being superb. Sir Herbert won round upon round of applause for his excellent study of the Jew; Miss Evelyn D'Alroy in the rôle of Portia proved herself to be a most accomplished actress, and acted with splendid judgment; Mr. Arthur Wontner made an admirable Bassanio; Mr. Henry Morrell did very well as Antonio; Miss Gladys Harvey was a most efficient Nerissa; and Miss Hilda Moore gave a satisfactory portrayal of Jessica. *The O'Flynn* was announced for Wednesday and Thursday, and to-day *The Merchant of Venice, Trilby*, and *The Man Who Was* will be repeated.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. O'Brien and Ireland's repertoire company has commenced a season here, and on Monday night the house was packed from floor to ceiling by an audience that received the popular play *The Green Bushes; or, Ireland 150 Years Ago* with great applause. Mr. James O'Brien, the famous Irish comedian, was greeted with rounds of applause on his appearance as Wild Murrogh, in which he displayed his versatile abilities to the full; Mr. Harry Ireland acted admirably as Connor O'Kennedy; Mrs. Glenville submitted an excellent portrayal of Meg; Mr. James Daly gave a very clever study of George O'Kennedy; Mr. J. D. Davis appeared with great success in the rôle of Captain Dartois; Miss Minnie Walsh gave an admirable portrayal of Geraldine; Nellie O'Neill was cleverly enacted by Miss Laura Lawson; and Miss Maud Barnes as Tigertail and Miss Madeline Hurst as Miami also did well in their respective parts.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The first production of Mr. Robert O'Dwyer's new romantic grand opera *Eithne* is noticed in another page.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—An excellent bill of fare is headed by Gordon and St. Croix's company, including Miss Beatrice Edwards, in the romantic scena *The Romanys*. Fred Land, comedian, scores a big success; Millie Payne, eccentric comedienne, is recalled again and again; Dan Hendry, acrobatic comedian, is going strong; Zethus is well appreciated for his excellent cornet solos; Bertha Winder, Prince Milner Trio, and Harry Thurston also appear with success; and the Empire pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here are Spissell Bros. and Mack in a novel eccentric act, which causes much laughter. Others appearing are Leslie and Stevens in a comedietta entitled *Love Levels All*, which is well received; Zenora, in a marvellous balancing act; Amy Russell, who meets with a good reception for her excellent songs; the Beckotow Bros. in their comedy act *The Butler and the Dude*, which is warmly applauded; Will Nosam, coon vocalist; Belle Sylvia; the Bristons, acrobats; Will Owen, comedian; together with the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor Mr. Charles A. James.—The following artists are appearing with great success:—Seymour and Med, comedy artists; Gennie Lindo, vocalist; John Davies, ventriloquist; and Syd Down and George Denton, comedians.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Large audiences are enjoying the return visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*. In the title-rôle Miss Mary Ridley wins the praises of every one with her charming singing and acting. Mr. Robert Needham is equally successful with a bright rendering of Prince Danilo; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter gives a clever interpretation of the diverting Baron Popoff; and the character of General Novakovitch is in the capable hands of Mr. Cecil Warick. Mr. Harry Emeric as Nisch proves highly amusing, and he and Miss Neste Laurel give some really smart songs and dances. Miss Mabel Hope is an attractive Natalie; and Mr. Ronald Pomeroy a powerful Vicomte Camile de Jolidon. The play is well staged and dressed, and the choruses well rendered.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—At the top of the strong holiday programme is the Marvellous Child Trio, clever juvenile actor-musicians; Haley's Garden of Girls is a charming troupe of vocalists and dancers; Amy Anderson and company in scena, *Banana Queen*, are old favourites, as is Cull Pitt, in trick-talk travesties and topics. Also prominent are the Three Langfords, vocalists and expert dancers; Lily Belle, in a barefoot dancing act; and Will Conn, comedian. The Empire pictures are, as usual, popular.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—For the concluding week of the season a remarkable bill on the "Grand Guignol" principle is being presented. Mrs. John Lawson and company appearing in three playlets, *The Devil's Sunday, The Bride for a Living*, and *The Woman and the Apple*. Mrs. Lawson does ample justice to the different rôles, and shows herself to be an actress of most unusual ability. Excellent support is accorded by Mr. Cohen Owen; and by Mr. Sam Springson, whose Joe Faber, in *The Bride for a Living*, is a really fine performance. During the intervals an enjoyable musical programme is rendered by Madame Florence Burns, Miss Mildred Gibbs, and Mr. Robert Foster Hine.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A very entertaining bill is headed by the Original Schichti Marionettes, one of the cleverest shows of its kind; the Four Mayos cause much laughter by their comicalities in a roller-skating scene; the Soho Trio present, with success, a racy turn, consisting of capital singing and eccentric dancing; Rastus and Banks provide a lively interlude; J. P. Carroll is a thorough master of the tambourine; and Ted Gill uses his fine tenor voice to the utmost advantage; Eddie and Ethel are warm favourites in their comedy business; Nellie Farrell wins applause for her Irish songs; and the Kingscope shows a fine film, Heroine of Mafeking.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—People's Popular Pictures opened for the season here on Monday, when two large houses welcomed with many signs of approval the capital programme presented. A coloured film, Eclipse of the Sun and Moon, is a clever and mystifying item. A capital variety turn by the Wymans completes a most enjoyable programme.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—There is no falling off in the popularity of the picture programmes here. The films this week include His Only Daughter, A Ranch Girl's Legacy, and a beautiful film showing the recent floods in France.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—The picture entertainment continues to be attractive here, and a capital series of picture gives much satisfaction to good houses.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—Phil Percival, heading the bill here, is most entertaining at the piano; Picitt and Lizette mystify the audience in a laughable way; in an acrobatic act the Four Leopolds win praise; and the Great Spiridion is a juggler hugely enjoyed. Walter and Albert Kelly are clever jumpers; Graham and Barron prove funny comedians; and T. E. Johnstone, with character songs, is well applauded. The Bank Messenger on the Cathedoscope is an entertaining picture.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Edward S. Petley and Miss Una Gilbert's company is appearing here in *Little Mrs. Cummin*. Miss Una Gilbert works hard, cleverly, and well as Mrs. Cummin; Miss Christine Raynor is a bright, girlish, and attractive Juliet; Miss Jessie Percival is excellently suited as the sporting girl Lucy; Miss Caroline Fenton does well as Mrs. Plain; and Miss Mabel Leatham and Miss Constance Walker help as Harriet and Ellen. Clever and animated work is done by Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson as Clarence; Mr. John Belton undertakes well the part of Captain Sands; Mr. Edward S. Petley is a characteristic Horace; and Mr. Gordon Hamilton an excellent Mills.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes; Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart's company is appearing here in *Les Cloches De Corneville*. Mr. E. St. Alban gives an extremely clever and impressive performance as Gaspard; Mr. Mark Lester is a conspicuous success as a very clever and humorous Bailie; Mr. Augustus Cramer sings and acts with much ability as the Marquis de Corneville; Mr. Wensley Russell possesses a pleasing voice which he uses well as Grenicheux; and Mr. Alfred Selby is a substantial help in providing fun as Gobo. Miss Vera Dorian is entitled to the highest praise for her capital singing and fine animated work as Germaine; Miss Gurney Delaporte is a pretty and dainty Serpolette; Miss Florence Hardy is a very good Gertrude; Miss Lucy Kipling a successful Christophe; and other parts in a particularly good cast are well filled. The very effective chorus demands a word of praise for its spirited work.

THE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week are F. T. Nelson's Newsboys, and their bright and lively singing and dancing are very popular; Mr. Arthur Rigby returns with new songs and great success; Miss Lallie Brooke, original and pleasing, is very clever as "the old-fashioned girl"; Miss Amy Clevere sings her songs in a taking and attractive style; Henriette and Selina are able and refined musicians, who find well-deserved favour; Gordon and Leslie provide excellent fun; Mr. Mike Maddin is a good comedian; and new films are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is here in a répertoire of plays. The first night was devoted to *Mr. Barnes, of New York*. Mr. Lodge-Percy as Mr. Barnes proved himself a most capable and painstaking actor. He was well supported by Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Danello, Mr. Andrew Money as Captain George Arthur, R.N., Miss Henrietta Schrier as Marina Paoli, and Miss Veronica Clinton as Maud Chateris. Other parts were in capable hands.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A very fresh, bright, and healthily humorous programme is presented by those delightful entertainers, The Follies, who began a week's engagement here last Monday. The opening part of the entertainment reveals the musical abilities of the members of the company, and nothing could be more charming than the rendering of the various selections by Miss Effie Cook, Miss Gwennie Mars, Miss Ethel Armandale, and Miss Muriel George, while the amusing stories of Mr. Lewis Sydney, and the extremely clever imitations of popular London actors by Mr. Morris Harvey drew forth hearty laughter and applause. A notable item is the series of "Beverage Quartettes," the words by Mr. Arthur Davenport, and the tuneful music by Mr. H. G. Pellissier. "The Follies" revel in the humour of the "potted plays," which include travesties of *Henry of Navarre, Fires of Fate*, and *King of Cadonia*, the last-named being a particularly happy skit. The burlesque of a modern music hall, with the good-humoured mimicry of many well-known artists, evoked shouts of mirth. A new feature of this sketch is the introduction of various gallery spectators cleverly made up, who punctuate the efforts of the "stars" by critical comments of a droll kind. "The Follies" were repeatedly recalled on Monday evening, the appreciation of the audience testifying to the merits of a felicitous, well-arranged, and altogether clever entertainment. A specially designed curtain and a pretty scene in black-and-white harmonised effectively with the players' quaint dresses.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A new comedy entitled *A Sense of Humour*, by Miss Beryl and Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, has been staged here this week, the piece being amusingly played by Miss Fyfe Alexander and a thoroughly efficient company. The quartet of characters, who virtually have the whole burden of the piece on their shoulders, succeed in providing a most enjoyable evening's entertainment, and their efforts are cordially appreciated. Miss Alexander, as the flirting young wife Mrs. Hay, acts a clever part with unfailing skill; the rôle of Captain Hay is effectively handled by Mr. James Hartop; and Sir William and Lady Hutton are admirably represented by Mr. Frank Wolsey and Miss Helen Holmes. Mr. Henry Le Grand creates an abundance of mirth as the butler; and Miss Violet Oakley is quite competent as the lady's maid. The authors may congratulate themselves on their work being interpreted by such expert performers, and the actors are to be complimented on their artistic production of the play. *The Call of Birth*, by Beatrice Heron Maxwell, put on as a curtain-raiser, gave opportunities to Miss Ethel Singer in the part of Margaret Brandreth, assisted by Mr. Wolsey and Mr. Le Grand, to make a very acceptable appearance.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Hal Forde, a comedian with a graceful, easy style, who sings pleasant songs humorously, and who introduces some excellent patter, is one of the principal attractions at this house; Miss Annie Schuberth, a vocalist with a powerful, expressive voice, is loudly applauded for her song scena, and she is heard to equal advantage in a pretty setting of different lullabies, entitled "Songs My Mother Sang"; Slippere, a blind entertainer at the piano, shows his mastery of the instrument; and Bert Woodward, a dashing trick cyclist, performs several smart feats. Miss Phœbe Mercer and company raise hearty laughter by their excellent acting of an amusing farce, *Mistakes Will Happen;* Otto and Olga give an artistic selection of operatic music in their sketch, entitled *Mock Opera;* and dainty Miss Daisy James is highly successful in her piquant rendering of exhilarating songs. Hammon and Wyatt, "the Australian Sandow Girls"; Mr. Jack Ramsay, comedian; and views of the Proclamation of King George V. shown by the Bioscope complete a capital programme.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Miss Clarice Mayne stands at the head of this week's bill, and her song creations and mimicry, including her crinoline success, "I'm longing for someone to love me," delighted the audience, who have also fully appreciated the amusing by-play, as well as the expert playing of the gentleman who acts as accompanist; Miss Julia Kent and company submit an enjoyable little three-part comedy of 1760, entitled *Pistols for Three*, which is smartly played; and Mr. Harry Roxbury, aided by a cast of some half dozen actors and actresses, and a full chorus, provides plenty of diversion with the musical absurdity in three scenes *On the Track*. The performance of Lux and his dogs indicates great sagacity and careful training of the canine artists; the unique methods of the De Wynne Brothers, in a remarkably clever athletic display, adds to the effect of their skill and dexterity; and the comedy couple Frank and Free afford some amusement in a duologue scena. The single-handed turns comprise singing and dancing by Tiny Arnold, a juvenile comedienne; Mr. Pat Rafferty, in some of his latest comic efforts; and an excellent appearance by Mr. Andy McLeod in the triple rôle of comedian, instrumentalist, and raconteur. Bioscope pictures complete a pleasant programme.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Lieutenant Rose and the Foreign Spy, The Eleventh Hour, and The Ingrate are the principal pictures in a varied programme here. The Proclamation of King George V. at the Mercat Cross, Edinburgh, gives a vivid presentment of the ceremony of last Tuesday week, and the humorous pictures are, as usual, many and good.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. E. Edmunds.—The Roman, and Ransom's Folly are two outstanding pictures displayed here this week, and the humorous subjects include Electric Soles, a very diverting series of farcical episodes. Miss Edna Cragge, a pleasing singer of illustrated songs, and the Scottish Quintette, contribute interesting turns to the variety programme.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The weather in the Northern Metropolis is still far from suitable for outdoor amusements in the Gardens, but considerable audiences have patronised the entertainments in the concert hall this week. An excellent programme is provided by Mr. Graham Moffat, in his original Scottish plays; by Mr. J. P. Ling, an amusing artist, who contributes a smart performance; and by members of the Edinburgh select orchestra. There are also admirable views shown by the Bioscope.

EXETER.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Sandy.—The proprietors have arranged a most popular (and it proved to be a most successful) programme for the Whitsuntide holiday. George Robey keeps the house in a continual ripple of laughter; Grogie, the "character cove from the country," is another good turn; and a fine exhibition of scenic production with crayons is given by Pallette in his novel speciality, and his highly trained dog adds to the attraction. Kisbey, the call-boy, George James, the funny comedian, and Miss Adey Spencer are also in the bill.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*The Gay Gordons* is being played here by the members of Mr. Robert Macdonald's company. The dresses, scenery, and the entire production are excellent. Mr. Frank Lincoln as Angus is a great success; Mr. Edwin Dodds, too, scores heavily as Nervy Nat; Mr. W. H. Desmond provides a good deal of fun as Edmund; Mr. Bernard Vaughan makes excellent use of his opportunities as Andrew Quainton; Mr. Gordon Allison capably fills the rôle of John Smith; and it is difficult to imagine a more winning, bewitching, and rompish Peggy than Miss May Yates; and Miss Dorothy Grasdorf is delightfully natural as Victoria; Miss Ada Mellon makes a sympathetic and womanly Janet McLeod; Miss Edie Martin causes laughter as Charlotte; and Miss Tessa D'Alberti, Miss Norah Gainness, and Miss Eva Rosslyn are charming as Janet, Lady Graeme, and Lady Millicent.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre, Ltd.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold; Local-Manager, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Heading a strong bill here are the Three Prestons in a laughable comedy, *The Village of Shift-'em;* the Wittington Trio, acrobatic comedians, are clever and amusing; Mlle. De Rose and dainty Hilda Claremont, in an agreeable collection of favourite songs, make a "hit"; the Singing Jockeys have much that is entertaining in a cleverly put on scena; Harry Kimberley, comedian and dancer, appears with success; Taree, the musical bushman, has an original "turn"; and the Kingscope is not the least important of the attractions.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company in *The Face at the Window* is proving a powerful attraction. The part of Le Loup has rarely had a more suitable interpreter than Mr. Houghton Macaulay, whose work is beyond reproach; Paul Gouffet is once more finely embodied by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; Lucien Cortier is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Arthur Chisholm; an amusing Peter is that of Mr. John A. Stimson; a picturesque Barbeton is Mr. T. Carter; Marie De Brisson is ably depicted by Miss Clare O'Sullivan; and Miss Nita Imeson is a sprightly Barbette.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The highly-amusing farcical comedy *Tom, Dick, and Harry* is being played here. Mr. George Unwin, again seen in the part of General Stanhope, keeps the fun going with unflagging energy; Miss Rose Temple is a bright Daisy Armitage; the twins Dick and Harry are cleverly represented by Messrs. J. Percival Jordan and Leo St. Clair, the third young man, Tom Stanhope, being smartly played by Mr. C. Herman Pullen. The lovers, Ned Moreland and Miss Howard, are pleasantly depicted by Mr. F. C. Brenan and Miss Audrey Esmond; Miss Dorothy Payn's Mrs. Winters is a capital bit of acting; good work being done by Mr. Grahame Herington (Dr. Wagner) and Miss Dorthy Lambert (Molly). The comedy is preceded by Miss Dorothy Payn's laughable monologue *A Visit to the Country.*

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—This week Mr. Horace Lingard and Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is presenting Jerome K. Jerome's play *Fanny and the Servant Problem.* Mr. Horace Lingard plays the part of Martin Bennet with capital effect; Miss Beatrice Moreau infuses much charm into the part of Fanny; the Lord Bantock of Mr. Russell Davis is a striking performance; as also is the Dr. Freemantle of Mr. Roland Hope. Miss Ethel Coleridge and Miss Mayban Fay act well the parts of the Misses Wetherell; Mr. A. C. Jackson's interpretation of George Newte is excellent; and Miss Grace Bearing makes a prim Susannah Bennet. The play is preceded by *The Admiral.*

Royalty.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—As a complete change of programme the Repertory Company is this week reviving Sir Arthur Pinero's favourite farce *Dandy Dick,* and a bright and enjoyable evening it provides. Mr. Lawrence Hanray is particularly well suited as the Dean of St. Marvells, and his two daughters are played with excellent effect by Miss Muriel Pope and Miss Irene Clarke. The breezy sporting lady Georgiana Tidman is acted with infinite spirit by Miss Madge M'Intosh, and her devoted admirer, Sir Christopher Mardon, is cleverly played by Mr. Norman M'Keown. Miss Lola Duncan as Mrs. Topping and Mr. M. R. Morand as her jealous husband proved valuable members of the cast in the more humorous element. Mr. Walter Roy and Mr. Percival Clark as two military men, Mr. Campbell Gullan as the old butler, and Mr. George Tawde as a groom completed a good cast. The comedy was preceded by a tragic little play, *Jean,* for the first time on any stage, and this is noticed elsewhere. Mr. Kenelm Foss produced both plays in an able manner.

Grand.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Sealy.—*Hands Across the Sea* is the attraction for the fifth week of the stock season. Mr. George Roberts is again a big favourite; Mr. Charles Danvers is a humorous Tom Bennett; Mr. W. G. Robb does well as Richard Melford; Mr. Hulme Sharp is quite equal to the part of Joseph Stillwood; Mr. R. B. Drysdale is a forcible Robert Stillwood; and a clever performance of Jean de Lussac is contributed by Mr. Fred Terriss. As Lilian Melford Miss Alice Defoe finds much favour; Mme. Valerie loses nothing in the hands of Miss Marie Rignold; and Miss Sadie Neville is a diverting Lucy Nettlefold.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Miss Ellaline Terriss tops the bill here in a comedy entitled *The Pink of Perfection,* which gives the dainty actress excellent opportunities. Mr. Stanley Brett plays with great zest and humour; and Miss Maie Ashe and Mr. Ronald Chester also give good support. The Carmos perform some novel and clever feats in balancing; a farcical interlude is presented by Messrs. Queen and Le Brun; Merlin as a conjuror and card manipulator astonishes the audience; the Sisters Towers give some attractive songs and dances; Wallie Walker is humorous as a golf caddie; and Phil Parsons, comedian, Speedwell, the wizard painter, and thrilling pictures on the Bioscope complete the programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—That clever artist Carrie Moore tops the bill here, and is excellently received for her various items, her best being a dramatic recitation. Will Van Allen, the tramp musician, gives a smart and enjoyable turn; the Derrington Family contribute some wonderful feats on cycles; W. G. Webber sings several bass songs in good style; and as a descriptive vocalist Will M'Ivor takes well. The comedy provided by Athas and Collins is heartily enjoyed; Harry Atkinson's imitations of musical instruments are smart and realistic; and Madge Goodall, comedienne, completes a varied bill.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The programme submitted here is extremely varied. The top position is allotted to Horace Mills and company (including T. A. Shale and Minnie Blanchard), who produce the amusing protean playlet entitled *Off Duty.* The reception accorded Will H. Fox, comedy pianist, is cordial; and other notable turns are Lizzie Daniels, comedienne; George Brookes, a really diverting comedian; Monie Mine, in unique story-song and dance; the Farrows, quaint comedy artists; Neville Delmar, light comedian and dancer; and the Marzelos, triple-bar performers.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. — No stronger favourite than Fred Kitchen ever comes to Glasgow, and his first visit with Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts* has drawn crowded houses. The popular comedian is in great form; and the other members of the company give able support. Leo Tell scores with his imitations of animals, musical instruments, &c.; Harry Lamore gets enthusiastic applause for his smart and diversified comedy turn; Dora Poole and Fred Maguire are well received for their vocal comedy act; the Avolos are marvellous in their upright bar performance; Sylvia du Barry appears with success in a scena, *In Andalusia;* Mlle. Eldee's picturesque poses are cleverly manipulated; J. C. Scatter, a Tyneside comedian with a quaint style, takes well in songs and dances; and the Bioscope completes the list of attractions.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Popular and interesting animated pictures are submitted. The principal films include Lieutenant Rose and the Foreign Spy, Danish Dragoons, Iris, Saved from a Terrible Death, and The Sailor Lad, all being of superior class and wonderfully clear. The variety part of the entertainment is well sustained by Muriel Dante, in illustrated song, and W. C. Bland, comedian, vocalist, and dancer.

Panopticon.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—The pictures on the Bioscope this week are well worth seeing, a special feature being The Proclamation of King George. The variety entertainment is ably sustained by Dean and Dare, George Westlands, Carl Osmund, and Bella Leaburn.

Hengler's.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Amusing and instructive films are shown here, the principal this week being Proclamation of George V. at Municipal Buildings, George-square, Glasgow. Variety turns are by Tina le Clare, whose songs are illustrated; Angelina, an expert juggler; and Frances Hanlon, comedienne and dancer.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Norman Telma, the human mystery on the billiard table, is at the top here; W. Fullbrook and company present *Astronomy;* Elroy, the armless wonder, provides an entertaining performance; the Carpate Bros. are smart on the triple bars; and Ronna Shanara, with Thibet mountain deer goats, is quite a novelty; Wallace Whitney scores with a clever football song; and Miss Beattie Foster is an amusing low comedy performer.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Mouillot's company, in *Tom Jones,* is the holiday attraction.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—A capital programme is being presented for the holidays. Mr. Chris. Harland presents an artistic production, entitled *The Enchanted Grotto;* Miss Ruth Ashdowne and her electric girls score with their songs and dances; Mr. D. W. Watson is a first-rate cornet soloist; Lennard and Vereker's illustrated songs are popular; and excellent pictures are exhibited.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. A. A. Cash.—The season was inaugurated on Saturday by the appearance of The Tatlers, in an up-to-date and amusing musical and comedy programme. Miss Christine Roy was very successful with her songs, "Just for this hour" and "My moon"; Miss Dora Dolaro, with a charming voice, scores with her songs; Mr. Herbert Burnez contributes some amusing impersonations; Mr. Philip Williams is versatile; and the accompaniments are excellently played by Mr. Wolseley Charles. In addition to The Tatlers Mr. Hyman Long gives an entertaining music-magic turn.

GREENOCK.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Maud Mortimer, the clever and popular comedienne, tops the bill here, and fully maintains her reputation; Emerson and Baldwin are a couple of expert jugglers; and other notable turns include the Padias, in a clever and smartly-executed athletic act; Terry and Tate, comedy artists; Montes and Welma, in an acrobatic turn; Percy Dalton, comedian and dancer; Harriet Rose, comedienne; and Marie Dreams, a lady baritone.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The following films take precedence: The Fence on "Bar Z" Ranche, Girls of the Range, and Ranson's Folly. The humorous subjects include A Hero in Spite of Himself, The Clown and His Donkey, A Race for a Bride, and Lo Lo's Inheritance. The talking and singing pictures are still popular.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's No. 1 Company is here with *Her Fatal Marriage,* playing to big holiday crowds. Miss Hilda Shirley and Mr. J. Heather play the principal parts of Myra Maletto and Zaco Maletto, and are supported by Mr. C. Heather (Wilfred Grey), Mr. G. M. Hancock (Colonel Crichton), Mr. S. Edwards (Jim Rogers), Mr. G. Byrne (Paul), Mr. P. M. Wright (Detective Smart), Mr. T. Squires (Peter Pimple), Mr. P. Lawrence (Sergeant Wiggins), Mr. W. George (P.C. Jenkins), Miss W. Rutland (Lily), and Miss L. Wright (Dolly Dimple).

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The "Kilties," celebrated concert band, are topping the bill, and delighting huge crowds with an excellent selection of good music splendidly played; Arthur Wellesley and company give *Uncle's Courtship,* a clever and laughable playlet, well acted and well received; the Two Claires are excellent in a song-scena; Elsie Malpass is a clever child mimic and dancer; and some good pictures complete.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Gaudsmidts, two clever acrobatic clowns, assisted by two well-trained poodles, give a very good turn; Canard, the "Man on Time," is a clever artist; Mildred Bryan, mezzo-soprano, sings well, and gets a good reception; Fred and Lulu Camplin give an amusing turn; Blanche Marion is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Sages, high-class vaudeville artists, are appreciated; George Lawrence, light comedian, is a good turn; Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer, gives every satisfaction. Pictures complete a good bill.

HANLEY. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone.—A visit is being paid by Mr. Allan Wilkie and company in a capital list of plays, including *The Two Orphans of Paris, Jane Shore, The Sleigh Bells, Davy Garrick,* and *The Fool's Revenge.* This theatre closes down at the end of this week until August Bank Holiday.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Huge houses are attracted by a fine holiday programme, headed by Tom E. Finglass; the Craggs in their clever sketch, *The Channel Queen,* prove most mirth-provoking; La Superbe is a talented dancer; Tatten Hall is a comedian with a future; Venie Clements is decidedly clever; Marstro and Mlle. Oretta introduce a novel and daring act; and Enzer and Clarice also make a hit. Braatz's Dogs show excellent training in the dog drama, *The Burglar's Fate.*

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Managers, Capt. F. Shaw and Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The pictures here are the talk of the Potteries, for their clearness and steadiness; and Miss Florrie Drew, vocalist, is successful.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—The holiday attraction here is Messrs. Platt and Tower's company in *You Never Can Tell.* Miss Edith Hunter was well placed as Mrs. Clandon, and Miss Beech made a dignified Gloria Clandon; Miss Ida Southern was a vivacious Dolly; and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson was good as Philip; Mr. Claude Haviland was a host in himself as the waiter, William; Mr. J. Edward Pearce made a capital Fergus Crampton. Other parts were in safe hands. For the last three nights of the week Miss Horniman's company is appearing in *Widowers' Houses.*

St. James's Hall.—New Century Animated Picture Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—A specially interesting film is The Life and Times of King Edward. The show is well attended.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—The Gaieties, a party of singers and dancers, are making large holiday audiences merry.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Successful representations are being given of *The Catch of the Season.* Mr. Murray King as the Duke of St. Jermyns gives an intelligent and humorous impersonation; nothing could be more captivating or delightfully natural than Miss Gladys Guy as Angela Crystal; Miss Irene Carrington portrays the Duchess of St. Jermyns with excellent taste; as Lady Caterham Miss Evelyn Shelley gives distinction to the part; Mr. Ardene Linden as Sir John Crystal is amusing and original; Willie West as Bucket gives a laughable sketch; eight or ten graceful Dana Gibson Girls go through some pleasing dances; as Lord Charles Yatton Mr. C. A. Hogg is excellent; Miss Nora Dwyer and Miss Louie West give charming renderings of Lady Crystal's daughters; Mr. Maxwell Stewart as Captain Rushpool proves himself a vocalist of marked ability.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Hunter and his clever combination of artists engage in a laughable farce, entitled *A Fatal Kiss.* Some original Bioscope pictures are included in the entertainment, which also includes the pleasing comedian Fred Beck; the Kahn Trio, who introduce a clever musical act; an interesting musical sketch by Ralph and Nellie Howard; an amusing ventriloquial interlude by Dunning; Thornley Dodge, the drawing-room entertainer, who is always warmly welcome; and a much-admired musical act, "Ten Minutes with Great Composers," by the Bros. Cavalotti.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—Packed houses continue the rule at this popular place of amusement. The programme is a most enjoyable one, chief items being A True Indian's Heart, The Cowboy and the Squaw, and The Duke's Plan.

HUDDERSFIELD.— Hippodrome.— Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill are the Kratons, expert hoop manipulators. Other turns are provided by Johnson Clarke, ventriloquist; W. B. Raby, comedian; the Fitzroys, two graceful gymnasts; Venita, with a variety of musical instruments; the Panamas, a troupe of nimble acrobats; and James Willard and company, in a tragic little piece, entitled *The Ace of Hearts.* The pictures are amusing.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Appearing here are Syd Walker, comedian; Miss Flo Burnett, vocalist; Miss Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon, in a charming and refined vocal and instrumental presentation; Yangar, the West African illusionist; Virto, who plays smartly on a variety of musical instruments; the Smart Brothers, a pair of clever comedy acrobats; and Jennie and Daisy, singers and dancers. The Palace pictures make up the programme.

HULL.—Grand Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Havana* is the attraction here this week, and having in view the time that has elapsed since its production, some are feeling that its appearance has been too long delayed. Mr. Leslie Stuart can always be relied upon for tuneful music, and in *Havana* he is not relied on in vain. Miss Winnie Brown reads the rôle of Anita with no little skill; Consuelo finds a pleasant representative in Miss Hebe Rhos; Mr. Savill Foster portrays the part of Jackson Villiers with credit; comic effect is well secured by Mr. W. Pringle and Mr. Reg. Edwards, and both secure the house's best attention. The production is well mounted.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Idol of Paris* is a play new to Hull, but one that was to the evident taste of the big Bank Holiday audience which thronged this theatre. The play is cast on familiar lines, and deals with woman's devotion to the man she loves. The Flare-Flare of Miss Annie Bell is a fine piece of work. Mr. Alf. Grenville plays the part of Victor with due regard to its possibilities. Mr. H. V. Thomas is a creditable Tantave; and Miss Frances Bruce gives good effect to the part of Madame Sancterre. Mr. C. Austen Lee is very acceptable as Phillippe. The remainder of the rôles are well sustained.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Maurice Lee's Skating Carnival heads the bill, and includes several songs, a dancing quartette, fancy and trick skating, and the usual comic relief; the dancing of the Four Leontoes is applauded; also the exhibition skating of Jack Been; Jimmy McCrath's comedy is enjoyed; Miss Midge Sibley is a dainty performer; and Miss Alice Deely and Mr. Maurice Lee are to be commended as Percy and Maudie Brown. Miss Grace Lester and company present a powerful dramatic episode, *A Ruined Life,* which is well acted and favourably received; Johnson and Giles, coloured entertainers, present a very good show; the Venola Brothers evoke laughter and applause for their gymnastic performance; George Norton, with his tales of woe, creates laughter; Dolly Irving, comedienne, and the Hyltons, comedy duo, complete the programme.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Charles Gibbons's company, *Alone in London,* is here. Miss Nellie Clyde gives an excellent impersonation of the emotional part of Nan, and Miss Irene Stanhope is a graceful Ruth Clifton; Miss Molly Monaghan is a most amusing Mrs. Maloney; Tom Chickweed is well played by Miss Laurie O'Neill, and Hetty Hornsby makes a charming Little Paul; John Biddlecomb is well played by Mr. Russel Norrie; Dick Redcliffe is in the able hands of Mr. Gerald Jordan; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as Old Jenkinson, Mr. Wallace Dunlop as Spriggins, and Mr. Frank Caffrey as Charley Johnson do well. The scenery is ingenious and well worked.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The La Faille Troupe have a very clever acrobatic turn, their balancing powers and feats of strength being marvellous; Sergeant Bert Powell, described as a military illusionist, has some original tricks, and is very smart in their execution; the Rosses and Moon and Morris are excellent entertainers, and their dancing is droll and smart; Arthur Croxon is a neat singer, and his imitations are good; Miss May B. Brilliant also dances gracefully. Fred Herbert sings a good topical song; the Eastern extravaganza *The Belle of the Orient* is very popular, the characters being sustained by Mr. George Ricketts, Mr. Charles Hylton, and Mr. Walter Williams; Miss Rosalie Jacobi heads a bevy of twelve agile dancers. The music is bright and the scenery is excellent.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. Chas. Harrington's big American combination is here in *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* which is playing to excellent houses. Mr. J. H. Boehm is well-nigh perfect in the title-rôle; and Mr. A. Hayes does full justice to the part of Phineas Fletcher. Mr. Chas. Harrington is excellent as Mr. St. Clair; Mr. David Blair is quite at home in the part of George Harris; Mr. Tom Bowron makes the most of Legree; and Mr. Reginald Kloof causes much amusement as Marks. Miss Hetty Johnson is very well placed as Cassy; Miss Hero Hathaway looks and plays Eliza Harris to perfection; Topsy is in the capable hands of Miss Annie Watson; and Miss Gem Lloyd is very fine as Eva. Excellent specialities are introduced by various members of the company.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—There was a packed house here on Whit-Monday. Mr. Albany Ward's films were particularly good, and included The Proclamation of King George V. Some fine views of St. Malo and the neighbourhood also proved of special interest. The variety turns included Jose Thornton, a comedian with a style of his own; Bert Lytton, a swell comedian; Howe and Kessler, in some clever musical items; and last, but by no means least, the Mahatma, in her remarkably clever thought transmissions.

Olympia Winter Gardens.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Barnett.—This smart and up-to-date place of entertainment, which was opened last year as a skating rink, has undergone a wonderful transformation, and blossomed out on Whit-Monday as a rival to those places of entertainment which has done so much to make Blackpool and Douglas attractive to visitors. The Cremona Orchestra of lady musicians is the chief attraction, and plays both during the afternoons and evenings. The variety turns include Miss Moyna Hill, a dainty comedienne; Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, who has a big reputation; Mr. J. Brooke, a Hull vocalist; and Mr. Walter Langford, a Leicester humorist. The prevailing picture craze is well catered for, and dancing is indulged in up to midnight.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—An exceedingly humorous sketch is presented by Mr. Martin Adeson and Miss Clara Bernard, who succeed in creating roars of laughter; the gymnastic exhibition of The Three Krags is of a very high order of merit; Bi-Bo-Bi excels in his manipulation of the bells; Stuart and Evans, comedians, patter in good style.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For Bank Holiday and the following evenings a new experiment was successfully carried out here by presenting twice nightly Mr. Dickie Clare's musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza.* The title-rôle was admirably presented by Miss Vesta Brownie; and as Silas Slim, Mr. Dickie Clare was excellent. Some graceful dancing was introduced by Misses Amy Malvern, May Turrell, and Edna Evelyn, and the other parts were well sustained.

KIRKCALDY.—New King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Ellis Fredericks and Abrahams.—Miss Olga Andre and company are presenting *The Great Awakening.* Mr. Tom Arkinstall gives a clever display of stage villainy as Guy Logan; Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is very good as Captain Harry Lambert; Mr. Arthur Wimpenny is a success as James Selby; and Mr. Fred Wood is versatile in a dual part; Miss Olga Andre enacts Lola Selby with skill and taste; Molly Merton is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Florence Zillwood; and in the comedy parts of Billy Brass and Selina Worts Mr. Walter Rouseby and Miss Hetty Farrell are amusing; Mr. Harry Hoyland does well as Richard Wilson.

Corn Exchange Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. D. Walker; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Walker.—Good pictures are on view here, the following being the most noteworthy: Hawkshaw; or, The Stolen Deed, Their Son's Medal, The Magistrate's Crime, One of the Finest, and The Settlers. The variety turns consist of The Dancing Girl of Batte, and Mr. R. M. Strathmore, comedian and instrumentalist, with his performing dog Fritz.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are appearing before delighted audiences in the exceedingly clever play *Where is William?* Mr. Windermere gives a very happy rendering of Sir William Gregory; and Mr. Rule Pyott as Jolly makes up marvellously, and causes much merriment. The two young lovers, Phyliss Patterson and Harry, are prettily played by Miss Clare Manifield and Mr. Robert Urquhart; and as Eliza Miss Zoe Davies presents a clever character study. Miss May Rosine provides a fund of humour in the part of Emily; Miss Belle Donaldson is an acceptable Lady Gregory; and Mr. Leslie Norman plays the peppery Colonel to advantage. The burglar and the policeman are safe in the hands of Mr. Fred Lake and Mr. Albert Plant. The piece is preceded by the duologue *Clause No. 6,* in which Mr. Urquhart and Miss Manifield appear with distinction.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Florodora* is playing here to enthusiastic houses. Mr. Johnnie Scholfield is a great favourite as Tweedlepunch; Dolores is delightfully taken by Miss Daisy Lake; the part of Cyrus G. Gilfain finds an able exponent in Mr. Stanley White; Miss Florence Hersee daintily takes the character of Angela Gilfain; and Miss Kate Leicester makes the most of her opportunities as Lady Holyrood, Mr. Johnnie Junior giving a capital impersonation of Captain Arthur Donegal.

The Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mrs. Kimberley's latest production, *Was She to Blame?* is drawing good houses. Mrs. Kimberley ably takes the rôle of a retired actress; and Miss Nancy Roberts has an exciting part as the stage-struck girl.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Chung Ling Soo heads the bill, and is meeting with success; Miss Wish Wynne proves herself a versatile artist of much merit; Tom and Marie Motramo raise the mirth of the audience to a considerable degree. Emma Don and company appear in a smart act. Frank Maura, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, W. P. Frayne, and Beatty and Blanche all contribute successful items.

The Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—*Slaterstein, Limited,* another successful sketch of Peterman and Ricketts, is furnishing much amusement. Renroff's dancing horse, Johnson and De Vere, Juanitos Troupe, Charley and Connor, Rolando Martin, Honors and Le Prince, Shirley Liggins and Co., and Palles and Cussick also do well.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Mabel Thorne, Robb Wilton, De Lilo and Metz, Herbert La Martine, Emily Delmere, and Russell Carr are appearing here.

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Sexton Blake* is the top of the bill; Leo Dryden is very popular; Miss Jennie Alexander is also a big favourite; and other good turns include Jack Hayworth, Rose D'Aulby, Chandos Trio (gymnasts), and Morelli and Moore.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—Miss Grace Warner's company is presenting interesting and admirable productions of *The Scarlet Clue* and *The Wages of Sin.* In the former piece, which was enthusiastically received, Mr. George Gordon displayed ability and sound study as Michael Stanton; Miss Grace Warner in the rôle of Sal Scarlet gave a most successful portrayal; Mr. Frank Esmonde in the dual character of Jack and Harry Esmond won hearty applause; Mr. Frank Hertie did well as Edward Croker; Miss Florence M. Daly merits praise as Tabitha Esmond; Miss L. Palmer was good as Elsie Dane; little Rita Corri as Little Pollie was excellent; and was encored for her song, "Ugly Duckling"; Mr. Louis Nanton as Billy the Rotter and Miss Estha Dean as Musette extracted plenty of humour from their rôles; and Mr. Roy Rhind as Crazy Jim was quaint and amusing. The play was dressed and staged in excellent style.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—For this, the last week of the season, the attraction is provided by Mr. Henry Miller's company, in *The Servant in the House,* which is on a first visit. The company is a capable one, full justice being done to the various parts by Miss Laurie Flockton as Mary, Mr. Harry Parker as Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Walter Gay as the Rev. William Smythe, Mr. Ernest H. Paterson as James Ponsonby Makeshyfte, D.D., Mr. Forrester Harvey as Rogers, Mr. Matthew Boulton as Manson, and Miss Nellie Hodson as the Vicar's wife.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—*The Better Land* is the holiday attraction here, presented by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., No. 1 company, on a first visit. Miss Marguerite Trevosper maintains her reputation with a very good portrayal of Doris. Mr. Douglas Watson makes an excellent Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Leonard Booker a successful Hubert Radcliffe; and Miss Gertie Moody as Harry and Miss Elsie Jones as Tessa are capital.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Aptly billed as the man of many parts, Mr. Charles T. Aldrich tops this week's excellent programme; Miss Juliette submits her school of highly-trained sea lions; Herbert Shelley, a smart protean artist, makes a hit in *Dan the Outlaw;* Alf Gibson is a quaint and thoroughly amusing comedian; the Bros. Durant's "show" is meeting with much favour; Fatmah Diard renders a couple of songs in good style; the Two St. Johns (Gale and Frank) are capital musical comedians; Arthur Woodville is a light comedian of ability; and A-Ba-Be's picture post-card album is a distinct artistic novelty. The Bioscope is still retained.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Topping this week's bill is Gilbert Heron's company, in the dramatic episode, *Saved by Wireless.* The other artists in a good company include Harry Raymond, the artistic coon vocalist and dancer, and his little daughter, Ivy, a clever and graceful dancer; Capt. Ellis and Son, the favourite couple, in their comedy, musical, and dancing act; the Belmonts, in some smart dances; Nora Desmond, in attractive songs, well illustrated; Lisbon and Barker, comedians, who create much laughter; and Bert Crosbie, in expert dancing. The Bioscope pictures are of the usual excellence.

Empire.—Sole Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—This home of animated pictures have a good holiday list, including The Right to Love and Lost in Siberia, two very fine films, which are supported by When Jack Comes Home, An Embarrassing Portfolio, Picturesque Constantinople, For My Papa, The Tower of Nestle, The Scarecrow, An Improvised Inkstand, Sucide as a Profession, and Uncle Learns to Hypnotise. Two favourite artists in Ada Wood, descriptive vocalist, and Ern Francis, comedian, are on a welcome return visit.

Empress Picture Palace, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—A capital picture programme comprises, among others, the following excellent dramatic and comedy pictures: Why They Married, Race for a Monkey, Cowboy Romance, Buried Alive, House of Cards, Wedding in Payacomba, Not What He Expected, Aerial Flights, and Rheumatic Bridegroom.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby; Manager, Mr. W. H. Leo King.—Mr. Eustace Day's company is here with *For Love of a Woman.* Mr. Edmund Grogan gives a capital rendering of Ned Merrick; Guy Manor has a capable exponent in Mr. Ernest Regent; Mr. Eustace Day successfully portrays Allen Paget; Mr. Joe Redfern makes a typical and amusing P.C. Sam Holland; Nell Paget is charmingly played by Miss Dorothy Oswald; Miss Holly Hazlewood is praiseworthy as Nance Manor; Mr. Charles Ninian is an amusing Major Hulmes; and Mr. Bertram Gunnell as Albert St. Everamond and Miss G. De Clifford as Marjory Hulmes are also the cause of much merriment.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The leading turn is furnished by the Cumberlands Troupe of cyclists, whose acrobatic feats are loudly applauded; Harrison Bros. are a clever couple, who introduce some good patter and dancing; Alice Winsome juvenile comedienne, scores a success; Capt. Devereux presents his wondreful troupe of dogs; Messrs. Andrews and Thompson have a vocal scena which is much appreciated; Bell and Bellay are a pair of novel eccentrics; Edwin Garth, comedian, creates much amusement; the Millwards in a speciality act deserve praise; and the Hipposcope pictures are good.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—In *Under the Iron Heel,* written by Mr. Fred Jarman, and produced by Mr. Wilson Howard's company, a successful appeal to popular feeling is being made by author and actors for a tale of the Franco-Prussian War. Mr. Howard himself gives a striking realisation of Réné de Maupassant, the hero of the play; Miss Carlotta Anson wins sympathy for the heroine, Germaine Mirbleau; Miss J. Douglas Hicks does well as old Marnon Gouffe; and Miss Marie Angus misses none of the opportunities afforded by the part of the boy André. Mr. J. W. Richards is prominent in the villainy rôle of Otto Marx, in opposition to whose machinations the Major Schomberg of Mr. Dennis Clyde comes out strong; Mr. Austin H. Longford, as Sergeant Blucher, and Mr. Carl Vallender as a tool of the evil-doer help along the action of the piece effectually and humorously; and useful aid is rendered by Mr. John Talford as the Curé Mirbleau, Mr. Gerald Smythe as a Franc-tireur, Mr. R. Merring as Colonel Müller, and others who capably sustain the minor parts in a long cast.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—*The Lighthouse Robbery,* presented by Mr. E. H. Knight's company, is paying a popular return visit. Mr. Percy Beresford's hero and Miss Hilda Baynton as Rosa win high favour; and Mr. J. Cameron again offers a powerful study of the old fisherman, Dave. Mr. S. Fortescue and Mr. J. Summerville give effective expositions of the heavy rôles, and the comedy is well looked after by Mr. R. Talbot and Miss Clarice Jenner. A child actress of wonderful ability is Baby Freda, who creates a positive furore.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Mr. Lew

Clarke

Lake's Six Buster Browns are topping the bill with a bright song and dance act; the Three Askarnos, in a tumbling act, and the Wedburns, with their clever buffoonery, add to the entertainment; and Ada Fawn gives a series of very clever character songs. John Macauley's old soldier retains its artistic qualities; and Cush and Walker, patter comedians and Don and Dixie, in a brilliant musical act, find complete favour. The Palace Perfection Pictures finish a strong programme.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians* are fulfilling a second week's engagement here.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Here this week we are having a welcome return visit of Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company, the stay to be for a fortnight. On Monday evening *Il Trovatore* was presented, Mme. Gorretta Castellano, a most gifted artist, being Azucena, her fine voice calling forth rapturous applause; Signor Barbato also found great favour as Manrico; Signora Protti carried off honours by reason of her particularly artistic rendering of the part of Leonora; Count Luna was admirably undertaken by Signor Modesti; and other eminently successful parts were undertaken by Signor Quintina (Ferrando) and Signora Massia (Ines). On Tuesday *Rigoletto* was staged. The other operas of the week included *Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Ernani*, and *Carmen*.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The stirring drama *With Edged Tools* is being given here this week to delighted audiences. Included in Mr. H. Armitage's excellent company is Miss Marie Lonhard, whose Jocelyn Gordon is natural and charming; Mr. Hamilton Deane proves a big favourite, with his Jack Meredith; Mr. J. D. Geddes ably handles the rôle of Sir John Meredith; Mr. Charles Barrett plays Victor Durnoto with much dramatic strength; Miss Marguerite Cellier gives an intelligent performance of Millicent Cryne; and good work also comes from Messrs. Charles Hartopp (Guy Oscard), J. Graham Pockett (Maurice Gordon), and Miss Edith Afton-Laing (Marie and Lady Herries).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction this week is Mr. Frank Adair's company with *The Heathen and the Christian*, which is being favourably received. Mr. Adair repeats his admirable representation of Li, the avenger; Miss Louie Adair plays strongly the character of Mira Sampson; Miss Eva Reid, as Becky Fibbins (songs and dances), and Mr. Charles Luck, in the rôle of the Bar Lamb Gentle, cause uproarious laughter; and worthy support is also given by Messrs. Herbert Sydney (Chang Lu), Fred Withers (Lung Hi), Gerald Shirley (Lieut. Allendale), Gerald Turner (Admiral Freebold), Reginald Payne (George Berresford), and Miss Stanley Burt (May Berresford).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*The Village Blacksmith* is being presented here by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. Mr. Livesey repeats his really excellent impersonation of John Strong, a character which is received with great favour; Mr. Joseph Carter presents a strongly-marked Captain Leo; Mr. Edwin Maydew gives a capable rendering of Lucas Marler; a humorous Billy Twigg is provided by Mr. Fred Haming; Miss Maggie Edwards shows much tenderness and care in the delineation of Kate Strong; and others to whom praise is due are Mr. Thomas E. Marshall (Jeremiah Parkins), Miss Cassie Le Grande (Ruth Parkins), and Mrs. T. C. Livesey (Sal Parkins).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners. — The talented Fragson is the big line here this week, and meets with genuine applause for his excellent work; Mr. Hubert Carter and company present an admirable sketch, entitled *David Garrick*, which earns much favour; Toch and Tard cause great laughter with their exceedingly funny antics as gymnasts and burlesque wrestlers; a deal of original and accomplished work is shown by the Five Whiteleys, whose acrobatic, wire-walking, and musical efforts call forth loud applause; Ike and Will Scott are as amusing as ever; Chris Van Bern proves a very eccentric monologuist; and contributions also emanate from Kathleen Gray, comedienne; Sybil Lister, contralto; and Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The change in the style of entertainment here has apparently caught on, for large audiences are patronising the two-houses-each-night drama. *The Nihilist, or a Prince's Secret Wedding*, is the opening attraction, being presented in good style by Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company. Mr. George Mitchell plays strongly the part of the blacksmith Ivan; Miss Florry Kelsey handles the rôle of Princess Olga with ability; Miss Edna Clare thoroughly grasps the possibilities of Alexia Orloff; Mr. O. Silverstone gives much support with his Prince Alexander; and others who worthily help are Messrs. Cowell Clark (Karl Orloff), Henry Wright (Bobbie Smart), C. Newton Buckland (Petoff), J. Brunelle Harvey (Father Gourko), Mrs. O. Silverstone (Katrina), and little Minnie Halstan (Alexina).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the programme here this week is a smart burlesque, entitled *Chanteclair*, presented in fine style by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts; Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock have a neat musical comedy playlet, *Cupid's Arms*; Pichel and Scale are a couple of lively comedy acrobats; an able athletic act comes from Bertisch; Madge Temple brings her latest chorus songs, which are greatly relished; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde have a pleasing society turn; the vocal comedy act of the three Florodora Girls is greatly enjoyed; a pleasurable turn is provided by the youthful Tiny and Mite, duettists and dancers; and Mlle. Yetta goes through a clever performance on a wire.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Cotton Spinner* is being given here this week by the stock dramatic company, the principal rôles being undertaken by Messrs. Sydney Grant (Foster Cunningham), Cecil Ravenswood (Lord Northbury), Tom H. Solly (Major Stratton), Leo Montgomery (Arthur Northbury), Harry Tresham (John Prescott), Miss Lina Nazeby (Constance), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Mary Prescott). The Royal Bioscope shows After the Fall of the Eagle.

OLYMPIA. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—An admirable little sketch, bearing the title of *The Touch of the Child*, heads the bill here, and is received with much satisfaction. In it appears the distinguished actor Mr. William Mollison, assisted by Mr. Henry Deas, Miss Evelyn McNay, and Miss Jennie Fitzgerald. A source of great enjoyment is Ray Wallace, with her delightful mimetic work at the piano; as a magician Sahib Gustavo Fasola astonishes everybody; Harry Herbert keeps his audience in screams of laughter; a refined drawing-room entertainment, entitled *The Garden of Roses*, is provided by Frank and Gracie Sumner; the Abdullah Arabs show remarkable ability as tumblers and equilibrists; and others in the list are Rhoda Paul, a smart comedienne and male impersonator; Frederick King and Marie Queenie, with an exceedingly funny act, *The Butler and the Cook*; and Harry Merrylees, Scotch comedian.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George T. Slatter.—The favourite Harry Ford tops the bill here this week, and keeps his audiences in roars of laughter; Annie Purcell, an able comedienne, brings her latest; Cheebert's Chinese troupe go through a clever and surprising acrobatic show on somewhat original lines; Diana Hope and Monte Bayly have a really excellent trifle, *The Altar of Duty*; the vocal work of the Three Royal Temples, including Mme. Louie Gilbert, is warmly appreciated; some popular illustrated songs are given by the Lovelaces; an able musical number, "The Village Blacksmith," comes from the Five M.P.'s; the Days present a clever exhibition of second sight; and S. W. Wyndham, comedian, also appears.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—The Moxon Trio top an exceedingly good bill here; the Matt Wilkinson Trio finds favour; Rosie Bartlett presents some good male impersonations; Violet Beatrice is a good comedienne; and the Three Warners are first-class whirlwind dancers.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Pierrots opened the season here on Monday, and a good-humoured holiday crowd attended. Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, the local manager, is as great a favourite as ever; Bonita contributes some good soprano items; Mr. Albert Royal, comedian, is up to date; Mr. Norman Osborn's ventriloquial efforts are above the ordinary; Mr. Kennedy Allen, comedian, keeps the audiences in roars of laughter; and Mr. Tunbridge, at the piano, completes an excellent cast.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—For three nights this week, commencing on Bank Holiday, Mr. Leonard Boyne's company appeared in *Raffles*. In the title-rôle Mr. Reginald Dance was excellent; Mr. Edward Irwin as Curtis Bedford was a typical American detective; Mr. Harold West as Harry Maunders did well; Crawshay was finely acted by Mr. Dalziel Heron; Mr. Oswald Griffiths (the Earl of Amersteth) and Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald (Viscount Crowley) were well placed; Miss May Brooke was a charming Mrs. Vidal; and Miss Frances Titheradge a capable Gwendoline Conran.

LLANELLY. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Z. Andrews; Resident-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Vaudeville provides a welcome change here this week, Mr. Harry Benet, a very popular artist, being here with a bright and clever company, including the well-known and charming actress, Miss Nellie Bowman. Mr. Benet and Miss Bowman give the bright little sketches, *An Offer of Marriage* and *A Plumber Called*, with immense success. Miss Stella Millar gives a number of new and dainty songs; Miss Rayden Dallas is also a taking serio-vocalist; Mr. Gus Dale, comedian, makes up the company. A good Bioscope picture show is added.

LONDONDERRY.—ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Magnificent Motorscope pictures have attracted large houses. Dave Summerhill, Scotch character comedian, scores a hit with his songs and patter; Morrisey performs a series of clever balancing feats, playing musical instruments of his own invention while standing on his head on a pedestal.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*Through the Divorce Court* is meeting with warm approval. Messrs. Chattell and Denton's company are responsible for a clever production, the chief honours of which fall to Miss Hettie Chattell, who, as Lady Penarth, is excellently supported by a strong company.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Aivar.—The holiday bill includes Effie White, in colour dances; Baddow, ventriloquist; the Saxonys, American song and dance duo; and Harry Marlow, comedian. The picture portion of the programme maintains its high standard.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—The films displayed include Fair Exchange and Effects of Eating Dog Flesh. Specialities are given by Herne and Palmer, in a scena entitled *The Hebrew and the Barman*, and the Musical Keiths.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Henry Coutts heads the bill with his sketch *Outflanked*, in which he takes no less than eight parts, his quick changes, all done in full view of the audience, receiving well-deserved applause; Signor and Mme. Borelli make an instantaneous success with their cat duet. Reg Bolton, comedian, as the "Editor's Imp," figuratively brings down the house; Ray Raymond is successful with her chorus songs; Francisco, equilibrist and juggler, gives a remarkably clever performance; the Four Sydney Girls are good dancers, and the Raysons, society entertainers, and the Electric Pictures complete.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Courtice Pounds and his company are introducing *The Merry Peasant* to audiences here, and on the whole the entertainment is found enjoyable and satisfactory. Mr. Courtice Pounds, in the title-part, is quite his old self, singing beautifully as usual; Miss Gwladys Gay as Annamirl acquits herself in very pleasing style; and Little Mary Glynne may be highly complimented on her playing of the dainty part of Little Rosalie; Mr. Ernest J. Langford as Zoph, the village constable, will be long remembered for his humour, and is sure of a welcome on any future occasion of his coming; much cleverness is shown also by, among others, Mr. William Hindson and Mr. Frank Wilson, as the Mayor and his son respectively. The music is undoubtedly pleasing, and the scenery beautiful.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. William Mollison's company are playing this week in *The Chorus Lady*, a very American comedy in four acts, by James Forbes. The piece, besides exploiting a considerable and startling variety of slang, provides a special opportunity for Miss Annie Hughes to distinguish herself in characteristic fashion as the chorus lady of the title, Patricia O'Brien. This is not, however, the only success of the cast, for Mr. Henry Deas is also capital as Dan Mallory; Mr. Harold Neville plays Dick Crawford in very capable fashion; a nice impersonation of Nora O'Brien is given by Miss Elsie Vron Neville; while in lighter rôles Mr. Fred A. Marston and Miss Josephine Woodward are capital. *A Breezy Morning* precedes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Mr. Arnold Bennett's *Cupid and Commonsense* is the attraction here. It is a typical "Gaiety" play of the interesting order, exceedingly well played throughout. Miss Edyth Goodall as Alice Boothroyd is particularly fine; Mr. Charles Bibby as Eli scores another big character success; and Miss Hilda Bruce Potter is also highly successful as a fourteen-year-old Emily. Other parts are all well handled. It may be added that there is more commonsense than Cupid.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company are here in the great human play, *The Enemy of Woman*. Mr. Stuart Lomath is seen in the central rôle of Captain Jack Merritt, and Miss Rose Mervyn plays Marian, his wife, in equally good style. The humorous element is well supplied by Mr. A. Jennison and Miss Ellen Owen.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A diverting programme here is headed by Jordan and Harvey, the popular Hebrew comedians; while the Royal Banzai Family of Japanese artists are also deservedly prominent in the bill; Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers, are a capital turn; and other good items are the Georgians, in a high-class scena; La Belle Duchess and her performing animals; Tom Merry, eccentric comedian; and Olive and Owen, the roadside tinkers. The pictures art topical.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is here on a return visit.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—By way of a pleasant change, musical comedy is the fare here this week. The piece is *The Cingalee*, which receives a capital rendering at the hands of Mr. Haldane Crichton's company. Miss Isa Bowman is the particular star of the cast, which is full of clever people. There is a full chorus and an augmented orchestra, and naturally good houses are the rule.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. Raynor's company are the attraction here, playing répertoire. *Davy Garrick* was the fare on Monday, Mr. Raynor appearing in the title-part, and Miss Cecilia Dare as Ada Ingot, both parts successfully filled. *The Young Mrs. Winthrop* and *An American Citizen* are other plays for the week. The principals are well supported.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital holiday programme here is headed by Maidie Scott, a charming comedienne, and the Eighteen Lancashire Singers, who provide a rare vocal treat; while the other place of honour is filled by the famous Kellinos in their wonderful Risley act. Excellent turns are added by Mr. Frank Hartley, a really smart conjurer; Margaret Parker and company, in *Lucky Jim*; Staig's Steeplejack Cyclists, in a daring act; Devon and Earle, fine dancers; Alfred Wood's company in a farcical episode; and Ada Martine, a smart comedienne and dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—That ever-charming comedienne Ada Reeve is here this week, and meets with a deservedly flattering reception, her many numbers being rendered in her usual artistic manner; another highly successful turn is that of Frank and Jen Latona, who score all along the line in their capital musical act; *Humpsti Bumsti*, presented by Pipifax and Panlo, is an exceedingly clever and funny acrobatic act, which brings down the house; first-rate dancing is done by Billy Hobbs, coon comedian; and Conan and Doyle, comedians; Mr. and Mrs. Lucas present scenes from Dickens with their usual success; Lulu Russell, the Californian songstress, sings well; Campbell and Barber are clever and amusing comedy cyclists; and the Lyric Quartette are pleasing harmonisers. Up-to-date pictures complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The star turn here is R. A. Roberts, whose *Cruel Coppinger* is a triumph; the Six Brothers Luck appear in *H.M.S. Perhaps*; the Great Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian dancers are much enjoyed; Ryder Slone, comedian, is popular; Arthur Aldridge, the tenor, is also a popular turn; and other enjoyable items are Alec Lawson, eccentric comedian; Austin Latham, the lightning cartoonist; Daisy Morell, a pleasing comedienne; and Scott and Whaley, smart American comedians and dancers.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—A popular holiday programme is provided here this week. Fred Winn and Tom Conway's burlesque, *The Magic Bean*, is well thought out, and has some good numbers, as well as laughing material; Rachel Walker, the creole nightingale, is the possessor of a wonderful voice, which she uses to full advantage, gaining the plaudits of every audience; Milton Hayes is a good story-teller and monologuist; Briff, Braff, and Broff are capable acrobats, the comedy partner being really in the front rank in his line of business; Stephen Adeson and company, in their sketch, *The Housebreaker*, gain many laughs, while Ruby Bijou, a very dainty and clever dancer; Will Challinor, comedian; Annie Braddon, the Manx girl; the Sisters Du Cane, in pleasing scena; and Ruffell's Bioscope complete.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—An exceptionally fine programme is offered here this week. Mlle. Irma Lorraine, the beautiful poseuse, is to the front as a living replica of the most famous Continental works of art, and is very ably assisted by Marjah and Mlle. Leony; Minnie Kaufmann, a dainty trick cyclist, goes through a really sensational and marvellous performance; Chinko, a wonderful young juggler, does some surprising things; Barney Armstrong and Kelly are particularly funny comedians; and capital items are also provided by Roland George, instrumentalist; Larry Lewis, comedian; Rex and Ford, cross-talkers; the Whimsicals, in melody, mirth, and dance; and Reed and Cully, comedy tumblers. Muggins, V.C., on the Boscope, is a good film.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Philips.—An excellent all-round programme is offered here this week, and includes Arthur Guilford, comedian; the Musical Bentleys; Charles North, popular baritone; Carrie Parry, soprano; Lettice Newman, comedienne; Harry Smith, tenor; Reg Ewen, light comedian; Neill Francis, dancer; and Arthur Parry at the piano.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—The pictures, which are drawing full houses, include Arrival of the Grand Lama in India, The Last of the Dandies, and The Eleventh Hour.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—The holiday attraction is Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in *Facing the Music*. Mr. Robert Noble gives an exceedingly good presentment of the Rev. John Smith; Mr. George Mudie, jun., is very humorous as the other Mr. John Smith; Mr. Dudley Stuart's Dick Dennard is a capable portrayal; Mr. Escott Robson in the part of Colonel Duncan Smith is most amusing; Mr. Tom Taylor Verison gives a delightfully refreshing and mirth-provoking representation of Sergeant Duffell; Miss Ida Chapman is delightful as Mabel; Miss Beatrice Marsdene in the part of Nora is admirably suited; Miss Cissy Sephton is an inimitable Miss Fotheringay, playing with great vivacity; and Miss Enid Ross as Mrs. Ponting acts capably. The comedy is preceded by the new comedietta *Make Believe*, of which a special notice appears in another column.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—A typical Bank Holiday audience filled this place of amusement to overflowing at both entertainments on Monday night. One of the most attractive items of the programme was undoubtedly Victor's Juveniles, a company of eight clever miniature mimics, who gave life-like presentments of some of the leading music hall "stars," and their singing and dancing evoked great enthusiasm. Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French impressionist, is clever; Ray Espinosa gave three examples of dancing in quite opposite styles, and each was gracefully executed; and Victor Courtney, the "Boots" at the piano, proved himself a versatile entertainer and an accomplished instrumentalist. Clive and Clark, vocal and dancing duettists; Hans and Lux, comedians, patterers, and dancers; and Madge Hanbury, comedienne, also contribute to the programme with success. The Heroine of Mafeking was the principal Bioscopic picture, and Stickphaste Paste was provocative of great laughter.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company is attracting holiday audiences in *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Edward Ashby does well as Don Leon Forandel; Miss Lallah Davis wins favour as Eulalie; Mr. Hugh Travers makes a capital Pedro; Mr. George Dalper merits praise as Kit Oswald; Miss Dorothy Riddell is good as Kate Evelyn; and Wee Winnie Warren scores as Venetta.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Wright, Atkins, and company, Allan and Austin, Dan Noble, Marie Yorke, Livsey, Will Hughes, with Biograph pictures, provide the holiday programme at this house.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Mrs. Frank Bateman is here in a series of plays. On Monday night she presented *The Way Women Love*, giving a very fine histrionic display in her presentation of Verena Alabra; Miss Camille Treherne was a sympathetic Violet Tremayne; Mr. F. W. Goddard gave a well-studied rendering of Captain Tremayne; a strong portrayal of Leslie Lamont was provided by Mr. Henry Aynsleigh; and Mr. Percy Shaw, whistling comedian, made a capital Dick Palmer. Other plays billed are *Sapho* and *Camille*.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—An exceptionally good programme includes Valley of Brathland, The Livingstone Case, New Marshal at Gila Camp, and humorous subjects.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The Middlesbrough Amateur Operatic Society, under the able guidance of their popular hon. conductor, Mr. T. Dickon Wilson, this week present *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Trial by Jury*, the proceeds being in aid of the local medical charities.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company in *Rollicking Rory* meets with success. In the title-rôle Mr. Mackey is much appreciated, and in the part of Rosaleen Mrs. Mackey acquits herself well. The other characters are in competent hands.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges. — An attractive holiday programme draws crowded houses to this elegantly-appointed pleasure resort. The Marco Twins are much enjoyed; the Pasquali Brothers give a capital tumbling and equilibristic act; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts; Miss Marie Stroud, chorus comedienne; Miss Vera Saunders, comedienne; Wright and Lawson, comedians; Little Zola, comedian; Herbert Rule, in successful songs, and the Empirescope Pictures all go well.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham* have been well received, the cast including Messrs. Edmund Kennedy, Arthur Leigh, Wm. Calvert, and W. F. Clitheraw, and Misses Nellie Bonser, Dorothy Turner, Florence Tressilian, and Frances Wolviston. This fine drama goes with a delightful swing throughout, and is artistically mounted.

WEST END PIER PAVILION THEATRE.—Those ever-popular farces *Are You a Mason?* and *Jane* have once more demonstrated their drawing power, and good audiences have enjoyed the fun in each. The company has included Messrs. William Lockbart, Howard L. Tracey, and Archie Selwyn, and Misses Grace Denbeigh-Russell, Babs Stuart, and Renee de L'Estrade.

WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—The holiday bill has been topped by De Biere, the illusionist extraordinary; and Hayman and Franklin's players in *Toplitsky* have caused fresh amusement. The Marriotts' thought-reading is marvellous; the whimsicalities of Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley are smart as ever; and other turns include the Six White Boys, speciality singers and dancers; Renz Bros., comedy acrobats; Graham, liliputian wonder; Will Rhodes, comedian; Bonair and Tess, quick-change scena; and the Eight Tennessee Guards in *Camp Life Down South*.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Henry Herne and company in the dramatic episode *The Colleen Bawn* are sufficiently realistic to raise wild enthusiasm; Beaumont's ponies and dogs have been cleverly trained; too much praise cannot be given to Leroux's monkeys; the Forsyths have a pretty musical comedy speciality, *The Tramp in the Nursery*; and other turns are Will Penn, comedian; the Three Clarks, ball punching, &c.; Peter Shannon, coon; Les Crosit, novelty equilibrists; and the Maltans, comedy couple.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. Emilius Hill.—A really clever sketch is that provided by Sylvia Cavalho and Clifford Pembroke, *The Husband of Peggy*, and its humours are thoroughly appreciated. Donaldson Bros. and company have a fine comedy act, *Sports in a Jungle*, which is intensely amusing; Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland amuse everybody in their musical absurdity *A Dotted Crochet*; Adam Tomlinson patters and chants with perennial freshness; and Rex Fox (wire king), Annie Jumel (vocalist), Lum and Darius (musical and vocal scena), and Harry Drew (brasso) complete a well-balanced bill. Charles Parker's Pierrots are popular here.

TOWER AND CASINO.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Bradley.—This latest amusement resort in Morecambe was opened for the season on Saturday, and will continue until Oct. 1. Leslie's Cadets, the Liverpool Professional Military Band under Mr. Stutely, dancing, and other diversions have drawn the people in thousands.

MORLEY. — ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—A capital company, under the title of the "Palace Merrymakers," has been got together for the summer season, and the programme will be al fresco. The opening night was patronised by two packed audiences. Mappin and Webb, in a selection of harmonising and character duets, were enthusiastically received; Syd Bayley, a clever comedian, and Tom Sloan, the inimitable eccentric and dancer, provoked continual merriment, and Joe Shamrock was well appreciated for his baritone songs; Beattie Howard charmed with her Tyrolean warbling and graceful dancing, and Gracie Hunt, a dainty comedienne, was in high favour. Sexton Blake and other pictures made a smart entertainment.

NELSON.—The Grand Theatre has been closed for the summer vacation.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Another excellent programme is presented this week, being headed by Jean Sene, the Indian mystery, who has some weird illusions; Verona performs difficult weight-lifting feats on roller skates; and Regan and Ryan are a capital pair of eccentric comedians. Other good turns are supplied by Golden and Chance, in a novel eccentric act; Ena Corelli, described as "the mighty atom"; Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; Marie Ledell, song illustrator; Arthur Edmunds, human marionette, character impersonator; and Albert Sember and company, who give an amusing dramatic sketch, entitled *Spasms*. Mr. Chas. Fen presents a musical absurdity, entitled *Percy's Perplexity*.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—Crowded houses are the rule. The Melody Makers have made a great hit, their vocalism being admirable; and Miss Mabel Mavis has aroused much enthusiasm by her glassophone solos. Miss L. Schumann, in quick change scena; Oliver and Denville, dancers; Mr. Horace Jones, comedian; Mr. Bert Belton, comedian; Mr. Will Atom, in sketch; and Miss Marie Watson, have all given satisfaction.

PIER PAVILION.—Managers, Messrs. AHandale and Blattner.—A variety bill is again put forward here, and is meeting with every success. Mr. Dick Tubb is a favourite with Pavilion patrons, and Miss Jessie Buckle, Mr. Cyrus Dare, Messrs. Ford and Hanson, Little Vera Elmore, Dis and Das, and others contribute to the excellent programme.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—The Tower and grounds are now opened for the summer season, and on Whit Monday the place was crowded. In the theatre variety and animated pictures hold sway. At the Sunday concert Mr. Ben Davies sang.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A fine house assembled on Monday to witness Mr. Arthur Phillips' presentation of *The Merchant of Venice*. As Shylock Mr. Phillips gives a most impressive portrayal, his delineation of the character striking one as being a most careful study, and one keenly appreciated. Miss Brandon Thomas's Portia is a clever study that does her infinite credit; as Bassanio, Mr. E. Harcourt Williams acts with rare distinction, and the other principal characters are all ably sustained.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—A strong programme is this week headed by Arthur Roberts, in a sketch entitled *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. A clever, refined musical act is presented by Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson. An amusing and smart conjuring turn is that of Les Marco Belli, the Continental experts; and May Henderson, in spirited style, sings and dances herself into favour; Alexandra Dagmar has a fund of new stories to tell, and some effective songs; and Fred Lincoln causes any amount of merriment in his comedy creations. Other capital items are contributed by Carl and Carr, Brothers Wright, and Johnny Sinclair.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Responsible Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting this week *The Bondman*. Mr. Philip Darien is well endowed physically for the part of the rugged Jason, and his acting is forcible, virile, and convincing. As Michael Sunlocks, Mr. Stanley Harrison imparts an air of romance to the character; and as Adam Fairbrother Mr. William Beckwith is admirable. Miss Madge Lanerton is an effective Mrs. Fairbrother; Mr. W. H. Rotherham supplies a well-defined sketch of Father Ferrati, in addition to playing as the grandfather; and the exacting rôle of Greeba falls to the lot of Miss Violet Macree, who sustains the burden of sorrow, hope, and fear with tear compelling sympathy. Mr. Alfred Fisher plays with power and expression as Governor Testa, and Mr. Fred J. Waller handles the rôle of the scheming Doctor Boni with tact and judgment. Miss Lilian Mayne takes full advantage of her opportunities as Martha. This week the theatre closes for the summer vacation, opening one evening next week (Thursday) for an amateur performance in aid of the Newport and Monmouthshire Hospital.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy A. Wilde.—Pride of place this week is taken by Tom Clare, a clever entertainer, at the piano; The Seven Perezoffs, in their pantomimic sketch, *In a Parisan Café*, are accomplished jugglers; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden receive great applause in their well-known comedy duologue; Fred Curran, fresh from his Australian tour, is quite successful; a polished rendering of French operatic selections is given by Les Silas; Lola Patey delights with a selection of charming items, and Dot Hardy meets with abundant favour; Charles J. Johnson is greatly appreciated, and interesting pictures complete.

NORTHAMPTON.—FRANKLIN'S GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Wainwright.—Favoured by fine weather, there was a record attendance here on Whit-Monday. Calile and Rennie proved themselves experts on the flying rings; Sing Ling Ching amused with his quaint Chinese juggling, &c.; Lomas as Jacko, the man monkey, was applauded for his cleverness; Mons. and Mlle. Henri appeared with success in an artistic high leaping act; Henri Foden gave a good exposition of hand jumping, &c.; Tudor's performing ponies were a source of great delight; the Musical Korries were highly appreciated in their musical scena *The Kerbstone Serenaders*; and the Bodey Bros. concluded the programme with a knockabout turn on the triple bars. The Finedon Old Prize Band, conducted by Mr. J. Holdsworth, provided a high-class programme of music, and Captain Fred Bidmead made a successful balloon ascent and parachute descent. The performances were repeated on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Strong dramatic subjects are provided in The Man, In Gypsy Hands, and The Outlaw's Sacrifice. Church Parade at Aldershot is an interesting film, and Three Brothers as comic as they make. The songs, illustrated, sung by Miss Margaret Payne are "Won't you come to Madeira with me?" and "I like your old French bonnet."

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The Sorceress of the Strand and Lieutenant Rose and the Foreign Spy excite great interest, whilst How Scroggins saw the Comet is a rattling comic.

NORTHAMPTON PICTURE PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Thrilling drama is provided in the

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

To be fashionable this season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS
BRONZINE
POLISHES

These polishes can be obtained in a special Dark Grey, peculiarly suitable for mourning; also in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour. Do not rub off on the hands or dress.

EXCELLENT FOR THEATRICAL PROPERTIES.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, and Ironmongers, 1/- per box, which will do several pairs of shoes.

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD.,
75, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

Daughter of the Sioux, a story of Western life, The Grandsire, Saved by Carlo, and Two Christmastides. The Ingenious Safe Deposit is amusing, and the Carnival of the Riviera, 1910, is most interesting.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The twice-nightly summer dramatic season is proving a great success here, and on Monday evening, when Mr. Leonard Thackeray presented Mr. F. B. Woulfe and his company in *Lady Godiva*, the house was crowded at both performances. As Tom of Coventry Mr. Woulfe gave a finished and artistic performance; Mr. Leonard Thackeray was capital as Algar; Mr. A. Hartley supplied a good study of Leofric; Mr. J. Court Harvard was a convincing Unwolf Unwolfson; Mr. Alfred G. Raymond made the most of Robert Shakelton; and Mr. F. Cheevers was a capital Edgar. As Lady Godiva Miss Edith Loraine gave an excellent portrayal of the character; Miss May Yates as Lady Aldyth was seen to advantage; and Miss M. Cartwright proved a satisfactory Elfrida. *David Garrick* formed the attraction on Wednesday evening.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Heading the programme here is Lomax, in his novelty pot-pourri act, for which he receives well-deserved applause; Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers, create much mirth; May St. Hilda, in her novel act *The Studio*, is cordially greeted; the Maynards, versatile artists, are much appreciated; and some excellent films are again shown this week.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's excellent company is here with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Geo. A. Fox as Capt. Geo. Fielding gives a manly representation, his acting and singing being most successful; Mr. Robert Gilbert ably fills the part of the villainous Capt. Dudley; Mr. Deane Cliffe as Featherstone Haugh and Mr. H. Troutback as Smith prove very humorous, while Mr. James Salter as Silas Crump creates continuous laughter; Mr. Edward Aldworth deserves mention as Hawkins; Miss Gertrude de Lacy as Dorothy is very pleasing, and her singing is much enjoyed; Miss Kathleen Stewart deserves praise as Ruth Montrose; and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith receives much appreciation for her singing and dancing. The Misses Lille and Iris Elviedo introduce some clever dances, and the whole production is under the direction of Mr. Harry Richardson.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Dutch Daly is very clever as a concertina soloist, and is also humorous; the Columbia Comedy Trio are pleasing vocalists, and their comedy creates much laughter; Hayes and Merritt, bounding trampolinists, are acrobats of exceptional order; the Great Ruhart as a parodist is very good; Archie Royer, American comedian acrobat and fun-maker, is a great success; Merton and Rydon are interesting comedy entertainers; Allis and Cassati are also most amusing, and Nash and Noel prove capital comedians and dancers. The Hippo-Bio exhibits some interesting pictures.

The Nest, Rosary Road.—Messrs. Goodman opened here on Monday for the season with their talented company of Pierrots, and were well patronised. Mr. Leslie Sears and Miss Cissie Scott make a welcome return, and receive hearty greeting. The new-comers are Miss Aileen Delmore, Miss Rosie Effingham, Mr. Jack Bonny, and Mr. Sydney Holdays, whose pleasing songs find much appreciation. Mr. T. Capron is an able accompanist and a finished violinist.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Facing the Music* was presented to a crowded house on Monday. The Curate of Mr. Charles Fancourt is an amusing and well-caricatured embodiment, while the other Mr. Smith provides many merry moments as played by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce. The two wives are impersonated by Misses Iris Hoey and Estelle Theband with well-conceived humorous suggestion. Mr. Cyril Melton is excellent as the Sergeant; Mr. Charles Steuart (Dick Desmond), Mr. Edward Bonfield (Colonel Smith), Miss Questa Dearing (Miss Fotheringay), and Miss Amy Coleman (Mrs. Ponting) are indefatigable in their efforts to amuse. The comedy is preceded by a new one-act play, *The Last Drop*, a detailed notice of which appears in another column.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—The stock season was opened this week, *Dangerous Women* being capitally played by a well-chosen company. Miss Bessie Rignold gives an excellent portrayal of the vengeful Cora Fay, and Miss Violet Agnew is a sympathetic exponent of Sylvia Rothwell; Mr. Otto Minster furnishes a vigorous rendering of the millionaire, Ronald Courtney, and Mr. Gerald Venning is convincing as Colonel Rothwell. The humorous parts are carefully and acceptably undertaken by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin (Elijah Smudge) and Miss Daisy Meynard (Bessie Basket), while effective help comes from Miss Lilian Duncker, Miss Lonard, and Messrs. Arthur Schipper, Fred Nemone, and Leslie Nolan.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A new and original sketch, entitled *The Rat*, is dealt with in detail in another column. H. O. Wills is drily amusing with his whimsical jokes and mannerisms. Hearty laughter follows the burlesque conjuring of Carl Howard; the Harvey Boys and Girls sing and dance acceptably; the extraordinary antics of the Albert and Edmund's Troupe keep the fun going, and Woodhouse and Wells, patter and dance themselves into favour; Otto and Lola supply a skilful comedy acrobatic act; Conn and Conrad also achieve success; Daisy Dennis has a smart song, and Lizzie Glenroy is an expert dancer.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Jack and Evelyn produce a large amount of fun by their smart patter; the equilibristic feats of Leo and Roland are received with well deserved applause. An amusing little sketch, *Three of a Kind*, is capitally presented by Ethel Arden and George Abel. Captain Kettle is an expert at palming, and Ernest Tilbury uses his pleasant voice in several songs; Edith St. Claire sings acceptably, and a humorous playlet by Marie Vera and Thomas Kennard goes with a swing. Rowland Hill, comedian, and the Bioscope are also in the programme.

OLDHAM. — Colosseum Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—This week Mr. Harry Foxwell's company presents Miss Sheila Walsh's capital drama *Mother*. Mr. Alex. J. Haviland acts in a manly style as Frank English; Miss Grace Jones as Nellie Fairweather is delightful; Mr. R. Brown is good as the vindictive Stephen Carrington; and Jasper Rawden is ably presented by Mr. George Brooke. Mr. J. O. Stewart is very good as Duncan Fairweather; Miss Elsie Dene as Polly Crumpet and Mr. Teddy Myles as Tommy Noblets cause hearty laughter; Miss Kathleen Hunt is capital as Mrs. Baggot; and Miss Amy Wood makes a motherly Martha. Miss Phillis Vaughan does well as Vesta L'Estrange; Miss Mary Holmes acts in a dainty manner as Little May; Miss Dora Kelland also does well as the Hon. Mrs. Billy; Mr. Harry James is a capital Rev. John Strong; and Mr. Roy Gordon makes a good Old Crump.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*For Honour and Revenge* is staged here by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company. Mr. G. M. Montanini acts in a clever manner as the much-wronged James Galston, Sir Gilbert Redville being played by Mr. Courtney Robinson in a forcible manner. Miss Muriel Inglis gives a dramatic rendering of Maud Desmond; Miss Amy Dalby as Mary Galston is winsome and dainty; Miss Lizzie Ingles as Nancy O'Brien and Mr. Fred C. Imbert as Joe Reckitts provide excellent comedy; and Miss Renee Wreafort is an amusing Mrs. Jones. Mr. Chas. Russell is smart as Harry Travers; and Mr. H. Douglas does well as Arthur Redville; Mr. C. Fred Roper as a police-inspector being also good.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The excellent pictures this week include some fine examples. Right Among the Old Folks is most pleasing; Passing Shadows is excellent; A Village Tragedy, Race for a Bride, Trials of a Chauffeur, The Place Where Teak Wood Grows, and others are also in the bill. Mr. Roger Alwyn also contributes to the programme.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—A capital programme includes A Fence on Bar y Ranch, Coco and the Earthquake, Mr. Foolshead Turns Somersaults, Too Many Admirers, Juan the Pelota Player, The Cross of Napoleon, The Land of Monkeys and Snakes, The Volcanic Chimney, and In the Mirror. Messrs. Wild and Taylor appear in concertina solos and a football sketch.

Brown's Assembly Rooms.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—From Gipsy Hands is a thrilling story; The Twisted Trail is most dramatic; and Sensational Logging is a very interesting picture.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—A Mother's Heart is a story of a pathetic nature; and Truth or Lie—Which is Best? is excellent. The Irish Boy and His Only Daughter are a couple of good dramas. The amusing films include Volunteer Fireman, Double Muscle, Alligator, Music Gone Mad; and Miss Molloy contributes some good songs.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—The latter half of last week Mr. Martin Harvey, with his talented company, gave most interesting and finished performances of *The Only Way* and *The Breed of the Treshams*. Notwithstanding the mournful times, Mr. Harvey drew packed houses on Whit-Monday. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company commenced a most successful week's engagement with *Don*. Mr. Arthur Willoughby is a typical Canon, and plays the part in most finished fashion; Mr. Gordon Bailey most happily realises the difficult character of the impulsive, well-meaning Stephen; Mr. C. Tyrel is admirably suited as the old General; and Mr. Charles Harley gives a most powerful and effective rendering of the bigoted zealot, Albert Thompsett. Miss Emma Hutchison plays Mrs. Bonington in the finished easy style that we always expect from her; while the parts of Mrs. Sinclair, Ann Sinclair, and Elizabeth Thompsett can hardly find more capable exponents than in the Misses Ethel Royales, Viola Garland, and Violet Harley. *Don* is preceded by *Her Dearest Friend*, a capital curtain-raiser. The business arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Barrow.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company, under the direction of Mr. Karl Edwards, are this week presenting *Donnybrook*, which terminates the present successful stock season, and on Whit Monday there was a crowded house for the initial performance. Mr. Karl Edwards surpassed himself with a very bright and exhilarating performance as Billy, and worked hard throughout; whilst Mr. E. Holland Day was, as usual, a confident success as Dennis. Mr. Harry Leyton was sound as Father McGuire; Mr. Edwin Firth was successfully weird as Tim Dolan; and Mr. Frederick Biron was a true villain as Capt. Vere. Miss Winifred Stuart had a most hearty reception, and maintained her well-established reputation for sympathetic acting with her attractive portrayal of Molly; Miss Mabel Parker, always a sure success, did well in the small part of Bridget; Miss Vida Rogerson made a dainty Kathleen; and Miss Katie Norris did her utmost to make Sally a most amusing character, and was a distinct success. Miss Elma E. Turner added strength to an efficient cast with her powerful rendering of Lady Blanche. All the members of the present company are giving their services this Saturday evening for a benefit for the resident-manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—For the last week of the season at this house *East Lynne* is the attraction. The ever-popular play is finely presented by Mr. Rich. Waldon's company, headed by Miss Ada Oakley, who as Lady Isabel is deserving of praise for an admirable portrayal. All the other characters are in capable hands.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—A good bill comprises Consul, the almost man; Harry Cooke, the quaint comedian; Hargadon and Cole, Scotch comedy artists; Wilson Hallett, comedian; Miss Florence, mimic; Rohda Brothers, gymnasts; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, novelty entertainers; and the Hippodrome pictures.

PENTRE.—Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An exceptionally attractive programme is headed by the Boissets, in *The Bricklayers*. A clever juggling and head-balancing act is given by the Maxims; Lazern, the mystic, is a clever illusionist; Kimberley and Melbourne are eccentric comedians; a much appreciated turn is given by Ida Katrena (the Dolly Girl); and Harry Zetter and Bessie Callow also deserve mention.

Workmen's Hall.—Mr. H. Solway.—The films include From Cabin Boy to King, Cherries, and A Lesson by the Sea. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud (the Staffordshire singers) and Tom Jenkins (a big favourite) contribute successfully.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The Primrose Quartette provide a rich musical treat, their part-singing being wellnigh perfect; Wal Croft is a pawky Scotch comedian, with some good songs and fresh patter; Beatty St. Clair is a dainty little lady, who captivates the audience with her chorus songs; and Fields and Lewis create laughter in their burlesque melodrama scene. A fine series of pictures is provided.

PETERBOROUGH.—Thfatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Miss Ada Wallis and company, in the musical absurdity *The Major*, occupied the boards here for the first three nights this week. Miss Ada Wallis was delightfully amusing as Clara O'Neale; Mr. T. C. McQuire as Major Barney O'Neale was admirable; and other parts were in capable hands.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Peggy Pryde takes the lead here with her funny patter and songs. The Lannons, duettists and dancers, have an enthusiastic reception; Edith Hale, versatile vocalist, sings pleasing songs; Will Cornish, in his musical act, gains applause; Woolmer Young, comedian, is a strong favourite; Mack Ollive, in his whistling scena, scores a success; and the Hyde and Cody Trio provide much fun. The Karnoscope completes.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Allan Attwater.—*The Arcadians* drew a bumper house on Monday, the company being practically the same as on the initial visit. As Smith and subsequently Simplicitas Mr. Gus Oxley adds to his already well-established reputation as a comedian, infusing a wonderful amount of humour into the part; Mr. Frank Collins as the doleful Peter Doody cuts out a most original course with pronounced success; Mr. Roy Sidney does well as Jack Meadows and Mr. Roy Lorraine is a dapper Bobby; as Sombra Miss Marion Edwardes earns fresh laurels as a vocalist; Miss Mysie Devine has a delightful Hibernian brogue as Eileen Cavanagh, and introduces some graceful dancing into her part, and Miss Madge Holmes is excellent as the portly but businesslike Mrs. Smith

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The well-known entertainers, Bella and Bijou, are starred, and prove a popular draw, the Suffragette sketch going as well as ever; the juggling, acrobatic business, and instrumental work of Francini, Ollome and Page are brilliantly executed; Marguerite Ismay and her accompanying satellites are responsible for a very pretty and excellently dressed vocal and dancing scena; the Bros. Obo score in some humorous comedy work; Florence Esdaile is an accomplished vocalist; Wisper, a comedy juggler, supplies a very amusing turn, and Beattie Bloom is an attractive comedienne. Harry Cotton, comedian, is the remaining contributor to a good bill.

PONTEFRACT.—Castle Grounds.—Galas were held in these historic grounds on Whit Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Tom Diacoff, of Pontefract, had the booking of the stage turns, which included the Sisters Eston, trapeze artists; Mlle. Fleurier and her troupe of canine marvels; the Saletos, head and hand balancers; Three Eltons on the triple bars; Paleto, eccentric juggler and tumbler; and F. L. Knott, the human marionette.

Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—A good holiday programme is provided for the patrons of this house. Cummin and Seaham are exceptionally funny as the postman and the ragman; Margaret Doris appears with her well-trained troupe of dogs; Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, is heard to advantage in her high-class selections; Cestria is clever as an acrobatic waiter; Mabel Mass pays a return visit as a singer of chorus songs; and other turns are Ivey Aberdare, comedienne and dancer, Len Hall, comedian and dancer, Alpha, ventriloquist, and the Alexscope.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole, Ltd., Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The Four Regals present a most sensational act, *The Armourers;* Maudie Ford, with her latest songs and dances, is a general favourite, and Ugo Nap is a witty comedian; Bert Errol impersonates a lady singer realistically, and Frank Taylor is a quaint comedian; Jock Laird, a Scotch comedian and dancer, is making headway; the Five Bombays have a smart singing and dancing act, and the Bioscope, as usual, has capital pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*The Flag Lieutenant*, which proved a magnet on its first visit, has again been presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company, opening on Monday to a full house. The principal parts are ably sustained by Messrs. Edgar Kent (Richard Lascelles), Montague Love (Major W. Thesiger), Geo. Mallett (Admiral Wynne), Misses Florence Jackson (Mrs. Cameron), Dorothy Ripley (Lady Hermione Wynne), and Winifred Vallant (Viola Hood). The mounting was good. Miss Beatrice Lindley's clever entertainment preceded.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Scales of Justice*, an exceedingly interesting drama, is being presented here this week. It is admirably staged and acted, and holds the attention of the audience throughout.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss Ella Shields heads an attractive programme here this week, and her tuneful songs are much appreciated; Colin Bryce and company score a success with their laughable skit *Are You a Socialist?* The Jackson Family are a troupe of talented musicians; Will E. Stopit gives a clever comedy acrobatic performance; the Shelleys are as popular as ever in their mirthful sketch *Also Ran;* A. J. Hill appears to effect in a Lilliputian act. Included in the bill are George Rae, Scotch comedian; Hugo and Smit, comedy acrobats; Charles Torbay, shadowgraphist; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor open the entertainment with a singing and dancing act; Marie Braymen's powerful contralto voice soon wins favour; Curtis Leo's sleight-of-hand performance is exceedingly smart; Eadie and Ramsden are loudly applauded for a contortionist display, and the lady for her vocalism; George Mozart possesses an inexhaustable fund of humour, and introduces his cinematograph burlesque, The Thief; the Zigeuner Quartette are finished musicians; Sammy Shields makes a big hit as a "Football Enthusiast"; the Athoe Troupe rivet attention with their ball manipulation and acrobatic display; and an amusing film, The Lover's Pact, causes laughter.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—*Little Johnnie Jones*, a new comedietta, tops the bill. The name-part is sustained with humour and ability by Mr. John Humphries; the scheming Grand Vizier, Fannakapan, has a capital exponent in Mr. Chas. Cautley; the Nightingale and Aurelia afford scope to the vocal talents of Misses Beatrice Grosvenor and Mabel Danby. The chorus is supported by a strong contingent of attractive young ladies. Other contributors to the programme are Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, the Verona Troupe of cyclists, Geo. S. Melvin, Scottish comedian and dancer, Conway and Leland, La Belle Alva, Watson and Naylor, Keene and Adams, and Marion Armitage.

South Parade Pier.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—Delightful Bank Holiday weather attracted large numbers to the Pier, where Mrs. Mark Kinghorne presented *Mother-in-Law*. The Merry Mascots, with their diverting entertainment, concluded the programme. In the morning the "Merry Boys" and Professor Percival's high-diving feats pleased the onlookers.

Shaftesbury Hall.—Another picture palace in the N.E. district of the borough, recently erected at a cost of some £7,000 or £8,000, and calculated to accommodate about 1,000 seat-holders, was opened on Monday. Everything is up to date. Noteworthy among the films is the series The Last Days of Pompeii. Miss Dorothy Alexander, with songs, and Mrs. Henry J. Cook, with recitation, contributed successfully to the entertainment, which is under the management of Mr. Herbert Cole, Mr. C. M. Gann directing the musical arrangements.

Clarence Pier.—Manager, Mr. E. Hunter.—As usual at holiday times crowds flock here. The morning's amusement is provided by the "So-and-So's," presented by Mr. Stuart Alexander. In the afternoon and evening the R.M.A. Band provides an additional attraction.

Gosport Theatre.—This house was filled to its utmost capacity on Monday, when, in addition to some capital pictures, Syd Crossley and Babs Lloyd supplied the amusement.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—The Great Raymond and his company are the chief attraction. A very clever turn is given by Les Grossi in the Vampire dance, and the Villions prove themselves masters of the wheel, while their travesty whirlwind dance brings down the house; Gordon Stretton, coloured vocalist, is a finished performer; Morris and Moore, "the British Boys," are expert dancers; Little Sunbeam is a dainty juvenile artist with a very pleasing voice, and dances well; Luella Cross, American vocalist, contributes some taking songs in a pleasing manner.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Crowded houses are welcoming Bransby Williams, and are not slow in showing their appreciation of this clever artist's répertoire; Harrigan and Holt, in their duo, the Inspector and Policeman, meet with a good reception; Archie Green, raconteur and dancer, as the Boy Scout, is decidedly good; Rutter's dogs in a football match create roars of laughter; the Cosmopolitan Male Quartette contribute some well executed quartettes; Dan Weldon, the singing newsboy, is appreciated; Nera and Zema are clever equilibriste, and perform some wonderful balancing feats; A. H. Drinkwater is a light comedian of merit; the Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats, in *Fun in a Café*, are an exceedingly smart turn. Wanted, a Mummy, on the Bioscope, concludes a really capital show.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's *For Love and the King* is winning the approval of crowded houses. Mr. C. Watson Mill gives a spirited portrayal of the part of Jarval; Mr. Alfred Maurice is a most accomplished villain as Michael Obrenovic; Miss Joan Ellis is to be complimented on her excellent presentation of Natila; Miss Rosalind Tate is a capable Edith Meredith. The play is superbly staged.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. Mat Lynton presents here this week a new and original mystery play, *The Girl with the Angel Face*. As Sir John Wentworth and Thomas Wentworth, Mr. Leighton Winsford is very successful; Mr. Edward Ling gives a good impersonation of the treacherous Jasper Death; and the character of the scheming lawyer is ably interpreted by Mr. Montague Lane; Mr. George Lanton makes a dignified lawyer; and Mr. Herbert Standing meets with much approval as the Rev. Gordon Cross. Miss Minnie Love, in the title-rôle, acts in convincing style; and Miss Laurie Potter is a smart Mollie Maitland; and Miss R. Douglas a good Ena Wentworth.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Under the Sole Direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Wilson Berge and an all-round talented company is staging, with signal success, *The Sinner*. Mr. Benge plays with fine effect the difficult part of Monk Stretton; Mr. Charles Burden effectively portrays one of the representatives of villainy, Edgar Thornhill; and Mr. Alec Finlayson is admirable as Paul Levaine; Miss Mona Grey is very effective as Meg Stanton, and Miss Geraldine Verner is excellent as Vera Ewen; a lively contribution is that of Miss Sadie Smith as Nora Stretton, and good work is also contributed by Miss Dora Olga (Little Ned); Miss Muriel Deane plays with Grace and power as Honor Thornhill, and others who contribute materially to the admirable character of the production are Mr. Henry Danson (Lord Ewen), Mr. Jay Kay (Chris. Floppington), and Mr. Frank Radcliffe (a first-rate Bill Stanton).

Marina Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The clear and steady pictures displayed here during Whit Week have proved exceedingly popular, and there have been good houses. Varieties of a thoroughly entertaining character have been supplied by Clare and Pastor, comedy artists, who have made a hit with their singing and dancing.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—A variety season was commenced at this house on Whit Monday, when a very attractive programme drew crowded attendances. Von Etta, queen of illusionists and lightning protean actress, heads the bill, and gives a very novel and clever performance. Leon and Tee give a good eccentric musical act; Mollie Seymour is a very pleasing comedienne; Elvio, Ross, and Elvio appear in an amusing sketch entitled *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, in the course of which they execute some smart acrobatic feats; Argo is an excellent mimic; the Sisters Macarte present a charming Japanese scena, *The Land of the Lotus*, in which they dance effectively and perform some graceful movements on the slack wire; Tom Conover and company are very amusing in the farcical sketch *The Drink Cure;* the Melbourne Trio sing to advantage; and some of the latest films are shown on the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—The Lukushima, a troupe of Japanese entertainers, give a very clever acrobatic and balancing display, which is preceded by a series of beautiful lantern views of Japanese scenery; Richard Finberg gives some first-class impersonations of characters in famous plays; Louie Belrose is an acceptable comedienne; Lambert and Butler, comedians and dancers, perform very successfully; Johnny Holland and company present an amusing comedy sketch, *The Millionaire;* the Eduns sing tunefully in a musical comedy act, *The Spider and the Fly;* the Gordon Girls give an effective dancing scena, *A Platform Rehearsal;* Farley, Rennie, and company create immense hilarity in their sketch *The Terrible Tailors;* and a capital holiday programme is completed by some good Bioscope pictures.

The New Central Skating Rink has been very extensively patronised during the holidays, and the Western Road Rink has also done good business.

The Vaudeville Electric Theatre, West's Picture Palace, and Bio-Picture Land are all catering well for their Whitsuntide visitors.

REDHILL.—The Military Tournament and Fête in the Sports Ground on Whit Monday was a great success. A special feature was the programme submitted by the Cheeroe Concert Party on the Cosy Corner stage. Miss Kitty Grays sang her ditties in a lively and pleasing manner; Mr. Charles Osborne's light comedy songs were rendered with ability; Miss Fay Desmond's fine voice was heard to advantage in well-selected numbers; Mr. Fred Anderson proved himself a comedian of resource; and Mr. Charles Wood kept the audience amused the whole time he was on the boards. Mr. Arthur De Val was quite at home at the piano. Mr. Arthur W. Woolland deserves congratulations upon his able management of these fêtes.

RHYL.—Town Hall.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale present a good variety company here, including La Vie, in a series of classical poses; Les Zingares, in a pretty Eastern scena; the Albano Girls, Mexican bush girls; Tom and O'Neil, comedy wrestlers; Charles Bradford, comedian; Sisters Lesser, duettists; Harry Vernon, comedian; Rastus and Amber, duettists; and Frank Weaver, sand dancer.

Olympian Gardens.—Fred Walmsley is making a huge hit here this week; Jack Barker, comedian, is also a great favourite; Eileen and May submit a clever musical act; Bernard Davies has a good selection of songs; and Howard and Wallace present an amusing sketch, *Taming a Wife*. Amy Flawn is the accompanist and solo pianist.

ROTHERHAM.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Mr. C. le Gar's company presents a highly-successful dramatic playlet, introducing Senor Angel Blanco; the Northcotes (Madge and May) are pleasing vocal duettists; Tom and Neil are smart in a burlesque wrestling and comedy act; Gilbert Girard is a clever mimic; Haines and Borthwick and company cause roars of laughter with *Half a Dollar;* Charles Gardener is an amusing eccentric character comedian; Eunice and Zena are smart instrumentaliste; Zellini does well as a comedy juggler; and the Zampas are dexterous baton jugglers and dancers. The Hipposcope Pictures continue to please.

SALFORD.—P.O.W.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Beggar Princess* is a good holiday attraction, and crowded houses are the result. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy makes an effective Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh, the hero, Allen Armstrong, is well presented by Mr. Villiers Stanley; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy is a charming Seaweed; Countess Olga is forcibly played by Miss Ada Roscoe; Maggie Bolton is cleverly portrayed by Miss M. Cameron; and much fun is provided by Mr. W. Melvyn (Harry Lortimer) and Mr. Arthur Henri (Porter). Mr. Tom Royden, Mr. David Douglas, and Mr. E. Lowrie give excellent support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. S. Lee.—Dan Lipton's company, in the vocal scena *Songland*, give a very enjoyable exhibition, which includes some excellent songs by Miss Eva Kellard; Harry Tate's *Motoring;* Harry Levaine, comedian; Vere and Nelidon, speciality; Mark Stuart, patter comedian; T. E. Bates, eccentric comedian; Maria Racko and Partner, smart acrobats; Nellie Walton, singing mill girl with a sweet voice; and Ruby Norton, comedienne, are all capable artists.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Fred Karno's *Perkins, M.P.*, and *The G.P.O.*, with Albert Bruno in the principal parts, provide endless fun; Sara Rosebury wins favour with a sweet voice and charming manner in her dialect and vocal scena; Purvis and Partner, in *The Postman's Knock*, are very comical; the Two Brilliants, clever lady xylophonists, are much applauded. The programme also includes Edie Anderson, a neat dancer, and the Three Aza Boys, smart clog performers.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Empty Cradle and Too Many Admirers are among the pictures which, with Mr. Tom Sherlock's illustrated songs, crowd this house.

Central Hall (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—Raymond's pictures are well up to the usual standard, and include Girl of the Range, Race for a Bride, Spirit of the Sword, and Mutiny on the High Seas. Ruby Lake, comedienne, is much appreciated for her singing.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley; Manager, Mr. Gilbert Bruce.—A number of films of good quality is provided here.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Harry Tilbury and company are here with *His Dishonoured Wife*, given twice nightly. Mr. Tilbury portrays the nondescript character of Micky Doolan with marked success; Miss Belle Tilbury provides a sympathetic impersonation of the emotional part of Florence Lindon; Mr. A. George Fry as the much-persecuted blacksmith Frank Lindon, Miss Etta Spalding as Araminta Dustpan, Mr. Alex. Alexander as Lord Devant, and Mr. Fred Owen as a Detective, also contribute materially to the success of the performance.

(*Continued on page* 23.)

"OUT OF SORTS"?

Is that your condition? You don't feel right-down ill, but you are not "up to the mark"—you have occasional headaches, or a little dizziness, or some pain after eating, or wind in the stomach! You are "out of sorts." It isn't right that you should be like that, and it isn't *necessary!* Your stomach is at fault. Take a few doses of Mother Seigel's Syrup after meals, and you will soon be as well as you wish.

YOU NEED THE DIGESTIVE TONIC.

The herbal extracts of which Mother Seigel's Syrup is made will tone up and strengthen your stomach, and thus banish your ailments, increase your vitality, and make you fit and well. Mr. S. R. Evans, B.A., 41, Rosebery-road, Redfield, Bristol, says:—"For so long as I remember, Mother Seigel's Syrup has been used by the various members of my family, from time to time, for indigestion and allied complaints, always with excellent results. As for myself, Mother Seigel's Syrup has kept me *fit and well* for more than twelve years past."

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, May 16, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE GEISHA."

A particularly strong attraction for the Whitsun holidays was the revival of the famous musical comedy *The Geisha*, and the King's on Monday evening was quite packed by an enthusiastic audience, who listened to the charming and entrancing melodies composed by Sidney Jones with every sign of approval. Mr. Frederick Mouillot has provided a company which is thoroughly competent, and in no way detracts from impressions formed by previous revivals. As O Mimosa San Miss Aimee Grey gave a delightful rendering, both her singing and acting showing much charm; Miss Renee Reel was a piquant Juliette Diamant, and won praise; a hit was made by Miss Adela Crispin as Molly Seymour, her lively acting and singing being loudly applauded; Miss Mary Morrison was a bright Lady Constance Wynn; and the guests, in the persons of Miss Olive Eileen, Miss Cecilia Morris, and Miss Jessie Hall, proved very attractive. Miss Clarice Eldon, Miss Belle Murray, and Miss Estelle Twichen were bewitching geisha. Mr. Walter Johnstone Douglas was a manly and breezy Reginald Fairfax. With a refreshing and well-cultivated voice, he won success which was quite deserved. Dick Cunningham, Arthur Cuddy, and George Grimstone were exceedingly well represented by Mr. Sam Lockridge, Mr. Hartwell D. Morice, and Mr. Sydney Langworth; the middy Tom Stanley found a sprightly artist in Miss Dorothy Clancy; Mr. Herbert Uzielli's impersonation of Captain Katana was excellent; and Mr. Harry Reynolds as Takemine was good. Mr. Edward Carlton was extremely laughable as the Chinaman Wun Hi, his "pidgin" English and energetic acting winning popularity; the rôle of the Marquis Imari was made the most of by Mr. Lionel Braham, his burlesque of the Chief of Police being highly amusing. The pretty Japanese scenes were universally admired, and the dainty chorus, in their quaint costumes, were captivating. Mr. F. Chevalier Le Grand ably directed the augmented orchestra. On Thursday evening, by special request, *A Greek Slave* was revived. After to-night the theatre closes for the summer vacation.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

Another return visit of G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in the ever-popular drama by Henry Arthur Jones, *The Silver King*, which is drawing good houses. It is staged in elaborate style and capitally played by the whole of the company. The part of Wilfred Denver affords Mr. Fred D. Daviss much scope for really artistic acting, and he fully avails himself of his opportunities. The impersonation is most interesting from all points of view, and Mr. Daviss must be congratulated upon presenting an exposition of a difficult part which always ensures sympathy. Miss Mildred Surrey as Nellie Denver plays in a natural and convincing manner, and in every way does full justice to the part. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke sustains the character of the polished villain, Captain Herbert Skinner, "The Spider," with convincing forcefulness, taking advantage of every opportunity. The interesting criminal career of Elijah Coombe, the marine store dealer, is artistically and cleverly outlined by Mr. Arthur Wright, who admirably sustains the part. As Daniel Jaikes Mr. Edward J. George still gives a most powerful interpretation. Mr. W. Leslie Ellis is highly effective as Geoffrey Ware, and Mr. Ralph Leon makes a hit as Henry Corkett, his acting being excellent throughout. Mr. A. Hornby Warburton contrives to do exceedingly well as Detective Baxter, and the minor characters are played with unusual care. The staging and mounting, under the management of Mr. Arthur Wright, leave nothing to be desired.

CORONET THEATRE.
On Monday, May 16, the Play, entitled
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."

Whilst denizens of the earth were engaged in passing through the tail of the comet and experiencing meteoric disturbances, the messenger from Mars was preaching the gospel of altruism with a playful and forceful use of dynamics at the Coronet Theatre. Mr. Frederick Mouillot's original production of this world-renowned play has been "on the road" for many a season now without losing any of its pristine charm and power to please. Mr. F. Vernon Travers has perfected himself in the part of Horace Parker, and acts with strength and conviction, and a nice sense of humour; Mr. William H. Brougham's resonant voice and stern demeanour are well fitted to the relentles visitor from the Martian planet; Mr. Norman Clark acts well the powerful and pathetic part of the tramp; Mr. Danelli Greene as a policeman and Miss Ray Denton as Bella contribute some amusing by-play; and Miss Katherine Camp is droll as a poor woman; Miss Rose Helene is a gentle and sympathetic Minnie Templar; and Miss Mary Buckstone as Mrs. Clarence and Miss Aubrey Ashton as Miss Parker are both interesting and efficient. Mr. Cecil Kerr as Arthur Dicey, Mr. Percy Tyler (who also stage manages) as Dr. Chapman, Mr. F. Bentley, and Miss Eily O'Dempsey, among others, do well in minor rôles. Mr. F. Leslie Moreton is general-manager, with Mr. Douglas Eley as business-manager for Mr. Mouillot.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, May 16, the Farcical Play entitled
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

One of the best possible programmes for holiday-makers is provided this week at the Dalston Theatre by the presentatton of F. Anstey's farcical play *The Brass Bottle*. Mr. Gaston Mayer is responsible for the production, which keeps audiences in an almost continuous roar of laughter. Mr. Lawrence Grossmith as Horace Ventimore, the young architect whose fate it is to meet with such a strange series of adventures at the hands of his mysterious visitor, is provided with a part quite suited to his vigorous style, and he takes full advantage of the admirable opportunities for real farcical comedy that present themselves. In the character of the critical Professor Mr. Percy Marshall is often extremely droll, especially when, for the time being, he is transformed into a mule. To Mr. Holman Clark falls the lot of representing Fakrash-el-Aamash, the genie liberated from the bottle, and his acting at times impresses onlookers as much by its weirdness as by its broad fun. Mr. Rudge Harding's Spencer Pringle is an amusing representation, and the actor succeeds in getting on the best of terms with the audience. Another interesting representation is that of Samuel Wackerbath, effectively sustained by Mr. Luigi Lablache. The Rapkin of Mr. Harry Norton is funny throughout. Miss Lena Halliday is a pleasing Mrs. Futvoye, the mother of Sylvia Futvoye, the latter part finding an artistic exponent in Miss Viva Birkett. Miss Mary Brough as Mrs. Rapkin makes a decidedly attractive landlady; and others in the cast include Miss Armine Grace, Miss Gladys Storey, Miss Meda de Burgh, Mr. A. Spencer, and Mr. Vincent Holman. The scenery and costumes contribute to a completeness of representation which cannot fail to command success.

THE PAVILION.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama entitled
"TOMMY ATKINS."

A stock season was inaugurated at the Pavilion on Monday, many of the favourites of former years, including Mr. Ashley Page and Miss Marion Denvil, figuring in the company. The play chosen was that fine military drama *Tommy Atkins*, which had a hearty reception from the largest audience that has gathered at this theatre for a long period. Great credit is due to Mr. Ashley Page for his artistic impersonation of Harold Wilson; Mr. Fred Rivers, as Captain Maitland, avails himself fully of the opportunities afforded in the character; Sergeant Paddy Molloy is acted with much humour by Mr. Allan Carruthers; Mr. Watty Brunton, as Ebenezer Skindle, makes himself one of the favourites of the evening; Mr. Arthur Estcourt is good as Stephen Raymond; Miss Barbara Bateman wins applause as Elsie Wilson; Miss Phyllis Orme acts creditably as Margaret Maitland; and Miss Nellie James makes an excellent Kate Perkins. Miss Marion Denvil plays the part of Ruth Raymond's daughter to perfection, the applause she gains being spontaneous and hearty. Over a hundred auxiliaries were employed in the production. These included military band, soldiers, and choristers. During the course of the season standard melodramas are to be produced.

THE BRIXTON.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama, entitled
"THE SCALES OF JUSTICE."

Mr. Fred. Melville has inaugurated a short stock season, and an admirable start was made on Bank Holiday, when a large house gave a warm welcome to the above drama. The company selected are all useful and clever artists, and, under the direction of Mr. Newman Maurice, the resident-manager, the production was most praiseworthy. Mr. Maurice resumes his original character of Tom Wilkins, and his efforts in the low comedy line are provocative of much laughter; Mr. Herbert Godard is a thoroughly typical representative of Captain Duncan; and Mr. Reggie St. John is good as Captain Tom Duncan. Mr. Charles Dickens deserves warm praise for his spirited acting as Harry Maxwell; Miss Marie Duncan (an old Brixton favourite) being seen to every advantage in the dual parts of Mary Maxwell and Jenny Maxwell. Mr. Harry Sims does good work as Jack Breeze; Mr. W. H. Porter must be commended for his acting as Antonia Cordova; and Mr. Vincent Loraine is a praiseworthy Don Juan. Smithson is well played by Mr. G. Dobson; Miss Eleanor Kinross is effective as Inez Cordova; Miss May Day is a pleasing and popular Polly; and Miss Rosie Elmore makes a pretty child as Jenny. *The Scales of Justice* is well mounted, a brass band adding to the realism of the production. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. William T. Gliddon, excellently played the incidental and some rousing *entracte* music.

THE SHAKESPEARE.
On Monday, May 16, the Musical Play, in Two Acts, entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

The popular musical play *Our Miss Gibbs* is delighting enthusiastic audiences here. In the matter of mounting there is little to be desired, and Mr. Dance's company wear new and beautiful dresses; Miss Elfie Vincent makes a charming appearance in the title-rôle, and her spirited acting and accomplished singing are warmly applauded; Miss Lilian Birtles' bright and engaging performance of Lady Elizabeth Thanet wins for her scores of admirers; and Miss Imlay is a capable representative of the haughty Duchess of Minster; an excellent piece of acting is contributed by Miss Florence Hylton as Mrs. Farquhar; and Miss Ellaline Thorne is thoroughly satisfactory in the part of Mme. Jeanne. The three Irish colleens have vivacious representatives in Miss Mollie Cole, Miss Nora Neile, and Miss Olga Grey. Mr. Vincent Erne as Timothy Gibbs is irresistibly droll, and his quaint antics keep the audience in a continual state of merriment; Mr. Frank Sealey humorously enacts the rôle of the amateur criminal, the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; receiving excellent support from Mr. J. S. Durant as Slithers. Mr. Ernest Darrell merits praise for his earnest portrayal of the Earl of St. Ives, and Mr. F. Coleman as Mr. Toplady is very efficient; Mr. Crawford Kent is a gallant and dashing Lord Eynsford; and Mr. David Miller as Mr. Beavis and Mr. Campbell Browne as Mr. Amalfy are capable exponents of their respective parts. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.
On Monday, May 16, the Play, entitled
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

Mr. Charles Barnard has provided a strong, dramatic attraction for the holiday week in Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company presenting *The Sorrows of Satan*. In the character of Prince Lucio Rimanez, Mr. Arthur Hinton submits a most impressive study, playing throughout with an intensity which holds his audience at times almost spellbound; Mr. Travis Green gives a very capable reading of Geoffrey Tempest; and Mr. Arthur Beaufort is a mystical Amiel (Prince Lucio's servant); Mr. Arthur Lowry is seen to advantage as Lord Elton, infusing a good deal of humour into the character. Mr. David Allen as Morgensen, Mr. Frank Brunde as Bentham, and Mr. Harry Sidney as Ellis all contribute their aid towards the lighter scenes of the play. As the American heiress Diana Chesney, Miss Shirley Dalton is happily cast, and Miss Mabel Coleman is quite natural as the contented Mavis Clare. Miss Lelia Zillwood as Lady Sybil Elton is responsible for artistic acting, her death scene, in which she sees the devil mocking her for her frailty being a very fine performance. Minor characters are in safe keeping, and the drama is both well dressed and staged. Particular mention must be made of the scene representing the interior of Willowsmere Hall, which is an extremely fine example of the art of scene painting. The Bioscope at the end of each performance provides a good series of pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, EDMONTON.
RE-OPENED ON MONDAY LAST.

Mr. Auguste Van Biene has spared no trouble in taking over the Theatre Royal, Edmonton, which was, it will be remembered, rebuilt some time ago by Frank Matcham and Co. The cosy little house seats just over a thousand playgoers, and has the advantage of a double licence. Of the latter fact the Van Biene Theatres Co. intend to take the fullest advantage. Mr. Edward Van Biene, who is in charge at Edmonton, assured our representative that every effort is to be made to get the best dramatic and musical comedy companies into the northern suburb. "In proof of this," said Mr. Van Biene, "I may state that we are fully booked until Easter next. Here are some of my contracts, which, as you know, are No. 1 attractions:—*The Broken Melody, A Girl's Temptation, Driving a Girl to Destruction, The Still Alarm, Her Path of Sorrow, Can a Woman be Good? Her Secret Lover, Her Fatal Marriage, Hush Money, When London Sleeps, A Daughter of the Sea, Sexton Blake, Greed of Gold, Her One False Step, A Wrecker of Men, Where Angels Fear to Tread, The Life of a Showman*, and *Man and Wife*.

"Yes, we shall have a pantomime, and one or two weeks will be devoted to high-class vaudeville, for—variety is charming, is it not?"

Since Monday last Mr. Morton Powell's *A Girl's Temptation* has been played to capacity houses, and Mr. Auguste Van Biene can be congratulated on a first-rate beginning at Edmonton.

The company engaged is an all-round excellent one, and gets straight to the hearts of the people with the moral of the story that "what is folly in a man is sin in a woman." Possibly it is in the second scene that excitement runs the highest when villainous Mark Klaw, intent on ruining pretty Kate Stirling, and afterwards to force her to marry him, lures Guy Warren, Kate's lover and husband to be, to London by means of a forged telegram, and then enters the bedchamber of the girl, chloroforms her, and is—just as he wanted it to be—discovered by Guy. The intense acting of Miss Gertrude Gilbert, in conjunction with that of Mr. Frank V. Fenn and Mr. Clifton Earle, makes this scene a triumph of realism. Edmonton first held its breath, yelled its loudest during the struggle—and a finely played one, too—between hero and villain, groaned with dismay when the circumstantial evidence went dead against the heroine, and could scarcely restrain its impatience for Act III., when it chortled with joy at the wrecking of the sweater's den. The comic element was excellently carried through by Mr. Freddie Bentley as Sammy Sniggles and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima Jossap. Mr. Bentley is, if we mistake not, another in the list of Lancashire's fine roll-call of comedians. He is light, just gags enough, and one wants more of him.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
On Monday, May 16, for the First Time in London, the Comedy-Drama in Four Acts, by A. B. Mackay, entitled
"THE GREATER SIN."

Greville Brayle ..... Mr. B. Finlay
Captain Nemo } Mr. A. B. Mackay
George Brayle }
Bertie Wilkins ..... Mr. Louis Newman
Constable Mike Maloney .... Mr. Jack Corlass
Pincher Jim ..... Mr. Arthur Leslie
Jules ..... Mr. J. Brough
Sneaky Baxter ..... Mr. L. Graham Hamlyn
Handsome Henry ..... Mr. J. Helpar
Kipper ..... Mr. W. Black
Little Dora ..... Master Cyril
Puggy Baxter ..... Mrs. Corlass
Peggy Perkins ..... Miss Trixie Leighton
Marcelle de Valcour ..... Miss Lillie Lewis
Dora Brayle ..... Miss Ida Mackay

Produced at Pontypridd on March 7 last, *The Greater Sin; or, The Beginning and the End*, has been since presented intermittently in the provinces, and on Whit Monday made its initial bow to a metropolitan audience at the Stratford Theatre Royal. The domestic interest strongly pervades the piece, and, probably under the impression that popular audiences like their tears intermingled with laughter, the author has provided a plentiful supply of comedy interludes, which, however, do not interfere much with the thread of the story The reception of the piece on the night of our visit was most cordial, and it should prove another winner for Mr. Mackay.

George Brayle and his brother Greville have only a few minutes separating the time of their birth, but this is sufficient for George to be heir to a fortune and Greville to be dependent on the other's bounty. Thus the latter rebels at Fate, and schemes to usurp his brother. He is secretly married to Marcelle de Valcour, and upon vowing that he will take her to England and there acknowledge their marriage, he persuades Marcelle to agree in accusing George of the paternity of her child. As she has very strong circumstantial evidence for this the plot succeeds, inasmuch as George's wife Dora believes in the accusation against her husband, and leaves him, taking their tiny daughter with her. Greville's fiendish plans look like succeeding beyond expectation when, after drugging his brother, he is about to murder him, but he is stayed in the act by Sneaky Baxter, who chances to be in the room on burglarious intent.

Twelve years now elapse. Greville Brayle is living in luxury, with the worthless Sneaky Baxter as hanger-on, while George Brayle, bent on clearing his good name, is disguised and known as Captain Nemo. The latter's wife, Dora, eke out a precarious livelihood for herself and her daughter with the aid of former staunch servants in Peggy Perkins and her sweetheart, Bertie Wilkins, and the further help of a good-hearted policeman, Mike Maloney. As for Marcelle, Greville Brayle has not only abandoned her, but has had her son abducted and turned on the streets and the wretched woman has lost her reason thereat. The final undoing of the miscreant Greville Brayle by the ever-watchful Captain Nemo sees the end of the story, for Marcelle regains her memory and confesses to the part she played in the plot, and the curtain falls on the felicitous reuniting of George and his wife and child.

The piece is well mounted, and is capitally played by Mr. Percy Norman's company under the direction of Mr. A. B. Mackay. Mr. Mackay is a manly and interesting exponent of George Brayle, and exhibits much resource in the various disguises he assumes. Mr. E. Finlay's impersonation of the despicable Greville Brayle, though a trifle ponderous in style, is a convincing exposition of gentlemanly blackguardism; and a lesser villain in Sneaky Baxter, who has a redeeming sense of humour, is played on sound lines by Mr. L. Graham Hamlyn. Mr. Louis Newman extracts unlimited mirth from the part of Bertie Wilkins, and his vocal contributions are enjoyed; while Mr. Jack Corlass contrives to become exceedingly popular as the generous constable, Mike Maloney. Miss Ida Mackay plays with sympathy, tact, and charm as Dora Brayle, and Miss Lillie Lewis acts with commendable restraint and much effectiveness as Marcelle de Valcour. Peggy Perkins is a vivacious and outspoken damsel in the hands of Miss Trixie Leighton, and the vicious hag Puggy Baxter is safely entrusted to Mrs. Corlass. Mr. W. Black makes a nimble and entertaining Kipper; Pincher Jim is well played by Mr. Arthur Leslie; and Mr. J. Brough as Jules, Mr. J. Helpar as Handsome Henry, and Master Cyril as Little Dora complete the cast.

FULHAM THEATRE.
Whitsun Monday, May 16, the Play, in Four Acts by E. M. Royle, entitled
"A WHITE MAN."

The Whitsun attraction is Mr. Sleath's excellent company in a fine full-blooded drama, partially laid in the Wild West. The artists play up with great vigour, and make things move. Mr. Wilfred Forster does very well as Jim Carston, and plays with power and pathos; Mr. W. F. Grant makes the most of the part of the cowardly Kerhill; and Mr. Richardson is amusing as Sir John Applegate. Mr. R. H. Brandon plays sympathetically as Big Bill, and scores a success; while Mr. G. Valentine, Mr. A. Munro, and Mr. Jay Ellis give careful sketches of three types of character, as the cowpunchers. Mr. Eric Hudson is again in the rôle of Tabywena, and repeats an inimitable performance; and Mr. Louis Ashmeade is a very amusing Dean Trentham. Mr. Frank Mayo is vigorous and "lurid" as Cash Hawkins; Mr. A. E. Warren is good as the bar-tender Nick; and Mr. Ray Raymond acts strongly as the Sheriff. Miss Kathleen Maude makes a charming Countess of Kerhill; and Miss Nora Nagle plays prettily as the child Hal. The part of Nat-u-ritch is powerfully interpreted by Miss Hilda Barita. All the other parts were ably filled and smoothly played, and helped to give the necessary colour and life to the piece.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama entitled
"WHEN A LASS LOVES."

Mr. Tom Craven has presented his excellent company, including Mr. Louis Palgrave in his original part, in the detective melodrama *When a Lass Loves*. Mr. Craven, the author of the play, announces that it consists of passages from the life of a famous lady detective. The part of Caleb Crass, a lawyer, is ably filled by Mr. Franc Stoney; and Mr. Anthony Greig as a Scotch millionaire and head of an American "Trust" well interprets his part. The heavy lead is ably undertaken by Mr. P. Ramsey Foreman in the guise of Bertram Bridge, a swell cracksman and card sharper; and the rôle of Cynthia Bridge, known as Mrs. Anthony Greig, is adequately dealt with by Miss Rita Trekelle, who works with energy and crispness. Mr. Reginald Stephens as Dr. Alan Crass, son of Caleb Crass, acts with spirit and energy, and does not fail to win the sympathy and admiration of the house. As Slack, the office boy, Mr. Louis Palgrave is remarkably good and irresistibly funny. Mr. H. Ainger acts admirably as Calvin Chase, of Scotland Yard. Considerable humour marks the work of Mr. George F. Ide as Reggie Stapleton, the solicitor's clerk with histrionic aspirations, and of Miss Ella Dixon as Nina May, an Anglo-American chorus girl. The part of Constance Lane, an ex-lady detective, is dealt with by Miss Josephine Middleton, who is admirably suited to the rôle; the change from the hard ex-lady detective to the gentle lover demands no small amount of skill, and the transition is faultlessly managed. The remaining characters have been suitably allotted to Miss Dorothy Maude, Mr. Jack Arthur, Mr. R. Strete, and Mr. L. Fass.

THE KENNINGTON.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

Mr. Robert Arthur opened his summer season of melodrama at the Kennington Theatre on Whit Monday, when a bumper house assembled to witness the revival of *A Woman's Revenge*, one of the most interesting and absorbing of Mr. Henry Pettitt's works. The scenery is exceedingly well done, Mr. McKie having put in some of his best work in a couple of the scenes, viz., The Marine Hotel at Lynton and Chilton Villa, whilst Mr. E. W. Martin, the Kennington resident artist, has arranged quite a faithful reproduction of the interior of the Old Bailey for the great trial scene. Miss Jessie Winter carried off the honours on Monday by a remarkably vivid portrayal of the part of Mary Lonsdale, the heroine. Miss Winter is an actress of much grace and charm, and she won all hearts by her sympathetic acting. Mr. C. F. Collings is a manly and stalwart hero as Frank Drummond, scoring his biggest triumph by his courageous defence of his wife, a very fine piece of acting. Mr. Frank H. Crimp, fresh from the realms of musical comedy, makes an excellent Sir John Blacklock, the prosecuting counsel; and Mr. Herbert Lloyd is a dignified judge. Mr. Fred Morgan, the heavy lead, gives a realistic sketch of Jeptha Grimwade, the unscrupulous lawyer, and his efforts are ably seconded by Mr. Frank Robertson as Robert Overstone. The lighter side of the play is in the able hands of Mr. Maitland Marler as Jack Chilton and Miss Vita Spencer as Lottie Bromley, and they create a lot of fun. Miss Elsie Videau scores a distinct success as Little Mary. As Mabel Wentworth, the revengeful adventuress, Miss Winifred Whyte acts with a good deal of spirit. Miss Marie Clayton as Maggie Westward and Mr. G. F. Poison as John Overstone fill their respective rôles with credit; and others who deserve mention are Mr. Leslie Ferguson (Clerk of Arraigns), Mr. Bertram Blanch (Court Usher), Leslie Clifton (Waiter), and Howard Bart (Boots). The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Julian Nelson, who has arranged the incidental music.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, May 16, the Play entitled
"PETE."

A full house on Monday evening last testified to the attractiveness of the fare provided for the holiday week, and the new version of Mr. Hall Caine's notable novel was received with hearty expressions of approbation. The play is excellently mounted and admirably interpreted by well-selected and talented artists, who spare themselves no pains in their endeavours to submit realistic portraits of their respective characters. Mr. Frederick Victo offers a fine performance in the title-rôle, his Pete being convincing and manly, and characterised by a judicious blending of lightness and pathos; Kate Cregeen is delicately and feelingly portrayed by Miss Constance Bachner, who displays considerable ability, and is warmly received; Mr. Alfred Lugg does ample justice to the part of Philip Christian; Mr. Maurice York is also successful as Ross Christian; Cæsar Cregeen is capably undertaken by Mrs. Ellis J. Preston; Miss May Wright is good as Granny; Miss Alys Eden offers a well-rendered study of Nancy; and Mary, Meg, and Anne have capital exponents in Miss Amy Venimore, Miss May Yardley, and Miss Lucy Raymond respectively. Able assistance is also rendered by Mr. J. Lingard (Black Tom), Mr. Will L. Clement (Jonaique Jelly), Mr. R. A. Robinson (Kelly), Mr. Wenlock Brown (William), Mr. Frank Allen (Niplightly), Mr. R. Sinclair (Dr. Mylechreest), Mr. Wilfred Edmunds (Lord Lieutenant), Mr. Charles Arthur (Mayor), Mr. William Davies (Adam Quirk), Mr. Alfred Davidson (Johnny Dumbell), and Mr. Herbert Ponton (Clerk of the Court).

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, May 16, the Drama entitled
"THE COAL KING."

Attracted on Whit-Monday by a soul-stirring play which is brimful of dramatic incidents and interesting situations, a large crowd showed their keen appreciation, and gave a flattering reception to *The Coal King*, which is written by Mr. Ernest Martin and Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, and played by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's judiciously chosen company. The drama is well mounted, and the numerous comedy portions of the play occasion much hilarity. Sir Reginald Harford, J.P., the good-natured and wealthy Coal King, is capably undertaken by Mr. A. W. Norman, who imbues the impersonation with sincerity and feeling. Mr. Henry Deane as Tom Roberts, the mine manager achieves distinction. Mr. Robert Faulkner, in the character of Walter Harford, plans his villainous schemes with clever sang-froid, and exercises a marked effect. Mr. Sam Roberts, who contributes a mirthful study of Jim Williams, a collier, has strong claims on the popular favour, and draws many a hearty laugh. Mr. Frank Dalton merits commendation as Dick Shirley. Miss Winifred Love makes a dainty Grace Shirley. Miss Dennis Duncan, who is happily suited in the part of Mad Ann, provides a powerful and dramatic characterisation. Miss Effie D. Crawford as Araminta Green is an amusing and lively parlourmaid. Mr H. K. Williamson, Mr. Angus Hall, Mr. Albert E. Handley, Mr. Edward Fortune, Mr. Frederick Wade, Mr. Robert Derwent, and Miss Lucy Cator give due assistance in their respective rôles.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.
On Monday, May 16, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE ARCADIANS."

Few bookings during recent years have been more popular at the Kingston playhouse than this charming musical play, which has been drawing crowded audiences to each performance. The story, which is fresh, and the music, which is most tuneful, have captivated every visitor to the theatre, and Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, has been complimented by many patrons upon bringing the show to the riverside town. A most capable company is engaged in the representation of the play. The low comedy work is in the hands of Mr. C. A. Stephenson and Mr. Alfred Beers, the former of whom appears in the dual rôle of the caterer, Smith, and the Arcadian Simplicitas, the latter as the jockey. Both are immensely amusing, and keep the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald also makes a good impression as Jack Meadows; Miss Sybil Tancredi, who appears as Sombra, has installed herself as a favourite for her fine singing; and favours have also been bestowed upon Miss Molly McIntyre, who appears as Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Violet Roberts, who impersonates Crysea; and Miss Gertrude Aylward, who plays the part of Mrs. Smith. The rest of the company have been all carefully selected, and it is needless to add that every care has been bestowed upon the dressing and the staging of the production.

OPERA AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

"TALES OF HOFFMAN"
Offenbach (in English).

Olympia ..... Miss Nora D'Argel
Guilietta ..... Miss Zélie de Lussan
Antonia ..... Miss Ruth Vincent
A Voice ..... Miss Carrie Tubb
Nicklausse ..... Miss Muriel Terry
Spallanzani ..... Mr. Dennis Byndon-Ayres
Nathanael ..... Mr. Arthur Royd
Crespel ..... Mr. Alfred Kaufmann
Luther ..... Mr. Frederick Ranalow
Cocciniglia } Mr. John Bardsley
Petichinaccio }
Franz }
Copelio } Mr. Frederic Austin
Dapertutto }
Mirakel }
Hermann ..... Mr. Robert Veevers
Schlemil ..... Mr. Robert Radford
Hoffmann ..... Mr. John Coates
Conductor, Mr. Thomas Beecham.

Mr. Thomas Beecham's season of light opera in English at His Majesty's Theatre commenced on Thursday evening, May 12, and to judge by the well-filled house, with every prospect of success. The opera chosen for the opening night was Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffmann*, in many respects a delightful work, with a quaint, original libretto and sparkling music, which, when performed by the Berlin Oper. Komeiche company at the Adelphi Theatre some three years ago, aroused considerable interest. There are three acts, a prologue, and epilogue in Offenbach's opera, and the prologue takes place in M. Luther's Cellar, Nuremberg, where Hoffmann relates to some boon companions the story of his three loves. In the first act we are introduced to Olympia, an automaton lady invented by Spallanzani, an amusing old gentleman, who gives Hoffmann a pair of glasses which endow everything with life. Looking through these, Hoffmann at once falls in love with the doll Olympia. Guilietta's Palace in Venice is the scene of the second act. Giulietta, a courtesan, is the next object of Hoffmann's affections, but she already has a lover, one Schlemil, and as her aim is to obtain souls for Dapertutto, she contrives a duel between the lovers, and Schlemil is killed. Guilietta scorns Hoffmann's love and departs. In the third act Hoffmann transfers his love to Antonia, a consumptive girl endowed with a very beautiful voice. Antonia yearns to be a great prima donna, but singing would endanger her life, and so she yields to Hoffmann, and gives up all ambitious dreams. Unfortunately, a certain Dr. Mirakel, of evil disposition, prevails on her to sing, and the result is fatal. Mr. John Coates as Hoffmann sang throughout with marked ability. The drinking song in the second act was delivered with splendid spirit, and the pathetic music in the closing scene given most expressively. Miss Ruth Vincent also made a great impression by her fine rendering of Antonia's music, and the deep feeling she imparted to the charming love duet. As Olympia Miss Nora D'Argel deserved praise for her performance of the bright, effective scena; while that experienced artist, Mme. Zélie de Lussan, gave a picturesque embodiment of the heartless Guilietta. Miss Muriel Terry was an excellent Nicklausse, and sang and acted capitally; while Mr. Dennis Byndon-Ayres gave a comic account of old Spallanzani. Of the three characters played by Mr. Frederic Austin, the best was Dr. Mirakel. Smaller parts were ably filled by Messrs. Arthur Royd, Alfred Kaufmann, F. Ranalow, John Bardsley, Robert Veevers, Robert Radford, and Miss Carrie Tubb. The opera was handsomely mounted, and a beautiful picture shown of Guilietta's palace at Venice, with moonlight on the Grand Canal. The well-known barcarolle was ably sung, and Mr. Thomas Beecham most skilfully conducted an excellent orchestra.

On Saturday afternoon, May 14, Mr. Beecham's company gave Humperdinck's charming opera, *Hänsel and Gretel*, under the conductorship of Mr. Hamish MacCunn. Miss Muriel Terry and Miss Ruth Vincent played the youthful hero and heroine with rare ability and spirit; Mr. Harry Dearth and Miss Christine D'Almayne as the Father and Mother were alike excellent; and Miss Carrie Tubb gave a strikingly weird study of the Witch. The Sandman and Dewman songs were ably sung by Miss Carmen Hill and Miss Betty Booker. The forest music was beautifully played and the scenery artistic.

"MAKE-BELIEVE."

A Comedietta, in One Act, by E. R. Rackstraw and W. Muskerry, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, May 16.

Robert Veevers ..... Mr. Dudley Stuart
Dolly Veevers ..... Miss Ida Chapman
Rags and Bones ..... Mr. Escott Robson
Sarah ..... Miss Cissy Sephton

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At its introductory presentation, before a matinée audience at the Theatre Royal on Whit Monday, the above comedietta was accorded a flattering reception. It is a pretty, brightly written little play, in which humour and sentiment are judiciously combined. Robert Veevers is a struggling journalist, who has fallen upon evil days. Encouraged by his charming young wife, Dolly, he has gone on hoping for the best, but they are now on the verge of poverty. The *raison d'être* of the play is furnished by an old man occupying a room on the top floor, who, because of his poverty-stricken appearance, has been known as "Rags and Bones." With all his poverty, he has never been but cheerful, always whistling and always seemingly free from any of the cares of the world. One day Dolly asked him the secret of his cheerfulness, and his answer was that "it was all make-believe." His motto was "make believe you had a thing and it would be just the same as if you had it; make believe, and you would be as happy as the birds of the air." "Let us," Dolly suggests to her husband, "make-believe for our last night together that we are rich and happy. I will be Lady Clara de Vere, and we will invite the Marquis of Calabar to dine with us." Robert enters into the spirit of the jest. An invitation is issued in due form, the menu for a "make-believe" banquet is prepared, and Sarah, the general-servant, is instructed in her make-believe duties. The "banquet" takes place, the host and hostess doing the honours of the table with becoming dignity, and the situation being as seriously accepted by the Marquis ("Rags and Bones"). The only thing that Dolly has not been able to substitute for the real thing is the music, for which Paderewski had been mentioned, and going to the piano she suggests filling in the blank herself, but with a few bars of "Home, Sweet Home," utterly breaks down. Both Dolly and her husband declare that the "make-believe" had not been a success after all. To their astonishment "Rags and Bones" announces that he is not poor but rich, that he had scraped and saved for a daughter who was now dead, and that in Dolly his daughter lived again on earth, and should have his wealth.

Mr. Dudley Stuart as Robert Veevers gave a careful study of the despondent journalist, and the manner in which he enters into the make-believe rôle of lordly host is most truthful and natural. No less successful was the Dolly of Miss Ida Chapman. The character was brightly and effectively played, with a charm of manner which was irresistible. Mr. Escott Robson played "Rags and Bones" with marked ability, enacting the mock Marquis with an assumption of dignity that was extremely funny. Miss Cissy Sephton made an ideal lodging-house slavey, keeping the audience highly amused.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

LONDON and provincial theatrical managers and actors and actresses have not been behindhand in making a final manifestation of that respectful admiration and affection which they one and all bore to the dead monarch, King Edward VII. Hundreds of beautiful floral tributes from individual members of the profession have been sent to Windsor, we were informed by an official at the Earl Marshal's office yesterday. An official list of the wreaths sent was unobtainable at the time of going to press, but from unofficial sources we learn that Sir Herbert and Lady Tree's wreath is a magnificent one of gold arum lilies and iris, with the inscription: "But He knoweth the way I take. When He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. The floral tribute, "From the Actors and Actresses of London," is a huge construction of the choicest lilies, orchids, and laurel leaves. The senders add a notification to the effect that the offering is "in token of the profound feeling of grief occasioned by the King's death, and of the senders' deep sense of gratitude for all he did to encourage the English stage."

MANY tributes have also been forwarded from individual theatres, notably from the Lyric, where the stage hands begged of Mr. Lewis Waller, as a personal favour to themselves, that to them might be entrusted the task of designing and arranging the wreath, modelled on the lines of a huge St. George's shield. Miss Phyllis Broughton has sent a large chaplet of palms, with cluster of palm-leaves and scarlet carnations, tied with a wide scarlet ribbon. The inscription reads: "A small offering of loyal devotion and truly sorrowful regret at the loss of the good and noble life of our beloved King Edward, with deep and respectful sympathy."

SIR SQUIRE AND LADY BANCROFT sent a charming wreath of lilies and ferns, with the words: "In humble and dutiful remembrance of a great King and a kind friend." Another magnificent tribute was that which bore the words: "A token of my profound and respectful sorrow and heartfelt sympathy, from Adelina Patti-Cederström. Craig-y-Nos Castle." The wreath was composed of lilies and dark blue iris, and was in the form of a shield. Madame Melba chose a large spray of Waratah, better known here as Australian bottle brush, tied with gold gauze, illustrative of the gold of the Commonwealth.

A PILLOW of gardenias, lilies of the valley, and other choice white flowers, with a large cluster of red roses at one corner, and the words "At Rest" worked in the same coloured roses in the centre was sent from the New Theatre. The inscription read: "To our late beloved King Edward VII., as a tribute from his mourning loyal subjects at the New Theatre."

WE are informed that among the official bodies who have sent wreaths are the Society of West End Theatre Managers (a harp of bay leaves, orchids, and lilies), the Actors' Association, and the United Guild of Showmen of Great Britain, the last-named forwarding a cross of white flowers, with magnificent orchids. At the foot was inscribed, "A tribute of love and loyalty, from showmen throughout the Empire, to their gracious Sovereign, patron, and friend, King Edward VII." On another page will be found a photograph of the beautiful wreath which was sent to Buckingham Palace by the members of the Variety Artists' Federation. It was made up of gladioli, carnations, roses, lilies and orchids, and Parma violets.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S wreath bore the inscription, "A tribute of loyal and respectful devotion from his obedient and grateful servants." Mr. Martin Harvey sent a wreath of bay leaves, with white heather.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, on Friday night, May 6, made a brief but appropriate and touching allusion to the death of his Majesty after the second act of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. Subsequent to several recalls, he said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have an announcement to make to you that I am sure you will receive with respectful silence. Mr. Solman and I have agreed that, in consequence of the passing away of our great King, there will be no performances of this play to-morrow." The following telegram was sent by Mr. Forbes Robertson to the Governor-General: "To his Excellency Earl Grey, Government House, Rideau Hall, Ottawa.—Am shocked at news of his Majesty's death, and am sure it would be in accordance with your Excellency's wish that we should close the Royal Alexandra Theatre for both performances to-morrow. Unfortunately the news was received too late to do so to-night. Sincerest sympathies in our national sorrow."

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM and Miss Mary Moore will reappear at the Criterion on June 1 in a revival of *The Case of Rebellious Susan*. Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Moore will resume their old parts of Sir Richard Kato and Lady Susan Harabin, and Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. Charles Quartermaine, Mr. Reginald Walter, Mr. Leslie Hamer, Miss Marie Illington, and Miss Ellis Jeffreys will also be in the cast.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON returned to London from New York on Monday after a season of over seven consecutive months with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. At the direct invitation of Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, Mr. Forbes Robertson visited Toronto, where £1,000 had to be refunded owing to the cancelling, on account of the King's death, of the last two performances. Mr. Forbes Robertson will reopen in New York on Sept. 26, and will probably be on tour for two years in the United States.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY will preside at the sixty-fifth annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday, June 12.

INSURANCE against actors marrying is the latest from America. According to the *New York Dramatic Mirror* Messrs. Cohan and Harris are applying to Lloyd's for a £10,000 policy against the possibility of Mr. John Barrymore, the "matinée idol," who is appearing in *The Fortune Hunter* in America, getting married. "For the purpose of obtaining the insurance," says the *Dramatic Mirror*, "Mr. Barrymore has made affidavits declaring he is not at present engaged and that he is not contemplating matrimony."

A MERE insurance policy, however, is not going to prevent Mr. Barrymore from marrying if he meets the right girl and she says "Yes." "If I meet her, and she will have me," he said, in an interview, "not fifty thousand dollars nor fifty million will deter me from leading her to the altar. I come from a marrying family, and I think that if Lloyd's write this policy they will take a bad risk. Personally, I think that an artist is injured in his work by marriage, but I consider a home and children the greatest things in the world, and superior to the finest art whatever. Marriage is a duty, but art to the artist is a more or less selfish pleasure."

THE annual service of the Actors' Church Union will be held at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, on Sunday, June 5, at 4 p.m. The preacher will be the Rev. F. L. Boyd, Vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. All members of the theatrical and music-hall professions are invited.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON concludes a long tour of *Brewster's Millions* this evening at the Opera House, Blackpool, and opens his summer season at the Opera House, Southport, early in June, with a répertoire of London successes, in which he will play the lead. Amongst the big London stars who, as lessee and manager, Mr. Hutchison has booked at Southport this year is Sir Herbert Tree, and that eminent actor will open with His Majesty's Theatre company next Monday evening, the house for this visit having been sold out for days.

THE report of the Bath Theatre Royal Company, Ltd., to be presented at an ordinary general meeting on Friday next, states that the gross income for the past year was £630 13s. 7d., which amount added to the balance from last year makes a total of £729 13s. 9d. The profit for the year is £350 5s. 10d.; and after putting aside £28 4s. for depreciation on landlord's plant and fixtures, the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 2s. per share, thus leaving a balance of £119 9s. 10d. to be carried forward to the credit of next year's account.

M. JEAN COQUELIN was married on Thursday to Mlle. Blanche Miroir. Among those who signed the register were M. Edmond Rostand and the bridegroom's partner in the management of the Porte Saint Martin Theatre, M. Hertz. The wedding was a quiet one.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund gratefully acknowledges from Mr. Martin Harvey a further sum of £3 15s., which Mr. Harvey has kindly devoted to the Fund, having collected the amounts by means of his autograph.

LADY TREE, Miss Mary Moore, and Mrs. George Alexander, have joined the Women's Aerial League, of which Mr. Frank Marshall is the Hon. Publicist. The offices of the League are at 227, Strand. Mrs. Watt Smyth is the Hon. Sec., and the Assistant Secretary is Miss Beatrice Fry.

THE Glasgow Repertory Theatre concludes its spring season at the end of next week, but the management have determined upon a summer season, following immediately after. Mr. Alfred Wareing, the managing-director, has made a selection of comedies, farcical and otherwise, for this purpose, and hopes, by providing a lighter type of play suited to the summer weather to retain his patrons throughout the year.

MR. H. RALPH KIMPTON, who has been stage-manager for the Glasgow Repertory Theatre since August last, leaves that city this week to resume his duties in a similar capacity with Miss Lena Ashwell's London productions. He has proved an excellent stage-manager during his stay in the North, and his Glasgow friends will miss him. Mr. Kimpton is at present carrying one arm in a sling, having injured his thumb at a football match the other day.

MR. GEORGE GRAVES, who has been for a trip to Ceylon, will return to London at the end of next month.

AT the twenty-fifth examination for Associateship of the Royal College of Music, held between April 18 and 22, 198 of the 384 candidates examined were successful in obtaining the number of marks fixed for passing. The subjects embraced composition, theory, pianoforte (teaching and solo), singing (teaching and public), organ, violin, violoncello, flute, hautboy, and horn, and many of the students passed in two departments. The remotest parts of the world were represented at the examination, candidates hailing from Bloemfontein, Melbourne, New Zealand, and Canada.

MR. HENRY HALLATT, who has just concluded two tours as Prince Maurice in Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's *Her Love Against the World* company, has been engaged for the autumn by Messrs. Paumier and Howard to play Prince Olaf in Walter Howard's great Lyceum success, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*.

MR. MATTHEW BOULTON will shortly conclude a starring engagement with Mr. Henry Miller's Adelphi Theatre company in *The Servant in the House*. Mr. Boulton has scored a great artistic success in the part of Manson, his performance creating a deep impression in every town visited.

WE regret to learn that Miss Babs Stuart is seriously ill with peritonitis, and will be obliged to relinquish her part in *Are You a Mason?* for at least three weeks. She is at present at 8, Trinity-place, Halifax.

MISS ADA D. HATCHWELL has acquired the English rights of an original episode entitled *Mrs. Bluebeard*, by Mr. Frank Hawthorne, which she intends shortly to produce.

ON account of the Royal funeral arrangements for yesterday Messrs. Stedman postponed their Students' Entertainment, announced to take place on the 21st inst., until Saturday evening next, when will be presented a variety concert and recital consisting of selections from *Florodora*, *School for Scandal*, and *As You Like It*, interspersed with songs, dances, and recitations. Admission is by invitation only, tickets being obtainable on application at Windmill House, Great Windmill Street, W.

MR. LAWRENCE COWAN, on Monday night after the performance of *Tommy Atkins* at the Pavilion Theatre, on behalf of a number of friends, presented Mr. J. W. Rosenthal with a diamond ring and an illuminated address as a token of their appreciation and goodwill of his friends in the theatre. Mr. J. W. Rosenthal, in response, said he was quite sure the audience that night witnessed a most magnificent production of *Tommy Atkins*, and it was his aim to keep the theatre a great success. He also spoke highly of Mr. Fred Brown (the acting-manager), who had most of the engaging of the artists, and of Mr. Frank Harrison (the producer), and thanked them for their hearty co-operation.

ON board the R.M.S. Arabic, which arrived from New York on Monday, were Mrs. Ian Robertson, Miss Robertson, Miss Maud Hodson, Mr. C. A. Millward, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Petley.

"FORESTERS' NIGHT" at the Aston Theatre Royal, was celebrated on Thursday, May 12, when there was a gathering representative of the local branch of the order, including the High Chief and numerous other officials. In addition to the performance of the drama *Love the Conqueror*, by Mr. Frank Lindo's company, an enjoyable programme, consisting of songs, recitations, &c., was provided by Mr. Frank Lindo, Mr. Pat Cohen, Mr. Albert Starkey, and Mr. Alf. Wright. Owing to the death of King Edward VII. there was no speechmaking, the only formal part of the proceedings being the presentation of a basket of flowers to Miss Marion Wakeford, a leading actress in Mr. Lindo's company, the gift being handed to her by Mr. Cursley, secretary of the Order of Foresters, on behalf of the members. The theatre orchestra, which was augmented for the occasion, under the conductorship of Mr. George Daw, rendered "Lohengrin," "Tannhäuser," and the overture "Light Cavalry" during the evening. The Mayor of Aston, Ald. A. Taylor, was unavoidably absent.

THE Matinée Musicale of the Actresses' Franchise League (originally fixed for May 10) will take place at the Grand Hall, Criterion Restaurant, on Tuesday. Amongst the artists appearing will be Mr. Sam Walsh, Miss Lena Ashwell, Madame Alice Esty, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Fanny Wentworth, Miss Helen Mar, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. James Welch, Miss Maggie Davies, Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Aida Jenoure, Miss Kathleen Starling, Miss Florence Castelle, Mr. Percy French, Mr. H. V. Esmond, and Miss Cecilia Loftus. Miss Maud Hoffman and Mr. Laurence Leyton will give a duologue, and Miss Eva Moore and Mr. C. V. France will appear in a new play.

MR. CHARLES DANVERS has been engaged as principal comedian by Mr. Oswald Stoll for the Sims-Pettitt dramas at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, répertoire season, and is appearing successfully as Tom Dossitter in *The Harbour Lights*; Tom Bassett in *In the Ranks*, and similar parts in *Master and Man*, *Hands Across the Sea*, *The Bells of Haslemere*, &c.

MESSRS. GILLOWS will sell at 13, Portland-place, on Tuesday, May 24, and the three following days, the valuable antique furniture and works of art constituting the collection of the late Sir William Q. Orchardson, R.A., and including choice examples of Queen Anne, Sheraton, Chippendale, Adam, Louis XV. and XVI, and Empire furniture, fine tapestry panels, Aubusson carpets, embroideries, antique lace, armour, Nankin china, Hispano-Moresque, Early English drinking glass, silver and old Sheffield plate, and an interesting collection of oil paintings, original cartoons, and studies by the late artist. Theatrical buyers will be specially attracted by his collection of costumes of various periods, which were carefully chosen and very numerous.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and Mr. Mark Blow's *Little Damozel* company finishes a successful spring tour at the New Theatre, Cardiff, to-night. The autumn tour starts early in July, when *The Little Damozel* will visit all the No. 1 towns.

MR. MARK BLOW finishes to-night at the Prince's, Bristol, as Rudolf in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, and will take a few weeks' holiday before starting rehearsals for *The Naked Truth*, which begins a long tour on August Bank Holiday. So great is the demand for dates for this play that probably two companies will have to be sent out.

MR. E. J. PRESTON, who has just concluded three very successful tours with Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's Lyceum production of *Pete* (N.) as business manager, has been engaged by Messrs. Moss and Stoll as stage-manager and producer for their forthcoming stock season at the Broadway, New Cross, commencing on May 30.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK BERESFORD (Miss Dorothy Milne) are concluding to-day a twenty weeks' tour as George and Marion Thornton in *Two Little Vagabonds*, under the Lyceum Theatre management.

MR. WYN WEAVER who has so long been associated with Mr. H. T. Maltby and his plays, has been engaged by Miss Cora Busch to support Mr. G. W. Anson as Sam Gerridge.

THE Hutchison management send on tour this autumn no less than seven companies of the latest successes from the West End theatres, produced by Mr. Percy Hutchison, and he will also appear in two new plays before the end of this year.

THE national play, *The Memory of the Dead*, a romantic drama of '98, by Casimir Dunin Markievicz, is to be presented by the Independent Dramatic Company at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on Monday.

AN Irish opera, written in the native tongue and set to characteristic music, was produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on Monday. The work is entitled *Eithne*, and the libretto is by Thomas O'Kelly, the music by Robert O'Dwyer. The story is mythical, and tells how the High King of Erin's favourite hound is killed, an act that is apparently regarded as murder. The King's son is accused of the deed by his step-brothers, but is saved from banishment by the intervention of his foster-mother, who fixes the guilt on the proper parties. The opera was sung by distinguished vocalists, the part of the King being rendered by Mr. William Dever, and that of his son by Mr. Joseph O'Mara. The title-rôle was played by Miss Evelyn Duffy. A large audience enthusiastically applauded the production.

"AISSE," a play in three acts, by Alice Clayton Greene, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on May 13.

THE matinée at the Court Theatre arranged for May 23 has been postponed until May 27. The cast of the first item, *A Likely Story*, a roadside comedy, by Laurence Housman, will include Mr. Leon M. Lion, Mr. Maurice Elvey, Miss Margaret Bussé, and Miss Decima Moore. In *The Lord of the Harvest*, a morality, by Laurence Housman, Mr. Robert Farquharson, Miss Bessie Hatton, Mr. James Horn, Mr. Maurice Elvey, Mr. Leon M. Lion, Mr. A. V. Bramble, and Mrs. Jopling Rowe will appear; and in Miss Rose Mathews's piece, *The Smack*, parts will be sustained by Mr. Laurence Leyton, Miss Aimée de Burgh, Mr. James Gelderd, and Miss Christine Rayner. Greek and Irish songs and dances will be done by Misses Spong.

ONE of the most interesting items in the Whitsunday afternoon concert at the Palace Pier Pavilion, Brighton, was the Helen and Modus scene from *The Hunchback* presented by Mr. Walter Pearce and Miss Ella Erskine, the accomplished actress-authoress. So successful was this excerpt from Sheridan Knowles that it was repeated at the evening concert. Miss Erskine will be playing a leading part on May 30 in *The Man of Fate*, Mr. Juan Bonaparte's production at the Queen's, Manchester. As may be readily guessed from the title, this is a Napoleonic play.

WE recently stated that during the illness of Miss Ida Molesworth the part of Julie Alardy in *The Little Damozel* on tour had been played by Miss Eva Stuart. Miss Molesworth now informs us that Miss Stuart played her—Miss Molesworth's—part for three nights only, Miss Molesworth requiring a rest.

WELL-TRIED favourites will be included in the cast of *Fires of Fate*, which will be revived at the Adelphi for a series of special matinées on Monday. Mr. Lewis Waller's part of Colonel Egerton will be played by Mr. Ben Webster, and Mr. Bassett Roe will follow Mr. J. Fisher White in the rôle of James Roden. The Rev. Samuel Roden, originally played by Mr. A. E. George, will be entrusted to the experienced hands of Mr. J. D. Beveridge, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy will be succeeded in the character of Sadie Adams by Miss Ruth Bower. The remainder of the cast will comprise Messrs. Arthur Burne, Spencer Trevor, Alec F. Thompson, Michael Sherbrooke, Chas. Combe, A. S. Homewood, Chas. Maude, W. Cronin Wilson, Frank Woolfe, S. J. Warmington, and Caton Woodville, and Miss Dorothea Desmond and Miss Agnes Thomas.

MR. W. W. KELLY has arranged to give daily animated picture matinées during the summer at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal, commencing on Monday next, with a wonderful film showing phases of the life, features associated with the death, and pictures of the scenes at the funeral, of his late Majesty King Edward.

NEXT week's evening attraction at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal is *His Real Wife*, in which Miss Ward, who will be given a benefit on Friday, will appear. *A Daughter of the Sea* will be the fare at Mr. Kelly's Liverpool theatre.

"TEMPTATION" concludes to-night, at the King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield, its second successful tour. Miss Nora Carton commences her autumn tour at the Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne, on August Bank Holiday. Most of the best dramatic theatres are booked well into 1911. The company go out again under the direction of Mr. Martin Comstock.

"SOME TROUBLES OF OUR CATHOLIC FOREFATHERS" was the rather clumsy title of a play which was produced at the New Catholic Hall, Dockhead, Bermondsey, last week. The plot deals with the penal laws against Catholics enacted in the seventeenth century, among the characters being Father Peter Snow, who suffered for his faith at Tyburn.

THE Irish National Theatre company begin a season at the Court on May 30. Among the productions will be W. B. Yeats's *The King's Threshold*, which will be acted by a Birmingham company, known as the Pilgrim Players, on June 17 and 18. The piece was given during the Dublin Society's season at the Royalty in 1905.

THE D'Oyly Carte Cricket Club started their campaign on the 10th inst. at Fratton with a match against the Hants County Asylum. Despite a score of 38 made by Mr. E. A. White, who carried his bat through the innings, the actors could only muster 64 runs, and were defeated by six wickets.

MR. ALFRED LESTER, the comedian, whose humour contributes so greatly to the success of *The Arcadians*, tells the following story against himself:—"One admirer of the play told me that of all I did in the piece nothing delighted him more than my share in the first act. I realised for the first time that I was, after all, a *lucus a non lucendo*, here to be freely rendered 'a star without any shining.' I don't appear in the first act!"

THE sacred concert promoted annually by Mr. Alfred Manners at the Empire Theatre, Swindon, in aid of the Victoria Hospital in that town, on Sunday evening, May 8, was quite as successful as formerly. There was a crowded attendance, by whom the various items of an excellent programme were keenly appreciated. The expenses of the concert were, as usual, borne by Mr. Alfred Manners, so that the whole of the receipts were handed to the Institution.

THE Mayor of the town was present, and during an interval thanked Mr. Manners for placing his services, his theatre, and his staff at their disposal on that occasion, and for arranging the programme and bearing the whole of the expense in connection with the concert. He hoped the people of Swindon would show their appreciation of his kindness by not forgetting that there was such a place as the Empire Theatre. The Mayor also thanked the artists for their services, remarking that the members of Mr. George Edwardes's company were engaged in their profession the previous night, they had had to travel some distance during the day, and they had given their only free night in the week to help this cause. At a subsequent meeting of the Victoria Hospital Management Committee thanks were heartily accorded Mr. Manners for his great kindness in handing over such a handsome amount to the hospital.

A MEMBER of the "Black Hand" gang of New York, who endeavoured to blackmail Signor Caruso by threatening him with death unless he paid over a large sum of money, has been sentenced to an "indeterminate" sentence of between three years eight months and seven years five months' imprisonment, with hard labour, in the State prison. Amid the applause of the Court the judge said: "A life imprisonment sentence would not have been too severe a penalty for Miscani's crime." He refused an application for a new trial.

A SAD case occupied the attention of the Westminster Coroner's Court on Monday, when the death of Montague Rosenberg, aged 27, who had been an actor for about twelve months, having played a small part in *Two Little Vagabonds* under the name of Frank Russell, was inquired into. The deceased, who had suffered from sleeplessness, went to the Strand Palace Hotel on Monday in last week, and was removed from there on Wednesday to the Charing Cross Hospital. A bottle of veronal tabloids, from which fifteen tabloids had been extracted, was found, together with an empty bottle, in the room which the deceased had occupied. These tabloids, it was suggested, had been taken to induce sleep. In a diary left by the deceased was the following entry:—"Any life that is worth living for must be a struggle, swimming not with, but against the tide." This, said the coroner, did not suggest any inclination towards suicide.

THE manager of the Lyceum Theatre company, Mr. Albert Stacey, described the deceased as a charmingly mannered young man, with a promising future opening before him. He began his theatrical career very well, but became somewhat irregular whilst on tour in the North, and his contract was concluded. Medical evidence showed that death was due to some form of poisoning, probably veronal. Two of the tablets, said the doctor, contained the maximum quantity of veronal prescribed by the medical profession, but it was a well-known fact that the effect of continued use of veronal was that it had to be taken in progressively increasing quantities to make it effective. There had been several cases of deaths from veronal poisoning of late. Death from misadventure was the verdict, the jury adding a rider that veronal should not be sold without a "poison" label on it.

MR. J. GORDON WILSON, who was in Chesterfield in 1901 as sub-editor of "Notts and Derby Contemporary Biographies," is seriously ill. A chill contracted in Lancashire seven years ago left him with an incurable internal malady, which is continuously asserting itself, and has now, with other complications, laid him low, in Chesterfield, after sixty-four years of hard work. He started as an actor when five years of age, playing with the late Barry Sullivan, in London, fifty years ago. He also played several times in the old Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, with the late Charles Dillon, Henry Lorraine and Herr Bandmann, in Shakespearean parts. He is author of numerous poems, songs, ballads, dramas, and comediettas, many of which were accepted by the late King Edward VII., notably "The Coronation Song" and "Empire Song," in 1901. He recited his poems on the "Battle of Abu Klea" and "The Fall of Khartoum" before the late Queen Victoria, in 1886. Mr. Gordon Wilson, who is staying at 15, Queen-street, Chesterfield, would be pleased to hear from old friends.

THE directors of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, report a trading profit of £4,074, after payment of the additional ground rent of £2,000 per annum, which commenced as from Jan. 1, 1909, and about £450 for additional rates and taxes, occasioned thereby. After writing off the sum of £630 for depreciation of equipment and stock scenery, and £2,274 off pantomime productions, which stood at £7,573 in the company's books, and setting aside the sum of £206 for sinking fund, there remains a balance of £513 in part redemption of the deficiency standing in last year's accounts, thereby reducing that figure (which amounted to £9,417 on Dec. 9, 1905) to £1,783. In conformity with the practice of other provincial theatres carrying on a similar business, the directors decided to include this year the accounts of the pantomime season for the current year, and to adopt a similar method in future.

MR. W. W. KELLY has written a stirring letter to the Birkenhead papers defending the Conservative majority of the local Town Council against an accusation which has been made by the *Birkenhead Post* that the majority has been trying to "make capital out of the Lairage question." This allegation Mr. Kelly eloquently denies.

THE death of Mme. Pauline Viardot, *née* Garcia, on Wednesday, severs a link with a long musical past. Michelle Ferdinande Pauline Viardot-Garcia, a great lyric actress and singer, younger sister of Maria Malibran, was the daughter of the famous Spanish tenor and teacher, Manuel del Popolo Garcia, and of his wife, Joaquina Sitchez, an accomplished actress. She was born in Paris, July 18, 1821, and received her names from her sponsors, Ferdinand Paer, the composer, and the Princess Pauline Galitzin. Genius was Pauline Garcia's birthright, and she grew up from her cradle in an atmosphere of art, and among stirring scenes of adventure. She was only three years old when her father took his family to England, where his daughter Maria, thirteen years older than Pauline, made her first appearance on the stage.

THE child showed extraordinary intelligence, with a marvellous aptitude for learning and retaining everything. At that time it would have been hard to determine where her special genius lay. Hers was that innate force which can be applied at will in any direction. She learned languages as if in play. Her facility for painting, especially portrait-painting, was equally great. Her earliest pianoforte lessons were given her by Marcos Vega, at New York, when she was not four years old. At eight, after her return from Mexico, she played the accompaniments for her father at his singing lessons, "and I think," she wrote afterwards, "I profited by the lessons even more than the pupils did." She thus acquired a knowledge of Garcia's method, although she never was his pupil in the usual sense, and often said that her mother was her "only singing-master." Her father worked her hard, however, as he did everyone. In his drawing-room operettas, composed for his pupils, there were parts for her, "containing," she said, "things more difficult than any I have sung since. I still preserve them as precious treasures." The piano she studied for many years with Meysenberg, and afterwards with Liszt; counterpoint and composition with Reicha.

AT Brussels, in 1837, she made her first appearance as a singer, under the auspices of Dr. Beriot. She afterwards sang for him on a concert tour, and in 1838 at the Théâtre de la Renaissance in Paris, at a concert, where her powers of execution were brilliantly displayed in a "Cadence du Diable" framed on the "Trillo del Diavolo" of Tartini. On May 9, 1839, she appeared at Her Majesty's Theatre as Desdemona in *Otello*, and with genuine success, which increased at each performance. A certain resemblance to her sister Malibran in voice and style won the favour of her audience, while critics were not wanting who discerned in her, even at that early age, an originality and an intellectual force all her own. Her powers of execution were astonishing, and with the general public she was even more successful at that time in the concert-room than on the stage.

IN the autumn of the same year she was engaged for the Théâtre Lyrique by the impresario M. Louis Viardot, a distinguished writer and critic, founder of the *Revue Indépendante*. Here, chiefly in the operas of Rossini, she shared in the triumphs of Grisi, Persiani, Rubini, Tamburini, and Lablache. With these great artists she held her own, and though in many ways less gifted by nature than they, her talent seemed enhanced rather than dimmed by juxtaposition with theirs. Her face lacked regularity of feature; her voice, a mezzo-soprano, but so extended by art as to compass more than three octaves, from the bass C to F in alt, was neither equal nor always beautiful in tone.

HER first admirers were among the intellectual and the cultivated. The public took longer to become accustomed to her peculiarities, but always ended by giving in its allegiance. For men and women of letters, artists, &c., she had a strong fascination. Her picturesque weirdness and statuesque grace, her inventive power and consummate mastery over all the resources of her art—nay, her very voice and face, irregular, but full of contrast and expression—all these appealed to the imagination, and formed an *ensemble* irresistible in its piquancy and originality.

IN 1840 she married M. Viardot, who resigned the Opera management, and accompanied her to Italy, Spain, Germany, Russia, and England. At Berlin, after her performance of Rahel, in *La Juive*, one of her greatest parts, she was serenaded by the whole orchestra. Here, too, she astounded both connoisseurs and public by volunteering at a moment's notice to sing the part of Isabelle in *Robert le Diable* for Fräulein Tuczek, in addition to her own part of Alice—a bold attempt, vindicated by its brilliant success.

SHE returned to Paris in 1849 for the production of Meyerbeer's *Prophète*. She had been specially chosen by the composer for Fidès, and to her help and suggestions he was more indebted than is generally known. She was indeed, as Moscheles wrote, "the life and soul of the opera, which owed to her at least half of its great success." She played Fidès more than two hundred times in all the chief opera-houses in Europe, and has so identified herself with the part that her successors can do no more than copy her.

FROM 1848 to 1858 she appeared every year in London. In 1859 M. Carvalho, director of the Théâtre Lyrique, revived the *Orphée* of Gluck, which had not been heard for thirty years. The part of Orphée, restored (by Berlioz) from a high tenor to the contralto for which it was written, was taken by Mme. Viardot, who achieved in it a triumph perhaps unique. This revival was followed in 1861 by that of Gluck's *Alceste* at the Opéra. The music of this—as Berlioz calls it—"well-nigh inaccessible part," was less suited than that of Orphée to Mme. Viardot's voice, but it was perhaps the greatest of all her achievements, and a worthy crown to a répertoire which had included Desdemona, Cenerentola, Rosina, Norma, Arsace, Camilla (*Orasi*), Amina, Romeo, Lucia, Maria di Rohan, Ninette Leonora (*Favorita*), Azucena, Donna Anna, Zerlina, Rahel, Iphigénie (Gluck), Alice, Isabelle, Valentine, Fidès, and Orphée. In 1863 Mme. Viardot fixed her abode at Baden, and sang no more at the Opera, though she appeared at concerts, and was heard in London as lately as 1870.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Interpolations.

WILLIAM CALDER, the American actor, who came over here some years back, and starred in *Rip Van Winkle*, *The Danites*, &c., used to tell a good story of how he, as a youngster, got into great trouble with Edwin Forrest, the renowned tragedian. Forrest was a man of massive frame, and when roused to fury "his looks spoke volumes." Calder found himself cast for the First Gravedigger to Forrest's Hamlet. It was his first meeting with the great man, and also his first time of playing the part, so he was naturally very anxious. In his perplexity he applied to an older actor in the company to coach him up in the business of the part. This the latter willingly consented to do, and, being of a waggish turn of mind, he told Calder a piece of business which was purely the invention of his own brain. Said he, "When Forrest asks you for Yorick's skull you hand it towards him from the grave, but just as he is about to take it from you, you draw it back, pass it round your left side, and, by a dexterous jerk which I'll show you the trick of, you throw it up over your shoulder, catch it in your right hand, and then, and not till then, you pass it on to the Prince. It will get you a big round of applause if you do it neatly." "But—but won't Mr. Forrest object to the interpolation?" "Not at all, not at all. On the contrary, he'll think you're a very clever lad. Come into the property-room. We'll get the skull, and I'll show you how it's done." So they did; and after half an hour's hard practice, during which the skull got considerably dinted by repeated falls, Calder felt that he had mastered the trick, and was rather proud of his new accomplishment. When night came, and Forrest, in his interview with the gravedigger, asked for the skull, Calder handed it up from the grave, but drew it back quickly, executed his manœuvre, and then offered it to the tragedian. A yell of laughter from the audience rewarded his effort; but when he looked up and caught the horrified expression on Forrest's face and heard the curses "not loud, but deep," that poured in terrible whispers from his lips, he realised what a frightful "faux pas" he had made, and, not daring to get out of the grave for his exit, he dived underneath and disappeared in the cellar below, so that it must have appeared to the audience that poor Ophelia was soon after buried on top of him. As soon as Forrest could get off the stage he went all over the theatre, with his sword drawn, asking for Calder. But our comedian had left the house hurriedly, and never returned to it during the remainder of the star's engagement.

An Odd Prayer.

TALKING of interpolations though, here is one which was forgiven on the spot for its exceeding artlessness and innocence. When Mrs. Benson used to play Titania in *The Midsummer Night's Dream* she brought on the stage with her a pretty child, about four years old, to represent "the little changeling boy" whose adoption is the cause of quarrel between her liege lord and herself. During the scene Titania has to kneel; and the little mite, who was clad only in a suit of brown fleshings, evidently thought prayer-time had arrived, so he went down on his knees, too, put his tiny hands together, and said, much to the delight of the audience, "Please, God, make me warmer; I'se cold!"

Women and the Theatre.

"THE news that Miss Gertrude Kingston is soon to open a woman's theatre brings up the question of the attitude of women towards the theatre, or, rather, of the attitude of the theatre towards women," writes Mrs. N. H. Walker, the "Frances" of *T.P.'s Weekly* and the "Naro" of *M.A.P.*, in an article on "The Woman and the Theatre," in the *Daily Chronicle*. "Is there a manager in London who would have the hardihood to declare that his theatre could do without us? Nay, must he not confess in very truth that if we fail him all is failure. It may be interesting to ask, considering that we are the theatrical manager's chief asset in the running of his business, whether he really considers our comfort and convenience to the extent he ought? Miss Kingston evidently thinks he does not. In her new theatre a spacious cloak-room, with special receptacles for the beloved matinée hat, is to be an important adjunct, and therein will be found mirrors and light galore.

A Comfortable Meal.

"OF the provision of supper-rooms one can only express admiration. To be able to leave your seat in the theatre, to walk in and take your seat at a table, would add new joy to play-seeking. The present business of cabbing away from a theatre, and, in the short hour before midnight, getting to a restaurant, securing the attention of a waiter, pushing through a supper, and finally chartering another cab to take you home, is a trial of strength, patience, and pocket which makes the formation of a theatre party an undertaking for the young possessors of motor-cars, and for them alone. For women unaccompanied by men there is the further difficulty—they are always last served by waiter and cabby. It taxes even the experienced reconnoitring powers of a woman journalist to get a comfortable supper under present circumstances. Now that tubes keep their hospitable doors open until one o'clock a.m. it might surely prove an argument for the extension of the supper-time in restaurants.

The Poor Playgoer.

"HOWEVER, these be matters which concern but a small section of playgoers. It is to be hoped that Miss Kingston's schemes contain thought for the woman who is without a motor-car and who cannot afford a cab; who measures her entertainment expenses by shillings instead of by pounds. Her number is far greater than is generally calculated; and her importance, if rightly estimated, holds the balance of success in theatrical enterprise.

Women in the Pit.

"As a rule, the woman with shillings to spend gets scant acknowledgment and scant courtesy when her thoughts turn to theatre-going. She is left standing in a queue, exposed to all weathers, for any length of time that her enthusiasm prompts; her money is snatched from her, and she is thrown a disc with an arrogance only surpassed by a Poor Law relieving officer; then she is rushed forward in true 'pass-along-please' style by a janitor, who questions her right to choose a seat, and the seat when she has chosen it is as narrow and as uncomfortable as it could in decency be made. Such is the treatment of the pittite.

Tempting Her to the Theatre.

"It may be asked if something could not be done to coax the woman who likes to do things comfortably, and whose income is small, to the theatre. As things are at present, she has allowed her theatre-going to assume the form of a periodical ceremonial. Two or three times a year a play is chosen about which the public have confirmed the opinion of the critics; seats are secured many days beforehand; friends are duly notified of the event—in fact, everything is done to make going to the play as much of an occasion as possible. Next day the counting-up of the cost brings about the resolution that it must be a long time before such an expensive indulgence can be permitted again."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

LYCEUM CHANGES HANDS.

MELVILLE MANAGEMENT'S NEW POLICY.

The event of an otherwise dull week in theatrical history is undoubtedly the acquisition of the Smith and Carpenter interests in the Lyceum by the Melville management. The occurrence is of the greatest interest to the profession at large, for to Mr. H. R. Smith belongs the credit, shared by the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter, of once again placing the old Lyceum in the front rank of West-End theatres. It may be recalled that Mr. Smith secured a lease of the theatre from Mrs. Arnold in March, 1907, and that later a syndicate was formed with the title of Popular Playhouses, Ltd., Mr. Henry R. Smith and Mr. Ernest Carpenter being appointed joint managing-directors. Under this arrangement Mr. Smith undertook the entire management of the theatre, whilst Mr. Carpenter fulfilled the duties of producer of plays and stage manager.

The partners made a start with Mr. Walter Howard's *Her Love Against the World*. The best of good fortune attended their efforts, and they speedily attracted a clientèle which rarely failed in its support. Pantomime at Christmas became a standing feature, while even Shakespeare did not prove above the tastes of the public they catered for. Mr. Hall Caine gave them two of his plays, *The Christian* and *Pete*, and Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy supplied them with *The Proud Prince*. The sudden death of Mr. Ernest Carpenter at the end of last year was undoubtedly a great blow to the management.

"The end came quite unexpectedly," said Mr. Smith to an *Era* representative. "The Messrs. Melville had been negotiating for the theatre some time before, but suddenly they made a satisfactory offer, the lawyers got together, and in a few hours the Lyceum was under the banner of the new management. All the old directors have retired, of course, but I understand that the company will still be called the Popular Playhouses, Ltd. I am told, too, it is to be run on the lines first laid down by myself.

"Myself and the future? Well, first of all a good long holiday on the Continent—I haven't had one for five years, you know. Then I shall be

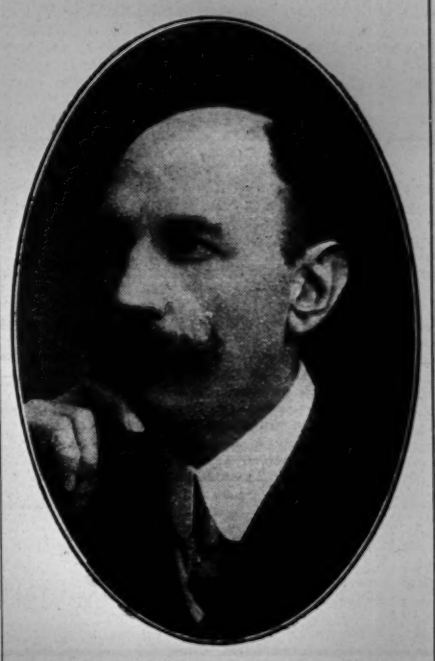

[*Photo by "Daily Mirror" Studio.*

MR. H. R. SMITH.

ready for action. I want to join forces, if possible, with some big manager to whom my experience, ideas, and financial interest would be valuable. In short, I want a working partnership in any sort of theatrical enterprise—legitimate or variety."

In this connection it is possible that there are one or two places in London that would be the better for Mr. Smith's experience, for not only is he well versed in theatrical production and management, but his incursions into vaudeville years ago give him a two-fold knowledge of the entertainment world. Anyhow the man who can turn a total loss to a magnificent profit-earning proposition for the three years of his stay is bound to be heard of in West-End management shortly. We certainly ought not to let one of the many American managers now in London tempt Mr. Smith across the Atlantic. We want to keep such men in this country.

And now, what of the Lyceum's future? We are informed that Messrs. Melville have taken over all existing contracts with authors, so that it may be judged they intend pursuing the same excellent policy as that followed by their predecessors. Of the twenty-one years of the original lease eighteen have still to run. Mr. W. F. Crowe has been retained as business manager, as have also most of the staff and members of the company. Mr. Melville will continue to run drama at popular prices.

Seen by the *Era* representative at Oakley House, Mr. Walter Melville stated that after the run of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, which will finish shortly, probably two, if not three, new dramas would be put on in rapid succession.

"I don't believe in wearing a piece thread-bare," said Mr. Melville, "and our summer and autumn seasons will be notable for a succession of new pieces. In addition we think of putting on some of the most popular of the Shakespearean plays.

Accused of having designs on London's best playhouses, as well as some No. 1 provincial theatres, with a view of forming a popular dramatic circuit, Mr. Melville would neither deny nor confirm the rumour. "My dear fellow," said he, "the call-boy is always better informed than the proprietor." We are out to make money, and we are ambitious. But we shall see—what we shall see."

On the subject of his other enterprises, Mr. Melville said that *The Bad Girl of the Family* being a very good girl indeed to the box-office, no change would be made at the Aldwych for some time to come.

"CHANTECLER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It seems to me that the above play is not quite so new as it is made out to be. As far back as 1905 or 1906 I submitted two synopses of pantomimes for the following season to Mr. Robert Arthur. One was called *The Silver Sword*. 'Twas, to my idea, quite a new and funny musical comedy plot, and in it there is a farmyard scene where all the animals and birds converse. Indeed, the argument is that the vindictive witch turns the heroine into a Christmas turkey, and the poulterer (comedian) is just about to kill her when the hero, aided by the Fairy Queen of course, intervenes and saves her.—Yours faithfully, EDWD. WENTWORTH WILLIAMS.

35, Daulby-street, Liverpool, May 17.

THE 200th performance of *The Bad Girl of the Family* will be reached on June 1, at the Aldwych Theatre. Mr. Frederick Melville's remarkably successful drama continues to attract large audiences.

"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."

Play, in Three Acts, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Friday, May 13.

Sir Oliver Holt	MR. HERBERT WARING
Mr. Oliver Holt	MR. JAMESON LEE FINNEY
Sir Bowling Burford	MR. J. H. BARNES
Dr. Heath	MR. JAMES HEARN
Dr. Satterley	MR. JAMES GELDARD
Lord Tommy Dartmore	MR. PHILIP LESLIE
Dandy	MR. HENRY AINLEY
The Thief	MR. J. PARISH ROBERTSON
Barney	MR. FRANK BERTRAM
Jem	MR. JOHN TRESAHAR
The Bat	MR. GREIGHTON HALE
The Kid	MASTER GEORGE HUGHES
Bedell	MR. ERNEST C. JOY
Powell	MR. SAM PEARCE
Inspector Barnes	MR. CHARLES WEIR
Policeman	MR. EDWARD CHESTER
Butler	MR. CHARLES KING
Bet	MISS ADA DWYER
Polly	MISS JANE COMFORT
Feathers	MISS MARIE BOYD
Mimi	MISS MAUDE BUCHANAN
Suzanne	MISS MAGDALEINE COTTA
Manette	MISS VIOLET CRAIGIE
Madge Delorme	MISS PORTIA KNIGHT
"Glad"	MISS GERTRUDE ELLIOTT

The Dawn of a To-morrow, which, after great success in America, and a production at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, on the 2nd inst., was presented to London playgoers at the Garrick Theatre on the 13th inst., is likely to win in London the favour which it has already gained in America. It is a strong, effective play, thrilling in its story, and raised above the level of ordinary melodrama by an element of religious feeling. The sketches of low life in the East End are well done, and the piece holds the attention of the audience from start to finish. The realism with which the slum scene is gradually disclosed is very impressive. Dimly, through a veil of fog we discern street lamps and houses. Very slowly the fog lifts, till we can distinguish the squalid tenements, the archway entrance, and the inevitable public-house. The effect is that of an entry into a region of lost souls.

It opens in the library in the house of a rich man named Sir Oliver Holt, who, broken down with nerves and insomnia, given up by the doctors, and tired of life, is determined to commit suicide. He gives out that he is going to Paris, but purchases an old suit of workman's clothes, and starts for the East End, where, in disguise, he intends to put an end to himself in some wretched garret. The only person whom Sir Oliver has depending on him is his nephew, Mr. Oliver Holt, a mean, heartless reprobate, who has succeeded in concealing his vices from his rich relative.

In the second scene of the act we see, through a fog darkly, Apple Blossom-court, a criminal colony in the East End. Gradually the fog clears away, and the local population appears. It seems that three recent inhabitants of the court have engaged in a burglary, which has ended in a murder, and that two of them have been arrested. The third, Dandy, is in hiding somewhere in the vicinity. Sir Oliver enters in disguise, and comes in contact with a strange, original girl, "Glad," who, despite the temptations of Apple Blossom-court, has preserved her reputation, both for virtue and honesty. "Glad's" nature is essentially optimistic. She believes in the efficacy of prayer, and her vitality and cheerfulness have an excellent effect on Sir Oliver, drawing his mind away from his own troubles. In the end he becomes deeply interested in the girl and in the people in the court.

In the second act we find Dandy seeking refuge in "Glad's" garret. He really had no part in the burglary, having fallen behind his comrades and abandoned the enterprise; but they, in revenge, swore that he was with them, and Dandy is in danger of the death penalty. The only person who can prove an alibi for him is Mr. Oliver Holt, who met him on the night of the murder at the very time when it was being committed. "Glad" conceals Dandy in a cupboard under the roof, and he manages to get down to the basement and hide before the garret is searched by the police.

And now "Glad" determines to put her faith in prayer to the test. She will go to Mr. Oliver, and will ask him to come forward and prove an alibi for Dandy, though it is unlikely that he will do so, as he wants "Glad" for himself, and would be willing to see his rival out of the way. She goes to his chambers, and asks him to come forward and save Dandy. Holt refuses, but eventually promises to prove the *alibi* if "Glad" will become his mistress. She agrees to do so if nothing happens in answer to a prayer which she makes for help. Oliver threatens her with violence, but she rings up the police on the telephone, and Sir Oliver's arrival on the scene alters the situation entirely. Oliver swears to the *alibi*, Dandy promises to lead an honest life in future, and Sir Oliver is entirely cured by his experience and adventures.

Mr. Herbert Waring has seldom had a part which suited him better than that of Sir Oliver Holt. In the first act all the symptoms of nervous exhaustion were very faithfully depicted, and in the slum scenes Mr. Waring's expressive elevation made his performance a very valuable one. The principal part of the piece, however, was that of "Glad," which was sustained by Miss Gertrude Elliott in a spirit of ardent vitality and spontaneous *joie de vivre* which carried all before it. Miss Elliott, by her personal magnetism, held the audience spellbound, and the success of her individual performance had much to do with that of the play. Throughout the two acts in which "Glad" appears, Miss Elliott's vivacity and earnestness never flagged, and the enthusiasm which she created in the audience was unmistakable. Mr. Jameson Lee Finney, excellently made-up, gave a most graphic picture of the mean, cold-blooded, dissipated Mr. Oliver, and acted with force as well as clever characterisation; and Mr. Henry Ainley was full of fire and intensity as the passionate criminal, Dandy. The parts of the two ordinary doctors were carefully and ably distinguished by Mr. J. H. Barnes, excellent as a white-haired, elderly medico, and Mr. James Geldard as a conventional West-End physician; and the perfervid and imaginative Dr. Heath was powerfully embodied by Mr. James Hearn, who delivered some "brainy" utterances in most intense and concentrated style. Mr. Philip Leslie was satisfactory as a young debauchee. It was not always easy to identify the individuals on the stage with the names and characters on the programme, but Mr. J. Parish Robertson as the Thief, Mr. Frank Bertram as Barney, Mr. John Tresahar as Jem, and Mr. Greighton Hale as the Bat, all supplied most effective impersonations, highly finished in every detail and particular. The part of the secretary Bedell was quietly but effectively played by Mr. Ernest C. Joy; and Mr. Sam Pearce gave a pathetic reading of the rôle of the faithful domestic Powell. Mr. Charles Weir was firm and steady as the Inspector; and Mr. Edward Chester made a sturdy Policeman, Mr. Charles King being good as the Butler. The women in the slum were well depicted. Miss Ada Dwyer was quaintly characteristic as Bet, and Miss Jane Comfort was very natural and duly emotional as Polly, Miss Marie Boyd giving a clever impersonation of Feathers. As for Miss Maude Buchanan, Miss Magdaleine Cotta, Miss Violet Craigie, and Miss Portia Knight as Mimi, Suzanne, Manette, and Madge Delorme, each was excellent in her respective rôle. The play was carefully staged by Mr. Hugh Ford, and the scenery by Hemsley, Hann, and Schmitz, was excellent, the fog effect in the second scene of the first act being admirably contrived and managed. *The Dawn of a To-morrow* had a warm reception, and deserves to be a sustained success.

DEATH OF MR. RUSSELL ROSSE.

Many of our readers will learn with considerable regret the news of the death of Mr. Matthew Russell Rosse, who passed away quite suddenly on Whit Sunday at Newcastle-on-Tyne. For some time he had been delicate on the lungs, and it is supposed that the shock of the King's death brought on an attack of hæmorrhage, from which he never recovered.

For many years the deceased gentleman was a touring manager, in fact, one of the oldest, and he learnt his business thoroughly in that best of all schools—experience. He could not only look after the front of the house, but could produce and stage-manage. It did not matter whether it was Shakespeare, old comedy, modern farce, or drama, Russell Rosse had the traditional business of each at his fingers' ends. Gifted with the spirit of enterprise, he was the first theatrical manager to get a special train run on Sunday. He secured this privilege when he was managing the children's *Cloches de Corneville* in 1881, the proprietor of the combination being the late Charles Bernard, although his first wife financed it. It was in the chorus of this company that Miss Belle Bilton (afterwards Countess of Clancarty), who died on Dec. 31, 1906, made her first appearance on the stage with her sister Flo, in the February of 1881. In connection with the company was established a travelling school, open every day excepting Mondays and Saturdays for three or four hours. Prizes were given, and in a competition for the best imaginative story Belle Bilton came out first, the story being printed in the Derby and other provincial papers. Lady Clancarty had also a liking for painting, and it was on her birthday during this tour that Mr. Russell Rosse gave her her first box of paints. She never forgot his kindness to her as a child, and for many years afterwards wrote to him as "Dear Daddy."

In 1880 he was in charge of the *Madame Favart* company, also for the late Charles Bernard. He was then supposed to be about the youngest acting-manager on the road. His connection with Fred Neebe, of the Bath and Exeter theatres was a very long one, and he was business manager for Miss Marie de Grey for many

[*Photo by Anty and Hearsen.*

THE LATE MR. M. RUSSELL ROSSE.

tours. He and Mr. J. F. Graham, now of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, were together when the Exeter Theatre was burnt down on Sept. 5, 1887, over 150 people losing their lives, and the deceased also toured with Mr. Graham in 1888 in a piece called *A Life's Debt*, produced at the Victoria Theatre, Burnley, on Aug. 27 of that year, with Mr. Graham in the part of André Grenier and Mr. Rosse directing the piece. The deceased gentleman was with Miss Fortescue for four tours, and was business manager for George Edwardes during the *Joan of Arc* season at the Opera Comique. In 1905, at the time of Sir Henry Irving's death, Mr. Rosse in less than twelve hours got a company together and played *Our Boys* at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham. Hearing the sad news at the West Strand Post Office at midnight, he immediately went home and posted on to Mr. Graham a day bill of *Our Boys*, with Thomas Thorne as star, and said the company could open at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, on Monday. Mr. Graham received the day bill at the same time as the news of Sir Henry's death.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, May 17, at 32, Regent-street.

Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton, in the chair; Mr. W. H. Mote, Hon. Solicitor; Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Chris Walker, Langford Reed, F. H. De Quincey, Edward Morgan, Robson Paige, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th inst. were read and confirmed.

A letter was received from the Lord Great Chamberlain acknowledging receipt of the resolution sent to him on behalf of the Association.

The Secretary read a telegram from Sir Herbert Tree asking for the co-operation of the Association in the general tribute to the late King Edward, also letters from Mr. Frederick Whelan on the same subject. He was directed to acknowledge receipt of both communications and to say that the Council willingly associated themselves with them in the desired object.

In reference to letters from three members asking for advice *re* contracts, the Solicitor volunteered to write them giving the advice asked for, after a perusal of the different contracts.

The Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre's letter was ordered to be held over until the next meeting of the Council for further discussion.

The Hon. Solicitor reported that advice had been given to two members, and another matter was being proceeded with.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton, and adopted.

Mr. Langford Reed brought forward the following resolution:—"That this Council ask for letters from members giving their views as to the exact lines on which the Agency should be run." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Paige, and after discussion was lost by a majority of 2. The Secretary reported four engagements, and others pending.

It was resolved to defer discussion of the Agenda book until May 31st, when Mr. Morlan would in all probability be able to attend the Council.

An anonymous letter sent to a member was read to the Council, who did not deem it of sufficient importance to take any notice of it.

Elections: Lyonel Watts, Leon Quartermaine. Nominations: Ruhamah Catton, R. Ronald Ashby.

"CHAINS."

Play, in Four Acts, by Elizabeth Baker, performed at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, May 17.

Charlie Wilson	MR. DENNIS EADIE
Fred Tennant	MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Morton Leslie	MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Percy Massey	MR. DONALD CALTHROP
Alfred Massey	MR. EDMUND GWENN
Walter Foster	MR. HUBERT HARBEN
Fenwick	MR. LEWIS CASSON
Lily Wilson	MISS HILDA TREVELYAN
Maggie Massey	MISS SYBIL THORNDIKE
Mrs. Massey	MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Sybil Frost	MISS DOROTHY MINTO

The favourable notice which we printed of the original performance of Miss Elizabeth Baker's piece after its production by the Play Actors at the Comedy Theatre on April 18 last year was fully justified by the reception which was given to *Chains* at the Duke of York's in connection with Mr. Frohman's Repertory Theatre on Tuesday. Miss Baker has chosen for study the lower middle class, the class of the clerk and the small tradesman, which she treats in soberly realistic fashion, embellished with delightful humour, and represents without caricature. Such plays are not too popular with the general public, who prefer the idealised picture presented by less conscientious artists than Miss Baker, whose truth of treatment is uncompromising. The characters are capitally drawn, and the dialogue, dealing as much of it does, with the little things that are great to little men, is faithfully studied from the real conversation of the class. The slight story is decidedly interesting; and so truly are the characters drawn, so sharply do they appeal to us as real and living individuals, that we follow with interest the humble hopes and projects of the *dramatis personæ*, and are distressed when the first turn out to be baseless, and the latter are found to be futile. As is the fashion nowadays, *Chains* ends on a note of depression, the doctrine of renunciation being strongly preached when the hero, who has stuff in him that might lead to success in the Colonies, consents to remain a drudge at the entreaty of his wife and the prospect of a "babe unborn."

The action opens in the sitting-room of a lower middle-class family, consisting of Charlie Wilson, a City clerk, his wife Lily, and a lodger, Fred Tennant, also a clerk. The "atmosphere" of Acacia-avenue, Hammersmith, is cleverly created, the dialogue being always soberly realistic. Excitement is soon created by the announcement on the part of the lodger that he is weary of office drudgery, and has resigned his berth in the City in order to go to Australia. There is a good deal of discussion *pro* and *con* Tennant's proposed step; and Wilson, whose salary has been reduced owing to the lessened profits of the firm by which he is engaged, is almost convinced of the wisdom of Tennant's proposed course, and thinks of accompanying him.

A character who has a serious amount of influence on the play is Wilson's father-in-law, Alfred Massey, a plumber. He is a somewhat cynical philosopher, who does his plumbing doggedly, and sleeps away Sunday on a sofa. He is the father of Lily, and he cannot comprehend why anyone should throw up a safe berth and exchange a certainty for an uncertainty. Another opponent of any adventurous action on Charlie's part is his wife. When she learns that he proposes to go out to Australia alone, she fancies that he is tired of her, and tells her relations and friends so. His father-in-law and his mother-in-law are both against his emigrating; but Charlie has a sympathiser in his sister-in-law, Maggie Massey, a restless, revoltant girl, who promises to look after her sister till he returns, or until he is in a position to send for her to come out to him. So Charlie determines to get away secretly, and tells Tennant he will meet him at Southampton. But Lily has a last card to play. She informs Charlie that she is to be a mother; and, vanquished by this information, he resigns himself to his fate and to life-long clerkdom.

The piece was very cleverly cast. Mr. Dennis Eadie handled the part of Charlie Wilson quite judiciously, marking the class of the individual cleverly, yet suggesting the dormant energy and enterprise of the man strongly and effectively. Nothing could have been better than Mr. Edmund Gwenn's Alfred Massey. His make-up as the fat, vulgar, dense, and contented plumber was excellent, and all the little touches of ill-breeding were very amusingly supplied. He was a mass of corpulent self-satisfaction and stupidity. Mr. Frederick Lloyd gave to his representation of Fred Tennant just the needed touch of superiority and alertness; and Mr. Arthur Whitby hit off Morton Leslie to the life. The young and foolish Percy Massey was played very neatly and naturally by Mr. Donald Calthrop; and Mr. Hubert Harben contributed a most ingenious reproduction of a curious type of City clerk as Walter Foster, Mr. Lewis Casson being capital as the melancholy Fenwick. The happy choice of Miss Hilda Trevelyan for the part of Lily Watson ensured a perfect performance of the part; she was the obedient, long-suffering, but *bornée* housewife to the life. No less faithful and natural was Miss Sybil Thorndike's Maggie Massey. Miss Florence Haydon as Mrs. Massey had one of those motherly rôles in which she is absolutely unimpeachable; and Miss Dorothy Minto gave a clever little character sketch as Sybil Frost. Great care had been taken in the furnishing of the two interiors, the one in the Early Victorian, the other in the modern suburban style. *Chains* had a very favourable reception from an appreciative audience.

"THE LAST DROP."

A New and Original Play, in One Act, by Barton White, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Monday, May 16.

Sir Harry Pender, Bart.	MR. CYRIL MELTON
Diana	MISS ESTELLE THEBAUD
Peggy	MISS QUESTA DEARING
Lord St. Osyth	MR. CHARLES FANCOURT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is a gruesome story, with a sordid setting in an East End slum, but is capitally told. In a miserable attic is discovered Sir Harry Pender and his wife, who have both given way to drink until the last remnant of respectability is gone. The wife, in a thoroughly maudlin state, exclaims at intervals throughout the play that she has taken "the last drop." The daughter of this precious couple had been rescued in infancy from her surroundings by some relatives, and is now engaged to Lord St. Osyth. In consequence of the mystery surrounding her antecedents an objection is raised by St. Osyth's connections to Peggy's marriage with him. After some trouble the fallen pair are found, and visited by Peggy and her betrothed.

The girl is overwhelmed by the terrible discovery of her parentage, and she promptly breaks off her engagement. After their departure Pender entices his wife to the window, and they both take "the last drop" to the pavement below, thus ending their wretched lives. Miss Estelle Thebaud graphically delineated the repulsive character of Diana; Miss Questa Dearing gave the fullest expression to the emotions of the unhappy Peggy; Mr. Cyril Melton played with strong effect as Pender, without making the part unduly distasteful; and Lord St. Osyth was pleasantly drawn by Mr. Charles Fancourt.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER FLIEGER."

Musical Farce, in Three Acts, by M.M. Brennert and Lehmann, Music by F. Bermann, Produced at the New Schauspielhaus, May 5.

Prince Günther-Heinrich ..... Herr Neumann
Baron Zech ..... Herr Fiedag
Mindner ..... Herr Arndt
Frau Mindner ..... Fraulein Carlsen
Willy ..... Herr Walden
Wally ..... Fraulein Kuhnert
Johnson ..... Herr Paschen
Irene ..... Fraulein Burger
Wittkopf ..... Herr Pasch
Loeffler ..... Herr Garrison
Lisette ..... Fraulein Frandek
Meier ..... Herr Kleinke
Inspektor ..... Herr Burg
Noack ..... Herr Ludecke

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, May 12.—An unquestionable success was accorded to this amusing farce, which is something in the nature of the good old volks-play, with a plenitude of fun and a judicious admixture of pathos. The action passes in Berlin at the present day—always a step in the favour of the Berliners. Willy Mindner, the hero, returns home after a four years' absence a made man. He also acquired such fame as a professional bicycle racer that he has an income of several thousands (pounds, not marks), and is at heart, of course, just the same as ever. He finds his parents "camping out" in the summer-house of their bit of garden on the outskirts of the East End. Mindner, sen., is on strike, which is another word for enjoying a period of idleness. Being unable to pay their rent, he and his wife, with Wally, their foster child, have been turned out of their dwelling proper. Frau Mindner bewails their situation, and is opposed to "strikes," but her husband is perfectly content, and passes his time abusing the capitalists, to the accompaniment of a mug of beer and a farthing cigar. Thus Willy finds his family, and he proceeds to make them comfortable in a luxurious establishment in Kurfürstendamm, which is equivalent to the London Park-lane. Mindner, sen., allows himself to be persuaded with some difficulty to partake in this luxury, but he takes kindly enough to it after a time, and though still a professed Radical and Social Democrat, as "red as they make them," he abuses the footman for not preparing his bath at the correct temperature and scolds the butler because the caviare is not of the very first quality. All this is excedingly funny, and the climax is reached when Willy falls in love with Wally, and becomes engaged to her. The wedding takes place with due haste, for the famous racer has many duties to fulfil. His trainer and manager object entirely to his marrying at all; he has other and far more important things to do according to his many contracts. Poor Willy is snatched from the arms of his bride by these obdurate tyrants and rushed off to Paris in an automobile to ride a great race which he had forgotten. There he is kept a prisoner, so that by rigid training he may be in perfect form. How he contrives to escape, to win the great race and gain his little wife at the same time must be seen to be appreciated. The audience laughed from start to finish, and called the authors and artists repeatedly before the curtain. Herr Harry Walden had a part in Willy Mindner which suited him to a nicety, and he was admirably supported all round. The piece will certainly enjoy a long run.

"Die Liebe Wacht," four-act comedy, by M.M. De Caillavet and De Flers, did not make a very favourable impression at the Schiller on its production last week. French farces of a risky kind are at home at the Residenz and the Trianon, but at the Schiller they are a mistake; the audience there does not care for them. The interpretation was a good one, but the applause was feeble and the laughter forced.

The funniest farce of the century, *When Knights Were Bold*, under its German title *Die Goldene Ritterzeit*, has passed its fiftieth performance at the Neues Theatre, and is still drawing so well that there is no necessity to think of any other piece before the summer holidays. It will then go on tour to a number of big German cities.

At the Deutsches Theatre on the 8th inst. an alarming accident occurred during the performance of the pantomime *Sumurûn*. A basket suspended from the castle ramparts fell on to the stage—a depth of some 12ft. The occupant, Herr Gottowt—an understudy—received a severe nervous shock and sustained slight injuries to his back. The audience rose in a panic, and the curtain was immediately lowered. The manager quieted the audience, telling them the artist's injuries were but trifling, and the play would proceed. Half an hour passed, however, before this could be done, when many persons had left the theatre Herr Gottowt is rapidly recovering.

Hans Tanzler, a tenor, has been engaged by Angelo Neumann for the new Grand Opera here at a (for Berlin) altogether unprecedented salary. Tannhäuser is said to be the tenor's most famous rôle, the singing of which recently brought him unusual ovations at Prague, where Germans, as a rule, are not much wanted. The Grand Opera will be commenced as soon as Whitsuntide is turned, and the work is to be carried forward with all possible expedition.

"JEAN."

A Play, in One Act, by Donald Colquhoun, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, May 16.

James Milroy ..... Mr. Campbell Gullan
Sandy (his son) ..... Mr. Walter Roy

This tragic little play was given by the Glasgow Repertory Company in front of *Dandy Dick*, and proved a thrilling and pathetic study in humble life. An old farmer keeps his son, who is getting on in years, working away as a farm hand for his mere keep, and with no prospect of bettering himself except by stepping into the old man's shoes at the latter's death. The son chafes under this state of matters, and demands some definite arrangement. The father is loth to give up the reins to his son, and advises delay for a year or two, especially as a doctor has warned the old man that his heart is weak. In the course of conversation, the father hints at ambitious marriages for his son, but the latter resents this, and then the father proceeds to make it a condition of the son's ultimate possession of the farm that he retains Jean, the servant, on in his service, as she had been befriended by the lad's dead mother years before when betrayed and left with a child by some errant lover. The son had never heard of this incident previously, and on the top of it admits that Jean is his wife, they having been married by the registrar a few weeks ago. The indignation of the son, and the surprise of the father, affect the latter's heart, and he drops dead in the midst of their argument. Both parts were exceedingly well acted, Mr. Campbell Gullan being perfect as the old farmer, and Mr. Walter Roy contributing a powerful study of the morose and gloomy son. Jean, though frequently referred to, does not appear in the play, which was produced by Mr. Kenelm Foss, and undoubtedly made a strong, if somewhat painful, impression on the audience.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your recent notice of the production of *The Deadbeat* at the Sadler's Wells, through an error on the programme, you gave the name of the author as "John F. Raynor." It should have been John F. Traynor.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN F. TRAYNOR.

(Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's Company).

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday night, May 12, the Royal Opera reopened with a performance of Saint-Saëns' opera, *Samson et Dalila*, which had such signal success in last year's grand season mainly through Mme. Kirkby Lunn's splendid impersonation of Dalila. M. Franz, from the Paris Opéra, made his first appearance on Thursday in the part of Samson, and created a most favourable impression. In addition to a fine voice M. Franz has a commanding presence, while his acting is full of dignity and always appropriate to the situation. Samson's music, in the great scene with Dalila, was sung with fervour and pathetic expression. Dressed in handsome, picturesque costumes, M. Franz proved one of the most successful exponents of the hero that has yet appeared, and the audience gave the newcomer a very hearty reception. Mme. Kirkby Lunn, who was in excellent voice, again charmed her hearers with a superb rendering of "Mon cœurs' ouvre à ta voix" and the delightful "Printemps qui commence." Mme. Lunn's Dalila is as fine a dramatic study as ever, while owing to great experience in the part, the famous artist gave such a masterly and seductive reading that no wonder Samson is fascinated, and falls an easy victim. Besides Mme. Lunn, two other English-speaking vocalists, Mr. Edmund Burke and Mr. Murray Davey, greatly distinguished themselves. Mr. Burke was a dignified and impressive High Priest; and the fine sonorous voice of Mr. Davey was heard to advantage in the part of the old Hebrew. Abimelech was skilfully undertaken by M. Crabbé; and the smaller parts of A Philistine Messenger, First and Second Philistine, were ably filled by Mr. D'Oisly, Signor Zucchi, and M. Verheyden. Mlle. Opalfvens was *première danseuse*, and the chorus sang admirably. The scenic effects, particularly the Fall of the Temple of Dagon, were striking; and M. Frigara, who conducted, secured an excellent ensemble.

There was a large audience present at Covent Garden on Friday night, May 13, when Rossini's opera *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* was performed for the first time this season. *Il Barbiere*, said to have been composed by Rossini in fifteen days, and originally produced in London on January, 1818, is now not often heard at Covent Garden, as many changes have taken place in operatic tastes, and the large stage of our fine opera house is considered by many musicians too big for such a dainty subject. But with such artists in the cast as Mme. Tetrazzini, Signor Sammarco, Signor Rostowsky, Signor Marcoux, and Signor Malatesta, the performance could not be otherwise than delightful. Mme. Tetrazzini sang superbly, and if Rossini's work is slight in subject, no better opera could be chosen for displaying her unequalled powers and perfect command of florid music. The charming ease with which Mme. Tetrazzini, in the Lesson scene, sang the brilliant "Polonaise" from *Mignon*, enchanted the audience, and when followed by a wonderful performance of the extremely difficult variations to the "Carnival of Venice," the greatest enthusiasm was aroused. The graceful air "Una Voce" was not only beautifully sung, but embellished by Mme. Tetrazzini with masterly skill and finish. Signor Sammarco proved an excellent and animated Figaro; and Signor Marcoux's quaintly comic Basilio was one of the chief features of the performance. Admirably grotesque in his make-up, Signor Marcoux was as humorous vocally as in his clever acting. The Bartolo of Signor Malatesta had many excellent points, and the newcomer, by his singing and lively and amusing action, created a favourable impression. Signor Rostowsky, who sang so well in *Rigoletto*, may not be an ideal Count Almaviva, but he gave a pleasing account of the music; and both Mme. Bérat and Signor Sampieri, as Bertha and Fiorello, were successful. A pianoforte accompanied the recitatives, and Signor Campanini conducted.

Verdi's *Aïda* was performed at Covent Garden on Saturday night, May 14, and two new artists, Mlle. Karola and Signor Zerola, made a most successful first appearance. Mlle. Karola, who impersonated the heroine, has a voice of good quality and considerable power, while she displayed dramatic instincts that aroused interest in her performance. Although Mlle. Karola may at times have shown certain technical flaws in her singing, great allowance must be made for a first appearance in a very difficult rôle. Signor Zerola as Radames seemed at first a little nervous, but this quickly disappeared, and in the later scenes of the opera Signor Zerola sang with true Italian fervour and passion, while his ringing high notes greatly delighted the audience. Both the experienced artists will be welcome additions to the cast this season. Mme. Kirkby Lunn sang with splendid effect as Amneris; and Signor Sammarco again gave a most artistic reading of Amonasro. Signor Marcoux was a stately Ramfis; and Mr. Murray Davey sang the King's music admirably. Signor Campanini conducted, and a new scene of A Gate of Thebes has been painted by Mr. Harry Brooks.

Faust was performed at Covent Garden on Monday night, and perhaps for a holiday occasion no better work than Gounod's famous old opera could be chosen. Mme. Edvina, who has greatly advanced in her profession, made a charmingly graceful and girlish Marguerite, and sang most intelligently. Mme. Edvina's acting in the Garden scene was artistic, and the avoidance of some old conventions did the young vocalist great credit. The Jewel Song was sung with ease and refinement, and Marguerite's delight in the beautiful gems cleverly expressed. In the more intense and tragic portions Mme. Edvina still requires that experience which, unfortunately for the youthful aspect of the character, only comes with years.

M. Franz, who achieved such success in *Samson et Dalila*, increased the good impression already made by his fine singing as Faust. M. Franz made a fervent lover, and the great solo in the second act was admirably sung, but why did the distinguished artist adopt so ungraceful a make-up? Signor Marcoux's excellent Mephistopheles is familiar, and his reading of the part, to make that sardonic personage a being to be feared instead of a jolly companion, has much to commend it. Valentin's music was ably sung by M. Lestelle; and Mlle. Symiane most successfully impersonated Siebel. The parts of Martha and Wagner were skilfully undertaken by Mme. Bérat and M. Morin. The chorus sang and acted with animation, and the lively Kermesse scene was given with great spirit. Why, however, should the crowd stand aside to make a passage for Marguerite as if for some grand lady, and then pay marked attention to Faust addressing her? Surely a gallant speaking to a pretty girl would be a common incident in such a scene. M. Frigara conducted.

In the absence of Dr. Richter, Herr Von Schuch, of the Royal Opera, Dresden, directed the performance of *Tristan und Isolde* on Tuesday evening. Herr Von Schuch is undoubtedly a fine conductor, and the audience greeted his first appearance at Covent Garden in the most cordial manner. Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens, who undertook the part of Isolde for the first time, created a good impression by her intelligent singing and graceful bearing. Isolde is one of Wagner's most beautiful and at the same time most exacting creations, and Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens deserved much praise for her graphic and very promising impersonation. Herr Burrian's Tristan is familiar, and has many excellent features; while the superb singing and acting of Herr Van Rooy as Kurwenal and Mme. Kirkby Lunn in the part of Brangäne gave the performance special interest. As König Marke Herr Fönss displayed talent. Mr. Sydney Russell proved a successful Melot; and Herr Bechstein's clever acting made Ein Hirt very effective.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, May 4.—Mr. De Wolf Hopper is with us once more, and the legion of playgoers that have laughed at his comical capers since the days of *Wang* and *Panjandrum*, not forgetting *El Capitan*, which he took to London a dozen years ago, will be well represented at Daly's Theatre for weeks to come. In the witty entr'acte speech that he makes at every performance, because the audience demands it, Mr. Hopper talks of the hardships he endured "on the road," and how glad he is to get back to Broadway. Then everyone laughs, realising the fact that old stories, like old songs, sometimes enjoy a perennial popularity. At one place in particular the weather was so bad that Hopper asked one of the natives if they ever had any summer there. "I don't know," he replied, "I've only lived here eleven months."

A Matinée Idol, described in the programme as a "song comedy," is Mr. Hopper's current offering. The book is by Armand and Barnard, the lyrics by Ray Goetz and Seymour Brown, and the music by Silvio Hein. The story was suggested by Molière's *La Médicin Malgré Lui*. Medford Griffin is, or has been, a matinée "idol," but as he is out of an engagement and "dead broke," the word should be spelt "i-d-l-e," according to Hopper. With Jimmie Grant, his valet, who has been a jockey, Griffin finds himself stranded in France, and applies for the post of instructor of elocution at a young ladies' seminary. He fails to obtain this, but sees an opportunity to put some money in his purse by posing as a doctor. In so doing he furthers the plans of a pair of young lovers. Dick Allen is about to be sent to Europe in order to separate him from his sweetheart, Lucy Gray, and he pretends to be taken ill. The "doctor" is called in, and being obliged to prescribe for the patient in order to keep up the deception, he sends to the druggist's for a compound calculated to kill a horse. Young Allen fears he will have to swallow it, so he confesses that he is not ill, and Griffin admits that he is not a doctor. So as each is able to help the other, they conspire together, and astonish the school authorities, the "doctor" by exhibiting his hypnotic powers and his subject by faithfully responding to them.

Surrounded by pretty girls, Mr. Hopper sings about "Autographs," and vocalises on other subjects in the humorous way that the public knows, and likes so well. Miss Louise Dresser sings "Loving ways," which has a pretty air, and a facetious number, "Put on your slippers, you're in for the night." Mr. Georgie Mack, in this instance, is the diminutive foil with which the unabridged comedian always provides himself, and as Jimmie Grant the abbreviated Mack sings "The Dancing Banshee" very effectively. Miss Ethel Green, who appears as Lucy Gray, has a sweet voice, and her rendering of "Little lady in the moon" was greatly enjoyed. There are fifteen numbers altogether, and plenty of fun between times, besides an attractive chorus to please the eye. So Mr. Hopper has received a hearty welcome, and will undoubtedly stay awhile.

The Actors' Fund Fair, to be held in the Seventy-first Regiment Armoury next week, will be the largest charity bazaar ever held in New York. Organised twenty-eight years ago, the Actors' Fund is one of the most famous of American charities. It recognises no nationality or creed, but extends its aid promptly and freely to every player whom illness, adversity, or old age may overtake. In the Actors' Home on Staten Island the fund maintains for the aged of the profession a pleasant refuge which, in its comfortable appointments and cheery surroundings, is unique among similar institutions in the country. Those who seek its shelter are not "inmates," but guests. Thirty-two are now enjoying the benefits of the home. In years past the roll has included the names of many celebrities of the dramatic profession. To maintain the home and to keep effective the charities of the fund itself in all its branches throughout the United States requires more money than can be raised by the annual benefit performances and the nominal dues received from the members. Last year the expenditure for charities was about 45,000 dollars, all of which was raised by the profession itself. This year the amount will be considerably larger, and to meet this contingency the coming fair was projected. Eighteen years ago, at Madison-square Garden, a great fair was held, which yielded 170,000 dollars, and at the Metropolitan Opera House, which proved too small for the purpose, a similar sum was realised three years ago. President Taft will open the fair. The Seventy-first Regiment Armoury will be transformed to resemble the Palace Gardens of Versailles, and will contain a small theatre fully equipped for dramatic and vaudeville performances, besides an illuminated fountain and the numerous stalls for the sale of articles of every description.

Mr. Charles Burnham, for many years the active manager of Wallack's Theatre for Mrs. Octavia Moss, has leased that popular playhouse for a long period, and in future will be the sole director of its affairs. Mr. Burnham has been connected with Wallack's for twenty-five years.

Mr. Lawrance D'Orsay will be Miss Billie Burke's leading man in *Mrs. Dot* next season. He will also appear in a revival of his old success, *The Earl of Pawtucket*, after which he will be seen in a sequel to the latter play, to be written by its author, Mr. Augustus Thomas.

Mr. Francis Wilson, the American comedian, has adopted "Baby" Davis, a clever little fellow, who acts the part of the little girl whom Mr. Wilson adopts against his will in his play *The Bachelor's Baby*, which has had a long run at the Criterion Theatre. The youngster is seven, and has already had a stage "career" of two years.

At the Knickerbocker Theatre *The Dollar Princess* will close on May 14, after a run of thirty-eight weeks. It will be the opening attraction at the Knickerbocker in August.

"Jim the Penman," with an "all-star" cast, will be revived at the Lyric Theatre next Monday. With this play and *Caste* in current theatricals, the old-timers will be able to raise a large crop of reminiscences.

Mr. Oscar Hammerstein has decided that his Manhattan Opera House in West Thirty-fourth-street, New York, shall be converted into a high-class music hall. One of the chief attractions booked for the opening will be Mlle. Polaire, the French dancer. Koster and Bials' Music Hall was originally known as the Manhattan Opera House. It was built by Hammerstein in Thirty-fourth-street, but a stone's throw from the house where, for four seasons, Mr. Hammerstein's opera company lately held sway. Koster and Bials' was demolished nine years ago. It was a fine house, but it was built about ten years too soon. Mr. Alfred E. Aarons put on the *Faust* ballet there, from the Empire Theatre, London. It was the finest attraction of its kind ever seen in a New York music hall. The New Yorkers are supposed to have the best of everything, sooner or later. So far, however, they have never seen anything at their music halls to compare with the beautiful Alhambra ballets. Perhaps Mr. Hammerstein will give them something in that line at the Manhattan Opera House.

Miss Pauline Chase arrived in London on Monday after her flying visit to the States to sell postcards and photographs at the Actors' Fund Fair. In the course of an interview Miss Pauline Chase expressed surprise that currency had been given in London to a report that she only succeeded in raising £152 for the Actors' Fund Fair. "As a matter of fact," she said, "I set out to raise £1,000 for the fund, and that, I was told when I left New York, was in round figures the amount actually collected."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, April 5.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—Miss Nellie Stewart's staging of *What Every Woman Knows* has obtained a well-deserved popularity, both on account of the excellence of the play itself and of the capable interpretation by the company. The house has been crowded since the opening night by enthusiastic audiences, who accord Miss Stewart a hearty welcome each evening. *What Every Woman Knows* will hold the boards till further notice.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—*The Country Girl* is drawing crowded houses. The play, despite the success of its revival, will be withdrawn at the end of the week, and on Saturday night *The Dollar Princess* will be staged for the first time in Australia. The booking for the opening night is exceptionally good, so a bumper house is assured to welcome Mr. Williamson's latest production.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The delightful musical comedy *The Arcadians* is proving a strong draw, and, judging from the size of the audience, the piece is going to have a long and prosperous run. Mr. Cromwell as Smith the Caterer has a part which suits him admirably. The part of Peter is taken by Mr. Tom Walls, whose acting, like everything else in *The Arcadians*, is stamped with originality throughout. Miss Maie Sydney makes a dainty Sombra. Apart from her finished acting Miss Sydney possesses a delightful voice, her songs, "The Pipes of Pan" and "Arcady is ever young," being amongst her best numbers. The rest of a capable company all fill their parts with entire satisfaction. The production throughout is mounted on a most lavish scale, and the scenery includes some magnificent forest views, also a remarkably fine stage-picture of Ascot Racecourse. A special word of praise is due to the chorus for their excellent singing.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Mr. William Anderson's new attraction, *A Thief in the Night*, is proving a worthy successor to *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. The theatre has been crowded ever since the opening night. Miss Eugenie Duggan appears to advantage as the heroine, and is ably supported by a strong company. The scenery throughout is on the lavish scale which characterises all of Mr. Anderson's productions. Mr. Anderson possesses a courteous and capable business-manager in the person of Mr. Julius Grant.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—Re-appearances of popular artists at the Opera House include the Trapnell Sisters, Olga Gray, Les Warton, and others. Mlle. De Dio will give her last performance to-night. To-morrow the Martinis return for a short season, and on Wednesday the Mysterious Howards will appear. Artists appearing on the present bill with success include Vasco, (the mad musician), Alexandra and Bertie, the Donnellys, Tom Parker, Johnnie Gilmore, Graham and Dent, the Two Prices, George Sorlie, Nellie Power, the Huxhams, Gertie McLeod, Wm. A. Robyns, and a host of others.

West's Pictures at West's Palace, Tait's Pictures at the Glaciarium, Spencer's Pictures at the Olympia, and the World's Pictures at the Bijou Theatre all continue to do excellent business.

THEATRICAL CORNERS AND MONOPOLIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In the columns of the *Referee* last Sunday one read with much interest the views of Mr. Marc Klaw in respect of the above. In the course of his remarks Mr. Klaw says, "Monopoly? No. Corner? No, sir. You can't monopolise players and playwrights. . . . You can't harness real ability and true genius in matters of the drama. . . . Take the case of your English stage. Your managers and ours think we have contracted to secure all the best dramatic output whether plays or players. What happens. Up starts an Ethel Irving. . . . Up rises a Somerset Maugham. . . . He demands to be reckoned with, and you reckon. . . . No; you can't make monopolies or trusts TO HARNESS THESE THINGS." The capitals of the last words are mine, because it is just there that a point arises which, with all due deference to Mr. Marc Klaw, he seems to have lost sight of.

We must recognise in the first place that these great theatrical syndicates, in looking for players or plays, in Mr. Klaw's *own words* "secure the best dramatic output whether plays or players," only to meet with occasional *surprises* when some unknown man starts up unaided by them. That is to say that they only deal in what is *already successful*, and do not hold out artistic assistance to the struggling artist or genius until that artist or genius has proved his worth apart from them, which, as the big trusts control the bulk of the market nowadays, leaves him a pretty hard job to tackle. I am judging by Mr. Klaw's own remarks.

The trusts being now out for business do not encourage new endeavour. They wait (as is apparent from Mr. Klaw's article) till the genius arises of himself before they "have to reckon."

But when Mr. Klaw says that such trusts can't harness these things, I venture to disagree. They CAN and do harness these things in a certain sense. It may be only a negative sense, but still they harness it by the very process of shutting their doors against artist or author *until* he "has to be reckoned with."

No trust brought either Ethel Irving or Somerset Maugham to the front. And these are the special examples to which Mr. Klaw refers. Presumably entry to any of the dealings of such trusts was closed to them till they came to the front, yet they were none the less valuable people when unrecognised. So the trusts *do* harness the unknown and unrecognised artist by shutting him out, so to speak, from the chief source of endeavour, since they control the bulk of theatrical business. They do not *want* fresh men. Their doors are closed to them until somebody or another becomes a nuisance by being successful in spite of them, and then, as Mr. Klaw says, "He demands to be reckoned with and you reckon."

Is there no "harnessing" of endeavour here?—Yours faithfully,

ANTI-HARNESS.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you allow me to appeal to your readers who have votes to the Royal Blind Pension Society, and who have not yet disposed of their votes, to kindly give my claim their kind consideration?

I was an advance agent for ten years, but four and a half years ago I caught a severe chill at Seacombe, which resulted in diabetes and other maladies, which prevented me from following any employment whatever.

Some kind friends in my native town—Newcastle—have got me nominated for the small pension from the above society. I shall, therefore, be glad to have the support of my old theatrical or any London friends that have their votes to spare.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN MITCHESON.

Hall's Café, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Mr. Norman Clark will to-day (Saturday) give his 750th performance as the Tramp in *The Message from Mars*.

"Children on the Stage." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 23.

Alice in Wonderland.—Grand T., Leeds.
Alone in London.—T. R., Woolwich.
Angel of His Dreams.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Arrah-na-Pogue.—T. R., Smethwick.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T. R., Rochdale.
At the World's Mercy.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Baines, Miss Florence.—King's T., Seacombe.
Bateman, Mrs. Frank.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Wellington and Rugby.
Best People.—O. H., Southport.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Cingalee, The (A.).—O. H., Radcliffe.
Cruise of the Constance.—New T., Cardiff.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Destroyer of Men.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Diana of Dobson's.—New T., Blyth.
Don.—T. R., Portsmouth.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Grand T., Croydon.
Drama of Life.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Draycott, Mr. Chas.—Prince's T., Accrington.
East Lynne (Watt).—T. R., Bristol.
Eyes of the World.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Fanny and the Servant Problem.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Fast Life, A.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Female Swindler.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Florodora (Constant).—Bradford.
For Love and the King.—Prince's T., Bradford.
For Old Time's Sake.—T. R., South Shields.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—T. R., Stockport.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Prince T., Accrington.
Girl of My Heart.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—T. R., Halifax.
Havana.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Her Life in London.—T. R., Sunderland.
Her Path of Sorrow.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., Barnsley.
His Real Wife.—T. R., Birkenhead.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Llanberis and Holyhead.
Lodge-Percy, Mr. J. C.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Love of the Princess.—Palace T., Maidstone.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Margate.
Merchant of Venice.—T. R., Manchester.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Stanley.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—O. H., Wakefield.
Mother-in-Law.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—Grand T., Hull.
Munro, Geo., and Co.—P. O. W., Salford.
New Boy, The.—O. H., Belfast.
Nihilist, The.—T. R., Bolton.
Only a Little Boy.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—O. H., Harrogate.
Passion of Life.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Private Secretary.—Hippodrome, Colchester.
Rainbows, The.—Spa T., Whitby.
Raynar's Repertoire Co.—Crown T., Eccles.
Rollicking Rory.—O. H., Scarborough.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Sheffield.
Shadow of a Crime.—Palace T., Derby.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Court T., Wigan.
Sins of Society.—Queen's T., Longton.
Sister's Sin, A.—Star T., Liverpool.
Spencer, Sidney.—Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
Theodor's Flutter.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Through the Divorce Court.—P. O. W., Southampton.
Tree, Herbert Beerbohm.—Southport and Harrogate.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Court T., Warrington.
Under the Iron Heel.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
When it was Dark.—T. R., Merthyr.
Whom God Hath Joined.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—T. R., York.
With Edged Tools.—T. R., Leeds.
Woman of Kronstadt.—Peterborough and Bedford.
Woman's Past, A.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Darlington.
You Never Can Tell.—New T., Oxford.
10.30 Down Express.—Osborne T., Manchester.

A New York paper has been asking well-known people in the world of entertainment what they would do if it were absolutely certain that the comet would destroy the earth in three days. Mr. Eugene Walter, the playwright, answered: "Death itself would have no terrors for me, and, since I should not be leaving behind those I love, I think I could meet my end like a philosopher." Mr. Frederick Thompson, the theatrical manager, said: "I'd book every play I could in Providence, Rhode Island." Miss Norah Bayes, the actress, who is now singing the most popular song in America, "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" replied: "I should just stop doing everything else, and stick close to my husband. When the time came I'd put my arms tight round his neck, and then I wouldn't care if the comet did kill us, and neither would he.

"Just now, when funeral music is much in the air, it suggests itself as a matter for regret," says the *Westminster Gazette*, "that on an occasion such as the present no appropriate music, or at any rate so very little, from the pens of native composers is available for performance. There is a Funeral March in Elgar's 'Grania and Diarmid' music which might be used, and Stanford has written a good many elegiac pieces, but it would be idle to pretend that any British composer has produced anything worthy of comparison with the greatest compositions of this order.

"Of these, the Dead March from 'Saul' is at once the oldest and best known of those commonly played, and though surpassed in popularity nowadays, perhaps, by some later works, it still holds its own well, and in point of impressiveness, solemnity, and simplicity, still takes, if the expression may pass, a lot of beating. Queen Victoria, it is well known, had a great antipathy to it, and so at her obsequies Chopin's well known Marche Funèbre was mainly employed. Handel's work is being used again, however, to-morrow along with others.

"Of funeral music there is, indeed, no lack. Beethoven contributed two noble examples in the well-known slow movement of the A flat piano sonata and the corresponding section of the Eroica symphony, and numerous other works which, if not originally intended for this purpose, could be quite appropriately used as elegiac pieces, as, for instance, the beautiful Equali for trombones (which were used with fine effect at Lord Leighton's funeral at St. Paul's), and any number of his slow movements.

"The Masonic funeral music of Mozart, which was included in the programme of the 'In Memoriam' concert at the Queen's Hall on Thursday afternoon, is not often heard, but is said to be a composition of great beauty, written in the form of a short, slow movement, based on a cantus firmus. The Chopin funeral march, the 'Pathetic' symphony of Tchaikowsky, and the Trauermarsch from 'Götterdämmerung' will, however, all be familiar enough; as will be the vocal numbers which Mme. Ada Crossley is to sing.

"Another memorial concert is to take place at the Albert Hall on Sunday, when Sir Charles Stanford will conduct the New Symphony Orchestra and Mme. Ada Crossley and Mr. Ben Davies will sing. A circular to hand on the subject states that a 'specially effective rendering of the National Anthem has been arranged as a finale, descriptive of the peaceful death of the late much-beloved King, and the glorious accession to the Throne of his popular successor.'"

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTH.

MANNING.—May 12, Mrs. Fred Manning (the Living Marionette), of a girl.

DEATHS.

POYNTON.—On May 17, at Brighton, after a long illness, the mother of Alfred Poynton.

ROSSE.—On Sunday morning, May 15, at 214, Westgate-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mathew Russell Rosse, theatrical manager, proprietor of "A Pair of Spectacles" and répertoire companies, passed peacefully but quite suddenly away. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, A. Russell Rosse (Miss Edith Hesketh).

JIMSON.—May 15, at Charing Cross Hospital, J. C. Jimson, animal trainer, aged 47.

IN MEMORIAM.

ELLIOTT.—In loving memory of J. B. Elliott, the founder of Elliott Savonas, who died May 22, 1906. Never forgotten by his old friend, Charles Wood. "We shall ne'er look upon his like again.

ELLIOTT.—In loving memory of dear papa, J. B. Elliott, who passed away May 22nd, 1906. Never forgotten by his loving daughter, Annie Elliott (Mrs. Ettena).

ELLIOTT.—In loving memory of my husband, James Bedford Elliott, who passed away May 22, 1906.

ELLIOTT.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear father, James Bedford Elliott, of the Elliott Savonas, who departed this life May 22, 1906.

HAZLEWOOD.—In loving memory of our darling mother (Ruth Edwin) Mrs. H. C. Hazlewood, who left us May 22, 1909. Sadly missed and deeply mourned by her only daughter, BESSIE HAZLEHURST, and her son, BERT GILBERT. Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne, Australia.

HAZLEWOOD.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Mary Ruth Hazlewood (Ruth Edwin), who passed peacefully away May 22, 1909. Ever mourned by her sorrowing son and daughter-in-law, Harry and Edith.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

C. Douglas Stuart—Saturday, May 21.
Dion Boucicault—Monday, May 23.
"My Fancy"—Monday, May 23.
Sir Arthur Pinero—Tuesday, May 24.
Joe O'Gorman—Tuesday, May 24.
Edward Cranston—Wednesday, May 25.
George Miller—Wednesday, May 25.
Edith Cole—Friday, May 27.
Bruce Green—Friday, May 27.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue nine years ago of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition just published comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the New Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

The treatise is written in chatty and graceful style, which first invites attention and engrosses the reader, so that legal knowledge is absorbed in the pleasantest possible way. Numerous marginal notes make the work easy of reference, and the finger can be placed upon the information required in an incredibly short space of time. So comprehensive and concise a work is nowhere else available, and it can be confidently recommended as the first resort of managers and artists alike in any legal difficulty.

The Limit of Enquiry.

JOHNNY JACKSON was a favourite old man and character actor in George Conquest's time at the old Grecian Theatre. He was an excellent eccentric actor, but a very irascible and excitable man. F. B. Chatterton, then the lessee of Drury Lane, was just commencing his season, and determined to engage Jackson. Accordingly a message was conveyed to him to come and see the great man at Drury Lane. Johnny was there to the moment, nothing doubting that he would be received with open arms and engaged on the spot. But Chatterton in the days of his prosperity was a very pompous man. After keeping Jackson waiting in the hall for some time, he at last received him, seated in state, dictating letters to a secretary at his side. After another interval, during which Johnny's rage was rising to boiling-point, he looked up, gazed at him as though he were some curious monster from the east, and proceeded to cathechise him thus:—"Pray, sir, how long have you been in the profession?" "About twenty-five years, Mr. Chatterton." "Ah! And where are you now?" "At the Grecian Theatre." "Just so; and what do you profess?" "Old men and character business, sir." "And—ah—where were you before you went to the Grecian?" To which question Johnny replied, giving the different engagements he had held for some years back. "And before that, sir?" Johnny racked his memory and went right back to the days of his youth when he first joined the noble army of mummers. "Exactly. And pray, sir, what caused you to become an actor first of all?" This was a little too much for Johnny to stand. He drew himself up to his full height, and said, very suavely, "One moment, Mr. Chatterton. You've asked me a lot of questions; now it's my turn. I'll only ask you one: *How, in the name of heaven, did you ever get inside of Drury Lane Theatre?*" Chatterton fell back in his chair, aghast at the East Ender's audacity, while Jackson took up his hat from under his chair, quite expecting to be ordered out of the presence; but Chatterton's sense of humour came to his aid, and, turning to his secretary, he said with a laugh, "Mr. Jackson is one too many for me. You'd better make out his contract for the autumn. Eight pounds a week, shall we say?" "That will do nicely," said Johnny.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

JOHN RODGERS.—*The words "on or about" imply no definite period around the date named, but must be construed as meaning as near the date in question as can reasonably be done.*

EDWIN LANG.—*Since our answer to you last week was written we have discovered that "The Coquette," a recitation with musical accompaniment, is published by Reynolds and Co., 13, Berners-street, London, W.*

G. CATTELL (Glasgow).—*We do not know the address; and there is no play of the title you name in our list of productions. You give no date. We have no knowledge of the Strand Syndicate. Write to Mr. Lionel Rignold, Green Room Club, Leicester-square, W.C.*

BALDRY (Soho).—*Mr. Charles Morton applied for a licence for the Boar and Castle, Oxford-street, on Oct. 11, 1860, at the Middlesex Sessions. The application was opposed by Mr. Weston, of Weston's Music Hall, but was granted by the magistrates without a dissentient. The Boar and Castle was an old posting-house, and became the Oxford. Mr. Morton also laid the foundation stone of the present Oxford in 1892.*

L. D. FOX.—*The play was produced on April 25 at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, by the members of Mr. F. R. Benson's company, under the direction of Mr. John Coleman, who rehearsed it in London. Mr. Coleman was the Pericles; Mr. T. B. Thalberg the Lysimachus; Miss Lily Brayton, Thaisa; Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Marina; Miss Wetherall, Dionyza; Miss Nancy Price, Diana; Mr. Oscar Asche, Cleon; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, Helicanus; and Mr. Matheson Lang, Cerimon.*

MAY DAY.—*Do not part with money to "enterprising" persons who promise to guarantee your appearance at a hall. There are trial matinées given at London halls and theatres of variety. Write to Mr. Fred Baugh, Foresters' Music Hall, Cambridge road, Mile End, London, E. We do not know any song-writer who could give you a start, and have no knowledge of the second gentleman you ask us about. The first-named gentleman used to be at Sadler's Wells. He is now at the Shaftesbury Hall, Portsmouth.*

ALICE BLAKE (Easton, Norwich).—The Provoked Husband; or, A Journey to London, *comedy, in five acts, was written by Sir John Vanbrugh, who died in 1726, and finished after his death by Colley Cibber, actor-manager, dramatist, editor of "Shakespeare," and Poet Laureate from 1730 to 1757. In Egerton's "Theatrical Remembrancer," published in 1788, Cibber is given as the author of the comedy, which was produced originally at Drury Lane Theatre in 1727. In its unfinished state the comedy was known as* The Journey to London. *The title* The Provoked Husband *was probably adopted by Cibber as a companion title to Vanbrugh's comedy* The Provoked Wife, *acted at Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre in 1697.*

BONNIE Dundee awaits Willie Frame in the King's Theatre next week, where "the man you know" is so welcome, Hooch aye!—we're a' John Tamson's Bairns.

"A Little Knowledge," &c.

ON the stage of the Standard Theatre in Shoreditch Andrew Melville (the father of the present generation of Melvilles) was once busy conducting a pantomime rehearsal. Andrew was a tall, stout gentleman, who invariably wore an Inverness cloak, a peaked cap, and an eyeglass. A comedian whose early education had evidently been very much neglected was rehearsing his song to the band, and he rendered the chorus something after this fashion:—

"Marchin', marchin', merrily on we go,
Fightin' 'ere and drinkin' there, ready to meet the foe;
Marchin', marchin', merrily on we go;
The town is in a huproar when we're marchin'."

Andrew looked up from where he was seated at the prompt-table, glared at the gentleman through his eyeglass, and said wearily, "You might oblige us with a 'g' now and then, please." Comic Singer (triumphantly): "This song ain't written in G, sir; it's in B flat!"

BENGER'S

Benger's Food is different from any other food obtainable; it contains in itself the natural digestive principles, and, in its preparation, the degree of pre-digestion can be determined with the utmost delicacy. It can therefore be served to suit the exact physical condition of the patient.

Benger's Food is mixed with fresh new milk. It forms a delicious and highly nutritive cream, rich in all the food elements necessary to maintain vigorous health.

Benger's Food is sold by Chemists, &c., everywhere.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abcabe
Albert, Mr. Ben
Albery, Mrs.
Allan, Mr. J.
Allen, Dr. F. J.
Armadale, Miss Sybil
Ash, Mr. Harold
Baker's Hippodrome
Bandman-Palmer, Mrs.
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bannister, Prof.
Barraclough, Mr. Sidney
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellman, Miss Lottie
Bennett, Mr. Chas.
Bergeron, Mr. T. C.
Beringer, Miss Esme
Bogannys, The
Bollinger, Les
Boon, Mr. Bert
Bottomley, Mr. R.
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Brandon, Mr. Harry G.
Brooke, Miss Sara
Brunton, Miss E. S.
Caline, Mrs. Jack
Cameron and Alexander
Campion, Miss May
Chard, Lieut.
Chirgwin, Miss Clara
Clark, Mr. L.
Cliquot, Mr. C.
Clifford, Mr. N.
Clive, Mr. E. E.
Cole-Aspinall, Mr. R.
Cooke, Mr. Edgar
Corri, Madam G.
Costello, Mr. Tom
Coyne, Mr. E. J.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Dashwood, Mr. A.
Day, Mr. Geo. H.
Dellar, Mr. Kyburn
Delmar, Miss Georgina
Denham, Mr. Geo.
Derrie and Brereton
Desmond, Miss Nellie
Digby, Mr. Chas.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Earle, Mr. Fred
Englefield, Mr.
Escourt, Mr.
Evans, Mr. Wash
Fancourt, Mr. Charles
Fergusson, Mr. L. S.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Ford, Mr. Herbert
Fordwych, Mr. Herbert
Francis, Mrs. Joseph
Fraser, Mr. Dan
Gardiner, Mr. Claude
Gibb, Mrs. Horace
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gobbett, Mr. T. J.
Gordon, Mr. Ben D.
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Gunn, Miss Winnie
Hall, Mr. G. E.
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Heale, Mr. Jack
Hemming, Mr. J. W.
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Irving, Mr. Lawrence
Jacobs and Jephson
Jackson Family
James, Mr. David
Johnson, Mr. Kid
Joyce, Mr. L. P.
Kemble, Mr. Henry
Kingsland, Mr. Geo.
Kingsley, Mr. Cecil
Kingsley, Mr. Gordon
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Ladora, Miss M.
Landon, Mr. J.
Leigh, Mr. A. A.
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Lewis, Mr. Fred
Lewis, Mr. Harold
Leyland, Mr. R.
Lingard, Mr. Horace
Lloyd, Miss Rosie
Lloyd, Mr. F. F.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Loftus, Mr. Alexander
Longeraine, Miss Ruby
Lorimer, Mr. J.
Lucas, Miss Flo
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Maitland, Miss Kitty
Mauritius, Mr. Theo.
McEwen, Mr. Walter
Metcalf, Mr. F.
Michel Brothers
Mignon, Miss Mabel
Millian, Mr. Max
Missouri, Mr. Ted
Montefiore, Mr. E.
Mount, Mrs.
Nanakusa, Mrs.
Nelson, Mr.
Noble, Mr. Robert
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Parsons, Mr. Phil
Payne, Mr. W.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Poel, Mr. William
Polini, Mrs.
Raymond, Mr. M.
Reed, Mr. Wilton
Re Vell, Miss Rosa
Rexos, The
Ridgewell, Mr. Geo.
Ridley, Mr. Geo.
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rodney, Miss Nellie
Sarron, Miss Celia
Schofield, Mr. G. W.
Scott, Miss D.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Scroggs, Mr. Charlie
Shine, Mr. W. E.
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Smith, Miss Maisie
Soldene, Miss Emily
Spray, Mr. W.
Stanley, Mr. Frank
Stuart, Mr. Barney
Stuart, Mr. Leslie
Temple, Mr. Richard
Terry, Miss Marion
Tozer, Mr. C. A. N.
Travers, Miss Marie
Val, Mr. John R.
Valentine, Mr. Paul
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vine, Mr. Tom
Walker, Mr. Bobbie
Walonell, Mr. Jack
Ward, Mr. David
Ware, Miss N.
Warlow, Mr. Percy
Wilbert, Mr. William
Willard, Mr. J.
Wyatt, Miss Alice
Wyndham, Miss Pattie

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond

BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY.... I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S

BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the Natural method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.

MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine.
Is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. No. 514,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 504004.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Compress
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.

For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30, "A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
May 30, D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
May 23.
VARIETIES Twice Nightly.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries. Pictures of the Royal Funeral, &c., &c.
Seats 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Acknowledged Greatest Dancers and Co., Margaret Cooper, Clarice Vance, Albert Whelan, Funeral of H.M. King Edward (in natural colours), Exclusive Pictures on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate in "Veri 'ot Taterplane," Chas. Whittle, Morny Cash, Ed. Lauri and May Beatty, playing "The Lady Bandits," Kitty Colyer, Geo. Newburn, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Beattie and Babs, Josie Delaine, Minnie Mace, Ernie Mayne, Larola, José Collins, Harry Thurston, Dan Crawley, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Open 7.20. Saturday Matinées 2.15.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD—LILIAN HERLEIN,
Victoria Monks, Violet Loraine, Austin Latham, Hanid Alexander, Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Harry Randall, Tom Woottwell, The Schmettans, The Warsaw Brothers, King and Benson, Daisy Dormer, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Fred Poplar, Hanid Alexander, Ray and Calden, Harry Weldon, Lauri and Beattie, Queenie Finnis, Archie Goodall, Jack Warman, Kitty Wager, Four Royal Scots, Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder), FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Mumford and Marsh, Iris Fox, Jack Straw, Bros. Werds, Jack McKenzie, Richard Finberg, Arthur Clifton, Frank Lister's Co. in "No. 99," The Arbras, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Arthur Lennox.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Annie Hughes and Co. in "Napoleon's Washerwoman," Jack Lorimer, George Newburn, Warsaw Bros., Dare Austin and Co., Mona Garrick, Daisy Stratton, Ruffell's Bioscope, Ella Lorraine, The Poluskis.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday, May 23. Geo. A. Street and Co. present "The Cattle Thief." Lena French, Bioscope, Alice Maydue, King's Funeral, Roze and Calvert, Joan Lake and Co., Rubie and Renee, Frank Couch, Glayds Whitton, Fred Herbert, Carney and Armstrong. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, May 23.
Webb's Notions, Albert Le Fre and Co., Lucy Coventry, Prince Kuroki, Jack Heath, Lilian Oates, The Three Cunards, Johnson and Jane, Trixo, Cameron Matthews and Co., Schaffer Four, Bioscope, Lennie and Hast, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, 23rd: Louis Taylor's Co. in "The Adder's Tooth," Mooney and Holbein, Ted Cowan, Carlotta Levey, Three Trees, Clare and Pastor, Lily Lonsdale, Woolmer Young, Mabel Mignon, Elsie Athas, Ernie Myers, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Patriotic Ballet,
"OUR FLAG."
MLLE. BRITTA, Premiere Danseuse.
Three Sisters Athletas, Lalla Selbini, Rothig, Charles Baron, Francis Marty, The Excellos, Toch and Tard, Russell and Held, Coram, Jury's Pictures, Funeral Procession of King Edward VII. Evenings 8. Man.-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST," FRED FARREN, &c.,
Petit Roberto, Signor Barbalonga.
Elsie Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half-term commences Mon., June 6. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time and are received for a single subject or the course. May 23, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert. Prospectus and Concert Tickets post free on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Briscoe and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £360. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
SPRING DRAMATIC SEASON.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Geo. P. Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancies this year, June 27, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies,
May 30.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Have July 11 & 25 open for First-class Attractions.
Address, Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, Arthur J. Barclay, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, June 13, Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, B. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.
Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.
Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. Jackson Withers, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Visited by Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr. Martin Harvey, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Mr. Geo. Edwardes's Co's., Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Co's., "The Arcadians," &c., "Brewster's Millions," Mr. Jas. Welch, Mr. Geo. Dance's Co's., Mr. Frank Curzon's Co's., The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., Mr. Richard Flanagan's Productions.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates, May 30 and July 25 (Musical Comedy). Vacant next spring, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 24.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WALSALL.—Correspondent Required to supply weekly reports of the theatres and music halls.—Apply, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

AN APOLOGY.
It having been stated that I, Fred Morgan, of 1, Norfolk House, Brixton Oval, S.W., made certain disparaging remarks in regard to Mr. Wentworth Croke, of Piccadilly Mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., I wish hereby to put on record that there is no ground or justification whatsoever for my remarks in the matter, and I wish it to be clearly understood that I have apologised to Mr. Croke for my part in the matter, and I send this notice with a view of undoing, so far as I can, any harm I may have done to Mr. Croke by my unfounded statements.—Yours faithfully,
(Signed) FRED MORGAN.
May 18, 1910.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 2, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1909
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1909
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1909
Melion, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Miss Mary Stafford	April 17, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank	May 29, 1909
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline	May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Victoria, Miss Vesta	April 10, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold	May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E.	July 10, 1909
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1910.

THE CENSORSHIP AND ITS ALTERNATIVE.

Last year considerable space in the newspapers was devoted to the proceedings of a committee which sat to consider the desirability of abolishing the Censorship in Great Britain; and the arguments against its existence were plausible and numerous. According to the opponents of the existing arrangement, it simply crushed the imaginations of all our best would-be dramatists. Mr. THOMAS HARDY was burning to write a play which would be equal, if not superior, to his best novels; he was prevented by fear of the Censorship. The only plays which were worth writing, said Mr. BERNARD SHAW in his evidence, were improper plays, the deduction being that the plays now written were not worth writing. "Away with the very word Censor, with its tiresome and hateful associations," cried Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES. Column after column was filled with the opinions of well-known personages, usually adverse to the existence of the Censorship. And, of course, nothing came of it. "Gentlemen," said SIÉYÈS to the *tiers état* on a celebrated occasion, "you are the same to-day as you were yesterday." At the conclusion of the sittings of the committee the Censorship in England was as safe and secure as ever.

The recent action of the Mayor of New York illustrates the working of the alternative system in America. The Mayor warmly endorsed the decision of the Chief Commissioner of Police in closing the New York Theatre on the ground that a play lately produced there, with the title of *The Girl with the Whooping Cough*, was improper. The New York critics, we are told, only discovered dullness in the play; but "the illustrated placards on the street hoardings seemed to suggest that it was *risqué*." The production had an element of interest for Englishmen in that our excellent comedian Mr. DALLAS WELFORD sustained a very amusing part in it.

The way in which the theatre came to be closed is interesting. The first stimulus to action came from certain friends of the Mayor, who called his attention to the "broad" nature of the farce. The Mayor then suggested to the Chief Commissioner of Police that he should go and see what the play was like. The Chief Commissioner adopted the suggestion, and was apparently so shocked by what he saw and heard on his visit that he refused to renew the licence of the New York Theatre, which had just expired, thereby closing the house and stopping, of course, the performances of the play. The Mayor thoroughly approved the action of the Chief Commissioner, and wrote to him: "Please do not renew the licence until you consult with me, and we get some guarantee of future decency."

But this is not to be the end of the Mayor's activity. His attention has been called to a German play called *Alma, wo wohnst du?* This piece appears to have been popular, for it has been played at New York, Chicago, and Cincinnati, and an English translation of it is being made for one of the Broadway theatres. The Mayor having received many complaints concerning this piece, which was being performed at the Grand Opera House, New York, requested the Chief Commissioner to send shorthand writers to take down all the indecent passages. "We have ample power," said the Mayor, "to enforce decency by revoking the licence and closing the theatre. Let us exercise it prudently but firmly."

Public opinion in New York is strongly on the side of the Mayor, and, with a few exceptions, his action is vigorously supported by the Press of the "Empire City." To us in England it seems as though the occasional errors of the Censorship system in London were more endurable than the peremptory despotism of New York. Here the wishes of the public are carried out, often imperfectly, but on the whole fairly, by a gentleman whose business it is to estimate public opinion, the author being prevented from producing an improper piece. There, not only the author, but the unfortunate actors and manager are punished for being concerned in the production of what is deemed to be an indecent play. And the estimate of its indecency is formed, not by an expert, but by a prominent police officer. It is obvious that the severity or laxity with which offences against public decency are judged and punished in New York must depend greatly on the personal characteristics of its leading officials. On the fact whether the Mayor and the Chief Commissioner of Police are prudes or Rabelaisians must depend the fate of many a "doubtful" and *risqué* play. Surely it is better to bear the comparatively consistent despotism of our Censor than to place our dramatic art at the mercy of a City Father and a higher grade of constable. Those who have advocated the abolition of the present Censorship seem to have overlooked the fact that a Censorship of some sort, representing average public opinion, there must be. By our system, plays are licensed or prohibited before production; and the method is very properly merciful to managers and to actors and actresses. It is very hard on a company to be suddenly disbanded and thrown upon their resources because the piece in which they have been appearing is deemed indelicate by a Mayor or a Commissioner of Police. Prevention is better than cure; and it seems more rational to let an author know beforehand that his piece, as it stands, cannot be licensed, than to "come down upon" him after the offence against decency has been committed, and involve in his punishment the manager of the theatre and the artists whom he has engaged.

MR. MANNERS AND MR. CROKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence you inserted between Mr. Croke and myself last Saturday, I shall be glad if you will publish the enclosed.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED MANNERS.

Empire, Swindon, May 17.

[COPY.]

DEAR MR. CROKE,—There is a very serious misstatement upon your part in respect to the headlines in your letter to *The Era*. You state you sent a message to Mr. Pool from Liverpool giving him distinct instructions that on no account were the artists to appear. The facts are these: Mr. Pool came to my office at ten o'clock on Saturday morning. We agreed that he should telephone to you to at once ascertain what we should do. I saw Mr. Pool several times afterwards, when he informed me he had a reply to the effect you were in Liverpool, and he had wired you there. I again saw Mr. Pool at five o'clock. He then informed me (when Miss Manners was present) that he had heard nothing definite from you. Had he done so, and you had given such explicit instructions, we should certainly not have opened; indeed, anyone that knows how strict you are in respect to the management of your companies will doubtless realise that Mr. Pool's engagement with you would not have continued another twenty-four hours if he had acted contrary to your wishes. Apart from this, Mr. Pool and myself were most anxious to have your views, and had your message come along we should then have known what the provincial managers were doing, and should certainly have closed down. Instead of this, I had heard that the company I had last week were playing on that evening. The conclusion I came to was that the provincial managers were not closing down.—Yours faithfully,

A. MANNERS.

SIR,—I have just received the enclosed letter, which, I think, in fairness to the memory of the late Mr. Carpenter, should be given the publicity of your journal.—Yours faithfully,

WENTWORTH CROKE.

May 19.

[COPY.]

11, St. Edmund's-terrace,
Regent's Park,
London.

DEAR MR. CROKE,—Re your correspondence with Mr. Manners, and his introduction of the late Ernest Carpenter's name, concerning the opening of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, on Jan. 22, 1901. The play was *Two Little Vagabonds*. The reason the performance was given was because the sad news did not reach us till our second act was well started. Mr. Carpenter was not in the town. A consultation was held, and it was decided, as we had got so far with the show, to let the audience sit quietly, and have the remainder. Mr. Manners cannot call that a precedent, and certainly there is no need to blame poor Mr. Carpenter for it.—Yours faithfully, (Signed),

ERIC G. MERRIS.

Wentworth Croke, Esq.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

The committee of the above think that the following letter from Mr. Forbes-Robertson may be of interest to our readers:—

[COPY.]

"DEAR SIRS,—I am sorry to say I have not been able to make any headway in the matter of a committee in New York in the interests of S.M.N.T. My time was very short, as I left there two weeks ago. However, matters are more hopeful in Canada. Last Friday, the 22nd, a dinner was given to His Excellency by the St. George's Society in Hamilton. In his speech Lord Grey called upon the city to start a subscription, which was there and then done. I got to the banquet late after the play, and in proposing my health Lord Grey mentioned that in less than an hour £500 had been collected at the tables. There is every reason to believe that his Excellency's interest in the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre will cause subscriptions to be started in many of the other cities of Canada. I go to Toronto next week, and hope again to open the subject. I may mention that Lord Grey had the news cabled to the St. George's Society in London, so you may have heard of the incident through the Press. I venture to suggest that the Committee send a letter of thanks to his Excellency.—Yours truly,

"J. FORBES-ROBERTSON."

"The Touraine Hotel, Buffalo, April 29, 1910."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I agree with all that Mr. Herbert Trench says in his letter of last Saturday about a dual theatre "properly endowed or supported and publicly recognised," but I presume that the initiative at present lies with the Executive Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. Is it not time that this committee met its General Committee and presented some report as to the work it has done during the last fourteen months?—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POEL.

May 18, 1910.

AN ACTOR'S TRIBUTE.

Mr. J. Gordon Wilson, an old Shakespearean actor, who is well known as the author of many patriotic poems, has received the following letter of acknowledgment from his Majesty King George V. of some "In Memoriam" verses to our late beloved King Edward VII. They are dedicated to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, in gratitude by the author of their many kindnesses during his long illness, and will be mounted upon art boards, with portrait of the late King, and published at 6d. each, for the benefit of the fund, should the committee accept the same.

[COPY.]

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,
"May 17, 1910.

"The Equerry-in-Waiting is commanded by the King to thank Mr. Gordon Wilson for his poem, and for his loyal and sympathetic message of condolence on the lamented death of his Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII. of blessed memory.

"The King is sorry to hear Mr. Wilson is ill, and trusts he may soon recover his health."

[COPY.]

The verses ran as follows:—

"*Black Friday.*" May 6, 1910.

IN MEMORIAM
Of our Late Beloved
KING EDWARD VII.
"*Peace I leave with you.*"

THE MORN.

The morning breaks upon our Empire's might;
The Empire throbs responsive with delight.
Life's busy hum is heard alike without—within
A peaceful people bless their peaceful King.

THE NOON.

Within the Palace anxious thoughts arise
As courtiers note their King with saddened eyes
Without the Palace the people nothing know
Of breaking hearts within or coming woe.

THE EVE.

Within, by Royal bed, there sits our weeping Queen
And princely sons and daughter, with dejected mien.
Without, the anxious people in reverence waiting stand.
Black omen'd night draws near, Death hovers o'er the Land.

MIDNIGHT.

The Palace doors ope wide; the people bow the head;
A voice cries: "Gentlemen, Our Lord the King is *dead*."
The King of Kings on Earth has thrown his sceptre down.
With the King of Kings in Heaven he's won a golden crown.

A NATION'S PRAYER.

God bless our Mother Queen in this her darkest hour,
God save our King and Consort; to him all honour and power.
In loving memory of Edward VII. the nation's voice uplift,
"God bless our King and Empire;
Long live King George the Fifth!"

J. GORDON WILSON.

15, New Queen-street, Chesterfield,
May 15, 1910.

"O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope in years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal Home."

IN MEMORIAM.

"The King is dead, God rest the King," we cry;
Crape on the garb and tear-drops in the eye.
Upon the masthead sits a mourning dove,
Sign of a nation's grief and lasting love.
The player's friend hath passed—the play must cease;
So be it, royal EDWARD—rest in peace!

Thespis bereaved and desolate shall stand
Missing his kind smile and applauding hand;
That hand lies cold beneath a funereal pall.
"The rest is silence," let the curtain fall.
The World's Peacemaker claims from care release;
So be it, royal EDWARD—rest in peace!

—MAY IRENE WRIGHT,
Pete Company No. 1, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
May 17, 1910.

EDWARD VII., R. AND I.

"When beggars die, there are no comets seen;
The heavens themselves blaze forth the death of princes."

—*Julius Cæsar*, Act II., Scene ii.

E dward of England! all too soon thy reign
D oth, at the hour when most we needed thee.
W oefully end; a nation's tears well forth,
A nd e'en through the Empire myriad tongues
R ecount the story of the King they loved.
D uty his watchword was; no task dismayed,

R esting but when some nobly-useful work
E volved had been for his people's weal;
'X emplar bright for monarchs yet unborn!

E ver untiring in the country's cause,
T rue sportsman, and the loyalest of friends.

I mperious but for honour of the flag;
M aster of millions, servant of them all!
P atron of drama. We, of the cultured arts,
E ncouraged by his helpful word and deed,
R evere his memory with fond regret—
A tribute heartfelt no mere words can tell.
T o-day his form the soil he loved doth claim.
O ne solace have we—With his soul's release,
R adiant, our Peacemaker enters into peace.

CLAUDE TREVELYAN.

Little Ilford, Essex.

THE PASSING OF THE KING.

E ngland mourns. Her sons the wide world o'er,
D istraught with grief, in silence
W eep at the passing of their King
A nd friend. A King, yet withal a man!
R evealing in his Kingship the qualities which,
D enuded of regality, made him

T he beloved of the people. Proving in
H is life all things to all men, he
E vinced, with helpful sympathy, his pity for the

S uffering sick, the halt, and the needy.
E xcusing not himself in State affairs, and
V ersed in all that pertained the welfare of
E mpire at home and overseas, Britain may
N ot look upon his like again. Surely in
T he dawn of a bright To-morrow all
H eaven will hail this soul of Peace.

R. OSSULSTON-RICHE.

Duke of York's Theatre, May 20.

Always Behind.

WILLIAM BELFORD, the light comedian of forty years ago, and the original Sir Charles Harrington in *'Twixt Axe and Crown* at the old Queen's Theatre in Long Acre, was rather noted for being late at rehearsal. When he died H. J. Byron was amongst the mourners at his funeral. As the little party emerged from the church to walk to the graveside Byron started to walk after the first hearse. Someone called him back, and said to him, "Excuse me, Byron, but you were following the wrong coffin. Mr. Belford's in the last." "Poor old Bill!—behind, as usual. I ought to have known it!" was the inveterate joker's commentary.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA FILLE ELISA."

Play, in four Acts, by Jean Ajalbert, founded on E. de Goncourt's novel, Produced at Antoine's on May 10.

Elisa	MME. SUZANNE DESPRÈS
La Mère d'Elisa	MME. EVEN
Gobe-la-Lune	MLLE. MASSART
Marie-coup-de-sabre	MLLE. MIRVAL
La Sœur	MLLE FUSIER
Le Défenseur	M. GEMIER
Tanchon	M. SAILLARD
Le Directeur	M. CLARUS
Le Président	M. COLAS
Père la calèche	M. MARCHAL
Le Sous-Préfet	M. ROYER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 12.—M. Edmond de Goncourt's *Fille Elisa* is a powerful novel, and M. Ajalbert's adaptation forms a tragedy of great impressiveness. It was first brought out a few years ago, but the adapter has added a new act and made several alterations in the original text. Elisa, the heroine, belongs to the "unfortunate" class, and in the opening tableau we see her in a house of ill-fame, frequented chiefly by soldiers. Among the latter is Tanchon, a young Breton, who has lost his heart to Elisa. He speaks to her respectfully, and the youth's kind manner has worked an evolution in the girl. She passionately loves him, but with a love totally different from anything she ever felt before; something that seems to lift her from the life of degradation she leads. Her wretched calling compels her to submit to the embraces of others, but the moment her little soldier comes to her she is metamorphosed. She will not allow the slightest familiarity that would at once put an end to her beautiful dream. His very presence seems to purify her, and she wants him to treat her like an elder sister who dotes on him. Tonchon, sentimental like most Bretons, enter into the spirit of his quaint love-idyll, and plays the part assigned to him by Elisa. When the story opens, both he and the girl are very excited at the thought that on Sunday next they will go together into the country to luncheon on the grass, and bring home some beautiful flowers. But this happy day ends in a disaster. Whilst Elisa is gathering her flowers the "beast" awakes in Tonchon, and he roughly seizes hold of her. She struggles violently to keep him at bay, and then, suddenly, madness overtakes her. She herself does not know how it all occurred, but a minute later her little soldier lies dead at her feet, stabbed to the heart, whilst she holds the blood-stained knife in her hand. In the ensuing tableau Elisa stands in the dock accused of having wilfully murdered the young soldier with whom, a little before, she was seen walking in the fields. Trembling with virtuous indignation the public prosecutor describes Elisa as a low prostitute, who ends her infamous career like these careers are bound to end—in crime; and he implores the jury to show her no mercy. Her counsel then rises, and his speech—a disquisition on the social evil—is the principal scene in the play. The barrister points out that the wretched prisoner has been condemned from her birth to a life of degradation, and that if she ran away from home at the age of sixteen—a fact laid to her charge by the prosecution—it was to escape from the treatment to which her own mother subjected her. All counsel asks is a little mercy for his sinner, who has also been sinned against. But the jury are merciless. They find no extenuating circumstances, and Elisa—"la fille Elisa," is sentenced to death. This sentence, however, is commuted to penal servitude for life, and in the last act Elisa is in prison—a model prison—wherein the "silent system" is applied with so much success that when, after a lapse of seven years, Elisa is "allowed" by the Governor to answer a question put to her by a visiting magistrate, she can only produce inarticulate sounds, an offence for which, of course, she receives additional punishment. M. Gémier, as the barrister, and Mme. Suzanne Desprès as the "fille Elisa," acted with admirable effect.

In strong contrast to the foregoing play is *Nono*, an airy trifle by M. Sacha Guitry—son of the well-known actor—who, with his wife (Mlle. Charlotte Lysès) played the principal rôles therein. None of the personages seem possessed of the slightest moral sense, and the flimsy story is nothing but a kind of chassé-croisé between two couples. In fact, the work gives one the unpleasant impression that the author had written it solely to place the jokes and puns he had in stock. Some of these are decidedly funny, but where he showed a great want of tact was in introducing words of the very coarsest description. If the audience had made some demonstration it might have taught the author a lesson, but the people in the boxes and stalls thought it all very funny, and they laughed where they should have hissed.

"MADEMOISELLE MOLIERE."

Play, in four Acts, in Verse, by Louis Leloir and Gabriel Nigond, Produced at the Odéon, on May 10.

Armande	MLLE. VENTURA
Catherine	MLLE. BARJAC
Madeleine	MLLE. VENIAT
La Forêt	MLLE. KERWICH
Louis XIV.	M. MAUPRE
Roquette	M. VARGAS
Mazarin	M. DESFONTAINES
Molière	M. DESJARDINS
La Fontaine	M. BERNARD
La Thorillière	M. CHETILLAT

The title of the play led us to believe that the principal personage would be Molière's wife. But we were mistaken. We see very little of the fair Armande. As to Molière, we perceive him first on the high road, travelling with his company. In the next tableau he is in Mazarin's workroom, transformed into a dressing room for the company, who are going to produce *Les précieuses Ridicules*; and it is there he decides to marry Mlle. Armande. Nine years elapse. He is in his house at Auteuil, almost despairing, for his wife is unfaithful to him, and the King refuses *Tartuffe* to be produced. Roquette is the villain in the piece. It is he who compels Mazarin to forbid Molière to give any more performances in the Palais Bourbon, and it is he who causes Armande to stray from the right path. Fate finally overtakes the miscreant, who is killed in a duel by the actor La Thorillière. All this is rather childish and diminishes the great figure of the immortal poet. Some of the historical characters are also overdrawn, like that of La Fontaine, who certainly was very absent-minded, but who in the hands of the authors becomes almost a grotesque personage. With such material at hand, the two collaborators might have supplied a better play than *Mademoiselle Molière*. It was fairly well acted by the Odéon company.

The performance of Richard Strauss' *Salomé* proved a thorough success. Miss Mary Garden scored a real triumph in the title rôle, and the other parts were also well sustained. The work was beautifully mounted, and, in every respect reflected credit upon the Opéra management.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON concludes to-night at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, another long and brilliantly successful tour with his celebrated Compton Comedy Company, appearing as David Garrick for the 1,525th time. Mr. Compton is now well over his twenty-ninth year of tour with the Compton Comedy Company, which celebrates its thirtieth anniversary on Feb. 7th next. Another long autumn and spring tour will commence on August 8, Mr. Compton taking a well-earned holiday in the meantime.

THE PASSION PLAY.

The Church and Stage! How glibly the words trip from our lips—writes Mrs. Brammall in an article on this subject—and yet—what a union they formed in the past; what a moral they can preach in the future; what a lesson they can teach to-day. Still, looking backwards, back to the time of Henry II., the writings of William Fitz-Stephens, a Canterbury monk, tells us of the plays then performed on holy subjects, on the sufferings of martyrs, on the constancy of confessors. In 1378 we find the first mention of the mystery plays in a quaint petition from the scholars of St. Paul's School to His Majesty Richard II. "Praying Him to prohibit some unexpert people from presenting the History of the Old Testament, to the great prejudice of the said Clergy, who have been at great expence in order to represent it publickly at Christmas." In 1390 the parish clerks of London played interludes at Skinner's Well, and in 1409 we find them performing at Clerkenwell, which carries its name to the present time from the acting of the clerks. The nobility and gentry of the kingdom were present at these plays. Later came the Moralities, connected almost wholly with religion, for in former days religion was part and parcel of the life of the people—it was everybody's business; the learned strove to teach it, the ignorant craved to learn it.

In 1567 the Passion Play was publicly done at Blackfriars on the declaration of war between France and England; it was again played some days later, when the Court and all high officers attended in State. The Passion Play continued to be enacted throughout the kingdom in the days of Queen Elizabeth and her successors.

The great Chester, Coventry, and Durham miracle plays are in existence to-day.

Away in the old Cornish villages takes place the Guardy plays; in the wild and rugged fastnesses of Wales the old pathetic stories of our Bible are told in simple words and acted in loving faith; in Norfolk, the Bethlehem Mystery, the story of the little child, and the Virgin Mother of the Shepherds, and the Kings, is reverently portrayed year by year.

In the great throbbing heart of London plays, piously and beautifully presented, are given at Christmas time, and we realise, watching the actions of the players, listening to their words, the old, old story of our youth, truths long-forgotten come back, never again to become indistinct and blurred.

The story which has left us cold when told thrills us when acted.

Nineteen hundred years ago the great drama of the Passion was enacted on the Calvary—a God crucified to save mankind! He was tortured for us—he died for us. The story is told in every land—the story of the man that hung upon the Cross! Catholics, Protestants, Nonconformists, all join in one common adoration of the crucified Redeemer, of the Christ upon the Cross.

Priests preach the story from their pulpits; Salvationists proclaim it from their stand in city squares; earnest God-fearing men and women teach it on the sands and in the parks. We listen, we go our way, and—we forget. Words are soon forgotten. The tragedy was played so long ago, all connected with it seems shadowy and dim.

"Lest we forget!"

"Lest we forget!" In a little corner of Europe, in the Bavarian Tyrol, is a hamlet called Ober Ammergau. There, every ten years, in fulfilment of a vow made at the end of the sixteenth century, is played the Passion Play. The Thirty Years' War had drawn to a close; gaunt famine and pestilence followed in the wake of the ensanguined sword. In Germany and Bavaria towns and villages were devastated; the plague was everywhere. Alone, the little village of Ober Ammergau was immune. Every precaution was taken, no one was to leave the town, and no one was to enter it. A strict quarantine was established, but human wisdom failed, human laws were broken. Casper Schuckler was working at Eschenloke. He grew heart-sick, home-sick, and weary. He longed for his wife, for his little ones. He had gone out to fight the world for their sake; now he wanted them. He would go back to Ober Ammergau, back and feel their tender arms about him, their tender kisses on his lips. He evaded the watchers, he broke through the cordon; but he carried with him the fatal seeds of the plague. In two days he was dead!

With awful rapidity the fever spread from house to house, and soon there would not be enough living to bury the dead. "Bring out your dead!" "Bring out your dead!" and as the mournful call rang in their ears the villagers saw their sins and cried aloud to God for mercy. They had forgotten—yes, they had forgotten Him; but, if God would hear them and stay the pestilence, to show their gratitude and prove their penitence, every ten years they would play the Passion play. And, we are told, from that hour the plague was stayed, not another person was attacked, and the dying recovered.

Every ten years thousands and thousands travel from all parts of the world to the little village of Ober Ammagau, not to witness any gorgeous spectacle, not to admire any magnificent scenery, not to listen to any wondrous voice, nor to gaze on any marvellous work of art, but to witness a play written by an humble priest, a play to be acted by peasants. These thousands go to see the Passion Play, the play that faithful Catholic peasants perform every ten years in fulfilment of their vow.

The play of the story that transformed the world. The story that transformed the world, so the great writer and journalist, Mr. W. T. Stead, speaks of it after his second visit in 1900. He tells the story of the vow in beautiful words; in strong poetic language he points the moral of the play; in no uncertain terms he tells us what it did for him and countless others—it touched them and taught them as no words, nor hymns, nor pictures, nor statues could touch or teach. And we—we in England to-day—we are forgetting—forgetting the old faith, the old traditions, the old, beautiful story of the Cross. We have no time for remembrance. Ah! let us for an hour lay aside our troubles, our fight for money, our struggles, our triumphs, our defeats; let us, as our forefathers did, come in simple, kindly faith, and learn over again the Gospel story of the Passion taught us by the players. With Mary, the sad, sad mother, with Peter full of fire and weakness, with the Apostles trusting and faithful, with Magdalen the loving and penitent, we also will stand beneath the Cross and pause, and watch, and listen, listen, and watch, and learn, lest, passing unheeding on the way, we also may forget.

Changes of Bill.

"A GLANCE at old-time theatrical records," writes a correspondent, "shows that a nightly change of programme was the rule, and not the exception, at our theatres some ninety years ago, when George IV. was King. Here is a list culled from a week's playbills of Drury Lane Theatre in 1821: May 14, *Marino Faliero, Doge of Venice* (Lord Byron's tragedy) and *Giovanni in London*; May 15, *The Duenna* and *The Midnight Hour*; May 16, *The Kind Impostor* and *Past Ten O'Clock*; May 17, *Artaxerxes, The Day After the Wedding*, and *Who's Who*; May 18, *The Kind Impostor* and *Thérèse*; May 19, *Love in a Village* and *Giovanni in London*. There was thus almost a complete change every night. At Covent Garden Theatre (then devoted solely to the drama) a similar reliance on répertory prevailed. Its programme for the same week was as follows: Monday, *The Antiquary, London Stars*, and *Tom Thumb*; Tuesday, *The Tempest* and *Too Late for Dinner*; Wednesday, *The Provoked Husband* and *Undine*; Thursday, *The Tempest* and *Undine*; Friday, *The Provoked Husband* and *Undine*; Saturday, *The Tempest* and *Undine*."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

A most interesting appearance in the halls will be that of Miss Annie Hughes on Monday in the title-rôle of the sketch *Napoleon's Washerwoman*—no other than Madame Sans Gêne, a part much favoured by actresses on both sides of the Atlantic since Madame Réjane played Sardou's piece in Paris. One remembers the arch and coquettish rendering of the character at the Lyceum in 1897 by Miss Ellen Terry, and with such a consummate comedienne as Miss Hughes the part has great possibilities.

The Paragon, Mile End, after a series of vicissitudes, passes out of the control of the Syndicate from to-day. The hall, which rose on the site of Lusby's Summer and Winter Palace, burnt down on Jan. 20, 1884, was opened on May 20, 1885, under the direction of Messrs. Crowder and Payne, with Mr. Wilton Friend (afterwards at the Foresters') as manager. At the time the house was regarded as a very splendid building, but it was evidently intended for big productions, and not for the comic singer.

It was distinguished when under the management of the late Mr. Thiodon by the production of *The Little Stowaway*, with the incomparable Jenny Hill as the waif. Later Mr. A. C. Lilly, Mr. W. C. Day, and Mr. W. Farren, jun., each in their turn played the part of the Captain, originally relegated to a super, in order to evade the anomalous sketch law. Clement Scott saw *The Little Stowaway*, and spoke of its excellence in a very lengthy and eloquent article in the *Daily Telegraph*. It is still popular, and has probably had a longer run on the halls than any sketch that was ever produced. Mr. Fred Bowyer, the author, founded it on Arthur Matthison's poem.

"People will not go to old-fashioned variety halls now!" Thus Mr. Leon Zeitlin to *The Era* representative last Thursday. Mr. Zeitlin had been asked to give an expression of opinion as to the future of the Paragon, Mile End. To-night (Saturday) it closes its doors (*pro tem.*, at any rate) as a variety theatre.

"Well, you see," continued Mr. Zeitlin, "all I can tell you as to the future of the house is that a syndicate, in which Mr. Harry Jacobs figures prominently, has bought the Paragon from us, and I believe, in future, it will be run in the interests of the boxing community. People will not now go to the variety theatres modelled on old-fashioned lines. So we have sold the old Paragon and finished with it for good.

"At one time it was the best paying property the Syndicate had. In the last four years, however, it has steadily gone down, and, no matter what attraction we booked for it, the result was always the same—if not exactly a loss, at least nothing worth working so hard for. The place for a modern variety theatre is too big. It is old-fashioned in construction and accommodation, and East Enders nowadays require just as much comfort at their doors as when they take a twopenny train ride to a West End theatre, where they can get fine seating as well as a glimpse of the stars.

"The Paragon, in addition, during the past five years, has suffered greatly from local opposition. New and up-to-date halls have been built all round within a mile radius; and as new brooms sweep clean, the public naturally patronises the latest comer. We were sorry, of course, to part company with a jewel whose lustre time has dimmed. But sensible business men look things squarely in the face. That is the way we looked at them. Personally I wish the old Paragon in its new life story the best of luck."

Miss Ellaline Terriss opened on Monday at Glasgow in *You and I*, originally produced, on April 24, 1901, at the Vaudeville, where *Bluebell in Fairyland*, another Seymour Hicks play, first saw the light on Dec. 18, in the same year. A condensed version of this delightful fantasy will be seen in the autumn at the London Hippodrome, with the fascinating Ellaline in her original part.

Miss Jessie Broughton and Mr. Dennis Creedon, who have been happily associated in a successful musical entertainment at the Empire, have entered into a life contract, the marriage being celebrated at Cricklewood on Tuesday, the 10th inst. The bride is the daughter of Mr. Broughton Black, and made her first appearance of the stage at the Apollo Theatre in 1903 in *The Girl from Kay's*. After more experience at the same house in *Madame Sherry* and *Veronique* she appeared at the Empire (1905-6). She made a hit at the Gaiety by her singing as Zara in the production of *Havana*. This was in 1908.

The following extract from the report by the directors of the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., to the second ordinary general meeting is very pleasant reading for the shareholders. The profit for the year ending March 31, 1910 is £96,470 14s., this being over £36,000 in advance of last year. After payment of all expenses and a dividend of 12 per cent. a sum of £32,455 18s. 9d. has been carried forward. In addition, the report shows that a sum of no less than £8,881 17s. 9d. has been paid out of revenue for the maintenance of various properties controlled by the company. Congratulations, Mr. Gibbons!

The new ballet, *Femina*, at the Alhambra, originally announced for Monday next, has been postponed until the 30th inst. We regret to hear of the indisposition of Mr. Harry Woodford, the Alhambra's popular manager. Monday last was the twenty-first anniversary of Mr. Woodford's association with the famous house in Leicester-square.

Many will be sorry to hear that Miniature Marie had to undergo an operation for appendicitis on April 15 at the Johannesburg Hospital, South Africa. She is now recovering nicely, and hopes to be out and about in a few weeks, when she may take a trip to the Old Country and return to the stage there.

From *London Opinion* we cull some interesting particulars of Mr. Alfred Butt's early life: A sudden change in the fortunes of his family turned his prospects from those of a young man with an assured future of comfort to those of one faced with the necessity of getting work to do with the least possible delay. He was studying French in France when this sudden change in his financial position brought him back home. The search for employment soon proved successful, and by way of a start in life he took a situation in Harrod's, where he was so fortunate as to gain experience that has been of the utmost value in later years.

Of all the departments in that vast establishment, there is not one in which he has not served, even to the cutting and preparing meat for the customer. He has never had to follow that particular line, but he learned all about it nevertheless, and so in domestic economy, no less than in matters connected with the furnishing and equipment of a theatre, this early training in the departments of Harrod's has been of inestimable value. The closing period of his three years with the firm was passed in the secretary's department, and it will be remembered that it was as secretary that Mr. Butt started under his mentor, Mr. Charles Morton, at the Palace.

Mr. Harry Burns and his talented wife, Miss Helen Charles have arrived home on the Mauretania.

The Birmingham Theatrical Charity Sports, which were to have been held on Tuesday, have been postponed until Saturday, June 11, in deference to the national mourning.

Mr. Frank D. Todd, manager of the Middlesbrough Hippodrome, has been appointed manager of the Pavilion Music Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, where he was assistant-manager for some time.

Mr. D. Horace Harcourt, who will be remembered as holding the position of stage-manager at the Leicester Palace Theatre some little time ago, has been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll to a similar position at the Croydon Hippodrome.

The happy valley at Llandudno has a shadow of sorrow for once, for Mr. W. J. Churchill and his minstrels appear in purple and black. Indeed, the recognition of the King's death will be a memorable note in alfresco entertainments this season.

Mr. A. J. Barclay, the expert in catering, is busy hustling at Herne Bay, where his excellent work is highly appreciated by the Urban Council. Mr. Barclay has recently designed and had built a Pierrot pavilion immediately overlooking a broad expanse of sea. From the photograph we have seen, it should fulfil its mission admirably. It is probable that it will be extensively copied.

Mr. Percival Craig, acting-manager of Bradford Empire, has been appointed district-manager for the Yorkshire district in place of Mr. Gerald Morton. There are hundreds of people in Bradford and elsewhere who will heartily congratulate Mr. Craig on his promotion, and Yorkshiremen are all glad that his appointment will not necessitate his removal from the district.

Mr. J. J. Kelly, assistant-manager, has been appointed acting-manager in succession to Mr. Craig; and Mr. Kitchingman has been made assistant-manager in place of Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Will Stone, of the Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy, Tivoli, Pentre, and Oddfellows' Hall, Dowlais, has secured a very valuable site at Maesteg. Plans have been accepted and passed by the local Council for the erection of a music hall, skating rink, electric theatre, and shops. An influential company has been formed, and building will be proceeded with at once.

The Gem, Great Yarmouth, of which the manager is Mr. E. V. Barr, has been closed for the last five weeks for extensive alterations, and during that period has been turned into an up-to-date music hall, artistically decorated throughout, and with additional seating accommodation, provided by a newly-erected gallery. The company this week includes Miss Butler, an accomplished flautist; Mr. John Story, a popular entertainer; Mr. Tom Taylor, in song scenas; and Little Miss Warshaw, a clever dancer. Excellent films complete the holiday bill.

OUR WIDOWED MOTHER-QUEEN.

Beloved, illustrious Queen!
The Nation shares thy grief,
And prays the "Healing One" may send
Thy stricken heart relief.

Askern, Newport, Mon. J. Gallagher.

A goodly gathering assembled on Saturday last for the opening ceremony of the Whitley Pleasure Gardens, which have so rapidly risen over the area of the Olde Spanish City. County Alderman R. Mason, chairman of the local Urban Council, who was supported by the principal members of that body, and a representative gathering of residents of the district, in an appropriate speech, declared the Pleasure Gardens open, and expressed the wish that the venture would prove a success.

The place, in the hands of the contractors, has undergone a complete change, a permanent theatre replacing the old open-air structure. Many of the principal features and pictures have been removed to other portions of the grounds, whilst the old frontal entrance has given place to an elaborate façade on the sea front, comprising a large circular hall, with a handsome dome. There are shop fronts all opening on to the principal promenade, and above these, on either side of the entrance, there is an open-air restaurant, the whole presenting a very fine general effect.

There was an excellent and diversified variety programme on Monday, when over 20,000 people visited the gardens.

Councillor E. H. Bostock, who returned last week from the Continent, is busy with plans and workmen with regard to the reopening of the Glasgow Zoo, which will be in July. In connection with his new establishment Mr. Bostock will revert to the old order of things that existed prior to the opening of the Hippodrome, and will have a circus within the Zoo. The large place in Glasgow will easily accommodate a circus ring and the necessary galleries for spectators. The circus will be erected in the centre.

To show that Mr. Bostock is still in touch with this form of entertainment, it may be stated that he is at present running in the North of Scotland a railroad circus, the large establishment being removed from one place to another by rail. He is also running Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie, which has been on the road now for 105 years, having been founded in 1805. It has been under Mr. Bostock's proprietorship for the past twenty-seven years.

In the Zoo proper the cages were right round the building. A new idea is a large central cage, projecting out from the line of cages, with each of which it is connected by a passage behind. The animal performances will take place in this central "arena" cage. The Zoo-Circus will be sure to be popular with city people and visitors from the country.

Mr. John Tiller is again responsible for a welcome production at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, and the mill-hands will find much that is beautiful and much that is quaint in the Dutch ballet *Amsterdam*, the scenario of which is due to the collaboration of Mr. Charles Fletcher and Mr. George R. Sims, a great admirer of the go-ahead Lancashire seaside resort. The music is by Mr. Herman Finck, musical-director of the Palace Theatre; and the principals include Miss Lulu Valli and Miss Dorothy Firmin. The production is very finely staged, a tulip ballet being quite enchanting.

The Coliseum, situate in the Arcade, Whitley Bay, and of which the proprietors are the Whitley Coliseum Co., was formally opened on Saturday at 7.30 p.m. by Mr. Thomas Thompson, who is affectionately termed "the Father of Whitley." Mr. Thompson was supported by the chairman and members of the Urban Council, and the mayor, mayoress, aldermen, and councillors of the Borough of Tynemouth. The acting-manager of the establishment is Mr. Fred Patterson, and the business-manager Mr. Steve Smith. The National Anthem was given at the opening by the Newcastle Glee and Madrigal Society.

Mr. Ernie Mayne has been out of the bills at the Oxford and South London this week owing to indisposition. He will resume on Monday at the Oxford and Tottenham.

Mr. Mark Sheridan has instructed Mr. W. H. Armstrong, solicitor, to take proceedings against any manager allowing "I do like to be beside the seaside" to be sung at any place of entertainment where money is charged for admission, as he holds the sole performing rights of the song.

La Milo made her reappearance before the public at the Birmingham Hippodrome on Monday, and she was welcomed most heartily. There has been ample evidence during the week that La Milo is more popular than ever, and her present tour promises to break all records.

Miss Daisy James bottoms the bill at King's Theatre, Edinburgh, this week, and has done exceedingly well, having repeated calls after each number. She returns to London Sunday to open at the Empire, Edmonton, on Monday. She has been on tour the last four weeks at Cork, Belfast, Manchester, and Edinburgh.

Mr. Percy Ford wishes us to announce that the committee for the relief fund in aid of the sufferers through the tragedy at the Empire, Camberwell, will be much obliged if everyone to whom lists were sent will kindly return them, together with any amounts they may have collected, as soon as possible, as it is intended to close the fund on June 6.

A new dramatic sketch of old Egypt entitled *The Price of a Soul*, by Maud Hildyard and Russell Vaun, was produced with immediate and great success at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday last to a full and appreciative house by Miss Maud Hildyard, whose creation of the part of Nitocris is full of weird and dramatic intensity. *Nitocris* was the name of a play by Miss Clo Graves, which was produced at Drury Lane Theatre on November, 1887.

Mr. Edgar Hyman arrives to-day by the Balmoral Castle his trip to London combining business and pleasure. Previous to his return to the sub-continent he will be accompanied by Mr. Sydney M. Hyman, his brother, through the United Kingdom, the Continent, and America, in a search for novelties. It is six years since Mr. Hyman was in England. He will make his headquarters at 29, Leicester-square, W.C.

The 659th meeting of the executive of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday, when the following were present: Messrs. Harry Bancroft (in the chair), Johnny Alexander, Jack Straw, T. C. Callaghan, Lieut. Albini, J. Miller Northern, Tom J. Morton, C. Douglas Stuart, H. Cee Mee, Charles Coborn, and J. H. Milburn. The meeting rose in silence on the announcement being made of the death of J. C. Jimson, a member of the committee. The resignation of Johnny Alexander, tendered on account of his having been appointed the Glasgow representative of the Association, was accepted. Messrs. Tom Packer and Chris Van Bern were elected to the committee to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Johnny Alexander and the death of J. C. Jimson.

The secretary reported record business for the previous week, 615 members having secured a concession from London alone during the week, the average saving amounting to between 3s. 6d. and 4s. each. The action of the secretary in ordering a wreath on behalf of the committee for the late J. C. Jimson was confirmed, and Messrs. Straw, Callaghan, Northern, and Stuart represented the Association at the funeral on Thursday. The M.H.A.R.A. offices, both London and provincial, were closed on Friday on account of the funeral of the late King.

Another concession of no little benefit to members travelling around the Lancashire and Yorkshire districts has been secured by the M.H.A.R.A. It is that the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway have fallen in line with all the other English railway companies, and have arranged that, provided, of course, there are five or more members travelling from one town to another, they will issue separate single tickets at the reduced three-quarter fare on the voucher being surrendered at the booking office, at the following of their principal stations: Manchester, Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool, Bolton, Preston, Rochdale, Southport, Blackburn, and Blackpool. Thus, members will now be able to purchase a ticket on either Saturday, Sunday, or Monday.

The divine Sarah is coming to the Coliseum in September, and now we are informed that the beautiful Jane Hading, the well-known French actress, is engaged for the Hippodrome, from Oct. 10 to 29.

Miss Jessie Albini, one of the brightest of our comediennes, has been winning the favour of Mile Enders this week at the Paragon with her novelty song "Cock-a-doodle-do," the original low comedy Chantecler song, written by T. W. O'Connor. The number has gone particularly well, being most artistically treated by the fascinating artist.

Mr. Stanley John Damerell and Mr. Cecil Rutland were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T., assisted by Terrier Tom Packer, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. Mr. Henri Bekker, a candidate for membership of the Association, has successfully passed the ballot. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Walter Barrett, Frank Boyce, F. Larola, Ernest Myers, and Squire Wyndham upon their re-appearance in the kennel on Sunday last. The election of officers of the Terriers' Association for the month of June will take place upon Sunday next.

Any Terrier who has not received a circular respecting the banquet to Terrier Griff is requested to communicate with the secretary. Terrier Tom Packer has been appointed Musical Director of this function, and would be glad to hear from any Terrier who is desirous of contributing to the after-dinner concert.

The Terriers' river outing will be held on Sunday, June 26. Tickets, 15s. 6d., inclusive. Arrangements will be made to hold some sports at the first convenient place, and donations from Terriers are invited towards the prize fund. Terrier Syd Walker has promised £5, Terrier F. Larola will give a special prize, and Terrier W. R. Dunkley has given £2 2s.

Mr. Sam Mayo has been showing prowess at golf, and whilst playing at the Glamorgan links, Penarth, recently he did the first hole in two, the bogey being five. "Driving just through the bunker," says a local paper, "Mr. Mayo played the iron and holed out." This feat created a great sensation, and one old colonel quite refused to believe it at all. But Sam's friends at Cardiff were full of congratulations.

Mr. Tubby Edlin, on reading the account of Mayo's feat, wrote to a Bradford paper as follows: "I was in South Wales last week and noticed in the local paper that Mr. Sam Mayo had accomplished a remarkable feat at the Glamorganshire golf links, Penarth, doing the first hole, which is 390 yards with bogey five, in two strokes.

"Not for one moment do I doubt the accuracy of this report, but I should like to point out that, whilst playing Mr. George Ross, the well-known trick pianist (Ross and Grayson) I also did the selfsame hole on the selfsame day in two strokes. The professional, two caddies, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Henri Dore (of my company) can verify my statement. Not only is this remarkable golf, but what a coincidence! Also to be accomplished in May, O! My score for the round was 84, bogey 79."

Seeing that Mr. Mayo and Mr. Edlin seem so well matched, and that, very fortunately and by a strange foible of chance, they find themselves again together in Bradford, why should they not play it out? At present people won't believe either of them, but the one who wins this great match could be adjudged to have accomplished the other feat, and, putting the dual feather in his cap, stroll away.

Mr. Edlin tells a good Hebrew story. A Jew was selling a friend a round three dozen eggs for 3s., and found that there were thirty-seven. "Vot vill you gif me for der odder von?" he asked. "I'll treat you to a drink," said his friend. "Oright," was the reply, "I'll haf an egg and milk."

Then there's Mr. Edlin's story of the comedian who became obsessed with the German invasion bogey. For weeks it was the only topic of his conversation, and the idea of it occupied all his waking thoughts, and even penetrated into his dreams. One day he bought a pamphlet on the subject, and read with horror the author's forecast that the enemy would probably land on the East Coast in the first week of June, 1911. "Good gracious," he cried, as he dropped the leaflet, "and I shall be working at Scarborough!"

THE ARTISTS' WREATH.

By the courtesy of *The Performer* we are able to give an illustration from a photo, by Hana, of the beautiful wreath which Mr. J. M. Watson, 31, Catherine-street, Covent Garden, W.C., has supplied to the order of the Variety Artists' Federation for the Royal funeral. The artists' tribute of sympathy is nearly 5ft. in diameter. The wording of the message attached is "In Dutiful and Loving Memory from the Variety Artists' Federation."

Miss Ruth Davenport has returned to town after a most successful provincial tour in the Moss-Stoll houses, and will open on the 30th with a most interesting repertoire of costume songs at the London Pavilion.

Mr. George English and Miss Florrie Penley have found comfortable positions on the permanent staff of the Theatre Royal, Workington, where their business, as well as their artistic capabilities, are heartily appreciated.

The London Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., were summoned at the South-Western Court on Thursday by the Theatrical Managers' Association for conducting, without authority, a stage-play, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Putney Hippodrome, of which the defendants were the owners.

Mr. Bodkin, prosecuting for the Association, explained that the authorities—the Lord Chamberlain, on the one hand, and the London County Council, on the other—had forbidden the performance of stage-plays at variety theatres or variety entertainments at theatres. A place of amusement could not be used, said counsel, for the double purpose.

Mr. Francis: There is the Pavilion and the Oxford. Mr. Bodkin: Yes; and there is another place, the Alhambra. Mr. Francis: I have heard of it. Mr. Bodkin pointed out that the theatre managers only desired fair play in this matter.

Mr. W. Taylor Parkes, for the defendants, assured the Court there was no intention of evading the law, but it was thought they would be within the undertaking if they made, as they did on the occasion in question, certain parts of the play into separate turns.

Mr. Bodkin said there was a connecting play story, though the items on the programme had been specially arranged. Mr. Francis: It had been doctored. A penalty of £30 was imposed.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May (secretary) begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mme. Li-Chang-Hi, babies' new woollen petticoats, made by herself; Miss Lottie Albert, eiderdown quilt and clothing; Miss M. B. Conway (Conway and Leland), very useful parcel of clothing; and Anonymous, useful parcel from Liverpool. Please make cheques and money orders payable to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Please do not forget the Jumble Sale, Tuesday next, May 24, commencing at twelve o'clock, at the Guild Rooms. Bring as many friends as you possibly can, and at the same time see the handsome fancy-dress costumes we have for sale, with a croquet set for eight people (nearly new), given by the Sisters Macarte, and a butcher's shop, given by Mrs. Harry Vento.

At the Borough Police Court, Burton, on Saturday, Roland Radford, a greengrocer, of High-street, was summoned for assaulting, on May 3, Nathaniel Hart Lewis, a comedian performing at the Burton Hippodrome this week. Defendant pleaded not guilty. Prosecutor deposed that on the evening in question he was appearing on the stage at the Opera House, and was just making his entrance to give his second song when an orange was thrown at him, which he caught. Undoubtedly it would have hit him, as he did not have to move to catch it. It was the defendant who threw it.

Mr. E. de Hague Body, manager, said he was watching the performance of Mr. Lewis on the evening in question, when an orange was distinctly thrown to him. The defendant had admitted the offence, but said it was not done with intent to injure. He asked Radford to leave the theatre. The Bench imposed a fine of 1s. and 9s. 6d. costs.

The great Raymond is breaking records on his first tour of the British provinces, and the Press throughout are unanimous in declaring him to be one of the finest performers before the public. He is booking up rapidly. His success is an object lesson in what keen showmanship can do in this country, for it must be noted that Raymond came to England but a few months ago unheralded, and his record business must be put down entirely to the genuine show he proffers, and to his own smart business ability.

"The Organ-Grinder," the dramatic sketch by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova, which had an exceedingly successful trial more than a year ago, starts on Monday next a tour on the Moss-Stoll circuit, beginning at the Palace Theatre, Leicester. Mr. Lawson Butt will play the Padrone, and Miss Joan Pereira will appear as Sal, his reputed wife. Mr. Leopold Profeit, Mr. Charles Aldred, Miss Molly Shiells, and Mr. William E. Harberd will also be in the cast. The sketch, for which two piano-organs have been specially made by Messrs. Pesaresi, has been rehearsed by the authors themselves, and goes out under their management.

The twenty Russian dancers from the Imperial Opera Houses of St. Petersburg and Moscow will again be the attraction at the Hippodrome in Tschaikowsky's ballet *Le Lac des Cygnes*, with the beautiful Mlle. Olga Preobrajensky as Queen of the Swans. Mme. Yvette Guilbert and the Wireless Controlled Airship also remain on the bill. Newcomers include Campbell and Barber, comedy cyclists; Ray Wallace, the lady mimic at the piano; the Avolos, who throw somersaults from perpendicular poles; the Brothers Miliar, gymnasts and comedy wrestlers; and the Hardini Trio of Continental musicians.

In addition to Mlles. Karsavina and Baldina, M. Kosloff, and the other Russian dancers, there are many attractions next week at the Coliseum. Fragson will make a welcome reappearance, newcomers being Liane D'Eve, the Parisian "star"; Lulu Russell, the Californian songstress; Juliette's Sea Lions; Baden and Bell, comedy acrobats; and Alfred Agoust, pantomime juggler. Miss Cecilia Loftus will give still further imitations, and George Ali and company remain with their amusing sketch *Papa's Day Off*.

The Empire, with its world-wide reputation as "The Cosmopolitan Club," is the *rendezvous* of great numbers of Americans, and many of our cousins from across the water make an evening pilgrimage to the professional home of Mdlle. Genée and stay to admire and enjoy the exquisite dancing of Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, the pioneer of Russian dancing in this country, and of M. Adolf Bolm, who shares with her the great success of the "Fantasie Choreographique," which is now charming London. Besides these dance idylls there is the revue *Hullo, London!* with its gaiety and novelty, and also a fine variety programme.

Referring to our notice of *It*, which, by the way, is from the pen of Mr. Chas. S. Kitts, of *Cuckoo* fame, Miss Lily (Lily and Antley) writes to say that last week at Ealing was not the first production, that having taken place at the Empress Brixton in December, 1908, and the sketch obtained considerable success both in the provinces and in London on the Gibbons Circuit. Owing, however, to the lamented death of her late partner, Mr. George Antley, she was obliged to give it a three months' rest; but, having now secured the services of a well-known actor, she is again able to take up her dates and book fresh ones.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE, who returned to town to delight Londoners on Monday evening last, has been nightly both at the Euston and the London Pavilion cheered to the echo for his fine rendering of "There are nice girls everywhere," a number which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS EVIE GREENE, than whom no more delightful artist exists, has at New Cross captured all hearts by her beautifully arch singing of "The Corsican Maid," which has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and commands a ready sale.

AT the Empire, Birmingham, Mr. George Lashwood has been receiving ovations nightly for his new songs. The Beau Brummel of the variety stage has never been better fitted with material, his "There's another fellow looks like me," by Fred W. Leigh, and "Oh! blow the scenery on the railway!" by George Arthurs and Fred W. Leigh, being eminently suited to the public taste. Both items are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

ALREADY the orders for copies of Miss Florrie Forde's great successes, "'Tis a faded picture," by Lester Barrett and Herman B. Darewski, and "Flanagan," the greatest comedy chorus number since the same writers' "Kelly"—now the rage of the United States—have exceeded expectations, and no other song, it is almost safe to say, can hope to oust it from the premier position it has gained. What will happen when this fine artist sings it in Manxland and at Blackpool can be better imagined than described. Will Letters and C. W. Murphy are to be congratulated on the song, which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS CISSIE CARTER, Mr. Will Godwin's clever daughter, has been singing with remarkable results that pretty song, "A little ray of sunshine in your home, sweet home." Written by Will Godwin and Fred Elton, and published by Messrs. Francis and Day, the number is one that commends itself to all lovers of melodious ditties.

ON Tuesday morning last the tremendous oblong which answers for a letter-box at Messrs. Francis and Day's establishment might with advantage have been labelled "House Full," so crammed was it with applications from myriads of artists for the summer books for al-fresco entertainers issued by the firm. Honours were about equally divided, the book containing one hundred soubrette, coon, and chorus songs being enquired for in about equal numbers with the askers for the volume, comprising one hundred humorous songs. As in formers years, a charge of sixpence must be forwarded to defray the expenses of each book by those desirous of obtaining, who must be bona-fide artists.

ALF J. LAWRANCE, in conjunction with Leonard Cooke and George Arthurs, has written a bright and characteristic number, entitled "The bullfrogs' carnival," which has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day. Mr. Lawrance in another week's time opens for the season with his two refined companies of seaside entertainers at Prestwick and at Largs on the Firth of Clyde, where spacious new pavilions have been erected, and will at both centres work, among other songs from his own pen, "Moonboat," "The Dutch diary," "Mandy's christening," and "Fairyland," all of which are being added to Messrs. Francis and Day's "Pops." He will also feature Bateman and Greenfield's new humorous song for Miss Ada Reeve "And just then he fell out of bed," which at the eleventh hour was included in Messrs. Francis and Day's al-fresco Summer Book (humorous section).

AMONG new acquisitions shortly to see the light in sheet music form over the imprint of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are:—"Oh! girls, nobody loved you like a policeman!" by Fred Godfrey, Terry Sullivan, and Harry Carlton; "Come and take tea with me" (sung by Miss Rose Gower), by Charles Collins and F. J. Barnes; "We can't all live in Easy Street" (Miss Evelyn Taylor), by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule; and "I do like the name of Mary," by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford.

ALF LAWRANCE and George Arthurs, one of the finest combinations of talent extant, have fitted Mr. Ambrose Thorne with a novel number, entitled "Who'll have a girl with me?" which the comedian has been working with great success at the London Pavilion, his distribution of "girls" to members of the audience being a funny idea, well conceived and executed.

MR. REGINALD ALLAN, the well-known composer and arranger, had the felicity a day or two since of having his two hundred and fiftieth orchestral arrangement published by a leading firm, the principals of which congratulated him over the newly-installed telephone at his Highgate residence.

(*Continued on page 20.*)

THE NATION'S BEREAVEMENT.

The Music Hall Artists' Railway Association sent the following telegrams last week to the Queen Mother and King George, and received replies:—

Her Majesty Queen Alexandra,
Buckingham Palace.

Executive Committee, on behalf of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, numbering over 7,000 members, desires to tender to Her Majesty its sincere and heartfelt condolences in her hour of sad bereavement.

CHAS. COSORN (vice-president),
Chairman of meeting.
C. DOUGLAS STUART (secretary).
18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

His Majesty George V.
Marlborough House.

Executive Committee, on behalf of Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, numbering 7,000 members desire to tender to your Majesty their sincerest condolences with you upon your sad bereavement, and, further, to express their deep sense of loyalty, and their congratulations upon your accession to the Throne.

CHAS. COSORN (vice-president),
Chairman of meeting.
C. DOUGLAS STUART (secretary).
18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Buckingham Palace.
To C. Douglas Stuart, secretary, Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Queen Alexandra sends her sincerest thanks for your kind expression of sympathy in her sorrow.

Buckingham Palace.
To secretary, Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

The King sincerely thanks the executive committee and members of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association for their loyalty and sympathetic message of condolence.

EQUERRY.

AT the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, the attractions this week are the pictorial representations of the Proclamation of King George V, and the Cup Final at the Crystal Palace. Silly Billy Elliott, who tops the bill, is a mirth-provoking comedian and patterer, and Miss Flo Hovis is a pleasing comedienne.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The leading comedians of the South London bill were absent on Monday evening, both Mr. Phil Ray and Mr. Ernie Mayne being away through unforeseen circumstances. The former had a welcome substitute in Mr. Tom Leamore, whose popularity at the London-road establishment is of long years' standing. Mr. Leamore took the opportunity of putting on two new songs, the first being a whimsical account of an individual with an abnormally long name, which on extraordinary occasions when time presses, such as at his wedding ceremony, and when its owner is run over by a van, has to be abbreviated to plain "Dick." Mr. Leamore's other novelty was a serio-comic reproduction of a miser, in which the baneful influence of "gold" is told in tuneful rhyme. The comedian was hard pressed to give another song, but in a short speech pleaded to be let off in view of his other engagements. He thanked the audience for their kindly reception of his new numbers, adding that he chose the South London for the purpose, as he knew them to be the "best judges in the world" of a song.

The sketch of the current bill is one that contains excitement and humour happily combined. It is that new and well-written episode *Under Suspicion*, acted by Mr. Horace Hunter and company. Mr. Hunter plays in agreeable light comedy style as the chivalrous war correspondent, and keeps his audience in a continual ripple of laughter, though the fact that the character is an Americanised Dutchman hardly necessitates the peculiar "coon" twang adopted. Mr. Henry Latimer is a stalwart and commanding Russian officer, and he acts well; his swarthy complexion—a little too thickly laid on perhaps—and gleaming eyes making him quite Satanic. Miss Shiela O'More is an emotional Countess Nadia, in whose drawing-room the exciting events proceed.

Ingenious methods of creating laughter are adopted by the Warsaw Brothers, who provide many amusing moments with trombone and clarionet. A novel and effective item introduced is an up-to-date version of the celebrated sextet from *Florodora*, in which one comedian with a cornet impersonates a lady who is wooed in the "Tell me pretty maiden" fashion by his partner armed with another brass instrument. Miss Kitty Colyer sustains her high reputation as a smart serio and expert dancer, and the audience are very loth to part with so dainty and fascinating an artist. The Romps, a half-score of melodious maidens, sing blithely in solo and chorus, and create a diversion by appearing as pierrots, in the course of which one young girl essays the rôle of comedian. Miss Hanid Alexander excites admiration for her entertainment at the piano; and others in the programme are the Sisters Hall, vocalists; and the Donatos, the phenomenal one-legged clowns and acrobats; while Ruffell's Bioscope furnishes the latest pictures. Mr. William Payne, the manager, directs affairs in front with his customary urbanity and tact, and in Mr. William Lynch has a subordinate on whom he may safely rely. Under Mr. Charles E. Howells the orchestra does its duty thoroughly.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Mr. C. Foster Marner puts forward a good holiday bill for the benefit of his patrons, and his energies are well rewarded. The chief place on the programme is filled by Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *The R.M.S. Wontdetania*, which certainly is a most gorgeous production, involving very heavy scenic effects. The first scene on the quayside is a fine piece of stage realism. We are shown the huge vessel leaving her moorings, and after a lively rally on the promenade deck the action moves to that of the saloon itself. Here the motion of the vessel in mid-ocean is cleverly simulated. There is a slight story running through, and the fun is kept going well. All concerned work very hard, and Mr. Karno has certainly a fine show, on which it is evident that neither pains nor expense have been spared.

Mr. Albert Whelan is always welcome here, for his entertainment is ever amusing. His imitations of Chirgwin and Harry Lauder are very lifelike and meet with great appreciation. The Lancashire Lassies soon become popular with their dances, which are of the brightest description. Nan Farren, a smartly-dressed lady, sings of the "Land of Snows," and also contributes a neat dance. Loud laughter greets Walter King, who, attired as a female, gives a history of married life, which is vastly amusing. Paul Pelham is presenting his descriptive song, "Two little heroes," which he renders in capital manner. As a couple of talkative comedians Carney and Armstrong can easily hold their own in their most diverting turn, which causes much amusement. Daisy Taylor, the neatest of Scotch comediennes, makes a hit with her song and dance.

Though several dancing turns precede them, nevertheless Miss Lily Vine and Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies are accorded a big reception, for their dancing is entirely unique, and they rattle off their steps at an express speed which is most exhilarating. Miss Vine herself is a clever dancer, and the four young people who assist are as nimble as ever. One turn was deputised for by a comedian who amused with a comical song, and the Four Burnells were also billed, but did not appear on the night of our visit. The Bioscope shows some interesting films, and Mr. Sheldon and his capital orchestra put in much good work.

EAST HAM PALACE.

The current programme at this popular Eastern "house" is brimful of interesting and topical items, and fully merits the warm appreciation of all who have witnessed it. On Monday evening excellent business was done at both houses, large crowds making the journey to the Palace to conclude the excellent holiday which the weather provided. A notable feature of the entertainment is the appearance of Darracq, the sensation king, in a most vivid and exciting motor-car act, in which car and driver dash down an incline of 40deg. at a speed of 70 miles an hour, and, climbing a half circle, dash into space, turning ten somersaults around a small bar. Darracq, in his car, also whirls around the wheel at over 80 miles an hour—the highest speed ever attained on any stage in the world. The performance is very thrilling, and the wonderful skill and coolness exhibited by Darracq elicits the heartiest applause. Jack Warman, comedian, delights the audience with his song "Tiddle-le-um," and his droll patter is, as usual, intensely amusing.

The sketch *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler* is excellently played by Mr. Harold Nuttall's company, which includes Mr. Martyn Roland, an actor of sterling ability. The story, which is cleverly conceived, abounds with humour and tragedy cleverly blended and portrayed. Two eccentric comedians and dancers are seen in Ritter and Foster, their dancing being very clever and amusing; whilst Griffin and Ardell, American acrobatic eccentrics, give a marvellous performance of somersaulting. Marie Reeve, a dainty young comedienne, scores well with her two songs, "Clever Mr. Man" and "The little girl from nowhere," the chorus of each having an excellent swing, to the full liking of the audience. Miss Jessie Berg, violinist, proved herself an efficient deputy for Gladys Huxley, and her playing of "The Blue Bells of Scotland," with variations, and the imitation of bagpipes, were two especial features of her performance, of which the audience was very appreciative.

Jack Smiles, a great favourite here, was well to the fore with his singing and dancing, and gave two very amusing songs, "Months and months" and "The Fish-sauce Shop." His dancing was both clever and amusing, especially his imitation of a man with a stiff leg doing a step-dance, the audience rocking with laughter at the effort.

Mr. G. W. Blyth presents a novel and original mining scena, "The Lancashire Singing Pit-Brow Lassies," and the audience is treated to some excellently sweet singing. This "turn" deputised for Miss Amy Augarde, who was unable to appear through her having caught a chill. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues to be a strong feature of the programme.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

The holiday attraction at this well-appointed house comprises a number of interesting items, and good houses have been the rule, notwithstanding the prevalent national depression. Two sketches are provided. In the first, presented by Mr. H. G. Brandon and a capable company under the title of *A Secret of the Past*, an adventurer, who is singularly unkind to his wife, whom he horse-whips and endeavours to poison in order, apparently, that he may obtain her fortune, rouses the upper parts of the house to a proper sense of indignation. Mr. H. G. Brandon admirably supplies the comedy relief in the part of a Jew Scotchman known as "Donald McGrigor, Esq., of Bonnie Dundee," a comic, if unintentional, libel upon Mr. Winston Churchill's stronghold. Miss Florence Barnes imparts a considerable degree of dramatic intensity to the part of the persecuted wife, and the sketch, which ends with the death of the villain during a struggle with the wife's brother and the triumph of "Donald McGrigor, Esq.," is well received.

Of a different character is the now well-known sketch *Nelson*, which presents the story of a young naval officer who has fallen into difficulties with a lady who ultimately proves to be his friend's divorced wife. Feeling drowsy from the effects of a stormy interview with the lady, who holds a bill with which she intends to ruin him, the young officer falls asleep, and dreams that Nelson has descended from his statue in Trafalgar-square to hold encouraging converse with him. We see Nelson in the flesh, and much excellent advice he proffers to the young reprobate, making a telling exit with the final remark that "England expects every man to do his duty," a sentiment which evokes much applause. Awaking from his dream, the lad discovers that during its progress he has won a sweepstake, which clears him of his difficulties and rids him of his late mistress, but whether this is due to Nelson's influence or not is not very clearly stated. Nelson is now shown to have retired once more to the top of his column as before, but is none the less able to re-descend to take his call.

A pretty entertainment of a mingled musical character is given by Eric and Nora with bells, musical tubes, and instruments of various and special classification foreign to the ordinary orchestra; Miss Gladys Clinton proves herself to be a dainty little comedienne and a graceful dancer of considerable merit; an amusing turn is given by the dancers Evelyn and Chip, Evelyn proving to be a very big man and Chip a very tiny boy, who dance excellently together, the receding and re-approaching sound effects of his clog-dancing being particularly clever on the part of the first-named. Harry Moore, the newsboy comedian and paper-tearer, well accomplishes a difficult task, and merits the applause received; Miss Rosie Gaston is a charming comedienne, whose song "Come, put your arm around me," at once catches on with the house; Guy Ryder, a comedian, who commenced well with a song, "When the right little girl comes along," quite captured the audience with his subsequent whistling.

Miss Madge O'Neill, who calls for especial mention, is immensely popular, and deservedly so, having two capital songs, and singing them excellently. The Bioscope shows at this house are excellent as a rule, and this week proves no exception, two capital series of pictures being given, entitled Across the Divide, a pathetic story, and A Lady's Train, of a highly-humorous character.

CHELSEA PALACE.

There is always a good show at the Chelsea Palace, but that which has been provided this week has been of an unusually high standard of merit. Every turn is a strong one, and crowded houses have greeted the artists with hearty rounds of applause. Topping the bill has been Kate Carney's company in *The Fun of the Fair*. It has certainly meant fun for the audience, and night after night the hall has rung with laughter as the delightful absurdities of the piece have unfolded. The scenic effects, too, are admirable, the lighting being an especial feature, while the spacious stage has provided ample room for a satisfactory presentation of the production. The chief characters are impersonated by the following:—Carman, the Gipsy Queen, Kate Carney; the Lawyer, Willie Phillips; Mager, the Witch, Geo. M. Marriott; the Dude, Albert Mason; Jim, the Romany, Fred Malcolm; the Showman, Percy Moran: Another sketch, quite different in style, but equally successful in treatment is *The Lady Bandits*, a topical farcical operetta by Edward Lauri and Herbert C. Sargent. The scene is laid near a golf course on the Surrey hills, and the cleverly written little incident is acted by May Beatty (Lady Diana), Cicely Lowe (Lady Daisy), and Edward Lauri (Josephus) with a smartness and verve which are refreshing. Added to this the sketch has the saving virtue of being up-to-date, and the topical allusions are neat.

There is no comedienne who is more of a favourite with Chelsonians than Gertie Gitana. Successive visits have served to deepen her popularity with all parts of the house, and her catchy songs, her sweet voice, and clever dancing are always welcome features. This week she has added to her laurels, and the receptions accorded her have been tremendous. Very acceptable indeed is the contribution of Minnie Thornton, a winsome little maid and a graceful dancer; while Arthur Leslie's quaint comedy turn and his imitations of Wilkie Bard and Mark Sheridan are great. Jessie Templeton sings songs in a manner refined and pleasing, and the versatility of Ted E. Box is amply illustrated by the easy manner in which he tickles the audience with his funny songs and evokes their hearty admiration by his whistling solos. Ted is another of the darlings of the gods in Chelsea. The Alaskas present a clever comedy acrobatic act, and an exceptionally fine film shown by Ruffell's Bioscope completes a programme that would satisfy even the most captious critic.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA.

An important feature of the current bill here is the sketch *Dare-Devil Dripping*, presented by Mr. E. D. Nicholls and company. The story is written round the adventures of a detective, and Mr. E. D. Nicholls, in the title-rôle, supplies a performance full of mirth. Mr. Harry Fareland is a dignified Ambrosia V., and Miss Ada Lucelle plays with telling effect as Princess Pauline; Mr. Harry Lewis does all that is possible with the part of Sir Brian; Mr. C. Robinson plays the villainous Duke of Athenia with the necessary callousness; and Miss A. Frank makes a droll Balmiceda.

Miss Greta Reina, who is appearing here, is the possessor of a fine voice, which she uses to advantage in a couple of pretty numbers; Mr. Ted Waite proves very successful in his two songs, "Girls" and "On the night I fought Jack Johnson"; O'Malley and Brown, Irish comedians, have some amusing patter, and provide a performance which proves very acceptable; the Lecardo Brothers contribute an acrobatic act, which they title *The Tired Bakers*; their various evolutions are cleverly carried out, and the cool, but quick manner in which they work adds greatly to the success of their performance.

An interesting turn is provided by Graham's marionettes. A miniature stage is seen, and in front of this the orchestra, composed of dolls, work with life-like movements. When the curtain ascends, various items are presented by means of a doll's body being fitted to a human head. The effect is highly amusing. In this way the following artists—past and present—are impersonated: Chas. Coborn, G. W. Hunter, Pat Feeney, Vesta Victoria, and Harry Lauder. Much appreciation is shown at the conclusion, and Mr. Graham is evidently a character comedian of remarkable versatility. Miss Nora Stockell, with a charming style, sings "I want to wed a gipsy man," and afterwards dances with considerable taste and skill. Mr. J. W. Rickaby scores with his ditty, "My poor old mother's shawl," and Williams's Eight Jubilee Singers, a troupe of darkies, give great pleasure with their vocal harmony. Their renderings of "The old folks at home" and "Down in the cornfields" are particularly good and worthy of warm praise.

Mr. Edward Lewis appears in a farcical interlude entitled *The Five Wishes*. A certain idol has the power at far distant intervals to grant five wishes, and it is round this legend that a tale of humour has been written. Mr. Lewis ably portrays the gentleman who is the owner of this idol, and he squeezes every atom of fun out of the part. Some interesting and amusing pictures are presented by the Bioscope. Mr. Fred A. Vernall is still discharging his duties as manager here with tact and skill.

AT the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, the performance submitted by the Geni Family as risley acrobats is very smart, and the effect is much enhanced by the three ponies used in the production; Cassie Walmer, an old pantomime favourite here, quite captivates her hearers with her varied numbers; the tiny dog introduced by Charles Banks in his act is the acme of perfection in animal training; Jack Hamilton's comedy work is very amusing; and also contributing are the Sisters Maynard, Bert Maddison, Cissie Thompson, and the Perfection pictures.

AT the Borough Theatre, Wallsend, crowded houses are the order. Brothers Webb, musical clowns, head the bill, and cause much mirth; Emilie Warren is a soprano of excellent ability; Tom Bassett scores with his burlesque impersonations; Sisters English, duettist and dancers, are paying a welcome visit; Flo St. Elvyn, comedienne, is a dainty singer of dainty songs; Penstone, billed as "the man of versatility"; Mars Trio, gymnasts; Will Mitcham, comedian; and the Milsted-Bell Trio, in musical act, complete the programme.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE CORSICAN MAID.
MISS EVIE GREENE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SUMMER BOOKS NOW READY.

100 HUMOROUS SONGS 100
100 COON, SOUBRETTE, and CHORUS SONGS 100

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 19.*)

The songs published by the famous Feldman house have been greatly in evidence during the holiday season, both in town and country. Notable forefront exponents of the Arthur-street good things have been Miss Ada Reeve, with "Nobody knows—nobody cares," at Manchester Hippodrome; Mark Sheridan, with "I do like to be beside the seaside," at Empire, Sheffield; George Formby, with "Playing the game in the West," and "I put on my coat and went home," at the Palace, Burnley; Fred Barnes, with "I'd rather be by the fireside," at the Empire, Belfast; George Lashwood, with "Mister Pat O'Hare," at the Empire, Birmingham; Miss Clarice Mayne, with "Georgie took me walking in the park" and "I'm longing for someone to love me," at the Empire, Edinburgh; and many other famous stars.

King and Benson, when they produce their new act, will specially feature therein Feldman and Co.'s ballad, "All in a day," by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves.

Both at the Metropolitan and Chelsea Palace Miss Lottie Lennox has been the recipient this week of loud applause for her spirited rendering of Feldman's piquant number, "Put on your old plaid shawl," by Fred Godfrey and Fred D'Albert, which is chorussed to the echo by her enthusiastic and delighted auditors. Rarely has Miss Lennox had a song that has fitted her style so well.

Miss Gertie Gitana, who was to have produced Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's new pastoral romance, "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," at the Holborn Empire, and her other turns this week, has unfortunately been too indisposed to appear, but purposes producing the song in question this (Saturday) evening at the Holborn house, and a great success for this charming Feldman publication is confidently anticipated.

That the Hibernian race are keen on a song blessed with a lilting and "catchy" chorus, has been well exemplified at the Empire, Belfast, this week, where Mr. Fred Barnes is scoring heavily with his Feldman winner, "I'd rather be by the fireside," by John A. Glover-Kind, which is nightly received with veritable thunders of applause; in fact, the popular light comedian receives a perfect ovation from the warm-hearted Irishmen in Belfast at the termination of this popular song.

At the Olympia, Liverpool, this week, Frank and Gracie Sumner are nightly winning golden opinions for their cultured rendering of Feldman's big ballad-hit, "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmidt, one of the sweetest songs of sentiment which America has ever sent us. It is being sung this week at the Palace, Manchester, by Mr. Arthur Aldridge.

A composition destined to be heard on seaside bands and halls of variety throughout the length and breadth of the country is the "Kerry Mills Barn Dance," which Feldman and Co. publish. This bright and snappy instrumental piece is already growing vastly popular in this country, where it promises to out-rival its phenomenal success in the land of its birth, America. Musical directors who have not yet applied for full orchestrations of this undoubted musical success may be recommended to make speedy application for the same to the Arthur-street house.

From the Star Music Publishing Company comes an excellent "Piano Tutor" by Mr. Bennett Scott, which, as the publishers justly say, is "the easiest of all easy tutors, and makes teaching and learning a pleasure." The "Piano Tutor" is beautifully printed, and, showing how well adapted the work is to very young pupils, a facsimile of the keyboard on page 3 directs the pupil how to find the middle C by noticing that it is just by the lock of the piano. A drawing of the left and right hands, numbered, also helps the pupil in fingering. Several simple melodies, gradually increasing in difficulty, are given, and before each the key in which they are written—thus, key of G, one sharp; D, two sharps; F, one flat; &c., each introduced with a very short prelude. One or two duets are also included, and some very useful scales, while at the end of the "Tutor" there are questions and answers and a list of musical terms, alphabetically arranged and simply explained. Time and counting instructions are given, and an explanation of the Major and Minor scales, with many easy hints. In a note on the front page Mr. Bennett Scott acknowledges the valuable assistance in compiling this work rendered by Mr. Frederic Muller, author of "My Child's" music books, which are also published by the Star Music Co., of Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, and have proved extremely successful.

Tom E. Finglass's (the original cowboy coon) latest song, entitled "My Baby," by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, is, indeed, a winner, and has been creating a furore this week at the Grand, Hanley.

Those who were prevented from witnessing Tuesday's procession to Westminster Hall from Buckingham Palace will be enabled to see a particularly interesting series of animated pictures at the Palace Theatre. Every scene and incident has been taken, and is shown, accompanied by appropriate music, composed by Mr. Herman Finck, the conductor of the Palace orchestra. A specially extended display of pictures was given at the Pavlova matinée on Wednesday.

Miss Freda Fern, a charming young soubrette, is making a hit this week at the Greenwich Palace in her two songs, "All through being so indiscreet" and "Gwen-do-line." She is a clever dancer.

At the Liverpool Pavilion last week a most successful matinée was given in aid of the funds of the annual theatrical gala, a movement which has for its object the assisting of various local medical charities and several institutions connected with the profession. There were about thirty turns, the artists engaged in the city and neighbourhood coming forward with willingness to assist the worthy movement.

Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company, was specially retained for the Invitation Concert to A.M.C. Deputies, held at the Palace, Southampton, last Sunday night, and made a happy selection of songs in "Abide with me" (Liddle) and "Good-bye" (Tosti).

A visit to the showrooms of Messrs. Fred Wilkins and Brother, Ltd., at 27, Shaftesbury-avenue, should be productive of great interest for those concerned in theatrical furnishing and decoration. Their artistic treatment of ceilings, walls, and circle fronts in fibrous plaster is one of the many features of their many-sided activities, and their decorative work is supplemented with the most complete and harmonious scheme of colouring in carpets, curtains, and draperies, as well as the most up-to-date seating.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, The Publisher, 6, Tavistock-street, W.C.

DAVID MAX TRYTEL.

THE METROPOLITAN'S DUTCH MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

For ten years Mr. David Max Trytel has handled the baton at the Metropolitan, Mr. Henri Gros' pretty house in the Edgware-road. It is exactly that period to a day since Mr. Trytel first took the musical conductor's chair there, and the occasion calls for the heartiest of congratulations, and a word or so of autobiography.

Mr. Trytel hails from Rotterdam, declines to state his age, is now a naturalised Englishman, everyone likes and esteems him, and, like most Netherlanders, he is a musician of the romantic order. Chirgwin's famous song title "My fiddle is my sweetheart" could easily be made Mr. Trytel's own motto.

When quite a little fellow, David Max trudged daily to the conservatoire in his native town, and there took his first lessons with the violin and in harmony. Prof. Wirth was his master. So proficient was young David at sixteen, that he was selected to tour with Dr. Hans von Bülow through many of the Continental cities. In turn he played for such famous masters as Brahms, Richard Strauss, Felix Weingartner, and Harry Wood.

The late Sir Augustus Harris invited him to England in 1895, and he was a member of the famous Olympia orchestra, which played there the following year. Next Mr. Trytel played with Dr. Richter at the Richter Concerts in the old St. James's Hall. It was there that he first attracted the attention of Mr. Henri Gros. That gentleman's inducement to Mr. Trytel to take charge at the "Met." was sufficiently strong for him to accept, and to continue in occupation of the chair, and to rise superior to any and every temptation to go elsewhere that may have come along, since May 14, 1900.

A quiet, observant man, Mr. Trytel, during his ten years' stay at the Metropolitan, has noted many quaint, odd, and interesting things. Once a couple of knockabout comedians arrived at rehearsal without any music. "Play a set of Lancers," said one of them. They were politely but firmly told they must provide their own music. "Oh, be a good chap," pleaded the speaker. "Vamp something, do." And the band "vamped," and the artists in the evening scored a big success.

On another occasion a favourite artist "went flat," and blamed Mr. Trytel and his orchestra. Furthermore, in a fearful rage, he accused the clarinet player of not knowing his business, and rendering music not in the score. Very courteously the musical director pointed out that the comedian had not attended rehearsal, and that the band had played his songs for the first time that night. "Besides," said Mr. Trytel, in his most conciliatory tones, "we are all liable to make mistakes." "Mistakes be ——," roared the comedian, "I never make mistakes." Now, the following Wednesday this great man, when he arrived at the theatre, found that he had left his band books at the Tivoli. Of course, he put the blame on to his man. "You ought to know my stuff by this time," he observed to Mr. Trytel, who had been called out by the manager. "Well, we may or may not," replied the cautious Dutchman. "We will try to play it from memory, but if we make mistakes and break down, you must explain what has happened to the audience." The band went in and played the three numbers in triumphant style. To give the comedian his due at the end of his turn, he made a nice little speech, acknowledging his indebtedness to Mr. Trytel and his orchestra, and complimented them on "an extremely clever effort." The Metropolitan musicians then came in for a storm of applause.

Mr. Trytel tells a story of how he was once mistaken for a waiter at the Metropolitan. He was walking through the stalls garbed in evening

MR. DAVID MAX TRYTEL.

dress, when a gentleman stopped him, and requested him to get him a cigar from the bar. Very quietly Mr. Trytel got one, and, returning with it, said: "Kindly accept this with the compliments of the musical director." Of course, the gentleman was very apologetic, but Mr. Trytel only laughed. The gentleman has been a regular weekly visitor ever since, and never fails to offer his cigar-case to Mr. Trytel.

Most people know that Dr. Hans von Bülow was a very excitable man, and recalling this, Mr. Trytel tells a good story. At the time there were eight double basses in the orchestra. One of that number was suddenly taken ill and died, and was buried before a big rehearsal was due to take place. At the rehearsal, as usual, the Doctor was all excitement. The double basses had very heavy parts, and his quick ear detected a thinness. Then for the first time he noticed the number was one short. "Where is ——?" he snapped out. "Did not you know, sir, that he is dead, and was buried yesterday?" was the explanation given. "It doesn't matter," was the doctor's reply, "his place is here, and he ought to be here!" Then this extraordinary man realised what he had said, and burst into tears.

And his men kept him company.

"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."

Sketch in One Act Condensed from Mr. Charles Darrell's Drama, *Her Luck in London*, Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, May 16.

Rev. Lionel Strong .... Mr. Douglas Tremayne
Stephen Harborne ..... Mr. Martin Sands
Richard Lenowen ..... Mr. Arthur Elwyn
Algie Kirkcumbrie .... Mr. W. Leonard Howe
Lillian Harborne ..... Miss Bellamy
Nellie Harborne ..... Miss Mary Neil

The story of Mr. Darrell's successful melodrama is so well known that we need only say that the first scene, which takes place at Buttermilk Farm, has been utilised to make a vigorous and thrilling sketch, which is excellently acted. Mr. Douglas Tremayne and Miss Mary Neil do vivid and spirited work as the Rev. Lionel Strong and Nellie Harborne, Mr. Martin Sands does well as Stephen Harborne, and Mr. Arthur Elwyn is effective in the unthankful rôle of Richard Lenowen. The scenery and mounting are excellent.

Mr. Sam Shipley was married at St. Paul's Church, Blackburn, on May 16. He and his wife sail for Cape Town on May 27 from the Royal Albert Dock in the R.M.S. Tainui.

The execution of Jesshope, the fireman, under sentence of death for the murder at the Camberwell Empire, has been postponed until May 24. The appeal has been dismissed.

The famous Kilties Band (under the direction of Mr. T. P. Power), who are appearing this week at the Grand Theatre, Halifax, through Mr. Percy Victor's Wolverhampton agency, are meeting with a most enthusiastic reception from Halifax audiences, who are notably critical musically. The Band Glee Party, the Clan Johnstone Troupe of dancers, Mr. E. Coates-Lockhart (a clear high tenor vocalist), and Mr. T. Daniels, in his faultless cornet solos, have been compelled to respond to encores at each house.

The Kilties' visit to Halifax is particularly appropriate just now, inasmuch as they were in great favour with his deeply-lamented late Majesty Kind Edward VII., who twice commanded their appearance, and their "In Memoriam" is received with much feeling and the deepest respect by the entire audiences.

BALLET AT THE HIPPODROME.

On Whitsun Monday, May 16, the Ballet, in Two Scenes, by Tschaikowsky, entitled

"LE LAC DES CYGNES."

Prince Siegfried ..... M. Georges Kiakscht
Benno ..... M. Nikitin
Preceptor ..... M. Frohmann
Odetta ..... Olga Preobrajensky

Mr. Oswald Stoll has created a record by the production of two important ballets at two houses on the same day, and the perfection to be noted in both *Giselle* at the Coliseum and *Le Lac des Cygnes* at the Hippodrome could have only been attained by a completely-equipped troupe of admirably trained dancers such as come to us from the Imperial Opera Houses of St. Petersburg and Moscow. Each performer is an artist with special gifts, familiarised in all the arts and graces of Terpsichore and with the traditions of classic ballet by long and arduous training. Indeed, we at once recognise in Mlle. Olga Preobrajensky, Mlle. Ludmila Schollar, and M. Georges Kiakscht performers singularly endowed and triumphant in their conquest of difficult *pas* and in their easy grace and perfect technique.

The work in which they display the perfection of their training is the ballet *Le Lac des Cygnes*, the scenario of which is based on a pretty legend which has inspired Tschaikowsky to write some delightful melody and to establish his fame as the author of a dainty score.

The action of the first scene is the courtyard in Prince Siegfried's castle. The Prince, in gay, light-hearted fashion, is enjoying the revels with his feather-headed courtiers, and is in no mood to obey the command of his mother, who sends his preceptor to summon him to her side, in order to meet his future bride. The attention of the prince and his courtiers is arrested by a flight of swans. Fowling pieces are immediately produced, and the party are evidently bent on bagging the flock. The birds, however, suddenly disappear, and with the rising of the moon over the lake they assume the form of beauteous womanhood in dazzling white with folded swan-like wings for their corsage. The spell exercised by the spirit of the forest in the shape of a gigantic owl, being temporarily removed, the prince and Odetta, queen of the swans, fall in love at sight, and vow mutual affection. True and constant love is the amulet by which the maiden can effectually conquer the spell that is upon her, and the lovers are not separated.

In the first scene of the festival at the castle we have a delightful csárdás, the vim and abandon of which seem to be the special appanage of the Czech, or Magyar, or Slav. Mlle. Schollar is particularly piquant in this dance of temperament, with its alternate graceful languor and rapid movement. The same lady is concerned with more classical numbers in the pas de deux with M. Golikowsky, a master of the pas bondissant. The opening mazourka, by a septet of dancers, furnishes a bright example of the ensemble of the troupe, which specially distinguishes itself in the finale of the first scene—a torch dance.

Olga Preobrajensky in her entrée on the "points" at once makes a favourable impression by her eloquent pantomime and the perfect grace of her sylphlike movements. She is artistically supported by the other ballerine—each of whom is a soloist—headed by Mlle. Schollar. A more complete display of her grace of pose and technical excellence comes with a solo very aptly called "Variations." Tschaikowsky's music is played with enchanting effect by the augmented orchestra, including a very fine lady harpist, under the direction of Herr Erhorn, who has done so much to reach a high standard of musical excellence since he took up the position of musical-director. Our grandfathers were wont to talk of the great dancers Taglioni, Elsler, Grahn, Carlotta Grisi, and Cerito. The best traditions of their art are in the possession of the Russian dancers, whose performance is a pure joy for the lovers of the twin muses, music and dancing. Eye and ear are both enchanted at the Hippodrome.

The incomparable Yvette Guilbert is again asserting the supremacy of her art as *diseuse* in her well-known selection "Les Cloches de Nantes"; and we renew acquaintance in a condensed form with the comedy *The Bookmaker*, by J. W. Pigott, produced at Terry's on March 19, 1889, which is capably presented by the author and his company. A most interesting item in the fine bill presented by Mr. Fred Truesell is the scientific demonstration of the evolutions of an airship controlled by wireless electricity. Mr. Raymond Phillips is not only a clever inventor, but a good showman. Violet Romaine, the Princess Baratoff, Miss Marquis and her cobs, and Henry Leoni are other turns. The Bioscope includes pictures of the Procession to Westminster Hall.

"CAPTAIN BILLY."

An Operetta, in One Act, Words by Harry Greenbank, Music by François Cellier, First Produced at the Halls at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, May 16.

Captain Billy ..... Mr. H. Le Maistre
Christopher Jolly ..... Mr. H. Lawrance
Samuel Chunk ..... Mr. Rudolph Lewis
Widow Jackson ..... Miss Maud Clarke
Polly ..... Miss Gwennie Vaughan

Captain Billy is no stranger to the boards, having been originally produced at the Savoy Theatre. It is a merry little piece, wedded to appropriate music, and the dialogue has at times quite a Gilbertian flavour. *Captain Billy* had an excellent reception from the Bank holiday audience, and should have a good run at the halls.

The plot is as follows:—William Cherubim, in disgust at his sanctimonious twin brother having become a member of the Plymouth Brethren, takes up the undesirable vocation of a pirate captain, being known as Captain Billy. He borrows the necessary capital from Samuel Chunk, the landlord of the Blue Dragon at Porthaven, and deserts his wife. To add to his enormities he kidnaps his brother's only son, Christopher, and abandons him in the African Sahara. When the action of the piece begins, we find Christopher making inquiries at Porthaven church for his birth certificate. He soon falls in love with Polly, the pretty daughter of the middle-aged pew-opener, who goes by the name of the Widow Jackson, but who is in reality the deserted wife of Captain Billy.

Captain Billy then arrives after a long absence of ten years, and introduces himself to the landlord and his wife, who are at first not particularly pleased to see him. Subsequently, he finds that his brother is dead, and discovering from some marks on his clothing that young Christopher is his nephew, he consents to his marriage with his daughter Polly. Further influenced by his wife and his future son-in-law, he announces his intention of giving up his profession as a pirate, and becoming a virtuous commercial traveller, "Finding scope for someone's soap at a ten per cent. commission."

The operetta received full justice at the hands of Mr. Helier Le Maistre's talented company. Miss Gwennie Vaughan makes a dainty Polly, singing very sweetly; and the Widow Jackson, a sedate lady, with a curious weakness for dancing a hornpipe, is most ably enacted by Miss Maud Clarke, who sings most tunefully. Mr. H. Le Maistre resumes his original rôle of the bloodthirsty seadog, Captain Billy, with the utmost success; as young Christopher Mr. H. Lawrance is very acceptable, both as regards his acting and vocalisation; while Mr. Rudolph Lewis, in his original character of the Boniface of the Village Inn, also does excellent work.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

Mr. GEORGE LASHWOOD. *The Music Hall Beau Brummel.*
MISTER PAT O'HARE.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

MR. JACK SMILES.
The Popular Comedian.
FISH SAUCE.

MISS ALICE TREMAYNE
Mr. Harry Claff's "Demon and the Fairy."
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

RINKING GOSSIP.

John Davidson Scores at Bath.

JOHN DAVIDSON charmed Bath with his skating exhibition last week. Says the *Herald*:—"Attired in a picturesque costume he takes the rink at a great speed, and after a few preliminary rounds, in which he exhibits considerable grace of movement, he commences a programme of amazingly difficult, fancy, and trick skating, which obtains for him much merited applause. He commenced his entertainment with a variety of two steps, full of pleasing grace, without lacking in sensation. First of all he exhibited the forward and backward waltz movements, followed by two-steps, in the spread-eagle action and plain 'cut offs.' After this he showed with wonderful skill the 'drop-three' waltz movement, and following this he executed a variety of eights backwards and forwards, including the perplexing Bishop and Barney eights. Davidson never for a moment lacked that easy composure which characterises his skating.

Some Difficult Movements.

"A DISPLAY of spread-eagle movements, both forwards and backwards followed, in which he brought the actual spread-eagle into a 5ft. circle. Then coming to a stop without altering the position of the feet he steadily gained momentum until again at full speed, and quickly changed into a 'flying cut off.' Succeeding this he exhibited a series of chain threes, which were very cleverly brought off, going the full length of the rink at a great speed, and after this he gave an extremely difficult feat in the one heel balance, bringing the heel balance into a heel 'split,' and subsequently taking up the heel balance on the outside foot without touching the toe wheels at all. Following he presented the flying spread-eagle, some Philadelphian twists, and grape-vine movements, and then the celebrated 'Barney jump' from the outside edge backwards, making a complete turn in the air to an inside edge forwards. After doing some 'flying cut-offs' Davidson proceeded with the flying Mercury movement, finishing the second part of his entertainment with some flying spread-eagles. The great feat of the evening was the high jumping. Starting with a height of 3ft. 2in., he leaped lightly over the cord, until he came to the record jump, which he cleared magnificently at the third attempt."

Monohan in Surrey.

MONOHAN next week is to fulfil his third engagement this season at the Sutton Rink. This week the great skater has been displaying his prowess at the Richmond Bridge rink. The "Wizard of the Rink" does on four pairs of wheels what most men would hesitate to do without those awkward appendages. Monohan first gives an exhibition of fancy figure skating, and then he mounts on a barrel and on this trundles his way round the rink, then he threads his way delicately on the front wheels of his skates through a number of lighted candles, placed closely together, then at tremendous speed he dashes up the rink and clears nine chairs with three bird-like leaps.

Bentley Skates at Hanley.

No better exhibition of roller-skating has been seen in the district than those given by F. Bentley at the Olympia Rink, Hanley, last week. He was assisted by "Little Vera," who is only ten years of age. The performances were highly appreciated by the audiences throughout the week. "Little Vera" shows wonderful ability on the rollers, and as time goes on she should become one of the leading lady skaters of the day. Mr. Bentley was manager of the Palace Rink at Douglas last year, which he opened at the beginning of the season there. Among those he taught to rink during his stay on the island were the daughters of Lord and Lady Raglan. So successful did the season prove to the rink that he has been engaged for the coming season.

North Staffordshire's Best Skater.

MR. LAWSON, the floor-manager of the Hanley Olympia, who is recognised as the leading skater in North Staffordshire, is a pupil of Mr. Bentley, he having his first fancy and figure-skating experience under the instruction of the latter whilst they were both at the Palace Rink, Douglas.

British Skates Selling Well.

NOTHING but the best skates are now being sold for rinking purposes, and a very satisfactory feature of the trade is the fact that the English makes are doing excellent business. Dealers in American goods had a big pull at the beginning, and then they made hay while the sun shone. Juvenile skates are selling well, and we are informed that large supplies are being sent to the seaside resorts, where there are such excellent facilities afforded to the youngsters for skating in the open air.

Final for London Cup.

THE final for the London Cup will be played at the County Rink, Surbiton, next Monday, May 23, at 9 p.m.

All Nations' Carnival.

THE third carnival is to be held on the Rupert-street rink, Bristol, on Wednesday, May 25. It will be one of all nations, combined with a gymkhana, and prizes will be awarded for ladies' and gentlemen's waltzing, for trio two-stepping, for a gentlemen's obstacle race, for a gentlemen's steeplechase race, for a ladies' backwards skating race, and for gentlemen's musical chairs.

One more Rink for the Potteries.

AN old gentleman of ninety-three was on rollers at the opening session of the new Burslem rink. The new venture is a decided improvement on any other rinking concern within a large radius. As is generally the way, a good many of the uninitiated generally attend an opening, and the directors wisely engaged the services of an expert exhibition skater to show them what can be done on the floor. Therefore, Master "Jock" Wooding, champion boy skater, of Hanley, was requistioned for that purpose. His performance was highly appreciated by the large concourse of spectators present. The highest credit is reflected on the architect, Mr. E. T. Watkin, of Messrs. Watkin and Adams, Burslem, and under the management of Mr. John S. Campbell, whose rinking experience is extensive, everything should run smoothly. The rink is to be kept open all the summer. Mr. James E. Keates, of Leek, ninety-three years of age, grandfather of Councillor Harold K. Hales, of Burslem, in his earlier years an expert skater, donned the skates, and delighted his friends by going round the rink several times.

Roller Skating at Cardiff.

SKATING still goes merrily on at the American Roller Rink in Westgate-street, Cardiff, where the splendid military band, so ably conducted by Mr. J. Matthews, a perfect floor, and a competent staff are all that can be desired. General regret is felt by the regular patronisers of the building at the departure of Mr. Alf. Norton, the assistant-manager, who has been connected with the place from the opening day, and who is now taking up an appointment with the London and Provincial Electric Theatres Company in London. Monohan was specially engaged to demonstrate his ability on the wheels at the Central Rink last week. The Olympia Skating Rink in Queen-street seems to have taken on a new lease of life, and the pleasure is so great that fathers and mothers daily accompany their children to the scene in order to watch their graceful movements, whilst even the parents do not hesitate to have a pair of skates strapped on in order to join in the fun. Mr. A. Tetlow, the manager, has effected many noticeable improvements since he has taken charge of the rink.

Presentation at Carlisle.

THE Carlisle Skating Rink concludes a successful first season this week. On Tuesday last an interesting event took place during the night session, when Mr. Oliver, one of the directors, publicly presented Miss Norah Bailey, the professional instructress, with a handsome and elaborately fitted dressing-case, subscribed for by the lady patrons of the rink. A large audience witnessed the presentation.

Whitsun on Wheels.

THE Clacton Rink provided a good programme for the Whitsun visitors, and all sessions were well patronised. On Saturday evening waltzing and two-step competitions created considerable interest. On Monday evening a fancy dress and floral carnival was a great attraction, and prizes were awarded for the best original, floral, calico, and paper costumes.

Popularity of Skating at Dartford.

THE popularity which signalised the opening of the skating rink in Spital-street, Dartford, shows no sign of waning. Indeed, the results already achieved have fully realised the expectations of those who initiated a scheme whereby the people of Dartford have been offered facilities for enjoying rinking. A very successful carnival was held on Wednesday last. It is not decided when the rink will be closed, but skating will recommence in October, and then gymkhanas, racing, and exhibitions of fancy skating will be arranged.

Merry Night at Ealing.

AFTER a most successful season, the Walpole Hall, Ealing, closed on Thursday night, and for that evening Mr. Wallace Taylor's London Euphonic Band of twenty performers gave a very successful concert. Mr. Byng-Hall kindly placed the hall at the disposal of the popular musical-director for the evening, and, what with rinking and promenading, the event was a merry one.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.

WITH the exception of Saturday, Govan Skating Rink will only be open daily during the summer months for the evening session, beginning at seven o'clock. Mr. James Smith is forming a Social Summer Skating Club, the members of which will be permitted to enjoy the recreation at a reduction in the present tariff, and will also be entitled to extra time during the summer evenings. At the American Roller Rink in Victoria-road the popular pastime continues to draw good crowds of skaters to each of the three sessions daily. The West-End rink is exceedingly popular with followers of the pastime resident in the western district. Out Dennistoun way the rink situated in Hillfoot-street claims a fair share of patronage, and at the evening sessions especially the attendances are up to the average. A feature here is the weekly "specialities," which continue to prove a good draw. In the shipbuilding burgh rinking continues to hold its place. Hockey matches are a feature here, and the Summerton Club is ranked as one of the best in the West of Scotland. Weekly fixtures take place, and the matches always ensure a full "house." The morning and afternoon sessions have ceased at the Ibrox rink, with the exception of Saturday, when there is still an afternoon session.

For the Summer's Rest.

THE Empress, the Boulevard, and the Belgrave Rinks, Leicester, are closing down to-day (Saturday) for the summer recess.

Skating by the Sea.

THE Llandudno Hippodrome Roller-skating Rink was opened last week for the season. The rink is equipped exclusively with Winslow skates. Three sessions are held daily, and in order to meet the wishes of the residents, as well as visitors who prolong their stay at Llandudno, the management have decided to issue season tickets at low rates. The first person to enter the rink at the opening on Saturday was Miss Effie Cooper, daughter of Mr. Denbigh Cooper, the well-known baritone vocalist.

Next Week's Carnival at Porth.

THE semi-final for the Rhondda League championship took place last Saturday, the teams being Ynyshir and Ton-y-pandy. The carnival, which was promised for May 11, has been postponed, owing to the death of His Majesty, to May 26, when prizes to the value of £40 will be given.

Ramsgate and Margate Rinks.

LARGE crowds of skaters have patronised the outdoor and indoor rinks at the Pavilion during the holidays of the Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate. The Hall-by-the-Sea Rink was largely patronised during the holidays, and on Whit-Monday there was a record crowd.

"Human Knot" at Stourbridge.

THE rink at Stourbridge is well patronised this week, notwithstanding the heat. The Misses Jeannie and Teressa Fisher have been giving a high-class exhibition of fancy skating each afternoon; and Stanley King, the human knot, has been delighting large crowds of sightseers each evening by his trick and fancy skating.

Business Brisk at Tynemouth.

AT Tynemouth Palace Skating Rink business is as brisk as ever. The floor is excellent, and the same may be said of the Richardson skates and the bright and breezy music.

TRIAL MATINEE AT LEICESTER.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Leicester Pavilion Theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity on Tuesday afternoon, when the first trial matinée ever held in the town took place. Mr. Whit Murray, the district-manager, and manager of the Palace Theatre, Blackburn, represented Mr. Macnaghten, and Mr. Joseph Lawrence, the popular local manager, stage-managed. In all thirty-three turns appeared.

The best turn of the afternoon was Edyth and Evelyn, of Stafford, who appeared in a refined and beautifully staged musical act, which met with an enthusiastic reception. Jock Stewart, a capital Scotch comedian, of Airdrie, who travelled 300 miles, also was a success. The best local turn among the ladies was May Vesta, attired in a smartly-cut suit, with a good style and plenty of "go," and should be heard of again. Another popular turn was given by the Brothers Felton, of Northampton, ring and trapeze bar artists. Little Miss Annie Mulrey, of Nottingham, showed promise as a vocalist. The Sisters Hula, a local turn, displayed especial neatness as dancers. The best double local turn as comedians was submitted by Lindon and West. Georgo and Nell Greatorex, illusionists, also gave an entertaining and well-staged show. A good fancy skating turn was given by Walter Price, of Leicester. Others who found favour were the Aquarium Chimers of hand-bell ringers; William Mason, of Whitwick, singing collier; Frank Orton, a boy elocutionist; Ernest Howard, light comedian; Jim Meeson, comedian; Phyllis May, juvenile vocalist; the Chester Brothers, concertina soloists; and Blanche and Sydney, duettists.

MISS HARRIETT VERNON is again in Manchester, and is, as usual, causing a furore. At the Alhambra, Openshaw, on Monday, after singing four songs, she was recalled again and again. Miss Vernon is this week singing a new song from the pens of Messrs. Carter, Haines, and Meyer, entitled "I am coming back to Siam" (publishers, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter), which promises to be one of the biggest chorus songs of the year. In her last song, "Emblems" (written and composed by Mr. Leslie Race), she was called repeatedly before the "tabs."

DEATH OF J. C. JIMSON ("ROSCOE.")

There will be many in the variety world who will hear with feelings of deep regret of the death of J. C. Jimson, who passed away at 11.30 on Sunday night in the Minnie Paget Ward at Charing Cross Hospital, where he had been lying in great suffering since February. The deceased, who was only forty-seven years old, was better known as Roscoe, with his performing pigs, and was an animal trainer of no mean ability. As far back as 1883 he was touring through Germany with Schumann's Circus. Afterwards landing at Cardiff, he played a season with Hutchison and Taylor's Circus, followed by a long tour through Ireland with John Lloyd's Mexican Circus. Then he visited Spain and Portugal, being engaged at Diez's Circus, Lisbon. On his return to this country he appeared with Boswell's Circus, and then went for a lengthy season with James Newsome's well-known circus. He afterwards had a long spell abroad, first in Germany and then in Russia and Poland.

He returned to England in 1890, and continued with the exhibition of his trained pigs until some seven years ago, when he introduced a new act, entitled "Jimson's Circus," in which he performed with his animals, principally dogs, on a miniature stage, brilliantly lighted with electricity. This novelty he played successfully all over the provinces, as well as in London. More recently he has been appearing in a sketch, in which a fine St. Bernard dog took a prominent part. But as years went on fortune gradually deserted him, and he did not obtain many engagements, his last being at Blaina, South Wales, in November last, when the company he was with were stranded. Friends assisted him back to London, but his health became worse, and he was never able to work again.

The deceased, a fluent linguist, experienced many vicissitudes during his travels, and met with much trouble over the importation of his pigs into foreign countries, and even in Ireland, on which occasion the animals had to cross the Irish

Channel again and again before they were allowed to land. The first pig he trained he christened Jerrie, but that died, and he trained—a work of much persistent patience—another, which he named Bogie, and another called Nellie. This last came from Brazil, but it could not stand the climate, and died after a year.

Jimson had always a feeling of affection for his brother professionals, and was a member of the executive committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association for several years, but ceased his connection therewith about five years ago, and had only recently been again elected on the committee.

He was an ardent worker for the Variety Artists' Federation at the time of its formation, and for a time was a member of its committee. He was for many years a prominent Freemason, being a member of a Scottish lodge, held in Glasgow, but transferred to the Chelsea Lodge of Music Hall Artists.

He leaves a widow and two little boys, aged nine and seven and a half, and, as he was unfortunately not insured, and had passed through bad times and run out of the V.A.F., they are totally unprovided for. We would call the attention of managers to the fact that Mrs. Jimson, under the name of Min, is prepared to accept engagements to introduce her performing dog Jim. We also commend the case to the charitable members of the profession, especially our Masonic friends, as we know it to be a most deserving and pathetic one, and any contributions towards the relief of the widow and orphans sent to Mr. F. Pedgrift, *The Era*, will be acknowledged in these columns.

The funeral of the deceased, whose real name was James Clements Ross, took place on Thursday, leaving the establishment of Mr. W. R. Dunkley, 88, Westminster Bridge-road, at two o'clock for interment in the grave of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association in Lambeth Cemetery. The hearse, on which were placed several handsome wreaths, was followed by a mourning carriage containing the widow, sister, brother-in-law, and friends of the deceased, and next by another coach in which were seated a deputation of the committee of the M.H.A.R.A., which consisted of Messrs. J. H. Milburn, J. Miller Northern, Jack Crawley ("Jack Straw"), T. C. Callaghan, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The Burial Service having been read in the chapel, the small mourning party walked to the graveside, where the usual funeral rites were completed. The deceased being a Freemason, the impressive Masonic prayer was recited, and sprays of acacia were thrown into the grave. The wreaths were from the widow, the two sons (Freddy and Jimmy) and the daughter (Doris), the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stuart. The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily undertaken by Mr. W. R. Dunkley, the well-known professional undertaker.

"FATE" AND SUPERSTITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I notice in last Saturday's *Era* the report of a sketch entitled *Fate*. I produced a sketch under the same title at the People's Palace, Portsmouth, February, 1904. The late Alfred Rousby was engaged to play the principal character part. On the Friday at rehearsal, to my horror, he spoke the "tag." The poor fellow was taken ill the next day, could not play on the Monday (I had to play the part myself), and died the following Saturday.—Yours faithfully,

WILFRED H. BENSON.

Palace Music Hall, Cardiff.
May 17, 1910.

BALLET AT THE COLISEUM.

On Whitsun Monday, May 16, the Ballet, with Plot, Adapted by Théophile Gautier from Heinrich Heine, Music by Adolphe Adam, entitled "GISELLA; OR, LA SYLPHIDE."

Gisella .....MLLE. TAMARA KARSAVINA
Queen of Sylphides .....MLLE. MARIA BALDINA
Count Albert .....M. THEODORE KOSLOFF
Hilarion .....M. ALEXIS KOSLOFF

We often hear that *ballet d'action* as an entertainment is out of fashion, and that modern audiences resent what has been called the tedium of a story told by the media of the pantomimic and choreographic arts. But Mr. Oswald Stoll has, as it were, taken his courage in both hands, and has made a feature in his Whitsuntide programme at the Coliseum of a ballet that dates back to the "forties"—*Gisella*, which was produced at the Grand Opéra, Paris, in 1841, with music by the then popular composer, Adolphe Adam, whose most successful opera was *Le Postillon de Longjumeau*. The work was seen at Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, in March, 1842, with Carlotta Grisi and her husband, M. Perrot, in the title-rôle and that of Count Albert, Louise Fleury playing the Queen of the Sylphides. It is the romantic fate of Gisella, after her death through a love disappointment, to haunt the woodland glade as a sylphide.

She is doomed to wander or to dance in the light of the "inconstant moon" until she can be revenged on the traitor whose jealous machinations have robbed her of happiness as the accepted bride of Count Albert. The wicked Hilarion goes a-hunting, and meeting with the fays of the forest is forced by them to join in a mad dance during which he is enticed to the borders of the lake, and as the waters close over his head Gisella is revenged. The disconsolate lover, Count Albert, brings flowers to Gisella's grave. His passion glows anew when her apparition comes towards him. She would save him from the fate of mortals who witness the sports of the sylphides; but he cannot resist the fatal spell, and the lovers are reunited in the everlasting peace of death.

In Mlle. Tamara Karsavina, who plays Gisella, we have a dancer of rare accomplishments and considerable personal charm. She expresses with vividness the emotion of the distressed victim of love. Especially is this so in Gisella's final dance with Count Albert—a part most effectively played by M. Theodore Kosloff, who is responsible for the *mise-en-scène*. Mlle. Maria Baldina as the Queen of the Sylphides makes an entrée that is significant of airy lightness, and her sylphlike movements have much charm. M. Alexis Kosloff bears himself gracefully as Hilarion; and the six ladies who assist as sylphides are all solo dancers of acknowledged ability. In the divertissement that follows Mlle. Andersen specially distinguishes herself in "Songe d'Amour" by her languorous dreamy movements in a waltz movement by Meyer Helmund. She is ably supported by M. Tschoukoff. The spirited csárdás by Mlle. Damachona and M. Alexis Sousloff typifies the gaiety of the Magyar peasantry, being in direct contrast to the stately Russian dance in national costume, presented by Mlle. Baldina. Mlle. Tamara Karsavina's wonderful posings are the outstanding feature of her pas de deux with M. Kosloff, from the ballet *Casse Noisette*, by Tschaikowsky. The grotesque peasant dance "Trepak," and the concluding Indian dance, supply a welcome element of humour. The augmented orchestra plays the music *con amore*; and the haunted wood, in the light of the moon, is an enchanting nocturne in green.

Miss Cecilia Loftus is presenting a most accurate study of Miss Ethel Irving in *Dame Nature*. Those who have seen the famous actress in that remarkable play will at once recognise the portrait—certainly one of the most interesting in the gallery of this unapproachable mimic and cosmopolitan comedienne. Miss Gwennie Hasto, looking particularly dainty in a pretty frock, is responsible for a dashing dance in the early portion of the programme presented by Mr. Dundas Slater; the Merrills touch a welcome note of humour in their fine exhibition of trick cycle riding; and there is nothing more perfect in the way of animal impersonation than Mr. George Ali's bulldog, a really amusing quadruped with a wonderfully comic expression. Comedy of a quaint kind is well presented, too, by Goodfellow and Gregson; and Walker and Lake and Charles Vincent are also well received. Other turns include the Romano Trio. Mr. Louis La Rondelle conducts a fine orchestra.

"THE RAT."

An Episode of French Life, Performed for the First Time in the Provinces, at the Empire, Nottingham, on Monday, May 16.

Paul Valdor .....GASTON CHEVALLIER
"The Rat" .....MLLE. ETOILE LE NOIR

This is an admirably contrived episode of French life in the thieves' haunts of Paris, the various characters being portrayed in realistic manner, while the setting adds vividly to the story. An American tourist and his wife wish to be initiated into some of the mysteries of the Apaches' surroundings. They are offered the chance of accompanying an English detective, and, so great is their anxiety to go that they forget to leave behind them their valuables and jewellery. On their appearance in the cellar the Apaches scent sport and booty if only the detective can be got rid of. "The Rat" is hurriedly sent for, and, on her arrival she performs a dance with Paul Valdor. As the dance finishes the Apache lover of "The Rat" appears, and shoots Paul for daring to dance with her. In the turmoil which follows, the detective disappears in search of a gendarme, thus providing an opportunity for the band to appropriate the valuables of the Americans, whose troubles are not lessened by seeing the gendarme shot as he appears in the doorway.

It will be seen that the dance is the principal incident in the sketch, for which Mlle. Etoile Le Noir ("The Rat") and M. Gaston Chevallier (Paul Valdor) deserve the highest praise. Both show a highly artistic temperament, and their skilful and graceful performance received an enthusiastic demonstration of approval from a crowded house. The rest of the company acquitted themselves most creditably.

DICKENS AND DOVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of the 14th inst. you mention that Mr. Bransby Williams was "terribly disappointed" on visiting Dover. The fact that the lady who was the original of Betsy Trotwood lived in Broadstairs (where the Dickens Fellowship unveiled a tablet in her honour in 1908) destroys the Dover interest in the famous "donkeys" episode. The animals were undoubtedly chased out of the lady's garden in Broadstairs, but the novelist transferred this incident to Dover in "David Copperfield."

Charles Dickens is still greatly admired in military circles in Dover, as on last Balaclava Day the commandant of the Duke of York's Royal Military School selected Dickens's own version of "A Christmas Carol" for my recital after "The Charge of the Light Brigade."

If Mr. Bransby Williams, who is our finest impersonator of Dickens characters, could spare a week to visit Dover professionally I feel sure he would find the civilian audiences are also ardent Dickensians.—Yours faithfully,

HELEN BRINCKMAN.

Lucan, May 16.

OWING to the death of the King, Messrs. Baring Brothers have postponed the opening of the New Pavilion, Rhyl, until the 22nd inst., when a memorial concert will be given.

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.

TOTAL COLLECTED 7365½ SHILLINGS.

£368 5s. 6d.

Collected by Woodhouse and Wells, 6s.

Jack Lane	1	G. H. Hall	1
W. Woodhouse	1	Beatrice English	1
G. H. W.	1	E. Wells	1

Collected by A. Burridge, 3s.

A. Burridge	1	Ward and Davis	1
Roze and Calvert	1		

Collected by Frank Lynne, 12s.

Will Leslie	1	Auguste Van Biene	1
Siems	1	Florence Yaymen	1
Fred Leslie	1	Leslie Howard	1
William H. Beer	1	Frank Lynne	1
Geo. Rae	1	Harold Finden	1
Frank Lynne	1	Pat Rafferty	1

There are still a few cards not yet sent in. Will the collectors please forward them to

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

In recording events of the People's Palace at Muswell Hill we are justified at this moment in recalling the fact that it was in honour of the bereaved Queen Mother that the name was bestowed nearly half a century ago, when the Park was opened. There are those still living who recall the visit thirty-five years ago, just after a Whitsuntide festival, of his late lamented Majesty (then, of course, Prince of Wales), with his brother, the Duke of Connaught, and again on Oct. 30, 1888, when the Prince and Princess had an interesting conversation with Baldwin, the parachutist, after his last descent before going to the Antipodes.

The historic Palace and grounds had on Monday its full complement of patrons, well conducted and as orderly as could be desired, the usual gay attire giving place to materials of a more sombre hue. Plenty of amusements, outdoor and indoor, were provided, and the military bands were no small items in the general attractions. A newly-erected al fresco theatre, artistically furnished, well covered, and brilliantly illuminated, owned by Percy Honri's Concert Party, and under the able management of Mr. Richard Ralli, had large audiences for its continuous shows. The versatility of Mr. Charles Parker's Æolians was commendable, the quips and jokes being fresh and free from any taint of vulgarity. The six ladies and gentlemen provided an excellent répertoire. Miss Eileen Hope gave testimony of a well-trained voice in "To-night" and "Just idle dreams"; Miss Marie Beresford, in the chorus numbers, "Little girl from nowhere" and "Can't keep my eyes off the girls," bewitched "the bhoys" with pleasing renditions; a very agile and smart juvenile dancer, Miss Edna Mayne, "brought down the house," being equally meritorious in sand and clog dancing. The humorists, Messrs. Arthur Mertz and Walter Writtle, created roars of laughter in their varied impersonations. Mr. Charles Parker, pianist, singer, and interlocutor, was a host in himself. The funny sketches and duets of the company were highly effective.

Auguste Gaudron's right-away balloon ascent in the afternoon, Leno, the Boy Blondin on the high wire across the lake, the electric animated pictures in the theatre, with Dandie and Darnley's Coons in the Bijou Theatre, with fresh arrivals in the conservatory, monkey, and bird house, added to the attractive bill of fare. The usual variety entertainment in the great central hall had three shows, the artists including Smit and Smit (acrobatic knockabouts), the Two Eugeneos (comedy jugglers and equilibrists), the Whitworth Trio (trick cyclists), the Three Flying Winskills (lady and gentlemen gymnasts)—all good in their particular lines. The top of the bill was occupied by Carta and Mirtziama, whose feats of strength were marvellous. The Donnas Trio, termed the world's champion equilibrists and gymnasts on the trapeze, most attractively attired, earned hearty applause. The firework display by James Pain and Sons, the royal pyrotechnists, was of the usual merit, and the naval combat and other new electric devices were all brilliant specimens of the fire art.

Lichfield Greenhill Bower.

THE death of the late King led the committee of this famous Midland pageant to arrange for abandonment, but on receipt of the Lord Chamberlain's intimation as to the wishes of his present Majesty, the festival was renewed, and, in the circumstances, was carried though with great success. The weather on Monday was beautifully fine, and the attendance of the general public proved to be well up to the average. The distinctive feature of the Bower is the Middle Age procession of men in armour illustrating the Court of Array which has been maintained in Lichfield time out of mind. The management had placed drummers beating muffled drums between the sections of the pageant, the effect produced being weird and impressive. The seasons staged in tableaux were dealt with in very artistic fashion, that of Spring—in which a maiden driving doves was bursting from the shell of Winter—being an excellently designed conception. After the extraordinary experiences of the city in the visits of M. Paulhan and Mr. Grahame White, it followed that a Farman aeroplane was rightly included in the moving show. The model was an exact replica to scale of Mr. Grahame White's machine, which had been cleverly and correctly built by Mr. Frank Foster. Other sections of the procession included a trades' procession, a civic procession, and many other items of local interest. The Mayor (Mr. Councillor Godfrey R. Benson, brother of Mr. F. R. Benson), Sheriff Winterton, the Town Clerk, and many city dignitaries, formed part of the cavalcade which occupied more than an hour in its progress through the crowded streets to the Bower House, where the customary proceedings took place, in the course of which "God Save the King" was heartily sung by the assembled guests. The success of the festival was largely due to the energy of Councillor W. A. Wood, the chairman of the committee. It is worthy of note that Lichfield contains, in its beautiful little park, a magnificent life-size statue of King Edward VII., the gift of Sheriff Robert Bridgeman, and which had been draped in purple by the Mayor, Mr. G. R. Benson. Throughout the day the host of visitors paid silent tribute to the memory of the monarch whose loss had cast a spell of gloom on the proceedings of the day. The streets, including the market place and Greenhill, were thronged with exhibitions, stalls, and attractions of every conceivable description, the lessee for the Bower being Mr. Pat Collins.

DUDLEY CASTLE FETES opened on Whit-Monday in fine weather. Maud and Majorie gave a fine exposition of step-dancing; the Paul Kramer Troupe astounded the audience in feats of strength; and the Adras gave a fine equilibristic act. Billy Ross and company vastly amused the audience; and Ted Karno and company created roars of laughter in *The Hotel de Quick*.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

The Showmen's Memorial Service for the Late King.

By the time *The Era* is in the hands of our readers, the Memorial Service for the late King, held by the showmen themselves, will be like all the other Memorial services throughout the Empire, a past event.

For two weeks the nation has been passing through a time of unexampled sorrow. We very much doubt if the late King's revered mother herself so deeply stirred the popular imagination and the popular sentiment as King Edward VII. There seemed to be about his strong personality a charm and attractiveness that brought him into closer touch with all classes of the community.

Very largely his genial comradeship with all sorts and conditions of men made him at all times and in all places not only the ideal ruler but a most popular character. This comradeship with his people was much appreciated by the travelling showpeople. It seemed to give him that personal touch with show-life that made him the ideal King as well as friend of all sections of his people.

The Showmen's Guild, recognising the depth of feeling and the reality of reverent admiration for King Edward's character amongst showmen, thought it was only right and proper to express the showmen's grief and fellowship in the national loss by a special Memorial Service.

This it was determined should be held at one of England's greatest fairs, and in the show pavilion of the president of the Guild, Patrick Collins (admittedly the greatest showman now on the road), on the fairground at Birmingham.

The Rev. T. Horne, Chaplain to the Guild, was responsible for the whole of the service, and it was carried out in full conformity with the officially appointed ceremony that marked the Memorial Services throughout the country. A full account of the service will be given in our next issue.

The Showmen's "In Memoriam" Wreath.

Designed and made by Gerard, the Court florist, of Regent-street, London, it was in the form of a cross of laurel leaves, adorned with lovely orchids and arum lilies, and bore the following inscription:—

"From the showmen of the Empire, with all love and reverence for their dear friend and patron, King Edward VII.

P. Collins, president.
T. Horne, chaplain.
T. Hurst, hon. secretary.

"The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C."

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead till the end of the month are Pool, on the Great Western; Southwold, on the Great Eastern; Fiskerton, on the Midland; Hayle, on the Great Western; Holmfirth, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Kirkby Stephen, on the North-Eastern and Midland; Craven Arms, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Alston (Cumb.), on the North Eastern; Briston, on the Midland and Great Northern; Chepstow, on the Great Western and London and South Western; Ely, on the Great Eastern; Penzance, on the Great Western; Astwood Feast; Shipton, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Thorpe, on the London and South Western; Crowle, on the Great Central; Messingham, on the Great Central; Ossett Feast, on the Great Northern; Burntisland, on the North British; Langholm, on the North British; Berwick-on-Tweed, on the North British; Stirling, on the Caledonian and North British; Airdrie, on the North British and Caledonian; and Porth, on the Taff Vale railways.

Blackheath Whitsun Revels.

The usual array of high-class amusements was seen in full swing for the delight of the attendant crowds on the breezy expanse of Blackheath. Shows, roundabouts, shooters, swings, stalls, and throwing-games were provided by Wilson, Clasper, Knighton, Gilbey, Andrews, Smith, and many other well-known caterers.

Wormwood Scrubs Whitsun Fair.

This popular holiday resort of the people had for its entertainers Messrs. Beach, Smith and Warren, Bedford, Wilson, Hastings and Whyman, Bond, Manning and Sons, Pickard Brothers, and over one hundred stall-holders and variety-frame providers.

Wanstead Flats Fair.

Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons, with their famous aggregation of shows, roundabouts, &c., were the principal providers of popular amusements at this great East London fair. H. Taylor's cinema palace de luxe, Alf. Ball and Sons New Lyceum, Forrest Brothers' Japanese airship, were amongst the other attractions of the fair. There were the usual novelty stalls, swings, coker shies, houp-la circles, and throwing-games by a crowd of expert caterers.

The Holiday Fair at Hampstead Heath.

There was hardly any diminution in the Bank Holiday crowd at "Happy Hampstead." It was a glorious day, the sun shining brightly, and everyone appeared to be enjoying the delights of the fair under the splendid weather conditions that prevailed.

The numerous shows, roundabouts, and swings afforded their patrons great enjoyment. The coker shies, variety games, and the ever-popular houp-la were well patronised. Amongst the principal caterers were Harry Cox, W. Wilson, S. Mayne, C. Taylor, H. Ayres, the Molesworth family, Forrest Brothers, W. Bibby, A. Cooper, J. Brett, T. Crisp, King Brothers, and T. Brindley.

Leek May Fair.

This Staffordshire pleasure fair was held on Wednesday, May 18, and was as attractive as ever. Crowds of people came in from the country districts, the fair-ground being packed with pleasure-seekers. Amongst the amusement caterers were President Kemp, with his cinematograph theatre, which was well patronised, Holland's electric motor-cars, &c. There was also park swings, houp-la circles, shooting ranges, galloping horses, gondola switchback, throwing games, and other fair varieties. Also a large number of traders with toys, stalls, and confectionery. A special feature of the attractions was a matinée given by Miss Grace Warner and company in *The Scarlet Clue* at the Grand Theatre.

Sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hutchins, of Neath.

The sympathy of all our Welsh showman readers will go out to their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Hutchins, of Neath. Their darling baby girl, Winnie, has been called to God's sweet paradise after only fifteen months of earthly life. Mr. Harry H. Hutchins is our esteemed local correspondent at Neath, and hon. agent for the Showmen's Guild in Wales.

Guild Subscription, 1910.

Per Mr. Shuttleworth: Mr. W. Helm, 5s.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, W. Biddall, and A. Purchase at *The Era* Office.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT REDRUTH FAIR.

For the third year in succession, for the benefit of the West of England showpeople, a Guild meeting has been held at Redruth on the fair Sunday. It is an unfortunate circumstance that the fair is divided, one part being held in the town and the other on the outskirts of the old town.

The meeting took place in Hancock's Picture Palace, and there was only a moderate attendance, amongst those present being Messrs. William and Charles Hancock, Miss Hancock, Mr., Mrs., and the Misses Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Wright, Mr. J. Hasting, Messrs. Egerton and C. Bruno, Mr. and Mrs. Locke, Mr. Oxley, Mr. T. Rowlands, Mr. J. Russett, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Oldgridge, Mrs. Locke, Mr. W. Barlow, Miss Knebone, and others.

The Guild chaplain delivered an address on the work of the Showmen's Guild. He particularly dwelt upon the importance to every showman, no matter in what part of the country he worked, of maintaining the efficiency of the Guild in Parliamentary trade defence work. He detailed the history of the Movable Dwellings Bill, and impressed upon the meeting the consequences that would follow if such legislation were allowed to pass into law.

It was no exaggeration to state that their business and enterprise (one of the oldest and most honourable in the kingdom) would be driven out of existence by repressive laws. He pointed out that the family life of the showman would, if the Bill became law, be subject to the most inquisitorial control by local authorities, and that the whole of the fairs of the United Kingdom would also be in peril. The Movable Dwellings Bill not only attempted to deal with the home life of travelling showpeople, but it also provided additional powers that corporations and public bodies could use at their own sweet will and motion to suppress the fairs and the open-air amusements of the people.

The Importance of Combination.

It was sometimes said by those who took a narrow view of their responsibilities that the work of the Showmen's Guild was almost entirely a trade defence work for the Midlands and for the great northern counties. The West of England showmen, the Welsh showmen, and the Scotch showmen had little or nothing to gain, so these short-sighted critics of the Guild thought, by subscribing to the defence work of their trade society.

It needed but little consideration to see the fallacy of this idea. Every fair lost, no matter in what part of the country, meant the crowding on to the other remaining fairs of the showpeople who had lost their former circuit of fairs. If they put the matter upon no higher ground than preventing the crowding of their fairs in the West by showpeople driven out of other parts of the country by the closing down of fairs, that was surely a danger to be by all means averted.

But there were other reasons, and the most important to his mind was that whenever a fair was lost it was a direct encouragement to local authorities, not favourable to the continuance of fairs, to attempt the abolition of the people's fairs, and so to increase the evil that their Guild was formed to prevent. He instanced the encouraging fact that the defence of Mitcham Fair had been a bulwark of safety to other fairs threatened with extinction; that, as recently as Christmas last, three Greater London fairs had been saved by the work of the Guild. He was confident that the strong line of defence taken by the society with regard to Mitcham Fair had been of immense value in saving the threatened fairs of Hounslow, Isleworth, and Heston Green.

Parliamentary Defence Work.

Last year the Guild had won a signal victory by the defeat of the penal clauses in the Oldham Corporation Act. If those clauses had remained in the Act the Corporation of Oldham would have had power to prevent the growth of fairs within the borough, and to prohibit entirely private business within the borough boundaries.

If the Oldham Corporation had secured these powers, other corporations would have sought them, and it required very little consideration to see what a tremendous injury would have been inflicted upon the show business. In further reference to Parliamentary work, the Guild chaplain dealt with its expensive nature and its highly technical character. He explained to the meeting that it required an expert staff, including Parliamentary agent, solicitor, and counsel; that there were big fees to pay at every stage of Parliamentary defence work. He assured them that the greater part of the money subscribed was devoted to this extremely important and necessary work.

The record of the present sessions of Parliament was one of gratifying success as regards the work of the Guild. When the sessions of Parliament opened there were only two Parliamentary Bills attempting restrictive legislation against the show business. The most important of the two was the one promoted by the Handsworth Corporation.

They would understand the importance of that Bill when he told them that Handsworth wanted a Movable Dwellings Bill of its own, and they wanted the same powers that Oldham had been refused, to limit and to control fairs within their boundary. The society had been put to the trouble and expense of opposing the Handsworth Bill up to the very moment of its coming before Parliament.

He was glad, however, to say that the Handsworth Corporation repented at the last moment, and dropped out of their Bill the objectionable clauses that would have injured the show business. The other Bill they contested was also successfully dealt with. He asked the meeting to imagine the serious consequences that would have followed if the sixty or seventy corporations that had attempted to get restrictive legislation during the past ten years had been successful in their endeavour. More than half the fairs in the country would have been suppressed. Their liberty of life would have been curtailed, and restrictions of the most oppressive character would have been heaped upon the travelling showpeople.

The Chaplain's Reason for Visiting the Fairs.

In concluding his address, the chaplain, in earnest terms, desired to correct a wrong impression with regard to his visitation of the British fairs. He was afraid that there was an impression abroad that if the showman came to a Guild meeting he was under obligation to pay a subscription. He wanted to correct that false impression. Money was needed, but, in order to gain the showman's intelligent interest and support, he came to the fairs and he held meetings. His first and his greatest ambition, he assured his showmen friends, was to meet every showman, every amusement caterer at the fairs he visited, and to tell them the latest news of the work and influence of the Guild. For a great number of the people on the fair-ground to keep away because they felt unable to subscribe was a most regrettable mistake.

He was well aware that the show season from Easter up to Whitsuntide had been a poor one from the business point of view. This had been largely on account of bad weather, and during the last ten days the gloom of the national mourning for their beloved King had also affected their business.

But these were, however unfortunate, but transient causes. It was to him a matter of the gravest concern that anyone should keep away from the Guild meetings on account of inability to pay their usual subscription. He was confident that times would mend, and that later in the season all their members would be able to renew their subscriptions.

In vigorous and impressive language he urged all those present to support the Guild as the best means of uplifting as well as defending the show business from repressive legislation, and to secure the maintenance of the popular open-air amusements of the people.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, £5 5s.; Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock, £2 2s.; Mr. T. Rowland, 10s.; Mr. J. Russett, 5s.; Mrs. Locke, 5s.; Mr. A. Wright, 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. Barlow, 2s.

Guild Service in the Evening.

The Guild chaplain had quite a busy time at the Redruth churches. He was the special preacher at the Parish Church at Matins, and assisted at the early celebration at the Chapel-of-Ease. After Evensong at St. Andrew's Church the usual Guild Service was held in Hancock's Picture Pavilion. There was a large attendance of show people and their friends.

The singing of the hymns was very hearty, and the simple order of the Guild Service was reverently followed by the congregation. The Guild chaplain preached on the lessons of Whit Sunday, making a special reference to the death of King Edward VII. and the national expression of sorrow and sympathy with the Queen-Mother and the Royal family.

Whitsuntide at Pontypool.

Amongst the principal attractions of the fête at the New Park, Pontypool, was the Old English Fair, supplied by Edward Danter, a Newport caterer. The fair consisted of Danter's cinematograph show, Danter's roundabouts, throwing-games, and the usual attendant attractions of a well-ordered fair.

The variety and equestrian attractions included the Dayton troupe of acrobats, in their celebrated Risley performance; Herr Ponchery and La Belle Rose, the monarchs of the high wire; the Hodginis, the Ladderites, the Etenas, the Three Milfords, and the Three Zaracs, in their speciality acts and circus turns. The George French troupe, comedy and trick cyclists; the Snow Family, expert skaters; Latone and the Maid, acrobatic comedians; and Professor Bailey, with his world-famous Punch and Judy show.

The band of the 2nd Monmouth Regiment and the Aberdare Prize Band. The firework display was provided by Messrs. W. J. Wilder, of Birmingham.

New Brighton Tower.

This lovely resort on the banks of the River Mersey opened for the season last Saturday. Great crowds of people thronged the grounds during the day, and the many new side shows and novelties, some of which have been recently imported from the Continent, were a source of great admiration.

On Monday it was computed that over 50,000 people had passed through the turnstiles, and as a large number of "Tower Trips" are being run from all parts of the country, there is every appearance of New Brighton Tower having a record Whit week. To-day (Saturday), commencing at 2.30 p.m., the twelfth annual brass band contest will take place. Prizes to the value of £155 are offered, and will be competed for by sixteen of the champion bands of the North. Additional interest is lent to the contest this year by reason of Irwell Springs having won the cup twice in succession. Should they come out on top to-day the trophy will become their absolute property.

Redruth Fair.

The ancient Whitsuntide fair of the quaint town of Redruth, in Cornwall, was somewhat spoiled on the first day by bad weather. The principal day of the fair—Whitsun Monday—however, was blessed with gloriously fine weather. Great crowds of visitors from the adjoining mining districts poured into the town, both by train and road.

The narrow and crooked streets of the old town were crammed with happy crowds of pleasure-seekers, and both the fairgrounds were crowded by the multitude on pleasure bent.

A great additional attraction was the visit of Sir Robert Fossett's circus, which drew crowded and delighted audiences at both the afternoon and evening performances.

The large fairground locally known as Moore's Fair Field, was well set out with fairground attractions, under the banner of the Cornish and West of England caterers, Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock. Their attractive concerns consisted of bioscope palace, with up-to-date living pictures and variety turns, the fine set of racing motor-cars, the composite set of galloping horses, flying pigs, and Teddy bears, houp-la circles, and other novelties.

The other shows were John Jones's variety theatre and picturedrome, J. Hasting's two ground booths, the musical midgets and the giant lady, Chapman's trained birds and conjuring, Lawrence's marionette theatre, Alf. Wright's school of boxers, Glanfield's fistiana saloon, and two or three peep-shows and novelty booths.

The shooting saloons, Winchester ranges, and bottle batteries were provided by Jones Brothers, Oldridge, Lock, Rowland, and other caterers. Houp-la circles, watch-la stalls, throwing-games, and ring-boards by various caterers, amongst whom were T. Rowlands, Jones Brothers, J. Russett, Chapman, Oldridge, Lock, and Barlow.

There were also numerous toy and gingerbread stalls by local and travelling caterers.

The Shows, &c., in the Centre of the Town.

The very limited space provided by the Corporation for the annual fair was fully occupied by the concerns of Messrs. Arderton and Rowland and Mr. J. Brewer. Anderton and Rowland's picture palace was the chief attraction on this fairground, and the same firm exhibited their fine set of switchback gondolas and a houp-la circle.

Mr. J. Brewer provided a splendid set of racing horses, Teddy bears, and other quadrupeds, and a first-class houp-la circle. It will be seen that Redruth Fair has for its entertainment the very best concerns on the Western circuit.

The next fair on the circuit is Truro, which will be attended by the greater part of the concerns from Redruth.

Walsall Whitsun Fair.

The chief attractions at this Midland circuit town were Collins' Royal English Circus, Collins' No. 1 Wonderland show, Collins' racing birds and Teddy bears, Hutin's temple of esoteric mystery, Cullis's boxers, Haye's big boat and highfliers, Delaney's swings, penalty football frame by Cooper, houp-las, throwing-games, and stalls by Humphries, Wood, Jones, Chaplain, Delaney, Hampton, Warwick, and Butler; shooting ranges and batteries by Harris and Humphries; juvenile roundabouts by Montgomery; and toy bazaars and stalls by numerous caterers.

Blyth.

Swallow's Circus paid a visit to Blyth on Tuesday, the two performances being well patronised. Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie paid a successful visit on Wednesday.

White City, Old Trafford.

This week the lovely weather is causing this beautiful amusement park to be crowded, and although there is general mourning for his late Majesty, the Manchester people will have their Whit-week pleasure. They do both work and play with all their might, especially Whit week.

FILM GOSSIP.

Warwick Films of King Edward's Life.

The Warwick Trading Company is issuing a film which comprises a series of pictures of the public functions attended by King Edward, containing close views of his Majesty at various ceremonies and forming a series of exceptional interest to every citizen of the Empire.

Finding the Comet.

Messrs. Cricks and Martin have issued a very funny topical film, entitled How Scroggins Found the Comet. A crusty old gentleman named Scroggins has so much told him about this astronomical body, that he is determined he shall see it for himself. He purchases a large telescope, and in carrying it home succeeds in smashing some very valuable china. The telescope is put up, and the old man begins watching, but soon getting tired, he instructs his page boy to keep his eye glued to the glass and report as soon as anything takes place. The boy does not do much star-gazing, instead searching the horizon for other things. Several interesting views are disclosed of the interior of houses, where a lady is using a powder puff freely, and another man is kissing the maid in the absence of his wife. Some small boys next happen to let off some fireworks in the street, and the boy at the telescope, seeing a rocket sailing in the air thinks it must be the world-famed comet. Scroggins and family are hastily summoned, and the next rocket finds its way through the window into the room with disastrous results.

"Horseshoe for Luck!"

A Cines film to be released next week deals with the "legend of the horseshoe." In this clearly told and well-acted film one obtains a good impression of the origin of the supposition that the horseshoe brings luck. At first trouble follows in the wake of a diabolical "Old Nick"; everything he goes near is broken, moved, changed about, or in some other way altered. But his Satanic Majesty's time comes at last, for outside a shoeing forge he consents to be shod with a real horseshoe, but the process pains him so much that he wants it to be stopped. This the blacksmith is unwilling to do unless the Evil One will consent to make a horseshoe a lucky omen. In the concluding scenes we see what a wonderful power is possessed by horseshoes ever after this. All Satan's efforts to create trouble fail because of their protecting influence.

"Faust" on the Bioscope.

On July 2 the Cines Company will release a masterpiece in Faust. This subject lends itself especially to film production, and this company, whose historical portrayals are always a source of delight, has made special efforts to surpass its own records.

A Pathetic Little Story.

The Emigrant is a Lux film that all should get. Arthur Dale, a young engineer, is happily married and in comfortable circumstances, but through slackness of work is dismissed from his post. For months he tries his hardest to obtain a situation, and at last the home is sold up, and Dale, grasping what he thinks is his last chance, decides to emigrate. His wife now has to support herself and child by sewing, and the constant and trying work tells on her, until one day she realises that she is blind. At the hospital she is told she will never be able to work again. Meanwhile, Dale has been hard at work in the mines in Australia, and is highly successful. He returns home to find his wife and child have gone. A little girl passes by, stares at the bronzed man, and recognises her daddy.

An Educational Pathé.

Pathé's are issuing a most interesting film with the title Fishing in the South Sea Islands. We are shown the native methods of catching fish in the South Seas. The trammel nets are cast, and are laden with fish when brought up, and many weird specimens are fished out. The boats used are curious-looking objects, roughly hewn out of gigantic tree trunks, but the natives can manage them with skill and ease. The film is nicely tinted, and remarkably clear.

Mr. Urban and the Royal Funeral.

Mr. Charles Urban has made the most complete arrangements for presenting at the Palace Theatre in due course scenes of the funeral of King Edward the Seventh.

The Last Sad Record.

Cinematograph operators were noticed to be stationed on the balconies of the Horse Guards, on a temporary platform facing the Duke of York Steps, and on the roofs of buildings in the neighbourhood of Parliament-square, taking pictures of the removal of the remains of King Edward to Westminster.

King Edward's Funeral and the Poor.

With reference to the payment of wages to employees on the day of the funeral of the late King Edward, Mr. Alfred Benson, secretary, Palais de Luxe Cinema Co., Ltd., Great Windmill-street, London, W., writes to say that it would be very hard that the employees should lose their day's wages, and he therefore suggests that other cinematograph theatres should follow the example set by his company and pay the full wages to their employees.

Universal Picture Theatres.

At the statutory meeting of the Universal Picture Theatres, Ltd., held last Wednesday at 20, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., the Chairman stated that the company had secured the finest site in Hackney for a sum of £4,650. A property at Chiswick had also been purchased outright, the full amount of the purchase money being £1,200, and the building should be open to the public in about eight weeks. Praed-street, the directors considered, would prove to be the most lucrative of the three theatres under construction. The theatre should be opened and revenue returning within three weeks. A contract has been entered into with the London Cinematograph Company, whereby the company is assured of an excellent service of films on preferential terms.

Forest Gate Picture Palace.

A magnificent electric theatre was opened in Woodgrange-road, Forest Gate, E., by the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., on Saturday last. Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin is manager and chief of staff to the proprietors. The theatre is most sumptuously decorated and upholstered, the prevailing colours being white, gold, and green. The entrance is wide and beautifully designed, and leads into an exquisite lounge-corridor, 90ft. long. The interior of the theatre has accommodation for over seven hundred people, the seats being tip-up ones. There are four sliding roofs. The operating room is under the management of Mr. Geo. Kendall, and the assistant-managership is in the capable hands of Mr. Alf. Norton. Another feature is an excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mme. Wiedland.

Kensington Picture Palace.

The Kensington Picture Theatre programme this week has included The Little Chantecler (Gaumont), Won by a Hold Up (Essanay), Lysistrata (Gaumont), Duck Farming (Tyler), The Adventurers of the Golden Valley (Pathé), A Race for a Bride (Creeks and Martin), Proclamation of King George, and Procession for the Lying-in-State.

At Kilburn.

Mr. G. W. Grant's Biograph Theatre at Kilburn is doing remarkably well. The hall is prettily decorated in brown and gold and is very cosy. The management is in the hands of Mrs. McCullah, who succeeded Mr. H. N. Appleby. The machine used is one of the Charles Urban Trading Company's projectors.

Colour Pictures at the Palace.

Life in the Desert of Sahara is the latest kinemacolour subject to be presented in animation and the actual tints of Nature to Palace Theatre audiences. The spectator sees camel caravans crossing the great desert, tourists in the Garden of Allah, negro and Bedouin musicians, a negro bride being taken from her native village, and the Kaid and his caravaneers.

New Hall for Ashington.

The Pavilion Palace, Ashington (proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Wealleans, and Manager, Mr. Joe Curry), opened its doors to the public on Thursday, the 12th inst. The hall, which has a seating capacity of 1,400, has been built on the latest principles, and is most tastefully decorated and very comfortable. The machine is the latest pattern motor-driven Gaumont. The bill of fare is certainly all that can be desired, and a large and representative audience visited the place on the opening night. The proceeds of the two houses on the opening night, amounting to £30, were presented by the proprietors to local charities.

Edinburgh's New Picture Hall.

The Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., will shortly open a picture theatre in Prince's-street, Edinburgh, on premises which have been lately known as the Kardomah Café. The proposed theatre is to seat about 500.

Moving Pictures in Colours in Glasgow.

Ever since the cinematograph with its moving pictures was first displayed to a wondering and delighted public it has retained its popularity. Nowadays moving pictures are so perfect that it would hardly seem possible to improve upon them. And yet in Glasgow last week there began in the Electric Theatre, Charing Cross, an exhibition of Kinemacolor. The world's events are produced in their natural tints, colours, and movements. The Electric Theatre, which is being run by the West of Scotland Electric Theatres, Ltd., is magnificently fitted and upholstered throughout, and is the first of its kind in Scotland.

New Hastings Picture Palace.

The Pelham Hall Electric Theatre, Marine-parade, Hastings, was opened last week to big business. The hall accommodates 200 in tip-ups, the floor is covered with inlaid lino, and the colour scheme is dark red. A first-rate programme was supplied by the Cinematograph Film Hiring Company, Ltd.

The Walturdaw Animated Picture Company opened the Victoria Theatre, Kettering, of which the managers are Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co., on Monday for a season. Films are sandwiched between pleasing turns by the Sisters Wayland, and a clever trapeze performance by the Four Flying Orcniuses.

Mr. Leon Vint's Newest Hall.

The Theatre Royal at Loughborough has been converted into an electric picture palace, and Mr. Leon Vint is to be congratulated on a successful opening this week. Two performances are being given nightly, and on Monday the house was packed at each, and the attendances give promise of being well maintained. Some capital pictures were shown, including dramatic, classical, and comic subjects. The Procession of King Edward VII.'s Funeral from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall was reproduced. By way of variety Miss Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots, a clever troupe of juvenile singers and dancers, gave an excellent turn.

Patent Theatre as Picture Hall.

The old Theatre Royal, Newcastle-under-Lyme (one of the last of the old patent theatres), was re-opened on Saturday evening last, after being closed for some years. The house has been practically reconstructed for the London Cinematograph Co., Ltd., and from outward appearances is quite an ornament to the town with its white plaster and illuminated front. The interior is decorated in a charming blend of colours, and fitted throughout with tip-up seats, &c. A continuous performance was installed on Saturday, running from 3 p.m. to 10.30 p.m., and with change of pictures twice weekly should prove a popular resort.

Southport's Latest Attraction.

Last week the new Picturedrome in Lord-street, Southport, was opened. The Picturedrome, which it is estimated will accommodate about 700 people, is situated on the south side of Lord-street, between Market-street and Portland-street. Its exterior appearance is attractive, and is improved by the laying out of the frontage in an artistic and ornamental manner by the Southport Corporation. A more cosy, comfortable place could not well be imagined. The company is financed by Manchester gentlemen who are interested in other places of a similar character, and the Picturedrome will be under the management of the famous cinematograph firm, Weisker Brothers.

Spennymoor's "Arcadia."

Another picture hall of some importance is being constructed by Mr. Fred Gowland, of Spennymoor and Darlington, who is converting part of his large arcade situated in Tudhoe Grange into a house of entertainment, and to provide the best possible pictures outside of London. The alterations are now well advanced, and will be ready shortly. Accommodation is being provided for about one thousand people. The building will be known as the Arcadia. Mr. Robert Fenny, of Spennymoor has been appointed manager.

Morley.

Messrs. John Sanger and Sons' renowned circus visited here last week, and was largely patronised. There was a very fine mid-day procession.

"When I was unknown," says Signor Caruso to the Paris correspondent of the *Mail*, "I sang like a singing bird, careless, without thought of nerves. But now my reputation is made, my audiences are more exacting. Here I am to-day bending beneath the weight of a renown which cannot increase, but which the least vocal mishap may compromise. My audiences, well disposed towards me as they are, have to pay such high prices to hear me that they imagine I am a unique singer, and I appear before them stared at and envied. Imagine my state of mind when the curtain rises, for the human voice has its weaknesses. Like everyone, I have my cares and troubles, and climate and temperature affect me, but the public never thinks of that, demanding an artist as perfect as they imagine me to be. That is why often I am the unhappiest of men. I compare myself to a great Parliamentary speaker before an important interpellation. When the moment arrives he may be sad, weary, ailing, and he longs for repose, but his friends await him, his enemies rally round. His interest bids him speak. A tenor is much worse off, for he, alas! is compelled to sing."

The Assembly Rooms, Bognor, will be sold by auction by Messrs. Wyatt and Son, by order of the mortgagees, on the premises, on Tuesday, the 31st inst. The halls and rooms are well and conveniently arranged, and are suitable for theatrical performances, concerts, and other purposes.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 10.)

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Best People* is the attraction here. Mr. H. Elliott-Ball makes an excellent Lord Emsworth; Mr. Pennington-Gush is successful as the Hon. Gerald Bayle; Lord Wynlea is well represented by Mr. Arthur Dennis; Miss Roberta Pulleyne is notably good as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle; and Miss Irene Lavington does well as Lady Emsworth. The comedy is preceded by *Cinders*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—A good company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Smith, opened here on Monday with *Pete*, with Mr. Austin Milroy in the title-rôle and Miss J. Malcolm Barnett as Kate Cregeen.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The variety programme here includes Miss Frederica's dogs and pony; William and Warden, comedians; Paul Corrie, equilibrist; Annie Lang, comedienne and dancer; Felix and Fisher, gymnasts; Doc Thomas, ventriloquist; Alf Bentley, whistler and mimic; Mather and Mayne, comedy entertainers; and Fox and Melville, song illustrators. Other attractions are Miss Bessie Jones and troupe of lady swimmers, the Harmonic Entertainers, and the Skating Rink.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock.—*Alice in Wonderland* is being well played by a very capable company, including Miss Ivy Sawyer as Alice, Mr. Tom Graves as the Mock Turtle, Mr. Franklyn Vernon as the Mad Hatter, and Mr. Dan Leno, jun., as the Caterpillar and the Red King.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—Included in this week's programme are Mr. Tom Child, Miss Elsie Davis (vocalists), the Comrades Choir, and the Baroness Von Eckardstein's Private Band (conductor, Mr. C. Hallam). The usual Whit Monday gala and firework display was abandoned, owing to the death of the King. An additional attraction on the Spa is the Electric Theatre, where excellent picture displays are given.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's Company is here with *A Wrecker of Men*. Mr. Arthur S. Pitt distinguishes himself by some clever work as Jim Murley, and Mr. William Heilbronn gives satisfaction as Pharosaphus. Guise Strange is ably handled by Mr. Arthur Robinson; Mr. William A. Armour scoring as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt; Mr. Thomas Carruthers, as Eric Melville; Miss Gwendoline Talbot, as Doris Melville; and Miss Mabel Edwards, as Marion Isaacs, are satisfactory in their respective parts, and Miss Lydia Hart supplies excellent comic relief as Vavasole Slopper. The fine appearance of Miss Ruth Zillwood fits her eminently for her rôle of Risca Mallinson, which she dresses and plays to perfection.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Private Secretary*, well played by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company, has again proved a popular holiday attraction, and Mr. William Hargreaves, who has made this rôle of old Cattermole practically his own, on Monday caused roars of laughter by his quaint and unctuous drolleries as the quick-tempered John Bull-like uncle; Mr. Fred Tyrrell repeated his clever and funny impersonation of the dapper tailor, Mr. Gibson; and Mr. Geoffrey Guise played the amusing character of the mild curate on familiar lines; Mrs. Alfred Davis was first-rate as Miss Ashford; and Miss Elsie Blythe as Eva Webster and Miss Aimee Clyndes as Edith Marsland were pretty and agreeable young ladies. The curtain-raiser was *The Wild Man from Borneo*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Much interest has been caused this week by the reappearance (after an interval of over twenty years) on the local stage of Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre, and there was a crowded house on Whit Monday, when the veteran actor-manager submitted his vigorous and thrilling impersonation of Coupeau in an original version of Zola's "L'Assommoir," entitled *Easily Led*. This drama was realistically put on the stage, and the telling speeches and strong situations were loudly applauded, Mr. Pitt-Hardacre being frequently recalled.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Old Home*, an interesting play full of domestic interest, was acted to a delighted audience on Monday, the leading character of Daddy Dean being finely represented by Mr. Charles Franmore. The erring daughter Hazel was portrayed with emotional ability by Miss Violet Ingram; and all the other characters were carefully played. The piece was mounted in a picturesque manner.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Mark Sheridan is again starring here, and his apropos remarks on things in general are full of racy humour. Others engaged for the holiday bill of fare are Miss Anna Chandler, a talented artist; Miss Dot Stephens, the favourite musical comedy vocalist; Falco and Elda, in a novel act; Wal Langtry, Miss Maudie Francis, the Bros. Redmond, the celebrated Rauschle, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, the Courtiers (vocal entertainers), and the Bioscope with up-to-date pictures.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Thos. Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The Six Bros. Luck, in their screaming comic ballet *The Demon of the Cellar*; the Great Richards Trio, novelty artists; Mr. Phil Herman, Tyrolean impersonator; Curwen and Belle; Mr. Harry Nelson, a smart entertainer; Simms and Simms, two clever and original performers; Miss Addie Lennard, the Scottish meistersingers; the Bioscope pictures of the day; and the clever sketch *The Last of the Desmonds* are all in high favour with the Hippodrome clientèle.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—There is an attractive variety bill of fare here this week, and holiday crowds have thoroughly enjoyed the shows. The Hawicks and Havicks are a clever and versatile troupe of acrobats, pipers, and dancers; the Velvees give an entertaining performance, aided by their finely-trained pony; the Czar's Royal troupe of Russian dancers are remarkably expert; Miss Daisy Devenport is a bright comedienne and dancer; Kochi and Foo Sing are very capable gymnasts on the horizontal bars; R. Choto is a refined and talented vocalist; the Three Pirmans give a capital gymnastic turn; and the Lador troupe of male and female acrobats work hard and successfully to entertain.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—An attractive holiday programme includes the Mirza Golem Troupe, Lucia Collins, John le Hay and company in a new comedy sketch, *The Oyster*; Edith Heron Brown, vocalist; Kelly and Agnes, comedy couple; and the Gotham Quartette, melody makers.

THE KURSAAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton.—The new management were well supported on Whit Monday, when a variety entertainment was presented with considerable success. The programme was contributed to by Daisy Hurdle, a pleasing vocalienne; the Bros. Matthews, two coloured patter comedians, who won popularity with quaint and clever dancing; Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn, who gave a creditable vocal burlesque pianoforte duologue; Haig and Novel, who caused unbounded amusement in an acrobatic and comedy act; Bennett and Martell, whose absurdity in *The Shipwrecked Mariners* was well sustained; Mr. Alex Keith and company, who gave a laughable portrayal of a modern society play entitled *The Notorious Mrs. Eggflipp*; the Emsons, two clever young comediennes and expert dancers; the Great Four, who as comedy harmonists proved entertaining; Yettmah, a clever Japanese conjurer and magician; and the Stavordale Quintette, in a highly creditable banjo and harp speciality. In addition to this lengthy programme Mr. Arthur Watson presented Flo Stanley's musical comedy entitled *Prince of the Dandies*, which was capitally delineated by Mr. Arthur Watson as Sprouts, Mr. Robert Leardo as Peter Peck, Mr. Arthur Alvis as the Prince, Miss Adeline Montague as the Hon. Miss Highclass, and Miss Flo Stanley as Daisy Highclass. The dancing of the Empire Girls was pleasing and clever.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—The summer season commenced on Saturday under the most favourable conditions, and the popular lessee (Mr. H. B. Anglesea) is again having the services of Mr. Finlay Dunn, who met with a most cordial reception at the opening performance. Throughout the holiday vast crowds were entertained with excellent programmes.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—A strong attraction for the holiday week is provided in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, presented by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. George Mudie submits a highly diverting and clever study of the henpecked Mr. Ponderbury; Miss Celia Gordon acquits herself with great credit as the austere Mrs. Ponderbury; Stella has a smart and vivacious impersonator in Miss Florence Wix; a capital study of the old butler Peter is given by Mr. Percy Bell; Miss Florence Wellesley presents a charming and piquant interpretation of Ethel; Mr. Stewart Dawson plays with skilful emphasis and point as Mervyn Thorpe; and other parts have capable representatives in Mr. Gilbert Clark as Hyacinth Grayling, Mr. George Child as Captain John Rumford, R.N., and Miss R. Silver as Lady Baring. *Chalk and Cheese* precedes.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's drama, *A Thief in the Night*, is playing to good houses. Mr. Layton Cancellor gives a fine interpretation of the rascal Pagani, and as his coadjutor, Sonia Cleeve, Miss Beatrice Horner is admirable; Joan has a strong exponent in Miss Mary Pemberton, and Mr. Stanley Bedwell as Alan Escombe, the hero, acts with skill and impressiveness; good comedy is introduced by Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Happy Christmas.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Mr. Fred Karno's company rouse endless hilarity in the thrilling adventures of *Jimmy the Fearless*. The Jackley Trio of acrobats are an exceptionally clever turn; Peter Bermingham is an excellent Scotch comedian. Mr. W. H. Fox, versatile comedian, Tom Black, double-voiced vocalist, Vera Saunders, comedienne and dancer, and the Vedras, a good eccentric comedy acrobatic turn, are also billed, and the Bioscope has new features.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—For the Whitsuntide vacation Mr. Fred J. Webbs supplies the attraction with his No. 1 company, in the popular drama *For Old Times Sake*, exceedingly well played and finely staged. Mr. Webb as Rupert Sidney gives a fine rendition of this heavy character; Mr. H. C. Lanceley acts to admiration the rôle of Jean Brooke; and Mr. R. Oliver proves a success as Frank Rivington. The Dr. Heathcote of Mr. W. Pallister Acock is cleverly outlined; and Mr. J. C. Carlyle acts with credit Paul Sidney. Mr. Edwin Beverley as Evan Berkley plays well; Mr. Tom Taylor is also good; Miss Marie Danvers-Smith gives a finished portrayal of Sareta Berkley; and Miss Mamie Stanton is heard to advantage as Phyllis Brooke.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—Bell and Dryden, comedians, head the bill here, and are well received. The pictures of note by the A.B. Company include The Lute Player, Cagliostro, The Open Gate, and Through the Breakers.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—The ever-popular *East Lynne* is being presented here this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke. Archibald Carlyle is represented by Mr. Leonard Yorke, who plays the part with much ability; Miss Muriel Marsden as Lady Isabel gives a pathetic portrayal of the erring mother; as Francis Levison Mr. F. Finch Smiles makes a capital villain; Mr. Charles E. Dering is a dignified Lord Mountsevern and Mr. Thomas Barry a good Justice Hare; and Mr. John Blake a satisfactory Richard Hare. Barbara Hare has a capital exponent in Miss Dorothy Clifton, and Miss Mary Hardacre is excellent as Cornelia Carlyle. The part of little Willie is feelingly taken by Miss Connie Thorne.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Frank Elliston and company present here a well-dressed and exceedingly interesting comedy, *My Lady Betty*. Three Comedy Chanters sing beautifully and make fun; Bert Rayburn is comical; and the Godfreys are excellent musicians. Lina Leslie is quite captivating; the Almas perform capital acrobatic feats; Lucy Gillett is a wonderfully smart little lady; F. A. Martell dances on his fingers with success; and Pictures on the Hipposcope conclude.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A capital Whitsuntide attraction is provided here in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, with Miss Madge Grey delightfully amusing in the principal character of Mary Ellen Thompson. Mr. H. B. Pippin gives a thoroughly capable impersonation of John Higgins; Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., as Harry acts ably and sings pleasingly; Eva Lancashire has a charming representative in Miss Issa Steel; Moses Goldberg is a mirth-provoking Jew as impersonated by Mr. Allan Servington; and Mr. Lonnen Meadows as John Henry Thompson, Miss Fanny Olive as Mrs. Thompson, and Mr. Billy Brereton as Herbert Fox, contribute largely to the entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A clever and mystifying entertainer is John Warren, who presents "The Magic Carpet." Others appearing are the Hartley Wonders in their marvellous jumping speciality; Will Sullivan, a funny and amusing comedian and patterer; Walter Ellis and company in a laughable sketch *The Sleepwalker*; Maggie Walsh, singing mill girl, who is accorded a flattering reception; Pip Powell and Katie Vesey, an entertaining pair, in a musical duologue, *A Perfect Woman*; and Ruby Emmerson, a pleasing comedienne.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The exciting drama *A Destroyer of Men* is here this week. Miss Hilda Beverley gains much approval as Olga Mishla, known as Countess Starevitch; Mr. Stephen Langton is an admirable Count Starevitch.

CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—*The Mummy and the Humming Bird* is presented here this week. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is an admirable Lord Lumley (The Mummy) and Mr. Lewin Mannering an excellent Signor D'Orelli. The piece is well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Great Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese head the bill here. Julian Mack is excellent as the Talking Dame; Tom E. Dean, the morbid man of mirth, is good; Fred and Alice Gratton and Kathleen Delaine give a refined musical item; Len Hale is a clever comedian and dancer; Burnetti, a marvellous quick-change character musician; Little Vesta Dawson, a wonderful child comedienne and dancer; and Roxborough and Wright give an entertaining musical comedy pot-pourri entitled *Hi Wun*.

STOURBRIDGE. — ALHAMBRA THEATRE AND PALACE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Walsh and Tanner head the bill with their absurdity *The Tramps Surprised*. J. H. Carney is a capital stilt performer; Monte Santos, society juggler, is a great success; Dolly Richardson is a comedienne of no mean order; the Two Flakes give a marvellous exhibition of lightning picture painting; the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in *Her Secret Lover*. Miss Laura Walker, the leading lady, cleverly portrays the exacting rôle of Ivy Seymour; Miss Florrie Leslie adapts herself admirably to the part of Alicia Royale; Mr. Arthur St. John gives a fine performance as Gilbert Seymour; and Messrs. Walter N. Wilson and Mr. Robert Lord also do excellent work in their respective parts of Captain Rose and Mr. Murfield. Messrs. Alfred Stretton (John Strange) and J. Newton Cowling (Jim Jones) prove themselves capable exponents of villainy; and the humour is entrusted to the very able hands of Miss Lynn Darlington and Mr. Victor Vernon.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Barney Noble is earning great popularity here this week by his catchy songs and witty stories; Mueller and Coyne are also well received in their laughable duologue "There's no place like home." The Pictures are up to the usual high standard.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading an excellent programme here this week is John Lawson in his famous sketch *Humanity*; Leslie Brothers, eccentric musicians, are scoring heavily; Heeley and Meeley cause endless laughter in a screaming knockabout act; Jack Lane is as popular as ever in clever and humorous items; Dorris and Francis are clever exponents of simultaneous dancing; Rossie Ashton is making a great hit with a novel item of singing songs and drawing appropriate cartoons; and Hilda Jacobsen is a talented comedienne.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Menotti, the Stockholm wonder, is causing much astonishment here this week with his thrilling wire-walking act; the Carlsens cause much amusement with their humorous and intrepid acrobatic item; and the Twelve Musical Rustics are deservedly popular.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's repertory company is here with *Almost His Bride*. Mr. David McFarlane is seen to advantage as the Earl of Ullswater; Mr. Geo. R. J. Austin acts Philip Rowland in manly style; Jasper Thorne is effectively taken by Mr. R. F. Stacey; Mr. Pritt is an undoubted success as Simon Simson; Mr. N. E. Purnell makes the most of the Detective-Inspector; Miss M. Florence ably sustains Emma Baxter; Miss Lily Prescott is a powerful Myra Thorne; a sympathetic rendering of Ruth Gilchrist is presented by Miss Adele Lidden; Miss Yhda Moores acquits herself admirably as Mona Gilchrist. The drama, *A Woman's Passion*, is also in the bill.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The films here include The Manchester Flight, Holy City of Tunis, President Roosevelt's Tour, The Boy Scouts, The Smoker, and a good supply of humorous ones.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. Majilton's *Round the Clock* Company occupies the boards here. Mr. Jim Bond works cleverly as Bertie Burke; Mr. George Hunter is good as Gee Garo; Denby, the lawyer, is well played by Mr. Tom Carroll; Mr. Charles Majilton affords much amusement as Gadforth; Miss M. Majilton is very bright and vivacious as Bertie Kelvin; Miss Lina Valle is good as Mrs. Gadforth; Miss Lizzie Boyle is a praiseworthy Georgina, and Miss N. Clifford is successful as Saprinnel. For Thursday and Friday *She would be a Widow* was announced.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—Large houses are appreciating the interesting and enjoyable programme, features of which are Sexton Blake, Western Chivalry, A Friend in Need, and Woman's Strategy. Mr. F. Gilmartin scores with his illustrated songs.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Norman V. Norman is making a welcome reappearance here after a long absence, and presents *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Beatrice Wilson gives a charming impersonation of Kitty, her easy, unaffected manner being quite captivating. Mr. Norman V. Norman as Sir Reginald Belsize is equally successful; Mr. F. Lock Whittaker makes a typical lawyer; and Miss Elsie Goulding gives a capital study of M. de Semiano. Miss Betty Stannard as Rosalie, Mr. Norman Leslie as Norbury, and Mr. Alfred Wiltshire as Hampton all do well. *David Garrick* was staged on Wednesday.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—"The Brownies" are providing an excellent attraction, and on Monday opened to a crowded house. Miss Madie Field is a winsome comedienne, acting with Mr. Charles Heslop to considerable advantage; Miss Beatrice Willey (soprano) and Mr. Alec S. Clunes (bass) possess excellent voices; Mr. Harvey Brinton makes a capital entertainer, and is frequently encored; and Miss Vivien Stafford also does very well. At the piano Miss Dorothy Webb is all that can be desired.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.—General Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—This fashionable resort reopened for the season on Monday last, under the most favourable auspices. Fanny and Harry Dent score a huge success in a novel melange entitled *The Indian Bottle*; Mike Gray is responsible for a unique comedy juggling act, which causes much mirth; Joan Deering, billed as the Gainsborough Girl, proves herself to be a violinist of exceptional ability; Mooney and Holbein, vaudevillian artistes, have a budget of capital songs, and their patter is particularly smart; Marshall and Parr, drawing-room entertainers, obtain a flattering reception; King Luis and partner score in a clever acrobatic turn; Ethel Stephenson proves herself to be a vocalist of more than usual ability; the Brothers O'Brien are seen to advantage in a smart bar act; and there is an excellent show of up-to-date pictures.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company occupy the stage here in *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. T. Arthur Plummer gives a praiseworthy rendition of Jack O'Malley; Mr. Fred Wilberforce ably sustains the rôle of James Inderwick; the part of Cuthbert Leigh is in the able hands of Mr. T. B. Brabazon; Mr. Horace Stanley makes a manly Sam Wagstaffe; Mr. Charles H. Williams is effective as Bletherby Beggs; and Mr. Evan Roland does full justice to the character of Seth Coombes; Miss Kate Kilpack is good as Peggy Potts; Miss Leila Drummond submits a clever character study of Olive Coombes; Miss Ida Fane is successful as Letitia Leigh; and Miss Cora Linda is a pleasing Bessie Leigh.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Mr. Bert Coote and company are here this week in the sketch, *A Lamb on Wall Street*; Henry and Tyler, comedy cyclists, provide a capital turn; Tom Hayton's Six Manchester Lads give a fine exhibition of clog dancing; the Real Mackays are a couple of clever juvenile vocalists and dancers; Arthur Harris, actor vocalist, sings well; Elmo and Rego, knockabout comedians, do well; and Miss Marie Kay is a pleasing comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Three Royal Dreadnoughts, crack rifle shots, display great skill in their wonderful performance; the Muir-Bartlett company are seen to advantage in their sketch *The Collar Stud*; Robb Gilmour, quaint comedian, has a good reception; the Sisters Lucretia and Josephine are smart burlesque artistes and dancers; Dunn and Reano, comedy trapezists, are bright; and Charles Woodward, comedian, is well received. Mr. Tolfree is to receive a complimentary benefit to-morrow night (Thursday).

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M Loader.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company is here in the domestic play *Only a Little Boy*. Miss Dot Forde in the title-rôle submits a really clever character study, and as Tag Rag Miss Hettie Senior wins sympathy. Miss Florence E. Florence acts with pathos as the much-wronged Jane Pennington; Miss Mary Ainslie is a dignified Sister Mary, and Miss Mabel Harland is well placed as Mrs. Pennington. Dramatic force marks Mr. F. Marriott Watson's portrayal of Jim Bragstone, and Mr. Oswald Douglas is a manly Steve Kingdom; Mr. Elton Morgan makes the most of Ambrose Pennington; Miss Flo Norman is good as Mona O'Flinn; Mr. Aubrey Winne is a typical retired doctor; the humorous element is ably sustained by Mr. Cecil Raymond as Joshua Snell and Miss Amy Rudd as Deborah. The staging is very effective.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Victor Niblo and his talking birds are the great attraction here this week, and have scored a big success; the Comedy Meisters delight all with their capital vocalization; the Zanfrellas supply a delightful turn as pedestal equilibriste; Kitty Clinton scores well with good songs; the Bartholomew Girls are a smart pair; George Acre is a smart burlesque artist, and Nita Nixon's songs are enjoyed. The pictures are good.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; General-Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Edmund Caselli is making many friends here with his banjo solos; the Phœnix Trio are delightful vocalists; Minnie Aubyn is a dainty comedienne and Henry Waldon is a comedian with plenty of versatility. The pictures are good.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Responsible Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager Mr. C. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W Wright.—Mr. Harry W. Lumley is presenting the musical comedy *The Cruise of the Constance* before good audiences. Mr. Frederick Hobbs makes the most of the part of the young naval officer (Sir Walter Wensleydale) and the heroine is well played by Miss Carlotto Sylvano, the possessor of a sweet voice; Mr. Chas. McLagan is capital as the Swiss Admiral, and Mr. Albert Kavanagh a dignified Captain of the Constance. Other notable performers in this well-staged production, which is under the control of Mr. E. T. Sterne, are Mr. Charles McNaghton, who, as the steward Potts is quite the hit of the piece, Miss Ruby Vyvyan as the maid, Clemente, and Miss Irene Verona, whose impersonation of the part of Mrs. Hope is capital.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The Kinetic Picture Co., who have run this building as an electric theatre during the past nine months, have introduced various up-to-date improvements to the newly decorated interior, and are being rewarded with large attendances.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Granville.—The return visit of Miss Lena Ashwell's company, in *Diana of Dobson's*, is heartily welcomed. Miss Eleanor Delaport gives a perfect interpretation of Diana Massingbred, her acting being most impressive. A capital delineation of Captain Victor Brotherton is given by Mr. Leslie Rea; Miss Hilda Franck scores a decided success as Mrs. Cantelupe; and Miss Marie Ault is effective as Miss Pringle.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—A record house was secured on Monday night. An excellent programme is headed by the Australian nightingale, Miss Ada Colley, who artistically rendered "L'oiseau d'amour," "Dear heart," and "Killarney"; Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, with their marvellous exhibition of equilibrism, astonish all. Some really pretty musical selections are given on a variety of instruments by the Saxonia Family; Horace Wheatley is an evergreen comedian, with songs and patter always fresh, and he has an enviable reception. Immensely funny are the Lyons Trio, in their high class comedy act; A. G. Spry, assisted by Miss M. Ogilvie, cause much amusement in a patter song and dance; Kathleen Cogan, in song and dance, is dainty and attractive, and some good pictures are shown.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W Payne.—Mr. Leigh Lovell's company is paying a welcome return visit in the *Strange Adventures of Miss Brown*. Mr. Leigh Lovell gives a highly-finished interpretation of Captain Courtenay; a Major O'Callagher Mr. Arthur Rodney is excellent; Mr. Claud N. Sykes is entitled to eulogy for his impersonation of Herr Von Mozer, and Mr. Kennett Black does good work as Mr. Hibbertson; Miss Octavia Kenmore is a charming Angela Brightwell; Miss Nana Flensburg (Euphemia Schwartz), Miss Avice Vayne (Matilda Jones), Miss Madge Tenterden (Millicent Loveridge) and Miss Daisy Race (Clara Loveridge) are delightful in their respective rôles. Miss Christine Jensen is artistic as Miss Romney.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson. Two shows of vaudeville are given nightly; Mr. Harry Blake tops the bill, and proves most popular. The Musical Marvels are vociferously applauded. Starley Brothers perform some wonderful feats as trick cyclists; the Sisters Carlton, duettists and dancers, are charming; their terpsichorean efforts being exceptionally smart; Tommy Clifford is a ventriloquist far above the average; and Miss Marie Hills excels as a song-and-dance artist. A very laughable sketch is *Murphy's Affinity*, in which Miss Cissie Kingsley (Cleopatra), Miss B. Armitage (Bedelia), and Mr. E. Mullins (Michael Murphy) all show histrionic ability. The pictures shown on Lambert's Bioscope are very fine. Herr Fericescu's Viennese Band are here for another season, and are very popular.

PIER KIOSK.—The Comedy Entertainers are giving a very smart show here. Mr. Jimmy Law is a clever comedian; equally successful is Mr. Bertram Noël; Mr. C. Griffiths sings with expression; Mr. E. Sykes renders "I'm a Roamer" successfully; and Miss Roberta Williams is a clever comedienne; and Miss Langley deserves special praise; Miss Freda Sharlotte shows dramatic skill in her monologues.

WEYMOUTH. — PAVILION THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Wallis.—Mr. Neville Claude's company opened on Whit Monday with *The Girl from Kay's*. In the title-rôle Miss Florrie Millington played with distinct success; and Mr. Henry Adnes was amusing to a degree as Hoggenheimer. Miss Rosie Burnett made a charming Norah Chalmers; and her maid Ellen was in the capital hands of Miss Lillian Rignold. Mr. John A. Latham was very good as Harry Gordon; as also were Mr. Chas. Power as the Hon. Percy Fitzgerald; and Mr. Richard Andeau as Theodore Quench, Q.C. The piece is well mounted and the chorus skilfully balanced.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—The Royal Life Motion Picture and Variety Company supply the attractions here. Some excellent films are shown, the principal being To Save Her Soul, Miscia, The Shepherdess, An Indian's True Heart, and The Syren. The Six Leopold Leglers are famous as acrobats; Mlle. Nanoni, soprano, renders her songs in excellent style; and Frederico and Edgaro are very amusing.

WHITLEY BAY.—BATHS PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—For the holiday week the management is submitting an excellent and up-to-date show of the very latest films, and the varieties contributed by Sabino, the Merry Musical Monarch; and Stanley Anderson, the smart juvenile comedian, are greatly to the liking of crowded audiences.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Whitley Coliseum Company; Business Manager, Mr. Steve Smith; Acting Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson. The formal opening of this new theatre, a description of which appeared in our last issue, took place on Saturday last. The ceremonials were not of long duration, and after the singing of the National Anthem and a felicitous speech by Mr. Thos. Thompson, the nigonarian, and widely known as the "Fultus of Whitley," who was supported by the local authorities, the programme for the opening night was limited to vocal and musical items, with an exhibition of animated pictures, and on Sunday another similar bill, with the addition of the Newcastle Pavilion Orchestra, was given. This week's bill comprises some half-dozen big picture films, and excellent varieties are contributed by Joe Humphreys, vocal and character comedian; Herman and Evelyn, in a continental "pot pourri" acrobatic and wire act; and Rolf Slater, mimic.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Bail.—Mr. John F. Preston's No. 1 company, with *Rogues of the Turf*, is attracting large houses. The comedy drama is admirably staged, and the introduction of three thoroughbred racehorses, in the race for the Manchester Cup, rouses the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Mr. John F. Preston looks and acts the part of the trainer, Joe Flaxman, as though he had been brought up on Newmarket Heath, and the honesty of purpose which characterizes his impersonation elicits loud applause; Mr. Arthur Hartley is good as Sir Gerald Heathcote; Mr. Dan F. Roe creates a pleasing impression as Arthur Somerton; a trio of thoroughpaced villains are found in the Captain Dudley Clifton of Mr. W. Howard Barlow, the Moses Solomon of Mr. H. H. Rignold, and the Tom Strongarm of Mr. Tom Phillips; Mr. Arthur Leighton is effective as Steve Burton; whilst Mr. Horace Custins hits off the part of Sammy Flaxman to a nicety. Miss Beatrice Weston displays considerable power as Marion, a lady with many illiases; Miss Ethel Rainforth makes a dainty little heroine as Nellie Flaxman; and Phyllis Wurzel is well sustained by Miss Mabel Fare.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Heading a strong holiday bill is Mr. Ernest Cadle's company, with the Casey Army, an absurdity in which Mr. Will Murray shines as the Widow Casey, and a number of youngsters manage to create a large amount of boisterous fun. Roars of laughter are also caused by Mr. W. T. Ellanger and company in *Who Did It?* The comedy juggling act of the Gascoines is distinctly good; Addie Adell, actress vocalist, gains much applause for her rendering of popular Irish ballads; the audience heartily demonstrated the fact that they were pleased to see Phil Bransby again in his coster songs; Tom Joy is aptly described as an original comedian; and Lily Palmer is an attractive comedienne and dancer.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Amongst the best of a capital programme is the little company presenting Harry Tate's sketch *Fishing*; Mephisto is responsible for some marvellous illusions, and Bains and company are excellent acrobats and lancers; *The Tree of Truth* is a funny bit of business introduced by Brayne and Lloyd; Sam Dalton sings good comic songs, and Halma contributes many novel juggling feats. Lilian Travellie is a capable vocalist, and excellent Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—A large audience welcomed *The Importance of Being Earnest* here on Monday, when the famous comedy was presented by the company controlled by Mr. Peter Davey in conjunction with Mr. Douglas Gordon. The latter appears as John Worthing, and reveals a high degree of artistic skill; Mr. George Silver gives a clever interpretation of Algernon Moncrieff; Lady Bracknell finds an effective exponent in Mrs. Peter Davey, and the character of the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax is entrusted to Miss Phyllis Relph with excellent results. Miss Marjorie Waterlow is a graceful Cecily, and Miss Edith Vagne does justice to the part of Miss Prism; Mr. Arthur Stanley is amusing as the Rev. Canon Chasuble, and others of an excellent cast are Mr. Alfred Weston and Mr. Walet Bannister as Merriman and Lane.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Wadlington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Passing of the Third Floor Back* has charmed large audiences this week. Mr. Ian Robertson possesses a remarkable personality, and gives a striking impersonation of the Stranger; Miss Helena Parsons as Stasia presents an excellent character study; Mr

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12 Feb. 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 7, 21, 28 Dec. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 13, 27, July 4, Aug. 1,
Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 2 9, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for
June 20, July 18, 28 (three nights), Aug. 1 (six nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Pier Theatre, Eastbourne, May 30.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for
PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE, May 30.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, June 6, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
June 6, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, May 30, June 6, Aug. 15, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT, Oct. 6 (3), to follow Laurence Irving.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
June 6 (3), Aug. 4 (3).
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
June 13, Aug. 4 (3), 15, Sept. 12, 19.
All Communications to B. PARKEZER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for
June 27.
To play twice nightly.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE.
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
June 20,
Royal Show Week.
Wire immediately.
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
The Premier Theatre.
June 13, 20, 27, Sept. 12, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
July 18, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 24, 31.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
July 11, 18, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 24, 31.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION, RAMSGATE.
Entertainment Manager, Councillor CHARLES PRICE.
WANTED, Good Musical Companies, or other Attractions,
for only Vacant Season Dates.
July 25 (six nights),
Aug. 18 (three nights),
Sept. 12 (six nights).

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Closed for entire redecoration and alterations.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions.
STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 23, 30, July 4 (3), 11, Oct. 10, 17, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Aug. 8 and Sept. 19.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season. Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.
Wanted, Big Musical Attraction, for Opening date in July, also for following vacancies:
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3,

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Fred J. Ellis-ton, Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson, Mr. L. Collingwood, Mr. Chas. Windermere, Mr. W. W. Kelly, and, in fact, practically the whole of the first-class managers of the country.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for June 6, 13, 27, and July 4, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Plays, June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18 Aug. 1, 8.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Special Attractions.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnmouth, Bolton.

OPERA HOUSE & HIPPODROME, LONDONDERRY.
First vacancy March 6, 1911.
To follow "Merry Widow."

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 5, and on, first Three Nights of Week. First vacancy for Drama (last three nights), Feb. 6, 1911.

ALBERT THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
CO-OPERATIVE HALL, RUGBY.
TOWN HALL, LOUGHBOROUGH, &c.
Few Autumn Dates.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant July 25, Aug. 5, 6, Sept. 5, 6, and 15, 16, 17.
Address, W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Opera House, Londonderry,
until Wednesday, May 25.
After which no correspondence can be attended to until June 20.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies of Vaudeville Entertainers, for Summer Season, to follow The Will o' the Wisps, &c., from middle of July, onwards. Can book for a season of 4 weeks or more.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Under the Direction of Walter de Frece.
NOTICE.
During the Summer Months and onwards the above will be run once nightly as before.
WANTED, Good Strong Dramatic Companies, for June 20, 27, July 4-18, 25.
All Communications to
EDWIN LESLIE (General-Manager for Walter de Frece), 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.; or, this and next week, Hippodrome, Southend.

OPERA HOUSE, HARROGATE.
WANTED, First-class Company, July 25, three nights, to oblige a Manager.
Apply,
W. PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 11, 12, 13, also 25th, 26th, 27th (vacant through obliging managers). Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

GAIETY THEATRE, METHIL.
Population, nine miles' radius, 90,000.
Electric Trams pass the Theatre.
Only Vacant Dates,
Oct. 10, 1910.
Dec. 5, 1910.
Dec. 26, 1910.
Feb. 6, 1911.
March 13, 1911.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedy or Pantomimes, for these dates, share or certainty.
J. D. SWANSTON, Redburn-chambers, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Something Good, Aug. 1, 8, on, with exceptions, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 1, 15, on, with exceptions, Grand, Radcliffe. Letters only. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Comedy or Musical Attraction, July 11, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, Strong Dramatic Attractions, May 30, onwards. FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C. Telegrams, "Cirvaumac, London."

WANTED, Good Attractions, June 2, 6, Sept. 1, 19, 26, onwards (3 nights).
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions. Xmas Vacant. Terms not haggled over; excellence of productions the desired object.
Only recognised managers
Apply,
ALICE ROCHEFORTE, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies and Pantomimes coming North,—Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-11.
Full particulars and vacant dates,
A. E. PICKARD,
Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

LIVERPOOL LYRIC THEATRE CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 19, Oct. 10 (?), 31, Dec. 5, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov 14 (?), Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 20, 27, April 3, 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
Holding Capacity at Ordinary Prices, £80.
The Smart and Popular Theatre that does the Business.
Season's bookings include Mr. Ian Robertson and Co. in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Mr. Edward Terry and Co.; Mr. George Alexander's Co.'s "Builder of Bridges" and "The Thief" (return); "Lucky Durham" (return); Mr. Walter Melville's Co.'s; Mr. F. R. Benson's Co. (return); "When Knights were Bold" (return); "The Dairymaids" (return); "Fascinating Peggy"; "Cingalee"; Miss Horniman's Répertoire Co. (return); "The Woman in the Case," &c., &c.
WANTED, London Successes, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, BLACKBURN.
The most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Aug. 15. One or two other autumn dates possibly vacant. Now booking spring, 1911. Might arrange for First-class Pantomime, Jan. 2 or 9.
Address all communications re dates to HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, for Stockport, Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and 14; Ashton, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 7 and 21.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, Sept., on. A. D. VERNON.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, May 30, June 6, and on. Now booking autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 8. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

STANLEY (DURHAM) ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 1 (through transferring) and 15.
Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 11, 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 19, and on.
Address,
GENERAL MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, May 30, June 6, WALLACE DAVIDSON, Shakespeare Hotel, Nottingham.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4, 11, 18, Sept. 19 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c.
Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 27, Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Applications from Companies for August Bank Holiday and various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "Mrs. Wiggs," F. R. Benson, &c. Address all coms., MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 1.
MONTGOMERY,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., onwards. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY,
for August and Autumn, 1910.
Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Autumn, last three nights only, first three can be arranged at Lynn, grand Reopening of Season, Aug. 29 (last three), onwards, with exceptions.
Address, J. A. CAMPBELL.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 6, 13, 20, on.
ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, &c., to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
First Vacant Date, July 25 (?),
Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

PAVILION THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9.

PALACE THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 24 (?), 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 16.
For First-class Attractions only.
Apply, E. TILNEY, Abertillery.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, High-class Dramas for Aug. 8.
State Lowest Certainties; also Sharing terms.
Address, CHAS. ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, for "Pretoria" Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300: scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 12.
DOUGLAS BRUCE.
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, June 27, July 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Production Dates Settled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
"CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Vacant Jan. 16, on.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Vacant Jan. 23, on.
Share or Certainty. Once or Twice Nightly.
All particulars, ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of August 22 and 29.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, July 25 (?), Aug. 8 (?), 15, on.
Big Company.
Chorus, Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery and printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Court Theatre, Warrington.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, June 13, 20, 27, July 28 (three nights).
Aug. 4 (three nights), 8, 15, 22.
Sept. 5, 12, 26.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, May 23, Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth (seventh visit in five years).

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17 Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. BISHOPSDALE Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

HORACE LINGARD
in
"FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM,"
Jerome K. Jerome.
Sardou's Great Comedy,
"DIVORCONS."
The Screaming Farce,
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
WANTED, July 4, and onwards, with exceptions. SHELTON, Lyceum T., Edinburgh.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, July 25, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 9, various Spring and Autumn, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Elephant & Castle T., S.E. Monday, Lyric, Hammersmith.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
Autumn Tour with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success
"TEMPTATION."
Terrific reception at Sutton-in-Ashfield. Verdict:—The best all-round show seen here for months. Refer Mark Lorne, Esq.

WANTED, Aug. 22 (follow Barnsley), Sept. 5 and 26, Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate). Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Swansea). All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, May 30, to precede Scarborough, for "A SENSE OF HUMOUR."
Also June 20, to follow Brighton.
Wire for May 30.
BRADSHAW, Royal, Edinburgh.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, July 4, 11, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, 17, Xmas.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Royal, Bradford.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE,
Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11 and 18, for this Scream.
DICKIE CLARE, Empire, Oldham.

"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
By Walter Howard.
ETHEL GRIFFIES & MARGARET SKELTON'S TOUR.
WANTED, for above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
First-class Company, including Miss Griffies.
Good Scenery, Wardrobe, and Properties.
Address all communications,
GRIFFIES and SKELTON,
Opera House, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for Nov. 14 and Xmas, for the Great Success, "His Real Wife." Address, T. E. WARD, T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, May 30, June 6 (?), for either of his well-known Successes,
"A WOMAN WORTH WINNING"
or
"THE BEGINNING AND THE END."
Novel, Attractive, and Certain Money-pullers.
Also a few autumn dates.
Apply, A. B. MACKAY, T. R., Stratford, E.

WANTED, June 6, July 25, Aug. 8, for "Under the Iron Heel." Wire, WILSON HOWARD, Gaiety, Leith: then, Palace, Newcastle.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6. Managers make enquiries about this mascot. GEORGE A. DE GREY, P. T., Bradford: next, Lyric T., Liverpool.

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME."
WANTED, June 6 (to follow Sheffield), June 20 (to follow Pontypridd).
June 6, 20, and various onwards.
WALTER J. HORNE,
To-day, St. James's T., Long Eaton.
Next week, Palace, Derby.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Lancs. or Yorks.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
July 11, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
June 6, Sept. 26, Jan. 9, 16.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
May 30 (through transferring, King's, Hammersmith), July 25, Aug. 22, Nov. 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Only Dates,
Oct. 3, 17, Jan. 9, 30, March 27, Aug. 7.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Mrs. Charles Sugden's Tour in New Play by Mrs. Morton Powell.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Let to Oswald Cray, Esq.
"GREED OF GOLD,"
Let to Messrs. Fox and Leonard.
Plays to Let.
Scenery bought, sold, or made to order.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARING OF THE GREEN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, September, on, 1911.
May 23, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON AND COMPANY.
MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON AND COMPANY.
Autumn Tour, 1910.
Only vacant date, Nov. 14, to follow Leeds and precede Bradford.
WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Write or wire,
R. HALFORD FORSTER,
11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
June 13, June 13, June 13,
June 27, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 8, and later.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and later.
Look out for Grand New Production,

"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re Dates, FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda, Liverpool."

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson's and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play, "WHEN IT WAS DARK" (by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1 (follow the Broadhead Tour, Manchester, precede the Metropole, Birmingham), Aug. 15 and 29, Sept. 5 and 12 (precede Barnsley), Sept. 26, Oct. 17 and 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, and Spring. Many thanks to Milton Bode, Esq., W. W. Kelly, Esq., Andrew Melville, Esq., Z. Andrews, Esq., W. K. Gatley, Esq., W. Payne Seddon, Esq., and many others, for contracts. OSWALD CRAY, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Magnificent Production, "ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Carefully-selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14, only Dates Vacant.
Wanted, for the Funniest Farcical Comedy of the day,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
By Michael Morton.
From the Criterion Theatre.
Only Dates this year, July 4, 11, and 25 (?).
Address all coms., CHAS. GIBSON, T. R., Woolwich.

MESSRS. HAMILTON AND LOCKE'S TOUR.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19, and on, with exceptions.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Refer Harris Fineberg, Esq., or Manager of any Theatre visited.
Tenth week of Tour. Booked at following Theatres:—
May 23, Alexandra, Birmingham;
May 30, King's Theatre, Seacombe;
June 6, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton;
June 13, Empire, Fleetwood;
June 20, T. R., Scarborough;
June 27, Palace, Newcastle (twice nightly);
July 4, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne;
July 11, Grand, Doncaster;
July 18, Alexandra, Hull.
Address, CHARLES LOCKE, Alexandra, Birmingham.

PANTOMIME 1910-1911.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." "ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates, for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, and 22, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

SILVERSTONE and WRIGHT'S CO.
"THE NIHILIST;
OR, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
Let us point out to you the trend of the times.
Enormous Success.
Drama Twice Nightly.
Lyric, Liverpool, Monday.
Local Management expressed amazement at tremendous reception.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant June 27, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 17, on. SILVERSTONE, T. R., Bolton.

June 6,
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, June 6 and 13, various onward dates.
Either or both plays. Once or twice nightly.
Wire, LOUIS ESMOND, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.
May 23, Opera House, Coventry.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 6, follow Blyth), 13, 20, Aug. 1.
HENRY L. OSMOND, next, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., vacant, "Who is She?" Oct. 31, Nov. 14; "King and the Unknown Woman," Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, May 30, onwards, for a First-class Variety Combination.
Address, E. DOTTERDOG, Empire, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
Production, July 18, Junction T., Manchester.
WANTED, Wanted, Oct. 10.
Nov. 14,
Dec. 26.
Only Vacant Dates this year.
MISS HILDA BEVERLEY, Alexandra T., Hull.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S COMPANIES.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Another Triumph at the Osborne, Manchester, last week. Five return dates immediately booked. No comment needed.
WANTED, Theatre, Vacant Sept. 19, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, and few later.
Répertoire Company.
No Finer or Bigger Attraction Touring.
Never fails. Vacant Nov. 14 (North), Jan. 2 and 9.
Vacant Nov. 14 (North), Jan. 2 and 9.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
A Great Play. A Splendid Production.
To be produced at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, Feb. 13. London production Feb. 27, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. Vacant March 6, 13, 20, May 8, 22, and 29.
Apply at once, for all companies, to
CHARLES DRAYCOTT,
Next four weeks (stock), Prince's T., Accrington.

WANTED, June 20, July 18,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306. 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.

Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

Vacant June 20, July 18, 25, and on, with exceptions. May 23, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' CO.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
A Musical Farce, in two Acts.
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 8, 15, Nov. 7, 14, and various Spring.
New Musical Farce in Active Preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address, Miss FLORENCE BAINES, King's, Seacombe.

MRS. JOHN LAWSON
in a Triple Bill of One-Act Plays:
"WOMAN AND THE APPLE."
"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY."
"BRIDE FOR A LIVING."
WANTED, May 23 (?), 30, June 13, 27.
V. C. NEWMAN, H. M., Dundee, until Saturday. After, Theaterbau, London.

WANTED, Dates, at First-class Theatres, Music Halls, Piers, &c., for The Great Raymond and Company. See Companies Page. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.—Vide Press. En route.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Short Gentleman, Jew Boy ("Damozel"), play piano; "Naked Truth," Character Comedian, Eccentric Light Comedian. Terms, &c. (no wires), MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Company, for Stock, with few exceptions, South Coast, Summer. Lowest terms (letters only). CHARLES KITTS, 14, Salisbury-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, First-class Artists, Stock, Ellesmere Port. Rehearse 25th, open 30th. Two pieces weekly. Summer terms. COLEMAN DAVIES, 45, Henrietta-street, Preston.

STOCK SEASON.
MERTHYR, CARDIFF, & BARGOED.
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady to Star; also First-class Comedians, Chambermaids, and Responsibles.
Apply to A. JACKSON WITHERS, Theatre R., Merthyr.

WANTED, Robust, also Light, Comedians, London.
Lowest terms, &c., Box 7,750, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady for Sketch, Emotional Actress, powerful singing voice, able play piano an advantage. Write, stating salary required. Box 7,723, "The Era."

WANTED, Heavy Man, also Juvenile Gent., young, and used to portable. Summer terms. FRANK PAYNE, 19, Brook-street, Melton Mowbray.

WANTED, Utility Gentleman, capable of Touching-up Scenery, Summer Season, Stock, South Coast. Lowest terms, references. Letters only. CHARLES KITTS, 14, Salisbury-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, at Once, Eight Children, from 8 to 10, to Train for Stage Dancing. Apply by letter to MLLE. CORA KATTI-LANNER, 40, North-side, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known.—Amateurs, if you wish to go on the stage, consult LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Savoy-street, Strand. No preliminary fees of any kind.

WANTED, all Artists to Know that "Stage Facts and Figures" may now be obtained from LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d.

News of the World says: An invaluable little book.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Opera Co., at Liberty May 30 and June 6. Thanks for offers. To-day, Alexandra, Pontefract; next week, Royal, Warrington.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

PANTOMIME, 1910-1911.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." "ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, refs., and where working next six weeks, to FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, for Various Pantomimes, Artists in all Lines. Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIME.
Xmas, 1910
"CINDERELLA,"
Alexandra Opera House, Sheffield.
"CINDERELLA,"
Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Royalty Theatre, Chester.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines for above, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Second Boys and Girls, Fairy Queens, Quartette and Trio of Speciality Dancers, Principal Comedians, Dame, Sisters, Demon Kings, Knockabout Comedians, Male Quartette of Vocalists.
100 Ladies not under 5ft. 6in. for Ballet and Chorus.
Address, stating age, height, photo (with stamped envelope for return of same), experience, and recent reference, and say where can be seen working for the next four weeks, to
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, really good Scenic Artist (own brushes), quick, effective, and capable first-class work. Permanency to suitable man. References, age, terms. Box 7,719, "The Era."

WANTED, Quick, All-round Expert Scenic Artist, constant. Apply by letter, with terms required, to T. B. H., 141, Portman-market, London, N.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract. Town or Provinces. Address, 15, Salisbury-terrace, Winter-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, situation by Scenic Artist Improver. Landscapes or Interiors, good worker. W. L. BRITTON, 10, Tournay-road, Fulham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. WILL MOLESWORTH, Shirley, Warwickshire.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT.
SPARROW'S NEST CONCERTS.
WANTED, a Manager for the above Concerts for the Summer Season of Nine Weeks, commencing July 11. Salary £20 for the Season, payable in weekly instalments, and 5 per cent. commission on all receipts over £900.
Applications, with copies only of three recent testimonials, to be sent to me before the 28th inst.
R. BEATTIE NICHOLSON,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall,
Lowestoft.
May 17, 1910.

WANTED, to open June 13, Gentleman, to learn the duties of Acting-Management.
Premium required.
Box 7,738, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Stage Manager, with experience of Musical Productions, for West-End Theatre. Apply, with full particulars of capacity and experience, to
Box 7,748, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage-Manager and Electrician. State age, experience, &c.,
D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Agent, used to Travelling Circuses and Menageries. State particulars in first letter. PURCHASE'S Menageries, Long Sutton, Monday; South Petherton, Somerset, Tuesday.

WANTED, by Ladies' Trio, Violin, 'Cello, Piano, good London Agent.
Apply, stating terms, Box 7,743, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Property Man, Sober and Reliable, open at once, used to Portables. Wire or write, JAMES, Standard Theatre, Ledbury, Glos.

WANTED, Immediately, Smart, Expert Mechanic; must be thoroughly capable of building, repairing, or making anything required in metal; must assist on stage, and be generally useful; only an energetic, healthy man, who is an absolute master of mechanics and fond of his work need apply; strict sobriety essential; must give two weeks on trial at regular wages; if satisfactory, long engagement with illusionist touring. State age, salary required, experience, full particulars, and reference.
Address, Box 7,718, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Window-biller, not afraid of work, to help in theatre at night and make himself generally useful. Permanent position. Write, stating terms and previous experience. HARRY SLINGSBY, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by A. G. Cullingford, Acting Management, Advance or Box Office. Town or Country. Thoroughly experienced in every detail, back and front. Picture show not objected to. Wire or write, 13D, Kingwood-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by London Manager, with expert knowledge of the business and of building work. MANAGER, 39, Perham-road, London, W.

WANTED, re-engagement as Manager, Theatres, Varieties, Rinks, Pictures, Tours. Expert departmental knowledge. Highest credentials. HARRY HUNTER, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Assistant-Manager seeks Situation, five years' experience, hall just closing. A. B. C., 81, Wise-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Post as Assistant Stage-Manager and Small Parts (low comedian). Full particulars to SEQUAH, 18, Eldon-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, James Leco, Circus Agent, is at Liberty for Tenting Season, knows country well, either England, Ireland, Scotland, or Wales. Address, 54, Plains of Waterloo, East Cliff, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Known, B. W. Watkinson, the working Bill Inspector and Advertising Manager, at Liberty. 2½ years Hippo., Sheffield; 12 years' experience. Highest Credentials. 38, Brook-st, Kennington, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Musical Director, to Supply Band of Twelve, for July, Aug., Sept., for ten weeks, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, to play on Promenade during the day and Theatre at night; also give Sunday Concerts. Write particulars, lowest terms, to CHARLES PRICE, as above.

WANTED, First-class Leader; also Pianist. Café Experience, June 25 to end September. F. H. JEPSON, The Palace, Blackpool.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, a Deputy Conductor, for Touring Military Band, permanent engagement; must be thoroughly experienced and reliable, preference given to a man who is capable performer on some military band instrument.
Reply, stating full particulars, references, and lowest salary, to
Box 7,724, "The Era."

WANTED, First Cornet, for Empire, Birmingham, and Empire, Hackney; must be first-class experienced players; permanent engagement. Apply by letter, stating lowest terms and references, to M., Moss and STOLL COMPANIES, Cranbourn Mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Cornet, Horn, and Euphonium, open Monday, 23rd. Lowest terms; two sessions. CUNNINGTON, Olympia Rink, Merthyr.

WANTED, Good Cornet, open at once. Terms, 32s. 6d. Monday, Gorey; Tuesday, Arklow. BAINBRIDGE, Bandmaster.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, to commence on June 27, for permanency, first-class Solo C.arionet. Good salary to really fine player. Apply, JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical Director to the Corporation, Brighton. Mr. Stubbins please write.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, to join at once, Euphonium, terms 30s. per week. Ferndale, Saturday; Tylerstown, Monday; Pentre, Tuesday; South Wales.

WANTED, Euphonium, Monday next, 27s. 6d.; two sessions. Apply,
PRICE, 3, North Hill-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, First Horn, Season, July 4. Refs. to
F. H. JEPSON, Mus. Dir., The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Second French Horn, conversant with Military Journals, June 20 to Sept. 18. References, terms, Mr. E. HOLLAND, Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, used to quick variety and standard works; others useless. Send age, terms, and references. AMOS PARKER, Musical Adviser, De Frece Circuit, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Harpist, also Good Comedian, Al Fresco, Ireland, inland, open Sunday, 29th, tenth season. COOKE, Poste Restante, Athlone. No fares advanced.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist, for Cinematograph Entertainment. Age, references. Lowest terms, photo. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Experienced First-class Pianist, for Picture Show, Lancashire. Write, stating lowest. HARRY DEAN, 7, Cross Lances-road, Hounslow, W.

WANTED, Drums, Trombone, and E flat Bass, comfortable shop. Wire, E. CUNNINGTON, Bandmaster, Scott's Circus, Swinford, Co. Mayo, Ireland.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Leader, Flute, and Pianist, commence July 1. STOCKHAM'S Ladies' English Orchestra, 32, Rembrandtplein, Amsterdam. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, good Double Drummer, used to Rinks, open Monday next, London, 2 sessions. Apply, to-day, CONDUCTOR, Stamford Hill Rink, N.

WANTED, to complete well-known Military Band, for three months' season on South Coast, Musicians. All instruments write in. Good Double Drummer, with Effects.
All must be Competent Musicians.
Box 7,670, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist, Violin, Clarionet, and 'Cello, or Double Bass, for New Liner.
Apply, BANDMASTER, 87, Darnley-road, Gravesend.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, used to Al Fresco, twelve weeks certain, inside. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Pianist, open Next Week. Must play MS. at sight. Age, terms, particulars. BARRETT, 14, Cairo-terrace, March, Cambs.

WANTED, Piccolo, B flat Clarionets, Euphonium, and Drums, for Pitching. Terms, shares, or send lowest terms. BANDMASTER, 69, Carlisle-st., London, N.W.

REANO
and his
FAMOUS BANDS.
WANTED, for these Well-known Organisations. Brilliant Military Instrumentalists.
Correspondence invited from all Instruments.
Applications only entertained
from thoroughly experienced,
absolutely reliable
and gentlemanly performers,
and to such
a Permanent, Comfortable Engagement
is offered.
Reply,
stating if double-handed,
full experience,
all particulars,
references, and lowest terms,
to
T. HAYDEN REANO,
Bedford Hotel, Southampton-row, London, W.C.
Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, First-class Experienced and Competent Music Hall Conductor, will shortly be at Liberty. Box 7,731, "The Era."

WANTED, by Variety Musical Director, Dis., Re-engagement, in London or Suburbs, T.T., good refs, steady. Box 7,732, "The Era."

WANTED, by Conductor (à la Continental) or Leader, Seaside Engagement. Photo, refs. C., 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor or Pianist, any business, excellent references, large orchestral library, Disengaged. GRAHAME, 3, Newcastle-st., North Shields.

WANTED, Harry Petersen, Conductor 6½ years Palace, Walthamstow, open for engagements, Conductor or Piano-Conductor. Address, 2, Wilson-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (Violin), disengaged, experienced, and reliable, excellent library; highest references. WILFRED BALL, 50, Tunnel-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement Varieties, First-class only, London preferred. Address, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 25, Comyn-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, re-engagement by Smart Mus. Dir. (Piano and Violin) through closing. Any business. Can open Monday. SYDNEY ALDRETT, c/o White Lion Hotel, Market-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Leader or First Violin, good Reader, Brilliant Tone. Engagement in good Music Hall. Highest ref. Box 7,717, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin. Fully experienced and competent. First-class references. L. ROGERS, 1, Heygate-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Leader and First Cornet. Address, ROSE and FEMMIE SCHOENTHAL, 137, Cannon-st.-rd., Commercial-road, E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Season Engagement, First-class Leader. Well up in Variety, Concerto, &c. State terms. VIOLINIST, 6, Mendell-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, through closing, position as Leader or First Violin. At Liberty May 30. J. MARSH, 7, Carthland-lane, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable, Steady Violinist, any business, excellent refs., strictly sober. A. SHIPMAN, 91A, St. Martin's-lane, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable Violinist, First or Répétiteur, open Monday or Season Engagement; first-class references. VIOLINIST, 25, Messenger-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin, late Army Staff Band, also experienced variety, theatre, &c., young, abstainer. VIOLINIST, 58, Gt. Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, Engagement by Competent Violinist as Leader, First Violin or Second. Theatre, Variety, or any Business. Also First-class Pianist. Both at Liberty May 21 through closing. F. H. BRIDGWATER, Drews Holloway, Halesowen, near Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola. Any business. Write or wire.
KIRKMAN, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement(as First or Second Violin, can combine second or third Clarionet. Refs. VIOLINIST, 48, Up. Victoria-st., Darlington.

WANTED, Violinist, only genuine offer, any business, good reader, memoriser, brilliant soloist and vocalist. VIOLINIST, 152, Lawkholme-lane, Keighley.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin, any business. Competent, reliable. Capable of Leader. J. FURNISS, 26, Worcester-st., Gloucester.

WANTED, by First Violinist or Small Orchestra, re-engagement. Good répertoire, any business, good refs. PHIPPS, c/o Clements, 176, Gt. George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, an Engagement, by a Brilliant Solo Cornet and Trumpet, late solo performer the Crystal Palace, Queen's Hall, Military or Orchestral, seaside or town, age 33, smart, gentlemanly. SOLOIST, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by C. Lillie, Solo Cornet, Mus. Dir., Premier Rink, Grantham, extensive library, highest refs., iron lip. Address above. Closing Sat.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, Disengaged end of month, any business, long experience, excellent refs., London or seaside. LEEDHAM, 73, Clarence-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and Trombone, together or separate, good refs., any business. HOYLE, 72, Bolton-st., Ramsbottom, Lancs.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement, through closing, Military or String, experienced, reliable, exceptional refs. Address, SOLO CORNET, Hippodrome, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Solo Cornet, steady and reliable, at Liberty after May 28. R. H. GORE, Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Cornet, at Liberty end of May, re-engagement. Young and reliable; any business. W. FORD, Carshalton-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Cornet, thoroughly experienced, reliable, any business. Address, FOWLER, 48, Frewell-buildings, Bourne Estate, Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, by Cornet (or conduct Military or Brass), Trombone, and Drums, engagement. Dis. through fire. Roberts, Brook-lane, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business.
J. C. HOLDEN, c/o A.M.U., Great Newport-st., W.C.

WANTED, Season Engagement, Seaside, late Clarionet, Sandhurst College, Military or String. Reliable. HILL, 56, Broadway, London Fields, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet Player, Military Band or Orchestra. Thoroughly experienced in both. 10, Liverpool-street, King's Cross, London, W.C.

WANTED, it Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Double Bass, is at Liberty to accept Offers, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, any business, disengaged through closing; good ref. T. HOPKINS, Upper-street, Fleet, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, long experience, age 33, first-class references. Letters only, Box 7,729, "The Era."

WANTED, by E. flat Bass, Engagement, Army experience, late prize band, reliable. Apply, PENFOLD, 2, Sidney-street, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, steady and reliable, open at once. HARRY HARE, c/o McIntosh, 48, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Situation, for Double Bass, Good Performer, could combine with E flat bass. W. PRANGLEN, 227, New Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Will Darley, Contra Bass (Carl Rosa), re-engagement, open June 12; highest references, experienced. T. R. Concerts, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Experienced Trombone, Season Engagement, Orchestral or Military, good refs. TROMBONE, H. M., Theatre, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Trombone Player, Rink or other business. Wire or write. J. COOPER, 24, Birchmore-road, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, good, experienced, any business, first-class refs., steady and reliable. Would deputise. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone or Euphonium, through closing, Liberty 30th, 10 months present situation. JACK HUTCHINSON, 15, Park-st. West, Luton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium, or could provide band of six, smart uniform. Apply, FRED PEEL, 94, Duke-st., Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Trombone, any business.
A. BOSTOCK, 5, Fox-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Trombonist (Side), at Liberty.
T. ALTOBELLI, 83, Northcote-av., Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Euphonium; also Geiss, Double Drummer and Effects, any business. Write GEO. COWLAND, 3, Perkins-st, Coventry.

WANTED, by Good Euphonium, Engagement (professional), thoroughly experienced, reliable, excellent refs., any business. JOHN STONE, 20, Old Orchard-st., Bath.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Orchestral Euphonium, good references. Wire, HOWARTH, 1, Wargrave-avenue, Stamford Hill. Write, 23, Santley-street, Clapham.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, Military or Orchestral, thoroughly experienced, can open at once. CHAS. GRICE, c/o Wilson, Theatre Buildings, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Bombardon, combine String Bass. Respectable and reliable. Good references. B. R., 9, Denmark-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Bombardon. E flat, efficient and reliable. Combine Violin if required. NEWALL, 54, Howard-street, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Efficient Monstre BB. at Liberty to-day. Wire BOMBARDON, c/o Lafayette Co., Empire, Hackney. Next week, 60, Peddie-street, Dundee.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist (Solo, Chamber Music, Orchestra), short Summer Engagement; highest references; Hotel party preferred; no uniform. Box 7,626, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Hilda Miller, 'Cellist, at Liberty, Engagement terminated in consequence of National Mourning. 32, Montrell-rd., Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, experienced in First-class Orchestral and Military Work. Highest references. Address, C. HERRICK, oboe, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Experienced and Good Oboeist seeks re-engagement Orchestra, Military or Variety, excellent credentials, abstainer. CHAPNESS, 219, Lyham-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Harpist. Brilliant Harpist, good Showman. Disengaged at present. Box 7,725, "The Era."

WANTED, by Harpist, Engagement, Eight Years' Opera Experience.
FAITH NUNN, 4, West-street, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, after May 27, by Two Ladies, Seaside Engagement with Orchestra or Concert Party, Flute, Piccolo, Violin, Piano, Mandoline, Banjo, and Vocalist, Experienced Accompanists, Soloists, and Expert Sight-readers. ROSETTI, 9, Victoria-road, Gravesend.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo, also Double Drums, together or separate. Can open immediately. BULLOCK, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, by Flute and Clarionet, Engagement, together or separate. Any business. Sober, experienced, reliable; good refs. Disengaged June 6. KARLSTEDT, 33, Mimosa-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by thoroughly experienced and reliable Flautist (modern instruments). Address, ROBT. WALKER, 37, St. Mary-st., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Orchestra or Military, thoroughly experienced, reliable, good refs. CULLEN, 9, Woodford-ter., Pavilion-rd., Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Concerts, Banquets, At Homes, &c., Accompanist, Composer, Singers Coached. Miss KATHERINE MOORE, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, experienced Accompanist, engagement. Board and expenses. Disengaged July 26, 6 weeks.
Apply Box 7,734, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady (A.G.S.M.), as Accompanist to Professional Lady or Orchestra. Address, L., 37, Perran-rd., Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, experienced in Dramatic and Variety Orchestral, or Solo. M. S. S., 59 Tideswell-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, Young, but Experienced.
G. B., 56 Clareville-grove, London, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady Pianist, Professional Soloist and Accompanist, experienced orchestral, good reader, hotel or concert party; would deputise. Box 7,737, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, variety, pictures, good accompanist, pianist. 57, Wargrave-avenue, Stamford Hill, London, N.

WANTED, by Solo Pianist, engagement with Concert Party for Summer Tour. Would also accompany if desired. Salary not so much the object as a pleasant tour with nice people. Press notices, &c., on application.
Box 7,735, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist, seaside preferred. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by Brilliant Solo Pianist and Accompanist, Summer Engagement with Concert Orchestra or First-class Party; last season Bridlington. A., 117, Wellesley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, used to any business. Can open at once. Excellent refs. Address, WHITEHEAD, pianist, 59, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, experienced orchestral, any business, would combine with cornet, Liberty May 30. SALES, 67, Clarence-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, Good Double Drums and Effects, at Lib. at once, any business, through disappointment. JACK PEARSON, 24, Albion-street, Darlington, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Drummer.
E. ERLAM,
43, Kempsford-gardens, Earl's Court.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, any business. DRUMS, c/o 33, Harbury-road, Cannon Hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Drummer, now at Liberty, all effects, any business, experienced, sober, reliable. 27, Towson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by Experienced Drummer and Tympanist, Deputising or Short Season, through closing. DRUMMER, c/o Mrs. McCourt, 4, Clarence-st, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, Tymps, Glock. All effects. References, J. Sykes, conductor of Palace, Southampton. Wire, R. WHITE, Bank Inn, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums or Tymps and Drums, any business, first-class references, would accept deputising. EVANS, 63, Seaford-st., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Lady Guitarist, Disengaged for Troupe, &c., good stage experience and appearance. Add., letter only, Miss, 79, Millbrook-rd., Barrington-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.
WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame MANTON-MYATT,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, Ladies' Trio (refined). Good Instrumentalists, Violin, 'Cello, Piano, for summer months, one a good vocalist. Box 7,744, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. Musicians send terms and photos. Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement for Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette (two violins, 'cello, piano), Leader, Medallist, Associated Board, R.A.M. and R.C.M. Extensive Répertoire. 38, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Engt., good small Military or Orchestral Band, any business, experience in Bandstand Programmes; highest references; uniforms. MADDISON, 11, Inver-rd., Clapton.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 23, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Yvette Guilbert, Bros. Miller, Marquis' Cobs, Henri Leoni, Campbell and Barber, Ray Wallace, Hardini Trio, Avolos, Animated Pictures, Raymond Phillips' Airship.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Ade Reeve, J. J. Dallas, Pictures, Marco Belli, Alexandra Dagmar, Tune Chewers, Spry and Monti, Jackley Trio, "The Little Stowaway."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gaston Chevallier and Co., in "The Rat," Harry Roxbury and Co., in "On the Track," Pat Rafferty, Nellie Wigley, Victor's Juveniles, Syd Walker, Fred Barnes, Aida Martine, Bioscope, Hagedorn's Grotto.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Lily Morris, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, A. G. Spry, Lux's Dogs, Hubert Carter and Co., Frank and Free, Chas. Robinson, Bioscope, De Wynne Bros., Jordan and Harvey.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Sixth Week, Stock Season, "Colleen Bawn" and "The Shaughraun."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Lew Lake and Co., in "King Nobbler," Millie and Arthur, Little Ganty, Billy French, Fatmah Diard, Cavalli, Maxey and Pete, Dan Hendy, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Evie Greene, Ike and Will Scott, Villions, Motramos, Harry Herbert, Bros. Redmond, King and Queenie, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Chanti.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, Waul Langtry, Ellis Barrieton, Findens, Laurie's "Belles of the Kitchen," Fred Curran, Rhoda Paul, Mimi Thornton, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Edward Marris' Stock Co., in "Harbour Lights."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Craggs, William Mollison and Co., Arthur Woodville, Dot Stephens, Astley's Circus, F. V. St. Clair, Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, Edward Davies, Bros. Durant.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Gertie Gitana, Fielding and Hull, Walker and May, Takio, Marie Kendall, Siems, Tom Davies' Trio, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, "The Organ Grinder."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Woodhouse and Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Amelie De L'Enclos, Brull and Hemsley, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Tom Clare, H. O. Wills.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Ellaline Terriss, Maie Ash, Stanley Brett and Co., Conan and Doyle, Leo Tell, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, J. A. Wilson, Lyons Trio, Nellie Farrell, Biscope, Helen Trix.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Ella Shields, Devon and Earle, Fred Shepherd, Master Edward Garratt and Co., Carmos, Peter Bermingham, Mlle. Eldee, Speedwell, Bioscope, Amy Augarde and Co.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Ella Russell, Gwennie Hasto, Bros. Bright, Will Poluski, jun., Nelson Jackson, Peggy Pryde, Three Merrills, Two St. Johns, Bioscope, Horace Hunter.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Billy Merson, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Nina Wood, New Macs, Ando's Japs, Smite and Smote, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Horace Pollock.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

The Great Lafayette, Haytors, Bioscope, Mezzettis, Ed. E. Ford, Stanley and Greenop, Sanford and Lyons.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gaston Mayer's Co., in "The Brass Bottle."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Stock Company and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Harry Marte, Mabel Sinclair, Esta Stella, Three Van Dammes, La Berat, Sisters Jerome, Gothams, Alexandre and Hughes.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Fragson, Lulu Russell, Alfred Agoust, Juliette's Sea Lions, Boden and Bell, Bioscope, Geo. Ali and Co., Liane D'Eve.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mark Sheridan, Chas. T. Aldrich, Falco and Eida, Harry Leybourne, Rauschle, Talbot and Pearce, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Julia Kent and Co., Marguerite Broadfoote.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Kellinos, Ada Colley, Sisters St. Julian, Bessie Butt, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, G. W. Hunter, Ryan and Hall, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chas. Austin and Co., in "Parker, P.C.," Tom E. Hughes, Lola Patey, Chas. Norton, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Ethel Newman, Frank Lynne, Chas. J. Johnson, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mike Whallen, Orpheus, Chas. Santon, Wyndham and Kitty, Harry Friskey, Bert Williams, Sisters Caselli, Bioscope, D'Arc's Marionettes.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chung Ling Soo, Frank H. Fox, Rossi Ashton, Smythsons, Humpsti-Bumsti, Lena Verdi, Rich Taylor, Bert Weston, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

R. G. Knowles, Van Biene and Co., Billy Hobbs, Heeley and Meeley, A Ba Be's Album, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Tiny Arnold, Bioscope, Oswald Williams, Marjorie Lawrence.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Tom Moore, Barrett and Knowles, La Freya, Addie Dorina, Frank Maura, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Sam Mayo, Arthur Roberts and Co., in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Tom Stuart, Francoli Troupe, Gladys Mavius, Ben Albert, May Mars, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jewel's "Change," Channings, Phillips and Merritt, Francis and Alfred, Henry Helme, Florence Yaymen, Lawrence Barclay, Lily Shaw, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Bellclair Bros., Sisters Tower, Delevines, Mitchell and Cain, Wullie Waker, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Roma and Romani.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Jack Lane, Graham and Barron, Johnny Walker, Vernon Troupe, May Henderson, Vera Rochdale, Pictures, Picitte and Lizette, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

George Formby, Marconis, Arthur Slater, Staig's Steeplejacks, Drew and Alders, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Alice Raymond.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Courtiers, Alan Holt's Co., in "A Society Woman," Bioscope, Verno and Voyce, Fred Lincoln, Doris and Francis, Tate and Tate.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Pleasants, Frank Cass, Johnny Fuller, Marsumas, Jessie Merrilees, Phil Parsons, Pictures, Park's Boys and Girls, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Gustave Fasola, Sylvia Du Barry, Carl and Carr, Ian Colquhoun, Fred Land, Bertha Winder, Pictures, Prince Milner Trio.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. T. GERALD MORTON, Empire Palace, Leeds.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: Miss AMY ROBINSON.

General Business Manager for the Circuit: Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager: Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 23.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Will H. Fox, Monie Mine, Canard, Raymond and Ivy, The Fitzroys, Chas. Woodward, Blanche Marion, Gallimore Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, Kitty Clinton.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Maude Mortimer, Marie Dreams, Roy Beavis, Rene, Virto, Vesta Nixon, Broughton and Creedon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Joe Archer, The Arabellas, Harry Martell, Vaudeville Trio, The Keppels, Alice Craven, Norah Desmond, Sydney Brandon, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
The Comedy Meisters, Josh Dixon, Dan Fraser, Joan Deering, The Miltons, Reid and Power, Florrie Ford, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Irene Meldon, "Drink," "Runaway Girls," Ethel Pierce, The Hamiltons, Henri Cazman, The Sages, Jos. Crooke.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Leonard and Vereker, Little Cherub, Telephone Tragedy, Alfonso, Lucy Prinella, Norah Noble, Mabel Thorne, "An Eye for an Eye," Phillip Levard, Fred Karno's Comedians.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Haines and Borthwick, John Macauley, Vera Mayne, Leo and Roland, Dan Conroy, Dorothy Vasey, Barrie and Wood, Friend and Downing, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Susie and Protti, Burt Shepard, Arthur Stacey, Doris Druce, Stewart and Morgan, Dolly Ross, Burdetter Bros., The Simms, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
The Geni Family, Burt Ward, Luceece Prunella, Mamie Morris, Lisbon and Barker, Eugene Stratton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Saved by Wireless," Harley and Melton, Pete and Minnie Lee, Adie Lombard, The Belmonts, Cairo Trio, Pick of the Picture World, The Janowskys.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
The Merrions, Bartholomew Girls, Dancing Gilberts, Chas. Vincent, Cumminger and Colonna, "Songland," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Five Jolly Bakers, Joe Belmont, Sisters Caine, Charles Erard, Dene and Dixon, Leolin, Ada Fawn, Pick of the Picture World, Harry Keeble.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Carlton, Fred and Lulu Camplin, "Mysterious Cross," Colin Mail, Gwen Francis, Kate Traill, Arnold Richardson Co., George Lawrence, "The Circus," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Cissie Thompson, Donaldson Bros., Norah Emerald, Edwin Garth, "Adolf Beck" Pictures, The Kirbys, Crosby and Walker, The Wedburns, Bert Crosbie.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"A Noble Brother."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Eight Lancashire Lads, Milner and Storey, Sissie Brand, The Heriot Trio, The Rosses, Kate Gourlay, Sergt. Brennan, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Beaumont Collins and Co., Florence and Rose Showell, Three Alskarnos, J. J. Mannix, Cassie Walmer, Gillin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Arabella Allen, Gladys Clinton, Chas. Coborn, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, Mundill Maude, The Lafolles, Howard and Collison, Bessie Neilson, Empire Girls, "G.P.O.," Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Our Mary Jane," Helen Martin, Pictures, Four Sidney Girls, Rayburn and Dix, "Prince of the Dandies," Jessie Wilton, The Deadbeat, Willie and Johnny.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Letine, Pictures, Beattie Lyndon, Ross and Grayson, Maddison and Webb, Chas. Carlisle's Co., Kitty Corelli, "Avenged," Edith Lewis and Co., Mark Hanbury, Bros. Gerard, Ernestine Desborough.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/- Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES INCLUDING HAT.
LATEST PATTERN.
Price 14/8
Postage ... ... 6d.

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE. LONDON E.C.

SPARROW & SON

EST. 1765. NOTTINGHAM. TELE. 187.

THEATRICAL DECORATIONS.
FIBROUS PLASTER. ART PAINTINGS.

PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS ARE INVITED TO SEND FOR SKETCHES & ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE PREPARED FREE OF ALL CHARGE.

PRESS COMMENTS on some of the THEATRES, &c., DECORATED by SPARROW & SON.
"One of the most charming theatres in the provinces." "Carried out in admirable taste." "One of the most beautiful concert halls in the world."
"Messrs. Sparrow and Son, of Nottingham, well known for their Theatrical Decorative work, carried out the interior Decorations in exquisite style."

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

BY

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

SOLICITOR.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

Notice to Theatre Managers and Others.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr. J. St. Clair, formerly employed as manager of one of my companies, is no longer in my service, and has no authority to give or accept orders on my behalf or to receive any monies payable to me.
(Signed) CHARLES MANNERS.
Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., The Hyde, Hendon.

At a very low reserve to ensure a sale, with possession. No. 2 STOCKWELL PARK-ROAD, STOCKWELL, S.W. This excellent Leasehold Non-basement Residence, close to the trams and Stockwell Station (C. and S.L.R.).

FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the Mart, E.C., on Monday, May 30, 1910, at 2 o'clock.

Particulars of Messrs. Milner and Bickford, solicitors, 10, Moorgate-street, E.C.; of Mr. G. E. Hebden, surveyor, 12, Old Jewry-chambers, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, Messrs. Herring, Son, and Daw, 12, Old Jewry-chambers, E.C., and 312, Brixton-hill, S.W.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BELFAST.—Comf. rooms, good cooking, bath, piano, 5 min. theatres, good refs. Belvoir-terrace, 8, University-street.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EASTBOURNE. — Clean, comfortable apartments, 2 bed, 2 sitting, combined. Hallett, 8, Willowfield-square, near Hall and Pier.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—Mrs. Holmes, 22, John-st. Two sitting-rooms, two bedrooms, one combined; piano, bath (h. and c.); near halls and station. Highly recom. Terms to suit.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen's-sq., fully licenced; first-class accommodation. Special terms. Mr. and Mrs. De Selva (Cossie Noel).

LONDON, N.E.—Near Empire. Central Pavilion, Foresters', Britannia, Shoreditch. Mrs. Hallen, 18, Beck-road, Hackney. Piano; highly recommended.

LONDON, S.E.—One or two bed-sitting rooms, also bed-room, vacant for Sunday, 22nd, every convenience. M. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-rd. Mrs. Peers. Sitting and bed rooms; bath, and pianos. Also combined room. Good cooking and attendance.

MARGATE.—Comfortable apartments, with or without board; piano. Terms, W., 18, Danemead-terrace, Margate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional Apartments. Moderate Terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Radge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS BOGNOR.

SUITABLE FOR THEATRICALS, BALLS, ROLLER SKATING & MEETINGS.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION
by
Messrs. WYATT and SON,

by order of the Mortgagees on TUESDAY, May 31, 1910, at the above ASSEMBLY ROOMS, at 3.30 o'clock precisely.

The well-built and substantial building known as The Assembly Rooms, Bognor, consisting of a spacious Entrance, with offices; Large Hall, with Stage and Dressing-rooms; Smaller Hall; Large Room for Classes; Octagon Room, Kitchen, Caretaker's Rooms, and out-offices, with garden at the back and sides, and well situate at the corner of Canada-grove and Linden-roads, opposite the Bognor Railway Station, and close to the principal thoroughfares and the sea. Possession will be given on completion of the purchase.

The Halls and Rooms are well and conveniently arranged and suitable for Theatrical Performances, Concerts, Political and Masonic Meetings, Art School, Roller Skating, and other purposes, and a good income has been made by lettings.

The Property may be viewed on application to the Caretaker, and Particulars, with Conditions of Sale, obtained of Messrs. Budd, Brodie, and Hart, Solicitors, 33, Bedford-row, London, W.C.; of Mr. Henry Layton Staffurth, Solicitor, Bognor; and of Messrs. Wyatt and Son, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and West-street, Havant.

PLEASURE BEACH, SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.

30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front.
Next Tram Terminus.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.

Apply, SECRETARY,
Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

THE STANDARD
Folding Typewriter.

Price - - £12 12s.

Possesses advantages that can be found in no other typewriter AT ANY PRICE.

LIGHTNESS ... ... Weight 5¾lbs.
PORTABILITY ... 10in. by 8in. by 4in.

Visible Writing, Two-Colour Device, Aluminium Frame, Steel Wearing Parts, etc., etc.

Suitable for the Office, Private Use, or Travelling Purposes.

Particulars Post Free.

HIDALGO MOYA
(DEPT. 2.)
LONDON: 85, STRAND, W.C. *LEICESTER:* 22, LONDON ROAD.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, *Ltd.*, place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any enquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."

PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Smart Orchestral Band; Rink, Pictures, Ball-room, &c. Special Summer Terms. Uniform; evening dress. Palmer, M.D., Grovehill-road, Beverley.

WANTED, a Few Weeks' Engagement for Good Orchestral Band, 12 to 20 performers, good up-to-date Répertoire of Music. Apply, Hoggett, Bandmaster, Darlington.

WANTED, re-engagement by Small Band, just concluding 10 months' engagement. Brass or Military. Liberty May 30. Turner, 54, Grove-road, Luton, Beds.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that Signor Lorenzo, King of Aerial Performers, now performing for Studt's on his High Mast. At Liberty on June 21. C/o Post Office, Ferndale.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists,
Variety Artists,
in a.l Lines,
in a.l Lines,

Big Stars,
for
Stockton and Wakefield,
Immediate and Future Dates.

State Vacant Dates
and
Lowest Terms.

Harry Burns's Agency,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.

Wires, "Chosen, Hartlepool."

Telephone, 231 Hartlepool.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Address, Manager, as above.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Blackpool, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday, May 30, and on. Terms, vacancies, &c., Manager.

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Artists, May 30, also Stars willing to share, for later dates. James Elphinstone, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Sensational Novelties for my new Building at Partick, Glasgow. Guss Lazenberg, Star Palace, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, June 6, on, used to picture shows, hall small, terms accordingly. Apply, Manager, Queen's Picture Palace, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday, June 5, and onwards. Variety Artists, all Lines. Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, Illustrated Songs, &c., suitable for Picture Halls. Lowest Terms, Will Reynolds, Royal Electric Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Those unknown to me can arrange trial near Manchester. W. Lovell Hurt, Churchgate House, Stockport.

EMPIRE ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.
Proprietors, Nuneaton Theatre Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Specialities, &c. Lowest terms, &c., to Manager, Empire T., Nuneaton.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 30, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2 076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June to Sept., for Chappell's Promenade Concerts, Great Yarmouth. Particulars, Harry Barker, 6, Harley-rd., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Hippodrome, Bedford-Leigh, June 13. Nothing too big. Must be new to this town.
Apply, Marie Santoi, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for immediate and future dates, for several halls in the North. Apply, Signor Pepi, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, May 30, on. 14, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 23, onwards. Letters, R. Fordham, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Boothman's Benefit, Monday, May 30. Artists in the vicinity write with lowest terms. Boothman, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines. Big Specialities, Comedy Acts.
May 30, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c.,
Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone, 9,261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Artists for Charity Gala. July 23. All Lines.
F. E. Lumb, Theatre Royal, Yeadon.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY.
138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Star Turns, Specialities, Acts all Kinds for best London and Provincial Houses. Write (only) with full list bookings, state lowest terms, London and country, and for panto.

Henri Cazman's Agency,
138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Star Turns, for immediate and future Dates. Artists vacant Monday, wire "Contracts, Greenock." Skivington's Agency, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Turns, Big Tops, and Bottoms, Artists, in all Lines,
Particulars, where can be seen.
Harry Ward, 140a, Shaftesbury-avenue.
Ring up 13,136 Central.

WANTED, Good Turns for Outdoor Carnival (Covered Stage) for Nine Days, commencing July 14. Apply, Green, The Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, very best of Talent in all Lines, for Widnes and Runcorn;
Refinement essential.
Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street,
Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Acts, salary or sharing.
Big Acts, Salary or Sharing.
Immediate Dates and on.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c., Doubles doing Singles. Vacant May 30, on. Terms, H. Montague Franklin, Empire, Wellingborough.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, Novel Specialities, with strong drawing powers, Big Animal Acts, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, Novel Musical Acts, &c., for June 6, 13, onward. Full particulars, lowest terms, and samples of printing, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy Acts, or anything with good Drawing Powers (refined). Address, Manager, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, for Pavilion, Ashington, Northumberland, May 23, on. Good Specialities write.
Chas. Steele.

WANTED, good Variety Companies, with a Big Attraction at Top of Bill for immediate and future dates, for the North. Signor Pepi, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
33, Craster-road, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Novelties for Continent. Sole Continental Agency only entertained.
Also
Star Acts for Britain
and Panto, 1910 11. Principals only.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the very Highest Class Top Liners. Artists, all Lines (Halls). Full Companies for Six Pantomimes, particularly Principal Boys, must be absolutely first-class. Experienced, young, excellent voices (trial week's engagement given). Artists for Pavilion, Wolverhampton, May 30, onwards. Sextette Pierrot Troupes, May 30, June 6, weeks (Midlands). Several excellent dates for big Combinations. Good Acrobatic Troupe August Holiday week. Gala Acts, all Lines. Czarvasi-Ferencz Troupe wire address. Contracts wait Lockhart's Elephants. Fullest particulars, booking, pictorials. Perm., 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now and onwards.
Harry Tate, Alhambra, Paris.

WANTED, for Open-air Spectacle to open in June, Acrobats, Tumblers, Tight-Rope Walker, Græco-Roman Statuary, any Classical Speciality. Also good Ballet Master.
Only those whose terms are very moderate will be entertained.
Write fully,
Box 1,675, c/o Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for 1910 and 1911, with
Everhart's All Star Combination,
Good Comedian,
Good Comedy Sketch, and
Good Dancing Act;
also one or two Novelty Acts.
Must be Comedy, and
New to England.

Long Engagement to the right People.

Address, Everhart,
Theatre Royal, Worcester,
until May 29.

Silence a polite negative.

N.B.—Managers and Agents looking for Big Novelty Combinations this and next season, Address, Everhart. That's all.

SUTTON BRIDGE FLOWER SHOW.
July 27, 1910.
WANTED, Offers for Two Hours' Outdoor Entertainment, one hour afternoon and one hour evening. Apply early, with inclusive terms, Chas. W. Beavan, Hon. Sec., Sutton Bridge, Wisbech.

WANTED, First-class Troupe of Entertainers, on Sharing Terms only, for Summer Season, in the Theatre, Bedford. Popular prices. Full particulars. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, a Young Lady for Male Impersonator, height 4½ft, no higher, 15 years old.

Apply, F. Athos, 267, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Trapeze Performer or Bender, to join Troupe at once. Apply, Trapeze, 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, for well-known Troupe. Age, height, photo., and tricks.
Cyclist, 33, Holland-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Keighley, Comic Singer
for
Monday next.
Wire, Thos. Holmes, 16, St. John's-road, Brixton.

WANTED, for Well-known Double Comedy Acrobatic Act, a First-class Artist, if possible funny, good tumbler (forwards), and used to comedy acrobatic business (corkscrew tricks) as top mounter, weight not over nine stone.
Write, stating age, height, weight, tricks, if married, and all particulars in first letter, Box 7,726, "The Era."

WANTED, Lecturer, Vocalist (illustrated) for Picture Show, Lancashire. Write, stating lowest, to Harry Dean, 7, Cross Lances-road, Hounslow, W. H. G. Berry write if vacant.

WANTED, Kinematograph Show, May 30. Other Complete Entertainments, with fit-up, on sharing. Send daybill. Kinemato, 12, Stratford-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Bioscope Operators, Monday, 23rd, certain, Operator, with own Machine. Harry Harrysse, Acting-Manager, Hippodrome, Swadlincote.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dates, at First-class Theatres, Music Halls, Piers, &c., for The Great Raymond and Company. See Companies Page. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.—Vide Press. En route.

WANTED, Known, Marvelle's Colossal Variety Combination is free to accept First-class Variety Halls, on salary or sharing terms. At Liberty next week. Managers send vacant dates. Wire best terms, H. Bushman, Business-Manager, for H. Marvelle, 54, Railway-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Monday next, by Daisy Hicks, Refined Chorus Comedienne.
Wire, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Engagements, Picture Shows, &c., Miss Amy Wooderson, Soprano, excellent voice, good appearance, illustrated songs, Vacant May 30. Picture Palace, Gravesend.

WANTED, Monday, May 23, 30, by Lottie Collard, Charming Comedienne and Dancer. Large rep. 48, Windermere-st., Breck-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, by the Misses Lytton and De Silva, Vocal Duettists, May 23 and 30.
11, Birch-grove, Liscard.

WANTED, by Eileen and May Sisters, Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers, June 13 and 27. Hippo., Leigh.

WANTED, Known, Redfern Sisters, Lady Banjoists and Eccentric Dancers. Vacant May 23 and 30. Hippo., Rochdale; next, 60, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, June 20, July 11, 25, Oct. 3 10.
Address, Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

WANTED, 30th, also June 6, 13, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the famous Singing Boxmakers, three sisters, a sure draw. Address, H., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 30, for Primrose Quartette, Male Vocalists. Wire till Sunday, Theatre, Perth; after, Gill, Dobcross, Oldham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Famous Collier Comedian, original copyright scena, extraordinary colliery pictures, encored nightly. Palace, Jarrow.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, Liberty Monday. This, Empire, Hull; after Saturday, Albion Hotel, Stockton-rd., Sunderland.

WANTED, by E. Lucknow, Comedy, Musical, and Patter Comedian, May 23, 30, in or outdoors. 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, May 30 and June 6,
Sam Ello, Comedian and Dancer.
D.C. Lithos and Photo Frames.
Victoria Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, by De Meglio, Speciality Entertainer, Ventriloquist, Conjurer, Smoke Painting, Chapeaugraphy; own lithos; Piers, Pavilions. Perm. address, Chadwick-road, Eccles.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clive Watts, Comedian and Wonderful Dancer.
Wire, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist, May 30, June 6, and 13. Concludes to-night Hippodrome, Ipswich; next week, Theatre Royal, Perth, Scotland.

WANTED, May 30, on, by Li Chang Hi, the Chinese Conjurer par excellence. This, Palace, Wellingborough; next, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Halma, the Clever Scottish Juggler, Vacant May 30, June 6, and 13. This, T. R., Worcester; next, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, F. Mozzetto, Famous Juggler, from the Empire, Leicester-square, requires May 30, vacant through closing. Address, Empire, Islington.

WANTED, Monday, by Vallino, in his Great Comedy Juggling Scena, the greatest comedy juggling act. Wire, Fashoda, Lutterworth.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam Weight Wrestler. £100 challenge. Third visit to Ferndale, and welcomed by packed houses nightly. Vacant, June 6, 13. 4, Westminster-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Mr. J. Wagner presents New Musical Scena,
"THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER."
introducing BERTHA WARD,
England's new Soprano. The most wonderful voice ever heard. Enthralling, enchanting. An act that grips from start to finish. A sure success anywhere. Magnificent new scenery, painted by Beresford Peirse. Monday next, Hippodrome, Hull.
Re dates communicate to Walter Bentley, Agent, 168, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, June 13, 27, on, with exceptions, The Monocktons (Fred, Lillie), Premier Comedy Duologuists, presenting sparkling, screaming Absurdities, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat," and reproduction of "The Lady and the Burglar." Thank George Black, Esq., for comfortable engagement. Monday, Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 1, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; and Gladys Wells, Contra.to. Always starring. May 23, Pier Pav., Southport.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 30, Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch;
also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer.
Wire, 218, Stockwell-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, on, exceptions, by Herman and Evelyn, in their great Continental Pot-Pourri. Unique jumping acrobatic table and wire act. Wire, offers. This, Coliseum, Whitley Bay (bottom).

WANTED, by Lily and Antley, in Comedy Duologue, "It," May 30, to follow Hippodrome, Yarmouth; also June 13 and 20.

WANTED, May 23, onward, Rohde and Roche, in novelty episode, "A Strange Meeting," Chameleon Artist and It. Empire, Blaina, Mon.; after Saturday, 25, Weymouth-st., C.-on-M., Manchester. Vacant May 23. Wire.

WANTED, May 30, June 6, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie, the pretty and talented girl juggler and vocalist, and Edgar, comedy equilibrist). Palace, Jarrow.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb,
July 11.
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Monday and 30th, by Will and Roze, Great Comedy Contortion and Conjuring Pot Pourri Act. Wire, Empire, Melton Mowbray.

WANTED, May 23, by Norman and Noyes, Comedians and Dancers, only immediate date. Wire, 70, Hirwain-st., Barry Dock, S. Wales.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, in Vocal Comedy that adapts itself to any audience. Wire for it. Pavilion, Batley.

FRANTZ'S COMEDY FIVE,
fresh from the Continent.
WANTED, May 30, June 6, 13.
See them, May 23, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto and Funny Assistant, the Charming Lady Contortionist with a figure, the talk of every town visited, May 23, on, through Collins's Circus closing. Wire for success, c/o Collins's Circus, Aston, Birmingham, till Saturday; after, 35, Hercules-road, S.E. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss O. S. Dare, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas, or First-class Halls, New and Sensational Gymnastic Display on the Revolving Breakaway Ladder. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Marzelos, Great Comedy Triple-bar Act, Vacant May 23, 30, June 6, something good. This week, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, May 23, by the Three Original Hodginis, Breakaway Ladder Act.
Splendid Seaside Stage Scenery. Attractive Six-sheet Posters and D.C. Lithos.
Wire, Wire, Wire for Monday next,
Hodginis,
120, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 23, June 6, 13, on, by the Flying Orenius's. This, Enormous Success. Victoria Theatre, Kettering; May 30, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, May 23 and 30, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Hippodrome, Shrewsbury. Wanted, smart Youth, Acrobat.

WANTED, May 23, 30, Bouncing Peps. We entertain the Public. This, Empire, Hull. Perm., 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 30 and June 13, by Atlas-Vulcana Troupe. Greatest Speciality Star Attraction Extant, including the Beautiful Miss Vulcana, holder of all World's Records (paybox amongst others). Vulcana is the only woman known who is able to demonstrate, in modern times the physical perfection of the ancients in the only really classic posing before the public.
Always a Top of Bill.
Conclude Palace, Blackburn.
23rd, Hippo., Bedford-Leigh.

WANTED, May 23, June 20, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist. Two Acts. Wire Saturday, Hippo., Wednesbury. After then, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, June 6, 20, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist.
Address, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Speciality Boxing Act before the Public. Audience still laughing, Palace, Dudley. Wire.

MISS ELLA'S EDUCATED LION SHOW.
Acknowledged to be the Best and Cleanest in the Profession. Surpassed by none.
WANTED, May 23, 30, all June and July. Com., 18, Gloucester-street, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Miss Tudora's Ponies, Liberty May 23, 30, on, June 6, Hastings. Cleanliness and refinement. All coms., Franklin Gardens, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Doris and Her Highly Trained Troupe of Dogs. Vacant May 23, 30. This, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful Troupe of Russian Poodles and Leaping Dogs. Success, Gala, Longton Park, Whit Mon. and Tues. Few vacancies for galas, garden parties, &c. Ludno House, Sisson-st., Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Daisy Graham's Educated Birds and Baby Dog. Liberty May 30, June 6, 13. Coms., 5, Herschell Street, Mayfields, Leicester.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known.
J. A. WILSON
and
"PRIVATE TOWSER"
(the best Performing Dog on the Road)
are at Liberty One Week only.
May 30. May 30.
This week, Empire Palace, York.
Next week, Empire Palace, Liverpool.
Where write or wire best offers for
May 30. May 30.
Agent, Tom Shaw, 18, Adam-st., Strand, London.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Pugilistic and Dramatic Dogs, the wonders of the twentieth century, Liberty June 6 and 13, July 4, 11. Address, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

WANTED, May 30, on, with exceptions, Stelling and Dog.
This, Poole's, Aberaman; next, Poole's, Treherbert.

WANTED, May 23, 30, Swift Duo, Humorous Cyclists. Wire, Theatre, Mountain Ash; after Sat., 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Animal Impersonator, Acrobat, Pantomimist, age 25, weight 8st. 12lb., height 5ft. 4in. Morel, 40, Hercules-rd., Lambeth, London.

WANTED, for the Enchanted Grotto, May 30 and June 6 for this Enormous Attraction, Six People and all Scenery carried. Marvellous lighting effects and wonderful display of Fairy Fountains. Charming speciality and classical dances. First-class vocal numbers.
Harland, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

THE CAVERSHAM PAVILION, READING.
Proprietor, George Brennan.
WANTED, Alfresco Artists, all Lines, Ladies and Gents, including thoroughly experienced Pianist. All must have large reps., well up in concerteds, and sketches. One show daily. Photo, refs, age, and lowest terms,
Brennan, Poste Restante, Reading.

WANTED, Concert Party of Five, for Ramsgate, for the whole of June, on sharing terms.
For particulars, apply,
Ashton and Mitchell, Ltd.,
33, Old Bond-street, London, W.

WANTED, Good Amateurs, also Accompanist, for Concert Party, Public School or 'Varsity Men. Shares; genuine. H., 20, Victoria-street, Westminster.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Al Fresco, with Good Voice, and able to Dance well, or Joint Couple. Write (stage small), Harry Orchid, Cosy Corner, Grays, Essex.

WANTED, Versatile Tenor or Baritone, able to accompany, for South Coast (marquee). Also complete Concert Party, for 10 weeks. Box 7,730, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Contralto, Young, for Al Fresco, inside, twelve weeks certain.
Full particulars to
Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, for Barry Island, a Good Sketch Comedian, single, shares, open May 30. J. Purnell, 70, Hirwain-street, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Known, Troupe of Entertainers, with their own large portable stage and dressing-room (if necessary), desire a Pitch for the Season, or Engagements, start immediately. Clifton, 1, Netta-villas, Westmead-road, Sutton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to
Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

TO FINANCIAL SYNDICATES.
WANTED, Known, a New Patent Riding Machine, Oval Circle, Wiggle Woggle Witching Wave Switchback. Can be used as Showman's portable centre driven riding machine, and still oval circle. Also can be used on large exhibition gravitation railways. The new ride that will have a long life; not a oncer.
O10, 827, Salisbury House, London Wall.

WANTED, Known, the famous Oscillating Zig-Zag Stairways, the rage of Paris. Quick Money-takers. Manufactured by Inventor and Patentee. Particulars, apply J. E. Cooper, Albert Works, Chatsworth-road, Stratford, E. Telephone, Stratford 395.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and Houp-la Goods. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

TO ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to arrange for Abroad, on Sharing Terms, a first-class up-to-date Steam Roundabout. All freight and expenses would be paid, and risk taken by advertiser. Address, giving full particulars, to Box 7,722, "The Era," Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Palmist, for my permanent shop.
Apply to
James Pattison, 20, Clayton-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Good Doorsman required. State wages and references. Apply, Manager, Marine Parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, First-class Doorsman and Describer; also Pianist. Can join at once. Wire or write terms, Danter's Picture Colliseum, Usk.

WANTED, First-class Watchmaker, Piano Player, total abstainer preferred, for Bloom's Royal Mart. Bloom, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, Wire Worker and Electric Engraver. Good wages. Also smart Sales Girls for Jewellery. Barron, 1, Marlborough-square, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Smart Engraver and Wire Worker, for Season, male or female. Write full particulars, Larcher, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Carl Hartley, Conjurer, and Armless Midget Lady. At Stuart's Royal Waxworks, Dundee. Good window flash. Lib. May 30.

AVIATOR.
WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, Garden Parties, Outdoor Attractions, Well-known Flying Man, Vacant for Daily Flights. For terms and vacancies apply, Egbert's Agency, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, Space or Engagement for Lady Palmist. Also for Gold Wire Worker and Engraver. Geo. Duval, 2, Craig-st., Darlington.

WANTED, to Let, Finest Location in South London, Spaces for First-class Side Shows. Write or wire, Manager, Pastimes, Ltd., 61 and 62, London-road, Elephant and Castle.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. Walkington, Manager, Pal. Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, for the Season, Large Distorting Mirrors.
Address, Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Suitable Space at Popular Seaside Resort, to erect Helter-Skelter. Rental or Shares. Bonus paid to anyone giving information leading to business.
Apply, Skelter, Box 7,749, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Postcard Photographers, a complete Outfit for Studio, suitable for Exhibitions and Seaside Resorts, to be sold cheap, owing to owner retiring from business. Apply, Box 7,747, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Nice One-horse Living Van, every convenience, nearly new. Price £60, or offer. A. Knopes, Mays-lane, High Barnet.

WANTED, to Sell, through taking Permanent Stand this year, New Stage Waggon, for road or rail, opens out to 24ft. by 15ft, new last autumn, splendid removing van, steel sides, 90ft. by 45ft. tent top, pay-box, acetylene machines. Sell together or separate, or entertain partner with capital to look after show.
John Walters, Court T., Bacup.

FOR IMMEDIATE SALE.
Money for Nothing.
WANTED, to Sell, Helter Skelter Lighthouse, in good condition; can be seen working in Bingley Hall; to be sold as going concern at close of Exhibition; no reasonable offer refused. Apply, Manager, Helter Skelter, Bingley H., Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Cakewalk, complete Arc Lamps, Organ, &c., in good working order and repair. Can be seen working at any time. Apply Box 7,742, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, OIO, George Formby's New Game, Chinese Box Ball.
The rage of London, Manchester, and Margate. Price, two tables, £5 10s.
Sole Agents, Thomas, Harewood-street, Leeds; Thomas, High-street, Chertsey. Patent Nos., 7,379, 9,017 (1910); Reg. Nos., 559,183, 559,184 (1910).

WANTED, to Sell, for Cash, Troupe of Performing Cockatoos and Macaws, with seven large paintings of same by Smith, of London. Will accept Partnership with Showman that has a big booth and knows the road.
H. Bushman, 54, Railway-street, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, to Sell, a Set of Midget Swings, cheap. E. Andrews, 44, Cardigan-street, Upper Kennington-lane.

WANTED, to Sell, two Electric Engraving Machines, Braun's pattern, 35s. each, almost new; Braun's 30 amp. Accumulator, 20s., in good order. R. Bolton, Poulton-st., Kirkham, Lancs.

WANTED, to Sell, Winchester Rifles (4), 20s. each; Running Animals and Motor, £8, cost £20; Electric Target, £4. Eggar, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Living Van and Tent, suitable for Auction Mart, must be in sound order. State lowest price. Address, Box 7,720, "The Era."

WANTED, to purchase Novelties suitable for Shop and Side Shows. Send particulars, price, Ashton, 13, Danes-rd., Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Vs and Brackets, for Circus. Must be in Good Condition.
P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, W. Morey, who was at Work for Mr. S. Jones, Roundabout Proprietor, who started work in July, 1908, to communicate to this address. He will be well paid for his trouble in the matter.
S. Jones, Fair Ground, Epsom.

FINANCIAL.
WANTED, £200 for Good Alfresco Work. S.-E. Coast, good site, straight business, share profits.
Address, Box 7,736, "The Era."

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, General Manager for Large Amusement Rink in Paris. Must speak French. Good references required.

Apply by letter to Mr. Lamb,
11, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Will Horsfield, late Manager of Premier Rinks at Finsbury Park and Chesterfield, is now open for engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, Tour, or Rink. Highest credentials. 54, Newick-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Smart Young Man, post as Floor Manager or Instructor. Good experience and refs. B., 50, Lansdown-road, Swindon.

WANTED, to let for Summer Months, or For Sale as a Going Concern, Skating Rink, situated in Populous Midland Town. Suitable for Pierrots. Particulars from
Box 7,721, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell,
Site for Cinematograph.

Apply,
Box 7,716, "Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, the Magnificent Pantomime Production, "Babes in the Wood," which broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, last season.
Scenery and Costumes practically unsoiled.

Will sell very cheap, as room wanted for next season's production.

Francis Laidler,
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Pantomime Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell for £16, genuine bargain, 2 best Chamber Sets (24 Flats), 6 Cloths, Porch Gates, Wall-pieces, and Backing. All in good condition. Only been in use four weeks. Also Military Wardrobe. Death cause of sale.
Jackson, 37, Cephas-street, London, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell,
the Magnificent Court Scene
(with or without Rostrums)
used in the Globe Theatre production of "Madame X." Also French Court robes.
Apply, Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Lightning's Flash* is being produced by Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles and his company. The company is a most capable one. Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles takes the dual parts of Stephen Merrick and his brother, Colonel Mark Stewart, and does admirable justice to both; Miss Violet Lyton gives a pleasing impersonation of Kate Merrick; and Miss Winifred Willard as Zugu and Miss Nellie Shirley as Selina are equally effective. The staging of the play, especially a thrilling rescue scene at Kajanka Falls, is excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The Wilkowsky Troupe of Russian entertainers are vocalists and instrumentalists of no mean order, but it is their dancing which chiefly captivates their audiences; a farcical skit, *The Village of Shift-'em*, is pleasingly rendered by the Three Prestons; and the Four Mayos provoke continuous laughter by their charmingly original skating feats. A realistic cinematograph display of the King's funeral procession is much appreciated.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr and Mrs. Percy Brown's company, in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is the attraction here. Mr. Wilson Coleman as Felix Beverley is worthy of the highest commendation for a portrayal of all-round merit; Mr. Francis Roberts acts with forcefulness and zest as Jack Stirling; and Mr. Criag Hunt is most satisfactory as Geoffrey Langdon. Mr. Cyril Grier cleverly portrays the part of Colonel Mills; Mr. Percy Brown is very amusing as Thomas; and Mr. Victor T. Raymond makes the most of his opportunities as Charles. Miss Amy Ellam gives a fine representation of Mary; Miss Kathleen Magree supplies an excellent study of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel gives a good account of herself as Nancy.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—A nicely-varied programme here comprises turns by Mr. Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, who fairly convulse the audience in *The Would-be Actors*; the Carina Sisters, in an artistic and refined musical act, receive hearty approval; and Mlle. Ottina, a distinctly smart lady conjuror, with a captivating style, displays marked ability. Flake White, lightning cartoonist and painter, appears with success; Beattie Foster is a charming comedienne; and the Sisters Sarony are capital wooden shoe and whirlwind dancers. Owen McGiveney, in character impersonations from Dickens, wins applause; and Wallace Whitney, comedian, is very popular. The Bioscope pictures are very entertaining.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Mr. George Gregory's company, in a capital miniature musical comedy, *Little Johnnie Jones*, is particularly successful, the musical numbers and choruses being decidedly good, and the dances effective. The chief rôles are in the hands of Misses Mabel Dandy, Beatrice Grosvenor, Messrs. John Humphries, Paul Presano, Chas. Cantley, and Chas. Seguin. The Three Pirmans are again great favourites in a novelty gymnastic act, "Danse le Jardin"; the Bouncing Dillons go through a novel and clever exhibition, in which competitions are introduced; Williams' Welsh Minstrels give a musical and vocal entertainment; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams have a smart act, *The Mermaids of Margate*; George Casselli, comedian and dancer, and Syd Crossly, the "long comic" are heartily applauded.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—A fine series of films is shown here, one of the chief subjects being the funeral of the late King Edward.

GROSVENOR PICTURE PALACE.—At this new hall patrons are also well catered for, and, like the previously-mentioned place, King Edward's Funeral Procession forms the chief film.

ASHINGTON.—BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and B. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—The Les Trippelos, in their musical turn, are excellent, Signor Tripello's saxophone solos being particularly fine; Pattie Burton, soprano, is encored several times. The pictures are up to the usual standard.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Wealleans; Manager, Mr. Joe Currey.—Mr. Dave Elliott, the blind concertina-player, is clever; and Miss Edie De Lisle is a pleasing child dancer. The other turns are good, and the pictures of a high order.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is presented here by Mr. Frank Adair and company. Mr. Adair as Li, the avenger, scores in a character which requires powerful treatment; Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson stamps the character with a strong individuality; Miss Stanley Burt as May Beresford wins sympathy for her able delineation of a true woman; and Miss Eva Reid furnishes plenty of comic relief as a love-sick slavey. Mr. Herbert Sydney as Chang Lu, Mr. Harold Garth as Chang, Mr. Jas. Severn as Yam-Yam, and Mr. Fred Withers as Lung Hi are praiseworthy; naval officers are realistically represented by Messrs. Gerald Sydney, Gerald Turner, and Douglas Ames; Mr. Fred Waring makes prominent the part of Joshua Simpson, and Mr. R. Payne sustains that of George Berresford in forcible and convincing manner; Messrs. C. Luck and Fred Barnes fill minor rôles satisfactorily.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The most notable turn is Fred Karno's company of comedians, who amuse with *Perkins, M.P.* The characters are capitally sustained by Albert Bruno as Joshua Perkins and Miss Vera Gilda as Mrs. Perkins; Miss Blanche Vincent is a good burlesque and chorus vocalist; Lambert and Butler are capital singing and dancing comedians; Zethus excels as a cornet soloist and mimic; Metz and Metz are good all-round comedians and expert dancers; Johnny Dwyer creates immense laughter; the Karno Troupe conclude with the *G.P.O.*

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The new double programme method of conducting the picture entertainments at the Pavilion is working satisfactorily. Among the notable films displayed is the sacred picture Esther; a fine representation of Kairwan, the holy city of Tunis; and The Funeral of Edward VII.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Some excellent films of the Royal Funeral are displayed; also some good pictures of adventure, romance, and humour. The artist is Mr. Geo. Leverne, a smart comedian. Mr. Marks' Morris Dancers have collected £11 16s., in aid of the funds of the Whitehaven Colliery disaster.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees,—Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The Royal Funeral pictures are excellent, and the miscellaneous films include the Adventures of the Golden Valley, a thrilling story of backwoods life. Mr. Martin Angle, vocalist, mimic, and story-teller, is the special artist.

BARNSLEY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—The attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Her Secret Lover*. Attention is held throughout by Mr. A. S. John as Gilbert Seymour, and as Captain Darrel Rose Mr. Walter H. Wilson is all that can be desired; an excellent John Strange is found in Mr. Alfred Stretton; Messrs. Victor Vernon and J. Newton-Cowling as Bill Burley and Jim Jones respectively are very good; Mrs. Lynn Darlington is a lively Jane Maria Wilks; as Alicia Royal Miss Flora Leslie gives an excellent study; Miss Laura Walker as Ivy Seymour is admired for her histrionic abilities.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson. — The Tankwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats occupy premier position, and give a wonderful performance; the Four Pawels entertain with their sketch *After the Matinée*; and other turns include Miss Rose Bartlett, male impersonator; St. Ruth and Conyers in a musical extravaganza, *From Workhouse to Stage*; the Lauraines, lady brass instrumentalists; Rudge Whitworth, society entertainer; Kinnard, magician; Mark Stuart, comedian; the Vanderbilts; and the Palacescope.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The Royal Canadian Picture Co. give a fine film of the Funeral of King Edward VII.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. H. Armitage's company in *The Greater Love* is here. Mr. Campbell Goldsmith is a very capable Paul Penfold; and the Mrs. May of Miss Marion Fawcett is good. Mr. William Clayton is a capital Jack May; and Miss Violet Thorold is a winning Mary May. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is a jovial Andrew Isted; and Mr. Henry Nunn a good Chaplain. Mr. Harry Wren, Miss Ethel Russell, and Mr. Aries Conway, as Constable Drayton, Sarah Higgs, and Nell Stubbs respectively, brighten up the piece with capital comedy.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—"The Will o' the Wisps," under the direction of Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn, are still here with a varied and attractive programme.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The premier turn is provided by Marie San Toy and her merry little Japs, who are much applauded for some capitally rendered solos, duets, choruses, &c. Bi-Bo-Bi is a clever instrumentalist; Lillie Le Main is entertaining in a novel item; the Dartons are very capable vocalists; Horace Jones is a quaint comedian; Venie Clements renders good songs in pleasing style; and Vernon's Bio. concludes with interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Newman's British Empire Picture Company is presenting an exceptionally good programme, the principal feature being an excellent film depicting the funeral procession of his late Majesty, King Edward VII.

BARRY DOCK.—VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—The programme this wek includes the Royal Funeral. The Barringtons, singers, dancers, and musicians, are well recived; Cissie Loveday sings popular illustrated songs; and Frankford and Mayne give a smart duo.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—For the spring race week Eugene Stratton heads the bill, and this famous coon delineator is making his usual hit in a selection of song scenas; an immense ovation is accorded to the Geni Family, for their risley performance; Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer, has the house entirely with her. Others appearing are Burt Ward, who scores principally as a whistler; Lisbon and Barker, extemporising comedians; and Rosie Gaston, comedienne. The pictures are appreciated.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The great attraction is the Funeral Procession of His Late Majesty King Edward.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—Splendid weather favoured the opening week of the season. In addition to the fine band of the Committee, under Mr. Schottler's able direction, Mr. Carl Fredericks' popular Les Vivandieres concert party again appear in the "Cosey Corner" to chant melody, crack jokes and dance gaily. Nearly all the old favourites are in evidence, notably Miss Della Fredericks (soubrette), Miss Dora Jaye (soprano and accompanist), Miss Gertrude Russell (comedienne), Miss Eva Valentine (musical sketches), Mr. Alan Wright (baritone), Mr. Wilfred Dane (comedian), Mr. Eddie Noble (humorist), and Mr. Fredericks himself—a first-class entertainer.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. John E. Watson's company opened here on Monday in two of Arthur Law's plays—*The New Boy* and *A Country Mouse* forming an enjoyable programme. In *The New Boy* the rôle of Archibald Rennick was played in clever style by Mr. W. Besley Beltram; and a talented actress, Miss Phyllis Manners achieved success in the rôle of Mrs. Rennick. The part of Dr. Candy could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Townsend Whitling; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood was quite equal to the requirements of the part of Felix Roach; Mr. Frank Bradley was capital as Theodore de Brizac; Miss Evelyn Ormonde was a fascinating Nancy Roach; Mr. H. F Wildy as Bullock Major was good; and the small part of Mr. Stubber was safe in the hands of Mr. J. E. East. In *A Country Mouse* Miss Evelyn Ormonde gained great success as Angela Muir; and other principal rôles were effectively sustained by Miss Madeline Du Val, Miss Madge Elswick Miss Phyllis Manners, and Messrs. W. Besley Beltram, J. Poole Kirkwood, J. E. Watson, Frank Bradley, and H. F. Wildy.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—In this the second week of the Revival Season the drama *Rogues and Vagabonds* has been produced under the direction of Mr. Mathew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond. Miss Hettie Zillwood plays Vera Laverne with much power, her acting being worthy of high praise; Mr. Reginald T. Fox is all that could be desired as Harry Stamford; Fernand Delair is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Albert Guyon; Mr. R. H. MacCandless is a convincing Chief Inspector; Mr. Lewis Gordon as Jonas Ker makes the most of his opportunities; Dan Calder is realistically portrayed by Mr. Robert Mann; as Police-constable Clegg Mr. Charles H. Gallier merits praise; Miss Audrey Canning is a vivacious Patty MacCowan; Miss M. R. Frame's acting as Hilda Jefferies reflects credit upon her; and other rôles are adequately presented by Miss Alice Buckland and Messrs. Tom Croydon, Fred Clements, and Joe Henley.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Fred Kitchen and company top the bill, and provide much amusement with their mirth-provoking production *Private Potts*. Mr. Fred Russell's ventriloquial act is as good as ever, and his success has been decided; Mr. Arthur Reece is always sure of a big reception in this city; the Comedy Chanters in their harmonious items please all; Mr. W. B. Raby is a first-class comedian; the Bristons, acrobats and cyclists, execute some clever feats; and also on the programme are Abel and Welsh, eccentrics; Miss Amy Sullivan, comedienne; Miss Amy Russell, soprano vocalist; and the Hipposcope with the Funeral of King Edward VII

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Sahib Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir, whose remarkable performance has created quite a sensation. The Prince-Milner Trio appear in their entertaining pot-pourri; the fine baritone voice of Mr. Ian Colquhoun has been heard to advantage in several songs; Mr. Fred Land is a good comedian; Miss Sylvia Du Barry's vocal items have been deservedly appreciated; and Miss Bertha Winder is aptly described as the dancing marvel. Also on the programme are Carl and Carr, comedians, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Interesting and attractive films exhibited here include Tommy Atkins, Egyptian Maid, The Half-breed, Funeral of King Edward VII., &c. The variety element is sustained by Cestria, a really clever comedy juggler, whose acrobatic feats are exceedingly smart, and the Bros. Hannaway, talented comedians and dancers.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—The pictures exhibited here include The Late King's Funeral, Faust, A Child's Forgiveness, &c. Mr. Dave Abbott, a most amusing Scotch comedian, also appears.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among many attractive pictures exhibited at Belfast's latest cinematograph theatre are The Toymaker's Secret and The Late King's Funeral. Miss Mollie Leigh, a dainty comedienne and fine dancer, and Mr. William Luff, a baritone vocalist of much power, also appear.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—The exhibition of juggling by the Kavardos is keenly appreciated; Tom and Neil, the comedy boxing and wrestling athletes, provide plenty of amusement; Miss Flo Melville, a charming comedienne, sings nicely; a very fine picture is shown depicting the funeral of King Edward VII.

AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—The entertainment provided here by the Royal Cadets is being patronised. In addition to some capital songs, etc., is a laughable sketch, entitled *The Statue*.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. T. Edward Wood's *His Real Wife* company are giving two performances nightly with excellent results. Miss Ward gives a finished impersonation of Rose Avondale; Mr. J. W. Evelyn is really fine as the old farmer, Martin Avondale; Mr. C. Rean is well suited as the young barrister, Herbert Barton, and the more subordinate parts are all adequately represented. The production has every assistance in the way of scenic effect. On Tuesday evening the play *Moths* was produced. Daily matinées devoted to cinematograph displays of current events are very popular here.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Jack and Evelyn, clever variety entertainers, are on a welcome return visit; Miss Veronica Brady, in the Anglo-Dutch musical comedy episode *Miss Gretchen*, is a leading attraction, and has made an unmistakable hit, and Barnes and Ascot, expert dancers, are general favourites; Mr. Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian, is renewing previous triumphs, and Stidder and Dunbar in a musical comedy, Gus Garrick, a sterling comedian, Harrison Bros., in an amusing sketch, Miss Mona Vivian, a clever vocalist, and Miss Maude Vera, comedienne, are all most acceptable. Brown's Royal Bioscope, with some excellent views of the Royal Funeral, is interesting.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Two Little Drummer Boys* are doing big business, with Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas in the title-rôles. Mr. Edward Bikker gives a good portraiture of General Kingsley, and the comedy element is well supplied by Mr. Will Percy and Mr. A. Clements.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Allendale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dooley.—Mr. Cecil W. Parke's Nomads concert party is the attraction.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The Promenade Concerts season opened with encouraging success on Monday. An important alteration effected on the stage has had a beneficial effect from an acoustic point of view. The orchestra is quite as good as in previous years, and the programmes are arranged to suit the tastes of all shades of patrons. Mr. Max Mossel, under whose direction the concerts are given, has scored many triumphs during the week. Mr. Landon Ronald is the conductor of the orchestra, and a great measure of praise is due to him for the able manner in which a number of difficult works are handled.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—This is a week of Ibsen plays at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and judging from the size of the audiences the great Scandinavian author, despite lapse of time, has many admirers in Birmingham. On Monday and Tuesday evenings and Thursday afternoon *A Doll's House* was performed, *Hedda Gabler* was produced on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and on Friday a representation was given of *When We Dead Awaken*, followed by the fourth act of *Brand*. The outstanding feature of the performances is the splendid acting of Mr. Leigh Lovell and Miss Octavia Kenmore, who head a company of all-round merit.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The drama *A Woman's Past* is based upon a story well suited to a melodramatic production, and the piece finds great favour with patrons here this week. Miss Dora Pass portrays a difficult character as Bessie Heath, and earns general appreciation; Miss Phyllis Elton gives a praiseworthy representation as Clara Darrell; Mr. Percy Dawson displays marked ability in the character of David Heath; and Mr. Charles Locke makes a good impression as Frank Dellannoy. The acting of Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh in the heavy rôle is always of a high standard, and other parts are capably sustained by Miss C. Veheyne and Mr. A. H. Warden.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The annual stock season opened here on Monday, when the two-houses-a-night system came into operation. The innovation promises to be a great success, large audiences having assembled each evening during the week. The drama *The Harbour Lights* is being produced under the direction of Mr. Edward Marris, and is proving very popular. Mr. Joseph Millane makes a dashing Lieut. David Kingsley; and Mr. Percy Boucher is successful as Tom Dossiter. Miss Blanche St. Albans is a charming Dora Vane; and Miss Norah Melton cleverly sustains the character of Lina Nelson. The heavy parts are capably presented by Mr. H. C. Robinson and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Outcast of the Family* is a good wholesome melodrama that meets with the approval of all shades of patrons. The drama is presented for the first time at the Metropole by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company, and the story is followed with interest. Miss Elsie Shelton is well fitted for the emotional character of Ruth, and Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney creates a good impression as the hero, Harry Thorne. Mr. Bert Oates provides a clever study as Richard Martin; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd gives a good portayal as Grace Redburn; and Mr. Wybert Clive acts well as Sir Henry Thorne. Two amusing Yorkshire characters are in the capable hands of Miss Freda Breckett and Mr. Tom Armitage.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Mr. T. Morton Powell is presenting a strong company in the popular melodrama *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. The points in the story are brought out in telling fashion, and audiences are not lacking in their appreciation. Mrs. Morton Powell scores a success as the principal character, Winnie Waters; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is well chosen as Jessie Burton; Mr. Edward M. Heanley is at home in the part of Philip Dare; Mr. Alaric Burton displays ability as Solomon Sleek; and Miss Kathryne Eckhart deserves praise for her portrayal of Mrs. Annie Burton. The other characters are well represented.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Carlton company are this week making a great hit in the popular drama *The Colleen Bawn*. Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam gives a clever study as the Irish beauty, Eily O'Connor; Mr. Norman Tracy wins applause for careful acting as Hardress Cregan; Mr. Haldane Dalton makes the most of his opportunities as Miles-na-Coppaleen; and Mr. Victor Gardom acquits himself well in the onerous rôle of Danny Mann. Miss Yoxa Summers makes a dainty Ann Chute; and warm praise is due to Miss Margaret Thorne (Mrs. Cregan), Miss Nancy Mitchell (Sheelah Mann), and Mr. Frank Holyoake (Kyrle Daly). The drama is preceded by a clever curtain-raiser entitled *Struck*.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Bransby Williams is paying a welcome return visit to the city, and is attracting large audiences to the popular Smallbrook-street house. His performances of the Ghost scene from *Hamlet*, and as Shylock and Uriah Heep show him at his very best. The Brothers Egbert gained much popularity here last pantomime season, and this week they are again in favour with their "Happy Dustmen" act; the Findens (Mr. and Mrs. Harold) appear in a mirth-provoking domestic episode. Other turns of an interesting and amusing nature are provided by Mimi Thornton, speciality dancer; Carrie Laurie's capital troupe of juveniles; Fred Curran; Waul Langtry, dialect comedian; Rhoda Paul, male impersonator; and Ellis Barricton, baritone vocalist.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The entertainment at this house is again of the very best, being enjoyed by large audiences nightly. The famous Cragg family of acrobats, in their clever conception *The Territorials*, are at the top, and their performance, as ever, is keenly appreciated. William Mollison, with his company, appears in a military episode entitled *A Touch of the Child*; while Dot Stephens, of musical comedy fame, is also well to the fore in a répertoire of popular numbers. Mr. Edward Davies, formerly of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, affords a musical treat with a number of first-class operatic selections; the Brothers Durant are responsible for some clever and humorous acrobatic business; while other turns of a pleasing nature are given by Astley's American Circus, Arthur Woodville (light comedian), F. V. St. Clair (song composer), and Ethel Bourne (contralto).

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Five Musical Tritons are responsible for the leading turn this week. They have a warm reception for an enjoyable vocal and instrumental entertainment, in which great versatility is displayed. The Six Ontarios are a clever combination of Spanish and acrobatic dancers; Lavail and Bodine, a couple of daring aerial gymnasts, earn much applause; the Melba Twins contribute pleasing duets; the Sisters Kilner are talented singers and acrobatic dancers; Rousby and Rene keep audiences in a good humour whilst they occupy the stage; and the humorous efforts of J. H. Ellis and Phil Bransby earn well-merited applause. The Gaietoscope exhibits new and interesting pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Birmingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Heading an excellent programme is the Mirza Golem Troupe of Asiatic acrobats and gymnasts, whose performance ranks as one of the most remarkable ever seen in the city. Their feats are deservedly applauded. The Floradora Trio are smart singers and dancers, and they cause great amusement by bringing upon the stage a typical street boy; a laughable sketch is presented by Phœbe Mercer and company; the Athos Troupe of acrobats and ball manipulators are well received in a number of clever feats; P. T. Selbit presents the "Selbit Mystery," and proves himself an accomplished musician; the Karitsons are smart lady gymnasts; Harry Champion is a big favourite; Curwen and Belle are popular duettists and dancers; Johnson and Devere are a funny pair of trick cyclists; and Dora Lyric has a good reception.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Wee George Wood, the child comedian and mimic, worthily occupies the leading position on this week's programme. He is making his first appearance in Birmingham, and the manner in which he delights large audiences show that he is assured of a warm welcome upon a return visit. The Derrington Family execute several clever cycling tricks; Cosgrave and Burns are an amusing pair of comedy duettists; the Almas perform daring equilibristic feats; Charlie Harvey and company entertain in a farcical absurdity *The Broken Statue*; Williams and Warden are popular Irish comedians; Rosco sings acceptably; the Hendersons are original speciality artists; and Linn and Darius are clever instrumentalists and vocalists.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—This week a remarkably fine series of pictures illustrating the funeral of the late King Edward VII. is attracting considerable attention, every incident in the great procession being faithfully reproduced. The pictures are highly appreciated by everyone. Other good features in the programme are The Life of Moses, Fenton of the 42nd, Count Cagliastro, and several cleverly-arranged comic pictures. Frank Clarke adds to the enjoyment of the entertainment with acceptable songs.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The appreciation of crowded houses is shown to an effective picture reproducing scenes at the funeral of the late King, and great applause is accorded a fine portrait of His Majesty King George V. Amongst the most popular of the other pictures shown are Never Despair, Honesty is its Own Reward, Memories, Dick Donovan, A Day Off, &c. The humorous subjects are keenly enjoyed. A great attraction is provided by Mons. Dubois and his performing ape, young Pongo, which embarks upon an exciting aeroplane flight.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Capital pictures include: To Save Her Soul, Western Chivalry, and The Eleventh Hour.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Selbinis give a great performance as trick cyclists and acrobats; Gilbert Girard's impersonations make him popular; Dancit is a clever speciality dancer; Miss Hilda Jacobsen's songs are well received; the Millwards, acrobats, and Will Owen, comedian, do well; and the Hipposcope, with the Funeral of King Edward VII., is remarkably good.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company, with *Diana of Dobson's*, has met with a favourable reception. As Miss Diana Massingberd Miss Ellen Delaporte supplies a pleasing performance; and the support leaves nothing to be desired.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—A complete picture of the Royal funeral is the chief attraction here.

THE HIPPODROME.—The programme of films shown at the 'Drome have proved interesting, The Cossack's Treasure, The Barber of Seville, The Goldseeker's Girl, Storm and Sunshine, being worthy of mention.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—For the first time in Bolton Messrs. Silverstone and Wright's company is here with *The Nihilist; or, A Prince's Secret Wedding*. A manly rendering of the village blacksmith, Ivan Nowasky, is given by Mr. George Mitchell; Princess Olga is finely depicted by Miss Florry Kelsey; the part of Alexina Orloff is effectively played by Miss Edna Clare, and the villain, Prince Alexander, is ably taken by Mr. O. Silverthorne. The child Alexina is pleasingly acted by Little Minnie Halston. Much humour is supplied by Mrs. O. Silverthorne as Katrine Zindoff and Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart. Other parts are effectively played, and the production is well staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week's programme comprises Les Piccolinos, miniature universal artists, in their wonderful pot-pourri act; Stuart and Evans, refined comedians; Mack Ollive, in coster impersonations; Leo Carle, in his one-man comedy drama, *The Betrayed Professor*; Hall and Earle, eccentric comedians; the Two Clares, in a dainty song-scena; Evelyn and Norrie, in comedy sketch *Set a Thief*; Lambert and Hands, in a vocal scena; the Three Laurels, in their original speciality act; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Limited; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—A good company is appearing here, headed by the Six Bros. Luck, who are seen in their comedy sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, which causes roars of laughter. Another item is a side-splitting one-act comedy, entitled *Lift-'em's, Ltd.*; turns are also given by Lucy Lynd, character comedienne; Will Driscoll, swell comedian; Steel and Laing, in an acrobatic, singing, and dancing act; Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland, in a musical sketch *A Dotted Crochet*; Guyer and Valle, in a humorous American sketch *Wait for the Finish*; Wallace Lupino, boy comedian and speciality dancer; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Bobbie Allandale and Mr. Ludwig Blattner; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—Dick Tubb keeps the audience in the best of humour with his funny songs and grotesque antics; Frank L. Hayter's Dutch Drolls are very entertaining in

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

their musical scena; the Sisters Ely make an excellent impression in their dancing speciality; Miss Jessie Buckle takes very high rank as a comedienne; and Corme and Carton create a diversion with their new speciality act.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Bendett.—The "Beau Brummel of Monkey Land," Geo, the almost human chimpanzee, is the star turn, and the perfection of his training is marvellous. Oliver Conroy create roars of laughter; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, a clever young comedy couple, present *Charlie's Visit;* the Great Max Waldon is a skilful female impersonator; Ivy Aberdale is a favourite comedienne and dancer; the Lyric Mummers, entertainers, and Clifton and Gibson, comedians and dancers, together with the up-to-date Hippo. Pictures, conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—*Those Terrible Twins* is presented by Messrs. Leedham Bantock and Fredk. Mouillot's company. The former gentleman, who is the author of the piece, plays the part of the Butler, and keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. Henry Cane is good as Samuel Pringle; and Miss Margaret Skelton gives a capital portrayal of his stern wife; Mr. Charles Esdaile gives a clever delineation of Charles Pringle; and Mr. Edwin H. Wynne as the Hon. Harry Scott is effective. Other parts well allotted are those of Miss Louie Backmann as Violet, Miss Edna Morgan as Lillie, Miss Marion Hargrave as the Cook, and Mr. Archibald McCraig as the Lift Boy. *Only a Clown,* which precedes, is well received.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Florodora,* prettily staged, is presented here this week by Mr. Charles Constant's company. The representation is of all-round excellence, and Mr. Leslie Stuart's delightful music is charmingly rendered by Miss Daisy Lake in the part of Dolores and Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Frank Abercoed; Mr. Johnny Schofield is irresistibly funny as Tweedlepunch; Miss Kate Leicester is graceful and piquant as Lady Holyrood; Mr. Stanley White plays Gilfain well; very charmingly Miss Florence Hersee fills the part of Angela, and she partners Mr. Johnnie Junior in La Danse des Apaches, which is introduced with decided effect. Mr. W. Neale has the fine chorus well in hand.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. C. Watson Mill is on a return visit with his romantic and striking drama *For Love and the King,* and he sustains with his customary success his original part of Jarval, the brave soldier of fortune; he is again well supported by Miss Rosaline Tate as his sister, Miss Joan Ellis as Natila, Mr. A. Maurice as the Miser, Michael Obrenovic, Mr. C. H. Mathews as Vladimir Obrenovic; and in other rôles Mr. J. Litchfield, Mr. G. Chate, Mr. F. K. Wicksteed, and Miss Melville lend valuable aid in contributing to the success of the piece, which is finely staged and greeted with applause.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Mark Sheridan is on a return visit here, and, as usual, his songs and humorous patter elicit roars of laughter; Chas T. Aldrich, humorous entertainer, is also here, and greeted very heartily; Marguerite Broadfoote, comedienne, renders her songs in a charming manner; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce submit good vocalism in a pretty Japanese setting; Rauschle's impersonations are clever and well studied; Maudie Francis is a promising juvenile comedienne; Harry Leybourne at the piano gives a humorous turn; a fine exhibition of ju-jitsu is given by Falco and Eida; Julia Kent and company present a romantic costume comedietta of 1760, viz., *Pistols for Three,* which is well received; and there are some fine pictures of the Royal Funeral shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Will H. Fox at the piano here this week proves as diverting as ever; Kitty Clinton, comedienne, submits a good turn, and Charles Woodward is a good type of light comedian; Blanche Marion, comedienne, dances well; as society gymnasts the Fitzroys (Fred and Lillie) do some clever work; Monie Mine, comedienne, contributes acceptably; Harry Raymond is a capital coon vocalist; Canard, "The Man on Time," presents an amusing novelty, and with the Arthur Gallimore Trio in *Race for the Monkey* and the Palace Perfection Pictures a capital evening's amusement is provided.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Municipal Orchestra has been considerably enlarged, and the Promenade Concerts, under the able conductorship of Mr. Norfolk Megone, are delighting large audiences. Mr. Fred Fallas, the vocalist for the week, possesses a tenor voice of excellent compass. In the Grand Pavilion the Gipsies and their Jester, under Mr. Will Gane, are giving some capital programmes twice daily, and in the Royal Victoria Rooms the animated pictures this week include a fine series of the funeral procession of King Edward VII.

New Spa and Gardens and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Tunbridge; Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The Sabots finished a most successful season here on Saturday night with a programme of their choice items. On Monday Mr. Wilson James and his fine combination of talent, The Gaieties, commenced a three weeks' engagement. Mr. James is a great favourite at the Spa, and his company, which includes one or two new members, had a big reception. Miss Ruby Wilson was highly successful with her songs. She is a comedienne of the taking kind, which always captures an audience who appreciate genuine humour combined with a good voice; Miss Gertrude Hart's soprano songs are well rendered; and Mr. Frederick Gregory is a baritone of fine compass; Mr. Bert Meredith, as a banjoist and humorous sketch artist, is accorded a big reception, and Mr. Harry Hudson, the accompanist, proves himself a capital humorous singer as well as a clever pianist; Mr. Wilson James scores immensely with his humorous effusions, and the concerted pieces by the company are cleverly done.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The old-established Waterloos have opened their season here with an excellent combination of talent. In addition to the old favourites the management have secured some new talent, which is sure to be popular with the large number of visitors who patronise this favourite resort.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is here with *Greed of Gold.* Mr. B. Fox gives an admirable enactment of Tom Welstead; Mr. Scott Leighton is powerfully effective as the villainous Harry Wood; Mr. Allan Gordon is well placed as Arthur Errol; Miss Mabel Phillips merits warm praise for her clever study of Dora Hood. The comedy element is delightfully sustained by Mr. Herbert Leonards as Con Creamer, Miss Violet Leyton as Patty Mayfield, and Mr. G. Newell as Cully Snig.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is the most perfect emollient ever discovered for preserving the skin and complexion from the trying changes of weather usually experienced at this time of year, and keeps the skin Soft, Smooth, and White all the year round. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Dusty Rhodes wins enthusiastic applause with his songs and patter; Fifi Gordon and her quartet are distinctly successful in the Dutch operetta *New Sabots;* Tommy Ellis gives his songs in pleasing style; Learto and his dog Pom-Pom contribute a very amusing turn; Marion St. John is a charming soubrette and dancer; the Nicholsons are very diverting in a comedy cross-talk act; Fred Arthur is a highly amusing comedian; Dainty Doretta, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Fred Carr and Ada Rose win hearty applause for their sketch *After a Night Out;* and the Alhambra Picturegraph is very interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—L'Incognita, a highly accomplished vocalist, wins enthusiastic applause; Albert St. Clair is effective as a double-voiced vocalist; Simms and Simms are very entertaining in their instrumental musical turn; Frank and Jen Latona are as popular as ever in music and comedy; Fred Hastings, comedian, is accorded a hearty reception; Robb Wilton is a humorous comedian; the Verona Troupe of cyclists submit clever and daring feats; Smit and Smit evoke hearty laughter with their comic business on the bar; Conway and Leland, one-legged comedians, are amusing; Winfred Ward, "the immaculate boy," gives an excellent turn; and Gladys and Alber submit a novelty speciality.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. Peter Davey and Douglas Gordon's company is here with *The Importance of being Earnest.* Mr. Douglas Gordon submits a good impersonation of John Worthing; Mr. Geo. Silver is delightfully effective as Algernon Moncrieff; Miss Phyllis Relph as the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax and Miss Marjorie Waterlow as Cecily Cardew are admirably suited; Mrs. Peter Davey gives an excellent enactment of Lady Bracknell; Mr. Arthur Stanley is entertaining as the Rev. Canon Chasuble; and Miss Edith Vogne does justice to the portrayal of Miss Prism.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Daniel and Franks' company is here with *Caste.* Mr. Percival Madgewick's Hon. George D'Alroy is finely played; Mr. C. R. Hann makes an admirable Captain Hawtree; Mr. Theodore Kelly is a capital Sam Gerridge; Mr. Roland Daniel gives a clever character study as Eccles; Miss Elsie Roberts makes a charming Esther; Miss Dorrie Roberts is a bright and engaging Polly; and Miss Victoria Wray-Holmes is effective as the Marquise.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The pictures prove increasingly attractive. The Funeral Procession of the late King Edward VII. is admirably depicted; A Child's Heart, Barbarosa, and The Passing Shadow convey interesting dramatic incidents; Scenes on the Alburia Railway is a fine travel film; and those of an amusing character include Too Many Admirers, Poorluck's Lucky Horse-shoe, and The Devil's Ma-in-Law. The appropriately descriptive pianoforte accompaniments by Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merit praise. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in excellent style.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here continue to attract good houses. The film descriptive of the Funeral Procession of the Late King Edward VII. is beautifully clear; dramatic stories are conveyed by The Artist's Dream, The Eleventh Hour, and Passing Shadow; while great amusement is afforded by He Adored an Advert, Double Muscle has No Luck, and Which of the Two?

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Are You a Mason?* is the attraction here for the week, the play being capitally performed and nicely staged. Mr. William Lockhart and Mr. Howard L. Tracy are excellent in their respective parts of Amos Bloodgood and Frank Perry; Miss Agnes Maude is sufficiently stern as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; Miss Grace Denbigh Russell is pleasing as Mrs. Perry; Miss Peggy E. Yeoman is amusing as Lottie; other parts are in very capable hands.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*East Lynne* is being well played by Mr. Tom Watts' company. Miss Laura Hansen displays considerable power as Lady Isabel; Mr. Rayson-Cousens acts effectively as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Wilfred Percy Mansfield makes an excellent Francis Levison; Miss Ida Heron is pleasing as Barbara Hare; Mr. Joe Rowland is amusing as Bullock; and all the remaining parts are very carefully taken. The good old play is staged in commendable style.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Bella and Bijou head the bill, their entertainment always meeting with very warm appreciation here. Joe Almasio and Miss Yamina give a capital turn, Almasio being amusing as a jumping juggler, and the lady doing some really clever Arab tumbling; Margaret Ismay and Girls present a pleasing scena of song and dance; May B. Brilliant is a smart comedienne and dancer; George Rae amuses as a Scotch comedian and dancer; and Oliver Martyn, comedian, is successful. A very fine and clear set of films depicting the Royal Funeral proved to be highly attractive, and other animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—The Martineks amuse with their novelty, *The Rag Doll;* Nelson's Newsboys entertain with their American characteristic song and dance scena; the Brothers Dean give a clever exhibition of dancing; Stella Dell is a pleasing comedienne; Bolo does some smart juggling with bats; Solo and Mayo are quaintly amusing as comedy artists; Nancy St. John is a clever comedienne; Brayne and Lloyd score with their speciality *The Tree of Truth;* and some excellent animated pictures are shown of the Funeral Procession of the late King.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Highly interesting pictures are greatly appreciated, all the latest events, including the late King's funeral, being shown.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Messrs. Gordon and St. Croix's company is the principal attraction here, in their musical sketch, *The Romanys;* Miss Beatrice Edwards as the Gipsy Queen sings two songs in pleasing style; the Brothers O'Brien compel admiration with a neat horizontal bar performance; and the Denaro Bros. are very clever gymnasts. Cull Pitt is a conjuror of ability and a good facial mimic; the Leicester Bros. dance skilfully; Hal Bert, comedian, is very funny; Tom Reed has some good jokes; and Domestic Economy is a fine film by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Dan Lipton's company appears in a vocal scena, "Songland," in which Miss Eva Kelland, assisted by a capable chorus, give some delightful renderings. The scenery and effects are excellent. Jerry and Daisy Gilbert are two dainty dancers; Frank Cumminger, assisted by Frances Callona, executes some remarkable sand-dancing; Charles Vincent, comedian, is very good; and songs are given in pleasant style by the Bartholomew Girls. The Palace Pictures are good.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ede Hague Body.—Captain Taylor introduces Lockhart's performing elephants, a truly marvellous performance; Beaumont's highly trained ponies and dogs give a clever and amusing turn; Lila Vesta's efforts as ballad vocalist are much appreciated; the impersonations of Ernie Harlow are decidedly original; Dalvere and Wallace are extremely droll; clever eccentric dances are given by Cash and Clair; and some good songs by Tom Packer. The Operascope maintains its excellence.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is presented twice nightly by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company. Mr. Jerrold Heather makes Zaco Malleto a truly villainous personage; Mr. Colin Heather is a manly Wilfred Grey; Mr. Gerald Bryne is prominent with a clever study of the half-witted Paul; Lily is charmingly played by Miss Winifred Rutland; Mr. Tod Squires as Peter Pimple and Miss Laura Wright as Dolly Dimple are jointly responsible for the comedy element; and Miss Hilda Shirley is admired as the long-suffering Myra Malleto.

Circus of Varieties.—Pictures are still the principal attraction at this house, and an excellent film showing the funeral procession of his late Majesty is particularly interesting. Lillian Velva, a clever local ball-puncher, and Ada Leach, vocalist, are also prominent in the bill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The visit of Mlle. Irma Lorraine is proving a tremendous attraction, the living pictures being clever creations. She is assisted by Marjah and Mademoiselle, in classical poses and dances. The Brooklands are popular comediennes and dancers; Jock McNeil is an expert dancer of decided merit; Baker and Balfe, xylophone experts, Neven Tossau, lightning painter of land and seascapes, Miss Millie Engler and company, in a farcical episode, entitled *Beauty and the Burglar,* A. H. Drinkwater, light comedian, and Reed and Cully, "the Bill Stickers," in comedy tumbling act, complete.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On the first three nights of this week a most interesting series of Irish plays was given here. In *Kathleen Ni Houlihan* on Monday night Mr. J. M. Kerrigan was an impressive Michael; and Miss Sarah Allgood as Kathleen was decidedly good. The play was followed by W. Synge's *Playboy of the Western World,* in which Miss Marie O'Neill was most intense as Pegeen, and received capital support from Mr. Fred O'Donovan, Mr. Sidney J. Morgan, Mr. Arthur Sinclair, Mr. J. M. Kerrigan, and Miss Sarah Allgood. The concluding piece given was *The Workhouse Ward,* a comedy by Lady Gregory. On Tuesday *In the Shadow of the Glen, The Building Fund,* and *Hyacinth Hairey* were played.

CARDIFF. — New Theatre. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Cruise of the Constance,* presented by Mr. Harry W. Lumley, is thoroughly enjoyed here. Mr. Chas. McNaughton appears in the rôle of Potts, and a more clever and humorous impersonation it is difficult to imagine; Mrs. Hope is in the capable hands of Miss Irene Verona, who appears to much advantage; a charming rendition of Clements is given by Miss Ruby Vyvyan, her prepossessing appearance and extremely sweet singing making her performance most attractive; Mr. Chas. McLagan works hard in the difficult part of Admiral Weber; and Captain Jackson finds an able exponent in Mr. Albert Kavanagh. Mr. Fred Hobbs (Lieut. Wensleydale) and Miss Carlotto Sylvano (Isobel Higgins) sing and act well; and Mr. Lockwood Philpott is impressive as Edward Hardy. The fine yacht scene is very effective; and a capital chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—*Parker, P.C.* is presented by Charles Austin; this eccentric comedian is supported by a large company. The Seven Perezoffs gain hearty approbation for their clever jugling act; Miss Ethel Newman charms everyone by her skilfully rendered monologue, entitled *Her Wedding Day;* Charles Norton is warmly received in his talented mimetic act, *Pros. at the Races;* Harvey's American Boys and Girls prove quite refreshing in novel songs; Tom E. Hughes is a remarkably quaint comedian; Frank Lyne has a capital comic song and a smart parody on "The Village Blacksmith"; Chas. J. Johnson is a coloured comedian who has mastered the art of step-dancing; and Lola Patey has a sweetly-rendered Irish song. Pictures of the Royal Funeral have proved very impressive.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Miss Beaumont Collins and company, in *Leaves of Memory,* prove highly attractive; Gillin, the unique ventriloquist and humorist, presents a skilful number; Cassie Walmer, the eccentric comedienne, is equally successful; J. J. Mannex, the coffee-coloured coon, does well; and the Three Alskarnos, original risley comedians; Florence and Rose Showell, the popular duettiste; and the Palace Perfection pictures are also in the bill.

CARLISLE. — H. M. Theatre. — Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the second week of his stock season Mr. Edmund Tearle opened with the ever-popular drama *The Octoroon,* and again delighted his audience with the all-round excellence of the performance. It was staged and dressed, too, with the attention to detail which characterises all Mr. Tearle's productions. *A Lion's Heart* and *Ingomar* are also in the week's bill.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Maude Mortimer is again the star turn here, and repeats her previous success; Roy Bevis is a neat and skilful professor of the art of legerdemain; Jessie Roughton and Dennis Creedon, in a vocal and instrumental scena, are refined and accomplished artists; Marie Dreams, a young lady with a wonderful baritone voice, is a big success; and Vesta Nixon, comedienne, and Rene, a smart lady juggler, meet with much appreciation. The Great Virto contributes a musical act of distinct merit, playing several instruments with skill and taste. The pictures are popular.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here and playing to a capital audience is the Countess Bekoffsha, a lightning flower painter, who delighted the audience with her work; Harold Heath, coon vocalist and dancer, provides an agreeable turn; St. Vincent Ellesemere, as a ballad vocalist, is appreciated; and interesting, instructive, and amusing pictures by the Loyal Dominion company complete the programme.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—The Russell Rosse company opened on Monday in *A Pair of Spectacles.* Mr Arthur Hare's study of Benjamin Goldfinch was an artistic and conscientious performance; Uncle Gregory was cleverly represented by Mr. Henry St. Barbe West; and Percy and Lorimer were effectively sketched by Messrs. Guy Vivian and Frank Tenant. Miss Ida Phillips as the much-perplexed Mrs. Goldfinch and Miss Madge Monte as the pretty Lucy Lorimer were well placed; and Miss Marion Williams was a typical parlourmaid. The shoemakers were capitally represented by Messrs. G. N. Williams and F. Wilson; and Mr. G. Cleveland was good as Goldfinch's friend in distress. *Caste* is billed for the latter part of the week.

Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—A welcome return engagement was commenced on Monday by the Royal Strolling Players, and a huge gathering gave them an enthusiastic welcome. Mr. Gilbert Fernie is a versatile humorist; Mr. Steve Buckingham amuses greatly; Mr. Victor Wallace is a capable humorist; Miss Maidie Harrison has a sweet voice and is a dainty little dancer; and Miss Lena Lawton sings and dances delightfuly. Miss Marion James's songs are enjoyed. The company have an excellent accompanist in Mr. Arthur Wright. Concerted numbers are a strong point in the entertainment.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—Holiday crowds have flocked to see the beautiful films representing the obsequies of King Edward.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Topping the bill are Francini-Olloms and Page, who give a smart exhibition of juggling, acrobatics, and comedy tumbling; Phil Terris is an eccentric comedian of merit and originality; Amie Jumel, vocalist, whistler, instrumentalist, and dancer, deserves praise for versatility; Jack Vanando is a clever ventriloquist and Millie Doris a capable character comedienne; Maxwell and Francis present a novel flirtation vocal comedy scena with brightness and finish; and the Welsh Eisteddfod Sextette, accomplished vocalists, rendered full justice to Cambrian melody. A Gaumont film, The King's Funeral, is shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Sydney Spenser presented *My Sweetheart* the first part of the week to appreciative audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Lizzie Hall was everything that could be desired, her singing and dancing being undoubtedly clever; Mr. Sydney Spencer was effective as Joe Shotwell; Mr. Arthur L. Read played Harold Bartlett with vigour; Mr. Harry T. Butler made an effeminate Dudley Harcourt; and Mr. A. W. Thompson an able Dr. Oliver. Mr. Harry Jackson was well cast as Farmer Hatzell, and Mr. Edward Rawlinson gave a conscientious picture of Tony; Miss Gipsy Alexander submitted a meritorious study of the wily Mrs. Fleeter; Miss Belle Russell acted with distinction as Mrs. Hatzell. Peek-a-Boo, Christie, and Emmeline were neatly represented by Miss Hilda Eyre, Miss Elsie Heap, and Miss Violet Etherington respectively. The comedy was well dressed and staged. *A Wonderful Woman* is also billed.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is presented here by Mr. C. W. Standing's company. Mr. Standing himself plays the part of Reggie Belsize, and on Monday night he excelled himself; Miss Myra Swan, charmingly gowned, revelled in the character of Kitty, and her success was undoubted; Miss Winifred Pearson acted with considerable verve as Madame de Semiano and scored frequently; Mr. Sydney Burt, in manner, style, and gesture, portrayed John Travers with characteristic correctness; Miss Pamela Hope was successful as Rosalie. *The Man in the Street* preceded.

Hippodrome.—Director, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company in *The Private Secretary* is here with that well-known and greatly esteemed comedian, Mr. W. Hargraves as Cattermole; Mr. Geoffrey Guise does exceedingly well as the Red Spalding, and makes a big hit with the farcical character; Mr. Frederick Tyrrell is quite successful as Gibson. The ladies are worthily represented by Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Miss Elsie Blythe, and Mrs. Alfred Davis. Mr. Francis Trevor acts agreeably as Mr. Marsland, M.F.H.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Raymond tops the bill, and completely baffles the audience with his magic entertainment. Gordon Stretton is a remarkably smart coon; Little Sunbeam, a charming juvenile artist; and Morris and Moore, capital dancers. The Vampire Dance, submitted by Les Grossi, is a huge success. Luella Cross, comedienne and vocalist, also contribute to a good all-round show.

CORK.—Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Principal place in the programme is given to Las Serenadas, a quartette of high-class vocalists; Mina Denvie renders some pleasing songs; Adras Bros. are a pair of clever acrobats; Queenie Essex contributes pretty songs; Selby and Myers are a clever pair of comedians and dancers; George Barton, coon impersonator, pleases; the Four Regals, strong men, give a capital exhibition of physical culture; and the Palascope pictures are exciting and amusing.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A visit of Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Neville, is proving a good attraction. The first part of the week was presented *The Sorrows of Satan,* in which Mr. Edward Neville ably undertook the difficult character of Prince Lucio Rimanez; Miss Loie Esmond was an effective Diana Chesney; Miss Rosie Neville was a charming Lady Sybil Elton; Mr. J. Le Fleming was responsible for the Earl of Elton. Other parts were ably represented by Mr. Percy Foreman, Mr. H. Listo, Mr. B. Anderson, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst, Miss Cecil Byrne, and Miss May Morne. *Too Soon* preceded. *Nana* and *Sapho* furnished the bill for the remainder of the week.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. E. Wright.—Heading the bill is Percy Honri, the popular concertinist, who presents the musical sketch *Concordia,* the songs, dances, and selections delighting the audience; the Three San Remo Girls provide a good exhibition of dancing; Marie Pera, assisted by Thomas Cennard, give a sketch entitled *Two Doors and a Passage,* which is much appreciated; Thora contributes a fine ventriloquial entertainment; and other good turns are provided by Maude Olmar, dancer and vocalist; Harry Jomps, comedian; and T. E. Bates, eccentric comedian and dancer.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is appearing here this week in répertoire, consisting of *Mikado, Gondoliers, H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury, Patience,* and *Yeomen of the Guard.* In the first-named on Monday Mr. Henry A. Lytton was in first-class form as Ko-Ko; Mr. Fred Billington made a big hit as Pooh-Bah; Mr. Henry Herbert as Nanki-Poo was in fine voice; Mr. Leicester Tunks was well placed as the Mikado of Japan; and Messrs. Sydney Granville and Fred Drawater were adequate as Pish-Tush and Go-To. Miss Louie Rene deserves warm congratulations for her assumption of Katisha; Mrs. Arthur Rousbey sang sweetly and made a lovable Yum-Yum; and Miss Beatrice Boarer and Miss Marjorie Stone were enchanting as Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Herbert Sleath's company is winning approval here in graphic sketch, *The Deputy Sheriff;* the Brothers Horne are great in boxing skit, *The Biter Bit;* the De Breans are clever in their Japanese and shadowgraph entertainment; Harry Randall, comedian, is more droll than ever; the Bensons are an invigorating comedy couple; Walter Emerson is an interesting comedian; Lloyd and Lane (Violet and Horace) give a humorous turn; the Four Rosebuds sing and dance well; Syd May gives some well-studied impersonations of George Robey, Gus Elen, &c.; Bert Errol has a fine voice and causes a sensation; the Maples are capable speciality artists; and the Bioscope pictures of the Funeral of His Late Majesty, King Edward VII., are exceptionally clear.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—Will Challiner, comedian and dancer, is much appreciated; Dorothy Thompson also sings and dances well, Percy Gill being also applauded in the same line; Miss M. Dardis is a pleasing ballad singer. An excellent film of the Funeral of King Edward VII., by the Urban Co., is shown.

Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Beaty Bros., comedians and patterers, create laughter in their sketch, *Down at the Races;* Jack Hayton, the Lancashire lad, is applauded for his dancing; and Ernest J. Bury, baritone, is well received. The Duke's Plan and Funeral of King Edward VII. are among the set of films shown.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Henley.—Barney Armstrong and Kelly top the bill here, and as mirth-provokers they prove themselves artists of first-class ability; The Havannas Troupe, eccentric tumblers, are particularly smart; The Three Delaries submit a clever trapeze act in a setting called *The Demon Grotto;* Molly Wynne's dainty dancing is highly appreciated; a capital acrobatic skate dancing act is contributed by J. H. McCann; Mather and Mayer appear to advantage in American songs and dances; Lee and Bentley's sketch, *The King's Counsel,* is capably rendered; Russell Carr, military ventriloquist, causes much amusement; and Harry Morris is a diverting raconteur. The Bioscope finishes an entertaining bill of fare.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—Mr. Robert Hewland's company occupies the boards here with *The Shadow of a Crime.* As Jim Murdock Mr. Whitmore Ledger gives a manly impersonation, and is well supported by Mr. Robert Hewland as Captain Harry Bullington; Miss Marie L. Ellis as Loyale Norman submits a powerful presentment; in the part of the villain Mr. Victor Gordon works well; and Mr. Harry Creamer (Samuel Brown), Miss Violet Vivienne (Brown's better half), and Mr. Tom Maynard (James Todd) are successful in the efforts on the humorous side.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. Pearce.—A musical treat is provided by the Zigeuner Quartette; Gladys Huxley scores in some capital contralto songs; Arthur Croxon adds to his reputation as a comedian; Frank Hartley is a juggler of more than ordinary ability; Dawson provides a choice drawing-room entertainment, and Ciss and Will are a promising pair of juvenile artists. The Bioscope film depicts the funeral of his late Majesty

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Almost His Bride* has drawn good houses. Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, under the management of Mr. David McFarlane, is producing the piece, and full justice is done to the host of exciting incident with which the play abounds.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Green, and Hinton's company in *Was She to Blame?* is appearing here. Mrs. Kimberley gives a highly finished rendition of the retired actress, Mrs. Roselle; Mr. Roland Henry is to be congratulated on his excellent portrayal of William Clark, the broken-down actor; as the hero, Capt. George Courtenay, Mr. George Keene is very successful; Miss Nancy Roberts invests the part of the erring Vicar's daughter with emotional ability; the character of John Norman is in the able hands of Mr. Henry Rutland; Mr. Clavering Craig as Frank Roselle portrays the villain capitally; Miss Ellen Beverley (Mary Norman) and Fred Astley (Jim Harford) well sustain their parts; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah introduce some original comedy. The play is well mounted.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—The bill is headed by the Gaudsmidt Bros., clever acrobatic clowns, who are assisted by two marvellously trained Spanish poodles; a musical treat is provided by Theo Le Gais' company in *Music the Conqueror,* the cast including Señor Angel Blanco, the violin virtuoso; J. P. Ling scores a success with his mimicry; Minnie D'Aubyn is a pleasing vocalist; Drum and Major cause much mirth in *The Broker's Man;* Earle and Melville introduce some good dancing and patter; Charles Gardener, comedian, goes well; the Zampas are applauded for some fine dancing and bâton juggling; and an excellent film portraying the funeral procession of his late Majesty King Edward is shown on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—The annual performances promoted by Mr. Weldon in aid of local charities took place the first three nights of the week, and a company of local artists rendered excellent service. Crowded houses have included the Mayor and Corporation and the chairmen and committees of the various charities.

DONCASTER. — Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Heading the bill are Jackson and May, in their sensational cycling feat; Captain Permane's Teddy Bear Family is popular; Maude Larette, mimic, assisted by the Glenisters, in illustrated song-scena, is well received; Annie Lang is a capable comedienne and dancer; Trogan, the one-armed athlete, gains general favour; Fred Ward is a witty comedian; the Mars Trio are smart military gymnasts; Maude Phillips is an acceptable contralto vocalist; and the boy flautist, Laurie Holmes, is roundly applauded.

DOUGLAS.—Empire.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—The pictures presented are quite up-to-date, and compriso episodes and incidents, grave and gay. Mr. George Penn is amusing; Mr. Ernest D'Almaine has a pleasing voice, and his ballads were received with real appreciation. Mr. Cecil Bevan presides at the piano.

Other places of amusement open are the Palace, which relies on roller skating and animated pictures. Buxton is open for roller skating; and Mr. Charles Dare's minstrels attract large attendances to Douglas Head.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, in *The Midnight Wedding,* has attracted appreciative audiences. Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a clever representation of the swordmaster, Paul Valmar; Miss Lilian Hallows acts the Princess Astrea in a graceful and sympathetic manner; and as Captain Rudolf Von Scarsbruck Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes furnishes a capital study. The Crown Prince Leopold is admirably presented by Mr. John Nesbitt; and Mr Charles Whitlock does very well as Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg. Much humour is extracted from the rôles of Max, Otto, and Bobo by Messrs. James E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding; and a vivacious portrayal of Kathie is given by Miss Jessica Black. Mr. Forbes Harrison makes a dignified Father Gerard; and Miss Ruth Wingrove submits a clever study of Rozel. The staging is particularly good.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing - Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The Independent

cellently. The play is preceded by a farce, by Nora Fitzpatrick and C D. Markievicz, entitled *Home, Sweet Home.*

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. O'Brien and Ireland's répertoire company entered on their second week here on Monday, when *Kathleen Mavourneen* was presented to an appreciative audience. Mr. James O'Brien was as humorous as ever as Terence O'Moore; and Miss Madeline Hurst was very creditable as Kathleen O'Connor. Mr. Harry Ireland gave an accomplished performance of Bernard Kavanagh; and Mrs. Mary Glenville was successful as Meg Marslogh. Father O'Cassidy had an able representative in Mr. J. B. Tully; and Miss Laura Lawson was excellent as Kitty O'Lavery. Mr. J. C. Boyle was exceedingly good as David O'Connor; and Miss Minnie Walsh was commendable as Miss Dorothy Kavanagh. The remaining parts were in capable hands, and the staging and scenery excellent. *Paddy Miles's Boy* preceded.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The star turn here is Mr. Jack Pleasants, who keeps his hearers in the best of humour with his songs and stories; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls come in for a hearty reception; the Marsumas, comedians on wheels, make a decided hit; Flo Inman, comedienne and dancer, is popular in all parts of the house; Frank Cass is a funny comedian; Johnny Fuller, the great little cat, on the wire, provides a clever turn; in a pleasing and graceful gymnastic act, Mlle. Pollo is deservedly applauded; Phil Parsons is an acceptable comedian; and the Empire pictures conclude an enjoyable programme

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Belling Brothers, cycle equilibrists, head the bill, and meet with a pleasing reception; Walter Ellis and company, in *The Sleepwalker*, cause roars of laughter; Bonair and Tess, in their quick-change scena, display ability; Marjorie Clare's songs at the piano are well received; and the Makans, comedy duo, are highly amusing. Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats, keep the audience in a merry mood; the Sisters Dudley, vocalists and dancers, are a decided success; Jack Sheridan is a capital comedian; and the Three Orleans, vaudeville artists, are also to the fore. Pictures complete.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W H. Huish.—This popular theatre is attracting very large audiences, and the reproduction of the King's funeral procession is a prominent feature of the pictures shown.

DUNDEE.—KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A finely assorted bill is headed by W. F. Frame, the famous Scotch comedian, whose wit and humour are as fresh and invigorating as ever; Rorke, Rooke, and company are accorded an ovation in *The Prince's Love Affair*; the Singing Jockeys appear with success in a racy act; Mike Cray tickles the risible faculties of the audience with his eccentric juggling, and is intelligently assisted by his clever dog Dooley; Montes and Welma score in a novel leaping act; the Calcotts, in their wayside episode, *Rags and Tatters*, prove expert musicians; and Ethel Campbell is a comedienne with a pleasing presence and dashing style. The Funeral of the late King Edward VII. is shown by the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—The people's popular pictures introduce leading events in the life of the late King Edward and his funeral procession. Belshazzar's Feast and Princess and Slave are specially good films of the picturesque order, while Love in a Mining Camp is a capital dramatic picture. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Metherells, in a smartly-worked musical sketch, and Mabel Cameron, in song-scena, *Boy Scouts.*

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The chief item of a lengthy and varied programme of films is a magnificent view of the historic funeral of the late King Edward. The Girl and the Fugitive and Samuel of Posen are other notable views, and the singing picture continues popular.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—The picture programme this week is an attractive one, and business is in a very flourishing condition.

KINNAIRD HALL.—Feather's cinematograph is located here this week. The list of films includes King Edward's Coronation, his Visit to the Dreadnought with Queen Alexandra and other Royalties, the Late King's Visit to Lord Derby at Knowsley, and his Funeral Procession. The film representative of the Dundee Procession is also a strong feature.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Bawes.—Signor and Mme. Borelli, in a drawing-room comedy act, head the bill this week; Lovaine, with song and patter, creates much laughter; the Paolias, in a novel athletic act, receive well-deserved praise; and Gladys Hooley is very effective in the scena *Fiddle and I.* Gulliver and his doll are most amusing; the Saletos are well appreciated for a graceful balancing act; and the Tintos, in African gambols, are clever and amusing. The Cathodoscope shows a good picture.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The local amateur operatic society gave three performances of *The Yeoman of the Guard* here during the early part of the week, and Miss Cora Anson's company was billed to appear on Thursday in *Caste*, with Mr. G. W. Anson as Eccles.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company is appearing here in *Dolly Reforming Herself.* Miss Dorothy Giles as Dolly, with much to do, acquits herself with cleverness and success; Miss Florence Steventon has a fine grip of the part of Mrs. Sturgess, which she plays excellently; and Miss Sylvia Jones is satisfactory as Peters. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards does sound and refined work as Harry Telfer; Mr. Cecil Brooking acts with much point and interest as Matthew Barron; Mr. Hanworth Browning gives a refreshingly natural performance as Captain Lucas; Mr. Russel Barry is a distinct Professor Sturgess; Mr. James Beaumont a very good Rev. Pilcher; and Mr. Reginald Dauncey a helpful Criddle.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here is M. De Biere, who has a tasteful and elaborate setting for one of the smartest and cleverest magic shows seen here; Mlle. Silotta has an exhibition of living statuary which find favour; the 'Varsity Girls return and give a bright, taking musical entertainment; Miss Rosali Jacobi has a sweet voice and engaging manner which are cleverly used; Claff and Tremaine are a very funny and interesting couple who appear as *The Demon and the Fairy*; Truro and Breece are two successful eccentric comedians; and Mr. Will Brockton sings his songs in admirable style.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Raynor's répertoire company is presenting *An American Citizen* and *His Excellency the Governor.* In the first-named production Mr. Raynor is seen to advantage as Beresford Cruger; and Mr. Joseph Montague as Peter Barbury lends capable assistance. Mr. Walter A. James gives a capital impersonation of Egerton Brown; as Sir Humphrey Bunn Mr. Milton C. Curtis proves himself a clever actor; Miss Cecilia Dare as Beatrice Carew again shows that she is a thorough artist; Miss Frances Waring as Carola Chapin is all that could be desired. The King' funeral procession is shown on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Horace Lingard and Mr. Arthur Shelton's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when Mr. Jerome's comedy *Fanny and the Servant Problem* was presented with an admirable cast. Miss Beatrice Moreau, an actress who possesses every requisite for a comedy performer, played the title-rôle with excellent tact and discretion; Mr. Horace Lingard's impersonation of Martin Bennett was distinguished by many masterly touches, and Mr. Roland Hope in the part of Dr. Fremantle gave a finished piece of acting; Miss Mayran Fay and Miss Ethel Coleridge, as the two aunts, were clever in parts which afforded little opportunity for the display of their undoubted abilities, and the idiosyncrasies of the various members of the Barrett family had capital representatives in Mr. A. Lightowler, Miss Grace Bearing, Miss Phyllis Brent, and Miss Hilda Lane. The comedy was preceded by *The Admiral.* For Thursday and Friday a version of Sardou's comedy *Divorçons* was announced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Charles Steuart's company is here with that merry farcical comedy *Facing the Music*, and many playgoers have been the better for the medicine of mirth of which they have partaken during the week. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is a genuinely clever light comedian, and as John Smith he enters into the humour of the part with a spirit that is droll without being conventional; Mr. Charles Fancourt is admirable as the meek Curate of St. Andrews; Mr. Charles Steuart is gay and debonair as Jack Desmond; Mr. Edward Bonfield contributes a distinctly successful study as Colonel Smith; and Mr. Charles Melton invests the muddle-headed Detective Duffel with marked expression; Miss Iris Hoey as Mabel acts with singular grace and charm; Miss Estelle Thebaud is bright and vivacious as Nora; Miss Questa Dearing is effective as Miss Fotheringay; and Miss Amy Coleman is notably good as Mrs. Ponting. A grim but powerful one-act drama, *The Last Drop*, gives Miss Thebaud and Mr. Melton the chance of presenting with vividness two repellent types of character. After the performance to-night (Saturday) the theatre will close for the summer recess.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Chief among the attractions are a series of cinematograph pictures showing incidents in the late King's funeral. Variety turns are acceptably provided by Kitty Jones, Willie Garvey, O'Malley and Brown, Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins (introducing some smart step-dancing), the word-whistler Arthur Melrose, and the popular George D'Albert with a budget of new songs. The Sisters Aindow contribute a pretty and dainty musical act in quaint and pleasing style; Miss Rosie Archer proves a successful mimic of music-hall celebrities; H. R. Friscary's juggling with top-hats and other articles is clever; and Miss Rosie Ring, with her bevy of damsels, supplies an interesting scena entitled *When the Heart is Young.*

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Miss Ada Reeve, dainty and witching, is the outstanding attraction in an admirable programme here. Miss Reeve sings songs new and old, and in the rendering of each she displays that consummate mastery of humour and pathos which draws forth at will both laughter and tears. Spry and Monti, in *The Song Writer and the Soubrette*, act, sing, and dance with exhilarating effect; Mr. J. J. Dallas is very amusing in his song of the Distressful Widow, and Miss Alexandra Dagmar is, as usual, successful in song and story. *The Little Stowaway*, a dramatic piece produced by Mr. Bertie Shelton, is acted with real force and feeling by a company which includes Mr. John K. Walton, a breezy Captain Worsley; Mr. Arthur Temple, a capital Lieut. Burton; Mr. S. Griffiths Moss, admirable as the Bosun; and Miss Marjorie Armstrong, a pathetic stowaway. The Jackley Trio are excellent in their comedy acrobatic act; Les Marco Belli give a graceful and amusing conjuring act; and a grotesque quartette party, rejoicing in the title of "The Tune Chewers," sing with taste and expression. Additional and touching interest is imparted to the programme by a series of beautiful views of the funeral of King Edward VII. shown on the American Bioscope.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Scenes from the life of King Edward VII. and the last sad pageant of the final journey ending at Windsor are the great attraction here. Other films include The Cowboy Millionaire and All's Well that Ends Well.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A full and interesting programme at this popular house comprises Lieut. Rose and the Foreign Spy and Saved from the Tide, two exciting pictures, and The Wrong Man, a humorous story of a peculiarly droll kind. Bob Brown, the "midget Hercules," and the Delmore Trio in a comedy sketch *In a Fix*, give every satisfaction to the large audiences.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—Pleasure seekers thoroughly enjoy the attractions of this pleasant resort, and the attendance has been gratifying to all concerned. Out of doors the band of the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, under the able direction of Mr. James Slattery, perform afternoon and evening in the band court. In the concert hall the "Smart Set" entertainers have delighted large audiences with two well-varied performances nightly. The skating rink's arrangements for the week included a fancy dress carnival on Friday evening for the amusement of skaters and spectators. Among the numerous stock side shows scattered about the grounds the Somali Village, the Figure 8 and Scenic Railways, the River Caves, Maze, &c., continue to excite interest and secure patronage.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The patrons at this popular place of amusement are favoured with a return visit of Gittins's Grand Opera company, with condensed versions of *Il Trovatore, Faust, Maritana, Martha, Bohemian Girl*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment.* The chief characters are ably portrayed by Mlle. Adele Prescott, Miss Nellie Moore, Messrs. T. H. Wood, Jno. Wheelan, and E. C. Gittins, who are assisted by a good company. Another good turn is provided by Eric and Nora, musical entertainers. An up-to-date and interesting selection of pictures are thrown upon the screen, including the King's Funeral.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Neville Claude's company is delighting theatre-goers with that sparkling comedy, *The Girl from Kay's.* Miss Florrie Millington in the title-rôle is a speaking success, and well merited the applause which was accorded both for her vivacious portrayal and her vocal numbers; Miss Dorothy King's Ellen is coupled with clever singing and dancing; and Miss Rosie Burnett as Norah Chalmers proved a dainty and accomplished artist; Mr. Henry Admes is comical and smart as Max Hoggenheimer; and Mr. Charles Power exceedingly good as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Harry Gordon is well portrayed by Mr. J. A. Latham; Mr. Barron H. Heron is a capital hall porter; and Master Walter H. Pink as Pepper is popular.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Rosie Lloyd is adding to the golden opinions won on her last visit; Harry Bedford, who enhances his songs with a wealth of quaint mannerisms, speedily gains popularity; Violet Shelley and company introduce a well-conceived comedy scena, entitled *The Ideal Woman*; and the Great Vincent appears in a daring and smart acrobatic tambling act; beautiful and clever serpentine dances are contributed by Miss Maude May Murray; Captain EHis and son are well received in their musical and dancing act; and Chas Leighton presents *A Tramp's Studies at the Piano* excellently.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company is appearing in a series of eight plays. *King Richard II.* was on the bill, and was admirably performed. Mr. Henry Herbert, who takes the leading part in each of the plays, earned golden opinions for the manner in which he acquitted himself in the title-rôle; Mr. Robert Atkins is to be credited with a capable performance of Henry Bolingbroke; Mr. J. Cairns gave an impressive study of John of Gaunt; and as the Duke of York Mr. J. Hood did effective work. Mr. Charles Sparrow sustained the rôle of the Earl of Northumberland in a powerful fashion; and Mr. Cyril Sworder distinguished himself as Thomas Mowbray. A clever portrayal of the Queen was given by Miss Gladys Vanderzee; and the remaining characters were well filled. *The Taming of the Shrew, The Merry Wives of Windsor, King Lear, Hamlet, Macbeth, The Tempest*, and *As You Like It* are also in the bill.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Leivers and Bonnett; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A strong variety company is here this week, the principal turns of which are Martialo Trio, in a clever and sensational juggling and balancing act, and Emprise, a lady handcuff expert, who escapes from a tank filled with water. Other items include Alma Worth (comedienne), Stella and Rose (sketch artists), Charles Normand (bone soloist), Carvell and Dora (ventriloquist and lady dancer), Snowden and Alexander (comedy duo), and Rose Haden (comedienne and dancer).

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. John Clyde and company are presenting the stirring Scotch drama *Jeanie Deans.* Mr. John Clyde gives a fine character sketch of the Laird o' Dumbiedykes; Miss Lydia Donovan contributes an admirable interpretation of the warm-hearted Jeanie; Miss Jean Macintosh is an extremely good Effie; a strong portrait of Madge Wildfire is presented by Miss Florence Lambeth; Mr. Herbert Evelyn makes an effective Geordie Robertson; Mr. W. S. Stevenson does well as David Deans; Marjorie Murdocheon is capably portrayed by Miss Clara Hunt; Mr. James Finlayson is well suited as Jamie Ratcliffe; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford plays powerfully as the counsel for the defence; and Mr. James Kilspindie is an impressive Reuben Butler.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—After an absence of two years that clever combination The Follies are here again, and opened on Monday to a crowded house. In the first part of their programme the outstanding items are the "Beverage Quartettes," the Teddy Bear song, the old English glee, and the impersonations of leading actors as music hall stars. The three "Potted Plays" which followed were *Henry of Navarre, The Fires of Fate*, and *The King of Cadonia*, and each of these was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience. The concluding part of the entertainment was a burlesque of a music hall, and Mr. H. S. Pelissier and his able company kept the fun going with unflagging zeal in their caricatures of George Lashwood, Sam Mayo, Bransby Williams, Margaret Cooper, and, best of all, Harry Lauder, in addition to a display of cowboy shooting feats, and "a grand ballet divertissement," with Pelissier as the sylph-like dancer.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—Interesting revivals are given this week at the repertory theatre, the programme consisting of four performances of *Nan* and three of *The Cassilis Engagement.* The intense realism of Masefield's tragedy made a deep impression on Monday, the leading characters, Nan and Dick Gurvel, being most artistically realised by Miss Irene Rooke and Mr. Norman McKeown. The old farmer Pargetter and his shrewish wife were hit off to the life by Mr. Lawrence Hanray and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, the daughter Jenny being capitally presented by Miss Muriel Pope. Mr. Campbell Gullan's Gaffer Pearce was an interesting study; the young men Artie and Tommy have clever exponents in Messrs. Percival Clarke and George Tawde; Mr. Walter Roy was good as the Parson; and the other parts were well filled. On different nights *Tilda's New Hat* and scenes from *As You Like It* were performed with this play. On Tuesday and two following evenings Mr. St. John Hankin's clever comedy *The Cassilas Engagement* was revived, and again proved the sterling ability of Miss Irene Rooke as Mrs. Cassilis and Miss Muriel Pope as Ethel Borridge. The cast otherwise was as before, with the exception of Miss Winifred Gunn, who now takes the part of Lady Marchmont.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. L. Scaly.—*The Shaughraun* is always welcome, more especially when in capable hands like the present stock company appearing at the Grand Theatre, Cowcaddens, Glasgow, and with an actor like Mr. E. C. Matthews, the well-known Irish comedian, as the irrepressible Conn. He is well supported by Miss Sadie Neville as Moya, Miss Marie Rignold as Clare, and Miss Alice Defoe as Arte O'Neill, who all filled their parts capably; while Mr. George Roberts as Captain Molyneux, Mr. Cecil Renton as Robert Ffolliott, and Mr. W. G. Robb as Father Doolan in their various characters kept up the interest throughout. Needless to say, Harvey Duff in the hands of Mr. Thomas J. Ashmore and Mr. Fred Terriss as Corry Kinchella received the usual unstinted appreciation, the former especially in the last scene reaching a high standard. Mr. Chas Danvers does well as Sergeant Jones. *The Shaughraun* was repeated each night this week except Thursday and Friday, when *The Colleen Bawn* was produced.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Reynolds.—Gaston Chevalier and company appear with considerable effect in a play of Parisian low life entitled *The Rats.* In a different style is the farcical sketch *On the Track*, in which Harry Roxbury and company cause lots of fun. The electrical effects of Hagendorn's Grotto are much admired; Fred Barnes takes well in his "Black sheep" song; Syd Walker is going strong in his intensely funny debt-collecting sketch; Nellie Wigley's songs are received with hearty applause; Pat Rafferty has several clever studies of character in his latest ditties; The Funeral of King Edward on the Bioscope forms a most impressive picture; Victor's Juvenlles in their songs, dances and imitations take well; and Aida Martine, comedienne, completes a varied programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—A weird attraction tops the bill here in the spirit-painting act of Dr. Wilmar, presented by Mr. P. T. Selbit. It proves very mystifying. Herbert Dickeson and company cause much amusement in the musical farce *A Fair Exchange*; Bessie Slaughter's rich contralto voice is heard to advantage in several fine ballads; Henri Dekker gives a smart conjuring turn; Slippere's imitations, &c., at the piano are extremely good; La Belle Alva is a dancer of considerable merit; Marin and Lona give a clever juggling act, and conclude with some daring feats of hand-balancing and leaps; Hammon and Wyatt, the Sandow Girls, sing well and give a smart athletic display; and George Reeves, eccentric comedian, and Frank Harwood, a light comedian with a very catchy song, take well, and complete a good bill.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—*Toplitsky* is a sketch brimful of mirth, and in Messrs. Bernard and Dale and Miss Edith Martyn Messrs. Hayman and Franklin have a trio of most talented artists. Harriet Rose has several catchy numbers; Farr and Farland are responsible for much genuine enjoyment; the Vetter Bros. are high-class gymnasts; *The Doll and the College Boy* as presented by the Forsyths could scarcely be improved upon; the Cattaneo acrobats are worthy of special mention; Leslie and Stevens have a successful little comedietta entitled *Love Levels All*; Tom Yorke, character comedian, is above the average; and the Palascope Pictures are of an interesting character.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Glasgow's own favourite comedienne, Miss Lily Morris, is responsible here for crowded houses nightly. Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew comedians, are responsible for much enjoyment; Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson are among the most refined musical turns on the boards; and another turn of merit is presented by Mr. Hubert Carter and an excellent company in *David Garrick.* Lux and his dogs provide much amusement; Frank and Free are popular; the De Wynne Bros. present an athletic entertainment of a high quality; A. G. Spry, assisted by Miss M. Ogilvie, has quite a merry time with his "piccalilli" song; Chas. Robinson, the well-known baritone, renders several numbers in a pleasing manner; and the funeral of our late King Edward is followed intently on the Bioscope.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The Bioscope provides the greater part of the entertainment here. Capital turns are also provided by Edna Cragge, chorus comedienne, and Bert D'Arcy, light comedian.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard: Manager, Mr. William Sinclair.—The Carvers amuse the house with their absurdities and comedy dancing; Donaldson and Emslie cause considerable laughter; and Tom Black, double-voiced mimic the cornet and bugle playing of Kitty Gray, Ruby Glyn, vocalist, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Chief among the animated pictures here is the film depicting the funeral procession of the late King. The vaudeville part of the entertainment is carried out by Miss Tina Newlands, contralto; Jack Ramsay, comedian; and Fred Collins, Scotch comedian. The selections on the Auxeto gramophone were also fully appreciated.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. John Warren entertains with the magic carpet, and ventriloquism is very amusing; Clarke and Mostol are patter comedians and good dancers; Frank Melvin is quaint, and F. G. Fenn recites capitally; Miss Ada Tunks, soprano at the piano, is applauded; Jackson Collis is a light comedian of merit; the Sisters Volbecques renew their success.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—Good houses are patronising a fine collection of new pictures by the Monarchscope, including The Funeral of His Majesty King Edward VII. Bert and Fay, in comedy sketch, keep the audience in roars of laughter; Claremont and James are seen in an original musical playlet, *The Fiddler's Romance*, which proves very interesting; Storey and Hughes are equally successful as society entertainers; Wee Wullie, Scotch comedian, is worthy of special mention; and Little Kinkey, comedian, is equally successful; May Merry is a very pleasing comedienne; and Miss Ray Douglas, comedienne, also submits a capital turn.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES LTD.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The strong programme includes Harry Wright, a good comedian and extemporaneous dancer; Amy Bathurst, a clever Scotch comedienne and dancer; Tom Bass, the favourite comedian; Nellie Gannon, a popular illustrated songstress; Zora and Zema, hand balancers and contortionists; Walter King, an exceedingly funny comedian; and Percy C. Emery's company in their sketch, *A Message from the Sea*, which goes extremely well. The Edisonograph, with up-to-date films, depicting King Edward's funeral procession and scenes in the life of the late King, is much appreciated.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Secretary, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.—Here we have the popular picture palace and the procession of the late King's funeral is a really wonderful film. Amy Wooderson, an illustrated vocalist, is very successful.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is paying a welcome return visit. Miss Nellie Harcourt is a big favourite as Judith, her singing and dancing being much admired; Mr George A. Fox is a smart Captain Fielding; Mr Robert Gilbert gives a clever impersonation of Captain Dudley; Mr. James Salter is amusing as Silas Crump; and Ruth and Dorothy Montrose are charmingly played by the Misses Kathleen Stewart and Gertrude Lacey.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Mr. John G. Brandon and company, in *A Midnight Mystery*, are proving a big attraction. Mr. John G. Brandon undertakes no less than five different characters in creditable style, and he is ably assisted by the other members of the company.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The enterprise of the management has been particularly illustrated by securing an excellent film of King Edward's funeral pageant which is being shown at the Empire this week. Other attractive items include Saved from the Tide, His Only Daughter, and Back Among the Old Folks.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*Raffles* is again being played here by Mr. Leonard Boyne's company. Mr. Reginald Dance acts with refinement and natural ease as A. J. Raffles; Mr. Edward Irwin is equally successful as Curtis Bedford, and gives a notable representation of the Detective; Mr. Harold West admirably fits the part of Harry Manders; Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald is excellent as Viscount Crawley; Mr. Oswald Griffiths makes a dignified Earl of Amersteth; Mr. Dalziel Heron gives a vigorous representation of the burglar, Crawshay; Miss May Brooke acts with distinction as Mrs. Vidal; Miss Frances Titheradge is altogether charming as Gwendoline Conran; and others responsible for good work are Miss Agnes Knights as Lady Melrose, Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald as Lady Ethel, and Miss Kathleen Grey as Marie.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—An excellent animated picture of the Royal Funeral is being displayed; the Royal Banzai Family are a troupe of Japonese gymnasts, who perform striking and novel feats in acrobatics and equipoise; J. W. Hall is again proving popular, his character burlesques being highly amusing; Harry Grey contributes a humorous turn that has greatly diverting and original features; Bains and company combine smart acrobatic work with much laughable business; Al and Lal present a novel act, the lady being an expert ventriloquist; Olive Armidale is a pleasing vocalist; and Flo Cecil a dainty comedienne and dancer.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and Varieties continue to attract. The principal films shown this week are Tommy Atkins, Trip to St. Malo, and Proclamation of H.M. King George V. Joe Horton, "Ye Dame Comique," causes amusement, and Howe and Kessler, in their novel comedy and musical act, delight all.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris opened here on Monday with a first-class all-round company in a répertoire of Shakespearean plays. In *Much Ado About Nothing* Miss Glossop-Harris is a fascinating Beatrice; Mr. Frank Cellier a successful Benedick; Mr. J. H. Irvine's Leonato is excellent; Don Pedro is well played by Mr. V. O. Crabtree; Mr. M. Kinnell's Claudio is a good portrayal; Mr. Walter Carr's Verges is well played; Mr. G. Philliott's Dogberry is a decided success; and Miss I. Cameron plays nicely as Hero. In *The Merchant of Venice* Miss Glossop-Harris plays Portia with considerable skill; and Mr. Frank Cellier gives an excellent rendering of Shylock. *Merry Wives of Windsor, Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night*, and *Othello* have also been produced.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Dayton Family of twelve acrobats and Risley performers give a splendid turn, and get a rousing reception; the Gilberts present an excellent tight-rope performance, with a picturesque setting; Delafiorie, xylophone expert, is responsible for a good performance; Venitia is a refined lady musician; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is a successful turn; and Halter and Ray, in a comedy act, Sid Cotterell and company, in *Phyllis*, and the pictures complete a good bill.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—*Half-a-Dollar*, a tabloid comedy, is exceedingly well played by Miss M. Damer, Miss I. Vynall, Mr. A. Borthwick, and Mr. W. A. Haines. Friend and Downing repeat their former success as "Rosenthal and Harrigan"; Leo and Roland give a marvellous exhibition of strength and hand-balancing; John Macauley is still well to the front as a character ballad vocalist; Dorothy Vasey is a pleasing chorus singer; Vera Mayne is successful with illustrated songs; and Barrie and Wood, comedy artists, Dan Conroy, comedian and dancer, and the Palace pictures complete.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Cheebert's troupe of Chinese conjurors and acrobats is topping the bill here; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia are a smart and entertaining trio; Miss Florence is sweet and dainty; the Rhoda Bros., in a clever and refined gymnastic turn, are entertaining; Edward Rose and Dora Challoner, in a smart musical comedy sketch *The Porter and the Singer*, go well; and Harry Cooke, quaint comedian, Maclaine and Mac, and the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and company provide the chief attraction in *Scrooge*, which is followed with keen interest. This is Mr. Hicks' first visit to the Potteries, and he has at once found a very warm corner in the hearts of the thousands who have witnessed his excellent performance. Torti, the Italian operatic tenor, is awarded a hearty reception for his fine vocalisation; La Pia introduces her superb scena, "The Spirit of the Waves," for which she is loudly applauded. The film depicting the Funeral of the Late King is followed with great interest; Yolande Noble, comedienne, sings charming chorus songs; Hal Forde is warmly received; Mlle. Dora Martini does a graceful gymnastic act; the Balzars, comedy conjurers, are also on the bill.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Managers, Captain F. Shaw and Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—Capital houses are entertained with excellent pictures, which include the Proclamation of King George V. Barney Deeley, a comedian of the swell type, has smart songs.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Ian Robertson and company appeared in the wonderful play, *The Passing of the Third Floor Back.* Mr. Robertson was excellent as the Stranger; Mr. Billington was good as the objectionable Bookie; and Miss Wills was excellent as the painted lady, Miss Kite; Miss Helena Parsons was good as the slavey, Stasia; and Miss Thomas made a typical landlady. For the remainder of the week Sir Herbert Tree and company appear in *Trilby* and *The Man Who Was.*

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. John E. Wilshire; Musical Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Barnard's mannikins are here, and prove vastly amusing; Mr. Willie Rouse does a humorous turn at the piano; Mr. Jas. Pearson is a cultured bass vocalist; and Miss Amy Simpson, Australian soprano, is also in the bill.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxstead.—Packed houses twice nightly enjoys a capital display of films and variety turns. The films include excellent pictures showing the Coronation of the late King and the Funeral Procession of last week. The variety turns consist of that ever-popular Tyneside comedian, Harry Nelson, with new songs and patter; Marie Kay, a pretty and dainty comedienne, whose dancing is graceful; and Pame and Fortune, comedians, whose efforts to amuse are liberally rewarded.

STARTLING REVELATION.

BY A MEDICAL MAN.

An eminent doctor recently said: "I frequently come across patients who imagine themselves to be the prey of some terrible internal malady—as, for instance, cancer, tumours, &c.—and cure them simply by recommending them the regular use of an antiseptic mouth-wash. It is an indisputable fact that diseases of the stomach are often caused by an unhealthy condition of the teeth, which makes it self-evident that a systematic care of the teeth may prevent and in many cases cure such diseases. The daily use of an established and scientifically recognised antiseptic mouth-wash like the world-famed Odol is of the utmost importance. The old-fashioned method of cleansing the teeth with powder or paste is useless, as the parts most susceptible to disease are inaccessible to the tooth-brush. For this reason I seriously and earnestly recommend everyone to accustom himself to a careful and regular treatment of the mouth with Odol. It is the only scientific mouth-wash."

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles B. Scutt.—For the first half of the week the Hastings Historical Pageant was presented. For Thursday and remainder of the week Mr. Andrew Melville's company in *The Diver's Luck*.

Pier Pavilion.—Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Eric H. Albury and company are here in *Why Smith Left Home*. The domestic incidents provide the necessary framework for a good deal of fun. Mr. Eric Albury puts plenty of healthy vigour into his embodiment of Count Guggenheim; John Smith has an original interpreter in Mr. Vernon Sansbury; General Billet-doux and Major Duncombe are represented with military bearing by Messrs. Charles Clarke and Lawrence J. Lawrence; Mr. Stanley Carrington is good in the part of Bob Walton; and as Rose Walton Miss René Glynne cleverly depicts the character; the part of Mrs. Billet-doux by Miss Clara Nicholls is full of vivacity; Miss Cornelia Smith is naturally taken by Miss Sybil Chester; as Mrs. John Smith Miss Gladys Lloyd acts with animation; and Miss Ethel Dunbar and Miss Lulu Standish successfully sustains the parts of Julia and Elsie; and Miss Maude Shelton gives an exceedingly effective portrait of the Irish cook, Lavinia Daly.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—A new departure is made at this popular house, the boards being occupied by a variety company. A packed house appreciated the performance of the Suttons (Raymond and Maudie), refined duettists; Signora Margarita Nicoli, illustrated songstress; Miss Maudie Vere, chic comedienne; and Raymond Synnott, popular vocal comedian. Up-to-date pictures proves an additional attraction.

HUDDERSFIELD.— Hippodrome.— Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Mephisto, the mysterious, heads the bill with illusions. Others are the Sisters Ducane, singers and dancers; Tom Gott, comedian; the Coopers, in a comedy turn; Tom Joy, comedian; James Willard and company, who remain a second week, and are playing with marked success the one-act play *The Devil's Box of Bricks;* and the Five Whiteleys, in a daring acrobatic show. The Royal Funeral on the Bio. is a distinct attraction.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Appearing here are Donaldson Bros. and company, in *Sports in a Jungle;* Miss Cissie Thompson, comedienne; the Wedburns, comedians and instrumentalists; Miss Norah Emerald, comedienne; Edwin Garth, a comedian with an infectious laugh; the Kirbys, comedy entertainers; Bert Crosby, comedian; and Crosby and Walker, comedians. The Beck Story on the Bioscope is vividly depicted.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—A welcome visit is that paid this week by *The Mummy and Humming Bird* company. It is a long time since it was last seen in our midst, but that only makes it the more welcome. The acting is on a par with the play, which speaks well for those who assist in its representation. The leading rôle allotted to Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is an excellent exhibition of histrionic talent; as the Signor D'Orelli Mr. Lewin Mannering secured a high place; as Lady Lumley Miss A. Bruce Joy was able to add a distinct charm to the reading of the rôle; praise should be accorded to Miss Constance Barton as Ruth Thornton; and the Lord Ronalds of Mr. Percy Marmont had praiseworthy features. The production has been well received. Mr. Trevor Langton-Lane is the courteous acting-manager for the visiting company.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Destroyer of Men* has evidently hit the taste of the patrons of this house, who, in addition, this week have had a Biograph illustration of the Royal funeral. In the *Destroyer of Men* Miss Hilda Beverley fills the leading part with fine flavour. She realises the many phases of the character with subtle touches, in point of fact it represents some of the best work she has done as yet. Mr. Stephen Langton makes the Count Starevich a living reality. Mr. Pearson plays the part of Carl Mishla. The comic relief is excellently worked in by Miss Dorothy Hildebrande and Mr. Ed. Keith.

HYDE.—Empire and Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Central Theatres and Franco-British Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—In lieu of a summer vacation a picture season is being given, two houses nightly. Ted Waite, W. H. Deacon, and Percy Johnson contribute vocal interludes between pictures of a high-class character.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Premier position is held by the Five Jovers, double-bar performers and acrobats, who accomplish marvellous tricks; the vocalism of Miss Sybil Montague is thoroughly enjoyed; and a large share of the honours falls to Miss May De Rowse, a charming comedienne and dancer. A smart exhibition of dancing is given by Miss Elsie Hulbert and her dancing girls; whilst the Bernards, in their act, *Fantazies of the Fis*, are clever. George James, comedian, meets with approval; and Ethel Grahame and company in a sketch *Lunatics at Large*, are also on the bill.

IPSWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Dutch Daly, the concertina soloist, heads the bill, and his performance is clever and amusing; the Columbia Comedy Trio have a most amusing burlesque of the prison scene in *Faust*, and they sing well; Hayes and Merritt are smart gymnasts; Nash and Noel are a pair of amusing comedians; Archie Royer is an American acrobat with some original tricks; Merton and Rydon give a society show; and Allis and Cassati one of somewhat similar character. The Bioscope has some magnificent films of the funeral of his late Majesty which are much appreciated.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—A good all-round variety company includes Miss Agnes Tina, in first-rate impersonations of well-known artists; the Pichel Troupe of risley acrobats, who do some marvellous feats; Jack Lumley, the quaint comedian; Carlos Menard, most excellent with the violin; Kell and Kelso, droll patter comedians and clever dancers; Miss Eva Moore, the dainty soubrette; and Miss Frederica's troupe of terriers and her cake-walk pony, Dot, whose performance is highly enjoyed.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Splendid films were shown here this week of His Majesty's State opening of Parliament in February of this year; also of the lying-in-state, the procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster, and the funeral, both in London and in Windsor. The variety turns are particularly good, and include Probyn and Bates, in an extraordinary eccentric contortion dancing act; Lilian Sivado, a shapely lady gymnast; and the Dunlops, in their cycling absurdity.

Olympia Winter Gardens.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Charles A. Barnett.—The Cremona Ladies' Orchestra continues to be a big draw here. Miss Lucie Caine is a chic and vivacious comedienne; and Mr. Rex Burchell gives some smart character sketches. Electric pictures are also a feature of the fare provided.

KEIGHLEY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Interesting and well-varied items constitute the programme, and business is good. The particular attraction of the bill is Harry Roxbury's musical comedy *Sergeant Longfellow*. In the title-rôle Mr. Will Lytton maintains the mirth at high pressure. The Jackson Family give a rare musical turn; Tom Kelso and Edie George entertain cleverly; Mlle. De Rose, the lady Foli; Hilda Claremont; F. H. Morton, who sings in good style; Elsie Ellis, an attractive comedienne; and J. H. Hawtrey are also in the bill.

KIRKCALDY.—Exchange Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Walker; Manager, Mr. Wm. Walker.—A grand programme is served up here, the chief films being A Soldier and a Man, The Merry Widow, From Fishing Boat to Stage, and the King's Funeral. Gilbert Payne, comedian, is a success.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Mr. Ernest Dare's company is appearing here in *His Excellency the Governor* to delighted audiences. Mr. E. Burnard gives a telling portrayal of the title-rôle, Montague Martin, G.C.S.I., whilst Mr. Dare himself wins golden opinions as Captain Charles Carew, A.D.C. Mr. Lionel Waltham is clever as the sentry; Mr. J. E. Savery is effective as the Rt. Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., as is also Mr. Robert Barlande as Mr. John Baverstock, A.D.C. Mrs. Wentworth Bolingbroke is in the capable hands of Miss Irene Malvesyn, while other parts are meritoriously fulfilled by Miss Gladys Weevers and Miss M. Lowes Dare. The piece is preceded by the old farce *Box and Cox*, in which Messrs. V. B. Glyn, Robt. Borlande, and Miss Irene Malvesyn appear with distinction.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Alice in Wonderland* is being played by an excellent company, which includes Miss Ivy Sawyer as Alice, Mr. Tom Graves as the Mock Turtle, Dan Leno, jun., as the Caterpillar, and Mr. Franklin Vernon as the Mad Hatter.

The Royal Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mr. H. Armitage introduces an excellent company in a well-written drama, *With Edged Tools*. Marie Leonhard gives a charming impersonation of Jocelyn; Mr. Hamilton Deane is a big favourite as Jack Meredith; Mr. J. D. Geddes ably fills the rôle of Sir John; and Mr. Charles Barrett has a highly dramatic part as Victor Durnoto, which he takes full advantage of. Miss Marguerite Cellier portrays the unpleasant character of Millicent Cheyne with much effect; Misses Alice Maude and Edith Anton-Laing and Messrs. J. Graham-Pockett and Frank Leyton are also satisfactory.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Arthur Roberts is starring with much success; the Francoli Troupe appear in a comic acrobatic sketch; Ben Albert has several excellent songs; Tom Stuart's impersonations meet with much applause; Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard are big favourites; Sam Mayo, eccentric comedian, the Lyric Quartette, harmonious singers and May Mars and Gladys Mavius complete.

The Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Arthur Prince, the clever ventriloquist, is chiefly responsible responsible for crowded houses; the Ten-Ka Troupe excel as magicians; Harry Russon scores with new songs; the delightful vocalism of Belrose and De Velin meets with much applause; and other capital turns are those of Addie Lennard, Four Vagabonds, Two McKays, and Pichel and Scale.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Chummie La Mara has some new effective songs; Dan Whitley has become a big favourite; Mlle. Yetta is exceedingly agile and clever on a wire; Frantz's Comedy Five give a bright acrobatic act; Czar's Royal Troupe of whirlwind dancers take well; Blanco White and Miss Clifford and Charles D'Aix and his dog complete a capital company.

The Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Tubby Edlin, in Harry Roxbury's production, *The Cowboy Millionaire*, provides much mirth and melody; Miss Annie Schuberth gives an excellent singing entertainment; Frank E. Ford is a very clever wooden-shoe dancer; Burnetti, a quick-change character musician, meets with success; Dale and Vale appear in song and dance; and Norman Telma performs some billiard table tricks.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—The pictures on the Bioscope this week are well worth seeing, a special feature being The Proclamation of King George V. at the Town Hall and Market Place, Leek. Squire Ashcroft, male soprano, is successful in his illustrated songs.

LEICESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A capital attraction is provided by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company in *The Mockery of Marriage*. Miss Mabel Liston creates an excellent impression as Alva Kenyon; and Mr. W. Graham Arthurs as Dick Kenyon is also very good. Miss Priscilla is a success as Nellie Kenyon; and Miss C. Middleton as Rose Verham deserves much praise. Both Miss Ada Band as Mary Ann Barnicoat and Mr. David Phillip as Toby Wright are popular in the humorous parts. Other characters are adequately portrayed; and the drama is well staged.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Gertie Gitana, who is topping this week's bill, has to sing four numbers before retiring. She is a great favourite, and the various songs she gives allow of full scope for the versatility of this clever young lady. Another lady who is making a deserved big success is Marie Kendall, the popular comedienne; the Tom Davies' Trio give a remarkably smart performance of motoring in mid-air; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull are amusing and sing well in their tabloid musical comedy, *Mixed Bathing;* Steve McCarthy is a particularly smart dancer; Walker and May, coloured singers and dancers, gain appreciation; Takio is very good as a Japanese mimic of sounds; Siems is a card and coin manipulator of repute; and the Bioscope shows a very clear film of King Edward's funeral procession.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Starring here is Joe Archer, a smart comedian and story-teller; Alice Craven, a Lancashire comedienne, is making a big hit; the Arabellas are responsible for a very clever act on the wire; the Keppels, operatice vocalists, sing delightfully; Sydney Brandon, character impersonator, is deserving of the highest praise; the Vaudeville Trio of vocalists and dancers are well received, their show being clean and clever; Norah Desmond, with fresh illustrated pictures, is retained over another week; Harry Martell shines as a dancer. The films include The Restoration, The Hero, and the Half-Caste's Revenge.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The outstanding picture is a specially attractive one of King Edward's funeral, and others include Up San Juan Hill and The Murder of the Duke Nemous, two very fine films. Ada Victor, vocalist and dancer, is making a successful appearance.

Empress Picture Palaces, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—The principal feature of the bill is The Funeral of King Edward.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessees, Messrs. Tolfree and Slingsby; Manager, Mr. W. H. Leo King.—Mr. Will Casey and company are here with *An Unwedded Wife*. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes ably depicts the scheming Philip Blackstone; Mr. Arthur Cheeves gives a finished rendering of Frank Armstrong; Mr. Gilbert Elvin is successful as John Hawthorne; Miss Ethel Spence makes a charming and sympathetic Elsie Langham; and Miss Chrissie Dunbar's Marion is a highly-artistic performance. In the comedy element Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer and Miss Annie Mitchell as Carraway Crumpet are most successful.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—At the head of a good all-round bill are the Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, whose feats of strength and posing are greatly admired; the Crudons, in a ball-punching act, are popular; Miss Marie Edwards gives an interesting display of her vocal powers; Eileen and May, in a musical dancing act, find favour; Rose D'Aulby, comedienne, sings some good songs; A. U. Mackinnon's Comedy Quartette are heartily received; Phillips and Briston, comedians and dancers, supply a clever turn; Mr. Martin Adeson and Miss Clara Bernard, sketch artists, are deserving of praise; and the Bioscope pictures complete.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—An excellent stock company inaugurated a six weeks' season here on Monday evening, with the interesting domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*, of which a very acceptable rendering was given. Mr. Richard Ferris and Miss Doris Brookes, in the leading rôles of Stephen and Joan Armitage gained immediate popularity; Mr. A. W. B. Kingston interpreted the part of David Armitage with the skill of the experienced actor; and Mr. J. T. Dale was commendable as the Duke of Ancaster. The intriguing secretary, Lucas Lyle, lost none of his bad qualities at the hands of Mr. Addison Thomas; and Dick Redmayne was portrayed with much earnestness by Mr. John Darlison; the Hon. Percy and Sybil Fay were amusingly played by Mr. Mark Hannam and Miss Kitty Thomas; Little Peggy Macdonald made a pleasing appearance in the child's part of Dora; and successful character sketches were presented in the Lady Summerton of Miss Joanna Railton, the Lord Silvermere of Mr. George Futler, the Solomon Keary of Mr. J. W. Austin, and the old Gaffer of Mr. Paul Dysart. Following the drama, Messrs. Kingston, Dale, Hannam, and Dysart, with Miss Thomas, convulsed the house by a lively performance of the famous old farce, *The Mummy*. Thursday evening was set apart for the annual benefit of Mr. John Darlison, when a strong programme of special items was provided.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Closed until August Bank Holiday, for extensive alterations.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Delighted audiences are enjoying a second week's stay of Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company. The programme includes *Lucia di Lammermoor, Un Ballo in Maschera, Carmen, Faust, Ugonotti, Fra Diavolo, Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *I Pagliacci*.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we are having Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in *Whom God Hath Joined*—a play written by Stuart Lomath and Ellen Owen. As the heroic Captain Jack Merritt Mr. Lomath acts in excellent style; Miss Helena Walbran shows much ability in the part of Marian; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle stands out prominently as the rascally Major Stevens; Mr. Lancelot Usher makes a laughable Digby Trant; Miss Amy MacNeil plays strongly as Beatrice Trant; Miss Ethel F. Greene and Miss Dorothy Booth are capital as the boys Teddy and Frankie; and worthy support comes from Messrs. Victor G. Vayne (Watty Cooper), A. Jennison (Joe Stubbins), Jack Miller (Richard Manley), George Wells (William Gibbs), and Miss Ellen Owen (Kitty Crumpet).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction this week is *A Sister's Sin*, sent by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Included in the cast are Miss Edie Macklin, who ably presents Floss Perks; Miss Mabel Scudamore, with her old, carefully-played rôle of Minnie Hastings, and Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Charzel. Other supporters are Messrs. J. Dobson Clyde (Harold Raymond), Sidney Fiennes (George Oakley), Will Hee (Walter Hastings), Ernest Frere (Ikey Moses), Harry Lyndon, Miss Iza Lyndon (Redempta), and Miss Lily Bales (Nell Stubbs).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is being presented by a capable company under the control of Mr. Lewis Gilbert. Miss Florrie Green sustains the rôle of Sunshine with exceptional ability, her performance being marked by much discretion and care; Mr. Lewis Gilbert gives a clever study of the unscrupulous Mark Glensdale; Mr. Cyril Craven finds great favour with his Jack Strong; Mr. Joe Monkhouse amuses as the idiotic Billy; and good work also comes from Messrs. Roy Denman (Ken Moreland), and Carl Caigna (Sir Maxwell Brentwood), and Miss Allyce Wyllyams (Mollie). The play is being received with much favour.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Foremost here this week are Miss Ellaline Terriss, Miss Maie Ash, Mr. Stanley Brett, and Mr. Roland Chester in *The Pink of Perfection*, a comedy which is richly enjoyed. The popular principals have flattering receptions. Helen Trix, the American comedienne, finds great favour for her smart songs and sayings; the Lyons Trio of comedians and dancers have an amusing dining-room absurdity; as trick cyclists Lotto, Lilo, and Otto show remarkable ability, and win repeated applause; Conan and Doyle, comedians, are as diverting as ever; J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser again please everybody with the diverting trifle, *The Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant;* Leo Tell provides a really excellent turn with his imitations of instruments and animals' voices; and Nellie Farrell renders popular and acceptable Irish songs.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The twice-nightly drama innovation has caught on, and satisfactory business is being done. This week we are having *The Angel of His Dreams*, presented by George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company. As the clergyman Esdaile Mr. De Gray plays with effect and dramatic strength; Miss Effie Bartlett gives a talented rendering of the part of Hilda Revelle; and valuable support also comes from Messrs. Wallace Campbell (Major Ferrars), Charles Arnold (Sir Francis), Mayo Stanley (Sam Tippett), and Miss Etta Turner (Bessie Sparkles).

Royal Hippodrome. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—In front here this week is George Gilbey, with his amusing patter and songs, which include "Raspberry Sally," "Old Soar's Almanac," and "Constable Duffy." The popular comedian is having flattering receptions. Sinclair and Whiteford submit a funny turn, which at once catches on; Palles and Cussick cause their audience to rock with laughter by reason of their burlesque boxing match; La Belle Nella has a pretty bathing scena, "The Athletic Girl"; Sadie Lundy, for a child, possesses a remarkably good voice; the three Carlens go through a refined and artistic gymnastic act; some charming vocalism comes from the Quality Quartet; and also in the list are Charles Stevens, comedian; Clark and Hayden, smart musical comedy artists; and Young and Evans, the Yiddisher Boys.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are engaged this week with *Rags*, an American musical comedy-drama by Edward and Blanche Leroy. Among the principals are Messrs. Harry Tresham (Brant Yorel), R. Seath Innes (Major Seymour), Sydney Grant (Pedro), and Tom H. Solly (George Washington); Miss Lina Nazeby (Mrs. Seymour) and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Leonora). Brown's Bioscope shows the Royal funeral.

Olympia. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton. — The favourite Ella Shields is here this week with her popular songs, which delight immensely; Amy Augarde and company present an excellent musical farce *The Sicilians;* Bellew and Stock's combination have a merry sketch *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, in which the accomplished Master Edward Garratt is seen to great advantage; Peter Bermingham is a quaint Scotch comedian; the Carmos submit a clever show in juggling and herculean feats; Mdlle. Eldee gives a beautiful posing turn; the quick painter, Speedwell, deserves the applause he receives; Devon and Earle have a clever exhibition of wooden shoe dancing; and Fred Shepherd, vocal comedian.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the programme here this week are Fred Karno's Yap Yaps, with Gus Le Clerq prominent—the sparring match is greatly enjoyed; Ruby Roya sings and dances to everyone's satisfaction; as the world's worst wizards Walton and Lester provoke great laughter; Mart and Pep are a couple of smart acrobats and tumblers who earn much favour; Louis J. Seymour has some popular songs; De Lilo and Metz go through a clever exhibition of comedy juggling and rubber-ball bouncing; Alf Wood and company present a funny sketch, *Ten Minutes;* and Rosie Lee, comedienne, also appears.

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Les Rappos, equilibrists, head the bill here this week, and are exceptionally smart and clever in sime daring balancing feats; Matt Wilkinson Trio, comedy sketches, continue to be popular; the Sisters Maynard are dainty, and are heartily received; Violet Beatrice (male impersonator) and Fred Merry (comedian) add to the programme, whilst Ryde and Beeman, in comedy, are an excellent turn in every sense of the word. Mr. Hadyn P. Halstead, the musical-director, has now a talented orchestra, which is much appreciated.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Pierrots continue to draw here. Mr. Fred Walmsley being the chief comedian this week. He is as versatile as ever, and the audiences thoroughly enjoy his many sided comicalities. Benita is a good soprano; Donald Macdougal, Scotch comedian, does well; Miss Dorothy Watson is an original entertainer at the piano; and Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, the genial local manager and evergreen comedian, completes a good bill. Mr. Tunbridge (pianist) is all that could be desired.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Pictures of an instructive character here include a film showing the Funeral Procession of his late Majesty King Edward VII. Variety is provided by the Wagners, xylophone experts, in their musical fantasy.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The "world in motion" entertainments are still going strong. The King's Procession at Westminster, Paddington, and Windsor is a fine picture.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Dr. Walford Bodie, "the electric wizard," is paying his initial visit with an entertainment which is both novel and startling. He is ably supported by Dolly Robson, Bella Skene, La Belle Electra, Billy Walters, Tom Gold, and others.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The picture subjects are exceptionally fine, and include the Funeral Procession of the Late King Edward; a remarkable dramatic subject, The Twisted Trail; an exceedingly funny Policeman film; and others. Will Godwin and Cissie Carter appear in successful vocal numbers, and Marie Wyndham and company contribute a capital sketch on the evils of drink.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. C. Watson Mills' company in *The Love of the Princess*, which is effectively staged under the management of Mr. John Burton. Mr. Frank Harvey gives a powerful representation of the popular Prince Conrad Ramona; Mr. Richard Vane as the traitor, Count Nicholas Danillo, makes much of an ungrateful part; Mr. John Burton is a stately King of Ilarnia; Mr. Beckett Bould and Mr. John Worth do well as Lieut. Orlans and Lieut. Zaroff respectively; while Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle is impressive as Prince Regent. The humorous parts of Boris and Duke Scarfe are in the capable hands of Mr. Edgar Morgan and Mr. Francis Serle, while Mr. Eric Wilde and Mr. Jas Austin supply the King's Guards. Miss May Beatrice makes a charming Princess Idalia, winning the heartiest applause; Miss Maud Steeple is delightful in the part of Lady Irene Ramona; and Miss Josephine Lee gives a fine study of Constantia.

Corn Exchange.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Beslee.—A series of plays presented here by Miss Dallas Yorke's company include *Love's Sacrifice, Salome, East Lynne, Banished*, and *Under Two Flags. The Babes in the Wood* is also billed.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—An interesting performance of Shylock was given by Mr. Arthur Phillips in his production of *The Merchant of Venice* here on Monday. Mr. Phillips's style is well suited to Shakespearean rôles, and this one of the Jew was distinctly good; Mr. E. Harcourt Williams, a Manchester favourite, was seen to advantage also in the part of Bassanio; while Miss Amy Brandon Thomas played Portia with credit; Mr. James Berry added a very good delineation of Antonio; and among other acceptable renderings, that of Launcelot Gobbo by Mr. Ross Shore was notable.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Much entertainment is derived here from the performance of *Mother-in-Law* by Mrs. Mark Kinghorne's company. Mr. Fred Kaye as Major McTurtle is a source of considerable fun, and Mr. Alfred Hemming as Pounceby is also highly entertaining; Miss Nellie Christie makes an excellent Mrs. McTurtle; and all the remaining parts are in capable hands. A feature of the evening is Miss Violet Lewis's work as Margaret Ellerton in *Meg the Mobswoman*, an effective curtain-raiser.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—This week we have here a revival of *David Ballard*, Charles McEvoy's locally well-known comedy. The cast is extraordinarily good, and the title-part is again in the hands of Mr. B. Iden Payne; while Mr. Charles Bibby repeats his successful comedy impersonation of Percy Ballard; Miss Louise Holbrook's Louisa is richly funny in a quiet way; Miss Edyth Goodall plays the ill-natured Gladys in capital style; and the other members of the quarrelsome family of Ballard are excellently rendered by Miss Ada King, the mother, and Mr. Edward Landor, the father. Miss Hilda Bruce Potter as Mercy Hainton is charming, as usual, and the cast is quite efficiently completed by Mr. Esme Percy, Mr. Leonard Mudie, Mr. Basil Dean, and Mr. J. V. Bryant. *Reaping the Whirlwind*, Mr. Alan Monkhouse's powerful little play, precedes, providing opportunities for Mr. Stanley Drewitt, Mr. Leonard Mudie, Mr. Henry Austin, and Miss Darragh.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Wentworth Croke presents here this week the old favourite play *East Lynne*. It is in the hands of a good company, the principal parts being capably filled by Mr. Leonard Yorke as Archibald Carlisle, Miss Muriel Marsden as Lady Isabel, and Mr. George R. Montford as Francis Levison. The play retains much of its original appeal to the emotions, and it is very attractively put on.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—*The Yellow Fang*, a weird opium den incident in 'Frisco, is worthily the top turn here this week; while Johnson and Hart add a prominent act as hoop rollers and jugglers; and the Monckton are also successful in their comedy sketch *A Woman's Curiosity*. Other good turns are Ronald George, instrumentalist; the Whimsicals, in melody and mirth; Dan Weldon, singing newsboy; Fallows and Beaumont, in a comedy act; and a quaint selection of pictures.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Messrs. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company are here in *Only a Little Boy*. Mr. F. Marriott Watson is well placed as Bragstone; Miss Florence E. Florence as June acquits herself well; Miss Dot Forde makes a very good Billie (the title-part); and Miss Hettie Senior is successful as Tag-rag. Humour is well supplied by Miss C. Meadows, Mr. C. Raymond, and Mr. J. Abbott.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn puts on here *For Honour and Revenge*, a sensational and appealing drama of every-day life. Mr. G. M. Montanini plays the heroic rôle of James Galston in capital style; and a very natural impersonation of Mary Galston is given by Miss Amy Dalby. Sir Gilbert Redville, Arthur Redville, and Maud Desmond, a villainous trio, are well represented by Mr. Courtney Robinson, Mr. H. Douglas, and Miss Muriel Inglis; while the comic element is capably supplied by Mr. Fred C. Imbert and Miss L. Ingles.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Harry Ford, the well-known comedian, tops the bill here this week with his usual success; Miss Rose Atherton presents a comedy episode. *Murphy's Affinity*, well played by Cissie Kingsley, Bessie Armytage, E. Mullins, and others; Baby Myrtle Grove is a clever little girl; the Days are second to none as exponents of second sight; Silvo is a very clever gymnast; and entertaining turns are offered by the Lovelaces, American song illustrators; S. W. Wyndham, comedian; and Sauteron Wonders, comedy speciality artists. Poorluck's Honeymoon, on Bioscope, is amusing.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The big turn here is provided by Lew Lake and company, in *King Nobbler*, an extravagant though amusing drama; the Abdullah Arabs are also prominent; and other good turns are Little Ganty, who is greatly appreciated; Billy French, a fine dancer; Fatmah Diard, an accomplished vocalist; Cavalli, a smart ventriloquist; Maxey and Pete, trick and comedy cyclists; Dan Hendy, acrobatic comedian; and Millie and Arthur, in a smart drawing-room sketch, entitled *Domestic Bliss*.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—A capital programme here is headed by Evie Green, in selections from her répertoire, a refined and excellent turn; while Chanti, the Modern Proteus, occupies the second place of honour in the bill; the Bros. Redmond are seen in some smart acrobatic comedy; Tom and Marie Motramo, musical comedy artists, make a hit; the Villions are exceptionally clever trick cyclists, dancers, and eccentrics; and other pleasing items are Beaty and Blanche, duettists and dancers; Harry Herbert, comedian; Ike and Will Scott, comedians; and Fred King and Marie Queenie, in clever vaudeville.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The programme here this week is excellent. The Kilties, Canadian concert band, under the able leadership of Albert Cook, who is a fine cornet soloist, augmented by the Clan-Johnstone Troupe of pipers and dancers, prove a capital turn; another prominent and clever turn is that of Howard and Harris, in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp;* whilst other entertaining items are offered by Arthur Rigby, comedian; W. T. Ellwanger and company, in funny sketch *Who Did It?* Narow Brothers, trick and comedy cyclists; Jessie Albani, comedienne; George Speed, vocalist; and the Keeley Bros., in a smart athletic novelty. Up-to-date pictures complete.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mme. Laure de Vilmar, the celebrated prima donna, who is here this week, meets with a deserved good reception; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington play effectively as usual, in their episode *A Daughter of Pleasure;* Vera Verona scores a big success as a violinist; Mabel and Hester Reeve, operatic duettists, are well received; Pat Lynch, the "dancing demon," takes well; and other smart items are provided by the Reays, silver chain acrobats and equilibrists; Lily Arthur, comedy artist; Ryder Davis, light comedian; and Eva Ward, comedienne. Pictures of the late King's Funeral complete.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Herbert Darnley's popular sketch *The Brigands of Tarragona*, with Chas. H. Bell, Cecil Morton York, and Mrs. Herbert Darnley in the cast, is to the front here this week, and is well received. Another big turn is Ernest Cadle's absurdity *The Casey Army*, with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey—a scream from start to finish; the Five M.P.s are delightful musical experts; Ada Cerita is a sterling comedienne; and other good turns are those of the Litz Brothers, trick and comedy cyclists; Fred Evans, comedian, in *Dreaming;* the Kenmores, in gymnastic act; and the Eight Tennessee Coloured Guards, in American scena, *Camp Life Down South*.

Rusholme Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Harry Leslie's "Gay Lieutenants"—a first-rate combination—provide the programme here this week, and include those capable artists Cecily O'Shea, comedian and dancer; Nan Taylor, soprano; Jack Harris, comedian; Arthur Holland, light comedian; Alex Rubinoff, baritone; Griff Hodson, comedian and mimic; and Fred Shepherd at the piano. *The Toy Shop*, by the company, is a very pretty scena, written and produced by Mr. Arthur Holland.

Bijou Electric Theatre (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—This week there are a splendid set of new films, which include The Boarding-school Girl, Too Many Admirers, The Ranger and the Girl, A Storm on the Italian Coast, Tommy and the Magic Powder, Lying in State of the Late King, Back with the Old Folks Again, and Adventures of a Housemaid. There are well-attended matinées on Mondays, Wednesd

THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON.

EDWARD LAURI, MAY BEATTY & CO.

— IN —

THE LADY BANDITS.

By HERBERT C. SARGENT and EDWARD LAURI.

A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY IN ONE ACT. **The Quintessence of Refinement and Good Taste.**

THE LADY BANDITS.

EDWARD LAURI AND MAY BEATTY

AT THEIR BEST.

3RD WEEK. **OXFORD** **3RD WEEK.**

and EUSTON.

ONE LONG ROAR OF LAUGHTER AND APPLAUSE.

"CONFIRMATIONS" already to hand: LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS, 1910; DE FRECE CIRCUIT, 1910; ENTIRE MOSS-STOLL TOURS, 1911-12; and various independent Halls.

NOTE.—Vacancies through the closing of Lyric, Liverpool, Blackburn, Oldham, and Birkenhead.

July 4th, between Boscombe and Birmingham.
Aug. 8th, North.

Aug. 22nd, between Glasgow and Belfast.
Sept. 5th, ,, Belfast and Wolverhampton.

Direction:—Peels, Ltd., Hartley Milburn, or direct.

Chorus of English and Colonial Ladies.

THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON. WHY? BECAUSE IT'S SO DIFFERENT.

THE LADY BANDITS.

The Quintessence of Refinement and Good Taste.

EDWARD LAURI and MAY BEATTY at their BEST.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Jackson Withers.—*When It Was Dark* is presented by Mr. Oswald Gray's company. Mr. Gray impresses the audience with an admirable interpretation of the Rev. Basil Gortre; as Sir Robert Llewelyn Mr. Edward Valentine displays ability; and Mr. Wordley Hulse as Schabe sustains the part with vigour. Mr. Walter Manfree as the Rev. Mr. Byars, Mr. Sidney Claydon as Charlie Gadfly are well suited; Miss Rosalie Notvelle presents a capable embodiment of Helena Byars; and Miss Lillian Herrries skilfully undertakes the rôle of Gertrude Hunt.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Brothers Leslie, who top the bill, provide a most enjoyable turn; Casselli is clever with the banjo; Panloe introduces a wire-walking speciality; Violet Rivers is a dainty comedienne; Bert Ivan scores as a comedian; and George Warren excels in clog-dancing. Some excellent films are shown on the Biograph.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Pictures and variety form the atraction here. Miss Marie Kay is a charming singer and dancer; Jack Hartley is a successful comedian. The animated pictures include The King's Funeral, Two Guides, Scientist's Nightmare, and Sweetmeat Making.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The leading picture is The King's Funeral, and other excellent films are The Duke's Plan, Samaritan's Courtship, and An Equine Hero.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Miss Violet Osmund's company is here in a new version of *The New Barmaid*, and give a very entertaining show. The principal comedian, Mr. Alexr. Loftus, is distinctly funny in all he does, and keeps the house in excellent humour throughout; Miss Beatrice Earle is a charming comedienne; Miss Madge Prior in the title-rôle sings and acts with much credit; Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes as good as William White; and Mr. J. Burlington Rigg uses an exceptionally good baritone voice to the best advantage. The chorus is strong.

WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—The variety bill here includes Manek-Shah, Indian necromancer, with good business; Bendene, contortionist; Fanny Humber, smart vocalist and dancer; the Sisters Florencie, duettists and dancers; Smith and Gibbs, athletes.

TOWER AND GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Bradley.—Harry Leslie's entertainers, including Bert Byrne, present most acceptable programmes twice daily.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. Emilius Hill.—Capital programmes are submitted three times each day by Mr. Charles Parker's concert comedy party, the members of which are most popular.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—The Palace Merrymakers have now got into full swing with their summer alfresco programme, and a capital entertainment is gone through twice each evening. Messrs. Sid Bazley, Tom Sloan, and Joe Shamrock are responsible for the comedy; and Misses Beattie Howard and Gracie Hunt contribute pleasing ballads, &c. The charming Sisters Ray, duettists and speciality dancers, are fulfilling a welcome return engagement.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Good pictures are on the programme, chief among them being the Funeral of the Late King. Coverdale and Huxley's juvenile troupe of singers and dancers are favourably received.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—A first-rate programme has attracted good houses. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde scored a big success in their shadowgraph exhibition; the Ecenas, novelty performers, were on Monday twice encored; and the Crews provoked much amusement in an elaborately staged act, entitled *Wrecked*. An excellent film depicting the King's Funeral Procession in London was shown on the Palascope; and other contributors were Amy Bellwood, comedienne; J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; Dix and Dox, Continental musical grotesques; Eva Chadwick, vocal comedienne; and Benson and Rose, in a comedy duologue.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*Tom, Dick, and Harry* is the attraction here. Capital impersonations are given by Mr. George Unwin as General Stanhope; and Miss Rose Temple as Daisy Armitage; and other important rôles are ably filled by Miss Dorothy Payn, Miss Audrey Esmonde, Mr. C. Hermann Pullen, Mr. J. Percival Jordan, and Mr. Leo St. Clair. On Monday, May 30 the theatre will close for the usual summer vacation, re-opening on July 25.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The Northumbrian Amateur Operatic Society is occupying the stage this week with the opera *La Cigale*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Wilson Howard and company are here in *Under the Iron Heel*. Mr. Wilson Howard plays with ability as René de Maupassant; Miss Carlotta Anson is an effective Germaine Mirbeau; Mr. J. W. Richards deserves much praise for his Otto Marx; Mr. Dennis Clyde proves very popular as Major Schromberg; Father Mirbeau finds in Mr. John Talford a capable exponent; Mr. Carl Vallender adds to the success as Schultz; Miss J. Douglas Hickes is very good as Maman Gouffe; and Miss Marie Angus is quite satisfactory as André.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—*Jimmy the Fearless, the Boy 'Ero*, one of Karno's side-splitting absurdities, is the chief attraction here; Tom Clare, the well-known entertainer at the piano, is responsible for a typically smart turn; and Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, in sketches from Dickens present faithful and convincing character studies; a comedian of rare ability is H. O. Wells, "the funny man with the funny voice"; and Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers, present a capital turn. Amelie de L'Enclos, the vocal phenomenon; Brace and Hemsley; Jennie Hartley; and Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists, also contribute to the success of a fine bill.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Albert Mitchell; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy A. Wilde.—Heading an excellent all-round bill is that popular raconteur, Mike Whallen, who keeps the audience merry; a diverting juggling act is submitted by Harry Friskey; D'Arc's Marionettes represent quite a bevy of stars of the variety firmament; Wyndham and Kitty do exceptionally clever feats on the wire; Charles Santon, double-voiced vocalist, is loudly acclaimed. Welcome contributions are also given by the Sisters Caselli; Orpheus, the master of melody; and Bert Williams. A prominent feature in this week's programme is the bioscope film depicting the Funeral of His Late Majesty King Edward VII.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Magnificent pictures of the lying-in-state and the funeral of the late King Edward. Relief is afforded by the illustrated songs "Amina mine" and "Far away in Australia," by Miss Margaret Payne.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—As elsewhere, the predominant pictures this week are the late King's lying-in-state and funeral processions, also the proclamation of King George V.—all good films; The Story of Esther, a Biblical subject, is full of Oriental life and colour; The Danish Dragoons gives a good insight into cavalry work; the vivaphone this week voices and illustrates the song "I'm in love with the slide trombone"; and the comics are also good.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr J. W. Borrowman.—The Funeral Procession of the Late King Edward VII. is the leading feature here; a pretty classical subject is that of Pygmalion and Galatea, in artistic colouring; A Trip to Berlin takes us through all the principal points of interest there; whilst A Buried Secret is a most diverting subject.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Mat Lynton's company with *The Girl with the Angel Face* is attracting large audiences here. As Angel Leigh Miss Minnie Love displays considerable ability; Miss Laurie Potter makes a clever Mollie; Ena Wentworth is safely entrusted to Miss Rhoda Douglas; and Miss Rosina White is a pleasing Nellie. In the dual rôle of Sir John Wentworth and Thomas Wentworth Mr. Graham Wingford achieves distinction; Mr. Montague Lane gives a satisfactory rendering of Stephen Arkwright; Mr. Edwin Ling ably handles the part of Jasper Death; Mr. John Stirling is good as Mark Fenning; Mr. Herbert Standing must be commended for his acting as the Rev. Gordon Cross; and Mr. Edmund Beresford makes the most of the Hon. Percy Paget.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Ormonde Penstone in his clever vaudeville act tops the bill here, and fully maintains his reputation. The Three Sisters Doris, juvenile vocalists and dancers, have many admirers; Fred Payne, coon delineator and dancer, meets with a hearty reception; the Meadsons are loudly applauded for their pot-pourri act; and Pictures complete an enjoyable bill.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—At the head of an attractive programme are Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, who receive marked approbation for their delightful comedy and singing; the Bros. Webb (Jojo and Rute) give an amusing instrumental turn; the Hyde and Cody Trio are genuine mirth provokers; Reg. Beauchamp's eccentricities prove him a first-class comedian; Grace Oxley and company in their farcical sketch *Peggy* are successful; Marie Brayman is a pleasing pantomime artist; Edie Haley has a good reception; Herbert Rule scores in comic song; and the Hippo. Bio. is particularly attractive with pictures of the Royal Funeral.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's company of Pierrots continue on excellent terms with their numerous patrons. Miss Aileen Delmore's songs prove very attractive; Miss Rosie Effingham wins popularity; Miss Cissie Scott is most successful; Mr. Jack Bonny makes a hit; Mr. Eric St. John is well received; Mr. Leslie Sears is a great favourite, his droll songs and antics arousing roars of laughter; and Mr. Fred Capion's violin solos are excellent.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The visits of Mr. F. R. Benson are always welcome. *The Taming of the Shrew* on Monday drew an appreciative audience. Mr. Benson's Petruchio is an excellent study, given with a crispness and breeziness of style that is quite exhilarating. Mrs. Benson invests the Shrew with sufficient virulence and vigour, making the character thoroughly interesting; Mr. Edward Harrison makes a capable exponent of Baptista; Vincentio is carefully drawn by Mr. John Howell; the Gremio of Mr. H. O. Nicholson, the Tranio of Mr. Moffatt Johnson, and the Grumio of Mr. Harry Caine deserve the warmest praise; and other clever portrayals are given by Miss Nora Lancaster (Bianca), Miss Elinor Aickin (Curtis), Mr. Murray Carrington (Lucentio), and Mr. Guy Rathbone (Hortensio). During the week were also staged *Julius Cæsar*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*Shadows of a Great City* is well received here. Mr. Otto Minster plays the part of the hero, Tom Cooper, in a manly and vigorous manner; Mr. Herbert Morgan depicts the unscrupulous George Benson in no uncertain way, and he is ably assisted in his designs by Mr. G. H. Asquin as Jim Farren. Mr. Gerald Venning is convincing as the Detective; Mr. Leslie Nolan makes a capable Abe Nathan; Miss Bessie Rignold imparts sympathy and charm to her rôle of Nellie Standish; Miss Violet Agnew carefully enacts Mrs. Higgan; and Miss Daisy Meynard works hard as Biddy Roonan.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The startling illusions of Chung-Ling-Soo are as smart and attractive as ever, and the clever conjurer is given a rousing reception. Pipifax and Panlo present some weird but skilful feats in tumbling, while the comic business creates a fund of wholesome laughter; the Smythson's provide several merry moments in their sketch *The Lie-Alarm*; Maidie Scott sings several songs in effective style; and interesting items are given by Rich. Taylor, silleur; Frank H. Fox, comedian; Lena Verdi, comedienne; Bert Weston, comedian; and Rossi Ashton. Bioscope pictures of the late King's funeral are also shown.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The Tegernseer Troupe of Alpine vocalists submit a thoroughly novel and interesting entertainment of singing and dancing, which is greatly enhanced by the charming and picturesque setting. Spissell Bros. and Mack are a combination of clever acrobats and comedians; Fred Maitland and Pauline Walker supply an amusing absurdity in their sketch *Roots, Rash Chemists*; the Society Quartette, dance and sing in spirited fashion; the Zanfrettas are daring equilibrists; and W. G. Wesley, comic, Elsie Claire, vocalist, Dan Daly, comedian, and D. Escourt, entertainer, also contribute to the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Leonard Thackeray's répertoire company opened here on Monday with *Lady Godiva*. Miss Edith Lorraine appeared to advantage in the title-rôle; Miss J. Richards was capable as Lady Aldwyth; Mr. Harry Parr ably depicted Leofric; Mr. Leonard Thackeray gave a forceful performance as Algar; Mr. F. Cheevers was successful as Edgar; Mr. F. B. Woulfe put in excellent work as Tom; and the other parts were well filled. For the rest of the week *Nana* and *Robin Hood* are billed.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Life's Sweetest Sins* is presented by Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his talented company. Mr. Jones plays the part of Captain Harold Marston in artistic manner, and is ably seconded by Mr. John Davidson as Ernie Wodstone; Miss F. Melrose Millett as Doreen Rivers acts cleverly and gains much sympathy; and Miss Marie Daventry as Fay Colbrooke is well placed; Miss May Neilson as Bess Grayson and Mr. Bob Anderson as Bob Tanner are responsible for smart comedy; Mr. J. D'Alberti as Dr. Colbrooke does justice to a villainous rôle; and as Kimberley Coutts and the Rev. Edward Grey, Messrs. A. H. Clark and A. Prescott are thoroughly efficient. A feature of the drama is the submarine boat, which is staged in a realistic manner.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. B. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Dickie Clare and his comedians are providing hearty laughter in the musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza*, and business is good. Mr. Clare has endless opportunities of showing his ability in his various characters, one of them being the Judge; Mr. Leonard Maitland as Paul Pettitoe is most amusing; Miss Vesta Brownie as Eliza Bird is a vivacious artist, her singing and dancing being much appreciated; Miss Hettie Gale as Vergina Blotherwick makes a duly romantic miss; and Miss Helen Douglas is good as the gentle Marie Pettitoe; an old favourite appears in the person of Mme. Constance Bellamy, and her singing is much enjoyed. Mr. F. W. Benson as Peter Pettitoe, Mr. Harry George as Barnaby Blotherwick, Mr. J. W. Forrest as William Biffins, and Mr. Bert Collins as Tompkins, are responsible for ex cellent work, and some good dancing is introduced by the Jesmond Trio.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge.—Large crowds are being drawn to see and hear the popular idol, Miss Vesta Tilley, whose various impersonations evoke the utmost enthusiasm; Tom Foy and company appear in the amusing absurdity, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*. Among other artists also here are J. W. Rowley, comedian; the Four Scoreys, in a musical mélange; Steve Bartle, edeophone and concertina soloist; Palmyra, contortionist; W. G. Webber, vocalist; and Drury and Lane, in smart dances.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Funeral of His Late Majesty King Edward is depicted among many others. Mr. Roger Alwyn sings new chorus songs with good results.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The programme includes the Funeral Procession of King Edward VII. Mr. King sings Tom Bowling.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—The Suit Case Mystery is a capital film, and the Funeral of the Late King Edward is also good. Many other film subjects are dealt with.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—Good business is being done with pictures. Just Punishment and The Tramp's Story are excellent films, and The Valley of Anazaska is a fine travel picture.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week Messrs. Platt and Towers' company is paying us a most welcome return visit with Bernard Shaw's plays, *You Never Can Tell* and *Arms and the Man*. The former has been received with cordial delight by full and fashionable houses, whose presence testified to the fact that the Summer Eights Races are now in full swing, though shorn of many of their festive rites. Miss Edith Hunter is a very satisfactory Mrs. Clandon; Miss Winifred Beech is very effective and imposing as Gloria, and wins general approval; Miss Ida Southern and Mr. G. Wilkinson are highly amusing as Dolly and Philip Clandon; Mr. J. E. Pearce is admirable as Fergus Crampton; Mr. J. A. Jeayes scores well as Finch McComus; Mr. Graham Colmer gives a very convincing and attractive performance as Valentine; Mr. Bellenden Clarke is well suited as Bohun; and Mr. Claude Haviland scores a most undoubted success in his easy and polished rendering of the Walter. The efforts of an excellent company meet with favour.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—There was a bumper house for Mr. Frank Stuart's benefit on Saturday, May 21. Most of the members of the late stock company, including Mr. Karl Edwards and Miss Emma C. Turner, contributed various items to a full programme. A very smart sketch, *Son of the Morning*, was presented and acted with great spirit by Mr. Karl Edwards and company; also a comedy sketch *Timbuctoo* by Miss Katie Norris and Mr. Edwin Firth. There was also a goodly array of local talent, Mr. Leonard Moon's "Merrymakers," Mr. Frank Halliday (Indian club expert), and Mr. Bernard White's ventriloquial sketch being specially noteworthy. At the conclusion of the performance some interesting and valuable presentations from members of the staff and from the stock company were made to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart, who were greatly pleased and very cordial in their thanks to all concerned. This week Mr. James Bell's company is here with *The Idol of Paris*. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee gives a good portrayal of Phillipe D'Esterre; Mr. G. Robey makes an effective Prince Sergius; and Mr. Alfred Grenville carries conviction as Victor Cashelle. Mr. H. Vivian Thomas as Tatave and Miss Ida Thompson as Ann are both pleasing; Miss Frances Bruce adds dignity as Mme. Sancterre; and Miss Annie Bell gives a clever rendering of Flare-Flare.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The last week of the variety season at this house is announced, and the occasion is marked by a splendid company, headed by Dave Samuels, American Hebrew comedian. The others participating in the bill are Duncan and Godfrey in their coster comedy *Me and 'Er*; Little Zola, the diminutive and funny comedian; Wilson Hallett in his humorous and pathetic studies of children; Lizzie Daniels, a clever comedienne; Jack Ross and Sue Lewis, an expert Yankee duo; Little Pam, an entertaining juvenile comedian and dancer; George Brooks, a vocal comedian who is popular: and the Hippodrome Bioscope is to the front with an excellent series of pictures, including the Funeral Procession of the late King.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An attractive picture programme is presented here, the price of seats being reduced in all parts of the house. The management have decided to run this popular house as a picture hall for the summer months.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Solway.—The chief film shown here is our late King's funeral procession, which attracts crowded audiences. Bert Maddison receives quite an ovation nightly for his clever and clean humour as the happy Welshman.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The principal attraction is Mr. Charles M. Daly and his company in the farcical sketch *Men were Deceivers Ever*, in which Mr. Daly plays the part of the husband with delightful humour, and is well supported by his talented company, including Mr. C. Blundell Lenton, Mr. Guy Blyth, Miss Hilda Merrilese, and Miss Dora Hilstrom. Miss May St. Hilda gives a smart and novel scena entitled *The Studio*. The audience simply cannot help joining in the chorus when Harry King sings his songs; the Smalleys create laughter in their comic parallel-bar act; and Morimura mystifies the audience with his illusions. A series of fine pictures is shown.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company is here with *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Kenneth gives an excellent impersonation of Captain Mowbray; Colonel Jardine is cleverly presented by Mr. Horace Sinclair; Mr. Chas. Ashwell as Lieut. David Cairn is deserving of warm praise; and Mr. Arthur Linay is good as the detective Jennigan. As Mrs. Gorringe Miss Betty Fairfax meets with warm approval; while Miss Evelyn Ward achieves complete success as Mrs. Jardine. Miss Cicely Clutterbuck as Isabel Kirke distinguishes herself; and Miss Viola Lewis as Vicky Jardine and Miss Mynnee Kirk as Miss Potts play well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Nerigne, classical artist, in selcetions from her répertoire, is well received; Harvey and Jesson are clever dancers; La Bella Greta, Spanish dancer, is loudly applauded. Other artists who appear successfully are Monty Walker, comedian; Mr. X, described as the prince of magic; Sybil Cann, in effective ideas; Sharon, the street musician; and Sidney Hamilton and company, in a farce, entitled *Mabel's Cousin*.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*East Lynne* well fills the house, particularly in the popular parts. In the dual rôles of Lady Isabel and Mme Vine Miss Rita Sporti gives a most effective rendering; Mr. John Sargent is admirably suited in the part of Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Ulick Burke works very hard to ensure success as Dill; and Miss Marion Neil wins the sympathies of the audience with her touching rendering of Little Willie. *Boots at the Swan* precedes.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The original Schichtl Marionettes furnish quite an entertainment in themselves; the Two Anartos are a genuinely funny couple; the Sisters Allen receive a warm welcome; Irve Hayman and company have a bright little episode, entitled *'Xmas Eve*; Edie Veno is a smart comedienne; and Edna Latonne is a first-rate male impersonator. The Palascope has the latest films.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—The Four Gordonettis, head balancers on the swinging trapeze, give a smart performance; Goodall and Knox are clever patterers and eccentric acrobats; Inghram and Irving appear in a laughable absurdity, entitled *The New Office Boy*; the Sisters Wayland find favour as duettists and dancers; Bert Seddon delights his hearers with his fine bass voice; and other items of the bill are provided by Cissie Ferndale, vocalist and burlesque actress; Arthur Page, Lancashire dialect comedian; Mollie Watson, a good singer of chorus songs; and the Alexscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent all-round company introduced *Don* here on Monday night. Miss Emma Hutchison as the simple, loving mother Mrs. Bonnington showed herself a finished actress; the impulsive Quixotic Stephen Bonnington was forcibly characterised by Mr. Gordon Bailey; Mr. Chas. Harley gave a powerful rendering of the fanatic, Albert Thompsett; the placid Canon was ably impersonated by Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Mr. Chas. Tyrel quite naturally portrayed the peppery General Sinclair; Miss Ethel Royale as Mrs. Sinclair and Miss Viola Garland as Ann both did well. *Her Dearest Friend* preceded.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*Her Life in London*, presented by Mr. Stanley Carlton and company, is again winning approval. Mr. Carlton as the young clergyman, Miss Rubie Maude (Astra Bell), Miss Annie Megan (Dolly), Mr. C. Claude Aymond (the Blind Burglar), and a numerous and effective cast cleverly interpret the piece.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Humour and music are happily combined in Cruikshank's amusing entertainment; Miss Wish Wynne has been winning laurels for her clever character studies; an interesting turn is Henry Coutts's protean act *Outflanked*, in which he is assisted by that promising young artist Miss Gwadys Soman, whose singing is admired; Jules Kiaro is an expert equilibrist, substituting hands for feet in the ascending and descending steps; Harry Simms, light comedian, dresses in good style; the Hulls deserve praise for their comic musical act; Charlie Carr sings and dances, as also does Daisy Hurdle; and the picture of the Funeral Procession attracts.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—George Robey is the star this week, and his songs cause great fun; Maurice, assisted by Mlle. Aurore, demonstrates his marvellous skill in card tricks, &c.; the graceful and daring gymnastic display by the Chandon Trio is applauded; Olga Dore's powerful soprano voice is heard to advantage; little Jack Mark's Hebrew jokes and policeman's impersonation indicate talent; Reno performs some fantastic tricks on his bicycle; Tom Franks is a clever ventriloquist; the Forde trio of musicians deputised for Elmo and Rego; and the Funeral Procession of the late King is depicted on the screen.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Mystery and illusion sway the interest of the audience in the person of the Egyptian magician Rameses; Edward Lewis and company are heard to advantage in farcical interlude, *The Five Wishes*; the Seven Bramueas, young musicians, do justice to their instructors; Helena Hurst sings some charming songs; Les Berthos amuse with their dancing; Fred Elton at the piano is entertaining; the Two Lillys, Harry Johnson, Stowe Bros., and Kelly and Agnes successfully contribute; and the pictures are particularly interesting.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—*The Passport* is presented by an experienced amateur company, who have been most successfully coached by Mr. J. Alban Newton, the proceeds being devoted to local charities. At the conclusion of these performances the theatre will close for the summer vacation and the usual cleaning and redecorating.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Percy Williams' Nine Yankee Belles, in a song and dance scena, prove most entertaining; A. de Bessell, the original clay modeller, is as dexterous as ever, and is humorous withal; the Three Krakes, in their acrobatic comedy act, *The Electric Car Conductor*, arouse hearty laughter; Hope and Bayly (Diana and Monte), in *The Altar of Duty*, are successful; Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Golden and Chance, in a novel and eccentric act, win applause; the Rangers are clever comedy cyclists; and Harry Conlin is a popular comedian. Alf Brooks, comedian, and patterer, also contributes; and The King's Funeral on the Bioscope concludes. Annie Purcell was unable to appear on Monday, owing to indisposition.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Ernest Abbott's company, in *Sapho*, is this week's attraction. Miss Ada Abbott in the title-rôle has full scope for her undoubted dramatic powers; Mr. Edward Oasta is most successful in the rôle of Gaussin; and Mr. John Drake is an excellent Dechelette. Mr. Stephen Crossley gives a powerful presentation of Flamant; Mr. Weedon Ross is good as the old cabman Legrand. The humorous relief is ably sustained by Mr. Edwin Keene as Ceasaire and Miss Nellie Joinson as Mme. Hettema, who are both most successful. The pictures presented are much appreciated.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Walter Melville's powerful play, *The Female Swindler*, has been staged in first-rate style by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Miss Olive Warner fills with marked ability the rôle of Lu Valroy, otherwise Miss Darwen; she is ably seconded in her efforts by Mr. Henry Lonsdale, who earns for himself well-deserved praise for his impersonation of Jack Coulson; Mr. Fred Hodson does well as Abraham Mikestein; and Mr. Fred de Vere lends valuable assistance in a four-fold part. A villain of deepest dye is the Geoffrey Warden of Mr. W. T. Riley; Mr. Frank Howard makes fine play in the rôle of Harold Travers; and the May Andrews of Miss Irene Atchinson leaves nothing to be desired.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Large audiences have been attracted to the Excelsior Picturedrome during the past week, the usual exhibitions of animated pictures being given twice nightly. Great interest has been aroused by the film showing the funeral procession of the late King. The variety turn is this week presented by Baddow, an exceptionally smart ventriloquist, who introduces novel gags, and elicits loud applause at each performance.

RATHMINES.—TOWN HALL.—The Irish Animated Photo Co. opened here for a short season, and is well appreciated by large audiences daily.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company appearing here include: Mme Vertris's sketch company; Rosie Dawn, wooden shoe dancer; Charles Lisle, versatile comedian; Emma Poole, character dancer; George Danton, comedian; and Dolly Webb, vocalist.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—This week Leo Dryden, the well-known vocalist, of "The Miner's Dream" renown, appears most successfully in a series of song playlets suggested by popular plays. On Monday night he elected *The Exile*, *A White Man*, and *The Only Way*, in all of which Mr. Drydon displayed great vocal and dramatic power. The programme is being changed nightly. Gibbon and Bell introduce their clever acrobatic and dancing specialities; Gena Manon is an accomplished vocalist; Henry and Tyler give an exceedingly good trick cycling display; Moon and Morris are amusing comedians and dancers; Bert Danson, comedian, does a good turn; Callahan and St. George give an artistic vocal and instrumental performance, the lady artist's harp-playing being particularly good; Brothers Huxter present a good sketch, *Languid Energy*; and King Edward VII.'s Funeral is realistically depicted on the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—The Three Romas give a fine exhibition of feats of strength; Cyclumina gives a good trick-cycling display on a machine lighted by electricity; Sterling and Love show their skill as vocalists and instrumentalists in a sketch, entitled *Discord and Harmony*; Bessie Knight and Grace Lawn are acceptable comediennes and dancers; the Fimans give an amusing performance in *The Fire Station*; Tod Lowen, comedian, is a popular favourite; Tom Taylor and company produce a very funny sketch, *The Plumbers*; and a splendid film of the Royal Funeral is shown on the Bioscope.

NEW CENTRAL SKATING RINK.—The first fancy dress carnival was given here on Wednesday night, and was extensively patronised.

THE Vaudeville Electric Theatre, West's Picture Palace, and Bio-Picture Land are all giving good shows, King Edward's Funeral Procession being the predominant feature at each entertainment.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—An excellent company is here this week. Binns and Binns are most amusing in a comedy and musical act; the Carpati Brothers are brilliant bar performers; Victor Brothers are marvels in strength, skill, and dexterity; Guest and Newlyn, the Hebrew and the soubrette, are most diverting; the Four Jumels present a highly-finished musical act; Madoline Rees has a finished vocal comedy act; Iris Banfield is a pleasing comedienne; Sam Spira is a smart entertainer and mimic; the Renowned Lannons are well received in *The Policeman and the Maid*, the pedestal dances being deservedly applauded. The Royal Funeral Procession is shown on the Bioscope.

SALFORD.—P.O.W.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Hamlet*, with a clever young actor, Mr. George Munro, in the title-rôle, Mr. Stafford Dawson as the King, and Miss Doris Horrocks as Ophelia, was presented to a good house on Monday. Miss Gertrude Littlewood as the Queen, Mr. Eric Norman as Horatio, Mr. T. Weston Fields as the Ghost, Mr. Ivor Barnard as Polonius, Mr. Howard Rose as Laertes, and Miss Norah Vaughan as Player Queen also did well in their various rôles. The following evenings are devoted to *The Sleigh Bells*, *David Garrick*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, and *Macbeth*, with Mr. George Munro in the principal characters, supported by Miss Doris Horrocks as principal lady.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—*The Kidnapped King*, a Sexton Blake episode, is a cleverly-performed and interesting sketch, in which Mr. C. Douglas Carlisle smartly presents the Detective in several disguises, and is supported by Miss Carlotta De Yonson as Princess Thyra, Mr. Lee Gilbert as Tinker, Mr. Chas. A. Carlile as Prince Stephen, Master Geoffrey Lewes as King Otto, and Mr. James Duncan as Prince Cloris; the Kebbles give a pretty musical turn; Larry Lewis, quaint comedian, evokes roars of laughter. Other good turns include Marie Blythe, contralto vocalist; Addie Adell, vocalist; Sisters Herbert, duettists and dancers; Violet Stockelle, comedienne; and Poole and Maguire, vocal comedy duo. The Funeral Procession of H.M. the Late King is shown on the bioscope, and is much appreciated.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—The Elliott-Savonas, in their latest success, *Americana*, gain much applause. An excellent programme also includes clever turns by Will Rhodes, comedian; Seven Wulfruns, comedy acrobats, in their speciality *Fun in a Café*; Milton and Horton, comedy triple-bar artists; Harry Marlow, light comedian; Olive and Owen, singers and duettists; and Baby Wolff, a clever child performer. The King's Funeral pictures are good.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Funeral Procession of the Late King gives much satisfaction. The other films include Sailor Lad, Tough Steak, Girl I Left Behind, Winning Father, Life in a Danish Village, Leper of Aosta, Champion Bowl Player, A Little Child Shall Lead Them, and They Would Roller Skate. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings an illustrated song, "Don't go down in the mine, dad," copies of which are printed and sold by the management at 3d. each for the benefit of the Whitehaven Pit Disaster Fund.

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures include a splendid film of the Funeral of King Edward; Ranch Girls' Legacy,

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"GLUCK BEI FRAUEN."

...e, in Three Acts, by MM. Engel and Horst, Produced at the Thalia Theatre on May 14.

...inant .....HERR BACH
...au Lanrant .....FRAULEIN LY
...unier .....HERR JUNKERMANN
...vianne .....FRAULEIN CERIGIOLI
...osper .....HERR RIECK
...rothée .....FRAULEIN MARBA
...tournelles .....HERR OLVERS
...audine .....FRAULEIN ELSINGER
...ederic .....HERR MEYERHOFER
...ulou.....FRAULEIN FRIEDMANN
...n .....FRAULEIN KOENIG
...né .....FRAULEIN LEHMANN
...stine .....FRAULEIN WALDEMAR
...ançois .....HERR HERMANN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

...ERLIN, THURSDAY, May 19.—The latest produc... at the Thalia made a good impression, and, ...ing from the mirth of the audience, should ... a lengthy run. There is not the slightest ...npt at originality in either plot or char...rs. The authors have resorted to Paris for ... action—a custom of German writers when ... plot is supposed to be "piquant." Unfortu...ly, the French element of light farce is alto...er lacking, and in its place is only a heavy ...seness; it is the bull-in-the-china-shop farce, ...hich we have had a plethora of late years. ... capital acting redeemed the piece from much ...s crudeness; the artists of the Lustspielhaus ... united with those of the Thalia for the occa..., and the cast gained considerably in conse...nce. The two heroines are Flora and Vivienne, ...y girls who have married the men of their ...ce—Lanrant and Prunier respectively—but ...e disappointment in them is exceeding great. ...ant is an elderly sinner, who is too *blasé* to ... love to the extent his bride desires, while ...ier is equally cool for another reason; he is ...shy. How the disappointed young women ...eed in warming up their husbands to the ...per degree—by the following of advice given ...an experienced woman of the world—or, better ...king, of the half world, is at times funny, ...imes wearisome. Take it altogether, the piece ...ot up to the usual standard of the Thalia. ...s its predecessor, *Die lieben Ottos*, of which ...e was not much to be said in praise, was ...er.

TANZHUSAREN," operetta, in three acts, by ...rt Szirmai, text by MM. Rajna and Motz, made a decided hit at the Theatre des Westens, deservedly so. The music is pretty, the plot of fun, and a good deal resembling the popu... farce *Husarenfieber*. The girls of a dull little ...rincial town are longing for partners for their ...ces, and when a regiment of Hussars is garri...ed there, with a fine young Highness at the ...d, their joy knows no bounds. Others of the ...n are, of course, opposed to the advent of the ...illingtry," and a good many comical scenes ...e in consequence. There are plenty of love ...odes, and a very amusing character is a school... of sixteen, who plays good angel to everyone. ...ulein Else Boettcher, of the Trianon Theatre, ...e this grateful rôle in admirable manner, and ... was well assisted by the rest of the cast. ...r Kutzner, in the part of the Prince Egon, ... especially good, both in acting and singing. ... mounting was exceedingly commendable, and ... orchestra, under the clever leadership of ...ellmeister Stefanides, was quite satisfactory.

CABARET company from Vienna, rejoicing in ... name of the "Hölle," commenced a season ... week at the Deutsches Chamber Plays. The ...es selected were mostly amusing and short in ...racter, while the interpretation was good all ...nd.

DER NEUE PARIS," a so-called comedy in three ...g acts, by Alfons Fedor Cohn, was produced ... Saturday at the Hebbel, with no particular ...ults. The author evidently had a goodly ...ber of friends among the audience, and these ... their utmost to make the piece a success, but ...r kindly efforts were not of much use. I fear ...r Cohn's first production will prove his last ...ss he improves a good deal.

...E Russian Imperial Ballet has opened its ...on at the Komische Oper, and is doing well. ...t of the artists are known here, but Mlle. ...vlovna is, unfortunately, absent this time. ...e. Will is, however, a very charming substitute.

...VERY old farce was revived at the Friedrich ...lhelm Städtisches last week, and the reception ... all that any manager could desire. It was ... *Ruab der Sabinerinnen*, by MM. Franz and ...l von Schoenthan, a piece which will surely ...er grow *passé*. It was capitally acted. The ...t of the immortal Striese had been entrusted ... Herr Schmasow, a comedian who has long ...e made a name with the public. Not only ... clever actor, but others of the cast deserved ... applause the audience lavished upon them. ... amusing piece occupied the bill on both holi...s, the house being crowded each time.

...r the Deutsches Theatre Hebbel's tragedy *...lith* was produced after a long interval. It is ... heavy work for such tropical temperature as ... have been having the last few days, and both ...ists and audience suffered somewhat in conse...nce. Nevertheless, the fine acting and superb ...guage impressed the majority, and Fräulein ...ré, in the name-part, achieved a decided ...cess.

...E Ibsen cycle at the Lessing has reached ...a, of which a masterly performance was given ... Monday, with Fräulein Triesch in the title-... The star was called and recalled in response ... enthusiastic applause.

"NUR EIN TRAUM."

...edy, in Three Acts, by Lothar Schmidt, Pro... duced at the Kleines Theatre, May 19.

...ponholz .....HERR ADALBERT
...Sabrin .....HERR MARX
...nna .....FRAULEIN BRANDT
...ausmann .....HERR ZIEGEL
...lsela .....FRAULEIN HORWITZ
...ertha .....FRAULEIN HEGNI
...arnicky .....HERR STERNBERG

...ERLIN, THURSDAY, May 26.—More fuss has ...n made over this little piece than it is worth. ... was contended for by two of our theatres for ...period of six months several years ago, after ...had been prohibited by the authorities, which, ... I have said before, is the best possible adver...ment for any play here. When it was ulti...tely obtained—with certain concessions to the ...orship—by the management of the Berliner ...eatre, it met with a lukewarm reception and ...appeared from the bill after a few perform...ces. The author's justly esteemed name has ...used the revival, and the reception was more ...dial than the last time, a number of improve...nts having been made in the dialogue, which ...very bright and witty. Of the plot there is ...dly anything to be said. Four married people ...ke love to each other's rightful spouse indis...minately, and when the most ardent—a certain ...rl Stabrin—is discovered, he cuts a sorry figure ... promises his wife better behaviour for the ...ure; she, having had her own little amusement ... the quiet, magnanimously forgives him. The ...ength of the piece, such as it is, lies in the ...logue alone, for which Dr. Schmidt is always ...ebrated, and the acting was exceptionally ...od; Herr Marx, in the rôle of the chief sinner ...rl, being admirable.

...wo novelties were produced last week at the ...lks Oper with considerable success—*Heimkehr*, ... two-act drama, by Clara Blüthgen, and *Der ...neral-Direktor*, a drama in one act, by Arnim ...tersen. The former made the more favourable ...pression, and justifiably so. It displays unques...nable dramatic talent, and though not without ...lts in construction, there is so much that is natural and human that the audience followed every word with closest attention, and called the authoress repeatedly before the curtain. The plot is briefly the following: A well-to-do business man, whose second marriage, up to a certain point, has been the happiest possible, finds himself suddenly confronted by a terrible problem. He had married when very young a woman who, at a later period, lost her reason, and, the doctors pronouncing her incurable, he obtained a divorce. His daughter by the first wife is now a girl of seventeen and devoted to her stepmother, who is kindness itself to her. After many years' absence the first wife unexpectedly returns, having been dismissed from the asylum as cured. She knows nothing of her husband's second marriage, and the blow is a dreadful one; not only does she suffer, but he, too, and when the unfortunate woman becomes resigned to the inevitable and begs at least that she may have her child, that also is withholden from her, for the girl is frightened of her mother. The meeting between mother and daughter is a pathetic and even tragic scene. In the end the poor desolate woman begs the doctor to take her back with him to the private asylum that she may spend her days as a nurse there. The interpretation was very good on the whole. The second piece was too tragic for a warm summer's evening. An innocent young daughter saves her erring mother from a fatal situation by shooting the brutal rival of her father. What with horror at the scene witnessed, knowing her mother's guilt, and feeling herself a murderess, the girl then turns the revolver against herself. The little piece was well acted and mounted, and the management may be perfectly satisfied with the success of their experiment of turning an operatic stage into a dramatic one.

THE Imperial Russian ballet—the amalgamated forces of the Imperial theatres at St. Petersburg and Moscow—commenced a season at the Theatre des Westens on Saturday, which bids fair to be unusually successful. The programme was a fascinating one. It opened with a mimodrama entitled *Cleopatra*, which developed a brilliant Oriental picture, with some splendid dancing. Then came dances galore, classical ones by Chopin, bizarre dances, fiery pas-de-deux, wonderful national dances, sentimental and passionate by turns, always executed by beautiful women and lithe men with consummate grace and skill, and the costumes were as handsome as their wearers. The stars of the company are Mlles. Will and Geltzer, but their supporters are all stars of scarcely lesser magnitude.

HERR JOSEF KAINZ, the famous actor of the Imperial Burg, Vienna, has undergone a serious and painful operation at a private hospital in that city. He is now convalescent, but will not act again before the autumn.

DR. RICHARD STRAUSS has been called to Munich to the bedside of his mother, widow of the late Prof. Franz Strauss. She died soon after her son's arrival, having reached the age of 75.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Wednesday evening had many attractive features, and the programme was interesting. Mr. George J. Sims played Liszt's Polonaise in E with a fair amount of success; and Miss Muriel Hay, a very youthful violinist, gave Vieuxtemps' Romance, and Mazurka "Kuiawiak" (Wieniawski), with remarkably good tone and execution. Miss Winnie Browne was heard to much advantage in Coningsby Clarke's pretty song, "O, my garden full of roses" and "As all the maids," by German. In her piano solo Miss Muriel A. Weir took Weber's well known "Il moto perpetuo" at a rapid pace, without any faltering in her execution, and well deserved the hearty applause which followed; while Mr. Archibald Hudson sang "Mountain Lovers" with capital tone and expression. Massenet's charming air, "Ouvre tes yeux bleus" was ably rendered by Miss Dorothy Killik; and a very clever recitation, "The Flower Girl," was given by Miss Mila Philippoff, a promising pupil of Mr. Bassett Roe. Duets are not often heard at students' concerts, and therefore "O, Maritana," from Wallace's opera *Maritana*, cleverly sung by Miss Irene Alexander and Mr. Alfred Steed, proved a welcome feature in the concert. Miss Edna Bolus was applauded for her skilful piano solo "Toccato Brillante" (J. F. Barnett); while Mr. John Younger sang the "Prologue" to *Pagliacci* with good intonation, but little artistic or dramatic feeling. Other clever pupils were Miss Norna Clench and Miss Helen Honcke. A scene from *Romeo and Juliet* was given by Miss Vera Colledge and Miss Nellie Lake, pupils of Miss Kate Rorke, and the concert concluded with "God Save the King."

MR. THOMAS BEECHAM'S new prima donna, Miss Maggie Teyte, has, says the *Standard*, a career which reads like a romance. Miss Teyte was born at Wolverhampton, but came early to London with her parents. Five years ago, while singing one evening at a small concert, the young girl so impressed a gentleman present by the beauty of her voice that he induced some friends to take an interest in her musical progress, with the result that Miss Teyte was sent to Paris to study with Jean de Reszké. Her first appearance in public in Paris was at Rinaldo Hahn's Mozart Festival, in May, 1906, when she sang with Mme. Lilli Lehmann, M. Ancona, and M. Edouard de Reszké. Both on this occasion and in the following month, when she sang at Jean de Reszké's "at home," the seventeen-year-old English girl made a great hit.

THROUGH the indisposition of a principal Miss Teyte made her début at the Opéra Comique in *Circé* on April 17, 1907, when she was singled out as the feature of the production by both Press and audience. But the English girl's real conquest of the Parisian music lovers was reserved for her appearance as Mélisande in Debussy's *Pélléas et Mélisande* on June 13, 1908. She had signed a contract at the Opéra Comique after her success in *Circé* the year before, but had had to wait a whole year for a part. When her opportunity came, however, Miss Teyte made full use of it, and she scored an immediate triumph.

HER real London début took place in October, 1909, when she attracted considerable notice, singing at numerous important concerts and giving four recitals. Miss Teyte's three years' contract with the Opéra Comique expired this spring, leaving her free to make a name in her own country. However, she returned to Paris recently to create a part in a new opera by Debussy which was being written specially for her, but the production had to be indefinitely postponed, as the work was not completed. While in Paris Miss Teyte was engaged to sing at the American concert given in aid of the victims of the flood, and at another important function at the Palais Musicale.

"MOZART'S operas go remarkably well in English," said Miss Teyte to a representative, "and I love singing them in my native tongue—which, by the way, I do not consider ungrateful to sing in. Last February, in Paris, I signed a contract with Mr. Dippel, in which I had the option to decide this month whether I would appear at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. I have just concluded not to go to America yet, as I am too keen on my work in London."

"MACBETH" was produced at the Abbey Theatre on the 18th inst. by members of the Dublin School of Elocution, of which Mr. and Mrs. McHardy Flint are the principals. Those artists appeared with distinction in the two principal characters, and their pupils acquitted themselves in a way that won the applause of a crowded house.

THE GERMAN "INDEPENDENT" THEATRES.

The so-called "Freien Volksbühnen" in Germany and Austria have in the course of years, in spite of much opposition both critical and active, developed into an important factor in the intellectual and social life of a cultured people. They have played, and are playing, a part not to be under-estimated in the education of the public, as well as in the development of the drama. From a social-economic point of view these associations of theatre-goers, organised by the public themselves, are a distinct step towards eliminating all the sordid speculative elements from theatrical life. They have already developed into such powerful bodies that they are on the verge of becoming their own caterers, and as employers they will shortly deal direct with their employees.

I.—FREIE VOLKSBUHNE.

The history of the independent theatre in Germany dates back about twenty years, when, in 1889, the "Freie Volksbühne" was formed in Berlin by Brahm and Schlenther, the first performance being young Gerhard Hauptmann's *Vor Sonnenaufgang* ("Before Sunrise"). By being registered as an association the irksome supervision of the Censor was avoided, and plays of realism, hitherto accessible only in book form, were brought out on the stage. As the result of an appeal in the columns of the Socialistic journal *Vorwärts*, Herr Bruno Wille, a brilliant young writer, succeeded in organising an association, to which subscribers flocked in great numbers, and the management of which was in the hands of a committee elected from among the members. The monthly subscription, originally fixed at 50 pfennigs (6d.), had to be paid to certain collecting stations, temporarily established prior to the performances in certain shops and inns. The receipt was an adhesive stamp, which was affixed to each membership card. The seats are distributed by ballot, every arrival drawing, on production of his duly stamped membership card, a sealed envelope containing the ticket for his seat. For the convenience of couples or friends who wish to sit together double tickets are arranged. The principle of equality is strictly carried out. Members willing to pay higher contributions do not thereby secure the right of a choice of seats. Only short-sighted members or those hard of hearing, on production of a medical certificate to that effect, are accommodated, as far as possible, in the front rows. The performances take place every Sunday afternoon, and a committee arranges an annual repertory of the plays, performed in regular rotation and by the same troupe; while all members receive gratis an official publication containing introductory and explanatory remarks about the productions. Among the first performances, in 1890, were Ibsen's *Pillars of Society*, Schiller's *Kabale und Liebe* ("Intrigue and Love") and *The Robbers*, and Sudermann's *Ehre* ("Honour"). In the third year of its existence the association, so auspiciously launched, underwent a trying period of stress and storm. The president, Bruno Wille, and a number of his followers, for reasons of a more or less political nature, broke away and founded a rival association, the "Neue Freie Volksbühne," of which more anon. The parent union, under the presidency of Mehring, continued to flourish, and in 1895 could muster some 8,000 members. It was now that the police succeeded in carrying before the Courts their point that the performances were subject to the supervision of the Censor. As a protest, the association dissolved, but reconstituted itself two years later, under a new and more stringent charter, in which complete freedom from censorship was authoritatively guaranteed. With the steady increase in membership, the theatres available on Sunday afternoons soon no longer sufficed, rents and royalties increased, and thus the monthly subscriptions had repeatedly to be raised. At present, including free use of cloak-rooms and gratis supply of the official organ, the monthly subscriptions amount to about one shilling. This, however, has had no noticeable effect on the component elements of the association. As statistics show, the working classes are in the majority, the total membership being 17,000, with an annual income of £8,000. The tendency of the performances, which are strictly confined to members of the Freie Volksbühne, can best be gleaned from a glance at the list of authors represented. Thus Ibsen tops the list with thirteen plays; next come Shakespeare, Anzengruber, Schnitzler, Hauptmann, with six to eight each; and, finally, Grillparzer, Schiller, Björnson, Hartleben, Shaw, and Sudermann. Only at very rare intervals a light comedy or a farce is performed.

II.—NEUE FREIE VOLKSBUHNE.

Among the founders of this association who followed the leadership of Bruno Wille are many names which have since acquired European fame, such as Max Halbe, Maximilian Harden, Otto Erich Hartleben, Wilhelm von Polenz, Ernst von Wolzogen, and many others. From 1890 to the season of 1904-1905 the association managed its own performances. Theatres without companies were hired, and the necessary artists were engaged individually by selection from different theatres. This was a comparatively simple mode of procedure so long as the association numbered only about 2,000 members, which it did during the first twelve years, but when, after 1903, the membership increased by leaps and bounds, and the field to be covered had to be divided into different sections, it was found more feasible and convenient to engage a theatre and the company *en bloc*. Frequently a management is asked to stage some play of the association's selection, and thus many a masterpiece has been brought to light, such as Hartleben's *Erziehung zur Ehe* ("Education for Marriage"), Georg Büchner's *Danton's Tod* ("Death of Danton"), Leopold Wagner's *Kindesmörderin* ("Infanticide"), Clara Viebig's *Barbara Holzer*, and numerous others. The Sunday performances of the association take place simultaneously in eleven of the principal large theatres. In the Deutsches Theater, Neues Theater, Hebbel Theater, and Kammerspiele the performances are limited to members only; but in the other theatres a certain small proportion of the tickets can be purchased by the general public at the box-offices at the ordinary prices of the theatre, which are, of course, considerably higher than those charged through the association. The annual expenditure for the hire of theatres amounts to over £20,000; it is, therefore, quite evident that the Neue Freie Volksbühne is a highly important factor in the theatrical economy of the capital. The ever-increasing numbers of applicants for membership—12,000 have been admitted already in this year—has given rise to the idea of permanently leasing a house of their own. This plan has since ripened into a project of constructing a "Volkskunsthaus," comprising a theatre of 1,500 seats, large and small concert-halls, reading-rooms, library, &c., the plans for which have already been prepared and sanctioned. The only difficulty at the moment is the selection of a suitable site, not mathematically in the centre of the town, where ground is very costly, nor too far away in the suburbs. The question of funds is apparently easily solved. By the simple expedient of raising the monthly subscription by one penny, at which nobody grumbles, a sum of £6,750 has been raised within the comparatively short period of six months towards the total of £20,000, the estimated total cost of the venture. Nor has the aspect of thrift been neglected. Whenever the payments of this additional impost have reached a certain amount, share certificates, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent., in the new building syndicate are issued to such members, while the same rate of interest is paid on all capital sums voluntarily contributed as an investment towards the building fund. This structure, however, will not be ready for occupation until the autumn of 1912; meanwhile, in order to satisfy the demands of an ever-increasing membership, the president of the Neue Freie Volksbühne since 1903, Dr. Josef Ettlinger, has personally rented the old Gastspieltheater in the Köpenicker Strasse, in Berlin, which, under the name of Neues Volkstheater, will be run by the association for ten months in the year with a specially engaged company.

A similar association, the Wiener Freie Volksbühne, was started in Vienna in September, 1906, with a membership of 1,200 people, now amounting to 12,000, and commanding an annual income of about £7,000. The Austrian Board of Education, in recognition of their services, has granted them a Government subvention, which has already twice been increased, as their sphere of popular utility has expanded. The opening performance of the Wiener Freie Volksbühne, in September, 1906, was Leonid Andrejew's famous drama *To the Stars*, then produced for the first time in German. Among other notable productions were Ibsen's *Baumeister Solness*, Nicolas Gogol's *Revisor*, and Herbert Eulenberg's *Ein halber Held* ("Half a Hero").

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the Students' Concert on Monday evening Hugo Kaun's Quintett in F minor for piano, violins, viola, and violoncello, Ruhig, mit Empfindung, was performed by Miss Evelyn Withycombe, Miss Mabel Gidden, Miss Olga Corrigan, Mr. James C. Carroll, and Miss Kathleen Thompson, members of the Chamber Music Class. Miss Mabel Hardy sang Recit. "Nei trionfei d'Alessandro" and Aria "Lusinghe più care" with intelligence; but as Handel's Aria requires such sustained tone and expression, Miss Hardy would have been more successful in less exacting music. The "Andante" from Mendelssohn's violin Concerto in E was another ambitious task for a student, although Miss Kathleen Lawler displayed talent, and was much applauded. The most successful items in Monday's concert were "Tears, idle tears," sung by Miss Alice Booth, a clever rendering of Liszt's "Liebestraum" for piano by Miss Eunice Lucas (an advanced pupil of the College), Miss Eva Sly's effective singing of "A Summer Night" (Goring Thomas), and an able performance of Chopin's Ballade in G minor by Miss Briana Prager. Mr. John Priestley sang "Thus saith the Lord" and "... who may abide" (*Messiah*), Handel, and the concert concluded with an organ solo, Toccata from Symphony V, C. M. Widor, well played by Mr. Harry Gray.

RICHARD STRAUSS, who is finishing a new opera, *Der Rosencavalier*, at his cottage at Garmisch, Bavaria, has given an interviewer some interesting accounts of his manner of working. "I am always composing," he said, "walking or driving, eating or drinking, at home or abroad, in railway cars and crowded hotel rooms, my sketch-book never leaves me, and as soon as I find a motif I jot it down. One of the most important melodies in my new opera struck me while I was playing schafskoff, a national Bavarian card-game, with the 'upper ten' of my village. The ideas I jot down are, of course, only sketches to be worked out later.

"Before I improvise even the smallest sketch for an opera I allow the text to permeate my thoughts and mature in me for at least six months, so that the situations and characters may be thoroughly assimilated. Then only do I let the musical thought enter my brain. At that time the sub-sketches become sketches. They are copied out, worked out, arranged for the piano, and rearranged as often as four times. That is the hard part of the work; the part scores, the symphonic colouring, which follow, are my recreation. The score I write in my study straight away, without trouble, working at it twelve hours on end."

THE death is announced in Paris of M. Jean Baptiste Théodore Weckerlin, a most industrious musician who in England is probably best known through his charming songs. Born at Guebwiller, in Alsace, on Nov. 9, 1821, M. Weckerlin was brought up to follow his father's trade of cotton dyeing, but his musical temperament soon asserting itself, he left the paternal roof, and betook himself to Paris, entering the Conservatoire in 1844. After four years at this famous institution, where he studied under Elwart and Halévy, he devoted himself to teaching and composition. Before leaving the Conservatoire he had made his début as a composer, in 1847, with a work planned on a large scale for soli, chorus, and orchestra, entitled "Roland."

A ONE-ACT comic opera from his pen, entitled *L'Organiste dans l'embarras*, was successfully produced at the Théâtre Lyrique, in 1853, after which M. Weckerlin wrote several operettas that were privately performed. *A Fontenoy*, a one-act opera, was hear at the Théâtre Lyrique in 1877, and a more important work, in four acts, written to a poem in Alsatian dialect, was produced with success at Colmar two years later. Among his other compositions may be mentioned "L'Inde," a symphonic ode; "La Forêt," a symphony; and six choruses for mixed voices, entitled "Les Soirées Parisiennes."

THE songs from the pen of M. Weckerlin numbered over 300, and he also devoted much attention to folk songs, of which he published several collections. He became assistant librarian to the Conservatoire in 1869, and he succeeded Félicien David in 1876 as chief librarian. He occupied the same post in connection with the "Société des Compositeurs." M. Weckerlin also wrote diligently on musical subjects.

IN his interesting "Reminiscences," Mr. Cyril Maude recalls an amusing incident during the rehearsal of *The Little Minister* at the Haymarket, when poor Mr. J. M. Barrie was nearly killed. "He and I," writes Mr. Maude, "were sitting, as usual, on a sort of little platform built on to the front of the stage, from which we conducted the rehearsal. Unfortunately the railing that surrounded the platform was not of the strongest, and Barrie, who had a habit of lolling about on chairs in somewhat unusual attitudes, leant heavily against it, with his seat tilted up. Smash went the railing, and over he fell into the orchestra. We picked him up, apparently lifeless, and, dismissing the rehearsal, carried him up to my office and laid him on the sofa.

"Happily he soon recovered, and, curiously enough, suffered practically no ill effects from a fall which might conceivably have proved a very serious one. Hardly had the accident occurred than we were visited by the reporter of an enterprising evening paper. 'I hear,' he began, 'that Mr. Barrie has met with a serious accident?' 'Oh, it's nothing,' I replied, cheerily; 'only a bad shock.' 'What?' exclaimed the disappointed emissary, 'no blood?'"

THE annual series of Promenade Concerts at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, under Mr. Landon Ronald began on Monday, and lasts for three weeks.

THE Saffron Walden Pageant was opened to the general public on Tuesday. The author is Mr. Hugh Cranmer Byng, and Mr. Launcelot Cranmer Byng wrote the lyrics. Nine of the choicest scenes have been selected and rehearsed under the direction of Mr. Brendon Stewart, of Drury Lane. The most realistic was the Walden Fair in 1671, when Queen Katherine, in disguise, visited the fair-ground with attendants, was recognised, and followed to the palace by the eager crowd.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

A fallacy which has been very commonly maintained by doubters of the identity of the play-actor of Stratford-on-Avon with the author of the great literary heritage known as the work of William Shakespeare, has (says the *Windsor Magazine* in an article on "The British Empire Shakespeare Society) consisted in the frequent statement that Shakespeare himself attained but little glory while he lived, and gained still less tribute from those who came after him within the century or more that followed. It is a point of curiosity that any such view should ever have obtained, either in print or in conversational argument, for, as a matter of fact, the praise of Shakespeare went onward in steady development and accumulation from the tributes of his contemporaries and immediate successors in literature—Rare Ben Jonson," Francis Meres ("the Muses would speak with Shakespeare's fine filed phrase, if they would speak English"), Richard Barnfield, John Weever, Michael Drayton, and others—to the magnificent eulogy of Milton's famous sonnet. And from Milton's time on, through the modish literature of the Restoration period, and the more pedantic feeling of eighteenth-century criticism, appreciation progressed, until the more humane spirit of nineteenth-century letters completed the shrine of appreciation that had gradually been built around the name and work of Stratford's seer. The compiler of "Shakespeare's Centurie of Prayse" gave an interesting survey of the continuity with which homage was paid to Shakespeare throughout the first century after his death, and Mr. C. E. Hughes, in his delightful volume "The Praise of Shakespeare," presents a still more comprehensive record, and one brought down to the tributes of our own day.

It is, however, somewhat curious, but still the fact, that the literary love for Shakespeare's work, and the resulting increase in the study of it, marched steadily onward side by side with a decreasing belief in the poet's plays as entertainments for the theatre-going public, until, by the middle of the Victorian era, only some half-dozen, or but few more than that, of the greater tragedies and comedies could be said any longer to hold the stage. Samuel Phelps, in his memorable management of Sadler's Wells Theatre, did his utmost to remove this reproach, but with the gradual passing of the actors trained in this tradition all but the more admittedly popular of Shakespeare's plays were relegated from the stage to the study again.

Throughout the period that ensued, however-before the full renaissance of the Shakespearean drama on the stage under the enlightened rule of the more literary of our modern actor-managers, the scholastic sense of the value of the Shakespearean repertoire continued steadily to increase in influence, and many sociable circles were formed, in towns and country districts alike, for the reading aloud of Shakespeare's plays by full casts of amateur readers, each of whom brought his or her personality to the representation of an individual character. One remembers how largely one's own early interest in Shakespeare's work was developed, after unillumined grammatical studies of mere textual points, by the reality and the atmosphere of dramatic action imparted for the first time to the printed words by the reading of them with the necessary variety of different voices for different characters. Even when readers were not especially qualified to suggest any very subtle psychology, the mere contrast of voice between two different characters helped importantly to bring out the real significance of dialogue, either in "short cue" passages of quick give-and-take or in the longer and more poetical speeches.

But excellent as was the intention, and, in many cases, the achievement also, of such groups of amateur enthusiasts, they suffered, as a rule, from lack of organisation. For a successful reading a sufficient number of people was the first essential, and how often one used to hear of postponements at the last moment through lack of numerical support within the confines of the one small social circle, while all the time neighbouring enthusiasts, personally unknown to the promoters of the meeting, would have been delighted to give their services!

It was organisation that was wanted—the evolution of some system which would form centres for the suppressed interest of young men and maidens, old men and children, who really wanted to read aloud and hear read aloud the works under the spell of which they had fallen. "The theatre is irresistible," cried Matthew Arnold; "*organise* the theatre." In this case it was the amateur theatre only, but owing to the vast size of it, organisation was possibly all the more important, certainly all the more essential. It was also the theatre in the largest sense of the term, that is, the Shakespearean drama not as subject-matter only for histrionic interpretation, but as a wide field for literary study and spiritual speculation, fruitful with influences of even national importance.

Some eight years ago Miss Greta Morritt, whose love of the Shakespearean drama led her to follow Matthew Arnold's precept and "organise" scattered enthusiasts already in existence into harmonious league with the many potential adherents of the rising generation, founded the British Empire Shakespeare Society.

In the earlier stages of her scheme Miss Morritt had the benefit of valuable advice and help from the late Sir Henry Irving, who became the first president of the Society; and when the work of correspondence and organisation had outgrown individual effort, Miss Morritt, five years ago, secured the invaluable co-operation of Mr. Acton Bond. Under their joint supervision the Society has extended its branches in all directions, until it has local honorary secretaries in close upon thirty different towns within the British Isles, "from John o' Groats to Land's End," as well as in Ireland, besides some ten in British Colonies.

The Society has had the sympathy and help, from its first stages onward, of many leaders of modern education and social progress, some of whom have contributed valuable lectures for the large audiences which the Society has assembled. Thus the Bishop of Ripon has taken the stage at a matinée in a crowded theatre, and given a notably illuminating address on "The Study of Shakespeare," the Bishop of Bristol has addressed a large gathering of the Society's members and friends, and both have taken part in the reading of plays by local "circles," as have also the Bishop of Knaresborough and the Bishop of Richmond. Canon Talbot has lectured on *Macbeth*, and Canon Beeching, Professor Boas, Professor Dowden, Sir Oliver Lodge, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Major-General Sir R. S. Baden-Powell, Lord Strathcona, and other distinguished public men have addressed meetings.

The vice-presidents of the Society, too, have constantly contributed support in various ways, the actor-managers, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, by lending their theatres for the public readings of the Society, and by taking part in those readings themselves, and the three last-named have also given interesting lectures. And Lord Howard de Walden, Mr. W. L. Courtney, Sir Charles Mathews, and Mr. Alan Mackinnon, have rendered valuable help to the Society's organisation and development. Many of our leading actors have likewise given the movement hearty support by consenting to add to the interest of its readings by taking a part in them, and eloquent lectures have been given at various branches by Mr. F. R. Benson—on "Shakespeare and the Fuller Life of the People"—Mr. Martin Harvey, and other distinguished players.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama, by Mrs. Morton Powell, entitled

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

Judging from the flattering reception accorded the latest drama from the pen of Mrs. Morton Powell on Monday last, she has once again shown her ability in exactly gauging the pulse of a popular audience. In the play the authoress claims to expose some of the temptations placed in the way of many working girls. Some of the scenes are highly dramatic. As Guy Warren, Mr. Frank V. Fenn, although inclined to be a bit too "stagey," was a success, his manly bearing throughout being most effective, and he deserved all the signs of approval he gained. A most artistic performance is that of Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Kate Stirling, who combines good nature, noble and fearless sentiment, brave self-reliance, and tender womanliness in a part which never relaxes hold upon the sympathies of the audience. Every praise must be accorded to Miss Amy Corallie for her acting of Jemima Jossap, which is one continuous success throughout. Mr. Clifton Earle's Mark Klaw is as cruel, as heartless, and as callous as a villain can be, and has the desired effect of winning him the frequent execrations of the audience, which in this instance is the sincerest compliment. As Lady Constance Heathfield, who aids Klaw in some of his nefarious schemes, Miss Winnie Donnovan brings out with characteristic force the cruel vindictiveness of the character. Miss Louie Walton who plays Mrs. Stirling, makes a deep impression; and Mr. Gerald Nolan is responsible for the dramatic effectiveness of Geoffrey Stirling. Mr. Charles Herbert is well placed as Basile Warren; and Mr. Tom Handley is good as the Hon. Charles Clade. Mr. Fred J. Mace as Jim Judd plays with a right appreciation of the part that is effective and clever; and Miss Blanche Lee as Annie Brown gives a fine character sketch, full of clever points. Mr. W. H. Grande as Moss Isaacstein, Mr. Laurence Whipstone as Hiram Pinch, and Mr. Andrew Clarke as P.C. Lockley ably sustain their parts. For the comedy part of Sammy Sniggles, Mr. Freddie Bentley plays with a great sense of humour, making a great success and keeping the audience in fits of laughter throughout the evening. Miss Constance Crew (Mrs. Fade), Miss Ada Butler (Grace Bearing), and Miss Nellie Clift (Mary Dewar) capably handle their parts, and the play is well staged and well managed by Mr. Fred J. Mace.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama entitled

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is presenting that stirring drama of naval and military life *The Girl of My Heart*. The play is thoroughly reminiscent of sea life, and the characters are well drawn. The scenes depicting the naval court-martial and military prison are followed with intense interest. Mr. Ernest Owtrim makes a handsome and manly hero, Will Stewart, the A.B. who goes through so much to win the girl of his heart. Mr. Henry Hare is so realistic as the black-hearted Major Fulton of Marines that the audience were glad to see him get his quietus. Mr. Ernest Rivarz makes a good Capt. Bridge, R.N.; Mr. Charles Herrick is very dramatic as the deserting Gunner Phillips; Mr. Philip Renouf is a tower of strength as the jolly bo'sun's mate, Ben Larky, and proves himself a great favourite; Mr. Fred Owen Stirling is the obnoxious Peter Swagg; Mr. William P. Sheen scores repeatedly as the henpecked Joshua Bradley; Mr. Morgan Rickards makes the most of his opportunities as Private Tim Hooley; Mr. Arthur Lambton is a dignified Colonel Dickson; Miss Gladys Purnell makes a pretty picture as the sailor's sweetheart, Mary Graham; Miss Marie Auckland plays the part of the mad Jenny Warden powerfully; Miss Florence Harcourt is bright and vivacious as the skittish Sarah Bradley; and Miss Marie Harcourt plays well as Mrs. Stewart.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, May 21, the Irish Drama,

"THE SHAUGHRAUN."

This week Dion Boucicault's evergreen drama is being presented by the stock company, with Mr. Newman Maurice as the "broth of a bhoy," Conn, the Shaughraun. In this rôle this clever comedian is seen to advantage, and his business in the Wake scene causes much amusement. Miss May Day is a sweet and artless Moya; and Miss Alice Belmore must be commended for her impersonation of the imperious Claire Ffolliott; Miss Marie Duncan is very attractive as Arte O'Niel; Mr. Charles Simms is capitally cast as the spy Harvey Duff, and his companion in villainy, Corry Kinchela, is well played by Mr. W. H. Porter. An ideal parish priest is found in Mr. Herbert Godard as Father Dolan. Mr. M. St. John is good as the unfortunate Robert Ffolliott. Mr. Charles Dickens is a most engaging English officer as Capt. Molyneaux; Mr. Vincent Loraine is a capital representative of Reilly; Miss Violet O'Neal is admirable as Bridget Madigan; and Miss Norah Reid makes good use of her opportunities as Nancy Malone, as does Miss Norah Layton as Mrs. Kelley. *The Shaughraun* is prettily mounted and staged, and picturesque scenery is provided.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama entitled

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

Mr. Ashley Page, Miss Marion Denvil, and the Pavilion company, who are presenting that celebrated drama *Saved from the Sea*, are given a hearty reception by crowded houses. This sensational and emotional play was first performed at this theatre some fifteen years ago. Mr. Ashley Page as Dan Ellington acts with strength and conviction, winning hearty applause. Mr. Fred Rivers makes excellent use of the opportunities afforded him in the part of Jim Weaver; Mr. Oswald Lingard enacts the rôle of the villain, Peter Scalcher, with power and dramatic skill; Mr. Alexander Bradley is a typical adventurer; Mr. Allan Carruthers extracts much humour from the part of Billy Snooks; Mr. Gwen Kinross is a gifted comedian, and invests the part of Farmer Jenkins with such drollery as to arouse continuous roars of laughter; Inspector Jennings is ably acted by Mr. Carlisle; and Mr. Arthur Estcourt makes an excellent Governor. Miss Marion Denvil plays the heroine, Nance Ellington, with fine dramatic power; as Polly Blake Miss Nellie James captivates the audience; and Miss Phyllis Orme makes an excellent mother.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 23, the Play, entitled

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

Hammersmith playgoers who appreciate the psychological have an opportunity this week of indulging their fancy by witnessing a mystical play presented in most intense fashion. The Prince Lucio Rimanez of Mr. Arthur Hinton is an admirable conception, the dual side of the character—the demon compelled to tempt man to sin, and the angel who, though fallen, rejoices at the overcoming of temptation — being sustained throughout with force and vigour. The Geoffrey Tempest of Mr. Travis Green lacks nothing in realism, and the part is invested with pathos and dignity. Miss Leila Zillwood is well chosen for the part of Lady Sybil Elton; the final love scene with Prince Lucio holds the audience rapt, whilst her depiction of Lady Sybil's death is quite tragic. Diana Chesney is well portrayed by Miss Shirley Dalton, who has an admirable scene, full of brightness and humour, in which she secures the hand of the aged Lord Elton, a part effectively played by Mr. Arthur Lowry. Miss Mabel Coleman as Mavis Clare wins all hearts by her gentleness and grace; Mr. Benthem and Mr. Ellis, played by Mr. Frank Brunelle and Mr. Harry Sidney, and Mr. Morgenson, the publisher, played by Mr. Clyde Anson, give a slight touch of comedy; whilst Mr. Charlton Morton as Lord Linton, Mr. Arthur Beaufort as Amiel, Mr. Roida Scan as Mr. Gibson, and Miss Maude Evans as the servant, are all efficient.

FULHAM THEATRE.

The Fulham Theatre is for the time being devoted to a special picture season, and the rattle of the cinematograph supplants the declamation of the histrion. Yet not entirely, as a certain number of dramatic sketches are given as well as the pictures. Two performances a night are being given, and the stricter rules of the "legitimate" theatre are relaxed in favour of the smoker, while the prices are, of course, considerably reduced. The first series contains some of the usual comical adventures, some good travel subjects, and two particularly fine films showing the funeral procession of King Edward at Hyde Park Corner and the carrying of the coffin into St. George's Chapel. The pictures are projected by the New Biscope Trading Co. A dramatic sketch concerning the matrimonial delinquencies of two young men and the wrath of their parents, is acted with much vigour by a cast of six. The ever-courteous manager, Mr. Merer, is still on the spot.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama, entitled

"ALONE IN LONDON."

The ever-popular drama *Alone in London*, written by Robert Buchanan and Harriett Jay, is being presented here for the current week by Mr. Chas. Gibbon, by arrangement with Mr. J. F. Elliston. The numerous members of the long cast render their parts in a very efficient manner and evoke much appreciation. The mounting is also worthy of note. Mr. Russell Norrie is well suited to the character of John Biddlecombe, the slow-and-sure miller, which he assumes in a natural manner. Miss Nellie Clyde essays the exacting rôle of Annie Meadows, afterwards known as Nan, the flower girl, very skilfully, and merits commendation for a praiseworthy rendering. As the adventurer and villain Dick Redcliffe Mr. Gerald Jordan distinguishes himself; Mr. Wallace Dunlop is amusing as Spriggins; Miss Laurie O'Neil supplies a clever study of Gipsy Tom; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson does justice to old Jenkinson. Mr. C. M. Davidson as the benevolent and rich banker Mr. Burnaby acts with sincerity and conviction; Mr. Charles Gibbon maintains a strong hold of the audience as Walter Burnaby; Miss Molly Monaghan offers a capital delineation of Mrs. Maloney, an Irishwoman, and achieves distinction; Miss Irene Stanhope makes a dainty Ruth Clifton, and is successful; Miss Carrie Young contributes a lively impersonation of Liz Jenkinson; Little Paul has an excellent representative in little Hetty Hornsby, who becomes most popular; and Mr Frank Caffrey supplies a goodly amount of comedy relief as Charlie Johnson.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 23, the Comedy Opera, entitled

"THE MERRY WIDOW."

Mr. Jules Richeux must be congratulated on securing such an exceedingly powerful "draw" as Mr. George Edwardes's company in the record breaking play of *The Merry Widow*. The opera is lavishly mounted and gorgeously dressed, and the acting and singing are of high artistic merit. Not the least attractive feature of the production is the dance performed by Miss Mary Ridley and Mr. Robert Needham, to the famous waltz refrain, and encores are repeatedly demanded. Miss Mary Ridley, in the title-rôle, invests the part of the Merry Widow with delicacy and feeling, and, being the possessor of a capital voice, she is accorded a flattering reception. Miss Mabel Hope as Natalie supplies an attractive and pleasing study, her vocal numbers being rendered in a charming manner. The character of Baron Popoff, the Marsovian Ambassador, is in the very capable hands of Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter, a comedian of excellent ability, who provokes roars of laughter whenever he is on the stage. Mr. Robert Needham is a clever exponent of the part of Prince Danilo, scoring heavily in a very humorous characterisation. Mr. Ronald Pomeroy as Vicomte Camille de Jolidon has an admirable and powerful voice, which he uses to the best advantage, and is entirely successful. Nisch is a most comical personage, as played by Mr. Harry Emeric, whose agile dancing is much appreciated. Miss Nesta Laurel as Frou-Frou also achieves distinction as a dancer. Minor characters in the cast are all undertaken by members of experience and ability.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama, entitled

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."

Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting *A Beautiful Fiend* to appreciative audiences. Mr. Herbert Skardon as Major Ivan Paulovitch, of the Russian Police, acts with a good deal of vigour and natural dignity, and is vigorously applauded as Count Fedor Karateff, of the Imperial Guards. Mr. Hugh Carmichael acts the autocrat to the life; and Mr. Howard Hardy as Sergius Strogoff gives a polished performance. Nadine Strogoff, a Russian heiress, has a pleasing representative in Miss Netta Mitchell; Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda Lubinoff takes the palm as a representative of female villainy, sustaining the character faithfully to the bitter end; Miss Anena Walton is a success as Patty Woodlands, maid to Nadine; and Mr. Henry Hellier as Malachai and Mr. Bert Woodin as Christopher Crackles make a decidedly comical couple.

THE BROADWAY, S.E.

On Monday, May 23, the Farcical Play entitled

"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

A bright and amusing bill this week consists of *The Brass Bottle*, which has delighted frequenters of this theatre and kept them laughing at the many farcical incidents until the fall of the curtain. The play is admirably acted throughout. Mr. Lawrence Grossmith is exactly suited to the part of Horace Ventimore, which he plays capitally, making the most of the many chances in the part; Mr. Holman Clark is a capital Fakrash-el-Ramash, the Spirit of the Bottle; Mr. Percy Marshall gives a highly-humorous portrait of the Professor; as Spencer Pringle Mr. Rudge Harding is really excellent; Mr. Luigi Lablache gives a clever rendering of Samuel Wackerbath; Mr. Harry Norton as Rapkin is very amusing; as are Messrs. A. Spencer and V. Holman in their respective parts. Miss Lena Haliday is a charming Mrs. Futvoye; Miss Sylvia Futvoye has an attractive representative in Miss Viva Birkett; Miss Mary Brough plays Mrs. Rapkin in her own inimitable fashion; and Miss Armine Grace, Miss Gladys Story, and Miss Meda de Burgh all give valuable assistance.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

The programme for the last few weeks at the Alexandra Theatre has consisted of a cinematograph entertainment, with a farce introduced about half way through the evening to lend variety to the proceedings. This week the farce selected is Brough and Halliday's *The Area Belle*, one of the many pieces founded on the theme of "high life below stairs." Penelope, the belle of the area, who entertains her various lovers in the kitchen in the absence of her mistress, has a pert and alert representative in Miss Gertrude Melville, who infuses a considerable amount of go and spirit into her impersonation. Her two principal lovers, Pitcher, the policeman, and Tosser, the soldier, have adequate exponents in Mr. Henry J. Corner and Mr. Henry Hallatt, who extract all the possible fun out of the material at their command; Walker Chalks, the milkman, is played by Mr. J. J. Daly with a certain idea of character; and Mr. Ridgewood Barrie appears as Snooks, a sweep. Mrs. Lorraine as Mrs. Croker, Penelope's mistress, is duly truculent and overbearing.

Of the films shown this week, the best and undoubtedly most popular one is that depicting scenes of the funeral of our late King from the time of its leaving Westminster Hall to its arrival at St. George's Chapel at Windsor. To those not privileged to witness the actual procession no better means could be afforded of forming an idea of the grandeur and solemnity of last week's sad and historic pageant. Cheese and Kisses and Calino's Dinner-Party, on the lighter side, provoke plenty of laughter; whilst the doings of the hero Lieut. Rose and the Foreign Spy evoke enthusiastic applause. The Centurion's Daughter, a story of Rome in the time of Nero, Rebellious Betty, The Little Orphan, and His Spanish Wife are amongst the other pictures shown. Smoking is now permitted in the theatre, and good houses are attracted by the management's change of policy.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled

"THE BONDMAN."

The return visit of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in *The Bondman*, attracted a very large audience to the Borough Theatre, on the opening night of the week. Several changes have taken place in the cast since the piece was here before, and, without making invidious comparisons, we must say that we do not remember this powerful play previously taking such a grip as it did upon Monday's audience. This was especially noticeable in the sulphur mines scene, when the half-brothers, Michael and Jason, are together after the explosion. The ill-starred Jason is debating whether to fetch his wounded brother some much-needed water, and the involuntary encouragement in the applause is unmistakable. The piece is splendidly staged, and this strong booking should find its due reflection in the box-office receipts. Mr. Stanley Harrison, as Jason, possesses the necessary physical attributes for the part, has an agreeably distinct delivery, and acts throughout with vigour and variety. Mr. Philip Darien portrays the varying fortunes of Michael Sunlocks with ease and fluency, and looks the part well. As Greeba Miss Violet Macaree displays much histrionic ability, but a tendency to speak too quickly should be avoided. Miss Madge Lanerton plays the sharp-tongued Mrs. Fairbrother to the manner born; and Adam Fairbrother has a genial representative in Mr. Wilfred Beckwith. Mr. W. H. Rotherham portrays the simple senility of the Grandfather very aptly, and is subsequently seen to much advantage as the reformed priest, Father Ferrati. Mr. Fred J. Waller portrays the plotting Dr. Boni with subtle strength; Mr. Alfred Fisher plays capitally as the brusque, over-bearing Governor Festa; and Mr. Cecil H. Ford is well placed as the Marshal of Police; Miss Emilie Mayhew is excellent as Christian Anne; and the child Mona is intelligently played by Miss Beatrice Hughes. Remaining parts in a long cast are all satisfactorily filled.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 23, the Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled

"THE LIFE OF AN ACTRESS."

For the second week of his engagement at the Stratford Theatre Royal, Mr. A. B. Mackay is presenting Dion Boucicault's old-time success, *The Life of an Actress; or, Grimaldi, the Clown*, and the piece is playing to excellent business. As the aged histrion Grimaldi, whose love for his adopted child Violet is his one solace, Mr. A. B. Mackay very cleverly blends the mannerisms, petulance, and childish humour with the remaining undimmed ability of the former clown, and his performance is decidedly popular. Miss Ida Mackay as Violet, the actress, who makes her *début* under Grimaldi's tuition, looks very becoming, and acts with grace and animation. Mr. E. Finlay plays forcibly as Maltravers; and Mr. L. Newman is a robust representative of Lord Arthur Shafton. Mr. Graham Hamlyn plays the insipid Dudley Selwyn very appropriately; and Mr. W. C. Black is really good as Mr. Wapshott. Miss Lillie Lewis plays Julia in suitable cynical style; and Mrs. Corlass, in the dual rôle of Bridget and Lady Beaumarris is entirely satisfactory. Mr. J. Corlass, Mr. J. Brown, Mr. A. Leslie, and Miss T. Leighton complete an able cast. For Friday night *Trilby* was in the bill with Mr. A. B. Mackay as Svengali.

MME. KATE FLINN'S "AT HOME."

On Wednesday afternoon, at 11, Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square, Mme. Kate Flinn gave a very successful musical "At Home," at which several of Mme. Flinn's pupils greatly distinguished themselves. Among the guests invited were Mrs. Kendal, Miss Fanny Brough, Sir Charles and Lady Friswell, Lady Glover, Lady Prescott, Lady St. Davids, Mrs. Alfred Bishop, Dr. and Mrs. Knowsley Sibley, Mr. and Mrs. R. Strauss, Mrs. Robert Kerr, Miss Sarah Brooke, Lady Huntington, Sir Alfred and Lady Turner, Lady Taverner, Col. and Mrs. Gore, Mr. and Mrs. James Welch, Lady Rivett-Carnac, Sir Lucius and Lady Selfe, Lady Bloomfield, Mrs. Tobin, Mrs. Coleman, and many others.

The charming "Barcarolle" of Offenbach from the opera *Tales of Hoffman* was most ably sung by Miss Ruby Cobbett and Miss Millicent Le Hay, and Miss Erwin greatly pleased the audience by her skilful rendering of "Caro Nome," from Verdi's opera, by no means an easy task under more favourable conditions than at a crowded "At Home." Miss Elsie Trowell was also very successful in her recitation "Devil May Care," and Miss Muriel Franlinsky gave Arditi's favourite waltz song "Il Bacio" with considerable ability. To vary the vocal items, Mr. Sivori Levey, in songs at the piano, gave the audience good advice on the principle that "many a true word is spoken in jest." Mr. Levey's first song was "Smile," and, as this so pleased, he followed it by "Don't worry," an excellent thing to remember at all times, if one only can. Mr. G. Harding, who has a very pleasing voice, sang "Beauty's Eyes," while Miss Daphne Glenne, of Daly's Theatre, charmed the audience with a pretty song. A well-played violin solo was given by Miss Trowell, and other talented pupils of Mme. Flinn were Miss Houlder, Miss Von Taysen, and a clever child performer, Miss Corona Van Homan.

M. Mlynarski has been appointed conductor of the concerts of the Glasgow Choral and Orchestral Union for next season. He is an able conductor, but one cannot help regretting that a native conductor could not have been found to succeed Dr. Cowen.

One of the shortest strikes on record broke out at the Théâtre Antoine on Wednesday night. The piece now being played at this theatre is *La Fille Elisa*. One of the scenes represents an Assize Court, and when the time arrived for the stage-hands to prepare it they came out on strike, declaring that they would remain out unless the foreman, of whom they had to complain, was discharged. The manager pointed out that the action of the stage-hands was singular, and that he himself would be seriously affected by the strike, even though the men had no fault to find with him in his treatment of them. The strikers saw the manager's point. They confessed that he had done them no wrong. They returned to their work, set the scene for the Assize Court, and the performance was resumed. After the play there were further explanations, and the strike, which had lasted exactly ten minutes, was declared at an end.

'THE MASTER OF THE MILL."

Drama, in Four Acts, Adapted from a story of the same name by Henry St. John Cooper, Produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Monday, May 23.

John Greenfield ..... Mr. Lawrence Derrick
Tom Bolton ..... Mr. Riddell Robinson
Julian Croft ..... Mr. Edward Thane
Adam Davenport ..... Mr. Edwin Bennett
Braithwaite ..... Mr. J. W. Hooper
Dykes ..... Mr. Stephen Nicholls
Collins ..... Mr. Martin Sands
Mr. Furnival ..... Mr. Herbert Stevens
Inspector Rawlings ..... Mr. Frank Ward
Nibbley ..... Mr. Jack West
Tackett ..... Mr. Will Crook
Phillip Darton ..... Mr. Jack Martin
Nancy ..... Miss Kathleen Russell
Mrs. Ray ..... Miss Annie Barclay
Isabel Ware ..... Miss Mary Allestree
Kate Rigby ..... Miss Alice Chapin
First Mill Girl ..... Miss Dinah Wright

All the necessary ingredients of a popular melodrama—exciting situations, telling lines, and plenty of comedy relief—are to be found in *The Master of the Mill*, produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Monday. Mr. H. St. John Cooper has written an interesting play, but it would be an improvement to dispense with one or two of the scenes, and present it in three acts instead of four, some of the interruptions being unnecessary. The play opens in the woods of Chevedon Manor, the home of "the master of the mill," old John Greenfield. He has two nephews, Tom Bolton and Julian Croft—respectively hero and villain. Julian easily succeeds by lying tales in stirring up strife between Tom and his uncle, and the former decides to turn out from the old home and seek employment, a friend, Adam Davenport, gladly offering him a humble position in his mill. Tom has fallen in love with a mill lass, Nancy Ray, and becomes a lodger in her mother's house. He has previously declined to engage himself to an heiress, Isabel Ware, much to the chagrin of his uncle and the joy of Julian, who is anxious to wed that lady himself. Isabel, piqued at Tom's indifference, swears to be revenged, and, of course, is aided by Julian. That smooth-tongued scoundrel, however has forgotten for the moment his marriage to Kate Rigby, whom he has wedded under the name of Tom Bolton, and deserted, and who is now a "drifting straw on the ocean of life"—a weak, degraded creature, whose only consolation is the gin bottle.

Tom's mates at the mill—especially Collins a work-shy—have taken a violent antipathy to him, thinking he has been taken on as a spy, and show their dislike to him in unmistakable fashion; but when they enter his lodgings and try and prevent him going to see his uncle who is seriously ill, he speedily clears them out of the way. He is now married to Nancy, and in the next scene introduces his wife to his uncle just as the latter is expiring, and thus thwarts Julian, who would have been Greenfield's heir if Bolton had not married before the old man's death. In the next scene Tom is master at the Manor House, but he is far from happy, being estranged from his wife, whom he accuses of tricking him into the marriage on learning the terms of Greenfield's will. The distraught Nancy pleads to be allowed to go back to work at the mill, but Tom will not give his consent. Still believing that his cousin Julian is his best friend Tom allows that worthy and Isabel to remain at the Manor House. Here Kate turns up to remind her husband of her existence, and is promptly strangled by that scoundrel, her body being hidden in a coppice. Isabel, unknown to Julian, has witnessed the crime. Of course, Tom is accused of the murder, and as the marriage certificate found on the dead woman's body bears the name of Tom Bolton, the evidence is strong against him.

The wronged Nancy and Adam Devonport are the only ones who stand by him, and eventually they come across Philip Darton, a broken-down adventurer, who was a witness of Julian's marriage and can identify him. Julian has, however, previously come to terms with Philip to keep silent but has neglected to pay over the money promised. Isabel, in a delirium which accompanies an illness, denounces Julian as the murderer of his wife, and the villain is on the point of killing her also, but is interrupted by the entrance of Nancy. Ere husband and wife are reunited, however, he adds another murder to his account by despatching Darton, and is then marched off to durance vile, glorying in his crime.

The piece was creditably enacted throughout, but some of the principals will be seen to better advantage when they are more familiar with their lines. Mr. Lawrence Derrick was a capable and careful representative of John Greenfield, particularly affecting being the scene where the dying old man learns how cruelly he has wronged Tom. Mr. Riddell Robinson gave an earnest and convincing enactment of the hero, especially natural being his acting in the lighter episodes of the play, where he makes love to Nancy, his portrayal of Tom's anguish when he imagines his wife has wedded him for his money also being effective. Villainy had a polished and plausible portrayal from Mr. Edward Thane, who can be complimented on an excellent performance throughout; and Mr. Edwin Bennett had a very thankful rôle in the good-natured and gallant Adam Davenport, and contributed an easy and effective representation. Especially meritorious was Mr. J. W. Hooper as Braithwaite, a bibulous "work shy," the business and behaviour generally of this amusing character being very cleverly thought out and executed by the actor; and Dykes, an individual of the same kidney, was also humorously undertaken by Mr. Stephen Nicholls. Mr. Martin Sands deserving credit for a powerful performance of the ill-tempered, disappointed Collins. As the dilapidated Darton, the broken-down swell of an adventurer, Mr. Jack Martin was responsible for a quietly humorous and very effective study; and the other male parts were all ably undertaken. Miss Kathleen Russell, alike as the poor mill-girl and afterwards as the wife of Tom, submitted a very pleasing and natural portrayal, especially pathetic being the scene where she implores Tom to believe that her love for him is sincere, and her handling of the prison-scene was also excellent, her impersonation throughout being entirely praiseworthy. Miss Mary Allestree cleverly suggested the jealousy of Isabel Ware, and the episode where she denounces Julian as the murderer of Kate Rigby was realistically enacted; and the gin-sodden Kate was also a clever study by Miss Alice Chapin, the actress faithfully depicting all the unpleasant features of this difficult character. The loquacious, but good-hearted Mrs. Ray was naturally played by Miss Annie Barclay, and soon became a great favourite. The scenery fulfilled all requirements, the scene outside Low's Mills being particularly effective.

RE BAD BUSINESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As we have heard so many conflicting reports lately of both good and bad business, and of the detriment to theatres of the picture palaces, it may interest my brother touring acting-managers to know what can be done with an animated picture performance. My final return at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Whit Monday (first house) resulted in a total gross taking of 2s. 4d.—Yours faithfully, WENTWORTH CROKE.

17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., May 23.

Mr. Albert Leigh, of the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, paid salaries in full last week (the occasion of the King's funeral). This was much appreciated by the artists engaged.

THE ALDBOURNE PLAYERS AT THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 23, for the First Time in London, the Cottage Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles M'Evoy, entitled,

"THE VILLAGE WEDDING."

Sarah Picter ..... Miss Mabel Hedges
Robert Beal ..... Mr. Charles Martin
Daisy Picter ..... Miss Alice Cook
Lizzy Beal ..... Miss Agnes Stroud
Fanny Picter ..... Miss Edith Palmer
Polly Saunders ..... Miss Lilian Lake
George Hicks ..... Mr. Charles Tucker
Dick Strong ..... Mr. Edward Hawkins
William Picter ..... Mr. George Jerram
Albert Black ..... Mr. John Orchard
A Tramp ..... Mr. William Freemantle
A Gamekeeper ..... Mr. John Tucker
Second Gamekeeper ..... Mr. E. Sheppherd
A Policeman ..... Mr. E. Barns

Unique entertainment is presented at the Coronet Theatre this week, Mr. Charles M'Evoy having brought his company of rustic players from the Wiltshire village of Aldbourne, where his play was first produced on the afternoon of Feb. 26, in the presence of many distinguished visitors. *The Village Wedding* is a simple story, simply told, what little action there is not being always convincing; and an introduced scene of a poaching affray is the least real thing in the play. But the studies of character are delightful, the somewhat solemn wedding festivities being very amusing, and the performance as a whole proved most enjoyable.

The scene of the first act is old Robert Beal's cottage, where preparations are being made for the marriage of his daughter Lizzie and George Hicks. The old man is too infirm to go to the church, and is left in charge of a little girl, Daisy Picter. A tramp calls, and is admitted, and eventually freely partakes of beer, the old man also imbibing more than is good for him. The wedding is, of course, the topic of conversation, and Beal tells the tramp a story of a certain Dan, a relative, who has been in Canada for years, and has left a suit of black clothes in Robert's charge. The tramp, whilst Robert is dozing, finds out where the clothes are kept, takes them, and then leaves. The next scene is a representation of the wedding festivities, the most exhilarating item of which is the dance. Songs and speeches are indulged in, the attempts at oratory of two of the male guests being very funny.

A song is interrupted by the appearance of the tramp, dressed in the stolen suit. He poses as the relative from Canada, and is made welcome, and eventually George's friends persuade the bridegroom to take advantage of the moonlight night, and go with them in search of birds, Lizzie being left alone. The new act is then introduced, showing George and his friends snaring rabbits, and the struggle with the keepers and police, and capture of the party. The tramp escapes, and returns to the cottage, where he finds Lizzie sitting up for her husband. Taking advantage of her loneliness, he tries to kiss her, but she repulses his unwelcome attentions, and cries for help. After a rather prolonged struggle, old Beal, who had retired upstairs to rest, comes down, armed with a gun, and threatens to shoot the tramp if he moves. The scamp throws up his arms, and is kept in that position till the arrival of George and his friends, when he receives a severe pummelling, and is at last allowed to get away, Lizzie and George becoming reconciled.

All the players faithfully realize the characters they represent, and their acting is apparently quite unstudied. A fine presentment of senility, not in the least over-coloured, is that of Mr. Charles Martin as old Robert Beal; the sedate Sarah Picter of Miss Mabel Hedges is a most realistic creation; the sheepish bridegroom, George, and his wife, Lizzie, were admirably portrayed by Mr. Charles Tucker and Miss Agnes Stroud; the two male guests, William Picter and Dick Strong, were amusingly limned by Mr. Edward Hawkins and Mr George Jerram; and the little maid, Daisy Picter, who is inclined to resent the commanding attitude of the tramp, is carefully played by Miss Alice Cook. The other players all contribute valuably to this realistic picture of English village life, and the enterprise of Mr. M'Evoy in providing Londoners with such a novel and interesting entertainment should find appreciation in large audiences during the remainder of the visit of the Aldbourne actors.

COMPLIMENTARY MATINEE TO MR. EDWARD RUSSELL.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE, FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1910.

For the past forty years Mr. Edward (Teddy) Russell has been connected with the management of several of the leading London theatres. In the early 'eighties he was lessee and manager of the Haymarket, the interests of which he acquired from the Bancrofts, whom he succeeded, and his management was marked by several successful productions, including that powerful play, *Jim the Penman*, in which Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and Mr. E. S. Willard took the leading characters.

In the 'seventies Mr. Russell filled the responsible position of acting-manager to Mr. H. L. Bateman at the Lyceum and subsequently fulfilled similar duties for Henry Irving, thus continuing an early friendship which lasted for more than fifty years.

In more recent times fortune has not smiled too kindly on Mr. Russell, and in August last he was the unfortunate victim of a taxi-cab accident, owing to which he has been unable to carry out some important work he had in hand. An action against the cab company was settled out of court by his solicitor, who received the money, but Mr. Russell was unable to obtain a settlement. The solicitor in question committed suicide in February last, leaving a bankrupt estate, with the result that Mr. Russell will never get a penny of the money due to him.

In these unfortunate circumstances Mr. Russell, after many years of strenuous effort, in impaired health and strength and without resources of any kind, is reluctantly compelled to appeal to friends to stretch forth a helping hand. By kind permission of Mr. H. B. Irving a complimentary matinée will be held at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, on Friday, June 3 next. Subjoined is a list of those who have already promised their support: Chairman, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree; Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. John Beauchamp, Mr. C. Sugden, Mr. Edward Gurney, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Holmes Gore, Mr. E. C. Maurice, Mr. T. P. Haynes, Lady Tree, Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Mr. James Fernandez, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Ernest Leicester, Mr. Forbes Dawson, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Miss Ellen Terry. Those desirous of assisting in the good cause will oblige by communicating with Herbert Blackmore (hon. sec.), 11, Garrick-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

On Wednesday, at the Boudoir Theatre, Pembroke-gardens, the Poetry Recital Society presented abridged versions of the Prologue to the Canterbury Tales the Pardoner's Tale and the Nuns' Priest's Tale in the costume and the pronunciation of the fourteenth century. The arrangements for the performance had their origin in the production last year, at University College, of several excerpts from Shakespeare's plays rendered according to the accepted Shakespearean pronunciation.

MR. FRANK CURZON LIBELLED.

In the Court of King's Bench, on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Darling and a special jury, Mr. Frank Curzon, the well-known theatrical manager, sued Mr. Philip Ellissen, stockbroker, for damages for an alleged slander. The defendant denied that the words complained of bore the meaning which had been put upon them.

Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., who appeared for the plaintiff, said that the action had been brought, not for the purpose of obtaining damages, but with the object of putting a stop to a rumour which had been circulated with regard to the relations between Mr. Curzon and his wife. In 1908 Mr. Curzon, having information which he thought he could rely on, presented a petition for divorce, but it was subsequently withdrawn. He and his wife separated. Mr. Curzon was a man of large means, and the words of which he complained imputed that he had acted very discreditably. On Oct. 9 Mr. Ellissen was at a house to which members of the theatrical profession resorted—the Corner House, opposite the Prince of Wales's Theatre—and in the presence of several persons he made the following statement:—

"Curzon deserted his wife, leaving her practically penniless and dependent on her people. He brought a divorce suit against her merely as a bluff."

Mr. Curzon wrote to Mr. Ellissen as follows: "My dear Ellissen,—It has been repeated to me that on Saturday last in the Corner House you publicly made a false statement concerning myself—namely that I had 'deserted my wife, leaving her practically penniless and dependent on her people,' and further, that I 'brought a divorce suit against her merely as a bluff.' Both statements are absolutely false and slanderous. Will you kindly give me the name of your informant?"

In reply Mr. Ellissen wrote:

"Dear Frank,—I was surprised to receive your letter this morning. I could not if I would give you the name of my informant, because I do not remember it. I did hear the rumours, which I foolishly repeated. It is no use asking me to give the name, but I am willing to make any reparation possible."

If people repeated statements of this kind, counsel said, they were personally responsible. Mr. Curzon would go into the witness-box and produce books to show that so far from leaving his wife penniless he made her an allowance of more than £25 a week.

Mr. Justice Darling: What more could Mr. Ellissen have done? In a letter to Mr. Curzon's solicitor he says: "I have received your letter. As I wrote to Mr. Curzon, I could not give him the name of my informant, because I do not remember it. I regret very much having caused annoyance by repeating this gossip, and am willing to make any reparation possible." He repeated in the Corner House gossip which I suppose he had heard in another corner house.

Mr. Marshall Hall: I submit that Mr. Curzon is entitled to come here and show that there is no foundation for the injurious statements.

His Lordship: There is no plea of justification on the record, and I cannot allow Mr. Curzon to use this court for proving what is not in issue. Nobody says that he did not make his wife an allowance, and the court cannot be used as a kind of annexe to the Corner House to correct what is said there.

Mr. Marshall Hall: I contend that Mr. Curzon is entitled to go into the witness-box and deny that there is any truth in the statements which Mr. Ellissen repeated.

His Lordship: Mr. Curzon can do that, but he cannot produce books showing that he has made his wife a certain allowance, because that point is not in issue.

Mr. Curzon, examined, said the statements of which he complained caused him considerable pain and annoyance. They were absolutely untrue. He left his wife in October, 1906, for very good cause; he did not approve of the people she associated with. He made her a liberal allowance amounting to over £25 a week, and it was paid regularly.

Mr. Hogg, at this stage, said Mr. Ellissen was perfectly willing to express publicly in court what he had already said privately, that he regretted very much that he should have been misled into uttering statements which he now believed to be quite without foundation. Mr. Ellissen would indemnify Mr. Curzon against any expenses to which he had been put.

His Lordship: That means there will be judgment for Mr. Curzon for 1s. and the costs of the action.

AN interesting little ceremony was carried out in the Londonderry Opera House on Monday night, when Mr. Payne Seddon presented his manager, Mr. Warton, with a purse of gold on the occasion of his benefit night. In the course of a felicitous little speech, Mr. Payne Seddon said that in the making of a successful manager he would award points as at a cattle show. He would give 25 points for maintaining the comfort of patrons, keeping good order, and cleanliness; he would give another 25 points for gauging the public taste correctly; and he would give 25 points for giving satisfaction to the employer. The last 25 points would be the most difficult to earn. He would be a good manager, indeed, who could suit everybody. (Laughter.). Mr. Payne Seddon added Mr. Warton was the best manager he had ever had, and announced, amid applause, that he had secured a contract with him for next year.

LATER, Mr. Seddon outlined to his patrons a scheme of improvements he intends to carry out during the vacation, which includes better exits from the dress circles and stalls. Mr. Seddon declared that this year had surpassed all others, and he also made the important announcement that he intended to turn his Irish business into a public company, so that his patrons might participate in the profits as well as the fare provided.

"FIFTY YEARS IN THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT" is the title of a book about to be issued by Mr. M. B. Leavitt, a name well known in the theatrical world on both sides of the Atlantic. It is intended to be a volume of history, reminiscence, and anecdote, and the comprehensive nature of the work may be gathered from the headings, which include The Beginning of the Theatrical Circuit System in America, The Commercialism of the Theatre at the Present Time, The New Theatre: Its Aims and Possibilities, The Theatrical Clubs of New York and London, Dramatic Stars of the American and English Stage, A Comparison of the Theatres of New York and London, The Personalities of the Dramatic and Musical Critics of England and America, and The Actor-Managers of America and England.

MR. T. F. DOYLE, the general manager of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, has reached his fiftieth year in the profession, and a movement has been set on foot by a committee of influential gentlemen of Bradford to present him with a recognition of his services to the stage and the public. Mr. Doyle has had a vast experience, and began his professional career as a super at the Surrey Theatre, and during his half century of stage life has played with such stars as Jefferson, J. L. Toole, Sims Reeves, Barry Sullivan, Charles Matthews, Phelps, Compton, Charles Dillon, T. C. King, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Miss Ellen Terry, Nelly Farren, and Adelaide Neilson. He has been connected with the city of Bradford for the last thirty years.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY TAYLOR.

Widespread regret will be expressed throughout the whole of the theatrical world at the death of Mr. Henry Taylor, who for many years directed the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe. Mr. Taylor was known throughout the country, and for something like twenty-seven years held sway at the popular Crewe establishment. Mr. Taylor—known in the profession as "Harry"—died rather suddenly at Cheadle, Manchester, late on Wednesday night, and much sympathy will be expressed with his bereaved family.

The deceased was sixty-eight years of age, and had been in the business practically all his life. His association with matters theatrical began in the fifties, when he became connected with the stock company under the direction of the late F. B. Egan at the Old Queen's Theatre in Spring-gardens, Manchester, of which city he was a native. During the time Mr. Taylor remained a member of the Queen's company he was associated with such well-known artists as Walter Montgomery, M'Kean Buchanan, Mme. Celeste, William M'Intyre, and Charles Horsman, all of whom, though familiar to last century playgoers, have since "gone over to the majority." Mr. Taylor was afterwards associated with stock companies in the North Staffordshire circuit, but experiences of the "bogus" manager—who existed at so remote a date as the early sixties—estranged him from the profession for some time. He went abroad, and spent four-and-a-half years in travels, which extended to Vancouver Island, the ports in Puget Sound and California, the Sandwich Islands, Chili, and Peru. During his sojourn in these countries he had opportunities of renewing his acquaintance with Mr. M'Kean Buchanan and Miss Emily Thorne in San Francisco.

On his return to England Mr. Taylor established himself in Crewe as a printer, and nearly twenty years ago, after being associated for many seasons with a number of amateurs, he conceived and carried out the idea of founding a theatre in the town of his adoption. For a number of years the improvised temple of the drama served to accommodate the somewhat scanty audiences who patronised this class of entertainment; but there was much local prejudice to combat, and many a wordy newspaper war, in which Mr. Taylor always managed to hold his own, had to be fought in defence of the theatre as an institution and the drama as an elevating form of entertainment. In 1887 the present pretty and well-appointed theatre was built and opened on the site of the old Lyceum (opened in 1881), the proprietors being a limited company for whom Mr. Taylor was the manager. Eventually he became the lessee and manager, still retaining a considerable holding in the limited company, a position which he retained up to a couple of years ago. From his patrons Mr. Taylor annually received warm evidence of the esteem in which he was held by the crowded houses which greeted him on the

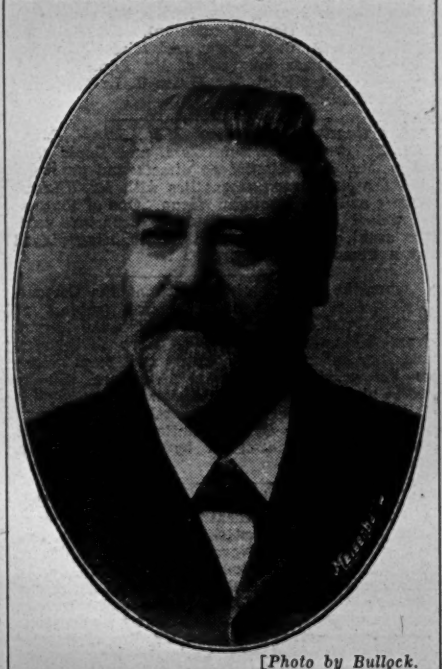

[*Photo by Bullock.*

THE LATE HENRY TAYLOR.

pleasant anniversaries of his benefit. For a number of years Mr. Taylor occupied uninterruptedly a seat on the Crewe Town Council, of which body he was a most active member.

AT Lambeth Coroner's Court on the 19th inst. Mr. Troutbeck held an inquest on the body of Ellen Fletcher, aged 74, of Guinness Buildings, Vauxhall, who was found dead in her room. The deceased lady was the widow of Mr. Charles P. Fletcher, professionally known as C. P. Flockton, a well-known London actor, who died in San Francisco in July, 1904. Mr. Fletcher played many parts at the Charing Cross Theatre, the old Globe Theatre in Newcastle-street, Strand (when Harry Montague ran that house in the seventies), at the St. James's Theatre, and at the Opera Comique.

A WITNESS who had known Mrs. Fletcher for twelve years, said that of late she had been eccentric, and would not allow anyone in her rooms. The old lady was heard moving about on the Sunday, and on Tuesday, as she had not been seen, an entry was effected, and she was found dead on the floor of her bedroom. Medical evidence was given that death was due to heart failure, and a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

IN consequence of the death of His Majesty King Edward VII., the Shakespeare ball, in aid of the funds of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, which was to have been held at the Albert Hall on June 27, has been postponed until next year. The committee are grateful for the great interest and support which has been accorded, and they also wish to thank the many distinguished and influential ladies who have given such generous assistance and co-operation.

MR. W. WILSON BLAKE concluded two tours as stage-manager for Mr. Ian Robertson's *Passing of the Third Floor Back* company at the Opera House, Harrogate, on Wednesday, and has been re-engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur for the stock season at Kennington Theatre. Mr. Blake has not yet settled his autumn arrangements.

"JIM THE PENMAN," recently revived by Mr. William A. Brady in New York, was produced at the Haymarket Theatre, the date of the first performance being April 3, 1886. The original cast was as follows:—James Ralston, Mr. Arthur Dacre; Louis Percival, Mr. Maurice Barrymore; Baron Hartfeld, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree; Captain Redwood, Mr. Charles Brookfield; Lord Drelincourt, Mr. Edmund Maurice; George Ralston, Mr. Frank Rodney; Mr. Chapstone, Q.C., Mr. Forbes Dawson; Mr. Netherby, M.P., Mr. Ulick Winter; Dr. Pettywise, Mr. P. Ben Greet; Butler, Mr. Basil West; Agnes Ralston, Miss Helen Leyton; Lady Dunscombe, Miss Henrietta Lindley; Mrs. Chapstone, Mrs. E. H. Brooke; Mrs. Ralston, Lady Monckton. Later, Mr. E. S. Willard gave a very fine performance of the title-rôle.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR HERBERT ST. JOHN.

Born in London, educated at St. George's College, Weybridge, and Polytechnic, Mr. Herbert St. John, like many others of his calling, was originally a divinity student for the Roman Catholic Church, but realising that he had no vocation for the priesthood, he obtained a good position in the Civil Service. Having worked several concerts successfully, Mr. St. John succumbed to the fascinations of the stage, his first important engagement being in Ben Greet's *Second in Command*, in which he played a small part with just three lines and a laugh. Before the tour had finished he was playing a juvenile part in the same company, continuing in it for the following tour. Then came his experience in character, Mr. Greet entrusting him with parts in *Caste*, Moses in *School for Scandal*, Craigin in *Sherlock Holmes*, the solicitor in *Sweet Lavender*, &c. Some time after Mr. St. John was engaged by Sir Herbert—

MR. HERBERT ST. JOHN.

then Mr.—Tree for the parts of Sir Evelyn Wise and Maestro de Camera in the No. 1 *Eternal City*, in which Miss Maud Jeffries and Mr. Philip Cunningham appeared.

A love for music and dancing encouraged Mr. St. John to pass into a lighter class of work, to wit, *An English Daisy*, in which he played Lieut. Dick Pepler, a juvenile part, going from that to a dude part, Lord Hummingtop in *The New Mephisto*, and finishing his engagement on the last tour by playing the title-rôle. Then came an engagement as Captain Donegal in *Florodora* No. 1, extending over several tours. Subsequently, he returned to his old part of Dick Wargrave in the No. 1 *Earl and the Girl* company, which he considers is one of the finest juvenile characters written.

Between his various regular engagements Mr. St. John has managed concert parties, the last being "Middies and Maids." He also travelled as principal comedian of a concert party in Canada and Newfoundland, and on his return toured the music halls with his sketch *My Tiger Lily*. This led to a pantomime engagement as Dandini, in *Cinderella*, at the Brixton Theatre. Mr. St. John has played under the managements of Beerbohm Tree, Ben Greet, Milton Bode, Chas. Macdona, Bannister Howard, Stevens and Buchanan, and many others. His hobbies are golf, roller-skating, boating, and music.

MR. WALTER LAKE SCHONBERG.

Beginning about fourteen years ago as call boy at Drury Lane, Mr. W. L. Schonberg subsequently went on tour with the Drury Lane company in *Hearts are Trumps*, following which came a season with *A Man of His Word*, with Mr. Herbert Waring, for London season. Mr. George Hawtrey engaged him next for the Comedy Theatre, and he has also fulfilled engagements at the Comedy. Returning to the Imperial, this time under Mrs. Langtry's direction, he started an engagement which extended for a period of about three years, during which he fulfilled the duties of assistant stage-manager, in addition to playing parts in *Mlle. Mars*, *Her Own Way*, *Cross Ways*, and in that great success *The Degenerates*.

Our next record shows Mr. Schonberg supporting

[*Photo by Nesbitt.*

MR. W. LAKE SCHONBERG.

Miss Ellen Terry in *The Vikings*. Then Miss Annie Hughes offered him an engagement to appear with her at the Avenue in *Lorna Doone*. He was also at the Savoy with Mrs. Brown Potter in *Du Barry*. After this he went back to Drury Lane to appear in the original production of *The Flood Tide*, with which piece he went on tour, but returned in time to appear in the original cast of *The Prodigal Son* at the "Lane."

Amongst his many other engagements Mr. Schonberg was in the revival of *The Prodigal Son* at the Adelphi, and also assisted at the reopening of the Britannia, Hoxton, playing O'Grieff in *The Flood Tide*. He had a wide and valuable experience during the three years he was with Mr. Lewis Waller, appearing in *Harlequin King*, *Brigadier Gerard*, *Lord Clancarty*, *Robin Hood*, &c. When Mr. Fred Terry put on *Henry of Navarre* at the New he engaged Mr. Schonberg for the production. Last autumn he was stage-manager with the principal company touring *The Sins of Society*, sustaining in addition the part of Col. Gretton, that making his third tour with the piece. As will be seen from the above, Mr. Schonberg has had a vast and valuable experience. He is high up on the "ladder of fame," standing, as he does 6ft. 2½in. in height, and not yet being twenty-five years of age he hopes eventually to reach the top rung.

MR. WYN WEAVER.

Mr. Wyn Weaver, who is a younger brother of Mr. Astley Weaver, the society entertainer, had the good fortune to commence his career under the banner of Mr. Louis Calvert in Shakespearean répertoire and standard plays. This was in August, 1895; and he appeared with him as Sir Richard Vernon and Eros in his two revivals at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Short engagements followed with Mr. Charles Charrington at the Globe Theatre, London, and with Mr. Pitt Hardacre in stock at the Comedy, Manchester. Then in April, 1898, following an engagement as Fitzwarren with the late Mr. Henry Dundas, Mr. Weaver was engaged by Mr. Milton Bode for Mons. Camembert in *The French Maid*, and in May, 1899, he essayed his first attempt at management at the Aquarium, Brighton. After an engagement by Mr. Ben Greet he was associated with Miss Julia Neilson in *As You Like It*, doubling the parts of the Duke Frederick and Sylvius—a fair test of versatility. He then created the title-rôle in *The Clown* with Mr. Frank Thornton.

Mr. Wyn Weaver has played very successfully many of Mr. Cyril Maude's and Mr. James Welch's parts on tour, including John Smith in *Facing the Music*, Septimus Pontifex in *The Brixton Burglary*, Watkin in *Sowing the Wind*, and Sam Gerridge in *Caste*, with Mr. G. W. Anson. At the Standard Theatre in Oct., 1902, Mr. Weaver was seen as Tom Norman in *Her Second Time on Earth*, a production which ran nine weeks. After engagements with Miss Nina Cressy, playing a lot of leading parts, including Mr. Parbury in *The Tyranny of Tears*, the title-rôles in *The Village Priest* and *The Shopwalker*, and Mr. Hawtrey's part in *The Sportsman*, and in pantomime with Mr. C. St. John Denton as one of the Ugly Sisters at Crouch End, Mr. Weaver joined forces with Mr. Herbert Greville in a tour of *Too Many Cooks*, and in 1904 he ran a stock season of twelve weeks at the Crystal Palace Theatre. In November, 1903, in conjunction with Herr Max Behrend of the German Theatre, Mr. Weaver stage-managed *The Lower Depths* for the Stage Society, and played the part of "When"; and he has appeared in its productions at the Court, Royalty, and Kingsway Theatres. At various times Mr. Wyn Weaver appeared as Levison in the late Mr. Henry Dundas's version of *East Lynne*, and at Christmas, 1905, Mr. Peter Davey engaged him for a pantomime Baron, and

[*Photo by Francis.*

MR. WYN WEAVER.

he was re-engaged for 1906 and 1907. In the spring of 1906 Mr. H. F. Maltby engaged Mr. Weaver, and he has been closely associated with that rising dramatist ever since, appearing in all his plays with conspicuous success.

In all Mr. Weaver has played 191 parts, his favourite rôle being Benjamin Goldfinch, and he generally revels in character, light comedy, and heavy parts of the Spider type. In his spare time Mr. Wyn Weaver is generally to be found on the links, and he speaks of golf as the finest possible game for keeping the actor fit. Another hobby of his is painting in oils—he was an art master before joining the ranks of the profession—and he particularly prizes a letter he received from the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone in acknowledgment of a drawing he made of him when a student of twelve at King Edward's Grammar School, Birmingham. The letter was written and the envelope addressed entirely by the Grand Old Man himself, and concludes with the eloquent words: "I hope you will cultivate your gift with high aims and with a brave industry. Your friend and well-wisher, WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE."

AT a meeting of the Orchestral Committee of the Birmingham Festival on Thursday it was reported that Mr. Henry J. Wood, the conductor of the Queen's Hall Orchestra, had been appointed conductor of the triennial festival to be held in 1912. Satisfaction was expressed at the fact that the committee had been able to offer the appointment to a distinguished English conductor. Mr. Wood will succeed Dr. Hans Richter, who has resigned, after conducting the festival for twenty-five years.

MR. JAMES STEPHENS'S company is on its eleventh visit to the Town Hall, Ventnor, and opened on Monday, with *The Golden Chance*, to a good house. Mr. James Hart was a manly hero; Mr. G. Miller played the villain, Stephen Clinton, with duly sinister effect; Mr. James Stephens gave a humorous performance of Isaac Shelberg; Mr. A. Roote as Sam Brown was very good; Miss Margaret Saville was a sympathetic Lydia; Miss Viviane Douglas as Viva Zac was effective; and Miss Lucie Victor was a bright and vivacious Susan. *A Fatal Fortune* and *East Lynne* are billed for the remainder of the week.

The finest performance this season of Verdi's *Aïda* was given at Covent Garden on Wednesday night, when Mlle. Destinn made her rentrée in the part of the heroine. Mlle. Destinn, who was in splendid voice, sang the music superbly, and had a most enthusiastic reception. Signor Zerola's Radames was another fine performance, and by his fervent singing of the part Signor Zerola increased the good impression he has already made in this character. Mr. Murray Davey sang admirably the music of Il Rè; Mme. Kirkby Lunn was once again a magnificent Amneris; and the fine cast included such artists as Signor Sammarco and Signor Marcoux, who appeared as Amonasro and Ramfis respectively. Signor Zucchi was Un Messaggiero, and Signor Campanini conducted.

"DAME NATURE" TRANSPLANTED

Terry's Theatre has once again been placed upon the active list, and to judge by the enthusiasm of a crowded audience on Saturday evening last, when *Dame Nature* was transferred thereto from the Garrick, the pretty house will remain there permanently. Mr. Frederick Fenn's clever play fitted perfectly in its new quarters, and each scene was presented without any diminution of effect. Miss Ethel Irving astonishes again by her remarkable power and versatility as Lolette, the artist's model who wins the love of a painter during his period of adversity only to yield it to a superior rival when prosperity smiles. It is a part in which Miss Irving's acknowledged comedy gifts are less apparent than her tragic accomplishments, but her success in either is complete. She moves the audience deeply when pleading wistfully for the return of her husband's love, but her subsequent outburst of passion thrills the house and gives proof of emotional gifts of the highest order. Mr. Ernest Leicester is again a dominating figure as the faithless Bertram. He has the exact personality for the part, and his dramatic resource was never more conspicuous. He plays the devoted lover with convincing fervour, and portrays Bertram's more ignoble characteristics with admirable delicacy.

One important change from the cast of the original production at the Garrick on Jan. 20 last is noticeable in the substitution for Miss Nancy Price of Miss Lillian Braithwaite, who makes a regal and commanding Princess de Chabran, dressing the part exquisitely. The complexity of the character is suggested with artistic subtlety, and the delivery of her dialogue is an example of artistic phrasing. Elocutionary graces are also displayed by Mr. Frank Cooper, whose study of the "watch-dog," James Ridgeway, is as finished as ever, and the effective lines of the part fall impressively from his lips. Mr. J. D. Beveridge resumes his old part of the genial Paul Garford, hale, hearty, and drily humorous, a special round of applause awaiting the close of his little homily on Nature. His affectionate helpmeet is again agreeably realised by Miss Agnes Hewitt, who gives added proof of the value of experience by a performance irreproachable from every point of view. Miss Pamela Gaythorne is a prepossessing Suzon; and Miss Minnie Terry a winsome Mimi, ably seconded by Miss Verita Vivien as the model's vivacious friend. The Greek dancer is embodied with fascinating grace by Miss Mabel Hunt; and the Misses Florence Nelson and Winifred Hafris capably fill the rôles of Mme. Certin and Mme. Moulzi.

The artistic qualities of Mr. Norman Forbes' Prince de Chabran are thoroughly recognised. It is a remarkable character, delicately contrived, and Mr. Forbes does it full justice, his acting, when a spark of sentiment in the old man's breast is allowed to blaze, being particularly admired. Prominent among Bertram's studio friends is the Henry Greville of Mr. F. Kinsey Peile, who gives a characterisation of distinct merit. Mr. Richard Hatteras supplies a vivid and clear-cut exposition of the solicitor Rivett. Mr. J. A. Bentham now plays Rousell, and plays cleverly; and Mr. Richard Carfax is also a newcomer to the cast in the part of Taylor. Mr. Charles Dodsworth continues with credit in the rôle of Arnheim; Mr. Charles Hampden does excellent service as Chaillard; and Mr. H. Asheton Tonge, Mr. Bertram Steer, Mr. John Castle, and Mr. Edmond Breon do commendable work.

STEINWAY HALL.

Mme. Alma Haas, an accomplished performer, gave her pianoforte recital at Steinway Hall on Tuesday afternoon. At the commencement of the concert Mme. Haas played Beethoven's Funeral March, from Sonata in A flat, all the audience standing during the performance. The programme opened with Bach's Prelude and Fugue in A minor, admirably given by Mme. Haas; and in the delightful Pastorale and Capriccio of Scarlatti the pianist's charming interpretation greatly pleased the audience. The only example of Chopin was the seldom-heard Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op. 61, which concluded the first section of the programme. In Beethoven's Sonata (quasi una Fantasia), Op. 27, No. 2, better known as the Moonlight Sonata, Mme. Haas played with great refinement and in perfect keeping with the composer's intentions. The time of the slow movement was not dragged, nor the finale hurried as is so often done by less experienced pianists, and Mme. Haas was warmly applauded for her fine performance. Other interesting items in the recital were Brahms' Intermezzo in B flat minor and the same composer's Rhapsody in E flat, both being most ably played. Debussy's dainty "Jardins sous la Pluie" and Liszt's "Feux Follets" (Will-o'-the-wisp) were also pleasing examples of the accomplished pianist. Schumann's Etudes en forme de Variations, "Le Rossignol" (Air russe) (Alabieff-Liszt), Serenade "Hark, hark, the lark" (Schubert-Liszt), and Spinning Song from *The Flying Dutchman* (Wagner-Liszt) completed Mme. Alma Haas's varied, interesting, and successful recital.

THE Ibsen Club will give their last performance before the summer vacation at the Rehearsal Theatre on Sunday evening next, *When We Dead Awaken* being the piece selected. Mr. Rathmell Wilson will be Rubek and Miss Catherine Lewis undertakes the rôle of Irene.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for a Young People's Empire Festival, to be held at the Alexandra Palace, in May next year. The object of the festival, which is to last for six days, is "to stimulate and encourage among the young people of the Empire a healthy rivalry in all the higher forms of art, handicraft, and physique. There will be numerous competitions for boys and girls.

A GRATIFYING tribute to the services which Mr. Lester Collingwood, the proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, has rendered to that city, both socially and philanthropically, was paid at an influential gathering held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday evening. Mr. J. E. Chambers presided, and was supported by Mr. Councillor R. C. Marsh (vice-chair, Mr. J. F. Graham (Prince of Wales's Theatre), Mr. P. Rodway (Theatre Royal), Mr. A. Bushell (Gaiety Theatre), and many other gentlemen well known in theatrical circles. The function took the form of a banquet and presentation to Mr. Collingwood, and many felicitous speeches were made.

THE principal feature of the evening was the presentation of a handsome framed illuminated address, placing on record Mr. Collingwood's services to the city. In making the presentation, the Chairman referred in eulogistic terms to the many kind acts performed by Mr. Collingwood for the welfare of the public. Mr. Collingwood suitably responded.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the drama at Oxford is to be commemorated by the publication within a few days of a history of the Oxford stage. The work is entitled "The Oxford Amateurs," and is written by Mr. Alan Mackinnon and published by Chapman and Hall. It will contain 200 illustrations, which will embellish the story of the first stage appearances of Messrs. H. B. Irving, F. R. Benson, Arthur Bourchier, and other eminent players. The Oxford A.D.C., of which Mr. Bourchier was founder, has to its credit the production of several comedies of Aristophanes in the original Greek, and was also responsible for several Shakespearean representations.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

As the vivid expression of the nation's sorrow nothing could have exceeded the dignity of the demonstration at the passing of Edward the Peacemaker—beloved in life and fitly honoured in death, but the intensity of grief is now passed. The blessed memory of a beloved King will be always with us; but Long live the King. "White-handed Hope now wings its flight towards us, a hovering angel girt with golden wings."

THIS thought is uppermost in the mind of King George, whose desire to disperse the clouds of gloom is manifested in his Proclamation of Wednesday, by which the period of national mourning is modified, and all outward signs of sorrow are to disappear by the end of next month. By this kindly action his Majesty has shown all the thoughtfulness and consideration for his loyal subjects in the theatrical profession that were among the qualities that endeared his illustrious father to the community of the people's entertainers.

HIS present Majesty and Queen Mary, it may be recalled, have been scarcely less frequent playgoers than was King Edward. Last year, for instance, they paid no fewer than sixteen visits to London theatres. Three times they went to the Gaiety to admire *Our Miss Gibbs*, while among the other pieces they saw were *An Englishman's Home*, *The School for Scandal* and *False Gods* at His Majesty's; *The Arcadians*, *The Whip*, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, *Arsène Lupin*, *Henry of Navarre*, and *The Woman in the Case*. Their Majesties were also present at the matinée at Drury Lane in aid of the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium at Davos.

SIR HERBERT TREE finished his Dublin season at the Theatre Royal on Saturday night, when *The O'Flynn* had a keenly appreciative reception from a large and enthusiastic audience. At the conclusion of the performance there were loud calls of "Speech" from all parts of the house, and in response the eminent actor-manager said he could only say a few words to them in the nature of a "good-bye," and thank the public of Dublin for the way in which they had received his company during their present stay. It had been a great delight to appear before them once more, and he was glad to think that it had been a delight to his audiences, for it was to delight them that they came, or they would perish in the attempt.

THAT fortnight, continued Sir Herbert, would be memorable in another way, for it had been memorable in the way of bringing about a great deal of goodwill between the two countries, and he was glad to think that he had the honour the previous day of being in the Chapel at Windsor and witnessing that remarkable sight which would be remembered through the ages. It would be the more memorable on that occasion because one could not help being struck by the dignity which had united the people in a brotherhood of grief. This fact would be remembered for many years both on this side of the Channel and the other.

LADY TREE recited at the "In Memoriam" concert given by the Queen's Hall Orchestra on Monday. Garbed in deepest black, her ladyship rendered Mr. Kipling's new poem, "The Dead King," the applause at the conclusion being appropriately subdued, but none the less eloquent.

MRS. KENDAL officiated at the opening of a maternity hospital at Leeds on Monday, and presented to the institution framed pictures of the Queen-Mother and Queen Mary. She pointed out that Queen Mary as Princess of Wales has for years been president of the Children's Happy Evenings Association in London, and told an interesting story. While the Princess was amongst the poor children of Lambeth, she said, one of the youngsters persisted in replying to her observations with "No, missus," or "Yes, missus." This led her to inquire, "Now, my little girl, do you know who I am?" For some time the child hesitated, and then blurted out, "Wales, missus!"

MESSRS. WALTER AND FREDERICK MELVILLE'S first attraction at the Lyceum Theatre, which they have recently acquired, will be a no less important one than Mr. Martin Harvey, who will appear as Richard III. Mr. Harvey won the approval of the Dublin critics a few weeks ago when he essayed the part for the first time, and his performance is awaited with interest by London playgoers, who will heartily welcome him back to the Lyceum, from whose historic stage he stepped into the wider domain of actor-management. Shakespeare's play will be staged this evening, with an elaboration and care for which Mr. Harvey is famous.

MANY of the artists who supported Mr. Harvey on the occasion of the Dublin production will again do duty, Miss N. de Silva playing Lady Anne, Miss Mary Rorke Queen Margaret, and Mr. Charles Glenney the Duke of Buckingham. Several recent Lyceum favourites will also figure in the cast, Mr. Eric Mayne being retained for Edward IV., Mr. Frederick Ross for Hastings, and Mr. S. Major Jones for Stanley. The remainder of the long cast will consist of Messrs. Owen Roughwood, C. George, E. J. Fraser, Philip Hewland, Leonard Craske, David Bain, S. McCarthy, D. Holm, Alfred Mansfield, Edward Combermere, Denholm Muir, A. Wilson, F. Percy, H. Graves, George Cooke, Percy Foster, Paul Barry, A. B. McKay, C. Leonard, and B. A. Pittar, Misses Sybil Walsh, Brenda Gibson, Ethel Patrick, Bessie Elder, and Mrs. A. B. Cross.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S view of Richard differs from all the other Richards. It will be found a younger, less deformed, almost fascinating villain—more of a human being, less of a human toad. It is a Richard remodelled on modern historical research, as far as Shakespeare will permit. The play will move swiftly through its succession of gorgeous scenes to the final array of horsemen and foot on Bosworth Field, the mysterious magic of the dream scenes, and the elaborate fight of Richmond and Richard. There will be eighteen scenes in the five acts of the play.

MR. ARTHUR PHILLIPS and his company from the Royal Court Theatre conclude a successful tour in *The Merchant of Venice* at the Royal Theatre, Manchester, to-night. In every city and town visited Mr. Phillips' reception has been enthusiastic, and the opinion of provincial dramatic critics is that this talented young actor has a most promising future. Negotiations are on the point of completion for the acquisition of a leading West End house, and it is Mr. Phillips' intention to appear in London in the autumn with a selection of new plays specially written for him.

THE season of Irish plays at the Court Theatre commences on Monday with the late J. M. Synge's last play, *Deirdré of the Sorrows*, which was first produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, last January. Two other plays new to London will be included in next week's programme, namely, *The Image*, a comedy in three acts, by Lady Gregory, and *The Green Helmet*, "a play in ballad metre," by Mr. W. B. Yeats. In the course of the week other pieces by the dramatists already named will be put on the boards, including Mr. Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*. *The Glittering Gate*, a one-act play, by Lord Dunsany, will be amongst the season's novelties.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM and Miss Mary Moore will be welcomed back to the Criterion on Wednesday, when Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's comedy, *The Case of Rebellious Susan* will be presented. Admirable engagements have been made for the revival, the principals being supported by Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. Charles Quartermaine, Mr. Leslie Hamer, Mr. Reginald Walter, Mr. King Fordham, Mr. Lawrence White, Mr. S. Bond, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, Miss Marie Illington, and Miss Athené Seyler.

MR. H. B. IRVING has decided upon the striking title of *Judge Not* — for the English version of M. George Henriot's *L'Enquête*, which he produces at the Queen's this evening. The play deals with the injustices of the French criminal law, a subject Mr. Irving has studied deeply to the extent of writing a book about it. Mr. Irving will be supported by Miss Edyth Olive, Mr. Ellie Norwood, Mr. Frank Tyars, Mr. Charles Allan, and Mr. Henry Vibart.

THE programme will be enriched by the revival of Fechter's *The Roadside Inn*, in which Mr. Irving will play Robert Macaire. Mr. Tom Reynolds has been selected as the Jacques Strop of the occasion, the part played by Mr. Weedon Grossmith to the Macaire of the late Sir Henry Irving at the old Lyceum, and other rôles will be in the hands of Mr. Charles Allan, Mr. Henry Vibart, Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty, Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. Frank Tyars, Mr. J. Patric Curwen, Mr. Roland Pertuis, Miss Esmé Beringer, and Miss Gladys Baird.

MR. IRVING desires to acknowledge his indebtedness to the representatives of the late Mr. Frank Harvey in allowing him to use the title *Judge Not* — and also to Mr. Fred Terry for the use of the version of *L'Auberge des Adrets*, as played by Charles Fechter. The performance will begin promptly at 8.15, and as the interest of *Judge Not* — starts with the rise of the curtain, Mr. Irving hopes that the audience will be seated at that time.

"PARASITES" is to give place shortly at the Globe to *The Beam and the Mote*, an adaptation of Paul Hervieu's *Connais-Toi*, the English rights of which Mr. Arthur Bourchier secured some time after its production at the Théâtre Français, in March of last year. The adaptation has been entrusted to Mr. Kenneth Barnes, the new Administrator at the Academy of Dramatic Art, who has transferred the action to this country. Mr. Bourchier will appear in the leading rôle, and the cast will be strengthened by the inclusion of Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Mr. Herbert Sleath, Mr. Bourchier's partner in the Garrick Theatre.

THE London Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre has received an interesting letter from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, where the Mayor is the chairman of the committee which has just been formed. The resolution put to the meeting on April 8 was as follows: "This meeting, being of opinion that Natal should support the National Fund of the Lord Mayor of London for the building and endowing of a Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, requests his Worship the Mayor of Maritzburg to establish in connection therewith a 'Natal Shakespeare Memorial Fund.'" This resolution was carried, and a committee formed.

THE hon. secretary and treasurer of the Natal branch is Mr. Ryle Shaw, who writes as follows: "I have just sent away the 183rd card. The Superintendent of Education is sending to the heads of all schools, pointing out, however, that scholars must not be asked to contribute. A letter asking for friendly co-operation from the chairman in the matter of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre has been sent on to five mayors, four chairmen of local boards of townships, and forty-three magistrates. I am going to write to the editor of the *State*, Cape Colony, asking him if he cannot start a similar fund to ours. They want it there more than we do here."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES will produce *The Girl in the Train*, as the new musical piece by Mr. Victor Leon and Dr. Fall is to be called, at the Vaudeville on Saturday next. The English version is written by Mr. C. H. Brookfield. It is in two acts, the first taking place in a Court of Justice, where an amusing travesty of legal proceedings may be expected, and the second at a brilliant reception. The principals of the new production are Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Clare Evelyn, Miss May Marton, Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Rutland Barrington, and Mr. Huntley Wright.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH has terminated his highly-successful tour with *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and is now pushing forward preparations for his reappearance in the West End in *Billy's Bargain*, a "sensational farce," which we had occasion to notice on its production under the title of *Billy Rotterford's Descent* at the King's, Hammersmith, just two years ago. The piece is in three acts, the last of which has been entirely remodelled. The first act opens in a ball and supper room in Mayfair, where the "degenerates" do congregate; the second takes us first to a "horribly weird hotel" in Russia, and, secondly, to the Caucasus Mountains on the side of the Caspian Sea, where the "sensation" is secured by the fall of the hero over a precipice; and the third act is laid in the banqueting hall of an English country house.

MISS ELLA ERSKINE will have the leading part of Julie in the new Napoleonic play *The Man of Fate*, which is to be produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday. Miss Erskine's attractive personality will be enhanced by some beautiful gowns specially made for her by a well-know London costumier. Elaborate preparations are being made for the production, and a brilliant success is confidently anticipated.

MR. G. P. HUNTLEY, as a consequence of his success as Eccles in *Caste*, will remain in America all next season. Mr. Huntley will spend a brief summer holiday in this country, but crosses the Atlantic again in September in order to join Mr. Chas. Frohman's "star combination." He will then appear in a translation of De Caillavet and De Flers's *Le Bois Sacré*, a bright and witty piece, in which woman's urgent demands for the Legion d'Honneur are amusingly satirised.

MR. D. FORBES WINSLOW, who met with a bad accident at Leeds Station in February last, when touring in advance for Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Dollar Princess*, has come to an amicable settlement with the North-Eastern Railway Company regarding his claim. After a stay at Margate to recuperate Mr. Winslow will be ready for the autumn tour of *The Dollar Princess*, having been re-engaged by Mr. George Edwardes, under whose management he has been for ten consecutive years.

MR. LEWIS WALLER goes to America in the autumn, and will open in New York in *Henry V.* In the course of his season he will present a series of his most popular productions, embracing *Monsieur Beaucaire*, *Elizabeth's Prisoner*, and *Don César de Bazan*. With a view of preparing, as it were, for his American campaign, Mr. Waller will conclude his season at the Lyric with revivals of the plays above referred to.

"DON CÆSAR DE BAZAN," which has been adapted from the well-known French piece by Mr. Gerald du Maurier, will be staged on Tuesday next. It is in three acts, the various scenes of which are laid in a street in Madrid, a guard-room in a fortress, the palace of the Marquis de Montefiore, and Don José's villa in the Forest of Aranjuez. Mr. Waller will have the support of Messrs. Leon Quartermain, William Haviland, Alec F. Thompson, Frank Woolfe, H. B. Tabberer, A. Baxendale, Henry Stevens, Caton Woodville, Cronin Wilson, Lewis Broughton, Reginald Dane, Patrick Digan, Arthur Ansell; and Miss Beryl Mercer, Miss Minnie Griffin, and Miss Madge Titheradge.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS, the Charles Dickens star of the variety firmament, has been engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to create the hero's part in Mr. Hall Caine's new romantic play *The Bishop's Son*, which will be produced in September next at—well, a West End theatre, by Mr. Croke, in conjunction with Mr. Milton Bode. Mr. Croke informed *The Era* representative that, as soon as he conveniently can, he will publish in these pages a synopsis of the story. In the meantime it will suffice to say that the big scene of the piece will be a representation of Tynwald Hill, St. John's, Isle of Man. There we shall see a realistic summoning of the Manx Parliament, with all the quaint ceremonies attaching to the "call." This great scene will, of course, be but "an incident" in the history of a man who has committed a great crime and who works out his own atonement. *The Bishop's Son* will be produced simultaneously in London and Blackpool.

"WHY have I engaged Mr. Bransby Williams for the part of Dan?" queried Mr. Wentworth Croke to *The Era* representative. "Because he is one of the best character actors in the variety halls or out of them. Even he I should have been unable to get but for the courtesy of Mr. Oswald Stoll. We have had enough of 'our' stars going over to variety. We are now going to take the best that variety has made for the legitimate. And nobody will deny that I have made a good start with Bransby Williams, will they?

"I HAVE also," said Mr. Croke, "secured—in conjunction with Mr. Williams—an extremely interesting romantic-costume, dagger-and-pistol play, called *Kit Careless*, written by Beatrice De Burgh and Sydney Valentine, which I shall produce in the West End of London, with Mr. Bransby Williams in the title-rôle, and afterwards take on a tour I have already booked."

MR. CROKE, has, we are informed, six companies going out in the autumn with *The Christian*, *The Bondman*, and *The Prodigal Son*—Hall Caine's famous trilogy. In addition, he will present a new version of *East Lynne*, with six speaking parts, starting at the Camden Theatre (Gibbons tour) on June 20. Mr. Wentworth Croke has specially engaged Miss Beth Elliott to play the part of Lady Isabel in *East Lynne*.

THE annual general meeting of the Travelling Theatre Managers' Association will be held on Wednesday next, June 1, at 11.30 a.m., at the Criterion Restaurant. Mr. A. E. Drinkwater will be in the chair.

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, whose *House of Temperley* has had such a distinguished career at the Adelphi, will again be represented in the successor to that attractive piece. The new play which is underlined for Saturday next will also introduce a valued friend, inasmuch as the redoubtable Sherlock Holmes will again appear upon the scene. The title of the new drama is *The Speckled Band; an Adventure of Sherlock Holmes*, perhaps the most sensational of the seventy odd cases in which the intrepid detective figures.

THE story, we may remind our readers, is that of the Anglo-Indian doctor who compassed the death of a young girl on the eve of her marriage by introducing through a ventilator fixed in the wall of her room a swamp adder, which gliding down the bell-rope poisoned the sleeping girl, and was coaxed back by its owner, leaving the mystery of the girl's death unfathomable. Of the three acts, the first takes place in the hall at the Manor, where a coroner's inquest is being held; the second contains two scenes, the first a sitting-room in the Manor, the second Sherlock Holmes's lodgings in Upper Baker-street; and the third reverts to the Hall, and thence passes to the chamber where the doctor once more attempts to put into practice his dastardly experiment.

MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY, who has long been associated with the part of Sherlock Holmes, has been engaged for that rôle; Mr. Claude King will appear as Dr. Watson, Mr. Lyn Harding as the sinister Dr. Roylott, and Mr. C. F. Lowrie as Billy, Holmes's assistant. Also in the cast are Mr. A. S. Homewood, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Miss Agnes Thomas, and Miss Christine Silver.

WHEN Mr. George Alexander took to hat-trimming at the theatrical garden-party, we all, like Lewis Carroll, "marked with one eye." This year, on June 28, fortunate visitors may perhaps see Mr. Lyn Harding engaged in *hair-dressing!*—not doing his own hair nicely, nor metaphorically "combing the hair" of some unlucky author, but simply and literally emulating a ladies' hair-dresser or the lady's-maid in the "rites mysterious" of the coiffeur's art. We presume at least that it *will* be ladies' hair, and that the lovely owners' heads will be attached thereto, though the programme announces merely "Hair-dressing competition by actors and actresses, under the direction of Miss Phyllis Broughton."

MUCH tamer might have seemed the shooting matches in the Anglo-American Shooting Gallery if one had not noticed the names of the leaders. To see Miss Alexandra Carlisle leading her team into the contest against Miss Gertie Millar's squad, and the winners standing up against Miss Lily Elsie's and Miss Gabrielle Ray's sharpshooters, and all three breaking the records left by Messrs. Ainley, Coyne, Hallard, and Guy Standing—this will be novel and entertaining.

AFTER the din of warfare and the clash of arms, so to speak, what more refreshing than to stroll in the waxy shades of Jarley's Living Waxworks? Waxy they will doubtless be, if the afternoon is warm and the crush is as merry as last year, if Miss Jessie Bateman proves inexorable and permits no waxy waxwork to move a finger to scratch a tickling nose or trickling brow!

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, JUN., as master of the ring, cracking his whip in the sawdust, with Mr. W. H. Berry as clown, and Mr. Robert Hale as lion-tamer, taming that ferocious lion Mr. George Ali, will be found in Barnum and Bunkum's Royal Hippodrome. The tickets (3s. each before the day, 5s. on the day) will be strictly limited. Other particulars are to be obtained from the hon secretary, Anslow J. Austin, 26, Old-buildings, Lincoln's Inn.

MRS. MARK KINGHORNE'S tour with G. R. Sims's *Mother-in-Law* finished to-night at Prince's Theatre, Manchester. Until negotiations re a London success for the autumn are complete Mrs. Kinghorne will be at liberty for town or short tour.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON is to be congratulated upon one of the most brilliant successes ever enjoyed by an English actor in America. Relying entirely upon one play, *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, he presented it nightly for seven consecutive months at Maxine Elliott's Theatre in New York, then took it to Canada, where he played it to packed houses, thrice enjoying the patronage of Earl Grey, the Governor-General. Mr. Forbes Robertson will return to America for two more seasons, starting in September, and visiting all the big cities of the Dominion and the States with Mr. Jerome's play; while his brother, Mr. Ian Robertson, will tour the small towns with the same piece, and his wife, Miss Gertrude Elliott, will be "starring" in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*.

MR. HARCOURT WILLIAMS has acquired from Mr. Herbert Dansey a comedy in three acts called *The Garden of Eve*, in which Mr. Williams and Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay will appear during their forthcoming pastoral tour at Bristol, Birmingham, and Manchester. The play is from a well-known Italian masterpiece.

THE remains of the late Mr. Matthew Russell Rosse, theatrical manager and proprietor of *A Pair of Spectacles* company, who died suddenly on the 15th inst. at 214, Westgate-road, Newcastle, were interred at Old Jesmond Cemetery on Thursday afternoon, May 19. The last rites were performed by the Rev. A. Thomas, Vicar of St. Barnabas Church, and the mourners were Mrs. Rosse, the widow; Dr. Bennett, Mr. Downing (of the Great Northern Railway Company), and Miss Lambeth, of Glasgow.

A NUMBER of members of the theatrical profession were present, including Mr. F. Teale Lingham (manager, Theatre Royal, Newcastle), Mr. John Clyde (*Jeannie Deans* company, Tyne Theatre), Mr. and Mr. W. S. Stephenson, Mr. A. L. Baran, Miss Clara Hunt, Mr. Mark Quinton, and Mr. Piggott (*Merchant of Venice* company, Theatre Royal). There were several wreaths, including one from *A Pair of Spectacles* company, and "the four dancers" in *The Merchant of Venice* company. There were also wreaths from the widow, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Holding (Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner), Mr. and Mrs. George Mudie, jun., and Mr. and Mrs. Mee Mathews.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR has arranged at the Coronet a répertoire season of T. W. Robertson's comedies, which will open on Monday, June 6, with *M.P.*, and last three months. Mr. James Carew will play the parts associated with Sir Squire Bancroft; Mr. O. B. Clarence in the Sir John Hare rôles; Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Edward Sass, and Mr. Charles Harley have the character and comedy; and Mr. Athol Stewart and Mr. Arthur Wontner share the juvenile work. Miss Rosie Begarnie is engaged for Polly Eccles, and other parts of Lady Bancroft's. Engagements have also been made with Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Estelle Winwood, Miss Hetty Kenyon (for the children), Miss Kate Osborne, Mrs. A. B. Tapping, and Miss Nell Compton—the younger daughter of Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Edgar Kent, Mr. James R. La Fane, and Mr. William Rokeby.

THE répertoire consists of *M.P.*, *School*, *Caste*, *Society*, *Progress*, *Home*, *Ours*, and *David Garrick*. Mr. Eade Montefiore directs and produces, and the stage-management lies with Mr. Thomas Sidney and Mr. Montagu Wigan. One of the new effects of this season will be a departure from the usual orchestra, classical music being played by a Chamber Quartet.

AFTER the Robertsonian season at the Coronet, Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged (subject to certain outstanding contracts) to run the theatre from September wholly as a West End house, and produce plays for runs and transference to his provincial theatres. A feature will be made of special matinées of new plays. For his initial venture Mr. Robert Arthur has secured the rights of *Don Q*, a romantic play of Spanish environment and costume, by K. and Hesketh Prichard.

NEWS reaches us from Sydney, Australia, that a new and beautiful theatre is in course of erection. It is to be called the Marlow Theatre, and will be opened about November. This magnificent building is being erected at a cost of £40,000 by Australia's youngest and most enterprising manager, Mr. George Marlow, and the stage will be capable of accommodating the largest productions. Mr. Marlow has secured from Mr. Fredk. Melville the Australian and New Zealand rights in that remarkably successful drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. Marlow has two companies touring Australia. He is represented in England by Mr. Edward Thane.

SIR HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE will be the attraction at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, next week, playing *The Merchant of Venice*, *The O'Flynn*, and *Trilby*. This engagement is a feather in the cap of the managing-director, Mr. Wentworth Croke.

THE attraction at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, next week will be Mr. Wentworth Croke's own company in *The Girl of My Heart*, which will be played with an entirely new production, and interpreted by an exceptionally strong cast.

THE Actresses' Franchise League is arranging a matinée for Tuesday, June 21, at the Aldwych, where will be presented two short plays by Mr. Bernard Shaw—*Press Cuttings*, and a piece that has not yet seen the footlights.

THREE additional performances of Miss Marie Brema's artistic revival of *Orpheus* are to be given at the Savoy on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons next and Friday evening. Miss Viola Tree will again be the Eurydice, and Miss Brema will, of course, reappear in the title-rôle. A tribute to the efficiency of our home-training is found in the fact that Miss Brema was a pupil of Mme. Bessie Cox, a professor who joined the Guildhall School of Music soon after it was opened, and who is still actively shaping the destinies of future British operatic artists.

AN interesting item of news comes from Australia. Mr. Ewan Brook and Miss Caroline Bayley, two popular members of Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton's company, while playing at the Criterion Theatre, Sydney, were quietly married on Saturday, April 9, and it was four days afterwards before they announced the fact to the company. On the night the marriage became known Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton organised a little impromptu festivity on the stage in the form of some champagne and light refreshments in honour of the occasion. The healths of the happy couple were drunk with much cordiality.

GEO. A. DE GRAY AND HARRY MASTERMAN'S company concludes this week at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, an unbroken tour of forty-two weeks, with Mr. De Gray's latest and most successful play *The Angel of His Dreams*. The third tour starts August Bank Holiday at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle, where, on its first visit, *The Angel* played to enormous business. Mr. De Gray has just completed another intensely dramatic play, on an entirely unhackneyed subject, which he proposes to produce in the early autumn. He is also running a short season of his own pieces, twice nightly, at the Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, commencing next Monday.

WE have reason to understand that a play by the Baron de St. Eon is under the consideration of a prominent West End management for production in the autumn.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN and Miss Beatrice Wilson were received with the greatest enthusiasm at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, last week. So pleased was Mr. Norman with his reception that he has made arrangements to pay a return visit to the theatre during the next few weeks. This is one of the shortest return visits on record in an important city like Plymouth.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN has arranged to give a special production of the famous comedy *Caste* at Plymouth. Miss Beatrice Wilson will be the Polly Eccles, Mr. Norman Leslie Eccles, Miss Madge Trenchard Esther Eccles, and Mr. Norman Hon. George D'Alroy.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has engaged Miss Margaret Morris to play the part of "Water" in *The Blue Bird*, at the Haymarket. Miss Morris's dancing, it will be remembered, was one of the most admired features in the recent production of Gluck's *Orpheus* at the Savoy Theatre.

SINCE Mr. Arthur Verne has been discharged from the National Hospital, Queen's-square, W.C. (where he was an in-patient for over six months), he has been recuperating for the last four weeks at the Claughton Convalescent Home, Walton-on-Naze. He is now spending a holiday with his old friend and manager, Mr. J. W. Cordiner (with whom he toured as principal comedian in *Dare-Devil* Dorthy for five years), at Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

THE British Empire Shakespeare Society's reading of *The Winter's Tale*—postponed from 23rd inst.—will be given on Monday afternoon, June 6, at the Imperial Institute. The cast will include Miss Frances Dillon as Hermione and Perdita; Miss Gertrude Scott, Paulina; Mr. Acton Bond, Autolycus; Mr. Franklin Dyall, Polixenes; also Messrs. Fewlass Llewellyn, Arthur Machen, J. Edwyn Holloway, Maurice Elvey, George Silver, Miss Marjorie Hopcroft, Miss Rita Tomkins, and Miss Gwladys Morris.

MR. T. EDWARD WARD terminates to-night his first tour of his new play *His Real Wife*, which he has run since Christmas, when it was produced. Notwithstanding the acute crisis that theatrical business is now experiencing, Mr. Ward can boast of some of the largest receipts taken with this play during the whole of his managerial career of some fifteen years. He will resume the tour on August Bank Holiday, when he will travel with *His Real Wife* and a répertoire of high-class plays, including *Moths*, *Trilby*, *Sapho*, *Nana*, and the many dramas of which he is the proprietor..

MR. HORACE STANLEY is producing a new drama, in four acts, entitled *The Female Detective*, at the Osborne Theatre, Manchester, on Monday. Mr. Stanley's productions have an enviable reputation in the provinces, and the autumn tour is nearly fully booked prior to the production of the play.

A SERVICE for Freemasons, in aid of St. Michael and All Angels' Building Fund, to help pay off the debt on the new Memorial Chapel, will be held to-morrow (Sunday), at 3 p.m., at St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Bedford Park. The preacher will be the Rev. Canon Horsley, M.A. (Past Grand Chaplain), and W. Bro. James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., will act as one of the Directors of the Ceremony. The soloists will be Bro. Courtice Pounds and Master John Child.

MR. WILFRED JESSOP, who has just concluded a thirty-two weeks' tour with Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Prodigal Son*, has been engaged by Mr. Mark Blow for the part of Colonel Alexis in *From Slave to Princess*. He opened last Monday for the summer tour, and goes to the Theatre Royal, Bristol, next week.

MR. C. ST. JOHN DENTON has just returned to London after a flying visit to Australia, where, in conjunction with Sir Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell, his firm—Denton, Bode, and McKenzie—have just produced *The Arcadians* with enormous success. Mr. Denton speaks eulogistically of the production, and is also enthusiastic on the work of the Australian chorus. Mr. Denton has concluded arrangements extending over the next five years for the two firms to work in conjunction, and will be always glad to hear from musical comedy and pantomime artists wishing to visit Australia.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS, who has been very successfully playing the Old Sport in *The Third Floor Back* on the Forbes Robertson record American and Canadian tour, has returned to England for the summer vacation. He reports phenomenal business everywhere.

MR. CHAS. L. LUDLOW, we regret to learn, was compelled, through illness, to relinquish his part in the Lyceum company on tour, and has been in the London Hospital for some time. He is reported to be making satisfactory progress, and would be so pleased to hear from any old friends to break the monotony of hospital life. His wife, Miss Agnes St. Clair, who had practically retired for awhile, has decided to return to the stage, and would welcome an engagement.

MR. FRANK ADAIR will produce his new play, entitled *It's Always the Woman*, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, on Monday, June 20. Under the *nom de plume* of "Riada" Mr. Adair is the author of several well-known dramas, amongst them being *The Favourite*, *The Painted Woman*, and *A Heart's Desire*. Mr. Adair is at present successfully touring Fred Maxwell's play *The Heathen and the Christian*.

THE British Empire Shakespeare Society's Elocution competition will be held at the Queen's Theatre on Monday afternoon, June 27. Mr. H. B. Irving will be the judge. This competition is open not only to London members, but to all members throughout the kingdom. The list of entries closes for professional and amateur classes on June 15. In the Essay competition the subject for the senior prize is "What was Hamlet's state of mind before or after seeing his father's ghost?" and for the junior prize, "State who is your favourite Shakespearean hero—excluding the characters in the historical plays—and give reasons for your choice." All essays must be sent in by June 15.

MME. MELBA, who, to the great disappointment of opera-goers, was not heard at Covent Garden last year owing to her Australian tour, will make her rentrée this season on Monday next in *La Bohème*, with Mlle. Symiane as Musetta, Mr. John McCormack as Rodolfo, and Signor Sammarco as Marcello.

THE summer season at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, opened auspiciously on Whit-Monday, under the management of Mr. Dan Godfrey. Arrangements for the entertainment of visitors are very attractive. The list of works performed by the municipal orchestra, of which Mr. Godfrey is conductor, at a series of thirty-two symphony concerts and a supplementary series of thirty classical concerts, from October to May, was a varied and extensive one, and included selections from the best composers, ancient and modern. Mr. Godfrey believes in the talents of the British musician, for out of a total of 232 works performed, native composers supplied sixty-one.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Garrick's Villa? Who Will Buy?

GARRICK'S VILLA, with Garrick's Ait, is to be sold by auction on June 6. The land is advertised as "ripe for building development." In the posters announcing the sale the auctioneers state that Garrick lived here one hundred years ago. It is over one hundred and thirty years since Garrick died there. It was at the close of the season at Drury Lane in June, 1776, that the actor determined to retire and live at the villa near Hampton. On the tenth of that month the English Roscius made his last bow to the public as Don Felix in *The Wonder*.

A Pathetic Farewell.

HE at first thought of making his last appearance, as he did his first, in the character of Richard the Third, but he judged that after the fatigue of so laborious a character it would be out of his power to utter a farewell word to the audience. He prepared a prologue for the occasion and spoke it, but he considered the jingle of rhyme ill-suited to his feelings when saying good-bye. "Whatever may be the changes of my future life, the deepest impression of your kindness will always remain here—here in my heart, fixed and unalterable." He passed from the stage he had adorned, and withdrew to his villa at Hampton to pass the evening of his days in peace and rural tranquillity. He lived to rejoice at the success of Sheridan—who followed him at Drury Lane—with *The School for Scandal*, and died in January, 1779.

Sheridan and the Censor.

IN 1776 Sheridan, aided by his father-in-law, Linley, bought half the patent of Drury Lane Theatre from Garrick, and started management with the *Trip to Scarborough*. But he was soon busy on his immortal comedy *The School for Scandal*, which he sent early in 1777 to William Chetwynd, "Examiner of All Entertainments of the Stage," writing thus:—"Sir,—If the following comedy, called *The School for Scandal*, meet the approbation of the Lord Chamberlain, we shall have it performed at the Theatre Royal, in Drury-lane, May 7, 1777.—R. B. SHERIDAN."

A Precious Script.

ON June 17, at Sotheby's, this original autograph manuscript of the famous classic will be offered for sale. Once, indeed, it was nearly destroyed by fire, having been sent to the binders in 1834 by Sir George Chetwynd, the examiner's grandson, when the premises of Fairburn, the binder, were burnt down. Some of the 137 pages of manuscript show the marks of scorching, otherwise, in the russia binding tooled with the Chetwynd arms, the precious document is complete. The suggestion that Sheridan was in such a hurry that he actually wrote portions of the play during its first performance is disproved by the state of the manuscript. The comedy is complete, with epilogue and prologue as well.

Sheridan's Alterations.

IT is certain, too, that it is the identical copy sent for licence, and found with many other manuscript plays among William Chetwynd's papers at his death in 1778. Again, it contains Sheridan's alterations, notably the combining of the character part of Miss Verjuice with that of Lady Sneerwell. Sheridan's letter quoted above accompanies the play, along with a certificate of authenticity written by Sir George Chetwynd on Sept. 10, 1834, in which the statement is made:—"This is the identical copy of *The School for Scandal* which was transmitted by a Mr. Sheridan to my Grandfather, William Chetwynd." The copy of the play used for Ireland in the year 1788 is taken from the manuscript which Sheridan forwarded to his sister for the use of the manager of the Dublin Theatre, who gave her one hundred guineas and free admission for her family for the privilege of performing it.

Lions and Men.

"I AM afraid of nothing," Mme. Cécile Sorel, of the Comédie-Française, once said to Baron Henri de Rothschild, in the green-room of the Française. "Not even of lions?" "Not even of them." "Then I will send you two," said the Baron. Lions, however, are not bought in a hurry, and some months elapsed before the Baron could redeem his promise. But now the lions have come, two darling little cubs, male and female, and Mme. Sorel is delighted. "I don't mind roars; I am used to them at the Française." She not only does not mind roaring, but she prefers wild beasts to men. She says they have neither the slavishness of dogs nor the fatuous arrogance of men. In the meantime Mme. Sorel, it seems, has had to send her lion cubs to a keeper's, as they were damaging her furniture. Her misanthropic panegyric of lions has drawn upon the actress's head from the aged M. Henri Rochefort one of the most biting and spiteful attacks which even he has ever written.

A Deadhead's Modesty.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE, who, with his wife, Miss Lily Brayton, is in Australia—his native land—which he left nineteen years ago, has remarked that the deadhead is a destroyer of drama. "Once give a man a free seat for a play," he said, "and you will have a difficulty ever after to make him 'pay to go in.' While I was touring with a certain highly-respected manager we were playing at a long-famous old playhouse in an ancient town. We had billed *Macbeth* for the Friday night, but during that day the theatre was burnt down. For our next week there our chief contrived to borrow a playhouse a little way out of the district. On reaching there to rehearse on the Monday the manager received a letter saying that the writer had been given two dress-circle orders for the performance of *Macbeth*, but as that play was not performed owing to the destruction of the theatre, the writer surmised that the manager would remit the money value of those orders."

"G. B. S." as a Linguist.

A YEAR or two ago at Milan Mr. Bernard Shaw found himself with a party of English folk dining at a railway restaurant, and their waiter knew no language but his own. When the moment came to pay and rush for the train, no one, says *M.A.P.*, "was able to make him understand that what was wanted was not one bill, but twenty-four. Here Mr. Shaw's friends insisted that he must know Italian, and, thus called upon to interpret, he racked his memory for chips from Dante, but in vain. All of a sudden a line from the opera *The Huguenots* flashed to his brain—'Ognuno per se; per tutti il ciel' (Every man for himself; Heaven for us all). Mr. Shaw declaimed it with triumphant success. 'The army of waiters,' relates the dramatist, 'were doubled up with laughter; my friends applauded wildly, and my fame as an Italian scholar was established.'"

Overheard in Wall-street, New York.

"Say, Charlie, lend me 100 dollars, quick!"
"Sure!"
"Hello, what the deuce has come over you?"
"Don't cuss."
"Why?"
"I've seen 'it.'"
"What it?"
"For-bes-Robertson and his *Third Floor Back*. And he made me see my better self, so I've made up my mind to cuss no more, and I'm going to do all the good I can in future. The night I was there Rockefeller and his lady were in the stalls, and For-bes made him see his better self—just you go and see that *Third Floor Back*, and I'm sploshed if you won't sling me that 100 dollars back slick, that's a cinch. So long, old boss!"

"FIRES OF FATE" AT ADELPHI.

On Monday, May 23, the Play, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Revived for a Series of Monday and Friday Matinées at the Adelphi.

Colonel Cyril Egerton, D.S.O. ..... MR. BEN WEBSTER
The Rev. Samuel Roden ..... MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE
James Roden, M.D., F.R.C.S. ..... MR. BASSETT ROE
Mr. Thomas Belmont ..... MR. ARTHUR BURNE
Mr. Cecil Brown ..... MR. SPENCER TREVOR
Mr. Brodie ..... MR. ALEC. F. THOMPSON
Mons. Octave Fardet ..... MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Rudkin ..... MR. CHARLES COMBE
Abdulla ..... MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Capt. Jack Archer ..... MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Sidi Mohamed ..... MR. W. CRONIN WILSON
Ali Wad Ibrahim ..... MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Abdurrahman ..... MR. S. J. WARMINGTON
A Dervish ..... MR. A. CATON WOODVILLE
Mrs. Belmont ..... MISS DOROTHEA DESMOND
Miss Adams ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
Miss Sadie Adams ..... MISS RUTH BOWER

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle preaches a very fine sermon in this modern morality play, and if we get little else than preaching in the first two acts, we must acknowledge that it stirs and moves us to sympathy, that we never entertain any doubt either of the truth or beauty of the religious cult of the Rev. Samuel Roden, and that, like all impressionable playgoers, we rejoice at the swashing blow given to polite scepticism by that impetuous but kindly Congregational minister. And this brings us to the consideration of his representative at the Adelphi, where *Fires of Fate* started on Monday for a series of matinées. Mr. J. D. Beveridge by his realisation of the kindly gospeller sounds the depths of sincerity. His wonderful inflections of tone, his spasms of temper, his fine delineation of the traits of Christian selflessness, and his expression of deep consciousness of duty rob the part of the tediousness that in less able hands might be easily accentuated. Mr. Ben Webster cuts a manly figure as the gallant Colonel Egerton, and dominates the third act, playing a most difficult scene with a directness and impetuosity that are quite convincing. Mr. Bassett Roe is irreproachable in his study of the specialist James Roden; the part of Rudkin is admirably played by Mr. Charles Combe; and a very bright and amusing study of Cecil Brown is presented by Mr. Spencer Trevor. Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Mr. Brodie of Edinburgh, and Mr. Michael Sherbrooke as M. Octave Fardet, score familiar successes in those parts; and Mr. Charles Maude since he first played Captain Jack Archer, of the Egyptian Camel Corps, has considerably advanced his reputation; his breezy style is particularly welcome in the part. Miss Ruth Bower is tenderness itself in the part of Sadie, and the love that comes into the heart of the sweet girl from Massachusetts is beautifully suggested. Miss Bower is decidedly charming, and has a future. Miss Agnes Thomas softens the asperities of the maiden aunt, Miss Adams; and Miss Dorothea Desmond is responsible for an interesting sketch of Mrs. Belmont. Mr. A. S. Homewood makes a picturesque figure of the dragoman Abdulla; Mr. Arthur Burne is effective as Mr. Belmont; and Messrs. W. Cronin Wilson, Frank Woolfe, S. J. Warmington, and A. Caton Woodville are fearfully and wonderfully made up as the black fellows, whose ferocity and sullenness they emphasise particularly well. The scenery on the banks of the Nile is very finely painted, and the drama admirably staged.

"A MIDNIGHT MEETING."

Comedietta, by Cuthbert Morley, Produced at the Globe Theatre, on Saturday, May 21.

Cecily ..... MISS ENID SASS
Kate ..... MISS JEAN HARKNESS
A Burglar ..... MR. GEORGE BEALBY

The story of a burglar's complete seriousness is generally set out in three acts; it is in the one-act pieces in which his reserve is thrown aside, and he becomes either the cynic, the pessimist, or the humorist. He is all three in Cuthbert Morley's little play produced on Saturday evening in front of *Parasites* at the Globe. Cecily and Kate are chatting in the former's bedroom before retiring for the night. Cecily is a leader of the Suffragist movement, and will speak on the morrow at the Caxton Hall. There is nothing angular or unattractive about her; but nevertheless she poses as a strong-minded female, and has wagered a new hat with a male friend that she would not faint at the sight of a burglar. During the conversation she toys with an unloaded revolver, frightening her friend, but unconsciously giving the cue to a burglar concealed behind the curtains of the French windows. Kate having said good-night, Cecily goes off to sleep while reading a speech antagonistic to the Votes for Women movement—a speech that she hopes to answer triumphantly in her speech on the morrow. A noise made by the cracksman awakens her, and she finds herself in darkness with the door locked and the key gone. At once concluding that a practical joke has been played upon her, she calls upon her male friend to come out of his hiding place. But she discovers her mistake when the brutal countenance of the burglar faces her revolver quite calmly and tells her it is not loaded. He appropriates the contents of her jewel case, her friend's diamond ring, her bracelets, and detaches a necklet by force. He considers himself an expert in jewels with advanced political views, and is quite a lady's man. Cecily behaves very pluckily, but when the burglar leaves her, after giving expression to his enjoyment of a very pleasant evening, she faints. On her recovery the thief has got clear away with the swag, and Cecily runs in terror from the room, calling her friend. The holding-up of the real burglar by the amateur who Cecily thinks is playing the part for a joke would make a better climax. Mr. George Bealby as the burglar presents a good study of the determined brutality of the thief in the night, and Miss Enid Sass, one of the most promising of our younger actresses, makes a spirited Cecily, whose distress is convincingly presented. Miss Jean Harkness is quite effective as Kate.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's study of the amazing Colonel Philippe Bridau in *Parasites* has gained in breadth since the night of the first production of the piece. With such officers as Bridau, it is no wonder that Napoleon conquered Europe. Miss Constance Collier is fascinatingly diplomatic, with alternate fits of resentment when Flora is in the presence of her tormentor and tenderly solicitous when having a *tête-à-tête* with her fellow-conspirator and lover, Max Gilet. Mr. A. E. George is responsible for a fine study of senility as Rouget; Mr. Norman Trevor evinces all the determination and decision of character that belong to Max Gilet; Mr. Acton Bond is a picturesque Joseph Bridau; and Miss Marie Linden is a sweet, motherly Mme. Bridau. The piece goes particularly well, and the interest never slackens. Mr. Bourchier positively revels in his latest part.

HASTINGS Gaiety Theatre has just been the scene of the production of an historical pageant, in which over 200 persons appeared on the stage, and the result has been an artistic and financial success. No fewer than three bishops patronised the performances, and a prominent Nonconformist divine also attended. The stage-manager, Mr. Orlando Barnett, is to be congratulated upon the admirable success of the undertaking. William the Conqueror appeared upon ground which the great warrior undoubtedly trod under the same comet which we are told blazed out at the time of his great victory, and on Wednesday evening the personator of William I. might have been seen, robed and crowned, on the roof of the Gaiety Theatre looking through a telescope at Halley's comet!

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

May we call them *franchisseuses*, those fascinating women of the stage who made everything bright at the Criterion Restaurant on Tuesday afternoon? Many of them had hung their bannerets of silken sheen on a large screen near the entertainment platform. In various hues of broidered significance we read the names of Ellen Terry, Mrs. Kendal, Violet Vanbrugh, and others prominent on the spindle side of many famous theatrical casts. Miss Decima Moore for once was commandant in front of the house, assisted by Miss Adeline Bourne, and the London stage was well represented by some of its finest players. As to the mere man—"not a grunt was heard nor a discordant note as through the programme we hurried."

It was perhaps a strange anomaly that a mere person in trousers supplied the chief attraction of the afternoon, a brightly-written comedietta, quite apropos, by the way, to the doctrine of women's emancipation from domestic thraldom. It bears the title of

"UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES."

Clara Murgatroyd ..... MISS EVA MOORE
Jenkins ..... MISS AVICE SCHOLTZ
Vincent Murgatroyd, M.P. ..... MR. CHAS. V. FRANCE

The author, Mr. Louis Cowen, a well-known critic, has drawn with some cleverness a self-sufficient and portentous Parliamentary bore, Vincent Murgatroyd, M.P., whose platitudes would send most members into the smoke-room at the House. Vincent has voted for an abstract resolution in favour of greater political freedom for women, but would deny them the vote. He is too self-centred and dull-witted to recognise the cleverness and smartness of his wife, whom he desires to be a womanly woman. She does not share apparently the advantages of his position in the House, as he is going alone to a dinner given by a famous party hostess. But Clara Murgatroyd does not intend to stay at home, and makes an appointment to dine at a restaurant with her stockbroker, whose tips have been of considerable value to her. The husband is told of her intention, and as he is dining out to further his political career he can scarcely complain of her doing the same. The truth then comes home to Murgatroyd that he possesses a resourceful, tactful wife, and his attitude of superior indifference changes to one of tenderness. He can learn much from her sound common sense. They agree to dine together, and put off their engagements owing to "unexpected circumstances." Miss Eva Moore and Mr. Charles V. France played exceedingly well as husband and wife; but we should like to hear the piece again under more favourable circumstances, as the dialogue did not always reach us.

Later in the afternoon was played the duologue *A Matter of Moment*, by Violet Langbridge, in which Mr. Lawrence Leyton and Miss Maud Hoffman appeared. Miss Theresa Beney opened the entertainment with a well-played Prelude by Rachmaninoff. The place of Miss Alice Esty, who was to have sung the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*, was taken by Mr. Gerald French, an agreeable tenor. Mr. Percy French gave one of the most successful turns of the afternoon when he turned on "Chuckles in Chalk" and recited parodies of Kipling and Robbie Burns. Miss Decima Moore was quite delightful in the accompanied monologue "The Waltz Quadrille," which she followed by a whistling solo; Miss Maggie Davies' pure intonation in Haydn's beautiful old aria "My mother bids me bind my hair" gave considerable pleasure; Mr. Ben Webster recited "The Sea," by Eva L. Ogden; Mr. H. V. Esmond was responsible for a dramatic rendering of "A Gold-digger's Story"; Mr. Hubert Bath accompanied Miss Lena Ashwell in two recitations, with music by Stanley Hawley; Miss Constance Collier gave two short pieces; Miss Fanny Wentworth at the piano kept her audience in roars of laughter with her stories of "bridge"; and Miss Cecilia Loftus was exceedingly welcome in her mimicry of Margaret Cooper, Yvette Guilbert, Caruso, and Alfred Lester. Miss Marjory Moore and Mr. Henry Ainley also contributed. The accompaniments were played by Mr. Leonard Calvert and Miss Theresa Beney, and the stage-management was in the capable keeping of Mr. Clifford Brooke and Mr. Roland Pertwee.

REHEARSAL THEATRE.

The fifteenth performance held by Mr. Clive Currie at the Rehearsal Theatre on Monday last was undoubtedly the best yet seen there. The afternoon, it will be remembered, was exceedingly hot, yet despite outdoor blandishments the little theatre in Maiden-lane was crowded. Act 2 of *School*, a new sketch *Love is Passing*, and Mr. Horace W. C. Newte's ever-welcome *The Journey's End*, in addition to recitations by the Misses Edith Carter and Eva Balfour, made up a most enjoyable bill of fare. In the chosen act from Mr. T. W. Robertson's *School* we got a delightful representative of Naomi Tighe in Miss Marjorie Hodges. Miss Evelyn Vandersee as Bella, too, was extremely good. Great credit is due to Mr. Keith J. Shepherd for his version of Dr. Sutcliffe.

Love is Passing is a well-written little sketch of the human type from the pen of Mrs. Angelo Savi, and, we are informed, was presented for the first time.

Robert Sylvester ..... MR. CLIVE CURRIE
Leonard Hill ..... MR. KEITH J. SHEPHERD
Dolly Hartley ..... MISS EVELYN GREY
Maid ..... MISS MILLICENT MERLE

The refrain from "Love the Pilgrim," sung before the curtain goes up on the opening, might well be omitted altogether, as it in no way affects the story, which in itself is excellent. Robert Sylvester, novelist, admirably portrayed by Mr. Clive Currie, is a man of possibly forty-five. He has a pretty ward, Dolly Hartley (Miss Evelyn Grey), eighteen years of age. Robert is engrossed in his work, and, kindness itself to his fair charge, allows her to do pretty well as she will. Dolly, too, is engrossed in the novelist and his work, but from a different standpoint. She loves him, but thinks it necessary to flirt with all the good-looking and eligible "boys" of her acquaintance. One afternoon at a garden party Leonard Hill (Mr. Keith J. Shepherd) asks her to be his wife. Dolly refers him to "Guardy." The interview that follows is capitally played by Messrs. Currie and Shepherd, and one scarcely knows which to admire most—the nervousness and awkward trepidation of the suitor or the politeness and studied cynicism of the guardian. Needless to say, "Guardie" ultimately marries "Wardie." Miss Grey's work is extremely good, and the sketch as played by the company mentioned is worthy of a place in any programme.

Miss Eva Balfour was inclined to be nervous in the potion scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, but she is an actress with a forceful delivery, and is undoubtedly a creditable Shakespearian student. Miss Edith Carter's unnamed monologue dealing with the petulancy of a newly-engaged girl was very well done indeed.

Mr. Clive Currie informs us that he is to give a special matinée on Thursday, June 16, at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloan-square, S.W. The programme will include the Forest scenes of Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, with Mr. H. A. Saintsbury as Touchstone, Mr. Clive Currie as Jacques, Miss Mary Forbes as Rosalind, and Miss Jean Graeme as Celia. This will be followed by a one-act play by Gaston Gervex, entitled *The Accolade*, produced by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who will play the Marquis de Valencourt.

IN consequence of the death of his Majesty King Edward VII., patron of the Royal College of Music, the orchestral concert of the Patron's Fund is postponed until the autumn.

SIR HERBERT TREE IN DUBLIN.

The second performance of two new plays at the Irish Theatrical Club, Dublin, in aid of the Samaritan Fund of the Women's National Health Association, on the afternoon of the 18th inst., was favoured by the presence of Sir Herbert Tree, who was appearing in the Irish capital. The plays were from the pen of Miss Mary Costello, and were entitled *The Coming of Aideen* and *The Gods at Play*, both of which were favourably received by the large audience. Owing to Sir Herbert Tree's engagement at the Theatre Royal, where he was appearing in a matinée performance of *The O'Flynn*, it was almost six o'clock when he was able to get over to the Club's cosy little theatre in Upper Sackville-street, and he had just time to get seated when the curtain fell on *The Gods at Play*.

Prevailed upon to speak a few words to the audience on the subject of the charity which they were assembled to support, Sir Herbert, whose appearance was greeted with loud applause, delivered a brief address from the stage, in which he said:—Ladies and Gentlemen—It is a great pleasure to me to come here to blow, with the broken bellows of my eloquence, the embers of public opinion in favour of the agitation for the Women's National Health Association of Ireland. It is the glory of our time that we recognise the duty of individuals towards the community, and this is essentially a women's movement. It seems that, in spite of all that is said to the contrary, woman's throne is her home, and that the home actually needs her. Men have to fight the battle outside. "You take from me the house when you do take the prop that doth sustain the house."

But I am particularly interested in this movement, as I have for many years been connected with a movement in London for the feeding of children—I mean the *Referee* Children's Dinner Fund—and I think we may claim to have done a great deal towards the helping of poor children to better health. Every child should have in the morning food in its stomach and boots on its feet. I have noticed in Dublin a great many children with bare feet, and I asked a jarvey the other day, as I sat with that nice balance which I have learned to attain on the car, how it is that so many children in Dublin prefer to have bare feet. He replied at once, with that humour which rarely fails an Irishman when he sits behind a horse, "Ah, sir, you see, they can get about quicker—that is, in sellin' the evenin' papers; it is a waste of time to put on their boots." Well, I suppose the day is far distant when the State shall take over all these responsibilities, although they have gone pretty far already in point of education.

But, still, more important than the food for the mind is the food for their little bodies, and every penny you give towards this will be productive of good at compound interest, not to be computed in this generation—it will help to give a vigorous race, and to make Ireland the prosperous country that it should be—the country that it will be. In inviting me here to-day your gracious president, Lady Aberdeen, reminded me that the war cry of the Crusaders was "God wills it." Surely this is a motto we can well adopt. I saw the other day there was a benevolent society called "God's Poor"—that, I think, is a misnomer—it is a shame to saddle God with these things. I think it is "man's poor," for the responsibility lies with man, and not with God. The world is large, and the sun's rays are wide, and there are many green fields that are yet untrodden. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I have nothing to say to you, as you no doubt realise by this time; but I am anxious to give you something, and if you will accept this little cheque from me I shall, at least, feel that I have done something in the service of this admirable cause.

Sir Herbert Tree subsequently left for London to attend the King's funeral.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, May 24, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. H. De Quincey, Chris Walker, C. F. Collings, Robson Paige, Leonard Shepherd, Murri Moncrieff, Frederick Morland, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Mildred Cottell, and Mr. D. Young, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was decided that an addition should be made to the monthly advertisement to the effect that the Association could not use its funds in behalf of non-members.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester and adopted. The House Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Moncrieff, and certain suggestions contained therein were discussed. It was suggested that an emergency meeting of that committee should be held to discuss the said suggestions and estimates be submitted.

With regard to Mr. Langford Reed's suggestion *re* Mrs. Siddons picture, the secretary was instructed to ascertain from an expert (free of charge) whether or not the said picture was valuable.

The secretary reported five engagements through the Agency. Elections: Blanche Ripley and Ethel Hodgkins. Nomination: Mary Goulden.

Mr. Frederick Morland gave notice of motion a fortnight hence (June 7) *re* the paying off of debentures.

A Connoisseur.

"WILLIAM RIGNOLD was a big, fine, robust man at the time I speak of," writes Mr. Fred Dobell, "but not quite so active as in his youthful days. On the first night of *The Run of Luck* at Drury Lane, in which Rignold played the part of a hard-riding country squire, he had to mount his horse in one scene and ride off to the meet. He was assisted to the saddle by a groom, who gave him too vigorous a 'leg-up,' and William consequently 'overleaped himself,' and fell on the other side. Nothing daunted, he mounted again—this time by the help of a chair brought on by a friendly super—and rode off triumphantly. A few minutes afterwards a messenger arrives on the stage with the news that the squire has been thrown from his horse, whereupon a voice from the gallery set the whole house in a roar with the exclamation, 'Hanged if I didn't expect it from his awkward way of getting up!'"

A Stage Irishman.

"AFTER a long absence from our midst the stage Irishman has again made his bow in one of our local theatres," says the *San Francisco Leader*. "This individual is one of the meanest specimens of the red-haired, red-whiskered, red-nosed stage Irishmen it has ever been our misfortune to see. Devoid of any sense of humour, he depends upon a laugh for a make-up which for idiocy can be found nowhere outside of a lunatic asylum. Here in San Francisco, where the hardest fight in the whole world was waged against the caricaturing of the Hibernian race on the stage, we thought we had wiped out the evil for ever. But it appears we have miscalculated. 'Pat' still stalks the boards more ignorant, more ferocious, more of a baboon than he ever was. Let it be understood right here that the stage Irishman doesn't go. Our people will not stand to be represented as a drunken, rowdy, monkey-faced race of beings, and the sooner this fact is recognised the better for the peace of all concerned."

OWING to a severe attack of tonsillitis, Miss Josephine Middleton, who has been playing the leading part for Mr. Tom Craven in his detective drama *When a Lass Loves*, was prevented from appearing last week at the Lyric, Hammersmith, but has now quite recovered, and will resume her part on Monday next at the Theatre Royal, Margate.

BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

Sir Charles Stanford's Irish opera *Shamus O'Brien* was performed by Mr. Thomas Beecham's company at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday night. *Shamus O'Brien*, originally produced at the Opera Comique in 1896, was revived a year or so ago by a performance given by the students of the Royal College of Music at La Scala Theatre. The story of Sir Charles Stanford's opera deals with events in Ireland after the Rebellion of 1798. Shamus, an outlaw, in hiding from the English soldiers, is betrayed by Mike Murphy, a former lover of Nora, Shamus's wife. After his arrest, Shamus is sentenced to death, but by the aid of Father O'Flynn, a parish priest, makes his escape, and a stray bullet fired at Shamus kills the informer, Mike Murphy. One of the strongest features of the performance on Tuesday night was the excellent and characteristic impersonation of the informer, Mike Murphy, by Mr. Joseph O'Mara, who acted and sang with a life and spirit that gave interest to every scene in which he appeared. Several humorous touches were most artistically introduced, and a very hearty encore followed Mr. O'Mara's graphic singing of Mike's solo "Ochone, when I used to be young." Mr. Albert Archdeacon made a manly Shamus O'Brien, singing with pleasing effect and displaying considerable power as an actor. Mr. Robert Radford as Father O'Flynn was histrionically effective, but he did not seem vocally at ease in the music of the part. The pathetic part of Nora O'Brien was ably undertaken by Miss Edith Evans as regards acting, but she was a little timid in her singing. Miss Caroline Hatchard proved a vivacious Kitty O'Toole, and Mr. John Bardsley made a handsome Captain Trevor and sang well. Mr. Reginald Scrope-Quintin appeared as Sergeant Cox, and the Banshee air was admirably sung by Miss Carrie Tubb. The chorus acted and sang with spirit as the peasants, villagers, &c., and a most picturesque scene had been painted of The Village of Ballyhamis, in the Mountains of Cork. Mr. Hamish McCunn, who conducted, secured an excellent performance of Sir Charles Stanford's lively score, and the audience gave a most cordial reception to the revival.

Wednesday, May 25, Edmond Missa's Operatic Version of Ouida's *Two Little Wooden Shoes*, entitled

"MUGUETTE."

Muguette ..... MISS RUTH VINCENT
Lena Krebs ..... MISS MURIEL TERRY
Melka ..... MISS MAGGIE TEYTE
Mme. Vanhart ..... MISS STELLA PHELPS
Gertrude ..... MISS BRENDA BARNETT
Mère Rosa ..... MISS STELLA GODWIN
Lionel ..... MR. JOHN COATES
Klotz ..... MR. HARRY DEARTH
Peter Pot ..... MR. DENNIS BYNDON-AYRES
Vanhart ..... MR. ARTHUR ROYD
Jean ..... MR. FREDERICK RANALOW
Kobe ..... MR. ARTHUR WINN

Edmond Missa's opéra comique *Muguette*, founded on Ouida's novel "Two Little Wooden Shoes," was produced by Mr. Thomas Beecham, for the first time in England, at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday night, with every prospect of complete success. Originally performed at the Opéra-Comique, Paris, on March 18, 1903, the libretto of Messrs. Michel Carré and Georges Hartmann gives the chief incidents and carries out the spirit of Ouida's charming story until the last act of the opera is reached, when a change is made and Muguette is re-united to her lover, and all ends happily, in strong contrast to the novel, where poor Bébée drowns herself because Flamen, the artist, never returns. One sad event in connection with the production of *Muguette* is the death of its composer, Edmond Missa, in a motor accident some months ago. The action of the opera takes place in Flanders, and afterwards in Paris, about the year 1820, and in the first act we have a delightful picture of the poultry market at Antwerp, with all the life and bustle of a market day. Lionel, an artist, is seeking a certain type of face he wants to paint. Meeting his old friend Klotz, a silversmith, Lionel asks his aid, and Klotz introduces him to Muguette, a flower-girl. Charmed with her grace and beauty, Lionel requests a sitting, and it is arranged that he shall come and paint her in her old garden at home. The second act takes place in Muguette's garden. Children, after singing a hymn, dance round Muguette, and beg her to come to a fête, but she refuses, and when they leave sets up the easel and picture for a sitting. Lionel arrives, Muguette takes up a graceful pose, and the artist for some time goes on with the painting. It is evident, however, that the painter is deeply in love with his pretty model, and, as he gradually discovers she is equally infatuated with him, the brushes and palette are laid aside, the lovers sing a duet, and the scene ends with Lionel's departure and his promise to return. The scene of the third act is Lena Krebs' house. Lena, Rosa, and Vanhart and his wife expect a wedding party to celebrate the marriage of Kobe with Gertrude; folk-songs are sung, and when Muguette enters it is plain she is in despair about her lover, for, of course, Lionel does not return, and it is now mid-winter. Klotz comes in and tells Muguette he hears her artist friend is ill in Paris. Muguette then secretly resolves to go to Paris to nurse him. When the house is closed for the night Muguette comes from her room, and leaves for Paris. A snowy wood on the French frontier is shown in the third act. Muguette, worn out with fatigue, on her way to Paris, sinks on the ground. Discovered by Klotz, she tells him of her resolve to seek Lionel, and they depart for Paris. An artist's studio in Paris is the scene of the last act. Lionel, recovered from his illness, is seen painting Melka, a model. During his absence from the studio Muguette and Klotz arrive, and Melka, a kind-hearted girl, finding out Muguette's love for the artist, dresses her in a costume, and when Lionel returns he finds in the new model the pretty Muguette, when, after a brief love-duet, they are united, and the opera ends. Although, it will be seen, the story departs somewhat from Ouida's "Two Little Wooden Shoes," the main feature of the artist's love for the flower-girl is the same. In some respects it is a pity Jeannot, the young woodman, Muguette's former lover, could not have been introduced, as a fine baritone part could have been made of this character. The happy ending to the opera also is not quite so artistic as a pathetic one, for do not our "sweetest songs tell of saddest thoughts"? and the composer is evidently gifted with the art of writing plaintive music.

Edmond Missa's little opera is full of melodious themes, and the finest music is certainly found in the second act. Muguette's song, "May's the month of Mary; we sing to her for joy," her solo while posing to Lionel, and the duet sung by the lovers as the sun is setting over the quaint old-world garden are all full of charm. Very pleasing also is Muguette's ballad in the first act, "How sweet and fair the morning air." The music of Klotz has interest, and the model Melka in the last acts sings a lively "vieille chanson." Between the first and second acts the orchestra played what might be termed an intermezzo of such dainty melody that the audience insisted on an encore. Miss Ruth Vincent sang delightfully as Muguette, and made an attractive appearance in the quaint costume of the country; excellent also was the Lionel of Mr. John Coates, and fervent his singing and acting; as the good-hearted Klotz Mr. Dearth was vocally very effective; and Miss Maggie Teyte's Melka deserved great praise. In the minor parts, Miss Muriel Terry, Miss Stella Phelps, Miss Brenda Barnett, and Miss Stella Godwin were all successful; and Messrs. Byndon-Ayres, A. Royd, F. Ranalow, and Arthur Wynn ably played the market folk. The opera was handsomely mounted.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, May 18.—*The Spitfire*, a play in four acts, now running at the Lyceum Theatre, is described as a "nautical melodramatic comedy." Two thieves, Ormond and Tracy, have robbed Bruce Morson, a young American engineer, of some valuable jewels. They are in league with the mate of the Spitfire, an ocean-going yacht, owned by an American millionaire. Using the owner's code, they order the captain to steam immediately for New York; but just as the yacht leaves Calais they pick up a man who has leaped overboard from a tug. The adventurers on board the yacht recognise him as their victim, although he does not know them, and when he tells his story to Valda Girard, the owner's daughter, they invent a plausible tale, by which she is made to believe that he is an impostor. So the young engineer is forced to scrub the deck and work for his passage. His humiliation by the mate and his efforts to recover the stolen jewels, in which he is aided by Valda's cousin, Polly Thurman, who falls in love with him, keep him in trouble all the time. The second act ends with a fight between the mate and Morson. Then there are some comedy scenes between Morson and Valda, who at times treats him decently, and on other occasions with marked discourtesy. When the jewels are stolen from the Spitfire's safe Valda suspects that Morson has taken them. A storm arises, and the yacht is wrecked, leaving Valda and the young engineer stranded in a lonely spot on the coast of New Jersey, where their makeshifts and misunderstandings create a series of amusing situations. By this time Valda has fallen in love with Morson. He has so bravely rescued her from the ocean that she makes up her mind he is not a thief long before Ormond and Tracy make their way to shore from the wreck, and are properly crestfallen and discomfited.

Mr. Charles Cherry upholds his popularity in the rôle of Bruce Morson; and Miss Ruth Maycliffe is a charming Valda. Mr. E. J. Ratcliffe, after a long absence from New York, appears with success as James Ormond, and the other parts are well played.

"Jim the Penman," revived at the Lyric Theatre by William A. Brady, has proved an immense success, the house being crowded nightly. For this the "all-star" cast is, no doubt, chiefly responsible, for there is no denying that the methods employed in the unfolding of the story are old-fashioned to say the least. But the opportunity of seeing such an eminent trio of players as Messrs. John Mason, Theodore Roberts, and Wilton Lackaye in the same cast, does not occur very often. A short while ago Mr. Roberts was impersonating one of those rough-and-ready Westerners who are always "toying" with their revolvers, and no one can beat him at that kind of characterisation. In the present revival he appears as Baron Hartfeld, and gives a faithful portrayal of the polished German schemer, who aids and abets Jim Ralston in his nefarious practices. His performance is a highly interesting example of all-round cleverness and versatility. As Captain Redwood Mr. John Mason shows us once more what an accomplished actor he is, for he plays the part to perfection.

Mr. Wilton Lackaye is not at his best as Jim Ralston, although his embodiment, on the whole, is satisfactory. The rôle of Nina Ralston gave Miss Florence Roberts the opportunity to distinguish herself for which she had waited, and she rose to the occasion splendidly. Her impersonation will long be remembered. Mr. Arthur Forrest plays Louis Percival with dignity and strength, and makes a very good impression. Mr. Frederick Paulding's Mr. Netherby is a capital character-sketch; and Mr. Louis Massen acts Dr. Pettywise very successfully. Miss Jeffreys Lewis as Lady Dunscombe, Miss Marguerite Clark as Agnes Ralston, Miss Grace Reals as Mrs. Chapstone, and Mr. Ernest Glendinning as George Ralston play their parts cleverly. Few revivals arouse so much enthusiasm on the opening night. Time and again the actors were recalled and heartily applauded. Mr. Brady, in a brief speech, wished he could write a play that would be received so favourably twenty-five years after its first presentation.

"The Mikado" is to be revived at the Casino on the 30th inst. The company will be quite a constellation, as Mr. Sam Bernard will play Ko-Ko, Mr. Jefferson De Angelis the Mikado, Mr. Andrew Mack Nanki-Poo, Mr. Charles Ross Pooh-Bah, Miss Fritzi Scheff Yum-Yum, Miss Lulu Glaser Pitti-Sing, Mr. William Pruette Pish-Tush, and Miss Marguerite Clark Peep-Bo.

Miss Marie Dressler has begun an engagement at the Herald-square Theatre, which promises to last through the summer. She appears in a "mixture of mirth and melody," called *Tillie's Nightmare*, some particulars of which have already been given. The entertainers include the original English "Dancing Dolls," Misses Carrie Poltz, Florrie Poltz, Eva Marlowe, and Nellie Wilkie.

Mr. George Arliss is at the Lyric Theatre, Chicago, appearing in a new play, entitled *When Two Write History*, by Agnes Bangs Morgan. Mr. Arliss impersonates a whimsical and pedantic individual named John Remington, who figures in a pretty love story.

Mr. Henry Miller and his company are appearing at the Garrick Theatre in a three-act comedy called *Her Husband's Wife*, by A. E. Thomas. The central character of the play is a hypochondriac, whose absurd ideas cause complications, which are woven into an interesting and humorous story. The scenes are laid at Saratoga during the racing season. Irene Randolph is happily married and enjoys good health, but she imagines she has an incurable ailment and is doomed to an early death. Every time the cuckoo clock strikes she takes a dose of medicine. Her one thought is to make her husband happy and comfortable after she is gone. With this end in view she decides that he must marry again, and chooses as her successor her dearest friend, Emily Ladew, who has had a misunderstanding with her sweetheart and lost her interest in life. To use her own expression she has allowed herself to "deteriorate."

Being of dowdy appearance, and having quite lost her "shape," she seems to be an ideal choice to the wife, who requires someone who will be a "mother" to her husband, and whom he cannot be expected to love, of course, as he loves his present partner. Irene's husband is not aware of her intentions; but John Belden, her uncle, is, and he tries to cure his niece of her hallucination. To humour her, however, he consults the lady upon whom her choice has fallen. But Emily, who is really a good-looking girl, is piqued at the idea of being considered plain, and at once wakes up. She endeavours to make herself as fascinating as possible, effects a wonderful change in her appearance, and starts a flirtation with Stuart Randolph. Seeing this, the wife becomes jealous, and soon recovers from her imaginary ailment, while Emily and her lover are brought together again.

Most amusing are the efforts of the wife to undo the effects of her ill-considered plan and to prejudice her husband's "fiancée" against him. She insists that he drinks heavily and even beats her. But Emily sees through her. "Oh, I'll tame him," she says, "you'll see!" Then she adds, pointedly, "But now I think of it you won't see," which completes the wife's discomfiture. Thanks to his wife's subterfuge, Randolph gets such a bad name that her brother and husband almost come to blows, and an amusing scene occurs when the latter, in trying to humour his wife and win her sympathy, offers her a divorce, which only proves to her how much he is interested in the other woman. Miss Laura Hope Crews as Irene Randolph and Mr. Henry Miller as John Belden share the principal honours. The dialogue is witty and diverting, and the play has been well received by the Press and the public.

THEATRICAL COSTUME SALE.

During four days of this week Messrs. Waring and Gillow have held a sale of rich art and decorative accessories, the property of the late Sir William Orchardson, at his house in Portland-place. Good prices have, in the main, been realised, and many prominent members of the profession have been interested spectators of the auction. Yesterday (Friday) was, perhaps, of most consequence from a theatrical point of view, for many useful costumes carefully chosen by the late painter for his pictures were offered, ranging from Paisley shawls to Pompadour vests.

Bargains were as plentiful as blackberries in September at Friday's sale. Really magnificent costumes and "props" changed hands for a few shillings in many cases. Thus two cocked hats, two shakos, and one beaver hat (the Napoleon period) fetched 16s. the lot; one box of six hats (period 1795), 5s.; one bundle of tassels and items, £1 6s.; one box of ribbons, fans, and flowers, 9s.; one box, containing muslin gown and oddments, 18s.; one box of old shirts, cravats, and ruffles, 16s.; brocaded bodice made for "The Borgia" picture, 12s.; one model green gown made for the picture "The Last Dance," 9s; one yellow and one black domino, one real black Spanish official cloak and hat, two pairs tights, and one crimson cloth robe, £2 10s.; one real green embroidered silk Persian robe, £6 10s.; four pairs real early nineteenth century gloves, 8s.; two real old quilted Georgian petticoats, one real old black printed chintz gown (same period), and one real old silk gown and belt, £3 3s.; and one brown Eastern embroidered shirt and a pair of real old Georgian stays, £1 6s.

There were many novelties that the dealers eagerly snapped up, among them being an embroidered Japanese fireman's coat, a real Turkish embroidered vest, a model blue linen jacket, patched trousers and pocket, worn by an Italian fisherman on the Lido, a real old satin Louis XVI. waistcoat, woven flowers and gold, original buttons and lining and all, and a very old curious Pompadour waistcoat. Two other garments for which there was the briskest bidding were a real old Georgian dressing-gown and a fine sixteenth century tunic.

At Edgware Police Court on Thursday Joseph St. Clair, a former manager with the Moody-Manners Opera Company, was charged with embezzling £160 10s., the moneys of the company. Mr. W. H. Mote, solicitor, who prosecuted, said that the accused was for seven seasons employed as business manager of one of the Moody-Manners touring companies, and that his contract expired during this month. He was not re-engaged for the next tour, and he wrote to Mr. Manners enclosing a statement of accounts, showing that the company owed him £155 10s. He added in his letter that he was anxious to fight the matter out in Court. Mr. Charles Manners, managing-director, bore out his solicitor's statement, and said that his accountant informed him that a sum of £160 was due from the prisoner. Mr. H. H. Olley, for the defence, asked for a remand to enable him to investigate the accounts. The case was adjourned, the prisoner being allowed bail, himself in £100 and one surety in £100.

Among the passengers on R.M.S. Lusitania, which arrived on Monday, was Mr. Frederick Meads, who has just concluded a most successful nine months' engagement in America with Miss Maxine Elliott.

Now that the taxgatherer is so very busy

questions of motoring economy reach an acute stage. Foremost amongst them all is the problem of tyre service and tyre efficiency. Careful motorists should be sure that their tyre equipment embodies the latest advance in tyre construction and consequently ensures them the highest obtainable standard of tyre service and mileage. The tyre world does move. To see that you enjoy the full benefit of its progression,

Specify

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, April 20.—Criterion.—The Clarke and Meynell management has given a superb setting to Oscar Asche's play *Count Hannibal*. The capital all-round acting, allied with the elaborate staging, make for success, and a success is achieved. Miss Lily Brayton has the most strenuous character to portray as Clotilde, the lady of Vrillac. The strong play of emotions, varied and ever varying, showed the beautiful actress at her best. Mr. Oscar Asche had all the heavy work as the swashbuckler—ruthless, loving, and true in his dominant strength. The big, burly body, with its thundrous voice, eye and brain ever alert—thus was Mr. Oscar Asche. Next comes the deft limning of the portrait of King Louis IX. by the master hand of Mr. Herbert Grimwood. The fatuous monarch—fearful, dissipated, and easily led—was resurrected for our delectation. Mr. Caleb Porter realised the fanatic, Father Pezelay, completely. Miss Elfrida Clement had the only mirthful part as Mme. St. Lo, and she made the most of it. Tignonville, the lover of Clothilde, was allotted to Mr. Gerald Kay Souper, and he portrayed the moral and physical coward faithfully. Mr. Fritz Russell (who also stage-managed the production) and Mr. Athol Forde had their strong scene as Bigot and Badelon most heartily cheered. Mr. Reginald Ian Penny, with high-pitched voice, was the Rochefoucauld, a valuable acquisition. A host of other clever folk, including Miss Constance Robertson, undertook the long list of historical characters. Mr. Joseph Harker's ten scenes were very fine.

Palace.—Messrs. Allan Hamilton and Max Maxwell changed their bill on Saturday to *In London Town*. Miss Beatrice Holloway is the heroine, Alice Dalton, and no chance escapes her of making a point, albeit most natural throughout. Mr. Godfrey Cass makes Frank Dalton the living embodiment of concentrated villainy. Mr. Max Maxwell is thoroughly effective as John Hargreaves; Miss Jennie Pollock makes the adventuress, Rose Norrison, winsome as well as detestable; Mr. Charles Brown and Miss Muriel Dale have all the comedy as Jack Parker, the tar, and Liddy Bliss, the jam girl. Scenery and general production were up to the standard of Hamilton and Maxwell.

Royal.—*Madame Butterfly*, with three alternating *prime donne*, Bel Sorel, Elly Barnato, and Amy Castles, is still to the fore, but on Saturday the J. C. Williamson firm will revive *La Bohème*. In this opera Miss Maria Pampari will be the Mimi and Signor Zerga the poet.

Her Majesty's.—The pantomime *Aladdin* still keeps the box-office keeper and treasurer busy. Fresh interpolations keep the interest alive, and no note of departure or change is sounded.

Tivoli.—The crowds of interested folk who go to see how Houdini gets out of his handcuffs and leg-irons are most gratifying large for Mr. Harry Rickards' enterprise. Challenge follows upon challenge, and, to add to the excitement, Houdini makes aeroplane voyages. The Wille Brothers, Allan Shaw (the coin juggler), Lillie Langtry (the soubrette), the Two Bells, and Dorothy Forbes are a few of the many artists in the bill.

West's Pictures, Spence's Theatrescope, Wirth's Circus, the Bijou, Victoria Hall, Standard Theatre, these are among the fine picture shows and entertainments. Every suburb has several covered and open-air picture shows, each and all coining money.

MELBOURNE, April 19.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Musgrove.—The last nights are now announced of *What Every Woman Knows*. The play was, however, well patronised on Saturday evening. Miss Nellie Stewart, in the part of Maggie Wylie, the "home-spun" heroine, was again well received. The whole play is filled with interesting incidents that never fail of the expected sympathetic sigh or laugh from an intent house. The play will be withdrawn after next Friday to make way for the romantic drama entitled *When Knighthood Was in Flower*. So far, the booking for the opening night is exceptionally heavy.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—*The Dollar Princess*, the musical play, which is now almost as widely known throughout the world as *The Merry Widow* itself, was again witnessed on Saturday evening by an enormous house.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The popularity which has attended Messrs. Meynell and Clarke's fine production of *The Arcadians* since its opening night shows no signs of diminishing. The theatre is thronged nightly. The dry humour of Mr. Tom Walls and the exuberance of Mr. Cromwell are met with prompt manifestations of approval, and they are not alone the dispensers of fun. The gorgeous setting of the play nightly calls forth loud applause. *The Arcadians* will run till further notice.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The stirring melodrama, *From Shop Girl to Duchess*, was produced for the first time on Saturday evening, with the following cast:—Duke of St. Baynum, Mr. George Cross; Lord St. Orbotrude Pelham, Mr. Max Clifton; Sir Morris Maitland, M.D., Mr. Edmund Duggan; Gilbert Spate, Mr. Rutland Beckett; Tommy Tinkler, Mr. Bert Bailey; Hotel Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Nunn; Dowager Duchess of St. Baynum, Miss Lillie Bryer; Lady Celeste Delamere, Miss Olive Wilton; Lady Cinderella Portcullis, Miss May Granville; Countess of Normantowers, Miss Kathleen Lorimer; Gertrude Haynes, Miss Daisy Scudamore; Tilly Dobson, Miss Fanny Erris; Sylvia Grey, Miss Eugenie Duggan. Miss Eugenie Duggan made a pleasantly attractive picture of the rôle of Syliva Grey. As the Duke of St. Baynum Mr. George Cross had a part entirely suited to him, and made the most of his opportunities throughout the play. Mr. Beckett as Gilbert Spate made an admirable villain; Mr. Duggan a dignified Sir Morris Maitland; and Mr. Bert Bailey, as Tommy Tinkler, kept the audience in roars. Miss Olive Wilton looked and acted well all through in the rôle of Lady Celeste Delamere. Mr. Max Clifton as Sir Obotrude Pelham was admirable.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—A particularly strong bill is being presented here just now, and in consequence the house is filled nightly. On Saturday evening Carter the Great, conjurer and illusionist, made his first appearance and met with a hearty reception. Carter performed a number of tricks neatly, and with his illusions completely mystified his audience. Billy Williams is now an established favourite with his humorous songs; Vasco, the mad musician, plays innumerable instruments with great skill; Alexandra and Bertie give a neat and clever turn on the trapeze; the Two Howards appear in a remarkable turn, entitled "Second Sight"; while excellent items are provided by Miss Olga Grey, Martine Brothers, Les Warton, Johnnie Gilmore, George Sorlie, Clarence Tisdale, the Donnellys, Graham and Dent, and the Two Banvards.

In addition to the numerous vocal and terpsichorean items in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, Miss Florence Baines has introduced some part songs for mixed voices, which have met with gratifying success. The fully booked summer tour commences at Yarmouth in June, and for the autumn several important South Country theatres have been booked. There is every sign that Miss Baines's laughter-making farce will prove as popular down South as it has in the Northern counties, and in Australia and New Zealand.

"HARVEST."

A Play, in Three Acts, by S. L. Robinson, Produced for the First Time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, May 19.

Jack Hurley .....Mr. Fred O'Donovan
Mildred .....Miss Sara Allgood
Bridget Twomey .....Miss Eileen O'Doherty
Maggie Hannigan .....Miss Eithne Magee
Timothy Hurley .....Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Maurice Hurley .....Mr. J. M. Kerrigan
William Lordan .....Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Mary Hurley .....Miss Maire O'Neill

Mr. S. L. Robinson is to be congratulated on his successful production. The play is full of poignant interest, and the situations are vigorous and effective and the dialogue clever. A very large audience received the play with continuous applause. The plot runs as follows:—Jack Hurley, a chemist's assistant in Dublin, and a son of a farmer in County Cork, arrives with his bride, a colonel's daughter, at his father's cottage, presumably to revisit the old place; but really to get money, for he is financially stranded after his honeymoon in London. He believes that farming is the best paying vocation imaginable, but he is cruelly undeceived. The farm has been heavily mortgaged to pay for the education of the family—three brothers are given professions, and his sister Mary is also well educated, but another brother, Maurice, is neglected, and left to help his father on the farm. Maurice is expected to make the farm pay, but he has been taught nothing about farming except what he learnt himself. The place is to be sold out, and there appears no hope of saving the old man from the workhouse. He applies in vain for assistance to his son in England, and to another who is a solicitor in the West of Ireland. In desperation the old man sets fire to his hayshed for the purpose of getting compensation. He tells his sons, Jack and Maurice, of his deed, Maurice sees no harm in it, as he believes it is the only way to save the farm. Jack is horrified, and threatens to reveal the truth if compensation is sought. He decides to give up his post in Dublin, and to devote himself to the farm with his wife, and so stave off destruction. But they soon discover that farming is not the pleasant, easy work they imagined. Mary, who for some years has been occupying a position as a typewriter in London, comes home, and realising the situation, gives her father £50, which she pretends has been sent by her brother in England. Eventually, however, she confesses that the money was obtained at the expense of her honour. Jack pleads with her to return with him and his wife to Dublin, but in an angry scene his wife refuses to have anything to do with her. Jack goes to America, cursing his country; Mary returns to London upbraiding her schoolmaster for teaching her to be clever and ambitious; and Maurice and his father remain on the farm, in blissful ignorance of the means by which they were saved.

An experienced and clever company played their parts extremely well. Miss Maire O'Neill's performance of Mary Hurley was a perfect study. Mr. Fred O'Donovan acted Jack Hurley in a most convincing manner; Miss Sara Allgood was excellent as Jack's wife; Mr. J. M. Kerrigan did splendid work as the farmer, Maurice Hurley; and Mr. Arthur Sinclair acted the schoolmaster, William Lordan, in capital style. Miss Eileen O'Doherty as Bridget Twomey, Miss Eithne Magee as Maggie Hannigan, and Mr. J. A. O'Rourke as Timothy Hurley fulfilled their respective parts in a creditable manner.

MANAGERS' MEETINGS.

The members of the Managers' Club, at their annual general meeting held at the Club-rooms, Savoy Mansions, on Tuesday afternoon last (Mr. Wentworth Croke presiding), came to the unanimous conclusion that a larger club-house is now required for the general accommodation. Accordingly new premises are to be leased at No. 5, Wardour-street, W.C., and in about three weeks or so the members will take possession of the second, third, and fourth floors there. Mr. J. Bannister Howard proposed, and Mr. Falcon seconded, that Mr. M. V. Leveaux be re-elected chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. Howard was re-elected hon. treasurer, and Mr. Frank Weathersby was re-elected hon. assistant treasurer. The retiring members of the committee were re-elected as follows: Sir Herbert Tree, and Messrs. W. W. Kelly, E. Lockwood, H. Ralland, Ed. Terry, John Tully, and L. Maitland. A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. Howard, and seconded by Mr. G. C. Wallace, brought the proceedings to a close.

The Touring Managers' Association also held its annual general meeting last Tuesday afternoon at the Managers' Club. Mr. Wentworth Croke, as Chairman, said that the committee during the past half-year had dealt with railway matters, arbitration cases, stage plays in unlicensed buildings, and had prosecuted an actor for breaking his engagement with a manager. Their association had won the case. A sub-committee had been appointed to co-operate with a sub-committee of the Theatres Alliance to consider the question of plays in clubs. Another sub-committee had been appointed to co-operate with a sub-committee of the Kinematograph Defence League to consider the question of the Sunday opening of all kinds of theatres.

The following officers and members of the committee retiring by rotation were re-elected: Mr. Wentworth Croke, president; Mr. E. Graham Falcon, vice-president; Mr. M. V. Leveaux, chairman; Mr. J. Bannister Howard, hon. treasurer; Mr. Frank Weathersby, assistant hon. treasurer; Mr. Muskerry-Tilson, hon. solicitor; Messrs. Bryden, Feddon and Co., auditors; and Messrs. Lauderdale Maitland, Clifton Alderson, Cecil Barth, Alfred Paumier, and G. Brydon Phillips, members of the committee. Messrs. E. E. Norris, W. D. Nicoll, and H. A. Langlois were elected as members of the committee.

It was further proposed that Clause 10 of the Articles of Association be varied to read "not less than five nor more than twelve." The Secretary was authorised to send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Russell Rosse on her recent bereavement. Among those present at this meeting were Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Frank Weathersby, Herbert Ralland, Gibbons, Lauderdale Maitland, Lambert, G. Brydon Phillips, W. D. Nicoll, Bromwich, E. Bertram, Taylor Platt, F. Leslie Moreton, Norris, Langlois, Carlton Wallace, A. Bertram, J. Bannister Howard, and E. G. Falcon.

A COPYRIGHT QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr. Gunn Gwennet's letter in your issue of the 14th inst. excites my admiration for a knowledge of the law of dramatic copyright rather unusual in a layman. I fail, however, to understand his reference to a Court of Appeal case of a year ago which he implies deprived plays of copyright in anything save their words.

The well-known case of Chatterton *v.* Cave, itself a House of Lords decision, made it clear that there is copyright in a dramatic or scenic situation, and there has since been no decision of the House of Lords to the contrary.

If Mr. Gunn Gwennet is not labouring under a mistake, the decision of the Court of Appeal referred to by him must have been based upon totally wrong principles. In fact, the Court may have confused literary and dramatic copyright. Such a decision cannot for long remain good without throwing the law into hopeless confusion, and as I do not find the case in any of the reports, I hope that Mr. Gunn Gwennet is mistaken. I beg to enclose my card.—Yours faithfully,

May 24. S. X. COURT.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE SEA.

"We cannot, writes H. Grierson in the *Contemporary*, "think of the Elizabethan times without thinking of the sea. Never since the old days of Athens and her glory had the sea been so constantly in men's minds, never had all things connected with it been of such overwhelming consequence. It forms the background to the heroic figures of the time, just as it did in the days of Pericles.

"And something of the freshness and vastness of the sea is about the literature of the time, too, a certain quality that relates it closely to the character of a seafaring age, to an age of adventure and discovery. It is only when one looks closely into it that one realises how this pervading habit of mind runs through every play Shakespeare has written. Of course, a great many of them deal directly with the sea; it forms, so to speak, part of the plot. The *Comedy of Errors*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Timon*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *King Lear*, *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale*, and, of course, *The Tempest*, are played, some in part, some altogether, to an obbigato of winds and waves. But beyond that, the plays not dealing directly with the sea are filled with allusions or turns of expression, owing directly or indirectly to the influence of seafaring men and their thoughts and habits.

"It is interesting to examine the earliest play in which we can trace Shakespeare's hand, with this idea in mind. In the first part of *Henry VI.* there are not many passages that suggest Shakespeare. Generally speaking, the characters appear and declaim their speeches as in a sort of dramatic pageant of history; they exist only to exhibit certain historical events. Towards the end of the first part we come to Margaret and Suffolk, and we are in the presence of two real people, with real motives and real passions. Shakespeare's touch is evident in a moment. In the last scene of the fifth act comes a speech of Henry's, alluding to Margaret's influence upon him:—

"'And like as rigour of tempestuous gusts
Provokes the mightiest hulk against the tide,
So am I driven by breath of her renown,
Either to suffer shipwreck or arrivo,
Where I may have fruition of her love.'

That is Shakespeare, if nothing else in the first part is, and it stands in very close relation to some of the similes in *Romeo and Juliet*, written not long after.

"In the second part, where his hand is oftener felt, in the drama of Suffolk and Margaret and in the character of Richard of Gloucester, the allusions to the sea become more frequent; for the one in the first part we have half a dozen, all, I think, showing a Shakespearean touch. Then we have Suffolk's fate, to die by water, drawing him on all the while to that sea-sorrow on the sands by Dover.

"In Part 3 the greatest speeches by Henry, Margaret, and Gloucester all have allusions and similes drawn from the sea, and, roughly speaking, one may say the more Shakespeare the more sea throughout all three parts.

"But the sea was a good deal more to Shakespeare's imagination than a physical or geographical fact. If we examine the use he makes of it, both in the plots of his plays and in the way of simile and allusion, we shall soon begin to trace a certain symbolism connected with it in his mind. There is a certain trend of feeling that alters, develops, becomes almost revolutionised as time goes on.

"In the very early plays the sea stands for parting and sundering; it is an obstacle and hindrance, something to be crossed and so overcome. It sundered lovers and friends; its influence on human life was a malign one. So we see in the first quoted words of Henry VI. or in Gloucester's speech in Part 3:—

"'Why then I do but dream of sovereignty;
Like one that stands upon a promontory,
And spies a far-off shore that he would tread,
Wishing his foot were equal with his eye,
And chides the sea that sunders him from thence.'

"In the *Comedy of Errors* we have the first case of an often-repeated form of plot. The various members of a family are scattered by shipwreck, and brought together as the play ends, and it is curious to contrast the treatment of the theme with that of the later plays. There is not a trace of the mystic wonders and splendour of the storm that blew when Marina was born, or that other that drove Prospero and Miranda 'blessedly holp hither' to their island. In the *Comedy of Errors* 'the always wind-obeying deep' brings simply terror and dismay. It is scarcely alluded to except in the actual narrative of the shipwreck, and when the sundered family draw together again, it is as if they were snatching their happiness fearfully from the jaws of death. The raft that saves Emilia is called 'fatal.' Think of the 'great gap of time' that lies between that and the sea of *The Tempest*, with its purifying waters, through which men pass to atonement. But such a conception is far away still.

"In *Romeo and Juliet* there is a change and a development. The sea is no longer merely terror or parting; it stands rather for sorrow. It is 'nourished with lover's tears,' and Romeo thinks of it once and again as a parable of life. He twice expresses a sense of being piloted over dark waters to some dimly-seen end, almost in his own despite, once just before he meets Juliet and once again at the very end, when he has all but reached what Othello called 'the very sea-mark of his utmost sail.' There is a curious resemblance in the turn of thought between his simile in the balcony scene and that used by Henry VI., which I quoted a moment ago. We all know Romeo's

"'I am no pilot, yet kere thou as far
As that vast shore washed by the tideless sea,
I would adventure for such merchandise.'

In all these allusions there is a change of attitude. The sea may be wild, stormy, terrible, but it is no longer a fatal influence to be eluded if it may be so. There is a dawning desire to 'take arms against a sea of troubles.' Romeo is willing, more than willing, to adventure himself on that sea of perils. He 'runs to it as to a lover's bed.' Even amidst the frustration of the end, he is conscious that his bark is reaching a port, not the unfittest nor the strangest. It was better to have sailed on that sea, even to shipwreck, than to have stayed on the shore in safety. The sea is part of life, not an enemy of life now.

"When we turn to the historical plays we come, at the very outset, on Clarence's dream, and are reminded in a moment of *The Tempest*. It is the first trace we get of that wonderful sense of wealth and profusion and mystery about the sea depths, whose secrets Ariel will sing to us when the fulness of time is come:—

"'Wedges of gold, great anchors, heaps of pearl,
Inestimable stones, unvalued jewels,
All scattered in the bottom of the sea,
Some lay in dead men's skulls, and in those holes
Where eyes did once inhabit there were crept
As 'twere in scorn of eyes, reflecting gems.'

It is very terrible to Clarence's imagination, but it is very glorious, too. But, on the whole, the sea is terrible in the historical plays, and the subtle symbolism of which we saw a glimpse in *Romeo and Juliet* is absent. From the patriotic point of view it may be

'the triumphant sea
Whose rocky shore beats back the envious surge
Of watery Neptune.'

But where it images the individual life it is its storms and dangers that stand first. It is unrestful, and the mention of it comes with troubled thoughts as a rule. The sea is a sea of faction; the storms are those of rebellion and disloyalty."

ON THE ROAD, MAY 30.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—O. H., Southport.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Grand T., Stockton.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—T. R., Bury.
ARRAH-NA-POGUE.—Empire T., Southend.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
BAINES, MISS FLORENCE.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—Coloseum, Oldham.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—New T., Oxford.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
BEST PEOPLE.—Harrogate and Buxton.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—T. R., Smethwick.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Grand T., Hull.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—King's T., Manchester.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—Grand T., Southampton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., Ashton.
DIVER'S LUCK.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, N.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—Prince's T., Accrington.
EAST LYNNE (CROKE).—T. R., Huddersfield.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Star T., Swansea.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Darlington.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
FAST LIFE, A.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—O. H. Coventry.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Prince's T., Manchester.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—T. R., Leeds.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—Miners' T., Ashington.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Belfast.
FROM SLAVE TO PRINCESS.—T. R., Bolton.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
GAY GORDONS.—County T., Bedford.
GIRL OF MY HEART.—O. H., Hammersmith.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—T. R., Dewsbury.
HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN.—T. R., Stockton.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
HER SECRET LOVER.—Palace T., Newcastle.
HIS DISHONOURED WIFE.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAIS.—Tullamore.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
LITTLE MISS CUMMIN.—O. H., Cheltenham.
LODGE-PERCY, MR. J. C.—T. R., Stratford.
LOMATH, MR. STUART.—Court T., Wigan.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Grand T., Brighton.
LUCKY DURHAM.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—Charlton, Manchester.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Sheffield.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Royalty T., Chester.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—P. O. W., Great Grimsby.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—T. R., Barnsley.
MUNRO, GEO., AND CO.—Weston-Super-Mare.
NEW BOY, THE.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
NIHILIST, THE.—T. R., Scarborough.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Empire T., Oldham.
ONLY A LITTLE BOY.—Hippodrome, Salford.
OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY.—Alexandra T., Hull.
PASSING OF THE FIRST FLOOR BACK.—Halifax and Bury.
PASSION OF LIFE.—T. R., Rochdale.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
RAYNAR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Crown T., Eccles.
ROLLICKING RORY.—Royalty T., Barrow.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
SAPHO.—T. R., Bolton.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Birkenhead.
SINS OF A CITY.—T. R., Woolwich.
SOLDIER'S HONOUR.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
SPENCER, SIDNEY.—T. R., Leigh.
THEODOR'S FLUTTER.—T. R., Bradford.
THOSE TERRIBLE TWINS.—P. T., Bristol.
TREE, HERBERT BEERBOHM.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—O. H., St. Helens.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Sunderland.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Grand T., Luton.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—T. R., South Shields.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—W. Pier, Brighton.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., York.
WOMAN OF KRONSTADT.—Grand T., Croydon.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Grand T., Doncaster.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—T. R., Portsmouth.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Osborne T., Manchester.

COMMERCIAL SIDE OF OPERA.

Mr. Thomas Beecham, who is earning the lasting gratitude of music lovers by presenting a season of opéra comique at His Majesty's Theatre is credited with the determination to establish a permanent opera house in London and, if necessary, to spend £500,000 in doing it. "The two seasons of opera, one complete, the other now in progress, that I organised this year, and the season of three months that I shall begin at Covent Garden next October," said Mr. Beecham to a *Daily Mail* representative, "are part of my preliminary scheme to encourage and foster opera-going in London. Opera is not popular in London. It is supported because it is a social function, and without that help would be as unprofitable as concert-giving. I want to make people realise that if they go to hear opera they will get something first-class, something that will satisfy them, something that is worth the enormous expense attached to its presentation.

"The short season I promoted at Covent Garden last winter gave me a personal experience of what it costs to present grand opera. I found that on the average it cost about £600 per performance. At His Majesty's we have an orchestra of sixty-five instrumentalists, a chorus of sixty, and numerous first-class principals. The only way to conduct a season of opera is to do it well, but I do not anticipate being able to keep my losses on this summer season much under £10,000, and they might easily run to double that amount.

"Rent alone for my three seasons this year will amount to £16,000 or £17,000, and with new scenery and costumes to be provided for about ten operas at His Majesty's Theatre there is no chance of the surplus over nightly expenses being anything like enough to pay for the mountings. So that opera given without a subsidy can cost a manager a great deal of money. All the same, I think our public can be encouraged to support it, just as the public on the Continent is. To that end I want, and am prepared, to build an opera house in London. I am only waiting until I can find a site in a good position at a fair valuation.

"This is not merely a commercial scheme. The making of money is not the object. To do everything in the best possible manner for the encouragement of opera, to attract the great public to hear the works of the greatest masters, will be its purpose, and if that can be done we are prepared to carry it on even if there should be some pecuniary losses attached to the working of it."

MR. FRANK BERESFORD has been engaged by Mr. Tom Watt to play Archibald Carlyle in *East Lynne* and stage-manage. Mr. Beresford opens at Shrewsbury on June 6.

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Schuberth, the esteemed manager of the Palace, Bath, are off on a cruise to Buenos Ayres, having booked cabins on the Araquaya, which sails from Southampton to South America shortly. The little party expect to be away from England for nearly two months.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS.
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer Inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

A. SCHNEIDER (Buxton).—*Mr. Jerome K. Jerome. See notice above.*

WILLIAM AILSBY.—*We have no record of the closing of the place. Possibly Mr. John Hart, of the Star, Bermondsey, might be able to tell you. Write him, enclosing stamped envelope. We do not answer questions by post.*

P. R.—(1) *We cannot say whether the gentleman you name will be retained in the company by the new proprietors. Probably neither party knows. So much depends on circumstance and opportunity. The actor may have very favourable offers from other managements.* (2) *We do not know the number of sons left by the deceased actor you name.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

BRADLEY.—May 9, at Rathowen, co. Westmeath, Ireland, John Bradley, theatre proprietor, aged 46.

BLANCHARD.—On Sunday, May 22, after a serious operation, at her sister's residence, 270, Essex-road, Islington, Amy Blanchard, burlesque artist, age 66.

LYNCH.—Nell, of the Lynches, has fired her last shot in peace—perfect peace. From Joe and her children, 1, Seagrave-road, Fulham, S.W. Funeral to-day (Saturday), at 2.30, from this address.

MATT.—May 21, at 61, Brondesbury-villas, N.W., John Matt, late Professor at Guildhall School of Music, also member of Royal Opera and Philharmonic Orchestra, &c., in his sixty-seventh year.

PARRIS.—May 21, George John Parris, of 57, Greek-street, W., aged 79. For many years of the Savoy Theatre.

ST. CLAIR.—May 22, at St. Thomas's Hospital, Norman St. Clair, aged 44, after an operation.

TAYLOR.—On May 25, at Cheadle, Cheshire, Henry Taylor, J.P., of Exchange-street, Crewe, in his sixty-eighth year. Funeral service, Saturday, at Cheadle Parish Church, 12 noon, prior to the cremation at Withington. Friends please accept this (the only) intimation. Enquiries to Alcock and Sons, undertakers, Cheadle. No flowers, by request.

URQUHART.—May 20, Isabella Robertson (Mrs. Chas. Urquhart), aged 84 years. Beloved mother of J. Hamilton Urquhart.

WOLSTENHOLME.—Mrs. Wolstenholme, mother of Cissy Iris (Mrs. H. Creedon), aged 51, at her residence, 4, Greenhill-street, Greenheys, Manchester, on May 26, 1910. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing children.

WYNTER.—May 20, at 9, Catherine-street, North Belfast, Edyth Wynter, pianist, of cancer.

IN MEMORIAM.

SYMS.—In loving memory of my darling mother, Thea Syms (Mrs. Hansard Blair), who departed this life May 13, 1910. The night is come.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Lottie Venne—Saturday, May 28.
James Fernandez—Saturday, May 28.
John L. Shine—Saturday, May 28.
H. Gomer May—Saturday, May 28.
H. T. Brickwell—Saturday, May 28.
Calvert Routledge—Sunday, May 29.
Kittee Rayburn—Sunday, May 29.
Will Evans—Sunday, May 29.
Georgie Wright—Sunday, May 29.
Harris Fineberg—Sunday, May 29.
Bella Skene—Sunday, May 29.
Chas. Wood—Sunday, May 29.
Chas. Rock—Monday, May 30.
Ernest E. Norris—Monday, May 30.
F. C. Francis—Tuesday, May 31.
Dorothy Richardson—Tuesday, May 31.
Maie Ash—Tuesday, May 31.
Alexander Fay—Thursday, June 2.
Ben Webster—Thursday, June 2.
Frank Coyle—Thursday, June 2.
Tom Vine—Friday, June 3.

AT the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Monday a presentation was made to Mr. J. W. Rosenthal, who since November last has had the management of the theatre, and the able assistance of Mr. Fred Brown, the acting-manager, who has been connected with the house for thirty-two years. At the close of the opening night of *Tommy Atkins* a number of Mr. Rosenthal's friends gathered on the stage, where, in the presence of the large audience assembled, Mr. Lawrence Cowen (late proprietor of the theatre) presented him with a very handsome illuminated address, encased in a gilt frame, together with a valuable diamond ring. Mrs. Rosenthal also shared in the honours of the occasion, and was the recipient of a gold chain bracelet.

TAKING advantage of the closing of the theatres on the 20th inst., several members of Glasgow theatres staffs accepted an invitation to join the steamer Lord of the Isles on the famous Loch Eck and Kyles of Bute circular tour. They were favoured with splendid weather, and, to show that the solemn aspect of the day was not overlooked, as the brakes were journeying from Loch Eck to Loch Tyne a halt was called at one o'clock, and for ten minutes the passengers stood uncovered, as a mark of respect for the late King. Taking place as it did on a quiet Highland road, with the grand old hills all around, the scene was most impressive.

AT the conclusion of the *A Message from Mars* tour at the Coronet Theatre on Saturday, Mr. Douglas Eley, who has managed the play for ten years, was presented with a very handsome writing-case and an illuminated address in appreciation of the attention and courtesy shown by him during his management of the tour

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albert, Mr. Ben
Allen, Dr. F. J.
Armadale, Miss Sybil
Baker's Hippodrome
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bannister, Prof.
Barraclough, Mr. Sidney
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellman, Miss Lottie
Bennett and Martell
Bennett, Mr. Chas.
Bergeron, Mr. T. C.
Beringer, Miss Esme
Bogannys, The
Bollinger, Les
Boon, Mr. Bert
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Brett, Mr. Edwin
Butler, Mr. W. J.
Burley, Mr. W.
Caline, Mrs. Jack
Cameron and Alexander
Campion, Miss May
Cartwright, Mr. A.
Charcout, Mr. G.
Chard, Lieut.
Chirgwin, Miss Clara
Clements, Mr. Will L.
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Cliquot, Mr. C.
Clifford, Mr. N.
Clive, Mr. E. E.
Cole-Aspinall, Mr. R.
Collisson, Mr. C. H.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Cooke, Mr. Edgar
Costello, Mr. Tom
Court, Mr. Wallace
Crawford and Johnson
Dandy, George
Dashwood, Mr. A.
Day, Mr. Geo. H.
Dellar, Mr. Kyburn
Delmar, Miss Georgina
Denham, Mr. Geo.
Denton, Miss Dolly
Digby, Mr. Chas.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Donovan, Miss Ruby
Earle, Mr. Fred
Englefield, Mr.
Escourt, Mr.
Evans, Mr. Wash
Fergusson, Mr. L. S.
Finucane, Miss M.
Fordwych, Mr. Herbert
Francis, Mrs. Joseph
Fraser, Mr. Dan
Gibb, Mrs. Horace
Gobbett, Mr. T. J.
Gordon, Mr. Ben D.
Gribben, Mr. A.
Groves, Mrs. J. H.
Gunn, Miss Winnie
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Heale, Mr. Jack
Hemming, Mr. J. W.
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Irving, Mr. Lawrence
Jacobs and Jephson
James, Mr. David
Joyce, Mr. L. P.
Kemble, Mr. Henry
Kimberley, Mr. Harry
Kingsland, Mr. Geo.
Kingsley, Mr. Cecil
Kingsley, Mr. Gordon
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Landon, Mr. J.
Lang, Mr. J. P.
Lawton, Mr. E.
Leigh, Mr. A. A.
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Leslie, Mr. A.
Lloyd, Miss Rosie
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Loftus, Mr. Alexander
Lorimer, Mr. J.
Mackersey, Mr. W. A.
Maitland, Miss Kitty
Mars, Mr. Harry
Marsh, Mr. Alec
Martens, Capt.
McEwen, Mr. Walter
Meynall, Mr. Clive
Mignon, Miss Mabel
Missouri, Mr. Ted
Moore, Miss Gertie
Nanakusa, Mrs.
Neilson, Mr. George
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Parsons, Mr. Phil
Pink, Mr. Wal
Poel, Mr. William
Polini, Mrs.
Re Vell, Miss Rosa
Ridgewell, Mr. Geo.
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Rodney, Miss Nellie
Rosse, Mr. Russell
Sansbury, Mr. Vernon
Sarron, Miss Celia
Schofield, Mr. G. W.
Scott, Miss D.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Shine, Mr. W. E.
Smith, Miss Maisie
Soldene, Miss Emily
Sprake, Mr. H. J.
Spray, Mr. W.
Stoodley, Miss Ida
Stratton, Mr. E.
Stuart, Mr. Barney
Tate, Mr. Harry
Temple, Mr. Richard
Terry, Miss Marion
Towell, Mr. A.
Tozer, Mr. C. A. N.
Travers, Miss Marie
Valentine, Mr. Paul
Vane, Miss Edith
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vine, Mr. Tom
Walonell, Mr. Jack
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Ward, Mr. David
Ware, Miss N.
Warlow, Mr. Percy
Waterfield, Mr. Chas.
Watts, Mr. Clive
Wilbert, Mr. William
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss L.
Wilton, Miss F.
Wyatt, Miss Alice
Wyndham, Miss Pattie

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

IT has been a question of much literary controversy, whether, in our ancient theatres, there were side and other scenes. The question is involved in so much obscurity that it is difficult to decide upon it. In Shakespeare's time the want of scenery seems to have been supplied by the simple expedient of writing the names of the different places, where the scene was laid, in the progress of the play, upon large scrolls, which were disposed in such a manner as to be visible to the audience. In the year 1605, Inigo Jones exhibited an entertainment at Oxford, in which movable scenes were used; and he appears to have introduced in the masques at court several pieces of machinery, with which the public theatres were then unacquainted, as the mechanism of our ancient stage seldom went beyond a painted chair or a trap-door. When King Henry the Eighth is to be discovered by the Dukes of Suffolk and Norfolk, reading in his study, the scenical direction in the first folio edition of Shakespeare's plays, printed in 1628, apparently from playhouse copies, is, "*The king draws the curtain, and sits reading pensively;*" for, besides the principal curtains that hung in front of the stage, they used others as substitutes for scenes. If a bedchamber was to be exhibited, no change of scene was mentioned; but the property-man was simply ordered to thrust forth a bed. When the fable required the Roman capitol to be exhibited, two officers entered, "*to lay cushions, as it were, in the capitol.*" On the whole, it appears, that our ancient theatres, in general, were only furnished with curtains, which opened in the middle, and were drawn backwards and forwards on an iron rod, and a single scene composed of tapestry, which was sometimes, perhaps, ornamented with pictures; and some passages in our old dramas seem to favour the opinion that when tragedies were performed, the stage was hung with black.

"DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"*I'll swear upon that bottle.*"—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.
Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.
J. ROLAND KAY & CO.
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,
from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO in
GILBERT AND SULLIVAN OPERAS.
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
May 30, Robertson's Masterpiece, "CASTE."
The Comedy will be played Twice Nightly.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries. Pictures of the Royal Funeral, "The Scarab," a New Magical Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions, &c., &c.
Seats 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Margaret Cooper, Clarice Vance, Barclay Gammon, Funeral Procession in Actual Natural Colours of His Late Majesty King Edward VII. on Kinemacolor, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate in "Veri 'ot Taterplane," Chas. Whittle, Morny Cash, Harry Randall, John Lawson, in "Humanity," Radie Furman, Kitty Colyer, Geo. Newburn, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Beattie and Babs, Josie Delaine, Minnie Mace, Ernie Mayne, Larola, José Collins, Harry Thurston, Dan Crawley, Ruffell's Bioscope, Darracq Whizzing the Whirl in a Motor-car. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD—LILIAN HERLEIN,
Austin Latham, Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Harry Randall, Millie Payne, Morny Cash, Maie Dillon, Madge Osmond, Tom Woottwell, The Schmettans, Daisy Dormer, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Adey Spencer, H. J. Kisbey,
Chas. Austin and Company.
J. Whiteford, The Donatos, Ada Cerito.
Gicardo.
Ritter and Foster, Haley's Girls,
Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
"Rejected Remounts," Gracie Graham, Northern Troupe, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Harry Clifford, the Three Coopers, George Collins, Nell Cotter, Sam Williams, Mrs. Bennett and Co.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Rousby's Electrical Review, "Greater London," Tom Woottwell, Creo Brothers, Grete Hahn and Co., in "Enchantment," Ritter and Foster, Minnie Mace, Charles Leighton, Edith Blanchard, Ruffell's Bioscope, Chas. R. Whittle, Thales and Massilia, in a Dramatic Pantomimic Sketch and Dance, entitled "Captivation."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday, May 30. Cissie Lawson and Co., "Sally in Our Alley," Bonnie Lexie, Johnny Cecil, Ella Blair and Boys, Ambrose Thorn, Keith, Ray Royal, Bioscope, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, and Violet Ingram. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, May 30.
Miss Dolly Elsworthy, Gladys Warren, Douglas Bros. and Co., Lallie Brooke, The Lowells, Parke and Price, Bioscope, Harold Heath, Cadwell and Verne, Amy Clevere, Will Smythe, Les Terres, Charles Bignell, "Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde."
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly, Monday, 30th: W. S. Hartford and Co., Ernest Rees, John Donald, Jules Charmettes, Mte Ismay and Girls, Moon and Morris, Allsop and Bekwith, Two Veslas, Mabel Leroy, Frank Couch, Earle and Godfrey, Nancy St. John, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
MLLE. LEONORA. MLLE. BRITTA.
Three Sisters Athletas, Lalla Selbini, Baron's Burlesque Menagerie, Rothig, Gracia Clare, Jury's Pictures, Funeral Procession of His Late Majesty King Edward VII.
Evening at 8.
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST," FRED FARREN, &c.,
Royal Funeral on the Bioscope.
Petit Roberto, Signor Barbalonga.
Elsie Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half-term commences Mon., June 6. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time and are received for a single subject or the course. June 6, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert. Prospectus and Concert Tickets post free on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER
will take place at the
WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE,
on
SUNDAY, June 12, 1910,
at 7.30 p.m.,
MARTIN HARVEY, Esq.,
in the Chair.
Contributions, to be placed on the Chairman's List, will be gratefully acknowledged.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Wilhelm Ganz, Esq.
Tickets (inclusive of wine), £1 1s.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary.
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the TRAVELLING THEATRE MANAGERERS' ASSOCIATION will take place on WEDNESDAY, June 1, 11.30 a.m., at the CRITERION RESTAURANT, PICCADILLY, W. (by kind permission of the management). A. E. Drinkwater, Esq., will take the chair. Tickets on application to Mr. Loveridge, 219, Folkestone-road, Dover.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
18, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd., Bombay;
or,
Manager, Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN controls the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £260.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM, DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
First-class Companies only. Several good Summer dates for High-class Drama.
Aug. 1 still open.
All Coms., J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
Have July 11 & 25 open for First-class Attractions.
Address, Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably vacant, Grand Theatre, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 12, for Musical or other High-class Attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, Sept. 12, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
(repeated 11 times)
Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.
Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.
Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. Jackson Withers, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions.
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Visited by Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr. Martin Harvey, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Mr. Geo. Edwardes's Co's., Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Co's., "The Arcadians," &c., "Brewster's Millions," Mr. Jas. Welch, Mr. Geo. Dance's Co's., Mr. Frank Curzon's Co's., The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., Mr. Richard Flanagan's Productions.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates, July 25, Oct. 17 (Musical Comedy).
Vacant next Spring, Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 10, and 24.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUIDS' HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage, 35ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WALSALL.—Correspondent Required to supply weekly reports of the theatres and music halls.—Apply, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frdk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Warning to Concert Parties and all others who it may concern.
Re "THE ARCADIANS."
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the rights of public representation or performance of the music and words of "The Arcadians" are the property of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, the Shaftesbury Theatre, London, and are reserved; further, that legal proceedings will forthwith be instituted without any further notice against all persons giving or assisting in giving any such performance or representation of the words or music of the said play or any part thereof.
Dated the 24th May, 1910.
J. MOVERLEY SHARP,
Criterion Chambers, Jermyn-street, S.W.
Solicitor for Mr. Robert Courtneidge

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 7, 1
Anderson, Mr. William	May 29, 1
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1
Greatwich, Miss Dulcie	May 22, 1
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George	June 5, 1
Groves, jun., Mr. Charles	May 15, 1
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie	April 10, 1
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1
Law, Master Cecil Howard	April 24, 1
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1
Lilburn Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 22, 1
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud	Dec. 25, 1
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1
Melford, Mr. Austin G.	April 10, 1
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910 other dates double price.
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Building, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA"
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHERS,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1910.

THE SAD SEASON.

The profession is at present under a cloud which is casting a shadow over it, morally and financially. None are mourning the loss of the late King EDWARD more sincerely than actors and actresses; and few are suffering, and will suffer, more seriously from the sad and solemn abstention which is following his death. At its outset, the theatrical season has had a most disastrous and injurious "set-back." We hear of several pieces which were confidently expected to run right through the hot weather, but will now, in all probability, be withdrawn. The command that mourning shall be general till June is more than half over must have its effect on the attendance at theatres; and the extended period of Court mourning must do great damage to the patronage of the stalls.

That there is something formal and artificial in these ordered and protracted periods of outward sorrow no one can deny. Even in the case of our nearest and dearest we cannot maintain for very long the first intensity of grief which was caused by their departure. No one on the point of death would desire that his wife and family should, for any length of time, be made miserable by his demise. The most he would wish would be that, when he was remembered it would be with pleasant thoughts of his lovable qualities and of the happy times he and his family had spent together. There is much good sense in the remonstrance of Claudius to Hamlet on his obstinate perseverance in grief for his father; and the lecture of the King would be absolutely unanswerable did we not know that Hamlet's gloom was caused as much by his mother's hasty re-marriage and by his suspicions of the way in which his father met with his death as by the death itself. To the sorrow of the King's personal friends it would be harsh to set any limit; but it is impossible that the great mass of the population, and especially the frivolous portion of it known as "society," can really maintain the interior mourning at the same pitch of darkness as the "customary suits of solemn black" which they are wearing.

The late King, a brave and buoyant man who took life like a natural philosopher, would have been sorely grieved if he could have foreseen the loss and distress, apart from the sorrow at losing him, which would be caused to those connected with the gayer and more cheerful callings in England. On the makers of beautiful and artistic costumes for ordinary wear the change from colour to black will press heavily; but by the managers, the actors and actresses, and the playwrights the disastrous season will be felt very keenly.

And the worst of it is, that a great deal of this abstention from amusement will be mere hypocrisy and want of moral courage. Hundreds of fashionable and would-be fashionable people will be prevented from going to theatres, after their real sorrow for King EDWARD'S death has passed away, by the fear of their neighbours. The deepest sorrow for a dead friend is not always felt by those who go about with long faces. The world's work has to go on, whoever lives or dies. Bread must be earned, even if the earner has lost his nearest and dearest. It is only the rich and idle who can indulge in the "luxury of woe." But their masquerade, if carried to too great an extent, means the actual physical want and distress of hundreds who get a living by ministering to their pleasures.

There is only one hope and consolation in the present depression. After the fast will come the feast; after the strain, the reaction. When the present period of mourning is over, all classes will hasten to reward themselves for their abstinence by an excess of amusement and enjoyment. We rely on our present King and Queen to do all they can to shorten the period of famine at the theatres, and when it ends to increase the harvest. Let them set an example of theatre-going as the late King did, and even more frequently than his age and many responsibilities allowed him to do. There is no more certain way of winning the hearts of a people than by joining sympathetically in its simpler pleasures. The stage is the only recreation in which the richest and the poorest, the highest and the lowest, the boy in the gallery and the King in the royal box, can join. The appearance of the late King EDWARD shaking with laughter at an amusing play, or applauding a fine dramatic scene, did more to make him beloved than any other actions in his life. Royalty must necessarily be aloof from the man-in-the-street, who only catches a glimpse of his King as he whirls by in a brougham to his palace, or starts in his motor-car for a railway station. But at the theatre the common man realises that his rulers are men of like passions with himself, and there is nothing more calculated to gain his affection and confidence. It was not without reason that SHAKESPEARE called the actors the "abstract and brief chronicles of the time." But now the situation is altered. Instead of the players going to the monarch's castle, he goes to their house. The chronicle of his playgoing is the sum of his popularity.

We feel certain that no actor or actress, still less a theatrical manager, would allow a complaint to escape him or her concerning the most unlucky depression of theatrical business caused by the late King's death. But it is all the more desirable that attention should be drawn to the inevitable distress that will follow the spoilt season, and to the serious demands that will be made on the resources of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Our present King—who has already given evidence of his sympathy with the loss caused by the late King's death by shortening the period of general mourning—could not more gracefully and generously signalise his accession to the throne than by a suitable contribution to this Fund. Such a gift would be quite in harmony with the spirit of the late King, who sympathised with the trials and troubles of the profession as much as he enjoyed and admired their successes.

A KING EDWARD MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As the nation turns sorrowfully from the graveside of its late Sovereign its first wish will be to devise a worthy monument to keep alive in the hearts of his people the memory of a reign and an example which have been, and may still be, profoundly valuable to them.

With fine eloquence the Prime Minister has described the memory and the example which King Edward has left to his people—"A memory of great opportunities greatly employed, an example which the humblest of his subjects may treasure and strive to follow, of simplicity, courage, self-denial, tenacious devotion, up to the last moment of conscious life, to work, to duty, and to service." If in memory of their dead King, and following his example, the people of his Empire will erect to him a monument, *ære perennius*, constructed of self-sacrifice and personal service, they will be paying to him a far nobler tribute, and one which they may feel confident that he would have valued more, than any structure that money can buy. Such a monument will be the most sincere, the most truly national token of regard. In erecting it all his subjects will share, from the highest to the humblest, and the humblest equally with the highest.

King Edward strove to promote concord at home and peace among the nations: his people may carry on that work. He devoted his life to the strengthening and building-up of his country; his people may set the crown upon his endeavour. He did his duty to the end: his people may unite to discharge that duty, the duty of practical personal patriotism.

His people may do all this by accepting with one accord, in memory of the King whom they mourn, the obligation of personal service in defence of the Empire. Universal military service, which is not conscription, would strengthen and consolidate the Empire as nothing else can, and by so doing would make for righteousness and peace. Morally and physically it would make our nations stronger and better, and it would afford one common interest in which the prejudices of class and creed and party would be submerged. No monarch has ever received such a splendid tribute of devotion to his person and recognition of his labours as the voluntary acceptance by his people of the obligation of universal military service for a memorial to him, and no monarch has so merited it as did King Edward. Let us honour him and honour ourselves by paying that tribute now. For the sake of Edward the Peacemaker, let us strengthen ourselves that we may preserve peace on the earth.

The sister nations of the Empire have begun already to lead the way, and the call comes to the people of the United Kingdom in the stirring words of our present King, uttered after a visit to those sister nations—"Wake up!" And so, while we adopt universal military service in memory of King Edward, we shall prove our loyalty to King George by heeding his message.

How, then, can the people of the United Kingdom voice, in a manner at once national, explicit, simple, and non-partisan, their desire for universal military service? Happily, there is a means ready and available for all. When the national self-consciousness was stirred by the issues at the last Parliamentary elections, a petition was inaugurated praying His Majesty "speedily to take such steps as to Your Majesty shall seem meet to establish a system of Universal Military Service, whereby all Your Majesty's male subjects in the United Kingdom shall be trained to bear arms and be rendered liable to serve in the United Kingdom, so far as may be necessary for the defence of the country." In the intervening months the organisation of the Universal Service Petition has been quietly and steadily prepared, and the petition was already in circulation when the news of King Edward's death came with sudden shock upon the world. He has not lived to receive the petition. Let us, in memory of him, make it a national demonstration of sorrow and affection, and then loyally present it to his successor on the Throne, our Gracious King, George the Fifth.—Yours faithfully,

E. B. WAGGETT,
Chairman General Committee, Universal Service Petition.

F. W. JONES, Secretary.
109, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W., May 24.

HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE has intimated to the promoters of the Army Pageant that his desire is that it should not be postponed owing to the recent national calamity. The pageant will accordingly be held, as arranged, at Fulham Palace from June 20 to July 2. Many well-known names figure in the list of contributors to the Pageant Book, and the joint-editors, Mr. F. R. Benson (Master of the Pageant) and Major Algernon Tudor Craig, are to be congratulated on the admirable manner in which they have arranged the matter at their disposal.

"CHAMPIONS OF MORALITY."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Ludwig Thoma, Translated by H. A. Hertz and Frederick Whelen, Produced at the Aldwych on Sunday, May 22.

Adolf Bolland ..... MR. JULES SHAW
Fritz Beermann ..... MR. CLIFTON ALDERSON
Otto Wasner ..... MR. KENYON MUSGRAVE
Effie Beermann ..... MISS VON APPEN
Clara Bolland ..... MISS MARIANNE CALDWELL
Fraulein Koch-Pinneberg ..... MISS ROSAMUND MAYNE YOUNG
Hans Jakob Dobler ..... MR. FRANK ESMOND
Lina Beermann ..... MISS ANNIE HILL
Dr. Hauser ..... MR. JAMES HEARN
Frau Lund ..... MRS. THEODORE WRIGHT
Betty ..... MISS ADAH BARTON
Oskar Stroebel ..... MR. LEON M. LION
Josef Reisacher ..... MR. ALFRED BRISTOWE
Freiherr Von Simbach ..... MR. LEONARD SHEPHERD
Mme. Ninon de Hauteville ..... MISS SARAH BROOKE
Policeman ..... MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Freiherr Botho Von Schmettau ..... MR. LEON QUARTERMAINE

The flavour of French farce is strong in *Champions of Morality*, the adaptation from the German of Ludwig Thoma, which the Stage Society presented at the Aldwych on Sunday evening last and the following afternoon. Ludwig Thoma, a Bavarian, is one of the best-known humorists in Germany, a contributor to *Jugend* and *Simplicissimus*, author of humorous essays and tales, and of various comedies. *Moral*, of which the above production is a translation, was produced at the Kleines in the autumn of 1908. Its situations are Parisian, but its humour, with some brilliant exceptions, is ponderous, and only the closest attention could seize upon the satirical shafts that were let fly. Mr. Bernard Shaw, who was present in a private box, may have seen himself reflected in the more pungent periods of the piece, which at times was quite as disagreeable as that gentleman's "unpleasantest play," though the mirthful results were by no means equal.

The characters are essentially German, and are located in the chief town of a small principality. The capital boasts a vigilance society, of which Herr Fritz Beermann, a candidate for Parliament, is president, while upon the council are men of similar undeniable respectability, and the first act is taken up with an attack upon their principles by their respective wives, and a heated defence thereof. Consternation among the members of the council is created when it is learned that a member of the demi-monde has been arrested, together with a diary in which all the names of her clients appear. There is an amusing scene in the second act, when the "creature" is called before the examining magistrate and alludes mysteriously to an exalted personage who was secreted in a wardrobe on the day on which the raid was made. Herr Beermann calls, not, as the magistrate imagines, in the interests of his society, but to find out whether the case against the courtesan cannot be quashed, for the confiscated diary contains frequent repetitions of his name. He argues in vain that the misdeeds of the upper classes should be concealed for fear of scandalising the lower, and at length in despair walks off with the incriminating diary, which he secures while the official's back is turned. Eventually it is discovered that the occupant of the wardrobe was none other than the hereditary duke, and the necessity for hushing-up the affair is imperative to the police. Unfortunately, the prisoner will only consent to be released on payment of a princely sum, and it is the vigilance society, the whole council of which would be implicated in the case, that has finally to provide the money.

Well-drawn sketches of character were given by the members of the cast. Mr. Clifton Alderson covered himself with credit as the perturbed Fritz Beerman, whose increasing weight of woe he suggested by clever facial play, while always maintaining the comic dignity of the part. Mr. Leon M. Lion portrayed the snobbish Police-Magistrate realistically, his make-up being a masterpiece, and his attitudes and assumption of authority deliciously absurd. The striking features of Mr. Leonard Shepherd were invaluable in the part of the overbearing Police President, who gives his subordinate the responsibility of his office, but secures for himself the emoluments. Mr. Shepherd acted the rôle admirably, and contributed to one of the most effective scenes of the play. A pedantic professor, who has a hobby for collecting obscene literature, in order to test their effect on the public mind, and falls a victim to their influence, was capitally acted by Mr. Kenyon Musgrave; and Mr. Jules Shaw as a "councillor of commerce" who also falls from grace, succeeded admirably in a part quite in his line. Miss Sarah Brooke spared no pains in her rendering of the demi-monde, dressing the part rakishly, and acting in the low-comedy fashion required. A keen and observant lawyer, who makes no pretence to morality, and is therefore the first resort of those whose sins have found them out, was played in his own skilful and incisive style by Mr. James Hearn; Mr. Leon Quartermaine was a polished exponent of a ducal chamberlain; Mr. Alfred Bristowe made much of the few materials at his disposal as an abject police-office clerk; and Mr. Frank Esmond rendered the lines of a poet agreeably. A talkative old lady, who leads the campaign against the men folk, was played in her own humorous fashion by Mrs. Theodore Wright; and Miss Annie Hill made a comely Frau Beerman, and spoke her lines in a long interview with the husband much more clearly than the authors had expressed them. A charming young lady artist was presented by Miss Rosamund Mayne Young; Miss Marianne Caldwell created a diversion as an hysterically effusive society lady; and Miss Von Appen acted daintily as Beerman's young daughter. Mr. Norman Page was responsible for the production, and is to be complimented on the smooth manner in which it was accomplished.

MR. CHISHOLM TAYLOR, on relinquishing his appointment as manager of the New Century Theatre, Motherwell, was presented with a large touring basket from the staff. Mr. Taylor was also a guest at a smoking concert given by a few local friends, who during the evening presented him with a heavy silver cigarette case and a purse of gold.

PREVIOUS to the rising of the curtain on the performance of *The Merry Widow* on Saturday evening, Mr. J. Maurice Clement, proprietor-manager of the Opera House, Dudley, after a few appropriate remarks, called upon the large audience assembled to be upstanding and to join in singing "God Save the King," a request to which the house responded heartily. Mr. Clement wired this to the King's Private Secretary, and received the following reply:—"Buckingham Palace. To Maurice Clement, Opera House, Dudley. I am commanded to express the King's appreciation of the loyal feelings evinced by the large audience at the Dudley Opera House on Saturday evening.—Private Secretary."

SOCIETY was well represented at the Opera on Wednesday night. The Duchess of Marlborough was in a box on the grand tier; Lady Newborough was in a box on the pit tier, and also in boxes on the same tier were the Countess of Coventry and Baron and Baroness de Meyer. The Earl of Portsmouth was in his usual seat at the back of the stalls, and also present were Lord Westbury, the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Crichton, Captain the Hon. Henry Denison, and Sir Paolo and Lady Tosti, the Countess of Harewood, the Countess of Normanton, Lady Margaret Douglas, Lady Alwyne Compton, Lady Kathleen Pilkington, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, the Earl of Duncannon, and Sir Spencer and Lady Maryon-Wilson.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"VIDOCQ."

Play, in Five Acts and Seven Tableaux, by Emile Bergerat, Produced at Sarah-Bernhardt's on May 15.

Charlotte ..... MLLE. DERVAL
La mère Pouillot ..... MME. MEA
Annette ..... MLLE. PARNY
Léocadie ..... MLLE. PASCAL
Vidocq ..... M. JEAN KEMM
Salvador, Comte de Casagoras M. JEAN WORMS
Arigonde ..... M. DUARD
Marquis de Madiran ..... M. CUIDE
Comte Décazes ..... M. LUITZ
Bussières ..... M. BALOGNE
Utinet ..... M. UTINEUX
Gardien du Roy ..... M. REYVAL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 19.—Unlike Sherlock Holmes, Arsène Lupin, and tutti quanti, Vidocq, the hero in M. Bergerat's play, is not a creature of fiction, but a famous detective, who lived and flourished in the beginning of the nineteenth century. He was an unprincipled scoundrel, and had been several times sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for forgery, robbery, and embezzlement. Somehow or other, however, he managed to escape from prison, and it was he who first put into practice the adage "set a thief to catch a thief," for he had the audacity of proposing to the Minister of the Interior to appoint him Chief of the Detective Police, his argument being that he not only knew all the secrets of the profession but most of the members of the craft, on whom he could lay his hands at a minute's notice. Wonderful as it may seem, Vidocq's proposal was accepted, and there can be no doubt that he rendered real services to the State. On the other hand, he was suspected of having "arranged" several big thefts, and derived profits from the men he was supposed to have arrested. In 1827 he was asked to resign his post, whereupon he started a private enquiry office. Accused of blackmailing practices, the authorities, remembering the services he once rendered, did not prosecute him, but they compelled him to close his establishment, and Vidocq died in extreme misery.

To make a hero of such a shady personage is not an easy matter, and it cannot be said that the author has succeeded in his task. The play, moreover, has another grave defect. In all detective plays the public likes to share in the hunt after the unknown criminals. In the above story, however, we know from the start who committed the robbery, and the plot, therefore, fell a little flat We are supposed to be in the good year 1820. A pearl necklace belonging to the Duchesse de Berry, the King's niece, has disappeared in a mysterious fashion. At a masked ball at Saint-Cloud, the Duchesse, not wanting to be recognised, asked Mme. de Madiran, the handsome wife of a cavalry colonel, to take charge of it. Mme. de Madiran has put it round her neck, but on leaving the ball the necklace is gone. In Court circles the affair has become known, and the King especially is much annoyed, because necklace robberies have always proved fatal to the French throne. And, to make matters worse, the robbery can only have been committed by somebody at Court; for which reason the investigation has to be carried on with the greatest discretion. Count Décazes, the Minister, interrogates Mme. de Madiran, and learns from her that in the course of the evening she has strolled in the gardens on the arm of one of the guests, his Excellency Count Casagoras. But as this gentleman is, of course, above suspicion, the Minister, at his wits' end, sends for Vidocq, promising to rehabilitate him if he helps him to catch the thief.

Vidocq is not long in doubt. He at once gives the names of three men, who, according to him, have performed the deed. These three men are: Arigonde, an ex-convict; the gamekeeper, Utinet; and, finally, Salvador, also an ex-convict, and certainly the instigator. The problem, therefore, Vidocq has to solve is to discover in what manner this Salvador gained admission at Court, and to manage things in such a way as not to compromise Mme. de Madiran. We next see Vidocq in various disguises, and even running great risks. Fortunately for him he is saved by Arigonde, his former chum, the man he is now watching. Finally, after much trouble, he proves that the great Count de Casagoras is Salvador, the ex-convict, and he arrests the whole gang. But a fresh difficulty arises. Salvador, in view of possible trouble, has taken his precautions. Mme. de Madiran has been foolish enough to write him a letter couched in rather too affectionate terms, and Salvador has given the note to his friend, Léocadie, with instructions to send it at once to M. de Madiran the moment she hears that he, Salvador, has been arrested. It is impossible for Vidocq to intercept this note, but he succeeds in preventing the husband from reading it by inventing a clever story. He tells the Colonel that the letter refers to a Bonapartist conspiracy, whereupon M. de Madiran, a loyal servant of the King, tears up the paper without reading it.

The work was very well acted by M. Jean Kemm, who imparted to the character of Vidocq all the qualities the original did not possess. Salvador, the adventurer, was admirably impersonated by M. Jean Worms. The other rôles, too, were well sustained.

"LA FLEUR MERVEILLEUSE."

Play, in Four Acts, in Verse, by M. Miguel Zamacois, Produced at the Comédie-Française on May 23.

Griet ..... MLLE. LECONTE
Speranza ..... MLLE. GENIAT
Régine ..... MME. SILVAIN
Mietje ..... MLLE. PROVOST
Alida ..... MLLE. LIFRAUD
Lignerolle ..... M. DE FERAUDY
Florent ..... M. SILVAIN
Gobelousse ..... M. BERR
Chevalier de Blancourt ..... M. DUFLOS
Van Amstel ..... M. SIBLOT
Gilbert ..... M. DESSONNES
Médard ..... M. JOLIET

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 26.—M. Zamacois is the author of *Les Bouffons*, which scored such a deserved success at Sarah-Bernhardt's, but it is not probable that his new work, brought out at the Comédie-Française, will enjoy the same run. M. Zamacois, the son of a distinguished painter, however, is also an artist of no mean merit, and the four acts of *La Fleur Merveilleuse* are four delightful pictures that make us overlook some of the shortcomings in the play. The scene of the opening tableau is laid in a cut-throat inn near Arras.

We are in the good year 1643, and the *dramatis personæ* wear the picturesque dress of that period. Four villainous-looking fellows are indulging in a game of cards when the first traveller makes his appearance—the Chevalier de Blancourt, a young nobleman on his way to Haarlem, where he hopes to secure the hand of the pretty daughter of the wealthy Mynheer Van Amstel. The next to enter is Mme. Régine, a widow, who takes her son Gilbert on a trip to Holland; for Gilbert, having been jilted by the girl he loves, has become slightly "daft," and wants a change of scene. Finally the door opens again to admit Speranza, a young gipsy, who seeks shelter against the pelting rain. Médard, the landlord, wants to eject the girl, who has no money to pay for a night's lodging, but Mme. Régine interposes, and, thanks to her, Speranza can remain in peace. No, not in peace; for one of the before-mentioned bandits knows her and wants to take possession of her. In a scuffle with his friends the bandit is killed, and Speranza vows eternal gratitude to Mme. Régine.

When the curtain rises again we are in the city of Haarlem. The Chevalier de Blancourt is there, and Mme. Régine and her son have likewise arrived. They have already made the acquaintance of Mynheer Van Amstel, fanatically fond of tulips, like the other citizens of Haarlem. Gilbert, still daft, meets the charming Griet Van Amstel waltzing arm-in-arm with her equally charming girl friends. Griet gently chaffs the melancholy youth, and we foresee that Griet is anxious to make him forget the wicked girl who jilted him. But this happy state of things is not brought about without trouble. There is a prize competition of tulips, wherein Van Amstel, whose collection of flowers is famous throughout the country, does not secure the first prize. Mad with rage, Van Amstel then climbs on a table and, like a herald, informs the good citizens of Haarlem that he will give his daughter Griet and a huge dowry to him who within a fortnight will bring a tulip handsomer than the one with which his opponent won the prize.

Mme. Régine then has a happy thought. She has noticed that Gilbert is interested in Griet, and she feels certain that if her son's sympathy for the girl could blossom into love he would be cured of his semi-madness. But in order to win Griet he must find the miraculous tulip. And it is here that Speranza, the little gipsy, comes to the rescue. She has not forgotten Mme. Régine's kindness, and the moment has come for her to repay her debt. She herself has lost her heart to the melancholy youth, but she will sacrifice her happiness in order to save him. Among her collection of charms is a dried bulb of a tulip, picked up years ago on distant shores. By magic art she causes the bulb to blossom in one night, and she brings to the delighted Mme. Régine a tulip such as mortal eyes never beheld. The Chevalier de Blancourt tries to destroy it, but without success.

In the final tableau an estrade is erected in front of Van Amstel's house, when all the young men of Haarlem file past, each carrying a more or less beautiful tulip with which they hope to secure the prize. But when Speranza's magic flower is brought in a hush comes over the assembly. Gilbert, now very much in love with Griet, has to plead his own cause. At first he stammers and cannot bring out a word; but at the sight of Griet appearing on a balcony amidst a mass of roses he regains his self-possession, and, in lyric verses, he praises the beauty of Griet and of the flower with which he presses his suit. Griet is affianced to Gilbert, the wicked Chevalier returns to France, and Speranza goes away without wishing good-bye to those whose happiness she has brought about. According to the author, this miraculous flower is the symbol of love—a love that heals the wounds caused by the wickedness of others.

Anything more delightful than the rôle of Griet interpreted by Mlle. Leconte cannot well be imagined. Her acting was perfection itself, and in her becoming costume she looked as if she had stepped out of a picture by one of the old Dutch masters. Mme. Silvain and Mlle. Géniat did full justice to their parts; and MM. Silvain, de Férandy, Siblot, and Berr constituted an excellent ensemble.

"JACQUES ABRAN."

Play, in Three Acts, by Antoine Bibesco, Produced at Théâtre Réjane on May 24.

Isabella D'Arolla ..... MLLE. VERA SERGINE
Claire de Termand ..... MLLE. SYLVIE
Comtesse de Minois ..... MLLE. A. BRETTNER
Jacques Danier ..... M. GARRY
Sobanoff ..... M. PUYLAGARDE
Werner ..... M. NARENNES
Roulier ..... M. GARNIER
De Termand ..... M. FUGERE

The author of *Jacques Abran* is an exotic playwright, and, like many "society men," has had an attack of stage fever, with the usual symptoms—an irrepressible desire to write a play. The gentleman did his best, but his best in this case has not been good. His hero is what we call here an "arriviste." He has changed his name from Abraham to Abran, he has lived disreputably, and when the play opens he is about to discard the Marquise d'Arolle, the woman who helped him on in the world, for Abran covets a big prize in the person of an heiress, Claire de Termand. But the Marquise is not to be shaken off. She sticks to her disreputable lover, and when she sees that all her endeavours fail, and that Abran intends to elope with Claire, she takes the law into her own little hands and shoots the scoundrel. Like most insignificant plays, M. Bibesco's production ends with a revolver shot. All the personages are unsympathetic. Abran is a heartless villain, and the women who centre their affections on such a man are not to be pitied. Even the excellent cast failed to impart colour to this meaningless play.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I have read with considerable interest various letters in your recent issues on the above subject. In your columns and elsewhere I have, before now, ventured to express my scepticism as to its materialisation. If it ever does come (and I will believe it when I see it), one thing appears to be firmly demonstrated, viz., that the name of the one man to direct it is "written across the face of the heavens," and that name is J. Forbes Robertson. Recent events appear to establish the fact that if ever a theatre in "Shakespeare's England" shall bear his name, or be identified with his works, some strong and emphatic stand must be made against the terrible lack of idealism in the performance of his great characters, and the appallingly slipshod reading of his lines which is now in vogue. Again and again and again in recent years his meaning has been distorted, and his poetry eclipsed by efforts that would be unworthy of the average schoolboy, and the name I have suggested would be a guarantee that such efforts must be reconsidered.

Possibly Mr. Robertson may not thank me for putting his name so prominently forward. I have never spoken with him on this subject, nor have I met him for a long time; but Shakespearean art, in Shakespeare's country and in a theatre bearing Shakespeare's name (or allied thereto), is above individual feeling, and nothing short of the best would be good enough.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. BARNES.
Green Room Club, 46, Leicester-square, W.C.
May 25.

IN accordance with the usual custom during the summer months, the matinées of *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety Theatre will be discontinued after to-day.

A WREATH, composed of yew from an ancient tree traditionally known as Shakespeare's tree, was sent by the vicar, clergy, and wardens of the church where the dramatist lies buried at Stratford-on-Avon, to be placed on the late King's coffin. Lord Knollys has written a letter of thanks to the vicar on behalf of Queen Alexandra.

AN interesting operatic contract has just been signed in Berlin by the distinguished French tenor, M. Charles Dalmorès, who is to receive the sum of £40,000 for four years' services in the United States. M. Dalmorès will appear at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, and the allied opera houses at Chicago and Philadelphia.

THE recent complimentary benefit matinée to Mr. W. K Chatto, the popular manager of the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, attracted a very large audience. A long and interesting entertainment was given, including the Savoy operetta *Captain Billy* and a one-act play, *Hearts and Spades*, by Mr. Herbert Halliwell's company from the Theatre Royal. At the close of the proceedings Mr. J. C. Imeson, on behalf of the theatre staff, presented Mr. Chatto with a gold signet ring, and a brooch for Mrs. Chatto. Mr. Chatto feelingly responded, and tendered his sincere thanks to the staff and all who had helped to make the matinée a success. The house is closed for ten weeks

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Surrey Vaudeville Theatre will be closed on Saturday, July 30 next, for the purpose of rebuilding. A definite date for reopening will shortly be announced, and all artists booked will be given other dates.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten sailed on Tuesday per R.M.S. Araguaya for an extended tour in the Argentine Republic. Mr. and Mrs. Schuberth, of the Palace, Bath, are accompanying Mr. Macnaghten as far as Madeira. We understand that Mr. Schuberth, after a stay in the island, will return by one of the German liners, making a tour of the chief Continental cities before he returns to take up the reins of management.

Mr. Bransby Williams, whose probable departure for the theatres was announced in these columns some time since, has been chosen by Mr. Wentworth Croke to impersonate the hero, Dan, in a new Hall Caine play, *The Bishop's Son*, which will be produced at a West End house in the autumn. The hero commits a sin; he suffers. The hand of Providence places within his reach a means of making atonement. He seizes it, and works out his own salvation.

In reference to his part of Dan, the Dickens star, who has been kindly released by Mr. Oswald Stoll, writes:—"I think the piece the best Hall Caine has done. It is grand drama, and gives me opportunities for the most powerful and emotional acting. Naturally, I am proud to think that Mr. Wentworth Croke has come to the halls for an actor to star in the West End. I hope I shall prove myself worthy of the author, the manager, and the public, who have always been my very good friends. *The Bishop's Son* will be produced simultaneously in London and Blackpool.

Mr. Wentworth Croke, in conjunction with Mr. Williams, has secured an extremely interesting romantic-costume, dagger-and-pistol play, called *Kit Careless*, written by Beatrice De Burgh and Sydney Valentine, which will be produced in London, with Mr. Bransby Williams in the title-rôle, and afterwards take on a tour he has already booked.

A contemporary states that Sir Henry Irving viewed with some disfavour the appearance of actors on the variety boards, considering that the environment of the lesser stage was inimical to serious work. We believe some opinion of this kind was uttered by the illustrious actor in the early nineties during the days of the Theatre Commission; but Sir Henry made his appearance on the Alhambra stage at the late Mr. Georges Jacobi's benefit, and recited "Eugene Aram." Another contributor to the bill was Dan Leno, who, strange to say, returned the compliment, and played Don Ferolo Whiskerandos, in *The Critic*, at a complimentary matinée at the Lyceum, Sir Henry's house.

Mr. Alfred Moul has selected Monday next for the first performance at the Alhambra of the new ballet entitled *Femina*. The novelty, which according to the official statement is of an unusually costly and magnificent character, is to be a ballet pure and simple, and is entirely devoid of anything in the shape of a topical or variety number. The leading idea of the novelty is the power which Vanity has exercised over Woman through countless ages.

Signor Alfredo Curti, who is responsible for the libretto, has, of course, been compelled to make a limited choice from the *embarras des richesses* contained in his subject. He has, it appears, taken as his motto "Vanitas vanitatum, omnia vanitas." His first scene has an allegorical suggestion of the "first garden," and from the Stone Age he progresses to ancient Assyria, thence to Spain, finally coming to a halt with a fantastic tableau illustrating the apotheosis of Fashion in Lace and Feathers.

The Spirit of Vanity is the rôle assigned to Mlle. Britta, and the title-part has been allotted to Mlle. Leonora, who will first be seen as "the symbolical embodiment of Eve." In the fourth tableau, the action of which takes place in Spain, she enjoys the especial advantage of being on her own ground. Here she is to have the support of Señor Faico, a typical Gitano dancer, of whom report speaks highly. A novel and unusual feature will be the special engagement as a portion of the corps de ballet of the Ri-tchaves, a troupe of male dancers who appeared last year in a Russian production at the Opera Comique, Paris, and in association with a corps de ballet they will play a prominent part in the coming production.

The dresses have been designed by Mr. Comelli, and an harmonious note will be struck for each scene with the costume colouring of flowers, furs, jewels, feathers, and lace. For three of the scenes the eminent French artist, M. Amable, is responsible, and for the remaining two Mr. E. H. Ryan. The music has been written and selected by Mr. George Byng, with an interesting addition by Signor Valverdi, the well-known Spanish composer.

An executive committee has been formed for the purpose of presenting Mr. J. L. Graydon with a testimonial on his retiring from the proprietorship of the Middlesex, in recognition of his long and honourable connection with the variety profession and as a slight return for all the kindness and consideration he has extended to all those with whom he came in contact. Mr. Graydon's policy has always been one of British straightforwardness, and his management for thirty years has been associated invariably with the best traditions of music-hall enterprise.

The following gentlemen have already given permission for their names to be placed on the executive committee, viz.:—Sir Edward Moss, J.P., Mr. Henry Tozer, Mr. Joseph Davis, Mr. Walter de Frece Mr. Henry Sutton, Mr. Walter Dickson, Mr. J. A. Harrison, Mr. E. Warner, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. R. H. Haxell, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. Fred Bishop, Mr. Walter Emden, J.P., Mr. Ernest Baker, Mr. Harry Wilson, Mr. H. R. Nathan, Mr. H. W. Wells, and Mr. Tom Shaw.

It is proposed to present the testimonial, which it is hoped will be worthy of the occasion, at a dinner for gentlemen only, to be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Thursday, June 9. Messrs. Henri Gros and Richard Warner are the joint hon. secretaries, and Mr. Philip J. Rutland is the hon. treasurer.

The famous Kilties Band has been engaged for next week by Mr. Fred Karno (through Mr. Percy Victor's Wolverhampton agency) for the Hippodrome, Peterborough, at a record salary.

"The Lady Bandits" is one of those refined and funny productions that gives a cachet to a programme; and Mr. Edward Lauri, a first-rate comedian, Miss May Beatty, and company are receiving not only hearty congratulations on their great and deserved success, but a large number of confirmations from the Syndicate, the Moss-Stoll Circuit, and the De Frece Tour. They are continuing their highly successful engagement at the Oxford, and will also be at the Euston on Monday.

The Kursaal Palace, Southend, has been taken over by a syndicate, and is under the management of Mr. T. W. Hilton (managing-director) and Mr. Jones. A variety performance will be one of the chief features.

The Bournemouth Corporation have received a communication from the Local Government Board respecting the proposals to erect a kursaal or pavilion at Bournemouth, costing £77,000.

It is stated that the Board have asked for further particulars and information regarding the details. Information is also desired as to the Corporation's policy in regard to administration, as the pavilion is to carry a licence, and these matters are now under consideration by a committee of the Town Council.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, whose administrative ability and initiative have full scope at Herne Bay as director of the Urban Council Entertainments in that popular resort, has sent us a photograph of the new alfresco theatre he has designed and had erected on the East Cliff for the Jollity Boys.

It is flanked by two towers, and the Tudor style has been chosen. This has a very nice effect, which will be added to at night, as it will be well lighted. A portion of the cliff has been fenced with white railings, and the ground has been prepared in terraces and gravelled, so that it will keep perfectly dry. In the centre are steps, which will enable the public to reach the chairs with ease.

There will be accommodation for 2,000 people within the fenced-in space. It may be added that not only was the stage designed by Mr. A. J. Barclay, but that the painting which gives such a realistic touch to the towers and back of the platform was done by him.

Dr. Walford Bodie, who sent a message to Queen Alexandra on the death of the King, has received the following reply from the Queen-Mother: "Buckingham Palace. Dr. Bodie, The Manor House, Macduff, N.B. Queen Alexandra sends her sincere thanks for your kind expression of sympathy in her bereavement."

Dr. Bodie writes that he is playing to record business at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft. Mr. Pareezer says the booking is phenomenal. The doctor has been offered return dates at all his theatres, and returns on Monday next to the Hippodrome, King's Lynn. He has only a few vacant dates this year, and is fast booking 1911. He will shortly produce a new and startling novelty act.

At the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on May 19, Mr. R. B. Dell, of Messrs. Jenner and Dell, of Regency-square, Brighton, conducted the sale of the Swiss Gardens, at Shoreham, comprising about four-and-a-half acres, including ornamental lakes, and situated within a few minutes' walk of Shoreham-by-Sea railway station.

The gardens were laid out seventy years ago by a certain gentleman who managed the place most successfully for a considerable period. They were afterwards acquired by a Mr. Goodchild for £10,000, and were a thorough success. Some years later they were let to Messrs. Ind, Coope, and Co. for £750, but had been closed for several years. The auctioneer, receiving no bid whatever, remarked that he would be pleased to treat for the property privately.

Patrons of Devonport Hippodrome paid a tribute to the popularity of the manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor, by attending in large numbers his farewell "benefit" on the evening of the 18th. The two performances were exceptionally interesting, but the feature of the evening was not reached until Mr. Taylor appeared on the stage to receive several gifts from well-wishers.

Mr. E. M. Leese, who came on with Mr. Taylor, remarked that, as his hearers were aware, the genial manager was leaving Devonport to take up a better position in London. It was his pleasing duty to ask Mr. Taylor to accept a gold watch from the orchestra and staff of the Hippodrome, a diamond ring subscribed for by patrons of the theatre and others, a case of silver knives given by the Devon Albion Club, a silver card-case from an anonymous friend, and a silver inkstand presented by a friend connected with that house.

Mr. Taylor, in acknowledging the gifts, thanked the public in Devonport and the Three Towns generally for the way in which the Hippodrome had been patronised. He also thanked the artists, the musical-director (Mr. J. W. Gleghorn), the orchestra, and all others connected with the theatre. On behalf of his wife, Mr. Taylor returned thanks for the gift by the orchestra and staff of a gold and diamond brooch to Mrs. Taylor.

Mr. Herbert Taylor, who has taken up a position in the London offices of the United Counties Theatres, has been succeeded by Mr. Gwyther Prance, who was originally in the cinematograph department of Moss' Empires, Ltd., at Leamington, subsequently removing to the Hippodrome, Coventry, and afterwards becoming manager of the Electric Theatre, Devonport. Mr. Prance is a young man, and has all the characteristics of a successful manager.

Mr. C. D. Levy, of Chatham, offered for sale by auction, at Tower's Hall, on Thursday, May 19, the freehold property known as the Criterion Music Hall, High-street, Blue Town, Sheerness. The premises, which until recently held a licence for the sale of liquors, have a frontage of seventy-two feet to the main thoroughfare, with the music hall in the rear. There was a very poor attendance at the sale, and not a single bid was made. Mr. Levy suggested £800, but this failed to raise an offer, and after the lot had been withdrawn one of the few gentlemen in the room said he would not go beyond £500.

At the Hippodrome, Dewsbury, on Tuesday evening Mr. George Weldon, the popular manager, was presented with a beautifully illuminated address in recognition of his strenuous efforts in the case of local charities. Major P. B. Walker, J.P., V.D., chairman of the Infirmary Board, in the course of a neat little presentation speech told the audience that Mr. Weldon, since he came to Dewsbury, seven years ago, had been the means of handing over to the infirmary an average amount of £17 per year. Councillor F. Newsome, chairman of the Old Folk's Treat Committee, proposed the vote of thanks, and Mr. H. Stead (Dewsbury Tradesmen's Benevolent Society) seconded, and stated that his committee had elected Mr. Weldon a life member of the society's committee.

Mr. Weldon, who was heartily received, in some humorous sentences thanked the donors for their gift. The address was signed by Major P. B. Walker (chairman, Dewsbury Infirmary), Mr. Frank Newsome (chairman, Dewsbury Old Folk's Treat), Miss H. B. Walker (Children's Summer Holiday Fund), Mr. H. Stead (Dewsbury Tradesmen's Benevolent Fund), Alderman Chas. Preston (Dewsbury Football Club), Charles Thornes (St. John Ambulance Association).

We announce with regret the death of Miss Amy Blanchard, burlesque artist, who passed away on Sunday last after an operation at the residence of her sister, 270, Essex-road.

A Music Hall Home Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 2, at the Empire, Camberwell, when all committeemen are kindly asked to attend.

Horace Wheatley, the genial Irishman, has just finished his second engagement in five months at the Hippodrome, Manchester. He has recently added to his repertoire a most successful item, "Won't you give me a tiny sprig of shamrock?" by J. F. Lambe, half rights in which song he has secured from his friend Dave Carter.

Mr. Fred Elton, the man at the piano, has just signed, through his agent, Will Oliver, thirty-seven weeks for Moss and Stoll Empires, in addition to thirty-one weeks already booked by the same firm. In the Potteries his success has secured him three returns with Mr. G. Elphinstone, also through the rejuvenated "Spot."

Mr. J. W. Wright has resigned his appointment as manager of the Grand Theatre, Gravesend, in order to undertake the general management of the Luna Park and Palace of Amusement at Southend. The directors of the Grand Theatre have kindly waived the right of usual notice, so that Mr. Wright may commence his duties at Southend on Monday next.

James Stewart, the original "tramp at the piano," has been secured by several Continental proprietors for next year. He opens at the London Coliseum on June 20, and plays a full Moss and Stoll tour until next February. He then goes to Hanover, Magdeburg, Prague, and Paris. His Continental arrangements are in the hands of the Marinelli office.

Mr. Wentworth Croke is by way of doing a new version of *East Lynne*, with six speaking parts, starting at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday, June 20. It is also his intention to present a version of *The Christian* on the lesser stage, and this will be prepared by the author, Hall Caine, whose work should assuredly make a powerful appeal to the larger public of the halls.

Miss Louisa Peach will be at the Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, next week with a big sketch of *The Colleen Bawn*, with special scenery and music. Miss Peach will appear as Eily, supported by an excellent company, which includes Messrs. Edwin Bennett, Frank G. Cariello, Edwin Ferguson, Conrad Clerke, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Daly.

Mr. Frederick Joseph Bacon was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Martin Henderson, W.T., assisted by Terrier Tom Packer, P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist.

The "Welcome Home" banquet to Terrier Griff will take place upon Sunday next at the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W., at 6.30 p.m. Reception at 6 p.m. Terrier G. P. R. Burgess, P.W.T., will occupy the chair. As Terrier Tom P. Packer has booked a provincial engagement, and will be prevented from attending the function, the musical arrangements will be under the direction of Terrier T. C. Callaghan. Applications for tickets should be made at once to the secretary. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers B. H. Aimon, Arthur Dainton, Ted E. Box, Jock Miller, and Jesse Sparrow upon their reappearance in the kennel upon Sunday last.

The election of officers for the month of June resulted as follows:—Terrier Ted Karno, W.T.; Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T.; Terrier C. W. Kloof, W.D.; Terrier Pete Moriggia, Y.B.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; Terrier Arthur Were, Organist.

S. W. Wyndham, on his first appearance at the Empire, Shoreditch, last week, was immediately secured by Mr. W. J. Grimes, of the Empress, Brixton, for eight weeks. He has placed his future business in the hands of Mr Walter Bentley. London audiences will have the opportunity of enjoying his funny turn in August, when he returns to town for a prolonged visit to the Oxford and other Syndicate halls.

The 660th committee meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday, the following being present:—Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), Harry Blake, C. Callaghan, E. W. Edmonds, J. Miller Northern, Harry Bancroft, J. H. Milburn, Chas. McConnell, and B. Stavordale. Mr. Thompson, stage-manager of the Hippodrome, Norwich, was appointed agent there. The weekly statement showed an increase of nineteen members, and receipts of £27 5s.

Mr. Harry Randall, who as a Cockney comedian is one of London's "own particulars," is once more at the Tivoli, where his scheme of drollery is brightened by two songs of a decidedly enjoyable character. "Finger prints" may be called an "impressionist" song, so humorous is its significance in the hands of Harry; and in "Harry, the handy man," he has a subject after his own heart. The original singer of "Benjamin Binns" keeps up to date, and this is the secret of his continued success.

Another link with the past has been snapped by the death of that well-known Mohawk William Freeman, for many years a leading member of the famous troupe, and the comedian who popularised those great song-hits of their day "Over the garden wall" and "The Lord Mayor's Coachman." Mr. Freeman, who was getting well on the road to three score and ten, died in the West London Hospital, and was buried on Thursday last week at Hammersmith Cemetery.

The death of Mrs. Margaret Ann Lynch, better known as Nell Lynch, removes from the world of variety a famous markswoman. Unfortunately, of late years, her illness, which had a fatal termination on Sunday morning last at St. George's Hospital, prevented her fulfilling engagements; but with her husband, Joe Lynch, "the human target," she travelled in all parts of the world, and made a big reputation in South America on both sides of the Andes. She commenced her career on the variety stage in her early teens, and was married when little more than seventeen years to the husband who now mourns the loss of a devoted wife.

Nell Lynch may be said to have been gifted as a shot, and for a long two years' engagement at the Aquarium, under the management of Mr. Josiah Ritchie, her feats with the rifle attracted much attention. She was hailed, indeed, as champion lady marksman of the British Empire. Mr. Joe Lynch, her husband, is not only a descendant of a famous circus family, but is a nephew of the great Victorian tragedian Charles Dillon, whom he supported in small parts in many of his legitimate productions. Mr. Lynch has been a Terrier, and for a time was on the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A.

The Lynches (Nell and Joe) were a well-appreciated turn in London and the provinces, and they won a big reputation on the Continent in their particular line. The funeral of the deceased lady will start from 1, Seagrave-road, Fulham, S.W., to-day at 2.30. Friends will please accept this intimation.

Miss Louie Tracy, "the dapper dandy boy," is this week working the Holborn Empire in place of the Hippodrome, Richmond. Next week Miss Tracy will be seen at the Empire, Shoreditch, and Empress, Brixton.

Mr. W. S. Buccleuch, assistant-manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre, will sail to-day (Saturday) for Boston, New York, on the Lusitania, on business and pleasure combined. Mr. Buccleuch will be away about a month, and will return on the Campania about the middle of June, to resume his duties. Bon voyage!

It is on the cards that Miss Jen Latona will appear at the London Coliseum on July 4 as a single turn. The Latonas, who own a considerable estate outside Buffalo, U.S.A., have the intention to take up permanent residence in England, should the inducements offered to Miss Jen as a single turn be sufficiently alluring.

Mr. Fred Eustace will produce his new sketch *A Great Conspiracy*, written for him by Chris Davis, at the Shoreditch Olympia on June 6. The company consists of Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale, of *Face at the Window* fame, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. Pascoe Bioletti, Mr. Conrad Clerke, and Fred and Mary Eustace. The scenery has been painted in Lew Lake's studio, the music is by Alf. Peterson, and the costumes have been made by L. Benjamin.

"A Scotsman always gets on. When a Scotsman leaves Scotland he never looks back—and very seldom goes, except to fetch his brother!" So said Neil Kenyon in his famous "Postie" scena; and now he speaks from experience, for isn't he drawing crowds to the Apollo Theatre with his unique study of a Scottish Pasha in Major Marshall's musical comedy *The Islander*?

Like many other brither Scots, in the profession and out of it, he has had a hard up-hill fight. There is a lot in Kenyon's philosophy. Very few London Scots, for instance, ever return to their native heath, although such is always their ambition, and we are all aware that Britain has the settling instinct of the Scot to thank, to a large extent, for the prosperity of her Colonies to-day.

In *The Islander* Kenyon settles on a lonely island somewhere in the Persian Gulf, and, being a Scot, he soon becomes Pasha. It seems to have escaped the notice of some critics and "men who know," but it appears to us that *The Islander* ought to be snapped up for America. Indeed, we happen to know that Neil Kenyon has had more than one offer from theatrical magnates to play the "Pasha" or a similar part in the States.

The reason for this is not far to seek, for not only will the comedian's quiet, assured, and pawky style of humour go big "over the pond," but the 'Murricans will greatly appreciate having the laugh, even with a Scot, at the commander of a British Dreadnought. The part, now that Neil has worked in "a few of his ain," fits him to a T, and the rest of the fine company are just as well suited. This engagement of Neil Kenyon in *The Islander* will certainly mark the beginning of a new era in the life of musical comedy.

Miss Hettie Kerels writes from Toledo, Ohio, U.S.A.:—"In reading *The Era* of April 23 (this year) I was much surprised to see the erroneous statement that Mr. John D'Auban had taught Miss Kate Vaughan dancing. I feel that must be some mistake, as Miss Vaughan and I were pupils together at the Grecian Theatre, and from there she had a troupe called the Vaughan Sisters, of which I was one. From there she engaged in high comedy."

An important decision was given on Tuesday by Mr. Cecil Chapman, the Tower Bridge magistrate, in the matter of the summons issued at the instance of the London County Council against the Bermondsey Bioscope Company for opening the London Bridge Picture Palace, at Borough High-street, on Sunday, Feb. 27.

Mr. Chapman held that the London County Council had no power in the matter. The London County Council, he said, had assumed that, having been constituted the licensing authority under the Cinematograph Act of 1909, they had been invested with general powers of regulation as if they were licensing a music hall. He thought they were mistaken, because their licensing was controlled and restricted by the purposes of the Act—"to make better provision for securing safety at cinematograph and other exhibitions."

The Council's claim was obviously anomalous, because it could not be made for similar exhibitions where inflammable films were not used, and he was unable to find any legal justification for it. Even the Lord's Day Observance Act would not necessarily prevent an exhibition of this nature that would depend upon many other circumstances. The summons was therefore dismissed, five guineas costs being allowed.

Bosanquet, the human violin, returns to England in June. This very fine player signed for six weeks only, and opened at the Orpheum, Boston, on March 7, 1909, and since then has been headlined and featured in nearly every large city in the United States and Canada. He played on tour with Harry Lauder, and followed him at the American, New York. His Bosanquetphone has made a sensation wherever presented. Bosanquet is quite the music hall Kubelik.

The Alhambra, Sandgate, reopened on Monday with variety, under the management of Mr. F. Holt, who has for a number of years been connected in various capacities with that house. For some years the establishment was under the control of Mr. Tom Maltby, a former proprietor of the Bedford, and associated also with the Queen's, Poplar. The auditorium has been entirely redecorated and reupholstered, and a new bioscope box has been built outside the back wall of the circle.

Mr. John D. Hunter is severing his long connection with Hastings Pier, in consequence of a change in the directorate. Mr. Hunter made his first public appearance on the boards of the Pier Pavilion as far back as April, 22, 1878, in conjunction with the Four Sisters Bayley, the vaudeville company, under the title of "The Provincial Company of Varieties," being so successful that their stay was extended from a week to a month. On Nov. 3, 1879, he was engaged as entertainment manager, a position which he held until July, 1908, when he took over the reins as general-manager. Mr. Hunter has produced no fewer than thirty-one pantomimes.

The chief feature of the Oxford report is the payment of the balance of the debentures, viz., £31,500, out of the cash reserve, thus completing the redemption of the entire debenture issue of £60,000. The net profit for the twelve months ended April 30 last, after providing for interest on the debentures and all outgoings, amounts to the sum of £16,875. In November last an interim dividend of £4 per cent. (less income tax) was paid; the directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent. (less income tax) for the half-year ended April 30, 1910, together with a bonus of 1s. 6d. per share (free of tax), equal to 11½ per cent. for the year. After payment of this dividend and bonus the directors propose to deal with the surplus by adding £5,000 to the general reserve fund, and carrying the balance to the current year's accounts. Lucky shareholders! Mr. Walter Payne, the retiring director, offers himself for re-election.

The Sisters (Rosa and Kitty) return on Monday next to the Empress, Brixton, where a warm welcome awaits the lively couple. They have just signed till the end of 1912 with Mr. Oswald Stoll, but are free for next Christmas.

Lloyd Morgan, the light comedian who has been winning golden opinions all over the country, returns to town on June 6, to Chelsea and South London Palaces. There can be little doubt his bright cheerfulness and distinction of style, his good voice and a genuine vein of humour will commend him to our West End managers, who, if we mistake not, will soon have his services firmly secured for a long time to come.

Miss Greta Hahn, who has already been guilty of writing for the stage, is by way of having a new one-act play produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, and will appear therein as Nell Turner, the wife of a house painter. The artistic contrast to Mr. Alfred Turner, who by his labour makes stucco look something like stone, will be Hugh Rossiter, an artist, a part played by Mr. H. Laurence Leyton.

Little Miss Elise Craven, who has just completed a long engagement with Mr. Oswald Stoll, will be seen on Monday at the Holborn Empire in an entirely new dance scena, entitled *Danses Fantastiques; or, When Love is Young*. She will be supported in this by Master Bert Clerc, who was associated with her at the Coliseum at Christmas in *Mr. Jellicoe and the Fairy*. The entire production is in the hands of Miss Elise Clerc, *maîtresse de ballet*, who is responsible for Miss Craven's terpsichorean training.

Mr. Ted D. Marks, who has recently arrived in London, can claim the distinction, counting-in his last voyage over from America, of having crossed the ocean 129 times. "I came over," he said a day or two since, "for the first time in 1864, to go to school, and during the following forty-six years have come over and returned once a year, and sometimes twice and three times. To cross the ocean forty or fifty years ago was something bordering on an achievement, while to-day it is regarded in the same light as travelling in a taxi about town. It used to take me thirteen days to come over; now you can do both journeys in the same time."

On Monday evening the baboon "François," a fine specimen of this tribe of Simian, belonging to M. Dubois, who had been appearing at the King's Hall, Corporation-street, Birmingham, was discovered in his cage with a broken arm and taken to the hospital for treatment. After consultation, it was decided to put him under chloroform in order to set the broken limb. This course was adopted because, when approached, the baboon became very ferocious, and the doctors did not wish to come into contact with two useful-looking rows of teeth. He took the anæsthetic well, but when the setting had been successfully accomplished and the bandage was just being put in place he drew a sharp breath, closed his eyes, and did not recover consciousness.

The interest taken by the general public in the *Football News* League was strongly shown at the Nottingham Empire on Wednesday evening, when the handsome shield presented for competition amongst the clubs by Moss' Empires, Ltd., was presented to the Ilkeston Catholic F.C. Mr. Albert C. Duncan (the resident-manager) had arranged that there should be a break during the second performance, and there was hearty applause from the large audience when the curtain rose showing the officials of the League and the players of the winning team and the runners-up, Mansfield Woodhouse, assembled on the stage.

Councillor R. A. Young was in the chair, and supporting him were Dr. Tinsley Lindley (who made the presentation), the Rev. Father McCarthy, Dr. Tobin, Mr. R. H. Jackson, and others. The Rev. Father McCarthy accepted the shield on behalf of the Ilkeston Club. "We found it hard to beat our opponents," he said. "I believe the better team won, and I hope it will always be so." The players of both teams were then presented with their medals. The thanks of the League to Moss' Empire, Ltd., Mr. Albert C. Duncan for his valuable assistance, Councillor R. A. Young for presiding, and Dr. Lindley for making the presentation were voiced by Mr. W. J. C. Hayward, Mr. R. H. Jackson seconded, and the audience signified their concurrence by sympathetic applause.

On Wednesday the case of Gooch *v.* Reading Palace (Theatre) of Varieties, Ltd., came before the Court of Appeal, consisting of Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Moulton, and Buckley, upon the plaintiff's application for judgment or new trial in the action which was tried before Mr. Justice Grantham and a special jury at Reading. The plaintiff, a commission agent, claimed from the defendant company £322 commission on a loan of £9,000, which the plaintiff alleged he had, by agreement with the directors of the defendant company, procured for the company, but which the directors refused to accept. At the trial the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for £50, and the plaintiff now appealed, upon the ground that the damages awarded by the jury were insufficient. The hearing was adjourned.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild will hold their first sacred concert on Sunday, June 5, at the Metropolitan, by kind permission of the directors. Tickets may be bought from all committee ladies in town, and from Miss May at the Guild Rooms. Further particulars next week.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mr. R. G. Knowles (donation), £1 1s. (per Mrs. George Smythson); Miss Nellie Wallace (contribution), 2s.; Mrs. Paul Murray (donation), 2s. 6d.; Miss Irene Rose (result of guessing competition), 19s.; Mrs. Herbert, Grosvenor Hotel, Brixton (collecting box), 12s. (per Miss Irene Rose); Mlle. Pollo (collection), 5s.; Mme. Li Chang Hi (collection), 10s. 6d.; H. N. W. (collection), 4s. 9d.; Mr. R. Voss (collection), 7s.; Miss Kate Vulcana (collection), 4s.; Mrs. Day (donation), 6d.; Miss Indiana Smythson (result of houp-la at Reading); 3s. 6d.; Mr. Bob Wilding, Glasgow (donation), 1s.; Miss Nellie Nora, handsome crocheted tablecloth, made by herself; Miss Lottie Albert, clothing; Mrs. Alma Gallimore, gentleman's clothing; Misses Bertha St. Ruth and Cissy Conyers, useful clothing; Mrs. James Horne, handsome sachet, with eight beautiful handkerchiefs.

Mr. Charles Urban, joint inventor of "Kinemacolor," with a large staff of operators posted at every important point along the route, succeeded in taking of King Edward's funeral an animated pictorial record in the actual hues and tints of Nature which is well worthy of inclusion in our national archives, and so important a contribution to the history of bioscopics does Mr. Alfred Butt consider it that he gave a special matinée at the Palace Theatre on Friday. To an appropriate orchestral accompaniment were shown, not only the solemn progression of May 20 from Westminster to Windsor, but the impressive scenes incident to the removal of the coffin from Buckingham Palace, the Lying-in-State, the riderless charger, the King's favourite dog Cæsar, and the half-masting of the Royal Ensign, &c. For this occasion the prices were considerably reduced. The directors have decided to devote the whole of the proceeds to the late King Edward's Hospital Fund.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE'S great chorus number, "Flanagan," by Will Letters and C. W. Murphy, has just been issued as a "Sixpenny Pop," and is in rising demand, although but a few weeks old. On every occasion on which Miss Forde has sung this item the chorus has been seized upon by delighted audiences instantaneously, and the public appear as though they cannot have it too many times repeated. In fine contrast is her other tuneful song, "'Tis a faded picture," by Lester Barrett and Hermann R. Darewski, the lyric of which has that true ring of sentiment which appeals irresistibly to Britishers the world over, the melody, moreover, being one of great charm.

MISS ELLA RETFORD'S new song, "Hi! hi! hi! Mister McKie!" promises to vie in popularity with anything the fair artist has given the public, and she has favoured her large following with many tuneful songs in the past. "Mister McKie" is yet another number of Will Letters and C. W. Murphy that has been just added by Messrs. Francis and Day to their series of Sixpenny Pops.

A CHARMING song, written, composed, and sung by Messrs. Will Godwin and Leo Dryden, has just been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication. It is called "Good-bye, Mary," and is fully in keeping with the reputation as first-class writers of the twain who gave the world that evergreen classic, "The miner's dream of home."

"ANYTHING new of Henry E. Pether's?" is a common query at music dealers' places of business, and music lovers will be gratified to hear that a new song from his pen will shortly be issued to the trade under the title of "In cherry blossom time in Japan." The graceful lyric is by Leonard Cooke, who wrote "You want a sweetheart," a Pether item which has proved a veritable delight in the safe hands of Miss Ellaline Terriss. Messrs. Francis and Day have secured the Japan number for immediate production.

ALF J. LAWRENCE has had a busy time during this, his last week in London prior to his summer campaign at Prestwick and Largs on the Ayrshire coast. With Messrs. Francis and Day he has published a song entitled "Take me away from the streets and houses," written by George Arthurs; a number named "My Susie-oosie-oo," written in conjunction with Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford; and "Keep the anchor chain I gave you," in which the popular young composer has had the assistance of Arthur Stroud and Aubrey Kennett. This (Saturday) morning Mr. Lawrence, with his two al fresco companies, leaves St. Pancras by the 11.30 express for the North.

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm has secured Joseph Tabrar's comic song, "For nights and nights and nights," rights of which, it is said, have been, even at this early period of the year, secured for nearly a dozen pantomimes. It has been sung with considerable success by the genial writer's clever son-in-law, Mr. Syd Walker.

MR. BERNARD RUSSELL'S newest songs, "Oh! Chantecler!" and "Verdicts," both written and composed by Frank Wood, are being brought out in sheet music form by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS MAY MARS' new ditty, "The Land of the Golden Sun," by Gilbert Wells and Henny Kay, will shortly see the light in printed form. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

MR. CHARLES R. WHITTLE'S latest acquisition, a song named "Take it nice and easy," is by Harry Castling, Fred Godfrey, and J. Glover-Kind, and will shortly be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. JACK LORIMER'S quaint "Macgregor" number has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. The new conjunction of writers (W. Haines, F. W. Carter, and Donovan Meher) are responsible for words and music.

E. W. ROGERS and Fred Godfrey have collaborated in a song which is a fine conjunction of clever lines and melodious strains, and the name given the number is "He's a very old friend of mine." Messrs. Francis and Day have acquired it for publication.

MISS DORA LYRIC'S tuneful chorus song, "I want to go back to the dear homeland," by J. Glover-Kind and Fred Warwick, is a song that bids fair to be sung and whistled everywhere, judging by its reception on the occasion of its initial production in London a short while ago. It has this week been added to Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

THE IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

A most interesting programme is submitted this week to the patrons of this tastefully-decorated house in the East End of London, the premier position being occupied by Mr. Alec Hurley and company in the bright little comedy operetta *Cockneys in Japan*. Mr. Hurley is quite at his best in this trifle, for several tuneful songs are introduced the music of which suits his voice admirably, and with the able assistance of four smart lady dancers and several Cockney pals an entertaining production is furnished. Mr. Archie Pitt, quaint comedian, is decidedly good in his schoolboy song, the patter being quite original. Della and Pley, comedy artists, are very amusing, the boxing skit being extremely funny and well worked. The male partner throughout is most diverting, and the lady's dancing is exceptionally neat. Miss Daisy Silcott, neatly dressed, with a pleasing stage personality, is well received for her rendering of "Woman wants everything she sees," a smartly written number, which is sung to the best of advantage. Anson and Bray are most entertaining in their comedy duologue, *Lucy Whitelegs*. The fun of the playlet is due to the confusion of names, a suspicious wife mistaking the references to a racehorse to be intended for a lady. Well staged and acted throughout, the sketch meets with a hearty reception.

Gordon and Leslie, Scotch comedians and dancers, have a catchy song in "Jean," and excel in dancing; the Eldras with their performing dog give a novel entertainment, the lady being a smart singer and dancer, while the gentleman goes through many clever feats with the assistance of the dog; Cadwell and Verne give an entertaining show, which consists of smart dancing, singing, and comedy, the special Park set scene adding much to the desired effect; the Five Bon-Bons are all talented performers, much good singing and extraordinary dancing being indulged in; Miss Gladys Warren sings "Money in the Bank" agreeably, and concludes with a well-executed step-dance.

Mr. Leonard Mortimer and company are playing in an elaborate production of the second adventure of *The Man of the Forty Faces* series—*The Raven's Toll*, dramatised by T. W. Hanshew from a story appearing in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*. The plot deals with the crimes of a country surgeon, who is connected with great insurance frauds. Many exciting situations occur throughout, and Mr. Mortimer as Hamilton Cleek, detective, plays well, and is ably supported by his company. Many interesting films are displayed on the Bioscope, and a capital orchestra is led by Mr. H. A. Knight.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Phenomenal business is being done at the Oxford this week, and small wonder, when one reviews the programme of twenty turns, the names contained therein standing for all that is brightest and best in the variety firmament. Mr. Harry Tate having skitted many sports and pastimes, it was only to be expected that sooner or later he would make fun of the aviator's art. His present burlesque is conceived in the true Tate style, and in *Flying; or, The Veri-'ot-Tater-Plane* we have a very worthy successor to *Motoring* and *Fishing*. As in *Motoring*, Mr. Harry Tate poses as a fussy amateur, who professes to know all about "the game," but who in reality knows nothing. The great man is made up *à la* Grahame White, or Paulhan, or Blériot, or possibly it is an exaggeration on the styles of all three of the famous aviators. At the outset we are shown elaborate preparations for the flight of the "taterplane." The local mayor, in full regalia, and escorted by the local band and the local reporter, and much more that is local, arrive to do justice to the important occasion. Mr. Tate is responsible for many hearty laughs when he explains in the manner he has accustomed us to in *Motoring* the various uses and the many intricacies of his "taterplane." Of course, he has a secretary and a mechanic to help him in the fun, which both do very loyally. The mayor offers an address of welcome to "the intrepid bird-man," and the band at once strike up "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" The reporter is responsible for some very funny business, and the mayor's "little daughter" presents a bouquet to the "heavenly hero." There is a great deal of fuss, and then it is pompously announced that the "taterplane" is ready for flight. Great excitement! The "aviator" waves his farewell, pulls the lever, there is a mighty cheer, the "taterplane" gives a convulsive leap, turns a complete somersault, and is wrecked. The sketch is a very fine one, and in a week or so, when things have settled into smooth running, it is easy to prophesy that *Flying* will be the best number in Mr. Tate's répertoire.

Undoubtedly the cleverest mimic on the variety stage to-day, Geo. Newburn is deservedly an immense favourite with the Oxford audiences. One cannot give greater praise than to say that his impersonations of Sheridan, Lashwood, King, and Formby are life-like to the smallest detail. *The Lady Bandits*, in which Lauri and Beatty appear, was noticed by *The Era* on its production at the Holborn. Since then it has improved wonderfully, and the fine acting of Miss May Beatty and the singing and dancing of Mr. Edward Lauri prove thoroughly enjoyable. There is a capital chorus, prettily dressed, and the fun is clean, crisp, and refined.

Another turn that deserves a better time in the programme is that of Beattie and Babs, two very young ladies, whose singing and dancing is in the A1 class. The smallest of the young ladies—we will not say the youngest, as we might be mistaken—is a very fine comedienne.

A roar of welcome goes up when No. 12 is displayed, for it means that we are to have twenty minutes of Wilkie Bard. Mr. Bard gives us a military number and a very good alleged "glee" song with the theme "Hail, smiling morn." Little Tich presents his "Policeman" song, his "Skipper" ditty, and a skirt dance. Chas. Whittle sings "Let's all go down the Strand" and "Naughty, naughty boy," and T. E. Dunville is in fine Dunvillian form.

Gowned in an exquisitely made black dress that suits her particular prettiness to perfection, Jose Collins sang a ballad very nicely. Then came a quick change to a fanciful cowboy costume and the melody of "Pride of the Prairie." Ernie Mayne, another early arrival, has a funny one-man duet on "Excelsior."

We get laughs from Lancashire when Morny Cash comes on; Dan Crawley tells us that "Father went down to Southend to spend a happy day"; Kitty Colyer looks as pretty and is as agile as ever; and the Daunton-Shaw cyclists are extremely clever. Not the least enjoyable item on the present Oxford bill is the *Bohemian Girl* selection given by Mr. Leon Bassett's fine orchestra.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

Large audiences have been enjoying the fine programme which Mr. Albert H. Adams has provided this week. The chief place in the bill is held by Harry P. Selwyn's company, who are presenting a sketch version of the popular Drury-lane drama *The Flood Tide*. The staging is most elaborate, several racehorses being introduced in the course of the performance. Mr. Frank D. Powell gives a capital delineation of the hero, Captain Champion, and his devoted father is well handled by Mr. Roy Jackson. Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner gives a charming picture of Mabel Corry. The play was received with tremendous applause. Mr. R. H. Douglass lectures on the various styles of love-making from the Middle Ages to modern times, and he does it in his own inimitable style, which causes endless delight.

Edward Ind, comedian, has a rollicking song addressed to the ladies with regard to their position when they succeed in getting a vote. Herbert Clifton, "the man with the £1,000 voice," is scoring heavily with his impressions of various styles of music-hall artists. The Sisters Condor delightful skit, in which he causes endless amusement, especially in the scene at the postal department. Mr. Fowler Thatcher and Mr. Norman Clifton also contribute largely to the fun; while Miss Daisy Stroud as Miss Allshop lends valuable assistance. The production is well mounted, and is fast settling down into a big success.

Miss Lucy Coventry, who is well known here, is adding to her popularity with her song, "Have you met a girl named Mary?" which she sings in a most captivating manner, and her dancing is a cause of much delight, for her steps are neatly executed; Prince Kuroki, the Japanese magician, bewilders all with his clever tricks; the Schaffer Four provide a most entertaining musical turn. The game of musical croquet is most novel, while the cornet and trombone playing is most melodious.

Another musical turn is that of Peggy Lennie and Walter Hast, who are presenting their well-known operatic phantasy, *The Sea-Nymph*, which is a very pretty little scena, and Mr. Hast makes things very lively with his topical hits. The Three Cunards and their wonderful dancing act again make a big hit. It is late in the day to say anything about their clever dancing, except that it is as good as ever, and always a delight to watch. Webb's Notions is certainly a varied production, including many quick-changes and pretty scenic effects. The electric display and the fountain certainly make it a most acceptable turn, which is as novel as it is effective. Lilian Oates sings a ballad and accompanies herself on the violin, and she also plays a solo in a masterly fashion, which called forth tremendous applause. Jack Heath, a comedian of the Dame type, soon sets his audience smiling with his lively patter. Cameron Matthews and company appear in the one-act play *No Other Way*, in which Miss Jessamine Newcombe and Mr. Cameron Matthews make a decided success. Lenow, speciality artist, and the Bioscope, with some fine films of the Royal Funeral, complete the bill. Mr. Arthur Edwards, the popular manager, is ever at hand with a welcome to all, and has the satisfaction of seeing his hall always well filled.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Another capital programme is being presented at this popular hall, and as a consequence the recent spell of fine weather is not having a marked effect on the audiences. The top of the bill is occupied by Mme. Ella Russell, the well-known prima donna, who is rendering several items from her répertoire, including Tosti's ever-popular "Good-bye." In all these the distinguished artist displayed her vocal accomplishments with great effect, and had to concede "Caller Herrin'" as an encore. A word of acknowledgment is due to Mr. Harold Scott for the excellent style in which he played the piano accompaniments. Gwennie Hasto in a couple of songs secured a hearty reception, and concluded her act with a very attractive dance. The Brothers Bright in an athletic show submit some wonderful exhibitions of strength and skill. In each case they seem to be achieved with the minimum amount of exertion, and the audience were quick to appreciate and cordially greet their show.

Mr. Will Poluski, in a parody on George Lashwood's "I've been out with Charley Brown" and another song, was successful, and finished with a capital dance. Nelson Jackson, the well-known humorist at the piano, is a very popular feature of the programme. He sings a couple of good songs, "The Three Ages of Man" and "The World in 1950," and tells some capital stories. Altogether his turn is most enjoyable, and he secured a flattering reception. Peggy Pryde sings two songs and gets on very good terms with the audience, her energetic style being apparently much to the liking of the house. The Three Merrills, in a comedy and trick cycling act, present a show of outstanding ability. The comedian of the trio does some exceedingly difficult feats in a particularly funny way, and the item with which they finish their performance is one that calls for great strength and endurance from the performer. They deservedly gained one of the receptions of the evening. The Two St. Johns, musical comedians, campanologists, and dancers, open the proceedings with a clever act. The musical items are capitally rendered, and they conclude with a clever dance.

The bottom of the bill is filled by Horace Hunter and company in a playlet entitled *Under Suspicion*. This proves to be altogether an admirable little affair. It deals with the very familiar subject of Russian Nihilists and the secret police. Opening under humorous circumstances, it proceeds by perfectly feasible events until a highly dramatic situation is evolved, the curtain falling at an exciting climax. Chief honours go to Mr. Horace Hunter for a very finished study of a German military officer, Major Von Holtz, which completely gained the sympathies of the audience. He receives excellent support from the lady and gentleman who played the Countess and the General respectively, who are somewhat unfortunately not billed. The duel between the two men was most realistic, and it remains to add that it gained a splendid reception. It should have a most prosperous career on the halls. The Bioscope is showing this week a magnificent film of the impressive obsequies of the late King, depicting the progress through London and at Windsor, which the audience watched in respectful silence. Mr. Walter Greco's fine orchestra perform a selection from Wagner's *Lohengrin* admirably, and Mr. Charles Marté and Mr. Cyril Percival, his assistant, are very courteous and attentive in the front of the house.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Lafayette is the chief attraction here in his original, unique, and marvellous entertainment, consisting of, in Part 1, "Catching Pigeons Alive," "Freehand Painting in Sections," "The Reincarnation of Beauty," "The Mysterious Bathroom," and "Transfigurations and Substitutions." Part 2 consists of "The Foxhunt," and many other attractive items, all of which met with a very cordial reception from a large and well-pleased audience. The well-known comedians and dancers, Sandford and Lyons, are enthusiastically applauded in "When we go out." Their patter is funny and dancing capital. The Mezzettis are remarkably clever horizontal bar performers, and their turn includes "The New Recruit." The skilful banjoists Stanley and Greenop render effectively selections from grand opera, and also submit some well-played popular melodies.

Mr. Ed. E. Ford, the Australian Sundowner, makes a hit with "We are all growing older and older," including some new and clever patter. Mr. Forbes Russell and his capital orchestra discoursed most excellent music, including the "Fahnitza" overture by Suppé. Mr. Fred Epitaux is the courteous and popular acting-manager, and Mr. H. Percy Parry is his able assistant.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Under the able and energetic management of Mr. Frederick Phelps, the entertainments at the Crouch End Hippodrome are of the most varied and interesting character. After a capitally rendered overture by the orchestra Mr. Harry Bonville sings with spirit "Rain, rain, go away"; and we next enjoy a song entitled "Hard up," by Sadie Stuart, which she supplements with a very neat dance. Albert Le Fre, a great favourite here, received a perfect ovation. His songs, "Storyettes" and "The Dancing Family," with imitations of various styles of dancing, simply "bring down the roof." Mr. Le Fre introduces some patter, which has the advantage of being really funny, and his turn is received with much laughter and prolonged applause.

The Four Kahns puzzle the audience in their fine magical act; and Professor Dunning vastly amuses with his clever ventriloquial entertainment. A bright and amusing Alsatian operatic scena, *The Maid of Polaria*, is contributed by Lennie and Hast, and proves very acceptable. The Four Idlers, four attractive and hard-working comediennes, were highly successful in a refined singing and dancing act. There is much humour in Syd Bandon's song "Yarmouth sands"; and Andy Gimmel scores with his Scotch song, "Jeannie McGregor." The Lowells, in a musical and balancing act, are very successful, and well deserve the favour they obtain. The Three Aza Boys are immensely popular, and this is not surprising, for they contribute, at the conclusion of their vocal number, a very skilful simultaneous dance. Hal Rushden is warmly greeted for "Send them along to me"; and Cameron Matthews and company, in an exciting one-act play, entitled *No Other Way*, present an entertainment that hits the taste of the patrons here to a nicety. Very interesting are the pictures shown by the Bioscope, including the Funeral Procession of His Late Most Gracious Majesty, King Edward VII.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

This spacious East End variety house on the night of our visit was packed almost uncomfortably, a condition of things, without doubt, due to the excellence of the programme. Topping the bill is Fred Karno's company, in a new version of *The Mumming Birds*. The sketch, which is a travesty on the modern day music hall, is capitally played throughout, and evokes plenty of laughter. Most of the fun is centred round Jimmy Russell as the saucy boy. The rôle of the drunken swell is most cleverly played by an artist whose name was not mentioned on the programme.

Bright and breezy in her methods, Ella Retford proves entertaining. Her song "Mister McKie" is quite in accordance with the vivacious nature of the singer; whilst the step-dance, which concludes her turn, full of vim, brings down the house. Ella is certainly an acquisition to any programme. An artistic item is the handsomely-gowned Lena Wylie, with her selections from musical comedies. Fred Earle raises many laughs with his dilation on the working man's divorce, and even more in his decidedly humorous song "Dummy teat." Kitty Kearns sings about "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," and dances nimbly. A most amusing couple are Johnson and Bert, who have quite an original and novel act in their *Quzer Customer*. The dialogue and "business" is very funny, and, what is more, clever. Williams' Eight Jubilee Singers shine in glees and songs. The fine soprano voice of Louise Zetland was well suited in the "Mountain lovers," her only number. The audience wanted more. Child comediennes and mimics, unless good, are apt to prove tiring; but Jenny Alexander is a real little artist. Her impersonations of Vesta Victoria, Marie Lloyd, and Victoria Monks being especially good. Not only is the inflection of the voice in each impersonation almost perfect, but the actions are as well.

Dale and O'Malley are old favourites. Their new quips and cranks are really funny, and go down well, especially their "dog joke." Reg. Bolton has a comedy scena in *The Editor's Imp* all to himself, and proves interesting. The Bioscope has a series of pictures of the funeral of his late Majesty King Edward VII. Mr. Manager Austin Anderson, busy as usual, ably attends to duties in front of the house.

MR. JOHN T. TUSSAUD, great-grandson of the original Madame Tussaud, founder of the well-known waxwork exhibition, has been elected a vice-president of the Newspaper Press Fund.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

THE SEASON'S SONG SUCCESSES.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

IN SWEET CEYLON.
MISS MARIE SANTOI.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE CORSICAN MAID.
MISS EVIE GREENE.

BETSY.
THE MARCH SONG OF THE YEAR.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

THE CUBANOLA GLIDE.
AMERICA'S LATEST NOVELTY SONG.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE, MARY.
THE GREATEST COWBOY ROMANCE SINCE "CHEYENNE."

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

DON'T STAND THERE WAITING AT THE GATE
The FAVOURITE "FEATURE" SONG for the Seaside.

SUMMER BOOKS NOW READY.

100 HUMOROUS SONGS 100
100 COON, SOUBRETTE, and CHORUS SONGS 100

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from* page 21.)

The al-fresco season has now commenced in real earnest, and from all parts of these islands records daily reach the Feldman publishing-house of the phenomenal successes already achieved by exponents of their many songs. The song *par excellence* which is literally in everybody's mouth is "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," run close by such popular favourites as "Molly O'Morgan," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," "Rain, rain, go away," "Hello, little girl," "Hold me just a little bit tighter," "Do you miss me in the dear homeland?" "Come by the drum in the big brass band," "Sweet garden queen," "The green, green ribbon," and others. Feldman ballads are also well represented at the seaside. Just now, the most popular of these are "Beautiful garden of roses," "Nobody knows—nobody cares," "I'm longing for one sight of you," "I wonder if it's true," "And a little child shall lead them," and "The garden of dreams."

In the comic department Feldman's indubitably hold the strongest hand they have had for years, as, in addition to Mark Sheridan's abiding success, "I do like to be beside the seaside," they are in a position to offer seaside comedians such tried successes as "Fish sauce," "I'd rather be by the fireside," "I must go home to-night," "They can't find Kelly," "Fetch John Willie," "It's a pity to waste the cake," and George Formby's numbers, "Playing the game in the West," "I put on my coat and went home," and "Since I had a go at my dumbbells."

Scotland has vigorously endorsed the verdict of Manchester and Newcastle that Chas. K. Harris's ballad, "Nobody knows—nobody cares," as sung by Miss Ada Reeve, is a really great song, and may confidently be car-marked as a worthy successor to the same author's and publishers' success, "Somewhere."

Writing from the Palace, Hull, Mr. George Lashwood speaks most enthusiastically of the receptions accorded him while he recounts the moving story of a resourceful Irishman's adventures in the harem of the Sultan of Turkey, in search of a supposedly recalcitrant wife, who is all the time safe and snug at home in County Clare. "Mister Pat O'Hare," as the song is styled, is from the pen of a popular American author-composer, Benjamin Hapgood Burt, who has already given this country many popular songs, and Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have this latest Lashwood "winner" in the press for early publication.

The newly-interpolated Feldman number, "I do like to be beside the seaside," has been prodigiously successful in the Empire, Leicester-square, revue, *Hullo, London!* Mr. Mark Sheridan, the original singer, is convulsing his auditors at the Empire, Bradford, this week, with his quips and cranks whilst administering this sovereign cure for the "blues" in three carefully-apportioned doses.

At the Canterbury during the present week Miss Lily Edwards has been enthusiastically received in E. W. Rogers and John Neat's song of sentiment, "Do you miss me in the dear homeland?" Miss Zeta Russell also scores heavily in the same bill with "My sweet garden queen," by Harrington, Rogers, and Neat. Both of these songs are Feldman publications.

Miss Marie Reeve sang the ubiquitous "Pretty little girl from nowhere," by E. W. Rogers and John Neat, at the South London last week, and was so successful that she is now featuring it at all her engagements. At the same house Mr. Jack Smiles was eminently successful with yet another Feldman publication, "Fish sauce," by Alf. Davies and Charles Collins, his hearers joining in the catchy refrain with remarkable unanimity.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S.

"A fine entertainment. Everyone was good!" Thus a young lady to an equally young gentleman last Thursday afternoon at the Langham-place home of mysteries, as the curtain descended for the last time. This was the unanimous opinion, and most people, could they have been heard, would have re-echoed the sentiment. As it was the writer cordially—if mentally—agreed, and then it suddenly dawned on him why two hours and a half had so quickly flitted by.

Mr. Nevil Maskelyne—to whom many happy returns of last Thursday—presented on that afternoon a new magical farce, *The Scarab*, by himself and partner, David Devant. He who shall attempt a synopsis of a Maskelyne and Devant story is a bold man, indeed. But this much must be said, the sacred beetle was sufficiently tempting to any common or garden burglar to annex if only because when, once in his possession, he had but to wish to have. The story deals with the purchase by old Drysdale Sandiman (very finely taken by Mr. W. Mayne) of a 6,000 year old mummy, Rather, an ex-King of Egypt, from Aaron Giltmacher, one of the chosen tribe—a great character-study by Mr. Arnold Mussett. A burglar, a buxom housekeeper, and the old archæologist in turn get their wishes gratified as they handle the ancient Egyptian scarab, and only the resources of St. George's Hall are equal to the appearances and disappearances that occur in consequence. Everyone as quickly as wishes can be uttered vanish only to appear later on. The entire scheme—it is nothing more or less—is one great gasp. How does one living individual after another voluntarily enter the sarcophagus, vanish from it, despite its apparent isolation from stage traps, back cloths, wings, everything that stagecraft, in fact, could suggest to mask the disappearance of the many excellent performers in the cast? It is all very wonderful, and, if Mr. Maskelyne will permit us to say so, is another feather added to the many that already adorn a cap which all illusionists, with one accord, salute.

Our old friend, Mr. Barclay Gammon, was in good form, and showed us how easy it was for such men as Elgar and Chopin to have anticipated the world-famed melodies, "Won't you come home, Bill Bailey?" and "Yip-i-addy-i-ay." Memora, we are told—*vide* programme—has "the world's history at his finger-tips." We believe the statement. Memora is nothing short of being a walking encyclopædia, and gives a very interesting show. Mr. David Devant's "Little Chantecler" and "Mascot Moth" mysteries are extremely good, even if built on conventional lines.

Altogether, the current programme at the St. George's Hall is bright, smartly staged, original as ever it was, and cannot fail to interest and divert the most *blasé* of London's amusement-seekers.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—I notice in your Provincial news on May 16 you mention me as playing Panopticon, Glasgow. I played Public Hall, Darwen, that week.—Yours truly, Bella Leaburn (Hippodrome, Lowestoft).

The Palace, Crewe, of which the lessees are Messrs. W. Beecher Broomfield and F. R. Holmes-Meyrick, was opened on Monday by the Mayor of Crewe, after which a charity matinée was given. Edgar Cook, the comedy illusionist, presents his magical extravaganza, *The Conjuring Chef*, with great success, and produces large numbers of birds and animals from apparently nowhere; Miss Victoria Cross, a fine Scotch comedienne, is deservedly popular. Also billed are Four Toreadors, in comedy sketch; Cambo, musical monkey, &c. The pictures, which are intended as the chief attraction of this new house, are excellent, and include The Funeral of the King. The machine is ably operated by Mr. Scott.

"THE TOP-SIDE" DOG.

A Sketch, by Mr. F. D. Bono, Produced for the First Time at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, May 23.

Robert Boiler ..... Mr. Geo. Howard
Jim Bates ..... Mr. Neville Graham
Mrs. Boiler ..... Miss Evelyn Shaw

The above comedy sketch is one of a particularly entertaining and interesting character, for it tells how a worm, in the shape of a hen-pecked husband, may turn and reverse positions once and for all. The victim of a woman's tongue, Robert Boiler, by continual nagging on the part of his wife, has been completely cowed—so much so, indeed, that he is forced to darn the stockings and do the washing. At the opening of the story Mrs. Boiler goes out for a short time, but, first of all, orders her husband to bed. During her absence Robert receives a visit from Jim Bates, an old Army friend of his, who comes provided with that which will give sweet oblivion to anyone with a thirst. Jim attends to the refreshments in an adequate manner, and Robert, who has been an abstainer for many a long day, is rapidly overcome. Whilst in this care-for-nothing condition, he is told by his friend to be a man and stick up for his rights. This Robert determines to do, and when Mrs. Boiler returns, attempts to show his authority, but on his wife threatening to go to the police he is again completely submissive. Presently the effects of the drink wear off, and Boiler sees what a fool he has been to allow his wife to rule. He turns upon her and tells her to go for the police if she wishes, and shows himself at last to be a man of considerable spirit. Mrs. Boiler is frightened, says she is sorry for the past, and shows in every way that she has at length been completely conquered.

Mr. George Howard scores a great success as Robert Boiler. His acting is natural, and he cleverly contrasts the hen-pecked husband with the man of determination. Much praise is due to him, and also to Mr. Neville Graham, whose company is responsible for the production. Mr. Graham impersonates with considerable skill Jim Bates, and Miss Evelyn Shaw's acting is of considerable value in the character of Mrs. Boiler. The sketch evokes roars of laughter.

A COINCIDENCE.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—In your notice of the sketch *It*, recently produced at the Ealing Hippodrome, I gather from the description that some of the incidents are similar to those of my sketch *The Little Puritan*, specially written by me for France and Stewart, and produced by them at the Palace, Leicester, on April 25. This, no doubt, is a coincidence; but as *The Little Puritan* is booked for all the Moss and Stoll halls, including the Coliseum, I shall be glad if you will insert my letter, and so save me in the future from any charge of plagiarism. I may add that I have never seen or even heard of *It* before the notice in your paper.—Yours faithfully,

C. Herbert Walther.
151, Hurlingham-road, Fulham, S.W., May 23.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MR. ROWLAND HILL.

A native of Bromley, Kent, Mr. Rowland Hill was originally intended for the building trade, but after a few seasons as a smoking concert comedian he decided to try his fortune as a comic singer on the music halls. This was fifteen years ago, and he has never regretted his choice. He did not take a stage name, but used his own. He gained plenty of experience in the provinces, and met with many ups and downs in the early stages of his professional career. He struck out a line of his own as a singer of "dame" and character songs. His first song was written by the late Tom Conley, and was entitled "Oh, the young man

[*Photo by Garrett.*

MR. ROWLAND HILL.

in the parlour"; since then many authors have written "dame" and patter songs for him. Though still a young man Mr. Hill has played Ye Dame in Christmas pantomimes—a part for which he seems to have a special qualification—for thirteen consecutive years. Mr. Hill's first pantomime of note was Sley and Horrocks' *Cinderella* at the Grand Theatre, Derby. In 1900 he played the Dame, and the following year he enacted the same character in H. A. Jordison's touring pantomime. Two seasons followed in J. F. Elliston's pantomimes as Dame at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Theatre Royal, Sheffield, then two more seasons in H. A. Jordison's touring pantomime as Dame in *Babes in the Wood*. Mr. Stanley Rogers saw him in this part, and recommended him for the following Christmas to the Renad Bros., who engaged him to play Dame in their production of *Puss in Boots* at the Grand Theatre, Hull. Mr. Stanley Rogers wrote the book, and Mr. Hill says it is the finest Dame part he ever had. Mr. John Hart engaged him for the next season to play Mrs. Sinbad at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, where he scored a big success, and was re-engaged by Mr. Hart to play the same part Christmas, 1909, at the Grand Theatre, Leeds. This year he again played Dame for Mr. Hart in *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, and it was Yorkshire's most successful pantomime. This coming Christmas Mr. Hill will play Dame at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield; this will be his fourth consecutive season with Mr. John Hart. Mr. Hill has an original singing and patter act, viz., "Ye Dame and Historical Humorist," with which the music halls keeps him well employed when not in pantomime.

"CHANTECLER."

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—The *Chantecler* idea is very much older than your correspondent, Mr. Williams, seems to imagine. On Dec. 26, 1865, a pantomime called *Cock-a-doodle-doo; or, Harlequin Prince Chantecler*, written by Mr. Charles Millward, was produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre. The idea struck me as a good one, and several years ago I procured particulars of this old Sadler's Wells show, and prepared the scenario of a pantomime on modern lines, with the view of producing it when opportunity might occur.

I have only to add that one of the scenes of this pantomime was utilised by Mr. Stanley and myself in preparing the little fantasy *Cock-a-doodle-doo*, which I am now presenting at the leading variety houses.—Yours faithfully,

Peter Davey.
Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
May 23.

DICKENS AND DOVER.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—Referring to the letter in your last week's issue from Miss Helen Brinckman, "Dickens and Dover," I quite agree with her that Dickens is nowhere held in greater esteem or his writings more appreciated than in Dover. That Mr. Bransby Williams was disappointed on visiting the old town I have no doubt is due, in a great measure, to his not having resided there and knowing the literary tastes of the inhabitants.

In the Market-square, a tablet on my property indicates the site of the steps on which David Copperfield sat to eat his loaf when in search for his aunt, Betsy Trotwood. As Dickens was staying on the sea-front for some time, there has always been a large amount of interest in connection with the great novelist.—Your faithfully,

B. A. Igglesden.
The Laurels, Priory-road, Hastings, May 23.

FELDMAN'S

SPECIAL SONGS AND SINGERS.

THE SEASIDE SONG OF THE YEAR.

IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.

Al Fresco Artists—Get this! It's "IT."

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE. *The Greatest Ballad Vocalist on the "Halls."*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.

FRED BARNES. *The Rising Star.*
I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.

G. H. ELLIOTT. *The One and only Chocolate-Coloured Coon.*
BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
MOON, MOON, MOON.

GEORGE FORMBY. *The King of Comedians*
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

MISS GERTIE GITANA. *Most Delightful of Vocalists.*
YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.

Mr. GEORGE LASHWOOD. *The Music Hall Beau Brummel.*
MISTER PAT O'HARE.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE *The Incomparable Comedienne.*
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

MISS ADA REEVE. *The World's Greatest Songstress.*
NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES

MARK SHERIDAN. *The Best of the "B'hoys."*
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS. *The Dandy Militaire, Par Excellence.*
IN THE ARMY.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.

MISS BESSIE SLAUGHTER. *The Beautiful Contralto.*
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.

MR. JACK SMILES.
The Popular Comedian.
FISH SAUCE.

MISS ALICE TREMAYNE
Mr. Harry Claff's "Demon and the Fairy."
I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"NAPOLEON'S WASHERWOMAN."

Sketch, in One Scene, Produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, May 23.

Napoleon ..... Mr. Henry Deas
Fouché ..... Mr. E. Mayne Lynton
Catherine ..... Miss Annie Hughes

A comedienne like Miss Annie Hughes is particularly welcome on the halls, and it should be admitted at once that she has most cleverly adapted herself to her new environment, receiving most effective aid from the sketch that has been specially written for her. Variety audiences do not want subtlety, but breadth and directness, and they certainly get both these qualities in *Napoleon's Washerwoman*. The lady of the washtub is none other than Catherine Duchess of Dantzig, married to Sergeant Lefebvre, one of the soldiers of Napoleon's *grande armée*, who carried a marshal's bâton in his knapsack. He has been made Duke of Dantzig. At the opening of the play Napoleon in his study at the Tuileries is fuming with rage at the gaucheries, the indiscretions, and the incredible bluntness of the Duchess. She must leave the Court, she must share the fate of Josephine and be divorced, in order that her husband, the Duke of Dantzig, may find a wife more suited to his exalted rank. Catherine, summoned to the Emperor's presence, is called to account for her lâches, and told peremptorily to go back to her washtub. She takes Nap at his word, and, doffing her Court dress, with the assistance of Fouché, chief of police, finds a tub and starts washing there and then. The great "little corporal" is furious; but becomes mollified when he is shown a little unpaid bill, owing to Catherine, blanchisseuse, by a young lieutenant of artillery, who was glad to take credit in the days of his youth. The impecunious officer is now Emperor, and when Catherine on her knees pleads to him for forgiveness his heart is touched: she shall not be divorced, and her husband shall be given the important command for which his splendid abilities fit him. Catherine puts paid to the bill, and, kissing the hand of her benefactor, cries, "God save the Emperor!"

Every line of the playlet is effective, and Miss Annie Hughes brings all the resources of her art to bear upon a character that exactly suits her. She broadens her method considerably, and in dealing with the qualities of artlessness and unappreciated sincerity in Catherine does not lose sight of the staunchness and loyalty of the woman—devoted to the creator of kings and the founder of dynasties. From the reception given to her throughout the piece, which goes with a roar from start to finish, Miss Hughes is already a great favourite in Chelsea, and that favouritism will, if we mistake not, increase rapidly, for the sketch is likely to have a long run. Mr. Henry Deas realises the traditions of the part of Napoleon in his little tricks of manner, and plays most effectively. Mr. E. Mayne Lynton is a capital Fouché.

The variety bill is blessed with a comic interlude by the popular Will and Sam Poluski, who burlesque a coon song in a way that is quite their own. Mr. George Newburn, choosing the chief successes of a few of the stars, gives imitations of them that are amazingly accurate; Miss Daisy Stratton sings "Tipperary Mary," a song that is naturally rounded off with an Irish jig; Scotch comedy has a favourite exponent in Jack Lorimer, who, in song, imagines the day when the girls will wear the kilts; Miss Mona Garrick's double forte declamation in scenes from *The Woman of Cronstadt* and *The Corsican Brothers* is not always convincing; we get plenty of laughs out of the genuine musical comedy of the Warsaw Brothers; and Ella Lorraine, vocalist, opens the programme, of which the final item is a series of fine pictures of the funeral of his late Majesty Edward the Seventh, presented by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. Mr. J. Norman Berlin, the popular manager here, has the assistance of Mr. George B. Andrews, a courteous acting-manager, and the orchestra is capably directed by Mr. Charles Aves.

The following amounts have been collected by Mr. Percy Ford for the Music Hall Home:—A. E. Chapman, 1s.; W. E. Stephenson, 1s.; W. Croxon, 1s.; F. Neiland, 1s.; J. Inwood, 1s.; and Fred Kitchen, 1s.

Mr. Editor.—Dear Sir,—Will you kindly rectify mistake in *The Era* of last week in the notice for Tivoli, Barrow? "Mrs. Delda Gray sings in excellent style" should have been—Yours faithfully, Della Ray.

The entertainment company at the Pier Pavilion, New Brighton, is headed by Mr. Chris. Van Bern, a versatile comedian, whose many-sided contributions as vocalist, instrumentalist, conjuror, and quick-change merchant have been vastly enjoyed. Mr. Norman Osborne, ventriloquist; Mr. Griff Owen, tenor; Brothers Errard, comedy musicians; Miss Sybil Lister, vocalist; Miss Decima Troughton, soubrette; Sisters Lesmere, vocalists and dancers; and the Waterloo Trio, are other turns.

Moon's Merry Mascots are at the head of the bill at the Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge, with their up-to-date Pierrot entertainment; and a good show also includes Maidie Percival, soubrette and dancer; Stanley Marvell, a versatile comedian of merit; Gladys May, a favourite comedienne and dancer; Will Pimm, eccentric comedian, who causes much merriment; Muriel Vivian, character vocalist, smart and capable; Barry Moon, comedian and mimic; and Sandes and Vincent, a smart comedy duo. The pictures include the Funeral of His Late Majesty Edward VII.

Owing to the abandonment of the "Festival of Empire" Pageant, at the Crystal Palace, a hundred horses, together with their saddles and bridles, were disposed of at Aldridge's, St. Martin's-lane, on Wednesday. Some useful horses were to be found among them, the prices for many ranging between 30 guineas and 40 guineas. A consignment of trotting horses and ponies was also dealt with. One of them, Sally Randell, credited as the best all-round animal imported from the States, with a record of 2.25, changed hands at 55 guineas.

There is a fine bill at New Brighton Winter Gardens, and big business is being done. The Quaint Q.'s have made a great success, and received an ovation. The same can be said of Graham, the Lilliputian wonder; Messrs. Martin and Savage, marvellous dancers; August, September, and May in a screaming eccentric act; and Miss Maud and Sydney Wood, in a delightful drawing-room entertainment. Mr. Nelson Hardy is a good ventriloquist; Miss J. Jones and Mr. Frank Gordon in musical sketch; the Three Royal Temples, splendid vocalists, have all come in for enthusiastic applause. The pictures, including a film of the funeral of his late Majesty King Edward VII., are first-class productions.

Considerable annoyance was caused at the Beach Pavilion Aberdeen, on a recent evening by a band of well-dressed young men, who attempted to interrupt the performance. Previous to the start of the concert the young men took possession of the platform, and seemed bent upon giving a performance of their own. When the concert commenced they indulged in a good deal of noise by shouting, yelling, and otherwise causing much annoyance to the audience and artists. After being appealed to by Mr. Dufton Scott to behave themselves, the conduct of the young men improved, and comparative quietness afterwards prevailed. The rowdy demonstration was keenly resented by the soloists, some of whom were a bit unnerved by what had occurred, while several of the audience left the building.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Allie Moore at Bournemouth.
ALLIE MOORE has been on a visit to Bournemouth this week, and patrons of the Westover Rink have had an opportunitiy of witnessing his fine performance. Standing blindfolded, and with his feet tied, Allie Moore sprang from the floor into an ordinary tub, and from thence on to a platform some three feet high. The tub was placed on the platform, and one jump repeated, and added to by a jump into and from the tub on to a still higher narrow platform, and down again on the other side, platform by platform, finishing by a spring to the floor. The last item was what has been described as a startling coaster ride. The skater, having ascended a slanting 11in. wide plank to a height of 12ft., a wheelbarrow was hauled up to him by a rope, and at a signal the rope was detached, and he gave a daring shoot down the slope with the wheelbarrow, at a terrific pace, and ascended a see-saw plank arrangement, and, after going down the other side from a height of 5ft., left the wheelbarrow on the floor of the rink, and racing round again, cleared the seven-chair-long jump, having before this given a see-saw exhibition without the wheelbarrow.

Novelty Contests in N. London.
THE North London Skating Rink is under new management, and many functions are announced for the next two months. Next Monday there will be a commemorative session in honour of Atalanta (the Goddess of Speed—whose enemies, jealous of her achievements, strewed golden apples in her path, thereby tempting her to stoop to pick up a golden apple, thus causing her to lose the race). Every patron present and skating at this session will receive a present of fruit. On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 31 and June 1, there will be a ladies' half-mile race. A white summer carnival and confetti battle will take place on June 2. All competitors must be dressed in white; gentlemen either in flannels, white drill, or some all-white material. They must also wear straw hats with a red band. All competitors must wear a red tie or scarf, no other bit of colour will be allowed.

The New Blyth Rink.
WHAT is probably one of the largest skating rinks in the North was opened at Blyth last week. The floor space available for skating is 178ft. by 75ft., there being provision made at one end for learners. The roof span is composed of steel principals, and give a span of 75ft. Ventilation is by movable sashes in the windows. A large bandstand has been provided. Blyth was tremendously "on the move" on the opening day of the rink. As had been expected, several expert skaters from Ashington, Whitley Bay, &c., put in an appearance, while a surprisingly large number of Blyth skaters skilled in the pursuit also took the floor.

New Rink at Bray.
MR. J. E. MACDERMOTT, the successful amusement caterer, has been for some months preparing the Assembly Rooms, Quinsborough-road, Bray, to suit the requirements of a well-arranged skating rink. Having secured a lease of the premises, he has laid down a fine maple floor, and the new skatery is now crowded at every session.

Blackpool Rinks.
AT the Colosseum Rink the spacious skating surface is in the best possible condition, and is the venue of crowds of merry pleasure-seekers. A splendid exhibition of fancy and trick skating is given both afternoon and evening by Mr. Turner, an acknowledged expert in graceful skating.

T. G. Harris to Retain Secretaryship.
MR. T. G. HARRIS will retain the hon. secretaryship of the Bristol Roller-skating Club. A few weeks ago the double announcement was made that both Mr. Brown and Mr. Harris had resigned the chairmanship and secretaryship respectively. Mr. Brown's step is permanent, but Mr. Harris has made such business arrangements as will permit him to keep on the duties. Every member of the club will welcome this news.

Successful Year at Mill Lane.
THE Mill-lane Rink, Bristol, has been opened just a year, and Mr. Ryder states that the proprietors are thoroughly satisfied with the year's working. Every effort has been made to strike the happy medium between sociability and any tendency to overdo the feeling of friendliness. Those who have frequented the rink will bear witness to the admirable way it has been conducted.

J. Campbell, of Burslem.
SINCE the first of the Staffordshire rinks opened about eighteen months ago, others have gradually sprung up until all the Potteries towns now possess a rink of their own. The Burslem rink is the last to open its doors to the public, but it is not the least. The rink so far has "caught on." It is the third largest of the local skating palaces, and has a number of improvements over the earlier constructed buildings. The proprietors of the rink have secured the services of Mr. J. Campbell as general-manager. Mr. Campbell has had a long experience in rinking business, having been employed on the rinks for the last five years. A native of Manchester, he started his rinking career at the White City in his native town, which at that time had an ashphalt floor, but has since been relaid with maple. Leaving Manchester, Mr. Campbell took up an appointment as floor manager at the Castle Rink, Bury, when after a stay of twelve months, he was engaged at the King-street Rink, Bury. Mr. Campbell's abilities were further rewarded when he secured the position as manager for the opening of the Olympia, Barnsley, which accommodated over 2,000 people on that occasion. During his stay at Barnsley he had a very successful season and made himself exceeding popular with the patrons of the rink. Mr. Campbell is a member of the International Professional Roller Skaters' Association, and is an accomplished skater. He passed the association test for figure skating which was held in London some eighteen months ago, winning a gold medal.

Summer Rinking in Cardiff.
CARDIFF skaters are realising the possibilities of the rink as a rendezvous, and the American Roller Rink in Westgate-street has won the distinction of being one of the best and select. Ladies and gentlemen by the score, and often by the hundred, each session enjoy the delightful exhilarating pastime, and as they whirl smoothly along the polished surface of the floor find that relaxation from care and worry so necessary in these stirring nerve-racking times. Mr. Thomas, the manager, by his geniality and close attention to the needs of the patrons, not forgetting their digestive demands, is adding to the popularity of the rink, for every effort is being made to add to the pleasure and the comfort of skaters.

At the Pleasure Beach Skating Rink.
SKATING has been in full wing during the holidays. The spacious floor has an excellent skating surface of 16,200ft. of finest American kiln-dried rock maple, and it is the scene of happy pleasure-seekers obtaining the maximum amount of enjoyment. Special provision is made whereby the rink can be converted into an open-air skating pavilion by the removal of the wooden partitions which form the walls. The skates in use are Winslow's famous make.

Carnival at Derby.
PATRONS of the Alexandra Rink turned up in full force to participate in a farewell carnival last Wednesday evening. The rink, tastefully decorated, presented a brilliant and animated appearance, and prizes for dress were keenly contested. On Saturday evening some exciting relay races and a confetti battle wound up a successful season, which reflects great credit upon Mr. W. H. Innes, who throughout has been a hard-working and courteous manager. The concert season commences on June 6.

Round the Glasgow Rinks.
SINCE the commencement of the summer session at Ibrox Rink every evening has seen a goodly number of skaters on the floor. The rink is only open for the evening session now. The American Roller Rink, Victoria-road, still continues to do good business. There continues to be little diminution in the attendance at the Dennistoun Rink at the Old East-End Exhibition grounds. Features of the establishment are an excellent floor and good skates, and a first-class band. Great interest is being taken by the patrons of the Great Eastern Rink in the novel attractions promoted by the proprietors. One of Glasgow's most popular rinks is the West End, where the daily attendances continue to be exceptionally large, especially at the evening sessions, when the skating capacity is always fully taxed. The floor is in splendid condition. What promises to be a most successful venture has just been inaugurated by the proprietors of the Summerton-road rink—namely, a summer social club—a large number of entries having already been received. The Govan rink has a large patronage, and every evening there is always a large turn-out of enthusiasts. Indications point to the summer season at this establishment being as successful as during the winter months.

Rinking in India.
THE Rink and Theatre Mussoorie is again in the capable hands of Mr. George Leslie, and has every prospect of a bumper season. Large crowds are attracted to all sessions, and skating goes merrily to the strains of the band of the East Yorkshire Regiment. Two fancy-dress carnivals are advertised for May, and some handsome prizes will be offered. A two-mile race will be run on the 20th for a cup, kindly presented by Messrs. John Dewar and Sons, Ltd. The pictorial bills used by this rink (Moody Brothers, Birmingham) are said to be the finest yet seen in India.

Staff Benefit at Pentre.
A STAFF benefit will be held on Monday next at the Olympia Rink, Pentre, Rhondda, when a crowded "session" is anticipated. A hockey match between Porth Ladies and Pentre Reserves should prove a great draw. The management has decided to close the rink for the summer months, reopening early in the autumn. The large circle of patrons much regret the impending departure of Miss Daisy Turner, the popular floor-manageress, who, by the way, has been connected with the rink since its opening.

Rinking at Porth.
AT the Rhondda rink business is as brisk as ever. The floor is excellent, and the hockey matches which take place add to the popularity. Porth Ladies met a team of gentlemen, "The Excelsiors," but were defeated by 2 goals to nil. However, credit must be given to the ladies for their excellent combination play; it would be well if the gentlemen players followed their idea. On Wednesday evening Pontypridd met Ynyshir in a League match. Result: Pontypridd 1 goal, Ynyshir nil.

Carnival at Scarborough.
A VERY successful fancy dress and advertisement costume carnival was held at the Grand Skating Rink, Scarborough, on Monday night, when prizes were awarded to Miss Oates, for the most handsome costume; Miss Proughton, character costume; Miss Booth, advertisement; Mr. Holden, humorous; and Mr. Reynolds, character costume.

Southampton Skating Rink.
THE Southampton Skating Rink, in Shirley-road, will, on Wednesday, June 1, be the scene of a fancy dress and advertisement carnival, the last of the season. Prizes will be offered for the prettiest costumes (ladies' and gentlemen's), there will be exhibitions of fancy and trick skating, and from 11.30 to 12 o'clock there will be a confetti battle.

Carnival by the Sea.
AT the American Palace Pier Skating Rink, St. Leonards-on-Sea, a skating carnival was held on Wednesday, in Army, Navy, and fancy dress costumes.

Variety Artists for Rink.
IN addition to reduced prices, the management of the Ton-y-Pandy Rink has engaged eminent artists, who give open-air concerts on the staging in front of the rink.

Presentation at Walkergate Rink.
A PLEASING function took place at the Olympia Skating Rink, Walkergate, last week, when Mr. Vivian D'Alby, the esteemed manager, was made the recipient of a handsome presentation as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the staff and skaters. For four or five months he has been in charge of the Olympia, and not only has he achieved success in its management, but it is safe to say that he has done much to enhance its attractiveness. The present consisted of a handsome case of pipes, a silver shield attached bearing the words: "Presented to Mr. Vivian D'Alby by the staff and patrons of the Olympia Rink, Durham, as a mark of affection and esteem, May 18, 1910."

Successful Widnes Hockey Team.
LAST Thursday evening the now famous Borough Rink Hockey Team defeated Wallasey at the Albert Hall (Liverpool) Rink by four goals to nil; thereby becoming the 1910 champions of the Liverpool and Wirral Hockey League, and winners of the much-coveted cup and medals. Since the inauguration of this hockey team the prospects of attaining the championship have been distinctly rosy, and to gain such a success is a well-deserved honour. The successful team was composed of the following players: Jackson, Morris, Price, Randles, and Peacock. Randles scored three goals and Peacock one. The cup and medals were presented to the borough team by Mr. De Larrinaga, president of the league. On arrival at Widnes stirring scenes were witnessed, proving that rink-hockey in Widnes is a force to be contended with. The previous week the Borough succumbed to the Bury Hockey Team by two goals to nil in the first round of the English Amateur Association competition (Northern Counties).

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), solicitor. Third edition.

THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.—We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" (*The Era* Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751 to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong on "Dramatic and Musical Law" may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be proprietor, manager, or artist, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.—*The Performer*, May 12, 1910.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of *The Era*, has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.—*The Music Hall*, May 12, 1910.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (*Era* Offices, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.—*Sportsman*, May 14, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. J. A. MOLLOY is again making use of his dual licence at the Ealing Hippodrome, with the result that this week *The Bad Girl of the Family* is presenting her attractive personality to an Ealing audience. With its four acts and eighteen scenes there is not a moment when the interest is allowed to flag, and, judging from the excellent bookings, Mr. Walter Gibbons will soon be sending along another, equally exciting, of Mr. Fredk. Melville's melodramas.

"THE ORGAN-GRINDER."

A Dramatic Sketch, in Four Scenes, by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, Produced at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Monday, May 23.

The Padrone ..... MR. LAWSON BUTT
Sal ..... MISS JOAN PEREIRA
Jim ..... MR. LEOPOLD PROFEIT
Sir Horace Wyndham, Bart... MR. CHAS. ALDRED
Nellie ..... MISS MOLLIE SHIELLS
Arthur Thorne ..... MR. WILLIAM E. HARBERD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Coming from the pen of the authors of most of the London Hippodrome's famous successes, a great deal was naturally expected of the above dramatic sketch when it commenced its tour at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Monday evening. A good send-off awaited the company, who are being toured under the management of the authors. The plot was given in detail on the production of the sketch at the New Cross Empire in 1908, but our readers may be reminded Nellie, the little daughter of Sir Horace Wyndham, is stolen by a villainous organ-grinder from motives of revenge, and, after having her golden curls cut off and her face stained with walnut juice, is compelled to dance in the streets for money. After undergoing much cruelty she is restored to her father by her devoted companion, a young man who had also been stolen by the organ-grinder and who turns out to be her brother. The situations are both exciting and pathetic, and realism is secured in their interpretation.

We have nothing but praise for the real excellence of the work of Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, who have added to their long list of successes, and the sketch will undoubtedly receive a hearty welcome wherever it is performed.

The staging is well done, and to Mr. Robin Shiells, the stage-manager, should be accorded warm praise.

To the members of the company we must reiterate our hearty congratulations on the way in which one and all portrayed the characters entrusted to them. Mr. Lawson Butt as the Padrone gave a fine performance; and Miss Joan Pereira as Sal, his reputed wife, well maintained her reputation as an actress of distinction. Miss Mollie Shiells is a young artist of versatility and remarkable intelligence, who makes herself a big favourite as Nellie, a part she plays in a manner that leaves nothing whatever to be desired. Mr Charles Aldred is a thorough success as Sir Horace Wyndham, and as Jim Mr. Leopold Profeit is deserving of high eulogium. As Arthur Thorne (a policeman) Mr. William E. Harberd does well.

MISS DOROTHY RICHARDSON has been engaged by Mr. L. Cohen for Monday, June 6, for his sketch *A Glass of Port* at the Royal Standard, Pimlico.

THE Ramsgate and District Popular Amusements Co., Ltd., was registered on May 13. The capital is £2,000, in £1 shares. The offices are at 39, Harbour-street, Ramsgate.

WULLIE FRAME, the man you know, "hooch, aye!" is in the North Countrie the noo. He has had a big welcome in Bonnie Dundee, and next week he appears in the Silver City o' Aberdeen. "O, Wullie, we have missed ye."

THE sum of £33 for the mine disaster fund has been collected at the Hippodrome, Peckham, and East Ham Palace by the Singing Pit-brow Lasses, in conjunction with Mr. G. W. Sykes Blythe, the proprietor of the troupe, which is so capably represented by Mr. David Hart.

THE latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 3½; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5½; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empires (5), 4½; Oxford (5), 7; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1⅛; Tivoli, New (5), 6¼.

MR. JUSTICE SWINFEN EADY, in the Companies Winding-up Court on Wednesday, on the petition of Coote and Richards, made a compulsory order for the winding-up of the Amusements Development Syndicate, Ltd. His Lordship said the company was managed by a gentleman who, unfortunately, was an undischarged bankrupt, and he was clear it was a case in which there ought to be a compulsory winding-up.

WHAT might have been a serious accident was averted by the promptitude of Mr. F. G. Fenn at the Palace, Gloucester, on Monday last. Mr. John Warren as the old Hindoo Magician in *The Magic Carpet* throws a light from his hand into the air. On Monday this light happened to catch a part of the scenery above the heads of the performers and quickly burst into flame. Warned by shouts from the audience, Mr. Fenn left the stage quite naturally, whilst Mr. Warren and Mr. James went coolly on with the dialogue. The scenery was lowered, and Mr. Fenn returning, promptly extinguished the flame, the sketch proceeding as though nothing out of the ordinary had happened.

FOLLOWING up the great success of *Cottage or Palace* and *The Irony of Fate*, Mr. Harry Barford is presenting at the Camden Theatre on Monday next, May 30th, a new episode entitled *The Bishop and the Thief*. In this we shall see that fine actor Mr. Edward O'Neill for the first time on the variety stage. Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" is the basis of this romantic playlet, and from the same source was derived the curtain-raiser, *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, by Norman McKinnel, produced at the Duke of York's, Aug. 24, 1901. Mr. O'Neill will sustain the part of the much-tortured Jean Valjean, and the sympathetic Bishop Myriel will be in the keeping of Mr. Windham Guise, the Bishop's sister, Mme. Magloire, being entrusted to Miss Eugenie Verney.

IN "Stage Facts and Figures," a neat little volume recently published, Mr. J. Wellesley Lynn points out the way to the profession, and shows how to produce, protect, and present plays and sketches. Mr. Lynn does not encourage all and sundry to fly to the footlights, but gives some wise words of warning to the aspirant, who, after reading his book, will not rush into an overcrowded profession without being aware of the adversities and disappointments that await the unfit. Having himself written and staged several sketches, Mr. Lynn is able to give valuable hints as to how to secure production of that class of entertainment, and does not minimise the difficulties that confront author or producer. Copyright is dealt with in several interesting chapters, and the methods and procedure tersely summarised. Essays on "The Art of Make-up," "Should Girls Make Up?" and "Beauty on the Stage" add to the variety and value of the little work, which is illustrated by some striking situations from Mr. Lynn's sketches.

MR. ERNEST CHARLES GITTINS writes:—"In your last issue your correspondent for Bootle states that my company appeared in *The Daughter of the Regiment* at the Winter Gardens. Will you kindly allow me to say I was under no contract to Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale (the proprietors), nor had I any communication with them whatever, and was, as a matter of fact, under contract for a fortnight to Mr. Arthur Corelli, of Ellesmere Port, after only a month's absence?"

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TORTURE ON THE STAGE.

"About *King Lear* I by no means go all lengths with Thackeray," writes Mr. Andrew Lang in *Blackwood's Magazine*. "Thackeray wrote to his mother after seeing the play acted, and Charles Lamb says, '*Lear* is essentially impossible to be represented on a stage.' Tennyson was of the same opinion. It was perfectly possible on the Jacobean stage. M. Jusserand enumerates the horrors of the drama—'the torturing of Gloucester, who shrieks, tied to a chain, while his eyes are plucked out in our presence (Cornwall takes one in his hand and crushes it under his heel); . . . the mad men, semi-mad men, crazy from birth or circumstances, or by a feint, four mad men together' (three, in fact), 'shouting and gesticulating at once; . . . this is too much: . . . our goodwill fails, our confidence in the guide who is leading us through the dark mazes of the human soul becomes blunted.' Thus it strikes a learned and sympathetic Frenchman. Dr. Johnson says that 'the cruelty of the daughters of Lear is an historical fact,' for Hollinshed dates Lear in the reign of Jeroboam, King of Israel. But, says the Doctor, 'I am unable to apologise with equal plausibility for the extrusion of Gloucester's eyes, which seems an act too horrid to be endured in dramatic exhibition. . . .' Shakespeare borrowed the incident from a story in Sidney's *Arcadia*. M. Jusserand saw *Lear* acted, 'with the greatest applause,' in Copenhagen. 'Gloucester's torture, it is true, caused, more than once, some fainting fit among the audience.' Dr. Johnson adds, 'Let it be remembered that our author well knew the audience for which he wrote.'

"That is the truth. Our Jacobean ancestors were familiar with burnings of Unitarians at the stake; our Elizabethans with the Iroquois-like torments of Cecil and Walsingham; and in the reign of Charles I., in a play of the learned Chapman, torture of a woman on the stage was a legitimate ornament of the drama. Molière introduces a lover proposing various holiday treats to his mistress—one is to go and see a prisoner tortured. But Molière did not put this pleasing scene on the stage. The countrymen of M. Jusserand had seen plenty of horrors in the Bartholomew Massacre, the Tumult of Amboise, and so on; but, no more than the Greeks, did they make such things matter of dramatic entertainment.

"Mr. Saintsbury does not hold with M. Jusserand and Dr. Johnson. He says: 'With barely even the exception which has so often to be made of *Titus Andronicus*, Shakespeare's horrors are never to be sought beyond a certain usual and probable round of circumstance, and are almost always tempered and humanised by touches of humour or pathos, or both.' Gloucester's case seems rather out of the usual and probable round of circumstance; so are the adventures of King Lear, but all these things, and worse, were 'the daily round, the common task' of the victims of Mrs. Elizabeth Barnes.

"Shakespeare, says Dr. Johnson, and M. Jusserand agrees, 'has suffered the virtue of Cordelia to perish . . . contrary to the faith of chronicles,' in which Lear 'triumphs over his enemies.' Lear's tale, we know, like all the Greek historic legends of 'Thebes, and Pelops' line,' is merely a *Märchen*, a world-wide nursery story, set in false history. The Augustan public would not endure the tragic close. 'The public has decided: Cordelia, from the time of Tate, has always retired with victory and felicity.' Johnson was so horrified by her hanging, that he never re-read the last scenes till he edited Shakespeare. But, unlike Charles II., Shakespeare did not decree that all tragedies should end happily! In Aristotle's words, he 'purged the soul by pity and terror.'

"But, as Molière says that 'everything becomes a pretty woman,' *tout sied aux belles*, so Shakespeare cannot go wrong. It is otherwise with 'the meaner people of the skies,' his predecessors, contemporaries, and followers, whom Mrs. Barnes sent to the stake. 'Contrast the character of Aaron in *Titus Andronicus*,' says Mr. Saintsbury, 'with the nightmare ghastlinesses and extravagances, not only of Tourneur and Webster, but even of Marlowe in Barabbas, and the difference of Shakespeare's handling will be felt at once.' Barabbas, in Marlowe's *Jew of Malta*, goes far beyond the hero of Aytoun's *Firmilian* when, after many minor experiments, he 'blows up the Cathedral.' The motive of Firmilian was to attain, for literary purposes, the emotion of remorse. He was less successful than Flamineo in Webster's *Vittoria Corombona*. He has slain his brother in his mother's sight, and hears her wild heart-broken laments, and her wonderful dirge; then, at last, he says—

"'I have a strange thing in me, to th' which
I cannot give a name, without it be Compassion.'

Firmilian knows no such weakness. Then to Flamineo enters the phantasm of another of his victims—

'*Enter* BRACHIANO'S *ghost, in his leather cassock and breeches, boots; a cowl, a pot of lily flowers, with a skull in't*'—

like Keats' Pot of Basil. This rather daunts Flamineo; he reckons that the ghost is not a subjective hallucination, for it throws earth at him. So he goes out, threatening to murder his sister. Dekker, in his 'Gull's Hornbook,' advises young gallants to distinguish themselves at the play by laughing aloud in the crisis of the tragedy. It is no wonder if they did laugh at the ghost in his leather cassock, boots, and breeches.

"Here we have Webster's 'nightmare ghastlinesses and extravagances'; while those of Beaumont and Fletcher, Chapman, and Betty's own detested Massinger, are quite as loathsome and absurd.

"The unnatural, Mr. Saintsbury says, is the Dutch courage of dramatists. Webster and Ford must be intoxicated with the wine of the nightmare before they can rise to the scenes and speeches by which alone they live. 'The judgment of three generations,' says Mr. Saintsbury, 'has placed *Vittoria Corombona* and *The Duchess of Malfi* at the very head of all their class, and they contain magnificent poetry.' They do, indeed, yield 'wholly magnificent poetry in phrases and short passages,' but, as wholes, they are nightmares of the worst, and Webster cannot attain poetry except when he has intoxicated himself, filled himself with the Dutch courage of the unnatural. His comedy is the usual stupid ribaldry.

"M. Jusserand says, of all the *Epigoni* of Shakespeare, 'they please nowadays only in parts, and are read only in extracts.' The extracts made by Charles Lamb in 1808 'were very cleverly selected,' but Lamb, in his own words, '"expunged without ceremony all that which the writers had better never have written." . . . The reader's pleasure is increased, but the opinion he is thus led to form of these authors is necessarily false: the more so that, in his enthusiasm as an explorer, Lamb, whose eloquence is very persuasive, goes far in his praises: "Heywood is a sort of prose Shakespeare,"' and so forth.

"Lamb had better moments. 'After all,' he says, 'Beaumont and Fletcher were but an inferior sort of Shakespeares and Sidneys.' After extracting from Ford the love-scenes between a brother and a sister, and the murder of the sister by the brother, Lamb does *not* give the passage in which the brother enters with the heart of the sister on the point of his sword, and stabs her husband. Omitting these passages, Lamb gravely quotes Sir Thomas Browne's rebuke of 'such authors as have chosen to relate prodigious and nameless sins.'"

"CINEMATOGRAPH PICTURES." The law of copyright affecting the same. By William Jago, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"What Ripping Skates they Provide!"

is the kind of remark you will often hear at your rink if you supply

"BRAMPTON" ROLLER SKATES

for the use of your patrons.

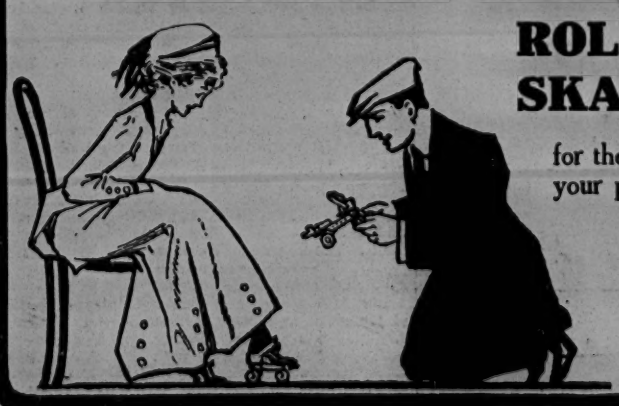

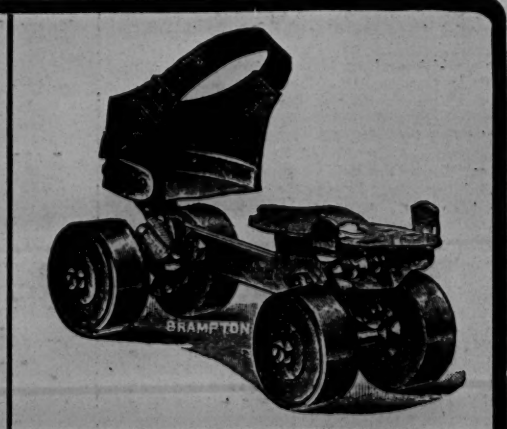

Write for particulars of these—the finest Rink Skates ever made—and also for our low prices on Winslow, Union, and Phillips. Largest Stocks; Promptest Deliveries.

BROWN BROTHERS, LD.,
Great Eastern Street, E.C. Deansgate, Manchester.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR JUNE.

ENGLAND.

1. Kirkburton (2,976)
1. Rawtenstall (31,652)
1. Rugeley (4,447)
2. Tiverton (10,400)
5. Normanton (12,353)
7. Southrapps (1,800)
9. Prescot (7,500)
10. Bicester (3,023)
11. Cranbrooke (3,949)
11. Haverhill (4,864)
13. Tetney (800)
13. Thorne (Yorks.) (3,708)
15. Lambert Castle
16. Kidderminster (24,700)
17. Taunton (21,078)
18. Astwith (74)
18. Dore and Totley (2,217)
18. Falmouth (11,779)
18. Hardstaff (190)
18. Mexboro' (10,417)
18. Staveley (11,420)
18. Abingdon (6,500)
20. Chipping Campden (1,700)
20. Coleford (2,541)
20. Maidstone (83,500)
20. Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
21. Cinderford (3,112)
21. Southampton (104,911)
22. Newport Pagnell (4,000)
22. Selby (7,780)
22. Shipston-on-Stour (1,700)
22. Wadebridge (2,300)
24. Andover (6,500)
24. Bromsgrove (8,416)
24. Cambridge (38,939)
24. St. Just (6,000)
24. Willersey (356)
25. Brampton (112)
25. Bridgwater (15,200)
25. Burslem (38,766)
25. Coal Aston (1,000)
25. Duckmanton (525)
25. Dronfield (3,809)
25. Elmton (675)
25. Penistone (3,071)
25. Tibshelf (3,000)
25. Unston (1,810)
25. Winster (844)
25. Yeovil (9,838)
27. Feckenham (4.587)
27. Halifax (104,938)
27. Pershore (3,970)
28. Bolton by Bowland (600)
28. Folkestone (12,093)
28. Inkberrow (1,631)
28. Saltash (2,357)
29. Belper (10,934)
29. Camborne (14,726)
29. Fareham (8,246)
29. Reedham (1,200)
30. Dereham (5,545)

SCOTLAND.

4. Hawick (15,000)
4. Lanark (6,440)
6. Saltcoats (4,237)
14. Alyth (3,000)
14. Largs (3,550)
17. Selkirk (5,701)
21. Peebles (3,093)
24. Renfrew (10,000)
29. Fraserburgh (8,998)

WALES.

2. Caerphilly (15,835)
3. Carmarthen (9,935)
9. Llandovery (1,869)
11. Brynmawr (6,534)
14. Ferndale (10,300)
17. Llangefeloch
17. Usk (1,476)
25. Lydney (4,200)
30. Ton-y-Pandy (6,027)

Guild Memorial Service.

All things considered, the showmen's Memorial Service for the late King must be numbered amongst the remarkable events of a great historic day. In accordance with the expressed wish of King George, the Guild Memorial Service was timed to begin at the same moment as the Royal Funeral Service at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. It was at Birmingham Fair that the showmen's service was held. P. Collins' Royal English Circus made a most appropriate temporary chapel, the Guild Chaplain, the Rev. T Horne, taking his place in the centre of the ring, the congregation filling quite half the circumference of the tent.

The form of service used was the one issued by the Archbishops for the solemn occasion, and largely based upon the beautiful funeral liturgy of the National Church. Over 400 showpeople from the shows, roundabouts, variety amusements, and stalls gathered for the fair were present, the service being restricted to those immediately concerned with the varied enterprises of the fairground.

The Representatives of Showland.

P. Collins (president of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain), J. Collins (vice-president), Joe Caddick, and S. Mercer, S. Jeffrey, Wm. Chaplain, J. Caddick, jun., T. Wortley, S. Braham, J. Wright, and other members of the executive committee were present. Amongst the prominent members of the Guild were seen—H. Stephenson, R. Yelding, H. Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Crockett, R. Scott, S. Braham, jun., H. Cullis, T. Bew, H. Powell, S. Bolesworth, H. Taylor, and R. Stephenson.

The Guild Chaplain's Tribute.

After the recital of the appointed lesson, 1 Cor. xv., 20, to the end of the chapter, the Rev. T. Horne referred to the sterling qualities of the dead monarch. Measured by time his was a short reign, but estimated by the many and beneficent deeds he did it was a great reign. Edward the Peacemaker would go down to posterity with this glorious eulogium, "He sought peace and ensured it." "Blessed are the peacemakers." He (the Chaplain) reminded his hearers of the essential characteristic of the late King—his intense humanness. This, above all other qualities, endeared him to his people. His love of the things made for joy and brightness in life. His amusements—his people's amusements. He enjoyed the comradeship of the fair with the lowliest of his subjects. There were showmen present at that service who remembered the late King's general appreciation and patronage of their work as caterers of amusement for the common people, though always a King amongst them. He delighted to show that he was a man in all the mutual enjoyments and pleasures of life.

Showland and the Royal Grief.

The Chaplain, proceeding with his address, drew a picture of the solemn pageant of grief he had seen in London in the early days of that sad week. The carrying of the dead King's body from Buckingham Palace to lie in state in great Westminster Hall was an awe-inspiring pageant. To his mind, the most touching sight of all in that solemn procession was the widowed Queen sorrowing for her dead. It was that sight that broke the tense silence of the crowd. The silent homage for their loved King as his body, covered with the insignia of Kingship, passed by was broken by the sympathetic weeping of tender-hearted women and the sobs of strong men at that figure of woe—the widow sorrowing for her dead. Here, indeed, was the triumph of that fellowship with his people; the triumph of that humanness that was, above all else, the power of the dead King.

In the service that now linked the showmen of the United Kingdom with the rest of the national life, there were prayers for the bereaved Queen-Mother and all the Royal Family in the dark hour of sorrow. They would also join in prayer for the son of so worthy a sire, called upon to fulfil the duties of the throne of Great Britain.

Showpeople as a class are intensely loyal to the Throne. Their Most Gracious Majesties King George and Queen Mary will ever find showpeople ready to render homage and obedience. It was for that reason that he (the showmen's Chaplain) was holding that day in a circus and on a fairground a service that was the heartfelt and spontaneous expression of the travelling showmen's grief for their dear friend and patron, King Edward VII. A service also of sympathy with the sorrowing Queen-Mother and the Royal Family, and with that a service of loyalty to the Throne and the King and Queen called to that high estate. It was for that reason that he (the Chaplain) would ask them, at the end of the service and after the circus band had rendered the "Dead March," to join in singing the National Anthem as a fitting tribute to the King beginning his reign.

The service was marked throughout with the utmost reverence and devotion. The responses of the congregation were heartfelt, and the Guild Chaplain's address most impressive.

The playing of the "Dead March in Saul" by the circus band was a notable and worthy part of the service. This was followed by the Benediction, and the whole congregation, led by the band, joined in the National Anthem.

Showmen's Sympathy.

Mr. Michael J. Rooney, the popular advance agent, who wrote a sympathetic letter of condolence to His Majesty King George V. on behalf of the theatrical and circus agents touring Ireland, has received the following reply:—

"Dublin Castle.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Lord-Lieutenant to inform you that the resolution adopted by the theatrical, circus, and showmen's agents touring Ireland has been laid before His Majesty King George V., who has commanded His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen to thank them for their message of sincere sympathy and condolence on the lamented death of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII.

"(Signed) J. B. DoughERTY.

"Michael J. Rooney, 1, Corn Exchange-place, Dublin."

Fossett's Circus at Penzance.

In connection with the visit of this famous circus to Penzance last week, the hon. local chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, the Rev. C. F. Rogers, vicar of St. Mary's, held a memorial service for the late King. It took place in the circus arena on the afternoon of Friday, May 20, the day of the Royal funeral. The same service was used as in all the churches throughout the kingdom.

Birmingham's New Fairground.

We have already referred to the great change of opinion in Birmingham official quarters with regard to the maintenance of the people's fairs. In the year 1872 the Birmingham Corporation determined to stop the fairs. This was done not by popular consent, but against the wishes of the people. The resolution of the Borough Council to refuse to let stands on their accustomed fairground spaces was deemed sufficient law to justify the practical abolition of the fair. It was at this point that private enterprise stepped in and secured the continuance of the fair for the people. Messrs. P. and J. Collins carried on the ancient fairs on private land. This excellent enterprise secured two things, the fairs were saved for the people and for the showmen, and time was given for public opinion to impress itself on the official mind, with this entirely satisfactory result: the Corporation now recognises its duty to the people, and provides a suitable fairground. The new fairground is situated at Aston, a thriving and populous suburb of Birmingham, and wisely and well the Corporation have leased the ground to P. Collins, who, together with his brother, J. Collins, has managed as well as maintained the Birmingham fair for over thirty years past.

Birmingham Whitsun Fair.

The principal shows and machines were provided by Messrs. P. and J. Collins, and included P. Collins's Royal English Circus, Mrs. Flora Collins's Grand Picture Palace, the Wonderland show, P. Collins's motor-cars, and the Teddy Bear roundabout, John Collins's Brooklands Motor Track, the four-abreast galloping horses, and the steam yachts, P. Collins's haunted castle, Mrs. Davies's switchback and the twin ships in the air, Mr. Hayes' swings and overboats, juvenile roundabouts by Messrs. S. Mercer, W. Chaplain, and J. Wright, shooting concerns by Messrs. Humphries, Parkin, and Wright, sideshows and ground booths by Messrs. Sidney Braham, T. Wortley, H. Cullis, and others, photo studio by J. Caddick and Son, avenues of throwing games, pannum, and toy stalls by Messrs. Wright, Chaplain, Mercer, Cordwell, Parkin, Humphries, and other well-known caterers on the great Midland circuit.

Treherbert Fair.

The great Rhondda Valley Fair, hitherto held at Treorchy, was this year held at Treherbert. The change of venue was on account of Mr. John Studt being unable to secure a suitable fairground at Treorchy itself. Treherbert is but a few miles higher up the same valley, and there is easy access by train and by tramway from the neighbouring colliery towns. So great has been the industrial development in the Rhondda that from Pontypridd to Treherbert the towns and villages are linked together, and form one continuous hive of human life. The new tramway service from Pontypridd to the top of the Rhondda Valley makes it possible for the people to attend the fairs, wherever they may be placed.

The Shows and Amusements at the Fair.

The lessee's grand picture show, the Palace of Light, and Wadbrook and Scard's electric Bioscope and theatre of varieties were the chief show attractions at the fair. Davies's model of a coal pit at work was an interesting sideshow; Haydn's Second Sight Temple another capital show. Sol Reader's miniature jungle, Scarrott's school of boxers, H. Gess with similar concern, and a number of small novelty booths were on exhibition. J. Fossett and J. W. Turner provided photo saloons; the shooting ranges were by J. Fossett, H. Whayman, J. North, E. Clarke, and others; throwing games, houpla circles, and cokernut shies by North and Son, Kinder, Winoper, Chapman, Chadwick, Phillips, Jones, J. Whayman, E. Clarke, R. Anderson, C. Gaze, A. Coleby, H. Wright, T. Taylor, Carr Nelson, T. Unwin, and many others.

The Machine Novelties at Treherbert.

The lessee, Mr. John Studt, had his two high-class machines on exhibition, the Gordon-Bennett Motor-car set, and the zoological roundabout; Messrs. H. Studt and Son exhibited their grand motor switchback; Mr. Jervis the helter-skelter tower, and North and Son had swings, and high-fliers.

Risca Fair.

Mr. Jacob Studt, with his up-to-date fairground combination, provided the chief amusements at this Whitsuntide fair. The entertainments included the Colossal Picture Theatre, with splendid range of new films, including the Royal Funeral Procession; the grand motor-car switchback, the galloping horses, and the helter-skelter tower. There were the usual throwing games and stalls by various caterers.

Treorchy Fair.

The Treorchy Fair has found a new home at Treherbert, in a good central position. Mr. John Studt is in attendance with his bioscope, scenic railway, and other novelties. Messrs. R. Dooner and Son, of bioscope fame, are also showing the latest subjects in animated photography. Cokernuts, shooters, tower, swings, rings, and hoop-las complete the list.

White City, Old Trafford.

This beautiful amusement park is an excellent retreat, which large numbers of people have found out this week. The new arrangements for witnessing the firework displays on Wednesday and Saturday evenings meet with much approval. The musical part of the entertainment includes some of the best bands, and at present the band of H.M. Green Howards (2nd Yorkshires) provides acceptable programmes during the afternoons and evenings. All day long the scenic railway, water chute, figure eight railway, old mille, fun factory, dragon slide, &c., are in full work. The ballroom and the large roller skating pavilion also have their patrons in good numbers.

Showmen's Letter-box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield and W. Biddall at *The Era* Office.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

ANNUAL GUILD MEETING IN WALES.

The first provincial circuit in showland to hold an annual meeting of the Showmen's Guild was gallant little Wales. Since Wales led the way, Scotland and Cornwall followed suit, until to-day there is no part of the United Kingdom, no circuit of fairs, East, West, North, or South, without its annual gathering of Guild members.

For many years Treorchey has been the fair selected for the annual meeting in Wales. The impossibility of obtaining a site for the fair at Treorchy this year made it necessary to hold the gathering at Treherbert. The meeting took place on Sunday last, May 22, in John Studt's cinematograph pavilion. The proprietor occupied the chair, and on the platform and in the auditorium were the following prominent showmen on the Welsh circuit: Messrs. H. Studt and Son, Wadbrook and Scard, John Fossett, J. North and Sons, Prof. Haydn, Robt. Anderson, Whayman Brothers, W. Kinder, J. W. Turner, C. Gage, P. Phillips, H. Wright, Clarke Brothers, T. Taylor, S. Reader, T. Unwin, W. Kitson, H. Scard, jun., Carr Brothers, G. Chadwick, A. Coleby, Davies, Tuson, Lee, Jeffries, and John Scarrott. There was also a large attendance of stallholders and employees of the shows, &c., at the fair.

The Propaganda Work of the Guild.

Mr. John Studt briefly referred to the fact that for many years now the Welsh members of the Guild had met in the Rhondda Valley, and had done their best to support the good work of the Trade Protection Society. Their old and tried friend and leader, the organising chaplain, was again with them, and no doubt he had much to tell them of the work done by the Guild to safeguard the interests of the whole body of amusement caterers. Wales had always tried to do its full share in finding the money for that important and necessary work. He therefore asked, with the greatest possible pleasure, the Guild Chaplain to address the meeting.

The Chaplain on the Recent Work of the Guild.

First of all (he said) he had to tell the Welsh showmen what the Guild committee had done to express the mind of showland in the national sorrow at the loss of King Edward VII. On the Sunday following the death of the good King, the showmen held a meeting at Leicester Fair, and a resolution of sympathy with the bereaved Queen and the Royal Family was passed. Further he (the Chaplain) was asked to send a suitable telegram of condolence to the grief-stricken Royal family. The Guild Chaplain read to the meeting the words of the resolution and the telegram of condolence, with the King's most gracious and touching reply (as already given in these columns). The speaker also referred to the "In Memoriam" cross sent to Windsor Castle by the Guild in the name of the showmen of the United Kingdom, and read to the meeting the inscription upon it.

Parliamentary Trade Defence.

Turning from the more immediate work in which showmen as an organised body had shown their identity in all things good and loyal with the life of the nation to the work that now for twelve years had engrossed the greater part of their time—the work that had drained their funds—he referred to the always costly work of Parliamentary Trade Defence. He announced with the greatest possible satisfaction that again the Guild had been successful.

Two corporations only this year had ventured to put clauses in their Private Bills before Parliament to penalise and to injure the show business—Middleton, in Lancashire, and Handsworth, in the Midlands. Briefly stated, Middleton wanted a cinematograph Act of its own, with powers greatly in excess of the Cinematograph Act of 1909. The Guild's executive officers were speedily successful in convincing the Corporation of Middleton that such restrictions would be met by the determined opposition of showmen, and the Corporation were wise enough to withdraw that part of their Bill. The local authorities at Handsworth wanted to secure powers to prevent show business on private land, and to impose all the bad proposals of the Movable Dwellings Bill. This was a most flagrant attempt to restrict show business, when it was remembered how frequently Parliament in recent sessions has refused such powers. The Guild officials and the local showmen did everything in their power to persuade the Corporation of Handsworth to drop the penal clauses out of the Bill. It was not until the last moment that better counsels prevailed, and the clauses were expunged from the measure. He was confident that it was only by their persistent determination to fight Handsworth at every stage of the possible struggle that victory had been achieved. Handsworth repented in time, but its repentance was very slow, and in the meantime the Guild had been subjected to considerable expense.

The Fight to Protect the People's Fairs.

Just before Christmas three fairs in the London district were threatened with abolition—Hounslow, Isleworth, and Heston Green. The Society had been the means of saving these fairs for the people. The Guild not only petitioned against abolition, but it went down to the threatened towns and roused the people to defend their own interests. For four years now they had been fighting to retain Mitcham Fair for the people. He was confident that the big fight the Guild had waged over Mitcham had been the means of saving other fairs. Local authorities knew that the Showmen's Guild would defend fairs, and that the opposition of the showmen would be seconded by the show-loving public.

The Past Work of the Guild.

The Guild had successfully dealt with over sixty corporations attempting to abolish fairs. He asked his hearers to imagine what would be the state of their trade and business in the present day if these public bodies had been successful in their mistaken policy. If the sixty corporations had been successful hundreds of other corporations would have tried for the same powers, and the show business would have been killed and the people robbed of their fairs and holidays. It was for those reasons that he came amongst his Welsh friends year by year and asked them to subscribe liberally to the Guild funds. Wales had always given the other parts of the United Kingdom a good lead. He confidently depended upon the Welsh showmen to maintain their honourable record.

Mr. Henry Studt on Guild Work.

Mr. H. Studt, vice-president, in moving a vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne for his address, expressed the gratification he felt that the showmen of the Empire had come forward in the time of national sorrow at the loss of a great and good King and had shown their union with the rest of the people. It was a great honour to receive, as their leaders had done, the thanks and acknowledgments of the King and the Royal Family for the showmen's loyal expressions of sympathy and condolence. He, personally, was extremely glad to have his anxiety on these matters relieved by the knowledge that as a body, through their Guild or Society, everything had been done, and so well done, by their chaplain and others to voice their sympathy and their sorrow in the time of national loss and bereavement. He was glad to hear the words of the resolution of condolence and loyalty, the words of true sympathy in the telegram sent to the King and Royal Family, and to know that a beautiful floral tribute with a most appropriate inscription had been sent to Windsor Castle in the name of the show-people. All this had been done, and well done. He moved, therefore, a hearty vote of thanks to their friend the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, for his able address and for the good work he had at heart.

The motion was seconded and carried with acclamation.

The chairman made a strong appeal for funds, and headed the subscription list with a second donation of two guineas; Mr. John Studt, £2 2s.; Messrs. Wadbrook and Scard, £2 2s.; Messrs. H. Studt and Son, £1 1s.; Mr. John North, £1 1s.; Mr. John Fossett, 10s. 6d.; Mr. James Whayman, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Henry Whayman, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Gilbert Chadwick, 10s. 6d.; Mr. D. Gorman, 10s. 6d.; Mr. E. Clarke, 10s. 6d.; Mr. R. Anderson, 10s. 6d.; Mr. J. Scarrott, 10s. 6d.; Mr. J. Kinder, 10s. 6d.; Mr. J. Davies, 10s. 6d.; Mr. S. Reader, 10s. 6d.; Mr. W. Kitson, 10s.; Mr. J. Haydn, 5s.; Mr. J. Lee, 5s.; Mr. W. North, 5s.; Mr. C. Gage, 5s.; Mr. J. W. Turner, 5s.; Mr. H. Wright, 5s.; Mr. Tueson, 5s.; Mr. L. Clarke, 5s.; Mr. Jeffries, 5s.; Mr. A. Coleby, 5s.; Mr. P. Phillips, 5s.; Mr. T. Taylor, 5s.; Mr. Carr, 5s.; and Mr. T. Unwin, 2s. 6d.

The Guild Service.

The first service of the Showmen's Guild at Treherbert was a most gratifying success, the Vicar of Treherbert and the senior curate assisting the Guild Chaplain. The united church choirs led the singing, and the Rev. T. Horne was the preacher. John Studt's show was well filled by showpeople and the general public.

SHOWPEOPLE'S MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The showpeople engaged on the fairground in Lichfield-road, Birmingham, paid a striking tribute to the memory of the late King Edward VII. on the day of the Royal funeral. To the number of about 400 they assembled barehaded around the sawdust-strewn arena of a great circus tent on the ground to offer up prayers for the dead King. They included the proprietor of the fair and president of the Showmen's Guild (Mr. Pat Collins), Mr. John Collins, Mr. J. Caddick, Mr. E. Bower, Mr. G. Braham, Messrs. Scott, Messrs. Yelding, the Stephenson family, Mr. and Mrs. Crockett, Mr. and Mrs. Austin, Mr. T. Wortley, Mr. W. Chaplain, Mr. S. Jeffery, Mr. T. Bew, Mr. R Davies, and stallholders, showmen, and employees of every description. A profound silence lay over the fairground whilst the service was in progress, all manner of work being suspended, and the ground closed to the general public. It was a touching scene to witness these people, whose ranks include some of the humblest of His Majesty's subjects, pay their last token of respect to a monarch who was beloved by all. Their grief was no less sincerely shown than by the congregations who that day assembled at the leading cathedrals and churches.

The service was conducted by the Rev. T. Horne, senior Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild. Although simple, it was of a most impressive character, and the tears which rolled frequently down the cheeks of many men and women in the congregation showed that his words went straight to their hearts. Form three of the special series of memorial services for churches and chapels in England and Wales was used, and the clergyman recited a chapter from the Bible on the subject of Christ's death and resurrection. This was followed by a short address, in the course of which he made a touching reference to the recent bereavement which the showpeople sustained by the death of John Humphries, a respected member of their company. The grief of the nation, he said, at the death of King Edward VII., was quite as deep as that which the showpeople had suffered. The late King was a man who was fit to mix amongst the lowliest of the low as well as the highest in the land; he was a friend of the travelling showmen as well as of Kings and Queens. His death was a severe blow to all their hearts, and they hoped that such another man would take his place.

The congregation stood with bowed heads whilst the band attached to the circus, under the leadership of Mr. Hirst, played the "Dead March" in *Saul*, after which all joined in singing the National Anthem. At the close of the service the Rev. T. Horne remarked that in all the world he was sure there had not been a service so real, so touching, and yet so simple and near to the heart of God as that which they had held. It was a melancholy reflection that the call of God must be obeyed, alike by the highest and the lowest.

Fun in Penzance.

Corpus Christi, the largest fair in Cornwall, opened on Wednesday evening at the Recreation Ground, Penzance. There was a large number of people present, and the fair promises to be most successful. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are considered the main days of the fair.

An enormous crowd gathered at New Brighton Tower on Saturday last, May 21, the *pièce de résistance* on the day's programme being the twelfth annual brass band contest, for which sixteen of the champion bands of the North had entered. Prizes to the value of £155 were offered, and the awards were as follows: First prize, the Tower Challenge Cup, value 52 guineas, and £30 in cash, was won by the Goodshaw Band; second prize, Perfection Soap Works; third, Foden's Motor Wagon Works; fourth, Irwell Springs; fifth, Black Dyke Mills; sixth, Hebden Bridge; and seventh, Nelson Old.

Messrs. Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie visited Spennymoor on Tuesday, and was largely attended by the inhabitants, who appreciated the hearty amusement which the efforts of the performers provided them.

Elsecar Feast commenced on May 23, and was held on the two successive days. The attractions this year were numerous, and included Messrs. W. Marshall and Sons' gondolas, F. Harness's galloping ostriches, and Gledstone's helter-skelter. Messrs. Proctor and Farrar's cinematograph shows were up-to-date with their pictures, and received hearty support. There were the usual rifle ranges, coker shies, dolly stalls, &c.

Messrs. Sedgwick's well-known menagerie is on a Welsh tour with a fine selection of wild beasts, birds, reptiles, &c.

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH
PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.O.S.
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

All Records Broken.

All records in the history of cinematography have been broken by the demand for films depicting King Edward's funeral. This on the authority of the *Evening News*. The first order received by the Warwick Trading Company came from Johannesburg immediately after His Majesty's death. Orders for Sydney and Melbourne were next; but the demand from New York eclipsed everything. Special messengers eager to take back films arrived from Continental centres on Friday. From all the Colonies—South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada—America, and even Mexico City, the orders have easily broken all records. The pictures were exhibited at practically every music hall and picture palace in the metropolis on Saturday. The views—especially those taken at Windsor, where the Kings are walking slowly behind the coffin through the High-street—are, indeed, remarkable, and before many days are over they will have been seen by millions of people.

A Great Cinematograph Feat.

One hundred and fifty cameras for taking living pictures were in operation on the royal funeral route in London, at Windsor Station, and by special permission in the Grand Quadrangle of Windsor Castle. The cinematograph houses of Paris and Berlin sent special operators to London, and at ten o'clock last Friday night in Paris the bioscopes were showing on the screens the funeral of King Edward VII. To do this the pictures had, by special arrangement with the English and French railways, to be developed and printed on the journey from London and conveyed instantly on arrival at Paris to the theatres. At upwards of 2,000 variety and cinematograph theatres in the United Kingdom living pictures were exhibited on the night of the royal funeral.

The Land of Oz.

Selsig's third edition of the "Oz" series has arrived, and we find our little friend Dorothy and her happy companions successfully combatting circumstances in the Mystic City of the Emerald Isle, the rebellious army of General Jingar showing myriads of Leith soldiers in glittering array. No time or expense has been spared by the Selig Polyscope of Chicago to make the Land of Oz one of the most interesting and entertaining of all fairy stories in film pictures. The next release on this great subject will be John Dough and the Cherub, the Ginger-bread Man.

The Unmailed Letter.

Hiram Harris is the owner of a quarter section down in central Indiana, and, being a prosperous farmer, has sent his son to the city to receive a business education. Hiram makes up his mind to take a trip to the city to see how Harry is getting on. The Hotel Astor, being so thoroughly well known to even the country folk, is the hostelry Hiram decided to patronise. His arrival and the adventures which befall him are ludicrous in the extreme. The splendour of the office with its liveried bell boys and porters, the bustle of arriving and departing guests, bewilders the simple farmer on his entrance. His mistakes are numerous and varied, and convulse the guests with merriment. Harry is astounded when he receives a letter from his father acquainting him that he has been locked up. Calling a taxicab, he rushes to the rescue. Hiram's case is dismissed when it comes before the magistrate, and he departs with every evidence of delight. Notwithstanding the earnest entreaties of his son to prolong his visit, Hiram hastens to the Grand Central depot and boards the first train for Hayville. It is night at Hayville, and out on the farm "Sairy" is sitting alone grieving over the absent one. Hiram approaches, and, being doubtful of his welcome, looks into the keyhole with fear and trembling. A glance at the unmailed letter which he carries as a proof of his innocence finally encourages him, and he throws his hat through the door. "Sairy" recognises the ancient article of headgear, and receives her truant husband with open arms. Seated comfortably at his own fireside he recounts his adventures.

Sunday Picture Shows.

Mr. Cecil Chapman, at Tower Bridge, gave a considered judgment in a summons taken out by the London County Council against the Bermondsey Bioscope Company (Limited), 48, Mark-lane, for opening the London Bridge Picture Palace and Cinematograph Theatre, 116 and 118, Borough High-street, on Sunday, Feb. 27, in contravention of the licence granted by them. Mr. Cecil Chapman, in giving his decision, said: The simple but important question raised in this case is whether the Country Council has acted ultra vires under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, by making it a condition of the licence granted by them for the exhibition of pictures by means of a cinematograph, for the purposes of which inflammable films are used, that "the premises be not opened under the licence on Sundays, Good Fridays, and Christmas Day." The authority for making this condition is derived from the Cinematograph Act only. That Act is entitled "An Act to make better provision for securing safety at cinematograph and other exhibitions," and the safety referred to is shown by Section 1 to be safety from fire, because it says: "An exhibition of pictures or other optical effects by means of a cinematograph, for the purposes of which inflammable films are used." It follows, therefore, that the Act does not deal with any cinematograph exhibition for the purposes of which inflammable films are not used. By Section 2 a County Council may grant licences to such persons as they think fit to use the premises for what may be described as an exhibition to which is attached some danger of fire on such terms and conditions and under such restrictions as the Council may determine, subject to regulations of the Secretary of State. The regulations of the Secretary of State are made in pursuance of the power vested in the Home Secretary by the Act, and deal with nothing whatever except the safety of the public in some way or other.

"I Think They Are Mistaken."

It is quite obvious that in these regulations nothing is contemplated in the way of conditions and restrictions except such as might affect the safety of the public. The London County Council have assumed that, having been constituted the licensing authority under the statute, they have been invested with general powers of regulation, as if they were licensing a music hall. I think they are mistaken, because their licensing is controlled and restricted by the purposes of the Act described in its title and defined by Section 1. As Lord Lindley said, it has for many years been established that the title of an Act is part of the Act, and must be read in conjunction with every section of it. However desirable a restriction may be in itself with which a licence is granted, it cannot be allowed to go beyond the purposes of the Act by which it is created, because by so doing it would interfere with a common right of all His Majesty's subjects without direct legislative authority. In this case the claim is obviously anomalous, because it cannot be made for similar exhibitions where inflammable films are not used, and I am unable to find any legal justification for it. The summons, therefore, will be dismissed.

National Electric Theatres.

The first ordinary general (statutory) meeting of the members of the National Electric Theatres, Limited, was held on Monday last at the offices, 20, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. Mr. Sydney Boyle Lawrence, who presided, said that very fine theatres were being erected at Halifax, Chatham, Southampton, and Nottingham. The National Electric Theatres, Ltd., now forms a very powerful

group. Before September Mr. Lawrence said he hoped at least three theatres would be in active operation, and if past experience is anything to go by, they would all be returning profits at least as large as was promised in the prospectus. At the end of the year he hoped about ten cinematograph theatres would be in active operation.

Living Pictures for the Nation.

The suggestion that cinematograph films of great historic events such as King Edward's funeral should be preserved in a national collection has met with wide support. Mr. J. McIntosh, secretary of the Royal Photographic Society and editor of the *Photographic Journal*, expressed the opinion that such a collection would prove very useful, as it would enable future generations to see over again in all the living detail such epoch-making achievements as the first great flight, and historical events such as King George's Coronation pageant. There appear to be one or two difficulties in the way, such as, for instance, that of preserving the celluloid films. Photographs printed on platinum paper, which will practically last for ever, are, of course, very different.

A Practicable Suggestion.

"The idea of preserving cinematograph films of historical interest is not only admirable, but entirely practicable," said Mr. W. M. Borradaile, manager of the London Cinematograph Co. "The negatives could be properly sealed, and as only really important pictures need be kept, they would not occupy much room. The industry is only about twenty years old, and we cannot say definitely how long a film remains in good condition. But we are printing now from negatives almost as old as the industry, and they are perfectly satisfactory."

Films for the British Museum.

For many years the National Photographic Record and Survey Association has been collecting negatives and permanent prints of objects of very varied interest, and has placed them in a collection in the British Museum. It has approached many public bodies with varied success, and though its records are only numbered by tens of thousands when they ought to be hundreds of thousands at least, the collection includes many things that will be of the greatest possible value to historians who may have to write of the doings of this and the last century. Any patriotic cinematographer who is willing to give a film representing any historical event to the nation can have it carefully preserved and made available under suitable conditions by the authorities of the British Museum.

Film Fire in a Church.

During a special service, illustrated by cinematograph views, in the church of St. Mary-at-Hill, Love-lane, last Sunday night, the film caught fire and set the operating box alight. The congregation were somewhat alarmed, but the fire was extinguished by buckets of water before the arrival of the fire brigade. Prebendary Carlile is the vicar of the church.

Another Leon Vint Theatre.

Mr. Leon Vint, who has already built a number of picture palaces, will shortly be able to include Llanelly in his circuit. The new palace will be situated in Stepney-street, and as soon as the leases of several buildings expire, operations will be commenced.

Changes at Ealing.

At West Ealing this week the films depicting the funeral procession of King Edward are of absorbing interest, both for those who were able to witness the pageant of the eight Kings and for others who were not so fortunate. Some changes in the management have occurred here since our last notice. Mr. Day, who was in command at the opening of the theatre in September, and who did so much to ensure the good fortune which has attended this venture of the Electric Theatres Co., has taken up an appointment under the same company at the Brussels Exhibition, and is succeeded by Mr. E. H. Bertram.

"Fair Japan."

The experiment of adding some picturesque variety to the cinematograph has proved highly successful at the Marble Arch Electric Palace. The management produced last Thursday afternoon a highly original picture play of "Fair Japan." In this there are a love story and some very sly, humorous hits.

Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

Mr. T. F. McDonald, the pioneer of animated pictures on Tyneside, has added the Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland, to his other numerous and successful ventures on the North-East Coast, and opened last week to big business. Mr. McDonald, who wins the appreciation of his patrons wherever his standard has been raised, bids fair to capture the public of Bishop Auckland, the result of his keen perception, admirable organisation, and the excellent and up-to-date entertainments which he provides. His intention is to run this his latest venture entirely as a first-class electrical theatre.

The management at the Electric Picture Palace, Canterbury, are this week giving a realistic film of the funeral of King Edward VII. The picture gives all the most thrilling incidents in the great mournful procession, from the most advantageous positions, and those visiting the Picture Palace really gain, after all, a better idea of the magnitude and impressiveness of the scene than many who went all the way to London to see it. The rest of the programme for the week is in keeping with the great all-pervading event.

New Crewe Electric Picture Palace.

The new Electric Picture Palace in Edleston-road, Crewe, built by Messrs. Blakeley and Co., of Liverpool, was opened last Monday afternoon by the Mayor to excellent business. The building accommodates 900, in plush-seated tip-up chairs, and the floor is entirely covered with a patent cork carpet. The colour scheme is two shades of green, and all the fittings are in perfect harmony, even to the programme boys, who wear costumes of white. The proprietors are Messrs. W. B. Broomfield and F. R. H. Meyrick, two well-known local gentlemen, who are to be congratulated in providing a long-felt want to the town. A first-class picture programme was given by a Gaumont latest type machine, together with one of the Allefex sound- and character-producing machines. The films are interspersed with variety turns by E. Cooke, conjurer, with his animals and birds; Cambo, musical monkey, assisted by Nora Castelle; the Toreadors; and Mons. Mobac, ventriloquist.

New Picture Houses at Leicester.

The patrons of picture shows at Leicester are being well provided for, as in addition to the Empire and Empress Picture Palaces three new ones are now in course of erection and will be completed in a short time. The sites are in High-street (one of the main business thoroughfares of the town), Silver-street (another good spot, and quite close to the Royal Opera House), and Belvoir-street (another main thoroughfare), Leicester, will then be possessed of five picture entertainments.

A short season of animated pictures commenced at the New Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour, on Monday, when there was a crowded audience. The funeral of the late King proved the picture of the evening, and another fine series was the Royal Proclamation in London. Varieties were introduced by Eugene, the girl with the male voice, and J. C. Heffron, a pleasing singer and dancer.

New Theatre at South Shields.

In the presence of a crowded audience, Mr. James Kirkley last Monday afternoon formally opened the new Electric Theatre, in Ocean-road, South Shields. The proceedings were presided over by Ald. R. Readhead. The theatre is one of the many buildings which have been erected in the principal towns in the kingdom by the United Electric Theatres, Ltd. It has been specially designed for displaying animated pictures to the best advantage. The entrances and exits are admirably arranged and the floors are sufficiently sloped to ensure an uninterrupted view of the stage from every seat in the theatre. The theatre is lighted by electricity. Machinery of the latest kind has been installed for manipulating the pictures. There are very careful precautions against film fires, the operating chamber having been made fireproof. The seating arrangements are of an up-to-date character, each patron having his own tip-up chair. The theatre has been constructed by Messrs. W. Townson and Sons, Ltd., Bolton and London, from plans prepared by Mr. J. H. Morton, F.R.I.B.A., of South Shields and Newcastle.

Tunbridge Wells and the Royal Funeral.

Tunbridge Wells has probably had a record in the Bioscope reproductions of the Royal Funeral for a small town. In no fewer than four places—viz., the Opera House, the Great Hall, the Pump Room, and the Electric Theatre—are some four exhibitions of films of the Royal Funeral being given daily, commencing on Saturday last and continuing throughout this week.

Some interesting films exhibited at the Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, include Sherlock Holmes to the Fore, Elinora, and Foolshead Policeman. Teddy Godfrey is a droll comedian, and A. F. Johnson a good raconteur.

New Picture Palace for West Bromwich.

The Electric Picture Palaces (Midland), Ltd., have just completed the erection of a new place of amusement for West Bromwich, which was opened last week, and has already found considerable favour among amusement-goers. The general manager of the company is Mr. H. Stanley Marks, late theatre manager for Pathé Frères, who is also a director of the Sheffield and District Cinematograph Co., and is a man well known and highly esteemed throughout the profession. Although the company has only been in existence a short time, they have already opened a magnificent building at Walsall, and have now five in course of erection. The residential management is in the capable hands of Mr. A. C. Simpson, whose rapid popularity in the town is assured. Though the building has been rapidly erected, it is a solid and handsome place of amusement, with entrances in High-street and Paradise-street. It is beautifully decorated and is capable of holding 1,000 persons. The architects were Messrs. Hecton and Farmer, of Walsall and Birmingham. Since the building has been opened, it has been well patronised, and with the pictures in the hands of Mr. Stanley Marks, there should be no doubt as to the success from an entertainment point of view.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The Sports Committee are glad to be able to say that Miss Violet Vanbrugh has kindly promised Mr. James Carew to present the prizes at the Theatrical Sports to the successful competitors. The chairman will present a cycle as a prize for the one mile cycling handicap. Miss Ellen Terry and Mr. George Alexander, among others, have promised to attend, and it appears that the Sports will receive a large measure of support this year. The entry forms are now ready, and copies will be sent on application to the honorary secretary, at 29, Wellington-street.

The decision in the case of the proceedings taken by the L.C.C. against the London Bridge Picture Palace has come as a surprise, but it is practically certain that the Council will appeal from the decision, and it is not altogether a disadvantage to have the matter tested. Should the magistrate's decision be upheld in the High Court it is certain the Council will seek legislation to give them full power to regulate Sunday entertainments. The matter is far too important to be allowed to rest in a state of uncertainty. The Imperial Sunday Alliance, the Sunday Lay Movement, and the Sunday Defence Committee have considered the situation at meetings held during this week.

The Heads of Departments Association propose to arrange an outing, as last year, on the river, and the hon. secretary, Mr. Philip Sheridan, Strand Theatre, will be glad to hear from members and friends who wish tickets reserved for them. The tickets will be 10s. 6d. each, inclusive of the journey by rail from Paddington to Bourne End and the trip on the river in the launch, cold lunch, and tea. Last year lunch was provided in the little White Hart Hotel at Henley and tea on board the launch. The outing will take place on Sunday, July 10, or the 17th. Last year the party numbered over fifty, including members and their wives and friends, and the outing was a most enjoyable one.

The staff of the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, had their annual outing on Sunday, under the patronage of Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. F. T. Lingham. The company travelled by special carriage to Hexham, where beautiful weather conditions enabled the visitors to enjoy to the full the fine scenery and walks. Dinner was provided at the White Hart Hotel, and in the afternoon the company drove to Corbridge, returning to the White Hart for tea. A return was made to Newcastle shortly after 7 o'clock, after a very enjoyable day.

Sunday, June 26, is the date fixed for the annual outing of Mr. Lester Collingwood's Alexandra Theatre staff and friends. The venue is hardly settled, but in all probability the Birmingham party will visit historic Stratford-on-Avon and picturesque Bidford.

In our report of *The Love That Women Desire* at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, of May 9, Miss Ada Tilley was included in the cast. Miss Tilley was playing with her own company that week at Ilkeston.

The Empire Theatre Bioscope, aided by the beautiful weather, has again excelled itself in the magnificent moving pictures of the lying in state and funeral processions of his late Majesty. They were obtained from special positions in London and Windsor, those of the latter showing perfect portraits of all the Royal personages.

Mr. Edmond Bosanquet, the well-known violinist and conductor, writes from Davenport, Iowa:—"As we have had the misfortune to lose our late beloved King Edward through taking cold in the first place, I enclose a prescription of my own which will prevent a cold developing into pneumonia if taken in time. This remedy has saved me on many occasions from a serious illness, and I am sending this to you for the benefit of my brother and sister artists and others, so you are at liberty to publish this for the good of humanity."

The following is Mr. Bosanquet's prescription:—For external use only—Oil of eucalyptus, 2 drachms; terebene, 2 drachms; powdered camphor, 2 drachms; menthol, ½ drachm; alcohol, 3 ounces. Rub well in the pit of throat, pit of stomach, and back (lungs), also rub some on hands (palms), and inhale several times. This remedy is also good for rheumatism, sciatica, and all nerve pains.

PROGRESS OF THE PICTURE SHOW

A CHAT WITH MR. F. R. GRIFFITHS.

The centre of the cinematograph industry is Cecil-court, Charing Cross, otherwise known as "Flicker-alley," and here in state dwells the "Cinematograph King." That proud distinction was long since conferred by the unanimous voice of the trade upon Mr. F. R. Griffiths, the managing-director of the New Bioscope Trading Company, Ltd., and proprietor of the People's Picture Palaces, who, despite increasing competition, holds the title against all comers. We found him in his royal sanctum.

"Yes," said the monarch of the moving picture, stifling the telephone with one hand and waving back a host of callers with the other, "you are quite right in your surmise. We *have* some important developments on hand. But all I can reveal at present is that negotiations for a wide-spread amalgamation of picture palaces is on foot. As you are aware, I have under control a number of establishments devoted to plays and pictures both in London and the provinces, but they are to be supplemented by numerous houses all over the country already in existence, while sites have been secured for the erection of new buildings. Further details, however, must be reserved until contracts are signed and sealed."

One of the earliest operators in the United Kingdom, Mr. Griffiths is an expert at the art. He was the first to give picture shows combined with dramatic performances on the twice-nightly principle. The innovation was started a little more than five years ago at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, and the success then obtained led him to institute similar shows in different parts of the kingdom. Among the various places of amusement he now controls are the West London Theatre, the Holloway Hall, the Grand Theatre, Forest Gate, the Peckham Public Hall, Theatre Royal, Ryde, the Arcadia, Brighton, the Apollonian Hall, Dover, the Co-operative Hall, Sheerness, the Theatre Royal, Darwen, the Empire, Leicester, the Empire, Wigan, and a number of others. These are all to be linked up with other establishments,

[*Photo by John Avery.*

MR. FRED GRIFFITHS.

thus forming a unique aggregation of play and picture houses.

Pioneer of the colony of cinematographists in Cecil-court, Mr. Griffiths is proud to recall that he started in one small room, and has so developed his business that he now occupies three sets of premises. He has an affectionate regard for the office, which he looks upon as a mascot, and vows he will never leave. Within its walls are stocked a complete library of films to the value of some £10,000. An enormous hiring business—probably the largest in the world—is carried on, and the firm can undertake to supply anything from a roll-ticket to a complete theatre. An extensive export trade is also done, supplies being sent to China, Africa, and Mexico, among other remote portions of the earth. It is quite a sight on Saturday and Sunday and Monday in the court to see the busy preparations for despatching the goods, a special staff being employed for collecting and delivering by rail.

In answer to an inquiry as to how long he had been entertaining the public in this way Mr. Griffiths replied: "Ever since 1896. At that time I was touring Europe with cinematograph entertainments, and eventually went to the great Paris Exposition in 1900. I returned to England when the exhibition closed, and took over the management of the Empire at Hastings, which has since been re-named the Hippodrome. It was after then I started the People's Picture Palace Company, which is entirely my own property, and shortly after the New Bioscope Trading Company, Ltd., in which I hold the chief interest."

As a caterer Mr. Griffiths' prosperity is of an enviable character. "I believe I know what the people want, and I give it to them. Every place I had was originally a 'white elephant,' but I managed to give it a little colour—the colour of gold. How do I do it? Ah! that's a little bit of juggling, but so performed that you can't see how it's done. Everywhere I go I am followed by competitors, and so keen is the competition to secure the house for which I bid that I have frequently to buy the lease outright."

Mr. Griffiths has no faith in the continuous entertainment. "Two or three interesting pictures, then a bright play, and pictures to finish with. That's the sort of programme for the people. Pictures and prize-fighting," continues Mr. Griffiths emphatically, "I certainly cannot reconcile. You may draw big money for the week, but look how it lets the house down! You attract a crowd of undesirables, and you feel the effects for weeks after. The class of people who patronise a picture show and drama do not as a rule appreciate a fight.

The day of the picture-drama, we learn, is dawning. A whole army of inventors are experimenting with the gramophone, in order to combine it with the cinematograph, and as soon as a machine is perfected which will reproduce the tones of the actor in harmony with his movements on the cinematograph its commercial possibilities will be immeasurable. "The cinematograph," explains Mr. Griffiths, "has a decided advantage over the stage, inasmuch as the real scene of events can be reproduced, and a railway accident, a ship at sea, and many other events can be pictured amid the actual surroundings."

The chief delight in which Mr. Griffiths indulges is that of motoring. "That's a splendid car," the writer remarked, gazing admiringly at a superb 50 horse-power Mercédès landaulette which met the eye on emerging from the office. "Is that yours?" "Certainly it is," replies Mr. Griffiths, "and it's the best in the business. I give the best in the business, so why shouldn't I enjoy the best myself? Jump up!" he added, without giving one a chance to confirm so obvious a contention. "We called it the 'Dreadnought' at first, after the celebrated projecting machine which we introduced, but one or two accidents have happened to the car, so we call it the 'Unsurpassable.'" Mr. Griffiths rejoices in the possession of a chauffeur celebrated for his audacity and skill in driving. The writer had an experience of it. "Whew!" he said, with justifiable alarm, as the car skimmed with lightning speed down St. Martin's-lane, escaping a collision with a Vanguard by the merest hairsbreadth. "That was a close shave." "Tut-tut!" retorted the chauffeur contemptuously, "you could have got a fag-paper between!" With such methods applied to his business, can it be wondered at that Mr. Griffiths succeeds.

POINTS FOR PLAYWRIGHTS.

"My first piece of advice," writes "A Manager's Reader" in an article on the above subject in *Work and Play*, "is one of encouragement. It is: *Be not afraid! Your MS. will be read!* Many, I know, will not believe this, the sole reason for their incredulity being, perhaps, that their plays have not, so far, been accepted. But running a theatre nowadays is far too expensive and difficult a pastime for managers to incur the risk of turning away a possible success. To avoid such a contingency, most, if not all, employ a reader, a person competent in their opinion to read every MS. submitted, and to recommend for further inspection any play which seems at all likely to prove a marketable commodity. With an experience that covers some years and two thousand odd MSS., it is my present object to state briefly what appear to me the chief stones of stumbling to the would-be dramatist and to point out certain qualities, mostly not difficult of acquisition, which would favourably impress those called upon to judge his efforts.

"The primary cause of the many failures is no doubt the complexity of the demands made upon a man's faculties by theatrical conditons. To be a good dramatist it seems to be necessary to be a little bit of everything and a very large bit of many things. The dramatist has to be wary, yet spontaneous; broad, yet in a sense narrow; sympathetic, yet remorseless. He has to combine subjective with an objective imagination.

"The first thing for the tyro is to find out whether he really is a born dramatist or not, and the simplest way to do this is to put himself through a frank self-examination.

"First, 'Why do I want to write a play at all? Is it because my thoughts run naturally in that direction? Am I attracted by an innate love for the drama, and do I hanker after dramatic expression, or am I caught by the glare of those enormous rewards which, I am told, fall to the lot of the successful playwright?'

"If he can honestly answer 'I am prone to think in action; I wish to make people live and move and talk; I would rather earn my living in that way than in any other, not on account of the size of the living, but on account of its nature'—then he may fairly suspect playwriting to be his work, and if he will only supplement his natural bent by learning all he can about the objective side of his calling, the limitations of the stage the demands of an audience, the idiosyncrasies—and they are many—of actors, and the hundred and one little concessions and sacrifices that must be made to the medium through which he hopes to present himself—he may work up to success.

"The first condition of success is that a play shall be capable of drawing an audience, of filling stalls, dress circle, pit and gallery with people from different ranks in society and with different standards of education.

"That being so, I should advise the dramatist not to rack his brains too hard to evolve something new in the way of plot. Novelty is sometimes popular, but not always, nor even generally, and it is always very difficult to come by. You may succeed in turning out something quite new once, it will be more difficult to do it twice, and practically impossible three times, and then you will find yourself risking a fall into a condition frequently met with, that of the one-play man.

"Human nature is very conservative and very lazy, and requires strong inducements before it will bestir itself to seek and appreciate a novelty. As much novelty as is necessary will always be found in the individuality of the dramatist himself in the freshness of his own point of view, and that novelty will always be at hand if he writes out of his own heart, and lets us see what he really thinks and feels, rather than what would be expected of him were he the fine fellow he would like the public to think him.

"Human nature is, and always will be, deeply interested in itself. It is therefore in the most ordinary and everyday events rather than in the miraculous and exceptional that attractive plots are to be found. And well it is for the dramatist that this is so. For he will, if his eyes are open find that every day of his existence teems with plots for plays. It is the ability to *see*, rather than to *invent*, the good plot that makes the dramatist

"Plots should not be complicated and twisted into sub-plots and counter-plots. A distinguished critic once told me that unless the dramatist could write out a sufficient *résumé* of his plot on the back of an envelope it was not worth working out. Experience has taught me he was right.

"The first thing a dramatist has to learn is to be dramatic, and that all through his plot, situations, characterisation and dialogue.

"As good a definition of drama as any other is given by the word—'action.' A plot, however strong, is not dramatic until it begins to move until something happens. There was no dramatic situation as far as the public was concerned in the Gunpowder Plot, until they entered the cellar and found the unfortunate Guy—sitting by his barrels waiting to fire the train. Had he succeeded and blown up the Lords, the situation would have become still more dramatic! Strictly speaking, it is at the moment when the action begins that the good dramatist should ring up his curtain, but the practical man makes certain concessions to the habits of playgoers. One of these is coming late to the theatre. So it is a good plan to begin with a little unimportant dialogue, without much bearing on the plot, but the more amusing the better, to pass the time until all are comfortably seated.

"A dramatic plot is a plot that produces dramatic situations. One character has one point of view, another another. So long as they keep quiet, nothing happens, but the moment they let out the situation becomes dramatic

"And this situation *must take place on the stage, in full view of the audience.* This is a positive law.

"Many a time have I had to return a MS. with quite a possible plot, with a note to say that if the whole thing were rewritten and we were shown what we were only told about, it might be acceptable. In the old Greek drama it was the custom to do many things off the stage and come on and talk about them. In Shakespeare's day they did them on the stage and talked about them at the same time Nowadays, things move more quickly, and drama must be drama and nothing else."

The Gallimore Trio return to London on Monday next after a successful provincial tour.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PLAYS AND AGENTS.

"Dramatists write plays," says Arthur John, in an article in "The Green Book Album," "and managers produce them, but it often takes a third person to sell them, and that person is the play agent who acts as the business representative of the author. As there are brokers in Wall Street in real estate, coffee, cotton, and what not, so there are brokers in plays.

"Probably there are from fifteen to twenty firms in the United States who deal exclusively in the selling of dramatic literature, yet few people outside the theatre and the book world know that such a profession as play brokerage exists, and it is a profession as well as a trade in that it is creative.

"The play-broker must not only have business sense and executive ability to act as the representative of his client in business matters, but he must have, to a degree, a sane, practical, and effective critical judgment; tact to deal with those whose business proclivities are rather irresponsible than otherwise; integrity, an open mind to receive the unknown (who may be the known of to-morrow!); a creative power to aid, when permitted, in the artistic side of playwriting; and the constructive power of fitting his supply to his demand, or of finding a supply for the demand that exists.

"Everybody knows 'The Little Minister,' yet few know that J. M. Barrie at first refused to dramatise his novel because he knew of no actress to create the leading rôle of Babbie. And it was a play agent who told Mr. Barrie, at the Holland House, of Maude Adams, at that time leading woman with John Drew, and who carried him off that night to see Miss Adams act. When Barrie left the theatre he had consented to dramatise his novel, for he had found his Lady Babbie. The whole theatregoing public is under a debt to that play broker, for it was an absolutely creative thing to have conceived and executed the idea.

"There are in America five leading agencies, but of these two are far ahead of the others, and always will represent probably about 85 per cent. of the plays that are handled through agencies. The best known agent is a woman who, some eighteen years ago, conceived the idea of establishing a business that would represent the interests of dramatic authors, not only in the placing of their work, but in their proper protection, in the construction of contracts and in the collection of royalties. This agent has for many years represented the best known playwrights of France, England, and America, and has been instrumental in discovering a great number of now famous playwrights.

"The firm that takes second place to hers has only been established about five years, but of late has been making rapid strides in the representation, particularly of American plays. The other firms have each only one or two, so to speak, fixed clients, and depend for the remainder of their success upon such odd plays as may come to them from here or there.

"The real importance of these brokers in brains in the play world is enormous. Managers and stars in search of a play constantly come to them, and it rests with the play agent to satisfy these demands to the best of his ability. He, therefore, has an opportunity of submitting the wares of his clients to far better advantage than they can individually, for his hand is on the managerial pulse. He can often dispose of a drama in a quarter where the author would think it least likely to be sold. With this advantage of being in constant touch with the demand and supply of plays, the agent is enabled very often, in the case of a young author, absolutely to establish him.

"It was an agent who was responsible for the writing of *The Little Minister*. It was an agent, by his belief in Mr. Eugene Walters, and his financial backing during a period when Mr. Walters was stranded, who gave this young author the time and the encouragement to write *Paid in Full*. It was an agent, after three years' constant submission of his plays, who finally succeeded in landing Mr. W. Somerset Maugham as the Clyde Fitch of Great Britain, with four plays running simultaneously in London and two in America.

"It was an agent who revolutionised the business standards regarding the importation of French plays into America. It was not so many years ago that the average French author sold outright, for a few hundred or a few thousand dollars, the American rights of his play; but through the agent who to-day represents 95 per cent. of the French plays in America, no French author sells his play outright, but is assured of a generous and permanent royalty during such time as his play may be represented.

"Mr. Henri Bernstein, who fifteen years ago—had he been writing plays then—would have been glad to take 5,000 francs for the American rights of *The Thief*, will from its American run receive about 275,000 francs.

"It was an agent who broke away from long established precedent by demanding that in her clients' contracts there should be a stipulation that if the manager did not yearly present the play for at least fifty, and, in most cases, seventy-five performances, the managerial rights terminated and reverted to the author, to be disposed of as might seem best to him. Prior to the inclusion of this condition, it had been customary for the manager, on signing the contract, to assume the right to present a play in perpetuity so long as he paid his royalties. This made possible a dog-in-the-manger policy of keeping a manuscript on the shelf after its first season, in the possibility of some day reviving it, and, in the meanwhile, of depriving the author of an income. Nowadays, if the manager does not keep performing the play, it comes back to the author, and the latter has an opportunity of making such an income from it as may be.

"Many a successful dramatic author of to-day owes his first beginning as a playwright to the skill, enthusiasm, and stick-at-itiveness of the agent to whom, as an unknown man, he has entrusted his plays.

"Mr. Clyde Fitch's first plays were placed through the agent who, after sixteen years, still exclusively represents all his dramatic activities

"Mr. Bernard Shaw likewise has had all his plays placed for the United States through this same agent, who, as her first venture into the business, sold Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's *Little Lord Fauntleroy*. Booth Tarkington, Eugene Walter, Hubert Henry Davies, Rachel Crothers, Captain Robert Marshall, Cosmo Gordon Lennox, Anthony Hope, William James Hurlbut and Margaret Mayo are others whose first stage-productions were owing to the intermediation of play agents.

"The play broker is a gambler of time rather than money, for the agent is compensated according to the success of his client, the compensation received by the agent being legitimately 10 per cent. of such royalties as the author may receive from his play during its career. Some agents, in the case of a young author, endeavour to secure 20 or 25, or sometimes 50 per cent., but the leading agents keep to the definite policy of an invariable commission of 10 per cent., no matter who the author is or what may be the special conditions governing the representation of his play."

The Home Secretary could not find sufficient grounds to justify him in advising his Majesty to grant a reprieve in the case of Thomas William Jessbope, the fireman, condemned for the murder of a scene-shifter by stabbing him at Camberwell Empire. The execution took place on Wednesday morning.

Cinematograph Bill, 1909. May be obtained at *The Era* Publishing Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., post free threepence.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 10.*)

SCARBOROUGH. — Aquarium. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The Enzer Trio, heading the bill here, are highly entertaining; Emma Don and company appear in a vocal scena *On the Thames Embankment;* Little George Harris is a good child comedian; Gladys Wise is a pleasing Scotch comedienne and dancer; and Lace and Leno are clever wooden shoe performers. Others appearing are Bert Belton, comedian and dancer; Thornbury, lightning artist and entertainer; and Alf. Warner, comedian and instrumentalist.

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey and company are appearing very successfully in *Rollicking Rory*, with Mr. Mackey in the title-rôle; Mr. Edward Warden as Stephen D'Arcy; Mr. C. M. Julian, Captain Ashleigh; Miss Connie Meadows as Rosie; Mr. J. P. McBride, Desmond Fitzgerald; Mr. Claude Seaton, Sergeant Callagan; and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey, who takes a dual rôle.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—Mr. H. C. Amer's Band has taken up its quarters here for the summer and excellent programmes are submitted three times daily.

A good display of pictures is given in the electric theatre, the chief one being The Funeral of the late King.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Under the new management this house continues to show twice nightly, with good results. A very interesting feature of a fine programme is the weird Vampire Dance, by Amy Broadwood and company; Mons. Le Roy, in a conjuring act introducing the American mail-bag mystery, wins great applause; Mlle. X., in her classical art poses, is high in popularity; warm favourites also are the Two McDougalls, whose business is very funny; and other items on the excellent programme include Maizie Ray, chorus comedienne; Kerr and Beasley, in *It's a Walk-over;* Sisters Slatter, duettists, dancers, and expert banjoists; Jimmie Grant, Scotch comedian; Dan Scott, quaint comedian; and Daisy Hall, serio and dancer.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The new musical comedy *Theodore's Flutter* is being performed to good houses by Mr. Mark Moyes' specially organised company, which includes the charming and talented Miss Doris Woodall, Mr. Charles Victor, and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, the popular operatic singer. There is a well-balanced chorus, and the scenery and dresses are artistic and beautiful.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. Henfrey-Aldred.—*A Royal Divorce* obtained cordial reception from a big house on Monday. Miss Violet Ellicott, a graceful and accomplished artist, acted with great skill, and secured the warm sympathy of the audience for the unhappy Josephine; Mr. Frederic Moyes played with sustained power as Napoleon, and his portrait of the "great adventurer" was a most interesting study. The play was mounted with Mr. W. W. Kelly's usual care and artistic display. For last night (Friday) Miss Ellicott's benefit was announced.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The directorate of this popular people's theatre has reintroduced, for the summer season, the two-houses-nightly system, and good business has been the rule. Mr. J. E. Barnes's company appears in *The Drama of Life.*

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Auguste Van Biene opened to a good audience on Monday in the pleasing little domestic play *Van Biene's Baby.* The smart illusionist Mr. Oswald Williams, accompanied by Mlle. Le Barte, was enthusiastically cheered; Mr. R. G. Knowles, with quaint patter, caused much laughter; and the programme included Messrs. Heeley and Meeley, American acrobatic funologists; the Brooklyn Quartet; Miss Marjorie Lawrence; Miss Tiny Arnold; the Bioscope, with fine pictures of the Royal Funeral; and Mr. Billy Hobbs, the clever Ethiopian vocalist and dancer.

The Hippodrome.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The big novelty this week is the laughable spectacular extravaganza *Chantyclair; or, Hi Cockalorium,* presented by Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's burlesque company. Others who appear are Tennyson and Wallace, comedians; the Oakes Duo, in a novel act; Regan and Ryan, two old Sheffield favourites; the Jaunitos Troupe of acrobats; Mr. Tom Finglass, coon vocalist and dancer; Tiny and Mite, clever young performers; and Miss Patty Yole, a pleasing serio-comic vocalist. A fine series of pictures illustrating the funeral of "Edward the Peacemaker" and the lying-in-state of the late King conclude the entertainment.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Scottie's smart and entertaining variety combine is here this week on a return visit with the diverting pantomimic absurdity *Androcles and the Lion.* Scottie as Psyche Aphrodite is clever and amusing; Mr. Cecil Dashwood makes a very smart Titus; Miss Kitty Aden is pleasing and graceful as the Princess; Mr. Rex Allester merits praise as Marcus Superfluous; Mr. Will Warren acts creditably as Tigeolinus; Mr. Will Freda is successful as Claudius; Miss Dolly Frank makes an attractive Portia; Miss Violet Charlton and Miss Daisy Charlton are an entertaining pair; Steve Young as the Terrible Lion worked hard, and merits encomiums; Mr. Charles Hector as Unit acts satisfactorily; Mr. Cecil Bird as Duo ably fulfils the part; and Miss Violet Courtney may be complimented upon the manner in which she fulfils the rôle of Andro Klees. Variety turns of an excellent character are introduced by Scottie; Mr. Rex Allester; the Sisters Charlton, dancers; Freda and Frank, novel entertainers; Will Warren, vocalist; Knoto, contortionist; the Merry Marvels, a troupe of agile and well-trained dancers.

SMETHWICK. — Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Arrah-na-Pogue* is presented by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company before large and appreciative audiences. The staging is effective, and the costumes and uniforms are a notable feature of the production. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville (himself an Irishman) has special qualifications for the part of Shaun, in which character he is seen to advantage; Miss Lalla Stanhope finds plenty of scope for effective acting in the name part; Mr. H. C. Gilpin proves himself capable as Michael Feeney; Miss Lydia Audre is responsible for a delightful impersonation of Fanny Power. Other clever members of the company are Messrs. Edward E. Hobart (Beamish McCoul), J. Sutton Pateman (Oiny Farrell), T. Edwards (Andy Regan), Fred G. Kay (the Sergeant), Wilton Reed (Colonel O'Grady), Frank McCellant (Major Coffin), and Lewis Jordan (the Irish Secretary of State). Mr. Ernest Hamilton is amusing as Winterbottom; as is also Miss M. Veriton as Katty Walsh.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The entertainers comprise: Horace Golding, famous illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli; Dolly and Madge McCalla, in their novel dancing and singing act; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian; the Borella Bros., in their acrobatic potpourri; Daisy Morrell, comedienne; George S. Melvin, light comedian; and Corwalla and Eddie, comedy acrobats and jugglers.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Mr. Harry Tilbury and company are giving a praiseworthy portrayal of *His Dishonoured Wife,* which is well mounted. In Mr. A. George Fry is found an accomplished exponent of Frank Lindon; Mr. Fred Owen impersonates Neil Locksley with marked ability; Mr. Alex. Alexander as Lord Devant gives a strong exposition of the villain; and has a good accomplice in Mr. Frank Orchard as Tom Redman; Mr. Harry Tilbury, the author, in the humorous part of Micky Doolan, gives a smart and talented portrayal. Miss Belle Tilbury is seen to great advantage as Florence Lindon; Mabel Lindon is pleasingly characterised by Little Violet; and the Misses Arline T. George and Etta Spalding also give good delineations.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The Chaterboxes are a clever and versatile concert party, who provide two hours' continuous amusement. Among the favourite items are the "Chantecler Trio," "The Covent Garden ball," "Off we go to the picnic," and "Sandown Park." The company comprise Miss Betty O'Brien, a powerful soprano; Miss Edie Buckingham, comedy artist; Miss Marjorie Craig, comedienne and danseuse; Mr. Cecil Berkeley, light comedian and baritone; Mr. Charles Dawe, comedian; and Mr. Arthur Chenery, society entertainer and humorist.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—The visit of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree to Southport for three nights and a matinée has been looked forward to with great interest. On Monday night he appeared as Svengali in *Trilby* and as Austin Limmason in *The Man Who Was.* Both plays were finely staged. In the former the characteristics of the subtle and mysterious Svengali were depicted by Sir Herbert with great dramatic power. In the title-part Miss Gladys Harvey was excellent; Madame Vinard had a clever and vivacious representative is Miss Grace Croft; Mr. Edward Sass submitted a well-conceived interpretation of Talbot Wynne; Mr. Edmund Gurney was entirely satisfactory as Alexander McAlister; Little Billee has an able and vigorous impersonator in Mr. Shiel Barry; the Rev. Thomas and Mrs. Bagot were well played by Mr. W. R. Creighton and Miss Elinor Foster respectively. In *The Man Who Was* Sir Herbert repeated his former success. For the last three nights of the week Mr. Frank Weathersby's company, in *The Best People,* is billed.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Fred J. Webb presents *For Old Times' Sake,* himself enacting Rupert Sidney with considerable power and skill; Paul Sidney is ably delineated by Mr. John C. Carlyle; Wallace Rivington is in the experienced hands of Mr. Edwin Beverley, who makes the part stand out prominently; Frank Rivington is cleverly portrayed by Mr. R. Oliver; Mr. H. Lewis is good as Jean Brooke; and the Dr. Heathcote of Mr. W. Palliser Acock is a vigorous embodiment. Miss Marie Danvers-Smith, an accomplished actress, gives a finished representation of Sareta Berkley; and Phyllis Brooke is gracefully performed by Miss Mamie Stanton. The comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. Tom Taylor as Jimmy; Miss Marie Robertson as Polly Pearson; and Miss Agnes Gagan as Mrs. Hale. Another bit of clever and original comedy is the Evan Berkley of Mr. Edwin Beverley.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic and musical comedian, has an excellent reception; Picitt and Lizette, pantomime illusionists, create much merriment; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen sings and dances effectively; the Vernon Troupe, xylophone specialists, are a great attraction; Graham and Barron, comedians and novel dancers are well received; Johnny Walker, Scotch comedian, is an old favourite; Vera Rochdale is a first-rate singer and dancer; and the Bioscope completes the bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company opened on Monday for a season of six weeks with *Shadows of a Great City,* which was ably produced. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle played the hero, Tom Cooper, ably; Mr. Norman A. Overton was good as George Benson; Mr. F. Ayrton as Jim Farren acted with credit; Mr. Percy Coningsby made a successful Mr. Arkwright; Mr. George Wallace was effective as Abe Nathan; Miss Madge Seymour acted well as Nellie Standish; Miss Ada Simmons as Mrs. Higgins and Miss Anna Beaumont as Biddy Roonan played well.

Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—Another good programme is pleasing large audiences. The variety turn is Rolf Slater, a clever mimic and comedian.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's play *The King's Romance* is being presented here, with Mr. Edmond and Miss Mary Austin in the leading rôles. Mr. Edmond plays the part of Prince Andreas in a remarkable telling and effective manner, and secures the close attention of the audience throughout; as Vera Navairre Miss Austin is pleasing in every way; Mr. William H. Dewhurst shows much dramatic power in his representation of Paul Navairre; and the villain's part, Michael Vocurat, is decidedly well taken by Mr. George P. Porteous. Mr. Henry Earlesmere is also successful as Baron Cavonia. Other characters, including Lizette (Miss Ella Vinroy) and Mme. Pomeroy (Miss Bella Power), are excellently filled. The play is finely staged. *The Cotton Spinner* was billed for Friday.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Sears, the wonder-worker, heads the bill with mysterious illusions, which are highly entertaining; King's College Boys sing tunefully and well; Sisters Terry are pleasing duettists; and R. C. Note's songs take on. The Westbrooks are graceful dancers; Ena Compton pleases with imitations; and Chas. Postor provides a good turn.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Are You the Man?* capably presented by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company, has commanded the close attention of large audiences here this week. Mr. Chas. Halling worthily fills the part of Joshua Beaumont; Mr. W. V. Garrod acts with natural ease and ability as Captain Jack Beaumont; Solomon Moss is humorously played by Mr. Frank Dallas; Mr. Seymour Perry very ably impersonates the character of Private Tom Hopkins; Sidney Beaumont is effectively acted by Mr. Wm. Bradford; and Mr. Herbert Fredericks gives an admirable portrayal of the mad coiner Dotty Dalton. Miss Ethel Crawford acts with power and effect as Flo Dalton; Miss Bertha Kingston makes a pleasing Lilian Brandon; and Miss Alice Clarke is good as Jennie Wagstaffe.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A special feature and an absorbing attraction is The Funeral of King Edward VII., depicted on the Bioscope. An excellent combination of talent is also appearing, headed by Leonard Charburn's Young Stars, in their vocal scena, "A Picture Up the River," and who are clever little people; Frank Elliston and company, in *My Lady Betty,* are highly entertaining; Marion Scott is a pleasing male impersonator; Margaret, Ruby and Ernest Laws are vocalists of ability; Marion Fern, ballad vocalist, sings sweetly; and Bert Woodward is a smart cyclist.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Grand Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The musical absurdity *Miss Plaster of Paris* is staged here by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company. Mr. Chas. Tolcher appears with distinction as Numbskull Nibbs, J.P.; and Mr. Harry Ed. Ray is very amusing as Alexander, the waiter. Miss Celestine Brandon is charming as Eliza Plaster; and the other characters are well sustained.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Bert Coote, in his amusing sketch *A Lamb on Wall-street,* proves a great attraction; the Three Orros are very clever on the silver chains; the Three Gascoignes give a smart comedy act; Terry and Tate are clever dancers and singers; Will Willis is a pleasing comedian; Austin Lenton and Agnes Lane present a merry mixture, *Unconsidered Trifles;* the Crisps give a capital dancing scena, *The Little Deputy;* and Barney Murphy sings some popular songs.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Wireless telegraphy on the Marconi system is exemplified by Gilbert Heron and a capable company in the sketch *Saved by Wireless;* Harley and Melton, in cross-talking patter and comedy work are most popular; Pete and Minnie Lee, in their miniature musical comedy, are much appreciated; the Four Janowskys are seen in a novel and clever balancing act. Also billed are The Cairo Trio, The Belmonts, Adie Lombard, and the Perfection Pictures, with an excellent picture of Graham White's flight.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is performing *Love the Conqueror* to well-filled houses. Miss Marion Wakeford is frequently applauded for her excellent work in the rôle of Beatrice Mortimer; Miss Nellie Benson gives a capital portrayal of Dame Norval; as Brian Norval Mr. Lindo (the author of the play) performs throughout in his usual accomplished manner; Mr. Norton Shields is good as Captain Rupert Armadale; and Mr. Sidney Dench gives a creditable performance as Sir John Mortimer. Mr. Leonard Laurence is admirable as Count Leon Lascelles. The comedy is in the effective hands of Miss Helen Thompson (Susan Shortly) and Mr. Bert Dench (Peter).

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The principal item here is a capital ventriloquial act by Carl Bennie. The Rowntrees are well received in their amusing comedy act; and Lenaro is equally successful with his funny juggling and tumbling display. The pictures include The Funeral of His Late Majesty.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Belclair Brothers are starring here, and are scoring a success with their remarkable feats of strength and dexterity; William Mitchell and John Cain, comedians, create roars of laughter; Roma and Romani are well received in their entertaining musical items; the Delevines are extremely popular with an excellent comedy act; Wallie Walker is a capital character comedian; Georgina Leno is a pleasing comedienne; and the Sisters Tower also provide acceptable amusement.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Pictures and Variety Co.—Felix and Fisher, in a humorous gymnastic and dancing turn make a hit; Alpho gives an amusing ventriloquial item; Tom Nayton and his Six Manchester Lads present a vocal and dancing scena with great success; and the pictures are good.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—A season of variety on the two performances a night principle was commenced this week. At the head of the bill is Rapoli, the sensational juggler, who introduces many novelties; Maudie Laurel, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, merits applause; a pleasing comedy duo is provided by Howard and Wallace; Crystal and Saville present a smart musical duologue, entitled *Jack's Jacket;* Andie Burns, comedian, does well; Camilla Leo, comedienne and dancer, gains favour; Will Conn is a clever dancer; and the Three Langfords excel in their dancing act.

County Electric Pavilion. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—Capital films of the funeral of King Edward VII. are on view. Other pictures of interest are The Sorceress of the Strand, Lieutenant Rose and the Foreign Spy, The Tribes of Nubia, Fishing in the South Sea Islands, The Girl and the Fugitive, and The Heart of an Outlaw.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhurst.—Variety takes the place of the legitimate this week, and a full house on Monday enjoyed the performance. Yukio Tani, the Ju-Jitsu expert, tops the bill, but his place was taken by Mr. Adam King, whose offer of £20 to the man who could stand up to him for fifteen minutes was accepted by a Mr. Harrison, of Burnley, and won by that gentleman amid great excitement. The Eltons present a smart triple bar act; Miss Elsie Grey pleases as a male impersonator; the dancing and singing of the Three Tivoli Girls is greatly admired; an enjoyable turn is presented by the Marbiesque Trio; Mme. Barrett Stone is very popular as a contralto singer; Wat Tyler, character vocalist; Walter Lee, vocalist-comedian; some good pictures by the Cambrian Bioscope Company; and Miss Daisy Marshall's sketch completes.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—The Honour of the Family is a very fine picture, and other good films are Western Maid and Terrible Punishment. Mr. Tyers sings two songs with success.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. M. Blow's company is here in *From Slave to Princess,* which is admirably staged. Mr. W. Ryott is a majestic Prince Julian; and the Michael Bordoni of Mr. C. E. Johnson is an artistic assumption. Mr. G. Jessop is well placed as Lieut. Alexis; and Otto is capably interpreted by Mr. J. E. Cuthbertson. Miss A. Verity does good work as Vera; and Miss D. Gilham is highly praiseworthy as Princess Claudia. The Royal Funeral is shown as a special attraction.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. Edgar Harper.—Geo. Leylon pays a welcome return visit; Chas. Mildare, a king of whistlers, is well received; Marie Yorke scores heavily; and so does Dan Noble. The leading picture is of the King's Funeral.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Wright.—The Tokio troupe of Japanese acrobats are a striking top of the bill; Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley create great laughter; Carl Lynn does well; Gladys Revell sings nicely; and Dolly and Elsie, Dort and Leonard, and Elsie Malpass add to the attractions. The King's Funeral is shown on the Empirescope.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House. — Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The Hippodrome season was resumed on Monday last, when the principal turns were the Chung Ling Hee Troupe of Chinese Entertainers and the Berg Brothers in their comedy bicycle act; Kitty Leon and Lilian French, comediennes; Bertini in his instrumental act; Kydd and Kydd in their up-to-date patter; and the Maro Duo in their triple bar act made up an excellent programme. The Hippodrome Pictures were devoted to the Royal funeral.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, the Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Graham is paying a welcome return visit, and on Monday night before a house filled to its utmost capacity, scored a huge success by his life-like imitations in miniature of past and present comedians. Taree, billed as the Australian Musical Bushman, is responsible for a unique turn; Vardon, Perry, and Wilber are seen to advantage in a clever singing and dancing novelty; Cole and Rags, acrobat and eccentric, are both clever and highly amusing; Vere and Nelldon score in their songs and dances; Les Wartanas, lady jugglers, perform many wonderful feats; Sylvene equilibrist, also contributes to the programme, which winds up with an admirable show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Florence Baines' company is here in *Miss Lancashire, Limited.* Mr. H. B. Pippin gives a praiseworthy rendition as John Higgins; Mr. Sydney Deach, jun., makes the most of Henry Higgins and sings pleasantly; Moses Goldberg has an able exponent in Mr. Allan Servington; Mr. Lonnen Meadows is capable as John Henry Thompson; and Mr. Billy Brereton is effective as Herbert Fox. Miss Madge Grey as Mary Ellen Thompson, the laughing Lancashire lass, gives a fine character-study, and keeps the house in high merriment; Miss May Beigh is good as Miss Lancashire; and Miss Fanny Olive was well suited as Mrs. Thompson.

Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Mr. Victor Niblo's wonderful talking birds show excellent training; Miss Helen Charles, mimic and pianist, gives an admirable and artistic performance; the Whittington Trio, acrobats, are exceedingly good; Miss Dorma Morgan, comedienne, submits an enjoyable turn; Len Hale, comedian, is a clever dancer; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard appear to advantage in their sketch *Coming Home;* Doyle and Gibeon, comedians, merit applause; and Jack Holland, comedian, is amusing.

Hippodrome.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Cumberlands are a marvellous troupe of cyclists; the Smarte Brothers, acrobats, are deservedly applauded; the Northcotes are charming duettists; and Irene and Morton, comedy artists, are clever and amusing. A series of excellent pictures on the bioscope complete the bill.

WALLSEND.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Sandy McNab and company head the bill, and score in an amusing sketch, entitled *The Egyptian Mummy;* Menotti, trick cyclist, performs some difficult and dangerous tricks; Violet Desmond is a bright and dainty comedienne; Andrews and Thompson please in their vocal scena; Eunice and Zena, comedians, obtain a flattering reception; Tom Child, tenor vocalist, has a budget of good songs; and the Rurals, in musical scena, and Barney Noble, mimic and dancer, contribute to the enjoyable entertainment. There is also an excellent show of animated pictures.

Premier Picture Hall.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. F. McDonald.—The principal film here is that of the Funeral of His Late Majesty King Edward VII. The Story of Esther is the title of a capital historical picture, which is much admired. Mr. Syd Carter, Scotch comedian, is well received.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Beaudyn.—There is an attractive performance at this place of amusement this week, Mr. Beaudyn presenting Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's love romance, *The Love That Women Desire.* Mr. Arthur Britton as Squire Abingdon is an excellent study; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt is good as Richard Abingdon; and Mr. Beaudyn excellent as Philip Carnaby. Miss Irene Munro as Madge Abingdon is a sweet and lovable creature; Miss Maud Hastings as Sybil is good.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—There is a host of good things at this popular house this week, a strong bill being headed by Les Romas, who, in an intrepid double trapeze act, perform admirably. Madge Marten is a vocalist and dancer of ability; the Maddison Bros. are clever acrobats, and Le Dor Troupe of male and female acrobats give a striking turn. The pictures are up-to-date.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Lessee, Mr Fred Granville.—On Monday the management here made their first attempt at a "twice-nightly dramatic season," the play chosen being *The Eve o' Her Wedding,* which was creditably presented by Mr. Wilson Benge's company. A capital rendering of the part of the cripple, Jack Herne, was given by Mr. Herbert Hastings; and some strong work was done by Mr. Louis Lingard in the character of George Tremaine. Others who deserve praise are Miss Pauline Nanton as Mavis Leverton and Miss F. Zillwood as Rennie de Telle.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The Courtiers head the bill and present a pretty musical mélange. Allan Holt and company, in a sensational dramatic episode, *A Society Woman,* cause considerable excitement; Verno and Voyce, the singing comedians, retain their popularity; the burgling song of Fred Lincoln is intensely funny as is also his other business; a humorous sketch *A Barmaid and Her Eccentric Lover,* by Otto Tate and Lola Tate, causes much amusement, and their dancing is good; simultaneous dancing has expert exponents in Dorris and Francis; and a picture, showing the Procession and the Funeral of the Late King is a considerable attraction.

Palace.—Proprietors, Brothers Black; Manager, Mr. W. Ball.—The principal picture is that of the Royal Funeral Procession. A Biblical subject The Story of Esther, is watched with considerable interest; and some splendid scenic effects are brought out in The Twisted Trail. Variety is added to the programme by Renson and Waite, a pair of refined Yorkshire humorists; and Wana and Wanstee, clever comedy gymnasts.

Royal Electric Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor Everton.—In addition to a capital selection of pictures, which includes an excellent one depicting the Funeral of King Edward VII., the programme includes Mlle. Adelina, whose impersonations of the late Queen Victoria and the late King Edward VII. are remarkable.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. James E. Lewis's company is presenting *The Welsh Maid.* Mr. Laurie H. Stuart gives a good impersonation of Jack Francis; Mr. Cecil Parkes is excellent as Philip Seymour; Mr. Herbert De Ville shows talent as James Seymour; Mr. William Pemm is a humorous Dafydd Thomas; as Ceradoic Howell Mr. Victor Cannon is praiseworthy; Miss Zeta Murdock makes a charming Jenny Jones; and Miss Bertha Beresford (Elsa), Miss Marie Beresford (Elsie), Miss Florrie Beresford (Maudie), and Miss Josephine Allbutt (Phœbe) all act with distinction.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Mr. John Ridding's opera company is paying its tenth visit here, and is more popular than ever. *Il Trovatore* was given a flattering reception on Monday. The Leonora of Miss Lucy Lewis was a complete success; Miss Jessie Browning's Azucena is entitled to high praise; Mr. F. S. Gilbert's Manrico was an artistic treat; and Mr. Michael Kemble sang and acted with dramatic fervour as Count di Luna. Miss Marion Stanley did exceedingly well as Inez, and Mr. Ditchfield made the most of the character of Ruiz.

WEXFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward P. Ronan.—Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company of Irish Players paid their annual visit here this week, and on Monday opened with the popular historical drama, *Lord Edward.* Mr. Whitbread has gathered together a first-class company of artists, and their efforts were greatly appreciated. Mr. Fred Lloyd, in the name-part, acted sympathetically, and gained much praise; Mr. Tyrone Power played the Irishman, Shady McGrath, in a way that appealed to the audience; Mr. M. M. Carroll gave a powerful delineation of the informer, Francis Higgins; and Mr. Dane Clarke, an old favourite, in the rôle of Magan, portrayed the faithless friend with great realism. Miss Annie Hylton as Pamela gave an appealing rendering of the rôle, and Miss Annie Graham made a stately Mme. de Sillery; Miss Jessie Glenne as Katie Malone was racy of the soil, and was loudly applauded; and Miss P. Reynolds, in the part of Lady Louisa Connolly, was all that could be desired.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Burton.—The principal feature of the bill is The King's Funeral. In addition to several other films, variety turns are presented by Denby and Dent, in comedy acts; Tom Conroy, light comedian; Allister and Arthur, clever comedians; Marquis and Truly, comedy acrobat and baby mimic respectively; and Tony Iveson, "the ragman and the piano."

Co-operative Hall.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Interest is centred in a wonderfully clean and steady film, The King's Funeral, which is attracting crowded houses. The following variety turns go well:—Yost and York, military entertainers; Ford and Hanson, musical entertainers and mimics; Miss Georgina Buxton, vocalist; and Master Doonan, the funny page boy.

WIGAN.—The Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's play *The Sin of Her Childhood* is the attraction. Mr. Hastings gives a fine impersonation of the Rev. Alan Grey; and Miss Warburton's delineation of Mary Haysell wins all hearts. Mr. F. Liston (Captain Thornton), Mr. C. Mannering (Stephen Haysell), Mr. H. Brady (Barney O'Reilly), Little Miss Gladys Brittain (Eric Dugdale), Mr. H. C. Ross (Servant), Miss Clara Santley (Maria Haysell), and Miss Pollie Denville (Lizzie Muggins) enact their parts admirably.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—An up-to-date programme, presented to large audiences, includes a beautiful film of the Funeral of King Edward VII. and of the late King Yachting at Cowes, and on his holidays at Biarritz.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Miss Grace Warner's company opened here on Monday with *The Scarlet Clue.* Pride of place must certainly be given to Miss Grace Warner for her vivid delineation of the variable moods of Sal Scarlet; Mr. George Gordon as Michael Stanton is well in the front rank of the many stage villains seen here; Mr. Frank Smith doubles the parts of the twin brothers Jack and Harry Esmond ably; Mr. Frank Hertie is excellent as the old servant, Edward Croker; Mr. Louis Nanton causes amusement as Billy the Rotter; and Mr. Roy Rhind is a success as Crazy Jim. Miss Lizzie Palmer wins favour as Elsie Dane; Miss Lalah Price is an acceptable Mother Scrooge; Miss Florence M. Daly is thoroughly consistent as Miss Tabitha Esmond; Miss Estha Dean makes the most of her opportunities as Musette; and two clever youngsters are found in Dolly Graham as Little Polly and Master Willie Taylor as Reggie Carstairs.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Quite a round of return visits is being paid here, and large audiences are amply testifying their pleasure at seeing old friends. First on the list come those inimitable Hebrew comedians Lowenwirth and Cohan, who receive an enthusiastic welcome; then there are the Juggling Geraldos, whose exhibition of amazing dexterity has lost none of its attractiveness; Ryder Slone again sings his experiences of Sing-Sing, to the delight of the audience; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor once more charm all with their unique dancing act; the Brothers Lavelle provide a clever comedy acrobatic turn; and Clarice Sefton, comedienne and dancer, and Henry Hilton, magician, complete.

Electric Theatre.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—This charming little theatre is simply crowded with patrons anxious to see the lying-in-state and funeral procession of King Edward VII; Love One Another, a beautifully-coloured Pathé film of a religious nature, evokes much admiration; the Three Brothers causes roars of laughter. Other pictures of equal interest are The Thread of Destiny, Caught Red-handed, The Admirers, City of Lucerne, and His Father His Rival.

WORCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A capital variety programme is provided this week, a chief feature of which is Miss Minola Hurst and her midget comedians. Miss Hurst herself is a clever vocalist and dancer, and she is ably supported by her midget colleagues. The Everharts are clever hoop manipulators; Mr. C—— creates much amusement by his racy stories, and he and Miss Maud Courtney contribute some excellent musical items; the Milsted Bell Trio appear in a comical sketch, *Three Sharps in a Flat;* and Reski and Reski do some excellent work on bar and rings. Another capital sketch is presented by Alice Hughes and company, entitled *The Star of the Bazaar;* Frank Weaver is a sand dancer of great ability; and Happy Attwood, a Yorkshire comedian, is very popular.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The Co-operative Variety Artists' Federation provides the programme here. At the head of the bill are Farley, Renie, and company, in their comedy act *The Terrible Tailors;* Li-Chang-Hi gains applause for smart conjuring; and others in the bill are Beattie Bloom (comedienne), Sid Penna (musical comedian), Wisper (comedy juggler), Gilbert's dog and cat circus; Lilly Electra (serio and speciality dancer), and Hugo and Smit (acrobats).

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The great features of the picture show here this week are some fine films illustrative of the processions connected with the funeral of the late King, and a number of other State processions. Halsey and Bowers are responsible for a funny interlude, *I'm Not Alluding;* and Harry Manton is an amusing comedian.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Allan Wilkie commences a three weeks' season on Monday last with *The Merchant of Venice.* Mr. Wilkie's rendering of the Jew was most effective, and he had a most cordial reception; Miss F. Hunter Watts was exceptionally clever as Portia; and Miss Hilda Plowright gave a delightfully fresh impersonation of Jessica; Mr. Henry Hargreaves played well as Bassanio; Mr. Herbert Mansfield did full justice to the part of Antonio; and Mr. Phillip Gordon made Lancelot Gobbo a most amusing personage.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed 'Lloyd's Bank, Ltd.' Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 6, Oct. 3, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 7, 21, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 2 9, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Companies for July 18, 28 (three nights), Aug. 1 (six nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
June 6, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
June 6, Aug. 1, onwards with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT,
Oct. 6 (3), to follow Laurence Irving.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
June 6 (3), Aug. 4 (3).
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
June 13, Aug. 4 (3), 15, Sept. 12, 19.
All Communications to B. PAREZER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for
Aug. 8.
To play twice nightly.
Wire or write immediately to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

KELLY'S THEATRE.
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 20, for June 20, Royal Show Week.
Wire immediately.
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday) and 8.
The only Principal Theatre open at this time in Liverpool.
WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Closed for entire redecoration and alterations.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions.
STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play Twice Nightly.
HENRY G. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date,
Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 11, 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 19, and on.
Address,
GENERAL MANAGER.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
See Page 15 of "The Era," dated May 7, 1910.
New Theatrical Watering-place.
Touring Managers' opinion:—
A fine theatre, a fine stage, a good audience, and good business.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic or Musical Attractions for June 13, through transfer to oblige E. V. Edmonds, Esq.
Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), Aug. 8.
Sept. 5.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, N.B.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Pantomimes coming North, Autumn and Winter Season, 1910-1911.
Full particulars and dates,
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, Pantomime for Two Weeks, must be really first-class production. Open Dec. 24.
Address, R. G. ELDER, General Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 18, 29, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.

Wanted, Big Musical Attraction, for Opening date in July, also for following vacancies:
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 28.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courteidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Fred J. Ellis-ton, Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson, Mr. L. Collingwood, Mr. Chas. Windermere, Mr. W. W. Kelly, and, in fact, practically the whole of the first-class managers of the country.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for June 6, 13, 27, and July 4, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest Theatres in the county. Holding capacity 3,500. Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies.
WANTED, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
Could arrange Stock Season for June and July.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre will reopen Aug.
Holding capacity 3,000.
WANTED, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 8 and Sept. 19; good Pantomime for Xmas.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
Apply, with full particulars, to
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 11 (?), 18 (3), Oct. 10 (?), 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 20, 27, and July 18.
Address, Mrs. T. CULKEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, Sept., on. A. D. VERNON.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4, 11, 18, Sept. 19 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for June 6, 27, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 20, 27, onwards.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, PAISLEY THEATRE,
Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12.
PERTH THEATRE,
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, 31, on.
Address,
J. H. SAVILE, Theatre, Paisley.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, June 6. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Shakespeare Hotel, Nottingham.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée, June 20, 23, 30, July 18, Aug. 1. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, June 6, 13, and on; now booking Autumn.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 6, 13, 20, on.
ALFRED MANNERS.

GRAND THEATRE, CHORLEY, AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Special Répertoire Company for the holiday 7 nights commencing July 16. Big week, for good Company. Open dates July 25, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions. SANTE, Radcliffe.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, new to Stratford, from June 13 to July 25. Write, FRED FREDERICKS, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Comedy Companies, Vaudeville Entertainers, &c.
Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Applications from Companies for August Bank Holiday and various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "Mrs. Wiggs," F. R. Benson, &c. Address all coms., MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 26, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 (?), 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, June 20, 27, all July, Aug. 1, 8, 15, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY,
for August and Autumn, 1910.
Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 1, 8, and 15, 22, and 29, at Newcastle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE and OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
Re-decorated, re-seated, upholstered, and equipped up to date, and will have the advantage of the personal and alert management of the Lessee.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 27, Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Xmas, on.
Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Under the direction of WALTER DE FRECE.
Notice.
During the Summer Months and onwards the above will be run once nightly as before.
WANTED, good strong Dramatic Companies, for June 6, 20, 27, July 4, 18, 25.
All communications to WALTER DE FRECE,
178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company, July 14, 15, 16.
Vacant through obliging Manager.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, August Bank Holiday and Aug. 8, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Address, WILLIAM MORTON.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Companies.
Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions from July 4 for the Season.
Address all communications,
WALTER MAXWELL, 52, Bedford Court-mansions, London, W.C. 'Phone 4,270 Gerrard.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, &c., to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for the Palace, Porth, after four years' rest from Drama, good Companies of all descriptions, sure to do well, June 20, 27, and dates in July.
Apply, POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.
For August dates, onward,
WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, T. R., Margate, June 13, July 11, weeks only; July 25 (3), Aug. 19 (3), Sept. 12 (3), musical preferred. WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

PARDOE'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the re-opening week, Aug. 22.
All coms. to W. PARDOE.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Dec. 26, for Two Weeks, First-class Panto., Lancs. Must be big production and good company. Box 7,776, "The Era."

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., onwards. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

H. M. THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Known, possibly Vacant for First-class Costume Concert Party à la the Follies, the weeks of June 13 and 20. Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Dec. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, June 27, July 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
A few Vacancies left.
Production Dates settled.
Coms., ANDIE CAINE, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of August 22 and 29.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Wanted, July 25 (?), Aug. 8 (?), 15, on.
Big Company.
Chorus, Negro Specialities.
New plant of scenery and printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION," by Mrs. Morton Powell.
July 11, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN," By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Sept. 26, Nov. 21 (through transfer), Dec. 5, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION." By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
July 4, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS." By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Oct. 3, 17, Jan. 9, 16.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
Once or Twice Nightly.
WANTED, June 13, 20, July 28 (three nights), South, Aug. 4 (three nights), South, 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, 26.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, May 30, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17 Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. BISHOPSDALE Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, June 20, June 27, THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION of the Famous Play, "EAST LYNNE" (BULLOCK VERSION), by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.
Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Vacant June 20, 27, July 18, 25, and on, with exceptions. May 30, Star T., Swansea.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres. MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COS.
"EAST LYNNE,"
Vacant June 13 (Suburban), July 4, 11.
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART,"
Vacant June 20 and 27.
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
Geo. A. De Gray and H. Masterman's Co.
Concludes next Saturday a most successful tour of 42 consecutive weeks. Managers please note. Only vacant Autumn dates, Oct. 31, Dec. 12, Spring, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13. Third tour starts Aug. 2, Palace, Newcastle (return).
WANTED, Oct. 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13.
All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY,
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.
Next three weeks, Grand T., Stockton-on-Tees.

NORA-CARTON'S No. 1 COMPANY.
Autumn Tour with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
Played, Staged, and Advertised.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres for this acknowledged success. Concluded Saturday last the 250th performance. Vacant Aug. 22 (follow T. R., Barnsley), Sept. 19, 26 (North), Oct. 31, Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate), Dec. 5 (precede St. Helen's), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea). All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, co. Durham.

EDWARD S. PETLEY AND UNA GILBERT'S CO., in
"LITTLE MRS. CUMMIN,"
from the Playhouse, London,
by arrangement with Mr. Cyril Maude.
WANTED, June 27, July 4, only Vacant Dates.
E. S. PETLEY, this, T. R., Brighton; next, O. H. Cheltenham.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES, in the Musical Farce,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15 (between Devonport and Aldershot), Nov. 7 and 14 (between Birkenhead and Portsmouth).
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES, P. O. W., Grimsby.

"JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR."
"DR. WAKES' PATIENT."
WANTED, June 13, 20, First-class Theatres only.
ERNEST E. NORRIS, Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. C. W. STANDING'S COMPANY, in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, June 6 (between Cardiff and Blackpool). Wire or write, STANDING, T. R., Colchester; next, New Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, First-class Theatre for Production of a New Comedy. June 20 or 27 preferred.
Address, Mr. A. BINGHAM, 9, St. Martin's-court, London W.C. Telephone 7298 Gerrard.
Telegrams, care of "Stirpes, London."

"THE MAGNETIC GIRL."
A Romantic Farcical Comedy,
By Fred Jarman,
Author of "The 'Varsity Belle," "The Little Widow," &c., &c. For dates, G. PARRINGTON, c/o J. E. Vedrenne, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.
WANTED, June 8, 9, 10 (to follow Weston-super-Mare), and on.

WANTED, E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., vacant, "Who is She?" Oct. 31, Nov. 14; "King and the Unknown Woman," Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, care of "The Era."

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME,"
By Nita Rae.
WANTED, June 20, July 4, and various onwards.
WALTER J. HORNE,
To-day, Palace, Derby.
Next week, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
June 13,
June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 8, and later.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
June 13,
July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, and later.

"A HOT NIGHT,"
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.
25 Performers 25.
Wanted, Good Theatres,
June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, onwards.
Look out for Grand New Production.

"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re Dates, FRED GRANVILLE, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda, Liverpool."

Pantomime, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with
FRED GRANVILLE,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY in "A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, Wanted, June 20, to follow P. T., Bradford, and precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire for June 20.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY (to-day), Alex T., Hull; next week, Prince's T., Blackburn.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY in "A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES," by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
Only two vacant dates this year.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Prince's T., Blackburn.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 13, 20, 27, through extension of Tour.
Wires, HENRY L. ORMOND, Grand Theatre, Stockton. Letters, T. R., Blyth.

MISS NANNIE GOLDMAN AND CO., in the Screamingly Funny Farcical Comedy, "NOT BEFORE THE MISSUS!"
Shortly to be Produced in West-end Theatre.
WANTED, June 6, 13, 27, all July, and onward.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES T. R., Bath.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," July 4, 11, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, 17, Xmas.
HALDANE CRICHTON, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

WANTED, for "His Real Wife," and Répertoire of "Moths" and "Trilby," Nov. 14 and Xmas. Enormous success this week at Birkenhead. Address, T. EDWARD WARD, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's Co.'s "Sherlock Holmes," Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14. LANGTON LANE, Kelly's T., Liverpool.

WANTED, Managers with Open Dates for First-class Pantomime Productions (theatres where good money can be taken with good shows). Please communicate with J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED for Pantomime, "THE SLEEPING BEAUTY,"
Weeks of Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13.
"JACK AND JILL," Hickory Woods' version.
Only open date, Feb. 13.
"MOTHER GOOSE." Vacant Feb. 6, 13.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11 and 18, Aug. 1, 29, and Sept. 5.
DICKIE CLARE, Chorlton T., Manchester.

"HER LIFE IN LONDON," by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Big Theatre, for June 6, vacant through transferring Darlington. Wire, STANLEY CARLTON, to-day, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth; next week, T. R., Wolverhampton.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Magnificent Production, "ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Carefully-selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14, only Dates Vacant.
Wanted, for the Funniest Farcical Comedy of the day,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
By Michael Morton.
From the Criterion Theatre.
Only Dates this year, July 4 and 28 (3).
Address, CHAS. GIBBON, Alexandra T., Birmingham.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, June 20, Sept. 12, Xmas Week. This Play fast booking. Refer Barnsley this week. Guaranteed one of the Finest Mounted Plays on the road.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY.
This, T. R., Dewsbury; next, South Shields.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, and HINTON'S "WAS SHE TO BLAME?" By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, through prolonging Tour, June 20, 27, good Theatres only, Aug. 29, Nov. 21, Xmas, few Spring, 1911. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, this, T. R., Dewsbury; next, T. R., South Shields.

MESSRS. HAMILTON AND LOCKE'S TOUR.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 19, and on.
Once or twice nightly.
Once or twice nightly.
Refer Harris Fineberg, Esq.
W. H. Westwood, Esq.
Lester Collingwood, Esq.
Address, CHARLES LOCKE, King's T., Seacombe.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, June 27 (unexpectedly vacant), July 25, Aug. Bank Holiday, Nov. 14 (?), Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 9, various, onwards.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Lyric, Hammersmith. Monday, T. R., Chatham.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."
WANTED, June 20, between Birmingham and London.
HORACE STANLEY, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"THE MAJOR."
WANTED, June 6, onward, for above Musical Absurdity, going stronger than ever. This, Theatre, Dinnington, Rotherham; next, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop, Notts.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BROWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Lancs. or Yorks.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA," the Rage of Paris.

WANTED, June 6 and 13.

Miss Esmond desires
a few Summer Dates for the above.

Either or both plays. Once or twice nightly.

Wire, Loie Esmond, Opera House, Coventry.
May 30, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes.
Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment.
Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A few Summer Dates Vacant.
Coms., Maurice F. Raymond,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Summer and Autumn Tours, First-class Artists in all lines. Full Particulars, Terms, and, if playing, where can be seen, to Fred Granville, TheDepository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool, N.B. Mark envelopes "Drama."

FRANK ADAIR'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN."
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, June 20.
WANTED, Special Week, Rehearse in Town. Two Juv. Leading Gentlemen, Irish Comedian (refined light comedy). State height, age, references, terms, &c. Photo in all cases.
Frank Adair, 62, Church-gate, Stockport.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" CO.
WANTED, Artists for Autumn, present Tour of 51 weeks terminates July 2; Autumn Tour starts July 18. All particulars, photos., and at least three weeks' addresses, Lewis Gilbert, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, Artists for Stock, including Child, rehearse June 6. Terms (must be low), photos., refs. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

HARRY ARMITAGE'S STOCK SEASON.
WANTED, Powerful Leading Lady, four (possibly six) weeks, Stock, Blyth. Send photos., absolute lowest Summer terms, to Campbell Goldsmid, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Lady. Rehearse 31st. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos. Carr Loates, White Hart Hotel, Stafford.

WANTED, Lady to understudy Little Damozel and play in first Piece. Terms, height, reference, Mark Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-terr., London, N.W.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to play small parts for a few weeks in Summer. N. V. Norman, Theatre Royal, Torquay.

WANTED, for Autumn, commence August Bank Holiday, good Amateur Actor and Actress for Répertoire Co. Address, stating height, experience, and two references. Box 7,771 "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, for Summer Stock,
Experienced Actor
to Produce and Find Dramatic Sketches.
Address, with fullest particulars and absolute lowest inclusive terms to
James Bell,

WANTED, Responsible Gent for Small Parts, for few weeks. Send full particulars and terms, Sydney Spenser, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman, to look 20, for Son, in "Pride of Regiment." Photo, age, height, terms, Graham; Hippodrome, Ilford.

WANTED, Shortly, Clever Low Comedian, must be versatile. Those disengaged Autumn only apply. Full particulars, references, to T. E. Ward, Star T., Liverpool.

WANTED, Smart Amateur Gentleman, with good appearance and voice, to play part in Musical Comedy (autumn tour). Premium £25. Address, Box 7,783, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady, talented, with £15 available, can have part with salary and percentage, in Screaming Music Hall Sketch, by well-known Author. Only portion of amount may be required.

Address, Box 7,764, "The Era."

WANTED, tall young gentlemanly Juvenile Actor, small part Sketch, two weeks (June 13, July 4), rehearse Liverpool June 7. Salary, photos., experience, Lancelot Lowder, 38, Canning-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at once, Tall Acrobatic Dancer for Troupe.
Carlene Yorick, East T., Oxford.

WANTED, to Thank the Eighty-Seven Artists who have written in re "Her King of Men" and "Mr. Smith." Those desiring interviews please write again in three weeks, giving address. Probable vacancies for lady and gentleman for responsible parts. Must be young, tall, refined, and used to high-class work.
Fullest particulars, photos, refs., and lowest terms to Russell Norrie, Alex. T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

Pantomime, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full Particulars, Terms, References, and where can be seen working next six weeks, to Fred Granville, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
N.B.—Mark envelopes "Panto."

WANTED, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Comedians of repute, Knockabouts, Demon Kings, Vocal Quartettes, Speciality Dancers, &c., &c., for First-class Panto. Houses. Lowest terms, height, age, experience, fullest particulars,
Smythson's Agency,
38, Craster-road,
Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Comedians for Dames, Barons, Pages, Knockabouts, Patter Comedians, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, 200 Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 4in. Photos, terms, and where can be seen imperative.
Fred J. Little's Agency,
4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street.
London.

WANTED, for Various Pantomimes, Principals in all Lines.
Male and Female Chorus.
Particulars to E. Dotteridge, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Engagement, now or Autumn, by Scenic Artist of long experience, for high-class work only. Moderate terms for long or permanent engagement. Box 7,760, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Sidney Beltram, completed engs. with "Her Fatal Marriage" Co. and Hippo., Sheerness. Now at Grand, Brighton. Engagements wanted. Refer.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, an Energetic, Capable, and Experienced Manager for a London Variety Agency. Some knowledge of foreign languages desirable. Strictest testimonials to to character required. Apply, stating remuneration, &c., required, to Box 7,782, "The Era."

WANTED, smart young Property Man. Apply Saturday, Bird, 43, Harders-road, Peckham; or Hippodrome, Bristol.

WANTED, Operator-Electrician, for High-class Picture Theatre, steady, reliable man. Apply, Manager, Chelsea Rink and Picture Theatre, King's-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Electrician, to take charge of plant, also combine Stage-Management. State lowest terms, full particulars, refs., photo. White, Pavilion, Rothesay.

WANTED, by smart Working Manager, a change, 17 years' experience in good houses, up to date in Bookings, expert advertiser, control bars, staff, &c.; used to twice nightly, also Pictures. Manager, 5, New York-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred White, Re-engagement as Carpenter or Baggage, capable of small parts; late of F. Bertram, Esq., and F. Fenton, Esq., and Loie Esmond's Co., Theatres or Halls. Address, Grand, Birmingham; Monday, Her Majesty's, Walsall.

WANTED, Engagement, Practical Stage Carpenter, Resident or Tour, now or Autumn; first-class refs. Carpenter, 179, Boleyn-road, Forest Gate.

WANTED, by Foreman Billposter, Position take charge Branch, London and Provincial experience; excellent references. Address, Box 7,754, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, an experienced Conductor, for a London Music Hall. State experience, and give references, &c. Address, Box 7,761, "The Era."

WANTED, to augment First-class English Ladies' Orchestra, touring Switzerland, First Lady Violinist, thoroughly used to orchestra music, young and good appearance essential. Orchestra performs in first-class hotels, join end of June, fare paid, second class, in advance. State lowest weekly salary, all free. Lady Pianist, combine solo songs also.

Apply direct to
MacGregor,
Kursaal Schänzli, Bern, Switzerland.

Double Postage.
Allow time for replies.

WANTED, June 27 (Seaside), 11 Weeks, Variety, good First Violin. Others write. Age, refs., and lowest terms. Harvey's Band Office, Sheffield.

WANTED, First Violinist and 'Cellist for Restaurant, must be brilliant players and soloisits. Liberal salary. Address, 7780, "The Era," giving full particulars.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Tenting, 32s. 6d.; comfortable shop for young reliable man; open Monday, Lampeter, Cardiganshire. Wire, Bandmaster, Fossett's Circus, Llandyssil.

WANTED, for Concert Season, Brilliant Cornet Soloist. 'Cello Soloist, Second Cornet, Viola, Oboe. Conductor, 44, West End-road, Morecambe.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE'S
EASTBOURNE ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, at once,
First Clarionet (flat pitch).
First Clarionet (flat pitch).
First Clarionet (flat pitch).

Apply,
P. Tas, Musical-Director,
Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, to commence June 27, First-class Harpist. If possible combining another instrument.
Joseph Sainton, Musical Director to the Corporation.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to Conduct; also First Violin.

Address by letter,
marked "Orchestra."
Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-rd., London, W.C.

POOLE'S PERFECT PICTURES.
WANTED, Experienced Pianist, commence June 2, at Cowes. Lowest terms and refs.
J. W. Poole, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist, for Cinematograph Entertainment. Age, references, lowest terms, photo., E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Leader, First Violins, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Clarionets (A, B, C), Bassoon, Cornets (transpose), Trombone, Double Drummer with Tympanis, Glockenspiel, Tube Bells and Effects, Principals Soloists, June 22, Sept. 30, Hamburg; if satisfactory, all year; Double-handed preferred. Trial expected London; thoroughly experienced, smart Musicians (absolutely useless otherwise). Send details, references, lowest. Director, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

MUSICIANS.
WANTED, at once,
Good B Flat Clarionet,
Tenor Trombone,
and E Flat Bass performers.
Only experienced players need apply.
Address, Bandmaster,
Headquarters, North Irish Horse, Belfast.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known. I still have vacancies for First-class Cornets, E Flat Trombone, E Flat Saxophone, BB Bass, Tympani, and Oboe,
to open Monday
Palace Theatre, Plymouth.
Others may reply for later vacancies.

Wire, write, or call,
Reano, Bedford Hotel,
Southampton-row, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First Violin, Bass, Cornet, and Drums, open June 20, seaside resort, thrice daily, 13 or 14 weeks, must be well up in Variety; sober and reliable. Send lowest terms, refs., and photo. Beckett, 37, Surrey-street, Runcorn.

WANTED, Euphonium, Cornet, E flat Bombardon, B flat Clarionets (double-handed preferred). Drums. July 4, eight or ten weeks. Bellerby, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, for Thirteen Weeks, from July 4, Third Clarionet, Second Saxhorn, Trombone, and Double Drums; also Bombardon, to combine String Bass. Hoskino, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, for Australian Liner, sailing June 3, Pianist, 'Cello or Bass, Cornet (First), and Clarionet.

Refs. to Bandmaster,
1, Thornton-house, South-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Leader, Flute, and Pianist, commence July 1. Stockham's Ladies' English Orchestra, 32, Rembrandtplein, Amsterdam. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, Two Young Ladies, Violinist and 'Cellist, to study two hours weekly with lady Harpist for mutual practice. London, S.W. Box 7,766, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Conductor (à la Continental) or Leader, Seaside Engagement. Photo, refs. C., 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor, Pianist-Conductor, or Violin, any business; good library. Conductor, 391D, Mile End-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (violin), disengaged, experienced, and reliable. Extensive library, highest references. Wilfred Ball, 50, Tunnel-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Bandmaster, Solo Cornet, and Violin; efficient and reliable. Institution or Works. Any business. A. C. Jones, c/o Mackersie, 188, High-st, Perth.

WANTED, Engagement by Competent Violinist as Leader, First Violin or Second. Theatre, Variety, or any Business. Also First-class Pianist. Both at Liberty May 21 through closing. F. H. Bridgewater, Drews Holloway, Halesowen, near Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, Season or Theatre. Excellent refs. Open at once. Address Box 7,763, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First or Second Violin, any business; open at once. J. Furniss, 26, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist, Disengaged May 21. Address, 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, experienced. engagement, Orchestral and Solos. Box 7,768, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist (lady). Miss Phyllis Greenwood, 126, Gibbet-street, Halifax.

WANTED, by Experienced Violinist (First), Re-engagement. Open Monday, anywhere. Abstainer; good refs. Phipps, c/o Clements, 176, Gt. George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin. Can combine First or Second Clarionet. 74, Purves-road, Kensal Rise.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, at Liberty June 4. Can supply small band of four or more. Conductor, 45, Guildford-road, Levenshulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Second Violin. Can open at once. Any distance. Thomas Pass, No. 5, Baker-street, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, an Engagement by a thoroughly experienced and reliable Violinist. Leader or repetiteur. Any business. Heap, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, First or Second, any business; can combine Clarionet. Violinist, 48, Upper Victoria-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Shop, by experienced Violinist, steady and reliable.
J. Marsh, 7, Garthland-lane, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, any business. Wire or write,
Kirkman, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, through closing.
J. H. Dixon, Poole's Myriorama, Abertillery.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ida Angless, Solo and Orchestral Cornet, Disengaged.
Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, First or Second, Season or permanency, experienced Orchestra and Military. Long, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, by Good Second Cornet, Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Excellent references. Box 7,756, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by P. Burke, Solo Cornet, and T. Gordon, Drums, &c, experienced, any business. At Liberty June 6. Address, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Good Engagement, First and Second Cornets, together or separate. Any biz.; good refs. Gildersleeve, 38, Withipoll-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, Good First or Second Cornet. Total abstainer, any business, excellent refs. H. Wilson, c/o G.P.O., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, experienced and reliable, any business. A. F., 48, Frewell-buildings, Bourne Estate, Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet and Trombone (Ladies).
Box 7,752, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet. Can join at once. Any business; steady and reliable. A. Cuthbert, 186, High-street, Perth, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, experienced any business. Variety preferred. Charles Walters, 6, Stamfordham, near Consett, co. Durham.

WANTED, an Engagement by a Brilliant Solo Cornet and Trumpet, late solo performer the Crystal Palace, Queen's Hall. Seaside or town, age 33. Soloist, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet, Disengaged end of month, any business, experienced, town or seaside. Leedham, 73, Clarence-rd., Sutton.

WANTED, by Experienced Cornet, Engagement, any Business; First-class references. George Bradley, 70, Connaught-rd., Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lizzie Hepper, Clarionet and Mandoline Soloist, thoroughly experienced, Disengaged. Note change of address, 129, Mirabel-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, Summer Season, or Permanency. Good experience and references. Orchestral or Military. Clucas, 52, Aberdeen-walk, Scarborough.

WANTED, by two Clarionet Players (chums), Engagement with Season Band.
Box 7,755, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet Player, reliable, military, or string, good refs. H. Moore, Clarionet, H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Clarionet Player, Orchestra or Military Band. Thoroughly experienced in both. 10, Liverpool-street, King's Cross, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, thoroughly experienced, Military or Orchestral. Sober and reliable; good refs. Fred Matthews, Leicester-road, Oadby, Leicester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Double Bass, is at liberty to accept offers. Any Business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Contra Basso (Carl Rosa), Engagement, highest references; Liberty June 12. Will Darley, Concerts, T. R., Birmingham.

WANTED, by E. flat Bass, Engagement, Army experience, late prize band, reliable. Apply, Penfold, 2, Sidney-street, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, reliable Double Bass, long experience, Musical Plays, any business; good refs. Basso, 216, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, London, W.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, any business, disengaged through closing; good refs. T. Hopkins, Upper-street, Fleet, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement by E Flat Bass, Steady and reliable.
Apply, Heath, 8, Sloane-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, steady and reliable. Open at once. Harry Hare, 43, Great Western-street, Alexander-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, any business, Theatre closing, at Liberty June 6. Tom Unsworth, 1, Gloucester-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, good Double Bass, at Liberty to deputise for four or five weeks. Bassist, 19, Lloyd-street, Derby.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, all-round Experience, thoroughly reliable. Open to accept engagement at once. R. B., 19 The Green, Richmond-on-Thames.

WANTED, Situation for Double Bass, good performer, steady, reliable, distance no object. W. Jas. Pranglen, 227, New Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, reliable, thoroughly experienced, any business. Hippo. closing 28th. Excellent testimonials. M. H. Chisholm, 1, Mackerrell-street, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass, any district, Theatre or Variety. J. Reeves, 7, Swingate-lane, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, engagement by Bassoon or Double Bass any business; steady and reliable. E. M. Lancaster, 5, Mount-pleasant, Ilkley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Trombonist, experienced, Variety to Opera. Steady, reliable. Can combine Euphonium. Pitblado, 38, Wyndham-street, Pentre, Glams.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone and Cornet, together or separate, any business; good refs. Climer, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium, or could provide band of six, smart uniform. Apply, Fred Peel, 94, Duke-st., Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, in Orchestra or Military Band. Highest experience and references; steady and reliable. Taylor, 44, Stockwell-road, London.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Soloist, combine Trombone, Engagement, Season or permanent, fully experienced; excellent refs. Apply, Box 7,762, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Euphonium and Trombone. At Liberty. Any business. Experienced and sober. Write or wire. Matthews, Clovelly, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement by Euphonium, through closing. Any business. Can open at once. Chas. Grice, c/o Wilson, Theatre-buildings, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Euphonium, Military, Orchestral, Rinks, best references; at Liberty May 30. J. Anthony, 2, Robinson-st., West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement as Euphonium, well experienced, String or Military; abstainer. Spendley, 5, Granville-road, Wimbledon. At Liberty June 5.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Horn, or Second Cornet. Good references.
J. Dorson, 19, Myrtle-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, any business.
W. A. Pattison, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Horns, from June 6 to July 16. Address, Messrs. E. A. and W. Chapman, 6, St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by Miss Lilian Sexton, Violoncello, or deputising. Experienced. Combine pianoforte. Address, 10, Connaught-street, Hyde Park, London, W.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, good abstainer, good refs., seeks Engagement through reducing; permanency desired. Address, 'Cellist, 3, Manchester-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement as 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced, any business, good refs. Also good Trombone, at Liberty. Wiltshire, 61, Vastern-road, Reading.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement or Deputising, any business, or solo; age 30; would combine Clarionet. Sortin, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Noble Haigh, 'Cellist, Dis. for a Few Weeks, commencing Mon., May 30, High-class work preferred. Wire or write, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, Theatre, Varieties, Seaside, or deputising. At Lib. June 13, through closing. Address Geo. Littlewood, Palace Orchestra, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, could combine Trombone; good testimonials; at Lib. June 6. Herbert Allen, 1, Gloucester-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Viola, any business, closing June 4.
Address, E. Ransley, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Viola or Second Violin, Disengaged, any business, first-class refs. Address, G. D., 6, West-road, Portway, West Ham, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Oboe and Cor. Anglais, low or high pitch; excellent references. Oboe, 15, Denis-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Oboe.
G. W. Webb,
50, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Disengaged for eight weeks, Engagement, whole or part of time. Wright, 18, Windsor-st., Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, experienced in First-class Orchestral and Military Work. Highest references. Address, C. Herrick, oboe, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement as Flautist, by Charles Gretton, celebrated Manchester Flute Player; high-class business preferred. Talbot Hotel, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Flautist, through closing of Theatre, Engagement, good Piccolo Soloist. Flautist, 93, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham Common.

WANTED, by Flute and Clarionet, Engagement, together or separate; experienced, sober; any business; good refs. Karlstedt, 33, Mimosa-street, Fulham.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Orchestra or Military, thoroughly experienced, reliable. Cullen, 9 Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, experienced, any business.
Fred Antcliffe, 40, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, experienced all lines, any business; good refs. Flautist, 15, Treherne-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Engagements, Concerts, Banquets, At Homes, &c., Accompanist, Composer, Singers Coached. Miss Katherine Moore, 7, Pilkington-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, excellent reader, Summer Engagement, in Trio, Hotel, Margate or neighbourhood; songs at piano. Box 7,757, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Re-engagement, experienced, Orchestral, Dramatic, Pictures, Variety, Expert Accompanist. Pianist, 57, Wargrave-avenue, Stamford Hill, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, experienced in Dramatic and Variety, Orchestral, or Solo. M. S. S., 59, Tideswell-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Summer Engagement as Pianist, with Orchestra, Conductor, or High-class party; good orchestral library. Beaumont, Conductor, Victoria Hall, Halifax.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist, seaside preferred. Fred Hooton, 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Pianist, Orchestral and Accompanist; also Violinist, both long experience; good refs., together or separate. Sales, 67, Clarence-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist (can combine Clarionet), or as Pianist-Conductor. Can arrange. Haydn Farnhill, 72, York-street, Bedford.

WANTED, by Lad, 16, smart Pianist, reads sight, MS., son of well-known Variety Artist, Engagement, Picture Palace, &c. J. D., 40, Ravensbourne-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Good Double Drummer and Effects, engagement, any business. First-class refs. Address, Drums, 5, Beardell-street, Upper Norwood, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Drummer, experienced, any business. Theatre closing. Excellent refs. Write, Harry Ades, 1, Gloucester-place, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drummer and Effects, thoroughly experienced, steady and reliable; can open immediately through closing unexpectedly. Walley, Tivoli, Pentre.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer, with Effects, Dramatic, Variety, any business; excellent refs.; can join at once. Drummer, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Drums, &c., or Tymps and Drums, any business. First-class references, steady and reliable. R. Evans, 63, Seaford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, any business. Drums, c/o 33, Harbury-road, Cannon Hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, by experienced Drummer and Tympanist, reliable, through closing. Kent, c/o Mrs. McCourt, 4, Clarence-street, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.
WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., now at Exeter and Exmouth, and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame Manton-Myatt,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements for Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Summer. Great success New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth (nine consecutive seasons). Smart Costumes, up-to-date Répertoire. 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, for the White Rose Ladies' Orchestra.
Kent, 23, Moring-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, for Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette (two Violins, 'Cello, Piano), Leader, Medalist Associated Board, R.A.M., R.C.M.; extensive Répertoire. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Known, the celebrated Zingari Band will be at Liberty early in June, ten to twenty performers, brass or reed, splendid uniform and répertoire. Professor Mitchell, Oates-square, St. Mark's-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, British-Hungarian Orchestra, small number can be engaged for Restaurants, &c. Vincent, 163, Norwood-road. 'Phone, 392 Brixton.

WANTED, Seaside, for Collini's Military, Orchestral Band, any business, splendid library, Rinks this season, Highgate, Stratford, Woking, Stamford Hill. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, J. Guy's Imperial Military Bands at Liberty for next season, smart uniforms and first-class music. Piers, promenades, fêtes, garden parties, dances. London address, American Rink, Merton, till June 4, 1910.

WANTED, by the Royal Bohemian Band, six, to any number, Exhibitions, Theatres, Pictures, &c. Uniforms or evening dress. 47, Rodney-street, Wigan.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Quartette or Trio (Violins, 'Cello, and Piano). Hotels, Hydros, &c. Apply, Conductor, 96, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. For terms and vacant dates, apply Mme. Silvestre, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Short Season Engagement, by small Brass or Military Band, just finishing nine months' engagement at Clifton; booked for re-opening Sept. Smart Uniform, good Library; first-class testimonials. W. Durrant, Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, Engt., good small Military or Orchestral Band, any business, experience in Bandstand Programmes; highest references; uniforms. Maddison, 11, Inver-rd., Clapton.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Smart Orchestral Band; Rink, Pictures, Ball-room, &c. Special Summer Terms. Uniform; evening dress. Palmer, M.D., Grovehill-road, Beverley.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

E. H. BOSTOCK'S INTERNATIONAL
RAILROAD CIRCUS.
WANTED, July 4, for Tenting, Good Comedy Act; also small but good Troupe Dogs.
Address, with terms, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Rumbo Austin, Talking and Knockabout Clown, May 30, onwards; also Mlle. Sylvesto, Contortionist. Wire, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown, now appearing with big success at the Royal Italian Circus, Aberdeen, and kindly wishes to thank Mr. George Arundale for paying salary in full.

WANTED, Known, Bishop and Winkles, Clowns, still alive and going strong. Thanks to Geo. Arundale, Esq., for paying salaries in full.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, for the most daring Act on earth.

Watson's Somersaulting Motor-Car.
Watson's Somersaulting Motor-Car.
Watson's Somersaulting Motor-Car.

Sensations eclipsed.

Apply, Watson,
37, Lorn-road, London, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that Signor Lorenzo, King of Aerial Performers, now performing for Studt's on his High Mast, at Liberty on June 21. C/o Post Office, Ferndale, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, The Knotellas (Harry and Rose), Flexible Acrobats and Dancers, Liberty July, on, Fêtes; two Acts. 4, Peterboro'-mansions, Fulham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Blackpool, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday, May 30, and on. Terms, vacancies, &c., MANAGER.

WANTED, Monday, June 12, and onwards. Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, small Fête, July 21, Aug. 1, and other dates. Absolute lowest, lithos., &c., TOM HAY and Co., Gloucester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to send full list of Bookings. Suitable turns can have tour arranged in Scotland, also North of England. Wire "Contracts, Greenock"; 'Phone 800. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 6, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, May 30, onwards. Letters, R. FORDHAM, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

THE WARREN AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, Novel and Original, Tops, Bottoms, Middies, &c., British, American, and Continental, who have not played the Syndicate Halls, send bookings, lowest terms, particulars, &c., 21, Victoria-street, Liverpool. No callers.

WANTED Star Artists, Big Tops and Bottoms, Town and Country. "Lord" GEO. AYTOUN, 25, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Alfresco Artists, all Lines, Lancs. Open next week. Send full particulars, age, height, &c., and enclose photos. WILL ELGAR, Empire, Ton-y-pandy.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 6, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Known, Grand Trial Turn Matinée will be Held at the Hippodrome, Hull, on Thursday, June 16, when many prominent London Agents will be present with a view to booking any acts of merit. Mr. Walter Bentley will himself guarantee immediate bookings for suitable turns. Send in names and description of business to him at once, to the Hippodrome, Hull. Several turns booked from last Matinée.

WANTED, all communications re Engagements for Temperance Hall, Merthyr, to be addressed to DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, to Open Next Week, London Halls, Smart Amateur Ladies and Gents. Genuine engagements offered to the right people. Call, WARRENER'S, 46, Rathbone-place, Oxford-st., W. 'Phone, 498, Gerrard.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for June 6 and onward, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines. CADLE'S Agency, 105-106, Strand, W.C.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, NEATH, BARRY DOCK, LOUGHBOROUGH, KETTERING, RUGBY, and EXMOUTH.
WANTED, well-known Turns, Comedy, Musical Comedy, Vocal, smart Light Comedy Duos, clever Juvenile Troupes, and anything smart, for Summer Dates. Address, ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Good Turns for Outdoor Carnival (Covered Stage) for Nine Days, commencing July 14. Apply, GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Anderton and Rowland's Picture Palace, on Tour, First-class Speciality Turn. Open Monday, for 4 weeks. Terms, &c., ANDERTON and ROWLAND Empire Fair Ground, Penzance.

JOHN R. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.
WANTED, Speciality Turns for June 6, 13, 20, 27, and July 4. Must be refined and up-to-date. Those who have played Aberdare don't apply. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential. HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Telephone, 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Acts, salary or sharing. Big Acts, Salary or Sharing. Immediate Dates and on.

WANTED, Big Acts, Blackpool and Morecambe. July and August. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Royal Star Palace, Bridgeton; Royal Star Palace, Partick, Glasgow. General-Manager, Mr. Gus Lazenberg. Acts in all Lines. Price no object for Star Numbers. LAZENBERG, Star Palace, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Gala Acts, all Lines. Send Dates and actual lowest. Plenty of work. TURNER'S Agency, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, C.I.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, really Big Specialities, Acrobatic Comedy Troupes, Big Animal Acts, Novel Musical Shows, Pantomimical Troupes, with Trick Scenery, and any really Funny Novelty, for June 6, 13, onwards. Lowest terms and samples of printing to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Novel Specialities, Sensational Acts of all kinds, for Week's Carnival, London, commencing Aug. 1. Terms, Lithos, &c., to CLAUDE ERNEST, Reliable Entertainment Bureau, 97, Wick-road, South Hackney, London, N.E.

EMPIRE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, good Drawing Novelties, for Top of Bill, June 13 and 27, and Autumn dates. Must be good Attractions.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners. Artists all lines. Big Variety Combinations (immediate Dates). First-class Performers, for Six Pantomimes (trial week given Panto. artists). Good Gala Acts. Bookings. Perm., Pictorials, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS AND ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Single and Double Turns, Specialities, &c., for Bodie's Royal Magnets, No. 1, 2, and 3 Companies, also clever Young Lady Pianist, for long tour, must be petite, young, and good appearance, and be able to play from memory; to suitable party a long and comfortable engagement assured; latest photo. must be sent, also age, height, and weight. I have several vacant dates for No. 1 Combination, including the greatest draw in the country, the one and only Dr. Walford Bodie, the Monarch of all Entertainers, admitted by the Press, Public, Proprietors, Managers, and even jealous Pros. as the greatest Showman living. "Barnum redivivus." Still playing to record business. Broke all records at Wakefield and Rotherham last week. This week playing to phenomenal business at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft; packed to the doors nightly with the elite of the town. Cheered to the echo again and again. The vast audiences held spellbound nightly with the marvellous doings of a marvellous man. The whole talk of the town. Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Pareezer for very happy week, and offer of return dates at all his Theatres. Mr. Pareezer says: Doctor, you are greater than ever; the business is simply phenomenal. Your marvellous cures the wonder of all beholders. Your charming personality has again won the hearts of my patrons. There is only one verdict—Dr. Bodie is irresistible; he is truly a human magnet, and gets right to the heart of the people. Our Advance Booking this week is a record, despite the week after the holidays, and the beautiful weather. There is only one Bodie. You can have return dates at all my theatres. Many thanks to Managers for offers, but must have our price.
Remember, the working expenses of this great show are over £100 per week.
If you are doing bad business, send for Dr. Bodie; he will cure it.
Remember, the only vacant dates now this year are June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 8, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19.

Dr. Bodie is supported by Gigantic Company of Star Artists, and has the finest and most sensational Coloured Pictorial Printing on the road, by Stafford and Co., D. Allen and Sons, Avery and Co., &c., &c.

All letters, &c., please address to Sole Director and Proprietor, ALBERT EDWARD BODIE, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

Look out for startling Advertisement. An eyeopener.

WANTED, Artists in All Lines. June 6, Barrow-in-Furness.

June 13, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
June 20, Empire, Swindon, and a Great Many Other Dates.
Nothing Too Big, Nothing Too Small.
Sure Money-Comfortable Engagements.
No Commission.
Artists must state whether ever appeared at any of the Towns mentioned before, or whether Quite New for Towns in question.

Lowest Combination Terms to THE DAYTON FAMILY, The Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Top Liners, for Continent. Sole Continental Agency only entertained. SMYTHSON'S Agency, 38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

Also Star Acts for Britain.
Are you vacant for Panto. 1910-11?
Then, see Panto. "Artists Wanted" Column.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the Main Line).
WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles, with drawing powers, immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now and onwards. HARRY TAFT, Alhambra, Paris. May 30, Chatham.

WANTED, Big Valuable Tops and Bottoms, for Immediate and Later Dates; also Smaller Turns. State full bookings and absolute lowest summer price. (See Wanted Artists Column). SEARS, Empire, Tonypandy.

WANTED, Big Star Tops Aug. 1 and 22; also Small Items, for July, onwards. Write or wire, NORTHERN COUNTIES AGENCY, Levenshulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms for Middlesbro', Stockton, and Scarboro'. Terms, Lithos, Full Bookings, WILLIAM AINSWORTH'S NORTHERN AMUSEMENT BUREAU, 135, Abingdon-rd., Middlesbro'.

WANTED, Girls with Smart Appearance (short) to join Troupe; those with good voices and can do clog-dancing. HAMILTON, The Rifleman, Kennington Park-road, Saturday, 1 p.m.

WANTED, for Troupe, a Smart Girl. Must be a good singer and dancer. Full particulars to Box 7,775, "The Era."

WANTED, to work Halls with Comedian in Comedy Duologue, Lady, must be tall, good, youthful appearance. Letters only, photo., salary, refs. MAY, 65, Delverton-road, Kennington, S.E. No Singing or Dancing.

WANTED, a really beautiful Girl, experienced in some form of Oriental Dancing, or one who would be willing and capable of learning same under competent tuition. State experience, and enclose photo. (returnable), SEARS, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy; or 166, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, Good Tumbler, at once, one used to Comedy preferred. State Age, Height, Terms, &c., RECCO, Grand, Bolton.

WANTED, young Athlete (educated Amateur might suit), to be coached in part requiring some athletic work, long tour to suitable man; no premium required. Full particulars, LAMBERT, 6, Hollinshead-street, Chorley, Lancashire.

WANTED, Lady Assistant to work in first-class Electric Act, principal Tours Give height, weight, age, salary required. State previous experience (if any), Box 7778, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope Operator; only those who thoroughly understand their business need apply. State age, references, and salary. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, good Operator, sober and reliable, join immediately; one used to gas or electric. Age, terms, and references to Circus, Killarney, Monday and Tuesday.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Company, at Liberty for May 30, June 6, and July 4. Thanks Frank Macnaghten, Esq., for further offers; also Charles G. Rembges, Esq., Jack Waters, Esq., and H. Montague Franklin, Esq., for offers. To-day, Royal, Warrington (return); next week, 35, Churchgate, Stockport.

WANTED, Monday next, 30th, also June 6, 13, Violet Rivers, Comedienne, Dancer, and Speciality Whistler, encored nightly; also Jack Pardoe, the clever Wire-walking, Bending, and Tumbling success. Don't miss two successful Acts, but wire quick. Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil; one or both.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Madge Price, Charming Creole, Plantation, and Coon Vocalist, six or twelve nights, June 6, 13, 20. This, R. C. T., Warrington; next, T. R., St. Helens.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters. A decided hit everywhere. At Liberty June 13 and 27. May 30, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, June 20, July 11, 25, Oct, 3 10. Address, Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

WANTED, June 6, 13, 20, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Famous Singing Boxmakers, Three Sisters. Sure draw for Picture, Halls. Add., Alex. Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Engagements, Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian (Original), Enthusiastic Receptions E., S. Shields Mon., Hippo., Wallsend-on-Tyne. Coms., 104, Clayton-st., Jarrow.

WANTED, Known, Lucknow, English and Continental Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty May 30, June 6. Wire, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Phil Durham, Summer Dates. Comedy and Scotch Songs in Character or otherwise; Speciality if required. 46, Claverton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Happy Attwood, vacant June 6. Wire to-day, Palace, Worcester; Monday, Alexandra, Pontefract.

WANTED, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist, June 6, 13, and 20, concludes to-night Theatre, Perth; next week, Victoria T., Uddingston, near Glasgow.

WANTED, May 30, also June 6 and 13, by the Great Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Conjurer. Theatre, Worthing. D.C. and Demy Lithos.

WANTED, Known, King of Mystonia. Big Success. Packed houses during the week at Worksop. All Coms., LESLIE STANLEY, East Oxford T., Oxford.

VENTURINIS, returned from South America. WANTED, Known, only vacant May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, Venturinis, Great Illusion Act; only Novelties; also Asra, the In the Air Floating and In the Air Disappearing Lady, and the Glass Trunk Mystery; best draw. Good top or bottom for everywhere. Wire, VENTURINI, 4, Old Compton-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, June 13, 27, on (exceptions), The Monckton's (Fred, Lillie), Premier Duologuists, presenting screaming farcical absurdities, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat." Monday, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, June 13, 27, on, Fred and Lillie Monckton presenting original Dramatic Episode, "A Daughter of Judas." Monday, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Winnie Steele, Musical Sketches, Imitations, Humorous and Sentimental Songs; and W. B. Steele, Humorous Songs, Monologues, successful Manager. Duologues a Speciality. Entertainment in themselves. Open through disappointment. 5, Vernon-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, by Wisper, Comedy Kid Juggler, and Miss Beattie Bloom, a Star Comedienne, June 6 and 27. Wire, Hippo., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Dancing Duggans, Vocalists and Skate Dancers, Buck Dancing, Dance on Skates. 119, Lombard-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next and June 6. Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch; also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, 218, Stockwell-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Ward and Davis (Howard and Louie), Mus. Com. Duo, in "Wanted, a Typist," Mon. next. Just concluded Gibbons, 175, Bromsgrove-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, June 6 (South preferred) and 27, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in Novelty Comedy Sporting Scena. Novel and original in song, dance, and story. New Scenic effects, well dressed and mounted. Refer Mr. Rembges, Empire, Middlesbrough (last week). This, Hippo., Keighley; next, Gaiety, Chatham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, assisted by Nora Castelle, big sensational Novelty Musical Act. Two acts if required. Wire offers, PICTUREDROME, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, June 6 and 20, by Ryder Davis, Comedian; Eva Ward, Burlesque. Till Sat., Tivoli, Manchester. Next, Palace, Cradley, Staffs.

WANTED, June 6 and Later Dates, Belasco, refined Musical Act. Isa Davis, Petite Mimic. May 30, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11, Aug. 1, 8. Address, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Monday next, and June 6, The Eldras, Canine Acrobatic Act. This, Imperial Var., Canning Town; next, 27, Philenon-house, Westminster Bridge-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, Knockabout Triple Bar Act, Liberty June 6 and 13. Monday, Hippodrome, Boscombe.

WANTED, June 6, by Ray and Douglas, the Original Comedy Couple. Away from all others. This, Empire, Dudley; next, Pavilion, Northampton.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Novelty Grotesque Comedians, June 13, 20. Coms., Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. This, Empire, Doncaster; next, Hippo., Preston. Vacant June 6, only vacancy.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act. Topping the Bill this week, Grand, Manchester (third return). Wire.

WANTED, by Kloof and Ramsay, May 6, on, Refined Original, Clever Musical Funny Novelties, Singing, Starring, &c. 30th, Hippo., Aldershot.

WANTED, June 6 and 20, by the Original Ward and Davis, Comedy Duo. This week, Tivoli, Manchester (tenth return). All coms, May 30, RYDER DAVIS, Palace, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, June 6 and 13, by Will and Roze, Novelty Comedy Act, "Le Café Magique." Coms., Empire, Swindon.

Vacant. Gala Season. Vacant.
Free for Seaside Towns, Free
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Galas or Seaside Engagements for the weeks of June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 1. all communications, This week, Hippodrome, Exeter. Next week, Empire, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, Liberty for Fêtes, Galas, Halls, with New and Sensational Revolving Breakway Ladder. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto and Comedy Assistant, the Lady Contortionist with a figure, a Novel and Original Act, free Monday 30th, also June 6, onwards. Big success on return visit at Hippo., Burslem, Staffs., where wire till Saturday; after, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, May 30, June 6, onward, Rohde and Roche, Chameleon Artist and It, combined with clever Comedy Contortion, Singing, Dancing, Pot-Pourri Act. 41, St. Mary's-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Frantz's Comedy Five, May 30, June 6, 13, 20. Topping Varieties, Leeds. P. A., 15, Richmond-terrace, Clapham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, What a Draw, Four Cecilians, Top Line, storming everywhere. Vacant May 3, June 6. 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, June 13 and 20, The Carlsens, Continental Comedy, Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog Jack; own Scenery, splendid Lithos. Sure success. Hippo., York.

WANTED, by Maro Duo, June 6, 13, 20, Funniest Three-bar Act; all say so. This, Tunbridge Wells; Monday, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Almo, Comedy Three Bar Act. At Liberty. Two Acts. Fêtes and Galas. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED June 6, onwards, by The Woellhafs, High-class well-dressed Comedy Act. 120, Merrow-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, June 6 and 13, by the Three Borelia Brothers, the World's Greatest Gymnastic Act. This, Hippo., Southend-on-Sea; next, Palace, Derby. Now finishing De Frece Tour. Apply direct, or LEO FRITZ, or ANGER and BAUER.

WANTED, May 30 (through transferring Ilkeston), also June 13, on, by the Flying Orenius'. 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Hippodrome, West Bromwich. Wanted, smart Youth, Acrobat.

WANTED, June 6, 20, 27, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, and the Doll with the Laugh; a great Comedy Act. Successes everywhere. Managers in want of a strong Comedy Act full of life and novelty, should wire. Monday, Spanish City, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, June 20, July 4, 11, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two acts. Offers invited. Public Hall, Runcorn.

WANTED, Monday next and June 6, by Wheatley, the Original Ventriloquial Coon; a thorough reliable turn. Wire, Theatre R., Tyldesley.

MISS ELLA'S EDUCATED LION SHOW.
WANTED, Managers to secure this sure draw. Vacant for the months of June, July, and Aug. Offers invited. 18, Gloucester-st., Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Miss Tudora's Ponies. Liberty June 13, 27, and on. June 6, Hastings. All coms., Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual. Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. For dates address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur and her Beautiful Troupe of Russian Poodles and Leaping Dogs. Great Attraction for Galas, Garden Parties, &c. Success Gala, Whit, Longton Park. Vac. May 30, June 6, 13, Aug. 1. Coms., Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, by Daisy Graham's Troupe of Educated Birds and Baby Dog. Liberty June 6, 13, 27. Address, 20, Clarence-street, Penzance.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Wonderful Dogs. Big Show for Galas, &c. A sure success. Liberty June 6 and 13. Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act. This, Palace, Gloucester; 30th, Poole's Pictures, Aberaina. For dates address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester. Big for Pictures and Galas.

WANTED, Known, the Cyclinis, Football on Wheels and Sensational Somersaults on Bicycles. Vac. June 6, 13; also Galas. Next, Vic. T., Kettering.

WANTED, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; Lillian Sivado, Gymnast; vacant June 13. Address, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, C.I.

WANTED, May 30, June 6, Swift Duo, a real'y funny Act on Cycles. Wire, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.; after Sat., 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, Pauletti, Acrobatic Eccentric Cyclist, vac. for few Galas only. Two good acts. Perm., 105, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement with well-known Comedy Act (with bookings preferred), by well known first-class patterer, comedy tumbling, dancing, knockabout comedian. Box 7,774, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good strong Gymnast, Hand Balancer, Hand Jumper, and Comedy Knockabout, at Liberty Monday. FRANK THOMAS, 62, Frithville-gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Amateurs of Education, Refinement, and Ability, for First-class Concert Party. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Pierrot Performers, Ladies and Gents. Also good Pianist who can sing. Must be refined. One or two good amateurs might write. Full particulars to CHARLES MASON, Acting-Manager, Palace, Watford.

PAVILION, SYDNEY GARDENS, BATH.
WANTED, complete Concert Parties, on Sharing terms. Vacant dates to FRED MCCREA, Gloucester.

WANTED, Young Lady to sing and play piano at well-known South Coast Town, must go on shares; also experienced Alfresco Comedian. Letters only, D., 14, Glebe-place, S.W.

WANTED, immediately good Low Comedian for High-class Concert Party. Photos (imperative) and Lowest Terms for Long Tour. H. J., c/o Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Al Fresco Comedian (Funny), well up in gags and Sketches; open at once. Lowest terms, ALLNUTT, P.O., Stroud, Glos.

WANTED, Known, Fred Roper (La Dame Comique), Versatile Comedian, Lady Impersonator, Elaborate Costumes, Humorous Entertainer and Dramatic Monologues, 4 different turns, refined and successful, concerteds, sketches, moderate terms. Splendid attraction for Alfresco or Tour. Offers invited. PRESTON, Candover, Basingstoke.

WANTED, Good Pitches for High-class, Refined Pierrot Troupes, Seaside or Inland Towns. Public Gardens, Hotel Gardens, &c. CHARLES MASON, Acting Manager, Palace, Watford.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

PIPE ORGANS.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, the Patent Posauto.
Can be played by Hand or Paper Roll.
Unlimited Répertoire.
Impressive and Beautiful Tone.
Full particulars from The POSITIVE ORGAN CO., LTD., 44, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.
WANTED, Known, Just the Thing. Send Sevenpence for samples and particulars of the latest Novelty, the Rotary Calculating Machine, shilling line, good profits. PEARCE & COOP, LTD., 48, Strand, London.

AMERICAN PARK,
AMERICAN PARK,
AMERICAN PARK,
AMERICAN PARK,
MARSEILLES, FRANCE.
MARSEILLES, FRANCE.
MARSEILLES, FRANCE.
MARSEILLES, FRANCE.
Now in course of construction.
Opening date, July 1, 1910.
Opening date, July 1, 1910.
Opening date, July 1, 1910.
Splendid climate. Long season.
WANTED, High-class Side Shows, Wanted, High-class Side Shows, Wanted, High-class Side Shows, Wanted, High-class Side Shows, Mirror Maze, Illusions, Electric Theatre, Automatics, Floss Machines, Games, and any Money-taking Novelties.
Terms: Shares.
The greatest American Attractions are now building, including the Roller Coaster, Water Chutes, Tickler, Human Roulette Wheel, Katzenjammer Castle, &c., &c.
Space vacant for a First-class Merry-go-round, must be equal to anything seen in this country.
N.B.—Seven days' business per week. Sundays equal to English Holidays.
Send fullest particulars in first letter to A. ELLIS, 57, Rue de Provence, Paris (postage 2½d.).

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Lady Palmist and Novelties for Automatic Arcade. Apply by letter, 1, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

WANTED, good Lady Palmist, at once. Apply, R. ARNOLD, The Novelty Exhibition, High-st., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, a Smart Comedian, to Travel with Auction Mart. Must have plenty of songs and up to date in gags, &c. Apply, AUCTION MART, Risca, Mon.

WANTED, a Doorsman-Lecturer for a Premier Bioscope Show. Must be steady and speak well. Apply Box 7,773, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Erinia, the Successful Drawing-room Entertainer, Mandolinist, and Character Reader. At Homes, Bazaars, &c. Box 7,758, "The Era."

WANTED, permanent Engagement, for Lady Palmist, Shares or Salary. MADAME WHITELEY, 35, Buchanan-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Auctioneer, at Liberty, good all-round man. First-class references. Can do watch repairs. Address, Box 7,759, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Mr. Wingate has for Sale, owing to the recent fire, 7 horse power Traction Engine, by Fowler, of Leeds, with 80 volt, 180 amp. Dynamo, two Driving Belts, and Main Cables. Showmen's Fittings.

Booth, made by Orton's, Burton-on-Trent, 70ft. by 32ft., complete, with Plush-backed Seats, Linings, Wind Stays, and everything but Tilts.

Flat Truck, for packing same, fitted for Traction Haulage, covered in Truck, practically new.

Gaumont Chrono Machine, with Fireproof Spool Boxes (Motor driven), 60,000ft. of up-to-date Films, Illustrated Song Slides, eight Excello Flame Arc Lamps, four new upright Piano.

Portable Kitchen, in four sections, with Stove, Table, and Shelves, &c.
All the above are in first-class condition, and can be seen built up at Park Place, Alloa, Scotland.

WANTED, to Sell, a Nice One-horse Living Van, every convenience, nearly new. Price £60, or offer. A. RHODES, Mays-lane, High Barnet.

WANTED, to Sell, Rail Living Wagon, 18ft., with packing place at back, nicely fitted inside, Howcroft's make; also Small Booth, 18 by 24, complete. PARKER, P. O., Watford.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, also Living Carriage. Mart consists of Large Van, 15ft., opens out to 21ft. 6in., shutters, poles, and Birkmire cover, lights, &c. Address, WHITE, Monday, night, Cleckheaton; after, Adwalton, near Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Cakewalk, complete Arc Lamps, Organ, &c., in good working order and repair. Can be seen working at any time. Apply Box 7,742, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, one 87-key Paper Organ, like new, suitable for Roundabouts or Skating Rink. Apply, P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, 40ft. Circular Tent, six Flare Lamps, four-wheeled Vehicle, stored Rhyl. HYBERT, c/o Creber, Printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Auto Photo Machine, complete, 50s.; Photos in one minute; money back first day. BUTLER, 175A, Tranmere-road, Earlsfield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known.
Important.
That the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showman's Union will be held on Wednesday next, June 1, at the BLACK LION HOTEL, SALFORD, at 2.30 p.m., prompt.
Important Business on the Agenda.
(Signed) THOS. HURST, Sec.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 30, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Yvette Guilbert, Bros. Miller, Marquis' Cobs, Henry Leoni, Campbell and Barber, Alf. Agoust, Hardini Trio, Avolos, Animated Pictures, Raymond Phillips' Airship.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Fragson, Thora, Les Pages, Bellclair Bros., Norman and Leonard Trio, Geo. Ali and Co., Jack Smiles, Bioscope, Serene Nord.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for :—

Victoria Monks, G. H. Elliott, Roma and Romani, Brull and Hemsley, Mitchell and Cain, Jack Lane, May Henderson, Johnny Walker, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Ada Reeve, Barrington, Jackley Trio, Harry Merrilees, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Devon and Earle, Millie and Arthur, Bioscope, Alexandra Dagmar, Edward Davies.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Karno's "Mumming Birds," Mildred Bryan, J. J Dallas, Marco Belli, Villions, Spry and Monti, Ellis Barrieton, Percy Dalton, Bioscope, "The Little Stowaway."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Stock Company, "Arrah-Na-Pogue."

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Sisters Pine, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Pat Rafferty, Hall and Earle, Park's Eton Boys, Elton and Edwin, Speedwell, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Cyril Clensy, Ella Retford, Harry Lamore, Lydia and Amelys, Manchester Mites, F. V. St. Clair, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Hubert Carter, Burt Shepard.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Maidie Scott, Dot Hardy, Alfred Wood's Co., Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Keene and Adams, Wyndham and Kitty, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Edward Marris' Stock Company.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chanti, Mike Whallen, Gwennie Hasto, Lulu Russell, Quaint Q's, D'Arc's Marionettes, Mlle. Eldee, Orpheus, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, Brennans, Frank Maura, Francoli Troupe, Courtiers, Gladys Mavius, Chas. Santon, Frank H. Fox, Bioscope, Goodfellow and Gregson.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Lew Lake and Co., in "King Nobbler," Mona Vivian, Fielding and Hull, Five Vernons, Laurie's "Belles of the Kitchen," Alf. Gibson, Maxey and Pete, Cull Pitt, Bioscope, Fred Earle.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Vesta Tilley, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Bertha Winder, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Ben Albert, Channings, Beaty and Blanche, Tom and Marie Motramo, Billy Merson.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Pleasants, Dan Lipton's "Songland," Two St. Johns, Walter King, Florence Yaymen, Lux's Dogs, Dot Stephens, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery's "Would-be Actors."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

G. H. Chirgwin, Poluskis, Bioscope, Kitty Wager, Bert Weston, Fred Poplar, Hilda Jacobsen, Staig's Steeplejacks, Kratons, Glenroy Troupe, Two Anartos.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

The Great Lafayette, Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Will Poluski, jun., Three Merrills, Bros. Bright, Peggy Pryde.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Courtice Pounds and Co., in "Charles, His Friend," Anna Chandler, New Macs, Harry Freeman, Andos Japs, Smite and Smote, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Helene Donald, Bioscope, Danby Piddock and Co.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Stock Company, "Bells of Haselmere."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Stock Company and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Haytors, Harry Leybourne, Mezzettis, Ed. E. Ford, Nina Wood, Frank Lynne, Dolly Bell, Bioscope, Sanford and Lyons.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Van Biene and Co., La Pia, Billy Hobbs, Hans and Lux, Heeley and Meeley, Rhoda Paul, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Gardner and Stoddard, Tom E. Hughes, Bert Williams, Chas. Norton, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Tom Davies' Trio, Stanley and Greenop, Chas. J. Johnson, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co., in "The Organ Grinder."

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ellaline Terriss, Maie Ash, Stanley Brett and Co., Takio, Smythsons, Herbert Shelley, Humpsti-Bumpsti, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Kellinos, Sisters St. Julian, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, G. W. Hunter, Ryan and Hall, Alice Kingsley, Bioscope, Dion Wade.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Roxbury and Co., Harry Weldon, Bioscope, Findens, Abdullah Arabs, Fred Curran, Dan Fraser, Marconis, Bros. Egbert, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ella Russell, Wullie Walker, the Great Vincent, Carmos, Holden's Mannikins, Harry Herbert, Wilson and Waring, Conan and Doyle, Sisters Tower, Bioscope, Alice Raymond.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mark Sheridan, Falco and Eida, Fred Lincoln, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Bros. Redmond, Rauschle, Talbot and Pearce, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Ella Shields.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George French, Empire Comedy Four, Conn and Conrad, Addie Dorina, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Fatmah Diard, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Barrett and Knowles, La Freya.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Alexandre and Hughes, Sisters Jerome, Mabel Sinclair, Herbert Dickeson and Co., Esta Stella, La Berat, Three Van Dammes, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Serenaders.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Tiller's Combination, Three Laurels, Cavalli, May Mars.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Piccolinos, Nellie Wigley, Emma Don and Co., William Strother, Siems, Woodhouse and Wells, Pictures, H. O. Wills, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gertie Gitana, Sisters Kilner, Dan Hendy, Phillips and Merritt, Bros. Durant, Bioscope, Craggs.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

George Lashwood, Tom Stuart, Lyric Quartette, Jennie Hartley, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Hagedorn's Grotto.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Gustave Fasola, Sylvia Du Barry, Edna Deno, Carl and Carr, Taree, Pictures, Adras, &c., &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Delevines, Aida Martine, Mlle. Yetta, Frank and Free, Phil Parsons, Pictures, &c., &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow ;—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 8167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 30.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Carlton, Alfred Long, Adie Lombard, Susie and Protti, Burnetti, Haines and Borthwick, Palace Perfection Pictures, "The Circus."

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Eight Lancashire Lads, Dolly Ross, Dene and Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas, The Newmans, Gillin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
"The Red Triangle," Reid and Power, Harry Keeble, J. J. Mannix, Roberta Svendsen, Musical Keiths, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Chung Ling Soo, Lisbon and Barker, Milsted-Bell Trio, Mamie Morris, Williams Trio, "Adolf Beck" Pictures, George Geoffreys.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Helen Martin, Ross and Grayson, Pictures, Mabel Thorne, "The Barbarian," Gilbert's Dogs, Edith Lewis and Co., Gallimore Trio, Leice Prinella, The Dancing Gilberts.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Arthur Clifton, Jessie Wilton, Billy Whitlock, "Drink" Co., Florrie Thurstone, E. D. Nicholls and Co., Royburn and Dix, Kittie Correlli, Empire Girls, Leon and Lee, Willie and Johnny.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
The Tan Kwai Troupe, Chas. Woodward, Gwen Francis, Charles Vincent, The Kirbys, Milner and Storey, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Cassie Walmer, Zellini, Sisters Maynard, Madison and Webb, Blanche Marion, John Macauley, Marie Santoi and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Florrie Forde, Clarke and Mostol, Norah Desmond, The Sages, Edie Reynolds, Three Alskarnos, Josh Dixon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Nana," "Sorrows of Satan," "Ticket-of-Leave Man."

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
Flo Burnett, Charles Erard.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
T. Elder Hearn, Leo and Roland, Canard, Kate Traill, Friend and Downing, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Arnold Richardson and Co., Doris Druce, Le Hurst, Cedrics, Vela, Raymond and Ivy, Dan Conroy, The Belmonts, Carney Bros., Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Gilbert Heron and Co. in "The Key," Bert Crosbie, Bartholomew Girls, Cumminger and Colonna, Crosby and Walker, "Roode, Rash Chemist" Dorothy Vardon, Broughton and Creedon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Banzai Family, Leolin, Lily Edwardes, The Tintos, Vesta Nixon, The Heriot Trio, The Jackson Family, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"Judith."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Palace Perfection Pictures, Barrie and Wood, Cairo Trio, Harry Martell, Joe Belmont, Burdetter Bros., Tate's "Motoring," Kitty Clinton.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Comedy Meisters, Three Rutlands, Richard Finberg, Les Arabellas, Ethel Bourne, The Rosses, Will Van Allen, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Letine, Pictures, Sisters Edwards, Rousby and Rene, Fred Moule and Co., Telephone Tragedy, Will Harris, Dando, Viviania and Co., Josephine Crook.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Carl Lynn, Pictures Cattle Thief, Leonard and Vereker, Mlle. Leonas, Ethel Pierce, May Poulton, "For Honor," "The Plumbers," Chas. Coborn, Gallimore Trio.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Chris. Baker, "The Plumbers," Irene Meldon, Arabella Allen, Runaway Girls, "Convict's Revenge," Walton and Williams, Arthur Stacey, Lily Lassah, Laurie and Fuller Co.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Comms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
POOLE'S THEATRES, LTD.,
Hereby give notice that after July 30, 1910, the Palace, Porth, has been leased to Mr. Will Smithson, of the Empire, Barnsley, and all contracts after that date are cancelled in accordance with the "Award."

(Signed) C. W. POOLE,
Managing-Director, Poole's Theatres, Ltd
Gloucester, May 24, 1910.

SONGS, SCENAS, AND ACTS WRITTEN.

My Songs alone will make you successful, for my work is done to fit you.
I first find out what you can do, then utilise your best bits. No cheap work.

For an interview, address,
Box 7,781, "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

THE STRAY, HARROGATE.

The Corporation of Harrogate are prepared

TO LET BY TENDER
TWO SITES,

for PERFORMANCES by ENTERTAINERS on the STRAY during the coming Season.

Conditions of letting may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom Tenders endorsed "Performances on Stray," must be delivered not later than Saturday, 4th June, 1910.

The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. J. TURNER TAYLOR,

Municipal Offices, Harrogate. Town Clerk.

ENTERTAINERS OR SMALL BAND.

OFFERS ARE INVITED

to perform on board a Pleasure Steamer plying in the South of Ireland during July & August.

Also a Pitch
At a popular seaside resort.

Apply, Manager, Greenboat Steamers, Cork.

PLEASURE BEACH, SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.

30 Acres of Open-Air Attractions on the Sea Front. Next Tram Terminus.
Opens for the Season at Whit-week.
Good sites available for something new.

Apply, SECRETARY,
Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BELFAST.—Comf. rooms, good cooking, bath, piano, 5 min. theatres, good refs. Belvoir-terrace, 8, University-street.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Mrs. Elstone, Central House, 11, Queen-street; every convenience; excellent accommodation for Troupes; highly recommended.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen's-sq., fully licenced; first-class accommodation. Special terms. Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cissie Noel).

LONDON, S.E.—Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms vacant; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence from 15s. 6d. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-rd. Mrs. Peers. Sitting and bed rooms; bath, and pianos. Also combined room. Good cooking and attendance.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior drawing and bedrooms; piano, good cookery and attendance, moderate; trams and 'bus pass door. 145, Brixton-road.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional Apartments. Moderate terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

RHYL. — Seaside Home School. Recommended by professional. Terms strictly moderate. Winterdyne, Rhyl.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold. **THE ENCORE,** May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

REFEREE, May 16 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
— FOR —
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/- *Post Free.*

PIERROT COSTUMES
INCLUDING
HAT.
LATEST PATTERN.
Price 14/6
Postage ... ... 6d.

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.

OPENED MAY 12,
OPENED MAY 12,
OPENED MAY 12,
OPENED MAY 12,
OPENED MAY 12,
OPENED MAY 12,
for six weeks certain.
for six weeks certain.
for six weeks certain.
for six weeks certain.

"OLDE MANCHESTER" SECTION,
"OLDE MANCHESTER" SECTION,
"OLDE MANCHESTER" SECTION,
"OLDE MANCHESTER" SECTION,
under cover in best portion of Exhibition.
under cover in best portion of Exhibition.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Owing to a misunderstanding,
I have
ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT,
ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT,
ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT,
ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT,
ONE SIDE SHOW VACANT,
15ft. front by 26ft. deep.
15ft. front by 26ft. deep.
Good Sharing Terms to a really High-class Show.
Good Sharing Terms to a really High-class Show.
Marionettes preferred.
Marionettes preferred.

I can place
I can place
I can place
PORTRAIT SKETCH ARTIST
PORTRAIT SKETCH ARTIST
PORTRAIT SKETCH ARTIST
(will Frank Durra write)
OR SILHOUETTIST, ON SHARES OR RENTAL.
OR SILHOUETTIST, ON SHARES OR RENTAL.
OR SILHOUETTIST, ON SHARES OR RENTAL.

Caricature and other Photographers please apply.
Caricature and other Photographers please apply.
Caricature and other Photographers please apply.

There is money here for smart people, but I want no rubbish.
Those used to best Exhibition work write at once to
WALTER STENNING, as above.
WALTER STENNING, as above.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let at World's Fair, The Tower, Promenade, Portobello, opposite the Sands, for all kinds of Exhibits and Amusements. Applications to be made to THE MANAGER, Exhibition Offices, The Tower, Portobello.

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for quite small Side Shows, open at once, long season.
Apply, MANAGERESS.

WANTED, to Let, Ground and Spaces, cheap. Novel Riding Machine for sale, partner or sell, finest Side Show extant, with season's position. B., 34, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager, Pal. Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, for the season, large Distorting Mirrors.
Address, A. MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Hire, or would buy spot cash, small Organ, for Walk-up Show.
SOLBINI, Post Office, West Bromwich.

WANTED, a Room on a Pier or other Good Position in a Seaside Town, for Character Reading and Palmistry this season.
Address, DEANE, 26, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, good Working Models, Fortune Tellers. No reasonable offer refused.
Apply, OWNER, 16, Coleraine-road, Hornsey.

WANTED, Known, for sale, the Greatest Money taking Illusion Side Show ever invented. Full particulars. Best offer. MAXIM, 34, Grosvenor-road, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Buy, Loading Waggon (open top) for Traction, or would exchange Pullman Car for above if suitable. MILLES, Whatmore, Wokingham.

WANTED, to Purchase, any Novelty, Joint, new or secondhand, for Fair Grounds, must be money-takers.
S. TOMPKIN, 202, Waterloo-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, W. Morey, who was at Work for Mr. S. Jones, Roundabout Proprietor, who started work in July, 1908, to communicate to this address. He will be well paid for his trouble in the matter.
S. JONES, Fair Ground, Epsom.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, General Manager for Large Amusement Rink in Paris. Must speak French. Good references required.
Apply by letter to Mr. LAMB,
11, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, First-class Lady Skater, willing to join well-known Exhibition Skater, in Skating Act. One with own Costumes preferred.
State height, &c.
Address, Box 7,767, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced Instructor and Instructress, positions on good Seaside Rink. First-class skaters, latest waltzing, two step, &c., smart appearance. Address, Box 7,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, J. A. Thorp, late of Sydenham Rink, London, requires Engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor; first-class references. 115, Auckland-hill, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mr. R. Beeston, late Manager of Smethwick Rink, is now open for Engagement as Rink or Floor Manager of High-class Rink.
Apply, "The Era."

WANTED, Offers for a Few Hundred Pairs Barney and Berry's Roller Skates (fibre wheels), excellent condition. MANAGER, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, for Electric or Picture Theatre, in Edinburgh, First-class Premises, best attractive position for business; present hall seats about 600, which, with little alteration, could be much increased.
Address,
No. 222, KEITH and Co.,
Advertising Agents, 43, George-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Sell, the Magnificent Court Scene (with or without Rostrums) used in the Globe Theatre production of "Madame X." Also French Court robes.
Apply, BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Divided Office Set; also Corridor Scene, suitable hotel, theatre, or prison, 4 working doors, backing cloths, &c., by Bull. Mrs. MARK KINGHORNE, 26, Dagmar-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties.
Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery and Properties, good condition. Suitable for Shakespearean Répertoire. Apply, Box 7,779, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, one Biunial Lantern and one Single Lantern, nearly new, with Slide Carriers, Arc Lamps, Resistances, Gas Jets, and Multifocal Lenses, to get any picture, any distance, suit Illustrated Song Singers, maker Tyler. J. R. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Bioscope, Chas. Urban, 4in. Lens, 14in. lantern lens, 40 ampere arc lamps, 150-volt, frame, iron hut, electric fan, switches, fuse boxes, &c; £17.17. Humphrys, Peckham Rye, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Films. Excellent subjects from 2s. 6d. each, by Leading Makers. Lists free. REED, 20, Belgrave-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's magnificent Film King Edward's Funeral (London and Windsor), dispatch Saturday night, 1½d. per foot. DAVIS, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, King Edward's Funeral Procession (about 900ft.), released May 28. Wire best offers. MANAGER, Albert Hall, Cheltenham.

Funeral of the late King Edward.
WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent Films after to-night.
Gaumont, about 1000ft., £8; Urban, with Gaumont St. George's Chapel Scene added, about 800ft., £5; Barker, with Gaumont Chapel Scene added, about 800ft., £5.
Warwick, about 600ft., £5.
Cash with Order. Prompt Delivery.
TETLOW, Panopticon, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Supply of Films, showing Funeral Procession and other Ceremonies in connection with the death of King Edward VII., for sale, Monday, May 30, at 1d. per foot.
Write, NEW CENTURY FILM SERVICE, Bradford.
Telegrams, "Concerts, Bradford."

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells (plated), complete, on handsome portable stand, grand tone, perfect, £3 10s., splendid for orchestra, 5ft. 3in. high. CONDUCTOR, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, B Flat, Alto Saxophone great bargain, Marimbas, Xylophones Rattles, Sleigh Bells, Organ Chimes, Tubaphones Resonaphones, Glockenspiels, Tubular Bells. LISLE, 299, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Flying Lady Apparatus, new, best make, and improved; £2 10s., cost £12. F. ALLEN, 8, Hanover-street, Burslem.

WANTED, to Sell, Convict's Suit, Livery Suit, odds and ends of office furniture, handsome 'phone, set of boxing gloves; £2 the lot. Mrs. MARK KINGHORNE, 26, Dagmar-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent Distemper Painting of the Marriage of our late King, perfect portraits; cost £200. Size 12ft. by 24ft. Seen by appointment.
Best offers to A. HAMILTON, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, my Rights of Pitch and Dressing-room, from June 13, two seasons, at Cheltenham. FRED BOULTON, Pavilion, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Magnificent Show frames, 5ft. by 3ft., by Whiteley; also case to hold one. Price, 1 picture frame, with case, 25/-; frame, without case, 15/- Write, or can be seen.
CHAUFFEUR,
Eden Court, Emliss-lane, Esher, Surrey.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Illusions, Original and New. Also Cremation Sphynx, Noah's Ark. Bargains. Quantity apparatus. 212, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Elaborate Stage Setting for Hand-balancing Act. Splendid condition. Apply, ALMON, 213, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Two-Act Musical Comedy, "The Flower Girl," completed two-years tour. Can be played twice nightly; 16 numbers, three alone worth the price for Panto. or Scena. WILLIAMS, M.D., Brixton Theatre, S.W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, a copy of "The Era" dated Dec. 1, 1900. Address, THE MANAGER, "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Purchase, Cocoanut Matting for Circus Ring. Must be in good condition. State size, particulars.
E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Copy of Play, "Clancarty."
Produced 35 Years Ago.
Revived Two or Three Years Ago.
Box 7,772, "The Era."

WANTED, Comic Songs, Price no Object for Good, up-to-date Stuff. Samples returned at once if not suitable.
Address,
MICHAEL WELSH, Pavilion T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, to Let, on Rental, from May 30 to June 25.
Good opportunity for Stock Companies or for Picture and Diorama Shows.
Apply, JAS. BUCK, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in June and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to let for season, Bijou Hall, Gt. Yarmouth, hold 500; electric and gas, splendid entrance; or would hire Wax Group of Royal Family. LESSEE, Bijou, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Let during Summer Months, large Hall, near centre of Leeds, suitable for Cinematograph; thickly-populated working-class district.
Box 7,751, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, a Large Room for Rehearsals, with Piano; also large Store Room, for props., &c. Terms low. Apply, PENDER, 1, St. George's-buildings, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, to Let, the Enormously Successful Drama "Fair Play," Well rested, Fine Printing, Plant; Booking certain. CROZIER, 296, Kennington-rd.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 35, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Rent, Premises suitable for high-class Photographer, near No. 1 Theatre or good Pier.
Box 7,753, "The Era."

WANTED, Portable Theatre, Hire (share preferred), with Picture Plant, near London, nothing within two miles, large district, immediate. PERCY EMERY, 122, Kensal-road, W. Lynch write.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Working Partner with £250 cash, to join Theatre Manager (with similar amount) to take over Theatre. Proprietor retiring, Manager has first refusal; real good thing. Partner with knowledge of bookkeeping preferred. Ingoing Stock, Scenery, Fireproof Box, £500. Reply, first instance, Box 7777, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Advertiser (gentleman with reliable business experience), able to invest, desires opening, management small Hall or Theatre; or would consider any sound proposition. Apply, in first instance (letters only), G. E. G., c/o Ashley Beale, Walcott Cottage, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Partner, Illusionist. Two Sensational Death-defying Illusions. What offers for partnership? or will sell above. No reasonable offer refused. Address, Box 7,769, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Comedian, late of Known Double Turn, at Liberty to join Partner, Paris. Box 7,770, c/o "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LA MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 3s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & CO., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.

This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 3 stamps. Fox and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

E. H. BOSTOCK'S INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD CIRCUS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Wanted, Known,
the following Artists of the above Concern wish to tender their sincere thanks to E. H. Bostock, Esq., and our Manager, Mr. Frank Bostock, for kindly paying salaries in full for the two nights during which the Circus was closed, owing to the death and funeral of our Gracious Majesty King Edward.

Signed,
Mlle. Leoville and Sandy.
Mlle. Helga Yensen.
Harez and Jamez.
Miss Pinder.
Little Sid.
Little Tony.
The Lorettes.
J. Madigan.
Mlle. Chloe Convere.
Mlle. Florence.
Ernest and Charleroi.
Valdo Bros.
Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Johnson.
Nimble Nip.
Wee Willie.
Miss J. and B. Cooke.
Tony, Hoppit, and Jerry.
Eugene Foote.
The Erneste Family.
Mons. Abex.
The Tokio Troupe.

Saturday, May 21, 1910.

WANTED, Known, the undersigned Artists, Bandsmen, and Staff engaged at Buxton's Amusement Resort, Douglas, I.O.M., beg to tender their thanks to Fred Buxton, Esq., for paying full week's salary, although closed all day last Friday on account of King Edward's funeral: Hal Lowe, Ernie Famont, H. Corris, Lemaitre, G. Hudson, R. Sedgwick, H. Jones, W. and A. Henry, Bert Rose, F. Marrion, Geo. Jennings, A. Howarth, Louis Cooper, P. Cooper, G. V. Cooper, F. Baker, Tiny Davies, Eva Gill, D. Woodhead, C. Faragher, M. Connor, and H. Woodhead.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, by the Gentlemen of the Orchestra, to thank E. H. Bostock, Esq., for paying full salaries for last two weeks.

WANTED, Drill Sergeant, able to supply and take charge of twelve good men for mounted and foot display.
Write, Box 1,736, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Information of the present Addresses of Robert Brunton, Scenic Artist, last heard of at Winnipeg, Manitoba;
and
Frederick Brunton, sometime employed as a ship's steward between London and Cape Town.
R. S. GORDON, Solicitor,
462, Paisley-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Instruction in Zouave Drill; only those who have been connected with same need write.
Box 1,735, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

WALMSLEY'S SCENIC STUDIO,
RIVERS STREET, PORTSMOUTH.
Scenery of Every Description.
MODELS. ESTIMATES.
"The scenery was designed and painted by Mr. Fred Walmsley, and gained great admiration." ("La Forza del Dest no," Carl Rosa Opera Co.)—Press.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston

PHOTOS
with Individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of
THE *Hana* STUDIOS, Ltd.,
place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand.

"THE ERA"
IN AMERICA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS
NEW YORK.
"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-
INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.
American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.
EFFECT ON THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
SOLICITOR.
PRICE SIXPENCE.
"THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK

JUST PUBLISHED.
Price ONE SHILLING.

Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling. Purchasers of this work will not only be making a good investment, but will be also adding to the funds of two deserving charities. The above work, got up in a convenient size for the waistcoat pocket, should be in the possession of every Actor, every Music Hall Artist, and every Entertainer, in fact everybody concerned in the Amusement World.

CONTENTS.

Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.

All About Artists' Luggage.
List of Clubs.
All About Stamping Contracts.
Foreign Money Table.
London Music Halls and Theatres with their Telephone Numbers.
Provincial Theatres and Halls.
List of Brougham Proprietors.
List of Photographers.
Size of Theatrical Printing Paper.
Names and Addresses of Theatrical Railway Managers, and other useful information.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK

will be sold at ONE SHILLING, post free.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions, THE
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
AND THE
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Garrick Theatre, writes:—
"I thank you for the little book, which I am sure will be very useful."
Mr. Joseph Wilson, the Tivoli, says:—
"The Distance Chart is very handy."
Mr. C. Blyth Pratt, The Oxford, writes:—
"The little Date Book should be very useful."
Mr. Seymour Hicks, Aldwych Theatre, writes:—
"I thank you for the Telephone Book, which I find most useful."

Send 12 Stamps to the Publisher.
"THE ERA BUILDINGS,"
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, W.C.
'Phones: 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address: "The Era," London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE (GRAND THEATRE).—Lessee, Mr. John Poole; Manager, Mr. R. Tebbitt.—The Five Tritons in a capital musical act are highly appreciated; Joan Deering, with a tuneful voice and a violin, gains great praise. The pictures are very interesting.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alfred Reid.—Morrelli and Moore, in their eccentric speciality act, top the bill; Sim Maree is a clever Indian contortionist; Marjorie Lawrence is a chic comedian and dancer; and Stuart and Evans cause roars of laughter. Pictures are good.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—J. C. Poole is here with his up-to-date myriorama. Amasis, wizard of the Nile, is a novelty; the Brothers Rees are unique military athletes; Inez and Pim accomplish a fine gymnastic performance; Harry Carsdale scores as a Yorkshire humorist and mimic; Vasey and Ramsey present *Jerks, the Butler;* and a fine series of pictures is given.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott opened a short stock season here on Monday with *The Octoroon*. As Salem Scudder Mr. Charles Draycott makes a decided hit with a clever and breezy portrayal; Mr. St. John Stuart delineates George Peyton in a quiet, earnest, and natural manner; Mr. Clinton Baddeley gives an able rendering of the villain Jacob McCloskey, and Mr. George Steel presents with telling effect the part of the Indian Wah-no-Tee. Mr. Theo Balfour is highly successful as Mr. Sunnyside; Mr. Joseph Magrath is all that could be desired as Pete; and Miss Nana Flensburg cleverly represents Paul. Mrs. Charles Draycott wins all hearts by her excellent interpretation of Zoe; Miss Issa Steel sweetly portrays the character of Dora; and Miss Louise Millward merits praise as Mrs. Peyton.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Cattaneo troupe of acrobatic sketch artists hold the premier position here, and are warmly received; the King's College Boys, in their vocal scena, repeat former successes; and Maud Beaumont, an old pantomime favourite, is decidedly popular. The Sisters Terry are a pleasing and engaging couple; the Corcoran Bros. are clever instrumentalists; and Maud Vera is a dainty comedienne and dancer. J. E. Roscoe is a capital comedian; and Tom Hamer, a local coon vocalist and wooden shoe dancer, is enthusiastically received. The bioscope is an added attraction.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—John Grun Marx gives an exhibition of weight-lifting, chain-breaking, &c., and keenly contested competitions are taking place; Kloof and Ramsey give a fine musical act, introducing novel instruments; the Four Sydney Girls are exceedingly clever and graceful dancers; Tom Garland's ventriloquial efforts are amusing and interesting; Emmie Ames is very successful with her character songs; Harry Bancroft is a favourite; Harry Desmond as a comedian does well; Lily Denville is a capable comedienne and dancer; Bert Anderson as a conjurer pleases.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Bert Sloman.—Instructive pictures of considerable merit are shown here, the making of locomotives being especially interesting. The Derby was billed for Thursday.

GROSVENOR PICTURE PALACE.—At this new hall the management are displaying their ingenuity and up-to-date methods by showing all the latest public events almost as soon as they happen.

ASHINGTON.—BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—Eileen and May, in their musical act, are very clever, and Lenaro, eccentric comedian, is well appreciated. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Weallans; Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—The McLaren Troupe, capital dancers, are proving a big draw; Joseph Hudson has an excellent bass voice; Russ and Johnson are responsible for the comedy element, which is very good. The pictures are highly appreciated.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is here in *Diana of Dobson's*. The part of Diana is in the hands of Miss Eleanor Delaporte, who portrays the varied moods of the irrepressible Diana with great skill; the Hon. Victor Bretherton is capitally acted by Mr. Leslie Rea; Sir Jabez Grimley is remarkably well hit off by Mr. Thos. Pauncefote, and Mrs. Cantelupe finds in Miss Hilda Francks an actress fully equal to the demands of the character; the assistants at Dobson's drapery establishment are all admirably presented by Misses Nannie Hume, Eva Leonard-Boyne, Cecily Oates, Winifred Trevor Lowe; Miss Marie Ault gives the proper self-importance to Miss Pringle; Miss Mary Crewe is satisfactory as Mrs. White Fraser; Mr. Leslie Crowther is agreeably prominent as Police-Constable Fellowes, and Mr. R. F. Beach makes a characteristic waiter.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, assisted by Marajah and Mlle. Leoney, presents artistic living pictures and Eastern dances; the Harringtons, in a scene of Mexico, give a clever comic juggling act, and also sing and dance; Mollie Watson pleases with her singing of favourite ditties; the Lashmars are fun-makers extraordinary; A. De Bessell astonishes with his wonderful clay modelling; the Cosmopolitan Male Quartette are harmonious part singers; Mr. Chas. M. Daly and company appear in a clever sketch, *I Must Have It;* Mr. Daly as Jovial Jim the Tramp scores, and Miss Dora Hilstrom as a barmaid is chic and smart.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E A. Sims.—The double cinematograph programme gives a variety of pictures. The most striking films of the week are the Naval picture, Lieut. Rose, R.N., and the Foreign Spy.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The Stricken Home and The Lesson by the Sea are leading films. Mr. Wm. Travis Green, descriptive baritone vocalist, sings good songs

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Lackie.—The leading films are supplemented by new views of the late King Edward's Funeral. The MacGregors are two talented artists in song and patter.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The leading picture in this week's programme here is For the Honour of His Family, a sensational military drama; full of pathos is The Two Portraits; Mary, the Coster Girl, is a highly dramatic film. The comic portion is represented by A Runaway Stove, Beneath the Gas, and Too Many Admirers. A special feature is the engagement of Mysterious Parker, whose quick changes and transformations prove him an artist of ability, and meets with hearty recognition.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—A star programme of up-to-date pictures at this popular house includes one of the latest A.B. series, As It is in Life, full of dramatic incident, and well acted; Double Dealing, a pathetic story; Brother's Devotion; A Loving Wife's Devotion; Rebellious Betty; Airship Gazing; and Foolshead Marries. Pleasing vaudeville items are presented by the Two Daniells, in speciality act, and Mr. A. T. Bute, quaint comedian. The weekly children's matinée is popular, crowded houses being the rule.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Miss Florence Baines' company are keeping audiences merry with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. The capital company includes Miss Madge Grey, Mr. H. B. Pippin as John Higgins, Mr. Sydney Deach, jun., as Henry Higgins; Mr. Allen Servington as Moses Goldberg, Mr. Lonnen Meadows as John Henry Thompson. Miss May Beigh is good as Miss Lancashire; and Miss Fanny Olive appears as Mrs. Thompson.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—Les Ados top the bill with astonishing feats of strength, and Signor Ados gives an astonishing exhibition of muscle displacement and physical development. Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, gives a funny and exceedingly clever act; Azella Wilson, a charming lady in appearance and physique, performs gracefully on the trapeze; Graham has a novel show in "The Music Hall, 1875 to 1910"; Rose and Challoner give a funny act as *The Porter and Singer; Making a Man of Her*, enacted by the Oakes Duo, is screamingly funny; Iris Branfield is a charming comedienne; and the Palacescope provides good films.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company is here with *Rollicking Rory*. Mr. Mackey as Rory is simply irresistible, and Miss Connie Meadows is a vivacious Rosie; Miss Nellie de Lacy and Miss Jeanette Lyons are good as Peggy and the Widow O'Donoghue; and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey does admirably as Mrs. Ashleigh and Roseleen.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Will o' the Wisps are still here with an interesting and varied entertainment.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Mr. George Formby is here singing his latest successes; Edwards and Wards prove good comedy acrobats; Roy Beavis is an accomplished conjurer; Dancit is an expert dancer; Thessen's acrobatic dogs do some clever things; Rene juggles admirably; and Gilbert Girard proves himself an excellent animal and instrumental mimic.

BARRY DOCK.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—Topping a good bill are the Cheers, with their educated cats, who are thoroughly entertaining; a capital turn is supplied by the Sisters Glynne, instrumentalists and dancers. Some of the most impressive pictures are shown on the Bio.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The farce *Not Before the Missus* holds the boards, and proves highly acceptable; Miss Nannie Goldman heads the cast as Jane Parker, and, together with Mr. William Holles as Burnaby Bunstone, is responsible for most of the merriment the piece provokes; Mr. Frank Attree and Mr. Toby Jones create no little laughter by their impersonations of Alphonse Duprez, an excitable Frenchman, and Bob Longshanks, a Guardsman. The lively parts of Augustus Whistler and Vandyke Brown are rattled through with credit by Mr. Leonard K. Mansford and Mr. Francis James; their lady-loves, Julia and Bessie, finding pleasing representatives in Miss Helene Dale and Miss Edith Bruce. One of the best played parts is the Constance Bunstone of Miss Pattie Walton. As a curtain-raiser Miss Nannie Goldman is seen in her well-known *Little Charwoman* protean sketch, in which she receives good support from Mr. William Holles and Mr. Francis James. The theatre closes after to-night until August Bank Holiday.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—During Mr. Schuberth's absence abroad Mr. Jules Simpson, a former manager, is in charge. He is fortunate in having such a popular artist as Florrie Forde to head this week's bill in all her latest successes. Her reception is great. An instrumental treat is the violin playing of Edie Reynolds; the Three Alskarnos score in their comedy risley feats; return visits are paid by the Sages, vaudeville artists, and Norah Desmond, the American pictorial songstress; an old favourite is Josh Dixon, the quaint comedian and dancer; the expert dancing and jokes of Clarke and Mostol are loudly applauded. Pictures prove an attraction.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Under the direction of Mr. Robert Macdonald, *The Gay Gordons* is attracting good houses. Mr. Frank Lincoln carries off the part of Angus Graeme in dashing style, making the breeziest of lovers in his scenes with the charming Peggy Quainton, brightly and tenderly played by Miss May Yates. Mr. Edwin Dodds is equally successful in evoking merriment as the quaint old showman Nervy Nat, and is loyally seconded by Miss Edie Martin as Charlotte Siddons. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff makes a pretty and vivacious Victoria Siddons; Miss Ada Mellan is natural in the part of Janet MacLeod; and the chorus is attractive and efficient.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr W. A. Salmond.—Monday commenced the third week of the revival season here under the direction of Mr. Mathew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond, when the romantic drama *The Guiding Star* was presented. In the dual rôle of Gladys and Madge Goodwin, Miss Hettie Zillwood achieved much success, her acting throughout being quite irreproachable; Mr. Albert Guyon furnished a clever impersonation of Harold Hagar; Mr. Reginald T. Fox submitted a manly impersonation of the young squire Jack Hilton; and Mr. Charles H. Gallier portrayed the rôle of Martin Hardcliffe as vividly and realistically as the part required. Mr. Lewis Gordon was quite equal to the rôle of Farmer Dean, and Miss Alice Buckland was a charming Dolly Dean. A vivacious representative of Pattie Barnes was found in Miss Lillian Malvern; and a capital impersonation of the Hon. Algy Allonbury was furnished by Mr. Robert Mann. Mr. Fred Osmond kept the audience highly amused as Bob Bowser, and other rôles were adequately presented.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Fred Kitchen and company top the bill again, and continue their success with their military comedy *Private Potts;* the clever comedy cyclists, Narrow Bros., gain a deserved reception nightly; and Mark Sheridan, jun. (son of the great Mark), made a hit on Monday with droll songs and patter; much humour is infused into the act presented by Walton and Lester; the Maltans, comedy duo, have been successful; Williams and Warden, comedians, are very funny; and also on the programme are Flake White, painter and cartoonist, and the Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is provided by John Le Hay and company, who present with much éclat their very droll sketch *Oysters*, in which Mr. Le Hay is inimitably quaint as the Needy Nut; the Délevines return with their original comedy dancing act *Flip and Flop*, which gains applause; Mlle. Yetta introduces her novel act, in which she dances a cake-walk on the wire; Miss Aida Martino is a smart comedienne with good songs; and Mr. Phil Parsons is a talented light comedian. Also here are Frank and Free, capital comedians; Mlle. Polio, a graceful and agile lady gymnast; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures have been presented here. Messrs. Dennis and Morris are good comedians and expert dancers, and Mr. Frank Whiteley a capable comedian, whose dancing is exceedingly smart.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some beautiful pictures have been exhibited here, including (for the first time anywhere) The Power of the Press, Flossie's Theft, A Noble Sacrifice, &c. Mr. Percy Gill's clever dancing has been vociferously applauded.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A clever display of contortion and acrobatic feats is given by Eccentric Billy and his performing dog; Miss Georgina Buxton renders popular ballads in a pleasing manner. Among the pictures shown by means of the Hippograph is The Kingdom of Lilliput, a very fine film.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with the interesting play *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Guy Hastings is conspicuous with a fine rendering of the Rev. Alan Grey; Mary Haysel is admirably played by Miss Mary Warburton; and Mr. Cecil Mannering is well placed as Stephen Haysel. Comic relief is cleverly accorded by Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly and by Miss Polly Denville as Lizzie Muggins; and the cast generally is most efficient. The production draws two good houses nightly.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—The clever comedian, Tom Foy, assisted by some capital colleagues, is appearing in the side-splitting sketch *First of April*, to the intense delight of large audiences. Jan Rudenyi and company, in the musical sketch *The Power of Music*, and Miss Queenie Essex, an accomplished comedienne, are leading turns; and Harry Helme, an excellent vocalist. Miss Harrie Greene, comedienne; Cestria, a smart comic juggler; Tom Yorke, coster comedian; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; W. Graham, the human marionette; and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Junius Booth's company, in that gentleman's dramatic version of *Monte Cristo*, are fulfilling a week's engagement here with considerable success. The title-rôle is represented by Mr. Booth with considerable skill and effect; and Miss Lilian Dean is well suited as Mercedes.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Manager, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dooley.—Mr. Frank L. Hayter's Dutch Drolls Concert Company furnish a most agreeable entertainment.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Ideal weather conditions favour the promenade concerts here, which, under the direction of Mr. Landon Ronald, are being satisfactorily patronised. The programmes are varied and classical.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*The Private Secretary* is here again, and again the audiences are excellent. The farcical comedy is presented by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company, but the veteran actor, Mr. J. F. Graham, popular manager of the theatre, is the chief attraction. He appears as the Rev. Robert Spalding, and a better characterisation than his, one could not wish to see. Mr. W. Hargreaves (Mr. Cattermole) is a big favourite here, and his humour is delightful; and others who deserve special mention are Mr. Frederick Tyrrell as Gibson, Mrs. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford, Mr. Sam Wilkinson as Harry Marsland, Miss Cecily Wade as Mrs. Stead, and Miss Aimee Gratton Clyndes, and Miss Elsie Blythe.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Charles Gibbon's company is responsible for an effective representation of the ever-popular drama *Alone in London*. The outstanding feature is the performance of Miss Nellie Clyde, an actress of considerable ability, to whom is entrusted the part of Annie Meadows. She quickly wins the sympathies of audiences and is always convincing. Mr. Gerald Jordan ably portrays a villainous character as Dick Redcliffe, and Miss Laurie O'Neil is a favourite in the character of Tom Chickweed. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson gives a notable portrayal as the philosophic thief; little Hetty Hornsby is clever as Little Nan; and others who claim attention are Mr. Wallace Dunlop (Spriggins), Miss Molly Monaghan (Mrs. Maloney), Miss Carrie Young (Liz), and Mr. Frank Caffrey (Charlie).

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The crowded houses assembling each evening at this theatre clearly demonstrate the success of the two-houses-a-night system inaugurated a fortnight ago. This week a strong drama holds the boards, Mr. Edward Marris's stock company presenting *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Harry C. Robinson earns praise for excellent work in the heavy character Marcus Dread, and as a set-off is the humorous performance of Mr. Joseph Millane as Shaun. Miss Blanche St. Albans is well chosen in the part of Moira Kennion; Mr. Charles B. Williams is successful as Fergus McNaughten; and others who merit praise are Miss Graham Edwin, Miss Nora Melton, Mr. Templar Ellis, &c.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The powerful mystery play *The Girl with the Angel Face* is being presented for the first time at this theatre, and the appreciation of good houses goes all in its favour. Mr. Mat Lynton's company is responsible for the production. Miss Minnie Love undertakes the difficult rôle of Angel Leigh, whose ravishing beauty makes men commit all manner of crimes to gain her favour, and she provides a remarkable character study. Mr. Graham Wingford as the unscrupulous Sir Thomas Wentworth displays great ability, and Mr. Edwin Ling (Jasper Death) and Mr. Bert Conway (Martin Flood) are excellent in other heavy characters. Miss Rhoda Douglas is a favourite as Ena, and praise is also due to Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Rosina White, Mr. Arthur Lawrence, and Mr. Edmund Beresford.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—*The Great Awakening*, a four-act drama with a strong domestic interest, is presented in capable style by Miss Olga Andre and company, and the hearty reception accorded it each evening leaves no doubt that it is built on the right lines. Miss Andre gives a notable performance in the principal character, Lola Selby, her acting being always convincing. Mr. Herbert Barrs gives many indications of ability as James Selby, an escaped convict; and Mr. Arthur Winpenny ably portrays the part of Jack Merton. Miss Eva Conway gives a good delineation as Selina Worts, and Mr. F. R Turner (Sergeant Brew) contributes acceptable light comedy.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Carlton Dramatic Company are this week attracting big houses with *Unknown: A River Mystery*, a melodrama of the best type. The story itself and the characters portrayed therein are features that at once compel attention. Mr. Haldane Dalton is a forceful actor in the part of Harold Merrybright, and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam is always pleasing in the rôle of his sister Nellie. The heavy work is in the capable hands of Mr. Victor Gardour (Arnold Tyson) and Mr. Geoffrey Broughton (Dr. Brinkton). Of the other characters Mr. Newton Pearce's portrayal of the old sailor Jack Salt deserves especial praise. Mr. Norman Tracy fills the rôle of Albert Stormking with distinction, and Mr. Willis Collins and Mr. Frank Holyoake are also prominent.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Miss Maidie Scott heads a good all-round bill, and introduces new numbers, which are well received. A stirring military episode, entitled *Drummed Out*, is admirably played by A. C. Lilly and company. Binn and Binn are highly entertaining in a humorous musical turn; a skilful performance is given by Wyndham and Kitty, whose jumping feats are novel and difficult; operatic numbers, sung by Sybil St. Elmo, are distinctly good; a bright farcical episode, entitled *Ten Minutes*, is presented by Alfred Wood's company; Dot Hardy gives character comedy studies; Alcide Capitaine an aerial gymnast of more than ordinary skill and attractiveness.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Crowded audiences enjoy a well-varied programme. Mike Whallen, always bright and cheerful, is a lively turn, his gags being particularly smart; Chanti, in a series of character dances of various nations, is remarkably good; the Seven Perezoffs take part in an animated combined pantomime, entitled *A Supper in a Paris Café;* Miss Lulu Russell is a charming lady who elicits rounds of applause with her delightful songs; Orpheus, rightly described as "the master of melody," plays with skill upon eight different instruments; D'Arc's marionette figures provide a pleasing entertainment; the Quaint Q's are full of melody and humour; and others who contribute to the bill are Gwennie Hasto, comedienne, and Mlle. Eldee, in a series of poses.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Miss Sable Fern's musical interlude, entitled *Boys in Camp*, is one of the most up-to-date novelties on the music hall stage, and it forms a splendid head-liner, the songs, which are a leading feature, going with a pleasant swing. The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arab acrobats are responsible for a clever exhibition of tumbling and equilibrism; Kartelli performs surprising tricks upon a slack rope, and gains a good share of applause; Eileen Douglas, a sweet-voiced singer, has a good répertoire; Bessie Butt, a clever male impersonator scores a hit in "Girls, girls, girls"; the L.V.O. Trio present a good comedy act; Merton and Rydon are successful comedy entertainers; and Giovani Daruso is an accomplished violinist.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Harry First is an American actor who has full scope for his peculiar humour in the comedy-drama *The Matrimonial Fee*, a piece which is well played by the company; a clever and mystifying performance is given by the Ten-ka Troupe of Japanese magicians; Cedar and Elgar are up-to-date entertainers; Arthur Rigby sings his latest songs and is warmly applauded; an exceptionally clever turn is that of the two McKays, children, who give a remarkable exhibition of Scottish singing and dancing; the Musical Marvels sing well, and are funny when playing their instruments; the Quality Quartet have some splendid concerted numbers; Pallas and Cussick are knockabout comedians; Clark and Haydon appear in a musical act; and Smit and Smit are clever and humorous performers on the bars.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The visit of Sandy McNab and company is a popular one judging by the hearty laughter provoked by this turn at every house. The sketch presented is the popular absurdity *The Egyptian Mummy*, and as a "star" turn it would be hard to beat. The Brothers O'Brien in their gymnastic act are above the average; the Rhobins and Kruso Trio present a laughable musical speciality, *Pastimes on the Island;* H. R. Friscary is a clever top-hat manipulator; Elise Malpas has a great reception upon a return visit; Kitty Kearns is a popular comedienne and dancer; and Will E. Stopit arouses much merriment.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—One of the most attractive programmes ever presented here is arousing great interest this week. The chief subject is The Passing of King Edward, which forms a striking national tribute to the memory of the late monarch, and earns the appreciation of all members of the audience. A popular feature is also a series of striking photographs by Mr. Cherry Kearton, F.Z.S., illustrating the travels of ex-President Roosevelt in Africa. The Woman of Samaria is a splendid Biblical subject, and there are many other good dramatic and comic pictures. Mr. Frank Clarke, a pleasing baritone vocalist, sings several popular numbers.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—A varied entertainment containing items of exceptional interest is heartily appreciated by crowded audiences. As usual, there is a strong programme of pictures, including dramatic and comic subjects; and M. Dubois presents two Indian monkeys who have been trained to give a remarkable performance. Young Pongo causes a sensation by circling round the hall seated in a miniature aeroplane. Miss Ivy May, who is attempting a fast of thirty-one days, sustaining life merely on aerated waters, provides an attractive sideshow.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Dayton Family give a capital turn; the Three Gascoignes are skilful comedians and comedy jugglers; Dorma Morgan is a clever comedienne; Dott and Williams give a good sand-dancing turn; Walter Wade is a smart comedian; Sylvene, assisted by Mlle. Florence, produce an exciting equilibristic scena; and the Hippo films are good.

EDEN.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Excellent films are again provided, most interest being evinced in the film showing the local Church Parade of Police, Territorials, and Boy Scouts.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are playing *John Glayde's Honour* here this week with considerable success. Mr. Norris presents a capital study of John Glayde, and his acting meets with warm appreciation; Muriel Glayde has an admirable exponent in Miss Gwladys Faunce; and Mr. Royce Milton cleverly depicts the scheming Trevor Lerode. The minor parts are in good hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Miss Violet Osmond's company is here with *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Alexander Loftus is still the life and soul of the piece as Bertie White; and William White is cleverly played by Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes; Miss Madge Prior is seen to advantage in the title-rôle, and Miss Beatrice Erle is a charming Dora Heather; Mr. Burlington Rigg as Captain Loveday, and Mr. E. W. Chewd as Colonel Claymore had good support.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Wee Georgie Wood, the wonderful boy comedian, is meeting with an ovation here; Fred Barnes does a popular turn, and is particularly successful in his sketch *The Black Sheep of the Family;* Ray Miles and Ray excel as eccentric jugglers and gymnasts; Francini Olloms is a wonderful musician; Sam Austin and Ray Cowan are clever vocal entertainers; Cosgrove and Burns shine as comedy duettists; Dora Poole and Fred Maguire are favourite vocalists; and Craig, Roze, and Craig are remarkably clever gymnasts.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—For the summer season the management here has adopted two performances nightly, which promises to be successful. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's capable company is appearing in *Sapho*, Miss Ada G. Abbott playing the part of Fanny Legrand (Sapho) and Mr. Edward Ouston that of Jean Gaussin. The other parts are well filled.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The company here this week comprises the artistic Selbinis, in their difficult bicycle trick performances, &c.; Ruby Emerson, comedienne; the Lester Brothers, dancing demons; John Lloyd's Napoli Singers, in *An Evening at Home;* Ridiculous Recco, burlesque acrobat; the Carina Sisters, in their refined musical act; Dorothy Gould, comedienne; Will Penn, eccentric comedian; W. Fullbrook and company, in their comedy concoction *Astronomy;* and the pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is appearing in the military drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*, the Misses Maggie English and Maudie B. Douglas respectively appearing as the two little drummers.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Bobbie Allandale and Mr. Ludwig Blattner; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—Top of the bill are the Brothers Errard, smart acrobatic violinists; Frank Weaver takes high rank as a sand-dancer; W. H. Atkinson, the popular baritone, contributes several songs; Mr. Leslie P. Paget displays exceptional talent in his character impersonations from Dickens; and the Sisters Lesmere are smart duettists and dancers. Miss Dorothy Watson displays distinct talent as a pianist; and an excellent impression is created by George Barlow, the new comet.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Neville Claude's company is here with *The Girl from Kay's*, with Miss Florrie Millington in the title-rôle, and Mr. J. W. Hooper as Hoggenheimer. Other parts are undertaken by Miss Rosie Burnett as Nora Chalmers; Miss Dorothy King as the maid; Mr. Harold Perry as Harry Gordon; Mr. Charles Power as the Hon. Percy; Mr. Richard Andean as Theo. Quench; Mr.

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Charles Leverton as Mr. Chalmers; Mr. B. H. Heron as the hall porter, and Master Walt. Pink as the page boy.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Thepdor's Flutter*, the French farcical comedy, with music, is being presented here this week. Miss Doris Woodall, who plays Aurelia, and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Mons. Adolf Plumeau winning unstinted applause for their exquisite vocal efforts. Mr. Charles Victor (Adolf Durand), too, sings well, and Miss Marion Broom, Miss Annie Van Dyck, and Miss Hilda Morris as Angela, Claire, and Eve respectively are a trio of very capable vocalists. The humour of the piece is accentuated by the acting of Mr. S. Boulderstone in the nondescript character of Theodor, and by Messrs. Victor and J. K. Campbell as the successful dealers of pickles.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones presents here this week his striking drama of thrilling interest, *When Other Lips*, which is well represented and received with favour. Miss Marie Daventry as the heroine of the story of love and intrigue acts with conspicuous ability, and Mr. Juan d'Alberte is effective as the villain; Mr. John Davidson has scope for his capabilities as the sailor hero; Mr. Jones makes much of his part of Phlyocrates Jenkins, and excellent support is rendered by Miss Marion Wells and the other members of the capable company in working out the plot and counter-plotting.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Some striking illusions are presented here this week by Oswald Williams, who is assisted by Winifred La Barte, and a series of wonderful tricks and disappearances, accomplished with remarkable rapidity, quite astound the audience. La Pia, "the Enchantress," aided by the limelight and the cinematograph, presents a series of very charming and fantastic dances, and a remarkable illusion, viz., "The Spirit of the Waves"; Van Biene is on a return visit, and his delightful 'cello solos, played in his latest sketch *Van Biene's Baby*, win great applause. Heeley and Meeley, "the lucky tramps," are clever acrobats and very grotesque, and Cissie Thompson, a charming comedienne, Billy Hobbs, a capital "nigger" comedian and dancer, Rhoda Paul, a smart male impersonator, and Hans and Lux, comedians, complete the fine company, and there are some amusing Bioscope pictures in addition.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Carlton is here, entertaining as ever with card tricks and patter, and he is most diverting in his burlesque *The Showman*, assisted by the Two Hillands, Jock Walker, and others. W. A. Haines and Alan Boothwick are particularly amusing in their capital sketch *Half a Dollar*, and they are well supported. The excellent company this week also includes Alfred Long, alto vocalist; Burnetti, quick-change character musician; Adie Lombard, an excellent comedienne; and Susie and Protti, in an original Continental dancing act. The Palace Perfection Pictures form quite a feature.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer. — Mr. Norfolk Megone and his orchestra are adding to their reputation by playing twice daily in the Floral Pavilion. The vocalist this week is Miss Rosa Pallow, whose clear soprano voice is a source of delight. In the Grand Pavilion The Gipsies and their Jester are still drawing big houses. Mr. Will Gane, the manager of the company, has written a new musical sketch, with a Japanese setting, which was played for the first time on Saturday evening, and was highly appreciated. In the Royal Victoria Rooms the animated pictures are drawing large houses.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Mr. Wilson James and his talented co., "The Gaieties," are still going strong.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here this week with *The Love of the Princess*. Miss May Beatrice gives a charming impersonation of the Princess Idalia; Mr. Frank Harvey submits a powerful enactment of Prince Conrad Ramona; Mr. Richard Vane is very effective as the traitor Count Danillo; Mr. Beckett Bould as Lieut. Orlans and Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff are admirably suited; much amusement is afforded by Mr. Edgar Morgan as Boris and Mr. Francis Serle as Duke Scarf; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily represented. The play is well staged and mounted.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—James Fawn, the favourite comedian, is enthusiastically received; the Lecardo Brothers, as the tired bakers, give an original acrobatic turn; Preston Holmes's musical selections are admirably performed; Ted Cowan is a quaint comedian; Manson and West are diverting in the comedy sketch, *Telling the Tale;* the Four Sparks are capital vocalists and dancers; the Manites, a comedy duo, win hearty applause; Ethel Donna is a pleasing singer and dancer; Minnie Warner, comedienne and speciality dancer, merits praise; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is highly interesting.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Zona Vevey, assisted by Max Erard and his piano, contributes songs in pleasing style, winning very hearty applause; Johnson Clarke is a clever ventriloquist; Dort and Leonard are very funny acrobats; the Two Lillys are excellent equilibrists; Tim O'Connor, "the boy with the obedient feet," is well received; Baby Vi Davis is a capital child actress-vocalist; Jack and Evelyn, the popular comedy couple, achieve distinct success; the Columbia Trio are artistic vocalists; Les Berthos' acrobatic dancing is admirable; George D'Albert is a good actor-vocalist; and Tennyson and Wallis, comedians, are cordially applauded.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Eric H. Albury's company is here this week with *Why Smith Left Home*. Mr. Albury submits an admirable and entertaining representation of the Count; Mr. Vernon Sansbury is highly effective as John Smith; Mr. Charles Clarke as General Billet Doux and Mr. Laurence J. Lawrence as Major Duncombe are well placed; Miss Sybil Chester acquits herself admirably as Amelia; Miss Edna Eden merits praise for her embodiment of Mrs. Smith; Miss Maude Shelton presents a clever character sketch as Lavinia Daly, the cook.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Man; Resident Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Animated pictures are exhibited here this week. Foremost in the programme is the series of films depicting the Funeral Procession of the late King Edward VII. Heart of the Outlaw is a stirring drama; The Girl and the Fugitive conveys a stirring story of Western life; Glimpses of Bird Life is a charming production; and among the amusing pictures are Foolshead Disguised as a Porter and A Present for His Wife.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The animated pictures exhibited here this week prove very attractive. The Roman is a superb dramatic film; Broken Friendship and the Barber of Seville convey stirring stories; the Funeral of King Edward VII. is still shown; A Visit to an Ostrich Farm is instructive; and the comics include A Slippery Day, Baffles Bandit, and the Champion Bowl Player. Mr. Osland Denner contributes excellent baritone songs.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The animated pictures here continue to attract full houses. Dramatic stories are submitted in The Father's Ransom, Irish Boy, and Vengeance of the Sea; very picturesque are Along the Nile and In the Land of Monkeys and Snakes; and much amusement is afforded by Artist's Nightmare. The Funeral of King Edward VII. is exhibited.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Messrs. Leedham, Bantock, and Frederick Mouillot's company is here with the farcical comedy *Those Terrible Twins*. Mr. Bantock is highly amusing as William; Mr. Charles Esdale makes a capital part of Charlie Pringle; Mr. Edwin H. Wynne does excellently as the Hon. Harry Scott; Miss Marion Hargrave makes a good character part of Maria (the cook); Mr. Harry Cane and Miss Margaret Skelton are well placed as Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Pringle; Miss Louie Beckman and Miss Edna Morgan are pleasing as Violet Fairfield and Lillie Leyton; and Mr. Archie McCraig is quaintly funny as Minks (the lift boy). The one-act play *Only a Clown*, by Percy Greenbank and Leedham Bantock, commences the performance, the parts being capitally taken by Mr. Harry Cane, Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, Mr. Charles Esdale, Mr. George Rathbone, and Miss Nora Walker.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—The romantic drama *From Slave to Princess* is being well played here by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Miss Agnes Verity and Mr. Wernham Ryott do excellently in their respective parts of Vera and Prince Julian; Miss Doris Graham evinces considerable power as Princess Claudia; Mr. Charles E. Johnson acts very effectively as Michael Bardoni; Mr. Pringle Roberts displays ability as Otto; the comic parts of Patrick O'Brien and Amelia are capitally taken by Mr. Harry Benson and Miss Mary Morrell; and the remaining parts are all in capable hands. The play is effectively staged.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Schichtl Marionettes, a capital reproduction of a variety theatre in miniature, heads the programme, and obtains considerable appreciation; the Seven Bramusas present an excellent musical act, their speciality being entitled "Music Afloat"; Frank Hartley does some smart juggling; Yost and York amuse with patter, song, and piano playing; Edna Latonna is a successful male impersonator; Arthur Croxton amuses as a mimetic comedian; Ciss and Will are clever juvenile clog-dancers, &c.; and a pleasing selection of animated pictures concludes.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Hetty King, male impersonator, heads the programme with an enjoyable turn; the Six Brothers Luck amuse with their comedy sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps;* Walter Bird and company please with their comedy sketch *Her Husband;* the Scottish Meisters amuse with their vocal extravaganza *Ancestral Spirits;* Milton and Horton are successful speciality artists; Andy Gimmel is a capable Scotch vocalist; Olive Dene sings and dances in pleasing style; and J. Randolph Sutton, light comedian, is appreciated. Pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Another excellent list of pictures is shown here, including a finely-acted story, The Postmistress, and On the Reef. Good audiences are the rule.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Lukushimas Troupe of Japanese acrobats present an original series of acrobatic features with wonderful neatness. The Eisteddfod Vocal Sextette please with capitally-rendered glees, and Ada Leach is applauded to the echo for pretty singing. Allan Hanbury wins high approval with good patter, and Vardon has a novel ventriloquial turn. The Georgians, a well-trained troupe of young artists, present a pretty vocal dancing scena, and D'Aulby is a remarkably rapid landscape artist. The Empire Theatrescope shows some fine pictures.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. G. R. Badcoe.—Tom Hearne's lazy juggling act creates roars of laughter, and he is also good in his new sketch, in which seven remarkably quick changes are made. M. Gaston Chevalier and company give a sketch, *The Rat*, in which M. Chevalier and Mlle. Etoille Noir perform the sensational Apache dance. Friend and Downing convulse the audience, and Canard, "the man on time," gives a clever contortion exhibition. Merited applause is accorded Leo and Roland for a balancing act, and Kate Traill sings pleasantly at the piano. Wild Birds in their Haunts is shown by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—The mysterious De Biere is astonishing large audiences here by his marvellous conjuring; Mlle. Silotta and her beautiful white horse are the perfection of artistic statuary; the Whitworth Trio manipulate their cycles in a wonderful manner; Dainty Lena Leslie is a bright and pleasing comedienne; good turns are also given by Jack Hayton, Stewart and Morris, and The Frohmans; and the Operascope supplies the latest films.

BURY (Lancs.).—ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. Will Casey's company opened here on Monday with *An Unwedded Wife*, of which two performances are given nightly. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is a satisfactory Philip Blackstone; Miss Gilbert Elvin plays well as John Hawthorne; Frank Armstrong is capitally portrayed by Mr. Arthur Cheeves; Mr. and Mrs. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer and Carraway Crumpet respectively are very amusing; and Mr. Ern Turner as Kit, Mr. Frank Masters as P.C. O'Runyin, contribute to the success achieved. Miss Ethel Spense is a sympathetic Elsie Langham. Miss Chrissie Dunbar proves herself an experienced and talented actress.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—The Funeral Procession of His Late Majesty is on view for another week, and is attracting large audiences. There are other excellent pictures, and variety is provided by Denby and Dent (vocal comedians) and Lilian Neville (character vocalist).

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—A very attractive bill is topped by Florence and Rose Showell, duettists, whose vocal contributions are greatly admired. Golden and Chance appear successfully in a comedy tumbling act; Barney Armstrong, comedian, and his clever and original assistant, Kelly (appearing as deputy for Tony Black, indisposed), are responsible for considerable merriment; Ronald George performs cleverly on a variety of instruments; the Whimsicals, in melody and mirth; Die Kleaner Reays, gymnasts; Gipsy Hodgson, comedienne and dancer; and the Geraldos, the famous juggling combination, conclude the programme.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Miss Horniman's company, in a round of plays, is occupying the boards here. On Monday night Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Candida* was presented. Mr. Henry Austin was all that could be desired as Rev. James Mavor Morell; Mr. Edward Landor was successful as Burgess; Mr. B. Iden Payne played Marchbanks cleverly; Mr. J. V. Bryant was also exceptionally good. Miss Warragh rendered Candida with marked ability; while Miss Ada King as Phroserphine Gurnett did her best with an unsatisfactory character. The play was preceded by the capital little comedy, *Makeshifts. The Silver Box, Widowers' Houses*, and *Cupid and Commonsense* are also in the bill.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—A welcome return visit is paid by the clever comedy *The Marriage of Kitty*, presented with infinite care by Mr. C. W. Standing's London company. Mr. Standing as Sir Reginald Belsize gives an easy and natural representation; Miss Myra Swan as Katherine Silverton is charming; and Miss Winifred Pearson as Madame de Semiano closely approaches perfection. John Travers is excellently portrayed by Mr. Sidney Burt; Mr. Christopher Steele (Norbury) and Miss Pamela Hope (Rosalie) gain distinction for careful studies. The piece is preceded by *The Man in the Street*.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Miss Ellaline Terriss delights Cardiffians in a humorous and entertaining sketch entitled *The Pink of Perfection*, in which Miss Terriss captivates everyone by her impersonation of a character well suited to her bewitching personality; Mr. Stanley Brett and Mr. Roland Chester give effective support. Ernest Shand achieves fresh laurels with his latest songs; *Humpsti Bumsti*, by Pipifax and Panlo, is a marvellously eccentric performance; Herbert Shelley appears in a clever "quick-change" Irish play, and thoroughly merits the approbation he is accorded; and Wood, Wells, and Wilkins score with a humorous act, in which they introduce delightfully harmonised vocalism. Takio, a remarkable mimic of sounds; the Smythsons, in an amusing sketch, entitled *The Lie Alarm;* and Kathleen Gray, in an entrancing Spanish song, complete a varied programme.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The Comedy Meisters head the bill with their talented performance of mirth and harmony; Will Van Allen, the tramp musician, occupies second position with his skilful merrymaking; Ethel Bourne is a talented contralto vocalist; Richard Finberg presents with much success his character studies from famous plays; and the Three Rutlands, gifted harmonica players; Les Arabellas, speciality wire artists; and the Rosses, comedians and dancers, also contribute to the bill.

CARLISLE. — H.M. THEATRE. — Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Edmund Tearle again produced *Jeanie Deans* on the opening of his third week of stock season, the cast of the principal characters being almost identical with that of the last performance. Mr. Tearle, Miss Kate Clinton, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Nancy Blackwood, Mr. Ernest Lodge, and Mr. Stuart Black all scored heavily, and were well supported by the other members of the company. The week's bill includes *East Lynne, The Merchant of Venice, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Three Musketeers*, and *Richard III.*

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads are the principal performers, and an excellent turn they give. Gillin is more amusing than ever as a ventriloquial humorist; in their "Scenes from Dickens" Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas score a big success; something new in trick cycling is introduced by the Newmans, whose boxing act on wheels is one to be seen. Dine and Dixon and a smart sketch entitled *The New Page Boy;* Dolly Ross, a clever comedienne and dancer; and some unusually good pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A large audience assembled here on Monday to witness a new series of up-to-date animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. Vonetta, a quick-change artist and illusionist, appears with immense success, her tricks being smartly performed; Earle and Melville, the quarrelsome pair, dance with effect, and their patter is mirth-provoking.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Max Waldon surprises and delights all by his clever female impersonations; the De Wynne Brothers are responsible for a neat and clever athletic display; Wilson and West, as the stage-struck costers, please all; Lacey's Erascope has an interesting film entitled *A Trip on the Continent;* Will Harmony mimics well-known music hall artists; the Schaffer Four contribute a musical scena which has many novel features; and others appearing are La Folles, in a singing and dancing act; Jack Heath, comedian; and Ada Smart, vocalist.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—An excellent season is brought to a close this week by Mr. Edward S. Petley and Miss Una Gilbert's company in a delightfully artistic presentation of *Little Mrs. Cummin*. Miss Gilbert, in the title-rôle, gives a finished study; Miss Christine Raynor realises perfectly the part of the girl-wife Juliet; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson plays capitally as the perplexed, yet determined, husband; the rich, deaf old uncle, Horace Eglamore, is cleverly presented by Mr. Edward S. Petley; Susy Plain is breezily studied by Miss Jessie Perceval; Mr. John Bellon does well as Captain Sands; and Miss Caroline Fenton is sufficiently starchy as Mrs. Plain. Minor parts are well sustained by Miss Isabel Leatham, Miss May Ford, and Mr. Gordon Hamilton. *A Pair of Lunatics* gives good opportunities for droll acting to Mr. Petley and Miss Perceval.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Old friends in Mr. Wallis Arthur's comedy concert company are in possession this week. Mr. George Blackmore, a versatile humorist, is exceedingly popular; Mr. Dolf Wheeler, in his coon songs and dances, is entertaining; Miss Doris Lee is a gay and pleasing comedienne; Miss Dora May has a rich contralto voice, and her songs are enjoyed; and Mr. Eric Davidson is a pleasing baritone, also rendering good service as accompanist.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—A beautiful new film, depicting the Royal Funeral, is the attraction among other successful pictures.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—*The Midnight Wedding* is presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company. Mr. Alfred Paumier in the principal rôle of Paul Valmar gives a highly crediable representation of the sword-master; Miss Lilian Hallows as the Princess Astrea proves herself a graceful and fascinating leading lady; Mr. A. E. W. Barnes is distinctly clever in the part of Captain Von Scarsbruck; and Mr. John Nesbitt admirably interprets the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Charles Whitlock's Lieutenant Von Strelsburg is a capable performance; the humorous rôles of Max, Otto, and Bobo are made the most of by Messrs. J. E. Page, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding; Mr. Forbes Harrison is suitably dignified as Father Gerard; the Kathie of Miss Jessica Black is played with vivacity and charm; and Miss Ruth Wingrove displays great merit in the part of Rozel. The play is splendidly staged.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Fr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company is presenting *Lucky 'Liza* to appreciative audiences. Mr. Clare causes much merriment as Silas Slim; Mr. Leonard Maitland presents a laughable picture of Paul Pettitoe; Mr. T. W. Benson as Peter Pettitoe is most amusing, as is Mr. J. W. Forest, who plays Biffins. Mr. Harry George successfully burlesques the manner of a barrister; Mr. Bert Collins takes the part of Tompkins with effect; Miss Helen Douglas as Marie Pettitoe and Miss Hetty Gale as Vergina Blotherwick appeared to advantage; and Miss Vesta Brownie acts and dances with great charm in the title-rôle. Madame Constance Bellamy sings with all her accustomed ability, and the dancing of the Jesmond Trio is acceptable.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. R. D. Hooper.—A strong programme of films includes Living Cigarette Cutters, Paris from the Eiffel Tower, the Training Ship Cecilie, Through the Breakers, and a magnificent film of the Funeral Procession of his late Majesty King Edward VII.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Jury; Manager, Mr. A. Bloomfield.—The films here this week include a very realistic one of the Funeral Procession of his late Majesty King Edward VII. Other excellent subjects are The Converts, The Alps from Annece to Chamonix, Bald-headed Corporal, Skating Carnival, and Hunting Red Deer in Exmoor.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *A Girl's Temptation* is attracting good houses. Miss Gertrude Gilbert ably sustains the rôle of Kate Stirling; the villain is capably portrayed by Mr. Clifton Earle; and Mr. Frank V. Venn makes a good Guy Warren. Comedy is represented by Mr. Freddie Bentley and Mr. Andrew Clarke.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—M. E. Lavigne and company are presenting La Belle Thelma and seven lady models in an attractive series of statuesque poses and picturesque tableaux; Cline and Clark, with whirlwind dancing, have a sensational act; Alfredo Nardi, the blind violinist, secures a gratifying reception; Lottie Stone's Six Cherry Girls are charming in dance and song; Elsie Denby, the Postcard Girl, has a pleasing style; Lilian French, comedienne, and T. G. Royde, comedian, obtain notice; and the film Funeral of King Edward is watched with great interest.

CORK.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The popular and genial manager took his benefit this week, during which crowds thronged the house. The programme was full of good things. Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew dialect comedians, created abundant laughter; Agnese and Arthur Lynch, in their American picture-songs, were most entertaining; Les Marzumas, comedy cyclists, provided daring feats, interspersed with laughable tricks; the acrobatic turn given by the Renz Brothers was clever and original, as also was the wire-walking and acrobatic exhibition given by the Prince-Milner Trio; Neville Dalmar, comedian, contributed capital songs; the Misses Penhair and Tess, in a Japanese scene, furnished smart quick-change impersonations; and the Polascope pictures were very good.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—*The Female Swindler* is produced by Douglas Bruce's company, and Miss Olive Warne deserves credit for her capable rendering of Lu Valroy. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as the hero, Jack Coulson, is very popular; Miss Irene Atchinson makes a charming May Andrews; Mr. W. T. Riley effectively impersonates Geoffrey Warden; and Mr. Fred Hodson as Abraham Mikestein also does good work; and plenty of humour is introduced by Mr. Fred De Vere as Billy Binks and Miss Gertie Henderson as Mary Ann Mee.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The star turn is the popular comedian W. J. Churchill, with bright songs and shrewd satire. The Derrington Family give a smart and neat performance of trick cycling; the Ten Dixie Girls are picturesque dancers and tuneful singers; the W. J. Thompson Trio give a farcical sketch entitled *Watch the Chalk;* David Poole is a humorous ventriloquist; and other artists are Slippere, the blind musician; A. W. Scott, coon delineator and dancer; Jessie Templeton, smart comedienne; and May de Rowse, comedienne and dancer.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth is presenting here this week *The Woman of Kronstadt, Under the Greenwood Tree, Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, and *Nan*. On Monday, in the first-mentioned, Miss Betty Fairfax was very good as Marion Best; Miss Evelyn Ward made a dignified Princess Marie de Hesse; Miss Cicely Clutterbuck was commendable as Madame de Bellegarde; and Misses Viola Lewis and Mynne Kirk were lively as Vera and Olga. Mr. Keith G. Kenneth gave a manly rendering of Captain Paul Zazzoulic; Mr. Horace Sinclair was excellent as General Nicolai Steffanoff; Mr. Charles Ashwell was well placed as Colonel Bonzo; Mr. Arthur Linay was convincing as Baron Konrad Muller; and minor rôles were adequately played by Messrs. Eric Cameron, Lionel West, R. Reubyn, and Hugh C. Bernard.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. Adderley Howard and company are winning approval here in nautical sketch, *Black-Eyed Susan;* Lupino Lane is an exceptionally clever comedian and dancer; Velanche's performing dogs are a marvel; Peter Davey and company bring down the house in their invigorating and novel skit on the Chantecler craze *Cock-a-Doodle-Doo;* Maud Esmond is a comedienne of merit; C. W. Walker, blind coloured comedian, and Ida May are accorded an ovation; Dan Crawley is a smart comedian; the Six Lancashire Lasses are expert dancers; Will Musgrave, comedian, is capital; and pictures on the bioscope complete the bill. Mr. Sydney Axford is a first-rate musical director.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is here with *The Eve of Her Wedding*, the play being accorded a hearty reception. The part of John Tremain is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Louis Lingard; Miss Pauline Nanton's reading of Miss Marvis Leverton is a fine piece of acting; Mr. Fred F. Loyd's impersonation of Dean Clifton is agreeably prominent; Mr. Ben Carr as Squire Leverton is good; Mr. Jay Kay as Dick Leverson does well; Mr. Herbert Hastings plays to perfection the part of a cripple; and Mr. Charles Digby is smart in the comedy part of Rudolph Earle.

HIPPODROME THEATRES, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Mr. Harry Tate's No. 1 company head the bill, and cause roars of laughter; the Foresteers present a pretty dramatic sketch, entitled *A Society Sinner;* Goodall and Knox are clever knockabout comedians; Leo Fields is a smart up-to-date comedian; the Phœnix Trio are fine singers and dancers; Barnard's Mannikins are very amusing; Miss Madge Beresford, chorus comedienne, and the Hipposcope pictures conclude a real good entertainment.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—Gesta and Hoe, in their refined drawing-room act of dancing, &c., are deservedly applauded; Alfred Warner being equally successful in his musical speciality act; Mr. J. Torkington, descriptive vocalist, is well received. Capital films are projected on the Bioscope.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—The chief item, a comedy episode, entitled *Her Devonshire Dad*, is very smartly presented by Mr. Victor Widdicombe, Mr. Fred Hill, and Miss Clara Russell; a skilful cycling act is submitted by The Rangers; The Eeduns, harmonising duettists, are pleasing; the Borella Brothers provide a clever and graceful gymnastic turn; Ivy Aberdare is a refreshing comedienne, and her neat wooden shoe dancing calls forth hearty applause; Charles Gardiner keeps the house in roars of laughter; Lilian Farrar has a successful song scena, entitled *Bubbles;* Wallace Lupino is a nicely trained juvenile comedian and speciality dancer. The Bioscope gives a detailed reproduction of the Funeral Procession of King Edward VII.

PALACE.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—*Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is well staged and acted here by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company. In the name-part Miss Amy Ellam acquits herself capably; and as Felix Beverley Mr. Wilson Coleman does full justice to the rôle; Miss Kathleen Magee gives a good impersonation of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and Mr. Francis Roberts is successful as Jack Stirling. The comedy element is well sustained.

DEVONPORT. — HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Braatz troupe of dogs are honoured with top place on the bill, and thoroughly deserve the choice bestowed, their tricks, culminating with a little sketch in which the dogs alone participate, being little short of marvellous. Vardon Perry and Wilber are exceedingly popular in their songs and musical selections; Marco performs some really skilful conjuring tricks; George Prince, comedian, is popular; Walker and Lake have some amusing patter; the Pimans have a first-rate Fire Brigade sketch; and Rose and Jeanette are fascinating vocalists and dancers.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Fifty Fatty* is the title of a sensational nautical drama staged here. In the title-rôle Mr. John Sargeant gives a fine rendering of a man accustomed to ride rough-shod over everybody; Mr. Leonard Aardale makes an excellent Detective; and Miss Maggie Lindsay works hard in the repulsive part of Mother Fatty.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris's company in a Shakespearean répertoire occupy the boards, the plays produced being *Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, Merchant of Venice, School for Scandal, Taming of the Shrew*, and *Othello*. In *Much Ado About Nothing* Miss Glossop-Harris appeared very successfully as Beatrice; Mr. Frank Cellier as Benedick was responsible for some very fine acting; Mr. Murray Kinnel was well placed as Claudio; Mr. H. P. Owen gave a humorous depiction of Dogberry; Mr. Gordon Phillot did well as Verges; Hero was in the very capable hands of Miss Ine Cameron; Miss Madge Spencer as Ursula and Miss Nora Craigie as Margaret won great credit; Mr. J. H. Irvine gave an excellent portrayal of Leonarto; and Mr. Eugene Wellesley was good as the Friar. The production was excellently staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of a most enjoyable programme is the Child Trio of actor-musicians presented by Mr. Edward Platt. The juvenile artists are loudly applauded for some very tuneful music and singing. The Brooklyn Comedy Four amuse greatly with their humour and capital part singing; hearty laughter is caused by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard in a highly-amusing sketch, *Coming Home;* Wallace Whitney is a particularly funny comedian; a unique acrobatic act is submitted by the Victor Bros.; the Claymore Trio present a novel turn, consisting of singing, dancing, and club-juggling; De Lilo and Metz, the lady contortionist and comedy juggler, are clever and funny; Rosie Archer, mimic at the piano, is popular; Beattie Foster is a dainty comedienne; and animated pictures are also included in the programme.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Jack Harris.—Some excellent films are shown on the Harriscope. Variety turns are supplied by Capt. Devereux's performing dogs and Mappin and Webb, comedians.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—Large houses are appreciating a good supply of dramatic, humorous, and travel pictures. Illustrated songs are rendered at intervals.

DONCASTER. — NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Wrecker of Men*, presented here by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, has been received with enthusiasm. With a massive and well-developed physique, Mr. Arthur S. Pitt is realistic in the part of Slogger; Mr. William Heilbronn as Pharosaphus, an Egyptian wanderer, is a great success; Mr. Richard Bosco's Railton, a silent servant, is an interesting portrayal; Mr. Arthur Robinson as Guise Strange is well conceived; and Mr. William A. Armour shows artistic skill as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt. In the dual rôle of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus Mr. Edward A. Brooke is humorous, and as the weird Eric Melville Mr. Thompson Carruthers acted dramatically. Miss Mabel Edwards was pleasing as Marion Isaacs; Miss Lydia Hart an engaging Vavasole Slopper; Miss Gwendoline Talbot as Doris Melville is sympathetic and charming; and the titular rôle as presented by Miss Ruth Zillwood was a distanct triumph.

DOUGLAS.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—Crowded houses have patronised both performances nightly. The pictures have been excellent, and the film showing the Funeral of King Edward VII. has attracted much attention. Mr. Bert Rolfe has a budget of quaint and clever songs; Mr. Arthur Bright is a smart comedian, and as a Milanese pipe soloist he scores.

Other places accessible are the Palace, with dancing and roller skating; Buxton's Amusements—roller skating and the Bijou Band, under the direction of Mr. Louis Cooper. Charles Dare's White Minstrels draw large concourses of people to Douglas Head when the weather is propitious.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The Royal Hippodrome season commenced here on Monday, when the house was very full, the principal attraction being the famous comedian Harry Lauder; Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy, gave a very interesting display of muscular strength in an effective scena, entitled *In Days of Old;* Kirk and Saraski have a very pretty aquatic act; Cheebert's troupe of Chinese do a wonderful conjuring and acrobatic performance; the Leslie Brothers are most amusing in their musical act; and Little Lily Shaw is a wonderfully clever child artist. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde are entertaining in their novel speciality, entitled "Talking and Singing Shadows." The Royal Bioscope concludes.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing - Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. John E. Watson's company is appearing here in *The New Boy* and *A Country Mouse*. On Monday night the former piece was presented to a good house. Mr. W. Besley Beltran had the part of Archibald Rennick, which he rendered in capital style; an equally good performance was submitted by Miss Phyllis Manners in the rôle of Mrs. Rennick; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood was well suited as Felix Roach; and Miss Evelyn Ormon

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Leo Dryden, in his song-scenas dealing with *The Only Way*, *The House of Temperley*, and *A White Man*, is warmly appreciated; Abel and Walsh prove themselves a pair of amusing eccentric comedians and contortionists; the illustrated songs given by Adela Varcoe are most acceptable; and Lucy Gillett causes no end of amusement with her "dumb boys." Marie Pera and Thomas Kennard are very successful in their sketch *Two Doors and a Passage*. The other artists appearing are F. A. Martell, equilibrist; Alice Craven, comedienne; Wills and Warlock, comedians and dancers; the Wedburns, burlesque instrumentalists, and the Bio.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Huish.—Large crowds continue to be attracted here to see the pictures.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—This company includes Corri and Foote, comedy couple; Charles Lisle, a capital versatile comedian; Miss Eileen Hall, described as the Yorkshire Nightingale; Alf Corri, in humorous songs; and Miss Ethel Foote, ballad vocalist.

TOWN HALL, RATHMINES.—The Irish Animated Picture Company continue here another week, and large audiences are present at each performance.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Large crowds nightly appreciate the excellent pictures, which include a very fine film of the Funeral of King Edward VII.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—A fine military episode, entitled *Napoleon at Waterloo*, occupies premier position. Mr. Scott Alexander makes a striking Napoleon, and he is ably assisted by a strong company; a lively troupe render *Androcles and the Lion*, a merry musical sketch; Wana and Wanotee are strong favourites in a clever comedy gymnastic act; Kenrick and Laura are successful in harmony, comedy, and dancing; the Sisters Charlton, dainty entertainers; Freda and Frank, in a speciality; and Will Warren, patriotic vocalist, are all good.

DUNDEE.—KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—At the head of a varied bill are Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and her lady assistants with a series of beautiful art poses; the Pasquali Brothers are applauded for a dexterous tumbling and equilibristic act; Natalia and Diana are veritable queens of the trapeze; the Three Prestons create great merriment in their distinctly novel act, *The Village of Shift-'em*; the Three Phydoras have a unique act on the musical ladder; Bruce Green infuses much life into his various ditties; a clever dancing turn is submitted by Alec Lawson; and the Funeral Procession of the late King is again shown by the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—An assortment of dramatic and humorous pictures prove very entertaining; Miss Ina Black appears with success in several illustrated songs.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The B.B. Pictures constitute quite a feature of the entertainment world in Dundee. Across the Plains depicts the struggles and sufferings of the brave men and women, our early pioneers in the Far West. Other pictures of a bright and entertaining programme are shown, and the singing picture, "Sing me to sleep," is given with effect.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—A varied picture programme is submitted here, and good houses are the rule.

DUNNINGTON (Yorks).—SKATING RINK AND LYRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—*The Major*, played by Miss Ada Wallis's company, has drawn crowded houses. The title rôle is ably filled by Mr. T. C. McGuire, the author; and Mr. Harry Davis, with a capital tenor voice, is seen to great advantage in the part of the sentimental lover; Mr. J. W. Groves is very funny as Ezekiah Stoney, and sings some capital songs. He is effectively supported by Miss Lizzie Quire as the sentimental pietist. The life of the piece, however, is Miss Ada Wallis in the "slavey" part of Angelina Touch-'em-up. For pure fun and deviltment she could not be surpassed. She sings several very good songs in pleasing style. The heroine's part is well filled by Miss Gladys Maxwell, who sings in good style. There is a well-balanced chorus, and several good dancing turns by Miss Grace Denny, Miss Mabel Evans, and Miss Annie Trayle. The theatre orchestra, under Mr. F. Boulton, is responsible for several good selections.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's capable company is appearing here in *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy, strong and powerful, repeats as John Durham the success of a former occasion; Mr. Arthur Leigh, too, is again the Hon. Reginald, and his clever work is worthy of the highest praise; Mr. William Calvert is an admirable Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Charles Wemyss is a refined Mr. Vallerton; Mr. W. F. Clitherow is to be complimented on his very successful character study as Ben Verstein; and Mr. Frank Elton is a very good Walcombe. Miss Florence Tressilian as Helen Vallerton is artistic and interesting; Miss Dorothy Turner does full justice to the part of the Hon. Margaret; Miss Nellie Bonser is a dignified and appealing Mrs. Durham; and Miss Frances Wolviston gives the best of help as Lady Mountfallon.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company are appearing here this week in a bill which includes *A Florentine Tragedy*, *A Debt of Honour*, and *The Light that Failed*. Mr. H. V. Neilson works hard and well in all three of these; Mr. Harry Braban, a handsome and efficient actor, does well everything he undertakes; Miss Amy Sangster is a very clever and versatile actress, whose sweet voice and charming manner are capably used in the three characters she plays; and Miss Doris Digby achieves general success, and particularly as Bessie Broke in *The Light that Failed*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here are the Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean vocalists, and their songs and dances find much favour with the audience. Miss Jessie Albini returns, and is as bright and popular as ever in her new songs; the Berg Brothers are very clever and daring cyclists; Bolo is a juggler of exceptional excellence; Miss Agnes Molteno has a very effective vocal scena, *Dolly and a Coach*; Mr. Ted Saunders is a very successful and refined mimic; Miss Maisie Dene sings and dances well; and new pictures are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Raynor's répertoire company is this week presenting three plays, viz., *David Garrick*, *The Idler*, and *The Tree of Knowledge*. In the first-named production the title-rôle was in the capable hands of Mr. Raynor, who gave an admirable interpretation of the character. He was well supported by Mr. Milton C. Curtis, a capital Simon Ingot; and Mr Conrad Heywood Heywood as Squire Chivy; Miss Cecilia Dare as Ada Ingot submitted a pleasing and natural performance; Miss Frances Waring and Miss Hilda Blanche as Mrs. Araminta Brown and Mrs. Smith played their parts in the true comedy spirit; Miss Dora Dench gave a neat performance as the maid. The play is well staged.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—This season's production of *Rob Roy* by Mr. William Mollison's company, introduces new names into the programme in connection with the singing rôles. Mr. Seth Hughes and Miss Eda Bennie are heard to advantage in the vocal numbers allotted to Francis Osbaldistone and Diana Vernon; Mr. Montague Alliston successfully fills the part of Major Galbraith; and Miss Jeannie Macintyre is an excellent Matlie. Mr. John Clyde looks and acts better than ever as Rob Roy; Mr. R. B. Drysdale repeats his familiar and realistic impersonation of the Dougal Cratur; Mr. Mollison's Bailie Nicol Jarvie is, as usual, full of dry humour and an admirable character-study; and Miss Evelyn McNay gives a spirited rendering of Helen Macgregor. Mr. Archie W. Chappell as Rashleigh Osbaldistone, Mr. C. Quinton Fulford as Captain Thornton, Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Sir Frederick Vernon, and Mr. Harold Neville as Mr. Owen, more than maintain the best traditions of their respective rôles; and the minor parts of Sanders Wylie, Andrew Fairservice, the Sergeant, the Landlady, Martha, and Jean M'Alpine lose nothing at the hands of Mr. Graham Heaton, Mr. Tom Mortimer, Mr. James Callander, Miss Elsie Roberts, Miss Hilda Donn, and Miss Josephine Woodward.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The programme here, amongst several meritorious turns, contains two outstanding performances—the entertainment by Mr. Albert Whelan and the charming character-songs of Miss Bertha Stuart. Mr. Whelan's whistling solos, his imitations, and his stories, are characterised by his usual neatness and cleverness. Miss Stuart, who made her first appearance in her native country on Monday evening after her successful tour in Australia, had a rousing reception. There is, perhaps, no vocalist now on the variety stage who is more perfectly endowed by nature for the interpretation of songs demanding charm and pathos than Miss Stuart. Gifted with an expressive contralto voice, carefully trained, and grace of form and feature, she threw into the rendering of her selections a tenderness and feeling that would be difficult to surpass. The appreciation of the audience was shown by the stillness that reigned during her delightful rendering of the favourite Scottish ballad, "We'd better bide a wee," and the dramatic power which animated her singing of a new number, "Ten a penny, walnuts," drew forth a storm of applause. Mr. Mooney and Miss Holbein gave a clever sketch, in which smart dancing, amusing songs, and excellent playing on the piano, concertina, and mandoline was introduced. "Mr. C," a droll story-teller, found much favour with the audience; and other artists who contributed to an admirable performance were Mr. Pat Lynch, a marvellous clog-dancer; Miss Maude Courtney, American comedienne; Mr. Marcus Boyle, comedian; Benson and Rose, in a sprightly farce, *Elizabeth and the Baby*; Mr. R. C. Note, a good light comedian; and Mr. Willie Allan, a capital dancer.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The popularity of Victoria Monks, who heads this week's bill, has been abundantly indicated by the insistent clamours of pit and gallery for "more," even four turns failing to satisfy the more ardent of the artist's admirers. Dusky-faced performers were much in evidence and duly appreciated, including G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon; May Henderson, a tinted comedy queen; and the Twelve Fezzans, a troupe of Sahara natives, in an exhibition of weird and wonderful acrobatics. Roma and Romani distinguished themselves in a clever display of their accomplishments in playing many musical instruments; Jack Lane caused much amusement as a rustic at the piano; Johnny Walker and also Elsa Brull with Arthur Hemsley, contributed animated turns; and the diversion supplied by William Mitchell and John J. Cain in *The Frenchman and the Other Fellow*, was most acceptable. A selection of good films was shown on the American Bio.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The absorbing and widespread sorrow excited by the death of King Edward VII. is strongly manifested by the interest displayed by the large audiences in the pictures of the funeral procession, and at this house a series of beautiful views is being shown. Pictures illustrating the wonderful horsemanship of the Cossacks are greatly appreciated; and a powerful story of the Middle Ages, entitled The Death Disc, gives a thrill to the spectators. The programme is varied by many amusing subjects.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The series of films showing the funeral pageant of King Edward VII. is being shown here for another week by special request. But variety is not overlooked, and in two dramatic subjects, Gold is Not All and The Brigands of the Coast, and various amusing pictures, including a droll story, Aunt Matilda, the audience is kept thoroughly interested from first to last.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The band of the 7th Queen's Own Hussars continues its attractive and popular performances, and on Wednesday evening no less than five bands took part in "The British Army Quadrille." The concert hall has been occupied this week by D'Amatos' Neapolitan Singers, whose programmes have been greatly enjoyed; Hibbert's electric pictures, which include new series of the latest films, are becoming increasingly popular exhibitions; and the outdoor amusements and spectacles steadily grow in public favour. The Somali Native Village, with its colony of eighty men, women, and children, is undoubtedly one of the finest representations of aboriginal life which has yet been shown in this country.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—A complimentary benefit arranged by local amateurs was given this week to Mr. Dunsford. The theatre is now closed for the summer vacation.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. F Karny.—A popular programme attracts big houses. The Celebrated Celestas are a most entertaining comedy quartette, and their harmonious rendering of several selections was encored; Willie Black is smart in song, story, and burlesque; and a refined act is *Charlie's Visit*, by James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, the dancing of the former being very clever; *The Tree of Truth*, well presented by Harry Brayne and Bert Lloyd, created roars of laughter; Edwards and Ward, the comedy couple, are very good, and the Crown Trio are clever speciality vocalists; Cressie Leonard's songs have a romping reception.

FERNDALE.—NEW WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. Wm. James.—*When it was Dark* is presented to appreciative audiences by Mr. Oswald Gray's company. Mr. Gray plays with great ability as the Rev. Basil Gotre; Mr. Edward Valentine gives a capital interpretation of Sir Robert Llewellyn; in the part of Constantine Schwabe Mr. C. Worldly Hulse displays great vigour; Mr. Charles A. Baker is very popular as Harold Spence; the Rev. Mr. Byars finds in Mr. Walter Manfree a capable exponent; Mr. Sydney Clayton as Charles Gayfly and Miss Barbara Lea as Minnie Golightly are quite satisfactory in their comedy parts; Miss Lillian Herries is deserving of much praise as Gertrude Hunt; and Helena Byars is in the able hands of Miss Rosalie Notrelle. This week terminates a most successful dramatic season.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Messrs. John Power and Robert Faulkner's company appear in *For Wife and Home*. Mr. Faulkner takes the part of Roland St. Pierre in a convincing manner; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn gives a sinister rendering of Henri St. Pierre; Gaspard le Farge, a mesmerist, has an able exponent in Mr. Maydew; Cicard Picole, "the irrepressible," is undertaken by Mr. Bruce Williams; Miss Marion Ryder is excellent as Rosette Legrand; and Miss Georgina Clifford is good as Celeste Legrand.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*The Diver's Luck* is the attraction here. Mr. William Macready, strong, manly, and convincing, does excellent work as Martin Faber; a decidedly humorous performance is given by Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Barny Bawn; Mr. Herbert Vere is responsible for a powerful portrayal of the villainous Tom Hall; Snowball is amusingly acted by Mr. Harry Buss; and the Pedro of Mr. James Burt is a clever sketch. As Maurice Wyngate Mr. H. J. Walton is all that could be desired. Praise is due to Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff for sympathetic and womanly work as Helen Wyngate; Miss Edna Godfrey Turner is an animated Nancy; and Miss Phyllis Spalding does well as Winnie Hall.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The return visit of the Go Bangs is very acceptable, judging from the audiences which gather at every entertainment. The capable party include Miss Blanche Belsham, Miss Edith Eatherley, Miss Kitty Conway, Mr. Charles Conyers, Mr. Bryan O'Sullivan, and Mr. Edward Lacey.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE, LTD.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Licensee, Councillor Harold Arnold; Local-Manager, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—A welcome "star" item here this week is Will Lytton's company in Harry Roxbury's *Sergeant Longfellow*, in which Mr. Lytton repeats a triumph scored in pantomime last Christmas. Julian Mack, apparently, has an interminable supply of "gag"; an original and clever juggling turn is presented by Newman and Knight; Cambo, described as the musical monkey, is praised for a capital act; Les Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists, are worthy of the encomiums showered upon them; and Vi Lauri, comedienne and dancer, and the Kingscope are other entertaining lines.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—The second week of Mr. F. W. Bolam's first annual stock season has seen the house well filled, the good old drama *Harbour Lights* proving a strong attraction. Every rôle is excellently filled, and the show is capitally put on. Mr. John B. Shinton puts heart and soul into his embodiment of David Kingsley; Nicholas Morland is efficiently portrayed by Mr. Stanley Bedwell; Mr. Bert Atherton is becoming highly popular, and as Tom Dosseter he makes a decided hit; Miss Ada Ryder submits a pleasing Dora Vane; Miss Lilian Earle fills the rôle of Lena Nelson with distinct credit; the female comedy rôles are in the exceptionally good hands of Misses Annie Brunnette (Mrs. Chudleigh), Gertrude Morella (Peggie Chudleigh), and Edith Watkins (Bridget Maloney). *The Lights o' London* is billed for next week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—In addition to a mammoth picture programme—including Samuel of Posen, On the Border Line, and Two Portraits—there are appearing here this week J. W. Darley and company, comedians, and J. W. Shevill, a local funny man who has some talent.

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—The prominent items on the film bill here are The Dawn of Freedom and The Tramp's Story; and with George Bernard, actor vocalist, and Hearn and Palmer, comedians, the entertainment is one of special merit.

RAVENSWORTH PICTURE HALL.—The leading lines at this comfortable little hall are Bradford's Claim and The Suit-Case Mystery. Tiny Ashton, boy vocalist and impersonator is very popular.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—*Facing the Music* is here, under the direction of Mr. Charles Stewart, who takes a prominent part in the boundless fun as Dick Desmond, causing the heartiest laughter; the Two Smiths were excellently portrayed by Mr. Chas. Fancourt as the meek and mild curate and Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as the man about town; Mr. Edward Bonfield was well fitted in the part of the uncle, Colonel Duncan Smith; and Mr. Cyril Melton, as Sergeant Duffell hit off the over-confident detective capitally. Nothing more charming and convincing could be desired than Miss Iris Hoey's performance of Mabel, and that of Miss Estelle Theband as Nora. Effective assistance was also rendered by Miss Questa Dearing as Miss Fotheringay and Miss Coleman as Mrs. Ponting. The farce, which was greatly enjoyed by a fine house, was preceded by *The Last Drop*.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The first week of the summer season of the repertory company opened auspiciously on Monday with a fine performance of *Cousin Kate*. In the title-part Miss Madge McIntosh acted with excellent effect, her comedy scenes being irresistible, while the pathetic moments were artistically treated; Mr. Norman McKeown made a clever Heath Desmond; Miss Muriel Pope as the demure Amy Spencer acted with much charm; and Miss Lola Duncan made a subdued and lady-like Mrs. Spencer. Bobby Spencer was played with lively emphasis by Master Frank Carpenter; the Rev. Mr. Bartlett received just a touch of caricature from Mr. Walter Roy; Miss Winifred Gunn made a hit as a beaming servant-girl. The comedy was preceded by that grim little play *The Price of Coal*, in which Miss Agnes Bartholomew acted powerfully as Mary, and the other parts were ably played by Mr. George Tawde, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, and Miss Lola Duncan.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. C. L. Sealy.—The seventh and last week of the stock season commenced on Monday with a highly creditable production of *Arrah-na-Pogue*. Mr. C. C. Mathews was the Shaun, and invested the part with rich Irish humour; Arrah Meelish, represented by Miss Pearla Gardiner, was a sweet and winsome lass; and as Beamish MacCoul Mr. George Roberts was very successful. Mr. Thomas J. Ashmore gave local colour to the character of Feeny; as Major Coffin Mr. Clark Keith showed promise; good studies were submitted by Mr. W. G. Robb as the O'Grady, Mr. Hulme Sharp as Farrell, and Mr. Charles Danvers as the Sergeant. Miss Marie Rignold looked and acted the part of Fanny Power admirably; and Miss Maude Mellis was a pleasing Katty Walsh.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—After being closed for two weeks for new electric installation and general renovation, this house opened on Monday with Mr. Walter Steele and his company in the stirring drama *A Fast Life*, which is meeting with substantial support; Mr. Walter Steele outlines the part of John Dixon with vividness; and Mr. Frederick Garratt as Sir Oliver Franklin brings to bear upon his portrayal experience and care. A piece of clever acting was that of Mr. Bruce Warwick as Harris Goldberg; and Mr. Ed. Kingsley was most successful as Lord Craven, singing several songs in fine style. The comic element was well looked after by Mr. Willie Barratt as Tommy Burke and Miss Maude Ryder as Juliana, who kept the house in good humour, the former's song and dance being a praiseworthy item. The Mrs. Dixon of Miss Lillian Croft was a very effective performance; and Miss Beatrice Hone was all that could be desired as Lady Franklin. Mr. James Hamilton as Dixon and Mr. James Cummins as Crawford also played well. The drama was admirably staged.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Ada Reeve tops the bill here, and rouses the audience to great enthusiasm; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto give a very smart trick cycling act, their football match on bicycles being both clever and amusing; Alexandra Dagmar, with songs and stories, keeps the audience in the best of humour all the time she is on; Edward Davies, of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, sings several tenor ballads in excellent style; Harry Merrylees is a rising Scotch comedian, and his patter and songs are both good; Devon and Earle are wonderfully smart dancers, their neatness and precision being exceptional; Barrington contributes an enjoyable turn at the piano; Millie and Arthur are very amusing in their comedy duologue *Domestic Bliss*; the Jackley Trio of acrobats complete an excellent programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—R. A. Roberts is starring here in his latest protean sketch *Cruel Coppinger*, in which he plays seven different characters with excellent effect; Nelson Jackson is a humorist whose turn at the piano is much enjoyed; Caryl Wilbur, in the amusing comedietta, *61, Prospect-street*, keeps the fun going well; Venie Clements again displays her ability as a comedienne; Lily Hayes, comedienne and dancer, takes well; and Clinko, the young juggler, proves his dexterity in a number of feats. The cycling turn of Minnie Kaufmann is clever and neat.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The principal turn is *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, presented by Harry Nuttall's company, the chief character being excellently filled by Mr. Martyn Roland. Another good sketch, and one responsible for much amusement, is that by Graham Moffatt and Co., *The Concealed Bed*; Colley and Scott appear in a laughable comedy act; and Russell and Held are pleasing vocalists and expert dancers. Other successful turns include Ruby Morton, a pleasing comedienne; Arthur Harris, comedian and actor-vacalist; Les Warbanas, clever lady jugglers; Horace Jones, comedian; and Zera and Zema, Continental equilibristic marvels.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Fred Karno's company in *The Mumming Birds* are responsible for much hilarity; Mr. J. J. Dallas sings and acts a very comical song; Les Marco Belli as comedy conjurors are very successful in their "Illusion and Disillusion"; Spry and Monti in *The Song-writer and the Soubrette* get through a good deal of highly diverting and clever business; Percy Dalton sustains the rôle of comedian and dancer with great ability, and well deserved the applause awarded; the Villions, in their trick cycling and dancing, are exceedingly good; the vocal contributions of Mildred Bryan, a mezzo-soprano, and Ellis Barrieton, a baritone, are very pleasing. *The Little Stowaway* is presented by Bertie Shelton's company. The sketch is finely staged, and all the parts well filled.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager Mr. George Dickinson.—The B.B. Pictures are attracting large and appreciative audiences. The Merry Mascots high-class vaudevill artists, add greatly to the enjoyment.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—An old favourite, in N. C. Bostock, the comic king, tops the bill, and pleases large audiences with some of his old favourites; Rosy Dawn is a clever comedienne and an expert dancer; and May St. Hilda also proves very popular; Joe S. Aitken contributes several excellent parodies; and Will Candlish's drolleries are responsible for loud laughter. The Bioscope pictures are particularly attractive. In the American Museum and Waxworks there is exhibited a host of interesting freaks, &c.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Messrs. Poole's Theatres.—Instead of the usual vacation, the above theatre has been opened with a capital picture show. The Warwick films of the Lying-in-State and the Funeral Procession are excellent. Miss Kitty Woodford, with illustrated songs, and the Vocophone make up a capital entertainment.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Pictures continue popular.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R Hainsworth.—A fine collection of new pictures is shown by the Monarchscope. Doyle and Deane, vaudeville artists, are well received; Miss Cora Lee, comedienne, submits an enjoyable turn; Dan Idle, comedian, keeps the house highly amused; D. W. Watson gives a fine performance on the post-horn; Leslie and Player, comedy duettists, keep the house in hearty laughter, and Fred Walton, comedian, is successful.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—A good all-round bill this week is headed by Lily Morris, comedienne, and her bright and breezy manner delights the audience; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, speciality artists, are well received; Clara Coverdale's Dainty Dots, in their vocal scena, are very smart. Other attractive items are furnished by Albert E. Smythe, in a series of muscular poses; Roxboro and Wright, in a pot-pourri act; and J. K. McFarlane, a popular Scotch comedian.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Clayton.—The B.B. Pictures are proving a source of great enjoyment to large crowds. Amongst those exhibited are Samuel of Posen.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Miss Florence Baines is scoring greatly with her laughable musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines's quaint humour and dialect mimicry in the part of Mary Ellen Thompson is richly entertaining, and her singing secures the warmest approval; Miss Nellie Dyson acts and sings charmingly as Eva Lancashire; Mr. Burt Burton gives a clever character burlesque as Moses Goldberg; Mr. Joseph Burley is equally amusing as Herbert Fox; Mr. Sinclair Holden adapts himself admirably to the part of Harry Higgins; and Mr. David Donaldson as John Higgins; Mr. Payne Fletcher as John Henry Thompson, Miss Mary Collier as Bertha, Miss Maud Locker as Mrs. Thompson, and Mr. H. Lloyd as Grant all contribute good work.

THE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The Olympian Team of Cyclists give a clever display, and their cycle football match is a very exciting performance. Mr. Will H. Fox gives a series of interesting piano monologues, and has a fund of good stories; Albas is an expert wire performer, and introduces a sensational slide on his head down a wire; Gus Garrick presents some capital impersonations of variety artists; Lindsay and Harte appear in an excellent Scottish comedy act, and the lady is a pleasing singer; much laughter is created by the sketch *A Call to Arms*, by Ada Tilley, Harold Wagner, and company; and other good turns are contributed by Monie Mine, vocalist and dancer, and Annie Braddan, a Manx artist.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and varieties still continue at this popular house. The keenest interest is displayed in the Lying-in-State and Funeral of King Edward VII. Capital variety turns are provided. Jenny Downton is a chic comedienne; Probyn and Bater deserve all the applause bestowed upon them; Lillian Sivado is a charming gymnast; and the Dunlops in their cycle absurdity are very smart.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Better Land* is presented by Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd. Miss Margaret Trevosper plays well as Doris; Mr. Douglas Watson makes a good Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is well placed as Hubert Radcliffe; Miss Kitty Terriss is a vivacious Pollie Perkins; and Mr. Leonard Marshall, Mr. W. Reid, Mr. E. W. Duxfield, Mr. Paul Milne, Miss Gertie Moody, Miss Madge Trevelyan, Miss Bella Moody, and Miss E. Entwistle also take part.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Miss Jennie Johns is having a brilliant reception; Mephisto has some good illusions, splendidly staged and smartly done; the Snow Family, grotesque skaters, cause considerable amusement; Ruby and Laws' comedy act is well received; George French's troupe of acrobatic comedy cyclists contribute an excellent turn; Felix Remington, comedian; Lola Patey, the dainty Dutch girl; and the Pictures complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Kirbys are clever burlesque entertainers, and very popular; Gwen Francis is a dainty comedienne, with a clear enunciation; The Tan Kwai Troupe give a varied turn; Charles Vincent, comedian; Milner and Storey, comedy artists; and Chas. Woodward, comedian, are also appreciated.

HAMILTON, N.B.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—The Hippodrome enters upon the last week of the season, and an excellent bill is provided. Dave Samuels, American Hebrew comedian, is topping the bill, and proves an excellent mirthmaker; Duncan and Godfrey, in a coster sketch *Me and 'Er*, are excellent; Wilson Hallet, in his clever studies of children, is entertaining; Little Zola proves a decided hit; Lizzie Daniels is a clever comedienne; Little Pam is a quaint and amusing juvenile comedian; Jack Ross and Sue Lewis, American duo; George Brookes, vocal comedian; and the Bioscope conclude.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. J. W. Weathersby's company presented *The Best People*. Mr. Elliott Ball, as Lord Emsworth, hit off the caddish nobleman to the life; Mr. Pennington-Gush was effective as the consumptive Gerald Bayle; Mr. Dennis was duly calm and collected as Lord Wynlea; and Lady Emsworth was well played by Miss Irene Lavington; Miss Roberta Pulleyne was capable as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle. *The Best People* was preceded by *Cinders*. For the last three nights variety constituted the bill.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Mr. Thorpe Bates is the vocalist here; Mr. Tom Clare, entertainer, goes very well; Mr. Julian Clifford and his band are very popular.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—New Century Animated Picture Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Boden.—A fine film shows scenes of the late King's funeral. Huge houses assemble twice and sometimes three times a day. Miss Nellie Greenan, a popular songstress, sings suitable songs.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—The popularity of Ruffell's films is fully maintained; they are worked on the Bio-Speech principle, artists behind the scenes delivering the dialogue. Elephants in India is a picture of great interest. Miss Florence Smithers, a comedy actress who is always welcome in this district, appears, supported by Owen Dacroy and Co. in an exceedingly funny sketch, *Our Mary Jane*, which fairly convulses the audience. Gladys Hooley, in an original scena, *Fiddle and I*, proves herself a finished executant on the violin; Mark Stuart, in songs and patter, goes well; and Ena Compton, a charming versatile comedienne, has a good reception.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The F. R. Benson Shakesperean company opened its annual week's visit on Monday with a fine presentment of *The Taming of the Shrew*. The staging was admirable, and was under the direction of Mr. Henry Herbert, who also filled the rôle of Petruchio, and from start to finish thoroughly identified himself with every phase of the rôle; Miss Gladys Vanderzee thoroughly realised the ill-humour of Shakespeare's Katherine, and both artists secured flattering applause for their artistic efforts. Assisting them were Mr. John Cairns as Baptiste, Mr. Andrew Leigh as Grumio, and Mr.

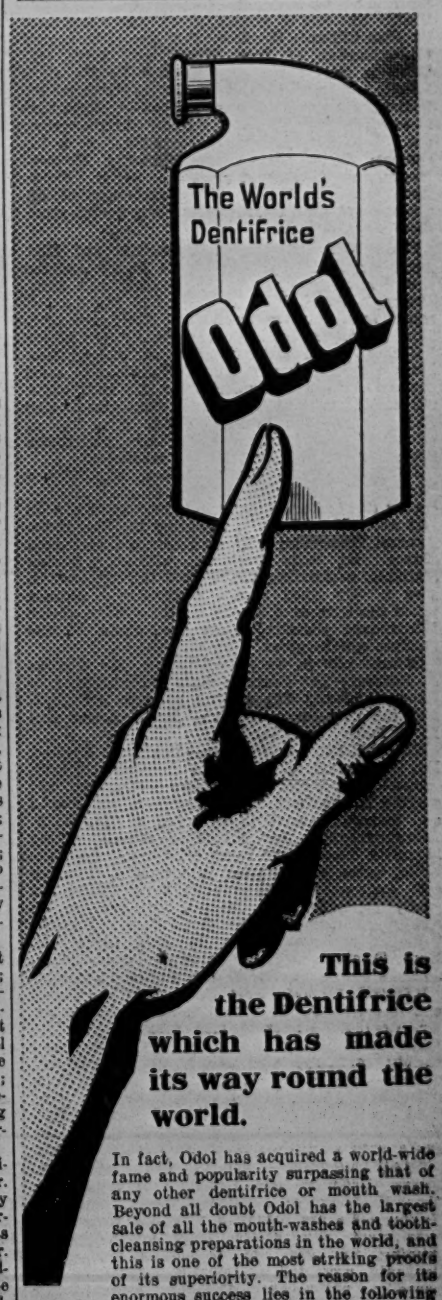

This is the Dentifrice which has made its way round the world.

In fact, Odol has acquired a world-wide fame and popularity surpassing that of any other dentifrice or mouth wash. Beyond all doubt Odol has the largest sale of all the mouth-washes and tooth-cleansing preparations in the world, and this is one of the most striking proofs of its superiority. The reason for its enormous success lies in the following special property peculiar only to Odol:

While all other preparations for cleansing the mouth and teeth act only during the few moments of application, the antiseptic and refreshing power of Odol continues gently but persistently *for hours afterwards*. Odol penetrates the interstices of the teeth and the mucous membrane of the mouth, to a certain extent impregnating them, thus securing a safeguard and preservative for the teeth such as no other dentifrice can provide, not even approximately.

Charles Sparrow as Lucentio. The remainder of the numerous company were good in their respective parts, and their spirited rendering of this laughable comedy afforded the utmost pleasure to the well-filled house, roars of laughter being evoked throughout. *King Lear, As You Like It, Hamlet, The Tempest, Richard II., Macbeth,* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* were also billed.

PIER PAVILION.—Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Alfred West and Lieut. J. G. Sutherland are giving their instructive pictorial entertainment entitled "Our Navy and Army."

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson.—The above place reopened on Saturday evening last, under the management of Mr. Johnny Holland, with a very fine exhibition of animated pictures, and attracted large audiences.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Mr. Seymour Hicks, assisted by Miss Maie Ash and company, is proving a great draw with his light musical farce *Cook's Man*. The Gilberts are two young and accomplished performers on the tight rope; Walter Munroe is singing his Irish songs, to the delight of all; Miss Josie Mooney has two tuneful songs; Arthur Wellesley and company are repeating a brilliant success with the sketch *Uncle's Courtship;* Leonard Charburn's youngsters have a thorough appreciation of their clever singing and dancing.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The Banzai Troupe of Japanese are skilful and daring; the Tintos are a pair of energetic acrobatic comedians; Miss Lily Edwardes sings good chorus songs; the Heriot Trio are bright and amusing in the sporting farce, *Denbigh's Divorce;* Miss Vesta Nixon dances with much skill; the Jackson Family, of two brothers and two sisters, are among the most accomplished quartette of musicians seen here for some time. The pictures provide plenty of interest.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The Castellano Company are again in Hull, and on this occasion it may be said that the company is stronger in numbers and even better in quality than on the previous visits. The season opened with *Ernani*, and a most commendable performance was given. The Elvira of Signora Protto was a delightful conception and, from the vocalistic standpoint, was a fine piece of work; Signor Barbato is a tenor robusto who fills his efforts with largeness, his high notes being produced in a clear and clean fashion; Signor Modesti is a baritone with a rich, resonant voice; the vibrant bass voice of Signor Vittori was a delightful addition to a fine musical ensemble; and the chorus is larger, and consequently more efficient. The repertory has included *Faust, Rigoletto, Puritani, Ugonotti, Barbiere de Seville, Cavalleria,* and *Pagliacci*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Morton.—There has been much appreciation shown of *The Outcast*, which this week is holding the boards at the Alexandra. It contains all those features that appeal to the theatre patrons, and is presented with fine force. Mr. Bert Oaks afforded evidence of his insight into a somewhat difficult rôle; as the Yorkshire smith Mr. H. Bentone realised what was required of him; the Squire was well played by Mr. Wybert-Clive; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd showed her talent in her conception of the rôle of Grace Redburn; the distracted wife evoked the sympathy of the house as played by Miss Elsie Shelton; and comic relief was cleverly introduced by Miss Freda Beckett and Mr. Tom Armitage.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—At the head of the bill we have Miss Vona Clifford and company in an interesting dramatic sketch, *My Friend the Thief*. The rôle of Hester Oliver is ably sustained by Miss Clifford; Mr. Edward Thane gives a good impersonation of Jack Oliver; and Dave (the thief) is most cleverly represented by Mr. Cyril Fairlie. The Gordon Girls in *A Platform Rehearsal* win good opinions; and an excellent turn is provided by Bert and Jen in an electric cycling act. Hal Bert, the elastic comedian, is a big success; Clark and Glenny, in *The Haunted House*, are the cause of roars of laughter. Phœbe Lyndhurst, vocalist, receives well merited applause; and Kate Gourlay is a clever Scotch comedienne and dancer.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Carrie Laurie and her juvenile troupe give a most acceptable turn; *Peggy*, a sketch by Ada Oxley and company, is smart from start to finish; the Hyde and Cody Trio are expert tumblers, and the Garden of the "Grand" is an elaborate piece of setting; Miss Mary Braymen has a powerful voice and some good catchy songs; Herbert Rule is a most amusing comedian; Reg Beauchamp scores in singing and dancing; the Brothers Webb have musical talent of a high order; Edie Haley contributes Scotch songs; and the Bioscope concludes.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Owing to numbers being unable to gain admission last week, Mr. Albany is repeating the film of the Funeral Procession, with some new and additional scenes. La Belle Duchesse, with her boxing stallions, performing ponies, and leaping hounds, give a very good turn. Wednesday's matinée takes the form of a benefit for the victims of the Whitehaven disaster, when the whole of the receipts will be given.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDEN.—Manager, Mr. Charles A. Barnett.—The Cremona Ladies' Orchestra continues to draw. The electric pictures are good, and the new turns are Miss Mabel Lester and E. A. Reilly, Irish baritone.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Honri in *Concordia* is here, supported by a number of clever performers. The staging is excellent. An exceedingly well-played and humorous sketch is presented by Mr. W. T. Ellwanger; Mr. Rowland Hill proves a big favourite, his humour being irresistible; La Belle Nello, Queen of Equipoise, is seen in a charming act; Andrews and Thompson's vocal efforts are loudly applauded; the Musical Bentleys are exceedingly entertaining; Mr. Chas. Stevens, "Swell" comedian, sings in good style; Mr. Harry Tomps, comedian, relates some good stories; and the King's Funeral is shown on the Bioscope.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—This week Dr. Walford Bodie is paying a return visit with a strong variety company, who are attracting bumping houses. The items include Billy Walters, ventriloquist; Jack Diamond, trick dancer; Tom Gold, comedian; G. W. Walker, Scotch vocalist; W. H. Williams, eccentric comedian; and Dr. Bodie, with La Belle Electra, the electric marvels.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—We are having a very fine variety entertainment, two shows being given nightly. Topping the bill are Lockhart's performing elephants, presented by Captain Taylor. It is a marvellous performance, combining much humour and intelligence. Beaumont's ponies and dogs are another very clever turn, their tricks being clean and much above the ordinary. The programme includes Tom Packer, funny comedian; Emie Harlow, an entertaining comedienne; Dalvere and Wallace, comedy artists; Lily Vesta, a smart chorus vocalist; Pat Lang, a droll comedian; Talberto and Douglas, in a unique comedy act; and Ethel Sheffer, a ballad vocalist, who sings with much charm.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Are You a Mason?* is being played here to appreciative audiences. Mr. William Lockhart embodies Amos Bloodgood in a delightfully breezy manner, and the rôle of Frank Perry is undertaken by Mr. Howard L. Tracy with success; Mr. Stanley Arthur as Hamilton Travers has a good conception of the character; Mr. Edward J. Hinge extracts plenty of fun out of the part of John Halton; Mr. Archie Selwyn plays George Fisher with effect; Miss Agnes Maude is good as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; and other prominent characters are sustained by Mr. Gordon Blyth, Miss Clare Townshend, Miss Mary Dane, and Miss Peggy Yeoman.

THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*For Love and the King* is here. Mr. C. Watson Mill plays a soldier with success, and Miss Rosalind Tate (Mrs. Watson Mill) has a good part, and does justice to it.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—George Trench has some nice songs; Conn and Conrad go through a smart act; Addie Derina proves herself a clever quick-change character artist; the Albert and Edmunds Troupe are favourites; La Freya appears in a pretty posing scena; Barrett and Knowles are popular comedians; Silvo plays on the musical glasses with effect; and Fatmah Diard is also successful.

THE HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellman provide a good musical turn here; Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, a Leeds favourite, is prevented by indisposition from appearing. A very interesting sketch, *The Last of the Desmonds*, is performed by Phil Herman and company. Mr. Herman does a single turn successfully, and the Athos Troupe provide a clever acrobatic entertainment.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—*Toplitsky; or The End of the World*, is a very interesting sketch; W. B. Raby sings some amusing songs; George E. Barnes and Irene West are clever buck dancers; T. E. Bates is an eccentric comedian; Isa Davis, Elsie Ellis, and Belasco complete a capital company.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Long Live the King*, a capital sketch, tops the bill. Florence Esdaile is a favourite vocalist; Rutter's football dogs create amusement; Syd Walker provides a good comic turn; Tennis and Lane, Bros. Ford, and Linn and Darius also appear.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—An attractive picture programme is presented here, the chief film being the Funeral Procession of the late King Edward. Corri and Foote, comedy artists, contribute excellent items.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A very entertaining attraction is provided here in the first visit of Messrs. Chas. H. Lester and Bertram Damer's company in the mystical magical farce *The Egyptian*. The company responsible for its interpretation have been selected with care, and the staging and dressing is highly commendable.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—England's famous character portrayer, Bransby Williams, worthily fills the star position here this week. His various delineations are given in his usual masterly style, and his reception is again of a most flattering nature. George Goodfellow and Jennie Gregson are amusing comedy artists and excellent dancers; the Courtiers (under the direction of Paul Mill) are responsible for a delightfully entertaining musical comedy mélange; the Francoli troupe arouse great merriment with their comic sketch, *The Billposter*. The Brennans make a hit with their smart dancing act; Charles Santon, a double-voiced vocalist, is very good; Frank Maura, the clever foot equilibrist, is again on a most successful visit; Gladys Mavius shines as a vocalist and particularly clever dancer; Frank H. Fox is a capital light comedian; the bioscope is a fixture here, with well-selected and clear films.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Carlotta De Yonson and her popular company of players are presenting with the greatest success their Sexton Blake episode *The Case of the Red Triangle*. Prominent parts are well played by C. Douglas Carlile (Sexton Blake), Carlotta de Yonson (Sal Williams), Charles A Carlile (The Old 'Un), and Lee Gilbert (Tinker). The following artists also contribute to the programme: Clara Reed and John Power, successful and enjoyable comedy entertainers; J. J. Mannix, coffee coloured coon, in good songs and clever dancing; the Musical Keiths, in an entertaining musical and dancing act; Harry Keeble, an excellent ventriloquist; and Roberta Svendsen, a capital vocalist. The bioscope has entertaining pictures.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—A second series of the late King Edward's Funeral is presented, and two other prominent pictures are Good for Evil and A Tragedy in Belgrade. Ada Victor, vocalist, is remaining over another week.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—A more than particularly good programme of films is submitted, the two leading ones being Little Blind Girl and Grandeur and Decadence.

LEIGH.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The Six Brothers Luck are appearing with success in *The Demon of the Cellar;* Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is a neat and clever show; Delafiore proves himself a xylophone expert; Harry Levaine, comedian, is quaintly amusing; *Lift-'Em's, Ltd.*, in a comedy sketch, are the cause of hearty laughter; Beattie Bloom is a charming comedienne. Wisper (juggler), Bert Davis (male soprano), and the Hipposcope are meeting with great success.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—In the romantic Russian play *Siberia* the leading rôles of Nicholai and Sara are interpreted with much feeling and sympathy by Mr. Richard Ferriss and Miss Doris Brookes; while the Count and Countess Stanislaus, with Ivan and Marie, find suitable characterisation at the hands of Mr. Addison Thomas, Miss Paulina Gear, Mr. Mark Hannam, and Miss Eleanor M'Hardy. The spy Sparta and the merciless Jaracoff are capably handled by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston and Mr. Ernest Regent; Mr. John Darlison finds a congenial part in the benevolent Governor-General; native humour is exploited on popular lines in the Trolsky and Vera of Mr. J. T. Dale and Miss Kitty Thomas, and in the waiter of Mr. Paul Dysart, and some half-dozen minor parts are capably sustained.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree is here this week with his talented London company, and business is excellent. Opening on Monday evening with *The Merchant of Venice*, the celebrated actor repeated his notable assumption of Shylock, assisted by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy as Portia, and Mr. Arthur Wonter as Bassanio. Other supporters were Messrs. Henry Morrel (a dignified Antonio), Edward Sass (the Duke), Henry C. Hewitt (Gratiano), Miss Helda Moore (Jessica), and Miss Gladys Harvey (Nerissa). Needless to report, the reception accorded to the whole of the company was enthusiastic. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday *The O'Flynn*, for the first time in Liverpool, was given, the three principal rôles being undertaken by Sir Herbert (O'Flynn), Mr. Arthur Wonter (Lord Sedgemouth), and Miss D'Alroy (Lady Benedetta); and on Friday *Trilby* (Miss Gladys Harvey), and *The Man Who Was* were staged.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery. *The Eyes of the World* pays a first visit here, the company presenting it belonging to Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty. Miss Praagh handles her original part of Helene de l'Orme with considerable power; as Fanfarade Mr. Whitty plays with distinction; Mr. Alex. Wilson Wynne undertakes Octave de Carnac to everyone's satisfaction; Mr. Charles O'Connor is an excellent Hector de l'Orme; Mr. Fred Bentley does justice to Gaston Carnac; some excellent comedy comes from Mr. Harold Ford (Brigard) and Miss Beatrice Hulment (Antoinette); and other worthy supporters are Miss Nellie Garside (Susanne), Miss Flora Hastings (Madame Carnac), and Miss Elsie Capell (Avice).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The great attraction here this week is Mr. H. Armitage's excellent company with *The Greater Love*. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is again seen to much advantage as Paul Penfold, a telling part; Miss Marion Fawcett gives an acceptable rendering of Mrs. May; Mr. William Clayton handles the character of Jack May with rare tact; Miss Violet Thorold looks pretty and acts feelingly as Mary May; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks proves a jovial Andrew Isted; and Messrs. Harry Wrenn (Constable Drayton), Henry Nunn (Rev. Arthur Warren), Miss Ethel Russell (Sarah Higgs), and Mr. Arles Conway (Ned Stubbs) lend valuable assistance.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Here this week we are having Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company with *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, which is being received with great favour. As Lord Lumley Mr. Stewart acts with much naturalness and finish; Miss A. Bruce-Joy is a charming Lady Lumley, showing high histrionic powers; Mr. Lewin Mannering as Signor d'Orelli affords general satisfaction; Mr. Charles Groves gains honours as the revengeful Giuseppe; Miss Constance Barton pleases greatly with her neat portrait of Ruth Thornton; and Mr. Percy Marmont presents a manly Lord Ronalds.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Needless to say, big business is being done here this week on account of the welcome visit of Miss Vesta Tilley, who includes among her latest "Sidney's holidays" and "Give it to father." This delightful little artist has rousing receptions. Tom and Marie Motramo keep their audience in a merry mood with their admirable musical comedy turn; Billy Merson, who has come to the front, is richly enjoyed; Ben Albert, a smart topical vocalist, finds great favour; the remarkably clever and daring equilibristic act by Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi wins rounds of applause; Bertha Winder shows wonderful dancing powers; a refined and clever musical act comes from the Channings; Beaty and Blanche are a couple of excellent comediennes and dancers; and Frank Cass, character comedian, is as amusing as ever.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The attraction here this week is Mr. W. V. Garrod and company with *A Country Girl in London*, which, under the new arrangement at this theatre, is being played twice nightly. Business is very satisfactory. In the part of Frank Gordon Mr. Garrod plays with much dramatic strength; Mr. William Bradford distinguishes himself as Godfrey Clinton; and good work comes from Miss May Grayer, her Marjorie Hamilton being received with much favour. Included among other supporters are Messrs. Owen Remonde (Job Smithers), Charles Halling (John Hamilton), Frank Dallas (Henrick), Seymour Perry (Wilberforce), Miss A. Clarke (Adelaide).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill this week is that excellent ventriloquist, Arthur Prince, whose entertainment provokes loud applause; Regan and Ryan, eccentric comedians, are as enjoyable as ever, their knockabout business causing roars of laughter; little Jack Marks proves a smart imitator of Hebrew character; Shirley Liggins and company please greatly with their realty artistic scena, *A Twilight Serenade;* W. G. Wesley, a particularly funny comedian, gives the best of value, and is received with rounds of applause; as an eccentric comedian and dancer Dan Whitley gains much favour; S. W. Wyndham amuses with his new songs; the Three Orleans submit a neat dancing and singing turn; and good work is also done by Addie Adell, actress-vocalist, and Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here this week is presenting *A Woman Adrift*. Mr. Henry Tresham makes an excellent Sir John Ingleby; the heavy parts of Don Castro and Captain Muscardo are handled in creditable style by Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood ably undertakes Pentecost Mackey; Mr. Leo Montgomery looks the character of Carlos; Miss Lina Nazeby plays strongly as Stella; and Miss Gertrude Entwistle presents an efficient Cora Leigh. Worthy support also comes from Messrs. E. D. Allen (Jibbs), R. Seath Innes (Roderick), Tom H. Solly (Dennis), and Miss Gertrude Gilman (Molly). Brown's Bioscope shows By the Mill Stream.

OLYMPIA. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Foremost here this week is Jack Pleasants, whose remarks cause his hearers to rock with laughter; Dan Lipton's company enjoy a rousing reception for their admirable vocal scena, *Songland*, which is put on in most picturesque style; Walter King is particularly quaint, his patter provoking much laughter; Florence Yaymen's coon characters prove immensely enjoyable; the Two St. Johns (Gale and Frank) show themselves to be a couple of accomplished musical comedians and dancers; the performing dogs belonging to Lux go through a remarkable act; little Dot Stephens pleases generally with her dainty songs; Livesey and Rosebery repeat, with success, their funny *Would-be Actors;* and Johnny Fuller executes some daring feats on the wire.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Foremost this week is the stirring military episode *Flood Tide*, presented in finished style by Harry P. Selwyn's company; Henry Cazman, with his one-man music-hall turns and clever illusions, is greeted with loud applause; Miss Millie Engler and company have a merry farce, *Beauty and the Burglar*, which is greatly enjoyed; Baby Wolff is a talented child artist; as xylophone players Baker and Balfe show much expertness; the Eight Tennessee Coloured Guards have a pleasing scena, *Camp Life Down South;* and contributions also come from Larry Lewis, comedian; Harry Conlin, comedian; the Four Regals, with a clever exhibition of strength; and Fred Evans in the absurdity *Dreaming*.

REYNOLDS' EXHIBITION.—This old-established exhibition in Lime Street is now doing excellent business, the enterprising proprietor, Mr. Charles Reynolds, having added to his valuable collection a beautiful and impressive tableau of the lying-in-state of the late King. There is also a strikingly pathetic scene, The Peacemaker Himself at Peace.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—August, September, and May top the bill and are highly amusing; Ike Bradley exhibits great skill as a knockabout cyclist; Hilder and Hilder are smart duettists and dancers; Mint and Mart are comical and clever; and Bert Langdon and Molly Bee contribute some funny burlesque. The Bioscope includes Grahame White's Flight.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's pierrots continue to do good business here; Kit Keen, coloured comedian, is well received; Bernard Davies has a pleasing baritone voice; Wilfred Burnand shows cleverness in his character studies of well-known artists; A. R. Sutcliffe is as popular as ever; and J. A. Tunbridge, at the piano, is excellent.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Another well-selected lot of pictures are shown this week, and Miss Lydia Neilson, with her boys and girls, are responsible for some excellent dancing.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Evanson.—The "World in Motion" pictures here maintain their high standard, and a full house at each performance is still the order of the day. Martin Angle, comedian, and Lily le Main contribute smart variety turns.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company are paying a welcome return visit with the musical play *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, the name-part being cleverly enacted by Miss Gertrude de Lacy, who, together with the Misses Nellie Harcourt, Kathleen Stewart, Lillie and Iris Elvida, and Mr. James Salter, are responsible for several smart specialities in the third act.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—A very entertaining programme is presented by the Frohmans, in a clever musical act; Bella Leaburn, vocalist; and Lily and Antly, sketch artists. The pictures are, as usual, bright and thoroughly entertaining. A children's pageant is being presented during the latter part of the week.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Miss Rosie Lloyd heads the bill here, scoring with her songs and charming all with her inimitable style; Farr and Farland, cross-talk artists and banjo players, are more popular than ever; Briff, Braff, and Broff do some very amusing acrobatic business, causing roars of laughter; La-Vie is much appreciated in a series of electrical art panel poses; a popular vocal turn is provided by Woolmer Young; and Forde and Forde prove artists of merit in their variety musical répertoire; Mabella May is good in song and dance; and an exhibition of electric pictures shows the Funeral Procession of his late Majesty King Edward VII.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. H. G Pelissier and The Follies are here in their latest songs and burlesques, including potted versions of *The Fires of Fate, Henry of Navarre,* and *The King of Cadonia*, in addition to which is given the burlesque of a music hall. Decidedly clever, comic, and attractive, the performances are greatly enjoyed, and nothing more smart and unhackneyed need be wished for by those in search of an exhilarating entertainment.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The old favourite *Florodora* is presented here this week by Mr. Charles Constant's company. The outstanding feature is the Tweedlepunch of Mr. Johnnie Schofield, who fills the part like a real comedian, and is one of the best who have been seen in it. Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores looks and sings well, and Mr. Stanley White plays with sufficient humour and smartness as Cyrus Gilfain. Miss Florence Hersee as Angela is also pleasing, and a commendable impersonation of Lady Holyrood is to the credit of Miss Kate Leicester. Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Frank Aberoed and Mr. Johnnie Junior as Captain Arthur Donegal fill their parts well, and minor rôles are all in capable hands. A feature worthy of high praise is the Apache dance of Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. Johnnie Junior in Act 2.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Miss Cora Anson's company are giving here an attractive performance of *Caste*. Mr. G. W. Anson as Eccles is remarkably fine; as Captain Hawtree, the military aristocrat, Mr Frank Lacy is also specially good; and an admirable impersonation of Polly Eccles is added by Miss Cora Anson, who has a clever supporter in Mr. Wyn Weaver as Sam Gerridge. Mr. T. A. Shannon as the Hon. George D'Alroy is well placed, and Miss Lydia Busch makes a very satisfactory Esther; while Miss Helen Vicary as the Marquise de St. Maur completes the cast in pleasing style. A better all-round performance could not be desired.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—A new play *The Female Detective*, was produced here on Monday, and is fully noticed elsewhere.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A fine attraction here is Herbert Darnley and his company in *John Jay, Junior*, which is a big success. Louis Taylor's company in *The Adder's Tooth* are also a marked feature of the programme; while other smart items are Harry Marlow, a catchy light comedian; the Two Brilliants, xylophonists; the Hendersons, speciality artists; Jock McNeil, Scotch comedian and dancer; Flo Chevalier, refined vocal comedienne; the Vaudeville Trio of acrobatic step-dancers; and Reed and Cully, in their funny act, *The Bill-Stickers*.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Elliott-Savonas top the bill here in their brilliant production *The Palace of Orpheus;* while Harrigan and Holt (the Inspector and Policeman) add a prominent comic turn, and The Days, experts in second sight, are greatly applauded. Baby Myrtle Grove, the pierrot, is good; and other contributions to a capital programme are made by Silvo, gymnast; Archie Glen, raconteur and dancer; the Martons, in a comedy duologue; and Michel Brothers, very smart balancers and society acrobats.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and his company are here in the well-known farcical comedy *The Lady of Ostend*. Needless to say, the piece is well played and highly appreciated, Mr. Brough being particularly applauded in an all-round excellent cast. The week's programme is varied by a selection of notable curtain-raisers, namely, *Love in a Railway Train, At the Risin' of the Moon,* and *The Little Agitator*.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—A return visit to Manchester of *The Cingalee*, after a quite recent successful venture at a local theatre, is paid here this week by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company, who are again securing the appreciation of large audiences. Miss Isa Bowman as Nanoya is the bright particular feature of the cast, which is an accomplished one throughout. The piece is played twice nightly, and has a full chorus and an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. W. D. J. Damant; while the scenery and dresses are up to the requisite high standard of beauty and colour.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson top the bill here, and win unstinted applause by their refined and artistic musical and vocal act Bert Coote and Co., who occupy the corresponding place of honour, supply a most amusing contrast in *A Lamb on Wall Street*, which is hugely enjoyed. Pat Rafferty, the Irish comedian, is well received; Hall and Earle, two acrobatic comedians, are smart and funny; Elton and Edwin play the banjoes in classical style; and other entertaining items are Vesta and Minnie Pine, the Golf Girl and the Caddie; Bob and Jennie Leonard, in a comedy act; Park's Eton Boys, assisted by the Girton Girls, in song scenas; and Speedwell, a painter of novel and humorous moving sketches.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The programme here this week is full of good things. Hubert Carter, ably supported, is highly successful as David Garrick; Cyril Clensy, a very clever impersonator, scores in his playlet *The Last Chance;* Ella Retford, the popular comedienne, charms with her songs and dances; and Harry Lamore makes a big hit as a versatile comedy entertainer. Other smart and enjoyable items are offered by Burt Shepard, a capital comedian, whose Budget song takes well; Lydia and Amelys, clever Parisian dancers; the Manchester Mites in songs and dances; Nellie Farrell, a pleasing singer of Irish songs; and J. H. Milburn, who meets with a good reception as deputy for F. V. St. Clair, the popular topical vocalist.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—A very good programme here is headed by Kitty Gordon, the popular musical comedy artist, whose refined and taking style is highly appreciated. Jake Friedman and Co. are also prominent in the successful burletta *Happy Holland;* Dale and O'Malley, the "somewhat different" comedians, are popular; Arthur Reece, the well-known vocal comedian, adds a good turn; and other clever people in the bill are Jack Rae, comedy gymnast; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in their unique singing and dancing act; Lucy Coventry, comedienne and dancer; and the Four Braggs, equilibrists and head-balancers.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The Court Cards, a smart vaudeville combination, provide the top star turn here this week with success. The Four Janowskys go through a wonderfully clever acrobatic and ladder act; the Darntons (Cicely and Gladys), harmonising duettists, meet with a deservedly good reception; Rowland Bottomley, musical comedy artist, scores in fine style; Dolly and Madge McCalla, in song, story, and dance, are well received; the Wyffs play well in neat comedy sketch, *St. Valentine's Day;* and Rose Tilley, burlesque actress, takes well. Up-to-date pictures are also shown.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—The Verona Troupe of trick cyclists, who worthily top the bill here this week, go through a remarkably clever performance; Thomas C. Le Gar's company, including Senor Angel Blanco, are highly sucessful in that dramatic playlet *Music, the Conqueror;* the Monckton cause endless laughter in their sketch *A Woman's Curiosity;* whilst other smart turns are those of the Sisters Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; A. H. Drinkwater, light comedian; Three Comedy Chanters, in harmonious interludes; Johnson and Hart, hoop-rollers and jugglers; Dan Weldon, singing newsboy; and Mitchell and Stott, clever comedy gymnasts. Pictures complete.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Walter Dowling's company of entertainers, "The Fantastics," are the attraction here this week, and include those capable artists Jose Leyton, comedienne and siffleuse; Bert Durant, at the piano; Alfred Daniels, humorist and banjoist; Jessie Crone, contralto; Percival Mackenzie, versatile artist; Roland Green, baritone; and last, but not least, Walter Dowling, the popular jester.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—Some beautiful new films are shown here this week twice nightly, and include Lieutenant Rose and the Foreign Spy; A Child of the Prairie, An Original Revenge, Frankenstein; Pygmalion and Galatea, Up-to-date Imps, &c., &c.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—There are in Tom Craven's detective melodrama *When a Lass Loves* all the elements of a popular and exciting play, and since its original production at Margate it has been presented with great success in the provinces and in London. Mr. Reginald Stephens has a good appearance and acts convincingly as Dr. Allan Crass, whilst as Bertram Bridge, card sharper, swell cracksman, and blackguard of the lowest type, Mr. Ramsey Foreman adopts a suitable cynical style, and sustains the character excellently; Mr. Louis Palgrave, in his original rôle of the ubiquitous office boy Slack, is decidedly entertaining; and Mr. George F. Ide is amusing as the stage-struck solicitor's clerk, Reggie Stapleton. Mr. Franc Stoney plays Caleb Crass, the lawyer, appropriately, and Mr. John Clive makes the most of his opportunities as Anthony Greig, a Scotch millionaire. Miss Josephine Middleton displays great ability in the part of the plucky ex-lady detective, Constance Lane, her acting evoking loud applause; Miss Rita Trekelle portrays the callous Cynthia Bridge with commendable restraint; and Miss Ella Dixon as Nina May, an Anglo-American chorus girl, does remarkably well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—John Clempert gives his remarkable performance, escaping from a locked-up tank of water and releasing himself from shackles and

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

To be fashionable this season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS
BRONZINE
POLISHES

These polishes can be obtained in a special Dark Grey, peculiarly suitable for mourning; also in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour. Do not rub off on the hands or dress.

EXCELLENT FOR THEATRICAL PROPERTIES.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, and Ironmongers, 1/- per box, which will do several pairs of shoes.

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD.,
73, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

handcuffs in marvellous style; Daisy Stratton, a chic comedienne and dancer; Syd Crossley, comedian; Charles Lilburn, eccentric comedian; Richard Wally, in a juggling act; Ethel May, comedienne and dancer; and the Dick and Dorothy Trio, in a vocal and dancing act, also contribute to an entertaining programme. The pictures include slides of the memorial service in Margate and Sea-Lion Hunting in the Arctic.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Jackson Withers.—*The King of Crime* is capitally staged and well produced by Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh's company here this week. Principal rôles are capably undertaken by Miss Dorothy Haigh as Henriette, Mr. Alfred Goddard as Gaston Lemaire, Mr. Vernon Travers as Pierre Gondelu, and Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh as Simon. The remaining characters are in competent hands.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Cummin and Seaham present a novel comedy act entitled *The Ragman and Postman*; Arthur Slater's whistling solos are much appreciated; first-rate roller-skate dancing is done by J. H. McCann; Vi Mayiott has some pleasing songs; the Morrellis score as comedy artists; and the biograph provides some excellent pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Variety and pictures form the attraction here. The Digbys, the Transatlantic comedy duo, give a smart exposition of cross-talk songs and gags; the Leonas submit a refined and clever instrumental turn and an expert exhibition of fencing; Chas. Dixon is an entertaining comedian; Kate Lynd is an able exponent of low comedy. Capital pictures complete the programme.

NEW PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The star films are From Smoke and Crime, Abbey of Lerins, and the Cossack's Treasure, supplemented by humorous pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company are appearing with success in the domestic dramas, *Home, Sweet Home* and *Love, the Conqueror*, in which the principal characters are ably sustained by Mr. Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Remberger.—Scott and Whaley, comedians and dancers, meet with well deserved approval, as do also Ike and Will Scott, comedians; Tate and Tate, in a bar act; the Sisters Grovini, acrobats; Ralph and Nellie Howard, in a musical act, entitled *Military Mad;* the Crudons, speciality artists; John Trevellian, tenor; and the Empirescope. Good houses rule.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Ingledew.—A capital programme of pictures is again drawing large audiences.

MORECAMBE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—Stylo has been busy here with a new dancing act which has been received enthusiastically. It is opened by Stylo's charming wife, Bessie Bonnie, with a song, after which she is joined by three step-dancers, who have certainly nothing to learn in their own line of business. The quartet ascend, step by step, to a pedestal, and then descend, dancing the while in unison and producing musical effects through the clever arrangement of the steps of the aptly named "Stairaphone." The idea combines everything which is to be got out of pedestal and slab dancing, and adds an absolute novelty to the dancing acts of the variety stage. The dancers, with the use of the "Stairaphone," efficiently render popular music, including the anvil chorus, and Stylo deserves congratulation upon inventing and arranging a distinctly original act. Other turns here are Florence Kennedy, delightful vocalist; Rex and Ford, smart patter comedians; Stylo, hoop king; and Dix and Dox, tramp comedy.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Some of the best pictures are shown to large and appreciative audiences. Excellent variety is provided by Clive and Vera, singers, dancers, and comedy artists, and the Barrington Trio, singers, dancers, and musicians. Mr. Noice, the popular manager, arranged a benefit for the Neath Cricket Club, under the patronage of the Mayor and Corporation, &c. A vote of thanks to Mr. Vint was proposed by the Mayor, and suitably acknowledged by Mr. Noice.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—An excellent programme is headed by the Marriotts, whose mind-reading entertainment proves completely mystifying. The Krags Trio of Continental gymnasts are wonderfully clever; and good turns are also supplied by Hess and Chivers, roller-skating experts; Elsie Claire, a comedienne who possesses a charming voice and sings with much refinement; Mr. Howell Webb and company in an amusing absurdity, *The Professor's Baby; or, Never Send Your Wife to Bacup;* Carmen Barrie, comedienne and dancer; and Watson and McQue, comedy couple.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—A crowded house gave a very warm welcome to *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, presented on Monday by an excellent company organised by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison. Every character is well acted, and Mr. George Mudie scored a great success as Mr. Ponderbury, whilst Miss C. Gordon, Miss Florence Wix, and Mr. Percy Bell all came in for enthusiastic applause. The staging was perfect in every detail.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Excellent animated pictures and variety items constitute the bill of fare in the theatre. The company includes the Northcotes, operatic duettists; the Maddison Bros., comedians and boxers; and a Scotch lady styled Heather Belle, who sings sweetly. The films are varied and very good.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Variety holds sway here, and Mr. Charley Harvey is, as usual, a favourite with the Pavilion patrons. A success is scored by El Roy, the armless wonder; and Mlle. Marjutti, contortionist. Other items are supplied by Wee Vesta Henry, Miss Fanny Humber, Mr. Dave Laird, and Sisters Belmour.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Chas. Windermere's excellent company in *Where is William?* is attracting good audiences. Mr. Windermere himself impersonates Sir William, and his breezy manner and finished acting keep the audience in the very best of humour. He is loyally supported by Mr. Rule Pyott, who makes a very amusing Butler. Mr. Leslie Norman gives a capital portrayal of an irascible old general. The part of Phyllis Patterson is charmingly represented by Miss Clare Manifield, and others who figure prominently are Mr Robert Urquhart as Harry, Miss Belle Donaldson as Lady Gregory, Miss Zoe Davis as Eliza, Miss May Rosine as Emily, Mr. A. Plant as the Policeman, and Mr. Fred Lake as Joe Budge. *Clause No. 6*, in which Miss Manifield and Mr. Urquhart appear to advantage, precedes.

PALACE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—"Two shows a night" is a new departure here, and on Monday two large audiences assembled to witness *Her Secret Lover*, by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. The leading rôles were admirably sustained by Mr. Arthur St. John, Mr. Walter H. Wilson, Mr. Alfred Stretton, Miss Laura Walker, and Miss Flora Leslie.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Lew Lake and company are the principal attraction in *King Nobbler*. Always up to date, Fred Earle and his amusing songs go especially strong. Cull Pitt is responsible for a quite original turn, and Mona Vivian sings and dances charmingly. The Five Vernons present an entertaining xylophone turn. That droll comedian Alf Gibson is as amusing as ever, and Fielding and Hull, in "tabloid musical comedy," are clever. *The Belles of the Kitchen*, a comedy sketch by Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, proves entertaining, and Maxey and Pete, comedy cyclists, present many new tricks in their line, the bioscope completing a capital programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Excellent pictures are again shown here, and illustrated songs are rendered by Miss Margaret Payne.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—London's Fish Supply is an interesting subject among a number of other entertaining films.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr J. W. Borrowman.—The principal items are To Save Her Soul, Condemned to Death, and the Cowboy Millionaire.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*Under Two Flags* is being produced here this week by Mr. Albert Sember and company, and large audiences have assembled. As the Hon. Bertie Cecil Mr. Albert Sember acquits himself admirably; Mr. Ernest R. Allen cleverly sustains the character of Berkley Cecil; Mr. C. Alan Hineson fills with marked ability the rôle of Ezra Baroni; Mr. William Turnbull scores as Lord Rockinham; and Mr. Edward E. Louis makes a capable Colonel Charteauroy. As Cigarette Miss Fay Garnett Vayne wins general approval; and Beatrice is in the able hands of Miss Kate Froude.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—At the head of an attractive programme here are the Wagners in *The Boy, the Maid, and the Misfit*, which is greatly enjoyed. Polo and Clarence, society equilibrists, perform some very smart feats, which gains them loud applause; Lillie Langdon sings and dances in good style; William Bradshaw, comedian, has made a hit; and the up-to-date pictures are as popular as ever.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—George Sheldon and company, which includes Messrs. Fred Levison, F. Rawson Buckley, John Hampden, and Reggie Connor, in the dramatic sketch *Before the Dawn*, excite interest and appreciation; Stewart and Morgan, in their musical turn, are successful; the Five Whiteleys display great ability in their acrobatic wire-walking and musical pot-pourri; the Zanfrellas are clever novelty equilibrists; Phil Percival is well received in his burlesque *Sexton Blake;* Joe Dale sings amusing songs; the Dancing Paceys are good harmonisers and expert dancers; and Tiny Arnold, a diminutive comedian, amuses; and the Hippo. Bioscope is entertaining.

THE NEST (Rosary-road).—Messrs. Goodman's pierrots excel themselves each week. Mr. Jack Bonny has a pleasing tenor voice and sings good songs; Mr. Eric S. John is well received; Mr. Leslie Sears sings exceedingly droll ditties; Miss Aileen Delmore pleases much; Miss Cissie Scott is warmly approved; and Miss Rosie Effingham sings choice songs. Mr. Fred Capron gives fine violin solos, and makes an able accompanist.

THEATRE DE LUXE, ST. ANDREW'S.—Manager, Mr. T. Hallesey.—The cinematograph continuous performance goes well here. The pictures are good, and there is a frequent change of programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Tom, Dick, and Harry* makes amusing fare. Mr. George Unwin as the harassed General keeps the fun moving in capital style; Mr. C. H. Pullen makes a breezy and light-hearted Tom Stanhope; the Twins are amusingly played by Messrs. Leo St. Clair and Percival Jordan; Mr. F. E. Brennan is effective as Ned Moreland; and Mr. Grahame Herington scores as Dr. Wagner. Miss Rose Temple supplies an entertaining portrayal of Daisy Armitage, and a smart actress is seen in Miss Dorothy Payn in the part of Mrs. Winters. Miss Dorothy Lambert (Molly) and Miss Audrey Esmonds (Isabel) also deserve praise. A monologue entertainment by Miss Dorothy Payn, which precedes the farce, is warmly received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*Monte Christo* is excellently played by the stock company. Mr. Otto Minster's histrionic capabilities are shown to the best advantage in his depiction of Edmund Dantes. As Mercedes Miss Bessie Rignold plays with consummate skill. Miss Lilian Duncker acts naturally as Mlle. Danglars, and Mme. Noirtier is well represented by Miss Violet Agnew. Mr. George Venning strongly impersonates the Comte de Morcerf, and excellent work is done by Messrs. Horace Kenny (Abbé Faria), Herbert Morgan (Baron Danglars), and George Graham (Noirtier).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Harry Roxbury's mirth-provoking sketch *On the Track* provides this versatile comedian ample opportunities for raising laughter. Harry Weldon's burlesque on *Dick Turpin* is genuinely funny. An interesting and skilful acrobatic entertainment by the Abdullah Arabs wins favour. The Brothers Egbert submit their smart knockabout business; the Findens present one of their amusing sketches; the electrical devices of the Marconis are well demonstrated; Fred Curran scores with his parodies; Winifred Ward achieves success with her songs; and the dancing of Dan Fraser is appreciated.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—A strongly dramatic sketch, *The Ace of Hearts*, is admirably played by James Willard and company. Silbon's Cats are amazingly clever performers, and reflect the greatest credit on their trainer. The Lafaille Troupe of acrobats accomplish some difficult feats with neatness and precision. The Brothers Ethairien add an element of fun to their acrobatic tricks; the Markies produce musical sounds from bottles and glasses; Lillie Soutter sings in animated fashion; Tiny and Mite dance cleverly; Belrose and De Velin vocalise with considerable fervour; and Robb Wilton adds to the merriment.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—*A Soldier's Honour* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Mr. Will Hee effectively portrays the gallant Captain Deane; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde is well suited as Captain Gerald Temple; Mr. Fallowes Bassett is a powerful Henry Thornton; Mr. J. R. Boque gives a well-studied rendering of General Rochester; Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Cora Lee is a great success; Miss Isa Lyndon as Doreen Illingworth meets with well-merited approval; and Miss Edie Macklin as Jemima helps successfully in relieving the seriousness of the play.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An entire change of pictures is given here twice weekly, and results in good business. The whole proceeds of Wednesday's performances will be devoted to the funds of the local boy scouts.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway; Secretary, Mr. Fred J. Jones.—In the Frozen North, A Friend in Need, and London Fish Supply are a few of an attractive picture programme. Ellis Share, refined comedian, pays a return visit, and fully sustains his reputation; Minnie scores a success with her gipsy songs.

(*Continued on page* 25).

NEIL KENYON
in
"THE ISLANDER,"
AT THE APOLLO THEATRE.

THE "INVASION" OF VAUDEVILLE.

Many causes are combining to give a wider scope, so to speak, to the vaudeville stage, and to rid it of that exotic banality which certainly was not unknown only a few years ago in "halls" of obscure and indifferent repute, and which harmed to no small degree the general reputation of the character of the average variety performance. Public opinion has, of course, acted greatly for the good in this respect; but we think that the migration of artists from the "legitimate" stage has also improved the condition of the music hall. We do not mean that such artists are necessarily successful on the new boards, some, indeed, having failed utterly to acclimatise their methods to their strange surroundings. But the invasion has been of benefit chiefly because it has taken the music hall traditions out of the groove into which they had been content to lie, and because it has forced this class of entertainment to move with the times. This is in itself very excellent. But we would go a step further, and suggest that much would be gained for all concerned if an invasion of the "legitimate" stage was made by our vaudeville artists. We say "all concerned," since in a give-and-take affair of this sort both sides would profit, the one learning from the other's method, and the public would have a higher standard of theatrical art. In Paris Mr. George Grossmith, jun., appears at the Folies Bergères, and in London Mr. Neil Kenyon is now playing the Pasha in *The Islander* at the Apollo Theatre. Let this system be extended.—Globe, May 24, 1910.

I cannot remember whether is was Marryat, or "Tom Cringle," or Louis Becke, or some other writer about salt water and coral islands who first brought me into touch with the travelling Scot promoted to local Royalty. At all events,

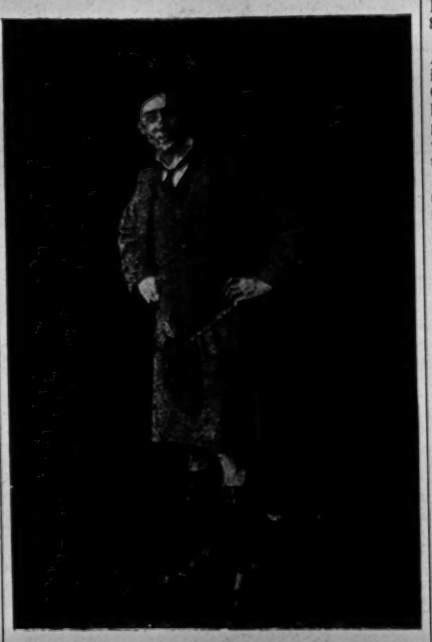

[*Photo by Shankland.*

MR. NEIL KENYON.

one is glad to come across the type again—on the stage if not in home politics—when represented by so amusing an actor as Mr. Neil Kenyon. For though I hate specialising when there is much that is good around, the capital performance of this gentleman certainly gives *The Islander* that added interest which may make all the difference between hearty success and *succès d'estime*. But for one song in a kilt, which I should not be sorry to see revised, he carried me with him all the way, and in doing so seemed to brace up the rest like a tonic. . . . It is impossible to speak too appreciatively of the Makh Ali Khan of Mr. Kenyon. His performance is a triumph of humour, comedy, and character, in no single moment showing effort. —The Captious Critic in the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic.

They do not get that kind of low comedy in *The Islander*, and one can only hope they will be persuaded to like what they do get, which is mainly Mr. Neil Kenyon in the character of a Scottish adventurer, who purports to be the Pasha of the island "somewhere in the Persian Gulf." Mr. Kenyon is funny in very much the same way in which a Pasha who is really a humorous Scotsman might be funny in real life. In the general musical comedy tradition, his part would be one of the wildest buffoonery. We all have our eccentricities, and one of my own is to prefer Mr. Neil Kenyon's part as it is. His Scottish humour is a very delightful thing—a think of rich quality. —Owen Stair in the Outlook, April 30, 1910.

The member of the cast whose engagement roused the most interest was Mr. Neil Kenyon, the famous Scottish comedian, who plays the part of the Pasha. Mr. Kenyon has a very distinct style of his own, far removed from that of any other musical comedy comedian, and it must be admitted that the entertainment derived from the Pasha was entirely due to Mr. Kenyon.—Musical Standard, April 30, 1910.

"The Islander," whose other name is Pasha Mirza Makh Ali Khan, made his first appearance at the Apollo Theatre on Saturday evening last. In spite of his high-sounding title the Pasha proved to be the most amusing Scot the stage has seen for many years. Mr. Neil Kenyon, who sustained the part, never overacted, or descended to the level of the low comedian; his quiet, if somewhat nervous manner, gives promise of even riper performance of the character.—The Queen, April 30, 1910.

The Pasha is Mr. Neil Kenyon, and although on Saturday evening he was nervous and somewhat ill at ease, his performance showed promise of something very good indeed. He played with a sort of benign sternness which was quite unaffected and quite new.—Morning Post, April 25, 1910.

The leading spirit of the company is Mr. Neil Kenyon, who appears for the most part to have supplied his own humour to the distinct profit of the piece.—The Bystander, May 4, 1910.

In regard to the acting, chief honours are due to Mr. Neil Kenyon, the Scottish Pasha. He does a great deal to make the play go along merrily.—Madame, May 7, 1910.

Mr. Neil Kenyon is a famous music hall entertainer, with an easy manner and a winning smile. He is a fine exponent of true Scots humour.—The Lady, May 5, 1910.

The quaintness of Neil Kenyon ought to ensure something of a run for this well produced show.—London Opinion, May 7, 1910.

There are many good parts, but the best is that of the Pasha. Mr. Neil Kenyon was, as might be expected, particularly amusing.—Court Journal, May 4, 1910.

Mr. Neil Kenyon is a host in himself.—Pelican, June 1, 1910.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, May 26, the Opera in Four Acts (in Italian) by Vincenzo Bellini, entitled

'LA SONNAMBULA"

La Sannambula was performed at Covent Garden on Thursday night, May 26, with Mme. Tetrazzini in the part of the sleep-walking heroine. The revival of Bellini's old opera, in which such famous artists as Mme. Patti, Albani, Minnie Hauk, and Gerster have appeared, was only undertaken for the simple reason that the part of Annina affords Mme. Tetrazzini abundant opportunity for the display of her unequalled powers in florid music; therefore the audience, who cared little for the other characters or the feeble libretto, were roused to great enthusiasm by Mme. Tetrazzini's scenas in the Bedroom scene and her wonderful singing of "Ah non giunge." Mr. John McCormack as Elvino was vocally excellent, and Mr. Edmund Burke equally so as the virtuous Il Conte Rodolfo. Mme Bérat played Teresa admirably, and the part of Lisa was cleverly undertaken by Mlle. Symiane, Signor Sampieri and Signor Zucchi appearing as Alessio and Un Notaro. Signor Campanini conducted, and secured a good ensemble of the familiar old work.

In the performance of *Madama Butterfly*, given on Friday night, May 27, a new tenor appeared as the heartless Pinkerton in Mr. Riccardo Martin, an American artist of repute, who created a most favourable impression by his fine voice and artistic acting Mlle. Destinn is unsurpassed in her pathetic study of Puccini's Japanese heroine, and being in fine voice on Friday night she held the audience enthralled in the sad closing scenes of the opera by her masterly singing and acting. Mlle. Symiane personated Suzuki, Cio-Cio-San's devoted attendant, and Signor Sammarco was, as usual, excellent as the kind-hearted Sharpless. Signor Zucchi proved very amusing as the marriage-broker Goro, while the parts of Il Principe Yamadori, Lo Zio Bonzo, and Il Commissario Imperiale were adequately filled by Signor Gianoli-Galletti, M. Morin, and Signor Sampieri. Mlle. Egener played Kate Pinkerton, Signor Pini the Registrar, and Miss Vito La Madre di Cio-Cio-San. Signor Campanini conducted.

Mr Riccardo Martin, who was so successful in *Madama Butterfly* on Friday, proved not less so in *Faust*, given on Saturday night, May 28, at Covent Garden. Mr. Martin, as the rejuvenated hero, sang Gounod's music with refinement and purity of tone. "Salut demeure" was rendered with real grace and expression, and well deserved the hearty applause. As an actor, also, the American artist distinguished himself, but it seemed strange that Mr. Martin, like Mr. Franz, should be so singularly unfortunate in his costume. Mme. Edvina again impersonated Marguerite with considerable charm, and the rest of the cast was the same as on the first night of *Faust* this season, the conductor again being M. Frigara.

La Bohème was given at Covent Garden on Monday night before a very large and fashionable audience, and Mme. Melba had a warm welcome on her return to Covent Garden after an absence of two years. At the conclusion of the first act the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and nine recalls of the famous prima donna hardly satisfied her many admirers. It was a pleasure to note that Mme. Melba has returned to us with her pure beautiful voice in perfect condition, and as full and round as ever after twenty years' singing in opera and concerts. The character of Mimi has always been associated with Mme. Melba ever since Puccini's opera was first produced, and she sang with delightful ease and finish in the charming duet with the high C at the close of the first act. Mr. John McCormack as Rodolfo acted gracefully and sang "Che gelida manina" remarkably well and with poetic feeling. Signor Sammarco, Signor Marcoux, and Signor Malatesta as the Bohemians acted and sang with great spirit, and special praise must be awarded to Mlle. Symiane for her excellent singing of Musetta's pretty air, while the orchestra under Signor Campanini did full justice to Puccini's clever score.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, May 31, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. Cyril Cattley (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. E. Morgan, Chris. Walker, Murri Moncrieff, F. H. De Quincey, Robson Paige, F. Annerley, C. Hayden Coffin, Leonard Shepherd, C. F. Collings, Misses B. Chester, Rose Cazalet, Vita Spencer, Mildred Cottell, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th ult., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

The chairman read a letter from a member with reference to the circular lately issued, of which he complained that this was the first intimation he had had that his subscription was overdue. The secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of his letter, and to inform him that he had been advised in due course by the same method as other members, but to point out that, in any case, no intimation was legally necessary, as subscriptions were due automatically on Jan. 1 in every year.

Mr. Clarence Derwent tendered the report of his attendance before the organising committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, and the council accorded him a vote of thanks.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester and adopted.

Mr. Cattley resigned from the Finance Committee owing to his inability to attend until October, and Miss Cazalet was elected in his place.

The House Committee's report was tendered by Mr. Moncrieff, and the various suggestions contained therein were referred back to the committee for completion of estimates.

Mr. Cattley drew attention to a circular referring to the Annual Theatrical Sports, and on the motion of Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Shepherd, the secretary was instructed to place a notice on the board with a view, if possible, to secure entries and further the selling of tickets.

The hon. solicitors reported progress in nine cases, and received further instructions.

Miss Chester suggested the advisability of supplying a "Benevolent Emergency Box," and offered to provide the same. After discussion, the matter was deferred until another meeting, in order that Miss Chester might consider some means of carrying out her suggestion. The secretary reported five engagements through the agency.

Ruhamah Catton and R. Ronald Ashby were elected; Albert Ward was reinstated; and Maud Robertson, Barbara Everest, and Joan Harcourt were nominated.

AT a time when most people are thinking of holidays a little invention by Mr. H. M. Beryl, treasurer of the Newcastle Theatre Royal, is worthy of note. What to do with the dog (says the *Newcastle Journal*) is a problem which invariably arises on the eve of the annual vacation, and for those who desire the family pet to travel with them, and at the same time obviate objections on the part of landladies, Mr. Beryl has provided a solution. It takes the form of a folding portable one-piece kennel, simple in construction, yet distinctly useful. The various parts are hinged and held together firmly by hooks. When it is desired to fold up the kennel the hooks are unfastened, the back and front fall back upon the floor of the kennel, the two halves of the roof fold downwards on the two sides, and the latter are turned down flat. Thus the kennel occupies a small compass, is easily handled, and, in short, possesses many advantages for travelling purposes.

"FASCINATING PEGGY."

Musical Farcical Comedy, in Two Acts, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, on Monday, May 23.

Christopher Scrubbs	MR. VICTOR A. CRAWFORD
Harry Ledville	MR. WALTER B. NUGENT
Jacques Berat	MR. BERT LAWSON
Lord Hassendene	MR. JAMES HAWKES
Taps	MISS NELLIE MORRIS
Sipple Kipple	MR. SYD WEST
James	MR. FRANK HARRIS
Billy	MR. CYRIL HOPE
Peggy	MISS MAY NORRIS
Viola Berat	MISS LESLIE WARNER
Tarabintha	MISS MAY LAARHOVEN
Feejee	MISS MADGE ARTHUR
Polly	MISS ZARA JEWELL
Rosie	MISS CLARE NEWTON
Betsy Benson	MISS DAISY STONE
Lady Marie	MISS FLORRIE LYNDON
Lady Betty	MISS LEONORA KAYE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The plot in this little play is centred round the life of Peggy, a country lass, who, though she knows it not, is the heiress to a large fortune, the property being fraudulently held by Mr. Ledville. Jacques Berat, an outlaw, discovers his secret, and under his threats Ledville enters into a compact to take charge of Berat's daughter, Viola, and bring her up in his own family as a lady, and thus secure Berat's silence. That worthy steals the documents relating to Peggy's identity, which have been in the care of Betsy Benson, the woman who has brought her up since her parents died; but he is stopped by his daughter, Viola, who obtains the papers and discovers, on reading them, that Peggy is the heiress of the fortune to which Harry Ledville, her foster brother, would otherwise be entitled on his father's death. She discloses this information to Harry, who makes up his mind to marry Peggy, and thus secure the fortune in any event. Peggy's affections are, however, in the keeping of young Mr. Hassendene, and a pretty little love story between these two is interwoven in the piece. Ledville's scheme to drug Hassendene's jockey in a race in which both are interested is moreover thwarted by the young girl. As soon as the loss of the papers relating to Peggy's identity is discovered by Betsy, she immediately reports the matter to P.C. Scrubbs, who then assumes the rôle of detective with a view to discovering the thief, and some amusing comedy, in which Scrubbs appears in numerous disguises, is the result. In the end Scrubbs tracks Ledville and his adopted sister just as their plot to kidnap Peggy seems to have met with success. The plotters are ordered to quit the country, and Peggy is restored to her lover, who by this time has inherited the title of Lord Hassendene.

The piece was presented by Mr. George Kirby's company. The principal part of Scrubbs was to have been taken by Mr. Frank Gala, but that gentleman was taken ill, and the company had to be rearranged at a few hours' notice. However, the artists acquitted themselves well in the difficult situation in which they found themselves. Miss May Norris made a charming study of Peggy; her singing was good and her free and easy manner quite attractive. Mr. James Hawkes as Lord Hassendene acted very well, and the duets sung by the pair were frequently applauded. Mr. Walter B. Nugent as Harry Ledville gave every satisfaction, presenting a very natural portrayal of the villain. Miss Leslie Warner as Viola Berat gave a faithful representation of a scheming, unscrupulous woman; and Mr. Bert Lawson was quite satisfactory as Jacques Berat. Miss Nellie Morris as Taps was well suited to the part, and really did exceedingly well; whilst as Kipple, the stage dude, Mr. Syd West made the most of his opportunities. Miss Daisy Stone was good as Betsy Benson, and sang with considerable power. The fun of the performance was almost entirely due to the amusing antics of Mr. Victor A. Crawford as Scrubbs, who, coming in at a moment's notice, did really well, his style and clever patter combining to make the part irresistibly quaint. The music is good, several of the songs being particularly tuneful and catchy. The orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Frank Corri.

MME. DONALDA'S CONCERT.

At Queen's Hall on Friday afternoon, May 27, a very large audience assembled for the concert given by Mme. Donalda, the esteemed prima donna of the Royal Opera. In the operatic music included in the programme Mme. Donalda had the support of the fine London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Herr Arthur Nikisch. Gluck's aria from *Iphigenia in Tauride* and an aria from Nouguès' new opera *Quo Vadis* were beautifully sung, and, after a charming rendering of "Mi chiamano Mimi" from Puccini's *La Bohème*, Mme. Donalda was recalled four times to the platform. In a group of seven songs admirably accompanied on the piano by Mr. W. D. Murdosh, Carl Weber's "Das alte Lied" and "Im walde" were given, and Tosti's pretty song, "Love's way," while the audience were greatly pleased with "Chanson triste" (Duparc), and two attractive songs of Baron F. d'Erlanger, "L'Abesse" and "Chanson légère," the latter being so delightfully sung by Mme. Donalda that an encore was inevitable. Schubert's "Der Erlkonig," the last of the seven songs, did not suit the vocalist so well. During the afternoon Mme. Donalda received frequent applause, and was the recipient of many floral tributes from her admirers. The London Symphony Orchestra gave magnificent performances of the prelude and Liebestod from Wagner's *Tristan and Isolda*, Tschaikowsky's Fifth Symphony, and Weber's *Euryanthe* overture.

MR. PERCY FRENCH and Dr. Houston Collisson gave a "farewell" recital at Steinway Hall on Friday evening. As the services of the two Irish artists have been retained by Mr. Duff, of Daly's Theatre, New York, for a lengthy tour in the United States and Canada, they will not appear again in London for a considerable time.

THE first production in England of Richard Strauss's comic opera *Feuersnot* will take place at His Majesty's Theatre on the evening of Saturday, July 9.

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable preparation than

ENO'S

'FRUIT SALT'

THE OLD TIME, EVER-POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY FOR

Biliousness, Sick Headache, Errors in Diet (Eating or Drinking), Giddiness, Constipation, Thirst, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold with High Temperature and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It proves beneficial in the early stages of Diarrhœa. Most valuable to Travellers, especially in hot countries.

CAUTION.—*Examine the Capsule, and see that it is marked ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT,' otherwise you have the sincerest form of flattery—IMITATION.*

Prepared only by J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'FRUIT SALT' WORKS, LONDON, S.E.

ACTORS' CHURCH UNION.

BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK AT THE QUEEN'S.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Lord Bishop of Southwark presided at the eleventh annual meeting of the Actors' Church Union, held by permission of Mr. H. B. Irving at the Queen's Theatre on Monday afternoon last.

In reviewing the past year's work of the Union his lordship said that they had completed the first decade of their Union. He had brought back from India the memory of a performance of *The Dollar Princess* at Calcutta. He had come away from the performance at the stroke of midnight, when the second act had not yet been begun. The Church and the stage had now more confidence in one another. All clerics were not of the type of the simple young man with the eyeglass and the lisp, nor yet of the type shown by the poster, with his sleeves rolled up his pugilistic arms—(laughter)—and they, the clergy, on their side, were not prepared to think actors were all "rips" and black sheep. The work of the Union was going forward slowly but satisfactorily, and it might in time be possible to arrange local conferences, in different parts of the country, to confer as to how the work of the Union might be improved. As the Union developed, according to its first simple and single intention—that of providing sympathetic chaplains in every place visited by members of the dramatic profession—it would almost inevitably happen that other things would come within its reach that it would be invited or tempted to do. But they must be careful how they extended their work, so as not to mar the usefulness of what had been done. Matters of a doubtful nature should be referred to the Committee.

His Lordship then read a letter from Mr. H. B. Irving, who regretted he was unable to be present.

Mr. Edward Compton moved the adoption of the report in a felicitous and amusing speech. He said his task resembled a game of billiards, where the manipulator knocked the various items or balls about as skilfully as he could, made great play with his "cannons" and Bishops, was always getting one in "off the red," or the "taken as read," accomplished sensational "breaks" in the mounting up of astounding figures, played great havoc, incidentally, in diving into the "pockets" of his audience, and, finally, after "cutting up the cloth," and the "sock and buskin" too, retired, much to his hearers' relief and his own, to what they had both so well deserved—"the long rest." With this reassuring report in his hands, however, billiards went by the board, and his task was "a mere bagatelle." It was a case of "roses, roses, roses all the way." The increased membership was so marked and so exceptional that there could be "no possible doubt whatever" of the existence of a firmly established and true union between the Church and the Stage. Whatever their political leanings, they were all Unionists, and so he christened this item the "Red Rose of England." The grand total of centres of work, flying their flag bravely all over London and the provinces, inevitably prompted him to allude to them as "Standard Roses." The kindly hospitality of prominent citizens and citizenesses here, there, and everywhere, taking the form of "At Homes," with the tea as the great draw, might not inaptly be described as tea-scented roses. Those "At Homes" where the juice of the grape and whiskies-and-sodas were intermixed with the Bohea—well, he had to sorrowfully characterise these as hybrid tea-scented roses, and regretted to say that of the two they were the more popular. Miss Clarke's promotion to a title irresistibly suggested a rose called "Her Majesty," especially as this was always described as being "clear, and bright, and very large." The ubiquitous secretary and treasurer, the Rev. Donald Hole, had done so much touring in the road, that he could not help alluding to him as that rare and energetic rose known to connoisseurs by the title of "The Rambling Rector." Lastly, the allusions to the kindness in addressing meetings of Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Charles Manners, his wife, and his unworthy self were so flattering that they found themselves appearing "for the first time on any stage" as Blush Roses. After this horticultural effort, they would not be surprised if, in echoing the prayer contained in the last paragraph of the report, which trusts that the ordinary income will soon be sufficient to cover the ordinary expenses, he expressed a hope that they might continue to "flourish like the green bay tree," and that he might confidently look forward to the yearly adequate report as a "hardy annual."

The Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway seconded the adoption of the report, and said that he was in good company with Mr. Compton. He recalled a former good time he had had on a voyage to the Cape in Mr. Campton's company. Since the Union had been formed the actors and clergy in Glasgow had had the best of good times together. He thought that Mr. Edward Terry should be made Churchwarden of the Union. It was the duty of every member of the Church Union to do everything that Mr. Hole suggested. It was very easy to arrange services to suit the needs of the profession, and the results of the labours in his district were most gratifying. Members of the profession were in larger and larger numbers joining the Union. He had much pleasure in seconding the report.

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

By the Rev. DONALD HOLE.

I am pleased to be able to report that the membership of the Union continues to increase in a most satisfactory manner. At the last Annual Conference the numbers stood as follows:—Members, 430; Associates, 293; Chaplains, 236. Total, 956. At the present time we have:—Members, 578; Associates, 452; Chaplains, 260. Total, 1,290. The sustained increase in professional members is particularly encouraging. We first published a list of professional members in 1902, and we then congratulated ourselves that they had reached the grand total of 67! In the succeeding years they increased to 88, 125, 190, 243, 353, 430. The increase during the year which has just closed is the largest which has yet taken place, being 148, which means that on an average twelve new members have joined every month. These figures prove conclusively that our work is commending itself to the profession which we seek to serve. Equally gratifying is the steady increase in the number of centres in which the Union is at work. We started in 1899 with twelve centres. In 1900 we had 23, and the number increased successively to 68, 71, 89, 120, 142, 156. Last year we had 176 centres, and at the present time 223.

WORK IN LONDON.

During the past year special attention has been given to the organisation of the work in London. We have in the Metropolitan area fifty-four centres, but it was felt that for administrative purposes it would be better to group these centres into districts, each with its own president, committee, and hon. secretary. A scheme has been formed for twelve such districts, seven north of the river and five on the south. Eight of these are already in working order, namely—Central London, S.W. London, West London, N.W. London, North London, Lambeth, Wandsworth, and S.E. London.

These districts are all of about equal area, but they differ very considerably in other respects. The S.W. London district, comprising, as it does, Chelsea, Fulham, Kensington, Hammersmith, and part of Westminster, contains some 200 members and associates, and offers very considerable scope for the work of the Union.

In other districts the resident members and associates do not exceed fifty; while in four districts the membership is at present so small that it has been impossible to start any local organisation whatever.

The various local committees have arranged series of "At Homes," by which members and associates, living in the neighbourhood, have been brought into friendly social intercourse, and many who had not previously joined the Union have been brought into touch with us.

A very successful conversazione was held in the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, on Oct. 14, 1909, at the invitation of Miss Cons and Miss Baylis, when the Bishop of Southwark was present.

An attempt is being made to arrange Corporate Communions in each district for those members who are Churchmen, and Special Services in connection with the Union were held during Lent and Advent at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, the preacher being the Rev. Stephen Barrass, A.C.U. Chaplain for West Central London.

Miss Clarke has ceased to be hon. assistant secretary, and has been given the title of hon. lady visitor and correspondent—a title which it was felt better described the special work in which she is engaged. She continues her monthly "At Homes" with the same success which has attended them in former years, and the Union owes much to her untiring energy and enthusiasm.

WORK IN THE PROVINCES.

The Union was founded for the purpose of bringing Churchmen and Churchwomen while on tour into closer touch with the life of the Church, and it is therefore in the provinces that we must look for the carrying-out of the Union's special work. During the past year I have been rendered free to devote my time exclusively to the organisation of the A.C.U. I have held meetings in the following towns:—Darlington, Barrow-in-Furness, Harrogate, Douglas, I.O.M., Hull, Manchester, Edinburgh, Bristol, Bath, Cardiff, Worcester, Sunderland, and Burnley. The results following from these meetings have been most encouraging; interest has been stimulated, and numbers of new associates have joined the Union. The formation of local branches is a very important feature of our work. The associates who join not only subscribe to the funds, but take an active part in promoting the objects of the Union by offering hospitality and giving a friendly welcome to the theatrical companies visiting the various towns.

In this connection I must mention that the Union is greatly indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. Charles Manners for their kindness in addressing meetings in various towns which they visited while they were on tour, and I should like to express a hope that their example may be followed by other actor-managers who are members of the Union.

I have preached for the A.C.U. in St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow; St. Mark's, Leicester; St. Augustine's, Bristol; and St. Barnabas, Tunbridge Wells; and I have visited a good many centres even where I have been unable to arrange for a meeting or sermon.

As I have gone about in the provinces I have been struck by how much the Union is already doing, and by how much yet remains to be done. The mere fact that we have in all the chief theatrical centres of Great Britain and Ireland a broad-minded and sympathetic priest to whom travelling members of the Union can be commended, and to whom application can be made in special cases of spiritual need, is surely something.

In some centres the work which the chaplains are carrying on is beyond all praise, and I frequently have letters from members of the profession expressing their warmest appreciation. A practical proof of this appreciation is afforded by the numbers who join the Union while on tour, through being brought in touch with the chaplains. One man, in applying for membership, says that he thinks the A.C.U. the "grandest thing connected with the profession." Another writes of the loneliness of the theatrical life and of the enjoyment he has derived from the chaplain's visits. Another writes a warm letter telling me of the kindness his wife had received when left behind sick in a great city where she was an entire stranger.

A young lady, who was already a member of the Union, writes to tell me how she and two other members of her company had been invited to tea at the house of the Bishop of Glasgow, and how in the course of conversation they happened to mention that they had never been confirmed. The chaplain at once made arrangements that they should be prepared at the next town to which they went, and the Bishop of St. Andrew's travelled from Perth for the special purpose of administering the sacred rite. These are merely examples of a large number of cases in which the Union has been of practical use.

But in other instances I fear we must confess that very little is being done beyond visits by the chaplains to the members whose visits I notify. This is partly owing to pressure of other duties, but I think that it also arises, in many instances, from not knowing exactly how to set about the work. Chaplains have often expressed to me a desire to be useful in any way they can to their temporary parishioners, but they tell me that they really do not know how to set about it. This impresses upon me the necessity for holding periodically, in various local centres, conferences of chaplains, in which they may exchange ideas and give the results of their experience. This proposal is not a new one, but time has only shown the increased necessity for its realisation, and I should like to ask all the chaplains to do their utmost to co-operate when I am able to lay a definite scheme before them, as I hope to do in the coming autumn.

Two things have struck me very favourably. One is the extremely cordial and friendly terms which almost universally exist between the chaplains and the local theatrical managers.

The other is the help which is rendered to the Union, in a quiet and unostentatious way, by many of the rank and file of our members. I desire to speak of this with the highest appreciation. Not only do they bring other members of their companies into touch with the chaplains, and induce them to join the Union, but, in places where there are at present no chaplains, they render the most valuable assistance by calling on the local clergy, interesting them in the work, and putting me in touch with suitable priests. It would be invidious to mention names, and these quiet workers would be the last to wish it, but I cannot miss this opportunity of saying how much the A.C.U. owes to their energy and enthusiasm as they travel up and down the country.

REPORTS FROM THE CENTRES.

Amble (Rev. E. R. Dawe).—"I am glad to say that, after an afternoon in my study, one member of the profession has been put into touch with the A.C.U. with a view to the possibility of taking Holy Orders."

Belfast (Rev. Dr. Murphy).—"I have given more time to the work this year than I ever did in any year before, and yet sometimes two or three weeks pass without my getting into touch with members of the 'company.' Two ladies very kindly came forward to assist me in the work at the time of the Christmas pantomime, by asking the girls of the ballet and chorus out to tea. These ladies have now a scheme in their minds of having an 'At Home' once a week for members of any company sojourning in Belfast. There was a good deal of illness during the year, and here the work of the Union is very valuable. I have never received a single rebuff since I began the work, and I have made friends in the profession who are very dear to me."

Bristol (Rev. W. H. McK. Caldwell).—"A drawing-room meeting was held at the vicarage in October last. Three of the theatrical managers out of four (the fourth was away from Bristol) attended and spoke most favourably on behalf of the A.C.U. About forty-five attended. It was suggested by one of the managers and supported by the other managers, that a local committee should be formed in Bristol for furthering the aims of the A.C.U."

Burnley (Rev. B. Winfield).—"Theatrical managers and members of the companies on tour welcome the visits of the hon. chaplain, but there is only very rarely an opportunity offered him for providing special religious services which would be gladly supplied. . . . The principal event of the year was the visit of the organising secretary to a drawing-room meeting which I was able to provide, and which the Lord Bishop of Burnley kindly held at Reedly Lodge. The Bishop, Dr. Henn, presided. There was a representative attendance, including members of Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse's theatrical company, then in Burnley, and an influential local committee was formed after addresses by the Bishop, the Rev. Donald Hole, and myself. . . . The members of the local committee are prepared to show social courtesy, as opportunity arises, and Dr. Smirthwaite-Black and Dr. Stephens to act as hon. medical officers to members of the A.C.U. requiring treatment in Burnley."

Cardiff (Rev. H. A. Cox).—"The event of the year was the meeting held in October, in St. Dyfrig's Hall, which was addressed by Rev. Donald Hole, organising secretary of the A.C.U. About seventy persons were present, mostly Cardiff residents, but some from the *Veronique* company, which was playing at the New Theatre. Invitations were sent to all the theatres, to companies, and local managers. Great interest was aroused in the work of the A.C.U. and a local committee was formed. Many members of the companies have been visited and entertained in friendly fashion. Many have attended St. Dyfrig's Church. Some have been helped in circumstances of poverty and distress."

Darlington (Rev. T. C. Gobat).—"Baptised two children of actors passing through Darlington. Two At Homes held each week at houses of ladies who are members of local committee. . . . Two ladies attend the theatre each Monday or Tuesday, and generally invite members of the profession to the weekly At Homes. A successful meeting was held in July at Mrs. Amos' house, which was addressed by the Rev. D. Hole, and aroused much interest in the work of the Union."

Glasgow (Rev. A. C. Laughlin).—"During the year under review, over and beyond the routine chaplain's work of visiting and, where possible, entertaining the members of the profession during their brief stay in Glasgow in which connection I most gratefully received the assistance rendered by the Bishop of Glasgow and the Hon. Mrs. Campbell, two very well attended public meeting were arranged for. These were addressed respectively by Mr. Edward Terry and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton. Each speaker made a powerful appeal for the interest of the public in the life of the actors. Mr. Edward Terry's meeting secured a large number of associates, and Mrs. Compton's special address invited the local branch to undertake regular weekly At Homes, which have been held since the beginning of March. Cards inviting members have been hung in the theatres, &c., and each week a personal visit is made in order to invite those acting to attend. Considerable success has attended this new departure.

Ledbury (Rev. F. W. Parkinson).—"The work, although in a very small way, is very encouraging. In two cases of great trouble, by the death of a wife, the chaplain has been told how much a friend has been appreciated at such a time. I would suggest that the Union have branches in such small towns as ours, i.e., 5,000 inhabitants, as the lodgings scheme is most useful in such cases, and it is the smaller companies, playing one night, that need often a friend."

Newcastle-on-Tyne (Rev. C. G. Hall).—"I am intending . . . to circulate a card in the lodgings saying that I am at home to members of the A.C.U. on Sunday evening at nine o'clock. I generally have some fairly decent music at that time, and two or three actors have told me that they think the suggestion a good one."

Salisbury (Rev. Canon Bush).—"All the theatrical managers I have met responded most cordially to any civility or hospitality shown to members of the profession. I would suggest that lists of lodging houses be placed in the hands of local stationmasters, for companies often arrive in the town on a Sunday, when the hall is closed and members cannot see the list hung up in the dressing-rooms; and that members be told in this case to apply to the station-master. This is done here. . . . Since the beginning of this season, September, 1909, we have entertained at afternoon tea 108 members of the profession, and if they are here for a Sunday, seats are provided for them in the Cathedral. I always make a point of taking parties round the Cathedral, and often they come to the daily offices there."

Southampton (Rev. J. W. Danbury).—"I endeavour to see something of each company each week. . . . I have not visited the lodgings of so many, partly from a feeling that the members do not like me to do this. . . . What seems most acceptable to them is to speak to them at the theatre and invite them to call on me."

Warrington (Rev. E. C. Carleton).—"The managers all very courteous, and give me every facility to meet actors. I have visited fifty companies, and have had very hearty receptions from them. They did not appear to know the A.C.U. and were very pleased to hear of it; several joined. I find it very useful, and so do members of the profession, to send a list of the lodgings to the company in advance. The manager of the theatre gives me a private list of engagements, and I then send to each of the artists the list a fortnight before they come. This they are grateful for."

Wigan (Rev. W. E. Kingsbury).—"Theatrical managers continue friendly and send theatre and music-hall bills regularly to me for the coming week, and furnish the name of town to write to the previous week to the incoming company. Visited thirty-three theatrical companies (besides music-hall artists), and met 315 members of the profession, of whom 293 were new acquaintances. . . . . A.C.U. members coming to Wigan still only occasional, but increasing, and an increasing number of the profession have asked about membership, and not a few have joined. Have had inquiries from members of the Jewish and other faiths about membership if their religious convictions would be respected. . . . Several parties of companies have given afternoon entertainments at the workhouse and Royal Infirmary. I continue to notice a fair number of visitors at Evensong, &c., and a few at the Celebrations. Have been asked to advise and help two men at different times this year, one a Japanese, with a view to Confirmation or instruction in the Faith. Also a newly married couple, married in a registry office (apparently because the rules of Banns are more easily relaxed than at the Church), asked for, and received the Church's blessing. . . . There is undoubtedly great waste of effort and of experience through local chaplains having no means officially of exchanging ideas with other chaplains by means of occasional district conferences. One hears occasionally through chance members of companies of capital methods which might and should be common property. A quarterly news sheet, too, with lists of new members and other information, would do much to consolidate the A.C.U. and its members."

FINANCE.

In an organisation such as the A.C.U. it is unfortunately impossible to ignore financial considerations. If the present rate of expansion is to be maintained a considerable increase in funds will be necessary.

A Finance Committee has been formed to consult as to the best methods of raising money and to control the expenditure, and it is hoped that after the conference the name of an hon. treasurer will be announced.

The secretary's salary is partly met by fees for "Sunday Duty," which go to the general fund; but, even with the strictest economy, the bills for printing, postage, and travelling are bound to be very heavy, and must go on increasing in proportion to the expansion of the work.

The balance-sheet for 1909 shows total receipts of £399 5s. 7d., as against £269 3s. 3d. for 1908. The expenditure was £343 3s. as against £192 16s. 8d.

The subscriptions of members and associates during 1909 amounted to £127 16s., an increase of £23 10s. 1d. on the previous year. But this would not have gone very far towards meeting our liabilities had it not been for the generous outside aid which the Union has received in the form of special matinées.

A matinée was given on Nov. 16 under the direction of Mrs. Edward Compton, at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill, kindly lent by Mr. Robert Arthur. Many prominent members of the profession gave their services, and a balance was handed to the treasurer of £106 1s. 8d.

Best thanks are also due to Mr. Norman V. Norman and his company, who kindly gave a matinée performance of *Caste* at the West Pier, Brighton (lent by the directors of the West Pier Co.), which resulted in a balance of £17 12s. 2d.

The other chief items of income during the year were "Collections in Church," £14 3s. 6d., "Collections at Meetings," £10 12s. 6d.; and "Sunday Duty," £45 19s.

Grateful as we must be for the help so generously accorded to us by way of special entertainments, which has enabled us to begin each year with a substantial balance in hand, the financial position of the Union can hardly be considered as entirely satisfactory until our ordinary income (derived from subscriptions, collections, &c.) is sufficient to cover our ordinary working expenses.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1909.

Receipts.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance, Jan. 1, 1909		76 6 7
,, Subscriptions and Donations		127 16 0
,, Church Offertories—		
Leeds Parish Church	0 4 5	
St. Lawrence's, Reading	0 2 6	
St. Augustine's, Bristol	2 12 4	
St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington	8 4 4	
St. John's, Sunderland	0 2 3	
St. Barnabas, Tunbridge Wells	2 17 7	
		14 3 5
,, Collections at Meetings—		
Annual Conference	8 1 5	
Hull	0 15 0	
Sydenham	1 16 1	
		10 12 6
,, Matinées—		
Coronet Theatre	106 1 8	
West Pier, Brighton	17 12 2	
		123 13 10
,, Sunday Duty		45 19 0
,, Sale of Literature		0 14 3
		£399 5 7

Expenditure.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Printing and Stationery		82 17 8
,, Travelling Expenses		37 8 8
,, Postage and Telegrams		34 16 11
,, Clerical Assistance		16 13 4
,, Secretary's Salary		133 6 8
,, Miss Clarke—		
Travelling	9 0 0	
Postage and Telegrams	6 11 10	
		15 11 10
,, Telephone		1 18 8
,, Reporting and Typewriting		5 1 4
,, Expenses of Meetings		1 7 0
,, Sundries		5 8 1
,, Directories and Time Tables		1 9 10
,, Press Cutting Agency		1 1 0
,, Emergency		4 0 0
,, Advertisements		2 2 0
,, Cash in hand		56 2 7
		£399 5 7
1910. Jan. 1.—To Balance, Cash in hand		56 2 7

Examined with vouchers and found correct,
DOUGLAS STEWART.

Jan. 20, 1910.

MATINEE AT CORONET THEATRE, NOTTING HILL.

Nov. 16, 1909.

Receipts.

Dr.	£ s. d.
To Theatre takings	78 8 3
,, Seats sold by Mrs. Compton	40 13 9
,, Tea and Programmes	14 7 2
,, Donation from Mrs. Compton towards expenses	8 0 0
	£141 9 2

Expenditure.

	Cr. £ s. d.
By Allen and Son for Printing	10 0 0
,, Theatre Expenses (Staff, Gas, and Advertising)	10 10 0
,, Gratuities	2 7 6
,, Mrs. Compton's Expenses (Stamps, &c.)	13 0 3
,, Balance handed to Treasurer	106 1 8
	£141 9 2

MATINEE AT WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.

Oct. 12, 1909.

Receipts.

Dr.	£ s. d.
To Theatre takings	23 8 6
,, Programmes	1 11 0
	£24 19 6

Expenditure.

	Cr. £ s. d.
By Disbursements, viz.:—	
West Pier Co. (Tickets, Postage, and Orchestra)	2 7 10
,, Mr. Norman V. Norman for Printing	1 10 0
,, *Brighton Herald* for Programmes and Circulars	2 13 6
,, Advertisements	0 16 0
,, Balance handed to Treasurer	17 12 2
	£24 19 6

Mr. Cyril Maude said that he never liked Glasgow, but after having listened to the remarks of the Bishop of Glasgow he wished he was there that minute. He proposed the re-election as president of the Bishop of Southwark. He was only an actor and the Bishop was only a Bishop, but they were old Carthusians, and he was delighted that the Bishop had done so much for the Union. The actors were in the position of the naughty boy, who had been slapped and put in the corner, and had then been offered a piece of cake to be good, and that possibly was why the rapprochement between clergy and actors had been so slow, but there was no doubt that there was now a feeling of gratitude for the endeavour to remove the old-time estrangement that existed between the Church and Stage.

Mr. Charles J. Cameron said that but for Bishop Talbot there would be no Actors' Union at the present day. At one time the Union was very much on the wobble. The Church were afraid of it, and the Stage looked askance at it. It was Bishop Talbot's encouragement that gave the Union the support it needed.

The Bishop of Southwark was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year.

Next the Rev. Prebendary Pennefather was re-elected as vice-president and chairman of committee for the coming year.

The following vice-presidents were re-elected: Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Birmingham, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ripon, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southampton, Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Burnley and Hull, Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Robert Arthur, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Ben Greet, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Charles Manners, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edward Terry.

The committee for the ensuing year will be as follows: Rev. C. W. Alington, Rev. J. Stephen Barrass, Miss C. Chambers, Miss Clarke, Rev. William Cree (President of the Earl's Court Branch, A.C.U.), Rev. H. F. Davidson, Mrs. H. R. Gamble, Rev. Wynn Healey, Mrs. Donald Hole, Miss Louise Stopford (founder of the Stage Needlework Guild), Mr. Chas. Coborn, Miss Lilian Baylis, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Mrs. Carson (founder of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild and Actors' Orphanage Fund), Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Harriet Greet, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Miss Eva Moore, Mr. Chris. Walker.

The Rev. Donald Hole was re-elected organising secretary and treasurer. He is to be assisted in subscription-getting and the keeping of accounts by Mr. G. Munroe Miller. As before, the hon. lady correspondent and visitor is Miss E. G Clarke.

The Rev. A. C. Laughlin said they had compiled a list of lodgings for actors and actresses, personally guaranteed and ones which none would be ashamed to stay at. When he came across fresh members of the profession he asked them to recommend good lodgings, and the recommendation being verified, the address was added to the list. Members of the profession were sent regularly printed lists of the whereabouts of the established churches in Glasgow. They once had a dance at the Bishop's house with members of the profession. There was no piano, but there was a melodeon, and he had turned it himself. He advocated the establishment of weekly At Homes to bring clergy and stage together.

NEW PLAYS AT ALBERT HALL.

"UNCLE ROBERT'S AIRSHIP."

Farcical Comedy in Three Acts, by G. E. Jennings, Produced on Tuesday, May 31.

Robert Horatio Bumpus	Mr. Whitford Kane
Muriel	Miss Muriel Dole
Trixie	Mrs. Adrian Ross
Miss Pringle	Miss Margaret Murray
Arnold Bird	Mr. Ernest Young
Alfred Tucker	Mr. Harold Chapin
Norwood	Miss Muriel Vox

Two plays from the same pen were presented for the first time at the West Theatre of the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday afternoon. The writer is Miss G. E. Jennings, who may be remembered as the authoress of *What Free Trade Did for Bill*, a comedy which has long travelled the country in the interests of Tariff Reform. The more important piece was a farcical comedy called *Uncle Robert's Airship*, which dealt in amusing fashion with the rage of the hour—and, be it said, of the future. Much of the humour of the piece, it must be confessed, escaped us, but it kept a full house in hearty laughter throughout and the authoress at the close received an enthusiastic call and a perfect deluge of bouquets. The farce has several well-conceived situations and comic curtains, to obtain which, however, three acts have to be filled out with incidents often wearisome and undistinguished by originality—as, for instance, when a miserly old man reckons up his household expenses, and when a sprightly young girl plays the ghost on a usurping relative. Properly condensed, the piece might make a serviceable one-act farce. Its three acts are at present concerned with the misadventures of Robert Horatio Bumpus, who believes in Spiritualism and takes himself seriously as an aviator. In order to gain money to build an airship he has appropriated the legacy which he held in trust for his nieces Trixie, a volatile young lady scarcely out of her teens, and Muriel, who is engaged to her uncle's assistant, Arnold Bird. Trixie is herself in love with Arnold, and takes the privilege of youth to propose to him, but on being rejected determines to forward the lovers' marriage, which is delayed because Bumpus will not increase his niece's allowance. To force him to consent, Trixie manages to get him suspended in mid-air in his airship on Wimbledon Common, a position from which he is rescued with the machine encircling his neck, without, however, having made the concession required. Trixie's next plan is to organise a table-turning séance, in which Bumpus is made to believe that the spirit Yashmak orders him to allow his niece to marry; but here again Trixie fails, for the message is taken to apply to Bumpus himself, who immediately offers his hand to his niece's elderly companion. Meanwhile Muriel's affections have turned towards Alfred Tucker, a very "proper" young man who has long languished for her, so that when Trixie impersonates the ghostly "Yashmak," and thus compels Bumpus to yield up his ill-gotten gains and consent to Muriel's wedding, the young girl is once again at fault. The rejected Arnold, however, finds consolation in Trixie herself, and before the assembled household, who are brought from their beds, Bumpus is made to promise a thousand a year to his nieces.

The embarrassments of Bumpus were amusingly borne by Mr. Whitford Kane, who caused repeated laughter. Mrs. Adrian Ross, young and prepossessing, was admirably suited to the part of Trixie, and kept the piece alive by her vivacity and high spirits Miss Margaret Murray was conspicuously successful as a prim old maid, enhancing the part by many artistic touches of comedy. Mr. Harold Chapin gave his own droll individuality to the rôle of Alfred Tucker, and took part in the neatest bit of comedy in the piece. Miss Muriel Dole was a handsome and stately Muriel; and Mr. Ernest Young looked and played the lover to perfection.

Earlier in the afternoon was produced a sketch by the same author entitled,

"BETWEEN THE SOUP AND THE SAVOURY."

The Cook	Miss Margaret Murray
The Parlourmaid	Miss Maude Buchanan
The Kitchenmaid	Mrs. Adrian Ross

There is something pathetic in the story of a homely but romantic kitchenmaid who, tired of the taunts of her fellow-servants, purloins a couple of her young mistress's love-letters and reads them to the cook as her own, in order to prove that she has a sweetheart. There is a good deal, too, that is funny, chiefly in the remarks of a chic parlourmaid with decided views on the character of master and mistress. In that part Miss Maude Buchanan scored brilliantly, making a smart appearance and delivering her lines with such point as to make them doubly effective. Mrs. Adrian Ross played sympathetically, but partly defeated the author's intention by making her "slavey" by no means uncomely; and Miss Margaret Murray gave every satisfaction as the cook.

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The satisfactory condition of the Actors' Orphanage Fund was reflected in a number of appreciative speeches at the fourteenth annual meeting held at the Playhouse on Friday, the 27th ult. There was a crowded attendance. The Right Hon. Lord Alverstone, K.B., G.C.M.G., presided, and among those present on the stage were Lady Tree, Mr Cyril Maude (the president of the fund), Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mr. Alfred Lester, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Gertrude Warden, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Marie Lohr, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Lyn Harding, and Mr. A. J. Austin, hon. sec.; Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Sydney, Miss Ada Blanche, Miss Fairbrother, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Constance Hyem, Miss Cicely Richards, Mr. Charles Cruickshanks, Miss Mabel Hewitt, and Mr. J. H. Thorburn.

The report and balance-sheet following were taken as read:—

BALANCE-SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC. 31, 1909.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Receipts—		
Subscriptions and Donations	546 10 10	
Collecting Boxes, less Commission	103 10 3	
Tax on Free Admissions..	73 18 6	
Benefit Performances (including Botanic Gardens Fête, £2044 2s. 10d.)	2115 3 6	
Sundry Interests	0 7 0	
Sale of Autographs, &c...	28 18 5	
		2868 8 6
,, Bank Deposit Interest ...		23 13 2
,, Interest on Investments:—		
2½% Annuities	23 17 0	
2½% Metropolitan Consolidated	118 11 0	
3% Metropolitan Consolidated	6 2 0	
India 3% Stock	63 0 0	
Transvaal 3% Stock	82 16 6	
	294 6 6	
Less—Shone Trust amount returned	7 5 2	
		287 1 4
		£3179 3 0
By Maintenance, &c., of Children—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clothing at Croydon	175 1 2	
Education Fees	18 6 0	
Laundry	40 6 4	
Contract for Maintenance	1000 0 0	
B. Sidebotham	16 12 2	
Alice Buss	26 17 0	
Special Grants and Outfits: Grace Byrne, Cazaley Moore Cowland, less repaid	24 6 8	
		1301 9 4
,, Secretary's Postage and Travelling	11 5 11	
,, Printing and Stationery ..	13 0 3	
,, Advertising	9 11 6	
,, Sundry Expenses (including Croydon Sundries)..	9 2 4	
,, Office Rent, Lighting, &c.	12 10 0	
,, Assistance for Hon. Secretary	40 0 0	
,, Doctor's Fee	10 10 0	
		106 0 0
,, Balance, being Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year		1771 13 8
		£3179 3 0

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Sundry Creditors—		
Stamps	1 5 11	
Stationery	3 6 3	
Re A. Buss	13 10 6	
Clothing	20 3 4	
Laundry	4 0 0	
Petty Cash	1 16 10	
		44 2 10
,, Capital Account—		
Balance as at Jan. 1, 1909	11043 0 7	
Add—Excess of Income over Expenditure, for the year ended Dec. 31, 1908	1771 13 8	
		12814 14 3
		£12858 17 1

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Investments (at cost)—....		
Met. Con. Stock (2½%)	4487 2 0	
Met. Con. Stock (3%).....	180 0 0	
Annuities 2½%....1000 0 0		
Less—Reserve for Redemption 45 7 11		
	954 12 1	
India 3% Stock	2037 1 0	
Transvaal 3% Stock	3999 3 0	
		11657 18 1
,, Cash in Hand—		
On Deposit	£50 0 0	
On Garden Party Account	55 7 6	
On Current Account	240 11 4	
Clothing Account	2 6 4	
		1148 5 2
,, Interest on Investments (accrued)—		
Met. Con. Stock 2½%	9 8 4	
Annuities 2½%	5 7 8	
Met. Con. Stock 3%	1 5 9	
India 3%	15 15 0	
Transvaal 3%	20 6 6	
		52 3 3
,, Income Tax Recoverable		0 10 7
		£12858 17 1

We have compared the above balance-sheet with the books and vouchers of the fund, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have also verified the securities.

CLARK, BATTAMS, LANHAM, and CO.,
Hon. Auditors, Chartered Accountants.
7, St. Mildred-court, Bank, London, E.C.
March 17, 1910.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1909.

Your Committee have the pleasure of submitting the annual statement for 1909.

The total receipts amount to £3,179 3s., the expenditure to £1,407 9s. 4d., leaving a credit balance of £1,771 13s. 8d.

This very satisfactory state of affairs is due largely to the unprecedented success of the garden party held at the Botanical Gardens, and the Committee avail themselves of this opportunity of tendering their grateful thanks to the hon. secretary, Mr. Anslow J. Austin, and his fellow-workers for their unwearied efforts on behalf of the fund.

Carrying out the scheme, approved by the Annual General Meeting in May, further progress has been made with the housing of the children under the Committee's care. They are now living at 32 and 34, Morland-road, East Croydon, under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ansell. The children have access to the excellent elementary and secondary education provided by the authorities of Croydon, the cost to the fund being only trifling, and this enables them to mix with other children—an inestimable advantage. They are thus living the usual home and school life of ordinary children. A playing field—at a merely nominal rent—has also been procured.

This arrangement has the advantage of keeping the children more directly under the personal control and supervision of the members of the committee. They have paid frequent visits to the home and schools, and are convinced that everything is in a highly satisfactory condition.

Many members of the profession, not on the Committee, have shown great interest in and practical sympathy with our work by visits of inspection, by subscriptions, and by many valuable presents to the homes. The Executive feel satisfied that a great work has been accomplished in giving these orphan children as far as possible the advantages of a home life where they will feel as little as possible that their lot is different from that of other children.

The grateful thanks of the Committee are due to all subscribers, and in particular to Mr. George Gray, the Rev. Arthur Brinckman, Lord Burnham, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, and Mr. Eric Lewis. The Committee, while thanking all past subscribers, urgently begs for increased efforts in this direction.

The scheme of collecting a penny per week from every actor and actress in the country is steadily spreading, and has resulted this year in the substantial amount of £100. This will, your Committee hope, eventually become a permanent source of income to the fund.

The sale of autographs continues to add to our funds, and in this connection the Committee offer the warmest thanks to Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Cyril Maude, &c.

In conclusion, the Committee's most grateful thanks are due to the Right Hon. the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of London, who presided at the last general meeting held at the Playhouse, by kind permission of Cyril Maude; to Messrs. Clark, Battams, Lanham, and Co., for auditing the books and preparing the balance-sheet; to the acting hon. treasurer, the Rev. Arthur Brinckman; and to Mr. Anslow J. Austin, hon. secretary.

The RIGHT HON. CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was an extremely satisfactory one. The fact that it was of such a favourable character was due largely to the great efforts of those who had assisted this excellent charity during past years, and he hoped it would be an inducement to supporters to continue their efforts. That was not by any means his first appearance on the stage, but he absolutely declined to state the part he played when he appeared on previous occasions. (Laughter.) He was glad to be able to speak a word or two on behalf of the children. How dull this life would be without children! How poor would literature be if the history of Tiny Tim had never been written, if there had never been a Jackanapes or a Little Lord Fauntleroy, or if there had never been such a book as "Misunderstood." They knew how the presence of a little child seemed to refine and elevate the atmosphere, to check the evil word and often the evil thought. Therefore, the cause of little children who were in want ought to appeal to everyone who was prosperous. There was no profession to which the beauty of home life more appealed, in his judgment, than to the theatrical profession. They knew how difficult it was for actors and actresses to arrange their domestic matters in the same way as other people who had not the call of the public constantly on them, and they knew, too, how often it occurred to them, as to others, that the terrible sorrow of death came before provision could be made for the children. It was for those children that this fund provided, and it provided for them in such a way that they were really looked after as little children, and had their joys and happiness. What an intense relief it must be to a father who found himself stricken down, with no prospect of recovery, that his children would not be left to want and suffering. This charity provided, in cases of necessity, a home where children enjoyed the free and happy life of childhood. If there was any cause that should appeal to members of that great profession and its admirers, it was such a charity as this. We were told that angels were always in the presence of their Father, and consequently that those angels were watching over us. In making those efforts for the good of the children they were doing their Master's work. (Cheers.)

The report and accounts were passed.

LADY TREE, proposing a vote of thanks to the outgoing committee, said:

My Lord Alverstone, ladies and gentlemen,—I am asked to propose a vote of thanks to the outgoing executive committee. I obey with feelings of mingled delight and sadness—delight in offering them our cordial, heartfelt gratitude for their splendid work in the past year; sadness that in thanking them. I have also to utter a leave-taking to some of their number. The very word 'outgoing" is fraught with gloom and foreboding; one can hardly pronounce it without a catch in the breath. I conjure up melancholy visions of a forlorn figure standing on the platform at Euston, while the gracious, graceful hands of Phyllis Broughton, Lilian Braithwaite, Irene Vanbrugh, and May Warley wave to us from its vanishing carriages. How well we know the shiver of loneliness with which we see the gathering speed of that long line of separating machinery, till it slowly grows a glimmering speck in the gloom of the tunnel. Or I am standing on a wind-swept quay, watching that saddest of all spectacles a great ship outward bound. Through tear-dimmed eyes I behold, stretching out his mournful arms to me in mute farewell, the blurred figure of Arthur Bourchier. (Laughter.)

Again, in my mind's eye I see—what do I see? I see a majestic and prophetic entity standing in the bows, like Napoleon at St. Helena. He can be no other than Lyn Harding. I see Mr. Harry Nicholls in a tearful, vain endeavour to catch the ear of the man at the wheel. (Laughter.) I see Mr. Martin Harvey innocently walking the plank for a friend. (Laughter.) And who is that wildly waving from the giddy summit of the maintop gallant? It can only be Ainley. As regards Aubrey Smith, I can only see him flying away from an arid plain in an aeroplane, leaving me desolate. (Laughter.) All these sombre seemings are but the reflection of the dread word "outgoing." But I am happy to say that even as the outgoing tide in the sunset is but the herald of the incoming tide at to-morrow's dawn, so most of our retreating committee are retiring, but retiring only for a spring—a backward spring into the active work and help and usefulness—with only renewed zest and excellence. I am sorry to say that our dear Miss Carlotta Addison, the beneficent fairy, and Saba Raleigh, the beauteous Night of *The Blue Bird*, are not able to resume their duties. To them we bid adieu with infinite regret, though we are not at all sure that they themselves will not, like us, miss their own good work so sorely that another year will see them reinstated. Meanwhile, we tender them our warmest thanks, and, with Letitia Barbould, we bid them "Say not good-night, but in some brighter clime bid us "good morning." Farewell and hail to them! We tender them our heartfelt thanks for the skill and devotion with which they have aided our efforts in the past year. We thank every member of the executive committee for unselfish and untiring work. The individual element has been as nothing; they have not thought of themselves; they have thought of the work to which they have been unsparingly devoted. I am reminded of a young man, an official, who was dying at his post, far away in Rhodesia, under a tropical sun. Just before the end, he called for a cigarette, and, as he smoked it, said, "It's rough to be going away; but never mind, the work goes on." It is in that spirit that our helpers have taken, do take, and will take their duties. It is in that spirit that we welcome the incoming committee. One ship lies at anchor under the lea, its good voyage accomplished; we launch our new vessel in its white-winged flight over unadventured seas. "Let the great world spin for ever down the ringing grooves of change." (Cheers.)

The vote of thanks, seconded by Miss GERTRUDE WARDEN, was unanimously carried, and acknowledged by the Rev. ARTHUR BRINCKMAN.

Mr. ALFRED LESTER, who was cordially received, thanked his audience for the applause conferred on him. He was making his first speech, and it was better that he should get the applause first, as he might not get it afterwards. (Laughter.) He was himself an orphan; he did not mean a fair-haired, beautiful, blue-eyed boy, because his hair happened to be dark. He was very early left an orphan. Both his parents were in the theatrical profession, but there was no Actors' Orphanage in those days, and he knew something of hardships. All members of the profession should help their charity. It was not a case of assisting a man who was down in the world, but of giving a child a start in life. Some people had money; most of them had only heard about it. (Laughter.) They could not all afford to build public libraries for people to go into when it was raining; but in supporting the Orphanage they were building up living monuments to kind hearts. They were not his own words; he had got them out of a book. (Laughter.) He was hoping Mr. Maude would have put on limelight and slow music at that point. (Laughter.) They should assist the young lives in order that they might become noble men and women. He ought to have said that before, but it would do now. (Laughter.) He was happy to push forward so deserving a charity. (Cheers.) He would propose a vote of thanks to himself and to Mr. Cyril Maude for having the audacity to allow him to appear. (Laughter.)

Miss LILIAN BRAITHWAITE proposed the re-election of Messrs. Clark, Battams, Lanham, and Co. as hon. auditors; Mr. Eugene Judge as hon. solicitor; Mr. Cox-Sinclair as hon. standing counsel; Mr. Aubrey C. Smith as hon. treasurer; Mr. A. J. Austin as hon. secretary; and the trustees, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, and Mr. Harry Nicholls.

Miss BRAITHWAITE said they were to be congratulated in having such a band of volunteers to carry on their work. In her youth she used to think that the word "hon." meant "honourable" when applied to secretaries and other officers of institutions such as theirs. That seemed to be very sensible and appropriate to their work. But since she had come to years of enlightenment she had learned that "hon." referred either to one who received no emolument or one who took no part in the work itself. In the case of their honorary officers there could be no doubt in anyone's mind what the word "hon." meant. She felt they could not fully estimate the gratitude they owed to those busy men, who gave ungrudgingly of their spare time in order that their charity might flourish exceedingly, and continue to benefit the children. They acknowledged their special indebtedness to Mr. Austin, their indefatigable secretary. (Cheers.) The amount of work involved in the organisation of the garden-party alone was colossal, and she fully believed that arrangements for next year's function began as soon as the sun set on this year's. The council felt that such exactions on his time were so great that they voted him an honorarium of 100 guineas, but Mr. Austen absolutely refused to take it. He said that the Orphanage was his hobby, and he would be better able to plead for it in his honorary capacity. (Cheers.) They thanked their *honourable* secretary from the bottom of their hearts, and she begged them to offer to their honorary, *honourable* officers a hearty vote of thanks.

The resolution was seconded by Miss CARLOTTA ADDISON, and heartily adopted.

Mr. HARRY NICHOLLS, in reply, asked to be allowed, in the name of those elected to the various offices, to return heartfelt thanks for once again giving them the opportunity of being associated in the work of that excellent institution. He had debated in his mind whether he should approach his task from a sentimental or a humorous point of view, because whoever heard of a sentimental auditor? (laughter) or a comic trustee? (laughter). His difficulties increased as he went on. There was another curious contradiction with which they came into contact in the work associated with their fund, and of the two opposite feelings by which they were swayed. One was that they must necessarily feel sad at the fact that there were any orphans at all for them to look after, and at the same time the more orphans they had to look after the more they enjoyed themselves. "It is in that spirit," said Mr. Nicholls, "that we go searching around for orphans—go out on the prowl for orphans. We have a keen eye for orphans and can scent them from afar. Bring us orphans, still more and more orphans. The more "often" you bring us the better we shall be pleased." (Cheers.)

Miss IRENE VANBRUGH said she had the pleasurable duty of saying "Thank you!" to Mr. Cyril Maude for having lent his charming theatre that day. If any name was justified in being "starred" in the cause of charity, that name was Cyril Maude. Not only was he one of the largest individual subscribers, but he augmented the income of the Actors' Orphanage by a series of what she could only describe as "dodges." One "dodge" was to ask for a subscription from those to whom he lent his theatre, which he devoted to the fund, and another "dodge" was a tax on free admissions, and at the end of the year he added by this means over £50 to the fund, to which he also devoted the proceeds of the sale of his autograph. Then there was his organisation of the garden party, which he and Mr. Austin undertook together. Added to that he allowed himself to pass seven times during a hot afternoon through seas of blood. (Laughter and Cheers.) He hoped in his heart that one day a great philanthropist would build a home for the Actors' Orphanage. If anyone knew a great philanthropist who would undertake the scheme, they all hoped that the foundation-stone would be laid during the presidency of Mr. Cyril Maude. (Hear, hear.)

Miss VANE FEATHERSTONE seconded the resolution, which was passed by acclamation.

Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, who was heartily cheered, confessed that it was with a feeling of trepidation that he sat there waiting for Miss Vanbrugh to speak, not because he thought the speech would not be genial, for a more charming speaker he had never heard. But his wife happened to meet Miss Vanbrugh at a party, and on her return home informed him that they had had a conversation, in the course of which Mrs. Maude had criticised the play in which Miss Vanbrugh was appearing. They knew how much an actor disliked being criticised, so he inquired "How did she take it?" "Oh, charmingly," was the reply; "but at the end she said, 'Well, I am just going off to speak about your husband, and I'm going to make it hot for him!'" (Laughter.) They might imagine his feelings ever since. The kind words that had been said about him had made him feel an absolute worm, but the Lord Chief Justice had listened to such splendid testimony on his behalf that he hoped he would let him off with a very light sentence. He (the speaker) suffered from nervousness. Even amateur actors suffered from nervousness. He recalled an instance in which a couple of amateurs were playing in *School for Scandal*. The play opened with Lady Sneerwell saying "Have you inserted the paragraphs, Mr. Snake?" and Snake replied, "Yes, your ladyship." But just before the curtain went up the representatives of the parts got very nervous, and the play opened by Lady Sneerwell saying, "Have you inserted the Snake paragraphs?" (laughter), to which Snake replied, "Yes, your Majesty." (Laughter.) Mr. Maude said he was always delighted to see crowds there in the cause of charity. The only thing he disliked was to see it empty either day or night. Sometimes one could not hit on the right attraction, but it was a little trying one day when a lady walked in, and planking down sixpence, said, "Two to Shepherd's Bush!" (Laughter.) They put on a wordless play after the fashion of *L'Enfant Prodigue*, said Mr. Maude, and a gentleman came down and said he must have a closer seat as he couldn't catch a syllable! (Laughter.) That had its advantage and its disadvantages, because while it caused the gentleman to pay more for his seat, it also argued that the acoustics of the theatre were wrong. (Laughter.) He was very proud to welcome to the Playhouse Lord Alverstone and Mr. George Alexander, one of the most charming and delightful of managers, and a great credit to their profession. The position of the Orphanage was very flourishing. The capital of the fund now amounted to £13,000, and before he relinquished the presidency he hoped to see that sum augmented by many thousands. There was not an actor or actress who could help feeling a sense of relief that in case of all going wrong their little children would be looked after. Let them, however, not be content. Let them go on striving to get as much as they could for the cause, so that in the near future they might have a home in a sunny spot by the sea or by some bright, beautiful common in Surrey, where the children could be maintained and educated, and where the actor or actress might go down and enjoy themselves for a day. Mr. Maude concluded with an earnest appeal to swell the subscription list, so that the fund might not be dependent on one fine day for its support.

Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in proposing a vote of thanks to Lord Alverstone, said the Actors' Orphanage seemed to inspire both sympathy and interest in the minds of those who represented what was best and highest in the land. That fact was proved by the presence in the chair at their meeting each year of some very distinguished man outside their own profession. Last year they had the Bishop of London and this year they had the Lord Chief Justice of England. They might thank Lord Alverstone's capacity for work that he was able to be present that day. In his own household, his partner complained that he worked too hard, but he believed that in his early days their chairman used to be content with about four hours' sleep. They were, therefore, especially grateful to him for his kindness in coming to play the good angel by presiding at their most deserving charity. Players were very grateful that distinguished men in other professions should take a peep behind the curtain at their private sorrows. He could assure his lordship that the executive committee of the Orphanage Fund were more than grateful to him for coming there that day, and for the many graceful words said in relation to the Orphanage. He would also like to thank his dear friend, Mr. Cyril Maude, for whom he had the utmost affection and admiration, and who approached his work of charity with due modesty and very little beating of drums. They had a very satisfactory balance sheet, a position that was not always the case in the matter of charities. He could say for their own charities that actors did all they could to make them independent of outside help. (Cheers.)

Miss LENA ASHWELL seconded the vote of thanks, and said that she had discovered the part that Lord Alverstone played fifty years ago. She was sure he was a fairy—a good fairy. He had touched all their hearts, and she hoped all would answer the good fairy's message.

In the voting for the executive committee for the ensuing year, the following were elected: Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Aubrey Smith, Miss Ada Blanche, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, the Rev. Arthur Brinckman, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mr. Lyn Harding, Miss Constance Hyem, Mrs. Mangles, Miss Cicely Richards, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss May Warley, Mr. J. Fisher-White, and Mrs. Fred Wright.

STEDMAN'S STUDENTS.

A short variety concert and two dramatic performances by pupils of Stedman's Theatrical Academy were given in the little theatre at Windmill House, Great Windmill-street, W., on Saturday evening, May 28. The programme commenced with the chorus "Welcome," from *Florodora*, sung by ladies and gentlemen of the *Florodora* rehearsal class. In a recitation, "The Lady from the West," by Robert Meyers, Miss Gertrude Dumville was successful, and Miss Nannie Pritchard greatly pleased the audience in one of Miss Vesta Tilley's songs, "Jolly good luck to the girl." Miss Pritchard being in soldier's costume. Miss Violette Stanning sang "Queen of the Philippine Islands" (Leslie Stuart), and Miss Nina Hope, in a handsome costume, ably recited "A Venetian Revenge." An operatic solo dance by Miss Lesley St. Claire was much applauded, and the audience gave a hearty reception to Miss Caro Courday and Mr. Geoffrey Startin in their duet, "Gallopin'," from *Florodora*. Other effective items were a recitation, "Private Theatricals," by Miss Bee Davis, and "Lord Dundreary's Joke," by Mr. C. F. Deane. In three scenes from *The School for Scandal*, given by students of the dramatic class Mr. J. O. Crombie and Miss Dora Keith as Sir Peter and Lady Teazle cleverly acted the Quarrel scene. Mr. Horace Braham in the Auction scene played Charles Surface with much ability, and Mr. Geoffrey Startin as Sir Harry Bumper sang "Here's to the maiden" with spirit. Sir Oliver Surface was intelligently acted by Mr. Gerald Erminne, and Mr. C. F. Deane made an excellent Moses, while Mr. Stanley Hughes displayed considerable talent as Joseph Surface in the Screen scene. All the other students in the cast acted with intelligence, but the tiny stage sadly cramped their action, and it is a pity these performances could not be given in a larger theatre. Lad broke Hall or the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, would be suitable, and greater justice done to the clever young performers. The last dramatic performance in the programme on Saturday was Forest Scenes from *As You Like It*, in which Mr. Horace Braham appeared with success as Orlando, being ably supported by the graceful Rosalind of Miss May Wyndham. Mr. J. O. Crombie as Jaques delivered the immortal soliloquy with good expression, while Miss Clara Cooper, although the smallest Touchstone ever seen, spoke her lines admirably. Miss Lucy Fanshawe was an attractive Celia, and Mr. Stanley Hughes acted well as the banished Duke. A note in the programme states that "these performances are given to enable students to acquire confidence and practice in front of an audience, and are not submitted as finished work."

The performance on Saturday was given under the direction of Mr. Marshall Moore, Mr. Kenneth Wynne, Miss Lilian Leoffeler, and Mr. Charles Sutton, Professors of the Academy. In the vocal items Miss Gwladys Hull presided at the piano.

MR. THOMAS BEECHAM has decided to withdraw *Werther* for the present from the répertoire of his opera comique season at His Majesty's Theatre, but will revive the work later, with important changes in the cast and on the stage. *Tales of Hoffmann* was played in its place on Thursday.

SUFFRAGE ATELIER MATINEE.

A matinée performance in aid of a Suffrage Atelier was given at the Court Theatre on Friday, the 27th ult., when three new one-act plays were produced. The audience consisted largely of ladies interested in the Suffrage movement.

The first of the new plays was by Miss Rose Mathews, and was entitled

"THE SMACK."

Captain Ridgley .....MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Edith Ridgley .....MISS AIMEE DE BURGH
Captain Beaton, R.N. .....MR. JAMES GELDERD
Clara Cavanier .....MISS CHRISTINE RAYNER

Captain Ridgley and his wife are residing at Valetta, Malta, and as their income is insufficient for the rather gay life they are leading, a young girl, Clara Cavanier, lives with them as a paying guest. This fact, however, is kept a secret from their friends, and the girl, who has recently come from England, passes as the niece of Mrs. Ridgley. This lady has, moreover, entered into a bargain with Clara's mother to bring about an engagement if possible, the matchmaker's reward to be the sum of £100. It would seem that the island is quite a favourite resort of damsels in search of husbands, and they are popularly known as the "Fishing Fleet." When Clara, who is quite innocent of any intention to capture a husband, overhears herself referred to as "a smack," she is naturally curious as to the meaning of the term, and when she learns its real significance her indignation is aroused in no small degree. Mrs. Ridgley asks her to accompany her and a young naval officer, Captain Beaton, to a fancy-dress ball. She refuses, and being a girl of high character, speaks her mind very plainly to the lady who has placed her in a false position, and insists upon returning home at the earliest opportunity. Eventually Clara agrees to go to the ball, and retires to dress for it; while Mrs. Ridgley has an interview with Captain Beaton, who is evidently rather "gone" on her supposed niece. Their conversation is interrupted by the return of Clara, who has conformed to the fancy-dress idea by wearing a large card inscribed in large letters, "This smack to be sold. No reasonable offer refused." This bold defiance on the part of the girl upsets Mr. Ridgley's plans, and her chances of securing the promised reward are decidedly remote when the curtain falls. The piece would serve very well the purpose of a curtain-raiser, though the end is not quite satisfactory.

Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton was good as Captain Ridgley, who is not at all in sympathy with his wife's matrimonial scheme. Miss Aimee de Burgh played exceedingly well as Mrs. Ridgley; Mr. James Gelderd acted naturally as Captain Beaton (in fancy-dress costume); and Miss Christine Rayner played with appropriate spirit the part of the indignant young girl.

The second play, by Laurence Housman, was entitled

'THE LORD OF THE HARVEST" (A Morality).

Grinder .....MR. LEON M. LION
Drudge .....MR. ROBERT FARQUHARSON
Dole .....MISS BESSIE HATTON
Bit .....MR. JAMES HORNE
Sup .....MISS IRIS ROWE
Dotty Daft .....MR. MAURICE ELVEY
Strike .....MR. A. V. BRAMBLE

Famine is in the land. In the ground floor interior of a mill are a wretched family—Drudge, a journeyman miller; Dole, his wife; and his little son and daughter, Bit and Sup. They are starving in the midst of plenty, for in one corner of the room are stacked sacks filled with corn. There they are to remain until the price has reached the level that will satisfy the avaricious corn merchant, Grinder, the owner of the mill. At the suggestion of the woman they seat themselves at the table, and the hungry boy pretends to partake of bread and butter and cake. The man fetches some goat's milk, but it is poor, weak stuff. The little girl, who has lain dormant in her mother's arms, suddenly makes a convulsive movement, and falls back. Her sufferings are over; and the bereft mother gently places the dead body on the bed. Then enters hurriedly and in deadly fear Grinder, the corn merchant, who has been pursued by a mob of rioters, who mean murder. He begs Drudge to conceal him from the infuriated men in pursuit of him. Their menacing voices can be heard in the distance. To save his life he is willing to grant the miller anything he may ask. Drudge, moved to pity, hides the terrified corn merchant in the bed, the body of the child being placed on top of him. Strike and his followers enter; they, however, fail to discover the man whose blood they seek; but when they have disappeared it is found that Grinder has died of terror.

Mr. Robert Farquharson powerfully impersonated the gaunt-looking miller, who, after the death of the child, makes a fierce onslaught on the sacks of corn with a knife. Miss Bessie Hatton played the rôle of the wife with real feeling; Master James Horne was excellent as the starving boy; and Mr. Leon M. Lion admirably depicted the terror of the corn merchant. Mr. Maurice Elvey as Dotty Daft and Mr. A. V. Bramble as Strike were efficient; and little Miss Iris Rowe as the dying child completed the cast of this doleful little play, which, however, met with a decidedly favourable reception.

The third play—"a roadside comedy"—was also by Mr. Laurence Housman, and was entitled

"A LIKELY STORY."

Grumble .....MR. LEON M. LION
Bumble .....MR. MAURICE ELVEY
Thimble .....MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Nimble .....MISS DECIMA MOORE

This proved to be a fantastic little play, more acceptable perhaps to children than to grown-ups. Grumble, an old miserly man, has a pretty niece named Thimble. Nimble, a young wandering minstrel, comes along the road which skirts the old man's garden. He has a companion in the form of a bear, named Tiny, no doubt because he is of quite huge dimensions. His intelligence, however, is quite marvellous. Nimble steals old Grumble's apples, and being caught in the act is placed in the village stocks. While Grumble is gone for the beadle, the artful Nimble, by inducing Thimble to take off his boots, regains his liberty. And when the old man returns with the beadle the wanderer induces him to believe that he is no other than his long-lost son, who was stolen when a baby by the gipsies. There seems every probability that Nimble will marry Grumble's pretty niece, and that they will live happy ever after.

Miss Decima Moore was very vivacious as Nimble; and Miss Margaret Busse made an arch and attractive Thimble. Mr. Leon M. Lion was praiseworthy as Grumble; Mr. Maurice Elvey was the beadle; and the bear, trained by Mr. T. Daycell Reed, was quite an important character, and added considerably to the amusement of the audience. At the fall of the curtain, after the actors had been called, there was a persistent cry of "Author," but Mr. Housman did not appear. Miss Decima Moore, again returning to the stage, caused merriment by pointing to a private box, in which the author was presumably seated.

In addition to the three new plays, three songs were sung by Miss Irene Spong, and expressed in natural movement by Miss Annie Spong. The performance concluded with a series of charming Morris dances, arranged by Mildred Statham and Olive Leit, in which the Misses Violet [illegible], Nancy Denvers, Gladys Elliott, Anne [illegible], Stella Swift, and Gladys Burgois took part. Mme. Jeanette Van Raalte was the accompanist.

A NEW French operetta *Hans le Joueur de Flute*, composed by M. Louis Gaune, the libretto being written by MM. Maurice Vaucaire and Georges Mitchell, has scored a notable success at the Apollo Theatre in Paris.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

The return visit of the principal D'Oyly Carte Opera Company this week constitutes an engagement of the first importance in the spring season here, and affords local playgoers the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with some of the most famous of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. Without exception, the D'Oyly Carte Company, which is under the management of Mr. H. E. Bellamy, is an excellent one, and includes Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Fredk. Hewett, and Mr. Henry A Lytton, and Mrs. Arthur Rousbey, Miss Mabel Graham, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Marjorie Stone, and Miss Louie Rene, and they are one and all meeting with enthusiasm from large audiences. The operas are sumptuously staged and dressed, and the company give a clever and exhilarating interpretation. All the musical numbers are well rendered, and special mention must be made of the chorus, which is of high excellence. Praise is also due to the Marlborough orchestra and to the musical-director, Mr. François Cellier, travelling with the company, for the commendable manner in which they carry out their part of the programme. During the week the following operas have been performed:—*The Mikado, The Yeomen of the Guard, H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury*, and to-night, Saturday, *The Gondoliers* is to be presented. A final word of praise is due to Mr. J. M. Gordon for the excellent manner in which he stage-manages the various operas, the result being most satisfactory and reflecting great credit. Under the exemplary management of Mr. J. Murray Herriott this high-class theatre continues on its prosperous career.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, by G. R. Sims, entitled
"ROMANY RYE."

In pursuance of his plan of presenting a series of dramas during the summer season at Kennington, Mr. Robert Arthur revived on Monday that successful work from the pen of Mr. G. R. Sims, entitled *Romany Rye*. It is sixteen years since this drama has been seen on a London stage, and its production at Kennington was a stupendous undertaking, as may well be gathered from the fact that the five acts include some fifteen scenes, and that there are forty-four speaking parts in the play, whilst altogether over a hundred people are concerned in its representation. But great as was the task which Mr. Robert Arthur set himself, it was successfully accomplished, and on Monday night Mr. H. B. Brandreth, who has personally superintended the production, had the satisfaction of witnessing the enthusiasm of a crowded house, which found vent in repeated curtain calls for the principals The company is an excellent one, and has been well rehearsed, so that the minor parts are as adequately filled as the leading rôles. Everyone worked with a will on Monday, and full advantage was taken of the many strikingly dramatic situations with which Mr. Sims has studded his play. There are few dramas in which the setting counts for so much, and Mr. Brandreth has seen that nothing is lacking. The Gipsy Camp in the first act is a fine scene, and Epsom racecourse is graphically reproduced, but undoubtedly the greatest achievement of Mr. E. W. Martin, who is responsible for much of the scenery, is the interior of Joe Heckett's shop in the second act. This is a very faithful representation of a bird fancier's establishment in the Seven Dials. Mr. Walter Gay is an actor of great power, and as Jack Hearne made an ideal hero, looking the gipsy gentleman to the life. Miss Jessie Winter was a sweet and lovable Gertie Heckett, interpreting the rôle with much girlish grace and charm She won all hearts by her wistful look and simple and gentle ways; Mr. Fred Morgan was an excellent heavy lead as Philip Royston, playing that somewhat unpleasing character with great vividness. Mr. Frank H. Crimp was responsible for a graphic piece of stage portraiture as Goliath Lee, the sturdy gipsy, bent on seeking vengeance for the injury which he thought had been inflicted on one of his family. Mr. G. P. Polson was well placed as Edward Marsden, Royston's accomplice, and Mr. Herbert Lloyd, who also acted as stage manager, gave a really clever sketch of the part of Joe Heckett, the bird fancier. The lighter side of the play was well looked after by Mr. Maitland Marler as Boss Knivett. There were many calls upon Mr. Marler's gifts of comedy, and he was equal to them all. Mr. Frank H. Robertson and Mr. Leslie Fergusson were a couple of picturesque ruffians as Jubey Duck and Bill Blossom respectively, who were engaged with Miss Mary Kilpack as Mother Shipton in the congenial task of dumping people in the Thames from the neighbourhood of the Ratcliff Highway. Miss Kilpack's make-up as the old hag was wonderfully realistic, and she acted the part with considerable skill. As Lura Lee Miss Winifred Whyte deserves warm praise, and Naomi Lee, her mother, was a character ably doubled by Miss Kilpack. Miss Marie Clayton was well placed as Mrs. Knivett, and Miss Winnie Booth deserves a passing word for her representation of Ruth Adrian. The gipsy boys, Dimity and Sol Lee, were amusingly enacted by Miss Elsie Videau and Miss Maggie Hogan respectively. Mr. J. F. Slade as Curly, Mr. A. H. Goddard as McCarthy, and Mr. Redmond Harlow as the Eton Boy, caused a good deal of amusement; and Mr. Charles Hetherington made a useful policeman. Smaller parts were taken by Mr. Alexander St. John (Black Nathan), Mr. Leslie Clifton (Pluto), Miss Violet Tremayne (Philadelphia), and Miss Ethel Palmer (Landlady). The tuneful incidental music was furnished by the Kennington orchestra, under the skilful bâton of Mr. Julien Wilson.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, entitled
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."

Described as the story of a woman of passion, this drama, as presented by Mr. James Bell's company, sheds a vivid light on the lives of the demi-monde and aristocracy in the gay city. There we see the woman who was formerly the idol of the gay Bohemian world trying to live down the past as the wife of a French nobleman, but becomes a prey to the blackmailing of her past associates. As Flare-Flare, the Idol of Paris, Miss Annie Bell plays realistically, yet never failing to gain sympathy. That scene in which she tries to shock her friends in order to save her husband's life is a specially powerful piece of acting, and was rewarded by a floral tribute. Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee portrays the sensual but cowardly roué Phillipe D'Esterre. Mr. Alfred Grenville plays well, and makes a polished gentleman as Victor Cashelle. Mr. G. Robey is an impressive Prince Sergius Zoresky; Mr. C. St. John Medley is a typical lawyer as Gustave Langlois; Mr. Vyvian Thomas acts well as the precocious youngster Tatave; Mr. Alf. Harvey makes a satisfactory servant; and Miss Frances Bruce as Mme. Sancterre brings out all the malice and uncharitableness of the rôle. Miss Ida Thompson makes quite a study of the part of the bright little Ann Sancterre.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, entitled
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."

The naval and military drama presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in his own theatre at Hammersmith is arousing the enthusiasm of his very responsive patrons, and vigorous manifestations are nightly given of their approval of the entertainment provided. Will Stewart, an A.B., a characteristic lead, is efficiently played by Mr. Ernest Owtrim, who goes through the vicissitudes of the sailor after the girl of his heart in a gallant style; Ben Lanky, the bo'sun's mate, is played by Mr. Philip Renouf satisfactorily; Mr. Henry Hare takes the heavy lead effectively; Mr. Ernest Rivarz ably plays Captain Bridge; praise is due to Mr. Charles Herrick for his rendering of Gunner Phillips; Mr. William P. Sheen is decidedly clever as Joshua Bradley; and Sarah Bradley is effectively portrayed by Miss Florence Harcourt, their humorous scenes keeping the house in a state of uproarious merriment; Private Tim Hooley, played by Mr. Morgan Rickards, also supplies excellent light comedy; Mr. F. G. Humphreys as Peter Scragg is realistic; Mr. David Allen is good as Admiral Rawlins; and Mr. Arthur Haycock sympathetic as Colonel Dickson. Mrs. Stewart is adequately played by Miss Marie Harcourt; Miss Marie Auckland gets approval as Jenny Warden, and deserves every bit of it, her rendering of an exacting part revealing talent of a high order; Mary Graham, the lead, is excellently presented by Miss Gladys Purnell, who is well equipped by nature and training for the part, her acting being natural and sincere. The minor parts are adequately sustained.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama entitled
"SIBERIA."

This old Princess's Theatre success has this week constituted the programme for the third week of the stock company, and has proved highly popular. The stock company has, for this occasion, had an accession of strength in the engagement of Mr. Bonhote Wilson and Miss Mary Pemberton, who are respectively cast for the important parts of Nicholai Neigoff, and Sara, the Tiger Lily. Both these clever artists are to be congratulated on their effective acting. Mr. Newman Maurice essays the rôle of Trolsky, and scores heavily. Mr. W. H. Porter does justice to the part of Lieut.-Governor Jaracoff; Mr. Will Smith is well cast as the spy Sparta; Mr. Hubert Austin is very forcible as the father of Sara; Mr. Marius St. John capitally enacts Ivan Nordoff; and Mr. Herbert Godard is an effective Governor-General. Mr. Victor Loraine is very good as Lieut. Smailoff; Mr. Walter Graham is capital as Count Stanislaus; Miss May Day is admirable as the flower girl Vera; Miss Marie Duncan does herself justice as Marie; Miss Violet O'Neal realises well the part of Drovna. The other parts are all well sustained. *Siberia* is very nicely mounted, and the uniforms and scenery deserve especial praise.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, entitled
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."

Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting at the Dalston Theatre the romantic drama, by Herbert Skardon, entitled *Send Him Victorious*, the cumulative interest of which keeps the audience intent from start to finish. Mr. Howard Hardy does all that is required of him as the King of Ravonia, and has the full sympathy of the audience. In the part of Colonel Henrich Kaufman Mr. G. M. Montanini is fully equal to the task. Mr. Herbert Skardon has a popular part in that of Captain Frank Allison, military attaché to the British Legation; Miss Sidney Crowe acts remarkably well as Countess Kara Von Mechlinberg, powerfully representing a designing woman; and Miss Netta Mitchell as Ethel Harding proves herself an effective actress. Mr. Charles Higgins gives a smart representation of Major Carl Strauss; and Mr. Charles Russell effectively portrays Sergeant Max.

THE PAVILION, E.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, entitled
"HARBOUR LIGHTS."

The Adelphi drama *Harbour Lights*, from the pen of Mr. George R. Sims, is presented by the stock company, the chief members of which are old favourites in East London. The excellent lines Mr. Sims has written are delivered by the actors with much conviction and dramatic force, and the scenes he has depicted are vividly represented. Mr. Ashby Page plays the hero Lieutenant David Kingsley, R.N., in a very creditable manner; Mr. Alexander Bradley as Frank Moreland makes an excellent villain, and is ably assisted by Mr. Fred Rivers, who portrays Nicholas Moreland; Mr. Allen Carruthers' Captain Hardy, R.N., is a distinguished representative of the Navy, as also is Mr. Arthur Estcourt as Captain Nelson. Mr. Oswald Lingard plays Mark Helston with much conviction, and his articulation is commendable; Mr. J. E. Manning as Solomon is good. Miss Marion Denvil plays Dora Vane in fine style, and wins much applause; Miss Phyllis Orme makes good use of the opportunities for dramatic acting offered her in the character of Lina Nelson. The humour of the play is provided by Miss May Clarke and Mr. Will Harman, who have established themselves great favourites.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 30, the One-Act Drama, in Five Scenes, entitled
"A CREDIT TO HIS NATION."

Excellent business is the order of the day at this old-established Marylebone playhouse, and every credit is due to Mr. W. H. Nugent, who so ably manages the theatre for Mr. F. R. Griffiths. The short playlet, *A Credit to His Nation*, is full of life and "go," and receives painstaking interpretation at the hands of Mr. Harry Calden's smart company. As Ike de Costa, Mr. Harry Calden gave one of his delightful Hebrew studies, and is most successful; Mr. Villiers Stanley sustained the rôle of Frank Varney in a bright and manly fashion; Mr. Tom Calden made the most of his opportunities as Harold Varney; Mr. W. Ashton did well as Richard Varney; Miss N. Calden was light and easy as pert Polly Dobbins; and Miss Lowther portrayed Mary Danvers in a sympathetic and convincing way. Several pictures were screened during the evening, and certainly some of the clearest films in London are to be seen here, amongst the best being The House of Cards, The Lamplighter, Delight of the Shoot, Heroine of Mafeking, and The Tenor's Conquest. The band, under Mr. Ward Bailey's skilful direction, performed appropriate music at intervals.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 30, the Comedy entitled
"THE BEST PEOPLE."

Mr Frank Weathersby is presenting for the current week the interesting and amusing comedy *The Best People*, written by Frederick Lonsdale, who, it may be remembered, is also the author of those successful musical comedies *The King of Cadonia* and *The Balkan Princess*. The comedy under notice, which was originally produced at Wyndham's Theatre, deals with domestic incidents in high-class circles and the way connubial felicity may be seriously jeopardised by the indiscretions of the members of the families concerned is cleverly plotted and ably interpreted. Mr. Robert Noble essays the rôle of Lord Emsworth in a thoroughly diverting fashion, and his cool and non slant manner of delivery makes his points "telling," and he affords much pleasure and hearty laughter by his carefully submitted characterisation. The Hon. Gerald Boyle is suitably undertaken by Mr. Dudley Stuart, who, although evidently suffering from a severe cold, made the most of his opportunities under the adverse circumstances. Mr. Tom Taylor-Vinson evokes much laughter as Lord Wynus, and he submits a highly humorous delineation and is completely successful. Miss Enid Ross deserves praise for a capital portrayal of the part of the Hon. Mrs. Boyle, and she maintains a strong hold. Lady Emsworth is charmingly and daintily rendered by Miss Beatrice Marsdene, who does ample justice to the character and is flatteringly received. Assistance is also afforded in minor parts by Mr. Escott Robson and Mr. Clifford Hick as James Spofforth and Jackson respectively. The comedy is preceded by *Make-Believe*, a comedietta by E. C. Rackstraw and W. Muskerry, in which appear Mr. Dudley Stuart, Miss Beatrice Marsdene, Mr. Escott Robson, and Miss Enid Ross.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama entitled
"THE SINS OF A CITY."

The Sins of a City, written by Nita Rae and presented this week by Miss Winifred Maude, is well supplied with stirring incidents and sensational episodes, so dear to the heart of patrons of this theatre. The cast being a well-selected one, the interest in the unfolding of the plot is well maintained throughout, and at the final fall of the curtain hearty applause is vouchsafed to the various favourites. Mr. William Vane offers a manly and spirited interpretation of the hero, Sandy McDonald, a rising barrister, which is greatly approved, and a warm welcome is the result of his efforts. Miss Minifred Maude essays the rôle of Seaweed, afterwards known as Norah Gillmore, in a pathetic manner, and gives a successful rendering of the part. Mr. Maurice Jones submits a clever study of the old miser, Jasper Woodleigh, a character in which he is seen to capital advantage. Mr. Harold Heath does ample justice to the part of Donald McIvor. Ralph Blackwater, K.C., is dramatically represented by Mr. Morris Maud, and Mr Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi also scores well. Miss Minnie Millwarde makes a most vivacious Midge and is the source of considerable merriment, and is warmly received. Miss L. Carlton is excellent as Jenny, and is well rewarded. Miss Wingold Lawrence also sustains the part of Lesbia l'Estrange in good style. Mrs. Miggs is suitably undertaken by Miss Mabel Lane.

THE BROADWAY.

On Monday, the Drama, in Three Acts, by Sydney Grundy and Henry Petitt, entitled
"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

The summer stock season here was inaugurated on Monday with the production of this celebrated Adelphi play, which was capitally acted by the excellent company engaged. Mr. Vassall-Vaughan was a capable and pleasing Frank Beresford; Mr. Fred Terris gave a powerful and incisive rendering of John Silkstone; Captain Vere had a clever representation in Mr. Wallace Bosco; Mr. Edward McLean contributed a fine performance as Matthew Brookfield; Mr. Ellis J. Preston was very good indeed as Joseph Thorndyke; Mr. F. Hunter was a capital Patrick Desmond; Mr. E. Emery as Able Jeff, Mr. Sinclair as Benjamin Tremble, Mr. H. Hersee as Toby, and Mr. H. Allen as Inspector Quick were all of the greatest value to the production. Mr. Will Clement was a great favourite as Reuben Armstrong, and Miss Sadie Neville was a bright and clever Dorothy Tremble; Miss Alice Defoe gave a womanly and sympathetic rendering of the part of Evelyn Brookfield; Miss Douglas Frecar was a clever and attractive Mary Northcote; and Miss Clare Milvane was a charming Nora Desmond. Mr. Ellis J. Preston is the stage-manager and producer, and Mr. Iles ably fills his accustomed place in front of the house.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 30, Robertson's Comedy,
"CASTE."

Particular interest centred in the revival of Robertson's popular comedy at the Kingston playhouse this week from the fact that Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director of the theatre, appeared at Eccles. Patrons of the theatre who had seen Mr. Davey on the boards before were prepared for a fine character sketch of the drunken father, and they were not disappointed. They showed their appreciation in unmistakable terms at the fall of each curtain. Mrs. Davey also took part in the play, and acquitted herself well as the Marquise de St. Maur. Miss Phyllis Relph, who appeared as Esther Eccles, displayed histrionic ability of a high order; a clever impersonation of Polly Eccles was given by Miss Edith Vognes. Other parts were ably sustained by Mr. Douglas Gordon as the Hon. George D'Alroy, Mr. George Silver as Captain Hawtree, and by Mr. W. F. K. Lancy as Sam Gerridge. The play, which was produced twice nightly, was admirably mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama entitled
"HIS LIFE FOR HERS."

Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company, in *His Life for Hers*, is attracting excellent audiences at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week. The piece is adapted from Ouida's novel "Moths," and it proves highly interesting. The scenic effects are excellent, and a very capable cast has been engaged. Miss Henrietta Schrier as the easy-going, good-hearted American Fuchsia Leach, with a twang you could cut with a knife, is prominent and popular throughout the piece. Miss Marie Rumuz is fairly satisfactory in the important rôle of the sinister Duchesse de Sonnaz; Miss Nellie Statham plays the scheming Lady Dolly Vanderdecken on sound lines; and Miss Veronica Clinton charmingly impersonates Vere Herbert. Mr. Andrew Money is scarcely autocratic enough for the designing Prince Sergius Gouroff; Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy plays Lord Jura with a suitable sangfroid, and is very successful in the part; Mr. Roland Bridge as the much-married Duke of Mull acts appropriately; and Mr. F. Douglas Howard is an earnest and painstaking Raphael de Corrèze. Friday night was a complimentary benefit to Miss Henrietta Schrier, and *Mr. Barnes of New York* was played, with Miss Schrier as Marina Paoli and Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy in the title-rôle.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 30, the Farcical Play, by F. Anstey,
"THE BRASS BOTTLE."

Laughter reigns supreme at the Borough Theatre this week during the progress of this ludicrously funny piece. Much of its success, however, is due to the very excellent interpretation the play received and to the highly effective staging. Mr. Lawrence Grossmith is a genial, polished representative of Horace Ventimore, and Mr. Holman Clark is a model of imperturbability as the weird visitant from the brass bottle. Mr. Percy Marshall exactly hits off the idiosyncrasies of the Professor; and Mr. Rudge Harding as Spencer Pringle is admirable. The portly Samuel Wackerbath is safely entrusted to Mr. Luigi Lablache; and Mr. Harry Paulton makes a very droll Rapkin. Miss Lena Halliday plays in natural style as Mrs. Futvoye; Miss Viva Birkett makes a very charming Sylvia Futvoye; and Miss Mary Brough is decidedly good as Mrs. Rapkin. Others who do well include Mr. A. Spencer as Chief of Caravan; Mr. Vincent Holman as a Waiter; Miss Armine Grace as Mrs. Wackerbath; Miss Gladys Story as Jessie; and Miss Meda de Brugh as Gobeida.

THE FULHAM.

The picture season at the Fulham Theatre continues this week, with a change of pragramme. There are a couple of very fine new films, of great length, of the King's Funeral. The dramatic element is supplied by a bright little comedietta, in which Miss East Robertson and Mr. George Delaforce represent a would-be New Woman and her imperturbable husband, who cures her of her undesirable ambition. Mr. Delaforce fills up a wait with a good song on the virtues of the Bobby There are one or two melodramatic subjects and two or three comic ones, including a very clever Pathé film, The Scientist's Nightmare. This is one of the type of living pictures that are obviously "faked," but the faking is remarkably clever and well carried out, so as to give the appearance of the supernatural. This incidental and occasional music is now supplied by Miss Hillard, A.L.C.M., who presides at the piano.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

Play, in Four Acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell, Produced for the First Time in London at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, on Monday, May 30.

Ruth Wright	Miss Kate Sydney
Ruby Wright	Miss M. Powell
Mme. De Meral	Miss Anna Corri
Bessie Betts	Miss Lucy Fitzroy
Ned Chipples	Miss Eva Norman
Robert Ray	Mr. Leslie Austin
Lucas List	Mr. Walter Clarke
Octavius Screwe	Mr. Henry Scratchard
Billy Broad	Mr. Edward Swinton
Bobby Broad	Mr. Macintosh Clyde
Freddy Feather	Mr. Edwin Helm
Rev. Christopher Lovett	Mr. William Berson
William Wadd	Mr. William Whitty
P.C. Clearing	Mr. George S. Darling
Mary Mellett	Miss Mabel Kelling
Emily Rough	Miss Rachel Rhodes
Florence Slade	Miss Edith Taylor
Lilly Chub	Miss Doris Drude

Mrs. Morton Powell has brought yet another fine and well-acted drama to London in *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. The piece is attracting good business to Mr. Dudley Bennett's comfortable house, and the keenest interest is taken in the many stirring and dramatic situations with which the piece abounds. Lucas List is a member of the firm of Law, List, and Co., and distributes prizes to the scholars at Myrtledale. List has betrayed Ruth Wright, a clerk and typist in his employ, and now seeks to win her cousin Ruby, a school teacher, who is engaged to Robert Ray, a mate in the Merchant Service. Robert returns from sea, and announces his intention of marrying Ruby the next day. Lucas List determines to prevent the marriage, and induces the young sailor, in a moment of frenzy, to break off the engagement. Incensed at the thought that her cousin Ruby is about to win the love of Lucas from her, Ruth accepts the offer of Robert to marry her. Robert and Ruth are hurried off to the Registrar's, and Ruby, learning of the plot to marry the man she loves to the mistress of Lucas, follows, but arrives in time to find Robert and Ruth man and wife. Ruth determines to see Lucas List that night in the bedroom of his cottage at midnight. Robert also goes to the cottage, determined, if he finds his wife unfaithful, to kill her, List, and himself. Entering the room he finds Ruth, Ruby, and Lucas, and accuses his wife of being unfaithful. She denies the charge, and, in terror, says she came to save Ruby from the arms of Lucas. Ruby, dreading the consequences, accepts the situation, and takes upon her own shoulders the guilt of Ruth. At a school fête Ruby is accused of being the mistress of Lucas List, and being unable to deny the accusation, is dismissed by the School Board. She leaves the village accompanied by a crippled boy named Ned Chipples, an orphan, whom Ruby has adopted, and accepts shelter in the house of Mme. de Meral in London. The action of the play is now removed to Mme. De Meral's Bath and Massage establishment, where Robert arrives in search of Ruby, but is knocked down and stunned. Ruby and Ned seek refuge in a cellar, and Ruby determined to end their misery by death, tears down the gas bracket from the wall, places the boy's mouth to the pipe, wraps his head in her blouse. She is herself about to commit suicide when Lucas List arrives with food, and offers to save the boy's life if Ruby will consent to go with him. Ruby, driven to despair, consents. In List's flat Ruth murders her lover and contrives that Ruby is accused of the crime and is arrested. Learning that Ruby was not the mistress of Lucas List, Ruth determines to aid her. She, however, is met by Mme. De Meral, and a furious fight occurs, in the course of which the room is entirely wrecked, and both women receive their death blow. Before expiring, however, Ruth writes on the back of a picture in her own blood: "I killed Lucas List.—Ruth Wright."

Miss Kate Sydney plays cleverly in the rôle of the degraded Ruth Wright, and acquits herself with success. The part is an exacting one, but Miss Sydney never loses her grip of the character and is convincing throughout. Miss M. Powell, as Ruby Wright, displays considerable histrionic ability, and whether as the happy and charming girl or the distraught and desperate woman, her acting is natural and unforced. Miss Anna Corri capably sustains the part of Mme. De Meral, and Miss Lucy Fitzroy is an amusing Bessie Betts. Miss Eva Norman's impersonation of the crippled boy Ned Chipples, which created a favourable impression, was excellently conceived. Mr. Leslie Austin contributes a manly and robust delineation of Robert Ray, and delivers his lines with powerful effect. The dissolute rake, Lucas List, is cleverly enacted by Mr. Walter Clarke, and Mr. Henry Scratchard as Octavius Screwe, fully emphasises the despicable nature of the character. Mr. Edward Swinton as Billy Broad, Mr. Macintosh Clyde as Bobby Broad, and Mr. Edwin Helm as Freddy Feather contribute jointly and severally to the humour of the piece, and Mr. William Berson gives a capable rendering of the Rev. Christopher Lovett.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama entitled
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

The erring but none the less welcome Bess Moore made her début at Richmond on Monday, and drew an immense audience. After all, Bess is not half a bad sort, and as a stage favourite her popularity is tremendous. She was cheered to the echo again and again. *The Bad Girl of the Family* is mounted with conspicuous care and admirably played by an exceedingly competent company. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Crossley was altogether excellent; bright, vivacious, with a pretty vein of sentiment. Miss Margaret Tueskie was sufficiently vixenish as the aggrieved sister: and excellent work was done by Miss Daisy Cork, who delivers her lines with charming distinctness, and demonstrated her ability as an artist of more than average talent. Miss Shilton was capable as Bess's fond parent; and Sallie Smithers found a vivacious and distinctly clever exponent in Miss Amy Randolph. Roars of merriment greeted the antics of Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle, whose humour is fresh and to the point. Mr. Wynton is capable as Lieut. Marsh, R.N., and acted with carnestness; and Mr. F. W. Freeman is dignified and inobtrusively impressive as the Earl. Probably no one works harder in the drama than Mr. Luke Forster, who as the Semitic Jack-of-all-trades is the life and soul of the show. Barney proves himself a huge favourite; Mr. C. A. Collins is "the villain of the play"; it is a clever bit of acting, forcible and meritorious; his Harry Gordon should rank as one of his successes. Mr. George Belmore avails himself of his few opportunities as Jerry; and excellent work generally pervades the entire representation. Mr. Fredk. Carr is stage-manager and Mr. Chris Mason general-manager. *The Bad Girl of the Family* has played to a record week.

For her final three performances of *Orpheus* at the Savoy this week Miss Marie Brema had an all-British orchestra. It is interesting to note that several of the musicians owe their skill to British teachers and to a British school, namely, the Guildhall School of Music.

At St. Albans Parish Hall, Acton Green, on Monday, was produced, for copyright purposes, a comedietta entitled *For the Sake of Charity*, by Alice Clayton Greene.

"THE MAN OF FATE."

A Napoleonic Drama, in Four Acts, by Richard Greene; Produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 30.

Napoleon I.	Mr. Juan Bonaparte
General Renaudot	Mr. W. R. Winning
Colonel Bernaise	Mr. W. H. Perrette
Captain Lemesnil	Mr. J. R. Darnley
Nicolas Bompasse	Mr. Alfred Harding
Paul Brandt	Mr. Ernest E. Imeson
Sebastian Lepine	Mr. A. Horace
Herr Kolsch	Mr. Julian J. Gallier
Herr Grondwetter	Mr. H. Lewis
Hugle	Mr. J. James
Lisette	Miss Lilian Christine
Julie Lepine	Miss Ella Erskine

An interesting addition to Napoleonic drama, Mr. Richard Greene's *The Man of Fate*, was successfully launched at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday. It is a drama of events that take place on the skirts of Napoleon's march upon Moscow, the burning of the city, and the disastrous and memorable retreat. The story does not touch the inner life of Bonaparte; it depicts him moving inexorably along his fatal course, an impressive and realistic figure, drawing with him, by virtue of his personality and his great deeds, the threads of a score—nay, a thousand—of seen and unseen dramas, of which this is one. The influence is felt at the opening, when we are introduced to the family of Lepine in Dantzic.

Sebastian Lepine is the chief of a group of three, members of a secret and farspreading league, who are plotting the downfall of Napoleon. Lepine's confrères are Herrn Kolsch and Grondwetter, the former a very acrid and sinister personage, the latter timid and compunctious; while a fourth is his nephew, Paul Brandt, who is something of a heroic wanderer, drawn to the same interests chiefly by his love for Lepine's daughter, Julie. Brandt, as the hero of the story, has his first taste of sorrow in the fact that Julie is deeply in love with, and almost immediately marries, Captain Lemesnil, of the Imperial army, who, it is presently discovered, has all along been spying upon her father with the object of accomplishing his arrest and execution. This specious rascal, moreover, is not alone in his purpose. He is backed by Colonel Bernaise, a greater rascal still, who quarrels with Lemesnil upon the latter's success with Julie, whom he desired for himself. In the thick of these circumstances, while the wedding breakfast is going forward, Brandt brings news of the Emperor's approach, and to save themselves the plotters hastily depart, leaving Julie apparently in the safe keeping of her husband.

It is for immediate dramatic purposes that the husband denies his wife; it averts the suspicion of treachery from the searching mind of Napoleon, and afterwards gives Colonel Bernaise an opportunity to take Julie away on the pretext of conducting her to her husband, who has been abruptly ordered away by the Emperor. The action at an inn near the Borodino furthers the distress of Julie, who finds herself in the Colonel's power. Considerable dramatic interest is infused by the appearance of Brandt on the scene, though he is unharmed; for he finds himself opposed by both the Colonel and Lemesnil, who desire his death or capture for the sake of the Emperor's favour and the furtherance of their personal schemes. In spite of his bravery and good intentions, Brandt gets here a second taste of sorrow in that he is blamed by Julie, who enters at a critical moment, for the death of Lemesnil, whom she thus finds at last, run through by the friendly bayonet of Bompasse (of the Guards), who has left his erect attitude of sentry for just one business-like moment to make the deadly thrust, unseen by Julie, and who now stands silent and immovable as before. Once again affairs are disposed by the interposition of Napoleon, and we next find the unfortunate Julie under the protection of Napoleon in a palace on the Petrovka in Moscow. Napoleon is sympathetic, yet all the while anxious to extort from her the whereabouts of her father, whose influence he fears and would punish. Now, however, he has a tale, concocted by Colonel Bernaise, and supported by the frightened evidence of the masquerading Grondwetter, that her father is dead, drowned by the treachery of Paul Brandt.

This Julie is for the time forced to believe; but at a midnight meeting with Brandt—a risky venture in the palace, from which both Brandt and Bompasse have much ado to escape with their lives—the young adventurer produces epistolary proof that her father is alive and safe in St. Petersburg. A lurid picture of Moscow in flames, seen by Napoleon as he throws the curtains wide, intending that Paul shall be hanged from the window, precipitates the action. We see next the retreat from Moscow, a wild and tragic picture of that historical event, which shadows impressively the final adjustment of the story. These are but broad outlines of a plot which well serves to bring out the Napoleonic atmosphere of the play. It is lightened by the timid comicalities of Grondwetter, who is very naturally impersonated by Mr. H. Lewis, and by the strong character-acting of Mr. Alfred Harding as Bompasse, who finds in Brandt a friend who once helped him out of a tight corner, and who moves through the story like the gruff soldier and man of the world that he is, with a soft corner in his heart for Julie and for her maid Lisette. The central figure, however, is Napoleon, and the astonishing thing is that so close a counterpart should be seen in the revival of these events as Mr. Juan Bonaparte, who is not only the great-grandson (not the great-great-grandson, as previously stated), but has in his own person the physical endowments of his famous ancestor. Style, movement, face, probably the tone of voice—all are there. Born in Utrecht, in Holland, about thirty-six years ago, Mr. Bonaparte has steeped himself in the associations of Napoleon, has spent a year on St. Helena, and certainly has the right to take seriously his object of reviving as nearly as is humanely possible the personality he undertakes in drama. The Cross of the Legion of Honour he wears is a relic, and he carries also the sword that was worn by Napoleon at Austerlitz. For all these reasons, apart from other considerations, the play in which he appears this week achieves a degree of realism never before attained by any Napoleonic drama that has been put on the stage. Of the other members of the cast, great praise is due to Miss Ella Erskine (who, by the way, also represents military interest, in that she is the daughter of an English general) for her sympathetic rendering of the trying rôle of Julie Lepine. Miss Erskine queens it in some beautiful dresses, and plays with a nervous force and intensity that cannot fail to be convincing. A very creditable impersonation of Paul Brandt was given by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson. Mr. W. H. Perretto acted with convincing energy as Colonel Bernaise; an equally virile and soldierly depiction of Lemesnil was supplied by Mr. J. R. Darnley, and Mr. A. Horace was dignified and effective as Sebastian Lepine. In conjunction with Bompasse, Miss Lilian Christine played in a light and taking style the rôle of Lisette; and other parts were capably handled by Mr. W. R. Winning, Mr. Julian J. Gallier, and Mr. J. James. The author of the play, it may be mentioned, is a brother of Miss Evie Greene, while another brother is responsible for some very effective incidental music. The music is by Ernest F. Greene. The scenery is elaborate, and the play should have a successful career.

At Taylor's Depository, 1, St. George's-road, Southwark, S.E., near the Elephant and Castle, Messrs. Charles Taylor and Son will sell by auction on Thursday next, at twelve o'clock, household furniture and effects, comprising a collection of automatic machines, soda fountains, Harper's electric piano. Catalogues on application to the auctioneers.

IRISH NATIONAL THEATRE.

On Monday, May 30, at the Court Theatre, for the First Time in London, a Tragedy in Three Acts, by the late J. M. Synge, entitled

"DEIRDRE OF THE SORROWS."

Lavarcham ..... MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Old Woman ..... MISS EILEEN O'DOHERTY
Owen ..... MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Conchubar ..... MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Fergus ..... MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN
Deirdre ..... MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Naisi ..... MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Ainnle ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Arcan ..... MR. JOHN CARRICK
Soldiers ..... MR. AMBROSE POWER, MR. HARRY YOUNG

Encouraging support is being given to the Irish National Theatre Society at the Court Theatre, where the company from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, began a season on Monday before a well-filled house. The productions of the society are invaluable as furnishing a striking contrast to the elaborate performances of the regular stage, and their simplicity and picturesqueness, their primitive yet artistic scenes, proves refreshing to the eye and ear. For the opening attraction was selected the late J. M. Synge's last play *Deirdre of the Sorrows*, which was originally given at the Abbey Theatre on Jan. 13 last. The play naturally lacks Mr. Synge's finishing touches, and has hardly sufficient movement to carry it successfully through three acts, but the attention is arrested by the simple beauty of the language which, despite some repetition of phrases, sounds melodiously on the ear. The subject was treated by Mr. W. B. Yeats, another of the society's poets, in his play produced in London some eighteen months ago, but only extended to one act, wherein the final tragedy was consummated. On that occasion distinction was given to the principal rôle by the fact that it was played by Mrs. Patrick Campbell. The first scene of the present play sees the coming of the High King of Ulster to claim Deirdre for his bride, after keeping her closely guarded for years. The maiden, however, prefers youth to age, and when the King has departed, puts on the rich raiment he has brought for her, knowing full well that Prince Naisi and his brothers will be driven by the storm to seek shelter in the cabin where Deirdre has long dwelt with her foster mother Lavarcham. Naisi duly appears, and after an exquisite love scene, determines to carry Deirdre off to the mountains. Here seven years go happily by, until Conchubar finds out their retreat and sends messengers to invite them to his Court. Deirdre fears for the time when she will grow old and will lose Naisi's love, and, despite the warning of Lavarcham and Naisi's protestations of constancy, urges him to accept the King's proposals. The foster mother's forebodings prove all too true, for Naisi and his brothers are entrapped by the King and killed, and Deirdre stabs herself over the grave in which her husband's body lies.

The pathos of the play was admirably preserved by the company, who conveyed the author's meaning clearly to the audience. Mr. Fred O'Donovan gave distinct character to the part of Naisi, playing the lover gallantly, and making Naisi's devotion to his wife pleasingly prominent. Miss Maire O'Neill used her musical voice agreeably in the title-rôle, but her appearance was singularly suggestive of the present rather than of a legendary age. Mr. Arthur Sinclair hardly caught the kingly air as Conchubar. Miss Sara Allgood, who played with Mrs. Campbell in the former production effectively maintained the morbid melancholy of the foster-mother Lavarcham, and Miss Eileen O'Doherty quite failed to look the age of an Old Woman, but displayed the possession of a sweet voice that could be used to better advantage. A serio-comic part had found its way into the piece, that of Owen, a half-witted retainer who goes wholly out of his mind, in which Mr. J. A. O'Rourke secured some curious effects. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan and Mr. John Carrick characteristically completed the trio of brothers.

The woes of the first piece were admirably contrasted with the humours of *Hyacinth Halvey*, a comedy in one act by Lady Gregory, which has before been seen in London. Mr. Fred O'Donovan again scored, proving himself a comedian of distinct originality as a gossoon who comes to a country village armed with so many fraudulent testimonials that he is held up, quite against his inclination, as an example of self-culture. Mr. J. A. O'Rourke again distinguished himself in a comic part, playing a post-office messenger with much drollery. Mr. Sydney J. Morgan acted well as a police sergeant, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair spoke his lines too rapidly to gain the utmost effect, though he caused no lack of laughter as a local dealer. Miss Sara Allgood as a post-mistress and Miss Eileen O'Doherty as a "gossip" realised the characters completely.

On Wednesday, June 1, for the First Time in London, a Comedy, in Three Acts, by Lady Gregory entitled

"THE IMAGE."

Thomas Coppinger ..... MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Mary Coppinger ..... MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Malachi Naughton ..... MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Brian Hosty ..... MR. SIDNEY J. MORGAN
Darby Costello ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Peggy Mahon ..... MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Peter Mannion ..... MR. J. A. O'ROURKE

The Image was originally produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and there can be no doubt that the degree of success it achieved is easily accounted for by the wonderfully clever sketches of Irish character which we owe to the ability of the author. There can be no difference of opinion as to the truthfulness of this picture of life in a remote Irish village; every character is distinct and carefully drawn by one who possesses the quality of close observation. The unconscious humour, the quaint turns of thought, and the characteristic method of clothing that thought in language, are the features that give interest to Lady Gregory's play. It cannot be compared to the ordinary everyday comedy—the plot is of the slightest; and it is a play of words rather than of action. A village on a headland is the scene. Much local excitement is caused by the news that two whales have been washed ashore. The oil to be obtained from them is worth a considerable sum of money; and the question is debated as to how it shall be spent. Three of the villagers—Thomas Coppinger, a stone cutter; Brian Hosty, a small farmer; and Darby Costello, a seaweed gatherer—take counsel together on the momentous question, with a view to making a recommendation to the district Board of Guardians, who have convened a special meeting. A wordy dispute having already arisen as to best material for a statue, it is suggested, and finally agreed, to recommend that the money shall be expended in providing a statue, the work to be undertaken by Coppinger, the stonecutter, eager to win fame as a sculptor. Then a serious difficulty arises—whom is the statue to represent? There are, it seems, no local celebrities. O'Connor, the Irish patriot, and Parnell are mentioned; and there is a general agreement in favour of the first-mentioned, until Brian Hosty, a native of Connaught, learns that he was a Munster man. Malachi Naughton, described as a "mountainy man," a thin, miserable-looking creature, who sees visions in the night, is strongly in favour of the proposed statue being erected to a certain Hugh O'Laurie, whose history, however, is veiled in mystery. Peggy Mahon, the oldest dame in the village, is consulted on the matter, but no information can be got from her. Malachi, when appealed to, only produces a small board, which has been washed ashore, and on which the mysterious name is inscribed. And so the parish register is searched, and when the name of Hugh O'Laurie is discovered the bearer thereof is found to be an infant. However, the Gordian knot is cut by the news brought by Peter Mannion, the carrier, that one of the whales has been washed away, and that the oil from the other has already been abstracted by the inhabitants of a neighbouring village. This bare outline of the story, of course, gives no idea of the quaint humour introduced, and the amusing mixture of simplicity and greed displayed by the villagers.

The performance of the comedy created a highly favourable impression. Mr. Arthur Sinclair very ably depicted the stonecutter, Thomas Coppinger, who, although very anxious to win distinction as a sculptor, is rather doubtful of his ability to tackle the statue. Miss Sara Allgood was quite at home in the part of Mary Coppinger, the stonecutter's comely wife, whose hope it is to find a new home in America. Mr. Fred O'Donovan deserves to be congratulated on his clever sketch of Malachi Naughton, a crazy visionary, subject to sudden outbursts of passion. Mr. Sidney J. Morgan gave an excellent portrayal of Brian Hosty, who comes from Connaught, and has an undisguised contempt for the men of Munster. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan was good in the part of Darby Costello. Miss Maire O'Neill proved to be quietly effective in her embodiment of Peggy Mahon, whose pathetic devotion to the memory of her husband, dead and gone for many years, is so touching. It may be added that the tabby cat, which the old dame nursed throughout one scene, played her part to perfection. Mr. J. A. O'Rourke as the carrier, Peter Mannion, completed an admirable cast.

In place of *The Green Helmet*, a play in ballad metre, by W. B. Yeats, which had been announced for production, Lady Gregory's one-act play, entitled *The Rising of the Moon*, was successfully revived.

Sergeant ..... MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Policeman X. ..... MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Policeman B. ..... MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Ballad Singer ..... MR. J. M. KERRIGAN

The plot turns upon the escape of an Irish political offender, for whose arrest a reward of £100 is offered by the Government. The man for whom the police are in search disguises himself as a ballad singer, and meeting by the quayside a police-sergeant, so artfully plays upon his feelings by reminding him of the days when they were young men, and bound by the tie of comradeship and political sympathies, that he allows the fugitive to escape and forfeits the tempting reward.

Mr. Arthur Sinclair was a capital representative of the Sergeant, who allows sentiment to overcome his sense of duty and love of lucre. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan played admirably as the man who succeeds in escaping. He sang a couple of ballads with excellent effect. Mr. J. A. O'Rourke and Mr. Fred Donovan did well as the two policemen.

SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL THEATRE.

A public meeting to inaugurate the work of the Croydon and District Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre was held at the Town Hall, Croydon (by kind permission of the Mayor and Corporation) on Thursday evening, May 26. The Mayor of Croydon (Alderman Major J. E. Fox, J.P.) presided, and was supported by Alderman H. Keatley Moore, J.P., Rev. Dr. Thomas Carter, and other leading residents, the committee being represented by Mr. H. Granville Barker and Mr. H. S. Perris, organising secretary.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. H. Granville Barker, who, in a telling and convincing speech, set out the national importance of the scheme, and how desirable it was to commemorate in a lasting and substantial manner the name of the greatest poet and playwright the world had known by erecting a home for his drama.

Mr. H. S. Perris responded by expressing a hope that the committee would carry through to a success this great memorial, and reminded those present that although an anonymous donor had kindly given £70,000 to the fund, still there was much more to be collected before the object could be attained and something done which would be worthy of the name of Shakespeare. Further, that nearly every foreign country had its national theatre, and it was time England gave the idea definite shape. He hoped that the name of Croydon would be well to the front when the ultimate result has been carried out. It was of an educational moment, and the committee should make it their duty to bring the matter under the notice of the schools; and that every resident in Croydon should be made to fully understand the object of the movement, with a view to obtaining a support which should be worthy of the town. Local amateur dramatic clubs might support the fund by arranging performances for its benefit, and they would all know and appreciate that the actor's profession would be honoured and uplifted when the object had been attained.

The Deputy-Mayor, Ald. H. Keatley-Moore, gave a pleasing and entertaining speech, in his usual gifted manner, and reminded his listeners that not only should Shakespeare be honoured as the foremost dramatist and poet, but that it should not be overlooked that his writings were a steading point in our language, and for that reason alone he would urge Croydon to take its due part in furthering the object of the meeting.

Speeches were also given by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Carter and others present, and resolutions were carried in support of the movement and an executive committee appointed. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and to the Corporation for the use of the hall.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Although the students' concert on Wednesday evening was far too long, several of the vocal items were above the average, and this was particularly the case with Miss Eveline London, who, aided by a voice of fine quality, sang "The Promise of Life" with real artistic feeling, and received no less than three recalls. An organ solo of Bach's prelude and fugue in B minor was well played by Mr. Walter Webber, and Miss Constance Pélissier in her piano solo, Allemande, Gavotte and Musette (D'Albert), proved a clever executant. The second organ solo in this concert, Mendelssohn's Second Sonata, was given by Mr. J. Eric Salter, and Mr. Arthur Hardy may be commended for his singing in the aria "O Lisbona," from Donizetti's *Don Sebastiano*. Mr. Charles Sinden's pleasing voice and good singing were effectively employed in "When shadows gather," while other able vocalists were Miss Bessie Howlett, heard in two songs of Coleridge Taylor, "Oh! what comes over the sea" and "When I am dead, my dearest," and Miss Winifred Miller, in "Softly awakes my heart," from *Samson and Delilah*, an air which certainly deserves a rest from students' concerts, though Miss Miller sang the familiar music artistically. Miss Marjorie Weston (a pupil of Mr. Cairns James) recited "He fell among thieves," "Curly Locks," and "Nini Ninette Ninon" cleverly, and a pupil of Mr. Paul Berton, Mrs. Liddall, gave "The birth of the opal," "Butterflies," and "Seeing things at night." Besides the two recitations, relief was afforded to the many songs by a well-played mandoline solo, "The mocking bird," by Miss Beryl Cremer, and a piano solo of Reinhold's impromptu, in which Mrs. Nellie Polybiank was much applauded.

A PROFESSIONAL matinée will be given of Miss Elizabeth Baker's play, *Chains*, at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday next.

THE matinée to Mr. Edward Russell, which was to have taken place at the Queen's Theatre yesterday afternoon, has been postponed indefinitely.

"A MISSED ENTRANCE."

Unusual questions were raised in an action for wrongful dismissal heard at Salford County Court on Tuesday. The plaintiff was James Durford Geddes, of Billericay, Essex, who sued Harry Armitage and Arthur Leigh, as Armitage and Leigh, touring the drama *With Edged Tools*, for £9, made up of £3 salary due on March 19 last, when he was dismissed at Victoria Theatre, Broughton, and £6 as two weeks' salary in lieu of notice. Alternatively £6 was claimed as damages for wrongful dismissal.

The defence was that plaintiff was justifiably dismissed, the reasons being that he had "missed entrance" twice, that he had failed to travel with the company, and that on one occasion he had a friend in his dressing-room without asking permission, according to an "unwritten rule" of the stage.

Solicitor for the plaintiff said the latter missed one particular "entrance" in which he merely had to open a door and show somebody in. He went through the rest of the performance, and on going to his dressing-room the stage-manager came and complained to him about his not being ready. Then Mr. Armitage came in and abused him, refused to listen to what he had to say, and finished up by saying "You can finish with me to-morrow night for ever."

The defence alleged that the "entrance" missed by plaintiff occurred at a most critical juncture in the play.

The defendant, Mr. Armitage, manager of the company and author of the play, said the situation was that a young lady was playing fast and loose with the affections of two men, and the father of one of them was not satisfied that his son should marry the woman. He discovers that she is pledged to another, and brings two other men from Africa. At the hour when his own son is about to make up his mind about the young lady, the father pushes the man from Africa into the drawing-room into the presence of the young lady and his son. Plaintiff was playing the old man, and it was essential that he should be seen by the audience pushing the man from Africa into the room. It was this "entrance"—the pushing of the man from Africa into the room—that was missed by the plaintiff. He had previously missed the same "entrance" during the tour.

For the plaintiff, Mr. Hamilton Deane said that though it was decidedly a custom for the permission of the stage-manager to be obtained for a friend to visit an actor in the theatre, it was a custom more honoured in the breach than the observance.

The defendant Armitage said that it was the custom that no artist must introduce a stranger behind the scenes without the stage-manager's permission. Even he himself asked this permission from his own stage-manager. On the occasion when plaintiff was dismissed he (Armitage) left his dressing-room open to give plaintiff an opportunity of coming in and offering an apology for "missing entrance." But Geddes walked insolently past, singing and whistling. He (Armitage) then rushed upstairs and abused him.

Mr. Goldsmith, the stage-manager of the company, said that when he spoke to plaintiff about missing his entrance Geddes smiled a cynical smile, which annoyed him.

Deputy-Judge Strachan held that the importance of the occasion in the drama when plaintiff missed entrance, and the fact that he had done so before, justified dismissal, though the other complaints against him would not have done so.

Plaintiff was allowed the week's salary of £3 due to him when dismissed—which had been paid into court—but on the claim for wrongful dismissal judgment was for the defendants with costs.

Before leaving court plaintiff shook hands with Mr. Armitage and the witnesses for the defence.

The solicitor for the plaintiff was Mr. Cobbett, and for the defendants Mr. Walter Chatterton.

[Photo by U.S.A. Studios.

Above is the portrait of Mr. Lawrence Derrick, who cleverly doubled two principal parts in the production of *The Master of the Mill* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, last week. The above sketch represents him as Philip Darton, the broken-down swell, in which he made a conspicuous success.

MR. JOHN GAFFNEY, secretary and manager of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, with which he has been connected since it was erected twenty-two years ago, will on Thursday evening next, take his annual benefit. The event is looked upon as a red-letter night.

THE dramatic season at the Empire Theatre, Swindon, closed last week, after a comprehensive series of attractions, which included such brilliant successes as *A Chinese Honeymoon, Prince and Beggar-maid, Lucky Durham, King of Cadonia, Walls of Jericho, Raffles, The Flag Lieutenant, A White Man, The Arcadians, Gay Gordons*, and *The Merry Widow*. This week an excellent programme has been secured for the opening of the variety season, a reversion to the two-houses-a-night practice being made.

IN connection with the Royal Academy of Music, the Sterndale Bennett Scholarship (for any branch of music) has been awarded to Arthur Alexander, a native of Dunedin, New Zealand (Pianoforte and Composition). The adjudicators were Messrs. T. B. Knott, Joseph Blaha, and F. Corder (chairman). The Thalberg Scholarship (pianoforte) has been awarded to Catherine Muriel Mann, a native of Sheffield. The adjudicators were Messrs. Felix Swinstead, Claude Pollard, and Herbert Lake (chairman). The Charles Rube Prize (ensemble playing) has been awarded to Edwin Quaife, Willie Davies, Phyllis I. Mitchell, and Benno I. Pitt. The adjudicator was Mr. Gerald Walenn.

"THE ROMANCE OF A KING."

A Comedy-Drama, in Three Acts, by John O. Monk, Produced for the First Time on any stage at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 23.

Jack Montague ..... MR. A. B. IMESON
Ludvig ..... MR. ERNEST B. IMESON
Count von Borensdorf ..... MR. W. H. PERETTE
Baron von Wollenstein ..... MR. W. R. WINNING
Captain Brunstadt ..... MR. HARRY J. WOOD
The Raven ..... MR. J. R. DARNLEY
Karl ..... MR. J. D. FOX
Officer ..... MR. JULIAN GALLIER
Baroness von Woollenstein ..... MISS MOIRA CREEGAN
Mlle. Natalie D'Orsay ..... MISS ETHEL MAGUIRE
Princess Sylvia of Moretania ..... MISS LILIAN CHRISTINE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Monk's play, *The Romance of a King*, though in many of its details fresh and entertaining, deals with scenes and circumstances with which we have been familiar for some time. The little German state which has no place on the map, with its Court and its intrigues and picturesque love affairs, has been frequently employed for the romantic value of its setting, and the piece under notice is well up to the average achievement of its kind. The action opens at King Ludvig's hunting lodge in Waldburg, where we learn that the Baroness von Wollenstein has fallen in love with Ludvig, much to the distress and indignation of her husband, who cannot persuade her to give up her infatuation. Ludvig is not an estimable character—he is described by Count von Borensdorf as a tyrant and a scoundrel—and this is all the more reason why the Baron has no compunction in entering into a plot to depose the King. By an odd coincidence, one Jack Montague, a journalist, found prowling round the grounds and arrested as a spy, bears a striking resemblance to Ludvig, and it is proposed to substitute this light-hearted adventurer for the offender, who shall be secretly incarcerated in a lunatic asylum. Montague, seeing entertainment in the idea, though naturally protesting, yields to pressure, and dons the king's raiment after the latter has been cracked on the head by the Baron, who has found him in the act of embracing the Baroness, and so, prompted by the Prime Minister, Von Borensdorf, Montague makes quite an acceptable substitute. He is, in fact, a surprise to his subjects, for he is not the tyrant Ludvig was; his manners at Court are charming, and the people are freed of many oppressive taxes, all of which changes are ascribed to the blow he received upon the head. Still, the state is heavily in debt, and, to change this also, a marriage is arranged between the King and Princess Sylvia of Moretania, whose wealth is great. The latter, however, masquerades as Fraulein Dorothea Romada, visiting Waldburg thus in order to acquaint herself with the real character of Ludvig, about whom she has heard evil reports. When she meets the King, of course, she finds him charming, while on his part he falls in love with her headlong. He determines to marry her at any cost, in spite of the mandate in favour of Princess Sylvia, whose identity he does not for a moment suspect. Enter now the Raven, otherwise known as the Prophet, who finds Montague alone in the Palace grounds, and informs him that the real King of Waldburg is not he who has so long occupied the throne, but one who was kidnapped when a child. The resemblance between the two was great, but the true King may be known by the mark of a cross on his right forearm. One is not surprised to hear that Montague has such a mark upon him, and when the Raven offers to give up some written proofs of his statement in return for certain privileges, the former, with no more ado, shoots the fellow in the hand and takes the papers from him. The Raven, who is a revolutionary, goes away threatening death to the King. Montague, assured that he is the King indeed, still clings to the idea of marrying Dorothea, though he sacrifice his kingdom for her, and there is a scene when he refuses to sign the marriage contract that should bind him to the Princess Sylvia. Afterwards, while on parade, a bomb is thrown, presumably by the revolutionists, but he is unharmed. Now, also, it is found that Ludvig has escaped from the asylum, and while on the scene he is recognised by the Baroness von Wollenstein; but complications are averted by further bomb-throwing, by which the guilty couple are killed. Montague's disclosure of his secret serves to reconcile him to the Prime Minster; but now Fraulein Dorothea is in trouble, for she is thought to be implicated in the bomb outrage, and is in imminent danger of the people. She clears herself, however, by confessing her identity, and so the whole matter comes to a happy end.

There is little or no fault to be found with the writing and construction of the play. The characters are distinct and well varied, and the dialogue is interspersed with light and relevant humour, while the staging generally was excellent. Jack Montague was capitally impersonated by Mr. A. B. Imeson, who made the most of his opportunities in the way of humorous relief, as well as in the serious passages; and a charming depiction of the dual rôle of Dorothea and the Princess was given by Miss Lilian Christine. As the Count von Borensdorf, the Prime Minister, Mr. W. H. Perette was light, strong, and in every way effective; Mr. W. R. Winning well brought out the passionate and jealous nature of the Baron; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson portrayed the deposed King of Warzburg in equally excellent fashion; and all requirements of the part of the Baroness were ably supplied by Miss Moira Creegan; while other commendable impersonations were added by Mr. J. R. Darnley as the Raven, Mr. Harry J. Wood as Captain Brunstadt, Mr. J. D. Fox as Karl (the servant at the hunting lodge), Mr. Julian Gallier as an officer, and Miss Ethel Maguire as Mlle. Natalie D'Orsay. There was not a dull moment from first to last, and Mr. Monk's play should enjoy a lengthy career.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

HASTINGS INDOOR PAGEANT.

The distinction of being the first town in England to produce a pageant within the walls of its local theatre belongs to Hastings. Hitherto one of the principal objections to be taken to pageants has been that the cost of production in many instances has been so far in excess of all possible receipts that at the end the town his found itself saddled with a heavy debt instead of a surplus, with the additional disadvantage that all available charitable resources have been exhausted for some time to come. But this fault cannot be found with the Hastings Historical Pageant, produced at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of last week.

Not only has it widened the sphere of the theatre's operations by attracting to it hundreds of people who have never entered a theatre before, but it has given employment to musicians, scenic artists, printers, costumiers, wig-makers, &c. It has brought large numbers of visitors into the town, and last, but not least, has been the means of handing over to the cause for which it was organised close on £150. The organisers of this most recent and successful of pageants are to be congratulated on their stage-manager, Mr. Orlando Barnett, whose selection was justified by his former successes in the neighbourhood, as we may safely attribute the maximum of artistic success, combined with the minimum of expenditure in the case entirely to his energy and experience.

He and his capable band of fellow-workers may be credited with having brought the Hastings Pageant to a most successful issue, and let us hope that other towns with historical associations of their own will not be long in following the example of the "Premier Cinque Port."

"A FEMALE DETECTIVE."

A Melodrama in Four Acts, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 30.

Colonel Heathcote ..... MR. T. B. BRISBOUR
Tom Heathcote, V.C. ..... MR. FRED T. SEYMOUR
Basil Vane ..... MR. GEORGE ARTHUR
Tubby Philpotts ..... MR. H. STANLEY
Reggie Lamb ..... MR. EDWIN CLARKE
John Good ..... MR. FRED WILBERFORCE
Nathaniel Leech ..... MR. T. ARTHUR PLUMMER
Silas Blott ..... MR. EVAN ROLAND
Ned Jolliboy ..... MR. HARRY LOATES
Amos Gadfly ..... MR. STANLEY ALDERSON
"Daddy" Dodman ..... MR. GEORGE JACQUES
Inspector Jarvis ..... MR. ERNEST GRIFFITHS
P.C. Doyle ..... MR. FRED STEPHENS
Simon Lobb ..... MR. HENRY McSHAVY
Felix Hogg ..... MR. MIKE LINE
Dick ..... LITTLE DORA OLGA
Emma Toogood ..... MISS KATE KILPACK
Anastasia Honeybun ..... MISS IDA FANE
Molly Bibbs ..... MISS HILDA MILLER
Peggy Green ..... MISS MAY ALDERSON
Nellie Danvers ..... MISS C. LINDA
Myra Mayne ..... MISS VIOLET CRAUFURD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Horace Stanley's latest venture has at least an attractive title, though one may be disappointed in expecting anything startling in the way of criminal elucidation after the manner of certain well-known models. It is rather a story of pure melodrama, in which the detective element plays a secondary part. Unfortunately one cannot say that the element in question quite justifies its title; but, apart from this objection, it may freely be said that the play has all the elements of success along the usual lines, which are exploited with skill and interest.

At "The Hawthorns," Colonel Heathcote's home, the Colonel's son Tom, a V.C. hero, is momentarily expected to arrive. Here are Nellie Danvers, the Colonel's ward, and Basil Vane, his stepson, who desires Nellie for himself, is heavily in debt, and designs to ruin Tom, if possible, in the eyes of his father, so that he may secure the Colonel's confidence and fortune for himself. Basil, in fact, is the villain of the piece, and it is not surprising to learn that the Colonel's housekeeper, Myra Mayne, is his cast-off mistress, who has had a child by him; from which circumstance much of the initial incident is evolved. It is the Colonel's intention to give to Nellie the family diamonds as a wedding presnt; but Basil persuades Myra to get possession of the keys of the safe for him, promising in return that he will give her the privilege of seeing her child again. His need of money does not, however, prevent him from carrying out a plan to get his half-brother Tom into disgrace; for, on the latter's return, he slips the stolen jewels into the pocket of the young soldier's overcoat, so that when the search comes to be made for them, Tom, who undertakes to find the thief, is apparently the delinquent. It is somewhat of a weakness that the Colonel too easily believes in the guilt of his son, especially as jewels are found also on Basil, the chief accuser; but for the purpose of the play it is enough that the father repudiates Tom and casts him out, avowing that henceforth he has no son. Basil thereafter develops into a forger, coiner, and thief, unknown to the Heathcote society, in which he thinks he may prosecute his suit for Nellie quite freely, because Myra Mayne has been rumoured drowned. On this latter point, however, he is mistaken; for Myra now is the female detective known as Leslie Dare, and is bent upon accomplishing the downfall of Basil Vane, for whom her love has turned to hate.

The Colonel meanwhile has repented of his harsh treatment of Tom, and desires to be reconciled. Basil affects to sympathise with this object, but, being in touch with Tom, assures the latter that his father is more embittered than ever against him, and so tends to keep them apart. Tom, in fact, is in Basil's power, and has yielded to the influence of drink. At this time also the Colonel, whose will is in favour of his stepson, is minded to revert it to the advantage of his son. This Basil determines to prevent, and so he murders the Colonel. Myra and Nellie are witnesses of the act, but Basil strikes Nellie down, with the result that she loses her memory of the event, and only Myra is left, by what means she may, to bring the crime home to her rascally betrayer. To this end she gets Nathaniel Leech, a mad doctor, to photograph the pupil of the dead man's eye, on the assumption that this will have retained the vision of the man who did the deed. That the face of Basil Vane is there is something gained, corroborating the popular fancy on this mysterious point.

At the inquest Basil throws the crime upon Tom, who was about the place at the time of the murder, and on circumstantial evidence Tom is handcuffed in custody. The sight of him thus, however, brings back to Nellie Danvers her memory, and she at once denounces Vane. Myra and the doctor now produce the photographic plate, and, seeing that he is cornered, Basil draws a revolver and fires at Myra. Myra's son, Dick, befriended from the gutter, is present, and it is he who receives the bullet, his identity being recognised on Vane crying out in his excitement, "I have shot my own child!" A pathetic death scene ensues, which encourages Myra, thus losing her long-lost child, more than ever to encompass the destruction of her faithless lover. Through her efforts Basil Vane is at last taken in a coiner's den, and the usual adjustments of virtue triumphant over vice bring about a happy ending.

An appealing depiction of Tom Heathcote was given by Mr. Fred T. Seymour, who realised all the heroic possibilities of the part, and his efforts in this direction were well matched by Miss C. Linda as Nellie Danvers. As Myra Mayne, the title-part, considerable skill was shown by Miss Violet Craufurd; and Mr. George Arthur's delineation of the villainous Basil Vane was full of vigour. A nice piece of work was the impersonation of Dick by little Dora Olga; while in lighter rôles Mr. Horace Stanley was capital as Tubby Philpotts, and Miss Kate Kilpack made an amusing Emma Toogood; these being supplemented by Mr. Edwin Clark as Reggie Lamb and Miss Ida Fane as Anastasia Honeybun, both agreeable character parts. All the remaining parts were correspondingly well handled, and the play gave satisfaction to a large audience.

A VERY large and fashionable audience at Covent Garden on Monday night welcomed Mme. Melba back to London, and well-known people were to be seen on all sides. Louise Duchess of Devonshire was in a box on the front tier with Lady Mary Ward. Just below, in the stalls, sat the Duchess of Beaufort and Lady Edith Villiers. The Duchess of Rutland and one of her daughters also occupied stalls, as did the Marchioness of Cholmondeley with friends. Lady Blanche Conyngham was accompanied by Mr. and Mme. Vagliano, and the Countess of Kilmorey was with Mrs. Hall Walker in a stage box. Mr. and Lady Gwendoline Spencer-Churchill were present; Sir Philip and Lady Grey-Egerton were in the first tier of boxes; and Lady Maud Warrender and Lady Speyer were together. Others of interest in a crowded house were Lord and Lady Brassey, the Countess of Craven with her father, Mr. Bradley Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Maldwyn Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Oppenheim, Baron Max de Tuyll, the Earl and Countess of Ilchester, Mrs. Charles van Raalte and her daughter, Colonel and Mrs. William Naper with Miss Trefusis, Lady Sarah Wilson, Lady Alington, Lady Newborough, Lord Cecil Manners, the Right Hon. Arnold Morley, Mr. Frank Muriella, the Hon. Bernard Yorke, and Colonel John Leslie.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, who appeared with so much success at the Criterion Theatre on Wednesday in *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, will return to America at Christmas, previously appearing at the New Theatre in a new play adapted from M. Favre's *Les Vainqueurs*. The leading part, that of an ambitious young parliamentary barrister, who rises in political life till he has won the position of Chancellor of the Exchequer, and who falls from his high estate through his son, will be sustained by Sir Charles, who has also secured a comedy by Mr. Walter Ellis called *The Duke and the Demi-God*, the deity in question being an American millionaire. Sir Charles, when he returns to America, will take over a company entirely English, and will appear in a round of his most successful plays. After *The Case of Rebellious Susan* at the Criterion, he will give himself a rest before presenting the version of *Les Vainqueurs* at the New.

MR. EDWARD TERRY'S annual autumn tour will commence on July 28 at the Theatre Royal, Margate. *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* (by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman) has been added to Mr. Terry's already extensive repertoire, and amongst the artists engaged is Mr. Robert Pateman.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE has commissioned Mr. Austin Strong to prepare, under the title of *Rip*, a new version of Washington Irving's "Rip Van Winkle," and will put it on at the Playhouse at the conclusion of the run of *Tantalising Tommy*, which we are glad to see has already exceeded its hundredth performance. Amongst previous adaptations of the novel is the version in which Joseph Jefferson appeared at the Adelphi, under the management of Benjamin Webster, in 1865, and those used by Sir Herbert Tree, the late Fred Leslie, and Mr. Fred Storey. Mr. Cyril Maude's reading of the rôle of Rip will be a most interesting one, and, like all Mr. Maude does, thoroughly artistic.

MISS WINIFRED EMERY will go on tour in the autumn with Mr. William Devereux's successful play *Sir Walter Ralegh*. Miss Emery will repeat her immensely successful representation of Queen Elizabeth, and Mr. Lyn Harding will enact Sir Walter Ralegh. Scenery and dresses will be new, and the dramatic and patriotic piece will surely be received with delight in the provinces.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, Miss Gertrude Elliott (Mrs. Forbes Robertson), and Miss Irene Vanbrugh (Mrs. Dion Boucicault) have joined the Women's Aerial League. Mrs. Watt Smyth is the hon. secretary of the League, and the offices are at 227, Strand.

THE first Mozart Festival to be given in any country outside Germany will open at His Majesty's on June 20. The opening night will be devoted to the Eastern opera *Il Seraglio*, in which the principal soprano part will be taken by a famous soprano from the Grand Opera, Paris. A specially designed new *mise-en-scène* and entirely new costumes will make the performance among the most brilliant ever given. *Le Nozze di Figaro*, with "Cosi fan tutte," the nearest approach to comic opera that Mozart has written, will be included in the répertoire.

IT is now generally conceded that Mozart did not write his operas with a view to their being presented upon immense stages and before vast multitudes. He knew the conditions under which his works were to be produced, and he fitted his conceptions in proportion to his surroundings. At His Majesty's the Mozartian conditions are about to be realised as far as is humanly possible. The intimacy which Mozart's music conveys to us is not in future to be obliterated by great gulfs fixed between the stage and the auditorium—only the orchestra will intervene.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN and Mr. Arthur Bourchier have decided to call Mr. Kenneth Barnes's adaptation of Paul Hervieu's *Connais-Toi*, which will be played at the Globe on Monday, *Glass Houses*, and to put on in front of it a one-act piece dealing with life in "mean streets," by Arthur Eckersley and Arthur Curtis, entitled *The Trap*. Mr. James Lindsay, Mr. William Burchill, Miss Daisy Markham, and Miss May Holland will be in the cast of the "curtain-raiser."

The Girl in the Train, the new musical play adapted by Victor Leon from the Viennese success *Die Geschiedene Frau*, which Mr. George Edwardes will produce at the Vaudeville Theatre this evening, is described as a merry farce set to music. The score, by Leo Fall, is full of vivacity, and the story, which turns on the loan of a reserved compartment in a sleeping carriage to a young lady by a respectable married man, and the resulting jealousy of his wife, is of the most diverting description. The cast includes Miss Clara Evelyn, Miss Katie Welsh, Miss Madeline Seymour, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Percy Davison, Mr. Alec. Fraser, Mr. Paul Plunket, and Mr. Huntley Wright.

IN another column will be found the report of a case concerning stage plays at the Albert Hall, in the course of which the magistrate put the following question to Mr. T. A. D'Arcy Chilvers, the London County Council solicitor: "What is an operetta? Is not that a theatrical form?" and received the answer, "I think not, sir." We beg most distinctly to differ. On a reference to the dictionary Mr. Chilvers will find that an operetta is "a short opera or musical drama of light character."

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Monday, where the F. R. Benson Shakespearean company is performing, a good laugh was raised at the expense of Halley's comet by Mr. Henry Herbert, who was playing Petruchio to Miss Gladys Vanderzee's Katherine. Pet.: I say it is the moon. Kath.: I know it is. Pet.: Nay, then, you lie; it is the comet.

A SUMMER festival will be held at Stratford-on-Avon from July 25 to August 13. Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their Shakspearean Company will present several plays of Shakespeare, several being given in the open air. The postponed production of the prize play *The Piper*, by Josephine Preston Peabody, will take place on July 28. Miss Marion Terry has been engaged for the part of Veronika. The festival programme will also include concerts arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mallinson, of Dresden, morris dances, country dances, folk songs, and old English games.

AFTER several years of endeavour, Mr. Klaw, of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, has at last succeeded, by a very tempting offer, in inducing Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, and their company, with the entire productions of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Henry of Navarre*, to pay a flying visit to America for eight weeks. They will sail on Oct. 8 from Tilbury, opening at the New Amsterdam Theatre on Oct. 24, where they will play *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Henry of Navarre* for six weeks, and then visit Philadelphia and Boston for one week each, returning to London in time to open their usual spring season at the New Theatre.

SIR HERBERT TREE, whose appearance in *The O'Flynn* in Dublin has been a great success, will, *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's. Mr. Arthur Bourchier will appear as the King, Miss Violet Vanbrugh will play Queen Katharine, Mr. A. E. George will be the Cranmer, and Mr. Henry Ainley will enact the Duke of Buckingham. Sir Herbert Tree will play Wolsey, a part in which Macready appeared at Covent Garden on Jan. 15, 1823, the character of the Cardinal being undertaken by the late Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum on Jan. 5, 1892. It ran for two hundred and three performances, the receipts being over sixty-six thousand pounds. Sir Henry's production was elaborate, but Sir Herbert's at His Majesty's is pretty certain to exceed it in the matter of spectacle. As a contrast to these heavy responsibilities, Sir Herbert is collaborating with Mr. Alfred Noyes in a children's play for Christmas, to be called *The Forest of Wild Thyme*.

To an interviewer of the *Southport Chronicle* Sir Herbert Tree has confided the fact that he is an enthusiastic convert to the idea of a cheap theatre. "There is too much that is dull, drab, and unattractive in the theatres themselves," said the eminent actor. "The lights are too low, and the prices are too high. The variety theatre managements have come along with their big, splendid theatre, their comfortable seats, their richly carpeted floors, their wonderfully cheap admission, and their quick entertainment, to say nothing of their smoking. Is it any wonder that the theatre proper has felt the competition?. It would have been a wonder had they not done so."

MR. LEWIS WALLER, when his season at the Lyric is concluded, will go to New York, where he will make his first appearance in September at the New Amsterdam Theatre in *Henry V.* Mr. Waller will also take with him a selection of plays from his repertory.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton, who have been achieving social and artistic triumph in Australia, commence their season at the New Theatre in October.

MR. E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS is anxious to give in Manchester during the week of July 4 a series of plays out of doors. The great difficulty, however, is to find a suitable place in a sufficiently central position. Should any of our readers be generous enough to place their grounds at his disposal for this purpose, he would be happy to pay a percentage of the gross receipts to any charity that might be named, without involving the owner in any monetary risk.

THE Stage Society's latest selection is a comedy, in four acts, by Ashley Dukes, entitled *Civil War*, which will be produced at the Aldwych to-morrow (Sunday) evening and on Monday afternoon. The cast will comprise Miss Annie Hill, Mr. Frederic Sargent, Mr. James Hearn, Mr. E. Cresfan, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Philip Knox, Mr. Athol Stewart, Miss Frances Wetherall, Miss Penelope Wheeler, and Miss Mabel Knowles. The play introduces a Communist Colony, and the action is laid at the present day. Mr. Dukes, it may be added, is the critic of the *New Age*.

MANY is the good yarn told of Karl Goldmark by himself as well as by his friends. For example, a lady whom he met in society was unable to make up her mind exactly as to who Goldmark was. On being told that he was "the composer of 'The Queen of Sheba,'" she promptly retorted that that must be a very lucrative post!

MR. JUAN BUONAPARTE, who traces his ancestry to the great Napoleon, is this week at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, in the title-rôle of *The Man of Fate*. Mr. Buonaparte shows that he is the great grandson from Napoleon the First and the Countess Olga Strelewski. He was brought up and educated in Belgium, and gained honours in the art of music. Later he went on to the operatic stage. Curiously enough, Mr. Buonaparte's leading lady in the production is Miss Ella Erskine, daughter of a British general, and descendant of Lord Erskine.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN'S plans, when he made his original announcement of his Repertory Theatre scheme a year ago, were to give a season at the Duke of York's Theatre and to run it on into the summer. He will keep that promise, and resume the season, after an interval, next February. The receipts of the Repertory Theatre so far have been fully equal to Mr. Frohman's expectations.

THE long-expected Irving Memorial, which is to be erected in Charing Cross-road, on a site almost facing the Garrick Theatre, is to be unveiled this month by Sir John Hare. Mr. Thomas Brock, R.A., was to have finished the work by December, 1909, but commissions for statues are rarely carried out "to time."

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S new play, in three acts, entitled *The Speckled Band: An Adventure of Sherlock Holmes*, which will be produced at the Adelphi this evening, has a cast including Mr. Lyn Harding, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. A. S. Homewood, Mr. Wilton Ross, Mr. Arthur Burne, Mr. C. Later, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Mr. J. J. Bartlett, Mr. Frank Ridley, Mr. Geoffrey Hill, Mr. George Laundy, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Mr. Claude King, Master Cecil F. Lowrie, Mr. A. G. Craig, Miss Gwendoline Floyd, Mr. A. Corney Grain, and Mr. Frank Ridley. Much interest will attach to the means by which the reptile will be represented, whether by a trained dive snake or by a mechanical imitation. In the latter case we are sure that the result will not resemble that created by the elaborately-contrived asp once used by a certain very inferior French actress as Cleopatra. The snake was made to hiss loudly, and a witty spectator remarked, "I agree with the asp."

MR. LEO TREVOR'S "new and entrancing melodrama of real life," *The Pick of Oakham; or, The Girl with the Bad Habit*, which is to be produced at "The National Memorial Theatre" in the Botanic Gardens at the Theatrical Garden Party, on behalf of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, is subtitled "a tale of the Shiers." In a cricket match on the same occasion Mr. Charles Hawtrey, at the head of one eleven, will play another led by Miss Vane Featherston. Other artists who will join in the game are Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who is an excellent bat, Mr. James Welch, who will be long-stop, and Mr. Lyn Harding, who will keep wicket.

IT will be again a great day at the Botanic Gardens, and the co-operation of all branches of the profession having been secured, "the Grand Order of Water-Rats" will run a music-hall. Thirty actresses will distribute ice-creams in a crowded tent, under the hospitable supervision of Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Evelyn Millard, and Mrs. A. E. Mangles. In the shooting-gallery Miss Gabrielle Ray will challenge anybody—who happens to be there at the time. One pretty item of the programme will be the sale (by auction) of a beautiful doll which Miss Irene Vanbrugh has dressed in exact imitation of her own costume in *Trelawny of the Wells*.

"HONOUR IS SATISFIED," a play in one act, by Charles Eddy, was produced for copyright purposes at the Shaftesbury on June 2.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, who has received such a hearty welcome back to his old home, announces that a second matinée will be given at the Lyceum Theatre each week, commencing Saturday next, June 11. *Richard III.* has been remarkably well received by Lyceum audiences throughout the week, and the length of the queues and the state of the advance booking indicate that a long run awaits the revival. It is interesting to learn that the red gloves worn by Mr. Harvey as Richard belonged to the late Sir Henry Irving, who used them as Richelieu.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S speech at his revival of *Richard III.* at the Lyceum on Saturday was as follows:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—You will believe that at this moment I do not know how to thank you, even with the small amount of breath I have left, for the magnificent welcome you have given to us. Miss De Silva and all my fellow-workers here to-night would like to thank you, but they cannot all talk at once, so I will do my best to thank you for them. We owe you a debt of gratitude for the splendid encouragement you have given us. Our production to-night would have been impossible had it not been for the loyal co-operation of everyone in this theatre, particularly amongst so many who have endeared themselves to their audiences here in past productions. I thank you again for the affectionate way in which you have greeted us. For myself, my heart is too full to speak—full of gratitude for your cheers and encouragement, and full of remembrances of many years that I passed within these walls, learning what little I know of my work under the splendid spur of the greatest personality which our stage history knows. I cannot say more than to express again my very deep gratitude for the way in which you have received us, and wish you all an affectionate good-night."

MR. H. B. IRVING, at the end of the performance of *Robert Macaire* on Saturday last, in answer to demands for a speech, said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, I can only thank you most heartily for the way in which you have received the two plays to-night. I am sure you are grateful as I am to my friend, Mr. Alexander, for having enabled me to introduce to you *Judge Not*, which I hope you found the interesting part of the play. I also thank you for the way you received *Robert Macaire*. I assure you such a piece is entirely dependent upon how you receive it. Both Mr. Reynolds and myself are very grateful to you."

SLANDEROUS statements against the stage took a new form at the recent purity meeting at the Church Institute, Newcastle, when Canon Southwell is reported to have made some very serious allegations against the theatres and music halls of the city, alleging that many acts of impropriety took place in theatres, &c., during the semi-darkness incidental to the performances. This speech has raised a great outcry amongst the Newcastle public, many letters of protest being published in the local Press.

THE managers of the local theatres held a meeting at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, to consider the position. Amongst those present were Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, of the Tyne Theatre; Mr. F. Teale Lingham, Theatre Royal; Mr. F. W. Bolam, Grand, Metropole, and Queen's Theatres; Mr. R. C. Elder, Grand Theatre; Mr. Todd, Pavilion Theatre; Mr. J. Clark, Palace Theatre; and Mr. Lindon Travers, Olympia. The position of the theatres and their managers, as affected by Canon Southwell's statements, was discussed at some length by the meeting, and it was decided finally to postpone any further action until Canon Southwell made his reply public. The matter was also discussed at the meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association on Thursday, a report of which appears in another column.

DR. W. H. CUMMINGS, the principal of the Guildhall School of Music, who will soon be seventy-nine, has, we are sorry to hear, been unwell for some time past, and has been granted a leave of absence of three months by the City Corporation.

MR. CLAUDE VERNON and Miss Sinna St. Clair sailed on Friday last per s.s. Orsova for Australia, to fulfil their engagement with Mr. Gaston Mayer. Mr. Vernon will produce and manage *The Brass Bottle*, in Australia, and Miss St. Clair will personify the rôle of Mrs. Rapkin. Mr. Vernon and Miss St. Clair desire us to thank all friends for their many letters and good wishes.

THE cast of *The Winter's Tale*, which will be read by the British Empire Shakespeare Society on Monday afternoon next at the Imperial Institute, will include Mr. William Devereux as Leontes, Mr. Acton Bond as Autolycus, Mr. Franklin Dyall as Polixenes, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn as Antigonus, Mr. George Silver as Camillo, Mr. Maurice Elvey as Florizel, Mr. J. Edwyn Holloway as Shepherd, Mr. J. Henry Twyford as Clown, Mr. Walter Armstrong as Archidamus, Miss Gertrude Scott as Paulina, Miss Rita Tomkins as Mopsa, Miss Marjorie Hopcraft as Dorcas, Miss Gwladys Morris as Emilia, Miss Eve Tame as Time, Miss Dorothy Lemarchand as Mamillius, and Miss Frances Dillon as Hermione and Perdita.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made by Mr. Edwin T. Heys, business-manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, for a summer tour of Bernard Shaw's play *Candida*, opening at the Opera House, Buxton, on June 30. The company includes the young Irish actress, Miss Maire O'Neill, who is appearing with the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, company at the Court this week; Miss Muriel Pratt, Messrs. Ian Maclaren, Frank Darch, Francis Hope, Leonard Mudie, and Esme Percy, all members of Miss Horniman's company.

MISS GWLADYS WYNNE was married to Mr. Milton Sills, an American actor, on May 26, at the Royal Chapel of the Savoy. Miss Wynne was recently seen in London at the Adelphi as Mary in *The Servant in the House*, her success in which earned her well-deserved recognition. Mr. Sills has just ended a season under David Belasco as leading man for Miss Blanche Bates. During the coming season he will occupy a similar position with Miss Grace George in the United States.

MR. WILLIAM ROSE, F.R.C.S., who has just died in his sixty-third year, was a consulting surgeon to King's College Hospital, the Royal Free Hospital, the London, Brighton, and Great Eastern Railway Companies, and senior surgeon to the Actors' Association. He wrote largely on various surgical subjects.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH'S *Blue Bird* tour will commence at Leeds on Sept. 7. The company and the mounting down to the smallest details will be the same as those used at the Haymarket, so that the provinces will enjoy a great artistic treat.

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE, the director and producer for the répertoire season of Robertson comedies, which starts at the Coronet Theatre on Monday, has engaged Mr. Thomas Sidney and Mr. Montague Wigan for the stage-management of these productions. The engagement of Mr. Wigan is particularly interesting, as he is a descendant of the well-known actors Alfred and Horace Wigan, the former of whom appeared in many of Robertson's plays, notably as Rudolf Harthal in *Dreams*. At one time Alfred was lessee and manager of the St. James's Theatre, where he produced *A Scrap of Paper* in 1860. Mr. Montague Wigan, who was for some time assistant stage-manager to Mr. George Alexander at the St. James', graduated with Mr. F. R. Benson, and as recently as April last stage-managed Mr. Martin Harvey's production of *Richard III.* at Dublin.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN is making arrangements to run another season of pastoral plays in July. Mr. Norman has made a speciality of this class of production, and gives plays that are not generally seen in pastoral productions.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who on Monday, with Miss Beatrice Wilson, started a repertory season at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, says: "The greatest difficulty in the way of the successful carrying through of projects of this kind is the authors. They discourse at length on the decline of British drama. In after-dinner speeches they utter jeremiads against the people whose palate is only for musical comedy. When, however, we wish to present some of those masterpieces to the public we find the greatest difficulty in doing so, because those authors are the very people who stand out for their pound of flesh.

"They say," Mr. Norman continued, "that the public are not appreciative, and yet they demand exorbitant and heavy royalties. My candid opinion is that they do not care what plays are produced as long as they receive their royalties. It is easy enough when one takes one play on tour, but if one establishes a 'season,' and desires to produce half a dozen or so plays, the expense very often borders on the prohibitive."

Mr. Norman is a West of England man, and well known to an earlier generation of sportsmen. He has played both Rugby football and cricket for Gloucester, his native country. He is at present one of the very few actors entitled to wear both the M.C.C. and I Zingari colours. He is an official of the Southern Counties Hockey Association, has umpired in international hockey matches, and is at present vice-president to nine hockey clubs and eight cricket clubs.

MR. MARCUS D. DRAPER, who for the past year has been playing Mr George Alexander's part of Oscar Stephensson in *The Prodigal Son*, under Mr. Wentworth Croke's management, has secured from that gentleman a lease of Mr. Hall Caine's popular play *The Christian*, and will take it on a long tour, commencing in July. The bookings already extend well into next spring, and he is rapidly filling up his autumn dates.

As Mr. Draper is drawing on Mr. Croke's artists for his cast wherever possible, and Mr. Croke has kindly consented to set the seal of his approval upon the company, there should be no doubt as to the qualifications of the artists. For the part of Glory Quayle the services of Miss Gladys Purnell, who played the part with conspicuous success in Mr. Croke's principal company last year, have been secured. Mr. Draper will, of course, himself play John Storm. Mr. William Collard will be the business manager. An entirely new and elaborate scenic production is being painted for the tour.

We regret to hear that Mr. G. P. Huntley, who has made such a hit in New York as Eccles in *Caste*, is suffering from a serious attack of typhoid fever.

MISS LOUIE ADAIR will create the leading part in the production of the new play, *It's Always the Woman*, by Riada, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on June 20.

MISS LILA FIELD will give at the Queen's Theatre on Tuesday a matinée of *The Lily Queen*, a new fairy play in two scenes, written by herself, and performed by Miss Field's "wonder-children."

THE Music Committee of the Corporation of London have kindly lent the Guildhall School of Music theatre on the 27th, 28th, and 29th inst. for three performances for charitable objects of *Give Heed*, a modern morality play by Miss Blanche Vulliamy, which has been previously seen at the school and at the Court Theatre. The piece will be performed by pupils of Miss Kate Rorke and Mr. Bassett Roe.

MISS A. E. F. HORNIMAN, who has done so much for the "advance" drama at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, has had the degree of M.A. conferred upon her by Manchester University, an honour which was thoroughly well deserved.

MISS MARGARET MORRIS, a new and clever dancer, now takes the part of Water in *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket, and greatly distinguishes herself in the mimic combat between that element and Fire in the first act of the artistic play.

A SILVER match-box will be given by Mr. Wentworth Croke for the best bulldog exhibited by an actor in the theatrical class at the annual Championship Show of the Ladies' Kennel Association, to be held at the Royal Botanical Gardens on Thursday and Friday next.

THE Theatre Royal, Torquay, closed last week for a short vacation. It will be reopened on June 13 for a stock season, which is being arranged by Mr. Frank Weathersby. This is the first time the theatre company have opened during the summer months, and the result of the venture will be watched with interest.

BY kind permission of Mrs. Godfrey Baring a meeting to inaugurate the work of the Kensington Committee of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre will be held at 195, Queen's-gate, on Tuesday afternoon next at 3.30. Sir John Hare will preside, and an address will be given by Mr. J. Forbes Robertson. Invitation cards can be had on application to the secretary, Whitehall House, Charing Cross, S.W.

MISS ALMA GRIFFITHS, who has been so successful on the musical comedy stage in this country and in South Africa, has sailed for Cape Town, where she will be married on June 16 to Mr. Douglas Christopherson, joint manager of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa (Limited) and one of the leading residents in Johannesburg. Miss Griffiths will be married from Groote Schuur, the beautiful house built by the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes, and now occupied by Dr. Jameson, ex-Premier of Cape Colony.

THE Misquith Hall, Madras, is being entirely rebuilt. The site upon which stand the premises of Misquith and Co., Ltd., whose name in the East is as well known as that of Collard and Collard or Broadwood in the West, will soon be occupied by one of the finest, best-equipped, and most up-to-date theatres in Southern India, and with stage accommodation for first-class dramatic, vaudeville, and concert touring companies. The entire building, stage, and auditorium will be lit by electricity throughout and cooled by large electric fans. The installation is being carried out by Messrs. Osler and Co., of Calcutta and Madras, who are responsible for the lighting of the Grand Opera House, Calcutta. The seating, consisting principally of superior tip-up chairs, is contracted for by Messrs. Lazarus and Son, E.C. The building and stage construction are in capable hands, and are being carried out under the personal supervision of Mr. Harry Shewan, who, when everything is completed, will assume the management of the New Lyric Theatre, as it has been proposed to call this new temple of the drama in the East. *En passant*, it may be mentioned that the platform of the old Misquith Hall has been graced by Mme. Albani, Mme. Alice Gomez, the Westminster Glee Singers, and others.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE, Mr. Milton Bode, and Mr. Edward Compton, who have secured the Garrick Theatre from Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. Herbert Sleath from June 22 till next Christmas, have arranged with Mr. Weedon Grossmith to present on the 22nd inst. the new farce in three acts called *Billy's Bargain*, written by a well-known actor-manager, who veils his identity under the name of "Robert Lascelles." The part of the plucky little hero of the play will be sustained by Mr. Weedon Grossmith; and Miss Fortescue, whose rare appearances in London are always looked forward to with pleasure, has been engaged for the leading female part.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE has bought the provincial rights in Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's play, *The Dawn of a To-Morrow*, which was recently produced with such excellent results at the Garrick, subsequent to a very successful trial at Liverpool, whose verdict is certain to be endorsed by other leading provincial towns, Mr. Croke has also secured from Mr. Hall Caine the entire rights for South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania of his new and powerful drama *The Bishop's Son*, which Mr. Croke, in association with Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton will produce this autumn at the Garrick Theatre.

THE Scottish Playgoers will produce at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday a new play by J. J. Bell, entitled *Oh, Christina!* The cast will include Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Lola Duncan, Miss Margaret Nybloc, Miss Agnes Bartholomew, Miss Blanche Pearl, Mr. Campbell Gullan, Mr. George Tawde, Mr. Walter Roy, and Mr. Norman McKeown.

THE rest of the late Sir Thomas Phillips's library, which will be sold by auction on June 6 and four following days, at Sotheby's, includes an original deed on vellum, with the autograph signature of David Garrick, Charles II.'s Original Book of Exchequer Accounts for the years 1662-70, containing notes of various payments to Mr. Thomas Killigrew for "buildinge in the Bowlinge Green" at Whitehall, and the original MSS. of two burlesque satirical plays written by Girolama Barnfaldi, a humorist of the eighteenth century.

EXCELLENT business is being done this week at the New Theatre, Cardiff, with Mr. C. W. Standing's *Marriage of Kitty* company, and the charming comedy has met with a flattering reception. The cast includes Miss Winifred Pearson in her old part of Helen de Semiano and Mr. C. W. Standing as Sir Reginald Belsize.

MR. ALFRED MALLIN, who recently concluded his engagement with Messrs. Bode and Hart's *Les Cloches de Corneville* company, has been engaged by Mr. Alex Maclean as his business manager, ahead of the tour of *My Lady Bellamy*.

THE Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, will reopen August Bank Holiday, under the management of Mr. Stanley Rogers. During the recess the theatre will be entirely redecorated and partially re-seated. It is Mr. Rogers's intention to run the theatre on high-class lines.

MISS CLAIRE TOWNSHEND, who played Jane with success in Messrs. Lestocq and Nicholls' farce of that name, for General Productions, Ltd., at Morecambe last week, has been retained to sustain the same part at New Brighton, and other leading parts in their further productions, including *Are You a Mason?* Miss Townshend will also give, as a prelude to the piece of the evening, her charming musical entertainment, entitled "Satires on To-day," which was so favourably received at Mr. William Peacock's theatres in Harrogate and Scarborough.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE has arranged with Mr. Fred Terry to play *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Sept. 12, before leaving for America.

MR. THOMAS HARDY, several of whose novels have been dramatised, and who is the author of the colossal drama *The Dynasts*, reached his 70th birthday on Thursday. Mr. Hardy, we are glad to hear, is in pretty good health.

MR. ARTHUR RODNEY concludes to-night a most successful and pleasant engagement with Mr. Leigh Lovel's Ibsen répertoire company, and he is much gratified to find that the favourable criticism on his original performance of Ulfheim in Ibsen's last, *When We Dead Awaken*, in Brighton last autumn, has been endorsed by the leading critics in Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, and many other important towns besides.

AT the annual meeting of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, held at the Grand Hotel on the 26th ult., the report, to which we have already referred in this column, was passed. In moving its adoption, Mr. Harry Lewis, who presided, said that the financial position of the company was some £4,000 better than last year. Mr. Tom B. Davis, who seconded, said the company was beginning to feel the advantage of having secured contracts ahead for various well-known artists. "Aladdin" would be the attraction at the Theatre Royal next year. The results of the spring and autumn tours had been practically the same as before, and that was the case also with the other incidental sources of revenue. This was satisfactory, in view of the fact that in Birmingham proper the places of entertainment had increased by something like seventeen picture-houses and skating-rinks.

MR. W. K. CHATTO, the acting manager of the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, was given a complimentary matinée on the 25th ult., to the programme of which several variety artists from the halls in the district contributed. At the conclusion of the performance, Mr. J. Charles Imeson, the lessee, on behalf of the working staff of the theatre, presented Mr. Chatto with a gold signet ring, and Mrs. Chatto with a handsome gold crescent brooch set with pearls, accompanying the presentation with a neat speech.

MR. HARRY TUNBRIDGE, who has so successfully managed the New Spa at Bridlington for the last two and a half years, and has been appointed manager of the Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth, had a successful farewell benefit on the 26th ult., when a crowded audience assembled. Mr. Wilson James's company, the Gaieties, gave some of their choicest items. The programme also included a musical scena by Arthur Chenery, entitled *Old Heidelberg*, in which Mr. Tunbridge gave a most amusing rendering of the part of Limburger. The concluding item was a capital burlesque of the play *Chantecler*, also by Mr. Chenery. Miss Ruby Wilson was a charming Guinea Fowl, Mr. Wilson James a fine representative of Chantecler, and Mr. Fred Gregory a gay Golden Pheasant.

JUST before the last item Mr. Whitaker, the chairman of the New Spa Company, came on the stage accompanied by Mr. Tunbridge, Mr. R. C. Luxton (the new manager), and other gentlemen. Mr. Whitaker expressed regret at the loss they were sustaining by the departure of Mr. Tunbridge, and wished him success in his new venture. Councillor R. Turner then presented Mr. Tunbridge with a timepiece and pair of bronzes, which had been subscribed for by the many friends he has made in Bridlington; and the recipient in a few well chosen words expressed his thanks. Mr. Whitaker then introduced Mr. Luxton to the audience.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Frame and All.

MRS. ALEC TWEEDIE, in a sympathetic appreciation of the late Sir William Orchardson, has much that is interesting to tell, and we quote the following personal reminiscence: "'Funny things happen sometimes,' once said the painter. 'This morning I received a letter from America, many pages long, from a man who is writing a play, and he says, "I want your gracious permission to use your picture of 'Napoleon on the Deck of the *Bellerophon*.' I will have it copied in the best possible style, frame and all, and use it on the hoardings with your name in full underneath." Frame and all, and my name underneath. What an offer! Evidently he thinks no higher compliment could be paid me.'"

Gilbert Up to Date.

IN spite of the apparent general exodus to Europe, *The Mikado* has renewed its youth and charm in New York so completely that nobody would have guessed it was a day older than when the three little maids first came home from school more than a quarter of a century ago. But with the renewal have come topical additions to Sir William Gilbert's unapproachable libretto. Jefferson de Angelis, as Lord High Executioner, takes liberties with the Gilbertian text by amplifying the little list of people who never would be missed. Says the *Morning Leader* correspondent: "He made Gilbert include the Salome dancers, the female suffragists, and ticket speculators. It certainly was an outrage, and had W. S. Gilbert been in the house he could hardly have conceived a punishment sufficiently calculated to fit the crime."

"The Elephant."

ONE of the great merits of Shakespeare, says Mr. McDonald Rendle in *London Opinion*, was that he remained both practical and poetical. After playing the Ghost in *Hamlet*, he had plenty of time to run round to the front of the house, inspect the box-sheet, and take the "half-price"—I presume in those days it came in about six o'clock. How many, I wonder, are aware that the Elephant and Castle appears in the works of England's greatest possession? The next time you pass the famous public-house on a London County Council tramcar, just remember the question asked by Sebastian in Olivia's Garden: "Where's Antonio, then? I could not find him at the Elephant." And in the same play of *Twelfth Night* the brother of Viola remarks to Antonio, "I'll be your purse-bearer." "To the Elephant!" answers the sea-captain. Doubtless they were off to see the local pantomime—an annual joy whereto I invariably regale myself."

"Silly Ass" Parts.

MR. G. P. HUNTLEY, whose Eccles has been one of the most striking features of Mr. Charles Frohman's revival of *Caste* in New York, was asked the other day by a *New York Herald* interviewer if he had done with "silly ass" parts. "I fancy so," he replied, "but I am not entirely certain. To my mind the theatre going public on both sides of the Atlantic has been surfeited with him." "Did you originate the type?" "I believe that I have been credited with doing so, but there were so-called English dude types over here many years before I embraced musical comedy." We may add that the Gerald Moore type of dude was popular long before we had the Huntley type on the London stage.

Oberammergau Players.

THE true Oberammergauer never cuts his hair. When the Passion Play was interrupted in 1870 by the Franco-Prussian war, writes Mr. Archibald Marshall in the *Daily Mail*, those who were liable for military service had to go, but they were allowed to keep their hair long. Nineteen of those who were to have taken part in the Passion Play never came back. I was taken to the house of Johann Zwink, and we were shown into a brightly-painted room with an old porcelain stove in the corner, prepared for the accommodation of expected visitors. A sweet-faced young girl who had opened the door to us talked with us for a little and then said she would go and fetch her father. She was Ottilie Zwink, who takes the part of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. She is not yet twenty, but she is already spoken of as one of the best representatives of her difficult part that the play has ever had. She is the Mater Dolorosa, her voice full of sorrow and her eyes full of tears.

An Octogenarian Composer.

KARL GOLDMARK'S earthly career was almost brought to an untimely close. For on the capitulation of Raab to the Government forces, he was among the prisoners who were marched out in the early grey dawn to be shot as rebels. Happily for him and for all of us who are musical, an old friend—a veritable deus ex machina—appeared in the nick of time, and Goldmark's life was spared. "He is a pathetic little personage so far as my own recollection of him goes," writes "Musicus" in the *Daily Telegraph*. "I had the privilege of meeting him some twenty-two years or so ago what time he was living in Dresden, for the rehearsals of his fine, but unequal, opera *Merlin*, and in my mind's eye I still can see, I think, a little man built somewhat on the lines of Edvard Grieg, with a fine head, very broad forehead, and immense shocks of iron-grey hair and moustache, 'flowing locks powdered with silver dust.'"

Exquisite Opportunities.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Westminster Gazette* having expressed, with indignant warmth, condemnation of the policy pursued by Mr. Charles Frohman's Repertory Theatre, Mr. Herbert Trench contributes to that journal a trenchant defence. Says he: "We have in your correspondent an example of the grossness of popular ingratitude. Is he unaware that any repertory theatre, like a fountain or a cathedral, is of the nature of a public gift? It involves a very wide-minded and generous natured capitalist. It can scarcely hope ever to be remunerative. It entails colossal additional labour on the part of all concerned. It requires the finest organising staff and skill. If Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. J. M. Barrie are public spirited enough to confer these gifts, even for a time, on London, and, with the co-operation of Mr. Bouicault and Mr. Barker and Mr. Shaw, thereby to endow us with opportunities so exquisite as, say, the revival of Mr. Pinero's *Trelawny of the 'Wells,'* the production of Barrie's *Twelve-Pound Look*, of the new comedy *Chains*, and of George Meredith's *Sentimentalists* fragment (where in Europe can finer acting be seen than by this repertory company?), surely your querulous correspondent and his kind might have the common decency to refrain from carping at faults where so much excellent beauty and nobleness and labour have been bestowed?"

The Woman of Intellect.

THE authors of *Le Bois Sacré*, the comedy in three acts, by MM. Gaston de Caillavet and Robert de Flers, versed in the psychological art of charming, have been the first to bring on to the stage the new type of woman, who is at least an individual in comparison with her husband, a mere cypher. She is the intellectual woman, the romance writer, the artist. It is the first time (says the Paris correspondent in *The Ladies' Field*) that she has been presented to us on the Paris stage. Naturally all her sex are enjoying the situation. But how Fortune's wheel has turned! Ten years ago the only women we saw on the stage were the heroines of love stories, for the sake of whom men fought and died. To-day the intellectual heroine has appeared, and she it is who leads the men.

MISS EVIE GREENE'S WEDDING.

Radiant as the roses that decorated the church, that clustered in the hat of the "best girl," that, in fact, were showered right and left in her old home, Miss Evie Greene, the famous musical comedy actress, on Wednesday afternoon last, became the wife of Lieut. Ernest Kennaway Arbuthnot, of H.M.S. Excellent. If ever the history of Platt's-lane, Hampstead, an old-world turning that winds in and out from the Heath, comes to be written for a local guide-book, it will have to be recorded that on June 1, 1910, excitement ran high, and crowds of enthusiastic admirers journeyed from near and far to get a glimpse of Miss Greene and her sailor bridegroom, and thronged the narrow thoroughfare for hours before and after the ceremony, as it had never been thronged before.

Long before two o'clock, the hour appointed for the ceremony, St. Luke's Church, just a good stone's throw from Miss Greene's residence, was crowded with sightseers—mostly of the tender sex. The church seats over 700 people, and the pews were filled very quickly, and, if we may be permitted in this case to use a term understood of the profession, in a very short time even "standing-room only" was at a premium.

Outside had assembled a great throng of people that the solitary, perspiring village constable endeavoured in vain to move on. The rose—Miss Evie Greene's favourite flower—and giant palms were used to decorate the church, and very pretty and bright everything seemed. The Clerk of the Weather even was in a good mood, and when the gallant lieutenant and his best man, Lieut.-Commander Duncan Carmichael, arrived, a burst of sunshine flooded the church that made one's heart glad to see.

"We were supposed to have a quiet wedding," observed the bridegroom with a nervous laugh to *The Era* representative. Lieutenant Arbuthnot's mother was in the church to welcome her son, and the bride, dressed in a blue chiffon dress, with two red roses in her hat, arrived at the altar leaning on the arm of her father, who gave her away. The ceremony was quite a picturesque one, and the officiating clergyman was the Rev.

[*Photo by London News Agency.*

THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM.

F. B. Heiser. Miss Phyllis Barker, of the Gaiety Theatre, the bride's "best girl," with a spray of roses in her hand as wand of office, and looking extremely pretty in a grey and black dress, skilfully managed the marshalling of the wedding party. There was no music except when the bride entered, and when the newly married couple left the church. Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played by the organist after the ceremony, and a reception was subsequently held at the bride's house.

There is a pretty romance surrounding Miss Greene's marriage; such a one, indeed, as might have been lifted from a novel. Miss Evie Greene's father was a naval officer, and she was born at Portsmouth. The man she is to marry is a lieutenant attached to H.M.S. Excellent, stationed at Whale Island. They knew each other as children, and as they grew up they frequently met. When Miss Greene went on the stage she forgot her boy friend, and, later, became the wife of Richard Temple, jun. This was not a happy union, and since its dissolution the young naval officer has wooed the actress. Some time ago Miss Greene accepted Lieutenant Arbuthnot's proposal, and the wedding day was fixed.

Miss Greene has assured us that she does not mean to leave the stage, although her husband does not now wish her to go on tour. Her engagements, as a matter of fact, will for some considerable time keep her to London, Manchester, Birmingham, and Glasgow. Late in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left London for a short honeymoon at Southend, for in a week Lieutenant Arbuthnot returns to the war course he is taking at Portsmouth, and Miss Evie Greene to the stage.

MR. ALFRED SUTRO, the author of *The Walls of Jericho*, *The Builder of Bridges*, and so many other successful plays, was one of the old boys of the City of London School, who recently were present at the Holborn Restaurant at a banquet given to Mr. Henry Durham, F.C.S., who is retiring, after having occupied the post of science master for fifty years. Sir Robert Chalmers, an old boy, and chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, presided.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"DON CESAR DE BAZAN."

On Tuesday, May 31, the Play, in Three Acts, adapted from Dumanoir and D'Ennery's Play of the same name by Gerald du Maurier, Originally Produced at the Coronet and Duke of York's Theatres as *A Royal Rival* in 1901.

Don César de Bazan.....MR. LEWIS WALLER
The King of Spain....MR. LEON QUARTERMAINE
Don José de Santarem..MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND
Marquis de Montefiore ..MR. A. F. THOMPSON
Captain of the Guard ....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Governor of the Prison ....MR. H. B. TABBERER
A Waterman .....MR. A. BAXENDELL
An Old Man .....MR. HENRY STEVENS
Perez .....MR. CATON WOODVILLE
First Exquisite .....MR. CRONIN WILSON
Second Exquisite .....MR. LEWIS BROUGHTON
Third Exquisite .....MR. REGINALD DANE
Gaoler .....MR. PATRICK DIGAN
An Officer .....MR. ARTHUR ANSELL
Pedro .....MISS BERYL MERCER
Marchioness de Montefiore.MISS MINNIE GRIFFEN
Marita .....MISS MADGE TITHERADGE

Don César de Bazan is quite an old stage favourite, and the story will ever be associated with the melodious strains of W. Vincent Wallace in the still popular *Maritana*. The original French piece was produced at the Porte St. Martin, with Lemaître in the title-rôle, on July 30, 1844; and in the first anglicised version, by Gilbert Abbott à Beckett and Mark Lemon, which was produced at the Princess's on Oct. 8, 1844, Mr. James Wallack was the Don César and Mrs. Stirling the Maritana. On the 14th of the same month in the same year Ben Webster brought out another version, by himself and Dion Boucicault, at the Adelphi, and other adaptations were to be seen in the same week at the Haymarket and Surrey. There were thus no fewer than four versions of the play running at the same time in London.

Mr. Lewis Waller is well served by Mr. Gerald Du Maurier's adaptation, which was produced at the Duke of York's in August, 1901, under the title of *A Royal Rival*. He shows in the opening—a beautifully-staged street scene—a strong sense of the romantic that pervades the character: dissolute and daring, perhaps, but decidedly debonair nevertheless. It will be remembered that in defence of the poor boy Pedro (Lazarillo) Don César sends to his last account the brutal Captain of the Guard. For this homicide he is imprisoned, and sentenced to be hanged. He has reached the last half-hour of life in the prison, and asks Pedro, his companion, what he shall do to pass the time. "Confess your sins," is the boy's reply. "What! in half an hour!" is the rejoinder. In these lighter touches in the play Mr. Waller once more afforded his admirers the opportunity of realising that their favourite actor can be as exhilarating as he is tender and romantic in love-making. Don César, like D'Artagnan, does not "set his life at a pin's fee," and we know all of us how admirable Mr. Waller is in such "panache" parts. Gay recklessness is the note sounded from the start; the play pulses with life through his magnetism and unchecked ardour, and he brings before us a vigorous, a fascinating, and yet a truthful portraiture.

The pretty young actress Miss Madge Titheradge makes an engaging gitana, and her Marita is worthy to rank with the gallant down-at-heel Count. Miss Beryl Mercer quietly and forcefully delineates the grief of the boy Pedro at the approaching loss of his benefactor; and the Machiavellian schemer Don José is presented in unexaggerated style by that fine actor Mr. W. Haviland. Mr. Leon Quartermaine does effective work in the colourless part of the King of Spain, and the comedy of the Marquis and Marchioness de Montefiore—generally so preposterous in the opera—is not only quite within the limits of sanity, but often really funny, and for this much of the credit may be given to Mr. Alec F. Thompson and Miss Minnie Griffen. Mr. Frank Woolfe's sinister rendering of the Captain of the Guard is much to the purpose; and the neatness of finish of the impersonations of the three Exquisites by Mr. Cronin Wilson, Mr. Lewis Broughton, and Mr. Reginald Dane are to be highly praised. Smaller parts were most efficiently handled by Messrs. H. B. Tabberer, A. Baxendell, Henry Stevens, Caton Woodville, Patrick Digan, and Arthur Ansell. The audience on Tuesday gave a most enthusiastic reception to the play, and Mr. Waller, as is customary, was the recipient of the heartiest compliments. It was a most cheery evening.

MARTIN HARVEY AS RICHARD III.

On Saturday, May 28, at the Lyceum Theatre, Shakespeare's Tragedy, "RICHARD III."

King Edward IV. .....MR. ERIC MAYNE
Edward, Prince of Wales ..MISS BRENDA GIBSON
Richard, Duke of York ....MISS ETHEL PATRICK
George, Duke of Clarence
MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Richard, Duke of Gloucester
MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Duke of Buckingham ....MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
Duke of Norfolk .....MR. C. GEORGE
Earl Rivers .....MR. E. J. FRASER
Lord Stanley .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Henry, Earl of Richmond..MR. PHILIP NEWLAND
Lord Hastings .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Marquis of Dorset .....MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Lord Grey .....MR. DAVID BAIN
Lord Lovel .....MR. S. MCCARTHY
Sir William Brandon .....MR. D. HOLM
Sir William Catesby ....MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
Sir Richard Ratcliffe..MR. EDWARD COMBERMERE
Lord Mayor of London ....MR. DENHOLM MUIR
Sir James Tyrrel .....MR. B. A. PITTAR
The Bishop of Ely .....MR. A. WILSON
Sir James Blount .....MR. F. PERCY
Sir Robert Brackenbury .....MR. H. GRAVES
First Murderer .....MR. GEORGE COOKE
Second Murderer .....MR. PERCY FOSTER
First Messenger .....MR. PAUL BARRY
Second Messenger .....MR. A. B. MCKAY
Third Messenger .....MR. C. LEONARD
Queen Margaret .....MISS MARY RORKE
Queen Elizabeth .....MISS SYBIL WALSH
Duchess of York .....MRS. A. B. CROSS
Page to Richard .....MISS BESSIE ELDER
Lady Anne .....MISS N. DE SILVA

The hearts of the audience went out to Mr. Martin Harvey on Saturday evening last, and the inspiring cheers of a house crowded to its fullest capacity must have convinced the popular actor that his season at the Lyceum would not lack support. The occasion was memorable from the fact that Mr. Harvey was returning to a theatre which has many treasured associations for him, and that he was essaying a character in which London playgoers had not hitherto seen him. Reports of Mr. Harvey's recent appearances in Dublin assured us that his reading of Richard III. differed materially from all others, and that he made the Crookback, if not entirely a prepossessing personage, still one that was not repellent. That view was borne out on Saturday, when the curtain rose on a Richard with a face wreathed in smiles and an air of decided geniality. With only an indication of a hump and the merest suggestion of a limp, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, is made quite a comely individual, whose evil-doing is minimised by the frank and engaging manner in which it is accomplished. Mr. Harvey's Richard, indeed, is an intellectual freak, with a mania for murder rather than an ambition that stops at nothing, and the virtue-loving audience at the Lyceum, who should have execrated, could only applaud. Richard, however, is bound by the text to urge upon his bloodthirsty career, and Mr. Harvey accomplishes his task with subtlety and a sense of humour. It is with such embellishments that the actor's performance excels. His wooing of Anne is carried out in such irresistible style that the wonder is that the lady holds out so long. When he fawns upon those he means to slay one is reminded of the snake which fascinates and then strikes, while his affected indignation thrills with its intensity. His piety is too pretentious, perhaps, in the scene where Richard returns from his mock devotions, and few could be deceived by it; but when the King-elect, having attained the summit of his ambition, indulges in an outburst of laughter which ends in a wolfish snarl, a great effect is gained. Towards the end Richard's high spirits naturally desert him, and it is then that the full strength of the actor's impersonation is realised. His mental anguish in the dream scene when the phantoms of the night surround him is vividly suggested, and both voice and action give evidence of the terror and drear despair which seizes upon him. The death scene, too, is a masterpiece, and Richard, when he rises convulsively from the ground and faces the audience, seems to have distorted his features out of all recognition. Vaunting, servile, arrogant, and ferocious, as it serves his turn, Mr. Harvey's Richard cannot fail to appeal to the popular mind, and as an artistic assumption may well rank with his triumphs of the past.

A hearty welcome awaited the members of Mr. Harvey's company, as well as those who were in that of the Lyceum in recent days. Miss N. De Silva was chiefly effective in Lady Anne's expression of scorn and contempt for Richard in the opening scene, but throughout she made a pathetic figure and won complete sympathy. Miss Mary Rorke upheld her reputation in the rôle of Queen Margaret. Her denunciation of Richard was marked by elocutionary skill of the highest order, and her delivery of the trying passage held the audience absorbed. Mr. Eric Mayne, who was cordially received, made quite a benign figure of the stricken King Edward IV., and was deeply impressive in his rôle of Peacemaker, which the later Edward so fitly graced; and another Lyceum favourite, Mr. Frederick Ross, played Lord Hastings with dignity, and used his resonant voice with every advantage in the lines that fall to the ill-fated nobleman. As the Duke of Buckingham Mr. Charles Glenney, who has served Mr. Harvey so long and effectively, played the scheming courtier with power and rare expression; and Mr. Owen Roughwood, another member of Mr. Harvey's original cast, won admiration for his sincerity, his dramatic skill, and his elocutionary abilities as the doomed Clarence. A performance of singular power was also the Duchess of York of Mrs. A. B. Cross, whose tragic gifts enabled her to present the part in all its grimness and austerity. Miss Sybil Walsh made a regal Elizabeth, being particularly effective in portraying the anguish of the bereaved Queen. Miss Brenda Gibson and Miss Ethel Patrick thoroughly realised the familiar pictures of the two young princes, the little Duke of York's defiance of Richard being natural and spirited. Realistic, too, were the Murderers, played with due ferocity by Mr. George Cooke and Mr. Percy Foster. The Sir James Tyrrell of Mr. B. A. Pittar was a finished portrayal; Mr. Philip Newland was a chivalrous Richmond; Catesby was intelligently interpreted by Mr. Alfred Mansfield; and among the minor characters who merit praise are the Bishop of Ely of Mr. A. Wilson, the Page of Miss Bessie Elder, and the Lord Mayor of Mr. Denholm Muir.

A dozen different scenes were utilised to illustrate the five acts into which the tragedy was divided, Mr. William Telbin being responsible for two scenes, and the others being from the brush of Mr. George Dodson. The triumph of the setting was that depicting Bosworth Field, in which a magnificent effect of distance was secured. All the appointments were perfect, and the pomp of mediæval splendour, amid the clash of arms and martial strains, was in the nature of a pageant. The overture and incidental music were by Mr. William Hudson, who conducted on the first night, and the fighting, arranged by Mr. Alfred Mansfield, was thrilling, the combat between Richard and Richmond being quite exhilarating. Under the direction of Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke, the resident conductor, the orchestra played selections.

Numerous curtains marked the end of each act, and at the close, after being recalled several times, Mr. Harvey thanked the audience in an appreciative speech. The principals of the company, including Miss De Silva and Mr. Eric Mayne, had also to bow their acknowledgments. Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, the new managing-directors of the Lyceum, have entered upon their new venture under the most promising auspices.

DUAL BILL AT QUEEN'S.

"JUDGE NOT —"

A Version, in Two Acts, by Mr. P. G. Duchesne, of Georges Henriot's play, *L'Enquête*, Produced at the Queen's Theatre, on Saturday, May 28.

The Examining Magistrate..MR. H. B. IRVING
Counsel for Defence .....MR. HENRY VIBART
The Doctor .....MR. FRANK TYARS
The Attorney-General.....MR. CHARLES ALLAN
The Prisoner .....MR. EILLS NORWOOD
The Magistrate's Clerk..MR. J. PATRIC CURWEN
The Prisoner's Wife .....MISS EDYTH OLIVE

Playwrights across the Channel have before dealt very effectively with French methods of administering justice, and one remembers the strong little tragedy taken from *La Robe Rouge*, and presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh at the Garrick a few years since. Even more powerful in its thrilling dénouement is the version by Mr. Duchesne of Georges Henriot's piece *L'Enquête*, entitled *Judge Not* —, which was produced by Mr. Henry B. Irving at the Queen's on Saturday evening, before a deeply interested audience. The scene of the play is the room of an examining magistrate. A particularly brutal murder has been committed. A highly respected and popular judge has been done to death, and the ferocity of the attack has been such that the body is covered with bruises caused by some blunt instrument, such as a loaded stick or a life-preserver. It cannot have been the work of a prowling Apache, for the watch and chain of the victim have been found upon him. The judge and examining magistrate had been both guests at a dinner party on that fatal evening, and strange to relate, the victim's companion on the walk home was the very man now conducting the criminal investigation. He had left the judge at the corner of the Rue Victor Hugo, and was horror-struck to read the announcement of his violent death in the next morning's papers. In the search of the murdered man's house, among the contents of a bureau is discovered a bundle of letters from a Madame Moreau—letters clearly establishing a liaison between her and the deceased. The examining magistrate, on this documentary evidence, comes to the conclusion that revenge has been the motive of the crime, and obsessed with this idea, he conducts a ruthless cross-examination of the unhappy Moreau, a passionately jealous man, solely with the view of forcing him to confess. Madame Moreau is then persecuted with questions; but she does not help the theory of the judge when she indignantly asserts that her husband never knew anything of her guilt, and, therefore, had no motive whatever for the crime which the torturing questioner is only too anxious to bring home to him.

In the second act a different complexion is put upon the whole matter by a skilful counsel for the defence of Moreau, who is now a prisoner. He makes it pretty clear that the judge was murdered *before* his companion on that fatal night—*i.e.*, the examining magistrate—had left him, and the tables are turned when the magistrate's stick, with its formidable silver knob, is examined, and found to be dented. A doctor then takes up the examination, and, by a series of questions, elicits the awful truth that the magistrate is subject to fits of epilepsy. He cannot recall the actual parting from the murdered man, nor the words he addressed to him at their leave-taking. His distress and anxiety are growing every moment more painful, and all of a sudden he utters a terrible cry and falls in a fit. As the doctor kneels down and loosens the collar of the convulsively twitching form, the curtain falls. The magistrate is the murderer, and Moreau is innocent; but he is a broken man, for during his terrible ordeal he has had to listen to his wife's confession of her guilt.

The play by its power completely held the audience, and the interest and fascination of the magistrate were made paramount by Mr. Irving's remarkable personality. In his "business" one noted many touches betraying the fact that he has studied the pathology of epilepsy, and yet, like the artist he is, he does nothing repellant. Even in the first act he makes it clear to those in front that the magistrate is suffering from nerve tension, and one recognised in the final catastrophe a sufficiently realistic study of the symptoms of epilepsy. The play was a triumph for the actor, who was very finely supported by Mr. Charles Allan as the Attorney-General, a capital sketch; by Mr. Henry Vibart, a trenchant and lucid counsel for the defence; by Mr. Frank Tyars, a model of professional coolness and discretion; by Mr. Eille Norwood, who evoked profound sympathy for the much-tortured Moreau; and by Miss Edyth Olive, who played the part of the distraught wife with considerable emotional force. The part of the clerk was effectively handled by Mr. J. Patric Curwen.

In deep contrast to modern French tragedy was presented the oft-adapted *L'Auberge des Adrets*, under the title of

"ROBERT MACAIRE,"

Robert Macaire .....MR. H. B. IRVING
Jacques Strop .....MR. TOM REYNOLDS
Germeuil .....MR. CHARLES ALLAN
Dumont .....MR. HENRY VIBART
Charles .....MR. ALEX. SCOTT-GATTY
Pierre .....MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Sergeant Loupy .....MR. FRANK TYARS
Louis .....MR. J. PATRIC CURWEN
François .....MR. ROLAND PERTUIS
Marie .....MISS ESME BERINGER
Clementine .....MISS GLADYS BAIRD

The particular version chosen was the one used by Fechter, who played it as *The Roadside Inn* at the Lyceum on Jan. 21, 1865, with Widdicombe as Jacques Strop. In the art of depicting picturesque roguery Mr. Irving once more triumphed. The affectation of the manners of the fastidious gentleman in the tatters of the tramp was always amusing, and there was care taken that every attitude ministered to the general effect of the impersonation. The final fall down the staircase, and the pathetic recognition of wife and son, rounded off a great success. Mr. Tom Reynolds again showed himself to be a sound comedian by his excellent rendering of Jacques Strop; and a powerful and pathetic Marie was found in Miss Esme Beringer. Mr. Charles Allan and Mr. Henry Vibart realised exactly the kindly, genial natures of the two affectionate fathers, Germeuil and Dumont; Mr. Frank Tyars played Sergeant Loupy with keen alertness and authority; and Miss Gladys Baird made a sweet Clementine. In the parts of Charles, Pierre, Louis, François, Messrs. Alex. Scott-Gatty, Arthur Curtis, J. Patrick Curwen, and Roland Pertuis were quite adequate. At the conclusion of the play Mr. Irving spoke a few words of thanks.

MR. JAMES MORTIMER, the well-known dramatist and journalist, writes to the *Daily Mail* of *Judge Not*:—"'Il n'y a rien de nouveau sous le soleil.' Although I have not seen the English version of *L'Enquête*, produced on Saturday by Mr. H. B. Irving, it is evident from the plot of this play, as described in the newspapers, that the 'idée mère' of *L'Enquête* is taken from an old French melodrama by Charles Duveyrier, entitled *Le Monomane*. I have before me a copy of *Le Monomane*, printed in 1835. The story relates to the prosecution of an innocent man for murder and his conviction through the efforts of a judge who himself committed the murder in his sleep. The scene of this drama is laid in Alsace, circa 1830, and in some respects it resembles *Le Juif Polonais*, the sombre features of the piece being relieved by comedy scenes. Several years ago I wrote an adaptation of *Le Monomaine*, under the title of *Justice!* recently used by Mr. Galsworthy."

"The Lady Bandits" is one of those refined and funny productions that gives a cachet to a programme.—"The Era," May 28.

EDWARD LAURI, MAY BEATTY

AND COMPANY, IN

THE LADY BANDITS.

The Quintessence of Refinement and Good Taste.

"REFEREE," May 22, 1910.

An extra special new turn in the Oxford's fine bill last week took the form of a variety burlesque; but—don't be alarmed—the whole thing, with its divinely tall and most divinely fair lady choristers and its songs and dances and wheezes, was negotiated well within "Compromise" time. Its title is "The Lady Bandits," and it is a revised version of a sketch which was tried in the suburbs some time back. The principal characters, an unwary traveller and a fashionable damsel who has formed and directs a band of pretended brigandettes, are respectively enacted by Mr. Edward Lauri and Miss May Beatty. Mr. Lauri again proves himself a resourceful and rollicking low comedian, a capital knockabout, and a remarkable dancer. Miss Beatty is a handsome specimen of "principal boyhood" and a melodious singer. "The Lady Bandits," being thus capitally acted and sung, and staged with beauty and picturesqueness, fully deserved the hearty applause bestowed upon it. "The Lady Bandits" will also be at the Metropolitan this week.

"TIMES AND ECHO," May 22, 1910.

The first, "The Lady Bandits," by Mr. Edward Lauri, Miss May Beatty, and a dozen dashing girls, is full of pretty songs and choruses, and has some sly digs at suffragettes. In it Miss Beatty played with melodramatic skill, and Mr. Lauri, by his comic acting, kept the audience screaming with laughter.

"Bayard," "SUNDAY CHRONICLE," May 15, 1910.

And there is a general briskness and melodiousness about the thing which ought to assure its success. It is clean, well staged, and beautifully dressed.

"SPORTSMAN," May 2, 1910.

Most laughter was, however, extracted by the farcical operetta "The Lady Bandits," which from rise to fall of the curtain kept the audience in a continual roar . . . . and thus the curtain falls on as lively and laughable a "trifle" as could possibly be desired.

"THE PELICAN," May 25, 1910.

A very admirable show is the compressed musical comedy which is being played at the Oxford just now by Mr. Edward Lauri, Miss May Beatty and others, called "The Lady Bandits." The musical-comedylet is as full as possible of good looks, fine figures, real fun, and remarkably clever dancing as it can be. Mr. Lauri shows what an excellent all-round comedian he is, and Miss Beatty is uncommonly good to look at and listen to.

"THE PINK 'UN," May 28, 1910.

And a special feature is "The Lady Bandits," a bright burlesque sketch well provided with songs, dances, comic business, and a comely chorus. Miss May Beatty is Lady Diana, the leader of the bandits, who have suffragette leanings; and Mr. Edward Lauri is the mere man who is their prisoner. Needless to say, these popular players are more than equal to the requirements of their respective parts, and carry the thing through with abundant spirit. "The Lady Bandits" has also a prominent place in the programme at the Metropolitan.

TIVOLI and CANTERBURY.

"CONFIRMATIONS" already to hand: LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS, 1910; DE FRECE CIRCUIT, 1910; ENTIRE MOSS-STOLL TOURS, 1911-12; and various independent Halls.

NOTE.—Vacancies through the closing of Lyric, Liverpool, Blackburn, Oldham, and Birkenhead.

July 4th, between Boscombe and Birmingham.
Aug. 8th, North.

Aug. 22nd, between Glasgow and Belfast.
Sept. 5th, ,, Belfast and Wolverhampton.

Direction:—Peels, Ltd., Hartley Milburn, or direct.

Chorus of English and Colonial Ladies.

THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON. WHY? BECAUSE IT'S SO DIFFERENT.

THE LADY BANDITS.

The Quintessence of Refinement and Good Taste.

EDWARD LAURI and MAY BEATTY at their BEST.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 6.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—T. R., Halifax.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Grand T., Stockton.
ARRAH-NA-POGUE.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Osborne T., Manchester.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
BATEMAN, MRS. FRANK.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
BROUGHT TO RUIN.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Hippodrome, Keighley.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Met. T., Manchester.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—T. R., Bournemouth.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Queen's T., Longton.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., Stockport.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., Leicester.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Woolwich.
DRAYCOTT, MR. CHAS.—Prince's T., Accrington.
DROLLS, THE.—Hippodrome, Peterborough.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—T. R., Shrewsbury.
EGYPTIAN, THE.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Bury.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—King's T., Longsight.
FANNY AND THE SERVANT PROBLEM.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
FAST LIFE, A.—Palace T., Newcastle.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Gaiety T., Dublin.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Belfast.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—Metropole T., Manchester.
GIRL OF MY HEART.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—Empire T., Southend.
HER FATAL PAST.—Star T., Liverpool.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—T. R., Sunderland.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Rochdale.
HOME, SWEET HOME.—T. R., Birkenhead.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAIS.—P. H., Tralee.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
LODGE-PERCY, MR. J. C.—Court T., Warrington.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Empire T., Swindon.
LUCKY DURHAM.—West Pier, Brighton.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—O. H., St. Helens.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—Grand T., Hull.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—Blackpool.
NEW BOY, THE.—O. H., Cork.
NIHILIST, THE.—T. R., Dewsbury.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
PASSION OF LIFE.—Empire T., Oldham.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Pier Pavilion, Southsea.
RAYNAR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Crown T., Eccles.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—New P., Eastbourne.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—King's T., Sutton.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Colosseum, Oldham.
THEODOR'S FLUTTER.—Prince's T., Manchester.
TREE, HERBERT BEERBOHM.—New T., Cardiff.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
UP THE POLE.—T. R., Darlington.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Alexandra T., Hull.
WILKIE, ALLAN, AND CO.—T. R., York.
WOMAN'S PAST.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
WRECKER OF MEN.—T. R. Barnsley.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Grand T., Leeds.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Aston.

MLLE. LINA CAVALIERI, the French prima donna, who was about to leave Paris for Buenos Ayres to fulfil an engagement at the Opera Theatre there, is suffering from an attack of appendicitis, and is unable to make the journey. An operation has been performed.

MR. J. F. GRAHAM is arranging a special performance for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, next Tuesday, in aid of the Birmingham Football Club. Mr. Graham and a selected company will appear in *His Last Legs*, and performers at the local houses will contribute items. Mr. Lester Collingwood, the popular proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, has generously contributed £25 to the venture.

UNDER the patronage of Princess Christian, a matinée is to be held at the St. James's Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander) on Friday, July 1, in aid of the National League for Physical Education and Improvement. The following artists have already kindly promised their assistance: Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Phyllis Terry, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Mr. Lewis Waller.

SHOULD the critics write plays, or, rather, should they ever submit plays to those managers upon whose productions they are constantly sitting in judgment? is the question asked by *London Opinion*. For instance, a manager is on the point of producing a new play, when in comes a letter from a critic enclosing a play which the critic offers for sale. The manager looks through the 'script and finds, it may be, utter tosh—for people who criticise other people's plays need not be capable of writing fine plays themselves. His first impulse, if he be a nice, pure-minded young manager, is to return the 'script forthwith; but if he be more experienced or cynical, or full of guile, he gathers that the offer of the play is not a genuine offer at all, but is a discreet and perfectly safe way of saying "I want to be settled with, or else you will want more than an asbestos curtain to prevent your show from being roasted."

THE latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 9-16; Empire (16s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion (5), 3⅛; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5⅛; Metropolitan, 4; Moss Empires (5), 4⅛; Oxford (5), 7; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1 1-32; Tivoli, New (5), 6¼.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months	0	6 6	Three Months	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS.
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

J. WELLING.—*She was born on Feb. 12, 1870, and is therefore a little over forty.*

COLIN CARLISLE.—*Mr. Joseph Knight is correct undoubtedly. The mistake arose through the misreading of a passage in Murphy's "Life." Humanum est errare.*

GEORGE AUSTIN.—*We will make inquiries concerning the song you mention. Meanwhile, you could write to Tate's, music sellers, Aldwych. They might be able to get you a copy.*

ENQUIRER (*Bradford*).—*The opera "La Bohème" is by Giacomo Puccini (born 1858), the libretta by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica, founded on Henry Murger's "La Vie de Bohème" (1845). The work was produced at Turin, Feb. 1, 1896. First production in England at Manchester, April, 1897; at Covent Garden (in English), Oct. 2, 1897, and in Italian, July 1, 1899.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

PRYME.—May 29, at 6, Blomfield-mansion, Shepherd's Bush, W., the wife of Mr. Harry Pryme, London Coliseum, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ARBUTHNOT—GREENE.—June 1, at St. Luke's, Hampstead, Lieut. Ernest Kennaway Arbuthnot, of His Majesty's Navy, to Evie Greene, musical comedy actress.

DEATHS.

BECKETT.—Edwin Charles Beckett, the beloved son of Charles and Emma Beckett, on May 26, 1910, at Ballygar, Ireland, age 4 months. Deeply mourned.

FREELAND.—May 4, suddenly, at Brighton, Louie Freeland (Mulligan), of heart failure.

GERALD.—June 1, at 25, Litchfield-street, London, W.C., Marie Gerald, aged 52, beloved wife of G. W. Gerald, and sister-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coyle. R.I.P.

HANSARD BLAIR.—On May 13, 1910, Thea Symnes (Mrs. Hansard Blair). "The night is come."

IN MEMORIAM.

CROSSLAND.—In loving memory of my dear wife Maggie, who died June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her loving husband, VICTOR.

GOURIET.—In ever-loving remembrance of our darling sister, Margaret Crossland Gouriet, who passed away June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her devoted sisters, LILLIE, LOTTIE, and MAUD CROSSLAND.

HAZLEWOOD.—In loving memory of Henry Colin Hazlewood, theatrical manager and author, who died June 1, 1897. Never forgotten by his loving daughter BESSIE.

WALTON.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs. William Walton, who died June 4, 1908. R.I.P.

WALTON.—In loving memory of Lottie Walton, who departed this life June 4, '03. Never forgotten by mother and father, brothers and sisters, and little son Sid.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

James Fawn—Saturday, June 4.
Adeline Lester—Saturday, June 4.
Leo Dryden—Monday, June 6.
Harry Freeman—Wednesday, June 8.
Frank Liston—Wednesday, June 8.
Jerrold Heather—Thursday, June 9.
Amy Savile—Thursday, June 9.
Emma Rainbow—Thursday, June 9.
Ella Erskine—Friday, June 10.
Mrs. Walford Bodie—Friday, June 10.
Alf Gibson—Friday, June 10.
J. J. Webb, sen.—Friday, June 10.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albert, Mr. Ben
Allen, Dr. F. J.
Armadale, Miss Sybil
Baker's Hippodrome
Bannister, Prof.
Barraclough, Mr. Sidney
Beecner, Mr. Ed.
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bellman, Miss Lottie
Bentley, Mrs. W.
Bergeron, Mr. T. C.
Beringer, Miss Esme
Bogannys, The
Bollinger, Les
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Brett, Mr. Edwin
Brougham, Mr. and Mrs W. H.
Browns, The
Buonaparte, Mons. J.
Burley, Mr. W.
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Caline, Mrs. Jack
Cartwright, Mr. A.
Charcout, Mr. G.
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Chirgwin, Miss Clara
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Clifford, Mr. N.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Costello, Mr. Tom
Court, Miss D. D.
Crawford and Johnson
Dandy, George
Dellar, Mr. Kyburn
Denton, Miss Dolly
Desormes, Mr. J.
Digby, Mr. Chas.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Donovan, Miss Ruby
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Duncan, Mr. O.
Englefield, Mr.
English, Mr. James
Escourt, Mr.
Finucane, Miss M.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Fordwych, Mr. Herbert
Forrester, Mr. Tom
Francis, Mrs. Joseph
Fraser, Mr. Dan
Gobbett, Mr. T. J.
Gordon, Mr. Ben D.
Graham Bros.
Gray, Mr. Heaton
Hare, Miss W.
Heale, Mr. Jack
Heathcote, Mr. Robt.
Hemming, Mr. J. W.
Hertz, Mr. Carl
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Irving, Mr. Lawrence
James, Mr. David
John, Mr. Arthur
Joyce, Mr. L. P.
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Edith
Kingsley, Mr. Cecil
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Landon, Mr. J.
Lang, Mr. J. P.
Lawton, Mr. E.
Legleres, The
Leigh, Mr. A. A.
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Leslie, Mr. A.
Lilly, Mr. E. C.
Lisbon and Lester
Lloyd, Miss Rosie
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lorimer, Mr. J.
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Mansfield, Miss
Mars, Mr. Harry
Marsh, Mr. Alec
Martens, Capt.
McCamm, Prof.
Meynall, Mr. Clive
Mignon, Miss Mabel
Millian, Mrs. Max
Missouri, Mr. Ted
Mozart, Mr. George
Nanakusa, Mrs.
Neale, Mr. V.
O'Connell, Mr. J.
Osborne, Mr. J.
Pattison, Mr. Bert
Pelham, Mr. Paul
Phillott, Mr. Gordon
Pitt, Mr. F. W.
Poel, Mr. William
Re Vell, Miss Rosa
Roberts, Mr. R. A.
Robinson, Mr. Harry
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Rosse, Mr. Russell
Russell, Miss Violet
Sarron, Miss Celia
Schofield, Mr. G. W.
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Shine, Mr. W. E.
Squire, Mr. Reginald
Smith, Miss Maisie
Soldene, Miss Emily
St. Audris, Miss Estella
St. John, Mr. Herbert
Stratton, Mr. E.
Stuart, Mr. Barney
Temple, Mr. Richard
Terris, Mr. T.
Tregonwell, Mr. A.
Val, Mr. John R.
Valentine, Mr. Paul
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vasco, Mr. W.
Victas, The
Vine, Mr. Tom
Von Leer, Miss Sara B.
Walton, Mr. W. W.
Ward, Mr. David
Ware, Miss N.
Waterfield, Mr. Chas.
Watts, Mr. Clive
Webb, Miss Ada
Wells, Miss Pattie
Whitney, Mr. W.
Whyte, Mr. C.
Wilbert, Mr. William
Willard, Mr. E. S.
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss L.
Wilton, Miss F.
Wun Hi Ching Soo
Wyndham, Miss Pattie

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

"THE ERA" IN SOUTH AFRICA.
THE CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.
Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

'PHONE, 7607 GERRARD. 梭 花 探 THE PHONE, 7607 GERRARD.
'CATHAY' RESTAURANT
Open 11 a.m. till 11.30 p.m. Open on Sundays.
A PIONEER FIRST-CLASS CHINESE RESTAURANT, RUN ON UP-TO-DATE EUROPEAN METHODS.
.. CHINESE DISHES in great variety, .. and pure CHINA TEA (specially imported).
AMERICAN AND OTHER ARTISTES who have been accustomed to occasional Chinese Meals will find the menu at the "Cathay Restaurant" almost identical with that of the best Chinese restaurants in New York and other American cities.
SPECIAL NOTICE. The management gives special attention to little Dinner and After-Theatre Parties which may be arranged over the telephone or by correspondence.
22, DENMAN STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 514,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16888/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C30.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY-RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN" by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries. Pictures of the Royal Funeral, "The Scarab," a New Magica Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions &c., &c.
Seats 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
MLLE. LEONORA. MLLE. BRITTA.
Three Sisters Athletas, Franco Piper, Lalla Selbini, Baron's Burlesque Menagerie, Rothig, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Evening at 8.
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square)
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"HULLO! LONDON."
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST," FRED FARREN, &c.,
Royal Funeral and The Derby on the Bioscope.
Petit Roberto, Signor Barbalonga,
Mazuz and Mazetto, Elsie Wulff, and Waldoff, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Margaret Cooper, Clarice Vance, Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon Funeral Procession in Actual Natural Colours of His Late Majesty King Edward VII. on Kinemacolor, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD
Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate in "Veri 'ot Taterplane," Chas. Whittle Morny Cash, Harry Randall, John Lawson, "Bo'sun's Mate," Radie Furman, Kitty Colyer, Geoffreys and Benson, Geo. Newburn, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Beattie and Babs, Josie Delaine Minnie Mace, Larola, José Collins, Harry Thurston Dan Crawley, Ruffell's Bioscope, Darracq Whizzing the Wheel in a Motor-car. Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD—LILIAN HERLEIN,
Lauri and Beatty, Alec Chentrens, Frances Letty Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Millie Payne, Morny Cash, Madge Osmond, Tom Woottwell, The Schmettans, Daisy Dormer, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Vera Saunders, King's College Boys,
Sam Mayo, Renee,
Daisy Dormer,
The Alaskas, Beatrice English,
Dent and Harris, J. P. Ling,
Sybil Arundale and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Mrs. Bennett and Co., Tennis and Laune, Hal Bert, Allsopp and Beckwith, Ernest Rees, La Wie Pictures, Della Ray, The Langburnes, Keen and Waller, Dorothy Denton.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Peter Davey's Co. in a Skit on the Chantecler craze, entitled "Cock-a-Doodle-Do," Ray and Calden, King's College Boys, Lloyd Morgan, José Collins, Geoffreys and Benson in Duologue "Lucy Whitelegs," Jack Straw, Mabel Fairchild, Katie Marsh, Ruffell's Bioscope, Queenie Leighton.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30
Rehearsal 1 o'clock Monday. Geo. M. Marriott's Co. in "Cigarette," Daisy Taylor, Johnny Hurley Maidie Burker, Bio, Dave Carter, Walker and May, Doon and Dixey, Russell and Held, Ada Tilleys and Co. present "A Call to Arms." Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, June 6.
Esther Phillips and Co., Victor's Juveniles, Maisie Dene, Joe Hayman, Irene May, Dunning, Herbert Rule, Wilton Heriot and Co., Mike Maddin, The Luzellas, Marie Lea, Bioscope, The Woodwards, Four Kahns, Rose Monarch.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, June 6. Sam Mayo, H. Doughty and Co. Lee and Kingston, Lupino Lane, Arnold Bell and Co., Tess Lilley, Probyn and Bates, Gwen Zalska, Fred Arthur, Con Colyer, Daisy Hurdle Royston and Bradfield, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 West minster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER
will take place at the
WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE,
on
SUNDAY, June 12, 1910,
at 7.30 p.m.,
MARTIN HARVEY, Esq.,
in the Chair.
Contributions, to be placed on the Chairman's List, will be gratefully acknowledged.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Wilhelm Ganz, Esq.
Tickets (inclusive of wine), £1 1s.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary.
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLSTON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO (Con. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainwatta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. E. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half-term commences Mon., June 6. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872). Chairman of Board:
Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE, M.V.O., Mus.D., M.A.
Director of Studies:
G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M.
Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time and are received for a single subject or the course. June 6, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert. Prospectus and Concert Tickets post free on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, JOHN C. LEITE.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
19, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD., Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House, Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and J. F. KARAKA. District Manager, F. MITCHELL.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN. District Manager, J. BURY.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. STEPHEN. Joint Lessees, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, ROY H. SMITH.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali." London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
EDMUND W. BERCH,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
Acting-Manager, PERCY HARROP.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. WALKINGTON. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted Companies.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dates, Sept. 12, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, DRAMATICUS, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.
Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.
Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. JACKSON WITHERS, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in England.
Vacant for High-class Attractions,
Sept. 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Can entertain Big Panto., Xmas, four weeks.
Visited by Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr. Martin Harvey, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Mr. Geo. Edwardes's Co's., Mr. Robert Courtneidge' Co's., "The Arcadians," &c., "Brewster's Millions," Mr. Jas. Welch, Mr. Geo. Dance's Co's., Mr. Frank Curzon's Co's., The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., Mr. Richard Flanagan's Productions.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Vacant dates, July 25, Oct. 17 (Musical Comedy).
Vacant next Spring, Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 10, and 24.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, PERCY HUTCHISON.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WALSALL.—Correspondent Required to supply weekly reports of the theatres and music halls.—Apply, "Dramaticus," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Warning to Concert Parties and all others whom it may concern.
Re "THE ARCADIANS."
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the rights of public representation or performance of the music and words of "The Arcadians" are the property of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, of the Shaftesbury Theatre, London, and are reserved; further, that legal proceedings will forthwith be instituted without any further notice against all persons giving or assisting in giving any such performance or representation of the words or music of the said play or any part thereof.
Dated the 24th May, 1910.
J. MOVERLEY SHARP,
Criterion Chambers, Jermyn-street, S.W.
Solicitor for Mr. Robert Courtneidge.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ....Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ....Jan. 8, 1910
Anderson, Mr. William ....May 29, 1909
Anthony, Mr. Mark ....Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ....Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan ....Feb. 5, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William ....Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila ....July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ....Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ....Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred ....July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie ....Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ....Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ....March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ....Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E. ....Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ....Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W. ....April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald ....Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ....Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ....Jan. 22, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan ....July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert ....Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley ....Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ....Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ....March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ....March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ....Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas ....Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ....Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie ....Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ....Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ....Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ....March 26, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ....May 7, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie ....Feb. 26, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ....June 19, 1909
Colyer, Miss Kitty ....Aug. 21, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B. ....April 23, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita ....June 26, 1909
Cranston, Mr. Edward ....Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise ....Jan. 8, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ....Oct. 23, 1909
Curlette, Miss Cissie ....Sept. 4, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ....July 31, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence ....Aug. 28, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J. ....Sept. 11, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ....Feb. 5, 1910
Darien, Mr. Philip ....Oct. 2, 1909
Darling, Jessie ....Aug. 7, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell ....Jan. 29, 1910
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J. ....March 26, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W. ....Feb. 12, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie ....Oct. 23, 1909
Diamond, Master Cliff ....Feb. 5, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ....Aug. 28, 1909
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W. ....Sept. 18, 1909
Erskine, Miss Ella ....Nov. 6, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ....Feb. 12, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert ....Jan. 22, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable ....March 26, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward ....Jan. 22, 1910
Ford-Howitt Miss Gladys ....May 7, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert ....Sept. 18, 1909
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ....Aug. 28, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ....Aug. 14, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ....Feb. 5, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter ....Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ....Jan. 15, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ....Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner ....May 28, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R. ....June 6, 1909
Grossmith, sen., Mr. George ....Oct. 2, 1909
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ....Feb. 5, 1910
Hampton, Miss Louise ....May 28, 1910
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ....Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H. ....April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ....Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J. ....March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ....Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine ....June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian ....July 3, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D. ....April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland ....May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith ....Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P. ....July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta ....Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida ....July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy ....Nov. 13, 1909
Jerrarde, Miss Maisie ....April 10, 1909
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ....Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ....Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes ....July 10, 1909
Law, Master Cecil Howard ....April 24, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank ....Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn Mr. Charles ....Sept. 4, 1909
Lloyd, Mr. Tom ....May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William ....Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart ....May 22, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J. ....April 2, 1910
Mack, Miss Bertha Doud ....Dec. 25, 1909
Mackay, Miss Ida ....Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ....Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel ....April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy ....April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ....Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew ....Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance ....April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W. ....Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy ....July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma ....Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ....Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh ....June 12, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard ....Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ....Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W. ....April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford ....Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R. ....Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ....Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ....Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ....March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William ....April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ....Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace ....Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The ....Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ....Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter ....Nov. 6, 1909
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ....Feb. 5, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny ....July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry ....March 5, 1910
Salambos, The ....Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ....Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr ....April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake ....May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ....Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ....Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney ....April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ....Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ....Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C. ....Feb. 26, 1910
Stanmore, Mr. Frank ....May 29, 1909
St. John, Mr. Herbert ....May 28, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred ....March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva ....Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley ....April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry ....Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry ....Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry ....May 28, 1910
Thorne, Miss Ellaline ....May 29, 1909
Tracy, Miss Louie ....March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L. ....April 30, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite ....July 3, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick ....Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily ....March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon ....Jan. 8, 1910
Wagner, Mr. Harold ....May 22, 1909
Wakeford, Miss Marion ....Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E. ....Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles ....Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E. ....July 10, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn ....May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ....Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ....Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will ....Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend ....Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles ....July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E. ....Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom ....Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H. ....Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly ....July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ....Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.
Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1910.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

In the course of the last few weeks we have published the opinions of some of our leading managers on the subject of the National Theatre; but there are some who have not written, possibly because they consider that their opinions, already expressed, should be well known to us and to our readers. As far back as 1904 a "symposium" was started by a monthly magazine, to which many leading lights in the profession contributed, so that we are enabled to complete our collection from this convenient source. It is true that the discussion related to a State-aided theatre, but the principle involved is exactly the same.

Mr. F. R. BENSON'S opinion was admirably expressed. He said: "I do not think the amelioration of the drama can result from the drawing-up of any one cut-and-dried scheme. The problems have to be worked out rather than solved by 'words, words, words.' The amelioration of the drama will come, and is coming, alongside with many other growths and developments, such as the reorganisation and beautifying of our large cities, the provision of opportunity for a happy and independent life for the poorest member of the community, of a sane and just imperialism, the liberalising of religion independent of sect or creed, the revival of agriculture, and a more enlightened cultivation of art and science. I rather look to drama to help to reform the State; I don't think the State is capable of reforming drama. In England we are not in the habit of doing things by State machinery. Still, I think a few endowed theatres in our midst (either endowed by the State or the individual, with the avowed purpose of fostering drama rather than dividends) might be helpful. The well-being of the drama will, therefore, be the complex result of many forces working in different directions and with different ideas, not the outcome of any one formalised plan or any one subsidised theatre. In art there are many methods, but one spirit."

Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S opinion of a subsidised theatre was as follows: "If properly managed by the right man it would be most beneficial, but not if managed by anything in the nature of a committee or more than one man, who should have full power."

Sir FRANCIS BURNAND, the author of so many successful plays, was warmly in favour of a subsidised theatre with the accessories of fellowships, scholarships, and studentships, and a teaching professional staff chosen from the leading actors and actresses of the day. Mr. HALL CAINE, on the contrary, was opposed to a subsidised theatre. "Dramatic art," he said, "like all other forms of art, can only be exercised in a spirit of compromise—the result being something that lies midway between what the artist could wish to do and what he may do. This natural (perhaps commercial) condition is one that has applied to art in all the ages and in the hands of all the masters. It is not an ideal condition; but I think it is immeasurably safer, sounder, and more likely to produce good results than any artificial conditions whatsoever."

A pathetic contribution to the discussion was that of the late JOHN DAVIDSON, who said: "I am not certain. Any attempt to give a new impetus from without would be ineffective. If I had a theatre of my own I could give a new impetus to the drama."

Mr. THOMAS HARDY, the celebrated novelist, wrote: "I regret to say, in answer to your enquiries, that my knowledge of the practicable drama is too limited for me to express an opinion on the subject beyond the very general one that a State-aided theatre would probably be beneficial to dramatic art."

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY then, as now, was in favour of a subsidised theatre, which he thought "would be beneficial to the drama, if properly conducted."

Mr. SEYMOUR HICKS, whose present opinion we have been unable to ascertain, thought that a subsidised theatre would not be detrimental to dramatic art. He failed, however, to see how it would be beneficial, as actors with big positions would not appear in it for any length of time, seeing that the compensation given them could never be as large as they could make as stars under individual management, or their own if successful.

Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES said: "If we are to rescue the fine and human art of English drama from its present decline and degradation"—this, it should be remembered, was in 1904—"it is necessary to found a national or repertory theatre where high and severe literary and artistic standards may be set; where great traditions may be gradually established and maintained amongst authors, actors, critics, and audiences."

Mr. LOUIS N. PARKER thought that a State-aided theatre would be an admirable thing. He said: "It would encourage experiments; it would enable those who now shout for a 'new' drama to crystallise their ideas; it would keep old plays alive. There would always be room in the auditorium. But—ah, there are so many Buts! Who is to be at the head of it? An actor? Then how would it ultimately differ from any other theatre over which an actor presides? A dramatic author? I hear shouts of derision, in which I am inclined to join. A 'liter'y gent.'? It is difficult not to become personal that I will leave this point unlaboured. A committee? What play would ever pass a committee, and what would be left of it if it did pass?"

Sir ARTHUR PINERO, though heartily in favour of a National Theatre, and considering such an institution necessary to the thorough well-being of the stage, did not share "the extremely pessimistic views held by many on the subject of the condition of drama in England."

From this list of the really influential and experienced persons who are in favour of a National Theatre, it is obvious that many of the leading actors are now on the side of the movement. But the mere inclusion of their names as supporters of the National Theatre and as sympathisers with its objects is insufficient if the real power and authority be left in the hands of persons who are practically amateurs at theatre management. The National Theatre has to be evolved; it cannot be established at once and immediately, even after the necessary capital has been subscribed. Exactly what form and shape it will assume, how it will be organised, arranged, and, so to speak, invented, it is impossible to say. As Mr. MARTIN HARVEY has said, we should not exact too clear and definite a description of the details of the scheme. Many things will be found to be inexpedient; others discovered to be impossible. There will have to be discussions and deliberations, additions, and alterations. The great points which we have before us are: first, the preponderating feeling in favour of a National Theatre amongst the prominent members of the acting and playwriting profession; and, second, the important share which actors are now being allowed to take in the propaganda of National Theatre doctrine.

As usual, when actor-managers take up anything it immediately begins to "move." Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON has not been content with a passive or merely verbal support of the National Theatre. On April 22, at a great public dinner in Hamilton, Canada, Lord GREY called upon the city to start a subscription for the English National Theatre, which was then and there done, and in less than an hour £500 had been collected. This was entirely owing to the advocacy of Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON, to whose merits Mr. J. H. BARNES has paid eloquent tribute in our columns. We have never opposed the establishment of a National Theatre on a basis of abstract reasoning; but we have realised that the enterprise was certain to be a fiasco unless the co-operation of our leading actors and the profession generally were obtained. That objection is now being removed; and we hope to see the practical element entirely overpowering the somewhat amateur and literary body into whose hands the movement at one time seemed likely to fall.

THE benefit of Mr. James Boothman, the acting-manager of the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe (near Manchester), was a great success on Monday. Mr. Boothman was made the recipient of a beautiful clock and pair of marble horses from the employees and friends, showing the esteem and goodwill in which he is held after his stay of twelve years. A varied programme included *My Sweetheart*, Miss Lizzie Hall being a captivating Tina, Mr. Edward Rawlinson an agreeable Tony, and Mr. Sidney Spenser a typical Joe Shotwell. Miss Gipsey Alexander was good as Mrs. Fleeter, Mr. Arthur L. Read took the part of Harold Bartlett to perfection, and Mr. A. W. Thompson was a satisfactory Dr. Oliver. The theatre will be closed until August for decorating, &c.

ON the occasion of Mr. John Darlison's complimentary benefit at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, last week—when the popular resident-manager had the assistance of numerous friends in carrying through an attractive and excellent programme—one of the most successful items was the recitation of Christina Rossetti's "A Royal Princess," by Miss Eleanor McHardy. Mr. Graeme Goring also recited with great effect and power, his selection being *The Highwayman*, by Alfred Noyes; and Miss Nan Wilkinson was exceedingly happy in her contribution, assisted by Mr. T. L. Dallas, of Daisy M'Geoch's duologue *The Collaborators*. Mr. and Mrs. John Darlison were eminently successful as the Bishop and Nicolette respectively in a one-act playlet entitled *A Brother of Men*, adapted by the beneficiaire from Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables"; and *Compromising Martha* was very well played by Miss Boswell, Miss Rose Puckering, Miss Daisy Ritchie, and Mr. J. Finlayson Gauld. Musical items included a pleasing rendering of *The Waterman* by the Bohemian Lyric Opera Co.; Tosti's "Good-bye," admirably sung by Miss Bessie Simpson; an enjoyable Pierrot entertainment by the Leith Amateur Opera Co.; and several numbers most acceptably rendered by the Celtic Glee Singers.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM AT HOME.

It was good to welcome once again at the Criterion, his theatrical home of many years, Sir Charles Wyndham, who on Wednesday evening was the recipient of one of those warm, affectionate greetings from his very good friends the public that must have touched his heart. He comes, too, as an old acquaintance, whose grip of worldly wisdom and whose kindliness of heart first appealed to playgoers and won their complete approval when Sir Richard Kato faced the footlights for the first time on Oct. 3, 1894, and scored a Criterion triumph. To Miss Mary Moore, too, was given an equally affectionate welcome. It seemed to be remembered that this charming actress has recovered from a serious illness, and the unmistakable sincerity that marked the ovation given to her will make the home-coming one to be remembered. Miss Moore, too, appeared in a character which she may be said to have made her own—that of Lady Susan Harabin. The play, as our readers may have guessed, was Mr. H. A. Jones's

"THE CASE OF REBELLIOUS SUSAN."

Sir Richard Kato, K.C. SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM
Admiral the Hon. Sir Joseph Darby MR. ALFRED BISHOP
James Harabin ..... MR. SAM SOTHERN
Fergueson Pybus ..... MR. LESLIE HAMER
Lucien Edensor .... MR. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE
Mr. Jacomb ..... MR. REGINALD WALTER
Kirby ..... MR. KING FORDHAM
Footman ..... MR. LAWRENCE WHITE
Hotel Waiter ..... MR. S. BOND
Mrs. Quesnel ..... MISS ELLIS JEFFREYS
Lady Darby ..... MISS MARIE ILLINGTON
Elaine Shrimpton ..... MISS ATHENE SEYLER
Lady Susan Harabin ..... MISS MARY MOORE

Lady Susan Harabin, it will be remembered, has discovered her husband's infidelity, and is determined to leave him, and import a little romance into her life. This project she carries out in Cairo, where she meets an impressionable youngster named Lucien Edensor, who takes her to church, and in the second act proposes an elopement. The very good friend of everybody in the comedy prevents any such catastrophe, and as guardian of Lady Susan takes her under his immediate care. Her young lover becomes disillusioned on his voyage out to New Zealand, falls in love with somebody else; and when Lady Susan receives back in a piece of wedding cake the ring which she has given him as a token, she decides to take her husband back.

Sir Charles Wyndham plays with the same charm of manner and delightful ease that have always marked his rendering of the slightly cynical and tender-hearted man of the world. Sir Richard does the right thing all the time, and appeals to us both in his humour and his seriousness. Miss Mary Moore is just the froward, wilful, perverse, and winning Lady Susan that we have admired on previous occasions, and we are ready to believe the best of rebellious Susan as presented by her.

A performance of sweetness and distinction may be credited to Miss Ellis Jeffreys, and the passages between Mrs. Quesnel and Sir Richard were among the brightest and most interesting in the comedy. Mr. Alfred Bishop is one of our best eccentric old men, and his delineation of the gay old sea-dog Admiral Darby was a particularly refreshing reminder of the value of the old school of comedy. Mr. Leslie Hamer as Fergueson Pybus—a sort of Archibald Grosvenor—was distinctly precious in his expression of the yearnings after an æsthetic cult—unduly crushed in a suburban residence in Gladstone-road, Clapham; and Miss Athene Seyler, a young actress who is rapidly working her way to the front, gave amusing emphasis to the decidedly "advanced" views of that inexperienced young person Mrs. Pybus, who regards man as a simple muddle-headed exponent of the doctrine of brute force. Mr. Charles Quartermaine made a warm and impulsive Lucien Edensor, being especially good in the love scene with Lady Susan in the second act; Mr. Sam Sothern presented an unexaggerated portrait of James Harabin; and Miss Mary Illington was an irreproachable Lady Darby.

BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

Massenet's *Werther* was revived by Mr. Thomas Beecham at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday night, May 27. When first produced at the Imperial Opera House, Vienna, in 1892, Van Dyck appeared as the hero. Some years ago *Werther* was performed at Covent Garden, but the great size of our fine opera house did not suit such a delicate subject, and as the music has not the charm of the same composer's opera *Manon*, and the story is extremely sad, not to say morbid, *Werther* never became popular. On the smaller stage of His Majesty's Theatre, however, Massenet's music is heard to far greater advantage, while by the revival Mr. Thomas Beecham, for the third time in one week, deserves the hearty thanks of all music-lovers. Messrs. Edouard Blau, Paul Milliet, and Georges Hartman are the librettists, and the first scene is the garden of Steward's house, where he is teaching the children to sing a carol. Werther enters, and when Charlotte arrives he is greatly impressed by her charms. Together they go off to a ball, and on returning Werther makes ardent love to his fair companion. Charlotte, although responding, tells him she must wed a certain Albert, owing to a vow to her mother, and Werther in despair says if she does he will destroy himself. A square in the town of Wetzlar is seen in the next act, and into a church on the right Charlotte and Albert, who are now married, enter. Werther arrives, and Albert, coming out of the church, gives him good advice. Werther seems convinced, but when Charlotte comes in forgets all but his love for her. In the next act (Albert's house) Charlotte is seen reading Werther's many letters, and, after a short scene with her sister, Sophie, Charlotte is again troubled by the sudden return of Werther, more infatuated than ever. A passionate duet follows, Werther departs, and the opera ends by the hero sending to Albert for a pistol, and Charlotte seeking her lover's house, only in time to find him on the floor mortally wounded. The music of Massenet is graceful and at times pathetic, as in the scene where Charlotte reads her lover's letters, while the love duets are not without a certain charm, but it is in the last act that the composer is most successful, with a beautiful duet between Charlotte and Werther. The orchestra, under Mr. Beecham's skilful direction, played admirably and with the utmost refinement, and the scenery was effective and picturesque. Mme. Zélie de Lussan, an experienced artist, appeared as Charlotte, and Mr. Ellison Van Hoose sang well as Werther, but had no easy task in arousing sympathy for so weak and sentimental a hero. Mr. Lewys James also was vocally excellent as Albert; while Miss Beatrice La Palme played Charlotte's sister, Sophie, in quite the right spirit. The small part of Steward was ably undertaken by Mr. Alfred Kaufmann, and the other characters by Messrs. John Bardsley and Frederick Ranalow.

MR. F. W. BOLAM'S first annual stock season is proving a great success at the Metropole, Gateshead. The fare this week is Mr. Geo. R. Sims's drama *Harbour Lights*. The principal artists are Mr. John B. Shinton and Miss Ada M. Ryder, who are seen to advantage in the rôles of David Kingsley and Dora Vane respectively; Mr. Stanley Bedwell and Mr. Arthur R. Holland, who share the honours as the scheming relatives, Nicholas and Frank Morland; the comedy is in the capable hands of Mr. Bert Atherton, who is assisted by Miss Gertrude Morella and Miss Annie Brunnette. The production, under the direction of Mr. Sidney Rennef, is worthy of praise, the scenic effects being excellently devised.

MR. H. A. JONES ON A NATIONAL THEATRE.

At the debate of the Oxford Union on Thursday Mr. Henry Arthur Jones made the following speech in support of the resolution "That this House would welcome the establishment of a National Theatre":—

I must own I am a little surprised to find that in Oxford University there is any difference of opinion as to the advisability of founding a National Theatre in England.

I am inclined to think that the most powerful arguments for a National Theatre are to be found in the present condition of the drama in England. In the month of February I had occasion to look up how many Shakespearean performances were taking place in Great Britain on a certain night. Throughout the length and breadth of the land there was only one—a performance of *Twelfth Night* at the Queen's Theatre at Manchester. During the month of May, when the London season is at its height, after the Shakespearean Festival, there was not a single Shakespearean performance in London. At the present moment there is only one, and that at a cheap-price theatre. Speaking generally, I think we may say there has been a very marked slump in Shakespeare for some years past. We do indeed get occasional revivals, but the length of their run is noticeably shorter than was the corresponding run of the same plays under Irving's management twenty-five years ago. Shakespeare then ran for two or three hundred nights. Our present managers have a difficulty in getting him up to a hundred. Thanks to the devotion and energy of Sir Herbert Tree, we have a Shakespearean Festival every year, and there are many good and some notable performances in it. But for all-round acting I don't think our present representations of Shakespeare will compare with those of twenty-five years ago, when they were stiffened and broadened by the acting of many actors trained in the old school. There is indeed a very noticeable decline in the art of speaking blank verse on the English stage. But surely a high proficiency in the art of speaking verse is the very foundation of any tolerable school of Shakespearean acting.

In reviewing Shakespearean performances during the last thirty years, how few of the great Shakespearean passages can we remember that have been adequately rendered. How rare is it to listen to one of these passages on the English stage and get the proper pleasure from its delivery. How often, indeed, do we find these great passages merely mangled and mumbled in such a way that we should never suspect them to be verse unless we knew it. I do not say that we do not get other delights from our Shakespearean performances—delights from the scenery, from pieces of notable characterisation, from the management of crowds; but this first and most essential delight of a Shakespearean performance, the delight of hearing blank verse musically spoken, we scarcely ever get upon our London stage.

When we turn to the modern drama we may find certain very hopeful and encouraging signs. Our reproduction of modern drawing-room comedy is at a very high level. But when we come to serious drama, dealing in an honest and searching way with our modern life, we are forced to own that scarcely three pieces have met with any success during the last six years. Serious drama in London has no hold whatever upon the public. This may be the fault of dramatic authors who cannot write serious plays sufficiently interesting; or it may be the fault of the actors who cannot interpret great passions in such a way as to make them credible; or it may be the fault of the public who demand mere frivolous entertainment of the theatre; but there is the fact that while dozens of serious plays are being successfully produced in France and Germany, the English stage only produces them to run a few nights to empty houses.

If we turn to the provinces, we may almost say that the drama is dead. The theatres are empty except when musical comedies are being played, or when a London star brings down his company to play the latest London success. Meanwhile, the large music halls are crammed, and are everywhere squeezing the drama out of existence. These music halls do indeed give certain sketches and dramatic scenes, but they are for the most part very crude and on a very low intellectual level.

To sum up, we may say that to-day in England the drama does not exist as a form of art at all; it is merely tolerated by the great public as a mere hanger-on of popular amusement.

Now I will ask you to say whether you think that state of things is a desirable one? I will grant that the drama in all ages has been more or less connected with popular amusement. The first thing that an author or an actor learns is that he must amuse or interest his public. I am always affirming that the end of the drama is to interest and amuse. There is no question about this; the question is really on what level and by what means the public shall be interested and amused in the theatre. For many years I have been begging English theatre-goers to separate their drama from popular amusement. As a matter of fact, the drama and popular amusement will never be separated on the stage. The separation must be made in the mind of the theatre-goer. It is really a question of how far theatre-goers can be persuaded to take a delight in the drama as a study and an interpretation of life, or even as an exhibition of manners. It is a question whether the drama shall be a branch of popular amusement and muddled up with popular amusement, or whether it shall again become a branch of English literature, and judged on that level.

You will say that of course it is desirable that theatre-goers should be amused by the drama as a study of life rather than as a mere exhibition of legs and tomfoolery. But will the establishment and endowment of a National Theatre bring this about? Undoubtedly the national recognition of the drama would tend to bring about this result, inasmuch as it would bring the theatre into relation with the intellectual and artistic life of the nation. At the present moment literature stands largely aloof from the stage. Literary men will not take the trouble to learn the very hard and tedious craft of play-writing. They write unactable plays which do no go home to the public, and when these fail they become contemptuous of the drama. Most of you will remember George Meredith's fine Essay on Comedy and his splendid tribute to Molière. Well, lately we have seen a comedy by George Meredith, which was indeed finely written so far as one's wits were nimble enough to follow the language, but which had no definite or connected scheme of action. It was written in language not understanded of the people, and so one was forced to ask why George Meredith did not follow Molière's habit of reading his comedy to his housekeeper.

Now, a National Theatre would tend to draw the best literary men of the day to write for it, and amongst them some would be found teachable enough to grasp the fact that play writing is a very skilled art, altogether apart from literature in itself. Then, again, a National Theatre, would most likely attract many of those fine actors who are now wandering about because they have not the business instinct sufficiently developed to take and manage a theatre, with all its attendant anxieties and vexations. There are many fine actors who are rarely seen on the London stage, because they have not influence enough, or money enough, to secure a theatre to act parts to display their abilities. In a National Theatre I hope we should have a very fine all-round company, so that all the parts would be played at an equal level. This should not interfere with the present star actors who wish to surround themselves with a company of their own. Rather a healthy competition would be developed between the National Theatre and the other managements, with the result of raising the standards all round.

What would be the result of a Shakespeare National Theatre upon the public?

Now, it is useless to write plays that are wide away from or ahead of the tastes and habits of the general body of the theatre-going public. Plays are meant to be popular and to draw the great crowd. Shakespeare was the most popular playwright of his day. He gave the public what they wanted, as every successful playwright must do. But what do the public want? I believe that gradually the public can be led to take an interest and delight in the drama as an intellectual entertainment. I believe that the public is indifferent enough and good-natured enough to be led to take an interest in drama that can worthily be called a national art. The truth is that the public are always being educated, whether they know it and whether they like it or no. Consider the enormous education of the public during the last twenty years in the popular form of musical comedy. They have been persuaded and told that the serious drama is dull, that it is immoral, that it will bore them, that they ought to go to the theatre to be amused; and these doctrines have been preached to them with such insistency that we may say the English play-going public has been deliberately educated down to their present low standard. It is almost certain that the leading newspapers in the country could in a few years work a great change in the standard of the English drama. We are all creatures of habit to an extent that we never sufficiently recognise. The English public is not so dull, so stupid, so intellectually degraded, as it is often believed to be. I believe that if one National Theatre, with high standards of authorship and acting, were established amongst us that there is not only a public sufficient to fill that theatre and make it pay, but I believe there is a larger public growing up who would be drawn to the numerous theatres that we might expect to follow and copy the example thus set before them. I believe that we should see, not only in London, but in our great provincial cities, theatres starting up with high artistic aims, and by citizens in those cities as a local institution. Thus gradually great traditions would be established amongst us, not only in London, but all over the country. I have the greatest faith in the possibility of educating the English play-going public to a very high level indeed.

But you say: Ought a National Theatre to be subsidised for this purpose? For my own part, seeing what an enormous influence the drama might have, I think it would be the wisest economy of the Government to start theatres in every large centre. I believe the national money could not be spent in a better way.

But the scheme which I am here to support to-night is not calling for Government aid. It is hoped that the English-speaking people themselves throughout the Empire will themselves recognise the necessity of establishing the drama as a national art, and will support the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre to the extent of giving it a handsome building and a secure endowment.

I cannot understand any objection that has been raised to this scheme except those that come from interested people, which are indeed easily to be understood. When Paul and Silas visited Thyatira their doctrines met with much opposition from the proprietors of a soothsaying girl. Paul had cast a devil out of the soothsaying girl, and had thus taken away her vocation, and her proprietors took great objection to Paul's doctrines and clapped Paul and Silas into prison. I quite understand that opposition to a National Theatre which comes from the proprietors of the soothsaying girl, and from all whose position and occupation would be endangered by its establishment, with high standards in acting and authorship. Indeed, although there has been much opposition to the endowment of a National Theatre, it is a curious fact that at the present moment many existing forms or perversions of English drama are largely endowed by private persons. I believe if we could turn over the books of all the London theatres in the last thirty years, and discover their exact balances, we should find that enough money had been wasted and thrown away in London theatres to establish and endow three or four such institutions as the present proposed National Theatre. I cannot, of course, have access to the books and give you the exact figures, but as a matter of fact those who are best qualified to estimate will tell you that an enormous sum of money is being continually poured into the London theatres to support their different entertainments. Of course, this money is often not given for the sake of the drama, but to support a certain manager, or at times, perhaps, for less worthy motives. Is it not an extraordinary fact that rich men can be found in abundance to support quite frivolous and unintellectual forms of entertainment, and yet cannot be found to put their hands in their pockets and unite in a scheme for establishing and endowing this fine art of Shakespeare? But I believe that the English people will come forward and raise a National Theatre as a worthy monument to our great poet. I may point out here that there is no other scheme in contemplation to do honour to him on the third centenary of his death. Again, it is not proposed to devote the National Theatre exclusively to Shakespearean performances. The modern and really vital drama of our time will also have its due share of representation.

The standing argument for a National Theatre is, of course, the Théâtre Français in Paris. With that great theatre constantly before us, it seems absurd to argue against the establishment of a National Theatre in London.

In England for generations past the drama and literature have been virtually separated. We had a great Victorian literature, but its great names are not on our roll of playwrights except as failures. It is generations since a great name, great in English literature, was also great on the English stage. But if we look across the Channel we find that the greatest names in French literature have also been those of the greatest dramatists. In the eighteenth century Voltaire was the highest name in French literature; he was also at the head of French playwrights. In the nineteenth century Victor Hugo was the greatest name in French literature; he was also at the head of French playwrights. There is scarcely a name in French literature for two centuries that has not appeared on play-bills as the name of a successful dramatist. It is because a National Theatre would afford a meeting-place for English literature and English drama that I appeal to you to support this movement. Surely Oxford is the last place where the necessity for a union between English literature and the English drama will be denied. Surely Oxford is the last place where such a movement will be refused an overwhelming support.

IT has now been decided that the Beecham opera tour in the provinces in the autumn shall begin at Blackpool on September 5. A week will be spent there, also at Belfast, Dublin, Coronet (London), Kennington (London), Manchester, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Newcastle, Leeds, Nottingham, Birmingham, Brighton, and two weeks at Glasgow. The company will be one hundred strong, with an orchestra of fifty, and Mr. Beecham will conduct on the opening night in each town and Mr. McCunn and Mr. Bath the remaining performances. Miss Edith Evans, Miss Caroline Hatchard, Mr. O'Mara, Mr. John Bardsley, Mr. F. Ranalow, Mr. Alfred Heather, and Mr. Charles McGrath will be the principal artists.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

In consequence of the death of the late King, and subsequent funeral, which disorganized many functions that were to have taken place, the committee think it desirable to postpone the Graydon testimonial dinner to a date which will be announced in due course.

We are informed that Mr. C. H. Workman will presently make his appearance on the variety stage in a specially-prepared sketch, a particularly strong piece of work, the central figure of which is a hunchback jester to be played by the Savoy comedian, whose fine Jack Point we all remember so well.

A feature of that fine sketch *Napoleon's Washerwoman* is the beautiful mounting. Such an interior as is set for Napoleon's apartment at St. Cloud is rarely seen on the variety stage, even in these days of luxury. The taste shown, too, in the selection of the furniture is conspicuous; and it is evident that Miss Annie Hughes, the latest and best Sans Gêne the music hall stage has seen, is determined to have a *mise-en-scène* worthy of her and of the play she so admirably presents.

Mlle. Adeline Genée, the world-famous dancer, on June 11 marries Mr. Frank Isitt, manager of the Duke of Newcastle's estates. He is an enthusiastic musician and a composer. The marriage will take place at All Saints' Church, Margaret-street.

The service will be fully choral. The services of a fine string orchestra have been retained, under the direction of the organist, Mr. Walter Vale. The Rev. M. R. Carpenter Garnier will officiate, and will be assisted by the Vicar and the Duke of Newcastle's chaplain. The Duke will escort the bride to the church, and will subsequently give her away.

Mlle. Genée's thick white satin dress will be a shimmer of pearls, with cascades of exquisite Brussels lace edging the netted pearl tunic. The yoke of finely tucked tulle will have a wide collar of lace outlining the décolletage, and the over-sleeves will also be made of fine Brussels point. The satin train will be of orthodox length.

The whole scheme of the wedding is white. The page, little Norman Courage, will wear a courtier's suit, and the little girl, Audrey Temperley, a simple frock of white ninon. Miss Ethel Temperley will be the principal bridesmaid and the best man Mr. Fred H. Isitt.

Miss Evie Greene, the fascinating Dolores in the original cast of *Florodora*, was married on Wednesday (Derby Day). After many brilliant triumphs on the musical comedy stage in England and America—the chief being, perhaps, her Duchess of Dantzic in the comic opera of that name—she made her first appearance in variety at the Palace Theatre. She was soon after secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll, and is an immense favourite at the Coliseum. She is not leaving the stage—in fact, her engagements for some time will keep her to London, Manchester, Birmingham, and Glasgow. Evie is now the wife of a merry-hearted sailor; and as the song says, "A sailor's wife a sailor's star shall be!" Heartiest congratulations.

Collins' came under the hammer on the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, on Tuesday. One of the best-known music-halls in London, this establishment was formerly known as the Lansdowne Arms. In 1863 Samuel Vagg, proprietor of the old Marylebone Music Hall, better known by his stage name of Sam Collins, Irish character comedian, acquired the premises and rebuilt them. He died two years later, and his widow married Henry Watts, under whose management Collins's Music-hall, as he named it, remained until his death in May, 1881.

At that time the L.C.C. as an authority for the control of entertainments was non-existent, and Mr. Watts, on his own initiative, instituted strict rules and regulations which he so strongly enforced that in some cases the professionals resented having to leave out "gags" which they considered necessary to make their songs popular, and retaliated by calling Collins' "The Chapel." Many interesting associations are bound up with the place, and many will remember the chairman, Mr. John Read (who is still living), with his "'ammer in 'is 'and," sitting at the table, and announcing quite unostentatiously the names of the performers. Mr. Watts was succeeded by Mr. Herbert Sprake.

Mr. Sprake acquired the freehold of the adjoining house on Islington-green, of the cottages close by, and part of the vacant land in the rear, and most of this extensive site was used for the erection of the handsome theatre which was built in 1897. It is a large hall, capable of accommodating 1,114 people, besides having eight private boxes.

All the valuable fittings and accessories were comprised in the sale, together with the "Lansdowne Arms." Bidding opened at £10,000, although the auctioneer suggested £30,000, mentioning that thirteen years ago the property cost the purchasers something approaching £20,000. The bidding slowly rose to £16,000, and at this figure the property was withdrawn.

A change will be made in the programme of the Russian Dancers at the Coliseum on Monday, when they will introduce the stirring "Warrior Dance" from the ballet *Salambo*. This gives an opportunity of seeing Theodore Kosloff and Mlle. Baldina in new characters. Mlle. Karsavina being required to "star" at the Royal Opera House, Paris, the ballet *Gisella* at the Coliseum will be omitted until her return.

We regret to announce the sudden death of Mrs. Marie Gerald, wife of the well-known Continental impresario G. W. Gerald, and sister-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coyle, of Leeds. Many Continental artists will miss this lady's kindness, she ever being ready and willing to secure the rates when travelling abroad, and which were specially granted to her husband, G. W. Gerald, for artists travelling abroad.

A big fête and gala will be held in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution at Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, on Wednesday, July 6. Among the special attractions already settled on are: Two variety performances in the open air, with London all star companies, headed by ever-popular Joe Elvin, in the afternoon and evening, a classical concert, cinematograph shows dancing in the ball-room all day long, a representation of the old Richardson show, all the fun of the fair in the large fair ground, numerous side-shows, entertainments of all kinds, morning, noon, and night, and in the evening special electrical illumination of the picturesque grounds.

The gardens, which will be at their best, can be easily reached either by the Belle steamers to Gravesend, or by the South Eastern Railway to Gravesend, or the Great Eastern to Tilbury and then ferry across the river. Special cheap tickets, including admission, will be issued by every route. The Hon. Secs. of the Institution, in whose hands is entrusted the management of the fête, Messrs. H. Cory Woodrow and C. Douglas Stuart, would be glad to hear from anyone who would be willing to assist in any way. Their address is 13, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Mr. Walter Wright resigns the managership of the Ton-y-Pandy Empire in order to devote the summer to his concert party at the Exmouth Pier Pavilion. This is his eighth season.

Captain Permane, in his really interesting show with his Teddy Bears, headed the bill last week at the Grand Theatre and Empire, Doncaster, when his pets became extremely popular.

We regret to learn that Mr. Herbert Willson, aged thirty-seven, youngest son of Mr. W. Willson, of the New Walk Printing Works, Leicester, passed away on June 1. We extend our sincere sympathy to the bereaved parents in their great sorrow.

The Swiss Gardens, Shoreham, with the licensed freehold premises known as the Cottage Inn, not having been sold at the recent auction, Messrs. Jenner and Dell are instructed to offer it, with possession, at the upset price of £2,000. The property is freehold.

The popular manager of the Hippodrome, Bolton, was accorded his first benefit on Thursday evening, May 26, when the hall presented a fine appearance. Since the place was first opened some two years ago Mr. Harrison has occupied the position of manager in a very able manner.

The large and influential company present on Thursday night included his Worship the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. J. T. Cooper). During an interval in the programme, the Mayor said it gave him great pleasure to hand to Mr. Harrison various presents, which showed the genuine good will of his (Mr. Harrison's) friends. He concluded by wishing Mr. and Mrs. Harrison very good health and long life. Mr Harrison said he thanked the committee and patrons from his heart for their kindness. To the staff and artists also he tendered his best thanks.

The presents consisted of an illuminated address and a cheque for a substantial amount; a solid silver cigarette case, match-box, and card case combined, bearing the inscription, "With best wishes, from a few pals, May 26th, 1910"; a gold mounted umbrella, and a solid silver breakfast set, comprising cruet, egg-cups, spoons, toast-rack and jam dishes. The latter was subscribed for by the orchestra and staff, and bore the following inscription: "Presented to A. R. Harrison, Esq., on his first benefit, by the orchestra and staff of the Hippodrome, Bolton, 26/5/10."

Mr. Oswald Stoll has once again earned and received the thanks of the public of Leicester for his kindness in placing the Palace Theatre at the disposal of a committee to raise funds for the Children's Hospital and Infirmary. The performance which took place on Thursday, May 26, was a great success, and a large sum will be handed over, as the whole "show" was given without a penny being deducted for expenses. It was under most distinguished patronage, and a large number of the leading people of the town and county were present.

The artists who kindly gave their services were Gertie Gitana, Maidie Scott, Marie Kendall, Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova's company in The Organ Grinder, the Smythsons in *The Lie Alarm*, Annie Fielding and Bert Hull in *Mixed Bathing*, the Tom Davis Trio, Rich Taylor, Ross Ashton (who also supplied the title-page of the programme), Steve McCarthy, Siems, Maud Mac and Paul Grant in *A Nice Little Supper*, Takio, Wee Cissie (a popular and clever youngster from Rhyl, who again made a successful appearance), Bert Weston, and Mr. C. Finch-Hatton, who displayed fine elocutionary powers in studies from *The Merchant of Venice* and *Ruy Blas*. Vesta Tilley sent her best wishes for its success and some picture postcards.

During an interval in the programme the Mayor, who was accompanied by Judge Wightman Wood, Sir Edward Wood, and a number of other influential gentlemen, took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Oswald Stoll for the free use of the Palace, the artists for their services, and the Palace staff and orchestra, who had all generously given their time and talent on behalf of the good cause.

Mr. C. Finch-Hatton, the acting-manager, who had acted as one of the hon. secretaries to the movement, said that they would be pleased to make any effort they could to help along the good work of the Infirmary, the Children's Hospital, or any other charitable institution.

The directors of the New Alhambra Theatre, Belfast (Entertainments, Ltd.), and Mr. Will White, the popular general-manager, have presented the Belfast Royal Irish Constabulary Sports with a lovely shield for a tug-of-war to be won any three times. It is of oxidised silver with solid silver winners' name-plates. In addition, gold-centred silver medals for the holders have been presented by the above. The gift has caused much enthusiasm, and there is sure to be a big struggle to win it for the first time. The sports take place to-day (Saturday) at Ulster Grounds, Belfast.

On Sunday evening, May 29, a grand sacred concert was held in the Empire Theatre, South Shields (by kind permission of Mr. Richard Thornton), in aid of the sufferers from the terrible mining disaster at Whitehaven, under the distinguished patronage of his Worship the Mayor, Alderman G. T. Grey, Alderman R. Readhead, J.P., James Kirkley, Esq., Chief Constable (W. Scott), and others. The concert was of a most enjoyable description, and a good sum of money was realised. Mr. Ernest Bridgen was the recipient of a most highly complimentary letter from his Worship the Mayor, thanking him for his assiduity, and expressing delight at being a co-partner in such a good cause.

Saturday afternoon last was a notable day at Scott-Barrie's Pavilion, Harehills Corner, Leeds, when Arthur Roberts, Sam Mayo, Tubby Edlin, Ben Albert, Tom Stuart, Charlie Coverdale, Henri Doré, and several other prominent members of the Profession were present. In accordance with the general rule at Saturday matinées, a Children's Singing and Pianoforte Competition was held, and so very amusing and clever were some of the youngsters that they were literally showered with chocolates by the party. The whole company were unanimous in their praises of the Pavilion, the Chantecleres, and the general procedure.

Since his first appearance in England at the end of last year, the Great Raymond, supported by his own vaudeville company, has played to capacity business at every theatre visited, and again this week at the spacious Salford Hippodrome, so enormous have proved his drawing powers, that hundreds have been turned away. His audiences everywhere have fully appreciated the fact that this globe-trotting funmaker and illusionist is giving to this country what is, in all probability, the biggest, brightest, most elaborate and costly performance of its class that England has ever seen. He is now "doing" his first British tour and his third tour of the world, during which he will embrace a prolonged season in London, presenting an altogether novel entertainment.

A special general meeting of the Terriers' Association will be held on Sunday next at 6.30 p.m., for the purpose of considering the rules.

On making inquiries at the Alhambra, we learnt with much satisfaction of a considerable improvement in the condition of Mr. Harry Woodford, who is now able to leave his bed.

After a run of forty-two weeks in London, working principal halls, Miss Aggie Nolan commences a tour of twenty-six weeks, starting at the Pavilion, Glasgow.

The many friends of Mr. Ben Abrahams, the popular assistant-manager of the Queen's, Poplar, will be pleased to learn that he is gradually recovering from the attack of tonsilitis which has lately kept him from his duties.

Mr. Wal Pink, the prolific writer of every form of sketch, is the author of a duologue that will be produced on Monday at the Camberwell Palace. *Sitting Up* is the title, and it will be played by Mr. Jack Collinson and Miss Freda Vaughan.

So striking is the likeness of Mr. Juan Bonaparte, now playing the leading rôle in *The Man of Fate* at Manchester, to that of the Emperor Napoleon, that Mr. Tussaud has made arrangements to have a model of him for the Exhibition in the Marylebone-road.

Mr. Henry De Bray and company have been presenting this week at the Bedford with great success a tabloid version by Alice Clayton Greene of Robert Louis Stevenson's story *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. They go next week to the Crouch End Hippodrome.

The Greenwich Palace, situated close to the beautiful park, is now closed. After a brief tenure Major Gordon Hartley discontinued giving entertainments after Saturday, May 21. In the eighties the house belonged to Mr. Charles Crowder, and was renamed the Parthenon when controlled by Mr. Ambrose Hurley. The present proprietors are the Barnards.

Those who have enjoyed the refined act of Harry Leybourne, "the original nervous lady," at the Coliseum and other leading London halls, will not be surprised to hear that this clever mimic and entertainer at the piano has been rebooked for a return on the Stoll tour in consequence of his great success. Mr. Fred Higham, who has Mr. Leybourne's business in hand, is responsible for this booking.

The Chicago papers were unanimous in their praises of Miss Lil Hawthorne's recent performances at the Majestic Theatre there. They spoke highly of her artistic ability and refinement in all her songs. Miss Hawthorne has been offered the Orpheum tour by Mr. Martin Beck for the autumn of the present year. If she can arrange her English bookings she will accept it, which will embrace about thirty weeks.

Mr. Blyth-Pratt is following the best traditions of management at the Oxford by introducing the latest athletic and other sensations. "Whizzing the Wheel" is the latest thrill, and it is accomplished by a motorist named Darracq, who is quite English. On a diminutive 8½ h.p. car he careers round the inner surface of a specially-constructed wheel until he attains a speed which is claimed to exceed eighty miles an hour. Audiences have enthusiastically applauded this intrepid show during the week.

The immensely popular Poluski Bros. are telling a very good story against themselves. When playing recently in the provinces the son of their landlady said unfavourable things about their show. The angry mother, not wanting to lose her business, called the boy to account, and told his father. The father immediately sent the boy to bed; then, putting on a clean collar, he decided to see the act for himself. After the show he crept slowly up the stairs to his son's bedroom, woke him up, and said, "My boy, can you ever forgive me?"

Mr. John E. Brewster informs us that Miss Eva Brewster, who broke her arm while taking part in the acrobatic dance four months ago, has now fully recovered, and can work as well as ever. The Brewsters have recently concluded a highly-successful tour of nine months, visiting Austria, Hungary, Servia, Bulgaria, and Italy, and have just returned to France on a return tour. At its termination they will again, for the fifth time, visit Spain and Portugal. Mr. Brewster is shortly producing a sensational novelty, an aerial cycle ball act, particulars of which will be duly announced.

Mlle. Pavlova and Mr. Mordkin, now appearing at the Palace, are great believers in hard work and practice, and every day the stage of the Palace witnesses these artists either practising separately or carefully rehearsing the members of the corps-de-ballet. As a rule, this particular kind of exercise is undertaken in short skirts, but Mlle. Pavlova scouts any idea of the kind. I could not feel," she declares, "that I was really dancing in a manner befitting such poetical and classical music, or that I could possibly attain to the height of inspiration requisite to do justice to it did I not wear my regular evening stage costume. Anything less than that would obviously be out of keeping with the work I have to do."

The many conflicting reports concerning the immediate future of the Royal Standard Music Hall, Victoria Station, have now been set at rest by the authoritative statement that the site has been secured by Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece. The present building, which stands on the site of one of the oldest variety houses in London will be entirely demolished, and a new and larger building constructed, some adjoining property having been secured for that purpose. Mr. Alfred Butt now controls the bookings of the Alhambra, Paris, through the Variety Theatres' Controlling Co., but Mr. Walter de Frece is superintending the Barrasford Provincial Tour through the same office.

The Executive Committee of the M.H.A.B.A. held their 661st meeting on Wednesday, when the following members were present: Messrs. Fred Herbert (chairman), Chas. Coborn, Lieutenant Albini, T. C. Callaghan, E. W. Edmonds, Jack Straw, Tom J. Norton, J. Miller Northern, Alf. Herald, C. Douglas Stuart, Arthur Gallimore, Jim Obo, and Ben Obo. The agency at Norwich was transferred to the Jenny Lind Hotel, and new agencies opened at Richmond Hotel, Wishaw, and the Rose of Avondale Hotel, Teignmouth. The committee decided to allow the Manchester office to be closed on Monday next on account of the wedding of Mr. Slingsby's daughter.

The Chairman reported the result of the conference held last Thursday between the Ocean Accident Insurance Company and the representatives of the committee, Messrs. Herbert, Blake, Coborn, Straw, Bancroft, and Stuart, on the question of the insurance coupon, which at present stands at the rate of 1s. 6d. per member per annum. A letter was read from the insurance company making an offer of a reduction to 1s. 5d. per member. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Secretary be instructed to arrange another interview, if possible, with the same representatives of the Association.

Miss Maud Allan is on her way back to London from the States. She will feel the heat less than most of us, says *London Opinion*.

Mr. Ernie Mayne has been going great guns at the Oxford and other syndicate halls for the past month. On Monday he pays yet another visit to the London Coliseum. For Christmas he has been specially engaged by J. M. Chute for Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

Miss Grace Lester has been kindly released from her autumn contract with Mr. Frederick Melville to enable her to continue her engagements on the variety stage with her new sketch *A Ruined Life*. Miss Lester has made a pronounced success at all the halls she has visited.

Mr. Albert Bruno, Mr. Karno's principal comedian, who so recently stepped into the shoes of Mr. Fred Kitchen, is resting at Blackpool, owing to nervous breakdown through overwork. He, however, is progressing favourably, and hopes to open in London again in about a week's time with *Perkins, M.P.*

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday afternoon next at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road.

Miss Joan Derry, the popular and clever boy impersonator, will pay her fifth return visit to the People's Palace, Bristol, next week, and will appear with Mr. Charles Collette in her original character in H. C. Sargent's farce-duologue, *Pyjamas*.

Judgment was delivered, in the Birmingham County Court, last week, in the action in which Arthur William Cochrane, music hall artist, of 30, Skinner-street, Chatham, claimed £100 damages from the Birmingham Hippodrome Company for personal injuries sustained on Sunday, Dec. 26 last year, by his falling through a trap-door, alleged to have been left open through the negligence of the defendants' servants.

The Judge accepted the evidence regarding the accident, but there was nothing to show how, or by whom, the trap-door was left open; but he did not think it could be held that, in the absence of any servant on the stage to direct persons and prevent such accidents, the defendants were guilty of negligence. Accordingly, there must be judgment for the defendants.

Dr. John Fletcher, of Dawes-road, Walham Green, was sued on Wednesday by Mr. James Pratt, of Burnthwaite-road, Fulham, stage-manager at the Granville Music Hall, Walham Green, whose wife died on Dec. 31 after drinking from a bottle of medicine supplied by the defendant. The plaintiff claimed damages for the loss of his wife through the doctor's negligence.

Mr. Edward Abinger, for the plaintiff, said that Mrs. Pratt had an attack of indigestion, and went to Dr. Fletcher, who gave her a bottle of medicine. She drank some of it and was seized with agonising pains. Dr. Fletcher was sent for and used the stomach pump, but Mrs. Pratt became rapidly worse. The doctor left the house, but before doing so took the bottle into the scullery and filled it up with water.

Dr. Fletcher, giving evidence, said that he admitted at the inquest that the woman died from strychnine poisoning. He could only express his profound regret for what had happened. In cross-examination, he said that the reason he filled up the bottle was to prevent others being poisoned. The jury assessed the damages at £214 11s. 6d., divided as follows:—£50 for the husband, £50 each for three children under age, and £14 11s. 6d. expenses.

The "Welcome Home" Banquet to Terrier Griff (the President of the Terriers' Association) who has recently returned from a tour in America, was held on Sunday last, at the Hotel Boulogne, and was one of the most successful functions on record. Eighty-six Terriers and friends assembled. The chair was taken by Terrier G. P. R. Burgess, P.W.T., supported by Terriers Jesse Sparrow, P.W.T., Harry Barnard, P.W.T. and Ted Karno, P.W.T. The menu, specially designed by Terrier Arthur Were, was reminiscent of Griff's tours, the names of American towns being added to the various items on the menu. American picture post cards and a photograph of a champion fox terrier were attached with purple ribbon.

After the usual loyal toast, Terrier Burgess proposed the health of Terrier Griff in the happiest vein, and presented him with a President's jewel. Terrier Griff, in reply, thanked the Terriers for the great honour they had conferred upon him, and gave a humorous description of his adventures in search of the "West Pole." He had a most enthusiastic reception.

The Secretary, Arthur Were, was called upon to make a few remarks, by general request, and replied in a broad Cockney-American accent, which caused a roar of laughter. He stated that he had acquired this, through touring round Piccadilly on the previous evening with Terrier Griff. His succession of humorous comments upon the trials of a journey through America created considerable merriment.

Terrier Jesse Sparrow proposed the toast of "The Visitors," which was responded to by C. C. Bartram, of *The Performer*, who congratulated the Association upon having in Terriers Griff and Were, two of the wittiest speakers in the variety profession. The Chairman presented Terrier Martin Henderson with the P.W.T. jewel for fulfilling the office so successfully in May.

The following artists contributed to an enjoyable entertainment: Miss Elsa Joel, Miss Violet Murray, Mrs. Dunkley, Ernest Powell, Charles Coborn, T. C. Callaghan, Bros. Obo, Martin Henderson, Harry Brown, Walter Tilbury, Bert Marsden, Ernest Ball, and Walter Barrett. Terrier T. C. Callaghan was the musical director, and Terrier J. Chas. Moore the efficient accompanist. The proceedings, kept up until a late hour, were voted a huge success.

The Athleta Sisters, who are responsible for a charming performance at the Alhambra, have been talking to a *Pelican* contributor: "We do about two hours' exercise every morning. We never stick to one class of work, because we consider we would develop one part of the body against the other, and the feminine grace would be lost by such means. Variation is, therefore, the keynote of the exercises. We stop at nothing in athletics. Sometimes we go in for skipping, jumping, or ring work, or tumbling, as the case may be. Swimming is a particular sport of ours. And dancing has been part of our business since early babyhood.

"It is an exploded statement, I think, that physical exercise will make a girl heavy and masculine-looking. Our experience is that the exercises will make a girl light on her feet, graceful in movement, and give her a good carriage. I would not recommend that every girl should go in for the exercise to the same extent that we do, of course, for it is a business with us. But I think every woman should do exercise of some sort."

Alexandra Balachowa, premier ballerina of the Moscow Opera, is expected to open at the Alhambra shortly.

"People who are always angling for introductions to our leading actor-managers will be pleased to learn that Cassell's are publishing a handy book at three-and-sixpence, 'How to Know the Trees,' by Henry Irving," says our merry friend "By the Way" of the *Globe*.

Mr. Henry Tozer faced a happy audience of shareholders on Derby Day at the Oxford, where he told a tale of prosperity, fat dividends, and prudent finance. After payment of a dividend and bonus equal to 11½ per cent. for the year, the surplus £5,000 has been added to the reserve fund, now reaching the sum of £40,000. The entire debenture debt of £60,000 has now been extinguished. Mr. Walter Payne has been re-elected a director.

In addition to the full bill and announcement this week at Poole's Picture Palace, Aberaman, special bills were posted announcing that Clown Inanda and the canine wonder "Bute" would appear. This dog is claimed to be the only one performing the barrel act. The whole performance is neatly and cleverly done, and is interspersed with comedy. It makes a great hit.

It is a good many years since Mr. Will H. Fox gave a show on the halls with the aid of a piano. Born in Louisville, Conn., U.S.A., he early ran away from home and joined a travelling circus as a song and dance artist, but when the ringmaster tried to teach him bareback riding with the help of a whip he thought he had had enough, and ran away again. Then he toured the halls, later joining Little Baby Benson, the late Marguerite Fish. Subsequently his voice gave way, and he took up the managership of a theatre in the States.

On one occasion an artist failed to turn up, and to fill the gap Will went on in evening dress and "did a few stunts on the piano." The turn took well, and he toured it all over the States. When Paderewski made his sensational success he originated the now famous burlesque *Paddywhisky*, a piece which rollicked with fun and good-natured satire. He took it to the Palace Theatre, London, where he played for seven months.

A correspondent writes: "We are told that ballet qua ballet was a dying art; that the public had grown tired of it. Then suddenly the best dancing existing at the Imperial Houses of Russia is introduced to London, and already one can perceive public taste swinging back to its original point, as it ought rightly and properly to do. In the circumstances, may we not find a fitting reminder that classical dancing is, after all, no novelty to London, and that Russia is not the only country where the cultivation of this great art has been persevered in on the lines of such famous ballerinas as Taglioni and Cerito?

"The really important question now awaiting solution is whether the public will be educated to a preference for the short turn, introducing the *première danseuse* and her male companion, and whether, in such an event, it may not be encouraged to regard with impatience all the material surroundings that constitute ballet. Certain it is that the enormous expenditure requisite for the maintenance of permanent ballet does not permit of the engagement of costly Russian stars, unless managers decide to forgo variety altogether. Will the public approve of such a step?"—or, shall we say, so many *steps*?

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, Miss Melinda May (Secretary), begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following gifts: Mr. H. H. Griff, £2 2s. (for the model toy butcher's shop, given by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vento); Miss Maggie Bowman (Morton and Bowman), 10s.; Miss Edna Branston (Webb and Branston), 4s. (result of hoop-la); Mrs. George Smythson, 6s. (collected at Nottingham); Anonymous (Brighton Road), useful parcel of gentleman's clothing; Miss Blanche Glave, hats, curtains, &c.; Miss Lottie Albert, two dozen baby's new bibs. Mr. R. G. Knowles' guinea donation, acknowledged last week, was received per Mrs. G. Smythson.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild are, by kind permission of Mr. Henri Gros, giving their first Sunday Concert at the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware Road, at eight o'clock on Sunday, in aid of the funds. Come yourselves and bring along your friends. Tickets can be obtained from the committee ladies in town, and from Miss May at the Guild Offices, 61, New Oxford-street. Subscribers are asked to make cheques and postal orders payable to Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

On Tuesday evening outside Covent Garden Theatre a knot of people were watching the ceaseless arrival of motors and carriages bearing diamond-bedecked ladies and their escorts for setting down at the portals of the opera-house. An inspector of police courteously requested the group of onlookers to "Pass along, please!" whereupon one of the number, a well-known writer of Cockney lyrics, said gravely to the officer: "Inspector, do you know the reason of this 'good business' at the 'Garden'?" "No," was the reply. "Well," said the scribbler, as he departed, "it is because the Middlesex is closed, and the people must have somewhere to go!"

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones says:—"In the provinces the drama was almost dead. The theatres were empty, except when musical comedies were being played or when a London star brought down his company to play the latest London success. Meanwhile, the large music halls were crammed and were everywhere squeezing the drama out of existence. These music halls did, indeed, give certain sketches and dramatic scenes, but they were for the most part very crude and on a very low intellectual level. To sum up, they might say that to-day in England the drama did not exist as a form of art at all; it was merely tolerated by the great public as a mere hanger-on of popular amusement." The drama has always been going to the dogs, Mr. Jones, ever since the days of Garrick.

In an interview in the *Daily Sketch* Mr. Bransby Williams discusses his migration to the dramatic stage. Says he:—"I suppose it was something of a surprise, though I cannot see why it should be. I have played hundreds of parts in my time in the regular theatres, and the reason I chose the music halls was because they afforded me greater and more immediate opportunities of advancement. Some people have told me that had I stuck to the theatres throughout I would have been in a higher position than I am now, and that it would have been better for me, because I shall have to live down the long connection with the music halls. I don't believe it. The theatres are slower to recognise talent than the music halls, and I do not think I could have gained an international reputation as great as my present one by sticking to the theatres throughout.

"I had made my plans for an invasion of the theatres next March, and had in preparation a romantic play by Beatrice de Burgh and Sydney Valentine, called *Kit Carless*. Judge of my surprise, then, at learning of Mr. Hall Caine's intentions. Naturally, I felt very flattered and excited at the prospect of a London season, and *Kit Carless* was put on one side for the nonce I shall produce it, however, in succession to *The Bishop's Son*, and play it on tour. The production of *The Bishop's Son* will take place in the autumn at the Garrick Theatre."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

FROM every coast resort and inland place of open-air entertainment in these islands, from managers of the foremost pierrot and cadet troupes everywhere throughout Great Britain, has come a pæan of praise over the excellences of the new songs available for artists in every line of business through the enterprise of "the world's song providers," Messrs. Francis and Day. Among a few culled from the multitude of good songs that have been, or are being, rehearsed with feverish haste are: "Don't stand there waiting at the gate," a number which has been hailed as a veritable godsend by those who love to have on their programme a strong "featured" item; "Pride of the prairie, Mary," a song to be mentioned only in the same breath as its incomparable forerunner "Cheyenne," and that fine march song, "Betsy."

EAGERLY sought after have also been that rage of two countries, "I've got rings on my fingers" and "Tahiti" (the rubber boom song), "The Corsican maid," "You want a sweetheart," so charmingly rendered by Miss Ellaline Terriss; "The Cubanola glide," a Transatlantic surprise number of quaintest merit; "He's a naughty, naughty boy," Charles R. Whittle's latest laughable song; "In sweet Ceylon," so ably rendered by Miss Marie Santoi and Co.; and the humorous "conversational" number, "And just then he fell out of bed," which has been secured by Miss Ada Reeve for halls and theatres.

AND to crown all, the great army of entertainers have had the privilege of being able to secure such corner-stones to strengthen programmes as Miss Florrie Forde's tremendous winners, "Flanagan" and "'Tis a faded picture," G. H. Elliott's newest lilts, including "Mr. Owl," and the great ballad hit of the time, "If I had the world to give you," which, in the safe hands of Mr. Dave Carter, is a song to hear once and long to possess for good. With such strings to one's bow the success of entertainers the world over is more than assured.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE has at Bath been giving the public a taste of what quality is, and "Flanagan" and "'Tis a faded picture"—sung as only the popular lady can sing them—have been cheered to the echo. Messrs. Francis and Day are already continuously in receipt of orders for copies—orders which grow daily in number and extent.

MR. WILKIE BARD'S newest laughter-getter, the doorkeeper at Frightley's ("I'm standing here!"), is from the pens of the clever writers who have of late kept this foremost comedian in material fully in keeping with his reputation, and George Arthurs and Worton David are to be felicitated on once again hitting the mark. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of the song.

A NEW song that will shortly be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day is a humorous item, entitled "I saw Sandy to his front street door," a laughable idea well worked out, in which George Arthurs, Worton David, and Alf. J. Lawrance are seen at their best.

A DITTY with the taking title of "In a cottage by the Clyde," will before long see the light in published shape, having been accepted by Messrs. Francis and Day. The authors are J. P. Harrington and E. W. Rogers, and John Neat has supplied one of those tuneful melodies for which he is so well known.

MR. MARK SHERIDAN'S favourite saying, "One of the ba-hoys!" has given rise to a merry song, which will take its title from the now famous catch-phrase, and Mr. Sheridan himself will sing the number. J. P. Harrington and John Neat have published it with Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY, who is as much at ease with the pen as he is when on the boards, has just disposed of—to Messrs. Francis and Day—the publishing rights of his new song, "I'll be waiting at the station."

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm will shortly place upon the market a song by J. P. Long and Joseph Harvey. The title by which it will be known is "Bonypart."

HARRY CASTLING and Fred Godfrey, who are in the very first flight of writers for the variety stage, have just placed with Messrs. Francis and Day a number for which a great vogue is anticipated. The title is as picturesque as the song is refined and melodious, the name given it being "In my home at Bantry Bay."

YET another pretty song, shortly to be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, is one written and composed by J. P. Harrington, Huntley Trevor, and Charles Collins. The title is "You'd better go, Mr. Snow."

THAT scholarly musician, Kennedy Russell, has set to characteristic melody a beautiful song, entitled "Heart's desire." It is published by Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., and is sung by Miss Ruth Vincent, a striking portrait of whom adorns the title-page.

MISS ELLA RETFORD'S song, "I met Mary Ellen at Isle of Man" promises to be yet another feather in the cap of Messrs. Bennett Scott and Arthur J. Mills, being melodious to a degree. It is published by the Star Co.

THAT smart soubrette, Miss Hilda Elen, who is related to the eminent coster-comedian, Mr. Gus Elen, has made a great hit at Teignmouth, where she has been appearing with Oscar Mills's Royal Court Entertainers, in Messrs. Francis and Day's admired number, "Will you sing this little duet with me?" sung in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Vaughan, and also in the firm's "Dear little sunny face." Miss Elen is due with Hickman-Smith's Royal Entertainers shortly.

MR. CHARLES CARDOW'S entertainers commence their season in the grounds of the bathing establishment at Folkestone on Monday. The Blue Viennese Band, under the direction of Herr Moritz Würm, will give Sunday entertainments on the Leas.

RICHARD ELTON and Denham Harrison's melodious song, "A cargo of love," which was sung so successfully by Miss Marie Terry at the London Pavilion, and is now in the press—Francis, Day, and Hunter—promises to be one of the most popular numbers for the coming summer. The American rights have been secured by Mr. J. S. Bentley for the Columbia Amusement Company. "Ma petite Marquise," a dainty number by the same author and composer, dedicated to and sung by the Duchess of Wellington at numerous society functions, is also in great demand, and is published by the same firm.

IT is not often we find a busy agent like Tom Shaw having the time at his disposal to be the author and composer of what seems to us to be a very pretty ballad, and in our opinion likely to become extremely popular, especially during pantomime season. The song in question is entitled "Tell me if you love me," and the singer is that talented artist Miss Lil Hawthorne. It is published in a popular 6d. edition by the National Publishing Co., 132, Charing Cross-road. Pantomime and pierrot artists should note that it is free for the asking from the publishers.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EUSTON.

The reputation of Mr. Henri Gros for supplying his patrons with the very best goods obtainable in the music-hall market is fully maintained in the current week's programme at this popular hall. A prominent item in the bill is the musical comedy playlet *The Lady Bandits*, presented by Edward Lauri and May Beatty and company—a merry and bright little interlude, which is just at present very much in demand at the halls of song and smoke, and in which there is not a dull moment. The scene represents Somewhere near a Golf Course in the Surrey Hills, and it will be remembered that an inoffensive little golfer, Josephus A. Muddifat, M.P., is captured by a bevy of buxom and beauteous damsels, disguised as "bandits," resolved to free women from the yoke. He is sentenced to death, but eventually the stalwart, but seductive Suffragettes, promise to spare his life on condition that he becomes a member of their band. He somewhat reluctantly agrees, and has to submit to the "kiss of membership," an operation that keeps him very busy, and is productive of much funny business. Lady Diana, the captain of the "bandits," quickly votes him a little darling, and wants him for her very own, and on the comically embarrassed Muddifat promising to provide her companions with equally distinguished and lovable husbands, the couple are allowed to continue their "canoodlings."

Mr. Edward Lauri as the bewildered Muddifat has a part in which his resource as a comedian has full play, and his impersonation throughout is a very droll and clever one. He has a well-worked and amusing song in "Louisa, the Seaside Girl," and also shares in the success of a love-making duet with Lady Diana—a part played in Arthur Astill), faithfully reproduces the notes of the skylark, cuckoo, &c., and also imitates with wonderful accuracy the "language" of many of the four-footed denizens of a farmyard. He is also a clever siffleur, his whistling of "The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* calling forth some of the loudest applause heard during the evening.

The serious sketch of the bill is an effective miniature costume playlet, *The House on the Heath*, admirably enacted by Mr. Reginald Eyre's company, Mr. Lewis Edgard making a gallant and convincing Claude Duval, the effective manner in which he speedily despatches half-a-dozen or so armed ruffians, and rescues virtue in distress calling forth loud approbation, the playlet throughout evidently being much to the liking of the audience. Ruffell's Bioscope, showing the Funeral Procession of King Edward VII., also figures in the programme, which is carefully overseered by Mr. Fred McAvoy, the experienced and energetic manager here.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Little Elise Craven is Mr. Leslie Conroy's headliner at the Holborn Empire this week, retained, the bills inform us, "at enormous expense." Master Bert Clerc is seen in all the dances with this dainty, flaxen-haired little lady, and right well he backs up her efforts. In fact, there is a great future before this lad, as he is not only keeping up family traditions in being a magnificent and agile dancer, but his acting is as natural as possible. With Miss Craven he appears in a scene that savours strongly of the ancient Greek. His dark face and limbs are in fine contrast to the golden tresses and pink-and-white make-up of the little girl. These youthful dancers do some very smart footwork, and altogether their turn is as pretty, graceful, and clever as any foreign-trained dancer can show us. The number, if there is any preference to be shown at all. Signor Francis Boccacio is in greater form than ever, if possible, with his mandoline and his two companion minstrels. We have never heard anyone play the mandoline better than he. Collins' Stella Girls, bright and breezy, and with plenty of pretty smiles, give a clever skipping-rope dancing act. They are followed by Miss Lily Vine and Bonnie Goodwin's Pics, Harry Picon as "The Bad Girl of the Family," Cissie Lupino, Mason and Moore, Marshall and Parr, Russell Brandow, and Madge Allen. Hal Forde and the Carlens Trio are also in the bill.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The advent of summer weather is not affecting the size of the audiences at this very popular hall, a circumstance for which the sustained excellence of the programmes has to be thanked. Harry Tate and Company are one of the great attractions in a humorous act *Billiards*. This proves to be a very amusing affair, the game of 100 up being a little more exciting than the general run. Mr. Tate is capitally supported by the other members of his company, and the show gained a particularly hearty reception. Jay Laurier, in a couple of songs, made a good impression, and was well received. Daisy Yates, in impersonations, was entertaining in a couple of items, and finished with a good dance, which gained cordial applause. The Spanish Goldinis, in a carpet-spinning and acrobatic turn, were distinctly good; the former item calls for a good deal of skill, and the acrobatic portion of the show is provided by a very young artiste, who performed some exceedingly difficult and dangerous feats with remarkable self-possession, deservedly gaining great applause. The stage setting is very effective and the act proves popular. William's Incidents naturally move along at a great pace, but it is certainly well adapted for a position in a vaudeville programme. Mr. Albert Ward, in the heroic rôle, is of immense service to the production. He is a great favourite locally, and has many times scored great successes on the same stage in the old days of the "Grand." It is sufficient to say that his performance was quite up to the high standard associated with his name. Mr. William Dempsey as Davis Armitage gives a good study of the character. Mr. Harry Barford as Lucas Lyle is commendable in a small part, and Mr. George Claremont is also satisfactory. Miss Katie Neville as Joan was very effective, acting towards the end of the playlet with great intensity. Miss Gladys Barnard as Dora the child is a very clever young lady, who was most natural and pleasing in the part. The sympathetic nature of the plot evoked a speedy response from the house, the fall of the curtain being the signal for much applause, Mr. Ward and Miss Barnard sharing the honours of a call. The Bioscope is showing some effective films of the late King Edward's funeral. The orchestra, under Mr. T. Gray, render excellent service, and Mr. B. Adams, the popular manager, is very attentive in the front of the house.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

Large audiences have been enthusiastically applauding the excellent programme which the popular manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, has been providing here this week. The chief attraction in the bill is a miniature musical comedy of American life, entitled *Paradise Alley*. It is a bright mixture of humour and tuneful melody, and capitally acted by Mr. Wash W. Evans and company. Miss Vera Crackles makes a dainty Kitty Murphy, dancing and singing delightfully; while Mr. Jos. R. Tate as Schultz and Mr. Wash W. Evans as Pat Murphy are most amusing in their respective rôles.

The O'Gorman Brothers prove themselves to be a couple of smart step-dancers. An item billed as "The Selbit Mystery," which is demonstrated very efficiently by a gentleman whose name is not on the programme, shows us how some of the so-called wonders of spiritualism can be effectually imitated upon the music hall stage. Lytton and Bland win much favour in a droll duologue, *A Lesson in Love*, in which the gentleman appears in succession as a cross-grained old Scotchman, an idiotic swell, and a quaint Dutchman, all of whom are desirous of entering the bonds of Hymen.

Les Atans, a couple of clever and ingenious gymnasts from Australia, arouse the house to a great pitch of enthusiasm by their marvellous feats; Miss Estelle Collette is warmly welcomed in her grave and gay instrumental selections upon the violin. We are shown upon Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope some magnificent films of the Funeral of our late King, depicting the progress of the procession through London, and finally the interment at Windsor. Mr. Alick Lauder, a younger brother of the famous Harry Lauder, wins considerable applause with two comic ditties, "Oh, Jock, tak' me for a walk," and "Have a little bit on me."

Madge Allan is successful in song and dance; and Mr. Alfred Chester causes much laughter in a doleful ditty in which he describes his misfortunes while taking part in a local football match. Miss Haidee Hamilton, comedienne at the piano, and Mr. Harry Cotton complete a most interesting programme. It should be added that the Peckham orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Julian Goldsmid, give every satisfaction. Mr. H. E. Sawyer is the courteous and popular acting-manager.

THE EMPRESS.

At the top of the bill here is Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *R.M.S. Wontdetania*, which is meeting with a most enthusiastic reception. The scenic effects are wonderfully realistic, the company works loyally, and the result is that everything goes with a swing from start to finish. Another most popular turn is Paul Cinquevalli, the world-renowned and inimitable juggler, who again proves himself to be a past master of his art. His amusing assistant is responsible for roars of laughter. Ernest Rees, rightly described as "the droll one," tells many amusing stories much to the liking of those in front.

That engaging comedienne, Lily Burnand, is seen at her very best in a couple of numbers, entitled "No more I'm going to be a Gibson girl" and "I've had enough of married life." The latter ditty suits her admirably, and she is the recipient of unstinted applause. Capital wooden shoe dancing is contributed by Ford and Maxwell; and Jack Lorimer, one of our leading Scotch comedians, scores heavily with a couple of amusing songs. Clever animal imitations are given by Carl Lynn, who introduces, with considerable success, a comic element into his turn, and the Three Declares prove themselves to be acrobats of more than ordinary ability. Marie Wilton sings prettily, "I love to see the ocean" and "If I could meet you," which earn for her many plaudits, and the Sisters Zongara sing and dance in a manner that calls for nothing but praise.

An amusing little sketch, entitled *The Barmaids*, is presented by the Hodgson and Lowther's company. A certain married gentleman, as the result of a wager, writes offers of marriage to three different barmaids, who he has been told are all married, but in order to follow their profession have to keep the fact secret. Imagine his surprise when he receives a letter telling him that a mistake has been made, and the girls in question are really unmarried. The young ladies all accept his offer, and he deputes his butler to interview them. His wife returns unexpectedly, but another letter arrives saying that the ladies really are married, and armed with this information he manages to get them off the premises without his wife knowing it.

Miss Louie Tracey, the dapper dandy, who is making a welcome reappearance here, is well suited in a couple of numbers entitled "Where's the girl who doesn't love a soldier?" and "I'm the giddy little Earl of the Esplanade." In the first, dressed as a soldier, and puffing a huge cigar, she makes a typical Tommy, and in the second, immaculately dressed as a swagger seaside Johnnie, she scores a most unmistakable hit, being obliged to take several calls. The programme is completed by the Simms and Cliff and Kean, who both rely to a great extent on their ability in the Terpsichorean art for the success of their turn, though dancing in totally different styles. The pictures shown by Edward's Bioscope are always appreciated.

THE FORESTERS'.

Exceptional business is being done at this capitally conducted East End hall. The genial Mr. Fred Baugh has given us many good sketches, and his latest production, *The Curse of Drink*, adapted from Zola's *L'Assommoir*, certainly ranks among the best. Mr. Ellerslie Pyne's Coupeau is an artistic study, and at the finale of the great delirium scene the actor is recalled again and again. Miss Muriel Milton is also decidedly good as Gervais; Mr. Brien McCullough as Dantier gives a finished performance; Mr. Sanderson Moffat plays Gouget well, and the many characters are ably sustained by Miss Phyllis Howe as Nana, Miss Nellie Nelson as Mme. Pom Pom, and Miss Mabel Mannering as Virginie.

Leon and Tee in *The Musical Farm* give a most entertaining show, which consists of clever selections on several novel instruments. The humour of the comedian is good, and the lady has a charming stage presence, which greatly adds to a most attractive production. Miss Jessie Wilton, a prepossessing comedienne, is the possessor of a tuneful voice, and her songs, "Where's the Lady?" and "Madeira" are well rendered. Mr. Arthur Clifton, a smartly dressed light comedian, has two good numbers in "Seven o'clock till nine" and "The girls," each of which has an effective chorus. Royburn and Dix in "Skits on

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

SAM!

SUNG BY MISS HELEN TRIX.

THE Dame Song for the Coming Pantomimes.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

exactly the right spirit by Miss May Beatty, whose fine voice and appearance fit her admirably for the rôle of the dashing and fascinating "bandit." Mention must also be made of the valuable work of the captivating chorus of "bandits," and the thoroughness with which the playlet is produced, and the laughter and applause it evoked throughout should ensure it a long career of prosperity.

Another star turn in the bill is the favourite burlesque actress, Miss Queenie Leighton, who finds admirers in plenty for her first song, "I don't want to linger any longer, Mr. Long." The popular Drury Lane principal boy has greater scope for her ability as an actress, however, in her second song, "Conversations," the wordy warfare between a School Board man and an irate mother being very funny, and the other character studies being cleverly portrayed and provocative of hearty laughter.

Harry and Fanny Dent work well together in a merry little absurdity called *The Indian Bottle*, their burlesque of the Sicilian players and the Russian dancers, and their funny business throughout, never failing to create mirth; and the Dutch girl impersonation of Miss Radie Farman has admirers in plenty. The Eight College Girls submit a pleasing interlude of song and dance, the "Laughing Song" of one of the young ladies being particularly enjoyable; and Miss Aimée Roberts vocalises charmingly anent a flirtation between a Corsican maid and a stalwart Britisher.

Scotch humour has a droll exponent in Mr. Jack Lorimer, "If girls wore kilts" being an amusing ditty, his other number "Polly" also being in jocular vein, an eccentric dance adding to the enjoyment of his auditors; and Mr. Tom Jones, the popular Welsh comedian, drily tells of the experiences of his pal Morgan and himself during a visit to London. The "whistling ploughboy," numbers given in "When Love is Young" were: (1) Pas de Deux. (a) Adagio, Elise Craven and Bert Clerc. (b) Galop, Bert Clerc. (c) Valse Lente, Elise Craven. (d) Galop, Elise Craven and Bert Clerc. Music by Edward W. Whitehall. (2) Danse Bacchanale, Elise Craven and Bert Clerc. Music by Edward W. Whitehall. (3) Les Caprices d'Amours, Elise Craven and Bert Clerc. Music by Rubinstein. Between dances 1 and 2 and 2 and 3 there were a Danse Russe and Danse des matelots by M. Max Martini.

A very welcome reappearance is made by that fine musical comedy favourite Sybil Arundale. Miss Arundale presents a new comic-opera sketch entitled

"A WARD IN CHANCERY."

Written and composed by Claud Arundale.

Lady D. Marwood .....MISS SYBIL ARUNDALE
Hon. F. Willoughby .....MR. T. SHELFORD
Jack Charlton .....MR. H. DEACON
Horatio Victorious .....MR. D. R. HAIG
Pedro .....MR. T. SQUIRE
Police Inspector .....MR. G. STONE

This is to all intents and purposes, a tabloid version of *A Gipsy Girl*. In it Miss Arundale gets three very good numbers for herself, and a Russian solo dance, very ably and vigorously done. Handsome and dashing always as the wayward ward in Chancery, Lady Dorothy Marwood, Miss Sybil Arundale has undoubtedly a "winner" in this sketch. She is well supported by a large and powerful company, Mr. T. Shelford as the Hon. F. Willoughby and Mr. H. Deacon as Jack Charlton doing exceptionally able work.

Wish Wynne gives us a series of original character comedy studies. It is always a delight to follow this lady's subtle lines. Her country girl song, "I'm afraid," is perhaps her best. Eight Jubilee Singers submit some good part-singing, the last item being very effective. They were accorded several calls. The Three Diamonds, singers, skaters, and expert dancers, are a talented trio of juveniles. Their show comprises songs, dancing on skates, and in the orthodox manner, everything being accomplished in the same admirable style. The house speedily recognised the merit of their performance, and they secured a great reception.

The Dufors, in a singing and dancing act, quickly made themselves favourites. Dan Thomas is singing a somewhat original "Dame" song, which is concerned with the making of a cinematograph film of a classical dancer. Effecting a quick change, he comes on in the scanty attire which is associated with this style of show, and very amusingly burlesques it, the cinematograph effect being secured by a revolving light. It greatly amused the house, and he had a cordial greeting. Peter Hannan, a baritone singer, displayed a good voice in "The Admiral's Broom," and was well received.

George Carncross and Co. present a dramatic episode entitled *A Double Life*, founded on Robert Louis Stephenson's well-known noved "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Mr. Carncross himself, in the dual rôle, has the brunt of the work, and gives a very good performance. He is well supported by a lady and two gentlemen, not billed, and the somewhat gloomy playlet was received with interest and appreciation. Margaret Monks, a lady who bears a strong resemblance to another well-known artiste of the same name, is favourably greeted in "Call round any odd time."

Harry Barford and Co., including Albert Ward, are presenting a sketch entitled *Cottage or Palace*, by Frank Lindo. This is a condensed version of the same author's drama *Home, Sweet Home*.

the 'Phone," have some smart talk combined with clever whistling and imitations.

The Empire Girls are an attractive set of young and talented ladies, who indulge in a well-arranged act, singing "Little Miss Snow-Shoes" and "The Boys in Scarlet and Gold," and concluding each item with some dricky dancing, which is much enjoyed. Mr. Billy Whitlock, in "The Night Watchman," sings a funny little song, the feature of the scena being a baked potato can, which is made into a musical box, and some tuneful little items played thereon. Miss Florrie Thurston, a sprightly little comedienne, sings well her "Rag-time crazy" song, concluding with a well timed and cleverly executed dance. Willie and Johnny give a clever acrobatic show, and Miss Kitty Corelli sings a little "Honeymoon" trifle.

E. D. Nicholls and company, in a farcical episode, *Dare-Devil Dripping*, are extremely funny. Mr. Nicholls is well supported by Mr. Harry Garrick as Ambrosia V., Miss Ada Lucelle as Princess Pauline, Mr. Harry Lewis as Sir Brian, and Mr. Arthur Stratton as Duke of Athenia. Interesting films are displayed on the Bioscope. The orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Bert Pennell, and Mr. Chas. Harvey, as usual, looks well to the comfort of his patrons.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

A programme well calculated to satisfy the tastes of the most fastidious, and yet quite within the grasp of the unsophisticated, is being presented this week by Mr. Pierre Cohen at the handsome establishment under his control, and is meeting with its due amount of favour. There may not be any item of supreme excellence in the bill; but the great majority of the general public infinitely prefer a carefully-selected programme of good all-round talent to one composed of one overwhelming star surrounded by a long array of mediocrities. Fortunately for the public, Mr. Cohen is not likely to engage many of the latter class, and local amusement-seekers flock to his doors week after week with the full confidence, founded on experience, that he will not place before them anything but "the best procurable in the market."

Miss Cora Corina is a lady of striking appearance, who soon ingratiates herself with the audience in song and dance. Her impersonations include an Irish "colleen," a Japanese beauty, a dashing pantomime prince, and a brilliant Spaniard. Each impersonation is given in appropriate costume, and Miss Corina's "quick changes" are wonderful, while each dress vies with its predecessor in beauty.

A well-deserved success is scored by the Four Netherlands, a quartette of charming ladies, who sing and dance with the greatest of spirit, the utmost refinement, and the most agreeable results to the spectators. Their Shocking Tale of the Stockings, is remarkably chic, and is received with plenty of laughter and applause. Jack Warman, described as "the lean rasher of mirth," is amusing in a quaint way.

A dainty, delightful little sketch, *The Ring of the Girl*, is played by Miss Ruby Celeste and Miss May Hallatt. Brightly written and telling the story of one girl's sacrifice in a love affair for the benefit of the other, the sketch is just the right length for a delicate trifle of the kind; the framework is a pretty set, representing an elegant room, and, most important of all, it is played in exactly the best comedy spirit by two charming young ladies—a perfect drawing-room comedy in miniature. *The Ring of the Girl* is followed with a constant ripple of amusement—here and there a little gasp of expectation—and is received with acclamation.

A particularly novel comedy act is given by the Alaskas (lady and gentleman), who perform some of the most astonishing feats of "tumbling" seen here for a long time. Both display a boundless energy, and in their wildest moments never seem to lapse into extravagance; a clever and original "show." Miss Marie Reeve looks pretty—which is always a valuable asset—sings excellently, and evokes a storm of applause by her extremely neat step-dancing. Wild, Willie, and West, claiming to be "England's greatest comedy acrobats," work with untiring energy, and knock each other about in a manner to make nervous spectators fear that the performers will come to grievous bodily harm. The three appear as bricklayers, and to a sensitive bricklayer might inspire thoughts of the law of libel, but the act serves its chief end, viz., to draw forth unstinted tokens of approval.

Of really exceptional merit is Alec Kendal, who does nothing but stand in the middle of the stage and indulge in a continuous stream of patter; but there is patter and patter, and Mr. Alec Kendal's patter is the most original and the wittiest one is likely to hear in the course of one's natural life. To the bulk of the audience Alec Kendal is certainly the "prize packet" of the evening; like most of the good things of this world the people did not seem to get enough of him, and would fain have, Oliver Twistishly, "asked for more." Hinton and Wootton have a great reception for their clever football match on bicycles. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope winds up the programme with some excellent films of the Great State Funeral.

"THE COLLEEN BAWN."

Condensed Version, Produced at Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, on Monday, May 30.

Myles-na-Coppaleen ..... Mr. Edwin Bennett
Hardress Cregan ..... Mr. Benson North
Father Tom ..... Mr. Charles Daly
Danny Mann ..... Mr. Edwin Fergusson
Mr. Corrigan ..... Mr. Conrade Clarke
Sheelah ..... Mrs. Charles Daly
Eily O'Connor ..... Miss Louisa Peach

Dion Boucicault's evergreen Irish drama is the latest of the famous dramas of a bygone generation to be placed in the condensing pot and reduced to the dimensions of a "sketch." That the old play loses nothing in the process it would be exaggeration to affirm, but in the present version no daringly iconoclastic hands have been laid on the original, the treatment dealing more with elimination than alteration. The result is perfectly satisfactory in its way, and should prove quite acceptable to a generation of playgoers who do not remember the famous piece in its original state. A large number of characters are necessarily cut out, but the story, so far as it deals with Eily, Hardress, and Myles, is sufficiently coherent to answer its purpose.

As the rollicking, lovable Myles, Mr. Edwin Bennett struggles hard with an uphill task, but succeeds in making the humble hero an immense favourite with his audience. The character is rather out of the clever young actor's usual line, and it says much for his versatility that he succeeds so well. The correct "brogue," of course, is an insuperable obstacle in such cases, but in this respect Mr. Bennett shares the difficulty with all the other members of the cast. Mr. Benson North gives a bold and outspoken account of Hardress Cregan, speaking his lines with commendable clearness. The Danny Mann of Mr. Edwin Fergusson is abundantly vindictive; and Mr. Conrade Clarke is a strong Mr. Corrigan. Mrs. Charles Daly is amusing as Sheelah; Miss Louisa Peach, whose company it is, adds to the long list of parts she has already played on these boards a pretty and pathetic rendering of Eily O'Connor. Perhaps the most artistic assumption of all is the Father Tom of Mr. Charles Daly, who seems to catch with greater success than some of his companions the true bouquet of the original wine. The scenery is adequate and the dressing handsome.

"Have a banana," both song and catch-phrase, was created by Ernie Mayne, who is just now storming them at the Oxford. Next week he takes his "Light-weight Jockey" and "Boy Sprout" to the Stoll houses.

SUNDAY AMUSEMENTS.

A CHAT WITH MR. CHARLES JESSON, L.C.C. THE A.M.U.'S POSITION.

The question of Sunday amusements is occupying the serious attention of the recently-formed Sunday Defence Committee, comprising the Variety Artists' Federation, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees and Cinematograph Operators. It is interesting to recall that the origin of the A.M.U. Sunday concerts really rests with Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, who acted as hon. treasurer for a concert given at the London Coliseum on May 2, 1908, for the benefit of the Union's Benevolent Fund. Mr. Pedgrift was publicly thanked by Mr. Jesson at the time for using his influence with Mr. Oswald Stoll in obtaining the use of the Coliseum free of charge, and also in employing his energies in many other directions to ensure the success of the undertaking. The experience gained at that initial concert, Mr. Jesson confessed, enabled him to show what could be done in the direction of organising concerts on a larger scale. Two successful seasons of Sunday concerts have since then been given by the A.M.U. at the London Coliseum, and as will presently be pointed out, many other departures have been, and will be, made in the direction of providing first-class music on Sundays in various parts of London. The fact that the A.M.U. are responsible for a large number of Sunday concerts themselves seems, to some people, a curious one, seeing that they are also members of the Sunday Defence Committee. Mr. C. Jesson, the well-known Labour member of the London County Council, and the London secretary of the A.M.U., explained to *The Era* the position taken up by his society.

"I am proud of the fact that I am a representative of Labour on the L.C.C.," said Mr. Jesson, "and also that at the last two elections I substantially increased my majorities. I do not claim to represent only the interests of Labour. Thousands of artists, musicians, and others earn a livelihood in our honourable profession. I am, therefore, naturally anxious that there should be no unnecessary restrictions placed upon the legitimate development of the people's amusements. I believe that the steady decrease in the nation's drink bill is due very largely to the competition of cheap amusements.

"There are a number of bodies in existence whose objects are to popularise what they are pleased to call 'rational Sunday amusements.' The National Sunday League is one of them. They organise concerts and railway excursions on Sundays. I am not concerned, as an official of the A.M.U., with arguing whether the objects of these Sunday societies are good or bad. I am concerned only with the effect they have upon those callings which are affected by their enterprises. There is at the present time a great demand for the suppression of all unnecessary Sunday labour. While the N.S.L. are endeavouring to popularise Sunday excursions, the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants are trying to abolish as much Sunday labour as possible by demanding higher rates of pay. As for the musicians, in nearly all our summer resorts we now have to work seven days per week, and in many cases for even less pay than we formerly received for six. If all restrictions against Sunday openings were removed the ordinary competition amongst managements would result in a general opening all round, and the whole of the profession—actors, artists, and all others—would be faced with exactly the same position as we musicians have in our summer resorts. It is only with the greatest difficulty that we can prevent an open revolt now against the continued lengthening of

MR. C. JESSON.

the performances on week-days. The strain on the lips and the nervous system of the musicians by these long hours of playing is absolutely intolerable. It is ruining many of our best players. To add compulsory Sunday playing to this would be the limit, and I am confident the musicians will put up the most strenuous fight against any attempt to impose a seven days' week in our profession. Had the L.C.C., years ago, refused to allow the Sunday opening of theatres and music halls licensed by them, the present position would never have come about.

"I am not arguing that the public ought not to have Sunday music or Sunday excursions. I am merely pointing out that the musicians and the railway workers are opposed to compulsory Sunday service, and that they are demanding the same right as every other section of the public of disposing of their Sundays in their own way. The opening out on Sundays in all directions by the N.S.L. in theatres and music halls in London naturally made us anxious as to the future of our winter business, and we came to the conclusion that it would be fatal to our interests, and to those of the profession generally, to allow them to have the field entirely to themselves, because the leaders of that movement are people engaged in other callings during the week who come into ours merely as a hobby on Sundays. If, as a result of their propaganda, all restrictions should be broken down, and those engaged in the profession had a seven days' week forced upon them, the members of the N.S.L. would not be the sufferers. Sunday music has come to stay, but the A.M.U. has decided not to allow any of our members to play at any Sunday entertainments that are not recognised by the Sunday Defence Committee, or that are not run strictly in accordance with the L.C.C. requirements.

"The Sunday entertainments recognised by the S.D.C. are those given by the Sunday societies at the Royal Albert and the Queen's Halls, the N.S.L. concerts, and those given by the organisations representing the profession that are affiliated to the Sunday Defence Committee. The A.M.U. restricts its permission to these societies because they have no power to compel musicians, artists, or anyone else to work on Sundays if they don't wish to. We want to avoid the position which would make the obtaining of the ordinary week's work conditional on our agreeing to work the Sunday. We desire all the employees to be free to choose for themselves.

"The Sunday opening of picture shows we must leave to Mr. W. Johnson, the secretary of the N.A.T.E. and the Cinematographers' Union. We shall be ready, of course, to render them all the assistance in our power, whatever steps they decide to take.

"We have taken the Queen's Hall for a number of years for the purpose of Sunday evening concerts. We propose to run these in conjunction with our Coliseum concerts, which we hope to begin early next September. We open at the Queen's Hall on the 4th of that month with a big choral work. We shall introduce some of the greatest conductors in the world at these concerts. We are supplying the entire musical arrangements for the Worthing Entertainments Committee for the season 1910, and we are training a Balalaika Orchestra, which we hope to have ready for business by next winter."

Seats still unsold for the dress rehearsals of the Army Pageant at Fulham Palace on June 17 and 18, to which schoolchildren are being admitted at sixpence each, will be allotted in batches of fifty to masters and mistresses of recognised schools. Applications should be made to Major A. Tudor Craig, 122, Brompton-road, S.W.

FELDMAN'S

PIERROT PLUMS.

SOMEWHERE.

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.
THE PRETTY LITTLE GIRL FROM NOWHERE.
IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
MOLLY O'MORGAN.
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
OH! I MUST GO HOME TO-NIGHT.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
IN THE ARMY.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.
I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
MOON, MOON, MOON.
PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
SHE'S A GIRL UP NORTH.
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF THE GIRLS.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.
MY SWEET GARDEN QUEEN.
SWEET LITTLE SUN-BONNET LADY.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
IT'S THE GREEN, GREEN RIBBON.
MARIE LOUISE.
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
AND MANY OTHERS.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

At Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, this week Miss Gertie Gitana produced Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's beautiful song "You were coming through the corn, Molly, dear," which proved an instantaneous success, taking three calls after same in each house. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on the possession of one of the finest songs of the year in this number.

The Feldman songs still continue to "go," both in town and country, with unabated vigour. Mr. Jack Smiles, at the London Coliseum, is exceedingly successful with Davis's and Collins's whimsical ditty "Fish sauce," which is rapidly advancing to the proud position of one of this season's pronounced successes.

Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, at the Palace, Dover, has been winning the unstinted applause of her delighted hearers for her charming renderings of the two popular Feldman numbers, "Connemara" and "We can't go into the parlour," both of which emanate from the practised pens of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford.

Miss Violet Beatrice, who is creating a veritable furore at the Hippodrome, Heywood, with Feldman's pretty number "Good-bye, Mr. Teddy Bear," will shortly feature several new numbers published by the same firm at all her engagements.

Miss Marie Beresford, who is eminently successful at the Crystal Palace with Feldman's charming number "Hold me just a little bit tighter," will shortly feature that most popular character number published by the same go-ahead firm, "Marie Louise," which will indubitably be one of the biggest "hits" of the present season in the song line.

Mr. Harry Leaton, writing from Glasgow, records the phenomenal success of "Rain, rain, go away" and "Put off all your troubles till to-morrow," excellent specimens respectively of comic and motto writing, which should enjoy a great vogue among singers of this particular type of song.

Miss Gertrude Gilman has made a success at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool, with Feldman and Co.'s song "Just as the brook flows," one of the most charming ballads ever issued by the famous Arthur-street house.

Alfresco artists all over the country are writing the Feldman publishing house in laudatory terms anent the songs with which they have supplied them this year. Miss Kitty Kennedy-Allen, at the Olympian Gardens, Rhyl, has been enthusiastically received in "Won't there ever be any wedding bells for me?" "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and "We can't go into the parlour," all three of which are Feldman publications.

At the County Rink, Truro, Miss May Otto is the hit of the concert party performing there for her delightful rendering of "French bonnet" and other Feldman numbers; while from Bournemouth, Billie Melia, of Catlin's Pierrots, records the phenomenal success of "Sunbonnet Lady," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," "Hullo, little girl" and "Alpine dress."

Miss Violet Romaine, both at the London Coliseum and London Hippodrome, recently made a phenomenal hit with Feldman and Co.'s exquisite ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," which certainly appears to be the most popular number of its class which has appeared this season.

Miss Lorna Doone has been heard to considerable advantage in the melodious number, "Yours is not the only heart's that's aching."

"My Baby," Tom E. Finglass's latest song, is creating an enormous success, and is the talk of every town he visits. This song gives an opportunity for introducing light comedy, and the novel finish comes as a surprise.

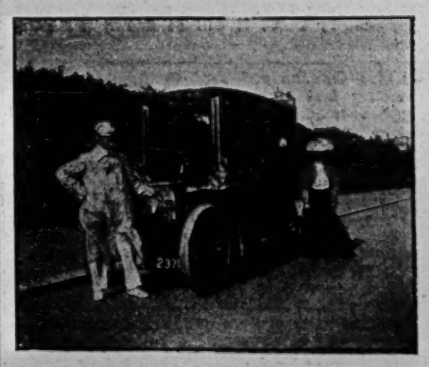

The above is an illustration of Mr. Gus Elen's 10 h.p., which he has for disposal. To a brother professional Mr. Elen would sell the car for the insignificant sum of £100. It originally cost £350. Mr. Elen, desiring every luxury, has just ordered the newest Panhard Levassor car.

"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."

An Episode, Adapted by Miss A. C. Greene, Produced at the Bedford Music Hall on May 30.

Dr. Jekyll / Mr. Hyde ..... Mr. A. E. Mayne
Sir Danvers Carew ..... Mr. Harold Bernay
Inspector Newcome ..... Mr. Henry De Bray
Hilda Carew ..... Miss Jean Graeme

This version of R. L. Stevenson's famous story has been adapted for the purposes of a sketch by Miss Alice Clayton Greene, who has accomplished her task with skill. The scene is laid in Dr. Jekyll's study, and he is writing a letter explaining the mystery which surrounds him, so that in case of his death the truth may be known. His scientific researches regarding dual personality have had such terrible results that life is becoming unbearable and the personality of the criminal Mr. Hyde is gaining on him. The police are on his track, but he successfully baffles them. During an interview with Sir Danvers Carew, who comes to see Dr. Jekyll regarding his daughter Hilda, to whom Jekyll is engaged, the personality of Hyde again asserts itself, and in a fit of passion he kills Carew. Hilda comes in and learns the truth from Jekyll, but helps him to get rid of the inspector who comes in at an awkward moment. He, however, again assumes the character of Hyde, and just as the inspector returns and arrests him he takes poison and brings his life to an end in startling fashion.

It is a most thrilling and interesting play, and Mr. A. E. Mayne's assumption of the dual character is a masterly piece of work. Mr. Mayne makes his changes of character with wonderful rapidity, and each is distinctly drawn to an almost uncanny point, but so effective as to reflect the highest credit on the actor. Mr. Harold Bernay is seen to advantage as Sir Danvers Carew, a part he fills with distinction; and Mr. Henry De Bray, who is responsible for the production, contents himself with the small, though necessary, part of the inspector, which he plays capitally. Miss Jean Graeme is a fascinating Hilda Carew. The whole play is suitably mounted, and Mr. Henry De Bray is to be congratulated on the undoubted success of his venture.

"FEMINA" AT THE ALHAMBRA.

On Monday, May 30, Spectacular Ballet, in Five Scenes, by Alfred Curti, Music composed, selected, and arranged by George Byng, the Spanish Dance Music by Signor Valverde, Presented by Alfred Moul.

Spirit of Vanity .....MLLE. BRITTA
Spanish Espada .....SENOR FAICO
Spanish Dancer .....LOLA LA FLAMENCA
High Priest .....MR. CHARLES RAYMOND
Keeper of Posada .....MR. TOM COVENTRY
An Old Chief .....MR. R. VALLIS
Femina .....MLLE. LEONORA

From the sartorial economy of the Garden of Eden to the Kingdom of Fashion the ballet so successfully presented by Mr. Alfred Moul on Monday evening triumphantly progresses by a series of stage pictures, each one more beautiful and richer in its colouring than the last. In the "first garden," a domain of floral beauty and of peace, the slumbers of Femina are disturbed, and when awakened she is garbed in rose blossoms by the Spirit of Vanity, who thus invents Fashion, a powerful ally in the economy of adornment. To the dainty freshness of the cool-looking pleasaunce succeeds the rocky barrenness of a scene exemplifying the Stone Age, with its fur-clad denizens—semi-barbaric and bizarre.

This highly original episode is particularly striking and impressive, and it gains considerably in dramatic significance by the divertissement of the Ri-Tchave Troupe, apparently a contingent of Russian dancers, whose vim and energy give immense vitality to the scene. Nothing more appropriately rugged than the artistic realisation of what may be regarded as the untamed, unrestrained movements of primordial man could have been devised, and the combination on the opening night of the ballet made a very favourable impression, which is bound to increase. Femina, we should add, has become queen of the tribes, and, as all the chiefs are in love with her, trouble seems to be looming near. A tournament is arranged, and just as the winner is about to claim her hand, the Spirit of Vanity, in the guise of a young chief, returns with the spoils of the chase, and offers her magnificent furs. Eagerly accepting these presents, she rejects her former suitor.

The next scene is one of Oriental magnificence, with a staircase taking up a greater part of the stage. The dancers of the Temple are worshipping the Golden Idol. Femina, now the priestess, has fascinated the priest, who, in his mad desire to win her by the gift of jewels, snatches the jewelled collar from the idol's neck. The offended Assyrian god, in his wrath, invokes thunder and lightning, the columns of the temple topple down, and the scene of utter destruction is complete. Femina, however, escapes with the coveted collar, being carried off by Vanity in the guise of a prince.

The fourth scene brings us to the land of the toreador. Femina is now a gitana, exercising her fascinations among a crowd of admirers in the salle of a posada. A famous espada, noted for his prowess in the bull-ring as well as his dancing, is attracted by her, and he wins her from a rival. A fierce fight is prevented. An enchanting finale is the vision of Web, spread by Vanity. Here we have most elaborate harmonies of colouring in the array of the inhabitants of the Kingdom of Fashion. Cohorts of ballerine dance on in front of the dazzling apotheosis in dresses of the daintiest and most harmonious colouring. Never in our experience have more taste or ingenuity been displayed in an Alhambra production, and Mr. Alfred Moul, who received, with Signor Curti and Mr. George Byng, the congratulations of a crowded house on Monday, should be able to look forward to a long run.

Mlle. Leonora is an ideal representative of Femina, and her soli are particularly graceful, being especially so in the Spanish scene. Miss Britta makes an alluring picture of the Spirit of Vanity; Señor Faico is an accomplished Spanish dancer; Senora Lola La Flamenca is a graceful exponent of the cachuca; and the eloquence of Mr. Charles Raymond's pantomime as the priest is remarkable.

THE Mayor, Councillor G. E. Bridge, presided over a meeting at Bournemouth, on the afternoon of the 27th ult., of the supporters of the Decorated Motors and Battles of Flowers Section of the forthcoming centenary fêtes. Lord and Lady Abinger, Mrs. Wyndham Pain, Colonel and Mrs. Hamilton, Captain R. C. Dunn (local secretary to the Automobile Association), Dr. Kay le Fleming (secretary to the Dorset Motor Union), and others were present. In connection with the battles of flowers, it was stated by Councillor Bell that the Royal Automobile Club would present a valuable silver cup as an international prize for the best decorated car. Handsomely-worked banners will also be given. The Earl of Malmesbury was elected president of the section.

MASONS AT WORK.

The annual installation meeting of the Chelsea Lodge, No. 3,098, was held at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., on Friday, May 27, a week later than the usual time, in consequence of the funeral of our late lamented King, which took place on the regular day of meeting, and, although this delay unfortunately prevented many of the members attending, there was a goodly muster of the brethren.

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

WALTER H. HITCH, I.P.M.,
Chelsea Lodge (3,098).

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

HARRY BAWN, W.M.,
Chelsea Lodge (3,098).

The outgoing Master, Mr. Walter H. Hitch, took an early opportunity after the opening to propose, in an affecting and eloquent speech, a resolution to be entered on the minutes expressing the deep regret and great sympathy felt by the lodge at the great loss which had been sustained by the lamented death of our late King, "Protector of the Craft." This was seconded by Mr. James W. Mathews, and carried in deep and solemn silence.

Subsequently Mr. Harry Bawn was installed as Master with the usual ceremony, by Mr. James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., the first Master of the lodge. Mr. Bawn appointed as his officers Messrs. Walter H. Hitch, W. F. K. Walton, George H. Dyball, Rev. H. Heriot Hill, Wolfe S. Lyon, C. J. Doughty, Albert Le Fre, L. G. Sharpe, E. T. R. Lester, A. E. Nicklin, Angelo A. Asher, H. Griff, G. H. Hill, W. H. Atlas, Albert Felino, and J. H. MacNaughton, and duly invested those present in their offices, and then in a few well-chosen words presented the outgoing Master, Mr. Walter H. Hitch, with a Past-Master's jewel from the lodge, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him during his years of office, and further had the pleasure of also presenting him with a Past-Master's collar and jewel from the initiates of the year, as a token of esteem. Mr. Hitch expressed his appreciation and thanks for these souvenirs, which he would cherish amongst his most valued possessions.

The auditor's report and balance sheet for the year were unanimously accepted and adopted.

Amongst the other members present were Messrs. Pete Murray, W. J. Mackay, Erne Warsaw, Ted E. Box, Douglas White, Herbert Austin, Dan Lipton, S. Goodman, Willie Benn, Harry Clifford, Eric Farr, H. Scott Nolan, Harry Gold, W. Collinson, Edwin Brett, R. W. Duce, Bertie Ralland, J. R. Elvio, Frank Hardie, C. H. Burton, William Ward, C. R. Whittle, H. Mason, Ernie Mayne, Harry Bancroft, Bowker Andrews, Fred Camp, John Grant, Herbert Chenery, A. G. Harman, J. W. Rickaby, W. Doust, Ernie Chester, Ed. E. Ford, Ernest M. Myers, Will Stone, Geo. Grahame, Hal Chapter, Paul Murray, and J. Percy Fitzgerald; and the following visitors: Messrs. Barney Hyman, P. J. Seale, Chas. S. Greenhead, C. H. A. Bradberry, Walter Hobday, A. W. Hanwell, Walter Barrett, William Hawkins, Harry R. Mathews, A. R. Woolgar, J. Sparrow, D. O. Todd, H. Harvey, H. E. W. Jackson, P. H. Greeves, Charles Coborn, John Worth, Frederic Baugh, Sydney Russell, R. M. Andrews, Lionel Carson, Geo. Brown, W. H. Aldous, J. Hubert G. Whilby, S. C. Montague-Austin, W. J. Waterman, Charles Macdona, H. E. Gosling, A. Ashton, C. C. Bartram, and A. W. Morgan.

At the conclusion of the business the company adjourned to the Alexandra Room for the banquet, and during the course of the evening the Master had also the pleasing duty of presenting Mr. Hitch with a loving cup from the lodge.

A select concert was also contributed by the following artists, visitors, and members, viz., Hambleton's String Quartette, My Fancy, the Menzies, Minnie Mace, Little Victoria, Griff, Tally-Ho Trio, Chas. R. Whittle, Hal Chapter, Geo. Grahame, Harry Clifford, A. Felino, Harry R. Mathews, Chas. Macdona, and Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Thorne, under the direction of Mr. Angelo A. Asher, assisted by Mr. John Grant.

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

THE CHELSEA LODGE (3,098) BANQUET, HELD A T FRASCATI'S ON FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1910.

"THE BISHOP AND THE THIEF."

A Play in one Scene, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome on May 30.

Jean Valjean .....MR. EDWARD O'NEILL
The Bishop .....MR. WINDHAM GUISE
Corporal .....MR. A. GARLAND
Madame Magloire .....MISS EUGENIE VERNEY

Mr. Harry Barford is presenting a new sketch founded on Victor Hugo's famous "Les Miserables." It is a subject which has been treated for the stage on various occasions, and the present version is particularly well written and cannot fail to be in much request. The story of the kindly old bishop who offers shelter and food to a convict who can find no other home is very touching, and the scene in which the bishop tells the corporal who charges Jean with theft that the things are gifts from the bishop himself is very dramatic, the kindly action of the old prelate saving Jean from further imprisonment, and Jean's vow to start life afresh is simply but strikingly presented.

Mr. Edward O'Neill, the accomplished and versatile actor, naturally made full use of his opportunities as Jean, and he held his audience in a firm grip by his masterly rendering of the character. A more charming picture of an old bishop than that given by Mr. Windham Guise it is difficult to conceive, and Miss Eugenie Verney made a success as Madame Magloire. The play, which is suitably mounted, made an emphatic hit, and Mr. Barford can rely on a successful future for it.

MISS MILDRED BLANCHARD has received the following letter:—"Buckingham Palace.—Lord Knollys is commanded by Queen Alexandra to thank Miss M. Blanchard most sincerely for her kind expressions of sympathy in Her Majesty's irreparable loss.—May 28, 1910."

"ENCHANTMENT."

Dramatic Playlet, by Grete Hahn, Produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, May 30.

Hugh Rossiter ....MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON
Alfred Turner .....MR. CECIL C. CROSSLEY
Nell .....MISS CRETE HAHN

The scene is Hugh Rossiter's studio in Holland Park. Nell, the wife of a poor builder's painter, Alf. Turner, being the guest of Hugh, an artist, who has befriended her. Whilst the woman is indulging in the luxury of a good meal, Hugh, seated at a grand piano, plays to her, and it is evident this strangely-contrasted couple have a fascination for one another. When Nell has finished, Hugh asks to be allowed to kiss her, pays her compliments, and suggests that they shall have a good time together. Nell, unused to such flattery, is inclined to listen to the voice of the tempter, but she tells him that she has always loved her husband, and in spite of Hugh's assurance that Alf will know nothing about it, will not readily consent to his proposals. A knock is heard at the door and Nell goes to an adjoining room, the artist then admitting her husband Alf. He and the kiddy have been waiting at home for Nell, and a mate has told him his missus has been seen in the company of an artist, has been seen to enter Hugh's flat, and has not left it. Hugh soon persuades Alf. that Nell is not there, and the distressed husband, apologising for believing such a thing of his wife and the artist, is about to leave. Ere he departs, however, Hugh gives him some advice. Alf. admits he has a good wife, that he loves her, but Hugh advises him to show it a bit more. All women love flattery. Let him tell her how pretty she is and how fond he is of her. Knowing also how hard-up Alf. is, Hugh suggests he shall come round and paint the studio on the morrow, and gives him a day's pay in advance, which Alf. reluctantly accepts. He then departs, Hugh telling him that no doubt when he gets home he will find his wife waiting for him. Nell then comes from her place of hiding, and after having her shawl placed on her shoulders by Hugh, she kisses his hand, and silently steals out. This impressive little playlet was admirably played throughout, Mr. H Lawrence Leyton giving a finished and easy performance of the artist; Mr. Cecil C. Crossley skilfully suggesting the anxiety of the poor painter; and Miss Grete Hahn being quite satisfactory in the difficult part of Nell.

Another novelty in the bill was the pantomimic sketch and dance *Captivation*, given by Thales and Massilia, "the celebrated tragedians and dancers from the Folies Begères, Théâtre Marigny, &c., Paris," the effective pantomime of the duo, and the "Danse de la Volupté" of the lady finding many admirers. Ritter and Foster, eccentric comedians and dancers, submit an entertaining interlude, in which the remarkably skilful terpsichorean efforts of the male dancers are loudly applauded; and the wonderful acrobatics and funny business of the Creo Brothers, in *The Gipsies*, cannot be too highly praised. Miss Minnie Mace, an attractive serio and dancer, blithely warbles "I don't care where I reside," her accompanying dance being neatly executed.

That favourite comedian, Tom Woottwell, usually well fitted with comic material, which he is careful not to work to death, has a couple of particularly humorous ditties just at present. His first, "With this 'at on," concerns a battered old topper, which proves a veritable mascot; and his second song, "Mother," tells of a knowing dame who is evidently a perfect treasure to her old man, and a woman whose acquaintance is worth cultivating. Both songs kept the audience almost continuously on the grin, and the comedian's reception at their conclusion was a decidedly flattering one. Another funny man who manages to amuse without resorting to extravagant business or make-up is Mr. Charles Whittle, who soon got his auditors to join him in the chorus of "She's a London lass is Lucy," his best number, however, being the laughable "He's a naughty, naughty boy," every point being quietly but effectively brought out by the singer. Rousby's electrical Review, "Greater London"; Charles Leighton, comedian; Edith Blanchard, contralto vocalist; and Ruffell's Bioscope, showing pictures of the Funeral Procession of His Late Majesty King Edward, also figure on the alluring programme.

FRANK HARDIE was last week at Walthamstow with his grand spectacular production of *The Great Green Diamond*, and hundreds were turned away nightly unable to gain admission. He is this week playing *The Old Brigade* at the Grand Theatre, Gravesend, where he is also proving a gigantic success, and opens again with *The Great Green Diamond* at Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, on June 13.

GRAMOPHONE AND COPYRIGHT.

NEW POINT FOR DECISION.

A novel point of musical copyright law cropped up with regard to one of Mr. Lionel Monckton's songs when Mr. Justice Eve heard, on the 27th ult., in the Chancery Division, an adjourned summons taken out by the defendants in the case of Monckton v. the Gramophone Company.

Mr. MacGillivray, in support of the summons, said that the defendants moved that the statement of claim should be struck out on one of two grounds—either that it disclosed no reasonable cause of action or alternatively as embarrassing.

Mr. P. Ogden Lawrence, K.C. (who, with Mr. J. F. Iselin, appeared for the plaintiff), interposing, said that his friend might be willing to withdraw the summons on terms, as the state of facts had altered since the writ in the action had been issued. The question was whether the manufacturing and selling records of a song without the owner's permission constituted an infringement of the owner's rights, either under the Copyright Acts or at common law. On the facts as disclosed by the statement of claim, as now before the court, the only point of law that could be raised, and the only one he should argue, was the common law right, as at the time the writ was issued the song had not been registered. To save delay and expense, the summons might be withdrawn and the statement of claim amended.

Mr MacGillivray said, on his instructions, he thought that the question raised on the summons should be decided by the court.

The learned counsel then stated the facts. The song in question, he said, was called "Moonstruck," and both the music and the words were composed by Mr. Lionel Monckton, and had been performed in the successful play of *Our Miss Gibbs*, at the Gaiety. The statement of claim set out:—

That the composition was published as a song in the ordinary way, with the usual statement printed on the cover.

That any performance in public was strictly forbidden, and, further, that the right of public performance upon or by means of any mechanical instrument was strictly reserved.

That the defendants, without licence from the plaintiff, had "transcribed" by a system of notation the composition on to vulcanite indiarubber records, which in a gramophone produced both words and music.

That the sale of these records, which was large, had seriously diminished the plaintiff's copyright and right of exclusive performance.

The plaintiff claimed a declaration of his rights, an injunction, and the usual relief.

His lordship asked on what ground the defendants alleged that the statement of claim embarrassed them in their defence.

Mr. MacGillivray said that some ten years ago the courts had held, in Boosey v. Whight, that the transcribing of a musical piece on to rolls of paper by means of perforation was not an infringement of any copyright which a man had at common law. His submission was that that case, although the decision was on facts somewhat different from the present, conclusively decided that the plaintiff's claim here was bad.

His lordship.—I am not sure about that. It seems to me Boosey's case might well be distinguished from the present on several grounds.

Mr. Lawrence remarked that the question of infringement by gramophone had never yet been decided. It was an important question of considerable commercial interest, and there was a great deal of law in it, especially as, the song now having been registered, the statutory as well as the common law rights would have to be dicussed at the trial.

His lordship said that the only question he had to decide was whether the ground put forward established "embarrassment" in the legal sense, and thus entitled the defendants to move to have the statement of claim struck out.

Mr. MacGillivray replied that before arguing that point he desired to briefly state how the law of copyright at common law now stood, and how that right had been curtailed and altered by the various Copyright Acts.

At the conclusion of his argument, Mr. Lawrence was heard in opposition to the summons. In the result his lordship said that in the circumstances he would make no order. The summons was, therefore, dismissed.

Solicitors: For the plaintiff, Mr. Percy Becher; for the defendants, Messrs. Board and Co.

COMMANDER PEARY, Captain Bartlett, the American Consul-General, and other prominent Americans, were guests of the Savage Club on Saturday last. After dinner it was announced by the club hon. secretary, that Commander Peary had been unanimously elected an hon. life member. Mr. Peary accepted the compliment in a modest speech, and gave some very interesting details of his last Arctic expedition.

ALDERMAN H. BURT, presiding at the annual general meeting of the Alexandra Park Trustees, at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, on Tuesday, said the trust had now existed for nine years, and they had paid their way. The report stated that the improvement proceeded from a general development of practically every branch of the business of the trust. In addition to the usual Saturday and Sunday concerts, arrangements had been made with Mr. E. J. Parker for concerts on four other evenings in the week. A permanent refreshment châlet was being erected, and the electric lighting of the bandstand was being improved. The Finance Committee reported that last year's indebtedness of £7815 was reduced to £4990.

WANTED.

Booking Management

—:: FOR ::—

Country Halls

by Manager at present booking London hall, with thorough knowledge of every branch of the business. Able to get first-class companies at lowest possible figures, present position being greatly conducive to obtaining the artists at proper prices.

Bills showing class of Companies for last 12 months can be seen.

Interview at any time by appointment.

Apply Box 7784, "The Era" Office.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.
The fairs ahead for next week are: Normanton Feast, on the Midland, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and North-Eastern; Southrapps, on the Midland, Great Northern, and Great Eastern; Prescot, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Bicester, on the London and North-Western; Cranbrook, on the South-Eastern; Haverhill, on the Great Eastern; Porth, on the Taff Vale; Llandovery, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Brynmawr, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Lanark, on the London and North-Western and Midland; and Saltcoats, on the Glasgow and South-Western Railways.

The Aftermath of the National Sorrow.
Ever since the death of the beloved King Edward VII. there has been a most marked depression in the fairground industry. This, of course, was to be expected, but not to the extent it has unfortunately gone. From every fair during the Whitsuntide Festival the report has been the same—a great falling off in both the attendance and in the patronage of the people. Showmen, like all the other entertainers of the people, suffer when the nation mourns. This is inevitable, despite the gracious and kindly solicitude of King George to prevent any serious loss to those engaged in providing for the necessary relaxation of the toiling millions of his people.

Additional Notes of Birmingham Fair.
In our brief report of Birmingham great fair last week we had no record of the following excellent shows and fairground attractions: Mr. John Collins's Brooklyn cake-walk and Katzenjammer Castle, Mr. Russell's galloping horses and swings, Mr. Wallins's steam roundabouts and highfliers, Mr. Braham's temple of magic and performing birds, Mr. Harry Hughes' assault-at-arms, Mr. H. Cullis's school of boxers, Mr. E. Balls, tiny people show, Mr. Wortley's colliery model and novelty booth, Prof. Hutin's freak show, shooting saloon by Messrs. Wright and Dobson, houp-la circles by Messrs. Blood, Deeks, Jervis, Mulhearn, Hall, and Cordwell.

Local Powers Under the Cinematograph Act, 1909.
We hope all exhibitors of cinematograph films, whether in travelling booths or in permanent structures, have seriously considered the possible effect of Mr. Cecil Chapman's (the stipendiary magistrate at Tower Bridge) decision, as reported in our Film Gossip last week. Mr. Chapman gave a considered judgment on the assumed power of the London County Council to make Sunday closing of cinematograph exhibitions a condition of granting licences under the Cinematograph Act. The magistrate decided that the Act did not permit the local authority to impose conditions other than those necessary for public safety. The learned stipendiary quotes Lord Lindley as saying "That for many years it has been established that the title of an act is part of the act, and that it must be read in conjunction with every section of it." However desirable a restriction may be in itself with which a licence is granted, it cannot be allowed to go beyond the purposes of the act by which it is created, because by so doing it would interfere with a common right of all his Majesty's subjects without direct legislative authority.

The Far-reaching Importance of the Decision.
It is not alone with regard to the question of Sunday opening of cinematograph shows that we regard Mr. Chapman's decision as being important. The Sunday opening of places of amusements is too big a question to be settled without definite legislation. Those proprietors who so eagerly desire the advantage of Sunday opening will find that legislation will come, and the best they can expect will be local option. That is, that where the public is in favour of Sunday opening, it will be in the power of the local authority to allow it. The present legislation in favour of Sunday opening is forcing the whole question of Sunday amusements to the front. The struggle will be when the licensee next year approaches the licensing authority. The authority has wide powers of local government. It will be also found that on the Sunday closing question there yet remains a large body of public opinion against any further liberty. Our chief satisfaction with regard to the learned magistrate's judgment is that it will demonstrate to local authorities throughout the country—the London County Council has not sinned in this respect—that the hundred and one petty restrictions and conditions they have sought to impose upon travelling showmen are not covered by the Act, nor ever meant to be conferred by it. Take, for example, the extraordinary condition imposed by several authorities: "That the show must not stay more than one week in any town," and must not visit the county more than four times a year." How can such a condition be imposed under the Cinematograph Act is beyond our comprehension. Take another example: "There must be no outside music, no parade, no shouting." All these things are imposed under an Act only meant to secure public safety.

Yet another example of how the Act is being worked to penalise travelling showpeople. It is set out in the Act that the total sum to be paid in any one year to obtain a licence shall be £1. It has cost many showmen £3 to obtain a licence—£1 the licence, and £2 2s. to have plans drawn. It is required in the Home Secretary's regulations that a plan of the show shall be affixed to the licence. The purpose of the plan was to show the side exits of the show booth and the position of the operator's box as originally licenced, and nothing more. A great many licensing authorities have read this simple provision that any schoolboy could have drawn, to mean a building plan drawn to scale—of the structure—by an architect. Some authorities have demanded in addition vexatious conditions under their local building bye-laws, and claim that the Cinematograph Act gives them power to impose these stringent provisions on travelling shows. It is as throwing light on these problems that travelling showmen will welcome Mr. Chapman's decision.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.
Per Mr. Marshall: Mr. J. W. Burgin, 10s. 6d.; Mr. J. Bentley, 5s.; Mr. W. H. Hill, 5s.; Mr. T. Reaney, 5s. Per Mr. Ashington: Mr. M. A. Heaviside, 5s.. Per Mr. Mitchell: Mr. J. Butterworth, 5s. Per Mr. Marshall—Mr. A. Duck, 5s.; Mr. John Gledstone, 5s.

Cockermouth Hirings.
Paine's picture palace, Biddall's similar show, C. Relph's midget show were the chief exhibitions at this border fair. The machine attractions included Relph and Pedley's motor-cars, Biddall's cake-walk, Slater's bike track, and Payne's steam-horses.

The minor amusements were in the capable hands of Messrs. Irvin, Johnson, Relph, Lawrence, Boswell, and local caterers.

Notes from Scotland.
The Scotch showmen are working up to the great time of the trade holidays in July. From our Scotch correspondents we have news of several recent fairs. Kirkcaldy, Alloa, where the venture of a new fairground was made with some success, and Wishaw. The showmen upon this circuit include Messrs. John Wilmot, Henry Strand, Tom Paulo, J. Wingate, Wm. Strand, S. Freeman, R. Stevenson, Harris, J. Evans, T. Wright, McIsaac, C. Horne, J. Matchett, A. Bleckley, W. Wright, the Thomas family, Pinder, D. Kennedy, G. Tingle, Biddall, and a score of other well-known names at Scottish fairs.

This week most of the above-named were at Carluke Fair. Next week will find them at Saltcoats.

Carlisle Whitsun Fair.
The principal providers of popular entertainment at Carlisle were Chipperfield, with wild beasts; Mandora, with picture palace; John Wilmot, with racing motors; J. Evans, with a similar concern; and Messrs. Macintosh, Slater, Hughes, Powell, Mitchell, and other caterers with throwing games, variety stalls, and fairground novelties.

Newark Fair.
Messrs. Farrar and Tyler and John Proctor, with superb picture palaces, were the chief show attractions at Newark May Fair. The machine list included R. Holdsworth's racing porkers and whizzing balloon cars, Richards' Brooklyn cake-walk, Cox and Son's galloping-horses, Hall and Proctor's motor-cars, and Mellor's juvenile roundabouts. There were also the usual throwing games, houp-la circles, and variety stalls in well-ordered array.

White City, Old Trafford.
One of the novelties this week is the exhibition of the talents of a horse belonging to Mr. Edward J. Hayes, of Stockport, called "Billy," which can do everything except talk, and bids fair to have a successful career. It is to remain here for the season. It has been for two years on the Moss-Stoll circuit. The Band of H.M. Green Howards (2nd Yorkshires) continues to provide good programmes during this week. The firework displays do credit to Mr. Joseph Wells, of Earl's Court.

Sedgwick's Menagerie in South Wales.
The above gigantic amalgamation has been touring the coal towns of the South Wales valleys for some period now. During the visits they have received the greatest support from the inhabitants. The famous show speaks for itself. It is nothing more nor less than a travelling zoo on wheels—a veritable Noah's Ark—containing as it does hundreds of wild animals from the four quarters of the globe, including twenty of the finest lions in Europe, headed by "His Majesty," the largest and most handsome lion in captivity. There are tigers, leopards, bears, jaguars, wolves, wild cats, a waggon-load of amusing and mischievous monkeys, an aviary of birds, emus, ostriches, elephants, camels, and dromedaries. There are two famous lion tamers in the persons of Alphonso the Daring and Lorenzo the Fearless and Mlle. Rosie, the only lady lion tamer travelling. These artists go through some of the most daring acts on record.

Then there is a tug-of-war contest, elephant versus thirty local men, in each town visited, the prize being a very handsome silver cup. It is worth noting that whether the elephant wins or not, the proprietor (Mr. W. Sedgwick) gives the cup to the team competing, but as thirty men cannot possibly each have a cup, they draw lots. We may confidently state that lovers of natural history can learn more by a two-hours' visit to this show than by twelve months of book learning. What a treat, too, for the school children to witness, and to tell their parents that they have seen the reality in life!

We must not conclude these remarks without referring to the splendid brass band, under the leadership of Mr. Holmes, which plays selections of classical music at each performance. The whole show is in most respectable condition, cleanliness being one of its great characteristics. There is no unpleasant smell whatever, so that the most fastidious need not be afraid to visit the above collection. We found the proprietor, Mr. W. Sedgwick, and all his family, most courteous and the pleasantest of people to have a chat with. Nothing was wanting on their part to make it a very pleasant visit for us; and we shall look forward with pleasure to their return visit to South Wales. We must also mention that a very interesting event occurred at Pontypridd, a lioness giving birth to a litter of cubs, which, we are requested to state, will be christened in due course by one of our prominent Welsh mayors. Welsh names are to be given to each cub.—From the *Glamorgan County Times*.

Great Yarmouth.
The Gem.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. V. Barr.—This popular place of entertainment, which has been entirely altered and renovated, at a cost of some £3,000, is doing good business this week, packed houses being the rule. An excellent programme is submitted, the top of the bill being Laurence Derrick and Marian Brereton, in a capital vocal sketch *Married a Month*, in which they score a big success, both in acting and singing. Another turn calling for commendation is Mr. Chas. Conway, who is a refined and versatile artist. Miss F. Froissant also does well.

Showmen's Letter-Box.
Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, W. Biddall, H. Fossett, and Anderton and Rowland at *The Era* Office.

Mr. James Jennings paid a short visit to the Gaol Ground, Salisbury, with his steam galloping horses. Large numbers visited the ground, and business was very good. The other novelties included park swings, houp-la circles, shies, shooting saloons, throwing games, and a variety of stalls.

At Kidwelly, S. Wales, this week, Mr. W. Haggar's fine bioscope show is doing record business, the pictures shown including a very fine one of the Royal Funeral and scenes in London at the time of the King's death. There are other up-to-date pictures, all vividly described by Mr. Gus Bentall. Amongst the artists appearing are the charming Misses Katie Poole and Ida Warne, very clever dancers; Jack Best, comedian; and Vernon Denvar, American mimic. Mr. Bert Sinclair is a capable pianist. This is the first big picture-show that has ever visited Kidwelly, and the business done should encourage others to pay a visit while in the district. Mr. Haggar is certainly coming back again. Mr. W. Roberts' amusements, shooters, hoop-las, highfliers, are also on the ground doing well.

Coney Island, with its usual array of attractions, chief among which are Luna Park and Dreamland, is once more enticing crowds of pleasure seekers. The trip down the breeze-swept bay by the fast excursion boats reminds them that even a hot summer in New York is not without its compensations. Rich and poor rub shoulders at Coney Island, for all sorts and conditions of people go there. Its orderliness and the absence of petty extortion make it unique among the amusement resorts of the world. New devices to amuse, instruct, and entertain greet the visitor on every side. At Luna Park Frederick Thompson's mechanical illusion, "A Trip to Mars on an Aeroplane," and "Havana," which shows the sinking of the battleship Maine, are among the chief attractions. The "pneumatic tube ride" is another new feature. Dreamland is more brilliantly illuminated than ever. It is said that no less than 96,000 incandescent lamps are used in lighting the various buildings and thoroughfares. An entirely new effect is created this season by the use of coloured lights. One of the best novelties is William A. Ellis's new illusion, "The Devil's Thumb," which ends with a laughable pantomime. Miss Meers gives an equestrian performance in the circus ring, and there are other features too numerous to mention.

FILM GOSSIP.

Three Reigns.
Arrangements have been made by Mr. Alfred West, of "Our Navy and Army," to give each afternoon, at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, three hourly exhibitions of animated pictures of incidents of three reigns—those of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, of his late Majesty King Edward VII., and of his Majesty King George V. As might be expected, those relating to the middle period of British history occupy by far the larger portion of the programme, since they include scenes not only from the Coronation and Funeral of King Edward, but records of ceremonial visits to Athens and the City of London, and of inspections of the old and young boys of the Duke of York's School on Empire Day, and of units of the Territorial Army. By way of historic parallel to the melancholy pageant witnessed in London and at Windsor the week before last, pictures dealing with the demise of Queen Victoria have been introduced. The films of the King's children playing at soldiers (secured eight years ago), and of the Durbar at Delhi, when His Majesty and Queen Mary made their last Indian tour, cannot fail to be of interest to any student of national life.

Journalism and the Cinematograph.
The latest development in topical cinematograph pictures is "Pathé's Animated Gazette," a cinematograph film which is edited and produced just like an illustrated newspaper, and which is already seen by more than a million people every week in Great Britain, Europe, America, and the Colonies. The British edition is edited by Mr. Valentia Steer, who was formely special correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, and for five years was a member of the editorial staff of Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson. The staff photographers cover all the important events of the week at home and abroad, and the "Gazette" is displayed at cinematograph theatres all over the world. This week's number includes some excellent pictures of the cross-Channel flight, the trial eights boat races at Oxford, Peary, the Polar explorer at Edinburgh, the funeral of Douglas Smith, the brave boy scout, at Ealing, Mr. Roosevelt at Cambridge, and many foreign events of importance.

The Adventures of a Double-Bass.
An exceedingly good comic film will be released by Cines to-day with a plot somewhat out of the ordinary. An ardent lover tries to secure an interview with the object of his affections, but is refused, and is in the depth of despair. Determined to accomplish his object at any cost, he hides himself in a gigantic double-bass, which has been ordered. He is carried into the house, and now his troubles commence. A musician endeavours to play the instrument, causing our unfortunate hero to jump about in a most alarming manner. After several funny incidents, the persistent lover is discovered, and his end is decidedly painful.

Exercises of Venetian Firemen.
Another good Cines film, to be released on June 8, depicts, in an interesting way, the expertness with which the Venetian firemen grapple with fire. We are shown the men arriving at the scene of a supposed conflagration. The extreme height of the houses in Venice, and the narrowness of the streets, necessitate the use of most ingenious scaling-ladders. The ascent and descent of the firemen are shown, and the whole is realistically portrayed, and the great agility and alertness displayed are certainly remarkable.

"Double Dealing."
Double Dealing is the title of an excellent Pathé, well staged and acted. We are shown a seemingly upright man, happy with his wife and daughter, who has just received her father's sanction to her engagement with a wealthy young man. The father in his business methods has the most shady dealings possible. He occupies a set of rooms, from which he can pass, by a secret entrance, to another office, where he lays his plans for robbing his many dupes of their money. He induces his future son-in-law to invest his money in the bank he has formed, and when the latter fails, tells him that his engagement to his daughter is at an end. Enraged at this unjust treatment, the young man, with his *fiancée* and her mother, hurry back to the bank, where they accidentally discover the secret passage. Entering the second room, they discover the father, in disguise, packing a bag. An angry scene follows, when the young man, his suspicions aroused, snatches the wig off the other's head, and to his horror discloses the features of his sweetheart's father.

A Very Interesting Gaumont.
Fishing for Eels in the Mediterranean is an excellent little Gaumont subject, depicting views of the Mediterranean eel fisheries. The photography is exceptionally good.

Life in Java.
Urban's are issuing a beautiful series of pictures depicting life in Java, with much that is interesting of the home life and customs of the Javians. In the town of Sourabaia a great variety of vehicles are seen, from the up-to-date motor to the old-fashioned ox-waggon. Girls at the well are seen drawing water, natives making embroidery, dancing, and playing cards in the shade of huge-leaved ferns, while the native boys at school in their brisk drill are interesting and very amusing. A native exhibition and carnival, with the ascent of a large balloon, and a quaint procession, ending with the burning of King Carnival, serve to make up a most interesting series of travel pictures.

Shooting at Cinematograph Pictures.
Realism has gone a long way in the making of the modern target, as used at the Army Council's rifle ranges throughout the country. The cinematograph has been introduced, and the riflemen blaze away at advancing skirmishing parties or soldiers emerging from ambuscades. The difficulty of indicating the hits has been overcome by an ingenious arrangement of white cards travelling on overhead wires, and hung in front of the screen to receive impressions of portions of the picture.

History in Kinematograph.
The influence of the kinematograph upon photographic art was referred to by Sir Benjamin Stone when presiding at the annual meeting of the National Photographic Record Association recently. The association, founded twelve years ago for the purpose of establishing a national collection of photographs, has of late found county and other local associations largely superseding it. Referring to kinematograph pictures, the chairman said praise of these must be qualified by the fact that they would not keep. Much fraud had been committed in making the films. As all knew, they were manufactured in all kinds of places for the amusement of the people. He hoped the time would come when fraud made by pictures would be looked upon with contempt.

Cinematograph Marvel.
The arrangements for dealing with the photographic work in connection with the British Antarctic Expedition are of a most elaborate character. This department will be in charge of Mr. Herbert G. Ponting, F.R.G.S., a photographic expert. Two cinematographs are being taken. One of these is the most wonderful moving picture machine ever devised, and places in the hands of the operator a power hitherto unknown in this work. A complete equipment is being taken for developing all cinematograph films on the spot, and a fine dark room is built for the purpose in the winter hut. A large stock of plates is being taken for securing the effects of the Antarctic in true natural colours, and the expedition is specially equipped for the most rapid work, for telephoto-photography, for making photo micrographs, and for flashlight work. The apparatus also includes a protecting lantern for making lantern slides in the long night and trying them in the winter hut.

Prince Bendon on Tour.
Prince Bendon, of ventriloquial fame, and head of the firm of the Bendon Trading Company, film manufacturers and hirers, Glasgow, is now on a three week's motor tour. He started from Glasgow last Wednesday, and intends visiting every town of note as far as Plymouth. A number of those who have been hiring films from his Glasgow office will have an opportunity of a personal interview with him while on this tour. He anticipates covering about 3,000 miles before returning to Glasgow.

Colour Cinematograph.
No pictorial record of the funeral procession of King Edward and the bringing of the body to Westminster Hall from Buckingham Palace can equal in completeness, beauty, or impressiveness the wonderful series of colour cinematographs shown at the Palace Theatre, London, during the week. The pictures, taken by the Urban-Smith process, known as Kinemacolor, form a complete pictorial account in colour of recent historic events. Nothing is omitted. The early morning crowds in the streets, the arrival of the soldiers to keep the route, the coming of the empty gun-carriage, the arrival of those taking part in the procession, even the late King's terrier Cæsar, are all shown. The marching soldiers and the brilliant uniforms of the Sovereigns and officers upon the background of the trees in the parks give some wonderful contrasts.

Doctor Charcot's Exploration Ship.
In about a week from now Dr. Charcot is expected to arrive at Havre in the Pourquoi Pas, after an absence of two years. The vessel will cast anchor at Rouen, where the official reception will take place. The doctor and his companions of the French Antarctic mission will be received by the Geographical Society, and it may be that Parisians will be given the opportunity of seeing the Pourquoi Pas? in the Seine at Paris. There will be a great gathering in the amphitheatre of the Sorbonne, where Doctor Charcot will lecture on his Antarctic expedition. On this occasion numerous cinematographic views will be shown.

Grand Central Theatre, W.C.
An interesting programme is offered at the Grand Central Theatre, Tottenham Court-road. A thrilling film is A Planter's Wife. The main attraction, however, is provided by King Edward's Funeral, the impressive effect of which is heightened by the rendering of his late Majesty's favourite hymn. Other films seen this week include A Romance of the Western Hills, a Red Indian drama, of which the scenes are laid in the heart of the beautiful California mountains, and a story of factory life entitled First Love is Best.

New Brixton Picture Show.
We understand that in addition to the present large number of cinematograph shows opened in Brixton, the premises, adjoining those of Mr. S. A. Newman, 385, Brixton-road, have been let to the proprietors of the Duke of York Cinematograph Theatre. This place of entertainment will be opened to the public as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed.

Entertainment for Highbury.
A new electric theatre, public hall, skating rink, and café are proposed for Holloway. A company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring the business of the Harper Electric Piano Co., Ltd., developing it, and for the erection of the buildings on land in the district which has been acquired.

Kensington Picture Theatre.
Mr. S. W. Lukushima, from Japan, will present his illustrated entertainment in word and picture representing Ancient and Modern Japan, its scenery, manners, and customs, from June 6 to June 12 inclusive.

Hibbert's Bradford Pictures.
Hibbert's Pictures (Limited) have been registered, with a capital of £12,000 in 10s. shares, to take over the business of a cinematograph and animated picture show proprietor carried on by H. Hibbert at Bradford.

Nottingham Electric Palace.
The funeral of the late King is being shown this week to crowded houses by the Electric Palaces Co., Ltd. The perfection of the films is truly remarkable, not only for their steadiness, but that the natural colours are brought out, thus creating a realism that makes the procession an imposing and impressive spectacle. The features of the principal participants are wonderfully clear, and an especially effective scene is where the coffin is being borne up the steps leading to St George's Chapel.

Nuneaton.
The Empire Electric Theatre and Music Hall was well filled on Monday evening last, when the Mayor, Mr. F. Melly, performed the opening ceremony. Some excellent films were provided, and were interspersed with sweetly rendered songs by Molly Augarde and a clever exhibition by the Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats. The hall is run on the two-shows-nightly principle, and under the management of Mr. J. H. Tomkinson promises to be a success. The proceeds of the evening were given to the Nuneaton Hospital.

Electric Theatre for Wingate.
The Wingate Empire Electric Theatre Co., Ltd., whose subscription list closes on June 7, 1910, has been formed to provide a moving picture entertainment for a great mining district in Durham county, at present uncatered for. The theatre at Wingate will be beautifully decorated and provided with every comfort in seating, ventilation, and warming in the cold months, and abundant means of entrance and exit.

Al Fresco Bioscope Exhibitions.
The *News of the World* is giving free Bioscope exhibitions in the open air every evening during the summer months. A luxurious touring car drawn by a powerful steam engine has been chartered, and is now making a tour of the suburbs of London. All the latest pictures will be shown on an elevated sheet, thus enabling thousands to view the performance at the same time. The entertainments, which are under the management of of Mr. Walter Payne, have been showing to enormous crowds during the fine weather which has prevailed for the past two weeks. This week the car has visited Long Ditton, Thames Ditton, East Molesey, Sunbury, Walton-on-Thames, and Ashford.

Bioscope in School.
The experiment of teaching children by the cinematograph has already been tried in rural Britain, and has met with success. On the advice of Mr. J. O. Nicholson, chairman of the Macclesfield Education Committee, and brother of Sir John Nicholson, of Leek, a course of lessons on the screen was given recently in the Council schools. France, like America, has discovered that the cinematograph is something of an educational force, and recently an English film was exhibited at a theatre in the Rue Taitbout, which was crowded with school children.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The chairman of the Theatrical Sports Committee is receiving many gratifying promises of support, and in many cases the donors of prizes and subscriptions will attend the sports if possible. It therefore behoves the members of the working staff to enter heartily into the various competitions. Among the prizes presented and promised which have been provisionally allocated are the following:—For the 100 yards running handicap a silver cup will be given for the first prize by Mr. Fred Terry; Miss Ellen Terry will present a gold medal for the quarter-mile running handicap; Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander will present the first prize for the half-mile running handicap; Miss Mary Moore will give a prize for the quarter-mile obstacle race, for which there is also the Matheson Lang silver challenge cup; Sir John Hare will present a cup for the one mile walking handicap; Mr. James Carew, the chairman, will present a cycle as the first prize for the one mile cycling handicap; Mr. Martin Harvey will present a prize for the 120 yards obstacle sack race; Sir Albert Seymour, Bart., will present the first and second prize for the boys' 100 yards running handicap; Mr. Arthur Bourchier will present the first prize for the 50 yards boot race; and Sir Squire Bancroft the first prize for the ladies' race.

Among others who have given subscriptions or prizes are—Sir Arthur W. Pinero, £2 2s.; Sir Edward Moss, £1 1s.; Mr. L. Carson, £1 1s.; Miss Lilian Braithwaite, 10s.; Miss Jessie Bateman, £1; Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, £1 1s.; Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, £1 1s.; Miss Compton, £1 1s.; Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, a case of pearl-handle dessert knives and forks; Mr. Maurice Farkoa, £1 1s.; Mr. Edmund Gween, £1 1s.; Miss Florence Haydon, 10s. 6d.; Miss Ethel Irving, £1 1s.; Mr. H. B. Irving, £1 1s.; Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, £1 1s.; Miss Marie Löhr, £1 1s.; Mr. Eric Lewis, £1 1s.; Mr. Robert Loraine, 10s. 6d.; Mr. John Lawson, a prize; Mrs. Saba Raleigh, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Gaston Mayer, £1 1s.; Mr. Kennerley Rumford, £1 1s.; Mr. E. V. Reynolds, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Alfred Sutro, £1 1s.; Miss Irene Vanbrugh, £1 1s.; Miss Genevieve Ward, £1; Mr. James Welch, £1 1s.; the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, £3 3s.; Miss Ada Reeve, a prize; Miss Marie Illington, a prize; Miss Julia Neilson, a prize; Messrs. C. and S. May, a prize; and Messrs. Crampton and Ward, a touring hamper. A number of applications for 5s. and 2s. tickets have also been received.

Tickets, entry forms, and other printed matter are now available, and may be obtained from the hon. secretary at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The committee will be glad to hear from those who will assist. The entries close on Tuesday, June 14.

The Sunday Defence Committee have decided to communicate with all the members of the L.C.C. on the matter of the magistrate's decision in the case of the L.C.C. *v.* the Bermondsey Bioscope Theatre, and the various societies represented on the committee will submit the following resolution to the Trade Union Congress which meets in Sheffield in September. The Congress includes representatives from most of the Trade Unions of the country, numbering over one and a half million members. The Musicians' Union have already sent in a copy of this resolution:—"That this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to assist, by deputation and other effective means, the Variety Artists' Federation, the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and the Amalgamated Musicians' Union to prevent the opening of places of amusement on Sundays by way of trade and for the gain of the proprietors of such places of amusement, and thus avert the imposition of a compulsory seven days' working week upon the artists, musicians, and employees."

This resolution will probably be moved by Mr. W. H. Clemart for the V.A.F., and seconded by Mr. William Johnson for the N.A.T.E., Mr. J. B. Williams, of the Musicians' Union, speaking in support. Judging the action of the Congress from its past attitude on the Sunday labour question, the resolution will be adopted, and the Sunday Defence Committee will then have the support of organised labour throughout the United Kingdom. The London Trade Unions are being communicated with at once.

It is no secret that the A.M.U. are preparing to take drastic action on the question of Sunday entertainment, and Mr. Jesson's view will be found stated in an interview published in another column.

JAMES NEWSOME, EQUESTRIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr. J. Newsome will be eighty-five years old on June 4, 1910. The general public of to-day and days gone by will always think kindly of the "grand old man" of the arena.

In a controversy started by *London Opinion* it is stated that our late King made a first visit to a place of amusement at Astley's Amphitheatre in 1849. Mr. Newsome was an apprentice at this period, under the management of Mr. Batty. Upon this occasion he rode six cream-coloured horses.

After many years he was complimented by his late Majesty, who was then Prince of Wales, upon his ability as the greatest horse-breaker and trainer of his time. To signify his admiration he made him a present of a diamond pin, also a horseshoe made up into the form of a tobacco-box. So popular a man was he that entertainment was given to emperors, kings, and princes, and suitably rewarded.

Alas! in his declining years, after various reverses of fortune (so prevalent in an artist's life), he is subjected to an "old-age pension." A few years ago the writer penned an appreciatory article of Mr. Newsome, which was the means of doing a little good. As it is always worth while to try and do more, if possible, do the best you can now, through Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. It is very much needed. By one who knows.

WALLACE GRAY.

West Marsh Club, Grimsby, June 2, 1910.

Penzance Corpus Christi Fair.
The principal shows and other fairground amusements at Penzance were those already described as being at Redruth for the Whitsun Fair. Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock's picture palace and machines, Messrs. Anderton and Rowland's coliseum of living pictures and varieties, the fine gondola rolling switchback, and other novelties, John Jones's empire of varieties and cinematograph, J. Brewer's galloping-horses, houp-la circles, throwing games, shooters, and variety stalls by Messrs. Oldridge, Lock, Jones, Rowlands, and fifty other amusement providers.

The German Emperor has presented to a well-known German-American actress, Miss Hedwig Beringer, through the German Consul Geisler in Chicago, a golden chain, from which hangs the Imperial coat of arms mounted in diamonds, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of her first appearance on the boards.

For the small sum of 3d. to cover packing and postage Messrs. M. Beetham and Son, of Cheltenham, have agreed to send carriage paid in the United Kingdom, a box of samples of "Lait Larola," Tooth Paste, Rose Bloom, Soap, and their pamphlet on how to improve your complexion. Send at once, and you will indeed be surprised at the result after a few applications: its effect is almost magical.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Master Napier of Cardiff.
IT is claimed for Master Napier, of Cardiff, that he is the youngest roller-skater in the country. Master Napier—he is called "Baby" by some people to whom he is quite capable of giving lessons—is only three years of age, but he is a proficient skater, and at the Westgate-street Rink has astonished everyone by the grace and the speed with which he has covered the floor.

Rink Managers and Purity Campaign.
ROLLER skating rinks have been referred to in the interesting correspondence provoked by the Purity movement in Newcastle. They, it has been suggested, are in certain ways responsible for the growing moral laxity of the town. Mr. Alfred Atkinson, manager of the White City Rink, Northumberland-road, Newcastle, states that he reserves the right to refuse admission to the rink, and, as a matter of fact, had already exercised that right though he had not had any complaints of "undesirables" from the patrons of that place of entertainment. Mr. S. H. Walton, of the Exhibition Hall Skating Rink, pointed out that any person they considered undesirable had their money refunded. The management of the Grand Stand Skating Rink, on the Town Moor, gave a similar reply to the two already recorded. It may be added that when one of the first rinks in the city was opened, two detectives posted near the doors and familiar with city "undesirables," assisted the management in refusing admission to such persons.

Notes from Blackpool.
THE conditions for the pursuit of skating at the Colosseum Rink, Blackpool, are of a most congenial description. The floor is in the best possible condition at the present time. For sixpence Blackpool visitors can enjoy themselves the whole evening. Mr. T. G. Sullivan is an expert manager, and provides everything up to date at his amusement resort. Last Saturday night skaters were in flannels and flowers and panama hats; fluttering muslins and tennis shoes for hatless ladies, bedecked with roses—butterflies on the rollers, indeed!—a spectacle worth seeing—the incarnation of summer time and flowers, with the cool western breezes blowing gently through the spacious doors on every side; dancing little wheels merrily playing all sorts of antics. Valuable prizes were offered for waltzing and two-stepping couples. A feature was the charming Butterfly dance of the fairy little wheels. This interesting function was organised by the Colosseum Social Skating Club. Skating has been in full swing during the holidays at the Pleasure Beach Skating Rink, South Shore, and many of the visitors have been so pleased with the excellent conditions prevailing here that they have gone several times to the rink whilst in the town. The spacious floor has an excellent skating surface of 16,200ft. of finest maple.

Rinking in Bradford.
ONLY with the greatest reluctance and under the strongest climatic compulsion will the ardent rinker forsake his favourite haunt, and the Bradford managers are conspiring, with the biggest of electric fans and the best possible ventilation, to keep him (or her) to the very end—if end there really must be, which is, of course, uncertain in such a land as this, where, even in the present circumstances, one can say with security that winter is really and finally over. The proprietors of the Manningham Rink have special attractions in the form of hockey matches very frequently. Hockey engagements also are made at the Coliseum and the Hippodrome Rink, Barkerend-road.

Bristol Coliseum.
THE site of the Bristol Coliseum Skating Rink and Public Hall is now cleared; but owing to the necessarily slow progress made in the building of the retaining walls on the Woodland-road side, the hall will not be opened quite so soon as was anticipated. The chief difficulties have, however, been overcome in that direction, and the work will now progress more rapidly than it has done up to this point, and it is expected to be completed by the early summer. The elevation fronting on to Park Row, 167yds. in length, will be of attractive design, and built of Bath stone. The principal entrance will be at the Park-street end, from Park-row, and immediately inside a handsome vestibule the necessary offices, skate-rooms, ticket-boxes, &c., will be situated. The skating area will be 120yds. long by 29yds. wide, and will be oval in shape. Another new feature in connection with the rink will be that at the close of the afternoon session it will not be cleared and the tea-rooms will remain open. The skates will be of English manufacture.

Lively Hockey Contests for Cardiff.
ARRANGEMENTS are now being made for hockey matches on roller skates during next winter, and for the holding in Cardiff of amateur champion ship races under the National Skating Association A committee has been formed, with Mr. T. Sidney Jones as chairman and Mr. D. J. Mackay as hon. secretary, for carrying out the necessary details Among other attractions provided for is a Hockey Cup Championship, the trophy being put up for competition to any club in South Wales, and to be played for in Cardiff. Full particulars will be published when the details are completed. The first annual employees' benefit took place last week at the American Roller Rink, the chief feature being a hockey match between Cardiff and Barry

Chichester's One Amusement.
A SKATING rink was opened at Chichester last week. It is the first place of amusement the town has had since the abolition of the old theatre more than half a century ago.

East Coast Outdoor Rinks.
CLACTON-ON-SEA is to make a bold bid for additional popularity by providing a large outdoor rink, which is designed to accommodate as many as 1,000 skaters at one time. The directors are wise believers in the policy of cheap prices. An open-air rink for use during the summer months has also been opened at Wandsworth. For over two years now Yarmouth has been provided with a fine outdoor rink, so that the example then set seems to be somewhat tardily followed.

Clyde City Rinks.
A MODEL aero competition—the first of the kind to be held in Scotland—took place last Friday evening at the American Roller Rink in Victoria-road This novel event was under the auspices of the Glasgow Model Aero Club, who offered prizes for the winning machines. The rink continues to be largely patronised. The usual skating took place between the flying competitions. The West-End Roller Rink maintains its deservedly high reputation among the votaries of the pastime. The floor is kept in splendid condition, and the military band provides excellent music.

Croydon Closes for Summer.
CROYDON'S popular skating rink will close for the season to-night (Saturday) and will reopen in September. Mr. Kendrick has proved himself a successful manager, and his patrons hope to renew his acquaintance in the autumn.

G. M. Wells Leaves Glasgow.
THE Victoria-road Rink closes to-day (Saturday) for the summer vacation, and Mr. George M. Wells has been transferred by the proprietors to their rink at Tournament Hall, Edge-lane, Liverpool. To-night Mr. Wells is being given a complimentary benefit, the array of talent announced including that clever trick cyclist, Miss Minnie Kaufmann.

Middlesbrough Season Ends.
At the wind-up to the season at the Olympia Skating Rink, Middlesbrough, on Saturday evening, there was a very large attendance of spectators, and the finals of three competitions were decided.

Rinking at Porth.
THE second very successful carnival at Porth was held on Thursday, May 26. An exceptionally good number participated considering the warm weather. The final of the Rhondda Hockey Teams took place on Saturday last between Treorchy and Ynyshir, the former winning by two goals to nil after an extension for ten minutes.

The Rothesay Pavilion.
THE above new skating rink and entertainment pavilion is now nearing completion, and will be opened on the afternoon of June 11 by Mr. Harry Hope, M.P. For the opening week Mr. Oscar Mills's well-known company "The Nonentities," have been engaged, and will perform twice daily. There is to be a complete change of artists weekly and quite a strong list of stars have already been booked. A leading feature is that there is to be no extra charge for entertainments. The stage accommodation is excellent: Opening, 26ft.; depth, 24ft.; grid, 40ft.; roomy scene dock, property room, four large dressing rooms. There is a large and efficient orchestra engaged under the direction of Mr. Richard Daeblitz. The Pavilion is said to be one of the largest entertainment pavilions in Scotland. Mr. Chas. A. White, late of the Hippodrome, Coventry and Greenock, has been appointed manager.

Potteries Ladies' Hockey Club.
THE Tunstall Station-road Ladies' Hockey Club herewith is the only ladies' club in the Potteries district. Since its inauguration it has not altogether had a very successful time. The team is composed of beginners in hockey and it is a question whether any other ladies' team would have made a braver show than it has done. The club has only recently commenced to play in public, and up to the present has only played two matches, they being home and away encounters with the Crewe ladies. While the club was not successful in winning either of the games it should be said that the Crewe ladies have not yet been defeated and are a remarkably good team.

Warrenpoint Opened.
THE new skating rink at Warrenpoint was opened last Tuesday night, and, as was only to be expected, there was a very large gathering from Warrenpoint, Newry, and the surrounding districts. The rink, which is one of the largest in Ireland, having an area of twenty thousand square feet, occupies the most prominent site in the town, within a few minutes' walk of the sea, station, and park. The work of construction was commenced on Feb. 14 last. The building is 250ft. long by 80ft. wide. The area of the skating surface is twelve thousand square feet—200 x 60—affording space for at least five hundred members. Round the rinking floor is a substantial rail, artistically upholstered, while to the right of the building is a balcony capable of accommodating about four hundred persons. On the opposite side is an elevated bandstand. The promenade, which is 10ft. wide, will give accommodation for at least eight hundred. There are 200 windows, the greater number of which open, and for the purpose of ventilation also electric fans have been installed.

Rinking at West Hartlepool.
So many and varied have been the competitions in rinks of late that it would be difficult to find anything that could be classed as original. Yet this, we think, has been achieved at the Queen's spacious rink at West Hartlepool, whose manager, Mr. Albert Mathams, announced a carnival for pierrots and pierrettes, and although tied to the one character of costume, it was astonishing to see that such a variety of colours could be worked into the costumes. There were the white with black poms and black with white, pink with black poms, white with red, and, in fact, almost every shade of the rainbow was to be found in the assembly. In addition to prizes being given for pierrots and pierrettes, there were also a number of prizes for tug-of-war, bladder fights, two-step, and a host of other competitions.

Andrew Wilson's Benefit.
WISHAW PAVILION.—A complimentary benefit was given to Mr. T. Verne on Wednesday last. Mr. Andrew Wilson, Wishaw's own expert skater, gave an exhibition of skating and chair jumping. A great burlesque boxing match on skates also took place.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

MAY.

Sir 'Erbert, farcical playlet, by Barton White; Royal County Theatre, Kingston, May 2.
The Judge and the Lady, sketch, in one scene; Tivoli, May 9.
The Lost Boy, by Ed. Blondel and Co.; Tivoli, May 9.
The Annual Sports, pantomimical burlesque, by Fred Karno, Syd Walker, and Charles Baldwin; Islington Empire, May 9.
Fate, dramatic episode, by Gerald Wyatt; Balham Hippodrome, May 9.
Little Johnnie Jones, miniature musical comedy, by H. M. Vernon, lyrics by Preston Wynne, music by Frank Tours; Tottenham Palace, May 9.
Gissella; or, La Sylphide, ballet, in two scenes, music by Adolphe Adam; Coliseum, May 16.
Le Lac des Cygnes, ballet, music by Tschaikowsky; Hippodrome, May 16.
The Spider and the Fly, miniature version of Charles Darrell's four-act drama *Her Luck in London*; Camberwell Empire, May 16.
Flying; or, The Veri-Ot-Tater-Plane, an aviation sketch; Oxford, May 23.
The Raven's Toll, dramatised by T. W. Hanschew from a story in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*; Imperial, Canning Town, May 23.
The Village Stores, pantomimic absurdity; Bedford, May 23.
Napoleon's Washerwoman, sketch, in one scene; Chelsea Palace, May 23.
The Top-side Dog, sketch, by F. D. Bone; Shoreditch Olympia, May 23.
The Organ-Grinder, dramatic sketch, in four scenes, by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova; Leicester Palace Theatre, May 23.
Femina, spectacular ballet, in five scenes, arranged by Alfred Curti, music composed, selected, and arranged by George Byng and Señor Valverde; Alhambra, May 30.
The Bishop and the Thief, sketch, founded on an incident in Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables"; Camden Hippodrome, May 30.
The House on the Heath, costume drama; Euston, May 30.
Bubbles, musical comedietta, book by May Hallom, music by H. Parkes; Collins's, May 30.
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, version, in one act, of R. L. Stevenson's story, by Alice Clayton Greene; Bedford, May 30.
A Ward in Chancery, sketch; Holborn Empire, May 30.

MR. RIDGEWOOD BARRIE will produce a new comedy sketch, entitled *Jack's Little Joke*, at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, on Monday, with a cast which will include Miss Frances Ruttledge, Miss Nellie Hallatt, Mr. J. J. Daly, and Mr. Barrie himself.

THE National Trades Exhibition at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, concluded last Saturday, having proved a very successful venture. Arrangements have been made to hold an exhibition on "Africa and the East," and this will be opened to the public in a few weeks' time.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

The Red Herring, play, in four acts, by Ronald Macdonald (The Play Actors); Court, May 1.
Helena's Path, comedy, in three acts, by Anthony Hope and Cosmo Gordon Lennox; Court, May 3.
Parasites, play, in four acts, by Paul M. Potter, from *La Rabouilleuse*, by Emile Fabre (founded on a story by Balzac); Globe, May 5.
Sir Herbert, farce, in one act, by Irene Fox; Parochial Hall, Westminster Bridge-road, May 11.
The Dawn of a To-morrow, play, in three acts, by Frances Hodgson Burnett (originally produced in America; first production in England at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, May 2, 1910), commencement of Arthur Bourchier and Herbert Sleath's management; Garrick, May 13.
The Greater Sin; or, The Beginning and the End, comedy drama, in four acts, by A. B. Mackay (originally produced at Theatre, Aberaman, Feb. 19); Theatre Royal, Stratford, May 16.
A Midnight Meeting, piece, in one act, by Cuthbert Morley; Globe, May 21.
Dame Nature; transferred from the Garrick to Terry's, May 21.
The Master of the Mill, drama, in four acts, adapted by Henry St. John Cooper from his novel of the same name; Shakespeare, Clapham, May 23.
Unexpected Circumstances, comedietta, by Louis Cowen (Actresses' Franchise League Matinée); Criterion Restaurant, May 24.
A Matter of Moment, duologue (Actresses' Franchise League Matinée); Criterion Restaurant, May 24.
Muguette, opera comique, in four acts, book by Michael Carré and George Hartmann, English text by William Wallace, founded on Ouida's novel "Two Little Wooden Shoes," music by Edmond Missa (originally produced at the Paris Opéra Comique, March 18, 1903), Mr. Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; His Majesty's, May 25.
The Smack, play, in one act, by Rose Mathews (Suffrage Atelier Matinée); Court, May 27.
The Lord of the Harvest (a morality), in one act, by Laurence Housman (Suffrage Atelier Matinée); Court, May 27.
A Likely Story, roadside comedy, in one act, by Laurence Housman; Court, May 27.
Werther, opera, by Jules Massenet, libretto by Edouard Blau, Paul Milliet, and Georges Hartmann (originally produced at the Imperial Opera House, Vienna, in February, 1892), Mr. Thomas Beecham's Opera Season; His Majesty's, May 27.
Deirdre of the Sorrows, tragedy, in three acts, by the late J. M. Synge (originally produced on Jan. 13, 1910, at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin); Court Theatre, May 30.
Don Cæsar de Bazan, play, in three acts, founded by G. Du Maurier on Dennery and Dumanoir's play of the same name, and originally produced at the Coronet, May 20, 1901; Duke of York's, Aug. 24, 1901, under the title of *A Royal Rival*; Lyric, May 31.
Uncle Robert's Airship, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Miss J. E. Jennings; West Theatre, Albert Hall, May 31.
Between the Soup and the Savoury, play, in one act, by Miss J. E. Jennings; West Theatre, Albert Hall, May 31.

REVIVALS.

Tales of Hoffmann, opera, by Offenbach (opening of Mr. Thomas Beecham's opera season); His Majesty's, May 12.
Fires of Fate, play, in four acts, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (originally produced on June 15, 1909); Adelphi, May 23.
Shamus O'Brien, opera, by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, book based by George H. Jessop, on the poem of Sheridan Le Fanu (originally produced at the Opera Comique, March 2, 1896), Mr. Thomas Beecham's opera season; His Majesty's, May 24.
Richard the Third, Shakespeare's historical play (Mr. Martin Harvey), commencement of management of Walter and Frederick Melville; Lyceum, May 28.
Robert Macaire, play, in two acts, being *The Roadside Inn*, a version of *L'Auberge des Avrets*, produced by Charles Fechter at the Lyceum, Jan. 21, 1865; Queen's, May 28.
Hyacinth Halvey, comedy, in one act, by Lady Gregory (originally produced in London, at Great Queen-street Theatre, June 12, 1907); Coronet, May 30.

PROVINCES.

The Dawn of a To-morrow, play, in three acts, by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett; Shakespeare, Liverpool, May 2.
The Law of the Zingali, play, in one act, by Mrs. Frances M. Gostling; Theatre Royal, Worthing, May 3.
Thomas Muskerry, drama of Irish life, in three acts, by Padraic Colum; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, May 5.
The Last Drop, play, in one act, by Barton White; Theatre Royal, Nottingham, May 16.
Jean, play, in one act, by Donald Colquhoun; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, May 16.
Make Believe, comedietta, by E. C. Packstraw and W. Muskerry; Theatre Royal, Margate, May 16.
The Coming of Ardeen, play, in one act, by Mary Costello (produced by amateurs); Irish Theatrical Club, Dublin, May 18.
The Gods at Play, comedy, in one act, by Mary Costello (produced by amateurs); Irish Theatrical Club, Dublin, May 18.
Harvest, drama of Irish life, in three acts, by S. L. Robinson; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, May 19.
The Romance of a King, comedy drama, in three acts, by John O. Monk; Queen's, Manchester, May 23.
Driving a Girl to Destruction, melodrama, in four acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell (originally produced on Feb. 7 at Theatre Royal, Belfast); May 30.
The Female Detective, melodrama,, in four acts; Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester, May 30.
The Man of Fate, play, in four acts, by Richard A. Greene, revised version of *The Angel of Unrest* (Borough Theatre, Stratford, March 25, 1907); Queen's, Manchester, May 30.

PARIS.

Le Mariage de Télémaque, lyric comedy in five acts and six tableaux, by Jules Lemaitre and Maurice Donnay, music by C. Terrace; Opera Comique, May 4.
Mademoiselle Molière, play in four acts, by Louis Leloir and G. Nigond; Odéon, May 10.
Vidocq, play in five acts, by Emile Bergerat; Sarah Bernhardt, May 15.
Jacques Abran, play in three acts, by A. Bibesco; Réjane's, May 23.
Pourquoi chercher loin? one act, by Albert Lécuyer; Réjane's, May 23.
On ne badine pas avec l'amour, lyric comedy, by L. Leloir and G. Nigond after Alfred de Musset, music by G. Pierné, Opera Comique, May 30.
Hans, le joueur de flûte, operette, by Maurice Vaucaire and G. Mitchell, music by Louis Ganne; Apollo, May 31.

AT the Palace, Durham, a capital programme is this week headed by El Tampicos, who give a musical turn of high order; the Eitenas are an entertaining quartette; Harry Blake receives a warm welcome; Webb and Branston sing harmonising duets in good style; and the sketch *Fluffie*, by Chandos and Constable, provokes laughter. Will Willis, comedian, and Sira, one-legged acrobat, receive a good share of praise; and the Cathedoscope shows excellent pictures.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and her capable company, in *The Way Women Love*, were well received by a good house on Monday. Mrs. Bateman as Verene Alabra proved her dramatic ability in a heavy rôle; Mr. F. W. Goddard as Captain Howard Tremaine acted capitally; as his rascally cousin Leslie Lamont Mr. Harry Aynsleigh was equal to all demands; Miss Camille Treherne was a dignified Violet Tremaine, and Miss Sadie Underhill was clever as Frank; Miss Mattie Everett as Lottie Gray provides some smart comedy, and Mr. Percy Shaw as Dick Palmer is highly successful with his whistling solos; Mr. George Herbert as John Barryford made a fine yeoman; Mr. Chas. Clifford was a good Jose Alaros. *Sapho* is also in the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*No Mother to Guide Her* is being played by Mr. Will Glaze and company. Miss Rene Belle Douglas as Nan makes herself a favourite by her clever acting; Miss Georgette Thierry as Julia Patterson plays forcibly; her accomplice, Felix Campbell, being well portrayed by Mr. Paul Barry Lewers; Miss Betty Seymour is a dainty Millicent Saxby, Mr. Geo. Gormley being good as her father. Mr. John S. Millward as the Rev. Tom Pelham receives hearty applause for sound work; Mr. Will Glaze as Bob Coleman is smart and amusing; and Mr. J. O. Stewart as Bill Bunce does some fine acting.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Reign of Terror provides a dramatic treat, and a most exciting story is shown in From Gipsy Hands. Good Doggie is among the most diverting of a number of amusing films. The songs and recitations of Mr. Roger Alwyn are very good.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Lieutenant Rose and the Spy is a picture full of exciting incidents. The Planter's Wife, a dramatic film; and The Airship Gaze are included amongst a number of capital pictures. Mr. King also contributes to the programme.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Three-Fingered Kate is a good detective picture, and other subjects prove attractive.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—A Rich Revenge is a fine top liner, and a good dramatic film is Double Dealing. The amusing films include Method in His Madness and Love Drops.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson, with their company, are this week paying us their customary visit, opening on Monday night with *The Taming of the Shrew*, which was received with as great favour as ever by an evidently delighted house. The excellent scenery and picturesque mediæval costumes added much to the pleasure of the play. Mr. Benson is always seen at his best as Petruchio, and again gave a most virile and effective rendering of the part; Mrs. Benson makes a most delightful Katharina, and her reception was cordial in the extreme; Mr. Alfred Brydon gave the sound performance of Baptista that we always expect from him; Mr. Murray Carrington's Lucentio was a sound and convincing bit of acting; Messrs. J. F. Johnston and Eric Maxon made a most amusing pair as Lucentio's servants; Mr. Harry Caine was most effective as Grumio; and Vincentio and Gremio are well played by Messrs. J. Howell and H. O. Nicholson. Miss Nora Lancaster played Bianca with much grace and charm; and Miss Winifred Durie did well as the Widow. On Tuesday *Richard II.* was given with Mr. Benson as the King and Mr. Brydone as John of Gaunt; and an attractive programme is sure to draw good houses throughout the week. Mr. R. Halford Forster is the manager of the company.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Leslie Stanley's company is here with *The King of Mystonia*. Mr. Tom Lyle makes an attractive hero as Frank Warrington; Mr. Will Kirk does well as Solomon Ikestein; Mr. Ralph Shore is a natural Reginald Mudwick; and Mr. Tom Ashby is good as Peter Pip. Little Charlie Towers is the life and soul of the piece, and infuses considerable humour into the part of Fido Tennyson; Mr. Will Parkin is successful as the Sultan Je-hu-tah; Miss Marie Vere makes a charming character of Trixey Sherlock; Miss Cissie Mawson is bright as Coro Snyder; and Miss Kitty Vernum is graceful as Violet; Miss May Warden may be congratulated on her winsome rendering of Estulah and her very effective singing. Dances are contributed by the Rialto Troupe of acrobats.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—A remarkably good series of pictures includes the Funeral Procession of the Late King. The variety company is headed by A. G. Spry, who keeps the house in roars of laughter with his "Piccalilli" song and eccentric dance; Mr. Fred Collins has to respond to encores after two clever character songs; and Jack Allison is also very popular in his nigger song and dance. Miss Margaret Ogilvie captivates the audience with her smartness and chic; and Miss Helen Duncanson has no difficulty in getting the audience to join in the chorus of "Dear Louise" and other illustrated songs.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The world-famous Kilties, Canada's greatest concert band, is drawing big houses here; J. Coates Lockhart and the Liedertafel Choir are well received; Pipe-Major Johnstone is heartily applauded for his bagpipe solo; Bert Danjels is an expert cornet player; the Clan Johnstone Troupe are clever Scottish and Irish dancers; Adelaide Waldorf possesses a capital voice, which she uses with good effect; Zethus gains applause for her imitations of music-hall stars; and the Karnoscope, with coloured pictures, is interesting.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company fulfilled all expectations on Monday with a capital rendering of the ever-popular *Caste*. As the Hon. George D'Alroy Mr. Norman is a great success in a part requiring great delicacy of treatment; Mr. C. Marquand is admirably placed as Captain Hawtree; Mr. L. Whittaker makes a manly Gerridge; and Mr. L. Norman Leslie as the inebriate Eccles gives a realistic presentation. Miss Madge Trenshard does excellently as Esther Eccles; and as Polly Eccles Miss Beatrice Wilson gives proof of her versatility and skill. Miss Betty Stannard makes an aristocratic Marquise de St. Maur. The Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, in which the characters are undertaken by Miss Beatrice Wilson and Miss Betty Stannard, is also given.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Reano's famous band forms a powerful attraction; George Rae is a genuinely amusing Scotch comedian, whilst his dances are well done; the Miltons are responsible for plenty of amusement with their skating business; Joe Almasio is an expert jumping juggler; Miss May Brilliant is an attractive comedienne and dancer; Hanid Alexander gives an accomplished turn at the piano; and Haig and Lovel are a really good vocal and comedy duo.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Miss Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels give an entirely new act, in which is introduced the smallest comedian on the stage; Everhart, the famous hoop expert, is wonderful in his manipulation of hoops; Tom and Neil appear in a comedy boxing and wrestling act; Al and Lal give an amusing vaudeville item, introducing a lady ventriloquist; Happy Attwood is a great favourite with his songs and patter; Amy Bellwood, comedienne and dancer, scores effectively; David Fuller, baritone, has made himself very popular; Miss Alice Hughes and company give a screaming comedy sketch, entitled *The Star of the Bazaar*; and the Alexscope is interesting.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Mr. John F. Preston and an excellent company are presenting *Nell Gwynne* to good houses. The piece is well staged and dressed. Mabelle F. Barlow portrays Nell Gwynne in a graceful and becoming manner; Mr. Preston as Bellecose Betterton is decidedly effective.

PORTH. — PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth. —*The Cruise of the Victory*, a miniature musical comedy, is presented by Mr. Arthur Watson and his comical company of comedians, and proves a smart and pleasing act; Herbert La Martine is a clever eccentric dancer; and Rosa Neilson is a smart transformation dancer; Bessie McKeizie, Scotch fisher girl vocalist, has a very pretty scena, "Christina of Skeira," and is a most agreeable singer; the Haydons present a new burlesque, *Bertie and the Barmaid*. The Bioscope, as usual, has capital pictures. On Monday next Messrs. Poole's will begin a dramatic season.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Messrs. Platt and Towers' company is delighting playgoers here with Bernard Shaw's comedy *You Never Can Tell*. To Mr. Claude Haviland, in his easy and natural realisation of the old Waiter, belongs chief honours; the dentist Valentine is energetically impersonated by Mr. Graham Colmer; the difficult rôle of Fergus Crampton is effectively portrayed by Mr. J. Edward Pearce; and Lawyer Finch McComas receives justice at the hands of Mr. J. Allan Jeayes. Mr. Bellenden Clarke does well as the stern barrister Bohun; Gloria Clandon is sympathetically treated by Miss Winifred Beach; Miss Ida Southern is a vivacious and plain-spoken Dolly; Mrs. Clandon is in the capable hands of Miss Edith Hunter; and Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Philip and Miss Sylvia Dawson complete the cast.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*A Royal Divorce*, presented by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, is the attraction. Mr. F. Moyes' powerful study of Napoleon and Miss Violet Ellicott's artistic performance of Josephine are the leading features in this interesting play, which is well staged under the management of Mr. Ernest Plumpton, who also assumes the part of General Augerau. Friday evening was devoted to Miss Ellicott's complimentary benefit.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—An excel-

IF YOU SUFFER

FROM

HEADACHES, FLATULENCY, PALPITATION, INSOMNIA, INDIGESTION, LANGUOR, BILIOUSNESS, ACIDITY, LOSS OF APPETITE, OR CONSTIPATION,

a course of Mother Seigel's Syrup will quickly set you right. It is a highly-concentrated vegetable compound, having direct action on the stomach, liver, and kidneys. It promotes healthy digestion and excretion, expels all impurities from the system, enriches the blood, and thus imparts health and tone to every part of the body.

MOTHER
SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Thousands of men and women are every year cured of indigestion and other stomach and liver disorders by Mother Seigel's Syrup. Their testimony, given without fee or reward, affords convincing proof that Mother Seigel's Syrup possesses curative and strengthening properties not found in any other medicine. "For twenty-seven years," says Mrs. Barnes, 139, Upper Bridge Road, Chelmsford, Essex, "Mother Seigel's Syrup has been my only medicine."

WILL CURE YOU.

TAKE IT DAILY AFTER MEALS.

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size.

lent turn is provided by Miss Juliette's sea lions, the feats performed by these cumbersome animals being nothing short of marvellous; Bennett and Martell as the "Shipwrecked Mariners" provoke much laughter; Miss Renée Dey and her troupe of Carnival Belles are very successful in song and dance; Ted E. Box is a comedian whose drollery is much appreciated; the Dutrees give a very talented display of lightning sketches; the Bio-Photoscope is as interesting as ever; and Dan Daly, the Sisters Allen, and Len Hale thoroughly merit the applause they receive.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Arthur Roberts in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife* convulses the audience; the Ten Gems Family, with three ponies, perform some marvellously rapid acrobatic feats; an amusing juggling act is presented by the Cromwells; Keeley Brothers exhibit their ball-punching skill; Belle Braham in her "Popularity" song, with pictorial illustrations on the screen, provides an appreciated turn; the Melbournes, Rose Elliott, Lyric Mummer, and Oliver Conroy afford pleasure; and Chivalry in the West is depicted on the screen.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—An exceptionally good musical act is submitted by Frank and Jen Latona, an amusing sketch *The Lost Boy* is presented by Ed. Blondell and company, Florrie Gallimore scores with her songs "Oh, let it be soon," "Mary Green," &c., the Talby Trio (vocalists) repeat their successes, Milt Wood is an expert dancer, the Floradoras in *Two's Company, Three's None* are laughter-raisers, Simms and Simms, Lloyd Morgan, and Gladys and Alber are welcome contributors. The Kingscope pictures are up to date with the latest films.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—The afternoon and evening performances are here provided respectively by the Royal Entertainers and the Merry Mascots.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—In place of closing this theatre for the summer vacation, as previously announced, the management have decided to carry on a picture exhibition during the summer season on the two-houses-a-night principle, and if the audiences of the opening week continue to be as numerically strong in the weeks to come, there is no doubt about the success of the enterprise. The pictures which are shown by the Vernon Bioscope are among the finest ever seen in Preston.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Fred Karno's company, in *Perkins, M.P.*, and *The G.P.O.*, with Mr. Tom Nelson as the chief fun provider, keep the audience in a continuous roar of laughter; Ruby Roya is a sparkling comedienne and dancer; Harry Luck, comedian, is funny; Leigh and Laurie, in a speciality act, are clever duettists and patterers; Dacey and Lewis, singers and eccentric acrobats and dancers, give a novel turn; Shirley and Ransome, in a cleverly-written episode, *Jim's Pal*, are exceptionally good; Pearce and Ward, with their burlesque boxing bout, evoke much laughter.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. H. Armitage's company, in *With Edged Tools*, is a big attraction here. Mr. Chas. Hartopp gives a good account of himself as Jack Meredith; Mr. Walter Russell submits a fine character study of Sir J. Meredith; Mr. J. D. Geddes is an excellent Guy Oscard; Mr. Chas. Barrett gives an exceedingly clever rendering of the part of the villainous half-caste Victor Darnoto. Miss Marguerite Cellier is most successful as Millicent Cheyne; Miss Alice Maude furnishes a capital presentation of Lady Cantourne; Miss Edith Anton-Laing gives a finished rendering rendering in the dual rôle of Marie and Lady Herries; Miss Marie Leonhard is an artistic exponent of Jocelyn Gordon; and Mr. J. Grahame Pockett is decidedly clever as Maurice Gordon. The play is adequately mounted.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—A series of boxing tournaments, under the management of Mr. C. E. Clarkson, are being given on Saturday afternoons, and proving a big attraction. Handsome silver cups and other prizes are presented, and the entries are big.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Joe Elvin and Co. provide a most attractive star turn this week, in *The King of the Castle* and *Barmy*, which create immense diversion. On Friday *Billy's Money-box* was also presented. Valvero's Naval Bombardment is a very clever performance, the artist producing drawings of famous battleships with lightning speed, the whole concluding with a mimic bombardment; Rossi-Ashton, the war correspondent, presents his famous sketching act, taking topical songs as his subjects; Bernard and Weston are amusing dancers and patterers; Sam Dalton, comedian, is very droll; Mi Narom, in comedy creations, and Lilian Travelli, vocalist, are both well received, and some excellent films are shown on the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. E. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' company of comedians are highly successful in their sketch, *The Pawnbroker*; Bates and Maddison give a very artistic vocal and spectacular entertainment, illustrated by lantern slides; Lily Lonsdale is an accomplished soprano vocalist; Ernie Myers is a good patter comedians; some expert magical tricks are performed by the Kahn Trio, who also give a good display of telepathy; Dulcie King-Lloyd, comedienne, and Dunning, ventriloquist, and the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

CENTRAL SKATING RINK.—The Great Monahan is engaged here this week, and gives a wonderful display of trick skating each evening.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—A splendid realistic fire scene was shown here on Monday, the whole of the ticket receipts being given to the National Fire Brigade Union. The pictures of the King's funeral are still attracting great attention.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Edward Lewis is very amusing here in a farcical interlude, *The Five Wishes*; J. P. Ling brings down the house with his mimicry; Dora Lyric is a pleasing chorus vocalist; the Westbrooks provide a clever speciality act, *A Knight of the Road*. Charles Banks introduces a finely-trained dog, "Woof"; Minnie d'Aubyn is a popular chorus vocalist; Three Hodgins present a sensational gymnastic act; White and Clifford are well received in a high-class musical and dancing act; and the Hipposcope has a most interesting film, Rice Harvest.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Remarkable business is being done. The Merrions submit a novel comedy entertainment; M. de Lil presents a clever series of mysticisms; Prof. Hibbert scores with ventriloquial business of an original nature; and the Three Royal Temples' vocal selections merit warm praise. The pictures are again a leading feature.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Golden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Lady Godiva* drew a good house on Monday evening, when Miss Edith Lorraine carefully enacted the title-rôle. Mr. F. B. Woulfe was an excellent Tom; Edgar was well presented by Mr. F. Cheevers; Miss E. Cartwright as Elfrida and Mr. Edward Contes as Robert Shackleton evoked much laughter with their quiet humour; Miss J. Richards was a charming Lady Aldyth; and good business was done by Mr. Harry Parr (Leofric), Mr. Leonard Thackeray (Algar), and Mr. J. Court Howard (Unwolf). *Jane Shore* was announced for Friday, and the other evenings this week *Lady Godiva* was to be repeated.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Daisy Wood, comedienne, gets much applause for her songs, and heads an excellent programme; *Wanted, a Wife* is a sketch most comically presented by Alice Cheshire, assisted by Edmond Sidney, J. C. Hamilton, and Nell Larose; George Harris, "the smallest comedian in the world," very cleverly brings down the house; Hayes and Merritt, clever bounding trampolinists; Maudie Forde, comedienne and dancer; Cromo and Hamilton, smart burlesque artists; Gladys Wyse, Scotch comedienne and dancer; and Miss Else and her Cousin Bob, in comic acrobatic act, also give acceptable turns.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—The Great Raymond, magician, humorist, and fantasist, occupies the stage for a good part of the evening, and shows much smartness; Fred Dunstone, comedian, keeps the house in roars; Les Grossi, Continental dancers, do some very clever dancing, including "La Danse des Apaches." Other acceptable turns include Ryde and Beeman, quaint acrobats; Luella Cross, comedienne and vocalist; and Morris and Moore, expert dancers.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week's pictures include A Milliner's Bill, Rather Unpleasant, The Eleventh Hour, His First Valentine, Funeral of the Late King, A Brother's Devotion, Electric Insoles, In the Mirror.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Company; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures, Foolshead Somersaults, Reign of Terror, Baffled by Bandits, Tec's Dream, Saraggin's Comet, Mountain Inn, Quick Change, His Only Daughter, and several other are shown.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley.—The films here this week include Mad Dog Scare, Life of King Edward VII., Lonely Villa, Poor Aunt Matilda, Son's Return, The Interviewer, The Fool, The Rejected Lover, He Meets Friend at Once.

SCARBOROUGH.—AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—An all-round good programme is provided here, the artists responsible being the Esther Trio, acrobats; Maisie May, comedienne; Richardson Taylor, whistling ventriloquist; Signor and Mme. Borelli, vocalists and instrumentalists; Maclaine and Mac, in comic Scottish dialogue; Frances Haskell in illustrated songs; Leo Teil, imitator of sounds, and Francesca.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock.—The programme this week includes "Merigne," in classical dances; Harvey and Jesson, comedy duologue; La Belle Greta, comedienne and dancer; Louis J. Seymour, light comedian; Sharon, street musician; Mr. "X," conjurer; Sydney Hamilton and Co. in the sketch *Mabel's Cousin;* and Sybil Cann.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—Some very interesting films are exhibited in the Electric Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company are appearing here in *The Nihilist*, with Mr. O. Silverstone as Prince Alexander, Mr. George Mitchell (Ivan Nowasky), Miss Edna Clare (Alexina Orloff), Miss Florry Kelsey (Princess Olga), Mr. Henry Wright (Bobbie Smart), and Miss Jessica Ford.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company are here with *A Woman's Past*. Miss Dora Pass puts in excellent work as Bessie, and Mr. Percy Dawson does well as David Heath; Miss Phyllis Elton plays forcefully as Clara Darrell, and the part of Dorothy Heath is prettily performed by Miss Cherry Veyheyne; Mr. Charles Locke as Frank Dellanoy, Mr. A. Hamilton Warden as Clement Harper, and Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Uriah Craven are good in their respective parts.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—A good attendance was recorded at both houses on Monday. A good programme comprises Rapoli Maudi Laurie, Howard and Wallace, Crystal and Saville, Andie Burns, Camilla Feo, Will Con, and the Three Langfords.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The anticipated "Ibsen Week" was successfully inaugurated on Monday by a fine performance of *A Doll's House* by Mr. Leigh Lovell and Miss Octavia Kenmore's London company. *Hedda Gabler* was acted on Tuesday, and *When We Dead Awaken* was billed for Friday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's popular company opened to a good house on Monday, in the interesting domestic and realistic drama, *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. John F. Traynor gave a powerful portrayal of the conflicting passions of tempted, fallen, but ultimately repentant engine-driver, Harry Steyne; the despicable scoundrel, Billy Brewer, was painted in bold colours by Mr. Fred Evison; Miss Trissie Humphries as the loving and faithful wife, Mary Steyne, was rewarded with sympathetic applause; and the other artists all worked with splendid *esprit de corps*. The pathetic scene of the "ever-open-door," and the wonderful realism of the railway sensation were enthusiastically received by a large and most appreciative audience.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Shadow of a Crime* is being played twice nightly by Mr. Robert Hewland's company. The play is well staged, and leading characters are effectively represented by Mr. Whitmore Ledger as Jim Murdock, Mr. Robert Newland as Capt. Harry Bullington, Mr. Victor Gordon, Ralph Esmond, Mr. Harry Creamer as Samuel Brown, Mr. Tom Maynard as James Todd, Miss Ada Arthur as Winnie Murdock, Miss Queenie Matthew as Dora, Miss H. Jeffries as Sarah, Miss Violet Vivienne as Mrs. Brown, and Miss Ethel Saville as Loyale Norman.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires' Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The appearance of Madame Ella Russell has given refined pleasure to large audiences this week, who have warmly applauded her sympathetic rendering of "Good-bye," "Robin Adair," and other old favourites; Miss Alice Raymond and her talented intrumentalists in the beautifully-mounted musical spectacle, *A Night in Egypt*, are again cordially received; Holden's famous Fantoches are a welcome feature; the great Vincent does some daring back falls from tables; the Sisters Tower are two pretty and graceful dancers; the Carmos do a smart and elegant posturing and juggling act; J. W. Wilson and Miss Nelly Waring are clever and amusing comedy artists and dancers; Mr. Harry Herbert causes roars of laughter in his burlesque of a sailor-man; and other engaged are Conan and Doyle, comics; and Wullie Walker, comedian. The Bioscope concludes.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Big business is the rule here, the *pièce de resistance* being the comic extravaganza, *The Belle of the Orient*, played in brisk fashion by Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's company. Messrs. Emmerson and Baldwin are good comedy jugglers; the Fitzroys do a graceful and artistic original act on the trapeze; and other talented performers engaged are Johnson and De Vere, comedians, &c.; Carli and Law, novelty artists; Mr. Harry Tayler, comedian; the Havannas Troupe; and the Society Quartette. Films of the King's funeral and London scenes conclude the entertainment.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is appearing in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. Jessie Burton is admirably impersonated by Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne; Mr. Harry Scott gives a forcible rendering of Harry Hailing; Mr. Edward Heanley acts the dual part of Philip Edge and Philip Dare with ability; Mr. Sydney Bryant creates much amusement as Jack Jossie; Mr. Alaric Burton is well placed as Solomon Sleek; Mrs. Morton Powell sustains the interest of the piece with success as Winnie Waters; Miss Jeannie Bisley is interesting as Lucy Lawton; Miss Kathryne Eckhart is good as Mrs. Burton; and Miss Addie Cuthbert (Toy Lieff) and Miss A. Adair (Mrs. Slutt) also appear with distinction.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—*The Cruise of the Constance* is being presented with great success. The star artist is Mr. Chas. McNaughton, who as Potts, the steward, evokes hearty laughter. Excellent support is given by Miss Irene Verona (Mrs. Hope), Miss Carlotto Sylvano (Isabel), and Miss Ruby Vyvyan (a smart and vivacious Maid). Mr. Chas. McLagan provokes mirth as the Admiral, Mr. Albert Kavanagh is good as the Captain, and Mr. Fredk. Hobbs sings and acts admirably as Lieut. Wensleydale, R.N. The comedy is prettily mounted, and the chorus and orchestra do good work under the bâton of Mr. Albert Vernon.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareczer; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond are presenting the famous Irish drama *Arrah-na-Pogue*, which was heartily received on Monday by a large audience. The court-martial scene in Act 2 provided capital amusement. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gave a strong and masterly impersonation of Shaun-the-Post, and shared principal honours with Miss Lalla Stanhope, whose clever creation of the title-rôle was delightful. Mr. Edward E. Hobart characterised Beamish M'Coul successfully, and Mr. Lewis Jordan gave a creditable impersonation of the Secretary of State. Mr. H. C. Gilpin as Michael Feeny was decidedly good in a difficult rôle, and Miss Lydia Audre was well suited as Fanny Power. Mr. Ernest Hamilton was amusing as Winterbottom.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome; Resident Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The principal attraction here is George Robey, who is delighting all with his mirthful songs and impersonations; Phillip Levard, conjurer and illusionist; Beatrice Allen, comedienne and dancer; Billy and Bellay, comedy acrobats; Stevens and Breet, versatile entertainers; Dalvane's Marionettes; and Charles Grantley, comedian; the Forde Trio, vocal and instrumental act; and the Chandon Trio, gymnasts.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. F Angless.—Messrs. Brandon and Maitland's Anglo Japs, a sextette of refined and merry entertainers, are giving two performances daily. The magical entertainment by Mr. Maurice Maitland is both smart and interesting, while in song and humour Mr. Harry Brandon does well. Miss Marguerite Wortham is an accomplished violinist and pianiste; Miss Cissie Ray, comedienne, leads the concerted items in creditable style; Miss Bertha Graveling, Med.L.A.M., as a soprano, sings well; Miss Sybil Taylor is a pleasing contralto.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Under the direction of Mr. H. Cecil Beryl, the delightful fairy play *Alice in Wonderland* furnishes an attractive entertainment. The play is beautifully staged and dressed, and the efforts of the young artists were cordially appreciated by a good house on Monday night. Miss Ivy Sawyer depicted the title-rôle with charming daintiness, her singing and dancing being artistic and graceful; Mr. Dan Leno, jun., as the Caterpillar, and later as the Red King, was extremely quaint, his dancing being very grotesque; Mr. Frank Collins, in the character of the Mad Hatter, was bizarre and humorous; Mr. Tom Graves was very good as the Mock Turtle; and Mr. Roland Henry caused much amusement in the part of Gryphon; dances were beautifully executed by the Misses Marjory Neville, Phyllis Munro, Doris Kent, and Doreene Lamport.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mrs. F. G Kimberley's company present *Was She to Blame?* to good houses. Mr. Harry Rutland makes John Norman, the Vicar of Beechwood, stand out in bold relief; Mr. Clavering Craig is seen to advantage as Frank Rosselle; Mr. George Keene is good as Captain George Courtney; and the William Clark of Mr. George Tempest is also an excellent performance. Miss Ellen Beverley is good as the vicar's wife; and Lillian Norman is well accounted for by Miss Nancy Roberts. Mrs. Kate Rosselle is cleverly portrayed by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, the authoress of this great play. Most excellent comedy is submitted by Miss Rita Owen as Sarah Swales and Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The audience is delighted by the performance of the Piccolinos, miniature marvels of cycling, dancing, and wire-walking; H. O. Wills, the "water rat," is very funny; Emma Don and company are seen to advantage in *On the Thames Embankment;* Siems, the great Danish card and coin manipulator, is well received; Nellie Wigley as Prince Charming is delightful; William Strother is successful in character-sketches from Dickens; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians, and the bioscope complete the bill.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE (Ocean-road).—Resident-Manager, Mr. William Clark.—Crowded houses are delighted twice nightly by the beautiful pictures shown at this hall. Mr. Tom Child, tenor singer, charms the audience with his magnificent voice.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Colbins.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* is the second week's production of Mr. Frank Ayrton's season, and was finely produced before a good house; Mr. J. W. Harrell, formerly a local resident, who has recently adopted the profession, was heartily applauded for his songs. The principal characters in the cast are Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle (Tom Robinson), Mr. Percy Coningsby (George Fielding), Mr. George Wallace (Peter Crawley), Mr. Norman Overton (Mr. Meadows), Mr. Frank Ayrton (Jackey), Miss Madge Seymour (Susan), and Miss Anna Beaumont (Mary).

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The principal picture at this hall is the Funeral of the Late King Edward VII., which is drawing crowded houses. The Whitworth Prize Band plays the "Dead March" in *Saul* whilst the film is on view. The Star variety turn is Dan Pedley, a successful comedian.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company make a return visit in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm receives great applause for a fine representation of Uncle Tom. The character of Mr. St. Clair is adequately filled by Mr. Charles Richardson, while that of Phineas Fletcher is ably portrayed by Mr. A. Hayes. Mr. Eric Williams enacts George Harris with much care, and Mr. Tom Bowron is successful in making Legree repulsive. Miss Hero Hathaway obtains praise for her portrayal of Eliza Harris, and Miss Ethel Vernon gives a capital reading of Aunt Ophelia. Miss Annie Watson makes an amusing Topsy. Little Eva is played by Miss Gem Lloyd with touching sweetness. Entertaining items are given in the Plantation Festival by Rich and Moore (duettists), Shorty May, the Tamosseeans, Moore and Johnson, Kidd Love, Reg. Kloof, L. Allen, James Hodges, H. G. Burt, and Madge Price.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Corman's Juveniles are delightful in their vocal scena; Henry and Tyler, comedy and trick cyclists beyond the ordinary; Mlle. Ottino is a clever and fascinating conjurer; Ernesto shows great dexterity; Amy Russell sings a good song well; the Sarony Sisters are charming dancers; E. J. Sheldon is applauded for a capital turn; and the pictures are attractive.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—There is no lack of sensationalism in *The Heathen and the Christian*, which is being capably presented here this week by Mr. Frank Adair and company. Mr. Frank Adair acts meritoriously as Li; Mr. Harold Garth ably impersonates the character of Chang; Lung Hi has an excellent representative in Mr. Frank Withers; Mr. Reginald Payne acts with vigour as George Berresford; Mr. G. Shirley is successful as Lieut. Lord Allandale; and Mr. Charles Luck is amusing as Bar Lamb Gentle. Mira Sampson is effectively impersonated by Miss Louie Adair; Miss Stanley Burt charmingly fills the part of May Berresford; and Miss Eva Reid is a mirthful Becky Fibbins.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. M. Montgomery, whose company last year attained a large measure of popularity over a stay of seven weeks here, has commenced another season this week with *The Bellringer*, a romantic drama, which has been witnessed with marked interest by large audiences. The fine acting of Mr. S. E. Scanlan as James Pengarth is a prominent feature; Mr. Stanley Gordon ably sustains the part of Allan Chesney; Mr. H. Hesslegrove acts with skill and care as Maxwell Chesney; the Rev. David Hawthorne, J.P., is ably portrayed by Mr. Dunlop Stewart, whilst the brothers Job and Nathaniel Railton are most satisfactorily played by Mr. Geoff. Sutherland and Mr. Harry Cooke. Miss Nina Vaughton makes a sympathetic Brenda Chesney, and Miss Lillian Radbourn acts praiseworthily as Hesba Pengarth.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—*A Woman's Devotion* is produced here. Geo. A. de Gray appears with distinction as Dick Chesney; Robt. Hall gives a capital portrayal of Philip Dangerfield; Miss Effie Bartlett furnishes an excellent interpretation of Maisie Loyale; and Miss Etta Turner makes a capital Gilberte le Grand.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Frank L. Gregory's Troupe of hoop-rollers give an excellent turn; Frantz's Comedy Five are amusing and clever in an acrobatic scena, *Happy School Times;* Tom Joy, a pleasing comedian, makes a big hit; Ernest Montefiore and company present *The Little Colonel*, which is very attractive; Waul Langtry is a clever dialect comedian; Dorris and Frances are expert dancers and singers; Angela Ward is a dainty comedienne; Naughton and Gold are very clever dancers, and give some catchy songs with patter.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—For the summer season dramas replace the usual variety programme, two performances being given nightly. This week Miss Loie Esmond's company present *Nana, The Sorrows of Satan*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. In the first-named piece Mr. J. McCaig as Phillipe made a pleasing hero, and Miss Rosie Neville was a charming Nana. Other parts were well filled.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Full houses are the rule. Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer, heads the bill and scores repeatedly; Sam Johnson is also popular with "Teddy, the boy scout"; Seale and Seale deserve mention for their Beerbohm Golliwog; Bobbie Graham, a versatile comedian, goes well; the Bohemians give a smart instrumental turn; the pictures are varied nightly.

The rink is now closed for the season so far as skating goes, but is opening shortly as winter gardens, with pierrot entertainments twice daily.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Wilson Howard and company are presenting *Under the Iron Heel* to well-filled houses. Miss Carlotta Anson has ample scope in the rôle of Germaine Merbeau for her histrionic power; Miss J. Douglas Hicks gives a capital portrayal of Naman of Gouffe, as also does Miss Marie Angus of Andre. Mr. Wilson Howard has a fine conception of the part of Rene de Maupassant; Messrs. John Talford, Dennis Clyde, and Carl Vallender all do excellent work. Mr. J. W. Richards gives a strong delineation of the Prussian Captain.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mlle. Agalia, contortionist, Olive Lizette, vocalist, and Tony Clarke, comedienne and dancer, all meet with enthusiastic applause. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Heading an excellent programme is Mr. John Tiller's company of fifty artists, in a gorgeous vocal and spectacular ballet *In Japan*. The music, singing, dancing, and scenery are all of a high order. May Mars is as popular as ever with her well-rendered numbers; *The Mystic Hussars* proves to be a capital illusion; the Eight Cocktails are making a big hit with their grotesque and vigorous dances; and the *Baby's Park Parade* is a pretty song-scena. Cavalli gives a novel ventriloquial act; the Three Laurels execute some intrepid acrobatic feats; Matthews and Mann are responsible for some fine operatic vocalism; and the Eight Male Friesland Serenaders also supply a pleasing item.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Picture and Variety Company.—Captain Permaine is arousing much enthusiasm here with his performing Teddy Bears; the Spanish Juanitas present a marvellous and sensational acrobatic performance, entitled "The Wonders of a See-saw." The pictures include a good dramatic item, On the Border-line.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The Cados Trio give an exhibition of roller skating in clever style; Carrie Wood is a popular comedienne and dancer; Scholey and Scholey amuse greatly in their comedy duo *Winning a Wager;* a smart turn is presented by the Arnolds, entitled *She at the Stake;* Will and Rose, contralto eccentrics, merit applause; Stalman and Russell provide an entertaining episode, *Borrowed Plumage;* Gene Brant is a comedian with an excellent budget of songs; Matthews Bros. prove themselves capable dancers; and the Four Louberts excel as comedy acrobats.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—Popular films are on view here, including one of the Events in the Life of King Edward and the Funeral Procession at Windsor.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mrs. E. H. Knight's company is here in *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford infuses character and force into the part of Tom Manley; Mr. J. Cameron is a capital David Morrise; Mr. S. Fortescue and Mr. J. Sommerville are capable exponents of William Farran and James Hammond respectively; Mr. Rupert Talbot as Sam Kidder successfully handles the lighter parts of the play. Miss Hilda Baynton as Rosa Prescott is a charming heroine; Miss Clarice Jenner is a vivacious Ruth Manley; Miss Alice Dent acquits herself well as Mrs. Manley.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Capital houses are still attracted by the pictures. Mr. Tyers also sings with success.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. S. Britt and company are successfully presenting *Almost His Bride*. Mr. D. MacFarlane is excellent as the Earl of Ullswater; Squire Rowland is well played by Mr. T. Dillsen; Mr. G. R. J. Austin capably interprets Phillip Rowland; and Mr. R. F. Stacey is well placed as Jasper Thorne. Mr. S. Britt does exceedingly well as Simon Simson; Mona Gilchrist is suitably interpreted by Miss G. Moore; and Ruth Gilchrist is safely entrusted to Miss A. Liddon. Miss L. Prescott does well as Emma Baxter.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. E. Harper.—Topping a good bill are the Leopolds, in *The Crazy Waiters;* Lillian May Levey scores heavily in good songs; Sewell and Dudley are well received; Allen and Austin and Joe Stirling get plenty of applause. The best pictures are A Day with Boy Scouts and The Western Land.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright.—Sears, the American illusionist, worthily heads a strong bill. Rastus and Banks are heartily applauded; the McConnell Trio make a great hit; Eily Adair dances well; Edgar Cook, the conjuring chef, and Shawlene (whistler) are acceptable turns.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—"The Royal Strolling Players" are drawing large houses. Mr. Sydney James proves himself to be a humorist of more than usual ability, and is ably assisted by Mr. G. W. Desmond, who introduces some very clever step-dancing; Miss Seymour James is an attractive comedienne; Miss Madeline Rossiter is an artist of considerable charm; Miss Dorothy Belmore displays talent at the piano; Mr. Jack Austin and Mr. Frank Halpin both do exceedingly well; and the concerted items are deserving of the highest praise.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The Hippodrome programme includes Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French impressionist, whose varied impersonations are highly appreciated; George Grogie as the Sussex yokel also makes a hit, and the clever comedy juggling of Cornalla and Eddie is another successful item. Mildred Parr's songs and recitations at the piano prove successful, and the patter of Davis and Dene is popular. The song and dance of Lily Palmer is very well received, and so are the songs of Tom Lee. The Bioscope concludes.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Closed for summer vacation.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Mr. Alan Holt and company present a sensational dramatic sketch *A Society Woman;* Norman Thelma, a wonderful contortionist, has an enthusiastic reception; Burns and Bentley, comedians, win applause with capital dancing; Victor and Louis, as the golfer and the caddie, provide an amusing turn; Miss Rose D'Aulby, vocalist, sings well; the Hesseys, musical trio, give a refined performance; and Bonnetti and Corrie, eccentric jugglers, are smart.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Carle and Maie Trio, comedy acrobats and wire-walkers, are remarkably clever; the Countess Bekoffska, lightning flower painter, is a huge success; Mlle. Du Roche, burlesque actress, sings delightfully; Renie, Ernie, and Allie, clever juvenile vocalists and dancers, evoke applause; and Mayfield Grove, dame comedian, proves popular.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's play, *The King's Romance*, is the attraction here. As Prince Andreas Mr. Edmonds plays with natural force throughout. Miss Mary Austin is seen to the greatest advantage in the trying rôle of Vera Navairre; Mr. George P. Porteous infuses plenty of dramatic force into his portrayal of Michael Vacurat; and exceptionally well placed is Mr. William H. Dewhurst as Paul Navairre. Mr. Henry Earlesmere is a dignified Baron Cavonia; Miss Ella Vinery as Lizette and Miss Bella Power as Madame Pomeroy are both seen to advantage. The dressing and staging of the play is notable. *The Cotton Spinner* was billed for Friday.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Marie Santoi and her merry Japs are achieving a big success in the vocal sketch *A Night in Japan*. Miss Santoi scores repeatedly, and the Oriental dances of the quartette of ladies is much admired. John Macaulay's songs are sung with rare effect; Cassie Walmer enhances her reputation with new songs and dances; Blanche Marion is the personification of refinement; the Sisters Maynard score in a thoroughly "Utopian" turn; Lilly Madison and Freddy Webb are seen to advantage in the sketch *My Husband*," and Zeltrin, the comedy juggler has the house convulsed with laughter at his eccentricities. A delightful films is the one depicting The Robbery of the Citizens' Bank.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr

company is here in *The Lancashire Lad*. Miss Muriel Inglis appears with great success as Lorna Wincote; Miss Maude Hastings is also successful as Jessie Wincote; Miss Florence Gomer is Mother Wardle; Miss Phyllis Rae is good as Jane Alice; and Miss Cora Patey as Kitty de Vere; David Elmore or the Lancashire Lad is admirably depicted by Mr. Chas. D. Pitt; Br. Arthur Britton is clever as Max Carton; and Mr. Val Gully is good as Jim Wincote.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—In addition to the excellent pictures, there are appearing here Carrie Lawton, a clever and dainty comedienne; Dolly Brough, with good songs and dances; Rich and Rare, a well-named comedy couple; and Harry Heatin, a smart dancer and comedian.

ELECTRIC PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Stanley Marks.—Good business is still being done here, the pictures deserving all praise.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—George Lashwood, in new and old songs, is greeted with tumultuous applause; Hagedom's Grotto is a charming spectacle, the illuminated aquatic effects are very pretty; Tom Stuart, in his dramatic and burlesque impressions, is a decided success; the Lyric Quartette harmonise well in several selections illustrated by prettily coloured slides; Georgina Leno contributes a smart dance; and a pleasing turn is added by Jeannie Hartley, a dainty soubrette.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Black Bros.; Manager, Mr. W. Ball.—Excellence is the term applicable to every picture shown by the management. J. H. Carney, in song, dance, and story, is an acceptable turn; the Two Zets accomplish some remarkably clever simultaneous and wooden-boot dancing.

ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Councillor Everton.—*Taming a Suffragette*, performed by the Vaudevilles, is intensely funny; Miss Annie Coulson has a remarkable soprano voice; many well-selected films are shown.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. George Munro's répertoire company is making its first appearance here. *The Sleigh-Bells* was the piece selected for Monday. Mr. George Munro gave a fine character study of Matthias; a clever piece of acting was the Christian of Mr. Howard Rose; Mr. Denton Thompson was praiseworthy as Hans; and so, too, was Mr. Ivor Barnard as Father Walter. Mr. H. Greaves did well as Doctor Zimmer; and Mr. Stafford Dawson (mesmerist), Mr. T. Weston Fields (judge), Mr. Arthur Percival (Tony), Mr. Eric Norman (Notary), and Mr. Rainsley (Clerk), were all good in their respective characters. Miss Doris V. Horrocks made a remarkably pretty Annette, her acting being excellent. Miss Gertrude Littlewood's Catherine is entitled to encomiums; and so is the Lozel of Miss Janet Hope. *Othello*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, and *The Lyons Mail* are all in the week's bill.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Gay Birds are here once more, and are well received. Miss Doris Trevelyan's fine voice is heard to advantage; Miss Doris Langdon's songs at the piano are loudly encored; and Miss Nina Lorenza's mandoline solo is applauded. Mr. Vivian Munro is an old favourite here; Mr. Frederick Park is an effective comedian; Mr. Alexander Lee excels as a reciter; and Mr. Harry Taylor's wood-tapping solo is well rendered. Pictures on the bioscope are entertaining; and Herr Fericescu's Viennese Band grows in popularity.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Some excellent films are being shown here. Messrs. Ryde and Beeman, comedians, and Miss Rose Finnette, burlesque actress, are also in the bill.

WHITLEY BAY.—PLEASURE GARDENS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penleve.—These pleasure gardens, more familiarly known as the Spanish City since the alterations and embellishment of its new theatre and the addition of side shows, are proving a strong attraction for the early visitors to this flourishing seaside resort. The varieties are headed by Menotti, the Stockholm Wonder, in the "Twentieth Century Cycle Track," wherein he submits a daring and exciting performance by the aid of electric and flying wires. Charles Tempest, eccentric comedian, is also in good demand; Graham and Barron (comedians and dancers), and Gulliver (ventriloquist) complete the programme.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Up-to-date films form the principal attraction here, the variety being led by the Sisters Lillian, duettists, with a pleasing selection of harmonious items.

BATHS PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. R. L. Grice.—A series of animated pictures is being exhibited here. Excellent variety is furnished by Dave Elliott, the blind instrumentalist and vocalist.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Burton.—Heading an attractive bill are Leopold Legere and his troupe of acrobats and somersault-throwers, who present a marvellous exhibition. Other turns which are heartily applauded are Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, famous singing boxmakers; Mlle. Vanioni, high-class soprano and Tyrolean vocalist; and Frederico and Edgaro, eccentric knockabout comedians. Several high-class films, humorous and pathetic, are screened.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees and General-Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The central attraction here is the film illustrating the Runcorn May Queen Festival, which was held on Saturday last. Entertaining turns are presented by Mr. J. W. Hall, the popular Yorkshire humorist; Mr. Sydney Brandon, impersonator and protean actor; Miss Eve Correlli, dainty vocalist and dancer; and Mr. Fred Mount, ventriloquist.

WIGAN.—THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*The Enemy of Woman*, played by Mr. Stuart Lomath and Miss Ellen Owen's company, is the attraction here. Mr. Stuart Lomath gives a powerful interpretation of Captain Merritt; a clever impersonation of Major Stevens is furnished by Mr. A. Pringle; while in a humorous rôle Mr. Lancelot Usher causes much laughter. Miss Rose Mervyn gives a sympathetic portrayal of Marian Merritt; and Miss E. F. Greene proves herself to be a talented actress as Teddy.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—Another excellent series of pictures of King Edward's Funeral are shown, together with several interesting and amusing films.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company opened here on Monday with *Her Life in London*, a moral play quite to the liking of the patrons of this house. Mr. Stanley Carlton plays with earnestness as the Rev. Allen Gordon; whilst Miss Rubie Maude contributes much to the general success as Astra Bell; Mr. C. Franklyn is good as Mr. Templeton; and a comedian with an original style is found in Mr. W. Vernon, who plays Percy Plunker.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—George Mozart, who is starring here this week, caricatures all and sundry in his own inimitable manner, and his burlesque on the moving picture drama, The Thief, is wonderfully ingenious; Howard and Harris, in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, furnish an enjoyable entertainment; the Three Cunards, in their dancing act, receive a cordial welcome; Charles Sloman is a diverting comedian; Leoni Dixon sings in a charming manner, and her dancing is above the average; Young and Evans, Hebrew comedians, score; and Lucia Collins sings songs from her late mother's repertory.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—Films depicting the Funeral Procession of King Edward are retained for another week. The Power of the Press is an intensely dramatic picture of American life; A Duck Farm is both educational and interesting; and many amusing subjects are also furnished.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A first visit of "Consul," the marvellous educated baboon, is creating quite a sensation. Twice nightly he gives his highly interesting entertainment, which includes the use of an aeroplane, bicycle, skates, &c. Amandros, the cosmopolitan facial mimic, introduces a novel and interesting "turn," making up with marvellous rapidity to appear as many of the leading men of this and past days; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls introduce some excellent dancing; and Fred Neiman's ventriloquial entertainment is capitally done. Rosy Gaston is a dainty comedienne; and Mlle. Rosina is a clever instrumentalist. *Cupid in a Lodging House* is the title of a cleverly presented sketch written by Harold Gatty; and the bioscope completes an attractive programme.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—Variety holds sway here, and good business is being done. A capital programme is provided by John Warren, dramatic illusionist; Jackson Collis, comedian; Niagara and Falls, comedy artists; Ada Tunks, soprano; Frank Melvin, comedian; Sisters Volbecques, comedy duo and dancers; F. G. Fenn, in a scena, *Phil Blood's Leap*; and Marmaduke.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. J. Scott.—Barney Vox, who tops the bill this week, proves a ventriloquist of exceptional powers and a humorist of no mean order; Miss Doris Snowden is a graceful soubrette and a clever speciality dancer; and the pictures are of a varied and interesting description.

YNYSHIR. — WORKMEN'S HALL. — Lessees, Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The chief picture is that of the Funeral of the late King Edward VII., during which the "Dead March" is played by the Ynyshir Brass Band. The cinephone renders illustrated songs.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The wonderful performing dog Ariana, introduced by Chas. d'Aix, has delighted all; the Brothers Curran's comic boxing display causes much amusement; Dalmere's Table Circus is distinctly novel and attractive; Babs Lloyd is a neat dancer; Charles Penrose, a quaint comedian; and Allis and Cassati contribute an enjoyable turn; the entertainment presented by Miss Mabel Mavis is both novel and clever; Damerell and Rutland are quaintly funny; and the Black Diamonds are excellent vocalists.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The second week of Mr. Alan Wilkie's season is proving successful, and on Monday a full house assembled to welcome *Hamlet*. On Tuesday *A Fool's Revenge* was well received. Mr. Alan Wilkie kept the audience engrossed by his impersonation of Bertuccio; Mr. John Paley gave a clever rendering of the Duke of Faenza; Mr. Henry Hargreaves as Dell' Aquilla was seen to great advantage; as Torelli, Ordelaffi, and Accolti Messrs. G. Edward Dunstan, Sinclair Neill, and Herbert Mansfield were good; Miss F. Hunter Watts in her part gave a delicate and charming impersonation; as Francesca Miss Mary Lovett was a distinct success; and Miss Hilda Plowright made a charming Geneva; Brigitta was in the safe hands of Miss Alice Miller. *Taming of the Shrew*, *Richelieu*, *The Sleigh Bells*, and *Jane Shore* are also in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The Telephone Call is a highly sensational film, and Nuccia the Shepherdess another exciting item; the comic element is seen in Rebellious Betty; and the Carlsens are a speciality on the trampoline.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—A fine display here includes a Romance of the Western Hills, Doncaster Races, and Fontoline Black and White. A cordial reception is given to Mr. Harry Morgan.

STAGE PLAYS AT ALBERT HALL.

At the Westminster Police Court on Saturday Mr. Chilvers, of the Solicitors' Department, London County Council, applied for a summons against the Corporation of the Royal Albert Hall for permitting the theatre there to be used for the public performance of stage plays. He said that under Section 2, Vict 67, it was prohibited that stage plays should be performed except in places licensed either by the Lord Chamberlain, by letters patent from their Majesties, or under licence from the Justices. The powers of the justices had now been transferred to the London County Council, and the Royal Albert Hall came within the jurisdiction of that body. For some time past the theatre, an annexe of the hall, had been used for the performance of stage plays. It was a theatre fitted with a stage, &c., and the County Council was desirous of knowing whether they were to take any responsibility, first as to the licence, and secondly as to the means of escape in case of fire, accident, &c. The theatre was level with the top tier but one of the hall, and if the Council had any responsibility at all they desired things to be put in order. The Council had been in communication with Mr. Hilton Carter, the secretary, and it was contended on behalf of the Hall that a licence was not required, the building having been erected under Charters granted by Queen Victoria. The first was in the thirtieth year of her Majesty's reign, and gave the objects for which the Hall might be used—prize distributions, agricultural, horticultural, national and international exhibitions, picture exhibits, and other purposes connected with science and art. The second Charter was granted in the fiftieth year of Queen Victoria's reign, and this set forth that the Hall might, in addition to the objects already mentioned, be used for public or private meetings, operettas, concerts, balls, or any other than theatrical entertainment for the amusement and recreation of the people.

Mr. Horace Smith—What is an operetta? Is not that a theatrical form?

Mr. Chilvers: I think not, sir.

Mr. Horace Smith: Perhaps I need not trouble about that now. Both of you want to settle this question.

Mr. Chilvers: We do, sir. They gave us notice that they were going to hold a public performance on a certain date recently, and they did. It cannot be contended that by letters patent stage plays are authorised there. We think the intention is that they are not authorised to perform them.

Mr. Horace Smith: You have clearly got some argument on your side. What that of the other side may be I don't know. I think you must take proceedings.

IN memory of the late King Edward VII. a special memorial matinée was held at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, last Friday afternoon, a special series of excellent pictures being shown by Mr. Waller Jeffs. The chief feature of the performance was a film showing the Funeral of His late Majesty, and other pictures depicted the late King on his visit to Derby, and also on the occasion of his visit to Birmingham.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.
Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,
THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 27, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 6 (3), and Easter.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Aug. 4, 11, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5 and 26.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, on, and Easter.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Aug. 4, 15, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, B. PAREEZER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE.
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 11 and Aug. 8.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 26, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest Theatres in the county. Holding capacity 3,500. Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies.
WANTED, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
Could arrange Stock Season for June and July.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre will reopen Aug. Holding capacity 3,000.
WANTED, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Autumn, 1910.
THOS. COURTICE, Manager.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18, 28 (three nights), Aug. 1 (six nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Companies. Wanted, Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions from July 4 for the Season. three nights for preference.
The week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.
Address all communications,
WALTER MAXWELL, 52, Bedford Court-mansions, London, W.C. 'Phone 4,270 Gerrard.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Company, June 13. Wire, FLANAGAN.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

HARROGATE & SCARBORO' OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, First-class Company, June 20, 21, 22, Scarborough; 23, 24, 25, Harrogate; vacant through obliging Manager.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, for good powerful Dramatic Attractions.
Address, WILLIAM MORTON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOMAS SWINTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.
WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 29, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Wanted, Big Musical Attraction, for Opening date in July, also for following vacancies:
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12.
Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."
All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17 (?), 24 (3 nights), 31, Nov. 7, 14.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Companies booked at, or wishing to visit, this old-established and successful Theatre are reminded that they must not book elsewhere, or permit their plays to be performed in Hastings, St. Leonards, or Bexhill.
Autumn Attractions include:
"The Brass Bottle," "The Merry Widow" (twice), D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., Hayden Coffin and Co., in "Two Merry Monarchs," "Dear Little Denmark," "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "King of Cadonia," "The Chorus Lady," "The Naked Truth," "Tantalising Tommy," "Smith," "Fires of Fate," "The House of Temperley," "Hook of Holland," "A Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Old Heidelberg," F. R. Benson Co. Other leading attractions have appeared during Spring.
Vacant July 18, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10 (?), 24, 31.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
July 18, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 24, 31.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for June 27 and July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Robertson is prepared to treat with a Responsible Manager for a Month's Stock Season during July at above Address, HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre R., Jarrow.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 20, July 4, 25, Aug on. ALFRED MANNERS.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 11 (?), 18 (3), Oct. 10 (?), 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée, June 30, July 18, Aug. 4, Sept. 8, onwards. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, for Re-opening of Season, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12 (Holiday date), Oct. 24, Nov., Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, good Company, July 11. Copy of Daybill, sample of Printing, and particulars to J. H. CURRY, as above.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for June 27, July 18, 25, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Attractions for Gaiety, Worksop, June 16, 17, and 18, June 23, 24, and 25, on, with exceptions. Apply, S. GOODMAN.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY.
ST. JULIAN'S HALL, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, big Attractions, for opening of Dramatic Season, July 5, also Sept. 5 and 12 (Musical Shows preferred).
EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 22, and onwards, with exceptions; open three nights weekly.
Address, MAX JEROME, Empire Theatre, Southend.

STOCKPORT EMPIRE.
WANTED, Dramas, Musical Comedies, Operas, &c.; all must play twice nightly.
Shares or Certainties. Vacancies Jan., 1911, on.
WANTED, good Attractions, Sept. 1, 12, 19, 26 (3 nights), onwards.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, big Attraction for Bank Holiday, now booking Autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 5
Address, J. H. SAVILE, Theatre, Paisley.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES, BLACKBURN and PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Drama or Variety Combination, Preston, June 13, July 4, 11; Blackburn, July 21, Aug. 1. E. H. PAGE, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for important structural alterations and Reseating.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, on.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Shakespeare Hotel, Nottingham.

COMPANIES WANTED.
Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 26, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 (?), 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ABERDEEN, DUNDEE, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and Sept. 5.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, London, S.W.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, A1 Dramatic Attractions, June 27, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T. Farnworth, Bolton.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Closed for entire redecoration and alterations.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions.
STANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, First Vacant Date, Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions.
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY,
for August and Autumn, 1910.
Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 15 (3 nights), and 19.
Address, CHA. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Good Répertoire Company, Seven Nights, commencing Saturday, July 16, Holiday date; also July 25, Aug. 1, Grand, Chorley. Letters only. No wires.
SANTE, Radcliffe.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties (à la The Follies), July 18, onwards. Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, to effect Transfer Strong Attraction,
Wire, June 20, Wire.
Wire, June 20, Wire.
MARK LORNE, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, RICHARD THORNTON.
The handsomest and most up-to-date Theatre out of London.
WANTED, Known, two or three vacant dates at intervals, for First-class Musical or West End Attractions. Bookings include George Edwardes's own company in "The Dollar Princess," Moody-Manners Opera Co., Seymour Hicks and Co., &c. Apply to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Applications from Companies for August Bank Holiday and various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "Mrs. Wiggs," F. R. Benson, &c. Address all coms., MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for only vacant dates Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Panto. Xmas (four weeks), on. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Raffles," &c. Re dates direct to JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

HARROGATE & SCARBORO' OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, First-class Company, June 20, 21, 22, Scarborough; 23, 24, 25, Harrogate; vacant through obliging Manager.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Costume Comedy and Dramatic Sketches, for Production at above Theatre.
Address, WILLIAM HEILBRONN.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, &c., to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

CATLIN'S NEW ARCADIA, SCARBOROUGH.
The most magnificent Theatre and Concert Pavilion in England. Seating for over 2,000, and with standing will accommodate 3,000; magnificent Scenery, electric light, competent staff. This Theatre is situated right on the sea front, and is built so that in a few minutes can be entirely Al Fresco. Full Dramatic Licence.
WANTED, Known, a few vacant dates for Flying Matinées, also Orchestras, Concert Parties for Sundays in July and August; no vacancies for evenings. Apply Mr. DUDLEY HARCOURT, Manager for Mr. W. Catlin, "Arcadia," Scarborough.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dramatic and Musical Companies. Vacant dates, June 15, and forward, to follow "Iolanthe," produced June 9, in newly-fitted theatre.
Apply, SECRETARY, Coalville Olympia, Coalville, near Leicester.
WANTED, Musical or Farcical Comedy, July 30 and Bank Holiday week, and Aug. 8 week.
BELLERBY, King's Hall, Ilkley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
See Page 15 of "The Era," dated May 7, 1910.
New Theatrical Watering-place.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for Aug. 1 (B.H.), 8, and Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 24.
Special Notice.
Proprietors and Managers of Sound Attractions, Musical, Dramatic, or Farcical, with vacant dates, from and including Aug. 1, 1910, are invited to send in particulars of Plays, &c., cast, printing, &c., for consideration, to
Arthur C. Moody, Blyth-by-Sea.

HARROGATE & SCARBORO' OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, First-class Company, June 20, 21, 22, Scarborough; 23, 24, 25, Harrogate; vacant through obliging Manager.
Apply, William Peacock, Opera House, Harrogate.

EMPIRE, EDMONTON.
WANTED, Known, June 27, Vacant for Burlesque, Comedy, or Drama, twice nightly. Holding capacity, 2,500.
Managing-Director, Harry Bawn.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Dec. 26, and January Dates.
Douglas Bruce.
20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, June 27 and July 11
The Only Vacant Dates. Douglas Bruce, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA."
"RED RIDING HOOD."
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls.
A few Vacancies left.
Production Dates settled.
Coms., Andie Caine, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of August 22 and 29.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 8 (?), 15 (?), on, big Company, Chorus, Negro Specialities. New Plant of beautiful Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, June 13, 20, July 28 (three nights), South, Aug. 4 (three nights), South. Sept. 5, 12, 26.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner, June 6, Alhambra Theatre, Higher Openshaw.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17 Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. Bishopsdale Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A Message from Mars," No. 1 Company, Oct. 17, 24
(North or Midland),
also Xmas week at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOUR,
with Russell Vaun's latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 22 (follow Barnsley), Sept. 5 and 26 (North), Oct. 31, Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate), Dec. 5 (precede St. Helens), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea).
All coms.,
Martin Comstock, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY IN PASTORAL PLAYS.
WANTED, Several Vacant Dates in July. Modern and Costume Plays are produced with Full Effects.
Address, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES,
in the Musical Farce,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15 (between Devonport and Aldershot), Nov. 7 and 14 (between Birkenhead and Portsmouth).
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Grand, Hull.

"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
"MAN AND WIFE."
By Walter Howard.
ETHEL GRIFFIES & MARGARET SKELTON'S TOUR.
WANTED, for above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, on, with exceptions. First-class Company, including Miss Griffies. Good Scenery, Wardrobe, and Properties.
Address all communications,
Griffies and Skelton,
T. R., Portsmouth.

MESSRS. WENTWORTH CROKE, MILTON BODE, AND EDWARD COMPTON'S COMPANY, in "THE BISHOP'S SON," by HALL CAINE.
WANTED, Aug. 29, between Douglas and Blackpool.
"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."
Aug. 8 and 22, South Coast Seaside Towns only.
Apply,
Wentworth Croke,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Theatres, for above (3 nights, North),
Aug. 22,
Sept. 19 (North),
Oct. 17 (Midlands or North),
Nov. 7 (South),
Nov. 21 (3 nights, South).
Address, Cecil Barth,
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mans., London, W.C.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11 and 18, Aug. 1 and 29.
Dickie Clare, P. of W., Salford.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 21, 28, and Jan. 2.
Address, Frank M. Thorne,
Newlands Cottage, Cloughton, near Scarboro'.

MURRAY KING AND CO. in "OUR FLAT."
WANTED, June 23 (3 nights), July 4 (week).
King, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 13, 20, 27, Aug. 1. Wires. Henry L. Osmond, Blyth. Letters, Royalty T., Barrow.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sept. 26, Dec. 5, 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
July 25, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Oct. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, June 27, July 18,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
includes Mr. Frank Beresford as
Archibald Carlyle.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.
Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Vacant June 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, 22, and on, with exceptions.
June 6, Royal, Shrewsbury.

June 20 and 27.
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA," THE RAGE OF PARIS.
WANTED, June 20 and 27, various, on,
In view of the excellent business attracted now and regularly by these plays, Miss Esmond is desirous of extending the tour, given, of course, suitable dates.
Practically the same cast for four years.
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
Mr. Edward Neville as Prince Lucio Rimanez (as played by him over 1,200 times),
Miss Esmond as Diana Chesney (over 1,000 times),
Miss Rosie Neville as Lady Sybil (over 500 times).
"NANA."
Miss Esmond as Rose Mignon (over 400 times),
Mr. Neville as Hector Bruneau
(a revelation in the art of impromptu),
Miss Neville as Nana (over 400 times).
Exquisite West-end and Parisian Costumes.
The Magnificent Two-manual Pipe Organ exhibited and played in both pieces.
Local organists are frequently invited to test this beautiful instrument.
Either or both plays. Once or twice nightly.
Wire, Lois Esmond,
To-day, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
June 6, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.

"OUR BOYS."
WANTED, One Night, Saturday, June 11, to follow New Theatre, Oxford, and Salisbury; also weeks commencing June 13 and 20. Company: Frank M. Wood, E. A. Douglas, Cecil A. Collins, Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, Leah Marlborough, Beatrice Whitney, Lizzie Chambers. Address, Brydon Phillips, Managers' Club, Saturday; after, New Theatre, Oxford.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Aug. 22 (South), Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5.
Coms., Walter D. Nicholl, 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for London Star, in Répertoire, June 23 (3 nights) and July 4.
Haldane Crichton, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," July 4, 11, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, Xmas. Haldane Crichton, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

WANTED, E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., vacant, "Who is She?" Oct. 31, Nov. 14; "King and the Unknown Woman," Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, care of "The Era."

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA.
WANTED, June 20, and Aug. 8, 15, 22, and Sept. 26. Frank Yearsley, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, for the great success, "His Real Wife," and special Répertoire, Nov. 14 and Xmas, good Theatre only. T. E. Ward, Star T., Liverpool.

WANTED, for "When Other Lips" or "Life's Sweetest Sins," June 13, 20, 27, July 11.
T. Arthur Jones, T. R., Leeds.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Lancs. or Yorks.
Edward Lloyd, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

WANTED, for Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Co., "Her Secret Lover," Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 17, and Xmas. Only Vacant Dates until Spring, 1911. Refer T. W. Rowe, Esq., Palace Theatre, Newcastle. Wire for above dates. Kimberley, Alexandra, Hull

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."
WANTED, June 20, between Birmingham and London.
Horace Stanley, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
Next, T. R., Aston (return).

WANTED, June 20, 27, for special twice nightly versions of "A Woman's Devotion," "Was She His Wife?" "Fight for a Throne."
Geo. A. De Gray, G. T., Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Sept. 5 (N.), on, with exceptions, Nov. 7 (M.), on, with exceptions, for "The Shadow of a Crime," by Nita Rae. Walter J. Horne, Alex., Sheffield; next, King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls, "Robinson Crusoe," Feb. 20, 27 (Theatres), "Dick Whittington," Feb. 6, 13, March 6 (Halls), "Dick Whittington," Jan. 30, Feb. 20, on (Halls), "Cinderella," Feb. 27 (Hall or Theatre).
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, June 13, on,
for
Ernest Dottridge's Vaudeville Co.
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MISS NANNIE GOLDMAN AND CO.
in the Screamingly Funny Farcical Comedy,
"NOT BEFORE THE MISSUS!"
Shortly to be Produced in West-end Theatre.
WANTED, June 27, all July, and onward.
Wire, William Holles T. R., Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.
25 Performers 25.
Wanted, Good Theatres,
June 20, 27, July 4, 11, onwards.
Look out for Grand New Production,
"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda, Liverpool."

Pantomime, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"ALADDIN,"
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazneau-street,
Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, June 20, to follow P. T., Bradford, and precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire for June 20.
Wire for June 20.
Miss Hilda Beverley, P. T., Blackburn.
June 6, Queen's T., Longton.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S
Entirely New Reproduction of
"THE POWER OF THE KING,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, July 25, Sept. 12, for this acknowledged success. Bookings this tour include: Alex., Birmingham; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Leeds, Stratford, Barnsley; Palace, Newcastle, Wolverhampton, Accrington; T. R., Sheffield, Longton, Stockton; Met., Glasgow; G., Brighton; P., Portsmouth, &c. Guaranteed to be the finest mounted production on the road; all new uniforms, scenery, &c. Special cast, including Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Chas. Whitlock, Clavering Craig, Arthur St. John, and Edie Macklin.
Wire for July 25 to
F. G. Kimberley,
This, T. R., South Shields; next, Alex. T., Hull.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Magnificent Production,
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Carefully-selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14, only Dates Vacant.
Wanted, for the Funniest Farcical Comedy of the day,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER,"
"THE LITTLE STRANGER,"
By Michael Morton.
From the Criterion Theatre.
Only Date this year, three nights, July 28 (precede T. R., Newcastle).
Add., Chas. Gibbon, Canvey, Elm-grove, Southsea.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, June 27, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 9, various, on.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton,
To-day, T. R., Chatham; Monday, T. R., Woolwich.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MR. J. LINDSAY ELLIS
presents
"LIGHTS OUT."
WANTED, Dates, July 28, onwards. Special London Co. Entire New Production.
Address, 101, Rylston-road, Fulham.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.
Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.
WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Proprietor and Manager.
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
June 6, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

G. CARLTON WALLACE CO'S.
WANTED, First-class Artists for Autumn Tours, including Leading Ladies, Leading Juveniles, Heavy and Character Gentlemen, Light Comedians, Aristocratic Dames, Responsibles, Child Actress (over 14). Send recent photographs, age, height, terms, and references, 27, Goldersgardens, Golder's Green, N.W. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Boobhamba and Bass Chorister.
Haldane Crichton, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

WANTED, for Stock, good Responsible Men, Comedian, Chambermaid, and Child, rehearse Tuesday, open June 13. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman to play Small Parts. Must be cultured and refined.
A. G. Smith-Neill, Theatre R., Plymouth.

WANTED, for "The Thief," Leading Lady for Marise. Must be young, pretty, and thoroughly experienced. Full particulars, photo, salary, A. Limpus, Opera House, Londonderry.

ARTISTS WANTED.

THE ALEXANDER MARSH SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR. Gen.-Manager, Mr. Albert Cavanah.
WANTED, for three special weeks, in the Lancashire district, open June 27, rehearse June 20, Child Actress of 14, must be very small and look about 10, also speak in a refined voice.
Address (letters only),
Albert Cavanah, 63, King-street, Southport.

WANTED, Young Amateur Lady to play small part and understudy; must give one month's services, after which, if suitable, small salary.
Address, with photograph and full particulars,
Robert Hewland, King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, a First-class Actor, for Blind Farmer part in "His Real Wife," and Répertoire. Full particulars, references, photos., T. E. Ward, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Low Comedian, Stock Season, Twice Nightly; rehearse Tuesday.
Terms and references,
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

"PASSION OF LIFE" CO.
WANTED, short Cockney Comedian, rehearse Oldham Monday, must be steady and reliable. Lowest terms, full particulars and references, Hubert Helliwell, Empire T., Oldham.

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman, to play small part, understudy, and learn management, £25 premium, returned in salary, first-class Company, long Tour booked. All particulars, Manager, 19, Rumford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, a few Gentleman to Walk On in Sketch, for week of June 6.
Apply, C. Clarke, Stage-Manager, Olympia, Shoreditch, Stage Door, Saturday, 3 to 5.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Combine Tuition in Stage Dancing (on stage) with Holiday.
Sandgate House, facing Sea, Sandgate.

WANTED, by Contralto, Summer Work, Piers, Concert Parties, &c., large rep., high class, ballad, opera, sacred. Stuart, 25, Devonshire-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by The Druids, Male Concert Party (twenty in number), Wales Premier Prizewinners. For dates, terms, &c., apply, E. T. Williams, Sec., Resolven, South Wales.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Panto., Babs Lloyd, Principal Girl, last season with Milton Bode, Esq., at Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. Address, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"ALADDIN."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, references, and where can be seen working next six weeks, to A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Mark Envelopes "Panto."

WANTED, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Comedians of repute, Knockabouts, Demon Kings, Vocal Quartettes, Speciality Dancers, &c., &c., for First-class Panto. Houses. Lowest terms, height, age, experience, fullest particulars,
SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road,
Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, for Various Pantomimes, Principals in all Lines.
Male and Female Chorus.
Particulars to E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.
CHEDDLETON, LEEK.
WANTED, Scene Painter, to act as Attendant, must have exemplary character and references. Permanent post and pension for suitable man. Age not over 35. Salary commences at £40 per annum, with prospect of increase to £60, together with board, lodgings (£10 rent money in lieu if married), washing and uniform, estimated at £40 per annum (£38 if single). Salary and emoluments subject to deduction of 2 per cent towards pension. Applications, with full particulars and references to the
Medical Superintendent.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, F. E. Boden's New Scene-painting Rooms are at 196, High-street, Merton. Four Paint Frames. Any size Contract accepted. 'Phone, 919 P.O. Wimbledon.

WANTED, Known, Sidney Beltram, completed engs. with "Her Fatal Marriage" Co. and Hippo., Sheerness. Now at Grand, Brighton. Engagements wanted. Refer.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract. Town or Provinces. Address, 16, Salisbury-terrace, Winter-st., Sheffield.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Smart Manager, for New Theatre, age 25 to 35 years; well accustomed to the work; must have good references.
Apply at once,
R. Slater Windle,
People's Palace Theatre, Barnoldswick.

WANTED, a smart young man, to take charge of a department in connection with Theatrical Printing; must have had good experience in this class of work. State age, salary required, and full particulars, Box 7,795, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Smart Young Gentleman, as Assistant Manager for a Popular Seaside Resort (North) for Three months. Credentials of the highest order required. Can offer an interest to gentleman of good position.
Lowest salary, &c., to
Manager, 53, Waverley-road, Southsea.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, competent Wardrobe Mistress, able to cut and make; also Practical Carpenter. State experience, references, and lowest salary by letter, Bertram, 8, Rupert-court.

WANTED, an Energetic, Capable, and Experienced Manager for a London Variety Agency. Some knowledge of foreign languages desirable. Strictest testimonials as to character required. Apply, stating remuneration, &c., required, to Box 7,816, "The Era."

WANTED, appointment, by experienced Lady (30), as Secretary or Manageress, Seaside preferred; highest references; capable of any responsible post. Address, Box 7,813, "The Era."

WANTED, Management, by energetic experienced London Manager of Provincial Hall or Theatre; excellent references. Manager, 39, Perham-road, London, W.

WANTED, Known, F. Watson, Stage Manager, Disengaged shortly, Variety preferred. Good offers invited; 13 years' experience. Address, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, Situation as Assistant-Manager, Doorsman, or any position of trust, at a Pier or Pavilion at the Seaside, by a smart, gentlemanly man, used to the business; excellent references. Alpha, 8, Scarsdale-terrace, Kensington, W.

WANTED, by Smart Working Manager, a Change; 17 years' experience in good fully licensed Dramatic and Variety Houses. Up-to-date in Dramatic and Variety Bookings. Expert advertiser, control bars, staff, &c. Manager, 66, Ohney-road, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, by T. W. Artley, late Manager Crown Pictures, Newcastle, similar position, Assistant-Manager or Lecturer; fluent speaker and practical. 80, Stone-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, well-known Provincial Actor, open to invest any sound concern, Theatre or West End Tour. Communications strictly confidential. Box 7,800, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, John Gill, the Working Advance Agent, Liberty now and autumn; good references. 16, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Foreman Billposter, Position take charge Branch, London and Provincial experience; excellent refs. Box 7,754, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Working Electrician, up to every description Theatrical Work, also Cinematograph Operator, Disengaged. Reference from County Council. Dento, 205, Victoria-street, Westminster.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED for Autumn Tour, commencing July 30, a competent Conductor. Apply by letter, enclosing photo., stating experience, references, and lowest terms, Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, W.

WANTED, Principal Cornet, first-class Variety Theatre, good opening for first-class man.
Apply, with testimonials,
Box 7,812, "The Era."

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, Shares, weekly subsidy from Corporation, good business; comfortable shop. Hosking, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Cornet Player, must be good, Band Royal Marines, Chatham Division. Apply sharp, Mr. C. Hoby, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet Player, for a good Line Regiment at home, excellent opportunity for good man, age between 20 and 25.
Apply at once to
No. 133, c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street,
Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, good Third Clarionet, Municipal Military Band, June 20 to Sept. 18, at Winter Gardens. Terms, references, to Mr. E. Holland, 44, Salisbury-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, good Bassoon for Amateur Orchestra, London; also French Horn and Tenor Trombone; work found; residents in or near London preferred. Apply, stating age (must be under 35 years) and qualifications, to Box 7,796, "The Era."

WANTED, good Bombardon Player or Side Drummer, as an Attendant in a County Asylum; salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found, single man. Apply, with copies of testimonials, to
Grainger, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Euphonium, at Once, for Pitching. Terms, shares. B. M., 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, good experienced French Hornist; must be reliable in all particulars; Seaside Engagement till beginning of Oct. Box 7,810, "The Era."

WANTED, Violoncello, in Orchestra, experienced; ten weeks, commence July 4.
Three Concerts Daily (one Sundays).
Seaside Pavilion, East Coast. Particulars, age, terms, &c., Box 7,814, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Flute and Piccolo, for season Engagement, thoroughly competent soloist essential. Apply, Henderson, 18, Sefton-street, Southport.

WANTED, Young Gentleman Pianist, used to Al-Fresco. State age, particulars, letter only. Farley Maple, 55, Hunter-st., Bloomsbury, W.C.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, COLNEY HATCH, NEW SOUTHGATE, N.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, must be good performers on the Euphonium and Bombardon. Candidates must be single, aged 22 to 35 years; salary £31 a year for first six months, then, if satisfactory, rising to £33 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; after 12 months' service (from date of confirmation) the wages rise by £1 a year to £43 a year. Special payments for band practices and performances. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Daily leave (subject to convenience of service), 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Weekly leave one whole day and one half-day per week. Annual leave, for first fifteen months (after nine months' service), 6 days; the following 12 months, 12 days; each successive 12 months, 14 days. Forms of application can be obtained from the Medical Superintendent, Colney Hatch Asylum, New Southgate, N.

TENDERS.
GRAND CONSERVATIVE FETE,
ERLEIGH COURT, READING.
AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.
WANTED, Tenders for Band of about thirty performers; also for the Right of
ROUNDABOUTS AND SIDE SHOWS.
W. J. Monger, Hon. Sec.,
99, Wokingham-road, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Lady Musicians, for Ladies' Orchestra (those able to do turn preferred) for long Irish Tour, commencing Aug. 15.
References, terms, photo to
Dr. Ormonde, 3, Cathedral-ter., Armagh, Ireland.

WANTED, Leader and every instrument, for String Band (flat pitch), principal Soloists, June 21 to Sept. 30, Hamburg, double-handed preferred, trial expected London; thoroughly experienced, smart musicians (absolutely useless otherwise). Send details, lowest, Director, 92, West End-lane, London, N.W.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, tenting, Ireland, Good Musicians, must be steady.
Duffy, Cappawhite, Limerick.

WANTED, good Leader, Violins, 'Cello, Clarionet, Flute, Bass, Cornets, Trombone, used to Variety. Alberto Solloway's Orchestras, 26, Dynevor-road, London.

WANTED, Instrumentalists for Summer Season, at Ilfracombe and Burnham, Orchestral Bands. State terms and references; open July 11 and 18. Ford, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First Horn, Bassoon, B Flat Clarionets (double handed preferred), July 4, 8 or 10 weeks. Age, terms, refs., BELLERBY, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Conductor (à la Continental) or Leader, Seaside Engagement. Photo, refs. C., 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor, Pianist-Conductor or Violin, any business, open immediately. CONDUCTOR, 391D, Mile End-rd., London.

WANTED, by experienced Conductor, Engagement in a First-class Music Hall, used to Lightning Programme, London or Suburbs preferred. Box 7,788, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Sydney Davies, smart and thoroughly up-to-date conductor (violin), any business, highest refs. Finish to-night 4½ years Ipswich Hippo. Previous, Palace, Derby; Palace, Dudley; Hippo., Coventry; Palace, Cork. Wire, 12, Providence-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Harry Petersen, late Conductor, 6½ years, Palace, Walthamstow, open for engagements, Conductor or Piano-Conductor. 75, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, smart Conductor, Leader, or First Violin, Disengaged; extensive library; highest references. WILFRED BALL, 50, Tunnel-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Mus.-Dir., Moss and Stoll Empires, at Liberty to receive first-class offers; highest references; complete library. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director, First or Second Violin, any business. A. KID, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, by Musical-Director, Violinist, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer Engagement; can supply band. CONDUCTOR, 6, Wendel-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Beatrice Westall, First Violin and Viola, Disengaged. 48, Montpelier-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, any business; good refs. CHENEY, Royal County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, through Hippodrome closing, position as Leader or First Violin. Steady and reliable. J. MARSH, 7, Garthland-lane, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagement by Competent Violinist as Leader, First Violin or Second. Theatre, Variety, or any Business. Also First-class Pianist. Both at Liberty through closing. F. H. BRIDGWATER, Drews Holloway, Halesowen, near Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, experienced and reliable. Excellent references. Any business. TAYLOR, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, an Engagement as Leader or First Violin; thoroughly experienced and reliable; can open at once. HEAP, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by experienced First Violinist, Re-engagement, open Monday, anywhere; abstainer; good refs. PHIPPS, c/o Clements, 176, Gt. George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, Seaside or London. Steady and reliable. Excellent refs. A. SHIPMAN, 91A, St. Martin's-lane, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, Liberty June 6, distance no object; experienced all lines; abstainer. HENDERSON, 77, St. George's-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, any business; can open at once. THOMAS PASS, 5, Baker-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, Young, Experienced. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola, any business. KIRKMAN, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Violinist, through closing. J. H. DIXON, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Violin; would accept tour. Apply, V. R. CHALDER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by steady Violinist, First or Répétiteur, any business, first-class refs.; Dis. through closing. VIOLINIST, 25, Messenger-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ida Angless, Solo and Orchestral Cornet, Disengaged. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, reliable Cornet, Disengaged, also French Horn and 'Cello; London only. CORNET, 30, Coronation-buildings, South Lambeth-road, Vauxhall.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, First or Second, experienced, any business; can open at once. ROBSON, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Cornet, as First or Second, any business. G. TURNIDGE, 31, Portland-street, Stepney, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, any business, sober, reliable, good references, or can supply good Brass Band, any number; splendid uniforms, good répertoire. HIRST, Bandmaster, 54, Waterworks-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experienced any business, First or Second. LONG, 15, Anley-road, W. Kensington; Monday, Tunn-street, Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet. Steady, Reliable, any business. Excellent refs. H. WILSON, c/o G.P.O., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet Player, any business. Good references. Start any time. J. STEAD, 2, Wellcroft-place, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet; Vacant through closing. Wire, CORNET, Hippodrome, Norwich. After to-night, 9, Belhaven-street, Grove-road, London, E.

WANTED, an Engagement as a Brilliant First-class Cornet Soloist and Trumpet; late Soloist Crystal Palace, Queen's Hall. Can commence at once, Seaside or Town, Military or Orchestral. Wire or write, SOLOIST, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornetist; any Business; strictly attentive and reliable; young. J. H. FOXHALL, 28, Pwllgwaun-road, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lizzie Hepper, Clarionet and Mando.ine Soloist, thoroughly experienced, Disengaged. Note change of address, 129, Mirabel-road, Fulham.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement as B Flat Clarionet Player, Second or Third. SANDISON, 89, Elmhurst-mansions, Edgeley-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, through closing, by good Clarionet, sober and reliable, any business; good refs. J. MAYO, 48, Claret-street, Accrington, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, thoroughly experienced, Military or Orchestral. Sober and reliable; good refs. FRED MATTHEWS, Leicester-road, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Willie Matthews, Princ. Clarionet, Austrian Band, Folkestone, Spa, Whitby, &c.; open for Summer Season. MATTHEWS, Bandmaster, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, experienced and competent, and up to the business. JOE HEATH, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Double Bass, is at Liberty to accept Engagements, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Miss Mabel Curtis, Contra Bass, Summer Season, concluded ten months' eng.; experienced. Per., 64, Rice-lane, Egremont, Cheshire.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, any business, disengaged through closing; good refs. T. HOPKINS, Upper-street, Fleet, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, town or country. Address, BASSO, 42, Hereward-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Bassoon Player would join good-class Territorial Band; wants Sunday work. G. M. WRIGHT, 15, Bloom-gr., W. Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement by thoroughly experienced Contra Bassist, at Liberty June 12; highest references. Address, WILL DARLEY, Promenade Concerts, Birmingham.

WANTED, by First-class Bassoonist, Summer or Permanent Engagement. Apply, MARTIN, 14, Middle-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Double Bass, Engagement, steady, reliable, good refs.; can open at once. H. HARE, 43, Great Western-st., Moss-side, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, experienced, any business; sea trip not objected to. DICKEN, Parker's-terrace, Basford, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by experienced Double Bass. References. W. SMITH, c/o P.O., Potterne, Devizes.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, all-round Experience, thoroughly reliable. Open to accept engagement at once. R. B., 19 The Green, Richmond-on-Thames.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Experienced Trombonist, through closing, Orchestra or Military. Wire or write, J. GREENDALE, 92, Chapel Field-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty, any business, good refs. W. CLIMER, 4, Commercial-road, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombone, any business; excellent references. Address, TROMBONE, 28, York-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, At Liberty June 6. BEN HENDEN, 56, Leighton-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by Charles Banwell, Trombone, any business. Abstainer, strictly attentive to business. London experience. 76, Miskin-road, Tonypandy, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombone, Military or Orchestral; good refs. T. S., 16, Rosemount-place, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Solo Trombone, at Liberty. Address, TROMBONIST, 83, Northcote-avenue, Southall.

WANTED, by Solo Euphonium or Trombone, Engagement. Experienced, excellent refs. Write or wire, EUPHO. and TROM., 46, Gladstone-street, London-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, any business; can open at once. CHAS. GRICE, c/o Wilson, Theatre-buildings, Kirkcaldy, N.B.

WANTED, by good Euphonium, Engagement, any business, thoroughly experienced, reliable; sober; good refs. JOHN STONE, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by E Flat Bombardon, first-class experience. BOMBARDON, 24, Hoxton-road, Torquay.

WANTED, by good Bombardon, Liberty June 11; good ref. BARBER, 25, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any Business. F. H., 16, Victoria-grove, Kensington, W.

WANTED, an Engagement as 'Celloist, Theatre or Variety Business. Good refs. Thoroughly experienced. Box 7,801, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement on Deputising, any business or solo. Age 30, good refs. Would combine Clarionet. SORTIN, 65, Torren's-building, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, Disengaged; experienced; good references. Address, 'CELLO, 37, Cobbold-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, Theatre, Varieties, Seaside or Deputising, at Lib. June 13, through closing. Address, GEO. LITTLEWOOD, Palace Orchestra, Reading.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Viola, Second Violin, in Ladies' Orchestra. Box 7,791, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements as Viola or Piano, Second Violin, at Liberty through closing, any business. J. BROWN, Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Oboe. G. W. WEBB, 50, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Disengaged through Theatre closing, Engagement; experienced in all lines. J. WRIGHT, 18, Windsor-st., Hanley.

WANTED, by First-class Oboe, Re-engagement. Could combine Violin. Address, ZELL, 38, Ouseley-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Solo Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty during summer months as deputy, for any period.

Box 7803, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, well-known Solo Flute and Piccolo, high-class Orchestral or Military, French pitch instruments, genuine performer, reliable; reasons for advertising. Box 7799, "The Era."

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Orchestra or Military; thoroughly experienced; sober and reliable. CULLEN, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Flautist, through closing of Theatre, Engagement, good Piccolo Soloist. FLAUTIST, 93, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham Common.

WANTED, by Flute and Clarionet, Engagement, together or separate. Experienced. Any business; good refs. ROMEREL, 33, Mimosa-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, terminating twelfth season Royal, Bedford, June 4; excellent references. D. NEEDHAM, 76, Marlborough-road, Bedford.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Pictures, Variety; experienced accompanist. PIANIST, 28, Glenfield-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Fanny Grossman, Pianist. Thanks for offers; engaged Japan-British Exhibition. Coms., perm. address, 355, High-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Known, Lady (young), brilliant pianist, singer, and accompanist, excellent reader. Disengaged. Summer. Miss THISTLEWOOD, 91, Ryland-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by Smart Young Lady Pianist. Accompanist to professional or orchestra. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, by Brilliant Solo Pianist and Accompanist, Seaside Engagement, Concert Orchestra, or First-class Concert Party; last season New Spa, Bridlington. Address, A., 50, Wiltshire-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, Orchestral Pianist and Double Bass; good references. CLARK, 23, Lebanon-road, Croydon. 'Phone 835 P.O., Croydon.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Concert Engagements, London district. Agents offered 10 per cent. commission for engagement. SAUNDERS, 32, Maldon-road, Acton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist, seaside preferred. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel Soloist or Xylophone. The best references. Box 7,785, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E. Holland, Conductor Municipal Orchestra, Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth, wishes to recommend an excellent Pianist, Disengaged June 20.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Al-fresco or any Business; Refined Songs at the Piano; at Lib. 13th. BERT BEATTIE, 35, Hanover-square, Bradford.

WANTED, by the Weston-super-Mare Town Band, young, reliable, experienced Double Drummer, all effects. State lowest terms. W. PFAFF, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Re-engagement, through Rink Closing, as Double Drums and Effects. Good references and total abstainer. R. E. MURPHY, 2, Dunkirk-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, Tymps., with effects, at Liberty through closing, any business. E. CLOUGH, Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged for Short Season through closing Tymps. and Drums; any business; highest references. EVANS, 63, Seaford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Engagement, Drummer, any Business; excellent refs.; out through closing. Write or wire, ADES, 57, Brookfield-road, Kingston, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, thoroughly experienced, any business. Attentive and reliable. DRUMS, 162, Great Knollys-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Double Drums and Effects, own Tympani. DRUMS, 5, Beardell-street, Upper Norwood, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drums and Effects. Liberty now or season. Experienced, sober, reliable. Any business. 27, Towson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.

WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., now at Exeter and Exmouth, and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame MANTON-MYATT,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements for Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Summer. Great success New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth (nine consecutive seasons). Smart Costumes, up-to-date Répertoire. 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Good Agents for the English tour of the Italian Royal Piedmont Hussars, Military Band and Orchestra. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, R. P. H. Banda-Orchestra, Valenza (Torino), Italy.

WANTED, Engagement, by the White Rose Ladies' Orchestra. Particulars. KENT, 23, Moring-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement for Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette, Les Dames Blanches (violins, 'cello, piano), Leader, Medallist R.A.M., R.C.M., extensive répertoire. 88 Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Orchestra or Trio. For terms and vacant dates, apply Mme. SILVESTRE, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagements for Wilson's Famous Military and String Bands. Handsome Uniform, latest music, seaside, exhibitions, &c. Write for booklet. J. WILSON, Bandmaster, Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars, 40, Outram-road, Alexandra Park, London, N.

WANTED, Shops for J. Guy's Imperial Military Bands, Smart Uniforms, Classical Rep. Terms low. 99 Ashley-street, Birmingham. Engaged for Merton Rink again next season.

WANTED, Known, First-class Band, at Liberty through closing, splendid uniforms, military or string, up to date répertoire, any business, special Rink Combination, any number of performers. DIRECTOR, 58, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Short Season Engagement, by small Brass or Military Band, just finishing nine months' engagement at Clifton; booked for re-opening Sept. Smart Uniform, good Library; first-class testimonials. W. DURRANT, Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, by the Royal Bohemian Band, six, to any number, Exhibitions, Theatres, Pictures, &c. Uniforms or evening dress. 17, Rodney-street, Wigan.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Bersaglieri's Band; short or long period. Particulars, terms, apply, BANDMASTER, 74, Florence-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Orchestral Band, eight to twelve performers, any business, vacant June 18. Apply, FRED MANN, 60, Falkner-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestra of Eight or upwards; good library, any business. Liberty Monday. F. DRAKE, 3, William-street, Rugby.

WANTED, commence at once, Engagement for Band of six or more, expert musicians, splendid Répertoire. Apply, S. TYAS, M.-D., Primrose Hill, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, Instrumental Trio, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano, Solo Artists, Disengaged July 30; can also include Songs, Duets, Recitations in Programme, or could supply small Band, Pier, Hotel, Pavilion, or Concert Party; excellent Press Notices and references. A. B., 11, Lancaster-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, small Orchestral Band (five performers), Disengaged June 11; open for Engagement. Apply, GREGORY, Rink, Doncaster.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
Summer Season.

WANTED, Water Novelties, High Divers and Swimmers, good Equestrian Act and Animal Shows.
Say where can be seen and actual lowest terms.
GEO. ZALVA,
Clydesdale, 29, Villa-road, Brixton, S.W.
Seen by appointment only.

WANTED, Circus Artists, all Lines, good Aerial or Ground Acts. Also Two Ladies, to work songs and dances. Double turns preferred. No fancy salary. Address, CIRCUS MANAGER, c/o Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, for Alexandra's Circus, Tenting. Good Novelty Act, with Drawing Power; also Useful Circus Artists, a good Stud Groom (single man); can commence at once. Address, D. TAYLOR, JUN., Circus, Sat., Altrincham, Cheshire; Mon., Earlstown, Lancs.; Tues., Ormskirk, Lanca

WANTED, for Duff's Circus, tenting, Ireland, good Novelty Acts. Five months' Tour. DUFFY, Circus, Cappawhite, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, at Once, for Travelling Circus, two Barebacked Horse Riders and Clever Artists. Apply, RINTOUL, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Cirque Pinder, France, a few good steady grooms to start at once. Address, June 5, 6, St. Etienne; 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, Clermont, Ferrand, France.

WANTED, for World-renowned Family producing Sensational Novelty, Ladies, Tumblers (Flips, &c.), Bearers, and Contortionists; comfortable engagement and home. Full particulars first instance, Box 7,809, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bearer (Amateur with capital), to join Acrobat or Troupe.
Smart, young, single; premium or partner.
Address,
HECTOR, 48, Haymarket, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.

WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

EMPIRE THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for Tops and Bottoms of Bills, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12. All must be free from Bar of Mr. Stoll's Manchester Houses. No stamps or telegrams.
Silence a polite negative.
Letters only containing lowest terms.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
MANAGER, as above.

THE EMPIRE ELECTRIC T., NUNEATON.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 20, 27, and July 4. Full particulars address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Those unknown to me can arrange trial near Manchester. W. LOVELL HURT, Churchgate House, Stockport.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE,
DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 6 and onward.
Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WANTED, Monday, June 20, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for Tour, Little Rose Pink and Karl Cyniski write. LEO ROMBERG, General Post Office, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists all Lines,
Wanted, Artists all Lines,
Wanted, Artists all Lines,
Wanted, Artists all Lines,
especially big Comedy Acts,
Worcester, June 13,
Swindon, June 20;
must be absolutely new for towns mentioned.

Comfortable Engagements.
Sure Money. No Commission.

Lowest combination terms, &c.

THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Empire, Middlesbrough.

Please accept silence as a polite negative in all cases.

Impossible to answer all.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 13, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to send full list of Bookings. Suitable turns can have tour arranged in Scotland, also North of England. Wire "Contracts, Greenock"; 'Phone 800. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, June 6, onwards. Good Sisters write, and Doubles doing Singles. Letters, R. FORDHAM, Birmingham and District Variety Agency, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines, also Bioscope, for Farnworth, June 27. Absolute lowest combination terms to LI-CHANG-HI, Victoria Theatre, Kettering.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, specially Big Comedy Acts. Nothing too Big for immediate Dates. Full particulars, list of bookings in first instance. Contracts waiting for Zenary Bros. Elmo and Rego communicate.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, immediate and future dates. Quote lowest.
BOWMAKER, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, for Chappell's Concerts, Great Yarmouth, Refined Artists, all Lines, one to fourteen weeks to suitable people. Terms, vacancies, permanent address, HARRY BARKER, General-Manager, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth. Good Baritone and Vent. (Versatile) write for Season.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 13, on. 14, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

GRAND PIER PAVILION, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

WANTED, Star Artists, for Matinées only, July and Aug. For vacant dates and terms apply J. H. STEVENSON, General-Manager.

CADLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, for June 13 and onward, Stars in all Lines,
Stars in all Lines,
CADLE'S Agency,
106-106, Strand, London, W.C.

Syndicate Halls.
Syndicate Halls.

WANTED, Original Turns who have not appeared at above. Send bookings, lowest terms, particulars, &c. (no callers),
WARREN AGENCY,
21, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Turns for Leigh, Lancashire, for week commencing June 20.
Artists holding dates at Bolton or Wigan are barred at Leigh.
Send absolute lowest terms to
TOM DAVIES,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

TIVOLI, ABERDEEN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions of every description, for July 18 and onwards.
Apply to THE VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, LTD. (DE FRECE'S), 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
Sole Booking Agents.

WANTED, immediately, clever, up-to-date Comedy Musical Act. Sensational Novelties, Dancers, and other Front Cloth Acts; only recognised performers of reliability need apply; long pleasant season's Combinations if entirely satisfactory. State everything first letter, lowest summer salary, programmes, photos., full particulars; no time for useless correspondence. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Manager Great Raymond Company, Salford Hippodrome, Manchester; next week, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

STAR PALACE. STAR PALACE,
BRIDGETON, PARTICK,
GLASGOW.

WANTED, the Greatest Acts in Variety, for Immediate and Future Dates. Two weeks, Glasgow, for the Right Numbers. Money no object for First-class Acts in all Lines. Agents send lists. Nothing too big, nothing too small Send Lithos, &c., to GUSS LAZENBERG, Star Palace, Bridgeton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Turns of Every Description for

THE HIPPODROME, HULL.

Immediate Vacancies for Tops of Bills.
The Bigger the Better.
Share or Certainty.
Also vacancies for June 13, 20, 27, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Acts and Specialities.

Write, with lowest terms, to
WALTER BENTLEY, 168, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, really funny Acts, big Specialities, Sensational Novelties, Spectacular Productions, Pantomimical Sketches with Trick Scenery, anything of a Novel character, for June 13, 27, onward. Address, lowest terms, samples of printing, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Big Acts of all Descriptions. Lowest terms, bookings, and vacancies. No callers. MOORE and BURTZ, 12, Adam-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Big Acts, shares or certainty, Empire, Dudley, immediate and future dates. BOWMAKER, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Comedy Act, Three Days, Northampton, Aug. 1, twice daily. Particulars, MCASKELL'S Agency, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Speciality Acts new to West Stanley. Send vacancies, lowest terms, and permanent. STEVE SMITH'S Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, on Share or Salary, for June 13, 20, 27.
Artists all Lines, for North and Midlands.
Van Biene please wire.
CLIQUOT'S Theatrical Agency,
9, Monton-st., Denmark-rd., Manchester.

NEW HIPPODROME, NORTHWICH.
HIPPODROME, CONNAH'S QUAY and SHOTTON.
NEW HIPPODROME, ROCK FERRY.
VAUDEVILLE PALACE, BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, Sept., onwards, for Opening, Comedy, Musical and Vocal Specialities; suitable acts can have five consecutive weeks if terms reasonable. Silence a polite negative, pro tem. Address, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, good Specialities all Lines, new to Jarrow and Ashington.
All coms.,
LAMB, Buffalo Palace, Ashington.

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy Acts, or anything with good drawing powers; refined. Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, for one day, Gala, Aug. 20, 1910.
Big Sensational Novelty.

DALTON'S Agency,
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Top Liners, for Continent. Sole Continental Agency only entertained.
SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

Also Star Acts for Britain.
Are you vacant for Panto. 1910-11?
Then, see Panto. "Artists Wanted" Column.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.

WANTED, the Biggest Top-liners, Artists all Lines. First-class Principal Boys, Comedians, Fairy Queen, Knockabouts, Acrobats, for Pantomimes (12 weeks). State where to be seen. Two-act People for Galas, Aug. 1 week. Acts for Pavilion, Wolverhampton, 13th, on. Several dates for First-class Combinations. Bookings and photos. Particulars, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, big Top, June 20, big Sketch or Comedy Team preferred.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone 1686 Royal.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, now and onwards.
HARRY TAFT, Chatham. June 6, Exeter.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Worcester, June 27, Comedians, Comedienne, Serio, Double Patter turns for Combination. No commision. Turns known to us apply.

FIVE WHITELEYS,
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, immediately, clever Lady Amateur, to Star in Musical Speciality, splendid opportunity, premium £25; good salary. Box 7,806, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Gymnast, also Apprentice, height 5ft. 5in. First-class situation. Apply, 95, Vassall-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Funny Comedian, to Sing, Dance, and Patter, for Double Act. All communications to COMEDIAN, 40, Robert-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Comic Singer, play Sketches, make himself useful for Picture Show.
KRISS, G.P.O., Fraserburgh, N.B.

WANTED, Young Man for Comedy Three Bar Act. State what you can do and lowest salary. GYMNAST, c/o 24, Regent-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Two or Three Coloured Men to Walk On, Music Hall Sketch, and be generally useful. Letters only. FRANK HARDIE, 18, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton.

WANTED, Troupe Lady Swimmers, with own Tank. Can offer six weeks or more.
LESLIE Agency, 23, King's-terrace, Southsea.

WANTED, Lecturer, for Picture Hall, one who can give good descriptive lectures and be generally useful. Experience and lowest for permanency. Box 7,793, "The Era."

WANTED, Operator, with own machine preferred, open Monday, June 6, if at Liberty HARRY HARRYSS, Manager, Hippo., Swadlincote Burton-on-Trent.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Company, thanks E. H Bostock, Esq., for further offers; also T. C. Rawes Esq., for offer. Vacant July 4 and 11. To-day Royal, Stockport. Next, Hippo., Paisley.

WANTED, June 13, 20, 27, all July, Babs Lloyd Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Empire, York; next, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.

WANTED, by Lucretia and Josephine, Sisters, June 13 and 20, through barring; Harmonising Duettists and Artistic Dancers; a refined and clever Turn; a sure success. Best Halls booked. Panto. settled. Monday, Picturedrome, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in Themselves. A Hit Everywhere. Address, June 6, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, 13th, 27th, on, exceptions. Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Extraordinary Pictures (Whitehaven Disaster), Hippo., Wallsend-on-Tyne; next, Pavilion, Ashington.

WANTED, by Eileen and May (Sisters), Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers, June 13, 27. Palace, Jarrow.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, June 20, July 11, 25, Oct. 3 10. Address Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

WANTED, E. Lucknow, Anglo-Continental Comedy, Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty June 6, 20. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W. C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Yvette Guilbert, Happy Fanny Fields, Henri Leoni, Campbell and Barber, Perezoffs, Miller Bros., Barrett and Knowles, Hardinis, Avolos, Bioscope, Raymond Phillips' Airship

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Lew Lake and Co., in "King Nobbler," Fred Earle, Fielding and Hull, Tate and Tate, Florence Yaymen, Five Vernons, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, H. O. Wills, Bert Coote and Co., in "A Lamb on Wall-street."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Brull and Hemsley, Woodhouse and Wells, Twelve Fezzans, Harry Blake, Lulu Russel, Bioscope, "Songland," Horace Hunter and Co., W. F. Frame, Harry Jolson.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Johnny Walker, Roma and Romani, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Hall and Earle, May Henderson, Bioscope, Mitchell and Cain.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for summer vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Hetty King, Bioscope, Bertha Winder, Rich Taylor, Gustave Fasola, Bob Pender, Willie Walker, Kerr and Koe, Syd Walker, Alexandra Dagmar.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Girard and Gardner, Johnny Fuller, Rossi Ashton, Walter Bird's company, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Ellis Barrieton, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Billy Merson.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Chang Ling Soo, Little Keeno, Roze and Calvert, Francoli Troupe, May Mars, Devon and Earle, Sisters Tower, Bioscope, Hubert Carter, Gothams.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Edward Marris' Stock Company.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Jock Mills, Broughton and Creedon, Kirbys, Walter Munroe, Bert Williams, Marconis, Bioscope, John Humphries, Cressie Leonard.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Anna Chandler, Eighteen Lancashire Singers, Amy Maraden, Lux's Dogs, Tom Leamore, Three Laurels, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Tom and Marie Motramo, Ben Albert.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Marie Lloyd, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Bros. Durant, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Findens, Bioscope, Vesta and Minnie Pine, G. H. Elliott.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

A. Hughes & Co., Olga, Elgar, & Eli Hudson, Mildred Bryan, Lydia and Ameiys, Marco Belli, George Rae, "Little Stowaway," Harry Marte, Bioscope, Kratons.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Darnley's company, including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Pete and Minnie Lee, Pat Rafferty, Villions, Elton and Edwin, Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, Bioscope, Ted and May Hopkins, Bert Harrow, Duncan's Dogs, McGregors, Lillian, Alexandre and Hughes, Winifred Ward, Frank Couch.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Poluskis, Bert Weston, Glenroy Troupe, Hilda Jacobsen, Staig's Steeplejacks, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Bioscope, Two Anartos.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Geo. Ali and Co., Clarice Mayne, Bros. Bright, Peggy Pryde, Will Poluski, jun., Three Merrills, Frank Lynne, Two St. Johns, Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Ada Colley, Harry Ford.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Stock Company, "Held by the Enemy."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Co., Pictures, and Illustrated Song.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Courtice Pounds, New Macs, Harry Freeman, Andos Japs, Smite and Smote, Claire Romaine, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Helen Donald, Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Fragson, D'Arcs Marionettes, Siems, Abdullah Arabs, Edward Davies, Dion Wade, Vera Elmore, Bioscope, Serene Nord, Laurie's Juveniles, Chanti.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co., Alice Maydue, Chas. J. Johnson, Holden's Mannikins, Harry Herbert, Conan and Doyle, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Carmos, Wilson and Waring.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ernest Shand, Takio, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Manchester Mites, Herbert Shelley, Smythsons, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Humpsti-Bumsti.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Delomes, Tom Davies' Trio, Esta Stella, La Freya, Luis Alvarez, Lily Flexmore, Bioscope, Harry Lamore, Jack Pleasants.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Marie Kendall, Chas. Norton, Tom E. Hughes, Bessie Butt, Stanley and Greenop, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's company, in "The Organ Grinder."

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mike Whallen, Sybil St. Elmo, Phillips and Merritt, My Fancy, Orpheus, Little Ganty, Arthur Slater, Frank Cass, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and company, in "Drummed Out," Gardner and Stoddard.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, George French, Bioscope, Lillie Lassah, Conn and Conrad, Victor Widdicombe and Co., Quaint Q.'s, Chas. Fisher's "Vocalesques," Alf. Agoust, Cumminger and Colona, George Leyton and Co., in "The Roll Call."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Irma Lorraine, Van Biene and Co., Billy Hobbs, Hans and Lux, Walter King, Amelie de L'Enclos, Rhoda Paul, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Heeley and Meeley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mark Sheridan, Falco and Eida, Dot Stephens, Selkirk's Boy Scouts, Bros. Redmond, Wyndham and Kitty, Mandie Francis, Bioscope, Oswald Williams, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Great Lafayette, Haytors, Bioscope, Mezzettis, Nina Wood, Harry Leybourne, Sanford and Lyons.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Lashwood, Nellie Wigley, Tom Stuart, Rauschle, Fatmah Diard, Channings, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Charburn's Young Stars, Illustrated Song, Cull Pitt, Naughton and Gold, Jennie Hartley, Maxey and Pete, Pictures, Robins and Collier Trio, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Maidie Scott, Phil Parsons, Ted E. Box, Carl Howard, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Tiller's Co., "In Japan," Matthews and Mann, Baby's Park Parade, Eight New Cocktails, Mystic Hussars, Friesland Serenaders, Twelve Forget-me-nots, Brennans, Wish Wynne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mooney and Holbein, Aida Martine, Neville Delmar, Andy Burn, Frank and Free, Mlle. Yetta, Pictures, Delevines, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alice Raymond and Players, Edna Deno, Tom Moore, Jackley Trio, Emma Don and Co., Pictures, Spry and Monti, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"GIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9157 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JUNE 6.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
T. Elder Hearn, Reid and Power, Addie Dorina, Lily Edwardes, Kitty Clinton, Palace Perfection Pictures, Gaston Chevallier and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Carlton, Kate Traill, The Belmonts, "The Circus," Bert Crosbie, The Fitzroys, Mysterious Cross, Joe Belmont, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Jeff Martin, The Sages, Le Hurst, Sim Moree, Burdetter Brothers, Mamie Morris, George Belmont, Reg. Ewen, Bardoff, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Valenche's Dogs, Three Alskarnos, George Acre, Oliver Martyn, Eight College Girls, Chas. Erard, Barnes and West, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Carl Lynn, Pictures, Leonard and Vereker, Emmie Ames, "Telephone Tragedy," Leon and Lee, Harry Bancroft, Kitty Correlli, Fyne and Wood, Fred Moule and Co.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Helen Martin, Ross and Grayson, "For Honour," Harry Hunter, "The Dead Beat," Josephine Crook, Lomas Duo, Sisters Edwards, Viviana and Co., Gyp Hodgson, Eric and Nora.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
"The Yellow Fang," Harry Keeble, Harold Heath, Reed and Stevens, Leolin, Jeannie Haven, Adolf Beck Pictures, Brothers Hannaway, Milner and Storey.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Haines and Borthwick, Ward and Davis, Zenora, Dorothy Vasey, Dancing Gilberts, George Lawrence, Eight Lancashire Lads, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Barrington, Arthur F. Ward, Ruth Molloy, The Rosses, Gladys Wyse, George Harris, The Miltons, Bartholomew Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Judith."

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
Comedy Meisters, Flo Burnett.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Dr. Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, Ena Compton, Madison and Webb, John Macauley, Peter Bermingham, "Roots, Rash Chemist," Cassie Walmer, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Marie Santoi and Co., Blanche Marion, Mack Ollive, Arthur Stacey, Dan Fraser, Shirley and Ransome, Pick of the Picture World, Joe Varley.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Gilbert Heron and Co., J. J. Mannix, Myrtle Grove, Musical Keiths, The Days, Roberta Svendsen, Vesta Nixon, Enzer and Clarice, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Williams's Jubilee Singers, Charles Vincent, Three Van Dammes, Canard, Dene and Dixon, Maude Vera, Chas. Woodward, Sisters Maynard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Harry Roxbury's Co., Alice Craven, Les Arabellas, Dolly Ross, Leo and Roland, Tate's "Motoring" Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Florrie Forde, Clarke and Mostol, Zellini, Norah Desmond, Josh Dixon, Harry Martell, Cairo Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Dan Hendy, Arthur Clifton, Jessie Wilton, Irene Meldon, Edith Lewis and Company, Lottie Watts, Will H. Fox, Monie Mine, Runaway Girls.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Chris Baker, Mabel Florence, Kitts and Windrum, Empire Girls, Julia Reeve, "Secrets of the Past," Bessie Neilson, Ten Juveniles, Susie and Protti, "An Eye for an Eye," Taylor's Dogs.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Rousby and Rene, Royburn and Dix, Henriette and Selina, Tom Garland, "Richelieu's Spy," Professor Anderson, "Drink," May Poulton, Goodall and Co.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.

Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.

POOLE'S THEATRES, LTD.,
Hereby give notice that after July 30, 1910, the Palace, Porth, has been leased to Mr. Will Smithson, of the Empire, Barnsley, and all contracts after that date are cancelled in accordance with the "Award."

(Signed) C. W. POOLE,
Managing-Director, Poole's Theatres, Ltd
Gloucester, May 24, 1910.

PALACE THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
NOTICE is Hereby Given that the above theatre will cease to be in the possession and occupancy of Mr. John Cummings, as and from the first day of August, 1910, and all contracts with variety artists entered into with the said John Cummings are thereby cancelled, as and from the date herein mentioned.—Signed,
June 1, 1910. JOHN CUMMINGS.

MOTOR-CAR (Daimler, 22-28 h.p.), very suitable for Theatrical or Music Hall Artists, having closed carriage with electric light, seat six; also open touring body, in perfect order. Must be sold, a bargain, £150.
Write,
CHAUFFEUR, The Mount, Wargrave, Berks.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.

By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.

The most useful book on the subject published.

Highly Recommended.

Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES

INCLUDING

HAT.

LATEST PATTERN.

Price **14/6**
Postage ... ... **6d.**

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE.

SPARROW & SON

EST. 1765. NOTTINGHAM. TELE. 187.

THEATRICAL DECORATIONS.

FIBROUS PLASTER. ART PAINTINGS.

PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS ARE INVITED TO SEND FOR SKETCHES & ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE PREPARED FREE OF ALL CHARGE.

PRESS COMMENTS on some of the THEATRES, &c., DECORATED by SPARROW & SON.

"One of the most charming theatres in the provinces." "Carried out in admirable taste." "One of the most beautiful concert halls in the world."

"Messrs. Sparrow and Son, of Nottingham, well known for their Theatrical Decorative work carried out the interior Decorations in exquisite style."

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BELFAST.—Comf. rooms, good cooking, bath, piano, 5 min. theatres, good refs. Belvoir-terrace, 8, University-street.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

BRIXTON, S.W.—Effra-road (10), Winchester Lodge. Comfortable apartments (bath, h.c.), good cooking, large garden.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LONDON, S.E.—One or two bed-sitting rooms; also drawing-room. Liberty for Sunday next. Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms vacant; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Bed-sitting room; nice house, near Victoria Station, use piano. 7s. per week. 75, Denbigh-street, S.W.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; terms moderate.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional Apartments. Moderate terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."

PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

REFEREE, May 15 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law" published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

Third Edition. Price ***5/-*** *Post free* ***5/4.***

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.

Price ***3/6.*** *Post free,* ***3/9.***

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Beatrice Bonnie and her Dancers on the Stairaphone. Latest novelty. One lady, three gents. Topping, Winter Gardens, Morecambe. Vacant next two weeks; also Stylo, Expert Juggler.

WANTED, Monday next, by Geo. Bernard, the Actor-Vocalist far above the average. Wire, Black's Palace; or, 4, The Crescent, Gateshead.

WANTED, June 13, 20, 27, by Jammy Shields, the clever one-legged Comedian and Dancer. Address, Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, June 13 and 20, Sam Ello, Comedian and Dancer. D.C. lithos. and photo. frames.

Hippo., Swadlincote, Burton.

WANTED, June 13 and 20. JEAN SEUL, Address, next week, Hippo., Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Tom Verne, the Continental Novelty Skater, vacant June 13 and 20. Best offers. Address, Pavilion, Wishaw, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Harry Kardoc, the World's Greatest Handcuff King and Gaol Breaker. Vacant June 13, on. Sure Draw. (See Card).

WANTED, Known, Manek-Shah Troupe, Indian Illusionists, direct from Bombay. Monday, Hippo., Margate; June 13 and on vacant.

WANTED, Monday, Tommy Ellis, Quaint Comedian; Marion St. John, Vocal Soubrette. Hippo., Rotherhithe (Gibbons). Wire, 145, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; Ada Whitton, Vocalist. Wire, King's Theatre, Edinburgh; after Saturday, 39, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto., by Harry Keebie, Ventriloquist; and Gladys Wells, Contralto. Mon., Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, We are the Original Comedy Duo of the name Ward and Davis (Howard and Louie), not singles. Fifth Successful Year of "Wanted, a Typist." Monday, Palace, Warrington. Vac. June 13.

WANTED, June 13, Stuart and Evans, The Real Comedians. The turn you want. Wire or write, Hippodrome, Aldershot.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Upside Down Boxing Grotesque Comedians. Peals of laughter. Vacant June 13, 20, for galas, picture shows, gardens, or any first-class variety theatre. All coms., Theatre Royal, Thornley, Durham Co.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11, Aug. 1, 8. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, vacant Monday, also June 13. Wire, 248, Brunswick-st., Manchester; after Sunday, 1, Cross-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. This Hippo., Preston. Vac. Monday to save time. Wire, 72, North-road, Preston.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Alex and Jolly, Knockabout Triple Bar Act; The Holmars, Acrobatic Clowns; two acts. 35A, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, June 6, onward, by Rohde and Roche, Chameleon Artist and It, combining Singing, Dancing, Patter, and Comedy Contortion Pot-Pourri Act. Wire, 41, St. Mary's-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act before the Public. London halls. Wire, 66 Somerleyton-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Queen of Contortionists, the lady with a figure, and Comedy Assistant, June 6, 13, onwards. Wire for a success. 25, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, 6, 13, 20, by Atlas and the Beautiful Miss Vulcana's Troupe of Five Champions, including the World-famous Classic Poses of Miss Vulcana. The Originator, and still ahead and out of reach of all others. Conclude Borough, Wallsend, Sunday, on. P.A., The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, greatest of all knockabout trip e bar acts, Liberty June 13. Address, 282, Gt. Colmore-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Benetti and Kellino Trio, Eccentric Risleyists, immediate and future dates. Also Galas. Two distinct Acts. Address, 23, Hercules-road, S.E.

WANTED, June 13, on, the Four Flying Oreniuses, an Aerial Act for Vaudeville or anywhere. June 6, Theatre R., Ilkeston.

WANTED, Known, Walonells and Dog, Comedy Gymnasts, at Liberty June 6 and 13. Wire, Grand Theatre, Gravesend.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Hippodrome, Burslem, Staff. Wanted, smart Youth, Acrobat.

WANTED, a few Odd Dates by Gulliver, Comedy Ventriloquist Speciality. First class act in every respect. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, June 20, July 4, 11, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. Empire, Aberdare.

MISS ELLA'S EDUCATED LION SHOW.
WANTED, Managers to secure this sure draw. Vacant for the months of June, July, and Aug. Offers invited. 18, Gloucester-st., Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual. Stage Set and Costumes A1. Rig Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance. including the High-springing Bok. Address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester

WANTED, Known, Miss Tudora's Ponies, Lib. June 13, break to Dublin; Lib. June 27, prefer Ireland. Smart, refined. All coms., Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur and her Beautiful Troupe of Russian Poodles, great novelty, including champion Challenge Leaping Hounds. Success everywhere. Liberty June 6, 13. Great attraction for Galas, Garden Parties, &c. Thanking Ercole's Agence, Paris, offer Continental tour. Sorry cannot accept, being practically settled for the summer. Coms., Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, by Lorenzo's Marvellous Dogs, Monday and onwards, Halls, Circuses, Pictures, Al Fresco, &c. Sure draw. Permanent address, 5, Union-buildings, Stafford.

WANTED, June 6, 27, by Miss Doris' Troupe of Fox Terriers, the Smartest Act in the World. Halls, Galas. Wire for June 6, 27. Albert T., Brighouse.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act. Free June 13 and some on. Address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester. Big for Pictures and Galas.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy and Champion Somersaulting Cyclists. This, Vic. T., Kettering; vac. 6th, 13th, 20th; good Act for Galas. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-st., Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Swift Duo, a really funny act on Bicycles. Vac. June 13 and 20. Wire or write, Empire, Edmonton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Acrobatic Juggling and Somersaulting Cyclist. Free for few Galas. One or two acts. 106, Bigland-st., Salford.

WANTED, Shop, by a young Trick Cyclist, straight or comedy, can play polo, England or Continent, offers. Box 7,786, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, by Kirk and Saraski, the Girl Aquatic Marvels, June 20 and 27, 1910. The only two vacancies this year. Wire, this Theatre Royal, Dublin; next, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Managers please note, Colley Ashton's Sensational and Mysterious Rope-tying Act, without a rival, direct from the Continent, at Liberty June 6, onwards. Correspondence invited. 30, Farndale-street, York.

WANTED, Known, Comedy Knockabout, Hand Balancer, Hand Jumper, and Strong Gymnast, at Liberty Monday. F. THOMAS, 62, Frithville-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Edward Kroney (of Kroney Bros.), open to join good Juggler, to play Comedy, on Shares; can do bookings. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Operator requires situation, abstainer, good references. Apply, J. SHAW, 3, Fitzwarren-street, Pendleton.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

TO AMUSEMENT CATERERS, PIERROTS, &c.
WANTED, offers from those interested, for the Sole Rights to provide Amusements and Entertainments during the Midlands Aviation Week at Dunstall Park, Wolverhampton, June 27 to July 2, 1910.
Visitors estimated at 300,000.
Tenders at once to Secretary, W. IVY ROGERS, Grand Hotel, Birmingham.

WANTED, Amateurs of Education, Refinement, and Ability, for First-class Concert Party. LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Troupe Pierrots, Six in Number, open June 20, on Shares, must be flip, and produce Concerteds, Sketches, &c. Gold mine for smart boys. FRANK NEWBURY, Empire, Cowdenbeath.

WANTED, Artists High-class Al-fresco, Fresh Town near Manchester; also Lady or Gentleman willing to invest. ELECTRIC ENTERTAINERS, 608, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, Lady and Gentleman Artists in all Lines, also good Ventriloquist. State full particulars, how long, when at liberty, and very lowest terms, in first letter. Photo if possible. Money sure. INCE, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED, four Juveniles (boys), age 16 to 18, to complete Company for Al Fresco, good voices. Apply, with Songs, 12 o'clock, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, First-class Complete Concert Party, June 13, and several other dates. Covered Pavilion, Sydney Gdns., Bath. FREDERICKS, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, by George Casey, Comedian, Summer Shop, 8 years' Al Fresco experience; splendid rép.; funny, refined songs; can open at once. Wire, 21, Auburn-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Phil Durham (the Philosophical Dame), Summer Dates, Comedy and Scotch Songs in Character or otherwise; Speciality if required. 46, Claverton-street, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Pierrot Theatre, Handsome, well-appointed Building, capable of seating 700 to 1,000. Cheshire suburb of Manchester. 25,000 population. Unrivalled opening for Permanent Troupe.

Replies, WHEELER, 45, Deansgate-arcade, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, good Pitch, with Al Fresco, Stage and Dressing-rooms, near London. Apply, ALFRESCO, Poste Restante, Colchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

PIPE ORGANS.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, the Patent Posauto.

Can be played by Hand or Paper Roll.

Unlimited Répertoire.

Impressive and Beautiful Tone.

Full particulars from The POSITIVE ORGAN Co., LTD., 44, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Fairkeepers, Rifle Ranges, Bazaar, Everything for the Fair. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham. Range supplies a speciality. Lists free.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, Sample Lithos. and Post Cards in First Letter.

A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Quick-selling Shop Novelties, and Hire of a number of Mutoscope Machines. Box 7,802, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties in all Lines, for Dr. Ormonde's Great Irish Tour, commencing Aug. 15. References, lowest terms. Dr. ORMONDE, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh, Ireland.

WANTED, for Hancock's World's Fair, Plymouth, to open on June 24, for one, two, or three weeks, a good Aerial Show or a Sensational Act that can be worked on a 25ft. platform, for open-air performances. Will Lorenzo, the Aerial Show; write in? All parties requiring ground for the above apply until Saturday, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fair Ground, Falmouth; Monday, St. Day Scorrier; after, Richmond-walk, Devonport.

WANTED, Auctioneer, also capable man to Assist in Auction Rooms; also Watchmaker; first-class berths.

Box 7,815, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Erinia, the Successful Drawing-room Entertainer, Mandolinist, and Character Reader. At Homes, Bazaars, &c. Box 7,758, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Actress Disengaged, Illusions, &c.; appearance brilliant, pretty dresses. EVE, 120A, Ferndale-road, Clapham.

WANTED, by Handkerchief Embroideress, Engagement, Own Machine. EMBROIDERESS, Box No. 7,803, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Fun City in large Midland town of over 100,000 population, sixty miles from London, in large Skating Rink and land adjoining, for ten weeks certain, opening on the 13th inst., all kinds of

RIDING MACHINES, CAKE WALK, SKELTER, HAUNTED CASTLE, BIOSCOPE,

and other Shows, Games, &c.

Spaces to Let for PALMIST, SIDE SHOW NOVELTIES, and Stalls of every description,

on reasonable Rent or Sharing Terms.

Apply immediately to TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C., for the Promoters.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR JUNE.

ENGLAND.

5. Normanton (12,353)
7. Southrapps (1,800)
9. Prescot (7,500)
10. Bicester (3,023)
11. Cranbrooke (3,949)
11. Haverhill (4,064)
13. Tetney (800)
13. Thorne (Yorks.) (3,708)
15. Lambert Castle
16. Kidderminster (24,700)
17. Taunton (21,078)
18. Astwith (74)
18. Dore and Totley (2,217)
18. Falmouth (11,779)
18. Hardstaff (190)
18. Mexboro' (10,417)
18. Staveley (11,420)
18. Abingdon (6,500)
Chipping Campden (1,700)
20. Coleford (2,541)
20. Maidstone (83,500)
20. Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
21. Cinderford (3,112)
21. Southampton (104,911)
22. Newport Pagnell (4,000)
22. Shipston-on-Stour (1,700)
22. Selby (7,780)
22. Wadebridge (2,300)
24. Andover (6,500)
24. Bromsgrove (8,416)
24. Cambridge (38,939)
24. St. Just (6,000)
24. Willersey (356)
25. Brampton (112)
25. Bridgwater (15,200)
25. Burslem (38,766)
25. Coal Aston (1,000)
25. Duckmanton (525)
25. Dronfield (3,809)
25. Elmton (675)
25. Penistone (3,071)
25. Tibshelf (3,000)
25. Unston (1,810)
25. Winster (844)
25. Yeovil (9,838)
27. Feckenham (4,587)
27. Halifax (104,938)
27. Pershore (3,970)
28. Bolton by Bowland (600)
28. Folkestone (12,093)
28. Inkberrow (1,631)
28. Saltash (2,357)
29. Belper (10,934)
29. Camborne (14,726)
29. Fareham (8,246)
29. Reedham (1,200)
30. Dereham (5,545)

SCOTLAND.

4. Hawick (15,000)
Lanark (6,440)
5. Saltcoats (4,237)
14. Alyth (3,000)
14. Largs (3,550)
17. Selkirk (5,701)
21. Peebles (3,093)
24. Renfrew (10,000)
29. Fraserbargh (8,998)

WALES.

9. Llandovery (1,869)
11. Brynmawr (6,534)
14. Ferndale (10,300)
17. Llangefeloch
17. Usk (1,476)
25. Lydney (4,200)
30. Ton-y-Pandy (6,027)

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, from £10, Season. Houpla, Auctioneer, Palmist, Watchla, Already booked, Juvenile Roundabouts. NIXON'S Waxworks, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Kidwelly, South Wales, Fair Field to Let, low terms, good business. Recent successes: Alexandras, Fossett's Circuses, Haggar's Bioscope, all big. Apply, MORRIS, Cowparks, Kidwelly.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Good Sites for Automatic Machines, both in Building and Outside. Only good machines wanted. Apply, SECRETARY, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Applications invited from Photographers, sole right available. Apply, SEC., Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager, Pal. Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, a Nice One-horse Living Van, every convenience, nearly new. Price £60, or offer. A. RHODES, Mays-lane, High Barnet.

WANTED, to Sell, Sale Van and Tent, &c. Tent can build to hold 600 or 800. Fitted with scenery. Suit pierrots, auctioneering. WHITAKER, 14, Handman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Arctic Railway, Locomotive Engine, splendid running order, 5 carriages, carrying 50 people, 60ft. circular track, sleepers, and effects, to be sold cheap.
Also a good Trumpet Barrel Organ, almost new, suit Roundabout or Cake-Walk. Price £35.
Letters only, T. E. READ, World's Fair, Agricultural Hall, Islington, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Side Show, with Printing. Enormous money-taker. No waiting for audience, new. 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatics, various, bargains, Pianos, Punch Balls (Mills'), Pictures (American), Mutoscopes, American Lifters, Electrics, Phonographs, Motor, alternating and direct, Fortunes, also massive Showman's Brass Pipe and Reed Organ, cost £750, hand wind or electric power; present owner attached penny in slot, ideal instrument for Fair business, Picture Palace, or Skating Rink; all guaranteed. Apply, UNITED SPORTS, 174, High-street, Shoreditch, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, 20 Automatics, various, sacrifice; would let Hire or Rental to responsible person. Box 7,807, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Hindu Spirit Writer, genuine Money Getter. Great Novelty, soiled, 60s.; cost £8. Sure living. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Phonographs, Gramophones, Illustrated Songs, Palm Readers, Fairbank Scales, Mutoscopes, Punch Balls, Lifters, Electric Shock, Fortune Tellers, Mystery, Skill, and other up-to-date automatic machines, in good condition. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, DEAN and STARR, LTD., 199, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, good Working Models, Fortune Tellers. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, OWNER, 16, Coleraine-road, Hornsey.

WANTED, to Sell, Films of the late King's Funeral, 7 copies (Cricks and Martin), 525ft.; 9 copies (Warwick), 868ft., London and Windsor; all despatched on Sunday at 1d. per foot.; 5 copies of the Derby, despatched Thursday, 275ft., 1½d. ft. MAGNET FILM Co., 30, St. Martin's-court, Charing Cross-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Rifle Range, Running Animal Set, 10ft., £6; 6ft., £4., cost double. Motor, 80s., &c. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Purchase, Good Living Waggon (one horse preferred). Must be cheap. Send full particulars. CRAGG, 216, Hainton-avenue, Grimsby.

WANTED, to Purchase, any Novelty, Joint, new or secondhand, for Fair Grounds, must be money-takers. S. TOMPKIN, 202, Waterloo-road, Blackpool.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Change, by Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, at present working one of the largest Rinks in Provinces, own Waltzes, own Two-Steps; something new, good Exhibition Skaters. For photos and references apply TAYLOR, 118, Pilton-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, Position as Floor-Manager or Instructor, good references, newspaper reports for Exhibitions. Write H. G. MARTIN, 2, Drill-st., Keighley.

WANTED, Skating Rinks, commencing Nov.; must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,789, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Modern Fireproof Theatre, in prosperous Midland town. For full particulars write Box 7,798, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, for Electric or Picture Theatre, in Edinburgh, First-class Premises, best attractive position for business; present hall seats about 600, which, with little alteration, could be much increased.

Address, No. 222, KEITH and Co., Advertising Agents, 43, George-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Marquee, 55ft. by 35ft.; Wooden Stage, 35ft. by 12ft, 19ft. high; Footlights (electric); Fly Batten; New Scenery; New Pit Seating, part upholstered; Bioscope Box (regulation); Pay Box. JACK HARRIS, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties. Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Films. Excellent subjects from 2s. 6d. each, by Leading Makers. Lists free. REED, 20, Belgrave-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

FILMS FOR SALE.
WANTED, to Sell, King's Funeral, various lengths and makers, ½d. per foot. Also Incidents, Proclamation, and this year's Derby, all very cheap.

Apply, RUFFELL'S BIOSCOPE, 12, Little Newport-street.

WANTED, to Sell, Buckingham Palace and George V. Proclamation Film, Warwick, 340ft., ½d. foot, excellent quality. MILSOM, Victoria Hall, Cowes.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid pictures of Lying in State and Funeral Processions, by Barker, Jury, Warwick, Gaumont, Pathé, and other leading firms, various lengths, 2d. per foot. Wire, POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Warwick Film of King's Funeral, crossing Oxford-st., and St. George's Chapel, Windsor; also Lying in State, Buckingham Palace. Condition good as new, 30s. MANAGER, Granville, Walham Green.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's Film, King Edward's Funeral (London and Windsor), 1,010ft., £3 10s., dispatch Saturday night. DAVIS, Tredegar Hall, Newport.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, King's Funeral, 600ft., condition as new. Can be dispatched to-night (Saturday). Wire or write best offers to MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, Wednesday's Derby; can be despatched to-night. Wire best offer, MANAGER, Picturedrome.

WANTED, to Sell, Isler's Patent Registering Turnstile, nearly new, great bargain, £4.17.6. JUSTIN, 23, Severn-avenue, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Sell, a 90ft. by 45ft. White Tent Top, as used for tenting Pierrots last year. Seen at Fleetwood. Price £20. JOHN WALTERS, 2, Exchange-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, New Illusions, Devant's Educated Gold Fish, Leroy's Floating and Vanishing Lady, Defying the Budget. Empty Cabinet Changes to Saloon Bar with Barmaid &c. PROFESSOR, 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, to Sell, 95 Full Military Band Army Journals, Boosey, Chappell; £16 the lot. BANDMASTER, 74, Florence-road, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Smart and Original Comedy Sketch, £1 1s.; also gent's evening dress, excellent condition, 5ft. 10½in., 17/6. JAMES, 10, Elfort-road, Highbury, N.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Theatre or Fully Licensed Hall, in Provinces, on Long Lease, or will purchase Freehold. Must bear strict investigation. Principals or solicitors only need write, giving full particulars in first instance to Box 7,804, "The Era."

WANTED, a cheap Fit-up, about 18ft. opening, 18ft. depth, 14ft. from back to front, with Act Drop, Garden Set, and Box Chamber Set, Front Street Cloth and Front Landscape Cloth; 100 Tip-up Chairs, and Tip-up Forms, to seat about 500 (state length of forms); also Artists for June, July, and August, double turns preferred. Apply, THE SECRETARY, The Garw Valley Roller Skating and Amusements Company, Limited, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, to Purchase, good "Babes in the Wood" Pantomime for Next Season's Production at Large Theatre. Must be in first-class condition, or of no use. State size of cloths and flats, number of costumes, and give full particulars to Box 7,787, "The Era."

WANTED, a really fine well-painted Oak Chamber Set and Illuminated Landscape Cloth, suitable for West End Production; must be in good condition. Box 7,797, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, a good Football Dog. Apply, DRAYCOTT, 25, Vernon-terrace, Longlane, East Finchley.

WANTED, for Stage use, a large Electrolier. Lowest cash price to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Copy, Words, and Music of Song or Duet, "Lady Hummingtop," from Musical Comedy, "Gay Mephisto." Write, MEGSON, 15, Eade-road, Finsbury Park, London.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Alhambra Music Hall and Alexandra Hotel, Sandgate, Folkestone. Fully licensed. The only Establishment of its kind in population of 55,000. ALFRED J. BURROWS, Auctioneer, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in June and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, during Vacation, Picture Palace, suitable for Exhibition, Bazaars, or Concert Party, in a thickly populated district of South Wales, seating 1,000. Apply, A. SMITH, Post Office, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Large Hall and Balconies in crowded thoroughfare, principal street in Brighton. Apply, 47, Havelock-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Cinematograph Theatres or Halls, suitable for Cinematograph Show, for one week during Summer Months, with or without staff. Apply, stating full particulars as to position, seating capacity, terms, &c., immediately. Box 7,811 "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

HIGH-CLASS ALFRESCO PAVILION, South of England. Now in its Second Season.
WANTED, Known, the Proprietor, having other interests to attend to, is prepared to entertain PARTNERSHIP in the above.
Only principals dealt with. Bank references exchanged. Apply by letter to CHARLES KNOWLES, 36, Upper Marylebone-street, London, W.

WANTED, Working Partner, with £150, to take half share in London Production, Tour booked at best Dramatic Theatres. Advertiser will invest same amount, only cannot travel with company.
Apply, with banker's reference in first instance, Box 7,792, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, Clever, Pretty Comedienne, with Small Capital, to join Comedian, with own Act, on Halls.
Address, Box 7,805, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to LYNN and HARDING, If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.

This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Band Parts, Orchestral, Military, neatly, legibly scored by experienced arranger; a speciality. HIRST, 56, Chestnut-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus. The Council regret they cannot utilise the Funds of the Association for non-members.

PEOPLE'S PICTURE PALACE, HOLLOWAY HALL.
Proprietor, F. R. GRIFFITHS; Manager, J. PALMER.
WANTED, Known, the Artists, Band, and Staff wish to thank F. R. Griffiths for his kindness in paying salaries in full during the time the hall was closed owing to the death of His Majesty King Edward VII.

WANTED, Information of the present Addresses of Robert Brunton, Scenic Artist, last heard of at Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Frederick Brunton, sometime employed as a ship's steward between London and Cape Town.
R. S. GORDON, Solicitor, 462, Paisley-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Address of Edwin Palmer Gee. Address, Box 7,790, "The Era."

WANTED, Reg Amber to wire address at once to EDWARD MARRIS, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, Known, E. Leon (Stumps) still alive. All coms., 205, Victoria-st., Westminster. Do not forget me.

WANTED, Known, Large Rehearsal Room, Ground Floor, separate entrance; one minute Kennington-road Baths; good piano; 6d. hour. F. CAVILL, Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Tenders, for rebuilding Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, on present site, must be up-to-date and movable structure.

Applications to be made at once to W. THOMAS, Proprietor, Pandy Hotel, Ton-y-Pandy.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons. Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1295 Dalston.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Women and Wine* is being played here by Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles and his talented company. Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles scores a distinct success as Dick Seymour; Miss Nellie Shirley acts the part of Marcel with seductive charm; Miss Violet Lytton represents Mary Andrews with sweetness; and Mr. Richard Nugent as Professor Sawter, Mr. Harry Momber as Charles Sawter, and Miss Winifred Wellard as Janet Marlow play their parts with brightness.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Mr. Will Lytton and company present here a clever comedy sketch, entitled *Sergeant Longfellow*; the Pasquali Brothers give a remarkable exhibition of acrobatic agility; Bertha Stuart sings some pretty Scotch character songs with consummate skill; Mr. Alec Lawson as the "filleted dancer" is happily original and varied in his methods; the Three Phydoras present an interesting act; Vi Laurie dances and sings with graceful ability; and Natalia and Diana perform gymnastic feats with refreshing zeal.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott have been here with *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Charles Draycott gives a fresh and manly rendering of Robert Brierley; Mr. Clinton Baddeley is thoroughly convincing as James Dalton; Mr. George Stell sustains the part of Hawshaw with credit; and Mr. Joseph Magrath as Melter Moss is remarkably good. Mr. Theo Balfour is sufficiently dignified as Mr. Gibson; Mr. St. John Stuart is capital as Green Jones; and Miss Nana Flemsburg is much in evidence as Sam Willoughby. Mrs. Charles Draycott interprets May Edwards in sympathetic and captivating fashion; Miss Issa Steel is a graceful and pleasing Emily St. Evremond; and Miss Louise Millward is adequate as Mrs. Willoughby. The performance was repeated on Tuesday. *The Colleen Bawn* was given on Wednesday and Thursday.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Jake Friedman and his powerful company in *Happy Holland* are proving a draw here; the Rizarelis, in a marvellous trapeze act, win much applause; and the Soho Trio, with capital songs and clever dances, are deservedly popular. The Three Comedy Chanters find much favour; and the Recar Trio are charming lady gymnasts. Vincent, acrobatic table expert, does a daring performance; and Miss Lena Verdi is an entertaining mimic.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The chief item of an excellent programme is Percy Honri, in the musical fantasy *Concordia*, the features of which are the scenic effects, the concertina solos by Mr. Honri, and the clever contributions of some twenty or thirty artists. The Musical Bentleys are a great success in a novel musical mélange; the Borella Brothers are clever gymnasts; the Four May Girls are entertaining vocalists and dancers; Stuart and Evans are big favourites as cross-talkers; Andrews and Thompson do well in a vocal gipsy scene, *The Rube and the Romany*; and Harry Tomps, eccentric comedian, also provides amusement. Mlle. Quetta Papucci's columbine dancing as the fairy in the musical fantasy is both graceful and charming.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—A fine programme of pictures is shown here.

ASHINGTON.—BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—Zasma, the gentleman gymnast, gives a capital turn; Capt. Fox, ventriloquist, is popular with his audience; and the pictures are fine.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Weallans; Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—The Acmes, in their speciality turn, are particularly good; U. R. Owen, musical entertainer, is very well received; Mr. Dan Ashton appears in his collier song and story; and the pictures are good.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Will Casey's company is here with *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar sustains the title-part with considerable pathos and feeling. Effective interpretation is given by Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes to Philip Blackstone; Mr. L. Ernest wins favour as John Hawthorne; Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer keeps things lively; Mr. Arthur Cleeves wins the good opinion of audiences with excellent work conscientiously done; Miss Ethel Spense as Elsie Langham portrays very cleverly the darker shades of the female character; and Miss Annie Mitchell makes a comical Carraway Crumpet. Little Doris Sorsby is good as the child Reggie.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The leading turn here is Ada Pagini, the Italian Court violinist, who played a concerto by Max Brach and other classical selections with extraordinary facility of execution. The other artists of a good "variety" programme are a couple of expert comedy acrobats, Pichel and Scale; Butt and Ward, duettists; the Three Favourites, who give harmonious vocal "specialities"; Penstone and San-Go, speciality artists; the Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats, in *Fun in a Café*; Sullivan and Edwards, excellent comedians; Syd Gorti and Miss Lucky Law in the novel sketch *Jack's Mother*; and Tom East and Stella West in a vocal sketch and patter act.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—A very good selection of pictures, historical and otherwise, is shown here.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, the Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Excellent support is given to the best procurable of animated photography. The artists are Miss Eva Nelson (contralto vocalist) and Walter and Eva Grey in *Sharps and Flats*.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Good work in the sphere of photographic art is still exhibited here by the cinematograph bioscope.

BACUP.—COURT THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jno. Walters.—A comedian of originality and ability is Tom Hulme, who tops the bill. Mr. Tom Lewis sings in a very pleasing manner; Elsie Kesward is an exceptionally clever dancer; and Dan Belmore is a capable descriptive vocalist. A number of pictures are shown. Friday was set apart for the benefit of Mr. Tom Hulme.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, in *The Wrecker of Men*, pays a return visit with a specially selected company which includes Miss Ruth Zillwood, a powerful Risca Mallinson.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Smithson.—The programme here includes the Juggling McBans, who give a wonderful performance; King Luis and partner present an acrobatic turn of good quality; Ruby and Laws have a refined vocal and comedy act; Mme. D'Aubyn reappears, and is well received; the Zanfrellas, the American novelty equilibrists, give us something out of the ordinary; Peter Shannon has a smart show; the Three Royal Temples, in an operatic turn, are good; and the Palacescope presents good pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Winifred Chalmers' company in *Miss Plaster of Paris* is here. Mr. Charles Tolcher is a capital Numbskull Nubbs and Mr. Leslie Hawkins plays the nephew well; Mr. Harry Ed. Ray is an amusing Alexander; Miss Winifred Chalmers a clever Medea Hamilton; and Miss Celestine Brandon an attractive Eliza Plaster.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Will o' the Wisps, under the direction of Mr. L. Sherrington Chinn, continue their charming entertainment here.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Chief among the pleasing items of the programme is Miss Lucy Gillette, who gives a decidedly clever juggling performance; Gillin has a smart ventriloquial entertainment; W. G. Webber renders his songs in artistic style; Albert C. Penrose, comedian, Albert Letin, the illustrious dame, Rose and Jeanette, song and dance artists, and Vernon's Bioscope also contribute.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—The Fred Newman British Empire Picture and Variety Company continue to enjoy immense popularity here. Lovers of pictures are well catered for, and the varieties are always of the best.

BARRY DOCK.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—At the above popular house Phil Rees' Stable Lads are loudly applauded for a very interesting entertainment.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mr. Jules Simpson, the manager *pro tem.*, has another good all-round programme. Barrington, a unique pianoforte performer, and Ruth Molloy, an expert mimic of "stars," receive cordial recognition for their clever work; Arthur F. Ward, hoop juggler and eccentric dancer, displays wonderful skill. An ovation is accorded Little Georgie Harris; and another juvenile of promising talent is Gladys Wyse, her dancing being extremely neat. The simultaneous dancing of the Rosses wins them a well-deserved recall. Return engagements are being paid by the Miltons, skating comedians; and the Bartholomew Girls, in song and dance. The pictures conclude.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The Funeral Procession of His Late Majesty and The Race for the Derby are still the leading films here.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. W. Lawson Howes.—Mr. Ralph Pringle is fulfilling an engagement here with pictures.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The third week of the season finds Mr. Oscar Mills' Les Militaires Costume Concert Party in possession of the Cosy Corner stage, and their efforts to amuse are appreciated.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Monday commenced the fourth week of the revival season here, when, under the direction of Mr. Matthew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond, the Anglo-Russian drama, *The Woman from Russia*, was produced. Chief honours were achieved by Miss Hettie Zillwood, who, as Wanda, the woman from Russia, gained a noteworthy success, her acting throughout being worthy of high praise. Mr. Reginald T. Fox furnished a capital impersonation of Frank Haldane, and no less successful was Mr. Frank Sutherland as Reggie Fitzgerald, the other war correspondent. Mr. Charles H. Gallier appeared in the difficult rôle of Ezra Caroni, the Hebrew, with credit to himself, and Mr. Fred Osmond was inimitable as Jerry Moriarity. Mr. R. H. MacCandless was good as Sergeant Petroff, and the rôle of Captain Yarviski could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Albert Guyon. Mr. Robert Mann appeared as Wun-Hi, and the part of Edith Haldane was capably sustained by Miss Margaret R. Frame. Miss Lilian Malvern appeared to advantage as Mary Ann Smith, and the cast was completed by Mr. Lewis Gordon, who interpreted the rôle of James Haldane.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The inimitable Scotch comedian, Mr. Harry Lauder, tops the bill here, and on Monday drew enormous crowds. Kremka Bros., comedy acrobats, are successful, and Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor appear to advantage in their capital act *The Dancing Master*. Perrier is an exceedingly smart ventriloquist, and Miss Lil Hartley, vocalist and comedienne, is loudly and deservedly applauded. Recco, burlesque acrobat, is certainly most amusing, and Selby and Myers furnish a good exhibition of the terpsichorean art. The Hipposcope, with some capital films, completes.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading feature here is supplied by Miss Alice Raymond and company in a novel musical production, *A Night in Egypt*. Spry and Monti are paying a return visit, and their comedy act, *The Song-writer and the Soubrette*, is unquestionably mirth-provoking. Emma Don and company appear in her vocal scena *On the Thames Embankment*. The entire performance is one of the hits of the programme. The acrobatic act of the Jackley Trio is first class, and Miss Edna Deno is aptly described as a dainty comedienne and dancer. The fine voice of Miss Mina Denville, ballad vocalist, is worthy of much commendation; and also on the programme are Mr. Tom Moore, character vocalist and dancer, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among the many beautiful pictures exhibited here may be mentioned The Irish Boy, The Right Decision, and Spike's Last Bottle. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. R. C. Note, a clever vocal comedian, with good songs and a voice to sing them, and Mills and Warlock, capital comedians and dancers.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some interesting films have been shown here, including Twelfth Night, Brothers, The Little Foundling and The Tramp's Story. Mr Phil Lester, musical speciality artist, appears at each performance, and his reception has been gratifying.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—This latest picture palace here continues to command immense patronage in this highly-populous district. This week some attractive pictures have been exhibited, including The Girl and the Fugitive, The Burglar and Little Phyllis, and A Duel in Mid-air. Miss Rita O'Neill, a chorus songstress of much ability and charm, gains deserved encores nightly.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—An attractive bill of fare includes Relwyskow, champion light-weight wrestler; the Brentwoods, comedy entertainers; Lily Gold, comedienne and dancer; and George Barr, comedian. Pictures are projected by the Hippograph.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company is playing twice nightly *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Lindo is conspicuous with a fine rendering of Stephen Armitage; and Miss Marion Wakeford is equally prominent with a clever portrayal of Joan. Miss Helen Thompson is successful as Sybil Fay; Mr. Bert Dench is a commendable Hon. Percy; and Mr. Harry Belford, Mr. Norton Shields, Mr. Sidney Dench, and Mr. Leonard Lawrence are all good in their respective impersonations. On Friday *David Garrick*, with Mr. Lindo in the title-rôle, was announced for that gentleman's benefit.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. George Formby is appearing here with his customary success, as also are Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery in their amusing sketch *Would-be Actors*. Miss Ella Shields is an accomplished comedienne; and a fine company also includes the Alberto troupe of equilibrists; the Brothers Ford, vocalists and dancers; Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers; Victor Kelly (assisted by Miss Agnes), a versatile comedian; Frank Harwood, light comedian; Geo. S. Melvin, Scotch comedian; the Sisters St. Julien, duettists and dancers; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's *A Sister's Sin* company is doing well here. Miss Edie Macklin as Floss Perks displays emotional power of a high order; Miss Mabel Scudamore is an excellent Minnie Hastings; and a strong combination includes Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Messrs. J. Dobson Clyde, Sidney Piennes, Will Hee, Ernest Frere, Harry Lyndon, and J. Russell Bogue.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Sydney James's company of Royal Strolling Players, under the direction of Mr. G. Fernie, is the attraction.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The promenade concerts will conclude this week, and next week will be devoted to the production of *The Heiress* by local amateurs, after which the theatre will be closed for the summer vacation.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Closed for summer vacation. During the next three weeks the theatre will be occupied by the controllers of a missionary exhibition, which is being held in the Bingley Hall, adjoining.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—An exciting drama, entitled *The Heathen and the Christian*, dealing chiefly with adventures in the East, is scoring a big success this week. Mr. Frank Adair's No. 1 company is responsible for the drama, Mr. Adair displaying remarkable ability as Li, the Avenger. To Miss Louie Adair is entrusted the exacting character of Mira Sampson, but she always maintains the high-water mark; Mr. Gerald Shirley creates a good impression as the hero, Lieut. Lord Allendale; and Miss Stanley Bart is well chosen as May Beresford. Miss Eva Reid is a big favourite as a lovesick slavey; and credit is also due to Mr. Chas. Luck, Mr. Gerald Turner, Mr. R. Payne, and Mr. Fred Waring.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The drama *As Midnight Chimes* is given an adequate representation at the hands of a clever company, and the two performances each evening are appreciated by full houses. The story is of a thrilling nature, and the attention of the audience is fully occupied; Mr. Joseph Millane, in the character of Luke Dezzard, the smuggler, provides a clever study; and Mr. George Gainsford is popular in the part of the hero, Dave Stannard. Miss Blanche St. Albans earns praise for careful acting as Mary Stannard; and the other principal rôles are well sustained by Mr. J. T. Ellis, Mr. Percy Boacher, and Miss Ella Wilmer.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The theatre is crowded each evening by audiences who wax enthusiastic over a series of four productions by Mrs. John Lawson and company. This is Mrs. Lawson's first appearance in Birmingham, and she makes an excellent impression. She is equally at home in the characters of Hazel Grove in *Sally in Our Alley*, Fay Faber in *The Devil's Sunday*, Silvester Valmore in *The Woman and the Apple*, and Lil Latimer in *Supremacy*. Mr. H. E. Herbert, Mr. Cohen Owen, Miss Cissie Williams, Mr. Herbert Gee, and Mr. Boon St. Joseph are also prominent. Pleasant interludes are provided by Miss Camilla Feo, comedienne, Jack and Willie, equilibrists, and Miss Mildred Gibbs, soprano.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—*The 10.30 Down Express* is proving attractive. The drama is presented by Mr. Horace Stanley and company, Mr. Stanley giving a creditable portrayal as Sam Wagstaffe; Miss Kate Kilpack acts with vivacity in her old rôle as Peggy Potts; Mr. T. Arthur Plummer is clever as Jack O'Malley; Mr. George Arthur scores as James Inderwick; and the other characters are capably represented.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Carlton Dramatic Company are adding still further to their laurels this week by a successful production of *The Shaughraun*. The popular Irish drama has splendid drawing powers, and the story is followed with close interest. Mr. Haldane Dalton is frequently applauded for a clever study as Conn; and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam does full justice to the character of Claire Ffolliott. Mr. Victor Gardom as Corry Kinchela, the leading spirit of the "Moonlighters," gives a good account of himself. Miss Yoxa Summers is popular as Arte O'Neal; Mr. Norman Tracy makes a good impression as Captain Molineux.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—A programme of all-round excellence is greatly enjoyed by crowded audiences. Chung Ling Soo's entertainment is among the brightest and most mystifying of its kind. Mr. Hubert Carter acts delightfully in a David Garrick sketch; the Gothams sing in perfect harmony, and their mimicry of various musical instruments is particularly good; Roze and Calvert give a lively burlesque of a novel and versatile description; May Mars sings with her usual power and attractiveness; the Sisters Tower are graceful dancers; Little Keeno is brimful of humour; and Devon and Earle are expert clog-dancers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—R. G. Knowles, the famous American comedian and raconteur, heads the bill, and the general verdict is that he is better than ever. In lively manner he relates new stories and sings humorous songs; a delightful "drawing-room act" is that of Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon; John Humphries creates roars of laughter in his farce, entitled *Ancient Britons*; the Marconis give a wonderful exhibition of the power of electricity; the Kirbys are expert funmakers; Walter Munroe is an up-to-date Irish comedian who dances cleverly; Cressie Leonard is a pleasing comedienne; and Jock Mills sings comic songs in Scottish dialect.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—At the head of a good all-round programme is the popular American humorist, Mr. Caryl Wilbur, in *91, Prospect-street*. The sketch is skilfully handled and provokes wholesome laughter. Mr. George Grenville takes a prominent place in his burlesque, entitled *The Disappointed Spinster*; and Mr. G. W. Blythe presents "The Toilers," an attractive vocal scena, in which two popular young ladies score a great hit. Waldo and Wade provide plenty of humour in *At the Party*; the Zaid Trio of gymnasts perform difficult feats; the Spanish Moors are a clever combination; Harry Zetter makes an excellent impression, and the turns of George Cassell and Madge Beresford also win appreciation.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasford's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts have a great reception in their bright musical comedy sketch, *The Belle of the Orient*. Mr. Ricketts plays a leading part as Ike Novinski, and has the support of a capable company. Tiny and Mite, a pair of dainty young artists, who have lately come well to the front, are enthusiastically applauded in songs and dances; Keeley Brothers are a clever combination of American ball-punchers and acrobats; Mr. C. amuses in song and story; Maud Courtney is a pleasing comedienne; the Two Lillys are smart head and hand balancers; Young and Evans are amusing Hebrew comedians; the Scottish Meisters are popular; and A. Lennard is a bright comedienne.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The Cattaneo company of acrobats head an attractive programme in a comedy sketch that keeps audiences in a merry humour; Lily Lonsdale's sweet soprano voice is heard to advantage in two songs, for which recalls are demanded; Ike and Will Scott excel in song and patter; Little Lady Betty proves a charming singer and dancer; E. J. Sheldon, comedian, has a flattering reception; Eadie and Ramsden are as delightful as ever in their absurdities; Ernie Myers is a popular patter comedian; Vera Mayne sings effectively; and the Hipposcope pictures are interesting.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The Barber of Seville is the title of a new picture that splendidly illustrates the humorous opera of that name. Amongst a long list of other good subjects are The Birth of a Big Gun, An Original Revenge, A Broken Friendship, and The Plot that Failed. Mr. Frank Clark, the popular baritone vocalist, concludes a successful engagement this week.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—An Aviator's Romance is a topical subject that proves very popular, and Lieutenant Rose and the Spy is an exciting military subject. The reappearance of Pongo, the flying monkey, is a big attraction, and audiences are delighted with the daring way in which he planes round the stage in a miniature Blériot machine. Fern and Wallace also contribute an enjoyable vaudeville turn.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Holt's Juvenile Follies in songs and dances are particularly smart; Mr. Will Douglas's troupe of Five Jolly Bakers are entertaining; Waul Langtry is a clever comedian; and Rene gives her juggling performance in a charming manner. Roy Beavis (conjurer), the Lovelaces and the Belmoir Sisters (comediennes and dancers) are very successful; and the Hipposcope shows the Derby (1910).

EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—All the films are very enjoyable, especially The Last Deal, How Life Changes, and Why Girls Leave Home.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are extending their visit here, and this week they are attracting good houses with *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Mr. Norris presents a careful study of Dr. Wake, whilst Miss Gladwys Faunce is again seen to great advantage in the title-rôle. A very fine sketch indeed is Mr. Fred A. Marston's assumption of Andrew Wake, and Miss Una Erle is good as Mrs. Wake. The other parts are also ably portrayed.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Mummy and the Humming Bird* is being capitally played here this week by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and company. Mr. Stewart plays Lord Lumley with striking success, and Miss Bruce Joy does every justice to the difficult rôle of Lady Lumley. Mr. Lewin Mannering as Signor D'Orelli, Mr. Charles Grove as Guiseppe, and Mr. Percy Marmont as Lord Ronalds also play their parts with credit and distinction.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Frank and Jen Latona deservedly top a big bill here this week. Marcel and Boris are a couple of extraordinary equilibrists; Arthur Aiston is a capital comedian; Mr. and Mrs. Jordon Wilde present their shadowgraphy act; Stene Bartle is an expert concertina soloist; Flor Parkinson is an engaging comedian; John Kurkamp contributes a vocal scena; Talbot and Price appear with success in a Japanese musical dialogue; and Godfrey Price presents an impressive song-scena, entitled *The Trumpeter*.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, supported by a very capable company, have paid a successful visit with *The King's Romance*. Mr. Edmonds in the rôle of Prince Andreas submits an artistic performance; Miss Austin as Vera Navairre makes a pleasing impression; and the remaining members of the cast leave nothing to be desired.

THE pictures at West's Palace and the Hippodrome have met with liberal patronage.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Wellings.—Kit Keen, an ideal coon, makes an excellent impression here; an interesting item is that contributed by Baddow, whose ventriloquial entertainment is very popular. Others who appeared were Mr. Pavanto, a favourite comedian; Zettmah, a clever Chinese illusionist; Mr. Wilfred Burnand, character impressionist; Mr. H. Neill, basso; and Miss Decima Troughton, soprano.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—The Ten Genis, in their daring and novel act, give a clever exhibition; Lily Burnand, the lively burlesque actress, is much appreciated in her latest successes; the Four Vagabonds are a smart quartette of harmonious comedians; Billy Howard and Katherine Harris are paying another visit with *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, which is full of mirth; George Campbell, patter comedian, is well received; and Nellie Lunelle, comedienne and dancer, is successful, as also is Tom Franks, ventriloquist. Up-to-date Hippo pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Harry W. Lumley is presenting *The Cruise of the Constance*. Charles McNaughton as Potts, the steward, keeps the house amused with his clever antics, songs, and dances; Miss Irene Verona as Mrs. Hope is quite delightful; Mr. Fredk. Hobbs, the Lieut. Wensleydale, R.N., has a fine voice, and contributes some excellent songs; Miss Ruby Vyvyan is a clever actress, and gives a finished performance of Clements, the maid; and Mr. Lockwood Philpot gives a complete study of Mr. Hardy, the thieving secretary. Other parts capably filled are those by Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Capt. Jackson, by Miss Carlotto Sylvano as Miss Isobel, and by Mr. Tom Prentice as the café proprietor.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—A return visit of *Are You a Mason?* forms the attraction here. For the laughter Mr. Howard L. Tracey as Frank Perry and Mr. William Lockhart as Amos Bloodgood are, in the main, responsible. Miss Agnes Maude is good as the exacting Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; and in winsome manner Miss Grace Denbeigh Russell, Miss Rennie de L'Estrade, and Miss Claire Townshend fill the parts of her daughters. Mr. Archie Selwyn as George Fisher, Mr. E. J. Hinge as John Halton, Mr. Gordon Blyth as Ernest Morrison, and Mr. Stanley Arthur as Hamilton Travers are largely instrumental in keeping the fun going; and the other characters are well filled. Mr. A. MacNin's comedietta *My Lady Help* forms an excellent curtain-raiser.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. H. Armitage presents for the first time here this week Mr. Vincent Brown's emotional play *The Greater Love*, which is admirably staged. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid's acting as the self-sacrificing Paul Penfold was full of power; and Mr. William Clayton naturally portrayed the strong character of Jack May. Miss Marion Fawcett was convincing in the part of Mrs. May; and Mr. Algernon J. Hicks was excellent as the bluff Andrew Isted.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—The Carmos present here this week a distinctly original performance as equilibrists and jugglers; and J. W. Wilson and Nellie Waring, American humorists, elicit laughter with their clever and bustling entertainment. Harry Herbert is a very quaint comedian; there is plenty of fun in the absurdity *On the Track*, presented by the comedian Harry Roxbury as Archibald Longfellow, and he is well supported; Holden's cleverly manipulated mannikins are a great source of amusement; Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian, Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, Nellie Farrell, Irish singer and dancer, and Alice Maydue, comedienne, complete the company; and fine films of the Welsh-McFarland fight are shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Miss Mary Mayfren's company is presenting here J. G. Brandon's sketch *The Yellow Fang* with much success; and the cinematograph is employed in dramatically portraying The Martyrdom of the Falsely Imprisoned Adolf Beck. The Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers, are entertaining, and so are Milner and Story; in comedy duologue Reed and Stevens are good; Jeannie Haven, with her picture songs, is pleasing; Harold Heath submits an acceptable "coon" song and dance; Leolin (juggler) displays rare skill as a club swinger; and Harry Keeble, who completes the excellent company, gives a clever ventriloquial turn.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Harold Montague and his talented company of "Vagabond Players" commenced their engagement in the Grand Pavilion on Monday evening before a crowded audience. Miss Gwen Lewis, Miss Winifred Kaye, and Miss Belle Green were warmly applauded for their various items; Mr. Leslie Burgess, Mr. Will Tomlin, and Mr. Arthur Thomas very quickly established themselves in favour; and Mr. Harold Montague's humorous efforts kept the house in a continuous state of hilarity. The vocalist at Mr. Norfolk Megone's Promenade Con-

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

certs in the Floral Pavilion this week is Miss Phyllis Archibald, a lady with a contralto voice of good quality.

NEW SPA GARDENS AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The Gaieties conclude their engagement here this week, and their entertainments are still drawing big houses. Miss Ruby Wilson is a charming comedienne; Miss Gertrude Hart is a pleasing soprano; Mr. Frederick Gregory possesses an effective baritone voice; Mr. Bert Meredith as a banjoist is remarkably clever, and his humorous songs are appreciated; Mr. Harry Hudson's songs at the piano and also his solos on that instrument are artistically rendered; and Mr. Wilson James, the director of the Gaieties, keeps the house heartily amused with his exquisite humour.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Albert Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Joseph Midgley.—Mr. Joseph Midgley and Co. have rented this popular playhouse for a few weeks to produce high-class vaudeville. A good programme is given this week. Miss Collerton is very popular as a ballad vocalist; *Reparation*, a dramatic sketch, is well acted by Mr. Vayne and a lady; Jack Lacey as a light comedian gains much applause; Miss Francis Mayne is a clever comedienne; Mons. G. Dollin is a capital mimic; Cliffe and Vanstan are a smart couple; and there are some good pictures on the Bioscope.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ernest Gates; General Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The drama *A London Actress* is attracting good houses here this week. Mr. F. E. Petley achieves great success with his thoroughly artistic enactment of Sergeant-Major Clive Crawford; Miss Lucy Murray merits unstinted praise for her treatment of the title-rôle; Mr. Austen Milroy gives an excellent portrayal of Lieut. Ned Kingston; Mr. Jack G. Maine is admirably suited as Captain Mannering, R.N.; Mr. Fred Acton is seen to great advantage as Moses Mendoza; and Mr. Tom E. Sinclair is a pleasing Pat Maloney.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—J. H. Milburn, comedian, secures the heartiest of applause for his amusing contributions; the Six Frolics sing and dance themselves into high favour; Melton and Horton are clever horizontal bar artists; Gus Brown's eccentric dancing is warmly appreciated; Elliott and Warne are effective in comedy and dancing; Jenny Moss is a refined comedienne; Will Sullivan, comedian, sings his songs in capital style; the Sisters Harcourt are charming singers and dancers; the Fontellas are well received in their speciality wire act; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—George Robey, who is enthusiastically received, keeps the house rippling with laughter with his latest successes; the Rangers are clever trick and comedy cyclists; Harry Nelson is a very droll comedian; La Belle Nello submits a graceful acrobatic performance in her bathing scena; Henri Helme is an accomplished French baritone; Rastus and Banks are capital coloured entertainers; Harry Rogerson is distinctly effective as a tired comedian and tumbler; the Markies, vocalists and novelty instrumentalists, are cordially received; the Floradora Girls are dainty vocalists and dancers; Charles Stevens, the convivial comedian, is diverting; and the Goodlow Trio are able novelty acrobats.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company is here this week with *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy repeats his well-known and masterly impersonation of John Durham; Mr. William Calvert achieves great success as Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Arthur Leigh submits a clever and amusing enactment of the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Mr. Charles Wemyss acquits himself admirably as Mr. Vallerton; Miss Florence Tressilian makes a graceful and charming Helen Vallerton; Miss Nellie Bonsor gives a delightful embodiment of the warm-hearted Mrs. Durham; and others meriting praise include Miss Dorothy Turner and Miss Frances Wolviston.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Man; Resident Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Animated pictures are the attraction here this week. Barbarine, a stirring drama, is submitted with great realism; Logging in the Cumberland Mountains, United States, is admirably depicted; An Affair of Honour is strongly dramatic; Quick Changes, The Sculptor's Easy Task, The 'Tec's Dream, and False Friar are amusing; and The Derby of 1910 is interesting and exciting.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. Isis, the Moon Goddess, conveys a fine drama; and A Noble Sacrifice and The Customs Officer's Dog are also of a dramatic character. The Derby of 1910 and Scenes in the Life of the late King Edward VII. are admirably descriptive films. Much fun is afforded by Calino's Dinner Party, The Smoker, The 'Tec's Dream, His Last Dollar, and A Pennyworth of Potatoes. Mr. Ostand Denner contributes baritone songs in good style and with rich tone; and a word of praise is due to Mr. Arthur W. Briggs for his appropriate pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—Good houses still patronise the animated pictures exhibited here. Dramatic incidents are depicted by A Mother's Gratitude and Hearts are Trumps. Hearty laughter is evoked by Mr. Poorluck Gets Married and An Unhappy Soldier Boy. From Marseilles to Sunny Algeria is highly picturesque; The History of Butterfly is instructive; The Derby of 1910 is interesting; and the retention in the series of King Edward VII.'s Funeral Processions in London and Windsor adds considerably to the attractiveness of the programme.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is here with *Greed of Gold*. The play is well staged, the real working model of a beam engine in the first act adding much to the realistic effect. Mr. B. M. Fox acts excellently as Tom Welstead; Miss Mabel Phillips displays much ability in her fine impersonation of Dora Hood; Mr. Scott Leighton acts effectively as Harry Hood; Mr. Herbert Leonards and Miss Violet Leyton are amusing in the comic parts of Con Creamer and Patty Mayfield; and other important parts are capitally taken by Miss Nora Bedford, Mr. Alf Edwards, Master Bernard Fox, Mr. Allan Gordon, and Mr. G. Newell.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Ellaline Terriss and her company are here with their amusing musical sketch, *The Pink of Perfection*. Miss Terriss has a very cordial reception at each performance, and the amusing little Scottish play is capitally performed, well staged, and fully appreciated. Vardon, Perry, and Wilber entertain with their latest American singing and dancing novelty; Charles Collette and Joan Derry amuse with their farcical duologue *Pyjamas*; Mlle. Eldee (the girl in the golden frame) successfully presents some pretty poses; Edie Reynolds charms with her violin solos; Ryan and Hall do a smart act as comedy acrobats and wrestlers; George James, comedian, is appreciated; Will E. Stopit, comedian and eccentric dancer, does a good turn; and interesting pictures conclude.

INVALUABLE FOR THE COMPLEXION.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully COOLING and REFRESHING during the SUMMER after MOTORING, GOLFING, CYCLING, TENNIS, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Heat, and Irritation, and gives a resisting power to the skin surface in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores.—M. BEETHAM and SON, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—La Milo is here with her living statuary, which is confined to strictly classical subjects, and is most artistic. Edouard Jose, French character actor, presents his English version of *The Strike*, the sketch being staged effectively, and M. Jose acting in clever and natural style. The Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers obtain much applause; Amy Clevere is a pleasing comedienne; the Schafer Four entertain with their musical act and comedy; the Violet-Shelley Trio amuse with their sketch, *The Ideal Woman*; Charles Santon, male soprano, obtains considerable appreciation; and Snowball and Dolia entertain with eccentric dancing and comedy. A fine set of films representing the Derby is shown.

COLSTON HALL.—Mr. Ralph Pringle's animated pictures are here for a third week, and are well patronised. Numerous excellent pictures, both serious and amusing, are included in the entertainment, which closes to-day (Saturday). The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and other members of the Corporation attended last week.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Animated pictures are a great attraction, and are welcomed by good audiences. In addition to films of topical interest, there are shown a number of very fine dramatic subjects and a series of comic items, which are thoroughly enjoyed.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Six Brothers Luck are occupying first place with their extremely laughable sketches *Liftems, Limited* and *The Demon of the Cellar*. Both items are very well mounted, and the fun is kept merrily going. The Carina Sisters give a refined and pleasing turn with violin, flute, and piano selections; as acrobats the Adras Brothers are well in the front rank; and Mark Anthony is applauded for song and patter; whilst Colin Carlisle proves an excellent light comedian. The Claymere Trio are very good in club throwing; and the Empire Theatrescope illustrates Trained Birds and The Up-to-Date Imps.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Remarkable interest is evinced here in Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings, which are shown and explained by Mr. P. T. Selbit. Fred Maitland and company, in *Roots, Rash Chemists*, provoke roars of laughter; and John Macaulay sings "To-morrow will be Friday" in rich style; Madison and Webb are funny in the sketch *My Husband*; and Cassie Walmer pleases with songs. Peter Birmingham has good Scotch patter, the Palace pictures show House Repairs.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—The variety programme submitted here this week is headed by the Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese jugglers, contortionists, and conjurers; Lucia Collins submits some of her late mother's répertoire in good style; the Baynhams cause roars of laughter in their comedy musical act; the Dancing Paseys, in speciality dancing, are much above the average; Mr. Chas. See, comedian, also does well. The Davies-Gledhill Trio, with their motor sensation, were unfortunately out of the bill through an accident. The Operascope is still giving much pleasure.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Messrs. Silvanus, Dauncey, and Browning's company opened on Monday night with *Dolly Reforming Herself*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards's Harry Telfer was extremely good; Dolly was cleverly and prettily played by Miss Dorothy Giles; Mr. Cyril Brooking as Matthew Barron was excellent; a praiseworthy performance of the part of Lucas Wentworth was given by Mr. Hanworth Browning; Mr. Russell Barry was amusing as Professor Sturgess; and Mr. Arthur Vezin as the Rev. Filcher was also very good. Miss Florence Stevenson as Mrs. Sturgess was all that could be wished.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. G. Falcon.—Mr. James Stephens and his répertoire company occupy the boards. On Monday and Wednesday evenings *The Golden Chance* was admirably enacted. Mr. Stephens made a typical Isaac Shelberg, the moneylender; and Mr. James Hart was a capital Arthur Hastings. The Stephen Clinton of Mr. J. G. Miller was another excellent portrayal. Mr. Roote as Sam Brown and Miss Lucie Victor as Susan caused considerable merriment; and Miss Louise Cooper as Viva Zac, the ballet dancer, was another strong impersonation, Miss Ruby Lee ably sustaining the part of Lydia Hastings. For Tuesday evening H. J. Byron's masterpiece, *Our Boys*, was performed, and the house fully attested its appreciation. The Perkyn Middlewick of Mr. Stephens was an irreproachable enactment; and the Sir Geoffrey Champneys of Mr. J. M. Miller was greatly enjoyed. Talboy Champneys and Charles Middlewick, as impersonated by the Messrs. James Hart and R. Ellis, were a source of endless mirth, and they worked splendidly with the ladies, Miss Lucie Victor enacting Mary Melrose very sweetly; while the Violet Melrose of Miss Ruby Lee was equally successful. Miss Louise Cooper as Clarissa Champneys was a well studied presentation; and Belinda receives an admirable reading at the hands of Miss Vivianne Douglas.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Sir Herbert Tree and His Majesty's Theatre company are appearing in an extensive répertoire. *The Merchant of Venice* was put forward on Monday and Tuesday, when large and fashionable audiences filled the theatre to accord a truly Welsh reception to the distinguished actor. Sir Herbert's impersonation of Shylock is admitted to be one of the finest delineations in which he has yet been seen in this district, and the applause which greeted the final fall of the curtain was enthusiastic and continuous. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy as Portia submitted a portrayal which won the admiration of the thousands privileged to witness her sweet rendition. Mr. Arthur Wortner distinguished himself as Bassanio, making an ideal lover. Antonio was enacted by Mr. Henry Morrell with histrionic skill, and Lorenzo was portrayed by Mr. Shiel Barry with exceptional ability. Miss Hilda Moore was a strikingly handsome exponent of Jessica; Miss Gladys Harvey as Nerissa was particularly successful; and Mr. Henry C. Hewitt as Gratiano and Mr. Edward Sass as the Duke of Venice both gave talented performances. The staging of the piece was elaborate, and the dresses are beautiful in the extreme. In the répertoire of the week are included *The O'Flynn, Trilby*, and *The Man Who Was*.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Miss Ada Reeve is proving an attraction, the famous comedienne presenting several of her most entertaining songs in a manner and style positively irresistible. Jack Pleasants appears in a couple of humorous items, and Harry Lamore, the versatile comedy entertainer, proves equally diverting. Tom Davis's Trio of Motorists are undeniably sensational, their mid-air act being simply marvellous. La Freya's artistic visions are beautiful studies; the Royal Delomes present their novel dancing speciality, entitled *The Phantom Clogs*, with much success; Lily Flexmore displays remarkable powers of contortionism; and Luis Alvarez obtains hearty applause for his pleasant tenor vocal number. The Bioscope concludes a capital programme. Miss Esta Stella is billed this week, but on Monday night was unable to appear through indisposition.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—At the head of a strong and varied programme this week is Florrie Forde, a great Cardiff Palace favourite, who has been delighting crowded houses with her latest successes, which never fail to draw audiences who love a catchy chorus. John R. Poodle presents the Cairo Trio in a really talented musical speciality performance. As a comedian Josh Dixon causes continuous laughter; Zellini, described as a comedy juggler, proves both clever and humorous; Harry Martell is a smart wooden shoe dancer; Norah Desmond, in pleasing picture songs, obtains considerable approbation; and Clarke and Mostol, rare comedians and expert dancers, and the Perfection pictures complete a most interesting entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. S. M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Edmund Tearle reproduces some of the most popular plays in his répertoire this week, commencing with *Ingomar the Barbarian*. In this Mr. Tearle again appeared in the title-rôle, and his powerful impersonation of this fine character was much admired. Miss Kate Clinton was not a whit less successful as Parthenia, acting throughout with an artistic appreciation of a by no means easy part. Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. Stuart Black, Mr. Samuel Seldet, Miss Ray Parry, Miss Mary Campbell contributed sound support. *Richard III., The Shadows of a Great City, East Lynne*, and a benefit performance in aid of the Infirmary are also on the week's bill.

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Carlton is the centre of attraction this week, and proves himself a wonderfully versatile and clever entertainer. His card manipulation and sleight-of-hand tricks are novel, amazing, and amusing. In a knockabout sketch entitled "The Circus" he contributes a really funny portrait of a showman; and "The Mysterious Cross" is distinctly sensational and very cleverly worked. The Belmonts are two smart lady dancers; and Bert Crosbie sings comic songs in capital style. A fine gymnastic act by the Fitzroys meets with warm recognition; Joe Belmont is a whistler above the ordinary; and May Knight, vocalist, is also quite successful.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—The Cedrics keep the audience in a state of merriment by means of some clever acting and amusing patter. A decided hit is made by Vela, who displays much suppleness, and provokes loud applause for his laughable business on the slack wire. Animated pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. still find high favour.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Fred Shurley; the Ludo Quartette, in a popular turn; the Melbournes, in a well-liked comedy act; Lee and Bentley, who score a hit in their playlet *The King's Counsel*; Walker and Lake, in a highly amusing travesty on phrenology; Fred Hastings, a comedian whose "Good-bye, Jack" pleases immensely; Julia Kent and company, who present in capital style a costume comedy sketch entitled *Pistols for Three*, Miss Kent making a pleasing Lady Doris, Mr. Charles Horner a powerful Nicholas Roach, and Mr. William Manning an amusing Codlin. Pictures by Lacey's Erascope form an excellent termination to an attractive programme.

CHELTENHAM.—MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Charley Harvey's vaudeville company provides a capital entertainment. Mr. Harvey's drolleries are irresistible; and Mr. Dave Laird plays up to his chief in capital style. A funny interlude, *Count Popitoff*, as played by these gentlemen, causes much amusement; Mr. Laird has an excellent baritone voice, and makes good use of it; Mr. Bert Tay is a quaint comedian; Mr. Dave Jenkins sings some excellent baritone songs; Miss Nora Lloyd sings contralto ballads with much feeling; and Mr. James A. Lowe's pianoforte solos are much enjoyed.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shinton.—A third series of funeral pictures are showing, supported by Miss Molly Gwynne's illustrated songs and the Vocophone.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—A potent attraction is the first appearance in Chester of Reano and his famous Band, whose masterly rendering of inspiring and vigorous music is much appreciated by a bumper house. Fox and Melville are tuneful and clever song illustrators; Harry Friskey gives a unique display of American comedy juggling; and the Tennessee Coloured Guards present a well-acted military skit entitled *Camp Life*. Barney Murphy shines as a comedian, and provokes much mirth with his funny little dance. A taking and original turn is the Croisit Trio, billed as French acrobats. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, with up-to-date films, concludes.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.—THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS, LTD.—Proprietors, The Charlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—On Monday Mr. Edgar Cook's "Ideal Entertainers" presented an enjoyable programme. Mr. Arthur Owen sang "The Bandolero" and other popular songs; Mr. G. E. Ford made his dog Prince perform wonderful tricks; Sinclair was the exponent of a clever marionette act; Mr. Sam Johns delivered some racy patter; Mr. Edgar Cook mystified by neat conjuring tricks; Miss Bessie Burdon sang baritone songs pleasantly; and Miss Olive Dent charmed by her dainty dancing.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Leslie Stanley's company in the musical absurdity *The King of Mystonia*, is here for six nights. Mr. Charlie Towers is hugely funny as the porter of the hotel; Mr. Tom Ashby as Peter Pip dances in good style; Mr. Tom Lyle sings well as Frank Warrington; Miss May Warden as Estulah is very good; and Miss Vere does well as Trixey Sherlock. Miss Kitty Vernum makes a capable Violet. The Rialto Trio of lady dancers are immensely liked.

HIPPODROME.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—La Pia, the Enchantress, tops the bill this week. Victor Newman is seen to advantage in a number of famous characters; Richard Wally contributes a fine series of juggling feats; Ian Colquhoun, the popular baritone, excels in his Irish melodies; Geo. Rapley, comedian, is exceedingly racy; Ciss and Will, juvenile artists, perform cleverly; and Ethel May also appears.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. J. E. Watson's company is here in *A Country Mouse*. Miss Evelyn Ormonde as Angela Muir acts in charming and captivating manner; as Lady Sylvia Bowlby Miss Madeline du Val fills the rôle with much success; and Miss Elswick as Violet Aynsley is excellent. Mr. W. Besley Beltram's comic representation of the Duke of St. Kitts arouses continued merriment; the amorous Lord Robert Wyckham of Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood and the Hon. Archibald Wyse of Mr. Frank Bradley fit well into the picture. Mr. J. E. Watson as the Butler is satisfactory; Mr. Townsend Whitling as John Bowlby, M.P., Mr. Dudley Walton as the servant, and Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs. Croppy ably sustain their characters. The piece was preceded by *Judged by Appearances*, in which Miss Elswick and Messrs. Bradley and Whitling took part. *The New Boy* was also in the bill.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Her Life in London*, by Arthur Shirley, is at the above house this week. The capable company is under the direction of Mr. Stanley Carlton. Miss Ruble Maude proves a charming and capable actress as Astra Bell, an orphan; Mr. Stanley Carlton is seen to advantage as a young clergyman; Mr. Claude Aymond does good work as Gratton Gale, the blind burglar; and other characters are well presented.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, provides half an hour's amusing entertainment. Tom Taylor and company give a farcical comedy entitled *Ain't that a Leak, 'Erb? I'm Sure!* or *The Plumbers*. This farce keeps the house in convulsions. The world-renowned Cumberlands give a wonderful acrobatic cycle display; Griff, the jesting juggler, assisted by his son George, gives a bright entertainment; Jennie Johns, comedienne, submits a bright turn; Moon and Morris do some good dancing; and other artists are Ena Correlli, speciality dancer, and Master Harry Clarke, juvenile comedian. Pictures finish.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—A vaudeville entertainment is being given here by Messrs. Percy Cahill, Reginald Adair, Jack Gray, Leonard Stanton, Clement Locknane, and Misses Gladys Carlton and Gloria Egmont. The programme includes Jury's Bioscope and the one-act musical comedy *The Capture of Venus*. Mr. Percy Cahill makes a whimsical Mr. Jolliboy, Mr. Reginald Adair is good as Mars; Mr. Jack Gray is well placed as Neptune; and Miss Gloria Egmont is a charming Venus.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's clever company is causing a big sensation here in the sketch *R.M.S. Wontdetania*, the scenic effects being worthy of special mention. Harry Cotton is a humorous comedian; Martin Henderson, blind instrumentalist, is well received; Mabel Mignon is a neat comedienne and dancer; Will Johnson is a droll comedian; Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies are untiring dancers; the Brothers Brooks, comedy entertainers, are always cordially greeted in Croydon; David Poole is a smart ventriloquist; Phil Percival, comedian, is up to the mark; and other items are the Bioscope and Evelyn Taylor.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—For the summer stock season dramatic and comedy sketches with variety and living pictures will be the fare here. On Monday, to a crowded house, a sketch entitled *A Devil's Dupe* was played by Mr. William Heilbron as Count Ferrara, Mr. Arthur Dudley as Gussie Leigh, and Miss Cissie Podmore as Mabel Merton. It was well received. A comedy sketch, *Up the Pole*, was also produced by the same company. A series of pictures were shown during the evening. The Auxeto played selections by H.M. Coldstream Guards.

HIPPODROME THEATRES, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—At the head of an attractive bill here is Miss Lottie Lennox. The Three Prestons give a novel act, entitled *The Village of Shift-'em*; the Almars are clever hand balancers; Arthur Lewis is an expert dancer; Percy Dalton is a smart comedian and dancer; and other turns include Sisters Henderson, vocalists; Venie Clements, refined comedienne; and the Hipposcope pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—The Melburns create roars of laughter in their comedy sketch; Barney Stuart, actor-vocalist and mimic, is also successful; some good clog dancing is provided by T. Brindle; and the usual high-class films are shown on the Bioscope.

ALBERT HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Films include Combat Between Buffaloes, An Eye for an Eye, and By the Mill Stream. Vennie Veldon supplies good buck and sand dancing and Will Willis, comedian, makes a hit.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Foremost on an excellent bill are O'Hana San and company, whose scena, *A Vision of Japan*, replete with dainty songs and dances, would certainly be hard to beat in point of spectacular magnificence; Silbon's cats are a group of highly-trained animals, and their tricks are performed in a most intelligent manner; the Crown Trio, as part-singers, are in every way pleasing; the Lafaille Troupe's clever feats are generously applauded; the Two Mackays take the house by storm; Jack Hayton is a comedian with a quaint style; Lily Eyton, comedienne, sings pretty melodies; and Blair and Allen intersperse their songs with some very neat clog dancing. The Bioscope, with its film The Funeral Procession of King Edward VII., is an outstanding feature.

PALACE.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company are here this week with a drama entitled *The Mockery of Marriage*. The piece is an exciting one, and is being cordially received. As the villain Sir Montagu Jephson Mr. Graham Arthur works well, and acquits himself successfully all through, while Alva, his deserted wife, is eminently well accounted for by Miss Mabel Elliott; Mr. Norman D. Cannon as the hero Ned Stanley gives a manly impersonation; and Miss C. Middleton is a charming Rose Verham. Messrs. Jos. Barker and Lowe Mackenzie do well as Joseph Verham and Seth Pearce, while the comedy is capably represented by Miss Ada Band and Mr. David Phillips as Mary Ann Barnicoat and Toby Wright respectively. Minor characters are also well sustained.

DEVONPORT.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—The Seven Bramusas are responsible for some brilliant brass instrument playing, two juvenile specialists receiving prolonged applause for their clever contributions; Maude Mortimer scores with three captivatingly rendered songs possessing tuneful and catchy refrains, which are soon taken up by all parts; Marie Dreams, a young lady with a baritone voice, provides a highly interesting vocal number; Elmo and Rego are responsible for some skilfully executed knockabout business; Yost and York have an entertaining military scena; R. H. Douglass is an interesting monologue artist, and Tiny Arnold has a flattering reception.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Mother and Home*, from the pen of the manager, is again staged here. We had an opportunity of commenting on the piece a short time since, and the company—practically the same as formerly—does full justice to the overflowing amount of sensation and comedy in which the play abounds.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs. Silverstone and Wright's company is playing *The Nihilist* here twice nightly. Mr. Geo. Mitchell plays the part of Ivan Nowasky, the blacksmith, in a manly style; the villainy of Prince Alexander is fully illustrated by Mr. O. Silverstone; Mr. C. Newton Buckland gives a good portrayal of Piertree Petroff; Alexina Orloff is effectively played by Miss Edna Clare; Miss Florry Kelsey deserves praise for her excellent depiction of Princess Olga; Mrs. Cowell Clarke is well placed as Karl Orloff; and Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey does well as Father Gourko. The comedy element is in the able hands of Mr. Henry Wright as Bobby Smart and Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of the bill here is Kartelli, who gives a remarkable exhibition of walking and cycling on the wire; The El Tampicos prove a big success in an elaborate musical and vocal scena; Tom Gott, the Yorkshire comedian, evokes roars of laughter with his quaint singing and patter; Hattie Petro and Pete Leon, simultaneous gymnasts, get through a lot of clever work on the rings and trapeze; Watson and McQue are well received for their singing, patter, and excellent dancing; White and Emilie introduce some good singing and dancing; Ida Dorrie is a captivating comedienne; Jules Kiaro is a clever equilibrist; and the singing of Dan Conroy is appreciated.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—The animated pictures here continue to attract large houses. The illustrated vocal items and the Travel series of pictures are much appreciated.

DINNINGTON (Yorks).—LYRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jas. England.—*The Scapegrace* (John Levey's company) is drawing full houses. The title-rôle is ably filled by Mr. F. H. Cresswell, and Mr. W. A. Buckstone makes an ideal Captain Harry Fanshaw. As the heroine Miss Beatrice Western is sympathetic, and interpreted well a difficult part, whilst Nellie Lambert is seen to advantage as a Red Cross nurse. Miss Maudie Lambert makes an excellent housemaid, full of fun and mischief, and sings and dances in excellent style. Miss Maud Western as Dick establishes herself a favourite. Mr. John Levey plays with considerable power the part of Bill Burke. The villain of the piece is ably portrayed by Mr. J. Willoughby, and the comic element finds a capable exponent in Mr. Larry Clements. The piece is excellently staged.

DOUGLAS.—BUXTON'S AMUSEMENTS.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Buxton.—Mr. Fred Buxton has organised a very artistic and interesting series of pictures in his larger pavilion, and the films interest and amuse large audiences. Mr. F. Buxton's well trained and powerful voice is heard in two captivating songs. Mr. Ernie Famont is a genuine comedian. Roller skating still obtains here twice daily. There is a full band at each session and a clever instructor, Mr. Harold Jones.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—Admirable pictures are presented. Mr. Neville Landler is an artistic character actor and elocutionist.

OTHER amusements available are The Palace, with dancing, skating, and pictures, and Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels on Douglas Head.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The Hippodrome season continues here. Mlle. Liane D'Eve, "La Belle Parisienne," in her original chansons and transformations, wins hearty plaudits for her chic and pleasing performances; Mlle. De Verneuil and her Five Posing Ladies present an artistic and clever exhibition of studies; the Tally-Ho Trio are amusing in mirth and harmony; the Wolkowsky Russian Troupe are expert whirlwind dancers and balalaika instrumentalists; Francini-Olloms and Pagò are well applauded for their juggling, acrobatic and comedy tumbling, with musical interpolations on the xylophone and concertina; and Walton and Lester, the World's Worst Wizards, and Marguerite Broadfoote, comedienne, also appear with success.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Charles Constant's No. 1 company is here in *Florodora*. Tweedlepunch is in the able hands of Mr. Johnnie Schofield, who makes the house roar with laughter; Mr. Martin D. Pitts sings extremely well as Abercoed; Mr. Stanley White makes the most of Gilfain; Miss Kate Leicester is a most acceptable Lady Holyrood; Miss Daisy Lake acts and sings well as Dolores; and Miss Florence Hersee is most effective as Angela Gilfain.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. James O'Brien and Mr. H. Ireland's company this week is playing *Outcasts of Dublin; or, Weeds and Flowers of Erin*. Mrs. Glenville is a most amusing Molly Molloy; Mr. W. J. Davis does well as the Policeman; and Mr. James O'Brien excels himself in his humorous reading of Tricky Dicky.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Mooney and Holbein, the "advanced vaudevillians," head the bill here, and meet with undoubted success. The Five Delevines in their comedy dancing act "Flipp and Flop" are highly amusing; a charming and graceful exhibition of dancing on the wire is submitted by Mlle. Yetta; Frank and Free, comedy artists, contribute an admirable turn; Neville Delmar, comedian, is going strong; Aida Martine has a host of admirers; Barry Eldon renders his songs in excellent style; Andy Burns, comedian, is also to the fore; and the Empire Pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The chief items here this week are the Verona Troupe of clever and amusing cyclists, and the Child Trio of juvenile actor musicans. Good turns are added by Zetta Grey and company in their comedy act *The Lancashire Lass*; Davis and Deane, comedians and shadow dancers; Kitty Kearns, comedienne and dancer; J. W. Gallagher, eccentric comedian; Fenton Cross, speciality entertainer; Tinross, in comedy shadows; and Horace Jones, comedian. The Pictures complete.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—This week the company includes Layne and Valroy, comedy duettists; Will Emerson, comedian; Flo Meeson, soubrette; Dan Dalton, eccentric comedian; Gertrude Rowen, comedienne and dancer; Moore and Moore, duettists and dancers.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—There is a complete change of pictures this week, and the many patrons of this house have enjoyed the interesting episodes.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—The fun is fast and furious during Ernest Cadle's production *The Battle of Casey's Backyard*. Will Murray as Mrs. Casey works very hard; Miss Lil Elfrida, in impersonations of popular artists, is smart; Della and Pley, acrobatic and pugilistic eccentrics, prove a capital turn, as also does Learto, eccentric comedian, with his intelligent little dog Pom Pom; Wat Moore, a clever topical vocalist, has a rousing reception; Flo Warner, comedienne and dancer, scores heavily with catchy songs; and Helen Guest, vocalist, with illuminated picture songs, is much appreciated. Empire pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping a bright and entertaining bill are Leslie Brothers in their laughable act *Music Mad*; McLallen and Carson, in a gorgeously staged roller skating scene entitled *The Awakening of Toyland*, give a neat and clever display on the rollers; Harriet Rose has a capital budget of chorus songs; Florence Esdaile's cultured voice is heard to advantage in a pleasing medley of operatic gems; the turn of Jack Lane, "The Yorkshire Rustic," constitutes quite an agreeable entertainment; Julian Mack's humour tickles the audience, his jokes being delightfully fresh and witty; the comedy juggling of Newman and Knight is distinctly clever and amusing; and the Kingscope pictures are, as usual, excellent.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North company is appearing here in a number of Shakespearean plays. On Tuesday evening *King Lear* was very successfully staged. The conspicuously-successful performance was that of Mr. Henry Herbert as Lear, whose distinct utterance and fine dramatic ability were recognised by an appreciative audience; Mr. Robert Atkins took a good share in the general success by his appealing and able work as the Earl of Gloucester; Mr. H. S. Cohen did admirable duty as Edgar; Mr. Cyril Sworder was an excellent Edmund; Mr. John Cairns a distinct and individual Earl of Kent; and Mr. Andrew Leigh a good Fool. Miss Gladys Vanderzee was a picturesque and gentle Cordelia; and Miss Kate Turner and Miss Lila Barclay shared in the praise as Goneris and Regan.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is appearing here very successfully in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Frederick Moyes is always a striking figure and interesting actor as Napoleon; Mr. J. H. Roberts does capital work as Talleyrand; Mr. Charles Stirling is a very earnest and forceful Marquis de Beamont; Mr. Ernest Plumpton is happily placed as Augereau; and Mr. George Hudson gives a clever and effective rendering of the part of Grimaud. Miss Violet Ellicott, prettily womanly and appealing, is a splendid Josephine; Miss Winnie Tempest is an austere and dignified Marie Louise; Miss Dorothy Garth introduces much brightness and fun as Stephanie; Miss Florence Cuddipp and Miss Julia Wren do good duty as Blanche and Angelique; and Miss Dorothy Hudson plays the little King of Rome very prettily.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here is the world's champion of ju-jitsu wrestling, Mr. Tarro Miyake, whose skill, strength, and quickness are nightly shown to many admirers; Miss Rosie Lloyd, bright, animated, and beautifully gowned, sings her songs with her accustomed smartness; Mr. Monty Walker attains the favour of his hearers by his quaint style; Mr. Walter Ellis and company have a very amusing sketch, *The Sleepwalker*; Mr. Dan Weldon sings with good voice and much feeling; the Lowells have a musical and juggling act which is original and amusing; and Miss Gladys Warren sings and dances well.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Edward Bikker as General Kingsley is responsible for a realistic delineation; as Captain Frank Carsdale Mr. J. L. Leigh acts with distinction; Mr. Polson Turner as Captain George Darrell is all that could be desired; the humorous element is in the capable hands of Mr. Will Percy and Mr. A. Selwood as Quiney O'Quirk and Timothy Trimmer, and their efforts in this direction are well rewarded; Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas as the two little drummer boys are excellent; Miss Patricia Connaughton is a dainty Molly Meadows; and Miss Violet Langley as Alma Kingsley acts naturally.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Dourie.—Mr. William Mollison's present revival of *Rob Roy* is a pronounced success at this house. Admirably acted and beautifully staged, the old-time drama still shows signs of enduring popularity. Mr. John Clyde's imposing figure, impressive action, and fine elocution make him an ideal representative of the title-part, and the artistic study of Bailie Nicol Jarvie by Mr. Mollison is worthy to rank amongst the best impersonations of the character. Mr. Seth Hughes's voice in quality and training enables him to give a stirring and sympathetic rendering to the ballads allotted to the rôle of Francis Osbaldistone, and other able vocalists whose singing is of service in the interpolated numbers are Mr. Montague Alliston, a rollicking Major Galbraith, and Miss Eda Bennie as Diana Vernon. Mr. C. Quinton Fullford is a gallant Captain Thornton; and Mr. R. B. Drysdale acts as vigorously as ever as the Dugal Cratur. The broadsword combat between these two players is splendidly done. Miss Evelyn McNay acts with dignity as Helen Macgregor; and the skill of Miss Josephine Woodward imparts more than its customary importance to the character of Jean McAlpine. Mr. Archie W. Chappell is effective as Rashleigh Osbaldistone, and it is refreshing to see such a capable actor as Mr. W. S. Stevenson in the part of Sir Frederick Vernon. Mr. Stevenson gives life to the character, instead of making it a walking automaton. The choruses are capitally sung, and Miss Jeannie Macintyre, who is good as Mattie, renders the solo in "The Tramp Chorus" with force and expression.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—At the head of an attractive programme stands Mozetto, whose feats of juggling and sleight of hand are performed with a grace and dexterity which rivets the attention of his audience and ensures prolonged recalls. The Lannons give a remarkable display of pedestal dancing, and, being besides pleasing duettists, their turn is an excellent one. Miss Rena Radford's several songs were greatly enjoyed, her rendering of "Goodbye" and "Killarney" being very acceptable. A farcical interlude entitled *The Five Wishes*, played in admirable fashion by Mr. Edward Lewis, Miss Laura Leycester, and Miss Lylie Lewis, proved irresistibly amusing, and was heartily applauded; and Miss Nellie Coleman was successful in a number of comedy impersonations; Mr. Mark Leslie supplied a good turn, in which clever grotesque dancing was a special characteristic; Dome, the clay modeller, was also smart and diverting; Mr. W. B. Raby's comedian turn was thoroughly appreciated, as was also the singing of Miss Ruby Norton and Miss Bee Smart; and the bioscope exhibited a series of very fine films illustrating "The Barber of Seville."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Lew Lake presents his new sketch, *King Nobbler*, this week. The part of Nobbler gives Mr. Lake the opportunity of displaying his undoubted dramatic talent, and he is well supported by the members of his company, the stage management of the auxiliaries being admirable. The xylophone playing of the Five Vernons elicits the enthusiastic applause of the audience. The performers render operatic and popular selections with extreme taste. The Lyric Quartette sing with much expression various numbers, which are illustrated by pretty descriptive films; Mr. Bert Coote and company are entertaining in a brief dramatic sketch, entitled *A Lamb on Wall Sreet*; and other artists who appear include Mr. Fred Earle, comedian; Miss Annie Fielding and Mr. Bert Hull, in their eccentric sketch, *Mixed Bathing*; Miss Florence Yaymen, coon caricaturist; and Mr. H. O. Wills. Excellent views of the Derby are shown by the bioscope.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Prisoner of the Golden Gate, a tale of the days of Louis XI., and Hearts are Trumps, a stirring story of Wild West life, represent, in attention to detail and the representation of dramatic action, the acme of cinematograph photography. The Fearless Sportsman is a film which causes the audience to hold their sides with laughter; and other droll and varied subjects prove how excellently Mr. Sanders caters for the entertainment of his patrons.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Mr. Edmunds has provided a specially attractive programme for this week, in a series of films, entitled Pathé's Daily Journal, which are views by Pathé Frères of striking events in this country and the Continent. A Brother's Devotion and A Girl of the Range are two strong stories, admirably worked out, and the humorous subjects comprise a number of extremely funny incidents. Mr. Jack Linny, Scotch comedian, and Mr. Tony Clifford, mimic, add to the variety and interest of a good all-round bill.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The main attraction here on Monday was a marriage celebrated in the Somali village, which excited considerable interest. The bridegroom, Oubrai Debate, is twenty years of age, and the bride, Fatima Said, is three years younger; and the ceremony was performed by the chief of the tribe, at whose house a reception was held in the evening, when a purse of sovereigns was presented to the young couple by the manager of the gardens. The band of H.M. Life Guards provide the outdoor music this week, their playing being highly appreciated. Mr. Fred Rome's Comedy company occupy the concert hall with an excellent variety entertainment, in which Mr. Rome himself is conspicuously humorous and diverting. Football and billiard matches have been arranged by way of adding to the allurements of this summer resort.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Mr. Coleman Davis and company presented during the first half of the week *Beneath the Stars*, the remaining portion being devoted to *Sherlock Holmes*. The leading parts are undertaken by Mr. Coleman Davis, his portrayal of the title-rôle in *Sherlock Holmes* being worthy of special praise. Messrs. Courtney Robinson, Tom Roydon, Merriman, J. N. Turner, and Misses Florrie Hall, Nora Temple, and Unice Udall, and others appear to great advantage. Up-to-date pictures are thrown upon the screen prior to, and at the conclusion of, each performance.

EXETER.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Flora Cromer, the popular contralto, heads the bill this week, and proves as attractive and accomplished a vocalist as ever; the De Wynne Brothers appear in a series of difficult athletic feats, which they perform with a maximum of smartness and a minimum of effort; Tom Lloyd renders songs in eccentric manner and wins hearty recognition; Harry Taft is another very popular comedian of original manner and method; an attractive number is provided by the singing and dancing of Flo Cecil; Barney Vox appears in a clever ventriloquial sketch; and Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer, wins much applause.

EXMOUTH.—KING'S HALL.—Leon Vini's Pictures and Variety; Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—An excellent programme is presented here this week by Lydia Neilson's Boys and Girls, who are much appreciated in their clever comedy act; Willie Black, a comedian who calls forth much applause with his comic ditties. Special pictures are The Converts, Count Nomo, Traitor, The Derby, 1910, Cyclist Carabineers, and Halley's Comet. This hall, which has only been opened a few weeks, is transformed into a very pretty house, and is well patronised by Exmouth and surrounding districts.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—The presentation on Monday before a well filled house of the fairy play *Alice in Wonderland*, by Mr. H. Cecil Beryl's company was cordially welcomed. The play is lavishly mounted and gorgeously dressed, and the acting and singing are of high merit. The most attractive feature of the production is the clever acting and dancing of little Ivy Sawyer, a child actress who wins all hearts as Alice. A good deal of fun is provided by Mr. Dan Leno, jun. as the Caterpillar and the Red King, Mr. Frank Collins as the Mad Hatter; and Messrs. Roland Henry and Tom Graves as Tweedledee and Tweedledum. The Misses Marjory Neville, Phyllis Munro, Doris Kent, and Doreene Lamport are responsible for some excellent dances and Miss Ada Danks sings well as the Lily.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—The "star" item here this week is a sensational cycling act by Wizard Stone and Irene Stone; Raglus, an accomplished ball manipulator, returns to make a "hit"; the Phœnix Trio are entertaining singers; Edie Veno is an original comedienne; the Calcottis, in a musical act, are pleasing; Leo Fields is a comedian with an original style; and Morimura, Japanese illusionist, and the Kingscope complete the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. Bolam's stock company draws good audiences, *The Lights o' London* being the play staged this week. Mr. John B. Shinton does well as Harold Armytage; Mr. Stanley Bedwell efficiently portrays Clifford Armytage; Miss Ada Ryder gracefully impersonates Mrs. Armytage; Mr. Bert Atherton as Jarvis makes another hit; Miss Annie Brunnette cleverly depicts Mr. Jarvis and other parts are in excellent hands. Mr. Sydney Rennef is the stage-manager and producer.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—THE PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Barnard Bros.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Ridley.—The pictures continue to be highly popular, and Mr. "E" delights. The Evalos give a clever gymnastic and juggling turn, and Clarke and Glenny have a popular comedy sketch.

THE GEM.—Proprietors, The Goodman Entertainments Co.; Manager, Mr. C. Goodman.—The films shown here are attractive and interesting, and good turns are given by Fred Lester (descriptive), George Lane (a good comedian and patterer), and Mabel Barlow (soprano).

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Genuine pleasure is derived from the appearance of Mr. Charles Windermere and his company in the comedy *Where is William?* which is brimming over with amusing situations well brought out by an able company. The part of Sir William Gregory is exceedingly funny and entertaining in the hands of Mr. Charles Windermere; and Mr. Rule Pyott plays with plenty of spirit as the butler, William Jolly. The young lovers, Harry Gregory and Phyllis Patterson, are adequately portrayed by Mr. Robert Urquhart and Miss Clare Manifield; Miss Belle Donaldson makes a p'easing Lady Gregory; and Mr. Leslie Norman acts the pompous General Rubbub in most amusing manner. Misses Zoe Davis and May Roeine, in their portrayals of Eliza and Emily, act in meritorious manner. Small parts are ably played by Mr. Fred Lake and Mr. Albert Plant. The comedy is preceded by a bright little comedietta, *Clause No. 6.*

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—This week sees the commencement of the annual season of Irish drama at this popular house, and on Monday *The Shaughraun* was presented in first-class style. Mr. Tyrone Power as Conn, plays the character to the very life; Mr. Fred Lloyd's Captain Molyneux is another particularly good performance; and as Claire Ffolliott Miss Annie Hylton acts with fine spirit. The rôle of Father Dolan suits Mr. Dane Clarke admirably; the young lovers, Robert Ffolliott and Arte O'Neale, are touchingly represented by Mr. Kendrew Wilson and Miss A. Grahame; the Corry Kinchella of Mr. Henry C. Ward is a convincing study; and as Harvey Duff Mr. M. Morley Carroll is also successful. Miss Jessie Glen makes a pleasing Moya; Miss Amy Wood is highly characteristic as Conn's mother; and Mr. Henry Richardson is good as Sergeant Jones.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The top position on the bill is allotted to Dan Lipton's company in the vocal scena *Songland*, which is excellently staged. Miss Eva Keland renders several songs in capital style, and is ably supported by other members of the company. The Twelve Fezzans (natives of the Sahara) submit an acrobatic exhibition which is well described as wild, weird, and wonderful; W. F. Frame, the great Scotch comedian, is also very successful, his humorous songs being greatly enjoyed; and Woodhouse and Wells, comedians, are undeniably popular. The other members of the company include Luke Russell, the Californian Venus, a smart comedienne; Horace Hunter and company, in an interesting sketch; Harry Blake, comedian; Harry Jobson, operatic black face comedian; and Elsa Brull and A. Hemsley, in *Fun in a Music Shop*.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Victoria Monks is always a draw here; Friend and Downing are a couple of comedians with quaint and original ideas; Arthur Aldridge's tenor songs are sung with great taste and feeling; Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots give a most enjoyable song and dance turn; Mona Vivian again proves herself a dancer of ability, and her imitations are good. Selley, Rhodesia, and West give their combined musical and juggling items, all of which take well; Aggie Nolan sings sweetly and is a neat dancer; Willie Allan, Scotch comedian and eccentric dancer, completes a good bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The Royal Banzai Family are Japanese acrobats of great ability and daring; Harriett Vernon is again to the fore, and meets with an excellent reception. Her latest success, "Emblems," she renders in her own inimitable style, and her choruses are heartily taken up. Millie Engler and company, in *Beauty and the Burglar*, are responsible for much amusement; Miss Louie Tinsley as Polly is capital; Ethel Campbell receives a hearty welcome; the Darntons, duettists and soloists, are possessed of capital voices; Cestria, comedy juggler and acrobatic waiter, is exceptionaly good; Leslie Race sings in capital style; Osborne and Brookes take well in their double musical turn; and Barrie and Wood do excellently. The Palacescope films are, as usual, first rate.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. — Fred Karno's sketch *Jimmy the Fearless*, with its amusing burlesque of boys' papers and stories of adventures, makes an enjoyable turn here. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas take well in their scenes from "Bleak House" and "Pickwick." May Henderson's dusky coon items prove highly popular; Hall and Earle are a very smart couple of acrobatic comedians; Mitchell and Cain, as "The Frenchman and the Other Fellow,' are responsible for a succession of hearty laughs; Roma and Romani's musical items are particularly good; Johnny Walker is a clever eccentric comedian; and a lengthy film of the Welsh *v.* MacFarland fight evokes a deal of interest.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The pictures are of a high standard of excellence. An Indian's Bride and The Flower of the Ranch call for mention, the various scenes and incidents in Indian life being interesting and instructive. In London's Fish Supply we are brought into touch with the numerous organisations at work to cope with the demand for this article of diet. Mr. Jack Ramsay is a clever and capable comedian; Mr. J. H. Maddock's instrumental work is first class.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—The Waltons' comedy duo, *The Irishman and the Maid*, is an item well worthy of the support it receives; a good comedienne is Cissie Arris, and her dancing is smart; Wallie McDougal is a Scotch comedian with a pawky style which is effective; the Sisters Sember sing and dance well; and Happy Jolly Jumbo, blind patter comedian, receives merited applause. The Bioscope films are most enjoyable. The audiences have been excellent.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Messrs. Poole's Theatre, Ltd.).—A new set of the late King Edward's Funeral Procession Pictures are the chief films exhibited this week. A fully military band plays suitable music. Miss Kitty Woodford sings illustrated songs, and the Vocaphone contributes a popular song.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworthy.—A good all-round bill is headed by the Beckstein Trio, vocalists and dancers, who deserve all the applause bestowed upon them; Claude Bowlby, light comedian, keeps the audience in the best of humour; Rosie Pink is a clever juvenile vocalist; Florrie Irving, international dancer, is successful; Amy Belwood, comedienne and dancer, sings and dances charmingly; and Miss Dolly Boston, descriptive vocalist, is entertaining. The Monarch-scope pictures are new and attractive.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —Mr. E. H. Albury's company is here this week in *Why Smith Left Home*. Mr. Albury gives a clever impersonation of the Count; Miss Sybil Chester plays well as Amelia; Mr. Charles Clarke is an amusing General Billet-Doux; Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence is good as Major Duncombe; Miss Edna Eden is excellent as Mrs. Smith; and Miss Maude Shelton creates a lot of fun as Lavinia.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Messrs. Howell, Webb and company are topping the bill this week in a stirring episode, entitled *The Galley Slave*; Ray and Douglas are amusing as The Postman and the Girl; Fred Bronte's songs are well received; Bella Leaburn and Lilly Esplen are charming comediennes; and pictures complete.

THE GEM.—Manager, Mr. E. V. Barr.—In addition to an excellent display of pictures, the Two Ransoms give a clever musical entertainment; George Christo is an up-to-date ventriloquist; and Tom Taylor is popular with his song scenas.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—John G. Brandon and company win approbation for their humorous sketch, *The Lovely Liars*, and later on appear with much success in a dramatic sketch, entitled *Clancy*; Les Wartanas give an exceedingly smart juggling and equilibristic performance; Mary Meek submits two well-rendered songs; and J. H. Smart, comedian and dancer, is much appreciated. The Dromoscope shows Lemberg winning the Derby.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—Another excellent series of films is shown here this week, two outstanding pictures being The Soul of Venice and Across the Plains.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's company is presenting a répertoire of plays. On Monday *Sapho* was staged, with Miss Bateman as Fanny Legrand, and her emotional acting in the passionate scenes was very powerful; Mr. Fred W. Goddard acted with sincerity of purpose as Jean Gaussen; Mr. Percy Shaw gave a touch of quaint humour to the part of Uncle Cessire; Mr. Charles Clifford played Henri Dechelette with commanding force; Miss Camille Treherne was excellent in the pathetic part of Alice; and others responsible for good work were Mr. Harry Aynsleigh as Flamont, Mr. George Herbert as Jules Delbret, Miss Lily Pawley as Irene, Mr. Tom Pountney as Hettema, and Miss Winnie Redfern as Mme. Hettema. Other plays presented during the week were *Camille* and *The Way Women Love*.

THE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The high-class musical entertainment provided by the Zigeuner Quartette is winning unqualified approval. The lady member of the party is an accomplished vocalist, and the performers on the violin, violoncello, and pianoforte are all masters of their instruments; Miss Ray Wallace, the lady mimic at the piano, gives a series of her delightful impersonations; Lillie Soutter is a comedienne with a singularly bright and lively style; Jean and Josie give a remarkable contortionist display; Edward Rose and Dora Challoner are excellent in their comedy act; Harry Kimberley has some amusing songs, which he sings well; and Calile and Walker give an entertaining vocal and comedy speciality.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial electric pictures and varieties form the premier attraction here, the coloured art drama Isis and The Roman being particularly striking. Mlle. Sara's marblesque Trio give clever examples of descriptive white living pictures. The Will Elton team, triple-bar comedians, are wonderfully smart and active.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company is here in *A Woman's Passion* and *Almost His Bride*. In the latter play Mr. Stephen Pritt is an excellent Simon Simson, a butler; Miss Lily Prescott a capital Myra Thorne; Mr. G. R. J. Austin acted as Philip Rowland; Mr. R. F. Stacey a good Jaspar Thorne; Miss Ybda Moore's a successful Mona Gilchrist; and Miss Marie Florence a charming Emma.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Emerson and Baldwin, jugglers, top the bill here with a clever and entertaining turn; the Countess Bekoffska shows considerable skill as a lightning painter; Great Scott maintains his high reputation; Miss Yolande Noble and Mr. C. Y. Fixott are successful in *Susan*; Clive Watts, comedian and dancer; the Hon. St. Vincent Ellesmere, R.A.M., baritone; Daisy Hicks, chorus comedienne; and the pictures complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Three Van Dammes, in an exhibition of tumbling, have created a sensation here; Tom Hearn as the lazy juggler is a treat, and his quick-change scene a marvel of ingenuity; *The Rat* (Gaston Chevalier and Co.) is intensely dramatic and well played, the Apache dance, by Mlle. Etoil Le Noir and Gaston Chevalier, being a feature of the sketch; Kitty Clinton is a refined and taking artist; Alfred Long a sweet alto vocalist; Lily Edwardes, comedienne, is successful; and Clara Reid and John Power, comedy entertainers, and the pictures complete.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A fine programme here is headed by Tom Foy and company in *The First of April*. Also appearing are Maudie Forde, comedienne; Lindsey and Harte; the Brothers Curran, in a boxing comedy act; Bert Rayburn, comedian; and Willie Garvey, comedian.

KING'S.—Proprietor, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazelwood.—The films presented are of exceptional excellence.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Edward S. Petley and Miss Una Gilbert's company appeared in *Little Mrs. Cummin*. Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson as the young husband Clarence Glamore was excellent, as was Miss Rayner as Juliet. Miss Una Gilbert as Mrs. Cummin was a typical stage mother-in-law; Miss Fenton was effective as the dignified Mrs. Plain; Miss Jessie Perceval made a merry Susie; and Mr. Petley as Uncle Horace was good. For the remainder of the week Miss Fyfe Alexander and her company appear in *A Sense of Humour*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—A condensed version of grand opera is presented by the Imperial Opera Company, *Faust*, *Carmen*, *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, and *The Bohemian Girl* being announced for different nights.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxstead.—Mr. J. W. Hall once more finds abundant favour; Ted Gill's phenomenal tenor voice never fails to please; Vera Cruz is smart in her song and dance; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has a remarkably interesting subject in A Shadow of the Past, which is made more attractive by the Biospeech accompaniment.

HASTINGS. — PIER PAVILION. — Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A varied and interesting programme is opened by Miss Ivy Mayer, an expert skipping-rope dancer; a successful turn is given by Sing Ling Chin, Chinese juggler; some fresh and original pictures are shown on the Pavilion Bioscope; Mr. J. D. Hunter and his smart combination of artists engage in a very diverting farce, *A Quiet Family*; Mlle. Bartinilli is a graceful contortionist; and Miss May Templeton a pleasing vocalist and dancer.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—This week pictures are the chief attraction. The Rowntrees (Bert and Edna), the smart comedy couple, contribute variety.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—An excellent programme is submitted this week, features being A Daughter's Devotion and From Gipsy Hands. Lieut. Rose, R.N., is meeting with success.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The fine playing of the Canadian Kilties Band is a real treat for music-lovers. In addition to their concerted playing there are dances by the Clan Johnstone Troupe, brilliant solos on the cornet by Bert Daniels, the skirl of the pipes from Piper Major Albert Johnstone, and a well-sung tenor song, "Thora," by J. C. Lockhart. Other artists are Bromley and Fontein, comedy musicians; Miss Azella Wilson, lady gymnast; Bros. Webb, two amusing musical clowns.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The artists appearing here are Miss Maude Vera, comedienne; Chas. Woodward, light comedian; Miss Addie Dorina, in her amusing little protean act, entitled *Dr. Spot's Patients*; Dene and Dixon, singers and dancers; Sisters Maynard, duettists and dancers; Canard, a contortionist of original ideas; Chas. Vincent, a comedian with a good style; and Williams' Jubilee Singers.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, is creating great laughter. Miss Baines, under whose auspices the company is run, fulfils the leading rôle with great success, for not only is she a talented comedienne, but a delightful singer; Mr. David Donaldson makes the most of the Trustee; and praise unstinted should be the reward of Miss Mary Collier. There is a charm of light-heartedness in the work of Miss Nellie Dyson. Mr. D. Sinclair Holdenby plays the part of the son with good effect.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—Another play in which the Alexandra audience have cause for delight is that of Mrs. Kimberley's *Was She to Blame?* Lilian, a rôle allotted to Miss Nancy Roberts, is very well played; Mr. Clavering Craig portrays Frank Roselle with skill; and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley paints the kind-hearted actress in favourable colours. The comic element is well sustained by Miss Nita Owen and Mr. Kenneth Black. The Wm. Clark of Mr. F. G. Kimberley is a fine presentation of the old actor.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Miss Arabella Allen, in impersonations from Dickens's works, is an artist of great talent; Edith Courtney and Florence Wilton, in a comedy duologue, *A Marble Flirtation*, receive well-earned applause; and Eglen and Percival, in *Love and the Landlord*, come in for a fair share of honours; Babe Lloyd, comedienne and dancer, wins good opinions; and Miss Iris Banfield, comedienne, is highly successful. Morris and Marie score in song, dance, and patter; and the Four Crenvises, in an aerial performance, conclude a strong programme.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The full variety entertainment is discontinued at this house for the summer months, the management relying on the Bioscope with a good variety of up-to-date films. Miss Gertrude Lovedale sings some catchy songs, and Shepherd and Granvillo, two versatile artists, keep the house in a roar with their comic patter.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—A first-class variety company here includes the Craggs, acrobats, with most excellent feats; Florence Raymond, ventriloquist; Charles Cassell, comedian; Leo Carle, protean comedian; Annie Casey, chorus vocalist; Charles Chard, comedian and dancer; Corcoran Brothers, in a musical speciality and quick-change act; and Charles Ulrick, the Barrel King.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Albany Ward's electric pictures include President Roosevelt in Africa and the Derby (1910). La Belle Duchesse is still a big draw with her boxing stallions. Sewell and Dudley, in the musical comedy sketch, *The Sun Bath*, are good.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. C. A. Barnett.—The Cremona Ladies' Orchestra is conducted for this week by Miss Dorothy Augusta Vincent. The rest of the programme is good.

LEEDS.—THE GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Messrs. Platt and Towers' company is here with *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. J. Edward Pearce represents Fergus Crampton cleverly; Gloria Clandon is convincingly and delightfully embodied by Miss Winifred Beech. Miss Edith Hunter sustains the part of Mrs. Clandon with great success; and Dolly Clandon is prettily characterised by Miss Ida Southern; Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson gives an amusing study of Philip Clandon; and Mr. Graham Colmer makes the most of his opportunities as Valentine. Mr. Bellenden Clarke scores as a K.C.; and the waiter is well played by Mr. Claude Haviland. Finch McComas has a worthy exponent in Mr. Allan Jeaves.

THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones presents an interesting drama, *When Other Lips*, to a good audience. The company responsible for the production leaves little to be desired. The character of Ruth is convincingly portrayed by Miss Marie Daventry; whilst Mr. John Davidson gives a dignified representation of her sailor lover; Mr. T. Arthur Jones has an excellent part as Phylocrates Jenkins; Nancy Jenkins is well taken by Miss Irene Tracey. The remainder of the company fulfil their rôles in a satisfactory manner.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Mark Sheridan heads the bill here, and is as great a favourite as ever; Ella Retford has a tremendous reception; Oswald Williams has several new tricks which create much surprise; W. Selkirk presents a new spectacle, *The Boy Scouts*, assisted by a number of Leeds children; Dot Stephens wins much approval for her clever character impersonations; a popular turn is that of Zalco and Elda, who give a clever exposition of ju-jitsu methods. Maudie Francis shows merit in song and dance; and the Bros. Redmond, art acrobatic comedians, complete a capital company.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The Vampire dance, done by Miss Mildred Deverez and Mr. Tom Terriss, is a good turn; Paul Conchas surpasses himself in his feats of strength; Rosie Elliott has some nice songs; Athas and Collins are entertaining in song and dance; Regan and Ryan are smart knockabouts; Bruce Green impersonates female characters; and Patty Yole, Frank Seeley, and Smit and Smit also appear.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Park's Eton Boys and Girls are a big success here; Bertha Ward, in a musical scena, *The Blacksmith's*

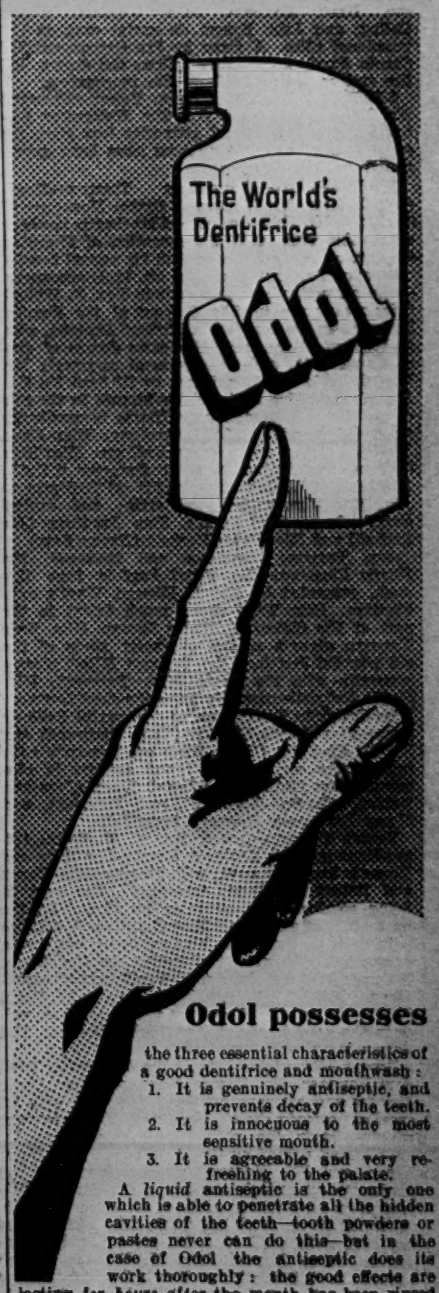

Odol possesses

the three essential characteristics of a good dentifrice and mouthwash:

1. It is genuinely antiseptic, and prevents decay of the teeth.
2. It is innocuous to the most sensitive mouth.
3. It is agreeable and very refreshing to the palate.

A *liquid* antiseptic is the only one which is able to penetrate all the hidden cavities of the teeth—tooth powders or pastes never can do this—but in the case of Odol the antiseptic does its work thoroughly: the good effects are lasting *for hours after* the mouth has been rinsed with it.

Daughter, does well. Other excellent turns are supplied by Wynnie Darrell, Boston Twins, Wyllie, Jack Barker, and Sam Williams.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Harry Weldon tops the bill here with several popular songs; the Berg Brothers do some smart bicycle tricks; Beatrice Allen is a great favourite; and Maggie Walsh's voice is much admired. The Gilberts and Mr. Sydney Bach are also applauded.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—A very entertaining programme is presented by Lily Gaston, male impersonator and dancer, and Winnie Laurie, comedienne and burlesque artist. Large crowds nightly appreciate the excellent pictures.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company is here in *The Diver's Luck*. Prominent in rôles calling for special eulogium are Mr. William Macready as Martin Faber, Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Barney Bawn, Miss Phyllis Spalding as Winnie Hall, Mr. Herbert Vere as Tom Hall, Mr. Harry Briss as Snowball, Mr. James Burt as Pedro, Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Helen Wyngate, Miss Enid Turner as Peggy Mahoney, Mr. H. J. Walton as Maurice Wyngate.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Starring here this week is Anna Chandler, America's latest comedienne, a versatile and clever lady. At the other end are Tom and Marie Motramo, who also score a well-deserved success. An ovation is rightly accorded to Tysoe Smith's famous Eighteen Lancashire Singers; Tom Leamore is as funny as ever; Ben Albert creates plenty of merriment; Lux and his dogs give a performance that stands out as one of the best of its kind; the Three Laurels are making a hit with their smart acrobatic act; Amy Marsden as a low comedy artist is good; and Beaty and Blanche are entertaining comediennes and dancers.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—A capital programme here comprises the following:—Jeff Martin in *The Sports of a Hundred Years*, assisted by Dick Murray (Limehouse) and Joe Willow; Bardoff, a seventeen-year-old strong boy; the Sages (Will and Jenny), vaudeville artists; Le Hurst, ventriloquist; Mamie Morris, expert dancer; Sim Moree, the indiarubber Mohammedan; the Burdetta Bros., hand balancers; George Belmont, a good dancer; Reg Ewen, light comedian; and the Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Excellent and varied pictures here include A Tale of the West, A Race for a Monkey, Grin and Win, Eat Your Soup, The Secretary's Crime, The Vendetta, The Detective's Bag, An Extraordinary Duel, Sons of the Soil, and Tobacco Growing in Malay. Captain Roberts, the King's trumpeter, assisted by two ladies and two young gentlemen acrobats, provide the variety portion of the programme.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—Pictures here are changed twice a week.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Arthur Shirley's sensational French drama *The King of Crime* provides Mr Richard Ferris with a strong composite rôle in which he successfully trebles the characters of M. Lemaire, Captain Hercules, and Ronjarre in a vigorous and effective manner; and Miss Doris Brookes portrays the blind wife, Henriette, with great tenderness and charm. Mr. J. W. Austin and Miss Eleanor McHardy are alike excellent in their renderings of Louis Mascarot and Mathilde Haudry; Old Tabaret is humorously played by Mr. Addison Thomas; Mr. Percy Dysart presents a careful study of the elder Gondelu; while Gondelu *fils* is made delightfully unpleasing to the gods by Mr. Ernest Regent. Comic relief is mainly supplied by the Mick Maloney and Clarisse Tabaret of Mr. J. T. Dale and Miss Kitty Thomas, supplemented by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's Toto Chopin and Miss Pauline Gear's clever character sketch of Mère Crochard; and Messrs Faber Joynson, Mark Hannam, John Wayford, Robert Caling, and John Nelson do useful work in less prominent rôles. A farce by Jas Garrow entitled *Cousin Sandy Macpherson* follows the drama, but the cast is not printed on the programme.

LIMERICK.—RINK ELECTRIC PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Edward Kidd and Co.—The Walturdaw Bioscope has been the great attraction here since the opening day, and the pictures have been appreciated by large audiences.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—This theatre has been closed this week, with the exception of Thursday evening, when the manager took his annual benefit.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction here this week is Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company in *The Outcast of the Family*. Foremost in the cast is Mr. Herbert Bentone, who, as Stephen Barry, acts with some degree of dramatic strength, and gains general approval; Mr. Bert Oates is well in evidence as Richard Martin; Mr. Wybert Clive distinguishes himself in the rôle of Sir Henry Thorne; Harry Thorne is excellently presented by Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney; Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd is a sweet Grace Redburn; Miss Elsie Shelton earns distinction in the character of Ruth; Mr. Edward W. Cudd handles his original part of Abraham Wasper in good style; and capital comedy is provided by Mr. Tom Armitage (Joe Bushell) and Miss Freda Beckett (Nancy Bray).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Her Fatal Past* is here this week, presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's combination. Miss Ward shows much talent in the part of the distressed Honor Symes; Miss Kate Newman gives a capital character study of the old hag Sal Jenkins; Mr. Bernard Elliott pleases generally with his manly Mark Desmond; Miss Emilie Entwistle carefully plays the child Leonard; Miss Gabrielle Romero makes a powerful Belle de Lara; Miss Clarrie Yandell (Kitty Sprigwell) and Mr. H. Macauley (Dicky Bird) are responsible for some lively comedy; and good support is also provided by Messrs. T. Edward Ward (Jonathan Nobbs), Charles Yorke (Gilbert Fernside), and Harry Emmerson (Leonard Fernside).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*For Wife and Home* is here this week, with Messrs. John Power and Robert Faulkner's company. The work is being received with every satisfaction. In the part of Celeste Legrand Miss Georgina V. Clifford acts with vigour; Miss Marion Ryder presents a sympathetic picture of Rosette; as the heroic Roland St. Pierre Mr. Robert Faulkner finds great favour; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn is a powerful Henri St. Pierre; and the rôle of the mesmerist, Gaspard, is in the good hands of Mr. Edwin Maydew. The drama is put on in good style.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week with an excellent comedy sketch, *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, which affords the utmost enjoyment; a really artistic and refined musical turn comes from Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, who earn rounds of applause; as comedy conjurers Les Marco Belli present a particularly able entertainment, which earns for them much approval; *The Little Stowaway*, on a farewell tour, is here again, the supporters being Messrs. John K. Walton, Arthur Temple, S. Griffiths Moss, Bevan Lorimer, Ernest Fosbrooke, Ernest Coutrel, Miss Maude Osmond, and Miss Marjorie Armstrong; the Kratons (Harry and Ethelyn) delight everybody with their hoop-rolling show, which is watched with the closest interest, and well merits the applause bestowed upon it; Lydia and Amelys have a smart Continental dancing act; as a Scotch comedian and eccentric dancer George Rae affords satisfaction; Mildred Bryan renders several soprano pieces to the general pleasure; and Harry Marte, comedian and dancer, also appears.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here this week we are having Mr. Will Glaze's company with *No Mother to Guide Her*, played twice nightly. The work is well put on, affording every satisfaction. Miss Rene-Belle Douglas in the part of Nan is very popular; as the Rev. Tom Pelham Mr. John S. Milward shows much ability, and earns hearty recognition; Miss Georgette Thierry handles the rôle of Julia Patterson with every discretion; as Felix Campbell Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers is well placed; and valuable support comes from Miss Betty Seymour (Millicent Saxby), Mr. Will Glaze (Bob Coleman), Mr. J. O. Stewart (Bill Bunce), and Mr. George Gormley (William Saxby).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Foremost here are the famous Mirza Golem troupe, with their Asiatic novelty, *The Slave Dealers*, which affords a deal of pleasure; the Society Quartet of vocalists and dancers are an acceptable turn; that merry sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, given by Arnold, Richardson, and Co., causes screams of laughter; as pantomimical acrobats the Havannas troupe show to great advantage; Herbert Sleath's company present a capital dramatic sketch, *The Deputy Sheriff*; L. W. Harris has some particularly taking songs; the Tintos, in "African Gambols," go through some clever acrobatic work; Harry Taylor is a comedian with good points; and Lily Hayes dances and sings in acceptable style.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are this week giving *Man's Enemy*, from the pens of Charles H. Longden and Eric Hudson. Principal parts are ably undertaken by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Harry Stanton), Cecil Ravenswood (General Stanton), Sydney Grant (Tom Drake), Miss Lina Nazeby (Sally Banks), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Grace Lisle). Good support also comes from Messrs. Tom. H. Solly, Leo Montgomery, R. Seath-Innes, E. D. Allen, Charles Townsend, and the Misses Gertrude Gilman, Millie Dench, and Gwynne Watson. Brown's Bioscope shows The Englishman and the Girl.

OLYMPIA. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big line here this week is Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts*, a screamingly funny affair, which causes audiences to rock with laughter. Fred Kitchen is at the head of the trouble, and, needless to say, keeps matters very lively. Among the supporters are Mrs. Herbert Darnley, Miss Jessie Crammond, W. Wilbey, Jack Williams, and Harry Lappo. The popular Nellie Wallace is here again delighting admirers with her latest songs; Pat Rafferty renders several of his favourite Irish songs; the Villions go through a remarkable turn as cyclists, and dance well, besides causing a deal of fun. They are highly appreciated. Pete and Minnie Lee arouse much laughter with their trifle, *A Scotchman's Visit to London*; J. J. Dallas, with his "People we meet," introduces some exceedingly funny song impersonations; as banjoists Elton and Edwin, along with Miss Fannie Elton, want a deal of beating, and deserve the hearty applause they receive; and Sylvia du Barry gives much pleasure with her charming song scena, "In Andalusia."

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the programme here this week we have Lawrence Brough and company with *No. 9*, a merry sketch that earns every approval. The supporters are, in addition to Mr. Brough, Miss Olga Esme, Mr. Percy Marshall, Miss Amy Singleton, Mr. Watkin Wynne, and Mr. Ray L. Cody. The Derrington Family execute some daring feats on cycles; Louis Taylor's company have a strong sketch, *The Adder's Tooth*, in which Messrs. Fred D. Bromwich and Hodgson Taylor, and the Misses Katherine Carew and Ailsa Lorne take part; Ronald George pleases as an instrumentalist; Jock McNeil is a humorous Scotchman and excellent dancer; the Harringtons present a comic juggling combination; as vocalists and expert acrobatic step dancers the Vaudeville Trio are excellent; the Whimsicals give a clever turn of melody, mirth, and movement; and Ada Cerito, comedienne, pleases entirely.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arnold Macara.—Gesta and Hoe in a pot-pourri drawing-room entr'acte are clever and amusing. Tom Merry scores as "Sergeant Green" and "The seaside waiter"; William Kingsley is an expert handbell soloist; Master George Doonan contributes songs and dances; Witt is an entertaining comedian; and Fayre and Manning are excellent in song, dance, and repartee.

LONDONDERRY.—ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Williams wound up the present season with the motorscope representation of the funeral of King Edward VII., which attracted large and appreciative audiences. The programme included vocal items by Mrs. Lillie Williams, a charming singer; and an entertainment by the ventriloquist, Mr. Dan Derry.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—An interesting series of pictures is shown here. At interludes Messrs. Chester and Lee's Marionettes are highly appreciated; and the Musical Dunvilles and Fred Charles, comedian, also appear.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Evanson.—The "World in Motion" pictures maintain their high standard of excellence. Variety is provided by the Four Scoreys, in their musical ménage, introducing Palmyra, the elastic lady.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—A capital attraction this week is the appearance of Miss Beatrice Moreau and Mr. Horace Lingard in *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, which is skilfully treated and thoroughly enjoyed. Miss Moreau scores a decided success in the name-part; while Mr. Lingard makes the most of his opportunities as Martin Bennett. *Divorçons* is announced for the latter part of the week.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The variety bill includes Karr and Kooney, comedians; Jennie Claremont, in imitation of well-known artists; and J. C. Jacques, comedian. The pictorial portion of the entertainment is decidedly good.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The Zelanders, mental telepathists, are a great attraction here; Miss Veronica Brady is clever in song and dance; the Five Colonials are well received in a musical and dramatic scena *The Unexpected Guest*; Jules Charmettes gets many to join in his French and English choruses; the Cecilias are good lady instrumentalists; Dan Kirton, comedian, and Violet Desmond, comedienne, also add to the entertainment, which is completed by electric pictures.

MANCHESTER.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—A highly-interesting bill here this week comprises a new play, *The Choice* (a notice of which appears elsewhere); a finely-delivered recital by Mr. Esme Percy of Oscar Wilde's prose poem "The Happy Prince"; and a revival of W. Kingsley Tarpey's eccentric comedy *The Amateur Socialist*. It is always difficult to make distinctions among the members of the Gaiety company, however long the cast may be, and to select Mr. Henry Austin as the principal and most amusing figure is merely to say that the part of Sir Hubert Pennefeather provides the most conspicuous opportunities, which certainly were made the most of. The distressed wife was well represented by Miss Muriel Pratt; Miss Lilian Christine made a charming Evelyn Rivers; and Mr. Basil Dean was capital as the immaculate Spencer. Among the others, Mr. Edward Landor and Mr. Charles Bibby as Sergeant Fell and Inspector Bott added greatly to the fun, but all the remaining parts were remarkably well filled, and the piece was thoroughly enjoyed by a good house on Monday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Owners, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*Theodor's Flutter* is being played here. Miss Doris Woodhall, the celebrated prima donna, Mr. Charles Victor, the eminent baritone, and Mr. E. C. Hedmont, that delightful and favourite tenor, all sing and act in fine style; and excellent support is given by a well-selected company, including Miss Marion Broom, Miss Annie Van Dyck, Miss Hilda Morris (all delightful as Durand's daughters), Mr. Wm. O'Connor, Mr. Robert Turley, Mr. R. F. Matthews (fine figures as French hussars), Mr. J. Kneale Campbell (capital as Moreau), Mr. S. Boulderstone (very effective as Theodor), and Miss Lawson Taylor (pleasing as Toinette). Mr. Percy Blanden and Miss Jessie Dalter make the most of their opportunities as Boniface and Winnie.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is here in *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. The cast includes Miss Agnes Collier, who is well placed and popular in the appealing rôle of Alice Waters; Mr. Fred Emery has also a good part as the Rev. John Alberry, in which he certainly shines; and Mr. N. Nelme Grasswell gives an admirable character performance of Farmer Walters; while Mr. Cuthbert Taylor has the villainous doing of Squire Stoneley in hand. At the head of the humorous element is Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough, well supported by Mr. Louis Weston, Miss Lily Fuller, and Miss Lizzie Lennon.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The big thing in the bill here is the Great Raymond, who contributes a large share of the entertainment, and offers frequent changes in his large and varied répertoire of mysteries. Les Grossi do their Vampire Dance sensationally; Little Sunbeam is Marie Lloyd in miniature; Ryde and Beeman are a pair of quaintly funny acrobats; and other good turns are those of Morris and Moore, expert dancers; Luella Cross, dainty comedienne; and Fred Dunstone, comedian.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. W. V. Garrod presents here this week the successful drama *A Country Girl in London*. It is interesting and exciting, and the title-rôle is admirably filled by Miss Bertha Kingston, who depicts with feeling and naturalness the vicissitudes of Marjorie Hamilton. Mr. H. V. Garrod makes a hit as Frank Gordon; Mr. C. Halling figures well as Squire Hamilton; and Mr. W. Bradford plays cleverly as the adventurer, Godrey Clinton, supported by Mr. Owen Remonde as the rascally Job Smithers. The comic parts are in the safe hands of Mr. F. Dallas, Mr. S. Perry, and Miss A. Clarke, while among the remainder of the cast Miss E. Crawford is a very acceptable Gwendoline Gordon.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Raynor, supported by Miss Cecilia Dare and Mr. B. Montague and company, are here in répertoire, attracting appreciative houses. The plays presented are *Jim the Penman*, *An American Citizen*, and *David Garrick*.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Business-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—The play here this week is Mr. James Willard's *The Girl with the Angel Face*. It is played by Mr. Mat Lynton's company, who adequately exploit its sensational possibilities. Miss Minnie Love handles the title-part with skill and effect, and Miss Laurie Potter gives a lively and practised depiction of Mollie Maitland; and among the best of the remainder are Mr. William Hicks as the chauffeur, Miss Rhoda Douglas as Ena Wentworth, Miss Rosina White as Ena's child, Mr. Graham Wingford as Sir John Wentworth, and Mr. Arthur Lawrence as the Rev. Gordon Cross.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company are here in *I Want to be Loved*. Miss Nellie Garside plays an interesting character part in very good style; Mr. J. Edward Whitty gives a strong rendering of the prosecuting counsel, Caleb Valentine; Mr. Charles O'Connor does well as Capt. Parkhurst; and among other characters of intrest conspicuous work is done by Miss Elsie Capell as the Duchess of Pimlico, and Miss Flora Hastings as Lady Cecilia Constantine. The staging is appropriate.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Hetty King is the bright particular star here, her act being received with enthusiastic appreciation. Alexandra Dagmar is also prominent, and makes a big hit with her breezy stories and pleasing songs; the Bob Pender Troupe of comedy giants and dwarfs are a quaint turn; Syd Walker, comedian, is well received; Fasola does some wonderful things in Indian magic; Rich Taylor proves himself an excellent ventriloquist with novel notions; and other capital items are Kerr and Koe, comedians and dancers; Wullie Walker, Scotch comedian; and Bertha Winder, an accomplished lady dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are to the front here in a résumé of magic and mirth; Billy Merson, comedian, meets with a good reception, his Russian dancing burlesque being particularly funny; Eddie Girard and Jessie Gardner are quietly amusing in *Dooley and the Diamond*, and are well received; Rossi Ashton, the well-known war artist, is excellent in sketching to music; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are remarkable trick cyclists; Ernie Lotinga and others cause much laughter in the absurdity, *Her Husband*; May B. Brilliant is a good dancer; Johnny Fuller is capital as a cat, on the wire and off; and Ellis Barrieton is a good baritone vocalist. Up-to-date pictures are also shown.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Joe Peterman and George Ricketts's company, in a burlesque, entitled *Chanteclair; or, Hi-Cockalorum*, a feathered phantasy, is here this week, and causing much laughter. Vastly amusing also is that versatile comedian, George Mozart, who scores in a moving picture novelty, entitled The Thief; George Barnes, light comedian, is very well received; the Sisters Caselli are first-rate dancers; and other enjoyable turns are those of Horton and La Triska as the Clown and the Human Doll; the Four Juggling Geraldos; Dora Lyric, popular chorus comedienne; and the Three Cunards, singers and dancers. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—May Moore Duprez, the jolly little Dutch girl, meets with a big reception here; Mr. Joe Almasio and Miss Yamma are seen to great advantage in a novel and original juggling and tumbling act; the Brothers Gerard, American comedy duo, are smart dancers: the Dalgarnos, in *Caught Napping*, are good; Bella Belmont, comedienne, takes well; Lillian French, comedienne and mimic, is well received; Ada Oxley and company act well in *Peggy*; Elsie Athas, comedienne, is pleasing in song and dance; and the Hudsons are a capital comedy duo.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Callahan and St. George present *The Old Neighbourhood* here, a turn of comedy, music, and pathos, and are well received; O'Gust makes his usual hit as imitator of animals and instruments; Chas. M. Daly and his company act well in the amusing sketch, *I Must Have It*; and good items are provided by Capt. Ellis and Son, musicians of merit, and the son a smart dancer; Ada Bessell, clay modeller; the Little Vestos, juvenile dancers; the Cromwells, in novel juggling act; Zara and Zema, Continental equilibrists; and Sammy Foster, patter comedian and dancer.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—An excellent all-round show is offered here this week by The Gems, a capital combination, including Victor Kahn, comedian; Ernest Attwell, baritone; Olive Mortimer, light comedian; Nellie Walker, soprano; Wallace Kennedy, tenor; and David Norton, piano.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—Large audiences are drawn to each house to see the excellent pictures, which this week include Two Portraits, Fence on Bar Z Ranch, The Pierrot's Farewell, Coco Turns Nigger for Love and others. The audience joins lustily in the choruses of several songs which are introduced.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edward Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—Mr. Tom Craven's company still contributes the attraction here, and is presenting this week, with marked success, his play *The Wife and the Woman*. Mr. Herbert Alexander sustains the rôle of William Fulcraft, the novelist, with great ability; Mr. P. Ramsey Foreman plays the scientist, Dr. Henry Newton, most successfully, and Mr. Louis Palgrave, as Dick Filter, portrays the character capitally; Miss Rita Trekelle makes a successful Mrs. Helen Fulcraft; Miss Josephine Middleton enacts Rhoda Nettlethorpe exceedingly well; Miss F. Meredith presents in a forcible manner the part of Miss Amelia Asa; Miss Dorothy Maude gives a vigorous presentment of the wealthy widow, Mrs. Patrick Newton; Miss Helen Arden, as Nurse Whitmore, and Miss Ella Dixon, as Alice Inkelden, are entirely satisfactory; Messrs. George F. Ide, as Philip Nettlethorpe, a waiter; Mr. Frank Stoney, as Dr. Aubrey Baruch; Mr. Edward Linley, as Mr. Abel Javan; Mr. Harry Ainger, as Mr. McAllister; and Mr. L. Streete, as Job Ricketts, are commendable.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The Ten Loonies, the mad musicians, head the bill with their hilarious sketch *Dotty*, in which they keep the audience in a continuous roar of laughter; Bill and Bellay, acrobatic eccentrics, give a smart show, and the Sisters Kaufmann, Continental acrobatic dancers, are charming exponents of their art; Manek-Shah, Hindoo necromancer and conjurer, performs some bewildering tricks; Vandyke and Brown give a new and unique entertainment, including vocal and instrumental items and the rapid painting of pictures; and T. G. Royde, comedian, and Pete and Juno, dancers, are also included in the programme. Great interest has been evinced in the Bio. pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Jackson Withers.—*The Love that Women Desire* is being played here this week. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives a strong rendering of Squire Abingdon; Philip Carnaby is capably rendered by Mr. Arthur Chisholm; Mr. Wilford Bailey does well as Frank Hardy; Miss Margaret Brodie makes a delightful Sybil Thorburn; Miss Nellie Navarro plays Madge Abingdon admirably; and Miss Marie Tempest is good as Mariquinha.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Smith.—Mr. Carr Loates and company are presenting the musical comedy drama *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. Fred Muntz makes a sturdy Captain Manley; Jabez Barber and Morris Goldstein are cleverly personified by Mr. Carr Loates and Mr. A. Burrows respectively; Miss Cissie Milford skilfully fills the dual rôle of Skittles and Kitty Knott; Miss Maggie Hobart is a graceful Alice Lloyd; Miss May Douglas does well as Dot; as Charlie Smart Mr. W. H. Irving is responsible for some rich drollery; and specialities are given by Miss Cissie Milford, Miss May Douglas, Mr. W. H. Irving, and Mr. Fred Muntz.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Leading pictures in this week's programme are A Woman's Folly, An Old Story, Along the Nile, In Old California, and humorous pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Fred J. Webb and his company are fulfilling a successful engagement with *For Old Times' Sake*. Mr. Webb sustains in masterly fashion the arduous rôle of Rupert Sidney, and in the part of Gareta Berkley Miss Marie Danvers-Smith is a pronounced success.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Chief interest centres in the clever and comical risley entertainment presented by the Dayton Family and the capital musical turn given by the Jackson Family. Other acceptable numbers are the Three Armadas, tight-rope performers; O'Malley and Brown, comedians; Algie, juggler; Arthur J. King, in his Lilliputian act; Miss Dulcie King-Lloyd, comedienne; Miss Dot Hardy, comedienne; and the Empirescope pictures. Good houses rule.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. C. R. Ingledew.—A capital programme of pictures continues to draw.

MORLEY. — ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—A very picturesque scena, entitled *Deutschland*, is admirably produced this week; Misses Beattie Howard and Gracie Hunt are attractive in their melodious vocal efforts; and the humorous songs, funny sayings, and eccentric antics of Messrs. Sid. Bazley, Tom Sloan, and Joe Shamrock keep the audience in a continual state of merriment. George Bernard also appears.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—Another strong programme is presented here. Misses Kirk and Saraski, in a fine aquatic act, and the Crisps, in delightful and clever dancing, have made pronounced successes; Messrs Hodgson and Lowther's company in *Barmaids* is very funny; and The Fantastics, Master Kershaw, wonderful boy soprano, the Cheers, with educated cats, Miss Aidee Mellor, vocalist, and splendid animated pictures complete the entertainment, first-class in every respect.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Another series of admirable films and variety items are given twice daily in the theatre. Mr. Arthur Weber has a good voice, whilst Mr. Neven-Tossan submits lightning sketches in colours with effect. The Sisters Aindow are responsible for a charming musical turn.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Variety and music continue at this place of amusement, the turns consisting of the Great Sylvesta, illusionist; Mr. Fred Mason, whistler; Miss Dorothy Watson, songs at the piano; Miss Benita, vocalist; Mr. Fred Walmsley, comedian; Messrs. Harley and Melton, cross-talkers.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—The attraction here is Mr. Charles Stewart's company in *Facing the Music*, in which Miss Iris Hoey plays the leading rôle. On Monday and Tuesday the play was preceded by *The Last Drop*, and on the other nights by *Love and Laudanum*, in which Mr. Charles Stewart and Miss Hoey appeared with great success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Mr. Walter Steele's company in *A Fast Life* is drawing good houses. Principal rôles are admirably sustained.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Marie Lloyd, the principal attraction on the bill here this week, is unable to appear, and a deputy has been put forward in Mr. J. C. Scatter, the Tyneside comedian, who was accorded a hearty reception, quaint humour and smart dancing bringing him unlimited applause. Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, sings and dances in his own inimitable style, and fully earned the enthusiastic cheers which were accorded him. A graceful and clever gymnast is Alcide Capitaine, and Binns and Binns are amusing and clever musicians. Other noteworthy turns are presented by Vesta and Minnie Pine, the comedy girls; the Findens, sketch artists; Bob and Jennie Leonard, in a comedy act; and the Bros. Durant.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Percy A. Wilde.—Marie Kendall, in her latest success, gets a warm reception; sharing the place of honour with her is Charles Norton, with his clever mimicry of notable pros. at the races; a display of expert banjo-playing is given by Stanley and Greenop; the troubles of a seedy swell are indicated by Tom E. Hughes with comic effect; Bessie Butt is a favourite comedienne; Alicia Ramsey and Rudulph de Cordova's sketch *The Organ-grinder* receives a hearty welcome, the staging being well done, and the artists portraying with excellence the characters entrusted to them; Steve McCarthy is also successful. The Bioscope is, as usual, interesting and up to date. Business is good.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon. — In Old California, The Ranger and the Girl, Sexton Blake, Jewel Robbery, and The Indian's True Heart are films shown here this week. Foolshead on Skates is a "roarer." Miss Margaret Payne sings two fresh songs with success, "The sleeping camp" and "Don't go down the mine, dad."

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Life in a Submarine is an apropos film; The Hindoo's Treachery and Hunting Wolves in Russia are good subjects; and amusement is created by A Pennyworth of Potatoes, The Knot in the Handkerchief, the Viaphone, and others.

PICTURE PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman. —The Toymaker's Secret, Love Conquers, Lieut. Rose and the Robbers of Fingall's Creek, The Deserter, &c., are the principal films shown here.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The stock season is proving a great success here, and *Trilby* has been presented twice nightly this week before large audiences. As Svengali, Mr. Albert Sember gives an excellent performance; Mr. Edward E. Louis puts in some good work as Taffy; Mr. C. Alan Hineson distinguishes himself as Sandy; Mr. Ernest R. Allen ably undertakes Little Billie; Mr. W. E. Passmore makes the most of his opportunities as the Rev. Mr. Bagot; and Mr. William Turnbull does well as Zouzou; as Trilby Miss Fay Garnet Vayne displays conspicuous ability; Miss Kate Froude makes a capital Mrs. Bagot; and Miss E. Macintosh a satisfactory Mme. Vinard.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Another good programme is attracting good houses here. The Bijou Juvenile Troupe, in their refined musical scena, *Pansy's Birthday*, meet with a very hearty reception; James Brady, eccentric comedian, is a great local favourite; the Buxtons, vaudeville artists, are much appreciated; and the pictures are, as usual, greatly enjoyed.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The management has suspended the variety entertainment until the August Bank Holiday, and, as last year, are giving a Bioscope entertainment. Wisper, comedy juggler, gives his skilful entertainment; and Miss Beattie Bloom sings some popular chorus songs.

SPRING GARDENS, MOUNTERGATE-STREET. — Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt opened this very old pleasure resort on Thursday with a pierrot entertainment.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD. — Messrs. Goodman's pierrots are being well patronised, each of the artists having found favour with the public.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's company, yclept the Madcaps, consisting of two ladies and five gentlemen, opened here on Monday last for the season under the management of Mr. Bert Gordon. The Gardens, being adjacent to the river, are very attractive, and the entertainment should be a success.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*Lost by Drink* is given by the stock company with realistic effect; Mr. Otto Minster draws a strong and effective picture of Dan Thomas's downward career. In striking contrast is the Harry Goodwin of Mr. Gerald Venning, who depicts the teetotaller's point of view; Mr. Herbert Morgan makes the most of his part as Jim Black; and Mr. Leslie Nolan is good as Bill Smith. Miss Bessie Rignold's powerful acting calls for praise; and Miss Violet Agnew portrays Jenny in a thoroughly sympathetic manner. The humour of the piece is capitally exploited by Miss Daisy Maynard as Biddy Malone and Mr. G. H. Asquin as Tumbler Pidgeon.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—As a raconteur, Mike Whallen excels, and his versatility and witticisms evoke the heartiest laughter. The military sketch *Drummed Out* is presented by A. C. Lilly and company,

TOM ROBERTSON AND "M.P."

The revival of *M.P.*, Tom Robertson's comedy, at the Coronet reminds us that its brilliant author was patiently waiting for the Angel of Death when it was produced at the little theatre in Tottenham-street. Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton, Robertson's sympathetic biographer, who dwells so lovingly upon the last days of the playwright, writes:—

"*School* was withdrawn after three hundred and eighty-one performances, and *M.P.* was, with brilliant success, produced on April 23, 1870.

"On the fateful first night the poor author was unable to leave his bedroom, and his anxiety was intense. In the interval between each act the Bancrofts despatched rapid messengers with the good news of favourable reception; and immediately after the final fall of the curtain he had the assurance of another well-won victory. This success, there is no reason to doubt, prolonged his life at least by months, and rekindled for awhile the flicker of hope that was left in him. Indeed, he became temporarily so much better that, after the new play had been running for a few weeks, he was able to go to the theatre and see it, expressing, to the delight of the loyal company, his great pleasure at the manner in which it was performed.

"We have said that Robertson was sensitive—and who is not?—to adverse criticism; but the sting of this was but momentary, and when it had passed away he would be the first to acknowledge the justice of well-merited censure. But of malevolent criticism—of which, in common with all men who come rapidly to the front, he received from writers of the baser sort his full share—he had an almost morbid horror. This fact may be illustrated by the following anecdote: On the day following the production of *M.P.*, an old friend came, in accordance with a thoughtfully-made promise, to read the invalid the newspaper criticisms on his play. With manifest delight he listened to the appreciative notices of his work written by the best critics in the leading London papers, when suddenly he asked in a tone of voice that denoted apprehension:

"'What does —— say?'

"Now his friend had brought the paper in which this so-called 'critic' had written his miscalled 'notice,' but it was so monstrously and cruelly adverse that he had secreted it in his pocket, intending to leave without reading it.

"'Do you wish to hear what he says?' he asked.

"'Yes,' replied Robertson, with an anxious look on his worn face.

"His friend then produced the paper, and read a most unnecessary and unjustifiable onslaught on the piece and its author. Before finishing he paused, and, glancing at Robertson, saw his head droop, and, as he turned to find a handkerchief, a single drop of blood fall upon the newspaper that lay on his knees. All the pleasure that he had derived from the encomiums of those who were qualified to judge and impartially review his work was wiped away by this one malicious attack. His friend, who describes this sick-room scene as being at once painful and dramatic, was asked in later days to help this 'critic' in an hour of need.

"'No,' he said, buttoning up his pockets. 'Robertson was dying, and the man knew it. I cannot forget that drop of blood!'

"Memorable performances in the first production of *M.P.* were the Dunscombe Dunscombe of Mr. Hare; the Chudleigh Dunscombe of Mr. Coghlan; the Talbot Piers of Mr. Bancroft; the Isaac Skoome of Mr. Addison (this was an admirably written part); the Ruth Deybrooke of Miss Carlotta Addison; and the Cecilia Dunscombe of Mrs. Bancroft.

"This admirable actress has expressed her great liking for this cleverly-conceived character.

"'Cecilia Dunscombe,' she says, 'was a part I liked immensely, and I always felt sorry not to have had a chance of playing her again. She was written at a type of a "girl of the period," who, if not carefully handled, might on the stage become offensive. There are many temptations in a part of this calibre to enlarge upon the eccentricities of a "good fellow" sort of woman. I was careful to preserve all the points the author intended when he wrote the play; but I worked to make the audience like her by giving an amusing, but at the same time feminine, rendering of her character.

"'When poor "Tom," who was then fading fast, saw *M.P.* he said to me: "I must write more parts for you, Marie; it does me good, for I can see you as I put the words on paper!" He never wrote another. I have an affection for Cecilia Dunscombe, and one reason may be that this was the last part I ever created for the author, although he would often, during his sad illness, speak hopefully of the three plays he had made up his mind to write for us to succeed one another, which were to be called in turn *Faith*, *Hope*, and *Charity*—"such good parts for you, Marie," he would say. It made me wretched indeed to hear him talk in that way when I know how fatal was his malady.'"

Early in 1871 this gifted creature died. The end of poor Tom has been pathetically described by the Bancrofts.

"On the night of the Friday following, when the play was over, Dion Boucicault was waiting privately at the theatre to gently break the news to us that, quietly and suddenly, the end had come that evening.

"Never were the oft-quoted words, 'What shadows we are! What shadows we pursue!' more fully realised.

"After an early manhood, passed in struggling misery, and sometimes almost want, Robertson was snatched from life when he had only just begun to taste its sweets. His footprints, as it were, upon the shore of fame were quickly placed, but he trod deep enough for even the sands of Time not readily to efface them.

"Shortly after this, his two children (by his first marriage) spent the day with us; and as we were walking round the garden, 'Tommy,' who was but a small boy then, seemed to love to dwell upon the sad subject of his father's death, and the little fellow was very pathetic in his boyish remarks. All at once he said, 'A few days before father died, I knew he was going to leave us.' 'How could you know it?' we asked. 'Because he looked so handsome. I have heard that people get such a beautiful look upon their faces when they are going to die.' It seemed as if the son had inherited the father's poetic mind.

"Only a few weeks before, Robertson had been deeply shocked to hear of the death of Frederick Younge, his schoolmate, best friend, and original George D'Alroy in 'Caste.' He was killed in a railway accident."

Thus passed away, writes Clement Scott, the one author of my time who has had the greatest influence for good on the English stage. He kept it sweet, and fresh, and green, and sunny. He always touched the major chords of love, and faith, and hope; never the jarring discord of hopelessness and misery and despair.

AT a little Montmartre theatre, at present closed, it was announced a short time since that a play called *Banco* was in rehearsal. In one act the characters were shown playing "banker," and the police commissary of the district noticed that it was only this act which was rehearsed, the excuses being various. Investigation revealed that the play was a myth; the theatre was being used as a gaming-house, and banker, roulette, and baccarat were played by gamblers masquerading as actors. The usual raid was made, the cards and money seized, and the gamblers arrested.

"COMPENSATION."

Comedy, in One Act, by Alex C. C. Somers, Produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, May 23.

John Bentley ..... MR. W. H. PERRETTE
Joe Bell ..... MR. J. D. FOX
Mr. Morton ..... MR. J. R. DARNLEY
Mrs. Bentley ..... MME. GHERADHA
Mrs. Gibson ..... MISS JEAN ASHTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene is Bentley's Kitchen, and the time 9.30 in the morning. We find Bentley stretched upon a chair, with his feet resting upon another chair, and suffering, to all appearances, agonies from an injured back, caused by his having been knocked down in the street by a cab. John is a labourer, and a very robust-looking one, even though he has lain for twelve weeks incapacitated from work; and his voice, as he discusses with his wife the prospects of his impending action for compensation—encouraging her to believe, in spite of her fears to the contrary, that his case is a good one—is so far from the voice of a sick man who will never work again, that one scents from the beginning the ruse of an impostor. John has provided himself with a witness, one Joe Bell, a hawker, whom Mrs. Bentley, nevertheless, distrusts, on account of the stupidity with which he has given away a similar case; but John will not admit the possibility of the repudiation of his claim. His solicitor, Mr. Morton, comes to see him, hoping so to modify it that he may go into court with a chance of coming out with something. Mr. Morton suggests that twelve weeks' wages at 25s. per week (not disguising his belief that John's injuries are imaginary) will honestly meet the case. John, however, sticks out for £500. Incidentally there is the enlightenment of his wife, and her natural wrath, over the matter of the 25s., for John has hitherto led her to understand that his wages were no more than 22s., having pocketed the 3s. for himself. In the middle of the argument Joe Bell is called in to corrobate the alleged facts of the accident, as he intends to tell them in court. Joe makes a dreadful hash of it. He says it was a tram that did it, the tram being at the time on the wrong side of the road. It is quite clear, in fact, that Joe knows nothing about it. Finally, the solicitor departs quite hopeless of the couple. The next person interested is a neighbour, Mrs. Gibson, who is anxious to recover out of John's compensation a sum of £3, which he has borrowed of her, and her attitude in the matter is also treated in the same spirit of humour. Meanwhile, John, with many groans and twistings, has been wheeled out upon Joe's barrow to the court. The upshot of the enterprise is, of course, as has been foreseen. Joe Bell makes a still worse mess of the tale; the magistrate stops the case; and Bentley is non-suited. Joe, however, duly brings him home again in the barrow, groaning now to another purpose, though he keeps up his pretence of incapacity. With effort he makes his way to a chair, but the pretence does not last much longer. Goaded and chagrined by the presence of the neighbour, Mrs. Gibson, who insists on having her £3, and irritated by the foolish Joe, who, nevertheless, wants to know about his "expenses," Bentley orders the pair of them out of his house. They refuse to go, and he then stands erect, as firm and strong a man as ever he was, and practically throws them out.

Simple and obvious as it all seems, the piece teems with humorous dialogue and light but shrewd knowledge of character; and the performance was one long laugh from start to finish. Mr. Somers is a solicitor, and may be assumed to have written his clever little sketch from experience, for the characters are lifelike, and the whole thing bears the stamp of actuality. Mr. W. H. Perrette gave a vigorous and natural delineation of the burly "invalid," John Bentley, well sustaining the central interest; and the anxious, sensible wife found a good exponent in Mme. Gheradha. Mr. J. D. Fox's idea of Joe Bell was really funny, quiet, easy, and not the least bit overdrawn; Mr. J. R. Darnley gave a smooth and effective depiction of Morton, the solicitor; and the Mrs. Gibson of Miss Jean Ashton was also well portrayed. The piece proved an undoubted success, and might be toured to good purpose on the halls.

AN ACTRESS'S ACTION.

In the King's Bench Division on Monday, before Mr. Justice Channell and a common jury, Miss Anna Elsa Hayman, professionally known as Miss Olive Tempest, was plaintiff in an action for damages for breach of agreement from Mr. Percy Yorke, who engaged her to play in *A Prince's Love Story*, on tour. Mr. Henlé and Mr. S. P. Low (instructed by Messrs. A. and E. Cohn) were for plaintiff; and Mr. Duncan (instructed by Messrs. Blackwell) for defendant.

Mr. Henlé explained that the agreement which was come to by Mr. Cohn, plaintiff's solicitor, and the defendant last July, provided that the lady should play the chief part for the run of the piece, with liberty to accept a pantomime engagement. She was to receive one-fifth of the takings, with a guaranteed minimum of £3 a week, a reasonable dress allowance—as she provided her own dresses—and travelling expenses. She toured with the company, and when she signed her pantomime agreement in October she told Mr. Yorke, who agreed to her accepting it and returning to the sketch afterwards. In November, however, defendant wrote to her to consider her engagement at an end, as he had had to engage another actress while she was in pantomime. She only received £3 a week, and now she claimed the other items, as well as damages for wrongful dismissal. The defence set up was that plaintiff was employed as a weekly servant at 3 guineas a week, and not to be paid any dress allowance.

Miss Tempest, who gave her address at Riverview-gardens, Barnes, said that in July, when working at Southend, she received a telegram from defendant: "Can you open Dublin, Monday?" That was Saturday, and there was no time to get dresses, so she used five of her own, which cost her £70. The sketch was nothing but rushing about, and Mr. May, one of the other actors, used to tread on her frocks every night, and she had to mend them every evening. After the sketch she was in the pantomime at Brighton at £10 a week, and then she had nothing until a month ago, when she got an engagement at the Gaiety Theatre. At Southsea they were talking about luck, and the defendant told her that she had been very lucky to them, as since she had been in the sketch they had booked forty-two weeks. When she got the telgeram at Southend she accepted, she came up to London, entered into the agreement, learned the part, and rehearsed it before seven o'clock the next night, when she left for Dublin.

Miss Lucy Agnes Gloagh, theatrical dressmaker, stated that she made two of the dresses for £10 15s. and £12 15s. She had seen the others, which cost probably £18 each, a cloak £6 16s., and two hats at 2 guineas each.

No evidence was called for the defence.

The jury found that plaintiff was engaged for the whole run of the piece, and that she was entitled to one-fifth of the takings. They assessed the dress allowance at £20, and gave her £45 damages for wrongful dismissal.

Judgment was given accordingly, with costs on the High Court scale.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The first performance this season of Puccini's *La Tosca* was given on Saturday evening, June 4, at Covent Garden, Mlle. Destinn as the heroine again repeating her powerful and intensely dramatic embodiment, being in fine voice. Tosca's great solo in the second act was splendidly sung, and the famous artist did not spare herself in the tragic scene with Scarpia, so full of horror and ghastly incidents. Mr. R. Martin made a youthful and manly Cavaradossi, and sung the music with fervour, while his artistic restraint in the torture scene toned down much of its repulsive features. At the close of the second act both Mlle. Destinn and Mr. Martin had a most enthusiastic reception. Signor Sammarco's Scarpia is familiar, and his polished acting of the cold, sarcastic villain as perfect as ever. The old Sacristan of Signor Malatesta was amusing, but not particularly refined in character; nor did Signor Sampieri give a very striking performance of Angelotti. The parts of Spoletta, Un Carceriere, and Un Pastore were filled by Signor Zucchi, Signor Pini, and Mlle. Egener. The Bellew and Stock choir sang well, and Signor Panizza, who conducted, secured a good performance.

A fine performance of *Samson et Dalila* was given at Covent Garden on Tuesday evening before a large audience, which included the distinguished composer of the opera, Dr. Camille Saint-Saëns. After a short absence abroad, Mme. Kirkby Lunn again gave her splendid and dramatic reading of Dalila, while the rich tones of her beautiful voice were heard to the greatest advantage in music so admirably adapted to the famous contralto. M. Dalmorés, who appeared as Samson for the first time this season, sang with power and real artistic expression, his fine presence being also particularly effective in such a part, and of the many artists who have undertaken this character M. Dalmorés' reading may, in many respects, be considered the best. As the old Hebrew Mr. Murray Davey was excellent, and continues to deepen the good impression he has already made by his full, resonant voice and clever acting. M. Bourbon made a dignified High Priest, and the rest of the cast was the same as on a former occasion. The chorus sang well, and M. Frigara conducted with the confidence that comes with experience in an opera which continues to advance in public esteem.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, JUNE 6.—The season of 1909-10 is at an end. The two closing performances at the Grand Theatre have been a commemorative Multatuli evening and a revival for one night at special request of the season's success *The Straight Line*. The Multatuli commemoration was a most interesting affair, the programme consisting of three acts of *De Vorstenschool*" ("The School for Sovereigns") and fragments of an unfinished comedy of Multatuli entitled *Aleid*. This bill had already been given in Amsterdam for the same object, which was to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of *Max Havelaar*, the most popular of the writer's works and one that has been dramatised and put on the stage repeatedly. Multatuli, a pseudonym for Eduard Douwes Dekker, and a combination of the Latin words *multa tuli* ("much have I suffered"), was born in Amsterdam in 1820, and died in 1887. He is admitted to be one of the most brilliant lights of Dutch literature. His play *The School for Sovereigns* remains as a standard work on the Dutch stage. It is written in blank verse, and is full of fine and elevated sentiments and effective scenes. As the Queen, the leading character of the play, Mrs. Tartaud scored her customary success. The other dramatis personæ were well enacted.

A SPECIAL series of performances have been organised at the Tivoli Theatre under the management of J. H. Speenhoff, the poet-singer. The name of Speenhoff is so popular in Holland that a number of his ditties sung by him to his guitar accompaniment are always the crowning point of the programme in every music hall of the land. The performance, which is of the parlour entertainment style, or say, of the German Reed order, consists of ditties sung by Speenhoff himself and by his wife and sketches and recitations, all from the gifted and easy pen of the poet-singer. The sketches are three in number, two of the light comedy nature, entitled *Culture* and *The Foot*, and one *Bo-peep*, of the farcical class. Mr. Speenhoff has made much of the summer vacation granted to the members of the Grand Theatre company, and has succeeded in engaging four of the younger artists of the same, to wit, Mesdames Mauhs and Van Twist and Messrs. Van Der Lugt Melsert and Dommelshuizen, their engagement lasting till August, when they return to their posts at the Grand. The four young artists did capital work in the sketches, the brunt of the labour falling, however, to Cor. Van Der Lugt Melsert whose finished and artistic acting entitles him to unstinted praise.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WELLINGTON, APRIL 26.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—Mr. George Willoughby's English farce company, under the direction of Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, commenced a short season here with gratifying results in Weedon Grossmith's play *The Night of the Party*. The most truly drawn character was played by Mr. Willoughby himself, and that was the servitorial aristocrat Mr. Flambert, most formidable and incorruptible. Miss Mab Paul and Mr. Buckler were both responsible for excellent work; Miss Violet Paget as Lady Hampshire was also delightful, and Mr. David James gave a quiet and effective performance of Crosbie. General support was given by Miss Nellie Mortyne, Amy Willard, and Messrs. A. Cornell, Leopold Stach, and Harry Halley (an excellently mellow Bogle). The mounting was good.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (*Era* Offices, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.—*Sportsman*, May 14, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"IT is seldom," says Mr. George Edwardes, in "My Reminiscences," in the *Strand Magazine*, "that a musical play, however popular it may be, pays its producer in London alone. The expenses are so enormous in the Metropolis—'stars' salaries, costly staff, and, above all, the expense of keeping up a West-end theatre—that even if the house is filled every night for a period running into months, there is, nevertheless, more often than not a loss incurred in London. Naturally enough, there are exceptions to this rule—for example, *The Merry Widow* paid, and paid well, but that was because of the great length of its run; but it is none the less a solid, unpleasant, and indisputable fact that in the majority of cases the real money-making enterprise is provided by the provincial, Colonial, and American tours which invariably succeed 'a hit' in London."

DETECTIVE PLAYS.

Poe, in his three short sketches of Dupin's penetrative talent, gave rise to the whole school of detectives in fiction, and thus communicated his influence directly to the drama—writes Mr. Robert Thurston in "The Green Book Album," an American publication. Sherlock Holmes, for example, is Dupin brought up to date, with practical criminology added to his genius for analysis; A. Conan Doyle has admitted the source of his inspiration, and the fact is patent to all who will read and compare.

France, among whose writers detectives have always been a passion, saw Dupin's possibilities first, and in the middle of the last century Gaboriau undertook to rival him with Lecocq and Vidocq, who were brought to the stage in various forms. Almost fifty years later, Sherlock Holmes sprang from Doyle's pen as Dupin's truly begotten son and heir, and William Gillette set him before the footlights with keen fidelity. The exploits of these gifted sleuth-hounds of the law naturally evoked an antithesis, the gifted rogue in E. W. Hornung's *Raffles*, and *Arsène Lupin*, but, of course, these gentlemen had to have good detectives to struggle with, just as Sherlock needed brilliant criminals to set off his skill.

The early history of the stage detectives must begin in France, since the French drama supplies the English and American with almost all of their material during the period of 1820-1890, and it still continues to contribute heavily. Melodramas that originated in France were adapted and copied and rewritten for consumption in London and New York, until the family tree of many plays that our fathers loved is too complicated to trace.

In 1867, Alexandre Dumas, the younger, wrote a novel called "L'Affaire Clemenceau," which was soon dramatised by himself and became known to the English-speaking stage as *The Clemenceau Case*. Crime and crime detection formed the basis of its plot. He followed it with a melodrama called *The Danicheffs* (written with a "silent partner") that also contained some notable detective work. Then from his father's novels about the great charlatan, Cagliostro, he made a play called *Balsamo*, which appeared in this country in different forms, one of them entitled *The Queen's Necklace*.

Then Sardou took up the game. In Poe's story of "The Purloined Letter" he found the germ of a play that he named *Pattes des Mouches*, and which is familiar to most of us as *A Scrap of Paper*. All of the leading actors of the older generation have appeared in this piece, and even now it is always first choice whenever a club of amateurs wish to give a dramatic entertainment. *A Scrap of Paper* is primarily a comedy of mysterious intrigue, the element of professional detection being minimised, but the plot takes many turns that would have appealed to Poe's Dupin. The letter which is its basis figures in the intrigue at every turn. It is hidden under a porcelain bust; it is half burned to light a lamp; it serves as a prop under the leg of a shaky table; it is used as a wad in loading a gun; it becomes a receptacle for butter; and, finally, it carries the proposal of marriage that brings everything to a happy ending.

Equally famous, and more typical of the true detective play, is Sardou's *Dora*, known to us as *Diplomacy*. The matter of foreign spies, which excited Paris during the Franco-Prussian war, was its motive, and its plot revolves upon the false accusation lodged against a girl on her wedding morning of having stolen an important official document from her husband and sent it to the enemy. The police officer who solves the mystery finds his clue in a peculiar perfume that lurks in "the papers." He traces it to the adventuress whose favourite scent it is, and lo! the villains are discovered. Augustin Daly gave *Diplomacy* its first American production, which was an event of much significance to the old-timers. Three years ago the New Theatre of Chicago (now defunct) revived it in its original form, with the true name of *Dora*.

Less known now, but of greater influence upon the old-fashioned American melodramas, is Meilhac and Halevy's *Tricoche and Cacolet*. The two gentlemen whose bizarre names form the title of this piece were a firm of private detectives, whose ingenuity is not surpassed even in the classic stories of Poe, Wilkie Collins, and Gaboriau. Tricoche and Cacolet were as fertile in disguises as Nick Carter, and they were constantly playing tricks upon one another in their impersonations. The play, in fact, is hilarious farce-comedy.

This brings up to the point that there are two types of detective plays, both melodramatic of course, but one serious and the other comic. In the former, of which *Sherlock Holmes* is a standard example, the exploits of the thief-catcher are always in the mood of tense excitement; in the latter, the plot, although adventurous, is pointed toward humorous effects. *Arsène Lupin* and *Detective Sparkes* are examples of the detective comedy of the day, and they are direct descendants of *Tricoche and Cacolet*.

From that play, also, came the concoctions of melodrama and burlesque that were the rage in this country thirty or forty years ago. Crude though they were, they trace back to the deft workmanship of Meilhac and Halevy. The gallery gods of those days, now the staid heads of families, remember with much glee *The Phœnix*, played by Milton and Dolly Nobles, which gave currency to that insane remark: "And the villain still pursued her." Sidney C. Franz was another representative of this school. He appeared in such "thrillers" as *Marked for Life*, in which a man's finger was shot off and did service as a clue, and *The Blocked Game*. Franz was originally a "black-face" comedian, and in these plays he donned a new disguise with every scene, like Tricoche and Cacolet, ending with his popular medium of burnt cork.

The detective tradition of those days, inherited from the French stage, was the relentless policeman and the sleuth of many disguises. Lecocq, of Gaboriau's stories, was only a diligent policeman, expert in disguise, and this strictly official view of the detective can still be found in Guerchard, the antagonist of the noble thief in *Arsène Lupin*, which came from Paris. The deductive detective, the cool, analytic thinker who solves the mystery without moving out of the room, is a creation of the English-speaking stage; he began with Dupin, figured in *Jim the Penman*, and came to a climax in *Sherlock Holmes*.

Mention of *Jim the Penman* brings that fine actor, E. M. Holland, into an interesting light. His portrayal of Captain Redfield in that play was so memorable that many years afterward he was asked to re-create the character in a different play—*Raffles*—which was dramatised by Eugene Presbrey from E. W. Hornung's stories. Those who saw the stuttering, bland Captain Crawshay run the gilt-edged Raffles (Kyrle Bellew) to earth, only to have him escape through a grandfather clock that masked a secret passage, were actually seeing Captain Redfield at his old tricks again. E. M. Holland, with his brother Joseph, also figured in another good detective piece, *A Social Highwayman*, a melodramatic comedy made by Mary A. Stone from a novelette by Elisabeth Phipps Train. That production was put on at the Garrick Theatre, New York, in Sept., 1895, under the auspices of Richard Mansfield. It and *The Man with a Past*, by the Paultons, also with the Holland brothers in the leading rôles, were the only plays ever staged by Mansfield as an actor-manager in which he himself did not appear.

The Ticket-of-Leave Man should not be overlooked among the detective plays. This melodrama by Tom Taylor was one of the most successful of its generation.

FOOTE AND GARRICK.

When Mr. Garrick was at the noon rehearsals (says Tate Wilkinson, as quoted by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald in his amusing Life of Samuel Foote, which was recently published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus, and which we reviewed) he ever was on the listen, and if he heard Foote and the performers joking, would enter all full of whim and affected affability and equality, and made himself one of the laughing group, and at every jest of Foote's appeared to pay particular tributes of surprise, applause, and attention; but when in turn he related what he had studied and prepared as very comical, if the same repetition of approbation as had gone before attendant to Foote's humour was wanting to his, he has been cut to the soul at finding Foote's superiority, which was generally the consequence when both were pitched for battle and eager for victory at the game of repartee and sparring sarcasm.

One great reason, as a man of wit, for Foote's superiority in such convivial meetings was that he, like the American, felt bold, knew his superiority, which was raised by the perfect knowledge of Garrick's fears, and which made Foote assail him, for he gave not himself the trouble to hate. Mr. Foote would frequently say to Mr. Garrick, "Bless me! we have been laughing away our time, it is past three o'clock; have you and Mrs. Garrick enough for a third without infringing on your servants' generosity, for I know they are on board wages? Besides, the kitchen fire may be gone out if it be one of your cold meat days; or, if one of Mrs. Garrick's fast days, I cannot expect a dinner on emergency." On Foote's repeating such a whimsical jargon, Garrick would act a laugh like Bayes, though all the joke lay, like Mr. Bayes's, in the boots.

Many meetings have I been at between those two great geniuses, and truly enjoyed them from that time to the present. But Mr. Foote's knowledge of Garrick was but superficial when compared with Mr. Murphy's; for Mr. Murphy's cool and sensible penetration made him a perfect judge of the whole inward soul of Mr. Garrick, while Foote, without perplexing himself with the fatigue of thinking, was contented with slighter materials to garnish his merriment—which amply satisfied his love of satire and cheerfulness. To speak seriously of these gentlemen, why Foote should have entertained such an inconceivable disgust to Mr. Garrick I cannot devise, unless from that implacable attendant, more or less, in the human breast called *envy*, which ever haunts the theatre. That Garrick had much reason to be offended with Foote is certain, and that he inwardly hated him is as certain; nor is that to be a matter of surprise, as Foote was ever endeavouring to expose, and even, if possible, to injure him. He gloried in it, and seized every opportunity to have a cut at him, and served him up as the maimed, not perfect Garrick—unless to acknowledge perforce, like Colley Cibber, who allowed (but with great difficulty) to Mrs. Bracegirdle, that really Garrick, he believed, had merit; but Foote never introduced his deserts or heard of him as an actor with pleasure or allowed him any credit for his theatrical abilities, but wished the conversation was over; or, if obliged to give his sentiments, would conclude with: "Yes, the hound had a something clever, but if his excellence was to be examined, he would not be found in any part equal to Colley Cibber's Sir John Brute, Lord Foppington, Sir Courtly Nice, or Justice Shallow."

But justice bids me say in favour of Mr. Garrick that to my knowledge he often assisted Mr. Foote with sums of money, not trifling, and Foote always attributed the favour done from fear, not generosity; yet it certainly was an obligation, and that service tendered when Foote has been in awkward situations for want of cash, and to relate facts on all sides I am here answerable.

The next night (he says) the house was jammed in every part—the morning of which was strongly rumoured that the actors of Covent Garden were highly enraged—that Mr. Sparks in particular was really disordered on the occasion—Mr. Holland called at the theatre and informed Mr. Garrick and Mr. Foote he had actually heard that Mr. Sparks was so much hurt and unhappy that he had taken to his bed and was dangerously ill. Foote immediately replied (in his laughing manner) that it could not be true, or that it must be a d——d lie; for he had met his wife with two pounds of mutton chops on a skewer for her husband's dinner. This impromptu occasioned a hearty green-room laugh.

At night the house was what we of the theatrical tribe like to see, and term *chuck full in every part*. On my first entrance there were marks of disapprobation, and on my second sounded to me at such an alarming height that I thought all was over; but the multitude of well-wishers, and the number whose curiosity had been raised, longed to be satisfied, and bore all before them.

This little piece went on in a most flourishing state till about the fifth or sixth night, when Mr. Sparks, of Covent Garden Theatre, felt himself so wounded by my attack on his acting (which truly was a very picturesque one, and those who remember him and me at the time will allow what I have here said) that he waited on Mr. Garrick, and requested he would not suffer him, as a man of credit in private life, and an actor of estimation in public, to be destroyed by such an illiberal attack on his livelihood, and, as it struck at his reputation, hoped he would not permit it in future as far as regarded himself, whom it had rendered miserable. Garrick said: "Why, now, hey, Sparks! why, now, hey, this is so strange now, hey, a—why, Wilkinson, and be d——d to him, they tell me he takes me off, and he takes Foote off, and so—why, you see that you are in very good company." "Very true, sir," says Sparks, "but many an honest man has been ruined by keeping *too good company*," and then Sparks made his bow and his exit. Mr. Garrick, however, came to the theatre at noon, paraded with great consequence up and down the stage, sent for me, and when I obeyed the mighty summons he was surrounded by most of the performers. "Now, hey, d——n it, Wilkinson!—now, why will you take a liberty with these gentlemen, the players, and without my consent? You never consulted or told me you were *to take off*, as you call it; hey, why, now, I never take such liberties—indeed, I once did it, but I gave up such d——d impudence. Hey, now, that is, I say—but you and Foote, and Foote and you, think you are managers of this theatre. But to convince you of the contrary, and be d——d to ye, I here order you, before these gentlemen, to desist from taking any liberty with any one of Covent Garden Theatre; and I think it necessary to avow and declare my abhorrence of what you have done, and at the same time to disclaim my consent or knowledge of it. I do not allow myself such unbecoming liberties, nor will I permit them from another where I am manager, and if you dare repeat such a mode of conduct after my commands I will fine you the penalty of your article."

"THE wonder is not that women should have produced so few good composers, but that they should have produced any, hampered as they have been in their musical education, in the means of supporting themselves during their early years, and in gaining a public hearing," says *The Musical Times*.

MISS MARIE WIECK, the sister-in-law of Schumann, took part recently in a concert in Berlin. In spite of her seventy-eight years, her fingers are said to be still agile. It was Miss Wieck who introduced Schumann's Pianoforte Concerto to the London musical public at the Crystal Palace in 1864, not Mme. Clara Schumann, as has been so often stated.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"ON NE BADINE PAS AVEC L'AMOUR."

Lyric Comedy, in Verse, in Three Acts, founded on Alfred de Musset's Play, by Louis Leloir and G. Nigond, Music by Gabriel Pierné, Produced at the Opéra-Comique on May 30.

Camille ..... MLLE. CHENAL
Rosette ..... MLLE. BILLA-AZEMA
Dame Pluche ..... MME. DUVERNAY
Sylvaine ..... MLLE. CANTERY
Agélique ..... MLLE. JURAND
Nicole ..... MLLE. HERLEROY
Perdican ..... M. SALIGNAC
Blazius ..... M. VIGNEAU
Le Baron ..... M. CAZENEUVE
Janot ..... M. GUILLEMAT
Pierre ..... M. COULOMB
Belhomme ..... M. LANDRY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS.—THURSDAY, June 2.—The great poet Alfred de Musset having died some fifty years ago, his works have become public property, with the result that irresponsible men of letters now pounce upon these masterpieces and "arrange" them to suit their own convenience. *On ne badine pas avec l'amour* is written in prose, but those acquainted with that delightful play know that this prose is music itself, and cannot be "improved." MM. Leloir and Nigond, however, thought otherwise, and they compiled a libretto, in verse, wherein they distorted and twisted the work like some "new art" furniture. The story is as follows:—In the opening act the Baron expects his son, Perdican, who has been studying law in Paris, and also Camille, his niece, returning from the convent where she has finished her education. Camille and Perdican have not met for years, but whereas Perdican is delighted to see his pretty cousin, the latter receives him so coldly that, sad at heart, he starts for a long walk in the forest. Suddenly he hears the voice of a young girl. It is Rosette, Camille's foster-sister; and she, his old playmate, welcomes him with a hearty kiss. When Perdican and Camille again meet the youth tells her that he plainly sees that she does not intend to become his wife, but that they might be friends for all that. Camille thereupon becomes less reserved, and confides to him that she wants to become a nun. "All my girl friends," she says, "have loved and suffered. I want to love, but I will not suffer. See, here, my lover!" and, taking a crucifix from her pocket, she shows it him. Camille writes to one of her friends that she pities Perdican, so madly in love with her. This letter falls into Perdican's hands, and he decides to teach the little coquette a lesson. He arranges things so as to meet Rosette when he knows that their conversation, near the fountain in the forest, will be overheard by Camille. He tells Rosette that he loves her, and that he is sure she will not become a nun and cultivate a selfish and mystic affection. The shot has struck home. In a violent scene with Perdican, wherein she upbraids him for the comedy he played with Rosette, Camille says: "I know that you did this out of revenge. I know you love me, but if you do not marry that girl after all you said to her you are a coward!" Perdican is quite prepared to marry the little peasant girl, but he wants a last interview with Camille. The two cousins meet, and before many moments have passed they fall into one another's arms. Suddenly a heartrending shriek is heard. Camille rushes into the next room. "What is the matter?" asks Perdican. "Rosette is dead," replies Camille. "Good-bye, Perdican." In the libretto, however, all the grit has been taken out of the work, and nothing remains but a commonplace anecdote wherein the personages seem to belong to another world. As to the music, it is very grey in tone, and not at all what we expected from such a clever composer.

"HANS, LE JOUEUR DE FLUTE."

Operette, by Maurice Vaucaire and G. Mitchell, Music by Louis Ganne, Produced at the Théâtre Apollo on May 31.

Lisbeth ..... MLLE. GINA FERAUD
Ketchen ..... MLLE. MILET
Mme. Pipermann ..... MLLE. DHERVILLY
Marcheande de Plaisirs ..... MLLE. DELYANE
Mme. Tantendorff ..... MLLE. LANDON
Hans ..... M. JEA PERIER
Yoris ..... M. DEFREYN
Van Pott ..... M. PAUL ARDOT
Pipermann ..... M. POUDRIER.
Petronius ..... M. HENRY
Guillaume ..... M. MILLER

M. Louis Ganne, the composer of this operette, wrote the famous song "Le Père la Victoire," as well known in England as it is in France. The plot of *Hans, le joueur de Flûte* is by no means novel; the music is not very original, yet the work scored a tremendous success. The ladies and gentlemen in the boxes and stalls shrieked themselves hoarse crying "Bravo!" and hundreds of gloves of all sizes were split in their enthusiasm. The fact is, the public did not so much applaud the work, but the triumph of French operette over the "musique savante," of which audiences have grown awfully sick; and as M. Ganne's score is very melodious, the house was delighted, and gave him quite an ovation. The plot is not complicated. Milkatz is a funny little town inhabited by terrible Philistines, solely bent on making and saving money. At one time Milkatz was famous for its beautiful dolls, but this industry has disappeared, and when Yoris, a young poet, manufactures a doll—which, according to custom, he wants to exhibit on the market-place—the people try to smash it. But an avenger arrives in the person of Hans, a mystic personage, the apostle of the ideal. He has a magic flute, and at his bidding millions of mice invade the warehouses filled with corn, the wealth of Milkatz. The townspeople then decide to steal Hans's flute so as to put things right. They gain possession of the instrument, but nobody can play it, and fresh calamities befall the city. The burgomaster then implores Hans to put an end to the visitation, and Hans grants this request on condition that they hold a competition of dolls, and that he may take for himself the one he likes best. This prize doll, however, is no other than Lisbeth, the burgomasters daughter, with whom Yoris, the poet, is in love, and who, of course, in the end becomes Yoris's wife. We have seen all this before, and the music, written chiefly in march time, is full of "reminiscences." But the work is all so bright and pretty, so charmingly sung and magnificently staged, that it is sure to have a long and pleasant run.

"LE CRAMPON."

Farce, in Two Acts, by Robert Dieudonné, Produced at the Nouveautés, on June 1.

Angèle ..... MLLE. TEMPLEY
Lucie ..... MLLE. DELYS
Femme de Ménage ..... MME. JENNY ROSE
Vieille Dame ..... MME. DAUBREY
Paul ..... M. COQUET
Eugène ..... M. CORBY
Octave ..... M. LANDRIN
Le Cocher ..... M. LAURET

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 9.—The Nouveautés is one of the few playhouses that remain open during the summer, and the management have given us the farce that will have to keep the bill during the hot months of the year. Like most farces, *Le Crampon* is a trifle complicated, but it is funny, and raises much laughter. Paul and Eugène are friends. Paul is married to the fascinating Lucie, and, according to custom, Eugène, the gay young bachelor, is Lucie's lover. At curtain rise we are in Eugène's chambers. Lucie has just left Eugène when Paul enters. He has come to ask Eugène a service of a delicate nature. He has met, in the Rue de la Paix, a young milliner called Angèle, and after a little conversation has asked her to meet him at Eugène's chambers. In fact, he not only wants to use his friend's apartment for his rendezvous, but has even passed himself off as Eugène. After some trouble Eugène consents to this dangerous arrangement. A few moments later Mlle. Angèle makes her appearance, bringing with her a huge trunk and several hat-boxes—all her worldly possessions. For Angèle belongs to that class of ladies the French call "crampon," i.e., creatures who, like the ivy, cling to those with whom she is brought into contact. She has not come on a flying visit—she has come to stop. When Paul sees the turn things are taking he clears out, leaving Eugène to get out of the business the best way he can. Some time after the latter, to his surprise, finds a lady in his bed. She calls him an intruder, and says she is waiting for the pseudo Eugène. Eugène orders Angèle to clear out, and when the lady refuses to move he tells her that Paul is a married man, who has assumed his (Eugène's) name, and that she will never set eyes on him again. Angèle, however, again shakes her pretty head. She says she has come to stay, and stay she will, if not with the pseudo Eugène, with the real Eugène. After awhile Lucie comes upon the scene, and after upbraiding her lover for deceiving her with another woman, she boxes his ears. Next we witness a violent dispute between Eugène and Paul, wherein Paul hits Eugène in the eye. Finally a visitor is announced, a M. Cufin, Angèle's former lover, whom she has thrown over to follow Paul. Cufin calls Eugène a scoundrel, and departs after having given him a sound box on the ears. Eugène then collapses. He accepts the inevitable, and allows Angèle to remain with him, secretly hoping that she may meet in the Rue de la Paix another gentleman to whom she will cling. Women of the Angèle type are not infrequent, and although the character of the lady has been somewhat overdrawn, the author has made her a very amusing personage, in many respects true to life. As the obstinate, gentle Angèle, devoid of any moral sense, Mlle. Templey was truly remarkable. In less able hands the character might have become caricaturesque, but Mlle. Templey came safely through the ordeal. M. Corby was very good in the difficult rôle of Eugène, and Mlle. Delys looked pretty and acted charmingly.

"BAGNES D'ENFANTS."

Drama, in Four Acts, by MM. André de Lorde and Pierre Chaine, Produced at the Ambigu, on June 2.

Mme. Lamare ..... MME. LEONTINE MASSART
La Directrice ..... MME. TALMONT
Mariette ..... MLLE. LEDUC
Charles Lamare ..... M. COLAS
Le Directeur ..... M. ANDREYOR
Louis Lamare ..... M. GOUGET
Bricard ..... M. DAILEU
Bardin ..... M. LIEZER
Georges Lamare ..... M. LAURENT
L'Idiot ..... M. CHEVILLOT

The French Revolution of 1789 swept away many shocking practices, yet, strangely enough, a few iniquitous laws have survived worthy of the Middle Ages. One of these confers on a father the right to have his son sent to a reformatory without the case being brought for investigation before a magistrate. In other words, a document signed by an irresponsible man is sufficient to deprive a youth of his liberty until he is of age. Worse still, some of these so-called reformatories are places where the unfortunate children are exploited and compelled to perform work beyond their strength to fill the pockets of heartless contractors. George Lamare, the sixteen-year-old son of a wealthy merchant, is a young rake who constantly gets himself into trouble, and in order to withdraw him from his bad associations the father writes to the director of a reformatory to fetch the boy. The latter is violently dragged from his home, and in the second tableau we see him thrown amidst a lot of miserable wretches, ill-treated by brutal warders, ill-fed, and overworked. The tyranny at last reaches such a point that the boys decide to make a fight for liberty. In an impressive tableau we see them crouched on the floor, apparently resting, but watching the two scoundrels to whose care they are entrusted. The silence is so intense, and the boys' motionless attitude is so uncanny, that the two cowardly warders are suddenly overcome with fear. Something tells them there is danger in the air, and one of them, overcome with abject terror, is on the point of going to seek help when a low whistle is heard, and in a second the boys have thrown themselves upon their tormentors and leave them half-strangled on the ground. In the final tableau the runaways are being hunted by the police. Louis Lamare, thanks to the kindness of a little peasant girl, is hiding in a barn; but when his retreat is discovered and the officials enter the barn Louis hangs himself. And by a cruel chance his parents happen to come upon the spot a moment after the drama has taken place. Admirably acted, *Bagnes d'Enfants* is sure to remain on the bill for a very long time.

A COMPANY from Brussels have taken possession of the Théâtre de la Rénaissance for the summer months, and have started their season with *Le Mariage de Mademoiselle Beulemans*, a play by MM. Fonson and Wicheler, which had a tremendous success in the Belgian capital. It was a bold venture for the Brussels artists to play before a Paris audience, but their boldness was well rewarded, for they had a tremendous and well-deserved success. The play is of the ordinary sentimental kind, but it gives us an insight into the life of the Belgian bourgeois, and the funny scenes and the queer Flemish French roused the laughter of the audience, who gave the Belgian artists a splendid reception. When, at the close of the performance, according to custom, the names of the authors had to be given to the public, M. Jacque, the funny man of the play, came forward, and, in his queer Belgian French said: "You want to know the names of the authors? Well, I don't mind telling you that they are two of my best friends, MM. Fanson and Wicheler!"

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, June 7, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton, in the chair; Mr. H. W. Mote, Hon. Solicitor; Messrs. Fred Morland, Robson Paige, C. F. Collings, Langford Reed, Murri Moncrieff, Clarence Derwent, Misses Vita Spencer and Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the letter of Mr. Thring (Secretary of the Society of Authors), and to inform him that the Council were in sympathy with his remarks re infringement of the rights of English dramatists, and that they would be glad if Mr. Thring would inform them by what method they could assist the Society of Authors in preventing the evil.

The Hon. Solicitor reported on three cases and the Council sanctioned action in one.

The Finance Committee's report was tendered by Mr. Arlton, and the Secretary submitted the report of sixty-two engagements negotiated through the agency from Jan. 3 to May 31. The House Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Arlton and adopted.

A motion by Mr. Fred Morland that £50 worth of debentures should be paid off caused prolonged discussion. Mr. Arlton, as a member of the Finance Committee advocated the advisability of waiting until the end of the year, so that the financial position of the Association could be clearly defined. The motion was carried by 6 to 2.

Election: Mary Goulden. Nominations: Margaret Dolamore, P. Gredge Twyman, William Guilbert, and Eve More Dunphie. The Secretary reported four engagements through the agency.

REPERTORY AT LIVERPOOL.

At the University Club, Liverpool, on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. Mr. Granville Barker, Miss Horniman, and Mr. Nigel Playfair delivered interesting addresses upon the subject of a Repertory Theatre to a large and representative audience, which included Sir Edward and Lady Russell.

Mr. ROBERT HIELD, who presided, said they were met that afternoon with the idea of starting a repertory theatre in Liverpool. There was a public large enough here to support such a theatre, for other cities had tried the experiment and had succeeded. What Glasgow and Manchester had done surely Liverpool could do.

Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER remarked at the outset that his main object was to afford what information he could as to the running of a repertory theatre. It was a serious problem in our social economy, and one that could not be got rid of. They could not now take up the position of the old Puritans and say, "We will get rid of it." They must have it. Taking Liverpool as a whole, he calculated, roughly, that 10,000 people went nightly to theatres and music halls, and seventenths of those people were between the ages of seventeen and thirty. Mr. Granville Barker went on to speak of the influence which the theatre must have upon the emotions, and contended that it was the most real and dynamic of all the arts. It was amazing to him that municipal rulers concerned themselves with all forms of art and almost invariably passed by the theatre on the other side. They concerned themselves with pictures, books, and music, but the theatre, which combined the three, and was, therefore, more a live influence, seemed to frighten them. He hoped that the old Puritan prejudice against the theatre as being dangerous, because it was alive, was being removed. How great was the evil they had to deal with, and how far did it fall behind what it ought to be? Many good people were in the habit of saying, "You have nothing between Shakespeare and Sheridan worth consideration." Well, he traversed that. There was a modern English drama which was well worth consideration. Looking back over the history of the English theatre for the past twenty years he saw what sacrifice and devotion there had been to bring about a renaissance of the English drama—a sacrifice of which they had a right to be proud. The state of the drama in England was really very bad. What had been done in Liverpool? Roughly speaking, it was true of Liverpool as of other towns, except one, that it merely got the scraps from the London stage. And those were often only got by accident. The speaker proceeded to give details of the character of the performances in Berlin and Hamburg, where, he said, the authorities saw that the public got good drama. It could not be got here by private management, and his complaint was that the whole of the English drama was produced in order to appeal to the greatest number of people in the shortest time. In art is was more important to consider the rights of the minority. It would, he averred, morally and socially pay Liverpool to put up a municipal theatre, and keep it open all the year round. It would be both honourable to art and economic in principle. They should have a good try at the repertory system, and do it for forty weeks in the year, taking a small theatre. If they wanted Shakespeare and the classics it would cost anything between £600 and £700 a week, but a cheaper compromise of lighter work would not amount to more than £400 a week gross. In Glasgow during three seasons forty plays, including six new and original ones, were produced. The expenses were £400 a week, and the receipts something over £300 a week. In conclusion, Mr. Barker said that a small theatre should be taken, and a company of youngish people, with elastic minds, engaged. They must have a catholic repertory, and play the best pieces of all classes. If they could get 4,000 people a week to pay an average of 2s. they would have a success.

Miss HORNIMAN, who has been so artistically successful in Manchester, delivered a short speech, and related the interesting advent of *Arms and the Man* at the Avenue Theatre, London. At the outset the play was so unpopular that they could not even "paper" the theatre. In Manchester she had not yet, she said, made a profit, but she was going to hold on. It seemed a great pity that nobody in Liverpool, where there was so much wealth, had the pluck to come out and fight her.

Mr. NIGEL PLAYFAIR, in supporting Mr. Barker's observations, communicated a message of cordial goodwill and sympathy from Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who was greatly interested in the movement. The repertory theatre must not subsist on any one class of play—it must be educational. It was a reproach to Liverpool that generation after generation should be allowed to grow up without making the acquaintance of the Elizabethan plays and those of the Restoration period. The present taste, unless guided into better channels, must inevitably tend to sap the public mind.

Sir EDWARD RUSSELL, in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers, hoped that systematic and well-considered efforts would be made to bring the undertaking into a businesslike form.

Mr. J. G. LEGGE seconded the proposition, which was carried.

NEW THEATRE FOR WASHINGTON.

Owing to the enterprise of the Alexandria Theatrical Co., Ltd., the erection of a large and commodious new theatre at New Washington, Co. Durham, improves the architectural appearance of the town, and meets a long-felt want. The site secured is in a central position, in close proximity to the main thoroughfare, and the building, which is built of red brick, with a slate roof, presents a noble and compact appearance. A handsome portico, ornamented with neatly designed pillars, gives to the entrance a fine aspect. The interior arrangements are of an up-to-date character, provision having been made for the seating accommodation of 1,800 people. The orchestral stalls have been furnished with superior tip-up chairs, and the pit has been made comfortable and cosy. The dress-circle is of semicircular shape, and the fittings are of a lavish and costly character. Red leather has been utilised for upholstering the whole of the seating accommodation throughout the interior of the building, which gives it quite a bright and attractive appearance. Much attention has been given to the stage construction, which provides every facility for first-class dramatic, vaudeville, and concert touring companies.

The dressing-rooms—six in number—are arranged on each side of the stage, and are replete with every convenience. In case of fire, a fireproof curtain can be readily lowered, and the exit arrangements are of a complete character. The entire building—stage and auditorium—is lit by electricity.

The contractors were Messrs. Hope and Tasker, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the work has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner. The joint duties of secretary and manager have been entrusted to Mr. J. Turnbull, a gentleman who enjoys much popularity in the district. The formal opening of the theatre took place on Monday afternoon, Mr. Hugh M. Stobart, of Biddick Hall, performing the ceremony in the presence of a large and representative gathering. At night Mr. Wilson Howard's capable company appeared in *Under the Iron Heel*, with Miss Arnson in the chief rôle.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"GEWEHR AB!"

Play, in Three Acts, by Gert Hartenau, Produced at the Hebbel, May 25.

Larsen ..... HERR ROSEN
Gretchen ..... FRAULEIN SCHMIDT
Von Massow ..... HERR EHRENS
Von Nordan ..... HERR KARSTEN
Von Berg ..... HERR LUTTJOHANN
Bleier ..... HERR JOSEPHSKY
Keidel ..... HERR GROSS
Niess ..... HERR VON WOLZOGEN
Foekel ..... HERR WITTINGLER
Rein ..... HERR FREUND
Cohn ..... HERR LEOPOLD
Lange ..... HERR WERNER
Schmidt ..... HERR NOWOTNY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 2.—This play is the work of a new author, and although the reception accorded to it was cordial, there is not very much to be said in its favour. A few dramatic moments save some of the scenes, and at times the dialogue is convincing and natural; at others, however, it is stilted and wearisome. Possibly these are faults of the amateur which may be eliminated by careful work in the future. The plot is dramatic; the action passes in military circles, and we are introduced to barracks life in a big town at the present day. Lieutenant von Berg is the hero—unfortunately the reverse of heroic. He loves Gretchen Schmidt, a pretty and charming girl of the middle classes, and intends to marry her. She has no fortune, and neither has he, so he finally decides it will be necessary to look out for a wealthy bride after all, and yet he cannot find it in his heart to give Gretchen up. The young officer then makes the acquaintance of Fräulein Rosen, the only daughter of a millionaire. She is inclined to favour the dashing Von Berg, who speedily proposes, and is accepted. He thus find himself in the embarrassing position of a man with two brides in spec. The climax is reached when Gretchen's brother—who happens to be serving his time in the army in Berg's regiment—is sent to the lieutenant's room with a message from the captain. Receiving no answer to his knock, the youth enters, finding his only sister—whom he adores—and his superior in each other's arms. Schmidt forgets himself in a burst of natural fury, and throws himself at the lieutenant, giving him a black eye and covering him with epithets the reverse of flattering. There can be but one end to such insubordination, no matter what has been the provocation. Schmidt is sentenced to several years' imprisonment, but the offender does not go scot free. He is advised to doff the scarlet coat of which he is so proud, and the unkindest cut of all is that his rich fiancée's father turns out to be an old friend of Gretchen's father, so that his disgraceful secret is a secret no longer. The lieutenant does the only thing possible to a Prussian officer under such circumstances; he puts a bullet through his brain as the curtain falls. The acting was good throughout, Fräulein Schmidt giving an excellent reading of the part of Gretchen, which is the only female rôle in the piece, as the second fiancée is kept behind the scenes. Herr Hartenau was called and warmly applauded.

AN amusing farce in four acts, entitled *Der Vielgeliebte*, by MM. Schmasow and Heinz, met with considerable success at the Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches Theatre last week, and is still running well. The "Vielgeliebter," or much loved one, is Hugo Doering, an up-to-date young aeronaut, who is so fascinating and so easily fascinated that he has, in various weak moments, promised to wed no fewer than three young women. He is a Don Juan to his finger-tips—Don Juan of the aeroplane, who loves and flies away. His adventures are many and comical, and must be seen to be properly appreciated. The fun of both situations and dialogue is irresistible, and the acting was very bright. The piece should run well into the summer.

QUITE an unusual number of our theatres are playing this year through the summer, the reason being that Berlin is becoming more and more a visiting centre in the summer months—people passing from East to West and back again fill the city alone, to say nothing of the country cousins who come up to the capital, which is never overpoweringly hot, even in August. The Berliner will give its successful draw, *Taifun*, through the summer months; the Friedrich Wilhelm-Städtisches, the Apollo, Lustspielhaus, Kleines, Metropol, Neues Operetten Theatre, Schiller, and probably the New Schauspielhaus continue playing all the summer. During the holidays of the companies proper at the Komische Oper, Deutsches, Lessing, and Schiller O., their respective stages will be occupied by visit companies—at the Komische Oper by Director Linsemann, at the Deutsches by that of Dr. Emil Geyer, at the Lessing by the Cologne Residenz Theatre company (with a successful farce *Kasernenluft*), and at the Schiller O. by a first-class opera company. The Volks Oper continues its season of drama right through the summer, and while the Thalia company is away arrangement will be made for the boards to be occupied by other artists. All in all, our theatres this summer intend to be very busy. The Royal Opera and Royal Schauspielhaus close, as usual, for an eight weeks' vacation.

"DIE GOLDENE RITTERZEIT" (*When Knights Were Bold*) has passed its seventy-fifth performance at the Neues, and still proves an attraction.

"LENA WARNSTETTEN,"

Play, in Five Acts, by Ernst Ritterfeld, Produced at the Luisen Theatre, June 4.

Von Sattenfeld ..... HERR GERTNER
Von Warnstetten ..... HERR BERGER
Anna ..... FRAULEIN MILBITZ
Fred ..... HERR BREDOW
Lena ..... FRAULEIN SPRENGEL
Von Borkenhagen ..... HERR HAUSSIG
Kaete ..... FRAULEIN FISCHBACH
Fritz ..... HERR RITTERFELD
Von Romitten ..... HERR KOHLNER
Fanny ..... FRAULEIN RENIUS

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 9.—A most cordial reception fell to the lot of the popular actor-author's new piece, and, despite a thermometer of something like 85 in the shade, it is filling the bill and the house as well every night. Herr Ritterfeld knows his audience thoroughly, for he has written and acted for them a goodly number of years, always conscientiously and well. The taste of the -n audiences is in the direction of the melodrama, or, failing that, the volks-play. It is at this house that so many English melodramas have been produced successfully. Herr Ritterfeld has combined the characteristics of both types of piece in *Lena Warnstetten*; there is humour and pathos, tragedy and comedy, and some little sentimentality in every act, while the plot is admirably developed and the characters are well drawn. Lena is the daughter of an impoverished nobleman, Hermann von Warnstetten. She loves Heinz von Romitten, the friend of her childhood, and he loves her dearly, too. Heinz, however, is poor, comparatively speaking; he is a gentleman farmer on a modest scale and the girl is prevailed upon, after a long and bitter struggle, to sacrifice herself for her family, and wed a wealthy landowner named Fritz von Borkenhagen, although she entertains a great dislike for him. Once married, she tries to make the best of things, and be a good wife to Fritz. He is a man of noble qualities, and gradually Lena learns to like and respect her husband, although her heart still belongs to Heinz, who is naturally disconsolate. She struggles to overcome her love for the wrong man, but in vain. Borkenhagen now proves himself the hero he is. His wife is calumniated, and he defends her to the extent of challenging the offender to a duel. He takes a tender farewell of his young wife; you never can tell how these things may end, he thinks, no matter how good a shot you may be. And his instinct proves correct; he is killed, and Lena is left a sorrowing widow—sorrowing, but not inconsolable. We are assured that when the time of mourning has expired—it is said to be two years, but we feel convinced the period will be shortened—Heinz will claim the reward of his patient waiting. The interpretation was good all round, and the author and his brother-artists were summoned before the curtain repeatedly in response to general applause.

THE Wagner cycle at the Royal Opera has been attended with complete success, notwithstanding the smallness of the stage at the New Royal Opera House, where the company is playing until such time as the old house is patched up again. The only work of the series that was unable to be given on account of the difficulties of staging was *The Flying Dutchman*, but all the others, including the "Ring," went splendidly. *Margarete* (Faust), *Lohengrin*, *Mignon*, *The Merry Wives*, and *Madama Butterfly*, with one performance of *Tristan and Isolde*, are filling the bill until next Tuesday, when the eight weeks' vacation commences. The house does not close; on the contrary, Herr Hermann Gura—who has given three successful seasons there already during the summer months—will again occupy the boards with his first-rate company, one of the stars of which is his wife, née Fräulein Hummel, daughter of the well-known Berlin composer.

MISS FLORENCE EASTON (Mrs. Francis Maclennan) will unfortunately not be able to sing the part of Butterfly (which rôle she created at the Royal Opera) on Saturday, as she has been compelled to undergo an operation for appendicitis. Her many friends and admirers are very anxious about her, and her husband spends all the time he can spare from his duties at the private hospital where the patient is lying. Mrs. Maclennan is doing well, according to the doctors' latest reports, but she will have to take a long holiday after she is convalescent.

HERR REINHARDT, of the Deutsches Theatre, is on tour with his entire company. They are now at Vienna, playing at the Theater on der Wien, and drawing, I am told, excellent houses. In the meantime Herr Geyer is occupying the Deutsches with a good company. The piece thus far produced with most success is Björnstjerne Björnson's drama, *Ueber unsere Kraft* ("Above our strength"), which is the late author's best work, and which ran for a long time at the Berliner a number of years ago. It has not been revived here for a long time, and is drawing well.

CRICKET.

MISS HORNIMAN'S CO. v. NEW THEATRE (CAMBRIDGE) STAFF.

This match was played on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, on June 3, and resulted in a draw. Miss Horniman's company batted first, and the well-known actor-manager Mr. Ian Maclaren opened the innings with Mr. Leonard Mudie. Mr. Maclaren made 18 in good, vigorous style, and gave his side a useful start. Mr. Henry Austin, who went in third wicket down, played excellent cricket, and carried his bat out for 21. The highest scorer on the opposite side was Bennett, who was bowled for 15. Scores:—

MISS HORNIMAN'S COMPANY.

Ian Maclaren, b Laughton	18
Leonard Mudie, b Dye	4
Charles Bibby, c and b Dye	2
Stanley Drewitt, c Alphonso b Adams	0
Henry Austin (capt.), not out	21
Drey, b Dye	5
Vic. Newman, b Alphonso	12
J. V. Bryant, b Alphonso	1
McWilliams, st Evans b Laughton	1
Owen, b Laughton	4
Keogh, b Laughton	2
Extras	9
Total	79

NEW THEATRE COMPANY.

Laughton, not out	3
Bennett, b Drewitt	15
Gray, b Maclaren	9
Dye, not out	4
Extras	0
Total (2 wickets)	31

THE GRAND THEATRE STOCK COMPANY, NOTTINGHAM, v. THE HYSON GREEN TRADESMEN.

This match was played on June 7, and resulted in a win for the Stock Company by the narrow margin of one run. For the winners Gerald Venning bowled really well, and Messrs. Geo. H. Asquin and Herbert Morgan batted in excellent style. Scores:—

HYSON GREEN XI.

G. Davis, b Venning	1
A. Hempsall, b Porter	0
H. Seaney, b Venning	14
J. Badder, c Asquin, b Venning	7
T. Shipside, c Minster, b Porter	1
R. Badder, c Sharman, b Porter	0
L. Hopper, c MacIver, b Porter	9
E. Stokes, not out	7
R. Phillips, lbw, b Asquin	0
W. Seaton, st Morgan, b Asquin	1
T. Apinshaw, c and b Asquin	2
Extras	15
Total	57

GRAND STOCK CO.

G. Venning, b Seaney	0
B. Levey, run out	6
Geo. H. Asquin, b Badder	16
Herbert Morgan, b Badder	16
B. Porter, c Stokes, b Badder	0
Otto Minster, c Hempsall, b Badder	0
A. Schipper, b Hempsall	1
L. Nolan, c Phillips, by Hempsall	0
H. Kenney, st Hopper, b Stokes	3
T. MacIver, not out	6
T. K. Sharman, b Stokes	0
Extras	10
Total	58

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

BERLIN.

Der Albino, one-act farce, by Gustav Meyrink; Deutsches Chamber Plays, May 1.
Brüderlein fein, musical farce, by Leo Fall and J. Wilhelm; Deutsches Chamber Plays, May 1.
Goethe, burlesque, in two acts, by MM. Friedell and Polgar; Deutsches Chamber Plays, May 1.
Der Flieger, three-act farce, by MM. Brennert and Lehmann; New Schauspielhaus, May 4.
Des Mädchens Lebenswege, melodrama, in four acts and twelve scenes, by W. Melville-Luisen; May 5.
Staatsanwalt Alexander, four-act play, by Carl Schüler; Volks Oper, May 6.
Die Liebe wacht, four-act farce, by MM. de Caillavet and de Flers; Schiller, May 7.
Der neue Paris, comedy, in three acts, by Fedor Cohn; Hebbel, May 14.
Glück bei Frauen, three-act farce, by MM. Engel and Horst; Thalia, May 14.
Die Rast der Kavallerie, ballet, in three acts, by Arnsheimer (Imperial Russian ballet season); Komische Oper, May 17.
Der Generaldirektor, play, in two acts, by Kiara Blüthgen; Volks Oper, May 17.
Der Vielgeliebte, four-act farce, by MM. Schmasow and Heinz; Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches, May 18.
Nur ein Traum, comedy, in three acts, by Lothar Schmidt; Kleines, May 19.
Marianne, five-act volks-play, by C. Drexler-Manfred; Luisen, May 20.
Gewehr ab! drama, in three acts, by G. Hartenau; Hebbel, May 25.

"OH, CHRISTINA."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. J. Bell and Laurence Therval, Produced for the First Time at the Royalty, Glasgow, on Monday, June 6.

Miss M'Indoe ..... MISS LOLA DUNCAN
James Baldwin ..... MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Miss Purvis ..... MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON
Christina ..... MISS MARGARET NYBLOC
Customer ..... MR. CYRIL GRIFFITHS
Jimale McPhie ..... MR. GEORGE TAWDE
Child ..... MISS ALICE SMITH
Mrs. McLeerie ..... MISS AGNES BARTHOLOMEW
Dr. Reid ..... MR. NORMAN MCKEOWN
Flora ..... MISS BLANCHE PEARL
Rev. Mr. Beaton ..... MR. WALTER ROY
Mrs. Pumphrey ..... MISS P. WHITE
Customer ..... MISS WINIFRED GUNN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The latest novelty submitted by the Glasgow Repertory Company is a dramatic version of the story of the same name by Mr. J. J. Bell, the author of *Wee Macgreegor*. It tells of the sensation caused in the household of a quiet, and prim old maid, Miss Purvis, who keeps a small stationery and fancy goods shop in a Clyde watering-place, by the advent of her niece, Christina, a young Glasgow girl of twelve years, with an extensive knowledge of slang and a boisterous tom-boy disposition that cause Miss Purvis many an anxious moment. Christina is an ardent reader of novelettes, and with the romantic notions gathered there, sets herself to bring about a marriage between her aunt and Mr. Baldwin, an elderly traveller, who visits the shop on his monthly rounds. Christina also devotes a deal of her surplus energy to reforming the rather sleepy method of conducting a shop adopted by Miss Purvis, and with her sharp wits and the buoyant unscrupulousness of youth, she introduces a number of business ideas that rather shock the sedate aunt. In the evolving of the story various characters tend to help or hinder the progress of the elderly wooers, but in the end all is arranged to Christina's satisfaction.

The play can hardly be called dramatic in form, being rather a cleverly-devised series of character studies, but their truth and fidelity, with the humour of Mr. Bell's dialogue, combined to catch the fancy of the first night's audience, and they were unstinted in their appreciation. The outstanding character is, of course, Christina, and this part was acted with infinite skill and humour by a young Glasgow actress, Miss Margaret Nybloc, who made a decided hit in the part. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as the prim old aunt, Miss Purvis, gave a delightful study, and her scenes with the niece and with her elderly admirer, Mr. Baldwin, cleverly acted by Mr. Campbell Gullan, were extremely well done. A richly-humorous impersonation of a talkative dame, Mrs. McLeerie, was given by Miss Agnes Bartholomew, and was a genuine excerpt from real life that roused the audience to enthusiasm. Mr. George Tawde as the "little vulgar boy," who first annoys and then aids Christina in her schemes, added another to the amusing parts he has played during the Repertory season. The other characters are merely sketches, but each was given with the artistic moderation necessary to fit into the general scheme. The play was produced by Miss Madge M'Intosh, assisted by the author, and two excellent scenes were specially designed and painted for the production by Mr. Leslie J. Cacey. The first scene shows the back parlour of the shop, with the array of toys and fancy goods seen through the dividing partition; and the second and third acts take place in the shop itself, with the parlour in the background. The staging of the shop was extremely good, a wealth of "properties" being requisitioned to give realism to the scene. The reception of the play was very cordial, and in response to the demands for the author, Mr. Alfred Wareing introduced Mr. J. J. Bell, who thanked the audience, on behalf of Mr. Therval and himself. The amusing comedietta, *The American Widow*, by Miss Rosina Filippi, was given in front, and in this Miss Agnes Bartholomew was particularly happy as Mrs. Van Bright, assisted by Mr. Cyril Griffiths as the Earl of Somerville.

A WARRANT WITHDRAWN.

At the Edgware Police-court on Thursday Joseph St. Clair, 46, Brewer-street, Woolwich, theatrical manager, was charged, on remand, with embezzling £160 10s., belonging to the Moody-Manners Opera Company. Mr. Huntley Jenkins (instructed by Mr. W. H. Mote) appeared for the company, and Mr. H. H. Olley defended.

It was alleged against defendant, who had managed one of the touring companies for seven seasons, that on receipt of notice in May that his services would not be further required after the completion of the tour, he wrote to Mr. Charles Manners, enclosing a statement of account claiming that the company owed him £155 10s. Two members of the staff had been dispensed with during the tour, he wrote, and as their duties fell upon his shoulders he was entitled to claim their wages, together with repayment of an unwarranted reduction in his own salary. Added together, these items made a total of £295 10s., against which he had £140 in hand, leaving a balance due of £155 10s. He added that he welcomed an investigation in court, as it would afford him an opportunity of exposing "the company's mean and contemptible methods of producing grand opera in English."

Mr. Huntley Jenkins, after reviewing the facts, said during the adjournment defendant had taken the very proper advice of Mr. Olley and had written Mr. Charles Manners a letter, in which he said:

"Referring to my letter to you of May 11, in which I made various statements against you, your wife, and her sister, I hereby unhesitatingly withdraw such statements, and say they are not correct, and I hereby express my regret for having written such a letter, and I consent to your publishing this letter in any newspaper you think proper."

Counsel added that the accounts were entirely a matter for a civil court, and should not have been made a matter of criminal prosecution, and for that reason he asked leave to withdraw the warrant.

Mr. Olley said he could have satisfied the Court that no criminal offence had been committed by his client, and he endorsed the remarks of Mr. Jenkins.

The Bench then consented to the withdrawal of the warrant.

AT the Paris Opera objection has been taken by a subscriber to the slightness of the costume worn by Mme. Marie Kousnezoff in *Thais*. Mme. Kousnezoff wore the same costume in Massenet's opera at Brussels, St. Petersburg, and in Paris last year, and no one took exception to it. M. Messager, one of the managers of the Opera, asked the artist to make an addition to her dress, but she refused on principle.

SIR GEORGE REID, High Commissioner and first Premier of the Federal Government of Australia, received Mr. Richard B. Mason personally on the 3rd inst., and accepted the dedication of a new patriotic song, composed by Mr. Mason, entitled "Young England," words by the Lord Norton. Mr. Mason was until recently for three years a member of Mr. Brandon Thomas's company with *Charley's Aunt*, and played the part of Charley Wykeham in four revivals of this comedy in the West End. "Young England," the words of which were approved by our late King, is now in the Press, and will be published by Messrs. W. Morley and Co.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS VIOLA COMPTON.

Miss Viola Compton is one of those fortunate people who are actors and actresses by inheritance as well as by temperament, for she comes of a famous theatrical family on both sides. The eldest daughter of Mr. Edward Compton, her mother delighted playgoers under the name of Virginia Bateman, and her aunts, Miss Compton (Mrs. R. C. Carton) and Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) bear names written largely in the theatrical annals of our time. Miss Viola Compton made her first appearance on the stage at the age of five, when she played Charles Darnay in the prologue of her father's production of *Sydney Carton*. Apropos of this, a story is told to the effect that her two brothers were intensely jealous of her being selected for the part, so were allowed to go on in the crowd during the trial scene as compensation. They afterwards declared that their parts were far more difficult than hers, for "Viola only has to say 'Yes, I will, mother,' whilst we have to keep on shouting till the curtain goes down!"

A gap of thirteen years was bridged over by school performances and charity matinées, and Miss Compton's professional career may be said to have begun when, at the age of eighteen, she joined her father to play a round of parts in his company—Selina in *Davy Garrick*, Maria in *The School for Scandal*, Julia in *The Rivals*, Mrs. Thornton in *The Reformed Rake*, Mrs. Beauclere in *To-morrow*, and Gabrielle in *Tom Noddy's Secret*, a one-act play. She played these for a few months, at the end of which time she succeeded Miss Haidee Gunn in the leading parts—Lady Teazle, Kate Hardcastle, Lydia Languish, and Violet Gresham—in *Davy Garrick*, and Anastasia Coke in *To-morrow*, all of which she studied in the short space of a month, rehearsing them by day and playing the other parts at night. During this time she was appearing under the name of Mackenzie in order to obtain a perfectly unbiased opinion from Press and public. She took the family acting name of Compton when she appeared with her father during his London season at the St. James's Theatre, succeeding Miss Suzanne Sheldon in *The Eighteenth Century*, and playing Lady Sneerwell in Mr. Compton's revival of *The School for Scandal*. Since then she has again been playing lead with the Compton Comedy Company, and has also appeared with signal success as a reciter, having scored a veritable triumph at a recital she gave at the Steinway Hall. She, however, finds reciting rather solitary and wearing work, and prefers the stage proper. Last autumn Miss Compton won honours in the part of Nell

[*Photo by Hubbard.*

MISS VIOLA COMPTON.

Gwynne in a play by Frankfort Moore entitled *The Impudent Comedian*, produced at the Coronet at the matinée for the Actors' Church Union.

MR. EDWARD AVINAL.

Although born in Chepstow, Mr. Edward Avinal, who is well known as a leading aristocratic heavy man, is proud to call himself a "man of Kent," descending as he does from an old Kentish family. Educated at Cheltenham College, and afterwards at Clare College, Cambridge, his people intended him to enter the Church, as so many of his family had done, but he preferred to try for the Army as an University candidate. However, he failed in this, and was debarred a second attempt owing to the age limit. He entered the theatrical business under the able auspices of Mr. Edward Lockwood, learning acting-management with Messrs. Horace Sedger and William Greet's *Maid Marion* company, afterwards touring with *The Mountebanks*. He then had his own tour of eight weeks with the successful musical comedy *Randolph the Reckless*, travelling over forty people. After this he obtained a remunerative billet in the Controller's Branch of the G.P.O., but the glamour of the stage was too strong, and after a while he threw it up and obtained an engagement with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Scarth, to play a small part and acting-management with their tour of their own play, *Forgive Us Our Trespasses*. At the conclusion of a fourteen weeks' pantomime engagement with the Milton Rays in *Dick Whittington*, at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, Mr. Avinal rejoined Mr. and Mrs. Scarth for another long tour. Then succeeded a variety of parts with various managers, during which he gained practical experience in all departments of the business. The autumn of 1898 found him playing Charles Prescott and serving as acting-manager for Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's *My Jack* tour, at the conclusion of which he was engaged by the same firm to play Henri Martin in the spring tour of *The Terror of Paris*. Miss Marie Dagmar next secured him for the part of Colonel Tumbleoff and acting-management for her first tour of *A Life's Revenge*. Then came a long and most successful tour with Mr. James Stephens, playing Stephen Clinton, the heavy lead, in *The Golden Chance*. Among subsequent engagements were those of Matthew Mardyke and Cromwell with F. H. De Quincey's tour of *The Days of Cromwell*, The Ratcatcher, lead in James Bell's *Through the World*, Sir Rupert Warriner in *A Queen's Vengeance*, heavy lead in *On Active Service*, Captain Badaire in *The Gamester of Metz* (two tours), Hunter Gowan in *The Rebel's Wife*, Lieut. Langley in *The King of Terrors*, Captain Gilchrist in *Bootles' Baby*, Silas Bradley in *For the Woman He Loves*, and Roland Goldsworthy in *When the Lights are Low*.

In 1905 came Mr. Avinal's first engagement with Messrs. Haddon and Loader, playing the title-rôle in *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*. Afterwards he played Harry Travers in *The King of Thieves*. At the conclusion of this engagement he was retained by Mr. Walter Howe to play Frank Manton, lead, in *A Victim of Villainy*. He then produced for the late George Ginnett the spectacular sketch *Dick Turpin*, at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, and also toured with same. After this came his first engagement with Miss Winifred Mande, playing Charles Etherington in *The Stowaway* and Ralph Blackwater, K.C., in *The Sins of a City*. A special six weeks' heavy lead in *At War with Women* was followed by a summer tour with Mr. Sidney Dench, playing the heavy lead in *The Rich and Poor of London*. He then joined Mr. Jack Haddon to play Michael Ramonoff in his autumn tour of *Under the Russian Flag*. In the following spring he rejoined Mr. Haddon, this time playing Wolf Marischka. Afterwards he was engaged by Messrs. Cameron and Alexander to create the leading heavy rôle of Colonel Jules Vermond in their production of *Under the Stars and Stripes*. Then followed eighteen months with Mr. Henry L. Ormond in répertoire, playing Phillip Manners in *The Master Criminal*, George D'Alroy in *Caste*, Robert Overstone in *A Woman's Revenge*, and Mr.

[*Photo by Jamieson and Cowsill.*

MR. EDWARD AVINAL.

Brownlow in *Oliver Twist*. At the termination of his engagement with Mr. Osmond, Mr. Avinal was engaged by Messrs. Sherwood and Martin to play Captain Slade in *The Way of the World*. For the first six months of last year he was playing the principal heavy parts with Mr. H. G. Brandon's sketches on the London halls. In the autumn he joined Miss Winifred Maude, to play his old parts. Since last November he has been playing Gilbert Carlton, the heavy lead in J. Forbes Knowles's successful drama, *Her Marriage Vow*, and is engaged for principal heavies in J. Forbes Knowles and Robert Arthur's stock season at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR PERCY RHODES.

In 1891, under the management of the late Sarah Thorne, Mr. Percy Rhodes made his first appearance on the stage. During his two seasons with her he appeared in many and various characters, ranging from melodrama to Shakespeare, among them being the Prince in *Romeo and Juliet*, Don John in *Much Ado*, the King in *Hamlet*, and Lord Stanley in *Richard III.* for one night only, the occasion being the benefit of Mr. Lyall Swete, who appeared as Richard, Buckingham being portrayed by Mr. Seymour Hicks. Mr. Rhodes next appeared in "a silent part," that of a footman in *Lady Windermere's Fan* at the St. James's Theatre; but after six weeks of "walking on" and understudying, he went into the provinces in search of a wider experience. The following is a list of his engagements from 1892 to 1904, many of them being what are technically known as "gentlemanly heavy" parts:—Dick Dugdale in *The Pointsman*, Jem Dalton in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Captain Crozier in *A Woman's Reason*, Lord Thamesmead

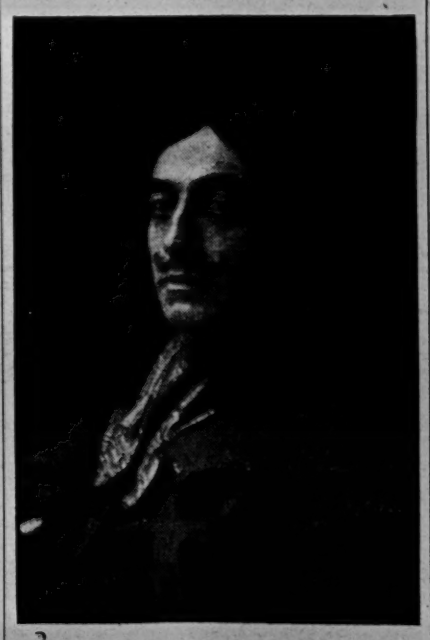

[*Photo by Small.*

MR. PERCY RHODES.

in *An Artist's Model* (Mr. Rhodes's only appearance, so far, in musical comedy), Nigel Chester in *Tares*, John Mildmay in *Still Waters Run Deep*, Paul de Vigne in *Human Nature*, Father Michael in *The English Rose*, Captain Maitland in *Tommy Atkins*, Captain Chandos in *A Life of Pleasure*, Clifford Armytage in *The Lights o' London*, Richard Redcliffe in *Alone in London*, General Ivanoff in *The Broken Melody*, Denby Grant in *The Great Millionaire*, and Lord Burford in *Hearts Are Trumps*. The accompanying portrait is of Mr. Rhodes as Charles II. in *His Majesty's Servant*, one of his favourite parts.

In the summer of 1905 he appeared as Jaques in some pastoral performances of *As You Like It*, under the direction of Miss Madge McIntosh, and in the autumn of the same year he went on tour to play Lieutenant Alan Graeme in Mr. J. B. Fagan's Adelphi play *Under Which King?* In the spring of 1906 he appeared in the provinces as Paul Sylvaine in *Leah Kleschna*, under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman, and was after this engaged by Mr. Forbes-Robertson to go to America to play the Ghost in *Hamlet*, Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*, and Rufio in Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Cæsar and Cleopatra*. On his return from America, in May, 1907, he was engaged by Mr. Henri de Vries to play the Magistrate in *A Case of Arson* at the Haymarket Theatre. Following this came two further engagements with Mr. Forbes-Robertson, to play Nilghai in *The Light that Failed*, and Brabantio in *Othello*, re-appearing as Rufio in *Cæsar and Cleopatra* at the Savoy Theatre in December, 1907. In 1908, during this most pleasant engagement, he married Miss Dorothy Paget, also a member of the company, and who has recently appeared with Mr. Robertson as Stasia in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. In the spring of last year Mr. Rhodes went on tour to play Philip Christian in *Pete*, and quite recently visited Berlin with Mr. Gerald Lawrence, appearing in the German capital as Jaques and Friar Lawrence. Recently he concluded an engagement as Izra Mahomet Khan in *The Fighting Chance* at the Lyceum Theatre. He is very fond of walking and golf—and his own fireside.

MR. ROBERT ENTWISTLE.

Twelve years ago Mr. Robert Entwistle started his stage career by touring in the Adelphi drama, *The Fatal Card*, in which he played four parts, and made himself generally useful. At the end of that tour he had a turn in fit-ups, and experienced twelve months of one-night towns. He then returned to the regular theatre, and for three years he had an excellent schooling in drama, stock seasons, &c. Subsequently he devoted his energies to comedies and plays, especially stage-management, which he had the good fortune to learn under Mr. Percy Hutchison, a gentleman so adept at the business. After two years under this management, Mr. Entwistle joined Mr. Norman Macowan, playing Beau Nash in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, Sir Oliver Surface, Harker in *Violets*, and Marshall in *Captain Swift*. His next important part was that of the Earl of Dorincourt in *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, and went from this to Mrs. Patrick Campbell as stage-manager. Soon afterwards he assisted Mr. Davey in producing pantomime at Kingston, also producing it the following year and stage-managing on tour. Some time ago Messrs. Jay and Mann entrusted to Mr. Entwistle the responsibility of producing all their three companies for their second tour of *An Englishman's Home*. He was also their stage-manager on the first tour of the piece mentioned, and has recently officiated in the same capacity with one of their other companies. Mr. Entwistle's greatest wish is to get an appointment in America, where his brother, Mr. Harold Entwistle, is doing well under Mr. Chas. Frohman's management. "America," says Mr. Entwistle, "is a land of great possibilities, and where one's work is appreciated far more than in the old country. My motto is the more work the better the remuneration and the position. Therefore I hope to get the

MR. ROBERT ENTWISTLE.

chance to go to the States, where one can get any amount of work." Five years ago Mr. Entwistle married, and he and his wife have always held joint engagements. He finds in Mrs. Entwistle the greatest help and guide, whose advice he has never found at fault.

THE FUTURE OF THE THEATRE.

Mr. Granville Barker lectured on the "Future of the Drama in England" at the *Times* Book Club on Thursday. We were now, he said, fairly launched on a rather important theatrical development, such as began in France eighty or ninety years ago. There were evidences of this in the movement for a national theatre. The "muddlement" in art at the present day was absolutely ludicrous. Serious literature in England was practically barred except to men of independent means. He was glad to say the theatre was a thoroughly vulgar and democratic art. Now it was awake to its needs it would probably have no scruples against making its complaints heard, and shouting in the market-place until it got what it wanted.

One of the reasons why nothing had been done in England for the theatre was that English people had hardly got over their shame at the existence of such an awful place. To say that Shakespeare was not only a national inheritance but a national responsibility was to utter a phrase that had now acquired real meaning. The work of the State was being extended in ways quite undreamed of a generation ago. He really could not see why the State should not be given the responsibility of looking after dramatic and literary intelligence.

Why not put artistic and literary institutions under the direction of a Ministery of Fine Arts, half advisory and half mandatory? It might build and open a theatre simply and solely for the sake of Shakespeare's plays alone. This theatre might be opened free, just as we had a free National Gallery and British Museum—and he did not think it would cost much more to maintain. A free theatre would always be full—filled with people who really wanted to see plays; it would not be a convenient place for flirting or sleeping. It would only cost a paltry few thousand pounds a year. He would rather choose as a name for the new theatre, the Normal Theatre, giving normal drama, about normal people, who could be normally successful under normal conditions.

If we were to have an artistic nation we must see that our workers had a little more leisure to enjoy good art—two hours less work a day meant all the difference in a man's selection and appreciation—and that our idlers had a little less leisure. The play of the future would be a vivid reflection of the life of the time. The people attending would prefer to see people other than those who could not exist upon an income of less than £5,000 a year, and would like to have a view of dukes and duchesses from some other angle than that of the average shop girl.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

"MY LADY BELLAMY."

Play, in Four Acts, by Dorothea Moore, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on Monday, June 6.

King William III. ..... MR. E. H. BROOKE
Lord Crawford ..... MR. ARTHUR LAYLAND
Mr. Robert Tarfax ..... MR. HERBERT MAULE
Sir Geo. Barclay ..... MR. L. D. ARTHUR
Captain Van Hesler ..... MR. HAMPTON GORDON
Captain Otley ..... MR. A. L. BURKE
Sim Waring ..... MR. PATRICK ALEXANDER
Mr. Hemming ..... MR. ARTHUR BLAIR
Sudwell ..... MR. GEO. LITTLETON-HOLYOAKE
John Hemming ..... MISS NELLIE SHAW
Maurice Hemming ..... MISS NORAH JOHNS
Sir Gervase Bellamy ..... MR. ALEX. MACLEAN
Queen Mary II. ..... MISS ALICE PALMER
Mrs. Bathsheba Hemming ..... MISS MAUDE HARCOURT
Mrs. Mackie ..... MISS MARGHERITA GORDON
Henrietta Lady Bellamy ..... MISS LAURA LEIGH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

My Lady Bellamy shows considerable originality. During the four acts many thrilling incidents occur, and there is a liberal amount of comedy and pathos. The period is between the years 1690 and 1694, in the reign of William of Orange and Mary. Here we are in an atmosphere of conspiracy and intrigue, of plot and counter-plot, and the great drama of which Dutch William and Le Grande Monarque were the protagonists is interwoven with the story of the hero and heroine. Sir Gervase Bellamy, an Irish Jacobite of the generous devil-may-care type, is married to a child of ten years for reasons of family estate. After the marriage the child is taken into the care of her guardians, Mr. and Mrs. Hemming, until she reaches years of discretion. After two years have elapsed she has an adventure with her husband in the garden of Mrs. Hemming's house, but neither recognises the other. The soldiers of William are hot upon the trail of Sir Gervase, but through the resourcefulness of Lady Bellamy and her two companions he is able to give his pursuers the slip. After Sir Gervase has left, Lady Bellamy overhears a conversation between Mr. Robert Tarfax (a Williamite spy) and Mr. Hemming, in which the former unfolds a scheme for the capture of Sir Gervase Bellamy and his fellow conspirators at Waring's hut the same evening. Lady Bellamy escapes from her guardians' house during the evening and warns her husband and his companions of the approach of Tarfax and the Williamite soldiers. Here we witness the reunion of husband and child-wife, who in her loyalty and devotion to him decides to accompany him in his perilous escape. An exciting scene closes with Sir Gervase and Lady Bellamy escaping from the troops through a trap-door in the floor. Tarfax and his army break into the hut, only to find Waring, the smuggler, apparently in a drunken sleep, and the "birds flown." Sir Gervase and his wife are, however, traced to the Bagpipes Inn, Edinburgh, where, after an exciting incident with Tarfax, they are captured in the act of escaping on horseback.

A trial takes place, conducted by Lord Crawford (President of the Privy Council of Scotland), and, in order to save his child-wife from the torture of a dark cell, Sir Gervase commands her to tell all she knows about himself and the Jacobite risings. She does so, but, later, foils her husband's enemies by taking possession of some despatches in cipher found on him, which the burns. Sir Gervase refuses to divulge the names of his confederates, and, with threats of torture, the prisoner is taken before the King to have the necessary order signed. In the meantime, however, Lady Bellamy gains an audience with the King, and with childlike simplicity pleads for her husband's life. She informs his Majesty of the cruelty displayed both towards herself and her husband by Lord Crawford and Tarfax. A strong scene concludes with the King dismissing the suave Lord Crawford and the oily Tarfax with stern rebukes. William examines Sir Gervase himself, but his tempting offer of a pardon in exchange for the names of the Jacobite conspirators has no effect on the prisoner. But William, if callous, is not vindictive. The useless slaughter of a brave man does not appeal to him, and he eventually pardons Bellamy, but sentences him to a period of banishment to France.

The last scene opens in the gardens of Kensington Palace four years afterwards. It is Lady Bellamy's sixteenth birthday, and the King and Queen, having formed a strong attachment for the girl, offer her the best birthday present she can choose. She asks that her husband might be restored to her in preference to the gift of a necklace which the King jokingly proposes, and a pretty scene closes with the gratifying of her desire, and the happy reunion of man and wife.

The piece was cleverly cast, and Mr. Maclean's splendid all round company held the audience in a very firm grip of interest from beginning to end. Mr. Alex. Maclean, with his handsome presence, his fine voice, and excellent Irish brogue, was admirably adapted for the romantic character of Sir Gervase. He has an excellent style, which in this instance made him the pivot around which the success of the piece revolved. Miss Laura Leigh played My Lady Bellamy with delightful simplicity throughout, and time after time both she and Mr. Maclean were called before the curtain. Mr. E. H. Brooke was a dignified King William, and Miss Mary Palmer a warm-hearted Queen. Mr. Herbert Maule played Tarfax with considerable distinction, and Mr. Arthur Layland's Lord Crawford was a keen study of conventional Puritanism. All the other characters were ably interpreted. The piece was magnificently staged and the dresses were admirable. It was produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Alex. Maclean, who is to be congratulated upon its success.

AN interesting gathering was held on Saturday evening in the great hall of Winchester House, which had been kindly lent for the occasion to the Rev. Montague Fowler, Rector of All Hallows, London Wall. Mr. Sydney Paxton gave a delightfully humorous parody of a village public meeting, representing the various characters both in dialogue and at the piano. The quarrel scenes out of *The School for Scandal* were played in costume by Miss Mary Forbes, who made a most charming and attractive Lady Teazle, with the Rector as Sir Peter. Mr. Stanley Howlett recited the St. Crispin's Day speech from *Henry V.*; Mr. Dennis Cleugh, Mr. Everard Vanderlip, Miss May Saker, Miss Irene Delisse, and Miss Evelyn Grey contributed songs and recitations; while the quarrel scene between Brutus and Cassius from *Julius Cæsar* was excellently given by Mr. Victor Wiltshire and Mr. Howard Baynton. A clever fencing display was given by Miss Tanqueray, Miss Marjorie Hodges, and Miss Letty Paxton.

AT the close of the proceedings Mrs. Montague Fowler who presided, read a message from Her Majesty the Queen to the working girls and men of All Hallows. The entertainment was provided in the interests of 200 working girls attending All Hallows Church, whom the Rector had, during the afternoon, conducted over Lambeth Palace, explaining the many features of historical and archæological interest connected with the home of the Archbishops of Canterbury.

FRAULEIN KORNELIA KOGL, a young actress of the Vienna Court Theatre, has thrown up her profession and become a member of a religious order known as the "Daughters of the Holy Ghost," the sisters of which, all of whom have to pass an examination in nursing, attend the poor in illness for charity's sake.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROBERTSON AT THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 6, the Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, entitled

"M.P."

Dunscombe Dunscombe....Mr. O. B. Clarence
Chudleigh Dunscombe..Mr. Arthur Wontner
Cecilia Dunscombe .....Miss Rosie Begarnie
Talbot Piers .....Mr. James Carew
Isaac Skoome .....Mr. Lionel Rignold
Ruth Deybrooke .....Miss Nell Compton
Mr. Bran .....Mr. William Rokeby
Mr. Bray .....Mr. Charles Harley
Mr. Malhowther .....Mr. James R. La Fane

"A very interesting, and in every respect artistic and successful, revival of *M.P.* was given at Toole's Theatre in July, 1883, under the management and direction of the author's son, Mr. T. W. Robertson, the younger. In arranging with Mr. Toole for the first revival of *M.P.*, his avowed object was to produce it in the theatre most in size like that wherein it originally saw light, so that, together with the best available talent to create the characters employed, it might have the author's intentions rightly carried out. That this was well and loyally done," says Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton in his "Life of Tom Robertson," "was amply shown on the first night of the revival, when the comedy, beautifully put upon the stage, went without a hitch from beginning to end, and provoked the constant laughter and applause of those present. On this occasion Mr. A. Beaumont was the Dunscombe Dunscombe; Mr. B. D. Ward, Chudleigh Dunscombe; Mr. F. H. Macklin, Talbot Piers; Mr. J. F. Young, Isaac Skoome; Mr. Albert Chevalier, Mr. Hulhowther; and Miss Gerard, Ruth Deybrooke. Contenting himself with the cares of stage-management, Mr. T. W. Robertson did not figure in the cast, but his wife (Miss Cora Stuart) made a charming Cecilia Dunscombe; and when, later on in the season, *Ours* took the place of *M.P.*, he proved by his excellent performance of the difficult character of Hugh Chalcot how well he understood his father's intentions, and how admirably he could play his parts. Could Robertson have been among the audience that gave cordial greeting to his son, and constantly applauded his successful and highly-finished performance, he would not have regretted the fact that, in spite of parental warning, 'Tommy' had, in the usual Robertsonian way, 'drifted.' His daughter, Miss Maud Robertson, was also a member of the company."

Mr. Robert Arthur made a good start with the piece on Monday, the first of his second season of Robertson comedies, produced by Mr. Eade Montefiore, his able lieutenant and resident-manager, at the revivified and florally decorated Notting Hill Gate Theatre. A capital company has been collected, and the enterprise deserves success. If only the plays were dressed to the period and not brought up to date, and if the excellent classical music by the Chamber Quartet were not quite so uniformly classical, we venture to think improvement would be effected. Simplicity and that one touch of nature which makes the whole world kin were the secret of Robertson's success as a playwright. He held the mirror up to Nature, free from artificality and the vitiated garish atmosphere which characterised so much stage work in his time. *M.P.* strikes a modern audience, maybe, as very unsophisticated and a trifle crude; but its brilliant characterisation, with dialogue and directness of method, make for success. Mr. O. B. Clarence as Dunscombe Dunscombe, the elderly aristocrat, so cheerful on the brink of ruin, gives one of the best-thought-out impersonations in the piece, an assumption full of characteristic touches. Mr. Lionel Rignold is hugely diverting as the vulgar "ready-made" man, Isaac Skoome, and his attitude in the zenith of success and again in the doldrums of despair is equally comic and diverting. Miss Rosie Begarnie as Cecilia Dunscombe is full of arch and merry coquetry and frolic; and Miss Nell Compton as the timid and modest, yet wide-awake, Quakeress, Ruth Deybrooke, acts as a good foil, and looks as pretty as a picture in her puritanical garb. Mr. James Carew saunters easily and leisurely through the part of Talbot Piers, the military man in search of Parliamentary distinction; and Mr. Arthur Wontner as the impulsive and intense Chudleigh Dunscombe acts with *verve* and enthusiasm. As the trio of "free and independent electors," Messrs Bran, Bray, and Mulhowther, Messrs. Wm. Rokeby, Charles Harley, and James R. La Fane are well to the fore, and supply some amusing samples of this type of man. The scene on the lawn is very picturesque, and the whole mounting is all that could be desired. Mr. Thomas Sidney is stage-manager, assisted by Mr. Montague Wigan.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

Melodrama still continues to win immense favour with "Shakespeare" audiences, and the management is to be congratulated upon securing such a powerful attraction as *The Female Swindler*, one of Mr. Walter Melville's numerous successes, for the present week. The piece, though following familiar lines, nevertheless contains many dramatic situations which demand skilful handling, and the members of Mr. Douglas Bruce's company are to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which the play was presented. As Jack Coulson Mr. Henry Lonsdale displayed considerable energy and acted throughout with dramatic vigour and earnestness. Mr. Fred Hodson won favour by his amusing character study of Abraham Mikestein, and Mr. Fred de Vere's humorous impersonation of Billy Binks evoked roars of laughter. Mr. Frank Howard gave a favourable delineation of Harold Travers, and Mr. A. Kenyon Gray enacted James Oliver in the most satisfactory manner. Warm praise must be accorded to Mr. W. T. Riley for his powerful representation of Geoffrey Warden, and his efforts earned due recognition. Valuable assistance was also contributed by Mr. George Elsworthy as Fred Fellows and Mr. Arthur Vasey as Detective Dixon. Miss Olive Warne created a deep impression by her finished embodiment of the female swindler Lu Valroy, the varying moods and passions being well portrayed. Miss Irene Atchinson was a pleasing and unassuming May Andrews and Miss Gertie Henderson a vivacious Mary Ann Mee.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama entitled

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

Another favourite Princess's drama is being this week presented by the stock company, and Mr. Fred Melville and his genial manager, Mr. Newman Maurice, are to be cordially complimented on the heartiness with which *Saved from the Sea* has been received by the *habitués* of this cosy playhouse. Full of sensational incidents, it appeals to all lovers of melodrama, and with many of the stock company, who have made themselves popular, in the cast, a capital interpretation has been given. Mr. Bonhote Wilson essayed the part of Dan Ellington, and gave a vigorous and manly rendering. Miss Mary Pemberton made an ideal Nancy, and won warm applause by her really fine acting. Mr. Newman Maurice made himself very popular in the congenial character of Billy Snooks; Mr. Marius St. John did well as Richard Penton; and to Mr. Victor Loraine praise must be awarded for a capital portraiture of Inspector Jennings. Mr. Walter Graham was effective as Jim Weaver; and Mr. W. H. Porter was very good as Peter Scalcher. Mr. George Belmore did justice to Jenkins; and Mr. H. Ogden was a good Head Warder. Mr. Will Smith was to the fore as the Prison Governor; and Mr. H. Johnstone was impressive as the Chaplain. Miss May Day was a winsome Polly Blake; Miss Gladys Newcombe was admirable as Mrs. Blake; and a pretty piece of acting was done by Miss Rosie Elmore as Jack. *Saved from the Sea* was well mounted, and the stage management was praiseworthy.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled

"ARRAH-NA-POGUE."

The attraction here this week is Dion Boucicault's Irish drama *Arrah-na-Pogue*, presented by a capable company under the direction of Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. Mr. Edward E. Hobart plays in a subdued manner throughout as Beamish M'Coul; Mr. Matthew H. Glenville adopts an easy style as the sorely-tried yet stout-hearted hero Shaun; as Arrah Meelish (known as Arrah-na-Pogue) Miss Lalla Stanhope elicits the sympathies of her audience by her natural acting; and Mr. Wilton Reed is quite at home as the kind-hearted Col. Bagenal O'Grady. He has some fine lines to say, and takes full advantage of the opportunities afforded him. Miss Lydia Audre is well suited to the character of Fanny Power, and Mr. H. C. Gilpin is responsible for a fine character-study of the cringing and despicable Michael Feeny. Mr. Lewis Jordan as the Irish Secretary of State and Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Winterbottom are both worthy of mention. All the minor characters are in safe keeping, and the drama on the whole is well staged. The Elephant Bioscope supplies an admirable series of pictures at the close of each performance.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, by Herbert Leonard, entitled,

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."

Presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke, the naval and military drama, *The Girl of My Heart*, is greatly interesting patrons of the Dalston Theatre this week. Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Will Stewart, an able seaman, represents a thoroughly manly fellow, and his loyalty to "the girl of his heart" enlists general admiration. The heroine, Mary Grahame, has a most attractive representative in Miss Gladys Purnell, who becomes an equal favourite in stalls, pit, and gallery. In the matter of character acting, Mr. William P. Sheen presents an excellent and most amusing example as Joshua Bradley, a laundryman, and Miss Florence Harcourt, as Sarah Bradley, a laundress, materially aids Mr. Sheen in sending the audience into convulsive fits of laughter. The peculiar part of Peter Scraggs, the proprietor of a private lunatic asylum, is sustained by Mr. Leonard Godfrey in a way which specially interests the audience. Mr. Morgan Richards creates some merriment as Private Tim Hooley, of the Marine Light Infantry. Miss Mary Auckland as Jenny Warden, otherwise known as "Mad Jenny," so interests the audience that she becomes a central figure of attraction in the story. Mr. Philip Renouf is quaint as Ben Lanky, a bo'sun's mate; and, as an exemplification of dignity, Mr. H. P. Illington, who represnts Admiral Rawlins, is all that is desired.

THE PAVILION, E.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, entitled

"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

The stock company have been playing to crowded houses this week in Mr. J. A. Campbell's emotional drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Fred Rivers deserves much praise for his fine impersonation of Thomas Haysel, as Stephen Haysel Mr. A. Bradley scores a decided success, Mr. Ashley Page exhibits some fine dramatic acting as the Rev. Allan Grey, Capt. Thornton is played in an excellent manner by Mr. Oswald Lingard, who wins much applause, Mr. Allen Carruthers is good as Barney O'Reilly, Mary Haysel is played by Miss Barbara Bateman and Miss Marion Denvil, the former sustaining the rôle of a young schoolgirl, and Miss Denvil enacting the later phases of the part. The character is exceedingly well impersonated both by Miss Denvil and Miss Bateman. Miss Phyllis Orme makes a typical stepmother, and Miss Nellie James supplies the humour of the evening in the character of Lizzie Muggins. At the conclusion of the second act Miss Marion Denvil was presented with a handsome bouquet.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, entitled

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

The patrons of this theatre are being highly entertained by the presentation, by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's principal company, of the well-written play *The Sorrows of Satan*. The play is well mounted, and the episodes and strong dramatic situations are dealt with in masterly fashion. Mr. Arthur Hinton essays the rôle of Prince Lucio Rimanez in a powerful manner, maintaining a strong hold of the audience throughout the play. Mr. Travis Green also gives a good account of himself in the character of Geoffrey Tempest, and is duly rewarded for his efforts. The strong part of Lady Sybil Elton is in the experienced hands of Miss Leila Zillwood, who is warmly applauded for an excellent rendering of a difficult part. Mr. Arthur Lowry, as the much sat-upon Lord Elton, offers an amusing interpretation, and is the source of hilarity. Mr. Arthur Beaufort is suitably placed as Auriel, and the same may be said of Mr. Charles Morton as Lord Lynton; while Mr. David Allen, Mr. Frank Brunell, and Mr. Harry Sidney, as Morgenson, Bentham, and Ellis respectively, make the most of their opportunities. Miss Mabel Coleman is seen to advantage as Mavis Clare; Diana Chesney is ably characterised by Miss Shirley Dalton; and Miss Irene Joyce as Mrs. Gibson and Miss Maud Evans as Annette fill the remaining parts.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

A very hearty welcome was accorded *The Mikado* on its presentation by the D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire opera company on Monday last, when a large and appreciative crowd testified to the popularity of this evergreen opera. The members of the cast, who are all talented artists, together with a large chorus with well-trained voices, form an exceptionally able company, whose excellent rendering of the familiar strains called forth great enthusiasm, encores being numerous. Other operas presented in the week's bill are *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *The Gondoliers*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Trial by Jury*. In the opera under notice Mr. Leicester Tunks sustained the part of the Mikado of Japan in a very efficient manner and his vocal numbers were well rendered; Nanki Poo was capitally undertaken by Mr. Henry Herbert, whose excellent voice was heard to the best advantage, his songs being duly appreciated; Mr. Henry A. Lytton, as Ko-Ko, won fresh laurels, his very amusing portrayal of the Lord High Executioner bringing down the house. The dry humour of Mr. Fred Billington as Pooh-Bah kept the house bubbling over with merriment; Mr. Sydney Granville made a capital Pish-Tush; Go-To was ably represented by Mr. Fred Dramater; Mrs. Arthur Rousbey scored considerably in the part of Yum-Yum; she possesses a fine voice, which she used with good effect, and her singing is greatly appreciated. Miss Beatrice Boarer, a talented little actress and singer, made a charming Pitti-Sing, and obtained well-deserved applause; Miss Marjorie Stone submitted a good rendering of Peep-Bo, and Katisha found an able representative in Miss Louie Rene.

"THE GREAT GAME."

A Trifle, by W. Cronin Wilson, Produced as a Curtain-raiser at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday, June 7.

J. Marsh .....Mr. Alec F. Thompson
Bill Hamlin .....Mr. W. Cronin Wilson
Snippy .....Mr. Stanley Logan

To playwrights and novelists the enterprising burglar has always been an alluring character, and in one-act pieces he is generally presented as a playful cuss—not without grimness certainly, but always with a sense of humour. In Mr. W. Cronin Wilson's "trifle," produced at the Lyric on Tuesday evening in front of Mr. Lewis Waller's fine production of *Don Cæsar de Bazan*, the cracksman, who is named Bill Hamlin, is a close (stage) relative of the late Mr. Bill Sikes. His brutality is unrelieved by a gleam of humaneness. In the basement of a house at Tilbury, where he is "resting," he deplores the lack of opportunity and the necessity for lying low, in consequence of a tap on the head administered with a heavy hand to an old gentleman who objected with too loud a voice to Bill's practices. He is in no mood to be cheered or heartened by the singing of a music-hall song by his pal Sniffy, one of the light-fingered gentry, who informs him that J. Marsh, the smartest detective of the day, is on his (Hamlin's) track. Hamlin's female partner has announced her intention of retiring to the country, but before going she has arranged a visit from her Scotch nephew. He arrives by basement entrance, and is immediately seized by Hamlin, who does not mince matters. The young gentleman from Clackmannan by his behaviour arouses suspicion, especially when he rushes right into an aperture revealed by the opening of a secret door. From his home the visitor has brought toothsome fare in a bag, the contents of which are viewed with considerable satisfaction until Bill finds at the bottom of the receptacle a pair of handcuffs. He turns fiercely on the "Scotch laddie," only to face the gleaming barrel of a six-shooter, held by the celebrated detective Marsh, who in his own natural voice tells him that the game is up, and that he must allow Snippy, his companion, to clap on the "darbies." Resistance is useless, for the house is surrounded. Hamlin sullenly submits to his fate, and is walked off. The author played with an unrestrained exhibition of brutal ferocity as Bill Hamlin; Mr. Stanley Logan displayed all the low cunning and "ikeyness" of the sneak-thief; and Mr. Alec F. Thompson made a humorous detective.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, June 6, the Comedietta entitled

"JACK'S LITTLE JOKE."

Jack .....Mr. R. Barrie
Mr. Youthful, sen. .....Mr. J. J. Daly
Madge .....Miss Frances Ruttledge
Smutty .....Miss May Hallatt

On Monday last was produced *Jack's Little Joke*, which, although described as a comedietta, should rightly be styled a farce. The plot turns on the old theme of a young man marrying unbeknown to the person on whom he is dependent for his support, and the means he adopts to keep the secret from that person—in this case his father—on receiving an unexpected visit from him. In the present instance he decides to pose as an invalid and to disguise his wife as a nurse. The difficulty of accounting for the presence of a baby he overcomes by bribing his servant to acknowledge it as hers. The father duly arrives, and, after a good deal of fairly amusing business, he naturally succumbs to the fascination of his son's young wife, and all is forgiven. The piece was smartly rattled through, Mr. R. Barrie as Jack working with unflagging energy throughout. Mr. J. J. Daly made the utmost of the part of the stern parent. Miss Frances Ruttledge was an attractive Madge, and Miss May Hallatt scored a success as Smutty, a familiar type of stage "slavey." The little play was well received by the audience.

The chief attraction in this week's picture programme is the film showing last week's Derby, and an agreeable feature which also lends variety to the entertainment is the singing by Miss Rosie Fitzgerald of two illustrated songs.

That favourite old farce *Leave it to Me* also finds a place in the programme, and is chiefly noticeable for the performance of Joe Sprouts by Mr. Mark Lester, who proves himself not only a sound and resourceful comedian, but also an arch-gagger. The remaining parts are filled by members of the Alexandra stock company, Messrs. J. J. Daly, H. Hallatt, and R. Barrie; and Misses F. Hallatt and F. Ruttledge. Good houses continue to be attracted by the present fare provided.

FULHAM THEATRE.

The picture season still continues at this house, with bi-weekly changes of subjects. The King's Funeral films are no longer shown, and those numerous folk who have not yet seen enough of them have to retire or to remain disconsolate. Miss East Robertson and Mr. George Delaforce are again seen in a humorous little sketch *He and She*, dealing with the way in which a lady cures her husband of too great a devotion to "the odds." Other pictures are shown to suit various tastes—melodramatic, farcical, picturesque, and so forth. A notable one is a Biblical subject, The Life of Moses. This is apparently an American production, and is really well carried out, the dresses, backgrounds, and accessories generally are well thought out, and have an air of historical fidelity, nor is there anything in it to which the most fastidious could take exception.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, entitled

"HOW GIRLS ARE BROUGHT TO RUIN."

Mrs. Morton Powell's great human story draws crowded and enthusiastic houses here. The company engaged includes Miss Osia Garnet-Vayne, Mr. Harry Scott, Mr. Edward M. Heanley, and Mrs. Morton Powell. The latter deserves warm praise for her acting, and as the cast-off mistress of Philip Edge is piquant and irresistible. Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne as Jessie Burton, a workgirl, displays acting power of a very high order, the scene in the night club and that in the Lambeth cellar being particularly realistic. The rôle of Harry Hailing falls to Mr. Harry Scott, whose strong voice is heard to advantage. Mr. Edward M. Heanley's acting of the part of Philip Edge needs little comment; suffice it to say that it was very strong and realistic. As Jack Jessie Mr. Sydney Bryant caused great amusement, and as Lucy Lawton Miss Jeannie Ridley was very comical. Mr. Alaric Burton was piously wicked as Mr. Solomon Sleek, and as Mr. Stirling Mr. Julien Mitchell was an excellent counsel for the defence. Mrs. Burton, Jessie's stepmother, was finely played by Miss Kathryne Eckhart. The piece is doing very good business.

At a recent meeting at Croydon in connection with the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, it was stated that there were traditions that Shakespeare used to go over from Dulwich, and stayed in Croydon at the old George Inn, from which George-street was named, and which stood on the site now occupied by the County and Westminster Bank at the bottom of the street, and also that the north bank of Duppas Hall, Croydon's most popular recreation ground, was the bank which Shakespeare had in mind when he wrote the lines in reference to the bank wherein the wild thyme grew in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It was further suggested that a connection between Shakespeare and Croydon might be found in the statement that Shakespeare was married by Whitgift.

TRAVELLING THEATRE MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.

The fourth annual general meeting of the Travelling Theatre Managers' Association was held on June 1 at the Criterion Restaurant, a room having been courteously placed at the disposal of the committee by the management. The following members attended:—Mrs. King, Mrs. Langley, Messrs. De Marr, Ebley, James, Johnson, Langley, Little, and Mr. Newell (secretary). Mr. Geo. Shirley represented the Copyright Play Protection Association and Mr. F. L. Loveridge forty-one of the independent authors. The chair was taken by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater. Letters and telegrams of regret for absence were received during the meeting from members Garrett, Holloway, Allworth, Denville, Sinclair, Bell, Haggar, and Poulton. The minutes of the 1909 meeting were read and passed. The officers for the ensuing year were unanimously re-elected thus: Mr. Drinkwater, chairman; Mr. Newell, secretary; Mr. Denville, emergency committee; Mr. Allworth, auditor (with the addition of Mr. Langley).

Mr. De Marr brought before the meeting the question of the giving of assistance to members when needed, and the granting of loans, &c. It was resolved that any member requiring assistance should place the matter before the emergency committee, who should consider it, and report their decision to the member direct, and that no publicity should be given to the matter in any shape or form.

The question of legal advice was next considered, and it was passed that any member needing such should communicate with the Association's Agent stating the nature of his case. The latter should place it before Mr. Judge for opinion, and the member's case, together with the solicitor's advice, should be sent to the committee for consideration as to what steps should be taken, the committee to have the sole discretionary powers to fight the case on behalf of the member should they deem it prudent so to do.

A review of the financial position showed that the Association had about £140 to their credit at the North-Eastern Bank, Morpeth. It was decided that a full statement of the Association's financial position should be got out in the form of a balance-sheet by the secretary and the agent, sent to the auditors for signature, and after being passed by them a copy sent to every member.

A member asked what the expenditure for the year had been, but as these figures had not been got out he could only be informed that the expenditure had been very little indeed. It had been reduced to a minimum, there being no management or office expenses, nothing but legal expenses (roughly, £5 for the year), postages, stationery, and printing, somewhere near another £6 to £6.

Mr. Shirley was asked if he had any complaints to make on behalf of the Copyright Play Protection Association, and that gentleman informed those present that he had not.

Three new members were proposed, Messrs. Edwards, Noakes, and E. Rayner, and elected.

A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Drinkwater for taking the chair and for his valuable services and interest in the welfare of the Association, and to the management of the Criterion Restaurant for the use of the room, brought the meeting to a close.

It is hoped that many new members will join this year. At present the membership stands at forty. The subscription of 5s. per month is amply repaid when free legal advice can be had, the use of 250 copyright plays at a nominal fee, reduced insurance rates on fire and accident ranging in reduction from 9d. per cent. to 1s. 6d. per cent., and many contracts for cheap printing and free medical attention in the towns where the Association is represented by a medical officer. A lending scrip library has just been established, which affords members the benefit of getting any play for a fortnight on loan for a few pence to cover postage and typewriting.

The committee would like publicly to thank its hon. medical officers for their kind services during the past year.

The secretary, Mr. Newell, Pavilion Theatre, Nantwich, Cheshire, will be pleased to receive the names of any intending members, and place same before the committee with a view to early election.

SIR HERBERT TREE ON TOUR.

Sir Herbert Tree, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday, in response to demands for a speech, expressed his thanks for the warmth of Liverpool's welcome. He was delighted to think that The O'Flynn had danced himself into the hearts of Liverpool audiences as he had into the hearts of the Dublin people. It afforded him delight to know that *The O'Flynn* had proved a success, but he admitted that when in Dublin he ventured upon the programme with some trepidation, fearing that his accent in the rôle of the Irishman would be somewhat lacking. If there was an Irishman present that night who objected to it, he tendered him an apology. ("Not at all.") He had not been in Liverpool for some years, but circumstances beyond his control had kept him away. It was not because he loved Liverpool less, but because his responsibilities in London were greater than formerly. It was one of the joys of an actor to present the works of Shakespeare on the stage, and he would like to believe that although they had given *The O'Flynn* for most of the week, they had afforded some pleasure by opening with *The Merchant of Venice*. He trusted that before many months had passed he might be in Liverpool again.

Sir Herbert, at the close of the performance of *The Merchant of Venice* at the New Theatre, Cardiff, on Monday, in answer to repeated calls, came forward and said:—"You want me to say a few words to you. Well, I am glad you are pleased with what you have seen to-night, but I have seen more than you have. You have seen the play—I have seen an aeroplane. I went out between the acts and I saw an aeroplane—at least, a dirigible—hovering over this theatre. I am glad to think that you did not know of this, or the theatre might have been emptied. And this gives me a little thought. It is a wonderful age indeed that we live in. We have the telephone, we have the wireless telegraphy, we have electricity, we have the cinematograph, and we have aeroplanes. How wonderful is this new invention! But it is as nothing, I am thinking, as compared with the flights of fancy which caused Shakespeare to soar above humanity and from that wonderful poise of his mind to gaze down upon the surging mass of humanity beneath—at first the great grey innumerable mass, and then, with the magician's art, he disintegrates it and dissolves it in the individuality as he has done in the case of Shylock the Jew, physician at the Court of Elizabeth, and out of that one experience he has built up this eternal figure of the eternal Jew, a type of the suffering Hebrew for all the ages. At that moment was it when he said he must bring sympathy for this man—the sympathy that you accorded him this evening in the great Trial scene. But Shakespeare realised, as all great thinkers do realise, that no one is wholly bad or wholly good—no one is ever quite black, and no one is ever quite white. For it was the humanity that was in that realised and sympathised with the humanity which is in us all."

Mr. J. K. Jerome will be interested to hear that the Judge at Marylebone County Court the other day asked a medical witness, "What is housemaid's knee?" adding, amid the usual loud laughter, "It is the only thing I have not got." Once again we see that truth is no stranger to fiction.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

White is the dominant note of the dresses worn by Miss Mary Moore in *The Case of Rebellious Susan* at the Criterion. Her first dress is of fine white-embroidered lawn, simply made with a slightly full skirt and the bodice cut square to open over a chemisette of clear white tulle. The second dress is decidedly original, the bodice being arranged with a pinafore of foulard printed in a Persian design in charmingly low tones of pale blue and yellow. Narrow folds of white muslin are drawn from the shoulders to the waist, where they are caught in by a narrow folded belt of the foulard; and small motifs of the silk appear in the skirt heading the bands of embroidery which decorate the tunic. The latter is quite straight, and is only just sufficiently short to disclose a band of the foulard which edged the underskirt. The elbow sleeves are of the embroidery cut quite straight and loose, and they are finished with a narrow edging of fine Valenciennes lace.

In the third act Miss Moore wears a dress of white net embroidered in white silk and arranged as a tunic over a silk slip. The corsage is cut low and round, and is filled in with a fine net guimpe, drawn up by a narrow ribbon of pale blue silk. This, in its turn, rests on a tiny vest of the same fine net, finished with a narrow insertion. Pale blue ribbon, run through the insertion, makes a pretty decoration at the throat.

Miss Ellis Jeffreys makes her first appearance in a rose-red satin, brocaded with a conventional design. The skirt is quite straight and uncut from waist to hem, and the corsage is cut in one piece, with a tiny piece of the broché design making a point turned upwards from the waist, a slight decoration that breaks the severity of the otherwise plain bodice. There are turned-back cuffs of fine lace at the neck and elbow sleeves. Miss Jeffreys' hat is of black satin trimmed with long ostrich feathers.

The second act finds Miss Jeffreys in a charmingly picturesque costume, carried out in dark blue and red shantung. The former makes the corsage and tunic, the latter being short enough to show many inches of the plain red skirt. The corsage is quite plain and simply crossed before it is caught beneath the red waist-belt, and the edges are outlined with a narrow piping of the red shantung. A band of Persian embroidery, worked in red and blue, is carried across the shoulders and on to the sleeves; and a small square of the same richly coloured material is introduced at each side of the tunic. A large hat of blue straw, lined with dull red silk and trimmed with a band of blue velvet, fastened at one side with two bunches of cherries, completes the costume.

Miss Jeffreys is also seen in a charming dress of palest grey mousseline mounted in satin. The under-skirt is pleated, and over this falls a very graceful tunic of the mousseline, which is opened up each side, but is caught together at the bottom by a motif of gold embroidery and a knot of royal blue satin ribbon. The same ribbon is carried from the waist beneath the tunic, crossed in front, and knotted at one side. It again appears on the bodice, helping to give the suggestion of a bolero as it appears benath the embroidered mousseline, which is drawn across the bust and falls over a full under-bodice of the plain mousseline. The upper part of the corsage is tucked, and is moulded to the shoulders and arms. With the costume is worn a large hat of white Tegal straw, lined with grey velvet and trimmed with a long grey pleureuse feather.

In *Don Cæsar de Bazan* at the Lyric some very beautiful costumes are disclosed. A particularly charming one worn by Miss Madge Titheradge is of pale amber-coloured satin, made with a tabbed bodice, outlined with brown satin ribbon and trimmed with three tiny brown satin bows. The sleeves are puffed, and are finished at the elbow with a pointed cuff of cambric and lace, and a deep berthe of cambridge edged with lace decorates the corsage. The skirt is quite plain, except for two bands of the ribbon, which is carried round the foot; and two other bands outline the waist. Miss Titheradge also wears a dress of white satin, cut low and trimmed round the décolletage with silver lace. The sleeves are arranged in one puff, cut away to show an under-sleeve of silver tissue, and these also are finished with deep cuffs of silver lace. A panel, worked with silver braid, arranged in a diamond pattern, which is studded with pearls and diamonds, is carried down the corsage and finished with silver fringe; and another panel of the same description ornaments the front of the skirt. The latter is further trimmed with a heavy silver cord, which outlines its hem.

In her character of a gipsy Miss Titheradge wears a picturesque dress consisting of a petticoat striped with purple and gold, and a shirt bodice of soft white cambric held in at the waist by a deep belt of rabbit fur. Over this corsage she folds an embroidered shawl of deep purple silk, and round her head she twists a striped yellow scarf. Numerous necklaces of gaudy beads are hung round her neck and shoulders to complete a striking combination of colours.

Miss Minnie Griffon, as the Marchesa, wears one very beautiful dress of pale green satin, with the skirt inset with a narrow panel of gold tissue. The two puffs of the sleeves are held in place by two gold rosettes, and gold braid outlines the décolletage. A deep ruff of cream-coloured lace finishes the bodice, and lace cuffs are turned back on the sleeves. This dress is succeeded by one of terracotta satin. Here, again, are the tabbed bodice and the same galloon trimming, but this time the latter is of silver and not of gold. The very pretty sleeves are made of straps of the satin sewn together, and each strap is edged with silver and steel; and a graceful air is given to the bodice by a fichu of soft cream net and lace.

MISS BRAYTON IN SYDNEY.

Miss Lily Brayton, the popular actress, and other members of the Asche-Brayton company, took up collections at intervals on Hospital Saturday at a little chalet on the corner of George and Wynyard streets, Sydney. On a pennant above the chalet was inscribed those well-known words of Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*, "The quality of mercy is not strained." Miss Brayton's arrival was the signal for a remarkable demonstration. Hundreds of men and women gathered about the chalet, all anxious, presumably, to drop a coin into her box, but many could not get within several yards of her, and the police were powerless. Within a comparatively few minutes the popular actress had filled a box and was holding out a second. At times she was almost carried off her feet in the surging of the crowd. But the money kept rolling in, and her face was radiant. After she had filled a third box an admirer created a diversion. "How much for the rose?" he called out. Immediately Miss Brayton's nosegay was put up to auction. A well-known city man took the bids, which quickly rose from 3d. to 4s. No sooner had the flower been knocked down at that figure than other nosegays sprang mysteriously from somewhere, and were similarly auctioned, bringing prices ranging from 4s. to 6d. As a result of Miss Brayton's efforts £37 12s. 3d. were added to the day's collections. Miss Brayton was naturally delighted with her experience. "I shall cherish the memory of it," she declared, "as long as I live." As a memento of the occasion the executive of the movement presented her with a Hospital Saturday badge in gold, hung on a blue ribbon, with a gold clasp.

From to-day (Saturday) the performance of *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's will commence every evening at 8.15, and Saturday matinées at 2.15.

SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL THEATRE.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE KENSINGTON COMMITTEE.

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Baring kindly placed their drawing-room at 195, Queen's Gate, S.W., at the disposal of those ladies and gentlemen who are taking an interest in this movement in Kensington, on Tuesday afternoon last.

Sir JOHN HARE presided over the meeting, which was splendidly attended, and a very interesting address was delivered by Mr. J. Forbes Robertson on the question of a National Theatre.

SIR JOHN HARE'S VIEWS.

After a number of letters had been read regretting absence from the meeting Sir JOHN HARE said that he had great pleasure in seeing amongst them one of their most brilliant and distinguished actors, and he cordially congratulated Mr. Robertson on his success in America. The necessity for a memorial to the greatest dramatist the world had ever known was admitted by all. We as a nation possessed the finest dramatic literature in the world, and yet we as a nation had paid no lasting tribute to our greatest dramatist. The greatest of men in literature, science, and art in this country had resolved that this reproach should exist no longer. France had her House of Molière. Where was our House of Shakespeare? All the great cities of Europe possessed national theatres, and was it not a scandal that London, the richest city in the world, should be conspicuous—he would almost say, ridiculous—in being without one? (Cheers.) They should share with other nations those refining influences which served to brighten and illumine their lives. (Hear, hear.) They should knit together a band of actors who could give us that most perfect of all results—a perfect ensemble. (Cheers.)

HOW LONDON LAGS BEHIND.

Mr. FORBES ROBERTSON, who was greeted with cordial cheers on rising, said that it was good to see a full meeting of Shakespearean enthusiasts such as the one there assembled. The men in the movement were anxious to get a theatre in London that should be worthy of the Bard of Avon, where his great works could be adequately produced. The Statue Committee were particularly anxious that the Theatre Committee should be in the movement to erect some lasting memorial to William Shakespeare. It was incumbent on London to erect some beautiful edifice—Heaven knows such a building was wanted in London. Something that would make foreigners say: "Here is a beautiful theatre"; something to make the man in the street say: "What is this drama?" The objectors to their enthusiasm said: "You can't start like that—Molière's memorial is sanctified by age." Another says: "We must feel our way—we must begin in a humble way." To talk about beginning in a humble way was ridiculous. They were committed to a monument. There had been several admirable efforts which made their efforts all the more important. They wanted funds and plenty of them to establish this theatre on a firm basis. He had just come from America, which was going ahead in a most extraordinary way. His words had come true, that Americans would have a National Theatre before the English had. Four or five years ago he prophesied that New York would have a répertoire theatre before we should in London. A small band of enthusiasts in New York had forestalled us. The New Theatre was not a professedly Shakespearean memorial, but it was a theatre where Shakespeare's plays were properly produced. It was the most beautiful theatre he had ever seen. It was absolutely complete. He had sought to find fault with it being a Britisher, but he reluctantly had to admit that it was the most beautiful and complete temple in the world. It was perfect as far as human ingenuity could make it. He desired to see in London a national theatre which should be a fitting monument to Shakespeare as well. (Cheers.) It should be subsidised, so that they could produce those plays which appealed to the educated minority—plays which no manager could afford to produce—and from which appreciative audiences derived, at any rate, some good. (Cheers.) New York, which in a way was our own child, was setting us an example. It was a question of art, and they must see that the drama was as well protected as were music and painting by their respective academies. (Hear, hear.) A school should be attached to the national theatre. In time such an institution would become entirely self-supporting. By these means the reproach so justly levelled against us would be removed, and we should not only be elevating ourselves, but we should be improving our artistic sense. (Cheers.) If the stage was not an educational force, then no branch of art was educating. If the drama was not art, then music, painting, sculpture were not educating. The drama was being allowed to perish through crazes—the last play, which might be a rubbishy play of the mere tawdry kind. The "latest craze" might be very entertaining to some people, but because a certain piece filled a theatre and kept it full for months, or even years, it did not follow that it was a good play. That sort of play would not be handled by their theatre. The establishment of a National Theatre would be the means of the old actor being looked after in his old age. It would improve the artistic sense of the people. Under the proposed scheme actors, when incapacitated, and no longer able to work, would not pass into obscure and miserable oblivion, waiting for a crust of bread. (Cheers.) He had been long enough in the profession to have seen that misery. Actors would be prepared to take smaller salaries, be they would know that they would be cared for in their old age. (Hear, hear.)

Sir JOHN HARE said that he now had the greatest possible pleasure in calling upon Mr. J. H. Barnes to move the first resolution, which was as follows:

"That this meeting cordially approves the project for the establishment of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, and pledges itself to use its best endeavours to raise a substantial local contribution to the fund. That a committee be formed for Kensington and district, consisting of those whose names appear on the invitation card to the present meeting, with power to add to their number."

The following have signified their willingness to serve as members of the Kensington Committee: Mrs. Anstruther, Mr. John Cann Bailey, the Hon. Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Godfrey Baring, M.P., Mrs. Godfrey Baring, Mr. and Mrs. Granville Barker, Mr. Malcolm Bell, Mr. Edward Bond, Mr. A. C. Bradley, Mrs. Braithwaite, Mrs. Frank Bury, Mrs. George Cartwright, Mrs. Chapin, Mrs. Child, Mrs. Fairfax Cholmeley, Miss Diana Cholmondeley, Dr. and Mrs. Stanton Coit, Mrs. Colefax, Mr. Thomas Coote, J.P., Mrs. Thomas Coote, Mr. Cadogan Cooper, A.R.A., Mrs. Alastair Currie, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Davenport, Mrs. Dick, Mr. H. F. Dickens, K.C., Mrs. H. F. Dickens, Mr. Arthur Dillon, Mrs. Hugh Dumas, Miss Hilda Erskine, Mr. C. E. Fagan, Mr. R. J. Fennessy, Mr. H. F. Ford, Mr. G. Baxter Forman, M.D., J.P., Mr. and Mrs. F. Douglas Fox, Mr. and Mrs. Fox-Symons, Mr. John Galsworthy, Miss Violet Galton, Mrs. Pearson Gee, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Gibbs, Colonel Gore Brown, the Lady Muriel Gore Brown, Mr. E. Vaughan Grey, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hallward, Miss Hancock, Mrs. F. G. Hogg, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Holland, Baroness Hildegarde von Hugel, Mrs. Holman Hunt, Miss Gladys Holman Hunt, Miss Hutchinson, Mr. Ronald P. Jones, Miss Sidney Keith, Miss Dorothy Ker, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kerr, Mme. Lichtenberg, Mrs. Limond, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fuller Maitland, Mrs. Mayne, Miss Mary Montagu, Miss Olga Montagu, Miss Morres, Mrs. Saxton Noble, Miss Hilda Oakley, M.A., Mrs. O'Hagan, Mr. Louis N. Parker, the Rev. Prebendary Pennefather, D.D., Mr. Alfred Praga, Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Playfair, Mr. and Mrs. G. Jopling Rowe, Mr. J. H. Saffery, Mrs. Leonard Sartoris, Mrs. Schlacht, Mrs. Adam Sedgwick, Miss Blanche Sidgwick, Mrs. Sington, Miss Blanche Sitwell, Professor Victor Spiers, M.A., Mrs. Spiers, Miss Symonds, Mr. Arthur M. Talbot, Mrs. Tennyson, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tyrrell, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walkes, and Mr. and Mrs. Percy White.

Mr. J. H. BARNES said that until recently he was most sceptical as to the movement. Mr. Robertson had touched on a school that was to be attached to the theatre. From his own knowledge such a school was absolutely necessary. Direction of effort was wanted. Should the theatre take shape, he hoped the first man to direct its operations would be Mr. Forbes Robertson himself. He was now a convert to the scheme.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. W. R. WALKES and carried unanimously.

The second resolution was moved by Mrs. CARL MEYER, and was as follows:

"That an Executive Committee be appointed comprising the following, with power to add: Mrs. Granville Barker, Mr. Godfrey Baring, Mr. Malcolm Bell, Mrs. L. Braithwaite, Mr. Arthur Dillon, Mrs. Dumas, Miss Hilda Erskins, Mr. C. E. Fagan, Mrs. Pearson Gee, Mr. J. A. Fuller Maitland, Mr. E. Vaughan Grey, Miss Gladys Holman Hunt, Miss Sydney Keith, Miss Olga Montagu, Miss Morres, Mrs. Jopling Rowe, Mrs. Spiers, and Mr. W. R. Walkes. That Miss Walkes and Mr. Malcolm Bell be requested to act as hon. secretaries to the committee, Mr. Chapin as hon. treasurer, and that the committee be authorised to appoint such other officers as may be necessary."

The Memorial Committee desire to emphasise the objects and importance of the movement, and accordingly are circulating broadcast a pamphlet giving the origin and aims of the movement.

ORIGIN.

The scheme is the outcome of two separate movements, now happily united: (1) The desire to erect a living and worthy memorial to Shakespeare in connection with his approaching tercentenary (1916); (2) the desire to enlarge, enrich, and elevate the standard of dramatic art and life in this country by the establishment of a permanently endowed National Repertory Theatre. A great meeting held at the Lyceum Theatre on May 19th, 1908, placed the stamp of public approval on this project, and led to a union of the two committees which had been seeking to attain these ends.

The Shakespeare Memorial Committee is the result of this fusion. The chairman of the Executive Committee is the Lord Mayor of London. Eminent Shakespearean scholars, actors, dramatic authors, journalists, and public men are included in its number. The Hon. Treasurer is the Right Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, K.C., M.P., and the Trustees (in addition to the Hon. Treasurer) are the Earl of Lytton and Lord Avebury. The Chairman of the Ladies' Committee is Mrs. George Cornwallis West, and the Vice-Chairman, the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton. Many hundreds of eminent representatives of the literary and artistic world, and of public life, are to be found amongst the avowed supporters of the movement.

The amount to be raised is £500,000, which includes a sum of £100,000, estimated to be necessary for a suitable site; £150,000 for the theatre building and its equipment; and the remaining £250,000 for a permanent endowment, which will, it is estimated, produce an annual revenue of £10,000, an amount approximately equal to the subvention received from the state, or the purse of the monarch, by the Comédie Française, and other foreign theatres of the kind. It is proposed to raise this sum by an appeal for voluntary contributions from the English-speaking race throughout the world. Few will deny that the amount required, though large, is comparatively trifling when compared with the debt we owe to our great national poet and dramatist, and the permanent benefits which the Memorial Theatre will confer upon the life and thought of our own and succeeding generations

GOVERNMENT.

The ultimate control of the National Theatre will be vested in Governors to be appointed by the Crown, the Universities, various learned bodies and societies, the L.C.C., the Corporation of the City of London, the municipalities of five great cities of England, two of Scotland, and two of Ireland. The English-speaking nations beyond the seas will also be represented. The actual management will be vested in a small Standing Committee, which will appoint a managing staff. Thus, while practical knowledge of the drama will obtain free play, security will be taken that the great purposes of the foundation shall be adequately maintained.

The main objects that will be kept in view in the conduct of the theatre may be thus summarised: (*a*) To keep the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory; (*b*) to revive whatever else is vital in English classical drama; (*c*) to prevent recent plays of great merit from falling into the oblivion to which the present theatrical system (of the "long run") is apt to consign them; (*d*) to produce new plays, and to further the development of the modern drama; (*e*) to produce translations of representative works of foreign drama, ancient and modern; (*f*) to stimulate the art of acting through the varied opportunities which it will offer to the members of its company.

RELATION TO EXISTING THEATRES.

The purpose of the movement is not to supplant or oppose existing theatrical enterprise, but to supplement it. The demand is steadily growing for a high-class Repertory Theatre, where the works of Shakespeare and other classical playwrights, and also the finest products of modern dramatic art, may be regularly and efficiently represented. The permanent endowment of the National Theatre, and its authority as a national enterprise, will provide for this. Amongst the members of the Executive Committee may be mentioned such eminent actors as Sir John Hare, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Forbes Robertson, and Mr. Martin Harvey, in addition to the well-known playwright-actors Sir Arthur Pinero and Mr. H. Granville Barker. It is highly probable that a School of Dramatic Art, and also a Pension Fund for Actors will be established in connection with the theatre. The project, therefore is likely to confer great and lasting benefits upon dramatic art in this country, and upon actors as a profession.

1616—1916.

If the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre is to be built and opened by April 23, 1916 (the Tercentenary), *there is no time to be lost*. Foreign countries have their national theatres. We, as yet, have none. To the English-speaking race throughout the world the Committee appeal with confidence for the means to wipe out this reproach to our national spirit and national intelligence. An anonymous donor has started the fund with a munificent contribution of £70,000. The committee trust that this stirring example will bear fruit, and that people of all classes will come forward with prompt and generous contributions according to their means. The movement is being organised by means of local committees, whereby it is hoped that a truly national and representative Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Fund will be created.

A vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Baring for their hospitality, to Mr. Forbes Robertson for his address, and to Sir John Hare for his services in the chair terminated the proceedings.

FLOWERS AT THE FOOTLIGHTS.

A living garden graced the stage of the Queen's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, when the entertainment provided at Miss Lila Field's dramatic and musical matinée gave manifest delight to a large audience. An admirably diversified programme was provided, chief interest centring in a fairy play in two scenes, dramatised by Lila Field, from S. R. Littlewood's poem "The Ride of the Flowers," with lyrics by S. R. Littlewood, and music by Clive M. Waterlow, entitled

"THE LILY QUEEN."

HOT-HOUSE FLOWERS:

The Lily Queen	CHRISTINE HELGA
Peach Blossom	DORA DEVERE
Chrysanthemum	MARGARET LANDAU
Pink Hyacinth	JULIA LANDAU
Blue Hyacinth	AURIELLE BRINA
Carnation	SYBIL PEARCE
Fuchsia	RUBY WOODS
Orchid	DOROTHY CHILDS

COTTAGE FLOWERS.

Rosebud	MONA SINCLAIR
Poppy	NORA HURST
Buttercup	EILEEN FAITHFUL
Forget-Me-Not	VICTORIA PACY
Sweetpea	IDA TAYLOR
Daisy	SYBIL ROYLANCE
Ivy	NELLIE TERRISS
Daffodil	AILEEN BOWERMAN
Mistletoe	OLGA HOPE
Sunflower	HILDA TAYLOR
Herald of the Dawn	OLIVE GOFF
The Queen's Page	JACK SACKVILLE EVANS
The Love Star	EDNA MAUDE

It was a most elaborate production, in which talented little children in pretty costumes sang and danced daintily. The story is simplicity itself, and shows how the cottage garden flowers, the Rosebud, the Poppy, the Forget-Me-Not, and kindred blooms all aspire to the hand of the Lily Queen, who is about to be betrothed. The whole of the community resolve to journey to the Lily Queen's Court, led by Rosebud. They are received with disdain by the hot-house courtiers, but the Queen herself is delighted with the simple charm of the cottage flowers, and lends an appreciative ear to their wooing. The coming of dawn shows that one of their number is missing—no other than Rosebud, who had so valiantly led the way. The Queen orders her courtiers to scour the woods in search of the missing Rose, but they all make excuses, and the task is left to the cottage flowers themselves. Led by the kindly rays of the Love Star, Rosebud arrives, having in his anxiety to be first missed his way. His devotion touches the heart of the Queen, who rewards him with her hand.

Innumerable dances illustrate the play, all the flowerets at one time or other giving specimens of their ability in terpsichorean revels. Edna Maude, a phenomenal little artist, claimed to be the youngest classical dancer in the world, played the Love Star with conspicuous cleverness, her simultaneous dance with Christine Helga, who made a handsome and well-spoken Queen, being very curious and captivating. The performance that won most commendation was that of Olive Goff, who as Herald of the Dawn delivered her speeches in quite tragic fashion and danced with rhythmic grace. She was persistently recalled, and it was amusing to watch Ivy's abortive efforts to continue the action of the play until Miss Goff had given a further exhibition of her skill. Another little artist to whom praise should go is Olga Hope, who enacted Mistletoe perfectly, her delivery being particularly pleasing. Mona Sinclair did excellent work as Rosebud, Nora Hurst was a smart Poppy, and the sweetest little Forget-Me-Not imaginable was Victoria Pacy, whose lines were so quaintly uttered that they were frequently drowned in a ripple of laughter. Jack Sackville Evans had the distinction of being the only male representative, and rose to the occasion with a dignified rendition of the Queen's Page.

Miss Field's ability as a dramatic writer was also displayed in the comedietta from her pen, entitled

"THE WALLINGFORDS."

Mrs. Wallingford	MISS MARIE ILLINGTON
Mr. Wallingford	MR. CLARENCE DERWENT
Chiffon	MISS PEARL KEATS
Lord Stuckley	MR. DAVID DARRELL

A slight story, but a very diverting one, tells how a match-making mother has taken an expensive house in the country in order to arrange a union between her daughter and a young aristocrat, only to find after all her trouble that the pair were secretly engaged long before her scheme was thought of. The little piece had the advantage of the presence in the cast of Miss Marie Illington, who acted the mother with delicious drollery. Mr. Clarence Derwent delivered his lines capitally as the overborne husband; Miss Pearl Keats was very sweet and girlish as a romp, and Mr. David Darrell acted the embarrassed lover cleverly.

Another dramatic item in the bill was *The Shooting Star*, by F. Kinsey Peile, which we remember to have seen before. It was amusingly acted by the author as a jovial huntsman; by Mr. Stanley Turnbull as a deceitful wooer; by Miss Mary Mackenzie as a young lady who is called upon to impersonate a circus-rider; and by Mr. Charles Dodsworth as an irresistibly comic butler. The miscellaneous part of the programme was contributed by Miss Bertha Scholefield, who sang exquisitely "Voices of Spring" and Signor Tito Mattei's "No, no, no," which had the distinction of being accompanied by the composer; and little Mona Sinclair, who was encored for her cleverly-executed Highland dances. Not the least appreciated part of the entertainment came at the end, when the youngsters who had taken part in the fairy play assembled at the footlights to receive bouquets and sweetmeats, a handsome basket of flowers being reserved for Miss Field, who is to be highly commended on her production of the play.

MISS WANDA RADFORD'S RECITAL.

A very successful recital was given by Miss Wanda Radford at Steinway Hall on Thursday evening, June 2. Although Miss Radford appears only about fifteen years old, she recites with ease, confidence, and admirably clear enunciation, while the youthful character of her voice made "The Fairies on the Lawn," by R. C. Lehmann, particularly effective. That the little lady also has humour was clearly evident in "David Copperfield and the Waiter," from Charles Dickens's famous novel. The Potion Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, intelligently recited, concluded the English examples. Miss Radford was assisted by Miss Martha Brüggemann, an Australian soprano, who had a pleasing voice of considerable power. Both ladies were evidently accomplished linguists, for Miss Radford, besides English, recited cleverly some works in German and French, and Miss Brüggemann sang in German, French, and English. Leo Delibes' sparkling "Les filles des Cadix" was capitally sung, and the vocalist greatly pleased the audience in "The year's at the spring" (Mrs. Beach), Edward Grieg's "From Monte Pincio," and Verdi's "Ah, fors' e lui," from *Traviata*. At the close the audience gave Miss Wanda Radford and Miss Martha Brüggemann a very hearty reception.

PRESENTATION.—On the termination of the performance at the Brighton Theatre Royal on the 2nd inst., Mr. Lawson Lambert, who is retiring from his position as manager of that house, was presented by Mr. Sommerlad (musical-director), on behalf of the staff, with a suit case and Thermos flask. Mr. Lambert acknowledged the presentation in feeling terms.

IRISH NATIONAL THEATRE.

A triple bill was furnished for the latter end of last week, visitors to the Court Theatre being entertained on Friday and Saturday with a three act comedy and two one-act pieces. It was a generous programme for one evening, and necessitated a start being made a quarter of an hour earlier than was expected—to the obvious discomfiture of many of those who arrived at the accustomed hour—while the waits were minimised almost out of existence. An audience of much larger proportions gave gratifying evidence of the increased interest that is being taken in our Irish visitors, and, indeed, it seems to be realised that a playgoer's education would be lacking without an experience of their work, which is quite in a class of its own. They succeed in a remarkable degree in bringing the atmosphere of the Green Isle into the midst of the English metropolis, and the romance, the charm, and the glamour of the country are carried over the footlights in a way that is distinctly refreshing.

The opening piece on the night under notice was Mr. W. B. Yeats' symbolical tragedy *Kathleen-ni-Houlihan*, which has been presented by the Irish players on former visits. Miss Sara Allgood was again seen in her finished assumption of the old woman who represents the homeland, her exquisitely modulated voice giving excellent expression both to the lines and the snatches of song. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan gave a sincere and convincing performance of the lad who gives up home and kindred to answer the call of the country, and the remainder of the cast rendered adequate support.

The most important item of the evening was the three-act comedy, *The Playboy of the Western World*, the merits of which were recognised on its former representations in London. The fantastic proposition put in the piece is one that is difficult of acceptance. Moreover, the name of the Deity is introduced far too freely, and our observations of the Irish peasantry hardly encourage the belief that they would tolerate so frequent a use of the name in the mouth of a besotted inkeeper. Mr. Fred O'Donovan's sterling abilities as a comedian were worthily employed in the part of the versatile playboy, who gains renown by the fact that he has killed his father, plays havoc with the hearts of the colleens of a country village, and triumphs over all until it is discovered that he is no murderer at all, and all his distinction vanishes. Mr. O'Donovan's droll resource and innumerable comedy methods as the temporary hero kept the house irresistibly amused, while the picturesqueness of the impersonation was agreeably apparent. The comedy gifts of Miss Maire O'Neill were again revealed in the part of the dainty and spirited colleen who loses her heart to the crime-laden "playboy," and her mellifluous voice sounded delightfully distinct in the expressive lines allotted to the part. Mr. Arthur Sinclair's drunken publican was a gem of character drawing, and he was responsible for many a laugh; and Mr. Sydney J. Morgan made the quaintest effects out of the part of the supposed dead man. Well-drawn studies were also those of Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as Maggie's jilted lover; of Mr. John Carrick as a tipsy old man, and of Miss Sara Allgood as the amorous widow. Miss Eileen O'Doherty pleasingly led the blithe young trio of colleens, whose fresh voices calling from the glen sounded quite enthralling.

The evening concluded with Lady Gregory's comedietta *The Workhouse Ward*, a piece of rich satire which won the appreciation of all on its production last year at the Court. The story of the two bedridden old workhouse men who are forever quarrelling until a relation comes to take one of them away, when they refuse to be parted, was divertingly played by its former exponents, Mr. Fred O'Donovan quite completely masking his identity in a clever impersonation of one old man, and Mr. Arthur Sinclair giving a well-diversified sketch of the other, though his spasmodic methods of delivering his lines had the effect of making them frequently inaudible. Miss Maire O'Neill does not seem quite so well suited as an old woman, and her appearance therein seems rather to impair the illusion created in more pleasing parts.

"THE ELOQUENT DEMPSY."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by William Boyle, Played for the First Time in London at the Court Theatre on Monday, June 6.

Mrs. Catherine Dempsy	MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Jeremiah Dempsy	MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Dr. Bunbury, J.P.	MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Mike Flanagan	MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Brian O'Neill	MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Mary Kate	MISS EILEEN O'DOHERTY
Captain McNamara, J.P.	MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN

Certainly one of the most diverting pieces produced by the Irish National Theatre Society is Mr. William Boyle's racily-written comedy *The Eloquent Dempsy*, Monday night's audience at the Court according a most enthusiastic reception to the play. Jeremiah Dempsy is the principal character, and his persuasive oratory for a while seemingly bamboozles everyone, with the exception of his good wife Catherine. He is a publican, grocer, and County Councillor for Cloghermore, and at the opening of the play, for diplomatic reasons, feigns a serious illness, when he is really in most robust health. His wife knows he is shamming, and his medical adviser, Dr. Bunbury, J.P., is eventually made aware of it. The doctor, anxious to get him over to the side of "law and order," gives him to understand the Chief Secretary may pass through Cloghermore, and wants him to sign an address of welcome. Previous to this his fellow townsmen and customers have waited on him, congratulating him on his recovery from his "serious illness," and Dempsy, in his speech, returning thanks, has aroused their enthusiasm with his fine flow of words. His daughter Mary Kate is in love with a young working-man, Brien O'Neill, and Mrs. Dempsy, who is anxious that her husband shall retire from public life, knowing he will get himself into trouble sooner or later, tries to persuade Brien to oppose Dempsy's re-election, hinting that it will be to his advantage to do so. Brien, however, determines to stick to the eloquent one, and Mr. Dempsy expresses pleasure at his loyalty. In the next act the doctor and Captain McNamara, J.P., call on Dempsy with the address of welcome to the Chief Secretary, and ask him to sign it. Although he professes his willingness to do so, it is made very evident he is nervous about taking the plunge, and eventually he makes the excuse that his name could not possibly figure first. Let them get a reverend gentleman to head the list and he will follow. Disgusted at his shilly-shallying, they retire, and then enter Mike Flanagan, a working man, and Brien O'Neill with another address, denouncing the Chief Secretary, which they request him to sign. After a lot of amusing business, Dempsy is prevailed upon to sign both addresses, and is accused of being a traitor by both parties. His excuse is that he has been intimidated into putting his name to each paper. Flanagan and Captain McNamara then determine to put up against him on the Council, and Dempsy's eloquence with the people for once fails—he has incurred their anger by referring to the place as a "cracked pitcher"—for he is beaten at the poll, and roughly handled, Flanagan being elected. Even then he will not be silenced, and addresses the crowd from his window. The Doctor and McNamara come and offer him the appointment of Justice of the Peace, but in his final oration Dempsy tears up the paper before the mob, thereby partly regaining their confidence. He also announces his intention of making over his business to Brien and his daughter, and moving to the country to indulge in agricultural pursuits, retiring from public life beaten but not disgraced.

Description of the plot gives but a poor idea of the humour contained in the play, which provided a splendid part for Mr. Arthur Sinclair as the blarneying, irrepressible Irishman Dempsy, a character in which he evidently revels. Very funny is the actor in the first scene, where he poses as an invalid, but his impersonation throughout is a very droll one, and it is difficult to imagine this arduous part being in better hands. Miss Sara Allgood also contributes a capital impersonation as his good-natured Catherine; and the other parts are all admirably impersonated. In strong contrast to this amusing comedy is the play in one act, by Lord Dunsany, entitled

"THE GLITTERING GATE."

Jim	MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Bill	MR. J. M. KERRIGAN

The scene of this grimly mysterious piece is A Lonely Place, presumably Hades. On a darkened stage stands out prominently the Glittering Gate (of Heaven). The two characters—Jim and Bill—are both burglars. Jim has been there quite a long time, and while Bill, a new arrival, talks of futures, and hopes, and sunsets, &c., Jim only groans for the hopelessness of it all. Bottles are being continually lowered from above, and they are always empty, but Jim tries them all on the off-chance that they might make a mistake some day up above, and put some beer in one. Eventually Bill recalls to Jim a little of the past, and the latter talks of Jane, a fair-haired, blue-eyed girl that he used to know. If there's a heaven, she's there. And so, Bill asserts, is his mother—at least, if she has got her deserts. Bill has brought his little pal "Nut-cracker" with him. It has never failed him yet, and with it he will open "the Glittering Gate." After working at it for some time he at last succeeds, but disappointment again awaits the couple. There is no mother and no Jane—only a vast, starry space. Mr. Donovan contributed an impressive performance of Jim, and his more hopeful pal Bill was excellently enacted by Mr. J. M. Kerrigan.

On Tuesday, June 7, for the First Time in London, a Play, in Three Acts, by S. L. Robinson, entitled

"HARVEST."

Jack Hurley	MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Mildred	MISS SARA ALLGOOD
Bridget Twomey	MISS EILEEN O'DOHERTY
Maggie Hannigan	MISS EITHNE MAGEE
Timothy Hurley	MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Maurice Hurley	MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
William Lordan	MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Mary Hurley	MISS MAIRE O'NEILL

The Irish Players again supplied an interesting programme on Tuesday, Mr. Robertson's serious play *Harvest*, produced in Dublin on May 19, being a powerful, if depressing and pessimistic, drama of Irish peasant life. Jack Hurley, a young Irishman working in a chemist's shop in Dublin, has lately married, and, when the play begins, has brought his bride Mildred home to his father's cottage at Knockmalgoss after six years' absence. The couple are hard up, for Mildred has married against her father's wish, and they have spent all their money on their honeymoon and new home. Jack is under the impression that the farm is in a very flourishing state, and tells Mildred so, and he intends to borrow £50 off his brother Maurice. He is, however, soon disillusioned. Maurice, somewhat bitterly, tells him all the money has gone on educating him (Jack) and the other brothers and starting them in life. Maurice is the only one to stay at home and work on the farm, which is now mortgaged, and he and his father have not a sovereign to their name. Jack's old schoolmaster, William Lordan, is very proud of his old pupil, and orates on the benefits of education and going out into the world, and the curtain descends on Maurice, in decidedly strong language, reviling Lordan. Jack has a sister Mary, who has been in London some years. She has evidently been doing well there, but her father and brother have not any idea as to how she is earning a livelihood. She is coming home, and Jack is overjoyed at the prospect of seeing her again after such a long interval. He and Mildred decide to stay on at the farm. He will leave the chemist's at Dublin, and they sell up the home, raise a few pounds, and work to help his brother and father. But it is soon apparent neither can stand the life. Mildred is a failure at butter-making, and Jack faints while at work in the fields. Meanwhile, the old father, Timothy Hurley, has set light to some outbuildings in order to get compensation. There is a fine scene when the old man chucklingly acknowledges to his two sons what one can do with a match, and thinks what a clever chap he has been. Jack is horrified, and threatens to expose him, but Maurice sides with the old man. One of the absent brothers has been written to for money, but replies that he is unable to spare any. Mary has returned home, but does not seem very happy. She takes no interest in the farm, and has been heard walking about her room in the middle of the night sobbing. And when she flatly refuses to help Schoolmaster Lordon find a place such as hers for one of his girl friends in London one guesses her mode of life. Jack and Mildred eventually decide to emigrate to Canada, and Mary to return to London. Unbeknown to all, she has got £50 from the man she has been living with, and sent it to her father, and he and her brothers are under the impression it has come from the absent son who has been written to for money. In a powerful scene with Jack she is prevailed upon to disclose her shame. He begs her not to go back to London, but her mind is made up. She cannot start life at the farm. She longs for fine clothes and luxury again; and besides, she will be able to help her father and Maurice. He asks Mildred to persuade Mary to go away with them; but Mildred, on hearing the reason and the life Mary has led, flatly refuses. It would not be respectable! An angry scene follows, in which Jack, completely losing control of his temper, becomes again "a brutal Irish peasant," and turns Mildred from the room. Mary, on her return, ready to depart for the station, quite understands Mildred's attitude towards her, and tells Jack he will have to beg her pardon. She then bids farewell to Maurice and the old schoolmaster, the latter still proudly talking of what fine things his old pupils are doing out in the world, and Mary ironically agrees with him. It has been a splendid harvest!

Mr. Fred O'Donovan as Jack Hurley portrayed a trying part with much conviction and ability. In the first scene he was the buoyant, hopeful young bridegroom to the life; later, he realistically indicated the inability of a town man to work in the fields, the scene where he has to admit he is "done" being very impressive. Effective also was his acting in the final scene with his wife, and his performance throughout was a most praiseworthy one. Miss Sara Allgood again did good work as Mildred, particularly convincing being the scene where the young wife, who has been brought up as a lady, determines, for her husband's sake, to work on the farm, and has so soon to confess what a failure she is. Humorous studies of Irish peasantry were given by Miss Eileen O'Doherty and Miss Eithne Magee; Mr. J. O'Rourke submitted a realistic portrait of the aged farmer, Timothy; Maurice Hurley was powerfully enacted by Mr. J. M. Kerrigan, the bitterness and scorn of the brother who has had to stay at home being skilfully shown; and the schoolmaster, William Lordan, was quite safe in the hands of Mr. Arthur Sinclair. Miss Maire O'Neill as Mary delicately and cleverly handled the scene where she confesses her shame to Jack, and gave throughout a quietly effective portrayal.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE is in favour of repertory theatres. "It ought to be achieved," he says. "If not a repertory theatre in each large town, there might be a travelling repertory theatre for a district playing for a certain time of the year, because the continuous production of fresh work in one town might be a great strain on the resources of the dramatists, the intelligence of the actors, and on the enthusiasm of the public. Such a travelling repertory company would make a public; it would carry the oriflamme from town to town. They used to have circuits with the stage, and that might be done with a repertory theatre. It might in that way, by linking up of the theatres and cities for each province or circuit, become a national movement. Either one of the existing theatres might be used for the repertory theatre, or there might be some building specially devoted to the exploitation of the repertory theatre, though I am inclined to think money should not be thrown away too much on bricks and mortar, which might, after all, only be a cold monument to warm endeavour."

YESTERDAY (Friday) afternoon a deputation from the West End Theatrical Managers' Association was received by the officials of the London County Council at Spring Gardens. The deputation appointed consisted of Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. J. M. Gatti, Mr. F. Harrison, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. J. Vedrenne, Mr. Lewis Waller, and the solicitor of the Association, Mr. W. F. Fladgate. The purpose of the deputation was to point out to the L.C.C. the great danger to life that exists when crowded performances of plays are held in clubs unlicensed or in any way uncontrolled by that authority. The deputation was being heard as *The Era* was going to press, so we are unable to give a report of the proceedings, but we understand that the L.C.C. was strongly urged by those present to seek such powers as would compel clubs to comply with the same regulations that both theatrical and vaudeville managers at present must conform to.

As we have already pointed out, there are over 1,100 working-men's clubs and associations spread over the country, with about 400,000 members. The Working-men's Club and Institute issues to its clubs associate and pass cards, which give the holder the privilege of honorary membership of the other clubs of the Union in all parts of the country. A subscription of half a crown a quarter carries with it the right of the member to introduce to the club, for performances, free of charge, two women and two children; and gives him also the right to introduce one man at the charge of one penny. All that the introducer has to do on entering the hall is to buy for each of the party a 2d. programme, having attached to it a voucher for a reserved seat, so that he is able to entertain himself and five other people at the cost of one shilling and a penny.

ENTERTAINMENTS given at these clubs seriously compete with those at regular theatres. The fact that the pits and galleries of some of our theatres are less patronised than they used to be is partly due to the fact that the working-man will not pay to go to a regular theatre when he can see the same play at his club. These places of amusement are quite beyond the control of the County Council. Precautions against fire practically do not exist; there are rarely any fire-extinguishing appliances or hydrants, and no safety curtain. The authorities watch over the safety of the public assembling in licensed theatres, and harass the managers to provide safety appliances and extra exits, and one is astonished at the immunity from control enjoyed by these clubs. The theatre-manager is, in fact, at the greatest of disadvantages as regards their competition.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH has settled on Thursday, the 23rd inst., for the production at the Garrick Theatre of *Billy's Bargain*, the new farce by Mr. Robert Lascelles, whose season at that theatre will be under the management of Mr. Richard Maynard. In the cast are Mr. John Clulow, Miss Fortescue, Miss Marjorie Doré, Mr. Arthur Chesney, and Mr. Weedon Grossmith himself.

THE snake in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's drama *The Speckled Band*, at the Adelphi Theatre, is not a mechanical property, but a live python. Every night in a box it makes its journey from the East End, where its proprietor, a naturalist, lives, to the theatre. It is quite six feet long and very strong, yet it allows itself to be put through the aperture in the scene of the last act with complete submissiveness.

A STARTLING accident occurred in the duel between Mr. Oscar Asche as Count Hannibal and Mr. Gerald K. Souper as Tignonville, in *Count Hannibal*, at the Criterion Theatre, Sydney, on May 4. The two actors were fighting hard, for the duel, which is fought with swords and poignards, is a strenuous conflict throughout. It was in the third stage, just before the incident in which Count Hannibal sweeps the candelabra from the table, that he dunged at his opponent, and the point of the sword struck him at the side of the left eye. The skin was penetrated, and the point passing through emerged above the eyebrow, blood pouring from the wound.

WITH his face bathed in blood, and hardly able to see, Mr. Souper valiantly kept his blade flashing before Count Hannibal, and once got so close that his weapon scratched Mr. Asche's neck and the point came through his shirt collar. The audience breathlessly watched the conflict, eaget to see whether Mr. Souper could hold out to the end before receiving the vanquishing blow from Count Hannibal; but this he did, and when the fight was over the audience accorded the plucky actor an ovation. Mr. Souper lost much blood, as the state of the stage indicated, and was very weak when he appeared on the following night.

MR. W. CLARKSON'S case against the lessees of the Porte Saint Martin, MM. Hertz and Coquelin, for alleged breach of contract in £2,000 damages in connection with the *Chantecler* costumes has come up for hearing, but will not be settled for some time. The defendants have urged a provision of French law, by which a foreign plaintiff may be compelled to pay into Court a surety—"judication solvi"—before his action be entertained, and they ask that plaintiff be ordered to deposit £200. The latter's counsel replies that the amount is exorbitant, and that £6 would be ample surety. The Court must settle this preliminary question before going into the rights of the case.

MR. H. B. IRVING will give a series of revivals of popular plays during the present season at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue. In accordance with this plan, the performances of *Judge Not* and *Robert Macaire* will terminate this evening, and on Monday Mr. Irving will be seen as Lesurques and Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail* for a limited number of nights. *The Lyons Mail*, it will be recalled, was played by Mr. Irving before King Edward at the last state performance given at Windsor Castle.

"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW" having gradually grown into an indisputable success, despite all it has had to contend against, will, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, be transferred to the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday, the 20th inst., terminating at the Garrick on the 19th. This transference has been rendered necessary by the fact that the theatre is wanted by Mr. Wentworth Croke for Mr. Weedon Grossmith's season. Mr. Weedon Grossmith opens with *Billy's Bargain* on the 22nd.

THE annual general performances of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, which have hitherto been always held at Stratford-on-Avon, will take place this year in London. In order to emphasise the representative character of the society, the locale of the performances will in future be altered from one centre to another throughout the kingdom from year to year. *As You Like It* is the play chosen for this year. Six performances (four evening and two matinée) will be given at the Royal Court Theatre during the week commencing Monday, Oct. 17, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond. Two casts will again be employed, composed of members of the Society, drawn from all over the kingdom. Special attention will be paid to the music, scenery, and costumes, and a stately masque of Hymen is being arranged.

MR. J. M. BARRIE unexpectedly presented a one-act farce called *A Slice of Life* in front of *Chains* at the professional matinée of that piece at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday. It was a parody of a modern drama, in which a husband and wife, each with an alleged "past," make mock confessions to each other, and confess in the end that neither has been in the least guilty, and that their self-accusations have been inventions. The piece was cleverly acted by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Cecilia Loftus, and Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, the performance being liberally embellished with imitations. Among those present were Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Granville Barker, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, and Miss Edyth Olive.

MR. EDMUND PAYNE, who has been absent from his part of Cousin Timothy in *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety, from illness, for six months, will return to it to-night, when Mr. George Edwardes will introduce into the piece various new scenes, songs, and dances.

MR. FRANK CURZON has made an arrangement with Mr. du Maurier to appear at Wyndham's Theatre after the termination of the run of *The Naked Truth*, in a play called *Nobody's Daughter*, written by "George Paston."

A SPECIAL service for the members of the Actors' Church Union was held at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, last Sunday afternoon. There was a large congregation. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. L. Boyd, vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. The lives of actors, said the preacher, were largely spent in learning how to express the work of other men, and to the members of the dramatic profession the teachings of Christianity, as expressed through the personalities of the Apostles, should be easy of acceptance. They were accustomed to continual rehearsal and attention to the slightest detail, and their whole lives of training, therefore, specially fitted them for living Christian lives.

LAST Saturday night, while playing Julie in *The Man of Fate*, Miss Ella Erskine received an absolute ovation from the Manchester audience with whom, during her week's visit, she had become so great a favourite. Among other floral offerings there was a gigantic and very beautiful basket of white, yellow, and purple blossoms, a bouquet of yellow iris, and a laurel wreath from the playgoers of Manchester. The play, which owes much of its success to her fine performance, will be seen in the principal provincial towns this autumn, and there is also every probability of a London production.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE wishes it to be thoroughly understood that he has sub-let some of the No. 2 and all the No. 3 and fit-up rights of the old version of *The Christian* to Mr. Marcus D. Draper for one year. Mr. Croke retains all the No. 1 rights of the piece himself, and also has the right to approve of all artists engaged by Mr. Draper.

THE Actresses' Franchise League are organising a matinée in aid of the funds of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, to be given on Tuesday, June 21, at the Kingsway Theatre. The programme will consist of *How the Vote was Won*, by Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John, and Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Press Cuttings*. Miss Maxine Elliott will also recite. Among the artists who are giving their services are Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Marianne Caldwell, Miss Pollie Emery, Miss Di Forbes, Miss Auriol Lee, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Nella Powys, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mr. Leslie Faber, and Mr. Ben Webster. A reception will be held in the foyer of the theatre after the matinée by Miss Gertrude Elliott.

THE Actor's Church Union (South-West London district) is holding its inaugural social gathering in the Kensington Town Hall, on Tuesday, June 14, from 3.30 to 6.30, to meet the vice-presidents, among whom are the Bishop of London, Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir Herbert Tree, the Bishop of Birmingham, the Bishop of Argyll, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Martin Harvey, and others. Applications for invitations from those interested will be received with pleasure by the hon. secretary for the South-West and district, lady correspondent and visitor, Miss E. G. Clarke, 190, Finborough-road, Earl's Court, S.W.; or by Miss Gordon Barrett, 1, Phillimore-terrace, W.

MISS MARIE LOHR is to be the presiding goddess of *The Temple of Flora* at the Theatrical Garden Party on the 28th inst. The continuous entertainment promised by the Water Rats is taking shape as a Palais de Luxe, under the direction of Miss May Warley and Mr. W. H. Clemart—145 artists have volunteered their services. Mr. John Ansell, who has accepted the honorary post of musical director, is writing special music for Mr. Cyril Maude's "entrancing melodrama," and Mr. Gerald du Maurier has announced his intention of joining forces with Miss Alexandra Carlisle, in the Anglo-American shooting gallery, where they will superintend competitions and guide the visitors in selecting from the caricature targets of celebrated persons which Miss Carlisle is having prepared. Miss Polly Emery is designing a special matinée hat for exhibition in Jarley's Living Waxworks, and Mr. Herbert Trench is making a special effort to be present and assist in a certain "bower." Psychomancy, palmistry, and crystal gazing are to be done by Mesdames Mora and Olga, and mandoline and guitar music is promised by the Hampstead orchestra, of which Mr. Albert Roberts is conductor. Miss Lillian Braithwaite will preside at the tent of strawberries and cream. Tickets and programmes are to be had of Mr. Anslow J. Austin, 26, Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn.

MR. J. B. MULHOLLAND'S new theatre at Wimbledon is nearing completion, under the direction of those able young architects, Messrs. Masey and Young. These gentlemen have suggested various improvements which the local authorities have welcomed, and which Mr. Mulholland has been quick to adopt. Several novel features in theatre construction may be looked for in this very handsome and spacious new building.

MR. CHARLES HAWTREY, after the run of *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's, will become actor-manager of a leading West End theatre, where he will produce several plays in succession.

DAVID GARRICK'S villa on the Thames at Hampton, with eleven acres of pleasure grounds, was put up for auction at the Mart on Wednesday by Messrs. Edwin Fox, Bousfield, Burnetts, and Baddeley. As the starting price, Mr. Fox suggested £12,000, but no one responded. At length a sporting offer of £5,000 was made, and from that point the bidding ran up to £9,600, at which figure the property was withdrawn, together with Garrick's Ait. The Hermitage, which was described as a cottage orné, on the river bank, with garden, and which also once belonged to Garrick, was then put up, and was knocked down at £1,475.

THE members of the Savage Club are well represented at the Kodak Gallery, 40, Strand, W.C. The walls of the gallery are hung with no fewer than one hundred speaking likenesses of "brother Savages." That indefatigable artist Trevor Haddon, R.B.S., has accomplished this work within twelve months. Although one hundred members constitutes but a sixth of the strength of the club, Mr. Haddon hopes it will be his privilege in the course of time to paint the whole membership. It is to be hoped that the club will secure this wonderful collection of pictures for the walls of the historic Savage Club.

"THE LITTLE THEATRE," which is being constructed in part of the old premises of Coutts's Bank, Adelphi, is to be decorated, very appropriately, in Adam style. The colour scheme is to be blue-grey and white, suggestive of Wedgwood ware; and the old chimney-pieces are to be retained. Miss Gertrude Kingston, for whom the work is being carried out, has notions as to the setting of scenery. She contends that sky borders have usually a very unreal effect, and ruin an otherwise fine piece of work, and that above the stage should be an arched ceiling of pale blue to represent the heavens.

THE Poets' Club dinner, held at the Imperial Restaurant on Tuesday, was one of the most successful of these always interesting functions. It was of special interest, theatrically, owing to the fact of Mr. Herbert Trench being in the chair. Mr. Owen Seaman, the editor of *Punch*, read a witty and entertaining paper on "Parody." Mr. Robert Ross, who was among the speakers, with his usual ready wit finished his all too short speech with a reference to "Apollo" (indicating Mr. Trench) and the "Seaman." Among the members and visitors were Mr. Henry Murray, Mr. Tancred, Mr. Heldman, Mr. Walter Pearce, Mr. J. D. Bone, Mr. Rathmell Wilson, Miss Janet Alexander, and Miss Ella Erskine, who, by special request, read Mr. Herbert Trench's beautiful poem "Multatuli Remoulded." Both Miss Erskine and the author received much delighted applause, and certainly the fine lines, with their splendid philosophy, could scarcely have been read with greater feeling, beauty of voice, or intellectual insight.

MR. FROHMAN has made arrangements to terminate the present season of the Repertory Theatre company at the Duke of York's on Friday next, and on Monday, the 20th inst., Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's play *The Dawn of a To-morrow* will be transferred to that theatre from the Garrick. At the conclusion of its run the Duke of York's will be closed for renovation and repairs.

FOR Mr. Frohman's next repertory season he has arranged for plays to be written by Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Somerset Maugham, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Haddon Chambers, and Mr. Henry James. There will also be revivals of Mr. Barrie's *Quality Street* and Mr. Chambers's *Tyranny of Tears*. In September Mr. Frohman will present Miss Irene Vanbrugh in a new play, which will be replaced in December by the annual revival of *Peter Pan*. The winter and spring of each year will be devoted by Mr. Frohman to repertory. The stage management, not only of the Duke of York's but of all his other theatres, will be under the direction of Mr. Dion Boucicault.

MR. FROHMAN will, on Aug. 26, produce *Our Miss Gibbs* in New York, with Miss Pauline Chase in the title-part and Mr. Fred Wright, jun., as Cousin Timothy. Miss Julia James, Miss Molly Lowell, and Miss Kitty Mason will also be in the company. On Dec. 20 Miss Chase will sail for England, arriving in London in time for a dress rehearsal of *Peter Pan* prior to its revival. Later on Mr. Barrie's immortal fantasy will be sent upon a long Continental tour.

MR. DURWARD LELY will send out *The Bondman* on tour this autumn with a strong company, by arrangement with Mr. Wentworth Croke, who has sub-let the No. 3 and fit-up rights to Mr. Lely.

A NEW theatre, named the Theatre Royal, has just been opened in Tralee. The building is 82ft. long by 46ft. wide, having a stage 44ft. by 20ft., with a proscenium of 28ft., and has accommodation for 1,000 people. It has two large dressing-rooms, and is also fitted with a maple floor for dancing purposes. The theatre was opened on Tuesday night before a large audience with a concert. Mr. Clarke Barry's orchestra performed, and the artists included Miss Alice Keogh, Miss Agnes Treacy, Mr. Denis O'Connor, Mr. Robert Johnston, and Mr. W. F. Cope.

MR. PENNINGTON-GUSH has been engaged by Mr. Frank Weathersby for all the leading rôles in his répertoire season at the Opera House, Torquay. He opens on Monday as John Glayde in *John Glayde's Honour*, followed by Sir Charles Wyndham's part in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, Mr. George Alexander's part in *The Builder of Bridges*, &c.

MISS KITTY RICIMER has been engaged to play Kathie in *Old Heidelberg* during an autumn tour, including the principal towns of the South and Midlands. Miss Ricimer, it will be remembered, played the part at the St. James's Theatre when Miss Eva Moore was indisposed.

MISS GEORGIA BRYTON, who has returned to London after a long visit to America, has had an extensive experience in the States. She made her first appearance there with the late Augustin Daly's famous stock company, with whom she stayed two seasons. Afterwards she played three seasons with Charles H. Hoyt's *A Trip to Chinatown* company enacting the part of Willie Grow. After that came a few appearances in vaudeville, until the production of *A Chinese Honeymoon*, when the late Sam Shubert engaged her to play the part of Fi Fi, alternating with Miss Katie Barry during the long run at the Casino Theatre, Miss Bryton subsequently undertaking the part altogether on the road for two seasons, travelling as far as the coast. She then played the leading comedy in *Fantana* for two seasons, making seven seasons under the Shubert management.

MESSRS. WENTWORTH CROKE, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton have engaged Miss Marie Polini for Miss Gertrude Elliott's part of Glad in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, when they send this piece out in the autumn, the tour starting at Eastbourne on August Bank Holiday.

"THE BLUE BIRD" having reached its 250th performance, Mr. Herbert Trench is very shortly withdrawing it at the height of its popularity, with a view, of course, to its periodical revival. His next production will be the fantastic comedy *Priscilla Runs Away*, by Countess Von Arnim, author of the famous "Elizabeth and her German Garden." The part of the impulsive and wayward Princess will be played by Miss Phillida Terson, the accomplished daughter of Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, whose recent performances as Viola in *Twelfth Night* at His Majesty's, as well as in her celebrated parents' productions, aroused such high hopes of a brilliant career.

MR. TRENCH is sending the original London company of *The Blue Bird* on a short provincial tour this autumn, beginning at Leeds on Sept. 5.

IT is announced from Paris that M. Le Bargy, the distinguished actor—whose rupture with the Comédie Française caused some excitement recently—will enter into partnership with Mme. Sarah Bernhardt at the end of the year. As associates of the French national theatre are not allowed to act at any other Paris theatre, it is anticipated that proceedings will be taken by the Comédie Française against M. Le Bargy.

MISS MAY SAKER will play the title-rôle in the *Duchess of Down*, the new three-act play by Mrs. George Norman, to be produced at the Rehearsal Theatre by Mr. Victor Wiltshire on Friday afternoon, June 17. Included in the cast will also be Messrs. Charles King, Valentine Penna, Alfred Drayton, W. R. Staveley, Keith Shepherd, and Duncan Yarrow, and Misses Margaret Mackenzie, Estelle Stead, Evelyn Grey, and Eileen Savage.

MISS KATE WALBRAN, who concluded her engagement with Messrs. De Jong and Black in Cape Town recently, after scoring a success in all the leading rôles in the comedies of the repértoire, has accepted an extension of contract that will carry her on to the end of the year with the same management. The De Jong and Black combination are acquiring the rights of several others of Mr. Somerset Maugham's plays, as Miss Walbran's style seems particularly suited to the methods of that brilliant dramatist.

MISS NORA LANCASTER terminated on Saturday a nine months' engagement with Mr. F. R. Benson, with whom she has been playing a round of leading characters, such as Juliet, Rosalind, Viola, Queen in *Richard II.*, Princess Katharine in *Henry V.*, Perdita, &c.

MISS AUGUSTA HAVILAND has been engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson and Mr. Gaston Meyer to play the part of Mrs. Futvoye in *The Brass Bottle* in Australia. She sailed on Friday, June 3, in the P. and O. ss. Mongolia. Miss Haviland desires through our columns to thank her friends for their kind wires, letters, &c., which have been too numerous to acknowledge individually before leaving.

MASTER CHARLES HAVILAND CHAPPELL is this week playing Bobbie in *Cousin Kate*, with Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, for a special week at the Opera House, Southport.

"TURNING THE TABLES," a new farcical comedy by Oswald King, will be presented by Mr. Augustus Bingham for the first time at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on June 20. Mr. Forbes Dawson produces the play. Thrice before, it may be opportune to recall, has the title been used, the most recent being for a sketch produced at the Empress, Brixton, in May of last year.

A SPECIAL matinée of *As You Like It*, followed by a new play by Gaston Gervex, entitled *The Accolade*, will be given at the Court Theatre on Thursday next, under the direction of Mr. Clive Currie. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury will play Touchstone, Miss Mary Forbes Rosalind, and Mr. Clive Currie Jaques. The casts will also include Messrs. Clarence Derwent, Fred Grove, Walter Ringham, Dennis Cleugh, Coats Bush, Montague Mazeran, B. A. Pittar, Lewis Carlton, and Misses Jean Graeme, Evelyn Vanderzee, May Saker, Evelyn Grey, Violet Moréne, Rose Macdonald, Irene Delisse, and members of the Rehearsal company.

MISS DECIMA MOORE, after appearing at the Court Theatre on June 23 as Lady Betty, in *The Betrothal of Lady Betty*, will take part in the repertory season for Mr. Hutchison at Southport, playing Lady Frederick, Mrs. Dot, &c. Miss Moore returns to town the third week in July.

THE Miners' Theatre, Ashington, which has been closed for some time, has now been leased by the proprietors to Mr. Arthur C. Moody, the popular lessee and manager of the New Theatre Royal, Blyth-by-the-Sea. It is Mr. Moody's intention to redecorate the theatre, and he hopes to open some time in August.

MISS EILA ERSKINE, who recently made such a great success in the new Napoleonic play *The Man of Fate*, at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, has been engaged to create the leading part, that of a young, fascinating, and "merry" widow, in a new farce, by Helene Gingold, entitled *Looking for Trouble*. It is to be produced in Brighton on July 4, under the immediate patronage of King George of Greece. Mr. Walter Pearce will be seen in the leading juvenile part, and among other artists engaged for the production are Messrs. Blake Adams, Stephen Ewart, Henry Doughty, and Miss Rita Tomkins.

"SMILER'S WATCH," a troopship episode, by F. D. Bone, will be produced next week for the second piece of Mr. Bagge's one-act play season at the Camden Theatre. The parts will be played by Messrs. Lionel Atwill, Edward Sorley, Olaf Hytton, Hugh Wakefield, and Henry Bagge.

MR. COLE ASPINALL, at the conclusion of his engagement with *Daughter of the Sea* company at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday, June 2, in addition to receiving the congratulations of many friends on his return to the Mersey city, in which he is so well known and respected, was presented with a very handsome gold and coral pin by Mr. H. G. Gourdan.

MR. FRANK MARSHALL, Mr. Grahame-White's secretary and Press manager, has arranged that Miss Pauline Chase (Peter Pan) shall fly with Mr. Grahame-White at Brooklands on June 18.

Two charming frocks are seen in *The Case of Rebellious Susan* at the Criterion Theatre. One, worn by Miss Ellis Jeffreys in Act 3, is of écru ninon and lace. The tunic is bordered with a deep band of lace, through which is seen a bright blue satin sash. A band of lace goes straight across the bodice, and is edged with satin and veiled with ninon. The picturesque hat is of écru satin and is trimmed with écru feathers and pink roses. Miss Mary Moore's frock in Act 2 is of silk-spotted cream net and cream lace. Some pretty Paisley embroidery forms the round yoke and trims the front of the corsage. A deep blue satin hem on the underskirt is visible through the lace hem.

MR. HENRY TWEEDIE, business-manager, of Daneswood, Twickenham, is making a very interesting collection of old silver shillings, his store including examples as far back as 1504. When the collection is complete he hopes some theatrical charity will benefit by its sale.

THE meeting at Mrs. Godfrey Baring's, 195, Queen's Gate, in favour of the National Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, was of special interest, showing that support from members of the theatrical profession is increasing. In addition to Sir John Hare, who presided, and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, who addressed the meeting, the well-known actor Mr. J. H. Barnes proposed a resolution in favour of the scheme, and Mr. James Hearn spoke to a resolution.

THE late Edmund Yates called *School* the most fascinating of all the Robertson plays, the sunniest, pleasantest, and brightest of all idylls. On Wednesday Mr. Robert Arthur will offer it at the Coronet, with Mr. O. B. Clarence as Beau Farintosh, Mr. Athol Stewart as Lord Beaufoy, Mr. James Carew as Jack Poyntz, Miss Rosie Begarnie as Naomi Tighe, Miss Estelle Winwood as Bella, and Mrs. A. B. Tapping as Mrs. Sutcliffe.

MR. J LINDSAY ELLIS has arranged to send out in July the well-known military play, *Lights Out*, on an autumn and spring tour. A strong company has been selected, and the piece will be equipped with entirely new scenery and costumes. The production is in the capable hands of Mr. Francis J. Bethell, who will stage-manage the play on tour.

THE many friends of Mr. Stanley Hope, the popular manager of the Opera House, Jersey, will be sorry to hear of his wife's sudden illness, which happened whilst they were on a holiday.

MR. GEORGE MARLOW, Australia's enterprising manager, has just concluded his season at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth, with a production of Edward Thane's popular drama, *Lured to London*. In the course of this visit Mr. Marlow has successfully produced a new play by Mr. Arthur Shirley entitled *The Mother of His Child*.

MR. CHARLES R. STONE has just recovered from a short but severe illness. During his illness he was compelled to refuse two offers, but now that he is fit and well, is ready to welcome renewed proposals for his services.

MR. R. LAWSON LAMBERT, who has just terminated a long engagement as manager of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, has been engaged to look after the interests of Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton, when these gentlemen begin their lease of the Garrick Theatre on the 20th inst. Mr. Richard T. Maynard will, of course, continue to represent Mr. Weedon Grossmith.

WHEN Mr. Wentworth Croke does *East Lynne* at the Camden Hippodrome on June 20, Miss Beth Elliott will be the Lady Isabel, Mr. George R. Montford will play the part of Levison, Mr. Leonard Yorke (Archibald Carlyle), Miss Madge Lanerton (Cornelia), and Mr. Arthur E. Maskell (Ebenezer Walker). Although in this version—another novelty—Little Willie does not speak, Mr. Wentworth Croke, in order to do the sketch well in every respect, has engaged Miss Winnie Rousby, a grand-daughter of the late Wybert Rousby, to play the part. Entirely new scenery from the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, Studios, will be used for this production

THE management of the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, intend next month to try the twice-nightly system of popular plays.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN is taking an original course on the occasion of his benefit at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, this week. A first-class drawing-room suite has been purchased from a local firm, and will be presented to the holder of a winning number to be determined by ballot this (Saturday) evening.

KEITH G. KENNETH, who finished a successful tour with *The Woman of Kronstadt* last week at Croydon, starts out with *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* and *Under the Greenwood Tree* next week. The clever young actress Miss Betty Fairfax is the leading lady.

MR. HERBERT RAYMOND, manager, Regent Theatre, Salford, and his wife (Miss Dorma Morgan) will sail for New York from Liverpool per Arabic on Saturday, June 18, where they will spend their holidays.

MR. J. F. GRAHAM'S benefit performance in aid of the Birmingham Football Club at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on Tuesday night proved most enjoyable. Mr. Graham appeared in a farcical comedy entitled *His Last Legs*, and was ably assisted by his daughter, Miss Leslie K. Graham, and Mrs. F. W. Langley, Miss Alice Hancox, and Messrs. S. Sellars, J. F. Retallack, W. H. Kendrick, L. Retallack, and E. Newman. Mr. Hart, the chairman of the Birmingham Football Club, thanked Mr. Graham and the artists from the local music halls who had kindly contributed to the programme for their generous assistance.

MISS MARIE AUCKLAND concludes on June 18 her second engagement with Mr. Wentworth Croke. In the part of Mad Jenny in *The Girl of My Heart* Miss Auckland has made a great success.

MR. W. V. GARROD will shortly produce for copyright purposes a new play, in three acts, from his own pen, entitled *Atonement*. The regular production will take place early in the autumn. *The Atonement* has several times figured as the title of a play, notably for a three-act drama founded on Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*, and produced at the Victoria Theatre in 1872, while a one-act drama called simply *Atonement* was produced by Mr. Albert Chevalier at Eastbourne three years ago.

MISS RUTH WINGROVE (Mrs. Willox Cadogan), who has been playing Satanella in *The Midnight Wedding*, was taken ill with diphtheria last Friday week at Chester. She is now at the isolation hospital, and will have to remain there for at least a month.

THE summer stock season at Torquay will commence on Monday next, under the direction of Mr. Frank Weathersby. The opening plays will be *John Glayde's Honour* and *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Miss Lilian Hallows and Mr. Pennington Gush will play leads, and Mr. Arthur Gibbons will produce the plays.

"ARE YOU A MASON?" seems to be "pulling the strings," in spite of the warm weather. At Leeds Grand Theatre last week the play drew really good houses, which gave entire satisfaction to both resident and touring manager. The same results have been achieved at many towns, including Blackpool, Bristol, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Scarborough, where return dates were offered. The play is rejuvenated, and has a strong cast. A very pretty colour scheme has been secured in the scene painted by Mr. Thos. F. Dunn, of Howard and Wyndham, Ltd. The walls are of a delicate pale mauve, the carpet being in a lighter shade of the same colour, with a conventional design in pale green. The chairs and settees are all in chints with a dainty design of pink rose buds, the remainder of the furniture being pure white.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Too Far Gone.

JOHN REEVE, says Edmund Yates in his "Recollections and Experiences," was the principal low comedian at the Adelphi Theatre in the early forties—a man of much humour and an enormous favourite. So popular was he that his frequent appearance on the stage when considerably overcome with drink was generally good-naturedly condoned by the audience. On one occasion, however, and when he happened to be playing a supposed scene of intoxication, he was really so far gone that he could not keep his balance, and fell down. This was too much, and the spectators lustily hissed. John Reeve raised himself with difficulty, advanced to the foothights, and, in thick tones of virtuous indignation, asked: "What's the meaning of this? Don't all of you know that I'm a drunken individual?" The unconscious *double entendre* delighted his hearers, and peace was restored.

Orders and Disorder.

THERE is a good story, says the same author, of my father, in connection with his power of quelling uproar among the audience. One night a tremendous row occurred at the end of the first act of a new piece. Loud cries for "Yates" brought my father on the stage. "What's all this?" he asked, peremptorily. Unintelligible yells and shouts from all parts of the house. "Look here," said my father, on the first approach to silence, shaking his finger menacingly at the audience generally, "if there is any more of this disturbance *you shall have your orders back!*"

A Modest Ambition.

FECHTER, says Mr. Yates, wishing to avail himself of the services of a rising young actress, who shall be nameless, requested me to arrange the engagement with her. After some preliminary talk she called upon me one day at the Post-office, accompanied by her father, then an actor in a very small way. After we had settled the matter the father said to me, "You have a pleasant sinecure here, Mr. Yates." I mildly hinted that, although the duties were not absolutely slavery, the position was not a sinecure. "Equivalent to it," he said, with a fine liberal air. "You gentlemen in Government offices are indeed well off. I said to my daughter as we walked up your grand staircase: 'Well, my dear, your father would give up all his dreams of ambition, and be content to settle down here on a mere five hundred a year.'" Whatever his dreams of ambition may have been, adds Yates, his actual salary probably never exceeded thirty shillings a week.

Charles Kemble and the Thunder.

I DO not think, says Yates, I ever met a man more hopelessly deaf than Charles Kemble at seventy. Some of us were sitting one afternoon at the Garrick Club, when a tremendous thunderstorm broke over the house. It raged with extraordinary fury, one clap exploding with terrific noise immediately above us like a volley of artillery. We looked round at each other almost in horror, when Charles Kemble, who was calmly reading, lifted his eyes from his book and said, in his trumpet-tone, "I think we are going to have some thunder; I feel it in my knees."

A Crushing Reproof.

ONE dusty summer's night, says Mr. Yates, I turned into the Strand Theatre, where were being exhibited the Bosjesmen, some wretched African savages, at a charge of 1s. to the boxes, 6d. to the pit, and 3d. to the gallery. I went into the pit. After the miserable creatures had gone through their dance, the showman—a gentleman in black, with beautifully arranged hair—advanced to give a description of them. "The little man," he commenced in mellifluous accents, "is forty-two years old." He paused for an instant, and a ribald boy in the threepenny gallery called out, "And how old are *you?*" The showman started, struck an attitude, and, with outstretched hand, exclaimed, "Old enough to tell you, sir, that you are no gentleman!"

The Derby and Miss Farren.

THE Earl of Derby had to wait until 1787, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, before he captured the race named after him, by the aid of Sir Peter Teazle, who is generally referred to as Sir Peter. The Earl had married, as his second wife, the accomplished actress, Miss Farren, who attained her most conspicuous success on the stage in the character of Lady Teazle." Miss Elizabeth Farren did not wed the Earl until May 1, 1797, ten years after the win referred to. Hazlitt writes of her "fine-lady airs and graces, with that elegant turn of her head and motion of her face and tripping of her tongue." She must have been a fascinating creature.

Ibsen in the Midlands.

"I FIND, even among educated people, that Ibsen is not so well-known as he ought to be," said Mr. Leigh Lovell to a *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* representative. "If people only understood what his name stands for I am sure many more would flock to see his plays. This will give you an idea of the ignorance one has to fight against. At one of the Midland towns where I was playing the manager of the theatre asked, 'Are you Mr. Ibsen?'"

Taken too Literally.

THE most exciting thing that ever befel Mr. Hamilton Stewart in the course of his stage career was an adventure he once had with a sailor at Plymouth. "I was playing in *The Duchess of Coolgardie*, and in the course of my part I had some rather angry passages with one of the persons in the play, a sailor. Suddenly I became conscious that something unusual was happening. A man was coming headlong over the backs of the seats, like a hurdle racer, and before anyone could realise precisely what was the matter he was chasing me round the stage with a knife in his hand. He was a seaman, and I soon saw that his sympathy was with the seaman in the play, and he dashed at me, shouting, 'You would sling a sailor up, would you? I'm going to sling you up!' The stage hands quickly surrounded him, and deprived him of his knife. It was fortunate for me they did, because I was so startled by the suddenness of the attack that I could not defend myself."

Immoral Statues.

MISS OCTAVIA KENMORE, the heroine of the Ibsen's plays, is enthusiastic about Ibsen. "The talk about any of Ibsen's characters being immoral," she says, "reminds me of what occurred at Alnwick Castle. There is some very beautiful statuary there. My father once sent a party of friends to go over the Castle. They got as far as the statuary, and then they fled. The only impression they brought back was that the statues were frightfully immoral!"

Irish Dramatists.

"THE greatest English dramatists for two hundred years," says Mr. W. B. Yeats, in an interview in the *Daily News*, "have nearly all been Irishmen, or have had Irish blood in their veins. I think, too, Havelock Ellis has made calculations showing what an immense proportion of the actresses on the English stage have had Irish blood. Then our people have, perhaps more than any other people, the gift of fantasy. Go and talk to the Galway peasant and you will find it in him as you will find it in Synge or Lady Gregory, or Oscar Wilde, or Bernard Shaw, or any of the Irish dramatists. It is in all classes of our people."

"THE SPECKLED BAND."

An Adventure of Sherlock Holmes, founded by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle on his Story of the same name, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Saturday, June 4.

Dr. Grimesby Rylott .....MR. LYNN HARDING
Enid Stonor .....MISS CHRISTINE SILVER
Mrs. Staunton .....MISS AGNES THOMAS
Rodgers .....MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Ali, an Indian .....MR. WILTON ROSS
Mr. Scott Wilson .....MR. ARTHUR BURNE
Mr. Armitage .....MR. SPENCER TREVOR
Mr. Longbrace .....MR. J. J. BARTLETT
Mr. Brewer .....MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Inspector Downing .....MR. GEOFFREY HILL
Coroner's Officer .....MR. GEORGE LAUNDY
Mr. Holt Loaming .....MR. A. G. CRAIG
Mrs. Soames .....MISS GWENDOLEN FLOYD
Mr. James B. Montague.MR. A. CORNEY GRAIN
Mr. Milverton .....MR. FRANK RIDLEY
Billy .....MASTER CECIL F. LOWRIE
Dr. Watson .....MR. CLAUDE KING
Peters .....MR. C. LATER
Mr. Sherlock Holmes ....MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY

One at least of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories has been already dramatised with success. Mr. William Gillette, in his season at the Lyceum in the September of 1901, produced a drama with the detective's name as its title, he and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle having collaborated in adapting "The Strange Case of Miss Faulkner." In this, Holmes was by far the most prominent figure, and the struggle of intellects between him and the arch-criminal, Professor Moriarty, formed the theme of a most exciting play. In *The Speckled Band*, which was produced with complete success at the Adelphi Theatre last Saturday, the detective does not by any means occupy the whole of the stage, though he has an important influence on the action of the drama. The predominant personage is the villain, who is a great deal before the audience, and who is a bold, big, and emphatic individual.

Out of his short but thrilling story of cunning crime Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has evolved a highly-sensational and enthralling drama of crime and its detection, which, as soon as the interest of the audience has been engaged by a demonstration of affairs, holds them in a grip of iron, and leaves them at the close in a state of excited satisfaction. Sir Arthur winds into his subject gradually, with an inquest in the first act on the death of the sister of Enid Stonor, the heroine. The young lady has mysteriously and suddenly expired in her bedroom, and no cause can be assigned for her death, either by medical and other evidence. But at the end of the act we are left with a strong suspicion that Dr. Grimesby Rylott, a retired Anglo-Indian surgeon, the step-father of the girl, has had a hand in her murder in order that he may inherit a legacy left to her by her mother. As a similar legacy has been left to Enid, who, like her dead sister, lives with Rylott at his lonely country house, we feel anxious about her safety.

Two years elapse. Enid has become engaged, and refuses to sign a paper which would make over her money to Rylott. Fearing that she may share her sister's fate, she calls, in London, on Sherlock Holmes, to whom she has been recommended by her mother's friend, Dr. Watson. Holmes at once takes up her case, and promises to come to her rescue if she should be in imminent danger. In this act those in the audience who have not read the book get an inkling of the means by which Enid is to be done to death, for the curtain descends at the end of one of the scenes on the Doctor enticing a horrible puff adder out of his basket.

In the last act Rylott returns home from London, where he has engaged a new butler. The rapid and resourceful Holmes, who is on the spot, manages, at a critical moment, to assume the new menial's identity, to save Enid from Rylott's immediate brutality, and to shoot the savage dog which he keeps to guard the house. When night comes on Holmes and Watson overpower the Indian servant who watches outside Enid's window, enter her bedroom, and wait. Then through a ventilator in the wall and down a sham bell-rope comes the adder on his mission of death. The horrid thing, startled by a blow of Holmes's cane, glides back through the ventilator, and Dr. Rylott, who sent it on its deadly visit from the adjoining room, rushes in with the irritated reptile round his neck, and expires from its bite.

Undoubtedly the most remarkable performance of the evening was Mr. Lyn Harding's startlingly original embodiment of Dr. Grimesby Rylott. It was an extremely bold, but quite successful, experiment. Exteriorly, Mr. Harding's Dr. Rylott is a comically jerky and self-satisfied person, with a roll of hair on the top of his head, a fussily-polite manner, and a fidgety demeanour. But this is the mere mask or shell of a demoniac villain. When the mask is removed, when the remorseless homicide and heartless rascal appears, the effect is appalling. It may be imagined that Mr. Harding has been a good deal influenced in his presentation of the character by the hint given him by the author that there is a dash of insanity in the doctor's nature. The nervous irritability which Mr. Harding suggests so distinctly may be taken as pointing in that direction. The conception is much more interesting than the mere sketch of a character in the book, in which the Doctor was a mere brutal, muscular bully. We suggest, therefore, that the bit of "Sandow business" in the bending of the poker in Holmes's chambers should be omitted in the drama. It was used in the book to emphasize the physical power of the villain and the all-round ability of Sherlock Holmes, who does not, however, in the play straighten out the poker to show his own strength. Indeed, perhaps the incident even in print savoured of the heroes of Ouida and the author of "Guy Livingstone." Mr. Harding has, if anything, subordinated the burliness and bulk of his figure which have served him so well in other characters, and has given us, instead of a mere ferocious animal, a monster of moral and mental degeneration. The conception and its carrying out are equally admirable. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury had a definite task before him—to "realise" Sherlock Holmes as described in the story—and he did so very exactly and artistically. Every well-known detail of the character, intellectual and physical, was supplied, and the intensity of Holmes's thought and the rapidity of his action were shown in turn and with equal effectiveness. A very salient and striking piece of acting was Mr. A. S. Homewood's Rodgers. It was a terrible picture of crushed and cringing age, of the result of poverty on a weak and timorous nature. Another performance which stood out unmistakably was Mr. Spencer Trevor's Mr. Armitage. The aggressive, talkative, but earnest little man, with his boasting and self-assertion and his genuine goodness, was shown to the life. Each of the other characters had been carefully cast. Miss Christine Silver was well suited to present Enid Stonor, and her acting in the scenes in which Enid defies Dr. Rylott was full of fire and spirit. Miss Agnes Thomas was an ideal Mrs. Staunton—hard, grim, and unscrupulous; Mr. Wilton Ross made a fine appearance as Ali; Mr. J. J. Bartlett hit off cleverly the business-like concentration of Mr. Longbrace; and Mr. Frank Ridley contributed a neat performance as the Foreman of the Jury, small parts being neatly distinguished and capitally sketched by Mr. A. G. Craig, Miss Gwendoline Floyd, and Mr. A. Corney Grain. Mr. Claude King gave a smooth and polished reading of the rôle of Dr. Watson, and Mr. C. Later was good as Peters.

"GLASS HOUSES."

Comedy, in Three Acts, Adapted by Kenneth Barnes from Paul Hervieu's *Connais-toi*, Produced at the Globe Theatre on Monday, June 6.

General Sir Paul Carteret .....MR. BOURCHIER
John .....MR. HERBERT SLEATH
Captain Bernard O'Brien..MR. NORMAN TREVOR
Ralph Goring .....MR. GEORGE BEALBY
Giles .....MR. DALLAS CAIRNS
Mrs. Goring .....MISS MURIEL BEAUMONT
Lady Carteret .....MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH

It did not need the information on the programme that *Glass Houses* was adapted from M. Paul Hervieu's *Connais-toi* to tell us that the play was taken from the French. It is French in its subject, French in its treatment, and French in the excellent effectiveness of its construction. If the play has a moral, it certainly tends to a more indulgent view of female adultery than is fashionable in England. We hardly knew, indeed, whether to take the piece as a drama or as a comedy; it vibrated between the two. Certainly, to English ideas, matters were made decidedly serious by the implied adultery of one of the ladies in the first act. It is not distinctly stated that Mrs. Goring has "gone wrong"; she may possibly have been only imprudent; but the author of the play seems to consider that it is of small consequence whether she has actually "sinned" or not as long as she has "compromised" herself. On the supposition that she has only been imprudent, the desire of her husband to hear her explanation and make it up is creditable to him; but most Englishmen will take the old General's view that, if actual adultery has taken place, there is no alternative but divorce.

The action takes place at the house of Sir Paul Carteret, near Salisbury. Sir Paul is a big, overbearing martinet, who worships his wife in secret, but cannot abandon his habit of imperious command in addressing her. Exactly the opposite fault is that of a younger husband, Ralph Goring, a weakling whose wife is carrying on an intrigue with John, the son of the General. How far this intrigue has gone, whether Mrs. Goring has broken the seventh commandment or not is not distinctly stated; but an interesting young man called Captain Bernard O'Brien has lent the pair his bungalow for purposes of assignation. The result is that one morning, when the General is out riding with Goring, they see a woman running away from the bungalow, chase her, and finally discover that she is Mrs. Goring.

Goring, who is very much attached to his wife, is inclined to forgive her; but when he consults the General the latter takes high ground, and gives Goring to understand that, unless he puts his wife away friendship between him and the General—and Lady Carteret—must cease. Now the marriage of the latter pair was one of convenience on the lady's side; and as the General has certainly not worked to win his wife's affection since their union Lady Carteret's heart is, so to speak, unoccupied. Captain Bernard O'Brien, a protégé of the General's, who hates him for his benevolent tyranny, is madly in love with Lady Carteret. She is at first only harmlessly interested in him; and her principles are so far firm that she is very hard on Mrs. Goring for her *liaison* with John. But when Lady Carteret learns that O'Brien, who is suspected of being Mrs. Goring's lover, is going to hold his tongue in order to shield John, she begins to entertain a sentimental feeling for him.

And now the difficulty of the position increases. The General has called in O'Brien, and has made him write a letter asking to be transferred to Bermuda. On the top of this O'Brien makes a declaration of love to Lady Carteret, who repels him reproachfully. O'Brien mentions that one reason why he was accepting his exile was the consciousness that he had better leave England and put the seas between himself and Lady Carteret before mischief should come of his passion for her. And so she is on the horns of a dilemma. She now feels herself guilty of, at any rate, an affection for another man than her husband; and she cannot therefore take the same attitude towards Mrs. Goring's *faux pas*.

Then the real offender, young John Carteret, comes into the action. He is determined not to let O'Brien suffer for another's fault, and he is ready, when the usual divorce is obtained, to marry Mrs. Goring. When John makes confession to his father, the General is at first incredulous, and then furious. He has a serious quarrel with his son, and ends by turning him out of the house. But O'Brien does not want to leave England without something warmer passing between him and Lady Carteret than mere conversations. He has an aggressive love scene with her, grapples with her, and ends by forcibly kissing her. At this moment the General enters, turns O'Brien out, and reproaches his wife with having given the young man encouragement. She retorts by telling him that his bullying has made her hate him, and that it is now too late to try and win her affection. The General realises his folly, and collapses at the idea of losing his wife. Then Goring returns from town, having seen his solicitor, and arranged to sue for a divorce. Both the General and Lady Carteret are now on the other side of the argument; and Goring is justly irritated at the former's change of front. However, in the end he consents to condone his wife's offence, and Lady Carteret, when the General has shown himself sufficiently abased and repentant, gives him hope that he may yet win her love. O'Brien, however, is safely despatched to Bermuda.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh is a mistress of the art of impersonation, and manages in some magical way to make herself of any age or any degree of beauty or repulsiveness. There could hardly be a greater contrast than between the facial appearance of her courtesan in *The Woman in the Case* and that of her Lady Carteret—neurotic, sensitive, intelligent, and intensely feminine. The part is that of the well-meaning married woman of French comedy who gradually leaves the path of strict rectitude; and the sufficiently familiar transition is depicted by Miss Vanbrugh with marvellously artistic skill. She has no specially strong scene, but she charms by her sweetness and interests by her earnestness. Mr. Bourchier is personally well suited to the rôle of General Sir Paul Carteret, and he emphasises, in his usual forcible style, the brisk bluster of the military martinet. This is practically all he has to do; but the General's repentance at the conclusion needs careful and tactful treatment, and certainly receives it at Mr. Bourchier's experienced hands. Mr. Norman Trevor plays the rather unpleasant part of Captain O'Brien cleverly and conscientiously, and looks it admirably. Mr. Herbert Sleath gives a neat and spirited performance of the rôle of John, and is extremely well groomed and garbed; and Mr. George Bealby contributes an easy but effective bit of comedy acting as Ralph Goring. Mr. Dallas Cairns being good as Giles. Miss Muriel Beaumont in the rather unsympathetic character of Mrs. Goring does all that is possible, and looks very attractive.

Glass Houses was preceded by the play in one act by Arthur Eckersley and Arthur Curtis, called *The Trap*, the melodramatic situations in which gave opportunities for powerful emotional acting to Mr. James Lindsay and Miss Daisy Markham, who were well supported by Mr. William Burchill as "Needle" Barnes and Miss May Holland as the old woman with the fried potatoes. Mr. S. Arder Godfrey is Mr. Bourchier's acting-manager, and Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. Charles Frohman's able general manager, also sheds the light of his popular presence on the front of the house.

SIR HERBERT TREE AT LIVERPOOL.

The Bohemians on Friday, June 3, gave a complimentary luncheon to Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, at the Bear's Paw, Lord-street, Liverpool. Over a hundred ladies and gentlemen assembled to do honour to their guest, the company including Mr. W. S. Tafner (in the chair) and Mrs. Tafner, His Worship the Mayor of Chester (Mr. D. L. Hewitt) and Mrs. Hewitt, Major R. Cecil Davies (ex-Mayor of Chester) and Mrs. Davies, Mr. A. E. Coveney and Miss Coveney, Mr. A. J. Thompson, Dr. C. S. Brewer, Mr. H. Mathison and Mrs. Mathison, Dr. H. Keays Bentley, Mr. J. Gaffney (manager of the Shakespeare Theatre), Mr. Henry Dana (manager for Sir H. B. Tree), Mr. Ernest Wighton (manager of the Olympia), Mr. W. Hassan (manager of the Hippodrome), Mr. Frank Weston (manager, Hippodrome, Birkenhead) and Mrs. Weston, Mr. Fred Barker (manager, New Century Picture Hall, Liverpool), Mr and Mrs. Wood (Queen's Hall, Birkenhead), Mr. C Hicks (Empire Theatre, Liverpool), Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wood (Bee Hotel, Liverpool), Mr. Will Jones and Miss Jones, Mr. F. Broadsmith, Mr. J Mole (manager of the Palais de Luxe), Mr. C. G R. Stephens, T.C., and Mrs. Stephens, Mr. J. Taylor-Davies, Mr. A. J. Fishlock, Mr. Arnold Bloom, T.C., and Mrs. Bloom, &c.

Sir Herbert was accompanied by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, Miss Gladys Harvey, and Miss Edith Cole (Mrs. W. W. Kelly). Mr. Kelly was unable to be present owing to an engagement in London

After a capital luncheon, the health of the guest was proposed by Mr. A. J. Thompson, F.R.G.S In the course of his speech he said: "The gentleman whom the Bohemians are delighted to honour is not only well known and appreciated in Liverpool, but is known wherever Britishers have placed their feet. He is the doyen of the profession he so nobly adorns, the oldest profession in the world. King Charles II., who, we must allow, had some slight knowledge of ladies, did at least one wise thing when he gave leave for woman's parts to be played by women. And to the present time they have proved themselves worthy successors of their great prototype—I mean in the best possible sense, as witness the presence with us to-day of such charming actresses as Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, Miss Gladys Harvey, and Miss Edith Cole. It has been said that the actor is a man of many parts; this should be a man who plays many parts.

"Perhaps some of us have felt, after seeing Sir Herbert as Shylock, that member of a downtrodden race in whom the milk of human kindness had all dried up, or as the cringing, oily Svengali, what a wicked man Sir Herbert Tree must be. This, I think I can prove, is not the case. In order to play the villain the actor must possess the virtues in order to depict the vices for if our guest were a villain in reality, then on the stage he would not be acting at all. The talented villain would not care to expose his real self to an audience, more especially when no tangible result would attend his efforts. This to the villain would be waste of time. Sir Herbert Tree, being kind and benevolent, would simply do nasty things instead of his natural nice ones be mean where he himself would be generous result—a perfect villain." The speaker referred to the wonderful production, *False Gods*, and mentioned that he had himself seen the play whilst under the influence of a trip to Egypt. In the character of Colonel Newcome, Sir Herbert had something akin to his own real nature, and who could forget this fine old English gentleman, himself without guile, and suspecting none in others who faced adversity with fortitude and resignation. He (the speaker) hoped, when the time came for all to take leave of their earthly tenement they would be able to say "Adsum" in the same spirit of resignation so ably portrayed by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree.

The toast was received with acclamation.

Sir Herbert Tree, in his reply, said he quite expected Mr. Thompson to say that he was the Tree of good and evil. He congratulated him on the logical reasoning that had proved to his satisfaction that black was white—that in order to be a perfect stage villain the actor must of necessity be a good man. When Mr. Thompson referred to the character of Colonel Newcome he anticipated that he would have been given all the vices to enable him to play a moral and good character but there the proposer showed his artfulness, for instead of saying that he must be a villain to be an actor of virtuous parts, he said this part was a natural one for him. He thanked all the ladies and gentlemen for their flattering reception *False Gods* and *Colonel Newcome* had been mentioned by the proposer, both of which plays were of a high standard, and of which he was proud but both had not been a commercial success. It was that very failure, and that indifference to failure in that direction, that perhaps entitled him to the regard which he was proud to think they had for him. Alluding to a statement that ladies did not appear on the stage before the seventeenth century, the eminent actor said that if men had to play feminine parts to-day he would certainly not be upon the stage. He hoped, in these days of female emancipation, that women would still now and then have time to remain by the domestic hearth to fulfil those duties in which they were perhaps most beautiful, but it was on the stage that women were the real Suffragettes. It was the one arena of life in which women were the equals, if not the superiors of men.

Miss Edith Cole responded with a charming little speech, ending with the remark, "We cannot do without you (the men), and you cannot do without us."

One of the menu-cards had been fully signed by all the guests and put up for auction, when it was purchased by Mr. J. Crossley Pratt for £3 10s., and presented by him to Sir Herbert Tree as a memento of the occasion. The money will be devoted to charity.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the students' concert on Monday afternoon the first item in the programme was an organ solo of Mendelssohn's "Second Sonata," the Allegro maestoso e' Fuga being played by Mr. Ernest Connolly. Mr. Rodolphe Gaillard sang "Still wie die Nacht" intelligently; and Miss Edith Korner, pianist, deserved praise for her neat execution in Seeling's "Loreley." Miss Edith K. Bird was associated with Miss Alice Lees in an able performance of the Andante scherzoso più Allegretto—Allegro molto, from Beethoven's Sonata in A minor, for piano and violin; while Miss Eveline Matthews, although at first a little nervous, sang "When the Swallows Homeward Fly" (Maud V. White) and Tosti's "La Serenata" with purity of tone and artistic expression. Mr. Edward S. Mitchell gave an excellent performance of Preludes, Op. 11, Nos. 13 and 14, for piano, by Scriabine; and Master Samuel Kutcher, a little boy violinist, well deserved the hearty applause for his clever playing of Vieuxtemps' "Air Varie." Miss Edna Purdie, a talented young pianist, was recalled three times after playing Chopin's B minor Scherzo. "It was a Dream" (F. H. Cowen) was sung by Miss Alina Whittard, and the concert concluded with a movement from Beethoven's Trio in C minor, for piano, violin, and 'cello, the executants being Miss Eunice Mort, Miss Margaret Bradfield, and Miss Kathleen Thompson.

"CHILDREN ON THE STAGE." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE O.U.D.S.

Mr. Alan Mackinnon's book on "The Oxford Amateurs," just published by Chapman and Hall, is admirably done, both as regards matter and illustrations, and it will be very interesting to the aristocratic society in which so many of the young men mentioned in its pages move at present. To the actor and the ordinary playgoer there is only occasional attraction in its pages. The story of the struggle to establish an amateur club at Oxfrod is well told. Three important members of the O.U.D.S. whose names are several times mentioned are Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. H. B. Irving. There is a particularly pleasant illustration in which Mr. Bourchier, in all the bloom of adolescence, is seen in the centre of a group, while close to him, also very youthful, is Mr. Lionel Monckton, the composer and critic. Mr. Bourchier and Mr. H. B. Irving are in other places depicted in various costumes and characters. Mr. Bourchier's Falstaff is spoken of as being "splendid," as no doubt it was; and in this connection the following anecdote occurs:—

"Lady Abingdon ('Sweet Anne Page') frequently entertained the members of the company at Whitham during the rehearsals. It was there Bourchier, as Falstaff, was the victim of a practical joke in the shape of one of the old family chairs at Whitham. This chair, when sat on promptly, enclosed the occupant as in a vice, the only escape being through the pressure of a secret spring.

"Some genius bethought him of substituting this Whitham chair for Falstaff's customary seat. The result, writes Nugent, was 'imprisonment of Falstaff, terrible language, and ringing down of the curtain in the middle of the scene to extricate him from his sorry plight. The next day Bourchier was the recipient of a number of letters sarcastically asking his authority for certain words used on the previous evening not to be found in any of the folios, quartos, or early editions of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.'"

Mr. H. B. Irving as Strafford in Browning's impossible play must have been worth seeing; and so must have been his King John. In the latter production, "when the combined British and French forces, to the number of some sixty performers, were all on the stage, their only proper means of exit was by means of a drawbridge into the town. This drawbridge spanned the moat when lowered, and rested on a parapet, thus forming a step by which to pass over through the gate. It happened that, for purposes of rapid scenic change on the second occasion of its use, this parapet was to be removed by lines worked from the side. An over-zealous carpenter worked this during the first dark change, in consequence of which the whole army was imprisoned, and the drop curtain had to be let down prematurely, leaving the 'First Citizen' kneeling with the keys of the town in front of the act drop (from which he had to exit kneeling, as the stage critic in Sheridan says)."

A member of the O.U.D.S. who has since become celebrated as a composer is Mr. Paul Rubens, of whom, says Mr. Mackinnon, W. J. Thomas writes: "The mention of 'musical comedy' fittingly recalls that mercurial and mirth-moving genius Paul Rubens. He certainly never gave any indication of being appreciably moved in a Shakespearean direction, albeit he played the part which I have so often represented with Bourchier, of the Duke in *The Merchant of Venice*. But during the whole of his Oxford career of uninterrupted cheeriness (the only 'waits' therein being those of the 'Schools'), he may be said to have literally bubbled over with musical enthusiasm. He would sit down at any moment to improvise at the piano with extraordinary rapidity, so that he was, as a consequence, eagerly secured for every smoking concert in the 'Varsity. Indeed, I never gave one of my sketches at these genial functions without finding the music in the skilful hands of my irrepressible friend."

The Society had valuable support and encouragement from the late Sir Henry Irving, whose interest in Oxford amateurs was constantly shown, and who kindly offered to lend them dresses for a production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. "Accordingly," writes Mr. A. N. Taylor, "I duly presented myself at the stage-door of the Lyceum Theatre. I was ushered into the presence of the great man, who was then made up to resemble a Napoleon of Titanic proportions.

"'Oxford,' I murmured.

"'Eh, what?' he exclaimed, staring at me absently. 'What about Oxford?'

"For a moment I felt as if the whole honour and credit of the University, from the Chancellor downwards, rested on my humble shoulders, instead of an insignificant coterie of undergraduates with histrionic proclivities. But I pulled myself together and reminded Napoleon of his promise, and was duly authorised by him to take what I wanted from the Lyceum wardrobe. I got these finally packed into four baskets, and then the question arose, How was I to get them to Paddington? It was suggested that I should take them in a four-wheeler, but when they were piled up on the pavement my pride shrunk from sitting amongst what was obviously four baskets of dirty linen. Besides, when they were got into the cab, there was no room for me. A crowd—the inevitable crowd—collected and stung me with facetious remarks. The suggestion that I was paying my annual visit to my washerwoman was accepted, of course, as an explanation of my presence there in the heart of the London traffic with four ponderous baskets. It was proposed that the difficulty might be solved if I were to get inside one of the baskets. I indignantly repudiated the idea. 'Put the cabby in, then, and drive yourself!' fared no better. Another waggish individual, inspired by Dan Leno, suggested my engaging two cabs, putting two baskets in each, and 'running between.' The result was I did engage two cabs, seating myself in one, the baskets in the other, and at length took the train to Oxford with my precious cargo. But I was not going to run the gauntlet of Oxford in the daytime. As I deposited the baskets in the cloak-room and the attendant demanded sixpence apiece for them, I could not deny myself the pleasure of explaining their contents. I feared that he, too, might fancy they were dirty linen. I therefore mentioned, with a fine, careless dignity, that they held theatrical costumes. His face altered. 'Oh, theatrical?' he said. 'Why didn't you say so? That'll be fourpence the lot.' With that he handed me eight coppers, while I, with pride humbled and with a mien far from 'theatrical,' stole out of the station and got back to my college."

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An interesting chamber concert was given by the students of the Royal College of Music on Thursday evening, June 2, the programme commencing with Dvorák's Quartet for Strings in E flat, Op. 51, played by Miss Winifred Douglas, Miss Florence Hanson, Miss Sybil Maturin, and Mr. John Snowden, all of whom acquitted themselves creditably in a difficult task. Miss Emmie Gregory, in Clementi's Sonata in G minor for piano, proved herself an accomplished executant with a refined fluent touch, and Miss Giulietta Motto and Mr. J. Alan Taffs, heard in César Franck's fine Sonata for Piano and Violin in A major, were equally successful and received a most hearty recall. Miss Kathleen Peck displayed no little vocal ability in Brahms' "Wiegenlied" and "Where the bee sucks" (Sullivan), while Mr. Richmond Roxburgh was heard to advantage in Tschaikowsky's artistic "Pilgrim's Song." The third vocalist on Thursday evening was Miss Ethel Lebish, who sang Grieg's "Abschied" and "Im Kahne." Mr. H. Arnold Smith was the accompanist, and the programme closed with an organ solo of Mozart's Fantasia in F minor, ably played by Mr. Joshua Beswick.

"THE CHOICE."

A Problem Play, in One Act, by Alan Monkhouse, Produced for the First Time at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, June 6.

Anne .....Miss Louis Holbrook
Ella Christie .....Miss Darragh
Mrs. Lilley .....Miss Ada King
Major Greig .....Mr. Ian Maclaren

(from our own correspondent.)

Some time ago Mr. Alan Monkhouse contributed to the long list of successful Gaiety Theatre productions a short play called *Reaping the Whirlwind*, a condensed and powerful piece of drama, which had all the air and effect of the climax of a three-act play. The idea of writing for the stage only the issue of a drama which is enacted chiefly in his mind seems to be the natural thing for an author whose mentality is by no means subordinate to his emotions. The method makes for pithiness, to say the least, but it is also apt to strain the understanding of his audience as well as to involve so much of allusive dialogue that the action suffers, and the demands of drama are therefore not satisfied. The method of *The Choice* is the same as in the former play; but whereas *Reaping the Whirlwind* served to show what might be done successfully, *The Choice* exemplifies the risk that may be run of producing a readable, bookish, rather than a dramatic, episode. The characters talk; they do not act, for there is nothing to be done. They talk, of course, with the whole weight of the author's mind and feeling behind them; and this, it must be confessed, is considerably more powerful and sensitive than the average playgoer is able to enjoy, unless he has at once the whole facts of the situation clearly in view. It is therefore doubtful whether *The Choice* can make the same appeal as the former play.

The situation may be explained in a few words. Mrs. Lilley's son, at the heroic instigation of his fiancée, Ella Christie, went out to the South African war, and got killed there in circumstances that have not yet come to light. Ella now has another suitor, Major Greig, who also went out, but who cannot be drawn to talk of his experiences. The Major is a strong and likeable sort of man, and even Mrs. Lilley and the servant Anna do their best to dispose Ella toward accepting him. It transpires, however, when Ella at last persuades her lover to talk about himself and his experiences, that he is responsible for the death of Walter Lilley, whom he had shot for nervousness or cowardice at a critical moment. This is the heart of the business, beaten out to the utmost through every relative emotion and impulse. The argument of the man, the sentiment and idealism of the woman; her remorse for the one, her repudiation and horror of the other, the normity of accepting as a husband the "murderer" of their dual victim—all this is done with extraordinary truth and insight. By degrees, however, the women's hysteria subsides. She has, after all, to make a choice: either to resign herself to the sacrificial remembrance of a weak man, or take common-sense in both hands, along with the real impulse of her heart, and marry the strong man who has been honest enough to tell the truth, and who will wait patiently for her choice. The problem is, should she and will she do it? We are left to wonder.

Mr. Monkhouse must have been gratified by the interpretation of the two principal characters by Miss Darragh, who is a peculiarly virile emotional actress, keen and searching at the right moments, and Mr. Ian Maclaren, whose mere physique as the Major contributed to the effect of his manly and sensitive argument. Incidentally, there are painful moments, as when Mrs. Lilley comes perilously near to being told the truth about her son. The resigned but grieving mother was done to the life by Miss Ada King, and the servant found a sympathetic exponent in Miss Louise Holbrook. It seems a pity that the situation could not be more sharply and briskly outlined to make so powerful a piece of writing more dramatically worth while. The performance was, nevertheless, well appreciated by the audience.

Mr. Riccardo Martin, oddly enough, attributes his serviceable voice to a severe cold, which, depriving him of a voice of poor quality, left in its place one which gained him a three years' engagement at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. Awaking one morning without a vestige of a voice, he consulted a throat specialist, and some months later, having focused a recently acquired new voice, he imparted his knowledge to the great Ternina, who obtained for him a number of pupils. He subsequently studied in Italy, eventually singing at the Metropolitan, the American operatic Mecca.

At the monthly meeting of the Urban Club at Anderton's Hotel on the 27th ult., Mr. Alban H. G. Doran occupied the chair, and Mr. Bernard F. Hartzhorne and Dr. F. J. Warwick were the vice chairmen. Sir William B. Richmond, K.C.B., R.A., Messrs. Henry Arthur Jones, Norman McKinnel, Percival Hodson, F.A.I., and W. L. Barrett were proposed by Sir Jas. Crichton Browne for membership, and Messrs. J. Fisher White, Charles Cruikshanks, Edward Jenner, and Chas. E. Fasch contributed to an agreeable entertainment of varied character.

"Rann's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ETIQUETTE AT THE THEATRE.

Many a one before now (writes "Playgoer" in the *Scots Pictorial*) has ventured to formulate rules of conduct for theatre-goers, it being generally recognised that there are some things which well-bred people, when sitting in a theatre, should do and some things they should avoid. For instance, it is considered, at this late day, the height of boorishness for a lady sitting in the front rows to allow a hat of towering dimensions to continue wobbling between the eyes of the audience and the stage throughout a performance. There was a time when this sort of thing was put down to mere silly vanity, but now those who do it are at once condemned by their fellow-spectators as ill-bred, and nothing else. Therefore, that is one of the things a lady must *not* do. And this calls to my mind some remarks a Scottish critic recently made upon one of the things a gentleman must not do. The critic to whom I refer finds the periodic visits of other men to the theatre-bar quite a thorn in the flesh. He says he wonders that we are not yet sufficiently civilised to see the extreme offensiveness of squeezing along between the seats every time the curtain falls, treading on old gentlemen's corns and on young ladies' trains, making it necessary for everybody to rise and make room, and distributing inconvenience and embarrassment generally. But not only that, he adds. Some (who seem to have brought such little peculiarities to a fine art) make a point of staying out in the bar until the next act has commenced, when they at once return with considerable haste, and consequently with still greater annoyance to the others. This is undoubtedly a nuisance, yet it must be admitted that it is well-nigh unavoidable. No doubt the gentlemen of whom the critic complains would be only too glad of subways from their individual seats to the bar, or elevated gangways by which they might pass over the heads of the audience, or falling these, some occult means by which they could, as the saying is, "get there without going"—anything, in fact, to avoid causing discomfort to others. But no such solution of the problem has yet come to hand. Then it must be considered that a large percentage of men find two or three hours a terrific time to go without a smoke, so that our critic's expression "to the bar" requires qualifying. Still, gentlemen should be prevailed upon to refrain from these meanderings as much as possible.

I think the most disgusting thing I ever saw in the way of deportment at the play was a man reading a newspaper while the performance proceeded. There he sat, a dull, bovine look on his face, and the paper held straight before his face, utterly dead to all the enthusiasm and enjoyment with which everybody else was following the play. I really don't know what that man was made of. I wish now I had stretched over and touched him, just to ascertain whether he—or it—was really alive. Next to reading a book at the table, I can conceive of nothing more calculated to produce the hump in an onlooker than this.

But there is a habit connected with theatre-going the surprising circumstances about which is that it has lived so long. I suppose since ever opera-glasses and lorgnettes were invented folks made use of these instruments while at the play to inspect each other in minute detail. Like staring at people in a public promenade, this seems to be one of those habits which were persevered in simply because they were originally indulged in by real society. One often hears a woman say to her child "Don't point"; not so often do we hear the equally important injunction "Don't stare." Well-bred people nowadays decry the opera-glass as a mere staring-glass, though one sees it used in this capacity now and then by people who know no better. We are improving slowly.

Actor, not Sceneshifter.

"A few years ago," writes Mr. Alfred Lester, in *London Opinion*, "I enacted the character of a scene-shifter in a duologue at the Palace Theatre, and, to the majority of the play-going public, anyway, I have been a scene-shifter ever since. I am spoken of as the scene-shifter from the Palace, as the man who used to oil the iron curtain, the fellow who swept up the paper snow—and was responsible for a record thaw—and I believe it was reported that it was mainly owing to my skill in working the thunder and lightning that I was eventually promoted to be an actor. During the time I was playing this character to which I have just referred, if one person said to another, 'Doesn't he look the part?'—not that many people have much idea of what a scene-shifter *does* look like when engaged in his arduous duties—the other would reply, 'Of course, it comes natural to him; it isn't acting; he's always been a scene-shifter; he's only doing in front of an audience what he's always been accustomed to do behind the scenes.'

"I have been an actor all my working life. I have played innumerable parts in my time, but the scene-shifter is the only one which has clung to me after the final performance. Unknown friends send me Christmas cards, with a picture of a portly lady falling through a trap, and a scene-shifter catching her underneath, with a flippant remark, such as 'Doing a bit better now, aren't you?' 'How do you like being an *actor*?' or, 'Some folks have all the *luck!*' I have even received a valentine, one of the long, coloured variety, which I imagined were extinct, representing a gentleman in his shirt-sleeves and wearing a paper cap, and possessing a nose of exaggerated rubicundity, engaged in the gentle art of scene-shifting, underneath which was written, 'Bit of a change, ain't it?'"

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(from our own correspondents.)

NEW YORK, May 25.—A fortnight without a single new production means the end of the theatrical season. But the roof gardens are being swept and garnished, and as the playhouses close these aerial resorts will open. Three of them lie within a stone's throw of each other, and the others are out of commission, with the possible exception of the roof of the American music hall where the excellent variety company engaged by William Morris gave performances last summer. The New Theatre is to have a roof garden, or, rather, a roof theatre, but it is not likely to be used until next year. The Casino, that "set the fashion" in midsummer night amusements of this sort over twenty years ago, has dropped out of the running, and the roof of Madison-square Garden, the scene of the Thaw tragedy, is hardly likely to open.

At the Jardin de Paris, on the combined roofs of the Criterion and New York Theatres, radical changes are being made, for this place has not been lying idle all winter, but has been used as a moving picture theatre. Consequently, the change may be described as the conversion of a hothouse into a refrigerator, for the New Yorkers are extremists in the matter of temperature as in many other things. The entertainment to be given at the Jardin de Paris will be called *The Follies of 1910*.

Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger's New Amsterdam Theatre, considered by many to be the handsomest playhouse in New York, has a fully appointed theatre on the roof, together with an illuminated garden of shrubs and tropical plants outside, to which the audience may repair during the intermissions. From the Aerial Gardens, as the place is aptly named, one may obtain a fine view of the city by night. This year Mr. Frederick Thompson, who did wonders at the Hippodrome and Coney Island, is going to transform the green alleys and promenades of the roof garden into a miniature Luna Park, and the place is to be a "veritable fairyland." In the theatre he will produce a summer review called *The Comic Supplement*, with Miss Maud Raymond, Miss Violet MacMillan, Mr. Joseph Cawthorne, Miss Carrie Perkins, and the Three Constantine Sisters.

"Mary Magdalene," a domestic tragedy, in three acts, by Frederick Hebbel, was performed at the Hackett Theatre on Sunday evening under the auspices of the Progressive Stage Society. This is a play of German provincial life. It was written in 1842, and is said to have been frequently acted in the country of its origin but never translated into English until a Harvard student, Mr. Richard Offner, undertook the task. Miss Rose Laddon re-arranged and adapted the play for the American stage. The tragedy occurs in the household of Master Anton, a carpenter. He is a stern father, who holds rigidly to the old theories of parental rule, and eventually quarrels with his son, Carl, a happy-go-lucky youth, who believes in the greatest freedom of behaviour. Carl is accused of stealing some jewellery, and his disgrace causes his mother's death. Estranged from his son, old Anton's love is now centred in his daughter Clara, a girl of eighteen. But she is led astray by a designing tax collector and confesses her fault to Friedrich the town clerk, whom she loves, and who rushes from her side to challenge her betrayer to a duel. Overwhelmed with shame the girl eventually commits suicide, while her brother Carl, acquitted of theft, goes abroad, leaving old Anton crushed and alone. Miss Sara Biala, a young Polish actress, appeared as Clara, Mr. Raphael Newman as Carl, and Mr. John Elwyn as Master Anton.

The New Amsterdam Theatre, where *Madame X.* has had a four months' run, closed on the 21st inst. Maxine Elliott's Theatre, where *Lulu's Husbands* was the attraction, also closed on the same date, and the curtain was rung down for the last time this season at the new City Theatre. At the Empire Theatre, *Caste* has been revived, and Mr. G. P. Huntley as Eccles receives a round of applause after every scene in which he appears. The season will end on June 4. The Lyceum and Nazimova's Thirty-ninth-street Theatre will close at the end of this week. At the Broadway Theatre the long run of *The Jolly Bachelors* is nearing its end, but *The Summer Widowers*, another musical play to be produced by Mr. Lew Fields, will be put on very shortly. *The Arcadians*, after a long run at the Liberty Theatre, has been transferred to the Knickerbocker, and may stay there through the summer.

Clara Morris (Mrs. F. C. Harriott), the well-known American actress, who retired from the stage many years ago, is lying seriously ill at her home in Riverdale-avenue near New York City. Her sight is failing, and it is feared that she will become totally blind.

Amongst those present at the Covent Garden Theatre on Tuesday to witness *Samson and Delila* were the Duchess of Rutland, Lady Marjorie, Lady Violet, and Lady Diana Manners, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Countess of Londesborough, the Countess of Clarendon, the Earl and Countess of Chesterfield, the Countess of Lonsdale, and the Countess of Craven. Also present were the Earl of Portsmouth, Viscountess Helmsley, Lady Carew, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, Captain the Hon. and Mrs. Henry Denison, Lord and Lady Alwyne Compton, Lord Westbury, Sir Spencer and Lady Maryon-Wilson, and Mr. and Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild.

The receiver for the first debenture holders of the Crystal Palace Company has issued a summary statement of the affairs of the company. This shows gross liabilities of £545,499, of which, after the deduction of £4,968 owing to two fully-secured creditors, £4,024, the estimated value of securities held by six partly-secured creditors, £2,523 owing to preferential creditors, and £509,927, loans on debenture bonds in the hands of 721 holders, £24,056 is estimated by the officers of the company to rank for dividend. This leaves a surplus of £62,101, there being assets, including the Palace grounds and buildings, valued at £555,000, estimated to produce £598,608, of which £596,084 is available to meet the claims of the debenture holders. Deducting the estimated surplus on the creditors' account, there is a deficiency on share capital of £27,065, which is returned as the loss on working from Dec. 31, 1907, when there was a deficiency of £9,207, to Jan. 31, 1909. The failure of the company is attributed to the enormous cost of the original undertaking, which amounted to £1,500,000, instead of £150,000, and to the heavy charges for maintenance and repairs.

In view of the recent formation of a British Society of Composers, whose object will be to collect fees for the public performances of the works of its members, it is interesting to glance at some figures published as the result of a year's operations by the Society of German Composers. The gross receipts for 1909, it appears, were £13,440—an increase of some £3,000 over the previous year's earnings. Of this sum about £12,500 was received in fees for performing rights, and 80 per cent. of that amount went into the pockets of the composers, publishers, and librettists. The society was established in 1904 for the purpose of protecting composers' rights, and since its formation it has been instrumental in collecting close on £44,000. Some 373 composers and seventy-six publishers are represented by the organisation, in the list of the former being Richard Strauss, Engelbert Humperdinck, and Georg Schumann. A far older association formed for a similar purpose is the French Société des Auteurs, which has existed for over half a century. Last year it distributed among its members a sum of not less than £138,640.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondents.)

SYDNEY, April 27.—Royal.—The J. C. Williamson Grand Opera Company, in the middle of great booking for *Madame Butterfly*, withdrew that music-drama and put on a revival of *La Bohème*. The cast included a new prima donna, Mme. Maria Pampari, who possesses a keen intelligence, which makes one wish to see her in brighter moments than Mimi's sad fate accords her. Pretty, dainty Elly Barnato was Musetta, and she made her frivolous and gay in fitting style. Mr. Frederick Blarney was an energetic Rudolph. Benoit, Schaunard, and Marcel fell to Messrs. Ferguson Allan, Arthur Crane, and Antonio Zenelli, and Mr. Orme Darvall was a demonstrative Colline. A change cast included John Zerga, Mabel Bachelor, and Bel Sorel as Rudolph, Musetta, and Mimi. This evening Miss Amy Castles will be Cho Cho San in a one night's revival of *Madame Butterfly*. *Carmen* is to follow *La Bohème*.

Mr. J. C. Williamson is now on his way with Mrs. Williamson to London, preferably to arrange for grand Italian opera with Mme. Melba, and in search of attractions for his many enterprises. His pantomime *Aladdin* at Her Majesty's is still experiencing capital booking, and no change is at present contemplated.

"Count Hannibal" at the Criterion, with Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton as the foes ultimately united, is attracting the thousands who love a menu of strong elements served up in first-class style.

"In London Town" at the Palace pleases Allan Hamilton and Max Maxwell's patrons so well that the production of *Revenge* is put off until the 30th.

At the Tivoli the great Houdini is accepting all sorts of challenges to free himself from every kind of bondage in all possible conditions, and in no one instance has he failed. Mr. Harry Rickards has a bill full of good names.

West's Pictures flit from the Glaciarum in a few days to the Palace. Wirth's Circus is booming. Spencer's Theatrescope knows no diminution in attendance. Mrs. Beresford Brodie gave a most attractive recital by orchestra and on the piano of her compositions—a complete success.

MELBOURNE, April 26.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Musgrove.—*When Knighthood Was in Flower* was produced in the presence of a packed house for the first time on Saturday evening. As Mary Tudor Miss Nellie Stewart has one of those showy parts that suits her exactly. She goes through the rôle from first to last with that unflagging animation which indicates her appreciation of a medium for the display of her histrionic ability. Mr. Harcourt Beatty is well placed in the part of Charles Brandon, his acting throughout being natural and convincing. Henry VIII. found a worthy exponent in Mr. Eardley Turner. Mr. J. B. Atholwood was admirable as the Duke of Buckingham. Another excellent sketch carefully thought out is Mr. Gregan McMahon's Duke de Longueville, the actor being quite absorbed in the character. Miss Madelaine Meredith made a stately Queen Katherine, and Mistress Anne Boleyn and Mistress Jane Seymour were admirably portrayed by Miss Florence Gleeson and Miss Gwen Burroughs. The production throughout is mounted on a lavish scale, the view of Windsor Park being especially good. The reception of the piece was of the heartiest description.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—*The Dollar Princess* is being numerously patronised. The opera is elaborately mounted and well played.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—Though now in its sixth week, Messrs. Meynell and Clarke's excellent production of *The Arcadians* continues to fill this theatre. Sombra is admirably undertaken by Miss Maie Sydney; while Mr. Cromwell as Smith provides with Mr. Walls (the blighted jockey) as much comedy as the piece will hold. Judging from present appearances, *The Arcadians* will hold the boards till the return of Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton who play a short farewell season here in June.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*From Shopgirl to Duchess* is entirely to the taste of patrons here, the theatre being filled nightly. Miss Eugenie Duggan as the heroine is excellent, and is ably supported by a strong company. New scenery has been painted for the production.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—Mr. Harry Rickards is providing a generous bill-of-fare for his numerous patrons just now, and as a consequence "standing room only" is available after eight o'clock nightly. The chief performers include Carter, conjurer and illusionist; the Howard Brothers, in a clever thought-reading act; Vasco, the "mad musician," in an amusing musical turn; and Alexandra and Bertie, who give an interesting trapeze act; and other pleasing turns are contributed by Graham and Dent, Leonard Nelson, Olga Grey, Billy Williams, Clarence Tisdale, the Banvards, Two Prices, Con Moreni, Johnnie Gilmore, and Alena Lyndon.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—A complete change of programme was presented here on Saturday by the Anderson Trio, acrobats; the Tylers, trapeze act; Brightie Smith, comedienne; Maud Fanning, coon impersonator; Sandarte, lightning artist; Rose Sisters, song and dance artists; Ernest Pitcher, descriptive vocalist; Farrell and Gaffney, patter comedians; and many more. New pictures were shown by the Miorama.

West's Palace was filled on Saturday evening when an entirely new series of pictures were submitted, and the advances made in cinematographic art were demonstrated in several fine films. Excellent music is provided by West's Military Band.

Tait's Pictures attracted a record house on Saturday night at the Glaciarium. All the films met with great approval.

The new series of animated pictorial productions presented at Olympia on Saturday night by Spencer's Theatrescope drew an attendance that filled the huge auditorium to overflowing. The Chronomegaphone reproduced Harry Lauder and Billy Murray.

MELBOURNE, May 3.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business Manager, Mr. Harry Musgrove.—*When Knighthood was in Flower* has been filling this theatre since its opening night. Miss Nellie Stewart is seen at her best in the character of Princess Mary, and is ably supported by a strong company. *When Knighthood was in Flower* can only be played for ten more nights, as on May 14 Mr. Hugh Ward, with his company of comedians will commence a season in a farcical comedy entitled *The Girl from Rector's*.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—*The Dollar Princess* is in the last two weeks of its run. After this play is withdrawn on May 13 Miss Nellie Stewart's company will become tenants of the theatre for a few days, after which the Royal Comic Opera Company will return in *A Waltz Dream*.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—*The Arcadians* commenced its sixth week on Saturday, and, judging from present appearances, seems destined to enjoy a record run.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*From Shopgirl to Duchess* will be staged until next Saturday, when Mr. William Anderson announces a revival of the popular *Village Blacksmith*. On Tuesday, May 10, Mr. Anderson has lent the theatre for a matinée in aid of the benevolent fund of the Green room Club. Artists from all the theatres will appear, and the performance will be under the patronage of their Excellencies the Governor-General and the State Governor.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon. — The reigning attraction here at present is Carter the magician, who succeeds in completely mystifying his audience. Allan Shaw, the "King of Coins," made his appearance on Saturday night. Other favourite artists on the bill include Olga Gray, Graham and Dent, Johnnie Gilmore, Clarence Tisdale, Vasco the Mad Musician, Alexander and Bertie, Billie Williams, Alma Lyndon, George Sorlie, Leonard Wilson, Two Prices, The Huxams, and Con Moreni.

Saturday night's programme at West's Palace was presented to a full house. Every item on the bill was photographically excellent, and the subjects were chosen from English, American, and Continental manufacturers.

A crowded audience greeted the change of programme at Tait's Pictures on Saturday night at the Glaciarium. The programme is of unusual variety.

A crowded house watched the new programme presented by Spencer's Theatrescope company at Olympia on Saturday. The usual high standard in the selection of subjects and projection of the pictures was maintained.

DRAMATIC COPYRIGHT.

to the editor of the era.

Sir,—If your correspondent "S. X. Court," whose letter appeared in your issue of May 21, will refer to *The Era* dated Jan. 22, he will find therein a letter from me, nearly two columns in length, on "Dramatic Copyright," and will see that I there dealt with the inconsistency to which he draws attention existing between the decision in Chatterton *v.* Cave and the Appeal Court judgment in my action against *Amasis*.

He appears to doubt the possibility of the Court of Appeal having decided that the plot of a play is unprotected by the Dramatic Copyright Acts, and I cannot, therefore, do better that quote briefly from the shorthand-writers' report of the judgment itself, delivered on May 18, 1909.

The Lord Chief Justice said: "Now, the Plaintiff's Particulars are divided into four heads. . . . The first group . . . was headed 'Similarities in the plots,' the next group is 'Similar principal characters,' the third group is 'Similarities in ideas and in words,' and the last group is 'Scenic similarities.' I shall have to point out presently that for the purposes of the main question, namely, whether there was infringement or not, the third group is the only group that has to be considered, namely, 'Similarities in ideas and in words.'"

His Lordship then proceeded to support this view by quoting from Farwell, J., in Tate *v.* Fulbrook, the subject matter in which case, it will be remembered, was an entertainment which contained no plot at all. In the course of his quotation his Lordship read the sentence: "It is the dramatic piece as a whole that is protected by the Act," apparently seeing nothing inconsistent with his contention that "ideas and words" were alone protected. (It should be noted that the "ideas" set forth did not refer to "plot," but to minor incidental similarities.) Subsequently, his Lordship in several places made it clear that in his view everything depended on *verbal* copying. Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton followed on the same lines, observing: "Before leaving the question of the plots, let us see how far the literary work has been appropriated, because unless the embodiment in words of these plots has been to a substantial extent appropriated, the case must break down"—a sentence which seems to support "S. X. Court's" suggestion that the Court confused dramatic with literary copyright.

Your correspondent complains that he cannot find a report of the case in the law books. It may well be that the involved nature of the judgments defied the making of an intelligible report, and the best that I can do is to refer him to the report in the *Times* of May 19, 1909, which records the principal point that interests him, namely, the ruling out of consideration of everything except similarities in words.

It is in June, I believe, that the International Copyright Convention is to be signed by Great Britain, but so long as the domestic copyright law remains in its present chaotic condition the signing of the Convention will be nothing but a ridiculous farce.—Yours faithfully,

W. GUNN GWENNET.

196, The Grove, Hammersmith, W., June 4.

Distraints have been levied upon Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's goods, both at her theatre and at her private house, on behalf of M. Henry Bataille, who recently gained an action with £800 damages for non-fulfilment of an undertaking by Mme. Bernhardt to bring out his version of *Faust*. Her lawyers intervened at once, and obtained from the Courts leave to pay the amount in fortnightly instalments of £80. M. Bataille intends to devote the £800 to bestowing a prize of £160 upon the author of the best book of verse, and to the production of the play selected by a jury as original and clever.

Under the guidance of Mr. James Richardson, the courteous acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, the staff had an enjoyable annual outing on Sunday last. Leaving Bradford at 7.50 for Windermere, the merry party a couple of hours later reached Lake Side, where a steam launch was in waiting. By that means they proceeded to Ambleside, where lunch was partaken of at the Queen Hotel. Four-in-hands were employed in a lovely drive to Dungeon Ghyll, and on returning to the hotel at 5 p.m. dinner was served, the health of Mr. John Hart being heartily drunk. The party left Ambleside at 6.15, and arrived in Bradford, after a delightful trip, at 11.

A Flea Circus.

Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, who built the New York Theatre, or, as it was then called, Olympia, New York, and planned its roof garden, now runs the Victoria Theatre "across the way," which has a fine garden and miniature "farm" on its roof, stocked with a real cow and furnished with rustic bridges, waterfalls, windmills, and sundry appurtenances calculated to create a *rus in urbe* environment. Both the theatre downstairs and the roof garden are under the actual management of Mr. William Hammerstein, who has remained at the helm of the Victoria whilst his father and brother have devoted themselves to grand opera. Mr. Hammerstein has promised to produce a burlesque of *Madame X.*, with fifteen characters in the trial scene, in the roof garden on Decoration Day, which falls on May 30. Mme. Polaire, the French dancer, has been engaged for the second week, and other novelties will follow. It is announced that Jack Johnson, the pugilist, will appear here for one week after the big fight in San Francisco at a salary of $2,500. Then we are promised an electrical milking machine for the long-suffering cow, as well as a flea circus and a new game called "ringing the ducks."

The flea circus comes from Germany, and it is said that the fleas understand only their native language. According to the announcements, they will do various gymnastic feats, such as walking a tight-rope, leaping hurdles, running races, and turning somersaults. What protection the audience will receive in case the performers become unruly and break bounds has not been stated. The new game, mentioned above, is to be played with light papier-maché rings and the ducks that live on the roof. During the intermissions visitors will have the privilege of trying to throw the rings over the heads of the ducks, and of taking the ducks home with them if they succeed.

IS YOUR TYRE EQUIPMENT UP TO DATE?

Reason Thus about tyres—

The car you are driving to-day is probably far more flexible, more reliable, and more economical than your car of a year or so ago. This is as it should be in a progressive age, but—

HAVE YOUR TYRES KEPT ABREAST OF THIS ADVANCE? REMEMBER, THE TYRE WORLD DOES MOVE.

To enjoy the full benefit of its progression, specify—

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 13.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—Pier T., Eastbourne.
ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—T. R., Dewsbury.
ARRAH-NA-POGUE.—T. R., Edmonton.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER. — Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Alexandra T., New Washington.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Worthing.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA Co.—Grand T., Leeds.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—Hippodrome, Bolton.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Ashton.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—T. R., Chatham.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Bradford.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., York.
DIVER'S LUCK.—T. R., South Shields.
EAST LYNNE (CROKE).—T. R., Woolwich.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—New T., Cardiff.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Star T., Liverpool.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
FAST LIFE, A.—T. R., Middlesbro'.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Ealing.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—O. H., Cork.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—O. H., Doncaster.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Belfast.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
GIRL OF MY HEART.—T. R., Portsmouth.
HER FATAL PAST.—P. O. W., Salford.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—T. R., Sunderland.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Halifax.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—Alexandra T., Hull.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAIS.—Listowel.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—O. H., St. Helens.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—T. R., Bristol.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—Palace T., Newcastle.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Hippodrome, Salford.
MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE.—Herne Bay.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
MY IRISH MOLLY.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
MY LADY BELLAMY.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
NEW BOY, THE.—Weston-super-Mare.
NIHILIST, THE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Star T., Swansea.
PASSION OF LIFE.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Prince's T., Bristol.
RAYNOR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Crown T., Eccles.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
SINS OF A CITY.—Empire T., Oldham.
SORROWS OF SATAN.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
THEODOR'S FLUTTER.—King's T., Glasgow.
TREE, HERBERT BEERBOHM.—Southampton and Bournemouth.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Junction T., M'chester.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Rochdale.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Darlington.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—T. R., Bolton.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—T. R., Leicester.
WHY SMITH LEFT HOME.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
WITH EDGED TOOLS.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Grand T., Hull.
1030 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Smethwick.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timply consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

GLASGOW Town Council minutes show that the request on behalf of Mr. Milton Rosmer, of the Glasgow Repertory Theatre Company, for permission to give a series of Shakespearean plays in the open air during June, July, and August, within the Botanic Gardens, has been refused.

"THE ENGLISH ROSE," by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, will be reproduced by Mr. Robert Arthur's company at Kennington Theatre for one week only, commencing on Monday. *The Romany Rye*, which was revived at Kennington Theatre a fortnight since, concludes its run to-night.

MRS. ALFRED LYTTELTON, writing on the proposed Shakespeare Memorial in a contemporary, says: "An opportunity now offers itself for erecting a great memorial to Shakespeare, whose tercentenary falls in 1916, in the shape of a properly equipped and adequately endowed National Theatre. A very influential committee has been formed, consisting of leading writers and actors of the day and distinguished representatives of almost all the functions of social life. Recognising that at present it is useless to expect any Government to take action, the members of the committee have decided to appeal to the public. They desire to make the theatre a real memorial to Shakespeare, and therefore to be the gift of large masses of people represented by small subscriptions. But help will be needed, and surely will be forthcoming, from the generous rich. Already one man has realised that to give a large sum towards the foundation of a great National Theatre in London is far the most attractive, interesting, and influential form which public benefaction can take at this moment. The enterprise has had a magnificent start. It is only a question of time before one or two other rich men will realise this also, and the thing will be done."

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months	0	6 6	Three Months	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

J. E. EDEN (*Bermondsey*).—*We have no record of any fire at the hall you name after 1907. It was burnt down during the proprietorship of the late Mr. Will Riley on Jan. 28, 1896.*

A. W. C.—*We presume that Samuel French, Ltd., of Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., publish your plays. If so, put yourself into communication with Mr. Wentworth Hogg, the manager of the company. You might also write to Mr. Moverley Sharp, secretary of the Theatres Alliance.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

CLIFTON.—On Sunday, June 5, at 224, High-road, Lee, the wife of Herbert Clifton, £1,000 voice, of a son. Both doing well.

LEVAINE.—June 9, at 112, Park-road, Wallsend, Annie, wife of Harry Levaine, of a daughter.

PAUL.—June 2, at Redcar, to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Paul, of Paul's Cadets, Redcar, a daughter.

DEATHS.

BURNOT.—June 6, at her residence, South Malton-road, Canning-town, Mrs. Walter Burnot (Polly Randall), aged 57.

MASON—Cornelius Benjamin Mason, the beloved husband of Emily Alice Mason, on May 30, at 253, Aston-road, Birmingham, aged 63. Deeply mourned. Professionally known as Cornelius Latelle, of the Three Latelles, high-wire cyclists. Foreign papers please copy.

IN MEMORIAM.

HARVEY.—In loving remembrance of my dear and only sister, Lizzie (Mrs. Frank Harvey), who passed away June 4, 1907. Never forgotten by ANNIE, Johannesburg, South Africa.

LE FRE.—In ever-loving memory of our dear son Albert, who died June 17, 1905. Never forgotten by his sorrowing father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. ALBERT LE FRE. "Oh, for a touch of a vanished hand, and the sound of a voice that is still."

STEPHENS.—On June 12, 1900, Louis Eugene Benjamin (L. E. B.) Stephens, writer and dramatist, aged 38. Inserted by his wife, IVY RIVERS, and his three only children, JOSEPHINE, EILY, and STEPHANIE.

THE Association of Parisian Theatre Directors has held a meeting, and has sent Mme. Sarah Bernhardt the following signed telegram:—"A French author, disregarding the great debt which dramatic art owes to you, has seen fit in your absence to distrain upon the receipts of your theatre and even upon your personal effects. We protest most indignantly against so outrageous a proceeding. Authorise us, your colleagues and friends, to act on your behalf. We all embrace you."

AT the matinée at the Town Hall, Maidenhead, on Thursday, in aid of the Animals' Hospital of Our Dumb Friends' League and the Mayor of Maidenhead's Poor Fund, an attractive entertainment was provided by Mr. Hugh Bagot Chester, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Alfred de Grey, Miss Iris Hawkins, Miss Noona MacQuoid, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Florence Phillips, Sir Simeon Stuart, Bt., Mr. Leslie Stiles, and Miss Margaret Lumley.

M. ROSTAND, it is said, considers that M. Guitry's performance of Chantecler is inadequate. The poet gave a copy of his play to M. Albert Lambert, of the Théâtre Français, who had recited the part on the concert platform, and wrote on the fly-leaf: "To Albert Lambert, who created 'Chantecler.'" M. Guitry was, naturally, annoyed. At a recent benefit performance in Paris M. Rostand recited a sonnet to the late Coquelin, in which he described what a "Chantecler" the famous actor would have made. M. Guitry was again angry, until it was explained that the sonnet was written a year ago.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Armadale, Miss Sybil
Ashwynne, Miss M.
Athelda
Austin, Mrs.
Banfield, Miss Iris
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Barrie, Mr. K. Scott
Beechman, Mr. Thos.
Bellman, Miss Lottie
Bergeron, Mrs.
Beringer, Miss Esme
Blyth, Mr. J. S.
Bonaparte, Mr. Juan
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Brougham, Mr. and Mrs W. H.
Browns, The
Burley, Mr. W.
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Cancellor, Mr. Leyton
Cartwright, Mr. A.
Charcout, Mr. G.
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Clevere, Miss Amy
Cliffe, Mr. H. C.
Coleman, Miss F.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Corbin, Mr.
Costello, Mr. Tom
Court, Miss D. D.
Coyne, Mr. E. J.
Crawford and Johnson
Currie, Miss Lily
Dandy, George
Davis, Mr. W. E.
Day, Mr. Geo. R.
Denton, Miss Dolly
Desormes, Mr. J.
Digby, Mr. Chas.
Dobell, Mr. E. H.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Duncan, Mr. O.
Escourt, Mr.
Everard, Mr. Francis
Finucane, Miss M.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Forbes, Mr. Alec
Fordwych, Mr. Herbert
Fox, Mr. Will H.
Froude, Miss Kate
Gobbett, Mr. T. J.
Gray, Mr. Heaton
Groves, Mr. and Mrs J. H.
Hall and Earl
Harcourt, Miss Joan
Hare, Miss W.
Hast, Mr. Walter
Heale, Mr. Jack
Heath, Mr. Guyton
Hertz, Mr. Carl
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Hunt, Mrs. J.
Imeson, Mr. E. E.
Jackson, Mr.
James, Mr. David
John, Mr. Arthur
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Edith
Kingsley, Mr. Cecil
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kremo, Mr. Karl
La Dor, Mr. J.
Lancaster, Mr. J.
Landon, Mr. J.
Lang, Mr. J. P.
Lawton, Mr. E.
Leslie, Mr. A.
Lilly, Mr. E. C.
Lisbon and Lester
Lloyd, Mr. H. C.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lorimer, Mr. J.
Lukishamas, The
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Mackinnon, Mr. A. U.
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Mars, Mr. Harry
Marsh, Mr. Alec
Martens, Capt.
Martin, Mr. Albert L.
Mayke, Mr. T.
McCamm, Prof.
Meynall, Mr. Clive
Mozart, Mr. George
Neale, Mr. V.
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Nolan, Mr. Alf
Nord, Miss Serene
Pasha, Miss Marie
Pattison, Mr. Bert
Pawle, Mr. Lennox
Payne, Mr. W.
Pelham, Mr. Paul
Phillott, Mr. Gordon
Purcell and Newns
Raymond, Miss Alice
Re Vell, Miss Rosa
Robertson, Mr. Ian
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Rosse, Mr. Russell
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Ruttledge, Miss Francis
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Seymour, Mr. E. A. O.
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Shaw, Miss Nancy.
Shine, Mr. W. E.
Smiles, Mr. F. F.
Squire, Mr. Reginald
Soldene, Miss Emily
St. Audris, Miss Estella
Stratton, Mr. E.
Stuart, Mr. Barney
Temple, Mr. Richard
Terris, Mr. T.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Titus, Mr.
Tregonwell, Mr. A.
Trieve, Mr. Richard
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vasco, Mr. W.
Vine, Mr. Tom
Von Leer, Miss Sara B.
Walker, Mr. Booby
Ward, Mr. David
Ware, Miss N.
Webb, Miss Ada
Wells, Miss Pattie
Wentworth, Mr. C. P.
Weston, Miss Lucy
Wheeler, Miss Daphine
Whyte, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Mr. E. H.
Wilson, Miss Nellie
Wilton, Miss F.
Wun Hi Ching Soo

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Violet Vanbrugh—Saturday, June 11.
Dolly Elsworthy—Saturday, June 11.
Ernest Leicester—Saturday, June 11.
Sandy McNab—Saturday, June 11.
Dr. Walford Bodie—Saturday, June 11.
May Davis—Sunday, June 12.
Julia Neilson—Sunday, June 12.
Bob Leonard—Sunday, June 12.
Frank Coyle—Sunday, June 12.
Ethel Haydon—Monday, June 13.
Louis Bradfield—Monday, June 13.
Joan Pereira—Monday, June 13.
Gay Silvani—Monday, June 13.
Kitty Loftus—Thursday, June 16.
Harry Lupino Lane—Thursday, June 16.
George Giddens—Friday, June 17.
Constance Elgin—Friday, June 17.
Claire Pauncefort—Friday, June 17.
Alfredo Borelli—Friday, June 17.
Wilton Reed—Friday, June 17.
Ted Volta—Friday, June 17.
Taff Volta—Friday, June 17.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

MAY 1. Charlotte Louisa Tate (Lottie Collins), aged 42.
,, 2. Fred De Vere.
,, 2. Norma Dumayne (Eliza Caroline Burgess).
,, 3. Charles H. Phelps.
,, 4. Mrs. Murray.
,, 4. Louie Freeland (Mulligan).
,, 8. Boris Wolfowsky.
,, 9. John Bradley, aged 46.
,, 10. Mary Philomena Heath-Saunders (Maud Hayden), aged 38.
,, 13. Thea Symnes (Mrs. Hansard Blair).
,, 15. Mathew Russell Rosse.
,, 15. J. C. Jimson, aged 47.
,, 17. Mrs. Poynton.
,, 20. Edyth Wynter.
,, 20. Isabella Robertson (Mrs. Charles Urquhart), aged 84.
,, 21. George John Parris, aged 79.
,, 21. John Matt, aged 66.
,, 22. Amy Blanchard, aged 66.
,, 22. Norman St. Clair, aged 44.
,, 25. Henry Taylor, aged 67.
,, 26. Edwin Charles Beckett, aged 4 months.
,, 26. Mrs. Wolstenholme, aged 51.
,, 30. Cornelius Benjamin Mason, aged 63.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.
J. ROLAND KAY & CO.
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,
from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

櫻 花 探
PHONE, 7607 GERRARD. THE PHONE, 7607 GERRARD.
'CATHAY' RESTAURANT
Open 11 a.m. till 11.30 p.m. Open on Sundays.
A PIONEER FIRST-CLASS CHINESE RESTAURANT, RUN ON UP-TO-DATE EUROPEAN METHODS.
. . CHINESE DISHES in great variety, . . and pure CHINA TEA (specially imported).
AMERICAN AND OTHER ARTISTES who have been accustomed to occasional Chinese Meals will find the menu at the "Cathay Restaurant" almost identical with that of the best Chinese restaurants in New York and other American cities.
SPECIAL NOTICE. The management gives special attention to little Dinner and After-Theatre Parties which may be arranged over the telephone or by correspondence.
22, DENMAN STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINÉE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINÉE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries. Pictures of the Royal Funeral, "The Scarab," a New Magical Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions, &c., &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
Three Sisters Athletas, Franco Piper, Lalla Selbini, Baron's Burlesque Menagerie, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON,"
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
The Derby on the Bioscope, Petit Roberto, Signor Barbalonga,
Mazuz and Mazetto, Valazzi, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Clarice Vance, Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon, Radford and Winchester, Funeral Procession in Actual Natural Colours of His Late Majesty King Edward VII. on Kinemacolor, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Always Merry and Bright.
Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, T. E. Dunville, Harry Tate "Flying," Ernest Rees, Alex. Dagmar, Dan Crawley, Bros. Horne, Darracq Whizzing the Wheel in a Motor-car, Tony Black, Daisy James, Hammon and Wyatt, Farr and Farland, Dorothy Gould, Minnie Mace, Bert Erroll, Pool and Maguire, Radie Furman, Geoffreys and Benson. Open 7.45; Saturday Matinées at 2.15. The Great Production of "Chantecler," Monday, June 20, a Feathered Fantasy in Three Fyttes. Hi! Cockalorum, Chuck, Chuck, Chuck!

TIVOLI.
WILKIE BARD, LIANE D'EVE,
Lilian Herlein, Lennox Pawle and Robert Whyte, jun., in "The Odd Man Out," Ella Shields, Herbert Clifton, Tom Jones, Gladys Huxley, Jack and Evelyn, Alec Chentrens, Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Morny Cash, Madge Osmond, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
Overture, Lulu Lord, Mona Garrick, M. and S. Wood, Reg. Beauchamp, Rousbys, Katie Marsh, Dare Austin and Company, Ella Shields, Ian Colquhoun, Harry Tate and Company, Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Muir and Bartlett and Co., Randolph Slater, Ashley's Circus, The Almas, Elsie Athos, Conn Colyer, Bobbie Burns, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, Rose Hamilton, Joe Mae.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Harry Tate in "Billiards," Daisy James, Wilson Hallett, The Donatos, J. P. Ling, Radie Furman, Henry A. Moore, Cora Corina, Ruffell's Bioscope, Haley's Juveniles.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal 1 o'clock, Monday. Mr. Wentworth Croke presents "East Lynne," Chris Baker, Tom Hulme, Donnas Trio, Poole and Maguire, Elsie Kedwards, Allan and Austin, Bioscope, Jenny May, Tennyson and Wallis. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, June 6,
Henry Herne and Co., Nan Farren, Jim Zanora and Co., Randolph Sutton, Lillian French, International Trio, Hubert Stewart's Company, Bros. Ford, Bioscope, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, June 13. Phil Ray, Geo. D'Albert, Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, Dave O'Toole, Milsted Bell Trio, Olga Doré, Little Zola, Ernest Montefiore and Co., Wallis and Kearns, Rita Rhylle, Bert Bowden, Lily Denville, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER
will take place at the
WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE,
TO-MORROW, SUNDAY,
at 7.30 p.m.,
MARTIN HARVEY, Esq.,
in the Chair.
Contributions, to be placed on the Chairman's List, will be gratefully acknowledged.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Wilhelm Ganz, Esq.
Tickets (inclusive of wine), £1 1s.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary.
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colston, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half-term commenced Mon., June 6. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
June 15, at 8 o'clock, Performance of "Les Cloches de Corneville" by the Operatic Class, at the Kingsway Theatre. Shelley Fisher, Secretary. Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET.
Principals: Cairns James, Ernest D'Auban.
President: George Edwardes, Esq.
Half Term begins Monday, June 6.
Pupils may join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Dramatic Art, Characterisation, Singing, Voice Production, Fencing, Sight Singing, and Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy.
Amateurs Coached and Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Companies Stage-managed.
Lessons in Voice Culture and Public Speech given to Members of the Parliamentary, Clerical, Legal, and other Professions.
Apply, Secretary. Telephone, Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. First-class companies required for Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12. Fast booking, 1911. Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, July 4.
and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably vacant, Grand Theatre, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 12, 19, 26, for Musical or other High-class Attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, Dottridge and Longden.
Vacant Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3 (3 nights), Oct. 31, Nov. 10, 11, 12 (3 nights).
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON, S.E. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Camberwell Palace and the Camberwell Empire.—Apply, Dramaticus, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.E. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MERTHYR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
MERTHYR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.
Visited by all high-class Companies, including "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "When Knights Were Bold," Moody-Manners, &c.
Managers are requested to apply now for dates, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards, to A. Jackson Withers, at above.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant for No. 1 Attractions only.
Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, onwards.
Can entertain a big Panto. Xmas Production.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Jan. 9, on.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates, July 25, Oct. 17 (Musical Comedy).
Vacant next Spring, Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 10, and 24.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson. Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager,
Mr. Charles Revill.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vac. Nov. 7 and 14. Fast booking 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 5s., 8vo, Cloth. By Post, 5s. 4d.
THIRD EDITION.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,
Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX.

	Page.
Accidents, Compensation for	53, 209
Act of Paris	119
Actor, Illness of	11
,, Incompetence of	16
Adaptations, Copyright in	110
Agents	129
,, Award as to	131
,, Commission	129
Apprentices	36
Arbitrator's Awards	219
Austria-Hungary, Copyright with	116
Author, Who is the	87
Awards, Arbitrator's	219
Ballets	66
Band Music	101
Barring Clause	41
Berlin Convention	119, 186
Berne Convention	116, 177
Bill Matter, Clause as to	34
"Book," Meaning of	83
Booth	65
Children on the Stage	60
Cinematograph, Rules of the L.C.C. as to	73, 238
Cinematographic Performances and Copyright	101
Compensation for Accidents	53, 209
Consideration for Contract	1
Contract	1
,, Damages for Breach of	43
,, Determination of	3
,, Made by Letters	2
,, Meaning of	1
,, Music Hall	34
,, Stamp on	3
,, Theatrical	4
,, Variation of Written	2
,, With Infant	36
Copyright	83
,, Assignment of	87
,, Colonial	124
,, Dramatic	83
,, Essentials for	85
,, in Adaptations	110
,, in "Gag"	100
,, in Situations	98
,, in United States	120, 194
,, International	116
,, Licence to Perform	88
,, Musical	84, 160
,, None in Titles	90
,, not Infringed by Cinematograph	101
,, Performance	92
,, under Berne Convention	116, 177
,, Registration of	86
,, Remedies for Infringement of	105
,, Term of	89
Copyright Act, Dramatic, 1833	147
,, ,, 1842	149
,, ,, International, 1844	167
,, ,, International, 1886	118, 170
,, ,, (Musical Compositions), 1882	108, 160
,, ,, (Musical Compositions), 1888	107, 162
,, ,, Musical, 1902	114, 163
,, ,, Musical, 1906	114, 165
County Council, Granting Licences	77
,, ,, Regulations of London	234
Criticism	46, 125
Crowds may be a nuisance	50
Custom of the Profession	21
Damages for Breach of Contract	43
Dance, Performing Right in	100
Dancing, Licence for	74
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	144
Disorderly Conduct in Theatre	46
Distance, how determined	42
Dramatic Piece? What is a	93
Dramatisation of Novels	102
Drunkenness no Excuse	16
Duologue, When a Stage Play	68
Excise Licences	80
Exits	234
Fines	17
Fraud in Contracts	3
Garnisheeing Salary	35
Hire, defined	71
Hissing in Theatres	46
Illness of Actor	11
Incompetence of Actor	16
Infants	36
Infringement of Copyright, Remedies for	105
Injunctions	37
International Copyright	116
Letters, Contracts made by	2
Libel	127
Licence, Excise	80
,, for Children	60
,, for Cinematograph	73
,, Music and Dancing	74
,, Lord Chamberlain's	70
,, Provisional	70
,, Stage Play	70
,, Theatrical	64
Liquidated Damages	40
London County Council, Regulations of	234
Lord Chamberlain, Extent of Authority	68
,, ,, Regulations of	232
,, ,, Stage Play Licence	70
,, ,, Stage Play Licence, Fees of	71
Management and Audience	46
Mechanical Instruments, Infringement of Copyright by	112
Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Mistake in Contract	3
Music, Copyright in	107
,, Licence for	74
,, and Dancing Licence	74
Musical Compositions Act, 1882	108, 160
Musical Compositions Act, 1888	107, 162
Musical Copyright Act, 1902	114, 163
Musical Copyright Act, 1906	114, 165
"No Play, No Pay," Meaning of	29
Novels, Dramatization of	102
Nuisance caused by Crowds	50
Opera, Copyright in	111
Owner of Unlicenced Premises Liable	64
Payment and no room	48
Penalties	71
,, for unlicenced Music and Dancing	79
,, for unlicenced Plays	71
,, for sale of Intoxicating Liquors without Licence	82
,, on unstamped Agreement	3
Performing Right	84
,, ,, Term of	89
,, ,, Registration of	86
Piracy	111
Plans of Music Halls	77
Plans of Theatres	68
Plays, Similar	97
Posters, when a Libel	127
Preferential Payment to Artists	35
Public Entertainment Act, 1875	142
Public Health Act, 1890	74
Public House	77
Public Performance	65
Public Place	65, 96
Publication, Meaning of	90
Representation, Right of	84
Retaining a Seat	51
Riots in Theatres	46
Room, Performance in a	65
Salary, Garnisheeing	35
"Season," Meaning of	25
Seat, Retaining	51
Seat, Sold twice over	51
Sketches, Agreement as to	67
Society of Authors	104
Song, When a Dramatic Piece	93
Song, When a Musical Composition	94
Sunday, Performing on	19, 73
Stage Play, Meaning of	66
"Starring"	34
Stationers' Hall	86
Theatres Act, 1843	135
Theatres, Closing of	27
,, Patent	64
,, Unlicenced	4
Title, Rights in	90
Translations	119
Troupe, Performance by	31
United States, Copyright in	120, 194
Workmen's Compensation	53, 209

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1910.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

The report of the meeting of the Actors' Church Union, which we published last week, is encouraging both to the Church and the Stage. The Actors' Church Union has many active and influential supporters, and the names of Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, Sir HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, Mr. EDWARD COMPTON, Mr. BEN GREET, Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Mr. H. B. IRVING, Mr. CHARLES MANNERS, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, and Mr. EDWARD TERRY as vice-presidents, and of Mr. CHAS. COBORN, Miss LILIAN BAYLIS, Miss LILIAN BRAITHWAITE, Miss PHYLLIS BROUGHTON, Mr. CHARLES J. CAMERON, Mrs. CARSON, Mrs. EDWARD COMPTON, Miss WINIFRED EMERY, Miss HARRIET GREET, Mr. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, Miss EVA MOORE, and Mr. CHRIS. WALKER as members of the committee, show how many actors and actresses take an interest in the Union.

The main point of the Actors' Church Union is that it does not propose to treat the theatrical profession as specially in need of a mission to reform it. What it does do is to appreciate the condition in which persons are placed who, if they had remained in ordinary business, would probably have been in touch with the local church and attended its services regularly. When they go on tour they find themselves, or did find themselves before the establishment of the Union, quite cut off from the friendly ministrations of the local clergyman. They were strangers and sojourners in the country towns; and they were not visited either in their happiness or their affliction. The Actors' Church Union is altering all this. By a system of "chaplains" resident in the different towns, who endeavour to get into touch with the Church of England members of travelling companies, the Union is able to supply the same kindly interest, sympathy, and advice which a resident member of a church receives in a town or village. As the number of professional members is steadily increasing, the utility of the Union is manifest. Two things speak well of the tactful way in which the Union does its work: the cordial and friendly terms which exist between the chaplains and the local theatrical managers, and the help which is rendered the Union, in a quiet and unostentatious way, by many of the rank and file of its members.

With such an excellent understanding between the Church and the Stage in this direction, it is unfortunate that a Canon of the Church of England should have chosen a date so near that of the meeting of the Union for an attack upon the Stage. Canon SOUTHWELL, in a recent address at Newcastle, stated that in places of amusement most of the performances were in darkened houses, and that "impurity took place under cover of the darkness."

It is unnecessary for us to repudiate this accusation, as the matter has been already taken up by those chiefly concerned. At the annual general meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, held on the 2nd inst. at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden, with Mr. J. MACREADY CHUTE in the chair, Mr. EDWARD COMPTON called attention to the Canon's statements; and it was unanimously agreed that Canon SOUTHWELL be asked to prove his words.

The following letter was also drafted and sent to the editors of the Newcastle papers:

It is reported in one of your contemporaries of last week that at a public meeting recently held in Newcastle Canon Southwell made the following sweeping and cruelly untrue assertions. Dealing with places of public amusement—music halls and theatres, music halls particularly—he said that by the modern arrangement of things most of the performances were in darkened houses. The whole light was thrown on the stage, and impurity took place under the cover of darkness. This was brought to the notice of the Theatrical Managers' Association at their annual meeting to-day, and it was unanimously agreed that Canon Southwell be asked to prove his terrible accusation, which every manager in the kingdom cannot but, and does, repudiate with indignation, horror, and loathing, and if the reverend and charitable and woefully mistaken gentleman cannot do so, he be called upon to withdraw his reckless remarks, and make the humble apology which justice and decency demand from him. If his remarks are not pointed at genuine theatres and music halls, then let him say boldly and openly what establishments he has in his eyes.

Signed for the Theatrical Managers' Association,
J. MACREADY CHUTE, Vice-Chairman.
HERBERT BLACKMORE, Secretary.

Nor have the local managers been slow to protest against the accusation, for the following letter, signed by the managers of the places of amusement in Newcastle, has been addressed to the editor of the *Newcastle Journal*:

Sir,—Re the long-expected letter from the Reverend Canon Southwell, it is exceedingly gratifying to receive his assurance that "the theatres were not in his thoughts at any portion of his address," together with his other laudatory expressions, but the reverend gentleman does not explain how or why the theatres came to be included in his speech.

Our letter to the Press, wherein we stated our intention of staying united action until such time as the Reverend Canon might reply to the correspondence, already published, bore the signatures of well-known managers of standard places of amusement, and, according to his reply, some of these do not come within the circle of his approbation. We, the theatre managers, are pleased, not on behalf of ourselves, but on behalf of the public, that we are beyond reproach in the management of our theatres, but we feel that other standard places of amusement are not yet free from the stigma cast upon them, nor are their patrons. It has often been computed that more than one-fourth of the population of Newcastle pay for admission to some place of entertainment weekly, and surely if is an injustice to these many thousands to insinuate an immoral tone on account of the inconsequent interruption of an individual who has, in his imagination, discovered something that was never intended nor meant, but is nevertheless regarded by the Reverend Canon as "a very fair token of the moral tone of a large number of those present." The managers of whom Canon Southwell bears witness that their establishments are above reproach do not incur a grave responsibility in still giving the shelter of their authority to the standard places of amusement when, at one time, all were included.

Will Canon Southwell state the exact position he intends to take with reference to proving the charges made? He states, "With regard to the demand that I should substantiate the charges which I made, it is impossible to do so in the public Press, because it would involve the recital of details unfit for general promiscuous reading, but I am quite willing to do so to those who have the right to ask it, such as the Chief Constable or the accredited representatives of the Watch Committee," and then on top of this he writes to one of the managers, saying, "If you and your brother managers assure me of a courteous reception I shall infinitely prefer to come to you rather than to the police or to the general public." Is it a case of not knowing whom to go to?

If amusement managers had originally taken Holy Orders they would, we presume, be held responsible for the moral education and well-being of their patrons, but things have not been so ordained. Their task is to see that the amusements of the people are properly managed, and an ever-watchful licensing committee takes every care that they do their duty. To the Church must be left the moral education of the people.

Canon Southwell himself states that the Watch Committee and the Chief Constable are the proper authorities to whom this matter should be referred, and with this we heartily agree. We must, as we have always done, leave ourselves in their hands, and can only regret that the Reverend Canon has so far mistaken his duty as to make a sensational statement in public instead of notifying the authorities, a course which, according to himself, is the proper one.—Yours truly,

FRED C. SUTCLIFFE, Tyne Theatre.
F. TEAL LINGHAM, Theatre Royal.
W. PARHAM WELLS, Empire Theatre.
W. H. BOARDMAN, late of Pavilion Theatre.
F. D. TODD, Pavilion Theatre.
F. W. BOLAM, Grand, Metropole, and Queen's Theatres.
R. G. ELDER, Grand Theatre.
E. B. CLARK, Palace Theatre.
LINDON TRAVERS, Olympia.
HAROLD ARNOLD, Tynemouth Palace.

The modern practice of turning down the lights during a theatrical performance, in order to increase the effect of the stage-picture, is, we believe, confined to theatres. Except during the exhibition of the cinematograph, the lights at music halls are kept up, the auditorium being always brightly illuminated. However, we need not add to the extremely able replies to this ill-considered and ill-informed attack. We trust that the "regrettable incident" will not, by embittering the excellent relations between Church and Stage, interfere in any way with the good work being done by the Actors' Church Union.

That the question raised by the Canon's statements is likely to be thrashed out is suggested by the resolution carried by a large majority at the recent meeting of the Watch Committee of the Newcastle Town Council, where it was moved "That this committee are of opinion that the statements made by Canon SOUTHWELL are sensational and unwarrantable, and intimates to him that if he has any evidence to prove such statements, the proper course is to lay it before the Chief Constable in order that it may be investigated by the Watch Committee." The onus of explanation now rests on Canon SOUTHWELL. Will he come forward with his "evidence" or his apology?

The Correct Phrase.

"I WILL explain," says Mr. Cecil Raleigh, "why practical knowledge of horses sometimes comes in so useful in playwriting. In the first place it teaches one not to fall into the error of using wrong expressions. Thus, among common mistakes made by those who have had no practical knowledge of racing are 'little slips' such as this: 'We must take the horses out to give them exercise,' is a sentence I've heard more than once on the stage. No racing man, however, would think of talking about 'giving horses exercise'—the one word 'exercise' would suffice for him. Which reminds me of a more or less amusing experience I once had during the rehearsal of a sporting drama. One of the characters in the play had to say, 'I don't know what's the matter, sir, but the horse, didn't eat up this morning.' Of course, the expression 'eat up,' which, in everyday language, means that a horse cleans his manger out in a healthy manner, is a common one enough, but the stage-manager, apparently, had not heard of it, for he stopped the rehearsal and said, 'That's wrong—eat up what? A horse must eat up something.' I explained that the expression was correct, and that it would be 'out of the picture' to say that a horse didn't eat up his corn, or whatever it was—and all was well."

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN."

A Musical Play, in Two Acts, Adapted from the German (*Die Geschiedene Frau*) of Victor Leon, Lyrics by Adrian Ross, Music by Leo Fall, Produced on Saturday evening, June 4, at the Vaudeville Theatre.

Karel Van Raalte ..... MR. ROBERT EVETT
Lucas Van Tromp .... MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON
Cornelius Scrop ..... MR. FRED EMNEY
Willen Kronwevliet ..... MR. PERCY DAVISON
Councillor Van Lieje ..... MR. ALEC FRASER
Councillor Van Dender ..... MR. PAUL PLUNKET
Herr Van Neck ..... MR. GEORGE ELLISTON
President Van Eyck .... MR. HUNTLEY WRIGHT
Jana Van Raalte ..... MISS CLARA EVELYN
Martje Kronwevliet ..... MISS KATE WELCH
Adeline ..... MISS MADELINE SEYMOUR
Gonda Van der Loo ..... MISS PHYLLIS DARE

The stage heroines discovered by Mr. George Edwardes have varying degrees of charm, and of them it may truly be said, "another and another still succeeds, and each is as welcome as the former." The latest "girl," indeed, is a most fascinating creature, and all London will be following in her "train," for she may be said to float on a current of sweet melody, stirred only by occasional zephyrs of sentiment and breezes of humour. M. Victor Leon, the original writer of *Die Geschiedene Frau*, deals with the inconsistency of the "eternal feminine" in a way that is invariably piquant and exhilarating; and the freshness of the score, its flood of tune, and the delicacy and refinement of the whole thing will captivate London and the provinces for a long time to come.

When Karel Van Raalte was about to start upon a journey to Amsterdam he little thought that Miss Gonda Van der Loo would enter his compartment and make herself very much at home. His behaviour was perfect in the circumstances, for he never kissed the alluring little syren, an actress, who regards the whole affair in the light of a pleasant adventure. Not so the wife, who is beset with all the pangs of raging jealousy, and will accept no explanation, especially when she hears that the young couple have been locked in by the blundering car conductor. She brings an action for divorce, and it is while this is proceeding that the play opens. The court scene bears some resemblance to *Trial by Jury*. We have a judge who will flirt with any pretty witness, while prejudicing the defendant with the most outrageous (comic opera) statements. Though he says that the husband, Van Raalte, "seems to have behaved like a perfect ass "in not kissing the pretty co-respondent, he gives the verdict against him, and grants the petitioner a divorce. This decision is a surprise to both husband and wife, whose separation is followed by that of their faithful servitors Willen and Martje Kronwevliet.

In the second act further misunderstandings widen the breach between the couple, neither of whom is happy; but there seems to be some prospect of reconciliation with the arrival of Lucas Van Tromp, the father of Frau Van Raalte. He has heard nothing whatever of the divorce proceedings, and insists on his daughter and son-in-law behaving like turtle-doves. He is a jolly old buck, and he, too, has had an adventure in the train. The inevitable reconciliation is brought about by Gonda, who arranges a "blind man's buff" waltz, in which the conditions are that the man who removes his handkerchief will have to marry his partner in the dance. Gonda settles that Karel Van Raalte shall choose his own wife for partner, and—their hearts attuned to a pretty waltz melody that is bound to capture London—the "separatists," happily reconciled, fall into each other's arms.

Mr. Huntley Wright returns once more to the theatres to play the divorce court judge, President Van Eyck, a part entirely after his own heart. Mr. Wright convulses the house by the wantonness of his remarks in the court scene, and the dialogue between the judge and the fair co-respondent is quite in the Gilbertian vein. In the second act Mr. Wright shares the success of the lively duet, "In the Park," with Miss Phyllis Dare, who plays the title-rôle not only with her customary girlish charm, but with a great deal more than her customary cleverness. She is especially happy in her singing of the melodious number, "Oh, sleeping car," which she renders with some culture. There is dramatic force, too, in Gonda's vigorous defence of her calling as an actress against the unfair aspersions of the inconsistent and unjustly suspicious wife Jana Van Raalte, played in exactly the right vein of seriousness by Miss Clara Evelyn, whose song to her own accompaniment in the second act is one of the hits of the piece. We have spoken of the blind man's buff waltz. This was beautifully sung both by Miss Evelyn and by Mr. Robert Evett, who played Karel Van Raalte, and, of course, sang with his usual charm of voice. One of the best numbers in the piece is "Married life," a duet most artistically sung by Mr. Percy Davison and Miss Kate Welch, in the parts of Willen and Martje Kronwevliet. Both of them are acquisitions to the comic opera stage. Mr. Fred Emney, as Cornelius Scrop, has a part that is already comic, and will become more so after a week or so. Mr. Emney rejoices in an unctuous method, and as a witness would make even a Celestial smile. Then we have Mr. Rutland Barrington to prove the usefulness of the Savoy methods in such a part as Lucas Van Tromp. The duet "Memories," a number that should have a great vogue, is sung by Mr. Barrington and Mr. Huntley Wright; and the concerted *pas-de-cinq*, in which the two gentlemen are joined by Mr. Alec Fraser, Mr. Paul Plunket, and Miss Phyllis Dare, is irresistible in its *élan*. Miss Madeline Seymour makes effective use of her slight opportunities as Adeline.

The scene of the dance, a beautifully-furnished apartment with exquisitely-dressed girls flitting about, shows the perfect taste that we have learnt from long experience to expect from Mr. George Edwardes, who, on the opening night smilingly received the congratulations of a crowded house on another great success. The piece is finely produced by Mr. Edward Royce; the stage is under the able direction of Mr. A. E. Dodson; and the orchestra enjoys the advantage of being under the baton of Mr. Ivan Caryll.

Lisping Innocence.

"ON one occasion I was reading a part to a well-known comedian—a great Gaiety favourite," writes Mr. George Edwardes in the *Strand Magazine*. "This comedian has a very notable lisp, which, though he, perhaps, does not realise it, has, nevertheless, earned for him many a laugh on the stage. Accordingly, the character for which he had been cast had been purposely endowed by the author with a pronounced lisp, and I paid careful attention to this in reading over the part.

"When I had finished I asked, 'How do you like it?'

"'Very much indeed, guv'nor,' he answered. 'I think it's a great part. But'—and he was very earnest about this point—'I think one thing about it is rather silly. Surely it isn't necessary to play the part with a lithp, is it?'"

An Elephantine Hero.

THE *Daily Mirror*, in its suggestions for dinner conversations, says: "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's new serpent melodrama at the Adelphi. Inadequate use of animals on the stage. Why not use an elephant as hero? It would be a fine scene—heroine dying, about to be stabbed by villain. Enter elephant. Stands on villain. Squashes him. Villain quite dead. Elephant waves his trunk. Surely that would not *fall flat*?"

"THE ISLANDER'S" HALF CENTURY.

The musical comedy by Major Marshall, which has been happily named *The Islander*, reached on Wednesday its fiftieth performance, and a second sitting revealed considerable improvement in a piece that from the first was endowed with many grateful numbers from the pen of Mr. Philip Michael Faraday, the melodist of *Amasis*, and much fun. The head and front of the humour is Mr. Neil Kenyon, who, as Mirza Makh Ali Khan, has become a "pasha of many tales," mostly concerning canny Scots, ye ken. In full Highland dress the representative comedian of bonnie Scotland sings of kilt and philibeg in the quaint number, "Properly Built," which has increased in its topical significance since we last heard it. Mr. Kenyon's perfect serenity of manner, quiet assumption, and never-failing resource as a "gagger," make of him a *persona grata*; but he is never obtrusive, and the other clever members of the cast—and they number not a few—have every chance to distinguish themselves. The new Sir William Pickerton is the old favourite, Mr. Fred Kaye, whose musical comedy experiences are, we should say, not exceeded by anybody on the stage. Mr. Kaye's is just the fussy old official that one would expect, and his reading of the address to the pasha is made an amusing episode. Mr. Sam Walsh as Captain Alderson Jarrett has but little scope for his acknowledged comic ability, but as a commander of a warship he has the geniality and charm of manner that one expects in the King's Navee, and smartness and humour characterise his rendering. Mr. Fred Allandale scores early in the piece with "The Handy Man," quite a Kiplingesque ballad; but a greater success comes to him in "You're the girl for me," sung on the island, with a cohort of beautiful Persian maidens, who pair off with a similar number of tars—a delightful number admirably rendered. Mr. Laurence Legge's tenor voice does full justice to the ballad, "I live in a dreamland of love," and he meets with a generous measure of applause for his interpretation of Lieut. Reginald Hume.

Master Bobbie Andrews takes very adequately the measure of the part of Midshipman Jackson Mauleverer, who might have stepped out of the pages of Captain Marryat. Master Bobbie may be congratulated on the capital rendering of his first grown-up part. We find a comedian of undoubted ability in Mr. Harry Danby, who bears a name that has always been associated with the best traditions of comedy on the legitimate boards. Mr. Danby plays Seaman Jones, a sailor of somewhat melancholy tendencies, obsessed with the notion that everybody is thinking of his twenty-third birthday. He is decidedly quaint and refreshing, and is a distinct acquisition to the ranks of musical comedy. Miss Elsie Spain, always a charming singer, is no less attractive as an actress, and the love passages between Kitty and her lover are not the colourless episodes that sometimes are merely tolerated in musical pieces, but are lifted out of the rut of the commonplace by her natural acting. She has a haunting number in "I think I ought to know."

Miss Mabel Burnege as the languorous and beautiful Princess Haidee looks particularly handsome, and the tenderness and simplicity of her acting after a very artistic rendering of the song, "I wonder," are strikingly impressive. Miss Stephanie Bell is a sweet little dancer; Miss Ethel Morrison makes a stately chaperone of Lady Birkenhead; Mr. Reginald Lawrence is an effective Hakim Sirdar; and Messrs. Wilfred Seagram, Percy Claridge, Otto Alexander, Montague Syrett, Caryll Storrs, Murri Moncrieff, and William Guilbert have little to do, but do that little well, being conspicuous for their smartness in the ingenious and impressive business of clearing the wee boatie for action—one of the finest sensations ever accomplished on the stage. Miss Lesley Everell, Miss Edris Coombes, and Miss Mary Dibley play their small parts with genuine intelligence; and the inspiriting number, "A Mechanical Toy," brings out the grit of the chorus, well selected and admirably drilled. The play is capitally produced by Mr. Harry Grattan. Mr. J. Van Henvel directs a fine orchestra; and Mr. E. Taylor Platt is courtesy itself in front of the house.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Miss Edith Soole's piano solo "Jardins sous l'eau" (Debussy) was the first item in the students' concert on Wednesday evening. In Goring Thomas's song "A Memory" Miss Mildred Heaven displayed taste; and Miss Audrey Richardson received much applause for her violin solo "Morceau de Concert" (Saint-Saëns), with a clever Cadenza by her professor, Mr. Johannes Wolff. Very difficult, but not attractive music was "Islamay" (Balakieçeff), for piano, and it was admirably played by Miss Dadine Sutherland, who had two hearty recalls; while Miss Violet Carmen, a pupil of Mr. L. Cairns James, varied the programme with two clever musical monologues, with piano accompaniment by Miss Dorothy Holden. Miss Carmen first gave "The Death Potion" (Hawley), and then, in boy's costume, recited "Christmas Bells," by Harris, being a little newsagent's (of "All the winners" type) reflections on Christmas-time. Miss Carmen, who spoke her lines clearly and with good expression, was particularly successful in "Christmas Bells." "O du mein holder Abendstern," from *Tannhäuser*, was sung by Mr. Victor Schroeder, who had a good voice, and naturally sang ably in German, but "O Star of Eve" requires something more than careful singing to give due effect to Wagner's beautiful air. Miss Margaret Morse was heard in recit. and cavatina "Far greater in his lowly state," from Gounod's *Irene*; and the audience were greatly pleased with the bright, effective quartette "Eight Nursery Rhymes" (Walford Davies), capitally sung by the Misses Rainbow and Wright and Messrs. Beardon and Dacre, all pupils of Mr. Gustave Garcia. Quartettes are rare in students' concerts, and always welcome. The second recitation on Wednesday evening was "I and my Father-in-law," a lively work by Childe Pemberton, cleverly given by Miss Enid Cummings, a pupil of Miss Kate Rorke. Miss Jenny Hyman ably performed the duties of accompanist.

IT is reported from Dresden that Richard Strauss's next opera, *Cavaliers of the Rose*, will be produced for the first time there early in December. The libretto is by Hugo von Hofmannstal, the librettist of *Electra*, and the sub-title for the opera is a "comedy for music." The plot is similar to that in Longfellow's ballad of "Miles Standish," a young elegant, entrusted with a proposal of marriage on behalf of an elderly, rich suitor, falling in love with the lady, and having his love returned. The scene is laid in the middle of the eighteenth century, in Vienna, at the time of Maria Theresa.

Shirking the Sensation.

"OPERA-GOERS," says the *Mirror*, "are complaining very bitterly of the annoying habit that so many people have of rising from their seats and disturbing the audience five or ten minutes before the curtain falls. This was particularly noticeable on Saturday night, when *La Tosca* was given for the first time this year. It is suggested that they are unable to stand the sensational ending of the opera, but surely if this is so it would be far better to leave before the third act begins. The actual practice not only disturbs the singers, but annoys those members of the audience who not only have stronger nerves, but wish to see the completion of the opera in comfort. It can hardly be imagined that a stall audience hurries away to catch the last omnibus!"

"CIVIL WAR."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Ashley Dukes, Produced at the Aldwych Theatre on Sunday, June 5.

Caroline Latimer ..... MISS ANNIE HILL
Thomson ..... MR. E. CRESFAN
Michael Latimer ..... MR. FREDERIC SARGENT
Sir John Latimer ..... MR. JAMES HEARN
Rupert Blake ..... MR. PHILIP KNOX
George Latimer ..... MR. ATHOL STEWART
Mrs. Delling ..... MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
Margaret Shannon .... MISS PENELOPE WHEELER
James Shannon ..... MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Robert Mansfield ..... MR. LEWIS CASSON
Jeannie Dawes ..... MISS MABEL KNOWLES

Anarchist and aristocrat are brought to grips in *Civil War*, a play by a new author, which served as the last of the Stage Society's productions of the present season, and was produced at the Aldwych on Sunday and Monday last. The piece is a workmanlike effort of much promise, and stimulates interest throughout. There is more than a suggestion of melodrama in the play, its chief character going the way of all heroes of transpontine drama, but the situations are tense and dramatic, and the dialogue, if at times slightly involved, is written for the most part in just the way that appeals to an audience. Portions of it would do credit to any Socialist platform, and other parts the most rabid Conservative would be proud to deliver. A logical conclusion is not quite secured, but it is one which might be developed into practicable results.

The scales are held very justly between the two combatants, and in the end neither wins. The aristocracy is represented by Sir John Latimer, a true type of the old English gentleman, who is writing a book to prove that the leisured classes should sway the destinies of the poor. He intends that his son Michael shall enter Parliament and carry on the work on the lines he lays down. Michael, however, has fallen in love with a daughter of the people, the child of James Shannon, a revolutionary who has founded a Socialist colony on a piece of land purchased from Sir John, that gentleman being unaware of the purpose for which it was intended. The first shot is fired when Shannon finds his daughter Margaret in the embrace of the hated artistocrat, and Sir John, coming on the scene, is appalled at the prospect of his son wedding one of the proletariat. Threats are indulged in, but Michael calmly asks Margaret to be his wife and receives her answer in the affirmative.

Both parents are equally opposed to the match, and Sir John tries in vain to coerce his son into giving the girl up, but Michael is firm in his purpose, and accepts the alternative of leaving his father's house. Shannon's attitude is considerably modified when he learns that Michael has surrendered his inheritance for his girl's sake, and at length he gives a grudging consent to her going away with him to London, where Michael has obtained a Government post through the good offices of his friend and former travelling companion, Rupert Blake. It is to this gentleman that the conduct of the play reverts, for he brings to Sir John a copy of the certificate of his son's marriage, together with the tidings that the newly-wedded pair are on their way to Barton Priory with a view to a reconciliation—a proceeding to which Sir John very strongly objects. The arrival of the young people is preceded by that of Shannon, who has learnt of his daughter's intention and comes to demand that she shall return to him rather than occupy a position in the hated household. There is a furious argument between the two, with Blake making amusing commentaries, when the arrival of the young pair is announced, and Sir John, evidently worn out by his contest with his enemy, and Shannon, equally exhausted with his diatribes, go down together to meet them, both convinced of the futility of opposing the combined forces of youth and love.

The acting possibilities of the piece are many, and they were fully grasped by its exponents. Mr. James Hearn is among the best aristocratic old men who adorn the contemporary stage, and his portrayal of Sir John, ever courteous but ever obstinate, the embodiment of good breeding, but egotistical to a degree, was artistic in the fullest sense of the word. The scenes in which the old man realises the destruction of his fondest hopes was very touching, the quavering voice and faltering step indicating the agitation which he suffered. As a portrayal of the opposite type of individual Mr. J. Fisher White was no less effective. He drew a vivid picture of the fanatical Anarchist expounding his views at any and every opportunity with vigour and fine fervour, Mr. White's deep voice enabling him to thunder forth Shannon's denunciations of the social system impressively. His tenderness towards his daughter, his solicitude for his "people," and his earnestness in the "cause" were all convincing, and when the old man broke down at the prospect of his daughter leaving him his grief was made profoundly touching. Mr. Frederic Sargent gave a buoyant and cheery performance as the rebellious Michael, standing his ground with manly fortitude, and making love with youthful ardour, and his sweetheart was played with delicacy and deep emotion by Miss Penelope Wheeler. As the enigmatical Rupert Blake Mr. Philip Knox acted in an agreeable spirit of light comedy, and made the utmost out of by no means ample opportunities. Mr. Athol Stewart made a humorous hit as the sporting George Latimer, who is constantly borrowing money from Sir John. It is a well-conceived character, and lightened the play considerably, though the story of the sun-bath indulged in by members of the Socialist community is not in the best taste. Miss Frances Wetherall did her best with small chances as the disreputable Mrs. Delling, and Miss Mabel Knowles as Jeannie Dawes, an inebriate member of the Socialist community, gave a well-studied impersonation. Mr. Lewis Casson made a picturesque figure as a football player who snatches a moment from his duties in the field to pay court to Margaret, and spoke and acted with his customary grace and finish. Miss Annie Hill played the baronet's sister consistently, and Mr. E. Cresfan as a very precise butler completed the cast. The author was warmly called and congratulated.

MISS MARIA TRENCH'S excellent translation of the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau, first published in 1890, has now been reprinted in a second edition, and should prove of much value and interest to those who see the remarkable performances in the mountain village. The translator's method of keeping the English lines parallel with the original lines of the choruses will be of great assitance to those whose knowledge of the German language is limited.

THE Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, according to a correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald*, opened on April 19, 1909, and in the three seasons, totalling up forty weeks, the deficit amounts to something under £3,000. There have been enterprises of a similar kind in London and elsewhere, says the correspondent. Can any one of them point the finger of scorn at our Glasgow venture? Emphatically, no! None of them has emerged from its first year's struggle for existence with a tithe of our success, and had they not had strong financial backing they must all have gone to the wall. Two of them, at least, are now making money. These other enterprises looked to some generously disposed plutocrat to finance them. We, in Glasgow, rely on our public-spirited citizens, who, by giving a helping hand now, will share the credit of having founded the first citizens' theatre in Great Britain.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

After a long and serious illness Miss Marie Loftus is now convalescent, and hopes to resume business shortly.

Report has been extremely busy again this week concerning forthcoming events in the variety world. Not the least interesting item was the report that Mr. Alfred Butt had bought the Royal Standard, Victoria. Inquiry at the Palace by an *Era* representative obtained neither confirmation nor denial from Mr. Alfred Butt. Similar information sought from Mr. Dickie simply brought forth the remark:—"Outside people always know our business better than we know it ourselves."

Notwithstanding the silence of the two principals concerned, we are in a position to state that the transfer of the fine old Pimlico variety theatre to the directorship of Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece is but a matter of hours, if it is not by the time these lines appear in print an accomplished fact. We are further informed that plans for the reconstruction of the Standard are already passed and in the builder's hands. The future management of Mr. Dickie's famous house, it is further stated, will be by the Variety Theatres Controlling Co., of which Mr. Walter Gibbons is a leading spirit.

For some considerable time past negotiations had been taking place for the acquisition of house property adjacent to the Standard. This business, it is understood, is now completed, so that very little now remains to be done before, at the convenience of all parties concerned, a start can be made to rebuild a larger Standard than we have as yet known.

Mr. Alfred Butt has announced this week that during his recent stay in Berlin he met Mr. Martin Beck and Mr. Meyerfeld, with whom he made final arrangements for the erection of the Palace in the German capital. Building operations will be started in a month from the present time, and the idea is to give the German people something in entertainment quite different from what they are used to. The difficulties raised by the German police and other authorities have been many, but, it is understood, these have now been surmounted, and the English vaudeville invasion of the Kaiser's capital is now an accomplished fact. English turns will get a big place in Mr. Butt's Berlin bill, but there will also be a goodly sprinkling of Continental and American turns in it likewise.

Mr. Harry Woodford has progressed so far on the road to convalescence after his recent attack of pneumonia that he was strong enough to journey to Margate on Monday. He hopes to be quite fit and well in a few weeks. He will have a very warm welcome from a host of friends when he returns to the Alhambra.

Mr. Tom Pacey writes to correct the report that Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England. As a matter of fact, he is still on the water, and will not reach these shores for another fortnight. Artists and agents will be notified of his arrival by advertisement in *The Era*.

Mr. Bransby Williams has purchased the remainder of the lease of a fine old house at 102, Upper Tulse Hill, S.W., a property with spacious gardens and every convenience in a favourite residential neighbourhood. The new proprietor entered into possession on Thursday.

The *entente cordiale* between the variety and dramatic professions will be again happily emphasised at the Theatrical Garden Party to be held at the Botanic Gardens at Regent's Park on June 28, when the Water Rats have consented to assist in the variety tent.

Mr. Lawrence Grossmith and Miss Dagmar Wiehe will be associated with the production of *Honourably Mentioned*, a sketch due to the collaboration of Mr. Sydney Blow and Mr. Douglas Hoare, at the Kilburn and Holborn Empires. Mr. Grossmith's latest success at the theatres has been in the part of Horace Ventimore in *The Brass Bottle* at the Vaudeville.

"The Odd Man Out," a new comedy "triologue," will be produced on Monday next at the Tivoli. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Mr. Lennox Pawle, recently associated as the "two merry monarchs" in the play of that title at the Savoy and Strand Theatres, will appear in parts in which they are excellently suited; and Miss Mona Harrison, who for the last three years has been playing at the Vaudeville Theatre, will be seen for the first time on the variety stage.

Mr. Fred Higham informs us that he has arranged for Mr. Alec Hurley to work his single turn on the Gibbons Circuit for tours commencing Aug. 1. It is good news to hear that the singer of "I ain't a-going to tell" and other coster ditties is once more about to rely unaided on his own conspicuous ability. As a singer of coster ballads Mr. Hurley is one of the few who can touch a tender chord.

Miss Ada Reeve, who is starring at the Cardiff Empire this week, in an interview on Monday stated that she made her variety debut at Cardiff. It was eighteen years ago, in her early teens, at the old Empire. In a sense she prefers the halls. "For one thing," she says, "you appeal to a wider public, and your work becomes necessarily more varied. If you are a student of psychology and study the mental aspect of your audience in the mass as distinguished from the individual you will realise what I may call the constraining force of organised intelligence

"The mental attitude, of course, varies in different parts of the house, and it may express itself in variety of tastes; but the intellectual sharpness of the mass inspires and puts on his or her mettle the artist who seeks, and succeeds, in disseminating personality beyond the footlights. The music-hall audience expects, and insists on the higher art."

Miss Annie Hughes is this week at the Empire, Liverpool, where she is starting the Moss and Stoll tour with her admirably-written and finely-acted sketch *Napoleon's Washerwoman*. Mme. Sans-Gêne is exactly Miss Hughes's part, and greater familiarity with it has strengthened her performance in such a way that we have nothing finer in the way of comedy on the variety stage at the present time than her delineation of the honest blanchisseuse. We are not surprised to hear that the sketch is booked up to 1912 at the Stoll and Syndicate halls.

It was Mr. C. M. Ercole, of the International Theatrical Exchange, London, Berlin, and New York, who discovered and secured for the Alhambra the Ri-Tchave troupe of Bohemian dancers, who have made such a hit in the new ballet, *Femina*. Their barbaric divertissement in the Stone Age scene of Mr. Moul's latest and most successful production is something to be seen. Its terrific energy does not rob it of its grace; and the engagement of the troupe is decidedly a fortunate one. Ercole knows a good turn when he sees it, and does his best to give it a European and even a trans-Continental reputation.

Mr. Colin Hazlewood, the acting-manager and treasurer of the King's Theatre, Hanley, returned on Tuesday from camp at Melton Mowbray looking the picture of health. He had completed fifteen days' training with the Staffordshire Yeomanry.

Miss Winnie Derson, the daughter of the veteran Harry Anderson, was married on Saturday last to Mr. Adam George Cuthbert.

Extensive alterations and improvements are to be carried out at the Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, during the recess, which extends from June 18 to July 18. The entire building is to be redecorated in a most tasteful scheme of colour. The stall seating is to be rearranged, and completely separated from the pit, two new private boxes are to be installed, and the circle and the pit are to be entirely reseated.

The alterations and reconstruction behind include a new stage to be laid considerably lower, so as to be more convenient for stall patrons; new scenery; and the lighting will be increased and greatly improved. Among the structural changes are a new entrance for stalls and orchestra stalls, which will supersede the present system, by which the stallholders have to pass through the pit.

Along the front of the building a handsome glass verandah is to be erected, which, in addition to being a further attraction to the architectural appearance of the building, will also prove of much service as a shelter to patrons waiting for the doors to open. At the opening on July 18 a complete transformation will be noted.

Encouraged by the extraordinary success of *The Bad Gird of the Family* at the Ealing Hippodrome, Mr. J. A. Molloy is endeavouring to arrange a return visit at an early date; in the meantime he promises us for next week a presentation of W. Melville's play *The Female Swindler*.

Mr. W. Pearson, who was for three and a half years with Messrs. Poole, and who has been acting-manager at the Ton-y-pandy Empire since its opening, has been promoted to the position of general-manager. His appointment is exceedingly popular with the many habitués of the house.

The contributors to the Citizens of Bath King Edward VII. Shilling Memorial Fund now include the name of Mr. Eugene Stratton, who has sent 21s., and Miss Florrie Forde, who is responsible for a like sum. The management of the Electric Theatre in the town is giving half the proceeds of one day's takings next week.

The general public of Hastings have learnt with considerable regret that Mr. J. D. Hunter, the respected entertainment-manager of the Pier Pavilion, is about to relinquish his position, held with exceptional ability for more than thirty-one years. Mr. Hunter's kindly disposition has made him a popular favourite on both sides of the footlights, and during his management he has successfully conducted thirty-one pantomimes. In low comedy his natural vein of humour always asserted itself, and all parties wish the genial comedian health and success.

Mr. P. D. Elbourne, the manager of the Birmingham Hippodrome, has resigned, to accept a similar post at the Leicester Palace, one of the best of the Moss-Stoll houses in the provinces. Mr. Elbourne is a native of Birmingham, having been educated at King Edward's Grammar School. Eight years ago he entered the office at the Birmingham Hippodrome, and rapidly worked his way up to the managerial post.

He held the reins, under the late Mr. Thos. Barrasford, with marked success, and he was transferred to Sheffield to control the new Hippodrome until it was successfully launched. Later he returned to Birmingham, where he has been prominent for careful and business-like management, and for his generous assistance to all movements in aid of charity. Mr. Elbourne's many friends in Birmingham wish him the best of luck.

Chappell's concerts, Great Yarmouth, which will open for the summer season on the 20th, will be run this year by Messrs. E. V. Barr, Ltd., who have taken over the remaining two years' lease from Mrs. S. Lawton. Mr. Harry Barker, for years a prominent member of the late Mr. James Chappell's companies, is again the general-manager, and will introduce further improvements and novel features during the forthcoming season.

At the recent meeting of the Birmingham Theatre Royal Company, Mr. Tom B. Davis, managing-director, said the company was beginning to feel the benefit of having secured contracts ahead with well-known artists. Alluding to the last pantomime, he said it was a source of additional income when they could arrange to reproduce pantomimes in other towns, and next season *Jack and the Beanstalk*, with Mr. George Robey in the cast, would be presented in Manchester on terms which would involve the company in no risk, but would ensure a profit.

Since the establishment of the Hippodrome at Exeter, Mr. Fred Sandy has been the resident-manager, and by his tact, courtesy, and ability has won the respect of all classes. The esteem in which he is held was testified in a gratifying manner on Monday, when he was initiated a member of the historic Masonic Lodge of Exeter, "Semper Fidelis," which includes amongst its brethren the leading citizens of Exeter. The large attendance at the initiation included brethren not only of the Semper Fidelis Lodge but of other lodges of the province of Devon.

The new Wimbledon Theatre is proceeding rapidly to completion. It is more than probable that this will be run upon what may be termed dual lines—that is to say, a season will be devoted to variety and the remainder of the year to drama, with a big pantomime at Christmas, a system which has proved so successful at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. Indeed, this was indicated by Mr. Mulholland in an interview which appeared in *The Era* two years ago. The theatre will be one of the largest in or around London, accommodating nearly 4,000 persons. It is outside the area of control of the L.C.C., but, nevertheless, embraces all the modern safety requirements. It will be ready for opening in September.

Mr. Fredk. Titcomb (professionally known as Fred Terry), late manager of the Hoyland Hippodrome, was married on Monday at Hoyland Parish Church to Mrs. Charlotte Dewhirst, of the Queen's Head Hotel, Hoyland. The "best man" was Mr. W. E. Soloman, F.V.C.M., and Mrs. W. E. Soloman (sister of the bride) was "best girl." The bride was tastefully and prettily dressed in a lace robe, with lace hat to match. After the ceremony in the church, which was witnessed by a large number of friends, the breakfast was held at the bride's home, the Queen's Head Hotel, and shortly afterwards the happy couple left for the honeymoon, which is being spent at Weston-super-Mare. The bride's travelling dress was in Wedgwood blue, trimmed with black braid, a large black hat with black tips to match completing a very charming ensemble. Mr. Terry, we understand, is leaving the profession, and is taking up his permanent address at Hoyland.

Owing to the strain on her voice through difficult imitations Miss Cecilia Loftus will "rest" next week, but will appear again on the 20th inst. The Russian Dancers and Fragson remain the chief attractions. Among the new turns next week is Harry Ford.

A committee meeting of the Music Hall Home will be held on Thursday next at the Stags Hotel, Kennington-road, at 12 noon. Will committee men kindly note change of address? Miss Kitty Colyer visited the inmates of the Home during the past week, presenting each inmate with tobacco and a piece of silver.

The last Vaudeville Club smoking concert of the season will be held at the Vaudeville Club on Sunday, when Mr. Joe Wilson of the Tivoli will preside. We wonder whether Joe will be persuaded to sing "Her portrait next my heart," from *The French Maid*, in which he made the acting success of his career as the man-o'-war's-man in that very successful production.

Notwithstanding the weather and the fact that it was Derby week, John Lawson packed the Camden Hippodrome with the magnetic attraction *Humanity*. This work is now produced on an absolutely colossal scale, and the new fire effects are the most realistic yet seen. Mr. Lawson is at his best in the part of the much-wronged Jew, and, as usual, carries the burden of the work on his shoulders. During his provincial season, which lasts until Oct. 3, Mr. Lawson will produce *The Looms of Mayfair* and *The King of Palcstine*.

Mr. Harry Weldon, known as "Stiffy, the goal-keeper," by a display of alacrity and presence of mind saved a child's life on Friday, June 3. He, with others of the Empire company, intended to visit Trent Bridge, but getting on the wrong car found themselves at Wilford Bridge. They walked along the Embankment, and when approaching the swimming baths heard a splash and a cry.

Miss Winifred Ward immediately called attention to a group of children playing on the water's edge. They were in a panic, for one of their number, a tiny mite of 2½ years, had fallen into the river and was being taken out by the current. Harry Weldon quickly grasped the situation, and, jumping into the water, seized the child as she was sinking for the second time and brought her ashore. Miss Ward took charge of the little one and gave her every attention.

It is a coincidence that Fred Curran, who was one of the company, was with Harry Weldon two years ago in Dublin when the latter saved a man from drowning. At the Empire, Nottingham, in the evening, the artists performing there showed their appreciation of Miss Winifred Ward's prompt attention by presenting her with a bouquet.

The owners of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Leeds, have decided to relinquish the licence, so that on and after the 17th inst. the Leeds weekly meetings of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held at Mr. Arthur Gretton's hostelry, the Horse and Trumpet Hotel, right opposite the Wheatsheaf. The cordial thanks of the Federation are tendered to Mr. Harry Dent, of the Wheatsheaf, by the Executive Committee and members for his unfailing courtesy and hospitality during the past three years.

We are promised quite a new show at the Euston Palace on June 20. Josh Clifton, who is proprietor of the Five X-Rays has had a troupe—the Six Ceylons—in rehearsal for some months, and they have this week produced at the Regent, Salford, with enormous success, *A Dream in an Opium Den*. We are told this act differs entirely from all other shows previously introduced. New and novel scenery and effects are provided, and Will Oliver will have, as in the case of the X-Rays, the sole control of the business.

The arrangements for the Grand Fête and Gala at Rosherville Gardens, in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, on Wednesday, July 6, are progressing favourably, and, given sunny weather, everything points to a glorious success. The following distinguished patronage has already been secured, in addition to that of the professional associations: Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P. for Gravesend; Alderman H. C. Davis, of the Gaiety, Chatham, Mayor of Gravesend, a former London music-hall proprietor; Alderman W. E. R. Randall, Mayor of Chatham; Mr. T. Church, chairman of the Northfleet Council.

As a number of our best known and most popular "stars" have promised to appear, either in the afternoon or evening, the two variety performances should include the "pick of the basket." Many friends have already offered their services as helpers, but as over a hundred will be wanted, the managers of the Fête will be glad to hear from others willing to lend a hand. All their expenses on the day will be paid.

Admission to the Old Welcome Club in the Gardens will be granted to any performer wearing the badge of the M.H.A.R.A., V.A.F., Water Rats, Terriers, or I.A.L. They can thus make use of this cosy club and get "far from the madding crowd." The London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway have decided to run a number of their ferry boats from Tilbury direct to the Rosherville Pier, instead of the Gravesend, thus avoiding the train ride or walk to the Gardens.

Among the attractions will be a classical concert in the Italian Gardens at six o'clock; a representation of the Old Richardson show repeated at frequent intervals; a cinematograph theatre that will, no doubt, attract many; and the magic caves, which will be illuminated. There will be side shows of all descriptions, dancing all day and evening in the ball-room, all the "fun of the fair" in the fair-ground, and the illuminations in the grounds will be enhanced by thousands of fairy lamps. Military and other bands will perform at intervals throughout the day. Full particulars can be obtained on writing to the directors of the Fête and Gala, Messrs. H. Cory Woodrow and Douglas Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-road.

That popular event with the profession, the Music Hall Sports, in aid of that excellent charity the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, will be held at the Stamford Bridge grounds on Thursday, July 21. At a meeting last Saturday the following officials were appointed; President, Mr. Harry Tate; Mr. Albert Le Fre, chairman and hon. treasurer of the sports committee; Messrs. Charles Coborn and Jack Straw, joint hon. secretaries; committee, Messrs. Arthur Gallimore, T. C. Callaghan, H. Cee-Mee, James Miller Northern, J. H. Milburn, and Lieutenant Albini, with power to add to their number.

The following programme of events has been arranged:—120yds. handicap; one mile walking (open to anybody connected with music halls or theatres); 100yds. children's, boys (performers' children only); 100yds. children's, girls (performers' children only); 100yds. agents' running handicap; 100yds. managers' running handicap; comic costume scramble; 120yds. hurdle handicap; 40yds. flip-flap; 250yds. steeplechase in basket horses (open); pie-making competition, ladies (artists); running high jump; 360yds. obstacle (open); two-mile bicycle handicap; ladies' driving competition, with gentlemen as horses; football competition; golf competition; consolation race; half-mile handicap, running (open).

The monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund Committee was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road. The members present were Messrs. W. Bailey (in the chair), T. Carney, S. Whyte, F. Boyce, and Carl Hermon. The annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 13, at 4 p.m.

Miss Edith Cruikshanks is fulfilling her seventh engagement with Mr. John Lawson, playing a specially written part in *The Miracle* this week at the Canterbury.

Mr. S. W. Wyndham is still going ahead, and is scoring a most gratifying success with his new songs, entitled "Mary's wooden leg" and "My old banjo." He has been repeatedly asked for pantomime permission, but has wisely decided to keep the songs absolutely exclusive.

Mr. Chris. Van Bern, who deals with the unexpected in his many-sided turn, was last week, with his song and patter and conjuring, at the Palace, Reading, where he became very popular. This week he has returned to the suburbs, meeting with good receptions nightly at the Putney Hippodrome.

Victor Nielo's wonderful talking birds, Cuckoo and Laura, are once again making a hit in London, after their most successful Continental tour. They have created quite a sensation at the South London and Palace, Tottenham. Laura proves quite a comedian in singing a song. They open on Monday next a return engagement at the Theatre Royal, Dublin.

Serene Nord, one of the most perfectly shaped nalads that ever graced the water, makes what was formerly known as a tank performance into a really pretty show. Under a rustic bridge across the back of the Coliseum stage is fixed a huge mirror. Below is the water, and the performance of this graceful, beautiful girl is reflected for the benefit of the occupants of the stalls. The staging is perfect, and the performance the prettiest that has been seen for many a year.

"Serene," we are given to understand, is a Californian girl, born on the coast, and took to the water from her childhood. She knots her luxurious fair hair before commencing her turn, and covers her head with a becoming bathing-cap. Dressed entirely in black, she dives in every conceivable way, and her backward somersault into the water and other even more difficult feats should be the talk of the town.

The Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. has forwarded to Mrs. Hamer, late of the Golden Lion Hotel, Churchgate, Bolton, their certificate testifying to the excellent manner in which that lady has performed her duties during the past thirteen years. Members of the Association are informed that the Committee has appointed Mr. G. E. English, of the Rose of Allandale, Tynemouth, as agent in that town, as from Monday next.

The Committee held their 662nd meeting on Wednesday, with Mr. Fred Herbert in the chair. Mr. Chris. Van Bern took his seat for the first time since his election, and was welcomed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee. It was decided to have a telephone installed in the Glasgow offices, and a new agency was appointed at the Globe Hotel, Wellingborough.

On the proposition of Lieut. Albini, seconded by Mr. Albert Voyce, it was unanimously decided to accept the proposed reduction of one penny per member on the insurance coupon, as against the suggested sliding scale rebate. The weekly statements showed an increase of 31 new members, and receipts £54 5s. On the request of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, permission was given to use the name of the Association in connection with the forthcoming fête and gala.

Cissie Lawson, the clever wife of John, returns to town on Monday next, and will appear at Woolwich in four sketches nightly. Tried at Birmingham during the past week, this bill was found to answer admirably. Mrs. Lawson will be seen on June 20 at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, with a quadruple bill of sketches nightly. Miss Gertrude Kingston has promised to witness *A Bride for a Living*, with a view to including it in her season of one-act plays at the Little Theatre that is to be built on the site occupied for many years by Coutts's Bank.

Older music-hall performers will remember Miss Pollie Randall, a variety artist who reached her zenith as a burlesque actress and descriptive singer during the eighties, and was a contemporary with Jenny Hill, Nellie Farrell, Nelly Power, Bessie Bellwood, J. F. and Mrs. Brian, Bessie Bonehill, and other brilliant stars of the Victorian era. She was the daughter of the late Billy Randall, who used to sing "The Mole in the Shutter." As a pantomime artist the deceased lady played principal parts with the late Mrs. Sara Lane at the Britannia, a theatre at which both Marie Lloyd and Ada Reeve started to build up their reputations as comedy actresses.

Miss Randall, who in private life was Mrs. Walter Burnot, appeared in several sketches from that gentleman's pen, and was a great favourite at the Mogul, the Metropolitan, the Canterbury, and other London halls. In the days when flag songs were the vogue she had a most effective number in "The colour that won't wash out." One of her husband Mr. Walter Burnot's productions was a burlesque of *The Silver King* entitled *The German Silvery King*, produced at the Elephant and Castle. In this, however, she did not appear. She passed away on Monday at her residence, South Molton-road, Canning Town, at the age of fifty-seven.

Mr. C. Osborne Burgoyne presented at the Empress, Brixton, for the first time on Thursday evening, *Les Idoldtres*, a pantomimic ballet scena. The story, founded on an Indian legend, opens in an Indian temple, where the high priest and his attendants are at worship. The priest orders his attendants to bring in a young Hindoo, destined to be sacrificed on the altar of the idol. He is dragged in. A fierce struggle ensues for liberty, the high priest in turn being attacked by the Hindoo, who is, however, felled by the attendants and thrown on the altar. The priest prepares for the sacrifice, but on the approach of the White Princess retires with his attendants. The Princess and her followers bring floral offerings to the idol. On discovering the prostrate form of the unconscious Hindoo they revive him.

The scene grows gradually dark, and the priest is heard returning. The White Princess orders her followers to retire, and tells the Hindoo to resume his position on the altar. She hides. The priest with his attendants, bearing torches, stealthily enters, and seeing the body still on the altar, raises his knife to strike; but the White Princess intervenes, and forbids the sacrifice. She orders the priest to depart. The Hindoo expresses his gratitude to her for saving his life. Espinosa, who has brought out this very interesting ballet, shows by a number of finely executed soli that the best traditions of the art—of which his family have been distinguished exponents for generations—are safe in his keeping. There is infinite grace in his adagio, and the masterly execution of other *pas* stamp him as a performer of the highest grade. The troupe, under his direction, show great ability, and English girls, properly taught, have nothing to fear from their Continental rivals.

Mrs. Walter Gibsons and Miss Adney Payne, who were among the exhibitors at the Ladies' Kennel Association Show at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, on Thursday, carried off a championship prize in the Greyhound (bitches) Class with Stray Park Senora.

Mr. Walter Keen and Mr. Alma Waller (Keen and Waller) were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ted Karno, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Mr. Harry Levaine has successfully passed the ballot for membership of the association.

A special general meeting of the Terriers' Association was held on Sunday last, and various alterations and improvements were made in the rules. Terriers Harry Bancroft, Fred Hughes, Percy Madden, and Rolando Martin were accorded a hearty welcome upon their reappearance in the kennel on Sunday. A record cash account was enthusiastically received. Tickets for the river outing are now ready, and may be obtained upon application to Arthur Were.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May, Secretary, begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mrs. Eugene Stratton, very handsome Indian portière curtain, which has realised the sum of £13 10s. Nearly all this amount was collected by the late Miss Belle Elmore (Hon. Secretary). Mrs. Paul Courtney collected 2s. 6d.; Miss Maidie Scott, donation, 2s. 6d., per Mrs. George Smythson.

The committee ladies take this opportunity of thanking all concerned with their first Sunday concert, which took place on Sunday at the Metropolitan, by kind permission of Mr. Henri Gros, especially the artists who kindly came along and went on in place of those who promised but did not get as far as the Metropolitan. The programme was good, and so were the finances.

Bosanquet, who sailed home in the ss. Mauretania, arrived on Tuesday after a pleasing sojourn of fourteen months, happily distinguished all the time by conspicuous success. The great musical gifts of Bosanquet, it seems, immediately made good with the American public, and starting out with but a six weeks' engagement with William Morris, at the Orpheum, Boston, March 7, 1909, he was re-engaged again and again until his absence from home reached the period already stated. He now takes a well-earned rest. His bookings are in the hands of the De Frece Agency.

At the Royal Court Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday will be produced a new spectacular fantasy entitled *The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring*, which, we are informed, is "a blend of pathos, comedy, brilliant fairy effects, charming music, and magnificent spectacle." Miss Daisie Wallace and Miss May Hart will appear in the principal parts, and will be supported by a full chorus and ballet. The music is composed and arranged by Kopski and Herbert Bernstein, and the beautiful dresses and properties have been fashioned by Mme. Countini et Cie.

In his new motor boat, specially built from the latest model by James Taylor of Chertsey, Neil Kenyon on Sunday created something like a record for the Thames. Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Whit Cunliffe and Mr. Gordon Craig, he left "Pavilla," Penton Hook, at one o'clock, had late lunch at Windsor, tea at Maidenhead, got as far as Boulter's Lock, and reached home at ten o'clock. At Staines the party wasted quite forty minutes christening the craft "The Wee Boatie" (from *The Islander*) and five locks were taken each way. Neil must have let her rip, engineering the "Wee Boatie" himself except when relieved for a few minutes now and then by Mrs. Whit Cunliffe.

Quite a delightful surprise was provided by Mr. Walter Gibbons on Thursday afternoon last at the Holborn Empire in the inclusion of the Il Trovatore Trio in the current programme. Three Italian singers, each with a magnificent voice, took part in an excerpt—the Parapet Scene—from *Il Trovatore*. At first, it must be candidly stated, the audience did not take kindly to the singers. The costumes were decidedly suggestive of burlesque. But the tenor, as robust a one as has ever been heard on the variety stage, sang himself to success, and in his efforts to regain lost ground was nobly supported by the contralto and the baritone. The result was recall after recall.

We regret that we are unable to give the names of the clever and artistic people who respectively sustained the parts of Manrico, the troubadour, the sinister Conte Di Luna, and the vengeful Azucena. This trio has no need to garb in costume to make good. The vocal abilities of the lady and two gentlemen are sufficiently powerful to get them a hearing in any theatre wanting singing of the higher order. Simply presented as an evening dress turn the highly-trained voices of the Trio could not do otherwise than score on merit alone. Ashton's Royal Agency, we understand, is the sole business representative of the Il Trovatore Trio.

A daring attempt to relieve the Great Raymond of his collection of diamonds and other precious stones was made last week, when thieves by some means obtained access to the Royal Hippodrome, Salford, where Mr. Raymond was playing with his own company. On the Monday evening during the performance several of the dressing-rooms were robbed, and some of the artists lost their stock of valuables, including watches, rings, purses, and money.

From subsequent investigations it appears that a gang of thieves have lately made Manchester their headquarters, and incidentally the dressing-rooms of the principal theatres and music-halls in that town their field of operations. Raymond was determined to put a stop to these wholesale robberies, and the cleverest of Scotland Yrd detectives were quickly on the scene, the thieves being run to earth early in the week. One of them made a pertinent remark when arrested. He said: "I am sorry we got into the wrong room. Raymond was the man we were after. We just missed his diamonds. We should have got into his room easily if that Spanish valet of his had not been patrolling the hall the whole time." The Great Raymond has now secured the exclusive services of an expert man from Scotland Yard, whose duty it is to travel with the company, and keep Raymond in sight all the time.

At the Coliseum, Adolf Adam's ballet *La Sylphide* has been withdrawn, owing to the necessity of a brief visit to Paris by Mlle. Karsavina, who, it will be remembered, played the title-rôle. On Monday it was replaced by the "Warrior Dance" from *Salambo*, given with a great show of barbaric pomp and circumstance by M.M. Theodore Kosloff, Gotschitowsky, Tschoukoff, Tarasoff, Kotrowskai I., Gerber, Kotrowskaie II., whose art has generally been confined to the gentler and more emotional side. Now they rouse the house to enthusiasm by their exhibition of primitive energy and strenuousness to the clashing and weird strains of the composer Arens. An entrancing number is "La Nuit," which is full of poetic imagery; and the introduction of "Le Chat and La Chatte," from Tschaikowsky's "Casse Noisette" suite, enables the audience to enjoy a very sprightly number.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. L. V. ARTHUR (husband of, and producer for, Miss Marie Cahill, the famous American musical comedy artist) has, in collaboration with M. Silveo Hein, the well-known composer, arranged to produce their forthcoming musical play in the States this autumn, and the publishing house of Messrs. T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter, of New York, will publish the work. Messrs. Arthur and Hein, who are enjoying a trip through Europe, are at present located in London, and are arranging with foremost English authors connected with the great London house of Messrs. Francis and Day (who will handle the work on this side of the Atlantic) for suitable lyrics.

THE great attractions at the Palace, Cardiff, during the week has been Miss Florrie Forde, and her renowned songs, "Flanagan" and "'Tis a faded picture," have been found greatly to the liking of the habitués of the fine house. That the song "Flanagan" has taken the great place occupied by its predecessor "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" (which emanated from the same writers—Will Letters and C. W. Murphy) is proved by that indisputable barometer of public taste known as "trade orders." It has already "set fair" with a vengeance so far as Miss Florrie Forde's current songs are concerned. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers, and they are expediting through the press the popular lady's forthcoming number by H. F. Greenfield, "Has anyone found a girl?"

AFTER his well-deserved holiday in the South of France, Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has returned to work like a giant refreshed, and at the Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been evoking that applause which is only vouchsafed to artists of the absolute first rank. His new item "Mister owl" is a veritable triumph of melody and artistry, and Messrs. Francis and Day have in the item a number worthy to rank with any of the previous great successes of this favourite of the classes and the masses.

THE good people of Ealing and Hammersmith have evidently all taken shares in Mr. Fred Elton's "rubber boom" song "Tahiti," judging by the way they have given vent to the rousing chorus of Barnes, Weston, and M. Scott, nightly at either house at each performance. For the next four weeks Mr. Elton—who was on Thursday walking by the Vaudeville Club lopsided with "confirmations," thanks to Will Oliver's "strenuosity"—will inoculate the provinces with the "Tahiti" virus, after which he is due at the Tivoli and other London halls.

THE first edition of Miss Ada Reeve's new humorous song, "And just then he fell out of bed," was rapidly depleted when it became known on Friday last that it had been issued to the trade by Messrs. Francis and Day. The gifted artist, who has been crowding houses during the week at the Empire, Cardiff, and who on Monday opens at Sheffield, is one of the keenest judges of humorous songs existing, and H. F. Greenfield is to be congratulated on his number being accepted by one who, as actress and singer, is a fixed star at the zenith.

MISS VESTA TILLEY'S new song, "It isn't the Isle of Man any longer," from the practised pens of Wolters David and C. W. Murphy, has been secured by Mr. David Day's firm for immediate publication. It fits Miss Tilley—like the wonderful triumphs of the tailor's art with which she ever makes mere man envious—to perfection.

MR. C. R. WHITTLE has had written him, by G. A. Stevens and Charles Ridgwell, a chorus number of rare excellence with the title of "I'll go where you all go." The singer, whose comic song "Come and have a drink with me," has once again been exciting the risibility of Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt's audiences at the Oxford, has placed the new ditty with the same firm that published the older one—Messrs. Francis and Day, to wit.

THE numerous lady artists who last season at coast resorts were so successful with Miss Eileen Douglas's admired numbers, "Rosie's young man" and "The musical comedy girl," will be pleased to hear that the author and composer (Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether) have published with Messrs. Francis and Day yet another song of Miss Douglas's, which has been issued under the title of "Miss Lollipop."

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD, who at Walham Green has been going great guns with Messrs. Francis and Day's humorous song, "Pass along, please!" has arranged to publish with the same house his new song entitled "How would you like to be a baby?" E. W. Rogers, who is responsible for the number, bears a name that is synonymous always with the best goods only.

JOHN P. HARRINGTON and John Neat have again been found hand and glove, the one with a lyric of great excellence and the other with a melody that will be much in evidence by and by, and the joint production, under the title of "Give my love to Lou," will be published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A NEW and striking "serenade," the theme of which is beautiful in the extreme, will shortly be published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and its advent will be awaited with impatience by connoisseurs of music. It has been composed by Edward Délont.

MR. HARRY CARLTON, who is away on a short tour, has just fitted S. W. Wyndham with two new numbers, entitled "Treacle tart" and "Bubbles"; also Jack Marks with two numbers, "What would you do without me?" and "It's a policeman." Pierrots should secure his song, written in conjunction with Jerry Sullivan, entitled "Let's have a day with the ladies." It is published by Francis and Day, and is an ideal song for summer concert parties, &c.

MISS ZONA VEVEY, on Thursday evening at Kilburn produced with enormous success a new song entitled "Ma Mary." It is written and composed by Harry Brown (of "Is everybody happy?" fame), and Max Erard, who accompanies the artist in her scena. The item, which will be featured by the lady throughout America, has been acquired by Messrs. Francis and Day for immediate publication.

THOSE well-known writers, Sax Rohmer and T. W. Thurban have been congratulated on the success of their new song for Little Tich, entitled "The gas inspector," and the comedian has in readiness two other numbers from the same pens, entitled respectively "The Steeplejack" and "Tally Ho! Tally Ho! I am the tally man!" Miss Mabel Berra also has acquired a Rohmer-Thurban item entitled "The White Hussar."

THAT vivacious lady, Miss Peggy Pryde, has been causing heartiest laughter at the New Cross Empire with her sprightly rendering of "Our Mary Ann," an account of a wedding in humble life, which is most humorous in idea and rendition. Charles Collins, who is responsible for the infectious melody of Miss Pryde's song, has, in conjunction with Harry Castling, written for his brother, Mr. George Collins, a big success in "Oh! cock-a-doodle-do!"

(Continued on page 22.)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Under Mr. Bertie Ralland's management this high-class variety theatre continues on its smooth and prosperous career, keeping a place in the esteem of local pleasure-seekers, and by the liberality of the weekly change of programme always providing its patrons with an enjoyable entertainment. Those by whom punctuality is regarded as a virtue have the pleasure of listening to the preliminary selection performed by the orchestra under Mr. Fred Camp's skilful guidance, and this week early comers are treated to the overture, *The Bohemian Girl*, played with excellent technique, and the accuracy of the accompaniments is also a highly appreciated feature of the evening's entertainment. The popular Glenroy Troupe of characteristic dancers cause wonderment at their faultless regularity, their unerring rhythm of step, and are applauded with a heartiness and enthusiasm that are well deserved. Music and mirth are pleasantly combined in the turn of the Two Anartos, and the two popular parleying patterers Will and Sam Poluski, with their resourceful wit and individuality, render themselves immense favourites. Another successful turn in the bill is Kitty Wager, who has two melodious songs in "When the church bells ring" and "I'll never meet another girl like you."

A unique and daring cycling exhibition is contributed by Staig's Steeplejack Cyclists, several tricks being performed in a perpendicular position inside a wooden cage. Bert Weston arouses laughter and applause with his amusing patter and song, "If I were M.P.," and Fred Poplar's song, "The Smoking Concert," is also well received. Hilda Jacobsen sings in her daintiest fashion, "Health, wealth, and the girl we love" and "Come, sing to me" meeting with enthusiastic approval. Chas. T. Aldrich is proving a great attraction. He is one of the most versatile artists on the boards. The first part of his entertainment is of the protean order, and his marvellous quick changing, introducing impressions of David Garrick, Colonel Cody, Fagin the Jew, Cinquevalli, &c., cause nothing but wonderment. Next as a tramp juggler, and finally as "Wun Lung Foo" (Chinese magician), he presents a screaming burlesque of modern magicians and conjurers. The programme is brought to a close with a series of up-to-date pictures, including the recently-run Derby.

BOW PALACE.

Sharing the top of the bill is Will H. Fox ("Paddiwhiski"), with his trick piano-playing—an exhibition that is as familiar as it is clever and interesting. It goes without saying that the whole of his performance is greatly appreciated and loudly applauded. Irene Meldon, a dainty little artist, becomingly gowned, has a good voice and a taking style. In both of her songs—the better of which is "Moon dear"—she shows much genuine ability, and dances really well. Irene certainly has a future.

Lottie Watts and company present the sketch *Troubles with the Tram-car*, the comedy in which is chiefly centred round Barney, a somewhat lively mule. Jessie Wilton has rather a good number in "Where's the lady?" the humour of which is nicely brought out. Dan Hendy is a nimble comedian with a clever, lackadaisical acrobatic dance.

Edith Lewis and company present the dramatic sketch *Avenged*, which, although closely following the usual stereotyped lines, nevertheless proves most exciting and interesting. Mr. Harry Seymour as Captain Von Richter gives all the necessary expression of villainy; Mr. Frederic Monti is the typical hero; whilst the pathetic rôle of Vera is capably enacted by Miss Edith Lewis. A bright, vivacious comedienne is Monie Mine, who shows much charm of manner in her song "Believe you? Why, of course."

The Brien McCullough company have a most humorous sketch in *Two Runaway Girls*, which is full of amusing situations. The sketch is well staged and acted, and proves a most popular item. Mr. Teddy Denham as John Quex is genuinely funny. Arthur Clifton, billed as the unique swell comedian, sings "Seven till nine" and "Be careful." The front of the house is in the capable hands of manager Gordon Harman, who so ably attends to visitors' comfort.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

During this week Mr. Pierre Cohen's house certainly fully sustains the modern designation of a "variety theatre," the programme being made up of a capitally-blended assortment of interesting and amusing items. An excellent impression is at once made by the Simms, two young ladies who sing sweetly and dance with an unusual combination of grace and vigour. Hal Fonie sustains his reputation as a "light swell comedian" most admirably, his two songs, especially "My night out to-night," being greatly relished by audiences not slow to mark their approbation in the usual and most acceptable manner.

One of the hits of the week is made by Reg. Beauchamp, who makes his audiences simply roar with laughter over his original humour as a grotesque elderly female—one of the most screamingly funny turns seen at the Walthamstow Palace for a very long time. The Donatos are a couple of acrobats who, unfortunately in some ways, can only boast of a couple of legs between them, but this strange disqualification in no ways prevents them performing the most daring acts as if they had each been possessed of what Captain Absolute describes as "the usual number of limbs." The manner in which they bound over each other's heads and anon over long rows of chairs is a sight that must be seen to be believed. Harry Brown keeps up his reputation as a coloured comedian.

The laughter-compelling Warsaw Brothers appear successfully in a musical-comedy act. Their turn might be improved, to some tastes, if they were to follow the famous advice: cut some of the preliminary "cackle" and come to the—instruments. Their playing is excellent. An artist whom we fancy we have seen here before is Harry Grey, the Australian Nugget, whose quite up-to-date aeroplane entrance and subsequent song are much relished. But it is when he assumes (as far as the front goes) the habiliments of a buxom lady and burlesques her attempts at concert-singing in "Queen of the Earth" that the fun becomes fast and furious. The applause that follows the laughter is richly deserved. Miss Kitty Colyer looks pretty, sings agreeably, and dances very neatly indeed.

Man and the Devil, written and produced by Mr. W. J. Mackay, is played by Terence S. Macmanus's company. This strong sketch, divided into five tableaux, is somewhat suggestive of our old friend *The Sorrows of Satan*. The great Enemy of Mankind is again seen working to purchase the soul of his victim, who, having married the daughter of a rich man against her father's wishes, finds himself reduced to the point of starvation in a Bloomsbury garret, his work as an artist having failed to appeal to the purses of rich patrons. The Devil appears to the distracted painter, and offers him untold gold, some of which he throws down on the table, "on account." Of course, the unfortunate husband yields to the temptation, stabs his father-in-law to the heart, and, in a tableau representing his satanic majesty in true Mephistophelean scarlet, himself dies in terms of the compact. But an instantaneous change back to the Bloomsbury garret reveals the fact that the whole thing has been a hideous dream, begotten of worry and starvation; the stony-hearted father enters at the right moment, repentant and forgiving, bringing a roll of bank-notes to buy the picture his son-in-law has so long attempted to sell, and all ends happily. There is some comic relief supplied by a typical lodging-house "slavey," true to the core, who acts as the good fairy. This part is very well played by the actress engaged, but all the characters are admirably filled. Unfortunately, no cast is given on the programme, so we cannot do more than award general praise. Mr. W. J. Mackay himself plays the Devil in evening dress, and the hero, heroine, and the heavy father are all good. The sketch is admirably staged, and is received with breathless interest and prolonged cheers.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Mr. (abbreviating) Phil Ray tops the bill here this week, and, as usual, is furnished with witticisms which are all *ben trovato*, and a capital song of "When men would rule," but would retire in favour of the ladies when the cold bath comes in. The popular comedian's attempts to amuse are successful to the echo, and the whole house is soon in a roar. Synchronous dancing and song find excellent exponents in the Dick and Dorothy Trio. Their song, "Hearts are light," is a lightsome, lilting melody that carries one along, and is a good introduction to the clever footing that follows. The Dorothy of the trio is not the least expert of the three, and her presence lends an additional charm to a thoroughly good turn.

Lions at the Zoo find a truthful interpreter in Gilbert Girard, and this "phenomenal animal imitator" is equally at home with Master Doggie, whilst his spoof clarinet playing is a masterpiece of deception. Impersonations are all the vogue nowadays, and little Jenny Alexander, who comes along, hits off the characteristics of Misses Victoria Monks, Vesta Victoria, and the one and only Marie Lloyd with success. Comely Miss Queenie Essex sings of how "Man thinks he is lord of creation," but Miss Queenie soon shows that he is thoroughly mistaken, and amply proves it in the refrain, "Why, poor old man, what a silly old jay you are." The songstress was more ambitious in her second number, "Make glad the night," and overcame some difficult vocalisation.

Mr. Fred Elton has presented his "On Board an Ocean Liner" before at Ealing, and his breezy songs, which seem to carry the scent of the sea in every line, are always welcome, his finale at the piano, "The buzzy wuzzy huzzys" is a complete screamer, and fairly wins the house. The W. T. Thompson Trio exploit an idea that has many exponents—the henpecked husband. It loses nothing of its vim in *Watch the Chalk*. Wifely tyranny—and brandy—accentuated by the assistance of his father, convert Brutus Meek into a raging lion, and as the chalk lines accumulate on the black board he becomes absolutely ferocious, much to the amusement of the audience and the horror of his astonished better-half. Pretty Miss Hilda Lonsdale sings and dances with a charm which is all her own, and her song, "Mr. Lazy Man, good-bye," reaches the top note of excellence.

Toplitsky, or The End of the World, hardly reaches the rank of "the laughing hit of the day," as billed. Toplitsky was a philosopher of a hundred years ago, and Abraham Levy (Mr. Frank Bernard) is one of his followers. His son Sam (Mr. F. H. Dale) is in love with Esther (Miss Edith Mariyn). The old man opposes the alliance—the girl is poor, and Toplitsky has laid it down as an axiom that "only money counts." The philosopher has promised the end of the world for 1999, but by falsifying the date the father is led to believe that the event will immediately occur, and under the stress of the coming smash-up of everything gives his consent to the marriage. The part of Esther is but a small one. That of Abraham Levy has some fine points, and Sam, the son, has some excellent opportunities, but we had always supposed that Mephistopheles was endowed with a moustache.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME

At this time of the year one is accustomed to some slight shrinking in the attendance at indoor places of amusement, but apparently this popular house is proof against the vagaries of our much-abused climate, for on the occasion of a recent visit a numerous and enthusiastic audience was found to be assembled. While such discrimination and enterprise are exercised in the preparation of the bill of fare, the genial manager, Mr. Geo. H. White, need have no cause to fear either heat-waves or thunderbolts.

The leading feature of this week's interesting programme is what is described as a sensational romantic military episode, *The Last Command*, presented by Fred Maxwell and a most capable little body of players. Without exception all the six characters are admirably played, and the scenery and effects are beyond criticism. The story of the triumph of a soldier's sense of honour and stern adherence to duty over the love of an only son, even to the point of seeing him shot, is simply and dramatically told, and the climax is worked up to naturally. Included in the cast are Messrs. Fred Maxwell, F. G. Shreeve, Fred Bailey, Scott Kennedy, J. Darnton, and Miss Lois du Cane.

Ernie Mayne, "the simple one," is in great form. He gets all his points without an effort, and is worth seeing if only for the sake of his capacious smile. Miss Hanid Alexander, at the piano, is much appreciated. A turn that creates as much enthusiasm as any is that provided by Beattie and Babs, juvenile entertainers. They are extremely clever dancers, and the grotesque version of "Il Bacio" by the younger of the two showed her to be a very finished comedienne. The singing and dancing of the Six Lancashire Lasses goes with a swing from start to finish, their very evident enjoyment of their work being infectious. Goodfellow and Gregson, comedy artists, are in high favour. Their humour is largely of the quaint and unexpected order, and their sallies get home effectively. Other items in the programme are Roland Bottomley in a sporting song, Ambrose Thorne, comic, Chris. van Bern, a particularly versatile entertainer, whose amusing fund of patter makes him one of the most welcome turns in the bill, and Lily Black, comedienne. The Bioscope shows some realistic Derby Day films, including one of the winner.

THE GRANVILLE.

There is always a well diversified programme at this cosy little home of variety in Walham Green, which accounts for the staunch patronage so loyally given to the popular manager, Mr. Robert W. Duce. A most acceptable turn is proffered by that amusing Scottish pattering comedian Mr. Sammy Shields, who is responsible for much hearty laughter, and his simple little song, "The Old Tam o' Shanter," is a tuneful ditty. Mr. Chas. Lewis has a novel and original ventriloquial act, with a most lifelike figure. Most of his gags are smart and up to date, and the concluding cabinet act is decidedly neat. Mr. H. R. Friscary performs some marvellous and skilful feats in the way of top-hat manipulating, and his reception was most cordial, as was that of Miss Molly Devon, a pleasing Irish comedienne.

That fine descriptive singer and clever comedian Arthur Lennard is always sure of a hearty welcome for his taking songs, and he has two very good numbers, in "Let's wait and see the pictures," and a clever characteristic policeman study, "Pass Along." His refined turn has all the qualities that make for the uplifting of the variety stage. It is a pleasure indeed to listen to an entertainer whose performance is invariably on the highest level of artistry. Miss Marie Collins, full of vivacity, as usual, pleased all with her pretty songs, of which "Im afraid of you" was the favourite item. Dalvere and Wallace have a merry act of laughter and song, entitled *By the Sideboard*, which caught on immediately. The Brothers Werds are a pair of American eccentrics, with many smart tricks and falls, and altogether their act is a most clever one. The Great Northern troupe are billed as the premier international and speciality dancers of the world, and, judging by their nimble footing of several dances, the description is a very apt one. The evening's entertainment is brought to a close with some very clear films on the cinematograph, and the orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Frank Thomas, perform their selections admirably.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

Despite the advent of summer conditions the attendances here show no signs of diminishing. Mr. G. Wells, the popular manager, has another "strong" array of talent this week, the programme being cordially appreciated. On Monday evening a truly large audience evinced the utmost enthusiasm over an entirely new production of Mr. Fred Karno's—the pantomimical burlesque *The Annual Sports at Duddington*, a screamingly funny representation of village gaiety and sport. One of Mr. Karno's best companies is seen, and the fun and amusement created stamp all the members of the company as clever and thoroughly trained artists.

The Kennedy Girls, the smartest troupe of dancers and singers at present on the "halls," made a decided "hit," their excellent singing and dainty dancing being heartily applauded. A novel act was the ju-jitsu dance, which was loudly encored. The troupe, twelve in number, includes Miss Lily Russell, the lady champion ju-jitsu exponent. The Spanish Goldini Troupe of carpet-swinging acrobats and jugglers were a phenomenal success, and the juvenile members of the troupe displayed marked cleverness in somersaulting. An elaborate electrical apparatus gives splendid and novel scenic effects during the performance of this renowned troupe. Ted Gowan, comedian, pays a welcome return visit with new songs as funny and as droll as ever. "My mother said" and "Sing a song of sixpence" keep the audience in a merry mood, and naturally there are calls for more.

The song-scena by the Four Garricks is well received, their singing being especially sweet and tuneful, and considerable favour and appreciation were given by the audience. Sterling and Love, in their discord and harmony act, provide much humour, delightful singing, and clever music on several instruments. Essman, the juggling waiter, was a clever and skilful turn, and performed numerous feats of juggling which were quite astounding. The sweet harmonising of the Sisters Draycott came in for the heartiest applause, a special feature being their singing of "Dear heart," which the audience loudly applauded. Some clever balancing is accomplished by the Michel Brothers, who are very dexterous with both head and hand. J. W. Rickaby, burlesque character comedian, is well received, and Miss Grace Langley, a young and dainty comedienne, has an excellent song called "Spooning." On Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope a splendid reproduction of the Derby is given, together with other interesting films.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

SAM!

SUNG BY MISS HELEN TRIX.

THE Dame Song for the Coming Pantomimes.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Feldman and Co.'s ballad, "Beautiful garden of roses," has a most delightful exponent in Miss Annie Schuberth, at the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, this week, and plaudits loud and long have rewarded the fair cantatrice for her exquisite rendering of this already popular Anglo-American "winner."

Miss Katie Marsh, at the Chelsea Palace this week, has been received with acclamation in her demure and arch rendering of Miss Clare Kummer's song, "I wonder if it's true," which is nightly applauded to the echo in every house.

Miss Joan Deering, at the Palace, Warrington, has been making a pronounced success with Messrs. Damerell, Lane, and Neat's song of sentiment, "In the mirror of your eyes," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are publishing, and this promises to be one of the most successful ballads of the season.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have just acquired for immediate publication a new Irish ballad entitled "Ireland, the land of the Shamrock," by Gilbert Wells and Fred Elton, which certainly promises to be a success.

Miss Gertie Gitana sang Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford's lovely ballad, "You were coming through the corn, Molly, dear," at the Empire, Sheffield, on Monday night, for her fourth number, and held her audience simply spellbound, being recalled no less than three times at the finish. This great winner in a Feldman publication.

Miss May Otto, who is working Feldman's Irish number, "The green, green ribbon," at the County Rink, Truro, with the greatest possible success, will shortly feature yet another Feldman number. "Betty, I'm pining."

Messrs. Grapho and Jackson, writing Feldman and Co., record the phenomenal success of all their pierrot troupes with the Arthur-street firm's songs, particularly "Beautiful garden of roses," which is a positive furore everywhere.

Miss Frances Leonard, of the Savoyards, records the great success of the troupe at Eel Pie Island in "Dear little sunbonnet lady," "Little girl from nowhere," and "Alpine Dress," all three of which are Feldman publications.

Miss Lottie Lennox, at the Hippodrome, Darlington, this week, is the recipient of unstinted applause from a host of admirers in every house what time she sweetly sings Feldman and Co.'s successful publication, "Put on your old plaid shawl."

Mr. Gordon Stretton, the new coon, is wise in his generation in securing numbers from the foremost writers of the day, as managements take great cognisance by whom artists are equipped with material. Among Mr. Stretton's latest acquisitions are "I wonder why I'm still a bachelor coon?" by Tom Meller and Harry Gifford, and "Carrie Brown," by Leonard Cooke and John Neat.

COLLINS'S, ISLINGTON, N.

A bill of all-round excellence has been presented at "the house on the Green" this week, in which some novelties are starred, and some old friends make a welcome reappearance. In the latter category must be included Bob Hutt, who is once more seen in his boisterously merry sketch *Welcome Home*. This musical comedy knockabout trifle is played very vigorously by Mr. Hutt and his hard-working company, and, although on very late in the programme, holds the audience to the last. Mr. Hutt, as of yore, takes the troubles of the unfortunate bridegroom on his own shoulders with the greatest enthusiasm, and, to the unbounded delight of the audience, finds himself covered with glory when the curtain falls on his untiring efforts.

Albert Morrow is a magician new to London. His "spirit-hand" trick is excellent, his style smart, his appearance good, and his illusions for the most part refreshingly original. Salt Bush Bill supplies an Australian stock-whip act after the manner of Fred Lindsay. Bill gives a show remarkable for the strength and skill displayed. A pair of extremely talented musicians are the juvenile Sisters Fantazzi, of whom we ought to see a great deal presently. Hall and Wilson, very clever trick cyclists, present their "Man and Motor" act.

Mr. Lester R. Stuart's sketch, *The Awakening of Celestia*, is a good little story of a sculptor falling in love with the life-size female figure he is working on. The statue comes to life and sings Tosti's "Good-bye" very well. The other incidents should be revised, and a pleasanter ending substituted.

We see Vowles and Bryan in an excellent song and patter act. Addie Adell gets plenty of applause for her ballad-singing; as also does Walter Wallace for his low-comedy numbers. We get chorus songs from Rose Gower, comedy from Walsh and Tanner, and Trevor and Ware; and *Recalled*, an Indian hunting episode, is well played by Micklin Williams.

A clever turn is that given by La Petite Rosa; and the same can be written of Chris. Harland's "Enchanted Grotto," an electrical transformation. The Daintons, Grace Hunt, and Winnie Melville are also to be seen and heard in this week's long bill at Collins's.

Miss Johanna Redmond, daughter of Mr. John Redmond, M.P., has written a comedy sketch which is to be produced at a London music hall.

Mr. Alec Knowles, who has been Press representative at the Alhambra for the last three years, has retired from that position, which he has held in all for five years.

Mr. Joseph Midgley and company have rented the Albert Theatre, Brighouse, for a few weeks to produce variety entertainments on the twice nightly plan.

Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Fletcher Moulton, and Buckley concluded on Monday the hearing of an appeal brought by the defendants in the case of Edelsten v. H. B. Marinelli, Ltd. Both parties were theatrical agents. The alleged libel of which the plaintiff complained was contained in a letter written by the defendants to Mr. Frank Macnaghten, dated December, 1908.

When the action was tried before Mr. Justice Ridley and a special jury, the judge ruled that the letter containing the alleged libel was not written on a privileged occasion, and the jury awarded the plaintiff £100. After hearing counsel, Lord Justice Vaughan Williams said that in this case the court thought there must be a new trial. The defendants would have the costs of the appeal, the costs of the first action to abide the result of the new trial. Mr. Lush, K.C., and Mr. Storry Deans appeared for the appellant; Mr. Montagu Shearman, K.C., and Mr. Martin O'Connor were for the respondents. Solicitors: For the defendants, Messrs. Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick; for the plaintiff, Messrs. W. B. Blackwell and Co.

"Cinematograph Bill, 1909." Price 1d., by post 2d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE FOREST OF HAPPY DREAMS."

An African Fantasy, in One Act, by Edgar Wallace, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome, on Monday, June 6.

The Man .....Mr. Lionel Atwill
The Commissioner .....Mr. Henry Bagge
The Jockey .....Mr. Hugh Wakefield
The Financier .....Mr. Olaf Hytten
The Headman .....Mr. Edward Sorley
The Girl .....Miss Doris Evelyn

This sketch, which Mr. Henry Bagge is producing at the Camden this week, is from the able pen of Mr. Edgar Wallace, the well-known journalist and explorer, so Mr. Wallace writes of what he knows, and it is safe to say that no more convincing and human sketch has been seen for some time past. The scene is laid in the Ituri Forest, where we find, amid beautiful surroundings, the Englishman stricken down with fever with only his faithful Headman to look after him. He has made a muddle of life in England, and has gone out to get away from any white man. The Headman, by the aid of those wonderful signs that makes news travel so quickly among the tribes, has called the Commissioner to his aid, and on his arrival he sees how ill the Englishman is and gives him medicine and leaves him for the night, promising to fetch him to more comfortable quarters the next day. But during the night the patient has a happy dream, in which everything goes aright, and if only it had occurred in reality he would not have been in his present position. Thus, with happiness in his mind, he passes away in the "Forest of Happy Dreams," and, as his Headman observes philosophically, has gone to that place where there is no trouble and where peace and rest are for all. It is difficult to give any idea of the beautiful manner in which the story is told and the telling effect it produces: suffice it to say it held the audience firmly, and created a wonderful impression.

Mr. Lionel Atwill gave a most finished performance of the Englishman, his depiction of the man with fever on him being indeed most vivid; while Mr. Henry Bagge as the kind-hearted Commissioner played with much force. Mr. Edward Sorley presented a fine picture of the Headman, and the other characters were capably filled. The scene of the forest is a most artistic piece of mounting, and the various lighting effects are excellent. Mr. Herman Finck is responsible for the incidental music, which is in every way appropriate. We are certain to see this little play in a West End Theatre before long, where it cannot fail to make a big success.

The latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 3½; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5½; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires (5), 4½; Oxford (5), 7; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 1; Tivoli, New (5), 6¼.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS DOROTHY GRAHAME.

The career of Miss Dorothy Grahame started in a pantomime at the West London Theatre at the early age of twelve, when she played a minor part and danced a sailor's hornpipe. She is able to say with reasonable pride that she has had no tuition whatever, in any shape or form. After that she joined a touring company, and played many and various small parts, till what she regarded as the event of her life happened—she was engaged to play principal boy in a touring company at the age of fifteen. She made a success, and got plenty of engagements to follow, to play Alice Fitzwarren and other principal parts in pantomimes and plays on tour.

[*Photo by Martin.*

MISS DOROTHY GRAHAME.

After another year or so Miss Grahame decided to give up touring, and made a firm decision to obtain an engagement in London. She wrote to Mr. Dion Boucicault, who gave her the desired chance, and she played in *Peter Pan* for two seasons and in several other plays at the Duke of York's. She also went with the company to Paris, and played at the Vaudeville there. While in the French capital she saw "La Danse des Apaches," and thought it would be a good idea for the music halls in London, so she taught herself the dance, came back, and engaged a partner, to whom she imparted the necessary instruction. She obtained an introduction to Mr. Frank Glenister, who gave her the one real chance of her life—offered her a starring engagement immediately at the London Pavilion. There she remained for one month, from Feb. 15, 1909, scoring a pronounced success. Thanks to Mr. Glenister's start on the halls she speedily got booked on the Gibbons circuit, where she danced "La Danse des Apaches" everywhere with great success. Recently Miss Grahame put on a new act, with Paul Armand, her partner in the "Apache," entitled *Chauffeur and Maid*, including a new French dance, called "La Danse Tabarin," arranged by Charles Raymond.

"I love the music halls," says Miss Grahame, "and intend to stay with them if they will have me. If I meet with as many charming friends and managers as I have hitherto, I shall be amply satisfied."

Hans and Lux, the argumentative college chums, after eighteen weeks' run, start on the Stoll tour for thirty weeks.

Mr. Harry Rickards, who arrived in Melbourne from Sydney on May 2, has left for England in search of fresh novelties for his various Australian theatres.

Mr. Arthur Roberts has accepted from Mr. C. Claxton-Turner a new farcical sketch for immediate production, of which the title will be announced later.

F. Mozzetto, the well-known juggler, who tops the bill this week at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, returns to town on June 27, opening on the Gibbons' circuit.

Miss Della Ray, an artist with a charming figure, made good last week on her first visit to the Empire, Edmonton, where, in consequence of her success, she holds a contract from Mr. Harry Bawn to reappear in five months time.

Miss Vera Saunders, a newcomer to variety, is meeting with gratifying success this week at the Metropolitan. This clever little singer and dancer will be seen next week at Margate, afterwards returning to town to produce a new scena, entitled *Brides*.

An addition to the magnificent programme at the Empire next week will be made by the inclusion of Valazzi, who gained great popularity on his last visit to this theatre with his juggling and balancing act. The Revue and Mlle. Kyasht's "Dance Idylls" are in every way delightful and still drawing enormous audiences.

FELDMAN'S

PIERROT PLUMS.

SOMEWHERE.

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.
THE PRETTY LITTLE GIRL FROM NOWHERE.
IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
MOLLY O'MORGAN.
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
OH! I MUST GO HOME TO-NIGHT.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
IN THE ARMY.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.
I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
MOON, MOON, MOON.
PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
SHE'S A GIRL UP NORTH.
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF THE GIRLS.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.
MY SWEET GARDEN QUEEN.
SWEET LITTLE SUN-BONNET LADY.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
IT'S THE GREEN, GREEN RIBBON.
MARIE LOUISE.
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

AND MANY OTHERS.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"THE PRICE OF A SOUL."

A Sketch, in One Scene, by Miss Maud Hildyard and Mr. Russell Vaun, Produced at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, May 30.

Richard Lovelace .....Mr. Wallis Clark
Jack Arnot .....Mr. Warburton Gamble
Nitocris .....Miss Maud Hildyard

Miss Maud Hildyard has secured a sketch which proved a success at its initial performance, and should continue for a long while to come to hold its own. The weird and exciting story is quite different from that of the general run of sketches. Richard Lovelace, a rising surgeon, is unfortunately a victim of the absinthe habit, and at the time the story opens he is feeling the effects of his folly. His scientific studies have included Ancient Egypt, and having secured the body of an Egyptian dancer, Nitocris, he reads her history, and learns that while she lived she possessed a certain drug which gave the appearance of death and at the same time preserved the body in its natural state for almost all time. He also reads that a certain antidote will restore life, and with this end in view he experiments upon the body in his possession. Jack Arnot, who is staying with the doctor, does all within his power to discourage this action, but without avail, and when he sees that his efforts are useless, he retires for the night, leaving the doctor with his absinthe and his strange fancies.

As the clock chimes the midnight hour we see the figure of Nitocris gradually assume the appearance of life. She slowly moves her arms and slower still moves forward. The doctor's mad wish has been accomplished, and encouraged by his success and overcome by the beauty of his subject, he falls in love with her. It is then that Nitocris says that her love is not for him unless he will kill Jack Arnot so that she may become possessed of his soul. The doctor's weakened brain forces him to agree to her wishes, and in a fit of frenzy he stabs his friend, who, with the Egyptian dancer, disappears from view. Filled with remorse at the death of his friend, Lovelace flies again to his source of comfort, the absinthe. In the midst of his mad scene Jack Arnot enters the room, and when the doctor realises that he has been the victim of delusions brought on by the deadly drug habit, he casts it aside for ever.

Mr. Wallis Clark plays with considerable power as Richard Lovelace, and his acting reaches a high standard of excellence in his mad scene. Mr. C. Warburton Gamble enacts the rôle of Jack Arnot in a most capable manner; and much praise is due to Miss Maud Hildyard for her splendid impersonation of the Egyptian dancer, Nitocris. The sketch was received with energetic applause.

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD CONCERT.

The ministering angels of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild—untiring in their efforts to increase the funds of a charity most deserving and admirably administered—gave an evening concert in aid of the distressed poor of the variety profession last Sunday, June 5, at the Metropolitan, the popular hall in the Edgware-road, by kind permission of Mr. Henri Gros and his co-directors. The fine hall was well filled, and doubtless many of the higher-priced unoccupied seats were paid for. Although one or two of the stars in the programme failed to appear, the entertainment provided proved very enjoyable, and the selections of the orchestra, augmented by members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, under the direction of Angelo Asher, were greatly appreciated.

Quite early in the programme Miss Irene Rose secured abundant applause for her excellent rendering of "The Gift," and she gave as an encore the ballad "Dear Heart"; and the fine voice of that accomplished and favourite musical comedy artist, Miss Madge Temple, was also loudly acclaimed. A reception reserved only for old favourites was that accorded the well-known comedian, Mr. Charles Coborn, who paid an eloquent tribute to the personality and popularity of Edward the Peacemaker in his well-rendered song, "That's why the British loved the King." Mr. Harcourt Mills, character mimic, won well-deserved plaudits for his faithful impersonations of Mr. Martin Harvey as Sydney Carton in *The Only Way* and the late Sir Henry Irving as Matthias in *The Bells*, the clever young actor also giving an admirable study of senility as the old grandfather in the scene of the death of Little Nell, from "The Old Curiosity Shop."

The Two Brilliants, decidedly expert lady xylophonists, were heard with evident pleasure in familiar selections; and Mr. Leonard, the accomplished violinist of the Norman and Leonard Trio, contributed a finely played solo. Mr. Charles R. Whittle, the popular comedian, was rapturously applauded for his quietly comic singing of two humorous numbers, "Can you make room for a little one?" and "She's a London lass is Lucy," the balcony boys insisting on joining in the choruses; and the clever juggling of Mr. Frank Hartley was keenly watched and acclaimed at its true worth. Mr. Walter Barrett, baritone, secured approbation for his excellent renderings of that particularly effective song "The Trumpeter" and a patriotic number "Long Live the King"; and Miss Mimi De Frece also vocalised acceptably. Interesting animated photography, supplied by Messrs. Griffiths and Ruffell's, included some splendid natural history pictures, the Scriptural subjects and The Blue Bird also affording much enjoyment.

MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Collected by Harry Wright, 15s.

Walter Lacey	10	Chas. Williams	1
Harry Wright	2	J. R. Cain	1
Nellie Gannon	1		

Collected by Henry R. Brown, 16s

R. Cyril Keene	2	H. C. Young	1
Henry R. Brown	2	Early Worm	1
F. Barber	1	J. Neat	1
M. Thorgan	1	S. H. Catt	1
A. F. Peale	1	L. Peatt	1
J. W. Tye	1	Dora Chivington	1
D. Warwick	1	Down South	1

Miss Minnie Kaufmann hurt her ankle during the second house performance at the Rotherham Hippodrome on Monday, and was out of the bill for the rest of the week. Curiously enough, on the same evening during the first house another artist met with a slight accident.

Bersaglieri's Band, with their picturesque uniform eloquent of the beautiful Tyrol, is a fine combination of wood, wind, and brass instrumentalists, numbering twenty. They play novel selections and the glockenspiel, xylophonic, and chime bell effects enable them to give both national colour and great variety to their extensive répertoire. The address of the bandmaster is 74, Florence-road, Brighton.

The principal new-comer at the London Hippodrome next week is Chung Ling Soo, the famous magician, who has just returned from a successful tour of Australia. His series of illusions includes "The Living Target," an arrow being apparently shot through the body of his lady assistant, Suee Seen, into the target beyond; "The Magic Cauldron," into which, when "on the boil," various ingredients are thrown, birds and animals eventually emerging therefrom, and finally Miss Suee Seen; "The Crystal Lamp Enchantment," showing the materialisation of a human form from space; and a pretty illusion, "The Birth of a Pearl."

RINKING GOSSIP.

John Davidson Delights Large Crowds.

THERE was a large attendance at the Pontardawe Palace Skating Rink, when John Davidson gave what was undoubtedly the finest exhibition of roller skating ever witnessed in the district. Possessed of fine physique, says our correspondent, lithe and agile, and greatly assited by the excellence of the rink, which has the largest skating surface in South Wales, he manifestly delighted the audience with his exposition of trick and fancy skating, many of the feats being his own invention. The secret of much of the undoubted success of the Palace Rink lies in the never-failing courtesy and excellent management of Mr. L. W. Francis, the proprietor, and Mr. Phorn, the manager, The attendance is a tribute to both the popularity of the rink and the great reputation which Mr. Davideon has made for himself in South Wales.

Clarke and Lilian at Ammanford.

FULL houses testified to the appreciation of Clarke and Lillian's expert performance on skates at the Brynderwiyn Rink, Ammanford, last week. The clever couple gave a fine programme of figure, fancy, and trick skating.

McLallen and Carson at Dundee.

MCLELLAN AND CARSON, America's premier team of rink roller skaters, are appearing at the King's Theatre and Hippodrome this week, where they have done very well. Their scena entitled The Awakening of Toyland is a gorgeous and artistic piece of stage setting, while the graceful and easy fashion in which they go through their various evolutions further adds to the attractiveness of a unique and exceptionally clever act.

Dolly Mitchell at Reading.

THE Reading Central Skating Rink, despite the almost tropical heat, remains refreshingly cool. Mr. Wood-Winstanley has had a great attraction this week in Dolly Mitchell, the champion lady trick skater, who has daily delighted patrons with her wonderfully artistic and graceful evolutions. The Vastern-road Rink was closed down on Saturday last. Manager Frank Pearce has gone out to Brussels to join Mr. Frank Bostock.

Monohan again at Sutton.

THE Great Monohan paid his third visit to the Sutton Rink this season for the closing week. His performances attracted large crowds, for he is a great favourite in the pretty Surrey town, and on the closing night he surpassed himself. The applause he got was tremendous. The evening finished up with a grand confetti battle, in which the whole of the patrons took part. Mr. Chas. W. Thompson, the managing director, was warmly congratulated by all, and during the evening was presented with a tennis racket by the gentlemen and patrons, whilst Mrs. Chas. W. Thompson was the recipient of a bouquet.

"Damnable Skating Rinks."

THE annual meetings of the Pembrokeshire Baptist Association, representing some 12,000 church members, were held at Camrose this week. During the proceedings the Rev. Mr. Hughes (St. Dogmarls) relieved the monotony of the proceedings by stating that Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire "suffered from the craze of the damnable skating rink."

Can it be True?

AN attendant at a skating-rink told his Honour Judge Bray, at the Shoreditch County Court, that he worked on a commission of a penny for every pair of skates he fixed on, and earned 25s. a week. Ladies require three times more attention than men.

Really a Blessing.

COMPLAINTS have been heard at South Shields about the skating rink, figure 8 railway, and other buildings, recently erected, having shut out the view of the sea from Ocean Road and Pier Approach. It is quite true that this has been their effect, but there are, it seems, compensating advantages. The erections form a very useful protection against north-easterly winds to the South Marine Park. Not many public pleasure grounds of the kind are to be found in so exposed a situation, and the trees especially have suffered greatly in the winter and early spring from the cruel icy blasts that come across the North Sea. Perhaps with the protection they are now afforded they may flourish more luxuriantly.

Manager Mansel Chaired.

THE Central Skating Rink at Bath closed for the summer last Saturday, when several hundreds of rinkers bade farewell until September to the popular manager, Mr. Mansel, who was chaired round the rink and called upon for a speech.

Roller Skating at Cardiff.

THE Central Roller Rink, on the Hayes, which has had a most successful season, closed for the summer last Saturday. The Olympia Rink, Queen-street, which is under the efficient management of Mr. A. Tetlow, will continue to keep open. During the continuance of the hot weather the first consideration of devotees of roller-skating in choosing their rink will be the adequacy of the ventilation, and the management of the Olympia have taken time by the forelock in this respect, the excellent system of ventilation assuring a copious supply of cool, fresh air.

Employés Strike at Chippenham.

FOR some time past Messrs. Skinner and Co., contractors, of Chippenham, have been busily engaged in the erection of a skating rink in Station Hill. About twenty men have been employed; of these ten were labourers and the remainder were artisans. The labourers struck for more wages last week. The building is a brick structure, and the walls have reached a good height. The labourers consider the task they are engaged in is a hard one. For this work 4d. an hour has been paid. The master said he could get plenty more men to do the work. As a result of this the labourers ceased to work, and walked away from the building.

Clacton Rink.

DESPITE the summer-like weather, the popularity of this rink is maintained. Special exhibitions are being given this week to large audiences of trick and fancy skating by Mr. Bradshaw and Miss Effie Ives. At intervals in the skating session a powerful programme of pictures is portrayed by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

Darlington Skating Rink.

THE New Olympia Skating Rink, Darlington, which is at present closed for renovation purposes, is to be reopened during the third week in July. Next season the proprietors purpose introducing new features.

Business Brisk in Dundee.

BUSINESS continues very brisk at the Olympia Skating Palace, Dundee, where this week the boy champion of Great Britain creates wonderment by his masterly exhibition on the rollers. He is only eleven years of age, and the graceful and easy motions characteristic of his skating are delightful to witness. The picture displays are a popular feature of this rink, which is a favourite haunt of professionals visiting Dundee.

Improvements at Hampstead.

THE first annual dinner of the Hampstead Palace Roller Skating Club (affiliated to the National Skating Association), of which the Mayor of Hampstead (Alderman Ernest Todd, J.P.) is president, and Mr. J. S. Fletcher, M.P., and Mr. Frank G. Howard vice-presidents, took place at the Stag Hotel, Fleet-road, last week. Mr. Gerald Leslie, the energetic and popular general manager of the rink in Cressy-road, the headquarters of the club, who presided, said that when the members visited the rink next September they would see great changes. The rink was to be lengthened and widened, and the management was also working out a scheme of special decoration on the lines of the White City. There is to be a new café and lounge, and the rink will be made even more attractive than before.

Olympia (Hanley) Skating Club.

THE following are the officials of the North Staffordshire Roller Skating Club, whose headquarters are at the Olympia, Hanley: President, Mr. C. J. Elphinstone; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. Godwin, J. Penningston, P. Collins, R. Stewart; joint captains, Messrs. J. P. Hewitt and G. Shutt; committee, Messrs. J. Crosby, J. Llewellyn, R. Stevenson, N. Stevenson, R. Lumsdale, R. Elmitt, A. Miller, A. P. Moult, and F. Hinley. The hon. secretary is Mr. W. Bonfield, 35, Cauldon-road, Shelton, who will be pleased to give information to intending members. This club is undoubtedly one of the best in the Potteries district, and all artists who delight in rinking should be on the roll.

Hockey in Liverpool.

SKATING-RINKS, which have become so popular throughout the North of England, have initiated a game—hockey on skates—which has undoubtedly "caught on" in the Liverpool district. Apart from the challenge cup for Liverpool and the neighbourhood, which has been won by a Widnes organisation, the first county match in which representatives of Lancashire and Cheshire have participated has recently been decided. If the cheese county has for so many years taken a back seat in respect to cricket and football, it can at least claim pre-eminence as to the latest inter-county competition. The skate hockey rinkers of Lancashire and Cheshire played a drawn game at the Pudsey-street Rink, but the replay at New Brighton resulted in an easy victory for Cheshire by four goals to nil. It is interesting to know that the captain of the Cheshire side, J. Fare—a perfect marvel on the skates—was largely instrumental in securing the victory of his side, for whom he scored a couple of goals. By the way, young Fare is a son of Mr. John Fare, the well-known director of the Liverpool Football Club.

Another Rink for Margate.

THE Margate Corporation has approved plans for the erection of a skating rink in Northdown Road and a cinematograph hall in Fort Road.

Scarborough's Grand Rink.

RINKING enthusiasts are still finding their way to the Grand Rink in goodly numbers. The comfortable lounge is freely used, while the many visitors using the rink remark upon the splendid view of the bay afforded from the many windows of the building.

Southampton Reopening Date.

THE rinking season at the Southampton Skating Rink closes to-night (Saturday). The rink reopens on Aug. 31.

Wandsworth's Rinking Garden.

THE latest development in the skating world is the establishment of an open-air "rinking garden" at East Hill, Wandsworth. The "garden" has been constructed on most original lines. Encircling the skating surface are picturesque clumps of flowers, rustic summerhouses, garden seats, and shady trees. Even the surrounding palisade is coloured a greenish hue, whilst in one corner a cool awning screens a number of daintily-set refreshment tables. At night additional charm is added to the scene by a number of coloured lights, which stretch like a fairy network far above the heads of the gliding skaters.

Skating Rink for Wellington.

A LOCAL company is being formed to provide a skating rink for Wellington and district. The site is in a meadow on the left of Tan Bank, within two minutes' walk from the railway station. The movement has so far advanced that plans for a new building have already been prepared.

Presentation at West Bromwich.

THERE was an interesting gathering at the West Bromwich Skating Rink on Saturday on the occasion of the close of the rinking club's season. To mark their appreciation of the courtesy and kindliness of Mr. J. A. Hewitt, the popular floor manager, the members presented him with a very handsome marble timepiece, bearing a suitable inscription. The presentation was made by Mrs. Dundas Manley, who spoke of the interest Mr. Hewitt took in the club members and the patrons of the rink generally. Mr. Hewitt suitably acknowledged the gift.

Weston-super-Mare Fairyland.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE possesses a trio of rinks—the Birnbeck on the Old Pier, the Victoria on the Boulevard, and the Atlantic on the front. The Birnbeck is now making a fair bid for success, as the proprietors have appointed Mr. Court, late of the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, to take charge, and under his capable management a new era of success can be assured. This rink is undoubtedly the largest of the three. Next in size is the excellent rink on the Boulevard, the Victoria, which can rightly be described as "a rink within a rink," for, in addition to the large hall, on which an excellent floor is laid, there is a fine covered way about 6ft. wide all round the hall, which is also laid with rock maple, and around which the couples go, skating part of the way through a conservatory with a large grape vine trailing its branches all along the roof, and then through a covered passage, which with a little expense could be made a veritable fairyland, back into another part of the same conservatory. This is a unique arrangement, and is very popular with the patrons. Mr. Race is the manager of this well-appointed rink. The last and smallest is the Atlantic, where a very capable floor manager in the person of Mr. Percy H. Holmshaw presides, and receives a large patronage from the residents. Conspicuous on the rink is tiny Noel Charlton, just turned four, and this mite exhibits many of the tricks indulged in by adult experts, such as skating on two wheels, spread eagle, jumping, &c.

THE Skating Rink, Stourbridge, is now converted into a Winter Gardens, and the Royal Entertainers are giving their Pierrot performance there, supported by that talented local artist Harry Pearson, twice daily at 3 and 8, to good audiences. The manager, Mr. Harry J. Wharton, deserves praise for the able manner in which he has altered the rink.

"GOING TO THE BALL."

A Comedy Sketch Duologue, by Mr. J. Willoughby Woodward, Produced at the New Theatre, Oxford, on Monday, June 6.

The duologue opens with a scene between a middle-class couple preparing to go to a ball. The husband, who arrives home late from town and has forgotten several necessary purchases, which causes endless trouble, gets the usual cold, badly-prepared meal, and sends it away untouched. Then the dressing of the husband taxes the temper of himself and wife. The studs are lost, the tie is mislaid (he has it on all the time), and numberless other worries cause considerable amusement, though the incident of hunting for a threepenny piece under the table falls rather flat. To crown all, when both are quite ready, and after considerable searching for the tickets, they find that the event has been postponed. The piece is diverting, and both the author and Miss Beatrice Whitney worked well to bring out the points of the piece.

THE PHILLIPS AIRSHIP.

MUSIC HALL ACT THAT MAY RULE THE WORLD.

Mr. Thomas E. Raymond Phillips, whose remarkable invention of a dirigible balloon controlled by wireless transmission of electric power has set London wondering and speculating, is now in the sixth week of his engagement at the London Hippodrome. In the ten years' history of the famous Cranbourn-street theatre there have been many wonderful, remarkable, and unique "shows" seen there, but it is quite safe to say no better booking was ever made by either Sir Edward Moss or Mr. Oswald Stoll than the engagement of Mr. Phillips to demonstrate the powers of his *appalling* invention. The word "appalling" is used by us in its most emphatic sense, for it has been left to the enterprise of our keenest variety theatre magnate to exploit as a variety "turn" what might well turn out to be the deadliest warship the ingenuity of man has ever devised.

The word "apathy" could be adopted as the watchword, concerning most things, of a section of the British public, but even if this is so we have a right to expect better from those whose duty it is to be for ever on the look-out for inventions that make for the supremacy of Britain among the nations. Yet such is the apathy and indifference of the British War Office on the sub-

[*Photo by Campbell Gray, Ltd.*

MR. T. E. RAYMOND PHILLIPS.
(The Inventor of the Controlled Dirigible Balloon.)

ject of its own work that six weeks have slipped by and not a single official has approached Mr. Phillips with a view to securing his marvellous invention—an invention that could carry death and destruction into any land—for the exclusive use of this country.

But—and it is a very big But, indeed—the representatives of other countries have not been asleep, and no less than four officials, agents of Germany, Russia, the United States, and even little Italy, have waited on Mr. Phillips at the Strand Palace Hotel, where he is staying, and inquired his terms for an exclusive sale.

Learning these facts, *The Era* representative called on Mr. Phillips to ascertain what he intended to do.

"Do," said the great inventor, just a little bitterly, "well, you see, I'm an Englishman, and it goes against the grain to sell an invention that can be used with such deadly effect against our own land to any power that might be seeking such a weapon to effect our overthrow. I might die by my own invention in that case, you know. Other inventors have met their end that way, but I don't

[*Photo by Campbell Gray, Ltd.*

MISS RAY.
(Wearing Dress Illuminated by Wireless Electric Waves.)

want to follow suit. I absolutely can't do it. And I've told them so.

"Fortunately we have still *some* business men left in this country, and to my great surprise I have found your music hall managers the keenest in the commercial world. So it comes about that it pays me very well indeed to become a variety artist, until such times as the British War Office recognises the merits and deadly possibilities of a wireless controlled aerial warship that can be directed from afar in the devastation of the enemy's cities.

"Thanks to Mr. Stoll I can make a good deal of money whilst exploiting my invention and demonstrating its powers to thousands in all parts of the kingdom.

"During my engagement at the London Hippodrome the great building has been packed with interested spectators, and the keenness of all can be gauged from the fact that when 'Last Week' was billed ten days or so ago shoals of letters reached Cranbourn Mansions clamouring for a week's extension, and in the midst of a very big bill I was once more strongly featured. That alone I regard as a very great compliment."

Undoubtedly Mr. Phillips' invention is capable of being toured round the world as a first-class music-hall attraction. The inventor quite properly guards its secrets very jealously, so there is very little danger of them being stolen whilst the British Government is making up its mind to pay for the brains of a patriotic Englishman. In the meantime he is in the happy position—not common to inventors—of not suffering a pecuniary loss in consequence.

Mr. Phillips at a very early age started inventing. When a very small boy indeed he installed in his father's garden an elaborate set of signals by which he controlled the movements of his brothers as they wheeled their barrows through the garden paths. It is not recorded whether the brothers liked this bossing or not, but young Raymond was the predominant partner, and they recognised the fact with the best grace possible. At his first situation, in the office of a tramway company, young Phillips spent more time in the fitting shop than at his desk. Later he had charge of the river steamers that plied between Oxford and Henley. All the time he was never tired of acquiring a practical knowledge of mechanics, and was constantly testing new ideas. When but nineteen he became deputy manager to a large engineering firm, and two years later was promoted to be its manager.

The invention of an exceptionally clever system of railway signalling which has since been installed on London's underground railways was his next coup. Since then Mr. Phillips has devoted the whole of his time to the perfection of the contrivance by which to control dirigible balloons, with what success has been amply demonstrated at the London Hippodrome.

Mr. Phillips may be said to be absolutely bubbling over with ideas.

"Since I have been at the Hippodrome," he remarked, I have been so struck with the possibility of adapting engineering to music hall entertainments that I have not only invented several novelties which in due course will be presented to the public, but I shall give my earnest attention to the subject very much in future.

"For instance, I am giving the illumination of ballets by wireless my serious consideration. As you know, at the Hippodrome I am assisted by a young lady whose dress is lighted by a wireless system. This is the first time such a thing has been done on the stage. I have another system for a ballet, with weird and startling effects. It will prove a great novelty and gives practically endless variety and scope to the producer. It will effect a great saving in the dress bill, and will give results that can be obtained by no other means.

"Again, I have a wireless controlled orchestra—a system which can be applied to three ordinary pianos, from which all the results got from an ordinary theatre orchestra can be obtained. It is possible for me to go into an auditorium with a wireless transmitter, and, without any connection between the transmitter and the stage or any portion of the theatre, for me to completely control my orchestra, which may be placed in any portion of the building you please. Of course, the three pianos are connected with the main control or receiving cabinet by the wireless waves from the transmitter, and so operates the whole thing.

"My future plans are to go out to the United States, and from thence take a Continental tour, giving demonstrations just as I have done at the Hippodrome. But first of all I shall be seen at some of the best variety theatres in the provinces."

It is permissible to ask: Will Britain one day in her extremity be glad to avail herself of the most remarkable invention of our times, and which first sought and obtained recognition on the music-hall stage?

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council resumed its sittings after the Whitsun recess on Tuesday, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

ADJOURNED RECOMMENDATIONS.

The agenda paper included several adjourned recommendations of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee as to a drawing submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a permanent cinematograph chamber proposed to be constructed in the dress circle saloon at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington-road; also a drawing submitted by Mr. G. Duckworth, showing a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in Lower Clapton-road. The agenda also contained the recommendation of the Theatres Committee with reference to music and dancing and stage-play licences, and an amendment to be proposed by Mr. George Alexander. The Council spent seven hours in discussing the Education estimates, and the recommendations were again adjourned.

DRAWINGS APPROVED.

The Theatres Committee reported that they had considered drawings with regard to the undermentioned premises. The arrangements shown on the drawings appeared to be satisfactory, and the applicants have been informed that, subject to certain conditions being observed, the Council has no objection thereto: Bijou Picture Theatre, Orpheus-street, Camberwell, construction of an additional entrance, staff lavatory, &c.; Holland Park Skating Rink, Holland Park-avenue, erection of two electrically illuminated outside signs; Kilburn Picture Palace, Belsize-road, alterations to the entrance vestibule and abolition of the orchestra; Wandsworth Central Skating Rink, East-hill, Wandsworth, formation of an open-air rink.

The Committee also reported that they had considered an application by Messrs. Andrews and Peascod for a certificate under section 12 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, in respect of a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in St. Stephen's-road, Bow. The arrangements shown on the drawings submitted appeared to be satisfactory, subject to certain conditions being complied with, and Messrs. Andrews and Peascod have been informed that, provided the works shown on the drawings be commenced within six months from May 13, 1910, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate for the building upon the premises being satisfactorily completed.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

A smart and attractive concert party known as "The Dandies" are occupying the boards of Percy Honri's new al fresco Pavilion Theatre in the Park grounds. Their songs, duets, and burlesque sketches, rendered with excellent care and judgment, win flattering marks of appreciation. Miss Josephine Gordon, a young lady soprano and comedienne, amongst whose numbers were "There you are, that's a girl" and "Love is meant to make us glad," at once made her mark. Miss Ruby Lingard, who possesses a good contralto voice, gave a taste of her quality in the rendition of her chosen numbers, which included "'Tis the morn." Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald is a good all-round comedian, and gives a mirthful rendering of "She reads the London papers" and others of an equally humorous character. Mr. Harold Perry, comedian, and Mr. Anthony Gordon, baritone, "The fighting man," both sustained their reputation. Mr. Charles Mathews, solo pianist and accompanist, in both capacities earns praise. The concerted numbers, "How to get on in the world," "What animal would you like to be?" and "Our audience," kept patrons in a constant state of delight.

"SCENE PAINTERS OF THE PAST." By George Tweddell. Price 6d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"A GREAT CONSPIRACY."

Dramatic Sketch, by Chris Davis, Produced for the First Time at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, June 6.

Dick Steel ..... MR. FRED EUSTACE
John Oliver ..... MR. ROBERT AYRTON
Mozarin ..... MR. PASCOE BIOLETTI
Nazar ..... MR. HOGGAN ARMADALE
Mr. Williams ..... MR. CONRAD CLERKE
Lady Bellairs ..... MRS. MARY EUSTACE

This sketch, produced by Mr. Fred Eustace and his powerful company, should prove one of their greatest successes. It is exciting to a high degree, has plenty of action, and abounds in dramatic situations. As the story opens Nazar and Count Mozarin, two diplomatic representatives of what is termed the Asian Empire, are discovered in the lobby of the Hotel Cecil. They are much troubled at the loss of certain State papers which have been stolen from their Embassy. These papers concern a great conspiracy against the peace of the European countries and the world at large. They imagine at first that the news has not reached the public ear, but are awakened at last to the fact that their secret is no longer in the safe keeping of a chosen few.

When the dead body of a Lascar is recovered from the Thames with a dagger through his heart, Dick Steel, a care-for-nothing but important member of the Press, becomes suspicious, and Nazar and Mozarin, finding that he knows their secret, determine to become possessed of the priceless documents at all hazards. Lady Bellairs, the wife of the British Minister for foreign affairs, has the keeping of the papers, and Mozarin, who knows this, tries by force to make her give them up; but fortunately he is frustrated in his evil designs by Dick, who arrives upon the scene just in time and takes the papers himself. Not knowing their true value, he places them with John Oliver, the manager of the *Daily Wire*. Later on we see how Nazar, by means of lies and a forged note, endeavours to obtain the documents, but is again foiled by the timely entrance of Dick, who snatches the papers from his grasp. Finding that force is of no avail, Nazar tries bribery, but Dick is proof against such acts, and in spite of being afterwards attacked by desperate odds, he manages to get the Asian papers to press, leaving Nazar and Mozarin to play their last and most desperate card. This is to wreck the machine on which the papers are to be printed, but although the works are fired and partly blown down by explosives, the papers are eventually published, and so ends what is rightly termed *A Great Conspiracy*.

Mr. Fred Eustace is to be congratulated upon his very fine performance as Dick Steel. His acting is distinctly powerful and is impressive to a high degree. Mr. Robert Ayrton, too, is decidedly good as John Oliver, the manager of the *Daily Wire*. The Mozarin of Mr. Pasco Bioletti is a splendid piece of work. His make-up is admirable and his acting full of strength. Mr. Hoggan Armadale is exceedingly well placed as Nazar, whilst Mrs. Mary Eustace plays with pathetic interest and undoubted skill as Lady Bellairs. The scenes employed are wonderful specimens of their kind, and the staging of the piece is adequately attended to. The initial performance of the sketch was rewarded with loud and continued applause, showing clearly that a long and prosperous run may be expected.

OUR contemporary, *The National Magazine*, reproduced in its May issue and commented on in an article headed "Music-hall Songs," over the initials "A. B.," an advertisement purporting to come "from one of the many 'song factories' of London," and which runs as follows: "To music-hall artists.—Songs of every description (words and music) written while you wait. Sole rights, with complete set of band parts, 7s. 6d. Satisfaction guaranteed. We have made more stars than any other firm. Our staff includes all the best song-writers living. Messrs. —— and ——."

THE writer avers that these "'song mills' grind out a goodly portion of that assonance and doggerel innuendo which constitutes the chief stock-in-trade of quite a number of the alleged comic singers of the present day," and he continues by saying of the comic and patriotic songs of the present time: "Whilst the conspicuous features of many of the former are their vulgar innuendos, their ill-turned phrases, their pointless wit, and their doggerel rhythm, the latter are chiefly remarkable for their lack of 'ginger,' both as regards words and music and the almost total absence of that 'jingoism' and patriotic fire which dominated the efforts of such writers as Dibdin and the late Henry Russell."

THE article concludes by opining that "one can hardly expect even a modicum of intellect or refinement in concoctions which, although they are guaranteed to 'pulverise the public' and transform the obscure artist into a veritable 'star,' are procurable for the modest investment of seven shillings and sixpence," and the writer is of opinion that the L.C.C. should adopt similar measures to those of the Lord Chamberlain and make it a point of law that all music-hall songs "be submitted to an accredited and duly qualified representative for approval before exploitation," in which vent "they would not only remove the primary cause of the present outcry and elevate the general tone of vaudeville performances, but would render signal service to all authors and artists of standing."

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

WANTED.

Booking Management

—:: FOR ::—

Country Halls

by Manager at present booking London hall, with thorough knowledge of every branch of the business. Able to get first-class companies at lowest possible figures, present position being greatly conducive to obtaining the artists at proper prices.

Bills showing class of Companies for last 12 months can be seen.

Interview at any time by appointment.

Apply Box 7784, "The Era" Office.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Mitcham Fair.

At the Mitcham Parish Council, held at the Town Hall on Tuesday last, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift moved—"That this Council, desiring to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Mitcham Fair question, resolves to approach all parties concerned with a view to co-operative action for the removal of Mitcham Fair from the Fair Green to a more suitable site, provided the same can be accomplished without prejudice to the continuance of the Fair and the ancient rights pertaining thereto."

Mr. Pedgrift reviewed the interests involved. He said they consisted of the people of Mitcham who desired the continuance of the fair, the owners of the franchise who held the rights to collect tolls from the showmen attending the fair, the Conservators, who decide questions over the common lands and whose favour would have to be secured when the question of the removal of the fair had reached a further stage, and, lastly, the ancient rights and privileges of the showmen themselves. Mr. Pedgrift suggested that the question should be thrashed out thoroughly in committee and a report of the deliberations be submitted to the full Parish Council at an early date. Councillor Mizen said that the question could be more fully dealt with in committee, and proposed an amendment that the question be referred to the Commons Committee, which was carried. It is to be hoped that a solution of the vexed fair question will be decided at an early date with satisfaction to all parties concerned.

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Tetney, on the Great Northern; Thorne (Yorks), on the Great Central and North-Eastern; Lambert Castle and Kidderminster, on the Great Western; Taunton, on the Great Western and Midland; Astwith, on the Great Central; Dore and Totley, on the Midland; Falmouth, on the Great Western; Hardstaff, on the Great Central; Mexborough, on the Great Central, Great Northern, and Midland; Staveley, on the Midland; Abingdon, on the Great Western; Alyth, on the Caledonian; Largs, on the Glasgow and South-Western; Selkirk, on the North British; Ferndale, on the Taff Vale; Llangefeloch and Usk, on the Great Western Railways.

Showground Music on Hampstead Heath.

Relying upon a byelaw of the London County Council, a resident of the Heath, Hampstead, brought an action against Mr. Harry Cox, roundabout proprietor and amusement caterer, to abate an alleged annoyance from the playing of music at the Vale of Health, Hampstead Heath. Mr. Cox has held the tenancy of a small amusement-ground in the vale for twenty-four years.

This enterprise has met with universal acceptance, and has supplied an obvious public want in amusing the numerous school and other pleasure parties that frequent the heath in the summer months. The complaint was that the organ-music annoyed the residents in the houses and villa residences bordering the Vale of Health. It was proved in defence that the organ was the smallest of its kind used on roundabouts; that Mr. Cox had shown anxiety and readiness to meet the objections of his neighbours in every possible way—by taking out the drum and cymbals of the original instrument, and by deadening the sound with glass-lined shutters. Everything, save closing down the organ, had been done. Mr. Cox's readiness to do all in his power to mitigate the music to those who felt annoyed was so obvious that the Bench in the end only imposed a small fine of half-a-crown.

The presiding magistrate asked Mr. Cox to endeavour, if possible, to still further tone down the volume of sound, and to meet as far as possible the reasonable wishes of the residents.

Some Important Points of the Case.

It is an old byelaw, and one that would not have been sanctioned if proposed any time since the showmen, through their society, began to oppose the passing of unreasonable byelaws. It has, however, one great flaw in its construction—a flaw that practically makes it inoperative. It is a byelaw against steam or mechanically-driven organs. Mr. Harry Cox has only to put a man at the handle, and the byelaw cannot touch him. This was admitted in the discussion of the counsel and the Bench during the hearing of the case. Mr. Cox was prosecuted, not for annoying certain sensitive people with music, but for annoying them, according to the byelaw, with mechanically-driven music. Put a man at the handle, and the offence ceases. Mr. Cox, after twenty-four years' faithful service of amusement to his patrons on the heath, will, we feel sure, strive to ensure the continuance of public favour and to win his neighbours' goodwill by doing what the magistrate suggested—so moderate the sound of his organ that, whilst it will enliven his amusements for the people, it will not provoke the somewhat over-sensitive ears of his neighbours.

The People Must Have Amusement.

We also venture a word of advice or plea for tolerance to the residents. The alleged annoyance is during the summer season only—say, from June to September. The fortunate few who enjoy the delights of the people's heath (for Hampstead belongs to all London) all the year round must not begrudge its occasional use by the toilers from the slums, by the school children of the great north-east of London. Swings and roundabouts and no music would be deadly dull—in fact, some kind of music, whether automatic or manual, must be played. The musically-supersensitive who occupy houses on the fringe of the heath must try and bear, for sweet charity's sake, with the necessary music when the toilers come to the heath for relaxation and recreation. Indeed, this appeal is only necessary for a very few people. It is to that few only we speak. That this is so is borne out by the singular fact that Mr. Harry Cox has carried on his business for twenty-four years, and this is the first time anyone has tried to put into operation the singularly inept byelaw against steam-played music. Mr. Cox has won the esteem and respect of the whole community of Hampstead, and is, of course, a resident and large ratepayer.

Newport (Salop) Fair.

P. Collins, with his famous wonderland show, roundabouts, and other novelties, has been at Newport (Salop) for the annual pleasure fair.

In a humorous article in the Shropshire dialect that refers to the fair, and appeared in last Saturday's issue of the *Newport Advertiser*, we find the following:—"The shows wanner open when we got into High-street, but we enjoyt lucking at the picters on the outside on them. At the seem time, the motor-cars wan running full swing, and the hobby horses wan galloping as fast as 'lectricity could mek them. Ya seen Pat Collins had sent his Fun Fair to Newport, and—well, by gum, Georgie lad, that theear motor-car thing knockt the Christian Pallace at London, as I wunst seed a football match at, into a cockt hat. And all the chaps and the lasses as had charge on it and on the other shows, wan that clean, and civil, and respectable, that I hope as how I'll see them at a good many May fairs at Newport in the 'ears to come. The wust on it wan that the rain begun to come down early on in the afternoon, and we had to tek shelter wheear we could, for me and Cousin Phaybey hadner brung any umbrellas win us. But, bless yer heart, Newport folk dunner care for rain; they like it, the seem as the ducks done."

Job and Phœbe on the Brooklyn Cake Walk.

"'What bin that, Jobby lad?'

"I luckt up, and theear wan a wooden arch win some reading pentit on it; and I spelt it out—

"'C-a-k-e, Keek. B-r-o-o-k-l-y-n, Birdlime. W-a-l-k, Walk. Birdlime keek walk. I reckon as how if we walk in through that here arch, we'n get a birdlime keek, whatever kind of keek that may be. By gosh! not if I knows it! Luck, Phaybey lass!'

"Georgie lad, it meed my flesh creep into crinkles and my lega dodder under me, like as if they wan meed of coaf's foot jelly. Under that arch theear wan two bridges what had the deliberum trembles, for they joggled and shuck like a—like a—well, I dunner know what to say. And theear wan a darkey and another chap on wun of them, as keept dancing up and down like peas on a hot griddle. Phaybey says to me, says she,

"'Jobby lad, I wonder if them theaar keeaks bin nice.'

"'I canner tell ya' lass,' I replict.

"'Cross the bridge, and get me wun, Jobby,' she whipsert.

"Georgie lad, she said it as sweet as a angel, but that gimblet eye of hers let me know as if I didner do her bidding she's mek it hot for me, and so—and—so—yes, Georgie lad, I went. I peed my penny like a man; squared my shoulders, and set off to march as if I wan a bowld granny-dear. But—O, Georgie lad, it wan awful! I thought as how the world wan slipping away from me, and I gapst win fear. Then it jerkt me up, and I wundert if I'd land on the church steeple. Then it joggiet, and I began to guess whether it 'ud pitch me on to a feather bed in Mr. Cobb's shop, or chuck me among the eggs in the Creamery window. The funny thing on it wan, that I got along some way or another, but it wan a sort of pilgrim's progress, and, when I finisht win it, I feeled as if I'd bin in heaven. I wan soon brung down to earth aghen though, for Phaybey pouncet on to me, and demanded the birdlime keeak as I'd won.

Job and the Philosopher on the Down Grade.

"Having bravet the terrors of the keaak-walk, thought as how I'd pay visit to the helter-skelter, the neem of the lighthouse-lucking thing. I peyd my penny this time, and the chap as whan in charge ghen me a mat to teck up win me. Ya talk about the Tower of Blaben as they built when they kem out on the Ark! Why, the Tower of Blaben wan a fool to it! Whomsoever, when I got to the top I wan satisfiet, only theaar wan a chap afore me. He luckt like a philofficer or whatever ya cawn them theear gents as han a talking acquaintance win the stars and sometimes go to tea win the man in the moon. He wan lucking at the sky win a piece of smoakt glass, and when I axt him what he wan trying to find he said as how he wantet to see the comet. I tellt him as that wanner the way; but that he should sit on his mat, for that wan what the mat wan for. He did sit on the mat, and I wan lucking over his shouther to put his smoakt glass in forkess, when I accidentally ghen him a push. Upon my word, Georgie lad, it wan an accident, and nothing else. Whomsoever, it sen the philofficer down the corkscrew like a flash of greast lightning; but, when he was heaf-way down, he grabt hold on the sides, and—well, about a dozen chaps run off for the fire brigade. It wan a good job as they wanner wantit. The philofficer keem down all right; and I seed no more on him."

A Showman's Generosity Gift.

The *Newport Advertiser* has the following appreciation of Mr. Patrick Collins's generous and timely gift to the Hospital Sunday Fund and the Parish Church Tower Fund:—"We are sorry to say that the collection for the hospitals at the service in the covered market at Newport on Sunday afternoon realised only a few shillings more than £12. Fortunately, that sum has been augmented by the generosity of Mr. Pat Collins, the great showman. Mr. Collins, who had his 'Wonderland' at Newport for the May Fair, offered to give all the takings between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Tuesday to the Hospital Sunday Fund and the Parish Church Tower Fund. Those takings totalled a little over £28. We feel certain that the town is grateful to Mr. Pat Collins for his spontaneous offer, the result of which is a free gift that is acceptable to all concerned."

The Outrage at the Circo Brown, Buenos Aires.

Mr. Frank Brown's numerous *confrères* and friends in the circus world will hear with indignation and sorrow of the tremendous loss he has suffered in the destruction by a mob of youths of this newly-erected circus in Buenos Aires. We sincerely hope that the Argentine authorities will fully and frankly acknowledge their liability for the lawless and amazing conduct of the mob of young incendiaries. In confirmation of what we have already said in our special report of the outrage, we quote the following from the *Buenos Aires Standard* of May 6:—

The Burning of the Circus.

"To quiet the esurient mob of Rome, the city fathers gave it the circus games it clamoured for, but in Buenos Aires the city fathers allowed a circus to be built and the crowd burned it. Is this to be considered as a sign of progress of the march of intellect? Perhaps to the young men who in the early hours of Thursday morning perpetrated the outrage on the circus in Calle Florida, and some few others, their action may appear in some such light; to the rest of the world the affair only looks like a stain on the capital's reputation. Granted that the municipality was wrong in giving a site for a circus, the fact remains that it had done so, and that Mr. Frank Brown had on the strength of the lease spent considerable sums of money and incurred heavy liabilities. For a crowd of well-to-do young men to take the law into their own hands in this fashion because of some alleged offence to their artistic susceptibilities was a scandal of the grossest kind. The circus was not the eyesore it was made out in some quarters to be, and was a big improvement on the dilapidated market it replaced. Furthermore, it was not intended to be more than a temporary erection, so, from every standpoint, the burning of it was inexcusable, and that the crowd of young men and youths thought fit to justify their action by patriotic shouts and cheers did not make matters any the better. But what a sight for the stranger within our gates this procession of 'aristocrats' parading the most aristocratic street in the capital, waving 'trophies' torn from the burning theatre and boasting of the outrage they had committed, as if it were some heroic act!"

Sedgwick's Menagerie in Wales.

Sedgwick's Menagerie paid a visit to Maesteg on Saturday and Monday. The performances on each day were well patronised. On Monday night Mr. Corbertt, a local hairdresser, entered the den of some South African lions, and shaved a member of the staff. On leaving the cage Mr. Corbertt was loudly applauded, and as a memento of the event he was presented by Mr. Sedgwick with a silver cup.

Guild Subscription, 1910.

Per Mr. Mitchell: Mr. John Hardman (hon. member), £1 1s.; Mr. James Westray, 5s.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, W. Biddall, H. Fossett, Anderton and Rowland, and A. Purchase at *The Era* Office.

DASTARDLY OUTRAGE AT BUENOS AIRES.

Frank Brown's Circus Fired by City Hooligans.

An outrage of a most dastardly character was recently committed in the Argentine capital. Frank Brown, the well-known circus impressario, had obtained a concession from the city authorities to build a circus in the Calle Florida, an important thoroughfare of the capital.

For no apparent reason, beyond a vague hint or two of objection on æsthetic grounds to a circus being located in so important a part of the city, a conspiracy was hatched by a group of the young bloods, the hooligans of the well-to-do classes, to destroy the circus by fire.

We give the details of the outrage as reported by the *Buenos Aires Herald* of May 7:—

"By 12.15 midnight, May 6, a mob of some three or four hundred had started pulling down the new wall in Calle Florida and Calle Cordoba, which was in course of erection by Mr. Frank Brown, under orders of the authorities.

"Having gained entrance the mob proceeded to riddle the canvas roof and walls of the circus ring with shots from the revolvers with which all were armed, in spite of the law of this country. Two policemen hastily appeared on the scene, only to be disarmed with suspicious promptitude without firing a shot. Then benzine, kerosene, naphtha, gasoline, and other inflammable materials were thrown upon the canvas and woodwork in different places and fired. Blazing torches were also flung upon the structure, no doubt to add effect to the scene. At 12.50 the firemen arrived, but the incendiaries had the audacity to hold them up and hinder their progress to the conflagration. A superior officer drove up in a phaeton, and was argued with and parleyed with.

"Unfortunately, the officer stopped to listen, and precious moments were lost. At 1.10 the mounted police came up, a cordon was formed, and the firemen soon had the fire under control. Between 1.30 or 2 a.m. a procession of 'conquering heroes' marched down Florida, bearing trophies of their gallant and spirited attack on the pro-

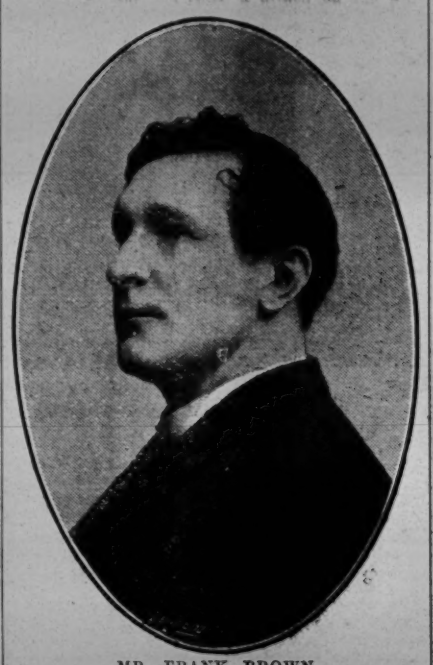

MR. FRANK BROWN.

perty of a defenceless man who was in bed and asleep. These spoils of war consisted mostly of bits of canvas, wood, and corrugated iron. To hear the hooligans shout 'Viva la Patria!' while parading palpable evidence of an act of vandalism, which would shame any country were it committed, gave one to hope—that 'La Patria' will act the good mother and bring a heavy hand to bear on those who have there insulted her.

"It is hard to estimate the amount of the damage done. Mr. Frank Brown takes the matter in the calm, collected manner of an upright, honourable man, who judges others by himself. He stands to lose a very large sum of money, to say nothing of what he might have made; but he has implicit confidence in the good faith of the authorities, and feels sure that right will be done. Señor Güiraldes, the Municipal Intendente, visited the scene of the outrage on Thursday. He was visibly affected, and stigmatised the affair as 'una barbaridad,' adding, 'specially to a man who has entertained so many generations of our children.'

"Mr. Brown feels the insult that has been put upon him very keenly, but takes consolation in the fact that its perpetrators are not representatives of the nation, nor do they voice the ideas of a single civilised human being. So much is public opinion and sympathy with Mr. Brown, that he was compelled to stay indoors on Thursday afternoon. People he had, to his knowledge, never seen before came up and gripped him by the hand. Shopkeepers came out to express their sympathy on seeing him pass, and every respectable citizen of Buenos Aires seemed anxious to apologise for those who have lost all claim to citizenship, and to try to obliterate the smirch of their city's fair fame.

"An ugly corrugated iron wall now encloses the scene of Wednesday night's 'deeds of valour,' but, ugly as it is, the æsthetic, valiant souls who objected to a circus will not attempt to pull it down. The mounted police are on the spot and they are ugly customers to tackle—uglier by far than the thing they are guarding."

The same paper, in a leading article the day after the outrage comments as follows:—

"A man obtains a concession from a legalised City Council and proceeds to carry out his undertaking. Relying upon the protection of the law of the land, he proceeds to do what he is subject to heavy fine and loss for not doing. He sinks a great deal of capital, employs skilled labour, and attends to a thousand details requiring special knowledge. And when he has, as in duty bound, done all this, a midnight raid is organised against his undertaking, the edifice he has constructed is wrecked, his plans are spoiled, the skilled labour employed is suddenly thrown idle upon a strange city, and the mob is excused on the plea of 'popular justice.'"

Some of the Argentine papers appear to have condoned the outrage. The *Herald*, however, takes a most serious view of this outbreak of so-called mob law, and says:—

"To us the doctrine that whatever the mob does is well done is simply appalling. We cannot accept it, and it is our deliberate opinion that to acquiesce in such a dictum is suicidal. But we are face to face with this sinister fact. A well-dressed mob of future law-givers and law-makers have derided the law, rode rough shod over every precept of equity and justice, perpetrated a glaring midnight outrage, and the Argentine Press has contented itself with a tentative condemnation with 'applause' written clearly between the 'condemnatory' lines."

Indignation of the English Residents.

The English colony in Buenos Aires is deeply insulted by the outrage, and the greatest sympathy is being shown to Mr. Frank Brown, who for years past has brought out to South America the best talent in the circus world. He has ever been ready to support the charities of the city, and is in every way a popular character in South America. The case is particularly hard and unfortunate, in that Mr. Frank Brown has already brought out for the forthcoming season a first-class company of artists.

The burning down of the circus will inflict great loss on these unfortunate people. Suggestions are being made by the British colony to come to the assistance of the sufferers by the outrage by a popular subscription. We shall be glad to hear of the success of this effort.

Porth Fair in the Rhondda Valley.

Immediately following Treorchy Great Fair—this year held at Treherbert—we have Porth Pleasure Fair. Situated midway in the Rhondda, Porth is an ideal spot for a great popular fair. This it would undoubtedly be were the local conditions favourable. For the past two years it has become increasingly difficult to find a suitable fair-ground, the old one having been built over by the local tramway company as a central depôt.

Mr. John Studt made every possible effort to obtain a good position for the fair. Such, however, is the scarcity of suitable sites in the valley, this is becoming more and more difficult every year.

The ground this year—the best obtainable—was rather difficult to set out, some of the smaller shows and minor amusements having to stand on a portion of the land much lower than the piece on which the principal machines and the big show were located.

Under the splendid captaincy of John Studt, the lessee, order was evolved out of seeming chaos, and the fair was got ready for the people. Mr. John Studt provided his big picture palace and two superb machines—the motor-cars and the zoological roundabout. John Scarrott's school of boxers, S. Reader's animal jungle, and Davies's colliery model were amongst the sideshow novelties. Jervis, with helter-skelter tower; Birch, with miniature roundabout and houp-la circle; J. North and Sons, with shooters, swings, and throwing games; the Brothers Whayman, with gem motors and shooters; Fossett, with shooter and photo-salon; and a host of other caterers, with variety stalls and games, made the fair.

White City, Old Trafford.

"Billy," the English educated horse, is proving a great attraction and shows marvellous training. The Band of H.M. 1st Batt. of "The Buffs," from Aldershot (conductor, Mr. G. W. Elvin), gets much appreciation for their excellent programmes. The other amusements are all well patronised.

Stanley Lane Ends Feast.

This local feast in the neighbourhood of the cathedral town of Wakefield had for its entertainers: Harry Ashington, with marionettes and cinema pavilion; R. Johnson, with roundabout and swings; Messrs. Bassett, Mitchell, Blackburn, Goodall, Armitage, and Johnson, with houp-las, football penalties, throwing games, and varieties; John, with bazaar; and Bassett, with pannum stall.

Carmarthen Fair.

Carmarthen June Pleasure Fair was held in the Corporation Fair Ground, in beautiful weather, and large crowds came in from the surrounding country districts, good business being done, while in the evening the country visitors were augmented by the townspeople. The chief attractions were Messrs. Henry Studt and Sons' well-known electric Venetian gondolas, Crecraft's electric bioscope, Messrs. W. Haggar and Son's electric bioscope, and Messrs. Alf. North and Hill's steam riding horses. Other caterers were Messrs. Thomas Hill, E. Booth, D. Boswell, and David Evans, with coker-nut shies; Mr. Symond's pipe-shy; Messrs. Crecraft, David Evans, and D. Boswell's houp-las; and Mr. E. Booth's rifle-range. There were numerous other variety stalls; and altogether the public had a fine selection of amusements, which they patronised to the full.

Lawsuit over an Elephant's Insurance.

Mr. T. E. Read, an amusement caterer, and proprietor of the "World's Fair," held every winter in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, brought an action before Mr. Justice Darling and a special jury in the King's Bench Division on Friday last, June 10, to recover £250, the amount of an insurance policy effected by him on an elephant named "Kim," from Mr. Whitcombe and other members of Lloyd's.

The defence in effect was that the plaintiff, when taking out the policy, withheld from the defendant certain facts affecting the animal.

Plaintiff in his evidence stated that he bought the animal for £125, and after insuring him for £250 with Mr. Whitcombe, at a premium of £13 15s., sent him to Rosherville Gardens, where he was employed in carrying children about the gardens until the close of the season in September, when he returned to London. On his way to Stoke Newington, where he was to be stabled, the animal was "taken queer" in Aldwych. Witness got an ambulance and conveyed "Kim" to Stoke Newington. There he was examined by a veterinary surgeon, who agreed with the keeper that "Kim" had caught a chill. He was thereupon given ginger and ale, which was a recognised remedy in such cases. Subsequently he was examined by a veterinary on behalf of the defendants. A day or two afterwards he died. Witness valued the animal at £250, although he got it for £125, because no one else seemed to want it.

Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Glasgow Zoo, who sold the animal to plaintiff, on examination by Mr. Lewis Thomas, K.C., for the plaintiff, said that when he sold off his animals at auction because he intended starting a skating rink, the whole sale was a farce. Things were given away.

Witness said he had paid £250 for "Kim" seven years ago, when he was seven years old, and elephants increased in value up to forty, and lived to fifty or sixty or more in captivity.

Several of Mr. Read's assistants and an inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. testified that "Kim" was in fair condition, and had no boils or suppuration from the foot.

Mr. Swift, manager of Rosherville Gardens, in giving evidence for the defence, said he saw boils on one foot of the animal.

Mr. Sewell, veterinary surgeon, said that when he saw "Kim" a short time before his death his skin was dry and cracked in places, and the post-mortem disclosed, by the condition of the lungs, that the animal had suffered from pneumonia and pleurisy, probably a year or more before, and there was an injury to the lumbar region, all of which would have depreciated his value. He thought the full value of the animal at the time Mr. Read bought him was £125. The animal, he said, died from exhaustion as the result of paralysis.

The jury gave a verdict for plaintiff for £150. Judgment was given accordingly.

The Gaol Ground, Salisbury, has been visited twice lately by Haines' Galloping Horses, and good patronage has been given. The other fair-ground attractions include swing boats, houp-la, shooting galleries, shies, and various stalls. Amusements on this ground are being well patronised and provide the only outdoor entertainment at present in the town.

FILM GOSSIP.

Supreme Recognition.

Modern Russia, its terrorised peasantry and brutal soldiery, its luxurious patrician homes and its loathsome prisons, forms the subject of an extremely interesting Eclair film, which displays many of their distinctive merits in staging. The story—of a child torn from the arms of its mother as she is carried away by the Cossacks, and brought up ignorant of her parents' history until ten years later—will make a strong appeal to all audiences, which the good acting will strengthen.

News by the Yard.

As we announced last week, the *Animated Gazette* is the last word in journals. Its "copy" is measured by the yard, and it has a circulation of ten million copies weekly in all parts of the world. It is the longest journal on record—more than a thousand feet in length. It is not on sale at bookstalls. There is only one way of seeing the news of the week as published in the *Animated Gazette*, and that is by watching it on the screen. It is published weekly by Messrs. Pathé, and is to be seen in all the cinematograph theatres. "We have cinematographers, instead of reporters," said the Editor, Mr. Valentia Steer, "and these we send out to take living pictures of the principal news. Each country has its editor, who has a corps of correspondents (cinematographic) at his command. Thus, instead of ordering, as the editor of a printed paper would, a column or a quarter of a column of an event, we order forty yards or a hundred yards, according to its merit. The different sections of the news are all joined up on one film, with explanatory slides for 'headings.' We shall not chronicle murders. We shall have an animated fashion page—or, rather, forty yards; several yards of 'children's corner,' and, in lighter vein, a quarter of a mile of animated short story."

Sunday Kinematographs.

Mr. G. Oswald J. Smith, Secretary, Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association, writes concerning the widespread discussion upon the recent magisterial decision at Tower-bridge, and the tendency to construe that decision as legalising such Sundays shows. "The decision," Mr. Smith contends, "merely deals with the powers of the L.C.C. as to the safety of the public. The illegality of Sunday entertainments is specifically decided by the Act 21 George III, (which is still operative). Any proprietor giving Sunday shows, where persons are admitted for money payment or by tickets sold for money, is liable to prosecution under this Act and to heavy penalties on conviction. Heavy penalties are also imposed upon those managing or conducting the show, and upon doorkeepers, servants, or other persons receiving or collecting money or tickets. Proceedings may be taken by any person, and are not restricted to the police."

The Sugar Cane Industry.

Scenes full of busy animation in connection with the various stages of sugar-making in the Sunda Isles are revealed in one of the latest Pathé films. First we are shown scenes in the plantation when the canes are cut into short pieces. Then a wide view of the plantation, with women bending their backs as they work close to the ground, is followed by a picture descriptive of the period when the canes are ready to be torn up for use. The natives cut off the top of each cane as it is pulled up from the earth, and these tops are replanted as soon as possible.

Fine Bioscope Co.'s Drama.

Thou Shalt Not, a very fine film just turned out by the Biograph Company, has been shown at some of the leading picture theatres. It depicts a powerful drama, showing the self-sacrifice of a young lover who finds that he is suffering from consumption.

Value of Jeffries-Johnson Fight Pictures.

The promoters of the Jeffries-Johnson fight for the Heavy-weight Prizefighting Championship of the world, to take place at San Francisco on July 4, have a one-third interest in the moving pictures, which will, it is expected, be worth either £66,000 or £33,000, depending on whether the white or black man wins. The earnings of the promoters on this basis will be, therefore, either £126,000 or £93,000.

Canon Southwell's Charges.

At last Friday's meeting of the Newcastle Watch Committee, reference was made to Canon Southwell's published statements, which have created so much public interest in London and other theatrical centres, respecting immorality in the streets of Newcastle and the state of things that the Canon alleges prevails in semi-darkened places of amusement. After a long discussion it was moved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that the statements made by Canon Southwell are sensational and unwarranted, and intimates to him that if he has any evidence to prove such statements the proper course is to lay it before the Chief Constable in order that it may be investigated by the Watch Committee." The resolution was carried by a large majority. The managers of theatres, music halls, and picture halls have already held meetings on the subject denying Canon Southwell's allegations.

Antarctic Cinematography.

The arrangements made for dealing with the photographic work in connection with the British Antarctic Expedition are of the most elaborate character. This department will be in charge of Mr. Herbert G. Ponting, F.R.G.S., who has already travelled twice round the world, and has illustrated over twenty different countries. He has spent several years in the Far East, and has produced work which is generally admitted to be the finest of its class existing. His exhibition of carbon and coloured photographs is the largest individual exhibit at the Japan-British Exhibition. For use on the sledge journeys cameras of metal, and specially light and strong, have been made. Two cinematographs are being taken. One of these is the most wonderful moving picture

THE
LAW OF COPYRIGHT
IN
KINEMATOGRAPH
PICTURES.

BY
WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.C., F.O.S.
Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

machine ever devised, and places in the hands of the operator a power hitherto unknown in this work. A complete equipment is being taken for developing all cinematograph films on the spot, and a fine dark-room is built for the purpose in the winter hut. A large stock of plates is being taken for securing the effects of the Antarctic in true natural colours.

Coloured Living Pictures.

MR. T. A. EDISON, the wizard of electricity, has succeeded in making a machine to photograph and reproduce moving pictures in their natural colours; but the great inventor, while admitting that he is experimenting in that line, and is hopeful of success, says that he is still battling with great difficulties, more especially the seeming impossibility of reproducing reds. With other colours he is tolerably successful. Mr. Edison says of the talking and moving-picture machine he has just completed: "We've got a machine now that produces a perfect illusion. A whole drama can be reproduced by it vocally. The voices are so perfect that they seem like ordinary stage voices. A band can also be reproduced. The music has no phonograph sound; it is the real thing. When we can produce colours perfectly, then you'll have a whole drama by machinery—speech, gesture, life, and colours."

They Acted Their Parts All Right.

A COUPLE just returned from Cuba had a strange experience in a Havana restaurant, where they went for five o'clock tea. "We had hardly taken our places at the table," so runs the story in the *New York Tribune*, "when two young men took possession of the one next to us and immediately began a loud and heated dialogue in Spanish, which we did not understand. After a few minutes one of the men arose, made a threatening gesture, after which the other drew a knife from his pocket, and we, fearing to be witnesses to a murder, made our escape to the street and hurried home. The next day we were at the same restaurant as the guests of an Havana citizen, and chanced to be seated at the same table where the murderous encounter took place the day before, and we spoke of it. The waiter explained that the fight had been pre-arranged for the benefit of a moving picture show, and that when we returned to New York we might see ourselves as others saw us that day—scared almost to death and running."

Matinée for Miners.

THROUGH the generosity of Mr. Arthur Sleep, manager of the Picture Palace, Spennymoor, a special matinée was given last Thursday afternoon to the aged miners and their wives from the Homes at Middlestone Moor, and also the children from the Tudhoe Orphanage. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Sleep has made arrangements for a return of the late King Edward's Funeral film next week, with incidents of the King's life added. On Wednesday afternoon a performance will be given for the poor people of the district.

German Amusements Tax.

A FIERCE controversy is raging over the new Amusements Tax introduced this week into the Berlin Municipal Council. Such a tax already exists in many German towns. It is proposed that theatres, music-halls, concerts, and all other amusements shall pay a tax on tickets costing from 3d. upwards. On the expensive seats the tax works out at ten per cent., but upon cheap tickets it is rather more. The tax will fall heavily upon public dances, cinematograph shows, bazaars, and cabaret concerts, all of which will have to pay at fixed rates, irrespective of whether they are run at a profit or not. Theatre directors and other interested parties are holding meetings of protest. It appears that a cinematograph show taking £100 nightly will pay only 10s. tax, whereas a theatre which has much heavier expenses will pay £10 tax on the same takings. The tax is all the more opposed because a recent discussion showed that Berlin theatre prices were too high for the public pocket, and the adding of ten per cent. to prices will, it is claimed, lead to a financial crisis.

Two Electric Palaces for Ilford.

THE Ilford Urban Council have had plans before them for the erection of two electric theatres in the High-road.

Kensington Picture Palace.

AT the Kensington Picture Theatre the following subjects have been shown this week:—The Amateur Pugilist (Urban), A Father's Heart (Gaumont), The Last of the Dandies (Cricks and Martin), Scenes in and around Boubjerg, Denmark (Cosmopolitan), A Heaven-guided Heroine (Warwick), The Persuasive Powers of a Revolver (Pathé's), Mr. S. W. Lukushima's illustrated entertainment, The Rice Harvest in Japan (Pathé's), and The Shepherd's Dog (Pathé's).

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

THIS week's programme at the Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., is a very good one, and includes the following subjects:—His Last Burglary, President Roosevelt in France, Baffled Bandit, The Black Peril, Forgive and Forget, Honour Thy Father, A Funny Story, and The Derby.

Accrington Picturedrome.

ON Thursday week the Mayor and Mayoress of Accrington, Dr. and Mrs. T. E. Nuttall, attended the Picturedrome first house, and after the performance the Mayor complimented the manager, Mr. John Hargreaves, on the excellent programme submitted.

Sliding Roof for Picture Palace.

THE management of the Electric Theatre, Bath, has invited the inmates of Bath Workhouse to witness the films of the late King's Funeral; and another excellent arrangement they have in view is the provision of a sliding roof for the theatre during the hot weather.

New Picture Palace at Hastings.

THE patrons of picture shows in Hastings are being well provided for. The pioneer of this class of entertainment was Mr. Fred Griffiths at the Public Hall, which he ran as the People's Picture Palace Company. The idea was adopted last Easter by the management of the American Palace Pier. Last month the Pelham Hall Electric Theatre, leased by Messrs. Lane, Daly, and Lane, opened its doors to a continuous performance of eight and a half hours, under the management of Mr. T. C. Daly, and last Wednesday the Electric Palace Syndicate opened its new premises in the Wellington-place (one of the main business thoroughfares of the town). The proprietors are Messrs. Harmer, Keating, and Harmer, and Mr. A. Harmer manages the business.

Swansea Puzzled.

ONE of the strangest films ever seen in Swansea was witnessed at the Shaftesbury and Palace Bioscope halls in that town last week. It is entitled A Theatre of Phenomenons, and it represents extraordinary performances by automata. The most puzzling thing about the film is how it was possible to have been worked.

THE Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd., who have secured the sole rights to produce Kinemacolor Animated Pictures in the Midlands, opened at the Temperance Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday afternoon, for four weeks, pending the completion of their Electric Palace now in course of erection in Silver-street, which is not many yards from the Royal Opera House.

STAGE LANTERN SCENERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The success of the "Picture Theatres" at the present time is so overwhelming that they seem likely to become formidable rivals not only to the music halls, but to the homes of the regular drama. A popular playwright recently suggested a coalition of these opposing forces by utilising the cinematograph to represent the more crowded and bustling scenes in a spectacular drama, the principal characters alone being rendered by living actors, with ordinary scenic appliances. Meanwhile every effort is being made to perfect the system of combining the bioscope with the gramophone for dialogue, songs, &c., so that the whole play could be mechanically reproduced.

These surprising results remind me of an idea I have entertained, I may say, from my childhood—a period long before "moving pictures" were heard of, except in the primitive form of the "Zoetrope," or "Wheel of Life," a mere toy, like the miniature theatres formerly so popular as a juvenile pastime. My idea was that stage scenery, whether built up or painted on the flat, might in many cases be superseded by photographic views, large and coloured, thrown upon a semi-opaque screen. The lantern would have to be placed, not in the auditorium, but far back on the stage. The great difficulty would be to devise a method of lighting up the actors from the front while the scenes were thus illuminated.

Not being an inventor or an optician or a photographer, I was never in a position to test the feasibility of this plan, nor could I induce any qualified person to make the experiment. One expert pointed out, as a serious drawback, the amount of space required for the proper focusing of the pictures: the depth of the stage would have to be nearly equal to that of the auditorium itself. But optical science is now so potent that this obstacle to the realisation of my youthful dream might not prove insuperable. Several developments approaching the desired result have already been attained. At some vocal "turns" at the Halls the songs are illustrated by large lantern-slide pictures, while the singer stands at the side of the stage; but under present conditions, even were the screen lit up from the back, the human figures would still be eclipsed, and have to keep out of the picture.

A few years ago I read that Miss Loie Fuller had been giving her famous dances in Paris, with novel scenic effects, obtained by some arrangement of opaque glass screens; and only recently I have heard that a French firm has succeeded in giving cinematograph shows in full daylight, instead of having a darkened auditorium. This, although not exactly realising my old idea of using "lantern scenery" as a background to living actors, seems at least to show that such a method would be practicable. The advantages would undoubtedly be great. The present costly and cumbrous work of scene-shifting, and even the more scientific system of revolving stages, would be done away with. The scenes in a play could be changed by a turn of a hand, in the twinkling of an eye, it would not matter how numerous they might be, or how rapid in succession. Shakespeare's most elaborate dramas could thus be given, if desired, in their entirety, and without intervals. For such old-style works the method would be particularly suited. For fanciful or fairy plays, or operas of a like character, it would afford an ideal presentment. It would be most effective in landscape scenery, as well as in spacious interiors, such as a grand hall, a palace, or a cathedral. The charming naturalness of such views would be beyond the reach of scenic art as hitherto practised.

As there could be no central exits or entrances, the process would probably be less fitted for modern plays, with their closed indoor scenes, and their dependence on furniture, accessories, and immediate surroundings. The performances need not be mere costume recitals, but some modification of present modes of staging might be necessary.

For rehearsals or copyright performances travelling companies and amateur or private theatricals, the "lantern scenery" system would be very useful, saving much trouble and expense, and obviating those mishaps so frequently attendant upon the hiring, transporting, and fitting up of movable scenery.

In this age of stage illusion, when there is such a constant succession of new and startling inventions, one may reasonably hope that the plan I have suggested would prove to be "within the resources of science." Thus another novelty would be added to our spectacular entertainments, causing us once more to exclaim, in the words of the old poet:

"What wonders may be brought to pass
By the Optician's Magic Glass!"

WALTER PARKE.

London, June 4, 1910.

History in Animated Pictures.

AT the Polytechnic, Regent-street, W., a series of hourly exhibitions of animated pictures has been given this week, which to visitors to London, as well as to many residents in the metropolis, afforded an opportunity not easily obtainable of viewing State pageants and other historical events. The programme included the late Queen Victoria's Visit to Ireland, with its varied scenes. Then all the events following on the death and burial of Queen Victoria, from the moment of the funeral cortége leaving Osborne to the arrival of the royal remains at Windsor, were shown. So with the funeral of King Edward; the whole route was faithfully portrayed down to the final scene at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Views were also shown of the late King's Coronation, while incidents in the life of King George completed a notable pictorial record.

AT the summer general meeting of the Managers' Association at the Tavistock Hotel on the 3rd inst., with Mr. J. Macready Chute, Vice-President, in the absence of the President, Sir Herbert Tree, in the chair, two members were appointed to go into the question of Sunday performances with the Touring Managers' Association, the Entertainments Protection Society, the Cinematograph Trade Protection Society, and the Cinematograph Defence League.

The Veteran Equestrian, James Newsome.

THE kind letter concerning dear old James Newsome we inserted in our last issue has met with a characteristically generous and thoughtful response from Mr. Frank Bostock, who sends £5 to the suggested fund through Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

Bostock's Wombwell Show on Tour.

THIS national institution paid a most acceptable visit to Consett last Monday, the splendid collection of animals being admired by crowded houses.

Lord George Sanger and the Coming Sports.

THE *doyen* of the circus world hopes to attend, as usual, the theatrical sports. It is sincerely hoped that the veteran showman will surprise and delight his hosts and warm friends by essaying some athletic feat well within the competence of his age and yet vigorous powers.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 8.*)

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company occupies the boards here in *The Sins of Her Childhood*. Miss Maud Warburton as Mary Haysel acts sympathetically; Mr. Guy Hastings as the Rev. Alan Gray is successful; Mr. John Liston is a fine exponent of Capt. John Thornton; Mr. Cecil Mannering is a sinister Stephen Haysel; Miss Clara Santley is effective as Maria Hayeel; and Miss Lissa Young as Hannah Spry acts and sings well. Miss Pollie Denville as Lizzie Muggins and Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly introduce smart comedy; and little Gladys Brittain as Eric acts charmingly.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Passion of Life* is being played here by Mr. Hubert Helliwell and company. Miss Ada Hender is a forcible Belle O'Neal, the knife fight with the rascally Frenchman Ralph Flint (well played by Mr. Basil Mitchell) being most realistic. Mr. Helliwell acts well in the character of Jack Kenny; Mr. F. Owen Chambers as Captain Horace O'Neal is excellent; Mr. Owen Edwin is a pawky Fergus MacKenna; and Mr. Fred Danvers an amusing Dan Sprouts; Miss Emily Lewis making a lively Tilly Tripp. Miss Maud Garth is a dainty Nita O'Neil, and Mr. J. O. Stevenson does well as Abdullah.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The fine pictures here include Across the Plains, a thrilling story, and The Dawn of Freedom, illustrating scenes of war in Cuba. Mr. Roger Alwyn sings some good songs

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Flower of the Ranch is a fine dramatic picture of Western America, and The Girl and the Fugitive is another capital story of the Far West.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Thou Shalt Not is a strong dramatic film, and an episode of the wilds of Corsica is ably depicted in Corsican Bandits.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—A story of mining camp life, ably illustrated, forms the principal attraction here.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. G. Brydon-Phillips's company is here with *Our Boys*, preceded by a new comedy sketch duologue *Going to the Ball*. In *Our Boys* Mr. Frank M. Wood has a hearty reception for his inimitable presentment of Perkyn Middlewick, and causes endless fun. He is ably supported by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas, who is very natural as Sir Geoffry Champreys; Mr. Orlando Barnett is capital as the Dude Talbot Champneys; and Mr. Cecil A. Collins is effective as Charles Middlewick; Miss Leah Marlborough is dignified as Violet Melrose; Miss Beatrice Whitney is good as Mary Melrose; Miss Lizzie Chambers is a typical servant as Belinda; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite is very humorous as Clarissa Champneys.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—An attractive show is provided here by Mr. Sydney Spenser's company with *A Wonderful Woman and Peggy*. In the former piece Mr. Sydney Spenser is seen to great advantage as Marquis de Frontignac, and Mr. Fred Russell is also very successful as Alphonse; Mr. Arthur L. Read gives a good portrayal of Viscount D'Esparre; Miss Gipsy Alexander presents a powerful rendering of Mme. Hortense Delauney; and Miss Lizzie Hall is charmingly attractive as Marcelle. Two pretty performances are those of Miss H. Eyre as Jules and Miss E. Heap as Cecile.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Gilbert Payne is a great attraction here, both in his comic songs and later on in a farce, entitled *The Obliging Waiter*, in which he is ably supported by Miss Ethyl Errol; Mr. Sam Kelly has a quaint style, peculiarly his own, and Miss Phyllis Thornton is popular.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—A good all-round bill this week is headed by the Drolls, in *A Day on Pierrot Island*; Lionel Howard, in a series of impersonations, gains much applause; Rudge Whitworth, comedian at the piano, gives a good turn; a funny farcical skit, entitled *A Twenty-first Birthday Party*, is very amusing; Hetty Ray, comedienne, is warmly greeted; and Stave, presenting mystery, mirth, and music, is quite successful. The pictures are good.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Attwater.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company is on a return visit with *The Marriage of Kitty*. The cast is in all respects identical with that appearing on a recent occasion. *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* and *David Garrick* have also been staged.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. J. Field.—The Achmed Ibrahim troupe of Bedouin Arabs give an interesting and finished exhibition of tumbling; Dutch Daly, as usual, proves a strong attraction; Mr. John Donald is heard to advantage in a vocal scena entitled *A Scottish Exile's Dream*; Otto and Olga score in a smart little number in which music, humour, and mock opera are well blended; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist, is a skilful exponent, and Edie Gray and Boys are popular vocalists and dancers. The remaining contributors are Emily Delmere, comedienne and dancer, and Herbert La Martine, eccentric dancer.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Frank Elliston and company are here in an original romantic episode of 1651, entitled *Long Live the King*. The piece is beautifully staged. Halma, described as the Scottish society juggler, gives an up-to-date entertainment; Edwin Garth is popular; Charles Bothwell causes roars of laughter; Beattie Sullivan is a charming comedienne; Cavalli finds favour as a ventriloquist; Smith and Gibbs are excellent equilibrists; and the Lester Brothers, the demon dancers, receive applause. The Alexscope concludes a good bill.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—*With Edged Tools*, presented by Mr. H. Armitage, is a great attraction. Mr. Chas. Hartopp as Jack Meredith gives a creditable account of himself, and Sir Joshua Meredith is a capital character study by Mr. Walter Russell; as the villainous half caste Victor Darnoto, Mr. Charles Barrett is effective; and Guy Oscard has an excellent exponent in Mr. Chas. Barrett. Miss Marguerite Cellier as Millicent Cheyne and Miss Alice Maud as Lady Cantourne are successful; Miss Edith Anton-Laing, in the dual rôle of Mary and Lady Herries, is admirable; Miss Marie Leonhard as Joselyn Gordon and Mr. J. Graham Pockett as Maurice Gordon are capitally portrayed. The play is exceedingly well mounted.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Abundant laughter is prevalent while Messrs. Leedham, Bantock, and Frederick Mouillot present their farcical comedy *Those Terrible Twins*. Mr. Bantock is quaintly droll as the butler, William; and the rigid Mrs. Pringle seems well suited to Miss M. Skelton. The perplexities of C. Pringle are amusingly portrayed by Mr. C. Esdale, who is well supported by Mr. E. H. Wynne as the Hon. H. Scott. The Misses Louie Backmann and E. Morgan are attractive as Violet Fairfield and Lillie Leyton; Mr. A. McCaig makes a lively lift-boy, Minks; and the Cook is well played by Miss M. Hargrave; Mr. Pringle, sen., having a natural counterpart in Mr. Harry Cane. *Only a Clown* precedes.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Agate.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is presented this week by a good company. The character of the handsome, though perfidious, Wanda Lubinoff is admirably portrayed by Miss Sidney Crowe; the villainous lover, Count Karateff, received a powerful impersonation from Mr. G. M. Montanini; and Mr. Bert Woodin is highly amusing as Christopher Crackles.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A screamingly-funny sketch, entitled *That Dreadful Detective*, is the attraction here this week, Mr. E. D. Nicholls as Detective-Inspector Dripping causing roars of laughter; Farr and Farland are smart comedians; Ida Kersanley's fox terriers give an excellent canine display; Irene and Morton are appreciated in dance and patter; the Newmans are clever trick cyclists; Joe Humphreys scores as a descriptive vocalist; the Bio-Photoscope exhibits an attractive film; and other good turns include Archie Pitt, comedian; Idalia May, speciality danseuse; and Harry Luck, eccentric.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Bransby Williams, the clever Dickensian character actor, in his new series from "Bookland to Stageland," has been winning merited applause; Jack and Evelyn's new comedy business "Introductions" gained cordial appreciation; Horace White, with his male and female figures, introduces his amusing ventriloquial entertainment; Alice Hollander is heard to advantage in "Miserere"; Frank Sylvo provides a laughable juggling act; and Ryder Slone, the Kraggs Trio, and Katie Butler meet with a good reception.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The star turn *par excellence* is Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, whose melodious voice and artistic rendering of "Melisande" and "The rose will blow" charm audiences here; the Courtiers, under Paul Mill, show themselves to be accomplished singers and dancers; Juno Salmo, "the devil dandy," executes some wonderful contortionist feats; *An Extra Turn* is the title of a pathetic dramatic episode, played by Messrs. Robert Macaig, Laurence Emery, Paul Mill, and Maggie Shaw; the Brothers Griffiths, with their burlesque duello and wrestling, contribute plenty of fun; Johnson Clark amuses with his ventriloquial act "The Park Pest"; the Columbia Comedy Trio's vocal and comedy turn merits favour; and Philip Levard, conjurer and illusionist, Baby Vi Davis, and Eva Ellis are pleasing.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford is presenting here *The Private Secretary*. The Merry Boys and the Mascots provide the vocal entertainment.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—The pictures by the Vernon Bioscope are proving attractive. If the present high standard is kept up, there is no doubt it will prove a draw through the summer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Herbert Darnley's *Brigands of Tarragona* tops the bill, and deservedly meet with a hearty reception. The Donaldson Brothers, in *Sports in a Jungle*, provide a novel turn; Larry Lewis is decidedly funny and as popular as ever; the Lashmars provide a good turn, as do the Komic Komedy Kouple; the Moncktons have a clever sketch, entitled *A Woman's Curiosity*; Baby Wolff is an accomplished child artist; Burt Ward, whistler and raconteur, is most amusing; Florence and Rose Showell meet with an ovation for the artistic way in which they render their duets; and Nora Emerald, comedienne, also meets with a good reception.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Dr. Walford Bodie and his Magnets are drawing immense audiences. Assisted by his medium, La Belle Electra, the doctor succeeds in giving a wonderful demonstration of electrical skill, and the mirth provided by his experiments on the various mediums is unlimited. The company also includes W. H. Williams, who gives good imitations of Scotch comedians; Dolly Robson, a clever vocalist; Tom Gold, comedian; Billy Walters, an amusing ventriloquist; G. W. Walker, a pleasing singer of Scotch ballads; and Jack Diamond, a capital clog dancer.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—During the past week there has been excellent exhibitions of Jury's Imperial Pictures at the Palace. The engagement was made at the eleventh hour, after Mr. Bowman had experienced a disappointment in booking a company in Shakespearean répertoire. The pictures have been particularly varied and extremely interesting.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—At the Marina the twice-nightly shows of animated pictures are maintaining their popularity, and there are large attendances of the public. The pictures are in all respects admirable, and the varieties similarly excellent. Miss Mollie Seymour, artistic comedienne and brilliant violinist, sings and plays in charming style; and the Great Vandinoff, lightning artist, draws pictures on a revolving disc with wonderful effect. He is assisted by Mlle. Louie.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—John Warren, the famous conjurer, produces a sketch, entitled *The Conjurer at Home*, in which he performs a number of astonishing tricks of legerdemain. The Æolians introduce some clever dancing and singing in their sketch *The Professor's Pupils*; Mr. Sidney Brandon gives some admirable dramatic studies, including an impersonation of Matthias in *The Bells* and "The Tramp's Story"; Burley and Burley are quaint acrobatic comedians; Phil Bransby is a very clever coster comedian; Halter and Ray are well appreciated in their comedy duo turn; and Winnie Derson is a very pleasing comedienne. Two amusing films on the Bioscope complete the show.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. H. Draco; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—Miss Beaumont Collins and company present an effective dramatic sketch, entitled *The Leaves of Memory*; the Czar's Royal Russian Troupe execute some wild national dances with great vigour; Les Five Joves perform some good feats on the horizontal bars; Tom Lee is a clever light comedian; the Emsons are very pleasing singers and dancers; Edna Latonne is a good male impersonator; Bennett and Martell, "the shipwrecked mariners," are very funny; Rex Fox is very smart in his ventriloquial and musical act on a slack wire; and some capital films are shown on the Bioscope.

CENTRAL SKATING RINK (West-street).—Dainty Dolly Mitchell gives a splendid exhibition of fancy skating at this popular rink each evening.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. George E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Another fine company is here this week. Minnie Kaufman is a brilliant trick cyclist; Mabel Mairs' presents an unique musical act; Lenton and Lane are most amusing in a vocal and comedy act, *Unconsidered Trifles*; Maria Racko and partner are highly successful with their acrobatic transformation novelties; Earle and Melville, patter comedians and dancers, are deservedly applauded; the Martineks delight the house in *The Rag Doll*; Chinko is a wonderful young juggler; and Cliff Dacre, a fine baritone, is a finished character vocalist. The Hipposcope pictures are excellent.

ROTHESAY, N.B.—ETTRICK BAY PAVILION.—The summer season was opened here by Mr. Stuart Debnam's Jesters, who devoted the entire proceeds of the first night to the local hospital. The troupe are strongly supported by the residents as well as visitors, the chief magistrate and the Provost having already attended the performances. The company consists of Mr. Debnam, a first-rate humorist; Mr. Franklyn Vernon, in songs and character sketches; Mr. Fred Lytton wins favour with baritone songs, and also acts as pianist; Miss Irene Greville, soprano and child impersonator, is a great favourite; Miss Kittie Douglas, soubrette, gives chorus songs with great success; and Mr. Stanley H. Bell combines conjuring, ventriloquism, and humorous songs, in addition to attending to the business management.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.—The films shown here include Traitor to King and Country, The Little Flower Girl's Christmas, Muggins, V.C., Catching Fish by Dynamite, The Modern Highwayman, &c. Miss Dorothy Miller provides the variety portion.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Lucky 'Liza*, which is here, gives Miss Vesta Brownie, in the title-part, opportunities to show her singing and dancing abilities to advantage. Mr Dickie Clare as Silas Slim causes much merriment; the fun is kept going by Mr. T. W. Benson (Peter Pettitoe), Mr. Leonard Maitland (Paul Pettitoe), Mr. J. W. Forest (Biffins), and Mr. H. George (Bladderwick). Miss Helen Douglas is a charming Marie Pettitoe; as also is Miss Hettie Gale as Verginia Blotherwick. Several pleasing songs are given by Madame Constance Bellamy as Sadie Potts. The Jesmond Trio do some acceptable dancing

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—The Five X-Rays, mad athletes, head the bill this week with their clever business; Ted Waite, spasmodic comedian, tickles his audience with his comic songs; Dorma Morgan, versatile comedienne, has a pleasing manner and a good voice, and wins much appreciation for her songs; *Hotel de Quick* is a very comical knockabout act by Ted Karno and company; the Four Regals, in *The Armourers*, are a quartette of strong-jawed men; Archie Royer, American comedian and acrobat, does some clever somersaults; the Howards (Ralph and Nellie), in their musical sketch, *Military Mad*, and Bessie Knight, comedienne, also do well.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is given by Lewis Gilbert's company twice nightly here. Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine is a pleasing heroine; the aged villain, Mark Glensdale, is well presented by Mr. Lewis Gilbert; Miss Allyce Wyllyams as Mollie; and Mr. Jo. Monkhouse as Billy put in some smart comedy business; Mr. Roy Denman makes a fine hero; and Mr. Ashmore Vincent gives a good study of Dan Glensdale.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Comet, Mammy and Daddy, A Child's Courage, Laughing Machine, Guida Colonna, and Child's Message to Heaven, and Bernese Oberland are among this week's pictures; and Mr. Tom Sherlock's song is "The last milestone."

CENTRAL HALL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD. — Proprietors, Messrs Matt Raymond Company; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures, including Lesson by the Sea, From Gipsy Hands, Mother's Heart, Poisoned Tramp, Deal in Old China, Good Doggie, continue to draw good houses.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley.—Was Justice Served? Lost Umbrella, Bride of Fabavia, Boa Constrictor, The Poacher, &c., &c., are shown this week to full houses nightly.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Miss Violet Osmund's company is in occupation with *The New Barmaid*. The title-rôle is nicely played by Miss Madge Prior; and Mr. J. Burlington Rigg does admirably as Captain Loveday. Mr. E. W. Chewd as Colonel Claymore, Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes as William White, and Miss Vera Grafton as Brenda Louth are all good in their respective parts; Miss Beatrice Erle gets in some vivacious and taking business as Dora Heather; and Miss De Terry supplies a dignified and aristocratic Lady Moulton. Mr. Alexander Loftus keeps the merriment bubbling with his comic rendering of Bertie White. On Thursday evening, the anniversary of the opening of the theatre, the above company was augmented by Miss Lilian Carter, soprano; Mr. G. Spencer, cornet soloist; Tournament of Boys of the Navy League; comedietta, *His Better Half*, by Messrs. S. Grafton and J. H. Maudesley; wrestling exhibition by Messrs. W. C. Crosby and C. Williams; Miss Ethel Thomas, the Welsh nightingale; Mr. Bert Hatton, piccolo soloist; Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's pierrot stars and comets; and an operatic sketch by *The New Barmaid* company. The theatre closes to-day for the summer vacation, reopening for the season on August Bank Holiday.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is presenting here *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. As Ruby Wright Miss Maud M. Powell is successful; Ruth Wright is spiritedly played by Miss Edith Wallis; and Madame De Meral is capably accounted for by Miss Ana Corri; Mr. Walter Clark plays well as the villain; Mr. Henry Scratchard makes a crafty Octavius Screwe; Mr. Leslie Austin, a manly Robert Ray; and Miss Eva Norman a commendable Ned, the cripple.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A successful spring season finishes this week with the welcome return visit of the Castellani Italian Opera Company. A fine performance was given on Monday of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, which was followed by *I Pagliacci*. On Tuesday the old favourite, *Rigoletto*, was given, to the delight of many local amateurs. *Faust* drew a good house on Wednesday, and Verdi's *Il Trovatore* on Thursday, *Lucia di Lammermoor* on Friday, and *Carmen* (Saturday) completed the attractive week's bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—The emotional and picturesque drama *A Life for a Life* began a return visit to Sheffield on Monday, and again met with a hearty reception from a large audience. The chief dramatic interest centres round a little girl, a part acted with rare intelligence and naïve humour by Wee Winnie Warden, whose songs were enthusiastically applauded. Other characters were well played, and the play was effectively mounted.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Percy Norman's company opened on Monday in the stirring domestic and military drama *A Woman Worth Winning*, the principal characters being represented by Messrs. Sydney Barton, Gilbert Standing, A. B. Mackay, E. Finlay, Jack Carlass, Wynn Davies, Graham Hamlyn, C. W. Blask, L. Newman, Harry Stuart, Geo. Dance, W. Burnett, Miss Trixie Leighton, Miss Ida Mackay, and Miss Lillie Lewis.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires' Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—In spite of atmospheric conditions the Empire, delightfully cool, was crowded on Monday, and the following artists were cordially applauded:—Miss Gertie Gitana, the graceful and vivacious characteristic *danseuse*; Mr. George French, comic singer; Miss Lillie Lassah, a pretty and pleasing comedienne; Conn and Conrad, comic concoctors; the Quaint Q.'s; Mr. Charles Fisher's Pocket Opera troupe; Mr. Alfred Agoust, novelty artist; Mr. Victor Widdicombe, the popular comedian, and his company

in an amusing new sketch; Cumminger and Collona, the expert coon dancers; and Mr. George Leyton, in his inspiring vocal and spectacular episode *The Roll Call*, supported by a talented company. Topical pictures conclude the programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—An excellent sketch is *A Matrimonial Fee;* the Karitson Sisters are graceful performers; and other talented artists engaged are Clarke and Hayden, comedy entertainers; the well-known Athos troupe; Miss Louie Tracey, comedienne; Miss Sadie Lundy, a pleasing artist; Mr. W. C. Wesley, comic vocalist; Messrs. Cedar and Elgar, burlesque actors, in their novel mediæval skit; Scott and Whaley, coloured comedians and dancers; and the Narow Brothers, in a novel act. Some new and artistic animated pictures conclude a good all-round entertainment.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—There was a bumping house and a fine programme on the 2nd inst., the occasion being the second annual benefit to Mr. Thos. Baugh, the ever-courteous and business-like general-manager. The Kilmorey Amateur Dramatic Society played *Our Regiment* with considerable success, and the following artists were good enough to give their most acceptable services: Phœnix and Phœnix, serio duettists; Bert and Bert, humorous vocalists; Mr. Ted Richards, comedian; the Sardous, illusionists; Miss Lilian Chambers, soprano; Edmund Caselli, banjoist; and Miss Marie Rivers, comedienne. This week Mr. Tom Watt's thoroughly capable company is here in the Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*, admirably enacted. Mr. Frank Beresford takes the part of Archibald Carlisle with quiet dignity; Mr. Wilfred Percy Mansfield as Francis Levison enacts the part with conspicuous ability; Mr. Tom Watt makes a capital Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Elliot as Mr. Hallijohn merits praise; Mr. Jerrold Manville as Justice Hare acts creditably; Mr. Eric Liegg is capable as Richard Hare; Mr. Clifford Clifford as Lawyer Dill works hard and conscientiously to make the part tell; Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock is droll and clever; Miss Laura Hansen plays with care and ability in the trying parts of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine; Miss Isabel Singleton gives a very satisfactory exposition of the character of Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Ida Heron is graceful and sympathetic as Barbara Hare; Miss Beryl Forbes is a smart Joyce; Miss Alice Nunn is exceedingly good as Wilson; Miss Laurie K. Pardy wins encomiums as Susanne; Miss Alice Moseley acts with skill and promise as Little Willie; and Miss Ethel Ray plays with ability the part of Little Isabel.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Miss Grace Warner's company has been presenting *The Wages of Sin, The Scarlet Clue,* and *East Lynne* here. Miss Grace Warner, in the rôle of Ruth Hope, gave a most successful portrayal; Mr. George Gordon displayed considerable skill and ability in his representation of George Bland; Mr. Frank Esmond showed ability and sound study as Stephen Marlet; Mr. Roy Rhind was a success as Harry Wentworth; Mr. Frank Hertie was well placed as Josiah Deane; Mr. Louis Nanton caused amusement as Ned Drummond, and his amusing parody on "Somewhere" was applauded. Mr. C. Williams was good as Judson, and was recalled for his singing; Miss Florence M. Daly (Jemima) and Miss Lizzie Palmer (Julianna) extracted much humour from their rôles; Miss Lallah Price made the most of the rôle of Barbara Dale; and Master Willie Taylor and Miss Rita Corri were clever as the youngsters.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Shakespearean plays are proving immensely popular here, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and a first-class company being accorded enthusiastic receptions for the admirable manner in which they depict each play. Monday's attraction was *The Taming of the Shrew*, in which Miss Glossop-Harris was seen to great advantage in a powerful impersonation of Katharine, and shared principal honours with Mr. Frank Cellier, who gave a masterly characterisation of Petruchio. Other praiseworthy embodiments were those of Miss Ine Cameron as Bianca, Miss Madge Spencer as Curtis, Mr. Murray Kinnell as Lucentio, Mr. Eugene Wellesley as Tranio, Mr. Arthur Seaton as Baptista, Mr. James Mason as Horleniso, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree as Gremio, Mr. Gordon Philliott as Biondello, and Mr. H. P. Owen as Grumio. *The Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The School for Scandal,* and *Hamlet* are also in the week's bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome; Resident Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—Chas. Austin and company, in the screaming skit *Parker, P.C.*, are very clever. Other good turns are contributed by the Lecardo Brothers, acrobats; Lily Palmer, comedienne; Russell Brandow, comedian; Signor and Mme. Borelli, entertainers; Gladys Mavius, Canadian girl; Victor Travers, comedian; Cash and Clair, comedians and dancers; and the Olympian troupe of comedy trick cyclists.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Miss M. Lowe-Dare's refined company give a successful portrayal of *My Sweetheart*, which is heartily received. Miss M. Lowe-Dare gives a vigorous and forceful impersonation of the adventuress, Mrs. Fleeter; and Mr. Ernest Dare as Joe Shotwell and Dudley Harcourt gives a powerful impersonation of both characters. Miss Mona Maughan in the title-rôle is both winsome and clever, and sings well with Mr. Frederic Morena, a good interpreter of Tony Faust; Miss Maggie de Halle is well suited as Mrs. Hatzell; Mr. Walter Hicks ably characterises Harold Bartlett; and Mr. Burton Yaldwin as Dr. Oliver is successful.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Popularity is secured by the excellent programmes submitted by Mr. Finlay Dunn's Dandies, a clever company of artists who attract large audiences at each of the three daily performances.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—The popular lessee of the Opera House inaugurated a répertoire season on Monday night, when a large and influential audience, including the Mayor (Councillor T. H. Gregson), thoroughly enjoyed a capital all-round interpretation of *Cousin Kate*, presented by Mr. Percy Hutchison and company. Mr. Hutchison submitted a strikingly natural and finished study of the artist, Heath Desmond, the character being excellently portrayed in all its phases: Miss Lilias Earle, who shared the honours with Mr. Hutchison, depicted the title-rôle with admirable effect and charm, both in the sympathetic and comedy scenes; Miss Cicely Stuckey enacted Amy Spencer in an artistic manner; Miss Pauline Strauss merits unstinted praise for her clever delineation of Jane; the matronly Mrs. Spencer had a highly commendable exponent in Miss Mary Griffiths; Mr. Frank Elliott presented a capital impersonation of the Rev. James Bartlett; and the characteristics of Bobby Spencer were humorously portrayed by Mr. Charles H. Chappell.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green present *Her Fatal Marriage*. The piece is full of incident, a noticeable feature being the powerful acting of Mr. Jerrold Heather as Zaco Maletto, who is ably supported by Miss Hilda Shirley as Myra Maletto, also a strong character.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—*A Picnic Up the River* is a refined musical treat, presented by Charburn's Young Stars; Robins and Collier Trio appear in a good extravaganza, *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg;* Naughton and Gold submit some good dancing and novel patter; Cul-Pitt is a marvellous and humorous conjurer. The remaining good items are W. A. Fenwick, in illustrated songs; Jennie Hartley, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE (Ocean-road).—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Herman and Evelyn, on the silver wire; Harry Boldon, banjoist and instrumentalist; and Cosselly, aided by a beautiful show of animated pictures, make this house a popular resort.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are here for their third week of the season, and produced *The Unknown* on Monday in a capable manner. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle was well applauded as Harold Merrybright; Mr. Fred Watson made a capital Jack Salt, throwing much life into his embodiment; and as Arnold Tyson Mr. Norman A. Overton acted powerfully. Mr. Percy Coningsby gave a careful study of Dr. Brinkton; Mr. F. Ayrton was good as Jimmy; and Mr. John W. Harrell portrayed Albert Stormking with great satisfaction. Miss Ada Oakley made a capital Pessie Merrybright; and as Louise Miss Anna Beaumont played admirably. On Friday and Saturday, in addition to *The Unknown*, *The Maid of Croxdale* was announced to be staged for the first time.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—The A.B. Electric Picture Combination continues with some capital items. The variety turn is provided by the Sisters Coulson, who are well applauded for their singing and dancing.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*The Midnight Mail* is presented here by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr. John F. Traynor plays Harry Steyne with marked success; and as Mary Steyne Miss Trissy Humphreys wins well-deserved approval. An exceptionally realistic representation of Billy Brewer is that given by Mr. Fred G. Evison; and Mr. Frank S. Strickland is responsible for a capital portrayal of Hassoa Padisha. Miss Mildred Carr makes the character of Nancy Brewer bright and interesting; as Leonard Royle Mr. Henry W. Hatchman presents a fine picture of the manly generous benefactor. The play is well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Brothers O'Brien top the bill with a novel and clever performance on the bars; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard are again welcomed with much laughter in their sketch *Coming Home;* the Kebbles are dainty and charming duettists; Sibb and Sibb give an excellent display of trapeze work; and Ivey Aberdare is an exceptionally graceful dancer. Maude Beaumont displays the possession of a capital voice; Dacey and Lewis are very entertaining; and Mark Sheridan, jun., claims much applause. Ernest Clifford is a capital dancer. Pictures complete the programmes.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Diana of Dobson's* is here this week. Miss E. Delaporte as Diana acts with charming grace; Captain the Hon. Victor is impersonated with skill and ability by Mr. Leslie Rea; Miss Hilda Francks is a thoroughly representative Mrs. Cantelupe; and Mr. Thomas Pauncefort acts effectively as Sir Jabez Grinlay.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company is presenting *In the Midst of Life* here. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts with realistic ability as David Armstrong; Mr. S. E. Scanlan is a powerful Henry Germiston; Joe Drummond is pleasingly played by Mr. Harry Cooke; and Mr. H. Hesslegrove humorously portrays Captain Bargery. Miss Nina Vaughton claims sympathy as Margaret Grey; Miss Lillian Radbourn capably impersonates Lady Helen Rosmead; Molly Bargery has a bright and winsome representative in Miss Mabel Tremere; and Sybil is sweetly impersonated by Miss Evelyn Kington.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. Geo. A. De Gray presents *Was She His Wife?* here. Mr. De Gray gives a powerful representation of the Tramp; and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland is capital as Jack Stanley. Miss Effie Bartlett is seen to great advantage as Nell Stanley; and Miss Etta Turner is a typical Waif. A capital film depicts the Derby.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Wee Georgie Wood proves an admirable top of the bill; he is a marvellous child comedian, and delights crowded audiences with his nursery scena. George Brooks is very popular in his latest successes; Briff, Braff, and Broff are clever comedy tumblers; Gladys Hooley, the violin girl, is excellent in "Fiddle and I"; Burns and Bentley are clever dancers; Monsieur Charles D'Aix gives a capital show with his trained dog "Ariane"; Cosgrove and Burns are diverting comedy duettists in "The Singing Academy"; and Kathleen Cogan is a dainty comedienne and dancer.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—*Judith* is presented twice nightly by the authoress, Miss Augusta Tullock, and company. Miss Tullock plays the part of Judith with much force.

ARCADIA, HARTSHILL.—Messrs. Fraser and Lloyd's Pierrotts have opened here for their summer. The company engaged is a strong one, including Messrs. Rand and O'Ryan, clever patter comedians and dancers; Miss Edith Ager, a dainty and pleasing comedienne; R. Freshwater, whose operatic numbers are well rendered; and F. D. Fraser, in old favourite numbers. Mr. R Burns ably presides at the piano.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE HALL, AND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The novelty gymnasts, Craig, Rose, and Craig, head the bill here, and do a capital turn; Claire Hastings, with Joey, pays a welcome return visit, and sings with her accustomed feeling and vigour; Reg Northall shows great promise as a comedian and entertainer; Ray, Miles, and Ray are eccentric jugglers and grotesques, who cause much fun and amusement by their clever antics; Freddy from Eton is a boy with a man's bass voice, and is vociferously applauded. The pictures are specially good, and are varied nightly. The orchestra is under the able baton of Mr. John A. Powell.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is here in *The Better Land*. Miss Marguerite Trevosper wins favour for her delineation of Doris; Miss Madge Trevelyan is warmly applauded for her portrayal of Mercedes; Miss Bella Moody as Aunt Jemina does good work; and Misses Kitty Terris (Polly Perkins), Dorothy Love (Tessa), and Gertie Moody (Harry) also do well. Mr. Douglas Watson submits an interesting rendering of Philip Radcliffe; and the part of Hubert Radcliffe is strongly presented by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A good programme is drawing large audiences here this week. The Four Panamas are eminently successful in a clever comedy act; and the Brothers Walford, comedians and speciality artists, submit a comprehensive programme, which gains great popularity. The principal picture is entitled The Message of an Arrow.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—George Lashwood is starring here with clever songs; the Brothers Egbert (the Happy Dustmen) are also scoring heavily; the Channings submit a refined musical act; Nellie Wigley, burlesque artist, renders her songs in a telling manner; Tom Stuart displays considerable ability; Fatmah Diard, soprano, is having an enthusiastic reception; and Rauschle is equally popular with his realistic impersonations.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Les Piccolinos, midget performers, are here this week, and their turn, a particularly exhaustive one, is well received; J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, is scoring with his songs; and the Caritons provide a popular acrobatic entertainment. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's play *The Love of the Princess* is being presented here. Prince Conrad is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Frank Harvey; Mr. Richard Vane is effective as Count Nicholas; Mr. John Burton gives a careful study of Josef, King of Ilarnia; Mr. Beckett Bould is a satisfactory Lieut. Orlando; Lieut. Zaroff is admirably sustained by Mr. John Worth; Mr. D. Laurance Doyle does well as Prince Regent; Mr. Francis Serle as Duke Scarfe and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Boris are amusing; Lady Irene is pleasingly rendered by Miss Maude Steeple; Miss Josephine Lee convincingly enacts Constantia; Princess Idalia finds a charming exponent in Miss May Beatrice.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—This week Mr. Dewhirst is showing a good series of pictures. Among the répertoire is a fine drama entitled Saved from the Tide. A great attraction is the Anchor Troupe of Acrobats, a Todmorden squad of gymnasts, fourteen in number, who elicit tremendous applause.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Packed houses still continue the rule at this popular place of amusement. Mr. Tyers is applauded for his singing.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—A striking attraction is afforded here in the return visit of *When It Was Dark*, presented by Mr. Oswald Cray's company. Mr. Cray is capable as the Rev. Basil Gortre; the Constantine Schwabe of Mr. C. W. Hulse is a capital assumption; Mr. E. Valentine is well placed as Sir R. Llewellyn; and the Rev. Byars of Mr. W. Manfree is praiseworthy. Miss Lillian Harries as Gertrude Hunt is all that can be desired; and Miss M. Grande is well suited as Grace Goldeye.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; General-Manager, Mr. E. Harper.—Topping the bill here are the Four Mexican Lasso Wonders. Luis Hardt is well received; Todd Jones gains great applause; and Albert Macelvin and Clifton and Gibson also do well. Some excellent films are shown.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Pearson.—Jim Esson, British heavy-weight wrestler, is a strong draw here; the Keppels are pleasing vocalists; the Four Sydney Girls are well received; Victoria Neil dances neatly; and Neil Francis scores heavily. Arden and Odell, Mark Hall, and Marie Lord all add to the general success.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Royal Strolling Players continue to attract large audiences. Mr. Sydney James proves himself to be a capital entertainer; Miss Dorothy Belmore does well in monologues at the piano; Miss Madeline Rossiter is exceedingly popular; Mr. Frank Halpin (bass) and Mr. Jack Austin (tenor) render their selections excellently; and Mr. G. W. Desmond as a clog-dancer and entertainer displays much talent. Miss Seymour James's monologues are encored.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Webb and Edna Branston, operatic duettists, are paying a welcome visit here; Dent and Leonard, tumblers, &c., provide an acceptable turn; the Lyons Trio score in a comedy act; Lilian Farrar is seen to advantage in a song-scena, entitled *Bubbles;* Michael Welsh, comedian, has a budget of capital songs; and Gus Bawn, eccentric musician, the Westbrooks, in novel dancing act, and Stewart and Morris also contribute to the entertainment.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Closed for summer vacation.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The Gascoignes, who head the bill here, give a clever display of juggling; Miss Florence Smithers and company cause much merriment in an amusing sketch, *Our Mary Jane;* Mr. Arthur Woodville is a smart light comedian; Burnetti, quick-change artist, gives a bright and interesting musical act; the Twelve Georgians, vocalists and dancers, do well; Dorris and Francis are pleasing duettists and dancers; and Mr. Jack Lumley, comedian, is quaint.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Brothers Obo, comedians, who top the bill here, evoke hearty laughter with their funny patter; Bu Val, the happy Dutchman, gives an admirable vocal turn; Miss Connie Isca, chorus vocalist, delights; and Sylvene, assisted by Mlle. Florence, performs wonderful equilibristic feats. Excellent pictures on the Bioscope complete.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The Five Atlas and Miss Vulcana, athletes, &c., head the bill; the Crisps score in a clever dancing scena; the Three Orros, in original act on silver chains. Bert Belton, comedian; Six Manchester Lads, vocalists, &c., Harrison Bros., in absurdity, G. M. Schilling, Dan Ashton, vocalist, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is here in a triple bill—*Mr. Barnes of New York, Moths,* and *Camille*. On Monday night in the first-named play Miss Henrietta Schrier scored brilliantly as Marina Paoli, and Mr. Lodge-Percy as Mr. Barnes acted naturally throughout.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Messrs. Haines and Borthwick are scoring a success here in the sketch *'Alf a Dollar*. William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads sing and dance effectively; the Dancing Gilberts supply a good turn; George Lawrence's songs are enjoyed; Ward and Davis score in the sketch *Wanted, a Typist;* Zenora is a wonderful equilibrist; and Dorothy Vasey's songs are popular.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Gormon's Juveniles head the bill here this week, and in the scena *The Waif* score well. The Denaro Bros. are clever juvenile equilibrists; and Marie Blythe, a dainty comedienne, and the Pictures are good.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—The pictures shown here this week take well. Howe and Kessler are an entertaining pair; other turns being the Lymes, Josh Thornton, and Miss Lily St. Helen.

EMPIRE.—The chief attraction here is the wonderful dancing of the Brothers Weltman; Bertini also has a good reception; and George Norton gives a decidedly quaint performance. Queenie Morris is deservedly encored; and other items are Walter Lintone, Carrie Forde, and Scotch and Polly.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Beaudyn.—Mr. Frank Lindo's well-known domestic drama *Home Sweet Home* is the attraction at this place of amusement. Mr. Montague Beaudyn himself takes the part of Stephen Armitage, and fills it with much ability; Miss Irene Munroe is a charming Joan; Miss Daisy Rochefort an admirable Dora; Mr. Val Gully as David Armitage is a striking figure; and Mr. A. Britton as the Duke of Ancaster does well.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—In addition to the excellent lot of pictures shown at the Hippodrome there are some striking turns, headed by D. W. Watson, the celebrated post-horn player. The Two Daniels are clever negro comedians; Nora Doone has some capital songs; and McAskell provides clever conjuring.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Wish Wynne is an original comedienne; the Bennans, in a refined and clever dancing act, gain great favour; Matthews and Mann, operatic vocalists, contribute a pleasing turn; John Tiller's choreagraphic spectacular ballet is pretty and effective; and other items on the programme which are appreciated are Baby's Park Parade, the Eight New Cocktails, The Mystic Hussars, The Friesland Serenaders, and The Twelve Forget-me-Nots.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Fred Jerman's farcical comedy, *The Magnetic Girl*, was presented here for the first time, and on Monday was received most heartily, being screamingly funny. Mr. Edward Carlton, a very clever comedian, whose humour was irresistible as 'Arry de Bompas; Mr. William Clark was really good as Mr. Henry Stockholder; Mr. A. T. Gullifer's interpretation of Timothy de Bompas was excellent, and so, too, was the Sir Victor de Bompas of Mr. Sam Lockridge; Mr. Gerald Merrielees made the most of Albert Greythorn; Mr. Eric Bass was praiseworthy as Emanuel Garcia, and the same can be said of Mr. George Parrington as George Minshall; Miss Olivia Eltone, a charming actress, made quite a hit as Estrella Gomez; Miss Rénée Reel's Bella Lightfoot was an artistic impersonation; and Miss Dulcie Vernie is entitled to eulogy as Mrs. Greythorn.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Brownies are here this week, and are exceptionally smart. Miss Beatrice Willey sang "My morn" with expression; Miss Maidie Field's rendering of "William, James, and 'Enery" was loudly encored; Miss Vivien Stafford sang "Those loving eyes" with effect; Miss Dorothy Webb at the piano was excellent; Mr. Charles Heslop's humorous song "There's a sun still shining in the sky" fairly brought down the house; "A hundred years ago" was artistically rendered by Mr. Alec S. Clunes; and Mr. Harvey Brinton was most successful with his song "Terrors Territorial." Some very fine pictures are shown by Lambert's Bioscope, and Herr Feriescu's Viennese Band is loudly applauded.

WHITLEY BAY.—PLEASURE GARDENS, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. A. Peuleve.—This place of amusement is now in full swing, the shops and restaurants on the front and in the interior having all been let, and are now occupied. In addition to the stock company engaged, the principal feature is the engagement of the Pichel Troupe of risley and acrobatic performers. Others prominent are May St. Hilda, in a lightning oil-painting scena; Wal Croft, Scotch comedian; Fame and Fortune, comedians; and Harry Levaine, comedian.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—The animated pictures include dramatic incidents, thrilling romances, and pathetic domestic stories. This diversified display is enlivened by varieties, principally from Frank Stanert, musical laughing comedian, in "The Tubellophone."

BATHS PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—This popular hall continues to be packed at each of the two evening performances. A good number of the very latest and up-to-date films are exhibited. The variety list is headed by Nat Lewis, amusing comedian.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Burton.—An excellent variety bill is presented here by J. Gar Kiddie, comedian; G. Spray, dancer and vocalist; Lennard and King, Hebrew comedians; and Margaret Oglivee, vocalist. Attractive pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees and General-Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Witty Watty Walton presents a very funny turn, and makes a great hit; Herr Karl Cynski fully justifies the title of a great Hungarian musician; Messrs. Chorley and Connor are bright and funny Scottish entertainers; Simosa San is a graceful Japanese entertainer; and the Bioscope works effectively.

WIGAN.—THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here in *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. W. Ryott gives a successful portrayal of Joe Mayfield; Mr. Charles E. Johnson scores as Martin Mason, and is ably assisted by Mr. Y. O. Cuthbertson as Manuel Alveraz; Mr. Will Hook is an entertaining Reggie Harwood; Mr. Harry Benson as Ben White provides some merry moments; Miss Isabel Lockie makes a charming Belle Gordon; Miss Daisy Carlton causes laughter as Maggie Mason; and Miss Norah Dillon is a vivacious Sarah Lively.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The U.S.A. Animated Picture Company; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—The two star pictures here this week are A Struggle for Life, a tale of Paris; and Lieut. Rose, R.N., and The Foreign Spy, a stirring patriotic story. Other good pictures are An Outlaw's Sacrifice, Why the Mail Was Late, and A Child's Message to Heaven.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. George Kirby's company is presenting *Fascinating Peggy*. Possessed of a sweet voice and winsome manner, Miss Marie Duncan is all that could be wished for in the title-part. She is ably partnered by Mr. James Hawkes as Lord Hassendale, whose rich baritone voice is heard to great advantage in the various numbers allotted to him. Mr. Victor H. Crawford as Christopher Scrubs is the life and soul of the piece, and his appearances are greeted with roars of laughter. Mr. Walter B. Nugent makes a capital villain as Harry Ledville; Mr. Jack Tate is good as Jacques Berat; and Mr. Sidney West is satisfactory as Sipple Kipple. Miss Leslie Warner acquits herself admirably as Viola Berat; Miss May Laarhoven is efficient as Tarabintha; Miss Daisy Stone is successful in her songs as Betsy; and Miss Nellie Morris as Taps makes a smart and vivacious little jockey. The introduction of the Apache Dance in the second act causes rounds of applause.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—A strong bill is headed by the Six Brothers Luck in their comedy sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which provides an ingeniously arranged stage picture and any amount of mirth. Maurice is a marvellous mystifier, his manipulation of cards being really wonderful; the Three Orleans present a unique singing and dancing act; Tommy Clifford is a prominent young ventriloquist; Ruby Rayo, comedienne and dancer, obtains numerous recalls; the Lyric Mummers again entertain with their vocal selections; and Jack Rae is a clever comedy juggling gymnast.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—The Derby Race is the star film here, and, despite the sultry weather, good houses are the rule.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Mr. Scott Alexander's company, which is here, includes Miss Kitty Aden, Messrs. C. Dashwood, S. J. Bird, and R. Alister. Other items are Whizzing the Whirl; Knoto, boneless man; the Musical Bohemians; the graceful Merries, in their charming dances; Sandy and Ramsey, in a comical turn; and Miss Ivy Cornwallis and Will Warren.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The head of the bill is occupied by Consul, the almost man, who goes through his performance in a wonderful manner. Harry Drew, the famous Welsh basso, is in particularly fine voice, and has scored heavily; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls provide a unique entertainment; Fred Neiman is most acceptable with his ventriloquial minstrels; Amandus, the cosmopolitan facial mimic, is in favour; and Rosie Gaston, comedienne, in catchy songs, goes well. The remainder of the entertainment is provided by Mlle. Rosinan, instrumentalist, and the farcical interlude *Cupid in a Lodging-house*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Reginald Paine.—Excellent programmes are provided here daily by the Frolics, and the Royal Navy Ladies' Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mme. F. Sydney Jones.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Scott and Mansfield.—A vaudeville party styling themselves the Queries have returned here for the season.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—An amusing character comedian, George Goldburn, heads the bill this week, and the programme is finished off by a pleasing vocal comedienne, Miss Connie Rubie. The great features of the pictures this week are The Black Hand and A Gipsy's Vengeance.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Allan Wilkie is completing a most successful three weeks' engagement, during which he and his company have been heartily received. On Monday *The Two Orphans of Paris* was given before a good house. Miss May Dallas was a picturesque Louise; and Miss F. Hunter Watts acted with much charm and skill as Henriette. Mr. Wilkie gave a rugged and forcible rendering of Jacques; and Mr. G. Edward Dunstan was in every way a success as Pierre. Mr. Herbert Mansfield as the Marquis du Pressles played an unthankful rôle with much skill; and Mr. John Paley was seen to advantage as the Doctor.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—A decided hit has been made by Miss Mabel Thorne, a comedienne with up-to-date methods, who sings three songs in first-rate style. Minola Hurct and her midgets present an original turn; the Unites, in their comedy act, score heavily; Al and Lal introduce a novel ventriloquial sketch; and Frank Weaver is a dancer of a high order of merit. Alice Hughes and company present a sketch brimful of humour; Marie Pera and Thomas Kennard are heartily applauded in a merry trifle entitled *Two Doors and a Passage;* Signor Torti, the possessor of an exceptionally fine tenor voice, speedily sings himself into favour; and Everhart, hoop manipulator, is heartily applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—There is another grand display at this popular hall, where large audiences continue to attend. The most notable films are For His Child's Sake, The Ranchman's Wooing, and Betty in Hot Water. Excellent turns are given by Geo. Lambton and Eric Graham, comedians.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—There is no lack of enterprise here, and films descriptive of local events are well received. Ned Gradon's musical mélange is well received.

POLICE CENSORSHIP.

"Mayor Gaynor deserves and receives the approbation of all good citizens for his efforts to enforce the excise laws and to prevent indecent plays," says Mr. Stephen Fiske in our much-respected contemporary the New York *Sports of the Times*. "But his methods radically differed. He ordered the police to obtain evidence against excise violators and turn them over to the District Attorney for prosecution; but when the police thought a play indecent they were instructed to suspend, revoke, or withhold the licence for the theatre. In the one case the offenders were to be punished; in the other the building or the proprietors or lessees of the building. Thus the licence for the New York Theatre, leased by Klaw and Erlanger, was withheld, because the Police Commissioner pronounced *The Girl With the Whooping Cough*, produced by A. H. Woods, an improper play. Second sober thoughts are best, and the New York re-opened with a revival of *The Three Twins*, which has already run the gauntlet of police and other criticism. When Henry B. Harris produced *A Skylark* at the New York, I said that the theatre, not the play, was on trial—meaning that if such a merry, dainty musical comedy, admirably sung and acted and beautifully staged, could not succeed there it was a proof that the clientele of that house required something more highly spiced. The withdrawal of *A Skylark* and the production of *The Girl With the Whooping Cough* justified my diagnosis. The Whooping Cough Girl suited the New York Theatre patrons, but was too spicy for the police. The theatre may be purified by *Three Twins;* but are the peculiar people who support it to be suddenly converted to purer dramatic tastes?

"The line between proper and improper, moral and immoral, plays is so fine that no censor—official, police, or journalistic—can draw it accurately. The most indecent thing I have seen on the stage is the sofa scene in Pinero's comedy, *The Wife Without a Smile;* but the British Censor licensed, the leading managers of London and New York, produced it; the police did not interfere, and the critics were silent. *Camille* raised a storm of protest; now it is a classic. *Sapho* called out the police; now nobody notices it. *The Great Divide* was horribly suggestive; but it had its run here and in England undisturbed. The Girl plays of which the Whooping Cougher is a type, are not immoral in the corrupting sense of the Ibsen school; but they are shockingly vulgar and indelicate. Yet not a single daily paper in New York ventures to tell the plain truth about them. The only danger from such plays is that people may go to see them in ignorance of their real character, and this is the fault of the daily Press. A play without a vulgar line, an indecent incident, a suggestive situation

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter ..... 6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year ..... 13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year ..... 26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3. 31, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 12, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 27, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
July 18, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 10, 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18, 28 (three nights), Aug. 15 (two nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions from July 4 for the Season.
Three Nights for preference.
The week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.

Address all communications,
WALTER MAXWELL, 52, Bedford Court-mansions, London, W.C. 'Phone 4,270 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 6 (3), and Easter.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Aug. 4, 11, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5 and 26.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, on, and Easter.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Aug. 4, 15, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, B. PARKYER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 11 and Aug. 8.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

One of the handsomest Theatres in the county. Holding capacity 3,500. Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies.

WANTED, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
Could arrange Stock Season for June and July.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre will reopen Aug. Holding capacity 3,000.
WANTED, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).

All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, BLACKBURN.
The most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Aug. 15, 22, 29, and Sept. 5.
A few Spring Dates possibly vacant.
Address all communications re dates to HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Autumn, 1910.

THOS. COURTICE, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22, and several good Autumn Dates.

Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for only vacant dates Aug. 8, 22 (?), 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 21, Panto. Xmas (four weeks), on. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Rames," &c. Re dates direct to
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, Dec. 5. onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12. onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.

Vacant Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.
BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 25.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN, Aug. 1.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK, Aug. 1, 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, July 4 (?), 11 (?), 18 (?), 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for:
AYR, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, MOTHERWELL, LEITH, and KIRKCALDY, for August and Autumn, 1910.

Wire or write, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 27 (Bolton Holiday), July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 15, and on.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
See Page 15 of "The Era," dated May 7, 1910.
New Theatrical Watering-place.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for Aug. 1 (B.H.), 8, and Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 24.
Special Notice.
Proprietors and Managers of Sound Attractions, Musical, Dramatic, or Farcical, with vacant dates, from and including Aug. 1, 1910, are invited to send in particulars of Plays, &c., cast, printing, &c., for consideration, to
ARTHUR C. MOODY, Blyth-by-Sea.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 11 (?), 18 (3), Oct. 10 (?), 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée, June 30, July 18, Aug. 4, Sept. 8, onwards. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies for Aug. 1 and 22.
Address, CHARLES REVILL.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, and on. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Aug. Bank Holiday week, and First-class Attractions for Aug. and Sept. SHERWOOD and Co., O. H., Wakefield.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, and onwards with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Applications from Companies for August Bank Holiday and various Autumn Dates. Bookings: "Merry Widow," "Gay Gordons," "Mrs. Wiggs," F. R. Benson, &c. Address all coms., MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, good Companies, for Sept. 1, 12, 19, 26, onwards (three nights).
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

CHORLEY HOLIDAY WEEK.
RE-OPENING GRAND THEATRE.
WANTED, Powerful Répertoire Co., Musical or Melodramatic (not Shakespeare), to commence Saturday, July 16, for 7 nights, or Monday, July 18, 6 nights. A sure huge week for good show.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Chorley.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Something Good in Répertoire, 7 nights, July 16 (holiday week), also July 25, Aug. 1, Grand, Chorley, also Aug. 8, 15, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Attraction. Re-opening Date, Aug. 1, and Dec. 12.
Address, MANAGER, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRES, BLACKBURN AND PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Drama or Variety Combination, Preston, June 27, July 4, 11; Blackburn, July 25, Aug. 1, 15. E. H. PAGE, Blackburn.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, for Re-opening of Season, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12 (Holiday date), Oct. 24, Nov., Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

ROYAL THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE, TORQUAY.
Unexpectedly Vacant Aug. 1.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for this date.

Apply, A. PEARSE.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 26, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 10. May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 (?), 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for June 27 and July 4, 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic Attraction, for July 18.
Apply, HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.
Please mark envelope "Royal."

WANTED, T. R., Margate, July 11 (week), 25 (3), Aug. 29 (3), Sept. 12 (3), on. Not Drama. Musical preferred. WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, June 20, July 4, 25, Aug on. ALFRED MANNERS.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, near NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA.
Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Powerful Attraction for Opening Date, Aug. 2, and various onwards.

The above Theatre is now being thoroughly renovated, and when completed will be one of the most comfortable and up-to-date Theatres in the North. Managers may with confidence book Blyth and Ashington. Both Theatres are under the personal supervision of
Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR C. MOODY.
All letters to be endorsed "Moody, Blyth." Managers holding contracts please communicate.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday) and 8.
The only Principal Theatre open at this time in Liverpool.
WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 24, Nov. 7.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, good Company, Musical Comedy, Dramatic or Variety, July 18, probable Flying Week. J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand T., Doncaster.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical or big Dramatic Attractions, for Aug. 1 to 22, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 12, 19. Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions. First Vacant Date. Oct. 17, and onwards. with exceptions. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company, Aug. 1. Lowest certainty, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Managers of Twice-nightly Attractions, Dramatic or Musical, with Open Dates in August, to communicate with J. HUNTLEY.

KURSAAL, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, July 11, six nights, height of season, good Musical or Special Attraction, not Drama. Other Bookings include Follies, "Arcadians," Arthur Roberts, &c.
Address, JAMES M. GLOVER.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Crook, Companies, Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, on. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Shakespeare Hotel, Nottingham.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 27 (wire), July 4 and 18. and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

CATLIN'S NEW ARCADIA, SCARBOROUGH.
The most magnificent Theatre and Concert Pavilion in England. Seating for over 2,000, and with standing will accommodate 3,000; magnificent Scenery, electric light, competent staff. This Theatre is situated right on the sea front, and is built so that in a few minutes can be entirely Al Fresco. Full Dramatic Licence.
WANTED, Known, a few vacant dates for Flying Matinées, also Orchestras, Concert Parties for Sundays in July and August; no vacancies for evenings. Apply Mr. DUDLEY HARCOURT, Manager for Mr. W. Catlin, "Arcadia," Scarborough.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 15 (3), 19, 26, Oct. 3 (3), 17 (3), on. Fast booking Autumn and Spring; worked on Theatre lines, full band, staff. DAVID WILLIAMS, New Theatre, Ferndale.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, two or three nights, for Splendid Season's dates, July 25, 28, Aug. 22, 25, 29, Sept. 5 and 15. Hunstanton to precede or follow. BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties (à la "The Follies"), July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, and 15. Seasons of one, two, three weeks, or more can be arranged Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Offers for Privilege of Holding Open-air Entertainments in Combermere Gardens, Rhos. The site is on the Promenade, and an ideal spot for above purpose. Applications address to SECRETARY, T.A.A., Colwyn Boy, from whom particulars may be obtained.

COMPANIES WANTED.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 17 (?), Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Companies booked at, or wishing to visit, this old-established and successful Theatre are reminded that they must not book elsewhere, or permit their plays to be performed in Hastings, St. Leonards, or Bexhill.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant July 18, Sept. 29 (3), Oct. 3, 10 (?), 24, 31.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Aug. 22-24, Oct 3 (?), 10, 24, 31.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL, Aug. 8, 15, 22, and few later dates.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, Sept. 5.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Aug. 22, Sept. 15 (three nights).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, Aug. 8, 15, 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN, Aug. 22 (three nights).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, RICHARD THORNTON.
The most gorgeous and up-to-date Theatre out of London.
Bookings include George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Dollar Princess," Moody-Manners Opera Co., Seymour Hicks and Co., Great Pantomime Production, "Aladdin"; other important engagements pending.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical or West End Attractions, for one or two vacant dates.
London Stars playing North could arrange Flying Matinées. All communications to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

TOM H. TAYLOR'S COMPANIES.
"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 1, Nov. 14, 21, and Xmas.
Grand Autumn Production,
"THE CRIMINAL'S BRIDE,"
Written by Edward Marris.
Wanted, Important Theatres, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Dec. 26, and Jan. dates.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood,
20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, June 27 and July 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood,
20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD," "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Splendidly dressed and mounted. Perfectly produced. Once or Twice Nightly. Theatres or Music Halls.
WANTED, for few Remaining Vacancies (Lancs. or Yorks.) Address, J. L. BARRY, 49, Sidney-street, North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 8 (?), 22, on, big Company, Chorus, Negro Specialities. New Plant of beautiful Scenery and Printing.

CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.

WANTED, July 28 (three nights), South, Aug. 4 (three nights), South), Sept. 12.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. BISHOPSDALE Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.

WANTED, Dates, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A Message from Mars," No. 1 Company, Oct. 17, 24 (North or Midland), also Xmas week at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Theatres, for above (3 nights, North), Aug. 22, Sept. 19 (North), Oct. 17 (Midlands or North), Nov. 7 (South), Nov. 21 (3 nights, South).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mans., London, W.C.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN," and "NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, June 20 and 27.
Wire, LOIE ESMOND,
To-day and next week, Shakespeare T., Clapham.

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME."

WANTED, July 18 (Midlands), Aug. 22 (North), and various onwards, also Xmas.
WALTER J. HORNE,
To-day, King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield; next week, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Magnificent Production, "ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Carefully-selected Company, including MISS NELLIE CLYDE as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14, only Dates Vacant.
Wanted, for the Funniest Farcical Comedy of the day,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
By Michael Morton.
From the Criterion Theatre.
Only Date this year, three nights, July 28 (precede T. R., Newcastle). Address,
CHAS. GIBBON, Managers' Club, Savoy-mans., W.C.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE,
275, Monks-road, Lincoln.

MURRAY KING AND CO. in "OUR FLAT."
WANTED, June 23 (3 nights), July 4 (week).
KING, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WANTED, July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 1, for London Star, in Répertoire.
HALDANE CRICHTON, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Sept. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
July 4, 25, Nov. 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Oct. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production, Junction, Manchester, 18th July, 1910.
WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
Only two Vacant Dates this year.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Prince's T., Bradford.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful play, "WHEN IT WAS DARK" (by arrangement with T. M. Powell). The most sensational play of modern times. Refer Sam Duckworth, Esq., or any Manager visited.
WANTED, big Theatre, Aug. Bank Holiday, follow Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, precede Metropole Theatre, Birmingham; Sept. 5 and 26, follow Barnsley; Oct. 17, 24, and 31, Nov. 14, and Christmas, Jan. 16, follow Nuneaton. Managers invited. OSWALD CRAY, T. R., Leicester.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, through prolonging tour.
Refer Wm. Morton, Esq., re this week.
This play acknowledged one of the finest ever toured.
Wire, KIMBERLEY, Alex. T., Hull; next, T. R., Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Alexandra T., Hull; next, T. R., Bolton.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
"JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR."
WANTED, June 27, near London; Aug. 1, South.

ERNEST E. NORRIS, Managers' Club.

WANTED, June 15 and 27, to precede and follow Cardiff.
"CASTE." G. W. Anson as Eccles.
It is not Anson—it is Eccles.—The Times.
CORA ANSON, 28, Werter-road, Putney, S.W.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
WANTED, July 18, Dec. 26, Xmas, on, to 1911, for this rejuvenated and money-making Farce; new scenery, &c. Refer John Hart, Esq., John Huddlestone, Esq., W. Peacock, Esq., W. W. Kelly, Esq. Address, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," July 4, 11, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 14, Xmas, Jan. 2. HALDANE CRICHTON, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."
WANTED, June 20, between Birmingham and London.
HORACE STANLEY, T. R., Aston.
Next, T. R., Smethwick.

WANTED, Dates, Autumn, for Mr. Juan Bonaparte in "The Man of Fate," a Napoleonic Play. Address, H. CHISWELL BILLING, 17, Crewdson-road, S.W.

WANTED, Managers with Theatres, capable of holding good money, and with vacant dates, for First-class Pantomime Production, to communicate with J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

Mr. H. HAMILTON STEWART'S
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, for this Sterling Attraction, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14.
LANGTON LANE, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
WANTED, following Dates: July 4 (between North and South), Sept. 12 and 19, Oct. 18, July 18 and 26 (Pastoral Plays).
See Companies Column.
Address, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WENTWORTH CROKE, MILTON BODE, AND EDWARD COMPTON'S COMPANIES.
"THE BISHOP'S SON,"
by Hall Caine.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 24.

"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."
From the Garrick Theatre, London.
Wanted, Aug. 8 and 22.
WENTWORTH CROKE,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury avenue, W.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
Another proof of her success. After Stage advertisement was dispatched, E. H. Page, Esq., witnessed entire performance on Tuesday night; result, terms given for Preston, June 13, Aug. Bank Holiday offered at Blackburn. Thanks to Wm. Peacock, Esq., for Contracts, Scarboro' and Harrogate.
WANTED, good Theatres, June 27, July 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Barrow; next, Prince's, Preston.

MR. J. LINDSAY ELLIS
presents
"LIGHTS OUT."
WANTED, Dates, July 28, onwards. Special London Co. Entire New Production.
Address, Newland House, Polmont Station, Stirlingshire, N.B.

JOHN LEOPOLD'S COMPANY and THE ORIGINAL LEOPOLDS.
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY."
Preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
Right up to date. A greater attraction than ever. Bright sparkling show, with plenty of musical numbers.
WANTED, Known, could arrange July 11, 25, Aug. 1, and onwards, with exceptions. Big expenses, so must have equitable terms (share or certainty). All communications to GENERAL-MANAGER, 198, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 29, for Laurence Irving, Mabel Hackney, and Company, in "Margaret Catchpole" and "The Unwritten Law."
BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."

WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, and later.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, and later.

"A HOT NIGHT,"
Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.
25 Performers 25.
Wanted, Good Theatres,
Aug. 1, onwards.
Look out for Grand New Production,
"SHE DID IT FOR LOVE."

Re Dates,
A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository,
Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, c/o "Pagoda, Liverpool."

Pantomime, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," "ALADDIN,"
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."

WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates for First-class Pantomime Productions.
Communicate with A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 27, July 18,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306. 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.

Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Vacant June 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, 22, and on, with exceptions.
June 13, New Theatre, Cardiff.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOUR,
with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.

Autumn Tour commences Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne, August Bank Holiday.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres, Aug. 22, follow T. R., Barnsley, Sept. 5 and 26, Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate). Dec. 5 (precede St. Helens), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea).
All coms.,
Martin Comstock,
Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

VAN BIENE, the Actor-Musician,
in "THE BROKEN MELODY,"
as played by him over 5000 times.
WANTED, Known, Tour starts Dec. 12 till Easter, 1911. For vacant dates apply to Edward Van Biene, New Theatre Royal, Edmonton, London, N.

WANTED, for the money-maker, "His Real Wife," good Theatres, Nov. 14 and Xmas. Address, T. E. Ward, P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14 (?), Dec. 12, Xmas,
various Spring and Autumn, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire, Arthur Hinton, T. R., Woolwich.
Monday, T. R., Aston.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES,
in the Musical Farce,
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."

WANTED, Good Theatres,
Aug. 8, 15 (South or Midlands), Nov. 14 (precede Portsmouth), Nov. 28 (precede Burnley), and various Spring.
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."

Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11 and 18,
Aug. 1, Sept. 5.
Dickie Clare, Palace, Newcastle (third visit).

"LITTLE MRS. CUMMIN."
The Playhouse Success.
Acknowledged everywhere where visited as an exceptionally fine cast and a charming play.

WANTED, June 23 (3 nights), between Bexhill and Herne Bay, June 30 (3), and July 4.
All coms., E. S. Petley, O. H., Scarboro'.
Next week, T. R., Bournemouth (3);
Grand, Southampton (3).

WANTED, for O. Silverstone and H. Wright's Co., "The Nihilist, or, A Prince's Secret Wedding," twice nightly at Dewsbury, June 27, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Xmas, on. Silverstone, T. R., Dewsbury; Col., Oldham, June 13.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Midlands.
Edward Lloyd, Queen Square Hotel, Bath.

WANTED, Good Paying Theatres, on Shares,
for June 20, and on,
for Greatest Combination ever Toured England.
Also a Manager,
and Agent in Advance,
and Top of Bill Acts,
Comedy preferred.

Write week of June 13, Palace, Blackburn.
T. Elder-Hearn.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Proprietor and Manager.
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Owing to mistake in Bookings, July 4 and 11 open, following Manchester.
Wire, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.
June 13, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Music Halls, or Seaside Piers for Big Combination, for "George the First" and full company, for July 4, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5, 12, and 19. Brothers O'Brien and Joe Almasio, and full Vaudeville Company, for July 11, 18, and 25. John Warren and company, for June 20, 27, and July 11. Will Lund, Variety Agent, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegraphic, "Comedy, Liverpool." 'Phone, 682 Royal.

WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, for the Bancroft and Ames Colossal Variety Company, the following dates: Aug. 15, Nov. 21, or Dec. 26, 1910; refer A. Seebold, Esq., Sheerness, and Clarence Sounes, Esq., Aldershot, re Company and Business. H. Bancroft, Hippo., Hastings.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour of the above powerful heavy Leading Actor for Prince Ulric. Also good Responsible Actor. Age, height, references, photos, lowest terms.
Hallatt and Howard,
8, Homefield-road, Chiswick, London, W.
N.B.—No interviews unless by appointment.

FRANCES DELAVAL'S SKETCH,
"IRON BARS."
WANTED, immediately, First-class Heavy Gentleman and Robust Juvenile Man.
Frances Delaval, 47, College-place, N.W.

MRS. JOHN M. DAWSON'S ENTERPRISE.
"THE GAMESTER OF METZ."
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines.
Full particulars, photos., and references,
Chas. W. Dockwray,
26 Sedgley-terrace, Wednesbury.

WANTED, for Farcical Comedy, "The Little Stranger," Tour till Aug. 6, rehearse Tuesday in town, very tall Juvenile Actor, pretty Ingénue Actress, and Tall Lady for small part. Photos., lowest summer terms, and full particulars, refs., &c., Charles Gibbon, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines, including First-class Heavy Man, Short Comedian. State terms and full particulars. Tom H. Taylor, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, also Heavy Lady. Rehearse Tuesday next, Liverpool. Address, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool

WANTED, Gentleman for Tall, Aristocratic Military part, and Young, Pretty, Tall Juvenile Lady, and Petite, Slim Lady (young), declamatory part. Address, Harry Barford, 2, Lanark-villas, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, for "Sherlock Holmes," Gentleman for Moriarty, Larrabee, Madge Larrabee, Autumn Tour. Langton Lane, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to play small parts, &c., in leading Répertoire Company. Full particulars, J. Smith-Neill, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Peggy and (possibly) Cham.
Haldane Crichton, 18, Walsingham-road, Hove.

WANTED, Petite Juvenile Lady, to look 17, must be pretty, experienced, capable of Comedy, Pathos, and Dramatic Power. Photos. (indispensable), actual height, and age, terms, and references, to Manager, 19, Rumford-street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, a Child for Eva, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," 14, to look younger, small, slight figure. Particulars, Charles Harrington, Rochdale.

WANTED, Child Actress (Boy's part), to look about ten, who can play Violin well. Apply, letters only.
Paul Newbald, 21, South End-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, Aug. 1, long Tour, "Private Secretary," short man Spalding, stout man Squire and Management, Baggage Man, tall, to act. Terms, recent photo., &c. Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, Juvenile or Heavy Gent, also Child Actress (must be 14). Photos. A. B. Mackay, "A Woman Worth Winning" Co., Lyric T., Liverpool.

WANTED, week of June 27, for London Production of Sketch (Society Episode, evening dress), young Heavy Lady (tall and attractive appearance), capable of light comedy scene, and Smart Gentleman for straight comedy part. Lowest terms. Box 7,835 "The Era."

WANTED, Robust, Versatile Character-Actor, for Gregory Goldfinch and other parts in high-class Répertoire. Age, height, build, and terms to Box 7,849, "The Era."

WANTED, good Low Comedian for Nigger in Sketch; Lady, for small part; joint not objected to. Curzon, 95, Alderbrook-road, Balham.

WANTED, for Afternoon Fairy Play, in London (1.30 to 6 p.m.), from July 2 to 9, twenty Young Ladies, slender, aged 14 to 17 years, slight knowledge of dancing.
Salary 20s. per week.
Write, stating height, by letter only, to
Dramaticus, c/o J. W. Vickers and Co.,
5, Nicholas-lane, E.C.

WANTED, Artists, High-class Alfresco,
Fresh Town
near Manchester;
also Lady or Gentleman willing to invest.
Electric Entertainers,
608 Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for High-class Hotel Pavilion, Baritone, good voice, appearance essential, able to play violoncello. Stewart Phipps, Pavilion, Port Soderick, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES. 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"ALADDIN,"
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, references, and where can be seen working next six weeks, to A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Mark Envelopes "Panto."

WANTED, for best Panto. Houses, 1910-11, Star Performers in every Line.
Previous experience, age, height, terms, &c., in first letter most essential.
Smythson's Agency,
33, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Principals, Male and Female Chorus, &c., for next season's Pantomime.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Resident Scenic Artist, to combine Stage Management; Electrician to combine Properties and Billing. Also First-class Acting-Manager, Actor preferred, knowledge of booking and good correspondent. State lowest terms and references in all cases, which will be applied for. Arthur C. Moody, Theatre Royal, Blyth, Northumberland. All letters to be endorsed "Moody, Blyth."

WANTED, Scenic Artist, to Act; also Property Man, must be sober. Responsible people write. James, Theatre, Ledbury.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Sidney Beltram, completed engs. with "Her Fatal Marriage" Co. and Hippo., Sheerness. Now at Grand, Brighton. Engagements wanted. Refer.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Acting-Manager, for important Variety Theatre, must have had good practical experience, and be a man of strong personal character, of good appearance, energetic, tactful, and resourceful. Apply by letter only, giving age, full details of past experience, references, and enclosing photo., to D., c/o Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Man as Resident Acting-Manager, for Variety Theatre (Midlands); must have had experience, be gentlemanly in appearance and manners, a man of strong character, tactful and resourceful; only those able to refer to a good past record need apply by letter, which will be treated in confidence, stating age, full details of experience, salary required, references, &c. Address,
Manager, Box 7,850, "The Era."

WANTED, Resident Manager, for Provincial Theatre in Scotland. Apply, with copy testimonials, and stating experience and salary expected, and when free to commence duties, to
Box 7,838,
"The Era."

WANTED, Manager for Picture Show, &c. Must be smart, active, and a worker, and thoroughly experienced in every detail of the Picture business, as well as understand Amusement catering. Age, experience, and salary, and give references. Box 7,823, "The Era."

WANTED, for Immediate and Future, Good Managers, must be used to Picture Business. State age, photo, references, terms, first letter, and all particulars re experience. Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, South Devon.

WANTED, Wideawake, thoroughly Up-to-date, Energetic, Hustling Business-Manager, not afraid to handle paper or do any work connected with the Billing or Advertising; for first-class Company; must be thoroughly capable of writing and placing Press stuff; abstainer, of smart appearance, and well acquainted with the United Kingdom. Only experienced, steady, reliable men, with very best of references, and not afraid of strenuous work, need apply. Box 7,822, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Agent in Advance, for High-class Entertainment starting first week in July, knowledge of the smalls of Scotland an advantage, accustomed to working one night towns, must be a gentleman able to interview, and strictly sober. Reply to Box 7,847, "The Era."

WANTED, for Alexandra's Circus, good reliable Advance Agent; must have had experience in Circus Advance Work, or useless. Address, Sat., Garstang; Mon., Carnforth.

WANTED, a First-class Electrician and Operator. Apply, stating last two engagements, with references, to Manager, Granville, Walham Green, S.W.

WANTED, Known, opportunity for Young Actors, for Summer Engagement as Outdoor Lecturer at the Japan-British Exhibition.

Apply to Staff Manager,
by letter.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Manager, or Acting-Manager, Theatre, Music Hall, Pier, Concert Party, &c. Experienced, energetic, good references. Address Box 7,836, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation as Manager's Assistant, young and energetic, experienced; Highest references. Combine violin in orchestra if required. Replies to Box 7,824, "The Era."

WANTED, by Smart Working Manager a change, 17 years' experience, Dramatic, Variety, and Picture Houses. Expert Advertiser, control Bars, Staff, &c.
Manager, 66, Ohney-road, Rusholm, Manchester.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, 26, position as Assistant or Acting Manager; experienced, Touring or Resident; first-class references. Write, C., 13, Gloucester-crescent, N.W.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, position as Assistant Manager. Fully experienced. Excellent refs. Disengaged Monday. Box 7,830, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Gentleman (35), smart appearance, 15 years stage experience, post in London theatre or hall in any capacity. Small salary. Deposit, or invest a few pounds. Dis. August. Box 7,825, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, S. K. Herman, at Liberty, Advance or Bill Inspector, concluding season Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama. Address, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Chas. Withers, Carpenter, practical Bench Hand, own tools; good ref.; London or suburbs. 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, N.

WANTED, by Foreman Billposter, Position take charge Branch, London and Provincial experience; excellent refs. Box 7,754, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Young Lady, to be a Companion to a Lady, travelling not objected to; had 8 years' reference; age 27. L. C., 145, Lavender-hill, Clapham Junction, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, First-class and Up-to-date Musical Director, for the above; must have good répertoire of music. Application to be made in writing, with age, references, and terms, to The Secretary, United County Theatres, Ltd., Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

ANDREWS' PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, to commence June 20 next. Only First-class men, who can supply entire change of music weekly, need apply. Manager, Industrial Hall, Dewsbury. Frank Lester, Manchester, write in.

WANTED, Violinists, for a Crack Line Regiment, bonus of £10 for good man of merit; must be between the age of 20 and 25.
Other payments in addition to regiment pay.

Apply at once with testimonials to No. 135,
C/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WANTED, for Summer Tour, First Violin, Cornet or Piccolo. State terms first letter.
Medren, Show, Dalbeattie, Scotland.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Second Violin, for Exmouth Professional Town Band. Terms shares. Address, F. Robbins, Secretary, 69, Rosebery-road, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, for Rink Band, a Cornet Player, commencing Monday, June 20.
State lowest salary,
and apply to the Manager,
Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, at once, First-class, Solo Cornet, for String Band (Seaside).
State particulars to Box 7,842, "The Era."

WANTED, for Andrews' Pictorial Enterprises, First-class Double Bass Player, must be steady, proficient, and used to Pictures; permanency to reliable man. State salary and last reference to Victoria Hall, Southsea.

WANTED, Trombone and Drums, for Variety. Winter and Summer Season. Open June 27. Tidswell, 20, Jubilee-place, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, July 18, for Season, First-class Pianist, for Continuous Picture Show. Must work effects. State lowest salary with references.

Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

WANTED, good Pianist for London Tea Rooms, five days a week.
Write, G. M., 10, Dover House, Myatt's Park, S.E.

WANTED, Pianist, Trombone, for Hippo., Douglas, July 4. Age, refs., terms for one show daily. Douglas Willcox, 17, Arden-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Pianist and Singer, Gentleman, for Cinematograph Hall, permanency. Apply, The Palace, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Musicians, for the R.M.S. Otway, Sailing for Australia on June 23, Piano, Violin, Clarionet, Cornet; light duties only. Character, references indispensable.
Apply, F. C. Cane,
care of Post Office, High-street, East Ham, Essex.

WANTED, July 11, for Season, good First Violin, Clarionet, Flute, Drums, and Trombone, for Variety Orchestra, Britannia Pavilion, Great Yarmouth. W. R. Hunn, 14, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, and Bass, for Nine Weeks, from July 4, S. Wales. W. Butcher, 26, Beechwood-road, Hillsbro., Sheffield.

WANTED, Brass Band, Eight Weeks' Engagement at Portrush. Send particulars, composition, and terms to Secretary, Town Hall, Portrush.

WANTED, every instrument for Hamburg (String Band), June to Sept., Principal Soloists. Send lowest, Director, 92, West End-lane, London.

WANTED, Orchestral Players, for West End Theatre, Season shortly. Terms, refs., Knight Pearce, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, small Ladies' Orchestra, for Summer months, used to Varieties and Pictures. Send full particulars, Manager, Hippo., Blackpool.

WANTED, for Nine Weeks, from July 16, Pianist, Two First Violinists, and Oboe (Seaside). Box 7,843, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Conductor (à la Continental) or Leader, Seaside Engagement. Photo, refs. C., 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Wake, Musical-Director and Solo Violin, Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, at Liberty shortly; first-class offers invited.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, Leader, First Violin, or Viola, any business, Variety preferred, three years Conductor for Mr. E. H. Bostock. Millar, Conductor, Hippodrome, Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Conductor, read sight and arrange, any business. Wire or write, Andy Twisse, Palaceum, Ferndale.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor, Leader or First Violin, disengaged, extensive library. Highest references. Wilfred Ball, 50, Tunnel-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Sydney Davies, Conductor (violin), terminating 4½ years Hippo., Ipswich. Splendid references from E. H. Bostock, Esq., Douglas Bostock, Manager, T. Stead, late Manager. Providence-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known experienced Musical-Director, in First-class Music Hall, London or suburbs; highest references. Box 7,831, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by Leader, also First Cornet. Tenting or otherwise. Good répertoire. Reliable. H. James, Saturday, Portumna, Co. Galway; Monday, Dublin Post Office.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, thoroughly experienced and reliable, Summer or permanent. Jas. Heap, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, to open Monday; first-class refs. L. Rogers, Leader, Coliseum, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, any business; good references.
Cheney, Royal County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, as Leader or First Violin, experienced in all Lines of business; could open at once or later. Dexter, Leader, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin, any business. Can open at once.
Thomas Pass, 5, Baker-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist; through closing.
J. H. Dixon, Palace, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement. First or Second First Violinist, Re-engagement. Abstainer, good refs., open Monday anywhere. Phipps, c/o Clements, 176, Gt. George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola. Wire or write,
Kirkman, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First Violin, any business.
Add., Violinist, 32, Prince's-rd., Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, Variety. Apply
Violinist, 31, Mayfair-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, known, Disengaged, First Violin or Leader, Lady, experienced, good ref. Particulars, 113, High-street, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, Young, Good Leader or Repetiteur, requires season engagement. Best refs. Address Box 7,840, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, combine Trumpet, Disengaged; thoroughly experienced Military Band, Orchestra, Concert, Variety, Seaside, or Town, smart, gentlemanly; can commence at once. Wire or write, Cornet, 19, Silverdale, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good, Reliable Cornet (second), any business, London or country. Cornet, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, any business. Permanency if possible. Address, Cornet, c/o Lawrence, 94, York-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement through closing, experienced, reliable Transposer, Military, String, or any business. Address, Brewer, Hippodrome, Greenock, Scotland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Good Solo Cornet, Summer Engagement, experienced military or string band, good refs. Address, W. Kaye, 51, Liscard-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, re-engagement by Cornet, First or Second. Any Business.
G. Turnidge, 31, Portland-st., Stepney, London, E.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement (Repiano or Second), Yeomanry, &c., mounted or foot. Cornet, 52, Fortune Gate-road, Harlesden, London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Cornet, as First or Second, in any capacity. Young, good refs., abstainer. Skinner, Buckscross, Chelsfield, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, bonâ-fide player, Variety, Drama, and Military; temperate; good character. J. Devereaux, 18, Borrett-road, Newington, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, any business, steady and reliable; excellent refs. Write or wire, Cornet, 65, Clough-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, lately finished three years' engagement at Hippodrome, Eastbourne; any business. Morland, 7, Noel-street, Islington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, reliable and sober, experienced all lines. Hirst, 20, Thomas-street, Lightcliffe-road, Brighouse.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, through closing, by good Clarionet, sober and reliable, any business; good refs. J. Mayo, 48, Claret-street, Accrington, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Seaside or otherwise. Reliable.
Hill, 56, Broadway, London Fields.

WANTED, by Reliable Clarionet, Three or Four Weeks' Engagement, seaside preferred. Moderate terms. Address, C., 30, Ollerton-road, Retford.

WANTED, Engagement for Clarionet. Six Seasons East Coast.
Address, W. E. Harrison, 14, Rockingham-st., Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, any business, Clarionetist, good refs., young, steady and reliable. George White, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, by First-class Clarionettist or Violin, experienced in all lines; would deputise. Address, Clarionet, 85, Highgrove-street, Whitley, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Clarionet, any business, experienced, steady, and reliable, through closing; excellent ref. Frank Bristow, 163, Great Knollys-street, Reading.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Solo or otherwise, season's engagement, experienced; would conduct; excellent reference. Harvey, St. Wilfred's, Ventnor, Wight.

WANTED, Known, First-class Clarionet, at Liberty; experienced and competent.
Address, Joe Heath, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Double Bass, is open to accept offers, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by an experienced Contra Bass, Summer Engagement. Apply,
142, Wakefield-road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement by String Bass, Theatre or Variety. Any district. Refs. J. Reeves, 7, Swingate-lane, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, steady, reliable; good refs.; can open at once. H. Hare, 43, Great Western-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, by Bassoon, to join First-class Territorial Band, Sunday work also, London only. G. M. Wright, 15, Bloom-grove, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, through Coliseum closing, Engagement by good Trombonist; steady, reliable. Ref. Mr. M. Stone, Conductor. Cooper, 7, Manchester-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty, any business; good refs.
Climer, 30, New-street, Luton.

WANTED, by competent and experienced Trombonist, Summer Engagement, steady and reliable; excellent refs. Address, Trombone, 28, York-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Trombone, any business, abstainer, strictly attentive to business and reliable. Banwell, 76, Miskin-road, Pon-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Engagement, by good experienced Trombonist, through closing, Orchestra or Military. Wire or write, Jack Greendale, 92, Chapel Field-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre closing; experienced in any business; can join at once. J. Thomas, 11, Hope-street, Cambridge.

WANTED, by Band Sergeant, leaving the Service, position with Territorial or Civilian Band, Euphonium or Conductor; competent man. Box 7,817, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Solo Euphonium can accept an Engagement immediately; wants Sunday work also. Munson, 151, Wickersley-rd., Battersea.

WANTED, by good Euphonium, combine Violin, berth; can open at once; abstainer; good refs. Backhouse, 54, Providence-st., Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, by ex-Army Bandsman, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon, could take Second Violin; efficient and reliable. A. Bruce, Maltravers-street, Arundel, Sussex.

WANTED, an Engagement as 'Cello, Theatre or Variety Business. Good refs., thoroughly experienced. Would deputise. Near London preferred. Box 7,829, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, good, abstainer, good refs., engagement through closing, or would deputise locally. Address, 'Cellist, 4, Claremont-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Disengaged through Theatre closing, Engagement; experienced in all lines. J. Wright, 18, Windsor-st., Hanley.

WANTED, Known, well-known Solo Flute and Piccolo, high-class Orchestral or Military, French pitch instruments, genuine performer, reliable; reasons for advertising. Box 7799, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, any business. Good refs., steady, reliable, experienced. Would deputise. Romeril, 33, Mimosa-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo, also String Bass, reliable, excellent references. Needham (Flautist), Willett (Bass), County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, at Liberty through closing; any business. H. J. Joel, 5, Laurence-street, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced, Theatre or Variety Business. Highest refs. Flautist, 41, Argyle-square, King's Cross, W.C.

WANTED, by Young Lady, refined, good appearance, temporary Musical Engagement, June to Sept., in London; experienced Accompanist, Soloist, Musical references. Address, Dulcimer, 66A, Great Portland-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (young), First-class Soprano, extensive Répertoire, good Pianist and Accompanist. Only good class work wanted. L., 73, Oglander-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Fanny Grossman, Pianist, thanks for offers, engaged Japan-British Exhibition. All coms., perm. address, 355, High-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by smart Young Lady Pianist, Accompanist to Professional, Orchestra, or any other capacity. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, re-engagement Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, pictures, variety, expert accompanist. PIANIST, 28, Glenfield-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, for Aug., Engagement as Pianist, with Orchestra, Trio, or Single; good Organist, Reader, Accompanist. W. BARKER, A.R.C.M., Alexandra-terrace, Greengates, Bradford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist, seaside preferred. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel, or Xylophone Soloist. The best references. Box 7,785, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Reliable Double Bass, long experience, Variety to Italian Opera, any business. BASSO, 216, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

WANTED, Situation, by competent Double Drummer and Tympanist, any business, Disengaged through closing; good refs. DOLTON, 12, Maple-grove, Plymouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Effects, thoroughly experienced, any business; sober and reliable; distance no object. DRUMS, 162, Great Knollys-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
MANTON-MYATT FAMILY.
WANTED, Known, just concluded highly successful Engagements at Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth, Pontypridd, &c., now at Exeter and Exmouth, and fully Booked till Autumn.
One of the very best small orchestras before the public.—Vide Press.
All enquiries,
Madame MANTON-MYATT,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Good Agents for the English tour of the Italian Royal Piedmont Hussars, Military Band and Orchestra. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, R. P. H. Banda-Orchestra, Valenza (Torino), Italy.

WANTED, for Royal London Military Band and London Bohemian Bands (Orchestral), London experienced Musicians, Theatre, Exhibitions, Rinks. WILHELM RUSSELL, 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements by the London Euphonic Band. String or Military.
Any Number.
Just concluded Municipal, Health, and Printers and Allied Trades Exhibitions.
Now disengaged.
C/o MASKELYNE and DEVANT,
St. George's Hall, W.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, for Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette, Les Dames Blanches, two Violins, 'Cello, Piano, Leader Medalist, R.A.M., R.C.M.; extensive répertoire. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Known, owing to the closing of the Oswestry Rink, Mr. G. H. Jones's Band of eight Brass Instrumentalists or more, are at Liberty for any business; acknowledged the finest Band in the Provinces. Address, BANDMASTER, Oswestry.

WANTED, commence at once, Engagement for Band of six or more, expert musicians, splendid Répertoire. Apply, S. TYAS, M.-D., Primrose Hill, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, for few weeks, good String Band, from six to ten Instrumentalists; good Répertoire. J. BOYCE, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, Orchestra, seven Musicians, including piano, smart uniform, Aug. week; moderate terms. BLUE WYVERN ORCHESTRA, 115, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Seaside, August, three Violins and 'Cello.
TOOMEY, Violinist, Castle Villas, Bolsover.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for touring Ireland. Turn and lowest in first.
ROBERTS, Post Office, Dundalk, Ireland.

WANTED, for Tenting Ireland, good Aerial, also Ground Acts, working two turns preferred. No fancy salaries; money sure. Address, CIRCUS MANAGER, c/o Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, for Circuses, Hippodromes, &c., the Three Royal Ohmys, specially engaged for the opening of the Grand Exhibition, Bergen, Norway, and have caused the greatest excitement known in Bergen for years; sixth week in Norway; the Press and Public declare that the Exhibition and the Royal Ohmys are the biggest events ever heard of in this country. Thanks to Director Norbeck for offer of engagement for 12 months, but must be in England next year. The Royal Ohmys open at the Grand New Circus, Copenhagen, Aug. 3; will be at Liberty end of Nov. Address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, Glittering Stars of the Midnight Sun, Circus, Norbeck, Bergen, Norway; or their London Agent, JULES GUISE, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagements, Parachute Descents, hot air, reduced terms, Share or Certainty; Amateurs trained, small premium. FLEET and Co., Aeronauts, Harrow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, now and onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists coming North to send Terms and Vacant Dates to JAMES ANDERSON and SONS' Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE,
DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 13, and onward. Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WANTED, Monday, June 27, and onwards. Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS,
SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
WANTED, High-class Variety Artists, all Lines. Good Speciality Acts, for immediate dates and onwards. Lowest terms and full particulars to AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to send full list of Bookings. Suitable turns can have tour arranged in Scotland, also North of England. Wire "Contracts, Greenock"; 'Phone 800. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS.
BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Specialities, Double Turns, June 27, onwards, for Bodie's Royal Magnets, No. 1 and 2 Companies; to suitable people long and comfortable Engagements. Great and glorious success this week at Prince's Theatre, Preston. Packed houses nightly, and such excitement. Cheered to the echo again and again. Students and electricians absolutely staggered, bewildered, and amazed.
PRINCE'S THEATRE.
Dr. Walford Bodie is paying another visit to Preston this week, appearing with his vaudeville company at the Prince's Theatre. There were excellent "houses" at both entertainments last night, and those who visited the theatre must have been impressed by the thrilling nature of some of the electrical experiments. La Belle Electra figures in the electrocution chair, a contrivance similar to that used in carrying out a death sentence in America. She is first placed in the chair, then hypnotised, and then the electric current is applied with truly sensational effects. Her endurance is remarkable, and there was quite a feeling of relief amongst the audience when, after the current had been disconnected, she was brought back to her normal state. There is another and a lighter side to Dr. Bodie's entertainment which must be seen to be appreciated.—Preston Daily Post, June 7.
Only four vacant dates this year, July 4, 11, 18, 25.
Vacant for Theatres, Hippodromes, &c.
Many thanks to H. G. Dudley Bennett, Esq., B. Pareezer, Esq., J. Kiernan, Esq., Fred Anderson, Esq., Signor Pepi, Mark Lorne, and others for Contracts; absolutely the greatest draw in the universe. The talk of every town. Managers wire or write, also Artists. All letters address to Sole Director and Proprietor, ALBERT EDWARD BODIE, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Artists of every description,
immediate dates onwards.
immediate dates onwards.
immediate dates onwards.
Bookings include every Hall of Note in England.
Forward full list of Bookings
and absolute lowest
first instance to
HARRY BURNS,
Established 1895,
Head Office (where always communicate),
Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Telephones, 231 and 231A, Hartlepool.
Telegrams. "Chosen, Hartlepool."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 20, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, June 20, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c. Fête and Gala Artists send lithos, terms, &c. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 9,261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT
VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all lines, June 20, onwards, Jugglers, good Sisters, Doubles doing Singles. Letters, R. FORDHAM, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 20, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 1 and 8, for Fêtes and Galas; those doing double acts preferred. Sample lithos. and lowest terms to WILDERS, Agents, Great Francis-st., Birmingham.

HIPPO. AND PICTURE PAL., TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for above, Monday, June 20, and onwards. Apply, W. THOMAS, Pandy Hotel, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Refined Artists, all Lines, for Chappell's Concerts, June till September. HARRY BARKER, General-Manager, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from June 20, onwards.
Terms must be low.
Also Al-Fresco Artists for Season.
Turns known to me write in at once.
T. W. WRIGHT, Manager, Luna Park, Southend.

Syndicate Halls.
Syndicate Halls.
WANTED, Original Turns who have not appeared at above. Send bookings, lowest terms, particulars, &c. (no callers),
WARREN AGENCY,
21, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Picture Palaces, Halls, Small Turns, Talent and Refinement essential. List of Bookings, Vacancies. DAGMAR, Chelsea Palace (letters only).

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

STAR PALACE, BRIDGETON, GLASGOW.
STAR PALACE, PARTICK, GLASGOW.
WANTED, the Greatest Acts in Variety, for Immediate and Future Dates. Two weeks, Glasgow, for the Right Numbers. Money no object for First-class Acts in all Lines. Agents send lists. Nothing too big, nothing too small Send Lithos, &c., to GUSS LAZENBERG, Star Palace, Bridgeton.

WANTED, Big Acts for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained.
SMYTHSON'S Agency,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London.
Also Star Acts for Britain.
Always an opening for Real Novelties.

WANTED, immediately, clever, up-to-date Comedy Musical Act, Sensational Novelties, Dancers, and other Front Cloth Acts; only recognised performers of reliability need apply; long pleasant season's Combinations if entirely satisfactory. State everything first letter, lowest summer salary, programmes, photos., full particulars; no time for useless correspondence. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Manager Great Raymond Company, this week, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester; next week, Queen's Theatre, Leeds. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Big and Small Acts, all descriptions, for First-class Halls. Terms, &c., write only, MOORE and BENTZ, 12, Adam-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, Musical Acts, Sisters doing Doubles and Singles. Lowest terms, full list of bookings,
GROSVENOR AGENCY,
125, Grosvenor-street, All Saints', Manchester.
Tel. 989 Central.

WANTED, June 20, on, for Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Rochdale, Bristol, S. Wales, Variety Acts. Aug. 1, Gala Acts and Specialities.
GANNON, 3, West-grove, Bristol.

CLIQUOT'S THEATRICAL VARIETY AGENCY.
9, Monton-st., Denmark-rd., Manchester.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on Salary or Share.
for all dates June and July,
for North and Midlands.
Notice.
Amongst my Bookings of this week is included
The Famous Aug. Van Biene,
Lucy Lynd, Three Romas, Carpatti Bros.
Adie Adell please wire.
All communications address as above.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, write at once, I can Book them a town in Scotland. HARRY TAFT, Palace, Devonport.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, WAKEFIELD.
EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, WAKEFIELD.
EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, WAKEFIELD.
EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Always an opening
Always an opening
Always an opening
Always an opening
for Drawing Attractions.
for Drawing Attractions.
for Drawing Attractions.
for Drawing Attractions.
Apply immediately for Summer Vacancies,
Apply immediately for Summer Vacancies,
as this Hall never closes.
HARRY BURNS' Agency,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Star Specialities,
Big Animal Acts,
in fact, anything that is
New, Novel, and Sensational,
for July, Aug., and Sept.,
Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Send dates, lithos., &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Sensational Specialities, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Novel Musical Acts, Spectacular Productions, &c., for June 20, 27, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Sole Proprietor, RICHARD THORNTON.
WANTED, for immediate and future dates, big Specialities of every description, nothing too big. Artists working North who have weeks out through Halls closing are invited to send full particulars of their Acts, with absolute lowest, filling in terms, to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Please mark envelopes "Avenue."

MARINE GARDENS, PORTOBELLO,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Variety Combinations, for Grand Concert Hall, for weeks commencing Aug. 1. Apply with full particulars at once to JACK DE FRECE, 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Lessee and General-Manager, HARRY BURNS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Tops with big Drawing Powers,
Tops with big Drawing Powers,
Tops with big Drawing Powers,
Tops with big Drawing Powers,
immediate dates.
immediate dates.
immediate dates.
Open all the year round.
Communicate at once,
HARRY BURNS' Agency,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

TOPS OF BILLS.
WANTED, Big Acts, Shares or Certainty, Empire, Dudley, immediate and future dates. Particulars, BOWMAKER, Pal., Northampton.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, for Middlesbrough, Stockton, Scarborough. Terms, lithos., full bookings, WILLIAM AINSWORTH, Amusement Bureau, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, good Sketch Company, for two weeks Midlands, July 18 and 25, two sketches nightly, Dramatic and Comedy. Apply, JACK DE FRECE, The Vaudeville Agency, 178, Charing Cross-road.

WANTED, smart refined and attractive Lady Vocalist, for two special weeks. Enclose photo and particulars, BOWMAKER, Palace, Northampton.

ELECTRIC THEATRE, WINTER GARDENS,
CHELTENHAM. Opens Monday, June 20.
WANTED, good Vocalists, to Sing Illustrated Songs, Fire Dancer. Photo essential, which will be returned. Wanted, First-class Billman, must be able to use brush, and be absolutely sober. GILLSMITHS, LIMITED.

WANTED, Young Lady Gymnast, also Apprentice, height 5ft. 5in. First-class situation. Apply, 95, Vassall-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, a man, good wooden shoe dancer, good singer and knockabout, that can take straight part to Comedian, tall, age between 23 and 28. Apply to Box 7,827, "The Era."

WANTED, good Bioscope, with all requisites, for five weeks, good sharing terms, first-class Hall. Address, TRILLO, 14, Canada-road, Walmer, Deal.

WANTED, Gaumont Operator, practical Electrician, must understand high voltages and motor generators. Electric Empire, Church-street, King's-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Expert Bioscope Operator, Permanent. Must be First-class man or useless. Send references and lowest terms. Address, A. HAMILTON, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Good Smart Operators, must be used to D.C. and A.C. currents. State age, experience, references, terms, first letter, date at liberty. LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, South Devon.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co. Vacant July 4 and 11. To-day, Hippo., Paisley; next, Hippo., Wakefield (third visit).

WANTED, July, and on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion of the World and Gold Medallist, Top Boots. This, Panopticon; next, Wilton Halls, Glasgow.

WANTED, June 20, 27, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer, good Songs. June 13, Olympia Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Terry, an Entertainment in themselves, at Liberty June 27 and July 11. This week, Empire, Southport; June 13, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, June 20, July 11, 25, Oct. 3 10.
Address Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

WANTED, Monday, also July 4, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers. Per., 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, by Eileen and May Sisters, June 20, 27, Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers. Next, Hippo., Widnes.

WANTED, Monday, also 20th, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the famous Singing Boxmakers, three sisters. Wire Palace, Normanton, Yorks.

WANTED, E. Lucknow, English and Continental Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty June 20, 27. Address, Central Hall, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, Liberty Monday, new songs and business. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Bert Danson, in his latest and greatest Comedy Hits, June 20 and 27. This, Olympia, Jersey; next, E., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, vacant June 13, 20, and 27; also First-class Al Fresco entertained. This week, 70, Park-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, 13th, 27th, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Collier's Songs, Stories, Colliery Pictures. Pavilion, Ashington; 20th, Empire, S. Shields. Coms., Clayton-st., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday, also 20th, 27th, by Dave Abbott, the Eccentric Scotch Comedian and Grotesque Dancer. Pavilion, Coatbridge. Coms., 76, Caledonia-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, by
CESTRIA,
CESTRIA,
CESTRIA,
CESTRIA,
CESTRIA,
Comedy Juggler
and
Acrobatic Waiter.
June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18.
Notice.
Managers and Agents,
if you want a real good thing,
wire or write,
This week, Palace, Glasgow; next, King's, Dundee.

WANTED, by De Meglio, Speciality Entertainer, Ventriloquist, Conjurer, Smoke Painting, Chapeaugraphy; own lithos; Piers, Pavilions. Perm. address, Chadwick-road, Eccles.

WANTED, June 20 and 27, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous military entertainer and illusionist, concludes to-night, King's Theatre, Gateshead; next week, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Bert Anderson, Royal Conjurers, Aug. 15. This, big success, Palace, Battersea; next, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Hoop Juggling, from the London Hippo., Alh., Moss-Stoll Tour; vacant June 13, 20, 27. 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, by Carvell and Dora, "The Ventriloquist and the Lady," Novel Act; single if required. Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, June 27, July 4, 11, Davies and Udall, in enormously successful Lancashire Comedy Duologue, "The Grumbler." Winter Gar., New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Ward and Davis (Howard and Louie), in "Wanted, a Typist," wants Monday next. Hip., Warrington. Sunday, 40, Sydney-street, Masboro', Rotherham.

WANTED, June 27, July 11, various on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting their popular screaming farcical episodes. This week, "A Woman's Curiosity," Hippodrome, Preston (fourth return); Monday, 13th, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, June 20, 27, Belasco, refined Musical Act; also Isa Davis, Petite Mimic.
Monday, Palace, Watford.

WANTED, by The Two Castles (lady and gent), June 20, 27, Vocalists, Speciality Dancers, Statuesque Stars. Also Etty Osborne, Chorus Comedienne, played seven Stoll tours, barred nowhere. June 13, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11, Aug. 1, 8.
Palace Theatre, Oldham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, June 20, 27, onward, the Great Rohde and Roche, in their Novelty Act, "The Chameleon, Artist, and It." Original. Enormous success London. June 13, Hippodrome, Hastings, wire.

WANTED, Monday on, Chant and Chant, the Irresistible Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire for the sure fire hit, Picture Palace, Porth.

WANTED, by Probyn and Bates, June 13, 20, 27, Singing, Eccentric Contortion, and Dancing Act. Big hit, this week, Standard, Pimlico, 9 o'clock turn. Coms., 43, Iffley-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, vacant Monday next, also June 20. Wire, Palace, Durham; after Saturday, 1, Cross-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Monday next, June 13, 20, Sardous, Illusionists, Mystifiers; Marie Riviers, Song Illustrator, Chorus Songs. Superb Pictures. Wire, Theatre, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, The McGregors, Comedy Entertainers. We have not had a week out since we produced our New Show last Easter, thanks to our Agent, JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by the 3 DRABBLES 3, Refined Musical Act, June 13, 20, &c. Lady Post Horn and Cornet Expert.
Wire, LISBON, Agent, 7, Oddfellow-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Will Douglas's Five Jolly Bakers, Monday next, through mistaking date. Wire, DOUGLAS, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland; after, 12, Hazelwood-road, Northampton. The Best, that's all.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Continental Contortionist, and Assistant, June 13, onwards. Halls or Circuses. Wire, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Bennetti and Bob Kellino Trio, Eccentric Acrobats and Risleyists, immediate and future dates, also Galas; just concluded long American Tour. 23, Hercules-road, Lambeth.

WANTED, June 20, onwards, Manek-Shah Troupe, Indian Illusionists, direct from Bombay; a real Novelty. Monday, Hippo., Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, June 20 and 27, The Carisens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, and Champion Somersault Dog, Jack. Own scenery. Splendid lithos. Sure success. Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, Liberty June 18, and onwards, with their new and sensational revolving Breakaway Ladder. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Three Original Hodginis, Breakaway Ladder Act, June 27, on; splendid scenery, lithos., posters. June 13, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Hippodrome, Bursiem, Staff. Wanted, smart Youth, Acrobat.

WANTED, June 13, on, with exceptions, The Four Flying Orenius (two ladies, two gentlemen), an Aerial Act for Vaudeville or anywhere. This, topping, T. R., Ilkeston. P.A., 67, Walcot-square, Lambeth, S.E. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, June 20, onwards, by Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist.
Tip-top Comedy Number, with drawing power.
Would accept good Al-fresco.
Big rep., &c.
Write or wire, Hippo., Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. Empire, Wellingboro'.

MISS ELLA'S
FAMOUS LION SHOW.
WANTED, June 27, South preferred, all July and August.
All coms. to 18, Gloucester-street, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Known, Miss Edith Tudora's Ponies, four Human-like Animals. Liberty June 27, and on, Ireland preferred. All coms., Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Wonderful Dog Actors, the Greatest Draw of its Kind before the Public; at Liberty Monday through altering date; share or certainty. Farmers' Arms Hotel, Roscommon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act; big for Pictures, Fêtes. Address, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, by The Cyclinis, Somersaulting Cyclists, "Football on Wheels," 13th, 20th, 27th. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wooton. Vacant July 11 and 25.
through Paragon and Croydon closing.
Only Vacancies.
This, Palace, Tottenham.
June 13, Palace, East Ham, London.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

BERSAGLIERI'S BAND.

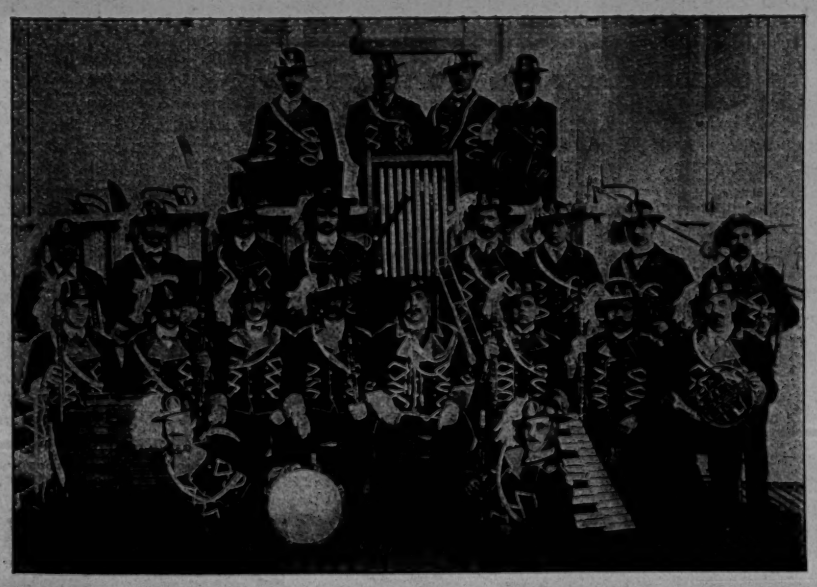

WANTED ENGAGEMENTS BY THIS FAMOUS NOVELTY BAND.
APPLY, BANDMASTER, 75, FLORENCE ROAD, BRIGHTON.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD. & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: Sir Edward Moss

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman Oswald Stoll.

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Yvette Guilbert, Miller Bros., Seven Perezoffs, Henri Leoni, Campbell and Barber, Avolos, Hardini Trio, Animated Pictures, Happy Fanny Fields, Chung Ling Soo.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for :—

Marie Lloyd, Lindon Lang, Jennie Hartley, Woodhouse and Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Carrie Laurie's "Belles of the Kitchen," Alcide Capitaine, Maxey and Pete, Pictures, Binns and Binns.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Master Edward Garratt and Co., Geo. Lestocq and Co., Five Vernons, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Evelyn Stoll, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, H. O. Wills, Beatrice and Bert, Indian Wrestlers.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Lew Lake and Co., Cull Pitt, Fielding and Hull, Elton and Edwin, Florence Yaymen, Four Royal Scots, Gordon Brown, Bioscope, Fred Earle.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, Phil Parsons, Jock Mills, Eight Lancashire Lads, Northcotes, Mona Vivian, Sylvia Du Barry, Gothams, "Little Stowaway."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Frank H. Fox, Leo Tell, Marco Belli, Quaint Q's, Tom Stuart, Frasettis, Bioscope, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chas. T. Aldrich, A. G. Spry, J. H. Milburn, Johnson and Bert, Harry Jolson, Phil Rees's Stable Lads, Edie King, Wullie Walker, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Edward Marris' Stock Company.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Hetty King, Bioscope, Two St. Johns, Dolly Bell, Five Whiteleys, Alf Agoust, Harry Grey, J. A. Wilson, Olive Armidale, Dan Lipton's "Songland."

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Mike Whallen, Bert Williams, Abdullah Arabs, My Fancy, Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Sisters Kilner, Harry Marte, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co. in "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mark Sheridan, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Arthur Slater, Mezzetis, Kirbys, Carl Howard, Amy Marsden, Ella Retford, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Frank and Free, Walter Munroe, Daisy Irvine and Co., De Wynne Bros., Rich Taylor, Brull and Hemsley, Sisters Tower, Bioscope, Kellinos.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips's Airship, Grant and Stewart, Fatmah Diard, Bob Pender, Hall and Earle, Chas. Mildare, Aida Martine, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ Grinder," Clarice Mayne.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Daisy Dormer, Little Keeno, Roze and Calvert, May Mars, Ernie Mayne, Smite and Smote, Brennans, Bioscope, Peter Davey's Co.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Ethel Beech, Ted and May Hopkins, Bert Harrow, Duncan's Collies, McGregors, Lillian, Winifred Ward.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

"Futurity Winner," Bert Weston, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Hilda Jacobsen, Staig's Steeplejacks, Kitty Wager, Glenroy Troupe, Two Anartos, Poluskis.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Stock Company: "Shaughraun" and "Colleen Bawn."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

The Great Lafayette, Gwennie Hasto, Bioscope, Will Poluski, jun., Three Merrils, Bros. Bright, Ada Colley, Peggy Pryde.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Fragson, Courtiers, Harry Ford, Edward Davies, Serene Nord, Piccad Troupe, Girard and Gardner, Frank Maura, Orpheus, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Arthur Roberts and Co. in "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," Cumminger and Colonna, Conn and Conrad, Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques, Siems, Russel Carr, Lillie Lassah, Bioscope, George French.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Luis Alvarez, Lily Flexmore, Heeley and Meeley, Arthur Leslie, La Freya, Royal Delomes, Jack Pleasants.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Frank and Jen Latona, Marie Kendall, Mary Ambrose, Harry Leybourne, Manchester Mites, Ed. E. Ford, Bessie Butt, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ernest Shand, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Tom Davies Trio, Herbert Shelley, Smythsons, Takio, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Humpsti Bumsti.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Craggs, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, Pat Rafferty, Tom and Marie Motramo, Eight Empire Girls, Beaty and Blanche, Flo Curran, Chas. Norton, Kratons, John Humphries.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ada Reeve, Jewel St. Leger, Haytors, O'Gust, Margaret Parker and Co., Ike and Will Scott, Johnny Fuller, Alice Kingsley, Bioscope, Harvey's Boys and Girls.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Roxbury and Co., Alice Maydue, Chas. J Johnson, Holden's Mannikins, Harry Herbert, Conan and Doyle, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Carmos, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Van Biene and Co., Anna Chandler, Billy Hobbs, Hans and Lux, Griff, Amelie de L'Enclos, Alf Gibson, Cissie Thompson, Delevines, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, Winifred Hare, Andos Japs, Gardner and Stoddard, Nelson Jackson, New Macs, Miles Stayordale Quintette, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gertie Gitana, Bertha Winder, Harry May Hemsley, Lux's Dogs, Findens, Bros. Redmond, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery in "Would-be Actors."

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Bros. Durant, Mitchell and Cain, Wyndham and Kitty, Marconis, Phyllis Stean, Chandos and Constable, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Arthur Woodville, Bioscope, Florrie Gallimore, Lena Verdi, Dan Fraser, Barrett and Knowles.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Seymour Hicks and Co. in "Scrooge," Lulu Russell, Georgians, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Burnetti, Bioscope, Harry Tate's Co. in "Motoring."

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Alice Raymond and Co., Tom Moore, May Brilliant, Johnny Walker, Jackley Trio, Emma Don and Co., Pictures, Spry and Monti, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

W. F. Frame, Alec Lawson, May Henderson, Neville Delmar, Pictures, Roma and Romani, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JUNE 13.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Roxbury's "Cowboy Millionaire," Ethel Entwistle, The Two Unites, Dene and Dixon, Harry Keeble, Broughton and Creedon, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Rauschle, Fred Ward, Roberta Svendsen, Pit-Brow Lasses, Lilybelle, Arthur Stacey, Three Phydoras, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
The Marvellous Days, Myrtle Grove, Josh Dixon, Two Lees, Walter Read, Colley and Scott, Miss Elsie and Bob, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"The Kidnapped King," Maude May Murray, Allie Moore, Ford Williams, Warsaw Bros., Harry Martell, Palace Perfection Pictures, The Floradoras.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Susie and Frotti, Florrie Thurston, Leo, Jessie Star, Eric and Nora, "Only an Israelite," Four Sydney Girls, Walton and Williams, Harry Moore, Little Dando, "33 to 1 Chance."

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Alskarno Trio, Pictures, Dan Hendy, The Hulls, Will Challoner, Runaway Girls, Fred Moule, "Avenged," Tina Frank, W. H. Fox, Monie Mine.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
William's Jubilee Singers, Lily Edwardes, Bert Crosbie, Richard Finberg, Barrie and Wood, Reid and Power, Dolly Ross, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
The Banzai Family, Flo Burnett, Judge's Cockatoos, Four Rosebuds, Charles Vincent, Adolf Beck Pictures, Joan Deering.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Carlton, Canard, "The Circus," Oliver Martyn, "Mysterious Cross," Eight College Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
"The Pawnbroker," Norah Desmond, Madison and Webb, Bartholomew Girls, George Acre, Five X Rays, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Geo. Campbell, Henrietta and Selina, Chris Baker, Misted Bell Trio, Man of Forty Faces, Leonard and Vereker, Leon and Tee, Kitty Corelli, Lomas Duo.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Vonetta, Alfred J. Long, Kitty Clinton, Gwen Francis, Bros. Hannaway, Harold Heath, Syd Walker, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Maude Mortimer, Barrington, The Seddons, Marie Dreams, Will Rennie, Alice Craven, Musical Keiths, Guest and Newlyn, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Valenche's Dogs, Beattie Foster, Kate Traill, The Sages, Wallace Whitney, Le Hurst, Comedy Meisters, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, Sydney Brandon, Joe Belmont, Vela, The Cedrics, Blanche Marion, The Belmonts, Ted Waite, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Geo. Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Rousby and Rene, "Drink," Jos. Crook, Tom and Neil, Six Lancashire Lasses, Gyp Hodgson, Hargreaves Trio.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
(Closed.)

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"A Sister's Sin."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
T. Elder Hearn, Cassie Walmer, Jackson Family, Milner and Storey, Charles Woodward, John Macauley, Gaston Chevallier and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures, Leolin, Three Van Dammes.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Harry Hunter, Mabel Florence, "For Honour," "The Deadbeat," Bessie Neilson, Gladys Wyse, Wee Georgie Harris, Jessie Wilton.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

PALACE THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.

NOTICE is Hereby Given that the above theatre will cease to be in the possession and occupancy of Mr. John Cummings, as and from the first day of August, 1910, and all contracts with variety artists entered into with the said John Cummings are thereby cancelled, as and from the date herein mentioned.—Signed,
June 1, 1910. JOHN CUMMINGS.

WALMSLEY'S SCENIC STUDIO,
RIVERS STREET, PORTSMOUTH.
Scenery of Every Description.
MODELS. ESTIMATES.
"The scenery was designed and painted by Mr. Fred Walmsley, and gained great admiration." ("La Forza del Dest no," Carl Rosa Opera Co.)—Press.

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

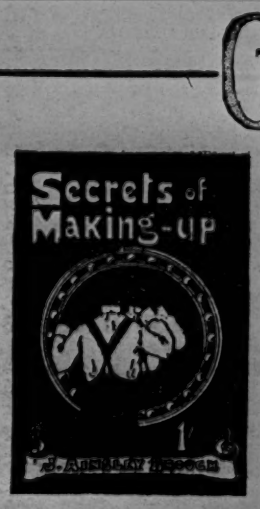

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES
INCLUDING
HAT.
LATEST PATTERN.
Price **14/6**
Postage ... ... **6d.**

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE.

SPARROW & SON

EST. 1765. NOTTINGHAM. TELE. 187.

THEATRICAL DECORATIONS.
FIBROUS PLASTER. ART PAINTINGS.

PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS ARE INVITED TO SEND FOR SKETCHES & ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE PREPARED FREE OF ALL CHARGE.

PRESS COMMENTS on some of the THEATRES, &c., DECORATED by SPARROW & SON.
"One of the most charming theatres in the provinces." "Carried out in admirable taste." "One of the most beautiful concert halls in the world."
"Messrs. Sparrow and Son, of Nottingham, well known for their Theatrical Decorative work carried out the interior Decorations in exquisite style."

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square; fully licensed; inclusive terms, 35s. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—Kennington Park-rd. (161), quiet, well-conducted apartments, piano, gas, no extras, very central, good cooking; moderate. Miss Lowe.

LONDON, S.E.—One drawing-room and one or two bed-sitting rooms, for Sunday, June 12. M. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms vacant; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior apartments. Bath (h. c.), new piano, good cooking and attendance; large garden. 145, Brixton-road.

LONDON, W.C.—1, Guildford-place. Good home for travelling artists; bed-sitting room vacant, also single room; meals optional.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Gray, 36, Booth-street, East Oxford-road. Two Bedrooms, cosy Front Sitting, large Front Combined; bath, w.c. Vac. 19th.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional Apartments. Moderate Terms.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

FLAT, well furnished, to let for six months, owner touring provinces; piano, linen, plate, &c.; bath (h. and c.); telephone; 1 minute from Bakerloo Tube. Apply, Estate Office, Shroton-st., Marylebone. Telephone 4365 Mayfair.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

THE FINANCIER, June 8, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lambert and Hands, the clever couple, this, Hippo., Dewsbury, second visit; vacant June 20. 65, Summer Hill-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Swift Duo, Comedy Cyclists, vacant 13th and 20th. Wire, Empire, Edmonton; after Sat., 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Acrobatic Cyclist, next week, York Gala and Keighley Gala; good Acts for Galas. 106, Bigland-street, Salford.

WANTED, Shop, by a young Trick Cyclist, straight or comedy, can play polo, England or Continent; offers. Box 7,819, "The Era."

WANTED, by Legmania Artist and Contortionist; would join Sketch or Troupe, Comedy or Straight. Apply, G., Box 7,818, "The Era."

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Amateurs of Education, Refinement, and Ability, for First-class Concert Party.
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Bognor Pier, for July 4, and onwards, High-class Concert Artists. Humorists, Vocalists, and Specialities, also complete Costume Concert Parties, on Shares or Salary. Letters only, stating number and names of party, terms, or salary, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead.

GREAT YARMOUTH.
WANTED, July 18 (week), Full Concert Party.
Send particulars,
A. A. CASH, General-Manager, Wellington Pier.

CENTRAL PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, good Troupe of Pierrots, six in number, including Pianist. Terms, Collections, Seat Money, and small Certainty. Add., MANAGER.

WANTED, High-class Concert Artists, Humorist at Piano, &c. (indoors). Terms, &c., GEO. FAY, The Black Cat, Castle Rink, Bedford.

WANTED, June 20, and during June and July, Vaudeville Artists, Ballad Vocalists, Comedians, &c., complete Pierrot Teams, and Concert Parties. Terms, &c. (letters only), H. BURTON, 10, Priory-street, Warrington.

WANTED, immediately, for High-class Concert Party, Baritone, also Light Comedian; both must be young and of good appearance. Write (enclosing photo), or call to-day (Saturday) between 3 and 4, BURCHELL, Queen's Arms Hotel, Warwick-street, Victoria, S.W. Good Amateur would be considered.

WANTED, to Let,
Pierrot Theatre,
Handsome, well-appointed Building,
capable of seating 700 to 1,000.
Cheshire suburb of Manchester.
25,000 population.
Unrivalled opening for Permanent Troupe.
Replies,
WHEELER,
45, Deansgate-arcade, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Parncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

TO SHOWMEN.
WANTED, Showmen, with Beach Sites, to take up the most
Novel Attraction of the Season.
Necessary plant supplied free under simple conditions.
Apply by letter,
WALTER TYLER, LTD., 48 and 50, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Specialities, Rifle Range Supplies, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, &c. List free. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, for Hancock's World's Fair, Plymouth, to open on June 24, for one, two, or three weeks, a good Aerial Show or a Sensational Act that can be worked on a 25ft. platform, for open-air performances. Will Lorenzo, the Aerial Show, write in? All parties requiring ground for the above apply until Saturday, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fair Field, Okehampton.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and post cards in first letter,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Statue or any other Good Shows. Rent or Shares.
MERRYLAND, 72, Upper-street, Islington.

WANTED, for Bank Holiday, First-class Divers, for Open Water Exhibition. Terms and all particulars to E. WHITE, 25, Alexandra-road, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Seaside. State wages, experience.
Box 7,834, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, to work Flying Lady Show. All particulars, salary, &c., first instance, Box 7,845, "The Era."

WANTED, Reliable Girl, to attend Photoscope, in Blackpool, must have previous experience with new pattern machine. Fare paid. PERRY, 3, West View-avenue, Lytham-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Smart Experienced Mono. and "dump" worker for season. Liberal terms. RUBBER STAMP WORKS, 19, Royal Arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement, Season Seaside, by Palmist, Phrenologist. Shares or Salary. DEANE, 26, Worcester-st., Gloucester. Or would rent Studio, Pier preferred.

WANTED, Known, Britain's Bearded Lady, Miss Maud Temple, success, Stewart's, Edinburgh. Vacant Sept. Good Flash Paintings, Lithos, &c. Shares or salary. Coms., NORMAN, G. P. O., Edinburgh.

ABERYSTWYTH.
Pleasure Grounds, with Concert Room, Refreshment Rooms, and other buildings completely furnished.
WANTED, to Let, immediately, for Summer Season. Apply,
H. E. MOORE, Esq., 41, Bedford-row, London, W.C.

THE AMERICAN BOWLING ALLEY CO., LTD.
WANTED, to Let, various spaces suitable for Novelty Side Shows. Large hall, 44ft. by 44ft., and balconies, best position in Brighton. Also alleys to let out on sharing terms; absolutely money-making. Apply, CHESHIRE, 47, Havelock-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Cambuslang, near Glasgow, population over 24,000, Ground to Let for Circuses, Menageries, &c. Apply, LITHGOW, Show Printer, Cambuslang, N.B.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, immediately, for Fun City, in large Skating Rink and land adjoining same, at Northampton, over 100,000 population, one up-to-date Riding Machine or Cake Walk; have also Space for Haunted Castle, Bioscope Show, or Helter Skelter, on Rental, Sharing terms or otherwise; have also few more Spaces to Let on reasonable rental, for Novelty Side Shows, Games of all kinds, Stall, &c.; good business for good clean concerns.
Apply, TOM NORMAN,
Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office,
London,
for the Promoters.

WANTED, Known, Kidwelly, S. Wales, Fairfield, splendid central site to Let; low terms; good business certain for Circuses, Picture Shows, or Menageries. Apply, MORRIS, Cowparks, Kidwelly.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Good Sites for Automatic Machines, both in Building and Outside. Only good machines wanted. Apply, SECRETARY, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Applications invited from Photographers, sole right available. Apply, SEC., Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., Blackpool.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER,
ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.
WANTED, to Let, Two Kiosks, for Novelties.
Apply, M. LEOPOLD, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Shop on Penarth Pier, suitable for Palmistry, Fancy Goods, &c. LARCHER, 22, Royal-arcades, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, to Wire-workers, Scent Perfumers, and others, 6ft. Stall to Let for the Season, light and all complete, Exhibition Summer Garden, New Brighton. Free gate.

WANTED, to Sell, Cakewalk, complete Arc Lamps, Organ, &c., in good working order and repair. Can be seen working at any time. Apply Box 7,820, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, splendid order, 50s.; Gipsy Queen, with moving eyes, 4gs. LESTER Co., 77, Taff-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindoo Spirit Writer, cost £8, sacrifice 50s.; sure living for worker, genuine sacrifice. EGGAR, 77, Stonebridge-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Greatest Money Making Illusion Side Show ever invented. Full particulars, MAXIM, 34, Grosvenor-road, New Brighton, Cheshire.

WANTED, to Sell, six Distorting Mirrors, in good condition. Letters only, CROFTS, 56, Bentley-street, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, to Let, Large Distorting Mirrors, on Hire.
Address, MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Stage Fountains, complete, suit exhibition. Write, B., 17, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Purchase, good high-class Novelties, or arrange Tour of same, suitable for Side Shows, out of England. M. C., Box 7,833, "The Era."

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Change, by Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, at present working one of the largest Rinks in Provinces, own Waltzes, own Two-Steps; something new, good Exhibition Skaters. For photos and references apply
TAYLOR, 118, Pellon-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, by Skating Young Man, Re-engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor, or travel with a troupe on the stage, excellent references. Apply, K., 23, Lollard-street, Kennington.

WANTED, Known, Mr. R. Beeston, late Manager of Smethwick Rink, is now open for Engagement as Rink or Floor Manager of High-class Rink. Address, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, by Instructor, Re-engagement, good plain and fancy Skater, 18 months last situation; good refs. A. HALL, 118, Lancaster-road, Preston.

WANTED, Known, Lady and Gentleman, Superb Exhibition Skaters, unique turns. Long list of original exhibition stuff. At Liberty July 3. Photo and particulars. Box 7,844, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rinks, commencing Nov.; must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,789, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Olympia Rink, Park Place, Merthyr, by Tender for the Summer Months. Dimensions of Building, 200ft. by 60ft. Every convenience for Bioscope. Box, Curtain, &c. Seating over 2,000. Music and Cinematograph Licence granted. Tenders to MANAGER on or before June 14.

WANTED TO SELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, CARDIFF.
Just Vacant.
WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease.
Apply, SEEL, Secretary,
Theatre Royal Chambers, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, Modern Freehold Music Hall in Midlands, good reasons for sale. Principals and solicitors only write first instance, HALL, Box 7,832, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Let, CINEMATOGRAPH FILM FACTORY, ideal, quiet locality for picture making; big studios, electricity, telephone, water, all ready.
Apply, MARTIN, Alton, Hants.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Marquee, 75ft. by 30ft., poles, cords, and walling. Price £30.
Apply, GUDE, Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Strong Drama, can now be seen on Tour; big success, small Cast, showy Printing, pretty Scenery. Rare chance for good Actor or Actress. Address first instance, Box 7,846, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties.
Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, King's Funeral (Gaumont), the whole route, over 1,000ft., price £5; Derby (Gaumont), 250ft., 30s.; both perfect; or near offer. Cinema Royal, Redhill.

WANTED, to Sell, best offer accepted, King Edward's Funeral picture, 650ft. (L. C. Co.), also 1910 Derby (L. C. Co.), both splendid condition, cash with order. Can be despatched Saturday night. MANAGER, 9, Major-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Film of the Derby, run on Wednesday, June 1, 1910. Magnificent photographic quality; length 200ft.; price 25s. Can be despatched on Saturday night.
Address, A. HAMILTON, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's 1910 Derby, 250ft., dispatch Saturday, 15s.
DAVIS, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell outright, or half share, in splendid up-to-date Novelty Act, two young performing Monkeys and real miniature Aeroplane Flight, with all electric appliances; a real and novel sensation. J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Double Trapeze and Frame, 16ft. by 8ft., and Silver Chains, in strong case, and good condition, £10, a bargain. F. KENNEDY, British Fleet Hotel, Oldfield-rd., Salford.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophone, Rattles, Organ Chimes, Tubular Bells, Sleigh Bells, Resonaphones, Macaronis, Tubular Lyres. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, complete, plated set, 5ft. high, splendid powerful tone. Bargain, £4. CONDUCTOR, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, three tame young Wolves, or exchange for other suitable animals.
PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Okehampton, Devon.

WANTED, to Sell, Performing Boarhounds, Troupe of Dogs. Cash price £30.
26, Devonshire-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Corridor, do for Hotel, Prison, Theatre, &c, working doors, two backing cloths, also divided Office, good stuff (Bull). Mrs. MARK KINGHORNE, 26, Dagmar-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, No. 7 Blick Typewriter, well worth 8 guineas; accept 5 guineas; aid to Bookings. BURGH, 49, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, Sketches and One-act Plays of every description. Apply to H. C. FISHER, Addington, Thyra-grove, North Finchley, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Theatre, fully licensed Hall, in Provinces, on Long Lease, or will purchase Freehold; must bear strict investigation. Principals and solicitors only need write, giving full particulars in first instance, to Box 7,804, "The Era."

WANTED, Motor Car, must be reliable make, late model, large, comfortable, well appointed, in good running order. Give full particulars, colour, style, where purchased, time used, and where and when can be seen. THE GREAT RAYMOND, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, to Buy, Palace scene, Log Hut, Snow Wings and Cut Wood. Must be in good condition and cheap. Write Box 7,828, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, two pieces Stage Scenery, about 24ft. high by 10ft., for sides of Cinematograph Screen. KIDD, Rink, Limerick.

WANTED, two pairs of Gong Drums (second-hand), must be in good condition. State lowest price. Box 7,839, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, King's Funeral, Hepworth's, complete length 1,375ft. Approval.
Reply, SCOTT'S Circus, Truro, Saturday; New Quay, Monday; St. Columb, Tuesday (Cornwall).

WANTED, Orange Grove Cloth, with Apron Wings, good condition. Will gentleman from Bridlington write again? Address, DELOME, Empire, Swansea.

WANTED, to Buy, Young Dog, cheap. State if can do any tricks. Full particulars, THEO MAURITUS, 29, Albert-street, South Blackpool.

WANTED, Cheap, Tip-up Seating, in good condition.
Full particulars
to
BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Purchase, Tableaux Curtains, complete. State price and full particulars, MANAGER, Olympia, Scarborough.

WANTED, Military Band Music, up-to-date Selections, Valses, &c. Send list and lowest price to BANDMASTER, 174, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, to purchase for cash, a Shell Iron Ball, from 7lb. to 10lb. weight. Address, PETERS, 37, Reedworth-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
Apply,
ALFRED WILD, Sec., 42, Grosvenor-sq., Stalybridge.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Lowestoft, to be Let for One Week in June, fit-up Companies or Concert parties, &c.
Apply as above.

WANTED, to Let or Sell Outright, Hippodrome, in Midlands, Theatrical Licence, Land freehold or leasehold, holds 3,000, enormous district population, now showing profitable investment. Box 7,841, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in June and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

ELECTRIC THEATRES.
WANTED, to Let, Commanding Corner Site on Main Thoroughfare, 83ft. by 58ft. frontage, central, to let on lease. Up-to-date Picture Palace erected by private arrangement.—COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9244.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let,
or Attractions,
or Attractions,
or Attractions,
or Attractions,
or Attractions,
the
Largest Skating Rink
out of London
during the Summer Season,
situate in the
City of Birmingham,
in a
Densely-populated District,
embracing
a quarter of a million people,
without any other Attraction
or Place of Amusement whatever.
Circus Proprietors,
Circus Proprietors,
Circus Proprietors,
Circus Proprietors,
Exhibitors,
Exhibitors,
Exhibitors,
Exhibitors,
and
Caterers of Amusement
Caterers of Amusement
Caterers of Amusement
Caterers of Amusement
please write
for particulars
to
THE EMPIRE SKATING PALACE, LTD.,
THE EMPIRE SKATING PALACE, LTD.,
THE EMPIRE SKATING PALACE, LTD.,
Birmingham.

WANTED, to Let, Charming Monologue Scena, for Vivacious, Refined Comedienne, suit best halls. CROZIER, Manchester House, 295, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Lease,
a Provincial Theatre.
Apply,
Box 7,826, "The Era."

To Proprietors.
WANTED, to Lease, good Theatre, also Halls for Cinematograph. Full particulars, FRED GOULD, Ashington, Northumberland (late Miners' Theatre).

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

"CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME, 1910-11.
WANTED, to Hire or Buy, Pantomime Production of "Cinderella," for Christmas next; Scenery and Dresses complete; must be in thoroughly good condition. Send actual lowest terms and all particulars to JOHN DARLISON, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, Portable or Marquee, suitable for Pictures, hire or purchase. Full particulars to J. DICKSON, 1, W. Bell-street, Dundee.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by Successful Business Manager, with Autumn Tours fully booked, a Clever Star Actor as partner, with £150, with view to building first-class répertoire of good class plays. Address, First instance, Box 7,837, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Partner, with Capital, capable of playing part in Strong Dramatic Attraction. Sound Investment.
FRED ROY, 138, Great Moor-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Gentleman, to take Share in Novel Production, play Part, and Manage; business taught. Write, COSMOPOLITAN BUREAU, 119, Euston-road.

WANTED, Partner, Musical Comedy Sketch, well-known Comedian; strictest investigation. Box 7,821, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, either sex, for First-class Concert Tour. Amateur not objected to. Write, JONES, 81, Dean-street, W.

WANTED, Portable Harmonium Player, to join Violinist, who has first-class portable he could lend for the business. Shares. Good prospects Clifton neighbourhood. VIOLINIST, 63, St. Werburgh's Park, Bristol.

WANTED, Partner, to work up Acrobatic Comedy Show at once. Letters, L. SYLVESTER, 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Partner, good Funny Comedian, must be well known.
Letters, DAN MAXFORD, 58, Guelph-street, Liverpool.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.

This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Information of the present Addresses of Robert Brunton, Scenic Artist, last heard of at Winnipeg, Manitoba;
and
Frederick Brunton, sometime employed as a ship's steward between London and Cape Town.
R. S. GORDON, Solicitor,
462, Paisley-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, to hear immediately, from Henry Denman.
Important.
Wire,
JOSEPH HINDLE, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, to Builders, Engineers, others, owner of corner site, 83ft. by 56ft., entertains erecting Picture Theatre, Entertainment Hall, with gallery, wishes to see tracing of Halls now built that lay on site, with cost, time for erection. COOLEY, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

Notice.
THE KURSAAL, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Known, all Goods and Properties not claimed or cleared before June 18 will be Sold.
By order, T. W. HILTON, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Address of Mr. John Holman, jun., Musical-Director, view to business.
Address, Box 7,848, "The Era" Office.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

INQUIRIES & COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

"THE ERA" IN SOUTH AFRICA.

. THE .
CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.

Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Ballagher.—This is the last week of the Palace previous to a short summer vacation. Messrs. Leslie Brothers, "the monarchs of music and mirth," demonstrate how happily melody and merriment can be welded together; Mr. Gus Garrick gives skilful impersonations of various types of comedians; Ridiculous Rocco presents a series of amazing acrobatic feats; Julian Mack is irresistibly droll in a skit entitled *The Topical Talking Dame*; Newman and Knight give a first-class and humorous display of juggling; the Three Cunards dance gracefully; Miss Florence Esdaile sings tastefully; and the Palascope maintains its well-established reputation.

ABERTILLERY.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company, under the direction of Mr. Francis Everard, is here with *The Octoroon*. Mr. Wm. Ludwig well sustains the part of George Peyton; Mr. Edwin Turner makes a realistic villain as Jacob M'Closky; Mr. T. Arthur Ellis is a good Salem Scudder; and Mr. Francis Everard as Wah-no-tee is excellent. Zoe, the octoroon, is admirably undertaken by Miss Kate Randolph; and Miss Edith Leslie and Miss Zara Leigh are efficient as Paul and Mrs. Peyton.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—*A Stolen Birthright* was played here on Monday by Mr. Charles Draycott's talented répertoire company. Mr. Charles Draycott as Count Marco Taddeo is a pronounced success, and emphasises the villainy of the part in an unobtrusive but forcible manner; as Prince Andrea Mr. George Steel displays considerable power, and Mr. Robert Sawin deserves commendation for a telling and powerful portrayal of Stefano; Mr. St. John Stuart is seen to advantage as Prince Michael; Mr. Theo Balfour plays with great earnestness as Cardinal Caperillari, and Mr. Eldon Selby is successful as Prince Antonio; Mr. Joseph Magrath fills the humorous rôle of Pedro cleverly, and is ably assisted by Miss Nana Flemsburg, who acts with much vivacity as Nita; Mrs. Charles Draycott commands attention from first to last, and gives a careful study of Princess Miranda; Miss Issa Steel supplies a good representation of Fidelia, and plays with quiet dignity. During the week *East Lynne*, *Shadows of a Great City*, and *The Shaughraun* have been given.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Sandy McNab and company, in that funny and mirth-provoking sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*, head the bill here, and create roars of laughter; Henry and Tyler prove themselves expert comedy cyclists; Dacey and Lewis provide a humorous turn; and Ernesto introduces a novel equilibristic and juggling act, which evokes much enthusiasm. Ena Compton is a most charming mimic and versatile comedienne; Elsie Malpass gains favour as a impersonator and dancer; E. J. Sheldon, comedian, is very popular; and Poisoned Berries depicted on the Bioscope is interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Signor Arvi, in his scientific and artistic mystery "Les Metables" tops a capital bill, and submits a performance in which human beings representing notable studies in tableaux appear and disappear in amazing manner. Will and Rose are as entertaining as ever in their magic and contortionist show; the Four Lomberts as comedy acrobats are decidedly good; the dancing especially of the Brothers Matthews is clever; and the Arnolds, in their cabinet mystery, do well. Mildred Parr finds favour as an entertainer at the piano; the Sisters Gaye give several capital dances; and Katie Corri, comedienne and dancer, and Gene Brant, comedian, are also successful.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and B. Sloman.—Here a fine selection of pictures is shown, up-to-date subjects being a feature of the series.

GROSVENOR PICTURE PALACE.—The management at this well-appointed hall are showing pictures that are well above the ordinary.

ALEXANDRA PICTURE PALACE.—A capital series of dramatic pictures is shown here.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company is here with *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. Garrod sustains with dramatic power the part of Frank Gordon, a farm bailiff. For other principal players he has secured Miss Bertha Kingston, whose interpretation of the girl from the country, Marjorie Hamilton, wins sympathy and approval; Miss Alice Clarke as Adelaide, wife of Wilberforce, arrests attention by the force of her impersonation; Miss Ethel Crawford as Gwendoline Gordon secures favour; Mr. Chas. Halling as Hamilton does well; as the adventurer Clinton Mr. Wm. Bradford is impressive; and with Mr. Owen Renwade as Smithers, a ne'er-do-well, makes his character prominent.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company is here in the domestic drama *I Want to be Loved*. Miss Nellie Garside sustains the rôle of Melia Burgess; Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Caleb Valentine, a prosecuting counsel, wins favour; Mr. Chas. O'Connor as Capt. the Hon. Reg. Parkhurst enacts the part of the scoundrel very forcibly; Mr. R. Wilton Bedford does well as a family solicitor; a couple of unprincipled scoundrels, Jim Moulor and Jas. Sudbury are capitally represented by Messrs. Alexander Wilson and Harold Forde; and Mr. Barry Newman as Vagner, a peripatetic minstrel, supplies much humour.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—Pictures of an exciting and stirring order are very prominently put forward this week in the double programme at the Pavilion. Sports and Games in Sumatra includes some boxing and wrestling bouts interesting to students of physical culture, Hunting in France is another exciting film, The Planter's Wife, an exciting A.B. drama, and Julia Colonna, a realistic battle scene of historic import.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks.—The fine show of pictures here embraces notable events in history and adventure. Some fine films, in which touching appeals are made to the sympathies, are also shown. Mr. Alf. Penny is the special artist.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Some good pictures are here shown, including Notable Events in the Reign of Edward VII., and pictures of adventure and humorous films. The artists are the Le Vans, in illustrated song and good picture illustration, and George Russell sings a song which takes well.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—This week's picture programme includes The Engineer's Romance, On the Downward Path, His Last Burglary, The Frontiersman's Bride, All On Account of the Milk, and the Peacemaking Doll. Vaudeville turns are given by Miss Edith Broad (vocalist), who is retained for a second week, and Mr. Geo. Bennett, described as the "original Lancashire singing platelayer."

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—The leading pictures this week are Western Justice, one of the popular cowboy series, and Hindu's Treachery, a tale of the Indian frontier. Other films are Ranchman's Wooing, Beautiful Snow, Tenderfoot's Triumph, and Persuasive Revolver. Harold and Hardy, comedians, are accorded a hearty reception in their speciality act. Added pleasure is given by the admirable and well-rendered selections by the Scarlet Band under the direction of Mr. Guest. There is an entire change of pictures every Saturday.

BACUP.—COURT THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. John Walters.—Among the best pictures shown here is one entitled The Actress. Harry Buttiste, comedian, is well received; Miss Lilly Miller is a dainty little comedienne; Tom Lewis, with patriotic songs, concludes his third week's consecutive engagement; and Mr. Dan Belmore is still a favourite. The Millers (Harry and Lily) have a popular duet.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Fred. Granville's *The Better Land* company is here. Mr. Sydney Arnold gives a fine rendering of Philip Radcliffe; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is a satisfactory Hubert Radcliffe; Mr. Leonard Marshall a good George Grant; and Miss Beryl Fernandez a capital Mercedes. Doris is powerfully drawn by Miss Madge Trevelyan; and Miss Kitty Terriss as Polly Perkins and Miss Bella Moody as Aunt Jemima sustain their parts successfully.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—"The Will o' the Wisps" are re-engaged here because of their great popularity.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The premier turn here is provided by the Spanish Juanitos troupe, with marvellous acrobatic performance. Mr. "C" convulses the audience with his patter; a capital boxing turn is given by the Brothers Curran; Bonnetti and Corrie are good in an eccentric juggling act; Percy Dalton's songs and dances are well received; Sylvene, assisted by Mlle. Florence, is clever in equilibristic items; Maude Courtenay is a pleasing comedienne; and Vernon's Bioscope depicts some interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's British Empire picture and variety company are still having crowded houses. The programme this week is quite up to the usual standard.

BATH. — PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Carlton, the well-known magician and humorist, is paying a welcome return visit here, and is seen upon the stage three times during each show, in his admirable and clever legerdemain turn, also presenting his clever allusion, "The Mysterious Cross," which he afterwards exposes, and a screaming burlesque sketch, *The Circus*. The others in the bill are the Eight College Girls, an octet of charming vocalists and dancers; Oliver Martin, in his laughter-provoking monologue, "The Boxing Contest"; Canard, a most amusing contortionist, in his interlude, "The Man on Time," together with some capital pictures.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The films for the beginning of this week include An Irish Boy, Baffles Bandit, Iris, Pineapple Industry, and Votes for Women. Monday's half takings towards the King Edward's Memorial Fund amounted to nearly £8.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—A first visit of "The Tatlers" concert party is proving much to the liking of patrons of alfresco entertainers, who thoroughly appreciate their originality and refinement.

BELFAST. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The success of the revival season continues, and Mr. Mathew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond have every reason to be satisfied with the patronage bestowed. In this, the fifth week *A Soldier of France* is the attraction. Miss Hettie Zillwood enhances her reputation by the skilful manner in which she portrays the difficult rôle of Pauline Lorraine; the part of Corporal is cleverly sustained by Mr. Chas. H. Gallier; a powerful impersonation of Judas Delara is submitted by Mr. Albert Gwyn; Mr. Fred Osmond, good in every rôle he sustains, is most satisfactory as Pollyputt Jollyboy; Miss Evelyn White, a child of tender years, made her début on Monday, and in the rôle of Master Louis Lorraine gained a gratifying success; Miss Margaret R. Frame is all that could be desired as Rita; the dual rôle of Captain Louis Lorraine and Lieutenant Louis is done full justice to by Mr. Reginald T. Fox; Mr. R. H. MacCandless is very effective as Sergeant Flange; and Mr. Frank Sutherland is quite equal to the part of Duke D. Laval. Miss Alice Buckland is a vivacious Margot.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The return of the versatile comedian, Mr. George Mozart, drew a good house here on Monday, and his capital character studies were decidedly successful; Edward Platt's Child Trio gain a good reception, and deservedly so; the Rhobins and Krusoe Trio appear to great advantage in their musical comedy interlude, *Pastures of 100 Years Ago;* the dancing of the Sisters Caselli is the acme of perfection; Osborn and Brooks are a musical comedy duo of unusual excellence; and also here are Fayre and Manning, comedians; Bros. O'Brien, in their daring horizontal bar act; Marie Braymen, comedienne; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The renowned Scotch comedian, Mr. W. F. Frame is the star here, and is renewing all his triumphs with his inimitable rendering of Scotch character songs; Roma and Romani delight all with their selections on the flute, piano, &c.; and Mr. Neville Delmar is a clever light comedian. Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, sings and dances in great style. Also here are Mr. Alec Lawson, dancing acrobat; Miss Barry Eldon, an exceedingly charming vocalist; Mr. Andie Burn, comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some capital pictures are exhibited here. The vaudeville element is sustained by Messrs. Davis and Deane, excellent comedians and shadow dancers; and Mr. Barney Stuart, whose finished character studies gain him an immense reception.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Beautiful films are being shown here. Miss Dorothy Thompson, a charming singer of chorus songs and capital dancer, appears with much success.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—The chief attraction here is provided by Lockhart's elephants presented by Captain Taylor. Beaumont's ponies and dogs, Talberto and Douglas, comedy duo; Mlle. Bartenelli, Tom Packer, and Lila Wheelwright complete a capital company.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's capable company, in *A Life for a Life*, present an attractive entertainment. Mr. Lester cleverly fills the dual rôle of Leon Fernandel and Josh Harker; Mr. Hugh Travers is well suited as Pedro Li Calci; Wee Minnie Warden displays really remarkable precocity as Venetto, the baby detective; and Eualie is admirably played by Miss Lailah Davis.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Harry Lauder, the favourite Scotch comedian, is fulfilling one of many return engagements here with all his customary success. Mr. Edward Lewis, a resourceful comedian, assisted by his efficient company, appear with distinction in the farcical interlude *The Five Wishes;* and Les Piccolinos, versatile midget entertainers, are popular. Miss Edna Latonne, a smart male impersonator; Mr. Dion Wade, comedian and mimic; Miss Edie Anderson, a charming comedienne; Bromley and Fontein, variety artists; Ross and Lewis, American humorists; Little Pam, vocalist and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope are also prominent in an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—A telling performance of the interesting play, *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company, is much appreciated. Timothy Slough is capitally played by Mr. Fuller; and Mr. Amery is well placed as the Rev. John Alberry; and Miss Agnes Collier gives an effective performance of Alice Walters. The piece is liberally staged.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—A fine entertainment is supported by Signor Torti (an Italian tenor), Miss Emilie Tait (soprano), Jack Barker (comedian), Norman Osborne (ventriloquist), Kit Keene (vocalist), and Fred Walmsley (comedian).

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Local amateurs appear in a new musical play, *The Heiress*, this week, the proceeds being devoted to the Children's Hospital. A criticism appears in another page.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Closed for summer vacation. The promoters of a missionary exhibition in the Bingley Hall adjoining are utilising the theatre.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Musical comedy, a welcome change, is being presented by Mr. Sydney Spenser and company. The programme arranged for the week was: Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, *My Sweetheart;* Wednesday, matinée and evening, *A Wonderful Woman;* and Thursday and Friday, *Peg Woffington, the Actress*. Prominent performers are Mr. Spenser, Miss Lizzie Hall, Mr. Edward Rawlinson, and Mr. Arthur L. Read.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*The Octoroon* is being presented here twice nightly to well-filled houses; Mr. Edward Marris's stock company is responsible for a bright production, the part of Zoe, the Octoroon, being filled very capably by Miss Blanche St. Albans. Mr. Joseph Millane displays ability as Salem Scudder; and Mr. G. Gasford provides a realistic Jacob McClosky.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mrs. E. H. Knight is presenting here a thrilling spectacular drama *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford takes the part of Tom Manley; Miss Hilda Baynton is an excellent Rose Prescott; Mr. S. Fortesque and Mr. J. Summerville ably sustain the principal heavy characters; Mr. Rupert Talbot and Miss Clarice Jenner portray humorous characters; and Baby Freda is a big favourite.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—Large audiences take a deep interest here in Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's production of *The Sorrows of Satan*. Miss Leila Zillwood proves herself an accomplished actress as Sybil Elton; Miss Shirley Dalton gives a realistic portrayal as Diana Chesney; Mr. Arthur Hinton as Prince Lucio gains high honours; and as Geoffrey Tempest Mr. Travis Green is equal to all demands. Miss Maude Evans and Miss Mabel Coleman perform creditably the characters of Annette and Mavis Clare respectively. Mr. Arthur Beaufort and Mr. A. Lowry are also prominent in the cast.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*An Abandoned Woman* is being presented here by the Carlton Dramatic Company. Mr. Haldane Dalton is well chosen as Captain Hubert Seaton; and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam, who is entrusted with a heavy rôle as Ninon Malvoisin, displays great capability; Mr. Victor Gardom portrays a strong character as Phillippe Malvoisin; Mr. Norman Tracy is successful as Robert Saunders; Mr. Newton Pearce proves himself a clever humorist as Paddy Boyle; and others who merit praise are Miss Yoxa Summers, Mr. Willis Collins, and Miss Margaret Thorne.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—An excellent bill is headed by Mr. Chas. T. Aldrich, "the man of many parts"; Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, in their refined and artistic musical act, are big favourites, and are warmly applauded; Harry Jolson, an American black-faced operatic comedian, has some attractive numbers, and his work is greatly appreciated; Johnson and Bert appear in a bright comedy act; J. H. Milburn is as popular as ever; A. G. Spry, a versatile comedian and dancer with a novel style, comes up to expectations; Edie King is a pleasing comedienne; Phil Rees' Stable Lads provide a breezy entertainment; and Willie Walker has some bright Scotch songs.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Hetty King, a prime pantomime favourite here, heads a strong bill, and her performance is more attractive than ever. She sings new songs, and in "My Birthday" displays considerable dramatic power. Mr. Dan Lipton's vocal combination provide a delightful entertainment, the solo numbers of Miss Eva Kelland being admirably rendered; the Five Whiteleys are deservedly applauded for their clever and artistic acrobatic feats; J. A. Wilson and his dog "Towser" are, as usual, warmly welcomed; the Two St. Johns are up-to-date musical comedians; Harry Grey keeps his audience in merry mood; and M. and Mme. Agoust present an entertaining juggling sketch.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Fred Barnes, a Birmingham artist with a big future, is an excellent draw. He displays both originality and versatility in the rendering of his bright, catchy chorus songs. The five original Cliftons are responsible for an acrobatic exhibition involving wonderful feats of strength and daring; King Luis and party also present an acrobatic and equilibristic novelty; the Sisters Condor are refined artists, in a musical sketch; Herbert La Martine is repeatedly encored for his graceful and intricate step-dancing; Marie Reeve is a charming comedienne; Stewart and Morgan have pleasing vocal numbers; Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnas, provides a novel entertainment.

HIPPODROME.—Managers, Messrs. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Mr. Joe Pateman's company in *Chanteclair*, a burlesque on the famous Parisian play, are proving a big attraction. It is a beautiful, animated production, with strong vocal and comedy elements; Pichel and Scale appear in a laughable acrobatic act; Mlle. Yetta is particularly good on the wire; a neat and smart dancing and tumbling act is presented by Les Marbas; Moon and Morris are expert comedy dancers; the Forde Trio appear in a pleasing vocal and instrumental act; Daisy Taylor is a dainty dancer and a sweet singer; Albert Mackelvin is a bright and breezy Scotch comedian; and Harry Taylor keeps his audience laughing.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The chief attraction this week is Mr. Walter Bird's company in the comedy sketch *Her Husband*. The popular comedian, Ernest Luck, has excellent opportunities in the way of laughter-making, and he scores well in a favourite character; the Three Comedy Chanters take a high place in the estimation of audiences for harmonious interludes; Corman's juveniles are well received in an attractive vocal scena; Nelly Wigley sings popular songs in good style; the Recar Trio are clever lady acrobats; the Kebbles please in songs and dances; Olive Dene is a bright comedienne; Ernest Clifford enjoys a hearty reception; and Cash and Clair, eccentric dancers, and the Rizarelis, trapeze artists, also contribute acceptably.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—The excellent pictures of the Funeral of the late King Edward, shown at this hall, have aroused much comment in the city, and they still meet with hearty appreciation. The programme for the week also contains several new features, including a splendid coloured representation of the ruins of Delhi, and Casette and The Prisoner of Golden Isle, two effective dramatic subjects. The humorous films are well received.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The pictures at this up-to-date hall are well up to the usual high standard this week. A Jump to Death is the title of a sensational subject, and other pictures of note are The Betraying Mirror, The Duke's Plan, Strength of Duty, A Mistake, and Foolshead on Skates. The Sisters Rochefort and Johnny Wood provide excellent vaudeville items.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Films of an attractive nature, including new dramatic and comic subjects, provide excellent entertainment, which is enhanced by special vaudeville, provided by Mr. Phil Terriss.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Miss Lottie Lennox is the leading attraction, and is popular. Dunning is a capital ventriloquist; and Kahn and Kahn are good in their second-sight act. Zellina provokes roars of laughter in his juggling scena; and Duncan and Godfrey are very pleasing in their coster turn, *Me and 'Er*. Chas. Rowen and Dan Conroy, comedians, are included in the bill; and the Hipposcope shows interesting films.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is being cleverly performed here by Mr. C. W. Standing's company. Miss Myra Swan gives a charming delineation of Kitty; and Miss Pamela Hope does well as Rosalie, Mme. de Semiano being interpreted with skill by Miss Winifred Pearson, an actress of unquestionable ability. Mr. Standing fills with admirable gusto the part of Sir Reginald Belsize; and Mr. Sydney Burt is well placed as John Travers. *The Man in the Street* serves as a capital curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr. Charles Graham and company are here with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, in which Mr. Graham scores an unqualified success as Captain Harry Peyton, and Miss Winifred Scott finds opportunities for her histrionic talent in the part of Miss Elizabeth Phillipse. Miss Lenora Braham is also very good as Mistress Sarah Williams; and other parts are in efficient hands.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. George H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait top the bill here, and appear with great success in a laughable sketch, entitled *A Man of Spirit*. Mildred Bryan both looks well and sings well; Fanny and Harry Dent are successful in a sketch; Ernie Myers is a very funny comedian; Azella Wilson is a graceful and clever gymnast; the Three Diamonds are expert skaters and dancers; Lily Lonsdale sings nicely; the Kremka Brothers perform wonderful acrobatic feats; and the Delafiores excel as musical entertainers.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The management has provided a varied vaudeville entertainment. Topping the bill is a wonderfully well-trained ape, George the 1st, introduced by Dandy George. The animal does some clever feats and a special cycling act The Phillipi Bros. are clever comic acrobats; Scatter, Tyneside comedian, had a hearty reception; Dewson, light comedian at the piano, submits a good turn; and Mint and Mart, paper experts and patter comedians; Marion Scott, male impersonator; Henry Hilton, in a conjuring act; Edie Hendon, with charming songs; and Ike Bradley, comic cyclist, are also successful.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Was She to Blame?* Miss Cissie St. Elmo is warmly appreciated for her rendering of the part of Kate Roselle; Miss Nancy Roberts's rendering of Lilian Norman is admirable, as also is Miss Ellen Beverley's performance of Nancy Norman; Mr. George Keene is a manly Captain George Courtney; Mr. Henry Rutland a good Rev. John Norman; Mr. Clavering Craig as Frank Roselle is a capable exponent of villainy; and the humour is in the hands of Miss Nita Owen (Sarah Swales), Mr. Kenneth Black, jun. (Timothy Swales), and Mr. F. G. Kimberley (William Clark).

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Many excellent turns are appearing here, the programme being supplied by Miss Minnie Kaufmann, daring lady trick cyclist; Miss Gwennie Llewellyn, a little lady with a wonderful voice; Ada Gatley, in her charming and unique pot-pourri; Ken Jones, quaint comedian; Randolph King, quick-change artist, with his "one-man show"; the Hendersons, original speciality artists; Charles Torby, comedy silhouettist; Willie Allan, eccentric Scotch comedian and dancer; Chinko, boy juggler; and the Imperial Bioscope pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company with *The Cingalee* has had an enthusiastic reception here. Miss Isa Bowman sings and acts delightfully as Nanoya; Miss Florrie Greensmith makes a sweet and attractive Peggy Sabine; Miss Winifred Stone wins favour with her dancing in Scene 1; and Miss Pauline Hague lends distinction to the rôle of Lady Patricia Vane. Mr. Frank Barclay scores a well-deserved success as the Hon. Harry Vereker, singing admirably; much laughter is caused by Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram; the Boobhamba of Mr. Frank Lennard is good; and the same may be said of Mr. Grafton Williams's impersonation of Sir Peter. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. D. J. Damant, deserve praise.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Wellings.—A change of programme is given every three nights. The Wolkowsky troupe of Russian troubadours and dancers, including the Balalaika orchestra of musicians, proved a strong attraction; Milly and Arthur, in an artistic song and dance scena, made a decided hit; Durascoe and Azella are exceptionally clever equilibrists; Mlle. Daisy Graham was successful with her performing birds; Miss Maimie Fenton caused a diversion with her Scotch songs; Miss Maud Hughes is an artistic soprano vocalist; and Mr. Jesse Hackett, tenor, was applauded.

MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Renningtons; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Charles Majilton and his company are entertaining crowded houses with the ever-popular farce *Round the Clock*. It is five years since the popular comedian last appeared in Bootle, and his sketch was quite as attractive as ever. The company includes Mr. Jim Bond as Bertie Buske, Mr. Geo. Hunter as Gew Gaw; Mr. Tom Carroll as Denby, Mr. W. Jecks as the Cabby, Mr. H. Grenville as the Policeman, Miss Nellie Clifford as Salprinal, Miss Lizzie Boyle as Georgina, Miss Annie Patterson as Mary, Miss Lena Valli as Mrs. Gadforth, Miss Maddie Majilton as Bertie Kelvin, and Mr. Charles Majilton as Gadforth.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. H. Burdett.—Edward Lauri, May Beatty, and company present a new musical comedy play, in one act, entitled *The Lady Bandits*, by Edward Lauri and Herbert C. Sargent. The scenery is pretty, the piece most enjoyable, and the company is well rewarded. Tom Lee as a light comedian receives much applause; Kitty Colyer, expert dancer, also has a hearty welcome; the Lecardo Bros., in their comedy acrobatic act *The Tired Bakers*, are extremely funny; Wilman, the popular instrumentalist, is successful; Hunter and Maris, in a comedy speciality act, and Daisy Stratton, comedienne and dancer, together with the usual up-to-date Hippo. pictures, conclude.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*A Destroyer of Men*, the ingeniously constructed and stirring Servian drama, is being presented by Miss Hilda Beverley's company, and in the part of the vile scheming Olga Mishla Miss Beverley scores a great success, and has fine support from Mr. Stephen Langton as Count Starevitch; Mr. Herbert Pearson, in the dual rôle of Husband and Detective, Miss Mary Brammer as Vida Ravel, Mr. J. Jarrett as her lover, Mr. E. Keith as Coco, and Miss Dorothy Hildebrende as Nina. The play is very effectively staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Arthur Roberts, the comedian, is on a welcome return visit here, and supported by a smart company, is eliciting roars of laughter as Fitzawful Smith in Harry Pleon's sketch *Another Man's Wife;* in a humorous football song Mr. Geo. French's quaintness is very enjoyable; Siemo, the Danish card and coin manipulator, gains hearty applause for his clever performance; and Russell Carr submits a novel entertainment as a ventriloquist. Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques are a combination of excellent harmony and humour; Lillie Lassah is a smart comedienne and dancer; Conn and Conrad, as "the aviating comedians," introduce a humorous and clever novelty; some very remarkable sand-dancing by Cumminger and Colonna, which wins hearty applause; and the films shown are interesting.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—There is a good company

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

located here, consisting of the Williams Jubilee Singers, an octet of coloured vocalists whose harmony is excellent; Dolly Ross, comedienne and dancer; Bert Crosbie, comedian; Richard Finberg, in a series of artistic character-studies; Lily Edwardes, comedienne; Barrie and Wood, comedy duo; Clara Reid and John Power, exceedingly clever comedy entertainers; and the Palace Perfection pictures.

BRIDGEND.—Messrs. Wadbrookes had a successful time here, showing some of the latest pictures. The Funeral of King Edward was one of the best on tour, and was in continual request. Some very amusing subjects was shown to large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Jeffries successfully introduced his many recitations. Mr. Glover as a guide is clear and concise. Most amusing are Williams and Parker, Welsh comedians, who are repeatedly encored.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Harold Montague and his company of "Vagabonds" continue to attract large audiences to the Grand Pavilion, and their entertainments are heartily enjoyed.

New Spa and Gardens and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—"The Gaieties" had a crowded audience at their farewell performance on Saturday evening. Mr. Wilson James and his company having been very popular during their three weeks' engagement. On Monday "The Georgians," a smart up-to-date company of entertainers, opened for a short season, under the direction of Mr. Robert Carr, and their programme was capitally rendered. Miss Ina Freeman is a charming comedienne and dancer; Miss Roma Castille is a sweet soprano; Mr. Carr's baritone songs are finely rendered; Mr. Bertram Banks is a capital humorist, and his living marionettes are cleverly done; Mr. Sydney Locklynne scores with his realistic imitations of animals; and Mr. John Doran sings light humorous songs. On Monday night they gave a most amusing burlesque, *Claude Duval*, in which Mr. Robert Carr and Miss Ida Freeman danced a charming minuet.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—"The Waterloos" are giving some capital entertainments at this popular place of amusement, the sketches and farces being most amusing. *Fun at the Baths* gives the members of the company plenty of opportunities of showing their talent as laughter-makers. This week they are introducing a new sketch, *Topsy-turvy Law*.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The stock company here is performing *The Lancashire Lad*. Mr. Frank Petley submits a sterling impersonation of David Elmore; Miss Maisie Hanbury merits high praise for her charming enactment of Jessie Wincote; Miss Nellie Lauraine shows admirable acting as the scheming Lorna Wincote; Miss Madeline Lang's Kitty de Vere is well played; Mr. Austin Milroy achieves great success as Max Carton; Miss Naomi Wallace as Flossie Mayfair and Miss Violet Haye as Trixie Golightly are very effective; Mr. Jack G. Maine gives a sound representation of Jem Wincote; and the humorous element is excellent in the hands of Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as John Willie Wardle, Mr. Fred Aston as Tum-o'-the-Swilltub, and Mr. Claude Adams as Professor Napoleon Boulanger.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Vera de Astra, assisted by Mlle. Wanda Baranoff, is charmingly effective in the artistic creation *A Dream of the Year;* the Three Comerfords are clever comedy acrobats; Les Wambas are well received in an instrumental and trapeze act; Tom Clifford is a capital ventriloquist; Rayburn and Dix are admirable in *Skits on the 'Phone;* Rosie Lee is a pleasing comedienne; Carrie Wood, comedienne, merits praise; Archie Pitt is a good comedian; Revene and Elton's acrobatic speciality is much appreciated; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Margaret Cooper is as popular as ever with her charming songs at the piano; Herbert Sleath's company submit the dramatic sketch *The Deputy Sheriff*, with great success; the Brothers Egbert are entertaining in their Happy Dustmen act; Willie Atom and company are diverting in *Wiggles;* Tiny and Mite are effective dancers and duettists; Johnson and Devere are smart trick cyclists; J. W. Rickaby is a very droll comedian; Philip Levard is applauded for his conjuring entertainment; Juno Salmo, "the Devil Dandy," is a clever contortionist; and Flo Cecil is a dainty comedienne.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—*A Sense of Humour* is performed here this week with distinct success by Mr. James Hartopp's company. Mr. Frank Wolsey gives an excellent portrayal of Sir William Hutton, Bart.; Miss Gabrielle Paul is charming as Mrs. Hay; Mr. James Hartopp acquits himself admirably as Captain Archibald Hay; Miss Helen Holmes merits cordial praise for her impersonation of Lady Hutton; and able support is rendered by Mr. Henry le Grand and Miss Violet Oakley.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Man; Resident Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Prominent among the picture plays exhibited here is The Planter's Wife, which conveys a thrilling dramatic story. The series comprises pictures of an interesting and humorous character, and there s a complete change of programme every Monday and Thursday.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The animated pictures exhibited here are of a varied character. Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* is splendidly represented; The Thread of Destiny and A Child's Courage are dramatic; A Present for His Wife is interesting; The Sculptor's Dream is a trick film; and those of a comic character include Rebellious Betty and Task of Hercules; while In the Basque Country is highly picturesque.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—A very attractive series of animated pictures is exhibited here. President Roosevelt in France is a strikingly effective film; dramatic scenes are conveyed by His Last Burglary; Forget, Forgive; Honour thy Father; and Baffles' Bandit; while the comic pictures include A Funny Story and Black Peril.

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*The Love of the Princess* is the attraction here, the staging being effective. Mr. Frank Harvey and Miss May Beatrice both act admirably their respective parts of Prince Conrad and Princess Idalia. Mr. Cyprian Matthews does well as Count Nicholas Danillo; Mr. John Burton presents a good character-study of King Josef; Miss Maud Steeple is a pleasing Lady Irene; Miss Josephine Lee makes an interesting part of Constantia; Mr. Oscar Power is bluff and soldier-like as the Prince Regent; Mr. Edgar Morgan acts effectively as Borio; and Mr. John Worth and Mr. Beckett Bould do well as Lieut. Zaroff and Lieut. Orlans.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute. — Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Geoffrey Guise acted capitally on Monday evening as the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. Hargreaves was as amusing as ever in his old part of Mr. Cattermole; and Mr. Frederick Tyrrell was no less entertaining as Mr. Gibson. *The Wild Man From Borneo* preceded.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock successfully present their musical-comedy playlet, *Cupid's Arms;* Hanvarr and Lee amuse with their speciality *The Golfer and the Maid;* Les Andres score with their singing and dancing act; Tom Lloyd, comedian, is appreciated; Kitty Arnold is a smart dancer; Scholey and Scholey do well in *Winning a Wager;* Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist, is entertaining; Cambo, the musical monkey, is decidedly clever; and animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—R. G. Knowles is here, his really amusing stories and his singing and quaint dancing obtaining enthusiastic applause; Alexandre and Hughes entertain with comedy, patter, and music; Russell and Held present a smart medley of song and dance; Stephen Adeson and Florence Wilton do well with their duologue *The Housebreaker;* Rosalie Jacobi sings in pleasing style; Marion Armitage, low comedy vocalist, is really amusing; Alf Brooks, comedian, obtains applause; Belle Belmont is an acceptable vocalist; and Cadwell and Verne score with their vaudeville act, *Early Closing Day*. The performance concludes with animated pictures. Mr. Knowles is also giving a series of matinée "travelaugh" lectures, which are well attended.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Excellent business continues here with the popular living pictures. A capital programme is thoroughly appreciated by good audiences.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Miss Zona Vevey is on a return visit with catchy songs, enhanced with scenic and musical effects; Marcel and Boris are brilliant with hand-balancing acrobatics; and a novel performance is given by the Countess Bekoffska in pretty picture painting. Miss Dot Stephens delights all with artistic singing; and Ellis Barrieton captures the suffrages of the house with chorus songs. The Empire Theatrescope shows The Trip by the Oberland.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome. — Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Bedcoe.—Vonetta here presents a bewildering series of remarkable quick changes; Syd Walker, comedian, is responsible for a turn brimful of humour; and the popular fancy is caught by Alice Craven with "A bit of Lancashire." Gwen Francis also pleases with song; and Harold Heath, coon singer and dancer, is clever in both departments. Kitty Clindon wins favour with "I must ask my mother"; and Alf. J. Long is a good alto vocalist. The Brothers Hannaway contribute song and patter; and the programme concludes with the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Wizard and Irene Stone top the bill in a thrilling bicycle performance in what is called the "Globe of Life." A comedy duologue entitled *Knocked Out* is skilfully presented by Mr. and Mrs. J. Manning; Smart Bros., comedy acrobats, are clever and amusing; a versatile and pleasing turn is given by Tina Franks. *An Interview*, in which Bob and Jenny Leonard appear, meets with applause; and Harry Farren (vocalist) and Sam Fay, comedian, are good in their respective turns. The Operascope is showing first-rate pictures.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—The appearance of the wonderfully-trained and almost human chimpanzee Consul is creating great interest; Amandus gives life-like portrayals of past and present celebrities; excellent cross-talking and dancing is submitted by Bernard and Weston; Austen Temple is a talented illusionist, and is assisted by Miss Irene Chalmers; Rosie Gaston is a sparkling comedienne; a ventriloquial sketch is introduced by Mr. Fred Neiman; Rosina is a musical expert; Victor Raymond, Harwood Cooper, and Amy Manfree appear in a sketch entitled *Cupid in a Lodging-house;* Benn's Dutch boys and girls, including Little Ruby, a clever toe dancer, introduce dancing and harmony.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—A brilliant top-liner is provided in Ada Pagini, whose violin playing meets with a tremendous reception; Phyllis Hayward possesses a good voice, and her songs are artistically rendered; Sammy Foster, comedian and dancer, is well received; Henry Feveril recites "Black-eyed Susan" in taking style; Victoria Dagmar is clever on the horizontal bar and gymnastic ropes; a laughable sketch *Jack's Mother* is capitally played by Syd Garti and Miss Lucky Law; Gertie Rex, character comedienne, provides an enjoyable item; Menotti (deputising for Phillipi Brothers) contributes skating and cycling on a tight wire.

Circus of Varieties. — Proprietor, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A new series of pictures is proving a big draw, and variety turns are submitted by Bessie Callon, vocalist, and Harry Letter, comedian and dancer.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon.—Mr. James Stephens and his répertoire company are paying a return visit, the bill of fare comprising *A Fatal Fortune, The Last Adventure of Sherlock Holmes*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. All three plays are admirably sustained, Mr. Stephens being particularly happy in the rôles impersonated by him. The company also includes Mr. James Hart, Mr. A. Roote, Mr. J. G. Miller, Mr. R. L. Ellis, Mr. C. Brecon, Mr. S. Lester, Mr. Charles Drew, Mr. Tom Bentine, Mr. Charles Conyers, Mr. J. Kendrew, and Misses V. Peek, V. Douglas, Kate Thornton, and Lucie Victor.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*East Lynne* is being presented here by Mr. Tom Watt's company. Mr. Frank Beresford is a most satisfactory Archibald Carlyle; Mr. W. P. Mansfield's Francis Levison is particularly fine; and Lord Mounisevern has a stern exponent in Mr. Tom Watts. Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock is a host in himself; Miss Laura Hansen makes a powerful Lady Isabel; Miss Ida Heron a capital Barbara; and Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle and Miss Beryl Forbes as Joyce deserve mention.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Frank and Jen Latona are always a welcome duo with their versatile musical performance; Marie Kendall presents several of her latest successes in the popular style and taking manner always associated with this leading comedienne; Bessie Butt achieves success as a very captivating impersonator of male characters; Edward E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, proves particularly amusing; the Albert and Edmunds pantomimical comedians in *The Tower of London* cause much merriment; a charming display of dancing and singing is given by the Manchester Mites; Harry Leybourne has an amusing impersonation in the nervous lady singer; Mary Ambrose is responsible for refined vocal and violin playing act; and Steve McCarthy is an eccentric dancer.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Heading the programme this week is *The Pawnbroker*, presented by Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company. A turn full of fun is that of the Five X-Rays, called the mad athletes, whose antics, though ludicrous, are clever in the extreme. Picture songs always "take" at the Palace, and Norah Desmond, with American films, is no exception to the rule. As a character comedian George Acre is popular; the Bartholomew Girls, comediennes, are dainty and captivating; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is certainly good; and the Bioscope is as delightful as ever.

CARLISLE. — H.M. Theatre. — Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. S. M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Tearle commenced his fifth week here with *Hamlet* to a well-filled and most appreciative house. Mr. Tearle's rendering of Hamlet was distinctly robust and thoroughly convincing, and met with warm approval. Mr. Ernest Lodge is a fine elocutionist, and as the Ghost again made a hit. He also appeared as Polonius. Mr. Stuart Black gave a well-conceived rendering of Laertes; Mr. Horace Price made a capital Horatio, and the First Gravedigger was amusingly portrayed by Mr. P. P. Miller. Ophelia was in the hands of Miss Constantia Brooke, who contributed a clever and careful study. Mr. Denis Hogan, Miss Mary Campbell, and Miss Nancy Blackwood were also conspicuous. *Othello, It's Never too Late to Mend, Virginius, Julius Cæsar*, and *Jeanie Deans* are also in the répertoire.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Rauschle, in his impersonations of famous men, contributes a turn as clever as it is original. Many of his popular characters are quite life-like. The Lancashire Singing Pit Brow Lasses have a song-scena with realistic scenery and effects; the Three Phydoras are again here in their clever eccentric musical act; Fred Ward and Arthur Stacey are amusing comedians, and Lilybelle contributes a barefoot dance and sings. Roberta Svendsen, a delightful vocalist, and that wonderful picture the Funeral of King Edward VII. complete.

Skating Rink.—Mr. J. Arnold's Pierrots are attracting considerable audiences, and the smart and versatile performances given by the members of his troupe meet with well-deserved recognition. Miss Gertie Gordon, a lively soubrette, has some capital songs, which she sings with any amount of go and capital style; Miss Vi Eplett is particularly versatile, and is always sure of a good reception; Signor Mottramo has a fine tenor voice and is encored nightly. Messrs. B. Freeman, W. T. Hybert, and G. Franklin are valuable members of the company. The concerted pieces are quite a feature of the performance.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Charles H. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A capital programme of interesting and instructive pictures is presented here by the Loyal Dominion Company to crowded audiences. Miss Ida Dorrie, with catchy songs and a beautiful voice, wins favour, and Arthur J. Hill has a quaint lilliputian act.

CHELTENHAM.—Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The enterprising management have brought together a company of stars yclept The Criterion Entertainers. Mr. Fred Milner's humorous sketches are uproariously received, his *Impressions of London Life* and *Home of Rest* being greatly enjoyed; Mr. Fred Wildon delighted everybody with his "Phonofiddleodities and other turns; Mr. Arthur Melrose, the whistling humorist, was encored again and again; Mr. Douglas Wakefield's powerful and cultured singing was much enjoyed; Miss Clarice May, the talented pianist of the party, sang some bright and vivacious ditties and performed some of her own compositions on the pianoforte.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—Some fine specimens of colour photography are being shown this week.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Miss Stella Gastelle, assisted by Mr. Leon Simkin in the rôle of Hilarius, presents a scena from *La Poupée* here. Miss Gastelle's clever interpretation of the Doll is as delightful as when first she created the part; Daleno is a good comedian and dancer; Barry Snowball and Kitty Mac present *Hunting*, a smart sketch; Walter Grahame is novel as "the human marionette"; the Lauri Bros. shine as society acrobats; and Hilda De Grey is a clever and versatile vocalist. An old favourite is F. V. St. Clair, who sings with the same raciness as of yore, and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — Theatre and Winter Gardens, Ltd.—Proprietors, The Charlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott. Mr. Frederick Lane's concert party opened here before an appreciative audience on Monday for six nights. Mr. Robert Tattersall displayed considerable skill as a ventriloquist and conjurer; Mr. Herbert Clark sang "Alisa Mine" with fine feeling; the duet, "The Ballad Singers," was excellently rendered by Messrs. Clark and Brazier; Mr. Charles E. Browne's facial mimicry caused great amusement; Miss Violet Locke gave Tosti's "Good Bye,"; Miss Gertie Vincent effectively sang "Jammy face"; and the artists named combined in a laughable Japanese operetta, entitled *Kimona San*.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Harry Tilbury and company, in the drama *His Dishonoured Wife*, are here. Mr. Harry Tilbury himself proved a really good Irish comedian as Micky Doolan; Mr. Fred Owen made a capable Niel Locksley; Mr. Alex Alexander did remarkably well as Lord Devant; and as his accomplice in crime, Tom Redman, Mr. Frank Orchard was efficient. Mr. A. George Fry was a capable Frank Lindon; Miss Belle Tilbury a forcible Florence Lindon; and Little Violet a good Mabel.

Hippodrome.—Joint Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—La Milo is topping this week's bill, and is, of course, creating much interest; the Videos, roller skaters, provide excellent entertainment; Carl Lynn, animal mimic, again proves a wonderful draw; Vera Rochdale sings in pleasing style; the Bros. Gerrard give good value as musical comedians; Jack McKenzie works successfully as a comedian; Elaine Desborough has a good stage appearance; and the films are of a light nature, and please all sections.

CORK. — Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Charles Constant's company on Monday opened a week's engagement here in *Florodora*. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Anthony Tweedlepunch filled a fat part with much success; Mr. Martin P. Fitts as Frank Abercoed was in capital voice; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores also sang well; Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood and Miss Florence Hersee as Angela Gilfain both filled their parts capably; Mr. Stanley White made an amusing Cyrus C. Gilfain, and Mr. Johnnie Junir was successful as Captain Arthur Donegal.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—For the first time in Coventry the farcical comedy *When the Missus Was Out*, by Messrs. Cayley Calvert and J. Willoughby Woodward, has been produced by Miss Nannie Goldman and London company. Miss Goldman is responsible for the character of Parker, the general, and is the cause of much amusement; Mr. William Holle is very creditable in the character of Barnaby Bunstone; Mr. Leonard K. Mansford ably portrays the character of Augustus Whistler.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Spissells Bros. and Mac give a laughable turn in dumb show, entitled *Fun in a Café;* Frank L. Gregory Troupe of hoop-rollers and jugglers do some marvellous tricks; Arthur Wellesley and his company give an amusing sketch, entitled *Uncle's Courtship;* the Bros. Obo, laughing comedians, score a success; Lyster and Cooke, novelty musical entertainers, are equally good; and other artists are Arthur Aiston, comedian; Harriet Rose, vocal comedienne; and Ivey Aberdare, comedienne and dancer.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Alexander Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Watson's vaudeville company is giving an entertaining show here this week. The comedietta *By Mutual Consent* affords scope for clever acting on the part of Mr. Herbert Garthorne as Vivian Temple and Miss Ivy Williams as Norah Murchison. *A Romany Romance* is also smartly rendered by Miss Gladys Carlton (Nemah), Mr. Reginald Adair (Valero), and Mr. Jack Gray (Dagon). An excellent concert is contributed to by Messrs. Percy Cahill, a quaint comedian, Leonard Stanton, Clement Locknane, and Miss Gloria Egmont.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Maud Hildyard and company are causing a sensation here in the vivid sketch *The Price of a Soul;* Phil Ray, comedian, is very good; Fred Evans is irresistible in novelty, *Dreaming;* Kitts and Windrum bring down the house with their lively sketch, *The Cuckoo;* the Westwoods submit a fine cycling act; Walter Stanley is a sterling comedian with a fine voice; Esme Gordon, comedienne, is a capable dancer; Goggin and Davis are untiring burlesque tumblers; Tom Costello is a resourceful comedian; Doris Warsaw is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope pictures deserve mention.

Electric Theatre.—The animated pictures here are up to the usual high-water mark, and the attendance is good. Mr. W. H. Richards is proving a smart manager. Visitors are catered for with the very best fare.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Two shows a night sketches and pictures are still to the fore here. Mr. William Heilbronn and stock company play a pretty sketch, entitled *His Friend's Wife*. Mr. William Heilbronn admirably represents Ted Chester; Mr. Arthur Dudley meets with a good reception as Bertie Cannon; Miss Nellie Hook plays with her usual skill in the part of Madge Cannon; and Miss Cissie Podmore is a capital Billy. Another sketch to be played by the company during the week is a comedy entitled *My Aunt*. The pictures are a big success.

Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Mr. Will Netta's Singing Jockeys head the bill, their reception being very hearty. The Zanfrellas give a fine display as equilibrists on a pedestal; Miss Ethel Edwards, vocalist, is good; Dorris and Frances are smart comediennes and dancers; the Calcotts are amusing in an episode *Rags and Tatters;* and among other turns are Stevens and Brett, burlesque comedians; Elms and Rego, comedy knockabouts; and the Hipposcope pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—Captain Roberts, Army staff trumpeter, supplies a good turn of athletic feats and conjuring; the Maddison Brothers are mirth-provoking comedians, who conduct a "blindfold boxing contest" for boys; George Barnes, tenor vocalist, is well received; and excellent films include In the Shadow of Mount Shasta.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Day and Dean, patter comedians and dancers, top the bill with a good turn; Little Claud, juvenile comedian, shows much promise; and Queenie Mayor, character vocalist, evokes applause. The Girl Conscript and The Girl and the Judge are among the films shown.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Topping the bill this week are the Gaudsmidts, assisted by Mlle. Jeanette, who provide one of the neatest acrobatic acts seen locally for some time. Included in the troupe are also a couple of highly-trained poodles; Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley are a comedy trio of all-round excellence; the Three Warringtons, as equilibrists, appear to distinct advantage; Hayes and Merritt, speciality trampolinists, gain deserved applause for their cleverly executed tricks; the Keppels, operatic vocalists, submit a thoroughly enjoyable interlude; Dolly and Madge McCalla, vivacious comediennes, make themselves eminently popular; Jack Sheridan, with droll songs and patter, is a worthy son of a worthy sire; Dan Daly adds to the general merriment with clever song parodies. The Bioscope gives a clear depiction of Lemberg's Derby.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Pranco.—A very attractive programme at the Hippodrome this week has been drawing crowded houses. L'Incognita is responsible for the principal turn, and her admirable voice is heard to advantage in Tosti's "Good-bye" and "Killarney," while her Italian songs receive loud applause; Rex Fox gives a novel ventriloquial and musical act on the wire; Harry Taft submits a most enjoyable and refined turn; Bob and Sid Ross have some good patter; Mme. E. Eldee poses gracefully in a golden frame; and Will E. Stopit keeps the house in roars of laughter.

The Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Leonard Aardale as Conn in the revival of *The Shaughraun* has been a great success, the different moods of the volatile character being well portrayed; as Robert Ffolliott Mr. C. E. Stratford is distinctly good; and as Father Dolan Mr. John Sargent is dignified. Miss Masie Devoy is pretty as Nancy Malone; Miss Maggie Lindsey is stately as Mrs. O'Kelly; Miss Lulu Bowes makes a dainty Macligan, and Miss Jessie Vatman a fascinating Moya.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's répertoire company is here this week, playing twice nightly to good houses. On Tuesday they presented *A Woman's Passion*. The rôle of Sir Randall Derrick was in the very capable hands of Mr. David McFarlane, his acting leaving nothing to be desired; Mr. Geo. R. J. Austin gave an excellent portrayal of Lord Hubert Vale; Miss Lily Prescott as Claire Trevenen was seen to great advantage, her acting throughout being worthy of praise; Mr. R. F. Stracey as the Drabengro displayed much ability; the character of Winifred Hamlyn was capably sustained by Miss Yeda Moores; and Mr. Stephen Pritt supplied an excellent rendering of Vicary.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Among some pleasing items of the programme here is Frank Hartley, whose clever juggling performance fully deserves the applause which is accorded him. The Zaid Trio of Spanish Moors perform some original and clever gymnastic feats, and had a well-merited reception; Dora Lyric, chorus vocalist, is loudly and deservedly applauded; the singing of Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, is worthy of much commendation; Fred Land, eccentric comedian, creates much laughter; Wee Winnie is an exceptionally clever child comedienne and dancer; Cissy Madcap is an expert acrobatic dancer, and is well received; Verto submits a novel musical act, and is ably assisted by Venita, who is a good vocalist and instrumentalist; and Lenton and Lane, in their sketch *Unconsidered Trifles*, evoke much laughter. Some excellent films are also shown on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—A very interesting performance is supplied here this week, animated pictures being the leading feature, some excellent pictures being shown, a fine dramatic film A Sister's Secret being greatly appreciated. Ambitious Adolphus and Foolscap are exceptionally comical subjects and cause much laughter, Imatra Rapids is a capital travel picture. The variety items are supplied by the Cheers, with their troupe of performing cats, which go through a very clever performance; Howe and Kessler appear successfully in a novel musical act; Howard and Day are very good comedians and dancers; and Bessie Hardman uses her good voice to advantage.

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—Excellent business is again the rule here this week, and some fine films are being shown.

DINNINGTON (Yorks). — Lyric Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Jas. England.—*The New Barmaid* is making her bow to the playgoers of this new colliery town. The company (Miss Violet Esmond's) is a very capable one, and the piece is being produced and toured under the direction of Mr. Alexander Loftus, who himself fills the principal comedy part, that of Bertie White, and with patter, song, and whimsicalities is the life of the show. William White is ably portrayed by Mr. L. C. Hughes; as Mabel Miss Muriel Mascot is very charming, if unconventional, and is well supported by Miss Vera Crofton as the Old Barmaid. The New Barmaid finds a perfect exponent in Miss Madge Prior; and Mary, the maid, is prettily portrayed by Miss Marian Vyner. As Braddy Miss M. Stead plays cleverly; Miss Flo de Feny makes an excellent aristocrat; and Mr. E. Chewd is good as the Indian Colonel. The piece is well staged and dressed, and the chorus is skilfully balanced. Full houses have been the rule.

DONCASTER. — New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*For Old Times Sake* has had a flattering reception here. Playful and sportive in his rôle of Rupert Sydney, Mr. Fred J. Webb scores heartily; Paul Sydney is in the capable hands of Mr. J. C. Carlyle; Jean Brooke, an outcast, is effectively represented by Mr. Harold B. Lewis; Mr. W. Palliser Acock is exceptionally interesting as Wallace Rivington; Sareta Berkley is admirably sustained by Miss Marie Danvers Smith.

DOUGLAS.—The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—On Monday evening last the regular summer season obtained at the Palace, the attractions being dancing, under the musical direction of Mr. Harry Wood, with Mr. W. J. Fell as floor-manager. Roller skating, in the new rink, three sessions daily, and expert exhibitions by Professor Bentley. In the Opera House, the variety performance has secured large attendances, and evoked much applause. The Raglan Ladies Quartette sing with much sweetness and taste, and are encored; Mr. Bert Byrne is a quaint comedian, with a good voice; the Three Brothers Huxter, in an acrobatic sketch, score; Yetmah, a conjurer from the land of the chrysanthemum, has little to learn of his art in Europe; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes a popular programme.

Other amusements in Douglas are Mr. Fred Buxton's Picturedrome, with films including the Race for the Blue Riband of the Turf, the Derby of 1910; the proprietor and manager himself in the latest ballads; and Mr. Ernie Famont, comedian and raconteur. Roller skating twice daily. Billiard hall, with twelve tables. The pierrot concert season commences Monday, June 20. The Empire Theatre.—Animated pictures, sketches, and varieties by Mr. Fred Esdaile, has drawn large audiences twice nightly. Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels on the Head, with twenty artists, induce large numbers to cross the bay when the sun is shining.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Here this week is Reano with his famous band of picked instrumentalists, who create a furore. Victor Niblo, with his wonderful talking birds is awarded a hearty reception; Friend and Downing, crosstalk comedians, cause any amount of laughter; in a refined and clever musical scena the Romps are deservedly applauded; Walter Graham, the human marionette, does a capital turn; the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels, are a decided success; and Tom York, an acceptable comedian, and the Royal Bioscope complete a good programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. O'Brien and Ireland's répertoire company is here this week with *Recalled to Life*. The principal characters are ably presented by Mr. Harry Ireland as Capt. Nolan, Mr. James O'Brien as Larry O'Toole, Mrs. Glenville as Mrs. O'Rourke, Miss Madeline Hurst as Grace Nolan, and Miss Minnie Walsh as Sybil Nolan. The remaining parts are adequately filled.

Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Sec., Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—Miss Alice Raymond and company, who supply the chief item here, are delighting large audiences in their novel musical production *A Night in Egypt*. Emma Don and company present a pleasing sketch, *On the Thames Embankment*, which is well received; the Jackley Trio in their comedy acrobatic act merit applause; some clever and daring feats are performed on the trapeze bar by Sibb and Sibb; Rowan and Moore in their farcical sketch score a success; Spry and Monti in their comedy act, *The Song-writer and the Soubrette*, are laughter provoking; and Tom Moore, character vocalist and dancer, May B. Brilliant, an engaging comedienne and smart dancer, and Johnny Walker, comedian, also contribute successfully. The pictures are, as usual, entertaining.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—A capital variety programme is headed here by Ferguson and Mack, a pair of amusing comedians. Barney Armstrong and Kelly create much laughter in their comedy act, and Gracie Laun sings and dances herself into favour. The Brothers Lawrence are good comedians and smart dancers; Johnson and Hart are highly diverting as comedy jugglers and hoop-rollers; the Du Gros Trio are responsible for plenty of merriment in their comedy gymnastic act; and other successful turns are those of Eddie and Ethel, comedy artists; Ida Barr, actress vocalist; and Jack Pardoe, speciality performer. The Bioscope is also entertaining.

World's Fair.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James.—The following artists are appearing here this week:—Charlie Coll, comedian; Flo Meeson, soubrette; Arthur Rosene, comedian; Will Emerson, comedian; and Layne & Valroy, comedy duettists.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—The success of this house as a picture palace continues, and another entire change of programme is being much appreciated.

Empire.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment

DANGEROUS OLD FASHIONS

NOT TO BE FOLLOWED.

Old habits are often better than new ones, but not always. For instance, the old-fashioned method of cleaning the teeth and mouth with tooth-powders and tooth-pastes is a complete mistake.

Brushing the teeth with tooth-powders and tooth-pastes can never safeguard them from tooth-destroying microbes; for the simple reason that the parts which are most liable to attack, the backs of the molars and the fissures and interstices of the teeth—the very parts where the microbes live and thrive—are not purified because they cannot be reached by tooth-powders and tooth-pastes. Only a *liquid* dentifrice can penetrate everywhere, and when it is antiseptic it destroys all the enemies which attack the teeth. Odol is such a dentifrice, and has such a practical antiseptic effect, that it effectively arrests all bacterial inroads and fermentation processes.

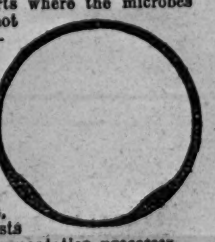

The complete disinfection of the month and teeth resulting from the use of Odol is especially due to a remarkable property which this preparation possesses and which causes it to be absorbed by the surface of the mucous membrane and in the hollows of the teeth, so that it here deposits a store of antiseptic matter whose action continues *for some hours*. By regular cleansing with Odol healthy teeth are kept absolutely intact, and teeth already impaired are preserved from further destruction. For this reason Odol must certainly be regarded as the best of all known preparations for cleansing the mouth and teeth.

Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—The celebrated classical artist, Nerigue, occupies premier position with a well-staged performance. Sybil Cann and Mr. Dick Francis, in new and original ideas, prove excellent songsters; Harvey and Jesson are well described as champion dancers; Robb Gilmore caused amusement with his eccentric songs; La Belle Greta is a pleasing and popular comedienne; Mr. X., a magical entertainer, gives a clever turn; and other enjoyable turns are Clare and Hamilton, in *Uncle's Little Bet*, and Sharon, street musician.

DUNDEE.—KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Heading an entertaining bill are Will Lytton and company, in Harry Roxbury's latest production, *Sergeant Longfellow*, which is capitally staged, and proves exhilarating fare. Tom E. Finglass scores a great success; Edie Veno is a comedienne with a rare sense of humour; Vi Laurie, whether as a singer or dancer, is delightful; Leo Fields keeps the audience in hearty laughter; Cestria is to be congratulated on his diverting comedy juggling and his extraordinary tumbling; the Darntons present a refined vocal act; the harmonising and dancing of the Phœnix Trio are much appreciated; and the Kingscope pictures are excellent.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—For the last week of the picture season a fine selection of films is shown, the best of the series being Laddie, Mexican's Revenge, Plucky Russian Maid, The Jockey, and a particularly amusing film, Mulligan's Waterloo. The vaudeville element is sustained by J. H. Maddock, whose musical speciality, "The One-Man Bugle Band," finds great favour.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Good houses are always the rule here. Some very fine coloured films are submitted, one of the most effective being that entitled Sandy, the Substitute, which depicts several thrilling incidents in the prosecution of Western law.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. W. Austin.—The picture programme here is an excellent one, and met with a cordial reception from two good houses on Monday.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—An exceptionally good bill is presented this week, headed by Fasola, whose mysterious performance is much enjoyed; Dan Whitley, comedian, received a warm welcome; and the return visit of the Lannons is well appreciated; Clown Panlo and his pony Tiger prove favourites; Les Zelovas are loudly applauded for a clever acrobatic act; and Francisco, novelty juggler, receives much praise; the Sisters Terry and Arthur Albert complete the programme.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Alex. Maclean and company are appearing here in *My Lady Bellamy*. Mr. Maclean is responsible for a large amount of effective work as Sir Gervase Bellamy; Mr. Herbert Maule as Robert Tarfax has much to do, and he accomplishes it with point and emphasis; Mr. E. H. Brooke looks and acts well as King William; Mr. Arthur Layland is a distinct and individual Lord Crawford; Mr. George Lyttleton-Holyoake does duty as Sudwell; and smaller parts are in good hands. Miss Laura Leigh gives commendable help as Henrietta, Miss Mary Palmer is a sympathetic Queen Mary, Miss Margharita Gordon an appealing Mrs. Mackie, and Miss Maude Harcourt an efficient Mrs. Hemming.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Under the direction of Mr. H. Cecil Beryl a capital company is appearing here in *Alice in Wonderland*. Chief honours fall to Miss Ivy Sawyer, who sings pleasantly, acts prettily, and dances brightly; Miss Ada Danks, with a very sweet voice, is a most effective Fairy and Lily; Miss Girlie Le Claire is a very interesting Cheshire Cat; and Miss Iris Damon and Miss Amy Fanchette share much praise due to them as the White and Red Queens; Mr. Frank Collins is an amusing Mad Hatter; Mr. Dan Leno is a nimble and expert dancer, and a laughter-making caterpillar and Red King; two very clever and versatile comedians are Mr. Roland Henry and Mr. Tom Graves, who as Tweedledum and Tweedledee are big factors in the general merriment. The chorus is deserving of a special word of praise. Mr. A. H. Benwell is the musical director.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. F. Woodward.—Heading a capital bill here are Mr. Percy Honri and his fine company in *Concordia*. The beautiful and elaborate staging, with the particularly clever work of Mr. Honri as actor, singer, and musician, make this fanciful act amongst the finest of its kind; the Hyde-Cody Trio combine clever fun with some smart and agile tumbling; Miss Kessanley's fox terriers are excellently trained and willing workers; Andrews and Thompson sing very artistically; the musical Bentleys are clever musicians; Mr. Harry Tomps is an amusing comedian; and the Five May Girls dance and sing in capital style.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Raynor's repertoire company is paying its eleventh visit to this theatre. Three plays are presented, viz.: *His Excellency the Governor*, *The Tree of Knowledge*, and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*. In the first named, Mr. Raynor plays Sir Montague Martin with amusing sangfroid, and is as successful as of yore; Mr. Charles Brandon is a capital Henry Carlton, M.P.; as Captain Charles Carew Mr. Milton C. Curtis is excellent; another favourite, Mr. Joseph B. Montague, is delightful in the character of Mr. John Baverstock; Miss Cecilia Dare as Stella de Gex proves herself as charming and fascinating as ever; Miss Frances Waring as Ethel Carlton acts naturally; and Miss Hilda Blanche as Mrs. Wentworth Bollingbroke lends capable assistance.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie. — Mr. William Mollison and company entered upon the closing week of their engagement in *Rob Roy* last Monday evening. The presentation of the popular play has been marked by many excellent features, notably the fine performance of Bailie Nicol Jarvie by Mr. Mollison. The character is depicted with a wealth of humour and convincing naturalness, and in his impersonation the actor sustains his high reputation for artistic work. Mr. Seth Hughes as Francis and Miss Eda Bennie as Diana have introduced new ballads which owe much to the singer's admirable rendering. The regrettable indisposition of Mr. John Clyde has afforded the opportunity to a sound actor, Mr. W. J. Robb, to give a careful performance of the title-part; and capital work is done by the remaining members of the large cast.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The week's bill has been agreeably diversified in a manner very suitable for a summer evening's entertainment. Emerson and Baldwin, expert American juggling comedians, give a clever exhibition of their skill; and the Sauteron Wonders appear in an excellent turn of comedy specialities; while Tom Ardel and Frank Odell keep the house in a continuous roar of laughter with a sketch entitled *Quarter to Nine*; and Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots are quite fascinating in their pretty vocal scena, *The Gipsies' Revels*. Buval is exceedingly happy and skilful as a concertina player; Zethus excels as a cornet soloist and mimic; Miss Maud Beaumont is popular as a burlesque actress and chorus vocalist; Jack Hayton figures successfully as a comedian; J. H. McCann displays marvellous agility as an acrobatic roller-skate dancer; and attractive pictures are shown by the King's Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Horace Hunter and company take the lead here this week, carrying off first honours for an admirable performance of the sensational tabloid drama *Under Suspicion*. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas are also prominent amongst the good things in the bill, with their able renderings of scenes from Dickens; Woodhouse and Wells introduce some clever dancing into their smart patter turn; and Binns and Binns are clever and entertaining in comedy and music. Mr. Harry Lamore, deputising for Maxey and Pete, unable to appear through indisposition, is droll in a versatile turn, which includes comic conjuring, juggling, and wire-walking; Lindon Lang pleases with his illustrated songs; Alcide Capitaine is graceful in a daring gymnastic act; Carrie Laurie's Miniature Comedians make merry as the "Belles of the Kitchen"; and the American Bioscope exhibits very interesting pictures.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—In Old California, a remarkable film representing past days of American military life, and a masterly piece of photographic work entitled The Mountain Inn, are two of the prominent pictures in this week's programme. Information is pleasantly conveyed by an interesting series, Romance of Insect Life; and humorous pictures with laughable episodes are shown.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A series of clever and vigorous pictures, In the Frozen North, brings before the spectators in a vivid manner regions which are closed to all but the most daring explorer; and views of life in a widely different sphere are shown in a realistic Spanish scene, The Toreador. Other pictures full of "go," incident, and humour are displayed; and Miss Cissie Norton, a smart male impersonator, gives various sketches.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—Strong extra attractions are provided here this week by the watchful enterprise of the management. Captive balloon ascents by Captain Spencer, accompanied by passengers, and parachute descents by Captain John Macdermott, are among the latest open-air sensations; and Mr. John Ridding's opera company give excellent performances both afternoon and evening in the concert hall, where *Maritana*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Fra Diavolo*, and other popular operas have been artistically produced. The band of H.M. 1st Life Guards have occupied the Band Court, their rendering of well-varied selections being increasingly popular; and on Wednesday special massed band performances in commemoration of Waterloo were given by a number of military bands, all under the direction of Mr. George Miller, L.R.A.M. The great billiard match between Inman and Aiken commences next week.

EXETER.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. Sandy.—Jay Laurier's reception here must be very gratifying to the artist; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in their musical sketch, *The Itinerant*, are exceedingly popular; Sibbon's Cats surprise the houses by their wonderful training and feats; Chas. Wilson, the champion all-round jumper of the world, is enthusiastically applauded; Ruby Royd does well in song and dance; and a bit of sparkling fun is provided by the farcical episode *Ten Minutes*, by Alf Wood and company.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's full and efficient company worthily presented the historical play *A Royal Divorce* here on Monday. Napoleon is taken by Mr. Frederick Moyes, an actor of power and popularity, and Miss Violet Ellicott as Josephine is most impressive. Miss Winnie Tempest supplies a careful interpretation of Marie Louise; Miss Dorothy Garth is a fascinating Stephanie; Mr. Ernest Plumpton is seen to advantage as Augereau; Mr. George Hudson is an admirable Grimaud; Mr. J. H. Roberts a distinctly good Talleyrand; and Mr. Charles Stirling as the Marquis de Beaumont is all that can be desired. The little King of Rome is ably depicted by Miss Dorothy Hudson, and Messrs H. Arnold Allen and W. Robins do well as Marshal Murat and Doctor Corvisart.

LEAS PAVILION.—Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—A treat that is being well appreciated is the engagement of the Chefs for this week. Miss Dollie Eales expressively sings her songs, and Miss Christine Garden, Mr. J. Wallingford Tate, Mr. Harry Jackson, and Mr. J. M. Browing are quite good.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Twelve most wonderful illusions are being presented here this week by Mephisto, who is a successful "star." Joe Almasio is both clever and amusing as a jumping juggler; Cavalli's humour makes him a most entertaining ventriloquist; the Hudsons in a comedy act score heavily; a dainty little dancer is Kathleen Cogan; Bruce Green gives admirable point to some new jokes; Harris Coonie is a particularly smart dancer; and the Bioscope is responsible for two interesting items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—*Tommy Atkins* is the play presented by Mr. Bolam's stock company here this week. Mr. Stanley Bedwell ably fills the rôle of Capt. Maitland; Harold Wilson is well looked after by Mr. J. B. Shinton; Mr. Bert Atherton as Paddy Malloy raises much laughter; a charming Ruth is depicted by Miss Ada M. Ryde; Miss Earle faithfully portrays Elsie Wilson; and Miss Brunnette is quite at home as May Maitland.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—The prominent films shown here are The Treasure Hunters, Louisa Strozzi, A Victim of Bridge, and The Love of Lady Irma. The variety items are supplied by the Three Rochesters, singers and dancers, and Adela Varcoe, sweet singer of illustrated songs.

RAVENSWORTH PICTURE HALL.—The leading pictures at this hall are Lieut. Rose and A Woman's Strategy; and, in addition to the films, is Jack Brack, coon delineator and dancer, who is successful.

BLACK'S PICTURE PALACE.—Thou Shalt Not and Western Justice are the "star" lines here, and the turns of Hector and Lauraine, grotesques, and La Clair, ballad vocalist, make up a fine entertainment.

LLOYD'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Morgan.—The Final Settlement, A Combat between Buffaloes, and other excellent films are being shown at this hall. Olivette, illustrated songstress, gives an enjoyable turn.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, *pro tem.*, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—*Theodor's Flutter; or, The Parents' Dilemma*, a new comedy, with music, adapted from the French, is this week visiting Glasgow for the first time, and, with its amusing situations and delightful numbers, is making a very favourable impression. The cast includes three leading members of the Carl Rosa company, and even the lesser parts are all filled by singers of outstanding ability. Miss Doris Woodall sings and acts charmingly as the youthful wife of M. Moreau; Mr. E. C. Hedmondt suffuses the rôle of Plumeau with fine romantic feeling; the acting ability of Mr. Charles Victor serves him well in playing the successful merchant Durand, whose partner, Moreau, is amusingly represented by Mr. Bob Owen. Mr. S. Boulderstone is capitally suited in the part of Theodor; as the three dashing Hussars Messrs. William O'Connor, Schofield, and R. F. Matthews prove themselves accomplished vocalists; Durand's daughters are attractively portrayed by Misses Marion Broom, Annie Van Dyck, and Hilda Morris; and Miss Jessie Dolter makes a smart maid.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The Irish Dramatic Season inaugurated at the Metropole continues its popularity with the production of Irish drama. That of *The Ulster Hero* is praiseworthy, Mr. Fred Lloyd as the hero, Mr. Dan Clarke as Captain Fox, and the well-known Irish comedian, Mr. Tyrone Power, as James Hope, all doing well. Miss Annie Hylton as Norah Bodel drew the sympathy of the audience from the outset; and Miss Jessie Glenn as Rose Mullen, Miss Amy Wood as Mary M'Cracken, and Miss E. Graham in the ungrateful character of Mary Tomb, gave capable renderings. Special mention might be made of Mr. Henry C. Ward as James Hughes, Mr. M. Morley Carroll as Danny Niblock, and Mr. Kendrew Milson as Captain Ellis. On Thursday and Friday *Green Bushes* will be substituted.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Waring.—On Monday the repertory company began the second week of the amusing Scotch comedy *Oh! Christina*. In impersonating Christina Miss Margaret Nybloe gives an example of natural acting that is very refreshing; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Miss Purvis plays delightfully; and Mr. Campbell Gullan must also be commended for his interpretation of James Baldwin. Mr. George Tawde is capital in the part of Jimsie McPhee; and mention should also be made of Miss Lola Duncan's able impersonation of Miss McIndoe and the characteristic study of Mrs. M'Leerie by Miss Agnes Bartholomew. The comedy is preceded by *The American Widow*, which is also admirably played.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Manners.—Gama, the champion wrestler of India, supported by three lesser champions, proves an exciting item on the programme, conclusions being tried with the local exponents of catch-as-catch-can; good fun is provided by Bellew and Stock's company in *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, which character is amusingly hit off by the diminutive comedian, Master Edward Garratt; another funny sketch is played by George Lestocq and company, entitled *Very, Very Much Engaged*; Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi accomplish wonderful feats of balancing; a brilliant xylophone turn is given by the Five Vernons; H. O. Wills, the quaint comedian, goes well; Evelyn Stolt sings a humorous and a sentimental song in good style; a smart burlesque conjuring act is contributed by Cull Pitt; and the part-singing of the Lyric Quartette is very pleasing.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good.—That entertaining eccentric juggler W. C. Fields causes considerable laughter; Albert Whelan, always a strong favourite, makes new friends; Henri Cazman's novel pot-pourri act goes well; Barnard's Mannikins; Captain Kettle, card manipulator; Natalia and Diana, gymnasts; Pasquali Brothers, equilibrists; L. W. Harris, comedian; and Beatrice Allen, comedienne, are other items in a good programme.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Miss Victoria Monks fills the top position here; Carlisle and Wellmore are an entertaining pair; Burns and Bently are a smart pair of comedians and dancers; and Gus Barra is well described as an eccentric musician. An excellent programme also includes Peggy Monks, comedienne; the Prince Milner Trio; W. B. Raby, an original comedian; and Lambeth and Robertson, Scotch comedy artists.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Lew Lake and company present a new sketch here, entitled *King Nobler*, which gives the artists plenty of scope. The piece is capitally staged and excellently acted. Fred Earle gets through three songs, and is well received; Cull Pitt is a favourite, and his attempts to amuse are successful; a flattering reception is accorded the Four Royal Scots, a quartette of Scotch lassies whose novel musical act is much appreciated; an all-round favourite, is Florence Yaymen, the coon caricaturist; Elton and Edwin are responsible for a classical banjo turn; and Miss Fanny Elton is a banjoist near the top of her profession. Gordon Brown, a youthful tenor, sings exceptionally well; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull again present *Mixed Bathing*, and their vocal efforts are a feature of the turn. The bioscope concludes.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The Bioscope programme here is attracting large audiences. The vaudeville programme is ably supported by Miss Ina Black, soprano vocalist, and Jack Linney, Scotch comedian.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—The attendances are this week quite up to the usual. The attraction is the exhibition of Dr. Walford Bodie's work, depicted by the bioscope. The programme also includes several variety turns, which are well received. Quite an attraction is Tom Thumb, who is appearing at the Panopticon Waxwork.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE THEATRE. — Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.—A capital picture show is given here twice nightly. Varieties are provided by Miss Kitty Woodford and the Vocaphone.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. G. Boulkwood.—The entertainment here is up to the usual high standard, and, despite the summer weather, good houses rule.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—A capital all-round programme is headed by Hal Croneste, comedian and actor vocalist; The Tymes are successful in the song scena, *The Enchanted Clock*; Nora Heaton is a charming descriptive vocalist; Mr. Cecil Terry, chorus vocalist, proves highly entertaining; Warren and Granville are amusing in a comedy act, *His Brother's Fiancée*; and Miss Vera Snowden, vocalist and dancer, is equally successful. Pictures complete the programme.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—A good company here includes Rapoli; Maudie Laurel, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, finds much favour; Geoffrey Crystal and Saville, in their musical duo, *Jack's Jacket*, are very happy; Will Conn, comedian, dances and sings well; Jennie Moore, in a musical act, is admirable; and the Three Langfords, in their smart speciality dancing, are much appreciated. The Edisonograph has some good films.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.—Here we have the popular Picture Palace presenting some good attractions. Miss Madge Bryce, contralto, contributes some good songs.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —*The Mummy and the Mumming Bird* is meeting with conspicuous success. Mr. H. Hamliton Stewart gives a clever and finished performance of Lord Lumley; Miss A. Bruce Joy scores as Lady Lumley; Mr. Lewin Mannering ably depicts Signor d'Orelli; Mr. Charles Groves plays well as Guiseppe; and Miss Constance Barton is a charming Ruth Thornton.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The chief attraction here this week is provided by John G. Brandon and company, who produce two well-acted sketches, entitled *The Dragon's Claw* and *Sea-Dogs*; Graeme Atholl fairly mystifies the audience with his cleverly-executed conjuring tricks; the Argyll Troupe of dancers received well-deserved applause; Violet Gardiner sings with pleasing effect; and Sam Thomson, comedian, is as popular as ever.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—A capital assortment of new pictures is shown this week, the one of Life in the Golden West is particularly interesting, as also are An Eye for an Eye and As it is in Life. The others include subjects both attractive and amusing.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The romantic and mystic play, *A Wrecker of Men*, is paying a first visit. Miss Ruth Zillwood acts with striking force as the adventuress, Risca Mallinson; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt gives a vigorous characterisation of Jim Murley, the slogger; Mr. Arthur Robinson plays Guise Strange with success; Miss Gwendoline Talbot displays a charming manner as Doris Melville; Mr. Victor Rae is good as the mysterious Pharosaphus; Mr. Richard Bosco acts well as Railton; Mr. Edward A. Brooke as Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus is equal to the requirements of the parts; and Mr. William A. Armour as Reggie Verincourt, Mr. Thompson Carruthers as Eric Melville, and Miss Lydia Hart as Vavasole Slopper also accomplish good work.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The miniature drama, *The Girl I Love*, is an excellent specimen of its kind, and the principal character is played with good effect by Mr. Fred Maxwell; Marstro and Mlle. Oretta give an attractive display of jugglery and equilibristic business, the lady being responsible for a remarkable feat of endurance; Fred Elton has some entertaining business at the piano, and his singing is highly popular; the Denaro Brothers are a couple of smart juvenile acrobats; Frank Harwood repeats his success as a light comedian, and has some good songs; George S. Melvin presents Scottish humour, and is a clever dancer; and Lillian Barnes is a contralto of considerable ability.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and Varieties continue here. Interesting and amusing pictures include a coloured biblical story, Esther, The Man, The 1910 Derby, and Californian Industries. La Belle Duchesse and her boxing stallions and leaping hounds give a wonderful performance; the Sutcliffe Family are high in favour with their clever acrobatic novelties; Knoks and Lee deserve praise for their Humpti Bumpeti act.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Her Secret Lover*. Mr. St. John plays the part of Gilbert Seymour very well; Mr. W. H. Wilson is good as Captain Rose; Mr. V. Vernon and Miss L. Darlington are successful in the comedy rôles of Billy Burley and Jane Maria Wilkes; Miss F. Leslie is good as Alcia Royale; and Miss L. Walker is excellent as Ivy Seymour.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Pictures are the main attraction, A Pseudo Lady's Maid, The Honour of the Family, and Up San Juan Hill being excellent samples of a good display. Tom Child, the prize tenor, is in excellent voice, and brings the house down. The Musical Howards are also a good turn.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Tubby Edlin and Harry Roxbury's company are appearing with success in a laughable extravaganza, *The Cowboy Millionaire*; Broughton and Creedon give a refined vocal and instrumental scena; Ethel Entwistle is a charming young vocalist with a sweet and sympathetic voice; Dene and Dixon are successful in their entertainment, *The New Page Boy*; the Unites, comedy acrobatic act, Harry Keeble, ventriloquist, and pictures.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The fine programme submitted here by the popular manager, includes Musical Silvo; Harry Rogerson, comedian; Rosie Archer, mimic; Dale and O'Malley, smart and original comedians; Mlle. de Rose and Hilda Claremont, talented vocalists; Beatie and Babs, who return to scenes of former triumphs; J. H. Hawtrey; and Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the star turn, who cause quite a sensation with their clever illusion.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The chief pictures are Lieutenant Rose and the Spy, The Aviator's Romance, Invigorating Electricity, The One-handed Wager, The Mustard Plaster, and Little Blue Cap. Berton Hawkino and his clever monkeys, including an aeroplane flight, are causing a great stir.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—Minola Hurst and company, with their miniature marvels, is a joint top with Everhart, the hoop expert, and both go well; Happy Attwood makes hits in his funny parodies; Al and Lal are a good ventriloquial turn; Signor Persichine is an expert mandolinist; Miss Alice Hughes does well in her sketch, *Star of the Bazaar*; Miss Amy Bellwood is a good song and dance artist.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. B. Wilshire; Musical Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—A strong programme is headed by Miss Gertrude Bibby in her protean sketch, *Bonnie Prince Charlie*; Mr. Bridge Peters, baritone, appeared for three days; and Mr. Charles Fry, the well-known Shakespearian actor, gives recitals with music; Miss Celia Claud appears in classical dances; Miss Ivy Argove was engaged for the symphony concert on Wednesday.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Maxtead.—V. Wakeman, humorist and mimic, scores greatly; Elton and Elma are clever on the horizontal bars, and also very funny; Paget and Clifford present a charming song-scena entitled *The Chimney Corner*. There are three fine bio-speech films, entitled His Chums, The Last Day, and The Twisted Trail. A Visit to an Ostrich Farm is a picture at once interesting and instructive.

HASTINGS. — PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Walter George makes a welcome reappearance with his talented troupe of vocalists; the "Smart Set" entertainers, who are accompanied by Mr. Edward Hutland. They include Messrs. Walter George, Edward Elliot, Charles Ross, Peter Delahanty, and the Misses Georgie Martin, Mabel Silvester, Kitty Farrell, and Lena Hutchings.

HEATON-ON-TYNE. — BRINKBURN PICTURE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Thos. MacHarg; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Linda of Chamounix is the title of the principal film here. Chas. Tempest, comedian, obtains a flattering reception.

HEREFORD. — GARRICK THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. T. Sidoli.—Excellent pictures are exhibited, the most popular being The Race for the Derby.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Hall and Ainsley.—An excellent variety company is here this week. Carl Bennie, ventriloquist, gives an enjoyable turn; Miss Carrie Ladas, vocalist, meets with a good reception; the Rowntrees (re-engaged) appear with success in a new comedy act; and the Pictures are proving a feature.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—The Paragon Pictures continue to meet with much approval, the chief items this week being A Millionaire's Adventure, The Ranch Girl's Legacy, The Little Blind Girl, and a realistic representation of The Sailor Lad. Good houses are the rule.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A crowded and enthusiastic house gathered to give a welcome to Miss Elaine

VINOLIA
SHAVING STICK

VINOLIA lathers readily—abundantly. That is a consideration when you have to shave in a hurry—it saves both YOUR time and the razor's edge.

Vo 69

Terriss on Monday, when she made her appearance in the light musical piece *The Pink of Perfection*. The irresistible charm and freshness of Miss Terriss were admirably effective, and adequate support was given by Mr. Stanley Brett and the rest of the cast. Other turns are provided by Cromo and Hamilton, two very amusing burlesque artists; Louis J. Seymour, light comedian; O'Malley and Brown, comedians; Miss Dulcie King-Lloyd, a sweet comedienne; and King's College Boys, a troupe of good singers.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The chief attraction is the presentation of Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings, a puzzling and interesting illusion. Also here are Miss Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; Ted Waite, comedian; Vela, a comedian on the tight-wire; the Cedrics, comedy artists; the Belmonts, dancers; Sydney Brandon, presenting dramatic character studies; and Joe Belmont, an expert and sweet whistler. The pictures are interesting.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Hull has again its opportunity of seeing Bernard Shaw's entertaining plays, *You Never Can Tell*, and likewise, during the week, *Arms and the Man*. In the former piece Miss Sylvia Dawson gave a very pleasing reading of the part of Mrs. Clandon; Miss Winifred Beach was a delightful representative of Gloria; the Dolly of Miss Ida Southern was distinguished by many bright touches; Mrs. Ed. Pearce played the part of the father with conspicuous success; the dentist Valentine was pleasingly represented by Mr. Graham Colmer; the Waiter was realised skilfully by Mr. Claude Haviland; the remainder of the characters caught the spirit of the Irish dramatic humourist to the full.

ALEXANDRA.—Morton's, Limited; Manager, Mr. James Morton.—The production of a drama entitled *Paying the Price* is noticed in another column.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Harry Roxbury, the well-known comedian, presents a musical absurdity, entitled *On the Track*, which is brimful of comical incidents; Oswald Williams, assisted by Miss Winifrid la Barte, continues to mystify and amuse with his wonderful illusions; Holden's mannikins are very smartly worked, their manipulation being perfect; Harry Herbert, comedian, with his quaint makeup, scores a big success; both novel and herculean are the feats performed by the Carmos, and the plaudits accorded were well deserved; Charles J. Johnson, the coloured comedian, and Conan and Doyle, smart dancers, were very much to the fore. Other pleasing items were Nellie Farrell, singer of Irish songs; Alice Maydue, comedienne; and humorous pictures on the Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard present their popular comedy act with much success; a capital act is that given by that funny trio August, September, and May; Jack Rae has many admirers. Other popular items are presented by Chas Grantley, Clifton and Gibson, Will Harmony, Masie Kay, and Raynor and Esto complete.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—The Franco-British Picture Company is introducing a very fine series of films, which, with the interpellated songs by Mr. W. H. Deacon, receive warm applause.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—A very interesting dramatic sketch is being played by J. G. Grahame, jun., and Zerlina Harrington, entitled *A Daughter of Pleasure*. Both artists possess ability of a high order, and are accorded a warm reception. The vocalism of Josie and Francis Gerard give great pleasure; the strong show of Paul Cavalli arouses enthusiasm; Andrie Romanoff is a clever violinist; and Irene Meldon, comedienne and dancer, Roy and Fenton, comedy artists, and Charles Dillion, comedian, also appear.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—The Faust Operatic Trio heads the bill here, and their performance is much enjoyed. The Musical Marvels please greatly in their clever act; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, is a favourite, and has a cordial greeting nightly; Herne and Palmer do a clever comedy acrobatic act; Pueblo and Cropp are well received; and the Bros. Le Hais are skilful club jugglers. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley appear in the comedy sketch, *Black and White;* and Mr. Harry Elliston's company in a laughable sketch, *Aunt Matilda*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Messrs. Hinton and Green's company is here with *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather is a powerful Zaco Malleto, alias Captain Vigo; Mr. Colin Heather makes a manly Wilfred Grey; Mr. Gerald Byrne is quite at home in the part of Paul; and Mr. Percy Morton Wright is a smart detective; Miss Hilda Shirley is a capable Myra Malleto, and Miss Winifred Rutland a charming Lily. Mr. Tod Squires causes much amusement as Peter Pimple, and is ably assisted by Miss Laura Wright as Dolly Dimple.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Albany Ward's electric picture programme includes the beautiful classical art drama The Roman and the coloured art drama Isis. The Will Elton Team are clever horizontal bar comedians, and Mlle. Sara's living statuary is an artistic triumph.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. C. A. Barnett.—The afternoon and evening orchestral concerts are a great attraction.

LEEDS.—THE GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The Italian Grand Opera Company is giving a series of performances to good houses. They opened with *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*. As Turiddu Signor Folco was much applauded; and the Santuzza of Signora Protti was a great success. Signor Vail and Signora Morlacchi and Signora Rocco were efficient in important rôles.

THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. H. Armitage's company is appearing here in *The Greater Love*. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid gives a powerful impersonation of Paul Penfold; Mr. William Clayton achieves success as Jack May; Miss Marion Fawcett undertakes the rôle of Mrs. May; and Miss Violet Thorold that of the daughter with conspicuous ability. Other characters are ably taken by Messrs. Algernon J. Hicks, Henry Nunn, Harry Wren, Charles Conway, and Ethel Russell.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Mr. Van Biene makes a welcome reappearance in a new sketch, in which his 'cello solos are appreciated as much as ever. Anna Chandler created a favourable impression as a new arrival from America; the unique voice of Amelie de L'Enclos gained her much applause; Griff is as highly amusing as ever; the Delevines are here in their clever legmania act; Billy Hobbs and Alf Gibson gain a share of popularity; and Hans and Lux and Cissie Thompson also appear.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—May Moore Duprez is a popular top turn here; S. W. Wyndham is a big favourite, as also is his protégé little Jack Marks; the Society Quartette and the Okadians furnish some good musical numbers; Les Ados, Joe Conway, Hughes and Elliott, and W. G. Wealse also are big favourites.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—A capital sketch and well acted by the Forestiers, entitled *A Society Sinner*, is the top of the bill; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor make a good impression in their dancing act; Madge May has some nice songs; Win Wadham is a popular vocalist; and other favourites include Stewart and Morris, Leonard Bedford, and Little Ganty.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—The Great Raymond is topping in his mystical surprises. Supporting him are Les Grossi, Little Sunbeam, Ryde and Beeman, Fred Dunstone, Luella Cross, and Morris and Moore.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—The variety bill includes the Melias, vocal duo and dance artists; Martin Melia, comedian and dancer, is much appreciated; Nancy Lill, contralto vocalist and dancer, submits two well-rendered songs. The pictorial portion of the entertainment is good.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—An attraction of more than average merit is *When it Was Dark*, presented by Mr. Oswald Cray's company. Miss Lillian Harries is conspicuously successful as Gertrude Hunt, and Mr. Oswald Cray makes an excellent impression as the Rev. Basil Gortre. Miss Rosalie Notrelle is very good as Helena Byars. Others who also do well are Mr. C. Worldley Hulse as Constantine Schwabe, Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn, Mr. Walter Manfree as the Rev. Mr. Byars, and Miss Madaline Grande as Gracie Goldeye. The play is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—A fine programme is headed by Mike Whatten, whose songs and stories are given in an entertaining manner. At the other end is A. C. Lilly and company, in the military episode *Drummed Out*, in which Mr. Lilly is again a conspicuous success as Troop Sergeant-Major Usher. He is well supported by Mr. Fred Erskine, Miss Gladys Rose-Jones, Leo Lilly, Miss Alice Hamilton, Miss Kitty Kirwan, and Master Fred Thompson. A rousing reception is bestowed on My Fancy for her remarkably fine display of dancing in her beautiful scena, *The Seasons;* Bert Williams gives a clever and novel show as a ventriloquist; the Abdullah Arabs give a remarkable performance as pyramid builders and tumblers; Chris. Van Bern is an artist brimful of versatility and cleverness, whose comedy act is most enjoyable; Harry Marte scores a well-deserved success with his smart dancing; Ivy Voyce is an excellent contralto vocalist; the Sisters Kilner are entertaining acrobatic dancers; Freddie Welsh and Packy McFarland's fight for the light-weight championship is shown on the Bio.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The excellent bill here is topped by the Marvellous Days (Florence and Frederic), whose clever performance of the art of transference bewilders the audience; Josh Dixon, a really funny comedian, keeps the audience in a continued roar of merriment; Fred Colley and Minnie Scott are first-class comedy entertainers; Miss Elsie and her Cousin Bob are very good in their comedy acrobatic act, *Amsty Bamsty;* the Two Lees score in a new and novel instrumental drawing-room scena; Myrtle Grove is a particularly smart youngster, whose singing of "The Pierrot" and dancing evoke unstinted approbation; and Walter Read is an expert banjoist. A popular feature at this hall is the Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—There is the usual excellent assortment of pictures, the two leading films being The Kind-hearted Employer and the Race for the Derby. Will Goodall, descriptive vocalist, is on another visit.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—The principal pictures in a goodly array are Ostrich Farm in Nice, His Last Burglary, the Welsh-Daniel's Fight, Romance of the Western Hills, and The Angler's Dream.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — The Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd., are exhibiting a number of beautiful nature pictures, which are real gems in the art of coloured photography. Other pictures include The Tree of Happiness (coloured), By the Danube, and In Love with Charcoal Jim.

LEIGH.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—An excellent all-round programme is headed by Miss Marie Santoi and her Merry Japs, in a vocal scena, which is proving a huge success; Little Doris Druce is a clever juvenile impersonator; Burley and Burley supply a clever and amusing comedy act; Colquitt, champion jumper, gives a skilful exhibition; Beatty Bros., patter comedians, are very smart; Zenora, in a hand-balancing act, finds much favour; Tom and Edie George sketch artists, are very successful; Maud Rayne is a dainty comedienne; and the Hipposcope pictures are good.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—The Perfection Picture Company are presenting an excellent programme to crowded houses. Mlle. Zelda presents a neat and clever musical turn; and Mr. Wal Owen, eccentric comedian, is greatly appreciated.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. James Garrow's *Shilleagh and Shamrock* and Boucicault's ever-green *Shaughraun* have had their turns in the bill here. In the first-named play Mr. A. W. B. Kingston easily enacted Barney Mulrooney, being strongly supported by the Bridget and Noreen of Miss Pauline Gear and Miss Kitty Thomas; Mr. Richard Ferris and Miss Doris Brookes as Shamus O'Donnell and Stella Austin played with their wonted fervour, and enlisted the warm sympathy of the audience; and Mr. Ernest Regent aroused due resentment against Godfrey Villiers. Mr. Jas. T. Dale gave a happy impersonation of Billy Bragg; Mr. Addison did well as Thurlan O'Cassidy; Mr. Percy Dysart made a careful study of Mr. Carrington; and Mr. J. W. Austin pleased the house as Sergeant Doolan. The cast of *The Shaughraun* included Messrs. Ferris and Austin, as Captain Molyneux and Robert Ffolliott, with Mr. Kingston as Conn, and Mr. Dale as Harvey Duff, Mr. John Darlison appearing as Father Dolan, and Mr. Regent as Corry Kinchela. The leading feminine rôles were filled by Miss Eleanor McHardy as Arte O'Neal; Miss Brookes as Clare Ffolliott; Miss Gear as Mrs. O'Kelly; and Miss Thomas as Moya. Minor parts were well looked after, and the popular play was excellently acted, and very favourably received.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we are having Mr. Junius Booth and company in *Way Out West*, which is being patronised by large audiences. Mr. Booth handles the rôle of Jack Hamlin in capital style and finds general favour; Mr. Millar Anderson plays Jim Hawkins in powerful manner; Miss Lilian Deane makes a charming Paquita; as Helen Masterman Miss Alice West pleases immensely; and other supporters are Messrs. Cecil Delavanti (Colonel Starbottle), Harry Bannister (Bat Masterman), J. Sanger (Abner Byers), and Charles H. Brooke (Ah Foo).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The company sent here this week by Mr. Wilson Benge to present *The Eve of Her Wedding* is, in several respects, above the average. Foremost is Mr. Louis Lingard, who interprets George Tremain with much effect, earning general approval; Miss Pauline Nanton does herself credit as the unfortunate Marvis Leverton; Miss Florence Zillwood skilfully presents the villainous René de Telle; Mr. K. Arthur submits an excellent character part with his Bill Groggins; Mr. Herbert Hastings deserves warm commendation for his picture of the cripple Jack Herne; Mr. Frederick F. Loyd's impersonation of Dean Clifton is good; and others who are prominent include Miss Sybil Hare (Kinkie) and Mr. Chas. Digby (Rudolph Earle).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's combination are here this week with *The Sin of Her Childhood*, which is doing good business. Miss Maud Warburton plays Mary Haysel in a truly sympathetic manner, and soon wins the favour of her audience; Mr. Guy Hastings as the Rev. Alan Grey shows high talents, his acting calling forth loud applause; Mr. Cecil Mannering is a powerful Stephen Haysel, and earns honours; Mr. Frank Liston makes a manly Captain Thornton; Miss Clara Santley is an effective Maria Haysel; a lively Hannah Spry comes from Miss Lissa Young; some excellent comedy is provided by Mr. Hugh Brady (Barney O'Reilly) and Miss Pollie Denville (Lizzie Muggins); and little Gladys Brittain pleases as Eric Dugdale. The drama is staged in acceptable style.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—In big type here this week is George Lashwood, with his budget of latest songs, which afford great delight; the popular Irish comedian Walter Munroe is received with much favour by his numerous admirers; *A Sister's Love* is a brightly presented sketch given by Miss Daisy Irvine and company; an exceedingly clever Risley act, *On the Road*, comes from the accomplished Kellinos; as athletes the De Wynne Bros. go through a remarkable turn; Rich Taylor delights everybody with his smart ventriloquial show; Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley cause great laughter with their sketch *Fun in a Music Shop;* the Sisters Tower sing and dance in good style; and Frank and Free have an amusing comedy act.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The recently inaugurated system of drama twice nightly has caught on here. This week Mr. Percy Norman's company are presenting the stirring drama *A Woman Worth Winning*. As Amos Pauloff Mr. Gilbert Standing plays with dramatic effect; Miss Lillie Lewis earns much commendation for her able Roma Pauloff; the rôle of Fergus Lovinski is in the good keeping of Mr. A. B. Mackay; Mr. C. W. Black proves a humorous Bertie Scribbles; and other worthy supporters are Messrs. E. Finlay (Borinski), Jack Corlass (Mashomoff), and Miss Ida Mackay (Katherine).

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Principal here is Saige's animated sculpture (including Miss Marguerite), the really beautiful poses that are presented earning rounds of applause; Athas and Collins please immensely with their comedy act; the Four Ascots gain loud applause for their exceptionally smart wooden-shoe dancing; Harry First and company please greatly with the excellent comedy-drama *The Matrimonial Fee;* Smit and Smit cause much amusement on the bars; Rosie Elliott sings several numbers with taste; that merry couple Cedar and Elgar are as delightful as ever with their "In Dayes of Olde"; as juvenile Scotch duettists and dancers the two McKays find great favour; and the Athos Troupe of novelty acrobats and ball manipulators are given a hearty reception.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—For notice of the new play *On the Shores of the Shannon* see another column.

OLYMPIA. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big attraction here this week is the airship controlled by wireless telegraphy, the show being under the direction of the inventor, Mr. Raymond Phillips, who is a Liverpool man. The invention has brought crowds to witness its marvels. Miss Clarice Mayne delights everybody with her taking songs, which include her latest, "George took me walking in the park"; Hall and Earle, acrobatic comedians, convulse their audience with laughter; *The Organ Grinder*, presented by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova and company, is an excellent four-scenes act, and affords every satisfaction; Grant and Stewart with their comedy of illusions "Phantoms of the Wood" prove an acceptable turn; Fatmah Diard, a soprano possessing a rich voice, affords much delight by rendering several numbers in true artistic style; Charles Mildare, comedian and whistler, brings his latest successes; Bob Pender and his troupe of comedy giants and dwarfs present a lively turn; and Aida Martine sings and dances in capital manner.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the bill here this week are the popular Elliott Savonas, whose musical entertainment affords general pleasure; Callaghan and St. George have a neat little sketch, *The Old Neighbourhood*, into which comedy, music, and pathos are introduced; the Verona Troupe of champion trick cyclists go through a unique exhibition; Bertha Evelyn renders songs in acceptable manner; as equilibrists Zera and Zema are excellent; A. de Bessell shows high talent as a modeller in clay; the Three Aza boys have a refined singing and dancing act; and the little Vestos are dainty juvenile vocalists and dancers.

LLANDUDNO.—PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's vaudeville entertainers are playing to crowded houses twice daily. At the top of the bill is the ever-welcome Charley Harvey, who keeps the audiences in roars throughout; he is ably assisted by Dave Laird. Jack Hughes contributes excellent bass solos; and Mlle. Benita is a soprano above the average. A. R. Sutcliffe is his usual self; and J. A. Tunbridge at the piano completes a talented troupe.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. R. E. Warton.—The cinematograph reigns in this popular house of entertainment this week, some of the famous films recently produced having been secured. The magnificent film depicting the impressive funeral of King Edward VII. occupies premier place, and was probably in large measure responsible for the crowded audiences that assembled twice nightly. There were a number of other first-class films, including a gorgeous naval representation with a dramatic setting and several "stories in pictures" both humorous and pathetic.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—The Betraying Mirror, Soul of Venice, Across the Plain, and The Man who Could not Laugh are some of the best pictures here. The Canworths give an excellent instrumental and vocal turn, and are specially good with the banjo; Mr. T. W. Lenner, comedian, creates considerable merriment; and Miss Florrie Wright, comedienne, also appears.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Welsker Bros.; Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The World in Motion pictures exhibited here include The Twisted Trail, A Deal in Broken China, Five Minutes to Twelve, and other highly-diverting films. The variety turns are Bob King, comedian, and Will and Nell, vocalists and dancers.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*Why Smith Left Home* is drawing large and delighted houses this week. Mr. Vernon Sansbury as Smith does excellent work, and Mr. Eric H. Albury as the Count is delightfully funny; Miss Ena Eden gives a creditable performance as Mrs. Smith, and other parts are equally well treated. The mounting and dressing are good.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Good houses still patronise the animated pictures exhibited here. A fine series of films include The Child of the Forest, False Oath, Pulp Mills, Quebec, Kidnapped King, and Curing a Jealous Husband. The variety bill includes Craig, Roze, and Craig, gymnastic experts; Hayman and Houghton, comedians and dancers; and Ray, Miles, and Ray, in a funny juggling act.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Crowded audiences have been attracted by Mr. Neville Claude's company with *The Girl from Kay's*, the production of which reflects credit upon Mr. Archie Ainsleigh, general-manager, and Mr. Charles Leverton, the able stage-manager, who also plays the part of Mr. Chalmers. Miss Florrie Millington, in the title-rôle, is vivacious and charming, and her songs are excellent; Mr. J. W. Hooper as Hoggenheimer keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Rosie Burnett does well as Nora Chalmers; and Mr. Harold Perry as Harry Gordon puts in some effective acting. Miss Dorothy King deserves special mention for her clever dancing and acting as Ellen; Master Walter Pink as Pepper, the page, creates much laughter; and Mr. Baron Herring is a capable hall porter.

MANCHESTER. — PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—By arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, *Are You a Mason?* is staged here this week. It is well acted by a very good company, who are headed by Mr. William Lockhart, a capital comedian, as Amos Bloodgood, whose work is well matched by that of Miss Agnes Maude as his wife, Caroline; Mr. Howard L. Tracey as Frank Perry and Mr. Archie Selwyn as George Fisher contribute greatly to the fun; and Mr. Stanley Arthur adds an excellent impersonation of Hamilton Travers. Mrs. Bloodgood's daughters, Eva, Lulu, and Annie, are smartly depicted by Miss Grace Denbigh Russell, Miss Rennie de l'Estrade, and Miss Claire Townsend; while Miss Peggie B. Yeoman plays Lottie with distinction. All the remaining parts are well handled; and the piece is preceded by a charming comedietta, *My Lady Help*, which is also nicely played.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn presents here the realistic drama *For Honour and Revenge*, which is appreciated by good houses. Mr. G. M. Montanini gives a powerful rendering of the important rôle of James Galston; and Miss Sidney Crowe's delineation of Maud Desmond is on a similar plane of excellence. Mr. Charles Russell as Harry Travers and Miss Netta Mitchell as Mary Galston worthily uphold the heroic interest; and strong on the side of villainy are Mr. Herbert Skardon as Sir Gilbert Redville and Mr. Howard Hardy as Arthur Redville. Mr. Herbert Woodin as Joe Reckitts provides much humour, assisted by Miss Madge Palmer as Nancy O'Brien.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Alec Hurley is at the head of the bill here, giving his picturesque scena, *Cockneys in Japan;* sharing the principal honours is the popular comedienne Jennie Johns, in a taking répertoire; Robb Rossi, the Manx tenor, is an enjoyable turn; and entertaining items are contributed by Captain Ellis and Son, expert musicians; Burt Ward, comedy whistler and raconteur; the Cromwells, in their unique juggling act; the Three Favourites, in vocal burlesque; and the Harringtons, comic jugglers and speciality artists.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Lewis Gilbert and company are playing here twice nightly in *A Daughter of the Sea*. Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine acquits herself well, and is a very attractive young actress; Mr. Gilbert acts powerfully as the rascally Mark Glensdale; and valuable support is rendered by Mr. R. H. West as Captain Ben Morrison and Mr. Roy Denman as Ken Moreland; while Miss Allyce Wyllyams, Mr. Jo Monkhouse as Billy, and Mr. Cyril Craven as Jack Strong brighten the play with their clever humour.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—The well-known military drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*, played by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, is drawing good houses here. Mr. Edward Bikker is seen in his original part of General Kingsley, a good impersonation; Mr. J. L. Leigh makes a capital hero as Captain Carsdale, admirably supplemented by Miss Violet Langley as Alma Kingsley; Mr. Polson Turner is excellently placed as the villainous Captain Darrell, assisted by Mr. Carl Kerzo as Lieutenant Kingsley; and a fine piece of acting is added by Miss Ada Champion as the drunken Margaret Rivers. Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas cleverly impersonate the Drummer Boys of the title; and Messrs. Will Percy and A. Selwood as Quiney and Timothy, reinforced by Miss Patricia Connaughton as Molly, supply a considerable amount of enjoyable humour.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Business-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company are playing here in *Judith*. Miss Tullock plays the title-part with conspicuous success, and is well supported by an efficient cast. The staging is good.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Herbert Darnley's company, including Chas. H. Bell, is top of the bill here this week in that musical absurdity *The Brigands of Tarragona*, and score a big success; Theo C. Le Gar's company, with Señor Angel Blanco, are excellent in dramatic playlet, *Music, the Conqueror;* and J. Wright Aitken, ably assisted, is excellent in *The Battle of Life*, a touching episode. Other smart turns are those of Harry Conlin, comedian, with good patter; Harrigan and Holt, as the inspector and the policeman; Harry Russon, actor-comedian; Fallows and Beaumont, in vocal comedy act; and the Gascoigne Trio, comedy jugglers. Pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The chief item on the programme here is the great fight between Freddy Welsh and Packy McFarland, shown on the Bioscope; the Gothams, harmonising vocalists, occupy the next prominent position, and are hugely enjoyed; while also high in popular favour is the nautical drama, *The Little Stowaway*. Clever turns are added by the Eight Lancashire Lads, singers and wooden shoe dancers; Phil Parsons, light comedian; Jock Mills, Scotch character comedian; the Northcotes, accomplished duettists; Mona Vivian, a smart juvenile comedienne and dancer; and Sylvia Du Barry, a refined vocalist, in an elaborate "Toreador" scena.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*Private Potts* is here this week, well presented by Herbert Darnley's company, including that clever comedian Fred Kitchen as Potts, Mrs. Darnley as the Colonel's daughter, Miss Jessie Crammond as Potts' wicked wife, Mr. W. Wilbey as the Colonel; Mr. Jack Williams as Captain, and Mr. Harry Laffs as the Bugler. Nellie Wallace, as usual, is very funny, and is well received; Les Marco Belli are excellent as comedy conjurers, a novel turn; Tom Stuart makes a big hit in his clever impersonations, especially as the tenor and baritone vocalists; Les Frasettis, as violin, harp, and xylphone soloists, are delightful; Leo Tell, in new get-up, is good, as usual, in imitations; the Quaint Q's are harmonious comedians; and Frank H. Fox is a good vocal comedian. Bioscope pictures complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Highly popular here is Bert Coote, in *A Lamb on Wall Street*, one of the most comic of comic episodes; *The Prince of the Dandies*, a tabloid musical comedy, played by Flo Stanley's company, including Arthur Watson as Sprouts, is a big and attractive feature; the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese entertainers keep up their reputation for artistic and sensational doings; the Zigeuner Quartette provide a musical treat of a high order; and other good turns are the Lyric Mummers, in vocal selections; Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers; Rose and Challoner, comedy artists; Lily Palmer, comedian and dancer; Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers; and the Juggling McBanns, in a unique and clever exhibition.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Marguerite Dove (Mme. Renard), ably assisted by Edward Leith, sings exceedingly well in an operatic trifle, *The New Prima Donna*, and is well received; the Three Gelins, Continental comedy acrobats, are first-rate artists; Ford and Maxwell score with their smart dancing; Madge Beresford is a charming comedienne, with plenty of go; Evelyn Wickens, in pleasing protean vocal act, sings well; Annie Lang is a very dainty comedienne and dancer; Daisy Hicks, comedienne, sings nicely; and the Sisters Noel present a refined musical act. Up-to-date pictures complete.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Lawrence Brorgh, the well-known comedian, and company, including Percy Marshall and Olga Esme, are exceedingly good in farcical sketch, *No. 9;* G. W. Hunter scores a big success, as of yore; Jack McNeil, Scotch comedian, makes a hit with his clever dancing; the Three Delaries go through a smart performance; Baby Wolff is an accomplished child artist; and enjoyable items are offered by Purvis and Partner, in vocal duologue, *The Postman's Knock;* and the Lashmans, neat dancers. Scroggins Puts Up for Blankshire is an amusing film. Marguerite Broadfoote, comedian, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—*The Gay River* is the attraction here this week, excellently presented by Harrie Fawn, Edith Fawn, Marie Wilson, Marie Leigh, Felicia Ferman, Carrie Parrie, Reg. Manning, Ollie King (acting as deputy for Frank Dunlop, indisposed), Ford Roberts, Fred Merrie, and Ted Roberts. Musical-director, Arthur Parry.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Morrison.—Much satisfaction is expressed as to the quality of the films exhibited here to large houses.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edward Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—The stock company is presenting *The Sleigh Bells*, with Mr. Edwin Bennett in the rôle of Mathias, and Miss Kitty Bennett as Catherine, both characters being admirably portrayed. Other members of the company who merit recognition include Mr. Cyril Fairlie, as Christian; Mr. Sydney Feversham, as Father Walter; Mr. Philip Durham, as Hans; Mr. J. H. Smith, as Dr. Frantz; Mr. Fred Walton, as the Notary; Messrs. Reg. Cooper and Martin Morton, who take characters in the Dream scene; Mr. Henry Vigor, a Polish Jew; Miss Violet Ellesmere, as Sorel; and Miss Olive Duncan, as Annette. The drama is preceded by sketches of famous characters, very cleverly presented by Mr. Edwin Bennett.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—John Lawson and his company have been making a decidedly successful appearance in *Humanity*. The fight for life on the burning balcony and staircase between the husband—a part effectively played by Mr. John Lawson—and his wife's betrayer is a most realistic one, and the playlet arouses great enthusiasm. The Three Balsamos, in their comedy horizontal bar act, give a decidedly clever and amusing turn; and the Berg Brothers provoke great merriment in their really funny and smart act, in which they introduct their bumping bicycle; Stacey and Williams, cross-talking comedians and dancers, elicit great laughter; Vero Saunders, comedienne and dancer, gives a delightful Dutch song and dance; and Harry Harris, mimic and entertainer at the piano, takes off some music-hall celebrities with marked success. The pictures are entertaining.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson Withers. — *Ten Nights in a Bar Room*, presented by Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh's company, is the attraction here. Principal characters are capably undertaken by Mr. Alfred Goddard as Joe Morgan, Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh as Simon Slade, and Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mrs. Morgan.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The recent fight between Freddie Welsh and Packy McFarland shown on the Biograph is producing record business at both houses. Varieties are introduced by Bonair and Tess in a Japanese drawing-room protean scena; Kentz Brothers, comedy gymnasts; Dolly Vince, comedienne; Incemere's Marionettes; and Eric Valmore, comedian.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Mr. J. B. Barnes' company is this week presenting *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Graham Woods gives a finely-conceived portraiture of Harry Beech; a powerful interpretation of his *bête noir* is given by Mr. Archie Helsby; Mr. Sydney Cranston gives a humorous impersonation of Sir Dobson Wilde; a thoroughly interesting character study of Jack Lawton is given by Mr. Marshall Meade; Mr. Vernon Dalby makes the most of his opportunities as Dave Crane. Miss Pattie Hastings invests the part of Sylvia Beech with grace and sympathy; Miss Alice Oliver scores as Lady Wilde; Miss Bessie Chetwyn is a winning Master Beech.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The leading pictures this week are:—Scenes in the Life of King Edward VII., The Memento, Life History of a Butterfly, Little Chickweed Seller, &c.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Walter Steele's company present with success *A Fast Life*, in which Mr. Steeles capably sustains the character of John Dixon, the bank manager. The other characters have been judiciously placed, and the drama is well staged. A number of songs and dances are introduced, and are much appreciated.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Mr. John Tiller's vocal and spectacular ballet *In Japan* is a pronounced success; the Mystic Hussars give an entertaining turn; a clever and neat statue-juggling show is presented by the Schmettons; the Eight New Cocktails are good vocalists and dancers; Matthews and Mann, operatic vocalists; Friesland Serenaders, in an enjoyable act; Ned Graydon, comedian

Twelve Forget-Me-Nots, song and dance artists; Mozzetto, juggler; and the Empire pictures complete a capital programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Pictures continue to draw well at the Hippodrome.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice; Musical-Director, Mr. Chas. Thorne.—A good all-round programme is placed before Palace patrons this week. Toreador is a picture of a stirring nature, dealing with life in Spain. A very instructive subject is Industries in California. A pretty domestic story is told in How Life Changes.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—A bright and pleasing programme is headed by Henry Kemble and company, in a new and original musical sketch, entitled *The Gay Countess*. The company includes twenty-six performers, with Miss Josie Farrington in the title-rôle and Mr. Walter Dale as Mr. Marmaduke. A capital farce, *A Dotted Crotchet*, is presented by Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland; and the performance of Francesca, vocal chameleon, was greatly appreciated. The bill also includes Atilla Bros., in their Olympian fights, wrestling, and physical poses; Rhoda Lytton and Nora Silva, operatic vocalists; and Winona and King, in a sensational shooting act; and Seymour and Mead, comedy duo.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—Crowded houses are receiving the excellent programme with every sign of approval. Mr. Harry Pleon gives some very clever impersonations; and Miss Fanny Wentworth has scored a great success with her songs and sketches at the piano. Mr. Coleman Davies and Miss Eunice Udall have a bright and funny little sketch entitled *The Grumbler*. Mr. C. Clifford charms everybody with his harp solo; and Mr. W. Penn, a good comedian; Mr. W. Nosam, excellent coon vocalist; the Al Quartette, sweet singers; and Miss Rosa Tilley, complete the bill. The pictures are first-class.

TOWER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—The grounds here are now looking their best. In the theatre variety and animated pictures still hold sway. Mr. W. H. Atkinson is an excellent baritone; Mr. Arthur Lloyd proves himself a good illusionist; and Miss Kitty Kearns is an expert dancer and vocalist. The films are of excellent quality.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Commencing this week, the management propose to give two distinct programmes weekly, changing on the Thursday evening. On Monday the following artists appeared: Mr. Martin Adeson and Miss C. Bernard, in a humorous sketch, *Dr. Maud's Patient*; Messrs. Morton and Bowman, in burlesque drama; Miss Ena Corelli, Mr. S. Raymond, Mr. B. Davies, Messrs. Hardwick and Gerratt, Miss A. Waldorf, and the Kohn Sisters.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—A crowded house on Monday gave a good reception to Mr. Dickie Claré and company in *Lucky 'Liza*. Mr. Dickie Claré is the mainstay of the capital musical comedy, his eccentricities in his various rôles causing the audience to rock with laughter. The delightful singing and dancing of Miss Vesta Brownie in the title-rôle earns for that artist a flattering reception.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Mr. Mark Sheridan, who tops an excellent programme here, is always assured of a hearty welcome in Newcastle, his songs and more especially his inimitable style of pattering giving unqualified delight to crowded houses. The Twelve Fezzans, Arabian acrobats of most bewildering and eccentric character, give a whirlwind performance of tumbling. A whimsical sketch by the Kirbys is greatly appreciated, and the Mezzettis, in a clever horizontal bar performance, are both clever and humorous; Miss Sybil St. Elmo sings in delightful fashion, and another turn of more than usual merit is Arthur Slater, the man in white. Other noteworthy turns are Amy Marsden and Carl Howard.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Albert Mitchell; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Bye.—At the top of the programme is Ernest Shand, a great favourite here, and whose visit is very welcome; the quaint and amusing somersaults and tumbling entitled "Humpsti-Bumpsti," presented by Pipifax and Paulo, cause hearty laughter; Herbert Shelley appears in his well-known Irish protean play *Dan the Outlaw*, in which he displays a wonderful resource and versatility; Tom Davis's Trio present the sensational act *Motoring in Mid-Air*, and evoke considerable astonishment; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins keep the house in a roar with their farcical nonsense; and others contributing entertaining items are the Smythsons, Takio, and Kathleen Gray. The Bioscope picture His Spanish Wife concludes.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The leading pictures this week comprise A Ticket-of-Leave Man, The Mexican's Faith, A Victim of Bridge, and The Message of an Arrow, with some good comics. Illustrated songs are furnished by Miss Margaret Payne, and are well received.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Thou Shalt Not——, The Merry Widow, The Tree of Happiness, and some excellent Views of Stockholm are the principal films here.

THE PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The Price of Fame, Servants and Guardians, A Case of Identity, and Not Guilty are favourably received.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The stock company is producing *The King of Crime* before large audiences. As Rónfarre Mr. Albert Sember is a decided success; Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Gandela takes full advantage of the opportunities afforded him; Mr. Edward E. Louis gives an able delineation of Simon; Mr. Ernest R. Allen proves effective as Louis Mascarot; Mr. Lonnen Meadows is very clever as Mick Maloney; Mr. W. E. Passmore makes the most of his opportunities as Taberet; and Mr. William Turnbull scores as Toto Chaupin. As Henriette Miss Kate Froude gives an excellent rendering of the character; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne as Mathilde is worthy of high praise; Miss Violet Cranford is good as Mère Crochard; and the part of Clarisse is capably sustained by Miss Effie Macintosh.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The chief item on an enjoyable programme is Charles Chard, comedian, who, as usual, finds much favour; Annie Casey is an entertaining comedienne; Little Violet, terpsichorean artist, is a juvenile of promising talent; Raglus is a smart comedy juggler; and lovers of pictures are again well catered for.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The cinematograph entertainment proves a great success this week, and the Lovelaces sing some pleasing illustrated songs.

YE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—The renowned Jesters Troupe of Pierrots are doing well here. They consist of Miss Edith Brockley, Miss Marion Spindler, and Miss Winifred Channing; Mr. Fred Beck, Mr. J. Milton Hayes, Mr. Herbert Connorton, and Mr. James Saker.

THE NEST, ROSARY ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's Pierrots are causing attraction here.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's Madcaps are doing well. The artists are Miss Margery Cecil, Miss Vi Huntley, Mr. Sandy Lawson (Scotch comedian), Mr. Digby Worsley (comedian), Mr. Harry Bostock (baritone), Mr. Francis G. Hurdle (solo pianist), and Mr. Bert Gordon (comedian).

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is drawing good audiences this week. Mr. Otto Minster plays Bob Brierly with intense earnestness; the sympathetic portrayal of May Edwards by Miss Bessie Rignold is keenly appreciated; as the knavish James Dalton, Mr. Herbert Morgan is excellent; and Mr. Leslie Nolan makes a smart detective of Hawkshaw. Minor rôles are in the capable hands of Misses Daisy Meynard, Lillian Duncker, Violet Agnew, and Messrs. G. H. Asquin, Arthur Schipper, Gerald Venning, and Herbert Kenny.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A return of the Craggs, with new business, is much welcomed here. John Humphreys and company have an excellent sketch in *Ancient Britons;* Tom and Marie Motramo fire off their patter to the accompaniment of laughter; Florence Curran, a young Nottingham artist, is accorded a warm greeting in song and dance; the Kratons give a dexterous performance in hoop manipulation; the Eight Empire Girls dance spiritedly, as also do Beaty and Blanche; and Pat Rafferty also entertains.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Miller.—*Happy Holland*, a bright little musical sketch, is capitally presented by Jake Friedman and company. *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* makes an amusing piece as played by Arnold Richardson and company; the Zampas vocalise and dance acceptably; and Lucia Collins wins favour in her numbers. The Victor Bros. supply neat equilibristic feats; J. H. Greener's songs are well received; the Wedburns contribute an entertaining musical item; and clever dancing by Ciss and Will, comic songs by Charlie Gardener, and the bioscope, complete an interesting programme.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macpaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—This week commences the fifth year of animated pictures, and some excellent examples are shown, including The Three Brothers, a humorous subject; The Rocky Road, a sensational piece; and an interesting set of coloured pictures. Mr. Frank Hearnshaw sings a couple of songs in robust style.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC PALACE.—A specially prepared film of scenes in Northern Italy takes the place of honour this week, the exquisite colouring of trees, lakes, houses, and snow-capped mountains calling for unstinted praise.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—*My Irish Molly* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company. Mr. C. St. John Medley gives an excellent portrayal of Dennis; Mr. Gordon Robey's presentation of the villainous Captain Vere is a creditable piece of work. Mr. Edwin Firth as Tim Dolan ably assists the Captain; Mr. Harry Liston does excellent service as Father McGuire; Mr. Karl Edwards as Billy is a great success, his songs "The Cabman's Dream" and "My Little Coster Kid" meeting with well-merited approval; Miss Elma C. Turner is an admirable Lady Blanche; Miss Katie Norris as Sally creates plenty of fun; Miss Winifred Stuart, in the title-rôle, captivates the audience with her charming manner.

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company is here with *The Nihilist*. Miss Florry Kelsey as Princess Olga gave a well-balanced delineation; Miss Edna Clare as Alexina portrayed the part in a forcible manner; little Minnie Halstan as Little Alexina filled the part with credit; Mr. O. Silverstone as Lieut. Prince Alexander made a capable villain; Mr. Geo. Mitchell as Ivan Nowasky acted in a decisive manner; Miss Jessica Ford as Katrina Lindoff and Mr. H. Wright as Bobbie Smart caused much hearty laughter; Mr. Cowell Clarke as Karl Orloff was successful; and Mr. C. Newton Buckland as Pierrtree Petoff did good work.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Stowaway*, played by Miss Winifred Maude and company, is the attraction here. Mr. Victor du Cane as Dicky Dials, the stowaway, acts cleverly; Miss Maude as Althea Dale acts in a charming manner; Miss Minnie Millwarde plays the part of Chuckey in a lively manner; Mrs. Wingold Lawrence is capital as Florence Etherington; and Chas. Etherington is well played by Mr. Morris Maud. Job Hickey finds an able exponent in Mr. Harold Heath; Mr. Wm. Vane makes a manly Tom Inglis; and Mr. Walter Ernest an excellent Paul Inglis.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The top-liner is a fine picture entitled Julia Colonna; The Tree of Happiness is another good one; Mr. Roger Alwyn contributes a finely-illustrated song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—On the Border Line is a capital dramatic film; and a second portion of the late King's Funeral is shown. Mr. King contributes "Red Wing" with success.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—The Shepherd Dog is a fine film, and is cleverly acted; The Sweets of Forgiveness is a picture of a pathetic nature; and the programme also includes other pictures of much interest.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—A Father's Mart and The Rivals are a couple of well-acted dramas, and the tragic side of poverty is depicted with force in How to Live Poor Dine in Paris.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Miss Horniman's company is here this week with *Candida*, which has met with a very cordial reception. Mr. Henry Austin plays the part of the Rev. James Morell with distinct success; Mr. E. Gandor is admirably suited as the contractor; Mr. Iden B. Payne gives a clever representation of Eugene Marchbanks; Miss Darragh captivates all by her sweet and lovable Candida; and Miss Ada King repeats her successful representation of the Typewriter. *Candida* was preceded by *Makeshifts*, a clever curtain-raiser, admirably played by Messrs. Leonard Mudie, Charles Bibby, and the Misses Muriel Pratt and Louise Holbrook. During the week *Widowers' Houses, Cupid and Commonsense*, and *The Silver Box* are billed for performance.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—After a long interval Miss Ada Wallis and company are here with *The Major*. Mr. T. C. McQuin portrays Major Barney O'Neale with just the same brightness and vigour as of yore, whilst the responsible part of Jeremiah Stoney is allotted to Mr. J. W. Groves, who does it full justice. Mr. Evelyn Davis plays George Goodman with effect, and Mr. Fred Draper does well as Ezekiah Stoney. Miss Ethel Tooney works earnestly as Mrs. Gampney; Miss Mercia Davis is a success as Grace Gampney; and Miss Ada Wallis plays with her customary animation as Angelina Touch-'em-Up."

PEMBROKE DOCK.—Crecraft's Electric Bioscope Theatre is paying a fortnight's return visit here, with good results. Dizart, the handcuff king, is a great attraction, and there is an excellent range of films. Special performances have been given to the old-age pensioners of the town, and on Tuesday evening a benefit was given for the King Edward VII. Memorial Operating Theatre of the Victoria Nurses' Home, Pembroke Dock.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—The world-famous Kiltie's Band is drawing crowded houses here with an attractive programme. Under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Cook the band contributes excellent selections, which are heartily applauded. The Male Choir, headed by J. C. Lockhart—a pleasing tenor—renders suitable glees; the Clan Johnstone Troupe of pipers and dancers; Bert Daniels, cornet virtuoso; and Angus McAlpine, a talented baritone, contribute successfully.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—The Open Gate, The Little Page, and In the Shadow are the most popular of a strong picture programme. Ada Tilley, Harold Wagner and company present a farcical skit with much success.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—In addition to a series of pictures, there is a good variety company this week. Mr. R. C. Note is irresistible in his songs; Miss Bee Smart, taking her name as her motto, captivates; and Miss Daisy Davenport dances herself into favour.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Yangar, the West African wonder, in a series of problems completely mystifies his audience; Irene Velma is a good comedienne; Len Hale provides an acceptable turn; a clever comedienne and dancer is Violet Rosslyn; Phil Kaufmann scores as a dancer; Cliff and Kean are successful in song and dance; and "Gems of Academies," presented by Alice Hoodless, brings forth loud applause. The Karnoscope completes.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Fred Karno's company in *R.M.S. Wontedatania* is starred. The comic business is effective, and special scenery is a remarkable example of mechanism. The Columbia Comedy Trio are capital comedians, and their harmonious contributions are really well done; Ryan and Hall create roars of laughter with some excellent comic wrestling; Edie Reynolds provides a tasteful musical interlude with her accomplished violin-playing; Collette and Derry score with their amusing sketch *Pyjamas;* Harry Bedford is a comedian much above the average, and Jennie Moore contributes some pleasing songs.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—The Carpertii Brothers present a marvellous performance on the triple bars, the double somersaults being above the average; J. W. Darley and company appear in a domestic drama, entitled *My Dear Little Lancashire Home;* Bert Woodward gives a versatile turn as a cycling coon with a musical act; Lucy Lind is a charming Lancashire dialect comedienne; Maclaine and Mac are responsible for the comic duologue, entitled *Sandy;* Mather and Bairn are droll comedians; Irene and Morton are a clever duo in song and dance; Ted Gill delights with his powerful tenor; the Alexscope depicts Cabby's Sweetheart.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Messrs. Poole's Myriorama is attracting crowded houses. Realistic pictures are presented, one very thrilling one being An Airship Fight. Amasis, the Wizard of the Nile, puzzles everybody, and the Bros. Rees are skilful military gymnasts.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is this week being presented by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company. Kitty is naturally rendered by Miss Beatrice Wilson, and Sir Reginald Belsize is in the experienced hands of Mr. Norman; Mme. de Semiano has an effective exponent in Miss Vera George; Mr. F. Lock Whittaker does well as John Travers; the maid, Rosalie, has Miss Betty Stannard as her impersonator, and Mr. Norman Leslie is successful as Norbury. *David Garrick* was billed for Friday evening.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here with *The Girl of My Heart*. The hero, Will Stewart, A.B., is forcibly impersonated by Mr. Ernest Owttrim, his foil being Mr. Henry Hare as Major Fulton. The name-part is sympathetically played by Miss Gladys Purnell.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss Florrie Forde proves a great success in her latest chorus songs "Rip Van Winkle" and "Flanagan." Bert Danson is a comedian of excellent style and humour, whose song "Archie" is a hit. The Schichtl Bros. present a truly marvellous marionette exhibition; *Roots, Rash Chemist*, a screaming farce, is well received; Tom Garland is a clever ventriloquist; and other good turns include Leo and Roland, equilibrists; Bert Anderson, prestidigitateur; Nellie Lunelle, danseuse; and the Photoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Miss Queenie Leighton, an old favourite here, presents her entertaining songs in her usual finished style; abundant fun and laughter are provided by the Casey Army; Achmed Ibrahim's Arab acrobats fully sustain their reputation; Miss Ray Wallace's mimicry at the piano is appreciated; and the harmony of the Four Vagabonds is greatly enjoyed. Will E. Haines, Baby Boden, and Fred Lincoln are also in the bill.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The star turn here is Mme. Ella Russell, accompanied by Mr. Harold Scott; her beautiful voice and finished rendering of "Il Bacio," Tosti's "Good-bye," &c., win for her rounds of applause; magic has wonderful exponents in the Teuka Troupe; Coram provides a capital ventriloquial entertainment; Albert Le Fre has a lot of clever patter; the Heriot Trio appear *In Father's Footsteps;* and Harry Nelson, comedian, Rastus and Banks, R. A. Speedwell, and the Lily Goodlow Trio contribute acceptable turns.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—The Vernon Bioscope films are still proving a big attraction.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Harry Weldon tops the bill, and is as popular as ever; Lillie Souter is an exceptionally good character comedienne; the Vaudeville Trio, vocalists and expert acrobatic step-dancers, give a capital turn; Mitchell and Stoll, comedy gymnasts, in *The Clever Tramps* prove themselves decidedly clever artists; Smith and Gibbs, quaint and quiet athletes, perform some marvellous feats in a manner that fully justifies their description; Jan Rudenyi, in a dramatic little play, *A Storm*, displays wonderful powers as a violinist. His company includes Miss Hilda Stewart, Mr. Drew Mackintosh, and Mr. Mitchell, who are all clever. Louis Taylor's company appear in the realistic episode *The Adder's Tooth*, which is another exceedingly touching playlet. Mr. Fred Bromwich as Teddy Maddox is exceptionally good, and Mr. Hodgson Taylor as James Bannister, Miss Katherine Carew as Kate Bannister, and Miss Ailsa Lorne as Mary Maddox are all excellent. The Power of the Press is a capital film.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Clarkson.—Two shows a night is the order this week, and Miss Winifred Chalmers' company in the musical absurdity *Miss Plaster of Paris* is the particular attraction. Mr. Chas. Tolcher, a versatile comedian with a capital voice, is seen to advantage in the part of Numbskull Nobbs, J.P.; Mr. Harry Ed. Ray causes roars of merriment as Alexander, the waiter; Mr. Leslie Hawkins is good as Tom Flubbs, as is also Mr. Sid Dean as Mrs. Nobbs; Miss Celestine Brandon is a vivacious Eliza Plaster, and sings and dances with much spirit; and Miss Winifred Chalmers is a very chic Medea Hamilton. There is a pretty and sprightly chorus, and specialities are introduced by the Berlin Belles, the Sisters Holman, and Miss Celestine Brandon.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company have successfully put on the last play of the late Wilson Barrett, *Lucky Durham*. The show is a thoroughly good one, and is played in admirable style by all. The part of John Durham, the millionaire, is a very attractive one, and it loses nothing by the way in which it is filled by Mr. Edmund Kennedy. Mr. Arthur Legh appears as the Hon. Reggie Steighton, and is soon a great favourite with the audience; Mr. William Calvert renders able service in the rôle of Lord Mountfallon; and Mr. Vallerton finds a really able representative in Mr. Charles Weymss. The other male members of the cast are all capable actors. In her impersonation of Helen Vallerton, Miss Florence Tresillian shows great charm of manner, and scores heavily; Miss Frances Wolviston is quite a success as the hard, matter-of-fact Society dame, Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Dorothy Turner made the best of the few opportunities provided by the part of Margaret Steighton. Miss Nellie Bonser showed to great advantage in her original part, as she played it in Wilson Barrett's company, Mrs. Durham, mother of the millionaire. Scenery and dresses are on a par with the excellence of the acting.

THE MARINA THEATRE.—A remarkably fine film of the funeral procession of the late King is being shown to crowded houses at the Marina. Other splendid films are exhibited, of humorous, dramatic, and topical interest. The Forsyths give a very entertaining act, the part of a mechanical doll being cleverly impersonated.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The variety season here is being well patronised. For the Ascot Race Week Verno and Voyce appear very successfully in their original vocal scenas, "Sporting Luck" and "Butcher and Baker"; the Soho Trio introduce an excellent vocal and dancing act; Abel and Welch are a pair of very droll eccentric comedians; Fanny Humber performs cleverly on the bells, and also gives a clever skipping-rope exhibition; Gillin is a very amusing ventriloquial humorist; Victor Travers gives a clever travesty of the Boy Scout; Maizie Hibbs is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; and some good films are shown on the Bioscope.

THE PALACE THEATRE is now closed for the summer.

CENTRAL SKATING RINK.—Owing to her great success, Dainty Daisy Mitchell is re-engaged for her artistic skating performance.

THE THREE LIVING PICTURE EXHIBITIONS are all giving good shows.

RHYL.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Brothers.—Good houses are attracted by The Dandies' costume concert party. The company consists of Josephine Gordon, soprano and comedienne; Leslie Orme, light comedian; Ruby Lingard, contralto; Anthony Gordon, baritone; Chas. Matthews; and Stephen Fitzgerald, solo pianist and accompanist.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale.—A strong attraction is provided here by Ernest Ch. Gittin's company in "excerpts and condensations" of grand opera. On Monday *The Daughter of the Regiment* was presented, with Messrs. T. H. Wood, E. Ch. Gittins, J. Wheelan, Misses Adele Prescott, and Nellie Moore in the cast.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. George E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—A very fine company is here this week. El Tampicos, Mexican troubadours, present a novel and highly finished instrumental, song, and dance act; Dave Samuel, Hebrew comedian, is amusing; Gertie Martini is a pleasing vocalist; the Four Scoreys have a warm reception in a musical *mélange*, introducing Palmyra, the elastic lady; Tom Gott is deservedly recalled; the Fitzroys (Fred and Lilly) are well received in a clever gymnastic act; Jules Kiaro is seen in a sensational novelty equilibristic act; and Howard and Collinson are most amusing in *The Porter and the Parcel*. The Hipposcope pictures are very fine.

RUNCORN. — PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Another good programme is submitted this week, with attendant good business. Great attention is paid to the turn of Kirk and Saraski, who go through an exhilarating aquatic performance. Kingsley, handbell specialist, provides quite a musical treat; Wilson Blackledge furnishes an enjoyable entertainment; and Jack Ellis creates much merriment. The pictures are again most interesting.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—M. T. Edward Ward's company presented to a good house on Monday *Her Fatal Past*. Miss Ward got much appreciation for her acting as Honor Symes; Gilbert Fernside was an excellent villain in the hands of Mr. Charles Yorke; Mr. B. Elliott made an ideal hero of Mark Desmond; very clever comedy work was done by Mr. T. Edward Ward as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs, Mr. H. Macauley as Dicky Bird, and Miss Clarrie Yardell as Kitty Sprigwell. Miss T. Hallam did well as Belle de Lara; and Little Leonard was prettily portrayed by little Miss E. Entwistle.

REGENT THEATRE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—George Gilbey, with his "Old Soar's Almanac" and "Constable Duffy," keeps the house in roars. Annie Schuberth, operatic artist, gives much pleasure with her fine singing; smart dancing is done by the Gilberts; the Empire Comedy Four do some very comical business; Daisy Morrell, comedienne, has a couple of pleasing character songs; and other acceptable turns are contributed by Charles Penrose, comedian, Nobby, a comical little comedian, and Molly Watson, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*The Midnight Mail* drew a good house on Monday, when Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company commenced a week's engagement here. Mr. John F. Traynor powerfully sustained the character of Harry Steyne; the heroine, Mary Steyne, was cleverly portrayed by Miss J. Humphreys; Mr. Fred G. Evison played well as the drunken stoker, Billy Brewer; and Mr. Frank S. Strickland represented well the adventurer, Hassan Padisha. Miss Jeanie Weston as Lady Phyllis Eustace, Miss M. Longden as Miss Mildmay, and Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer, all did good work. The staging was very effective.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Some pretty scenes in the Basque Country are shown, and the films also include The Lute Player, Old Stevedore, and No Smoking. Mr. Tom Sherlock's illustrated song is "Garden of Roses."

CENTRAL HALL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD. — Proprietors, Messrs. Matt, Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—Romance in the Western Hills, Knot in the Handkerchief, Rubber Boom, and Marie Antoinette are among this week's pictures. Mr A. H. Gilbert also sings some acceptable songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL, PENDLETON.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Whiteley.—Several good films here include the Late King's Funeral in every detail, Day of a Gentleman, Meta Dolorosa, and Broken Window.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T Brinsmead.—Mr. George Brydon-Phillips' Company gave two excellent performances here of *Our Boys*. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as Sir Geoffry Champneys and Mr. Frank M. Wood as Perkyn Middlewick were capitally portrayed; Mr. Orlando Barnett was a highly diverting Talbot; Charles Middlewick had a capital exponent in Mr. Cecil A. Collins; Miss Leah Marlborough handled the part of Violet Melrose in a highly successful way; Miss Beatrice Whitney as Mary was very sweet; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite was admirable as Clarissa; Miss Lizzie Chambers as Belinda proved highly amusing without overdoing the part.

SCARBOROUGH. — AQUARIUM. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The Adras are exceptionally smart acrobats and head-balancers; Beatrice Bonnie and her dulcimer dancers are very clever; Learto provides an amusing musical act; and Clifford Morgan, baritone vocalist, is well received. Other acceptable numbers are Frank Stanert, comedian; the Maltons, comedy artists; and Leo Trainor, dame comedian. In addition to the variety programme Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior opera singers provide capital entertainments twice daily in the Indian Theatre. The party includes Misses Ona Ashton, Alice Singleton, Norah O'Malley, and Messrs. Ernest Lord, Harker Holt, M. Quinn, and Frank Crawford.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*The Outcast of the Family* is being well played here by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company, with Mr. Herbert Bentone as Stephen Barry, Mr. Wybert Clive as Sir Henry Thorne, Mr. S. Leigh Courtney as Harry Thorne, Mr. Bert Oates as Richard Martin, and Miss Elsie Shelton as Ruth.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—A good programme includes John Warren, illusionist and ventriloquist; Rozel, king of the air; and Elvio, Ross, and Elvio, in an absurdity, *Jim, the Lady's Maid Burglar*.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—In addition to an excellent show of pictures "The Gaieties," under the direction of Mr. Wilson James, are appearing here.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Leslie Stanley's company is proving attractive in the musical absurdity *The King of Mystonia*. The company responsible for its interpretation is good, and the staging and dressing highly commendable.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Closed.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—On Monday the domestic drama *The Great Awakening* was played here to a good house by arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard. Miss Olga Audre made a handsome and dramatic representative of Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs distinguished himself as James Selby; amusing comic relief was supplied by Mr. Kendrick as Billy Brass, Mr. Harry Spenser as the waiter, and Miss Hetty Farrell as Selina Worts. Good work was also done by Mr. Andrew Esmond as Sir Henry Merton, Mr. Arthur Winpenny as Jack Merton, Mr. T. Arkinstall as Guy Logan, Mr. Chas. H. Mortimer as Captain Lambert, of the 1st Dragoon Guards, Mr. Arthur Francis as Richard Wilson, Mr. Harry Spencer as Dr. Lang, Mr. R. J. Turner as Gibbs, Mr. N. Gordams as a sergeant, and Miss Evie Conway as Molly. The play was effectively staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires' Co., Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The bill here is headed by the celebrated musical comedy star Miss Ada Reeve, in her latest songs and society skits; and other performers this week are Harvey's clever boys and girls, in songs and dances; Margaret Parker and company in a sketch, *Lucky Jim;* Mr. Johnny Fuller in a smart act, "The Cycling Cat"; Miss Alice Kingsley, vocalist; Miss Jewil St. Leger, comedienne; Ike and Will Scott, variety entertainers; the Haytors, burlesque artists and pantomimists, in a laughable interlude; and O'Gust, imitator of birds and other familiar animals. Artistic films conclude the entertainment.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Here are engaged the great Mirza-Colem troupe, in a novel and unique spectacular production, *The Slave Dealers;* Miss Gracie Whiteford and Mr. Fred Sinclair, in a laughable comic sketch; Mr. George Lambton, vocal comedian; Miss Lily Hayes, serio-comic vocalist; Mr. Shirley Liggins and company, in *A Moonlight Serenade;* Mr. Frank Seeley, comic vocalist; the Melbournes, entertainers, &c. The up-to-date pictures are loudly applauded.

CENTRAL HALL.—The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.—Mr. Fred Herbert, mimic and ventriloquist, is here, and the pictures, comic and dramatic, are first-rate.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company this week is on a

FASHIONABLE

WEST-END THEATRE

AVAILABLE FROM JUNE 26th,

- During Summer Vacation, for -

FIRST-CLASS TOURING COMPANY,

SHARING TERMS.

Apply Box 7873, "THE ERA" Office.

return visit with *The 10.30 Down Express*, now in the thirteenth year of its tour. Mr. T. Arthur Plummer is a praiseworthy Jack O'Malley; Mr. George Arthur ably sustains the rôle of James Inderwick; Mr. Edwin Clarke is most effective as Huntley Mason; Mr. T. B. Brabazon ably sustains the part of Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Evan Roland does full justice to the character of Seth Coombes; Mr. Horace Stanley, a creditable Sam Wagstaffe, and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts keep the humorous parts well to the front; Mr. Fred J. Seymour is effective as Bletherby Baggs; Miss Cora Linda makes the heroine, Bessie, stand out by the emotional quality of her acting; Miss Ida Fane is a funny Letitia Leigh; and Miss Stewart realises her opportunities as Olive Coombes.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Sir Herbert Tree and His Majesty's Theatre company appeared in *Trilby* and *The Man Who Was* on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. This was Sir Herbert's first appearance on the local stage, and he received a right royal welcome from large and fashionable audiences. Sir Herbert's impersonation of Svengali is admittedly one of his finest character-studies, and he was splendidly supported by Miss Gladys Harvey as Trilby; Mr. Edward Sass, a very popular Taffy; Mr. Shiel Barry, an admirable Little Billee; and by Mr. Henry Morrell, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. Henry C. Hewitt, Mr. Walter R. Creighton, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Grace Croft, and Miss Elinor Foster in other parts. The scenery and effects were superb.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—George Robey, aptly styled the prime minister of mirth, tops the bill here. The Ten Genis, a superb troupe of acrobats, win golden opinions; Will Van Allen, the tramp musician, is as popular as ever; Rosie Lloyd, dainty and chic, quite captivates the house; and Victor Courtney, "boots at the piano," Ryder Slone, comedian, and the Sisters Allen complete a capital bill of fare.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—"Les Vivandières," a capital comedy concert party, under the able direction of Mr. Carl Fredricks, provide the entertainment here. Special mention must be made of the delightful dancing of Mlle. Cordelia, her kaleidoscopic dances being illustrated by powerful electric light effects.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Mr. Morton Powell commenced a week's engagement on Monday with *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, and is capitally supported by a powerful company. Miss Edith Wallis creditably portrays Ruth Wright, and shared principal honours with Maud M. Powell as a powerful exponent of Ruby Wright, who ably sustains the title-rôle. Miss Ana Corri was well suited as Madame de Meral; and Miss Eva Norman won applause in her impersonation of the cripple, Ned Chipples. Mr. Leslie Austin as Robert Ray and Mr. Walter Clarke as Lucas List gave capital characterisations; Mr. Henry Scratchard also proved an able interpreter of Octavius Screwe; while Miss Lilla Nordon, Messrs. Edward Swinton, Macintosh Clyde, and William Clements were amusing characters.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome; Resident Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—La Pia, the famous dancer, is the premier turn here. The programme also includes Tom Franks, ventriloquist; Onda and Artell, gymnasts; Leonie Dixon, comedienne and dancer; the Brooklyn Comedy Quartette; R. H. Douglass, monologue artist; J. Louis Bradfield, in comedy sketch; Three Orleans, humorous vocalists; and Herbert Rule, comedian.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—A refined and pleasing interpretation of East Lynne is given by Miss M. Lowe-Dare's talented company. Miss M. Lowe-Dare impersonates the character of Lady Isobel with both skill and naturalness, and is repeatedly recalled. Mr. Burton Yaldwin makes a manly and powerful exponent of Archibald Carlyle; Miss Mona Maughan gives a delightful and dignified portrayal of Barbara; Miss Maggie de Halle gives a lively delineation of Corney Carlyle; Mr. Ernest Dare gives a capital exposition of Frank Levison; and Messrs. Frederick Morena and Walter Hicks as Dick Hare and Lawyer Dill respectively act successfully.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—On Monday evening Mr. Percy Hutchison and his excellent company opened the second week of their répertoire season at the Opera House with a capital performance of the society comedy *A Country Mouse*. Miss Cicely Stuckey essayed the rôle of Angele Muir with admirable and realistic effect, which won her unstinted applause; Miss Lilias Earle presents a clever and effective portraiture of Violet Ainsley; Miss Pauline Strauss enacted the part of Lady Sylvia in a highly effective and finished manner; as the Hon. Archibald Wyse Mr. Percy Hutchison played with a fine appreciation of the necessities of the part, his interpretation leaving nothing to be desired; Mr. F. G. Thurstans gives a good account of himself, and was very amusing as the Duke of St. Kitts; Lord Robert Wyckham was cleverly impersonated by Mr. Frank Elliott; Miss Mary Griffiths was good in the part of Mrs. Cropper; John Bowlby, M.P., had an admirable representative in Mr. Ernest Rushton; and Mr. Frank Hill did well as Jephcot.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Good houses are witnessing *The Diver's Luck* as presented by Mr. Andrew Emm's strong company. Mr. William Macready makes an excellent Martin Faber, being well supported by Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Helen Wyngate; Mr. Herbert Vere is good as Tom Hall; the comedy of the piece is strongly represented by Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Barney Bawn and Miss Edna Godfrey Turner as Peggy.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, had a brilliant reception here on Monday; marvellous electrical wonders are submitted by the Marconis; a mirthful and original aeroplane incident is introduced by the Brothers Durant, acrobats; Ivy Chandos and Fred Constable are seen to advantage in *Fluffie;* much merriment is caused by Mitchell and Cain as the Frenchman and the other fellow; and other good items are Wyndham and Kitty, in their sensational wire act; Phyllis Stean, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

Grand Electric Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Two excellent turns are seen in Maud Lorette, impersonator, and the Glenisters, harmonising vocalists, assisted by Roy Lennard (the boy from the circle). The rest of the performance is devoted to animated photography.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The fourth successive week of Mr. Frank Ayrton's season is proving successful, for a large assembly was present on Monday, when *East Lynne* was played. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle portrayed Archibald Carlyle in a convincing manner; and Mr. Norman A. Overton gave a fine rendition of Francis Levison; as Justice Hare Mr. George Wallace was a great success; and the same remark applies to Mr. Frank Ayrton as Mr. Dill; Mr. Jack Harrell was well received as Ralph Wilson; and as Lord Mountsevern Mr. Fred Watson came out ably; Lady Isabel was impressively portrayed by Miss Ada Oakley, who won general appreciation; Miss Nellie B. was very good as Barbara Hare; Miss Anna Beaumont played well as Cornelia Carlyle; Prudence Ayrton as Little Willie was well applauded.

Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—For the second week the picture of the late King's Funeral is the chief attraction here, and is drawing big houses. A free matinée was given on Wednesday for the aged people. The variety turns are provided by George Hope's singing colliers, and U. R. Owen, musical entertainer.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is here. The plays listed are *Mr. Barnes of New York, Moths*, and *Camille*. On Monday, *Mr. Barnes of New York* was presented. Mr. Lodge-Percy, in the title-rôle, gave an admirable representation of the cool American, which was greatly enjoyed; as Count Musso Damilla Mr. Douglas Howard had a thorough grasp of the character; and Mr. Andrew Money portrayed finely the manly sailor, Captain Gerald Anstruther. Miss Marie Ramoz made a pleasing Enid Anstruther; and Miss Veronica Clinton was bright and amusing as Maud Chatris. Miss Henrietta Schrier revelled in the part of Marnid Paoli, to which she is excellently suited, and won unstinted praise.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Leonard Charburn's Young Stars possess remarkably fine voices, and the scena in which they appear is exceedingly bright and interesting; Bains and company, including Miss Wiarda, are clever and amusing acrobats; the Brothers Dean dance as one man, and are greatly applauded; Laurie Leyton is a clever young ventriloquist; and Doch Pylades gives some life-like impersonations. Vincent executes some big backward falls successfully. Pictures on the Hipposcope conclude.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*An Unwedded Wife* is here, capably played by Mr. Will Casey's company. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is a thoroughly capable Philip Blackstone; John Hawthorne is excellently impersonated by Mr. L. Ernest; Mr. Will Casey is amusing as Napoleon B. Boomer; and Mr. Arthur Cheeves acts with vigour as Frank Armstrong. Christopher Lennox is humorously portrayed by Mr. Ern Turner; distinctly funny is Mr. Frank Masters as P.C. O'Runyin; Miss Chrissie Dunbar acts efficiently as Marion; Carraway Crumpet is pleasingly filled by Miss Annie Mitchell; and Elsie Langham has a charming representative in Miss Ethel Spense.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—*Jane Shore*, excellently performed by Mr. Montgomery's company, is here this week. Mr. S. E. Scanlan's impersonation of Richard Duke of Gloucester is of exceptional merit; genuinely impressive is Mr. Dunlop Stewart as Matthew Shore; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon makes a capable Anthony Yeaste; Miss Nina Vaughton fills the title-rôle with her accustomed grace and charm; and Miss Lillian Rodbourn acts the part of Queen Elizabeth with dignity and stateliness.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—J. W. Hall, an old favourite, is here this week, with amusing songs and patter; the Cumberlands give a wonderful acrobatic cycling act; the Gilberts are clever on the tight wire; the Hessey Family have a brilliant musical speciality; Maude Vera is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Guy Rider, a clever whistler and comedian; Jack Lane very entertaining with his Yorkshire dialect; and Norman Telma gives a unique performance on a billiard table.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The drama *A Fight for a Throne* produced here is full of exciting episodes. Mr. Geo. A. De Gray makes a natural Prince Otto; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland gives a fine portrayal of Captain Jack Fortescue; Miss Effie Bartlett is a charming Princess Esmée; and Miss Etta Turner appears with distinction as Valeska Lorenski.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting *A Sister's Sin*. The caste is a well-selected one and the piece is favourably received.

Arcadia, Hartshill.—Messrs. Fraser and Lloyd's Pierrots are now getting into full swing, and their efforts are highly appreciated. Mr. Cecil Lloyd has joined the company and is a great favourite.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre, Picture Hall and Palace of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Ernie Garner, a favourite comedian, heads the bill here; Dewey and Ascot do a smart turn with their ballooning novelty; Hall and Wilson foot the bill with their sensational turn "Man *versus Motor*." The pictures, changed nightly, are very good.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Sydney Carlton and company are here this week in *Her Life in London*. Miss Rubie Maude is frequently applauded for her rendering of Astrea Bell; Miss Constance Medwyn gives a fine portrayal of Madge Rendell; Misses Evelyn M. Walton (Sarah Shafto) and Jenny Bostock (Mrs. Glendale) are responsible for well-studied readings; capital work also comes from Misses Alice Thorne, Julia Martin, Annie Montague, Emily Marsh, and Annie Megson. Mr. Sydney Carlton played throughout in praiseworthy style as the Rev. Allen Gordon; and Mr. Claude Aymond is an admirable Gratton Gale.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Leo. Carle, protean comedian, dancer, and trick violinist, is making a hit here this week, especially with his quick-change drama; Herman and Evelyn are also scoring in an up-to-date wire act. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Gertie Gitana, who is starring here, is adding considerably to her already great reputation by her vivacious manner and pretty songs; Livesey and Rosebery in *The Would-be Actors* are making a hit; the Findens are eminently successful in a humorous sketch; the Bros. Redmond cause great amusement with a humorous acrobatic act; Bertha Winder submits a skilful dancing act; Lux and his dogs give a unique performance; Jean Seul submits a mystifying conjuring turn; Harry May Helmsley scores heavily with his caricatures and child impersonations; and Maudie Francis is a clever juvenile comedienne.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Picture and Varieties Company.—Leroux's Monkeys are making an enormous hit here this week with their antics and a screamingly funny cycling act. The musical act of the Tripellos Trio is also popular; and the Paolias give a clever athletic turn with considerable success. The pictures are also good.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—At the head of the bill is a play in one act, *The Last Straw*, presented by Mr. Cecil Gray and company. Mr. Gray powerfully sustains the part of Paul Swabey, and he is ably supported by Miss Dora Eastlake as Iris Winter; Mr. Robert Benans gives an acceptable rendering of Captain Richard Swabey; and Mr. John Manners is well placed as Rev. Jack Mayne; Miss Maggie Rimmer is a popular comedienne; Raymond, coon vocalist, assisted by Little Ivy, a clever dancer, merit applause; The Wagners are excellent xylophone players and skate dancers; Peps provide an exceptionally smart horizontal bar act, introducing some wonderful bouncing; Charles C. Ranston, comedian, makes a hit; Grace Gerald is a dainty comedienne; the Gallimore Trio prove themselves comedy artists of ability.

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—Life in a Submarine, Hunting Wolves in Russia, The Hindoo's Treachery, Western Justice, and Ranchman's Wooing are a few of the many excellent films.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—An attractive film series includes Snatched from a Terrible Death, The Life of a Chick, and an elaborate picture of Shakespeare's *Richard III*. Variety is given to the performance by Charles Dixon and Kate Lynd; and the Digbys score in their cross-talking, singing, and dancing.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Good audiences are drawn nightly to see the excellent series of pictures, which include some very fine dramas. Mr. Tyers' singing, is, as usual, appreciated.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse. — Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is this week appearing in *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. F. Pennington Gush as John Glayde does exceedingly well; in the rôle of Muriel, Miss Lilian Hallows is seen to advantage; Mr. Hal Charlton as Trevor Lerode is distinctly good; Miss Viola March as Lady Lerode is well placed, and the minor parts are capably sustained.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett; Mr. Stuart Alexander presents the "So and Sos" here. Miss Madge White as an impersonator is very successful, and Miss Maude Davis is a soprano of considerable ability; Mr. H. Quining borough is as popular as ever in his capital monologues; Mr. Harry Leslie proving himself a clever light comedian. Mr. Stuart Alexander displays much talent as a tenor in several operatic selections.

TYNEMOUTH. — Palace. — Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The Tally-Ho Trio are paying a welcome return visit. La Belle Alva proves herself to be a dancer of exceptional ability; the Four Mayos, burlesque artists, are amusing and clever; the Three Prestons score in a novel act; J. P. Carroll is a skilful tambourinist; Tom Drum and Katie Major are seen to advantage in sketch, entitled *The Broker's Man;* Holt's Juveniles, vocalists and dancers, are well received. There is also a fine show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD. — New Empire. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Tom Foy and his company have caused roars of laughter in the absurdity *A Yorkshire Lad in London;* Monsieur Charles D'Aix introduces a wonderful acrobatic dog; Mr. Arthur Croxon, humorist and mimic, gives a clever turn; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, shadowgraph artists, submit a novel and interesting act; Miss Gladys Hooley is a talented violin player; Miss Edie Haley, Scotch comedienne; and Miss Mabel Moss, comedienne, present enjoyable turns.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Frank Elliston and company appear in an original and romantic masque, *Long Live the King*, the various characters being admirably filled. The production is well staged. Mme. Adah Payne is a delightful ballad vocalist; Frank E. Ford, comedian, is a capital dancer; and Phillips and Bristow, comedy artists, prove popular in song and patter.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Robert Monteigle and his company are paying a welcome visit in *The Courier of Lyons*. Mr. Monteigle fills the rôles of Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc in excellent style; Mr. Harold Morrison is seen to advantage as Courriol; and Mr. Ernest Walbourne makes the most of his opportunities as Choppard. Julie Lesurques has an apt exponent in Miss Violet McIntyre; whilst Miss Jennie Riley gives a refined and pathetic impersonation of Jeanne. The piece is preceded by a one-act drama, entitled *Corporal Haversac*.

Premier Picture Hall.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—Excellent business is being done here. Among the chief films are The President's Special, Across the Plains, and Song of the Shirt. Pattie Burton proves herself to be a vocalist of exceptional ability.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Here this week we have Fred Karno's latest—*The Thrilling Adventures of Jimmy the Fearless, The Boy 'Ero*. The sketch is one of the usual laughter-producing pieces of which the very name of the producer is usually the hall-mark of excellence. In Florrie Gallimore the audience found a comedienne to their liking, and they did not fail to show their appreciation of the fact. She worked her songs with the accustomed dash and style so characteristic of this smart little lady. Barrett and Knowles, the green lizard and his friend who can never agree, provide the audience with a glut of laughter; a turn deserving of the highest praise is that of Arthur Woodville, comedian and dancer; Lena Verdi is a good mimic of Vesta Tilly and Harry Lauder; Dan Fraser is a Scotch comedian of considerable merit; and pictures go to make up an interesting programme.

The Imperial Hall.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—This week's attractions include a striking film, entitled The Way of the Cross. Vocal items are provided by C. France, a vocalist of considerable ability, and Ernest Hallam is a smart local comedian.

The Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Electric Picture Palaces (Midland), Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Stanley Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. W. Robinson.—The pictures here are of a very high order, one entitled Sweets of Forgiveness being an exceptionally fine study; the same remarks also apply to that fine Pathé film A Heaven-guided Heroine. The Bedouin Love Song picture, with the song accompaniment on the Cinephone, is also worthy of special mention, while the humorous part of the programme is keenly enjoyed by an appreciative audience, the pictures A Knight in Armour and A Quiet Pipe keeping the audience in a continuous roar. This place is one of the new Electric ventures, and is without doubt one of the most up to date.

WARRINGTON.—Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—The Banzai Troupe of Japanese artists are remarkable equilibrists; Joan Deering is a clever violinist and charming vocalist; Charles Vincent is a favourite; and Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws are well received. The Four Rosebuds are expert dancers. The pictures showing the martyrdom of Adolf Beck are remarkable.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Archie Royer is an exceptionally smart comedian and tumbler; the Claymore Trio are skilful jugglers; Nellie Norrie scores in an instrumental act; and W. Hilton does well as a Scotch ventriloquist. The pictures are good.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — King's Palace.—There are several excellent attractions this week and some varied pictures. Della and Pley are highly diverting, and Massona is full of quaint tricks; George Battle has a good reception. A pleasant change comes in the form of a dramatic episode entitled *Found;* well played by George and Emmie Dainton.

Empire.—Good audiences are patronising this new home of varieties, and good performances are again presented. Kendrick and Laura, Kitty Leon, M. de Lil, the Bros. Hamilton, Saxo (in a musical turn), Hulbert (ventriloquist), and Katie Weston form the company.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale; Lessee, Mr. Montague Brandyn.—By special request Mr. Brandyn is this week presenting *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. Brandyn fills the part of Prince Bao Dalmerez, a Hindoo prince and a mesmerist, with great ability; Miss Muriel Inglis as Vashti, an Indian snake-charmer, submits a striking study; Miss Irene Munroe is a charming Lola Vane; and Mr. Chas. D. Pitt as Lieut. Derrick and Mr. C. G. Tomlin as Billie Bright are also good.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—Jimmy Shields, a one-legged comedian, provides a clever turn; the Ondras, in a triple comedy bar act, arouse much enthusiasm; Giovani Daruso is an artistic violinist; and Leoni Clarke, with his cats, rabbits, rats, canaries, monkeys, &c., shows what marvellous results can be obtained by patience even with animals that are not usually supposed to be very amenable to training. The pictures again are thoroughly up to date.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Mr. Seymour Hicks and company are starring here in *Scrooge*. In the title-rôle Mr. Hicks is making a great impression, and few artists have been honoured in this district with such receptions as those accorded the popular comedian each night. Mr. J. C. Buckstone as Bob Cratchet distinguishes himself, and Mr. John J. Hooker is very effective as Marley's ghost. Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* keep the audiences in perpetual mirth; the Georgians present an attractive vocal instrumental and dancing scena; Burnetti is the master of many musical instruments, and his impersonations of well-known artists are good, his changes being remarkably quick; Briff, Braff, and Broff are smart comedy tumblers; Lulu Russell sings well and dresses daintily, and admirable bioscope pictures are shown.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. John E. Watson's company is here in *A Country Mouse* and *The New Boy*. The former comedy was presented on Monday. Miss Evelyn Ormonde, a charming actress, was thoroughly artistic as Angela Muir; Miss Madge Elsewick made the most of Violet Aynsley; Miss Madeline Du Val gave a good interpretation of Lady Sylvia Bowlby; Miss Phyllis Manners did well as Mrs. Cropper; Mr. Townsend Whitling showed exceptional talent as John Bowlby; Mr. W. Besley Beltram gave a highly-finished impersonation of the Duke of Kitts; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood's Lord Robert Wyckham was praiseworthy, as was the Hon. Archibald Vyse of Mr. Frank Bradley; and Mr. J. E. Watson as Jephcot was good.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Sabots are paying one of their numerous visits here, and are well received, as hitherto; Miss C. Stroud-Wilson's fine voice is heard to advantage in "When shadows gather"; Miss Winnie Browning is loudly applauded for her song and dance, "The uge-googe-googelum"; Mr. Sydney Warwick renders "She is far from the land" with expression; Mr. Walter Walters' humorous songs are well received, as are the sketches of Mr. Harry Ruming; Mr. Lambert shows some very beautiful pictures, as usual, on the Bioscope; and Herr Fericescu's Viennese band is cordially received.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and his répertoire company entered upon the second week of their stock season with *The Two Orphans*. Mr. F. B. Woulfe as Armond met with a most cordial reception; Mr. Henry Parr and Mr. Clifford Rean were excellent as Jacques and Pierre respectively; Mr. Cyril Jarvis did full justice to the part of Martin and as La Frochard; Miss Irene Wright proved very clever; Miss Florrie Lyndon was pleasing as Marienne; and Miss Edith Loraine as Henriette and Miss Josephine Richards as Louise won well-deserved applause. *Jane Shore* was billed for Thursday, and *Shadows of a Great City* for Friday and to-day.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessees, Messrs. Cottrell and Campbell.—An excellent bill includes the Musical Rustics (ten in number); Horace Monte, in his pot-pourri act; and Mlle. Le Breton, lady gymnast. Some excellent pictures are shown.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. Ritson.—Some good films are being exhibited, Across the Plains and The Livingstone Case being especially good.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—The pictures are of the usual excellent quality; the Bohemians, in their musical act, create quite a sensation; and Mr. Askell is most entertaining in his conjuring performance. This is the last week of the present season, the theatre closing for decorating and cleaning, and reopening on August Bank Holiday.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Whitley Bay Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlove.—The season at this popular marine resort is now in full swing, the large influx of visitors contributing a fair quota of patrons to the old "Spanish city." The programme is a strong one, comprising as it does the Six Manchester Lads, in *Dancing in the Old Oak Tree;* Myra Eton, juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Two Le Bruns, youthful jugglers and equilibrists; Frederica's terriers and pony; Dolly Hook, comedienne, a prime favourite; Reuben Hill, actor-vocalist; Victoria Carmen, ballad vocalist; and H. A. Griffiths, comedian.

Coliseum Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Steve Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Some excellent pictures are being shown here. Dan Pedley, an amusing comedian, is a welcome diversion.

Baths Pavilion.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—Up-to-date films are being exhibited here, Vicklin Williams, comedian, and Tiny Ashton, boy vocalist, contributing the principal varieties.

Catlin's Pierrots, Band Pavilion Links.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. William Catlin.—This popular combination opened their season on Monday in their old quarters on the Links, and no doubt the gloriously fine weather during the past week has been an important factor in the attendances. An excellent combination has been got together, and will no doubt prove a most welcome attraction to the frequenters of one of the finest stretches of grassy seaside promenades on the coast.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—*The Passion of Life* elicited loud applause here on Monday. The company responsible for its production is under the direction of Mr. Hubert Hellwell, who enacts the hero, Jack Kenny, in a thoroughly convincing manner; Mr. F. Owen Chambers does exceedingly well as Captain Horace O'Neale; Mr. Owen Edwin is good as Fergus MacKenna; Mr. Basil Mitchell succeeds in rousing the ire of the audience as Ralph Flint; and Mr. Fred Luard is a source of endless merriment as Dan Sprouts. Miss Ada Hender does full justice to the part of Belle O'Neale; Miss Maud Garth is quiet but effective as Nita O'Neale; whilst Miss Emily Lewis makes a sprightly Tilly Tripp. Mr. Charles F. Johnson is the courteous business-manager.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Fred Lindsay heads the bill here, and gives a remarkable exhibition of what can be done with a stock-whip; Arthur Reece, comedian, scores heavily in his three songs; Horace White, at the piano, gives a decidedly original ventriloquial turn; a pleasing entertainment is provided by the Dalvaines, in their skilfully-manipulated marionettes; Charles Banks, in conjunction with his dog, presents a unique act; Amy Sullivan is a pleasing comedienne; and Harry Luck, comedian, keeps the audience in good humour.

WORCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—The Dayton Family of acrobats figure prominently in an attractive variety programme here this week, and their clever feats are as popular as ever; Professor Thornbury gives a clever exhibition of lightning sketching; and the daring tight-rope display of the Spanish Armadas elicits unstinted applause. The antics of the Adams on a cycle in a drawing-room are very laughable; Dott and Williams are juvenile vocalists of ability, and dance very cleverly; the character songs of E. W. Selman and the vocal numbers of Dora Campbell and Ivy Gallard are popular items in the programme.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The Benson Shakespearean Company (North) is paying an annual visit here. On Monday *The Tempest* was presented and appreciated; *Coriolanus* was played for the first time locally on Tuesday; the popular *As You Like It* was chosen for the Wednesday matinée, *Macbeth* being staged in the evening. The company revived *Richard II.* on Thursday; and last night *King Lear* was chosen. At this afternoon's matinée *Twelfth Night* will be played, *Hamlet* being given at night. The company is an excellent one, and, with Miss Gladys Vanderzee and Mr. Henry Herbert at the head, includes Mr. Charles Sparrow, Mr. F. J. Richardson, Mr. Robert Atkins, Mr. John Hood, Mr. Cyril Sworder, Mr. H. S. Cohen, Mr. Eric Snowdon, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Andrew Leigh, Mr. John Cairns, Mr. L. Hockin, Mr. Joseph O'Dowd, Miss Dorothy Radford, Miss Kate Turner, and Miss Lila Barclay.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Chummie La Mara has made a big hit here with her speciality songs; and Will Sergeant, vocal comedian, has scored a success with "The old red, white, and blue" and other favourites. The pictures are popular.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—That delightful play *Diana of Dobson's* has drawn large audiences this week. In the title-rôle Miss Eleanor Delaporte has done excellently; Miss Eva Leonard Boyne is pretty and charming as Kitty Brant; and Miss Cicely Oates makes Miss Jay a most amusing personage. Too much praise cannot be given to Miss Hilda Francks for her clever impersonation of Mrs. Cantelupe; Miss Mary Crewe, handsomely gowned, is a fascinating Mrs. White-Fraser; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort a clever Sir Jabez; and special praise is due to Mr. Leslie Rea for his Captain Bretherton. The old woman is finely played by Miss Marie Ault.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Good business is being done here. Ruby and Laws sing appropriate songs; the Derrington Family are smart cyclists; and Tom Taylor and company present an amusing sketch, *The Plumber*. The company also includes Eileen Douglas, comedienne; Walter Wade, comedian; Tony Iveson, at the piano; Harley and Melton, patterers; and Ada Leach, vocalist.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The film showing various incidents in the life of the late King Edward VII. is very popular, and The Mystery of Temple Court is a dramatic picture of great merit. In addition to the pictures, Carlotto Wood, vocalist, and the Zellos entertain.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—There is nothing lacking in the catering at this popular hall. Lieut. Rose and the Gun-runners has proved a very popular picture; The Love of Lady Linda is also well received; and Courting the Merry Widow is full of fun; and Mr. Maynard is an excellent singer of popular songs.

My first chance as an acting-manager in London, says Mr. George Edwardes in an article in the *Strand Magazine*, came when, through an introduction given by my cousin, Mr. D'Oyly Carte engaged me in that capacity at the Savoy, where, I hasten to say, I spent some of the happiest years of my life, learning the business under the most able and kindly employers, and receiving training which I have since found of incalculable value. Yes, without any doubt at all, I gladly acknowledge that it was through the ever-encouraging instrumentality of Mr. and Mrs. D'Oyly Carte that I owe the foundations of whatever success I may have attained on my own account.

To Mrs. Carte in particular I feel that I am very greatly indebted, for she taught me *how* to work. Never before or since have I encountered anyone who has worked more conscientiously than did Mrs. D'Oyly Carte in those good old days at the Savoy. Work? Gad, she did indeed work! I can see her now, arriving at eight in the morning and working away, merrily and cheerily, until twelve o'clock at night—setting an example of cheerfulness, tact, and all-round ability to everyone who was privileged to meet her in the course of the day's work.

New SHOES for old.
New BAGS for old.
New BELTS for old.

To be fashionable this season's Shoes, Belts, and Satchels should harmonise in colour with the costume. This can be done effectually and economically by using

MIDAS
BRONZINE
POLISHES

These polishes can be obtained in a special Dark Grey, peculiarly suitable for mourning; also in Gold, Silver, and all fashionable colours. Easily applied to all kinds of Leather, Satin, or any article with smooth surface, irrespective of original colour. Do not rub off on the hands or dress.

Excellent for Theatrical Properties.

Of all Stores, Bootshops, Grocers, and Ironmongers, 1/- per box, which will do several pairs of shoes.

If unable to obtain, write to Sole Manufacturers—

MIDAS, LTD.,
75, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

SAVAGE CLUB PORTRAITS.

At the Kodak gallery, 40, Strand, W.C., an exhibition entitled "Brother Savages," consisting of a hundred portraits of prominent members of the Savage Club, painted by Mr. Trevor Haddon, R.B.A., is on view until the end of this month. The Kodak Co. often hold interesting free exhibitions—photographic or pictures—in their pretty little gallery, and the present excellent one should not be missed. The army, church, law, drama, music, medicine, and art are represented at this famous club by men of world-wide fame, and to be merely a member of the Savage is esteemed an honour. Mr. Trevor Haddon has been very successful, and the portraits are admirably painted and full of character. Some interesting particulars were given by the courteous manager of the Kodak Co. Mr. Haddon, the artist, has painted the whole of the hundred portraits in a year; that works out at about two a week, while, to add to his arduous task, many of his sitters are of high social rank with little time to spare for sittings; then some would be out of town and others abroad. Yet, in spite of this, there is nothing sketchy about the exhibition, or any sign of hasty work, for all the heads are most carefully painted. Mr. Haddon paints well in oil, and uses pastel with masterly skill. In the latter material lovely flesh tints and half-tones can be obtained, very true to Nature and without the shiny effect of oils. Pastels in the hands of a master are also a rapid means of working, as there is no waiting for the picture to dry, and time was all important to Mr. Haddon. They have, however, one great disadvantage: until fixed, the slightest touch may prove fatal, and a fine effect of some hours' work lost in a second, and perhaps never regained. The artist has been very successful in the introduction of accessories. A brush in the hand of an artist or some musical instrument in a musician's portrait give interest and help to break up the sombre modern dress. Mr. Haddon also takes full advantage of handsome military costumes and stately official robes which make rich masses of colour in the exhibition. The portraits are of moderate size, and several, we understand, have been sold. A very distinguished member of the club—Lord Roberts—stands at the head of the army representatives in the Savage, and on the opposite wall of the gallery is the portrait of a young soldier, Mr. E. C. Stretton, in a perfect blaze of scarlet and gold uniform. How the artist had time to paint such an elaborate military dress, with its gold lace and many other details, and yet secure an excellent likeness of the handsome young officer is a mystery. In strong contrast to this is the portrait of Mr. Joseph Harker, the artist, painted with his coat off and holding a well-worn and very workmanlike hog hair brush. Near this is a very characteristic picture of Mr. Charles Collette, the famous comedian, in a capital attitude. It may justly be called a speaking likeness, for Mr. Collette looks as if he was telling an amusing story at the club. It was a happy thought of Mr. Haddon to paint the actor in such a pose. The portrait of Mr. Courtice Pounds, the esteemed actor-vocalist, recalls pleasant memories of the Savoy Theatre, and one of his early successes, when Mr. Pounds was associated with Mr. W. S. Penley in *The Nautch Girl*, and poor J. Toole's funny saying "They are naughty but they are nice." Quite a subject picture are the portraits of Mr. Sam Walsh and Mr. Farren Soutar, taken in a dramatic sketch, and special interest is attached to the likeness of Colonel Louis Jackson, C.M.G., who had a voyage with the famous Arctic explorer Nansen. Captain Adrian Jones is another excellent study, and also the portrait of Mr. David Devant, the gifted partner of Mr. Maskelyne at their wonderful home of mystery. Belonging also to the same establishment at St. George's Hall is Mr. Barclay Gammon, who presides so amusingly at the piano. Mr. Haddon has been very successful in painting the Bishop of London, the most important church member of the club, while he has achieved quite an artistic triumph in his admirable likeness of Mr. Thomas Catling, former editor of *Lloyd's* newspaper. In both faces the kindly expression has been well caught, and the fine head and long iron-grey beard of Mr. Catling would naturally appeal to an artist. To call such men Savages seems strange, but many of our great clubs have queer titles and nicknames which are dear to their members. The Rag, Beefsteak, Kernoozers, and many others must puzzle a foreigner. Fancy being asked to dine at the "Dustbin," yet, if not mistaken, that is the nickname of a most palatial club. In the portrait of Mr. Yeend King, the introduction of a palette was hardly necessary, for Mr. King's name and charming rustic pictures are not only well known at the R.A., but all over England. Another popular artist member of the club was the late Tom Browne, so well known for his clever comic pictures. Mr. Browne is dressed in military khaki costume. In the portrait of Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. Haddon could not well introduce a postage stamp, so his distinguished sitter holds a hat, which certainly looks many sizes too small. Another M.P. is Sir Fortescue Flannery in an excellent attitude. Sir W. P. Treloar, Bart., the late Lord Mayor, who takes such interest in poor little cripples, is an important member of the club, while the law is represented by Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton, whose robes of office aid the colour scheme of the exhibition, which is also assisted by the scarlet hunting dress of Mr. T. R. Ablett. Famous professional men are Mr. Arthur R. Ropes, whose *nom de plume* is Adrian Ross. Mr. W. L. Barrett, holding a capitally-painted flute, Mr. Franklin Clive, the vocalist, Mr. B. W. Findon, musical critic, and Mr. Mark Hambourg who has been painted by the artist from memory. In this case photography scores, for there are many fine photographs of Mr. Hambourg at our concert halls, which Mr. Haddon might have used with advantage. Portrait painters seem to scorn the camera, and it said "All the pictures in this exhibition have been done without its aid. Among other portraits are Mr. A. J. Walter, K.C., of the *Times*, Mr. E. Peacock, manager of the *Morning Post*, Mr. Fletcher Fullard, Mr. Achille Bazire, a very popular man in the club, Mr. Mostyn Pigott, another favourite, Sir Thomas Holland, F.R.S., in his robes, Mr. J. P. O'Donnell, wearing a soft felt hat, and Mr. Robert Ganthony; while in a corner Mr. Trevor Haddon's portrait, painted by himself, is a very successful outcome of a difficult task.

TRALEE THEATRE.

The new Tralee theatre, named the Theatre Royal, was opened recently by the chairman of the Urban Council, Mr. Jeremiah O'Keeffe. There was a large attendance, and the singers who took part in the concert organised in connection with the opening had a very cordial welcome. The theatre was built by the ratepayers of the county, and supplies a long-felt want. Local people were without a suitable place of amusement for a long number of years, and any touring companies who visit Tralee now will find very satisfactory accommodation in the new hall, which has been neatly fitted up and furnished. The stage is a very large one. Seating is provided for about 1,000 people. The building is of the newest design and the interior arrangements of the most up-to-date kind.

THE article from which we quoted in our recent review of Mr. Alan Mackinnon's book on the O.U.D.S., and which was entitled "Stray Memories of the O.U.D.S.," was written by Mr. W. J. Morris, the popular "Recorder" of the society.

A FAMOUS CONDUCTOR.

MR. JULIAN CLIFFORD.

Mr. Julian Clifford, the popular conductor of the Harrogate Symphony Orchestra, and Musical-Director to the Corporation, was born in London on Sept. 28, 1877. He was the son of the late Mr. Thomas Clifford, of Dry Hill Park, Tonbridge, and grandson of Sir Joseph Brooke. He was educated first at Ardingly College, and afterwards at Tonbridge School. He showed signs of great musical promise at an early age, and began to study the violin when seven years old. At the age of ten he played in public, and also wrote a quartette. Three years later he conducted a performance of Gaul's *Holy City*, with chorus and orchestra of eighty performers. Proceeding to Leipzig, he studied at the University, and at the Royal Conservatorium of Music under Carl Reinecke, Hans Sitt, and Paul Hohmeyer, with organ as principal subject, and gained his diploma after two years' study only. While here he had the honour of playing before his late Majesty King Albert of Saxony.

Subsequently he studied for a short time at the Royal College of Music under Sir Walter Parratt, and Mr. Frederic Cliffe for piano. Afterwards turning his attention entirely to the latter instrument, he studied under Josef Slivinski. He was organist for two years at the English Church at Leipzig, and for a like period at that of King Charles the Martyr, Tunbridge Wells. His appearances as solo pianist include the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts, under Mr. Henry J. Wood, the Queen's Hall Chappell Ballad Concerts, the Scottish Orchestra, the Norwich Philharmonic, the Bournemouth and Bath Symphony Concerts, the Llandudno and Buxton Orchestral Concerts, the Liege Orchestral Concerts, and many others.

Mr. Clifford became a conductor in the first place through directing his own works with various orchestras, and his great success induced him to take up that department in earnest. Among the orchestras he has conducted are the London Symphony, the British Symphony, the Leeds Symphony, Municipal, and Sunday Symphony, the Duke of Devonshire's Eastbourne Orchestra, the Bournemouth and Bath Symphony and Llandudno Orchestras, the Westminster Orchestral Society, the Liege and Spa Orchestra of 100 performers, and, for four years, his own orchestra for the National Sunday League, as well as the choir bearing his name. He is now conductor of the Harrogate Symphony Orchestra, numbering fifty performers. The symphony concerts on Wednesday afternoons are increasingly popular, and the Kursaal is the chief musical centre of Yorkshire during the summer months.

Mr. Clifford is a composer of no mean order. His works include an Orchestral Ballade, Suite de Concert, and Piano Concerto (all given a first hearing at Bournemouth under Mr. Dan Godfrey); Ode to the New Year for Solo Quartette, Chorus, and Orchestra, produced at the People's Palace; Meditation "In a Cathedral" for 'cello and orchestra; a Song-Cycle, "The Dream of Flowers"; and several piano solos and songs.

[*Photo by Sarony.*

MR. JULIAN CLIFFORD.

He married in 1902 the eldest daughter of the late Lord Henniker, Governor of the Isle of Man, and sister of the present peer. The lady is a soprano vocalist, having appeared with success at most of the London and provincial concerts. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford have one son, who, at the age of six, has already conducted several times the Bournemouth Orchestra, the Harrogate Orchestra, and the Bath Orchestra, and holds a presentation bâton given him when four and a half years old, and a gold medal. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford made a speciality of pianoforte and vocal recitals, and have had the honour of appearing before their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. The Harrogate Orchestra also had the distinction of appearing before his late Majesty King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra on the occasion of their visit to Harewood in 1908.

MISS MARIE STUART'S VOCAL RECITAL.

At Steinway Hall on Saturday afternoon, June 11, Miss Marie Stuart gave a vocal recital, assisted by Miss Beatrice Eveline and Mr. Hamilton Harty. Before the concert commenced an apology was made for Miss Stuart on the score of indisposition; indeed, when Miss Marie Stuart sang she seemed so obviously unwell that any criticism must be deferred for a future occasion. As far as one could judge, the vocalist has a fine contralto voice of ample range and pure in quality. In three songs of Cornelius, "Ein Ton," "Der Traum," and "Komm, wir wandeln Zusammen in Mondschien," Miss Stuart was first heard, and she sang the "Sapphische Ode" (Brahms) and "Der Doppelgänger" of Schubert artistically, but in Schumann's fine song "Die beiden Grenadiere" power was out of the question for Miss Stuart on Saturday, and much of the effect lost. "Chanson d'Amour," Hollmann, with 'cello obligato, was pleasing, and two Chinese Poems, "Tears" and "The Waning Moon" from "A Lute of Jade," rendered by Cranmer-Byng, and set to charming music by Frances Allitsen, were gracefully sung by Miss Stuart, and proved very attractive. In a group of English songs by Willeby, Julius Harrison, Elgar, and Bantock, the concert-giver was heard to advantage; indeed, in this recital Miss Stuart sang best in English. Miss Beatrice Eveline, in her violoncello solos, produced a good tone, and played with fluent execution. She was much applauded in Boellmann's beautiful "Variations Symphoniques," Squire's "Meditation," and the lively and effective "Tarantelle" of Popper; while Mr. Hamilton Harty at the piano displayed his great ability as accompanist.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. WALTER ELLIS.

Not many members of the profession can say that they have built and painted their own scenery, written a four-act play, and taken the leading part therein; but such has been achieved by Mr. Walter Ellis, who may well lay claim to versatility if nothing else. His first taste for the drama took the form, at a very early age, of writing plays, some of historical interest, and one, of a more ambitious kind, in verse. Then feeling that a more intimate acquaintance with the technique of the stage was required, the aspirant to literary honours determined to essay the actor's art.

Like so many others, he found the necessary opening a difficult one, but possessing an excellent baritone voice, he used it as the "open sesame," and entered the ranks of musical comedy. A few years of this light form of entertainment were enough for one with higher dramatic ideals, and again he took up the pen, playing from time to time leading parts in modern plays. He dramatised Charles Dickens' story "The Battle of Life," and produced it at the Royalty Theatre, where it was very favourably received. Immediately afterwards he collaborated with Mr. Percy Greenwood, B.A., who was for some time a member of Mr. Benson's company, and a three-act farce, entitled *The Pasha*, saw the light, and ran for two short tours, with Mr. Ellis playing in the piece himself. A version of *The Sorrows of Satan* was then secured, and the author-actor went forth in the rather thankless part of Geoffrey Tempest. More writing was rewarded by a production in America.

[*Photo by Kent and Lacy.*

MR. WALTER W. ELLIS.

But the struggle from obscurity on this side remained a difficult one, and Mr. Ellis, after doing some useful work in stage-managing, reverted to variety. Many short plays of a dramatic type from his pen achieved some considerable success. Then followed a comedy playlet, entitled *The Sleepwalker*, which has secured considerable success in the halls, and should rank with the foremost mirth-producing sketches. It is practically the author's first appearance in the rôle of comedian, but his success has been undeniable. Music is Mr. Ellis's hobby, and he is no mean disciple of the art, being a good executant on some six or seven different instruments. He has, moreover, an exceptionally well-trained voice.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK.

Originally a schoolmaster, Mr. Wallace Stranack, after a period of training at the Royal College of Music, went on the stage. His first engagement—one of ill-omen, and the forerunner of years of uphill fighting—was as a chorister in a new production at a West End London theatre, which, after five weeks' rehearsal and five nights' performance, closed down. The "ghost" was conspicuous by its absence, the manager having bolted. However, another engagement, this time "on the road," was procured in *Dorothy*, from which time Mr. Stranack steadily, but very slowly, rose in the theatrical world, playing a variety of parts in every kind of play with Messrs. J. Pitt Hardacre, A. E. Drinkwater, H. A. Saintsbury, &c., including a seven months' tour abroad with Mr. Maurice E. Bandmann, during which he played forty different parts.

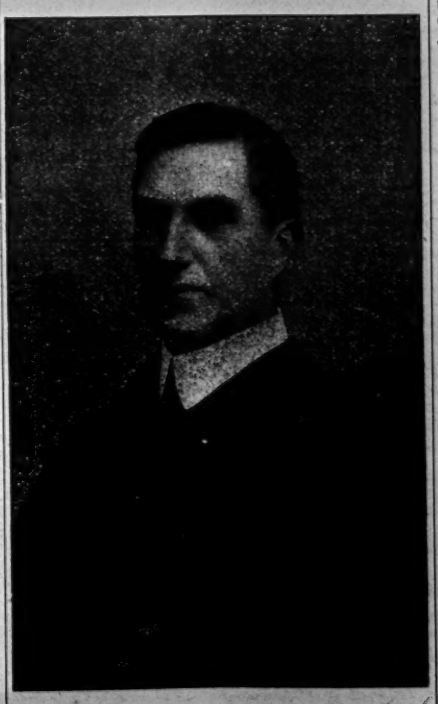

MR. WALLACE STRANACK.

Returning to England, tours followed in which Mr. Stranack played Jack Brown in *The French Maid*, Bob Watkyn in *Sowing the Wind*, Dudley Roper in *The Prodigal Daughter*, Mr. Todman in *Liberty Hall;* Cassius in *Great Cæsar*, and many other parts. About this time Mr. Stranack decided that the branches of the profession he preferred were business- and stage-management, and accordingly devoted his special attention to them. Accepting an offer for the latter from Mr. Bert Coote, of the Princess's Theatre, for his first tour of *The Fatal Wedding*, he remained under that gentleman's management for nearly four years, at different times being stage or business-manager, and running Mr. Coote's North company entirely during his absence in America. Incidentally, Mr. Stranack during that period played every male part in the piece except one for weeks together.

Then followed an engagement as business-manager with Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens's *Jack the Giant Killer* pantomime, and the subsequent season for their *Fair One with the Golden Locks* pantomime. For the two following seasons Mr. Stranack was engaged by the same management as stage-manager for the pantomime. With the exception of the pantomime season, Mr. Stranack, after leaving Mr. Bert Coote, was engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona as business-manager for his *Three Little Maids* company, from which after eleven weeks he was transferred to manage Mr. Macdona's *Mr. Popple* company, with Mr. G. P. Huntley in the cast. This led, after two more tours under Mr. Macdona's management, to his engagement by Mr. G. P. Huntley for his autumn season of 1903 at the Hicks Theatre. His most recent engagement was as business-manager for *The Proud Prince* company on tour.

MR. BREMBER WILLS.

A training of the old-fashioned sort has been experienced during the past nine years by Mr. Brember Wills, who thus counts himself fortunate. A pupil of Mr. Maxwell Ryder at the West London Theatre, he has since then had the unusual opportunity of playing a century of parts, which, at an average of ten per annum, is a remarkable record for these days of long runs and spare provision for theatrical training. Commencing among small managements in the provinces, he toured with the Robertson répertoire, and the old farces of the *Uncles and Aunts* kind, after which an experience of heavier work under Mr. Morton Powell gave him an insight into the methods by which the melodramatic "gods" are fed with their thunder. Mr. Wills next accomplished three tours with Mr. Oscar Wilde's plays, usually undertaking the rôles of Mr. Vane-Tempest, and from this followed an engagement with Mr. W. T. Elworthy in *The Unforeseen*, in which he played Sir Archibald Fielding, and subsequently Harker in *A Bunch of Violets* and Mr. Pedrick in *Liberty Hall*. In the following autumn the same management offered him the part of Benjamin Goldfinch, which he sustained for six months.

During the spring and summer following, and in subsequent years, pastorals under various provincial societies claimed most attention. A unique performance of Anthony Hope's play *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* under this head at Cheltenham struck something of a new note in this class of work; and in this Mr. Wills undertook Mr. Fulton's part of Mr. Dent, a rôle he has filled for three tours since in the theatres. *Robin Hood* was also a new open-air venture, and gave variety to the usual Shakespearean répertoire, in which Old Adam, King Duncan, Don John, and Ægeon are a few of his "legitimate" rôles.

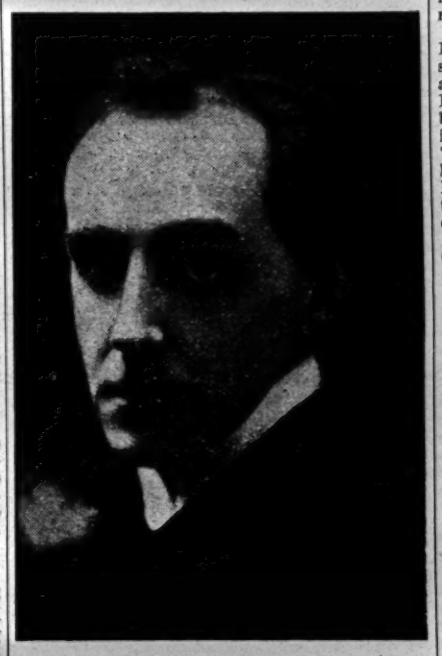

MR. BREMBER WILLS.

In the following year he toured as Mr. Hagson in *Billy's Little Love Affair*, and subsequently as Mr. Willoughby in *Mrs. Willoughby's Kiss*. Then came a provincial tour of *Under the Red Robe*, in which Mr. Maude's part was allotted to him, and from that came an engagement from Mr. Eugene C. Stafford, and a tour later as Wilfred Ashmole in *Lucky Miss Dean*. About this time the original Canterbury Stock Company was being formed under the directorship of Mr. Edward Michael and Mr. Frederick Stanley, and Mr. Wills was nominated as a member, and after concluding a special engagement as Charles IX. in *Count Hannibal*, he reverted to the modern rôles at Canterbury, playing Schram in *Leah Kleschna*, the Bishop in *Dr. Wake's Patient*, and the title-rôle in *The New Boy*.

From Canterbury he joined Mr. Langhorne Burton to play Mr. Jernigan in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, followed by six months of Ibsen plays with Mr. Leigh Lovel. After this he fell in a good deal with Mr. Welch's parts, playing Septimus Pontifex in *The Brixton Burglary* and the title-rôle of *The Man in the Street* for two tours. Then came an engagement as Canon Bonsey in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*, and the creation of the clerical part in Mr. H. F. Maltby's new play of *Fraud*. At the conclusion, Mr. Brooks, of Swansea, engaged him for his tour of *The New Housemaid*, and last autumn he played Babs in *Charley's Aunt*. Recently he has appeared as Captain Larolle in Mr. Norman V. Norman's tour of *Under the Red Robe*. Golf and hockey form Mr. Wills's two favourite outdoor pastimes, and a little amateur writing goes to fill in the rest of the spare time.

"THE CHRISTIAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In the "Theatrical Gossip" of your issue of even date appears a statement that Mr. Wentworth Croke wishes it to be thoroughly understood that he has sublet some of the No. 2 and all the No. 3 and fit-up rights of the old version of *The Christian* to me for one year. As this is liable to lead to misunderstanding, I beg leave to state that by arrangement with Mr. Wentworth Croke I hold absolutely the No. 2 and fit-up rights of the old version of *The Christian* for a period of twelve months from June 1, 1910, with the option of a further twelve months from June 1, 1911.—Yours faithfully, MARCUS D. DRAPER.

4, Iffley-road, Hammersmith, London, W., June 11.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN will play Crosbie, Mr. Weedon Grossmith's part, in the production of *The Night of the Party*, at New Brighton on Monday next, and has been re-engaged by General Productions, Ltd., to play George Fisher during the autumn tour of *Are You a Mason?*

"THE HEIRESS."

A New Comedy Opera, in Two Acts, Performed for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday, June 13.

Robert Beverige ..... MR. LEONARD BROWN
George Dilke ..... MR. LEONARD COX
Major Barbicombe ..... MR. G. B. WORRALL
Erasmus Ranter ..... MR. H. W. GAMMIDGE
John Willy ..... MR. T. G. HOLDER
Parkins ..... MR. HAROLD ROUCH
Francois ..... MR. J. M. HOLT
Sergeant Clews ..... MR. WALTER NEWMAN
Bioscope ..... MR. F. H. TIMINGS
Orchestra of the Bijou Hotel ..... MR. BARRY DAVENPORT
Leader of Same ..... MR. R. PINNEY
Cora ..... MISS VIOLET LEWIS
Maidie ..... MISS HILDA ATKINS
Madge ..... MISS MABEL BOTWOOD
Mildred ..... MISS E. COOK
Susan ..... MISS BONNIE PHILLIPS
Blanche ..... MISS ADA PRICE
Violet Voter ..... MISS PHILLIS BILLING
Caroline Barr ..... MISS BLANCHE FREEMAN
Mrs. Slashem ..... MISS KATE BERKELEY
Doreen Barbicombe ..... MISS LILLIE ASTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

It was a happy idea to devote the proceeds of the performance of this opera by Birmingham amateurs during the week to the funds of the Birmingham Children's Hospital. A piece of this style is something of a novelty, and a better attraction could hardly have been chosen for charitable purposes. The librettists, Messrs. Harold Weston and Follett Thorpe, have been the recipients of much praise for the construction of a bright, up-to-date and tuneful opera. The lyrics are by Mr. Follett Thorpe and the music by Mr. Guy Jones, and the production embodies all the attributes that go to ensure a successful career. There is an effective plot, in which the authors have fully recognised their obligation to leave room for the introduction of incidental turns. In a nutshell, the story is as follows: Doreen Barbicombe is an heiress. She is in love with Robert Beverige, who unfortunately is disliked by Doreen's guardian, Major Barbicombe, who is afflicted with the gout. Doreen leaves home and becomes a waitress. In the first act she is seen following her new profession, her lover often by her side, her distracted guardian and a couple of comic detectives searching eagerly for her, and being "hot on the scent" all the time. A number of her fellow-waitresses win temporary triumphs by palming themselves off as the missing heiress. These happenings take place at the Botanical Gardens during the space of an afternoon, and in the evening the scene is transferred to the ballroom of the Bijou Hotel. Here "turns" are given by various members of the company, after which Doreen and her guardian are satisfactorily united, the ban on Robert is removed, and the Major is transformed into a most benign person.

Miss Lillie Aston scores a great triumph as Doreen. Her acting is marked by a finished style, and she uses a well-trained voice to much advantage. Mr. Leonard Brown as Robert Beverige also proves himself a good singer, and by his manner shows that he is quite at home in the character. Mr. Walter Newman at once "catches on" as the humorous detective, and he introduces a lot of smart gags. Miss Blanche Freeman greatly pleases as Caroline Barr "on the 'alls," Mr. G. B. Worrall provides a good character study as Major Barbicombe, and Miss Ada Price sings daintily. Miss White and Miss Gaul elicit applause for a neat *pas de deux* arranged by the Misses Aclam and Caffyn, and Mrs. Guy Jones and Miss Lily Forsythe executes with grace the original pas seul from *San Toy*.

The music, arranged by Mr. Guy Jones, is a bright feature, the various songs, duets, choruses, and dances being presented in a sparkling setting. Matinées were given on Thursday and Saturday, and the performance on Thursday evening was under the patronage of commanding officers of the local Territorial forces. On Thursday a special performance was given as a benefit to Mr. Guy Jones, who is the musical director at the Royal, and the performance was augmented by the appearance of Miss Sybil Arundale and Miss Daisy Dormer.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The fashions of the hour are reflected in *The Girl in the Train*, which is running so smoothly at the Vaudeville. Miss Phyllis Dare gives her evidence in the divorce court in a pale pink coral zephyr crêpe dress posed on flesh-coloured lace, which in its turn is mounted on pale pink satin. The skirt tapers towards the feet, this effect being enhanced by diamond-shaped panels of lace at the front and back outlined with broad bands of satin. With this dress is worn a black Michu turban of draped straw with red roses nestling just above the left ear.

Miss Clara Evelyn, who in the Trial scene wears a beige-coloured charmeuse gown in alliance with a ninon tunic, the latter trimmed at the hem with ball fringe, the same idea being repeated on the sleeves. The salient feature of the frock is the shadowing of the narrow green and white brocade ribbons which are arranged to bring into prominence the graceful lines of the figure. A cornet d'italie *chapeau* of dark blue straw with a dull pink doublure trimmed with shaded plcureuse ostrich plumes completes the toilette.

Picturesque and quaint are the Dutch costumes in which Miss Kate Welch as Martje Kronevliet makes her appearance. In the first act her *jupe* is of striped mauve and white cotton, partially concealed by a pink silk apron, which is surmounted by a cape of taffetas showing a wonderful Paisley design. Her head-dress is of white lace arranged to simulate a curtain, the hem of which rests lightly on her shoulders.

AT the first performance this season of Verdi's *Otello* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Tuesday there were present Lady Susan Fitz-Clarence, Lady Alington, the Countess of Lytton, Lord Cecil Manners, the Earl of Londesborough, the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, Lady Pearson, and Lady Montgomery.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

For cleansing the blood of all impurities from whatever cause arising, there is no other medicine just as good as CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE—that's why in so many cases of Eczema, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Boils, Sores of all kinds, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Blood Poison, Rheumatism, Gout, &c., it has effected truly remarkable cures where all other treatments have failed. It will do the same for you.

CURES ALL
SKIN & BLOOD DISEASES
Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/9 per bottle.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

SIXTY-FIFTH PUBLIC DINNER.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S APPEAL—£750 FOR THE FUND.

A very fine assemblage of members of the theatrical, musical, and journalistic professions took place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Sunday last, the occasion being the Sixty-fifth Public Dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

Mr. Martin Harvey was chairman, and among those who accepted invitations were the Right Hon. R. Farquharson, Sir John Hare, Mr. Edward Terry, J.P., the Right Hon. Sir Ernest Cassel, Mr. H. B. Irving, Sir George Frampton, R.A., Mr. A. F. M. Spalding, Sir Edgar Speyer, Bart., Sir Chas. Matthews, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. W. B. Yeats, Col. Sir Lewis McIver, Bart., Mr. A. B. Walkley, Sir Anderson Crichett, Bart., C.V.O., Sir Wm. H. Allchin, M.D., Sir Thos. Barclay, Mr. James Carew, Mr. H. Hughes, Mr. Gordon Cleather, Mr. Gregory Hast, Mr. Adolph Mann, Mr. W. Ganz, Mr. C. Bogler, Mr. H. Hughes, jun., Mr. Austin Brereton, Mr. Otto Beit, Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. W. Clarkson, Mr. Isaac Seaman, Mr. G. Spencer Edwards, Mr. Chas. I. Coltson, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. Alfred East, Mr. George Clausen, R.A., Mr. A. G. Warren, A.C.A., Mr. Walter J. Ebbetts, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. C. N. Foreman, Mr. W. A. Collins, Mr. L. Carson, Mr. A. J. Austin, Mr. Ralph C. Leach, Mr. H. B. Gross, Mr. F. B. O'Neill, Mr. Geo. Minshull, Mr. John Kurkamp, Mr. Philipp Horvath, Mr. W. R. Patterson, Mr. C. T. Helmsley, Mr. J. Wilson Taylor, Mr. Percy Marsden, Mr. T. G. Lafayette, Mr. Edward Rosenberg, Mr. A. Dunkels, Mr. W. L. Courtney, Mr. Theodore Lumley, Mr. H. T. Greenwood, J.P., L.C.C., Mr. R. Percy Middlemist, M.R.C.S., &c., Mr. A. B. Tapping, Mr. Cooper Cliffe, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. F. Percival Stevens, Mr. Henry Evill, Mr. J. M. Chute, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Herbert B. Hays, Mr. Chas. Rock, Mr. Hubert Willis, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. Julius Reiss, Mr. P. Noble, Mr Ernest de Witt, Mr. Walter Lumley, Mr. John Corlett, Mr. Louis Roche, Mr. Jules Ayer, Mr. H. Lowenfeld, Mr. Herbert Trench, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

A SPLENDID SPEECH.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured,

Mr. Martin Harvey, in proposing the toast of "The Royal General Theatrical Fund," said:

Gentlemen,—Your chairman of to-night cannot imagine any duty more depressing and, at the same time, more inspiring than the duty he has now to perform. When he looked up the records of this Royal old fund, starred with the names of so many prominent and distinguished chairmen—Charles Dickens, Sir Henry Irving, Thackeray, Lytton, Phelps, Macready—to mention only a few of those who have occupied this historic chair, and who have left "footprints in the sands of Time," you will readily believe that his sensations are pretty much those of Macbeth, who was reported to have felt

"His title
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe,
Upon a dwarfish thief."

However, though the spectacle of a "dwarfish thief" in "a giant's robe" is to no one so grievous as to the wearer, it may, I hope, give to that wearer some sense of modesty from the disproportionate majesty of his garb, and he may certainly draw inspiration from the thought of the mighty shoulders which in previous years it has fallen upon, and the sacred cause with which it has been donned—the cause of charity. Many are the eloquent addresses which that sacred cause has inspired; none more eloquent, I am sure, than those which have sprung from reflections upon the kindly beneficence of this venerable old Theatrical Fund, and of these few more eloquent than that of my immediate predecessor in this famous chair—I mean that of the Hon. Harry Lawson last year. Since then our institution, among other countless institutions, has sustained a great and grievous loss—the loss of our Royal Patron. His late Majesty King Edward VII. had been our Patron ever since his accession to the Throne. His interest had been shown in our welfare during all that time by regular and handsome subscriptions to our fund. It is not, I hope, presumptuous in me to lay a humble leaf upon the monument of his memory. The time has gone by, not for ever perhaps, when actors walked in the State processions and attended Court functions in something of an official capacity, receiving out of the Privy Purse a certain allowance of scarlet cloth that they might be bravely and becomingly attired; but I would venture to say that if we professional people are servants of the public, we are, and always shall be, in a very special sense, His Majesty's servants. And in speaking, with all reverence, on this subject, and in the midst of those who are gathered together in the interests of our profession, I would further venture the statement that the quality which endeared our late Royal Patron to us actor folk was his rare humanity. We actors, we students of humanity, for long will draw our breath in pain to tell the story of how he was laid low in the very hour of his Coronation—that perilous hour of triumph when the philosopher Aurelius counsels us to sacrifice "our dearest to the gods"; of how, when the danger past, and he had been anointed before the acclamations of his loyal people, he stood clasping the hand of his son in such a bond of emotion as can only flow between father and son; of how when Minoru won the Derby only last year he went down alone amongst the surging, frantic crowd at Epsom, like the simple English country gentleman that he was to lead his victorious colt to the scales; and of how, his back against the wall, at grip with the ancient enemy of mankind (or shall we say the ancient friend?); dying inch by inch, his harness on his back, he fought to the end, that his duty to his people might not lack one iota of absolute fulfilment. "Endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts" is the prayer which goes up each Sunday from every corner of our Empire, and surely we must feel that, if the sense of duty be a heavenly gift, the prayers of his people for "Edward the Peacemaker" have been heard. Gentlemen, I must say one word upon the subject of our patron, for at this moment the R.G.T.F. is without a patron. But from the correspondence which has passed between your secretary and those in high quarters, I have reason to believe that our present King may perhaps be induced to fill that post which his late father filled. At all events, all I can say at the moment is that we live in hopes.

THE LOSS OF HARRY LOVEDAY.

And the loss of our kingly patron, gentlemen, is not our only loss. A gentle, kindly face which has till to-night seldom been absent from your hospitable board—a face full of the milk of human kindness, of quiet humour and courtly tact—has gone from us. I mean that of our old friend Harry Loveday. He was one of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and how many there are here to-night who will always cherish his memory, no one with greater affection than your chairman. My own uncertain steps in the early days when I was a youngster carrying a modest banner in that faithful army commanded in the days of the old Lyceum by Sir Henry Irving, of immortal memory—I say my own steps were guided by our dear old friend and often kept from straying into by-paths which have led many a young actor into the thickets of failure and disaster. Looking back upon those days, I hesitate to say whether my own debt of gratitude is the greater to my beloved master, Sir Henry, or to his faithful lieutenant, Harry Loveday. And I welcome the opportunity of paying my small tribute to his memory without apology to you gentlemen, so many of whom have known him. Of his fidelity to Sir Henry Irving there is no need for me to speak. Indeed that fidelity was so absolute as to have been in danger of having something of that impeccable and angelic quality which keeps it remote from our common ken, had it not possessed that human touch which makes all the world kin, for I have heard upon unimpeachable authority that in moments of great expansiveness our old friend could give an astonishingly faithful and humorous imitation of his great chief. Gentlemen, it has been truly said that "no man confidently believes in his religion who cannot afford to laugh about it." I shall always feel that Harry Loveday paid me an undeserved compliment when he exercised as absolute a fidelity in his association with me to my small interests as ever he did to the great affairs of Sir Henry Irving. His unerring and compliant tact exposed him sometimes to many an affectionate laugh—those who knew him will know what I mean. His natural kindliness of disposition and dread of hurting one's feelings made it an agony for him at times to speak the brutal truth. He could be, upon occasion, however, unexpectedly outspoken, and one of the sweetest remembrances I have of him is that when we were discussing a certain drama we were producing, and I was imploring his candid opinion as to the wisdom of the author in keeping his hero—whom I was representing—off the stage during an entire act, and so, as I thought, imperilling the success of the play, he replied in a burst of quite unexpected candour that "it didn't matter a damn." Gentlemen, I ask you to drink in a glass of the mellow leisurely port he loved to linger over

"....in after-dinner talk,
Across the walnuts and the wine,"

and which, alas, can never again bring a warm flush about his delicate temples, to the memory and the repose of his kindly soul.

FOR THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES.

And now, gentlemen, to my duty—the toast of "The Royal General Theatrical Fund. And let me say at once that this is not an Old Age Pension Fund, as too many of us understand it and groan under it—a fund inadequately discussed and precipitously formulated for the benefit of those who have contributed nothing. First and foremost this fund is based upon contributory principles. Gentleman, the comparison between our fund and a certain other fund which rises in my throat, and which I see is rising in the throats of a good many of you, must be gulped down because anything of a party nature at this board would be out of place. This fund exists for the help of those who help themselves. It aims at providing annuities for those who, having reached the age of sixty, have contributed certain prescribed quarterly payments towards the fund, and even if these contributors are prevented by accident or infirmity from paying their contributions after the first seven years they can still claim their annuity, and they get it for the rest of their natural life. Gentlemen, this is the only fault I find in the Fund. It is a dangerous form of temptation. I have sometimes felt after the failure of a play that it would be worth while to part with a limb and become a quiet annuitant in a small country cottage for the rest of my life. Now these quarterly payments are on a moderate scale compared with the terms given by the insurance companies, and it would not be possible to pay these annuitants their full yearly allowances when they become due were it not for your generous help.

MR. HARVEY'S FINE APPEAL.

Remember, gentlemen, I am asking you to help those who have helped themselves. I am asking you to stand in the place of that beneficent providence which "reaches them good gifts with their own hands." I am asking you to add a little butter now to the bread of those who have denied themselves butter all their lives for the sake of the bread of old age; for those members of my calling whose talents have not been brilliant enough to bring them wealth or even competence: good steady workers, faithful servants of their managers, and of their public; those who have done the yeoman service of our "feverish profession"; those who by their sterling qualities have been and always will be the backbone of our calling, as the yeomen have been and still will be the backbone of our country. Such men do not earn large salaries at the best of times, and at the worst their small hoards are, of course, depleted during the long periods of enforced idleness. You all remember the advertisement of a disengaged actor who described himself as "Resting—and d——d sick of it." This "resting" cannot be helped—it is one of the dark sides of our delightful calling. Plays fail, engagements cease, an actor or actress in some mysterious way falls out of the running, and the little sum set by for a rainy day gradually vanishes. "For the rain it raineth every day," and then you generous people step in with your guineas and make it just possible for the contributor to keep his chin above the flood. So please do not leave those little white cards which will be handed round soon—do not leave them disregarded among the debris of the feast, inscribed only with the impress of an over-full wineglass. Gentlemen, of the many myths which have grown up about our profession, I think none is wider of the truth than that the actor is improvident. Indeed, I doubt whether it has ever been true. From the days of the Elizabethan actors, who, like Shakespeare, owned their country estates; who, like Alleyn, built and endowed colleges; who, like Hemminge and Condell, were respected sidesmen of their parish, to the present day when our own treasurer is a Justice of the Peace for his county, I believe the provident as against the improvident in our calling have been as ten to one. The great body of our profession denies itself continually. The first thought of the average man who is considering an engagement is "what can I save out of my salary, or what can I repay of that abominable accumulation of arrears." His chief aim is to cut down his expenses to the lowest possible point, because his mind is continually fixed on that awful and unnecessary "rest" cure which he must expect as an inevitable condition of the calling itself, and the thought of it leads him to continual self-denial in the matter of personal expenditure and restraint. He must be content with the homely pipe, though the more seductive cigar tempts him; the penny motor 'bus instead of the expeditious taxi. He must submit to the modest lodgings when the amount of his salary, considered weekly, would permit the more comfortable hotel; and he must carry his bag to that lodging, when a cab after a long journey would be so much more acceptable. Self-denial with the hope of ultimate independence must be, and is, exercised in every form. I remember an old friend of mine on one of Sir Henry Irving's American tours, who had calculated the amount of dollars he could put by for the old rainy day as a reward of the discomfort of foreign travel, and who was known for his sturdy pitched battles with the extortionate hotel clerk, indignantly repudiating the charge for a bath, which he loudly declared he had not had for a week! And lest the character of that honourable company should be tarnished by this anecdote, I may tell you that some coloured servants at an hotel where we stayed in Chicago were heard to agree that the British troupe seemed to need a deal of cleaning, for most of them had a bath every morning. Well, gentlemen, I must not keep you longer; but I think your hearts would be touched if you saw some of the old people who have, by their own self-denial and the generous help of those who have supported this grand old fund, reached that haven of rest which is no longer agitated with the dread of to-morrow's want.

"THE STURDY QUALITY OF THRIFT."

Let me recall a typical case, that of one of our annuitants. All his working life he has lived in a modest little cottage in a remote suburb, though to be sure he has earned a handsome salary at times which he would have had some excuse for thinking warranted a larger establishment, but he has resisted the temptation to cut a dash, and has, night by night, after his work is finished, reached his cottage by 'bus and his own sturdy foot; only once or twice has he fallen into arrears with the quarterly payments as a subscribing member of the fund. Engagements of late years have been less frequent, but from time to time his astounding gifts of humour have been remembered by some manager, and he has emerged from his cottage to convulse the playgoing world with his irresistibly comic personality—a personality which is the more irresistible when compared with the solemn gravity of his deportment in every-day life. The constant denial of many years has at last brought him to his goal of rest. He is now well past eighty, and has drawn his annuity regularly for over twenty years. His step upon the stairs when he comes to receive his quarterly payments at our secretary's hands is a little feebler year by year, and he has greater and greater difficulty in finding his way out of the office and down the stairs, when, with his well-earned allowance in his pocket, he returns to his cottage and his roses. Gentlemen, for such a man I ask your support. I ask your support for the fund which makes such a spectacle of charming and contented old age possible. I ask you to support it because it is British in its character and because it makes for self-reliance and for the sturdy qualities of thrift and independence which has made our Empire what it is. (Prolonged applause.)

THE CHANGE IN THE THEATRE.

Mr. W. B. Yeats, in proposing the toast of "The Drama," said England was the country of humour, the country of anecdote—especially of Irish anecdote. He was Irish, but he was going to be serious. He looked round for the most serious person in the room to whom he might address himself. When he was a young man one individual had struck him as the very embodiment of ferocious youth, and that man was Mr. Walkley. He would deliver his speech to that gentleman. Mr. Walkley had delivered a speech some years ago which had helped him to understand some of his own difficulties. He was a writer of plays, and had given a good many years of his life to the theatre. He was always trying to find in the theatre a pleasure he had enjoyed in very rare moments. All their work, all their free labours, was really an attempt to repeat again and again some pleasure which Nature only meant to give them very seldom. One of Mr. Walkley's speeches had defined farce as the struggle of the will against a ridiculous object; comedy as the struggle of the will against a movable object; tragedy as the struggle of the will against an immovable object. Tragedy was the noblest of the three forms. When he was a boy and read Shakespeare first certain lines haunted him. One line was when Coriolanus came to the house of Aufidius and was asked by the servant where he lived, and he had answered: "Under the canopy." He had waited for years to hear those words spoken by Henry Irving. As the new school arose he saw in the theatre something he did not seek. He had countless times in the writings of competent critics read an attack on the French tragic drama because it did not contain character. Character now was finished: there was nothing more than sheer passion left. There had come in recent times a change from the tragic mood to the mood of comedy. No man living in the world was without character, but when they put such a man upon the stage they filled up the place of character with something else. Wherever they got the art of passion they got a beautiful art, a realistic art. He had addressed himself entirely to Mr. Walkley, and his words were an extension of the definition which had interested him so much when Mr. Walkley had made it some years ago. Perhaps Mr. Walkley would add to his knowledge by commenting on something he had said. The stage was changing, and the actual mechanism of the theatre was changing, and an attempt was being made to create a stage full of ideal forms and decorations, which could only be the preparation for a new drama of beauty in the highest sense of the word, like the old drama of five hundred years ago. (Applause.)

MR. WALKLEY ON "THE DRAMA."

Mr. A. B. Walkley, in replying for "The Drama," said: The fact that I, who am neither playwright nor player, but a representative, however unworthy, of the Press, have been called upon to speak to-night to this toast of "The Drama," is, I venture to think, a significant fact. It attests the good understanding and confidence which now happily exist between the dramatic world and the Press. That good understanding has in the past had its temporary eclipses, and there was even a time within my own recollection when I fear the Press was looked at a little askance by the theatrical world. I can illustrate that by telling you of a little incident which happened some years ago within my own personal, not to say domestic, experience. I had invited that remarkable dramatist Mr. Bernard Shaw to dinner, and when he came there was some delay in admitting him because the knocker was one of those suburban knockers that can be heard all down the street but not inside the house. We asked him why he had not rung the bell, and he answered, "I would have if it hadn't been for the word 'Press' on it." This distrust of the Press is happily a thing of the past. Actors and dramatists and the critics who write about them in the Press have, I hope and believe, a better understanding of one another's difficulties. We critics have to understand that if actors are peculiarly sensitive to criticism, the explanation lies in the peculiar nature of their art. The actor, unlike other artists, is his own material, his own ink and paper, his own paint and canvas, so that, in criticising his art, you cannot help criticising the man himself, his very person, gait, and voice. We are all of us touchy about our personal peculiarities—the nose on our face, things we were born with and cannot alter; yet these personal peculiarities of the actor, being part, and an essential, important part, of his stock-in-trade, are necessarily matter for criticism. The actor may rest assured that this unavoidable part of the critic's business is as embarrassing to the critic as it is disconcerting to him. The critic does not like having to record the fact that the hand of time has turned the leading lady's hair from its original hue to a Titian red, and yet the disagreeable thing has to be done. And, if the critic is sometimes a little slap-dash and summary in his judgments, the actor must remember that, under present conditions, he seldom has time to be anything else.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

There has been a revolution in the machinery of newspaper distribution, which has by no means lightened the task of the dramatic critic. Most newspapers now go to press almost as soon as the average theatre is out, and many a newspaper train is starting for the country just about the time Mr. Granville Barker's audiences are waking up to wonder when his people will have done talking. Thus daily newspaper criticism can seldom be anything better than a hasty improvisation. You remember, I daresay, that youthful candidates for examination, floored by a paper, sometimes scrawl upon it "No time," thereby no doubt hoping to persuade the examiner that, but for the clock, they would have displayed a profound knowledge of the subject. Gentlemen, I often find that just as I am about to distribute my most flowery adjectives among the cast of a play the clock inexorably points to the hour of going to press, and I am always tempted to finish notices with the words "No time!" Critics and criticised are nowadays prepared to make allowances for one another; there is a mutual understanding between Drama and Press; and so here am I who belong to the Press invited to speak on behalf of the Drama.

Well, gentlemen, the drama is being eagerly discussed just now all over the place, as we say, and the views that are expressed about it on all hands are strangely discordant. The great majority of playgoers probably hold no views, but just go to the play to digest their dinner with an evening's fun. They turn more and more to the lighter forms of entertainment, and they have a perfect right to enjoy themselves in their own way. But there is a minority of playgoers who cannot share in that digestive enjoyment. They are enthusiasts, idealists, zealots, for whom the drama has the all-importance, the sacredness, of a cause, like female suffrage or anti-vaccination. This minority is dissatisfied with the theatre as it is, and wants to see it intellectualised, spiritualised, ennobled. They pin their faith to the repertory system, and clamour for a National Theatre. The movement is not peculiar to this country. I was present a month or two ago at the opening of the New Theatre in New York—a magnificent building, endowed by certain public-spirited millionaires as a home for the higher drama in America, as soon as the higher drama in America is forthcoming. All this enthusiasm and proselytising energy, all this "booming" of the higher drama, must have our respectful sympathy. And yet I am sometimes disposed to wonder whether all the expected results will flow from these repertory and National Theatre schemes. I am in my leisure moments an amateur gardener, and if my experience in the garden teaches me anything it is to be sceptical about forced growths. Healthy art, like a healthy plant, grows naturally under conditions appropriate to it. These big cut-and-dried schemes, engineered by central and local committees, suggest some doubts. I should have more confidence in a modest plan, unobtrusively begun; and I should not expect too much of that. I do not think you could have a better example of the real value of a modest enterprise than that afforded by the Irish National Theatre, which Ireland and England owe to our friend Mr. Yeats and his comrades.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE SCHEME.

But suppose we do get our big National Theatre, with what stuff are we going to fill it? That is the really important point. What the drama of the future is going to be, neither you nor I can say; bp I think I can safely prophesy what it won't be. It won't be a rambling conversation on the model of those recent plays of Mr. Shaw and Mr. Barker, which had so brief a career at the Duke of York's Theatre. I submit it is a model of what to avoid. If the drama is to develop, it will have to develop along dramatic lines. It must obey the law of economy in art; not run to waste by aiming at effect which could just as easily be produced without the apparatus of a theatre and the aid of a company of actors. And a play must always, in the future as in the past, be something organic and whole, or it will not hold the spectator's attention. And there is another thing that I will venture to prophesy the new drama will not be. It will not be that thing of gloom that some of our dramatists, old as well as new, seem sometimes anxious to make it. Who says art, says pleasure. Depend upon it, "with such a being as man in such a world as the present one" people will not go to the theatre in order to spend an unhappy evening. By all means let our higher dramatists write plays to improve our minds and to awaken our consciences; but they will succeed in doing neither unless at the same time they can contrive to give us pleasure. A play that is not something for the public pleasure is nothing but a public nuisance.

In his reply on behalf of the Fund, Mr. Edward Terry thanked them for favours received, with a lively sense of favours to come. He had responded for the Association for something over twenty years, and it had always been a very great pleasure to him. He had taken the very greatest possible pleasure and pride in the success of the Fund, and could assure them that it had been managed in the most admirable way. When their old people passed away, if they had no one else to leave their money to, they invariably bequeathed it to the Fund. He instanced one lady, whom, until he became a director of the Fund, he had not the remotest idea was still living. He had tinselled her picture as Claude Duval when a little boy, one of the penny plain and twopence coloured variety. He believed he had that picture at home now. Last year that lady had passed away, and, after being for many years a subscriber to the Fund, and appreciating its benefits, had left all her money, to the amount of £750, to the Fund. His old friend Mrs. Stevenson, widow of Chas. Stevenson, told him she wished to leave what she might die possessed of to the Fund. All they wanted now, in the Fund, was young blood. They had plenty of money to carry out their contract with people. They gave greater benefits than any other association, he believed, in the world. They took great pride in it, and had still amongst them the House of Rothschild, who had been very kind to them for many years. From the Duke of Bedford they had an annual subscription of £50, from Sir Ernest Cassel they had also an annual subscription of £50, and the Chairman had kindly placed to their credit the very handsome sum of £60. The result of his advocacy and presence in the chair had brought them in the very handsome sum of £750. On behalf of the Directors of the Fund and the Trustees, he thanked the Chairman, Mr. Martin Harvey, for his presence, and congratulated him on his great success at the Lyceum Theatre.

An additional speech, and an unexpected one, was made by Sir John Hare, who said he wished to refer to Mr. Walkley's remarks concerning the National Theatre. He (Sir John) had great admiration for Mr. Walkley's abilities as a critic. But it distressed him to hear Mr. Walkley cast reflections and even ridicule on the Shakespeare Memorial scheme. There might be many weak places in its armour, but its object was to make for the best in dramatic art. It distressed him to find it had the cold shoulder from the Press. England should honour Shakespeare fittingly. All other countries honoured their poets. All the recognition their greatest poet had got was a statue in Leicester Square.

The artists who contributed to a very fine musical programme were Miss Ellinora Hoggarth, Mme. Sobrino, Mr. Gregory Hast, Mr. E. Gordon Cleather, Miss Mary Wynne Hulm, Mr. Wilhelm Ganz, and Mr. Adolph Mann.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The performance of *Les Cloches de Corneville* at the Kingsway Theatre on Wednesday night by students of the college was quite a triumph for the Trinity College of Music and Mr. Cairns James, who conducted. It was pleasant to renew acquaintance with the Marquis, Germaine, and Serpolette, the pompous Bailie, with his absurd puns, and the lively Gobo. The performance on Wednesday evening was excellent, and the students acted and sang with great spirit. Miss Eveline Matthews made a very effective Serpolette, and spoke her lines admirably. As Germaine Miss Edith Davies sang and acted with great intelligence. The "Ding-dong Bell" solo and chorus were, of course, encored, and her pleasing solo in the second act, "When rescued from a watery grave," proved very attractive. The famous "Just look at this and look at that" solo and chorus were also successful, and had to be repeated. Mr. Herbert Whitmee made a gallant Marquis of Corneville, singing with clear enunciation and acting gracefully. One of the prettiest airs in the opera is "One charming maiden," for the rendering of which Mr. Whitmee was encored, and he made a good impression in the solo and chorus, "Your good sword," in the second act. The most striking part in *Les Cloches de Corneville* is that of the miser Gaspard, and in this Mr. Mendel J. Trachtenberg displayed considerable dramatic talent. The Bailie was cleverly and humorously acted by Mr. John Priestley; and Mr. H. J. Turquand's capital Gobo showed downright comic genius. Mr. Turquand's slight figure was admirably adapted for the part, and his make-up and funny acting were excellent. As Grenicheux Mr. Eric Cooper sang remarkably well. The chorus were animated, and the fresh, young voices in the tuneful music were very pleasant to hear. The smaller parts of Manette, Jeanne, Gertrude, and Suzanne were well played by the Misses Brockman, Trachtenberg, Barge, and Lawler. The scenery of Messrs. E. V. and A. Williams was good, and the pretty costumes by Messrs. B. J. Simmons and company were very attractive. A small string orchestra, ably conducted by Mr. Leonard M. Day, gave a good account of Planquette's melodious score; and Miss Maud Agnes Winter, L.T.C.L., and Mr. Harry Gray rendered useful aid at the piano and organ. There was a large audience, and the whole performance reflected credit on the students and their talented director, Mr. Cairns James.

Mr. Leolyn Hart, the noted scenic artist, has provided a magnificent scenic production, entitled "The Last Days of Pompeii," at the Crystal Palace. The final tableau, "The Destruction," is one of the grandest and most realistic effects imaginable. Whole buildings, temples, and columns over 50ft. in height crash to the ground and then crumble to pieces before the eyes of the audience. Over 800 performers take part in the production, and the whole is on such a large and magnificent scale that it is sure to prove a big success. Mr. Hart is now busy preparing models and drawings for the Pageant of London, to be held at the Crystal Palace next year.

THE
DYSPEPTIC'S SHEET-ANCHOR

Do you wake tired? Eat half a breakfast? Feel out of sorts, dull, heavy, irritable, unfit for work? If so, you have dyspepsia. You are drifting into a miserable state of ill-health, because your stomach is out of order! Mother Seigel's Syrup, the herbal tonic, will tone up and strengthen your stomach and gently stimulate your liver. *Then* sleep will refresh you; you will eat with relish, digest your food, and thus regain the strength, vitality and cheerfulness of sound health!

MOTHER
SEIGEL'S
SYRUP

"I had indigestion—or dyspepsia, with a sinking sensation below my chest; was very depressed and had no 'go' in me. Then I took Mother Seigel's Syrup. Now I can eat anything and am always fit for work, for Mother Seigel's Syrup *cured me!* I have needed no medicine of any kind since!"—A. G. Walker, 36, Middleton Street, Bethnal Green, London.

MADE FROM
THE CURATIVE EXTRACTS OF
ROOTS, BARKS & LEAVES.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CORONET.

On Wednesday, the Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, entitled

"SCHOOL."

A capital representation of *School*, which was revived last year at the popular Notting Hill Gate theatre, was given on Wednesday, the 15th inst. This bright, sunny, and idyllic comedy is as refreshing and exhilarating as ever, and "age cannot wither" it, "nor custom stale" its infinite charm. Miss Rosie Begarnie is now the Naomi Tighe, and as the frank, big-hearted West Indian heiress she acts with brightness, tenderness, and charm, and scores her points with arch precision; Miss Estelle Winwood is a delightful Bella, all gentleness and grace and goodness, and wins all hearts in the rôle; Mr. Athol Stewart—who, by the way, we inadvertently deprived last week of the honours of his excellent impersonation of Chudleigh Dunscombe in *M.P.*—is entirely excellent as Lord Arthur Beaufoy, and acts with becoming manliness and sincerity; Mr. James Carew is very well cast for the part of the imperturbable Jack Poyntz, in which he comes out strong; Mr. O. B. Clarence contributes one of his delightful old-man portraits as Beau Farintosh; Mr. Charles Harley is dignified and impressive as Dr. Theodore Sutcliffe; and Mrs. A. B. Tapping repeats her excellent exposition of character as Mrs. Sutcliffe. Mr. William Rokeby as the Uriah Heep-like Mr. Krun earns the general detestation of the audience by his life-like portraiture of this snake-like man; Miss Nell Compton and others do good work as schoolgirls; and the whole piece goes with vim and vitality.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama entitled

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

As presented by Mr. Morton Powell's capital company, this play met with a fine welcome at this go-ahead South London playhouse. The many unpleasant truths which are so forcibly declaimed certainly bear out the statement on the programme that it is a "play with a purpose." Miss Gertrude Gilbert ably enacts the prodigal workgirl Kate Stirling, who, through force of circumstances, loses her character and home, but after much trial and tribulation eventually finds a husband. Mr. Frank V. Fenn worthily upholds the part of the millionaire's son, Guy Warren; Mr. Clifton Earle does remarkably well as the scheming scoundrel, Mark Klaw; Mr. Charles Herbert as Basil Warren plays to the life the stern but relenting father; Mr. Tom Handley is a typical dude as the Hon. Charles Clade; Mr. Gerald Molan is a pathetic Geoffrey Stirling; Mr. Freddie Bentley as Sammy Sniggins and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima Jossap provide some very necessary comic relief; Mr. Wm. H. Grande is a very repulsive German sweater, Moss Isaacstein; Miss Winnie Donovan plays realistically as the adventuress, Lady Constance Heathfield. Miss Louie Walton plays well as Mrs. Stirling.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 13, the Play, in Three Acts and Prologue, entitled

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

At the Shakespeare on Monday a cordial greeting was extended to Miss Louie Esmond's company, who presented *The Sorrows of Satan*, adapted from Marie Corelli's famous novel. A large and enthusiastic audience followed the play with keen interest, and the weird nature of the piece, together with the mystic effects introduced, made the production thoroughly novel and entertaining. The acting all round was completely satisfactory, and the scenery in every respect was excellent. Mr. Edward Neville's embodiment of Prince Lucio Rimanez was complete in every detail, and his cool cynicism and convincing acting made the character weirdly effective. Mr. Jack McGaig, in the rôle of Geoffrey Tempest, played with much earnestness, and fully met the requirements of the part. The aged aristocrat the Earl of Elton was ably portrayed by Mr. J. E. Le Fleming, and Mr. B. Anderson was satisfactory as Charles Grimes. Mr. Percy Foreman submitted a quiet but humorous performance as the servant Morris; Mr. Hemnic Sisto did all that was possible in the part of Amiel; and Mr. Frank Wheatley contributed useful support as Lord Lynton. Miss Rosie Neville scored a success as the ill-fated Lady Sybil Elton, and is to be congratulated on an excellent portrayal of a rather trying part. Miss Louie Esmond as Diana Chesney was completely American in manners and speech; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst was a pleasing Mavis Clare; and Miss Cecil Bryne as Mrs. Grimes presented a clever character study of a lodging-house keeper. The play was preceded by an amusing farcical sketch, entitled *Two Soft*, the parts of which were capably sustained by Miss Dorothy Dewhurst and Mr. F. Wheatley.

THE PAVILION THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama entitled

"WOMAN AND WINE."

The Pavilion stock company gave its farewell performance this week, when *Woman and Wine* was successfully presented. The patrons of the Pavilion regret to lose such a fine company; they will certainly miss Mr. Ashley Page and Miss Marion Denvil, who have won much admiration. Miss Marie McAuley played Marcel Rigadout, the woman who didn't care, in a realistic manner; Mr. Oswald Lingard was seen at his best in the part of Hugh Seymour, his performance being very impressive; Mr. Ashley Page played Dick Seymour in a capable manner; and as Mary Andrews Miss Marion Denvil scored a great success. Mr. Alexander Bradley as Alphonse Baudet and Mr. Charles Wright as Carlo were good. La Colombe was acted by Miss Phyllis Orme with much ability; Mr. Fred Rivers won applause by his impersonation of the ugly Pierre Crucru; Mr. Allen Carruthers played with his usual skill; Mr. Fred George's impersonation of Mark Parkin was a convincing study. The humour of the evening was provided in irresistible manner by Miss Nellie James and Mr. Will Harman. Variety was introduced in the second and third act by Fifi Gordon and troupe, who won much appreciation.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama entitled

"THE SHAUGHRAUN."

Irish drama is meeting with a cordial reception, and is capitally interpreted by the excellent stock company. Mr. E. C. Matthews gives a bright and breezy rendering of the irrepressible Conn; Miss Sadie Neville submits a charming performance of Moya; Miss Alice Defoe is an attractive and clever actress, and her Claire Ffolliott is exceptionally good; Miss Claire Millvain is an excellent Arte O'Neal; Miss Amy Venimore is an amusing Mrs. O'Kelly, and Miss Sinclair plays her part well. Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan is a capital Captain Molyneux, and is a warm favourite with the audience; the unfortunate Robert Ffolliott is well acted by Mr. E. McLean; Mr. Ellis J. Preston is a lovable Father Dolan; Mr. Fred Terriss is a powerful Corry Kinchelsea; Mr. W. L. Clements is a characteristic Harvey Duff, and other parts are well acted by Mr. R. A. Robinson (Sergeant Jones), Mr. F. Hunter (Sullivan), Mr. C. Hersee (Reilly), Mr. Martyn (Mangan), Mr. F. Allworth (Doyle), and Mr. E. Emery (Donovan).

On Thursday and Friday evening *The Colleen Bawn* was presented, with Mr. E. C. Matthews as Myles, Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan as Hardress, Mr. Terriss as Danny, Mr. Ellis J. Preston Father Tom, and Mr. R. A. Robinson Kyrle Daly; Miss Sadie Neville Eily O'Connor, Miss Amy Venimore Mrs. Cregan, and Miss Alice Defoe Anne Chute. *Arrah-na-Pogue* is billed for next week.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Wednesday, the Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, "THE ENGLISH ROSE."

The summer stock season at Kennington Theatre is now in full swing, and on Monday Mr. Robert Arthur produced that thrilling and interesting drama, from the joint pens of Mr. G. R. Sims and Mr. Robert Buchanan, entitled *The English Rose*. The play is splendidly staged and dressed, and nothing was wanting on the opening night to ensure it making an immediate and successful appeal to the sympathies of a large house. The story has a romantic Irish setting, and abounds with exciting situations, varied with humorous incidents, so that lovers of melodrama have their requirements amply met. That they appreciated the production was evident by the frequent curtain calls on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Jessie Winter was as winsome and charming as ever, making an ideal English girl (Ethel Kingston), who had captivated the affections of a chivalrous gentleman. Mr. Walter Gay was a frank and manly Harry O'Mailley, enacting the part with much histrionic skill; Mr. G. P. Polson was a warm-hearted and picturesque figure as the ruined Knight of Ballyveeny; and Mr. Frank Robertson was a dignified Father Michael, the priest, who was prevented by the seal of confession from denouncing the perpetrator of the murder for which his brother was sentenced to death. Mr. Fred Morgan as the villainous Captain MacDonell was excellent, putting in some of his best work; Mr. Herbert Lloyd won high praise for his admirable study of the drunken and misguided Randal O'Mara, the tool of MacDonell; Mr. Wilson Blake was well placed as Sir Philip Kingston, the unpopular landlord, who fell a victim to his agent's treachery; Mr. Maitland Marler was full of fun as Dickinson, the reprobate car-driver, and kept the house in a roar whenever he was about; Mr. Frank Crimp also revealed the possession of rare gifts of comedy, and made a big hit as Sergeant O'Reilly; while Miss Nellie Burdette was bright and lively as a lady's maid. Miss Elsie Videan was a general favourite as Patsey, the changeling boy; Miss Winifred Whyte gave a vivid sketch of Bridget O'Mara. Other rôles were well filled. An excellent series of cinematograph pictures was shown before and after the play.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Play entitled,

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."

Mr. H. Armitage introduces at the Dalston Theatre this week a dramatic version of Henry Seaton Merriman's work, *With Edged Tools*. The piece is presented with wonderfully good effect, not a point being lost throughout, the scenery being capital. Jack Meredith, the hero of the story, has in Mr. Charles Hartopp a thoroughly manly representative; the Guy Oscard of Mr. J. D. Geddes is another specimen of vigorous work; and Mr. Charles Barrett's representation of the weird character of Victor Durnovo is more than ordinarily interesting. The quietly effective manner of Miss Marie Leonhard as Jocelyn Gordon constitutes her a great favourite; Miss Marguerite Cellier plays Millicent Cheyne with care; Miss Alice Maude is a dignified Lady Cantourne; and Miss Edith Anton-Laing appears successfully in the dual rôle of Marie and Lady Herries. Mr. Walter Russell is Sir John Meredith; Mr. J. Graham Pockett is an adequate Maurice Gordon; and Mr. Frank Leyton does well as a servant. The stage-management is under the able direction of Mr. Charles Barrett. After this week the theatre will remain closed until the August Bank Holiday, during which interval the house will be redecorated.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama entitled

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

The late Charles Reade's popular drama is the attraction here this week, and a capable and interesting performance is being given by the stock company. In the arduous rôle of Tom Robinson, Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson scores heavily, and displays genuine feeling, especially in the later scenes of the play. He is very ably assisted by Miss Mary Pemberton, who is an ideal representative of the sweetness of Susan Merton; and Mr. Newman Maurice, admirable as the rascally lawyer Crawley; Mr. A. E. Johnstone as the kindly chaplain, Rev. Francis Eden, does remarkably well; Mr. Charles Lambert is good as Mr. Hawes; and Mr. Marius St. John depicts well George Fielding; Jacky is in clever Mr. Will Smith's hands; Mr. W. H. Porter is well cast as Mr. Meadows; and Mr. Herbert Godard an admirable exponent of Mr. Merton. The trials of Joseph, the poor waif, are vividly depicted by Miss May Day; Miss Nora Layton is a pleasing Mary; Mr. Harry Weston does justice as William Fielding; and Isaac Levy is well played by Mr. Walter Graham. *It's Never Too Late to Mend* is picturesquely mounted, and the production generally deserves praise.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 13, the Dramatic Playlet, in Five Scenes, entitled

"HURRAH, BOYS, HURRAH!"

The combination of drama and pictures, twice nightly, has now settled down into an assured success, and the West Londoners fully appreciate the excellence of the programmes weekly provided for their amusement by Mr. F. R. Griffiths, under the skilful guidance of Mr. W. H. Nugent, who is clearly the right man in the right place. Mr. Harry Calden and his selected company are seen to much advantage in *Hurrah, Boys, Hurrah!* and as John Willie Wiggles, a stable hand, Mr. Calden keeps things well on the move, and scores one of his usual Marylebone hits. Mr. Villiers Stanley proffers a meritorious portrayal of the racehorse trainer, Mark Cranston; Mr. Tom Calden figures successfully as Carol Albany; Mr. W. Ashton typically sustains the character of an old squire; Miss L. Winter wins much sympathy for her womanly interpretation of Madge Marley; and Miss Nellie Calden is quite at home as Polly Smith. Several fine films are clearly screened, amongst the most notable being Coleno's Fire Extinguisher, The Hunchback Fiddler, Incorrigible Mary, The Bank Smash, and The Equine Hero. During the evening suitable selections are played by the band, under Mr. Ward Bailey's experienced direction.

THE JAY-CURZON ENGAGEMENT.

MISS ISABEL JAY.

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

MR. FRANK CURZON.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Frank Curzon, the lessee of the Prince of Wales' and Wyndham's Theatres, and Miss Isabel Jay. Miss Jay, who was born in London, is the daughter of Mr. J. W. Jay, a descendant of Dr. Jay, the celebrated eighteenth century musician. She first appeared on the London stage as Elsie Maynard in the 1897 revival of *The Yeomen of the Guard* at the Savoy. In the same year she won the first gold medal for operatic singing at the Royal Academy, of music, and was created A.R.A.M. During the next five years she appeared as the heroine in a series of Gilbert and Sullivan revivals at the same theatre. Phyllis, in *Iolanthe*, she names as her favourite part. Her last appearance at the Savoy was as Rose-in-bloom in Hood and German's beautiful opera *The Rose of Persia*.

Leaving the Savoy, Miss Jay played leading parts at Daly's and the Prince of Wales' in (among other successful productions) *The White Chrysanthemum, The Cingalee, The Girl Behind the Counter, The Vicar of Wakefield, Miss Hook of Holland*, and *The King of Cadonia*. She is at present playing the leading part in *A Balkan Princess*. She married Mr. Henry Sheppard Hart Cavendish, the explorer, in 1902, and has one child, a daughter.

Mr. Curzon is a Liverpool man, his father being senior partner in the Dee Oil Company, of Chester. As a boy he was employed by the company, but ultimately became famous in connection with the old Strand Theatre—where he produced *A Chinese Honeymoon*—the Prince of Wales', and several other West-end houses.

THE IRISH NATIONAL THEATRE.

Mr. W. B. Yeats and Mr. A. Gregory write:—"In some of the many discussions of late upon the possibility and uses of repertory theatres, kind words have been spoken about our Irish one. Mr. Walkley, in his speech at the dinner of the Royal Theatrical Fund last Sunday, said that the promoters of the Shakespeare National Theatre and all who might think of starting a repertory theatre, 'could not have a better example of the real value of a modest enterprise than that afforded by the Irish National Theatre, which they owed to Mr. Yeats and his comrades.' For eleven years past we have worked very hard in the attempt to found and to put on a permanent footing this enterprise. Six years ago we were enabled by a generous subsidiary to play on a regular stage. A school of Irish writers and actors has been founded, which has given a distinguished and powerful representation of Irish country life. The works of our fellow-director, the late Mr. Synge, are recognised everywhere now by students of dramatic literature as among the most important that have been given to the theatre in our time. We play also and find an audience for translations of foreign masterpieces, especially those of Molière, akin to the folk drama, and of Goldoni. All the laborious building up, the slow amassing of a large repertory of Irish plays, the training of actors, the making of a reputation with the general public, has been accomplished or all but accomplished. Our takings in our last financial year are almost three times what they have been in any previous year, and we believe that within a few years we shall be independent of outside aid. We need not be ashamed of having to wait these few years, for after ten years the celebrated Moscow Art Theatre is still carried on at a loss.

"Our subsidy, including the free use of the Abbey Theatre, comes to an end, as well as our patent, this year. We have saved enough money (about £1,900) to take over the Abbey Theatre and to pay for a new patent—a somewhat heavy expense. Our business advisers tell us that the sum of £5,000, which would hardly suffice a London theatre for a season, would keep our theatre vigorous, intellectual, and courageous for another half-dozen years. Towards this endowment we have already been given £2,000, among the donors being Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. A. Birrell, Colonel Hutchison Poe, Lord Pirrie, Lord Iveagh, Mr. Wilfrid Blunt, Lady Bell, Lord Dunsany, Mr. F. Huth Jackson, the Duke of Leinster, and the Duchess of Sutherland. Lady Tennant, 34, Queen Anne's-gate, herself a large subscriber, is kind enough to act as our treasurer. Should we receive no more than this £2,000, we shall still go on for as long as we can, but we shall be crippled and not able to carry out plans for the strengthening and widening of our work; and we shall have, as in the years past, to give up to the actual business of the theatre so great a part of our own time as to interfere with our personal and creative work. We feel we have almost pushed the ball up the hill. We shall be grateful to any friends of our enterprise who will help us to keep it from rolling down again."

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

IRISH NATIONAL THEATRE.

On Friday, June 10, at the Court Theatre, for the First Time in London, the Play, in Three Acts, by Padraic Colum, entitled

"THOMAS MUSKERRY."

Christy Clarke .....MR. U. WRIGHT
Felix Tournour .....MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN
Myles Gorman .....MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Thomas Muskerry .....MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Albert Crilly .....MR. ERIC GORMAN
Crofton Crilly .....MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Mrs. Crilly .....MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Anna Crilly .....MISS EILEEN O'DOHERTY
James Scollard .....MR. J. A. O'ROURKE
Mickie Cripes .....MR. R. JAMESON
An Old Man .....MR. J. M. KERRIGAN

The most unsophisticated of the many ingenuous plays which the Irish season at the Court has revealed is surely the latest, *Thomas Muskerry*, which was introduced to London on the 10th inst., having been produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on May 5 last. The piece makes little pretence to dramatic effect, and, indeed, the author seems deliberately to have steered clear of any attempt to quicken the action, the interest lying almost exclusively in the drawing of character, while the dialogue is quite devoid of literary polish. It is a play of mean and petty individuals, among whom the chief personage is singular. He is the honest, upright master of Garrisowen Workhouse, with thirty years of faithful service to his credit and a fairly liberal pension in prospect. His relations think he ought to retire, no one more so than his daughter, Mrs. Crilly, whose prospective son-in-law covets the position. Muskerry's resignation is hastened by the discovery, ruthlessly laid bare by his grandson, that 100 tons of coal have been charged to the Board when only half that amount was delivered by the unscrupulous coalman, the fraud being unsuspected by Muskerry, whose only hope of securing his pension is to retire before the defalcation is found out. Muskerry has had his eye on a little place in the outskirts of the town, but in the circumstances he is compelled to live with his daughter, who keeps a provision store, which her father has partly financed. Here he does not get the respect to which he is entitled, and determines to go back to the Guardians and ask them to provide for him. He is anxious to take the price of the missing coal, and asks his daughter for the loan of £50, but she refuses. Not without good reason, for her husband had backed a bill for £300 for a friend, who has decamped, and the bank had taken the sum from Crilly's deposit, which amounted to no more than £400, £80 of which belongs to Anna Crilly, Mrs. Crilly's daughter, having been left by her grandmother as a dowry. Anna is about to be married to James Scollard, who has succeeded to the position of workhouse master, and insists upon having her portion whole and entire.

In desperation Muskerry goes off to the Guardians to offer his first year's pension to liquidate his debt, but is seized with illness and laid up for a month. On his recovery he finds the authorities have effected a compromise with regard to his pension, and Muskerry is about to leave the House, where a special room was placed at his disposal during his illness. His daughter comes to request him to go and dwell with her again, as the townspeople will otherwise "boycott" the establishment, but Muskerry refuses. He has gone through the formality of obtaining his discharge, but Mrs. Crilly, in order to force him to take up his residence with her, calls attention to the fact that her father has not been passed by the doctor as fit to leave the building, and as the medical man will not go on his rounds till the following Monday, Muskerry is obliged to stay two more nights in the house. He has a horror of the "pauper's bed," but he has incurred the enmity of the ward-master, who brutally evicts Muskerry from the private room he had occupied, and leaves him to the shame of which he stands so much in dread. The degradation is too much for him, and begging a prayer from a blind piper, whom he has befriended in happier times, he passes away.

There was a disappointment in the cast on the night of production, Miss Sara Allgood, who was to have played Mrs. Crilly, being absent on account of indisposition. Her part was played by Miss Maire O'Neill, who, in the circumstances, did remarkably well, giving a natural rendering of the much-harassed Mrs. Crilly, who is driven to such discreditable expedients to make ends meet. Miss O'Neill's part was taken up by Miss Eileen O'Doherty, who made the mercenary Anna Crilly the selfish little minx the author intended her to be. Neither part, however, has much to commend it. The play indeed centres wholly round the title-rôle, enacted with unerring judgment by Mr. Arthur Sinclair. Muskerry's outburst of indignation at the insults of his former porter was especially impressive, and the pathos of the closing scene was made deeply touching, an effect to which Mr. F. O'Donovan, who gave a clever study of a blind piper, contributed in no small degree. Mr. Sydney J. Morgan, too, gave a capital rendering of the brutal and unscrupulous porter; and Mr. J. A. O'Rourke invested the ill-drawn character of James Scollard with as much consistency as could be, his distinct utterance being a commendable feature of his performance. Touches of comedy were given to the piece by Mr. J. M. Kerrigan, who drew a capital picture of the thriftless Crofton Crilly, who leaves all his business anxieties to his wife, and of a whimsical old workhouse man, who caused much laughter. Another pauper was typically represented by Mr. R. Jameson; Mr. Eric Gorman was an effective exponent of Muskerry's caddish grandson; and Mr. U. Wright acted naturally as the civil and obliging Christy Clarke, a boy reared in the workhouse. A large audience took great interest in the production, and warmly called the author, when it was explained that he was in Dublin, but that the news of the success of his piece would be communicated to him.

Another alteration was rendered necessary by Miss Allgood's absence, *The Rising of the Moon* having to be substituted for *The Jackdaw*, originally announced. Lady Gregory's clever and amusing comedietta was given by the same cast as that which did duty a few days previously, Mr. Arthur Sinclair enacting the self-important Sergeant with irresistible comicality, and Mr. J. M. Kerrigan again revealing his talents, both as a comedian and vocalist, as the pretended ballad singer.

The third week of the season was begun with two plays from the pen of the late J. M. Synge, the first being the mournful little piece *Riders to the Sea*, which was originally given in London at the Royalty in 1904 and repeated at the Great Queen-street three years later. The indisposition of Miss Sara Allgood was fortunately only temporary, and she was enabled this week to take up the part of the Maurya, which she played on the previous occasion. The delicate modulations of her voice made the lamentations of the bereaved mother less depressing than they might have been, and the clever actress held the close attention of the audience by the power of her impersonation. Miss Maire O'Neill was again seen as the young girl Cathleen, and acted with a complete appreciation of the pathos of the situation, good work being also done in a similar part by Miss Eileen O'Doherty. *The Playboy of the Western World* did duty for the remainder of the evening. We noticed the revival on its presentation last week, and it is only necessary now to record that an audience of agreeably large proportions thoroughly enjoyed the amusing incidents and the racy dialogue of the piece. Mr. Fred O'Donovan again distinguished himself as the lad who "killed his da," arousing peals of laughter, and proving again his remarkable versatility and resource. Miss Maire O'Neill was once more the perfect realisation of a roguish and spirited colleen with "a glance of the eye" that might well cause one to "shun danger and fly." Mr. Arthur Sinclair repeated his droll impersonation of the innkeeper, and Mr. Sydney J. Morgan was equally effective as the resurrected Mahon. Miss Sara Allgood made all the humorous points possible in the part of the designing widow, and the remainder of the cast was identical with that of the former production. A change of bill was made last (Friday) evening, for which revivals of *Kathleen ni Houlihan, The Rising of the Moon, In the Shadow of the Glen*, and *The King's Threshold* were announced, the last-mentioned being presented by the "Pilgrim Players."

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, by Fred Maxwell, entitled

"THE HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN."

This piece has been well received, and good houses testify their appreciation in no unhesitating manner. Mr. Frank Adair fills the leading rôle with great success; and Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson sustains a heavy part in approved style. The character of Chang Lu is well interpreted by Mr. Herbert Sydney; Miss Eva Reid as Becky Fibbins, a love-sick slavey, cleverly contributes songs and dances; the comic part of Bar Lamb Gentle being happily performed by Mr. Charles Luck. The part of Lung Hi, Viceroy of Shantung, gives hard work to Mr. Fred Withers, who is quite equal to his task. Miss Stanley Burt arouses the sympathy and enthusiasm of the house as May Berresford; Mr. Gerald Shirley is a good second juvenile lead as Lord Allendale; Yam Yam, a Chinese dandy, has a good interpreter in Mr. James Severn; Mr. Joshua Sampson, a wealthy merchant, is well depicted by Mr. Fred Waring; and Mr. Reginald Payne is adequate as George Berresford.

MESSRS. GLENVILLE AND ELLISTON'S company's performance of *The Wicked City* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, last week was very successful. It was their third visit with the play to Stratford, with new scenery, &c. Miss Treherne, Miss Farquharson, and Miss Walton did justice to their parts of Doris Grant, Clementina Spikes, and Cora Despard, and praise must be given to Mr. H. Eglinton as Charlie Chance and Mr. H. Botton as the landlord of the Henley Arms. Mr. Grahame handled Paul Desmond with firm and striking effect, especially in the dissecting-room scene and the desperate struggle in the last act. Credit is due to Miss E. Rosslyn and Miss W. Rousby. In August Messrs. Glenville and Elliston are touring *Her Past Redeemed*, by H. H. Hewson.

IN our notice of the performance of *M.P.* at the Coronet Theatre last week our critic described the part of Chudleigh Dunscombe as being played by Mr. Arthur Wontner instead of by its real representative, Mr. Athol Stewart.

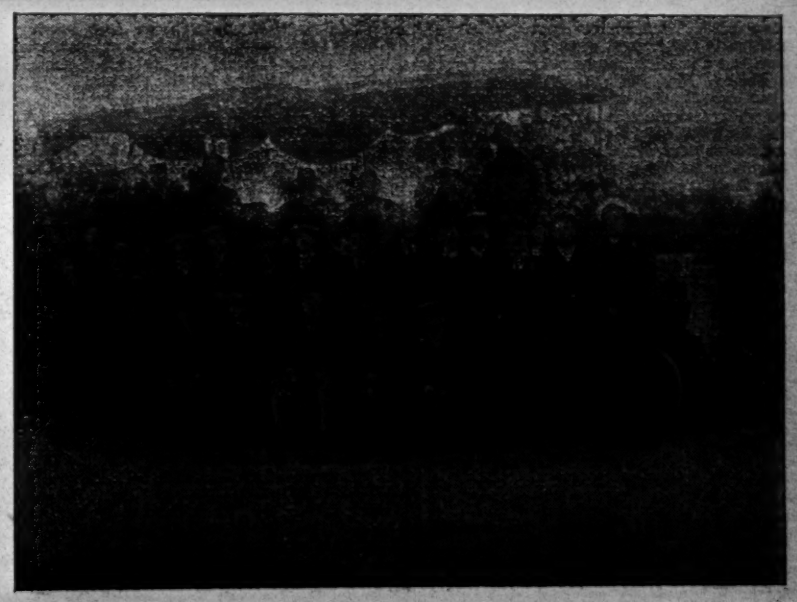

TORQUAY THEATRE STAFF OUTING.

(Taken on Dartmoor by Mr. H. Crocker, the Director of the Orchestra.)

The annual outing of the staff of the Theatre Royal, Torquay, was held on Saturday last in glorious weather. The party, which numbered upwards of thirty, including Alderman W. H. Mortimer (managing-director) and Mr. Arthur Pearse (secretary) left Torquay by motor char-a-banc in the early morning. The trip to Bovey Tracey and thence across the heart of Dartmoor to Princetown, was most enjoyable. It was at the latter place that our photograph was taken by Mr. Harry Crocker, the leader of the orchestra. The party then proceeded to Plymouth, where an excellent dinner was served. The health of the managing-director (Alderman Mortimer) was drunk with enthusiasm, and the latter, in replying, thanked the staff for their continued co-operation in connection with the work of the theatre, and eulogised the valuable assistance rendered to him by the secretary (Mr. Arthur Pearse), who efforts were always in the direction of making the theatre more comfortable and inviting to patrons. After dinner the party returned to Torquay, arriving about midnight, having spent one of the most successful outings on record.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE has invited Mr. Louis N. Parker to join in the work of "producing" *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's Theatre. The revival will take place early in September. Mr. Percy Macquoid will design the costumes. With Sir Herbert Tree as Cardinal Wolsey, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Henry VIII. and Queen Katherine, Mr. Henry Ainley as the Duke of Buckingham, and Mr. A. E. George and Mr. William Haviland also in the cast, the production should be a fine one. It is worthy of note that in Sir Henry Irving's revival of *Henry VIII.* at the Lyceum in 1892 Miss Violet Vanbrugh enacted Anne Boleyn.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY will conclude his season at the Lyceum with some performances of *The Breed of the Treshams*, which will replace *Richard III.* on Saturday week, June 25. The success of *Richard III.* has been so marked that Mr. Harvey hopes to revive it in London at no very distant date. Meanwhile, playgoers will welcome *The Breed of the Treshams*, which has not been revived for a very long space of time, and which will no doubt fill the large Lyceum auditorium for the rest of Mr. Harvey's season, which must end in the middle of July, in order that the popular actor may have a short holiday before his autumn tour.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH, for his forthcoming production of *Billy's Bargain* at the Garrick, has engaged Miss Olga Morra, an actress of European experience, to sustain the part of Vera Vanderhousen, a part originally played at the King's, Hammersmith, by Miss Madge Titheradge, when the piece was produced there under the title of *Billy Rotterford's Descent.*

MR. MULHOLLAND has been appointed a member of the Metropolitan Water Board by the unanimous vote of the Hammersmith Borough Council, of which body he is an alderman. It will be remembered that, on behalf of the Theatres Alliance, and in conjunction with the Theatrical Managers' Association and the Society of West-End managers, Mr. Mulholland recently fought a test case against the Water Board in connection with the unfair and arbitrary charges made by the Board in respect of hydrants in theatres, and although the case was technically lost, the result has been that the L.C.C. are now prepared to consider half the number of hydrants they previously demanded, so that the Water Board's charges will be reduced accordingly.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN'S statements respecting his Repertory Theatre have, it seems, been misunderstood. He wishes it to be known that he has made propositions to Mr. Bernard Shaw, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. John Galsworthy, and Miss Elizabeth Baker, authoress of *Chains*, for plays. They have failed up to the present to return favourable replies. In his next season Mr. Frohman does not propose to change his programme so often as during last season, but each play will after its production be repeated for the same number of performances, the revivals (if any) depending on the success of the pieces.

MR. CHARLES RANN KENNEDY is writing a preface for the next edition of his play, *The Servant in the House*, which, it will be remembered, was published by Harpers over two years ago. The preface will take the form of an open letter to a distinguished English actor-manager, and will be entitled "On a Question of Dates." It will include facsimiles of an interesting correspondence in June, 1907.

LADY BANCROFT, our readers will rejoice to learn, is now making rapid recovery from her long and severe illness, but will not be at her London house this season.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE, if he requires a change of bill during the summer, will put on a new play to carry him through until the late autumn, but if *Tantalising Tommy* continues to attract the public he will make no change until the end of September, when he will produce a new four-act comedy by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Miss Nancy Price will appear. At Christmas Mr. Maude will produce a musical version of *Cinderella*, written by Mr. Leo Trevor, with music by Mr. Herman Lohr, cousin of Miss Marie Lohr. Miss Margery Maude will be in the cast.

IN the House of Commons, on Tuesday, Mr. R. Harcourt asked the Home Secretary whether he had considered the report of the Joint Committee on Stage Plays (Censorship), recommending, inter alia, that a single licence should be granted to both theatres and music halls, and that the existing obligation to obtain the sanction of the Lord Chamberlain to the performance of stage plays should be abolished; and whether he proposed to introduce legislation accordingly. Mr. Churchill said: "I can only reply that the report is under my consideration."

MR. W. CLARKSON has, for the seventeenth time, supplied the uniforms, costumes, wigs, arms, accoutrements, &c., for this year's Royal Naval and Military Tournament. A special feature in the tournament, which opens on Monday, is the pageant called "Britannia's Muster," for which, in addition to the dresses, wigs, &c., Mr. Clarkson is providing five cars representing the Colonies, Cape Colony, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and one car for Britannia to be seated on a throne with trident, shield, with a real stuffed lion at her side, and a real stuffed kangaroo on the Australian car. Mr. Clarkson has just shipped to Toronto a thousand costumes, uniforms, wigs, &c., for the Canadian celebration there called the Queen's Own Rifles Semi-Centennial Reunion, which is being produced by Mr. John Henderson. Mr. Clarkson had less than two months in which to provide them and ship them to Canada.

SIR HERBERT TREE, speaking after the fall of the curtain on *The O'Flynn* on Saturday night, at the New Theatre, Cardiff, after having thanked the audiences for the warmth of their reception, hoped they would continue to encourage the theatre, for the future of the theatre in Wales lay largely with the public in Cardiff. He hoped that one of these days they might have something in Cardiff similar to the institution he hoped he had established in London with great success—a Shakespeare festival. Anything that could be done to create a love for Shakespeare must be for the good of the people.

CABLES from South Africa announce the wedding on Wednesday last of Miss Alma Griffiths to Mr. Douglas Christopherson, one of the best-known of the English section of South African mining magnates. The wedding was celebrated at Cape Town Cathedral, and the bride was given away by Dr. Jameson.

MISS GRIFFITHS, who was Miss Lily Elsie's understudy in *The Merry Widow*, appeared as the Princess in *The Waltz Dream*, after which she joined the Wheeler-Edwardes Gaiety company to tour South Africa, and for twelve months was the leading lady. It was during her success as Alice in *The Dollar Princess* at Johannesburg that she was wooed and won by Mr. Christopherson. That gentleman is a member of the well-known Kentish athletic family. Sixteen years ago he chose South Africa as his home, and has a palatial residence at Parktown, Johannesburg. He took part in the Jameson raid, and fought through the Boer War.

THE following memorial was sent to Mr. Asquith with reference to the Woman Suffrage Bill:—"Sir,—We, the undersigned members of the theatrical profession, desire to record our belief that women ought without delay to be admitted to the Parliamentary franchise. A disqualification for the franchise founded merely upon sex we consider to be not only an injustice, but, in these days of political, social, industrial, and artistic activity amongst women, an anomaly, and an unworthy relic of less enlightened times. We believe that women both need and fully deserve the Parliamentary vote, in order that they may employ it for the protection of their professional and industrial interests and for the promotion of the national welfare. We, therefore, respectfully urge that the Government, of which you are the head shall accord facilities to the Woman Suffrage Bill to be introduced in the House of Commons on June 14. This measure, which will confer the vote upon women householders and occupiers, has our earnest support, and we trust that you, as Prime Minister, will make such provision as will enable the Bill to become law during the present session of Parliament.—We are, your obedient servants, Sir John Hare, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. Basil Gill, Miss Fay Davis, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Miss Charlotte Granville, Miss Edith Craig, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Gertrude Elliott (Mrs. Forbes-Robertson), Miss Mary Moore, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Miss Katherine Compton (Mr. R. C. Carton), Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Decima Moore, Miss May Whitty.

IN the suffrage procession this evening Miss Cicely Hamilton, Miss Elizabeth Robins, Miss Evelyn Sharpe, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Janette Steer, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Winifred Mayo, Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Mme Liza Lehmann, Miss Beatrice Harraden, and Miss Esther Palliser will take part.

MR. EDMUND PAYNE reappeared at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday, after a six months' absence owing to illness, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, which was provided with a new second act, with fresh scenery, dances, and songs. In the new second act Mr. Payne appears as an extravagantly attired jinrickshaman and jiu-jitsu wrestler, and as a rooster in a burlesque of *Chantecler*, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., being seen as an attenuated hen pheasant. Mr. Grossmith's "Yip-i-addy" is replaced by an "Angelina" song, with a chorus of country cousins; and other novelties are Miss Olive May's song on a swing of flowers, and a Scotch song, "In the Hielans," for Miss Jean Aylwin.

MR. CHARLES GIBBONS'S tour of the screamingly funny farce, by Michael Morton, *The Little Stranger*, opens at Bexhill on Thursday next, with Eastbourne, Douglas, Scarborough, Newcastle, Lowestoft, &c., to follow. The cast includes the marvellous little baby actress little Hetty Hornsby, Messrs. Charles Fancourt, Edward Jephson, Bruce Lindley, J. W. Wilkinson, W. S. Stevenson, Miss Jean Harcourt, Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Carrie Young, and the talented young actress Miss Nellie Clyde, Mr. Gibbon himself appearing as Paul Vronsky. The piece is being produced by Mr. Charles Steuart.

MR. PAUL RUBENS has now joined Miss Jessie Bateman in the Waxworks at the Theatrical Garden Party. Mr. Thomas Beecham has kindly expressed a wish that all his artists will appear in the Palais de Luxe. Miss Lena Ashwell and Miss Eva Moore have recruited fifty-two leading actors and actresses to assist them at the Lake Tea Chalet, and Miss Compton and the indefatigable Mrs. Gay have collected a fine array of theatrical photos.

MR. FRANK ROTHSAY, who has been acting-manager of the Stratford Borough Theatre since its opening in 1896, has severed his connection with the Messrs. Fredericks, and has accepted an appointment under the régime of Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton. Mr. Rothsay made himself immensely popular in Stratford, and his annual complimentary benefits were conspicuous for the well-known artists who have assisted thereat and for the splendid attendances. He will take with him in his new sphere very many good wishes from playgoing Stratford.

"PROBATION," a play in three acts, by Frances M. Lightner, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on June 10.

MR. GEORGE MARLOW has secured through his agent, Mr. Edward Thane, the Australian and New Zealand rights of Mr. Frederick Melville's most successful drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. Marlow is giving the play a trial run at Adelaide before producing at his new theatre in Sydney.

MR. GEORGE ARLISS, who has been touring the United States with *Septimus*, a dramatisation of W. J. Locke's novel of the same name, has returned to England for the summer.

THE first London suburban production of *My Lady Bellamy*, which is being toured by Mr. Alex. Maclean, and is meeting with a great success, will take place at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Monday, June 20, for six nights; special matinée, Thursday, June 23, at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Alfred Martin is acting as business-manager for Mr. Maclean.

MR. HARRY YOUNG, the popular manager of the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, who has held that important position for some seven years, will take his second annual benefit on Thursday evening next. The Bootle Borough Band will be present, and some thirty turns, by variety artists engaged in Liverpool, will be provided.

MISS LILA FIELD will give her fifth dramatic and musical matinée on Friday next at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, when a new one-act comedy, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Price, entitled *Out of Sight*, will be played. *The Lily Queen*, produced by Miss Field at her last matinée, will be repeated in improved form, only children taking part in it. The celebrated Russian dancers Mme. Anna Pavlova and Michael Mordkin are to be imitated by Victoria Pacy and Edna Maude.

AFTER the performance of *David Garrick* by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, last Saturday the curtain was re-raised, and disclosed Mr. James Langdon Lee standing in the midst of a pretty green upholstered sitting-room suite. This furniture, Mr. Lee announced, was to be presented to the holder of the winning number drawn from a box containing all the tickets that had been sold that evening. Representatives from the audience were desired to step upon the stage and witness the strict fairness of the proceedings. After the box containing the tickets had been shaken by several people from different parts of the house, it was passed to Miss Beatrice Wilson, who with Mr. Norman remained upon the stage to witness the proceedings. Miss Wilson put her hand in, drew out a number, and read it off in clear tones. The suite was won by a Mr. S. F. Heal.

MR. LEWIS WALLER is busy with rehearsals of *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, which will shortly replace *Don César de Bazan* at the Lyric Theatre. The piece originally ran at the Imperial for something like three months, and drew more money to the exchequer of that theatre during the time specified than any of the long series presented there by Mr. Waller. The part of the heroine will be sustained by Miss Madge Titheradge; Mr. Herbert Jarman will enact the rôle originally in the hands of Mr. Lyall S. Swete, and Mr. Waller will undertake the character in which he appeared when the piece was produced at the Imperial Theatre on April 16, 1904.

TWICE-NIGHTLY drama is proving a trump card at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, where Mr. W. W. Kelly is running a special summer season on the lines indicated. For weeks past Mr. Kelly has had eighteen performances a week, the afternoons being devoted to cinematograph matinées, and it has been no uncommon thing for the "house full" boards to be out thrice daily. On Monday Mr. Kelly will present Mr. James Lodge-Percy and Mr. James Martin's company in a répertoire of plays, and on Friday a benefit is to be accorded Miss Henrietta Schrier.

THE forthcoming attraction at Mr. W. W. Kelly's Liverpool theatre is Mr. James Willard's new production *Paying the Price*. The company includes Mr. Willard and Mr. Charles Carte. On Monday week Miss Edith Cole (Mrs. W. W. Kelly) will make her first appearance at her husband's theatre, appearing as the Duchess in support of Mr. Auguste Van Biene in *The Broken Melody*.

THE committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre will give a pageant representative of Elizabethan days, called "The Masque of Shakespeare," on June 30 and July 1, at four o'clock, in the gardens of St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, the residence of Lord Londesborough. Besides these two performances there will be a third, on July 2, at 3.30, at Knole, Sevenoaks, Lord Sackville's house.

THE Masque will introduce many of the principal characters in the dramatist's plays, some allegorical personages, and some of the actors and actresses of the last two centuries. There will be a Frolic of Titania and her Fairies, a pavane in which some of the characters take part, and an Allegorical Dance (a Masque within a Masque) called into being by Prospero.

THE music for the dances has been specially written by Mr. Morton Stephenson, while the book has been put together by Mrs. Edith Lyttleton. The Masque will be produced by Mr. Philip Carr. Among the performers will be Miss Elizabeth Asquith and Mrs. Winston Churchill. Miss Lillah McCarthy and Miss Lilian Braithwaite are to appear as Tragedy and Comedy.

MISS HORNIMAN, owing to the fact that a dramatic performance was given at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on May 7, the day on which King Edward's death became known, has decided to withdraw the subsidy which she has hitherto granted to the Abbey Theatre. The subsidy which the Abbey Theatre has enjoyed was granted for four years.

MR. BLAKE ADAMS has received many congratulations on his son Ronald having obtained a three years' scholarship for the University College School, Frognal.

MR. EDWARD AVINAL, whose career we described last week, has just returned to town after successfully playing the principal heavy rôles in Mr. Robert Arthur's and S. Forbes Knowles's stock season at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen. He has not yet arranged for the autumn.

IN the suit brought by Mr. W. Clarkson, the famous London theatrical costumier, against the lessees of the Porte-Saint-Martin Theatre for breach of contract in reference to the supply of costumes for *Chantecler*, the Court on Monday ordered the plaintiff to lodge £80 as security for the costs of the action.

MR. W. E. POTTS is in London, booking for his forthcoming season at the Opera House, Dunfermline. The last season was the best he has had, He has made many excellent bookings, and everything promises well for the autumn and winter.

THE leading juvenile part in the new farce by Helene Gingold, entitled *Looking for Trouble*, which will be produced in Brighton on July 4, will be created by Mr. Blake Adams, instead of Mr. Walter Pearce as stated.

THE many professional friends of Mr. Fred S. Jennings, the genial and popular manager of the Lyric, Hammersmith, will be glad to hear that he has almost entirely recovered from his recent indisposition, and that his continued discharge of his duties is no longer attended with any discomfort.

MISS EVELYN MILLARD has arranged with Sir Charles Wyndham for a short season at the New Theatre, and will start operations there on or about Sept. 1, her season lasting till the middle of October, when Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton will appear at the New Theatre in *Count Hannibal*.

THE third of the Robertson comedies that Mr. Robert Arthur will stage at the Coronet is *Caste*, which will be produced next Saturday, June 25. Mr. O. B. Clarence will be Eccles; Miss Adeline Bourne the Esther; and Miss Rosie Begarnie the Polly. Mrs. A. B. Tapping will appear as the Marquise; her son, Mr. Athol Stewart, as the Hon. George D'Alroy; and Mr. James Carew as Captain Hawtree.

THE annual benefit of Mr. John Gaffney, the esteemed manager and secretary of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, which took place last week, was most successful. Mr. Gaffney has been connected with this theatre since it was built in 1888, and his yearly "red letter night" is always looked forward to with interest. At his last gathering all the principal variety artists engaged in the city and district came forward to offer their services, and a number of local amateurs and others gave a most humorous rendering of *Bardell v. Pickwick*.

THE cast of Messrs. Leo Trevor and John Harwood's sporting melodrama *The Pick of Oakham; or, The Girl with the Bad Habit*, which will be an important attraction at the theatrical garden-party at the Botanic Gardens on the 28th inst, will include Mr. E. M. Robson, Mr. Kenneth Douglas, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. John Beauchamp, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Constance Hyem, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother.

IT is now fifteen months since Mr. Louis Hillier introduced Cavaliere Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company to the London public, when it gave very successful seasons at the Coronet and Drury Lane Theatres and operatic concerts at the Albert Hall, Queen's Hall, and Alhambra. Meanwhile the company has been travelling all over England, Scotland, and Ireland, and on Sunday next it will again be heard in London, appearing at the Albert Hall in airs, duets, and ensembles from Italian opera, sung by Signori Folco, Barbato, Vail, Catini, and Modesti, and Mesdames Protti, Rocco, and Defral. The orchestra will be conducted by Signor Papi and Mr. Louis Hillier.

WE regret to announce the death of Miss Nellie Thearle (Mrs. Stanley Hope), who passed away after a very short illness on Wednesday last. Miss Thearle and her husband, who is the manager of the Opera House, Jersey, were on a short holiday in London prior to the commencement of the summer season. On the 2nd inst. Mrs. Hope suffered a serious attack of cerebral hæmorrhage, from which she never recovered.

MISS NELLIE THEARLE was a graceful and accomplished actress, and appeared several times in the earlier days of her stage career with the then famous Lytton Amateur Dramatic Club in Liverpool. She has held engagements with many first-class companies, always playing principal rôles, and was at one time a member of Mr. F. R. Benson's company, undertaking an important round of parts in the very extensive Shakespearean répertoire. After meeting her husband in 1896 she then toured with his companies, playing Rosamond in *Sowing the Wind*, Faith Desborough in *The Defender of the Faith*, and in various other pieces and productions. Since residing in Jersey Miss Thearle's appearances on the stage have been very few. The funeral is to take place to-day at the Kirkdale Cemetery, Liverpool, at 2 p.m.

MR. ARMSTRONG BELL, whose funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, has been succeeded at the Royal, Portsmouth, by Mr. Arthur A. Homer, who has during the long illness of the deceased been his efficient *locum tenens*.

MR. TOM WATT has still further strengthened his excellent company playing the Heath-Wilson Barrett Bullock version of *East Lynne* by engaging Mr. Frank Beresford to enact Archibald Carlyle and stage-manage. Mr. Beresford will be remembered for his sterling work as John Storm in *The Christian*, in the title-part in *Convict 99*, and as George Thornton in *Two Little Vagabonds*. Under his able direction the old play is going more strongly than ever, and is now in the twenty-second consecutive week of its tour.

MR. J. W. LINDSAY has engaged Miss Pauline Emeric, who made such a success as Sunday, for Klara in *Lights Out*, also Arthur T. Barugh, Herbert Lugg, Alfred Clude Clarke, Francis J. Bitbell, and Miss Jessie Jay.

MISS DORA HAMMERSLEY begins her dramatic stock season, under the management of Mr. Charles Kean, at the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, on Monday. The opening attraction will be the celebrated drama *The Shaughraun*.

AT their meeting on Tuesday the Margate Town Council granted a licence for the performance of stage plays at the Margate Hippodrome. Similar application had been made on several occasions to the Town Council as the licensing authority, but had hitherto always been successfully opposed by Mr. Edward Michael, managing-director of the Theatre Royal. On this occasion notice of opposition had been given, but was withdrawn.

AN artistically printed booklet is issued in connection with Mr. Robert Arthur's season of Robertson comedies at the Coronet. The front page is adorned with a photograph in colours of Miss Rosie Begarnie, who plays the Marie Wilton parts, and full length portraits of the other pricipals of the company, including Mr. James Carew, Mr O. B. Clarence, Mr. James R. La Fane, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. Athol Stewart, Mr. Arthur Wontner, Miss Adeline Bourne, and Miss Nell Compton are given, together with short summaries of their careers.

THE religious ceremony in connection with the marriage of Miss Dorothy Chard, the well-known musical comedy actress, and Mr. Guy St. B. Watkins was performed at St. Peter's Church, Piccadilly, on Wednesday. The pair were secretly married at the registrar's office, Portsmouth, when Miss Chard was playing principal "boy" at the Theatre Royal last season.

THE Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, will be closed from Monday next (except from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., when members can get their letters) and will be reopened at the new premises, 5, Wardour-street, W., at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

MISS LUCY BEAUMONT has been engaged to play the title-rôle in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* in Mr. Gaston Mayer's No. 1 company in the autumn. Miss Beaumont has just returned from a two years' tour in the Far East and India, where she played the genial owner of the cabbage patch with such conspicuous success that she was secured for the part by the astute Mr. Mayer within three weeks of her return to this country.

PRIOR to starting their tour at Clacton-on-Sea on July 23, Mr. Charles Hartley and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull will give some matinées of their entertainment at various places on the South Coast next month, commencing at the Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare. Exmouth, Brighton, Ramsgate, and Sandown will also be visited in the order named.

MR. ARTHUR WONTNER, who is on tour with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, will appear at the Coronet Theatre in *Society* on July 5, with Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. W. G. Fay, and others.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN has secured *The Eldest Son*, the latest play written by Mr. John Galsworthy, for production at the Duke of York's Theatre next season.

A BENEFIT matinée, organised by the Actress' Franchise League, will be given at the Kingsway Theatre on Tuesday. The first item is *How the Vote was Won*, by Miss Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John. This will be followed by Mr. George Bernard Shaw's *Press Cuttings*, and a recitation by Miss Maxine Elliott. Amongst those who will appear are Mmes. Edyth Olive, Auriol Lee, Agnes Thomas, Alice Crawford, Pollie Emery, Marianne Caldwell, Nella Powys, Di Forbes, and Beatrice Terry, and Messrs. Ben Webster, Frederick Lloyd, E. Rigby, and Leslie Faber. Misses Zena Dare, Lillah McCarthy, Lilian Braithwaite, and Adeline Bourne will sell programmes.

MR. WOLFE S. LYON, who is paying an extended visit to America and Canada, writes appreciatively of the doings in theatrical circles in Montreal. "At the Prince's Theatre," he says, "the Scala Opera Company, which was lately at the Lyric in London is doing big business with the usual répertoire, but the sensation of the week is Alice Lloyd and the MacNaughtons. There are about twenty picture palaces in the city, where they show about four films and have the same number of variety turns. Admission is 2½d., 5d., and 10d. The attraction at each this week is the funeral of the late King."

"MR. HERMANN VEZIN," writes the late John Hollingshead, "once did a great service for Samuel Phelps. Hollingshead had asked Phelps to play Falstaff, and the uncomfortable 'stuffing' supposed to be necessary for the part made it particularly arduous to an actor of three-score and ten. Hermann Vezin came to the rescue by introducing an 'anatomical tailor,' who devised a false body and stomach inflated after the manner of a balloon. For the first time in his life Phelps played Falstaff without any sense of physical exhaustion. Incidentally the device was good from the spectators' point of view. The false body followed the movements of the actor's figure, and 'did not give the appearance of a feather bed strapped round the body.'"

FOR Mr. Percy Hutchison's autumn tour of *Smith*, Mr. T. J. Phillips has been retained for business manager, thus fulfilling his twelfth engagement with Mr. Hutchison. Mr. Phillips was acting-manager for many years at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, with the late Mrs. H. Nye Chart, and claims to be the first to arrange for an entire London company to give a special matinée in the provinces, playing the same evening in London.

TWO interesting theatrical marriages will shortly take place in Paris. Mlle. Lina Cavalieri is to marry Mr. Chanler, a rich American, and the Cuckoo in *Chantecler* is to marry the White Hen, or, in other words, M. Chomin and Mlle. Flore Bergeys are to wed. M. Rostand has promised to give the bride away. This is the second *Chantecler* marriage. The previous one was that of M. Jean Coquelin, the Dog.

THE concluding day of the Morecambe Musical Festival, which had to be postponed on account of the death of the late King, will take place to-day in the Winter Gardens. About 2,500 competitors are taking part. Professor Granville Bantock, Frederick Corder, and Mr. Tertius Noble are the adjudicators. Nine choirs—those of Accrington, Barnoldswick, Barrow, Blackpool, Bywell (Durham), Lancaster, Morecambe Madrigal, Preston, and Southport—will compete for the hundred-guinea challenge shield.

"THE PRINCE OF KNAVES," a comic opera, in three acts, the book by W. H. Clinton Baddeley, and the music by Claude Fenn-Leyland, was given a copyright performance on June 10 at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

PARIS is to have a puppet theatre, which will be opened at Montmartre at the top of the well-known hill. The dolls will be designed by artists, and the repertory will include Molière's *Marriage Force, Medecin Malgré Lui*, and *Amphitryon*, besides ancient and modern farces.

OWING to the sudden indisposition of the lady who has been playing Lady Isobel in Mr. Tom Watt's Bullock version of *East Lynne* on Saturday last, Miss Ida Heron was called upon to take up the part at an hour's notice, and gave a clever impersonation.

MR. R. C. CARTON, the distinguished dramatist, has given the *Daily Express* his ideas on repertory theatres. "Those who look on," says Mr. Carton, "generally see most of the game, and I speak to you merely as a fairly experienced spectator. Now, in the first place, a Repertory Theatre needs time. It is a growth. You cannot make one 'overnight.' And my best example of a genuine Repertory Theatre would be that at the Lyceum during Sir Henry Irving's tenure of the house.

"SIR HENRY, by dint of time, work, experience, and an infinite patience, got a genuine repertory of plays about him—a collection of perfectly equipped revivals which he could mount on the shortest possible notice. There you had the flower in full bloom—the plant in its perfection.

"WHERE I join issue with our friend, Mr. Frohman's, arrangement is in his rapidity and prodigality of presentation. It seems to me perfectly ludicrous to produce plays by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Barker, and Mr. Galsworthy and hand over these valuable goods within a month. Mr. Frohman literally dazzled us with his embarrassment of riches. He threw a necklace of Koh-i-Noors round the public neck and expected the public to appreciate the glittering circle at its proper value.

"I CAN assure our gallant and adventurous Mr. Frohman that the public needs more time, more elbow room. The busy playgoer can't keep his eye glued to the advertisements in the papers. He needs guidance in the ordinary columns of the journals, and the cicerones of the Press were positively unable to keep up with the American Marathonist.

"AND that brings me to my point. Instead of the repertory system—as we understand it to-day—I would revert to the Vedrenne-Barker system at the Court Theatre and give each play a short run—interspersed, if you like, by the revival of plays which have already hit the bull's-eye."

WITH *The Whip* (says the *Daily Chronicle*) Mr. Arthur Collins has beaten all records along the road that reaches back to the starting place (Sept. 16, 1897) of his management. And he can go further back than that, and stand the winner by a long way in the runs of drama organised by the late Sir Augustus Harris on the same course. It was considered a wonderful thing—as indeed it deserved so to be considered—when *The World* (by Paul Meritt, Henry Pettitt, and Augustus Harris) scored in its first run 120 performances, in its second 36, and in its third 72. The total score for the first production and the two revivals was 228.

LAST Tuesday evening *The Whip* reached its 200th performance—and as yet it is only in the middle of its first revival! If it continues in the way it is going—which is clearly the way it should go, in view of its many attractive qualities—Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton's stirring drama of the picturesque possibilities of "real life" is likely to reach the figure of 250 representations—and this without the advantage of a second revival, as in the case of *The World*.

BUT in its first run *The World* stands registered as the victor over *The Whip*, for it ran straight away without stopping for 120 performances, while the latter drama's score, when it had to be removed to accommodate the pantomime of 1909-10, was 112. And greater even than *The World's* record for a first run was that put up by the Klaw and Erlanger production of General Lew Wallace's *Ben Hur* in 1902. This had an unbroken run of 122 performances—the highest of unbroken runs in the history of Drury Lane drama; though it could easily have been beaten, even to doubling, by *The Whip* if it had not been necessary to withdraw this play on Dec. 8 to make way for the pantomime of *Aladdin*.

THE shortest run made by a regular Drury Lane drama was that of *A Sailor and His Lass* (forty-eight performances); the next shortest being that of *The Royal Oak*, both produced in Augustus Harris's time. Its score was sixty-two performances.

IN the Jehanghier Hall of the Imperial Institute a most interesting dramatic reading was given last week by the British Empire Shakespeare Society before a highly appreciative audience. *The Winter's Tale* was the play chosen for the occasion, and had the advantage of being given by a particularly well-selected cast. The Leontes was Mr. William Devereux, who was excellently suited. Mr. Acton Bond, under whose direction the reading was given, was highly amusing in the part of Autolycus, as was also Mr. J. Henry Twyford, as the Clown, and Mr. J. Edwyn Holloway, as the Shepherd. Mr. Franklyn Dyall was excellent as Polixenes; while Camillo, Antigonus, and Florizel were in the very able hands of Messrs. Arthur Burne, Fewlass Llewellyn, and Maurice Elvey. Miss Frances Dillon "doubled" the parts of Hermione and Perdita with great distinction; and Miss Gertrude Scott was no less effective in the part of Paulina. The singing was in the capable hands of Miss Rita Tomkins (Mopsa) and Miss Marjorie Hopcraft (Dorcas). Miss Eve Tame, Miss Gwladys Morris, and Miss Dorothy Lemarchand were well suited as Time, Emilia, and Mamillius. Mr. J. M. Clive and Mr. Walter Armstrong completed the cast.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Too High.

MR. G. P. HUNTLEY relates in *M.A.P.* an amusing experience he once had when playing in a provincial pantomime. The stage hands organised a draw for a turkey, and all the members of the company bought tickets. The turkey was won by a limelight man; but as his wife did not know how to cook it, she asked him to put it up again. This was done, and the next time it was won by a sceneshifter who did not like turkeys. So he followed the limelight man's example, and organised another raffle. These draws went on for several weeks, and they were always being won by the stage hands, and financially supported by the actors and actresses. At last, on the concluding night of the pantomime, Mr. Huntley won the bird—by that time it had cost him over a couple of pounds. I took that unfortunate turkey out of the theatre," he says, "but I did not carry it home. I thought it advisable to leave it on the doorstep of a local sanitary inspector!"

Sir Herbert Tree's Opinions.

SIR HERBERT TREE, asked by a Cardiff interviewer what it was like to be always dressing and undressing, remarked, "We don't do so more than an Emperor. The actor's life is very hard work, and few who go any way in our profession find it anything but a kind of slavery. However, the chains are of roses when we succeed in pleasing the public."

SIR HERBERT mentioned that he had had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Lloyd George on several occasions, and also at His Majesty's Theatre. Being a great admirer of Mr. Lloyd George, he went to hear the Chancellor speak at one of his meetings. Mr. Lloyd George had to disappear to address an overflow meeting. Sir Herbert was recognised and pressed to speak. For the only time in his life the great actor fled. Sir Herbert thinks the oratory of Mr. Lloyd George is very much like that of Mark Antony.

"LIKE all thinking men, I have no politics," said Sir Herbert, adding, "When talking to men of weight, I find they only label themselves Conservative or Liberal in order to get votes. Everything in politics must be black or white. Black must be white to one, and white black to the other, while things are mostly grey." Sir Herbert, continuing, said, "Our whole civilisation is a battle with the brute forces of nature and with the natural selfishness of the animal-man. Would not many of the measures introduced by the Conservative party have been called violently Socialistic a few years ago? I have never been able to understand what are called the glorious traditions of the Conservative and Liberal parties. What is the Conservative of to-day but the Liberal of yesterday? As W. S. Gilbert used to say, 'The dust of an earthy to-day is the earth of a dusty to-morrow.'"

Mr. Shaw and Mr. Frohman.

MR. BERNARD SHAW has been interviewed by a representative of the *Observer* with the usual diverting results. He says the fact that his name and that of Mr. Granville Barker are conspicuously absent from the programme of the Repertory Theatre for 1911 means that Mr. Frohman, having tried a programme of plays by himself, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. Galsworthy, and so forth, is going to try again with a programme of plays by other authors.

That Stupid Public.

"THE public," says Mr. Shaw, "does not know enough about economics to understand what paying means. The higher drama—since you are kind enough to apply that term to my plays and those of Mr. Barker and Mr. Galsworthy—paid at the Court Theatre in the sense that everybody concerned got a living out of it. But if anybody supposes that the higher drama will pay at the rate of from 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. per night, they little know the condition of public taste in this country. Yet as long as such profits are possible in the theatre, plays which require some nursing through a period of public indifference and violent Press hostility before they begin to return a steady humdrum 10 to 20 per cent. will be regarded as failures."

"Scrap Your Failures."

"Now, the first rule of modern commercial management—a rule which is an absolute necessity of the game—is to cut your failures—meaning the pieces which do not fill the house to the doors—and cut them promptly, no matter how much you have spent on them, scrapping failure after failure until you hit on a success. You must never argue with the public or with the Press. You take your defeats like a man, and you forget all about them when the successes come. But on this method you can have no higher drama at all, for both the Press and the public regard the higher drama as so much nasty medicine."

Those Unfair Critics.

"AT the Repertory Theatre there were critics who laughed so much over *Misalliance* and *The Madras House* that there were some question of asking them to leave the theatre if they could not control themselves, as they were delaying the performance; yet these very critics informed the public next morning that they had suffered the weariest agonies of boredom, simply because that is the customary thing to write about such plays.

"They write it just as they wear two-inch collars. For the same reason they describe me on all other occasions as one of our leading dramatists and an amazingly brilliant and witty writer, because that, too, is the fashion. As to noticing their own sensations or forming an independent opinion, they are too shy, too sheepish to do anything of the sort. Unfortunately, the prejudice they create, the impression of ignominious failure they set up at each new production, has to be lived down; and the process is much more difficult in a repertory theatre than in a short-run theatre like the Court."

The Last Resource.

"I shall never be able to persuade English men of business to endow the National Theatre unless I am in a position to say that I have exhausted all the resources of private enterprise. People would not believe that where Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker, at the little Court Theatre, in Sloane-square, had made a modest success, a great commercial manager like Mr. Frohman could not have made a triumphant one. Well, Mr. Frohman did his best, and was knocked out in a week."

At Us Again.

"MR. BARKER and I will presently break out in a new place, and show our friend Frohman how to perform commercial impossibilities. London and its Press may kick against the pricks as hard as it likes; but it has got to come along. It has pulled against us all through, and it is pulling still, and will keep on pulling; but it is already out of sight of the ground it was struggling to hold against us in 1904. The struggle has made frightful drafts on our energies; but, after all, what are our energies for? We shall be at you again before you have finished chuckling over this defeat of ours."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

DEATH OF HERMANN VEZIN.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Hermann Vezin, which took place at 3.20 on Sunday afternoon at his chambers in Lancaster-place, Strand, in his eighty-second year. Mr. Vezin had been seriously ill for eleven months. His son, Mr. Arthur Vezin, who had been with him only a few days ago, and was in the country at the time the summons reached him that his father was dying, hurried back to town, but was too late to see his father before his passing.

Mr. Hermann Vezin was born in Philadelphia, March 2, 1829, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1847, being admitted to the degree of M.A. three years later. He had French and German blood in his veins. His great-great-grandfather, Pierre de Vezin, born in 1654, suffered for having saved the lives of Huguenots, and had to fly to Hanover. There he settled down, and one of his great-grandchildren became the mother of the composer of "La Marseillaise," the celebrated Rouget de l'Isle. In 1850, partly through the influence of the late Charles Kean, Mr. Vezin entered the dramatic profession in England by accepting an engagement at the Theatre Royal, York, under the management of John Langford Pritchard. He played there various subordinate parts, including the character of Balthasar in *Much Ado About Nothing*, during Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean's representation of that play at the York theatre. Afterwards he accepted an engagement at Southampton, during which he had the opportunity of acting with the celebrated Mrs. Nisbet; and subsequently at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. In 1851 Mr. Vezin joined Mrs. Barnett's company on the "Ryde, Guildford, and Reading circuit," playing leading characters—Richelieu, Claude Melnotte, Young Norval, &c.

He made his first appearance in London on Easter Monday, 1852, at the Princess's Theatre, in the part of Pembroke in *King John*, when Mr. Charles Kean had the management of that establishment. During the season 1852-3 Mr. Vezin played Chatillon in *King John*, Rosse in *Macbeth*, and Montgiron in *The Corsican Brothers*. In 1857 he visited America. On his return to England in 1859 he took the Surrey Theatre, playing Hamlet, Othello, Shylock, King John, Louis XI., &c.

Another most important engagement undertaken by Mr. Vezin was in 1860, at Sadler's Wells. On Sept. 8, 1860, the opening night of Samuel Phelps's sole management of Sadler's Wells, in a revival of *As You Like It*, the deceased actor appeared as Orlando to the Rosalind of Mrs. Charles Young, whom he afterwards married. In writing of Mr. Vezin, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, who contributed to these columns for nearly forty years, said:—"There was evidence of intelligence which gives us great hopes of his future career on these boards. His voice and figure are greatly in his favour, and his action exceptionally easy and graceful." On Feb. 28, 1861, he was the Mark Antony at the same theatre to the Brutus of Phelps and the Cassius of Henry Marston. He played afterwards, with marked success, the character of Laertes, to Mr. Fechter's Hamlet, for seventy-three nights at the Princess's Theatre, in 1861. Subsequently he opened at the Lyceum with Mr. Falconer as Mr Arden in his comedy of *Woman; or, Love Against the World*, and afterwards acted the part of Harry Kavanagh in the same author's drama, *Peep o' Day*. In 1863 he married, as stated, Mrs. Charles Young, an actress of considerable reputation, who died on April 17, 1902, at the age of 74. They acted together the following year (Jan. 2, 1864) in *Donna Diana*, a poetical comedy adapted by Dr. Westland Marston from the German version of Moreto's Spanish play *El Desden Con el Desden*, and produced at the Princess's. After playing various important engagements at Metropolitan and other theatres, on July 20, 1867, he produced *The Man o' Airlie* (W. G. Wills) at the Princess's, playing James Harebell, a character with which Mr. Vezin's name will always be associated in dramatic annals. The germ of the play was an early poem, written by Wills on the occasion of the centenary of Burns. The piece, though partly derived from the German, was practically original. It might have been thought that a play which, with Mr. Vezin's acting in it, drew from George Henry Lewes in the *Spectator* one of the most enthusiastic appreciations, could not fail to make its mark. Those who went to see the piece were profoundly moved. Yet, produced in broiling July, it achieved little, nor has it ever been revived on the scale of its merits.

Another character which greatly increased the reputation of Mr. Hermann Vezin as a painstaking and judicious artist was that of Dr. Davy, in a comedy of that name, adapted from the French, *Le Docteur Robin*, a play by Jules de Prémaray, produced at the Paris Gymnase, in 1842, with Bouffe as the hero. Of this a German version was made by W. Friedrich in 1849, and translated into English by Hermann Vezin. *Doctor Davy*, based on Friedrich's piece, was the joint work, says Mr. Freeman Wills, of James Albery (author of *Two Roses*), Vezin, and W. G. Wills; "but it was chiefly the work of the last-named, though produced under Albery's name." *Doctor Davy* was produced at Greenwich in 1865, and Mr. Vezin played the title-rôle on the revival of the one-act comedy at the Lyceum in June, 1866.

On Oct. 3, 1868, at the Lyceum, Mr. Vezin sustained the part of Sir Guy de Malpas, first performance of Lord Lytton's drama, *The Rightful Heir*, Mrs. Hermann Vezin being the Lady Montreville, and subsequently at the Queen's Theatre, Long-acre, April 29, 1869, the character of Philip Earnscliffe in Burnand's play, *The Turn of the Tide*, founded on A. Edwardes's novel, "Morals of Mayfair," a piece which had a considerable run. On March 6, 1869, Westland Marston's *Life for Life* was produced at the Lyceum Theatre, in which Mr. Hermann Vezin played Murdock Mackane, supporting Lilian Adelaide Neilson in the part of the heroine, Lilian. At old Astley's Theatre he was the Iago to Phelps's Othello on Feb. 26, 1870—Mrs. Vezin playing Desdemona—a performance that he repeated on the occasion of the presentation of *Othello* by Creswick previous to his departure for America in the same year. On July 4, 1870, at the Gaiety, he played Dubosc and Lesurques in *The Courier of Lyons*, and on Sept. 7, 1870, he created the part of Roderick O'Malley in Boucicault's drama *The Rapparee*, produced at the Princess's. At the opening of the Court Theatre by Miss Marie Litton on Jan. 25, 1871, the deceased actor appeared in the character of Buckthorpe in Sir (then Mr.) W. S. Gilbert's piece *Randall's Thumb*.

On Sept. 9, 1871, Wills's *Hinko* was performed for the first time at the Queen's Theatre, Mr. Vezin undertaking the principal character, Henrico, and Mrs. Hermann Vezin being seen in the part of Markitta. At the Royal Alfred (the Marylebone) Theatre on Feb. 20, 1872, he appeared as Jasper Luxmore in the drama *Life's Race*, and returned to the Court in March of the same year to play Bertrand d'Etanges in *Broken Spells*. On Sept. 4, 1872, he made one of the chief hits of his acting career in the part of Martel in *The Son of the Soil* at the Court Theatre. The piece had been cleverly adapted by Hermann Merivale from *Le Lion Amoureux* by Ponsard, and was a great success. The critics of the day regarded Mr. Vezin's acting as a most brilliant piece of work. The honours of the evening were shared by Miss Ada Dyas, who passed away about two years ago. The original French piece referred to was produced at the Comédie-Française in 1866, with Bressant, Delaunay, Coquelin, and Madeleine Brohan in the chief rôles. During 1873 he acted Robert Audley in *Lady Audley's Secret*, and Peregrine in *John Bull*, and in 1874 Sigurd in *The White Pilgrim*, and Ford in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. In 1875, at the Opéra Comique, he played Jaques in *As You Like It*. At the Haymarket Theatre, Oct. 2, 1875, he "created" the part of Percy Pendragon in Byron's *Married in Haste*. The piece ran for a considerable time.

During the year 1876 he acted Macbeth at Drury Lane; Othello, at the Alexandra Palace; the Man o' Airlie, at the Haymarket; and Dan'l Druce (the first performance of that play, Sept. 11, 1876), at the same theatre, with very great success. In the cast of *Dan'l Druce* Mr. Forbes Robertson took the part of Geoffrey Wynyard, Miss Marion Terry was the Dorothy, Mr. E. J. Odell the Reuben Haines, and Mr. Henry Howe, the Sir Jasper Combe. On the production at the Crystal Palace, June 13, 1876, of Sophocles' *Œdipus Colonos*, the title-rôle was assigned to Mr. Vezin, who won distinction by the performance. In 1877 he played De Taldé in *The Danischeffs* at the St. James's Theatre, followed by the character of Sir Giles Overreach. Both were important successes. On March 30, 1878, Mr. Vezin sustained, at the Royal Court Theatre, the character of Dr. Primrose in Wills's *Olivia*, a play which met with remarkable favour. Of this part—which he got by the merest chance, since Sir John Hare meant it for himself, and when he found the cares of management more than enough first offered it to Charles Kelly—Mr. Vezin gave a most delightful and moving delineation. Mr. Vezin's vicar indeed was most impressive, and no more pathetic performance could well be imagined than that of Mr. Vezin during and after the finding of Olivia. It may be added that *Olivia* "ran" for one hundred and thirty-six nights, finishing Sept. 6, 1878. On Sept. 23 Mr. Vezin "opened" at the Adelphi as Pierre Lorance in *Proof*, a version of *Une Cause Célèbre*, adapted by Burnand, and continued to play the part till Feb. 1, 1879. At the same theatre, during Miss Adelaide Neilson's season, he appeared as Master Walter and Sir Thomas Clifford, in *The Hunchback*, alternating the parts with Mr. Henry Neville. He also shared with Mr. Neville the triumphs of a revival by Miss Neilson of *Amy Robsart*, Andrew Halliday's version of Sir Walter Scott's "Kenilworth," and appeared as Joseph Surface in *The School for Scandal*; and at morning performances as Richelieu. In the drama *Rescued*,

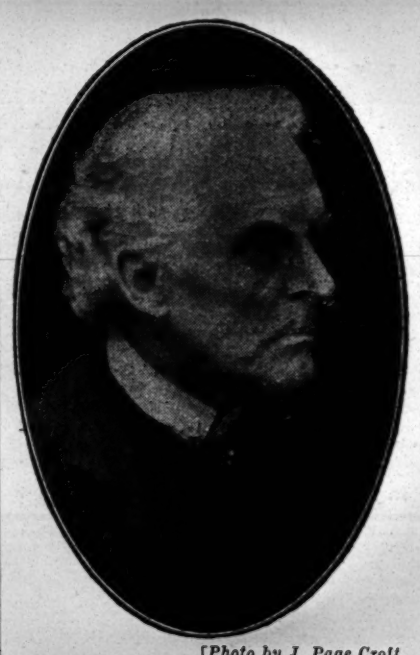

[*Photo by J. Page Croft.*

THE LATE MR. HERMANN VEZIN.

by Boucicault, produced at the Adelphi on Sept. 30, 1879, he created the part of Count Ruskov. At the opening of the Imperial Theatre for the spring season of 1880 by Miss Marie Litton Mr. Vezin played Jaques in that lady's memorable revival of *As You Like It*.

He played Colonel Abercrombie in Mr. Mortimer's version of *Les Vieux Garçons*, produced at the Haymarket on Sept. 14, 1881. In *The Cynic*, played at the Globe in 1882, Mr. Vezin presented an equivalent of Mephistopheles. Other parts were Simon Renard, in *A Shadow Sceptre*, Prince's Theatre, Manchester; Count de Lys, in Mr. Mortimer's adaptation of *Diane de Lys*; Edgar, in Tennyson's *Promise of May*, the Globe; Priam, in *Helena in Troas*, Hengler's, 1886; Count Fread, in *Christina*; Iago, in *Othello*, Vaudeville, 1887; and Coranto, in *The Amber Heart*, Lyceum, 1888. During the run of *Macbeth* at the Lyceum in 1889 Mr. Vezin for a time replaced Irving. He appeared as the Man o' Airlie in a revival of that play at the Grand Theatre, in 1890. On Nov. 2, 1891, he appeared as Napoleon in *A Royal Divorce*, at the New Olympic. His last appearance was made at His Majesty's on April 7, 1909, in the part of Rowley in Sir Herbert Tree's revival of *The School for Scandal*. His farce from the German, entitled *Cousin Jack*, was tentatively produced at the Opéra Comique on Nov. 12, 1893; and his farce, entitled *Mr. M.P.*, also from the German, was produced at same place on Dec. 1 of that year. At the opening of St. George's Hall by Messrs. Maskelyne and Cooke on Jan. 2, 1905, Mr. Vezin appeared as Tur, the King of *The Coming Race*, the title of a drama distinguished by magical sensations and cleverly worked automata.

Mr. Hermann Vezin was entitled to be ranked among the refined and accomplished actors of poetic drama. From the beginning of his career he conscientiously studied acting as an art, and devoted his talents, as far as opportunity afforded, to the thoughtful impersonation of Shakespearean character, and of such parts as belong to the higher range of our dramatic literature. In the representation of these he was in the main successful, and won the sympathy and appreciation of the thoughtful portion of the audience in whatever theatre he appeared. It is a saddening reflection that Mr. Vezin did not live to benefit by the testimonial performances which his friends and admirers, with Sir Herbert Tree at their head, were organising on his behalf. That was to have taken place in the spring of this year, but, owing to unavoidable circumstances, it had to be postponed until the autumn. The occasion would assuredly have been widely made use of as an opportunity for testifying to the high esteem and profound respect in which the late actor was held.

In accordance with his own wishes, there was no ceremony on Wednesday in connection with the cremation of the late Mr. Hermann Vezin's remains. The body was removed to Golder's Green Crematorium, and in the coure of Wednesday morning was cremated there. No flowers were sent, and there was no service or ceremony of any kind. Nor were there any "mourners," in deference to the dead actor's expressed wish. Mr. Vezin, the son, went to Golder's Green to see that his father's directions were duly carried out, and with him were only two companions, Mr. Roy Horniman, a personal friend, and Miss Kate Emil Behnke. Miss Behnke represented Mrs. Behnke, the executrix under the late actor's will. When the remains had been incinerated, the ashes were reverently strewn broadcast over the flower-beds in the crematorium gardens.

Mr. Edwin Drew, in a letter to this paper, says:—"In November last the late Hermann Vezin became really ill, and after that literary, dramatic, artistic, and social celebrities and friends sought his bedside, all to be astonished at the mental might which he manifested, and his strangely keen interest in life. Vezin was a truly intellectual personage, well read in English, American, German, and French literature, and all this was broadened and beautified by his contact with the most gifted minds, while his sense of humour enabled him to gather mental variety from those whose educational equipment was nil from the book point, but useful from the daily, practical view. His memory was faultless, and yet he slowly and laboriously acquired the words of a part, and then intellectual assimilation commenced as he thought out the value of words and sentences.

"His leading dream was to see one of the plays he had by him produced at a West-end theatre, and there seemed hopes of such a consummation, as one of his best was placed in the hands of a prominent actor-manager who came to his sick room.

"He bitterly resented the calumny that he was a 'Jonah,' and when he went through his successes and engagements, it was fully evident that he had seen much success in his sixty years, and in his final engagement with his friend Sir H. Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's Theatre, he received from the audiences every possible recognition, and by post plenty of assurances that Vezin was not forgotten.

"As a teacher he was painstaking and straightforward in his advice to the aspirant, always stating that he was averse to people seeking the stage without the most certain capacity for it."

VEZIN'S FINEST PERFORMANCE.

"*The Man o' Airlie* was produced in July, 1867, at the old Princess's Theatre, with Mr. Hermann Vezin as James Harebell," writes Mr. F. Wills in his Life of his brother, W. G. Wills. "It was his greatest performance, and one never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it. But the business of the piece was discouraging to him as manager. He was playing in *The Man o' Airlie* to an average of thirty pounds a night. The weather was oppressively sultry, and the theatres were doing hardly any business. Of course, they were not confessing to this, but keeping up the usual game of bluff, while instead of £200 or £250 houses their receipts were as low in some cases as £10 or £12. In reality, therefore, although he did not know it then, Vezin was doing extraordinarily well; and if he had not been disheartened might have made a great hit with the piece later on, when the weather cooled and town filled again. Strange to say, the play has never had a fair hearing in London. To describe the effect which it produced I cannot do better than transcribe the words of a famous critic, George Henry Lewes, who thus wrote in the *Spectator*, July 27, 1867:—

"'Mr. Herman Vezin, lessee of the Princess's Theatre, has made a very audacious experiment. He has ventured, in an era of burlesque, melodrama, and great triumphs of carpentering, to bring out on the stage a genuine and modern English tragedy, *The Man o' Airlie*, by Mr. W. G. Wills. The writer had strolled on the second night of the performance into the pit, knowing nothing of the piece or its author—rather expecting a kind of Highland melodrama, and he can bear unbiassed testimony to the depth of feeling several times displayed. Women, evidently of the lower middle classes, who scarcely understood the bad Scotch in which the dialogue is carried on, were sobbing unrestrainedly; and if the stout Scotch tradesman who stood next me was not crying he ought to consult an oculist about the state of his eyes. The value of this emotion as a test of the value of the piece is increased by the fact that it is due exclusively to sympathy with mental pain of a rare and spiritual kind—the agony of a ruined and maddened poet; agony no doubt in part that of a bereaved husband, and therefore common to mankind, but in part, also, of a blasted literary and poetic ambition, which might under other treatment seem ridiculous. To make shop-girls care—care to pain—because an ignorant simpleton in a plaid cannot get his 'sangs' published seemed to us a triumph of art.

"'Vezin used Aberdeen Scotch, the most difficult of all for Englishmen to follow. "Oh, hang it!" said a man near me, "that's a fine beggar, what's he saying?" And then, and all through the piece, extempore translations were offered in audible tone in four or five parts of the pit.

"'The second act is deficient in action, though it might read well. In the third, however, the action quickens. Harebell has accepted the situation as private secretary, his wife has died of the close city air, and the poet, frenzied by her loss, saddened and bewildered by the blasting of his hopes of literary fame, wearied with incessant copying of documents, gradually loses his reason, wakes for a moment to refuse to betray the man who has plundered him, and finally fancies he sees his dead wife, and walks over the stage with his arm in that of her invisible spirit, his face expressing a bewildered fondness, his left hand patting the air where her head should have been. In the strange affectation of insanity, Mr. Vezin did the scene well; there was no applause, except from one fool of a *claqueur*, who, we hope, will read this opinion of his judgment; but over the house, dropping as it were from gallery to pit, descended a dead strained silence, a silence such as we never but once recall in a theatre, succeeded, as Harebell vanished, by a roar of recall. In the recognition and death of Harebell no words can fairly express the dramatic power of the scene.'"

THE late Mr. Hermann Vezin one day in 1889 was about to go to see Irving's revival of *Macbeth* at the Lyceum, when Mr. Bram Stoker called upon him with the news that Irving's health had suddenly broken down. "Can you act the part tonight, or will you help us out of the difficulty by reading it?" he asked. "I certainly won't read it, but I can and will fill the rôle," Mr. Vezin replied. He had not played the part for eight or ten years, but his Macbeth that night was perfect. So delighted was Irving that he gave him a diamond ring and a cheque for £120.

MR. VEZIN well remembered the great American tragedian, Edwin Forrest. "A little more culture," he said only last year, "would have made Forrest the greatest actor who ever lived. One day a fellow-actor complimented Forrest on the way he played Lear. 'Play Lear!' was the retort. 'I play Hamlet, Othello, Macbeth, but let me tell you, sir, I *am* Lear!'"

IT was in Berlin, at the age of twenty, that Mr. Vezin first appeared behind the footlights, and his introduction was among the curious episodes of his career. "If you want to become a theatrical, why don't you start, instead of talking about it from early morn to late at night?" asked a man whose acquaintance he had formed, and without more ado he took him, figuratively, by the coat-collar, led him to a theatrical manager, and said, "Here's a youth who wants to go on the stage; find him something to do." With that curt introduction he was left and was engaged as supernumerary.

THE QUEEN'S.

On Monday, June 13, Revival of the Play, in Three Acts, by Charles Reade, entitled

"THE LYONS MAIL."

Joseph Lesurques, Dubosc	MR. H. B. IRVING
Courriol	MR. ERIC MAXON
Choppard	MR. CHAS. DODSWORTH
Fouinard	MR. TOM REYNOLDS
Durochat	MR. STUART MUSGROVE
Jerome Lesurques	MR. FRANK TYARS
Dorval	MR. HENRY VIBART
Didier	MR. STANLEY HOWLETT
Joliquet	MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Guerneau	MR. ALEX. SCOTT-GATTY
Lambert	MR. J. PATRICK CURWEN
Postmaster of Montgeron	MR. J. B. GLOVER
Coco	MR. H. R. COOK
Commissary of Police	MR. W. GRAHAM
Postillion	MR. W. CASS
Guard	MR. ROLAND PERTUIS
Waiter	MR. S. BEAUMONT
Julie	MISS GLADYS BAIRD
Marie	MISS MAY HOLLAND
Niece to Postmaster	MISS E. FRANCES DAVIS
Jeannette	MISS ESME BERINGER

The popularity of past seasons is being renewed at the Queen's, where Mr. H. B. Irving on Monday revived *The Lyons Mail*. Mr. Irving's previous production of Charles Reade's famous drama attained to a run of 125 consecutive performances, and had the distinction of figuring at the last State performance before King Edward at Windsor Castle. Tribute to Mr. Irving's embodiment of the chief rôles was long since worthily won by a dual impersonation of rare artistic skill, deep study, and finish. In his realisation of the cold-blooded miscreant Dubosc, Mr. Irving rises superior to the melodramatic environment of the part, giving it intellectual force, and endowing it with a grim humour and a sarcasm the keenness of which lies chiefly in its delivery. Complete, too, is the contrast obtained in the two rôles. The honest citizen and polished gentleman show themselves in Lesurques' every look and action, and hard indeed must be the heart that fails to be touched by the pathos of the innocent man's agonised appeal to be released from the terrible suspicion that is fastening itself upon him. The interview between father and son is made inexpressibly poignant, and an effect of bold relief is secured at the close, when Dubosc's appalling ferocity comes close upon Lesurques' tender parting with his daughter. The impersonation maintained its hold on the audience, and repeated curtain-calls testified to the pleasure derived.

An alteration to the cast of decided interest is the allotment of the part of Julie to Miss Gladys Baird, a youthful actress who bears a name which Mrs. H. B. Irving has made famous in the annals of the stage. Miss Baird is sweetly girlish and graceful, and gave a pretty performance, which lacks only the touch of experience. Julie's affection for her father was admirably real, and there was a genuine ring, too, in the girl's hysterical outbreak at parting from him. Miss Baird's voice is of penetrating quality, and she made herself well heard, and only requires strengthening to make it completely effective. Miss Esmé Beringer is also a newcomer to the cast, and finds in the distressed Jeannette an outlet for her dramatic gifts, the passion of the part being well portrayed, and her share of the terrible struggle with Dubosc being cleverly accomplished. For the two companions in crime, Choppard and Fouinard, Mr. Chas. Dodsworth and Mr. Tom Reynolds are again available, and the ripe abilities of the comedians are once more made apparent. Distinctive shades of rascality are suggested by both actors, whose portrayals result in much laughter. As Courriol Mr. Eric Maxon repeats a performance which won commendation at a previous revival, the jaunty airs and graces of the dandified rogue being effectively assumed. Mr. Frank Tyars repeats with added intensity his fine embodiment of Jerome Lesurques, being very impressive in the old man's denunciation of his son. Mr. Henry Vibart confers distinction on the part of Dorval, his commanding physique and elocutionary skill making the part agreeably conspicuous. Mr. Arthur Curtis once more assumes the restlessness of the boy Joliquet with effect. Miss May Holland and Miss E. Frances Davis again do well as the servant Marie and the niece to the postmaster, that functionary being now consigned to the care of Mr. J. B. Glover, who renders the part full justice. Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty and Mr. J. Patrick Curwen acquit themselves admirably as Guerneau and Lambert; and Mr. Stanley Howlett is again the devoted lover to the life as Didier. The piece is superbly mounted and stage-managed, the clamour of the crowd outside the place of execution being realised with marvellous fidelity. The musical effects prove invaluable to the representation, and are artistically gained by Mr. J. Meredith Ball's orchestra.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, June 14. Present, Mr. Frederick Morland (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Chris. Walker, Fred Annerley, F. J. Arlton, Robson Paige, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, and Langford Reed; Misses Rose Cazalet, Mildred Cottell, Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed as amended.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. F. J. Arlton, tendering his resignation as a member of the Finance Committee. A proposition "that Mr. Arlton be asked to reconsider his decision" was carried unanimously.

With regard to a letter from an actress, the Secretary was desired to thank her for her letter, and to say that the Council regretted they were unable to take action on her behalf, as they were debarred from using the funds of the association for non-members, but if she would call on Mr. H. W. Mote, 11, Grays Inn-square, their hon. solicitor, he would be pleased to advise her, and if she were able to give further corroboration of her case they would consider the question of posting the manager's name.

With regard to a letter from Messrs. Lynn and Harding, the Secretary was directed to thank Mr. Lynn and to say that the Council very highly valued the copy of his book, "Stage Facts and Figures," which they had presented to the Association, and had no doubt the members of the Association would find the information very useful.

A vote of condolence and sympathy with Mr. Arthur Vezin, on the death of his distinguished father Mr. Hermann Vezin was carried. This vote was passed all standing. The Secretary was instructed to ask Mr. Vezin if he could kindly favour them with a photograph of his father as a memento for the rooms of the Association.

Mr. Robson Paige having notified the fact of the death of Dr. William Rose, a member of the hon. consulting staff, a vote of condolence was passed to the relatives of Dr. Rose, and the Secretary was instructed to send a letter to Dr. Donald Armour, asking him to be good enough to convey this vote to the relatives of Dr. Rose.

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Arlton and adopted. The Hon. Solicitor reported that he had advised in three cases. The Secretary reported nine engagements through the agency. Elections: Maud Robertson, Barbara Everest, and Joan Harcourt. Nominations: Milly Lester Stephens and Robert Symes Entwistle.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"JACOB UND KRISTOFFER."
Comedy, in Four Acts, by Peter Egge, Produced at the Deutsches on June 8.

Jacob Ringen .....Herr Tiedtke
Ingvald .....Herr Montua
Elt .....Fraulein Werkmeister
Jensine .....Fraulein Berg
Kristoffer Ringen .....Herr Herrfeld
Magna .....Fraulein Krause
Maren .....Fraulein Richard
Hänschen .....Herr Lotz
Flock .....Herr Bienefeldt
Kristi .....Fraulein Erneck
Andrine .....Fraulein Petzold

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, June 16.—The author is a Norwegian who enjoys an excellent reputation in his own country as a novelist and essayist. His play—which has been very well translated, although the name of the translator does not appear in the bill—is a pleasant contrast to the general rule of Scandinavian plays as we know them. It is not gloomy and morbid, nor does it deal with enigmatical problems, after which the audience leaves the house with a note of interrogation in its brain. It is a simple story, simply told, with plenty of the right kind of humour, and really convincing characters. Jacob and Kristoffer are brothers, but brothers who have very little in common, except, perhaps, the fact that they are both widowers. Jacob, the younger, is a small farmer, and not overburdened with brains, while Kristoffer has risen by dint of hard work and keen intelligence, to a position of wealth and influence as a great merchant. Jacob Ringen is completely in the hands of a wily serpent, otherwise Elt Vold, one of his two women servants, who is about as bad a specimen as may be found anywhere in the whole of Scandinavia or elsewhere. She has, it may be casually observed, already done a long term of penal servitude. This sinister maiden means to marry poor Jacob *nolens volens*, and she uses an ingenious system of blackmail to accomplish her end. She has found a pocket-book containing 5,000 crowns, which fact she keeps to herself, intending it for the dot she brings Jacob. She confides her secret to him, in order to make him a party to the crime, and she sews the pocket-book with its precious contents into the lining of a waterproof cloak. The villain of the piece, a pedlar named Flock, gets wind of the matter. He cuts open the lining and makes off with the notes, and then uses his knowledge against poor, weak Jacob's peace of mind, so that the man is driven desperate. Ultimately, he goes to his brother with his troubles, making a clean breast of everything. Kristoffer, who has long been wishing to find his lost brother, receives him with the utmost kindness. He turns out to be the loser of the money, and both the vicious Elt and the blackmailer Flock are brought to justice. To complete the entire reconciliation, Jacob's son Ingvald falls in love with Kristoffer's pretty daughter Magna, who returns his affection. The interpretation was capital all round, and artists and manager were called before the curtain repeatedly. This was the opening performance of Dr. Geyer's season, and the success speaks well for the future.

Notwithstanding the tropical heat, a large audience was present at the Komische Oper last Thursday for the 60th performance of Smetana's *Bartered Bride*. Always one of the most successful works in the repertory of that theatre, both on account of admirable interpretation and very brilliant mounting, the jubilee was the subject of ovations. The cast was partly new, but every rôle was rendered with customary excellence, and Fräulein Deetjen, in the name-part, was particularly good. Herr Merkel sang the part of Hans, and Herren Mantler and Kreuder, as Kezal and Wenzel respectively, gave their customary faultless renderings. Kapellmeister Meyrowitz conducted with spirit and circumspection, and—last, but by no means least—the members of the Imperial Russian Ballet executed the dances, in which, of course, Mlle. Will made her usual mark. All in all, the evening was a red-letter one in the annals of the Komische Oper. Herr Mantler, by the way, is leaving the Komische for the Royal Opera in the autumn.

The Royal Opera and Royal Schauspielhaus have closed for the summer holidays. At the New Royal Opera (Kroll's) Herr Gura commences his summer season this evening with *Die Meistersinger*. An excellent cast is announced, including Herr Feinhals, of the Munich Court Opera, as Hens Sachs. To-morrow the performance is *Lohengrin*, and for Sunday a couple of novelties are in the bill—*Ueberfall* and *Der verlorene Sohn*.

At the Lessing, in the absence of the company proper, the military farce *Kasernenluft* is attracting good houses. At the Thalia the immortal *Charley's Aunt* is doing well, and *Die goldene Ritterzeit* (*When Knights Were Bold*) is still holding the boards at the Neues, to the exclusion of all else. It is the judicious aim of our managers to give their audiences very light fare during the dog-days, which have set in with unusual force.

DEATH OF MR. E. A. BELL.

Our readers will learn with considerable regret the news of the death on Friday, the 10th inst., after a prolonged illness, of Mr. Edward Armstrong Bell, for many years acting-manager for Mr. J. W. Boughton, the popular licensee and managing-director of the Royal, Portsmouth. For several months past severe illness compelled Mr. Bell to relinquish his duties, although his name still figured in the bills.

Mr. Bell was an actor of the old school, and commenced his career in the autumn of 1856 at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, then under the management of Mr. E. D. Davis, who was renowned for the efficiency of his stock companies. Commencing at the bottom of the ladder, Mr. Bell played a small part in *The Lady of Lyons*. After some four years with Mr. Davis he migrated to the Theatre Royal, Leeds, under the management of Mr. John Coleman, being engaged as a member of his stock company. It was here that Charles Reade's famous drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend* was produced, and Mr. Bell was allotted the important part of George Fielding, in which his success was so pronounced that henceforth he was regularly selected for the lead. Some three years later he transferred his services to the Amphitheatre, Liverpool, now the Court, where he came into frequent contact with G. V. Brooke, Chas. Dillon, Barry Sullivan, Sam Emery, Charles Matthews, John Drew, and other famous actors of those days. He was then offered an engagement at the Adelphi, London, by the late Benjamin Webster, which he accepted. It might here be mentioned that in all his work he was loyally supported by his wife, formerly a Miss Armstrong, herself an actress. His next experience was of management, Shrewsbury, Halifax, Rochdale, and Coventry being the scenes of his labours, until finally, when in charge of a touring company which happened to be at the Royal, Portsmouth, he received a tempting offer from Mr. J. W. Boughton to take up the position of acting-manager, which for the past fifteen years he has so worthily occupied.

Among those present at Covent Garden on Wednesday to witness the performance of *La Tosca* were the Earl and Countess of Portsmouth and the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, Lord and Lady Charles Beresford, Baron and Baroness de Meyer, the Earl of Crewe, Lady Allington, Lady Speyer, Lady Maxwell, and Sir William Bell.

PRESENTATION TO T. F. DOYLE.

On Monday evening, by the kind permission of Mr. John Hart, the Theatre Royal, Bradford, was placed at the disposal of a number of influential Bradford gentlemen, who were anxious to recognise in a substantial manner the appreciation in which Mr. T. F. Doyle, the popular general manager of the house, is held by the theatre-going population of the city.

For fifty years Mr. Doyle, as actor, author, and manager, has been before the public, and as his connection with the Royal, Bradford, extends over thirty years, it was thought only fitting that his "jubilee" should be celebrated by a benefit and testimonial, and a local committee was quickly formed, with the Lord Mayor (Alderman W. Land) at its head, and a committee of the profession, with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree as chairman.

A fine list of attractions was provided, consisting of turns by Siems, the Danish card manipulator; Ethel Leigh, a local lady, who gave a masterly execution of violin solos; Mr. Tom Graham, tenor; Miss Dollie Doyle and Miss Irene Pearson, in costume dances; Mr. K. Scott-Barrie, comedian; Mr. W. Cannon-Dalby and Mr. George Coxon, elocutionists; Madame Mary Poole and Miss Maud Ferens, vocalists; Mr. A. E. Oldbury, baritone; Mr. Russell Wallett, drawing-room entertainer; Mr. Russell Carr, ventriloquist; The Williams Jubilee Singers; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Singing Box-Makers; The Bradford Amateur Operatic Society, in a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*; and it was decidedly appropriate that Mr. Doyle should again make a professional appearance before the footlights, associated with Mr. Herbert Shaw, in the burlesque operetta, *The Blind Beggars*, which was capitally acted.

In making the presentation, the Lord Mayor said that Bradford theatre-goers had to thank Mr. Doyle for the manner in which he had catered for them. Dramatic art had a fine representative in Mr. Doyle, and it was striking evidence of the good feeling which existed between the popular manager and his patrons that the subscription list should have met with so generous a response. In addition to the testimonial of £165, the takings of the "house" amounted to £103, making a total of £268. He desired to tender the thanks of the Committee to the subscribers, to the artists who had kindly given their services, and to Mr. John Hart for his generosity in granting the use of the theatre.

On Mr. Doyle's entrance, the audience, led by the band, sang "For he's a jolly good fellow." In a graceful acknowledgment, Mr. Doyle said he was quite overwhelmed by the kindness shown him, and it was not within his power to express all he felt. In a brief reference to some experiences of his versatile career, he humorously referred to a letter received that morning in which the writer said he had known him in '63, which was rather an unpleasant reminder of his age. Mr. Doyle recalled that he began life in the profession as a super at the Surrey Theatre in London. He had also worked in the circus and the music-hall, and he had since had the honour of playing with the best people who had appeared on the English stage in his day. He confessed to having written one hundred and twenty pantomimes, and the genial manager remarked, no doubt someone would say "What a vast amount of rubbish that man must have written!"

Mr. Doyle again feelingly thanked the committee and the audience for their support, and the curtain fell amidst great applause.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

A dramatic and fencing recital by pupils of Messrs. Charles Cruikshanks and W. Mortlake Mann was given in the theatre of the Guildhall School on Thursday evening. The order of the programme was slightly altered, and commenced with two recitations, the Potion speech from *Romeo and Juliet*, and "Seven Ages" from *As You Like It*, both well delivered by Miss Florence Bedding. "Pack clouds, away" was sung by Miss May Frisby with taste, and the clarionet obbligato ably played by Mr. Mendelssohn Draper. "Over the Fishpond to Fashion" (Cotsford Dick) and "But they didn't" (W. Cook) were recited by Miss Maud Jones with considerable humour; and Miss Winifred Waters gave Shelley's poem, "Ode to the West Wind." Some degree of gesture is welcome in a recitation, but Miss Waters somewhat exaggerated; in other respects her recitation was excellent. In "The Legend Beautiful" of H. W. Longfellow Miss Gladys Uden was warmly applauded. All the young ladies who recited are pupils of Mr. C. Cruikshanks. Miss Hildegarde de la Vingne was heard in the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*; and Miss Dorothy Browne in Bemberg's "Nymphes et Sylvains." Miss Marguerite von Bibra, a clever pupil of Mr. Cruikshanks, displayed much humour in monologue "A Charity Sermon," from the Joneses and the Asterisks (Gerald Campbell), the audience being much amused by the remarks made by a lady to her daughter during the sermon. In an original dramatic sketch, *The Lady Interviewer*, by Herbert Swears, Miss Dorothy Lucas appeared as Miss Maguire, a lady journalist; and Miss Georgina Darby as Eliza Binks, housemaid. Miss Darby was funny as the servant, mistaken by Miss Maguire for Miss Ortelons, the well-known novelist. The fencing display and illustrations of different styles of stage combat by pupils of Mr. W. Mortlake Mann aroused great interest. The first item was a Grand Salute by lady pupils, who looked remarkably well in their fencing dress of thick white jackets, with gilt buttons and short black skirts. In an assault with foils between Miss Collins and Miss Sargent Mr. Mann acted as umpire, and, like Osric in the friendly encounter between Hamlet and Laertes, called "A hit, a very palpable hit" (although not quite in these words) when a successful thrust was made by either of the young ladies, who wore wire masks, leather gloves, and fought with great skill. In the second encounter with foils, Miss Davis and Miss Sargent, the latter lady proved very expert, and had three or four "hits" to her opponent's one. There can be no doubt fencing for ladies or gentlemen is a fine exercise, and the graceful attitudes of the young ladies was as much admired as their skill with the foils. For a novice to encounter any of Mr. Mann's pupils with real weapons would mean certain death or a lasting injury, and to the professor himself, as Ingoldsby has it, "He was just such a man as you'd say at first sight, You would much rather dine or shake hands with, than fight." The duel scene from *The Corsican Brothers* was cleverly acted by four pupils, and the duel itself a very thrilling affair. In this case no masks or gloves were used, and Chateau-Renaud and the Corsican fought in shirt-sleeves as in the regular stage. When Chateau-Renaud breaks his rapier by accident, the Corsican breaks his as in the famous play, and the duel is continued with the broken ends used as daggers. So realistic and well acted was the finish, that, to use a theatrical term, "it brought down the house." Very spirited also was the sword and buckler encounter between Mr. Mann and Mr. A. Cohen, and "A Night Affair in the Olden Time" Duel with rapier and lanthorn. Other exhibitions of sword play were rapier *v.* rapier and rapier and dagger *v.* the same. The Misses Carmen, Inns, Collins, Hasham, Sargent, Oviatt, Addison, and Shaw were the lady pupils; and Messrs. Smith, Busvine, Corbie, Braham, Hughes, and Cohen the gentlemen. The display of fencing was very interesting, and the pupils did great credit to Mr. W. Mortlake Mann.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE LATE H. E. REID.

The interment took place last Monday at Brighton of the late Mr. Henry Erastus Reid, age 83, for very many years known at Plymouth both at the Theatre Royal, where he was musical director afterwards lessee and manager, and also in connection with the Grand Theatre, which structure he built on retiring from the Royal. He married the elder daughter of the late Mr. J. R. Newcombe, the former lessee of the Theatre Royal, and one of our oldest theatrical managers. Since Mr. Reid's retirement from the Grand T., Plymouth, he has made his home in Brighton. He was one of the favourite conductors of the late Mrs. Swanborough, of the old Strand Theatre.

The funeral cortège consisted of Mr. Frank Reid (son), Mrs. J. Reid and Mrs. A. Reid (daughters-in-law), Mr. Henry Frank Reid (grandson), and Messrs. S. Zucker, Henry L. Compton,

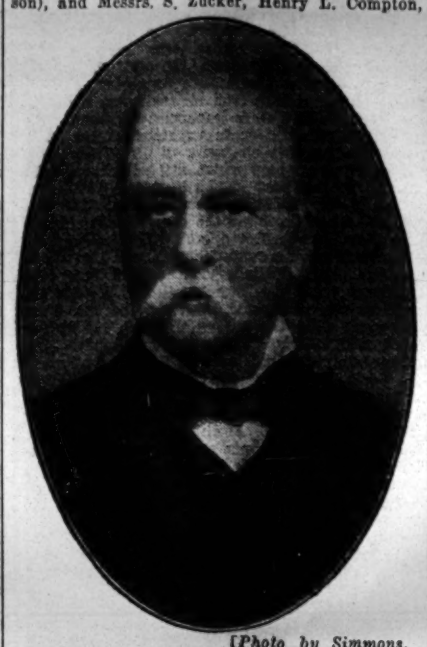

[*Photo by Simmons.*

THE LATE HENRY ERASTUS REID.

and T. Grace, personal friends. The floral contributions included a harp, violin, heart, cross, wreath, lyre, and several sprays.

THE ALBERT HALL AND STAGE PLAYS.

Mr. Horace Smith resumed the hearing, at the Westminster Police-court, on Saturday, of the adjourned summons by the London County Council against "The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences" (the Royal Albert Hall) for the public performance of stage plays without authority by virtue of letters patent from His Majesty, and without licence from the Lord Chamberlain or London County Council.

Mr. Bodkin prosecuted, and Mr. Cecil Whiteley appeared on behalf of the defendant corporation.

Mr. Richard Stanley, one of the inspectors of places of public entertainment under the County Council, gave evidence that on certain days mentioned in the summons he paid for admission to stage plays in the theatre at the Albert Hall.

Mr. Bodkin asked if he noticed anything about the gangways at the rear.

Mr. Whiteley: I submit that this is irrelevant.

Mr. Bodkin: I agree that it would not be relevant to go here into any detailed survey of the accommodation, but I just want to prove—subject to permission—that there was something to justify the attention of the authorities responsible for the safety of the public.

Mr. Horace Smith did not think the matter of exits or public safety could be discussed on these summonses.

Mr. Bodkin: What I want to convey is that the council are not interfering unnecessarily. They justify these proceedings from a public safety point of view. But after your expression I will not press it.

Mr. Cecil Whiteley in his address for the defence, said that the corporation had always consisted of very distinguished people with the King as patron. The defence was that the corporation by letters patent were entitled to perform stage plays in the theatre. Under the charter granted in 1867 the objects set out were the advancement of science and art. Acting was an art—it was hardly necessary to go back to the old authorities to prove this. It might be good or bad art, but the classical definition held good. The London County Council at one time suggested that their licence for music and dancing was required for the Albert Hall, but finding that the corporation were protected by their letters patent, were unable to do anything. The learned counsel having referred in detail to the terms of the Albert Hall charter and the supplemental charter, said that this prosecution was accompanied by the pronouncement that the County Council were desirous of acting in the interest of the public. The Albert Hall Theatre held but 252 people; the Albert Hall itself held 12,000 people. Yet the hall itself was expressly exempted from London County Council interference under the last London Building Act, 1905, with its multifarious provisions. It was indeed strange under these circumstances that jurisdiction was claimed over the little theatre. In concluding his argument, the learned counsel pointed out that the Lord Chamberlain himself had approved the performance of new plays at the theatre.

Mr. John Hilton Carter, manager and secretary of the Royal Albert Hall, in giving evidence, said the theatre could be cleared in five minutes. The witness knew that at one time the County Council claimed that the hall must get a music and dancing licence. They abandoned this position—or, rather, did not persist in it—recording on their minutes that they had no jurisdiction over the Albert Hall.

Considerable discussion arose as to whether at the time of the passing of the Theatres Act of 1843 the site of the Albert Hall was regarded as included as within the Liberties of the city of Westminster, and therefore solely within the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain.

The case was adjourned for this point to be further considered and for the magistrate's decision.

A novel and decidedly interesting experiment was tried at the New Theatre, Oxford, during the latter half of last week, when Dr. H. P. Allen, organist of New College, Oxford, presented Beethoven's *Fidelio* for three nights. With the exception of Mr. Campbell McInnes and Mr. Charles Child, who sang with much success as Pizarro and Jaquino, all the principal parts were sustained by local amateurs. Dr. Allen himself conducted an orchestra of over sixty performers, who, with the exception of a dozen professional wind players from London, were all members of the orchestra so skilfully trained at Oxford by himself; and the chorus of fifty voices were supplied by the local choral societies. Miss Rosina Filippi produced the play, and an undergraduate (Mr. E. Bridges-Adams) painted the scenery and acted as stage-manager so efficiently that there was never a hitch in the performance. The success of the production was pronounced.

"PAYING THE PRICE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by J. S. Willard, produced at the Alexander Theatre, Hull, on Monday, 13th.

Lord Delemere .....Mr. Willard
Paul Hartman .....
Capt. Dick Clinton .....Mr. Jackson Wilcox
Nell Fortescue.....Miss Marguerite Treskie
Doris Delemere .....Miss Alice Bowes
Hal Vortoone .....} Mr. Charles Carte
Jan Vortoone .....}
Hon. Cecil Dalrymple ..Mr. H. Vivian Thomas
John Dent .....Mr. Richie Bell
Corporal True .....Mr. John Farley
Mary Esdale .....Miss Winnie Leslie

The author of *Paying the Price* has told a strong and coherent story; its incidents are interesting, and its episodes exciting.

The action of the play is laid at a period antecedent to the last Boer War. Lord Delemere, before he succeeded to the title, had been in South Africa at the time of Majuba, and had become implicated in a shooting affray in which he believed he had killed a Boer under discreditable circumstances. Hal Vontoone, brother of the man supposed to have been killed, comes back to England on a blackmailing mission, and threatens to expose Lord Delemere unless he purchases his silence. The latter, incensed, endeavours to put the Boer out. In the struggle he topples over the cliff, and is supposed to have been killed on the rocks below; but subsequent events prove this not to be. Nell Fortescue, a variety artist, who has called to solicit the officers' mess patronage to a charity fête, is witness of the quarrel, and under the belief that Colonel Lord Delemere has killed her man, exacts as the price of her silence his marriage with her. This he is loth to agree to; but, in the end, she carries the day, much to the disgust of his daughter, Doris.

The second act opens in Captain Clinton's rooms, with whom Doris is much *épris*, and when the scene opens he is found reading a letter from the little girl saying she is coming to seek his advice. He writes to tell her to avoid so compromising a situation, but the new Lady Delemere comes in at the moment, burns the letter, and thus leaves Clinton without a protecting shred to prove his innocence. She then tries her wiles on the Captain, and is discovered by her husband, who feels that his wife has been dishonoured by his friend, and for such that there is only one thing—cashiering from the army.

The dead man comes to life, and remains in the pay of her ladyship, on consideration that he lies low for a convenient period. But the source drying up, the Boer tells the whole of the story to Captain Clinton.

Lady Delemere has a lover in the person of Paul Hartman, who is in the pay of a European Power, and the two endeavour to steal the plans of the Dover fortifications. They lock Captain Clinton up in the safe, but he is, unknown to them, released from his dangerous position.

The closing act of the play takes place in South Africa, and a fine scene takes place between the old Boer General, whose contempt is so great for the spy Hartman that he kills him in cold blood. At Rietfontein the contending forces of Boer and Britain meet, and the large skeins are unravelled. Virtue is rewarded, and vice, in the person of Nell Fortescue, is apparently allowed to go scot free.

Miss Marguerite Tueskie was all that one could have wished for in the rôle of Lady Delemere; there was restraint and force properly defined. Mr. J. Willard played the dual rôle of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman with considerable credit, and hit off the diverse characters with good effect. Mr. Chas. Carte made the Boer a striking living picture. There was something finely British in the Captain Clinton, played effectively by Mr. Jackson Wilcox. Miss Alice Bower won the sympathy of the house with her reading of the rôle of Doris. The rest of the company worked hard, as likewise did the dumb actor "Tiger," a fine specimen of boarhound.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), solicitor. Third edition.

The Artist's Legal Handbook.—We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" (*The Era* Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751 to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong on "Dramatic and Musical Law" may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be proprietor, manager, or artist, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.—*The Performer*, May 12, 1910.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of *The Era*, has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.—*The Music Hall*, May 12, 1910.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Miss Dolf Wyllarde, a well-known novelist, has written, in collaboration with Mr. Elliott Page, a four-act comedy, entitled *His Lordship's Cure*, which is to be produced at a matinée in aid of the Middlesex Hospital at the Apollo Theatre on July 5. The scene is a garden in June, when the chrysanthemums are being potted, and all the technicalities of scientific horticulture are shown up to the last scene, in October, when the flowers are in full bloom. "His Lordship," a dissipated young man, is cured of his vices, and grows into the bloom of manhood as rapidly as the chrysanthemums. Miss Katharine Pole, the well-known South African actress, is to play the part of a lady gardener.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 20.

Alone in London.—Kursaal, Boxhill.
Arran-na-Poour.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
As Your Hair Grows White.—T. R., Halifax.
At the World's Mercy.—Star T., Swansea.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Can a Woman be Good?—Bordesley P., Birmingham.
Castellano's Opera Co.—King's Lynn.
Cingalee, The (A.).—Birkenhead.
Country Girl in London.—Prince's T., Preston.
Cruise of the Constance.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Destroyer of Men.—New Washington.
Diana of Dobson's.—Grand T., Hull.
Diver's Luck.—T. R., Darlington.
Draycott, Mr. C.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
East Lynne (Watt).—Palace T., Perth.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Metropole T., Manchester
Fast Life, A.—T. R., Sheffield.
Female Swindler.—Richmond.
Florodora (Constant).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
For Old Time's Sake.—Royalty T., Barrow.
For Wife and Kingdom.—T. R., Belfast.
Gamester of Metz.—Bordon and Colville.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Prince's T., Preston.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Smethwick.
Her Fatal Past.—T. R., Stratford.
Her Life in London.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Her Path of Sorrow.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Her Secret Lover.—O. H., Coventry.
His Real Wife.—T. R., Stratford.
In the Shadow of Night.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
La Comedie Anglais.—Newcastle West.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Birkenhead.
Love of the Princess.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Lucky Durham.—Palace T., Maidstone.
Lucky 'Liza.—Grand T., Stockton.
Marsh, Alexander.—Junction T., Manchester.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Stockport.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Miss Plaster of Paris.—Hippo., Scarboro'.
Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace.—West Pier, Brighton.
Mummy and the Humming Bird. — Marina T., Lowestoft.
My Irish Molly.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
My Lady Bellamy.—T. R., Woolwich.
New Boy, The.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Nihilist, The.—O. H., Doncaster.
No Mother to Guide Her.—P. O. W., Salford.
Our Flat.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Power of a Wicked Woman.—T. R., W. Bromwich.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Southampton.
Raynor's Repertoire Co.—King's T., Manchester.
Royal Divorce.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Shadow of a Crime.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Sorrows of Satan.—T. R., Smethwick.
Temptations.—Cambridge, Spennymoor.
Theodor's Flutter.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., St. Helens.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Bury.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., South Shields.
Was She to Blame?—St. Helens.
When it was Dark.—T. R., Bristol.
Why Smith Left Home.—Scarboro' and Harrogate.
With Edged Tools.—Empire T., Southend.
Woman's Past.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Dewsbury.
You Never Can Tell.—O. H., Blackpool.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Wolverhampton.

COLLECTING LITHOS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The collection of window lithos being still practised by some of the touring companies, any idea to facilitate or improve the present condition of affairs might be set down as welcome. It has been argued by experts that the collection of lithos does not always (in effect) assist the advertising department, inasmuch as it often happens that a percentage of such lithos become overlooked "in the hurry" of business by an advertising staff when they start out on their rounds, but it is a strange truism that the aforesaid "overlooked" lithos adopt the methods of the pantomime demon and "spring up" (towards the end of the visit of the company in) from odd corners in a most sudden and exasperating manner until the "dozens" assume quite respectable proportions. Now, another weird thing about these "collected" lithos is that they have retained their cleanliness and new appearance—not a pinhole or other mark being discernible with the aid of a magnifying glass. My excellent managerial confrères will readily admit that when such incidents happen they are somewhat nonplussed as to a remedy, and it is accordingly with much pleasure I approach you, sir, with the hope that you can spare a little of your valuable space, relative to a notion "invented and practised" with considerable success to his theatre and the touring manager, by Mr. Charles Bush, of the Queen's, Leeds.

If the visiting manager desires a return of lithos all collected stuff is taken direct to Mr. Bush's private office, where it undergoes the careful scrutiny of himself or his lieutenant. If any of the sheets bear a suspicious resemblance to perfect cleanliness then "trouble lurks in the air," a full list of the windows is overhauled, inquiries made, details and excuses thoroughly sifted, and—well, it is a *sine qua non* that the touring manager visiting Mr. Charles Bush enjoys the satisfaction of feeling that the lithos he has paid twopence per sheet for have performed their mission in the sphere of theatrical operations, and he grudges not the threepence per dozen he pays for the returns, as the latter come in useful for flying or ordinary posting.—Yours faithfully,

W. SCOTT PHIPP.

Managers' Club, June 14, 1910.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Fred Marlow—Saturday, June 18.
J. M. Glover—Saturday, June 18.
George Alexander—Sunday, June 19.
Tom Braithwaite—Sunday, June 19.
H. Cecil Beryl—Sunday, June 19.
Henry Neville—Monday, June 20.
Charles Glenney—Monday, June 20.
Fred Storey—Monday, June 20.
Sybil Arundale—Monday, June 20.
Marie Dainton—Monday, June 20.
Leah Marlborough—Monday, June 20.
Nellie Harcourt—Monday, June 20.
Lionel West—Monday, June 20.
H. Louis Wilson—Monday, June 20.
H. Ketteman—Tuesday, June 21.
Fred. E. Ellis—Tuesday, June 21.
Bernard Stavordale—Tuesday, June 21.
George Belmont—Tuesday, June 21.
William Bailey—Tuesday, June 21.
Arthur Bourchier—Wednesday, June 22.
Martin Harvey—Wednesday, June 22.
Paul Martinetti—Wednesday, June 22.
Cora Duncan—Wednesday, June 22.
Vesta Brownie—Wednesday, June 22.
Geraldine Ulmar—Thursday, June 23.
Ben De Frece—Thursday, June 23.
A. G. Spry—Friday, June 24.

Cinematograph Act, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 15 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

A. M. D. (Nottingham).—*We are making inquiries.*

PROSPERO.—*We have no information, but are trying to obtain it through correspondents.*

A. J. C.—*We regret that we cannot give you any additional information concerning the family.*

A. P.—*We do not know. Write to Mr. Will Oliver, Spot Lodge, Trent-road, Brixton. He is, we believe, the lady's business agent.*

G. BENNETT.—*Forty. At the Grecian Assembly Rooms in May, 1885. Her daughter appeared with her in Johannesburg about twelve years ago, but is now married.*

DONALD.—Are You a Mason? *was adapted from* Logenbruder, *originally produced at the Residenz Theater, Berlin, Dec. 4, 1897. The piece had its first London performance at the Shaftesbury, Sept. 12, 1901.*

B. C. H.—Kitty Grey *was adapted from Mars and Hennequin's* Les Fetards, *and was first produced in its English form as a comedy without music at the Vaudeville, April 25, 1900. It was turned into a "musical play" some few months later.*

SAMUEL KIRKHAM (Sunderland).—*How is it possible to answer you, when you give no date of the lady's appearance at the house in question. It is quite probable that she sang the well-known air you name. Ask the management or the musical-director.*

FREDERICK J. S.—"*Fra Giacomo,*" *a poem written by the late Robert Buchanan, has been recited both by Bransby Williams and Lewis Waller. It is included in the edition of Buchanan's works published by Chatto and Windus, and has been reprinted in Part II. of "The Elocutionist Up to Date," published at French's, Southampton-street, Strand.*

J. CARLOW.—*Yes. Miss Edna May played the part of Edna Branscombe when* Three Little Maids *was originally produced at the Apollo on May 10, 1902. Hilda Branscombe was played by Miss Hilda Moody, and the original intention was that Miss Ada Reeve should play the part of Ada Branscombe, but Miss Madge Crichton took up the part just before the production.*

PLAYGOER.—*The cast of* Old Heidelberg, *when produced at the St. James's on March 19, 1903, was as follows: Karl Heinrich, George Alexander; Staatsminister Von Haugk, Alfred Brydone; Hof. F. von Passarge, H. R. Hignett; Kam von Breitenburg, Richard Dalton; Kam Baron von Metzing, Boothroyd Fairclough; Dr. Jüttner, J. D. Beveridge; Lutz, E. Lyall Swete; Graf von Asterberg, Ernest Leicester; Von Wedell, Henry Ainley; Kellerman, E. Vivian Reynolds; Rüder, W. R. Staveley; Frau Rüder, Miss Henrietta Leverett; Frau Dörffel, Miss Elinor Aickin; Kathie, Miss Eva Moore. More than likely it is the same lady.*

MR. BENJAMIN WOODGER, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to thank, on behalf of the committee, Mr. Jack Woolf ("Wonderland," Mile End), who has donated another £2 2s. to the Home Fund; Mr. Ernest Lepard (The Canterbury), for box collection of £1 19s.; Mr. Roy Cockraine (Surrey), for box collection of £1 18s. 6d. for the fund; Walter Norman has kindly sent a parcel of useful ties for the men. Men's old clothes and boots are very acceptable.

THE presentation of "*The Era* Medal" will take place at the Terriers' headquarters, 69, Kennington-road, on Thursday, July 14, at 3 p.m.

THE next committee meeting will be held on June 30, at 12 noon, at the Stags, Kennington-road. There are still a few *Era* shilling cards out for the Music Hall Home appeal. Will the collectors kindly return them to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, Tavistock-street, Strand?

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

FORSYTH.—June 11, at 35, North-gate, Regent's Park, N.W., to Mr. and Mrs. Neil Forsyth, a son.

HARDY.—June 15, at 13, Addison-road, Bedford Park, the wife of Arthur Steffens-Hardy (née Dido Drake), of a daughter.

MILLARD.—June 8, the wife of George Millard (Ada Brogden), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CHRISTOPHERSON—GRIFFITHS.—June 15, at Cape Town Cathedral, Douglas Christopherson, of Parktown, Johannesburg, to Alma Griffiths, musical comedy actress.

ISITT—GENÉE (CHRISTENSEN).—June 11, at All Saints', Margaret-street, W., by the vicar, Rev. H. F. B. Mackay, assisted by the Rev. W. R. Carpenter Garnier and the Rev. F. B. Hawkins, Chaplain to the Duke of Newcastle, Frank Isitt to Adeline Genée (Christensen), première danseuse.

DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG BELL.—On the 10th inst., at 22, Landport-terrace, Southsea, after a long and painful illness, late acting manager Theatre Royal. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife.

DOONER.—Monday, June 13, 1910, at Bargoed, Glamorgan, James Dooner, aged 70 years. Deeply mourned and missed by his sorrowing family and hosts of friends.

HUGHES.—June 6, at Tramore, Mrs. Hughes (née Pollie Kinsella), late of Purcell's Portable.

JOHNSON.—June 12, at Grantham, Henry Johnson, retired acrobat, aged 103.

REED.—On the 9th inst., at Brighton, Henry Erastus Reed, late proprietor Grand Theatre, Plymouth, aged 83 years, the beloved father of Frank Arthur Reed, of 50, Heygate-street, S.W.

TILL.—May 31, at his residence, Linden, Mass., U.S.A., John Till (Till's Marionettes). Deeply mourned by his English relatives. R.I.P.

TYMMS.—June 15, at Westminster, Ellen Tymms (Nellie Thearle) the beloved wife of Stanley Hope, Opera House, Jersey, of cerebral hæmorrhage. Interment at Kirkdale Cemetery, Liverpool, Saturday, 18th inst., at 2 o'clock.

VEZIN.—June 12, at Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C., Hermann Vezin, actor, aged 81.

IN MEMORIAM.

BAUGH.—In ever-loving memory of Alice Lydia Baugh, who died on June 18, 1903.—FRED, RUTH, EDNA, CLARA, and TWO GRANNIES.

BAUGH.—In loving memory of Alice Lydia Baugh, who died June 18, 1908. Peace, perfect peace.—ROSE.

O'NEILL.—In loving remembrance of my dear sister, Mrs. O'Neill, of Carlton House, Grafton-street. Died June 15, 1907. Never forgotten by her sister, MRS. GREGORY, 6, Grafton-street, C.-on-M.

PITT JACKSON.—In loving memory of my dearly-loved wife Jessie (Macaulay), who died June 20, 1908.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

BENGER'S

Benger's Food is different from any other food obtainable; it contains in itself the natural digestive principles, and, in its preparation, the degree of pre-digestion can be determined with the utmost delicacy. It can therefore be served to suit the exact physical condition of the patient.

Benger's Food is mixed with fresh new milk. It forms a delicious and highly nutritive cream, rich in all the food elements necessary to maintain vigorous health.

Benger's Food is sold by Chemists, &c., everywhere.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Miss Mabel
Allen, Mr. Bert
Arnies, The
Ashwynne, Miss M.
Athelda
Banfield, Miss Iris
Beechman, Mr. Thos.
Benham, Mr. Ernest
Bergeron, Mrs.
Blyth, Mr. J. S.
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Browns, The
Brune, Miss P.
Burley, Mr. W.
Burton, Mr. Burt
Callam, Mr. John
Cancellor, Mr. Leyton
Carlo, Mr. H.
Cartwright, Mr. A.
Cerise, Miss D.
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Clevere, Miss Amy
Cliffe, Mr. H. C.
Coleman, Miss F.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Court, Miss D. D.
Coutts, Mr. Henry
Crawford and Johnson
Currie, Miss Lily
Cuthbert, Mr. Alfred
Dandy, George
Day, Mr. Geo. R.
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
Denton, Miss Dolly
Desormes, Mr. J.
Dobell, Mr. E. H.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Duncan, Mr. O.
East, Mr. J. M.
Entwistle, Mr. R.
Everard, Mr. Francis
Finucane, Miss M.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Forbes, Mr. Alec
Fox, Mr. Will H.
Gerrard, Mr. H. S.
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Gray, Mr. Heaton
Hall and Earl
Halstan, Miss M.
Hare, Miss W.
Hartley, Mr. Chas.
Hast, Mr. Walter
Heath, Mr. Guyton
Hemming, Mrs. Alfred
Holding, Mr. Thomas
Hope, Mr. Jones
Houpla, Mr. Richard
Howard, Miss E.
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Jackson, Mr.
John, Mr. Arthur
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Edith
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kremo, Mr. Karl
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lewis, Miss Rose B.
Lewis, Mr. Leslie
Lilly, Mr. E. C.
Lisbon and Lester
Lloyd, Mr. H. C.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lukishamas, The
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Maron, Miss B.
Mars, Mr. Harry
Marsh, Mr. Alec
Martens, Capt.
Martin, Mr. Albert L.
Mayke, Mr. T.
Meynall, Mr. Clive
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Mozart, Mr. George
Neale, Mr. V.
Nolan, Mr. Alf
Nord, Miss Serene
Norton, Mr. Jack
Pattison, Mr. Bert
Pawle, Mr. Lennox
Paull, Mr. Ethel G.
Payne, Mr. W.
Pettigrove, Mr. Louie
Pettigrove, Mr. Thomas
Philliott, Mr. Gordon
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Purcell and Newns
Raymond, Miss Alice
Rhodes, Mr. Percy
Ridgway, Miss Nellie
Robertson, Mr. Ian
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Rosse, Mr. Russell
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Saxonians, The
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scott, Miss D.
Sefton, Miss Clarice
Seymour, Mr. E. A. O.
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Shaw, Miss Nancy.
Sivado, Mr. C.
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Squire, Mr. Reginald
Strange, Mr. George
Stratton, Mr. E.
Sutton and Raynor
Terris, Mr. T.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Titus, Mr.
Tower, Mr. Allen
Tregonwell, Mr. A.
Trieve, Mr. Richard
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vasco, Mr. W.
Vaselisan Troupe
Von Leer, Miss Sara B.
Ware, Miss N.
Webb, Miss Ada
Wells, Miss Pattie
Weston, Miss Lucy
Wheeler, Miss Daphine
Whyte, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams and Warden
Williams, Mr. Percy
Winona
Wun Hi Ching Soo

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 3. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.
Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 514,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 804004.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Compress
Made in England. (Patent No. 16838/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/8 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

樓 花 採
PHONE, 7607 GERRARD. PHONE, 7607 GERRARD.
THE 'CATHAY' RESTAURANT
Open 11 a.m. till 11.30 p.m. Open on Sundays.
A PIONEER FIRST-CLASS CHINESE RESTAURANT, RUN ON UP-TO-DATE EUROPEAN METHODS.
. . CHINESE DISHES in great variety, . . and pure CHINA TEA (specially imported).
AMERICAN AND OTHER ARTISTES who have been accustomed to occasional Chinese Meals will find the menu at the "Cathay Restaurant" almost identical with that of the best Chinese restaurants in New York and other American cities.
SPECIAL NOTICE. The management gives special attention to little Dinner and After-Theatre Parties which may be arranged over the telephone or by correspondence.
22, DENMAN STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes
Re-appearance of Mr. EDMUND PAYNE
and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries, Pictures of the Royal Funeral, "The Scarab," a New Magical Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions, &c., &c.
Seats 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
ETHEL LEVEY, Three Sisters Athletas, Franco Piper, Almasio and Yamina, The Excellos, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON,"
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF ROLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
Ascot on the Bioscope, Petit Roberto,
Emerson and Baldwin,
Mazuz and Mazetto, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon, Bert Levy, Boganny Troupe, Radford and Winchester, Royal Funeral Procession in Actual Natural Colours, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.
Little Tich, "Chanteclair," by Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricket's Co., Harry Tate, T. E. Dunville, Alex Dagmar, Lotto Troupe, Radie Furman, Daisy James, Bioscope, Farr and Farland, Ernest Rees, Bros. Horne, Dutch Daly, Three Cape Girls, Lawrence Barclay, Dorothy Goud, Tony Black, Bert Erroll, Angus Strong, Minnie Mace. Open 7.20; Saturday Matinée 2.15. Manager, MR. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
WILKIE BARD, LIANE D'EVE,
Mary Law, Hal Forde, Madoline Rees, The Five Orioles, The Westbrooks, Lennox Pawle and Robert Whyte, jun., in "The Odd Man Out," Ella Shields, Herbert Clifton, Gladys Huxley, Alec Chentrens, Cinquevalli, T. E. Dunville, Morny Cash, Madge Osmond, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
Six Bros. Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps," Melody Makers, Chris Richards, Harvey Boys, The Simms, Carlotta Levey, Len Teel, Radie Furman, Stewart and Morgan, Ruffell's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietor (Debenture Holder),
FRANK POSTLETHWAITE.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Eugenie Magnus and Co., Lona, Herman Friscari, Evelyn Wickens, The Cardows, Charlie Robinson, Ada Cerito, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, The Ten San Tan Girls, Milsted Bell Trio.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Hayman and Franklin's Co., in "Toplitsky; or, The End of the World," Jack Smiles, Edie and Ramsden, in "Charlie's Visit," Ethel Stephenson, Hinton and Wooton, May Fairclough, Ruffell's Bioscope, Sybil Lonsdale, Ernest Shand, Max Waldon.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal 1 o'clock, Monday, G. Carncross and Co., Frank Cass, George Prince, Sisters Rhena, Mande Millar, Agnes Molteno and Co., Ted Curtis and Pics., The Sutcliffs, Bioscope, Annie Beal. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, June 20,
Barbara Gott in "The Candle," Lily Eyton, Harry Emeric, Hyde and Cody Trio, Sam Bean, Mundey and Tipp, Alexander Loftus and Co., Dolly Harmer, Four Idlers, Madison and Webb, Bioscope, Amasis, Dent and Harris, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, June 20. Nevill Graham and Co., Larola, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Rose Cabani, Elton Black, the Frohmans, Zeta Russel, Hilton St. Just and Louise Van Dalle, Lily Esplin, Four Jarrattis, Flo Inman, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACTORS' DAY.
The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will take place on MONDAY, June 27, at 12 mid-day at the DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE
(by kind permission).
Agenda:
To receive Report from the Advisory Board.
To elect to vacant seats on the Advisory Board.
Nominations for the Advisory Board, proposed and seconded by contributors, must reach the office not later than 12 mid-day, Saturday, June 25.
Address,
Hon. Sec., Actors' Day,
Dudley House, 37, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.
June 15, 1910.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
Victoria Embankment, E.C.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
Principal, W. H. Cummings, Esq., Mus.Doc., F.S.A.
Students' Orchestral Concert in the City of London School, on Wednesday next, June 22, at 6 p.m. Programme includes Symphony in B Minor (The Unfinished), Schubert, and Pianoforte Concerto in A Minor (Op. 16), Greig.
Tickets, on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, can be obtained of the Secretary.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
June 20, at 5 p.m., Pianoforte Recital, by Miss Maud Agnes Winter; June 22, at 8 p.m, Orchestral Concert at Queen's Hall. Prospectus and concert tickets on application. Shelley Fisher, Secretary. Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Address all communications, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney. Cable Address, "Tivolian, Sydney." General-Manager, John C. Lees.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
Soundy and Co., Ltd.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. First-class companies required for Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12. Fast booking, 1911. Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Berch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, July 4, and Oct. 24, No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. Walkington. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Currr.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant for No. 1 Attractions only.
Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, onwards.
Can entertain a big Panto. Xmas Production.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, Jan. 9, on.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Vacant.
Oct. 24, Nov. 14.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson. Vacant Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager,
Mr. Charles Revill.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vac. Nov. 7 and 14. Fast booking 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

PURSUANT to an Order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, made on the 12th May, 1910, in the matter of the Estate of Thomas Barrasford, deceased, and in the action of Thomas Pacey against Maud Barrasford (widow). The Creditors of Thomas Barrasford, late of 11, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, in the County of London, and of Hippodrome House, Brighton, in the County of Sussex, who died on the 1st Feb., 1910, are, on or before the 11th day of July, 1910, to send by post, prepaid, to us the undersigned, Amery-Parkes, Macklin, and Co., of 18, Fleet-street, London, E.C., the solicitors of Maud Barrasford (widow), the executrix of the deceased, their Christian and surnames, addresses and descriptions, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts, and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them, or in default thereof they will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Order.
Every Creditor holding any security is to produce the same before Mr. Justice Joyce at his Chambers, situated in the Royal Courts of Justice, London, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1910, at 12.30 o'clock in the afternoon, being the time appointed for adjudicating on the claims.
Dated this 9th day of June, 1910.
AMERY-PARKES, MACKLIN, and CO.,
18, Fleet-street, London, E.C.
Solicitors for Maud Barrasford (widow).

NOTICE
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
I, MARCUS D. DRAPER, of Adel Rectory, Leeds, England, hold absolutely the No. 2 and Fit-up Rights of producing and representing the play in a Prologue and Four Acts, entitled "THE CHRISTIAN" in the Provinces of Great Britain for a period of twelve months from June 1, 1910, with the option of a further twelve months from June 1, 1911.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Published at "The Era" Offices,
Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Bassett, Mr. Leon Alfred	July 3, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Colyer, Miss Kitty	June 19, 1909
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Cranston, Mr. Edward	June 26, 1909
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Herbert, Miss Katharine	June 26, 1909
Herries, Miss Lillian	July 3, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hudson, late Mr. T. P.	July 3, 1909
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	May 29, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Moss, Mr. Hugh	June 12, 1909
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robina, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John E.	July 10, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Woottwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1910.

THE ACTOR'S ANXIETY.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, in his admirable speech at the Royal General Theatrical Fund dinner on Sunday last, touched, with his usual acuteness, on the great trouble of the modern actor. It is doubtful if, in any previous period since the theatre was established in England, the lot of the average actor has been so uncertain. If we may judge from the chronicles of the time, even the life of the strolling player, rough and hard as it was, had less of the element of anxiety than that of the better-paid, better-clothed, and better-educated actor of the present day. As for the actor's life under the old stock and circuit system, it was security itself compared to the modern "in-and-out" existence which is forced upon the actor nowadays. The members of the old stock companies were each engaged for a special line of business. The salaries were low, but they were generally forthcoming; and the engagements were tolerably permanent. There was not in the production of plays such a contrast of brilliant success and utter failure as at present. Altogether, the experienced actor in a stock company may have been poor, but he was what is called comfortable.

The modern method of choosing the actor to suit the part which is practised at our London theatres results in a realism of impersonation which often approaches perfection, and which was impossible when the types of character were broader, more conventional, and less subtly defined. But that result has been attained at terrible cost to the individual actor. The greatest sufferers are not the respectable performers who have an established reputation for reliability and utility, and are content to take a sound, steady way round the provinces year by year. It is the talented and ambitious actor, who has achieved recognition but not great eminence, who is most sorely tried. The other day we talked with an actor of notable ability who had made his name well-known at the West End theatres. He had been "resting" for eight months. Lest it should be thought that he is an eccentric or an incompetent, we hasten to add that he is now fulfilling an excellent engagement at a good salary. But imagine the slow torture as the bank balance, accumulated when in employment, steadily diminished, the dread lest the unemployment should be continuous, the pressure of that idleness on an active disposition and a highly-strung, energetic temperament. For, unlike the artist and the author, the actor cannot practise his art in private. He needs a stage, the company of his fellow players, and the stimulus of an audience. He is reduced to the wearing, miserable alternative of patience.

The way in which these troublous times are borne is nothing short of heroic. The actor does not carry his heart upon his sleeve. He manages to keep up appearances, both as regards dress and manner. Seldom does he complain, and still more seldom does he commit suicide. But the modern system makes the profession of acting a very trying one. It exacts from the rank and file of the calling a quiet, stubborn endurance which, under a more favourable dispensation, would be quite unnecessary. The actor does not make a parade of his providence; we might even say that, like all artists, providence is not natural to him. Dealing with ideas and not with facts and figures, he shares with all pleasure-makers the danger of indifference to the future, of vivid delight in living, which is the great foe of foresight. But soon after he enters the profession the precarious nature of engagements is forced upon him. It is marvellous, when we think of the smallness of the salaries paid in the lower branches of the calling, that the inevitable "breaks" are bridged over with so little obvious or demonstrative distress.

And the irony of the situation is made all the more keen by the comparatively large salaries paid to actors of merit while they are working, and their social status and popularity. A young West End actor would be more than human if he did not endeavour to enjoy himself. But, however modestly he may live in private, he must, as part of his business and his pleasure, present a respectable, not to say fashionable, exterior in public and in society. His position is to a certain extent a false one. His salary is pretty well known; but few take the trouble to do the simple sum of mental arithmetic which would show the average which is created by the long periods of unemployment. The great curse of the modern actor is anxiety.

It would be better if these facts were understood outside the profession; and then we should have fewer stage-struck young persons helping to over-stock it. Apart from its artistic attraction, the stage as a profession has little to recommend it. It demands in its votaries—we had almost written its victims—a passionate, whole-souled love of the art of acting as a make-weight for its troubles. GOLDSMITH called poetry the "source of all his joy and all his woe," and we can well understand an old actor looking back on his life, and after balancing the good and the bad, the pleasure and the pain, coming to the conclusion that the path he took was the right one for him. But this cannot apply to the silly youths and maidens who go on the stage with the idea that they are going to have an easy time of it, and in the end will be able to "retire from business" on a competence. The latter result can only be attained by stern self-denial. But it is made more easy by the existence of that admirable institution the Royal General Theatrical Fund. Apart from the advantages which it offers to the actor in the liberal scale of its annuities, it is of infinite value as a great advertisement of the possibilities of professional thrift, of the means of attaining ultimate independence. Mr. HARVEY'S speech contained a gem of description which is worthy of quotation for its vivid picturesqueness. Said Mr. HARVEY:

> Let me recall a typical case, that of one of our annuitants. All his working life he has lived in a modest little cottage in a remote suburb, though to be sure he has earned a handsome salary at times which he would have had some excuse for thinking warranted a larger establishment, but he had resisted the temptation to cut a dash, and has, night by night, after his work is finished, reached his cottage by 'bus and his own sturdy foot; only once or twice has he fallen into arrears with the quarterly payments as a subscribing member of the fund. Engagements of late years have been less frequent, but from time to time his astounding gifts of humour have been remembered by some manager, and he has emerged from his cottage to convulse the playgoing world with his irresistibly comic personality—a personality which is the more irresistible when compared with the solemn gravity of his deportment in every-day life. The constant denial of many years has at last brought him to his goal of rest. He is now well past eighty, and has drawn his annuity regularly for over twenty years. His step upon the stairs when he comes to receive his quarterly payments at our secretary's hands is a little feebler year by year, and he has greater and greater difficulty in finding his way out of the office and down the stairs, when, with his well-earned allowance in his pocket, he returns to his cottage and his roses.

The picture is a pleasant one, and it is realisable by any actor who will accept the advantageous offer which is made to him by the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 16.—Henry Bataille is one of our most talented playwrights. Unfortunately, he is a little too fond of litigation. His name is as well-known in our Law Courts as it is in the theatres, and many a time our Judges have expressed the wish that these literary questions might be settled out of Court. In his last action against Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, however, M. Bataille has gone really too far, and has been told a few unpleasant things in the Paris press. The curious part of the affair is that M. Bataille had the law on his side, and that in his action against Mme. Bernhardt in respect to one of his plays which she had accepted and refused to produce, the Court had awarded him the damages he had claimed. But where he was wrong was when he ordered Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's property to be *seized*, and a cry of horror was heard on every side when this became known. Heaven be praised, the feeling for Art, for those who represent it in so worthy a manner as our great national Sarah, is not dead within us. We admire and respect her for all she has done for the French drama, and the cry of horror soon developed into such a howl that good M. Bataille promptly ordered all proceedings to be stopped. The matter, therefore, is settled, but it has left an unpleasant after taste of which M. Bataille will feel the effects for some time yet. Poor Catulle Mendès used to say that he would accept a kick from three persons—from Flaubert, Richard Wagner, and Sarah Bernhardt. He had a real cult for the great tragedienne, and this feeling is shared by everybody in the theatrical world. We still have our idols, and it is not safe to attack them, even under cover of the law.

As to the "affaire Lantelme," it is shrouded in mystery, in so far as it was heard *in camera*, and very little transpired of what took place behind the closed doors. All we know is that Mlle. Lantelme, looking very pretty in a tight-fitting dress and a becoming hat, entered the sanctum, summoned there by M. Deval, the well-known manager of the Théâtre de l'Athénée. Mlle. Lantelme had been engaged by him to play the leading rôle in *Manon, fille galante*, to be brought out at the before-mentioned house. Suddenly Mlle. Lantelme refused to learn her part, alleging that it was so "peppery" that no decent actress could be expected to play it. And, as this young artist had already appeared in *Le Circuit* and other plays of a rather spicy character, we are naturally led to suppose that *Manon, fille galante*, must be exceptionally strong, unless some other reason induced Mlle. Lantelme to throw up her rôle.

Deval claims damages, which Mlle. Lantelme refuses to pay, because, as she says, she is in the right. One of the Judges asked M. Deval to produce the MS. so that they might judge for themselves whether Mlle. Lantelme's statement is not somewhat overdrawn. But M. Deval refused to show the play, alleging that he could not do so without the author's sanction, and as the author happens to be no less a person than M. Bataille, he (M. Deval) will not run the risk of a law suit. The case will again come for hearing in a few days, when judgment will probably be given. M. Deval says he is sure to win, and his fair opponent is equally certain of victory.

"THE ACCOLADE."

A One-Act Play by Gaston Gervex, Produced by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury at the Court Theatre on Thursday afternoon, June 16.

The Marquis de Valencourt ..... MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY
Sir Harry Edgecombe ..... MR. STANLEY HOWLETT
François ..... MR. FRED GROVE
Gabrielle de Fontenay ..... MLLE. D'AIREL

To the making of sketches and plays dealing with the French Revolutionary period there is no end. *The Accolade*, stated to be by Gaston Gervex, was seen for the first time last Thursday at the Court. It deals with the love of an English baronet and also a French Marquis for Gabrielle de Fontenay. Sir Harry Edgecombe is declaring his passion for Gabrielle, who is the affianced wife of the Marquis de Valencourt, when the arrival of the French nobleman interrupts his avowal. François, the old butler at the château de Valencourt, is violently agitated by the news that the revolutionary mob is advancing on his beloved master's mansion, and beseeches the Marquis to fly with Mlle. to England until happier times shall come. Sir Harry also urges his friend to fly. But the Frenchman, with all the pride of his race, declares he will die in his old home sooner than desert it to the mob. Left together, the two men talk of their love for the same woman, and it is agreed that if Mlle. chooses the Englishman he and she shall fly to England, and that if the lady chooses the Marquis it will be her privilege to die by his side when the rabble sacks the place, as is inevitable. Mlle. de Fontenay tells Harry of her love for him, but decides that it is her duty to stay with the Marquis. By a subterfuge the Marquis sends his fiancée and the Englishman off, promising to follow a little later. The scene that follows between the Marquis and his old butler is exceedingly well done and affecting; after which the Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity brigade arrive and make very short work of both the gallant nobleman and his beautiful château. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury gives us a very vigorous yet dignified idea of the Marquis de Valencourt. He made his audience live with him. His troubles were theirs, and one could not resist a sob of despair at his untimely end. Quite a lovable character, too, was old François the butler, excellently played by Mr. Fred Grove. Mr. Stanley Howlett also did very well in the part of Sir Harry Edgecombe. Mlle. D'Airel was seen as Gabrielle de Fontenay. The little play met with a most cordial reception from a well-filled house.

Preceding *The Accolade* Mr. Clive Currie presented the Forest scenes from *As You Like It* in a most creditable manner. The love story of Rosalind and Orlando is always a favourite with students of Shakespeare, and Miss Mary Forbes undertook the heavy work of the heroine with every success. In doublet and hose she looked "a goodly youth indeed." Her acting was extremely spirited, and her delivery of the epilogue was one of the good things of the afternoon. The part of Orlando fell to the share of Mr. Clarence Derwent, a handsome lover enough, with a clear delivery, though at times lacking spirit. The best in the cast was undoubtedly Mr. H. A. Saintsbury as Touchstone the Jester. He evidently had made an intense study of the part. He took his lines in the most natural manner possible, getting every point with a dry acerbity that was a relish to all who heard them. Not for many a long day has the renowned jester been better represented. Mr. Clive Currie was another of the actors to give distinction to his part—that of Jaques. One likes his moods from the first, and his terse delivery is very effective. The part of the Banished Duke was well handled by Mr. Walter Ringham, and Mr. Lewis Carlton worked hard and got everything in the most creditable manner from the country lout William's small doings. Miss Jean Graeme made a very pleasing Celia. She seconded Miss Forbes' efforts admirably. The others who did well in the parts allotted to them were Mr. Montague Mazeran, Mr. Dennis Cleugh, Miss Evelyn Grey, Miss Evelyn Vandersee, and Mr. Fred Grove as Adam, the old servant.

DINNER TO MISS HORNIMAN.

The close of the third year of Miss Horniman's work in Manchester was celebrated on Thursday night by a dinner at the Queen's Hotel, Mr. B. Iden Payne presiding. The dinner was arranged by a committee composed of Henry Austin, Lewis Casson, and Edwin T. Heys. It was attended by practically every member of the present company and several past members. Some scores of letters and telegrams were received in the course of the evening from those who had been connected with the company at one time or another, and who were unable to be present. In acknowledging the toast of her health, Miss Horniman spoke of the unusual distinction of the forthcoming degree of M.A. to be conferred upon her, a woman, and one connected with the drama. She referred humorously to some effects of her recent speech in Liverpool, and said that if she wished to say what would make an impression on Manchester she should say it in Liverpool. Miss Horniman spoke of her pride in her company, and, despite any rumours, she stated emphatically that she was not going to throw up the sponge.

Mr. Stanley Drewitt greatly amused the company by describing an American request to produce a play in which the characters were all flies, whose business it was to walk about upside down on a ceiling. Mr. Charles Charrington proposed "Miss Horniman's Company." He contended that the stage must preach, and must have some earnest, and, for the want of a better word, religious force at the back of it, universal, and not belonging to any creed or sect. The stage was capable of expressing anything that the Church had expressed in bygone times. He had great respect and admiration for the work that Miss Horniman's company was doing, and was privileged to have been a member of the company. Wherever you had the commercial spirit at the back of the repertory theatre, the thing instantly became too difficult. Mr. Payne responded, and referred to the great strides made by the company in national and international reputation.

MISS ADA REHAN has reached London from New York on her way to her English summer home. Miss Rehan is uncertain whether she will return to the stage, from which she has been absent for five years.

THE consideration of the accounts showing a deficit of £5,200 on the Brighton Aquarium and Municipal Orchestra was deferred at the meeting of the Borough Council on Thursday, pending a report from the borough accountant. Councillor Griffith, who has taken a prominent part in financial reform, while rejoicing in the town's possession of a first-rate orchestra, has publicly stated that he shares the general astonishment at its heavy cost. While the band costs the town approximately £9,000 a year, it is maintained that it does not sufficiently provide the outdoor music so much required by visitors.

THE West Ward Ratepayers' Association has now urged upon the Council the desirability of removing the present bandstand on the Lower Western Lawn and the improvement of the esplanade there so that, whether a sunken bandstand be constructed or not, outdoor performances may be given on what is regarded as an ideal spot. On Thursday Alderman Wilson advocated more concerts being given in the Pavilion Grounds, which offer more shade than the Old Steine enclosure, but no decision was arrived at. The Council had before them the revised accounts of the musical festival showing a deficit of £334.

A LICENSING SUGGESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With regard to the forthcoming movement on the Censorship and One Licence for all Theatres question, may I offer one simple suggestion as a solution which should appear satisfactory to all concerned—that is, that all places of entertainment, whether theatres or music halls, should be granted exactly the same privileges as our present opera house at Covent Garden. To the best of my knowledge this proposal has not yet been brought forward, and as much of the original matter debated upon has perhaps been half forgotten, may I be permitted to refer to the beginning of the argument in as few words as possible?

Authors had a grievance, and for the purpose of airing their trouble they engineered a committee to inquire into, report upon, and propose a remedy. This committee calls a number of witnesses, including bishops, authors, actresses, actors, critics, and managers, to hear their expressions of opinion and to be cross-examined as to the advisability of retaining the reader of plays or abolishing this post. After listening to voluminous evidence—*vide* report—and after the committee has deliberated upon it, what is the result? A verdict of utter damnation, affecting a body of innocent people, the head landlords. Not so very long ago theatres were under the sole direction of the Lord Chamberlain, by whom landlords and managers alike were treated with the utmost kindness and courtesy. Many will remember the days when Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane visited the theatres, representing the Lord Chamberlain. Then followed Sir Arthur Ellis, and eventually the London County Council took the entire structural control. (The Lord Chamberlain grants no licence until he receives the favourable report of the L.C.C.) What will be the result of the present attack upon the Lord Chamberlain if the Covent Garden licence is not adopted? The landlord and manager may have yet more masters, viz., the L.C.C., the Licensing Magistrates, and the police. Then God help the mob! I say mob, for you landlords and managers will form one of the mob on licensing days when you apply for your public house licence. Most of you, I imagine, are ignorant of what this means. Wait and see. Some may obtain their licence, some may not; and even the privilege of getting the licence may not repay you for what you will have to go through. And, moreover, it is quite possible you may not obtain even a theatrical licence. So there may be three degrees:—

1. A theatre with no licence.
2. A theatre with a theatrical licence.
3. A theatre with a theatrical licence and a drink licence.

If there is any risk of landlords and managers being punished in this manner, surely they should unite at once, and petition the King for protection. Let the authors fight their own battles. The point is, do you prefer the dignified, courteous treatment of the Lord Chamberlain's office, or to be treated as one of the mob? I am casting no aspersion upon either the Licensing Magistrates or the London County Council. These great bodies cannot occupy themselves with any individual; you must go up with the mob in your turn and take your chance, and you are all aware what a tyrant chance is.

A change in the policy of the entertainment world is necessary, and—if licence there must be—there should be free trade and one licence for all, as advocated in a modified form by Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Henry Arthur Jones.

Take Whiteley's, Peter Robinson's, Maple's, Shoolbred's, Selfridge's, Harrod's, and such like. Have they all to obtain a licence to live? Boots, and other chemists of that ilk—have they to obtain a licence to live? Lipton, Lyons', A.B.C. shops—have they to obtain a licence to live? No. But a man who ventures his all in building a theatre of some £100,000 must not only obtain a licence to use it, but has to face the opposition of another man who has perhaps a fat living in the same locality, who says "How dare you come here to earn your living? This is my pitch." Take the Empire Theatre: it was closed for two years, battling down the opposition of the Alhambra and other halls before it got a licence.

So it applies all round, one place opposing another as if, forsooth, that particular landlord or company had the sole monopoly of earning his bread and butter at the expense of others starving. I shall not enter into the pros and cons of free trade, but at once give you a glaring example of what is and what should be. One law and one protector for all alike.

Covent Garden Theatre.—It may be a circus, a playhouse, an opera house, a concert hall, a variety house, a dancing saloon. It may permit smoking in the auditorium, and it may serve food anywhere and keep open all night, and, moreover, serve drink all over the premises during prohibited hours.

Yet the house and all these privileges are under the direction of the L.C.C. and Censor. What harm has accrued from this free house? None. If one house may enjoy free trade, why not all? I maintain that it is most unfair, unjust, that any one house should have any advantage over another.

We are not living in 1910 B.C., but in A.D. 1910, and this being so, it is time that matters should be equalised, and all given the same opportunity of earning their living and supporting the State.

Everyone has the right to work for his living, and everyone should have an equal chance of so doing, and no law, ancient or modern, should give to one man an opportunity of earning his bread at the expense of his starving brother.

Now that the question of free trade is raised, I submit in the name of justice and in the strongest possible language, that it is a burning iniquity that Covent Garden Theatre should be the one and only free trade house in London. Will the new law begin with commonsense and fair play by giving every manager equal right to submit whatever form of entertainment that is not harmful or dangerous the public may approve of? And the same refreshment conditions as at Covent Garden.

Possibly I am speaking somewhat warmly on this subject, but I certainly think the time and circumstances demand unrestrained speech.—Yours faithfully,
B. DISTIN-MADDICK.
Scala Theatre, Charlotte-street, W.

THE vicar of St. John's, Newcastle, takes a rational view of theatres. "They relieve the dullness of life for many," writes Mr. Hepher in his parish magazine, "and send them back to work refreshed, and often edified and instructed." He, however, laments that present-day taste runs in favour of "empty-headed and banal musical burlesque" instead of the comic operas of the Gilbert-Sullivan days, and marvels at the appeal which the variety stage makes "with its little snippets of performances."

MR. HEPHER is philosophical enough to concede that tastes differ and to believe that, generally speaking, the influence of the stage makes for temperance and decency. He sees, however, that the public can, if they will, exert a valuable influence on the stage. For he says:—"The way to improve the stage is to go to the theatre, and find fault with the manager when things are wrong; to select the plays you see with care, and if need be to leave the theatre as a protest if illicit things are done or said, taking care to ask for a return of your money."

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"STALLS FOR TWO."

A One-act Play, by Mrs. George Norman and Mr. David Ellis, Played for the First Time at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden Lane, on Friday, June 17.

Tom Tatham ..... MR. DUNCAN YARROW
Mr. Jackson ..... MR. ALFRED DRAYTON
Mrs. Morgan ..... MISS ESTELLE STEAD
Lucy Morgan ..... MISS EVELYN GREY

Two very ambitious plays—one a single act, the other in three—were staged for the first time at Mr. Clive Currie's cosy little theatre yesterday (Friday) afternoon. A very good audience assembled, and both productions—which were under the management of Messrs. Jay and Mann—got a very cordial reception. *Stalls for Two* deals with the story of how Lucy Morgan, the daughter of the late Captain Morgan, of the Merchant Service, is, on the demise of her parent, forced to accept a situation as typewriter with a Mr. Jackson, who is a patent boot-blacking merchant. Young Tom Tatham, employed by the downstairs beef-tea firm, is rather smitten with Lucy's charms, and, despite her protests that she cannot go to the theatre, induces her to promise that she will do so. Now Mr. Jackson wants Lucy to do some extra typewriting that evening before she goes, and on her intimating that she has accepted an invitation to the theatre, promptly informs the girl that theatres mean damnation and—also "the sack." Lucy has a selfish old mother who subsists on the girl's earnings, and there is a pretty little scene between the two women when the elder learns that the younger is going "gallivanting." Regretting her hastiness, poor Lucy promises to give up her theatre treat and to stay and do the typewriting. She informs Tom Tatham that she cannot keep her promise, and that young gentleman instantly jumps to the conclusion that he is "not good enough for her." He tells Lucy this to her face, but ultimately that young lady explains the real reason. Like the decent boy he is, he at once offers to help her with her work, and, in addition, gives her the glad tidings that his employers have given him a big rise in his salary only that day. So sweet little Lucy is enabled to get her work done, to go to the theatre, and, best of all, to keep her situation.

Stalls for Two is a delightful little human incident. Miss Evelyn Grey as Lucy Morgan is splendid. The dear little girl's troubles one feels are one's own. The youthful lover, Tom Tatham, is well and brightly played by Mr. Duncan Yarrow. Rather nervous, but still good, was Mr. Alfred Drayton as the Nonconformist, Mr. Jackson. The selfish mother was played by Miss Estelle Stead. The sketch is well written and the dialogue very clever at times.

The Duchess of Down was in progress as *The Era* was going to press, so that a detailed notice is quite out of the question.

AN old letter of Hermann Vezin, hitherto unpublished, and written on Oct. 25 in an unspecified year to Edward Truelove, famous in days gone by as a bookseller and as a daring publisher, recalls an event that is worth remembering in days when it is proposed to build a theatre in memory of Shakespeare. In 1863, on the tercentenary of Shakespeare's birth, an oak tree was planted on Primrose Hill. It was to be the Shakespeare oak. "I remember the planting of that tree," wrote Hermann Vezin to Mr. Truelove. "I fear the public cares too little for such matters, and will forget all about it unless its memory is jogged by a proper inscription. Primrose Hill was to be called 'Shakespeare's Hill,' too. This was rather absurd, and impossible of achievement. His own published plays and the theatres where they are presented will always be his greatest monument."

AT the river carnival and dramatic and vaudeville matinée in aid of the *Daily Telegraph* Boy Scouts' Fund on Eel Pie Island at Twickenham on Thursday, July 14, an attractive programme will be presented under the patronage of Field-Marshal Earl Roberts and others. Mrs. Brown Potter, Mlle. Zelie de Lussan (by kind permission of Mr. Thomas Beecham), Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Harry Tate, Mr. George Gray, Miss Clarice Vance, Mr. John Lawson (who will travel specially from Ramsgate for the occasion), Mr. Pat Doherty, Mr. Fred Allandale, Mlle. Hellena Dolli, Miss Grace Warner, Mr. Alan McWhirter, Miss Cora Lanner, Miss Constance Montague, Miss Nina Gordon, Miss Lallie Forsyth, Professor Roberti and Miss Lavinia Caston, Miss Josephine Airlie, Miss Haïdee Wright, Fräulein Marie Woltereck, Miss Augusta Walters, Miss Yvonne Fitzroy, and Mr. Leslie Stuart and company have kindly consented to appear.

DEVOTEES of Ibsen claim for him that he has initiated a new school of play-writing, and that his work marks a new era in dramatic literature. The influence of "the Master" is no doubt inestimable, but in his own country he has to share honours with Björnstjerne Björnson, who although a younger man, was famous first. The two writers are compared in the interesting prefatory note to the latter's play, *Laboremus*, published by Chapman and Hall.

"The genius of these two poets has run on parallel lines, if with very different force and velocity, and when the history of Scandinavian literature is written, the rivalry between them will be the most interesting feature of the Northern literary revival in the nineteenth century. In almost all instances Björnson has been first in the field. Thirty years ago his name was known to a dozen persons where but one had heard of Ibsen. Both began by writing Sagas, but Ibsen emancipated himself earlier from the romantic, and took to the realistic treatment of his subjects a few years before his rival. Yet Björnson dealt first with the problem of marriage—*De Nygifte* (*The Newly-married*) foreshadowing Nora Helmer in *A Doll's House*; and in *En Fallit* (*A Bankruptcy*) and *Redaktören* (*The Editor*) he wrote social dramas which were the forerunners of Ibsen's *Pillars of Society* and *The Enemy of Society*. The similarity is that of the process of development, of nationality, of contemporaneous activity; there is little in their treatment of the same subjects, none whatever in the spirit of the men themselves. Ibsen is the judge, the stern arbiter, arraigning all known creeds and social conditions, shattering all that he attacks by his scathing criticism, a revolutionary who shows us no new organisation to take the place of the ruins he creates. Björnson, on the other hand, is the herald of the future, the prophet and the reformer. He deals with no evil for which he does not see a remedy; there is no bitterness in his warfare. Whilst Ibsen would sweep away the existing conventions of the relations of the sexes as fraught with possibilities of evil, Björnson 'cheerfully proposes to modify manners'; and the point of view is the same in each of the problems with which they have concerned themselves. Ibsen loves the Idea, Björnson loves Mankind. Nor is the contrast in character and temperament less great. Ibsen, solitary, gloomy, a pessimist 'far removed,' might seem at first more typically Scandinavian than Björnson. But it is not so. The younger dramatist, the sunny optimist, the poet who has ever felt the 'daylight of life' to be his element, is the born nationalist. According to Dr. Brandes, to name the name of Björnson is like hoisting the Norwegian flag. 'In his merits, his faults, his genius, his weakness, he is as distinctly national-as Voltaire and Schiller.' The Norwegian poets of the eighteenth century have sufficiently proved that loud light-heartedness and sunny optimism are Norwegian, and Björnson introduces in his characters the taciturnity, the shyness, the sobriety which distinguishes the other half of his people.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The House of Commons had attention drawn to the needs of the entertainment profession and the anomalies of licensing in Parliament on Tuesday, when, in reply to a question from Mr. Robert Harcourt, Mr. Winston Churchill (Home Secretary) stated that the report of the Joint Committee on Censorship and Licensing was under Government consideration.

In the Council on the same day the frequently postponed discussion on the one licence drew forth some interesting pronouncements from Mr. George Alexander—fully reported in another column. He said that until the law conceded free trade—which, by the way, it practically does in the outer metropolitan districts—the theatres ought to be protected, at least to the extent of the maintenance of the compromise.

Mr. Alexander seems to be much more anxious about the protection of theatres than his fellow actor-managers—Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, or Mr. Seymour Hicks, who have all been quite happy in drawing good salaries from either Mr. Alfred Butt or Mr. Oswald Stoll, and have each in their turn produced pieces which would have not found a place in the programme of any theatre, either patented or protected. We quite agree with Mr. Alexander when he urges the L.C.C. to give the double licence.

Mme. Hanako, the celebrated Japanese actress, will come to the Coliseum on Monday with her company from Tokio, to produce for the delectation of Mr. Stoll's patrons the dramatic playlet, *The Tea House*. It will be remembered that this versatile player from the land of the chrysanthemum produced about two years since at the Hippodrome a tragedietta, entitled *Otake*.

The gruesome simplicity of this, presented in a foreign tongue, did not impress English audiences, even though everything possible was done to reproduce the Japanese atmosphere. *Otake*, it will be remembered, was adapted into English by Loie Fuller, a great student of Jap literature, and produced at the Duke of York's on Aug. 26, 1907, as *The Little Japanese Girl*, with Miss Pauline Chase in the title-rôle.

Mr. Charles Coborn and Mr. Jack Straw have been appointed joint honorary secretaries for the forthcoming Music Hall Sports, on behalf of the poor of the profession, on July 21 at Stamford Hill grounds.

They are on the warpath for scalps in the form of prizes or donations towards that highly-deserving object, and are "chortling in their joy" over their progress to date, amongst their victims being Mr. Harry Tate (the president of the V.A.B. Fund), with a ten-guinea prize; Mr. Chirgwin, ex-president; Messrs. White Brothers, of Nottingham, with a prize of one of their best hampers (and "pro.'s" know what that means); the *Era*; Messrs. H. and M. Rayne; Mr. Herbert Shelley, with a donation; Mr. A. Jennings, of the Buchanan-street Station Hotel, Glasgow; the V.A.F.; the *Performer*; and a number of others, whose names will be published in due course.

The sports arranged are numerous and highly interesting, and the committee will heartily welcome gifts of prizes, donations, and advertisements for the official programme of the day. Communications may be sent to Messrs. Coborn and Straw, 40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W. Telephone, "Brixton, 277."

Carl Junor and company in Fred S. Jennings's successful sketch *The Spirit of Music*, having just finished a Gibbons tour, start with Moss' Empires on Monday at the Holloway Empire. Fred and Horace Reeves are sole agents for this attraction.

Mr. Herbert Sleath, by arrangement with Messrs. Arthur Bourchier and Charles Frohman, will appear very shortly at the Tivoli, Strand, in a sketch entitled *The Littlest Girl*. This does not mean that Mr. Sleath is relinquishing his part in *Glass Houses* at the Globe Theatre, for he will appear first at the Tivoli and later at the Globe. Several other actors and actresses have celebrated the *entente cordiale* between theatres and halls in similar fashion.

The London Theatres of Varieties has invited application for an issue of 100,000 7 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each at par. Dividends will be payable half-yearly, the first instalment, calculated on the amount paid up at the end of September, falling due in October. The company was incorporated in 1908 to acquire a group of variety theatres, and fourteen were then taken over, the Holborn Empire occupying the central position.

The present issue of the London Theatres of Varieties shares is made in order to enable the company to secure the direct and complete ownership of the London Palladium, now in course of construction, situated in Argyll-street, adjoining Oxford Circus; the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties, which occupies a prominent position in King-street West, Hammersmith Broadway; and the Lewisham Hippodrome, now being erected at Rushey-green, Lewisham, on plans prepared by Mr. Frank Matcham.

Mr. Alfred Butt, the manager of the Palace Theatre, and European agent for the newly-formed International Music Hall Syndicate, has just returned to London from Germany. He went over to Berlin to meet Mr. Meyerfield, the president of the American Orpheum Circuit, one of the controlling factors in the new syndicate, and as the result of their meeting it was decided to establish in the German capital "the largest music hall" in Europe, to be run on similar lines to the Palace Theatre in London. This decision is of particular interest as being the first move of the new music hall combine and an indication of its far-reaching ramifications.

Berlin, it is said, is ill-provided with vaudeville amusements, and Mr. Butt and those acting in conjunction with him take the view that the new music hall, which will seat 2,000 persons comfortably, will prove a formidable competitor to the less attractive beer gardens. English turns are to be employed, but the programme is to be run on cosmopolitan lines. It is understood that the police objections, which were by no means slight, to the scheme have been overcome, and that the plans of the proposed music hall have not only been approved, but that the order for building has been given, the site having been finally selected. The field of operations of the combine extends not only to America, Germany, and England, but to France, where they are acting in conjunction with the Alhambra.

In the syndicate are some 130 or 140 music halls joined together for mutual advantage and working under a common agreement. Artists will be engaged for two years, and as there are 140 music halls to be supplied with turns, there will be no necessity for any artist to be longer than a week at any particular music hall in the combine. It is understood that Mr. Butt's arrangement with the syndicate has no bearing on the Palace Theatre, though very likely it will give the Palace an opportunity of keeping in touch with the world's best talent.

It is proposed to make a presentation to Mr. P. D. Elbourne, of the Hippodrome, Birmingham, who is leaving Birmingham to take up the managership of the Leicester Palace. A Testimonial Fund Committee has been appointed, with Mr. M. Bernsten, of Midland Amusements, as hon. secretary.

Miss Gertie Gitana (who is one of Sunderland's greatest favourites) has been receiving enormous receptions from crowded houses at the Empire during the past week, and when Mr. Dick Thornton personally presented her, on Tuesday night last, with a beautiful bouquet there was quite an ovation.

Our Paris correspondent writes:—"We have had an exciting week. No novelties have been produced, but scandal-mongers in the theatrical world here have had a famous treat, inasmuch as they not only had the "affaire Lantelme," the "affaire Bataille," but also the Liane de Pougy marriage to discuss with their friends.

"Mlle. de Pougy, whose real name is Chassigne, has been connected with the music-hall stage, where she became celebrated for her beauty. Hard-working and ambitious, she would have given worlds to become a 'star.' Unfortunately, unsurmountable difficulties stood in her way. She engaged the best professors of singing, declamation, dancing, diction, &c., but their joint efforts failed in placing their fair pupil at the head of the profession. This, however, did not prevent the lady from appearing frequently before the public.

"From the Folies-Bergère she went to Russia, to return to the Folies-Bergère, and go back to St. Petersburg. If I am not mistaken, she also made her bow to a London audience in 1901 at the Palace Theatre in *Yacheska*. She then grew tired of the stage and attempted "writing." She brought out a few volumes, and even a one-act play *l'Enlèvement*, but her literary efforts did not bring her the fame she coveted. To console her, a kind fate had bestowed upon her magnificent jewellery and a pretty strong dose of what we call here *esprit*.

"Both stood her in good stead on the day of her famous encounter with Otero *la belle* at Monte Carlo. Otero, *la belle*, has—as everybody knows, a magnificent collection of necklaces, bracelets, rings, and tutti quanti, of which she is justly proud. Mme. Otero, happening to be in Monte Carlo when her younger rival in jewellery arrived, decided to take what is vulgarly called the shine out of her.

"After dinner *la belle* entered the rooms ablaze with shining stones. A murmur of admiration went through the crowded rooms as she quietly took her seat by the side of her friends. It was an anxious moment. The gamblers stopped playing, and the croupiers, rake in hand, kept their eyes riveted on the doors awaiting Mme. Liane de Pougy's arrival.

"That lady at last made her appearance, and people stared with astonishment. Tastefully, but simply dressed, Mme. Liane wore no ornament whatsoever except a rose in her hair. But she was followed by her maid covered from head to foot with her mistress's pearls, diamonds, rubies, and other precious stones. Mme. Liane has always been proud of her little victory.

"But she has become a princess, an authentic princess—Mme. la Princess Ghika. *Oui, ma chère!* Love, we all know, is a deep and delicate thing, that comes upon us when we least expect it.

"One Sunday, whilst this lady was walking with Prince Ghika at Saint-Germain, a man, accompanied by two ladies, made fun of Mme. Liane's hat. A discussion arose. The prince pluckily stood up for the lady and her hat, but his opponent gave him a black eye.

"And it was that black eye that won him the heart of the fair lady, and won her a title. They were married in the Town Hall of the 8th arrondissement, and I happened to catch sight of the interesting couple. Madame looked as fascinating as ever, and the bridegroom bears a strong likeness to Kubelik. The lady's chief witness was M. Lewis, the famous milliner, the same who manufactured the hat that led to the trouble in Saint-Germain and to the marriage in Paris. I wish the little Princess every happiness."

At their meeting on Tuesday the Margate Town Council granted a licence for the performance of stage plays at the Margate Hippodrome. Similar application had been made on several occasions to the Town Council as the licensing authority, but had hitherto always been successfully opposed by Mr. Edward Michael, managing-director of the Theatre Royal. On this occasion notice of opposition had been given, but was withdrawn.

Habitués of the Leeds music halls are at present loud in complaint of a nuisance which, though not a new one, appears to be growing to inordinate dimensions. About the exit-doors numbers of ragged urchins are to be seen, at the end of each performance, skipping about from visitor to visitor inviting them to "Give us yer programme, please." Improbable as it seems, numbers of these used programmes are sold for the next performance. The nuisance has been recognised by the music hall authorities, but despite the forcible attentions of doorkeepers it still continues to flourish.

On behalf of Mr. Frederick Mouillot (the licensee for the performance of stage plays at the Boscombe Hippodrome and the Grand Theatre) and his co-managing director, Mr. Walter de Frece wrote last week asking the Council to kindly expunge the clause from the regulations stated upon the back of the licence that "no smoking shall be allowed in the auditorium or promenades."

Hitherto the performances given at the Grand Theatre had been almost entirely of the variety description, and smoking was not precluded during such performances. But as it was intended to provide a series of plays licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, or which might otherwise be held to bring the premises under the stage play licence, it would be inconvenient to cause the public to stop smoking during such performances, seeing that upon other occasions it was, and had been, freely indulged in.

Mr. Hubert Dunbar also wrote, on behalf of Mr. Mouillot, stating that he would be obliged if the Council would grant a variation from the licence in force at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, for the weeks commencing July 4 and 11 by allowing smoking in the auditorium, which in view of the programme being arranged would tend to the additional comfort of visitors during the fêtes. It was eventually agreed that, without removing the restrictions, the Council should offer no objection to the suggestions of the proprietors of the two theatres.

Mr. Bob Baxter (the Genial One) and his wife (Miss Alma Obrey) have taken over the Half Moon Hotel at the corner of West-street and Boyce's-street, Brighton, and will be pleased to see all their old friends. They would like a few photos to place in the smoke-room.

Mrs. Geo. H. Smythson, who has been suffering from nervous breakdown, has been away with her husband and family for three weeks' holiday in the West, and has now returned to town greatly benefited by the change.

Mr. Jack Straw is running a unique sideshow at Rosherville on the day of the Variety Artists Benevolent Fund Fête and Gala. It is to be known as Jack Straw's Castle of Mysteries, and promises to be interesting and mysterious.

Mr. Alexander Loftus, who has been so long associated with *The New Barmaid*, will produce on Monday at the Bedford a musical sketch entitled *Brother Bill*, in which he will be supported by Mr. Charles Adeson and a full chorus.

A new farcical sketch from the pen of Edwin S. France, entitled *An Artful Widow*, has been secured by Miss Lily Annesley and Mr. Arthur Curzon, and will be produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday next, through the courtesy of Mr. Nelson Francis.

Mr. Henry Bedford will produce at the Hippodrome, Peckham, on Monday, *The Bottom Dog*, by Arthur Shirley. The theme is old, and taken from Victor Hugo, but it will be found to have been treated by Mr. Shirley in quite an original manner. Mr. Bedford will play the part of Bill Baxter, a thief.

By the kindness of Mr. Oswald Stoll, Miss Daisy Dormer was able to play a flying matinée at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Thursday last, where she met with a flattering reception. Miss Dormer was back in town to fulfil her engagement the same night at the Hackney Empire, where she is topping the bill.

Mr. Harry Lauder, the Scotch comedian, is considering an offer made by a syndicate to undertake a tour of the world. Mr. Lauder stated at Liverpool on Saturday that the salary offered is in excess of any he has yet been offered, and the tour includes America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, and South Africa. It would occupy two years.

Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler have received a cable from Miss Vesta Victoria, now on the Orpheum Circuit, stating that, owing to the enormous success made by her, Mr. Martin Beck has retained her for three successive weeks at San Francisco. Beecham and Wheeler's office is busy answering inquiries from other American proprietors.

Mr. Fred Barnes, after an absence of four and a half years, returns to the Gaiety, Birmingham, this week, where he bottoms the bill. Seldom has an artist had such a grand reception and welcome home. Mr. Barnes is a native of Birmingham, and was bred and born in the city, where his father is in business, so all his friends are giving a grand time to "The black sheep of the family," written by himself, and a great impersonation.

Sir Edward Moss will lend his patronage to the forthcoming river carnival and dramatic and vaudeville matinée, which is to be held on Eel Pie Island and in the Pavilion, Twickenham, on Thursday, July 14, in aid of the Boy Scouts' Fund being raised by the *Daily Telegraph*. To the list may also be added Sir Thomas Skewes-Cox and Miss Braddon, Mrs. Brown-Potter, and Mr. George Gray.

At the 663rd meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held on Wednesday afternoon at the offices of the Association, Mr. Charles Coborn (vice-president) occupied the chair. It was decided to close the offices of the Association on the day of the fête and gala at Rosherville on Wednesday, July 6, from 2 p.m. The committee also agreed to provide a prize to the value of £5 5s. for the sports.

The monthly financial summary showed the funds in hand to be:—Reserve account, £545 17s. 3d.; deposit account, £167 7s. 4d.; current account, £273 15s. 4d.; and cash in hand, £45. A cheque for £36 12s. was ordered to be drawn, this representing the amount received on behalf of the V.A.B.F. from the extra shilling on the green cards.

Miss Sylvia Cavalho, who has met with great success in vaudeville, has secured the rights of *Sanctuary*, by Malcolm Watson, and will produce the same at the Coliseum on Sept. 12. *Sanctuary* had a successful run at the Empire in December and January, with Miss Evelyn D'Alroy and Mr. Charles Bryant in the principal parts. Miss Cavalho will have the valuable support of Mr. Clifford Pembroke and a first-class company.

The hon. directors of the fête and gala at Rosherville-gardens, in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, on Wednesday, July 6, have specially engaged H.M. Band of the Royal Marines to perform during the afternoon and evening. The band will consist of twenty-five picked men and the conductor, Mr. Charles Hoby, and will play from 3.30 to 5.30 and from 7.30 to 9.30. As the Royal Marines have never before played at Gravesend, the band should attract many lovers of good music.

There are thousands of London's playgoers who still remember with delight the antics of Marceline, the famous Spanish clown, who made a continuous stay of five years at the London Hippodrome. Nearly six years ago Marceline was captured by the Schuberts for the New York Hippodrome, and given a life contract to appear there. Mareline's name is just as much a household word in the States to-day as it was formerly in London. Last Saturday the incoming Lusitania brought the famous little clown to England for a very short holiday, and when the same liner sails to-day (Saturday), Marceline will again be a passenger.

"I just came for a blow," he explained to an *Era* representative, "and to see all my old friends in London." It certainly has not been Marceline's fault if he has not succeeded in his object. All the week he has been meeting brother and sister artists, which on Friday led him to exclaim in his quaint broken English: "I never, never, never eat and drink so mooch in mine life." In wishing Marceline a pleasant trip back to the States, we hope his return to us—if only on holiday—may be speedy.

In conjunction with Mr. Charles Urban, joint inventor of Kinemacolor, Mr. Alfred Butt hopes to reproduce at the Palace Theatre on Monday next, Ascot Races in the veritable tints of Nature. The term hopes, is used advisedly, since the variable moods of our present weather, with heavy skies and lowering rain-clouds, are distinctly opposed to the very delicate process by which natural colours are recorded with absolute fidelity by the action of the sun alone.

Even with the preponderance of national mourning there remains a diversity of colour and form to give the expert bioscopist subjects in abundance—the sleek coats of the thoroughbreds, the satin jackets of the jockeys, the emerald tints of the bushes refreshed by summer rain, the unequalled display of rhododendrons and the famous avenue of red, white, and blue blossoms which the Ascot gardeners have made historic. Mr. Urban will, with favourable weather conditions, add scenes of the Richmond Horse Show, taking place yesterday and to-day, to this exhibition.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who concludes this week another highly-successful tour of the Moss-Stoll Empires, produces in three weeks' time a new Irish protean comedy, the scene of which is laid in Phœnix Park in 1800.

The Brothers Webb, the humorous musical clowns, who are paying a return visit to the Palace, Oldham, find their Lancashire friends as appreciative as ever of an entertainment that is always droll, up to date, and distinguished by perennial freshness.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's elaborate production of *East Lynne* opens at the Camden on Monday next. This engagement was made by Fred and Horace Reeves, who have been appointed exclusive representatives for all Mr. Croke's vaudeville enterprises.

In our review of the production of the new sketch *A Great Conspiracy* at Olympia, Shoreditch, the flattering notice to the impersonator of the part of Mozarin should have been associated with Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale, who played it. Unfortunately, in the cast forwarded to us two names were transposed. Hence the error.

Lloyd Morgan, the light comedian, as we predicted, has been secured by most of the leading variety managers, and little wonder. The public gladly welcome a new-comer who has everything to recommend him—voice, style, and new, up-to-date business. The West-end will be sure to think L. M. a welcome addition to the front rank.

Mr. Tom Nelldon (Vere and Nelldon) was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ted Karno, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred. A. Hooper, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. Messrs. Guido Alutto, Phil Bransby, William Butler, and Arthur Preston have successfully passed the ballot for membership of the association.

Tickets for the annual river outing may be obtained of the Secretary. Terrier Ted E. Box has presented a handsome case of silver fruit knives as a prize at the river outing sports. Terrier S. N. Salter has given a guinea to the prize fund. A large muster of Terriers at the meeting on Sunday last extended a hearty welcome to Terriers W. H. Atlas, Ted E. Box, Harry Barnard, Leo Sterling, and Harry Gribben upon their re-appearance in the kennel.

Summoned at Kingston on Thursday for exceeding the motor-car speed limit of twenty miles an hour, Mr. Fred Karno, the well-known comedian, contended that the police had mistaken for his car another vehicle that passed him while he was going along the measured distance. The "trap" was on the Oxshott road, where it is bordered by Claremont Woods, and the defendant's speed was alleged to be 33miles 1,693 yards an hour.

Mr. Karno complained very justifiably that after he was stopped he could not persuade the police to show him the measured distance. "The police," he said, "simply took my name and address and disappeared into the backwoods again. Four of us searched the woods for two hours and could not find them." The bench thought that the mistake was on Mr. Karno's side, and fined him £2, with 17s. 8d. costs.

Mr. Walter Graham, with his lilliputian music hall and his imitations of famous comedians, from Leybourne to Lauder, has been heartily cheered this week by audiences at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, where they are now running a hippodrome season. The delighted Dublin folk encored him many times, and his ability found such gratifying recognition that he had to appear four times before the tableau curtains. Next week he joins the combination run by Lafayette.

Miss Maude May Murray is making her first appearance this week at the Palace, Southampton, in her electrical aerial dances. With infinite grace and charm she floats round in diaphanous silks whose shimmering folds throw up the beauties of all kinds of coloured fantastic pictures reflected by artistically manipulated lanterns. Flowers, birds, figures of all kinds, and fascinating designs are thus focused on the dancer, who becomes a species of whirling spectrum; at one moment she flies upward as a butterfly, and the next she floats in the air in some quaint fairy guise. The dances are cleverly conceived and admirably executed, and the applause evoked by them is richly deserved.

Information having reached us of the death of Joseph Kirkbride Charles in a South African goldmine, through the premature explosion of a cartridge, some particulars concerning his eventful career will not be without interest for many of our readers. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lennard Charles, and brother of Mrs. Harry Burns, who is, perhaps, better known to us as Miss Helen Charles, now at the London Pavilion.

On the death of his parents, young Charles was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coborn, and after spending some three years at their home, he was sent, on doctor's advice, to a situation in South Africa—to be exact, at Whiteley's store in Mafeking. Later he joined the British Bechuanaland Police, actuated by a desire for an active outdoor life, and subsequently, on the disbandment of that force, migrated to South Australia and New Zealand, turning his hand to sheep-farming.

Returning to South Africa, the deceased took part in the late war, and after much service and many vicissitudes, he was severely wounded, and taken prisoner by the Boers, remaining in their custody for about eleven months. Strange to say, he subsequently formed one of Colonel Plumer's column which went to the relief of Mafeking, his first place of abode in the country. He was married and had at least one child. In his very young days he had some little experience of the stage, but never adopted it fully. Had he done so, there is little doubt but that he would have worthily maintained the family traditions, as he developed a very sweet tenor voice; but family ties prevented any move towards "the boards." Joseph Charles possessed a most agreeable personality, and was greatly esteemed. His loss is regretted by all who knew him.

Mr. Bert Levy, the well-known Australian artist and caricaturist, will reappear at the Palace on Monday, after his successful tour through the Continent and United States. Another item which has always proved very popular with the patrons of the Palace is that provided by the Bogannys.

Mr. Pan E. Draco, a well-known and popular figure in theatrical and variety circles, is giving up the management this month of the Reading Palace of Varieties, where he has been since its inauguration. For many years Mr. Draco has been held in high esteem as a touring manager, and has been prominently associated with various charities. He is exceedingly popular in Reading, where a testimonial fund is being raised on his behalf. The proprietors of the Palace have kindly consented to a complimentary benefit being given there, which is to take place on an early date. We are asked to invite any friends and artists who would be willing to give their services on this occasion to communicate with Mr. Draco at the Palace, Reading.

Mr. John Toner would like to be put in communication with his son, known on the variety stage under the name of the Belfast News Boy. His real name is John Dominic Toner. The address of the father is 117, Westminster-avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mlle. Tamara Karsavina, now appearing with M. Leginsky in the ballet *Les Sylphides* at the Grand Opera House in Paris, returns to the Coliseum in the near future. Mr. Oswald Stoll also promises the reappearance of Andreeff's Imperial Balalaika Orchestra, which was so successful there last year.

The Six Ceylons, after making a big success at the Regent, Salford, in their new comedy act, *A Dream in an Opium Den*, which has been arranged and produced by John Clifton, will present the same on Monday next and during the week at the Euston Palace at 9.50. Proprietors looking for a novelty should take an early opportunity of seeing it.

Mr. Henry Kemble has a decided winner in *The Gay Countess*, a musical comedy in a nutshell. With a company of thirty artists he most successfully produced it last Monday, and it will be the chief attraction at the Hippodrome, St. Helens, next week. The chief parts are taken by Miss Josie Farrington and Mr. Cyril Craven, and the music is by W. Harvey Pelissier, of Trinity College, Dublin.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, Miss Melinda May (secretary) begs most gratefully to acknowledge the following amounts:—Mr. Mike Johnson, 4s. 6d.; Miss E. G. Clarke, A.C.U. hospital tickets for outdoor treatment; Sisters Macarte, babies' new wool boots and photo postcards; and Miss Lottie Albert, ladies' vests and babies' shoes.

The croquet set given by the Sisters Macarte has been sold for £1 5s. A set of large-sized band books, presented by Messrs. Dennis and Morris, are for sale.

One of the most famous acrobats of the last century—Henry Johnson—who had performed before King William IV., Queen Victoria, and King Edward VII., died at Grantham at midnight on Sunday at the age of 103.

He was born at Norwich on Christmas morning, 1806, and was one of the performers at the original Sanger's circus. When only fourteen years old he went with Hughes' circus to Peking, and even in those early days was accounted an expert gymnast, ropewalker, and equestrian. "On a bareback horse I can do pretty well anything," he often said.

Afterwards he toured England with Mullaba, a celebrated Chinese juggler, and in 1830 the couple were commanded to appear before King William and the Court at Buckingham Palace. There they found a large stage had been erected on the lawn for their special benefit, and so delighted was the King with the performance, that he not only gave them fifty guineas, but a licence to perform at any market town or fair in the British Isles.

Johnson also had the honour of appearing before Queen Victoria (when she was Princess Victoria) at the Royal Hotel, Tunbridge Wells. The Princess was accompanied by her mother, the Duchess of Kent, and they gave the acrobat £10. Years later he performed before King Edward at Sandringham. That was fully thirty-five years ago, on the occasion of a dinner to the Royal tenantry.

A couple of accidents marred the serenity of things at the Rotherham Hippodrome last week. Minnie Kaufmann, the lady trick cyclist, fell from her machine and severely strained the leaders of her leg, and one of the Marlineks, during the performance of their speciality *The Rag Doll*, fractured his knee-cap. These unfortunate incidents placed the Hippodrome management in an awkward position, but they got over the difficulty, and at the first performance on Tuesday two capital turns appeared to deputise for the injured artists.

At the invitation of the management about forty of the officers and crew of the Terra Nova, the British Antarctic vessel, attended the performance at the Palace, Cardiff, on Saturday night. They were enthusiastically welcomed by the audience. During the performance the manager (Mr. W. A. Jackson), on behalf of the proprietor (Mr. Frank Macnaghten), expressed wishes for the success of the expedition, and stated that he hoped to have the pleasure of their presence at the Palace again upon their triumphant return.

Responding to Mr. Jackson's speech, Lieutenant Evans (second in command of the Terra Nova), speaking from the dress circle, said that as a Cardiff man himself he was proud of the cordial welcome extended by the citizens of Cardiff to Captain Scott and his men, and he fully appreciated the fact that the success of the expedition was nowhere more heartily desired than it was in Wales. Lieutenant Evans's party included Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Captain Scott, Lieutenant Campbell, and Lady Campbell.

The marriage of Mr. Oscar Vetter to Miss Annie Selkirk took place on Thursday, the 16th inst., at Southfields. Both bride and groom come from well-known professional families, for Mr. Vetter is one of the two Vetter Brothers, equilibrists and gymnasts, and Miss Selkirk has been long associated with the Selkirk's juvenile spectacular productions.

The ceremony was at St. Paul's Church, Southfields. The bride looked charming in a champagne-coloured silk gown and black hat. A reception was held afterwards at 55, Southdeangardens, where a large assembly wished the newly-married pair every happiness and prosperity.

Amongst the guests were the parents of both bride and bridegroom; Mr. Wallace Selkirk and Mrs. Shaw, brother and sister of the bride; Mr. Alfred and Miss Rose Vetter, brother and sister of the bridegroom; Mrs. George Smythson, of the Smythsons; Mr. W. Doodles, of the Hippodrome, Yarmouth; Mrs. and the Misses Bourne and Mr. Gilbert Bourne, aunt and cousins of the bride; Mrs. Nicholls, Mrs. White, Mrs. Werner, and many others.

The bridal couple were the happy recipients of some handsome presents, which included a cheque from Mr. Wallace Selkirk; a gold watch, bracelet, and brooch from the bridegroom to the bride; from the bride to the groom, a heavy gold wedding ring; a diamond pendant from Mrs. Shaw; a silver twin jam dish from Mr. and Mrs. Verstone, of Liverpool; a cheque from Mr. and Mrs. Philip Verstone; a silver cake dish from Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Shields; a silk handkerchief sachet, night-attire case, and shaving tidy, all hand-worked, by the Misses Smythson; a case of silver spoons, a silver pickle-fork and jam-spoon from Mrs. Werner; a silver Indian-work belt from Mr. Gilbert Bourne; a silver brush and mirror from Mr. Doodles; a silver-backed brush and mirror from Miss Daniels, of the Five Musical Marvels; a ladies' travelling bag from Mrs. Harrison, of Hull; a pair of hand-embroidered slippers from Messrs. Smith and Kirby, of Leeds; a flowered silk parasol from Miss Littlewood, of Huddersfield; a pair of satin slippers from Miss Bourne; and others. There were over a score of congratulatory wires from all parts of the country, and the festivities were kept up to a late hour.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

TO-DAY (Saturday) is a red-letter one in the calendar of the music trade of Great Britain, for this morning the entire fraternity will be supplied by Messrs. Francis and Day with that which has been awaited with eager expectancy—the issue of the two volumes that each succeeding year give such a great impetus and fillip to the business; and on Monday next, wherever a dealer in music exists, there will be found on sale copies in galore of Messrs. Francis and Day's Twenty-ninth Song Annual and of their Twenty-ninth Dance Album. So tremendous proved the advance orders received for the books that additional premises had to be requisitioned in which to store the great mass of printed matter that went to make up the first large edition, and which will be all gone before the day ends.

A GLANCE at the contents of the song annual shows that the firm have, as in former years, spared no pains or expense to give splendid value for money, the seventy-two pages containing the complete words and pianoforte accompaniments of the following popular numbers:—"Let's all go down the Strand!" (sung by Chas. R. Whittle), "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" (Miss Florrie Forde), "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" (G. H. Elliott), "The Corsican maid" (Miss Evie Greene), "I've loved her ever since she was a baby" (Harry Lauder), "I've got rings on my fingers" (Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks), "I'm waiting here for Kate" (Wilkie Bard), "It looks like a big night to-night" (Miss Marie George), "For months and months and months" (Jack Smiles), "Now I have to call him father" (Miss Vesta Victoria), "One of the girls" (George Lashwood), "Salome" (Miss Clarice Vance), "The girl in the clogs and shawl" (Chas. R. Whittle), "Shine on, harvest moon" (Miss Olive Lenton), "How I climbed the pole" (Little Tich), "I wish I lived next door to you!" (Miss Daisy Dormer), "The Agitator" (Ernest Shand), "There are nice girls everywhere" (Whit Cunliffe), "Serves you right!" (Billy Williams), "Love makes the whole year June" (Miss Florence Esdaile), "Robin Redbreast" (Harry Champion), "Do you remember? How can I forget!" (Wallis Arthur and Miss Doris Lee), "Come with me to Dixie Land" (The Courtiers), and "Archibald—Certainly not!" (George Robey).

THE twenty-ninth Dance Album is also again a golconda of the best efforts of the first writers of the time, as is evidenced by the following list of the contents:—Warwick Williams's "Big Boom" lancers, Charles Coote's "Vive la Danse" waltz, Karl Kaps's "Top o' the World" quadrilles, Archibald Joyce's "Mickey's Birthday" two-step, Henry E. Pether's "Cecilia" valse, Neil Moret's "Lady-Birds' Review" two-step, Sophie E. Turney's "La Fuite d'Amour" valse, T. W. Thurban's "Billy 'Possum" two-step, Harry Wood's "Le Carnaval des Patineurs" valse, Clement Harris's "Latchford" schottische, Harry Jones's "Topeka" two-step, Henry E. Pether's "Navy" two-step, Moritz Wurm's "Le Rêve de Delila" valse, and C. W. Murphy's "Kelly" two-step.

AT the Empire, Portsmouth, Miss Florrie Forde has been riveting attention with her unequalled songs "Flanagan," "'Tis a faded picture," and "Rip Van Winkle," which are each being received in a manner which must be gratifying in the extreme both to the popular lady, the authors and composers, and to the publishers, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

AT the Empire, South Shields, the acclamations of full houses have nightly greeted Mr. G. H. Elliott, the Chocolate-coloured Coon, who seems, as the time goes on, to achieve at each hall he visits the apparently impossible and unattainable feat of going even better and better at each reappearance. His songs, "There's a little black Cupid in the moon" and "Mister Owl," are two of the finest he has yet sung, and his publishers, Messrs. Francis and Day, are fully cognisant of the fact that the sales promise to equal, if not excel, his previous successes from the same experienced authors and composers.

MISS ETHEL LEVEY, who at the Alhambra, Leicester-square, a while back created a furore by her rendering of "Pride of the Prairie Mary"—the audiences not only joining heartily in the refrain, but according the singer recall after recall, and then redemanding the popular Francis and Day item—returns on Monday to the scene of her previous triumphs, when she will essay for the first time "Little Knickerbockers," a number by Weston, Barnes, and Fred Elton, also published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

SHE has also in study for immediate production a new Irish song by Weston, Barnes, and Maurice Scott, entitled "Miss O'Hara and her Emerald tiara," which is expected to be even a bigger hit than the same trio of writers' "I've got rings on my fingers and bells on my toes" and "Tahiti" (the rubber boom song), both Francis and Day publications that have become positive rages in the hands of Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Fred Elton respectively. "Miss O'Hara," needless to add, is being issued in music form by the same firm.

AT the Palace, Tottenham, Mr. William Burgess, the popular *chef d'orchestre*, late of the Oxford Music Hall, who a week or two since received the congratulations of hosts of friends on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his birthday, has been nightly conducting with marked success Messrs. Francis and Day's fine march "Defiance," by Donovan Meher, whose name had quite a Spanish flavour given it when altered by the printer of the programme to "Don Meyer."

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY have purchased the rights of publication of a taking number, written and composed by T. W. Connor, which is entitled "What a difference when your ship comes home!" Other songs about to be issued by the famous house include "I had a flower in my heart," by P. J. Barnes and Charles Collins; that richly humorous burlesque descriptive item that will be known as "Tom Leamore's miser song (gold, gold, gold!)," written, composed, and sung by the genial comedian himself; Miss Annie Purcell's "In the land where the beautiful Conway flows," by Harry Gifford, Arthur Stroud, and Aubrey Burnett; and Mr. Joe Archer's laughable song "It's poor old mother!" by Barnes and Weston.

HERBERT E. HAINES'S two notable and musicianly successes, "Coquette" dance and "Frolic" two-step, have been warmly and deservedly applauded when played by Mr. Harold Grimston's band at the Globe Theatre, where *Glass Houses* has been attracting large and critical audiences. Both of these musical items are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

ONE of Messrs. Francis and Day's numbers that will be sung by Mr. Gordon Stretton when he opens in town shortly is "It may be true what you say, Mr. Coon." It is from the pens of Lester Barrett and Herman E. Darewski.

A NEW number that is already spoken of as a song that is likely to rival in popularity the same composer's "Rainbow" is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is named "In cherry blossom time in Japan," the lyric being by Leonard Cooke and the music by Henry R. Pether.

(Continued on page 22.)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE HIPPODROME.

It was Buatier de Kolta, a conjurer of the last century fit to rank with Houdin and Hermann, who was chiefly concerned with *l'escamotage d'une personne vivante*, or what was commonly known as the disappearing lady trick. Mr. Chung Ling Soo, who has returned to the Hippodrome after a successful stay in Australia, has as one of his chief illusions the materialisation of a lady from space, an "experiment" poetically named "the crystal lamp enchantment." He has also many tricks with flags and paper, but these are mostly to be found in the portmanteaux of other illusionists, one of whom was attentively watching the genial Chinaman on Monday afternoon, when Chung's "sleights" did not all quite come off. The most puzzling of them is the magic cauldron, underneath which a fire is lit, and into which water is poured. There is steam, but it does not affect the well-being of a number of animals and birds produced therefrom, or of a smiling lady, who apparently has been concealed therein. The audience, genuinely astonished, gives the conjurer an appreciative welcome.

Yvette Guilbert, who is quite as much at home in London as she is in Paris, varies her répertoire by quaint English songs, such as "No, John, no," to the verses of which she gives a world of meaning. Her rendering of "Mary was a housemaid," originally sung some years since, if we mistake not, by Miss Claire Romaine, is that of a comedienne who can put various shades of meaning into precisely the same words. Happy Fanny Fields does not vary her entertainment, and its potency for the creation of laughter is being proved twice a day at this beautiful house, where Fanny is finding a large number of new friends.

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister is putting on a programme in which there is plenty of fun, but it is always allied to refinement. This is especially the case with the entertainment of Mr. Tom Clare at the piano, an intrument of which he is a complete master. "The night the old cow died," which is Mr. Clare's most successful song, is one of those numbers of which the verses may be increased *ad infinitum*. The audience on the night of our visit would willingly have heard a few more. Eadie and Rameden are also among the happy crowd who have made a hit this week. They label their quaint acrobatic and piano act, *Charlie's Visit*. Charlie is a regular—or perhaps we should say irregular—twister, and his antics are irresistibly droll, especially when he does a bit of legmania round the piano on which he accompanies his fair partner. His final dance brings down the house.

Billy Merson is new to the London Pavilion, and, we believe, new to the West End. In a costume of droll incongruity he burlesques to his heart's content and to the immense amusement of everybody else the soldier, and parodies the serious reciter of marrow-freezing ballads. His business as a dancing novice is refreshingly novel, and there can be no doubt that Billy will shortly become one of London's favoured humorists.

Miss Louie Tracey, the dapper dandy boy, has returned to the Piccadilly-circus house after a short absence to renew the highly favourable impressions formed of her particularly neat male impersonations. As a soldier on parade, with a big cigar, Miss Tracey is quite lifelike in her method of hitting off the weaknesses of Tommy Atkins, and in a suit built for the seaside she describes the joy of the Saturday to Monday tripper when mashing the dear girls on the parade. Early in the evening Lina and Darius, a lady and gentleman, present a refined musical and vocal scena, in which much ability is displayed, and we have that charming and cultured singer Miss Ruth Davenport—who, by the way, looks particularly handsome in an eighteenth century costume—to delight us in a selection from *Dorothy* and to trill to us that pretty melody "Nightingale." Miss Hunt, too, is quite at home in the colatura singing required for the proper rendering of Sir Henry Bishop's "Tell me, my heart," which precedes her impersonation of a jealous wife, whose raising of a storm in a teacup through her unfounded jealousy provides a lively *quart d'heure*. Mr. Rhys Thomas plays the husband with an easy nonchalance that is quite effective.

Mr. Whit Cunliffe, always very welcome at the "Pav," has capital numbers in "Let's start all over again" and "There are nice girls everywhere"; Mr. Malcolm Scott comments on the absurdities of the ballad "Where are you going to, my pretty maid?" a line of business in which he had a great predecessor at the London Pavilion—the late Dan Leno. Mr. Scott foots it very lightly, and discards skirts for the severity of male evening dress. Miss Annie Purcell, who was not in such good voice as usual on the night of our visit, sang "The Shepherdess" and "Faithless Pierrette" with no little charm; and we were presented with the essence of musical comedy by the March Hares, a troupe of young people with bright ideas and the cleverness to present them in an artistic setting. Miss Helen Charles with her imitations of little girl singers at the piano and her artistic whistling is encored; the Oakes duo have a hearty reception, and others on the bill are Radford and Valentine, Signor Tapiero, ocarina soloist, La Belle Linda, Miss Mabel Berra, and Ethel Arden and George Abel in *Three of a Kind*. Mr. Bond Sayers has a fine orchestra here.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

A well-diversified programme is presented this week at this popular hall, and the management is rewarded with crowded houses. Fred Karno's popular sketch *Perkins, M.P.*, is the leading attraction, with Albert Bruno in the title-rôle. Here we have a comedian who brings an audience to the verge of tears with laughter at his sayings and doings. The part of the juvenile partner is well undertaken, and the company fully deserves the excellent reception accorded it.

Wish Wynne, a comedienne of rare gifts, makes a most favourable impression in her three numbers. She opens with a song, very cleverly sung, entitled "Swank." The second is a most interesting character-sketch of a typical London schoolgirl, whose troubles and woes become strikingly lifelike as delineated by this admirable character impersonator, whose wonderful versatility is further displayed in an impersonation of a country lass in white dress and summer bonnet, who sings with really delightful archness "I wur afraid." Miss Wish Wynne's quiet, unassuming style is distinctly original, and she has the power to create. She should go far. Billy Merson in his soldier's red coat and plaid trousers cuts a very funny figure, and causes hearty laughter. "When I hear the bugle calling" is sung by Billy in very quaint style.

A well-acted dramatic playlet, presented by George Sheldon and Rawson Buckley's company, is entitled *Before the Dawn*. The story presupposes a similar state of affairs in the East to-day as occurred in the mutiny of 1857, and the scene is laid at the camp at Malia. The sketch opens with the discovery by Major Stetson and his colonel's son (a boy of thirteen) of treachery in the camp, of which they are the only two whites. Their guns have been tampered with, and they are cut off from all help. The rebels offer terms which, according to the Major's speech with the boy, are that one of the two is to be shot at dawn. The Major allows the boy to be taken, and gives as his reason that since the Colonel is away the command devolves upon him, and that his duty is to live; but the excuse sounds poor. Hardly has the boy been taken away than a relief party, under the command of the boy's father, rescues the Major, who is thereupon accused by the Colonel of cowardice in connection with his son's fate. The rebels' true terms are then made known to the Colonel, being to the effect that one should be shot and the other tortured to death, and the Major is thereby shown in true heroic colours. The story ends happily, as the relief party were in time to prevent the shooting of the boy, and the scene closes with an apology to the Major by his chief.

The character of Major Stetson was most capably sustained by Mr. F. Rawson Buckley, and Master Reggie Connor must be congratulated upon his interpretation of Dick Alwynne, the Colonel's son. The setting of the sketch was all that could be desired.

Ambrose Thorne, the popular light comedian, is well received in his number "I hope they won't put a tax on girls"; Carney and Armstrong justly earn their popularity with their song "On the promenade" and some excellent patter; the Maples present a clever dancing and acrobatic turn; Miss Nora Stockelle, a charming comedienne and dancer, is singing "If your way was my way"; Arthur Pier is good in his descriptive song "And their heads nestled closer together"; the Six Lancashire Lassies are successful in their clog-dancing act; and Goodfellow and Gregson are also in the bill. The Bioscope brings the entertainment to a close. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. G. R. Hatley, continues to render excellent assistance; and the manager, Mr. L. F. Maloney, and his assistant, Mr. A. Durham, preside successfully over the front of the house.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Heading one of the best programmes we have seen in Hammersmith is Miss Elise Craven, and what a string of complimentary adjectives is wanted to describe correctly this charming and dainty little lady's dancing! Miss Craven's act is one of sheer delight, her dancing is so graceful, and throughout her sweet little face charms one with its winsome expression. Miss Craven dances with Master Bert Clerc, who proves an exceedingly clever boy dancer, and two interludes are given by Max Martini in solo dances. "Pas de Deux," "Danse Bacchanale," and "Les Caprices D'Amour" are the three given by Miss E. Craven and Master Bert Clerc, all being most artistic efforts, and the applause given to the act was loud and prolonged.

Mr. Billy Merson is one of the strongest favourites on the programme, his humorous soldier song and "I'm going to dance," in which his patter provokes roars of laughter, winning him a well-deserved popularity. Mr. Alan Holt and company are again visiting Hammersmith with the dramatic sketch, *A Society Woman*, and meeting with their usual success. Miss Marie Jones, in her quick-change playlet, *Wanted, a Co-respondent*, does some exceptionally smart work and is ably assisted by Mr. Ernest Munro. Mr. Cyrus Dare's imitations of little children singing, his collection of tales illustrating their quaint sayings, and also his tenor solo, "My sweetheart when a boy," all win for him much applause.

Miss Rita Rhylic, an attractive lady with a tuneful voice, does well in her song, "Make your hay while the sun shines." The Eight Monte Carlo Girls, prettily costumed, sing and dance their way into favour, their skipping-rope dance being decidedly smart. Miss Lily Black, handsomely costumed, sings in good voice, "Health, wealth, and the girl you love." The Bros. Ashley, in their comedy boxing sketch *Next, Please*, raise many a laugh. The Bioscope, with fresh films, and the orchestral selection complete a programme of exceptional merit, on which Mr. Jack M. Hart and his chief are to be heartily congratulated.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Mr. Lewis Vincent has a most attractive and varied programme to offer his patrons during the present week, and, needless to say, large audiences are the result, for the Shepherd's Bush Empire is one of the most popular of music-halls. At the head of the bill is that versatile and clever actor, Bransby Williams, who is appearing in character sketches "From Bookland and Stageland." Never have we seen Mr. Williams give such a diversified contribution to a programme as he is doing this week, and moreover such splendid proof of his great ability. Commencing with an impersonation of a character from the works of Charles Dickens, namely, Montague Tigg, he next appears as Hamlet, and enacts the ghost scene from the most famous of all plays. This he follows with an imitation of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree playing Svengali; and finally he gives one of his own most popular items, "The Penny Showman." On Tuesday evening Mr. Williams appeared to be in a particularly light-hearted mood, and his happy and good-humoured "digs"—during "The Penny Showman"—at several more or less well-known and distinguished people connected with the variety profession, who happened to be "in front," were most amusing.

The Miles-Stavordale Quintette are responsible for some most artistic playing on banjoes and a harp, a clever item in their performance being the suggestion of voices singing in the distance. Andy McLeod, acting as deputy for Nelson Jackson, is a really good comedian, his performance being original and causing great laughter; whilst the Andos, Happy Little Japs, are a particularly good troupe of acrobats, jugglers, and agriculturists. A couple of American entertainers, Grant Gardner and Marie Stoddard, present an act chiefly remarkable for the original and most amusing business introduced by the gentleman and the excellent burlesque acting of the lady—a most refreshing turn, fully deserving the loud applause received. Jack Lorimer, the Scottish entertainer, sings a couple of good songs, "I've got married to-day," and "Polly, my wee Scotch Polly," and finishes with a most eccentric dance.

Winifred Hare, a charming artist, always sure of a hearty welcome, sings a pretty song entitled "My Island of Dreams," and afterwards—in principal boy attire—the very tuneful "Rings on your fingers and bells on your toes." Miss Hare has just returned from her record visit to Johannesburg, where she had great success, the popularity of the artist and her songs being enormous. Stella Stahl, a very pretty little lady, proves herself a delightful comedienne and dancer; and the New Macs are more amusing than ever with their patter, singing, and dancing. The programme, as usual, concludes with a new series of up-to-date subjects on the American bioscope, Mr. Vincent has a keen and very popular assistant acting-manager in Mr. Herbert Mack.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

One of the finest variety programmes ever presented by Mr. Peter Davey at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, has been seen twice nightly this week, and has been attracting good houses. It includes two sketches, one of which, an original fantasy, entitled *The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring*, will be found noticed in another column. The other is a "farcical episode" entitled *Oh, What a Life Office!* in which Messrs. A. Stanley and P. L. Julian and Miss Alice Drummond take part. This is an immensely amusing turn, the dialogue of which is especially rich in wit and humour, and it was undoubtedly well received in every part of the house.

Melville and Russell appear in a song-scena, entitled *An Eastern Flirtation*, in which an Indian prince falls in love with an English lady aviator, who surprises him very much by arriving upon his estate in an airship. The scene in which the two warble their affection is a very pretty picture of Indian scenery. Not the least interesting turn in the programme is the first, a performance by Mr. Harry Edwards, whose conjuring with billiard balls, cards, and coins was a revelation to many of the old local habitués of the theatre. The trick of producing a small fortune in coins from the air with the naked hand and arm, one at a time, was performed with marvellous dexterity.

"Smith," from the Strand Theatre, kept the audience in a continuous roar of laughter with his witty patter; and "Weeping William" succeeded in a like way with his quaint American stories. Miss Eva Daunton created a most favourable impression by her singing and dancing, which was most graceful; and the comedy duologue by Miss Florence Castell and Miss Constance Coopman, entitled *Before the Concert*, was also much appreciated, and earned for the artists a well-deserved encore. The only other item in the programme was the hand-balancing performance of the Bernarr Brothers, who showed a remarkable muscular development, except the Overture, and a selection given midway through the programme by the orchestra, now a pleasant feature of Royal County shows since Kopski took over the conductorship several weeks ago. The Royal County Band has never before been so well in hand.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

A morning paper this week discoursed on the delights of the Thames Tunnel, and even went so far as to have illustrations of the happy people of Wapping and Rotherhithe thoroughly enjoying themselves in the coolness of the great under-river roadway. The journal in question might have gone one better and published something concerning the delights of the programme being given this week by Manager Fred T. Murray at the

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

THE CHORUS SONG OF THE YEAR.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

THE BALLAD HIT OF THE YEAR.

DAVE CARTER'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

SAM!

SUNG BY MISS HELEN TRIX.

THE Dame Song for the Coming Pantomimes.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

local Hippodrome, situated hard by the entrance to the tunnel.

Pride of place is given in the bill to the reproduction of Mr. Frank Hardie's Anglo-Indian episode *The Great Green Diamond*, the thrilling work of Mr. William Fenton. It will be remembered that the story deals with the fatality attaching to the possession of a diamond that, at the time of the Indian Mutiny, was taken from the head of the Goddess of the Moon. The English officer who takes it in the first place dies an untimely death. His heir loses his life and estates next; and finally the son of the ruined man, in handing his daughter the jewel as a wedding present on the morning of her marriage, dies by the hand of Prince Amed Hassin of Kallawar.

As presented at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome Mr. Hardie's sketch is well played, and there are many thrilling moments in it, more especially in the Temple scene. Mr. Fenton as the Indian Prince has made a fine study of the Indian character. He is the polished gentleman our English education has made him, but all the scholarships in the world never makes him forget the wild border home of his Indian forefathers, and what is due from him to the heathen rites he still believes in. Mr. Fenton has a chance of good acting, and does not fail to make the most of it. Mr. Seymour as Major-General Dunstan looks well as the old military officer; and Mr. D. G. Noble as Captain Victor Norman makes an ideal bridegroom and a heroic soldier. As the artist, Montague Marriott, Mr. Frank Hardie is always funny, and he works up an intense situation in the Temple scene with the best of work. Miss Irene Carlton looks delightfully pretty as the soldier's bride, and plays extremely well a very difficult part in the last scene.

There is another Indian sketch in the same bill, presented by Mr. Haldane Crichton, and entitled *Music Hath Charms*. It deals with the way in which a British soldier, stationed with his regiment in India, suddenly goes mad and runs amok. He invades his commanding officer's quarters, and discovers the daughter of the Major playing the piano. In his delirium he insists that she is his sergeant, and threatens to shoot her. With remarkable presence of mind the girl talks to him of music—for the soldier is a splendid pianist and has been her tutor—and induces him to sit down and play to her. She appropriates the revolver he has incautiously placed on the piano, and then gets him to play "Home, Sweet Home." This, it has been arranged between the officer and his daughter, shall be her signal to the guard that she is in danger. The Major rushes in, and the sight of him recalls the usually docile soldier to his senses. The little trifle is finely played by all concerned. We regret we are unable to praise them individually. But that is the fault of the bill.

Barbara Babington looks pretty and sings sweetly; Victor Warde, garbed in cowboy raiment, "reminisces" of his far-away lady; Sterling and Love supply us with an excellent "Rhapsody in Two Flats" that is very tuneful and very amusing; and there are Grogie, Cissie Esdaile, Monahan and Sheenan, Verner and Dent, Elsie Athas, and Alf. Passmore to amuse us besides.

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.

The programme this week at the above pleasant and comfortable hall contains many novelties, each of which contributes to the evening's enjoyment. Ellis and Campbell, a droll couple as the Scot and his pal, score a complete success in their conversational tit-bits; Mr. Johnson Clark is a clever ventriloquist, who affords much amusement; and Tennis and Laune, two captivating young ladies, sing in a fascinating manner "Chivalry" and "Away in Tokio," and must be congratulated on the excellence of their dance.

The Three Torontos, on their first appearance in London, give a fine display of strength, their various feats being really wonderful. One of the trio finds no difficulty whatever in supporting by means of his arms and legs four men of more than average size, also a number of heavy barbells about the weight of which there can be no possible deception. Again, it seems nothing for two of them lying upon their backs to bear the combined weight of sixteen men; in fact, to all appearances this task to them seems but child's play. Their turn is much appreciated and enthusiastically applauded.

Mr. Harry Levaine raises a hearty laugh at every opportunity. He sings "She cost me seven and a tanner" and "In the Free Library," and squeezes every atom of fun out of his numbers. La Belle Nello, a charming young lady of muscular ability, tastefully sings "The smart athletic girl," and afterwards gives a fine display of equipoise in a chic bathing costume and amidst surroundings representing the sunny seashore. Mr. Charles Stevens as a light comedian scores a complete success. He sings "I musn't go out to-night" and "I'm Billy Fisher," both of his efforts meeting with distinct success.

The New York Nippers contribute a clever singing and dancing act. Their songs "Roses are everywhere" and "Mandy Loo" are capably rendered, and their dances are very neat. Michael Madden amuses with his dame song "I'm a bird in a gilded cage," and the Six Melody-Makers in their novel vocal and instrumental scena *The Burglar's Dream* do much to promote harmony. In their various numbers their voices are beautifully blended. They also play four pianos on the stage at the same time, making the result a musical treat. Their turn is greatly appreciated. Various amusing and interesting pictures on the Bioscope bring the entertainment to a successful close. The orchestra is under the capable direction of Mr. Wm. McDonald, and the management of the hall is ably undertaken by Mr. T. G. Richards.

MISS ITALIA CONTI'S PUPILS' VOCAL AND DANCING RECITAL.

By kind permission of Mrs. Shute the pupils of Miss Italia Conti gave a vocal and dancing recital at 46, Prince's-gate, S.W., on Friday afternoon, June 10. The programme commenced with a clever recitation, "Firm Friends," by Miss Esmé Wynne, quite a little girl, who spoke her lines with admirably clear enunciation. One of Miss Conti's most wonderful pupils is Miss Mavis Yorke, a charming child about nine years old, who gave a delightful song and dance entitled "Cupid," in which she appeared in a most dainty costume, and made excellent "business" with her little gilded bow and arrow, and not the least attractive feature of her performance was the clever dancing. Miss Mavis Yorke also recited "Ten Little Fingers" and "Johnny," an amusing sketch, in which the little lady was warmly applauded, and a song and dance, "He loves me, he loves me not," that included some really difficult dancing, was most skilfully executed. Miss Mavis Yorke was associated with Miss Esmé Wynne in a duologue and minuet, "Tu Quoque," by Austin Dobson, to Paderewski's music. Miss Italia Conti recited "Heart of Gold" and "The Water Sprite" with charming effect, and Miss Gilderoy Scott sang "Slow, horses, slow," and "My brown boy," and was heartily applauded in two folk songs. In two piano solos of Brahms, Valse and Hungarian Dances, Miss Ethel Attwood displayed much talent, while Miss Mavis Yorke and Miss Esmé Wynne, in very pretty costumes, again delighted the audience with a gavotte, "The Rendezvous," sung by Miss Grace Vaughan. The accompanist was Miss Muggeridge.

Mr. M. Carlos, who has just arrived from the Colonies, is in search of startling novelties, suitable for the stage or show—nothing too big or too small, but must have drawing powers. He is prepared to accept engagement as manager, either for a stage show or under canvas. His experience includes the grand tour of Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji.

"IN VAUDEVILLE."

MISS ANNIE HUGHES TELLS OF SOME DELIGHTFUL TIMES.

To Mr. Lawrence Brough belongs the credit of first suggesting to that admirable actress, Miss Annie Hughes, the advisability of going upon the variety stage. Challenged on this point, Miss Hughes herself admits that "Mr. Brough had a sketch that was, I understand, written for me some few years ago by Mr. Frank Stayton, and entitled *Love in a Railway Train*."

Miss Hughes continues: "Mr. Brough and I rehearsed it for over a week, when suddenly some unknown person swooped down upon us, accusing our nice author of piracy. Awful, wasn't it?

"Mrs. Oscar Beringer came to the rescue, and her clever—though unfortunately, for the variety stage, too sombre—play *The Agitator* was produced.

"To the courtesy of the Syndicate Halls do I acknowledge my first bow to the lovers of smoke and brightness. I appeared at the Euston and the Metropolitan, playing *The Agitator* four times each evening.

"Being under contract to play *The Chorus Lady* in the provinces with Mr. William Mollison, I had to relinquish my very promising first appearance on the halls. The moment *The Chorus Lady* set me free I started my own compaign with *Napoleon's Washerwoman* at the Chelsea Palace—again with the Syndicate Halls. *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, with myself as Sans-Gêne, has proved a great success, and I had the infinite pleasure of appearing last week at the Empire, Liverpool, with Mr. Stoll. It is not my intention to attempt to boom such a management as that governing the Moss and Stoll Circuit; it is my intention—or should be—to boom myself. Suffice it to say, I had one of the happiest weeks of my life there, receiving such consideration and courtesy which, since 'the days of my youth' and unqualified success as an ingénue, I have not encountered for many, many a long day.

"I am looking forward to Manchester in July, when I shall be with Mr. Stoll again. I am asked on all sides for the author's name of *Napoleon's Washerwoman;* but I am sworn to secrecy—or rather, I was. But if you are fond of conundrums, you can guess this one. Should I divulge his name I might receive chastisement from 'The Whip.'

"Next December I start a long and varied campaign with the Syndicate Halls and other managements. I have another costume sketch which will, I hope, add to the fame of *Napoleon's Washerwoman*.

"Being under contract to provincial managers from August to November to play *Miss Tommy*, by Jerome K. Jerome, I am reluctantly compelled to abandon my variety work until the first week in November; but when I return it will, I hope, be for as long as I am wanted."

Mr. Wentworth Croke, it seems, offered Miss Hughes the part of Glad in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's play.

Naturally with her varied experience of stage work Miss Hughes can "spin a good yarn." Once, at Warrington, she was playing Rhoda Broughton's heroine in a revival of *Sweet Nancy*, and was rather astonished that the house was crowded to capacity every night. One evening she asked her advance manager if he could account for the exceptionally good business being done. "Yes, madam," he replied. "You see, your father once kept a large hotel in the town, and he ran away, leaving three pretty daughters—and you are one of them. They went on the stage, and—there you are. I didn't contradict the story; and so everybody is coming to see you."

[Photo by Dover Street Studios.
MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
With her well-known griffon "Master Murphy," who has taken many first prizes at the Ladies' Kennel Club.

Not only did everybody come to see Miss Hughes in front, but several people insisted on interviewing her in her dressing-room as well, as they claimed more than a nodding acquaintance with "Hughes's daughter." The advance man was heard to growl that "Miss Hughes needn't have spoiled the business by denying her parentage."

We may mention that Miss Hughes is looking forward to a return visit to America, where, in Yankee parlance, she "scored a big hit" on her previous acquaintance. Next time she hopes to play in vaudeville. Previously she played in R. C. Carton's bright sketch, *Mr. Hopkinson*, which ran for over three months in New York. When she crosses again Miss Hughes will probably present *Miss Tommy* with the Shuberts.

"SMILER'S WATCH."

A Nautical Sketch, by F. D. Bone, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday, June 13.

Smiler .....Mr. Lionel Atwill
Ginger .....Mr. H. Bagge
Griper .....Mr. Edward Sorley
Master-at-Arms .....Mr. Olaf Hylten

This nautical sketch, which is being produced by Mr. Henry Bagge, has the makings of a dramatic piece in it, though it seems to lack something at present. The incident it relates is, perhaps, hardly strong enough to sustain the interest throughout. However, it is well written and staged in a most finished manner, and met with a capital reception. The action takes place on the deck of a troopship; it is Smiler's watch, and he is joined by Ginger, who objects to the crowding below. They discuss the discomforts of a troopship, and tell of how one Griper has a few days before jumped overboard to escape them. At least, that is the impression on the boat, and his ghost is said to haunt the vessel at night. While they are speaking Griper wanders in, and they soon discover that it is no ghost, but a man mad with drink, for it seems he has been in the hold at the rum stores. The master-at-arms comes across deck, and, seeing the state Griper is in, starts kicking him, but Griper resents it and kills him, afterwards jumping overboard. Smiler and Ginger, fearing they may be accused of murder, throw the body of the master-at-arms overboard, and Smiler gives the cry "All's well."

Mr. H. Bagge plays Ginger with a touch of grim humour, which is most effective, while Mr. L. Atwill is seen to advantage as Smiler, a part he handles with skill. The Griper of Mr. Edward Sorley is a capital study, and realistic to the last degree. Mr. Olaf Hylten as the master-at-arms also acquits himself ably. The sketch has been most carefully produced, and the deck of the troopship is wonderfully well shown, with full attention to detail.

Dan Ashton, the popular collier comedian, opens at the Empire, South Shields, Monday next, with a new and up-to-date collier's scena, composed by himself.

Professor Wingard, the oldest conjurer living, has recovered from his serious illness, and is once more able to use his fingers with all his customary dexterity.

Wullie Frame, the warbling Scotchman, described in Belfast as the Music Hall Wonder, is a standing monument to the virtue of humour. It keeps him alive, alert, and youthful, as it does all those who believe and indulge in it.

Mr. Harry Hart, the young variety agent, has just taken a business partner in Harry Bayne, a well-known concert agent. The pair have opened palatial offices in New Bond-street as Harry S. Hart, Bayne and Co., and will book first-class acts of every description.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 21.)

At the Tivoli and Metropolitan this week the hit of the programme is undoubtedly Miss Ella Shields, who, in her inimitable impersonation of a dapper soldier, easily wins the suffrages of her auditors, who, "like one man," sing "I don't admire the girl in white" ("in the Army"). Nor is her other contribution, "Come by the drum in the big brass band," to be despised, inasmuch as the Metropolitan frequenters sing the introductory chorus long before Miss Shields makes her first entrance. Both songs are published by Feldman and Co.

Mr. Harry Lauder has, indeed, found a winner of the first water in William Hargreave's great song, "It's just like being at hame," which he will specially feature in London at all his West-End engagements. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have this number in hand for immediate publication.

Harrington and Hargreave's ballad, "All in a day," bids fair to eclipse even the original expectations of its success. Two of the leading West-End houses will ere long be captivated by its haunting refrain. Messrs. Feldman and Co. publish this number.

"The man fra' Lancasheer" (Mr. George Formby) is convulsing audiences this week at Oldham with his rendition of "Playing the game in the West" and "I put on my coat and went home," which latter the people in front are exceedingly loth to allow him to do. A new song from the practised pen of the writer of the last-mentioned song, Mr. William Hargreaves, entitled "I'm taking my father's tea," is now in active rehearsal, with a view to immediate production. All three songs are published by B. Feldman and Co.

Mr. George Lashwood, at the Empire, Liverpool, is making what he eloquently describes as the "success of his life," with Benjamin Hapgood Burt's great comedy song "Mister Pat O'Hare," a number in which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have undoubtedly a pantomime winner, apart from a Stoll tour success.

Miss Mignon Tremayne has been scoring a signal success at the Canterbury during the week with Feldman and Co.'s dainty ballad, "I wonder if it's true?" by Miss Clare Kummer, the composer of that celebrated song "Egypt."

The pierrots continue to be exceedingly busy with Feldman songs, and at the Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen, Mr. David Thomson's company is making a pronounced success with "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," "Molly O'Morgan," and "I do like to be beside the seaside." They will be also featuring "Beautiful garden of roses." At the Pavilion, Bexhill, Miss Lilian Errol has made a hit with "Pretty little girl from Nowhere." Miss Nina Carlton at Llandudno is also scoring heavily with "Seaside," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," and "Come over the garden wall"; and Miss Edith Earle is doing wonders in Miss Clarice Mayne's two songs, "Georgie took me walking in the park" and "I'm longing for someone to love me." At Bexhill Miss Lilian Errol is making "The pretty little girl from Nowhere" the hit of the season.

Mr. Tom E. Finglass has been creating a furore at the King's Theatre, Dundee, this week, with "It's all right when you're doing all right" and "My Baby."

EAST HAM PALACE.

Brighter and merrier entertainment than that being presented here this week could not be desired, and the excellent programme thoroughly merits all the applause which it receives. Under the astute and enterprising management of Mr. Albert E. Hill, who has the happy knack of knowing exactly the tastes of his patrons, the Palace programmes are always delightfully varied and blended, which fact is undoubtedly the nucleus of the success achieved by this outer metropolitan hall.

The return visit of Sam Mayo is a welcome one, and his two new numbers "Ha, ha, ha," and "Oof," are singularly successful, the audience literally shaking with laughter at the drolliness with which they are rendered. Chas. Whittle is another welcome return visitor, and his songs, "Can you make room for a little one?" and "He's a naughty, naughty boy" are warmly received and "chorused" by the audience, who, as usual, clamour for more of this popular comedian's ditties.

Hinton and Wooton give an exceedingly clever and novel bicycle act, playing a game of football whilst on their machines, the shooting at goal being done with the wheels. Each cyclist represents a local team—West Ham and Millwall respectively—which naturally, is very popular and interesting. Their manœuvring is very skilful and warmly applauded throughout. George Prince, the crazy comedian, is mirth-provoking, and causes ceaseless merriment with two really funny songs, "We haven't seen the old man since" and "Paraffin." In the latter song the eccentricities of this comedian are seen to great advantage. The Burnells, styled the comedy artists on the links, give a very amusing sketch, introducing some grotesque attempts at golf and boxing, and their performance concludes with a cleverly-rendered musical act on the xylophone. Miss Marie Blythe, descriptive vocalist, sings two excellent songs, "What does it matter" and "I wonder if you care?" her rich contralto voice reaping a harvest of appreciation and applause.

An exceedingly pretty vocal and dancing scena is presented by the Simms (Rosa and Kitty), the skipping dance and the song, "From school to stage," being features deserving special mention. Hearty applause is also accorded their singing of "My little white girl." The Alaskas, in their comedy acrobatic act, and Harry Clark, juvenile comedian, also submit excellent contributions.

Mr. Monte Bayly and Miss Diana Hope are coming to the Canterbury on Monday in a new act entitled *The Altar of Duty*.

Lennard and Vereker, who introduce some startling effects in their vocal pictorial speciality, are making a decided success on the London Macnaghten circuit. Their methods of presentation are distinctly novel, and Miss Lola Vereker is a young lady with a charming voice and winning manner. This is their first appearance in London, but let us hope we shall see more of them in the near future.

Regretting that her music hall engagement will prevent her taking part in the Suffragette demonstration next Saturday, Mme. Yvette Guilbert has written to the organisers:—"Be sure if I am not with you with my feet, I am surely with my heart. I hope our cause will be victorious one day."

Mr. Frank Coyle's bookings this week include Norman Telma, Charles Daix (Dort and Leonard), Beatrice English, and one month for Charlier, the celebrated French mimic at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue; also two Stoll tours. Not bad for an amateur agent.

Mr. Fred Higham, the popular variety agent, has gone to Paris, where he will be looking round the café concerts in search of novelties for London and provincial halls. Mr. Higham has been something like a quarter of a century in the business.

FELDMAN'S

PIERROT PLUMS.

SOMEWHERE.
I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.
THE PRETTY LITTLE GIRL FROM NOWHERE.
IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
MOLLY O'MORGAN.
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
OH! I MUST GO HOME TO-NIGHT.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
IN THE ARMY.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.
I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
MOON, MOON, MOON.
PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
SHE'S A GIRL UP NORTH.
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF THE GIRLS.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.
MY SWEET GARDEN QUEEN.
SWEET LITTLE SUN-BONNET LADY.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
IT'S THE GREEN, GREEN RIBBON.
MARIE LOUISE.
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
AND MANY OTHERS.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4147 GERRARD.

"THE ODD MAN OUT."

A Triologue, by Affleck Scott, originally Produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on May 20, 1908, as *Breaking It Gently*, Reproduced under the above title at the Tivoli, on Monday, June 13.

Fred Bousted .....MR. ROBERT WHYTE, JUN.
George Long .....MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Mary Stewart .....MISS MONA HARRISON

Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., is again responsible for the reproduction at the Tivoli of a playlet that has seen service at the theatre, bringing along with him on Monday Affleck Scott's comedietta *Breaking it Gently* (produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on May 20, 1908), which has been renamed *The Odd Man Out*. The triologue, as the trifle has been called, went exceedingly well on Monday, laughter being frequent during its progress. Mr. Lennox Pawle represents a prosperous emigrant, who, in the old country, has followed the precarious calling of a gasfitter's labourer. After three years in Canada he has "made good," and we find him on the wharf at Montreal awaiting the arrival of his sweetheart, Mary, who has come out on the Patagonia to marry him. George has many misgivings when contemplating his approaching marriage. Three years, he says, is a long time to expect a girl to remain true, and, besides, he has got up in the world, "so to speak," and Mary is probably the same humble, industrious toiler she has always been, and not a fit mate for a chap who thinks himself somebody. George's meanness and pride are sufficiently exposed during a conversation he has with Fred Bousted, his pal, who has little or no sympathy with George's ethics. The steam whistle of the approaching Patagonia is heard, and at the last moment George determines that Fred shall meet Mary, sudden illness being arranged as an excuse for George's absence. Mary arrives and makes an immediate conquest of Fred, who goes back on his pal, and trumps up a tale that George is dead; but, it must be admitted, he only does this after discovering the full extent of George's meanness. When Mary has consented to go back to England as Fred's wife, and is in his arms, George returns. He abuses Fred roundly; but Mary feels that she has secured the right man for a husband, especially when she learns that George had been ashamed of his engagement, and her affection for Fred is confirmed. Scorning George, she marches off on Fred's arm to the boat that is going to take them back to the old country.

Mr. Lennox Pawle, though rather fluffy in his lines on the opening night, succeeded in making the character of George Long quite as unattractive as the authoress could have wished; and as the diplomatic Fred Bousted Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., with a style reminiscent of the lamented Robb Harwood, extracted all possible value from situations and dialogue. Mary Stewart is a character drawn on the lines made popular in the early part of last century; but Miss Mona Harrison, an actress of considerable charm, contrived to make her interesting all the time. The triologue should do well on the variety stage. It had a particularly warm reception.

A new-comer to the Tivoli is Mr. Tom Jones, who comes straight from the Carnarvonshire hills with a pure and natural baritone voice, and a style that is immensely taking. It would be strange indeed if anyone bearing the name did not sing about the girls, and Tom sings blithely of "Gwennie, a lass of Aberystwyth" to strains that have all the charm of melody allied to good orchestration. In his second number the comedian from Carnarvon patters amusingly of a Welshman's adventures in London. It does not require the gift of prophecy to predict that Tom Jones will shortly be regarded as the representative comedian of gallant little Wales. He quietly "gets there" without aggressiveness, without abnormally loose trousers, without a red nose, and without any reference to mother-in-law. Tom may be said to have "arrived."

Mr. Wilkie Bard has a new number with special scenery and "business," entitled "The doorkeeper at Frightley's." The janitor is fuming over getting the sack, and it is the trying to "get his own back" that provides the fun, which promises well, and is likely to be still further developed. His number, "Hail, smiling morn!" is droller than ever. A popular lady is Ella Shields, who sings a soldier's song, and looks particularly smart in uniform; Miss Madge Osmond is an interesting male impersonator who has a sense of character; Mr. Morny Cash gives us fits as a Lancashire comedian, who is racy of the soil; and that established favourite Tom Dunville convulses his hearers with a style of which the complete originality has never been questioned.

Cinquevalli has returned to the Tivoli after a short absence, and does tricks that proclaim his unquestionable supremacy in his line. Liane D'Eve is Parisienne to her finger tips; Herbert Clifton scores in burlesque items; and other names on the bill presented by Mr. Joseph Wilson are Alec Chentrens, King and Benson, Jack and Evelyn, and Lilian Herlein. Ruffell's Bioscope presents up-to-date pictures.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

The palace and park were never more full of attractions than at present. On Monday opened a grand exhibition of Co-operative productions in the Bazaar Hall, vacated *pro tem.* by the stall-holders. A good band and concert in the Central Hall in the evening, all free, was largely attended. Continuous daily shows of electric animated pictures, with some of the latest up-to-date films, are given in the theatre. The Grove promenade concerts, every night excepting Friday, at low price of admission, supported by Parker's excellent band, was also liberally patronised. Perci Honri at the new alfresco theatre pavilion presented a capital company called the Drolls and Demures Costume and Comedy Company, with artists of good all-round ability. Miss Agnes Mayo as an elocutionist was commendable; Miss Aida Corelli hit the mark with "Bobby, dear," and other light comedy numbers; Miss Pearl Pearce won favour in her Japanese love-song, and displayed good stage technique in "Maidie and her little Teddy Bear," in which she was assisted by the chorus of the company, and received a very emphatic re-demand; Fred Solo, either in burlesque or dancing, was equally prominent and proficient; G. Nelson Parker's renditions were praiseworthy, both solo and humorous duets with his brother, Mr. H. N. Parker; Mr. Tho. R. Norbury with "Bid me to love" showed vocal ability; Mr. Barrett Clifton did good and arduous duty as accompanist and entertainer at the piano. The other instrumental selections with banjo, guitar, and mandoline appealed with success to the audience. Mr. Lewis, the manager at the front, does praiseworthy work.

REPORTS have just reached London of the phenomenal business even at this early period, both at Largs and Prestwick, in Ayrshire, of the entertainment enterprises with which A. J. Lawrance, the well-known composer, is connected. All the new numbers employed of Messrs. Francis and Day's publishing are being freely inquired for at both centres.

AT the Liverpool Empire Mr. George Lashwood has once more been the cynosure of all eyes and the admiration of his hearers, and his novel song-scena "Oh, blow the scenery on the railway!" which has been published by Mr. David Day's firm, has been a source of favourable comment from both Press and public.

THE energetic Jim O'Connor has just booked the Brothers Durant for next Christmas pantomime at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, with Mr. Lester Collingwood.

MARRIAGE OF MLLE. GENEE.

There was a large congregation at All Saints', Margaret-street, on Saturday, when Mr. Frank Isitt and Mlle. Adeline Genée, the popular and accomplished dancer, were married, and a large crowd that awaited the arrival of the bride broke through the line of police and surged round her motor-car, cheering heartily. The music was rendered by an orchestra, which played while the guests were assembling a selection from the "Meistersingers." Four of the choristers and a cross-bearer met the bride at the door, and as she entered, escorted by the Duke of Newcastle, who afterwards gave her away, sang the first verse of "The Voice that breathed o'er Eden" as a quartette, the choristers in the chancel continuing the hymn as the bridal procession passed up the church. The bride, who was married in her real name of Christensen, wore a charming dress of white satin, made with a long square train. Over this was a tunic, almost to the hem, of Brussels net and lace, embroidered in long lines with milk-white beads while scarf-like draperies of Brussels were arranged at the back. A wreath of real orange blossoms and leaves was worn under a tulle veil, and the bride's ornaments were the brooch given to her by the Queen-Mother, and a diamond and pearl brooch, the gift of the bridegroom. A page in a white satin Court suit, Master Norman Courage, carried the train. Beside him walked Miss Audrey Temperley, wearing a dress of white ninon de soie hemmed with satin, and a satin sash finished with cords and tassels. On her dark brown curls was a wreath of white roses, and she carried a white satin cushion, on which the bride's initials were embroidered, for her to kneel on during the service. Two other bridesmaids followed, Miss Violet Isitt and Miss Nina Bishop. Their dresses of white ninon de soie were deeply hemmed wth satin, and were arranged tunicwise over satin. The bodices and the satin hem on the tunics at the back were finished with white satin buttons and loops, while the yokes and sleeves were of net.

At the entrance to the chancel, where the bridegroom awaited the bride with Mr. Fred Isitt, his nephew and best man, Miss Temperley, the bride's "best girl," was also in waiting. She wore a dress similar to the bridesmaids, but with a long skirt, and they all had hats of Tegal straw, trimmed with white acacia and white roses. Bouquets of lilies of the valley were carried, and diamond and pearl brooches, the gifts of the bridegroom, were worn. The officiating clergymen were the vicar of All Saints', Margaret-street, the Rev. M. R. Carpenter Garnier, and the Rev. B. Hawkins, private chaplain to the Duke of Newcastle. Before the blessing, "From Thy love as a Father," from Gounod's "Redemption," was sung as an anthem, and after it "For the flame of love is as fire," from Mackenzie's "Rose of Sharon." Both were accompanied by the orchestra.

The church was massed with lilies on either side of the chancel, and an arch of palms shaded the bridal group.

The Duchess of Newcastle, who sat in the front pew, was in a clinging dress of black crêpe de soie. Lady Ross, who came with her grace, was also in black with a cluster of pink carnations pinned into her dress, and a diamond ribbon round her throat. The Consul-General of Denmark was present, with Mrs. Faber, and Lady Colin Campbell and Lord Claude Hay were also to be seen in the church. Mrs. Fordred, the bride's sister, wore grey charmeuse, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations Mr. Cyril, Mrs., and Miss Maude and Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Irving were also present. Among others in the church were Mr. Marcklaw, the well-known American impresario; Mr. and Mrs. George Edwardes, Lieut.-Colonel Newnham Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Temperley, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mrs. Erlanger, Sir Richard and Lady Muriel Paget, the Duke and Duchess of Somerset, Lord Hope, the Earl and Countess Rosse, Major and Mrs. Stirling, Mr. and Lady Rowena Paterson, Major and Mrs. Vaughan, General and Mrs. Bond, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Forbes-Robertson, and Sir J. D. Linton.

Mme. Genée, who is the bride's aunt, sat near Mrs. Isitt, who had a lace scarf with her black satin dress, and Mrs. Knatchbull (Dora Bright), the authoress and composer of *The Dryad*—in which the bride made such a great success at the Playhouse, the Empire, and His Majesty's Theatre—and Mr. Cunninghame Graham, were also among the congregation.

After a small reception to the immediate relatives and friends of the bride and bridegroom, Mr. and Mrs. Isitt left by motor-car for their honeymoon, which they will spend in the Tyrol.

The bride's going-away dress was of pale grey ninon de soie, the skirt tucked, and with a tucked plastron on the bodice falling over a touch of Royal purple, and long bretelles of Irish lace. A little basqued coat of duller grey crêpe meteor was worn, charmingly embroidered with cording of the same colour, and the black crinoline straw hat was trimmed with white flowers.

It is understood that Mrs. Isitt has persuaded her husband to permit her to give farewell performances both in England and America before she settles down into private life.

THE PRESENTS.

Queen Alexandra, who was always a great admirer of Mlle. Genée's exquisite dancing, sent the bride a diamond brooch. Other presents included the following:—

Duke and Duchess of Newcastle, silver tea and coffee set.
Duchess of Newcastle, motor-car footstool fitted as luncheon basket.
Duke and Duchess of Somerset, old gold box.
Lord Lonsdale, silver ornament.
Lord and Lady Manvers, old Sheffield cruet.
Countess de Casa Miranda, diamond scarf-pin.
Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, diamond and pearl brooch.
Directors of the Empire Theatre, Rose du Barri dessert service.
Members of the Empire ballet, silver rose bowl.
Mrs. Isitt (mother of the bridegroom), a canteen of plate.
Lady Beatrice Kaye, a pierced Dresden fruit basket.
Lord and Lady Francis Hope, a silver tray.
Lady Colin Campbell, an embroidered silk shawl.
Members of the bride's London company (who accompanied her to America), a silver mirror.
Members of the bride's American company, case of silver bonbon dishes and silver cake dish.

The bridegroom's presents to the bride were a diamond pendant, diamond earrings, and a pearl and diamond brooch, and the bride gave the bridegroom a platinum dress watch.

[*Photo by L.N.A. Photo Co.*

MR. AND MRS. ISITT (NEE MLLE. ADELINE GENEE).

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The Great Lafayette is the "star" attraction here this week, and at each house nightly the theatre is filled. Lafayette introduces for the first part of his programme an elaborately-staged conjuring entertainment, consisting of pigeon-catching with a net, freehand painting in sections, concluding with a disappearing scene, in which a negro plays a prominent part; and, although very interesting, nothing strikingly mystifying is introduced. His next item, *Leda and the Swan*, is a fantastical scena, pretty and effective, and this practically concludes the conjuring part of Lafayette's entertainment, the second part consisting of two performances by the Lafayette Travesty Band, the second of which, the overture to Tschaikowsky's "1812," is performed with many theatrical effects, and concludes with a "quick-change" by Lafayette from the bandmaster to a mounted officer, this part being entertaining rather than mystifying.

Miss Ada Colley, who was accompanied at the piano by Penyston Miles, sang two ballads so delightfully that she was compelled, in response to the vociferous applause, to contribute a third number, her turn being quite a vocal treat. The Bros. Bright contribute an athletic act, in which much daring and skill are exhibited, and the twain are the recipients of very loud applause. Gwennie Hasto quickly wins her way into popularity with an excellent number, and her graceful, agile dancing is highly appreciated. For Will Poluski, jun., a deputy appeared on the night of our visit, who sang a "Chauffeur" song, which was well received.

Peggy Pryde is, as usual, securing a good reception, and sings two songs in her inimitable style; and the Three Merrills contribute some clever trick cycling, with which is blended capital comedy business. The Bioscope pictures form no inconsiderable part in the attractions of the current programme, and we must not omit a word to the orchestra for their spirited rendering of the selection "Yeomen of the Guard," under the bâton of Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus.Bac. "In front" Mr. E. J. Macdermott, the acting-manager, is most assiduous, and he has an able lieutenant in Mr. A. E. Barnes.

A. J. MILLS and Bennett Scott's song, "Tell 'em that I'm your uncle," is becoming exceedingly popular in the hands of Mr. Fred Barnes, who is the singer.

"HONOURABLY MENTIONED."

A Comedy by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, Produced at the Holborn and Kilburn Empires on Monday, June 13.

Lady Dralia Vincent ....MISS DAGMAR WIEHE
Mr. White .....MR. JOHNSON
Mr. Buton .....MR. FRED PALMER
Mr. Ruby .....MR. FAWNCOURT
Mr. Blown .....MR. GOODSON
Hon. Monty Desborough
MR. LAWRENCE GROSSMITH

This comedy, intended to serve for the introduction of Lawrence Grossmith and Miss Dagmar Wiehe to Kilburnia and the variety stage, is of slight texture. Lady Dralia Vincent and the Hon. Monty (popularly known as "Minkie") are engaged to be married, but shortly before the day fixed for the ceremony the lady reads in a society paper that at a dog show "Minkie" and "Lady Florence Belvedere" have been "honorably mentioned" by the judges. With the usual misunderstanding peculiar to comedy she immediately makes up her mind to break off the match, and proceeds to cancel all matrimonial arrangements. Therefore, when Monty calls upon her, according to custom, he is met with several large boxes containing his letters and all his presents to his fiancée, who refuses to have anything more to do with him. When tradesmen and milliners call for their orders and the church organist for instructions as to the music for the ceremony, each in turn is received by Monty, who places each in a different room. On being asked for an explanation of her conduct, Lady Dralia shows the offending paragraph to Monty, who then, by telephone, obtains satisfactory information from the newspaper editor, and, of course, after this there is the usual inevitable happy ending.

The sketch proved very entertaining, mainly through the very clever acting of Mr. Lawrence Grossmith, whose impersonations of the "young man about town" are so popular, and Miss Dagmar Wiehe, who, charming actress as she is, has very little to do.

The remaining portion of the programme directed by the courteous Mr. C. Foster-Marner at Kilburn is altogether of an amusing nature, and judging from the uproarious laughter in all parts of the house, appeared to meet with general approval on Monday, when the first to appear was Elsie Roby, the original "slavey," who sang, danced, and played the piano with much ability. Then came Maxwell and Frances, the lady of whom sang and danced effectively, and both joined in a song medley which met with much applause. No. 2 on the programme brought forward Mr. Phil Ray in his most abbreviative mood. Then the Bensons appeared in their vaudeville tit-bits, most smartly and amusingly carried out. Mr. George Rae was very Scottish in a clever song, "I could na do it." The serio-comical sketch *Wha-Wha-What*, played by Mr. E. D. Nicholl's company, is a further episode in the life of the Dreadful Detective Dare-Devil Dripping. Miss Mabillia Daniell gave a couple of Cuban dances in particularly graceful manner, and the Bioscope pictures of the Canadian Northern Railway system are thoroughly interesting.

A tabloid musical sketch entitled *A Resourceful Lover* provides Lee and Kingston with many opportunities for amusing the audience. Mr. Alix Lukos introduces a new song of King George the Fifth, which meets with unqualified success, owing to its spirited words and smart chorus. Victor's Juveniles are responsible for excellent impersonations of popular entertainers. The orchestra is under the able conductorship of Mr. H. Sheldon.

"EAST LYNNE."

A Tabloid Version of Mrs. Henry Wood's novel, from the pen of Mr. Fred S. Jennings, Produced by Mr. Wentworth Croke for the First Time on Monday Evening, June 13, at the Queen's, Poplar.

Archibald Carlyle .....MR. LEONARD YORKE
Sir Francis Levison...MR. GEORGE R. MONTFORD
Ebenezer Walker ....MR. ARTHUR E. MASKELL
Barbara Hare .....MISS MURIEL MARSDEN
Cornelin Carlyle .....MISS MADGE LAVERTON
Little Willie .....MISS MARGOT BROWNING
Lady Isabel .....MISS BETH ELLIOTT

Various tabloid versions of Mrs. Henry Wood's novels have from time to time been produced on the music-hall stage, but none, we opine, with such a coherent running story as the present production. No less than seven scenes are played—and that capitally—in the short space of but twenty-two minutes. The story in the main adheres to the original text; but the various additions and alterations that have been effected only tend to increase its prettiness and charm. The sketch is exceptionally well staged, the scenery being by the Lyric Theatres Studios, and should certainly have a long life.

Mr. George R. Montford as Sir Francis is specially deserving of praise for the excellence of his acting. The pathetic rôle of Lady Isabel was capably portrayed by Miss Beth Elliott, who spoke her lines with genuine feeling and naturalness. Miss Muried Marsden looked very pretty as Barbara Hare, and acquitted herself well.

A capital variety programme is always certain of being witnessed at this snug little hall, and this week's bill positively bristles with "stars," the well-packed houses being ample testimony to the fact.

Allen and Austin sang two songs, misfired some gags, and danced. Sterling and Love have an interesting and well-acted sketch in *Discord and Harmony*, the vocal and instrumental duet "Whisper and I shall hear" being greatly appreciated. Elsie Kidward sang "Maggie Lee," and won merited applause for some very fine silent dancing. A bright and breezy turn was that of Chris. Baker, who has two very good numbers in "I wish I was" and "The School Teacher," which he rendered in humorous fashion.

Poole and Maguire hold a prominent position in the bill, and deservedly so. How great is the favour in which they are held was proved by the reception accorded them. Their patter is positively great, many subjects being treated in most amusing fashion. Fred has quite a good tenor voice, and so has Dora, both combining well in "Ever Green," a very pretty number. Tennyson and Wallis are an amusing couple, and manage to extract humour from everything they do on the stage, keeping the audience in perpetual merriment. The bill also includes Tom Hulme, with his "Girly medley" song, and the usual good bioscopic subjects.

The front of the house is attended to in the customary capable fashion by Mr. Morris Abrahams and his brother Ben—the latter we were pleased to see back again after his somewhat severe illness; whilst the stage-management remains in the able hands of Mr. Biegen. The orchestra continues to do good work under Conductor W. Hinkinson, their rendering of a selection from *The Mikado* being really excellent.

A CORRESPONDENT, B. De Frece, writes from Poona, India, under date May 27 last:—"Could you inform me if the pair of triple-bar artists Marzello and Millay are still in existence? If so, would you kindly inform Marzello that his brother Alfred Brimmell is very anxious to hear from him. The address, 8, Arsenal-road, Poona, India, will find him.

MR. GEORGE GERALD and family desire to thank the numerous friends, directors, artists, &c., for the many kind letters, expressions of sympathy and condolence on his sad bereavement, and hope they will accept this acknowledgment, as it is impossible to write to each one individually.

"ON THE SHORES OF THE SHANNON."

Drama, by C. A. Clarke, Produced for the First Time in England at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, on Monday, June 13.

Sir Boyle Carew .....MR. R. SEATH INNES
Ted Carew .....MR. LEO MONTGOMERY
Owen Darrell .....MR. HARRY TRESHAM
Michael O'Leary .....MR. SYDNEY GRANT
Colley .....MR. E. D. ALLEN
Rooney .....MR. TOM H. SOLLY
Foxie Keogh .....MR. CHARLES TOWNSEND
Father Fogarty .....MR. CECIL RAVENSWOOD
Elfie Carew .....MISS GERTRUDE ENTWISTLE
Dora O'Rooke .....MISS LINA NAZEBY
Miss Dodd .....MISS MILLIE DENCH
Katey .....MISS GERTRUDE GILMAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Originally produced in Australia, the above play is one possessing exceptional merit and containing all the necessary qualities to grip an audience from the opening chapter until the final fall of the curtain. The plot is somewhat away from the common track, and the language rich and telling. Unfortunately the necessity of somewhat compressing the work for the purposes of a two-houses-per-night entertainment at the Royal took away a deal of matter that could very acceptably have been retained.

Briefly, the story is that Sir Boyle Carew, pressed for money, disposes of his heavily-mortgaged estate at Ballycarew, West of Ireland, to a wealthy pig dealer named Michael O'Leary, who, immediately after the transaction, determines to turn the Baronet, along with Ted and Elfie, the son and daughter, out of the place. During the proceedings, however, O'Leary is attracted by the beauty of the girl, and offers to marry her and allow her father to remain on the estate and to stay the threatened proceedings against her brother in regard to the forgery of a cheque. A half-witted fellow named Colley overhears a conversation between O'Leary and the girl, to the latter of whom he is attached, and while pretending to conduct the pig-dealer home, throws him over a cliff, severely injuring him. Owen Darrell, who is the girl's lover, discovers the body, and whilst removing it from its dangerous position, is met by young Carew, who at once concludes that he committed the crime. O'Leary, recovering consciousness, conveniently places the blame on Darrell, who is arrested. Colley, as stated, is half-witted. Some time before he saw his father drown, and his mind became unhinged, when, on hearing the news, his mother jumped into the sea; ever afterwards he fancies that he frequently saw his mother rise from the waves. Pending the arrival of the magistrate Darrell is locked up in the old picture gallery of the castle, and whilst there discovers certain documents behind a picture frame which go to show that one of his ancestors was the owner of the castle, and that the succession was still before the law courts, he being the heir.

Meanwhile O'Leary and the girl have left the neighbourhood with the intention of getting married, but are followed by Colley to the ruins of St. Douglagh's Abbey. The idiot seizes O'Leary and fastens him in one of the apartments, believing him to have returned from the dead, and then conveys Elfie to the cave of the Eagle's Nest, intending to take her under the sea, where his mother is, as soon as the tide rises. As he is making preparations some of the residents arrive and rescue the girl. O'Leary, whose intentions towards Elfie seem to have some semblance of honesty, is forgiven, and he is also repaid his outlay on the estate by means of valuable jewels that are discovered hidden away, Darrell, the rightful heir, coming into his own, and marrying Elfie.

The play was received with unbounded delight, the whole of the cast doing it full justice. Mr. Harry Tresham showed his high abilities in the trying rôle of the lover Darrell; Mr. Sydney Grant gave a capital rendering of O'Leary; Mr. E. D. Allen did everything necessary as mad Colley; Miss Gertrude Entwistle, a talented young actress, won general favour for her earnest and natural acting as Elfie; a merry Katey came from Miss Gertrude Gilman; Mr. Tom H. Solly was humorous as Rooney; a staid and good Father Fogarty was presented by Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Mr. Leo Montgomery deserves thanks for a thoroughly sound rendering of Ted Carew; and Mr. R. Seath Innes showed ability as Sir Boyle, as did Miss Lina Nazeby as Dora.

"THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING."

A New and Original Fantasy, Produced, for the First Time, at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, June 13.

Lady Millicent Vane ....MISS DAISIE WALLACE
Robert .....MR. BUCKSTONE CLAIR
James .....MR. CHARLES V. SANDFORD
Matey .....MISS MAY HART

The description given of this, the latest production at the Royal County Theatre, that it is "a blend of pathos, comedy, brilliant fairy effects, charming music, and a magnificent spectacle," is amply justified, and a well-filled house received it with open arms on the first presentation on Monday night. There is a touching little story running through the twenty-five minutes' play. A poor little flower-seller, Matey by name, is seen in a West End square on a snowy night trying to sell a few bunches of spring flowers for food, which she has not tasted all day. Outside one of the great mansions she comes across a policeman enjoying the hospitality of a friendly footman at the expense of his employers, who have no bowels of compassion for the friendless orphan, and she is turned away. The young lady of the house is having a birthday party, and the music and the dancing in the warmly-lighted house furnish a strong contrast to the poverty and wretchedness of the homeless outcast. When the lady returns from a walk, Matey presses her to buy her flowers, but the lady, with rather shocking indifference, spurns the girl's importunities, and when she closes the great door in her face the poor thing drops down in the snow unconscious, and the dark cloth rising discloses her dreams. It is a lovely sylvan spot full of spring flowers and peopled with fairies all beautified with them, and King Narcissus raises her up and welcomes her to their happy land; and when the good fairies have gone through some graceful evolutions, the cloth descends, and the flower-girl is seen still prostrate in the snow. The policeman, who had placed his great-coat over her, returns as she awakes from sleep, and the lady, coming out of the house, is conscience stricken at the recollection of her cruel behaviour, and in an access of generous emotion, not only receives the little flower-girl into her house as a guest, but rewards the constable for his humane action. The little play ends with a very effective tableau furnished by the fairies in "The Land of Spring Flowers."

The production had a most favourable reception. The fairy scenes especially were exceptionally fine, as excellent, indeed, as many tableaux in a first-class pantomime. Though these furnish a by no means inconsiderable part of the fantasy, the ladies' costumes, the scenery, and the electrical effects seem to have been provided without regard to cost, and everyone was loud in their praise of them. Miss May Hart gives a very touching picture of the little flower-seller, and Miss Daisie Wallace is a very winning impersonator of the part of Lady Millicent Vane. Mr. Charles V. Sandford makes a typical butler, and the Robert of Mr. Buckstone Clair is really good. The lines and lyrics are by Arthur Hanley, and Kopski, the *chef d'orchestre*, and Mr. Herbert Goldstein have composed the music.

THE NEW AMUSEMENTS LICENSING ACT.

MR. GEORGE GRAY'S BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

THE SKETCH ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The sub-committee of the above Association appointed to deal with the question of the Censorship report of the Lords and Commons of July, 1909, and take what steps they deemed expedient, decided that having regard to the apathy following former commissions of enquiry, more particularly with reference to the one of 1892, it would be materially beneficial to all parties if some legislative step were taken without further delay. On Tuesday last they met to receive for consideration the draft outlines or heads of a bill I was deputed to draw. It being approved, I am empowered to submit same to you, sir, knowing the vital interest you take in the matter, for kind publication with a view to speedily obtaining the views of the various societies it concerns, and an ultimate conference with the deputies of same in furtherance of necessary legislation.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

GEORGE GRAY,
President Sketch Association.

6, Adelphi-terrace, W.C.,
June 16, 1910.

HEADS OF PROPOSED BILL.

An Act for amending the Laws relating to the Licensing of Stage Plays, Theatres, and Public Places of Entertainments.

Whereas the existing Acts of Parliament for the regulation of Theatres and other places of Public Entertainment have been found to be inadequate and inefficient to meet the exigencies of the present times, and have tended to cause friction and dispute between, and inflict hardship upon certain sections of the Entertainment Profession or Industry from time to time and whereas such Entertainments have been found to have exercised a prevailing good moral and instructive influence upon the people And whereas a Select Committee of the Lords and Commons was appointed in July 1909 to enquire into such Acts of Parliament governing the Licensing and Regulations of Theatres and Public Places of Entertainments and the Laws relating to the Censorship of Stage Plays and such Committee having recommended alterations and amendments of such Acts of Parliament aforesaid It be expedient that the Laws relating to the Licensing Stage Plays of Theatres and Places of Public Entertainment known as Variety Theatres Music Halls and such other names where performances of a Dramatic Musical or other Entertainments of the Stage or part thereof are given or performed

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of same.

I. That the Acts of Parliament of 1751 Geo. II. Cap. 36 1843 (6 and 7 Vic. Cap. 68) and subsequent Acts so far as relates to the governing or controlling the Licensing of Theatres and Public Places of Entertainment and Stage Plays shall be repealed by this Act.

LICENSING AUTHORITIES.

II. Be it enacted that the Licensing of Theatres and all places used or to be used for Public Entertainment whatsoever within the area of the County of London shall be vested in the authority and power of the London County Council and outside the radius of the County of London authority and power shall be vested in the Justices of the Peace or such other Local Public Authorities duly and legally appointed for such purposes of licensing.

TO WHOM LICENSES GRANTED.

III. And be it enacted that a license shall not be unreasonably or prejudicially withheld from any applicant or applicants for such license or licenses provided always that the usual rules and regulations of the Licensing Authorities aforesaid for the protection and safety of the Public and the persons employed in such Theatre or place of Entertainment from fire panic or riot and provided always that it be proved to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authorities aforesaid that the applicant or applicants for such license or licenses be of acknowledged probity and responsibility and shall find two sureties or bonds in the sums of £100 each and the fees for any such license shall be a sum not exceeding 5s. for each calendar month or part thereof during which the Theatre or public place of entertainment is licensed to be kept open and every applicant for license or transfer of such license shall give 14 days' clear notice to the Licensing Authorities of such intention to apply for same.

TIME AND FEES.

IV. And be it enacted that such Licensing Authorities shall be empowered to grant temporary licenses and to transfer a license from one person to another during the course of twelve months for which the license was originally granted and the fee for each and any transfer shall be a sum not exceeding 5s.

V. And be it enacted a copy of the said rules and regulations shall be attached to each and every license and transfer of such license and the name of the Licensee or Transferee shall be legibly and conspicuously inscribed upon the door of the entrance of such Theatre or public place of entertainment.

PERFORMANCES.

VI. And be it enacted that any person or persons holding a license shall be empowered to permit present produce or perform stage plays therein or other performances but may exclude the exhibition of wild beasts and other performances that may cause risk to public or employees without special precautions for safety being applied.

MEANING OF STAGE PLAYS.

VII. And be it enacted a stage play within the meaning of this Act shall be taken to include every Tragedy Comedy Farce Opera Burlesque Burletta Interlude Melodrama Pantomime Sketch Duologue Monologue or mechanical electrical reproduction of same or any entertainment of the stage or any part thereof.

PENALTIES FOR PERFORMING WITHOUT LICENSE.

VIII. And be it enacted that any person or persons occupying or keeping a Theatre or Place of Entertainment and permitting or causing or allowing to be performed any Entertainment of the Stage as aforesaid without a license previously obtained shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not exceeding £50 for each day on which the same is kept open or used for any of the above purposes and any person or persons taking part in such performance or representation shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5 for each day And it shall be Lawful for any officer or officers by authorization of the Public Authorities by warrant to enter into and upon such unlicensed premises and to apprehend all and everyone found therein in order that they may be dealt with according to Law.

MUSIC SINGING AND DANCING LICENSE.

IX. And be it enacted that a license may be granted for Music and Dancing and Singing for the use of Assembly Rooms Gardens Hotels Restaurants Clubs Skating Rinks and Concert Halls on the payment of a fee not exceeding five shillings Provided always that the Licensing Authorities be satisfied of the bona-fides of such applicant and the Licensee shall affix in legible and conspicuous letters on the entrance door of the premises for which the license is granted "Licensed under the Act of _____" for Music Singing and Dancing and such license shall be for one year or other lesser period according to application But if at any time any person or persons holding such Music Singing and Dancing License do permit or cause to be permitted presented or produced any stage play or colourable or mechanical or electrical imitation thereof or any Entertainment of the Stage or part thereof as aforesaid he shall for every such offence forfeit such sum as shall be decreed by the Court or Authorities by whom he shall be convicted not exceeding £50 and his license shall forthwith be annulled and made void.

SMOKING.

X. And be it enacted it shall be lawful and within the discretionary power of the Licensee or Licensees to permit or refuse to be permitted the act of Smoking in such Theatres or Public Places of Entertainment and after exhibiting legible notices in conspicuous places forbidding such act of Smoking and after personal warning and drawing attention to such notice to evict or cause to be evicted any person or persons who shall wilfully resist such order or warning and that such person or persons shall be liable to subjection to penalties not exceeding £5 in each instance on conviction by a Court of summary jurisdiction.

POWERS OF INSPECTION OF AUTHORITIES.

XI. And be it enacted it shall be lawful at all reasonable times for the representative of the Licensing Authorities to enter into and upon the premises of such Theatres or Public Places of Entertainment or such other places mentioned in Clause IX. in order to inspect and advise as to the security of the structures and the safety of the public and employees And in the event of riot or breach of the peace or breach of any rules or regulations applying to such license close such premises and such enactments shall also apply to Music Dancing and Singing Licenses aforementioned.

SALE OF REFRESHMENT AND LIQUORS.

XII. And be it enacted it shall be lawful for the licensee or licensees of Theatres and Public Places of Entertainment to provide and sell reasonable refreshments and where it has been and is customary to sell wines and spirituous liquors by the obtainance of an Excise License such custom shall continue Provided always that the places of such sale of wines and spirituous liquor are kept distinct and apart from the auditorium and not disposed of or sold in any part of such auditorium And provided always that the conduct of the licensee in the sale of such reasonable refreshment wines and spirituous liquors be good and satisfactory to the Licensing Authorities And it shall not be lawful for any Licensing Authority to impose any conditions and restrictions bearing reference to the sale of refreshments wines and spirituous liquors in granting licenses for Theatre and Public Places of Entertainments Such licenses for the sale of wines and spirituous liquors where such licenses have not previously been held and are not held may be made the subject of separate application by the licensees of such Theatres and Places of Public Entertainment.

RIGHT OF APPEAL.

XIII. And be it enacted it shall be lawful in the event of any refusal by the Authorities to grant any of such licenses to any applicant therefor for such applicant if he feel aggrieved at any order made by such Authorities to appeal therefrom to a Judge in the King's Bench.

LICENSING OF PLAYS AND FEES.

XIV. And be it enacted it shall be lawful that any Licensee Licensees or responsible manager of any Theatre or public place of entertainment or author or authors of Stage Plays may at his her or their discretion submit to the Lord Chamberlain or his duly appointed Examiner of Plays any play for his approbation and license to perform such play and at the time of submitting shall pay fees not exceeding two guineas and within 14 days from submission of such play the Lord Chamberlain shall grant such license unless in his reasonable judgment such play be considered (a) to be indecent (b) to contain offensive personalities (c) to do violence to the sentiment of religious reverence (d) to conduce to crime or vice (e) to be calculated to impair friendly relations with any Foreign Power or (f) to be calculated to cause a breach of the peace And a copy of every play submitted shall be kept in the office of the Lord Chamberlain for reference and in the event of refusal by the Lord Chamberlain to grant such license to perform on any grounds aforesaid or on any other grounds he shall give such reasons in writing to the said Licensee or author.

RIGHT OF PERFORMANCE OF PLAYS WHEN LICENSE REFUSED.

XV. And be it enacted the Licensee or author notwithstanding such refusal of license to perform may in any duly licensed Theatre or Place of Public Entertainment present play and perform such play And it shall be lawful to present play and perform in any such duly licensed premises any play or plays that may not be submitted to the Lord Chamberlain or his duly appointed Examiner or Reader of Plays.

POWERS OF DIRECTOR OF PROSECUTIONS.

XVI. And be it enacted when any submitted play has been refused a license to perform the Lord Chamberlain may forward a copy of such play to the Director of Public Prosecutions who may proceed in the High Court against the Licensee or responsible manager where the play has been produced and played and against the author of the play and pending the decision of the High Court the performance of such play shall be suspended and such cases shall be adjudicated before a Judge of the King's Bench who may at his discretion hear such case or cases in camera And the Court shall be empowered to prohibit the performance of the play for a period of not more than ten years and impose penalties on the Licensee or responsible manager of such Theatre and the author of such play and endorse a conviction on the license of such Theatre or Public Place of Entertainment And such play after such period of ten years shall not be again performed without license being granted by the Licenser of Plays.

FORFEITURE OF LICENSE.

XVII. And be it enacted the license of a Theatre or Public Place of Entertainment which has been endorsed three times within a period of five years shall be forfeited and not renewed for a period of five years following.

UNLICENSED PLAYS.

XVIII. And be it enacted it shall be lawful for the Director of Prosecutions to demand and obtain copies of unlicensed plays with the acting directions and adopt similar procedure as in Clause XVI. on *reasonable* representations being made to him by public authorities and by persons deputed by *himself* to report upon the alleged irregularities and improprieties.

UNINTERRUPTED PERFORMANCES PENDING PROSECUTION.

XIX. And be it enacted it shall be lawful for the Director of Prosecutions to adopt similar procedure as in Clause XVI. towards plays already licensed and under circumstances in preceding paragraph XVIII. but the performance of such licensed play shall not be interrupted or discontinued pending the decision of the Judge of the King's Bench and in the event of appeal from any decision of such Judge then until the decision of such Court of Appeal but such immunity shall apply only to the actual text of the play duly licensed by the Licenser of Plays.

COMPENSATION.

XX. And be it enacted it shall be lawful for the Licensee or author or both that in the event of the decision of the Judge in the High Court or Court of Appeal being favourable to one or both against whom proceedings have been taken costs and fitting compensation shall be awarded and the play continued without interruption.

PLACES EXEMPTED FROM LICENSE.

XXI. And be it enacted that nothing in this Act shall affect the provisions of any place used for recreation or entertainments conducted under any State Authority or provisions of Section 7 of the Army (Annual) Act 1889 or of Section 174a of the Army Act 1881.

XXII. This Act shall apply to the whole of Great Britain.

REPEAL OF ACTS.

XXIII. The enactments described in the schedule to this Act are hereby repealed.

THE SCHEDULE.

The Disorderly Houses Act 1751 (25 Geo. II. c. 36).
The Theatres Act 1843 (6 and 7 Vic. c 68).
The Public Entertainment Act 1875 (38 Vic. c 21).
The Public Health Amendment Act 1890 (53 and 54 Vic. c 59) Section 51.
The Music and Dancing Licenses (Middlesex) Act 1894 (57 and 58 Vic. c 15).

TITLE OF ACT.

XXIV. This Act may be cited as The Stage Plays Theatres and Public Places of Entertainments Act.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MR. MAURICE DAVIS.

A score of years in the music-hall profession in South Africa has been reached by Mr. Maurice Davis, who now occupies a position at the front of the house at the Empire, Johannesburg. Mr. Davis joined the Verdi Opera company at the Old Theatre Royal at Johannesburg in March, 1890, and was subsequently with the late Mr. Luscombe Searelle, who took out to South Africa Miss Genevieve Ward and the late Mr. Lionel Brough. In 1892 Mr. Searelle opened the Theatre Royal as a music hall, where Miss Marie Loftus, Mr. Ben Brown, Mr. J. H. Milburn, and many others figured at one time or other as stars. In 1894 Messrs. Hyman opened the old Empire and bought Mr. Searelle's business at the Theatre Royal. Mr. Davis joined the Hymans in 1895, and has remained with them ever since.

The twentieth anniversary of Mr. Davis's professional work in South Africa was celebrated by a benefit at the Empire in March last, when a "bumper house," including the élite of Johannesburg, testified to the popularity which "Brother Pro.," as he is familiarly known, had won. A testimonial took the shape of a travelling trunk, all the fittings of which bore the monogram "M. D." in silver. The presentation was made by Mr. Edgar Hyman who spoke very highly of Mr. Davis's services during his fifteen years' stay, and

[*Photo by Gannon.*

MR. MAURICE DAVIS.

hoped he would live to remain another twenty years in the profession. Mr. Hyman also presented him, on behalf of the staff, with a silver cigar box and case.

ELECTION SONGS.

In the Chancery Division on Thursday was heard an action brought by Mr. Josiah Booth, a composer, of Crouch End, against Edward Lloyd (Limited), in which the plaintiff sought to restrain an infringement of his copyright in a musical piece called "Commonwealth," which had been published by the *Daily Chronicle* in their "Election Song Book" last January.

Mr. T. Terrell, K.C., and Mr. J. Hunter Gray (instructed by William Hurd and Son) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Butcher, K.C., and Mr. Eustace Hill (instructed by Messrs. Alpe and Ward) for the defendants.

Mr. Terrell said that during the recent General Election it occurred to the *Daily Chronicle* that it would be useful to publish a set of songs to be sung at political meetings, and at the head of these they published the plaintiff's "Commonwealth." When one looked at the character of the other songs it was easy to see what view Mr. Booth took of his hymn being placed with them. One of the songs was called "Free Trade for Ever," to be sung to the tune of "Hearts of Oak." Counsel did not know whether the defendants suggested that this was poetry, a work of art, or a work of skill. Another song was entitled "A Right Little Tight Little Budget," and a further song was called "The Poor House of Peers." The book gave instructions that "all Liberals should sing these songs with a swing."

Mr. Terrell said that Messrs. Reid Brothers, the music publishers, had a licence from the plaintiff to print the tune, and the defence was that by a custom in the trade Messrs. Reid, who published the "Election Song Book," could do so and put the name of the *Daily Chronicle* on the imprint as printers and publishers.

His Lordship: Messrs. Reid had got the licence to print; surely they are entitled to get it printed for them. They are not bound to have a printing press of their own.

Mr. Terrell: Then when once a licence to print has been granted the whole value of the copyright would be gone, because the licence could allow anyone else to print.

Mr. Booth, giving evidence, said he would not have agreed to the inclusion of the "Commonwealth" in the defendants' book.

Mr. Butcher: Do you know the song called "D'ye ken Lloyd George?" Would you like me to give you a sample of it?

His Lordship: I object. We cannot have music in court.

Mr. Butcher: I was only going to quote the words, my lord.

His Lordship: Oh, I thought you were going to favour us with a song.

Mr. Butcher:

"D'ye ken Lloyd George and his Budget bold,
When he's taking toll of the rich man's gold;
D'ye ken Lloyd George and the tales that he has told
To the Tory crew in the morning."

Mr. Booth: It appears to be a parody on "D'ye ken John Peel."

Mr. Butcher said he was reading from the Liberal "Tune Book," which also contained the "Commonwealth."

Mr. Booth said it was included without his consent, and the Liberal Publication Department had sent him a very courteous letter apologising and offering to pay him.

Mr. Butcher said the defence was simply that a musical composition, if properly printed, was open to anyone in the world to publish. He could satisfy the Court that Messrs. Reid printed the book for the defendants.

His Lordship held that there had not been an excessive exercise of Messrs. Reid's licence, there being no limitation that they were to print in their own name. He could not, therefore, grant the injunction. At the same time, the action was induced by the direct misrepresentation that the *Daily Chronicle* were the printers and publishers of the "Election Song Book," and the action would be dismissed without costs. If this was, as alleged, a common custom in the trade the sooner it became uncommon the better, as it was not a right thing to do.

NEW YORK AGENCY BILL.

The new Agency Bill for the State of New York—the aim of which is to amend the general business law relative to employment agencies—has passed the Assembly and the Senate at Albany, and will take effect on receiving the signature of the Governor of New York. It contains some important articles with reference to theatrical agencies. We quote those likely to be of interest to our readers:—

"The term 'theatrical employment agency' means and includes the business of conducting an agency, bureau, office, or any other place for the purpose of procuring or offering, promising, or attempting to provide engagements for circus, vaudeville, theatrical, and other entertainments or exhibitions or performances, or of giving information as to where such engagements may be procured or provided."

"A person shall not open, keep, maintain, or carry on an employment agency, a theatrical employment agency, or a domestic and commercial employment agency, unless he shall have first procured a licence therefor as provided in this Article from the mayor or the commissioner of licences of the city in which such person intends to conduct such agency. Any person who shall open or conduct such an employment agency without first procuring said licence shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be punishable by a fine of not less than $50 and not more than $250, or by imprisonment for a period of not more than one year, or both, at the discretion of the Court."

"Every licensed person conducting a theatrical employment agency shall keep an employers' register, in which shall be recorded, in the English language, every application received from any person desiring the services of any person for a theatrical employment or engagement; the name and address of the applicant and of the person for whom such services are desired; the nature of the employment or engagement, the town or city, street, and number, if any, where such employment or engagement is to be performed, and the salary or compensation paid or to be paid by such employer.

"Such employers' and applicants' register shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of the mayor or the commissioner of licences or their inspectors. No such licensed person, his agent, or employees shall make any false entry in such registers.

"Every such licensed person, whenever possible, shall communicate orally or in writing with at least one of the persons mentioned as references for every applicant for work in private families or employment in a fiduciary capacity, and the result of such investigation shall be kept on file in such agency; provided, however, that if the employer voluntarily waives in writing such investigation of references by such licensed person failure on the part of such licensed person to make such investigation shall not be deemed a violation of this section.

"Every licensed person conducting a theatrical employment agency, before making a theatrical engagement, except an emergency engagement, for any person with any applicant for services in any such engagement shall require the applicant to provide a written verified statement, signed by such applicant or his authorised agent, setting forth how long he has been engaged in the theatrical business. If such applicant is a corporation, such statement shall set forth the names of its officers and the length of time such corporation and its officers have been engaged in the theatrical business, and the amount of its paid-up capital stock. The statement of any such applicant shall state whether or not he has failed to pay salaries or left any companies they have been financially interested in starting, and shall contain the names of at least two persons as references. Every such licensed person shall investigate the truth of such statement and such references. Such statement and the result of such investigation and inquiry shall be kept on file in such agency for the benefit of any person whose services are sought by any such applicant as employer."

"Every licensed person conducting a theatrical employment agency who shall procure or offer a theatrical engagement to an applicant shall have executed in duplicate a contract containing the name and address of the applicant; the name and address of the employer of the applicant, and of the person acting for such employer in employing such applicant; the time and duration of such engagement; the amount to be paid to such applicant; the character of entertainment to be given or services to be rendered; the place where such entertainment or services are to be given or rendered pursuant to such engagement; the number of performances per day that are to be given by said applicant; the name of the person by whom transportation is to be paid, and if by the applicant, the cost of transportation from the city in which the engagement is made to the place where such entertainment or services of said applicant are to be given or rendered; and the gross commission or fees to be paid by said applicant; and such contracts shall contain no other conditions and provisions except such as are equitable between the parties thereto, do not constitute an unreasonable restriction of business, and shall be first approved by the mayor or commissioner of licences respectively. The form of such contract to be used by such licensed agency while acting under such licence in the procuring of engagements for applicants must be approved by the mayor or the commissioner of licences. One of such duplicate contracts shall be delivered to the person engaging the applicant and the other shall be retained by the applicant. The licensed person procuring such engagement for such applicant shall enter in a book provided for that purpose a copy of such contract."

"The gross fees of licensed persons conducting theatrical employment agencies charged to applicants for theatrical engagements by one or more such licensed persons, individually or collectively procuring such engagements, except vaudeville or circus engagements, shall not in any case exceed the gross amount of 5 per centum of the wages or salary of the engagement when the engagement is less than ten weeks; and an amount of 5 per centum of the salary or wages per week for ten weeks of a season's engagement constituting ten weeks or more. The gross fees charged by such licensed persons to applicants for vaudeville or circus engagements by one or more such licensed persons, individually or collectively, procuring such engagement, shall not in any case exceed 5 per centum of the salary or wages paid. The gross fees for a theatrical engagement, except an emergency engagement, shall be due and payable at the end of each week of the engagement, and shall be based on the amount of compensation actually received for such engagement, except when such engagement is unfulfilled through any act within the control of the applicant for such engagement."

"No licensed person conducting a theatrical employment agency shall send out any applicant for a theatrical engagement without having previously obtained a *bond fide* oral or written order therefor, and if it shall appear that no theatrical engagement of the character applied for existed in the place to which such applicant was directed, such licensed person shall pay to such applicant within three days of demand the consideration that such licensed person represented such application would receive from such engagement, and any sum paid by such applicant for transportation in going to and returning from such place and all fees paid by such applicant to such licensed person for such engagement."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The Theatrical Sports Committee are receiving a most encouraging response on all sides to their applications for assistance. At a meeting held on Monday evening Mr. James Carew, chairman, presiding, the following were present: Messrs. A. P. Horne, P. Raphael, A. Malcolm, H. Porter, H. J. Kemp, C. Thorogood, P. Sheridan, Ed. Stow. The following additions to the prize fund and list of prizes were reported:—Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree will present the three first prizes for "The Relay Race"; Mr. Alfred Lester, a silver cup; Mr. H. Arnold, a prize; Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, a prize; Mr. J. Grant Allen, £1 1s.; Mr. John Galsworthy, £2; Mr. Lewis Waller, £1 1s.; Mr. Herbert Trench, £1 1s.; Miss Dorothy Green, 5s.; Miss Gertrude Forbes-Robertson, £1 1s.; Mr. Otho Stuart, £1 1s.; Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Walter Hann, 5s.; Mr. C. Thorogood, £1 1s.; Mr. Robert Horton, £1 1s.; Sir A. Conan Doyle, £1 1s.; Lord George Sanger, £1 1s.; Mr. Cyril Maude, £2 2s.; Mr. Frank Desprez, £1 1s.; Mr. S. M. Bligh, £1 1s.; Mr. Arthur Phillips, 10s. 6d.; Mr. John Grant, 10s. 6d.; Mr. T. J. Digby, £1 1s.; Messrs. Whitbread, £1 1s. Mr. Edward Compton has taken tickets value £1 1s., Mr. Edward German tickets value 10s., Mr. Thomas Beecham tickets value 10s.

Miss Mary Moore's prize for the Quarter-Mile Obstacle Race will be an oak combination tantalus. Mr. Fred Terry is presenting a valuable silver cup as the first prize for the 100 Yards Running Handicap. *The Era* is generously presenting the five gold medals, the first prizes for the Tug-of-War (*The Era* Challenge Shield). A large number of friends are selling tickets for the sports, and every aspect indicates that the sports will be far more successful this year.

A considerable number of entries for the Ladies' Race (for which Miss Ada Reeve has promised a prize) will be received. Already some twenty-six ladies have entered for this event. The Tug-of-War teams already entered are: Drury Lane A and B Teams, Woolwich Hippodrome (the holders of the Shields), Putney Hippodrome, Balham Hippodrome, Richmond Hippodrome, Holborn Empire. The Relay Teams entered are: The Duke of York's Theatre, Balham Hippodrome, Empire (Leicester-square), Alhambra, Holborn Empire, Grand Theatre, Croydon, Lyceum A, B, and C teams.

About 400 entries have been received for all events. The Committee have considered the question of placing these sports under the A.A.A. laws next year, and an announcement to this effect may be placed in this year's programme. In the meanwhile those members of the A.A.A. who wish and are eligible to enter for the sports this year should join and give their name to the Secretary, who will endeavour to secure permission from the A.A.A. for such men to compete this year under the Committee Rules. If the A.A.A. will not give permission this year, the Sports Committee will no doubt refund the fees of anyone so prevented from competing.

The following have already agreed to act as judges at the sports: Mr. Frank Shorland, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. Robert Horton, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. James Carew, Mr. A. H. Horne, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. Mr. E. Arnold will be the honorary timekeeper.

It has been decided to keep open the handicap events until to-day, and probably entries would be received up to first post on Monday morning. Entries for the non-handicap event can be received up to Saturday next, which would be latest day, as the matter for the programme would then be sent to the printers.

A general meeting of members of the Cinematograph Operators will be held on Tuesday morning next in the Musicians' Union Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C. All members in London are urged to attend. Mr. John Hutchins has been appointed secretary in place of Mr. H. J. Merritt, who has had to resign the office owing to pressure of private business.

Mr. H. S. Henby, who went to America as stage-manager to Miss Maud Allan, has returned, and reports a most successful and enjoyable trip. His card of membership in the N.A.T.E. got him a welcome in every city from the members of the American Alliance. Mr. Henby thinks the Boston Opera House the best-equipped house in the world, and that it provides the most comfortable quarters and most modern facilities for the staff.

The Heads of Departments Association, at their meeting on Thursday evening, Mr. J. Cullen presiding, decided to arrange their second annual river outing for Sunday, July 17. The route will be from Paddington by the 9.40 to Bourne End, where the party will join the river launch and proceed to Henley for lunch, after lunch proceeding up the river. Tea to be provided on board, and returning to Bourne End about eight o'clock. The tickets will be limited to the reasonable accommodation of the launch, and an early application is suggested.

Mr. Robert Arthur's popular dramatic productions are bowling along merrily at the Kennington Theatre, which has been filled each night with a most appreciative audience. This week there has been considerable difficulty in finding room for people wishing to see *The English Rose*. George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan's fine play *In the Ranks* will be revived next week.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, May 10.—All places of amusement closed on Saturday afternoon and night on receipt of the news of the death of King Edward, the generous patron of theatre and opera.

"Carmen" was staged on Monday by J. C. Williamson, a most decided change for the better. The new Carmen is Bel Sorel, and a most vivacious interpretation she gives, free from any of the approach to animalism to which others have been prone. The Don José of Frederick Blamey was the best thing he did since he came here. His acting was even better than his singing. Mr. Orme Darvall made the most of Zuniga; his voice rang out true and clear. The best male parts were Dancairo and Remendado, as represented by Messrs. Rufus Ferguson and Edward Wynn. They, with Misses Rosina Buckmann (Mercedes) and Mabel Bachelor (Frasquita) joined Bel Sorel in the success of the night, the quintette in the second act. An encore was demanded; but, fortunately, the artists failed to pick up the place. Miss Maria Pampari made but little impression as Michaela.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are still making the massacre of St. Bartholomew appear to have been a religious plot instead of a political one in *Count Hannibal*. They give a matinée in aid of the Hospital Saturday Fund on the 12th, and depart to make room at the Criterion for Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton.

F. V. St. Clair has written a great song entitled "Mary from Tipperary," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. Mr. Fred Barnes has the sole rights of this number.

Harry Carlton has just written and composed a most original and funny song for S. W. Wyndham entitled "My Sunday's joint of meat," and great things are expected of it. He is responsible for all S. W. Wyndham's other biggest successes.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Powell Meets Moore at Bournemouth.

THE Westover Skating Rink, Bournemouth, was crowded when Allie Moore met P. F. Powell, N.S.A. (floor-manager at the Rink). Powell has made a name for himself as a speed skater, having come in fifth in the championship race at Olympia, in which, it will be remembered, Allie Moore was second and Harley Davidson first. The two competitors started with half a lap dividing them, and there was little to choose between them. A good pace was kept up all through, and the American gained slightly at the beginning of the second mile, but was unable to increase his lead, whilst Powell could not reduce the advantage gained by his opponent, who finished a second to the good. The times were:—Moore, 7min. 36 2-5sec.; Powell, 7min. 37 2-5sec. After the race Moore gave his marvellous exhibition of sensational and daring skating.

£23,506 Scheme at Barry.

AT a joint meeting of the Barry Public Works and Licensing Committees of the District Council, a scheme for the development of Barry Island has been considered. The complete scheme is divided into four sections, the whole to cover the construction of a sea-wall, 1,900ft. long, with an average depth of 19ft. to the sand. A promenade 40ft. wide would be made at the top. The first section provides for the erection of a large shelter on the western part of the gardens, facing the sea, with a length of 200ft., capable of accommodating 2,500 to 3,000 persons. Six shops are to be placed in the building, and the roof of the shelter is to be utilised as a skating rink.

Roller Skating in Birmingham.

ALTHOUGH the warmer weather is somewhat against indoor roller skating, it has had little effect upon the popularity of the sport, and there are still many devotees of the pastime in Birmingham. The Empire Skating Palace, in Walford-road, continues to receive its full share of the public patronage. At every session the floor is thronged with people. The floor is kept in excellent condition, and the place is well ventilated, while the enjoyment is enhanced by a good military band. The popularity of the City Rink, in John Bright-street, has also been well maintained. The excellent ventilation enables visitors to indulge in the popular pastime in a cool atmosphere.

Good Business at Blackpool.

DEVOTEES of the roller-skating art, and there are many at Blackpool, find the conditions which prevail at the Pleasure Beach Rink just to their liking, and at each session there is a good complement of skaters. Mr. J. D. Tweddell, the manager, is sparing no efforts to obtain all that is necessary for the comfort of his many patrons, and the floor, after being resurfaced, is now one of the best in the town. During the hot weather the sides of the building are opened. At the Colosseum Rink, which is close to Manchester-square, the newly-formed skating club has a large number of members, and the venture is proving very popular. There is a full military band, while the floor is perfection itself. The best Winslow ball-bearing skates are in use.

The Longton Rink,

ONE of the most successful of the Staffordshire rinks, from a financial point of view, is the one situated in Edensor-road, Longton, and the proprietors are justly pleased with the result of their enterprise. The rink first opened on Dec. 23 last, and the fact that five sessions were held daily for some time after the opening shows that the inhabitants of Longton and district appreciated the pleasures which are to be derived from roller-skating. The patronage extended to the rink up to now has been very encouraging, and still further success is looked forward to for the future.

And Its Popular Manager.

THE success so far attained is due, to a considerable extent, to the appreciable way in which the manager of the rink, Mr. Meredith Raynes, has carried out his duties. Mr. Raynes is a Hanley man, and, previous to taking up his appointment at the Longton rink, was well known as a local amateur skater, and was successful in winning the two-step and mile competitions held at Olympia. Mr. Raynes has introduced many novel competitions to his patrons, and he also has arranged specially attractive evenings, which have been much appreciated. On the latter occasions snowstorms, novel moonlight, and weird thunderstorm and lightning effects were arranged. Another feature of the management of the Longton rink, and one that attracted a deal of enthusiasm, was the introduction of special teaching weeks, which include free instruction in the waltz, two-step, and fancy skating during the whole of the particular week.

Maidenhead Rink.

THE arrangements for ventilation here are so perfect that the attendance has kept up to the mark throughout the hot weather. Fancy dress carnivals and hockey matches are not only successful in drawing local patronage, but attract from Windsor, Reading, Marlow, and other surrounding towns. The floor is in splendid condition.

Victoria Rink, Weston-super-Mare.

AT the Victoria Rink, Weston-super-Mare, Mr. Carlyle Vernon, whose band is so much appreciated here, was given a complimentary benefit on Friday, 10th June, when the place was crowded to overflowing.

Big Hockey Contest at West Stanley.

THE West Stanley Skatery is still going strong, and is being well patronised. A hockey competition on skates commenced last Tuesday, twenty teams being entered. The competition will be continued nightly till completed.

York Manager's Benefit.

THE Sycamore Skating Rink was the scene of an enjoyable gala, arranged by the York Roller Skating Club for the benefit of Mr. H. Ingham, the general-manager of the rink the other day. The rink will be closed during the summer months, and before the closing days commenced the Roller Skating Club thought it would be appropriate to show their appreciation of Mr. Ingham's work by promoting this benefit. During his association with the rink, Mr. Ingham has gained the approval of all with whom he has come in contact, and the large company which assembled was a striking testimony to the regard in which he is held.

The Philadelphia Rink.

THE new rink at Philadelphia, near Houghton-le-Spring, continues to be well patronised, and the varied competitions arranged by the manager (Mr. Stratton) are being highly appreciated.

Rothesay Pavilion.

THE opening of the new roller skating rink and entertainment pavilion at Rothesay took place last Saturday. A large and fashionable audience assembled. The new pavilion is erected on the site of the old gasworks, and is capable of holding 4,000 persons. Mr. John P. Reid, chairman of the company, presided, and was supported on the platform by Mr. Harry Hope, M.P., Mr. G. B. Caldwell, Mr. Alex. McClure, along with a representative company of Rothesay magistrates, town councillors, officials, and other prominent citizens. The artists engaged for the occasion were Mr. Robert Burnett, vocalist; Millie and Arthur, musical sketch artists; and Mr. Leslie Harris, society entertainer. An exhibition of fancy roller skating was given by members of the pavilion staff. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Richard Daeblitz. Mr. Charles A. White is manager.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (Chairman) presiding.

THEATRES v. MUSIC HALLS.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee again brought up their report and recommendation dated April 13, the consideration of which has been adjourned from time to time. The full report has already appeared in *The Era*. The Committee recommended that the reference to them on Dec. 21 and 22, 1909, to consider and report what amendments should be made in the standing orders of the Council with the view to granting a general and uniform licence to all places of entertainment licensed by the Council under which it would be optional for the licensee, subject to such restrictions as may be considered desirable, to give either dramatic or what are known as variety entertainments be discharged.

Mr. H. J. GREENWOOD, chairman of the Committee, moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER moved the following amendment of which he had given notice—"That as the performance of stage plays in buildings which are licensed for music and dancing only is illegal, the Council, when considering applications for music and dancing licences, will have regard to any evidence which may be submitted as to illegal production of stage plays at places of entertainment licensed for music and dancing only." He said he thought the Council would agree with him that the theatrical manager was at present placed in a very unfair and difficult position. If the Council maintained that two licences were desirable, it was clearly its duty to see that the terms of the licences were fulfilled, and that places having a music and dancing licence should not be allowed to produce stage plays, and that places having theatrical licences should not be allowed to give variety entertainments. If the Council was not prepared to do that, they should be prepared to do everything in their power to give the double license to both places of entertainment, as was done in the country. The Council had done nothing to enforce the law. The music hall proprietor was able to produce stage plays in his building, but if a theatrical manager proposed to give a variety entertainment he was called over the coals, and prevented by the Lord Chamberlain on the ground that he was not fulfilling the terms of his licence. The effect of this was that the music hall proprietor could do what he liked, and the theatrical proprietor could not. As was known to many members of the Council, there was an understanding in existence between the music hall proprietors and the theatrical managers, and it was only in cases where the friendly agreement was not adhered to that the theatrical managers would ask the Council to protect their interests. The Chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee would doubtless tell them that the theatrical manager could always prosecute, but he submitted that this was a course which the theatrical managers should not reasonably be asked to follow; but when a conviction by a magistrate was brought before the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, the applicant for a licence should be warned, and, if necessary, his licence should be refused. He could assure the Council that this was no dog-in-the-manger policy on his part. He was anxious there should be a single license for theatres and music halls, and he wished to do everything that would give employment to the legitimate actor; but until the recommendation of the Joint Select Parliamentary Committee became law, it was clearly the duty of the Council to see that the regulations, both of the music and dancing licenses and the theatrical licenses, were properly fulfilled.

Mr. WALTER REYNOLDS, who seconded the amendment, said he had nothing to say against the music halls at the present day; on the contrary, he thought there was very much to be said in their favour. They had done a great deal to promote temperance; and the public had opportunities at the music halls of seeing great artists at a small cost. And a man could obtain there a two hours' entertainment for the price of a glass of ale, the halls thus doing much in promoting temperance principles. A few weeks ago there appeared at a London music hall one of the great French artists of the day in her répertoire and with her own company and scenery from Paris. Though he was delighted that people were able to see her at very cheap prices, there was no getting over the fact that both the lady and the manager of the hall at which she appeared were breaking the law. In a few weeks the greatest French artist of the last century would be seen at a London music hall, and yet the Council, as the licensing authority, did nothing. They not only permitted illegalities to be practised, but actually encouraged them. Not only were these practices illegal, they were also unfair, because the great dramatic stars had hitherto only appeared at the ordinary theatres, and not at the halls. He thought he should be able to show that the Council had not even the excuse of consistency. There was the case of the Camden Theatre, which, failing as an ordinary theatre, was compelled to give a variety entertainment. Both the licensing authorities and the Lord Chamberlain knew of what was being done, but ignored it. Then the Common Informer came along, and, under the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, gave information, with the result that the licensee was fined 40s., and the theatre had to close. The Theatres Committee recommended the granting of a music and dancing licence to the theatre, but at the annual Licensing Sessions this recommendation was defeated, with the result that the owners of the house lost thousands of pounds, it being closed for a whole year. And yet the Council granted licenses to fifty-three music halls at which dramatic performances were given under a music and dancing licence. He thought that this was a state of things that could not be tolerated much longer, and that Mr. George Alexander was perfectly right in making the protest he had done.

Mr. GREENWOOD said that, speaking on behalf of his Committee, he might at once state that he was quite unable to accept the amendment, as it travelled very far beyond the recommendation before the Council. For reasons given in the preamble of the Committee's report, it would be quite impossible to accept the amendment. With regard to the alleged illegal performance of sketches in music halls, the matter came before them in 1905 in connection with the Oxford Music Hall, and again in 1909, when the application of the Coliseum was opposed on this ground. On both occasions the Council did not consider that the arguments used were strong enough to justify them in refusing the application, and held that if a breach of the law were committed, it was open to the aggrieved party to take action. As a matter of fact, numberless actions had been taken and fines imposed. The Council felt that they would be going outside their duty if they made the producing of sketches at the halls a reason for refusing applications for licenses, and he hoped that the Council would see fit to adopt the Committee's recommendation.

Mr. JESSON said he had a great amount of sympathy for the amendment. The theatre proprietor found that the tastes of the people in regard to entertainments were changing, and he saw his theatre audiences leaving and going to the music halls instead. While the music hall proprietor could put on a play which is called a sketch, a theatre proprietor was not allowed to put on a variety entertainment, this placing him at a serious disadvantage with his competitor. Matters were further complicated by the arrangement which had been entered into between the proprietors of the theatres and the halls that sketches shall be allowed at the halls, provided that they played not more than thirty minutes and contained not more than six characters. He thought there was no doubt that a drastic change in the law was required. Theatre proprietors should be allowed to stage any form of entertainment provided it was a proper one. His reason for opposing the amendment was that, if carried, it would cause confusion in the amusement world, and throw a large number of people out of work. He should support the Committee's recommendation, because he did not see any other way out of the difficulty. He hoped that this discussion would be the means of hastening legislation, so that all places of entertainment would be placed on the same footing.

Mr. LEA supported the amendment on the ground that the Lord Chamberlain, being a Court official, should have nothing to do with the amusements of the people. Theatrical proprietors were labouring under a great injustice as compared with music hall proprietors, and he could not conceive how people could put up with such an anomaly as the Lord Chamberlain.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think that the question of licensing by the Lord Chamberlain arises on the amendment.

Mr. LEA was proceeding to condemn the veto exercised by the Lord Chamberlain, when

Mr. GREENWOOD interrupted him, and pointed out there was nothing before the Council with regard to the duties of the Lord Chamberlain.

Mr. LEA proceeding, said he was in favour of the music halls being open on Sundays, but that the employees should have one day's rest.

Mr. GORDON considered that as long as the law remained as it was, it ought to be enforced whenever a breach of it was committed.

On a show of hands, the amendment was defeated, only ten members voting for it, and the recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

CINEMATOGRAPH HALLS, &c.

The following recommendations formally opposed at previous meetings were now carried—"That no objection be offered to the construction of a permanent cinematograph chamber in the dress circle saloon at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington; also that provided that the work shown on the drawing submitted by Mr. G. Duckworth with regard to a cinematograph hall to be erected in Lower Clapton-road be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building."

A similar recommendation in respect of a cinematograph hall, proposed to be erected in St. Stephen's-road, Bow, by Messrs. Andrews and Peascod.

A DESIRABLE RESIDENCE.

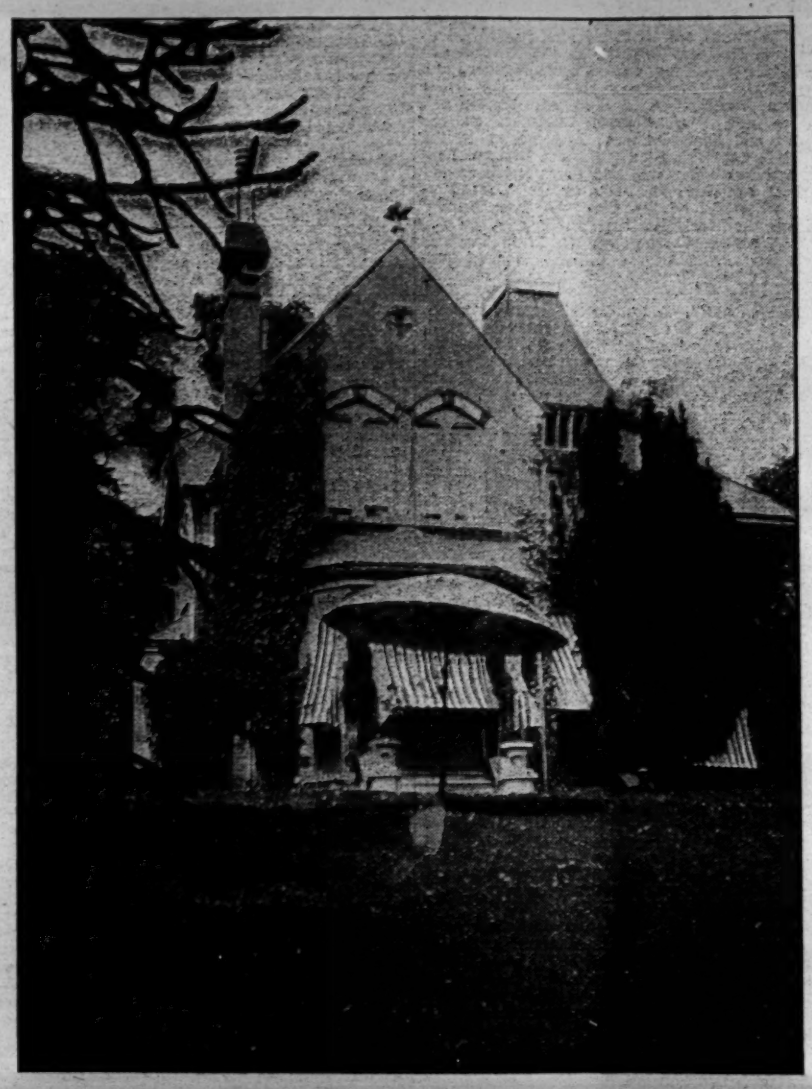

WOODLAWN, KINGSTON HILL.

Those wanting a house in charming surroundings, yet conveniently situated with respect to town, should examine Mr. Frank Allen's compact and well-arranged detached residence, with stabling and delightful grounds, on Kingston Hill, overlooking and adjoining Richmond Park, known as "Woodlawn." It contains seven bedrooms, dressing-room, fitted bath room (with hot and cold water supplies), w.c., and lavatory, three capital reception rooms, excellent domestic offices on the ground floor, and spacious cellarage, detached stabling for three horses, double coach-house and two rooms over; also motor garage, suitable for containing two large motor cars, fitted up with bench and cemented pit, and having well-timbered and pretty grounds of about one acre. The estimated rental value is £120 per annum. The property is held for an unexpired term of about sixty-five years, at a ground rent of £37 10s. per annum. It is at present occupied by owner, and may be viewed at any time. Its price is £2,000, or it will be let on seven years' lease at a rental of £130 per annum, or on a three years' agreement at £140 per annum. "Woodlawn" is close to the Wimbledon Common and Coombe Wood golf links, and within easy drive of Hurlingham.

LONG RUNS.

"In order that a manager under ordinary modern conditions should not lose his money," writes Miss Edith Lyttleton in the *Nineteenth Century*, "it is necessary for a play to run many months. The best work does not appeal to a large enough number of people, and therefore does not run for months; the best work is therefore not in demand, and its production is not encouraged. The other aspect is that if a play containing thought, originality, and poetry is written, it does not often get itself played, because the managers are quite justly afraid of it. But, granted that, by a happy conjunction of circumstances, the fine play is produced and wins a deserved success, what happens? For night after night the orange is squeezed. Even if the actors do not become weary—and it must be admitted that they constantly contrive to infuse freshness into a very often repeated performance—the play certainly suffers and becomes stale. Instead of entering into the literature of the stage, instead of for many years, for perhaps several generations, making its appeal to the audiences who can understand and appreciate, and to whom it was addressed, it is played and played out of existence. And this very often, not because of its intrinsic worth, but because it happens to have a happy turn of humour, or to suit some popular actor. A French playwright of European fame is content if his drama accepted by the Comédie Française is played thirty times in one season—twice, or sometimes thrice, a week for three months. He knows that if the play is worthy it will form part of the repertory of the theatre for years to come, and will always command the kind of audience for whom it was written. It will run no risk of having its fine shades slurred, its wit coarsened, and its humour broadened by actors oppressed with the double motive of relieving their own weariness and of attracting and holding the large heterogeneous public. Has not everyone experienced the listless unwillingness to go and see a play which has been running for a long while—an unwillingness often justified by the results? All the fineness of the play may have evaporated, the audience will laugh merrily where they should be grave, and miss the subtler shades of the satire or the humour. This is only in a secondary way the fault of the actors; it is really the fault of the long run."

Col. Fox and Kinematograph Dangers.

DELEGATES from all parts of the country attended the annual meeting of the Association of Professional Fire Brigade Officers at Westminster Guildhall on Thursday, the president, Lieut.-Col. Fox, chief of the London Salvage Corps, occupying the chair. Colonel Fox said that he had a film which he thought solved the whole question of safety. Proceeding to test a piece of transparent film, Colonel Fox held it over a lighted spirit lamp without it burning. As soon as he put it into the flame and held it there it took fire, not suddenly, but (in his own words) slowly, as if it were wood, and it extinguished itself.

Fulham's New Picture Palace.

THE Fulham Theatre has been converted into a "picture palace." On Monday, however, there was added to the programme—and incidentally, one gathers, produced for the first time—a short musical play called *At the Photographer's*. The characters are three in number—a husband, a wife, and a lover. It proved very much to the taste of the audience, and was acted with considerable spirit. As for the pictures, they are varied and good. Monday's selection—for they are constantly varied—included some of the late King Edward's Funeral. Particularly impressive was the one labelled Entering Windsor Castle, in which, as the sea of escorting bluejackets advanced into the focal plane, the gun-carriage and its burden gradually, as it were, materialised. Two performances are given nightly—the one at seven o'clock, the other at nine.

TENNIS and Laune, who have been meeting with success at the Empire, Camberwell, and the Empire, Shoreditch, leave for the provinces on Monday next, returning to the London halls in August. These young ladies have been re-engaged by Mr. Ben Court for pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, 1910-1911.

MISS VERA SAUNDERS, one of the latest recruits to the vaudeville stage, has been booked by the syndicate halls and will shortly appear in London in a new scena, entitled *Brides*. Miss Saunders, who comes from an old Surrey family, is only seventeen, and is stated to be remarkably gifted as an actress, vocalist, and dancer.

THE latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follows: Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. pd.), 1⅞; Empire (10s. pd.), 1⅛; London Pavilion (5), 2⅛; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 5⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires (5), 4; Oxford (5), 6⅞xd.; Palace Theatre (9s. pd.), 1; Tivoli, New (5), 6⅛.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

M. Claude Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande*, produced for the first time in this country last season, was again performed at Covent Garden on Thursday evening, June 9, with the same beautiful scenery and attention to every artistic detail that marked its first production. In the story of Maeterlinck M. Debussey found a subject admirably suited to his music drama and refined style of musical expression. The composer relies chiefly on the orchestra, which is quite as important in the opera as any illustration given by the vocalists on the stage, while throughout *Pelléas et Mélisande* the music flows on in a continuous stream. Whether M. Debussy's operatic methods ever become popular with other composers or the public time alone will show; but the composer displays a command of tone colour in his scoring for the orchestra that places him in the front rank of musicians. Of separate solos there are practically none, but the long series of recitatives often contain passages of rare beauty and subtle musical charm, which well express the various situations. Mme. Edvina appeared for the first time as Mélisande, and by her refined singing and graceful acting created a most favourable impression. The ideal poetical character of Mélisande, as well as the music, suits Mme. Edvina perfectly, and her performance was very successful, and the best she has given this season. The Pelléas was M. Devriés, who looked the part well and sang the music artistically in a light but pleasing voice. M. Bourbon again gave a very striking performance of Golaud, and when the music gave him any chance used his fine voice with great ability, while his skill as an actor was displayed to advantage in a part of such varying emotions. M. Marcoux was excellent as the old grandfather Arkel; Mlle. Symiane as the child Yniold deserved much praise; while Mlle. Bourgeois (the Genevieve) and M. Crabbé as the Doctor were very successful. The beautiful scene of a Well in the Park, the lovely picture of A Grotto, and the fine massive Castle Towers were all greatly admired by a large audience. The orchestra played the delicate score with refinement, and Signor Campanini conducted a very artistic performance.

On Saturday evening, June 11, *Rigoletto* was again performed at Covent Garden, with a new jester in the person of Signor George Baklanoff, a Russian artist, who made a most successful first appearance. Signor Baklanoff has a fine, rich toned baritone voice, of ample power, and it was evident the newcomer is an accomplished actor. The dramatic music of the part is well adapted to the Russian singer, but Signor Baklanoff is tall, and had, therefore, little chance of realising the deformed and grotesque figure of Rigoletto. In the scene of the third act he sang with great emotional power and expression, and was warmly applauded. Mme. Tetrazzini again sang brilliantly as Gilda, and delighted the audience as on former occasions with her wonderful rendering of "Caro Nome." Signor Rostowsky appeared as the libertine Duke, Mlle. Bourgeois as Maddalena, and M. Marcoux was an excellent Sparafucile. Signor Panizza conducted.

In Verdi's *Otello*, given at Covent Garden on Tuesday evening, Mme. Melba made her second appearance this season. Desdemona has always been considered Mme. Melba's finest creation, and the pathetic death-scene, the charming Willow Song and Ave Maria, and the various dramatic situations in so powerful an opera reveal the great artist at her best, both as vocalist and actress. When Verdi's fine opera was revived some years ago Mme. Melba astonished her admirers by displaying an amount of dramatic intensity never expected from the famous prima donna.

The performance of *Otello* on Tuesday night, although not what might be called superlative, had many excellent features. Signor Zerola, who sang with much success in *Aida*, undertook the exacting rôle of the jealous Moor, and sang the music with considerable power. As an actor Signor Zerola did not at times fully realise the intense passion required in some situations, such, for instance, as Otello's great scene in the third act, and his fiery outburst when Iago arouses his fatal jealousy and distrust of Desdemona. Mme. Melba, while not perhaps in finest voice, sang, however, with delightful finish and pathetic feeling, and acted better than ever. As Iago Signor Sammarco sang with his accustomed skill, but the Credo failed to make any deep impression, nor did this talented artist give a particularly subtle reading of the part.

M. Lheureux, a newcomer, was excellent as Cassio; and Mr. Murray Davey sang finely the music of Ludovico. Mlle. Bourgeois was successful in the part of Emilia; as also were Signor Zucchi and M. Morin as Roderigo and Montano. The chorus sang well, and Signor Campanini secured excellent results from the orchestra. There was a very large audience, frequent recalls of the principal artists, and a display of great enthusiasm.

THE HAPPY CHORUS.

"The only happy girls in the cast of the dramas," says the *Manchester Despatch*, "are the chorus girls, and the reason is that they and they only have skirts in which they can walk.

"Poor heroines who weep beneath villainy's oppression in full view of the audience, are subjected to an additional curse—this time at the cruel hands of fashion. Their skirts must be the very latest, and must be tied tightly round the knees; and ladies who are heroines must have the very latest. It is unthinkable that a heroine could be dowdy.

"The theory recently advanced by a Paris professor that the crinoline had quite a robust influence on the drama was supplemented by a journalist who, yesterday, saw one of the leading ladies in a London drama; she dies nightly exactly at half-past ten, and goes home to a cold supper at eleven four-and-a-half exactly.

"'Crinoline!' she exclaimed aghast. 'Why the new skirt is worse than the crinoline. Imagine me running across the stage with a full-blooded villain in pursuit and outdistancing him easily. When the old wide skirt was in vogue the betting on me was 5 to 1, but now this creation has come in vogue he is generally at my heels just as I glide behind the wings. Then I have to fall gracefully in the last act but one, and this skirt simply won't let me do it.

"'I thought of applying for the Balkan Girl part in Mr. Grossmith's play *Billy's Bargain*, and it makes me delirious with joy to think of having a wild career round the stage clad in the costume of the ragged maid.'

"'What do you think will be the outcome of it, then?'

"'I don't know. If only someone would ask the authors to write a play round the new skirt, with special reference to the band round the knees, perhaps it would be easier to bear it. It would be real nice if someone wrote a play where the heroine had only to stand and look at her ease. That is the next thing you will see. Fashion always precedes plays and dictates what kind of romance is to be seen on the stage.'

"'That is a prophecy?'

"'No; it is a fact. How do you think Juliet would have looked in the balcony scene in a skirt like this?'

"And the actress returned to her tears."

A FINE picture of the Marathon coaching contest from Bushey Park to the Horse Show is being presented on the Bioscope at the Empire, the ten coaches which took part in the competition being very clearly depicted. Scenes are taken at Bushey, Twickenham, and entering the ring at Olympia. The Empire series of Ascot pictures will include scenes in the grand stands, paddock, &c., and many of the principal races.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

THE MOVABLE DWELLINGS BILL (1910).

At the end of the 1909 Session of Parliament the Select Committee of the House of Lords, to whom the Movable Dwellings Bill, 1909, had been referred, issued the following sessional report:—

"That the Committee have met and examined numerous witnesses. They have been unable, owing to the short time at their disposal, to complete their inquiry during the present Session. They, therefore, recommend that the Bill should be reintroduced, and that they should be reappointed during the next Session of Parliament. The Committee have directed that the minutes of evidence and proceedings, with an appendix, be laid before your Lordships." The Sessional Report referred to gave, as stated, the full minutes of evidence of all the witnesses examined by the Committee. These were: Mr. H. C. Munro, C.B., Assistant Secretary to the Local Government Board; Dr. H. Franklin Parsons, an assistant medical officer to the same Board; Dr. Reginald Farrar, Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board; Dr. Haynes Fosbrooke, Medical Officer for the County of Worcester; Mr. Edwin F. Chamier, agent to the Rolle Estate, Devonshire; Mr. James Beck, Clerk to the Rural District Council of Orsett, Essex; Mr. J. Harris Stone, Hon Secretary and founder of the Caravan Club of Great Britain and Ireland; Dr. H. M. Chesters, member of the Surrey County Council; Mr. John Pedder, a principal clerk in the Home Office; Sir Reginald Bray, one of his Majesty's judges and a large landowner in Surrey; Col. the Hon. Charles Hay Drummond, of Sunninghill, Berks; Captain M. L. Sant, Chief Constable, Surrey County; Dr. Ernest A. Farr, Medical Officer of Health of the Andover Rural District Council; Sir Anthony Cope, Bart., Bramshill, Northants; and the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain and Organiser to the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.

Some Results of the Inquiry.

The greater weight of the official evidence tendered by the Local Government Board was against the Bill. The various officials showed that the Home Office and the Local Government Board were fully alive to the difficulties of dealing with gipsy and other nomadic kinds of life. So far as legislation could help in the solution of the problem the official opinion was that all that could usefully be done had been done by these great administrative departments. Dr. Farrar, in his exhaustive inquiries into English gipsy life, carried on by the Local Government Board, drew a clear distinction between the genuine gipsy and the nomad or tramp falsely classed as gipsy. Both Mr. Munro and Mr. Pedder, each for his own department, held that the Bill could fulfil no useful purpose, and that it might become an instrument of oppression. Dr. Parsons showed that the model sanitary by-laws of the Local Government Board, the Health Acts, and the Notification of Infectious Diseases Acts, and the Housing of the Working Classes Act already gave the local authorities ample powers of control for health over vans, tents, and sheds.

Dr. Farr, Medical Officer at Andover, testified in the highest terms to the good health conditions of shows and living vans at the fair time. Mr. J. Harris Stone, for the amateur caravanners, claimed complete exemption for the rapidly growing class of people who holiday on wheels and attempt the simple life in a van. Mr. Chamier, agent to Lord Clinton, Devonshire, desired to limit any additional legislation to matters of health. He would only have gipsies interfered with by the local authorities where their encampments threatened to pollute streams that fed public water supplies. The Devonshire gipsies, he held, were respectable and moral people. They had few tramps in his part of the county.

The evidence against the gipsies chiefly came from Dr. Chesters, of the Surrey County Council, Mr. Beck, of Ossett, Essex, Col. Hay Drummond, and Dr. Fosbrooke. Sir Reginald Bray and Sir Anthony Cope expressed the objections of landowners in general against the trespass of gipsies on their property, and wanted drastic powers to drive gipsies away. Captain Sant, the Surrey Chief Constable, explained the powers of the police under existing laws, and his trouble with landlords as well as with gipsies. Captain Sant bore out Dr. Farrar's statements with regard to the law-abiding character of the genuine gipsy, and attributed most of the petty thefts and the terrorism to criminal tramps and not to gipsies. So far as the inquiry has gone it has been largely a vindication of gipsy life. The criminal nomad is the sinister figure all through the inquiry, but the criminal nomad is not a van-dweller, and seldom is found under a tent. The gipsy is blamed for the depredation and the crime of the vicious and idle tramp.

Points of the Evidence Touching Van Life.

Mr. H. C. Munro, C.B., of the Local Government Board, doubted if legislation could be usefully extended beyond the scope of the present law. In answer to Lord Salisbury, the chairman of the Committee, as to what the present law provided with regard to vans and tents, Mr. Munro replied: "The specific provisions are contained in Section 9 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885. That section does three things: it applies the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, with regard to nuisances; to nuisances in tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation which are in such a state as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, or so overcrowded as to be injurious to the health of the inmates, whether or not members of the same family. Next it provides that Urban and Rural District Councils may make by-laws, which are subject to confirmation by the Local Government Board, for promoting cleanliness in and the habitable condition of such structures, and for preventing nuisances and the spread of infectious disease in connection with them. Then it also contains a provision authorising entrance by day to those dwellings by persons duly authorised by the sanitary authority or by a Justice of the Peace. That is the present law practically with regard to these dwellings. There are provisions also in the Public Health Act with regard to making by-laws for fruit-pickers' and hop-pickers' dwellings, but I need not deal with those." The Infectious Diseases Notofication Act also applies to movable dwellings as to houses. Cases of infectious disease occurring in these dwellings have to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

Expert Medical Evidence.

Dr. Parsons, the expert from the Local Government Board on the working of sanitary and health by-laws, held the opinion that the powers now obtainable from his department were sufficient to regulate the proper health conditions of vans and tents. He bore witness to the general good health of van-dwellers in the following words:—"Dr. Farrar, who has made a good many inquiries as to that, says that they have generally very good health. They are used to open-air life, and they do not suffer from exposure as town-bred people would if they took to that life. And living in the open air they do not suffer much from consumption or other diseases. They generally have good health, and we have not had any complaints of overcrowding or of the uninhabitable character of the vans themselves."

He saw no objection on the score of health to these movable dwellings, as occupied at the present time. He thought that under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, regulations could be made to prevent any danger to health from the encampment of a van in any situation.

Dr. Farrar on Gipsy Character.

Dr. Farrar, whose evidence occupied the greater part of one meeting of the Select Committee, dealt fully with gipsy van life. He scouted the idea that gipsy vans were a menace to public health, or that gipsy life was a means of conveying epidemic diseases. In answering to the chairman, he said, with regard to the general character of gipsies: "They lead a healthy life; they have been habituated for generations to a nomad existence, and it seems to suit them. They have generally got money, and they are well clothed, and I take them to be well lodged." Their standard of health was fully up to, if not better than, the agricultural population. With regard to the standard of comfort, the doctor said: "One sees a great many East End people down among the hop-pickers and the pea-pickers, and they will put up with conditions that the gipsies would not put up with. The van dwellers always have a water-tight, weather-tight shelter. They mostly live in a van with a nucleus, and then if there were three or four in the family the husband and wife would sleep in the van and the daughters would construct a little tarpaulin wigwam—tarpaulin or blankets over bent osiers, and it is perfectly water-tight. I have inspected a great many of them, and they are absolutely water-tight and perfectly adequate." He had visited their settlements at night, and had found no cases of overcrowding. At the conclusion of his evidence Dr. Farrar quoted the opinion of a number of medical officers in districts that gipsies frequent in support of his own view of the general good health conditions of gipsy life.

Evidence from the Home Office.

Mr. Pedder in his evidence dealt fully with the difficulties that Clause 5 in the Movable Dwellings Bill would create, and expressed the opinion of the Home Office that such legislation was contrary to the whole scope and spirit of jurisprudence. In answer to the chairman with regard to Clause 5, which reads as follows: "Where it appears to any registration authority that the presence of movable dwellings on any specified place or places within their area would be dangerous to the public health, or constitute a nuisance to the neighbourhood, the registration authority may by by-law prohibit such movable dwellings being on such specified place or places; and any person acting in contravention of any by-law made under this section shall be guilty of an offence under this Act," Mr. Pedder said: "It is intended, I suppose, to deal with difficulties arising out of van-dwellers and gipsies and movable people generally, and such difficulties have come before the Home Office in connection with by-law-making powers in the first instance, which were tried some years ago—the by-laws I mean for good rule and government, preservation of order and prevention of nuisances, that is other than sanitary nuisances. Sanitary nuisances, of course, go to the Local Government Board and not to the Home Office. Nuisances other than sanitary nuisances are noises, small damage to property and anything not sanitary, anything which you might call a breach of the peace or tending to breach of the peace. The Home Office also, besides the by-laws, directs itself every year to watching proposals in private and local Bills, with particular regard to questions affecting the ordinary liberty of the subject, the imposition on particular classes of persons of special obligations and the creation of new criminal offences. Under all these headings, proposals relating to van-dwellers have from time to time come up, and in accordance with the usual practice the Home Secretary addresses a report to the Houses of Parliament on the Bills containing those proposals. The Home Office, being also the Police Authority in the Metropolitan Police District, and being, although not the Police Authority, in close touch with the Police Authorities all over the country, receives a good deal of information as to any trouble that is caused by movable dwellings and people inhabiting them. That, I think, is a short statement of the way we deal with the matter."

Dealing with the Clause itself, he said that "the effect of the clause as it stands seems to be that if a County Council thinks a van dweller would be a nuisance (it is only 'would be,' which is very vague), then and there a van dweller is prohibited, and as the clause says 'the registration authority may by by-law prohibit such movable dwellings being on such specified place or places'; although the van dweller might be able to show that he was quite willing to conform to all the regulations and laws, and to prevent himself from being a nuisance, still, if the edict had once gone forth that it was a place where there would be a nuisance, he could not go there. That in particular seems to have a hard effect on travelling showmen, because although they might be perfectly proper as a popular amusement and able to keep themselves in order, if somebody else had made a nuisance on that place and the local authority had said, 'This is a place where a van dweller would be a nuisance,' the showman could not go there save under a penalty. There is no provision to allow him to go in spite of the original prohibition."

The Home Office and By-Laws.

An extremely valuable part of Mr. Pedder's evidence was that relating to bye-laws. The policy of the Home Office of to-day differed fundamentally from the policy of twenty years ago. On the working effect of restricted bye-law, he said: "I think perhaps I ought to give an instance here of bye-laws which were allowed and have ceased to be allowed. About twenty years ago the bye-laws were allowed, under the general powers of making bye-laws for the good rule and government of a county or borough or any part thereof in order to deal with the particular difficulty at West Ham in 1889, where there was a vacant piece of ground in a crowded area which was said to be occupied by movable dwellings, and caused a great nuisance. The bye-laws then allowed were to the effect that no owner of land should allow his land within 200 yards of a highway or street or dwelling-house, to be occupied so as to cause annoyance, injury, or disturbance to residents by van-dwellers, and also the van-dwellers were not to occupy the same land so as to have those results. That was in 1889 as regards West Ham, and subsequently the bye-laws were allowed to be extended to ten thickly populated districts in Middlesex; but there was very great doubt in the first instance as to whether these bye-laws were within the powers of the very general powers of making good rule and government bye-laws, and also as to their operation, and in 1894 and onwards the Home Secretary decided that no further extensions of these bye-laws were to be allowed, and they have not been further extended." The only definite effect which could be traced to them was that the gipsies went next door, and that was not an effect—at least, the opinion was held that that was not an effect—which ought to be produced by a bye-law under the general power of good rule and government, setting one district against another. It also showed that the general power of making bye-laws should not be used against particular classes of persons. The effect of such legislation, if made general, would wipe the van-dweller off the face of the earth." In 1904 the matter came up again, ten years after the refusal to extend the bye-laws from Middlesex, and a bye-law was drawn, which the Home Secretary was advised might be valid and proper under these general powers, much more carefully restricted, and it was offered to the Middlesex County Council, but they did not approve of it, and did not adopt it. They said they would try to get powers from Parliament in a private Bill, and in 1906 the Middlesex County Council did come to Parliament with a Bill and ask for powers. Previously to 1906 several applications had been made to Parliament in private Bills for special powers against gipsies or van-dwellers, and had been all refused. In 1906 the Middlesex County Council brought up their Bill, and the effect of it was to make these bye-laws which I have just mentioned, which had been made for certain districts in Middlesex, general all over the whole county; and the police and Sanitary Committee went into the matter very thoroughly, and found that the County Council would have considerable difficulty in making out the case for any such provision, but finally agreed that in view of the existing bye-laws (their decision was very carefully confined) in certain parts of the county, which, good or bad, were in existence and had had some effect, further powers were desirable. So that they passed a clause which again was carefully guarded, although somewhat hastily settled, as a sort of compromise, at the end of the Committee."

A Summary of this Part of the Evidence.

It is conclusively shown that under existing laws all the requirements of local government are fully provided, and that restrictive legislation, whether by general enactment or by further powers of making bye-laws, would inflict unnecessary hardship upon all classes of van-dwellers. The expert evidence from the Local Government Board and the Home Office is in direct contradiction to the allegations of the witnesses for, and the promoters of, the Bill. It is shown that all that can reasonably be expected is already being done, and that to attempt more will be contrary to the spirit and working of our laws. The experts did not conceal their opinion that even if the objects of the Bill were just and reasonable the Bill itself was so badly drafted that it would fail to effect the intention of its promoters. We hope to deal in other articles with the showman's brief and expert evidence against the Bill. Our reason for dealing again with the subject is that the Select Committee held its first meeting this session on Tuesday last, June 14.

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead till the end of the month are: Chipping Campden, on the Great Western; Coleford, on the Great Western and London and South-Western; Maidstone, on the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover; Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern and North British; Cinderford, on the Great Western and Midland; Southampton, on the London and South-Western, Great Western, and Midland and South-Western Junction; Newport Pagnell, on the London and North-Western; Selby, on the Great Northern and North-Eastern; Shipston-on-Stour, on the Great Western; Wadebridge, on the Great Western and London and South-Western; Andover, on the London and South-Western; Bromsgrove, on the Midland; Cambridge, on the Great Eastern, London and North-Western, and Great Northern and Midland Junction; St. Just, on the Great Western; Willersey, on the Great Western; Brampton, on the North-Eastern; Bridgwater, on the Great Western; Burslem, on the North Staffordshire; Coal Aston, on the Midland; Duckmanton, on the Midland; Dronfield, on the Midland; Elmton, on the Midland; Penistone, on the Great Central; Tibshelf, on the Great Central; Unston, on the Midland; Winster, on the Midland; Yeovil, on the London and South-Western and Great Western; Feckenham, on the Midland; Halifax, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Northern Joint; Pershore, on the Great Western; Bolton-by-Bowland, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Folkestone, on the South-Eastern; Inkberrow, on the Midland and Great Western; Saltash, on the Great Western; Belper, on the Midland; Camborne, on the Great Western; Fareham, on the London and South-Western; Reedham, on the Great Eastern; Dereham, on the Great Eastern; Peebles, on the North British and Caledonian; Roxburgh, on the North British; Fraserburgh, on the Great North of Scotland; Lydney, on the Great Western; and Ton-y-Pandy, on the Taff Vale.

Death of James Dooner.

Another of the grand old men of Showland has passed away to his well-won rest. Universally beloved, James Dooner, after a most strenuous life, became a few years ago a victim to that national scourge cancer. Everything that medical skill could effect was done for him.

After an apparently successful operation eighteen months ago he gladdened the hearts of his family and friends by being seen once again in his familiar place on the show front. His cheerfulness under the heavy affliction of his complaint was full proof of the nobility of his nature. We hear that he died, aged seventy years, with the show at Bargoed, Glamorgan. His end was peace. We are sure that to die with his beloved show, with his sons and daughters around him, was the death his soul desired. Dooner's show is famous in Wales and in the West of England. James Dooner and his family are highly esteemed in Showland, and are connected with many celebrated show families.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

The Rev. T. Horne will be at Mexborough Feast, Yorkshire, this week-end. On Sunday afternoon at 3.30 he will address the Yorkshire showmen at the Feast on the work of the Guild, and will hold a Guild Service at night in Tuby's show on the Feast ground.

New By-Laws for Grimsby.

The Corporation of Grimsby seeks new bye-laws. These will, if not amended, seriously hamper the show business in the famous port. The Rev. T. Horne has the matter in hand, and is taking advantage of his visit to Yorkshire to interview the Town Clerk and to lay the objections of the Showmen's Guild to the proposed bye-laws. Should the negotiations fail the Guild will petition the Local Government Board and the Home Office against the ratification of the proposed bye-laws.

Redditch Summer Carnival.

Held on the Recreation Ground. The chief amusements were P. Collins's circus, galloping horses, and steam yachts; Cullis's school of boxers; Williams's racing cycle track; Wright's and Montgomery's juvenile roundabouts and throwing games; variety stalls and novelties by Messrs. Powell, Birch, Jones, Deeks, Humphries, Hayes, and many others.

Neath.

Messrs. Sedgwick's menagerie paid their usual visit here on Monday. Cleanliness is the great feature of the genial proprietor. All the animals were in excellent condition, and went through some clever performances under the various trainers. The great feature of the evening was the daring act of Mr. Noice, the popular manager of Mr. Vent, in entering a den of full-grown lions calmly smoking his Havana. Mr. Sedgwick presented Mr. Noice with a cup amidst great applause.

Showmen's Letter-Box.

Letters await Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, W. Biddall, H. Fossett, Anderton and Rowland, A. Purchase, and W. Purchase at *The Era* Office.

"Cinematograph Copyright." (The law affecting the same.) By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S. (Barrister-at-Law). Price 6d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

L.C.C. and Sunday Amusements.

The legal officers of the London County Council have taken the necessary preliminary steps to test the validity in the High Court of the decision by Mr. Chapman, the stipendiary, that in forbidding cinematograph exhibitions on Sunday under the terms of their licence the London County Council were acting *ultra vires*. Since that deliverance several picture palaces have been giving exhibitions on Sunday in the ordinary way, and contrary to the London County Council regulations.

Next Week's "Animated Gazette."

Amongst the English subjects in next week's film will be some excellent pictures of the Annual Parade of the London Scottish, the Coaching Marathon, the unveiling by Lord Desborough of the Memorial to Captain Webb at Dover, and other interesting events of the week.

New Century Film Service.

The New Century Film Service, Ltd., has been registered as a private company, with a capital of £16,000, in £1 shares, to carry on the business of lenders of films on hire, &c., and to acquire the film hire department of the New Century Animated Picture Company, Ltd. The first directors are Mr. L. A. Edmonds and Mr. S. H. Carter, both of Menston-in-Wharfedale.

Royalty and the Cinematograph.

Pathé's "Animated Gazette," the new topical film which is edited just like a newspaper, is quite a royal number this week, containing, as it does, animated pictures of King George's First Court at St. James's Palace, the King and Queen of Italy, the King and Queen of Belgium, and the Emperor of Austria, besides a large number of other pictures of topical events at home and abroad.

Fifteen Years' Popularity.

Messrs. Jasper Redfern, Ltd., the well-known photographers and animated picture experts, of Norfolk-street, Sheffield, have just completed a record run of fifteen consecutive years as film producers and exhibitors. Their picture entertainments at the Central Hall enjoy a high reputation and are well patronised, due, in a large measure, to the business ability of their energetic manager, Mr. F. W. Holmes, who has been associated with the firm for a number of years.

Pictures of the Horse Show.

At the Alhambra this week exclusive pictures of the International Horse Show at Olympia have been shown every evening. The films are specially obtained, and show clearly the exciting incidents in the jumping competitions. The scenes are being kept up to date, and the principal contests are depicted nightly.

Cinematograph Lessons.

In order to educate the public to the possible consequences of marriage when one or other of the parties suffer from tuberculosis a series of cinematogaph pictures is being shown by the American Biograph Company at the Cinemo de Paris, Bear-street. The pictures are very realistic. A young man who is engaged to be married is diagnosed by a specialist to be in a state of advanced consumption. In spite of this his fiancée insists on the wedding taking place, and he reluctantly consents. The physician, knowing that such a wedding would be a crime, tries to impress the young man by showing him a dying child, the offspring of consumptive parents. This object-lesson, however, proves unavailing, but the doctor succeeds in the end in breaking off the engagement, and the young woman finds a new lover, whom she marries.

Tariff Reform in Pictures.

An interesting series of views—lantern slides and cinematograph—accompanied by a descriptive lecture on the subject of "Tariff Reform as it will Benefit the Country," was given at the St. Thomas's Hall, Gillespie-road, by a Mr. John Bull last week. The lecturer, in speaking of the size and magnificence of the Empire, said that there was nothing that we required that could not be produced within our own boundaries. He showed a diagram which put in plain fashion the flowing-out of English wealth to pay for foreign goods. Taking a tour round the Empire, he pleasantly conducted his hearers, by the aid of pictures and comment, to various parts of the Empire. Gibraltar was first visited. He did not see why they should not encourage orange-growing in the island by taxing oranges from Spain and letting in these oranges free. Port Said, the Suez Canal, Aden, and India were next visited, and pictures of the tea-gardens in Ceylon were thrown on the screen, and then a big jump was made to Australia. Australia and New Zealand gave England a preference over every foreign country. Surely it was worth while to cultivate their trade in return. Why not tax Argentine mutton and let in Australian free? They would then keep their mutton and their money in the Empire. Dealing with the unfair taxes of to-day, he asked why they should have to pay 2½d. tax on 1d. worth of tobacco? Could they not tax American tobacco and let in Colonial tobacco at a cheaper rate? Apart from its political bearing, the lecture and pictures were excellent.

Victor McCalla, Manager.

The old Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, closed on Saturday last. The new building, which is some 500yds. from the old one, will be ready for opening on Aug. 1. The services of Mr. Victor McCalla, the bioscope operator, whose pictures are quite a feature in the Rhondda Valley district, have been retained, and he will be seen at his usual post on the opening of Mr. Stone's new theatre. Mr. McCalla is a brother of the sisters Dolly and Madge McCalla.

The Bannister Howard Theatres.

The management of the Electric Theatre, Bath, has decided to put a sliding roof on to the top of the theatre, as it was thought that the place got a little overheated at times. Mr. Bannister Howard will shortly open similar electric theatres in Newport (Mon.) and in Aberdeen.

Standard Electric Theatres.

The statutory meeting of this company was held on Wednesday last. Mr. Harold Rowsell Bishop, who presided, stated that they had taken over a hall at Southampton, for which they paid £390 in cash and £500 in fully-paid shares. The hall seated 400, but from the returns which they had had the opportunity of seeing in the last three weeks they felt confident that the hall would be quite as paying as the others owned by the company. The hall at Margate would be a good proposition, as it occupied a most important position in that town. The company's receipts during the last ten weeks had been £1,674, and they had earned a dividend of 8 per cent. for the quarter. The number of shares applied for was 10,738, and the vendors took 16,800, leaving about £14,000 in share value upon which to pay dividends. The general outlook with regard to electric theatres was very rosy. Mr. Ogden Smith said the company had at present two halls open on Sunday, and the proceeds were given to the Women's Health Association. The authorities at Bristol and Southampton had granted full licences to their halls in those towns, and they were also open on Sunday.

Amalgamated Cinema Theatres.

The Amalgamated Cinematograph Theatres has been formed with a capital of £150,000 to carry on the business of amusement caterers, providers of entertainment, and cinematograph pictures, &c., and to adopt agreements with Finsbury Park Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd., Recreations, Ltd., Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd., Walham Green Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd., and M. A. Pyke. The signatories are: C. B. Wells, 184, Hydethorpe-road, Clapham Park, S.W.; S. C. T. C. Feigate, 31, Portman-avenue, East Sheen, S.W.; G. A. S. Porter, 46, Downton-avenue, Streatham Hill; B. A. Hyem, 27, Dalebury-road, Upper Tooting, S.W.; W. W. Cresswell, 9, Quality-court, Chancery-lane, W.C.; J. W. Lovett, 9, Quality-court, Chancery-lane, W.C.; and G. B. Norbury, 2, Noel-street, Colebrooke-row, N. The first directors are M. A. Pyke, R. A. Lyons, Sir Wm. Bass, Bart., J. J. Newbould, and T. M. Madden.

Opposition to Clapton Picture Palace.

Mr. G. W. H. Jones, of North Hackney, has presented a petition from the inhabitants of Lower Clapton, praying the Council not to sanction the erection of a new cinematograph hall in the Lower Clapton-road, near St. James's Church. The petition has been referred to the Theatres Committee.

Forest Gate Picture Theatre.

The splendid electric theatre at Forest Gate, which was opened some little time ago, continues to do exceptionally good business, and there is no doubt the venture has proved an eminently successful one. During the past week excellent films have been shown, and a new and popular feature in the Animatophone has been introduced. The pictures exhibited on this are wonderfully clear and very pleasing to the tastes of all who have witnessed them. An abridged series of pictures illustrating the important scenes from the well-known opera *Faust*, together with the singing on the gramophone of the best-known songs and choruses, has made the Animatophone a huge attraction. Other interesting films have been Baffles, the Bandit, The Clown and His Dogs, and a very amusing one, That Gentleman Has Won the Million. This latter film deals in very comical fashion with the pursuit of a man supposed to have secured a fortune by a lottery ticket.

Greenwich Electric Theatre.

Crowded houses testify to the popularity of this theatre. Last week a complimentary benefit was given to Mr. Chapman, the manager, and the receipts were handed to that gentleman as a wedding present.

A Popular Hackney Picturedrome.

The plan of providing for the summer months a varied programme, chiefly of the best pictures procurable, at the Alexandra Theatre, Hackney, continues to prove in every way highly popular; and, despite the warmer weather, satisfactory "houses" are the record each evening. The pictures of the Derby have been an unfailing source of attraction, and the remainder of the bioscopic selections include all the elements of love, fun, and sensation, as well as a number of beautiful films of wild birds on land and water. The matinée teas are still increasing in the public favour, and lovers of the weed may consume their votive offerings under the pleasantest conditions, not the least of which is the coolness at which the theatre temperature is maintained.

Hammersmith's New Picture Palace.

The new Hammersmith Palace of Varieties was opened last Wednesday afternoon by the Mayor of Hammersmith. Lord Rosmead, Mr. Walter Seymour, and other directors were present. The building accommodates 800 people, and the decorations are very artistic. The tip-up seating is by Messrs. Lazarus and Co., and the electric installation by the Cinima Electric Installation Co. Mr. Gilbert Booth was the architect, and the building work has been carried out by Messrs. Pitcher and Sons. Performances will take place daily from 2 o'clock to 10.30, at 3d. and 6d. (children 2d.). The resident-manager is Mr. Bert A. Bigney.

Electric Theatre, Tufnell Park.

Admirable pictures are always shown at this popular theatre, at the Lower Stanley Hall, Junction-road, and one can always be assured of seeing all the latest and best pictures at this cosy resort. The continuous performance seems to be very well appreciated by the patrons, and the pictures are changed every Monday and Thursday.

Bournemouth's Enterprise.

Bournemouth's new picture palace will be an imposing structure, with seating capacity for about one thousand. It will be luxuriously furnished, and will embody the acme of ease and comfort. There will be a specially constructed tea lounge, where afternoon tea may be taken by patrons of the theatre and others without entering the theatre itself. The exterior will be attractive, and the lofty façade when electrically lit will be seen for some considerable distance. The Bournemouth, Exeter, and Plymouth Bioscope Theatres, Ltd., are also acquiring theatres, which will shortly be opened in Exeter and Plymouth, where there is a great demand for this popular form of entertainment. The directors announce the issue of 25,000 £1 shares at par. The capital is £40,000 in 40,000 shares of £1 each. The company has secured the sole right to take cinematograph pictures within the enclosures at the Bournemouth Centenary Fêtes, including the International Aviators' Meeting, at which many of the principal English and foreign aviators have entered for competition. These films should prove of considerable value and be a great attraction at the company's various picture palaces. In order to take advantage of the large number of people that will come into the town from all parts of Europe and the British Isles on the occasion of the first International Aviators' Meeting in this country, which will be held in July next in connection with the Bournemouth Centenary celebrations, arrangements have been made for renting and opening by that time premises admirably suited and easily adaptable for an electric theatre, centrally situated in the square into which the principal streets converge, and which is also the main tramway centre of the town. Arrangements have been made for opening the picture palaces in Exeter and Plymouth next month.

Winter Garden, Cheltenham.

The up-to-date manager of the skating rink, Mr. Cecil Gill Smith, will open an electric theatre here next Monday at popular charges. Local films are being taken this week, causing much excitement.

Skating Rinks as Picture Palaces.

The enterprising managers of the King's and Queen's Picture Halls, Birmingham, have taken over the Smethwick Skating Rink for the summer season, and this week have arranged a splendid programme, the chief contributors to which are Kennedy's Komiks. The place was opened on Monday night to a crowded house, many being unable to gain admission. This is undoubtedly the kind of attraction required in skating rinks during the summer season.

Strand Theatre de Luxe.

The programme submitted this week at the Theatre de Luxe, 65, Strand, W.C., has included the following films:—The President's Special, Native Life in Malacca, The Horseshoe, Bradford's Claim, The Modern Music Hall, Double-Dealing, and Method in His Madness.

Coaching Marathon Pictures.

On the bioscope at the Empire Theatre a splendid film has been shown this week of the coaching marathon from Bushey Park to the Horse Show.

Londonderry Opera House.

The King's Funeral pictures shown at the Opera House, Londonderry, have been a big success. At the Opera House the management has established an excellent band and an Alleffex machine (for producing effects).

OPERA NEW AND OLD.

In matters musical, particularly where opera is concerned, affectation plays a prominent part (says a writer in the *Morning Advertiser*). Indeed, certain types of theatre-goer display a degree of ignorance which, though a little irritating to the genuine music-lover, affords entertainment to all who possess a sense of humour. Blissfully unconscious of the fact that Richard Strauss's and Wagner's music have a good many characteristics in common, they declare that *Elektra* is a dream, and that *Die Walküre* (which, though forty years old, in some respects is almost as modern as anything that Strauss has composed) "is hopelessly behind the times." Invite enthusiasts of this description to witness the performance of a time-honoured work in which a simple story—simply told—is set to unpretentious music, which, being written for the voice, as the technical expression has it, enables the singer to show to advantage, and ironical laughter will follow. Yet, in their heart of hearts, the snobs would infinitely rather listen to an opera which they are capable of understanding. Although wild horses cannot drag the admission from them, a study of their bored faces during the representation of the favoured effort, on which they have set the seal of approval, completely gives them away.

The intolerant younger generation, in its haste to pass judgment upon the music which charmed their forebears, fails to take into consideration those circumstances which, we are told, should alter cases. An instance is furnished by the present Covent Garden revival of *La Sonnambula*, which Bellini composed seventy-nine long years ago, at a time when flowing melody, an "aria" apiece for the principal characters, one or two duets, two or three concerted pieces, and—at intervals—a rousing chorus, satisfied the connoisseurs. Complex orchestration had not even reached its infancy, and it was agreed by all musicians that the composer who permitted the accompaniment to drown the voice-parts did not know his business. Consequently, the operas of the early nineteenth century, viewed from the modern standpoint, are a little antiquated.

That, however, is no reason why alleged superior people, some of whom probably are sufficiently ill-informed to imagine that the musical conditions of 1831 and 1910 are identical, should gibe as they have at the performance which took place on Thursday evening at the Royal Opera. Besides, the lyrical work in question makes a strong appeal to all whose minds are charged with happy memories of bygone operatic days, and who are glad of an opportunity to compare modern tenors with Rubini and with less remote Elvinos of the past, and Tetrazzini with Patti. There are many people for whom the work of down-to-date musical impressionists has little interest, but who, joyfully sitting through the four acts of *La Sonnambula*, are raised to the seventh heaven of happiness by Bellini's sympathetic and vocal score. Its tunefulness delights them; in listening to the well-remembered music they conjure up visions of an enchanted past, and, in a word, renew their youth.

As a matter of business, the syndicate is to be commended for bringing forward the work in question. The supporters of the Royal Opera include habitués of varied tastes, and the manner in which they are catered for is a matter which reflects great credit upon the Covent Garden management. The French, German, and Italian contingent are given opera in their own languages; modern French and Italian works bulk large in the répertoire, and if the achievements of Russian, Bohemian, and American composers met with a demand, they too, no doubt, would be exploited. Meanwhile, it has been proved beyond all shadow of doubt that *La Sonnambula*, which a reputed wit of the 'sixties burlesqued under the title of *Sonnambula; or the Supper, the Sleeper, and the Merry Swiss Boy*, is still a "draw," and consequently completely justifies the prominence accorded it.

TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Billed largely last week as the attraction for this week. The name of Wilkie Bard brought a larger audience than the average to Tottenham on Monday. A notice in the box-office, however, told them the comedian was unable to appear, owing to "loss of voice," and not a few went regretfully away. Mr. Mayne, however, secured Harry Champion to deputise, and lost no time in posting bills to this effect. Another artist absent was Miss Gladys Huxley. Her place was filled by Miss Queenie Finnis, and an excellent deputy she proved. Harry Champion, ever a popular "vocal" comedian, soon set all laughing and applauding his hurricane ditties. He gave his audience a sumptuous feast of "Boiled beef and carrots," well garnished with his inimitable style. "You don't want to keep on showing it" and "Down came the blind" were two others of his rib-ticklers, which set the hands of his audience going in hearty fashion. Queenie Finnis, pleasing in voice and refreshing in appearance, sang two numbers. Her coy mannerism and dainty deportment were distinctly appetising. Her first song was "Nurse, nurse, I'm feeling worse"; her second was "You want a sweetheart, not a bow-wow." George Newburn, a clever mimic, gave us a piece of Mark Sheridan, a dash of George Formby, a big slice of Whit Cunliffe, and an idea of Sam Mayo.

Ray and Calden were voted two of the most popular comedy duos Tottenham has seen for quite a long time. Their act teems with bright tit-bits, quaint notions, and funny patter. Harry Ray's burlesque water-colour painting "London by Night" elicits one of the biggest laughs of the evening, and his back falls and tumbles plentifully dispensed throughout this act are smartly executed. Miss Lily Ray comes in for a great reception for her song on "Ragtime" and its accompanying dance. Lloyd Morgan has a good policeman's song in "Wait till I'm off duty," and tastefully attired as a son of the West, immaculate and debonair, delivers a second contribution, "What a peaceable world it would be."

The Sisters Rhen, two raven-haired lassies, give an excellent sample of coon dancing, and harmonise well together in a Carolina duet. Herbert Clifton hits off, with his £1,000 voice, Daisy Dormer and Gladys Huxley to a nicety in his burlesque of serios. As "himself" he lets his voice go to fine advantage. A well-applauded turn and deservedly so was that of Hubert Clifton. The Melody Makers, comedians and vocalists, six in number, are here with their original act. Their weird fantasy "The burglar's dream" serves to introduce some rare vocalism, simultaneous piano-playing, and dancing. Miss Carlotta Levey has two good motto songs, "Stick to the bridge that carries you over" and "Dear old Pals," both with easy choruses, which are readily taken up by her hearers. *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, presented by Mr. Harold Nuttall's capable company, including Mr. Martyn Roland, bottoms the bill. It could have topped easily, as undoubtedly on the occasion of our visit it earned the biggest reception of the evening. The story is interesting, and the enactment praiseworthy. *The Ghost* should enjoy a long life. The pictures round off the entertainment, which is stage-managed by Mr. Harry Phillimore, from the Empire, Stratford.

"RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SCOTCH COMICS.

In the "Looker-On" page of the *Glasgow News* appears the following interesting remarks concerning Scotch comics:—

Scotch comedians have of late gone home so much to the great heart of the Anglo-Saxon people that their tours extend throughout the Empire; they are better paid than statesmen, and apparently more beloved. It is a great mystery. For their songs and their "business" are very much the songs and the "business" of the Scotch comedians of thirty years ago, and the Scotch comedian of that date had to be content with little more than a local reputation and a very small salary. Leaving aside the casual exponent of the vernacular Comic Muse at free-and-easies, the race, so far as I can learn, appears to have started in Glasgow with John Drummond, who gave concerts in a hall in Nelson-street, City, and sang "The Drygate Brig" and "The Auld Drucken Howdie." It was there that Jamie Houston as a lad opened his career in song and recitation with "The Cork Leg," "Beautiful Biddy of Sligo," "Tell's Speech," "The Ruined Cottage," and "Macbeth to the Dagger," and discovered himself a Scotch comedian of the type of to-day with a song of his own composition—"The West-End Park." "There was nothing in it," as he says himself in his Autobiography, "but it went well, as it suited the times. Already the elements of Scotch comic songs were conventionalised—any old thing about a lass and a glass and the ran-dan served the purpose. James Houston's "I lo'e a lassie" was:—

"My bonnie Scotch lass none can surpass,
In figure and form as light as a fairy;
'Mong the girls there are few, between me and you,
So handsome and modest, so constant and true.
Eyes so bright that shine by night;
Hair so light and teeth so white;
To see her ankle, what a mite!
My trig little bonnie Scotch lass."

The Scotch comic song, as London thrills to it to-day, is peculiarly a product of the Glasgow accent, and the sentiment and fun of it are pure Glaswegian as fun and sentiment used to be understood at the Harmonie Concerts, otherwise the "Saturday Bursts." No modern Scotch music hall song ever came from Edinburgh and the East of Scotland; no Edinburgh comedian has made a great reputation, a fact I point out with pride to my Edinburgh friends who brag of their Wagner performances. The gaiety of England, in short, depends upon us, and we were the first to demonstrate to them the inherent and excruciating comedy of the kilt and the wiggly walking-stick. One gets absurdly old and loses touch with the finer issues of life, so that I am not certain whether there are Saturday Bursts now or not, but if there are, I am sure there will still be comedians there keeping up the traditions of Scotch humour.

It was at the Bursts in the National Halls on the South-side I saw Harry Linn, my first Scotch comedian in a kilt. He was celebrated for his "Jamie the Cairter Lad," and "Oh! Bonnie Scotland, what I'm sufferin' for ye noo!" but his *chef d'œuvre* was "Jock Macraw," which he sang in the uniform of the 42nd, there being no law at the time to prevent a burlesque of the Queen's uniform. To do Linn justice, he did nothing to make the uniform ridiculous apart from wearing it, but he made fun of his own exceeding thinness. "Jock Macraw" has recently been republished, and is very popular, I am assured, especially in the Colonies.

Linn undoubtedly made his own words and music, a versatility most Scotch comedians have laid claim to ever since, though, as a matter of fact, their songs are nearly all made by obscure men in Glasgow. If Alick Melville, or Tom Johnston, the Abercrombie-street barber-bard, had had royalties on the ditties they composed for Scotch comedians, they would be wealthy men. They have outlived the popularity of their songs, as they have outlived the singers of them. To Johnston, I fancy, J. C. Macdonald was indebted for most of the songs which pleased his public best. I am in shameful darkness regarding the Scotch comedians of to-day, except when I have made their acquaintance on the gramophone, so that my conviction that J. C. Macdonald was as good as the best of them is proffered with due reserve. He had what seems to be requisite to a London success with Scotch comedy—a strain of obvious sentiment; and a Tivoli audience, I am sure, would be sympathetic to his

"Wi' cheeks sae red and rosy, and een sae bonny blue."

There were two songs of Macdonald's which, by an ingenious combination and transmutation, have helped to make another man's fortune. Quarter of a century ago Macdonald was singing "I love the lassies, the bonnie, bonnie lassies,
I love the lassies short and tall,
Whether dark or fair be the colour o' their hair,
I love the lassies yin and all."

If the intelligent reader takes "I love the lassies" as a hint, he will be surprised to find how immediately they suggest one of the most popular Scotch serio-comic songs of the day.

Will the extraordinary vogue of the Scotch comedian on the music hall stage long continue? There is no audience more fickle; and once a darling exponent of any special kind of fun has dropped out, the public gives its heart to something totally different. The Lion Comique is gone; the "Sisters" and the knockabout pair and the Irish comedian have had their day, and another generation will doubtless wonder what we saw to laugh at in the dialect muse.

THE

LAW OF COPYRIGHT

IN

KINEMATOGRAPH

PICTURES.

BY

WILLIAM JAGO, F.I.O., F.O.S.

Barrister-at-Law.

Price SIXPENCE.

Published at "THE ERA" Offices,

5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sep. 5, 12, 19, 26, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 14, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 10, 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sep. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sep. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 27, July 4, Sep. 12, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18 (6 nights), July 28 (3 nights), Aug. 15 (2 nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 6 (3), and Easter.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Aug. 4, 11, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5 and 26.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, on, and Easter.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Aug. 4, 15, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, B. PAREZER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 11 and Aug. 15.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest Theatres in the county. Holding capacity 3,500. Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies.
WANTED, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre will reopen Aug. Holding capacity 3,000.
WANTED, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week).
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL, Aug. 15, 22, and few later dates.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
Sept. 5.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Aug. 22, Sept. 15 (three nights).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (three nights), Sept. 12 (3).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 27 (wire), July 4 and 18, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions. First Vacant Date, Oct. 3. Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 27, July 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 15.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play Twice Nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22, and several good Autumn Dates.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée. First vacant date Aug. 4. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Cos. for July 18, Aug. 1, 8, and intermediate on. E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 19, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Sept. 12, Nov. 7, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Wanted, Big Musical Attraction for Opening Date, in July, also for Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.
BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."
All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 1. Please quote lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, June 27 (?), July 11 (?), 18 (?), 25, Aug. 1, 8.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, RICHARD THORNTON.
The most gorgeous and up-to-date Theatre out of London.
Bookings include George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Dollar Princess," Moody-Manners Opera Co., Seymour Hicks and Co., Great Pantomime Production, "Aladdin"; other important engagements pending.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical or West End Attractions, for one or two vacant dates.
London Stars playing North could arrange Flying Matinées. All communications to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. and Sept., at all Theatres.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 24, Nov. 7.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. E. POTTS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, July 4, 25, Aug. on. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions from July 4 for the Season.
Three Nights for preference.
The week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.
Address all communications,
WALTER MAXWELL, 52, Bedford Court-mansions, London, W.C. 'Phone 4,270 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, July 18 (3 or 6 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 25.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN, Aug. 1.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK, Aug. 1, 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for Aug. 1 and 22.
Address, CHARLES REVILL.
VENTOR AND CO., Variety Agents. 'Phone 7873 Central. Tel., "Executive." Address, 24, Devonshire-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for Scotland's Provincial Theatres, for Aug. and Autumn, 1910.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, High-class Popular Dramas, Musical Comedies, fortnightly Pantomimes, &c., all must play twice nightly. Applicants must have good stock of pictorial printing. Letters in first instance, with terms, share or certainty, to be addressed to
Mr. HERBERT TAYLOR, Booking Department, United County Theatres, Ltd., Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket, London, S.W.

WANTED, Good Companies for (3 nights) Sept. 1, 2, 3, 12, 19, 26, on, with exceptions.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, good Company, Musical Comedy, Dramatic or Variety, July 18, probable Flying Week. J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand T., Doncaster.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, A few weeks vacant in July and Aug.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

NOTICE.
In reply to many enquiries, I hereby beg to inform the Profession generally that it is my intention to run the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, and Palace Theatre, Porth, on Dramatic Lines during the coming season, consequently I shall not be able to take over any of Poole's, Ltd., Bookings.

WANTED, good Musical Comedies, Dramas, and Big Attractions to communicate with WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, July 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 8.
Address, Mrs. T. CULLEN.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, BLACKBURN.
The most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Aug. 15, 22, 29, and Sept. 5.
A few Spring Dates possibly vacant.
Address all communications re dates to HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for important structural alterations.
WANTED, Companies, September, on.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Companies, twice nightly.
July 4, Bury and Dewsbury.
OTTO C. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 26, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 10. May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 (?), 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, good Companies, July 28, 29, 30, Aug. 1 (owing to transfer), Sept. 8, 9, 10.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Wanted, good Dramas, twice nightly, Aug. 1 and 8, Light Attractions first three nights of week, Sept. 5 (?), and one or two Autumn Dates.

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Vacant Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10, and on.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 19, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 11, 18 (3), Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?), 11, 12, 13 (?), Sept. 1, 2, 3 (?), 8, 9, 10 (?), Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 21, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 16-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 22 (?), 29 (?), Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Christmas (three weeks for Pantomime). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Raffles," &c. Re dates direct to JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions new to Stratford, July 11. Apply,
A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12 (three nights), 19, Oct. 3, 10, 24, and 31, Nov. 14, 21, 28. Terms, &c., to Managing Director, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate (not Drama) Season Dates, July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, on. Apply, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Strong Répertoire Co., seven nights July 16 (Chorley Holidays), also July 25, Aug. 1, 15, 22 on; also Aug. 8, 15, on, Grand, Radcliffe. SANTE, Radcliffe.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, Nelson, First-class Attractions for July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15 to 29, Oct. 3, 17, 24, Nov. 14, 28. Address, HORNER, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

DOUGLAS, GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
WANTED, Known, through re-arrangement, the season date Sept. 12, vacant for First-class Company. Address,
JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Aug. 4 (three nights).
Address, The MANAGER.

WANTED, Good Company, Dramatic, Variety, or Musical Comedy, Aug. 8, 9, and 10 (three nights) to precede Compton Comedy Company.
J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

COLISEUM THEATRE, WHITLEY BAY.
Holding capacity, 3,000.
WANTED, good Musical Comedy, Comic Opera, and Drama, August Bank Holiday. Splendid stage. Every accommodation.
Full particulars to Management.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10, and 24, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
Reopens first week in August, with THE CASTELLANO OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, Attractions, for vacant Autumn dates, three nights weekly.
Address, MAX JEROME,
238, Castellain-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
WANTED, good Panto., Jan. 1, 8, or 16; also sound Attractions for March.
Apply, ALICE ROCHEFORTE, as above.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 21, 28.
WILLIAM COUTTS, Star Theatre, Swansea.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, for Re-opening of Season, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12 (Holiday date), Oct. 24, Nov., Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, Attractions, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 8, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10.
Good Pantomimes for Christmas.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, two or three nights, for Splendid Season's dates, July 25, 28, Aug. 22, 25, 29, Sept. 5 and 15. Hunstanton to precede or follow. BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

MANAGERS, PLEASE NOTE.
WANTED, all holding Contracts with the Great Raymond, or desirous of Booking the Great Raymond, to communicate direct with MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager, as per route.
June 20, Empire Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

COMPANIES WANTED.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Oct. 17, 31 (?), Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Companies booked at, or wishing to visit, this old-established and successful Theatre are reminded that they must not book elsewhere, or permit their plays to be performed in Hastings, St. Leonards, or Bexhill.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant July 18, Sept. 29 (3), Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 10 (?), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne.
Apply for all above,
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND, NEAR NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA.
Lessee and Manager, Arthur C. Moody.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Powerful Attraction for Opening Date, Aug. 2, and various onwards.

The above Theatre is now being thoroughly renovated, and when completed will be one of the most comfortable and up-to-date Theatres in the North. Managers may with confidence book Blyth and Ashington. Both Theatres are under the personal supervision of
Yours faithfully,
Arthur C. Moody.
All correspondence to Blyth pro tem.
Managers holding Contracts please communicate.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
See Page 15 of "The Era," dated May 7, 1910.
New Theatrical Watering-place.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for Aug. 8, Sept. 12, and Oct. 24 (?), and 1911.
All communications,
Arthur C. Moody, Blyth-by-Sea.

CATLIN'S NEW ARCADIA, SCARBOROUGH.
The most magnificent Theatre and Concert Pavilion in England. Seating for over 2,000, and with standing will accommodate 3,000; magnificent Scenery, electric light, competent staff. This Theatre is situated right on the sea front, and is built so that in a few minutes can be entirely Al Fresco. Full Dramatic Licence.
WANTED, Known, a few vacant dates for Flying Matinées, also Orchestras, Concert Parties for Sundays in July and August; no vacancies for evenings. Apply Mr. Dudley Harcourt, Manager for Mr. W. Catlin, "Arcadia," Scarborough.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
Rosen and Bliss, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties (à la "The Follies"). July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8. Seasons of one two, three weeks, or more, can be arranged. Apply, Calvert Routledge.

THEATRES WANTED.

TOM H. TAYLOR'S COMPANIES.
"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"
WANTED, Important Theatres, Aug. 1, Nov. 14, 21, and Xmas.
Grand Autumn Production,
"THE CRIMINAL'S BRIDE,"
Written by Edward Marris.
Wanted, Important Theatres, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10.
Tom H. Taylor, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Douglas Bruce,
14, Bloomsbury-street, London, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, July 11.
Douglas Bruce,
14, Bloomsbury-street, London, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD," "BABES IN THE WOOD." Thanks Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Eight Dates. Clean, smart, funny, and bright. Once or twice nightly. Theatres or Music Halls. Productions settled.
WANTED, for few Remaining Vacancies (Lancs. or Yorks.) Address, J. L. Barry, 49, Sidney-street, North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, on, Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Bury.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, July 28 (three nights), South, Aug. 4 (three nights), South), Sept. 5 (?), 12.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner, Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17 Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26. Bishopsdale Biddenden, Kent.

"SILVER KING" CO.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21, also Spring, 1911.
Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17 (?)
(North or Midland),
also Xmas week at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, June 27,
"Caste," G. W. Anson as Eccles.
Cora Anson, 28, Werter-road, Putney.
June 20, New Theatre, Cardiff.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, for London Star, in Répertoire.
Haldane Crichton, New Theatre, Oxford.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
The most sensational Play of Modern Times. Refer any Manager visited re Scenery, Company, Printing, and Business done.
WANTED, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 17, and 24, Nov. 14. Fast filling Autumn and Spring.
Oswald Cray, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Sept. 26, Nov. 21, Dec. 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
July 25, Aug. 8, Nov. 14, 28.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
Oct. 3, 10, Dec. 12, Jan. 9.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
June 27, July 4, Aug. 1.
Many thanks to Wm. Morton, Esq., for Contracts.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Wanted, Sept. 12, Sept. 12.
This play now acknowledged to be one of the finest on the road. Many thanks to Wm. Morton, Esq., J. F. Elliston, Esq., E. Tilney, Esq., for return Contracts; guaranteed one of the strongest Casts on the road, including Miss Laura Walker, Miss Flora Leslie, Mr. Stephen Langton, &c.; also vacant Oct. 10.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Wanted, July 25, July 25.
Entirely new Scenery, new Uniforms; special cast, including Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Chas. Whitlock, Edie Macklin, &c. This play guaranteed to be one of the most superb productions on the road. Thanks J. F. Elliston, Esq., for Contracts; P. Broadhead, Esq., J. Coulson, Esq. Managers needing well-mounted and good shows wire or write
F. G. Kimberley, T. R., Bolton;
next, T. R., St. Helens.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, June 27 and July 4, Various Summer Dates.
Magnificent opening at Clapham.
Tuesday, 15s. less.
Wednesday, £13 above Monday.
Wire, Loie Esmond, Shakespeare T., Clapham.
June 20, T. R., Colchester.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Nov. 14 (?), Dec. 12, Xmas,
and various Spring, 1911.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write, Arthur Hinton,
To-day, T. R., Aston; Monday, Smethwick.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, Xmas, Jan. 2.
Haldane Crichton, New Theatre, Oxford.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 29, for this great popular play, refer J. F. Elliston, Esq., re this week, also Wm. Morton, Esq. Acknowledged to be one of the finest productions on the road.
Wire, F. G. Kimberley, this, T. R., Bolton; next, T. R., St. Helens.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, Sept. 12 (3 nights), Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Oct. 24 (3 nights).
Wire or write, T. R., West Bromwich.

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES DRAYCOTT'S CO.
"THE HEART BOWED DOWN."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, March 13 and 20, May 8, 22, and 29, Autumn, 1911.
"HER PATH OF SORROW,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, Feb. 13, various onwards.
Repertoire Co.
Vacant Jan. 2, 23, and 30.
Charles Draycott, next 4 weeks, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

The New Musical Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, June 27, Aug. B. H., 8, 15, Sept. 12.
Henry L. Osmond, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOUR.
with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres, Aug. 22, follow Barnsley; Sept. 12, follow Paisley; Oct. 10 (North), Oct. 31, and Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate), Dec. 5 (precede St. Helens), Jan. 30, and Feb. 6 (South Wales), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea).
All coms., Martin Comstock,
Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

"MAN AND WIFE,"
by Walter Howard.
WANTED, for above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, 8 (?), 15, precede Edmonton, Aug. 29, between Edmonton and Colchester, Sept. 19, follow Metropole, Birmingham, All October, North, and Nov. 7, 14, precede Alexandra, Belfast. Company includes Miss Ethel Griffies. Excellent printing. Good scenery and effects. Griffies and Skelton, 45, Boathouse, The Point, Exmouth.

E. HILL MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"WHO IS SHE?" Oct. 24.
"KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN,"
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7.
Address, c/o "The Era."

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan 2 and 30.
Address, Frank M. Thorne, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

CLIFFORD HAMILTON and CHARLES LOCKE'S CO.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, July 25 (?) follow Alex., Hull; Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10, 31, South.
Address, Charles Locke, T. R., Scarborough.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11.
Enormous success at Newcastle.
Dickie Clare, Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Mr. Leonard Boyne has July 11, 18, 25
Vacant (South or East Coast).
Mr. Boyne will himself appear as
"RAFFLES."
Supported by his London Company.
Apply, Mr. A. Bingham, 9, St. Martin's-court, London, W.C. Telephone, 7,298 Gerrard.

MURRAY KING AND CO., in "OUR FLAT."
WANTED, July 4 (week), July 21 (3 nights).
King, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR, "A FAST LIFE."
The great Drama that is doing big business every week.
WANTED, good Theatres, July 11, Aug. 29, Oct. 31, and Dec. 26, once or twice nightly.
Walter Steele, T. R., Sheffield.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 15, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT,"
Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed.
30 Performers 30.
Wanted, Good Theatres,
Aug. 1, onwards.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29.
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.
Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
June 20, Palace T., Porth.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, London, W.C.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Magnificent Production, "ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Carefully-selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14, only Dates Vacant.
Wanted, for the Funniest Farcical Comedy of the day,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."
By Michael Morton.
From the Criterion Theatre.
Only Date this year, three nights, July 28 (precede T. R., Newcastle). Address,
Chas. Gibbon, Managers' Club, till Wednesday. After, Kursaal, Bexhill.

WANTED, Aug. 15 and 29, on with Exceptions.
John Leopold's and the Original Leopold's Co.
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY."
Preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
The clever, excruciatingly funny, and yet refined show. No risk as to whether they will "go." They will "go." They are tried, true, and firm successes.
PLAYED ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
All communications to
General Manager,
198, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, good Theatre, Nov. 14 and Xmas, for the money-maker, "His Real Wife."
Address, T. E. Ward, T. R., Stratford, E.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES,
in the Musical Farce,
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Aug. 8, 15 (South or Midlands), Nov. 14 (precede Portsmouth), Nov. 28 (precede Burnley), and various Spring.
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."
WANTED, July 11, 18, London only, also Aug. 1, between Birmingham and London.
Horace Stanley, Smethwick.
Next, Royal, Wolverhampton.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Midlands.
Edward Lloyd, Queen Square Hotel, Bath.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, July 4, 18, 25, for
a big Variety Combination.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MANAGERS, PLEASE NOTE.
WANTED, all holding Contracts with the Great Raymond, or desirous of Booking the Great Raymond, to communicate direct with
Maurice F. Raymond,
Sole Proprietor and Manager, as per route.
June 20, Empire Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

ARTISTS WANTED.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Man, Heavy Lady, Child Actress, and Carpenter. Terms, photos., references, and two weeks' address.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, c/o P. O., Ramsey, Isle of Man.

MISS PAMELA MORRIS CO.
WANTED, Full Company (except Ladies) and Lead, rehearse Manchester. Letters, photo., references, Moore, 24, Milwain-road, Levenshulme, Manchester.

WANTED, for Special Week, June 27, Rehearse June 22, Artists, to complete cast for "My Sweetheart," including good Tony and Tina (must sing and dance well and have played parts). Terms, photos, &c., C. M. Julian, R. T., Morecambe.

WANTED, Lady for Grande Dame, Juvenile and Character Actor, Juvenile Lady, High-class Comedy. Terms, age, full particulars, Box 7,866, "The Era."

WANTED, for one week, commencing Monday, June 27, probably longer, Artists in all Lines available for Burlesque, must sing and dance and be capable of single and double turns. Rehearse Friday previous. Those in the neighbourhood preferred. Address, with absolute lowest terms, photos, &c., G. Vando, The Pavilion, Lofthouse Park, near Wakefield, Yorks.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for long Irish Tour, commencing Aug. 15. References, photo., and lowest terms. Dr. Ormonde, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh, Ireland.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour of "Temptation," Eccentric Comedy Old Man, to double, also smart Young Lady, for Responsibles, act as Maid, and understudy. Photos., Miss Nora Carlton, 1, Timothy-terrace, Spennymoor.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady for Tyneside Character Old Woman (dialect essential), for one week commencing June 27. Rehearse Tuesday, June 21. Terms, references. Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, for "A Soldier's Honour," smart Chambermaid Character Comedy, for Edie Macklin's part, for special few weeks. Send photos, terms, refs., &c., to F. G. Kimberley, 33, Tollemache-street, New Brighton; rehearse next week.

WANTED, Leading Gent., own Script, to Star for three weeks; liberal terms; also Responsible Gent. Burnette, Camborne, Cornwall.

WANTED, for Sketch, Seven Weeks, commencing July 11, Tour to follow, Rehearse July 5, Dewsbury, Handsome Lady, must be tall, Russian Countess (not lead), elegant winter walking dress; also Tall, Robust, Heavy Gent, short Military part. Actual height, lowest terms, age, photos, latest references. Monday, Grahame and Harrington, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

WANTED, Smart Amateur Lady, for Sketch, Small Part for Gent. Photo, &c. Appointment only. Grace Rubina, 71, Lavender-sweep, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, for High-class Sketch, Smart Ladies and Gentlemen to walk on; West End Hall, June 27.
Letters, Blake, 137, St. George's-road, Southwark.

WANTED, Lady, refined, to join famous Quintette, and travel the Provinces and then Abroad, to fulfil over two years' bookings. One who is fond of music. Would be thoroughly taught mandoline, banjo, and harp, and receive good wages after few weeks. References exchanged. £50 premium, on acceptance.
Letter only, Box 7,860, "The Era."

WANTED, good voices, immediately, to train for Musical Comedy; Engagements guaranteed. Private Tuition by First-class Professor.
Fullest particulars, Box 7,876, "The Era."

"THE FATAL WEDDING" TOUR.
WANTED, for above, a few clever Children, about 14 years of age, able to sing and dance. Send full particulars, &c., to Percy Williams, 8, Clarence-place, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, Four Boys, with good voices; must Sing and Harmonise.
Pope, 27, Baker-street, Lloyd-square, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
opportunity for Young Actor
for Summer Engagement
AS OUTDOOR LECTURER
at the
JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION.
Apply to Staff-Manager, by letter.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"ALADDIN,"
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, references, and where can be seen working next six weeks, to A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Mark envelopes "Panto."

FRANCIS LAIDLER'S PANTOMIMES.
"FORTY THIEVES." Theatre Royal, Leeds.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Prince's T., Bradford.
WANTED, Principals for all parts, with few exceptions. State last Pantomime engagements, and where can be seen for the next four weeks, also lowest terms, Francis Laidler, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Pantomimes, not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, terms, references, Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, commence immediately, really good Scenic Artist (own brushes), quick and effective, but capable of first-class work when required. Special month at stores here. Probable permanency to suitable man. Age, terms, references, and addresses of same. Henry Chattell, Kenton Hall, Henley-on-Thames.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, R. W. Miller, Scenic Artist (late Gaiety, Dundee), at Liberty Pantomime. Scenery a Speciality. Permanent address, 3, Churchill-place, Broughty Ferry, near Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Contracts or Engagements by Sidney Beltram, Touring Scenery repainted; now completing special six weeks Grand Theatre, Brighton; refer.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Smart Man as Resident Acting-Manager, for Variety Theatre (Midlands); must have had experience, be gentlemanly in appearance and manners, a man of strong character, tactful and resourceful; only those able to refer to a good past record need apply by letter, which will be treated in confidence, stating age, full details of experience, salary required, references, &c. Address,
Manager, Box 7,850, "The Era."

WANTED, Resident Manager, for Provincial Theatre in Scotland. Apply, with copy testimonials, and stating experience and salary expected, and when free to commence duties, to
Box 7,838,
"The Era."

WANTED, Resident Acting-Manager, for No. 2 Theatre. Lowest terms and references,
Box 7,864, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Acting-Manager, for Music Hall, must be experienced and used to twice nightly. Apply by letter only, giving qualifications. Will Sley, 180, Oxford-rd., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Gentleman to learn the duties of Business Management in well-known Drama. Good Salary and Prospects.
Letter only, Box 7,861, "The Era."

WANTED Circus Agent, in Advance, for Biddall's Circus, touring Scotland, at once; steady and reliable. Lowest terms, wire or write to James Biddall, Circus, Dornoch Sat., Golspie Mon., Brora Tues.

WANTED, Manager, for First-class Cinematograph Show; thoroughly experienced, and able to operate when required. Lowest salary, &c., to Pictures, Box 7,870, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Operator-Electrician, must be smart, reliable man, and used to the business. Apply personally, Manager, Chelsea Rink, Church-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours, two First-class Carpenters and two Property Men.
Apply, with references and lowest terms, to
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Wanted, Billposter, fully qualified,
with knowledge of horses.
Permanency.
Billposting Company, Mexborough.

WANTED, a Smart Youth, about 18, for Seaside Town, to sell Music, &c., Alfresco Show and Hall. Apply by letter.
Dare, Claremont, Elm-grove, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, through hall changing hands, as Manager or Acting-Manager Pictures, Dramatic or Variety, One or Two Houses Nightly. A Hustler, and not afraid of work. Just concluded 11 months Manager, Grand Hall, Bromley. Wire or write, Cory, 22, College-road, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Will Cartwright, Stage-Manager, Elephant and Castle Theatre, Scenery, Baggage, &c., Cartage and Storage, trains met any hour, day or night.

WANTED, Engagement, by Arthur Purdy, as Advertising Inspector, ten years with the late T. Barrasford, Esq.; good refs. 5, Collingwood-road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Foreman Billposter, Position take charge Branch, London and Provincial experience; excellent refs. Box 7,852, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation by Billposter, 30, married, Theatre, Music Hall, or Billposting Company. Abstainer. Good references. Start at once. Mitchell, Billposter, Dawnton, Wilts.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Conductor for Small Orchestra, must have good répertoire of music, be a thorough musician, and be able to harmonise and write scores for band.
State age, salary, and give references.
Box 7,858, "The Era."

WANTED, for Palace Theatre of Varieties, Reading, First-class Musical Conductor. Apply, letters only, G. Howard Watson, c/o Stanhope and Co., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Musical-Director, for Summer Season, must be First-class Violinist, well recommended and able to introduce competent musicians for Variety and Ball Room Orchestra. Address full particulars to Chas. Evans, Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

WANTED, Resident Musical Director, Violinist, to start about middle of August for Theatre in the North. Terms and particulars to Brooks' Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

TIVOLI THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, First-class Leader, to open July 18, must be well up in Variety business, sobriety indispensable. Apply, stating age, references, and terms (permanency), to Shepherd, Musical-Director.

WANTED, experienced Leader, Soloist, Stockham's Ladies' Orchestra, permanency if suitable; commencing July 1. English Orchestra, 32, Rembrandtplein, Amsterdam. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, through disappointment, Seaside, June 27, 11 weeks, First Violin, Variety; others write. Age, refs., lowest terms, Harveys, Band Office, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Rink Band, a Cornet Player, commencing Monday, June 20.
State lowest salary,
and apply to the Manager,
Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, at once, for E. H. Bostock's Railroad Circus, good Cornet, capable of taking first when required; salary 32s. 6d. Apply, Sam Powell, Leader, Bostock's Circus, Dundee, until 21st, inclusive.

EMPIRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, also good Drummer, with own Tympani and Effects. Latest reference and lowest terms to Musical-Director.

WANTED, a First-class Experienced Solo Cornet, for the Empire Palace, Edinburgh. Send references. Apply, M., Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Clarionet, all lines, disengaged June 25 through Summer closing. Clarionet, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, First-class Bassoon, under 35 years of age, for good Amateur Staff Orchestra, London; clerkship offered to suitable candidate, residents in or near London preferred; only good men need apply.
Box 7,868, "The Era."

WANTED, Euphonium and Trombone Players, commence July, 12 weeks, Seaside, Somerset. Apply, terms, &c., Band Agency, London-road, Gloucester.

WANTED, through disappointment, a reliable Bombardon Player, steady and respectable. Harry Woodage, 6, Parnell-rd., Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello, Soloist, Viola, Oboe, Cornet, Seaside, Concert Season.
Conductor, 13, Riding-street, Southport.

WANTED, for High-class Hotel Pavilion, good Gentleman Vocalist, able to play 'Cello preferred. Stewart, Phipps Port, Soderick, I.O.M.

WANTED, Harpist, to join Flautist, for Pitching and Engagements; permanency. Address, Butler, 10, Cordwallis-st., Maidenhead, Berks.

WANTED, good Harpist or Portable Player, Sight-readers, and Sing Ballads; join Violinist, Summer, Seaside. Shares; good prospects. Violinist, 63, St. Werburgh's-park, Bristol.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, must be thoroughly accustomed to Pictures, Vocalist preferred. Age, photo., references, lowest terms, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, July 18, for Season, First-class Pianist, for Continuous Picture Show. Must work effects. State lowest salary with references.
Baring Bros., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Pianist, must be used to Pictures and Variety, permanency if suitable. Lowest terms and references. Manager, T., Gosport.

Herne Bay.
WANTED, First-class Pianist, young, must be able to manage Single Line and Memorise. Apply, Arthur Vernon, Springhill, Gordon-road, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Soprano Pianist,
for refined Concert Party.
Large répertoire.
Box 7,872, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Lady Musicians, for Ladies' Orchestra (those able to do turn preferred), for long Irish Tour, commencing Aug. 15. References, terms, photo., to Dr. Ormonde, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh, Ireland.

WANTED, small Ladies' Orchestra, three or four instruments, including Piano, for July 11, onwards. Terms and full particulars to Secretary, Queen's Arcade, Rhyl.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

CATLIN'S ARCADIA, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, to complete Ladies' Orchestra, First and Second Violin, Flute and Piccolo, Cornet, Trombone, all to open July 17, rehearse two days. State very lowest terms for eight weeks certain to Mr. DUDLEY HARCOURT, Manager Catlin's Arcadia, Scarborough.

WANTED, Musicians, all Insts., for Seaside Engagement. Leader and Solo Violinist. Gentlemen only. Oboe, Bassoon. BANDMASTER, 61, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale.

WANTED, all Instruments for Royal London Military Band and London Bohemian Orchestras, experienced in Theatre, Opera, Exhibitions. Age, refs., terms, WILHELM RUSSELL, Bohemia, 3, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, Military Band Instrumentalists for Season, starting July 16, at Withernsea, near Hull. Apply, stating lowest terms, refs., to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 17, Waiters-street, Withernsea, Yorkshire.

WANTED, for Palm Court of First-class Hotel, 'Cello and Violin Players (ladies, to live in preferred). Apply by letter, stating salary required, to K., Hotel Burlington, Worthing.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, HORTON, EPSOM.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Euphonium player preferred, previous Asylum experience not necessary, wages £31 per annum for first six months, then, if satisfactory, rising to £33, and subsequently by £1 annually to £43 per annum, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; also special payments for Band duty. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Daily leave, subject to the convenience of the service, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days; annual leave, first fifteen months (after nine months' service) six days; the following twelve months, twelve days; each successive twelve months fourteen days. Candidates must not be more than 35 years of age. First-class Attendants are appointed by promotion from the Second Class. Apply to THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, Leader, or First Violin, any business, Variety preferred, at Liberty; late Conductor for Mr. E. H. Bostock. MILLAR, Conductor, Hippodrome, Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, H. F. Petersen, Piano Conductor, late Walthamstow Palace 6½ years, open for Engagements. Thanks for offers. 75, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class well-known Musical-Director, in Music Hall or Theatre, London or Suburbs preferred. Box 7,854, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist (Lady), good sight reader, First Violin or Leader. Particulars, 13, Bromet-place, Bradford.

WANTED, through Hippodrome closing, position as Leader or First Violin; excellent reference. J. MARSH, 7, Garthland-lane, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Wake, Solo Violinist and Conductor Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, Liberty shortly; good offers.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, Variety. Apply, VIOLINIST, 31, Mayfair-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, short Engagement by experienced Violinist, any business; abstainer; good refs. Apply, POSTILL, 3, Stanhope-road, Doncaster.

WANTED, an Engagement, by thoroughly experienced and reliable Violinist, Leader, First, or Viola. JAS. HEAP, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by First Violinist, Re-engagement. Ten years experience, all lines. Can open Monday. Abstainer. Good refs. PHIPPS, c/o Clements, 176, Great George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, First or Second, Variety, Skating Rink, or Seaside Orchestra. Good references. S. Phasey, 35 Belmore-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin, can open at once, any distance, good references. THOMAS PASS, 5, Baker-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola, any business. Would deputise. Wire or write, KIRKMAN, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Leader, Cornet, Tenting, or otherwise. Reliable, good répertoire. H. JAMES, 15, Lower Drayton-place, West Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business; can join immediately. CUTHBERT, 186, High-street, Perth, N.B.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Cornet, First or Second, any business. G. TURNER, 50, Cotton-street, Poplar, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by Good, Reliable Cornet (second), any business, London or country. CORNET, 41, Byrne-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Cornet, Reliable, any business. Could start at once. Excellent refs. Good appearance. LEEDHAM, 73, Clarence-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, any business, steady and reliable; excellent refs. Write or wire, CORNET, 65, Clough-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionettist, any business, good refs., abstainer; young and reliable. GEORGE WHITE, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, experienced, sober, and reliable, any business. A. STRETTON, 9, King's-ter., George IV.-rd., Hounslow.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Clarionet, Orchestral, String, Viennese Conservatoirist, good refs. FRED NOWAK, 3, King William-street, Strand.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, by First-class Clarionettist or Violin, experienced all Lines; would deputise. H. SCHAFER, 85, Highgrove-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, through closing, by good Clarionet, sober and reliable, any business; good refs. J. MAYO, 48, Claret-street, Accrington, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, Military or String. Combine Second Violin. C. STEAD, 1, Beaufort-bldgs, Pittville, Cheltenham.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Clarionet Player. X., 82, Robert-street, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Double Bass, is at Liberty to accept offers, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady (young), thoroughly experienced, Contra Bass. Only good-class work wanted. M. J., 145 Albany-road, Roath, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement by Contra Bass, any business. Can open at once. Address, MORETON, 84, Barton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, experienced high-class player, temperate, reliable. Highest references, deputy, or permanent. R. B., 19, The Green, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone, experienced in any business; can open at once. J. THOMAS, 21, Queen-street, Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Professional Trombonist, any business. Wire or write, J. GREENDALE, 92, Chapel Field-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone at Liberty, any business, London experience. Abstainer, strictly reliable. BANWELL, 76 Miskin-road, Trealaw, South Wales.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly competent Trombonist, Summer Season, last engagement 9 years. Address, CORFIELD, 123, Bradford-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Euphonium, any Business, abstainer; strictly attentive to business, and reliable; excellent refs. C. W., 14a, Wycliffe-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Euphonium (Soloist), late Army B.-Sgt., experienced Military Journals, Seaside or permanency. B. L., 36, Auckland-road, Victoria Park.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist. Highest reputation and testimonials. Orchestra or Military. F. GIRONE, 92, Calder-street, Crosshill, Glasgow.

WANTED, by ex-Army Bandsman, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon, could take Second Violin; efficient and reliable. BRUCE, Maltravers-street, Arundel, Sussex.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Bombardon, highest references, age 35. Address, L. S., 41, Seagrave-road, West Brompton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business. W. PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, through disappointment, young, good refs.; reliable player. Box 7,874, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, French Horn, also First-class Saxhorn, both experienced. Add., c/o 12, Wilpshire-avenue, Crowcroft Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, any business, could open at once; would deputise. 'CELLO, 125, Northwold-road, Upper Clapton, N.E.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement or Deputising, any business, or Solo, good ref. Address, R. SORTIN, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, disengaged through reduction of orchestra, experienced in all lines. Good references. Address, 'CELLIST, 25, Annandale-road, Greenwich.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cello, Engagement, First-class references. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, by good Norwegian Violinist, 8 years in an Orchestra in Munich, Engagement in England, to start in the Autumn or earlier; is also a Trombonist. Please address, M. M., 3375, c/o Rudolf Mosse, Munich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, good, sober, reliable, experienced, any business; good refs.; would deputise. ROMERIL, 33, Mimosa-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, disengaged, any business, steady, reliable; touring off. AMES, care Parry, 69, Webb-rd., Clapham Common.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, Military Band, Variety, or any business. Good refs. ALEXANDER, 251, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Flautist, any business. FLAUTIST, 93, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham Common, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Lady, Engagement, brilliant Piano Solos, Piano and Sleigh Bells, Solos, Spielephone, Organ Chimes, Tricks, and Songs at Piano. HOPE, 1, Norfolk-road, Streatham.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, excellent accompanist, desires engagement with Professional Singer, abroad preferred. C., 3, Sydney-villas, Fifth Cross-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Pictures, Variety, Expert Accompanist. PIANIST, 28, Glenfield-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by smart Young Lady Pianist, Accompanist to Professional, Orchestra, or any other capacity. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon

WANTED, Engagements as Vocal Accompanist and Coach. Exper. Opera, Sight-reader. Rec. by famous F.R.A.M., excellent pianist. Box 7,869, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, Solo, Orchestral and Accompanist, seaside preferred. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums, Tympanist, &c. Owing to closing. Experienced in all Lines. Address, G. FREEMAN, 47, St. Mary's-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, as Double Drums and Effects, good references and total abstainer. R. E. MURPHY, 2, Dunkirk-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Summer Season, by First-class Drums and Effects; finest refs.; age 29. Address, DRUMS, 31, Beaconsfield-rd., L. Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement by Competent Double Drummer, experienced in all lines. Good references; would deputise. F. MCCROHAN, 34, Waylen-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Double Drummer and Effects, experienced Dramatic, Variety, any business; best of references. DRUMS, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drums, Effects, through disappointment. At Liberty now, any business. Excellent refs. PEARSON, 24, Albion-street, Darlington, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, good Double Drummer and Effects, any business; good all-round experience; good refs. H. HATHRILL, 54, John-street, Luton.

WANTED, an Engagement as Double Drums and Effects, any business; experienced, reliable; at Liberty now. 27, Towson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by steady reliable Drummer and Effects, young, disengaged through closing. RICHARDSON, 101, Fildes-street, Great Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel, or Xylophone Soloist. The best references. Box 7,785, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements for Madame Angless's Celebrated Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Summer. Great Success New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth (nine consecutive seasons). Smart Costumes, up-to-date Répertoire. 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette or Small Orchestra, Seaside Engagement. Leader, Medallist R.A.M., R.C.M., Extensive Répertoire. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra. Terms and vacant dates apply, Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Good Agents for the English tour of the Italian Royal Piedmont Hussars, Military Band and Orchestra. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, R. P. H. Banda-Orchestra, Valenza (Torino), Italy.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Talented Zingari Band (brass), splendid uniform and répertoire. Professor MITCHELL, Oates-square, St. Mark's-street, Leeds.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Seaside, any business, Collini's splendid Military, Orchestral Band, concluding Stamford Hill Rink, re-opening Sept., Highgate, Stratford, &c. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Good Brass or Military Band, any number, any business, reasonable. Just finishing twelve months, Skating Rink. BANDMASTER, 73, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, Orchestra, seven Musicians, including piano, smart uniform, Aug. week; moderate terms. BLUE WYVERN ORCHESTRA, 115, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement in London by Smart Quartette (Piano, lady, two First Violins, 'Cello, or Double Bass). Good Répertoire. H., 94, Camden-street (2nd and 3rd floors), Camden Town, N.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Agouste and Clown, to assist Lady with Troupe of Dogs, Al Fresco, one used to Comic Entrées, Acrobatic, and Stills preferred. Terms low. HENGLEUR, Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, Liberty July and Aug., for Galas, also myself and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, with seven Acts, for Circus, own Ring, Horse, Riding Dog, and Flight of Pigeons. Address, 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, by The Knotellas (Harry and Rose), Flexible Acrobats and Dancers. June 20, on, Fêtes. 4, Peterborough-mansions, Fulham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now, and onwards.

Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE, DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 13, and onward. Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, and Good Specialities, suitable for High-class Electric Theatre, to open June 27, and onwards. State lowest terms and dates. F. BARNES ALLEN, Ibrox Roller Rink, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July, August, or September. Terms and particulars, &c. MANAGER, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July, on. Very lowest terms. Full particulars first instance. HENRY CARLTON, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Monday, July 4, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KETCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, immediate and future dates. Send Bookings and terms, NIGHTINGALE'S Agency, T. R., West Bromwich.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, July 5. Lowest terms. J. GLADWIN, Manager for Mr. Sounes.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, June 27, on. Hall and stage small. Summer terms to ARTHUR IZON, Pal., Morley.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,

MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with very lowest
MONDAY NEXT. terms.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to send full list of Bookings. Suitable turns can have tour arranged in Scotland, also North of England. Wire "Contracts, Greenock"; 'Phone 800. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all lines, June 20, onwards, Jugglers, good Sisters, Doubles doing Singles. Letters, R. FORDHAM, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, June 27, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, Specialities, &c., June 27, July 18, 25, and Aug. 1. Particulars, terms, and state when last in Warrington. H. BURTON, Court T., Warrington.

WANTED, Artists, Fêtes, Stroud, Evesham, Swindon, Aug. 1. Wire-walker and Comedy Triple Bars with second Act write. TOM HAY, Gloucester.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Specialities of every description. Nothing too Big. Terms, bookings, lithos., &c., Address, FRANK COYLE, 160, Woodhouse-st., Leeds. 'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for several Halls in the North, for immediate and future dates. Apply to Signor PEPI, Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, June 27, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, for Chappell's Concerts, Artists, all Lines, now, on. HARRY BARKER, Manager, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, American Amusement Park, Brussels, Specialities, Novelties, Vents., Quartettes, &c. Carl Wynn write. Photo., envelope, Camera Obscura Lens. ARTISTE, 73, Rue Broquiez près Midi, Brussels.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 1 and 8, for Fêtes and Galas; those doing double acts preferred. Sample lithos. and lowest terms to WILDERS, Agents, Great Francis-st., Birmingham. Wanted, the Pichel Troupe, to communicate immediately.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, June 27, on, Stars and Specialities, all Lines, nothing too big. Also Variety Artists, all Lines. Apply, lowest summer terms, to Managing-Director, D. TAYLOR, Hippo, Ton-y-pandy. N.B.—Please state when and where last appeared in Pandy.

SYNDICATE HALLS.
STILL WANTED.
WANTED, Original Turns who have not appeared at above. Send bookings, lowest terms, particulars, &c. (no callers), WARREN AGENCY, 21, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, All sorts of Turns, Tops, and Bottoms, Small Turns, &c., &c. Acts wanted for three weeks in Ireland.

Send full list of Bookings, absolute lowest terms, HARRY THURSTON, G.P.O., Blackpool. I can give good Acts fourteen weeks. Must have full list of Bookings.

WANTED, Big and Small Turns, new to Tynemouth, Shields, Whitley Bay, Sunderland. Terms, bookings, and vacancies. MOORE, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, for immediate and future dates; the bigger the Act the better. Send lowest terms, photos. (if any), permanent address, along with full list of bookings. The following towns are merely a few we are well in with: Blackpool, New Brighton, Manchester, Darwen, Rochdale, Wigan, Hull, Scarboro', Southport, Hyde, Pontefract, Leeds, Liverpool, Buxton, Glasgow, Gateshead, Sunderland, Newcastle, Dundee, &c.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential. HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, Big Specialities, Novel Musical Acts, Big Animal Acts, Panto. Sketches, with own Trick Scenery, and anything with strong magnetic drawing powers, for July 4, 11, onwards. Address, lowest terms, samples of printing, MANAGER, Palace Sunderland.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately, First-class Big Star Acts and Comedy Specialities, Comedy Musical Acts, &c.,

for Blackpool, Southport, and Morecambe, for July, Aug., and Sept.

WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Big Acts for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained, Striking Novelty Acts. If unknown to me state where can be seen during June and July. Silence a polite negative pro tem.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bill, London and Provinces, also, Pantomime Principals for best Panto. Houses, 1910-11. Previous engagements and lowest terms first letter.

WANTED, by T. Elder Hearn, Paying Theatres on Shares, from July 4, and on. Also immediately, Comedy Acts, mostly in one, Must be Top of the Bill Acts.

Write direct, June 20, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, good refined Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c. Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

CHARLES DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.
WANTED, the Biggest Acts in the Market, for June 27, July 4 and 11. Full list of Bookings and lowest terms in first instance.

WANTED, June 27, on, for Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Rochdale, &c., Variety Acts. Aug. 1, Gala Acts, &c. GANNON, 3, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Big Novelty Acts, June 27, July 4, 11, and Aug. 1, and later. WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Variety Combinations, for immediate and future dates; only strong Attractions entertained. Full particulars and lowest terms, WARHURST, Amphitheatre, Rhyl.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, Shaw-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Strong Attractions of all descriptions, July 4 and on, also sharing Tops, Novelty Acts of all description, July 4, on. Recognised turns only treated with. Telephone 2349 Royal.

WANTED, Drawing Novelties for Outdoor Fêtes, Aug. 2 and 25, and Sept. 1.

Write full particulars to C., c/o ASHTON & MITCHELL, 33, Old Bond-street, London, W.

WANTED, Cheap Specialities, Alfresco, July and August. Small Stage. Current lowest terms. DAVIS, Pier, Saltburn.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HYDE.
WANTED, Big Star Tops, on share or salary. Variety Artists, all Lines, new for Hyde, for June 27, all July. Wanted, Big Acts, for North, all Dates. Artists Vacant June 27 wire quick. Address, CLIQUOT'S Agency, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

TOPS OF BILLS.
WANTED, Big Acts, Shares or Certainty, Empire, Dudley. Immediate and Future Dates. Particulars, BOWMAKER, Pal., Northampton.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, write at once, I can Book them a town in Scotland. HARRY TAFT, Music Hall, Belfast.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners, Artists all Lines, Principal Boys, Comedians, Fairy Queens Acrobats, for Six Pantomimes. State where to be seen. Two-act People, Galas, Aug. 1, 8, good small Specialities (Vocalists, Musical, &c.), 27th, on. Several immediate Dates for Big Combinations. Bookings, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton. Permanent.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on the main line).
WANTED, Big Tops, June 27, also Aug. 1, onwards. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops, Big Comedy Acts, Specialities, Comedy Sketches, Chinese Jugglers, Comediennes, for June 27 and onwards. Send full list of bookings and absolute lowest terms. BROWN'S Variety Agency, 58, Chicksand-street, N.E. Telephone No. 1098 City. Seen by appointment only.

WANTED, Star Comedians, Star Serios, Big Specialities, and Drawing Cards in all Lines, for TON-Y-PANDY HIPPODROME, June 27, onwards. State when last there. Wanted, Star Attractions in all lines, also smaller numbers, for Watford Theatre, Aug. 1, onwards. Full particulars. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

SYLVESTER'S GALAS, AUG. BANK HOLIDAY.
WANTED, anything suitable for Open-air Performances. Specimen lithos., lowest rock-bottom terms per day (not week), or useless. Letters only. No callers. 271, Clapham-road, London. Old clients write.

WANTED, by well-known Lady Illusionist, for the Continent, a young, intelligent, and pretty Girl Assistant, good appearance; also two Young Men, for Stage and Baggage. References indispensable. IONIA, De Vere, Yellowstone Park, Rosny à Bois, Seine, France. (Postage 2½d.)

WANTED, immediately, Lady Assistant to Illusionist. Full particulars first instance, or useless. Address, Box 7,859, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Gymnast, also Apprentice, height 5ft. 5in. First-class situation. Apply, 95, Vassall-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, refined humorous Entertainer, Patter, Monologues, &c. Age, height, married or single, experience, répertoire, and terms. GEO. KINGSTON, 345, Waterloo-road, Blackpool. Montague Leslie write.

WANTED, young, refined Scotch Comedian, used to Concerteds. Send photo., répertoire, lowest terms, MELVILLE, Rathbone-gardens, Portobello. Good Palmist wanted.

WANTED, Smart Comedian and Dancer, with high voice, for well-known Sketch. Letters, photo, age, &c., HORACE WYATT, Hip., Nottingham.

WANTED, Good Comedy Bar and Trampoline Performer; must be really Funny. Write, stating lowest salary, age, height, weight, and tricks; act booked. Letters only. FRANCIS, 66, Kennington-road, London. S.E.

WANTED, by Comedy Posturer and Handbalancer, June 27, to join Troupe or Partner. WILL MASTERS, O. H., Northampton. Thanks Will Douglas, Esq.

WANTED, a smart Hand Balancer, 7st. to 8st. Send terms, &c.; good shop to good man. WILL RENZ, Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, Several Competent and Reliable Operators. Apply, giving full particulars of past experience and enclose copies of recent references, to TETLOW, Panopticon, Cardiff.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, for Original Songs try EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Company, at Liberty July 4 and 11. To-day, Hippo., Wakefield (third visit); next week, Pier Pavilion, Southport (return).

WANTED, by Dainty Dorretta, Comedienne and Acrobatic Dancer, June 27 (between London and Empire, York). Address, Walcot Cottage, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, July 4, on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Gold Medallist, Top Boot Dancer. Next week, McLearn's Picture Palace, Govan, N.B.

WANTED, June 20, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Olympia, Newcastle-on-Tyne. After Saturday, 62, Upper Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Terry, at Liberty June 27, July 11, 18, 25. This, Palace, Durham; next, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, July 11, 25, Aug. 1, 8, Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

BERSAGLIERI'S BAND.

WANTED ENGAGEMENTS BY THIS FAMOUS NOVELTY BAND
Apply, BANDMASTER, 74, FLORENCE RD., BRIGHTON.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD. & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.) WORKING IN CONJUNCTION (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Chung Ling Soo, Happy Fanny Fields, Grassis, Jackson Family, Ed. Blondell and Co., Seven Perezoffs, Du Cros Trio, Cassie Walmer, Animated Pictures, Albert Chantrier, Rinaldo.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for:—

Harry Lauder, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Cull Pitt, F. V. St. Clair, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Brothers Durant, Vecta and Minnie Pine, Pictures, Livesey and Rosebery in "An Amateur Anarchist," Ella Retford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Raymond Phillips's Wireless Airship, Mona Garrick, Russell Carr, Maxey and Pete, Jock Mills, Eight Lancashire Lads, Alcide Capitaine, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Binns and Binns.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Rich Taylor, Lyric Quartette, Carrie Laurie's "Belles of the Kitchen," Tom E. Finglass, Empire Comedy Four, Pender Troupe, Louie Frayne, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ-grinder."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Robey, Bioscope, New York Nippers, Walter Munroe, Martialo Trio, Keppels, Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, George Lestocq and Co., Albert Whelan.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Lashwood, Frank and Free, Edward Davies, Brothers Egbert, Nell Emerald, Emma Don and Co., Bioscope, John Humphries and Co., Alice Raymond.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, Tom Stuart, Lily Flexmore, New Macs, Three Laurels, Dan Thomas, Pete and Minnie Lee, Griff, Fred Storey and Co., Chas. Leighton.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Edward Marris' Stock Company.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Girard and Gardner, Lillian Bishop, Phillips and Merritt, Horace Pollock, Hall and Earle, Elton and Edwin, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Dan Crawley, Fred Lindsay and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Wullie Walker, La Freya, Chas. Norton, Ando's Japs, Ted E. Box, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Poluskis.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mike Whallen, Anna Chandler, Wyndham and Kitty, Orpheus, J. W. Hall, Mitchell and Cain, Lena Verdi, Marconis, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Chas. R. Whittle, Jackley Trio, Dorothy Ward, Harry Jolson, Six Lancashire Lasses, Frasettis, Tom Moore, Bioscope, Lew Lake and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jack Lorimer, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, Sisters Kilner, Onette Sisters, George Newburn, Five Vernons, Fielding and Hull, Stella Stahl, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Futurity Winner," Helene Donald, Hardini Trio, Welsh v. McFarland Fight on the Bioscope, Laurie's Kindergarten, D'Arc's Marionettes, Daisy Martell, Will Johnson, Campbell and Barber, Juliette's Sea Lions.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bransby Williams, Ernie Mayne, Little Keeno, Bioscope, "Spirit of Music," Abdullah Arabs, May Mars, Roze and Calvert, Brennans, Alexandre and Hughes.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Ted and May Hopkins, Brothers Artois, Bert Harrow, Duncan's Dogs, McGregors, Lillian, Gothams, Winifred Ward.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Stock Company, "Arrah-Na-Pogue."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Glenroy Troupe, Fred Poplar, Staig's Steeplejacks, Hilda Jacobsen, Kitty Wager, Bert Weston, Bioscope, Gardner and Stoddard, Anartos.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Hanako and Co., Ricardo and Salving, Torbay, Humpsti Bumsti, Tom Costello, Takio, Bioscope, Olgar, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, Haytors, O'Gust, Margaret Parker and Co., Harvey's Boys and Girls, Ike and Will Scott, Johnny Fuller, Alice Kingsley, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Oswald Williams, Marie Kendall, Mary Ambrose, Harry Leybourne, Smite and Smote, Ed. E. Ford, Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Geo. Ali and Co., Belle Belles, Azell A. Wilson, Delevines, Rosie Fitzgerald, Bioscope, Winifred Hare, Harry Weldon, Witty Watty Walton.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Luis Alvarez, A Ba-Be's Album, Heeley and Meeley, Delomes, Jack Pleasants, May and Kennerly.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Hetty King, Fatmah Diard, Bert Williams, Gustave Fasola, Lillian Dundas and Co., Brothers Redmond, Aida Martine, Florence Smithers, Sam Mayo, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Roxbury and Co. in "On the Track," Harry Lamore, Bioscope, Bertha Winder, Leo Tell, Walter King, Drew and Alders, Marco Belli, Avolos, Spry and Monti, Nellie Wallace.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co., Cumminger and Colonna, Alf. Gibson, Conn and Conrad, Siems, Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques, Lillie Lassah, Bioscope, Gertie Gitana, George French.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Victoria Monks, Alice Maydue, Frank H. Fox, Carmos, Harry Herbert, Chris. Van Bern, Iva Voyce, King's College Boys, Conan and Doyle, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Chirgwin, Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Peggy Pryde, Three Merrills, Will Poluski, jun., Brothers Bright, Two St. Johns, Dan Lipton's "Songland."

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mark Sheridan, Amy Marsden, Addie Dorina, Georgians, Carl Howard, Bioscope, Miller Brothers, Bros. Dean.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Wish Wynne, Sylvia du Barry, Harry May Hemsley, Kirbys, Dan Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. H Finden, Pictures, Leslie Brothers.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Seymour Hicks and Co. in "Scrooge," Billy Hobbs, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Pat Rafferty, Cissie Thompson, Bioscope, Alf. Agoust, Lux's Dogs.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Zona Vevey, Jean Seul, Bioscope, Kratons, Arthur Ferriss, Channings, De Wynne Brothers.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

W. F. Frame, Kathleen Gray, Alec Lawson, Roma and Romani, Pawsons, Pictures, May Henderson, &c., &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fred Earle, May Brilliant, Brull and Hemsley, Woodhouse and Wells, Johnny Walker, Pictures, Florence Yaymen, &c., &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JUNE 20.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Carlton, Bros. Hannaway, J. C. Woods, Mysterious Cross, Cairo Trio, Leolin, Enzer and Clarice, Palace Perfection Pictures, "The Circus."

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Williams' Jubilee Singers, Alice Craven, Musical Keiths, Walter Aubrey, Harry Keeble, Sissie Brand, Adam Tomlinson, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Little Georgie Harris, Gladys Wyse, Joe Belmont, Ellerslie Pine, Cruikshanks and Co., Five Jovers, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Dene and Dixon.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Welsh-McFarland Fight Picture, Walter Ellis and Co., Monie Mine, Canard, Bartholomew Girls, Will H. Fox, The Courtiers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Geo. D'Albert, Elsie Claire, Nora Noble, Arnold Bell and Co., Willie and Johnny, Daisy Silcott, Acton and O'Keene's Co., Alskarno Trio.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Chris Baker, Rousby and Rene, Bessie Neilson, Soussi and Frotti, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co., Syd Walker, Dorie Duce, Little Dando, The Alaskas.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Gilbert Heron and Co., Vaudeville Trio, Max Laube, Sisters Belmont, Pit Brow Girls, Vela, Josh Dixon, The Cedrics, Miss Elsie and Bob, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Vonetta, Milner and Storey, Tom Gott, Lilybelle, Guest and Newlyn, Lily Edwardes, Alfred Long, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, Myrtle Grove, Marie Altino, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Le Hurst, The Days, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Welsh-McFarland Fight Picture, Will Cornish, Maude May Murray, Ford Williams, Sydney Brandon, Helen Martin, Geni Family, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Jackson Family, Dan Conroy, Sisters Maynard, Flo Burnett, Chas. Woodward, The Fitzroys, Ted Waite, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
"The Plumbers," Gene Morelle, Adah Payne, Four Rosebuds, Judge's Cockatoos, Oliver Martyn, Lestree, Picture of the Picture World.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Warsaw Bros., Bert Crosbie, The Seddons, Ethel Entwistle, Colley and Scott, Fallows and Beaumont, Walter Read, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Velanche's Dogs, Danvers and Rosslyn, Arthur Stacey, The Two Unites, Ena Compton, John Macauley, The Westwoods, Palace Perfection Pictures.

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
Norah Desmond.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Blanche Marion, Two Lees, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Harold Heath, Fred Ward, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Two Little Drummer Boys."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
"The Pawnbroker," Beattie and Blanche, Chas. Vincent, Reid and Power, Dan Fraser, The Motramos, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Geo. Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Mabel Florence, The Hulls, Jos. Crook, Eric and Nora, Florrie Thurstone, Four Sydney Girls, Fyne and Wood, Bernard Mervyn and Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Robb. Wilton, Dan Hendy, Harry Hunter, Tiny Arnold, Leo and Roland, Edith Lewis and Co., Seven National Girls, Kitty Correlli, Two Runaway Girls, Constance Mori.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Will Challoner, Leon and Tee, "Telephone Tragedy," "Miser's Curse," Gyp Hodgson, Sisters Edwards, Leonard and Vereker, Harry Ugar, Irene May, Fred Moule and Co.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.

Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BURNLEY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above Theatre will cease to be in the possession and occupancy of Mr. W. C. Horner, as and from the 19th day of August, 1910, and all contracts with Variety Artists entered into with the said W. C. Horner are thereby cancelled as and from the date herein mentioned, in accordance with the Arbitrators' Award.

W. C. HORNER.

HANDSOME FAMILY RESIDENCE. 98, Tulse-hill, with beautiful Ornamental Grounds, well-stocked kitchen and fruit garden, tennis lawn, hot-houses, large fishpond, good stabling, coachhouse, conservatory, 7 bedrooms, large dining and drawing-room, library, and bath-room; must be sold, a bargain. No reserve; may be viewed any day.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS, AGENTS, PROPRIETORS, AND MANAGERS.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, 20th June, 1910, all booking business for Halls controlled by UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd., viz.: Palace, PLYMOUTH; Grand Theatre, STONEHOUSE; Palace, BRISTOL; King's Theatre, GATESHEAD; Palace, ABERDEEN; King's Theatre, DUNDEE; and the Hippodrome, DEVONPORT, will be conducted from the Head Offices of the Company, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W., and all communications relative to the same to be addressed to Mr. HERBERT TAYLOR,
Booking Department,
United County Theatres, Ltd.,
Broadmead House, Panton-street,
Haymarket, London, S.W.
IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists and Agents seen by appointment only.

Posters for all New Films
SEND FOR CATALOGUES, &c.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham."

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.
By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.
The most useful book on the subject published.
Highly Recommended.
Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES
INCLUDING
HAT.
LATEST PATTERN.
Price **14/6**
Postage ... ... **6d.**

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. & BENETFINK & Co. Ltd. CHEAPSIDE.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Buchanan-street Station Hotel. Recommended. Terms, moderate. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand Theatre; Empire, Pavilion.

HULL.—22, John-st. Two sitting-rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 combined; piano, bath (h. and c.); Nat. Tel. 334Y7. Mrs. Holmes.

ILKLEY.—Comfortable apartments and board; terms moderate. Mrs. Sendey, 15, Wellington-road, Ilkley.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—One drawing-room, with bed-room, and one bed-sitting room vacant for Sunday 19th, Mrs. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms vacant; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior apartments. Bath (h. c.), new piano, good cooking and attendance; large garden. 145, Brixton-road.

LONDON, W.—Piccadilly Circus. Sup. furn. apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s., combined ditto, and suites, bath. 6 Arundell-street, W., opp. Tube.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Gilman, 1, Repton-street. Comb. rooms, 6s., 7s., 8s.; also bed and sitt.; piano, bath; central; vacant Sunday.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional apartments. Moderate terms.

ROCHDALE.—Mrs. Shelley, Park View, 25, Church-stile, late of Sussex-street; five minutes from Theatre, three minutes from Halls.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Yvette, 2, West-st. Superior Professional Apartments, 1 minute from Empire and O. H., sea; piano, bath (h., c.).

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH. Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Budge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIER, June 8, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.

That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.

Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.

Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Three Sisters Sprightly
(Maud, Florrie, and Heba),
Unexpectedly vacant June 20, 27.
Coms., 27, Winsiade-rd., Brixton Hill, London.

WANTED, by Eileen and May, Sisters, Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers, June 27, July 4. Co-operative Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring a safe Bottom of the Bill for June 27 and Aug. 8 can secure one by booking
GORDON STRETTON, "the New Coon,"
in his Latest Song Scenas by Darewski and Barrett, Mellor and Gifford, Harrington and Neat, &c., &c.
All coms. to
STRETTON, 78, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, by E. Lucknow, Refined Comedy Musical Comedian and Story-teller, June 20, 27. Central Hall, Oldham, for LUCKNOW. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, also July 4, to follow R. C. T., Warrington, by Dave Abbott, Eccentric Scotch Comedian and Grotesque Dancer. 76, Caledonia-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, June 27, July 4, by Jimmy Shields, the Clever One-legged Comedian and Dancer. Address, Hippodrome, Bursiem, Staff.

WANTED, Monday, also June 27, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian, and The Wymans, Comedy Duo. 34, Warburton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, 27th, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Colliery Pictures, Durham, Northumberland preferred. 20th, Empire, South Shields.

Wire June 27. Wire.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, June 27, Wanted.
This week, Hippodrome, St. Helens;
next week, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler, from London Hippodrome and Alhambra. Vacant June 20, 27, July 4. 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next and 27th, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist, concludes to-night, Opera House, Northampton; next week, 13 Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by De Meglio, Speciality Entertainer, Ventriloquist, Conjurer, Smoke Painting, Chapeaugraphy; own lithos; Piers, Pavilions. Perm. address, Chadwick-road, Eccles.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam Weight Wrestler, fourth year of successfully Starring in this country. 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 27, July 11, various, on, The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, featuring Farcical Funniosities, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat," &c. Palace, Nelson.

WANTED, Monday next, June 20, by The Lovelaces, American Song Illustrators. Wire, Hippo., Norwich; after Saturday night, Hippo., Salford.

WANTED, Empires, Hippodromes, Theatres, or Picture Palaces, Monday and on, by Chant and Chant, Vocal Comedy Duo. 7, Arboretum-ter., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their Famous Comedy Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act. Next, Hippo., Sheffield. Vacant June 27, July 18, Sept. 26, through closing.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, June 27, to follow Merthyr, The Ives, Athletic Speciality Artists, Gorgeous Electric Fit-up. Wire or write, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Monday, 20th and 27th, by The Bronsons, Comedy Musical Sketch Artists, Lady and Gent. Success everywhere. Wire, 12, Ogleforth, York.

WANTED, June 20 and 27, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog "Jack." Own scenery, splendid lithos. Sure success. Wire, T. R., Workington. After Sun., 40, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11.
Theatre Royal, Dublin.

WANTED, by McBride and Logie, the Canadian Lumbermen, Acrobatic Novelty. June 20 and 27, on. Wire, c/o LEACH, 32, Gloster-street, Bolton.

WANTED, June 20, Rohde and Roche, Chameleon Artist, and IT, a novelty act. Wire, Hippo., Hastings. Also vac. July 4, on. After Sat., 25, Weymouth-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, June 27, by Cambo and Castelle, sensational Musical Monkey Act. Two acts if required. Monday, Hippodrome, Devonport. Wire.

WANTED, by Frantz's Comedy Five, June 27, July 4, 11, Empire, Portsmouth. Per. address, 15, Richmond-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, 20th, 27th, and 4th, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, Five Champions, including the Most Marvellous and Beautiful Posing Ever Known by the Beautiful Vulcana.
Wire, ATLAS, The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Wanted, Smart Youth, Acrobat. 16, Market-place, Burslem.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, at Liberty June 18, and onward. New and sensational revolving and breakaway ladder. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, June 27, July 11, 18, by Three Original Hodginis. Aerial Gymnastic Wonders (Seaside Scene). This, Bottom of Bill, Empire, Barnsley; next week, E., Dewsbury.

WANTED, June 20, on, the Four Flying Oreniuses, last week (topping), Ilkeston. Offers invited also for Galas. 67, Walcot-sq., S.E.

WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, June 27, onwards, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist. Halls or Good Alfresco.
Monday, Poole's Palace, Treherbert.

MISS ELLA'S FAMOUS LION SHOW.
WANTED, June 27 (South preferred), all July, and First Three Weeks in August.
Coms., Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Hengleur's Beautiful Russian Poodles. Thanking Ercole's Agency offer Continental Tour. Vacant June 13, 20. Wire Monday.

WANTED, Known, Edith Tudora's Ponies, four in number, huge success everywhere, Liberty June 27, Ireland preferred. All coms., Ballsbridge Grounds, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Champion Somersaulting Cyclists, Football on Wheels, Galas wanted, vacant Monday next, also July 4, on. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Swift Duo, a Funny Act, on Cycles, vacant June 27, July 4.
Bowes Park, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
bring your Songs, and I will teach them to you. Reasonable rates.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Amateurs of Education, Refinement, and Ability, for First-class Concert Party.
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Concert Party, Specialities, Novelties, Comedy Acts, or anything with good drawing powers (refined), outdoors, Aug. 18. Tenders, giving full particulars, and fee, not later than June 25. J. MARCHE, Hon. Sec., Carnival Committee, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Costume Companies, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake. Sole Entertainment Manager, FREDERICK LANE, Concert Direction, Avenue, Ealing, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Christine Oxley, Soprano, High-class Concert Party, Opera, or Alfresco. Experienced. Address, THE FROLLICS, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by The Druids, Male Concert Party (twenty in number), Wales Premier Prizewinners. For dates, terms, &c., apply, E. T. WILLIAMS, Sec., Resolven, South Wales.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
have your Music copied
by
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Fairkeepers, Rifle Ranges, &c., we supply everything, Cartridges, Targets, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
Full particulars, sample Lithos, and Postcards, in first letter.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Novelty or Freak for Shop, Seaside. Shares; or would buy good Side Show. MORGON, 66, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED, Good Novelties for Show Business, Summer Season, with paintings or posters. Write or wire, S. BAKER, c/o Post Office, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, High Diving and Swimmers.—I have secured Sole Right of giving Diving and Swimming Performances during the season on the Victoria Pier, Folkestone. I will find all advertising, platform, and do collections for one-third of same. Only first-class men entertained. Apply, Monsieur LEOPOLD, Victoria Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Statue or any other Good Shows. Rent or Shares.
MERRYLAND, 72, Upper-street, Islington.

PALMISTRY AND CLAIRVOYANT.
WANTED, Lady for old-established business; salary and commission. HUNT'S Studio, 87, Hurst-street, Birmingham.

PALMISTRY.
WANTED, Lady for Private Practice, 30s. week and half extras. Address Box 7,856, "Era."

WANTED, First-class Palmist, Lady or Gentleman, to commence at once, for Season. Terms Shares. NELSON, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, a couple of Good Auctioneers and a Pitch-getter and Floorsman.
Apply, 5, Lime-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Known, that Mr. M. Carlos just arrived from the Colonies, is in search of startling Novelties, alive or dead, suitable for the Stage or Show, on their own, nothing too big or too small, but must have drawing powers. I will pay cash for the right Shows; or I am prepared to accept engagement as Manager, either for a Stage Show or under canvas.
I know the right places at the right time, and the pulse of the public.
Grand Tour Australia, New Zealand,
Tasmania, Fiji, &c.
Consultation by appointment.
M. CARLOS, 43, Shawfield-st., King's-rd., Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Britain's Bearded Lady, Miss Maud Temple, success, Stewart's, Edinburgh. Vacant Sept. Good Flash Paintings, Lithos, &c. Shares or salary. Coms., G. NORMAN LEWIS, Stewart's, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Let, Handsome Shops, Electric lighted; also Spaces. Real Novelties only. F. W. WALKINGTON, Manager, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Space for Monograms, rent £15 for Season, or would work on com. good man who knows the business. Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire,
Large Distorting Mirrors.
Address, MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Hire, set of Gallopers or Switchback; for Aug. 1 and 2, South Coast. Terms, &c., ROBINSON, Coney Island, Chatham.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap for cash or Hire-purchase terms, 7 h.p. Fowler's Compound Showman's Road Loco, 8 h.p. Burrell's Compound Showman's Road Loco, Foster's Compound Showman's Steam Motor Tractor, also Compound Showman's Steam Motor Tractor, by Clayton and Shuttleworth, only bought new about 18 months since. GRAVEN, Ely, Cambs.

WANTED, to Sell, Cakewalk, complete Arc Lamps, Organ, &c., in good working order and repair. Can be seen working at any time. Apply Box 7,820, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, greatest and best money-getter, Hindoo Spirit Writer, only one left. Cost £8; sacrifice 50s. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Model, latest novelty, Enchanted Pool, best money-taker invented; no rubbish. JACKSON, 77, Stonebridge-rd., Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Barrel Organ, cheap, suit Roundabout, Show, or Rink, extra large barrel, 12 tunes. Particulars, JACONELLS, 40, Banbury-street, Birmingham, manufacturers of Piano and Mandoline Organs.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Punch Ball, Saloon Rifles, and Automatic Machines.
Apply, WAITE, 51, Tontine-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Champion Exhibition and Racing Skaters for July and August. State lowest terms and qualifications. MANAGER, Olympia Open Air Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, Summer Season by Jas. Graham-Kelly (late Hengler's), Exhibition Skater. Holder of British record for high-jumping on skates. A Skater and an Artist.
A graceful and charming exhibition.—Era, 17/7/09.
As a trick skater Kelly is daring and sensational.—Rinking, 20/1/10.
Management or Exhibition Skating. Also combine. All coms., GRAHAM-KELLY, Manager and Exhibition Skater, Roller Rink, Motherwell.

WANTED, by Experienced Instructor and Instructress, positions on good seaside rink. First-class skaters, latest waltzing, two-step, &c. Address, POWTON, 84, Farm-lane, Fulham.

WANTED, by Prof. T. Butterworth, Re-engagement, First-class Rink, as Floor-Manager or Management combined, daily exhibitions given. 41, New Hall-street, Burnley.

WANTED, to Let, Olympia Rink, Park Place, Merthyr, by Tender for the Summer Months. Dimensions of Building, 200ft. by 60ft. Every convenience for Bioscope. Box, Curtain, &c. Seating over 2,000. Music and Cinematograph Licence granted. Tenders to MANAGER.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov.,
must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, CARDIFF.
Just Vacant.
WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease.
Apply, SEEL, Secretary,
Theatre Royal Chambers, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, Modern Freehold Music Hall in Midlands, good reasons for sale. Principals and solicitors only write first instance, HALL, Box 7,832, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, for Electric or Picture Theatre, in Edinburgh, First-class Premises, best attractive position for business; present hall seats about 600, which, with little alteration, could be much increased.
Address,
No. 308, KEITH and Co.,
Advertising Agents, 43, George-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Sell or Let,
CINEMATOGRAPH FILM FACTORY,
ideal, quiet locality for picture making; big studios, electricity, telephone, water, all ready.
Apply, MARTIN, Alton, Hants.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties.
Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTEL, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, four Electric Battens, 2 26ft. and 2 24ft. long, 30 lights each (two-colour), and one Footlight, 21ft. long, 128 lights (three-colours); also Switchboard and Resistance Wheels, substantially made.
H. W., 1, Archer-street Works, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Bull, full grown, pure Hereford, 2 years, smallest alive, fat, active, quiet, 34in. high, £25; worth £100 for exhibition. Colmore Hotel, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Rattles, Tubular Bells, Spielaphones, Macaronis, Organ Chimes, Gongs, Resonaphones, Marimbas, Glockinspiels. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, plated, powerful standard pitch, folding stand, 5ft. 3in. high. Handsome. £4. CONDUCTOR, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid pair of Tympanis, Hawkes', cost 14gs., nearly new, including sticks and covers, £9. Death reason for disposal. 61 Tewkesbury-st, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Stage Illusions, many original; also quantity up-to-date Conjuring Apparatus. Bargains. 212, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, fine Collection of African, American, Indian, and Chinese Curios, about 250 finest specimens, from 5s. to £5, sell separate or complete for £100, greatest bargain for Performer, Artists, or Side Shows. A. WINKLER, 20, Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno, plain with ruche, 3s. 11d. dozen; Accordion-pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, twenty Concave Armour Tunics, 12s. each; Tights, 2s. pair; twenty Papier Helmets; ditto Shields, Weapons, 1s. each; six suits Armour, 10s. DYMOND, Flag Maker, Wyndham-arcade, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Lady going Abroad has Dress Basket for Sale, cheap; also several Dresses. Box 7,878, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Strong Successful Drama, short cast, pretty scenery, effective printing; can be seen playing in London next fortnight. Address, Box 7,871, c/o "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Two Good Songs and an Excellent Single Song Act.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
for First-class Band Parts
try
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, two pairs of Gong Drums (second-hand), must be in good condition. State lowest price. Box 7,839, "The Era."

WANTED, Cheap, Tip-up Seating, in good condition.
Full particulars
to
BARING BROS., Cheltenham.

WANTED, immediately, 400 Tip-up Pegamoid or Plush-lined Seats, in good condition. State lowest price.
F. BARNES ALLEN, Ibrox Roller Rink, Glasgow.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. PEARSON, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, Portable or Marquee, suitable for Pictures, hire or purchase. Full particulars to J. DICKSON, 1, W. Bell-street, Dundee.

WANTED, Bioscope Outfit, must be in First-class condition, Pathé or Gaumont preferred. ELECTRICIAN, 70, Ling-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, small Troupe of Dogs, Summer Terms, must be reasonable; also Hire or Buy Joey and Trick Pony, used to Stage. STEADMAN, 12, Millbank-road, Rhyl.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge. Apply,
ALFRED WILD, Sec., 42, Grosvenor-sq., Stalybridge.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in June and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Picture Hall, now running, everything ready, fine central stand, over 100,000 population. Principals only; banker's reference. Box 7,855, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, a number of Advertising Curtains and Programmes in First-class towns and theatres.
Apply, LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Known, Films for Hire, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Bargain Films, Accessories. Cut Prices. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, to Let, for Stock Seasons, Up-to-date Dramas, with good printing. Special MSS. for twice nightly. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Halls and Buildings, suitable for Cinematograph performances, London, Seaside or Provinces. Lowest terms to Box 7,867, "The Era."

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Hire or Lease, Hall, Theatre, or Pavilion. Distance no object. State particulars. MANAGER, 23, Burchell-road, Leyton, E.

WANTED, to Hire, with Option of Purchase, Interior Cottage scene, recessed window, hooded fireplace, &c. Full particulars, Box 7,875, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser having purchased a Freehold Property of 4½ acres, formerly used as Pleasure Gardens, is desirous to meet with an enterprising Syndicate to exploit same, two Boating or Fishing Lakes, Skating or Concert Hall, 135ft. by 45ft., spacious Lawns, &c., &c., suitable for Scenic Railway and similar Attractions, population of over 200,000 within easy distance. Apply, B. T., 8, Warwick-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Partner with £100, for Established Theatrical Concern,
Showing Good Business Duties,
Official and Provincial Experience not Essential.
Address, Box 7,862, "The Era."

WANTED, Partners, with Moderate Capital, for Two Tours of Musical Plays, London Successes. Parts open. First-class management.
Fullest particulars by letter to
Box 7,877, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Steady Young Man wishes to join Partner for Comedy Acrobatic Act, good bearer and club juggler. Letters, C., Box 7,857, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentlemanly Artist, with all-round experience, to join Versatile Author. Address all particulars to Box 7,865, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Man, good Head and Hand-to-hand Balancer, at Liberty to join Troupe or good Partner, weight 9st. Letters, Box 7,863, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Female Partner, must have strong voice, good dancer, must live near. Apply letter first, Miss DAISEY, 180, Camberwell New-road.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures and Specialities, LE MARE and SON, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, Sleigh Bells, Organ Chimes, and Spelaphone, for Gabrielle Hope's Grand Musical Novelty Act, were made by Lisle, Camberwell.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours;
Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Band Parts neatly, legibly scored by experienced arranger, good combination and effect speciality. HIRST, 56, Chestnut-street, Southport.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Band Parts, Music copied,
Songs Taught.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Variety Dialect Comedian requiring Successfully Produced Sketch
on share
to address
AUTHOR, 3, Evelyn-mansions,
Queen's Club Gardens, London, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Ladies and Gentlemen tired of the Stage, and wishing to make a fresh start in a different direction, should consult Mr. Davies at the British Schools, who has many opportunities of placing educated persons of good appearance and address as Secretaries, &c.
Terms arranged to suit individual cases.
Call or write,
97, New Bond-street, London, W.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur C. Moody, Theatre Royal, Blyth, Northumberland, desires to thank all applicants for the positions advertised in last week's "Era," and begs to inform them that the vacancies are now filled.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, 'Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714,
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."
WE WILL FIND IT!!!

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

MR. FRANK ALLEN
desires to either
SELL OR LET
ON AGREEMENT
the beautifully-compact Detached Residence, known as
WOODLAWN, KINGSTON HILL
(held for an unexpired term of about sixty-three years, at a ground rent of £37 10s. per annum), containing seven bedrooms, dressing-room, two fitted bathrooms, with hot and cold water supplies, w.c., and lavatory, three capital reception rooms, excellent domestic offices on the ground floor, and spacious cellarage.
Detached stabling for three horses, double coach-house, and two rooms over, also motor garage, suitable for containing two large motor cars, and fitted up with bench and cemented pit.
Well timbered and beautiful grounds of about one acre. All new and up-to-date drainage and sanitation. A fine 18-hole golf course is being laid out opposite the house, in addition to which there are other three courses, two on Wimbledon Common (barely two miles away), Coombe Links (one mile), and the Wimbledon Park Golf Club (two-and-a-half miles).
The estimated rental value is £180 per annum, but an offer would be accepted of £140 per annum on a three years' agreement, or £130 per annum on a seven years' lease.
The ridiculously low price of £2,000 would be accepted. Mr. Allen's only reason for desiring to sell or let this beautiful residence (which combines the advantages of a town house with the pleasures of a country home), is owing to the recent marriage of his daughter.
Further particulars may be had on application, and the house can be viewed at any time by appointment.
Telephone No. 99 Kingston.

SUMMER EVENINGS BANDS' COMMITTEE.
GUERNSEY.
Wanted, Troupes, Bands, Entertainments, &c.
SEASON—JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E
Telephone 1544 Hop.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERTILLERY.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company, under the direction of Mr. Francis Everard, is here with *True Till Death*. The leading parts, Harry Deniston and Jack Deniston, are well taken by Mr. T. Arthur Ellis and Mr. Francis Everard. Mr. Edwin Turner makes a capital Pedro Cortes, and an Indian half-breed is ably portrayed by Mr. John Soden. Lillian Meadows is well sustained by Miss Kate Randolph; Miss E. Leslie is good as Kate Farrar.

PAVILION.—A series of pictures are on show here, including the McFarland and Welsh fight.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Miss Olga Audre and company are here with *The Great Awakening*. Miss Olga Audre creates a deep impression by her finished embodiment of Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs is a powerful James Selby; Mr. Charles H. Mortimer a vigorous and manly Captain Lambart; Mr. Tom Arkinstall is admirably suited as Guy Logan; Mr. Andrew Esmond is remarkably good as Sir Henry Merton; and Mr. Arthur Wimpeny capably plays Jack Merton. Mr. Ernest Kendrick is a quaint Billy Brass; Miss Dorothy Oswald a bright and attractive Selina; and Miss Evie Conway a pleasing and unassuming Molly Merton.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Great Wolfowsky Troupe of native Russian vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists are the premier attraction here. The Bros. O'Brien have a smart horizontal bar act; Bains and company, comedy acrobats, prove an acceptable turn; Laurie Leyton, ventriloquist, gives unqualified pleasure; Herbert Rule, comedian, is popular; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, provide a turn which delights all; Barney Murphy creates much laughter with his funny antics; and Rhobins and Kruso are capital musical experts; E. Clifford acquits himself with distinction as a novelty dancer; and the Bioscope pictures are deserving of praise.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Variety is still the order of things at this place of amusement. A trained chimpanzee, called George the First, is the star turn. Introduced by Dandy George, it gives an exhibition, dressed as a little man, of various things, including trick cycling and partaking of a five-course dinner. Ernest Montefiore and company appear in a musical scena, *The Little Colonel*, with capital effectiveness, those responsible for the interpretation being Ernest Montefiore, Belle Vicars, and Ivy Laurel. The Crisps contribute a dance scena, which is very successful, the chief item being "Dance des Apaches." Henry Hilton proves himself a very clever conjurer, and gives a number of new magical tricks. As a Scotch monologist Albert Mackelvin is deservedly well received, and Maisie Dene, soubrette and dancer, and Marion Scott, vocalist, also amuse. Cyrus Dare, child mimic, is wonderfully clever.

ASHINGTON.—PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, McGraw and Wealleans; Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—The T. W. Tiny Stars are here for a second week, and are delighting good audiences with their dancing and singing; Sabino, in his unique musical turn, is very good; and a capital selection of pictures includes the local sports held on Saturday.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—The Mars Trio of gymnasts in "Whirling the Whirl" are very daring and clever; the Two Le Bruns (Edie and Edgar) are good jugglers and equilibrists; and the pictures are of a high order.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is running *Greed of Gold* here. Mr. B. M. Fox gives a realistic interpretation of Tom Welstead; Mr. Herbert Leonard as Con Creamer is full of characteristic humour; Miss Amy G. Earle sustains cleverly the part of Mrs. Maxwell; Mr. Jack Edwin as her nephew, Harry Hood, plays with distinction the part of the villain, an arduous rôle; Mr. Alf Edwards as Mr. Brightstone, K.C., a legal adviser, is all that a limb of the law should be; Mr. Monson Thorpe as Arthur Errol is manly; and Miss Mabel Phillips in her rôle of Dora sustains her reputation as an actress of resource and power.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The big turn of the variety week here is the remarkably clever magician, humorist, and fantasist, the Great Raymond, who is making a first visit. Raymond has mystified and at the same time delighted and astonished his audiences by his wonderful magic power. Every change is remarkable and mystifying, thoroughly absorbing and enchaining the attention. Other artists are Fred Denistone, comedian, a jester with a budget of fun; Little Sunbeam, a clever serio-comic; Les Gossi, clever and graceful dancers; Morris and Moore, expert dancers; and Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, with Luella Cross.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—During the sultry weather pleasant leisure can be enjoyed at the Pavilion. The double programme for the week includes some charming travel pictures, amusing comedies, and tragic happenings, supplied by the special A. B. Company and other makers of films. Hunting Wolves in Russia is good and The Kid a charming rustic comedy. Village Life in Siam is a good picture of travel, and Last Days of Heliogabalus a fine scenic barbaric picture.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The Hall programme for the week includes some really fine art pictures and good comics. The Outlawed Baron was very good as a romantic age picture of violence and outlawry, The Aero Police of the Future, and others. An old favourite and a famed artist of the halls thirty years ago, Mr. T. W. Barrett, is here, and still in good form as an eccentric comedian.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, M. P. Leckie.—Some very fine films are shown here this week, and these pictorial dramas, adventurous, historical, and humorous, include The Artist's Dream, The Sins of the Fathers, Guilia Colonna, The Planter's Wife, and others. The special artist is T. E. Johnstone, in song and monologue.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Fred J. Webb's company, in *For Old Time's Sake*, is here. Mr. Webb as Rupert Sidney plays the villain with great power, and Mr. J. C. Carlyle is an excellent contrast as Paul Sidney; Mr. Harold Lewis is a capable Jean Brooke, and Miss Mamie Stanton plays Phyllis Brooke with much success; Mr. R. Oliver is a good Frank Rivington, and Miss Marie Danvers-Smith as Sareta Berkley wins admiration.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Will o' the Wisps are here for their last week, and retain their popularity.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital programme is presented here, the chief item being Maria Racko and partner, in a smart acrobatic act. The Dalett boys and girls are capital in songs, concerted pieces, and dances; Leo Fields keeps his audience in a continuous roar; a word of praise must be given to Colbert for some clever club juggling; Harry Elliston and company are amusing in a sketch, entitled *Aunt Matilda*; Beatrice Allen renders her songs in a pleasing manner; Harry Maynard is a capable vocal comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Newman's British Empire Picture and Variety Company is showing some interesting films.

BARRY DOCK.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—The principal turn here is presented by the Three Van Earles, exceedingly good dancers; The Custances are seen to advantage in *Keep off the Green;* Clare and Pastor are deservedly recalled; and the pictures are of the usual pleasing kind.

BATH. — PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Dr. Wilmar's "Spirit Paintings" are bewildering audiences here, and the Days, second-sight artists, are equally puzzling; Le Hurst proves himself a smart ventriloquist; Beattie Foster, comedienne, puts plenty of life into her songs; Wallace Whitney, comedian, causes merriment by his quaint impersonations; Myrtle Grace sings and dances herself into favour; illustrated songs by Marino Aftino are appreciated; and the pictures include The Fisherman's Bride and The Terror and the Terrier.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The chief draw is some capital views of the International Horse Show.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The fine weather is all in favour of outdoor entertainments. The Trumps, under the direction of Mr. Rex Burchell, are the latest concert party to amuse the habitués here.

BELFAST. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Monday commenced the final week of the revival season under the direction of Mr. Matthew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond. Miss Emma Litchfield's comedy drama *A London Actress* is the attraction. Miss Hettie Zillwood gave an exceedingly clever portrayal of the difficult rôle of Hilda Mannering; Mr. Albert Guyon furnished a capital impersonation of Sergt.-Major Clive Crawford; and Mr. Chas. G. Gallier interpreted the rôle of Capt. Mannering, R.N., in a manner calling for the highest praise. Mr. Fred Osmond gained high encomiums for his treatment of the rôle of Pat Maloney; and Miss Audrey Canning was all that could be desired as Biddy Maloney. A good character sketch of the Hebrew Moses Mendoza was furnished by Mr. Frank Sutherland; and Miss Margaret Frame did well justice to the rôle of Phyllis Crawford. Mr. Reginald T. Fox acquitted himself with distinction as Lieut. Ned Kingston, R.N.; and the rôle of P.C. Lewis was quite safe in the hands of Mr. R. H. MacCandless.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The clever eccentric juggler Mr. W. C. Fields tops the bill here; the remarkable feats of the Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, are undoubtedly a feature of this fine programme; the amusing comedy duo The Waldrons have, as usual, been most successful; the Lyric Mummers delight all with their vocal song-scena; the beautiful soprano voice of Amelie de L'Enclos has been heard with infinite pleasure; Sibb and Sibb's trapeze act finds favour; Mr. Bruce Green is a very droll comedian with good songs; and also here are Ada and Gert (juvenile duettists and dancers), Mr. Harry Taft (comedian), and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Mr. Fred Earle, whose droll songs gained success at both houses on Monday; Miss Florence Yayman caricatures coon songs with much satisfaction, her reception being gratifying; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians, are undoubtedly most amusing with their songs and patter; Brull and Hemsley stage with effect their act *Fun in a Music Shop;* MissMay B. Brilliant is a charming comedienne and excellent dancer; and also appearing are Mr. Johnny Walker (comedian), Miss Rosie Pink (a capable comedienne who knows how to dance), and the Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. McGibney.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some beautiful pictures have been exhibited here, including Too Late, Lieut. Rose, R.N., The Passing Shadow, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Barney Vox, the witty Irish ventriloquist, who is accorded a terrific reception, and Miss Ailsa Douglas, a popular singer of chorus songs.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Many interesting films are shown here this week, including The Love of Lady Irma, How Scroggins Saw Halley's Comet; A Victim of Bridge, &c. Mr. G. O. Battle, actor-vocalist, appears at each performance with much success in his great song-scena *Old and Grey*.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among many beautiful pictures exhibited here may be mentioned The Eleventh Hour, The Ranch-Girl's Legacy, &c. The fine baritone vocalist Mr. H. W. Baird appears, also Miss Bessie Eakin, a ballad vocalist of ability.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A quick-change speciality by the Musical Shipbuilders forms the chief attraction; Stelfane, the lady magician, gives a clever exhibition; and in addition we have Minnie Torr (contralto vocalist and dancer) and Enda West (comedienne) The Hippograph shows some interesting and amusing pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company opened on Monday with a revival of *Mr. Barnes of New York*. Mr. Lodge-Percy gave a fine exposition of the title-rôle, and Miss Henrietta Schrier was an irreproachable Marina Paoli. The cast generally was most efficient, and the production was cordially received. During the week *Camille* and *A Fool's Paradise* have also been performed.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Leroux's cycling monkeys are a leading feature, and are certainly marvels of animal training. Mr. Frank Lister's company, in the sketch *No. 99*, is an attractive item, and Mr. E. J. Sheldon, comedian, is on a welcome return visit; Mr. Harold Batt and Miss Mary Lynn appear in a clever act, which includes some excellent dancing. Other good turns are provided by Avon and Crest, comedians; Mr. Archie Glen, vocalist and dancer; Zellini, comic juggler, &c.; Mr. Ryder Slone, character comedian; Miss Lily Arthur, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Miss Winifred Maude's company in *The Stowaway* prove attractive. Mr. Victor Du Cane gives an incisive rendering of Dicky Deals, and Miss Maude a fine performance of the heroine, Althea Dale. Mr. William Vane is a robust and convincing Tom Inglis, and Charles Etherington is well embodied by Mr. Morris Maude. The piece is liberally staged.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins' company are appearing in condensed operatic selections with pronounced success. A capable variety company also lends interest to the programme.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Frank Lindo's popular melodrama, *Home Sweet Home*, is a big attraction here. Mr. Norton Shields impersonates Stephen Armitage with distinct skill; whilst Mr. Tom E. Lewis does well as his father, David Armitage. Miss Marion Wakeford, a talented actress, wins the hearts of all present by her charming presentation of the rôle of Joan; Mr. Sidney Dench sustains the part of the Duke of Ancaster with success; and Mr. Leonard Laurence appears as Lucas Lyle. Little Doris is entitled to hearty commendation for her graceful work as Dora.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—*The Diver's Luck* is an old favourite here, and Mr. Edward Marris's company are warmly complimented for clever acting. Two preformances are given each evening. Mr. Joseph Millane is excellent as Martin Faber; and Miss Blanche St. Albans is responsible for a delightful characterisation of the rôle of Helen Wyngate. Others who merit special mention are Mr. H. C. Robinson as Tom Hall, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson as Maurice Wyngate, Mr. Charles Williams as Lieut. Turner; and Mr. Percy Boucher and Miss Ella Willmer in comedy parts.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—*An Unwedded Wife* is proving a big attraction, and it is effectively produced by Mr. Will Casey's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar, in the title-rôle, gives a faithful and sympathetic characterisation, and carries the audience with her; the rôle of Philip Blackstone is adequately filled by Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes; Mr. Casey is prominent as Napoleon; and Mr. Arthur Cheeves is good as Frank Armstrong. Others who deserve praise are Mr. B. Boomer, Mr. A. Mitchell, Mr. L. Ernest, Mr. Ern Turner, Mr. W. Fisher, Mr. Frank Masters, Miss Ethel Spense, and Little Doris Sorsby.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—A well-varied programme is headed by Mr. Fred Story in the popular sketch *Rip Van Winkle*. He has never appeared to better advantage than he does in this piece. Griff is a clever entertainer, his juggling feats being novel and skilful; the New Macs are funny men, whose jokes are up to date and dancing novel; a bright musical act, with a strong element of comedy, is presented by Pete and Minnie Lee; Tom Stuart is highly amusing in his burlesque impersonations; the Three Laurels appear in an extremely clever speciality act; Dan Thomas is a big favourite; Lily Flexmore contributes some wonderful dances; Charles Leighton has well-chosen comic songs; and quite a feature of the bill is the living picture depicting the Welsh-McFarland Fight.

GRAND. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting - Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Eddie Girard and Jessie Gardner figure in an exceptionally clever farcical sketch entitled *Dooley and the Diamond*. They are smart artists, and thoroughly deserve the enthusiastic plaudits of the audience; the show of Schichtl's marionettes is one of the best items; it is admirably worked, and there are some surprising transformations; a comedy episode, *Hester's Mystery*, by Pinero, affords ample scope for a display of humour by Mr. Horace Pollock; Dan Crawley again has a funny répertoire; Hull and Earle create roars of applause; Claire Romaine is a character comedienne of exceptional ability; Elton and Edwin are responsible for novel and remarkable selections on the banjo; Phillips and Meritt, society entertainers, and Harry Marte, comedian and dancer, complete the programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Signor Arvi's tableaux, "Les Metables," occupy first place on the bill, and the show has been favourably received. Carter's Ten Dixie Girls are paying a welcome return; Nelly Moore is a clever impersonator of prominent actresses; Arthur Croxon is extremely amusing as a "Yorkshire entertainer"; an interesting comedy acrobatic act is presented by Briff, Braff, and Broff; whilst Niagara and Falls show in the same line of business. Louis J. Seymour (light comedian), Cora Corina (a smart singer and dancer), and Gladys Re'vell (chorus comedienne) make up a programme of all-round merit.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Considerable interest is being aroused by Salge's animate sculpture, Mlle. Marguerite figuring prominently in the tableaux; a comedy sketch of unusual merit, entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, is admirably played by Mr. Arnold Richardson and two others; Scott and Whaley are accorded a warm reception, and their dancing is a strong feature of the programme; other coloured performers are Carlisle and Wellman, in a bright musical act; a mirth-provoking sketch, called *A Broker's Man*, is played by Drum and Major; Lucia Collins is a bright, vivacious comedienne; Phillip Levard is an up-to-date conjurer and illusionist; a clever acrobatic performance is given by the Goodlow Trio; and L. W. Harris is a stylish light comedian.

HIPPODROME, ASTON.—Resident-Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Miss Maude Mortimer is scoring a big success with her chorus songs; Beatie and Babs are exceedingly clever in their pretty scena, *A Pavement Rehearsal;* Karl Cynski gives a delightful musical performance; the Kremlia Brothers appear in a clever eccentric acrobatic turn; Mark Leslie is a promising coon impersonator; Marie Dreams sings in a baritone voice; a sketch by Alfred Wellesley, entitled *Uncle's Courtship*, is very amusing; Maude Beaumont is a clever burlesque actress; and Mlle. Ottino performs smart conjuring feats.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—This pioneer of local picture halls has a fine photographic reproduction of Maeterlinck's fairy play *The Blue Bird*. The pictures give a perfect idea of the beautiful scenes and graceful acting. In addition, the usual "potted plays," humorous, dramatic, and sentimental, are being displayed.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Kennedy.—A capital series of animated pictures includes The Cowboy and the Straw, The Thread of Destiny, and The Power of the Press. Vaudeville items are given by Sammy Turner, Mollie Revell, and the Mosaics.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The "Kinemacolor" is the name given to the new coloured moving picture process, which will be exhibited here for a month.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Miraculous Mysticus entirely baffles his audience; Archie Royer is a clever trick comedian; Paul Corrix (whose assistant is a skilful juggler) is an excellent equilibrist; Percy Dalton has an eccentric and novel dancing turn; and included in the bill are Ward and Davis, Harry Zetter, Bessie Callow, and the Hipposcope.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. H. Armitage's company, in *East Lynne*, has met with a very liberal patronage. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks as Archibald Carlyle played the part well; whilst the Francis Levison of Mr. Henry Nunn won the usual recognition accorded to the gentlemanly stage villain; Mr. William Clayton made an ideal Justice Hare; Mr. Harry Wren was conspicuous as Lawyer Dill; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid was seen in a new character as P.C. Bullock, and acquitted himself effectively; Miss Elizabeth Watkins, in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine was the object of much praise.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company is here with *A Life for a Life*. The part of Don Leon Fernandez is capitally rendered by Mr. Chas. H. Lester; whilst Miss Lallah Davis is good as Eulalie. Wee Winnie Warden is successful in her personation of Venetia; and other parts are capably filled.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An entertaining programme consists of Reano and his famous band of instrumentalists; Leonard Charburn's Young Stars, in a pretty vocal scena, *A Picnic up the River;* Ena Corelli, dancer, &c.; Harry Megan, comedian; Devon and Earle, wooden shoe dancers; The Three Krakes, in their amusing comedy act, *The Electric Car Conductor;* Cromo and Hamilton, burlesque artists; Sylvia Bond, soprano vocalists; and the Sisters Brenton, comediennes and dancing experts.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME (BOLTON) LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Miss Augusta Tullock and her company are presenting the powerful drama, *Judith, the Woman who Sinned*.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Wellings.—For the first part of the week the musical comedietta, *The Cruise of the Losertanner*, was presented, the company including Mr. Kennedy Allen, Miss Kitty Allen, Mr. Martin Kitts, Mr. Albert Royle, Mr. Laurie Leyton, and Miss Ivy Proudfoote. Clever items were also contributed by Vera and Neldon, and Vladimir Brodo, baritone. The programme is entirely changed for the remaining three nights, Mr. Frank Dunlop and company appearing in a new musical comedy, *The Gay River*.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. Junius Booth and his company occupy the boards here this week with the new American drama *Way Out West*, which is staged with wonderful realism. Mr. Booth himself plays the hero, and presents a striking figure in a stirring story of adventure, around which a strong love interest is woven; Miss Alice West is the heroine, and she is admirable in the part, both artists being finely supported by Mr. Millar Anderson, a villainous speculator; Miss Lilian Deane, in the part of Paquita, a Mexican girl; and Mr. Charles S. Brooks as a Chinese laundryman. The incidents are striking, and hearty applause greets the representation.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Once again Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are astounding and delighting big audiences here with their very remarkable illusions, clever coin manipulating, and their well-blended humour; O'Gust, the clown mimic and imitator, is on a return visit too, and popular as ever; the Haytors give a distinctly novel and particularly diverting sketch, *The Electrician*, with much success; and Nelson Jackson, at the piano and as a story-teller, elicits hearty laughter. The Harvey's American Boys and Girls (with Frank Victor), with cowboy ditties and Teddy Bear dances, are very entertaining; in a dramatic sketch, *Lucky Jim*, Miss Margaret Parker in the title-rôle is convincing, and she is well supported; Miss Alice Kingsley's songs are well rendered and prettily illustrated; Johnny Fuller as the acrobatic cat gives a clever performance on the wire; and interesting films are shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Much interest is aroused here this week in Arthur Rouse's very dramatic sketch *The Key*, represented with conspicuous ability by Jessie Danvers, Gilbert Heron, and George Robinson; the Belmonts dance very daintily; Josh Dixon's songs and "patter" are amusing; the clever feats by Miss Elsie and her Cousin Bob elicit applause; and Vela is clever in a comedy wire act; the Vaudeville Trio are good vocalists and dancers; an amusing comedy act is presented by the Cedrics; there is some very remarkable whistling by Max Laube; and the vocalism of the Lancashire Pit-brow Lasses commands hearty applause. The Palace Perfection Pictures are an interesting feature.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Harold Montague and his Vagabond Players are drawing big audiences to their capital entertainments in the Grand Pavilion. The Municipal orchestra, in the Floral Pavilion, under the able conductorship of Mr. Norfolk Megone, are giving excellent promenade concerts twice daily, the great attraction this week being Mr. Harry Reynolds, a bass-baritone vocalist, who possesses a voice of fine compass and purity.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The Georgians, costume concert party, under the directorship of Mr. Robert Carr, entered upon their second week's engagement on Monday, and are giving some capital programmes.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The variety turns at this popular resort are loudly applauded, and the special attraction this week is an amusing burlesque *Demented*, in which the entire company appears, the various characters being admirably played.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The stock company here is presenting *The Love that Women Desire*. Miss Maisie Hanbury gives a charming and much-appreciated impersonation of the heroine Sybil Thornburn; Mr. Frank E. Petley makes a manly and popular hero, Philip Carnaby; Mr. Austen Milroy is powerfully effective as the villainous Richard Abingdon; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair is highly entertaining as Dennis O'Rourke; Miss Lucy Murray submits a capital representation of Pattie Swift; Mr. Chas. R. Hann is well suited as Squire Abingdon; Miss Nellie Lauraine's Madge Abingdon merits warm praise; and the remaining characters are ably sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Harry Randall appears in his latest successes and wins enthusiastic applause; Lucas's dogs give a wonderful performance; the Seymons (Lily and Fred) are well received in their equilibristic juggling act; the Sisters Lowell are charming duettists and dancers; Edith Chantler is a pleasing juvenile vocalist; the Evalos are warmly applauded for their jocular juggling and gymnastic gyrations; Nat Lewis is a highly diverting comedian; Bell and Dare are a capital comedy duo; Mr. E. poses as a "pit-pat patterer"; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Carrie Moore is a delightful musical comedy artist; the Ten-ka troupe of Japanese magicians submit a very clever performance; Coram gives an amusing ventriloquial turn; Arthur Lennard is a diverting comedian; the Lacori family are graceful and daring on the trapeze; Russell Brandow is enthusiastically applauded for his acrobatic dancing; Sinclair and Whiteford are highly successful in their sketch illustrating matrimonial differences; Flora Cromer is a very pleasing vocalist; and effective turns are presented by Dewson, instrumentalist and vocalist; the Blessings, equilibrists; Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians and dancers.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth's company opened here on Monday with *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Keith G. Kenneth submitted a masterly impersonation of Captain Mowbray; Miss Betty Fairfax handled the character of Mrs. Corringe with distinct success; Mr. Charles Ashwell acquitted himself very ably as Lieut. David Cairn; Miss Evelyn Ward's Mrs. Jardine and Miss Mynnee Kirke's Miss Potts merit praise. The programme for the week also included *Under the Greenwood Tree*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—An excellent series of picture plays is exhibited here. The Letter is a pathetic story; Sudden Wealth is highly interesting; A Difficult Task and Madness and Love are dramatic films; In a Submarine conveys much instruction; and Rigollo, the Man of Many Faces, and A Night in Armour are amusing.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—A capital series of animated pictures is provided here. A Secret incident in the life of Marie Antoinette is replete with interest; The Sorceress of the Surf is very dramatic; Roman Walks is instructive; The Tree of Happiness is of a fairy character; and much amusement is afforded by A Hero in Spite of Himself, and Mamma's Angel Child. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in artistic style; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits praise for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniment to the pictures.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, W. H. Cousens.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here continue to attract good houses. Very strong dramatic stories are conveyed by President's Special, Double Dealing, and Bradford's Claim; Native Life in Malacca is instructive; and the comics include The Horseshoe and Method in His Madness.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Oswald Cray and company are here with *When it was Dark*, the play being staged in a liberal manner. Mr. Cray acts very effectively and in natural style as the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse displays power as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Edward Valentine presents a clever study of Sir Robert Llewellyn; Miss Lillian Herries does admirably as Gertrude Hunt; and Miss Rosalie Notrelle is pleasing in the sympathetic part of Helena Byars.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman. — Clifford Marle and Josephine Colona's company successfully present the naval phantasy *Nelson;* Mooney and Holbein entertain with song, patter, and dance; Edith Courtney and Florence Wilton please with their musical duologue *A Marble Flirtation;* Milton Brothers are both expert and amusing roller skaters; Richards Trio excel as eccentric acrobats; Henry A. Moore successfully imitates popular artists, &c.; Marco does good work as a magician; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Fred Karno's company amuse with the new production *Wontdetainia*, the sketch being capitally played and well staged; the Woodwards do a very clever cycle-balancing act, &c.; Ida Kessanley and her admirably-trained troupe of fox terriers provide a capital and interesting turn, the football match being most amusing; Gus Harris obtains appreciation for his speciality "Primrose Day"; Fred Hastings does well with

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

his monologue *Study in Courtship and Marriage*; Jessie Albini pleases with her clever skit on the Chantecler craze; Nan Farren is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Michael Madden is a smart dame comedian; and Dan Weldon is a clever whistler. Animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Among the pictures shown here are A Tramp's Story, which is cleverly acted and beautifully reproduced.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Jackson Family head the list here with music on various instruments; the Dickens sketches of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas are presented with vivid power; Ted Waite, comedian, keeps the audience laughing; and Flo Burnett is applauded for songs of the sentimental order. Clever and clean is the acrobatic performance of the Fitzroys; Dan Conroy is very amusing with Irishisms; and Charles Woodward, comedian, the Sisters Maynard, graceful dancers, and the Palace pictures complete.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Dr. Walford Bodie opened here to crowded houses on Monday, and met with a most cordial reception. He was supported by a good company, including La Bella Electra, with whom the doctor gave some bewildering and scientific experiments; Mr. W. H. Williams, expert bones, banjo, and bagpipe manipulator, fairly took the house by storm; Mr. G. H. Walker is a typical Highlander, and his two songs were well received; Miss Dolly Robson was also a great favourite; and others appearing were Bella Skene (musical comedy star), Billy Walters (society ventriloquist), and Tom Gold (comedian). Good pictures were shown on the Operascope.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Caste*, pleasingly presented by Miss Cora Anson's company, is delighting the numerous patrons here. Eccles is portrayed by Mr. G. W. Anson in a manner which stamps this popular actor as a finished artist; Miss Cora Anson as Polly Eccles would be difficult to surpass; and Miss Lydia Busch impersonates Esther with rare skill and grace; Mr. T. A. Shannon gives a portrayal of the Hon. Geo. D'Alroy, which reflects on him the highest praise; Mr. Cecil Collins' Captain Hawtree is carefully and creditably enacted; Mr. W. Allison as Sam Gerridge amuses with his clever character study; and Miss Helen Vicary as the dignified and stately Marquise completes a list of talented and painstaking artists.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Heading an exceedingly strong programme is a sketch brimful of humour, entitled *Papa's Day Off*, in which Mr. Geo. Ali undertakes the "all-fours" part of the dog "Sport," his antics from time to time causing uproarious laughter; Miss Winifred Hare makes a pleasing appearance, and scores tremendously with sweet and taking renderings of two songs; Harry Weldon, the popular comedian, is as funny as ever as Stiffy, the goalkeeper; another comedian who is quaint and full of smart sayings is Witty Wattie Walton, who keeps the audience in the best of humours; in a comedy act *Flipp and Flopp*, the Delevines cause considerable merriment; the Three Belle Belles are exceedingly clever vocalists and dancers; and Azell A. Wilson performs a remarkably graceful gymnastic act; an illustrated song is rendered with distinction by Rosie Fitzgerald, a juvenile vocalist of much promise; and the Bioscope pictures complete.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Full and exclusive pictures of the great boxing match between Freddie Welsh and Packy McFarland have drawn crowded houses; the acrobatic performance of the Geni Family, with the introduction of three ponies, is marvellous; Maude May Murray's electrical aerial dances are clever and picturesque; Sydney Brandon's dramatic character studies are thoroughly appreciated; Ford Williams is a fine bass-baritone vocalist; and Will Cornish, the musical bell expert, is really good. Helen Martin, sweet vocalist, and the Bioscope are also on the programme.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Steward M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. Edmund Tearle again puts on *The Shadows of a Great City*, and appears in a favourite rôle, Tom Cooper, his clever and breezy impersonation delighting large audiences. He is well supported by the members of his company, and the scenery and stage effects are quite a feature of the performance. Mr. Tearle was announced to appear as Macbeth on Friday.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Adam Tomlinson, the Tyneside comedian, is on a return visit, and with new tales and funny patter keeps his audience in roars of laughter. A vocal treat is provided by Williams' Jubilee Singers, a talented combination of coloured persons; Alice Craven is a clever Lancashire comedienne, whose catchy songs and saucy style please the audience. Mr. Walter Aubrey is a wonderful dancer; the Musical Keiths, in a novel and cleverly executed musical act, catch on immediately; and Sissie Brand, a dainty comedienne, and Harry Keeble, ventriloquist, are quite successful.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A packed audience assembled here on Monday, when a new series of up-to-date films was presented by the Loyal Dominion Co. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the singing boxmakers, are to be congratulated on the heartiness of the reception accorded their vocal scena. Bert Chapman, a blind baritone, acting as deputy, sings two songs with much feeling and sincerity. New electric fans introduced here on Monday were thoroughly appreciated.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Elise Denby, comedienne; the Moxon Trio, in a smart and amusing acrobatic display; Taree, the Australian musical bushman, whose entertainment is a decided novelty; Frank Maura, in his well-known equilibristic performance; Stuart and Evans, comedians and patterers; Tom York, whose coster songs always go well here; and Sheldon and Buckley's company in an Eastern episode *Before the Dawn*, which is produced in excellent style.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—The Jees top the bill here, and are once more pleasing all with their sketch *The Musical Smithy*. Les Wartanas prove very neat manipulators of clubs, hats, plates, &c.; Ray Espinosa deputises successfully for Lola Lee; Master Harcourt Mills gives impersonations of popular actors; the Haydns (Mabel and Rosa) are deservedly applauded; Chas. Rose gains plenty of applause for his neat dancing; Sybil Lofting wins favour as a vocalist; the Edisonograph has up-to-date films.

CHELTENHAM.—Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—John Ridding's Opera Company pay a welcome return visit on Monday, presenting *Maritana* to a large and appreciative gathering. In the title-part Miss Lucie Lever played with charming vivacity; Miss Vera Vizard as Lazarillo sang and acted nicely; Mr. Ditchfield was thoroughly capable as Captain of the Guard, as was Mr. C. Fredericks as the Alcalde. Mr. F. S. Gilbert was in happy vein as Don Cæsar; Mr. Michael Kemble took Mr. Ridding's place as Don José in a highly artistic manner, his singing being greatly admired; Miss Frederick Clendon as King of Spain made a decided impression. *Fra Diavolo* and other operas were in the week's bill.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—A film representing the Passion Play is proving a great attraction this week.

Winter Garden Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill Smith.—This new venture was successfully launched on Monday, when a big crowd assembled to witness the views of local life expressly taken for this exhibition. Other films, supplied by Moss' Empires, Ltd., were much enjoyed, as was Mr. John A. Latham's illustrated songs.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The bill-toppers this week are the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese performers, whose startling feats astound the audience; Beatty Bros. are smart character comedians and patterers; the Welsh Girls are gifted and novel vocalists; Michel Bros. are clever society acrobats; De Hais Bros. are extraordinary club jugglers; Nicklin Williams presents his latest song-scena *Recalled*, and creates a well-deserved success; Tom E. Hughes, an accomplished comedian, wins enthusiastic plaudits; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.—Theatre and Winter Gardens, Ltd.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—Mr. Fredk. Yates' company opened on Monday to an appreciative house. Miss Nan Hawkins has a delightful soprano voice and Miss Gertrude Pitt sings contralto songs and dances cleverly; Miss Sybil Glenn is an able vocalist; Mr. Hinton Jones is the possessor of a good tenor voice; Mr. J. Michael Watson is a powerful bass; and Mr. Len Robinson greatly amuses the audience with humorous and pathetic sketches at the piano. Included in the programme is a capital short musical comedy, entitled *The Hunt Supper*, in which all the party distinguish themselves.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. Will C. Pepper; Manager, Mr. Allan Thomas.—Mr. Will C. Pepper's company of White Coons has opened here for the season, and is doing good business. Mr. Joe Morley's banjo solos are enthusiastically received, as are also his duets with Mr. Allan Thomas, the latter rendering also some good songs; Mr. Wilfred Stracey provokes much laughter with his songs; ballad songs are tunefully rendered by Miss Bessie Bowness; Miss May Windsor's impersonations of a child are extremely funny; and concerted numbers by the company are a feature of the entertainment.

West Cliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell and Bentley.—These gardens are now opened for the season. A strong bill includes: Arthur Melrose (the whistling comedian), Miss Lilian Barnes (contralto), Joseph Boddy (tenor), Bernard Russell (comedian), Bert Graham (humorist and monologist), Will Bentley (comedian), and Cyril Weller (at the piano). Good audiences are present at every show.

Operetta House.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Jury; Manager, Mr. A. Bloomfield.—A varied selection of pictures is shown here.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Miss Loie Esmond and company are giving *The Sorrows of Satan* on four occasions, the remaining two nights being devoted to *Nana*. A good house assembled on Monday to witness the first-named play, and Mr. Edward Neville won high encomiums for his portrayal of the part of Lucio. Miss Rosie Neville enacted Lady Sybil with dramatic force, whilst the winsome character of Mavis Clare was charmingly depicted by Miss Dorothy Dewhurst; Miss Loie Esmond was faithful to the part of the American débutante Diana Chesney; Mr. I. McGaig made an acceptable Geoffrey Tempest; and as the retainers Morris and Amiel Mr. Percy Foreman and Mr. Hemnic Sisto acquitted themselves capitally.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Ten Loonies, who combine wild hilarity with musical skill, top the bill, and provide excellent entertainment; Ben Lewin, character actor, gives admirable impersonations from Dickens and the like; Karr and Kooney, the scarlet comedians, excel in merry jest; the Four Braggs present a high-class balancing act; Kenneth and Kane work hard and win great applause; Len Hale dances in taking fashion; Nora Dene is an attractive vocalist with very popular numbers; and the pictures win admiration.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Hippodrome season opened here on Monday with the engagement of Lafayette, "the man of mystery." The other attractions are the Sisters Gladwin, graceful dancers; Graham, a remarkably clever entertainer, who as a human marionette presents lifelike impressions of famous music hall artists; and Niblo's wonderful talking birds, another novel attraction.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Her Secret Lover* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's company and is thoroughly well staged. The cast is a strong one, all the characters being in capable hands; Ivy Seymour is admirably portrayed by Miss Laura Walker; and Mr. Arthur St. John is a great success as Gilbert Seymour.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The top turn on the bill is the comedy sketch *Her Husband*, played by Walter Bird's company, including Ernie Lottinga. It is a remarkable combination of farce and melodrama; the Pasquali Brothers, tumblers and equilibrists, perform a variety of daring feats; Natalia and Diana, two lady trapeze gymnasts, are clever performers. Other artists are Walker and Lake, who contribute an amusing patter dialogue; Albert Le Fre, versatile comedian and quaint dancer; the Lannons, vocal duettists and champion double high pedestal dancers; Mlle. de Rose, lady baritone and pianist; and J. H. Hawtrey, patriotic songster.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Much excitement is being caused here by the marvellous performance of Darracq on his whirling motor-car; Goodfellow and Gregson are exceptionally good in comedy act; Maidie Scott is a lively and attractive comedienne; Barney Armstrong and eccentric Kelly keep the house in good humour; Colin Bryce and company are well received in the comic sketch *Are You a Socialist?* Sammy Shields is an irresistible comedian; Celia Retford is clever; and the Bioscope pictures are up to the mark.

Queen's Hall.—The pictures here are well selected. An attractive feature are the singing pictures of the opera *Faust*. There are also other novelties of a humorous, dramatic, and picturesque nature.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—The Godfreys, musical comedy artists, bring down the house; Charles Ashdown creates laughter with his comic songs and dances; and J. Meath is applauded for his clog dancing. Among the films shown is The History of a Sardine Sandwich—interesting and educative.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—East and West are an entertaining comedy duo with a refined and novel style, and J. Grierson, society entertainer, is well received. The films include a Biblical study, The Life of Moses.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—An excellent programme is headed by Spissell Bros. and Mack, eccentrics and pantomimists, whose performance is one of all-round excellence; La Belle Nello, described as the Queen of Equipoise, is responsible for an exceedingly graceful act; Romanoff, gipsy violin virtuoso, skilfully renders several good selections; an excellent juvenile turn is supplied by the Denaro Bros., whose equilibristic turn is smart and neat; Charles Stevens, the convivial comedian, sings well, and is entirely successful; Percy Curry creates much merriment; Kydd and Kydd are excellent patterers; and Kitty Leon is a dainty soubrette and dancer. The Bioscope adds to the entertainment.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—A really pretty little musical comedy, entitled *Cupid's Arms*, is the chief attraction here, the principal characters being undertaken by Mr. Frank Danby in the rôle of a landlady and Mr. J. C. Piddock, who is a finished dancer and first-rate vocalist; Silbon's cats, some trained dogs, and a pony go through wonderful evolutions and perform remarkable tricks; the Keebles (Nora and Edie) are responsible for an attractive number; Elsie Ellis, an accomplished little comedienne, is the recipient of much hearty applause Fred Lincoln, an old favourite, is as popular as ever; Halter and Roy are heard to advantage in some good songs; and Cambs, billed as the musical monkey, assisted by Miss Castelle, is a thoroughly good entertainer.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—An excellent rendering of *East Lynne* was given on Monday by the popular stock company. The principals are Mr. Leonard Aardale (Archibald Carlyle), Mr. Chas. Lincoln (Francis Levison), Mr. Chas. Vivian (Richard Hare), and the Misses Rita Sponti, Jessie Yatman, and Maggie Lindsey. The piece is preceded by an interesting little tabloid drama, entitled *The Iron King*, from the pen of Mr. E. Birch, a local councillor.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. C. Watson Mills's company, in *The Wrecker of Men*, is here this week. As Risca Mallinson Miss Ruth Zillwood submits a powerful rendering; Mr. S. Pitt gives a remarkably fine portrayal of Jim Murley; and Mr. Arthur Robinson is efficient as Guise Strange. The part of Doris Melville is in the capable hands of Miss Gwendoline Talbot, who acts charmingly; Mr. William Heilbron gives an excellent study of Pharasophus; Mr. Edward A. Brooke, in the rôles of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus, does good work; Mr. Richard Bosco is well placed as Railton; and Mr. Thompson Carruthers (Eric Melville) and Mr. W. A. Armour (Hon. Reggie Verincourt) ably sustain their parts. Miss Lydia Hart as Vavasole Slopper supplies some excellent comedy.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Heading a strong programme here is Mr. James Hare's company in *Wrong 'Uns*. Mr. Hare successfully enacts James Redman, and receives able assistance from Harry Rignold as Esau Hebron, Mr. C. P. Wentworth as Sir Laurence Farrant, and Irene Clifford as Nell Radford. Jennie Johns has a flattering reception; she has a charming presence, and her songs are smartly rendered. The Three Hodginis, in their daring and sensational ladder act, appear with great success; O'Malley and Brown, Irish comedians, are very funny; a smart turn is done by Burnetti, quick-change character musician; Frank Weaver, an excellent sand dancer, is loudly applauded; George Rogan, versatile comedian, goes well; and Gertie Martini, vocalist, also appears with credit. The Palascope projects the usual entertaining films.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—The display of animated pictures here is highly appreciated. The Stricken Home and The Last Day are two highly interesting and dramatic films, and The New Reporter and The Tomboline Duel are fine comedy pictures. Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland present an exceedingly funny sketch, *The Dotted Crotchet*; Martin Henry and Irene Rose contribute a clever episode, *The Silver Medal*; Frances Haskell sings patriotic songs, which are beautifully illustrated, with success; Mollie Watson is a dainty comedienne; and Francesco, vocal chameleon, submits a unique turn.

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—The entertainment provided here draws good houses. Some excellent films are shown, and are greatly appreciated.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The town was invaded on Monday evening by thousands of miners, who thoroughly enjoyed *A Prince's Secret Wedding*. Mr. George Mitchell was well placed as Ivan Nowasky, and equally effective was Mr. O. Silverstone as Prince Alexander; Mr. Cowell Clark gave light and shade to the part of Karl Orloff; and mirth was aroused by Mr. Harry Wright as Robbie Smart; Little Minnie Halstan was a pleasing Alexina; Mrs. O. Silverstone, a dainty Katrina Zindoff; Miss Edna Clare, an excellent Alexina Orloff; and Miss Florry Kalsey, a brilliant Princess Olga.

DOUGLAS.—Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—The Gaiety Theatre opened on Monday for the season with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, which was artistically interpreted by Mr. Charles Graham and his company. Miss Winifred Scott, who played Elizabeth Philipse, is a dainty comedienne, and possesses passion and power; Mr. Fred Penley proved by his portrayal of the character of Mr. Valentine that he is an unctuous comedian; the Edwards of Mr. Richard Walsh was a thumb-nail sketch full of artistry; Mr. Graham Phillips played with sincerity an unthankful rôle; in the local colour parts of Black Sam and Cuff Mr. Frank Woodville and Master Alex. Wosely were excellently quaint; the Captain Harry Peyton of Mr. Charles Graham was a distinct *tour de force*; Miss Leonora Braham's Mistress Sara Williams was a perfect exposition of refined comedy; and Miss Nora Macdonnell was pleasing as the serving-maid Molly. The play was beautifully mounted. It was preceded by a clever curtain-raiser *The Very Devil*, written by Mr. A. H. Young, and played with spirit by Mr. Graham Phillips, Mr. Charles Graham, Miss Nora Macdonnell, and Miss Maud Britten.

The Palace, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The season here is in full swing, and a large shares of patronage is commanded. Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra would induce Diogenes to dance—tub and all; roller skating is provided, and there is an excellent variety programme in the New Opera House. The artists engaged are all popular. Miss Mona Vivien is a clever vocalist, mimic, and dancer; Jennion's Marionettes are ever provocative of fun; Mr. Bert Byrne is a clean and clever comedian; the Three Brothers Huxter present a refined tumbling act, in which comedy plays a part. Vernon's Bioscope puts the world's happenings before the public.

Buxton's Amusements.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Buxton.—The Pierrots' concerts are given three times daily. The artists include: Mr. Allan Hanbury, a fun-provoking comedian; Miss May Birkett, a soprano singer who scores; Mr. John Story, a popular monologue artist and impersonator of Dickensian characters; Miss Edith Butler, vocalist, instrumentalist, and versatile artist, who is a great favourite; Mr. Sydney Bach at the piano is in his right place; Mr. Harry Braddon as a Manx raconteur has few successful rivals; Mr. J. J. Mannix's sketches of coloured character are realistic; Mr. George Cristo as an illusionist and ventriloquist gives a good show; and Mr. Fred Buxton renews his success as a ballad singer. Mr. Robert Sedgewick is the musical director. In the Picturedrome, at eight, films are the chief draw. Miss Mildred Buxton gives the dramatic picture-song, "A little child shall lead them." Little Miss Buxton is a talented actress and a sweet vocalist. Other attractions at Buxton's are roller skating twice daily and the billiard hall.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dan; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—Animated pictures here are catholic in their scope and up to date. Dare's White Minstrels appear with success in a concerted number *The Pump*; and Messrs. Penn and Rolfe are humorous duettists. The attendance has been very large.

The White Minstrels are, as ever, a feature on Douglas Head.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The talent here this week is exceptionally good, and large audiences are present at each performance. Courtice Pounds and company, in a musical sketch, *Charles, his Friend*, receive rounds of applause. Miss Clarice Mayne is an enchanting comedienne, and her songs are excellently sung; the Francoli Troupe, in their acrobatic pantomime, *The Billposter and the Terrible Children*, are amusing and clever; Mahatma is very bewildering in her second-sight performance; Bros. Webb are extra good as the Musical Grimaldis; Fred Lindsay is well appreciated as the Bushman and Stock-whip Wonder; and George S. Melvin scores with his Scottish songs and dances. The Royal Bio. completes the programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*Fun on the Bristol* is being played here by Messrs. O'Brien and Ireland's company. Mr. James O'Brien gives a humorous impersonation of the Widow O'Brien; and Mr. Harry Ireland is exceedingly good as Captain Cranberry; Mr. Tom Conlan does full justice to the rôle of Richard Sparks; and Mrs. Mary Glenville creates much merriment as Bella. Mr. James Daly is well suited as Count Menaggio; and Miss Madeline Hurst is seen to advantage as Dora. Tom Cranberry has a good representative in Mr. J. C. Warren; and Mies Laura Lawson is pleasing as Nora O'Brien. The curtain-raiser, *The County Councillor*, is well received.

Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The premier attraction here is W. F. Frame, whose reputation is great in this city. Needless to say, his songs are heartily encored; Kathleen Gray has many admirers; Roma and Romani are clever and versatile instrumentalists; Miss May Henderson is an entertaining comedienne; and Barney Stuart proves himself an excellent comedian. Alec Lawson, dancer; the Lindons, comedy duo; the Rawsons, and the bioscope pictures are successful.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The bill is topped here by the Frank L. Gregory troupe of hoop-rollers and jugglers, whose smart performance merits applause; Osborn and Brooks, the musical comedy duo, are well appreciated; and King Luis and Partner, equilibristic novelty, is greatly enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, in a comedy sketch, *Coming Home*, are highly amusing; and other acceptable turns are provided by Mark Stuart, comedian; May de Rouse, comedienne and dancer; Nancy Renshaw, vocalist and bone soloist; Jack Rae, gymnastic comedian; and Marie Brayman, refined vaudeville artist. The bioscope completes the programme.

Palace Pleasure Gardens, Rathmines.—This pleasant resort was opened on Saturday last for the season, when Herr Victor Vorzanger's orchestral band performed several selections which were heartily enjoyed by the large audience present. Master Harold Vorzanger gave an excellent performance on the cymbals, and Miss Violet Elliott, contralto, sang vocal numbers charmingly. An addition to the programme is the engagement of the Misses Mather's band from Edinburgh.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—The Sabots are drawing capital houses. Miss Winnie Brown sings and dances herself into favour; and Mr. Sydney Warwick is an excellent baritone vocalist; Mr. Walter Walters, a humorous comedian, gains great applause; and Miss C. Stroud, soprano, is well received. Mr. Henry Rumings' sketches create much laughter; and the Bioscope shows an interesting series of pictures.

Arcadia, Bray.—Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The vaudeville company is drawing full houses nightly. The programme presented by the Arcadian company is thoroughly enjoyed; and Mr. Arthur J. Hill as a ventriloquist and as "The Living Lilliputian" proves highly diverting.

World's Fair.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James; Manager, Mr. Robert W. Sprengel.—The bill of fare here is furnished by Doyle and Deane, vaudeville artists; Fred Walton, comedian; Miss Cora Leslie, comedienne; Charlie Coll, comedian; and Arthur Rosene, character comedian.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Notwithstanding the warm weather large audiences are again enjoying the excellent pictures shown.

Empire.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—Charming and artistic is the delightful performance of La Belle Thelma and her seven lady models at the top of the bill this week. Too much praise cannot be given Sauteron Wonders, clever comedy speciality artists; Bros. Gerrard are real smart in music, mirth, and melody; Ben Jackson proves an expert banjo soloist and humorist; the efforts of the Lomas Duo in *The Birthday Teddy Bear* are much appreciated; and Harry Bland also scores well as an eccentric comedian. The Jollity Girls are lively in song and dance; and Ethel Payne, Australian ballad vocalist, is in good voice.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping a brilliant bill are Ellaline Terriss and company, in a diverting musical sketch, entitled *The Pink of Perfection*, which finds great favour; Gus Garrick hits off the different types of comedians very humorously, his burlesque on the Spanish dancer sending the house into convulsions; the Three Cunards' dancing act is marked with the utmost neatness and precision; wit, humour, and music are happily blended in Bromley and Fontein's sketch *The Man Behind the Music Stand*; Ridiculous Recco gives a clever acrobatic display, his comedy business being of the most ludicrous description; Linden Lang sings with fine voice and expression; the Hudsons are a vivacious comedy duo; and the Kingscope pictures are, as usual, excellent.

Gaiety Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—Miss Dora Hammersley's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, commenced their dramatic stock season here on Monday evening with *The Shaughraun*. Miss Dora Hammersley as Claire Ffolliott acted with dignity and pathos, and won all hearts; Mr. Charles Kean made a fine figure of Capt. Molineux, and declaimed his lines with good effect; the Conn of Mr. Finn Doyle was as humorous a performance as one could wish for; Robert Ffolliott was rendered in manly and spirited fashion by Mr. Edwin Morton; Mr. T. Dennis Byron acted with distinction as Corry Kinchela, his brogue being very effective; his accomplice in villainy Harvey Duff had a most efficient representative in Mr. Leslie Vyner, who invested the part with refreshing humour; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards was excellent as Father Dolan; a sweet and natural Arte O'Neal was found in Miss Cissie Bellamy; Miss Clarise Jenner made a vivacious Moya; and Miss Bella Power and Miss Ethel Ronald as Mrs. O'Kelly and Bridget Madigan respectively were distinctly good; and Messrs. James Somerville, Tom Mortimer, Will Henderson, and Jack Smythe all lend able assistance. The drama is capitally staged and dressed.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The high standard of the picture programmes here is well maintained this week by another excellent display of films, which includes Love's Stratagem, A Quiet Pipe, Victims of Fate, and The Angel of Dawson's Claim, in addition to which there is a host of comic films, along with the always-popular singing and talking picture.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—Good houses continue to be attracted here, the picture programme being of the most up-to-date.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Oswald King's new farcical comedy, *Turning the Tables*, produced here on Monday last, is noticed on another page.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Alfred West's *Life in Our Army and Navy* is here. The beautiful and unique photographs are of the most interesting kind, and, in addition to the latest moving pictures, there is a series of bird studies, which for attractiveness and technical art would be difficult to excel. Lieut. J. G. Sutherland, R.N.R., is a remarkably able guide; Mr. Julian Fredericks deserves praise for his finely arranged music.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here are the Schafer Four, who have a novel and taking musical turn; Miss Daisy Stratton, prettily and tastefully gowned, sings brightly; the Three Aza Boys are dancers of ability and neatness; Royston and Bradfield do capital work in a very effective sketch, *The Bailiff and the Actress*; Miss Edie Andersen sings and dances with gaiety and cleverness; Mr. Archie Pitt and Mr. Tod Lowen figure as comedians; and new films are shown.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—We are having a welcome change to variety this week. A De Bessell, the original clay-modeller, provides a novel turn; Penstone and San-Go are responsible for some clever feats of legerdemain; Johnson and Hart, American hoop-rollers and jugglers, are good; Sammy Foster, comedian, creates mirth; Cara Magda, Continental lady gymnast, meets with success; the Three Favourites, vocal and speciality artists, also contribute to the programme. A number of interesting films are shown.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, the well-known Wagnerian operatic singer, and company are here this week in a farcical comedy, *Theodor's Flutter*. The play is not the thing in the case of this piece, for *Theodor's Flutter* is a somewhat weak specimen of French light drama. But the production is redeemed by the delightful music, by Mr. Joseph Maas and Mr. Willy Scott, with which it is freely seasoned. Rendered in admirable style by Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Plumeau, clerk to a firm of pickle manufacturers; by Mr. Charles Victor, a splendid baritone singer, as M. Alfred Durand; and by Miss Doris Woodall—whose impersonation of Carmen is an artistic treat—as Aurelia, the various numbers in the play are given in a manner which makes a deep impression on the audience, and evoke enthusiastic applause. The other members of the cast are all capable singers, and an especially warm reception was bestowed upon a charming interpretation of a trio, "I want to be loved," by Miss Marion Broom (Angela), Miss Annie Van Dyck (Claire), and Miss Hilda Morris as Eve. Mr. Hedmondt had a double recall for a fine solo, "Queen of the sunshine," composed by Mr. Willy Scott, in which the singer displayed the passion of his style and the beauty of his voice. Another excellent number is the "Tendresse" waltz, a sextett, capitally rendered by Mr. William O'Connor, Mr. Schofield, Mr. R. F. Matthews, and the Misses Marion Broom, Annie Van Dyck, and Hilda Morris. Mr. Percy Blunden, in the title-rôle, and Miss Lawson Tayler, a vivacious Toinette, scored a success in the "Chanteclair" duet; and Mr. Bob Owen was an amusing Moreau. Miss Woodall received an ovation when she first appeared upon the stage, and she sang throughout with her wonted charm and expressiveness. A large audience on Monday evening applauded vigorously each number, and encores were frequent. A veritable feast for music-lovers is announced for a matinée on Saturday, when a recital of Schumann's songs will be given. Miss Woodall will sing the Cycle of "Frauenlieben und Leben," Mr. Hedmondt will be heard in the Cycle "Dichterliebe," and Mr. Victor and Mr. Willy Scott will also contribute to the programme.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. John Clyde and a specially-selected company occupies the King's this week, supporting Miss Lydia Donovan in her own version of *East Lynne*. Miss Donovan's success in the double rôle of Lady Isabelle and Mme. Vine is widely and favourably known, and she played throughout with all the necessary dignity and pathos; Mr. Clyde's Archibald Carlyle was marked by all this sterling actor's force and impressiveness; and an excellent study of Francis Levison was submitted by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford. The oddities and humour of Cornelia Carlyle were well brought out by Miss C. Henderson; Barbara Hare had a pleasing representative in Miss Jean Mackintosh; and Joyce, Susanne, and Little Willie lost nothing at the hands of Miss Barratt, Miss Amy Findlayson, and iss May Barratt; while Messrs. Roy Rhind, David Blair, Mr. J. Finlayson, and Mr. T. J. Waddington were all acceptable in the parts of Justice Hare, Richard Hare, Mr. Dill, and Detective Smart. The pleasant old comedy-drama *Cramond Brig* gave Mr. and Mrs. Clyde congenial work as Jock and Tibbie Howieson; with Mr. David Blair at his best as the king; Mr. Graham Wilton and Miss Amy Finlayson both well cast for Birkie and Marion; and Miss Jean Mackintosh a pretty page.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The programme here is full of most admirable entertainment, and the house has been crammed at each of the two evening performances. Mr. Harry Lauder's name, no doubt, counts for much; but the other turns on the bill are all noteworthy. The popular Scotch comedian is in his best form, and his new songs, "Bessie Lea," "Sunday morning," and "A Highland picnic," giving him the opportunity of showing his pawky humour in its most effective manner; Miss Ella Retford, a dashing comedienne, whose songs are rendered with a gaiety that is irresistible, is loudly applauded; the Sisters Pine are excellent vocalists; Mr. Cull Pitt's sleight-of-hand tricks are capital, his patter is humorous, and his imitations are distinctly good; Mr. F. V. St. Clair arouses the enthusiasm of the audience with his topical songs; Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi give a daring exhibition as equilibrists; the Brothers Dumont display neatness in a fresh acrobatic turn; and Bob and Minnie Lemand are amusing in an exhilarating sketch, *An Interview*. Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lilian Roseberry provide a new dramatic sketch, of which a detailed notice is given in another column.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Final Settlement, a dramatic story of the backwoods, and The Livingstone Case, a cleverly-worked-out detective mystery, are the principal films here this week. A gruesome picture of the ravages of cholera is given in Saved from the Jaws of Death. There are many humorous subjects, such as Foolshead Marries Against His Will, which cause much laughter. The variety part of the programme is excellent and well appreciated.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—The patrons of this popular place of entertainment are being well provided for this week, and a new feature, in the form of a fire-proof operating-box, has been put in. The pictures maintain their high quality in An Eye for an Eye, The Gallant Field-Marshal, and The End of the World. Jack Ramsay, comedian, and the Waltons, sketch artists, are heartily received.

Marine Gardens

menced an engagement on Monday, which has proved exceedingly popular. The skating-rink attracts a goodly contingent of skaters; and an exhibition billiard match between Inman and Aiken is well patronised. Balloon ascents and parachute descents continue to be chief amongst the many outdoor inducements to visitors, and the gardens themselves are looking their best. In the concert-hall large audiences have gathered to enjoy an excellent production of *The Pirates of Penzance* by Mr. Douglas Archer's Portobello amateur opera company. A very charming Mabel was found in Miss May Scott Hastie; the part of Ruth was happily rendered by Miss Jeannie Gulland; and Miss Ina Hill made a pleasing Edith; while of the male artists Mr. John A. Moir and Mr. R. C. Gray were thoroughly successful in their respective rôles of the Major-General and Frederick.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The patrons of this popular place of amusement are favoured with a return visit of Mr. Coleman Davies and company in *The Ticket of Leave Man* and *A Stolen Inheritance*. The chief characters in both plays are undertaken by Misses Eunice Udall, Florrie Hall, Nora Temple, and Messrs. Coleman Davies, J. Nelson Turner, T. Roydon, Merriman, and Courtney Robinson, and minor rôles are in capable hands. Animated Pictures are thrown upon the screen prior to and at the conclusion of each performance.

EXETER.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Sandy. — The engagement of the celebrated Kilties Band of Canada is proving a very popular selection, judging by the crowded and enthusiastic houses that fill the Hippodrome twice every night. There is no doubt as to the band, which numbers forty artists, being a musical treat. Between the items presented by the band one of the troupe, Angus McAlphine, a talented baritone, sang with great effect "The Bedouin love-song"; Mr. J. Coates Lockhart, who is the possessor of a sweet tenor voice, gave "The trumpeter"; Mr. Bert Daniels, in his cornet solo "Columbia" and Pipe-Major Johnstone, in his bagpipe solo, were exceedingly popular; Percy Lorraine proved a clever mimic of animals; and the Clan Johnstone Troupe, in Scotch reels and Irish jigs, were loudly encored.

FLEETWOOD. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones' company is proving a great draw. *When Other Lips* opened to a full house on Monday, when Miss Marie Daventry scored a triumph. The company is a powerful one, and the mounting excellent. *Life's Sweetest Sin* was announced for Thursday and Friday.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Harry W. Lumley's company, in the musical comedy *The Cruise of the Constance*, is supplying a bright and lively evening's entertainment. The play is admirably staged, and the company includes some capital artists. Mr. Charles McNaughton keeps the house in roars of laughter by his quaint humour and clever dances as Potts, the steward; Miss Irene Verona as Mrs. Hope does full justice to the part, and her delightful acting and singing are abundantly recognised; Mr. Fredk. Hobbs is excellent as Lieut. Wensleydale, R.N.; his voice is nicely modulated, and his songs give much pleasure; Miss Ruby Vyvyan, a clever actress, is responsible for an excellent interpretation of Clements, the maid; and Mr. Lockwood Philpot is entrusted with the rôle of the thieving secretary, Mr. Hardy. The remaining characters are capably filled, the chief being Captain Jackson, Mr. Albert Kavangh; Miss Isobel, Miss Carlotto Sylvano; and the café proprietor, Mr. Tom Prentice. The singing of the chorus is all that can be desired.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—On Monday Mr. H. F. Maltby and company opened here with *The Laughter of Fools*. Mr. H. F. Maltby's impersonation of Colonel Greig is a fine character sketch; Miss Mara Maltby acts the part of the quiet and unassuming Doris Henley with good effect; the part of Captain Vidal is admirably portrayed by Mr. Francis Drake; and as the masterful Mrs. Greig Miss Helen Pendennis plays in a telling manner; Wyn Weaver makes the most of his opportunities as Bertie Greig; Miss Ethel Percival brings into prominence the part of Mabel Greig; and Miss Irene Malvesyn is most amusing as the gawky servant Elizabeth; Mr. Frank Stoney appears to advantage as Hubert Hughes.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers' Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Waring.—Mr. J. J. Bell's amusing Scotch comedy, *Oh, Christina!* is now in its third week.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The change of programme this week to *The Irishman* gives another fillip to the Irish Dramatic Season, which has been so successful in this popular and comfortable theatre. Mr. Tyrone Power has another character in Larry O'Rourke which suits him to the life, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Jessie Glenn as Molly O'Flaherty, Mr. Fred Lloyd in the part of Owen Kavanagh, Mr. Dane Clarke as Felix Blake, and Mr. Morley Carroll as Micky Wheelan give faithful renderings of their parts. The rôle of Norah Desmond has a faithful exponent in Miss A. Grahame, and Miss Annie Hylton as the outspoken Kate Kearney leaves nothing to be desired. For Thursday and Friday *The Irishman* gives place to *Willy Reilly*.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Mr. Raymond Phillips is showing here his newly invented airship under wireless control, and the perfect manner in which he manœuvres it through the auditorium is the cause of much wonder. The Eight Lancashire Lads show their neatness and dexterity in song and dance. Binns and Binns present a musical turn that is as clever as it is new and unconventional; Alcide Capitaine's dainty trapeze and rope act is received with the heartiest applause; Mona Garrick gives several strong scenes from famous plays, and acts powerfully in each; Jennie Hartley is a smart serio and dancer; Jock Mills takes well in his humorous Scotch ditties; Maxey and Pete are a clever couple of comedy and trick cyclists; Russell Carr's ventriloquial turn is very good, and mention should also be made of the excellent musical selections by Mr. W. Moore and his orchestra.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Bellew and Stock's company, "The Romps," give a very enjoyable musical scena, which is well received. Miss Lilian Herlein, an American prima donna now here appears with success in several humorous and patriotic scenas; W. G. Raby is an eccentric comedian of much merit; Les Croisit Trio show wonderful strength and skill in all their various feats; Berg Bros. are a couple of Yankee trick cyclists with a number of new and daring feats; the Piccolinos, the miniature cyclists, dancers, acrobats, and wire walkers, are a clever troupe of artists, and take well; F. Rotting's feats as a conjurer evoke the heartiest applause; Godfrey Price is a bass vocalist of much ability, and his scena, "The Trumpeter," is cleverly staged.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Mr. Louis Taylor's London company tops the bill in *The Adder's Tooth*. Mr. Fred D. Bromwich, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, and Miss Katherine Clarke fill the leading parts powerfully. Miss Ida Barr, vocalist; Friend and Downing, the Hebrew and his Hebrew friend; Marcel and Boris, in a novel equilibristic act; Annie Braddon, an excellent comedienne; Pat Lynch, the dancing demon; J. E. Bates, acrobatic dancer; and pictures on the Bioscope are other turns.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Chas. Aldrich, the man of many parts, this week presents an entertainment thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all. Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's company presents a dramatic sketch, *The Organ Grinder*; Tom E. Finglass, coon vocalist. Carrie Laurie's juveniles, the Empire Comedy Four; Louie Frayne, vocalist, instrumentalist, and dancer; Rich Taylor, in a ventriloquial turn; the Pender Troupe of comedy giants and dwarfs; the Lyric Quartette; and Bioscope films are other attractions.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The outstanding pictures here are those representing The Troubadour, A Case of Identity, and the Treasure Hunters. The vaudeville programme is capitally sustained by Flo Ramsay, comedienne and dancer, and the Brothers Raeburn, clog dancers.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Mark Anthony, on a return visit, meets with a good reception; Nellie Duval, in both her numbers is pleasing; Sam Haslam takes well as a comedian; an entertaining turn is provided by Hart and Hart; and the Bioscope films are still interesting.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. W. Milne.—This circus has been closed for several weeks for alterations, and reopened on Monday with a very good display of films, both grave and gay. The anxeto-gramophone is heard in new musical items, and variety turns are given by the Two E's as "The Lady and the Yokel," and by Bee Smarte, the military girl.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE THEATRE. — Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—The chief picture is a good representation of the Oberammergau play. The vocalist, Miss Kitty Woodford, comes in for applause for her songs, and the Vocaphone choruses are well taken up.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. G. Boultwood.—A capital programme of pictures proves very popular.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—An attractive bill is headed by the Harrison Brothers, who keep the house in roars of laughter; Marquis and Truly are successful in their acrobatic and musical act; Maud Ethelda is a charming comedienne and dancer; and Miss Elsie Le Var, comedienne, is a prime favourite. The pictures by the Monarch-scope are very enjoyable.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is the attraction here. The principal rôle is filled by Miss Florence Baines, who has established herself a favourite.

THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr.—The pictures are excellent, and include The Soul of Venice, Rubber Boom, and Smuggling Up to Date. Percival, the burlesque comedian and trick pianist, is proving a great attraction; Oliver Conroy is repeating his success of last week; and Tom Taylor is a favourite with his song-scenas.

CHAPPEL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barker.—The season opened here on Monday under most favourable conditions, and before a most distinguished audience, including the Mayor and Mayoress. J. H. Crew scores with his songs and eccentric sayings; Astor is an up-to-date ventriloquist; Mr. Harry Barker has established himself a favourite with his well-rendered songs; Lena Pinaud is a clever dancer; Willie Black causes a lot of fun; the Brothers Farrant are aptly billed as "the Smart Set comedians"; the Sisters Redfen contribute a pleasing turn; Rubie and Elsie Dago's selections are well received; and Arthur Rugby is a first-class entertainer.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The present season concluded here on Monday evening, when the members of the staff took their annual benefit. An excellent programme was presented, which was appreciated by large audiences at both houses.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—A very attractive series of animated pictures have been exhibited here, including A Rich Revenge, Sandy, the Substitute, An Old Soldier, The Beautiful Snow, An Interrupted Honeymoon, and a singing picture, entitled One of the Girls.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—A drama now to Grimsby, *The Black Mask*, is here this week. Mr. F. Marriott Watson gives a vivid representation of the mysterious criminal, Henri Le Noir; Miss Florence E. Florence does well in the strongly emotional part of Nellie Cunninghame; Mr. J. Woodall Bird is well adapted to represent Dr. Walter Blackmore; the child Philip is well played by Miss Dot Fordo; whilst Mr. Jas. Chippendale as Jim Rudge, Mr. Fred Imbert as Samuel Winkle, and Miss Hettie Senior as Emma Burt, also accomplish good work.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Verner Walford.—The Tally-Ho Trio are talented vocalists, and they also introduce a good deal of genuine comedy; *That Dreadful Detective* is a capital burlesque; and Mr. E. D. Nicholls makes the most of the principal part; Leoni Clarke's cats, monkeys, and various other animals give a display that shows careful and patient training; Miss Mabel Sinclair is a clever lady ventriloquist; Reg. Bolton is excellent in his speciality, *The Editor's Imp*, and sings well; Beattie Bloom is a lively comedienne; and Wisper is a smart juggler.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial electric pictures and varieties are doing good business here. The Bijou Juvenile Troupe are exceptionally clever youngsters.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's Répertoire Company is here, playing *The Sorrows of Satan*, *Trilby*, and *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. In the first-named Mr. Fuller is successful as Prince Rimanez, and Miss Agnes Collier ably plays Lady Sybil. Miss Lilian Burns is excellent as Mavis Clare. Mr. Fuller is adequately supported by Messrs. C. Taylor, F. Emery, H. T. Monte, J. H. Mansell, L. Weston, S. Hoban, P. St. Clair, the Misses M. Court, L. Lennon, L. Fuller, and R. Howe.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Elton and Elma, knockabout gymnasts, are excellent and amusing; Regan and Ryan are two smart comedians. A good selection of pictures is provided.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Carlton, the card manipulator and illusionist, is as big a success as ever. He appears in three turns—card manipulator, illusionist (The Mysterious Cross), and a showman, in sketch, *The Circus*. Enzer gives an excellent display as sword expert and juggler. Miss Clarice brings down the house with her exhibition of ju-jitsu; the Bros. Hannaway are capital patter comedians and humorists; the Cairo Trio are capable musicians; Leolin, in juggling scena; Helmsley and Ambrose, in *A Pavement Rehearsal*; and J. C. Woods, violinist, complete a good bill.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—This week Frank and Jen Latona are the attraction, or, to be more strictly correct, Jen Latona is the star turn. She is simply irresistible. Tom Joy is well received for two funny ditties; the Florodoras return with their pretty scena *Two's Company*; Edna Latonna, male impersonator, has good songs; Steve Bartle, Edeophone soloist, is received with much favour; and Cheebert's Royal Imperial Chinese are decidedly clever.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Hazlewood.—Fine pictures are shown here. Claude Howell, elocutionist, recites "The Lifeboat," and a humorous piece cleverly.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week variety was in the bill. Dan Whitley was an excellent top, and went well; Miss Millie Gorton is a clever classical dancer; Mr. Charlton is a good conjurer, and did some remarkable tricks; Mlle. Dalmere was one of the hits of the bill with her table circus of performing animals; Miss Ada Leach is a capable ballad vocalist; and Les Atans did wonders with their teeth. Tennis and Laune and the Rowntrees completed the bill. The rest of the week Miss Winifred Chalmers presents *Miss Plaster of Paris*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Mr. Alfred Heather, the Yorkshire tenor, was here for three nights; Mr. Sydney Gandy and Miss Inglefield did some wonderful thought-reading business, and Mr. Gandy was also responsible for a clever ventriloquial turn. For the latter half of the week Miss Jessie Broughton and Mr. Dennis Credon are the vocalists.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This house reopened on Monday after the annual renovation with Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in the historical play *A Royal Divorce*. Napoleon was enacted by Mr. Frederick Moyes very successfully; the Empress Josephine was finely played by Miss Violet Ellicott, who secured the complete sympathies of her numerous audience; Miss Winnie Tempest well assumed the haughty arrogance ascribed to Marie Louise of Austria; and the little King, her son, was well played by Miss Dorothy Hudson; the treacherous Marquis de Beaumont was forcibly played by Mr. Charles Stirling; and Mr. J. H. Roberts was a picturesque Talleyrand. Mr. George Hudson found plenty of scope for humour in his part as Grimaud, and Miss Helen Meadows effectively realised Mother Lomas. The play was well mounted.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Under the direction of Mr. T. H. Friend, the Royal English Opera company are making their annual visit here. Mr. Tom Lawton conducts the operas, and the accomplished vocalists do justice to their respective rôles. Mr. Henry Beaumont submits a delightful rendering of Faust; Mr. Arthur Winckworth as Mephistopheles renders the music with considerable ability; as Valentine Mr. Tom Griffiths sings in spirited fashion; Miss Lydia Cara, in the part of Siebel, is heard to great advantage; Miss Elizabeth Burgess as Marguerita sings with agreeable ease and fluency. Other operas in their répertoire are *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *Maritana*.

HEATON-ON-TYNE. — BRINKBURN PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg.—Excellent business is being done at this new hall. The principal films are The Unchanging Sea, Ranson's Folly, and The Tramp's Story. The Two Spadonis, duettists and dancers, had a flattering reception.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Director, Mr. Sidoli; Managing-Operator, Mr. G. Wilson.—The animated pictures are a great attraction here, judging from the large crowds which assemble nightly. A Daughter's Devotion and The Sins of the Father are excellent films.

HUDDERSFIELD.— HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—An excellent programme includes T. Elder Hearn, who, in addition to his amusing juggling act, does some clever quick-changing business; Clown Argo, farmyard mimic; the Landuccis, with wonderful feats of strength; the Claymore Trio of club jugglers and dancers; J. P. Ling, comedian and mimic; the Carlo Maie Troupe of acrobats; the Gilberts, expert dancers; and a thrilling scene, entitled "The Rat," which gives Gaston Chevallier and Mlle. Etoil le Noir an opportunity to display their vivid Apache dance. The pictures complete.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Interesting entertainment is provided by the Westwoods, a clever and daring cycling troupe; John Macauley, who has a fine mellow baritone voice; Velanche's troupe of trained dogs and fox; Arthur Stacey, comedian and eccentric dancer; Miss Ena Compton, singer and dancer; Vay's smart band of juvenile artists; Jimmy Danvers and Miss Eva Rosslyn, in burlesque; the Two Units, comedians, on the bouncing table; and the Palace pictures.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Diana of Dobson's* is attracting good houses, and is meeting with a great reception nightly. Miss Eleanor de la Porte plays the name part with considerable skill, and brings out the three phases of the character in a marked manner. The Captain of Mr. Leslie Rea is another piece of good work; Mr. Thomas Paunceforte plays the character of Sir Jabez Grinlay with excellent appreciation of its demands; Miss Marie Ault portrays a dual rôle with decided skill; Miss Hilda Francks fulfils all demands made upon her as Mrs. Cantelupe. The curtain-raiser is *Out West*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mrs. Morton Powell's latest play, *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, is meeting with considerable patronage. The Ruby of Miss Maud M. Powell is a powerful piece of acting, and awakens the sympathies of the house. Mr. Leslie Austen is a faithful and true lover, and invests the part with proper force. The heavy rôle of Lucas is well filled by Mr. Walter Clarke; Mr. Henry Scatchard is not less successful as Octavius Screwe; the Ruth Wright of Miss Edith Wallace is a talented piece of work; Miss Ana Corri plays the part of Madame de Merai with proper emphasis; Miss Eva Norman is well cast as the cripple boy. The comic relief is well brought in by Miss Lilla Nordon, Mr. Wm. Clements, Mr. Ed. Swinton, and Mr. Mackintosh Clyde. The play appears destined to have a long run.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Arthur Roberts, the prince of comedians, presents a humorous sketch, entitled *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Roberts plays the part of the masher in his own inimitable style. Gertie Gitana sings and dances in her usual attractive way; Siems, the Danish card-manipulator, presents a number of clever tricks; Alf Gibson is a quaint comedian; and George French, in song and patter, has a flattering reception. A novel turn is that given by Charles Fisher's Vocalesques—a musical treat; Lillie Lassah is a smart comedienne; Cumminger and Colonna are dancing experts; and Conn and Conrad, aviating comedians, win favour.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Jake Friedman and company are responsible for the production of *Happy Holland*; Cullen and Carthy are entertainers of a high order; and Arthur Boyne and Harry Conlen are old favourites. Helen Lambert and Fred C. Glover present a funny absurdity; Edith Haley is a versatile comedienne; and Edith St. Clair, comedienne, and the Three Warringtons' herculean equilibristic act conclude a bill of all-round excellence.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—At the head of a strong programme we have the Maningoes, head and hand balancers, their clever and well-finished performance meeting with warm approval; Daisy Hicks is a charming comedienne whose songs are very taking; Clive Watts, comedian and wooden shoe dancer, is a performer above the average; Lucy Coventry is a lively and popular song and dance artist; an amusing turn is provided by Dolia and Snowball, in eccentric songs and dances; and the musical act of the Bros. Erard is novel and original. Marked appreciation is extended to Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville, in their clever act, *Jack's Jacket*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Variety is again proving a draw. Minola Hurst is an excellent vocalist, and her miniature marvels are popular; the famous Everhart astonishes with his marvellous performance with the hoops; Al and Lal, ventriloquists, are favourably received; Happy Attwood proves himself a capable comedian; and the bill includes Phillips and Bristow, vocalists and dancers; Margaret Ogilvie, comedienne; and A. G. Spry, a diverting comedian; and Alice Hughes and company, in an entertaining sketch, entitled *The Star of the Bazaar*.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Mr. Albany Ward continues to present some splendid films here. The speciality this week is one representing the departure of Major-General Hugh S. Gough, who left Jersey last week, when he was replaced by Major-General Rochefort as Lieut.-Governor. This film, which pictures many local celebrities, is much applauded. The vaudeville turns include a good knockabout act by Knoks and Lee and the famous Sutcliffe Family, who perform some really wonderful feats.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Charles A. Barnett.—The Cremona Ladies' Orchestra continues to be the chief attraction here.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Consul is presented by Mr. Bostock, and proves a strong attraction; Henry and Tyler, in their comedy bicycle act, are big favourites; Miss May Lilian Levy sings in good style, and the choruses are readily taken up; Ess and Hoey, skate dancers, are well received; Earle and Melville, comedians, are very humorous. A capital picture, Studies in Waves, is displayed on the Bioscope.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian grand opera company is presenting, with signal success, here *Il Trovatore*, *Rigoletto*, *Faust*, *Lucia Di Lammermoor*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Carmen*.

LEEDS.—THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, in *From Slave to Princess*, is drawing good houses. Mr. Charles E. Johnson enacts the rôle of the police spy with dramatic effect, and Miss Doris Gilham acts capably as the jealous Claudia; a fine impersonation of Prince Julian is furnished by Mr. Wernham Ryott, and Vera, a slave, is capitally portrayed by Miss Agnes Verity; comedy parts by Miss Margaret Davidge and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson afford much amusement.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galby.—Victoria Monks is a big drawing turn here with several of her popular songs; Chris Van Bern, in a unique comedy act, gains much applause; Frank H. Fox, a smart comedian, with a powerful voice, has a good selection of songs; and Nellie Farrell's Irish songs are a welcome addition to the programme. Harry Herbert (a capable comedian), Holden's Mannikins, the Carmos (in a clever act), the King's College Boys, and Iva Voyce, all render attractive items.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Herbert Sleath's company present a cleverly acted sketch, entitled *The Deputy Sheriff*; Lottie Bellman and Bay Russell give a clever vaudeville entertainment. Other favourites include Harry Taylor, Narow Brothers, Havannas troupe, Cash and Clair, Scottish Meisters, and Cedar and Elgar.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—W. T. Ellwanger and company present a capital sketch, *Who dis It?* which arouses laughter; Lily Lonsdale's voice is much admired, and she has some pretty songs; Bonhair and Tess present a clever quick-change scena; Arthur Woodville hits the popular fancy; the Venetians give a pretty statue and singing act; Lisbon and Barker, topical duettists, are big favourites; and other good turns include Gwennie Morgan.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Maude Elliston and company present a farcical production, *Dobson's Day Off*; the Olympian troupe of cyclists show skill in a football act; Sara Rosebury, a Lancashire dialect comedienne, is a big favourite; as also is Ernie Myers; the Five Musical Marvels give an attractive entertainment.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—Some capital pictures exhibited here include Grahame White's Flight to Manchester. The vaudeville element is sustained by T. W. Lenner, comedian and patterer, who creates considerable merriment, and Florrie Wright, who proves a good vocal comedienne.

LEICESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—We are well entertained here by Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company in the *Passion of Life*. Various parts are enacted in a convincing manner by Mesdames Ada Hender, Maud Garth, Emily Lewis, Madge Maher, and Clarissa Rose; and Messrs. F. Owen Chambers, Hubert Helliwell, Fred Luard, Basil Mitchell, Owen Edwin, J. O. Stevenson, and D. Rose. Yesterday (Friday), a new play, by Fred A. Marston and Maurice Scott, entitled *The Wrongs of Woman*, was produced. A report will appear in our next issue. The manager for Mr. Helliwell is Mr. Charles F. Johnson, who was the first acting-manager at the Palace Theatre here.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Topping this week's bill is Fred Karno's company in *Jimmy the Fearless*—an elaborate realisation of the boy's penny dreadful. The sketch affords a capital entertainment. At the other end are the Poluskis (Will and Sam), smart parleying patterers; Ted E. Box, a first-rate comedian, has established himself as a favourite here; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette are past-masters as banjoists, their refined and clever show meeting with the heartiest appreciation; Ando's Happy Little Japs are smart acrobats, jugglers, and equilibrists; Chas. Norton is again scoring with his mimetic monologue *Pros. at the Races*; La Freya is good in her original artistic visions; and other artists who entertain are Wullie Walker, Scotch comedian, and Maudie Francis, juvenile comedienne and dancer.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—This week's programme is supported by Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks, in the pretty and interesting dramatic duologue *Her Return*; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne is good in his novel scena *Too Late*: or, *An Actor's Dream*; the Five Jovers are making a hit as double-bar gymnasts; Wee Georgie Harris is making a successful appearance; Dene and Dixon are popular in their comedy duo, *The New Pageboy*; Joe Belmont is aptly described as the human bird; Gladys Wyse is a delightfully clever juvenile Scotch comedienne and dancer. The pictures are again of the best.

EMPIRE.—Sole Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The Pet of the Big Horn Ranch and Lines of White on a Sullen Sea are the two principal pictures here. Evelyn and Chip, pedestal dancers, are an additional attraction.

EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. V. Horton.—There is the usual first-class array of films here this week.

LINCOLN.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—A smart turn is being given here by the Warsaw Brothers, an act of music and mimicry; Colley and Scott are an entertaining comedy pair; the Seddons, in their juggling, offer a pleasing number; Fallows and Beaumont sing finely; Ethel Entwistle, in her single number, reveals ability; and Walter Reed, banjoist, Bert Crosbie, a comedian who dances well, and the Palace pictures are other features.

LIVERPOOL. — SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—This being the week of the Royal Agricultural Show at Liverpool, the management of this theatre decided to reopen for six nights with the popular *Florodora*. The bright musical play is being presented in capital style by Mr. Charles Constant's company, and is doing good business. Head of the funmakers is Mr. Johnnie Schofield, whose Tweedlepunch proves immensely diverting; Miss Kate Leicester pleases everybody with her vivacious Lady Holyrood, receiving loud applause for some charming singing and accomplished dancing; Miss Daisy Lake is an artistic Dolores, and sings with much taste and expression; Miss Florence Hersee (Angela Gilfain), and Mr. Johnnie, jun. (Captain Donegal), give a smart example of the Apache dance, and the lady also earns much commendation for her own remarkable dancing. Credit is due to Mr. Stanley White for his uncommonly good picture of Cyrus Gilfain, and to Mr. Martin D. Pitts, who makes a thoroughly capable Frank Abercoed. Several new features are introduced into the play, which goes with a merry swing.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Her Life in London* is presented by Mr. Stanley Coulton's company. Miss Rubie Maud gives a fine rendering of the rôle of Astra Bell, for which she receives cordial applause; as the Rev. Allan Gordon Mr. Stanley Carlton acquits himself admirably; Madge Rendall is capably presented by Miss Constance Medwyn; credit is due to Mr. Claude Aymond for his telling picture of the blind burglar, Grattan Gale; and worthy support also comes from Messrs. W. Vernon, Joe Redfern, and John Croudace, and the Misses Alice Thorne, Evelyn M. Walton, Jennie Bostock, and Emily Marsh.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Another Man's Wife* is here with Mr. Fred Granville's company. In the part of Lucie de Vergas Miss Ruby Loucraine shows high powers, and earns rounds of applause; Miss Lilian Raybourne makes a powerful Inez de Castro; Mr. Granville undertakes the part of the rascally Paul Bernstoff in able manner; Mr. Willie Reid is particularly funny as the energetic Sam Smiles; Miss Dorothy Love plays the child Lucy with much taste and naturalness; and other good supporters are Miss Marion Mayne, Mr. Leonard Marshall, two capital comedy parts, and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Paying the Price*, which first saw the light last week at Hull, is the attraction here, and Mr. James Willard's company have done the acceptable piece every justice. Mr. Willard himself displays much power in the parts of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman; Mr. Jackson Wilcox is a manly Captain Clinton; high praise is earned by Miss Marguerite Tueskie, who presents the dual rôles of Nell Fortescue and Lady Delemere; as Doris Miss Alice Bowes shows a deal of spirit, and gains popularity; the part of Cecil Dalrymple, held by Mr. H. Vyvyan Thomas, proves very amusing; Miss Winnie Leslie, in the character of Mary Esdale, also helping with the fun; and Mr. Charles Carte handles the rôles of Hal Vortoone and Jan Vortoone with judgment and tact. The staging is excellent

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The ever-welcome G. H. Elliott is here with his latests ditties, for which he obtains a flattering reception nightly; Charles R. Whittle delights everyone with his capitally-rendered songs; Lew Lake and company present a merry sketch, *King Nobbler*, which proves highly diverting; the Six Lancashire Lasses are charming vocalists and capital dancers with wooden shoes, receiving a big measure of applause; Dorothy Ward finds great favour for her able selections; Harry Jolson, an operatic black face comedian, had some taking songs; the Jackley Trio of acrobatic comedians provide an excellent entertainment; as musicians Les Frasettis present a turn which earns much favour; and Tom Moore, character comedian, also appears.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The Majilton Company are affording much delight with *She would be a Widow*. Mr. Jim Bond is Ben Butternut, a rôle in which he excels, and keeps his audience in constant laughter; Mr. Charles Majilton also helps greatly as Dr. Syrup; Miss Lena Valli, in the part of Ethel Rosebud, the widow, is particularly good; Miss Maddie Majilton proves a lively slavey; and other artists who acquit themselves well are Messrs. George Hunter and Tom Carroll, Miss Lizzie Boyle and Miss Nelly Clifford.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here we have Flo Stanley's company of comedians in the lively sketch *The Prince of the Dandies*, which is favourably received. Mr. Arthur Watson is Sprouts, and clever dances are introduced by the Empire girls; Dave Samuels is here again with his amusing Hebrew character sketches, and keeps his audience in shouts of laughter; Les Berthos has a smart acrobatic dancing act; *The Dancing Master* is an amusing turn provided by Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor; Les Ados introduce some interesting Olympic games; Hughes and Elliott are a very diverting couple; and Tom Franks (ventriloquist), the Melbournes (vaudeville entertainers), and Willie Allan (Scotch comedian and dancer) also contribute.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The attraction offered by the stock company here is *The Missionary*. Excellent work is done by Messrs. Harry Tresham, Sydney Grant, Leo Montgomery, R. Seath Innes, Miss Gertrude Entwistle, Miss Lina Nazeby, and Miss Getrude Gilman. Brown's Bioscope shows Rogues of the Turf.

OLYMPIA. — District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Highly delighted audiences here are giving Jack Lorimer a cordial greeting for his merry Scotch songs; some fine pictures of the Welsh v. McFarland fight are thrown on the Bioscope; the Twelve Fezzans go through a marvellous acrobatic performance; George Newburn shows great powers of mimicry, his imitations of leading stars being exceedingly well done; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull have a neat tabloid musical comedy *Mixed Bathing*; an excellent and pleasing performance on xylophones is given by the Five Vernons; the Onetti Sisters have a clever turn as gymnasts, for which they receive loud applause; Stella Stahl pleases as greatly as ever with her songs and dances; and the three Sisters Kilner earn recognition for their acrobatic dances.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of the bill is the laughable *Cockneys in Japan*, presented by Alec Hurley and company; Marguerite Broadfoote delights everybody with her taking songs; Ida Dorrie finds favour for her popular numbers; *Sergeant Fearnought and His Raw Recruits* is a very funny sketch given by the Phillipi Bros.; another laughter-provoker is "The Postman's Knock," submitted by Purvis and Partner; G. W. Hunter is as amusing as ever; the Estmanoff Troupe of Russian national dancers are well worth seeing; and the Davis-Gledhill Trio present a wonderful cycle and motor race.

LLANDUDNO.—PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's vaudeville entertainers continue to perform to good audiences twice daily. They are fortunate this week in having Wilfrid Burnand at the top of the bill, his impersonations of leading actors and comedians being par excellence; Arthur R. Sutcliffe, the popular local manager, contributes some catchy songs; Flora Driver, an entertainer at the piano, is good; Fred Mason, whistler, Edgar Driver, comedian, and David Stewart, comedian, all add to a good programme, and J. A. Tonbridge, pianist, is all that could be desired.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. R. E. Warton.—Cinematograph pictures constitute the programme this week, the films shown being of an exceedingly interesting character. A series depicting the principal scenes in *Macbeth* is noteworthy, and pictures of the Derby were also excellent.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsay Edwards.—Another well-selected set of pictures is shown here this week; the Vanderbilts, comedy artists, give a smart variety turn; and the Calcotts are clever singers, dancers, and musicians.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The pictures here are all that can be desired, and variety is provided by Marjory and Maud, vocalists and dancers, and Henri Albano, concertina specialist.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—A capital attraction is *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stuart displays much ability in the rôle of Lord Lumley, and other parts are equally well treated. The mounting and dressing are good.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. Paul Mill.—"The Cigarettes" are giving popular concerts twice daily, the artists including Mr. Reg. Crowe, a local comedian.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—In addition to the enjoyable pictures, varieties are given by the Brothers Obr, comedians, who cause roars of laughter, and Spiridion, a juggler above the average.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—*Lucky Durham* has been played here to good houses by Mr. Arthur Leigh's company. Mr. Edmond Kennedy makes a striking personality of the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Leigh plays the Hon. Reginald Steighton in a natural and pleasing manner; Mr. W. Calvert does well as Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Chas. Wemyss, the capable stage-manager, scores as Mr. Vallerton; and Mr. Frank Elton as Arthur Walcombe and Mr. John Hartt as Tasker are well placed in the cast. Miss Florence Tressilian is a charming Helen Vallerton; Miss Nellie Bonser a sympathetic Mrs. Durham; and Miss Frances Wolviston as Lady Mountfallon and Miss Dorothy Turner as the Hon. Margaret Steighton also take part. Mr. R. F. Kennedy is to be congratulated on the excellence of the production.

MANCHESTER. — ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are again entertaining local audiences by their performances of *The Lady of Ostend* at this theatre. It is, as usual, very well received. *Love in a Railway Train* precedes.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The top turn here this week is Ada Paglini, whose performance on the violin is accomplished and entertaining to a high degree. The O-K-Dians, in their musical comedy, are also a prominent turn, and the Seven Wulfrunas give a smart comedy gymnastic act. Other clever contributors are Little Vestos, juvenile vocalists and dancers; Beatrice Bonnie, in a novel musical act; Mitchell and Stott, comedy gymnasts; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists; and the Brothers Loo, comedians.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Wilson Benge presents here this week *The Eve of Her Wedding*, a picturesque and effective domestic play. Miss Florence Zillwood as Rennie de Tello has much to do with the success of the piece, and Mr. Louis Lingard is admirable as George Tremaine, while Mr. C. Digby contributes humour as Rudolph Earle. The other parts are in good hands, and the play is well staged.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and company are playing here in *Sowing the Wind*, which is excellently rendered, and fully appreciated by good audiences. Mr. Lovel gives a capital interpretation of the part of Mr. Brabazon, and Miss Octavia Kenmore does full justice to the rôle of Rosamond. Among the remainder, Mr. Davis Curtis is conspicuous for a clever rendering of the bachelor Mr. Watkin.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Mr. Raynor and company are here this week in an interesting répertoire, beginning with *The Tree of Knowledge*, and including also *Still Waters Run Deep* and *Captain Swift*, all well played and appreciably received.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The one and only George Lashwood is here with several new songs; Alice Raymond and her players are exceedingly good in a novel spectacular musical production, *A Night in Egypt*; John Humphries, the well-known comedian, and company are highly amusing in sketch, *Ancient Britons*; the Brothers Egbert, as usual, cause no end of laughter as the Happy Dustmen up-to-date; and that popular tenor Edward Davies meets with a deservedly good reception. Other capital turns are those of Frank and Free, comedy artists; Emma Don, smart male impersonator; and Nell Emerald, comedienne and dancer. Some excellent pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Great enjoyment is caused here by George Robey, who is giving the best selections of his current répertoire, while sharing the honours of the second place on the bill are Albert Whelan, the neat and clever Australian entertainer, and George Lestocq and company in a smart comedy sketch. Other good turns are the New York Nippers, singers and dancers; Walter Munroe, the Irish comedian; the Martialo Trio of balancing jugglers; the Keppels, operatic vocalists; Harry Bancroft, actor vocalist; and Emmie Ames, a pleasing comedienne.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Charles Austin is very amusing here this week as *Parker, P.C.*, and causes much laughter. He is very ably assisted by a large company. A wonderfully clever roller-skating performance is gone through by McLellan and Carson; the Banzai Family of Japanese are exceedingly smart, and deserve their good reception; and the Gaudsmidt Bros., acrobatic clowns, with well-trained Spanish poodles, are seen in an act of great merit; Vardon, Perry, and Wilbur give an enjoyable musical, singing, and dancing novelty; Olga Dore, Australian prima donna, sings well, and is greatly admired; whilst other smart items are those of Horace White, ventriloquist at the piano; Bella Braham, pictorial songstress; and Clifton and Gibson, comedians and dancers.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Alice Favier, the original creator of La Poupée, is here this week in a delightful répertoire of songs, and is well received; Beatrice Eveline charms in her violoncello act; Ruby and Laws are pleasing, as usual, in their vocal comedy act; Black and White are clever lady acrobats; Iris Banfield, an exceedingly dainty comedienne, sings several taking songs nicely; Kenny Ray scores in a spoof ventriloquial act; Billie Burford, chorus comedienne, takes well; and Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hayes cause amusement in their sketch, *The Other Mrs. Brown*. Pictures complete.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry. — The famous Elliott-Savonas top the bill here this week in their beautiful spectacular musical act *The Palace of Orpheus*, and are highly successful. Lulu Russell, charmingly gowned, makes a big hit with taking style and songs; Harry Marlow, comedian, scores with his song, "Don't forget the chorus"; Victoria Dagmar and comedy assistant give a smart gymnastic display; whilst other good turns are offered by Harry Russon, actor comedian; Bertha Evelyn, vocalist; Menotti, the Stockholm wire-riding wonder; and Golden and Chance in novel eccentric act. The Power of the Press on the Bioscope is good.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Ernest Lord's Excelsiors are the attraction here this week, with Ernest Lord himself at the piano. This excellent combination of entertainers include Ona Ashton, soprano, Alice Singleton, contralto, Nora O'Malley, comedienne; Harker Holt, tenor; Frank M. Quinn, baritone; and Frank Crawford, comedian.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—There is plenty to amuse and instruct in the beautifully clear films this week, including When the Cat's Away, Customs Officer's Dog, A Romance of the Western Hills, Sandy the Substitute, Rubber Boom, and A Deal in Broken China.

MARGATE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edward Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby.—Mr. Leslie Stanley's company is presenting the new musical comedy *The King of Mystonia*, which has been having a very successful run. Mr. Charlie Towers as Fido Tennyson makes all he possibly can of a most amusing part, and keeps the audience in a continuous ripple of laughter; Mr. Tom Lyle is first class as Frank Warrington; Mr. Ralph Shore is excellent as Reginald Mudwick; Solomon Ikeston has a capable exponent in Mr. Will Kirk; and Miss Kitty Vernum makes a captivating Violet. Miss May Warden sings delightfully, and plays the part of Estulah in a convincing manner; Mr. J. Musgrove is the naughty Sultan Je-hu-tah, and a really good one he makes; Miss Marie Vere is very good as Trixie; and the other members of the company all do excellent work. The chorus is effective, and the mounting and dressing of the piece all that one could wish for.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—La Milo is the attraction, in a new répertoire of classic studies which have been witnessed by crowded audiences. In conjunction with Cruickshank's pictorial libels on public men, this is the most popular turn in the bill. The programme also includes Royburn and Dix, comedians, in their skits on the telephone; Ted Karno and company, in *The Hotel de Quick*; Sidney Bach, at the piano as the Welsh landlady; Fred Costin, comedian; Marie Mangus, concert artist; and Charles Banks and his dog, in an amusing and novel act.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is doing well here in a round of dramas. On Monday they presented *A Beautiful Fiend*, in which Miss Sidney Crowe played with marked ability the part of Wonda Lubinoff. Miss Madge Palmer was successful as Patty Woodlands; Mr. Herbert Skardon's Major Ivan Paulovitch was appreciated, as was also the Count Fedor Karateff of Mr. G. M. Montanini and the Sergius Strogoff of Mr. Howard Hardy. During the week *Send Him Victorious* and *For Honour and Revenge* have been presented.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—The Four Royal Scots give a pleasing musical performance; the Spanish Juanitos provide a capital acrobatic show; the Three Gascoignes are entertaining comic jugglers; and Hans and Lux, comedians; the Raymonds, vocalists and dancers; Victor and Louis, vocal comedians; Miss Connie Isca, vocalist; Bu-Val, comedian; Randolph King, comedian; and the Empire pictures.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—This is the last week of the Merrymakers, who conclude their engagement with an enjoyable musical scena entitled *The Houseboat Party*. Mesdames Lyndon and Beatlie Howard vocalise sweetly; and Tommy Sloan, Joe Shamrock, and Syd Bazley keep up the merriment from start to finish. Another capital turn is the Digbys, in a funny comedy act; and Charlie Dixon's eccentricities and dancing hit the popular taste.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The programme here this week is bright and varied. Among the pictures Fishing for Eels is an instructive subject. The variety programme includes J. P. Adderley, actor vocalist; Henson Bros., comedians; and the Canworths, vocalists and instrumentalists.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—The Kio Tani wrestlers supply the principal turn here. The Monckton Lave an original comedy entitled *A Woman's Curiosity*; Reed and Cully provide a sensational tumbling act, and other capable artists include Beketow Bros., in a novel pot-pourri and jumping act; Nancy Laurel, a refined vocalist; the Three Tivoli Girls, coon singers and acrobatic dancers; Wat Tyler, character vocalists; and Carney Cairo, swell comedian.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—A capital house witnessed the first performance here of Mr. Weedon Grossmith's extremely funny comedy *The Night of the Party*. The chief characters are undertaken by Mr. Howard Tracey, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. W. Lockhart, Mr. Stanley Arthur, Mr. E. J. Hinge, Mr. Eric Pardow, Miss Denbigh-Russell, Miss A. Maude, and Miss Clair Townsend. The staging is first-class.

TOWER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Animated pictures are very popular. The company includes Messrs. Blarney and Bland, comedians and dancers; Miss Lillie Le Main, living marionettes; and Mr. Chris Dacre, vocalist.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Once again the management have placed before their supporters the "musical comedy without a plot," entitled *The Gay River*, in which the following ladies and gentlemen appear successfully:—Mr. Frank Dunlop, Mr. R. Manning,, Mr. F. Roberts, Miss Harne Fawn, Miss C. Pansy, Miss Edith Fawn, and Miss Jeanne Jenne. Mr. Parry is an able conductor.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Bye.—A very attractive programme is placed before the patrons of this cosy hall this week, with the result that full houses are being experienced, notwithstanding the almost tropical heat. At the top of the bill is Will Evans, in his screaming burlesque of *Chantecler*; the item is of the most hilarious description and keeps the audience in one long loud laugh. Luis Alvarez, the famous tenor from the Royal Opera House, Madrid, is scoring heavily; he sings delightfully and gives a varied répertoire. To the current bill Jack Pleasants is a welcome contributor, each of his numbers is most effective, and into them he puts a wealth of comic detail that sets the house in a roar. Heeley and Meeley, the Lucky Tramps, keep the audience in delirious laughter with their surprises and novel falls that are irresistibly funny. May and Kennerley are entertainers of no mean talent, their comedy singing and dancing act is most pleasing. Others who contribute and gain favour are A Ba Be in a medley of music and artistic posing, and the Royal Delomes, speciality dancers. A word of praise is also due to the orchestra, for they add most materially to the evening's entertainment.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—An attractive series of films includes The Genfersea, Tenderfoot's Triumph, and A Hero in Spite of Himself. Miss Margaret Payne's vocal items are well received.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The Late King's Funeral is shown at the matinées only. The pick of the evening programme is The Angel of Dawson's Claim and Electra.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Good dramatic subjects are Heart of an Outlaw and The Father the Son's Rival.

Northampton will shortly have a new and up-to-date music hall. An important and extensive site in Abington-street, with a frontage of 80ft., rear the new Public Library, has been secured, and building operations may be expected to commence early in the autumn.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—For the race week attraction the stock company has presented *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Albert Sember gives an excellent impersonation of Ivan Pantovitch; Mr. Ed. E. Louis is a capable Count Fedor Karateff; Mr. Ernest R. Allen skilfully represents Sergius Strogoff; Mr. Lonnen Meadows pleases immensely as Christopher Crackles; Mr. C. Alan Hineson makes the most of Sergeant Malachi; Miss Kate Froude as Wanda Lubinoff handles the rôle in capital style; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne, as Nadine Strogoff displays ability, and Miss Effie Macintosh is quite at home in the part of Patty Woodlands.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The present is the last week of the picture season, and this popular resort will be closed until Bank Holiday for redecorations, &c. Mr. Albert Albert, actor vocalist, is at the top of the holiday bill, and makes a decided hit; Willie Ashton, boy vocalist and impersonator, wins much favour; Mr. J. P. Carrol, the soldier tamborinist, is very smart, and capital pictures make up a good programme.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The chief pictures are La Savelli, a representation of the famous play, The New Reporter, and A Romance of the Western Hills. Ray Royal, songstress, and selections on the auxetophone add to the entertainment.

YE OLD SPRINGS GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—The famous Jesters are doing well here. Mr. James Saker is very good; Mr. Herbert Connorton makes himself popular; Mr. Fred Beck and Mr. J. Melton Hayes are humorous; Miss Edith Brockley is very pleasing; Miss Winnifred receives hearty greetings; Miss Spindler is an excellent accompanist.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs. Goodman.—Miss Cissie Scott is quite a favourite; Miss Rosie Effingham sings taking songs; Miss Delmore causes amusement; Mr. Jack Bonny's tenor is heard to advantage; Mr Ernest Beare sings good songs; Mr. F. Corpron delights with his violin solos; and Mr. Leslie Sears creates laughter with his droll ditties.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*A Woman's Redemption* is a drama of thrilling interest. Mr. Otto Minster assumes the rôle of Rev. John Ganthony, and his vigorous manner is well suited to this trying part. Miss Bessie Rignold portrays in lifelike style the gipsy Ruth, and Miss Violet Agnew does good work as Mary Griffiths. Much laughter is evoked by the thoroughly humorous study of a maid of all work contributed by Miss Daisy Meynard; Mr. Herbert Morgan is convincing as Bernard Sutcliffe, and Mr. Gerald Venning is responsible for an excellent character study as Farmer Griffiths. Messrs. Geo. H. Asquin, Horace Kenny, Leslie Nolan, Arthur Schipper, J. K. Sharman, and Miss Lilian Duncker complete an altogether admirable company.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—That thoroughly charming and versatile male impersonator Miss Hetty King is once more successfully wooing the Nottingham variety lovers. Sam Mayo occupies the bottom position on the bill. Fatmah Diard uses her voice with ability and power; Bert Williams, ventriloquist, entertains cleverly; and Aida Martine is winsome and dainty; Miss Lilian Dundas and company in *Convict Nance* present a powerful sketch; Miss Florence Smithers, a popular comedy actress, causes much amusement in *Our Mary Jane*; Fasola, a man of mystery, mystifies in first-class style, and the Bros. Redmond present an excellent acrobatic turn. Bioscope pictures complete.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—At this house the premier position is occupied by Harry Roxbury's sketch, *The Cowboy Millionaire*, including Tubby Edlin. Wonderful in their quickness and agility, the Five X-Rays are acrobats of the highest order; Vena Valma sings and dances delightfully, and Charles Grantley amuses by his eccentricity. The Quality Quartette produce vocal harmony, and Moon and Morris, eccentrics, in song and dance present a highly appreciated turn; the Luzellas are gymnasts of considerable attainments, and Smit and Smit clever knockabouts; Lilian Farrar, charming in appearance, sings with expression, and the programme is brought to a close by good films.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott and their répertoire company commenced a stock-season of four weeks on Monday with *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Draycott as Conn received an enthusiastic welcome, and captivated the audience with his irresistible good humour; Mr. George Steel made a capital Captain Molineaux; Mr. St. John Stuart did well as Robert Ffolliott; Mr. Theo. Balfour invested the part of Father Dolan with dignity; Mr. Clinton Baddeley handled the character of Corry Kinchela in an artistic manner; Mr. Joseph Magrath successfully depicted Harvey Duff; Mrs. Charles Draycott as Clare Ffolliott was seen to advantage and met with warm approval; Miss Issa Steel made a charming Arte O'Neale; Miss Louise Millward gave a creditable performance as Mrs. O'Kelly; Miss Nana Flensberg made an engaging Moya. For the latter half of the week *The Octoroon* is billed.

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown and company are appearing in the interesting drama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Miss Amy Ellam as Mary acts in a charming manner; Mr. Wilson Coleman is a forcible Felix Beverley; Mr. Francis Roberts as Jack Stirling is very good; and Mr. Reginald Brown is excellent as Geoffrey Langdon. Miss Kathleen Magee acts cleverly as the scheming Honourable Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel gains applause as Sweet Nancy. Mr. Percy Brown as Thomas was responsible for hearty laughter, with some capital comedy, and is ably seconded by Mr. Alfred Raymond as Charles; Mr. Cyril Grier does good work as Colonel Mills; Mr. W. Annesley as Arthur Bellairs is very smart; and Messrs. Brooks and Drew as Detective Banks and Inspector Forest, are excellent.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is being played here by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs and his company, and business has been good. Mr. Arthurs plays Dick Kenyon in a manner which is very much appreciated; his wife, Alva, finds an able exponent in Miss Mabel Elliott; Miss C. Middleton is a clever and sympathetic Rose Verham; Mr. Norman D. Cannon acts finely as Jack Stanley, the much-wronged hero; and Mr. J. Barker is capital as Joseph Verham. Miss Ida Lovatt is good as Nellie Kenyon; and Miss Ada Band as Mary Ann Barnicoat and Mr. David Phillips as Toby Wright cause much amusement. Mr. Lowe Mackenzie is capital as Seth Pearse; and Mr. J. E. M'Cann makes an effective P.C. Augustus Rice.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Interesting pictures are provided. Mr. Roger Alwyn contributes a good song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Attractive pictures furnish the bill, and "No home like the old home" is also sung by Mr. King.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Pictures are popular here. The vocalist for the week is Mr. Mills, who contributes a couple of songs.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—A good selection of dramatic and comic pictures are entertaining audiences here.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week Miss Madge Crichton and company are appearing here in *Caste* and *The Artfulness of Ada*. On Monday night *Caste* was received with all the old delight by a fashionable house, this week being Commemoration Week. Miss Madge Crichton's Polly Eccles is a delightful impersonation, full of brightness and charm; Miss Ida Phillips is a good Esther, and Miss Lucy Beaumont is well suited as the Marquise. Mr. Frank Tennant is natural and convincing as George D'Alroy; Mr. Douglas Vigors is an admirable Captain Hawtree; Mr. Jack Crichton provides a fund of amusement as Sam Gerridge, and Mr. G. Delaforce gives a clever study of Eccles.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Harry Tilbury's company is here with *His Dishonoured Wife*. As Frank Lindon Mr. A. George Fry is robust; Mr. Fred Owen is seen to advantage as Neil Locksley; and Mr. Alex Alexander makes an effective Lord Davant; Tom Redman is in good hands with Mr. Frank Orchard, and Mr. Harry Tilbury causes endless fun as Micky Doolan; Miss Arline T. George does well as Alice Harvey; Little Violet is successful as Mabel Lindon; and Miss Belle Tilbury fills the rôle of Florence Lindon capably.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—The chief films of a double programme shown here are Indian True Heart, Along the Nile, and the House of Cards. A clever lassoing and lariat manipulating act is given by the Four Mexicans; Dolly and Madge McCalla score as vocalists and dancers.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Solway.—An up-to-date picture programme is presented with variety turns by the Sisters Carlton and Mostol.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The pictures include a remarkable coloured film. Miss Maggie Robertson is a popular contralto vocalist; Mr. Tom Flynn, a local Scotch comedian, gives much promise; and Mr. Frank Aldridge, the genial manager, sings a couple of tenor songs in fine style.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Deservedly at the head of a capital programme is Rapoli, whose juggling and balancing performance is marvellous; Kittie Corri, comedienne, is heard with much pleasure; and the Arnolds, in their cabinet mystery "Spiritus," are quite successful. Chas. Sloman scores as a comedian; the Brothers Matthew are good comedy artists; and Florence Raymond, a ventriloquist with new ideas; Jimmy Grant, Scotch comedian, is applauded; and Will and Roze, Continental eccentriques, give a clever turn.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Mr. Henry Coutts, the well-known quick-change artist, met with enthusiastic applause this week at the New Palace Theatre. Mr. Coutts assumes eight different characters on the stage with remarkable rapidity. The national songs given by Les Andres meet with hearty appreciation; Hanvarr and Lee, as *The Golfer and the Maid*, are responsible for a smart turn; Damarell and Rutland give a refined turn; a dainty dancer is Kitty Arnold; Tom Lloyd, comedian, is repeatedly recalled; and Scholey and Scholey contribute an original sketch.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—The Three Romas appear in a new classical and refined gymnastic head and hand balancing act; Tom Child, tenor, delights with his selections; J. W. Darley and company appear for a second week in the sketch, *My Dear Little Lancashire Home*; Bessie Hardmann is a good soprano; Charles Erard, the pianist mimic, finds favour; Carlos Menard is a novelty musician and trick violinist; Winona and King are rifle experts; the Six Yorkshire Lasses, singers and dancers, receive applause; and the Alexscope shows some of the latest films.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*Not Before the Missus* is being played by Miss Nannie Goldman and company. The success of the piece is Miss Goldman, who keeps the whole show alive as Jane Parker, and Mr. Wm. Holles, who is exceptionally good as Barnaby Bunston; Miss Elsie Walton is a lively Matilda; Mr. Leonard K. Mansford's Augustus Whistler, Mr. Francis James' Vandyke Brown, Mr. Fred Cook's Derry Dix, Mr. Francis Leslie's Alphonse Duprez, and Mr. Toby Jones's Bob Longshanks are exceptionally good; the Misses Pattie Walton, Helene Dale, and Edith Bruce as Constance Bunstone, Judia, and Bessie are also successful.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. Tom Watts' company are presenting *East Lynne*. Archibald Carlyle is capitally acted by Mr. Frank Beresford; Mr. W. P. Mansfield is especially fine as Levison; Mr. Tom Watts does well as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Joe Rowlands makes a capital Bullock; Miss Laura Hansen is seen to advantage as Lady Isabel; Miss Ida Heron as Barbara displays ability; Cornelia Carlyle is ably sustained by Miss Isabel Singleton; and Miss Beryl Forbes as Joyce is capital.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Horner.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hansworth Browning present *Dolly Reforming Herself*. The part of the extravagant Dolly is admirably taken by Miss Dorothy Giles; the husband, Mr. Harry Telfer, is well impersonated by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards; Mr. Cecil Brooking is highly amusing as Dolly's father; Miss Florence Steventon makes a charming Mrs. Sturgess; whose gallant admirer, Captain Lucas Wentworth, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Hanworth Browning; Mr. Russell Barry is quaintly droll as Professor Sturgess; Mr. Arthur Vezin proves an excellent Rev. James Pilcher. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* makes a pleasing curtain-raiser.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert's powerful company is presenting *A Daughter of the Sea*. As Sunshine Miss Florrie Green proves both a young and attractive heroine; Mark Glensdale, an old scoundrel, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Lewis Gilbert; Mr. Roy Denham portrays Ken Moreland, a young fisherman, with considerable ability; Mr. Joe Monkhouse provides much amusement as Billy, the village idiot, who is not so stupid as he seems; and the remaining artists are suitably adapted to the rôles allotted them.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The attraction this week is John Clempert, whose speedy escapes from handcuffs, chains, ropes, and tanks are truly marvellous; Tom Foy presents his humorous sketch *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; much mirth is provoked by Sid Cotterell's comedietta *The Substitute*; Albert St. Clair possesses the ability of changing his voice at will; Edwards and Ward score in song and patter; other good turns include Vera Rochdale, danseuse; The Sprees, vocal comedy duo; and Barrington at the piano.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The Mirza Golem Asiatic Troupe of Acrobats present at once a weird and enchanting spectacle. The scenery, setting, and jewelled robes are truly gorgeous, whilst the marvellous acrobatic feats performed interest the audience from start to finish. Van Allen, the musical tramp, has a quaint style of his own, which is deservedly appreciated; My Fancy is an accomplished sand and step dancer; an excellent turn is provided by Horton and La Triska, the latter's impersonation of a doll being wonderfully realistic; Arthur Reece, the light vocal comedian, scores in songs of topical interest; and the Three Orleans, in song and dance; Les Marsumas, trick cyclists; Harry Hayton, comedian; and Amy Sullivan, comedienne, are turns that please.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Broughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—George Leyton, the well-known reciter, causes a great impression by his magnificent rendering of that fine military sketch "Lucknow." He is flanked on the stage by nine local Crimean and Mutiny veterans. The Marriott's perform extraordinary feats of thought-reading; Jan Rudenyi, in a one-act drama, *A Storm*, taken from Tolstoy's "Kreutzer Sonata," handles his violin in a masterly and charming manner; the Three Prestons present their comical sketch *The Village of Shift 'Em*; the La Scala Opera Company, including Mrs. Arthur Rouseby, prove a great success in an excerpt from Cavalleria Rusticana. The remaining artists who deserve praise are Tiny and Mite, juvenile entertainers; Kitty Upton, comedienne; the Lafaille Trope of Acrobats; and Johnson and Devere, trick cyclists.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—The screaming farce *Our Flat* is being played with great success. The Merry Boys and Mascots provide the vocal entertainment.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Messrs. Frank Hardie and company are giving a varied programme twice nightly. They have produced *The Traitor* (a Franco-German War episode) and *The Great Green Diamond* (an Indian character item). The programme is strengthened by the inclusion of a number of attractive varieties, including Mr. Harry Moore, the newsboy vocalist; Mr. E. Budden, bone soloist, skater, &c.; the Armenians, Mr. Wallace Whitmore, Miss Elsie Langton, and Miss Millie Denham.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—"Pictures up to date—and the best at that" is the Marina motto. Manager sees to it that his programme keeps up its high standard of attractiveness. The Sisters Gay, clever comediennes, make a big hit.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Rastus and Banks, the coloured entertainers, give an excellent turn; Kioto and Esa furnish a marvellous ladder and equilibrist performance; Violet Shelley and company prove very successful in their sketch *The Ideal Woman*; Alf Chester, the ever popular comedian, is well received; Clarke and Mostol give a very entertaining turn; Irne Hayman and company produce a good sketch entitled *Christmas Eve*, and two excellent films are displayed on the Biograph.

CAVERSHAM-ROAD OPEN AIR CASINO.—The Pocket Pierrots, a very clever troupe of juvenile artists, have commenced an al fresco season here.

WEST'S PICTURES.—The films shown here include The Rabbit Industry in Victoria, The Order to March, Persuasive Powers of a Revolver, Abandoned, Feminine Tenacity, and The End of the World.

VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, BROAD-STREET.—A capital film of Ascot Races and other good subjects have been on view here.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. George E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Holland.—The Brooklyn Comedy Four create an excellent impression; Sandy McNab and company are enthusiastically received in the very funny sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*; Selby and Myers are expert duo dancers; the Zaid Trio present a sensational Oriental speciality; Maud Esmond is a pleasing chorus artist; the Great Virto is deservedly applauded in a finished musical speciality act; Agnese and Arthur Lynch, picture song artists, are well received; Petro and Leon (Hattie and Pete) are highly successful in a finished classical simultaneous gymnastic act; and the Hipposcope pictures are effective.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The "turns" here include Lenton and Lane, a funny couple; Victor Brothers, clever athletes; Wilton Warton, a taking humourist and conjuror; and the Bros. Curran, in an amusing comedy act. The pictures are again much enjoyed.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*No Mother to Guide Her*, by Nita Rae, was on Monday presented to a good house by Mr. Will Glaze's company. Miss Rene Belle Douglas as Nan quickly becomes a favourite with the audience, and she has several comical incidents with Mr. Will Glaze as Bob Coleman; Felix Campbell is a thorough villain in the hands of Mr. Paul Barry Lewers; excellent work is done by Mr. J. O. Stewart as the burglarious Bill Bunce; a jealous woman is well portrayed by Miss Georgette Thierry as Julia Patterson; and Miss Betty Seymour is a charming heroine as Millicent Saxby. The Rev. Tom Pelham is a good study by Mr. John S. Millward.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Florrie Forde is well received for her songs, including "Kelly"; much amusement is given by the comical comedian Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes; Maggie Walsh, the original singing mill girl, knows how to use a sweet voice, and gets much appreciation; Little Claude has the making of a good light comedian and dancer; Hartley Wonders, in their clever jumping speciality; Three Seabornes, smart acrobats; Gallimore Trio, in comedy act; Hyam Hym, quaint comedian; and Dolly Dewer, comedienne and dancer, also give acceptable turns.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*The Brigands of Tarragona*, Herbert Darnley's musical production, in three scenes—including Charles H. Bell as the waiter and Tarragonna dancing girls—provides much amusement. Robb Rossi, tenor vocalist, does well; a good juggling scena is given by Alman Correze, assisted by the droll Keith; Litt'e Sadie Lundy sings well. Other turns are given by Burt Ward, comedy whistler and raconteur; the Harringtons, in comic juggling, with song and dance; Dix and Dox, continental musical groteeques; and Silvo, gymnast.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—Zingaro is a beautiful dramatic picture giving stirring smuggling incidents. Other good films include All's Well that Ends Well, That Girl of Dixon's, Tommy and the Powder, Fence on Barley Ranch.

CENTRAL HALL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD. — Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—As it is in Life, Golf Mania, Naughty Children, Hunting Wolves, Ghost of Mudtown, The Charcoal Lover, On the Border Line are among this week's pictures, and Mr. A. H. Gilbert also delights with his songs.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (PENDLETON).—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley.—A good twice-nightly entertainment is provided, with the following among other films: Aunt Emmie's Scrap Book, I'll show You How it Happened, Officer McQue, No Rest for the Weary, and Modern Robinson Crusoe.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T Brinsmead.—Mr. Ralph Pringle's animated pictures commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. The principal attraction is the fine set illustrating the Funeral of King Edward VII. A fine orchestra adds greatly to the evening's enjoyment.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Miss Madge Crichton and company are here for the second half of the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company is here in *A Woman's Past*. Mr. Percy Dawson successfully appears as David Heath; Mr. Charles Locke does well as Frank Dellannoy; Miss Phyllis Elton is an interesting Clara Darrell; Miss Cherry Veheyne a capable Dorothy Heath, Mr. H. Ryeand Leigh an effective Uriah Craven, and Miss Dora Pass excellently fills the rôle of Bessie.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The variety programme includes Bennett and Martell, who top the bill; the Emsons, comediennes and dancers; Harry Merryleas, Scotch comedian; the Creedons, double club jugglers; Dolly Golden, speciality artist; Harley and Melton; and Elroy, the armless wonder.

In the Indian Theatre the Palace Pierrots are making their first appearance in place of the usual ladies' orchestra.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*Miss Plaster of Paris* is being played here with distinct success by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company, with Mr. Charles Tolcher as Numbskull Nubbs; Mr. Sid Dean Mrs. Nubbs, Mr. Harry Ray Alexander the waiter, Miss Celestine Brandon the Barmaid, and Miss W. Chalmers the Manageress. Specialities are given by the Berlin Belles, Sisters Holman, and Miss C. Brandon.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—Very attractive programmes are submitted by Mr. H. G. Amers' band, and some interesting pictures are to be seen in the Electric Theatre.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Two packed houses appreciated the programme on Monday. Top of an excellent bill are the Three Pirmans, whose gymnastic and acrobatic display is remarkably clever; Miss Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys in a vocal and dancing act make a great hit; the Vaudevilles are amusing in *Taming a Suffragette*; Will Webb, character comedian; Lyvette, musical artist; the Manakins; Adelini, facial impersonator; Sid Crossley, comedian; Miss Luna Clarke, serio and dancer, complete.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—Mr. Walter Steele's company opened here on Monday in *A Fast Life*. Mr. Walter Steele as John Dixon gave an excellent study of the modern type of financial magnate, and all the other characters were carefully sustained. The mounting was effective.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—This week *A Lighthouse Robbery*, a domestic play, is here. Freda repeats her charming and pathetic impersonation of Nellie; Mr. Percy Beresford is good as the young fisherman, Tom Manley; Miss Hilda Baynton is a graceful and sympathetic Rosa Prescott; and Mr. S. Fortescue, Mr. Summerville, Mr. J. Cameron, Mr. R. Talbot, Mr. A. Rundall, Miss Alice Dent, and Miss Clarice Jenner all do earnest work.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, LAd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Harry Roxbury is a general favourite here, and, supported by a smart company, is appearing with great success in *On the Track*, which creates hearty laughter. Mr. Walter King's doleful confessions compel mirth and evoke well-deserved applause; Miss Nellie Wallace, with her comic songs and general resourcefulness, shows the value of talent and experience; and the same remark applies to those clever performers Spry and Monti. Mr. Harry Lamore is a very versatile artist; Drew and Alders are energetic comedy acrobats and burlesque actors; the Avolos do a smart act; and Marco Belli, the Bioscope, Leo-Tell, and Miss Bertha Winder are all well received.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A good all-round company is here this week, the "big liners" being Miss May Moore Duprez, the bright and vivacious Dutch soubrette, vocalist, and dancer; and the Four Ascotts, who do some extraordinary step-dances. The programme is also contributed to by the Two McKays, Athas and Collins, Mr. S. W. Wyndham, comedian; Gladys and Alber, in a novel entertainment; Pichez and Scali, Continental artists; Master Jack Marks, vocal comique; and the Two Kellys. The artistic Bioscope pictures are well received.

THE GRAND, THE IMPERIAL, THE CENTRAL, THE SURREY, and the HILLSBRO' PALACE continue to do good business here with pictures.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—A cordial greeting was extended on Monday to Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Arthur Hinton's embodiment of Prince Lucio was complete in every detail; Mr. Travis Green in the rôle of Geoffrey Tempest played with much earnestness; and Mr. Arthur Beaufort made a mystical Amiel. Mr. Arthur Lowry took advantage of his opportunities as Lord Elton; Lord Lynton was creditably portrayed by Mr. Charles Morton; and Mr. David Allen as Morgensen, Mr. Frank Brunell as Bentham, and Mr. Harry Sidney as Ellis all contributed their aid towards the lighter scenes of the play. Miss Shirley Dalton played Diana Chesney with success; Miss Mabel Coleman was a pleasing Mavis Clare; Miss Leila Zillwood scored a success as the ill-fated Lady Sybil; and Miss Maud Evans did well as Annette.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Parcezer.—*With Edged Tools* is successfully portrayed by Mr. H. Armitage's company. Mr. Charles Hartopp as Jack Meredith gives a talented impersonation; Mr. Walter Russell characterises Sir John Meredith with pronounced success; Miss Marie Leonhard makes a pleasing personality of Jocelyn Gordon; and Miss Marguerite Cellier as Millicent Cheyne is equally successful in her flirtation rôle. Miss Edith Anton-Laing as both Marie and Lady Herries proves a capital interpreter; Miss Alice Maude is well suited as Lady Cantourne; and Messrs. J. D. Geddes as Guy Oscard and Charles Barrett as Victor Durnovo act powerfully; Mr. J. Grahame Pockett giving a good study of Maurice Gordon.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The programme at the Hippodrome this week contains much that is new and novel. Metz and Metz are clever at clog dancing, and some humorous patter is thoroughly enjoyed; Mildred Parr sings some very touching descriptive songs, accompanying herself on the piano; whilst a recital from *Sappho* is cleverly done. Berg Bros., in a comedy act with their bumping bicycle, create much amusement; juggling McBanns introduce tricks with Indian clubs that are particularly dexterous; and their hat throwing is as novel as it is marvellous; Richard Fineberg gives selections from well-known plays with the artistic rendering of an accomplished actor, his impersonation of Marcus Superbus from *The Sign of the Cross* eliciting well-merited recognition; Mabel Mignon is a smart little dancer; the Zigeuner Quartette play selections from standard works with masterly skill; Gilbert Girard seems capable of imitating the cry of any bird or animal perfectly; the final item of the programme is a performance by the Craggs, in their absurdity *The Territorials*.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE (late KURSAAL).—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The opening of this popular rendezvous on Saturday last drew a large following, when the principal attraction was a fine display of fireworks, which proved a most enjoyable feature. This week's variety entertainment (given twice daily) gets well supported, and is of an excellent character. The items are given by the Sisters Harcourt, clever and pleasing duettists and dancers; Miss Elsie Kedwards, a novel danseuse and comedienne; Golden and Gray, in a delightful comedy sketch; Aldro Lukos, in a man-monkey speciality which provokes much applause; Fred Kendal, a Hebrew comedian; Four Louberts, who entertain successfully as Continental comedy acrobats; and Tom Hulme, patterer and comedienne. The sketch entitled *Rejected Remounts*, by Claude Ginnett and company, makes a pleasing concluding item. Dancing again this year will be made a special feature.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—*The Ticket of Leave Man* is forcibly enacted by Miss M. Lowe-Dare's company, who shows both skill and force in her characterisation of May Edwards. Mr. Ernest Dare in the title-rôle is eminently successful; Messrs. Burton Yaldwyn as James Downey and Walter Hicks as Meker Moss both depict villainy in capital style; Mr. Frederic Morena as the detective, Hawkshaw, is well suited; Mr. Lionel Waltham makes a good exponent of Mr. Gibson; Miss Mona Maughan is a delightful impersonator of Sam Willoughby; Miss Maggie D. Hallé as Mrs. Willoughby is pleasing; and Mr. James Wear is responsible for the rôle of Malby, a publican

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's charming comedy *Peter's Mother* forms the attraction for the last week of Mr. Hutchison's répertoire season, the play being excellently interpreted. The rôle of Peter is admirably depicted by Mr. Percy Hutchison, who displays great versatility, and shows a thorough grasp of the part; Lady Mary Crewys is capitally portrayed by Miss Lilias Earle, whose study of the character leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Frank Elliott is to be credited with a vigorous and forceful impersonation of John Crewys; Peter's sweetheart Sarah is charmingly and artistically enacted by Miss Cicely Stuckey; Mr. Aubrey Mather makes the part of Dr. Blundel very effective; Canon Birch is well played by Mr. F. G. Thurstans; and Miss Mary Griffiths, Miss Celia Gordon, and Miss Pauline Straus as Lady Belstone, Georgina Crewy, and Mrs. Hewel respectively and Mr. Ernest Ruston as Sir Timothy Crewys give excellent accounts of themselves.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Wilson Howard presents *Under the Iron Heel* to good houses. Rene de Maupasant is cleverly depicted by Mr. Douglas B. Watson; the Otto Marks of Mr. J. W. Richards is another good portrayal; André finds a delightful exponent in Miss Marie Angus; Miss Carlotta Anson makes a realistic Germaine; and clever characterisation is displayed by Miss I. Douglas-Hicks as Maman Gouffe.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Wish Wynne, who heads the bill here, is a most versatile comedienne, and is enthusiastically received. The Leslie Bros. cause much merriment in their sketch, *Music Mad*; the Kirbys are well received in comedy and burlesque; and other good turns are Mr. and Mrs. H. Finden; sketch artists; Harry May Hemsley, child impersonator; Dan Ashton, the collier; Sylvia Du Barry, vocalist, and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Specially re-engaged here are the Glenisters, harmonising vocalists, assisted by Roy Lennard, the wonderful juvenile vocalist (the boy from the circle), in illustrated songs; Great Rackham, female impersonator, who has two distinct voices, is well received.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Frank Ayrton concludes his summer season here this week with *Called Back*, which is extremely well staged and ably produced. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle has a commanding style as Gilbert Vaughan; and as Macari Mr. Norman A. Overton makes a hit. Mr. George A. Wallace acts cleverly as Ceneri; and Miss Ada Oakley as Pauline is well received. Miss Madge Seymour is good as Mary Vaughan; and Mr. Frank Ayrton plays amusingly as Tolsti.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—Some capital subjects are produced at this hall by the A.B. Picture Company, the specialities being The Derby, Adventures of the Golden Valley, The Eleventh Hour, and The Old Stevedore. The Brothers Armstrong are a fine turn of comedians and impersonators.

STAFFORD.—WINTER GARDENS.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale are providing a series of interesting vaudeville entertainments. This week's programme includes Mr. Norman Osborne, a clever ventriloquist; Fred Wamsley, smart comedian; Miss Emilie Tait, talented soprano; Fred Merry, light comedian; Miss Nellie Le Briton, comedienne; Bernard Davies, baritone; and the Dulcets (Edith and Evelyn), with a high-class musical act, introducing selections on the harp, piano, and saxophones.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. J. Dobson Clyde takes the part of Harold Raymond with much success, and Mr. Sidney Fionnes also shows an admirable grasp of the character of George Oakley; Mr. Will Hee gives a realistic impersonation of the old farmer, Walter Hastings; Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays Charzel in an appropriately strong and telling way; and Miss Iza Lyndon as her sister, Gipsy Redempta, is also well placed; as Minnie Hastings, Miss Mabel Scudamore has great emotional opportunities, to which she does full justice; and a good word is to be said for the two small people Master Sydney Clarence and Miss Hilda Vokes, who do well as Jack and May. Amusement is caused by the laughable performance of Mr. J. Russell Bogue (Larry Murphy), and Miss Edie Macklin (Floss Perks), and Miss Lily Bales (Nell Stubbs).

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—*The Gay Countess* is a bright and interesting sketch, and admirably performed by Henry Kemble's clever company; Florrie Gallimore is the particular star this week, and, as usual, makes a decided hit with her songs and delightful costumes; Elsie Malpass, a smart little lady of twelve, is a very amusing mimic; Grahame and Harrington are exceedingly interesting in an episode; Vera Mayne sings a good song; Fayre and Manning dance with great credit.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The exciting incidents of *The Midnight Mail* have been well portrayed here. Mr. John F. Traynor gives a manly impersonation of the engine driver Harry Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Evison infuses humour into the trying character of Billy Brewer; Mr. Frank S. Strickland acts with skill as Hassan Padisha; and Mr. Henry W. Hatchman makes a pleasing Leonard Royle. Miss Trissie Humphries acquits herself ably as Mary Steyne; and Miss Mildred Carr is amusing as Nancy Brewer.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. Montgomery's talented company maintains its popularity here, and is this week presenting the evergreen *East Lynne*, which has appealed to the sympathies of large audiences. Miss Nina Vaughton excels as Lady Isabel; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts capably as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. S. E. Scanlan is a most acceptable Capt. Francis Levison; Barbara Hare is admirably impersonated by Miss Lillian Redbourn; and Miss Kate Blair's acting as Cornelia Carlyle is distinctly meritorious.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The premier turn here is *Sergeant Longfellow*, produced by Will Lytton and company; Harry Tate's company, in *Motoring*, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde are successful society entertainers; Ethel Edwardes is an attractive comedienne; Frank E. Ford, a clever coloured dancer; the Three Phydoras give a pleasing musical novelty; and Ted Gill, tenor vocalist, and Frank Melvin, comedian, are also in the bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The musical comedy *Lucky Liza* is presented here by Mr. Dicky Clare's company. The triple rôles of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French Waiter are played with distinction by Mr. Dicky Clare himself; Miss Vesta Brownie is a captivating Lucky Liza. Some clever dances are contributed by the Jesmond Trio.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is this week presenting *Two Little Drummer Boys*. The full sympathy of the audience goes out to Captain Frank Carsdale, the muchly-wronged hero, a part ably sustained by Mr. J. Leigh. Captain George Darree is capably portrayed by Mr. Polson Turner. Comedy is in the able hands of Mr. Will Percy and Mr. A. Sillwood as two privates in the Warwicks; in the part of Drunken Meg Miss Ada Champion displays power.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. D. C. Phelps.—Scottie's military production, *Napoleon at Waterloo*, hits the public taste; Will Warren is a good singer, with histrionic ability; Freda and Frank are acrobatic dancers of merit; Ivy Cornwallis is an artist of much promise; Scottie's Operatic Ballet Troupe give *The Cry of the Children* in perfect style; Wana and Wanotee score heavily with their humorous and clever turn; The Merries are delightful entertainers; Sandy and Ramsay deserve commendation for their clever show; Whizzing the Whirl causes much fun. The pictures are well chosen and capitally projected.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's company is playing here in *Tommy Atkins*. Miss Ada M. Ryder is capital in the exacting rôle of Ruth; Miss Lilian Earle as Elsie Wilson and Miss Annie Brunnette as Margaret both do excellent work; as Harold Wilson Mr. John B. Shinton gives a fine performance; Mr. F. Paterson is good as Captain Sparrow, as also is Mr. Sydney Reneff as Private Mason. Mr. Stanley Bedwell proves himself a stage villain of a high order; Miss G. Morella and Messrs. Bert Atherton and Fred Elvin have the humorous vein in their good keeping.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mlle. le Breton is successful in a skilful gymnastic turn; Jack Shevill is a capable comedian; and the Acmes present a good musical speciality.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mark Sheridan is heading the bill here this week, and, needless to say, is having a tremendously enthusiastic reception. With his songs, words, and action he is alike popular, and it appears to be impossible to get too much of him. Muir Bros. are eminently successful in their humorous gymnastic act; Carl Howard causes much amusement with his burlesque conjuring act; Addie Dorina submits a cleverly-conceived sketch, entitled *Dr. Spot's Patients*, with much success; the Phœnix Trio contribute an acceptable singing and dancing act; Will Mitcham has much smart patter and songs; and the Georgians give an agreeable instrumental and dancing scena.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Naley's Garden of Girls are arousing much enthusiasm here this week with their cleverly-rendered songs and pretty dances; the Four Janowskys submit a daring acrobatic act; and Alfonzo, foot equilibrist, wins much praise.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The star turn is the Dayton Family, twelve in number, who please with their numerous feats; Ivy Gallard, comedienne, gains favour; Dot and Williams are smart juvenile sand dancers; E. W. Selman, comedian, scores immensely; the Adams, comedy cyclists, cause amusement; Dora Campbell sings nicely; Professor Thornbury, lightning painter, is much appreciated; Three Spanish Armadas give a clever tight-rope act; and the Bioscope completes.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne.—The films here include Tree of Happiness, Short-sighted Duellist, Lieut. Rose and the Gun Runners, Glimpses of Sicily, The Way of the World, and The Road Agent.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhurst.—Mr. Dewhurst's picture programme this week includes a fine drama, On the Borderline; The Unceaseable Pickpocket is a very laughable film.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Good houses still patronise the animated pictures exhibited here. The film showing various incidents in the life of the late King Edward VII. is very popular. Mr. Chas. Tyers sings with success.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—The two-houses-a-night principle is working extremely well here, and Mr. J. F. Preston's company, in their second week, are presenting *Jane Shore*. The title-rôle is admirably filled by Miss Mabelle Barlow; Mr. J. F. Preston is successful as Richard of Gloucester; Mr. H. Rutland does well as Lord Hastings; the Sir W. Catesby of Mr. E. Benson is duly sinister; and Anthony Yeaste is in the safe keeping of Mr. W. H. Barlow.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. W. Thomas; General-Manager, Mr. W. Pearson.—The Casey Army are making a hit here; the Three Van Dammes are clever tumblers; Sterling and Cashen are capital dancers; little Alice Winsome scores heavily; and the chief film presents The Half-breed.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will Stone.—Mr. Jack Fortescue and company are exceptionally successful in their drametta *Satan in the Flesh*; Mr. Fortescue and Miss M. Thomas are deserving of special mention; Mr. Herbert Shelley, protean artist, makes a hit; Ted Saunders goes well; Marie Lea sings nicely; and Vincent and the Two Rosses merit praise. The Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* is providing an excellent show this week. Miss Kitty Crichton as the irresponsible Mrs. Gorringe gives a fine performance; Miss Victoria Wray Holmes as Vicky Jardine is very acceptable; in the rôle of Mrs. Jardine a typical impersonation is given by Miss Viola March; Miss Lilian Hallows acts with charming dignity as Isabel; Mr. Theodore Kelly as the irascible Colonel Jardine is quite at home; and Mr. F. Pennington Gush is a powerful Captain Mowbray. As David Cairn Mr. Hal Charlton has a difficult part, but he does well; and Mr. Arthur Gibbons (under whose direction the play is produced) makes a characteristic detective.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Stuart Alexander's company, "The So-and-So's," conclude their engagement here this week. Miss Maude Davis (soprano) and Miss Pattie Biddulph (contralto) each receive encores; and Miss Alma at the piano is a comedienne who meets with much success. Miss Madge White is a talented impersonator; and Mr. Harry Leslie is also popular. Mr. Stuart Alexander sings in excellent style, Mr. Harry Quiningborough rendering some monologues with much acceptance.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Van Biene, the eminent actor-musician, is paying a welcome return visit here, and on Monday night his sketch, *Van Biene's Baby*, was received with great enthusiasm by a large audience. Van Biene was ably assisted by Miss Violet Vaughan and Mr. George W. Child. The Zanfrellas, novelty equilibrists, are responsible for an excellent turn; Maude Courtney proves herself a comedienne of considerable ability; Mr. C. sings and talks himself into favour; the Gilberts score in their tight-wire act; Louie Tracey, comedian, obtains a flattering reception; Fred Elton is a clever entertainer at the piano; and up-to-date animated pictures conclude.

WAKEFIELD. — NEW EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Marie Santoi and company appear with success in a bright and "goey" vocal scena, *A Night in Japan*; the Rangers are a couple of clever trick cyclists; Miss Mabel Mavis gives a talented musical turn on glasses and piano; Miss Edna James is a dainty comedienne; Mr. Harry Curwen, character comedian, is popular; the Forestiers are good in a powerful dramatic sketch, *A Society Sinner*; and Mr. J. Gar Riddle, comedian, is amusing.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Two Ingares, continental dance artists, score with graceful and mystic dances; Mlle. Yetta is a daring and clever wire-walker; Crosby and Walker, comedians, evoke much laughter; Mr. J. H. Greener, singing pit lad, has a good reception; and the Sisters Ray, duettists, are entertaining. Pictures on the Bioscope complete.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Robert Monteigle's stock company is retained another week, and on Monday *The Dead Hand* was staged before a large audience.

PREMIER PICTURE HALL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—The chief attraction here is the appearance of Cissy Clamp, a musical entertainer of more than usual ability. The Treasure Hunters is an excellent film among many good ones.

TYNE PICTURE HALL.—The Cowboy's Narrow Escape is the principal film here. Hector and Lauraine are appearing in a comedy speciality.

ROYAL PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg.—The Unchanging Sea and Conscience are the chief attractions here.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Seymour Hicks, in his great creation, *Scrooge*, was due to appear here this week, but owing to indisposition the engagement had to be postponed at the last minute. One of the best items of the remaining portion of the bill was supplied by Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in a smart little racing scena entitled *Not a Crook*; Pat Rafferty sang three songs in his inimitable style; M. and Mme. Agoust, in a juggling act, go through a smart performance; Lux and his dogs receive applause for a unique canine act; Cissie Thompson has a good voice, and knows how to make her songs go; Billy Hobbs is a smart dancer; and the pictures are most interesting.

THE IMPERIAL HALL.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The pictures here continue to be good. A very striking film, entitled The Mystery of Temple Court, gains well-earned applause. Harry Henrick is a smart comedian, and the vocal selections of Charles France are much appreciated.

THE ELECTRIC PALACE.—Proprietors, The Electric Picture Palaces (Midland), LAd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Stanley Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. W. Robinson.—The chief attraction here is La Savelli, one of the finest and most realistic coloured films ever produced. Another very striking picture is An Indian Drama, which calls for mention.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. J. M. Loader.—After a week's closure this popular place of amusement has been transformed into a "Paradise of Roses," where an entertainment, under the heading of *Elysia*, is given. The opening ceremony was performed by his Worship the Mayor (Alderman Forshaw), who spoke in eulogistic terms of the enterprise of Mr. Loader, and referred to the high-class entertainments provided since he had *charge d'affaires*. A refined bill of fare was the order, and the beautiful views of the Rhine from Cologne to Bergin were fine specimens of the photographic art. The clever Child Trio are splendid entertainers, and their equal as child musicians has not been seen in Warrington; Fred W. Graham, a popular favourite here, scores well in his Dame songs; Will Owen is a smart comedian and patterer; Collins and Irene are fine exponents of thought transmission and mental telegraphy; the Warners score well in a refined comedy musical and dancing act; Florrie Connolly is a typical Irish Colleen; Williams and Hayes do well in the sketch *The Prima Donna and the Tramp*; and Cestian is a unique juggler and acrobatic waiter. The Elysian Bohemian Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Tom Borthroyd, play some charming selections.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Vonetta is here again this week, and her remarkable quick-changes and illusion act; Alfred Guest and Dorothy Newlyn have made a popular hit with the sketch *The Hebrew and Soubrette*, rich humour being introduced; Tom Gott is a quaint comedian with plenty of good patter; Milner and Story are seen to advantage in the sketch *Tickets*; Alfred Long has a remarkable contralto voice, and sang "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" with much feeling; Lily Edwards is possessed of a fine stage presence, and she is a clever comedienne; Lilybelle is a fine dancer. The pictures are good.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Lillie Southen heads the bill here this week, and she has delighted all with her character songs; Ellis Barritone has a smart voice of good range and purity, whilst Hilda de Gill is encored for her beautiful vocalisation; Allsop and Beckwith score in the sketch, *The First Lesson in Acting*. The pictures are very entertaining.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—The Lurains are making a hit here as lady brass instrumentalists. Other turns are Kinnard, conjurer, Cliff Reid, and Miss Doris Snowden.

EMPIRE.—The Zealanders are the chief feature of a strong programme, with their clever thought-reading; Monsieur Le Roy successfully goes through his performance of escaping from a locked mail bag; Trevor and Ware are very diverting; and King Leo is one of the most entertaining of ventriloquists; Ethel Sheffer sings well; and other good turns are Jessie Star and Edna Deno.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is this week presenting the

Co-operative Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. Ritson.—This hall is still being well patronised. Amongst the various films shown, the most prominent are Guste's Last Stand and Comata the Sioux.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Whitley Bay Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—This being the Newcastle Race Carnival week, special and powerful attractions are provided for the thousands upon thousands of visitors who journey to the coast upon this, the greatest holiday of the Northern metropolis. In addition to the capable stock company engaged, we have the Prince Milner trio, in their clever potpourri act; Gladys Hooley, a popular violinist; Claremont and Victor, acrobatic comedians; Frederica's wonderful terriers and cake-walking pony, Dot; Molly Augarde, vocalist; Leslie Bennett, character actor; the Arlena Brothers, comedians and dancers; and the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats, singers, and dancers. The various side-shows and attractions, such as the "olde wheel," the Figure Eight Railway, the Social Whirl, and the exciting Water Chute have all been in great demand.

The Coliseum.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Imelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Quite recent events are depicted by the latest films, and the variety is contributed by Andrew McManus, comedian and dancer; the Percys, duettists and dancers; Chas. R. Torrain, chorus song vocalist; and Little Betty, comedy artist.

Lines Band Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Catlin.—The fine evenings are bringing a big crowd to listen to Mr. Catlin's Pierrots.

The Toreadors (Stvan's-avenue), Promenade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Elderton.—The latest venture of Mr. Elderton opened on Saturday last. A neat and attractive enclosure has been erected, with a commodious stage and dressing-rooms. Miss Maude Hastings, soprano; Mr. John Tiller's Companies; Will Cameron, tenor vocalist; Isa Gibson, comedienne and dancer; James Matchell, baritone (Wm. Greet's Co.); The Cameron Quartette; Freda Murray, comedienne; Nellie Stuart, smart soubrette and dancer (Geo. Dance's Co.); and Mr. Teddy Worth form an excellent company. Mr. Jack Williams directs the musical portion of the programme.

Baths Pavilion.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—Here, as elsewhere, we have a big bill for the "special" week of the year, and a well-diversified series of films prove very welcome. Varieties are furnished by Wee Winnie, a clever child impersonator; and Cissy Madcap, acrobatic and speciality dancer.

WIGAN. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*Sapho* and *Trilby* are presented here this week. Mr. Edward Ouston gives a powerful portrayal of Jean Gaussin; Mr. Edwin Keene causes endless laughter as Uncle Cesaire; and is ably assisted by Miss Ethel Tinsley as Aunt Divonne; Miss Ada Abbott proves herself a talented actress as Fanny Legrand; and Miss Florence North makes a charming Lucy.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company is here with *Guilty Gold*, which appeals strongly to the popular parts of the house. Mr. Ernest J. Fare gives a thoroughly consistent performance as Martin Haldane; Mr. George Arthur does full justice to the part of Ralph Bartlett; Mr. T. Arthur Plummer is convincing as Frank Seymour; Mr. T. B. Brabazon is good as John Hampton; whilst Mr. Horace Stanley, it is almost needless to say, creates no end of amusement by his admirable portrayal of Timothy Titmouse; Miss Cora Linda is a pleasing Hetty Hampton.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mlle. De Verneuil, assisted by five ladies, is presenting here a beautiful series of living pictures. The posing, lighting, and general effect is truly artistic, and thoroughly deserves the applause which greets each tableau; Dale and O'Malley are comedians of considerable merit; Kitty Clinton is an artistic comedienne; Richard Wally, juggler, has left the beaten track for some of his tricks, all of which are clever; Sim Maree gives a marvellous performance on the rings; whilst Ivy Aberdare, comedienne and dancer, and Jack Haytor, complete a capital programme.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Ella's Lions are the chief attraction here, and good houses have gathered to see them go through their performance. The Melroses are proving excellent entertainers in their duo *The New Page*; smart work is the feature of the performance of the Les Four Kasracs, in a comedy acrobatic scena; and other items are contributed by Nina May, soprano; Harry Taylor, light comedy entertainer; Morelli and Moore; Ernest Stanley, baritone; and the Comedy Comets.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—A sensational novelty, *The Dude and the Dupe*, is the main attraction here. It is produced by Spry and Bentley, character sketch artists. The banjo queen, Clarice Mignon, has also made a favourable impression in her charming and refined musical act. The pictures, always a special feature at this hall, include two excellent items, The Wonderful Ring and The Poor Nurse Girl.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Fooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Excellent pictures are presented here this week, chief of which is a splendid dramatic picture, A Passing Shadow. The Cinephone has excellent new singing pictures.

YORK.—Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—George Formby is always a warm favourite here; Mr. Edward Lewis and company introduce a farcical interlude *The Five Wishes*, which goes very merrily; August, September, and May cause, as usual, much merriment; Harris Coonie speedily dances himself into favour; W. H. Jones is a clever reciter; Elmo and Rego introduce some astonishing knockabout business; the Sisters Dudley are trained singers; Delvere and Wallace are smart in their business; and Maud Vera is a neat dancer.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The Bros. Ford are meeting with success, and the pictures are far above average merit.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—The films this week are being heartily applauded by large audiences. The Shepherd's Dog and The Unchanging Sea are serious items, and comic pictures are judiciously interspersed; Duncan Gray, comedian, also entertains.

The musical world has sustained a great loss through the death of Dr. Otto Briesemeister, one of the most artistic of German tenors. He was only forty-five, and by a singular fatality his death was caused by diphtheria, caught from his little daughter. The artist was an M.D., and devoted his attention chiefly to affections of the larynx. Dr. Briesemeiser, who was to have sung at the Gura Opera, Berlin, in a week's time, was best known on the operatic stage for his admirable impersonation of Loge in *Rheingold*. He leaves a widow and children and a large circle of mourning friends.

Messrs. Elkin and Co. are offering two scholarships for singing, one for female and one for male, for the seventh year in succession. Competitors must not be under sixteen years of age. The successful singers will study for twelve months, free of charge, under Mr. Charles Phillips, the well-known singer and teacher. Among the songs selected for the test is "Venetia," by L. Denza, published in the Pearson series of sixpenny songs.

ANIMAL DEFENCE MATINEE.

Influential support was given to the matinée at the Court Theatre on Tuesday in aid of the Animal Defence Society, which "upholds the principles of compassion and justice to our animal friends, and opposes cruelty in all its forms." The performance was under the patronage of the Princesse Marie Louise de Bourbon and many other distinguished personages, and the house was crowded. The programme, which was freely adorned with quotations from celebrated people against vivisection, included two new plays, the first being a comedy, in one act, adapted by Athol Stewart from Daniel Riche's *La Visite*, entitled

"THROUGH THE POST."

Edward Stacy Spells .....Mr. Otho Stuart
Lilian Stacy Spells ..Miss Lilian Braithwaite
George Binning ....Mr. Arthur Holmes Gore

Amusing dialogue is the chief recommendation of the above playlet, wherein it is shown how the advertisement for someone to afford intellectual consolation to a husband separated from his wife through incompatibility of temperament is answered by the wife herself, who is equally in want of congenial society. Unknown to each other, the pair have kept up a close correspondence under assumed names, until a meeting is arranged, when discoveries, of course, ensue. A reconciliation is arranged, but ere they sit down to tea the wife insists on indulging her mania for "re-arranging" every article of furniture in the room—a habit which was the cause of the original separation—and there is a heated dispute, as a result of which the couple agree again to part and to keep up their acquaintance only "through the post."

A witty pen is wielded by Mr. Athol Stewart in the piece, the success of which was assured from the beginning. Mr. Otho Stuart extracted all possible effect from the part of the resourceful husband, enhancing the humour of his lines by his quaint expression; and Miss Lilian Braithwaite was sweetly charming and prettily indignant as the wife; Mr. Arthur Holmes Gore, as a delightfully genial bachelor friend, helping to win the continuous laughter which was aroused.

The second novelty was a costume comedy, in one act, by M. Stanley Clark, entitled

"THE BETROTHAL OF LADY BETTY."

Lady Betty Childe .....Miss Decima Moore
Ralph Darrell .....Mr. Lawrence Leyton
Mine Host .....Mr. J. H. Brewer
Phœbe .....Miss Esme Hubbard

The true story of the famous Berkshire lady who lived and loved in the eighteenth century is the foundation of the above play, which shows how Lady Betty waylays her impecunious and backward lover, Ralph Darrell, at a country inn, and, with a mask hiding her pretty features and a pair of pistols in her hands, offers him the choice of either fighting or wedding the fair unknown. Ralph chooses the latter course, while protesting his love for Lady Betty, whose identity is revealed by the landlord, and a union of a more conventional kind is ensured. Lady Betty had a captivating exponent in Miss Decima Moore, who well became an exquisite costume, and whose every movement was instinct with fascinating grace. She delivered her lines with many musical inflections of tone, and a more captivating Court lady it would be impossible to imagine. She was well matched by Mr. Lawrence Leyton, who made a gallant and debonair lover. Mr. J. H. Brewer did all that opportunity offered as Mine Host of the Pelican; and Miss Esmé Hubbard gave a neat sketch of a country girl.

Also included in the programme was the one-act play, *Shub 'Rat*, by Florence Lady Clarke-Jervoise, in which the authoress herself played a devoted Indian servant, who stabs the unfaithful wife of her master. Lady Clarke-Jervoise, in an endeavour to secure the mystic atmosphere, spoke so softly that her lines in the earlier part of the play utterly failed to reach the audience, but she acted impressively the tragic incident with which the piece concludes. Mr. Athol Stewart and Mr. Leon Quartermaine were also in the cast, and acquitted themselves ably in two characters drawn on familiar lines. Mr. Sam Sothern also contributed to the enjoyment of the afternoon with an amusing monologue, *What Shall I Say to Her?* in which Mr. Sothern's dog Bob figured appropriately, taking the calls with his master with irresistible gravity.

THEATRICAL SPORTS AT BIRMINGHAM

Glorious weather favoured the annual procession and sports last Saturday, held under the auspices of the combined Birmingham theatres and music halls, in conjunction with the Aston Villa Football Club, in aid of local charities. The date originally fixed was Whit Tuesday, but a postponement was necessary owing to the death of King Edward. No doubt this fact is responsible for a deterioration of the procession and the moderate "gate" at Villa Park. The weather conditions could not have been more favourable. Much taste was shown in the arrangement of the tableaux cars, which were greatly admired by the crowds which lined the route. The most striking was undoubtedly the tableau arranged by the Theatre Royal, representing the siege of Harfleur by Henry V., and a company of mailed nobles and pikemen. Another pretty and effective car was sent by Mr. Goodwin Woodward from the Bordesley Palace. It represented "The Queen of Roses," and was quite seasonable. Mr. Foster, of the Grand Theatre, displayed considerable originality in his tableau. In the centre of the vehicle was a child's hospital cot, tended by a nurse, while in the background was a bust of King Edward, guarded by allegorical figures of Peace and Charity, and surmounted by the motto, "Keep his memory green by your good works." Mr. Lester Collingwood (Alexandra Theatre) turned out a gaily-decorated house boat. Another very effective tableau was that of the Birmingham Hippodrome. It depicted a scene in the Arctic regions, with Mr. Elbourne, the manager, crouched in furs amid ice-floes. It was entitled "Dr. Cook's first ap-Peary-ance in Birmingham." A different note was struck by the Empire, whose tableau was the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*. The Aston Hippodrome contributed a battlefield scene entitled "The Last Cartridge." A final touch of colour was given by a coach laden with military veterans in their uniforms. Upon arriving at the ground the judging of the tableaux took place, and the awards were made as follows:—Theatre Royal, 1; Alexandra Theatre, 2; Birmingham Hippodrome, 3.

A splendid sports programme had been arranged, and managers of local theatres and halls, and members of their respective staffs took an important part in the proceedings. Mr. Collingwood (Alexandra), Mr. Matcham (Empire), and Mr. Foster (Grand) were always to the front, and the latter was warmly complimented upon the part he took in the tug-of-war contest. The Bordesley team and the Grand team were prime favourites, and it was fortunate for the Grand (the victors) that some of the Bordesley "boys" were overcome with the heat. The cycle events were splendidly contested, and an abundance of wholesome comedy was introduced into the costume race and the greasy pole climbing contest. The committee were able to hand over the sum of £1,000, which endowed a bed in the Children's Hospital, and in many other ways benefactions have been bestowed. The committee have now decided to endeavour to raise a joint fund which will enable them to endow a bed in the Queen's Hospital at a cost of £1,250, and a cot at the Maternity Hospital at a cost of £800.

ECCLES "BUSINESS."

As the "sneeze" and "scorching coat tails business" introduced by Mr. Brember Wills into the famous pipe and baby episode in the part of Eccles in Robertson's play of *Casts* threatens to become traditionally incorporated into the stage instructions, affording once more material for the old controversy as to the imaginative stage-artists copy-rights and copy-wrongs, it will not be inopportune at this time of Robertson revivals to remark on it. An appreciation at the time it was first introduced ran somewhat as follows:—

"As will be remembered by all theatregoers, the action and comedy of the Eccles pipe-filling episode consists in the painful accumulation from the recesses of tattered pockets of the old man's few shreds of tobacco. The business usually ends with the scraping together of the odd fragments into a pitifully small heap on the table. Last night we witnessed a touch that seemed to lift the incident into the realms of the comic-tragic humanities, for, as is the relation of an earthquake or tornado to larger human interests, so is a sneeze—at the wrong moment—to Eccles' hardly gathered relics of past tobacco 'screws.' We were glad to see the audience last night rise to the occasion and spontaneously applaud as the comic harvesting they had witnessed was undone and the old man's labour almost lost. Suspense was real even while the second gleaning was in progress, as further explosions seemed imminent, but did not occur. When at the last moment—most of the golden grains being safely harboured in the pipe—a further particle was discovered and rescued from the floor where the rushing mighty wind had driven it, one experienced that sense of pleasure that ever comes from the presentation of what seems like the unexpected, but which is yet the natural and, perhaps, inevitable.

"Another innovation—as far as we know—was the realisation by the old toper, as he stood, back to fire, puffing at his 'clay,' that some other material besides the tobacco in his pipe was burning. A few loud sniffs, a sudden dive at his

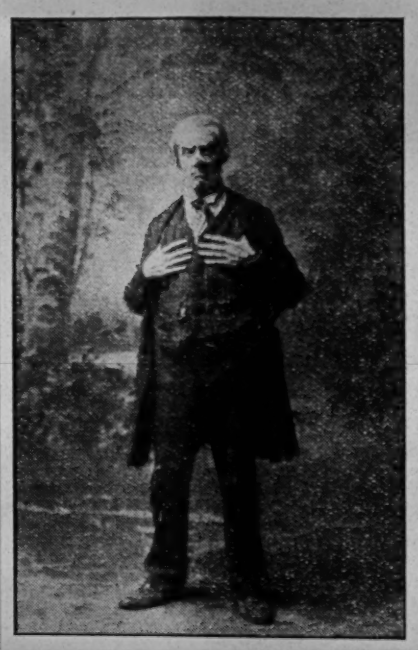

Photo by Coghlan.
MR. BREMBER WILLS AS ECCLES.

coat tails, and a placing of them lapel wise over each arm told in an irresistibly comic manner a natural story. The unexpected-inevitable again followed, for the actor's posterior anatomy, no longer protected by his coat, urged him, to the delight of the discerning, to make a sudden and feeling movement forward.

"The bringing down of the cradle to the chair and the rocking of it in motherly fashion with the foot while the pipe was smoked and dialogue spoken—not to mention an unconscious extra rock at one moment—was also action new to us, and gave a touch of domestic solidity and reality to this justly famous scene."—An appreciation.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 21, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton, in the chair; Mr. H. W. Mote, Hon. Solicitor; Messrs. Chris Walker, Basil Dean, H. Le Grand, F. Annerley, Edward Morgan, C. F. Collings, Robson Paige, Murri Moncrieff, Misses Mildred Cottell, Rose Cazalet, Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read the following letter from the Society of West End Theatre Managers:—"Dear Sir,—The form of contract which you sent me some time ago has been carefully considered by a committee of this Society. The majority of the managers have their own form of contract, therefore do not see their way to adopt the one proposed by the Association, and consequently I regret that nothing further can be done in the matter.—(Signed) J. E. Vedrenne."

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Arlton, saying that he found he could not reconsider his resignation as a member of the Finance Committee. The Secretary read letters from holders of debentures, and it was decided that cheques for the interest up to June 25 should be drawn and issued with the cheque in payment of the debentures already agreed to, payment to be deferred until the debentures were returned at the request of the Secretary.

The Chairman moved a vote of condolence to the relatives of the late Mr. Henry Neville, a life member of the Association, which was passed by the Council all standing.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan and adopted. Mr. Basil Dean was elected to serve on the Finance Committee.

The Hon. Solicitor submitted his report, and was instructed to take action on behalf of two members. The House Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton, and adopted. The Secretary reported eight engagements through the agency.

Elections: Margaret Dolamore, P. Gredge Twyman, William Gilbert, Eve More Dunphie. Nominations: W. Walter Palmer, Geoffrey Guise, Katherine Morris.

In view of the annual garden party of the Actors' Orphanage taking place on Tuesday next, it was agreed that the meeting of the Council be held at 1.30 instead of 2.30. Mr. Le Grand offered to formulate a scheme with reference to the Golf Clubs and members of the Association, and to submit it at the next meeting.

In the Court of Chancery on the 14th inst. a petition was presented by H. Gittelsohn for the continuance of the voluntary winding-up of the Cambrian Theatres, Limited, Cardiff. Counsel who appeared in support of a petition for the compulsory winding-up of the company asked that the petition should stand over, in order that certain evidence in opposition might be filed. Mr. Justice Swifen Eady directed the petition to stand over for a fortnight.

THE PROPOSED MODEL CONTRACT

The following is a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement which has been submitted by the Actors' Association to the Society of West-End Managers:—

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Made between .....

.....

hereafter called the Manager of the one part, and .....

.....

hereafter called the Artiste of the other part. The Manager engages the Artiste for.....

.....

or such parts as the Artiste may be cast for.....

.....

(and to understudy any parts herein specified required by the Manager for) a tour in Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man, to commence on the.....

.....19....such engagements to be

.....

.....

that no season, run, or tour, shall be terminated at less than a fortnight's notice. The Manager hereby agrees to pay all travelling expenses from London during tour, and to London at the termination of this Agreement. The return fares shall not be paid by the Manager if the Artiste breaks his or her contract. In consideration of which the Manager agrees to pay to the Artiste during the continuance of this Agreement a weekly salary of £.....

.....

for six performances, and one-twelfth for every additional performance, and one-sixth for every flying matinée, which salary shall be paid on Friday night in each week up to and including that night.

Payment for Rehearsals. All Artistes engaged at a salary of £5 per week or under to receive salary at the rate of £1 per week from the date of first rehersal to the date of first performance. Payment of salaries shall be subject to playhouse pay.

The Artiste is engaged exclusively for the Manager, and during the continuance of this Agreement will not perform, sing, dance, recite, or otherwise exercise his or her talent on week-days publicly either for his or her benefit, remuneration, or advantage, or for that of any other person or persons or other Theatre Company, Club, Institution, or Establishment (although not thereby prevented from fulfilling her or his engagement with the Manager), without having first obtained the permission in writing of the Manager.

The Manager shall provide all Special and Character Costumes. The Artiste to provide all Modern Wardrobe (except when otherwise agreed).

The Artiste agrees to the Rules and Regulations annexed to this Agreement, which shall be deemed to form part of same.

It is further agreed that any dispute arising out of this Agreement shall be settled by Arbitration.

The Arbitrators to be appointed by the.....

.....and the Council of the Actors' Association, whose decision shall be final.

RULES AND REGULATIONS ABOVE REFERRED TO.

1. The artist is required at all times during the tour to travel by the train or steamer conveying the company, and in the carriage assigned by the manager or his representative for the time being, and any infringement of this rule will entail on the artist cost of railway fare. No strangers, friends, or any person, not being a member of the company, shall (without permission) travel in any carriage or compartment which is reserved for the company. A reasonable amount of private luggage will be allowed.

2. The inability of any artist to attend to his or her professional duties arising from illness is to be communicated as early as possible by notice, in writing, accompanied by a medical certificate, to the manager or his representative, who is not liable to pay salary or any part thereof during the period of such absence, and should such absence exceed two weeks the engagement may be cancelled at the option of the manager.

3. Any person not attending to perform his or her duties except in case of illness shall at option of the manager forfeit one week's salary or his engagement.

4. All parts and music written or printed shall be returned to the manager in good condition (reasonable wear and tear allowed) whenever notice to that effect is put up, and if not so returned forthwith the value thereof or cost of making good any damage thereto will be charged to the artist. No artist shall part with any MS. or typewritten parts, or prompts, or music, the property of manager, or copy or allow copies to be made thereo.

5. Notices from the manager posted at the stage door will be held to be valid notices, and each artist shall enter his or her address in the General Address Book kept for the purpose.

6. No artist is to go into the front of the theatre, or to address the audience, or to bring anyone not engaged into the theatre behind the scenes, or into the dressing-rooms, without the permission of the manager or his duly authorised representative for the time being.

7. The artist to accept and occupy the dressing-rooms and position in same assigned to him or her by the manager or his representative, whose decision shall be final.

8. The artist to obey all the proper and lawful rules and regulations of the theatre in which the company is for the time being performing, and not to do any act whereby the manager may incur any liability to the resident management or any other person.

Dated this.....day of.....19....

Signed.....

.....

N.B.—This Agreement should be signed over a Sixpenny Postage Stamp, or stamped with an Inland Revenue Stamp, within 14 days of the date of signing.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mozart's beautiful Serenade for wind in E flat, the first item in the College Concert on Thursday evening, June 16, was most intelligently performed by Mr. Francis Murphy, Mr. Harold G. Foreman, Mr. Haydn Draper, Mr. Mendelssohn Draper, Mr. R. de H. Tupper, Mr. H. Foote, Mr. Albert Davin, and Mr. Frank Probin, Mr. Ernest Tove acting as conductor. The students were particularly happy in their rendering of the second movement and the Adagio. In Paderewski's difficult Variations in A, op. 16, No. 3, for pianoforte, Miss Gladys Cawston displayed a command of technique far above the average, and well deserved her hearty reception and two recalls. An excellent tone was produced by Miss Cecilia J. Williamson in her violoncello solo of Max Bruch's popular "Kol Nidrei," and Mr. Philip Levine, Miss Evelyn M. Pickup, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe cleverly interpreted Schubert's Quartet for Strings in G major. Three lady vocalists appeared at the concert on Thursday evening. Miss Ivy Tilbrook was heard in the quaint "Amarilli" (Caccini) and Pergolesi's "Se tu m'ami"; while Miss Clytie Hine in the exacting song of Liszt, "Die Loreley," also merited commendation. The most successful of the three vocalists, however, was Miss Celia Turrill, who sang Schubert's "Geheimes" and "Blackbird's Song," by Cyril Scott, with rare beauty of tone and artistic expression. The accompanists were Mr. Walter Butler, Mr. H. Arnold Smith, and Miss Constance Stockbridge.

"THREE OLD MEN."

Melodrama, by John Darlison. Produced by the Author at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, on Monday, June 20.

Everard Saville .....Mr. J. W. Austin
Tom Sprate .....Mr. Ernest Regent
Joe Doddlecum .....Mr. Addison Thomas
Philip Tyndal .....Mr. Richard Ferris
Harry Stanton .....Mr. Mark Hannan
Dicky Twiddles .....Mr. J. T. Dale
Taddeo Scalazzi .....Mr. A. W. B. Kingston
Guiseppe Madoni .....Mr. Paul Dysart
Postman E.C. 14 .....Mr. David Porter
Bob Mivens .....Mr. Peter Dalton
Mrs. Stobs .....Miss Paulina Gear
Araminta Tudge .....Miss Kitty Thomas
Stella Scalazzi .....Miss Eleanor McHardy
Winnie Vernon .....Miss Doris Brookes

(from our own correspondent.)

The leading motive of this interesting play is the helpfulness of the poor towards each other, and Mr. Darlison has succeeded very happily in keeping his characters true to type while developing a consistent and possible story. There is no prominent star part in the cast, and no underplot; but a thrilling episode is introduced with startling effect in the third act, in strong contrast with the homely scenes which give the drama its title. The opening of the play introduces us to the establishment of Taddeo Scalazzi, an Italian stucco image-maker and "modeller after nature and other descriptions," in the East End of London, where we find, along with Scalazzi himself, his young assistant, Giuseppe Madoni, his daughter Stella, and Winnie Vernon, really the heiress to a considerable fortune, but whose present position is the seller of plaster models in the streets, and with whom Guiseppe is passionately in love. Scalazzi had formerly been valet to Philip Tyndal, a fascinating but unworthy scion of the aristocracy, and guardian to Winnie Vernon, with whose fortune he had made free for his own ends and purposes. To cover his fraud Tyndal plotted with his sometime valet to bring up his own daughter Stella as the heiress, and to pass off Winnie as his daughter.

In the first act the real Stella learns for the first time the full extent of the conspiracy in which she has been made to play a part, and, besides clamouring for a share in the spoil, insists that Tyndal shall marry her; and Winnie, moved thereto by the persecution of Guiseppe (whose affection she in no way returns) and by the hardships of her lot under her supposed father, has determined to run away. This she accomplishes with the assistance of Dicky Twiddles, a newsboy—one of those cheerful, happy-go-lucky youths so useful in rescuing the persecuted heroines of melodrama; and the runaway finds refuge with three odd old labourers working for a street-repairing contractor. These are the "Three Old Men," in whose joint lodging at 21, Brickfields-street, E., the scenes of the second and subsequent acts mainly take place. Here we meet a friendly neighbour, Mrs. Stobs, who does the tidying-up of the very homely quarters, and also Araminta Tudge, one of the untidy, good-natured sort of maids-of-all-work with whom such an irresponsible young fellow as Dicky Twiddles must, of course, finally pair off.

Here, too, is presented one of the best bits of the play, when Winnie's birthday is kept with hearty but frugal revelry. But the serpent has been on the trail; and Philip Tyndal, having first of all procured the dismissal of the three old labourers from their employment by means of a bogus advertisement, aided by Guiseppe, lures Winnie from her safe asylum to a lonely house on a cliff, where, in the third act, the sensational scene already alluded to is enacted. Mrs. Tyndal has proved rebellious to her husband in the matter of important documents, to which he demands that she should attach Winnie Vernon's signature; and he kills her while a terrible thunderstorm breaks over the house. Tyndal places a revolver in the hand of the corpse to suggest suicide; Guiseppe enters the room at the moment when the apartment is wrecked by lightning; and the current striking Stella's dead body causes the firing of the revolver and the death of Guiseppe.

The final act necessarily concerns itself with the old men's recovery of Winnie; Philip's payment of his debt to justice, mainly through Scalazzi's agency; and all the worthy people in the play made happy.

As indicated above, the drama gives good opportunities for every character in the cast, and the performers engaged in the initial production may one and all be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

The Three Old Men were cleverly differentiated by Mr. J. W. Austin, Mr. Ernest Regent, and Mr. Addison Thomas; Taddeo Scalazzi and Guiseppe were well portrayed by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston and Mr. Paul Dysart; and Stella Scalazzi found an impressive and highly-strung representative in Miss Eleanor McHardy. The cheerful natures of Dicky Twiddles, Araminta Tudge, and the brisk Mrs. Stobs were pleasantly indicated by Mr. J. T. Dale, Miss Kitty Thomas, and Miss Paulina Gear; and the small part of a road foreman was carefully rendered by Mr. Peter Dalton. Mr. Richard Ferris, forsaking his accustomed rôle of a virtuous hero, is to be credited with a wholly artistic and unconventional handling of the part of the polished evil-doer Philip Tyndal; and Miss Doris Brookes made Winnie Vernon as winsome and charming as her name indicates she is meant to be; while the part of her unassuming true lover, Harry Stanton, was quietly acted by Mr. Mark Hannam.

CRICKET.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM, STOCK COMPANY C.C. v. HYSON GREEN TRADESMEN'S C.C.

This return match was played on June 17. The Tradesmen put together 97, and set the Stock Company the stiff task of getting the runs in sixty-five minutes. This they accomplished, with 2 wickets to spare, thanks to resolute hitting by Morgan and Martin. The latter gentleman took 5 wickets for 41, and Asquin 4 for 27. Scores:—

Hyson Green Tradesmen's C.C.

Dean, b Martin	12
Hopper, b Martin	11
Slaney, b Martin	0
Tattersfield, c Morgan b Venning	0
Smedley, c Nolan b Martin	3
Hempshall, b Asquin	26
Stokes, st Morgan b Martin	9
Gent, b Asquin	0
Simpson, not out	14
Aprishaw, st Morgan b Asquin	1
Seaton, b Asquin	9
Extras	12
Total	97

Grand Theatre Stock Company C.C.

Geo. Asquin, b Gent	7
Herbert Morgan, not out	55
G. Venning, c Slaney b Gent	1
A. Schipper, c and b Dean	1
H. Martin, b Gent	23
Otto Minster, c Smedley b Gent	1
H. Kenney, b Gent	0
B. Levey, c Hempshall b Slaney	3
L. Nolan, b Gent	0
B. Porter, not out	1
Extras	12
Total (for 8 wickets)	103

K. Sharman did not bat.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S.

The production of *Billy's Bargain* at the Garrick on Thursday made it necessary to secure another home for *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, which was transferred to the Duke of York's on Monday, when Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's play once more created a deep impression. Glad, the heroine, who is haloed with chastity, is bold enough to proclaim her faith in the efficacy of prayer in an environment of squalor and crime. At the "orspital" she had been told by a good sister to "arst" for things with a simple faith in the goodness of the Giver, and she would have. She talks this doctrine in the mephitic atmosphere of Apple Blossom Court, in the neighbourhood of Stepney, in the society of thieves and vagabonds; and it has more than a special significance for her when she pleaded for Dandy, a thief, that he should be prevented from joining in a burglary, at which murder has been done. But we need not again enter into the details of the plot, which was given in our issue of May 21. Miss Gertrude Elliott, who has played the part with immense success in America, easily makes one believe in the firm faith and unblemished reputation of Glad, whose example has so great an effect on the mind of the invalid Sir Oliver Holt, a part that exactly suits the crisp style of Mr. Herbert Waring. Mr. Henry Ainley, seemingly, has an unlimited range, and to those who have enjoyed his acting as imaginative or dreamy heroes, his Dandy is a veritable *tour de force*. Mr. James Hearn's Doctor Heath is endowed with a natural strength that is very impressive, and equally good is the more conventional, fashionable specialist, Sir Bowling Burford, so finely played by Mr. J. H. Barnes. Mr. Jameson Lee Finney presents a clever portrait of the libertine Mr. Oliver Holt; Miss Ada Dwyer realises the Cockney drollery of the character of Bet; and there is undoubted power in the Madge Delorme of Miss Portia Knight. The other members of a long cast acquit themselves well, and the representation is as perfect as the staging, which is particularly fine.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, entitled
"THE RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."

This week Mr. Fred Melville is presenting to his patrons the above well-known and popular drama, and, despite the heat, fair houses have assembled. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is admirable as Dr. Leonard Norton, and wins the hearty applause of the audience. He receives most valued help from the other members of the now popular Brixton stock company, notably Miss May Pemberton, who, in the rôle of May Braithwaite, scores a success; Mr. Newman Maurice does justice to Spider Jack, and makes himself a great favourite; Miss May Day is very good as Polly Philpotts; and Miss Grace Emery is admirable as Dicksie. Mr. Walter Graham well realises the rôle of the Earl of Ravenswood, Mr. W. H. Porter is well cast as Mark Standing, and Mr. Marius St. John does capitally as Gussy Lambe. Mr. Victor Loraine is capable as Matthew Grabham, and Mr. Will Smith well impersonates Binky Bill. All the remaining characters are well played. The piece is liberally staged and mounted, and the production is deserving of warm praise.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, entitled
"ARRAH-NA-POGUE."

Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is evoking enthusiasm at this house in the above well-known drama from the pen of Boucicault. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gains a warm place in the hearts of the patrons of the theatre by his breezy impersonation of Shaun the Post; Miss Lallah Stanhope also obtains the heartiest sympathy by her winning grace in the character of Arrah, the sweet Irish girl heroine; Mr. Wilson Reed is decidedly popular as the O'Grady; and Major Coffin is suitably filled by Mr. Frank McCellant. Mr. Ernest Hamilton's Winterbottom and Mr. Fred G. Kay's Sergeant are amusing, and Miss Fanny Power is well acted by Miss Lydia Andre. Mr. H. C. Gilpin handles the difficult part of Michael Feeny in admirable style, and Mr. Edward E. Hobart is good as Beamish M'Conly. The remainder of the company reflect credit on their selection.

THE PAVILION, E.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

The stock company has prolonged its season, and this week is successfully presenting *The Lights o' London*. The plays of Mr. G. R. Sims are always appreciated in East London, the author having a masterly way of dealing with the life of the poor of the Metropolis. Mr. Ashley Page is to be congratulated upon his fine impersonation of Harold Armytage, which won much admiration; as Clifford Armytage Mr. Alexander Bradley played admirably, and won much applause; Mr. Oswald Lingard's impersonation of Seth Prune was realistic; Mr. Fred Rivers as Squire Armytage was good; Mr. Fred Harrison, who played the humorous Jarvis, aroused much laughter; Miss Marion Denvil played the part of Faithful Bess to perfection; Miss Nellie James made an excellent little Shakespeare Jarvis, quite captivating the audience; and as Mrs. Jarvis Miss Nell Gillmore played well.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, in Three Acts, by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"ARRAH-NA-POGUE."

The stock season here is in full progress, and the members are now established favourites. Mr. E. C. Matthews has gained a warm reception for his representation of Irish characters. This week his Shaun the Post has made a great hit. Mr. Fred Terriss brings his long and varied experience to bear with excellent effect in the part of the O'Grady. Mr. E. Vassall Vaughan is an interesting and earnest Beamish M'Coul. Mr. Will Clements' Michael Feeney is remarkably well played. Mr. F. Kirkby is good as the Secretary, and the same can be said of the Sergeant of Mr. F. Hunter. Mr. H. Hersee is a competent Winterbottom. Mr. R. A. Robinson (Oiny Farrell), Mr. G. Emery (Andy Regan), Mr. J. Jennings (Lanty), and Mr. A. Westwood (Moran) add to the general success. Miss Sadie Neville is a charming Arrah, gentle and sympathetic; Miss Alice Defoe is an attractive Fanny Power; Miss Claire Milvain is good as Kitty Walsh; and Miss Sinclair is a capable Bridget. Mr. Ellis J. Preston, the producer and stage-manager, enacts Major Coffin capitally.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

Lovers and students of Shakespeare will be in their element this week, as Mr. F. R. Benson's company (North) are paying a welcome visit to the above-named house. A series of the immortal bard's best works is presented, *Macbeth* being staged on Monday; *The Tempest*, Tuesday; *Richard II.*, Wednesday; *Taming of the Shrew*, Thursday; *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Friday; and *Hamlet*, Saturday. Matinées: Wednesday, *Twelfth Night*, and Saturday, *As You Like It*. The company is an exceptionally strong one, and is headed by the popular provincial favourite Mr. Henry Herbert, ably assisted in the leading rôles by Miss Gladys Vanderzee. The remaining parts are in the capable hands of Messrs. Robert Atkins, Jno. Cairns, H. S. Cohen, Luxmore Hocken, Jno. Hood, Andrew Leigh, Jos. O'Dowd, F. J. Richardson, Eric Snowdon, Chas. Sparrow, and Cyril Sworder; and Misses Lila Barclay, Mildred Howarth, Dorothy Johnson, Kate Turner, Dorothy Radford, and Betty Ward.

In addition to playing the leading rôles, Mr. Herbert is also stage-director of the company, and is responsible for the productions. The tour is under the personal direction of Mr. W. H. Savery. The scenery and dresses are new and complete in every detail, over twenty tons being required to mount the various plays.

"MY LADY BELLAMY."

A Play in Four Acts, by Dorothea Moore, Produced for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, June 20.

King William III .....MR. E. H. BROOKE
Lord Crawford .....MR. ARTHUR LAYLAND
Robert Tarfax .....MR. HERBERT MAULE
Sir Geo. Barclay .....MR. L. D. ARTHUR
Captain Van Hesler.....MR. HAMPTON GORDON
Captain Oliley .....MR. A. L. BURKE
Sim Waring .....MR. PATRICK ALEXANDER
Mr. Hemming .....MR. ARTHUR BLAIR
Sudwell .....MR. GEO. LYTTLETON-HOLYOAKE
John Hemming .....MISS MAUD SHAW
Maurice Hemming .....MISS NORAH JOHNS
Sir Gervase Bellamy .....MR. ALEX MACLEAN
Queen Mary II. .....MISS MARY PALMER
Mrs. Hemming .....MISS MAUDE HARCOURT
Mrs. Mackie .....MISS MARGHARITA GORDON
Henrietta Lady Bellamy ....MISS LAURA LEIGH

The above play was first produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on April 11 last, and has since enjoyed a most successful run in the provinces. The piece provides many dramatic episodes and a large amount of comedy and pathos. The action is laid between the years 1690 and 1694, and the Jacobite plots against William of Orange are dealt with. My Lady Bellamy, the child heroine, is the twelve-year-old "wife" of Sir Gervase Bellamy, an Irish Jacobite of the devil-may-care type dear to romance-writers and readers. The marriage was one of convenience, and after the ceremony the bride was immediately taken away by Mr. and Mrs. Hemming, hardly having made the acquaintance of her "grown-up husband." Two years later she has an adventure with him. The soldiers of William are hot on his trail, and Lady Bellamy overhears a conversation between Tarfax and Hemming, when the former unfolds his scheme for the capture of Sir Gervase and his fellow-Jacobites at Waring's hut. "My Lady" escapes from her guardian's house and warns her husband and his companions of the approach of the King's men. Sir Gervase and Lady Bellamy make their exit through a secret door, and the soldiers break in, only to find Waring in a drunken sleep. Sir Gervase and his bride are afterwards found at the Bagpipes Inn, Edinburgh, and are in the act of leaving when they are captured. A trial takes place by Lord Crawford (President of the Privy Council of Scotland), who orders Sir Gervase to give the names of his confrères, which he refuses to do. Lord Crawford threatens torture to the girl-wife, who, in her child-like simplicity, secures the despatches found on her husband, but on reading them burns them so that they shall not fall into the enemy's hands. Sir Gervase still obdurate, even after torture, is taken to London, and is examined by the King himself. My Lady, however, arrives first, and, gaining admission to the Royal apartment, tells whom she thinks is the King's Chancellor—but who is in reality the King himself—the whole story. So plausible, indeed, is Lady Bellamy's account that the King sends for the Queen to give the girl-wife sound counsel and advice. Lord Crawford arrives with a deed already prepared to sanction further torture on Sir Gervase and only awaiting the King's signature. After hearing the evidence of the baronet and his "tool" Tarfax, His Majesty refuses to sign and dismisses the crafty noble, after sternly rebuking him. Bellamy is pardoned, but is ordered banishment for four years. The last scene opens in Kensington Palace Gardens on the girl-wife's sixteenth birthday. The King and Queen, who have grown to love the girl, offer her the best birthday present she can name, and Lady Bellamy asks for her husband, and a happy reunion takes place.

In the title-rôle Miss Laura Leigh is charming, and is perfection itself. Mr. Alex. Maclean is a fine manly actor, his Irish brogue and keen and ready wit winning him admirers. Several curtains were accorded the principals at the close of each act. Miss Mary Palmer was sweet and dignified as the Queen; the subtle craftiness of the spies Tarfax and Sudwell was well portrayed by Messrs. Herbert Maule and Geo. Lyttleton-Holyoake; the arch-schemer, Lord Crawford, was admirably enacted by Mr. Arthur Layland, his facial expression suiting his lines exactly. The remaining characters were in the hands of capable artists. The play was beautifully mounted, scenery and dresses being superb. So successful, indeed, has been the production that we may predict brilliant future for *My Lady Bellamy*.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, the Drama, by G. R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, entitled
"IN THE RANKS."

The pens of Mr. G. R. Sims and Mr. Robert Buchanan again provided the fare at the Kennington Theatre on Monday, the thrilling drama *In the Ranks* being presented to a well-filled house. From the time the curtain rose there was not a dull moment, and the admirable acting of the various members of the company was greatly appreciated by the audience, who showed their approval in no uncertain manner. As Ned Drayton, the hero, who through the treachery of the villain goes through many and great hardships, Mr. Walter Gay made a great hit; and as his pretty and brave wife, Ruth Herrick, Miss Jessie Wynter won the hearts of all present by her vivid portrayal of the rôle. Mr. Fred Morgan as the despicable villain Gideon Blake deserves hearty congratulations, his acting being well-nigh perfect. In the hands of Mr. Maitland Marler, whose fun is irresistible, the part of Joe Buzzard, the villager friend of Ned Drayton, was amusingly presented. Mr. Wilson Blake as Colonel Wynter, Drayton's guardian, was excellent; Mr. Frank Crimp as Captain Holcroft, Drayton's friend, was a typical Guardsman; Mr. Herbert Lloyd put some really excellent work into his rendering of the character of Richard Belson, the murderer, of whose crime Drayton is suspected; Mr. G. F. Polson was Sergeant Searle to the life, and made a good impression; while Winifred Whyte was an adorable Barbara Herrick, Ruth's sister. Miss Elsie Videan was charming as Polly Timmins; and Miss Lucie Evelyn won high praise and caused many a laugh by her delineation of the character of Mrs. Buzzard. The other parts were filled with equal success. Cinematograph pictures were given before and after the performance.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

The farce selected as a supplement to the picture show this week at the Alexandra Theatre is *My Neighbour's Wife*. The play is rattled through with the customary spirit displayed by the Alexandra Stock Company, the chief honours on this occasion falling to Mr. Henry J. Corner, on whose shoulders falls the burden of the work, a responsibility which as Mr. Somerton he proves himself fully capable of bearing. The parts of Smith and Brown do not present very many opportunities, consisting as they do mostly of asides from behind a screen, but of the chances that are afforded the most is made by Messrs. J. J. Daly and Mark Lester respectively as Mr. Smith and Mr. Brown. Miss Frances Ruttledge and Miss May Hallatt are seen to advantage, and considerable brightness and vivacity is infused into her impersonation of Mrs. Somerton by Miss Nasmi Neilson. The illustrated songs are this week contributed by Miss Edith Blain, and the films shown are quite up to the average, calling forth frequent expressions of approval.

THE Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, built by the late J. E. Noakes, has been acquired by Mr. W. Haggar, another well-known portable theatre proprietor. Mr. Haggar, who is highly respected throughout South Wales is the proprietor of fine Bioscope shows. He intends running the house as a two shows a night cinematograph theatre, with frequent visits by good dramatic and variety companies.

"IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by "Riada," Produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on Monday, June 20.

Lady Margaret Desmond / Sister St. Barbara .....MISS LOUIS ADAIR
Little Marjorie Desmond.LITTLE BERTHA HANBURY
Paula Carlton .....MISS ADELINE RABY
Nancy Felton .....MISS ISLA GARNET-VAYNE
The Mother Superior .....MISS STANLEY BURT
Barker .....MISS AMY RANDOLPH
Wardress .....MISS LUCY VANE-TEMPEST
Detective-Sergeant Good ..MR. HERBERT SYDNEY
William .....MR. FRED BARNES
Inspector Thompson ....MR. HOLLIWELL JONES
Mike O'Flynn .....MR. HYLAND T. O'SHEA
Lord Grassmere .....MR. DUDLEY WYNTON
Jack Desmond .....MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE
Major Quentin Stevington....MR. FRANK ADAIR

Vigorously cut, "Riada's" pathetic "story of real life" will undoubtedly enjoy a prosperous career "on the road," and at the suburban houses, for it contains all the essentials of a popular play—exciting situations and an abundance of heart interest and comedy relief; and it held the attention of Monday's audience throughout, some of the scenes being particularly impressive. The author's intention, we gather, is to show that when lovely woman stoops to folly, her share of the reckoning is always the larger; but in this particular instance the despicable nature of the man who is responsible for her shame is sufficiently revealed ere she takes the plunge which leads to her unhappiness. He is Major Quentin Stevington, cousin of her husband, Jack Desmond, a young Irish squire. The woman, Lady Margaret Desmond, is apparently no mate for Jack. He is of a sporting turn of mind; whilst she prefers a life of gaiety, and has incurred debts of which he is ignorant. She is pressed for payment of a large sum by her dressmaker, and Stevington offers to settle the account, very soon afterwards declaring his passion for Margaret, and asking her to go away with him. She at first indignantly spurns his advances, but soon capitulates, and the scheming Stevington is aided considerably by the presence at the Castle—the scene of the first act—of a wealthy widow, Paula Carlton, an unscrupulous woman, evidently infatuated with Desmond. Paula plans to put an incriminating letter and a £1000 diamond necklace in Margaret's jacket pocket, thereby proving her a thief; but this little scheme is frustrated by the delightful ingénue of the play, Nancy Felton, her half-sister, who, hidden up a tree, has been a witness of all the machinations of villainy, and removes the letter, the Major stealing the necklace. When the police are called in and search Margaret, she is, of course, highly indignant, and when the necklace is not to be found in her jacket, the Major produces it, inventing some plausible tale that will incriminate Margaret. Then it is that Nancy gives the lie to Paula and the Major, and the curtain falls on a very effective situation.

Despite, however, these proofs of the true character of Stevington, Margaret goes away with him, and in the next act, a Cottage near Brussels, after an interval of some years, we see her alone and in the depths of despair. The Major has not fulfilled his promise to marry her, although Desmond has divorced his wife in order that Stevington may be enabled to do so. In the third scene Margaret—believed by her friends in Ireland to be dead—has entered a convent, and here Jack Desmond brings his little daughter, Marjorie. She is to be the special charge of Sister Barbara (her own mother), and there is a very pathetic scene when the child is given into the care of Margaret. Meanwhile, Desmond has married the widow Paula, whose apparently inexhaustible wealth is being constantly drawn upon by the Major. He has her in his power, for he is aware that she killed her first husband by aconite poisoning. He soon learns that Margaret is at the same convent as her own child, and tells Paula so, and thinking that if the child should learn that Sister Barbara is her mother things will become awkward, the scheming pair decide, without Desmond's authority, to take her away.

In the first scene of the third act—Marjorie's Bedroom at the Castle—we see the youngster dying. She has been run over by a motor-car, the work of Stevington and an accomplice. Her mother—still disguised as Sister Barbara—is there nursing her; but her identity is revealed to the little one before her death. In the next scene Desmond is arrested for the murder of Stevington's partner in a racing stable. In the Major's bungalow, soon after, we see Stevington, half drunk with brandy, go to a writing-table and take from it papers which will prove Desmond's innocence. Margaret, who has entered unseen and hidden behind a screen, manages to obtain possession of these. When she has left Nancy Felton enters. She has lost her way in the fog, and asks Stevington to direct her home. The intoxicated Major asks her for a kiss, and when the terrified girl endeavours to elude him he catches hold of her and forces his unwelcome attentions upon her. In desperation, she stabs him with a knife. Then again enters Margaret. She has come for her revenge, for she means to kill Stevington, and when she finds she has been forestalled tells Nancy not to fear. She will take all responsibility for the murder, and telephones for the police. The Woman has made reparation, and in the last act "Finds Salvation."

The company responsible for the representation, Mr. Frank Adair's, was a thoroughly capable one all round, Mr. Adair himself appearing in the arduous rôle of Major Stevington—a cruelly callous scoundrel, with a sardonic laugh and a cynical manner that were most effective. The impersonation throughout was a clever one, the actor's handling of the drunken scene in the third act being admirable. Very convincing also was Miss Louise Adair as the erring Lady Margaret. In the first scene of the play she realistically indicated the unhappiness of the wife, who imagines she is neglected by her husband; and her acting in the later incidents of the play—particularly in the scenes with little Marjorie—was very natural and pathetic, the episode when the youngster dies in the arms of her mother being especially distressing. Indeed, her portrayal all through of a difficult part showed her to be an actress of much versatility and power, and she was called before the curtain at the end of the second act to receive the well-merited congratulations of the audience and a handsome bouquet. The unthankful rôle of Paula Carlton was excellently enacted by Miss Adeline Raby, the actress cleverly indicating Paula's passion for Desmond and her hatred of Margaret; and a more natural and lovable little Marjorie than that of the talented child-actress, Miss Bertha Hanbury, it would be difficult to imagine. Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne as Nancy Felton soon became a great favourite, her familiar quotations and her ingenuity in obtaining chocolate in the first scene creating much amusement. Her love scene with Lord Grassmere was played in exactly the right spirit, and in the intense episode with Stevington towards the finish she played in a natural yet effective style that is entitled to much praise. Miss Stanley Burt was excellent as the Mother Superior, and Miss Amy Randolph was a bright and amusing Barker, her scenes with her sweetheart, Mike O'Flynn, always making for merriment. That "broth of a boy" had a most humorous exponent in Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea, his description of a race being realistically rendered. Mr. Dudley Wynton as Lord Grassmere administered the thrashing to Stevington in a very convincing manner, and in the light comedy scenes was admirable; and Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee as the hero, Jack Desmond, was manly and impressive throughout, his scenes with his little daughter Marjorie being particularly well played. All the other parts were capably enacted, and the play was put on in first-class style.

"TURNING THE TABLES."

Farcical Comedy, by Oswald King, in Three Acts, Produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, June 20.

Mr. Tunnell .....MR. EDWARD IRWIN
Wilfred .....MR. HAROLD WEST
The Hon. Mrs. Leversham MISS KATHLEEN GREY
Irene .....MISS BEATRICE FITZGERALD
James .....MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD
Rev. Sylvester Slugge .....MR. TIM RYLEY
Admiral Fleming .....MR. HAROLD CARSON
Jack .....MR. VIVIAN GILBERT
Meta .....MISS JANE SAVILLE
Mardin .....MR. HENRY ADNES
Anton .....MR. BERTIE MURRAY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The author's chief object has been to supply a couple of hours of wholesome fun, and in succeeding he has evolved some novel and amusing situations which caused hearty laughter among the audience on Monday evening.

The scene opens at the Hotel Quisana, Acoronte, where an aristocratic party is staying which includes Mrs. Leversham, her son James, her daughter Irene, and the Rev. Mr. Slugge. Here, too, is residing Mr. Tunnell, a vulgar Yorkshireman, who has made a fortune out of "Tunnell's Tablets for Tired Systems." This parvenu is anxious to obtain a footing in the society of the hotel, but is snubbed by everyone. A new party arrives at the hotel, and includes Admiral Fleming, an old sea-dog with a peppery temper and a habit of finding fault with everything. The boat by which he has travelled has had accommodation of the most objectionable kind, and when Admiral Fleming finds that Mr. Tunnell is one of the directors of the company running the line he pours out his violent wrath on the head of the unlucky tradesman who aspires to be one of the "nobs." Goaded to desperation by the snobbishness of the people arund him, Tunnell longs to revenge, and the chance soon arrives. Mardin, the proprietor of the establishment, rushes in and informs his visitors that an avalanche has cut off the hotel from the rest of the world by blocking up the pass leading from the place. Mr. Tunnell takes advantage of the occasion, buys the property, lock, stock, and barrel, for a good round sum, and proclaims himself the new proprietor.

In Act 2 we have the love interest of two pairs of young people—Wilfred Tunnell, a son of the tabloid merchant, and Meta Fleming, a daughter of the Admiral, and also Jack Fleming and Irene. Tunnell is pleased to think his son is aiming high, and approves his choice, but Mrs. Leversham discovers her daughter's intrigue, and apprises the Admiral of the fact. To the horror and dismay of the latter he finds his daughter is being wooed by young Tunnell, and the Tunnells, both father and son, become the victims of the eloquent abuse and physical violence of the Admiral. To retaliate, old Tunnell raises the prices to extortion, and sends in his bills. The visitors not having enough money with which to pay are offered the alternative of their going to prison for debt or that the male members of the visitors should become his servants, the ladies remaining as guests. Willy-nilly, they have to accept, and the act ends by Tunnell ordering the Admiral to don the hall-porter's coat and take up his new duties. In Act 3 we have the land of topsy-turvydom. The haughty Admiral is a humble hall-porter, James Leversham is an ordinary waiter, and the Rev. Mr. Slugge is transformed into an ostler. Many amusing predicaments are cleverly realised here, for Mr. Tunnell uses his despotic power to the full in humbling those who once scorned and despised him. But young Fleming does not approve of his father's scheme, and he earns the goodwill of the Admiral with the love of his daughter by providing a means of escape from the unbearable position the party is in. Young Tunnell's efforts, however, are not necessary, for the tabloid provider has, by a huge subscription to charity, earned a peerage, and from very joy forgives everybody; the young lovers becoming engaged, the older folks reconciled.

Mr. Edward Irwin as the broad Yorkshireman, Tunnell, contributed a consistently good performance. Mr. Harold Carson played throughout in the true spirit of farce and caused many hearty laughs as Admiral Fleming, whose uncontrollable fits of temper alternating with short periods of abject submission as the porter were very effective. Mr. Harold West's natural and refined acting as Wilfred Tunnell was admired, his excellent love scene in Act 2 deserving special praise; Mr. Vivian Gilbert was a polished and animated Jack; Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald was amusing and distinct as James; Mr. Henry Adnes achieved quite a realistic piece of work as Mardin; and Mr. Bertie Murray was a lightning and excellent waiter Anton. Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald and Miss Jane Saville were the charming exponents of the parts of Irene and Meta, and they they were interesting lovers; and Miss Kathleen Grey did capital work as the proud and haughty Mrs. Leversham.

STAGE QUALIFICATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In Mr. Granville Barker's recent address to the University Club at Liverpool on the subject of the Repertory Theatre, he urged that for the presentation of the plays "a company of youngish people with elastic minds" should be engaged.

The time has arrived for something more to be said regarding the qualifications necessary for the artists who are to interpret the newly arising drama, which is not so much necessarily intellectual, as is often assumed, but vital and real in relation to life. Mr. Bernard Shaw has pointed out that stage emotion often runs in quite false grooves, giving us tears when there should be laughter and *vice-versâ*, and other anomalies, and these discrepancies are laid at the door of the individual artist, the choice of whom, however, rests with the managers, and it is towards the—often—faulty stage standards of the latter that some attention may be directed.

Although it is true, as you point out in your leading article of the 18th, "that the modern method of choosing the actor to suit the part results in a realism of impersonation which often approaches perfection," selection on these lines is often misunderstood, and is responsible for much emotional falsification, because it degenerates into the short-sighted and, dramatically, fatal policy of seeking almost wholly for the external physical resemblances, regardless of the fact that the gift of emotion and imagination are the factors that, in the theatre, are of the most real and vital stature and effect in a dramatic scene. And these qualities are often unaccompanied by ideal physical efficiency.

This is the point that requires a fuller realisation, and it is to be hoped that the repertory managements and others dealing with the new drama will seek the happy medium way between outward personation and inward stage capacity, and consider Mr. W. B. Yeats's *obiter dictum* that the balanced and steady nature in real life (so often represented on the stage) is usually for artistic purposes an inarticulate and silent one. The criterion of physique and physiognomy, in all its outward manifestations, will sometimes have to be less rigidly adhered to if the new drama demands emotional and imaginative vitality and reality of its interpretive artists.—Yours faithfully,

BREMNER WILLS.

A.A., June 20.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

Mr. Justice Madden presided on the 13th inst. at a meeting, convened by the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, and held in the Regent's House at the College, for the purpose of forming a Dublin Committee in support of establishing a Shakespeare Memorial Theatre.

His Lordship said the idea was that the memorial to Shakespeare should take the form of a national endowed theatre under the management of a directorate who would take care that it should be devoted to the production of English dramas of a truly classical nature, in which the works of the great poet should always have a prominent part. For this proposal, he (Judge Madden) ventured to promise at a meeting in London support and sympathy from Ireland, and he reminded that meeting that Ireland had turned out many of the greatest Shakespearean scholars—many of them associated with Trinity College.

Mr. H. S. Perris, organising secretary, who represented the Shakespeare Memorial Committee, London, said that the National Theatre, on a repertory system, as suggested, would cost—for the site £100,000, for the building £150,000, and a quarter of a million for endowment. He asked them to form in Dublin an energetic committee to forward the movement, and he hoped this would be followed by the formation of committees in Belfast and other centres in Ireland.

Dr. R. T. Tyrrell moved a resolution approving of the scheme, pledging the meeting to do its best to raise a substantial local contribution to the fund, and forming a Dublin Committee. Dr. J. P. Mahaffy seconded the resolution.

Rev. T. A. Finlay, S.J., supporting, said that in Ireland the question naturally arose—Why should they take part in a national movement to honour a great national poet? They were told that it was intended to erect a great theatre in London where those who visited that city from the ends of the earth might see plays of Shakespeare worthily represented. If that were all, they in Ireland would not gain much by the movement, and if they subscribed to the movement in proportion to their personal gain from those results, he was afraid their subscriptions would not be on a lavish scale. But they should look at the matter from a broader point of view. Art, as such, appealed to them, and the traditions of the country obliged them to pay homage to it, whether it came from England or from the French or Germans. Dramatic genius had found its noblest realisation in the works of Shakespeare, and to those creations of genius in its highest form they must pay homage. In this country they had to borrow their dramatic literature from England, and they imported their drama as they did their statesmen. That being so, it concerned them intimately that the drama in England should be worthily maintained.

The resolution was passed, and Mr. Justice Madden was appointed Chairman of the Committee.

At a meeting held on the 14th inst. at the Town Hall, Eastbourne, it was decided to give support to the movement for a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. The meeting was presided over by the Deputy-Mayor (Alderman Mark Martin), who had the support of Mr. H. S. Perris, M.A. (organising secretary to the London Committee), Councillor C. W. Bolton, J.P., Major S. F. Cooke, Mr. W. Gardnor-Beard, Mr. Arthur Beckett, Councillor J. C. Wright, Mr. O. R. Dawson, and many others. The Deputy-Mayor regretted that the Duke of Devonshire (Mayor) could not be present, as he would have given an impetus to local energy.

Mr. Perris's address contained a concise summary of the origin and objects of the movement, which began some years ago; in 1916 the 300th anniversary of Shakespeare's death would be reached. An influential committee was formed, with the Lord Mayor of London as chairman, to collect funds for the erection of a monument of Shakespeare. This eventually met with a chorus of condemnation, and it was ultimately resolved that a great national theatre, where Shakespeare's works would always be available to the public in the most artistic form, should be erected. It was hoped to open this theatre on April 23, 1916. It would not be confined simply to the plays of Shakespeare, but be used for works of classical and modern importance. One object was to indicate the worth and importance of the drama in the national life of the country—the drama had not recovered from the slur and prejudice of past generations. The committee would like to see every college and school assist the movement, and especially looked to Eastbourne for support in this respect. An actor, continued Mr. Perris, was now a casual labourer—the most unhappy of beings—who had a good part occasionally, and then fell out of work. They hoped this theatre would provide a career for actors which they had never experienced before. A pension fund would be created in connection with it. Mr. Perris pointed out that the chief duty of the local committees was to make the objects of the project familiar to the people in the various localities.

The following resolution was proposed in a long speech by Councillor Bolton:—

"That this meeting cordially approves of the project for the establishment of a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre by national subscription; constitutes itself a Local Committee for Eastbourne and District, with power to add to its number, and pledges itself to use its best endeavours to raise a substantial local contribution to the Fund."

Councillor Bolton observed, in his eulogy of Shakespeare, that he was an Englishman to be honoured above all—a man with the greatest intellect ever known to humanity. His works were greatly appreciated in India. The speaker once witnessed a performance of *Macbeth* by the students of the Calcutta University. The costumes were, of course, not suitable, and he remembered that Lady Macbeth was impersonated by a robust young man robed in a dressing-gown with cord and tassel round his waist.

Major Cooke, in seconding, said people in England failed to appreciate Shakespeare as much as was done in other countries. In America he was worshipped, in Germany he was reverenced. They in Eastbourne considered they had great culture, and therefore there ought to be a ready response to the proposal.—The resolution was unanimously carried. Mr. W. Gardnor-Beard moved:—"That Mr. Frederick Hollins, M.A., be requested to act as Chairman of the Local Committee, Miss H. Pitcairn Bookless and Mr. Arthur Beard as Honorary Secretaries, and Mr. H. Holyoake as Honorary Treasurer, and that an Executive Committee of twenty be appointed, to include the following: Miss C. A. Adams, Mr. Arthur Beard, Mr. Arthur Beckett, Mr. C. W. Bolton, C.S.I., J.P., Mrs. F. H. Browne, Mrs. Cardwell, Miss Chudleigh, Miss Edgar-Clark, Miss Farnell, Mr. W. Gardnor-Beard, Mr. H. Holyoake, Miss Johns, Dr. and Mrs. Merry, Miss H. Pitcairn Bookless, Miss Tait-Reid, and Mr. R. T. Thornton, with power to add to their number.

In seconding, Mrs. F. H. Browne remarked that the fact that England, the leading nation, did not possess a national theatre was a crying disgrace.

The meeting agreed to the motion.

Councillor Wright stated that though he had not attended a theatre more than once in seven or ten years, he supported the movement because he was a lover of literature, and could not ignore the claims of the drama. He did not find an educative force in the drama, because they had to subordinate things to the lower taste of the people. That is why they wanted a national theatre.

In reply to Mr. Beckett, Mr. Perris said it was the intention to throw open the designs for the theatre to competition as soon as [illegible] months. cured.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, who is playing Sir Richard Kato, K.C., in *The Case of Rebellious Susan* at the Criterion nightly, with all his original vivacity and emphasis, celebrated his golden wedding on Tuesday. Hundreds of congratulatory messages were received. Few who see Sir Charles's bright and spirited performance in H. A. Jones's piece realise that the marvellously active and energetic actor is seventy years old.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in connection with Garrick's Villa, says:—"It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that the London and City Council would be disposed to make a grant, although it would be unlikely. There is a precedent, for the Council gave something like £39,000 for the preservation of a view at Richmond. The Middlesex County Council is disposed to consider the contribution of a fourth part." The demolition of such an interesting relic of the past would be a public loss.

THE following actresses took part in the great Suffragist Procession on Saturday last:—Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Janette Steer, Mme. Liza Lehmann, Miss Esther Palliser, Miss Palgrave Turner, Miss Winifred Mayo, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Beatrice Forbes Robertson, Miss Inez Bensusan, Miss Jane Comfort, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley, Mrs. Pertwee, Miss Maud Hoffman, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Brinetta Brown, Miss Campbell Patterson, Miss Joan Hayes, Miss Annette Caldicott, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Sydney Keith, Miss Vera Leslie, Miss Phillis Relph, and many others. The members of the Actresses' Franchise League looked very picturesque, Miss Eva Moore and Miss Decima Moore carrying directoire staves with beautiful La France roses bound to them, pink and green being the colours of the League, while other members carried bunches of pink flowers and green leaves. Most of them were in white, with the A.F.L. badge on, and some wore broad pink and green sashes.

THE programme of the Theatrical Garden Party next Tuesday looks likely to beat everything that has been done in this connection in previous years. In the tent reserved for hairdressing attempts on the part of actors on the heads of actresses singular results will doubtless emanate from the efforts of Mr. James Welch, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. Lyn Harding, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa. To the long list of attractive names in connection with the Shooting Gallery, the Waxworks, the Tea Châlet on the Lake, the Palais de Luxe, and the ice cream business are to be added those of Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Compton, the untiring Mrs. Gay, Mr. Thomas Beecham, Mr. Paul Rubens, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Evelyn Millard, and Miss Gabrielle Ray.

THE troupe at Lord George Grossmith, jun.'s Royal Circus will include Mr. Edmund Payne, Mr. George Ali, Mr. Robert Hale, Mr. "Billy" Stevens, Mr. Lawrence Grossmith, Mr. W. H. Berry, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Jack McArdle, Miss Constance Hyem, Mr. Albert Felino, and Mr. George Grossmith, jun. (ringmaster).

MR. CYRIL MAUDE'S new and entrancing melodrama of real life in four acts, entitled *The Pick of Oakham; or, The Girl with the Bad Habit*, written by Messrs. Leo Trevor and John Harwood, is sure to draw. To see Mr. Lennox Pawle as a featherweight jockey, with Miss Hilda Trevelyan playing the part of the heroine, and Miss Maidie Hope as the hapless victim of the hawk-eyed villain (Mr. Cyril Maude) should be irresistible; and Mr. Harry Nicholls and Mr. Kenneth Douglas in the other parts, with the help of Mr. Brandon Thomas turned showman for the day, and Mr. Alfred Turner as business manager will secure success.

LADY TREE and Miss Ellen Terry will take part in the masque in aid of the National Theatre on Thursday and following days.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN will reopen the Duke of York's Theatre in September with *A Bolt from the Blue*, adapted from the French of *Le Costaud des Espinettes*, in which Miss Irene Vanbrugh will appear. This will be followed by Mr. Somerset Maugham's new comedy, in which Miss Vanbrugh will also appear.

IN addition, Mr. Frohman has actually in his possession plays entitled *The Foolish Virgin*, *The Sacred Forest*, *The Scandal*, *The Unknown Dancer*, *A Woman's Way*, *The Eldest Son*, and *Love Amongst the Lions*, and Henri Lavedan's *Sire*, besides contracts for pieces by other English and French authors. So there will be no dearth of material for the autumn season of the Duke of York's.

LADY BEERBOHM TREE, vice-chairman of the Women's Aerial League, responded to the toast of the evening at the first annual dinner held at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday last. Women did not propose, she said, to fly, and one woman who had entered into the kingdom had been glad to abdicate. But it was for them to do all that lay in woman's power to help on the cause of aviation, so that the men of the British Empire should at least not be second to those of any other nation on earth. Among the invited guests were Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, and Miss Lena Ashwell. Following the dinner a new playlet, entitled *The Emergency Exit*, written for the occasion by J. C. Ledward and Gladys Mendl, was presented. Mr. L. E. Mendl, Miss Margaret Ledward, Mr. T. W. Heale, Miss Noel Mackern, Mr. Cuthbert Maunder, and Mr. J. L. Ledward were in the cast.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON will appear in the Duke of Buckingham's Farewell Scene from *Henry VIII.* at a special matinée to be given at The Playhouse on Monday, in aid of the Charterhouse Southwark Mission. This will be Mr. Forbes Robertson's only appearance in London before his return to America. Other items will be *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, with Mr. Cyril Maude in his original part of The Toymaker and Miss Margery Maude as The Girl. General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Mr. Charles Allan, and Mr. Hewitt, all old Carthusians, will also contribute to the programme.

IN the House of Commons on Tuesday Mr. Bottomley asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in preparing his Budget for the current financial year, he would consider the desirability of seeking new sources of revenue by imposing an ad valorem stamp duty upon—amongst other things which he enumerated—theatre, music-hall, and other entertainment receipts. Mr. Lloyd George said he should be glad to consider Mr. Bottomley's suggestions in connection with the various other proposals which had been brought to his notice for the raising of revenue. This is the fifth year in which Mr. Bottomley has made the proposal without the least result.

MR. LEWIS WALLER, for his revival at the Lyric of *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, has secured a strong cast, including Mr. Frank Woolfe, Mr. Cronin Wilson, Mr. Herbert Jarman, Mr. Caton Woodville, Mr. G. Welsh, Mr. C. Keene, Miss Gordon Lee, Miss Titheradge, and Miss Lottie Venne, well-known singer" in her original part of Mistress selected for the te published in the Pea

THE annual general meeting in connection with Actors' Day will be held on Monday next, June 27, at twelve mid-day, at the Duke of York's Theatre, by kind permission. The agenda will include the reception of report from the Advisory Board, and the election to vacant seats on that body. Nominations for the Advisory Board, proposed and seconded by contributors, must reach the Hon. Sec., Dudley House, 37, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., not later than twelve o'clock to-day.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH will present at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday a comedy in four acts by Elizabeth Arnim, entitled *Priscilla Runs Away*. The cast will include Miss Neilson-Terry, Miss Helen Haye, Miss Amy Lamborn, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Frances Ivor, Miss Victoria Addison, Mr. E. Lyall Swete, Mr. Edward Rigby, Mr. E. A. Warburton, Mr. Charles Maude, Mr. Charles V. France, Mr. Louis Goodrich, Mr. Norman Page, Mr. J. Fisher White, and Mr. H. Hignett. The play will be produced for Mr. Herbert Trench by Mr. Norman McKinnel. The incidental music has been specially composed by Mr. Norman O'Neill. The scenery, costumes, and appointments have been designed and arranged by Mr. F. Cayley Robinson, and the scenery has been painted by Mr. Joseph Harker.

ON Monday there will be presented at the New Theatre, Cardiff, a musical comedy called *The Pigeon House*, by the Earl of Yarmouth, who, under the nom-de-plume of Eric Hope, has composed both the words and music. The libretto was produced at Worthing in 1901 as a comedy. The Earl of Yarmouth, who is the eldest son of the Marquess of Hertford, has been in the city for some time conducting the rehearsals at the Grand Hotel, Cardiff, the company being made up of several well-known professional artists and a number of members of the Cardiff Operatic Society. Amongst those who will appear in leading parts are his lordship, who takes the juvenile rôle; Miss Thelma Raye, Mr. O. E. Lennon, Mr. A. Wellton Fordham, and Mr. Alan Davenport. The stage-management is entrusted to Mr. Edwin Bryan.

THE new premises of the Touring Managers' Club, at 5, Wardour-street, will be opened to-day. There will be a special dinner at the club premises at 5.30, at which upwards of fifty members have signified their intention of being present. Morning dress will be worn. The club is a long-felt want, as not only can members get their meals there, but there is also a splendid set of rooms, which were lacking at the old premises, including billiard-room, dining-room, and card-room, in addition to a capital roof garden, where afternoon teas will be served during the summer months. It is hoped that all managers will join and support this excellent movement, as of course the expenses have necessarily been increased considerably.

MR. LAWRENCE IRVING and Miss Mabel Hackney have completed arrangements for their English provincial tour prior to their return to America in November. Two new plays will be presented, one written by Mr. Irving himself, entitled *The Unwritten Law*, and the other by Mr. Walter Frith, called *Margaret Catchpole*. This tour will be the first important venture of Mr. and Mrs. Irving since joining the ranks of actor-managers. Entirely new scenery, costumes, &c., have been made, and Mr. Irving has secured a strong company, many of whom served under the banner of his late distinguished father. Mr. Irving is travelling his own staff, including electricians, scene- and fly-men, and also a musical director to take charge of the various theatre orchestras.

MR. W. CLARKSON has received the following letter in connection with his costumes for the Royal Military Tournament: "Dear Mr. Clarkson,—I am much obliged for all your work in *Britannia's Muster*. The dresses, make-ups, and cars could not have been better, and, last, but by no means least, the lady you engaged to play Britannia (Miss Lawrence) was charming, and played her part most gracefully and well. The great success of the whole pageant is due in no small measure to you.—Yours faithfully, GEORGE NUGENT (Colonel), Hon. Sec., R.N. and M.T." Mr. Clarkson has also received a wire from the Prince of Wales, thanking him for congratulations.

AN amazing coincidence is reported in connection with the production of *At the World's Mercy*, the successful musical comedy of Mr. Carr Loates, which is being performed at the Star Theatre, Swansea, this week. One of the principal incidents in the play is the sudden discovery by Captain Manley of his long-lost daughter through a mark on her arm. In the front of the house there sat—so the story goes—a shipmaster who had sailed the seas for many a year, and next to him a child of comparatively tender years. During the action of the play the latter was observed to be sobbing bitterly. The captain turned to inquire the cause of her sudden outburst of grief, with dramatic results. During the conversation which ensued he discovered that he, too, had found his daughter, whom he had not seen since she was scarcely able to toddle, and of whose whereabouts he was until then entirely ignorant.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE has, we see, joined the opposition camp by becoming a director of the British Bio-Electrics, Ltd., a new and very powerful company just floated to acquire the existing Ladbroke Hall, now being successfully run as an electric theatre, to say nothing of cinematograph Theatres at Kennington, Slough, Wandsworth, Barnes, and Birmingham. This company has also acquired options on fourteen other exceptionally well-situated sites and buildings.

BY the courtesy of General Productions, Ltd., Mr. Archie Selwyn has been enabled to accept an offer to play in and stage-manage *The Broken Melody* at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. This is Mr. Selwyn's ninth re-engagement by M. Auguste Van Biene, extending over a period of seven years.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, who is appearing this week at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone, in Mr. Wm. Mollison's part of Dick Crawford in *The Chorus Lady*, has lately written a new last act to his comedy, *Lady Bathurst at Home*, which he will produce.

AS a rule it is the curate whom one associates with the presentation of a pair of slippers, but this time it is an actor. Whilst playing in Manchester last week, Mr. William Lockhart was presented by a lady with a handsome pair of slippers with a large lyre beautifully embroidered on each. The appropriateness of the design will be seen when it is stated that Mr. William Lockhart was playing Amos Bloodgood in *Are You a Mason?*

MISS ILLINGTON, the American actress, recently left the stage "for ever" after divorcing her husband and marrying again. She said at the time: "I shall never appear on the boards again under any conditions. One hears so much about the lure of it and the fascination of the applause. To me personally it is unsatisfactory and distasteful now that I have discovered that the real joys of life are not found in the theatre. I want to sit at home in the evenings, to be quiet, to sew, to read, and go to bed when the chickens do, and have a feeling of absolute rest." Miss Illington is now elated at the prospect of returning to the stage next autumn.

AFTER five years' service as resident-manager at the Chester Royalty Theatre, Mr. C. B. Fountaine is leaving the old Deeside city to accept a similar appointment at the Opera House, Northampton. He will commence his new duties on July 18. Mr. Fountaine will still remain the valued servant of Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.

DURING Mr. Fountaine's *régime* the Chester Royalty has undergone considerable structural extensions and improvements, but the most important event during the five years of Mr. Fountaine's managership was the granting to the theatre of a music and dancing licence, which, combined with the dramatic licence, enables the management to give its patrons every variety of programme—a condition of things absolutely necessary to ensure financial success in a small city of less than 40,000 inhabitants.

PRIOR to coming to the ancient city, Mr. Fountaine was manager, for his present proprietors, of the Theatre Royal, Leamington, and for six years manager at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, in Scotland. Previously, for eight years he was on the stage, and had a promising career. He travelled with the famous Majilton family in *Round the Clock*, and was general-manager for Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer.

MR. F. O. SENECHAL, a Paris agent, has conceived the happy idea of a syndicate, which has been formed, with Mr. J. B. Vedrenne and Mr. A. G. Mackenzie as directors, to secure the "first call" on all plays written by the leading French authors of the day for a period of years, in most cases over seven, and to produce translations and adaptations of these plays, or to otherwise arrange for their production in England and the British Dominions.

AMONG those who have already contracted with the syndicate are M. Brieux, M. Pierre Berton, M. Tristan Bernard, M. A. Bisson, M. Alfred Capus, M. Romain Coolus, M. F. de Croisset, M. G. Devore, M. E. Fabre, MM. R. de Flers and de Caillavet, M. Georges Feydeau, M. Paul Gavault, M. Hennequin, M. H. Kistemackers, M. Henri Lavedan, and M. Octave Mirbeau. Mr. A. G. Mackenzie, who is a director of the Gaiety Theatre Company, will arrange with Mr. Vedrenne to secure a leading London theatre for the enterprise next season.

THE attraction this week at Mr. Wentworth Croke's Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, is Dion Boucicault's well-known Irish drama *Arrah-na-Pogue*. Next week Mr. Wentworth Croke announces a return visit of the play bearing the alluring title *Her Fatal Past*.

GREAT enthusiasm marked the production of Mr. Basil Dean's one-act play, *Mother to Be*, at Oxford last week. In responding to the insistent demand for a speech on Saturday night, Mr. Dean referred to his good fortune in having the play performed by members of Miss Horniman's company. His new one-act play will be produced at the company's Manchester theatre in the autumn, though Mr. Dean himself leaves the company, after three years of work under this repertory management.

MISS LAURA HANSEN concludes to-night a highly successful tour as Lady Isabel with Mr. Tom Watt. At every town visited Miss Hansen has received flattering notices from the Press and compliments from the various managers on her rendering of the part. Miss Hansen feels the need of a rest for a few weeks, but hopes to resume work again in the autumn.

"LOVE O' LIFE," a play in four acts by Lucy France Pierce, was produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on June 17.

MISS NANCY DENVERS, a young and promising actress, who has studied at the Academy of Dramatic Art, Gower-street, has been appearing with great success in the part of Water in *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre. Mr. Lyall Swete, the producer of the above play, one of her teachers at the Academy, entrusted her with the understudy of Miss Ina Pelly, who created the part. Miss Denvers received many congratulations on the efficiency of her performances, which lasted for a period of over two weeks. She is to be congratulated on having made such a successful start in her career.

PROFESSOR GILBERT MURRAY'S version of *Iphigenie in Tauris* will be one of the pieces to be presented next spring at the Duke of York's in Mr. Charles Frohman's repertory season.

MR. FRANK LINDO, we are sorry to learn, is seriously ill in Birmingham, and he has been unable to figure in his customary rôle in *Home, Sweet Home*. It is hoped, however, that he will have sufficiently recovered to appear at the Elephant and Castle in *Love the Conqueror* on July 4. Mr. Lindo's part of Stephen Armitage in *Home, Sweet Home* has been admirably undertaken by Mr. Norton Shields.

WE are sorry to hear that Captain Robert Marshall, the well-known dramatist, is seriously ill.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY has been engaged by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford for the title-rôle, the Rev. Robert Spalding, in the autumn tour of *The Private Secretary*.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN, on his recent visit to Paris, secured a comedy entitled *Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans*, by MM. Fonson and Wicheler, two Belgian playwrights, which has already run for a hundred nights in Brussels, and has since been seen at the Renaissance, Paris, where it has been very successful, in spite of its fresh and clean spirit.

MR. STUART LOMATH, who has just concluded a successful tour with his play *Whom God Hath Joined*, is busily engaged in putting the finishing touches to a new drama entitled *The Female Strangler*. This play has a thrilling plot, and introduces the "detective element" which is so popular at the present moment. Mr. Lomath intends making the production very shortly on an elaborate scale.

MISS GRACE DENBEIGH-RUSSELL, who is this week playing Lady Hampshire in *The Night of the Party* for General Productions, Ltd., has been kindly released by them to play Mrs. Spinaker in *The Broken Melody* for Mr. Van Biene at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. She will rejoin *Are You a Mason?* as Eva Perry on July 4 at Douglas.

MISS MARIE DAINTON, Miss Nina Sevening, and Mr. Fred Kerr were amongst the saloon passengers of the Cunard liner Campania, which arrived at Liverpool from New York on Wednesday. Miss Dainton returns from a successful sixteen months' tour in America. She has appeared chiefly in vaudeville and besides having performed at the principal theatres in New York, has travelled as far south as New Orleans, after completing a wide circuit in the east.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT," which is now having a twelve months' rest in the small towns, will commence its sixth tour under the direction of Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson in the autumn of 1911 by arrangement with Mr. Brandon Thomas. The "Old Lady" last autumn broke six records, the receipts in the case of many one-night stands exceeding those of any three-night visits. Her next tour will be a "flying one," covering the whole of the coast towns of England during July, August, and September.

MR. WALTER BENTLEY, who was engaged by Mr. William Anderson, of the King's Theatre, Melbourne, to produce and play in *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*, was forced by loss of voice to abandon the engagement, and has been under medical treatment ever since in Sydney. He intends to leave shortly for New Zealand, where he will take a course of baths at Roterna, and then he hopes to be able to resume teaching in one of the large Australian towns.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE, taking advantage of the Royal Agricultural Show being held in Liverpool this year, re-opened the Shakespeare Theatre for the week with the evergreen *Florodora*, played by an exceptionally strong company, amongst whom may be mentioned Johnnie Schofield as Tweedlepunch, Florence Hersee as Angela, Daisy Luke as Dolores, and Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood.

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN will officiate at the wedding at St. James's Church, Spanish-place, W., on Wednesday next, of Mr. Basil S. Foster, the Worcestershire and M.C.C. cricketer, and Daly's Theatre actor, and Miss Gwendoline Brogden, who was recently playing Cinderella in *Pinkie and the Fairies* at His Majesty's Theatre. Mr. G. N. Foster will be "best man."

MR. BASIL FOSTER, who is the fourth of seven famous "games" brothers, was formerly a Corinthian and Old Malvernian footballer of note, and he is one of the finest racquet players in the country. He reached the semi-final of this year's Amateur Racquets Championship, and was then the victim of an unfortunate accident, being badly hit in the face by his opponent's racquet. He is one of the best-looking men on the London stage, and is at present playing John, Earl of Quorn, in *The Dollar Princess*.

THE Opera House, Southport, closes this evening for the summer vacation, which extends from June 27 to July 16 inclusive.

MR. JOSEPH WATERFIELD has secured a long lease of the Strand Theatre, which will be under the management of Mr. Stanley Cooke. The opening date has been definitely fixed for Sept. 10.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST has arranged with Mr. Charles Frohman for a season in America, commencing in October next, and probably extending till the following summer.

MISS MARIE DAINTON AND MISS NINA SEVENING arrived in Liverpool on Wednesday from New York in the Campania.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS, owing to a severe attack of laryngitis, which has resulted in his temporarily losing the use of his voice, has been obliged to cancel the rest of his tour, and will not act again until late in the autumn.

MR. AND MRS. W. V. GARROD (Miss Bertha Kingston) are enjoying a short Continental holiday, visiting Paris and Switzerland, and returning in time for *The Prodigal Parson* tour, which starts at Sheffield on 1st prox. Mr. Charles Halling will have charge of Mr. Garrod's *A Country Girl in London* company.

AT Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, on Friday next, at the conclusion of *The Broken Melody*, Mr. George H. Child is supporting Mr. Auguste Van Biene in an entirely new one-act episode dealing with Australian bush life. This is the third part this year that Mr. Child has had the honour of creating with the eminent 'celloist.

AN attractive entertainment has been prepared for the matinée at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday, June 30, in aid of the National Service League. Mr. Courtneidge has kindly lent the theatre, the orchestra has promised its services, and among those who have consented to appear are Mme. Ada Crossley, Miss Florence Smithson, and Miss Cecily Courtneidge, Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, Sir John Hare and Mr. A. E. George in *A Quiet Rubber*, Mr. Albert Chevalier, and Mr. H. B. Irving. A short play, *The Flame*, by Miss Marianne Stayton, will also be produced.

IN a recent notice of the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, we stated that the Pavilion stock company was giving its farewell performance. The stock has been most successful, and will not be withdrawn for the present.

WE record with regret the death of Mr. James East Philip, the composer of "The Jewel of Asia," one of the most popular numbers of *The Geisha*, who passed away at Deal on Tuesday. Mr. Philip, who died from syncope at the early age of forty-two, had a very successful career as a student at the Royal Academy of Music, winning four medals and especially distinguishing himself at the organ. He was also an able pianist. He was formerly the conductor of some of Mr. George Edwardes's musical comedy productions at the Gaiety Theatre.

AT His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge are having a most successful summer season with a series of high-class entertainments, à la The Follies, a form of amusement which they so auspiciously inaugurated there last year. The Will o' the Wisps are just concluding a six weeks' stay, during which they have played to excellent business, and they will be followed by several similar companies of equal reputation. For the autumn dramatic season Mr. Routledge has secured come of the strongest attractions touring, and this smart theatre is now one of the most prosperous in the North of England.

MISS MARIE HARCOURT has just concluded a special five weeks with Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Girl of My Heart* company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery is repeating many of his old successes at Mr. Wither's Merthyr stock, notably those of *Tom Robinson* and *James Pengarth the Bellringer*.

MR. CHARLES HERRICK has just concluded two and a half years' engagement with Mr. Wentworth Croke.

MISS CHRISTINE RAYNER, who has made a hit as Juliet in Mr. E. S. Petley and Miss Una Gilbert's successful tour of *Little Mrs. Cummin*, had a narrow escape at the Kursaal, Bexhill, on Monday night. At the conclusion of the performance, when Miss Gilbert, Miss Rayner, and Mr. E. J. Stevenson were taking the fourth curtain, Miss Rayner's dress, a charming confection of white satin and chiffon, caught fire from one of the candles used in the piece. At some personal risk Miss Gilbert and Mr. Stevenson rushed forward and extinguished the flames, thus saving the young artist from what might have been a serious accident.

THE marriage of Miss Effie Cook, a member of the Follies, daughter of Mrs. Cook, of the Greys, St. Michael's Road, Aldershot, took place last week in the presence of many friends at the Old Parish Church, Aldershot, the bridegroom being Mr. Walter Harte Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson, of Stella's Cottage, Waverley, Farnham, Surrey. Mr. Laval, of the Follies, officiated at the organ, and rendered a series of acceptable voluntaries, and at the conclusion of the ceremony rendered Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." Amongst the givers of presents were Mr. Fitzroy Gardner (two silver vases), Mr. H. G. Pelissier (grand piano), Miss Ethel Allandale and Mr. Lewis Sydney (furniture), Miss Gwennie Mars and Mr. Harold Burkinshaw (tea and five o'clock tea services), Mr. Dan Everard (silver cake basket), Mr. and Mrs. Tozer (china fruit dish on silver stand), and Miss Phyllis Dare (Sheraton settee).

MR. HENRY TWEEDIE, manager, Daneswood, Cole Park, Middlesex, completes this June his twentieth year as representative of many of the leading theatrical proprietors of the day. *The Romany Rye*, *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, *In Sight of St. Paul's* succeeded a large travelling pantomime by C. F. Williams, Plymouth. These engagements evoked the following few lines of commendation:—"Dear Mr. Tweedie,—It gives me much pleasure to testify to the attention and business ability which you brought to bear whilst representing me on the tours of which you were in charge. Everything was of the most satisfactory nature, and I can only say that my appreciation of your services is such that I shall always be happy to offer you a re-engagement under similar circumstances; and it will afford me pleasure at any time to speak a word for you to any brother manager. —With kind regards, believe me, yours faithfully, C. F. Williams." During Mr. Forbes Robertson's absence in America Mr. Henry Tweedie had complete financial control of two tours, and upon Mr. Robertson's recommendation Miss Olga Nethersole engaged him for two tours of *Sapho*, upon the conclusion of which she presented Mr. Tweedie with a massive silver cigar-box duly inscribed. Mr. Tweedie makes a great speciality of newspaper work, and works hard throughout the tour to leave no stone unturned to make a financial success of the play he tours. At present he is disengaged, but we are sure when this fact becomes known, Mr. Tweedie will soon find congenial work.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL, who has taken over the entire management of the Hastings Pier, has been fortunate enough to secure Mr. Leonard Boyne in *Raffles* for his opening attraction. Mr. Maxwell, in addition to attending to the Hastings Pier entertainments and managing for Miss Evelyn Millard at her forthcoming season at the New Theatre, is sending out a company of *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and has engaged Mr. A. W. Baskcomb to play the part created by Mr. Weedon Grossmith. The tour opens at Margate on July 11.

THE annual elocution competition of the British Empire Shakespeare Society will take place at the Queen's Theatre on Monday at 2.30 p.m. The judge will be Mr. H. B. Irving. Members and associates free on presentation of their 1910-11 membership cards, and each member may bring one friend without extra charge.

THE company to play in J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's autumn and spring tour of *Lights Out* includes Robert Noble and Paulane Emerie, supported by Frank Cariello, Reginald Weston, Herbert Lugg, Arthur T. Barugh, Alexander Munro, Geo. L. Barnes, Claude Clarke, Ernest Ralston, Jessie Jay, and Francis J. Bithell.

THE Actresses' Franchise League gave a matinée at the Kingsway Theatre on Tuesday. A recitation by Miss Maxine Elliott was much enjoyed, and Miss Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John's *How the Vote Was Won*, which was produced last year at the Royalty, was performed, Miss Adeline Bourne acquitting herself well as Winifred. In Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Press Cuttings* Mr. Leslie Faber was seen to advantage; Miss Di Forbes enacted a militant Suffragette amusingly; and Mr. Edward Rigby played the Orderly well.

MISS ETHEL SMYTH, the composer of *The Wreckers*, has had the degree of Doctor of Music conferred upon her by the University of Durham. Miss Smyth was present at the Convocation arrayed in the "Mus.Doc." robes of white brocade with a mauve hood. Miss Smyth was born in London, and is the daughter of General J. H. Smyth, late of the Royal Artillery. She studied for a time at the Leipzig Conservatoire. *The Wreckers* was first given at Leipzig on Nov. 11, 1906.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has kindly lent the St. James's Theatre for a matinée on Friday next for the benefit of the National League for Physical and Educational Improvement. The programme will include a display of physical drill by the students of Mme. Bergman; recitations by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Ola Humphreys, and Mr. Lewis Waller; and the first performance of a one-act play, *Scaramouche*, by Mr. Dion Clayton Calthrop, in which Miss Ethel Irving, Mr. Norman Forbes, and Mr. Richard Hatteras are to appear. Mr. J. M. Barrie's amusing skit, *A Slice of Life*, will be enacted by Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Cecilia Loftus; Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Esmé Beringer will appear in the Closet scene from *Hamlet*; and Miss Winifred Emery will be seen in her original part of Peg Woffington in Mr. J. B. Fagan's comedietta *The Dressing Room*. A scene from *The Clandestine Marriage* will also be given by Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. John Harwood, Mr. Lionel Rignold, and Miss Maidee Hope. Mr. George Alexander and the Lord Bishop of Ripon will speak.

MR. JOSEPH BEECHAM, the father of the conductor, Mr. Thomas Beecham, has, through his general-manager, Mr. Thomas Quinlan, made arrangements for an opera season at Drury Lane next year of ten or twelve weeks, beginning in April. On the list of stars are Mme. Melba, Mlle. Geraldine Farrar, Miss Olive Fremstadt, Mme. Schumann-Heink, Mme. Louise Homer, Signorina Mignon Nevada, Miss Alma Gluck, Miss Mary Garden, Pasquale Amato, Signor Scotti, Renaud, Mr. Allen Hinckley, and MM. Gilibert and Dufranne. The list of operas includes *Aïda*, *Don Carlos*, *Falstaff*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen*, Moussorgski's *Boris Godunof*, *Barbière di Siviglia*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Vie de Bohème*, and *La Tosca*, *Manon*, *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame*, and *Thaïs*, *Tristan und Isolde*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Lohengrin*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Henry VIII* and *Samson et Dalila*, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Pagliacci*, *Louise*, *Mefistofele* and *Salome*. Private subscribers have already guaranteed £40,000.

MR. E. W. CONWAY writes from St. Giles's Workhouse:—"In connection with the death of Mr. Henry Neville, I think I can claim to be a link with the past. I have been 'on the stage' with Charles Kean, Fred Robson, and Charles Mathews. I was call-boy at the Olympic during the management of Alfred Wigan, Robson and Emden, Horace Wigan, and Benjamin Webster. I was call-boy for one night at Windsor Castle when Fred Robson and company played *Daddy Hardacre* before Queen Victoria, the Prince Consort, and King Edward, then Prince of Wales. I gave Mr. Neville the first call on that eventful night, and I believe I am now the only survivor of those who took part in the original production of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*."

MESSRS. SOTHEBY on Monday disposed of a collection of autograph letters, &c., of celebrities. Included in the sale were letters of Buckstone, W. H. Kendal, Arthur Roberts, Julia Neilson, and many others. Portraits were included with the letters of Phelps, Sheridan, Tom Taylor, Sims Reeves, Charles Reade, Mme. Vestris, and Macready, with a playbill of the first appearance of the latter at Bath as Romeo, in December, 1814. All the above were sold for nominal sums. For letters of John P. Kemble, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, and Mrs. Stirling—the last with portrait—17s. was paid. An angry letter from Edmund Kean to R. W. Elliston, with a playbill and four cheques, fetched £5. A lot consisting of a letter from David Garrick to Mr. Hartson, an epitaph to Garrick's memory, a card of admission to view his villa at Hampton, another for 5, Adelphi-terrace, with an embossed portrait, a receipt signed by Congreve and two cheques and two admissions for Drury Lane and the New Olympic Theatre brought £3 3s.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The Late Hermann Vezin.

MR. C. O. LANDER writes: "Will you permit me to pay a passing tribute to the dear old actor Hermann Vezin? That he suffered from the stigma of being thought a 'Jonah' was an open secret and one of which he was well aware. Some five years ago it was my great pleasure to be able to avail myself of his services in an all too small part, but one which he filled to perfection—a part on which the climax of the first act entirely depended. He almost, by his performance of that part, lasting seven minutes, turned what seemed a foredoomed failure into a success. I shall never forget the sensation of that night, the calls we had for that first act, the congratulations I received as producer and as financially responsible for production. Alas for the play! the dear old 'Jonah' did not appear again; it was only a thumbnail sketch by the author."

Vezin's Generosity.

A REASON why Hermann Vezin died poor, writes "An Actor," is that he gave as fast as he received. In my knowledge is an example of his kind heart. A pupil of his, having lost her father, became suddenly poor. Vezin insisted on her taking back every penny her father had paid him. With Vezin at any rate it was not a case of "benefits forgot."

The Use of the Theatre.

"THE longest discourses, the most earnest theories," writes "An Englishman" in the *Daily Mail*, cannot change the truth that the theatre is a pleasure-house. We go there for our delight, to indulge our sense of art, not to pick up the lessons of a trite morality. Mr. Barker, indeed, is as far from the artistry of the stage as the purveyor of musical comedy. We prize the inapposite preacher as little as we prize the antic buffoon. We refuse to put new duties upon the theatre at the bidding of 'progress.' The drama must grow in accord with with its history and its traditions. It can achieve success only by the wise treatment of its materials. It must forget the lesson taught industriously for half a misguided century that it is nothing better than a clothes-peg. Two trestles, two actors, and a passion may still suffice for our pleasure. And George Meredith's fragment, beautifully rendered not long since at Mr. Frohman's theatre, has proved how exquisite is the joy of diction, of words written by a poet, not to be read, but to be heard. Here, then, is the dramatist's path of safety—to follow always the behests of his art and to remember that he is at his worst when he tries most zealously to 'do good.'"

Room for Improvement.

MR. WILLIAM ARCHER writes in reply: "Under the constitution drawn up by the committee of the National Theatre the selection of plays will be in the hands of a body above suspicion of literary favouritism, before which the works of Mr. Barker and Mr. Shaw will have no initial advantage over those of any other dramatists. 'An Englishman' makes play with the old fallacy that in art 'progress is impossible.' It is quite true that we shall scarcely produce plays much better in their way than the *Agamemnon*, or *Macbeth*, or *Le Misanthrope*, but it is equally true that the English drama has progressed enormously since, say, 1860, and that there is plenty of room for it to progress as far again in the coming half-century."

More Vezin Notes.

MR. HERMANN VEZIN, in an interview with a representative of the *Yorkshire Herald* once said: "I remember once rehearsing in a stock company at York from ten o'clock in the morning to six in the evening, and I had three small speaking parts to play during that time. We used to produce half a dozen pieces in a week, chiefly Shakespeare, which we were all supposed to know. John Langford Pritchard was the manager. Each man and woman was engaged for a certain line of business. There were the leading man, and second 'heavy,' the low and the light comedians, &c. Sims Reeves was the 'singing walking gentleman' at the theatre just before I came, before he visited Italy to study. The singing chambermaid actress, for instance, generally had to play Ophelia because of the songs. It was in her line of part. The Royal Theatre (a tumbledown sort of place) was part of the York, Leeds, and Hull Circuit. I joined at York, and went to Leeds afterwards. I suppose I was on the circuit a couple of months. Then I left and returned to London."

The Star System.

"MR. AND MRS. CHARLES KEAN visited York for a week during my stay. In those days the star used to come round and play with the company he found in the particular town. We would rehearse the play before he arrived, and then again with the star in the cast. Among others who came were Sam Emery (the father of Mrs. Cyril Maude) and Creswick, who played *King Lear*." "What was your part in *Lear*?" the veteran actor was asked. "Half his army," was the laughing reply.

An Odd Play.

"A MAN named George Owen," he related, "came to York when I was there, with a play he had written. There was only the manuscript of the play in existence. There were no parts, and that manuscript was handed round first to the leading lady, then to the leading men, and so on, down to the smaller people, each copying out his part. The play was a dreadful failure. Owen himself, who did not appear in the piece, observed: 'This play may succeed, but it wont be mine,' so much was it altered by the actors. They put in all sorts of things, and I recall that the comic old man had to play a serious old man, and was annoyed at that. The name of the piece I have forgotten, but it was something historical about a war between Sweden and Norway. But just think of producing a play in that way—not any parts, and not giving the actors more than one rehearsal."

In a Rally.

MR. VEZIN said the first thing he had to do at York was to go on as a soldier. He also took part in the "rally scene" in the pantomime, when everyone on the stage threw fish, carrots, &c., at each other. It was supposed to be very comic. "Was it?"—No; though a man named Fraser was very clever as a clown." "The very best thing I did in York," said Mr. Vezin reflectively, "was Balthazar in *Much Ado About Nothing*. My next engagement was at Southampton at 10s. a week. There I played in *London Assurance*, and had good parts, especially with Kean."

The String Did It.

THE Reading Committee of the Comédie-Française, abolished in 1901, has been re-established, and dramatic authors will once again read their works before this select body of actors—and also actresses, for two lady members have been nominated. Apropos of this, a writer in *T.P.'s Weekly* reminds us that Théodore de Banville demanded "a hundred thousand eternities" to guess why, in his day, the fair sex was debarred from membership. Arsène Houssaye (the gifted father of the author of "1815"), who was chairman of the Reading Committee, relates how Mlle. Anaïs asked an unhappy author, who had already recited three acts of his drama, "whether it was in verse"; and in the days of the Restoration a lady member confided to a dramatist that she had given him a favourable vote "because his MS. was tied up with a simple string." "So it was the string which moved the jumping-jack," he ungallantly retorted.

"BILLY'S BARGAIN."

The Sensational Farce, in Three Acts, by Robert Lascelles, Performed at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, June 23.

J. K. Rotterford .....MR. JOHN CLULOW
Billy Rotterford .....MR. WENDON GROSSMITH
Aubrey Colpoys .....MR. WILFRED FORSTER
Alf. K. Kelly .....MR. OSWALD MARSHALL
Sir Richard Mulberry..MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY
Col. Brafier .....MR. HUGH ARDALE
Hon. "Toffy" Dillingham..MR. ALFRED DRAYTON
Bertie Allerton .....MR. RICHARD NEVILLE
Freddie Western .....MR. T. A. BRAIDON
Algy Ripton .....MR. B. BURLEIGH
Percy Tifton .....MR. JAMES GELDERD
Edwards .....MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE
Mr. Polting .....MR. FRANK H. DENTON
"Baron" Harper .....MR. SEBASTIAN SMITH
Crossing Sweeper .....MR. HENRY NIXON
Reporter .....MR. LYONEL WATTS
Policeman .....MR. CECIL MCGUINESS
Warner .....MR. FRED PAUL
Fitzgerald .....MR. A. RHADEN
Mrs. J. K. Rotterford .....MISS FORTESCUE
Lady Mulberry .....MISS LYNN FONTANNE
Lady Ballater .....MISS JEAN BLOOMFIELD
Dolly Cataract .....MISS GWENDOLINE WREN
Judy Johnson .....MISS BEATRICE AINLEY
Popsy Hockit .....MISS VIOLET RADCLIFFE
Belle Bateman .....MISS JANE TOUSSAINT
Kitty Chatteris .....MISS EMILY REYNOLDS
Nurse Fairmead .....MISS MARJORIE DORE
Madam Garvarnavitch .....MISS ANNIE HILL
Landlord .....MR. FRANK LEACH
Zampassa .....MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY
Vanderhousan .....MR. HENRY LATIMER
Davitts .....MR. GEORGE G. COLE
Gavonda Fritz .....MR. H. J. VINE
Aga Kingerlinsky .....MR. A. PAULUVE
Ching Lightenzen Fungza
MR. SIDNEY LAURIMER
Baga Linkskingz .....MR. JAMES GINO
Adgybydzky .....MR. GUY SMETHURST
Jdjzakitch .....MR. A. E. ACKERMAN
Vera Vanderhousan .....MISS OLGA MORRA

Technically the performance of *Billy's Bargain* at the Garrick Theatre was not its "first in London," for Mr. "Robert Lascelles'" piece, under the title of *Billy Rotterford's Descent*, was tried at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on May 11, 1908, after being produced at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Oct. 25, 1907, under the title of *Among the Brigands*. Mr. Weedon Grossmith is no novice as a playwright, and his pieces *A Commission* and *The Night of the Party* are well known for their cleverness and their success. In *Billy's Bargain* Mr. Grossmith has given his imagination a free rein, and the result is a very amusing, and at times vigorously exciting, entertainment.

Billy Rotterford, the son of an American millionaire, is in serious financial difficulties, and meditates bankruptcy, when his friend, Aubrey Colpoys, a sharp and enterprising young man, suggests a plan by which the amount of Billy's debts may be extracted from Rotterford *père*. Colpoys has met in London a certain Vanderhousan, the second in command of a band of brigands in the Caucasus. Colpoys suggests that Billy, who is about to travel with his father and step-mother in those mountains, shall be captured by the band, and a large ransom demanded of his father, half of which will be sufficient to pay Billy's debts.

The next act shows us the Rotterfords in a very primitive hotel near the Caspian Sea. The food is execrable, the wine is undrinkable, and the other guests are an egoistical invalid and a Russian lady who flies into passions and kicks people's legs. Billy is hourly expecting to be kidnapped by the brigands, and excites his father's suspicion by the preparations he makes for his departure. Vanderhousan and his friends arrive, and Billy, assuming an heroic attitude, assumes his father's identity and is dragged away; but not without J. K. Rotterford seeing through the trick.

In the second division of this act we see Billy in the brigands' fortress in the mountains. He does not realise the seriousness of his position, and flirts gaily with Vera, the wife of Vanderhousan, making himself quite popular with the brigands. But business is business, and when it appears that Rotterford *père* is adamant, and that no ransom is forthcoming, Billy is bidden to prepare for death. Jealousy arises between Vanderhousan and Zampassa, the chief of the brigands, and the latter makes the whole of his men disarm. This annoys the second in command, and he engages in a duel with Zampassa, who, by pretending to be dying, distracts Vanderhousan's attention, and then shoots him dead from behind. This incident, however, does not prevent Billy from being seized by the brigands and thrown over a high precipice.

In the last act, having miraculously escaped death by descending amidst a flock of geese, and then falling on some soft snow, Billy returns to his parents, who are mourning for him in London. Billy disguises himself as a brigand, raids his father's house, forces him to disgorge his wealth, and regains his favour. Vanderhousan's death leaves Vera free to marry Billy; she comes to London, and they are betrothed. Billy's father, of course, relents, and all ends happily.

The audience applauded loudly at the end of each act, and at the conclusion, when Mr. Weedon Grossmith, in a brief speech, admitted the responsibility of its authorship. Mr. Grossmith was very quaint and comic in the character of Billy Rotterford, the well-sustained ease of his demeanour and the jaunty cheerfulness of his general air and expression making a very amusing and agreeable effect. Mr. John Clulow lent the necessary weight and seriousness to the rôle of J. K. Rotterford, and made the stern parent very strong and stubborn indeed; and Miss Fortescue was charmingly amiable as Mrs. J. K. Rotterford, Billy's intelligent stepmother. Mr. Wilfrid Forster hit off effectively the ingenious and athletic Aubrey Colpoys; and Mr. Oswald Marshall was clever and characteristic as Kelly, an American traveller, who comes to the Caucasus in search of performing bears. Mr. Arthur B. Murray spoke his after-dinner oration in the first act ably as Sir Richard Mulberry; and Miss Lynn Fontanne was really droll as the inane and affected Lady Mulberry. Mr. Sebastian Smith contributed a neat character-sketch as "Baron" Harper, Miss Annie Hill was forcibly comic as the Tartar lady, Madam Garvarnavitch, and Mr. Frank Leach was a picturesque Caucasian landlord. Two bold and strong performances were supplied by Mr. Arthur Chesney as Zampassa and Mr. Henry Latimer as Vanderhousan. Mr. Chesney was dreadfully stern and tyrannical, and Mr. Latimer's appearance, with his tall figure clad in the elaborately picturesque Caucasian costume, and armed to the teeth, was very imposing. Miss Olga Morra as the child of nature, Vera Vanderhousan, acted with charm and spirit and with a *naïveté* which was most engaging; and Mr. Frank H. Denton gave a capital comedy performance of the fantastic invalid, Mr. Polting; neat "thumbnail sketches" being furnished by Mr. Cecil McGuiness as a policeman and Mr. Henry Nixon as a crossing-sweeper. The crowds of London revellers and Caucasian brigands worked with great animation and energy; and the scenery, especially the mountain set in the second act, was excellent. The dances were arranged by the experienced M. Espinosa; Messrs. Roker and Cowley and Mesdames K. Denton and D. Ray leading the joyous "Kola." The incidental music was written by Mr. George F. Ford, and the play was thoroughly well produced by the author, ably assisted by Mr. Frank Harding.

DEATH OF HENRY NEVILLE.

The announcement made on Monday of the passing away early on Sunday morning last of Henry Neville will fall on the ear of old London playgoers like the snapping of another link in the bright chain of their early experiences. He was not long to survive his old comrade Hermann Vezin, with whom he played in Sir Herbert Tree's all-star cast of *The School for Scandal* in last year's summer season at His Majesty's, Neville being Sir Oliver to Vezin's Rowley and Lal Brough's Moses. Mr. Neville had been forced to take to his bed as the result of an accident, apparently slight in itself, but which, unhappily, was followed by grave developments. He had been removed to Seaford from his house in Queen's-crescent, Haverstock Hill, a short time ago in the hope of a restoration to his accustomed health, but the hope proved to be delusive.

Mr. Henry Gartside Neville was a son of the well-known actor and theatrical manager, John Gartside Neville, and was born in Manchester, June 20, 1837. His first appearance on any stage was made as an infant some three years old, when he was carried on by his father in *Pizarro*. Coming of military stock, he was originally intended for the Army, but his own inclinations were to follow in the footsteps of his father, and this he did by securing an engagement at Preston with Edmund Falconer. His early career was but the stereotyped history of most youthful aspirants to stage honours of his day and generation. From place to place he drifted through the United Kingdom, playing much in the North of England and Scotland. Later he joined a stock company in Ireland. Eventually he arrived at Liverpool, and thence made his way to London, where, at the Lyceum, he made his first appearance as Percy Arden in a revival of Dion Boucicault's romantic drama, *The Irish Heiress*, on Oct. 8, 1860, under Mme. Celeste's management. On Nov. 12, 1860, he performed at the same theatre the part of Victor Savignie on the production of *Adrienne; or, the Secret of a Life*. Afterwards he fulfilled a series of engagements at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and Dublin theatres; and in 1861 was enrolled a member of the company of Messrs. Emden and Frederick Robson at the Old Olympic, Wych-street, where he made his first appearance on Oct. 3 in *Jack of All Trades*, an adaptation by himself and Florence Haydon from the French of *Le Ramoneur*. Horace Wigan was also in the cast. On Nov. 10, 1862, Robson bade farewell to the stage at the Olympic in the part of Dogbriar in Watts Phillips's *Camilla's Husband*, Neville playing the part of Maurice Warner. In May, 1863, he was given a benefit, and seized upon the occasion to appear as Claude Melnotte to the Pauline of Kate Saville.

[*Photo by Sarony.*

THE LATE HENRY NEVILLE.

On May 27, 1863, he made his first important dramatic success as Bob Brierly in *Tom Taylor's* drama *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, adapted from the French *Léonard*, of MM. Edouard Brisbarre and Eugène Nus. Mr. Neville, who had already won a position in public favour, gained much praise for the earnest, truthful, and natural manner in which he delineated the struggles of a man who, striving to redeem his early folly, and to free himself from the stigma that has been its consequence, finds every avenue to a better life gradually closed against him. The play was eminently successful, and, generally, proved attractive with a London audience whenever revived in later years. His performance in the piece will always remain in the recollection of all old playgoers. He acted the part for over 2,000 times; by September, 1875, he had already celebrated its tenth century. At the Olympic Theatre Mr. Neville has won several other successes, of which the more noteworthy were Lord Penarvon in *The Hidden Hand*, adapted by Horace Wigan from *L'Aïeule* of D'Ennery and Edmond, originally produced in Paris at the Ambigu Comique, Oct. 17, 1863, Henry Dunbar in Tom Taylor's version of Miss Braddon's novel of that title, and Jean Valjean in the drama of *The Yellow Passport*, adapted by Mr. Neville himself from Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables." The celebrated Miss Furtado doubled the parts of Fantine and her daughter Cosette.

After a stay of some four years at the Olympic he joined the company of the Adelphi Theatre, and appeared there as Job Armroyd in *Lost in London*, a piece of acting that largely increased his reputation; and as Farmer Allen in Charles Reade's unfortunate dramatic version of Tennyson's "Dora." In the principal rôle of *Put Yourself in His Place*, Charles Reade's adaptation of his own novel of that title, Henry Neville's acting attracted favourable notice. He had evidently studied the intentions of the author very thoroughly, and his impersonation of the hard-working Sheffield mechanic was singularly life-like and truthful in detail. A memorable date is June 24, 1868, when he played Hamlet for his benefit at the Adelphi. On that occasion John Billington was the Laertes, George Belmore the First Gravedigger, and Carlotta Leclercq the Ophelia. At the Olympic, on April 14, 1869, he appeared as Sir Charles Pomander in Ben Webster's revival of *Masks and Faces*.

On completing his engagement at the Adelphi Theatre Mr. Neville appeared at various London theatres for short seasons—at the Holborn, the Duke's, and the Globe. In 1872 he appeared at the Vaudeville as Charles Surface to the Sir Peter of William Farren, the Joseph of John Clayton, and the Lady Teazle of Miss Amy Fawsitt. On Oct. 4, 1873, he returned to the Olympic as lessee, and assumed, in connection with that position, the management of the theatre, which he retained until 1879. The following list of noteworthy plays, produced at the Olympic between the date of Mr. Neville's first entering upon the lesseeship and August, 1879, are worthy of being recorded as an indication of his dramatic enterprise: Season 1873-4—*Sour Grapes* (Byron), *Richelieu Redressed* (Reece), *School for Intrigue* (James Mortimer), *Clancarty* (Tom Taylor), revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Season 1874-5—*Two Orphans* (Oxenford), *Spendthrift* (Albery), *Ticket-of-Leave Man* (revival). Season 1875-6—*Buckingham* (W. G. Wills), *Clytie* (J. Hatton), *The Gascon* (Muskerry), *Home, Sweet Home* (Farjeon). Season 1876-7 — *No Thoroughfare* (Dickens and Collins), *Si Slocum* (F. Trayne and Tayleur), *Queen of Connaught* (Buchanan), *Wife's Secret* (revival), *Scuttled Ship* (C. Reade), *Violin Maker of Cremona* (M. François Coppée and Neville), *Lady Audley's Secret* (revival). Season 1877-8 — *The Moonstone* (Wilkie Collins), *Henry Dunbar* (revival), *Turn of the Tide* (Burnand), *Jealousy* (C. Reade). 1878-9—*The Two Orphans* (revival).

In August, 1878, Mr. Neville entered upon an engagement to play Pierre Lorance in the drama of *Proof*, produced at the Adelphi Theatre. In the summer of 1879 he relinquished the management of the Olympic, and appeared nightly with the late Mr. Hermann Vezin and Lilian Adelaide Neilson at the Adelphi Theatre, playing the parts of Sir Thomas Clifford and Master Walter (*The Hunchback*), and Charles Surface (*The School for Scandal*). During the season he appeared at the same theatre as Bob Brierly in a revival of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. On Sept. 30, 1879, he was associated with the Patemans, Hermann Vezin, Harriet Coveney and her daughter Clara Jecks in the production of *Rescued*, by Dion Boucicault, an Adelphi drama with a big swing bridge sensation. He took part in the Old English comedy revivals at the Vaudeville, playing Captain Absolute in *The Rivals* and Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal*.

In *Human Nature* he began a long connection with Drury Lane melodrama. In that piece he played for many months at Drury Lane and elsewhere, and also for a highly-successful season in America, where the piece was known as *The Soudan*. He was a most effective villain in *The White Heather*. "I didn't like it at all," he said, "in spite of the success I managed to make of the part. Playing against the audience in such a big theatre as Drury Lane, with the revengeful 'gods' storming against me, made me feel uncomfortable, and I was very glad when for the last time I played the part of the unlovable Lord Angus!"

Other Drury Lane pieces in which he figured were *The Price of Peace*, *The Prodigal Son*, *The Bondman*, &c. On tour latterly he acted some Charles Wyndham parts, especially Sir Christopher Deering in *The Liars*. He also played Shakespearean parts—Julius Cæsar, the King in *Hamlet*, Leonato in *Much Ado About Nothing*, &c., at His Majesty's, and Brabantio with Messrs. Waller and Irving in *Othello*. One of his recent London engagements was at the Haymarket in 1907 as Colonel FitzGerald in *Sweet Kitty Bellairs*. He made his appearance at the London Hippodrome in September last as the Abbé in the sketch *A Modern Andromeda* with Mr. Herbert Waring and Mr. Leo Stormont.

About 1885 Mr. Neville established a dramatic school, in which he was instrumental in training many good actors and actresses. He wrote two essays on the subject—"The Stage: its Past and Present in Relation to Fine Art," and "Gesture." Among the plays that he wrote or adapted were *Her First Appearance*, *His First and Last Benefit*, *The Violin Maker of Cremona*, *The Duke's Device*, and *The Great Metropolis*, in which William Terriss collaborated.

As evidence of the value of his training in the old school of the stock days we may take Mr. Neville's acting in a matinée revival of Richard Lalor Shiel's tragedy *Evadne* (produced originally by Macready in 1819) at the St. James's on Saturday, Nov. 19, 1887. He played Colonna to the Ludovico of Lewis Waller. He was as a giant among pigmies. His presence "filled" the stage. Strenuous, earnest, impassioned to a degree, in the softer moods of the character there was a tenderness that was really touching. Mr. Lewis Waller was the only other member of the cast who distinguished himself. Another triumph at the St. James's for the deceased actor was his Sir Rupert in *The Witch*, by C. Marsham Rae, produced in November, 1887.

Henry Neville was a popular Mason. At one time he was W.M. of the Maybury Lodge, and early in the year 1886, in conjunction with Charles Warner, Thomas Thorne, Henry Pettitt, J. H. Clyndes, and others, he founded the Drury Lane Lodge, becoming in due course its Master. The highest honour in his Masonic career was reached by him on his elevation to the rank of a Grand Officer in 1898, being appointed in that year Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Mr. Neville was a man of many parts, outside his profession. As an after-dinner speaker he possessed a charm and a rich wit particularly his own. In this capacity he was ever in great request. Years ago, as member of the St. George's Rifle Corps, he successfully raised, drilled, and equipped nearly an entire volunteer corps. He was a fine shot, and in his day he won the One Hundred Guineas Challenge Vase, a gold medal, and the Three Star Badge as the best shot of the year.

It is not generally known that he was the owner of the old George Hotel at Reading—a picturesque inn, which bears the date 1554 upon a shield over the doorway. "Here, in the summer," writes Mr. Harold Ashton in the *Morning Leader*, "he was never so happy as when entertaining week-end parties of friends and giving them enjoyable trips up and down the Thames in his neat little steam launch. On these occasions 'Captain Harry' always appeared in full maritime rig, with a smart yachting cap and blue serge to match. On these occasions only he was a bloodthirsty pirate, with an obedient though rollicking crew on board. Many have been the thrilling adventures on the wondering Thames under the 'Jolly Roger' of the lovable Henry Neville. And it was champagne that flowed—not gore!"

In the grey light of a very wet morning a little knot of the relatives of the late Henry Neville assembled at Euston Station soon after eight o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning, being en route to Oldham. It having been the express wish of the deceased actor that he should be buried in the family vault at Denshaw, near Oldham, Mr. Albert Neville, his eldest son, had arranged with Messrs. Beckett and Son, the funeral furnishers, of Kentish Town, that everything should be of the simplest description. Consequently, the coffin containing the body was of simple British polished oak, and was placed in a casket. The plate was inscribed: "Henry Gartside Neville, died June 19, 1910—aged 73 years." The remains were conveyed in a car drawn by four horses from the late actor's house in Queen's Crescent, Haverstock-hill, to the North-Western terminus, and were followed by the relatives in two mourning carriages and pairs, and two more open landaus, containing nearly seventy magnificent floral tributes. Three special cars had been reserved for the journey. The principal mourners were Mr. Albert Neville, Mr. Ernest Neville, Mr. Willoughby Neville, Mr. Fredk. Gartside, and Mr. Thomas Neville.

The following ladies and gentlemen sent wreaths:—Albert and Bessie Neville, Willoughby and F. Neville, Ernest and Jane Neville, the grandchildren of Henry Neville, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gartside, Lionel Gartside, Arthur Neville and son Thomas, Mary Dale, Sir Herbert Tree, Arthur Collins and the directors of Drury Lane, members of the Green Room Club, Playgoers' Club, Brethren of Drury Lane Lodge, Lodge of Verity, Jubilee Masters' Lodge, Moriand Lodge, Greyfriars Lodge, Reading West Bowling Club, Reading Bowling Club, Reading Philanthropic Institution, Chief Constable, officers, and men of the Reading Borough Police Force, Alderman and Mrs. H. E. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Inglebert, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Fernandez, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Kitcat, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Read, Mr. and Mrs. Bonney, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wancke, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Cecil Wancke, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Watson, Miss Beatrice Selwyn, Mrs. C. W. Eaves, Miss Helen Robbins, Miss Norah Ellis, Miss E. Weedon, Mrs. Hilbury, Nurse Watkin, Mrs. Albert Bradshaw, Chas. Pond, Robt. May, C. P. Penn, C. W. Goff, Chas. Macdona, Edmund Smith, Alfred Baker, W. T. Day, H. H. Morell Mackenzie, Chas. Legassick, Rev. H. C. de Lafontaine, H. C. Pilkington, Fred Kedge, Harry G. Powell, the staff of Messrs. Erskine Neville and Co., the staff of the George Hotel, indoor and outdoor servants at "Oakhurst," Beckenham, and Miss Nash and assistants of the George Hotel.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Délibes' *Lakmé* was revived at Covent Garden on Saturday night, June 18, and met with a most enthusiastic reception. First performed at the Opéra-Comique, Paris, April, 1883, it has not been heard in this country since 1885, when performed at the old Gaiety Theatre, with Mlle. Van Zandt as the heroine. The music of *Lakmé* is charming, and although the opera has not been given for so many years, the famous "Bell Song" is sometimes heard at concerts whenever a vocalist has sufficient ability or daring to essay the difficult florid music. The composer gives just that touch of Eastern colour and character to his music in artistic keeping with the subject, while the numerous ballets are delightful—indeed, as a composer of melodious ballet music Délibes has few equals. The scene of the opera is laid in India during the nineteenth century. Gerald and his friend, Frederic, two officers in the British Army, accompanied by their fiancées, enter the sacred garden of a Pagoda belonging to the High Priest Nilakantha. When the rest of the party go, Gerald is left behind to sketch some jewels placed on an altar. Lakmé shortly arriving, Gerald is greatly impressed with her beauty, while Lakmé, daughter of the High Priest, on her side, soon falls in love with the handsome English officer; but Nilakantha happens to see Gerald in his sacred garden, and swears revenge.

In the second act, a market-place, Nilankantha and Lakmé, disguised as beggars, enter. He induces his daughter to sing, and the beautiful "Légende" attracts a large crowd, among them being Gerald. At a moment when the young officer is alone the old Brahmin stabs him; Lakmé, however, finds the wounded man, and with the help of Hadji, an attendant, carries him to the forest, which forms the scene of the third act, and here nurses him back to life by the virtues of certain wonderful herbs. Overcome with gratitude and love, Gerald agrees to drink some magic water, which will unite them for ever. While she is gone for a certain cup, Frederic enters and urges Gerald to be true to his country and the English lady to whom he is engaged, the sounds of a regimental march in the distance give force to Frederic's appeal, and when poor Lakmé returns and learns her fate she eats a leaf of the poisonous datura and dies in her father's arms.

Délibes' vocal music is full of melodic charm, either in the form of solo, duet, or chorus, while there are a number of beautiful passages for the orchestra. In the first act the opening chorus is very effective, and the quintet for Gerald, Frederic, and the three English ladies is particularly bright and sparkling. Lakmé and her slave, Mallika, also sing a very pleasing duet. The gem of the opera, of course, is the "Bell Song," but the ballet music is very captivating, and the English regimental airs cleverly introduced, while the long duet in the last act has considerable pathos, and in this scene the composer gives Gerald a fine solo when he is almost on the point of marrying Lakmé.

The opera is splendidly mounted, and lovely pictures are given of the Pagoda Garden, a bustling Market-place, and the Forest. As Lakmé Mme. Tetrazzini sang and acted magnificently. The "Bell Song" evoked a perfect storm of applause, and had to be repeated. As the composer has written for a high soprano, the music suits Mme. Tetrazzini perfectly, and the E in alt which finished the song was wonderfully produced. The entire performance, not only in singing but fine acting, was a perfect triumph for Mme. Tetrazzini. Mr. John McCormack also seemed inspired by his distinguished companion, and as Gerald never sang better or with more beauty of tone and expression. Mr. Edmund Burke imparted dignity to his impersonation of the priest Nilakantha, and he sang with admirable fervour in the appeal to Lakmé. As Frederic M. Crabbé was excellent, and in the part of Mallika Mlle. Bourgeois sang well. The English ladies, Ellen, Rose, and Mrs. Benson, were ably undertaken by Mlle. Symiane, Mlle. Egener, and Mme. Bérat, and the little part of Hadji by Signor Zucchi, while in the pretty ballets Mlle. Opalfvens had ample opportunity for displaying her talent. Chorus and orchestra deserved special praise, and the quaint picturesque costumes were very striking. Signor Campanini conducted sympathetically, and *Lakmé* proved a distinct success.

MISS ALICE CRAWFORD has been telling the *Daily Mirror* that there is trouble brewing in the theatrical world owing to the large number of tall, "majestic" actresses and the equally large number of small actors or actor-managers who persist in playing heroic parts. As it is impossible for a small or middle-sized actor to make love to a woman while looking up to her and still preserve his dignity, tall actresses are finding it very hard to obtain permanent employment on the stage. The small, petite actress, on the other hand, says Miss Crawford, is in great demand.

"IT is a curious fact," she says, "that small or middle-sized actors have a passion for playing heroic parts, thus necessitating a heroine of corresponding smallness. Imagine, for instance, a love-scene between a very tall woman and a short man—it would be absurd. A short actress is therefore engaged for such a part. Even if the woman is the same height as the man she looks much bigger owing to her hat or train.

"TALL actresses are nearly always in demand at His Majesty's Theatre for three reasons. They are frequently having big productions, the stage is big and—Sir Herbert Tree is a tall man. My own height is 5ft. 8in., so I suppose I must rank as a tall actress. The majority of my most important parts have been played at His Majesty's Theatre. Not until the stage produces a really tall set of actors can actresses who are above the average height come into their own."

SOME well-known actresses who are above the average height are the following:—Miss Constance Collier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Alice Crawford, Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Dorothea Baird, and Miss Viola Tree.

AT Chelmsford, on the 17th inst., an application was made on behalf of Thomas Cotterill for a licence authorising the public performance of stage plays in a building to be erected on the King's Head Meadow, Chelmsford. It was stated that the plans had been approved by the Chelmsford Town Council, and that a similar building had been erected in other parts of the country, and authorised for the performance of stage plays. The Bench granted the licence for three months.

IRISH NATIONAL THEATRE.

An experiment of some interest was made by the Irish company on Friday, the 17th inst, when the Pilgrim Players, an earnest band of Thespians hailing from Birmingham, were admitted to the programme, and presented Mr. W. B. Yeats' one-act play, *The King's Threshold*. The visitors are to be congratulated upon the elaborate way in which they staged and dressed the work, and upon the care and sincerity displayed in its performance. The piece, it may be remembered, was given by the Dublin Society during their visit in 1904, so that its plot will be familiar, but it may briefly be said that it is the story of the Irish poet Seanchan, who has been deposed from his place at King Guaire's table, and resents the indignity by taking up a position on the steps of the Palace and refusing to eat or drink till his old-time privilege shall be restored. Threats and entreaties are used to induce Seanchan to yield, but even though the Princesses bring him meat and drink, and the King himself comes to plead, urging that it is his nobles that compelled him to make the obnoxious restriction, Seanchan remains firm. Finally the King brings the poet's pupils with halters round their necks ready to be hanged if their master does not give way; but when the pupils all in turn exhort Seanchan to die rather than yield the King admits defeat.

The names of the Pilgrims were not given on the programme, but they are generally to be commended on a very fair level of excellence in the acting. Conspicuously well played parts were those of the King, whose appearance and delivery were admirable, and of two Court ladies, who spoke and acted perfectly. The chief part of the poet was not so satisfactorily rendered, its exponent being stagy and drawing out his speeches to intolerable lengths. A droll exposition was that of the Mayor of Kinvara, and two cripples, quaintly acted, afforded relief to what at times became a somewhat tedious performance.

The rest of the programme consisted of three one-act pieces, two of which have done duty before this season. *In the Shadow of the Glen*, by the late J. M. Synge, also had a place in the bill, and proved as diverting as ever. Mr. Arthur Sinclair was irresistibly funny as the old farmer who feigns death in order to find out whether his spouse really loves him. Miss Maire O'Neill realised as completely as possible the romantic though eminently practical young wife, and Mr. J. A. O'Rourke as a shepherd and Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as a tramp supplied two different varieties of character in clever style. The other two selections were *Kathleen ni Houlihan* and *The Rising of the Moon*, with the same casts as those recently noticed. The house was full, the pit especially being closely crowded.

"THE BUILDING FUND."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by William Boyle, Presented by the Irish National Theatre Society at the Court Theatre on Saturday, June 18.

Mrs. Grogan ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Shan Grogan ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Sheila O'Dwyer ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Michael O'Callaghan ..... Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Dan Macsweeney ..... Mr. Fred O'Donovan

Those who have steadily followed the remarkable series of plays presented during the past week or so at the Court Theatre by the players from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, have been struck by the inequality of the works. This possibly was best instanced last Saturday night, when Mr. William Boyle's delightful three-act comedy, *The Building Fund*, and Mr. W. B. Yeats' one-act play, *The King's Threshold*, shared the bill. In the one we get a true sample of Irish wit, well staged, well acted, and in the other a sombre imaginative effort that is always more or less "in the clouds."

The story of *The Building Fund* is a simple one, and deals with an aspect of life that is by no means confined to the Emerald Isle. Mrs. Grogan is a miserly old woman. Her son Shan is equally if not more mean than his mother. Consequently, when Michael O'Callaghan and Dan Macsweeney call to ask for a contribution to the building fund of the local church, they meet with rebuff. Sheila O'Dwyer is Mrs. Grogan's granddaughter, and enters "Granny's" service with the avowed intention of winning her way into the old lady's graces, and participating in the Grogan fortune when the old miser shall die. Everyone concerned has a selfish motive. Mrs. Grogan dies and leaves a will that startles everyone with its conditions.

The Building Fund is one great laugh from start to finish. It is splendidly written, splendidly staged, and splendidly acted. Miss Sara Allgood as the miserly old woman presented a really remarkable study of a suspicious and querulous old Irishwoman. Her brogue was perfect, and her petulancy as natural as could be. Mr. Arthur Sinclair and Miss Maire O'Neill acted very finely as son and grandchild respectively, and Messrs. J. O'Rourke and F. O'Donovan as the collectors for "his rivirinsis's" new chapel, suggested in convincing fashion the combination of blarney and business-like briskness that is to be found in the Irish character.

Mr. Yeats' *King's Threshold* was performed by the Pilgrim Players, a body of earnest amateurs from Birmingham, which, starting from the same small beginning, have adopted methods similar to those of the Irish Players, but chosen poetical drama for its speciality. We are told that "its principal successes have been *Eager Heart*, *The Interlude of Youth*, a mediæval morality, Fletcher's *Scornful Lady*, *Measure for Measure*, and *The King's Threshold*. The Irish Players had intended to perform this last play in London, but, owing to the number of plays they have had to rehearse, had to give up the intention, and were glad to bring before their audience instead the work of fellow-artists who have tried, as they themselves have tried, to represent poetical drama with much care for its music, and to decorate the stage as they have sometimes tried to decorate it while avoiding the attempt, which must always be a failure, to copy Nature literally."

On Monday, June 20, for the First Time in London, the Play, in Two Acts, by S. L. Robinson, entitled

"THE CROSS ROADS."

Mrs. Desmond ..... Miss Eileen O'Doherty
Mrs. McCarthy ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Brian Connor ..... Mr. Fred O'Donovan
Ellen McCarthy ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Mike Dempsey ..... Mr. J. M. Kerrigan
Tom Dempsey ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair

Except for a bright and brief scene at the opening there is little that is characteristically Irish in the above play, which might, indeed, be representative of the English agricultural districts just as well—or better—than those of the sister isle. There is a good deal of the penny novelette flavour about both story and dialogue, but some powerful situations are gained, together with a conclusion that is very impressive if undecisive. As in *Harvest*, Mr. Robinson takes a very blurred view of life, but he adds an element of the superstitious that puts the piece out of the pale of probability without increasing its strength.

Twice does the heroine of the play, Ellen McCarthy, stand at the cross-roads of life. She is a highly-intelligent up-to-date girl, who returns to her home in Cork, after a long stay in Dublin, with exalted views as to the improvement of methods of agriculture. During her residence in the Irish capital she has made the acquaintance of Brian Connor, a promising young student of literature, who follows her to Cork to offer her marriage. Ellen confesses to a liking for Brian, but conceives it to be her duty to marry a farmer in order to put her principles into practice; and, despite Brian's warning that love despited brings a curse, gives her hand to Tom Dempsey, a rough and uncouth farmer, exacting from Brian a promise not to visit or write to her for seven years.

At the end of that period Brian returns to find that while Ellen's new methods of farming have proved successful on every hand, in her own case utter failure is the result. The cows and sheep and poultry have perished by the score, and, moreover, Ellen's two children have both died of fever. Tom Dempsey attributes their ill-luck to a "black curse" which his wife has brought him. Brian warmly defends Ellen, so warmly, indeed, that Tom insinuates that their friendship in Dublin was not altogether innocent. The young man hotly resents the imputation, and grasping the farmer by the throat, has almost strangled him when Ellen returns and separates the two men. Brian urges Ellen to leave her home and place herself under his protection. The wife at first consents, but sees herself again confronted by the "cross-roads," and selects, as before, the way that duty indicates. Brian takes his final departure, and Ellen is left to the mercy of her husband.

More complete justice to the piece could scarcely have been done than that rendered by the little company. Miss Sara Allgood quite surpassed herself in her realistic depiction of the profound misery and pathetic resignation of the patriotic and disappointed woman, bereft of her children, her ideals shattered, and the victim of a brutal husband. Mr. Arthur Sinclair portrayed the hard-hearted farmer vividly, his delivery being little short of perfect, and Mr. Fred O'Donovan made a gentlemanly Brian, the quarrel between the two men reaching quite thrilling heights. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan gave another quaint sketch of an old Irishman as Tom Dempsey's father, and a conversation between two old Irishwomen was divertingly carried on by Miss Eileen O'Doherty and Miss Maire O'Neill, who acted the characters in finished style.

Monday's programme also contained Lady Gregory's very funny comedietta, *The Jackdaw*, with which Londoners first made acquaintance three years ago. The amusing incidents of the piece were effectively portrayed by Miss Sara Allgood as the embarrassed widow who is summoned for debt; by Mr. Arthur Sinclair as the brother who finds the money, but does not want his sister to know whence it comes; by Mr. Fred O'Donovan as the good-natured "know-all" Joseph Nestor, who arranges to sell the widow's jackdaw as an excuse for providing the £10 and sets the whole village bird-catching; by Mr. J. A. O'Rourke, excellent as a senile workhouse man; and by Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as a characteristic member of the community. The bill was concluded with *The Workhouse Ward*, the humours of which were again presented by the cast formerly noticed.

Miss Violet Esmond's *New Burmaid* company, under the control of Mr. Alexander Loftus, had a "ripping" time, both socially and artistically, at Dunnington (Yorks) last week. On Thursday afternoon the ladies of the company (fourteen in number) played a cricket match against an eleven of local tradesmen, and came out easy victors by 60 runs. This was mainly due to the excellent batting of Miss Veda (17), Miss Madge Prior (10), and Miss B. Dalmeny (12), and to the deadly bowling of Miss Vera Grafton and Miss Murielle Mascot, who took six wickets for 10 and four for 12 respectively. Other ladies taking part were Misses Flo de Ferny, Maggie Hughes, Dalmeny, Beatrice Earle, Mabel Snow, Maggie Chewd, Jean Adeson, Violet Hill, and Flo Hill. The team was captained by Mr. A. Loftus.

The tyre world does move

The B. F. Goodrich Co., Ltd. June 1, 1910.

Gentlemen,—I have pleasure in giving you my experience with a pair of your Metal Studded Covers which I have had on the rear wheels of my 18-25 Wolsley-Siddeley Car. They ran 2,700 miles before the first stud came out, and I am now sending them to be re-treaded after their having done 5,060 miles. They are easily the fastest armoured Tyres I have ever had the pleasure of driving.

Yours very sincerely, DUTCH DALY.

Are you sure that your tyre equipment represents the latest developments of tyre science?

The car you are driving to-day is probably far more flexible, more reliable, and more economical than the car you were driving a year or so ago. Have your tyres kept abreast of this advance?

If not, Specify—

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C.

THEATRE STREET, YOKOHAMA.

By FRANCES COBORN.

If the visitor to Japan were asked on his return his impressions of Yokohama, it is possible that, after the hospitality of the "foreigners," he would only recall the main shopping thoroughfare patronised by all tourists and the more striking features of Theatre-street. The newcomer who has preconceived ideas of natives living in isolated handfulls will be amazed at the crowds that fill the streets. Pavements and road alike are thronged, and walking is a difficult and sometimes aggravating business. There is no rule of the road in Japan, the native mode of progress is as erratic as a will-of-the-wisp, and nowadays the man in the street, despite the renowned courtesy of the Japanese, thinks nothing of jostling a "foreigner." Theatre-street by day is but an ordinary thoroughfare; by night it is pulsating with the humours of innumerable pleasure-seekers, willing to be attracted by cries of the loudest or most alluring showman

Entering the street from the town end, we notice the blaze of light outside a cheap bazaar of the "Everything within 1d." order. But it is hardly worth while to see it, and we pass on some hundred yards between unassuming shops and teahouses. There are two exceptions. On the left a showman calls visitors to the smallest, crudest panorama I have ever seen, illustrating the scenes and figures from the Russo-Japanese War. On the right of the street a spacious teashop attracts attention. It is a corner house, the shop open on two sides to the street, and the jars and canisters of tea ranged along the remaining sides of the square are displayed to the best advantage. These, with the straw tatami (flooring), polished woodwork, and the patient salesmen (probably the proprietor and his sons) create a lasting impression in the mind of the passer-by.

Almost immediately we come to the group of theatres which give the street its name. But first let us turn off to the right and see what the glare and noise here mean. The sound of the brass band is familiar; so, in fact, is the sight that meets our eyes This large tent covers a circus, and but

THEATRE STREET, YOKOHAMA.

for the unaccustomed audience and the fact that all the performers, too, are Japanese, we might be at any village fair in England. There is apparently no Children's Act in Japan, for here we see two baby tumblers, one supporting a barrel on his little upturned legs, while the second creeps in and out of it like a tiny brown kitten.

Now for the theatres. In front of each are displayed narrow cotton banners attached to long bamboo poles, bearing the names of play and players in Japanese script. In addition, some of the theatres display crude, gaudy pictures of scenes enacted within, which take the place of the posters and photographs shown outside our own theatres. One of the theatres is apparently the home of melodrama, for its pictures invariably portray nightmare horrors such as the Oriental alone can depict.

A sight that is almost certain to astonish the "foreigner" visiting or passing a theatre for the first time is the number of *geta* (clogs) strewn about the entrance. These have been shed by the Japanese before going into the building, and compel wonder at their belief in their fellow beings, also at the probability of each member of the audience finding his own belongings at the end of the performance. On enquiry, one learns that each pair has a wooden label attached, after the manner of our own cloak-room tickets, while the attendants "in front of the house" are supposed to keep watch against possible thieves. A story which is too good to miss is told by Professor Arthur Lloyd, of the Tokio University, of how these light-fingered gentry contrive to rob folk of their clogs while still standing in them! He relates how with a bamboo switch the thief tickles the foot of his victim, till the latter slips it out of his *geta* and raises it to rub it. Then the clog is deftly twitched from under him and an old one substituted. The same process is carried out with the remaining shoe, and the victim's "missus" is probably the first to find out what has happened!

The Kirakusa Theatre, with its occasional cinematograph and variety shows, is the most frequented by the foreign residents of Yokohama. Inside it resembles most other Japanese theatres, though the Tokio houses are larger. The parterre, or floor, is laid out in squares, very much like an enormous chessboard with inner squares cut out or sunk. The ridges thus left form gangways sufficiently wide for attendants to pass along with refreshments between "turns." The occupants of these boxes, varying in number from four to six, are supplied with the flat cushions invariably used by the natives for seats. One then sees the necessity for discarding the wooden *geta*, which otherwise would inconvenience both owner and the rest of the family party. They then settle down to the evening's entertainment, the matrons smoking their tiny pipes like any of the men folk!

Along the walls to right and left are the spaces reserved for "foreigners" and Japanese in European dress, the price of admission being "One yen, with chair." Above each of these spaces is another, answering to our dress circle. On the same tier and between these, facing the stage, runs the gallery, but "the gods" view the performance from behind a grille. The result, as seen from the balconies, is perfectly ludicrous, for the gallery resembles nothing so much as the cage of a menagerie (I dare not say aloud which one).

The pictures shown are mostly films by Gaumont Frères, and no evening's show would be complete without one or more of the inevitable chases dear to the makers of moving pictures. Horrors grim or grotesque are also very popular, but the climax was reached (of those I saw) in what the programme described as "An Accident of Christians in Sixteen Century," realistically illustrating various methods of torture in the Spanish Inquisition—even to the gore! The programme further informed us that this set of pictures, with others, would "impress the spectators with the idea that they are actually present on the scene of genuine performances." Unfortunately, the gentleman who explained the views beforehand—first in Japanese, then in his best English—gave the spectators to understand that they were witnessing present-day occurrences in Rome!

But the bright outstanding star feature of the Kirakusa Theatre is its orchestra, seated in a box on the level of the balconies. Four of the five instruments are brass, and their playing—frankly brazen! The drum booms, one cornet brays, another squeals, in the most exquisite discord ever heard: a tin tray and a pencil drawn upright over a slate would answer the purpose just as well. Certainly, the Kirakusa Theatre is no place for the sensitive eye or ear.

And yet I have heard, in that same theatre, on the occasion of a charity performance, music that would do credit to the best London house. Tokio boasts a string orchestra or some forty Japanese, who have been trained at the various conservatoire and academies of Europe. It is possible that the lack of good orchestral music in Yokohama caused us to over-estimate their success, but undoubtedly their playing gave the foreigners present the keenest delight.

Many visitors will prefer to watch the audience to the show—good-natured souls, easily pleased, and accepting all they see with the simplicity of children. Possibly critics and other superior persons in European garb frequent the great theatres in Tokio—there is no room for criticism at the Kirakusa Theatre.

In addition to the long cotton banners hung outside the theatres, famous Japanese actors have a much more artistic form of advertisement, and one which is, I believe, unique. While in Japan I was asked to obtain from England samples of material suitable for a front curtain, which a wealthy Tokio gentleman and his friends wished to present to a popular actor. It appears that a star performer has his own special curtain, bearing his name, crest, or favourite rôle in gold appliqué, and this is used whenever and wherever he plays lead.

One hardly expects to find in native Japan reminders of events in the London world of variety, and it was indeed a case of "Oh, what a surprise" for me when I first saw this motto painted in black letters on the white wall of a little wine-shop: "Two jolly (*sic*) black eyes"! I have since tried to obtain a photograph of the place, but, alas, the hand of the destroyer has been at work, thus providing another instance of the transitoriness of fame.

MASONS AT WORK.

The second meeting of the Chelsea Lodge No. 3098, under the new Master, Mr. Harry Bawn, was held in the Chelsea Town Hall on Friday, the 17th inst. As is usually the case, many of the members were unable to be present owing to provincial engagements, but all those able made a point of being present, amongst them being Messrs. W. F. K. Walton, George H. Dyball, C. J. Doughty, Ernest Leicester, Albert Nicklin, Angelo A. Asher, W. H. Atlas, Albert Felino, Walter Hitch, James W. Mathews, J. H. McNaughton, Douglas White, G. R. Ranger, Herbert Austin, W. J. Mackay, Ernie Mayne, Bertie Ralland, John Grant, Frank Hardie, Monte Bayly, Pete Murray, A. G. Harman, Willie Benn, Henry Mason, Ernest Dillon, Will Johnson, James Stewart, Martin Henderson, Herbert Chenery; also Messrs. Harry A. Gribben, F. W. Coupland, and George A. Highland as visitors.

In the course of the afternoon Messrs. James Stewart, Will Johnson, and Martin Henderson were initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. Messrs. A. G. Harman and W. J. Mackay progressed another stage, and Mr. G. R. Ranger completed himself in the art.

CONGRATULATORY DINNER.

It will be remembered that, owing to the death of his late Majesty, the congratulatory dinner to Messrs. A. G. Duck, Stanley Fitch, J. L. Goldstein, W. Lestocq, W. S. Lyon, R. Manuel, and Isaac Seaman, was postponed until Sunday last, when over 100 gathered together at Frascati's to do honour to these popular gentlemen and distinguished Freemasons. The chair was taken by Mr. Tom Fraser, P.G. Treasurer of England, and there also sat down to dine Messrs. H. Passmore Edwards, S.G.D., Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., J. P. Fitzgerald, P.G.Std.B., Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., Rev. C. E. L. Wright, P.G.D., R. D. Cummings, P.G.Std.B., Newton Crane, P.G.D., Charles J. Quicke, P.A.G. Sup. of Works; Chris Hilton, Master of the Lodge of Asaph; Douglas Gordon, Hubert Harben, A. B. Tapping, J. H. Ryley, Charles Macdona; Hubert Willis, Master of the Green Room Lodge; George Highland, Arnold Lucy, A. E. George, J. J. Dallas, and D. J. Williams.

The toasts of the evening were proposed with eloquence and responded to with grace and tact. Mr. Tom Fraser introduced each distinguished brother in his turn, the only absentee being Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, who is in Canada. The first toast was that of "The Health of Mr. Stanley Fitch, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies," who acknowledged it agreeably. Mr. Isaac Seaman, A.G.Std.B., was very happy in his reply; and Mr. J. L. Goldstein, P.G.Std.B., Mr. Robert Manuel, P.A.G.Reg., and Mr. W. Lestocq managed to vary the terms in which they very pithily and pleasantly expressed their satisfaction.

"The Health of the Visiting Brethren" was drunk, and Mr. R. Newton Crane, the Master of the Jubilee Masters, replied for them. Mr. H. Passmore Edwards, S.G.D., proposed "The Health of the Chairman," which was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. Tom Fraser, in responding, expressed the pleasure he had experienced in presiding over such a distinguished assembly of his brethren met to congratulate such a worthy set of men upon attaining the position of Grand Officers.

Messrs. James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., and J. Percy Fitzgerald, P.G.Std.B., officiated as treasurer and secretary of the dinner committee.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"A SPORTSMAN AND A GENTLEMAN."

A Sporting Drama, in Four Acts, by Mr. Clifford Rean, Produced, for the First Time, at the Theatre Royal, West Stanley, on Monday, June 20.

Jack Deeringhurst ..... Mr. F. B. Woulfe
Sir Charles Deeringhurst .. Mr. Clifford Rean
General Vallander, V.C. Mr. Fred Wilberforce
Lord Lucas Lydford ..... Mr. Henry Parr
Jim Stoach ..... Mr. Leonard Thackeray
Ike Crawford ..... Mr. A. Waghorn
Billy Bettson ..... Mr. Edwin Coates
Inspector Melville ..... Mr. F. Brandon
M.C. ..... Mr. Cyril Jarvis
Timekeeper ..... Mr. Alfred Wade
Referee ..... Mr. Henry Ernesting
Tom Nutt ..... Mr. Sydney Churchill
Dolly Stoach ..... Miss May Irene Wright
Molly Jordan ..... Miss Florrie Lyndon
Nell Vallander ..... Miss Josephine Richards
Lady Cleodora Lydford .. Miss Edith Lorraine

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Rean has written a drama of very strong sporting interest, which will no doubt still further prove his ability as a playwright. The audience, an excellent one, followed the plot of the piece with great attention, and gave vent to their appreciation in frequent bursts of applause.

The story of the piece is briefly as follows. Sir Charles Deeringhurst has been going the pace for some time, and when the play opens is getting towards the end of his tether. Quartered upon him is Lord Lydford and his wife, Lady Cleodora, formerly a famous dancer, with whom Sir Charles was once enamoured. This precious pair are rapidly bleeding Sir Charles of the remainder of his possessions. He has made a match between his horse, The Reaper, and Lord Lydford's Cottonspinner, which is to be run at the Upminster Steeplechases. Ike Crawford, who is working with Lydford, has discovered an unknown heavy-weight pugilist, Tom Nutt, for whom he is anxious to make a match. Lord Lydford immediately thinks of Sir Charles's younger brother, Captain Jack Deeringhurst, who has just come over from Aldershot, where he has won the Army heavy-weight championship, to propose to Nell Vallander, the daughter of the delightfully fussy old General Vallander, and after taunting Jack with the difference between amateur and professional boxing, succeeds in arranging a fight to take place at the Olympic Club the night before the race. The articles, however, are such that they permit either Captain Jack or Sir Charles himself appearing in the ring. Sir Charles, delighted with the arrangement, makes a heavy side-bet that he wins the double event.

Lord Lydford has previously betrayed the daughter of Sir Charles's trainer and jockey, Jim Stoach (whom he recognised as a jockey who was warned off the Australian turf), and by working on the girl's fears, persuades her to accuse Captain Jack of the paternity of her child, and, then, aided by his wife, succeeds in getting Jack involved in a card scandal, from which it is impossible to clear himself. Sir Charles disgusted at what he presumes to be his brother's disgrace, decides to fight himself, and expels Jack from the house. Lady Cleodora holds certain compromising letters from Sir Charles, which her husband thinks may form an excellent motive for blackmail, and arranges to entrap Sir Charles and his wife alone. But Lady Cleo, who has discovered it was her husband who had betrayed the trainer's daughter, gives Sir Charles his letters back, and warns him of her husband's intentions. Lord Lydford returns, and, finding his wife has betrayed him, kills her. Sir Charles, who has gone to the Olympic Club, is about to enter the ring to meet Nutt, when he is arrested and charged with the murder of Lady Cleodora. Captain Jack begs his brother to let him take his place, as the articles allow, and after a hard fight succeeds in knocking out Nutt. Lord Lydford and Ike Crawford, who has lost considerably over the fight, are determined to get their money back on the race, and by threats of exposure of his past compel Jim Stoach to promise to pull The Reaper; but in the race before the match Stoach is thrown and brought back to the paddock in a dying condition, when he confesses all.

No one is able to ride The Reaper except Stoach, but Captain Jack volunteers, and carries his brother's colours to victory. On his arrival back to the paddock to weigh in he is arrested as an accessory to the murder of Lady Cleodora. Fortunately, Dolly Stoach, who has seen the murder committed, is at hand to clear him, and denounces Lord Lydford as the real murderer. Jack and his brother are reconciled, and the usual happy ending reached.

Unfortunately, through an accident to Mr. Woulfe's hand, caused by a bite from his dog, he was unable to play the part for which he was cast, viz., Jack Deeringhurst, which was, however, ably filled by Mr. Henry Parr, Mr. Woulfe playing Mr. Parr's part, Lord Lydford, in a highly creditable manner. Mr. Clifford Rean (the author) was an excellent Sir Charles Deeringhurst, and as General Vallander Mr. Fred Wilberforce fairly excelled himself. Mr. Leonard Thackeray was good as Jim Stoach, and as Ike Crawford Mr. A. Waghorn gave entire satisfaction. Mr. Edwin Coates as Billy Bettson and Miss Florrie Lyndon as Molly Jordan were responsible for the comedy element. Mr. Cyril Jarvis as M.C. and Mr. F. Brandon as Inspector Melville were very commendable. Tom Nutt was played by Mr. Alex Chrisp, a local gentleman, who gave a very fine exhibition of boxing. Miss May Irene Wright was very telling as Dolly Stoach, and as Nell Vallander Miss Josephine Richards was very pleasing. Miss Edith Lorraine gave a forcible rendering of the part of Lady Cleodora, and was the recipient of well-deserved applause.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

The programme here this week consists of a pot-pourri entertainment, made up of four of Mrs. John Lawson's sketches, pictures, and musical and vocal efforts. Mrs. John Lawson is, of course, the attraction, and she presents in her finished dramatic style *The Devil's Sunday*, *The Bride for a Living*, *Sally in Our Alley*, and *Woman and the Apple*. Perhaps the best performance by this talented lady is given in the character of Louie, in *The Bride for a Living*. In this sketch Mrs. Lawson gives an admirable representation of low life in the East End, infusing into this character-sketch some really good comedy, while her dramatic situations are made almost unpleasantly realistic. She is well supported in all sketches by a good company, and it is hardly necessary to mention that the staging throughout is excellent. Mr. Tom Jones, a Welsh comedian; Miss Mildred Gibbs, soprano; and Langbourne, Ray, and Langbourne, instrumentalists, together with an entertaining series of pictures on the Bioscope, help to complete the programme. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Stephenson, have a good deal of work to do, and their selections, which are capitally rendered, are extremely welcome.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your report of Opera House, Harrogate, June 18, you omitted to mention, yours truly, Marquis and Truly, acrobatic comedy duo.—Theatre Royal, Goole, June 20.

Presentation.—As an evidence of appreciation for her clever acting in *The Soldier of France*, and to mark her début at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, last week, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Osmond, on behalf of themselves and the company presented Miss Evelyn White (the pretty daughter of Mr. Will White, manager of Belfast Alhambra Theatre), with a beautiful dressing case, suitably engraved.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 27.

A CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Grand, Birmingham.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—T. R., Smethwick.
ARRAH-NA-POGUE.—Hippo., Sheerness.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Dewsbury.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Garrison T., Tidworth.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Margate.
BLACK MASK, THE.—Empire, Oldham.
BOOTH JUNIUS.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
CANDIDA.—O. H., Buxton.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Empire, Southend-on-Sea.
CINGALEE, THE (A.).—O. H., Blackpool.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—Gaiety, Hastings.
DESTROYER OF MEN.—T. R., Leeds.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., South Shields.
DIVER'S LUCK.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
DOLLY REFORMING HERSELF.—Grand T., Hull.
DRAYCOTT, MR. C.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Royalty T., Barrow.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Rochdale.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—T. R., Colchester.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—O. H., Coventry.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Belfast.
GREAT AWAKENING.—T. R., Bolton.
GREED OF GOLD.—T. R., Stockport.
HARBOUR LIGHTS, THE.—T. R., Sunderland.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
HER FATAL PAST.—Lyric, Hammersmith.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Jarrow.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Stratford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Tipperary and Bullevant.
LIFE FOR A LIFE, A.—T. R., Bury.
LITTLE STRANGER, THE.—Pier, Eastbourne.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Kursaal, Bexhill.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Junction T., Manchester.
MAUDE, WINIFRED.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Stockport.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
MISS PLASTER OF PARIS.—O. H., Harrogate.
MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE.—South Parade Pier, Southsea.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—T. R., Portsmouth.
MY LADY BELLAMY.—T. R., Chatham.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Queen's T., Longton.
OUR FLAT.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—T. R., Bournemouth.
RAYNOR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—King's T., Manchester.
RIDDING'S OPERA.—New Pavilion, Rhyl.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Worthing and Bexhill.
SAPHO.—Alexandra T., Hull.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
SORROWS OF SATAN.—Palace T., Porth.
SPENCER, SYDNEY, REPERTORY.—Star, Swansea.
THE EYES OF THE WORLD.—Metropole, Gateshead.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Halifax.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Ashton.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Crown T., Eccles.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Palace, Newcastle.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Osborne T., Manchester.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Elephant and Castle T., S.E.

THE premises of the Star Music Publishing Co. were closed on Thursday, owing to the death of Mr. S. E. Strong.

A SPORTING MATINEE which evoked considerable interest took place at the Palace, Cardiff, on Wednesday. The competition was at 9st 7lb, and there were eight competitors, all of Cardiff, the referee being Mr. Ralph Ile. The first two bouts were rather uninteresting, T. Ryan easily disposing of H. Webster, and Young Eames of Arthur Condon, in two rounds each respectively.

THE third bout saw Ted Owen and Coles matched. The contest went to Owen in the third round, he showing the quicker footwork and better staying power. The tit-bit of the afternoon, however, as far as the preliminary bouts were concerned, was the fourth, in which Mahoney and Barry were matched. Both men showed clever sparring and went in for hard hitting. So well were they matched that a fourth round was ordered, in which Barry's harder hitting powers and flush straight-arm blows secured him the verdict.

THERE was a large gathering of spectators, including Mr. J. W. Cordiner (*Dare-Devil Dorothy* company), who is taking a holiday in the locality. At the interval the players and friends were entertained to tea on the grass in front of the pavilion, and mirth and jollity prevailed. A collection was taken on the grounds for the local hospital fund, which realised a substantial sum.

BEFORE Mr. E. Leadam Hough, senior official receiver, the creditors met under the failure of Frederic Baugh, described as of Cambridge-road, E., music-hall proprietor. The debtor during the past twelve years had been acting as general-manager of theatres. In 1907 he entered into a verbal partnership with two others, and afterwards ran the Palace Theatre, Dover, the Alhambra Theatre, Sandgate, and Grand Theatre, Sheffield, as music-halls. The last-mentioned was eventually run as a picture theatre, and the attributed his present position to losses sustained over those ventures. Early last year he ran a vaudeville season at the Opera House, Jersey, and as a result lost £120, and he had sustained an additional loss of £160 by running a variety season at a Croydon theatre. The debtor estimated his liabilities at £1,200, and his assets consisted of a little personal jewellery. The meeting was adjourned to give the debtor an opportunity of submitting a proposal.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months ..	0	6 6	Three Months ..	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

SEASIDE.—*The play does not seem to be on tour. Search the "On the Road" columns of the professional papers.*

LIVERPOLITAN.—*The address of the Actors' Benevolent Fund is 3, Adam-street, Strand, W.C. The Secretary is Mr. C. I. Coltson.*

AMICO.—*The Managers of the Brownies are Chas. Haslock and Ernest Crampton, 10, Queen's-terrace, St. John's Wood, N.W.*

W. N.-G.—*Place yourself in communication with the Secretary of the Playwrights' Association, 14, Whitcomb-street, Pall Mall East, S.W.*

A. M. D. (Nottingham).—*A Mr. Samuel Murphy Bodie was admitted, on payment, to the freedom of the City through the Worshipful Company of Spectaclemakers, on the 17th day of Oct., 1905. This is probably the incident to which you refer.*

C. B.—*Barry Sullivan's last appearance on any stage was at the Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday, June 4, 1887, when he played Richard III. After a long illness, he died on May 3, 1891.*

F. A. S.—*If you consult the back page of* The Era *of June 18, or of this date, you will discover Miss Daisy James's advertisement. This will give you all the information you require. We have not seen or heard of the other lady you mention for the last seven years.*

WHITE HEATHER.—His Excellency the Governor, *farcical romance in three acts, by R. Marshall, was produced at the Court Theatre on June 11, 1898. The original cast was as follows:—His Excellency Sir Montagu Martin, G.C.S.I., Mr. Allan Aynesworth; the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., Mr. Bromley Davenport; Capt. Charles Carew, A.D.C., Mr. Paul Arthur; Mr. John Baverstock, Mr. Dion Boucicault; Captain Rivers, Mr. James Erskine; Major Kildare, Mr. Richard Purdon; A Sentry, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald; Groves, Mr. W. H. Quinton; A Clerk, Mr. Stanley; A Footman, Mr. Reade; Mrs. Wentworth Bolingbroke, Mrs. Fanny Coleman; Ethel Carlton, Miss Nellie Thorne; Stella de Gex, Miss Irene Vanbrugh. At the revival at the Duke of York's on March 12, 1904, the cast included Mr. H. B. Irving as Sir Montagu Martin; Right Hon. Henry Carlton, Mr. Holman Clark; Capt. Charles Carew, Mr. H. Marsh Allen; Mr. John Baverstock, Mr. Dion Boucicault; Captain Rivers, Mr. Charles Bryant; Major Kildare, Mr. George Bellamy; A Clerk, Mr. Lichfield Owen; A Sentry, Mr. J. A. Bentham; A Butler, Mr. Duncan M'Rae; A Footman, Mr. Walter Hack; Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke, Miss Fanny Coleman; Ethel Carlton, Miss Lily Grundy; Stella de Gex, Miss Irene Vanbrugh.*

500 Feet of News.

PATHE'S ANIMATED GAZETTE, the cinematograph film which is edited and produced just like a newspaper, grows in interest every week. This week's film is a marvel of compression, for within the limits of only a little more than 500 feet the editor has contrived to include animated pictures of the Suffragette Procession, Ascot Sunday, Practising for Bisley, The Lying-in-State of the Pluvoise Heroes, The Departure of the Terra Nova for the South Pole from Cardiff, The Swiss Floods, Prize-giving Day on the Arethusa at Greenhithe, Elizabethan Duelling at Hammersmith, The Paris Express Disaster, The Dorset By-Election, and other subjects.

ROMA AND ROMANI are winning golden opinions all round the Stoll tour. Their classical musical act has been secured by Mr. Stoll till late in 1912.

"CHILDREN ON THE STAGE." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Miss Mabel
Allen, Mr. Bert
Arnies, The
Ashwynne, Miss M.
Astor, Mr. Leslie
Athelda
Banfield, Miss Iris
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Barnell, Mr. W.
Barrie, Mr. Ridgewood
Bartlett's Circus
Beechman, Mr. Thos.
Bell, Mr. G. B.
Benham, Mr. Ernest
Bentley, Mr. W. E.
Bergeron, Mrs.
Blyth, Mr. J. S.
Bolder, Mr. Robt.
Braide, Mr. Stewart
Brooke, Mr. J. Gordon
Browns, The
Brune, Miss P.
Burgess, Mr. Ar.
Burley, Mr. W.
Callam, Mr. John
Cancellor, Mr. Leyton
Carey, Mr. W. P.
Cartwright, Mr. A.
Cerise, Miss D.
Chard, Lieut.
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Clevere, Miss Amy
Cliffe, Mr. H. C.
Coleman, Miss F.
Connor, Mr. F. J.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Court, Miss D. D.
Coutts, Mr. Henry
Crawford and Johnson
Currie, Miss Lily
Currie, Mr. Byder
Cuthbert, Mr. Alfred
Dandy, George
Darrell, Mr. and Mrs.
Day, Mr. Geo. R.
Desmond, Miss Nell
De Winton, Miss Dora
Dobell, Mr. E. H.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Dodd, Mr. E.
Dornton, Mr. Harry
Ellis, Mr. Guy P.
Everard, Mr. Francis
Farrar, Mr. Eugene
Finucane, Miss M.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Forbes, Mr. Alec
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Fox, Mr. Will H.
Franks, Mr. Tom
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Grey, Miss Marion
Hackenschmidt, Mr. G
Haldane, Mr. Bert
Hall and Earl
Halstan, Miss M.
Hare, Miss W.
Haroeston, Mr. George
Hast, Mr. Walter
Heath, Mr. Guyton
Hemming, Mrs. Alfred
Hilliard, Mr. Harold
Hoding, Mr. Thos.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Miss Ethel
Irving, Mr. Laurence
John, Mr. Arthur
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Edith
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirk, Mr. G.
Kremo, Mr. Karl
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Lane, Mr. Horace
Leigh, Mr. Ryland
Leslie, Mr. M.
Lewis, Miss Rose E.
Lingard, Mr. Horace
Lloyd, Mr. H. C.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lukishamas, The
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Maron, Miss B.
Mars, Mr. Harry
Martens, Capt.
Martin, Mr. Albert L.
Martin, Mr. Leslie
Maude, Miss Alice
Mayke, Mr. T.
Mayne, Miss Lilian
M'Call-Chambers, Mr.
Melton, Miss Irene
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Mozart, Mr. George
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Neale, Mr. V.
Nolan, Mr. Alf
Nord, Miss Serene
Norton, Mr. Jack
Oakley, Miss Ada
Pawle, Mr. Lennox
Payne, Mr. W.
Pettigrove, Mr. Louie
Pettigrove, Mr. Thomas
Philips, Mr. T. J.
Phillott, Mr. Gordon
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Purcell and Newns
Purchase, Mr. Andrew
Raymond, Miss Alice
Robertson, Mr. Ian
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Saxonians, The
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Sefton, Miss Clarice
Seymour, Mr. E. A. O.
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Sharman, Mr. Johnny
Shaw, Miss Nancy
Simosa San
Sivado, Mr. C.
Squire, Mr. Reginald
Stephens, Mrs. L. E. B.
Stewart, Miss Lilly
Strange, Mr. George
Sutton and Raynor
Swanborough, Mr. Harold
Taft, Mr. Gilbert
Terris, Mr. T.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Titus, Mr.
Tower, Mr. Allen
Tregonwell, Mr. A.
Van Biene, Mr. A.
Varley, Miss Pattie
Vasco, Mr. W.
Vaselisan Troupe
Von Leer, Miss Sara B.
Ware, Miss N.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Webb, Miss Ada
Wells, Miss Pattie
Weston, Miss Lucy
Wheeler, Miss Daphne
Whittling, Mr. Thos.
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Mr. E. H.
Williams, Mr. Percy
Winona
Wun Hi Ching Soo
Zenssen, Mr. L.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

LASCELLES.—On June 15, the wife of Philip Lascelles, of The Nook, Wargrave-on-Thames, and 21, Colville-terrace, Bayswater, W., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HUMBLE-CROFTS—COOPER.—June 22, at Waldron, Sussex, by the Rev. W. J. Humble-Crofts, M.A., Arthur Maughan, youngest son of the Rev. W. J. and Mrs. Humble-Crofts, of Waldron, Sussex, to Margaret Gernon Cooper, daughter of the late James Cooper.

SIMPSON—I'ANSON.—June 18, at the Choriton Register Office, Manchester, Fredericka May Simpson (née Rivers, of Sisters Rivers), youngest daughter of the late Fred Carlos, comedian, to Robert Maxwell I'Anson, of Manchester.

DEATHS.

KOTTAUN.—June 20, at Harringay, N., Anny, the wife of Celian Kottaun.

NEVILLE (Gartside).—June 19, at Seaford, Henry Neville (Gartside), actor, aged 73.

PHILP.—June 21, at Deal, of syncope, James East Philp, musical conductor and composer, aged 42.

IN MEMORIAM.

LOTTO.—In loving memory of Toby Lotto, who died June 28, 1902. Never forgotten by his father, sisters, and brothers.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Olga Hope—Saturday, June 25.
Sydney Paxton—Saturday, June 25.
Ben Nathan—Sunday, June 26.
May Moore Duprez—Sunday, June 26.
Georgina Preston—Monday, June 27.
Norman Wrighton—Monday, June 27.
G. M. Polini—Tuesday, June 28.
Slade Murray—Tuesday, June 28.
Dolly M'Calla—Tuesday, June 28.
John Coates—Wednesday, June 29.
Charles Darrell—Wednesday, June 29.
Charles Bignell—Thursday, June 30.
Norman Tracy—Thursday, June 30.
J. Maundy Gregory—Friday, July 1.
Tom McNaughton—Friday, July 1.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

PHONE, 7807 GERRARD. 探花樓 PHONE, 7807 GERRARD.
THE 'CATHAY' RESTAURANT
Open 11 a.m. till 11.30 p.m. Open on Sundays.
A PIONEER FIRST-CLASS CHINESE RESTAURANT, RUN ON UP-TO-DATE EUROPEAN METHODS.
. . CHINESE DISHES in great variety, . . and pure CHINA TEA (specially imported).
AMERICAN AND OTHER ARTISTES who have been accustomed to occasional Chinese Meals will find the menu at the "Cathay Restaurant" almost identical with that of the best Chinese restaurants in New York and other American cities.
SPECIAL NOTICE. The management gives special attention to little Dinner and After-Theatre Parties which may be arranged over the telephone or by correspondence.
22, DENMAN STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, W.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Re-appearance of Mr. EDMUND PAYNE and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production.
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries. Pictures of the Royal Funeral, "The Scarab," a New Magical Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions, &c., &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
ETHEL LEVEY, Three Sisters Athletas, Franco Piper, Almasio and Yamina, The Excellos, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON,"
MILLIE LEGARDE, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT and ADOLF BOLM,
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
Ascot on the Bioscope, Petit Roberto,
Emerson and Baldwin,
Mazuz and Mazetto, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon, Bert Levy, Fannie Ward and Co., Radford and Winchester, Royal Funeral Procession in Actual Natural Colours, Ascot and Canada on Bioscope, &c
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—"Chanteclair" (10.10) by Joe Peterman's Co. A feathered fantasy in three fits. Dutch Daly, Alexandra Dagmar, Harry Tate, Daisy James, Lotto Troupe, Bros. Horne, Farr and Farland, The Seven Bramusas, Lawrence Barclay, Banzai Family of Japanese Jugglers, Three Cape Girls, Robb Wilton, Bert Erroll, Johnson Clark, Dorothy Gould, Angus Strong, Ruffell's Bioscope, Maidie Scott. Open 7.20. Sat. matinées 2.15. Manager, MR. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—HERBERT SLEATH and CO., LIANE D'EVE, Mary Law, "Smith" (from the Strand Theatre), Frank Lawton, The Gotham Comedy Quartette, The Two Bobs, Will E. Stopit, Ida Barr, Madoline Rees, The Five Orioles, The Westbrooks, Ella Shields, Herbert Clifton, Gladys Huxley, Cinquevalli, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
Little Tich, Cecil Curtis, Madison and Webb, Fred Russell, Aida Martine, Percy Murray and Co., Marie Reeve, Arthur Woodville, Maidie Scott, The Calcotts, Pictures.

EMPIRE, Camberwell.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
6.30 Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Cissie Lawson and Co. in "Sally in Our Alley," Elsie Hulbert and her Dancing Girls, C. Ibbotson, assisted by Miss Helen Meynard, Lily Esplin, Norman and Leonard Trio, Perrier, Animated Graphic, Charlie Carr, Amy Bellwood, Rowland Bottomley, the Derrington Family.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
The Four Eugenes, Ethel Loftus, Alexandra Dagmar, Walker and May, Arthur Woodville, Vera Saunders, Jack Warman, Ruffell's Bioscope, Jock Whiteford, Tom Edwards.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Monday. Four Kasracs, Rita Rhylle, Harry Catton, Will Sullivan, Jennie Castelle, Queenie West, Howard and Collinson and Co., Bioscope, Verno and Voyce, Rean and Rane. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, June 27.
Marie Kendall, Burt Shepard, Steve McCarthy, Harry Bonville, Five Bombays, Dan Smart, Queenie Essex, Alice Maple, Bioscope, National Trio, &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, June 27. Edward Crosland presents "The Melody Makers," Sammy Shields, Gladys Mavius, Bert Erroll, Rousby and René, Walter Stanley, Stuart and Evans, Ray and Lingard, the Katos, May Baskerville, Lew Loman, Renée Ralph, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday, 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. BRISCO and T. CARNEY. Trustees, Messrs. H. JENNINGS, JESSE SPARROW, and DOUGLAS WHITE; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. WAINRATTA; Treasurer, Mr. PAT CAREY; Secretary, Mr. R. T. BAINES. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half-term commenced Mon., June 6. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE, M.V.O., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
Students may join at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
June 27, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert. Prospectus and concert tickets on application. SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET.
Principals: CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
President: GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq.
Half Term begins Monday, June 6.
Pupils may join at any time for Private and Class Lessons in Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Dramatic Art, Characterisation, Singing, Voice Production, Fencing, Sight Singing, and Rehearsals of Plays and Musical Comedy.
Amateurs Coached and Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Companies Stage-managed.
Lessons in Voice Culture and Public Speech given to Members of the Parliamentary, Clerical, Legal, and other Professions.
Apply, SECRETARY. Telephone, Central 4287.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Has Arrived in England.
Address,
C/o "The Era" Office.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

BOMBAY. — CALCUTTA.
BOMBAY.—CALCUTTA.
EMPIRE AND NOVELTY THEATRES, BOMBAY.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, CALCUTTA.
Cables:
"Soundy, Bombay."
"Operahouse, Calcutta."
The Finest and Most Up-to-date Theatres in the East.
Apply,
SOUNDY and Co., LTD.,
Bombay;
or,
Manager,
Grand Opera House,
Calcutta.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and J. F. KARAKA. District Manager, F. MITCHELL.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN. District Manager, J. BURY.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. STEPHEN. Joint Lessees, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, ROY H. SMITH.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. CHARLES REVILL. First-class companies required for Oct. 3, 31, Dec. 12. Fast booking 1911.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
EDMUND W. BIRCH,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
Acting-Manager, PERCY HARROP.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND. Always open to treat with really High-class Companies and Stars for either or both Theatres. See other advertisements.
All communications, J. F. ELLISTON.

BRIGHTON.
MARINE PALACE AND PIER.
Manager, F. W. WALKINGTON. Tele. 341.
The Finest Pier in the Kingdom.
Brilliantly illuminated with 6,000 incandescent and 32 powerful arc lamps. First-class Military Bands during Season. Handsome and luxuriously furnished Theatre, stage seen from every seat, wind and rain covered way from Pier entrance. Chief tram terminus opposite.
Theatre Vacant after Sept. 30; tenant required.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. BELL, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
WILLIAM MORTON.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably vacant, Grand Theatre, August Bank Holiday, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 12, 19, 26, for Musical or other High-class Attractions.
Address, WILLIAM MORTON.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.E. — Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, DRAMATICUS, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant for No. 1 Attractions only.
Sept. 5 (?), 12, 26, Nov. 14, 28, on.
Can entertain a big Panto. Xmas Production.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.
Twice Nightly Drama.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, Jan. 9, 23, on.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, PERCY HUTCHISON.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, JOHN COULSON.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager,
Mr. CHARLES REVILL.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant Nov. 14. Fast booking 1911.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WORKSOP.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, DRAMATICUS, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the PUBLISHER,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

PURSUANT to an Order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, made on the 12th May, 1910, in the matter of the Estate of Thomas Barrasford, deceased, and in the action of Thomas Pacey against Maud Barrasford (widow). The Creditors of Thomas Barrasford, late of 11, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, in the County of London, and of Hippodrome House, Brighton, in the County of Sussex, who died on the 1st Feb., 1910, are, on or before the 11th day of July, 1910, to send by post, prepaid, to us the undersigned, Amery-Parkes, Macklin, and Co., of 18, Fleet-street, London, E.C., the solicitors of Maud Barrasford (widow), the executrix of the deceased, their Christian and surnames, addresses and descriptions, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts, and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them, or in default thereof they will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Order.
Every Creditor holding any security is to produce the same before Mr. Justice Joyce at his Chambers, situated in the Royal Courts of Justice, London, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1910, at 12.30 o'clock in the afternoon, being the time appointed for adjudicating on the claims.
Dated this 9th day of June, 1910.
AMERY-PARKES, MACKLIN, and CO.,
18, Fleet-street, London, E.C.
Solicitors for Maud Barrasford (widow).

NOTICE
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
I, MARCUS D. DRAPER, of Adel Rectory, Leeds, England, hold absolutely the No. 2 and Fit-up Rights of producing and representing the play in a Prologue and Four Acts, entitled "THE CHRISTIAN" in the Provinces of Great Britain for a period of twelve months from June 1, 1910, with the option of a further twelve months from June 1, 1911.

Price 5s., 8vo, Cloth. By Post, 5s. 4d.
THIRD EDITION.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,
Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX.

	Page
Accidents, Compensation for	53, 209
Act of Paris	119
Actor, Illness of	11
" Incompetence of	16
Adaptations, Copyright in	110
Agents	129
" Award as to	131
" Commission	129
Apprentices	36
Arbitrator's Awards	219
Austria-Hungary, Copyright with	116
Author, Who is the	87
Awards, Arbitrator's	219
Ballets	66
Band Music	101
Barring Clause	41
Berlin Convention	119, 186
Berne Convention	116, 177
Bill Matter, Clause as to	34
"Book," Meaning of	85
Booth	65
Children on the Stage	60
Cinematograph, Rules of the L.C.C. as to	73, 238
Cinematographic Performances and Copyright	101
Compensation for Accidents	53, 209
Consideration for Contract	1
Contract	1
" Damages for Breach of	43
" Determination of	3
" Made by Letters	2
" Meaning of	1
" Music Hall	34
" Stamp on	3
" Theatrical	4
" Variation of Written	2
" With Infant	36
Copyright	83
" Assignment of	87
" Colonial	124
" Dramatic	83
" Essentials for	85
" in Adaptations	110
" in "Gag"	100
" in Situations	98
" in United States	120, 194
" International	116
" Licence to Perform	88
" Musical	84, 160
" None in Titles	90
" not Infringed by Cinematograph	101
" Performance	92
" under Berne Convention	116, 177
" Registration of	86
" Remedies for Infringement of	105
" Term of	89
Copyright Act, Dramatic, 1833	147
" " 1842	149
" " International, 1844	167
" " International, 1886	118, 170
" " (Musical Compositions), 1882	108, 160
" " (Musical Compositions), 1888	107, 162
" " Musical, 1902	114, 163
" " Musical, 1906	114, 165
County Council, Granting Licences	77
" " Regulations of London	234
Criticism	46, 125
Crowds may be a nuisance	50
Custom of the Profession	21
Damages for Breach of Contract	43
Dance, Performing Right in	100
Dancing, Licence for	74
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	144
Disorderly Conduct in Theatre	46
Distance, how determined	42
Dramatic Piece? What is a	93
Dramatisation of Novels	102
Drunkenness no Excuse	16
Duologue, When a Stage Play	68
Excise Licences	80
Exits	234
Fines	17
Fraud in Contracts	3
Garnisheeing Salary	35
Hire, defined	71
Hissing in Theatres	46
Illness of Actor	11
Incompetence of Actor	16
Infants	36
Infringement of Copyright, Remedies for	105
Injunctions	37
International Copyright	116
Letters, Contracts made by	2
Libel	127
Licence, Excise	80
" for Children	60
" for Cinematograph	73
" Music and Dancing	74
" Lord Chamberlain's	70
" Provisional	70
" Stage Play	70
" Theatrical	64
Liquidated Damages	40
London County Council, Regulations of	234
Lord Chamberlain, Extent of Authority	68
" " Regulations of	232
" " Stage Play Licence	70
" " Stage Play Licence, Fees of	71
Management and Audience	46
Mechanical Instruments, Infringement of Copyright by	112
Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Mistake in Contract	3
Music, Copyright in	107
" Licence for	74
" and Dancing Licence	74
Musical Compositions Act, 1882	108, 160
Musical Compositions Act, 1888	107, 162
Musical Copyright Act, 1902	114, 163
Musical Copyright Act, 1906	114, 165
"No Play, No Pay," Meaning of	29
Novels, Dramatization of	102
Nuisance caused by Crowds	50
Opera, Copyright in	111
Owner of Unlicenced Premises Liable	64
Payment and no room	48
Penalties	71
" for unlicenced Music and Dancing	79
" for unlicenced Plays	71
" for sale of Intoxicating Liquors without Licence	82
" on unstamped Agreement	3
Performing Right	84
" " Term of	89
" " Registration of	86
Piracy	111
Plans of Music Halls	77
Plans of Theatres	68
Plays, Similar	97
Posters, when a Libel	127
Preferential Payment to Artists	35
Public Entertainment Act, 1875	142
Public Health Act, 1890	74
Public House	77
Public Performance	65
Public Place	65, 96
Publication, Meaning of	90
Representation, Right of	84
Retaining a Seat	51
Riots in Theatres	46
Room, Performance in a	65
Salary, Garnisheeing	35
"Season," Meaning of	25
Seat, Retaining	51
Seat, Sold twice over	51
Sketches, Agreement as to	67
Society of Authors	104
Song, When a Dramatic Piece	93
Song, When a Musical Composition	94
Sunday, Performing on	19, 73
Stage Play, Meaning of	66
"Starring"	34
Stationers' Hall	86
Theatres Act, 1843	135
Theatres, Closing of	27
" Patent	64
" Unlicenced	4
Title, Rights in	90
Translations	119
Troupe, Performance by	31
United States, Copyright in	120, 194
Workmen's Compensation	53, 209

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1910.

THE LICENSING QUESTION AGAIN.

The great licensing question, which had been allowed to rest for some time, has been again revived, and with a display of marked ability on the part of the agitators. The ball was re-opened by Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER at the meeting of the County Council on the 14th inst. Mr. ALEXANDER put the case strongly from the theatrical managers' point of view. As he very truly stated:

> The music hall proprietor was able to produce stage plays in his building, but if a theatrical manager proposed to give a variety entertainment he was called over the coals, and prevented by the Lord Chamberlain on the ground that he was not fulfilling the terms of his licence. The effect of this was that the music hall proprietor could do what he liked, and the theatrical proprietor could not. As was known to many members of the Council, there was an understanding in existence between the music hall proprietors and the theatrical managers, and it was only in cases where the friendly agreement was not adhered to that the theatrical managers would ask the Council to protect their interests. The Chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee would doubtless tell them that the theatrical manager could always prosecute, but he submitted that this was a course which the theatrical managers should not reasonably be asked to follow; but when a conviction by a magistrate was brought before the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, the applicant for a licence should be warned, and, if necessary, his licence should be refused. . . . Until the recommendation of the Joint Select Parliamentary Committee became law, it was clearly the duty of the Council to see that the regulations, both of the music and dancing licences and the theatrical licences, were properly fulfilled.

MR. WALTER REYNOLDS, in supporting the amendment, had no difficulty in exposing the illogical and unsatisfactory state of the law at present, and quoted with great point the Camden Theatre case.

MR. GREENWOOD, who spoke on behalf of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, expressed the feeling of the Council generally. The body is indisposed to move in the matter; and this was shown by the fact that only ten members voted for Mr. ALEXANDER'S amendment

A spirited attempt to "tackle" the licensing problem has been made by Mr. GEORGE GRAY, whose draft of a new licensing Bill we printed last week. Mr. GRAY proposes to make the County Council and the Justices of the Peace the only licensing authorities both for music-halls and theatres. It will at once occur to the reader to enquire how the difficult business of dealing with indecent, immoral, or offensive stage-plays is to be done. The County Council would, of course, decline to add duties so delicate to its already onerous responsibilities. So the Lord Chamberlain and the Examiner of Plays are to be allowed still to exist; but the power of directly forbidding the *production* of a play is to be withdrawn from them. In the event of the Lord Chamberlain's refusing to grant a licence, "the licensee or author, notwithstanding such refusal of licence to perform, may in any duly licensed theatre or place of public entertainment present, play, and perform such play." The Lord Chamberlain's only resource will be to forward a copy of the play to the Director of Public Prosecutions, who "may" proceed in the High Court against the licensee or responsible manager where the play has been produced and played, and against the author of the play. It will again occur to the reader acquainted with the law's delays whether the alleged indecent and offensive play is to be allowed to run till the hearing of the case comes on. But Mr. GRAY has anticipated this objection. Pending the decision of the High Court the performance of the play is to be suspended, and such cases are to be adjudicated before a Judge of the King's Bench, who may, at his discretion, hear such case or cases in camera. Then the Judge, if he comes to the conclusion that the play *is* indecent and offensive, will prohibit its performance for a period of ten years, impose various penalties, and endorse the theatrical manager's licence. If this endorsement is repeated three times in five years, the licence will be forfeited, and will not be renewed for five years following.

The great obstacle in the way of improving the present licensing law is the *vis inertia* which has so much power in a conservative country like England. In order that any change may be made it is necessary that strong and influential pressure be applied. Reforms are only made when they are demanded with such a union of forces that it is impossible for them to be denied. It was not until the music pirates had given object-lessons of robbery in every street, and a large, important, and honest industry was on the brink of ruin, that the Musical Copyright Act was passed, and that only by the happy fortune of a tenacious diplomatist like Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR being induced to take up the Bill. There appears to us at present to be hardly enough powder behind the shell of licensing reform to attain any practical result. It is true that by Mr. GRAY'S Bill the music-hall managers would be free to turn their variety theatres into "temples of the drama," and that the theatrical managers would be able to allow smoking. But the music-hall managers wish to adhere to the various and disconnected nature of their entertainments; and the theatrical managers perceive that the permission to smoke in their auditoriums would cut both ways, driving away one class of their patrons if it delighted another section. And the question of sketches at music halls is complicated by the recent appearances of several of our leading London managers in condensed dramas at variety theatres. It is difficult to be very zealous about the "great sketch question" if you have been making a good deal of money by appearing in a sketch at a hall. With respect to Mr. GRAY'S proposals as to the Lord Chamberlain's veto, they would simply transfer the responsibility of estimating the objectionableness of a play from the Examiner of Plays to a "Judge of King's Bench." At present, a manager can make a pretty good guess at what will or will not pass the Lord Chamberlain; but it would be absolutely impossible to anticipate the decisions of gentlemen, experts in the law, but certainly not specialists in a department new to them and quite outside their province. But the mere fact that such a telling speech as Mr. ALEXANDER'S should have been made, and such a masterly draft as Mr. GRAY'S prepared, shows what a fund of ability, outside their art, there is in the popular actor-manager and the "fighting parson."

"THE GREEN HELMET."

A Play, in Ballad Metre, by W. B. Yeats, Presented, for the First Time in London, at the Court Theatre on Wednesday, June 22.

Leagaire	MR. ALLAN WADE
Conal	MR. ARTHUR SINCLAIR
Cuchulain	MR. FRED O'DONOVAN
Red Man	MR. J. M. KERRIGAN
Laeg	MR. SYDNEY J. MORGAN
Leagaire's Wife	MISS EITHNE MAGEE
Conal's Wife	MISS MAIRE O'NEILL
Emer	MISS SARA ALLGOOD

After seeing the dominating characters of *The Græn Helmet*, known in history, curiously enough, as the Red Man, one is forced to the conclusion that in the days of his youth this individual must have been most uncomfortable company for his contemporaries. Mr. Yeats' little play is short, interesting, and written in ballad metre—short, rhymed lines, that when delivered to the accompaniment of the Irish brogue are extremely pleasing. *The Green Helmet* has a charm of its own, and, although at times there is a difficulty in following up the story, is more of things earthly than many other efforts from Mr. Yeats' pen. It is all weirdly mysterious and very legendary, but it seems that there is a green helmet in dispute, and that it originally belonged to the Red Man, a supernatural being who has not been any too well treated by Leagaire and Conal, two very quarrelsome Ulster chiefs. One of them had agreed to cut off his own head in consideration of the Red Man's cutting off his, and after the Red Man had carried out his part of the bargain had backed out. But the Red Man picked up his head as it lay laughing on the floor and tucked it under his arm. The two chiefs, squabbling concerning precedence, are joined by Cuchulain, who is more than a match for them. The Red Man drops his head once more in its proper place. He laughs at them derisively, and leaves his helmet for the bravest of them to wear. They agree to wear it by turns, but quarrel badly about the right to be first to do so. Always ready for combat, their retainers and their wives join the "divarshun." The Red Man returns with a very terrifying Headsman in attendance and demands the head due him, which only makes matters worse. Cuchulain's public spirit gets the better of him, and he offers his head, whereat the Red Man at once crowns him with the green helmet.

During the progress of the piece "The Emer's Song" is rendered:

> Nothing that he has done,
> His mind that is fire,
> His body that is sun,
> Have set my head higher
> Than all the world's wives.
> Himself on the wind
> Is the gift that he gives
> Therefore womenkind,
> When their eyes have met mine,
> Grow cold, and grow hot,
> Troubled as with wine,
> By a secret thought,
> Prayed upon, fed upon
> By jealousy and desire,
> For I am moon to that sun,
> I am steel to that fire.

It may be said that Mr. Fred O'Donovan as Cuchulain spoke his lines extremely well indeed. But it cannot honestly be recorded that the other players were seen at their best in this particular item.

Lady Gregory's three-act comedy, *The Image*, was very well done on the same evening. Mr. J. M. Kerrigan was admirable—as, indeed, he always is—as the seaweed gatherer, Darby Costello, and the same can be said concerning the efforts of Miss Sara Allgood as Mary Coppinger, the wife of Stonecutter Coppinger, finely taken by Mr. Arthur Sinclair.

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—In your notice of a new Irish drama, *On the Shores of the Shannon*, I am credited with its authorship. Although reluctant to dissociate myself from a success, truth compels me to say I never wrote a line of the drama, nor heard of its existence until I read your issue of last week.—Yours faithfully, C. A. CLARKE

(Author of *A Broken Heart*, &c.).

Richmond, Surrey, June 20.

MR. H. A. JONES AT THE GUILDHALL.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES, responding for "The Drama" at a dinner given by Mr. R. N. Stollery, the chairman, and the Library Committee of the City Corporation, to meet the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, on Monday at the Guildhall, said:—The drama owes varied debts to Mr. Justice Darling. He has not only made a speech on its behalf to-night, but he has taken a more active part in its regeneration. Perceiving the comparative absence of high-class comedy on our English stage, he has constantly endeavoured to supply that deficiency by efforts of his own in a place where he is not subject to criticism. We may respectfully say of these efforts that they have met with a very considerable measure of success; indeed, that they have not fallen short of that high standard which English Judges usually attain when they forsake the dry formalities of their own office and generously set an example to English writers of comedy. Further, the learned Judge is a frequent playgoer. I saw him at the theatre a few weeks ago, following a stern indictment of the methods of English justice set forth. I thought I detected some workings of conscience on his features, or perhaps some uneasy suspicion that the whole fabric of English procedure is founded on a sad lack of brotherly sympathy with the criminal. At least we may hope that the exposure of the senseless and futile horrors of solitary confinement made a due impression on the learned Judge's mind. With my renewed thanks to him, I pass on to a brief glance over the general position and outlook of the English drama. It can, I think, be claimed that there are many bright and encouraging signs in the dramatic atmosphere. But it is a fatal error to dwell complacently on our virtues and achievements. To rest and be thankful is the sign of old age and decrepitude. I pass by our virtue and achievements, then, and I propose to-night to notice a rather disquieting symptom of the present dramatic movement. I say movement because movement implies life and activity. A noticeable feature in the English drama of recent years has been an assumption that the drama in the future must do something that the drama has never done before; that it must be pre-eminently a direct, explicit, and merciless expounder and enforcer of ethical, social, political, and scientific doctrines and theories. The English drama stands in great danger of being placed in the offensive position of a moral teacher. I beg my comrades and colleagues to notice the wise admonition addressed to us by Mr. Walkley at the dinner of the General Theatrical Fund a few days ago:—

"If the drama is to develop, it will have to develop along dramatic lines, shaping itself, like very other art, in conformity with its peculiar medium of expression. It must obey the law of economy in art, not run to waste by aiming at effect which could just as easily be produced without the apparatus of a theatre and the aid of a company of actors. And a play must always in the future, as in the past, be something organic and whole, or it will not hold the spectator's attention."

These are words which I think all of us who are writing plays will do well to lay to heart. This proclamation of the essentially doctrinal nature of the dramatist's profession becomes all the more alarming when one tries to examine the exact nature and scope and tendency of the doctrines propounded. It has lately been claimed that the national drama should make for righteousness—a general and lofty sentiment which commands our ready and unstinted approval. If the English drama makes for anything after the expenses of the management and the author's fees have been duly provided for, the surplus should unquestionably make for righteousness. But the further question arises: What sort of righteousness should the drama make for? And here there seems to be a likelihood of some confusion. For instance, a recent correspondence has started a horrible fear in my mind that the sort of righteousness aimed at is an income-tax of 20s. in the pound. I frankly own that isn't the sort of righteousness which I am making for, either in my private capacity as a citizen, or by inculcation in my public capacity as a writer of plays. Another burning question which seems to be crying aloud for drastic treatment in drama is the present arrangement whereby the nominal head of the household, amongst his other privileges, has the hitherto unchallenged privilege of paying that income-tax. And here I will make a great concession, and give away one more cherished masculine right—I will allow my own wife, or any other man's wife, to pay all income-tax without descending to any mean, petty squabbles as to the exact amount of our respective incomes. But I must grant that the struggle arising in the breast of the conscientious taxpayer on the question of the benefit to the national exchequer, weighed against the discomfort of probable domestic disputes upon pecuniary matters, offers a very tempting theme to a writer of the present type of pamphlet plays.

Once more, it has been suggested that the rules of Aristotle for making a play should be left out of account and thrown aside in our national drama. To the very able defence of Aristotle in this morning's *Times* I need add nothing. But I will, with great humility, offer a copy of Mr. Butcher's most valuable translation and commentary to any playwright who is anxious to learn how to write a successful play. And with all the emphasis at my command, I do, as a practical playwright, affirm and reaffirm that Aristotle's first leading rule remains to-day the leading rule whereby to fashion any play that can hope for permanent success. "The plot is the first thing," says Aristotle. Not the chief thing, but the first thing. Character-drawing, literature, ideas, philosophy, righteousness itself, can only be effectively introduced into a play that has already been provided with a definite articulate vertebrate scheme of action.

Further, it has lately been said that our national drama should be normal. And here I am whole-heartedly in accord with the dictum. I am tempted, but I will not be cruel enough, to inquire how far many of our recent masterpieces have been "normal" and addressed to the normal man. We all remember the famous dinner-party in "Tristram Shandy," when the theory was started that the Duchess of Suffolk was no relation to her own son. Uncle Toby was about to whistle "Lillibulero," but Mr. Shandy clapped his hand over Uncle Toby's mouth and said, "This is a very fine new original theory; let us hear what is to be said for it." Occasionally on the production of some new orignal play compact of brand new original theories akin to the one I have mentioned, I fancy I have heard from the average normal man a few subdued strains of "Lillibulero." A day or two ago I received an anonymous communication which purported to be the authorised programme of a very new and very advanced school of English drama. I will read out the titles of the plays which it is proposed to offer to the English public as soon as the necessary theatre and the capital can be found:—

Where is Darwin Now? a biological dissertation in twelve acts, by a Neo-evolutionist.

The Soul of My Cat, an anti-vivisectionist dithyramb in one screech, two moans, and a curtain cat-call.

The Piston and the Flute, an essay in musical engineering, with some thoughts on barrel-organs and motor-horns, and full machinery and orchestral accompaniment.

Aspasia and the Magistrate, a lesson in practical impropriety, by One Who Has Tried It. Scene: Vine-street Police Court.

Dumping Analysed, a potion for free-traders, in four gulps of one scene each.

The list goes on to include a statistical play in defence of cremation and other appetising items.

I return to the admirable dictum that the English drama should be normal. If we take a swift view of art generally, of all schools and kinds of art, we shall, I think, be justified in saying that there is a constant tendency amongst young artists in every art to rebel against all its conventions, to rebel against the necessary and eternal conventions, as well as against the outworn and dying conventions. It is the same in poetry, in painting, in sculpture, and in the drama. And this perpetual rebellion leads very often to excesses, to perversities, to eccentricities, to exaggerations, to freaks of all sorts. The man who cannot do a sane strong thing will always do an eccentric thing, a perverse thing. If he cannot be first in Rome, he will be first in Little Peddlington. So that it is a good sign when we come across a recognition and declaration that the English drama should be normal and addressed to the average normal man.

I recently had a chance of speaking on the drama to young Oxford—to those who may have so large a say in the doings and directions of our future national drama. I found the warm, easy, graceful hospitality that always awaits a visitor to Oxford. I found a cordial interest in the drama, but I found a great distrust of some modern methods and tendencies. And I tried to assure and reassure young Oxford that our coming national drama would be normal, sane, exhilarating—an instrument of pleasure and amusement, and not an instrument of affliction and confusion.

But it is not only in Oxford that this mistrust and distrust of some modern dramatic methods and tendencies exist. That mistrust and distrust are shared—and I think justly shared—by a considerable body of English playgoers. And it is the great body of English playgoers who will have the final say in this matter. It must have struck the leaders of some recent movements that their efforts have not met with any general recognition or acceptance from the average normal man. They recall a couplet of Hood:—

> "But when the crier cried 'O'
> The people cried 'Oh, no!'"

Leaders of all movements, immaterial, political, financial, artistic, are divided into three classes. There are the leaders, who lead their followers to victory, there are the leaders who lead their followers into a ditch. And if [illegible] interpret the feeling of the average normal English playgoer at this moment, it is that he is being led into a ditch.

A comparison may be instituted between making laws and making plays. The learned Judge will, I am sure, tell us that it is useless to make laws away from the habits, thoughts, customs, and morals of the great body of the public, useless to make them much ahead of them, useless to make laws aside or apart from them in any direction. The wise legislator adapts himself to the general opinion of his average normal countrymen. So does the wise playwright.

A great movement is afoot for the recognition, organisation, and standardisation of the English drama. That movement is associated with the Mansion House and with the City of London. I will not now do more than express my hope and belief that success and prosperity must attend that movement, whatever obstacles and delays it may meet with.

I have said that the drama runs some danger of being placed in the offensive position of a moral teacher. For all that, any living drama will be, must be, a moral teacher. But it must not usurp the birch of the schoolmaster, the chair of the professor, or the pulpit of the divine. The drama is a teacher far more subtle, more insidious, more insinuating than any priest. But it must do its preaching and its teaching as if it were unaware of it.

The movement I have spoken of is started in the honour and memory of Shakespeare. Shakespeare has set us an example now to deal with the problems and controversies, the storms and fevers of the passing hour. He carefuly lets them alone. England was going through a tremendous change in religious thought and practice and belief. He scarcely noticed it. He dealt in the things that concern and unite general humanity. The promoters of the National Memorial Theatre will do well to assure the great English playgoing public that they need have no fear, that the scheme to honour Shakespeare shall be mainly shaped in the spirit of the broad, profound, universal humanity, the broad, profound, universal morality, the broad, sunny, universal common sense of Shakespeare.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to make an appeal to the theatrical and theatre-going public on behalf of an old actor who has fallen upon bad times in his aged years? Mr. Charles Frome, as a child of eight years of age, entered the theatrical profession, under the tuition of his aunt (a famous dancer in her day), and has for nearly sixty years filled "many parts" in this country and the Colonies. He has appeared on the boards of the leading London and provincial theatres during that lengthy period, under the various managements of Messrs. Lewis, Hurdon and Wallace, J. P. O'Neil, Ward Lions, F. B. Chatterton, Charles Macarthy, Carter and Deeming, J. F. Warden, J. Heath, George Owen, De Frece, Van Biene, George Rignold, Wybert Rousby, J. P. Hutton, John Bunn, John Douglass, Murray King and Clarke, V. Esmond, J. W. Boulding, Mervin Dallas, Geo. Sanger, Pope and Hardy, and many other well-known managers. Mr. Frome, it may be mentioned, was, in the years gone by, the original Cardinal in *The Double Rose*, with the late Miss Sophie Eyre as the leading lady, at the Adelphi, and was for three years in succession at Drury Lane, under the management of Mr. Chatterton. In burlesque, too, he was the original King Hokey-Pokey at various London pantomimes. It may be interesting also to note that Mr. Frome and his partner, Mr. Cautrell Gibbs, were the first to utilise the electric light for the personal decoration of persons on the stage for changing coloured roses, &c.; which subsequently became very popular on almost every Metropolitan stage.

It may be asked, "Why, with such a record, does not Mr. Frome, in his distress, throw himself upon the Actors' Benevolent Fund?" Indeed, the writer has asked him this question himself, and received the answer that the Fund has in the past been very kind to him, but that last Christmas, at a time when he had an offer of an engagement at £3 10s. per week from a well-known manager, another offer at £1 per week to act as a super in another company came from the Fund. He, unfortunately, but very naturally, preferred the former, which, however, through no fault of his own, ultimately fell through, so that he was then "between the Devil and the deep blue sea." It seems that from that time the Fund has closed its doors against him, and he is now absolutely destitute, having but a precarious existence at Rowton House, King's Cross. Could not a subscription be opened for him to enable him to go to the Colonies, where, even in his old age, he might have a better chance than in the Metropolis?—Yours faithfully,

W. PAYNE.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REHEARSAL CLUB GENERAL MEETING.

The postponed general meeting of the Rehearsal Club (originally fixed for Thursday, May 12) was held on Thursday afternoon last at the St. James's Theatre. There was a very good attendance despite the showery weather.

Miss FANNY BROUGH, who was in the chair, remarked in her opening statement, submitting the report for 1909, that she thoroughly appreciated the Rehearsal Club. Years ago on the St. James's Theatre stage she made her first appearance in London. It was a very great trial, and had the Rehearsal Club then been in existence she would have been a much happier little girl. She congratulated them accordingly on the success of the club. She regretted through the death of King Edward the date of the meeting had been postponed.

THE REPORT FOR 1909.

The Committee have much pleasure in announcing that Lady Louisa Magenis has consented to become vice-president of the Rehearsal Club, with the cordial consent of the president, H.R.H. Princess Christian. Lady Maud B. Wilbraham has been appointed to succeed Lady Louisa Magenis in the chair.

In issuing their annual report (with duly audited accounts) the committee feel that it is almost unnecessary to dwell upon the need for such an institution, since the keen appreciation, displayed by the members, of its advantages must be a proof that it supplies a real want.

The Rehearsal Club was founded in 1892 with the view of furnishing a quiet retreat to which minor actresses might resort between the hours of rehearsals and matinées and the evening performances. Many of these actresses live too far from their work to admit of their returning home during the intervals; and in such cases warm, cheerful rooms, where rest and shelter from inclement weather can be obtained, together with refreshments at moderate charges, must be an inestimable boon.

Among those accustomed to view the theatre only from the auditorium, few perhaps realise the amount of hard work involved in the rehearsal of a play, or can imagine the strain on nerves, brain, and body necessary to produce the precision of *ensemble* and brilliancy of effect which they have so much admired. The object of the Rehearsal Club is to afford the much-required repose and shelter to those for whom health means livelihood.

Everybody who appreciates the theatre must feel that it is their duty to assist the hardest-worked members of a hard-worked profession, and endeavour to make their lives less difficult, remembering that their exertions have often helped to distract our minds from our own cares and anxieties.

OUTSIDE HELP WANTED.

It must be evident to all that the the club can never be self-supporting, and that a central position is an imperative necessity, also a costly one, so the committee are obliged to depend on outside help.

The committee have again to acknowledge with deep gratitude Mr. George Alexander's unfailing support and kindness in lending his theatre for the annual meeting, which took place on May 4. H.R.H. Princess Christian was prevented at the last moment from attending the meeting.

The committee desire to thank most cordially Mr. Beveridge for presiding, and the following speakers who advocated the cause: Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Rosina Filippa, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. W. L. Courtney, Canon Holmes, and Mr. Reginald Owen.

Warm thanks are also tendered to the many kind friends who by special gifts have shown personal interest in the club.

INSPECTION INVITED.

The members' subscription is 2s. per quarter. The club is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and consists of comfortable reading and refreshment rooms, also a resting room where the members can be completely undisturbed. The reading-room is well supplied with books, magazines, and papers. Anyone wishing to see the club will be gladly shown over by one of the committee or the matron.

Subscriptions and donations may be paid to the hon. treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, 101, Queen's-gate, S.W., or into the Victoria-street Branch of the London County and Westminster Bank "to the credit of the Rehearsal Club."

Miss CONSTANCE COLLIER, in proposing a vote of thanks to H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein for her presidency, said her Royal Highness had intended to be present that afternoon. She had always taken the greatest interest in their profession, and it was a delight to thank her.

Mr. H. B. IRVING seconded the vote. As a profession actors were always forward in the cause of charity, but even actors had to take a second place where the Royal Family were concerned for charitable works. They were very grateful for the sympathy and support of her Royal Highness in connection with the Rehearsal Club.

Canon HOLMES proposed a vote of thanks to the committee. He said the modern woman was described as the bloodless daughter of a languid mother. There was always one delightful note to be struck at Rehearsal Club meetings. The speeches were always so optimistic. The committee worked very hard, and deserved a hearty vote of thanks. In olden times if actors and actresses walked in the streets they were branded on the ear. That law was completely obsolete. The Rehearsal Club had taken its place. The club had been formed to keep the actors and actresses from wandering in the streets to-day. A girl who was compelled to wander about the streets very often was unfitted for her work through sheer fatigue. If girl actresses wanted to become full-blooded healthy young persons he advised them to join the Rehearsal Club.

Miss LILIAN BRAITHWAITE seconded the vote of thanks. She said that she was proud of the fact that many of the theatrical charities were entirely supported by members of the profession. The need of the Rehearsal Club was abundantly shown by the ever-increasing number of the membership. The club was a boon to the overworked and tired members of the profession.

Miss COMPTON, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. George Alexander, said that the dust of the boards of the stage was not sprinkled with rose-water. Their club was a haven of rest. Their club was trumps. Mr. Alexander had the interests of the Rehearsal Club very much at heart, and had said many eloquent things on its behalf.

The Countess of BECTIVE seconded the resolution, and said she wished there were dozens and dozens of such clubs in London.

Mr. LYN HARDING proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Fanny Brough, and remarked that he had noticed in the "Green Book" autobiography there were a good many parts down to the credit of Miss Brough, but he doubted if there were one that was more to her credit than the way she fulfilled the part of a good angel at the Rehearsal Club. He was pleasantly surprised on a recent visit to that club to find what a cosy establishment it was. But he missed the picture of Miss Brough at the club. He thought that should be remedied and her photo framed and hung on its walls.

Mr. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE seconded the vote.

A FEATURE of the new Palace of French Industries which is about to be built upon the island site in the Strand will be a bijou theatre devoted to the highest class of Parisian productions played by the best French actors and actresses. There will be a special entrance to the Royal box and its apartments. This theatre will seat an audience of 800.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The many friends of Mr. Henri Gros will rejoice with him at the success of his son, Mr. Gustave Gros, who has just passed the solicitors' final examination.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rickards have just reached good old London, after a most comfortable voyage, from Melbourne, on the Orient liner Orvieto. The happy pair were met at Paddington by Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harwood, his son-in-law and daughter, and *The Era* representative. Mr. Rickards will talk business later on, and intends to go immediately to his English home near St. Peter's.

Mr. Alfred Butt's pronunciamento in the *Daily Telegraph* has been anticipated by a previous declaration concerning the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Ltd., of which concern he is chairman, with Mr. Walter De Frece and Mr. Walter Gibbons as directors.

As we announced in this page a fortnight since, Mr. Butt has secured a fine site for a variety theatre opposite Victoria Station by the purchase of the Royal Standard Music Hall—probably the London Hall extant—and five adjoining houses, with two shops. He has been working on this project for more than two years, and, having obtained a long lease, is going to make the new house a really magnificent place of entertainment.

"The entertainment to be provided," Mr. Butt writes, "will be different from anything in London. We shall cater for the middle-class. The feature of the programme will be sketches, operettas, and, of course, the best artists obtainable. The place will be fully licensed, and the prices will all be arranged on the 'popular' scale—that is to say, from five shillings downwards."

If all goes well, the new house will be ready by Feb. 1, 1911, the date fixed for the actual day of opening. It will be called the Victoria Palace, and on Monday the prospectus will be in the hands of the public. The shares will be ten shillings each, Mr. Butt himself is investing £5,000 in them.

One of the most successful playlets which has been seen in American vaudeville will be presented by Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre on Monday. This is entitled *An Unlucky Star*, and serves as a vehicle to reintroduce to English audiences that gifted actress Miss Fanny Ward. It would be unfair both to the public and artists to outline the plot, but it may be surmised that in this tabloid play—for it is indeed such—the audience will receive a distinct thrill and a real surprise.

Miss Ward, whom we last saw in Jerome K. Jerome's play, *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, at the Aldwych, will be assisted by a specially-selected little company, and it is a matter of regret that Miss Ward can only spare two weeks in London, as she is due to go to Marienbad for the cure, her strenuous work in America having somewhat impaired her health.

Mr. Ernest Leicester has, by arrangement with Mr. George Bellamy, secured a powerful dramatic sketch, to be produced at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday. It is entitled *Flat 13*, by Arthur Law Raynor and George Bellamy, part-author of *Slippery Jim* and *The Half-Caste*. Mr. Leicester has just concluded a highly-successful engagement in *Dame Nature*, supporting Miss Ethel Irving at the Garrick and Terry's.

Miss Marie Dainton, together with Miss Nina Sevening and Mr. Fred Kerr, were amongst the saloon passengers of the Cunard liner Campania which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday from New York. Miss Dainton returns from a very successful sixteen months' tour in America. She has appeared chiefly in vaudeville, and besides having performed at the principal theatres in New York, has travelled as far south as New Orleans, after completing a wide circuit in the East, embracing Boston, Philadelphia, and other large cities.

R. H. Kitchen, the father of Fred, Harry, and the late Dick Kitchen, celebrates his eightieth birthday to-day (Saturday). It is now seventy-three years since he was first apprenticed to Messrs. Frampton and Fenton at the Victoria Theatre, Waterloo-road, and he worked continuously for fifty-seven years, taking his farewell of the stage at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, at Christmas, 1894.

He is now the last of the old English school of pantomimists, and was the most noted clown of his day, being deemed the true successor to the great Grimaldi. He was also famed for his performance in *The Dumb Man of Manchester*. His many friends will be glad to know that he is, in spite of his great age, in wonderful health and spirits, and full of reminiscences of the "good old days." He was very disgusted that his son Fred made such a success as the policeman in *His Majesty's Guests*, it having been the old gentleman's boast that he had never played policeman, that being considered in the old days quite derogatory.

The Sketch Association having received the report of the Sub-Committee on the Amusements Act, has instructed the hon. secretary to approach the various kindred societies, with a view to convening a Conference to discuss the proposed Bill, and to consider amendments and alterations compatible with the general requirements, and subsequently to call a general meeting of all concerned before submitting the Act to Parliament.

As a sequel to the engagement of Lydia Kyasht, the famous Russian dansense, at the Empire, Mr. Guy Berenger is claiming commission from Mr. Montague Leveaux upon an agreement dated June 20, 1908, and in the Westminster County Court on the 17th application was made on his behalf to deliver six interrogatories. These were objected to on behalf of the defendant, but the Judge said he was prepared to allow four of them

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council have considered drawings showing proposals for the reconstruction of the Middlesex Music Hall, Drury-lane, on the site of the existing hall and adjoining premises. The new hall will have accommodation for about 2,700 persons. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, says the committee, the arrangements shown on the drawings appear to be satisfactory, and a recommendation to that effect was put forward by the committee at Tuesday's meeting of the Council.

George Ali, the famous Drury Lane Cat and Buster Brown Dog, applied to Messrs. F. H. Jotham and Morgan Thomas at Cardiff on Monday, the 20th, for a licence for Master James Hollom to perform with him at the Empire this week. The latter is thirteen years old in August, and Mr. Morgan Thomas inquired whether the lad was receiving education at school. Mr. George Ali said when in London the boy attended the Chapel Royal School. The licence was granted conditionally upon Master Hollom being sent to school.

Mr. Wentworth Croke must be heartily congratulated on the enormous success of his new tabloid version of *East Lynne*, which was produced on Monday evening last at the Camden Hippodrome, which was so great that Mr. Walter Gibbons immediately secured it for his entire circuit for sixteen immediate consecutive dates, starting at the Grand, Clapham, on July 11 next.

The New Theatre, Oxford, will remain closed until August, when it reopens with a variety programme.

The Hippodrome, Lowestoft, of which the proprietor is Mr. Geo. Gilbert, is closed for a short season for redecorating. The local justices on Monday granted the proprietor a theatrical licence for twelve months.

After five years' service as resident-manager at the Chester Royalty Theatre, Mr. C. B. Fountaine is leaving the old Deeside city to accept a similar appointment at the Opera House, Northampton. He will commence his new duties on July 18. Mr. Fountaine will still remain the valued servant of Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.

During Mr. Fountaine's *régime* the Chester Royalty has undergone considerable structural extensions and improvements, but the most important event during the five years of Mr. Fountaine's managership was the granting to the theatre of a music and dancing licence, which, combined with the dramatic licence, enables the management to give its patrons every variety of programme—a condition of things absolutely necessary to ensure financial success in a small city of less than 40,000 inhabitants.

Prior to coming to the ancient city, Mr. Fountaine was manager, for his present proprietors, of the Theatre Royal, Leamington, and for six years manager at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, in Scotland. Previously, for eight years he was on the stage, and had a promising career. He travelled with the famous Majilton family in *Round the Clock*, and was general-manager for Mme. Bandman-Palmer.

A pleasant surprise awaited Mr. A. Douglas Willcox, musical director of the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, on Saturday night, when he was waited on by a deputation of the Students' Council and made the recipient of a handsome silver mounted ebony bâton, suitably inscribed, in recognition of his services to the Edinburgh University students on the Students' Night, held at the King's Theatre.

Almost a "general post" game has been played at Ton-y-pandy, where Mr. Stone has left the Hippodrome to take over the management of the Empire. Mr. W. Pearson, late of the Empire, now holds the reins of government at the Hippodrome.

Linn and Darius will produce their new number, "If he had a girl like me," written by Messrs. Amstell and Lesser, at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield, on Monday next. They have scored a great success this week at the Palace, Hammersmith.

The Luna Park Palace (late Kursaal), Southend-on-Sea, commenced the summer season on Monday, June 20, under the able management of Mr. T. W. Wright, late manager of the Grand, Gravesend. An excellent variety programme was well supported.

Miss Dorma Morgan sailed for New York on Saturday, from Liverpool, by the Arabic, with her husband, Mr. Herbert Raymond, manager of the Regent Theatre and Opera House, Salford. During Mr. Raymond's temporary absence, Mr. R. H. Lee, secretary, will fill his place.

The report of the Tivoli, Manchester, calls attention to the effect of the Budget which raises the licence duty in respect of the refreshment side of the house by nearly £390, an amount practically equal to a dividend of 1s. per share on the ordinary share capital of the company.

In order to maintain the dividend of 4 per cent., the directors draw upon the equalisation dividend reserve to the amount of £750, leaving that fund at £4,250, and carry forward £308, as against £312 brought into the account. The report calls attention to the high salaries now being demanded by artists, the depressed state of trade, and the increased competition from picture theatres and skating rinks as causes leading to the lessened results of the year.

At Ystrad County Court on the 16th, before Judge Bryn Roberts, Mr. Lacy Lyne, theatrical manager, sued Mr. Will Stone, proprietor of the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Pentre, for breach of contract, and claimed £26 alleged to be due to him. Mr. James Phillips appeared for the claimant, and Mr. D. W. James for defendant.

It appeared that Mr. Lyne was engaged to manage the Tivoli from March last, at a salary of £2 per week, this arrangement to stand good through the summer season, and on August Bank holiday an arrangement was to be entered into for commission on the weekly takings. Owing to a dispute as to advertising Mr. Lyne was given fourteen days' notice to terminate his contract, which he would not accept, contending that he was engaged definitely on a fixed salary until August. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for £20 and costs. A counter-claim was dismissed.

The Empire, Whitley Bay, of which the resident-manager is Mr. Thomas J. Gregson, is the latest addition to houses of entertainment there, and opened on Monday with great *éclat*, many of the principal residents in the vicinity being present at the opening performance. Situate immediately on the frontal sea promenade at the foot of the Esplanade, and on the direct road from the railway station, the Empire occupies one of the best conceivable situations in the district.

It has a gracefully-designed exterior, built of brick, with the upper portion in terra-cotta, and is capable of holding nearly 1,000 people. The stage is adequate for small plays and dramas. It has been decided by the management for the present, however, to confine their efforts to the exhibition of the profitable "picture" shows, with a diversion into variety. Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, are heard this week in excerpts from popular operas.

Councillor T. W. Rowe, last year's Sheriff, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and managing-director of the Palace Theatre in that town, on Thursday, the 16th, received a valuable memento of his year of office and the appreciation of his colleagues on the City Council, joined with that of a few personal friends, of the manner in which he discharged his important duties. At a gathering in the Council Chamber he was presented with a beautiful fruit and flower epergne, two silver fruit dishes, and a silver tray, while his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Robert Rowe, who performed the social duties attaching to the office of Sheriff last year received a handsome fruit dish. There was a large attendance of Councillor Rowe's colleagues and friends, besides a number of ladies at the presentation. Sir Joseph Ellis occupied the chair. The Lord Mayor made the presentation.

The friends of Mme. Grimaldi will be sorry to hear that she has been lying seriously ill for some time at Sunningvale, Biggin Hill, Kent, with rheumatic fever. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler beg to notify artists, managers, and agents that they have removed from 12 and 13, Henrietta-street, to more commodious premises, situated at Charing Cross Mansions, Charing Cross-road, where all future communications are to be addressed.

Mr. Celian Kottaun, for long musical director of the Mohawk-Moore and Burgess Minstrels, had the misfortune on the 20th inst. to lose his wife. The lady expired through cancer. Nine years ago the twain celebrated their silver wedding.

The Empire, Camberwell, has been sold to Mrs. Louise Cissie Lawson by Mr. F. Postlethwaite, the debenture holder, who has been in possession. Mrs. Lawson notifies artists and others that all existing contracts are cancelled as and from June 18, 1910.

Miss Gertie Gitana had a tremendous send-off from two crowded houses at the Sunderland Empire on Saturday last. In the second house she was compelled to sing seven numbers and give two speeches before they would allow the next turn to occupy the stage.

Miss Lillie Langtry, who likes Australia as much as Australia likes her, has just finished a sixteen-weeks' engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards, and has been secured for another twenty weeks by that astute entrepreneur. Miss Langtry has in contemplation a visit to America.

Messrs. Pain and Sons' great pyrotechnic spectacle, "The Fall of Pompeii," is proving a huge success at the Crystal Palace, where performances are given nightly at 8.30. This marvellous show must be seen to be believed, the realistic eruption of Mount Vesuvius and exciting chariot races being truly wonderful.

Miss Adele Levey appeared at the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, for the benefit of Mr. James Kiddie on Wednesday, when she gave seven stories, two speeches, and three recitations, getting a very big reception and a lovely lot of roses. She has been offered the title-rôle, Dick Whittington, in the next pantomime at the Royalty, Chester.

Considerable interest has been aroused by the showing of a series of animated pictures at the Palace Theatre depicting the Empire Day celebration at Toronto. The chief interest in the set lies in the stirring example of the great cadet movement which Lord Grey has so assiduously fostered. On Tuesday night Lord Grey, the Governor-General of Canada, visited the Palace Theatre and saw the pictures.

Miss Melinda May, Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Miss Amelia Trapnell (Trapnell Family), giving and collecting £1; the Four Black Diamonds contributed 1s. towards a collection of 2s. 6d. made by Miss Mabel Mavis, per Mrs. Charles Coborn; Mr. James Fawn, 1s. (per Mrs. Chas. Coborn).

Will anyone please make an offer for the full set of fifteen large sized band books given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Please note, a prize will be given to anyone collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months commencing from Nov. 4 last.

Mr. George Robey combines with the serious duties of a music hall comedian the agreeable hobby of stamp-collecting. He appealed on Thursday from an order of Mr. Justice Bucknill, made at Chambers, giving him leave to defend in an action brought by Mr. Ginn, stamp dealer, only upon his bringing the amount claimed—between £200 and £300—into court. Eventually the Court allowed the appeal, thereby discharging the Judge's order, and giving unconditional leave to defend.

Mr. Jack Straw has gained possession of a most unique souvenir of last year's sports. It is a most elaborately bound album, containing all the actual photos taken of last year's events and groups at Stamford Bridge. He proposes to raffle the same at 6d. a ticket, and will be pleased to hear from anyone interested. His address is 212, Stockwell-road, Brixton, S.W. The proceeds will, of course, be devoted to the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Benjamin Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank Mr. Geo. Manners (Empire, Liverpool), 15s.; Bob Gates, 10s.; "Dekarro," 5s.; Brothers Miller, 10s.; Fred Neiman and Willie Benn (Variety Agency, 108, Strand, for office-box collection), 11s. Walter Norman and Fred Neiman have sent useful articles for the inmates. Men's cast-off clothes are always very acceptable. The next committee meeting will be held at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, on Thursday, June 30, at 12 noon.

We regret to hear that Miss Lola Lee, whose dancing was one of the principal features of a strong bill at the Empress, Brixton, last week, has had to cancel her engagement this week at the Gaiety, Chatham, as she is ordered by her doctor to take a complete rest for a few weeks. Miss Lee dances with such ease and grace that few realise the amount of hard work she has to put in, in the way of daily practice, and this during the hot weather has overtaxed her strength. We hope soon to hear that she is quite strong again.

Mr. Charles Coborn, writing from 40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, says: "It is very pleasant to observe the enthusiasm with which the news of our forthcoming sports at Stamford Bridge next month is being received and responded to by those who sympathise with the lot of their poorer brethren. Since I gave you an account last week of the very respectable number of friends who had come forward, many others have expressed the desire to take part in the matter of prizes, donations, &c.

"Last Monday I met Bransby Williams in his handsome automobile going to the Empire, Holloway. I demanded 'a prize or his life.' He evidently wished to preserve his 'napper,' so he compounded with me for a five-guinea prize. I went with him to Holloway and tackled Ernie Mayne. When I asked Ernie for a prize, he replied, 'Have a banana,' but on my explaining that that would scarcely be an adequate reward for a hard athletic struggle, he at once surrendered and promised a prize. The Elliott-Savonas sent me two guineas, and our old friend Willie Clarkson is sending along a prize, as he has often done before.

Miss Effie Cook, of the Follies, was married on Saturday afternoon at the Old Parish Church, Aldershot, to Mr. Walter Harte Johnson. Several professional friends attended the church, and among the presents were a grand piano from Mr. H. G. Pélissier, furniture from Miss Ethel Allandale and Mr. Lewis Sydney, tea services from Miss Gwennie Mars and Mr. Harold Barkinshaw, a silver cake basket from Mr. Dan Everard, a Sheraton settee from Miss Phyllis Dare, and silver vases from Mr. Fitzroy Gardner. The honeymoon will be spent in Devonshire and Cornwall.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, accompanied by her husband, Mr. John R. Nash, arrived in Southampton on Wednesday on board the White Star liner Oceanic from America, where she made her first bow to a New York audience. Her success was instantaneous. If her English bookings can be arranged, she will return shortly to tour the country. Miss Hawthorne commences her London season at the Pavilion and Canterbury next Monday.

Miss Lil Hawthorne has acquired the sole English rights, fully protected, of the two latest New York successes, "You are the ideal of my dreams" and "The Billiken Man."

Miss Maud Esmond, who is scoring all along the line with "Ship Ahoy" and "Charlie Brown," has just concluded a twenty-five weeks' run in London. She will return on July 4.

The piece *Music Hath Charms*, by Douglas Munro, favourably noticed by us in our last issue at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome, was played by the author as Major Logan, Mr. Arthur Chesney as Banks the Bandsman, and Miss Beatrice Marsdene as Amy. Mr. Haldane Crichton has purchased the entire rights of the sketch from Mr. Munro.

Miss Valli Valli, the English actress, who made a success in *Come Inside*, the Empire revue, before she was secured for the title-rôle of *The Dollar Princess* in New York, is returning to the Empire to play the leading part in an entirely new version of the revue *Hullo, London*, which is to be presented very shortly. Mr. George Grossmith, jun., is entirely rewriting the revue, with Miss Valli Valli as the central character.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, at the Empire, Edinburgh, gave scenes from "Pickwick Papers," and met with such great success that they were immediately secured by the Edinburgh Marine Gardens to return for their only vacant date this summer, July 11, being engaged to present their scenes from Dickens and also their humorous sketches. The week following they go to the Kursaal, Harrogate, after which they return to the Stoll tour for two weeks, then take a summer holiday at their bungalow at Laleham-on-Thames.

Last week we announced the coming of the Six Ceylons to the Euston Palace. They duly put in an appearance, and so great was their success that they were at once secured through their agent, Will Oliver, for three months, to commence on Monday next at Birmingham, by the new Butt-Beck-De Frece-Gibbons combine. *A Dream in an Opium Den* is the title of the new show, and other proprietors will doubtless soon include this up-to-date novelty in their bookings.

The management of the Crystal Palace announce a music hall competition to commence on Monday, July 4. Several gentlemen eminent in the world of entertainment have consented to act as referees. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings will be devoted to preliminary heats, and two competitors each night will be selected to take part on Friday in the semi-final, the four most successful competitors to be chosen to compete in the final on Saturday night.

The first prize will be £3 3s., with an engagement for the following week at £4 4s., and the second prize £2 2s. An entrance fee of 2s. 6d. will be charged. Competitors are requested to send in their applications at once, accompanied by remittance and addressed to Manager, Music Hall Competition, Crystal Palace. The management will endeavour to make arrangements for those wishing to appear at any given time and day, dealing with such requests in order of their application.

Elise Craven will play the name-part in a new and original scena entitled *Alcis*, to be produced for the first time at the Empire, Liverpool, on Monday next. It is a story of ancient Greece, written by the author-actor J. A. Bentham, with dances arranged by Elise Clerc and special songs composed by Denham Harrison. A strong company has been engaged to support the little maiden, including Richard Norton as Crœsus, Sydney Kearns as Brutus, Bert Clerc as Cophas, and Mons. Martini in a special dance as the slave. The scena will be artistically and elaborately mounted.

Apart from her great gifts, Elise Craven is just a delightful, unspoilt child, and the author has created a part for her suitable to her tender years, suggesting an atmosphere of purity, and giving her only sentiments of childish innocence to express.

Miss Margaret Cooper, the clever society entertainer, who has for so long delighted audiences at the Palace with her charming and humorous songs, was married quietly on Wednesday to Mr. J. Humble-Crofts, a son of the rector of Waldron, in Sussex. Only one or two close friends even knew that the lady was engaged.

Miss Cooper motored down from London with her aunt and brother, who gave her away, arriving at Waldron a short time before the hour fixed for the wedding. She was married in a travelling dress. The service was non-choral and simple in the extreme. A little wedding luncheon was held afterwards at the rectory, and later in the afternoon the couple left in a motor-car for a quiet spot in Kent, where the honeymoon will be spent.

Her many public admirers will be pleased to know, on the authority of one of her relatives, that Miss Cooper does not intend to retire from the profession of which she is such a distinguished member. She will be seen again at the Palace, where she has delighted so many audiences, in September.

Spending most of her early life at Brighton, Miss Cooper was trained for the concert platform. She also studied the pianoforte and the violin at the Royal Academy of Music, of which she is a fellow. Then she appeared at several concerts before she accidentally discovered her gift of humour in song. Mr. Alfred Butt discovered it, however, and offered her an engagement at the Palace, since when she has never looked back.

The twenty-one Russian Imperial dancers at the London Hippodrome will be seen on Monday next in a revised programme. Only one scene—the second—of the ballet *Le Lac des Cygnes*, will be given, and this will allow of special dances being introduced for the brilliant principals. For example, Mlle. Ludmila Scholiar, supported by M. Alexis Koeloff and ladies of the company, will give the dashing Danse Bacchanale from Savanoff's "The Four Seasons," and Mlle. Olga Preobrajensky and M. Georges Kiakscht will be seen in a Mazurka and other graceful movements.

Principal among the newcomers at the Coliseum on Monday are Harry Roxbury and Company with his tabloid sketch *On the Track*, written by his charming wife, Miss Vashti Wynne, the music being by Dudley Powell. The play is arranged to depict the further adventures of Detective Longfellow, a character which Mr. Roxbury has popularised on the variety stage. As Detective Longfellow he puts on various disguises, including those of office boy, railway porter, strolling player on the beach, and an old woman in charge of a bathing machine. *On the Track* is presented in three scenes, the first being a matrimonial agent's office, the second a railway station, and the third a scene on the seashore.

The Queen-Mother, on Thursday, accepted a poem, dedicated to herself and his late Majesty King Edward VII., written by Fred. W. Lauraine (late of Hector and Lauraine), an old Alhambra favourite.

We regret to hear of the sudden illness on Tuesday at the London Pavilion of Mr. Billy Merson, who had to be taken home just before his number was announced. His indisposition, fortunately, was but temporary, and he was quite in his best form on Wednesday.

The X Rays are now counted as one of the acknowledged attractions. They have played one hundred and twelve weeks without a break, and have only one week free this year. Next is nearly as full, and a third of 1912 also booked. The provincial Press are loud in their praises of this truly comical entertainment.

Mr. Maskelyne has been challenged by Sir Hiram Maxim to reproduce certain "spiritual manifestations" described by Sir Hiram in the June number of the *Strand Magazine*. Mr. Maskelyne has accepted the challenge, and proposes that a contest shall be arranged between himself and any spirit medium Sir Hiram can produce. Mr. Maskelyne's reply to Sir Hiram will appear in the August number of the same magazine.

Miss Jessie Templeton has just finished the Syndicate halls, and will shortly open on the Barrasford tour with new songs and dresses. She will play principal boy, 1910-11, for Mr. E. Dottridge in his pantomime *Cinderella*.

Mr. S. W. Wyndham has been repeating his former successes this week at Sheffield, where he has undoubtedly been the laughter hit of the bill. His new song by Harry Carlton, entitled "My Sunday's joint of meat," has turned out the biggest success he has yet produced.

After three years continually touring in England the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe are taking a well-earned holiday round the Mediterranean. They sail from Southampton on Tuesday next, and will return in time to open at the Empire, Wolverhampton, on Aug. 1.

At the Pavilion, Rothesay, recently Mr. McGaw, late assistant-manager at the Glasgow Coliseum, who has gone to the popular Clyde resort to fill a similar position, was presented by the Coliseum staff and friends with a purse of sovereigns, a suit case, and a travelling rug.

Mr. Harry Levaine was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' order on Friday, the 17th. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ted Karno, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Ted E. Box, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Mr. Dan Robans was initiated into the mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Ted Karno, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T., P.W.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist.

Messrs. F. H. Pedgrift (manager of *The Era*), Mr. Pedgrift, jun., Robert Barnes (Lecardo Bros.), and Fred Clair (Cash and Clair) have successfully passed the ballot as candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association.

The officers of the Terriers' Association for the month of July are as follow:—Terrier Fred A. Hooper, W.T.; Terrier Russell Brandow, V.T.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; Terrier Arthur Were, organist. In future the officers for W.D. and Y.B. will be elected every Sunday evening, and will hold office for the evening only. After election upon four separate occasions they will be qualified to stand for the next higher position. The innovation of "Fraternity Time," suggested by the secretary, was a great success upon Sunday last. On and after Sunday, July 3, the Sunday meetings will commence at 7.30 p.m. sharp, and conclude at 10.15 p.m.

The annual river outing of the Terriers' Association takes place to-morrow (Sunday). An excellent programme of sports has been arranged by Terrier Ben Woodger, and some fine prizes have been given by Terriers Ted E. Box, F. Larola, S. N. Salter, and Syd Walker.

Six women suffragists caused some excitement at the Metropolitan on Monday by the manner in which they protested against the production of the comedy sketch entitled *H.M.S. Perhaps*, by the Six Brothers Luck. As soon as the number announcing the turn appeared a woman in the front row of the orchestra stalls rose and said: "I protest against the ridicule this sketch heaps on the heads of women, and suffragists in particular." The woman got no further, for Mr. Leslie Gooch, the manager, had her gently carried out of the building.

Another woman immediately arose to continue the address, and by nimbly vaulting over her stall eluded the attendants for a time, but was eventually caught and ejected. Four other women mounted seats in other parts of the front of the house, and they, too, were removed, struggling desperately. A grey-haired woman, who attempted unsuccessfully to get on to a seat in order to protest, was asked to leave, and after some argument she did so. The sketch, in which one of the cast appears as a suffragist, was performed without further interruption.

The annual sports of the Aldborough Tennis Club were held last Saturday in their own grounds at Seven Kings. The weather was perfect, and the spectators enjoyed the day immensely. In the evening a variety entertainment was given, and the following artists were very successful:—Kashima, the sensational juggler, who performed several astonishing tricks; Miss Florence Hyde, in most amusing sketches at the piano; and Mr. Fred Percy, who sang "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "Tax the bachelors." Mr. Will Goldston, the entertainment manager for A. W. Gamage, Ltd., provided the three artists mentioned.

Mr. Tom Dunville has been talking to *Reynolds's* of his coat, an old familiar stage friend for twenty-two years. He said:—"The garment started life as a black alpaca bodice, the property of my mother, who lived at Coventry. I was not rich enough to indulge in a professionally-provided theatrical wardrobe, so I became my own costumier. Even in its palmy days that black alpaca was cut somewhat on the Queen Elizabeth pattern, and to it I added a lower storey, a frill, and an upper storey in the shape of a white linen collar—out of respect for Milton! The high shoulders and the tight waist I left alone, and they are there now.

"That coat is my mascot, and I estimate that I have worn it something like 18,000 times. I should hate to lose it, but all the same I cannot honestly say that I take tremendous care of it. Folk could have stolen it—I mean, taken it by accident—hundreds of times, but I suppose they have been afraid of having it identified. On the other hand, perhaps everyone is honest, or possibly they realise the solid fact that the dear old jacket isn't worth a cent. Once in a fire I lost everything I possessed in the stage property line save this coat, and that escaped the theatre flames because I had taken it to my hotel for alterations and repairs. Oh, yes, I always darn it up and patch it myself. It is just a mass of man-made mendings; in fact, I have to search pretty diligently to discover a remnant of the original."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE scenes at Messrs. Francis and Day's Charing Cross-road establishment on Saturday morning last, when the firm's twenty-ninth song annual and twenty-ninth dance album were issued to an expectant trade, nearly baffles and almost beggars description. The various houses who do the printing for the firm had for weeks prior been exhibiting to their hands the mystic words, "F. & D., 'Pull out,'" which to the initiated means much, and, reduced to ordinary language, stands for "Francis and Day job; take your shirts off to it." At the hour of nine a.m. all the great railway companies, and every one of the recognised carriers, whose names are household words, had their vans—many in Paris—in readiness, and in a short time the first twenty-five tons of printed matter had been dispersed. Offers of assistance had been made by business neighbours, and the use of additional space tendered, which latter was gratefully taken advantage of, and one of the first orders to be disposed of was a trifling item of 20,000 copies for Messrs. Paxton, of New Oxford-street.

SINCE Monday the orders have flowed in for copies in ever-increasing battalions, and the swiftest and most up-to-date creations of Hoe and Marinoni (who are the Worths and Peter Robinsons of printing engineering) have had their capacity for work put severely to the test. No better examples of what can be done for the ubiquitous shilling could be possibly dreamed of than these wonderful volumes, which enshrine between their covers thirty-eight of the best and brightest musical compositions of the day.

IN accord with the usual custom of the house, to-day (Saturday) will be devoted by Messrs. Francis and Day's staffs to jollity, and both the London establishments will be entirely closed for the ninth annual outing, which will take place at Batchworth Heath. Reserved saloons will be attached to the 10.5 a.m. from Marylebone station (Great Central), and the large party will detrain at Northwood, subsequently dining at Ye Olde Greene Manne Hotel. Mr. Charles Wilmott and Mr. William Eyke will occupy the chairs, and Mr. David Day will once again, as principal guest, make a June day look like it likes to look.

AT the Empire, Liverpool, Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has been once again achieving stupendous success with his present masterpieces of song, "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, and "Mister Owl," by Alfred J. Lawrance. Both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE second edition of Miss Ada Reeve's humorous song, "And just then he fell out of bed," which Messrs. Francis and Day are preparing, will be embellished with a new portrait of the fair artist.

ALREADY the orders from Douglas and Blackpool for Miss Florrie Forde's great songs, "Flanagan," "'Tis a faded picture," and "Rip Van Winkle," are assuming August-like proportions, and edition after edition follow each other in rapid succession. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of these sterling successes.

MR. WILL GODWIN, whose tremendous success, "If those lips could only speak," will be long remembered, has been congratulated on all hands on the receipt of the intelligence that the number promises in the United States to eclipse its great record as a seller throughout these islands. This is one of Messrs. Francis and Day's publications.

QUITE a number of artists have been under the impression that the popular numbers published by Messrs. Francis and Day under the titles of "The musical comedy girl" and "Rosie's young man" are free songs. But, like her latest successful item, "Miss Lollipop," they were specially written and composed for Miss Eileen Douglas by Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether. Great inquiry is current for each and all of the songs among patrons of seaside entertainers. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

GEORGE ARTHURS, who is rusticating at present at his bungalow at Shoreham, has, with Fred W. Leigh, once more fitted Mr. George Lashwood with a new and characteristic song, entitled "I forgot the number of the house." It is quite on the cards that it will be issued shortly by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AT the Alhambra Theatre Miss Ethel Levey has had the entire house with her nightly assisting in the chorus of Messrs. Francis and Day's "Pride of the Prairie, Mary." Not since "The Soldiers of the Queen" was sung at this house has such a thing happened. Miss Levey's rendering of the new song of Messrs. Francis and Day, "Little Knickerbockers," leaves nothing to be desired.

(*Continued on page 20.*)

"HOW NICK CARTER SOLVED THE MYSTERY OF THE LIVING DEAD."

New and Original Miniature Play, by Mr. W. J. Patemore, Produced on Monday, June 20, at the Bow Palace.

Stephen Hall ..... MR. HORACE DENTON
Jim Lee ..... MR. SANDERSON MOFFATT
Daniello Marstana .... MR. WILLIAM I. MILLER
Little Pietro ..... LITTLE PHILLIS HOWE
Sir Richard Harcourt ..... MR. LYN-OSCAR
Miriam Gray ..... MISS MABEL MANNERING
Nick Carter ..... MR. BERNARD MERVYN

The name of Bernard Mervyn has for so long been a household word in the music hall world, and the popularity of his many enterprises is so indisputable that the success of a new production associated with his name is invariably looked upon as assured. It is therefore not at all surprising that the production of *How Nick Carter Solved the Mystery of the Living Dead*—a sketch full of real human interest—should score a decided success. Played by a strong company, it gains by a fine exhibition of all-round acting; but the acting is not alone responsible for its success, for due praise must be rendered to Mr. Frederic Baugh for his personal supervision of the production.

The story follows the usual detective tale replete with the accustomed mass of circumstantial evidence, but in this particular instance the author has managed to so skilfully arrange the dramatic material at his command as to form a series of most exciting and dramatic incidents. In addition, quite a feature is the love interest running throughout. As Stephen Hall, the adventurer, whom Nick Carter eventually runs to earth, Mr. Horace Denton must be commended for some fine "heavy" work. Miss Mabel Mannering, late of the Lyceum Theatre, confirmed the reputation for artistic versatility which she has made in London by a dramatic yet pretty portrayal of the rôle of Miriam Gray. Mr. Bernard Mervyn played with his accustomed strength and composure, and had a part in Nick Carter for which he is suited as well as anything in his repertory. The remaining rôles were adequately filled.

MANAGERS and artists should note that Messrs. Ted Rawes and Arthur Clarance have now started a variety agency in Newcastle, and by doing so are supplying a long-felt want in such a large centre as Newcastle. Northern managers requiring first-class acts should communicate with Messrs. Rawes and Clarance. The latter gentleman is the son of Mr. Lloyd Clarance, well known in the profession. Mr. Ted Rawes is son of Mr. T. C. Rawes, proprietor of the Palace, Durham, and the Victoria, West Stanley.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE CANTERBURY.

On Monday, June 20, was Produced here a Sketch, entitled

"THE ALTAR OF DUTY."

The Doctor ..... MR. MONTE BAYLY
The Valet ..... MR. E. W. RICHARDS
The Woman ..... MISS DIANA HOPE

This proves to be a touching little dramatic episode of every-day life. The Valet informs us that Jack, his master, has met with a severe motor accident, and is lying in an inner room awaiting the arrival of a doctor. Now the doctor, who eventually arrives, is a man who has devoted his life to his profession and scientific research; consequently, he has lost the affection of his wife, whom, truth to tell, he has very much neglected. She, it seems, has transferred her affections to Jack, the very man who has met with the accident. When the doctor sees his patient he instructs the valet to ring up a specialist, for an operation is inevitable to save the young fellow's life. But the Woman gets to hear of the accident to her lover, and when she arrives to comfort the injured man the room is in darkness. "Oh, Jack," she cries, "where are you?" there is a sudden stream of light in the room, and, to her dismay, the doctor—her husband—confronts her. She gasps, "You!" "Yes," he answers, "Me." Cornered, the Woman reproaches her husband with his neglect, and they get to talk of their child. Whilst they are doing so, the specialist rings up to say that it is impossible for him to come to perform the operation. And thus the question of the patient's life rests with the man whose wife has practically been unfaithful to him. The doctor argues that if he does not operate the man will die. So he accepts the responsibility, and performs the operation, and it is likely that Jack will recover. Afterwards husband and wife have a common-sense talk. He points out to the Woman how much their child wants a mother, and he says that if she will come back to him he will give up all his scientific research and he will devote the autumn of his life to making his wife and child happy. The little sketch is a good one, and sympathetically acted by the trio concerned.

Mr. Fred Kitchen as Private Potts is in excellent form this week, and his gagging is greatly relished by South-siders; Harry Brown is doing extremely well, too; Stewart and Morgan and Charles Santon are two extremely clever and successful acts; the Knockabout Burnells and Lottie Lennox are great favourites with Canterbury audiences. Rose Hamilton, Rose Elliott, Ruby Emmerson, Bonnie Lexia, and Marie Pera collectively would be a bevy of beauty and talent; individually, their work is excellent, and well received.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

This week the proprietors have secured a really first-class bill, no less than three stars of the first magnitude being booked. Phil Ray, in his latest spasms and in his own particular style of abbreviating, is more than funny; and J. W. Rickaby, the popular burlesque comedian, has some new songs with catchy refrains, and takes well.

Arnold Bell has brought a new and interesting dramatic episode entitled *The Summing Up*, cleverly written by Hans P. Gore. The story is a love affair of a judge who is rather more familiar than the dignity of his office necessitates. The woman whom he betrays and afterwards scorns is left to the tender mercies of the world. She marries, however, but her husband falls on evil ground, and is to be tried at the Central Criminal Court. The wife the day prior to the trial interviews the judge, and pleads for her husband and child. The judge offers a renewal of the intrigue as the price of the acquittal, a proposition which the woman scorns. She makes a last passionate appeal to the judge, stating that she and her husband are more sinned against than sinning. The judge in his summing-up allows his better self to surmount his evil desires, and the curtain falls on his promise to dismiss the case. As the judge Mr. Arnold Bell is very forceful, and rises to the occasion; the Woman, as enacted by Miss Frances Campbell, is sympathetic and emotional; and the secretary husband is well portrayed by Mr. F. C. Robson.

The Brothers Brooks are sprightly comedy entertainers, their work is clean and crisp without vulgarity; Madge Allan is a chic comedienne and clever eccentric dancer; Percy Hannan is the possessor of a fine baritone voice, and uses it to the best advantage; Maggie Carr is a fine instrumental comedienne, her banjo playing and dancing being of the best; Francis and Alfred are good jugglers and jesters; the Spanish Goldini Troupe are distinctly clever with their carpet spinning, and their acrobatic feats are quite of the best on the road. The Bioscope is showing a new series of pictures, and takes well.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's new tabloid version of *East Lynne* fills the chief place in the bill here this week. We noticed it at length in our columns last week, and now it has quite settled down into a big success. It is a capital version of this ever-green story, and holds its audience firmly. Miss Beth Elliott plays Lady Isabel in a convincing and dramatic manner; while Mr. Leonard Yorke's rendering of Archibald Carlyle is in every way praiseworthy. The assumption of Sir Francis Levison by Mr. George R. Montford is a fine piece of work, drawing with a firm hand the character intended to be portrayed; Miss Muriel Marsden is a very sweet Barbara Hare; and Miss Madge Leverton makes a capital Cornelia Carlyle. Miss Winnie Rouseby, a clever little actress, is very sweet as Willie Carlyle. The scenic production is particularly fine, and the various sets are realistic in every detail, the Drawing-room scene being most effective. Mr. Wentworth Croke is to be heartily congratulated on the success of his latest venture.

Joe O'Gorman is as full of racy stories of his old friend Flanagan as ever, and he keeps all in continual good humour with his various yarns, while his songs are always agreeable, and the dance he winds up with pleasing. Miss Daisy James is full of boundless merriment and vivacity, and scores heavily with a couple of ditties, "Ship, ahoy!" being the most popular. Miss James's dresses are very smart, and her turn is much appreciated. Miss Ethel Stephenson, an accomplished musician with a rich contralto voice, in her rendering of Tosti's "Good-bye" to her own accompaniment proves a delight. Miss Ray Ford, a bright comedienne, has a taking number in "Won't you be my Ching-a-ling?" and also contributes a neat dance.

Goggin and Davis, a couple of grotesque knockabouts, do some clever tumbling and funny acrobatic feats; George Campbell amuses his audience with his songs; and the Kennedy Girls are a bevy of most energetic young ladies, who sing, dance, and give a display of ju-jitsu. In the latter Miss Lily Russell, who is a champion at the art, displays her skill, and great enthusiasm is aroused. Though last on the bill, Curtis Leo keeps the audience interested by reason of his clever and lightning conjuring feats. He performs a great number of tricks at full speed and with wonderful preciseness. The Bioscope, with new films, concludes the bill. Mr. Albert H. Adams, who has made himself so popular here, is leaving, and we wish him every success in his new sphere of activity.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Rarely have we met with a more completely attractive and agreeable programme than that which has this week been presented at this popular house. It is no mere form of speech to say that there is not a weak turn in the company or any suspicion of "padding" in making up the two and a half hours' entertainment, given twice nightly under the admirable management of Mr. Fredk. Phelps. A strong attraction is provided in Fred Karno's successful travesty on the modern music hall, *Mumming Birds*, into which are introduced new turns, while the cheeky boy and the drunken visitor in the boxes are still retained. Miss Gracie Gallimore sings with much success "Up among the mountains" and exhibits much skill in her concluding dance. The Maxims contribute a smart juggling and balancing entertainment; and Will Smythe, a coloured artist, sings "Home," and shows considerable ability as a buck dancer.

One of the best comedy sketches, entitled *Father's Footsteps*, presented by the Heriot Trio, appeals most successfully to the "Hippo." audiences; Montague Biggs tickles the house immensely as a female impersonator, the "make-up" and dressing being effective; and a hearty welcome is accorded to Dan Smart, an eccentric comedian, for his two songs, "It's enough to make a man's mouth water" and "I stopped there." Mimics, if their subjects are popular and their impersonations are at all faithful, are always sure of a welcome, and Lilian French's portraits of Vesta Tilley, Gertie Gitana, and others are wonderfully like the originals. Miss French also secures warm approval for her rendering of "When the summer sun is dying." The clever speciality act of Dent and Harris is another prominent feature of the programme, and Phil and Nettie Peters, Dutch-American artists, indulge in some funny business to the great delight of the house. Millie Doris, in the guise of a servant-maid, proves herself a born comedy artist, and sings with success "In my new place." The Whitworth Trio are trick cyclists of the best quality the complications of expertness in which they indulge being extraordinary. The Bioscope with a series of up-to-date and interesting pictures completes a capital programme.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The management of the above hall is having a special drama week, and has engaged Fredk. Melville's entire original London production, company and effects in the remarkable drama *The Bad Girl of the Family*. The company includes Miss Violet Crossley, whose portrayal of Bess Moore, the "bad girl," is most convincing. As Lieut. Richard Marsh Mr. Henry Hargreaves's rendering of the heroic rôle is very painstaking; Mr. Walter Thornton as Harry Gordon invests the character with all the necessary duplicity; Lord Erskine is admirably played by Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman; as Barney Gordon Mr. Walter Pemberton is decidedly amusing; and Mr. George Bellmore is well suited to the character of Jerry Holmes. The part of Honor Moore (Bess's sister) is deputed to Miss Catherine Carew, who cleverly plays a difficult rôle; and as Gladys Erskine Miss Daisie Cooke gives a sweetly sympathetic rendering. The play is effectively staged.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
The "CHANTECLER" HIT of "HULLO—LONDON!"

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

YOU WANT A SWEETHEART.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

"CHANTECLAIR;
OR, HI COCK-A-LOR-UM."

A Feathered Fantasy in Three Fits, Adapted from the production at the Ronacher Theatre, Vienna, Book by Joe Peterman, Music by Frank Leedam, Produced at the Oxford Music Hall on Monday, June 20.

Chanteclair ..... MR. EUSTACE BURNABY
Mother Goose ..... MR. LEONARD RUSSELL
The Fox ..... MR. IVAN BERLYN
The Cat ..... MR. JAMES LEARMOUTH
The Boosey Rooster ..... MR. ERNEST SEFTON
The Dog ..... MR. CHARLES ANSON
The Bantam ..... MR. WALTER BRODIN
The Magpie ..... MR. JOE PETERMAN
Elsa ..... MISS DORA LANGHAM
Hen Pheasant ..... MISS MADOLINE REES

The production of a good-natured travesty of Edmond Rostand's play *Chantecler* was first conceived at Vienna, and the ambitious sketch, entitled *Chanteclair; or, Hi Cock-a-lor-um*, produced at the Oxford on Monday, is avowedly a shortened version of that burlesque, which has been given in New York under the title of the *Barnyard Romeo*. Of the book not much can be said, simply because the dialogue is cut to the narrowest limits to give the necessary time for the musical numbers, which are invariably bright, tuneful, and inspiriting. But it is the mounting and dressing [illegible] *Chanteclair* its chief importance. [illegible] is filled with roosters, hen pheasants, guinea fowl, ducks, turkeys, and other wild and tame fowl, all costumed by Clarkson, who realises exactly the strength of the proverb: "Fine feathers make fine birds." The plumage of each feathered tribe has been wonderfully reproduced, and if genius be the art of taking infinite pains, then our Willie, of Wardour-street, for a certainty, may be said to possess it. The plot may be briefly sketched: Chanteclair falls in love with Nellie, the beautiful hen pheasant, but is rebuffed by Mother Goose, the hen's foster-mother, who ties her up in a cage and leaves her there for the night. Rescued by a mouse, Nellie is abducted later by the fox, to be rescued in the second scene by the faithful dog. In the third scene Chanteclair and the hen pheasant are married and all ends well, Mother Goose relenting before the final crow of the gallinaceous hero, who makes a somewhat inconstant sun rise.

In the title-rôle Mr. Eustace Burnaby strutted in the poultry run, just like the uxorious king of the farmyard, and sang the music allotted to him with much heartiness. An undoubted success is scored by Mr. Leonard Russell, another capital singer, as Mother Goose, who, if we mistake not, sings a prologue like the clown in *I Pagliacci*; and that capital character-actor, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, makes the most of his slender chances as the Fox. Mr. Ernest Sefton's continually repeated gag, "Come and have one," becomes rather tiresome, and his boozy rooster is scarcely effective; but Miss Madoline Rees is quite a sweet "chick" as the Hen Pheasant. The Magpie is made to comment on the politics of the day, a dragged-in reference to Lloyd George securing a hearty cheer. *Chanteclair* is not wildly funny, but the music is worth hearing, and the dresses should be the talk of London. Messrs. Reginald Cooper and Francis Bull and Co. are responsible for the scenery, and the three fine sets include A Poultry Run, The Home of the Fox, and Another Part of the Poultry Run. A more elaborate production has not been seen on the variety stage; and Mr. Blyth Pratt is to be congratulated on its completeness. Mr. Leon Bassett's orchestra play the music uncommonly well. The play has been produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Joe Peterman, who is running the company with Mr. George Ricketts.

THE EUSTON.

Rarely neat is the acrobatic show known as *A Dream in An Opium Den*, that has drawn the enthusiasm of patrons of the Euston during the week; and it must come as a novelty to old music hall frequenters to discover so much that is clever, agile, finished in technique, combined with a wonderful ensemble in working, as well as an occasional unobtrusive quaintness. The troupe has taken the title of the Six Ceylons, and consists of one lady and five lithe and graceful men. The scene is an opium den, of which the fair one is the presiding genius. All are dressed as Chinese, and the feats of the "crowd" are accomplished under the grimacing of a mechanical head. The tumbling throughout is delightful to watch, especially the table work. We are given to understand that this clever combination is already booked far ahead.

The humour of the programme is mostly contributed by Mr. Harry Tate, in his latest skit *Flying*. The "veri-ot-Tater-plane" is a fearful and wonderful thing; and the "flighty" engineer, who makes jokes about Farman, the interviewer, the corpulent mayor, with the irrepressible brass band, are all factors in the scheme of fun. Mr. Tate, whose costume is a cross between that of a diver and an Arctic explorer, talks in an airy way of spending a few thousands on the machine, and the aerial journeys contemplated by the "irregular flier" include little week-end jaunts to Ceylon and back to Chicago. The skit has worked up into a success, which is still growing.

Mr. Fred Russell's elaborate scene for his ventriloquial act, with its clever mechanical figures, fills the stage. Coster Joe now changes his costume behind a screen, and the parrot joins him in a cigarette which he lights. The whole show is droll in the extreme, the popular polythonist getting a big reception. Miss Ethel Loftus puts a good dash of low comedy into her rendering of "What about poor old father?" and certainly makes a hit. The sentiment of Miss Marie Blythe's song is exactly to the liking of her hearers, who take up the chorus with considerable heartiness. The twenty dainty little girls, who are gathered together as Haley's Juveniles, belong mostly to the ancient race, and one of them—quite a little mite—shows immense precocity in her dance. An older girl sings with decided charm; and the whole working of the show, with its effective stage groupings and business, reflects a deal of credit on its organiser, King and Benson, in a pot-pourri of song and nonsense, incidentally burlesque drama, but they have the ability to offer something better than the present show. Mr. Harry Bedford wins his greatest success in his quaint final dance; Mr. Ian Colquhoun, who opens with an Irish character impersonation, is responsible for a capital rendering of "Il balen" from *Trovatore*; and Miss Dolly Denton opens the bill. Mr. Victor Opferman's orchestra is heard to advantage, both as vocalists and instrumentalists, in the opening descriptive selection, "A Sailor's Life." A favourite item in the bills presented, under the direction of Mr. Fred M'Avoy, is Ruffell's Bioscope, always interesting, instructive, and up to date.

BEFORE Mr. Registrar Brougham on Tuesday the public examination was held of Arthur Bond Sayers, who stated that he was a musician, and held an appointment as musical director at the London Pavilion. He had been engaged in that capacity for eight years at a salary of £6 per week. He attributed his insolvency to his inability to recover £1,300 lent by him to a lady, also to extravagance and to losses by betting on the turf. The debtor said he thought that he had lost £400 or £500 a year by betting on the turf and an additional £50 by card-playing. In January last he found he had got to the end of his resources, and had recourse to money-lenders. The examination was concluded, the accounts showing unsecured debts £675 17s. 4d. and assets consisting of a doubtful book-debt £1,300, estimated to realise £500.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 19.)

Ever since Feldman's fifteenth song annual and fifteenth dance album were launched music dealers from all parts have been responsible for laudatory letters innumerable addressed to the Arthur-street house, accompanied in many instances by huge "repeat" orders. Considering that the first-mentioned volume contains, in addition to some thirty-five other popular "winners," such songs as "Somewhere," "I do like to be beside the seaside," "Oh, I must go home to-night," "I am longing for someone to love me," "Playing the game in the West," "Molly O'Morgan," "The pretty little girl from nowhere," and "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," this happy state of affairs is little to be wondered at.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are the happy possessors of "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmidt, which Mr. Arthur Aldridge, Miss Bessie Slaughter, and other artists of light and leading have done so much to make popular, and "All in a day," by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves, which Mr. Arthur Aldridge will specially produce at the London Pavilion on Monday week. Mr. Charles King, of King and Benson, will also feature "All in a day" at the Syndicate halls and throughout the Stoll tour in the new act which he is on the eve of producing.

Dainty Miss Kittee Rayburn when she opens at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, shortly, will make a special feature there of Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's delightful romance of the Seine, "Marie Louise," with which Miss Venie Clements was so successful at the Tivoli and other houses. This French "washing-tub" song, as it has been not inaptly designated by a professional wag, is a Feldman publication that should certainly go far in the near future.

Mr. George Lashwood is winning a most unequivocal success all along the line with "Mister Pat O'Hare," by Benjamin Hapgood Burt, which Messrs. Feldman and Co. publish. The genial George will also shortly produce a new song from the same pen (assisted by John P. Harrington, who has written special new Lashwoodian verses), entitled "Sing, Kate, sing!" which the go-ahead Arthur-street firm also publish.

Many inquiries are being daily made at Feldman and Co.'s establishment anent Chas. K. Harris's "Nobody knows—nobody cares," which, as rendered all round the Stoll tour by Miss Ada Reeve, has been a sheer delight.

Haley's "Garden of Girls" company continue to make Messrs. Harrington, Rogers, and Neat's delightful little pastoral romance "My sweet garden queen" the absolute *bonne bouche* of their artistic entertainment. This number, which is being extensively featured at the seaside and elsewhere, should appeal to singers of piquant and refined numbers.

"Oh, boys, I've seen you there!" by John P. Harrington and John Neat, is a Feldman publication with a rollicking and merry chorus, and is eminently suited to lady artists who are "gingery" in their methods.

The Anglo-Japs, a select party of entertainers, at present appearing at Cardow's Garden, Folkestone, are featuring the following Feldman numbers daily with prodigious success:—"Beautiful garden of roses," "Come over the garden wall," "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," "Marie Louise," "Dear little sunbonnet lady," "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing."

At Weymouth, Tom Carrick's Elite Entertainers are featuring Feldman publications. Notable successes sung by members of this troupe are—"Georgie took me walking in the park" and "Longing for someone to love me," sung by Miss Beatrice Moore, and "Somewhere" and "Beautiful garden of roses," sung by Miss Jennie Mackay.

Miss Ethel Beech, who has been making a phenomenal success at the Holborn Empire this week with "Marie Louise," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, will next week specially produce Harrington, Rogers, and Neat's delightful song "My sweet garden queen" at all her engagements. Both of these are Feldman publications.

Messrs. John P. Harrington, E. W. Rogers, and Orlando Powell have collaborated in writing two new numbers for Miss Hetty King, entitled "The West Pole" and "I'm afraid you'll have to come along o' me," which good judges predict will be two of the biggest successes ever sung by this versatile little lady. The same trio of writers have been specially commissioned to supply no less than a round half-dozen other songs for Miss King.

Dainty Miss Daisy Dormer is undoubtedly the hit of the Holborn Empire bill this week, what time she merrily chortles Harrington, Collins, and Trevor's catchy new coon number "You'll have to go, Mr. Snow." In this number Miss Dormer has undoubtedly found the biggest winner she has had for many a long day.

Miss Daisy James at the Syndicate halls, Miss Maud Esmond on the Gibbons tour, Miss May Mars and Miss Nina Wood on the Stoll tour, and Miss Josephine Crook on the Macnaghten tour are each making a huge hit with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's popular song "Ship ahoy! or, All the nice girls love a sailor." Needless to say, alfresco artists on every coast of the United Kingdom are featuring this "bright and breezy" ditty at all performances. The Star Music Co. who publish the number are having a record demand for copies.

Miss Ella Retford has secured from Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott the prior rights of a new song with an irresistibly catchy chorus, "I met little Mary Ellen at Th' Isle of Man." This popular lady is featuring this item at all her engagements, and is creating quite a sensational success with it. The Star Music Co. anticipate great things for this number.

Another song that people are beginning to "talk about" is a really charming chorus ballad, "I wonder if you care." In this song A. J. Mills, the well-known lyric writer, has excelled all his previous efforts, and has not forgotten the essential "strong last line." It is sufficient to say that Mr. Bennett Scott's music is worthy of the words. It and the song has proved an instantaneous success wherever sung. The Star Music Co. wish to inform artists that these are not free songs, and written permission must be obtained.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

Harry Leslie's Gay Lieutenants, a company of costume comedy entertainers, made their appearance on Monday evening and during the week, and fully justified the very marked applause which awaited their efforts in song, dance, sketch, or burlesque. The two ladies, Cecily O'Shea and Nan Taylor, possess vocal ability of no mean order, and Messrs. Alex. Rubinoff, Fred Shepherd, Jack Harris, and Arthur Holland in their respective lines performed meritoriously. In comedy we had the irresistible Griff Hodson, whose style brought back reminiscences of a famous Ethiopian comedian.

"THE BOTTOM DOG."

Sketch, by Arthur Shirley, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, June 20.

Rev. Arthur Carruthers ..Mr. Robert Gilbert
Sergeant Stubbs .....Mr. George Goodwin
Policeman .....Mr. Jack Williams
Bill Baxter .....Mr. Henry Bedford

This is an effective and pathetic playlet, lasting about twenty minutes, and, like the work of Robert Blatchford of the same name, it constitutes a piece of special pleading for that unfortunate outcast of our latter-day civilisation, *The Bottom Dog*. The sketch presents a variant of the well-known episode of the Bishop and the convict from Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables."

Bill Baxter is an ex-convict, who has been the day previous discharged from Portland, after completing his sentence of seven years. He is a wretched-looking tramp, and a kindly white-haired old vicar, the Rev. Arthur Carruthers, rescues him from the unpleasant attentions of the unfriendly villagers, and learning the sore straits he is in, invites the astonished man to supper, and afterwards to sleep at the Vicarage. Baxter is overwhelmed by the unlooked-for kindness; but when the clergyman is asleep by the fire his old evil nature returns, and after a short, sharp struggle with his better self, he forces open the glass door of a cabinet with his knife, and purloins a portion of the vicar's silver, subsequently escaping by the window. Carruthers then awakes to find the thief escaped with his plunder. He, however, is soon brought back in the custody of two policemen, and confronted with the man he has robbed. But the kindly vicar has resolved to save Baxter, and accordingly he tells the astonished officers of the law that the stolen silver was his gift to the outcast. When the police are gone, Baxter completely overcome by the clergyman's generosity, exclaims "Forgive me! I never had a chance!" "Your chance has come at last," says Carruthers. "Will you take it?" "Will I take it? By God, I will!" cries "the Bottom Dog," as the curtain falls.

The sketch which, by the way, is enhanced by a very pretty set scene of the interior of a country vicarage, was received with the utmost enthusiasm. That experienced actor, Mr. Henry Bedford, made a splendidly virile character-study of the outcast, Bill Baxter, being alike forcible and pathetic by turns. An admirable foil to his more declamatory methods was afforded by Mr. Robert Gilbert, in his suave rendering of the kindly vicar, Arthur Carruthers. Mr. George Goodwin was a smart Sergeant Stubbs; and Mr. Jack Williams did all that was required as the Policeman. *The Bottom Dog* should have a long and prosperous career at the halls.

The Hawkhill Picture Palace, Dundee, is to be let. It is a very comfortable hall, licensed for cinematograph, seats over one thousand, with back and side galleries; has a beautiful stage, complete with footlights, piano, fireproof box, and resistance. Offers should be sent to David Blackadder, 32, Castle-street, Dundee.

"THE IRON KING."

Drama, in One Act, by Edwin Birch, Produced at the Theatre Metropole, Devonport, on Monday, June 20.

Sir James Rawsthorne ....Mr. John Sargent.
Charles .....Mr. Conrad E. Stratford.
Wilson .....Mr. Ulick Burke.
M. D'Espion .....Mr. Charles Vivian.
Bill .....Mr. Leonard Aardale.
Mary .....Miss Winnifred Acton.
Kitty .....Miss Jessie Yatman.

The capable stock company of the Theatre Metropole produced on Monday a concise and pithy little dramalette bearing the title of *The Iron King* as a curtain-raiser to *East Lynne*. The author is a local county councillor, and his little work deals with the much-discussed topic of Capital and Labour, and incidentally a plot to cripple England's Naval Supremacy. Sir James Rawsthorne, who bears the soubriquet of the Iron King, is the proprietor of an extensive iron and steel works, and has in hand an urgent order for armour plates for ships of war. Wilson, the manager of the works, is in the pay of a foreign Power, and turns out the plates in so defective a condition that they must be rejected by the Admiralty. Wilson endeavours to poison the mind of the Iron King against his nephew, who occupies the position of under-manager, asserting that he is breeding strife and discontent among the workmen. Fearful that the contracts will not be completed in time, Sir James casts off his nephew, who, however, defeats a plot to destroy the works originated by Wilson, with the result that the scoundrel's true character is laid bare. The performance, which was under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress and several local dignitaries, was quite successful.

"BILL'S BROTHER."

A Musical Trifle, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, June 20.

Bill .....Mr. Alexander Loftus
Bertie .....Mr. Charles Addison
Bonsor .....Mr. E. W. Chewd
Mabel Carr .....Miss Muriel Mascot
Grace Joy .....Miss Madge Prior

This little musical play, which Mr. Alexander Loftus produced on Monday, had a most successful send-off. It takes us back to the ever-popular *New Barmaid* musical comedy, and the scene is that of the Pussy Cats' Club, where the members certainly don some most enticing costumes. Bill's brother Bertie is the head waiter, while Bill, who has been more successful in life, is a new member, and learning that a new barmaid is expected he plays a joke on the members by impersonating the eagerly-looked-for lady, and the results are extremely diverting. Mr. Loftus is a host in himself as Bill, playing with much humour, and his scene when he takes over command of the refreshment department is decidedly comic. Much help is also given to the laughter-raising by Mr. Charles Addison, who is in fine form as Bertie, and he scores heavily with his clever dialect song. The other parts are well sustained, and there is also a chorus of charming ladies. The scenic part of the production is elaborate.

"AN AMATEUR ANARCHIST."

A Comedy Playlet by George Arthurs, Produced at the Empire Palace Theatre, Edinburgh, on Monday, June 20.

Olga Petrovitch .....Miss Lillian Roseberry
The Count .....Mr. Leo Minster
Adam Armstrong .....Mr. Carter Livesey

It must at once be said that Mr. Arthurs has added another successful play to the many excellent pieces which are being presented on the music hall stage. There is humour in the dialogue, and the plot contains an exciting situation which compels the attention of the audience. The scene is laid in the flat of Olga Petrovitch, at Richmond, where she and her fellow conspirator are awaiting the arrival of a dangerous bomb with which they intend to deal a blow at the British House of Commons. Adam Armstrong, a supposed servant in the employ of the Lightning Express Company enters with a box, for the safe delivery of which he asks the Nihilist's signature. She resolves, however, to win the apparently simple Yorkshireman to her base uses, and by alternate cajolery and threats she seems to have gained her point. Locking the doors of her room, and shutting out the only means of escape—for the river runs beneath the window—she bids Armstrong open the box to obtain the bomb. The Yorkshireman, having obeyed her command, turns the tables on the two plotters, and vows that he will dash the bomb upon the ground unless the doors are opened. The Nihilists, in fear of their lives, obey. Armstrong throws the deadly explosive into the river, whistles to two constables, who enter the apartment, and discloses himself as Detective Armstrong, of Scotland Yard, as the curtain falls.

The little play is admirably acted. Miss Lilian Roseberry's prepossessing appearance, and undoubted dramatic power, make her an ideal representative of the fascinating and dangerous Russian. Her scene with Armstrong was cleverly done, and the varying expressions of tenderness and passion were splendidly enacted. Mr. Carter Livesey's impersonation of the messenger was characterised by humour and power. The theatre rang with laughter at his droll sayings as the Yorkshireman. The dialect was perfect, and the dénouement was powerfully played. Mr. Leo Minster had little to do as the Count, but did that little adequately.

Mr. W. F. Frame does not pretend to be a rival of Mother Shipton as a prophet, though he "pictures" the possibilities of the future. He writes:—"This is the twentieth century—in the twenty-second century we are likely to see a lot of things we don't see now. In that century there shall be airships, steamships, but no hardships; everything shall go faster, except a woman's tongue (it can't). You will be able to go to bed in Europe, rise next morning and get to New York by 8 o'clock, either morning, noon, or night. By airship you will be able to cross from London to Calcutta without either catching a cold or a collection, sampling Madras, Bombay, and the snowy-cladded peaks of the Himalayas on the way."

FELDMAN'S

PIERROT PLUMS.

SOMEWHERE.

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.
THE PRETTY LITTLE GIRL FROM NOWHERE.
IT'S THE ALPINE DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
MOLLY O'MORGAN.
BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
OH! I MUST GO HOME TO-NIGHT.
COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
IN THE ARMY.
COME OVER THE GARDEN WALL.
I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
MOON, MOON, MOON.
PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
SHE'S A GIRL UP NORTH.
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF THE GIRLS.
I'M LONGING FOR ONE SIGHT OF YOU.
MY SWEET GARDEN QUEEN.
SWEET LITTLE SUN-BONNET LADY.
GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
IT'S THE GREEN, GREEN RIBBON.
MARIE LOUISE.
PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.

AND MANY OTHERS.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

JAP PLAYERS AT THE COLISEUM.

"THE TEA-HOUSE,"
A Japanese Drama, Produced on Monday, June 20, at the Coliseum.

Murasaki .....Mme. Hanako
Otyo .....Miss Massa
Tosa .....Mr. Murakara
Dampe .....Mr. Sakati

Writing in the first year of the century, Mr. Osman Edwards says of the Japanese theatre:—"Certain improvements in histrionic and scenic matters have been introduced, but no development in construction and character-drawing, as we understand those terms, no change in the peculiar ethical and feudal teachings of the Yedo period has supervened. Enter a Tokyo theatre to-day and you will find yourself in Old Japan. . . . I find an exquisite instance of Japanese subtlety, however, in the mingled devotion and ferocity of their popular plays. The heroine is either a geisha or a courtesan, exposed by her profession to the worst caprice of passion or of fortune." Such, indeed, is Murasaki, a geisha, presented to Coliseum audiences on Monday for the first time by the incomparable Japanese actress Mme. Hanako, who thrilled Hippodrome audiences a couple of years ago in the *petite* tragedy *Otake*. This geisha has discovered an intrigue between Dampe, her lover, and Otyo, her servant; but the rising storm of jealousy is arrested by the suave explanations and assurances of unalterable affection on the part of Dampe. The arrival of Tosa, a rich Samurai, who wishes to see Murasaki, sets matters going in another groove. After the man of money and influence has taken tea with Murasaki and Dampe, he asks for a dance from the geisha, who fascinates him by her art and grace. He is reckless in his reward, and the sight of gold arouses the cupidity of the girl, who makes up her mind to rob him. When alone with Tosa she drugs his tea with a potion, and he is in a state of collapse, when Otyo administers an antidote, and Tosa recovers, to discover that he has been robbed. Going off in search of Murasaki, that lady enters, and, discovering that Tosa has not been killed, she becomes enraged, and rushes upon the servant and throws her on the bed, intending to kill her. Tosa enters bent on vengeance, and, mistaking the figure on the bed for Murasaki, he kills the servant. Just then Dampe returns and attempts to fight Tosa, but is overpowered and killed. At this moment Murasaki appears. Horrified at seeing Dampe and Otyo both dead, she attempts to escape, but is seized and strangled by Tosa.

Mme. Hanako as Murasaki has a part in which she can be both tragic and serious, and in her pretty Japanes way she is most fascinating in the lighter scenes, and the terror exhibited at the prospect of Murasaki's certain death is very genuine. The dance, too, has a dainty grace and charm eminently languorous and Oriental. Mr. Murakara is terribly in earnest in his murderous (stage) work, and the complete self-satisfaction exhibited as each homicide is committed is somewhat curious. Mr. Sakati and Miss Massa, as Dampe and Otyo, contribute to the success achieved.

Miss Cecilia Loftus, on her return after a short indisposition, is reviving her successful impersonation of Miss Gertie Millar in the Moon Song from *Our Miss Gibbs* and the imitation of Mme. Clara Butt in the singing of Liddle's setting of John Keble's hymn "Abide with me"—an admirable vocal effort, which gains immensely by its contrast with the light-hearted delivery of "Sue" as given by Miss Ada Reeve, or "The keys of heaven" as sung by Yvette Guilbert. No one has such a comprehensive range of imitations as Miss Loftus. Another interesting turn in the Coliseum bill is Torbay, the silhouettist, who, in his comedy scenes on the white screen, can even put expression into the eyes—a veritable *tour de force* in hand-shadows with which one is not familiar. Humpsti and Bumsti (Pipifax and Panlo) are among the drollest of clown acrobats; and the famous Russian dancers are still popular contributors to the bill directed by Mr. Dundas Slater.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Mr. Morton Stephenson's Prelude to Act. II. from *St. Ursula's Pilgrimage*, MS., came first in the orchestral concert given by the students of the Royal Academy at Queen's Hall on Tuesday afternoon. If Mr. Stephenson is somewhat indebted to the great composer of *Tannhäuser* for inspiration in his Prelude he certainly displays no small amount of skill in composition, and the orchestra, under Sir A. C. Mackenzie, gave an excellent account of the new work. The second novelty on Tuesday afternoon was "Dawn in Fairyland" (MS.) for Soli Female Chorus and Orchestra, by S. Hartley Braithwaite, student. The First and Second Fairies sing short solos alternately of no special interest, and the composition winds up with a general chorus, by far the most attractive feature in the "Dawn in Fairyland." The composer, who writes cleverly for the orchestra, was called on, and warmly applauded. Miss Gertrude Walton and Miss Lilian G. Rickard were the soloists. Miss Edythe Goodman sang the scena "Joan of Arc's farewell" (Tschaikowsky) in German with a fair amount of success, and Mr. S. Wilson-Thornton displayed artistic refinement and a pleasing but not powerful voice in "Lohengrin's Farewell," a somewhat ambitious task. In her piano solo of César Franck's Symphonic Poem "Les Djinns," Miss May Matthews proved herself an able executant, and Miss Evelyn Dawkin received well-deserved applause for her brilliant rendering of Allegro Scherzando Presto, from Saint-Saëns's Second Pianoforte Concerto in G Minor. Vieuxtemps' Fantasia Appassionata for Violin was cleverly played by Miss Elsie E. Spencer, and a charming performance was given of Saint-Saëns's dainty Tarentelle for Flute and Clarinet, by Miss Edith Penville and Mr. Edward J. Augarde, two very talented students of the Royal Academy. The duet "How sweet the moonlight" (*Kenilworth*), Sullivan, was well sung by Miss Phœbe Cooke and Mr. F. Ernest Osborne, the latter having a pleasing and well-trained voice. Another clever student was Mr. Benno Pitt, who was set down for Max Bruch's 'cello solo "Canzone." The orchestra, under Sir Alexander Mackenzie, gave valuable support in the various instrumental and vocal items, and concluded the programme with a performance of the Gipsy Scene from *Capriccio Espagnol*, by Rimsky-Korsakow.

A SICK SONG-WRITER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I plead the cause of Mr. Chas. Hilbury, a well-known music hall song writer, and associated with many modern successes, amongst them being Miss Vesta Tilley's "Sidney's Holidays are in September," Bella and Bijou's popular "Suffragette" sketch, Miss Minnie Payne's Directoire song, and many others?

He has been seriously ill for some time, and has his mother to support, in which duty he has been very much handicapped by the recent necessity for an operation performed in the Charing Cross Hospital, from which he was discharged only three weeks since.

Having regard to his weak state of health, and the anxiety of domestic matters, it is decided to make an appeal to the many artists who have enjoyed successes from his pen, and to this end a large number of lists have been sent out by the hon. sec. and treasurer of the fund—Mr. Fred Murray—to which a generous and ready response will be welcome.

Mr. Murray's address is 48, Offley-road, Brixton, and he will be only too happy to acknowledge any assistance to the case.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES WILMOTT.

142, Charing Cross-road, W.C., June 23.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Walter Stanton on Rinking.

MR. WALTER STANTON, the British Amateur Champion of roller skating has been giving his opinions on some phases of the pastime. He says: "Much has been written forecasting the early downfall of roller skating, and decrying the game as a sport, but no endeavour has been made to justify its claims to be an athletic exercise and an amusement as well. Surely such a game as roller skating, which combines in itself amusement, athletic exercise, and beyond all skill, is one which compares favourably with any sport followed by us."

Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

MANY persons predicted a short life for roller skating, but one only needs to have a look at the Pleasure Beach Rink, Blackpool, and see the number of learners, and one will probably come away with a different opinion. Although this rink was only opened at the commencement of last season it soon become one of the most popular rendezvous for skaters. Mr. J. D. Tweddell, the manager, has had the large building redecorated and the floor re-surfaced, until now the pastime at this rink is a positive delight. The instructors are under the management of Mr. Harry Ingham.

Good Business at Blackpool.

MR. SULLIVAN, who is displaying considerable enterprise and originality in his management of the Colosseum Skating Rink at South Shore, Blackpool, is shortly introducing quite a new feature. On Friday evening, July 1, a skating ball will take place, when a unique programme will be presented. Plain skating will be strictly tabooed that evening, and the programme will be composed wholly of waltzes, two-steps, lancers, and other dances on skates. During the intervals between the dances, exhibitions of ornamental skating will be given by an expert of international repute. As the lady skaters will all be in summer attire and the gentlemen in flannels or tennis suits, the assembly will have quite a bright and picturesque appearance. Some of the best skaters from inland towns will probably attend. Another innovation introduced by Mr. Sullivan, and one which has found much favour with the ladies, is afternoon tea skating parties.

Monohan at Burslem.

ALL lovers of roller-skating have enjoyed the exhibition of "The Great Monohan" this week. Monohan performs in a most sensational and daring manner. His entertainment on Monday evening was marvellous, and was enthusiastically applauded by the goodly number of people present. Monohan opens his exhibition with a spread-eagle on the heels, traversing the rink several times in that position. He gave a fine imitation of a "kettledrum," while another, that of an express train, was loudly cheered. Apart from this novelty skating, Monohan performs very gracefully in an American two-step, in the course of which he introduces several clever toe spins. Undoubtedly his most daring feat is steeplechasing over twelve chairs, placed three deep, and about six yards apart. Monohan, without wasting time to get up speed, cleared the whole of the chairs.

Dorchester Rink Re-opening Date.

ON the recommendation of the Buildings Committee of the Dorchester Town Council it was decided to close the local rink for the remainder of the month of June and for the months of July and August. The rink will reopen in September.

Lawson Leaves Hanley.

VISITORS to the Olympia, Hanley, will miss a familiar figure from the rink through Mr. W. E. Lawson leaving on Saturday last. Mr. Lawson, who won the mile professional championship of Staffordshire a few months ago, was recognised to be the best all-round skater in the district. His trick and figure work is very smart, and, assisted by the fact that he is somewhat of a contortionist, he is able to perform some very remarkable antics on the rollers.

H. D. Anslow's Appointment.

H. D. ANSLOW has been appointed to the post of general-manager at the Empire Rink, Harrogate. Until quite recently he officiated as floor-manager at the Dragon Rink, in which capacity he earned golden opinions from all. He has been on the rollers ever since the craze caught on, and may be justly said to be as much at home on eight wheels as on terra firma. Anslow formerly held similar berths at the Sunderland, Dublin, and Leeds American Roller Rinks, and his wide experience of the various modes of rinking should prove highly acceptable to Empire patrons. He proudly displays trophies carried off within the last two years, numbering, amongst his doubtless fine achievements, first place in the following races: One mile championship of Harrogate, skates—motor-cycle (Mackay); relay race, with three opponents; mile race with Sam Gilbert (Coventry), and half-mile race at Dublin.

"Lucky Spot" Nights.

IN the course of a case against the proprietors of a Leeds skating rink under the Gaming Act of 1802, it was explained that there were placed on the raised edge of the rink numbers from one to 286. At a signal the skaters went to the edge of the rink and each stood in front of a number. Numbers were then drawn from a bag, and the persons who were standing before figures corresponding to those drawn were given prizes, which included books of free tickets and skate bags. The contention was that there was no exercise of skill, and the prizes were won absolutely by chance. On behalf of the proprietors of the rink it was stated that the "lucky spot" nights had been discontinued, and that they were organised more as an advertisement than anything else. The summonses were dismissed on payment of costs.

Clever Mumbles Skaters.

MASTER GEORGE TWOMEY is the son of Captain Twomey, the Mumbles Piermaster. Young Twomey, when eleven years old, went to the Neath Rink and won the one mile South Wales championship, the prize being a silver cup. At London he won the L.S.A. medal. Going to Neath again, he won the silver cup for the second time, and it then became his property. At Pontardawe he won the Swansea Valley Cup, and he has given exhibitions at Glanamman and Pontardulais, and on Saturday next he is open to race anyone in South Wales for a mile at the Mumbles Pier and concede 20 yards start. Master Twomey is twelve years of age, and has won two cups and eight medals during the eighteen months he has been skating.

Dolly Mitchell at Reading.

FOLLOWING on the visit of Monohan to Reading, Dainty Dolly Mitchell has been giving displays of interest to skaters and spectators alike, and so great has been her reception at the Central Rink that the proprietors have engaged her for another week. This charming little skater has been described as the daintiest and prettiest skater in the world, and her displays at Reading have met with tremendous receptions and applause. She excels at figure and fancy skating rather than speed. She executes difficult gyrations in perfect and elegant style.

Hockey at West Stanley.

THE hockey competition commenced last week at the West Stanley Skating Rink is being continued this week, when it is expected the final heat will be played on Saturday. It is attracting considerable attention.

"UNDER THE WHITE ENSIGN."

Tabloid Drama, in Three Scenes, by Commander Neale, R.N., Produced at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, on Monday, June 20.

Admiral Sir Thomas Masterman ..... MR. WALTER MACEWAN
Captain John Hardy, C.B. ..... MR. E. VAUGHAN
Commander Hon. Reginald Mannering ..... MR. R. RAYMOND
Lieutenant Percy Milroy ..... MR. HARRY GILBEY
Mr. Arthur Cameron ..... MR. FREDERIC MONTI
Reid ..... MR. HARRY SEYMOUR
Clare Melrose ..... MISS EDITH LEWIS

Life on a battleship as it really exists is to be seen this week at the Surrey. The outside of the historic house is decorated from top to base with naval flags and bunting, and the entrances are adorned with specimens of naval warfare, amid which a field gun, eight 13.5 shells, and a like number of shrapnel—all Government property—figure formidably. Such instruments of war give only the merest suggestion of the realism which is to be found within the walls of the Surrey, for the sketch *Under the White Ensign* can claim to present the nearest approach to a veritable ironclad ever achieved on the music-hall stage. The quarter-deck of H.M.S. Inflexible has been reproduced from registered photographs, and is det to scale, every detail of the ship's equipment being observed, from the machine gun on the main deck to the flashlight dispensing its rays aloft. There is, moreover, a naval court-martial, the proceedings of which are in exact conformity with the regulations. Nor does realism end here, for the author is a retired naval commander, the paymaster of the play has actually held that position in real life, and even the marines who take the villain prisoner have served in that capacity on a man-of-war. Finally the sketch is produced by a retired naval officer—Mr. Roy Cochrane, the respected manager of the Surrey, having for ten years trod the deck of battleship.

With such a wealth of spectacular attractions the plot of the sketch becomes of only minor importance. Nevertheless, an engrossing story full of dramatic episodes and containing elements of novelty is furnished. In an admirable reproduction of the "ward-room" of H.M.S. Destructible, a party of officers have assembled to congratulate the Hon. Reginald Mannering on his appointment to an important command. In his speech of thanks the young officer announces his engagement to pretty Clare Melrose, much to the disgust of Lieut. Percy Milroy, who had hoped to secure the young lady for his own. He does not give up hope, however, for after a diverting "skylarking" scene, he gets the wine steward to drug Mannering's drink, with the result that the latter gets excited and attempts to assault Milroy, who has insulted Clare, but the blow is received by Captain Hardy, who rushes between them. The Naval Discipline Act, provides heavy penalties for drunkenness and for striking a superior officer, and Mannering is brought before a court-martial. Then it is that Clare proves herself worthy to be a sailor's bride. The court-martial sits, and the case for the prosecution makes things look very black for Mannering, when Clare gets admitted as a witness for the defence, and tells how she yielded to Milroy's solicitations and went to his rooms, having first, however, induced a friendly midshipman to hide within earshot. Here she not only extracts from the Lieutenant an admission that his accomplice had dosed Mannering with a powerful Chinese drug, but gains possession of a bottle of the narcotic, which she produces in court, together with the midshipman's affidavit confirming her statement. As a consequence Mannering is honourably acquitted and restored to his intrepid sweetheart while the Lieutenant is dismissed the service.

Miss Edith Lewis heads the company, and makes a ladylike Clare Melrose, charming in her scenes with her lover, and thrilling in her description of the adventure by which his innocence is proclaimed. Mr. R. Raymond acts the hero with virile power and excellent elocution, and Mr. Harry Gilbey brings dramatic qualities to bear in his impersonation of Milroy. Mr. Walter MacEwan, a sound actor with a well-measured delivery, makes a distinguished Admiral; Captain John Hardy has a breezy exponent in Mr. E. Vaughan, and an irrepressible midshipman who, besides aiding beauty in distress, provides a refreshing breath of comedy is represented in excellent style by Mr. Fredrick Monti. The uniforms and appointments, we are convinced, would pass the strictest scrutiny of the Admiralty department, and the whole production has won the approval, not only of the nightly-increasing audiences, but of members of the Navy Club and others connected with the naval world, who have made special visits to the hall. The scenery is all constructed in the telescopic fashion, by means of which it could be adapted to any stage, and the production will add to the attractiveness of many a variety bill.

A. C. Rees Goes to Swansea.

A. C. REES has been appointed floor-manager of the Swansea Alexandra Rink in succession to Mr. Rogers.

"IRON BARS."

A Dramatic Episode, by Frances Delaval, Produced at the Islington Empire on Monday, June 20.

Philip Ainsley ..... MR. WM. MATTHEWS.
Jack Trevalion ..... MR. ARTHUR ELWYN.
Warder ..... MR. F. WILSON.
Magdalene ..... MISS FRANCES DELAVAL.
Housekeeper ..... MISS PHENIE POWER.

The scene is Philip Ainsley's studio in a village on the Cornish coast. The famous artist is about to be married to the sister of Jack Trevalion, a young squire. A conspicuous object in Ainsley's studio is the picture of a charming young fisher-girl. It is a masterpiece in its way, and when publicly exhibited did much to make the painter known. Trevalion, who has called at the studio, has his attention attracted by the portrait, and asks what has become of the original, who he himself knew years ago. The reply he receives is that the girl, Magdalene, went to Rome, where she died of fever. Trevalion confesses that he was much interested in the young girl, and had he not thought that Ainsley had a prior claim he would have asked her to become his wife. The artist thereupon tells his friend that he has had a lucky escape, for the girl had a furious temper. Trevalion taking his departure, and the artist, communing with himself, admits that while his picture is considered a masterpiece he hated the original, and wishes that he could forget her as easily as he draws the curtains that conceals the painting from view. The story he told Trevalian was false; the woman is confined behind "iron bars" on a charge of having murdered her own child. A thunderstorm threatens, and from his housekeeper Ainsley learns that a mad woman has escaped from the asylum at Portland and the keepers are searching for her. Ainsley is evidently alarmed, for he fears that it is Magdalene, and that she will pay him a visit. If she does he is determined to kill her, whatever the risk, rather than she should interfere with his plans. Years ago he made Magdalene, the artist's model, his lawful wife. During his absence she enters the studio by the window, and here she is discovered by her husband wearing the same garments that she wore when he painted her picture, she having discovered them hidden away in the studio and hastily donned them. He declares to her that the child of whom she is in search has been murdered by him, and that he has caused her to be imprisoned on the false charge of having killed it. The woman, rendered desperate, destroys the picture of herself with a knife, and in the course of a fierce struggle with Ainsley she stabs him to the heart. At this moment a warder from the asylum makes his appearance, and takes charge of her. While the handcuffs are being placed on her wrists, she exclaims, "I'm nothing to him now," and the curtain falls.

Miss Frances Delaval was completely successful in riveting the attention of the audience by her very powerful assumption of insanity. It was indeed a realistic and thrilling performance. Mr. Wm. Matthews ably depicted the villain of the piece, and Mr. Arthur Elwyn was a manly representative of the young squire. Mr. F. Wilson as the warder and Miss Phenie Power as the housekeeper filled minor rôles in satisfactory style. The sketch, which was excellent staged, met with a favourable reception.

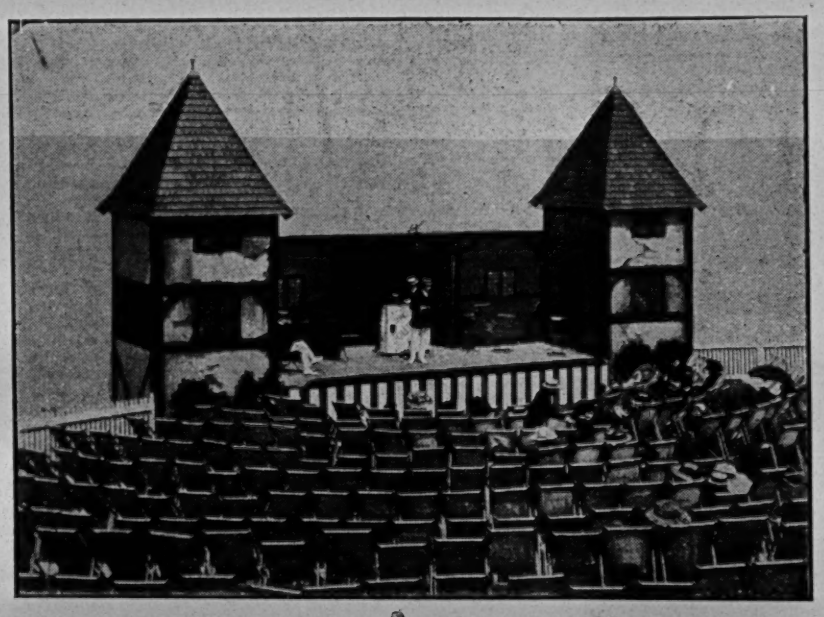

[*Photo by Remlap, Herne Bay.*

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, whose administrative ability and initiative have full scope at Herne Bay as director of the Urban Council Entertainments in that popular resort, has sent us a photograph of the new alfresco theatre he has designed and had erected on the East Cliff for the Jollity Boys. As will be seen in the above illustration, it is flanked by two towers, and the Tudor style has been chosen. This has a very nice effect, which is added to at night, as it is well lighted. A portion of the cliff has been fenced with white railings, and the ground has been prepared in terraces and gravelled, so that it keeps perfectly dry. In the centre are steps, which enable the public to reach the chairs with ease. There is accommodation for 2,000 people within the fenced-in space. It may be added that not only was the stage designed by Mr. A. J. Barclay, but that the painting which gives such a realistic touch to the towers and back of the platform was done by him.

New Rink for Weymouth.

A WINTER garden and covered skating rink is in course of erection for the Corporation of Weymouth.

Rinking on the North-East Coast.

RINKING at Tynemouth Palace, the most fashionable resort of entertainment on the North-east Coast, is becoming more popular than ever, and the season is now in full swing. On Thursday, the 15th inst., a fancy masked carnival took place under the most favourable of auspices, there being over 200 skaters and about 2,000 spectators. Handsome prizes were given for the most historical and most original costumes, most humorous make-up, two-step competition, best juvenile and best fancy costume, &c. Much of the success here is due to the excellent state of the huge floor, the Richardson skates, the bright and breezy music, the elaborate electric and limelight arrangements, the beautiful sea view, and the untiring efforts of Mr. Knox, the affable rink manager.

No Bidders for Plymouth Rink.

AT the Law Chambers, Plymouth, last week, Mr. Hosking (Skardon, Sons, and Hosking) offered for auction the Ebrington-street Roller Skating Rink. The property included the rink and entrance hall, which were erected last autumn. The skating surface, which measures 185ft. by 75ft., is surrounded by a promenade and seating accommodation. The premises were held by the Plymouth Skating Rink Company, under two leases, each for ten years, from March 25, 1909, at a rent of £600 per annum, determinable at the tenant's option at the end of the fifth year. When the property was put up for auction no bidders were forthcoming. Mr. Hoskings offered to "throw in" the furniture, decorations, skates, &c., but though he asked for a bid as low as £100, no one would offer, and the sale fell through.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

SUNDAY CINEMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENTS.

On the L.C.C. agenda paper on Tuesday last there appeared the following paragraph in the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee:—"The premises known as the London Bridge Picture Palace and Cinematograph Theatre, and situated at Nos. 116-118, Borough High-street, having been kept open for cinematograph entertainments on Sunday, February 27, 1910, contrary to the conditions laid down by the Council on February 15, 1910, we instructed the solicitor to take proceedings in respect of the breach of the conditions upon which the licence was granted. A summons was accordingly taken out against the Bermondsey Bioscope Company, Limited, and was heard before Mr. Cecil Chapman at the Tower Bridge Police-court on May 11, 1910. It was contended on behalf of the defendants that the Council had no power under the Cinematograph Act to impose the condition as to not opening the premises on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas Day. The magistrate, after hearing the case at considerable length, adjourned the matter until May 24 in order that he might look into the authorities cited and consider his decision. As a result, Mr. Chapman decided that the Council had acted *ultra vires* in making it a condition of the licence granted by them under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, that the premises should not be opened on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas Day, and he therefore dismissed the summons and awarded the defendants £5 5s. for costs. We have instructed the solicitor to take the necessary steps to get a case stated for the opinion of the High Court and to uphold the Council's interests in the matter." The report was not reached till a quarter past one on Wednesday morning, and as it was then "opposed" the matter of its approval had to stand over.

The Council agreed to a recommendation that a certificate should be given to a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in Coldharbour-lane provided that the building be commenced within six months. It is intended to accommodate 400 people. A music licence is to be applied for.

Approval was given to plans for exits from pit and gallery at the Lewisham Hippodrome.

The Council sanctioned drawings by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co. for the reconstruction of the Middlesex Music Hall, Drury-lane, on the site of the existing hall and adjoining premises. The new hall will have accommodation for about 2,700 persons. The building is to be commenced within six months, and the structural requirements are very voluminous.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:—"At a recent inspection of the New Cross Empire it was found that certain of the gallery exit doors were chained and padlocked during the time the public were on the premises. We are of opinion that a notice under the 45th Section of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Various Powers) Act, 1882, should be served on the person keeping open the premises, so as to enable proceedings to be taken should the exit doors again be found to be improperly fastened. We recommend—That a notice under Section 45 of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Various Powers) Act, 1882, containing the undermentioned requirements, and specifying seven days as the time within which they are to be complied with be prepared by the solicitor; that it be sealed in duplicate, and be served upon the person by whom the premises known as the New Cross Empire, New Cross-road and Watson-street, Deptford, are kept open for public entertainments—(i.) That all doors and gates affording means of exit from the said premises shall be thrown open at the conclusion of each performance and shall be kept open during the departure of the public from the premises; (ii.) that all such doors and gates shall be fastened during the time they are authorised to be closed by automatic bolts only of a pattern or patterns which shall have been approved for the said doors or gates by the Council; (iii.) that such doors and gates may be closed during the times fixed for the admission of the public to, or the presence of the public in, the said premises, on condition that there shall not then be upon any such door or gate any fastening other than an automatic bolt, in proper working order, of the pattern approved by the Council for such door or gate, and on condition that on every occasion when the said premises are open for the admission of the public each of such doors or gates shall, immediately prior to the admission of the public thereto, be fully opened and closed again for the purpose of ascertaining that the same is in proper working order." This was agreed to.

Sanction was given to the drawings by Messrs. Matcham for the reconstruction of the Royal Standard Music Hall, Victoria-street. The new premises will have accommodation for about 2,600 persons.

The Council approved the transfer of the licence for music and dancing of the Camden Theatre, granted to Sidney Marler, to Charles Gulliver.

The transfer of the licence of the Cinematograph Hall, Tottenham Court-road, from Adolph Rosenthal to Frederick Arthur Welch was approved.

The provisional licences granted to the Wandsworth Central Picture Palace and Wandsworth Central Skating Rink were confirmed on the satisfactory completion of the premises.

Confirmation was given to the provisional licence for music and dancing granted to the Wurtemberg Hall, Clapham.

"A WIFE FOR A SONG."

A Humorous Musical Interlude, Written by Arthur Newton, Music by E. Bucalossi and Archibald Evans, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, June 20.

Gretchen Van Gelt ..... MISS ELSA HOPE
Hon. Luke Sharpe ..... MR. GUILBERT DURSTON
Mr. Fairlie Hook—ahem!.. MR. ROBERT DURSTON

A striking success attended the production of this bright musical trifle, a special feature of which was the catchy and agreeable music, each of the three artists in the cast being provided with an effective musical number. The scene is laid in the reception-room of one Mr. Hook—ahem! an unscrupulous matrimonial agent. To him enters a needy sprig of the nobility, the Hon. Luke Sharpe, who is badly in want of a wife who can afford to keep him. Fortunately for him, the very individual he requires turns up in the comely person of a Dutch girl, Gretchen Van Gelt, and the two young people soon resolve to make a match of it. It appears that Sharpe's dulcet voice has won him his bride, thus realising the title of the piece.

Miss Elsa Hope made a winsome and withal amusing Dutch maiden, her yodelling song was charmingly rendered. Mr. Robert Durston sings and acts well as the matrimonial agent; while Mr. Guilbert Durston displays considerable vocal and histrionic ability as the Dude. The cordial reception given to the musical trifle by the Peckham audience will no doubt attend it elsewhere.

Reynolds and Donegan's Return.

EARLE REYNOLDS and Nellie Donegan, the famous skaters, will shortly arrive in England for Europe on the Mauretania. They will be starred at the Palace Theatre. In September they go to the Folies Bergère, and will be billed in Germany during October and November, Austria during December, and so on right through the principal European capitals.

To *The Era* Shilling Fund for the Music Hall Home Miss Edie King has contributed 2s. 6d. and the Brothers Miller 7s. 6d.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The pianoforte recital of Miss Maud Agnes Winter, L.T.C.L. Professor, given at the Trinity College on Monday afternoon, was well attended. The programme commenced with Edward MacDowell's "Sonata Tragica," of which Miss Winter gave an excellent account, being very successful in the Largo con maesta, in some respects the most attractive movement in the sonata. Claude Debussy's delicate "Reflets dans l'eau" was played with refinement; and in three works of Chopin—Prelude, Op. 28, No. 4, Nocturne No. 2, Op. 27, and the popular Scherzo, Op. 31, Miss Agnes Winter deserved much praise. The beautiful nocturne requires a far more accomplished pianist than even the showy scherzo, and Miss Winter gave the poetical spirit without which all the effect of Chopin's creation is lost. A graceful Gavotte in E, by G. E. Bambridge and Liszt's familiar Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 2 completed the pianoforte selections. Miss Maud Agnes Winter, who had a most hearty reception, was assisted by Miss Hilda Felstead, vocalist, heard in "Autumn Storms" (Greig) and Schumann's "Widmung." Miss Bertha Tomlin was the accompanist.

The orchestral concert of the Trinity College was given at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening, and attracted a huge audience. Mr. Wilhelm Sachse conducted, and the orchestra, which included a large number of professional musicians as well as students, commenced the concert with an able performance of Cherubini's "Medea" overture. A young student of the College, Master Richard Johnson (pupil of Mr. G. E. Bambridge), played the "Allegro con brio" from Beethoven's Concerto in C for pianoforte and orchestra with no small amount of intelligence. Master Johnson is certainly a clever boy, for he not only played the solo instrument well, but has composed a Cadenza to this movement which proved well in keeping with the subject. The audience rewarded the talented little performer with three hearty recalls. In Sir C. V. Stanford's pretty song "There's a bower of roses" Miss Bertha Tomlin's purity of tone and clear diction can be warmly praised. Miss Alice Lees, set down for Saint-Saëns B minor Concerto for violin, was unable to appear, and an apology was made from the platform. The Allegro Moderato from Horatio Parker's fine Organ Concerto in E flat was admirably played by Mr. Harry Gray, a pupil of Dr. Pearce. Mr. Gray was well supported by the orchestra, which also artistically accompanied Miss Hilda Felstead in her clever singing of the "Habanera" from *Carmen*. Miss Felstead sang in English, with excellent enunciation, and had no easy task, for the words do not fit the "Habanera" any too well, although the opera on the whole goes capitally in English. The performance of the entire Symphony in E flat of Haydn by the orchestra was somewhat a mistake, as in the time several students could have given examples of their ability, and there is no lack of that among the pupils at the Trinity College, and the interval which followed the symphony was hardly needed in a long programme. Mr. Patrick Thayer was much applauded for a quite brilliant performance of the Allegro Affettuoso from Schumann's Concerto in A minor for piano and orchestra, and Miss Briana Prager displayed much talent in Mendelssohn's famous Capriccio Brillante for piano in B minor. A pupil of Mr. Copland, Miss Gertrude A. Wallis, sang "Che faro" from Gluck's "Orfeo" with marked ability; and Mozart's vocal duet "Sull'aria" ("Nozze di Figaro"), sung by Miss Mabel Hardy and Miss Edith M. Davies, was an interesting feature in the concert. Mr. Sidney H. Sheppard was set down for "The two Grenadiers" (Schumann), and the programme concluded with Weber's "Oberon" Overture by the orchestra.

THE IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

The genial manager, Mr. Frank Clarke, has an exceedingly brilliant programme for this week, the premier item being supplied by Tarro Miyake, champion ju-jitsu wrestler. The performance throughout is quite good, for in the first portion Miyake shows the different "holds" to the audience, having for his subject a gentleman from the front. The screams of laughter the latter causes by his antics the while he is on the stage is quite unexpected, for one looks forward to intense excitement. This, however, is in store, for on the evening of our visit Miyake had bouts with two good men, one lasting over seven minutes, all concerned being well rewarded with abundance of applause. Joe Hayman (of Hayman and Franklin) is appearing as a single turn, and should feel well satisfied with the reception accorded him. His chatter, as usual, is thoroughly enjoyed, and a touch of pathos is added in his song "Life's a very funny proposition after all," which is well rendered.

Miss Dolly Elsworthy is billed to appear with her company in that charming little romantic sketch *Nana*, but on Monday evening she apologised for being unable to produce it, owing to the sudden illness of her principal man. She, however, appeared singly and gave three songs: "Modesty forbids," "In the garden meet me when the moon is shining," and "Ain't I a silly little kid?" the last—in the character of a juvenile—being extremely good. In her new venture Miss Elsworthy is quite at home, her style being refreshing. Mr. R. Dunning, with his ventriloquial companions, is exceedingly good, the repartee throughout being distinctly original, and the singing a special feature.

The Four Kahns, in their magical act, present a tastefully-arranged fit-up, the charming stage presence of the three ladies adding greatly to the picture. The tricks performed, mostly by one of the ladies, are quite smart, their finale being marked by well-deserved applause. Nash and Noel indulge in some cross-talk which is decidedly above the ordinary standard, and their song, "We don't care a button if it snows," is tuneful and well written. Miss Amy Savile, a dainty little comedienne, has a good style; and Mr. Randolph Sutton, a smartly-dressed light comedian, sings two good songs: "Walk about" and "Mr. Man in the moon." Many interesting films are displayed on the Bioscope, particularly The Conscript, which is a delightful story. Mr. H. A. Knight conducts a fine orchestra.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students of the Guildhall School of Music gave an orchestral concert in the fine hall of the City of London School on Wednesday evening. In the absence of the principal, Dr. Cummings, Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock conducted, and the orchestra successfully performed Saint-Saëns' overture "La Princesse Jaune." To play Schubert's Symphony in B minor ("The Unfinished"), one of the composer's most beautiful inspirations, was a somewhat ambitious attempt for students, but the young musicians played really well and with due regard to style, good tone, and intelligent execution in the two movements, Allegro moderato (B minor) and Andante con moto (E major), the latter being particularly well rendered. Miss Margaret Crawford, who sang Saint-Saëns Aria, "Softly awakes my heart," from *Samson and Delilah*, received enthusiastic applause, while Miss Dorothy Holden greatly distinguished herself in a very clever performance of Grieg's Pianoforte Concerto in A minor; the orchestral portions, so important in this Concerto, were also admirably played. The concert ended with the Valse and Finale from Sullivan's "Masquerade Suite," *Merchant of Venice*, given with much spirit by the orchestra. Miss Jenny Hyman presided at the pianoforte.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR JULY.

ENGLAND.

1. Conisboro' Feast (8,546)
1. Droitwich (4,163)
1. Barby Feast (1,864)
1. Great Chesterfield (994)
2. Ashover (2,362)
2. Barlborough (1,942)
2. Bishampton (340)
2. Silstone (2,180)
4. Stainsby (121)
4. Bradford (279,809)
4. Stokeferry (580)
4. Wakefield (41,514)
5. Chipping Norton (3,780)
6. Sampford Courtenay (768)
6. Bognor (6,189)
6. Haxey (2,020)
8. Headless Cross (3,500)
9. Menston (1,745)
9. Chapel-en-le-Frith (4,652)
9. Ringwood (4,629)
9. Sirond (9,200)
9. York (77,793)
11. Leeds (428,953)
14. Burnley (97,044)
14. Mansfield (Statutes) (21,411)
15. Chumleigh (1,321)
15. Linton (1,515)
16. Holmesfield (510)
16. Horsham (9,500)
16. Sutton-in-Ashfield (14,862)
16. Tunstall (19,492)
16. Atherstone (5,248)
18. Baildon Feast (5,797)
18. Darwen (38,200)
18. Dursley (2,372)
18. Spilsby (1,500)
20. Kingsbridge (3,000)
20. Swaffham (3,400)
21. Brierfield (7,288)
21. Tipton (30,543)
22. Chesham (7,345)
22. Haworth (5,100)
22. Nelson (32,815)
23. Chiddingley (831)
23. Dewsbury (28,050)
23. Glemsford (1,975)
23. Hatherlow
23. Hollinwood (8,962)
23. Longsight (13,916)
23. Normanton (Temple)
23. Stalybridge (27,000)
23. Walton (1,470)
25. Bramley Feast (9,000)
25. Epsom (10,918)
25. Hockwold (800)
25. Reading (72,214)
25. Tamworth (7,300)
27. Cley-next-the-Sea (700)
27. Melksham (2,500)
28. Airesford (2,000)
29. Bollington (5,224)
29. King's Nympton (586)
29. Olney (2,684)
29. Padiham (11,327)
29. Unsworth (2,289)
30. Alfreton (17,505)
30. Compstall (2,300)
30. Heyford (813)
30. Mellor (1,384)
30. Mossley (13,452)
30. Redditch (13,493)
30. Shirland (3,697)
30. Stretton (615)

SCOTLAND.

1. Bridge of Allan (22,546)
2. Greenock (57,626)
9. Hawick (15,000)
9. Perth (33,566)
11. Glasgow (760,468)
11. Motherwell (30,418)
14. Johnstone (10,502)
18. Forfar (12,117)
20. Dunfermline (25,250)
20. Rothesay (9,325)
21. Kirkcudbright (2,386)
21. Leven (6,000)
23. Arbroath (22,546)
25. Kinross (2,391)
28. Kilmarnock (33,142)
28. Leith (77,385)
30. Tweedmouth Feast (3,469)

WALES.

5. Pontypool (6,125)
6. Llanllyni (4,972)
30. Tenby (4,400)

Mexboro' Feast.

The excellent circuit of Yorkshire fairs, principally controlled by the local showman, Councillor G. T. Tuby, of Doncaster, has no better example of up-to-date perfection and success than the celebrated Feast of Mexborough.

For many centuries, when Mexborough was but a village, the feast was held, closely identified with the patronal festival of the parish church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

It is a time of general holiday, and, following long-established custom, friends and neighbours from the adjoining towns and villages troop into Mexborough to keep the feast.

In the olden times the people went in their hundreds to enjoy the fair; to-day they may be reckoned by the tens of thousands, for the town is in the centre of a long chain of colliery towns, densely populated.

The principal fair-ground is the one under Mr. Tuby's management, and is situated near the railway station. The subsidiary show-ground, only recently opened out, has its entrance from the main street, but both grounds are well within sight of one another.

On the principal fair-ground were G. T. Tuby and Sons' mammoth coliseum of moving pictures, and the same firm's other attractions—the Gordon-Bennett motor-car set, the racing birds and mountain ponies, the juvenile roundabouts, the shooting saloon, and the side show, the Teddy bear jungle.

Amongst the other concerns present were Hobson's cinematograph and theatre of varieties, Professor Valio's temple of occult mysteries, R. Houldsworth's flying pigs and waltzing balloons, Amos' steam swings, Fisher's highflyers, Pullen's shooting saloon and park swings, Shaw's shooter, variety stalls, and throwing games, W. H. Doubtfire's houp-la circles, throwing games, and varieties, J. Doubtfire's similar concerns, Gledstone's helter-skelter tower, Leiske's big wheel, Pullen and Shaw's toy bazaars and pannum stalls, Throwing games, novelty frames, striking machines, and other amusements of a minor character were supplied by J. Moore, H. Harris, Doubtfire and Sons, Shaw and Sons, Easthope, Middlebrook, Silverwood, Brannan, Mrs. Walker, and other caterers.

On the No. 2 fair-ground were Farrer and Tyler's big machine—the scenic railway and the electric coliseum of animated pictures; P. Collins's novel machine—the frolicsome Teddy bears and the katzen-jammer castle; T. Harniess's galloping horses, Sopp's toy bazaar and pannum stall; Johnson's gingerbread stall; and houp-la frames and other amusements by various caterers.

Guild Meeting at Mexboro' Feast.

The organising chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, has been able this year to again visit Mexborough for the feast. Although it is not a great centre of show-life, like Dewsbury or Hull, where meetings of the Guild are usually held, it is a useful thing, in the interests of the show business, for the chaplain to visit some of the minor fairs.

Owing to the extreme heat of the Sunday afternoon, the meeting had to be shortened, and the speeches, of necessity, were brief. The gathering took place in Tuby's coliseum. Mr. Tuby, a vice-president of the Guild, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. T. Horne, Messrs. J. Amos, J. Doubtfire, A. Fisher, W. H. Doubtfire, J. Shaw, H. Harris, A. Pullen, J. Moore, and other showmen tenants of the fair.

Speeches and Business Done.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, remarked that, with the organising chaplain amongst them, it was his agreeable duty to ask him to explain with (considering the extraordinary heat of the day) all brevity the work of the society, and then get to work to enrol members.

Mr. Horne then, in a speech of fifteen minutes' duration, referred to the more recent work of the Guild with regard to private Bill legislation, the Movable Dwellings Bill, the defence of fairs, and local bye-laws. At the conclusion of the address the following members were enrolled: Messrs. J. Amos, 10s. 6d.; J. Doubtfire, 10s. 6d.; W. H. Doubtfire, 10s. 6d.; A. Pullen, 7s.; J. Shaw, 5s.; A. Fisher, 5s; H. Harris, 5s.; J. J. Shaw, 5s.; and J. Moore, 2s. 6d. (second subscription).

Guild Service at Night.

A very striking feature at Mexborough Feast is the service of the Showmen's Guild, held on the Feast Sunday in Tuby's show. This has been held for several years past, and is highly appreciated both by showpeople and townsmen.

The Vicar of Mexborough (the Rev. W. H. F. Bateman) is honorary local chaplain, and always invites the Rev. T. Horne to attend the feast, to preach at the parish church, and, of course, to conduct the Guild service at night.

Tuby's large show pavilion was thronged by a devout and attentive congregation. The united choirs of the parish church and the district church of St. George led the singing, the Vicar intoned the Guild service, and the Guild chaplain preached, his theme being lessons from the life and character of the patron saint of Mexborough, St. John the Baptist. He referred to the stern discipline of the Baptist's life, his singleness of purpose, devotion to duty, and wonderful humility. He applied the lessons of his subject to his congregation, showpeople and townspeople alike.

Besides preaching at the parish church at morning service, the Rev. T. Horne addressed a united gathering of the young people's Bible classes of Mexborough Parish Schools in the afternoon on "Shows and Showmen." The church was well filled, and great interest was shown.

The Guild Chaplain on Tour.

The Rev. T. Horne will pay his annual visit to the Potteries to-morrow (Sunday, June 26). The place of meeting will be P. Collins's show, Burslem Wakes ground, at 3.30 p.m.

Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

The next meeting of this society will be at Halifax Fair. For place and time of gathering see advertisement in our "Showman" columns.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S CIRCUS ON TOUR.

This magnificent combination of circus and menagerie, with its delightful mixture of the real old-fashioned circus and modern improvements and up-to-date turns is doing excellent business on its provincial tour. Being unable to secure a sufficiently large open space in Manchester last week, the management wisely decided to make short visits to various surrounding places, and succeeded in drawing large suburban audiences.

The itinerary of last week was Cheadle, Withington, Stretford, Altrincham, Knutsford, and Chester, en route for North Wales. As two performances are given daily, this gives some idea of the energy and enterprise of the management; but the concern being manned by some hundred and thirty persons, all is in easy readiness each morning. At each place the attractive procession parades the principal streets at noon, returning to the circus-tent in time for the two o'clock performance.

This show generally secures good patronage in the best parts of the house, the advance booking proving highly satisfactory. The evening performance at 8 p.m. draws a popular crowd, and one has only to see the vast audience enjoying this entertainment to realise that people of all classes will patronise really good shows, and amongst the travelling circuses of to-day that of Lord John Sanger makes no idle boast when it bills itself as "The Greatest Road Show in the World."

The splendid tent, with its ample and comfortable accommodation, its up-to-date installation of electric light, its well-arranged ring, and, above all, its first-class entertainment by highly skilled performers and their well-trained animals, all combine to make "Sanger's" one of the finest amusement enterprises of the day.

In addition to the regular circus programme, a special attraction to lovers of daring and apparently impossible feats is provided by "Cyclo," who allows the wheels of a large motor-car containing four persons to pass over his body. All the animal turns are excellent, and it is difficult to say which draws greatest approval from the audience. Perhaps the elephants delight the youngsters most, and although we never previously enjoyed a visit to the dentist, we must admit to enjoying thoroughly the drollery of the elephant dentist and his patient, humorously assisted as they were by two quaint clowns and a most amiable coloured gentleman. There is also an extremely interesting turn employing three elephants, three horses, and their trainers, the six performers forming effective tableaux and showing a mighty display of mind over matter.

The clowns rapidly make friends with the youthful portion of the audience, Pimpo especially adding to their glee as the performance progresses. This whimsical fellow has friends amongst all kinds of animals, for he introduces a football team of dogs, who play a wildly exciting match; he has a boxing match with an elephant, and also brings on a youthful Teddy bear, who delights the audience with his unquenchable thirst.

Amongst the more serious turns on the programme are the Zampos, the elastic bounders; Les Belles Fondants, in an up-to-date wire act; the Austins, premier equestrians; the Airlees, human flying machines; and Miss Lina, with her highly trained horse Hawcombe, showing the methods of the haute école; each in turn giving a high-class performance. The programme is brought to an exciting finish by the evergreen equestrian drama, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. At the close of each performance the animals are fed and visitors are permitted to visit the menagerie.

E. H. BOSTOCK'S GRAND INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD CIRCUS AT DUNDEE.

This fine show completed a five-days' visit to Dundee on Tuesday evening, the 21st inst. The circus was located at the Esplanade, and attracted large audiences at each of the two performances daily. The programme is a very high-class one, and contains several items of outstanding excellence. The performance of the Tokio Troupe was vociferously received, their startling tricks being gone through with an alertness and charm that are unapproachable. One of the most graceful circus acts ever seen in Dundee was contributed by Mlle. Chloe Convere and her celebrated cake-walking horse, Kentucky Beau, and met with the most generous appreciation. Mlle. Helga Yensen must be congratulated on the display given by her cleverly-trained pony and dogs Paquito and Neige. The Erneste Family created much excitement with their equestrian novelty, at the finish of which the four riders leap from the ground to the back of the one horse whilst going at full speed around the arena. The trick riding of Miss Pinder was received with marked approbation, as was also an exceedingly neat and clever riding exhibition by the Prairie Girls on the bronchos, Mocassin and Rattlesnake. M. Erneste and Charlerol perform some daring evolutions on horseback; Mlle. Leoville was much admired in her wire-walking act; Johnny Watson and his canine pupils came in for a great reception; Harex and Jabez got an enthusiastic reception, the extraordinary positions in which they play their violins being very comical; the double trapeze act by the Lorettes was skilful in the extreme; a clever globe walking performance by Mlle. Florence was heartily applauded; a very daring balancing trapeze act by Mlle. Ida Evilo created quite a furore, while shouts of laughter greeted the Valdo Boys in their comic acrobatic act entitled "The Eccentric Motor Men." A great sensation was caused by the feats of strength by Mons. Abex, the schoolboy Hercules, who concluded his share of the entertainment by lifting with his teeth a fully-loaded motor-car. The circus is well supplied with clowns, viz., Nimble Nip, Wee Willie, and Little Tony, whose eccentricities kept the audience in good humour throughout. The show is under the personal management of Mr. Frank Bostock, who must be congratulated on the excellent and smartly-worked programme. A word of praise is due to the band, and a special word to the groom on the fine appearance of the animals under his charge.

THE LATE JAMES DOONER'S FUNERAL.

Amidst many manifestations of esteem and affection, James Dooner was laid to rest at Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, on Friday, June 17. Prior to conveying the body by train from Bargoed, Wales, to the family residence at Bedminster, Bristol, an impressive service was held at the Junction Hotel, in the presence of the family and the whole staff of the exhibition, the Rev. — Richards, of St. Gladys, Bargoed, took the opening part of the Burial Service.

In a brief, but deeply touching eulogium of the famous showman's life, he referred to his sterling character, fortitude under suffering, and devotion to his family. Of his public services and work as a showman, he dwelt with marked appreciation, and tendered to the family the sympathy of their many friends in Bargoed, and the still greater area of the part of the country where the late James Dooner was so well known and respected as a travelling showman.

After the journey to Bristol, the funeral procession started from West-street, Bedminster, where a great assembly of prominent showmen from all parts of the country had gathered to do honour to their old friend. The cortége was headed by a carriage loaded with floral tributes; the hearse drawn by four black horses, was followed by twelve coaches.

In the first were Richard Dooner (son), Mrs. Jacob Studt, jun. (daughter), Mrs. H. Studt, jun. (daughter), Mrs. Miller (daughter), and Miss Lily Dooner (daughter).

In the second coach were Mr. and Mrs. Hancock (brother-in-law and sister), Miss Hancock, Miss Dodo Hancock (niece), and Mr. Miller (son-in-law).

In the third coach were Mr. and Mrs. John Studt and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Studt.

In the fourth coach were Mr. H. Scard, Miss Scard, Mr. and Mrs. Pillinger, and daughters.

In the fifth coach were Mr. W. Hagger, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Hill, and Mr. Jones.

In the sixth coach were Mr. and Mrs. Bunter, Mrs. Lewington, Mrs. Vokes, and Mr. C. Pillenger.

In the seventh coach were Mr. and Mrs. John North and Mr. and Mrs. T. Butlin.

In the eighth coach were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Butlin, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hill, and Mrs. Lewis.

In the ninth coach were Mr. T. Clarke, Mr. R. Chipperfield, Mr. Sidney White, Mr. Orton, and Mr. Griffiths.

In the tenth coach were Mr. and Mrs. Nash and Mr. and Mrs. G. White.

In the eleventh coach were Mr. G. Harris, Mr. T. Ward, Mr. R. Baker, and Mr. Gallingham.

In the twelfth coach were Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. Percy Scard, Mr. Gus Harrington, and Miss Maude Iniss.

In addition to the above mourners a large concourse of friends followed on foot to the cemetery, where the interment took place, attended by many expressions of sympathy and sorrow.

Amongst the large number of floral tributes were beautiful emblems by Mr. and Mrs. Dooner, Miss Lilian Dooner, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Studt, jun., Mr. and Mrs. Birchall, jun., Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. H. Studt, jun., Mr. and Mrs. W. Hancock, Miss Hancock, Miss Dodo Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. John Studt, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Studt, Dooner's employees (two), Mr. and Mrs. Scard, Wadbrook's employees, Mr. and Mrs. Birchall, Mr. and Mrs. Pillinger, Mr. and Mrs. Bunter, Mr. W. Haggar, Mr. D. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Hill, Laura, Lizzie, and Phillipa Birchall (grandchildren), Mr. and Mrs. J. North, Mr. and Mrs. J. North, jun., Miss Lizzie North, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Griffiths, Working Men's Club (Bargoed), Mrs. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. H. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. T. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Chipperfield, Mr. and Mrs. James Chipperfield, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chipperfield, Mr. and Mrs. John Chipperfield, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson, Mrs. Sutcliffe and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, Mr. Ford and family, the Creecraft family, Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, Mr. Penrose and Son, Messrs. Chiappa and Sons, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hill, Messrs. Orton and Sons, Mr. and Mrs. T. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Groves, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Sidney White, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Butlin, Mr. Richard Baker, and Mr. and Mrs. Oldridge. The funeral arrangements were by Messrs. Hodges, undertakers, Bristol.

Mr. Richard Dooner thanks all friends most sincerely for their sympathy in his sad bereavement.

"Rayne's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

"Wake-up, England."

Mr. Gilbert-Smith's new picture-play, adapted from his poem "Wake-up, England!" was produced at the Electric Palace, Marble Arch, this week. Those who received invitations for the postponed date, and found themselves unable to be present, should write or telephone to the Secretary, 5, Green-street, Leicester-square, and stalls will be reserved for them.

New Electric Theatre Company.

The prospectus is issued of the British Bio-Electrics, Ltd., which has a share capital of £60,000, in 600,000 shares of 2s. each, of which 545,000 shares will be available for working capital. The company acquires the Ladbroke Hall Electric Theatre, which is earning a substantial revenue, the Hanover Hall Picture Palace, and three other properties in course of reconstruction and equipment, together with a freehold site in Birmingham for the erection of another theatre. The company will also acquire rights and options in connection with negotiations now proceeding for fourteen other sites and buildings. The issue provides a working capital of over £40,000 in excess of the sum required to complete the work of fitting up the theatres already secured, and this amount will be available for the further extension of the business. Profit estimates are set forth in the prospectus based on the certified net earnings of Ladbroke Hall.

Cinematograph Show Afloat.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, who reached Liverpool last Friday from Montreal, delivered a lecture, illustrated by cinematograph views, on board the liner Virginian. Non-inflammable films were used.

Ascot in Kinemacolor.

Another picture novelty is a pictorial representation of Ascot week, taken by the Kinemacolor process, which has been shown at the Palace this week. Ascot this year was a somewhat sombre function; but the bioscope operator found colour and life in the horses and jockeys, as well as in the inanimate surroundings of the course.

Co-operation of Film Companies.

The Co-operative Cinematograph Company has been formed, under an agreement with the London Cinematograph Company (1909) Ltd., for the acquisition by this company of the goodwill, stock-in-trade, machinery, and accessories in connection with the film-hiring and picture-production department of that company. The first directors are A. Rosenthal, S. B. Lawrence, and T. K. Grant.

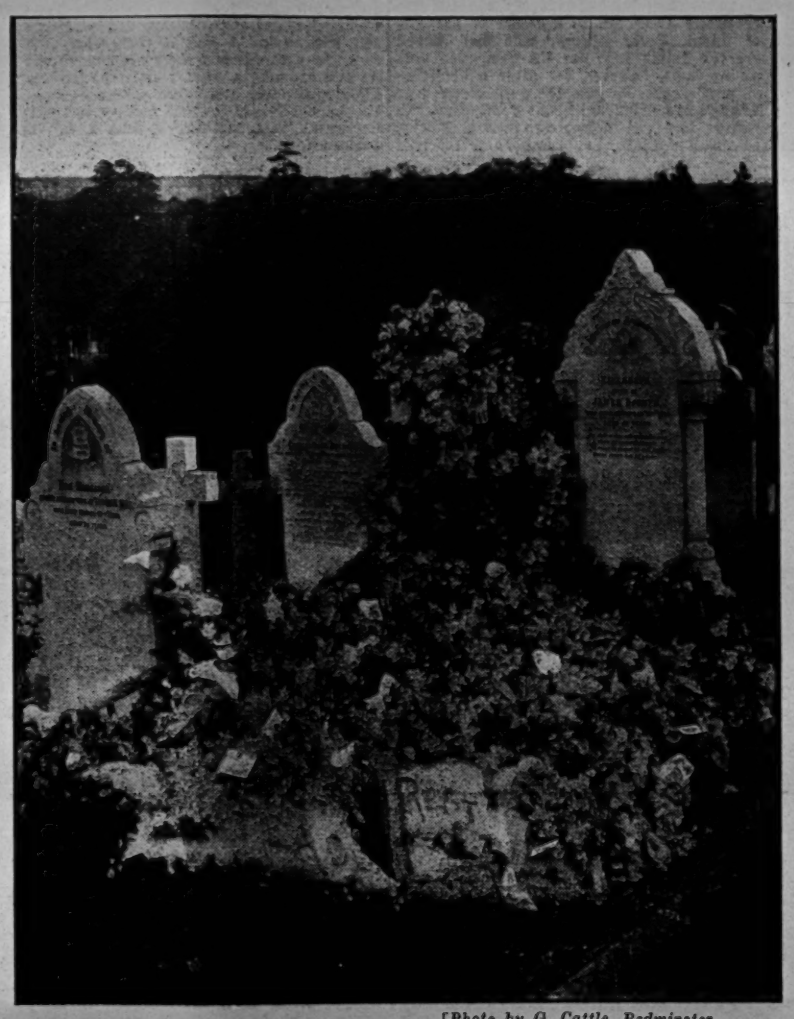

[*Photo by G. Cattle, Bedminster.*

THE JAMES DOONER FUNERAL.
FLORAL TRIBUTES AT THE GRAVESIDE.

Farm Life in Australia.

Mr. B. North, secretary of the Ripon Agricultural Society, has received the following communication from Mr. H. C. Smart, from the office of the High Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Australia, London: "I should be obliged if you will let me know whether you will have space available at your forthcoming show for a tent measuring about 40ft. by 30ft., in which it is proposed to give cinematograph lantern shows illustrating farm-life in Australia. As all the regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and by the London County Council will be most rigidly carried out, I presume that there will not be any objection on the part of the local authorities to the giving of such a show. I might add that no charge will be made, of course, for admission." Mr. North has replied accepting the offer on behalf of the society.

Cinematographed a Lion Hunt.

After a five weeks' lion hunt, Mr. Cherry Kearton, the well-known naturalist-photographer, has just returned to Nairobi, in British East Africa, with some splendid cinematograph pictures of natives spearing lions. Altogether four lions were killed. The pictures were taken under great difficulty, as Mr. Kearton was ill with fever at the time, and had to be carried to the hunt on a stretcher.

Huge Sum for Moving Pictures.

Jack Johnson, Sam Berger (representing Jeffries), and Tex Rickard and Jack Gleason (the managers for Johnson and Jeffries) met last week in San Francisco, and agreed to sell the moving-picture privileges of the Jeffries-Johnson combat for £30,000—£10,000 going to Jeffries, £10,000 to Johnson, and £10,000 to Rickard and Gleason. The firm that secured the prize makes no condition other than that the men must enter the ring at 1.30 p.m. (4.30 p.m. New York time, and 9.30 p.m. London time), the money to be paid whether the match lasts only one round or the limit of forty-five. Rickard strenuously insists that the moving-picture men have not tried to secure a promise as to the length of the match. He says:—"If these men buy us out, they'll have to gamble on the contest going one round or going twenty rounds. That's what we expected to do, and I know no man who could approach either Johnson or Jeffries with any proposition to put up a show for a few rounds for the sake of the films. Johnson will win the first round if he can, and Jeffries feels the same way about it."

"An Hour at the Cinematograph."

A most interesting article was published under the title of "An Hour at the Cinematograph" by *Vanity Fair* last week. In the course of his remarks the writer says:—"The cinematograph can never die—never, at all events, until it is supplemented by something infinitely superior, which, indeed, it is impossible to foresee or contemplate at the moment of writing. And even to-day it is an unexploited experience to thousands of the citizens of London—they have not yet realised all the wonder of this most delightful invention. To such I say that an hour at a cinematograph theatre, with its moving pictures of actual life, its superb depictions of the most vivid drama, its thrilling records of the most splendid of our operatic productions, will come as a revelation of undreamed-of possibilities and accomplishment."

The Troubles of a Raw Recruit.

Eclair's have released a very amusing film, with the title, "The Order is to March." An exceedingly raw recruit is being put through his pacings, and at length, wearied by his clumsiness, the drill-sergeant orders him to march, adding "You shall stop when I tell you." At once the "rooky" marches onwards, and, as the sergeant is called away, and he receives no orders to stop, the poor unfortunate commences his unending march. He charges into two washerwomen, pushes a motor off, collides with a tramcar, and finally walks over a parapet into the street below. He is at once carried to hospital, where he continues his motions in bed. At length the sergeant is summoned, who, grasping the situation, at once orders him to "Halt," and the recruit drops at once into a sound sleep.

Hogarth, "the Film Detective."

Edison's give us a most exciting detective story in "A Case of Identity." Hogarth receives a visit from a foreigner, who, being unable to speak English, commences to write, when he drops dead. Hogarth searches the man, and, finding the tailor's name on his clothing, seeks out the sartorial artist, and there learns the stranger's name. The next day he reads in the paper that the man who dropped dead at his feet is to sail for Europe at mid-day. Convinced of trickery at work, Hogarth secures a berth on the boat, and there finds a man who is extremely like the dead stranger, and a girl, calling herself his daughter. In a short while Hogarth discovers that the young lady is evidently in love, the object of her affections seemingly being a deck-hand, who is thus disguised to travel near his *fiancée*. Hogarth manages to enter the double's room, where he learns that the man is in the employ of a prince, who intends to force the girl into marriage. He also finds evidence that the secret of the man's power over the girl comes from a note, purporting to be from her father, she, of course, being unaware that he died in the detective's office. But the villainy is soon unmasked, and the man is, after a desperate struggle, arrested.

Empire Day Parade at Toronto.

The patriotism of young Canada is being strikingly demonstrated by cinematograph at the Palace Theatre. The pictures, which reproduce a genuinely impressive parade of Canada's 3,000 boy cadets at Toronto on Empire Day, will be shown for some weeks. The scenes are:—The March Through the Streets of Toronto to the Drill Ground, The Arrival of General French and Staff, A March Past in Column, The Consecration of the Colours, The Presentation of Colours to Kneeling Ensigns, The Ensigns Wheeling and Showing the Flags to the Troops, which Present Arms, The Departure of General French. The smartness of the lads' uniform and their serious, upright bearing throughout are particularly striking.

Mr. Whiteley's Show for Old People.

Last week a large number of the old men and women inmates of the Salford Workhouse were invited by Mr. Whiteley, proprietor of the animated pictures exhibition at the Central Hall, Gardner-street, Pendleton, to witness the performance. About 300 of the old men and 180 of the old women visited the show, with the consent of the Salford Guardians. On learning that there were present two old women aged eighty-four years, Mr. Whiteley gave them a shilling each at the close of the performance, and one old man, aged eighty-two, also received a shilling. The old people enjoyed the show thoroughly. Mr. Whiteley intends to extend another invitation in about three months' time to the old people.

Pathé's New List.

Next week Pathé's will release a large number of subjects, the titles of which are:—Why He Had to Tip, An Episode in 1812, The Bride of the Haunted Castle, Nick Winter, A Heart of Gold, Seal Catching off Tasmania, A Helping Hand, Betty and the Fireworks, The Hollow Tree, and Dutch Children.

STAGE PLAYS IN THE HALLS.

The Theatrical Managers' Association were complainants in a case heard on Tuesday before Mr. Plowden, at Marylebone, in which the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., Randvoll House, 39, Charing Cross-road, were summoned as the owners and occupiers of the Kilburn Empire for keeping the place for the public performance of stage plays without the authority of letters patent or the licence of the Lord Chamberlain, or the London County Council. Mr. Bodkin, barrister, prosecuted; Mr. Taylor Parkes, solicitor, defended.

A plea of guilty having been entered, Mr. Bodkin submitted that the breach of the Act of Parliament was a real, serious, and substantial one. The play presented was founded on the story of Dick Whittington; it contained eleven scenes, with twelve speaking parts. About thirty supers were engaged, and it took two hours to perform. The programme of the performance, however, was a most disingenuous document. To the ordinary observer it contained the ordinary variety items that one expected to see at a music-hall; but in point of fact they were mere items in the representation of a single drama which occupied two hours, and was presented twice each night. This, he contended, was contrary to the Act of Parliament, and was also in defiance of the explicit agreement come to in 1906 between the theatrical managers and a great number of music hall proprietors, including the managing director of the defendant company.

Mr. Plowden asked if counsel suggested there was any serious competition with the theatrical world in the production of such a piece.

"Certainly," said Mr. Bodkin.

Mr. Parkes urged, in extenuation, that the defendant company had no intention of committing a breach of the law, or of going outside the agreement come to. They thought that by splitting up the scenes of the play into separate items they would not be offending against either.

Mr. Plowden was at a loss to understand why the company should have been so stupid as to leave the beaten track that they were allowed to follow. He did not suppose, however, that any theatre had been injured the least in the world by the introduction of the piece complained of. The proper penalty under the circumstances was £5 a day for six days—a total of £30.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A MEETING of the Theatrical Sports Committee was held on Monday evening. Mr. James Carew, chairman, presided. The following additions to the list of subscribers have been received: Mr. Robert Horton, £1 1s.; Miss A. Saker, 5s.; Mr. E. Lyall Swete, 10s. 6d.; Mr. William Greet, £1 1s.; Mr. Charles Frohman, £1 1s.; Mr. William Lestocq, £1 1s.; Miss Maxine Elliott, £2; Miss S. Patrick Campbell, 7s. 6d.; Mr. Dion Boucicault, £1 1s.; Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson, £1; Mr. J. H. Leigh, £1 1s.; Mr. Henry Vibart, 10s.; Mr. Lyn Harding, 10s. 6d.; Miss Madge McIntosh, 10s. 6d.; Miss Pauline Chase, £1 1s.; Mr. Norman Forbes-Robertson, 10s.; Messrs. C. Taylor and Co., 10s.; Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, an inkstand; Miss Ada Reeve will give a silver tankard; Mr. E. A. Taylor, an oil painting of Windsor Castle.

THE additions to the list of judges announced last week are:—Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. John Lawson, and Mr. Alfred Lester (who gives a silver cup). The Reception Committee will include Mr. James Carew, Mr. J. W. Lithbridge, Mr. W. F. Crowe, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. A. P. Horne, Mr. J. Cullen, and Mr. C. T. Cory.

THE handicap is now closed, and the handicappers' decision will be given next week. Over 400 entries have been received. The tug-of-war teams are as follows:—Drury Lane Theatre "A" and "B" teams, Balham Hippodrome "A" and "B," Queen's Theatre "A" and "B," Putney Hippodrome, Woolwich Hippodrome, Richmond Hippodrome, and the Holborn Empire—ten teams in all. The relay teams also number ten, and as these and other non-handicap events are open until to-day additions may be made to this list.

A MEETING of the Sports Committee will be held on Monday at 5.30 to complete the arrangements, and to consider the objections received to one or two entries. The prizes will be exhibited by Messrs. C. H. Fox, Ltd., 27, Wellington-street, Strand, on Tuesday morning next.

THE Sunday Defence Committee have decided to hold a meeting on Friday, July 22, from one to three o'clock (probably in a West-End Theatre) for the purpose of considering the Sunday entertainment question in its new aspect, arising out of the decision of Mr. Cecil Chapman and the proceedings initiated by the Cinematograph Defence League in convening a meeting of the managers' and proprietors' Associations to consider the opening on Sundays of all kinds of theatres.

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD, M.P., will preside, and representatives of various societies will be asked to speak, including many of the honorary vice-presidents of the Sunday Defence Committee. Actors, variety artists, musicians, and employees are urged, in their own interests, to attend this meeting and support the following resolution:—"That, in order to avert the imposition of a seven days' working week upon actors, artists, musicians, and employees, this meeting declares it to be imperative that the licence of any place licensed for public amusement should prohibit the opening of such premises on Sunday by way of trade or personal gain."

MR. W. H. CLEMART, chairman of the V.A.F. and the Sunday Defence Committee, will propose this resolution. Members of the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees, will be admitted on showing their card of membership. Tickets will be obtainable from the hon. secretary, Wm. Johnson, at 29, Wellington-street, W.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEWCASTLE.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. B. Clark.—*The Love of a Princess* is presented by Mr. Watson Mill's company. Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad gives an able delineation, and is highly popular; a charming Princess Idalia is Miss May Beatrice; and the Lady Irene Ramona of Miss Maud Steeple is a praiseworthy performance. Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews makes an impressive Count Danillo; and excellent service is rendered by Mr. John Worth as Lieut. Zaroff, Mr. Francis Serle as Duke Scarfe, Miss Josephine Lee as a Sister of Mercy, and Mr. John Barton as the King of Harnia.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mike Whallen is as entertaining and popular as ever; Anna Chandler's methods of comedy and her tuneful voice is a favourite; the Marconi's electrical illustrations prove deeply interesting; Orpheus gives a clever musical display; *Drummed Out* is dramatically performed by A. C. Lilly and company; Lena Verdi imitates leading artists in finished style; and excellent items are supplied by Mitchell and Kain, J. W. Hall, and Wyndham and Kitty.

GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—The latest pictures are the attraction, together with varieties by J. H. Milburn, Mamie and Cliff, and Austen Temple and company.

OLYMPIA.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The Northumberland Plate Race was secured for Wednesday, the evening of the event. The programme also includes a capital instrumental turn by A. Graydon.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—*The Belle of the Orient*, presented by Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company, occupies premier place. The company includes Miss Flora Leigh, who charmingly impersonates the Belle, and the humour of Mr. George Ricketts as Ike Novinski is irresistible. Harry Nelson has amusing songs and patter; Jack Sheridan is rapidly acquiring popularity as a comedian; the Athos troupe provide a skilful acrobatic exhibition; and expert dancing is done by the Du-Tor Trio. Others on the programme are W. G. Wesley, eccentric comedian; Nancy Hearne, local pantomime favourite; the Society Quartet of vocalists and dancers; and Arthur Ward, hoop manipulator and juggler.

The Gaol Ground, Salisbury.

MR. JAMES COLE'S electric switchback railway has been located on this ground for several days, and large numbers have been visiting the ground. Mr. Cole has a good organ and a first-rate electric light plant, driven by two powerful engines. In addition are Mr. William Cole's helter-skelter, four houp-la circles, Sam Mayne's juvenile motor track, cocoanut shies, Cole's shooting saloon and cocoanut shies; and two side shows, including a miniature menagerie of curious animals and a freak. Splendid weather continued throughout the visit.

Fun Fair at Salisbury.

COLE'S Fun City is now located on the Gaol Ground, Salisbury, and is enjoying a nice spell of weather. The various attractions sinclude James Cole's electric switchback railway, William Cole's mountainous ascent, helter-skelter, S. Mayne's juvenile motor-track, park swing-boats, and cokernut shies, James Cole's shooting saloon, and W. Cole's cokernut saloons, besides an array of four houp-la circles, stalls, and throwing games, and several side shows, and good business is being done.

MR. W. H. ARMSTRONG, in the Divorce Division on Thursday, in the case of Davis *v.* Davis, acted for the petitioner.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter ..... 6s. 6d.	..... 8s.
Half Year ..... 13s. 0d.	..... 16s.
One Year ..... 26s. 0d.	..... 32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 11, 18, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 14, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sep. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
June 27, Sept. 12, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18 (6 nights), July 23 (3 nights), Aug. 15 (2 nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions for the season, three nights for preference; the week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.
Address all communications,
WALTER MAXWELL, 52, Bedford Court-mansions, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Splendesco, London." 'Phone 4270 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 1, 8, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 6 (3), and Easter.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Aug. 4, 11, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5 and 26.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, on, and Easter.
HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Aug. 4, 15, Sept. 19, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, B. PARKEZER, Proprietor and Manager, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Oct. 13 (3), 17, 31 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant July 18, Sept. 29 (3), Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 10 (?), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne).
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 11 and Aug. 15.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest Theatres in the country.
Holding capacity 3,500. Visited by all the biggest Stars and Companies.
WANTED, Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, including Aug. 15 (Race Week), big Special Attraction.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre will reopen Aug.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15 (Race week), 22, Sept. 5, and Oct. 3.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there. Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 5, 12, 26 (no drama).
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
July 25, Sept. 5 (twice nightly).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Aug. 22, Sept. 15 (three nights).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (three nights), Sept. 12 (3).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 22 (?), Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Christmas (three weeks for Pantomime). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Pink Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Raffles," &c. Re dates direct to JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée. First vacant date Aug. 4. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 19, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16.
Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."
All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following:—
Glasgow, Aug. 1 and 29.
Edinburgh, Aug. 1 and 15.
Aberdeen and Dundee, Aug. 22 and 29.
Newcastle, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5.
Fulham, Aug. 8 and 15.
ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, July 18 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 25.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN, Aug. 1.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK, Aug. 1 (?), 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, BLACKBURN.
The most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Aug. 15, 22, 29, and Sept. 5.
A few Spring Dates possibly vacant.
Address all communications re dates to HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Attractions, for Scotland's Provincial Theatres, for Aug. and Autumn, 1910.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for alterations and reconstruction.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 5, various on.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Musical Attractions,
Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, and on.
JAMES BELL.

STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, July 11.
Only Theatre Open in Swansea.
Wire, WILLIAM COUTTS.

PAVILION THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, on.

PALACE THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant Oct. 10, 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, on.
For First-class Companies only.
Apply, E. TILNEY, Abertillery.

THEATRE ROYAL, GREAT YARMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Company, Sept. 12, Race Week, Musical Show preferred.
Apply, J. W. NIGHTINGALE.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, non-musical, Sept. 19 also Oct. 10, and probably Oct. 31, owing to transferring Mr. George Edwardes's company. Feb. 13 also vacant. Only Best Attractions can be entertainedf for these dates.
Particulars to SIDNEY COOPER.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Drama, good
July 18 week.
SIDNEY COOPER.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?), Sept. 1, 2, 3 (?), 8, 9, 10 (?), 15, 16, 17 (?), Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 28.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. B. WALLIS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for July 18, Aug. 8, 15, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 5, 12 (Holiday date), Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, July 4, 25, Aug. on. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate (not Drama). Season Dates, July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, on. Apply, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, through disappointment, July 4, for First-class Dramatic Attractions, Also July 18.
J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, A few weeks vacant in July and Aug.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Musical Companies. Dates vacant, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, 24, 31, onwards.
All communications to
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court, London.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 8, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10.
Good Pantomimes for Christmas.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Sept. 26, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec. 12 (?), Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, 28, Feb. 20 (Pantomime), 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 (?), 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant July 4, 11, and 28 (three nights), Aug. 1 (?), and Sept. 8.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, first three nights of week Sept. 5, and later dates.

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Reopening after extensive alterations, Sept. 5.
Vacant 8th, 9th, 10th, 19th, Oct. 10, and on.
Rugby, Loughboro', Gainsboro', and Lincoln may be worked three nights with Chesterfield.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Companies for Aug. 8, Oct. 24 (?),
The Theatre of the North.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Aug. (?), onwards, with exceptions.
This Theatre is being renovated and entirely refitted, with new Stage, Elctric Light, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., and will be one of the most modern, up-to-date Theatres in the Provinces on completion.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, Blyth-by-Sea.
Silence a polite negative.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 18, 25, Aug. 15, and Sept. 19.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 4 and 18 (wire), and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions for Theatre Royal, Bolton, July 25, Aug. 1, 8 (?), Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22, and several good Autumn Dates.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug., Sept., on.
Bioscope, July 4. A. D. VERNON.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME, SHREWSBURY.
Lessee, W. YATES GREGORY; Gen.-Man., T. BAUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 15, 19, Sept. 12, onwards, High-class Musical Comedies, Comedy and First-class Shakespearean Plays.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

WANTED, Known, the Best Season Dates, Sept. 19 (Race Week) and Sept. 26 (Autumn Holiday), Vacant at Perth Theatre, for First-class Companies; also, through re-arrangement, Good Pantomime wanted, for Christmas and New Year.
Address,
J. H. SAVILE, Theatre, Perth.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1, 15, all September, Oct. 31, Dec. 19, 25, and Jan. and Feb. Dates.
Address, J. H. SAVILE, Theatre, Perth.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10, and 24, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND T., STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, High-class Popular Dramas, Musical Comedies, fortnightly Pantomimes, &c., all must play twice nightly. Applicants must have good stock of pictorial printing. Letters in first instance, with terms, share or certainty, to be addressed to
MR. HERBERT TAYLOR, Booking Department, United County Theatres, Ltd., Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W.

WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 1. Please quote lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. B. POTTS.

WANTED, Good Attractions, Aug. 1, 15, 22, on, with exceptions, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 8, 15, 22, on, with exceptions, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTS, Radcliffe.

TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Drama, Musical Comedies, &c., July 4, onward.
EGBERT'S Agency, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, for Aug. 8, 15, and 22 (?), also Nov. 7 (?).
Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the New Grand Pavilion, Shanklin, and the Grand Pavilion, Ventnor, Season Dates.
Apply to Mr. WILSON JAMES, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Costume Concert Parties (à la The Follies), July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8. Seasons of one, two, three weeks or more can be arranged. Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for July 25, Aug. 1, for Special Attraction; 8, 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, RICHARD THORNTON.
The most gorgeous and up-to-date Theatre out of London.
Bookings include George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Dollar Princess," Moody-Manners Opera Co., Seymour Hicks and Co., Great Pantomime Production, "Aladdin"; other important engagements pending.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical or West End Attractions, for one or two vacant dates.
London Stars playing North could arrange Flying Matinées. All communications to HARRY EDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, Attractions, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

NEW THEATRE, FERNDALE, GLAM.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, 13 (3), 22, few onwards. Full staff, band, electric. Bookings include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Gay Gordons," "Love and the King," "Bad Girl of the Family," "Sign of the Cross," "The Christian," &c., &c. Good business with good shows. Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1911. Apply, DAVID WILLIAMS.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, on, with exceptions.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, good Company, Dramatic, Variety, or Musical Comedy, Aug. 8, 9 and 10 (three nights), to precede Compton Comedy Company. J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LIMITED.
WANTED, good Attraction, Aug. 22 (through transferring). Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, Really First-class Attractions, Aug. 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, Nov. 21. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Lyceum Theatre, London, W.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, July 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Lyceum Theatre, London, W.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD," "BABES IN THE WOOD." Thanks Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Eight Dates. Clean, smart, funny, and bright. Once or twice nightly. Theatres or Music Halls. Productions settled.
WANTED, for few Remaining Vacancies (Lancs. or Yorks.) Address, J. L. BERRY, 49, Sidney-street, North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, on.
Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Halifax.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
Once or Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, Nov. 14.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26, all North.
BISHOPSDALE Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17 (North or Midland), also Dec. 26, at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE THIEF," No. 1 CO.
WANTED, good Theatre, Aug. 22, three nights, between London and Morecambe.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT," No. 3 CO.
Autumn, 1911, will be booked next month, during July, Aug., and Sept., one night, Seaside towns only; from Oct. to Xmas three and six night towns. Local Managers please send vacancies for July Aug., and Sept., for one night stands only (no town will be booked for more than one night during these months).
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

MR. LOUIS MEYER'S CO.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
Mr. Louis Meyer holds the entire rights of "The Woman in the Case," and will Tour the Garrick Theatre production.
A new plant of Pictorial Printing is being specially cut of this Tour.
WANTED, Known, Autumn Tour now Booking. General-Manager (to whom all communications should be addressed), F. CLIVE ROSS, 13, Old Burlington-street, Mayfair, W.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Vacant Dates, Aug. 22 (3 nights, Midlands or North), Sept. 19 (North), Oct. 17 and 24, Nov. 7 and 21 (3 nights).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN;
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, June 4, June 4.
Wire,
LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Colchester.
June 27, Palace T., Perth.

WANTED, Theatres, Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's "Mummy and the Humming Bird" Co. This Sterling Attraction, July 28 or Aug. 1, three nights.
LANGTON LANE, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, for London Star in Répertoire.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Sept. 26, Nov. 21, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Aug. 8, Nov. 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 3, 10, Dec. 12, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
Production, Junction, Manchester, July 18, 1910.
London production, T. R., Stratford, Aug. 1, 1910.
WANTED, Nov. 14,
Dec. 26.
Only two vacant dates this year.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. CHARLES GRAHAM'S
LONDON COMPANY,
in
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER,"
By R. N. Stephens and E. Lyall Swete.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1.
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1.
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1.
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1.

The play is presented by a First-class Company of Artists, including Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. Cecil Clayton, Miss Leonora Braham, and Miss Olive Noble, and has been produced by Mr. E. Lyall Swete. The scenery is an exact replica of Mr. Lewis Waller's Original Production. "Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner," a romantic Costume Drama, dealing with the American War of Independence, is a play that appeals strongly to each class of patrons.

Bookings include Blackpool, Douglas, Harrogate, Buxton, Scarborough, Middlesbrough, Lowestoft, Worthing, Hastings, Huddersfield, Wolverhampton, Norwich, Newport, Weymouth, &c., &c.

All coms. to FRED PENLEY, Kingsway Theatre, W.C.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.

"HER SECRET LOVER,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Sept. 12, Sept. 12.

"THE POWER OF THE KING,"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant July 25, Sept. 12.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
By Walter Howard.
Vacant Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 22.
Managers needing Good Attractions,
Wire, KIMBERLEY,
97A, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Aug. 29.
Wire,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, 97A, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

DOT STEPHENS and CO.,
in
"A CHILD OF THE STREETS,"
by Frank Price.

A Drama suitable to any class of audience. Grips from the start and holds audience till final fall of curtain.
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 26,
Jan. 16, 23,
Feb. 13, 20 (South),
April 17.
Bookings include Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Birmingham (third visit in 15 months), Rotherham, Walsall (return), Wolverhampton (return), Nottingham, Winter Gardens, Blackpool, Grimsby, Birkenhead, Oldham, Rochdale, Wigan, Brighton, &c., &c. Records broken at many theatres last Autumn. Managers requiring a Real Drawing Attraction kindly address with best terms,
DOT STEPHENS, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

E. HILL MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Sept. 26 (?), Oct. 10, 31.
A few Spring Dates Vacant 1911.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, C/o "The Era."

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."

WANTED, July 11, 18, London only.
HORACE STANLEY,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 29, unexpectedly Vacant through Court, Liverpool, not being ready.
Write or wire,
OTHO HAILEWOOD, Opera House, Southport.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"THE PRODIGAL PARSON,"
Vacant Sept. 5 (only vacancy this year).
"A COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON,"
Vacant Aug. 8, Sept. 5.
Mr. W. V. GARROD, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

"THE BROKEN MELODY."
WANTED, First-class Dates, for Autumn and Spring Tour of above. Address, E. VAN BIENE, New Theatre Royal, Edmonton, London, N.

CLIFFORD HAMILTON and
CHARLES LOCKE'S CO.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, July 25 (?) follow Alex., Hull; Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10, 31, South.
Address, CHARLES LOCKE, Palace, Newcastle.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, Xmas, Jan. 2.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

"HIS REAL WIFE," AND REPERTOIRE.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14 and Xmas, money-making Theatres only. Coms., T. E. WARD, Lyric, Hammersmith, S.W.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 11.
DICKIE CLARE, Alexandra Theatre,
New Washington, Durham.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, Aug. 29 (between Liverpool and Leeds), through obliging, only vacant date this year. WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO."
WANTED, London or South, weeks, Aug. 15, 22, fifth year. The finest, most artistic "Sapho" travelling. "Sapho" can, if required, be played in conjunction with our répertoire of eight plays. Wire to-day, ABBOTT, Hippodrome, Wigan. Next, Shakespeare, Clapham, S.W.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS,"
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS,"
took all the cement away from Scarborough first three nights of present week. Resident-Manager (Mr. Tully) said: "I'm sorry you're going; we should have broken the record for this time of year if you had the week."
Receipts went up each night and totalled well over £100 for the three performances.
Refer W. Peacock, Esq.
WANTED, good Theatres, July 4, 11, Aug. 1, 8, 15, on, with exceptions.
HENRY L. OSMOND, O. H., Harrogate.

WANTED, Oct. 24, for Mr. Herbert Sleath's Co., in "A White Man";
Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, for
"The Sailor's Wedding."
BERTRAM, Garrick Theatre, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama,
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
July 18, 25, Aug. 15, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres, Aug. 1, onwards.
PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29.
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by Arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
Broke all records at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, week commencing April 11. Gross receipts £306, 10,040 persons paying for admission during the week. Hundreds turned away on the Saturday evening. Return date immediately booked.
The following week played to £322 at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Refer to Messrs. Fred Warden and F. Marriott Watson.
Note.—No one but Mr. Tom Watt has any interest whatsoever in this production, and the sole theatrical rights of this version are vested in him.

Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, wire or write,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5.
Autumn Dates rapidly filling.
June 27, Royalty T., Barrow.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOUR.
with Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
One of the Strongest Casts on the Road.
WANTED, Aug. 22, follow Barnsley; Sept. 12, follow Paisley;
Oct. 10 (North), Oct. 31, and Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate), Dec. 5 (precede St. Helens), Jan. 30, and Feb. 6 (South Wales), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea).

All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Abercrombie Hotel, Bootle-street, Manchester.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

"WHOM GOD HATH JOINED."

WANTED, for this assured success, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Oct. 10 and 24, Dec. 26, on.
STUART LOMATH, 134, Kennington-road, S.E.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
WANTED, July 18, to precede Newcastle; also Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, Xmas, Dec. 26, on, 1911. Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"MAN AND WIFE,"
by Walter Howard.
WANTED, for above (by arrangement with E. Van Biene), Aug. 1, 8 (?), 15, precede Edmonton, Aug. 29, between Edmonton and Colchester, Sept. 19, follow Metropole, Birmingham, All October, North, and Nov. 7, 14, precede Alexandra, Belfast. Company includes Miss Ethel Griffies. Excellent printing. Good scenery and effects. GRIFFIES and SKELTON, 45, Boathouse, The Point, Exmouth.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Dec. 12,
Xmas, Jan. 9, various, onwards.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco,
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
To-day, Smethwick; Monday, A., Yarmouth.

J. W. LINDSAY-ELLIS
Present the Famous Military Play,
"LIGHTS OUT."
as Produced by Mr. H. B. Irving.
WANTED, Aug. 22 (between York and Kidderminster), Sept. 5 and 12 (three nights, to precede Cromer), and onwards, with exceptions. Bookings and pencillings from Messrs. John Hart, B. Pareezer, Milton Bode, J. W. Nightingale, Sidney Cooper, Jay and Mann, W. Peacock, J. W. Chapman, J. H. Curry, and Messrs. Morton.
Address, ARTHUR T. BARUGH.
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Midlands.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND CO.
in the most Successful Farcical Comedy,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 5 (three nights), Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 14 and 21.
Refer Robert Arthur, J. R. Huddlestone, J. W. Nightingale, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark, H. W. Rowland, &c.
10, Rusthall-mansions, Bedford Park, W.

MURRAY KING AND CO., in "OUR FLAT."
WANTED, July 4 (week), July 25, Aug. 1.
Splendidly rehearsed. Excellent company. All special properties carried. KING, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play "WHEN IT WAS DARK" (by arrangement with T. Morton Powell). Tremendous reception in Bristol, in spite of heat wave. Tuesday night bigger than Monday.
Refer Henry C. A[illegible], Esq.
WANTED, Dates, for Great Revival of the Romantic Military Drama, "The Woman Who Gambles" (by S. Buchanan Rogerson); also a Big Friday Night assured with Dickens's Great Play, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood." First vacant date for either or all of these Productions, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 17, 24, and 31, Nov. 14, and Xmas.
OSWALD CRAY, T. R., Bristol; next, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES,
in the Musical Farce,
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Aug. 8, 15 (South or Midlands), Nov. 14 (precede Portsmouth), Nov. 28 (precede Burnley), and various Spring.
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."

Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES, Marina, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls,
July 11, 18, 25, for
a big Variety Combination.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, with big holding capacity,
Aug. 8 and 22,
Aug. 8 and 29,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
for
The John Leopold Pantomime Comedy Production Co.,
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY,"
preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
The shows that draw the money.
THEATRE MANAGERS IN WALES,
THEATRE MANAGERS IN IRELAND,
THEATRE MANAGERS IN SOUTH OF ENGLAND
having vacant dates Sept., onwards, please communicate.
ARRANGE ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
All communications to
GENERAL-MANAGER, 198, Brixton-rd., London, S.W.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town. He is the most natural performer in the world. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Owing to mistake in Bookings, July 11 (?), 18, 25 open.
Wire, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.
June 27, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, by T. Elder Hearn,
Theatres,
Music Halls,
and
Artists (Stars only),
for July 11 and on.
Write, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

N.B.—In all cases please accept silence as a polite negative.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, for above, commencing Aug., Lady for Title-rôle (Contralto), must possess good voice, and have plenty of dash and "go"; smart Juvenile Gentleman (Baritone), tall; Gentlemanly Heavy, tall, not to sing; First-class Comedian and Soubrette, for Silas Crump and Judith, both must sing and dance really well, and have at least two Specialities each; Gentleman, for Aristocratic Old Man, to double; Light Comedy (Clergyman), pair of Sisters (same height), with own Specialities; smart Musical-Director (Pianist); all the above must be young, experienced, and dress parts well.

Apply, stating age, height, lowest terms, recent photos., last two references, and address for four weeks, to J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.
Interviews by appointment.

HARRY ROXBURY'S PRODUCTIONS.
"THE PRINCE OF MONTE CARLO."
WANTED, First-class Artists, for the following parts, to commence Aug. 1, on the Moss and Stoll Tour.
Gentleman, for Fiery French Count, broken English part, one with knowledge of foils preferred.
Smart, attractive Lady, for small, showy French part.
Short Eccentric Comedian, for Waiter; must be able to do funny falls.
All applications must state age, height, references (which will be applied for), recent photos., and absolute lowest terms. No interviews except by appointment.
HARRY ROXBURY, 303, Brixton-road, S.W.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "Temptation," commence Aug. Bank Holiday, Manchester District, First-class Juvenile Gent., tall (not robust), also smart Responsible Gent., to double and understudy. Age, height, chest measurements, terms, photos., refs., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Abercrombie, Bootle-st., Manchester.

WANTED, for "Claudian" Co., through releasing, young experienced Juvenile and Responsible Gentlemen. Age, height, latest refs., recent photos., lowest terms. No callers. WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS" TOUR.
WANTED, two Light Comedy Juvenile Gentlemen. Send photographs, references, OTHO HAILEWOOD, Opera House, Southport.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Tall, Powerful, Heavy Man. Terms, refs., &c., to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, for India, sail July 1, Juvenile Man, capable of Character Parts. Apply, Box 63, Albion House, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., between 12 and 1 p.m. Saturday.

WANTED, for Autumn, First-class Actor, for Martin, Blind Farmer, part in "His Real Wife." T. E. WARD, Lyric Th., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Char. Actor for Mr. Bundle ("The Waterman"); one who has played part preferred; July 4; rehearse Liverpool. CALDER O'BEIRNE, 36, Bedford-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Walking Gentleman, for small parts, Tour of London. Play lowest summer salary. Particulars, references, &c., A. YOX, 67, Edgerton-street, New Brighton.

WANTED, for Autumn, commence Aug. Bank Holiday, smart Amateur Actor and Actress. Letters only, T. E. WARD, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, for Sketch, Robust Actor, powerful voice, about 5ft. 9in., for short, intense Character part; also Gent., capable great intensity for small, rough part, to take charge of small scene. Open July 11, rehearse July 5, Dewsbury. Photos., age, height, refs., lowest, J. G. GRAHAME, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, Coach, "Santoy," Amateur Production, Oct. 24, 29.
Address, W. H. TATHAM, Armley, Leeds.

WANTED, immediately, Good All-round Dancers, for abroad; must be tall, good appearance essential. Apply, with practice dress, Monday, 11 to 1.
MADAME, Percy Hall, Percy-st., Tottenham Court-rd.

WANTED, a real North American Indian, for "Nanon Lafarge," by Geo. R. Sims; good salary. Photo., &c., MILDRED BLANCHARD, 24, Hilldrop-road, N.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Theatrical Profession who wish to change to a more profitable occupation
to communicate at once
with the Secretary,
Cusack's Business Training College, Ltd.,
23, Finsbury-square, London, E.C.,
who will be pleased to supply particulars of the numerous well-paid positions at his disposal for Ladies and Gentlemen qualified to act as Private Secretaries, and Confidential Clerks to Professional Men and Chiefs of Commercial Houses.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Young Lady Vocalist, Engagement in select Tea Rooms in London, extensive Répertoire, English and Scotch Ballads a speciality, also excellent Pianist and Accompanist.
Address, Box 7,901, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES, 1910-11.
"BABES IN THE WOOD,"
"ALADDIN,"
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, references, and where can be seen working next six weeks, to A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Mark envelopes "Panto."

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, for Pantomime, two sprightly young Ladies, as Fairy Elves, nimble, quick movement as if dancing, must speak well.

Photos., height, terms to RICH. WALDON.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Pantomimes, not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, terms, references, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Emperor, for First-class Travelling Panto.
Terms, photos., and where can be seen working, to
JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. WILL MOLESWORTH, Shirley, Warwickshire.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager, for small Electric and Variety Theatre in Provinces, must have knowledge of Artists, and take entire charge. Write, stating salary and experience, to
B. B., c/o Gosden and Co.,
11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, smart tall Stage Assistant, to travel, must be handy man and willing.
Address, PAUL, Hippo., Blackburn.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter, permanency; one with knowledge of electric work preferred. Apply, with copies of latest references, lowest terms, Mr. PERCY DUNSFORD, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Carpenter, with Theatrical Company or Sketch, carrying scenery, travelling London to Liverpool, Sunday, July 10, to convey small scene (flats) to Liverpool. Substantial payment. Write, J. G., 146, Blackburn-rd., Accrington.

WANTED, by exceptionally experienced Business-Manager, position, resident or tour, Theatrical or Vaudeville. Moderate terms; highest credentials. Box 7,899, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage-Manager, Varieties, or Scenic Artist, last 4½ years H.M. Theatre, Walsall; refs.; good and long experience. Address, J. DIXON, 7, School-st., Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Will Cartwright, Stage-Manager, Elephant and Castle Theatre. Scenery carted and stored, and baggage trains met.

WANTED, Known, E. Grant (late Assistant-Manager Paragon, Mile End-road), seeks Re-engagement through closing; five years' experience. 81, Wise-road, Stratford.

WANTED, by Smart Man, Situation in Picture Palace, as Inside Attendant, 15 years' exhibition experience. H., 25, Tournay-rd., Fulham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, Musical Director, smart appearance, to arrange and direct; thoroughly experienced in variety business. Neat, smart, small Page Boy, with good singing voice; excellent training and good home assured willing respectable boy; two bright, attractive young Page Girls; must be pretty, and have good figures. Musical, Comedy, and Novelty Front Cloth acts. Sober, reliable Mechanic; and active, fully qualified Cabinet-maker. State age, height, weight, experience, terms, full particulars first letter. Photos. should be enclosed with envelope for return. No callers. Interviews by appointment only. Silence polite negative. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Manager, The Great Raymond Company, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

EMPIRE, DEWSBURY.
WANTED, good First Violin (rép.), open July 9. Permanency. Age, refs., &c., to E. G. SUMMERFIELD.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Military Band, at Redcar and Saltburn, eight weeks, commencing July 18, twice daily, including Sundays; must be good and experienced. Lowest terms to G. B. ROBINSON, Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, for Harry Fossett's Circus (tenting), Solo Cornet. Write, RICHARDS, Fossett's Circus, Holyhead, Monday. No telegrams.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to open Monday next, First-class Clarionet Player, also good Flute. Address, with last refs., and absolute lowest Summer terms, JAMES BELL.

WANTED, Trombone, for "Concordia" Co., Touring, open immediately. State age, height, weight, lowest terms, references. PERCY HONRI, Hippodrome, Margate.

WANTED, Solo and Orchestral Trombone, &c.; start immediately.
Apply, DIRECTOR, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, Euphonium and two B flat Clarionets, combine String preferred; must be competent, July 4, eight or ten weeks. BELLERBY, Denecholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, experienced Bombardon, at Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth, Municipal Military Band, July 2 to Sept. 18. Terms and references to Mr. E. B. HOLLAND, 44, Salisbury-rd, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Mr. W. Rimmer, Southport Military Band, requires First-class Althorn Player at once. Apply, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, good 'Cello, Variety, permanent. Open at once.
W. DURRANT, A.M.U., Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello Soloist and Violin, Seaside Concert Season.
CONDUCTOR, 13, Riding-street, Southport.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Flautist and Piccolo, to commence July 4. Apply, stating references and salary required, to D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, Flautist, also Drummer, with tympanis, &c. State age and last reference, HARRY HINCHCLIFFE.

WANTED, Pianist, must be brilliant Soloist and good Accompanist, for Special Matinée, July 14, Weston-super-Mare. Those in the neighbourhood preferred. Terms, &c., to Box 7,902, "The Era."

WANTED, a real good Pianist, for High-class Concert Party, 14 weeks. Call 1 to 2, GOODMAN, Monday, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Drummer, with Tymps, to open July 4, A.M.U. terms.
CONDUCTOR, Pavilion Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class ex-Army Military Bass Drum and Cym., combined with Tubular Bells preferred. Full details re character, refs., late regiment, letter only, to HOLMES-DALLIMORE, Ravenscourt-mansions, W.

WANTED, a Ladies' Orchestra, six in number, for the New Olympia Skating Rink, Darlington, opening day July 27. M. RICHARDSON.

WANTED, small Ladies' Orchestra, three or four instruments, including Piano, for July 11, onwards. Terms and full particulars to SECRETARY, Queen's Arcade, Rhyl.

HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, for re-opening Aug. 1, full Orchestra, only first-class performers, well up in Variety, sobriety essential. Age, with last ref., HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, really First-class Solo Horn, Clarionets, and E Flat Saxophone, to tour with Military Band, must be thoroughly experienced and reliable.
Apply, quoting lowest terms, age, full particulars, and references, to
HAYDEN, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Orchestra of twelve, July 3, for ten weeks (Piano combine Second Violin), thrice daily, twice Sundays (South). Absolute lowest to BALL, 50, Tunnel-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oboe and Baritone, First Clarionet, for Military Band, W. G., Great Yarmouth, July 18 to Sept. 4. Mr. E. HOLLAND, 44, Salisbury-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, at Once, B flat Clarionet, Euphonium, and E flat Horn, for Pitching. Terms, shares. BANDMASTER, 69, Carlisle-street, Edgware-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Musicians, for First-class London Hotel, permanent, high salary, Violinists, 'Cellists, and Pianist, to start at once; only competent players need apply.
Box 7,894, "The Era."

WANTED, clever young Musicians, Violinists, &c., for long Continental Tour (Ladies or Gentlemen), with English Company. Send full particulars, age, lowest terms, Box 7,904, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Sydney Davies, Conductor (Violin), Disengaged; good executant; experienced, smart, reliable; best references; any business. 12, Providence-st, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, H. F. Petersen, Piano Conductor, late Walthamstow Palace 6½ years, open for Engagements. Thanks for offers. 75, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor or Pianist, Theatre, Music Hall, or Picture Palace; excellent references. CONDUCTOR, 33, Welbeck-crescent, Troon, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged July 4, Reveley, Conductor (Violin), Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction (nine years); any business; self or Band.

WANTED, by a first-class and competent Musical Director, Engagement at Seaside, or permanency. Highest refs. Box 7887, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor, could provide small Military or Orchestral Band on reasonable terms; scarlet uniforms. MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Wake, Musical-Director (Solo Violinist), Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, at Liberty for First-class offers.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical-Director, Variety or Theatre, experienced and smart, age 25. CONDUCTOR, 167, Munster-road, Fulham, London.

WANTED, Known, George Klee, late Leader Moody-Manners Opera Co. (A), at Liberty. Address, 32, Violet-rd., Walthamstow, London, N.E.

WANTED, by First Violinist, immediate Re-engagement; 10 years' experience, all lines; abstainer; good refs. Best offer. FHIPPS, 33, Farnworths-treet, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, any business; can open at once.
THOMAS PASS, 5, Baker-street, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, Variety. Apply,
VIOLINIST, 31, Mayfair-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any business; good refs.
POSTILL, 3, Stanhope-road, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, First or Second Variety, Skating Rink, or Seaside Orchestra; good references. S. PHASEY, 35, Belmore-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Cornet, String or Military Band; young, experienced, abstainer. Box 7,882, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Cornet, Engagement, reliable, excellent refs.; good appearance; could start at once, any business. LEEDHAM, 7, Benhill-street, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and Trombone; together or separate; any business. Apply, H. HATHRILL, 54, John-street, Luton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet. First or Second; any business; refs. CORNET, 43, Windsor-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet, any Business (First or Second); good refs.; age 30. ELLIS, 65, Scarborough-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, any business, Military or String, First or Second. Address, CORNET, 52, Fortune Gate-road, Harlesden, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Cornet, Re-engagement as First or Second, any business. Apply, G. TURNER, 50, Cotton-street, Poplar, London, E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Cornettist, Solo, First or Second, any business, excellent refs.
WARE, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, through closing, by good Clarionet, sober and reliable, any business; good refs. J. MAYO, 48, Claret-street, Accrington, Lancashire.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, young and sober; any business.
Address, Box 7,881, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Disengaged through Theatres closing down; experienced all lines; reliable, sober. CLARIONET, 12, Outram-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, First-class Clarionet, at Liberty; experienced and competent. Wire or write, JOE HAITH, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Clarionet Player.
X., 82, Robert-street, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, any business; good refs.; steady and reliable.
ALBERT FIRTH, 65, Waterloo-road, Blackpool, S.S.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement as Clarionet, First or Second, experienced, reliable; references; vacant June 30. CLARINET, 57, Wa.ford-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, by First-class Clarionettist, double Violin, any business, would deputise. H. SCHAFER, 85, Highgrove-street, Reading.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement by Clarionet, Orchestral or Military; competent and reliable; good refs. FELLERS, 22, Warberry-rd., West Torquay.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Contra Bass, is at Liberty to accept Engagements, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, three years' references.
Address, Basso, 42, Hereward-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Basso, any Business; can open at once. MORETON, 84, Barton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, experienced high-class player, temperate, reliable. Highest references, deputy, or permanent. R. B., 19, The Green, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, Engagement through closing; reliable; good refs., any business. BASSO, 53, Shakespeare-rd., Herne Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Contra Bass Player, Engagement, experienced in every class of Orchestral work; Coast preferred. Bass, 142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, steady, age 29, out through Theatre closing, any business. L. UNSWORTH, Dial House, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, June 25, Double Bass or Bombardon, good all-round experience. E. ELLIOTT, 63, Oxford-street, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by experienced String Bass; refs.
W. SMITH, 61, Hareland-road, Boscombe.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty, any business, abstainer, late Gibbons' and Macnaghten. BANWELL, 76, Miskin-road, Trealaw, Rhondda, South Wales.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, Seaside preferred, steady and reliable.
J. MASSEY, 11, Como-road, Forest Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, good reliable Trombone, at Liberty now owing to disappointment; experienced. SAMPSON, 61, Loates-lane, Watford.

WANTED, at Once, by Trombonist, permanency; three years' reference, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells. NICKS, 14, James'-park, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Trombone Player; experienced any business. Apply, W. R. PENN, A.M.U., 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Euphonium, any Business, abstainer; strictly attentive to business, and reliable; excellent refs. C. W., 14A, Wycliffe-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by good Euphonium or Double Bass; highest refs.; any business. J. STONE, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Soloist), Engagement with good Territorial Band and Sunday work. T. W. S., 59, Kambala-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Brilliant Solo Euphonium, can combine Trombone; wants Sunday work also. Address, MUSICIAN, 151A, Wickersley-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class E Flat Bombardon, steady and reliable. Address, J. FEY, 7, Radnor-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement. Good references.
J. S., 27, Fish-street Hill, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, Orchestra or Military.
PATTISON, 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Solo 'Cellist (large Répertoire), at Liberty, late Brighton Municipal Orchestra, Landon Ronald's Orchestra, &c. Box 7,883, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement as 'Cellist, any business, good references; thoroughly experienced; near London preferred; would deputise. Box 7,886, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged, open for immediate engagement, steady and efficient; references. C. NELSON, Almora, Maude-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, through closing; young, strictly steady and reliable; good refs. 'CELLO, New Opera House, Wrexham.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Deputising, any business.
'CELLO, 4, Thornhill-cres., Barnsbury, London, N.

WANTED, Known, experienced 'Cello, at Liberty, first-class references. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, any Bus.; young and reliable; excellent references. Add., 'CELLO, 30, St. Mary's-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, Piano, or Second Violin, any business; excellent refs.; at Liberty Monday. BROWN, 16, Tunstall-terrace, Silksworth, Sunderland.

WANTED, by First-class Oboe Player, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in all Lines; Disengaged through Theatre closing. WRIGHT, 18, Windsor-street, Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, at Liberty, late H.M. Service, good refs., any business. GEO. LAWS, c/o Mrs. Huntley, 3, New St. David-street, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Known, good Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty, reliable, String or Military; excellent references. FLAUTIST, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Flute and Piccolo, Soloist, can open immediately; reliable, String or Military. FLAUTIST, 12, Nicholstreet, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, Military Band, Variety, or any business. Good refs. ALEXANDER, 251, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty, any Business; steady and reliable. worth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly reliable Flautist, experienced Variety, &c.; good refs. Apply, IVES, 28, Victoria-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Flautist, experienced in Orchestral and Military work; excellent references. GILBERT, 9, Prospect-street, Belfast.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Flautist, Engagement; good Piccolo Soloist; through closing of theatre. FLAUTIST, 93, Narbonne-av., Clapham Common.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Lady Pianist, experienced Orchestral, Dramatic, Pictures, Variety, expert Accompanist. PIANIST, 28, Glenfield-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, H. Fry, Pianist, Principal London Variety Theatres, Disengaged.
159, Hayles-buildings, St. George's-road, S.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by High-class Pianist, Engagement as Accompanist, Professional Vocalist, or Instrumentalist; good sight reader; abroad preferred. C., 3, Sydney-villas, Fifth Cross-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Pictures preferred. Miss COLLEY ASHTON, 30, Tarndale-street, York, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement (practise, &c.), as Accompanist, trained, etc. by Stanley Hawley, exper. Opera, Recit., Music, &c. Miss PARMINTER, 3, Valley-road, Streatham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel, or Xylophone Soloist. The best references. Box 7,785, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by good, steady, reliable Double Drummer and Effects, thoroughly experienced any business; excellent references. MUSICIAN, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, by First-class Drums and Effects, Engagement, experienced all lines; excellent refs. Address, first instance, DRUMS, 31, Beaconsfield-road, Lower Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement, by steady reliable Drummer and Effects, young, disengaged through closing. RICHARDSON, 101, Fildes-street, Great Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagement, good Double Drums, Effects, at Liberty now through closing; excellent refs.; any business. PEARSON, 24, Albion-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette or small Orchestra, Leader Medallist, R.A.M., R.C.M.; extensive Répertoire. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra. Terms and vacant dates apply, Mme. SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Good Agents for the English tour of the Italian Royal Piedmont Hussars, Military Band and Orchestra. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, R. P. H. Banda-Orchestra, Valenza (Torino), Italy.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Brass or Military Band, any number, any business, reasonable. Just finishing twelve months, Skating Rink. BANDMASTER, 73, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, Orchestra, seven Musicians, including piano, smart uniform, Aug. week; moderate terms. BLUE WYVERN ORCHESTRA, 115, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus and Menagerie, Tenting Ireland, Circus Artists in all Lines. A good Aerial Act may write to open July 4; also one or two useful young men, that can Agoust and Vault a little. Full particulars and lowest terms to E. HANNEFORD, 27, Third-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast. Allow three days for redirection of letters.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Young Jockey Act Rider, one able to ride as a lady, also a good Comic Lady Jockey Parody Rider, good Knockabout preferred.
Address,
CIRCUS PROPRIETOR, Box 7,907, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Zoo-Circus, Circus Artists in all Lines of business, from Aug. 29, onwards; all Acts must be first-class; Artists new to Glasgow preferred.
Apply, with open dates and lowest terms, to E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, good Ground Acts, Novelty Acts, also pair of Sisters, Vocalists. Apply, DUFFY, Circus, Omagh. Full Tour to suitable people.

WANTED, to join at once, Tentmaster, sober and reliable. Full particulars, terms, &c., MANAGER, Circus, Mon., Fethard; Tues., Killenaule; Wed., Mullinahone.

WANTED, Lady and Gentlemen Animal Trainers and Performers. Those with previous experience preferred.
Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas, and for the Winter Season, Proctor's A1 Circus Company of Lady and Gentleman Bareback Riders, Gymnasts, Tight Rope and Wire Performers, good Clowns, Performing Horses, &c., &c. For terms address, G. PROCTOR, Proctor's Circus, Newchurch, near Bacup, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Rosa Montero will be at Liberty Monday, July 4, for home or abroad, with her beautiful Horse, and two First-class Acts, Haute-ecole and Liberty Act. Acts, appearance, and wardrobe second to none.
Address, 6, School-terrace, Walsall.

WANTED, by Arthur Harlon and Mlle. Carl, First-class Tenting Engagement or Galas, with the following Acts:—Trampoline Comedy Bar Act, also Aerial Trapeze Act. Free July 4. Address, for Monday, Strabane, Ireland.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Beautiful Contortionist, assisted by Clown Rumbo, June 27, July 4, 11. Wire, 35, Hercules-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Acts, free July 4. Address, 14, Derby-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Stebbing and Isabelle (tenting preferred), Double Acrobatic Act, Agouste, &c. 2, Elsden-road, Bruce Grove, Tottenham.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro the Great, Unparalleled and most Daring High-wire Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas. Terms, 99, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE, DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 13, and onward. Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

THE EMPIRE, NUNEATON.
WANTED, July 11, onwards, Variety Artists; also good Combinations (not more than four turns), to follow Lockhart's Elephants, Leoni Clarke, Dr. Bodie.
Address, Manager, as above.

WANTED, Monday, July 11, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, July 11, 18, and Aug. 1, weeks. Lowest summer terms. Apply, J. GLADWIN, Manager for Mr. Sounes.

WANTED, Variety Artists; all Lines. July 25, on very small place. Summer terms. Apply, first instance, HENRY CARLTON, Cleethorpes. N.B.—Useless writing me if you have a sole agent.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,
MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with lowest terms.

WANTED, Artists, Variety, touring North, to send dates and terms to JAS. ANDERSON'S AGENCY, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to send full list of Bookings. Suitable turns can have tour arranged in Scotland, also North of England. Wire "Contracts, Greenock"; 'Phone 800. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

J. H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.
Established 1888.
WANTED, for Tour 1910-11, commence Sept., Artists in all Lines, Specialities, Comedians, Sisters, Serios and Dancers, Soprance, Contraltos, Interlocutor, and Clever Juvenies. Amateurs save stamps. Address, J. H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 4, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, First-class Artists, early dates. Letters only. GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency, Honor Oak, London, S.E.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all lines, July, onwards, Juggiers, good Sisters, Doubles doing Singles. Letters, E. FORDHAM, Star Hotel, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 4, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

ASTON HIPPODROME, LTD.
WANTED, Known, Artists are requested to forward all Bill Matter for above Hall to Mr. S. T. NEWSOME, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Wanted, Artists, to see me for Songs or Sketches.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand W.C.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, with odd weeks out, send dates and terms. Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, July 4, onwards. Terms, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-st., Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

SYNDICATE HALLS.
STILL WANTED.
WANTED, Original Turns who have not appeared at above, to send full list of bookings (for obvious reasons).
Lowest terms. No callers.
WARREN AGENCY, 21, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, immediate and future dates.
Fame and Fortune and Carr and Rose send addresses.
JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Comedy Sketches, Comedians, Serios, Comedy Acts of all Sorts, Dancing Acts, Tops, Bottoms, Middles, for immediate and future dates, must have full list of bookings, permanent address, and absolute lowest. State where can be seen.
HARRY THURSTON, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Variety Combinations, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, and on.
Must be headed by Big Star Turns.
Enormous Business can be done by really First-class Stars.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, Aug. 15, onwards, First-class Variety Combinations, Minstrel Troupes, for three or six nights.
W. Y. GREGORY, Theatre Royal and Hippodrome, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Best and Highest-class Combinations, July 4, and on, for Victoria Pier Pavilion. BELL, Avondale, Hayling Island, Havant.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Star Variety Attractions, with own Companies, on Sharing Terms, July 11, 18, and 25. State fullest particulars. T. A. EDWARDES.

WANTED, Star Attractions, tops of bill, and Artists all Lines, Birkenhead, Liverpool; also three weeks in Wales. Fullest particulars, booking, lowest terms, &c., EGBERT'S Agency, Piccadilly-mans., 17, Shaftesbury-av., London, W.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Big Acts for Continent. Sole Agency only entertained.
Striking Novelty Acts.
If unknown to me state where can be seen during June and July.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Tops and Bottoms of Bill,
London and Provinces,
also,
Pantomime Principals for best Panto. Houses, 1910-11.
Previous engagements and lowest terms first letter.

WANTED, Monday, July 4, and many other dates, really good Comedy Acts and Artists all Lines. All must state whether ever played Northampton, Kettering, and Grantham, or give date of last appearance in towns mentioned.

Lowest Combination terms to O. MAUD DAYTON (the Dayton Family),

June 27, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

Please accept silence as a polite negative in all cases.

STAR PALACE, BRIDGETON, GLASGOW.
STAR, PARTICK, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Star Acts and Attractions, for immediate and future dates.
Nothing too big, nothing too small. Partick opens July 4, and will be one of the largest halls in Scotland. Money no object for the right acts.
All communications to G. LIZENBERG, General-Manager, Star Palace, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big and Small Acts of all Descriptions. Terms, bookings, and vacancies, MOORE and BENTZ, Adelphi-chambers, 7, John-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, good refined Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c.
Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, good Novelty Acts, for America.
Address, Box 7,900, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, Big, Novel, or Sensational Attraction, for July 4; also Spectacular Productions, Panto. Sketches, Big Animal Acts, Novel Musical Specialities, and Really Funny Acts, for July 11, 18, onward. Lowest terms, printing, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, smart, clever Novelties, for Picture Palaces and small Halls. I can book you. Lowest terms, LEON, 38, Denbigh-street, Westminster, London.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HYDE.
WANTED, Big Star Tops, on share or salary.
Variety Artists, all Lines, new for Hyde, for June 27, all July.
Wanted, Big Acts, for North, all Dates.
Artists Vacant June 27 wire quick.
Address, CLIQUOT'S Agency, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners, Artists all Lines, First-class Pantomime Artists (state where to be seen), Vocalists, Small Speciality, for many picture shows (immediate dates), Good Double Gala Numbers. Contracts for Arvi's Metablescope, Six Juanitos, and many others. List bookings, permanent, lithos., 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

BARNARD'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Sharing Tops, and Turns of all Descriptions.
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Aeroplane." 'Phone, 2349 Royal.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, July 4, on, good Tops, willing to share; also Variety and Speciality Artists, summer salaries. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, Big Novelty Tops, Big Singing Acts. Terms, full list of bookings, lithos., &c., WILL LUND'S AGENCY, 24, Seymour-st., Liverpool. 'Phone, 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy, Liverpool."

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, a Big Top, July 4 and 25, Novelties, Specialities, for future dates, for Barnsley, York, Leeds, Scarborough, &c.
Address, 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds.
'Phone, 4196. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, for Stockton, Middlesbrough, Scarborough. Terms, lithos, full bookings. Note my address until Sept. 17. Prof. AINSWORTH, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Real Top Line Attractions, for the Grand Theatre, Bolton, nothing too big, Drawing Stars with open dates address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Illustrated Song Singers, with own Slides, for Norwich and Paisley, for immediate dates.
Apply, with lowest terms, to E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, smart Knockabout Pantomimist and Young Lady, both to do Singles if required. Photos., &c., WYS, Conway-street, Stoke.

WANTED, immediately, good refined Comedian. Terms, age, height, photo., rep., and refs., to TOM JOHNSON, "Yachtsmen," Aberystwyth.

WANTED, immediately, good Boy Dancers. Apply, BEATRICE BONNIE, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester; next week, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, a very pretty Young Lady Assistant to a well-known Oriental Illusionist, must have dark eyes and hair, 5ft. 5in. height, slim, and a slight knowledge of Oriental dancing. Address full particulars, &c., Box 7,893, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Assistants to a well known Oriental Illusionist and two Coloured (light) men, of 5ft. 6in. height, and also a Carpenter, with tools, to take charge of Props., Scenery, &c.; only sober and reliable people need apply. Box 7,892, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Illusionist, for Paris and Continent, a young, intelligent Girl Assistant, height about 5ft. Address, with photo., DE VERE, Rosny-s-Bois Seine, France; postage 2½d.

WANTED, at Once, Operator for Cinematograph, for Travelling Show. Only those who thoroughly understand need apply to P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Operator, with own machine, sheet, house, &c. Lowest. Can open at once. WALKER, Wooburn Green, Bucks.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mabel Earle, Comedienne and Dancer, vacant June 27. This week, Ashton-in-Makerfield. P.A., 33, Mytton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, June 27, also July 4, by Mlle. DU ROCHE, Wire, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Managers and Artists to Notice that Messrs. TED RAWES and ARTHUR CLARANCE have now started their Variety Agency in Newcastle, and by doing so are supplying a long-felt want in such a large centre as Newcastle.

We can supply from now onward First-class Turns, and Northern Managers requiring same cannot do better than deal with us.

In case of disappointment, a wire to us will quickly meet your requirements.

All communications from Managers, Artists, &c., to

RAWES and CLARANCE,
Central Variety Agency,
Opposite Tyne Theatre, Bath-lane,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co., thanks E. H. Bostock, Esq., for Contracts. At Liberty July 11 and 18. To-day, Pier Pav., Southport (Return); next, Palace, Lincoln (Return).

WANTED, July 4, onwards, through hall closing, Babe Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Monday, Empire, Dublin (5th return). Wire.

WANTED, Known, The Sisters Terry, an Entertainment in Themselves. At Liberty June 27, July 11, 18, 25. Add., Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, July 11, 25, Aug. 1, 8.
Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

WANTED, July 11, Aug. 8, Three Van Earles, Beautiful Ballads; really Marvellous Clog-dancers. Unprecedented success, Barry Dock, Monday, Empire, Abersychan.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, that Seaman McKerell, late Royal Naval Champion, has retired from the Service.
A great hit at the London and Liverpool Halls.

A First-class Agent Wanted.

Apply,
SEAMAN MCKERELL, 407, Woolwich-rd., Charlton, Kent.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Collier Comedian, Colliery Pictures, encored nightly. Empire, South Shields-after, 104, Clayton-street, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Barney Stuart, Character Actor, Vocalist, and Mimic, Monday next. Empire, Dublin; after Sat., 18, Deacon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, vac. Mon., June 27, also July 4, 11. Next, 70, Park-st., Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler, from London Hippo. and Alh.; vacant June 27, July 4 and 11. 83, Up. Conran-st., Manchester.

WANTED, July 4, onwards, Funny Jake, the clever and comical Three-Bar Expert. 35A, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, July 4, by Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Conjurer par excellence; Share or Salary; Self or Company; six kinds of printing. Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Wilton Warton, Comedy Magician. Big Success this week, Public Hall, Runcorn. Vacant Monday. Wire, 94, Great Mersey-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next and July 11 (North preferred), by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist. Wire or write, 13, Windsor-terrace, Salford, Manchester.

The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, July 4, 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 1.
All communications, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler; Sensational Challenges taken on. Wire or write, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers, to see new Act, The Tylers, eminent Saxophonists, of the Queen's Hall Concerts, also Tyler's Silver Band fame. Mon., Hippodrome, Rotherhithe. All communications to Agents, TOM CLAXTON and SON, 6, Gordon-mansions, Francis-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, Monday, and July 11, various onwards, The Monckton's (Fred, Lillie), presenting their successful Farcical Funniosities, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat," &c. Wire, Palace, Nelson.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Original Ward and Davis (Howard and Louie), in "Wanted, a Typist," Comedy Duo. Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 4, by Wisper, Comedy Kid Juggler; Beattie Bloom, Star Comedienne. Wire, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, July 4, 11, by Ward and Davis (Ryder and Eva), Double or Singles, Public Hall, New Brompton. Monday, Palace, Dartford.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 1, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie and Edgar), great Vocal, Comedy, and Expert Juggling Novelty. Wire, Buffalo Palace, Hirst, Ashington.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

BERSAGLIERI'S BAND.

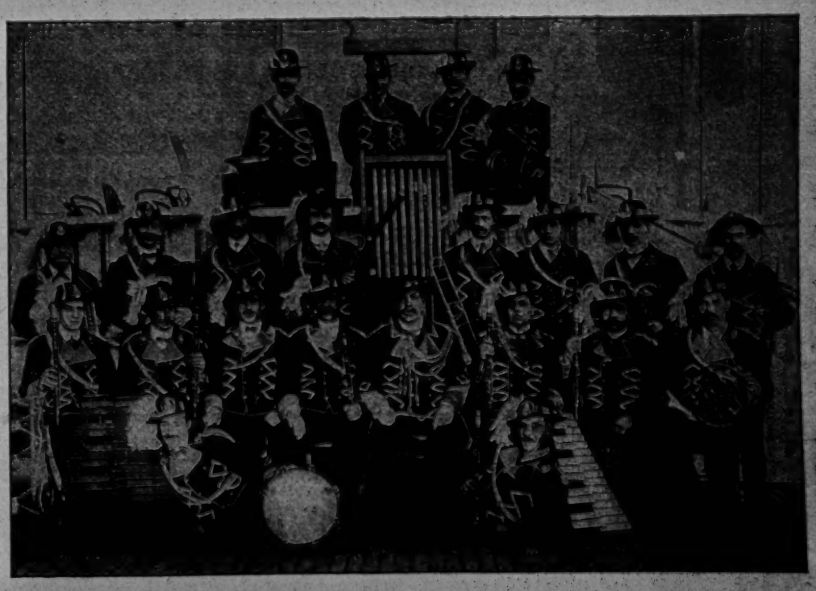

WANTED ENGAGEMENTS BY THIS FAMOUS NOVELTY BAND
Apply, BANDMASTER, 74, FLORENCE RD., BRIGHTON

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Chung Ling Soo, Happy Fanny Fields, Empire Comedy Four, Seven Perezoffs, Onetti Sisters, Du Gros Trio, Grassis, Animated Pictures, Albert Chantrier, Rinaldo.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Mark Sheridan, Sybil St. Elmo, Wyndham and Kitty, Arthur Slater, Findens, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out," Mezzettis, Marconis, Bioscope, Zigeuner Quartette.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Harry Lauder, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Walter Munroe, Harry Grey, Eight Empire Girls, Olive Armidale, Bioscope, "The Spirit of Music," Dorothy Ward.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Albert Rees, F. V. St. Clair, Martialo Trio, Sisters Pine, Bros. Durant, Frasettis, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery, Wilson and Waring.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Clarice Mayne, Chas. Leighton, Bioscope, Nellie Wigley, Carrie Laurie's "Belles of the Kitchen," Horace Pollock, Keene and Adams, Jackley Trio, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Mitchell and Cain.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Ellaline Terriss, Male Ash, Stanley Brett and Co., Chris Van Bern, Geo. S. Melvin, Edie King, Chas. Norton, Arthur Ferriss, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Mildred Bryan, Rich Taylor, Frank Lynne, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Cassie Walmer, Bros. Redmond, Walker and Lake, Spissell Bros. and Mack.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Edward Marris' Stock Company.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips' Airship, Tom Moore, Bioscope, Van Dammes, Alice Raymond, Howard and Harris, Chas. Torbay, Hans and Lux, Albert Whelan, Esta Stella.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Jack Pleasants, Gwennie Hasto, Six Lancashire Lasses, Barrett and Knowles, Carmos, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Shirley and Ransome, Jessie Merrilees, Bioscope, Geo. Leyton and Co., in "Lucknow."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Robey, Betty Green, Harry May Hemsley, Russell Carr, Harry Jolson, Miller Bros., Phillips and Merritt, Evelyn Stoll, Bioscope, Kellinos.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Lamore, Mona Garrick, Lulu Russell, Jock Mills, Smite and Smote, Roma and Romani, Johnny Walker, Bioscope, John Humphries and Co., Elise Craven and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Indian Wrestlers, Cull Pitt, Eight Lancashire Lads, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, May Henderson, Willie Walker, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, George French, Ricardo and Salving, Fred Barnes, Nell Emerald, Bugler Carr, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Girard and Gardner, Tom Foy and Co., in "First of April."

EMPIRE HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Geo. Ali and Co., Daisy Martell, Will Johnson, Tom Stuart, Laurie's Kindergarten, D'Arc's Marionettes, Hardini Trio, Helen Donald, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Victoria Monks, Roze and Calvert, Leslie Harris, Ernie Mayne, Abdullah Arabs, May Mars, Brennans, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Alexander and Hughes.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Stock Company: "The Ticket-of-Leave Man."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Lillian, Ted and May Hopkins, McGregors, Winifred Ward, Bert Harrow, Duncan's Collies, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Bros. Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Mme. Hanako and Co., Siems, James Stewart, Jackson Troupe, Craggs, Harry Roxbury and Co., Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Camille Ober.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Hetty King, Bioscope, Leo Tell, Bertha Winder, Alf Gibson, Drew and Alders, Marco Belli, Avolos, Spy and Monti, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co., in "The Organ Grinder."

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Sam Mayo, Edward Davies, Northern Troupe, Winifred Hare, Witty Watty Walton, Delevines, Three Belle Belles, Bioscope, Harry Weldon.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," A Ba Be's Album, Fatmah Diard, Ted E. Box, Peggy Pryde, Will Poluski, jun., Oakes Duo, Bioscope, Kratons, Heeley and Meeley.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Oswald Williams, Azell A. Wilson, Ed. E. Ford, Charlier, Harry Leybourne, Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Arthur Roberts and Co., Hellene Hurst, New Macs, Tom Davies' Trio, Griff, Stanley and Greenop, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Dan Crawley, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Kate Carney and Co., in "The Fun of the Fair," Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Frank and Free, Addie Dorina, Fullbrook and Co., Lux's Dogs, Ryan and Hall, Phil Parsons, Harry Ford, Ella Retford.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Phil Ray, Johnny Fuller, Harvey's Boys and Girls, O'Gust, Margaret Parker and Co., Ike and Will Scott, Lyric Quartette, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson, Haytors.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Wilkie Bard, Bros. Bright, Walter King, Rauschle, Lydia and Amelys, Bioscope, Lillie Lassah, Fisher's "Vocalesques," Cumminger and Colonna, Gertie Gitana.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

"Futurity Winner," Glenroy Troupe, Kitty Wager, Hilda Jacobsen, Fred Poplar, Juliette's Sea Lions, Stalg's Steeplejacks, Bert Weston, Bioscope, Two Anartos, Poluskis.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Zona Vevey, Orpheus, King's College Boys, Harry Herbert, Kirbys, Chas. J. Johnson, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Geo. Formby, Three Sisters Kilner, Mueller and Coyne, Lena Verdi, Beatrice and Bert, Amy Marsden, Pictures, Mike S. Whallen, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

G. H. Elliott, Emma Don and Co., La Freya, Tom E. Hughes, Bioscope, De Wynne Bros.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Ernest Shand, Frank and Len Latona, Phœnix Trio, Walter Wade, Ethel Bourne, Bioscope, Alf. O'Goust.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Lorimer, Stella Stahl, Woodhouse and Wells, Brull and Hemsley, Counsill and Mills, Pictures, Florence Yaymen, &c., &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Kathleen Gray, J. H. Milburn, Jennie Hartley, Maxey and Pete, Pictures, Rawsons, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JUNE 27.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Warsaw Bros., Johnny Cecil, Dolly Ross, Elsie and Bob, The Belmonts, Fallows and Beaumont, Walter Read, Velanche's Dogs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Jackson Family, Takio, Cedrics, Florence Esdaile, Vela, Oliver Martyn, Burnetti, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
E. D. Nicholls and Co., Nellie Norah, Ford Williams, Milner and Storey, Judge's Cockatoos, Ethel Entwistle, Leolin, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Williams' Jubilee Singers, Sydney Brandon, Colin Bryce and Co., Edie Reynolds, Carney and Armstrong, Sisters Edwardes, Norah Desmond, Baron's Menagerie, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Harry Hunter, The Fontellas, Sunday Picture, Gibbon and Bell, Walonells, Laurie and Leslie, Dick Tubb, Alli Moore, Miss Edith Lewis and Co.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Mabel Florence, Harry Curwen, Irene May, Mollie Edwards, Arnold Bell and Co., Leo and Roland, Clarke and Mostel, Daisy Taylor.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
"The Pawnbroker," Gene Morelle, Dene and Dixon, Fred Ward, Lily Hill, Arthur Croxon, Louie Tracy, Danvers and Rosslyn, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, Harry Keeble, Les Arabellas, Reid and Power, Gladys Wells, Chas. Woodward, Alice Craven, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Burt Shepard, The Seddons, Creagh and Cruikshanks, Lauri Wylie, Bert Crosbie, Two Lees, Belrose and De Velin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Carlotta de Yonsen and Co., Myrtle Grove, Clive Cattley, Canard, Le Hurst, Blanche Marion, The Days, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Broughton and Creedon, Vaudeville Trio, Maude May Murray, Three Phydoras, Lily Edwardes, Niblo's Birds, Harry Brown, The Alaskas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
G. Heron and Co., Harold Heath, Gladys Wyse, Ellerslie Pyne, Sissie Brand, The Fitzroys, John Macauley, Georgie Harris, Pick of the Picture World.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Thiessen's Dogs, Victor Bros, Lestree, Adah Payne, Jessie Wilton, Marie Altino, "The Yellow Fang," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Russell and Held, Dan Fraser, Motramos, Beatty and Blanche, Guest and Newlyn, Pit Brow Girls, "The Plumbers," Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Pictures Chas. Parker.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Pictures. Flo Burnett.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Pictures.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Shadow of a Crime."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Vonetta, Musical Keiths, Four Rosebuds, Tom Gott, Josh Dixon, The Sages, Hannaway Bros., Will Rennie, Palace Perfection Pictures

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Laurie and Elsie, Nellie Doris, Susie and Protti, Gyp Hodgson, Bessie Neilson, Harcourt Mills, Elsie Claire, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "A Sister's Honour."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Lew Lake and Co., Pictures, Farr and Farland, George Campbell, Will Challoner, The Hulls, Florrie Thurstone, Fred Moule and Co., Emmie Harlow, Alskarno Trio.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Milsted Bell, Dan Henry, Josephine Crook, Doris Duce, Florence Smithers, Fyne and Wood, Helen Roberts, Bernard Mervyn and Co.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

Mr. F. POSTLETHWAITE, the Debenture Holder who has been in possession of this property, has sold the same to **Mrs. LOUISE CISSIE LAWSON,** who is now carrying on the business at the house as from May 28 last.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

NOTICE TO ARTISTES.

HAVING ACQUIRED the above-named Music Hall from the Receiver and Debenture Holder, I hereby NOTIFY ARTISTES and others that all existing contracts are cancelled as and from June 18, 1910.

Signed,
CISSIE LAWSON.

NOTICE.
ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY, SOUTH WALES.

MR. WILLIAM HAGGAR, of Aberdare, having purchased the above Theatre (which will henceforth be known as HAGGAR'S THEATRE), hereby gives notice that all Managers who have negotiated for or have arranged bookings with either Miss Alice Rochefort or Mr. Z. Andrews, must on or before July 4 have such negotiations or bookings ratified and confirmed by him the said William Haggar, otherwise he will treat the same as cancelled and will proceed to make his own arrangements as to the letting of the Theatre.

All Coms. to W. HAGGAR, Aberdare, Wales.

CRYSTAL PALACE

MUSIC HALL COMPETITION.

OPEN TO ALL.

A GRAND MUSIC HALL COMPETITION will be held at the Crystal Palace commencing **MONDAY, JULY 4.**

First Prize, **£3 3s.,** with the offer of an engagement for the following week at **£4 4s.**
Second Prize, **£2 2s.** Entrance Fee, **2/6**
Each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday Semi-Final, Friday. Final, Saturday.

Two Competitors selected each night to take part in the Semi-Final on Friday. Four Competitors selected from Semi-Final to compete in Final on Saturday.

Any Turn of whatever kind can compete.

The decision of the Referee must be accepted as final. Entrances to be dealt with in order of application (which must be accompanied by remittance), addressed to the Manager, "Music Hall Competition," Crystal Palace, S.E.

KEMPTON PARK RACECOURSE CO., LTD.—43 £5 shares; div. 35 per cent.
SANDOWN PARK RACECOURSE, LTD.—20 £10 shares; div. 7 per cent.
NEW TIVOLI, LTD.—40 £5 shares; div. 12 per cent.
LONDON PAVILION, LTD.—35 £5 six per cent. preference shares; div. on ordinary 8 per cent.
UNITED VARIETIES SYNDICATE, LTD.— 10 £50 six per cent. debentures; div. on ordinary shares 12 per cent.

MESSRS. EDWIN FOX, BOUSFIELD, BURNETTS, and BADDELEY will include in their STOCK AND SHARE AUCTION at the MART, E.C., on WEDNESDAY NEXT, JUNE 29, at two o'clock, the above SHARES and DEBENTURES, in lots.
(Particulars at the Auctioneers' Office, 99, Gresham-street, Bank, E.C.

SALE by AUCTION of the valuable COLLECTION of WILD ANIMALS, formed by Robert Leadbetter, Esq., and being the menagerie exhibited for the last three years at the Crystal Palace, and removed therefrom for the convenience of sale.

MESSRS. MOSS and JAMESON will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, July 14, 1910, at one o'clock precisely, on the PREMISES, 207, ST. JAMES'-ROAD, EAST CROYDON, the whole of the valuable COLLECTION of WILD ANIMALS, as above, comprising elephants, lions, tigers, camels, dromedaries, yaks, llama, Indian sacred cattle, jackals, bears, dingoes, wolves, foxes, antelopes, kangaroo, monkeys, parrots, &c. Also cages, wagons, and carts. On view day prior and morning of sale. Catalogues forwarded. Auction Offices, 77, Chancery-lane, W.C. Tel. No. 6, Holborn.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bingham."

Posters for all New Films
SEND FOR CATALOGUES, &c.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

HAWKHILL PICTURE PALACE, DUNDEE.

TO LET,

Comfortable Hall, licensed for Cinematograph; seats over 1,000, with Back and Side Galleries; beautiful Stage, complete with Footlights, Piano, Fireproof Box, and Resistance; electric light throughout.

Has been let continuously for over nine months during each of last two years to same tenant for Cinematograph Entertainments, twice nightly and Saturday matinée.

Sealed offers of Rent—to be paid weekly—to be sent to

DAVID BLACKADDER,
32, Castle-street, Dundee,

marked "Offer." These will be opened on the 28th inst.

The proprietors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer.

GAMAGES

The World's CHEAPEST HOUSE for Amateur and Professional Make-Ups and Properties.

THE SECRETS OF MAKING-UP.

By J. AINSLEY BROUGH.

The most useful book on the subject published.

Highly Recommended.

Price 1/-
Post Free.

PIERROT COSTUMES

INCLUDING

HAT.

LATEST PATTERN.

Price **14/6**
Postage ... ... **6d.**

A. W. GAMAGE Ltd. HOLBORN. BENETFINK & Co Ltd CHEAPSIDE

MR. FRANK ALLEN
DESIRES TO EITHER
SELL OR LET ON AGREEMENT
THE BEAUTIFULLY-COMPACT DETACHED RESIDENCE, KNOWN AS
WOODLAWN, KINGSTON HILL

(Held for an unexpired term of about sixty-three years, at a ground rent of £37 10s. per annum), containing seven bedrooms, dressing-room, two fitted bathrooms, with hot and cold water supplies, w.c., and lavatory, three capital reception rooms, excellent domestic offices on the ground floor, and spacious cellarage.

Detached stabling for three horses, double coach-house, and two rooms over, also motor garage, suitable for containing two large motor cars, and fitted up with bench and cemented pit.

Well timbered and beautiful grounds of about one acre. All new and up-to-date drainage and sanitation. A fine 18-hole golf course is being laid out opposite the house, in addition to which there are other three courses, two on Wimbledon Common (barely two miles away), Coombe Links (one mile), and the Wimbledon Park Golf Club (two-and-a-half miles).

The estimated rental value is £180 per annum, but an offer would be accepted of £140 per annum on a three years' agreement, or £130 per annum on a seven years' lease.

The ridiculously low price of £2,000 would be accepted. Mr. Allen's only reason for desiring to sell or let this beautiful residence (which combines the advantages of a town house with the pleasures of a country home), is owing to the recent marriage of his daughter.

Further particulars may be had on application, and the house can be viewed at any time by appointment.
Telephone No. 99 Kingston.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town. He is the most natural performer in the world. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Owing to mistake in Bookings, July 11 (?), 18, 25 open.
Wire, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.
June 27, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by King Leo, Ventriloquial Vocalist, and Jessie Star, Lady Scotch Comedian. Empire, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, Novel Electric Show; our fourth visit. Wire, Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, by Henri Bekker and Miss Maie, Comedy Conjuror, July 4, in Wales. Sure Laughing Hit. Wire or write, Town Hall, Maesteg, Wales.

WANTED, Monday, 27th, and on, for the Bronsons, genuine Musicians, Smart Patter, Vocal and Instrumental Solos (lady and gent). 44, North-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Palace, Warrington.

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, 25, onwards, the Great Rohde and Roche, something new in Vaudeville. What "A Strange Meeting," The Chameleon, Artist, and IT," presents refined and clever Comedy, Singing, Dancing, extraordinary Contortion Potpourri Act, with original Trick stuff. The only Act of its kind (the best). Era says: A clever act. Shared well the honours of the night.—Argus, Hastings. Enormous success, Hippodrome, Hastings. June 27, Court Theatre, Warrington. Wire for dates. New to England.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11.
The Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Bank Holiday, by the Two Daniels, Comedy High Stilt Duettists. Wire, Salisbury-place, Sherbourne-rd., Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Boston Twins, Funny Speciality Act.
Wire, Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, Monday, by Cambo and Castelle, Sensational Musical Monkey Act.
Wire, Hippodrome, Devonport.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, Vacant July 4. Wire, Winter Gardens, Morecambe. Wire.

WANTED, July 4, The Ives, Athletic Speciality Artists; gorgeous electric fit-up. Bottoming this week, Temperance Hall, Merthyr; next, Hip., Ton-y-Pandy, where wire.

WANTED, July 4 and 11, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog Jack. Own scenery; splendid lithos. Queen's Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dates, Halls, Circuses, Galas, &c., Phinas and Aida, vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15. Per. add., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Five Musical Marvels, vac. July 4 and 11. This, Queen's, Leeds; next, Hippo., Dublin; perm., 248, Old Ford-rd., London.

WANTED, Known, Max Merlin, Crocodile, Glittering Garden, Starred, town's talk everywhere. Midland Tribune, June 14 (extracts):—Merlin simply amazing, and makes one wonder whether he has anything breakable in him . . . and setting of his scene effective. Liberty July 27, Pantomime. 65, Caledonian-street, Leeds.

WANTED, July 4, 11, by Herman and Evelyn, in their Great Sensational and Novel Pot-Pourri, Unique Jumping, Acrobatic Table and Wire Act. Wire or write, next week, T. R., Workington.

WANTED, Known, the Florias have returned to England, having performed with enormous success at most of the principal Theatres on the Continent, eleven months' continuous tour. Offers invited for now and on for this clever equilibristic act. 68, Limekiln-street, Dover.

WANTED, June 27, July 11, 18, by Three Original Hodginis, Gymnasts, Seaside scene; splendid scenery; posters, lithos. This, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, with their new sensational Revolving Breakaway Ladder Act, one of the greatest Aerial Gymnastic Displays now before the Public. Big success everywhere. WOOD, Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Wanted, Smart Youth, Acrobat. Post Office, Ammanford.

WANTED, 27th, 4th, and 11th, by Atlas-Vulcana Troupe, including the Beautiful Miss Vulcana, the world's most wonderful Lady Athlete and Artist. Most sensational and marvellous classic posing ever seen. Wire, ATLAS, The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, June 27, July 11, 18, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, Sat., Pav., Northwich; then, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, month of July, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, only vacancies this year, strong Comedy draw. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

MISS ELLA'S EDUCATED LION SHOW.
Greatest attraction at the present time.
WANTED, all July, Aug. 1, 8, and 15, prior to Continental Tour.
Communicate, 23, Lennox-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Edith Tudora's Ponies, four in number, Liberty Monday and on. Big success. Ireland preferred. Coms., 127, Great Brunswick-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Troupe of Dogs, at Liberty Monday; (Big Show. Wire, 8, Hanover-street, Burslem, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful Troupe of Russian Poodles, clean, classic, clever show, great attraction and novelty for Galas, Music Halls, &c. Specially engaged Wolverhampton Gala, July 12, 13, 14; few vacancies. MANAGER, Tudno House, Rhyl.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, Fêtes, Galas, and Al Fresco Speciality, a success. Wire or write, 19, Sherfield-road, Grays.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Champion Somersaulting Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Always a Success. Vac. Halls, Galas. Terms; 7, Ebberstone-st., Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Galas, by Pauletti, Somersaulting Cyclist. Only a few Vacancies till April, 1911. Per., 106, Bigland-street, Salford.

WANTED, by Hall and Wilson, Motor Cycling Sensation, vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, precede Etoile Palais, Paris. Wire, write, Hippodrome, Bursiem.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS,
JERSEY.
WANTED, High-class Concert Parties, six or seven in number, two performances daily, of about two hours' duration; all must be refined, well up in Single and Concerted numbers, must have strong recommendations, two to four weeks' engagement; also Artists all Lines, Tops, Bottoms, and Middles write in; all to state full particulars of Party or Acts and quote absolutely lowest terms.
Write, MANAGER, Olympia, Jersey.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, for Newcastle, also for Steamers and Pitch, Cork, good Funny Comedians, open Monday; gags, produce Sketches, Concerteds. Wire, Olympian Concerts, c/o WATTS, Clonallon Cottage, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, all Lines.
Apply, TREVOR, 7, Mount-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, for Pierrot Shows, near town, Variety Artists and Combinations. Send photos. and refs. to MANAGER, Palace, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Refined Double Turn, Working Duologues, Comedians, Soubrettes, Tour Piers, open South, July 4. HART, Pavilion, Rothesay.

WANTED, à la Georgie Lashwood, for Al Fresco, High-class; start at once. Call, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, 1 to 2, Goodman, Monday.

WANTED, smart Soubrette, young and good appearance, open July 18 for three weeks. DAVID THOMSON'S ENTERTAINERS, Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen.

THE BLACK CATS.
High-class Concert Party.
Established Two Years (six in number).
Quartettes, Glees, a Speciality.
WANTED, Dates, Sept., onwards. See, hear, and judge for yourself. Soprano, Tenor, Baritone, Soubrette, Contralto, Humorist. GEO. FAY, Castle Rink, Bedford.

WANTED, by Vocalist, Heavy Baritone Soloist, Engagement, with Concert Party; Coast preferred; high-class. BARITONE, 142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be at the Castle Hotel, Halifax, on Tuesday, June 28, at 2.30 p.m., when all members are requested to attend.
Important Business on the Agenda re Oldham Wakes, 1910.
No member of this Union must make any arrangements re attending Oldham Wakes before seeing the Secretary. By Order, Signed, THOS. HURST, Sec.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

TO SHOWMEN.
WANTED, Showmen, with Beach Sites, to take up the most Novel Attraction of the Season.
Necessary plant supplied free under simple conditions.
Apply by letter,
WALTER TYLER, LTD., 48 and 50, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Everything for the Fair, &c.; Rifle Range supplies, also Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, &c. BRITISH CO., 457, High road, Tottenham.

WANTED, a Steam Circus and other Amusement for the August Bank Holiday Fête and Race Meeting at Braintree, Aug. 1.
Apply, W. E. TUNSTALL, hon. sec., 78, Victoria-street, Braintree.

WANTED, good Side-shows and Novelties, on sharing terms, or will hire. Will owners of "Is Marriage a Failure?" and "Spider's Web" write. Also have good building ready fitted up for Cinematograph Show, on sharing terms.
Box 7,889, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
Full particulars.
Sample Lithos. and Postcards in first letter.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Living Novelties of every Description, for present and future dates; also Lady Palmist. FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, 103, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, for Ground Booth, 26 by 36, good Summer Attraction, Illusion, Swimming, or Strong Girls; shares or salary. JOHNSON, Exchange Hall, Stockton.

WANTED, Statue or any other Good Shows. Rent or Shares.
MERRYLAND, 72, Upper-street, Islington.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Pleasure Grounds, for Summer Season, wages 30s. and commission on takings. Address, Box 7,890, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady Palmist, for Automatic Arcade, Novelties, &c.; good opening; Share or Rental. 1, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

PALMISTRY.
WANTED, Lady for same. State age and experience; on salary. Box 7,898, "The Era."

Palmistry and Clairvoyance.
WANTED, Lady, for old-established Private Practice, wage and commission.
F. PARR, 89, Hurst-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, a thoroughly good Comedian; also good Vocalist, to travel with Auction Mart. Apply, Auction Mart, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, two Coloured Girls and a Doorsman, for Picture Show; good opportunities.
CINE, G.P.O., Blackpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, good Monogram Salesman, used to rubber stamp orders. RUBBER STAMP WORKS, 19, Royal-arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, smart Young Man, for Fountain Pen Stand, in Trades Exhibition, must be good worker. F. FAIREY, Exhibition, Loughborough.

WANTED, Engagement, for a High Grade Real Indian Side Show, an unusual performance. Shares or salary. Address, Box 7,903, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Palmist, young lady. Terms, 35s. weekly. Address, SCIENTIFIC HAND-READING, 47, Gillingham-street, Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, for long or short periods, in sections or as a whole, the Arcade, Harrow, near Metropolitan Railway Station, a grand position for Pictures, Sports, Automatics, Funland, or other amusements.

A large district of people with money to spend all the week. Come and see it.

THE WINTER GARDENS, ONCHAN HEAD, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
COTTIER CUBBIN, Proprietor.
WANTED, Known, this premier resort opens 27th inst., largest open air Roller Skating Rink and Dancing Floor in the Island; popular attractions; thousands of visitors. A few Spaces to be Let for good joints. For terms, &c., apply as above.

Nottingham Market Place. Finest position.
WANTED, Known, Large Site for Sale, suitable for Music Hall, Theatre, or Cinematograph Exhibition, 41ft. frontage to Market Square, 150ft. back, or more if required. PEARSON, Newcastle-chambers, Nottingham.

WANTED, all requiring Spaces for Grand Fancy Fair (six weeks), write immediately for particulars, HENRY SILVANI, Exhibition Hall, Belfast.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Gold Wire-workers, Fancy Stalls, and Palmist, also open to Buy Up-to-date Automatic Machines, must be in good order.
Apply to E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Tenants, Good Side Show, 30ft. Game Space, and Fancy Bazaar, best positions. 34, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.

A Teddy Bear Roundabout,
all complete, with or without electric light, in thorough working order, and well worth the money. To responsible people part of the purchase-money can be arranged.
Apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Sale Van and Tent, &c.; Tent can build to hold 600-800, fitted scenery, suit Pierrots, Auctioneering, Pictures.
WHITAKER, 14, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindoo Spirit Writer, Great Money-getter, 50s., cost £6; also Slot Punchball Machine, £6. JACKSON, 457, High-rd, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Barrel Organ, cheap, suit Roundabout, Show, or Rink, extra large barrel, 12 tunes. Particulars, JACONELLS, 40, Banbury-street, Birmingham, manufacturers of Piano and Mandoline Organs.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Piano, with 150yds. Music, 21 selections, Drum and Bells, penny slot, £15, perfect. Sea View Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, American Bowling Alley. State full particulars and lowest price for cash. Apply, Mr. RUDLAND, 35, Frederick-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Dynamo, 110 amps., and 100-110 volts, suitable for going on a Showman Traction Engine, 6 n.h.p., compound. Box 7,880, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Advertiser requires an Electric Piano. State full particulars and very lowest terms. MANAGER, Marine-parade, Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Secondhand Orchestrions, for Skating Rinks. Full particulars and lowest price to POOLE, 11, High-street, Kidderminster.

WANTED, to Buy, best money-taking Novelty, must be cheap, for Seaside, or join another. NOVELTY, Empire Lounge, Swansea.

WANTED, to Buy or Rent, set of Distorting Mirrors; must be in good condition and cheap. State size and full particulars. STONE and CLEMENTS, 40, Pier-street, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Floor Manager, must be experienced, tall, and of good character and good appearance. M. RICHARDSON, New Olympia Skating Rink, Darlington.

WANTED, for the Winter Season, from Oct. next, prominently-located Skating Rink or other large building, in a big city.
Reply, with full particulars,
PYKE and PYKE, 47, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov.,
must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Rent, Skating Floor, 20ft. by 22ft., for music hall stage, been used three weeks. Address, Box 7906, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, CARDIFF.
Just Vacant.
WANTED, to Sell or Let on Lease.
Apply, SEEL, Secretary,
Theatre Royal Chambers, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Sell, Palace (portable), Theatre, Evesham, complete, practically new, now working. Apply, LOVERIDGE, Travelling Theatres Association, Folkestone-road, Dover.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, CINEMATOGRAPH FILM FACTORY, ideal, quiet locality for picture making; big studios, electricity, telephone, water, all ready.
Apply, MARTIN, Alton, Hants.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED TO SELL.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
Sole Lessee and Manager, CHARLES FROHMAN.
WANTED, WANTED, KNOWN, AS THIS THEATRE IS TO BE ENTIRELY RE-DECORATED, RE-UPHOLSTERED, AND RE-CARPETED DURING THE FORTHCOMING VACATION, THE WHOLE OF THE PRESENT CARPETS, DRAPERIES, CURTAINS, &c., WHICH ARE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION, ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF.
APPLICATIONS ARE THEREFORE INVITED FROM POSSIBLE PURCHASERS, TO VIEW THE SAME, WHICH MAY BE SEEN ANY MORNING DURING THE NEXT FOUR WEEKS. APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING, WHEN AN APPOINTMENT WILL BE MADE, TO
JAMES W. MATHEWS, BUSINESS-MANAGER.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
LUCAS, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Quantity of Theatrical Scenery and Properties.
Apply, ORMESHER'S, Duke-street, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, White's Hamper, 42in. by 30in. square, wheels, two trays, year's use, £1. JOHNSON, 23, Austral-street, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Balloon Car, with ring, ropes, and sand bags, to seat four persons, perfect condition, cheap. STONEMAN, Timber Merchant, Bramford-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, to Sell, Plated Set Tubular Bells, complete on folding stand, 5ft. high, £4. CONDUCTOR, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Gongs, Tubular Bells, Organ Chimes, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Tubaphones, Sleigh Bells, Macaronis. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, nearly new upholstered and plain Seating, Iron Standards, suit Picture and Variety, cheap. HARRIS, Ashgrove, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Marionette Fit-up and thirty Figures; electric fittings and gas, new condition. J. ELDEN, 15, Dorset-street, Southampton.

WANTED, to Sell, Successful Drama; short cast, pretty scenery, effective printing. Can be seen playing in London first instance. Box 7,888, "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a highly Dramatic Sketch (twenty-thirty minutes), four in Cast, quick acting, smart dialogue, love interest, strong situation. Box 7,879, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, several First-class Sketches, Monologues, Duologues, Comedy, Farcical and Sensational. All sure successes. Coms., A. EDWARDS, 89, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, several First-class Songs and Sketches.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Motor Car, must be reliable make, late model, large, comfortable, well appointed, in good running order. Give full particulars, colour, style, where purchased, time used, and where and when can be seen. THE GREAT RAYMOND, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Tip-up Chairs, for Electric Theatre; 500 required, new or secondhand, but must be low quotation; also Running Seating. Reply first instance to W. Y. GREGORY, Esq., Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. PEARSON, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, all-black Poodle Dog, few tricks preferred; good price for good dog. MATTHEWS, 60, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Rolling Globe, about 2ft. diameter, also Hire or Buy, smart Miniature Trick Pony. HENGLEUR, Tudno House, Rhyl.

RING FENCE.
WANTED, to Buy, movable Ring Fence, 42ft. diameter, if cheap and in good condition.
ARTHUR THOMPSON, 229, Waterloo-road, London.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

TO CINEMATOGRAPH SYNDICATES AND DRAMATIC. CORN EXCHANGE, ATHERSTONE (Principal Hall), Licensed Cinematograph and Dramatic.
WANTED, Known, this Hall is now open for Bookings of Picture Exhibitions for periods, also Dramatic. Terms reasonable. Particulars, H. CHARNELL, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, for a Fortnight only, commencing June 27, the Temperance Hall, Leicester, seating accommodation 1,700, reduced rent for this fortnight only, a week's hire would be considered. Wire or write, MANAGER, Temperance Hall, Leicester.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in July and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

To Animated Picture Proprietors and Others.
WANTED, to Let, a Large Hall, about 40ft. by 100ft., suitable for picture show at a very small outlay. Apply, PETER HAMLEY and SONS, 104, Old Town-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, off Westminster Bridge-road, 4, Hercules-road, well positioned Shop, good workroom, living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent. EDWARDS, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Sites for Cinematograph Theatres and Rinks.
BENTLEY and WARNER, 199, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, for Pitch and Steamers, Ireland, Troupe of four or five, shares, or will sell or transfer subsidy collections, open immediately. Wire, Olympian Concerts, c/o WATTS, Clonallon Cottage, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.

TO PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Lease, good Theatre, also Halls for Cinematograph. Full particulars, FRED GOULD, Ashington, Northumberland (late Miners' Theatre).

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, for Autumn Tour of well-known Musical Comedy.
Parts open.
Moderate capital.
Address, Box 7,884, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, by a well-known Professional, a gentlemanly Young Man to join Advertiser in Producing and Staging a New and Novel Sketch, certain booking. Cash required about £150.
Address, Box 7,908, "The Era."

WANTED, Energetic Partner, for Established Concert Party, an Entertainer preferred. GEO. FAY, Proprietor, The Black Cats, Castle Rink, Bedford.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, good Head-Hand Balancer, would like to join Troupe or Partner, weight 9st. Letters, Box 7,891, "The Era."

WANTED, by Acrobat, to join Partner with good Acrobatic Act; can Tumble, Mount, and Hand-balance. L. SYLVESTER, 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Partner, clever Comedienne (no Amateur), to join Trick Pianist in Speciality. American Bookings. State what you can do, and mention experience.
Address, Box 7,905, "The Era."

WANTED, Partnership in Seaside Al Fresco or Concert Party. Will invest small capital.
T. H., Whitecot, Carshalton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Songs, Sketches, Band Parts. Songs taught.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Songs, Sketches, Band Parts. Music copied.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
A PICTURE THEATRE COMPANY,
already at work, is prepared to acquire suitable premises or going concern in return for fully paid ordinary shares, with the option of redemption at par in twelve months.
Address, Box 7,885, "The Era."

WANTED, a Typical English Girl, to be photographed for reproduction on Advertising Calendars and Posters (to be published exclusively abroad and in the Colonies).
Applicants should send photo. (which will be returned), and state colour of hair and eyes, and also remuneration expected.
Write only. RIPLEY and Co., Printers, 17, Silk-street, Milton-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, the address or whereabouts of W. Morey, who was at work as Traction Engine Driver for Mr. S. Jones, Roundabout Proprietor, in July, 1908.
S. JONES,
64, High-street, Hounslow.

WANTED, Known, S. Anderson, Tenting with Ringling Bros., World's Greatest Show. Add., c/o Ringling Bros., Baraboo, Wis., U.S.A.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up
Gerrard 3714.
THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
55a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

ORION, THEODOR GAPA.
Splendid opportunity is open you.
Address, Box 7897, "The Era."

SANGSTER, PERCIVAL LIONAL ALBERT.
Advertiser anxiously inquires, mutual advantage.
Address, Box 7896, "The Era."

BARTLETT, HENRIETTA ELIZABETH,
Will hear of something to her advantage.
Address, Box 7895, "The Era."

MISS MAISIE HANBURY thanks W. Howard, Esq., for offer Monica, "Prince and Beggar Maid." Lead, Stock, G. T., Brighton.

MISS LAURA HANSEN, Resting. Offers invited for Autumn or Abroad. 86, Church-road, Hove, Brighton.

MISS JOAN HARCOURT, Effie Peacock, "The Little Stranger" July 4, Gaiety, Douglas.

MISS IDA HERON, Lady Isabel, Mr. Tom Watts' "East Lynne" Co. T. R., Belfast.

MISS OLGA HOPE, Child Actress, 1, Welbeck-court, Kensington, W.

MISS MARIE HOUSLEY, At Liberty for Lead. 9, Victoria-road, Berkhamsted, Herts.

MISS CLARA JECKS. Address, Care of "The Era"; or, A.A.

MISS VIOLA JENNINGS, Lead, Heavy Lead. All communications, Perm. add., Viola House, Redditch, Worcestershire.

MISS LILIAN KEVILL-DAVIES, Disengaged, Character, Grand Dames, &c. Address, St. Mary's, Maldon, Essex.

MISS ADA KING, Character. Disengaged. All letters to 25, Upper Addison-gardens, Kensington, S.W.

MISS GRACE LESTER. Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD, 20, Rochester-terrace, N.W. Offers invited, Autumn and Christmas.

MISS ETHEL TREVOR LLOYD, Disengaged. Address, 78a, Portsdown-road, Maida Vale, W.

MISS KITTY LOFTING, At Liberty for Autumn. Letters, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

MISS RUBY LONCRAINE, Lead, "Another Man's Wife" Co. En route.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON, Leading Business, Delbury, Corringham-road, Golder's Green, N.W.

MISS KEITH LYTTON, Disengaged. Aristocratic Character and Comedy Old Women. 12, York-st., Portman-sq. BLACKMORE.

MISS MARA MALTBY. To-day, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh; next week, 127, Cambridge-street, S.W.

MISS MABEL MANNERING, Disengaged Autumn. Lead. 14, Salisbury-house, Highbury Corner; or A.A.

MISS PHYLLIS MANNERS. Letters, 3, Moreton-place, St. George's-square, S.W.

MISS VIOLA MARCH, Lady Eastney, in "Mrs. Dane's Defence." Stock Season, O. H., Torquay. Disengaged Aut.

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE, Disengaged. 10, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W.

MISS POLLY MARSH, Disengaged for Special Character Parts. Address, 33, Faunce-street, Kennington Park.

MISS BEATRICE MAY, Disengaged. 9, King's-mansions, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS MABELLA MAY, St. James's Hall, Worthing. Booked here season. Dis. Xmas. Will M. H. please send autograph book?

MISS NANNIE MEADE, Barbara Wade, "A Girl's Cross Roads," Heavy Leads in W. Melville's Co., H. M. T., Johannesburg.

MISS CONSTANCE MEDWYN, at Liberty, July 9. Offers invited Lead or Heavy. Perm. add., 16, Melbourne-st., Gateshead.

MISS JOSEPHINE MIDDLETON, Juvenile Lead. July 4, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.

MADAME ANNIE MOLLER. All communications, "Woodlea," Dumber-lane, Ashton-on-Mersey.

MISS MARGARET MURCH, Lead, Disengaged. Address, C/o "The Era" Office.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON (Mrs. J. A. Atkin), Disengaged till Sept. 23, Ranelagh-mansions, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISS ROSALIE NOTRELLE, Starring as Helena Byars, in "When It Was Dark." Empire Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MISS PEARL NOYLE. Resting. Care of "The Era" Office.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT, New Theatre, "Countess de Tournal." Disengaged Shortly.

MISS DORIS PEACE, Disengaged. Ingénue, Boys, &c. Address, 56, Broad-street, Pendleton, Manchester.

MISS ROSEMARY REES. Touring Australasia. Address, Eamont, 9, Watson-street, Neutral Bay, Sydney.

MISS MARY RELPH, Returning to America with Forbes Robertson. Lib. t'll Sept. 9. Halsey House, Red Lion-square, W.C.

MISS PHYLLIS RELPH, Engaged by Mr. Forbes Robertson for America. Disengaged till Sept. 9. Halsey House, Red Lion-sq.

MISS DOROTHY RICHARDSON, at Liberty Autumn. Juvenile Lead. Light Comedy. 179, High-road, Chiswick.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON, Disengaged. Glentworth, Palmer's Green, N.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON, Asche and Brayton's Co. Theatre, Perth, Australia; or, 25, St. Margaret's-rd, Twickenham.

MISS MARIE ROBSON (Mrs. Graham Woods). Dis. now and Autumn. Lead or Heavy Lead. 1a, Kender-street, New Cross, S.E.

MISS ENID ROSS, Lead. Disengaged. Address, C/o "The Era."

MISS ELIZABETH ROSSLYN, engaged by Mr. H. V. Neilson for Autumn, "House Opposite." 31, Ossington-st., Hyde Park.

MISS ETHEL RUSSELL. Address, 60, Sternhold-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL, Lead. At Liberty. 14, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS MAUD RUSSELL (Mrs. Frank M. Thorne), Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincs.

MISS RUSSELL-SPIERS. Resting. Willowdene, New Milton, Hants.

MISS EVELYN SHAW (Mrs. Richard Winslow), the Mother, in "Pride of Regiment." Empire, Leeds.

MISS NELLIE SHEFFIELD. Autumn starring in "Miss Lancashire Lad." Dis. month of August. Prince's, Portsmouth.

MISS HILDA SIMS, Disengaged for few weeks. 18, Marine-parade, Brighton.

MISS VITA SPENCER, Comedienne. At Liberty. 2, Oppidans-road, Primrose Hill, N.W., or A.A.

MISS BLANCHE STANLEY, Disengaged for Town or Suburbs only. C/o S. Major Jones, Lyceum Theatre, Strand, W.C.

MISS AGNES ST. CLAIR, Disengaged. 72, Lansdowne-road, Walthamstow.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL. Address, 12, Holroyd-road, Howard's-lane, Putney, S.W.

MISS EMILY STEVENS, Comedienne, Disengaged now and Autumn. 5, Durand-gardens, Clapham-road, London, S.E.

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY (Mrs. Edwin Wilde). Disengaged, Lead, Comedy, Char. Add., Moulmein, Grove, Finchley

MISS KATE SYDNEY, Emotional or Character parts. Goods offers invited. 5, Old Oak-road, Acton, W.

MRS. A. B. TAPPING, Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill. Disengaged in July.

MISS ESTELLE THEBAUD, Address, 102, Victoria-mansions, South Lambeth-road, London, S.W.

MISS GEORGETTE THIERRY and BERNARD LIELL, at Liberty Autumn. Offers invited. 25, Grosvenor-avenue, East Sheen.

MISS GIPSY TOUZEAU, Mrs. Drake, in "The Plumbers." July 4, Pavilion, Liverpool.

MISS MAUDE TOWNSEND, Lead. Messrs. de Jong and Black's Co., Standard, Johannesburg, S.A. Returning to England in July.

MISS ANNIE TRAVERS, At liberty. Character business, Grand Dames, &c. Address, 88, Kennington Park-rd., S.E.

MISS RITA TREKELLE, Address, Osney Lodge, South Godstone, Surrey.

MISS ELLA VANE. invites Offers for Autumn, Lead and Heavy Lead. 10, Oak-street, Windermere.

MISS KATE WALBRAN, Star Lead. De Jong and Black, South Africa.

MISS WARD, Répertoire. Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

MISS ETHEL WARD, Disengaged. 1, Douglas House, Maida Hill, West.

MISS ELIZABETH WATKINS, Esther, "Caste." Mr. H. Armitage's stock season. Theatre Royal, Blyth.

MISS EDITH WEBER (Mrs. Julian Bainbridge). Leads, Heavies. Disengaged. C/o E. Noel, Esq., 119, The Grove, Camberwell.

MISS DOROTHY WEST-SYMES, Disengaged Autumn. Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MISS LILLA WILDE, at Liberty. Lead or Heavy Lead, Sketch or Drama. 136, Halley-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

MISS MARIE WRIGHT. Mr. Fredk. Melville's Season. Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG, Disengaged for Autumn. Lead. 20, Tedworth-square, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. MARTIN ADESON and CLARA BERNARD. "Dr. Maud's First Patient." Hippodrome, Hull.

MR. STEPHEN ADESON, At liberty Autumn. Address, 125, Sunnyhill-road, Streatham, S.W.

MR. ALEC ALVES, Disengaged, Leads, Character. A.A., 32, Regent-street, W.

MR. FRED ARCHER, Concluded Coughdrop & S.M., "Two Little Vagabonds." Dis. Autumn, Com., Char. 36, Aber-st., Liverpool.

MR. ROBT. R. ASHBY. Address, Londesboro' Theatre, Scarboro'.

MR. T. WELDON ATHERSTONE, Disengaged now and for Autumn. Address, 14, Great Percy-street, W.C.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE, At Liberty July 9 and Autumn. 71, Union-terrace, York.

MR. EDWARD AVINAL, Principal Heavies. Good Offers. All Coms., 18, Beck-road, Hackney, N.E.

MR. FRANK AYRTON, MISS MADGE SEYMOUR. Resting. Coms., C/o "The Era."

MR. JULIAN BAINBRIDGE, Disengaged. Management or Parts. C/o E. L. Noel, Esq., 119, The Grove, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Enter.-Man. to the Herne Bay Urban District Council. Alphington, Hillbro'-road, Herne Bay.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT, Disengaged, 152, Northfield-avenue, Ealing.

MR. FRANK BARRETT, Musical Director. At liberty. 9, Boxworth-grove, Richmond-road, N.

MR. E. R. BEAUMONT, Producer, Stage, and Business Manager. Address, 114, Choumert-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. J. HERBERT BEAUMONT, Disengaged. 66, Fernthorpe-road, Streatham, S.W.

MR. PAUL BECKETT, At Liberty for Autumn. Cosy Nook, Lampton-road, Hounslow, or A.A.

MR. HENRY BEDFORD. "The Bottom Dog." Offers invited. 99, Halton-road, N.

MR. EDWARD BEECHER, Management or Parts. Disengaged now and Autumn. Hurst, Martock, Somerset.

MR. ARTHUR BELL, Disengaged. 112, Holbein House, Sloane-square, S.W.

MR. STANLEY H. BELL. Humorous Songs, Conjuring, Ventriloquism. Managing, Pavilion, Ettrick Bay, Bute, N.B.

MR. FRANK BERESFORD, Starring as Archibald Carlyle, "East Lynne" with Tom Watt, Esq., T. R., Belfast.

MR. IVAN BERLYN, Reynard in "Chantecler." Oxford Music Hall, W.

MR. KENNETH BLACK, Character. MISS JESSICA BLACK. Juv. Disengaged July 11. Shakespeare, Clapham, S.W.

MR. GERALD BLAKE, Disengaged. 137, St. George's-road, Southwark, S.E.

MR. CHARLES BOULT, Resident-Manager, Winter Gardens, Bootle, Lanc. Dis. Autumn.

MR. CHARLES BOULTING, Resting. Autumn and Panto Settled. Add., Cecile Villa, Marlborough-rd., Gunnersbury.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN, Address, 32, Church-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

MR. HARVEY BRABAN, Disengaged for Autumn. Mountfield House, Lewes, Sussex.

MR. ALEXANDER BRADLEY, Jean, the Cripp'e, in "Man and Wife." Pavilion T., E. At liberty autumn, leading parts.

MR. HARRY BRISTOW, "Man and Wife." Pavilion Theatre, London, E.

MR. WILLIAM H. BROUGHAM, At liberty till August 29. Drama or Sketch. Address, 38, Burton-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. C. A. WENLOCK BROWN, Dis. Comedian (Short). Late "Pete" and "Devil." 11, Truman's-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

MR. WILLOX CADOGAN, MISS RUTH WINGROVE, Disengaged. 3, King William-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE, H.C., Dis., Char., &c., Mrs. C., New Theatre. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, or Agents.

MR. NORMAN B. CANNON, Starring as Demetrius, "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

MR. J. HAROLD CARSON. Address, 7, Wolfington-road, West Norwood, London.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL, Juvenile Lead, at Liberty. 5, Hurlingham-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. SYDNEY CHAPLIN. Resting. Villa Vago, Montreux, Switzerland. Return Aug.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE H. CHILD. Frances Bruce, at Liberty; G. H. C., at Lib. July 18 and 25. 76, Egerton-st., New Brighton.

MR. WALLIS CLARK. Hippodrome, Rotherhithe. Perm. Address, 52, Belgrave-road, Ilford, Essex.

MR. STUART CLEVELAND, Lead and Character. At Liberty. 5, Weald View-road, Tonbridge.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS At Liberty. 2, Oppidans-road Primrose Hill, N.W., or A.A.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON. Address, 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK. All coms. re Autumn Tour "Temptation," Abercrombie, Bootle-street, Manchester.

MR. TOM CONWAY, 77, Kitto-road, St Cathrine's-park, S.E. Tel., "Bubblings, London." 'Phone, 1,114 New Cross.

MR. BERNARD COPPING, Lead; MISS ISA BELLINGTON, Juv. and Com. Disengaged. Add., The Wigwam, Hadleigh, Essex.

MR. J. W. CORDINER. All communications, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

MR. VERNON COWPER. All communications, C/o Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.

MR. VERNON O. CRABTREE, Disengaged. Riverdale, Hebden Bridge.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE, Address, 59, Gregory-boulevard, Nottingham.

MR. J. HALSTON CRIMMINS, Character. This, Sunny Side Farm, North Anston, Sheffield; next, Star, Swansea.

MR. JULIAN CROSS, Disengaged. Address 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. ERIC S. CROWTHER, Juveniles with Mr. Frank Lindo's Co. This, Alex., Birmingham; next, Elephant & Castle.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE, Director, Rehearsal Company. Royal Court Theatre, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS, Disengaged. Queen's Theatre, W.

MR. HARRY DANBY, Seaman Jones, "The Islander." Apollo Theatre.

MR. and MRS. PHILIP DARIEN (VIOLET MACAREE). At liberty Autumn. Leading Bus. All coms., 3, Eaton-place, Brighton.

MR. HAMILTON DEANE Rehearsing, "Mr. Preedy and the Countess" Tour. Garrick Theatre, W.

MR. JACK DENTON, Disengaged for three weeks. 36, Melrose-avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

MR. CHARLES E. DERING, at Liberty for Military or Clerical parts or Business-Manager. Lyric T., Hammersmith.

MR. FRED DOBELL, Robust Character Actor, at Lib. for Autumn. Drama, Comedy, Sketch. 38, Gauden-rd, Clapham, S.W.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MISS MARY AINSLIE (Mrs. O. D.). Dis. Aut. Good offers invited. Coms., Belle Vue, Hexham.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT (Miss Muriel Thompson), Stock. Prince of Wales' Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR. CECIL DU GUE, Disengaged. 2, Norbury Park, Streatham, S.W.

MR. BASIL DYNE, Disengaged. Comedy or Character Parts. MISS STORY-GOFTON, 70, Jerningham-rd., S.E.

MR. CHARLES A. EAST and Miss EAST-ROBERTSON, Disengaged July 11. 17, Adie-road, Hammersmith.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES ESDALE (Miss Frances Davie), Disengaged. The Chantrey, Kite's Nest, Hastings.

MR. FRANK FENTON, Disengaged. 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK H. FRANCE, in Comedy Sketch, "The Little Puritan." July 4, Empire, Nottingham.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE, Disengaged. 26, Tidy-street, Brighton.

MR. & Mrs. WM. FRASER-BRUNNER Offers invited. Permanent address, 165, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS engaged by Cyril Maude, Esq. 28, Elspeth-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. WALTER GAY, Lead Kennington Theatre. Disengaged for Autumn.

MR. E. SPENCER GEACH, Disengaged. A.A., 32, Regent-street, London.

MR. VIVIAN GILBERT, Engaged by Mr. Leonard Boyne. Dis. Autumn. 4, Park-place, S.W.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD, Disengaged. Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON. Address, 198, Wymering-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. CLAUDE GRAVELEY, On Tour. Juv. Lead or Intense Character. (Six nights) Hippo., Huddersfield.

MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN, at Liberty for a few weeks. Address, 23, Caldecot-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. FRED GROVE. Comedy, Character, Dialect, Lessons. 50, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.; or A.A.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE, "Her Husband" Sketch Co. July 4, Camberwell and Hammersmith.

MR. & Mrs. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON (Miss Grace Harlington). Offers invited for Autumn and Christmas. 40, Cross-st., Morecambe.

MR. HENRY HALLATT. Autumn Arrangements Complete.

MR. AUGUSTUS HAMMOND, MARIE FONTAINE, Stage Man., Parts, Juv., Heavies, Com. Lib. 75, Disraeli-rd., Putney.

MR. J. PITT HARDACRE, Pantomime Production, Special Parts, Management. Address, Staines.

MR. A. C. HARDIE. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Disengaged end of run. 3, Norfolk-villas, Norfolk-road, W.

MR. REGINALD HARGREAVES, Disengaged for Boys' Parts and Juveniles. Address, Trendreath, Abbey Hill, Lelant, Cornwall.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER, Disengaged. Berkeley, Chester-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

MR. CHAS. HARLEY, John Chodd, sen., "Society." Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. STANLEY HARRISON, Leading business, Disengaged, now and Aut. 32, Portland-road, Holland Park, W.

MR. JOHN HASTINGS-BATSON, Disengaged. Care of "The Era."

MR. MURRAY HATHORN, Disengaged for few weeks. Address, Fairfield Villa, Quedgeley, Glos.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY, 2, York House, 49, George-street, Richmond.

MR. T. P. HAYNES, Disengaged. All communications, Care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER, Starring Zaco and General Management. HILDA SHIRLEY, starring as Myra. "Fatal Marriage."

MR. H. E. HERBERT, Leading business, Disengaged Autumn. 10, Luxborough-house, Northumberland-street, W.

MR. DALZIEL HERON, At Liberty. P.A., 39, Harpenden-road, West Norwood, S.E.

MR. DENIS J. HOGAN, Mark Antony, Bassanio, King Claudius, &c. The Edmund Tearle Répertoire Co. July 4, Barrow.

MR. ARTHUR E. HOLLAND, at Liberty for Pastorals, Stock, &c. Address, C/o 32, Regent-st., Piccadilly Circus, W.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY, Disengaged Autumn. 205, South Croxted-road, S.E.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. Address, Adelphi Theatre.

MR. GEORGE HOWARD, Touring "Mrs. Wiggs," in conjunction with Walter D. Nicholl and Kenneth Rivington.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotta Anson), Touring, "Under the Iron Heel." July 4, T. R., Stockport.

MR. ERIC HUDSON, Disengaged. 24, Waldemar-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

MR. & MRS. S. HERBERT HUMBER, "Music the Conqueror" Sketch. All communications, 72, Dartmouth Park-hill, N.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY. Title-rôle "The Private Secretary," autumn tour. Perm. address, County Club, Worthing.

MR. RALPH W. HUTTON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, Leicester-square, W.

MR. BERESFORD INNES, Disengaged. Prin. Char., Military, Aristocratic, Irish, Scotch, Shakespeare. 18, Oxberry-avenue, Fulham.

MR. ALLAN JEAYES, Disengaged. Perm., 11, Bishop-road, Highgate, London, N.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES, Mr. Martin Harvey's Season. Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, 5, Carlton-terrace, South Cliff, Scarborough.

MR. D'ARCY KELWAY, Jerry, "The Bad Girl of the Family." Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MR. H. VAL KIMM. Miss Ellaline Terriss and Company. Address, Palace Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. CLAUDE KING as Dr. Watson, Adelphi Theatre.

MR. HENRY KITTS, Disengaged. 10, Victoria-cottage, Highgate, N.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE. Address, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle. Permanent address, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. FRANK LACY. Holbein House, Sloane-square. Next week, P. G. Theatre, Folkestone.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, O'Sullivan, "Society." Address, Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY (Jessie Price). Disengaged. 40, Glenthorne-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. LEONARD LAURENCE. Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

MR. PAIGE LAWRENCE. London Pavilion. Dis. for Autumn, Juv. Lead. Address, 80, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MR. F. CYRIL LEIGHTON. Summer Vacation. Open for special weeks, Manchester or Dist. 110, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

MR. GEORGE LESLIE, Lessee and Manager, Rink Theatre, Mussoorie, India. Tours arranged.

MR. MARK LESTER. Alexandra Theatre, N. Perm. add., 23, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR LINAY, Disengaged for Autumn. "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace" Co., Worthing.

MR. FRANK LISTER. Resting. 47a, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK LISTON (Maud Warburton), Leading Business. The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY (Miss Maggie Edwards), "The Village Blacksmith," Vacation. 138, Holton-rd., Barry, Glam.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN. Address, A.A., or, 98, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART, Gaiety, Douglas, I. of M. See "Miscellaneous" advt.

MR. T. RENAUD LOCKWOOD, Disengaged now and Autumn. Heavy Lead and Military parts. Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY. All communications, 16 Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. MONTAGU LOVE. Bath House, Emsworth, Hants.

MR. CHAS. L. LUDLOW. Convalescent. Disengaged July 18, onwards. 72, Lansdowne-road, Walthamstow.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, Dick Crawford, in "The Chorus Lady." July 4, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG. Address, Prince of Wales's Theatre.

MR. and MRS. A. B. MACKAY, "Beginning of the End" Co. July 4, Hippodrome, Stoke.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY, Own Tour, "Rollicking Rory." En route, or "Ashdale," Poulton-le-Fylde.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN. Home early in November. Disengaged for Christmas. His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg.

MR. H. F. MALTBY, Address, Horsted Keynes, Sussex.

MR. and MRS. PERCY MARMONT (Miss Elsie Davison). Dis. Autumn. 4, Johnson-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, W. A.A.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL, Professor in "Brass Bottle." Autumn Tour. 16, Mill-lane, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN, Business and Advance Manager. "My Lady Bellamy" Co. Opera House, Middlesbrough.

MR. GEORGE MARTIN, Disengaged, Stage and Business-Management, Character Parts. 53, Saltoun-rd., Brixton.

MR. WILLIAM MARTIN, General Theatrical Agent. 415, Strand, W.C. Tele., 285, Gerrard.

MR. CHARLES E. MASSEY,
Address,
Dartford-road, March, Cambs.

MR. CYPRIAN H. MATTHEWS,
Danilo, "Love of the Princess."
This, Hippo., Keighley; next, Rotunda, Liverpool.

MR. G. MAYOR - COOKE,
Japan-British Exhibition.
Coms., 60, Anson-road, Cricklewood.

MR. HARRY McCLELLAND.
Autumn only wanted.
401, Albany-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS and NORA RENNA. Gen. Man., Character Comedy. Dis. Autumn, jointly or singly. Met., Gateshead.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Disengaged.
Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY
(Marie Harcourt). Star Lead, Comedy and Character. Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

MR. FREDERICK MOYES.
Special Engagement Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce." Dis. July 10. Pavilion T., Ramsgate.

MR. GEORGE E. MUDD, Dis. for Management, Resident or Touring. Ref. 8 years Grand Th., Nelson. 94, Clayton-st., Nelson.

MR. GEORGE MUDIE,
Disengaged.
Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.

MR. HENRY NELSON,
Disengaged for Autumn, Character, Old Men, Stage-Man. 79, Walcot-square, London, S.E.

MR. RUSSELL NORRIE,
At Liberty.
Address, Braeside, Hyde Heath, Amersham, Bucks.

MR. and MRS. ALFRED NORTHWAY.
Hôtel du Louvre,
Paris.

MR. R. JERROLD ORD,
Lead. Disengaged now and Autumn.
4, Mount Ephriam, York.

MR. & MRS. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
(Miss Anna Beaumont).
Address, 14, Charles-street, Blackpool.

MR. ERNEST OWTTRIM,
At Liberty for Lead till middle of August.
20, Southerton-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
Disengaged for Autumn.
Alfriston, Berwick, Sussex.

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON,
Disengaged, Parts or Management.
7, Clapham-mansions, Nightingale-lane, S.W.

MR. WILFRED E. PAYNE,
At Liberty.
9, Victoria-road, Berkhamsted, Herts.

MR. HERBERT PEARSON,
Address,
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. SYDNEY T. PEASE,
At liberty. Leading business.
55, Gibbon-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. PENNINGTON - GUSH,
Disengaged Autumn. Title-rôle, "Jim the Penman." Opera House, Torquay.

MR. H. B. PEPPIN, Disengaged.
Principal Character, Old Men. Good offers invited. Address 8, Newbold-street, Leamington.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq). Returned to England. At Liberty. 36, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MR. W. H. PERRETTE,
Disengaged now and for autumn.
Address, Grasmere, Timperley, near Manchester.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY.
Grand Theatre,
Brighton.

MR. T. ARTHUR PLUMMER,
Concluded Saturday last 2½ years Mr. H. Stanley's Co. Present arrangements complete.

MR. GEORGE P. POLSON,
At Liberty. Lead, Character Lead.
60, Doddington-grove, S.E.

MR. SYDNEY PORTER,
Address,
Combe Lodge, Filton, Bristol.

MR. FRED POWELL,
Disengaged. London, or Good Tour.
Rockchase, Hornchurch, Essex.

MR. OSCAR POWER,
Character Comedian.
July 4, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. NELSON RAMSAY,
Disengaged.
58, Elm Park-mansions, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. ALFRED RIVERS,
Engaged by Gaston Mayer, Esq.
9, Sutherland-place, Bayswater, W.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
Disengaged, Lead, Management, Sketches, &c. 44, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all Communications,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY,
Exclusively Engaged by Moss' Empires until 1913. Address, Coliseum, London.

MR. A. RUSSELL - DAVIS.
Arrangements complete.
2, Ivy House, New Church-road, Hove, Sussex.

MR. ERNEST RUSTON,
Disengaged Now and Autumn.
Address, A.A.; or "Ewhurst," Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT.
Disengaged for a few weeks.
227, Hampstead-road, N.W.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
George Fisher in "Are You a Mason?"
July 4, Grand Theatre, Douglas.

MR. and MRS. FRANCIS SERLE,
Duke Scarfe and Constantia, "Love of Princess." The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON,
Tom Battleby and Marjorie, "Boom of Big Ben." Metropole, Gateshead.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY,
Disengaged, Comedy, Character Sketch.
23, Lorrimore-road, Walworth, S.E.

MR. TOM E. SINCLAIR,
Comedian. At Liberty Autumn and Xmas.
Address, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. JAMES SKEA, Character-Actor.
Coronet Theatre, two weeks. Engaged by L. Irving, Esq. 56, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, N.E.

MR. GORDON STARKEY,
Disengaged Autumn for Business, Stage-Management, or parts. Address, Palace Pier, Brighton.

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON
(Miss Evelyn Robson). "The Little Stranger" Co. July 4, Gaiety T., Douglas, I.O.M.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING,
Leading and Heavy Business.
Pavilion Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. CHARLES R. STONE,
Play Actor and Producer. Disengaged.
Coms. c/o "The Era" are forwarded immediately.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (sixteenth year),
Royalty Theatre and Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY - GOFTON.
Productions, Parts, Recitals, &c.
Address, 206, High-road, Ilford. 'Phone 738.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Business-Manager.
13, Yarrell-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, W.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR.
Actors' Association,
32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus, S.W.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
"The Village Blacksmith" Co.
Address, 77, Edge-lane-road, Oldham.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE.
EDWARD THANE at Liberty.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

MR. E. W. THOMAS,
supporting Mr. Leonard Boyne in "Raffles."
July 4, Hastings.

MR. and MRS. HARDING THOMAS
(Elaine Verner), Disengaged. Lead or Specials. Spring Bank, Victoria-road, Worthing.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Lord Erskine, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MR. NORMAN TRACY,
Next week, Lead, "Romany's Revenge."
Carlton T., Saltley, Birmingham.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Disengaged. Note change of address to
3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. HENRY TWEEDIE,
Business-Manager. Disengaged.
Daneswood, Cole Park, Twickenham.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD,
Disengaged. Immediate offers invited.
22a, Craven Hill-gardens, W.

MR. and MRS. A. W. TYRER, with Messrs. Clarke and Meynell Matheson Lang Tour "Pete," T. R., Melbourne, Australia.

MR. CHARLES VANE.
At Liberty.
A.A., 32, Regent-street, London.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN
(Miss Miriam Lewes). Mr. Vaughan at Liberty. 12, Mentone-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. HERBERT VERE
(Kate Walfred). This, Lyric, Liverpool.
Next, Empire, Fleetwood.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
At liberty until July 16.
Care of "The Era" Office, to be forwarded.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Disengaged until Autumn.
12, Lavender-sweep, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont). Mr. Vigors Dis. Autumn. Next, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Starring "Cottage or Palace?"
With Mr. Harry Barford, Hippodrome, Putney.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Principal Comedian, Chambhuddy Ram, "Cingalee" Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-road, Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE,
Disengaged.
10, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.
'Phone 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER.
Holly Lodge,
Shoreham-by-Sea.

MR. CHARLES WEIR,
Disengaged shortly.
45, Powis-square, W.

MR. & MRS. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Own Sketch, "Uncle's Courtship."
Bristol (second visit); next, H., Devonport.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged, Character Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manage. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General-Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley).
82, Gleneldon-road, Streatham, S.W.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT.
Address,
31, St. Leonard's-road, Hove, Sussex.

MR. ERIC WILLIAMS,
George Harris, Harrington's "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Halifax; next, Hippo., Huddersfield.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS
"Shrimps for Tea."
Hippodrome, Margate.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
Perm. address, The Blorenge, Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
At Liberty Now and Autumn.
5, Crief-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER.
Address,
43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw); R. W., Stage-Manager, The Hippodrome, London.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON,
at Liberty for Leading Business after July 9.
Perm. add., 52, Parliament-hill, N.W.

MR. GRAHAM WOODS, Starring as Harry Beech in "Drama of Life." Joint offers invited, aut. Address, Royal, Scarborough.

MR. BERTIE WRIGHT,
Principal Comedian. C/o J. C. Williamson, Esq., Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, N.S.W.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Mr. Weedon Grossmith's Season.
Garrick Theatre.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
At Liberty, Parts or Management.
44, Cranbourn-street, W. Phone, Ger., 2564.

MR. SIDNEY YOUNG.
Address,
132, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

ROBERT EARLE, Tenor. Alfresco Concerts, &c., open 3rd and 10th Oct., for seaside. 61 Carysfort-rd, Clissold Park.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Accompaniste Society Entertainer, Ladies' Orchestra, for Dances, Receptions, &c. 210, Edgware-rd., Hyde Park, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS. Brightest of all Costume Concert Parties. Offers Oct. GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-rd., Wimbledon.

HARRY HEAP, Accompanist and Baritone. Concerts arranged. 28, Shore road, Hackney. N.E. 'Phone 1146 Dalston.

WILSON JAMES, Humorist. Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans. Address, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W. Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

MISSES JOSEPHINE, EILY, and STEPHANIE STEPHENS, pupils Madam Kate Webb, Conservatoire of Music.

ADELE LEVEY.
Little Tales, Recitations, and Monologues. Empress, Brixton, anniversary. Great hit. Vacant July 4, 11, 18. Address, c/o "The Era."

MRS. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, L.R.A.M. Pianist, Vocalist, Accompanist, Coach. Good sight-reader. 28, Chelverton-rd, Putney.

THE ROYAL ENTERTAINERS.
No Vacancies.
On Tour.

GEORGE THATCHER, Comedian. Bohemians, Smokers, Banquets. 33, Denbigh-street, S.W. 'Phone 2,060 Victoria.

AUTHORS' COLUMN.

DRURY LANE DRAMAS.
"THE ARMADA," "PLUCK,"
"HUMAN NATURE," "A RUN OF LUCK,"
"LIFE OF PLEASURE,"
"THE DERBY WINNER,"
"A MILLION OF MONEY," "YOUTH,"
"THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER,"
"THE WORLD," "CHEER, BOYS, CHEER,"
"FREEDOM," "A SAILOR AND HIS LASS,"
"QUEEN'S EVIDENCE," "THE ROYAL OAK,"
Other Plays and Operas, the property of the late Sir Augustus Harris.
List and particulars, apply to the Executors,
5, Victoria street, London, S.W.

THE Late HENRY PETTITT'S PLAYS.
All business communications to A. J. FLAXMAN, the Executor of the late Mr. Henry Pettitt, to be made to the care of
H. M. PIKE,
26, Old Burlington-street, London, W., Solicitor.

41 & 43 WARDOUR ST., W.
Telephone: GERRARD 1773.
Telegrams: "WIGGERY," LONDON.
THE CLARKSON
Leading House in the World for
COSTUMES, WIGS,
PROPERTIES, BLONDIN DONKEYS, ANIMAL DRESSES,
CREASE PAINTS, POWDERS,
ROUGES, ETC., ETC.
Lowest Cash Prices—Less than Stores.
Established longer than any other Firm (in the Reign of WILLIAM THE FOURTH).

LEWIS BENJAMIN & CO.
Theatrical & Fancy Costumiers,
99, MIDDLESEX ST., BISHOPSGATE,
LONDON, E.C.
'Phone: 7568 Wall.
EVERY DESCRIPTION OF
THEATRICAL, FANCY, NAVAL & MILITARY COSTUMES ON SALE OR HIRE.
AMATEURS SPECIALLY CATERED FOR.
Scenery, Wigs, Costumes, and Properties
for every description of Play or Opera always in stock, or procured on the shortest notice.
COMPETENT MEN SENT ANYWHERE IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.
Absolutely lowest terms consistent with good work.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.
Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee presented to the London County Council at its meeting contained the following paragraph; but when it was reached at 1.15 a.m. on Wednesday morning, the 22nd ult., opposition was raised, and the subject has accordingly to stand over:—

"The premises known as the London-bridge Picture Palace and Cinematograph Theatre, and situated at Nos. 116-118, Borough High-street, having been kept open for cinematograph entertainments on Sunday, Feb. 27, 1910, contrary to the conditions laid down by the Council on Feb. 15, 1910, we instructed the solicitor to take proceedings in respect of the breach of the conditions upon which the licence was granted. A summons was accordingly taken out against the Bermondsey Bioscope Company, Limited, and was heard before Mr. Cecil Chapman at the Tower-bridge Police-court on May 11, 1910. It was contended on behalf of the defendants that the Council had no power under the Cinematograph Act to impose the condition as to not opening the premises on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas Day. The magistrate, after hearing the case at considerable length, adjourned the matter until May 24 in order that he might look into the authorities cited and consider his decision. As a result, Mr. Chapman decided that the Council had acted *ultra vires* in making it a condition of the licence granted by them under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, that the premises should not be opened on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas Day, and he therefore dismissed the summons and awarded the defendants £5 5s. for costs. We have instructed the solicitor to take the necessary steps to get a case stated for the opinion of the High Court and to uphold the Council's interests in the matter."

The paragraph was revived in the Theatres and Music Halls Committee's report, submitted to the Council on Tuesday last. When the matter was again called on at midnight on Tuesday, opposition was again raised, and once more the matter stood over. The object of this opposition is to obtain a full discussion on the whole subject of the Council's powers in relation to cinematograph exhibitions.

The L.C.C. Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported at its meetings on Tuesday that it had considered drawings with regard to the undermentioned premises. The arrangements shown on the drawings appeared to be satisfactory, and the applicants have been informed that, subject to certain conditions being observed, the Council has no objection thereto:—

Chelsea Skating Rink, Church-street and King's-road, Chelsea—Seating.

Imperial Hall, Grove-vale, East Dulwich—Adaption of large hall for use as a cinematograph hall.

Japan-British Exhibition, Shepherd's Bush—Seating around bandstand in building No. 21.

Kensington Town Hall, Kensington High-street—Bazaar on June 15 and 16, 1910.

New Grand Hall, Camberwell New-road—Construction of a cinematograph film-winding room.

Olympia, Hammersmith—Business exhibition from Oct. 13 to 22, 1910.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Cambridge-circus—Construction of a fire-resisting chamber for the pump, gear, &c., beneath the stage.

People's Palace, Mile End-road—Construction of a cinematograph chamber in the Queen's hall.

Queen's Hall, Langham-place—Construction of a cinematograph chamber.

Queen's Hall Skating Rink, High-street, Peckham—Adaptation as a cinematograph hall.

The County Council gave their approval to a drawing showing a proposal to extend the sides of the gallery at the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties. It is a condition that the gangways be arranged so that no seat is more than 10ft. from a gangway.

In November, 1905, the Empire Theatre of Varieties obtained the London County Council's permission to construct a staircase to lead from the box circle level to the grand foyer; but the work was not carried out. It is now proposed to proceed with the improvement, and the Council on Tuesday re-approved the old drawings.

MR. MARLOW'S ADVENTURES.

"One of my strangest Christmas experiences," writes Mr. George Marlow in an Australian paper, "was when I and others found ourselves, a day before Christmas, high and dry 120 miles from our next stand, where we were due to open on Boxing Night. The funds of the management, it was found, would pay the fares of the company, with the exception of one. It was suggested that one should get under the seat of the railway carriage. We all thought it a first-class idea, and echoed the clever remark. We wondered, however, who was to be the unfortunate. Anyhow, as I was the smallest in the crowd, the honour fell upon me. I travelled the 120 miles cooped up under the seat of the railway carriage, but I was allowed to come out occasionally, when I became cramped and almost crippled, to stretch my limbs. I do not want a similar experience again. A first-class sleeper is good enough for me any day.

"My next experience at the festive season was near Rockhampton (Q.). While waiting for the tender to take us up the river from the coastal steamer, a party of us went ashore at Sea Hill. One of the young fellows was connected with the shipping office, and he suggested us going to a pool where we could have a swim. We agreed, and were soon all on the spot, and jumping in one after the other. No sooner were we in, however, than there was emitted a howl from several, and we all made for the banks of the pool. We all thought sharks had got into the pool, but upon investigation we found that the tide had left a shoal of small bream. To show you how thick they were we went in immediately afterwards and simply scooped the fish out with our hands, and soon had over 200 of them on the ground. The fish darted in and out between our legs, giving us a funny feeling. However, it was fortunate we found the fish, for the tender was late, and no provision had been made for an extra meal, so we dined on these fish.

"The most unpleasant incident in connection with any Christmas occurred when I was with Mr. George Rignold's company. In Newcastle, one Boxing Night, we opened with *Man to Man*. We had taken on a property man at the last moment, and in the great train smash scene he placed on the stage blasting powder instead of gunpowder, for the explosion. You can imagine the row there was when that train smash happened. Nearly everyone on the stage was injured, and I was blown across the footlights, while I have still the marks on my legs where they were punctured with the powder. Fortunately the explosion did not extend to the audience. Realism on that occasion was brought to a fine pitch, for the train shot its occupants further than the management expected."

Popular Pictures at the Alexandra Theatre.

Of the pictures shown at the Alexandra Theatre this week, that entitled Capital and Labour seems to enjoy the greatest popularity. It is a story of an American strike, replete with dramatic incident, that appears to grip the attention of the audience and hold their interest throughout. Ascot Sunday at Boulter's Lot is an up-to-date film; and of the lighter pictures Mugwumps and the Baby finds the most favour. Miss Rale Brown provides the illustrated songs; and the farce is John Maddison Morton's well-tried favourite, *Done on Both Sides*, in which Mr. Mark Lester as the superannuated Excise-man Whiffles and Miss Nellie Dade as Mrs. Whiffles keep the ball merrily rolling, their support being excellent.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, MAY 18.—*The Third Degree* is a powerfully-written play, calculated largely to influence public opinion against the brutal methods of the American police in compelling confessions from innocent, as well as guilty, prisoners. Charles Klein has put the case with terrible force, and Mr. J. C. Williamson has provided a most efficient cast to interpret the story. The bullying of a semi-intoxicated soul-and-body-weary young man by a coarse, unscrupulous Chief of Police is capitally done by Mr. George Bryant. Mr. Bryant's loud, strident voice would terrify even a free man, and one can easily see how a captive, in his terror, could be dominated by it. Miss Katharine Grey makes the hit of her theatrical career as the younger Mrs. Howard Jeffries. Miss Grey is American, and as the ex-factory girl ex-waitress she lets us know it. No other accent, no other idioms could succeed in such case, and the audience sympathised, and laughed without stint. At every curtain fall cheers and flowers greeted the talented actresses. No less successful was Mr. Julius Knight, who acted the usually imperturbable lawyer, loyal to his rich client, the father of the supposed murderer, but yet fonder of justice. It was a careful study, and the people saw the painstaking art of the actor. Mr. Cyril Mackay played the younger Howard Jeffries well. His exhaustion while under the brutal domination of Captain Clinton was capitally simulated, and the senior Howard Jeffries could not have been entrusted to more careful hands than those of Mr. Winter Hall, who was adamant itself until the triumph of his daughter-in-law broke him down. The suicide and art swindler, Robert Underwood, had Mr. Sydney Sterling to do such a character justice, and he did it amply. Miss Ethel Warwick was the senior Mrs. Howard Jeffries, and in her scenes with Underwood and her young step-daughter she acquitted herself well. Dr. Bernstein, the brain specialist, is a short part, but Mr. Leslie Victor did all that was possible, as also did Mr. George Treloar as Brewster's comic butler. John Groom painted the scenery, and Mr. Julius Knight, assisted by Mr. Thos. E. Foster, produced the play.

THE Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton season closed last night at the Criterion, when *Count Hannibal* was performed for the last time. Next Saturday, the 21st, Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton will produce Hall Caine's own play, *Pete*, with a specally-selected company.

"ALADDIN," at Her Majesty's, will take his departure after the 19th, and on the 21st *The King of Cadonia* will be revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company, with Miss Dorothy Court and Mr. Bert Gilbert in the leading rôles. The next Saturday, the 28th, will see *The Dollar Princess* produced, with Miss Grace Edmonds as prima donna.

THE Tivoli has a new-old attraction, for Miss Olive Lenton, after English experience and success, has returned to astonish her old friends by her clever work. The Howard Brothers, the Two Falcons, Fred Bluett, Alburton and Millar, the Two Bells, and the ever-welcome mimic, Fanny Powers, are amongst Mr. Harry Rickards' plenteous bill of fare. The National Amphitheatre, Anderson's Vaudeville at the Standard, West's Pictures at the Palace, Spencer's Theatrescope at the Lyceum, pictures at the Bijou, the Colonial Theatre, and Wirth's Circus are all doing well.

MRS. REBECCA TOLANO, widow of the old-time manager and lessee of the Victoria Theatre, and mother of the comedian, Joe Tolano (now a Bonifface), died on the 15th, at the ripe age of eighty-two.

MR. EDWARD FARLEY, principal operatic basso for many years, lies seriously ill as this leaves Sydney.

MISS GERTRUDE BOSWELL left for England on the 14th by the R.M.S. Orvieto. Her husband, Mr. G. H. Smith, remains to manage for the J. C. Williamson firm.

MELBOURNE, MAY 23.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Huzh J. Ward; Representative, Mr. Walter Monk.—*The Girl from Rector's* is accepted as one of the brightest entertainments that Mr. Ward has yet staged in this city. On Saturday evening the house was filled to overflowing by an enthusiastic audience, and laughter reigned supreme. The costumes are quite a feature of the sparkling comedy. The dance in the third act by Misses Tilly Woodlock, Maud Chetwynd, and Florence Redfern was most successful; and the mercurial efforts of Mr. Ward, Miss Paiotta, and other artists were hailed with such marks of favour that a long run for the piece seems assured. Matinées are given every Wednesday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—*The Arcadians* is still proving a magnet of strong attractive powers. The audience on Saturday evening entirely filled the theatre, though the ninth week of the season has been entered upon. Mr. William Cromwell's comedy acting again caused a great deal of mirth. Mr. Tom Walls is encored nightly for singing his "motto" song. The whole entertainment bristles with mirth and jollity, while the music is inspiring and bright. The last three weeks of the season are announced.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The stirring Australian melodrama *Thunderbolt* was revived on Saturday evening in the presence of a packed house. Mr. George Cross gave a thoroughly satisfactory rendering of the Outlaw. As his wife Sunday Miss Eugenie Duggan has a comparatively small part, and acted throughout with her accustomed ability. Mr. Bert Bailey as a new chum, Jackeroo, kept the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Rutland Beckett acted effectively as the villain of the piece. The sprightly performance of Miss Fanny Erris as Willy McGuire soon found favour with the audience, and Miss Kathleen Lorimer contributed a clever sketch of a black gin. A word of praise is due to Miss Olive Wilton, who assumed the part of the Squatter's Daughter. Her acting in the scene where the coach was stuck up was very creditable, and she was restrained throughout. Mr. Edmund Duggan made an admirable Police Constable. *Thunderbolt* will run till further notice.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—To an already strong bill several new artists were added on Saturday. Foremost among these must be mentioned Bonita (champion rifle shot) and Cleopatra (snake charmer). It is now some three years since these clever and popular artists last appeared in Melbourne, and they were accorded a warm reception from a large house. Bonita performed a number of astonishing feats with her rifle-shooting at all manner of targets, from a great variety of difficult positions. At the conclusion of her performance this clever little lady was recalled several times. Cleopatra showed to what perfection the training of reptiles can be brought. The ease with which this lady handles her "pets" was a source of astonishment to her audience. Cleopatra's turn is a novel and interesting one, and found great favour with her audience. Other artists appearing with success at present include the Two Bells, Lieut. Frank Travis, Bert Tyrrell, Lillie Langtry, Olga Grey, Clarence Tisdale, Alma Lydon, the Two Colliers, Billy Williams, and many more.

ONE of the finest variety entertainments ever given on the Melbourne stage took place last Tuesday afternoon at the King's Theatre (generously given free by Mr. Anderson), in aid of the Green Room Club, in the presence of a crowded and representative house. The amount realised is something like £200. The direct object of the afternoon's receipts is to better the financial position of the institution, and to establish a sick and benefit fund for its members.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Closed for the usual summer vacation.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The chief item in this week's programme is the sketch *The Gay Countess*, cleverly interpreted by Mr. Henry Kemble's company. The Cormans, juveniles, in their original scena *The Waif*, receive a most cordial greeting; and Vera Mayne, vocal comedienne, creates an excellent impression; Sibb and Sibb submit a daring and refined trapeze performance, which is remarkably clever; Grahame and Harrington, in an interesting episode, prove entertaining; and Fayre and Manning are a pair of amusing comedians. The Godfreys, musicians and comedians, are well received; and the films displayed on the Bioscope are up to the usual standard.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Girl from Kay's* forms a change from the usual variety work, and although it has been curtailed to fit the two-houses-a-night system, the musical play in question does not appear to have suffered materially, and full houses are the order. Miss Florrie Millington is very successful with her interpretation of the title-rôle; whilst Mr. J. W. Hooper, as Max Hoggenheimer, contrives to keep the audience in a merry mood with the unconventional comedy associated with that part. Miss Rosie Burnett's is a capital impersonation of Nora Chalmers; and Miss Dorothy King proves to be a lively maid, Ellen; whilst Miss May Wiltshire is acceptable as Mrs. Chalmers; Mr. Harold Perry gives a capital portrayal of Harry Gordon; Mr. Charles Leverton (who is also stage-manager) as the Hon. Fitz-Thistle, meets all requirements; whilst Messrs. B. H. Heron (Joseph), Richard Andean (Theodore), Geo. H. Arthur (Chalmers), Jameson Thomas (Archie), Lewis Heron (Frank), and Walter H. Pink (Pepper), are all well placed.

ASHINGTON.—PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. McGraw and Wealleans; Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Mr. Harry Harvey is delighting audiences with his songs and patter; the Bouncing Peps are smart, and their performing dog "Prince" particularly well trained; a capital selection of pictures is provided.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—Mr. J. C. Scatter is proving a popular Tyneside comedian; and Geo. Bernard is a clever actor-vocalist. There is the usual array of first-class films.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Wilson Howard's dramatic company is here in Mr. Fred Jarman's *Under the Iron Heel*. Miss Carlotta Anson's impersonation of Germainie is striking and impressive; Father Mirbleau, in the hands of Mr. John Talford, is also a personage which commands attention; Mr. Douglas B. Watson as Rene de Maupassant maintains military firmness; Mr. J. W. Richards as Otto Marx is equally stern; and Mr. Dennis Clyde, Mr. Gerald Smythe, and Mr. R. Merring realise respectively the essential differences in nationality and character of a Bavarian officer, a Franc-tireur, and Colonel of the Prussians.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Heading the programme here is Mr. W. C. Fields, silent humorist, an artist of rare talent. Golden and Chance have a novel and eccentric act; Ida Dorrie is a chic comedienne; the two Brilliants are expert lady xylophonists; and vocalism of a refined order is supplied by Robb Rossi, the Manx tenor. Two comedians of dissimilar ability and humour are seen in S. W. Wyndham, singing comedian, and Jack McNeill, an expert dancer; the popular duettists, Florence and Rose Showell, win applause for tuneful harmony; and the Bioscope plays a not unimportant part in the programme.

ATTERCLIFFE. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A diversified picture programme embraces several of more than usual interest. The Deserter is a stirring drama, The Heart of an Outlaw is full of excitement, Linda of Chamouny a fine historical drama, A Canadian Summer Resort gives some charming scenery, The Salt Industry is most instructive, humour is also well represented. Vaudeville items are given by Miss Ray Kent, chorus comedienne; and Mr. Rudge Whitworth, entertainer.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—This popular place of amusement is crowded nightly, and the programmes submitted are up to date. The leading picture this week is Capital and Labour, which deals with incidents of a strike, and The Gold Seekers is another exciting series. A pleasurable turn is introduced by Day and Deen, comedians; and the Scarlet Band, under Mr. W. A. Guest's direction, render appropriate selections.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Hutton.—The excellent fare provided at this popular house is drawing fine business. Paul Corris heads the bill with a distictly novel balancing and equilibristic act of the herculean order; Aggie Nolan pleases with her smart dancing; vocalism of a high order is provided by Andrews and Thomson; a child artist of much promise is Merry Marjorie Lawrence; Ormond Penstone submits some latter-day magic; Viviana and company in *The Toy Shop* provide a pantomimical turn of merit; and Al and Lal in a ventriloquial pot-pourri act and Ada Gatley on the slack wire are other turns in a good all-round programme. Weisker's pictures are much appreciated.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Tom Watts' company in *East Lynne* is here. Mr. Watts himself plays Lord Mounteevern with success; Miss Ida Heron is a sympathetic Lady Isabel; Mr. Frank Beresford is a manly Archibald Carlyle; Miss Alice Seymour a charming Barbara Hare; Mr. W. F. Mansfield an excellent Francis Levison; and Mr. Jerrold Manville a good Justice Hare.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Drolls are here under the direction of Messrs. Stewart and Lorraine in a diverting entertainment.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—At the top of the bill here appear the George French troupe of trick cyclists with a smart performance; quite a unique comedy acrobatic performance is given by the Three Gelins; the Snow Family are amusing in a skating carnival; Madge Goodall is pleasing in songs and dance; W. E. Sant makes a hit with his songs; Cash and Clair are exceedingly capable dancers; Will McIvor has a capital voice; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

BATH. — PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Burt Shepard is heading a good all-round company this week with "Potted Plays and Poetry" at the piano; Lauri Wylie once again scores a success with his Mimicking Mannikins; the Two Lees present a clever instrumental musical act; the Seddons, the lady juggler and comic waiter, are old friends who are always welcome; Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks in a dramatic duologue, *Her Return*, appeal by their pathetic intensity; George Belrose and Maude De Velin, duettists, are well received; and Bert Crosbie, a comedian and dancer, also appears.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—One of the most original costume concert parties on tour are the Gay Birds, who have, unfortunately, not been favoured with suitable weather for outdoor entertainments during their first visit to Bath.

BELFAST. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Messrs. John Power and Robert Faulkner's company opened here on Monday with the domestic drama *For Wife and Home*. Mr. Robert Faulkner appears with success in the rôle of Roland St. Pierre. Miss Marion Ryder was thoroughly convincing as Rosette Legrand; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn was admirable as Henri St. Pierre; and Miss Georgina Clifford appeared to advantage as Celeste Legrand. Mr. Edward De Vere was entirely satisfactory as the Abbe La Touche; and the rôle of Jean Legrand was efficiently portrayed by Mr. Frederick Lisle; Mr. Edwin Maydew as the mesmerist Gaspard le Farge furnished an excellent impersonation; and a capital interpretation of Acard Picole was furnished by Mr. Bruce Williams. Miss Alice Bradshaw ably sustains the rôle of Miladi St. Pierre; and other rôles were interpreted by Miss Florrie Soroby, Miss Nina Harding, and Messrs. Clifford Locke, H. Payne, and Stanley Hobane.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—A big attraction is provided by the Frank L. Gregory Troupe, who have been accorded a terrific reception for their clever feats of hoop-rolling and juggling; El Tampico's Mexican Troubadours furnish a musical entertainment of excellence. Harrigan and Holt are appearing in their funny act *The Inspector and the Policeman;* Miss Maude Beaumont is a charming comedienne; and Duncan and Godfrey appear with their usual success in their funny duologue *The Coster's Courtship*. Miss Elsie Malpas is a wonderful child mimic, and the Three Welsh Girls delight with their vocal items. Also appearing are Sterling and Love in *Discord and Harmony;* Mr. Joe Archer, comedian; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Mr. Charles T. Aldrich, and his success on Monday was certainly gratifying. An old favourite, Mr. J. H. Milburn, has been heartily welcomed. The Rawsons (Master Jack and Miss Maggie) are an acquisition to the programme, and the clever trick and comedy cyclists Maxey and Pete have been enthusiastically received. Miss Jennie Hartley is a most capable comedienne, and the return of Mr. Barney Stuart, the clever comedian and entertainer, has been hailed with pleasure. Also appearing are Miss Kathleen Gray, comedienne, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—By request the series of pictures representing the Funeral of the late King Edward VII. are reproduced here, and among others presented may be mentioned The Twisted Trail, An Eye for an Eye, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Professor Norton, a clever magician, whose feats are really marvellous, and Mr. Jim Brady, a funny comique.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some interesting films are being shown here, including Scenes in the Reign of King Edward VII., King Edward's Funeral, &c. Miss Anna Hope, a talented contralto, is paying a return visit.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—This week's programme includes the Two Manites, comedy club jugglers; Tom N. Mills, Australian patter comedian; and Nellie Langtry, Scottish contralto vocalist, in addition to the pictures projected by the Hippograph.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Graham Arthur's company in *The Mockery of Marriage* are well received. Miss Mabel Elliott enacts the part of Alva Kenyon with much skill; Mr. Arthur gives a forcible delineation of the scoundrelly Dick Kenyon; and Ned Stanley is ably impersonated by Mr. Ernest Wingfield. The cast generally is most efficient, and the piece is thoroughly enjoyed twice nightly.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—A good all-round combination comprises Mr. Syd Walker, a popular and resourceful comedian; the Three Comedy Chanters, in an excellent vocal entertainment; Pipifax and Paulo, amusing acrobatic comedians; Miss Tiny Arnold, a clever comedienne; the Lester Brothers, dancers of exceptional ability; Mr. Charles Penrose, a versatile artist; the Eight College Girls, song and dance entertainers; Mr. Frank H. Fox, an amusing comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company are enjoying considerable popularity with an excellent representation of *Her Life in London*, which is produced on the twice-nightly principle. The Rev. Allan Gordon receives full justice at the hands of Mr. Carlton; and Astrea Bell is admirably played by Miss Rubie Maude. The production is liberally staged.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Harry Roxbury's concert party, and the lessee's Anglo-Indian concert company, are the attraction here for the first and second halves of the week respectively.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Frank Lindo is indisposed, but his striking melodrama *Love the Conqueror* is picturesquely staged and ably played. Miss Marion Wakeford impersonates Beatrice, the heroine, with fidelity and discretion; Mr. Leonard Lawrence fills Mr. Lindo's rôle of Brian Norval creditably, and another capital actor is Mr. Norton Shields as Count Leon Lascelles. The character of Sir John Mortimer is well sustained by Mr. Sidney Dench; and other parts are in good hands. The piece is preceded by a pretty, diverting curtain-raiser, entitled *A Needless Lie*, by Mr. Lindo.

PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward.—The stock season at this theatre draws to a close this week, Mr. Edward Marris's company producing the comedy drama *A London Actress*. The attendances leave nothing to be desired, and the production gives great satisfaction. Mr. Joseph Millane scores a triumph in the character of Sergeant-Major Clive Crawford, and Miss Blanche St. Albans invests the part of Hilda Mannering with much charm and feeling. Mr. George Gaisford is eminently successful in the rôle of Captain Mannering. The remaining characters are in capable hands.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Octoroon* is displaying good powers of attraction, presented by Mr. J. H. Taylor's company. Miss Rose Ralph is popular in the title-rôle, and Mr. Archie W. Chappell portrays with excellent effect the character of the honest overseer, Salem Scudder. The part of Jacob M'Closky is well sustained by Mr. Edward J. Finlay; Mr. Phil Harper is clever as Wah-no-tee, and other characters are well filled by Miss Edith Blair-Staples, Miss Louise Gilmore, Mr. Arnold Winters, and Mr. John Brittain.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. Charles Barnard is presenting *East Lynne*, and considering that the production was arranged at very short notice, its success is quite praiseworthy. The company is a strong one, Miss Georgie de Lara filling the rôle of Lady Isabel with distinction; Mr. Cyril Austin Lee is convincing as Archibald Carlyle, and Mr. Charles Dickens gives a creditable performance as Francis Levison. Other clever members of the company are Miss Sheila O'More (Barbara Hare), Miss Geraldine Montrose (Cornelia Carlyle), Mr. R. Vivian (Dick Hare), and Mr. Dan Mining, in a humorous character.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The popular comedy drama, *Shall We Forgive Her?* is being presented by the Carlton Comedy Company before well-filled houses. It is cleverly handled, and audiences thoroughly appreciate the strong situations. Mr. Victor Gardom undertakes with credit the difficult part of Oliver West, and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam gives a clever portrayal as Grace West, who is haunted by the shadow of a "past." Mr. Haldane Dalton, Mr. Norman Tracy, Mr. Newton Pearce, Miss Yoxa Summers, Miss Margaret Thorne, and Miss Nancy Mitchell are also conspicuous. Friday evening was set apart for a benefit to Mr. Haldane Dalton. The announcement that the Carlton stock company are prolonging their stay is affording great satisfaction.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Will Evans is to the front, causing roars of laughter with his amusing patter and burlesque acting. His skit on the French play *Chantecler* is excellent. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette are responsible for a distinctly clever musical performance; Miss Mildred Bryan is warmly applauded for her two songs, effectively rendered; Rich Taylor is a smart ventriloquist; an excellent show is provided by the acrobatic jugglers, Spissell Brothers and Mack; Cassie Maliner is a big favourite here; Walker nd Lake's phrenology act is exceedingly funny; Frank Lynne is as amusing as ever, and the Brothers Redmond are clever acrobatic comedians.

GRAND. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting - Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Mr. M. Bryan and Walker and Lake, from the Empire, have been deputising for Hans and Lux and Esta Stella part of the week. The big attraction, however, is Mr. Raymond Phillips, with his wireless controlled airship. The model has certainly excited the admiration and wonder of all who have seen it. There is a warm welcome for Albert Whelan, whose entertainment is as bright and attractive as ever; Miss Alice Raymond and her players elicit enthusiastic applause for the spectacular musical production *A Night in Egypt; The Adventures of a Happy Tramp* is the title of a humorous and novel act introduced by Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris; the Three Van Dammes are smart acrobats and tumblers; Charles Torbay is a comedy silhouettist; and Tom Moore a witty comedian.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Pasqualis, tumblers and equilibrists, head the bill with an exceptionally smart turn, in which difficult feats are performed with perfect nonchalance and ease; Edie Veno is a popular contributor of chorus songs; Reg Bolton presents a laughable scena, entitled *The Editor's Imp;* Sinclair's Three Diamonds are vocalists and dancers of merit; The Gilberts appear in an original tight-wire act; The Fimans occupy a prominent place in a novel comedy scena, in which the features are songs, dances, and dialogues; and Ulrick gives a smart barrel performance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford's, Ltd.—There is a very strong programme at this house, Dave Samuels being at the head of affairs with songs and patter delivered in his own inimitable style; The Ascots are a combination of very skilled dancers; Jay Laurier is very much to the fore with rich humour; Hanvarr and Lee are well received in a funny golf scena; Coram, the ventriloquist, and his friend "Jerry," are big favourites; Mason and Bart are smart athletes; The Melbournes give an acceptable musical act; and Victor Courtney and Kitty Upton are other successful contributors.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Mr. Harry Tate's company in *Fishing* keeps audiences in a continual state of hilarity. The company is a very capable one, and the individual members are heartily applauded. Harry Friskey is a quaint juggler; Martin Henry, the English Hebrew character actor, is assisted by Miss Irene Ross in a clever sketch, *The Silver Medal;* the Five Jovers are skilful gymnasts and acrobats; Master Laurie Leyton is a smart equilibrist; the Gladwin Sisters are popular duettists and dancers; Will Rhodes is a droll comedian, and the Rosses (Bob and Sid) earn much applause for smart dancing.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—A reproduction of the fairy play *The Blue Bird* gives a special charm to an attractive programme of animated pictures. The film is an almost exact reproduction of the play, and it is greeted with much enthusiasm. There are other story pictures of exceptional interest, one of the most popular being The President's Special, which illustrates the hardships of a railway signalman's life. The coloured films are shown with pretty effect and prove most acceptable.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—A capital bill of fare is provided here. At the top appear The Spanish Juanitos, whose acrobatic act is thrilling; J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, is good; and Palette gives a smart performance; Harry Elliston and Co.'s sketch is laughable, and The Garden of Girls are clever vocalists and dancers; Conan and Doyle are good patter comedians; and Harry Maynard's songs "catch on." The Hipposcope films are very entertaining.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company is paying another visit here with *The Cingalee*. Miss Isa Bowman makes a charming Nanoya, and Miss Flo Florence gives a clever delineation of Lady Patricia Vane. The Hon. Harry Vereker is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Frank Barclay, who, besides being a capable actor, is a fine baritone vocalist; and Chambhuddy Ram is admirably played by Mr. Hylton Warde. Special features of the production are the extremely attractive dances by Miss W. Stone and the devil dancing by Mr. V. Galley.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Miss Madge Crichton and company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *Caste*. A capital study of Eccles was presented by Mr. George Delaforce, and Mr. Jack Crichton scored a big success as Sam Gerridge. Miss Crichton was an ideal Polly Eccles, and Miss Ida Phillipi was equally successful as Esther. Mr. Frank Tennant as the Hon. George D'Alroy and Mr. Douglas Vigors as Captain Hawtree also contributed meritorious performances. *The Artfulness of Ada*, with Miss Crichton as Ada Byron-Bruce, has been played during the latter part of the week.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—La Pia, the charming spectacular dancer, is retained here a second week, and is delighting crowded audiences. The Four Amaranths are clever and original lady acrobatic dancers; Cullen and Carthy, assisted by Little Cluley, contribute a smart comedy act; and Frank Hartley is a famous juggler. Other items, each excellent in itself, include the Lyric Mummers, vocal and comedy entertainers; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic; the Westwoods, in a daring cycle act; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; and the Dancing Paceys, harmony singers and dancers.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Miss Olga Audre and her company are appearing here in the thrilling drama *The Great Awakening*, the part of Lola Selby being cleverly taken by Miss Olga Audre. The other members of her company render excellent support.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The Lukushimas troupe of Japanese entertainers perform some clever tumbling and equilibristic acts, preceded by an illustrated lecture of a tour of Japan. Other turns are J. F. Franklin, in his comedy convict scena; Barrie and Wood, comedy duo; Ella Loraine, vocalist; the Muir-Bartlett Co., in their side-splitting comedy, *The Collar Stud;* Nellie Moore, character impersonator; Madame Irene and Cliff Morton, in a comedy scena, introducing their dancing novelty, *The Electric Dance;* Madge and May Northcote, vocal duettists; Silbons Cate; and the Premier Pictures.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME (BOLTON) LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Manager, Mr. A. P. Harrison.—*A Noble Brother* is being presented by a very capable company, with Mr. Charles Carte in his remarkable impersonation of Jerry, the tramp. Other parts are suitably filled.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Managers, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Jack Hughes, the well-known basso, is accorded a flattering reception, as also is Mr. Edgar and Miss Florrie Dave, comedian and comedienne; Mr. Fred Mason displays exceptional talent as a coster comedian and whistler; and Mr. Hulme Sharpe makes an excellent impression. Mr. Jack Barker, light comedian, Walter Morand, and the Bioscope completed a strong programme.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing Directors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece.—Ernest Cadle's Casey Court series of productions, *The Casey Army*, creates roars of laughter; Lockhart's Elephants, presented by Captain Taylor, are well trained; Dale and O'Malley, cross-talk comedians, are very entertaining; Cissie Lupino, transformation dancer, finds favour; Henriette and Selina are successful in their musical act; Teddy Denham, as a comedian; and Two Britons, local Herculean equilibrists, also contribute. The Up-to-date pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company makes a welcome return visit in the ever-popular *Private Secretary*. Mr. W. Hargreaves plays the part of Cattermole, and is excellent, as usual; Mr. Fredk. Tyrrell presents a perfect study of Gibson; Mr. Geoffrey Guise plays Spalding with great success; Mrs. Alfred Davis makes a dignified Miss Ashford; Mr. Arthur Claremont is satisfactory as Douglas Cattermole; and other parts are capably filled.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*From Slave to Princess* is the new drama staged here this week. Well-merited marks of approbation greets the acting of Miss Agnes Verity as Vera; and Mr. Wernham Ryott as Prince Julian; and excellent support, too, is rendered by Miss Doris Gilham as Princess Claudia and Mr. Charles E. Johnson as Michael Bordoni.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Hetty King, on a return visit, is greeted with much favour in her smart and artistic male impersonations this week; and Alf. Gibson is as diverting as ever in his quaint standstill style of vocalism. Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova present with success a melodramatic sketch, *The Organ Grinder*. In their knock-about sketch *The Coastguards* Drew and Alders are as funny as ever; Leo Tell's imitations of instruments and animals are very clever; Bertha Winder wins applause for her clever dancing; Les Marco Belli, Continental conjurers, give a mystifying and wonderfully clever entertainment; the Avolos are very expert acrobats and somersault-throwers; Spry and Monti present with success a comedy sketch *The Song-writer and the Soubrette;* and there are some entertaining films shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Quite a leading feature in the good entertainment here is the sketch presented by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts, viz., *The Pawnbroker*. Dene and Dixon are good comedy artists; Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn display rare ability as entertainers in a musical duologue, viz., *A Pantomime Boy;* Gene Morelle, "the ragged virtuoso," presents many novelties; Louie Tracey's masculine impersonations are entertaining; and Lily Hill, an excellent juvenile vocalist, Arthur Croxon, entertainer, and Fred Ward, comedian, complete a good company, the Palace Perfection pictures being an acquisition to the evening's amusement.

BRIDLINGTON.—NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Madame Angless's celebrated ladies' orchestra are giving some admirable performances here this week, the soloists being very clever instrumentalists. Miss Ida Angless in cornet solos and Miss Nellie Griffiths with piccolo solos are especial favourites. "The Stingarees," a clever concert party, appeared on Monday evening. Miss Nellie Nutt and Miss Alice Bramston are both excellent vocalists; Mr. Roland Henry and Mr. Harry Hearne score with humorous selections and duets; and Mr. Andrew Pace sings capitally.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Manley; Manager, Mr. M. Manley, jun.—Mr. Charles Graham and company played *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* to a good three nights' business. Miss Winifred Scott as Miss Elizabeth won golden opinions, her acting being superb; the mistress, Sarah Williams, of Miss Leonora Braham was excellent; Mr. Charles Graham as Captain Harry Peyton delighted the audience with his interpretation of the part; Mr. Graham Philips did good work as Major John Golden; Mr. Fred Penley won favour with his clever acting of Mr. Valentine; Mr. Richard Walsh gave a skilful character study of John Edwards; in the parts of Sam and Cuff Mr. F. Woodville and Mr. A. Wiseley were quaint; and Miss Norah McDonnell as Molly Edwards was very pleasing. The play was well staged, and was preceded by a comedy entitled *The Very Devil*.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The stock company is performing *A Soldier of France* here. Mr. Frank E. Petley gives a very fine impersonation of Corporal Jean; Mr. Austen Milroy as Judas Celara achieves much success; Mr. Chas. R. Hann's Capt. Louis Lorraine merits praise; Miss Nellie Lorraine acquits herself admirably as Pauline Lorraine; Miss Maisie Hanbury is a charming Rita; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair is an entertaining Pollyputt Jollyboy; Miss Lucy Murray is well placed as Margot; and able support is given by Mr. Jack G. Maine and Mr. Fred Acton.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—George Gilbey, comedian, scores heavily with his songs and patter; the Three Eltons are very clever triple horizontal bar comedians; Scholey and Scholey are distinctly effective in the sketch *Winning a Wager;* Phyllis and Vernon Mellon are well received in their whimsical musical trifle *A Pleasant Disappointment;* Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio appear in admirable classical and descriptive white living pictures; Charlie Lloyd and Cissie Barwick are a refined comedy duo; the Sisters Lawler are capital comediennes and wooden-shoe dancers; Kitty Arnold sings and dances in pleasing style; Dacey and Lewis are refined comedy entertainers; May Renard is a child male impersonator; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—The La Scala Opera Company, including Mrs. Arthur Rousbey, appear with success in an excerpt from *Cavalleria Rusticana;* Jan Rudenyi, the clever actor violinist, supported by an able company, wins warm aplause in the one-act play *A Storm;* Herbert Darnley and company, including Fred Kitchen, are very amusing in *Private Potts;* Shirley Liggins and company are charmingly effective in the scena *A Twilight Serenade;* Archie Royer is an eccentric acrobatic comedian; Bertie Heron gives a pleasing turn; Pichel and Scale are an eccentric acrobatic duo; Dora Lyric is a pleasing singer; Harry Taylor is an able comedian; and Addie Lennard is a charming comedienne.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Violet Osmund's company is here with *The New Barmaid*. Miss Madge Prior proves very attractive as Ethel Joy, and sings in good style; Mr. George Fox as Captain Loveday displays finished vocalisation; Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White and Mr. Charles Adeson as William White are very diverting; Miss Beatrice Erle as the lady journalist, Dora Heather, is well placed; while Mr. E. W. Chewd as Colonel Claymore and Miss De Terry as Lady Moulton are good.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Picture plays still form the chief attraction here. Capital and Labour is vividly descriptive of a riot among a manufacturer's workpeople, and prominent among the comics is The Knot in the Handkerchief.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—A fine series of animated pictures is exhibited here. A Romance of the Western Hills is a capital drama; Through Bourget Lake is a fine travel picture; The Brigand with the Iron Hand, and The Farmer's Daughter convey highly interesting stories; and much amusement is afforded by An Improvised Auto, The Shooting Mania, and The Forbidden Novel. Mr. Osland Denner, an artistic baritone, contributes appreciated illustrated songs.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—An excellent set of animated pictures here proves attractive.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*The Midnight Mail* is capitally staged and capably played by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr. John F. Traynor and Miss Trissie Humphreys are excellent in their respective parts of Harry Steyne and Mary Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Evison makes a capital part of Billy Brewer, his weird style of

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

comedy being very effective; Miss Mildred Carr is very pleasing as Nancy Brewer; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman plays in a convincing style as Leonard Royle; Mr. Frank S. Strickland makes a good part of Hasan Padishaw; and the remaining characters are all carefully taken.

Palace.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—L'Incognita heads the programme. The lady has a powerful soprano voice of great range, and sings in artistic style. Alfred Wellesley and company amuse with their latest success *Uncle's Courtship*; Taree presents an acceptable musical turn with a mouth-organ and zither, his patter being amusing; Halter and Ray entertain as comedy vocalists and acrobatic dancers; the Delvaines score with their marionette show; Julian Mack, patter comedian, is highly successful; and Madge Beresford is a pleasing comedienne. Excellent animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—May Moore Duprez, "the jolly Dutch girl," tops the bill here, pleasing all parts of the house. Lee and Bentley entertain with their playlet *The K.C. at Home*; Guyer and Valle do well as American humorists; the Three Aza Boys are smart simultaneous dancers; Charles Leigh is an amusing patter comedian; Maisie Dene is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Four Ludo Girls do well with their song and dance scena; Don and Dixie provide a smart musical entertainment; and the performance concludes with interesting pictures.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The greatest satisfaction is expressed here at the films submitted, which include A Clown's Crime, Lieutenant Rose and the Spy, and A Stricken Home.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Crowded houses are here thoroughly enjoying the programme. Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon give a series of songs beautifully sung and cleverly accompanied by piano and violin; Harry Brown is a coloured comedian, with a distinctive style; and the Three Phydoras get delightful effects from curious musical instruments; Victor Niblo's talking birds are highly interesting; and Harry Alaskas performs some remarkable acrobatic feats; Lily Edwards has a charming appearance and sings pleasantly; and Maude May Murray, in her electrical serpentine dancing, pleases greatly. Across the Divide is a fine story told by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Topping the bill here is George 1st, a highly-trained chimpanzee, introduced and trained by Dandy George. Dawson, an artist far above the average, is heard with the greatest pleasure on the grand piano; Henry Hilton, magician, is one of the best seen here; the Carlo and Maie Trio with *Fun on the Lawn* show skill; and Clarice Sefton, comedienne and dancer, also gives a clever turn. Fred Hallam with his comic songs fairly convulses the house. The Operascope is still showing films.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*A Life for a Life*, presented by Charles H. Lester's company, is here this week. Mr. Charles H. Lester is good as Don Leon Fernandel, and Mr. Hugh Travers is prominent with a realistic performance as Pedro Li Calci; Kit Oswald is admirably played by Mr. Geo. Porteus; Mr. Wilfred Carr shines as John Evelyn; a clever juvenile actress is Wee Winnie Warden, who appears as Venetta; Miss Dorothy Reddell is a success as Kate Evelyn; Mr. Fred Yarnold, in conjunction with Miss Jennie Clare, as Tim McCarthy and Nancy Dorn respectively, are responsible for some amusing comedy; Miss Lallah Davis, as Eulalie, proves herself an actress of experience.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Pictures continue to hold sway, and some capital films are relieved by pleasing turns submitted by The Kymros, Welsh comedy duettists; and Dolly Golden, a particularly clever step dancer.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—The Three Romans are the star item, and perform some wonderful feats of head and hand balancing; Gracie Lawn is an accomplished comedienne and dancer; an original American musical act is submitted by Captain Ellis and Son; Fred Danvers and Co. appear in a sketch entitled *Miss Lamb from Canterbury*; Little Sadie Lundy possesses a good voice, and meets with hearty applause; *Men Were Deceivers Ever* is a capital miniature farcical comedy, and Mr. Charles M. Daly is a clever comedian; he is ably assisted by C. Blundell Lenton, Guy Blythe, and Misses Dora Hilstrom and Hilda Merrilese. The Johnson and Burns fight is shown on the bioscope.

CARDIFF.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The head of this week's bill is taken by Fred Karno's company, in the sketch *Jimmy the Fearless*. The acting throughout is first-class, while the part of the Boy 'Ero is in the hands of a clever comedian. A great Cardiff favourite is Peggy Pryde, whose turn is brimful of cheerfulness and smart patter; Ted E. Box is a comedian of more than average ability; as a novel and marvellous entertainment, the original hoop-rolling novelty of the Kratons (Harry and Ethelyn) would be hard to beat; the lucky tramps, Heeley and Meeley, render a distinctly talented act; a comedian who "goes down" well is Will Poluski, jun., whose songs are certainly funny, and whose freak dancing is really good. Fatmah Diard, an artist with a beautifully clear soprano voice; Oakes Duo, in a comedy concoction, "Making a Man of Her"; a pretty and artistic act, A-Ba-Bee's picture postcard album, and an intensely interesting bioscope picture also contribute to the strong programme.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Miss Carlotta de Yonson and her company of talented artists is here in a stirring episode, entitled *The Kidnapped King*, in which Miss De Yonson as Princess Thyra appears with conspicuous success; while Mr. C. Douglas Carlile gives a clever rendition of Sexton Blake. Mr. Lee Gilbert humorously depicts Tinker; and Mr. Chas. A. Carlile powerfully portrays Prince Stephen. Crowded audiences have been mystified nightly by the Marvellous Days, masterly exponents of second sight-reading; in an original comedy novelty, Canard, "the man on time," provides an entertaining number; and Le Hurst, ventriloquist, is clever. A refined comedienne and dancer is Blanche Marion; while Clive Cattley, light comedian, obtains applause. Myrtle Grove, child vocalist and dancer, is worthy of mention. The Bioscope still concludes the performances.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the race week and the concluding week of his stock season Mr. Edmund Tearle offers a popular attraction in the ever-green Scottish drama *Rob Roy*. Mr. Tearle in the title-rôle gives a manly, robust rendering; Miss Kate Clinton's Helen Macgregor is a delightful performance; Miss Nancy Blackwood makes a refined and graceful Diana Vernon; amusing performances of the Baillie and Dougal are given by Mr. J. P. Marsden and Mr. P. P. Miller; Mr. David Ross is a capital Captain Thornton; Mr. Jack Scott makes the most of the part of Major Galbraith; as Francis Osbaldistone Mr. H. T. Wardle is a big favourite, his artistic rendering of several Scottish ballads gaining him enthusiastic applause; Mr. Ernest Lodge is, as usual, excellent as Mr. Owen.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The Jackson Family, who top the bill, are clever and versatile musicians; an amusing turn is contributed by Oliver Martyn in the comic monologue *The Boxing Contest*; Florence Esdaile is a charming and accomplished vocalist; Lue and Burnetti have a surprising quick-change musical act; and Takio is a skilful Japanese artist. Vela's comedy wire act, the Cedrics, in a smart comedy act, and pictures are other attractions.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Pictures by the Loyal Dominion Co. continue to be in demand here, and large audiences are always to be secured. Harry Hird has amusing ditties and original patter; Sophie Knight scores a success with her tuneful vocalisation; and Colin Carlisle is a capital light comedian.

CHATHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Mr. Alex. Maclean and company are this week presenting *My Lady Bellamy* to delighted audiences. Mr. Maclean appears with conspicuous success in his original rôle of Sir Gervase Bellamy, being ably seconded by Miss Laura Leigh as Lady Bellamy. Mr. Herbert Maule gives a finished impersonation of Robert Tarfax; Mr. Arthur Layland skilfully represents Lord Crawford; and, in addition to carrying out the duties of stage-manager, Mr. R. H. Brooke makes a favourable impression as King William III.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Fred Earle tops the bill here; the Kebbles contribute a neat turn of song and dance; Bert Williams entertains with his ventriloquial act; Richard Arthur, Leon Dubois, and company create quite a sensation with their one-act play *The Ape's Devotion*; and Raytor Lyndon, comedienne, the Frohmans, in their instrumental act, and Chris. Baker, comedian, also entertain.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Vera Rochdale, vocalist and dancer; the Three Cummings, in speciality singing and dancing; the Sisters Burnett, whose character duets go particularly well; the Crisps, in their dancing scena, *The Little Deputy*, which includes some entertaining items; Dan Filmer, with a well-liked ditty on the subject of bachelors; Miss Alice Hollander, who simply delights her hearers with songs from her extensive répertoire; and the Newmans, daring trick cyclists, are delighting audiences here.

CHELTENHAM.—Montpelier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Mr. Stuart Alexander's So-and-So's had a good reception on Monday, when they opened a week's return engagement. Mr. H. Quininborough is a versatile comedian; Mr. H. Leslie is entertaining as the Dude; Miss Gwen Clifford's fine singing was much appreciated; Miss M. White is an engaging soubrette, and her dainty dancing is an attraction; Miss M. Davis is a charming soprano; and Miss Pattie Biddulph a pleasing contralto. Mr. Alexander's tenor singing is very popular.

Winter Gardens Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill Smith.—This house is doing good business, a complete set of new films drawing a huge house on Monday. Capital versus Labour is particularly well received.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Miss Lilian Dundas and company present a clever and well-acted sketch entitled *Convict Nance*, and James Hare and company delight the audience with the humorous and dramatic episode, *Wrong 'Uns*; Kinnaird is an expert magician; Ruby Emmerson is a smart and dainty comedienne; Bennett and Martell, as the Shipwrecked Mariners, provoked screams of laughter; J. W. Gallagher well deserves his designation as an eccentric comedian, and The Lauraines are brilliant musical speciality artists. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes. The theatre closes to-day for the summer vacation.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.—Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—Closed for the summer vacation.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—*The Female Swindler* is presented by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Mr. W. T. Riley does wonderfully well as Geoffrey Warden, as does Mr. Fred Hodson as the Jew. In the title-rôle Miss Olive Warne scores a real success, wearing some charming frocks. As Jack Coulson Mr. Henry Lonsdale proves an admirable elocutionist and a powerful actor. Mr. Fred de Vere is funny as the detective's aide, Billy. The staging is carried out in a clever manner.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—A dramatic episode entitled *The Usurer*, capably acted by Mr. Sydney Mason, Miss Theresa Moore, and company, makes a most effective top line. Ted Karno and company in *Hotel de Quick* provide a humorous pantomimic sketch; Cornalla and Eddie, jugglers, give a very good show; Nicklin Williams appears to advantage in a good song scena; and Mabel Mignon (comedienne), Madge Osmond (male impersonator), and a good series of pictures complete an attractive bill.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The successful musical comedy *Floradora* is being presented at the above house this week by Mr. Chas. Constant's No. 1 company, and is being afforded a hearty welcome. Mr. Johnny Schofield in the humorous character of Tweedlepunch is very successful, and Miss Daisy Lake is a charming Dolores. Mr. C. R. Dutton sings well as Frank Abercoed. Other characters are well played by Mr. Johnnie Junior as Captain Arthur Donegal, Mr. Jack Parker as Leandro, Miss Florence Hersee as Angela Gilfain, Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood, and Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus G. Gilfain. The Parisian dance, "La Danse des Apaches," is introduced with great success by Miss F. Hersee and Mr. Johnnie Junior.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—A very attractive programme is provided for the patrons of the above this week. Heading the bill are the Ten Loonies, whose burlesque musical turn is one of the best seen on the variety stage. Messrs. Frank Ellison and company present a romantic comedy entitled *My Lady Betty*, which is very interesting. The Andos Troupe of acrobats, jugglers, and wire-walkers do some astounding feats. Mr. Fred Maitland and his company give an amusing sketch entitled *Roots, Rash Chemists*. Other excellent turns are provided by Young and Evans, Hebrew comedians and dancers; Jack Straw, comedian; Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer; and Vio Land, comedienne and dancer.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's company, including the inimitable Albert Bruno, is creating a furore in *Perkins, M.P.* The Elite Harmony Boys give an enjoyable vocal turn; Curtis Leo, assisted by Little Noblesse, submits a breezy conjuring act; Aimee Roberts is a clever actress vocalist; George Prince is a quaint and curious comedian; The Whittakers, in a comedy skit, *Dick Whittington*, bring down the house; Nora Stockelle is a charming comedienne; the O'Gorman Bros. are unflagging dancers and droll comedians; the Sisters Hall are interesting vocalists; and the Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

Electric Theatre.—The animated pictures at this hall are still much above the average, and attract large audiences. The series lasts an hour and a half, and vary from gay to grave.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Variety is given here with two shows a night. The programme is headed by Rapoli, a clever artist, in his sensational juggling; the Brothers Matthews, black and white comedy artists, are smart dancers; Kitty Corrie is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Will and Rose give a laughable sketch entitled *La Cafe Magique*; and Norman Holt, the musical Lancashire lad, Charlie Sloman, comedian, and a series of pictures conclude a good entertainment.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Owner and Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—A capital top line attraction this week is Nellie Wallace, and her efforts go to prove that she is as delightfully ludicrous as ever. W. T. Ellwanger and company achieve distinct success with the absurdity *Who Did It?* The Berg Brothers as comedy and novelty cyclists are among the foremost in their particular line; the Brothers Rees, cannon-ball jugglers, are astonishingly clever, and receive well-merited applause; Lily Lonsdale possesses a sweet contralto voice, which is heard to pleasing advantage; Ernie Myers, comedian, is at once recognised as an old local favourite; Ciss and Will are nicely schooled juvenile singers and dancers; and Lily Palmer, comedienne, has a bright and entertaining style which is thoroughly enjoyed. The Bioscope film, The Downward Path, winds up a well-arranged programme.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—A varied entertainment is given at the Hippodrome this week, a naval play, entitled *Nelson*, being the principal attraction. Mr. Clifford Marle as Lieut. Collingwood is an actor of talent; while Miss Josephine Colona as Mrs. Leebman and Mr. Arthur Max in the title-rôle are good in their respective parts. Some clever dancing is given by Rosa and Kitty Sims; Michael Madden has an original make-up as dame comedian; the Richards Trio are smart acrobats; songs and dances are well executed by Queenie King; and the Tally Ho Trio cause much amusement with their original turn. Harry Claff and Miss Alice Tremayne furnish a really good pantomime burlesque, entitled *The Demon and the Fairy*, which thoroughly deserves the applause bestowed.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The excellent stock company is this week playing a first-rate Irish drama entitled *Arrah-na-Pogue*, depicting some charming scenes in Irish life. As Shaun the Post Mr. Leonard Aardale is responsible for some excellent acting; Miss Janie Yatman is quite at home in the title-rôle; Mr. John Sargent works hard as Colonel O'Grady; and Miss Maggie Lindsey is a charming Kitty Walsh.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company opened here on Monday in a répertoire of plays, produced twice nightly. On Tuesday the drama *As Your Hair Grows Whiter* was produced. Miss Agnes Collier gives an excellent rendition of Alice Walters; Mr. Fred Emery as the Rev. John Alberry was successful; Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell as Farmer Walters and Miss Florence Delmar as Mrs. Walters play naturally; and the villainy of Squire Stoneleigh was fully illustrated by Mr. Cuthbert Taylor. The part of Jack Walters was in the able hands of Mr. Percy St. Clair. Mr. Hubert Jones deserved praise for his portrayal of Charley Burkley; and Nurse Von Grip and Wagner Mozart were humorously depicted by Miss Lennon and Miss Louie Weston. Mr. Edward Jeff ably sustains the part of Governor Farrough, and Mr. Herbert Fuller undertakes the comedy part of Timothy Slough. *Trilby* and *The Sorrows of Satan* have also been produced.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—The juggling of Alfredo Marschall excites admiration here, his feat of catching a complete cannon on his neck being very sensational. The Zanfrellos, American acrobats, give a refined and artistic performance; Ruby and Laws are warmly received for their smart vocal and comedy act; Agnese and Arthur Lynch introduce some beautifully illustrated songs; Percy Johnson is a funny comedian; Maud Esmond, of "Charlie Brown" fame, is a dainty comedienne with a good presence; and very funny acrobatic feats are performed by the Bros. Lavelle. Mabel Moss sings well, and an exceptionally fine picture, Hearts are Trumps, is depicted on the Palascope.

DINNINGTON (Yorks.).—Lyric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—*A Fast Life* has occupied the boards here, Mr. Walter Steele's No. 1 company being responsible for the production. The heavy lead is taken in excellent fashion by Mr. Fred Garratt as Governor of Millbank Gaol; John Dixon has a capital exponent in Mr. Walter Steele; W. Barratt makes a typical burglar; Harris Goldberg finds a capable exponent in Mr. Bruce Warwick; and Ed. Kingsley sings several tuneful numbers. The wronged wife of the bank manager is ably portrayed by Miss Lilian Ross, and Miss Beatrice Hone fills an arduous part as Lady Franklin.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Tarro Miyake, a champion ju-jitsu wrestler, has had to run the gauntlet among local aspirants, and he is a popular turn; Jack Madden is an expert jumper; as a whistling comedian and mimic Hugh Allan ranks high; there are few who excel J. P. Durney in the rôle of a globe walker; Will Penn's impersonations of character comedians meet with admiration; Edgar Cook is a clever comedy illusionist; and the Deroneys, wire, spade, tumbling, and comedy artists, excel in each; Will Smyth, vocalist and acrobatic dancer, makes a hit; Flo Banks is an engaging comedienne; and May and Ediss, in their domestic sketch *Mr. Burglar* furnish one of the prettiest little stories in a thrilling manner.

DOUGLAS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—A crowded and delighted audience witnessed *The Marriage of Kitty* here on Monday. Miss Beatrice Wilson, an actress of resource, was fascinating as "that rogue in porcelain," Lady Kitty; Miss Vera George was an excellent Mme. Semiano; and Miss Betty Stannard a piquant Rosalie. Mr. Norman V. Norman, a well-graced player, was full of bonhomie as Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr. F. Lock Whittaker was well placed as John Travers; and Mr. C. Marquand as Hampton and Mr. Norman Leslie as Norbury were both effective. The comedy was lavishly mounted and well staged. Four performances only were given of *The Marriage of Kitty*, the other two nights being devoted to the late T. W. Robertson's version of *David Garrick*.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The Palace on Monday evening was packed; the Ball Room, the Variety Theatre, the Skating Rink were thronged, and good assemblages have obtained during the week. Miss Mona Vivian and Jennion's Marionettes continue to please; the Channings, vocalists and instrumentalists, contribute a pleasing act; the Four Panamas are smart in a pantomimic sketch, *The Delineator*. Mr. Harry Wood's grand orchestra induces all and sundry to dance.

Buxton's Amusements.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Buxton.—The Douglas season has now really commenced. All the various attractions provided by this up-to-date *entrepreneur* were in full swing on Monday, and were all crowded. The Pierrot concerts, which occur three times a day, are very much appreciated. They are clever and refined, the songs are new, the patter is bright, the incidentals novel. Mr. John Story is a distinctly fine elocutionist and character impersonator. Mr. Frederick Buxton's descriptive song scenas cause appreciative applause. In fact, the company have real talent. The films exhibited on the Picturedrome enable those who either from necessity or inclination have to stay at home to enjoy the happenings of the larger and greater world beyond their horizon. In the skating rink there are two sessions daily, with a full band.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—The two houses nightly, which is the policy pursued by Mr. Charles Dare at this popular little theatre, have quite a vogue. The programme is full of interest, the animated pictures have value. Mr. Ernest D'Almaine scores in an illustrated song, "The Garden of Roses," and Boris, a comedy juggler, amuses. The audiences at the Empire have been large numerically and discriminating withal.

Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels at Douglas are a great attraction. The artists number twenty, and are all distinguished in some direction. The orchestra is good, the specialities are not stale, the vocalists can sing. And "Que voulez vous?"

Mr. Collier Cubbon's Enterprises.—At Onchan Head Mr. Collier Cubbon commences his season this week, and the attractions offered should prove pleasurable to his constituents. Open-air entertainments are the faring, three times per diem, weather permitting. The artists include Mr. Charles Harvey, a talented and popular comedian, who is *persona grata* to our visitors from successes in previous seasons; Mr. Alex. Webster, a pleasing tenor; Mr. Alfred Maynall, a humorist; Mr. J. H. Scotland, a favourite basso singer; Miss Elsie Steadman and Miss Iris Banfield, singers who can sing and actresses who can act. Mr. J. A. Love, a musician, is the pianist. There is also at Onchan Head open-air roller skating and dancing to a full band. Firework displays will be a feature twice a week. Flower carnivals and confetti competitions to follow. The present programme and the future schemes which Mr. Collier Cubbon has in his mind's eye, which include firework displays twice weekly, should mark a forward movement in al-fresco Douglas amusements.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Terry.—The chief attraction here is Lafayette. La Belle Nello, "the queen of equipoise," is well received; a capital turn is submitted by the Musical Marvels, vocalists and eccentric instrumentalists; Charles Stevens, comedian, is encored; Mlle. Rosina has a host of admirers; and Amandus and the Royal Bioscope complete the programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. O. H. Silverstone and H. Wright's company in *The Nihilist* opened here on Monday to an appreciative audience. Mr. George Mitchell excellently portrayed the part of Ivan Norvasky, and Miss Florry Kelsey capitally represented Princess Olga. Mr. O. Silverstone filled the rôle of Prince Alexander with ability; the Alexina Orloff of Miss Edna Clare was admirable; Mr Henry Wright sustained the part of Bobbie Smart with success; Miss Jessica Ford gave a capital study of Katrina Zindoff; Karl Orloff had a good representative in Mr. Cowell Clarke; and as little Alexina little Millie Halstan was excellent. The remaining parts were well played.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Jack Lorimer, the famous Scotch comedian, tops the bill here, and is accorded a hearty reception. Woodhouse and Wells are a pair of laughter-provoking comedians; Miss Florence Yaymen's coon songs are loudly applauded; Brull and Hemsley are very amusing in their act *Fun in a Music Shop*; in a clever and daring acrobatic performance the Leglere Troupe are warmly applauded; and other successful turns are contributed by Miss Rosie Pink, comedienne; Prof. Thornbury lightning painter; Stella Sahl, and Babs Lloyd The Empire Pictures conclude.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Wee Georgie Wood is very successful. Kendrick and Laura have a pleasing comedy and eccentric dancing act; Harry Taft, comedian, scores; the Paolias in their new athletic entertainment are accorded considerable applause; and Ailsa Douglas sings her songs in good style. Others on the bill are Cosgrove and Burns, comedy duettists; Bruce Green, "dame" comedian; the Claymore Trio, vocalists, humorists, and dancing club jugglers; together with the Bioscope.

Palace Pleasure Gardens, Rathmines.—Herr Vorzanger's Orchestral Band continues to draw large audiences daily.

Arcadia, Bray.—Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—An excellent programme includes Miss Irene Vere, soubrette and dancer; Mr. Arthur Hill, ventriloquist; Mr. Francis Rayne, tenor; Miss Lillie Wesson, expert dancer; Archie Watts, quaint comedian; Alfred Leslie, character comedian; and Mr. Leslie Leonard, solo pianist.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James; Manager, Mr. Robert W. Sprengel.—The following artists are appearing here:—Dubb and Linn, "the Dublin Daisies"; Witty Will Pearce, the unique comedian; Miss Dora Kearney, Irish comedienne; Pat Keen, comedian; and Billy Fox, dancer.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Good attendances are proof of the successful efforts of the management to provide new and interesting films during the picture season.

Empire.—Proprietors, Midland Entertainment Corporation, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Watt.—Packed houses are nightly witnessing the performance of Dr. Walford Bodie, who, assisted by La Belle Electra and his own powerful hypnotic powers, plays with electricity in a daring manner. Dr. Bodie is ably supported by his own company, including The Dunlops, trick cyclists; Mlle. Sivado, lady gymnast; Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Bella Skene, musical comedy artist; Jack Diamond, champion trick dancer; G. W. Walker, Scottish vocalist; and Tom Gold, swell comedian.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An extremely clever exhibition is given here by Braatz's Dogs in *The Burglar's Fate*; Minnie Kaufmann, the lady trick cyclist, gets a perfect ovation; a finished display of international dancing is submitted by Garden's Royal Quintette; Jack Easy has a trump card in his "Football" ditty; Annie Lang sings in taking style; Chinko is a juggler of ability; Dion Wade is a complete master of facial expression; and the Kingscope pictures complete.

Gaiety Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—Miss Dora Hammersley's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, is presenting for the first time in Dundee Nita Rae's drama, *Her Lost Self*. The dual rôle of Dorothy Daventry and Lucille Fontaine is cleverly undertaken by Miss Dora Hammersley; as Wilfred Daventry Mr. T. Dennis Byron scores an artistic success; Mr. Charles Kean's Norman Esmond is excellent; Miss Cissie Bellamy contributes a powerful delineation of Phillipine Marcel; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards and Miss Bella Power as Abraham and Rachel Cohen are responsible for a deal of laughter; Mr. Finn Doyle is a droll Tommy Flyaway; Miss Clarice Jenner a lively and entertaining Bridget Malone; Mr. Edwin Morton a capable Victor Elsworthy; Mr. Leslie Vyner an admirable Paul Kimberley; Mr. James Somerville a typical Warden Jones; and a special word of praise is due to Miss Bella Reid for her natural performance of Little Dorothy.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Murray King and company are appearing here this week in *Our Flat*. Mr. Frank Lacy, natural and refined, gives a pleasing performance of Reginald Sylvester; Mr. Murray King scores as Nathaniel Glover, and provides much genuine laughter; Mr. Ardene Linden is a characteristic Mr. McCullum; Mr. Claude Hogg plays nicely as Clarence Vane; Mr. Mather works well as Pinchard; and Mr. Peter Graham is one of the evening's successes as Stout; Miss Florence Radcliffe, clever, attractive, and accomplished, is an ideal Marjory; Miss Norah Dwyer, too, invests the part of Lucy with fine effectiveness; Miss Louie West gets much fun out of the rôle of Bella; and Miss E. Shelley does good work as Mme. Volant.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles Gibbon and company are here in *The Little Stranger*. The principal feature of the performance is the clever work of little Hetty Hornsby in the title-rôle Tom Pennyman; Miss Nellie Clyde plays pleasingly as Mrs. Dick Allenby; Miss Joan Harcourt is a merry Effie; Miss Evelyn Robson and Miss Mabel Gwynne are capital representatives of Mrs. Allenby and Lady Peacock; and a lady whose name is not on the programme plays the nurse with marked ability; Mr. Charles Gibbons fills the part of Paul Vronsky artistically; Mr. Edward Jephson works well as Alec; Mr. Charles Fancourt is a marked success as Captain Dick Allenby; a clever comedy sketch is offered by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as Eames; and Mr. W. S. Stevenson and Mr. Bruce Lindley ably appear as General Allenby and Sir George. *The Second Mrs. Grundy* precedes.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—The Six Brothers Luck head the bill this week and work hard in a couple of extensively staged sketches, *The Demon of the Cellar* and *Lift'em's, Ltd.*; Mr. Joe Hayman is a genuinely funny comedian with clever patter; Johnson and Bert, too, provide a goodly share of hearty laughter with their clever work in *A Queer Customer*; the Brothers Dean are wonderfully expert and pleasing dancers; Miss Dolly Harmer is an up-to-date comedienne; Miss Nan Farren is a bright and pretty singer and dancer; and Revene and Elton are smart tumblers.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Oswald Gray and company are here with *When It Was Dark*. Mr. Gray undertakes the part of the Rev. Basil Gotre, and his acting in the many trying scenes is capital; Mr. C. Wordly Hulse as Constantine Schwabe gives a clever character study; Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Lewellyn is all that could be desired; Miss Lillian Herries as Gertrude Hunt has a great deal to do, and her acting throughout is admirable; Miss Rosaline Notrelle as Helena Byars proves herself a thorough artist. The play is well mounted.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A return visit of Mr. H. F. Maltby's comedy of modern life *The Laughter of Fools*, very cleverly played by the author and his own company, has been most welcome here this week. Mr. Maltby provided a mine of genuine amusement as the eccentric old Indian, Colonel Greig, whose severe spouse was excellently represented by Miss Helen Pendennis, their caddish son Bertie and their daughter Mabel finding suitable interpretation at the hands of Mr. Wyn Weaver and Miss Ethel Percival. The part of the niece Doris Henley was very nicely played by Miss Mara Maltby; and Miss Irene Malvesyn made the charity girl servant Elizabeth quite an artistic character study; Mr. Francis Drake made the most of his opportunities as Captain Vital; as did also Mr. Sydney Lynn and Mr. Frank Stoney as John and Hubert Hughes; and the auxiliary rôles of Mr. Nuttall, Mr. Plunkett, and the Cabman were all acted with careful attention to detail by Mr. S. Clegg, Mr. J. J. Paull, and Mr. Harris Fease.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The second week of Mr. John Clyde's dramatic season at this house has been devoted to Mr. Sydney Grundy's always delightful comedy *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr. Clyde's method is admirably adapted to the rôle of Uncle Gregory, and as the "man fra' Sheffield" he scores a success; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford's impersonation of Benjamin Goldfinch is marked by quiet humour and pathos, and the performance shows the actor to have real talent; Miss Lydia Donovan plays with charm and earnestness as Mrs. Goldfinch; Miss Jean Mackintosh acts with a girlish grace and unaffected simplicity as Lucy Lorrimer; and Mr. Roy Rhind, Mr. David Blair, Mr. James Finlayson, and Mr. John Gray contribute good work. The comedy is preceded by a one-act play, *Nan*, adapted from Buckstone's old farce *Good for Nothing*, by Miss Donovan. The piece is represented with excellent effect by Miss Donovan in the name part, by Mr. Clyde as Tom; Mr. Roy Rhind as Henry, and Mr. Fulford as Charlie.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—One of the most delightful turns in this week's programme is given by the Tigeuner Quartette, a party of musicians who play piano, 'cello, and violin with great expression and taste, the lady member of the company singing several songs with charm and feeling; Mr. Hal Forde, a comedian with much vivacity of manner, who sings catchy songs, appears in place of Mr. Mark Sheridan, who is, unhappily, laid aside by illness; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden act with humour and ability a sketch, of which the idea is as old as *The Comedy of Errors*, but the working out of which is fresh and funny; Mr. A. C. Lilly and company are seen in the favourite military piece *Drummed Out*, in which Mr. Lilly, as usual, plays with power. The other artists in a capital bill include the Mezzetis, in a splendid horizontal bar act; Miss Sybil St. Elmo, operatic vocalist; the Marconis, with interesting electrical experiments; Wyndham and Kitty, in an excellent wire act; and Mr. Arthur Slater, an accomplished silfleur.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—Among the outstanding attractions of this pleasant resort, the somersaulting motor-car is one of the most sensational exhibitions, dividing with the captive balloon and occasional parachute descents the patronage of visitors. The Somali village, scenic railway, mountain slide, river caves, and other ingenious devices, provide other popular forms of amusement, while the band and pipers of the 1st Black Watch perform at stated hours daily in the band court, and the skating rink continues to be well attended. In the concert hall entertainments have been given by Olly Oakley and his "Humoresk" troupe of vocalists and instrumentalists, whose classical selections as well as their humorous songs and sketches are greatly enjoyed. The fortnight's billiard match between Inman and Aiken concludes this evening.

EXETER.—New Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. Sandy.—Mr. Fred Karno's sketch *R.M.S. Wontdetania* is attracting, this triumph of mechanical skill crowding the house from floor to ceiling. Shaun Glenville and Harold Wellesley as purser and steward of the liner, keep the house tickled with their fun. An attractive programme includes the Brothers Smart, comedy acrobats; Miss Violet Clare, vocalist; Dennis and Mor

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Syney B. Stringer.—Graham, the human marionette, has made a great hit here this week; Francis and Alfred are accomplished and amusing jugglers; the Hesseyo are refined instrumentalists, whose act is well liked; Mr. C. sings and talks with success; Maude Courtney renders two songs charmingly; Doris and France are admirable dancers; the Miltons, trick skaters, and the Kingscope, are other items on the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—This week's attraction here is *The Eyes of the World*, played by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company. Chief honours must go to Miss Van Praagh, who, as Helen, plays very convincingly; Mr. Percy Braithwaite makes an excellent study of Octave; the part of Gaston de Carnac is successfully undertaken by Mr. Guy P. Ellis; Mr. Chas. O'Connor faithfully portrays Hector L'Orme; Mr. Whitty ably fills the rôle of Archille; a pleasing performance is that of Miss Nellie Garside, in the part of Mlle. Pomfleure; a charming Avice is done by Miss Edith Rutland; Miss Flora Hastings as Esmé Carnac plays with success.

GLASGOW. — ROYALTY.—Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing.—The closing week of the Repertory Theatre summer season was entered on Monday evening with *Oh! Christina!* which has had a most successful run. Miss Margaret Nybloc has won golden opinions in the title-rôle; Messrs. Campbell Gullan, George Lawde, Norman M'Keown, Walter Roy, and Misses Lola Duncan, Agnes Bartholomew, and Blanche Pearl are all successful in their delineations, but it is only fair to specially commend Miss Elspeth Dudgeon for her work in the rôle of Miss Purvis. *Jean*, a one-act play by Donald Colquhoun, has preceded.

METROPOLE.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The series of Irish plays at this house continues to do remarkably good business, the production for the present week being *Lord Edward; or, '98*. Mr. Fred Lloyd as Lord Edward Fitzgerald acts the part in spirited style; Pamela is well represented by Miss Annie Hylton; the informer, Magan, is portrayed with telling effect by Mr. Dane Clarke; the accomplice, Higgins, being cleverly characterised by Mr. Morley Carroll. Mr. Tyrone Power has a good part in Thady M'Grath, whose sweetheart, Katie Malone, is smartly played by Miss Jessie Glenn; Mr. Henry C. Ward is good as Major Sirr; careful studies are seen in the General Roche of Mr. W. Lantier and the Mme. de Sillery of Miss A. Grahame.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Harry Lauder once more returns to the home of his earliest efforts, and is accorded the hearty welcome reserved for old and tried favourites, his new songs all going particularly well; Walter Munroe is another strong favourite here, and is as clever in song and as nimble in dance as ever; Dorothy Ward sings several songs in good style, and is well received; Bob and Jennie Leonard contribute a lively comedy act, entitled *An Interview*; Harry Grey, the Australian nugget, once more convulses the audience with his amusing imitations of concert types; the Eight Empire Girls are smart dancers, and take well; the playlet which introduces Earl Junor, pianist, is a clever combination of drama and music, and the piano solos are much enjoyed; Olive Armidale, comedienne, is well received. The Bioscope concludes.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—That favourite musical comedy artist, Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, is making his first appearance here in vaudeville, and in his new rôle is accorded a hearty welcome. In *Captain Monty* he is provided with excellent opportunities, and scores all along the line. A clever Hebrew delineator, Harry First, appears in a sketch, *The Matrimonial Fee*, and made a decided hit with his original comedy business; the Boccacios give a most enjoyable musical turn, and are well received; a musical scena affords first-rate scope for the abilities of Miss Annie Schuberth, and her songs were heartily encored; the Sisters Herbert are three dainty young dancers, and proved highly successful; the automaton, Simon the Seer, aroused much interest and curiosity; Martes and Welma contribute a smart acrobatic comedy act. Alec Chentrens, Anglo-French comedian, and Albert St. Clair, double-voiced vocalist, complete a good programme.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—John C. Brandon and company present here a dramatic episode in *The Dragon's Claw*; Herbert Rule's latest songs are well written; Victor Kelly and Miss Agnes are amusing; the Three Cunards appear in a variety dancing act; Ridiculous Rocco gets through a lot of hard burlesque acrobatic work; Ada Tilley and Harold Wagner, who appear in a farcical skit, *A Call to Arms*, are supported by Mr. Archer Brown as Bill Grumley, and their efforts are well received. Flora Macdonald, vocalist and dancer; Archie Pitt, comedian; and Marie Stroud, chorus vocalist, are also on the bill.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A good bill here is topped by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, in magic and mirth; another interesting item is the Martialo Trio, in a sensational balancing and juggling act; Wilson and Waring, American humorists, provide an entertaining act; Les Frazettis are clever violin and harp soloists; and other artists in a strong programme include F. V. St. Clair, in a series of topical songs; the Brothers Durant, amusing acrobats; Vesta and Minnie Pine, comedy artists and vocalists; and Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery in the original comedy playlet, *An Amateur Anarchist*.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—J. H. Harris, Scotch comedian, is a great favourite here, and is making a welcome reappearance this week; Nellie Hawthorn is a neat and smart step-dancer; and Mattie Carson shows her dexterity in a big-boot dance; Bob Merry is a clever comedian; a good turn is also contributed by Raynor and Esto. The Bioscope films are new and up to date.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Hengler; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Milne.—A bright and entertaining programme is provided here. The variety entertainment is contributed by the Sembers, dancers; Graeme Athol, conjuror; and Joe Atkin, a comedian with good parodies.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—This week being cricket week, a special company is here. Hugo and Smit, acrobats and bar performers, are decidedly smart; Syd Kemp causes amusement with his patter; Wright and Elton, a novel comedy duo, are a good turn; Evelyn and Chip, vocalists and dancers, are favourites; William Whitlock is a good eccentric comedian; and a bright comedian and dancer is Lena Hyde. Mr. David G. Noble presents his sketch, *Wife for a Wife*, with success; and the Edisonograph with new films is very much to the fore.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton. — There is a fine assortment of pictures on view here this week, the two leading ones being A Case of Identity and Love's Stratagem. Others included in the programme are Lieut. Rose and the Gun-runners, The Gazette, King Cotton, Foolshead Absent-Minded, A Quiet Pipe, and The Modern Messenger Boy.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The domestic drama, *Another Man's Wife*, is being played by the Fred Granville Productions, Ltd., company. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe gives a dignified portrayal of Carlos de Vergas; Mr. Fred Granville depicts Paul Bernstoff with vivid force; Miss Ruby Loncraine proves a capable Lucie de Vergas; Mr. Henry Carlisle is excellent as Gilbert Eardsley; the comedy parts are well played by Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles, Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer, and Miss Marian Mayne as Tibby; whilst Miss Hazel Head as Inez de Castro, Miss Dorothy Love as Lucy, and Miss Lily Griffen as Maisie Matterson, do good work.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Leroux's Bicycle Monkeys career round the stage on their machines with all the ease of human riders, and perform many clever tricks; Gillin has lost none of his entertaining powers as a ventriloquist; *The Devil's Box of Bricks* is a clever miniature drama, excellently played by James Willard and company; Phil Bransby is a coster comedian with a good style; Reg. Beauchamp is a successful comedian; Daisy Morell is a dainty coon impersonator; and Eddie and Ethel present a bright comedy act.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial electric pictures and varieties still form the principal attraction here. Interesting and amusing pictures are again shown. Ray, Miles, and Ray, funny juggling comedians, give a capital turn; and Craig, Roze, and Craig provide a clever novelty gymnastic act.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Charles Harrington's No. 1 company is here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm makes an admirable Uncle Tom; Mr. A. Hayes is good as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. C. Graveley gives a clever portrayal of Mr. St. Clair; Mr. Eric Williams' George Harris is excellent; Mr. T. Bowron excels in the part of Legree; Miss Annie Watson's Topsy is a clever piece of work; Miss H. Hathaway is good as Eliza Harris; Miss Gem Lloyd's Little Eva is natural; and Miss H. Johnson does well as the slave Cassy.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—A capital selection of pictures is augmented by a very clever eccentric dancing turn by Harry Zetter, which receives well-merited applause; C. Yamamoto, an accomplished rope performer; and Bessie Callow, comedienne.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Warsaw Bros. are clever musicians and excellent humorists; the Belmonts are two artistic and talented dancers; Miss Elsie and Cousin Bob give a smart acrobatic turn; Valenche's Canine Football Team prove most amusing, and are very highly trained. Fallows and Beaumont (comedy artists), Walter Read (banjoist), Dolly Ross (comedienne and dancer), Johnny Cecil (light comedian), and the Palace pictures complete.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Paul Conchas, the German strong man, returns at the head of the bill, and proves a powerful attraction in *At Bivouac*. The Brothers Artois, bar artists, present a marvellous act; Alec Kendal scores with his quaint patter; Billy Hobbs, coon comedian and dancer, is well received; Talbot and Pearce, in their pretty Japanese musical sketch, *Yo San*, are a great treat; Miss Violet King enthrals the large audiences with her violin solos, &c.; Jennie Alexander, a juvenile mimic and dancer, shows great promise; Pick, Thoit and Taylor are remarkable dancers, and the pictures are up to date.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Managing-Director, Mr. C. Hazlewood.—Capital films are provided here. Barney Deeley, comedian, appears.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—*The Thief* was in the bill for the first three nights, presented by Mr. Alban Limpus' company. Mr. Bernard Limpus gave a good performance as Richard Charlton; Mr. F. Nurland as Raymond Leyton was excellent; and Mr. Carl Lindsey was all that could be desired as the boy Harry Leyton. Miss Everest's Marise Chelford was a remarkable performance, which drew forth loud and frequent plaudits; and Mr. Somerset was a suitable Mr. Protheroe. For the rest of the week *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* (Mr. Charles Graham and company) is billed.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—The ever-popular Smart Set, headed by Mr. Walter George, are here, and go well at each performance. Miss Violet Elliott is the vocalist, and is well received.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—*The Little Colonel*, an episode of the South African War, and presented by Ernest Montefiore and company, is very popular. The title-rôle is played by little Ivy Laurel, a clever child actress, good support being given by Mr. Ernest Montefiore and Miss Belle Vickers. W. E. Hilton, an expert in the ventriloquial art, has a good reception; George Grenville, in "The disappointed spinster," assisted by Mouldy Mike, are amusing; and capital pictures are shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Harry W. Lumley's company, with *The Cruise of the Constance*, is entertaining large houses. Miss Carlotto Sylvano acts and sings with much freshness and charm as Miss Isobel Higgins, and is associated in a well-rendered duet with Mr. Fred Hobbs, an ideal exponent of Lieut. Sir Walter Wensleydale, R.N.; in the comic business Mr. Chas. McNaughton as Potts is pre-eminently amusing, being well supported by Mr. Charles McLagan as Admiral Weber; whilst Miss Ruby Vyvyan as Clements sings and dances pleasingly. Miss Irene Verona enacts Mrs. Hope capitally; Mr. Albert Kavanagh is amusing as an amorous Captain Jackson, his singing giving much pleasure; the Misses T. March, P. Dickinson, and M. Shine contribute an effective dance. Mr. Albert Vernon directs the excellent orchestra. The chorus sings well, and is prettily dressed, and the scenery is excellent. Mr. Claude Casey stage-manages, and plays Mike humorously.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The English Light Opera company is appearing here for another week, under the direction of Mr. T. H. Friend. The vocalists do ample justice to their respective rôles, singing with delightful ease and fluency. Conducted by Mr. T. Lawton, the operas give great satisfaction, and are a decided success. Beginning with *The Bohemian Girl* on Monday, *Il Trovatore*, *Don Giovanni*, *Maritana*, and *Faust* followed.

BEACH PAVILION.—Mr. Wallis Arthur opened his summer season here on Monday to a crowded audience. An excellent and varied programme under the direction of Mr. George Blackmore was provided. Miss Nellie Perryer, at the piano, sings with great expressiveness; Mr. Harry Kemp possesses an admirable bass voice; and the renderings of Miss Dorothy Reeve earn a cordial welcome. Miss Gladys Hill vocalises with sweetness; Mr. George Ellis contributes some good sketches from novels and plays; Mr. George Blackmore imports genuine humour into his singing, and his droll sayings and droll manner are appreciated.

HEATON-ON-TYNE. — BRINKBURN PICTURE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—The Tenderfoot's Triumph and The Road Agent are the principal films here. Tiny Wilmot, the pocket Vesta Tilley, is making a big hit.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The bill includes the Dayton Family, who display some clever and daring Risley acrobatic work; Harry Thurston, burlesque comedian; Miss Millie Payne, comedy artist; the Three Orros, in a graceful act on the chains; Dot and Williams, two juvenile singers and dancers; Miss Maude Rayne, comedienne; Linn and Darius, musical entertainers; Burley and Burley, acrobatic comedians; and the pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Chief place here must be given to Fred Russell and Lillian Held, smart singers and dancers. Also appearing are Tom Taylor and company, in an absurdity, entitled *The Plumbers*; Dan Fraser, a Scottish comedian with a good voice; Alfred Gnest and Miss Dorothy Newlyn, in a comedy interlude; G. W. Blythe's singing pit-brow lasses in song and duet; Tom and Marie Motramo, musical comedy artists; Beattie and Blanche, singers and dancers; and a remarkable series of pictures illustrating the habits of wild birds.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Dolly Reforming Herself* is the play that is attracting big audiences at the Grand this week. This comedy of manners has caught the public fancy, and is one of the best efforts that Mr. H. A. Jones has given us. The company, which is under the guidance of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and H. Browning, does its work well. The Dolly of Miss Dorothy Giles is a pleasing impersonation; as Harry Telfer Mr. Ethelbert Edwards gives ample evidence of his histrionic powers; Mr. Cecil Brooking plays the part of Matthew Barrow with telling effect; the Vicar was cleverly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Vezin, who has the traditional talent of his family; the Professor of Mr. Russell Barry is a good impersonation; Miss Florence Steventon played the part of Mrs. Sturgess with skill. *Jerry and the Sunbeam* precedes the comedy.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company are here in *Sapho* and *Camille* this week. Mrs. Frank Bateman plays Sapho with skill; she does not rely upon tradition, but gives a reading all her own. Mr. F. W. Goddard plays the hero Jean; and Mr. Percy Shaw, in the rôle of Uncle Césaire, evinces strong, broad comedy.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—After a long absence Phil Ray makes a welcome reappearance; an interesting sketch is presented by Margaret Parker and company, the title-rôle of Lucky Jim being admirably portrayed by Miss Parker; the Haytors, in a novel sketch entitled *The Electrician*, prove themselves to be a happy and popular trio; Nelson Jackson as vocalist and pianist had a budget of clever ditties; whilst the Lyric Quartette scored a decided success. Ike and Will Scott, comedians and expert dancers, and O'Gust, the original clown, both had a good share of applause. Johnny Fuller as the cat on the wire, and the Harvey American Boys and Girls, who contribute a musical sketch; Miss Daisie Dennis, in her novelty song "Teddy Bear"; and Frank Victor, who sang a pleasing cowboy ditty, "Santa Fé," conclude an excellent bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Jack Marks, the favourite Hebrew comedian, is a big favourite here this week; the Four Janowskys, in their acrobatic ladder act, also scored a success; Virto and Venita present their clever musical speciality act; Dan Thomas, comedian, and Daisy Yates, in her act entitled *Impressions*, both had a flattering reception. Other turns are Stevens and Brett, the Hudsons, and Charles Archer, all of whom met with approbation.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—A capital company is presented, the top-liners, Denaro Brothers, being exceptionally clever acrobats; Brady and Johnson present a very funny sketch; Welda and Wynne, clever jugglers and dancers, met with a hearty reception; Spry and Bentley, Smith and Johnson, and a host of other good turns make up the programme.

THE CIRCUS.—General Manager, Mr. Edward Emerson.—The animated pictures presented here are increasing in popularity, and the large audiences thoroughly appreciate the excellence of the programme submitted.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Lessee, Mr. W. Stansfield; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—This house opened on Monday under the management of Mr. W. Stansfield, proprietor of the local Hippodrome. Varieties and pictures will be the attraction twice nightly until August, when the dramatic season commences. An attractive bill includes the Mackney Troupe in *The Showman and the Waiters*; Cedar and Elgar in a vocal scena, *In Days of Olde*; the Mackays, clever juveniles in songs and dances; and the Arthur Gallimore Trio. There is a fine series of pictures.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—This house is still running for the summer season, chiefly on Bioscopic lines, with a variety of excellent films, diversified by some good turns. Mr. Jack Kent, a South African baritone, has a capital voice; Miss Gertie Lovedale gains favour with some good illustrative pictures; and Shepherd and Granville are two versatile patter singers and dancers.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Lionel Locke.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company are here with *Her Marriage Vow*, which is meeting with success. Mr. W. Burgess gives a powerful rendering of Gilbert Carlton; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is a manly and vigorous Ned Benton; Mr. H. C. Monaber supplies an excellent study of Daffy Dan; Mr. Richard Nugent is quite at home in the part of Larry Leary; Eben Chobb is in the capable hands of Mr. Will Ellythorne; and as William Walters Mr. Joe Rockley is adequate. Miss N. Shirley gives a striking performance of Hester Horton; Miss V. Winifred plays Kate Walters in a charming manner; and the mounting is excellent.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—The most interesting of Albany Ward's electric pictures this week are a naval drama, entitled Lieut. Rose and the Foreign Spy, and A Tour through Wales. The Bijou Juvenile Troupe appear each evening in variety.

KEIGHLEY. — THE HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. Watson Mill's excellent drama *The Love of the Princess* is here, beautifully staged and mounted. Miss May Beatrice is an ideal Princess Idalia; Mr. Cyprian Matthews, who appears as Count Danillo, has an excellent stage presence, and gives a noteworthy performance; Mr. Frank Harvey is very popular as Prince Conrad; Mr. John Burton is well suited to the part of Josef; Mr. Francis Serle is an amusing Duke Scarfe; Mr. Beckett Bould and Mr. Oscar Power render good service; Miss Maud Steeple is a charming Lady Irene; and Miss Josephine Lee wins sympathy as Constantia. Mr. Edgar Morgan appears with success as Boris.

LEEDS. — THE HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Salgo's Animated Sculpture present some very artistic poses. Arnold Richardson and company in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law* are excellent; Francini, Olloms, and Page give a clever acrobatic entertainment; Les Berthos do an Apache dance in original style; the Two Lillys shine in a balancing act; Lily Hayes is a comedienne and dancer of merit; and Willie Allan, Moon and Morris, and Walter Bird's company in a very funny sketch, *Her Husband*, complete.

THE CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Randolph King, the original man, proves himself a versatile artist. Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in their sketch, *True Blue*, are favourites; Belle Braham gains much applause by her illustrated song, "Popularity"; Harry Luck is a smart comedian; and Goodall and Knox and Edie Haley complete a capital company.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A pretty little playlet, *Music the Conqueror*, is being performed here. Angel Bianco excels as a musician; Mabel Mavis plays sweetly on the glassophone, and gives a striking performance with her elbows on the piano. Scott and Whaley, coloured comedians, are favourites; Mike Gray is a comedy juggler of merit; and Charles Grantley proves himself a funny comedian.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. James Bibby.—Closed for summer.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—This theatre, like the Opera House, is now closed down for the summer vacation. A report of the new drama *The Wrongs of Woman* will be found in another column.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Bucclench.—Jack Pleasants, a really funny comedian, with a style he has made his own, fills the most prominent position this week. He creates endless merriment, and has to sing four songs before retiring. George Leyton is presenting his fine military scena *Lucknow*, in which he has the assistance of ten local Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans. It is needless to say that Mr. Leyton secures the sympathy and unbounded enthusiasm of the audience for his efforts. Barrett and Knowles are first-rate comedians, and are making a well-deserved hit; the Carmos are a wonderfully smart couple; an interesting coster duologue, *Jim's Pal*, is presented by Shirley and Ransome; the Six Lancashire Lasses sing and dance in capital style; Phil Rees' Stable Lads are entertaining in their racing act; Gwennie Hasto is a dainty and clever dancer; Jessie Merrilees is a vocalist of ability; and the bioscope is again a feature.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Another excellent bill here is topped by Mr. E. D. Nicholls and company in *Dare-Devil Dripping*. Milner and Storey appear with success in their amusing duologue *Tickets*; the Misses Lilly and Elsie Judge introduce Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws, in a manner that delights the audience. As a club juggler Leolin displays great smartness and neatness; Ford Williams, the Welsh bass-baritone vocalist, renders his songs in admirable style; Nellie Moore gives a dainty musical act; Ethel Entwistle is a capable vocalist; and pictures are again prominent.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The reputation of this house is well maintained, among a first-class list of films this week being The Keeper of the Light, Nero and the Fall of Rome, An Unlucky Day, Painter's Trunk, The Blind Man, Comedy and Tragedy, and What Happened to Brown. James Rosevere, chorus vocalist, is also appearing.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A successful production of *Under Two Flags* was staged here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, the rest of the week being filled up by *The Three Musketeers*. In the first-named drama Mr. Richard Ferris was vigorous and effective as Colonel Chateauroy; Mr. A. W. B. Kingston contributed a good character-study of Kara Baroni; and Cigarette had a very charming representative in Miss Doris Brookes. The dual rôle of Bertie Cecil and Corporal Victor was acceptably acted by Mr. Ernest Regent; Mr. Addison Thomas played with due care the part of the ne'er-do-well Berkley; Lord Rockingham received fitting rendition by Mr. J. W. Austin; and Countess Corunna was nicely portrayed by Miss Eleanor McHardy. To Mr. J. T. Dale and Miss Kitty Thomas were allotted the comedy rôles of Rake Flannagan and Maria, which they worked with much success; and the auxiliary parts of Charillion and the Constable were in the competent hands of Mr. Mark Hannam and Mr. David Porter. Songs introduced by Miss Brookes and Mr. Dale greatly pleased the audience, and with the farce of *The Limerick Boy*, the same actor sent everybody home in good humour.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company with *Moths*. Miss Henrietta Schrier undertakes the part of Fuchsia Leach, which she plays with much discretion and effect; Mr. Lodge-Percy is an able Lord Jura; as Prince Sergius Mr. Andrew Money does excellently; Miss Nellie Statham makes a neat Lady Dolly; and worthy support comes from Messrs. Ronald Bridge (Duke of Mull) and F. Douglas Howard (Raphael), Miss Veronica Clinton (Vere Herbert), and Miss Marie Ramux (Duchess). Last night (Friday) *Mr. Barnes of New York*, with Miss Schrier as Marina Paoli and Mr. Lodge-Percy as Mr. Barnes, was announced.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Beginning and the End* is here with Mr. A. B. Mackay's excellent company. The play is an interesting one, and large audiences are enjoying it. Mr. Mackay holds the part of Greville Brayle, which is a well-finished study; Mr. George Daiper acquits himself most creditably in the rôles of George Brayle and Captain Nemo; Miss Ida Mackay shows high accomplishments in the character of Dora Brayle; Miss Lillie Lewis, as Marcelle de Valcour, plays with much discretion, and Miss Elsie Joyle is a sweet little Dora. Other good supporters are Messrs. Louis Newman (Bertie Wilkins), Jack Corlass (Constable Maloney), and Arthur Lesly (Pincher Jim), and Miss Trixie Leighton (Peggy Perkins) and Mrs. Corlass (Puggy Baxter). The drama is capitally put on.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Large audiences here this week are giving Mr. Van Biene and company a hearty re-welcome, and the well-known play *The Broken Melody* finds as much favour as ever. Additional interest is attached to the visit by the presence of Miss Edith Cole (Mrs. Kelly), who is playing for the first time in the theatre which bears her husband's name. The accomplished actress is being accorded a most flattering reception for her excellent rendering of the part of the Duchess. Mr. Van Biene repeats his delightful part of the poor musician; Mr. Charles Hartopp proved a strong General Ivanoff; Miss Frances Bruce does every justice to the part of Mrs. Dickson; Mr. George H. Child handled Beaujour in fine style; and on Monday evening Miss Van Biene suddenly undertook the rôle of Mabel, receiving great commendation. On Friday evening a new one-act playlet entitled *Karl's Luck* was presented.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Here this week we have little Elise Craven and company in a new sketch, a notice of which appears in another column. Harry Lamore pleases greatly with his versatile comedy entertainment; Lulu Russel meets with a most cordial reception for her taking songs; John Humphries and company repeat their laughable sketch *Ancient Britons*, which is enjoyed as much as formerly; Roma and Romani display high talents as musicians, and earn rounds of applause; as acrobatic comedians Smite and Smote are particularly funny, especially with their burlesque wrestling match; Johnny Walker proves very diverting; Jock Mills affords immense pleasure with his Scottish ditties; and Mona Garrick, by reason of her clever character impersonations, is deservedly well received.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The favourite, *Diver's Luck*, is here this week with Mr. Andrew Emm's company, which is an excellent one. Mr. Edmond O'Grady causes endless laughter with his representation of Barney Bawn; as the diver Mr. William Macready acts with distinction; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaffe proves a delightful Helen Wyngate; Mr. Herbert Vere plays strongly in the part of Tom Hall; credit is due to Mr. Herbert J. Walton for his carefully-handled Maurice Wyngate; Mr. Percy Wentworth acquits himself as Lieut. Turner; and Miss Edna Godfrey Turner is a humorous Peggy Mahoney.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—That merry absurdity *Parker, P.C.*, heads the bill here this week, Charles Austin and company keeping the audiences in shouts of laughter; for their delightful and humorous singing the Scottish Meisters earn a most flattering reception; some wonderful and humorous trick cycling is performed by the Narow Bros.; Lillie Soutter pleases everybody with her taking songs; the Du For Trio of boy dancers are a capital turn; Frank Seeley is cordially received for his latest songs; as lady gymnasts the Karitsous Sisters give an exceptionally good show; and others in the bill are Joe Conway, comedian, and Monty Walker, Lancashire comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—An interesting drama, *Her Lost Self*, from the pen of Nita Rae, is being presented here this week by the stock company. Among the principal rôles are Wilfred Daventry (Mr. Harry Tresham), Norman Esmond (Mr. Sydney Grant), Paul Kimberley (Mr. R. Seath Innes), Dorothy Daventry and Lucille Fontaine (Miss Gertrude Entwistle), and Philippine Marcel (Miss Lina Nazeby). Other supporters are Messrs. Leo Montgomery, Cecil Ravenswood, Tom H. Solly, E. D. Allen, Miss Gertrude Gilman, Miss Millie Dench, and Miss Gwynne Watson. Brown's Bioscope shows The Skirmishers.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Principal here are the renowned Indian wrestlers, Gama, Bux, Buksh, and Gamu, who are issuing challenges to all comers; Fred Storey and company afford great pleasure with their picturesque and well-arranged version of *Rip Van Winkle*; May Henderson is as delightful as ever, and has a grand reception. One of the best items in the programme is that provided by Cull Pitt, a droll deceptionist, who gets away entirely from the commonplace. His tricks and talk are a regular treat, and his audience are not slow to appreciate the merit of his performance. As dancers and singers the Eight Lancashire Lads come in for loud applause; that amusing couple Binns and Binns keep their audience awake; exceedingly graceful as a gymnast is Alcide Capitaine; Wullie Walker is a diverting Scotch comedian; and May B. Brilliant sings and dances to everybody's satisfaction.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of the bill here this week is the comic military sketch *The Skirmishers*, presented in capital style by Mr. Herbert Darnley's company, including Charles H. Bell. It has given the greatest satisfaction. Carlton is here again with his mystifying tricks, which are certainly done in skilful manner. His "Mysterious Cross" alone is a treat. The Juggling McBanns give a novel and surprising exhibition; Friend and Downing are a couple of very funny American comedians; Alan Adair pleases with his songs; Syd Garti and Miss Lucy Law have a neat little vocal sketch, *Jack's Mother*; and the Bioscope shows the Johnson v. Burns Fight.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—"Vint's" seems to be growing in popularity, and good houses are being enjoyed this week. An excellent variety programme is given. Frankford and Maine are a smart comedy couple; Folloy and Francis give a good turn with droll dialogue; and Marie and Nellie dance cleverly in the Dutch style. The pictures include snapshots at the local regatta.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—Some excellent films are shown here, including The Passing Shadow, A Lesson by the Sea, &c. Mr. Forbes Guilbert, character portrayer, gives some clever studies from popular plays.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is here for the first time, and affords much amusement. Miss Jenny Hallworth in the name part deserves special mention with her clever acting and singing, which are warmly applauded. Other parts are well filled, and several excellent vocal numbers are given.

SOUTH BEACH PAVILION.—Mr. Will Edwards, the well-known comedian, and his concert party opened here for the season on Monday in a pleasing and varied programme, which is much enjoyed.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—"The Blue Myths" concert party are proving a capital attraction.

CLAREMONT PIER.—The Royal Entertainers are appearing here with much success.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Amongst the principal films are The Heart of a Cowboy, Grandsire, and A Trip Through Jersey. Varieties are given by Gus Hindell, descriptive vocalist, and Henri Bekker, a clever conjuror.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—*East Lynne* is being played here by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, under the able management of Mr. Charles E. Dering. Archibald Carlyle is successfully presented by Mr. Leonard Yorke; Francis Levison is effectively dealt with by Mr. G. R. Montford; Mr. Thos. Barry does well as Justice Hare; Mr. Arthur E. Maskell provides an amusing study of Ebenezer Walker; Mr. C. E. Dering does well as Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. John Blake is effective as Richard Hare. Miss Muriel Marsden plays strongly as Lady Isabel; Miss Dorothy Clifton as Barbara Hare is excellent; Miss Mary Hardacre makes much of the amusing Cornelia; Miss Winnie Rousby is effective as Little Willie; and Miss Ethel Lockhart is a successful Joyce.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Lake.—The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company (North) is paying a welcome return visit. On Monday *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was produced, Mr. Henry

John Falstaff; and Mr. John Hood giving a good portrayal of Shallow. Mr. Robert Atkins furnished a clever impersonation of Ford; and Mr. Cyril Sworder showed ability as Page. Mr. John Cairns was a capable Sir Hugh Evans; Mr. Andrew Leigh was well placed as Dr. Caius; Mr. Chas. Sparrow a jovial Host; and Mr. H. S. Cowen a clever Slender. The rôle of Mrs. Ford could scarcely be in better hands than those of Miss Gladys Vanderzee; Miss Kate Turner was pleasing as Mrs. Page; and Miss Betty Ward earned great praise as Mrs. Quickly. The répertoire also includes *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Tempest*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Crowded houses are nightly witnessing a pleasing variety programme. Percy Honri and his combine are making a tremendous hit in the musical scenic phantasy *Concordia*; the Four Braggs are a quartette of novel and decidedly clever acrobats; Carl Lynn, the famous animal imitator, scores heavily, as do also Karr and Kooney, comedians; pleasing of voice and clever dancers are the Five May Girls; whilst Jack Smiles's drolleries and dancing win for him a good reception. Mr. Victor Newman is a character impersonator of no mean order; and Len Hale, vocalist and dancer, Harry Tomps, concertinist and raconteur, together with the bioscope pictures, make up the bill.

MANCHESTER.—GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and company, including Miss Carrie Baillie, are here this week in répertoire. On Monday *Leah the Forsaken*, a powerful play, was presented in excellent style. Mr. Marsh as Rudoff gave an admirable delineation; Mr. Wilson Gunning was correspondingly forcible as the villainous Nathan; Mr. A. E. Walker as Lorenz and Mr. Ernest Digges as Father Human were both interesting and efficient; Dr. Ludwig found a clever and humorous exponent in Mr. Ian Fleming; Madalena was well played by Miss May Grimshaw; and Leah, the title-rôle, could scarcely have been better rendered than it was by Miss Carrie Baillie, whose emotionalism was remarkably well suited to the part. The play was preceded by *Bamboozling*; and other plays for the week are *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Taming of the Shrew*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here in *A Wrecker of Men*, which is meeting with good receptions nightly. Miss Ruth Zillwood as Risca Mallinson is the outstanding feature among many successful delineations; Mr. Arthur Robinson as Guise Strange and Miss Gwendoline Talbot as Doris Melville well sustain the heroic interest; Mr. Victor Rae as Pharosaphus plays strongly on the evil side of affairs; and good parts are capitally handled by Mr. Arthur S. Pitt as Jim Murley, Mr. Edward A. Brooke as Isaacs, and Mr. Richard Boscoe as Railton; while considerable fun is provided by Mr. William A. Armour as Reggie Verincourt and Miss Lydia Hart as Vavasole Slopper.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Jake Friedman and company are proving a potent attraction here in *Happy Holland*; while also prominent on the bill is Ada Fawn, the well-known comedy and burlesque actress. Other good turns are Sammy Foster, patter comedian and dancer; Smith and Gibbs, quaint athletes; Baby Wolff, an accomplished child artist; Rex and Ford, eccentric cross-talk comedians; and Victoria Dagmar, with her comedy assistant, in a pleasing gymnastic display.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Great Raymond tops the bill here, and also occupies the second place of honour, scoring a huge success with his acts of magic and mystery; Fred Dunstone, comedian, is very funny; Little Sunbeam is a capital dancer; Morris and Moore are also expert dancers of the first class; Les Grossi contribute further dancing of the Continental and picturesque order; Ryde and Beeman are very smart and funny comedy acrobats; and Luella Cross, American comedienne and vocalist, sings in a very pleasing fashion.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James W. Trippett.—Mr. Raynor and company are here this weeks, still pleasing local audiences in répertoire. The plays given are *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, *His Excellency the Governor*, and *Jim the Penman*, all being capably played and attractively put on.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Miss Ethaline Terriss appears here this week in a comedy, entitled *The Pink of Perfection*, supported in a delightful rendering by Miss Maie Ash and Mr. Stanley Brett, whose clever and pleasing work is further supplemented by Mr. Roland Chester, in a subsidiary rôle; the Twelve Fezzans are also prominent in an exhibition of wild, weird, and truly wonderful acrobatics; Chris. van Bern is seen in an excellent comedy act; Edie King is a charming comedienne and dancer; and Chas. Norton makes a hit in his popular monologue *Pros. at the Races*. Other good turns are Iva Voyce, contralto vocalist; Geo. S. Melvin, in Scottish song and dance; and Arthur Ferriss, a capital character comedian.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top turn here is Clarice Mayne, who has some nice songs and does some clever imitations, assisted in no small degree in pleasing the audience by the humorous byplay of her accompanist; at the bottom of the bill are William Mitchell and John J. Cain, who provide some novel humour as the Frenchman and the Other Fellow; and Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, whose balancing feats are wonderful. Other entertaining items in an all-round excellent programme are Chas. Leighton, comedian at the piano; Nellie Wigley, a pleasing burlesque artist; Carrie Laurie's Belles of the Kitchen, clever juveniles; Horace Pollock and company, in the successful episode *Hester's Mystery*; Keene and Adams, in a smart patter and dancing act; and the Jackley Trio, clever acrobatic comedians.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—G. Osborn Burgoyne presents here the English Dancers, in a novel Indian ballet scene, entitled *Les Idolatres*, in which the Great Espinosa appears among a strong company of accomplished artists; Nevill Graham and company are successful in *The Pride of the Regiment*; Harry and Fanny Dent, in their novel *mélange*, *The Indian Bottle*, are highly diverting; Dan Whitley, patter comedian and dancer, makes a big hit; and capital turns are added by Cummin and Seaham, comedy acrobats; Kitty Clinton, comedienne; Tennyson and Wallis, patter comedians and dancers; Ted Waite, eccentric comedian; and Lottie Bellman, assisted by Ray Russell, in entertaining "bits of vaudeville."

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The top turn here is that of Edouard Jose, character actor, in his English version of *The Strike*, founded on a poem by Coppée; Hammon and Wyatt, the Australian Sandow girls, give a capital singing act, and are well received; the Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats are also a smart turn; Molly Augarde contributes some clever descriptive vocalism; and other entertaining items are Maie Dillon, Dutch comedienne and dancer; Ethel Eden, a vivacious comedienne; Allsopp and Beckwith, an amusing duo, introducing their walking dog; J. G. Royde, clog-dancer; and the Gordon Girls, smart juveniles.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Ada Pagini, the Italian Court violinist, tops the bill here, and is a great success; the Gascoigne Trio are good jugglers and balancers; Beatrice Bonnie and her dulcimer dancers are clever on the stairophone; Baker and Balfe play the xylophone in expert style; Burt Ward's comedy whistling and patter is much enjoyed; Maurice pleases the audience with his clever card-manipulation; and the pictures of the Johnson *v.* Burns fight are appreciated.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harry Leslie.—A well-chosen programme here comprises Fred Fields, comedian; Bert de Creg, solo pianist; Emilie Tait, soprano; Olly King, light comedian; Nellie le Breton, soubrette and dancer; and Norman Osborne, in ventriloquial sketches. The fare is highly acceptable to patrons.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Morrison.—The smart training of Danish Dragoons and their horses is shown on an excellent film; The President's Special is a pathetic railway series of high quality. Among the other films this week are Victims of Fate, Her First Appearance, The Knot in the Handkerchief, &c.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The Opera House has been reopened this week with a répertoire company under the direction of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh. On Monday *Niobe* was played. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice Burdett created a very favourable impression, as Caroline Dunn Miss Kathleen Yates was a success, the part of Peter Amos was cleverly presented by Mr. Arthur Dennis, and the Cornelius Griffin of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh commanded commendation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are appearing here in *When Other Lips*, in which Mr. Jones is seen to advantage as Phylocrates Bombioso Jenkins, M.D.; Miss Marie Daventry, in the part of Ruth Lingley, meets with much approbation; Miss Florence Melrose Millett does well as Octavia; and the villainous character of Basil Cunningham, alias Mordaunt, is well sustained by M. Juan D'Alberti. The drama is well staged.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—McLallen and Carson are clever skaters, and their novelty entitled *Babes in Toyland* is much appreciated; the Geretti Sisters give a capital trapeze performance; the Bros. Werds, comedy acrobats; the Soho Trio, singers and dancers; Drum and Major, comedians; Miss Marie Kay, comedienne and dancer; George Antill, comedian; Hadley Harman, comedian and dancer; and the Empirescope pictures complete the programme.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—On the resumption of variety programmes, the houses have been very good. Warren and Granville, in a musical and instrumental act, are warmly applauded; Silly Billy Elliot returns, and fully upholds his reputation; Dolly Brough is a captivating comedienne and dancer; Ethel Young, baritone vocalist, is pleasing; and the pictures are good.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The pictures are exceedingly good, the meeting of King Edward and King of Italy coming in for loud applause. The varieties are very popular, and include the Carters, burlesque actors, and the Four Scoreys, comedy vocalists and instrumentalists.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—That very funny comedy *Jane* is being played here to full houses. All the characters are well acted. The company includes Mr. Howard L. Tracey, Mr. W. Lockhart, Mr. Stanley Arthur, Mr. Gordon Smythe, Mr. G. Dunn, Miss Claire Townshend, Miss Miriam Holt, Miss Peggy Yeoman, and Miss de L'Estrade. The scenery, &c., are splendid.

THE TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—The bioscope pictures in the theatre form a very attractive programme, and the films are supplemented by variety turns given by Pueblo and Crop, in a vocal and dancing performance; Marjory and Maud are good comediennes; and Bert Rose, female impersonator and dancer, complete.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—For the first three nights this week the "Anglo-Indians" appear, consisting of the following artists:—Mr. J. Collis, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. G. H. Adams, Mr. J. Lennox, Mr. J. Watson, Mr. Charles North, Mr. Blanco J. White, Miss B. James, and Miss E. Clifford. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon White are admirable shadowgraphists.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company is proving a big attraction here this week. The difficult rôle of Bessie is rendered by Miss Dora Pass with skill; Mr. Percy Dawsone as David Heath acts with power and ability; as Uriah Craven Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh is convincing; Miss Phyllis Elton as Clara Darrell does well; and other rôles are adequately filled by Mr. Charles Locke, Mr. A. Hamilton Warden, and Miss Cherry Veheyne.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Mr. George Robey this week heards a fine bill, and was accorded a hearty welcome. The Kellinos, a remarkable troupe of risley artists, provide a good turn; the Miller Brothers are a couple of smart gymnasts; and other artists appearing are Harry Jobson, comedian; Evelyn Stoll; Phillips and Merritt, Society entertainers; Russell Carr, Harry May Helmsley, and Betty Green.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—This week the management have put on The Little Sailor Lad, The Irish Boy, The Fisherman's Bride, and Gold is Not All, with some excellent comics. Miss Margaret Payne's songs this week are "The Prairie Song Bird" and "Dear Louise," which gain applause.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Presented during this week are Father and Son, The Duchess of Guise, Madness and Love, Gold Seekers, and For Her Sister's Sake, all good dramatic films. The Bay of Naples and Through the Andes are also good.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—This week we have Michael Strogoff, Zingara, Gold is Not All, A Suit-case Mystery, and The Stricken Home—all good subjects.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The stock company is this week presenting the local drama *Fifty Fatty*, which has attracted large audiences. In the title-rôle Mr. Albert Sember puts some excellent work into his rendering of the character; Mr. Ed. E. Louis makes the most of Jack Fatty; Mr. Ernest K. Allen proves an interesting Captain Alfred Roper; Mr. Lonnen Meadows adds to his popularity as Dick Herring; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson is an acceptable Detective Moss. As Mother Fatty Miss Kate Froude is worthy of the highest praise; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne as Ella Hetherington acts cleverly, and Jennie Jenkins finds a pleasing representative in Miss Effie Macintosh.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The pictures are highly interesting. Rose Gower sings excellent songs, and Professor R. K. Thompson gives selections on the Anxetophone.

YE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—The Jesters are appearing successfully. Miss Clarice May is pleasing as pianist and vocalist; Miss Hilda Lake, Miss Alice Floyd, and Miss Maggie Shaw are popular; Mr. S. Milton Hayes, both in songs and with the company in concerted items, meets with approval; Mr. Laurence Emery is good; and Mr. Herbert Connorton proves very humorous.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD. — Messrs. Goodman's Pierrots sustain their reputation. The various items contributed by Miss Delmere, Miss Effingham, and Miss Cissie Scott receive hearty plaudits; whilst Mr. Bonny, Mr. Beare, and Mr. F. Capron meet with much success. Mr. Leslie Sears is irresistibly funny.

THEATRE DE LUXE, ST. ANDREWS.—Manager, Mr. T. Halliley.—The continuous picture show here is still meeting with success.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's Madcaps are meeting with much success, and deservedly so. Miss Marjory Cecil, soprano, sings choice songs, and is much appreciated; Miss Vi Huntley is also well received; Mr. Sandy Lawson sings popular Scotch melodies, and Mr. Harry Cave's fine baritone voice in classical items receives hearty recognition; Mr. Will Pim renders good character songs; Mr. Bert Gordon is successful as a comedian and dancer, and Mr. Will Hoppe is an able pianist.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*The Guilty Man* is here. Mr. Otto Minster is appropriately vigorous as George Seymour, and Miss Bessie Rignold brings out the devotion of Nell Radford with dramatic intensity. Mr. Herbert Morgan gives sinister effect to the villainy of James Redman; Mr. Gerald Venning plays Sir Lawrance Farrant on well-defined lines; and General Seymour is aptly depicted by Mr. Arthur French. Mr. G. H. Asquin (Bob Sparrow) and Miss Daisy Meynard (Sukie) create capital fun, and other parts are successfully undertaken by Miss Lillian Duncker, Mr. Bert Morris, and Mr. Leslie Nolan.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—With Arthur Roberts in the bill there is sure to be a large supply of fun, and his last sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, gives ample room for the display of his versatile powers. Dan Crawley's turn is full of good things, and the burlesque juggling of Griff is amongst the best items seen here for some time. The patter of the Leslie Bros. is an excellent tonic, and the New Macs add to the hilarity. Hellene Hurst sings with care and taste, and Stanley and Greenop are excellent banjoists. A clever motor-cycle act is introduced by Tom Davies' Trio, and Harry Marte is a smart comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—George Mozart is a comedian whose entertainment is as entertaining as it is clever. A bright little skit is played by Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins in a thoroughly animated way. The delightful vocalism of Mlle. Adelaide Waldorf is an appreciative item on the programme. Maud Elliston and company in *Dobson's Day Off* catches the fancy of the audience, and the mystifying tricks of Yangar win well-merited applause. Clifton and Gibson patter and dance themselves into favour, and the Three Warringtons give a dexterous performance of strength. Kitty Leon, an agile comedienne, and Percy Curry, eccentric, also deserve praise.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott commenced the second week of their stock season on Monday by presenting *Belphegor*. In the title-rôle Mr. Chas. Draycott added another to his many successes. Mr. George Steel played the villain Lavarennes with skill; Mr. Theo Balfour was seen to advantage as Count de Blangy; Mr. Clinton Baddeley successfully depicted Duke de Montbazon; Mr. Joseph Magrath created plenty of amusement as Hilarion; Mrs. Charles Draycott gave a carefully studied performance as Madeline; Miss Nana Flensberg proved a sprightly Zephyrina; Miss Issa Steel was well suited as Mme. Catherine. For the latter half of the week *A Modern Adventuress* and *East Lynne* are announced.

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—In *For Old Times' Sake* Mr. Fred J. Webb and his talented company provide a treat. Miss Marie Danvers-Smith acts Sareta Berkley cleverly, and gains hearty appreciation; Miss Mamie Stanton as Phyllis Brooke is charming; Mr. Webb as Rupert Sidney skilfully brings out all that is evil in the character, and his brother Paul forms a great contrast as acted by Mr. J. C. Carlyle; Mr. Harold B. Lewis as the outcast Jean Brook is very good; Miss Lallah Price as Mrs. Hale acted well, and Miss Marie Robertson as Polly Pearson caused hearty laughter, of which Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Jimmy Jepps also takes a fair share; Mr. W. Palliser Acock as Dr. Heathcote, Mr. R. Oliver as Frank Rivington, Mr. Louis Manton as Col. Rivington, and Mr. Manton as Evan Berkley also play well.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme; Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Usher and company have been appearing in *The Black Mask*, which is full of exciting incidents. Henri Le Noir, known as the Black Mask, is ably personified by Mr. Marriott Watson. He has able associates in Mr. Elton Morgan as Daddy, Mr. Aubrey Winn as Chicken, and Miss Flo Norman as Mother One-Eye; Miss Florence E. Florence as Nellie Cunninghame acts in a charming manner, and Miss Mabel Harland makes a good Stella; Mr. J. Woodhall Bird as Walter Blackmore acts in fine style; Miss Frances Day as Emma Burt, and Mr. Fred C. Imbert as Samuel Winkle provide smart comedy. Mr. Willie Elton is very good as Philip Cunninghame.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Sharrock.—The Four Quaint Q's top the bill in a smart dancing turn and excellent harmonising comedy; Mlle. Amelie D'Enclos scores a success, her singing being heartily enjoyed; Messrs. Dottridge and Harwood introduce a new and up-to-date scena, *The Bobbies and the Maids*, in which clever juveniles are to be seen in good singing. Some fine trick scenery is employed, and the dresses are excellent. Patty Yole sings with success, and Regan and Ryan are very amusing in their songs and patter; Conn and Conrad in *The Aviators* are entertaining; Emmie Ames also does well in her songs; and Harry Bancroft is a popular actor and chorus vocalist. The Palace Pictures are amusing.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Angel of Dawson's Claim is a good dramatic film, and Western America is another. News from Everywhere shows capital pictures, and A Tour through Volendam is very good. Mr. Roger Alwyn contributes a capital song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Victims of Fate is a thrilling drama of an American feud. Two competitions, one for weight-lifting and a go-as-you-please were introduced, and for which a large number of entries were secured.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Roman Campaign is a remarkable picture, and Heaven-Sent Heroine proves quite exciting. The bill includes several other capital films.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—The Little Trumpeter and other interesting films are shown. The songs of Miss Briggs are much enjoyed.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. John Levey's company is attracting full houses here this week with *The Scapegrace*. Mr. John Levey gives a bold and capital representation of Bill Burke, while Mr. H. F. Cresswell is effective as the hero, Jack Fanshaw; Mr W. A. Buckstone is good as Captain Harry Fanshaw; and Mr. Larry Clements is full of life as Larry McGehan. Mr. J. Willoughby sustains Ralph Marsden very creditably. Miss Maudie Lambert is entertaining as Mary; Miss Nellie Lambert fulfils the small part of Nellie Burke very capably; Miss Maude Western is attractive and winsome as Dick; and Miss Beatrice Western adds distinction with a skilful portrayal of Margaret Marsden.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An attractive picture programme, supplemented by Todd Jones, a pleasing tenor vocalist, results in good business.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—The principal films shown are Girls of the Range, Father and Son, and A Lover's Stratagem. Williams and Parker, Welsh vocalists and comedians, submit a greatly appreciated turn; and Bert Williams is an elocutionist of much power.

PENZANCE.—ALEXANDER GROUNDS.—Miss Lily Pritchard's "Queer Quakers" opened here on Monday before a crowded house, and presented an excellent programme.

PROMENADE.—The Town Band, under Bandmaster John Hosking, render capital selections here each evening.

PERTH. — PERTH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—This is the last week of the season, and the management have provided a long series of pictures. Mr. Johnny Beveridge, blind pianist and humorist, is a favourite, and has a splendid reception; the Misses Thornton are graceful in Highland dances; and Mr. Aldridge, the manager, delights in new tenor songs.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Fasola, the famous Indian fakir, baffles the audience with his wonderfully clever illusions; Alphs Barbour is a clever character impersonator; Ivy Leaf is a pleasing comedienne; the Bros. Wray, comedians, give an acceptable turn; a decided novelty by the Codys, lasso experts, is much appreciated; Silverstone is a clever mimic; the Sisters Gaye sing and dance themselves into favour; Harry Bland is an amusing comedian; and Leon and Tee achieve success in their musical act *On the Farm*. The Karnoscope completes with new pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. J. Field.—A capital programme is provided by the management of the Palace Theatre this week, the star turn being given by Darracq, whose feat of whizzing the wheel in a motor car holds the audience spellbound. Mooney and Holbein give a good patter turn; Miss Gwennie Llewellyn's English and Italian songs are enjoyed; Halma, the Scottish juggler, is clever; whilst the Greys make a hit with their dancing. Jack Sheridan and Charlie Gardiner are a couple of good comedians.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Nerigne appears in her reproduction of Cleopatra's Death Dance, in which she uses an Indian snake, and her clever scena *Ænone*. Robb Gilmore is an eccentric comedian, and causes roars of laughter with his corkscrew dance; Sauteron's comedy artists, including Frank Sauteron, champion jumper, give a skilful entertainment; Lisbon and Barker are a happy pair of cross-talk comedians; La Belle Greta is a charming comedienne and Spanish dancer; whilst Dick Francis is a smart entertainer at the piano. Harvey and Jesson are excellent dancers; Sharon, the street musician, plays selections on four instruments; and excellent pictures are shown on the Alexscope.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Mrs. E. H. Knight's company produce *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mr. Percy Beresford and Miss Hilda Baynton are capital as Tom Manley and Rosa Prescott; the child actress, Miss Freda, is good as Little Nellie, as also is Miss Louise Carlton as Ruth. Miss Alice Dent is a capital Mrs. Manly; Mr. Rupert Talbot is comical as Sam Kiddie; and Mr. S. Fortescue, Mr. Gordon Ingram, and Mr. J. Paley are efficient as Wm. Farren, James Hammond, and Dr. Morris.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—*Nana* has been presented by Miss Loie Esmond and company for two nights, followed by *The Sorrows of Satan* and *Sapho*. On Monday evening *Nana* was greatly appreciated, Miss Rosie Neville taking the title-rôle effectively. Phillipe was excellently acted by Mr. Jack McGaig; Mr. Frank Wheatley as M. Fontaine was a capital villain; George Hugon won admiration as played by Mr. Henry Beckett; Mr. J. Le Fleming as Phillipe's father made an admirable old gentleman; and Miss Rosie Esmond as Rose Mignon was good.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A Horner.—Mr. Hamilton-Stewart, with an excellent company, present this week *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. Hamilton Stewart takes the part of Lord Lumley (the Mummy) in a clever manner; Miss A. Bruce-Joy makes a charming Lady Lumley; Mr. Lewin Mannering gives a capital rendering of the unprincipled Signor d'Orelli (the Humming Bird); the rôle of Guiseppe is played by Mr. Charles Groves, jun., with great feeling; Miss Constance Barton makes a graceful Ruth Thornton; and Mr. Percy Marmont gives a natural counterpart of Lord Roland.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* is presented here this week by Mr. Morton Powell's company. The part of Ruth Wright is admirably portrayed by Miss Edith Wallis; Ruby Wright finds a natural counterpart in Miss Maud M. Powell; Miss Anna Corri gives an impressive rendering of Mrs. Meral; Mr. Walter Clarke makes a fine Lucas List; Mr. William Clements provides humour as Freddy Feather; and the remaining characters have been well chosen.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Charles Whittle is this week scoring heavily here; Miss Lily Burnand is also a great success; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, is responsible for much laughter; Falco and Eida are talented dancing ju-jitsu specialists; the Three Comerfords are amusing comedy acrobats; the Bros. Concoran are clever musical quick-change artists; and other turns that please are Blair and Allen, vocalists, and the Sisters Cora, duettists and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Laughter is prevalent whilst Edward Lauri and May Beaty present their clever and extensive company in *The Lady Bandits*. Metz and Metz are step-dancers who are appreciated; the Gaudsmidt Bros., with two Spanish poodles, score in clever acrobatic display; Bella and Bijou are pleasing; Miss Kitty Colyer is a talented dancer; a funny turn is provided by Doody and Wright and a drum; and Lecardo Bros., eccentric tumblers; Tom See, light comedian; and the O-K-Dians, in miniature musical comedy, also appear.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Broughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—King and Benson top the bill this week with lively songs and "gag." The Twelve Forget-me-nots are talented children; Tom Woottwell presents good vocal character sketches; Carlotta Levey delights with original songs; feats of remarkable feminine muscular strength are displayed by the Blessings; clever trapeze work is given by the Lavori Family; Eunice and Gena are smart instrumentalists; Sinclair and Whiteford appear in an amusing dialogue, *Getting Even*; and Cash and Clare please as speciality duettists.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—Mr. Keith G. Kennett and full West End company are presenting a series of excellent plays. The Merry Boys and Mascots perform daily.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—An attraction of an unusual character is presented here in Mr. T. Elder Hearn and his variety company. T. Elder Hearn as the Lazy Juggler is quaint and clever, and wins applause for his quick-change act, in which he impersonates six characters; Kenny performs sensational cycling feats; Lucy Lind, a bright and witty Lancashire comedienne, has a good reception; Ethel Donna is a clever vocalist and dancer; Miss Mi Narom scores in her eccentric creations; the Sisters Sprightly, three versatile vocalists and comediennes, supply a novel and refreshing turn; Shawlene is encored again and again for his whistling and bird imitations; Maudie Valiant is a dainty soubrette; and a clever sketch, *The Rat*, in which the Apache Dance is vividly portrayed by Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoil le Noir, and supported by a most capable company, is presented. The Prince's Perfection Pictures conclude.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—The Elliott Savinas in their musical creation "The Palace of Orpheus" top the bill, and arouse the greatest enthusiasm with their unique performance. Ernesto is a juggler and musical equilibrist far above the ordinary; G. W. Hunter, comedian, and Tom E. Finglass, cowboy coon, are both artists in their respective lines; Cara Magda is an expert Continental lady gymnast and juggler; Johnson and Hart are smart hoop rollers; Bertha Evelyn is a pleasing vocalist; Purvis and Partner have a clever vocal duologue, *The Postman's Knock*, and cause much laughter; Little Vestos are two juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Scrogging Puts Up for Blankshire on the Bio. concludes a good programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Big houses are still the rule here for the pictures by the Vernon Bio., and the high standard and variety of subjects is well maintained. A welcome attraction is Miss Mabel Robartes, a talented vocalist, from the Queen's Hall concerts.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Mr. Frank Adair and company commenced a week's engagement in the drama entitled *The Heathen and the Christian*, and has attracted large audiences throughout the week. Mr. Frank Adair gives a good interpretation of Li, the avenger; Mr. Gerald Shirley makes an excellent Lieut. Lord Allendale, R.N., and Mr. Douglas Ames does well as Petty Officer Powell, R.N.; Mira Sampson is cleverly played by Miss Louie Adair. The heroine, May Berresford, is satisfactorily portrayed by Miss Stanley Burt, and the comic relief is supplied by Miss Eva Reid as Beckie Fibbins, a servant.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The pictures here maintain a high standard of excellence. The Bros. Carney, vocal comedians, who appear in the place of Slippere (indisposed), contribute a good turn.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—A good programme is presented here by the Co-operative Varieties, Ltd. Dave Carter, the Irish tenor, is popular; Austin Rudd is a most amusing comedian; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins appear to advantage in their vocal comedy sketch *The Piano Tuner*; Cestris, the comedy juggler and acrobatic waiter, gives a very clever performance; Charles Valoo, the military ventriloquist, is good; Percy Dalton is a clever vocalist and dancer; and Vena Valma an accomplished vocalist. An excellent film on the Bioscope concludes.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—Two shows are still being given here each evening to excellent business. Mr. Mattie Cheshire, the popular manager, is severing his connection with the entertainment this week. He will be succeeded by Mr. Battersby, who has been connected with Mr. West for several years.

VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—A variety of animated Pictures are being shown here. The proprietors have invited all the children from the Board of Guardians Scattered Homes to witness a performance.

BIO. PICTURE LAND.—Good business is being done at this popular picture show.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Junius Booth, who is paying a return visit here, was welcomed by a good house on Monday, when he ably sustained the charcter of the hero in *Monte Cristo*. The heroine Mercedes was charmingly portrayed by Miss Lilian Deane; the Bonapartist spy, Nortier, by Mr. Millar Anderson, Danglars, by Mr. J. Sanger, Villefort, by Mr. J. Howden, and Fernand Mondego, by Mr. Harry Bannister, were excellent studies. Miss Letta Scarlette was a charming Sophie Danglars; Miss Alice West as La Caronte, Miss Jessie Blake as Marie, Mr. C. H. Brooke as Caderousse, Mr. Frank E. Lester as Lieut. Albert de Morcef, and the other members of the company contribute good work. The staging and costumes were very good. *David Garrick*, with Mr. Booth in the title-rôle, was announced for Thursday and Friday, *Monte Cristo* being played in the other evenings and matinée.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Pates Madison's Venetians show some very pretty pictures, with mechanical and dioramic effects, illustrating some very good singing, which the audience appreciate; Merton and Rydon (Nellie and George) get much applause for their comedy act; Ryder Slone's songs go well; the Four Vagabonds harmonise well; Borella Bros. (three) give some smart gymnastic displays; Cling and Clancy, comedians and dancers, are amusing patterers; W. H. Deacon sings some illustrated songs; the Bioscope pictures are also very good.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J.

Florence, vocalist and mimic, is well received; and the efforts of Doc Thomas (ventriloquist) and Dix and Dox are much appreciated. Other attractions here are the Palace Pierrots, the skating rink, and the troupe of swimmers, included in which is Miss Alice Wood.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*The Beautiful Fiend* was the attraction here the first half of the week, and was successfully played by Montague Beaudyn's company, with Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda Lubinoff. The second half is devoted to *Send Him Victorious*.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Variety is the order here this week. Included in the programme are Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels; Everhart, hoop manipulator; Signor Torti, Italian tenor; Alice Hughes and company in the sketch *Star of the Bazaar;* Frank Weaver, expert dancer; Margaret Ogilvie in Territorial songs; Walsh and Tanner, entertainers; A. G. Spry in song and dance; and Phillips and Bristow, dancers.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—Mr. H. G. Amer's band plays three times daily, and a well-selected set of films is displayed in the Electric Theatre. On Saturday, July 2, a benefit concert to Mr. Fras. Goodricke, late manager of the Spa, is to be given in the Grand Hall.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parezeer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—*Arrah-na-Pogue* is being presented here by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. Mr. Glenville gains a warm reception for his representation of Shaun the Post; Miss Lalla Stanhope finds plenty of scope for effective acting in the name-part; Mr. H. C. Gilpin proves himself capable as Michael Feeney; and Miss Lydia Audré is responsible for a delightful impersonation of Fanny Power.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. C. Wybert Clive's company opened to a good house on Monday in *The Outcast of the Family*. The play was cordially received, and the scenery and realistic effects frequently evoked hearty applause.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The Anglo-Indian drama, *The Passion of Life*, is being acted here by Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company, principal parts in which are well played by Mesdames Ada Hender, E. Lewis, Clarissa Rose, Maud Garth, and Messrs. F. Owen-Chambers, Fred Laud, Basil Mitchel, Owen Edwin, J. Stevenson, and Hubert Helliwell. The piece is well staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The magnificently mounted musical comedy-drama *The Gipsy; or, All the Fun of the Fair*, is being performed to packed audiences nightly by the popular Miss Kate Carney and a strong company. The Fair Scene is a triumph of spectacular display. Mr. Harry Ford is as quaintly funny as of yore, and he makes the welkin ring with roars of hearty laughter; Miss Ella Retford sings three songs in her usual vivacious manner, and she dances with skill and quickness several difficult steps; the Fullbrook farce company cause considerable laughter in their amusing skit *Astronomy;* Messrs. Ryan and Hall are two old favourites; Musical Silvo plays pleasing selections; Miss Addie Dorina reappears in her comic protean sketch; and Lux, with his well-trained dogs, Frank and Free, sketch artists, Mr. P. Parsons, vocalist, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The *pièce de résistance* here is the artistically staged miniature musical comedy *A Japanese Soul-Kiss*, vivaciously played by Clark and Hamilton. The Five X-Rays do a screaming acrobatic farcicality, and Mr. Herbert's Sleath's company in *The Deputy Sheriff* is enthusiastically applauded; Juno Salmo does a wonderful contortion act with special effects, and Les Ados, Smit and Smit, Hughes and Elliott, Stacey and Williams, Mr. L. Harris, and the Quality Quartette also contribute.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Will Casey's company is appearing with *An Unwedded Wife*. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is highly successful as Philip Blackstone, Mr. L. Ernest plays well as John Hawthorne, Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer and Miss Annie Mitchell as Carraway Crumpet provide plenty of broad humour; Mr. Arthur Cheeves acts with vigour as Frank Armstrong; Christopher Lennox (Kit) is humorously portrayed by Mr. Ern Turner, Mr. Frank Masters is distinctly funny as P.C. O'Runyin, and Miss Ethel Spense is a sympathetic Elsie Langham. In the title-rôle Miss Chrissie Dunbar carries with her the sympathies of the house. Little Doris Sorsby fills the part of Reggie adequately.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company is giving a fresh opera here each evening. *Cavalleria* and *I Pagliacci* were thoroughly enjoyed on Monday by a large and appreciative audience.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The artists here this week are Frank Sylvo, comedian; Wilman, instrumentalist; Les Marsumas, comedians on wheels; My Fancy, classical and fantastic dancer; Jennie and Hast, in *The Maid of Polaria;* Harry Hayton, eccentric comedian; Flora Cromer, the Lavender Girl; Young Evans, comedian; and John Lawson and company, in *The Monkey's Paw*.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE (late KURSAAL).—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Two daily programmes are submitted here for this week, and the excellent variety entertainment meets with approval, and good support. Claude Ginnett and company have been retained in *Rejected Remounts*, which makes an amusing item; the art of juggling is displayed by Reve with a clever and novel turn; trick cycling by Blanche and Diacoff is much enjoyed; Wragg and Wragg give a talented display; the Seymons as trick equilibrists are clever and entertaining; Will Harmony, comedian and mimic, is well received; the vocal scena *Roses* is pleasingly rendered by Desmond and Dis; and Roy Bevis makes a good comedy conjurer.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Miss M. Lowe-Dare is presenting *Still Waters Run Deep*, which is well portrayed. Miss M. Lowe-Dare is responsible for an able characterisation of Mrs. Mildmay; Miss Maggie De Halle is successful as Mrs. Sternhold; Mr. Ernest Dare makes a good Captain Hawksley; Mr. Burton Yaldwyn is well suited as John Mildmay; and Mr. Lionel Waltham as Mr. Potter gives satisfaction.

SPENNYMOOR. — CAMBRIDGE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Miss Winifred Maude and company appear in *The Stowaway*. Mr. William Vane as Tom Inglis, the hero, acts firmly, and Mr. Morris Maud makes a creditable Charles Ethington; Mr. Reginald Hicks plays well as Paul Carton; Mr. Maurice Jones is a good Percy Ewart and Mr. Victor Du Cane an amusing Dickey Dials; and Miss Winifred Maude, who undertakes the rôle of Althea Dale, possesses the qualities of a fine actress; Miss Minnie Millwarde as Chucky adds considerably to the interest.

(Continued on page 28.)

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 23.—With the hot weather, Paris is undergoing its usual transformation. The theatres are beginning to close their doors, and the Parisian is packing his trunks to run away from the capital the moment the dreaded summer tourists put in their appearance, creatures who arrive in shoals, and during two months take possession of our city. For years you have had your favourite corner in the restaurant where you lunch every day. Jules, the old waiter, does not even reserve it, for the other guests respect it, like you respect their claims. But when the month of July approaches there is no more comfort for you in Paris. You will find your little corner taken, and no room at any other table. The place has become a pandemonium. Jules is gone. He has fled. So have the other waiters, and their places have been taken by a set of men, none of whom seem to have been honestly begotten, and who are visible only during the summer months.

IN those theatres that remain open throughout the year you will notice the same phenomenon. Jules, who considers himself a "star" in the establishment that employs him, has, as I told you, run away. In the playhouses the "stars" have followed Jules' example, and in their stead we get another set of artists, whose mission is to entertain the foreign invader. That foreign invader has no reason to complain as regards the bill of fare offered him, for when he reads the playbill he sees that the management has retained the "successes" of the year; and as he ignores that the original cast is miles away from Paris, and that *Chantecler, Miquette et sa Mère*, and other works are interpreted by under-studies, he is delighted with his evening, especially as he has only paid understudy prices.

SOMETIMES the invader is observant, and then one can assist at some queer scenes. "Why, Jennie," I heard a gentleman, who was sitting in the stalls and had sported a green tie and a golf cap, say to his companion, "I always thought French people were so particular in their theatres. And there are two French ladies over yonder sucking oranges! . . . But, s'help me! . . . Why, it's Mrs. Nash from Old Ford and her daughter! Good evening, Mrs. Nash!" And Mrs. Nash, who was about five rows in front, returned the salute in a loud voice.

THE hot weather also causes people to do foolish things, and get themselves into trouble with the authorities. This, Mlle. Lucette de Landy, a pretty little music-hall singer, found out at her cost. The young lady had been celebrating her birthday. After a sumptuous supper, where much champagne had been drunk, the divette went into her bedroom and put on the costume of a Paris street boy, in which she will soon appear in a revue. Somebody then suggested that they should all go into the street And they not only went there *en masse*, but, headed by Mlle. Lucette, who sang at the top of her voice, they danced round the venerable Arc de Triomphe. Then came the catastrophe, in the form of a policeman, who took down the lady's name, after which she was hauled before an unfeeling magistrate, who sentenced her to 15 francs fine and one day's imprisonment. Mlle. Lucette did not mind the fine, but the idea of a cold cell and wet straw made her shudder. So she appealed against the sentence, and, like Phyrne, pleaded her own case. But, whereas the Greek courtesan appeared before her judges "mit nothings on"—as the Germans call it—Mlle. Lucette wore a dark costume and a hat befitting the occasion. She, moreover, promised never to dance and sing round the Arc de Triomphe again, whereupon the Court struck out the day's imprisonment, but insisted on the fine being paid.

FEW men in the theatrical world have had so many lawsuits within the last two years than MM. Messager and Broussan, managers of our Opéra. But, be it said to their credit, in nearly all cases they came off victorious. This week it was M. Vanara dancer and ballet master of the Opéra, who brought an action against them, claiming damages for wrongful dismissal. The plaintiff had been engaged as far back as 1900 by the late manager, M. Gailhard, at a salary of £160, which was subsequently doubled on his being appointed ballet master. When, however, MM. Messager and Broussan took over the managership they decided that they would dispense with M. Vanara's services, and dismissed him. By the terms of his contract plaintiff contended that his engagement held good for the present year; and he therefore sued for arrears of salary and damages for breach of contract. The Court, however, decided against him, for they held that his contract was only binding during M. Gailhard's term of office.

"LES LIMITES DU CŒUR" is the title of a one-act comedy by M. André Beaunier, brought out at the Comédie-Française, and deals with the breaking off of a liaison between the lovers. There is nothing tragic in this rupture. Neither Henri nor Gladys had the remotest idea that they had ceased to care for one another until an unforeseen incident opened their eyes to that fact. In Paris they were delightfully happy, so happy that Henri suddenly had the idea of taking Gladys to Italy, where, he felt sure, greater bliss would await them. As it turned out, the experiment proved a failure. The first days they spent near the Lake of Como were exquisite. They went for long excursions, admired the beautiful sites, and returned happy and tired. After a while the beauties of nature began to grow insipid, and the solitude weighed upon them. Henri was not aware of it, but his companion began to yawn, and told him plainly that she would like to return to Paris. Henri jumped at the idea. It then dawned upon them that not only Italy but their attachment had become boring. The clever psychological study met with an excellent reception.

MME. SARAH-BERNHARDT has had the misfortune of losing her daughter-in-law, the wife of her son, Maurice Bernhardt. Mme. Maurice Bernhardt, who died in her forty-sixth year, was a Princesse Jablonowska, and I remember her, a charming young girl, when she went to M. Julian's painting academy. It was there that M. Maurice Bernhardt made her acquaintance. She leaves two daughters, one a girl of fourteen, and another married some time ago to M. Edgar Gross. Great sympathy is felt for Mme. Sarah, who was very fond of the departed lady. As a sign of mourning the Sarah-Bernhardt Theatre will remain closed to-night.

MM. GHEUSI AND MIRANNE have read to the artists of the Opéra the libretto of their lyric play, *Le Miracle*, for which M. Georges Hue has written the music. The scene is laid in a fortified town in Burgundy, in the fifteenth century, besieged by a horde of Italian freebooters. The cast will comprise MM. Muratore, Delmas, Dangès, Teissié, Cerdan, and Mmes. Chenal, Bailac, Courbière, and Goulancourt. The work is to be produced in the course of the next season.

PARIS THURSDAY, June 30.—A lawsuit has been brought by Mlle. Retoré against the Moulin Rouge management. This lady appeared there in *La Revue Amoureuse*, and her rôle was peculiar, yet very attractive in so far as she performed a Hindu dance with a live snake. It was fraught with danger, for on March 9, as she took up the reptile to start her dance, it bit her in the hand. What made the case particularly interesting was the fact that Mlle. Retoré at first danced with her own serpent, of which she felt sure. Unfortunately her pet died, whereupon she asked M. Ruez, the Moulin Rouge manager, to let her dance with an indiarubber snake. M. Ruez would not consent to this, but offered to share expenses with the artist if she would buy another snake. She then applied to the Zoological Gardens here, who supplied her with the serpent that bit her. Mlle. Retoré asked for damages in virtue of the new act, which renders employers responsible for accidents befalling their employees. The management replied that the lady was not an employee in the sense held by the law, but the Court found for Mlle. Retoré, to whom they awarded £40 damages in addition to the amount claimed by her for salary.

In lawsuit number 2 Mlle. Yrven, the pretty actress from the Palais Royal, asked £2,400 damages from the owners of the auto-taxi that conducted her one night to the Variétiés. The chauffeur, having taken the paint off a few vehicles that came his way, finally ran into an omnibus. His car was smashed, and Mlle Yrven's face was cut by the broken glass. Her dress, moreover, was spoiled by the accident, a dress that had cost the trifle of £240. Poor Mlle. Yrven received very little in the way of damages—only £160; but her chauffeur came in for his share. He was awarded eight days' imprisonment and was fined £4.

In lawsuit number 3 the important question had to be settled whether in the month of July, in the good year 1909, Mlle. Delmarès was afflicted with toothache! This young lady—who, as everybody knows, is a music-hall singer—had been engaged at Marigny for 1909 and 1910. Last year, however, she was frequently absent—so frequently that the Marigny management looked upon her as a chronic absentee, and sued her for £200, forfeit money. The lady pleads *force majeure*, which showed itself in the shape of a terrible toothache, necessitating the intervention of several dentists. And she claims £200 from the Marigny Theatre for not having asked her to attend the rehearsals in 1910. The Court will give judgment in a week.

Case number 4. Mlle. Arina Defma, a Roumanian singer and dancer, was summoned by her chauffeur for having given him two black eyes. The fair accused did not deny the assault, but said that she punished the man because, whilst at table, he had pinched her mother. "Do you, and your mother, and your chauffeur, all dine at the same table?" gasped the worthy magistrate. "Yes," replied Mlle. Defma, "and, as a rule, he behaves all right. I must say, mother rather aggravated him that day, and he is a young man of excellent family." "Get out!" thundered the magistrate, "you, your mother, and your young man of good family, and don't let me see you here again."

At the little Théâtre Grévin *Le Système Ribadier*, the amusing comedy by MM. Georges Feydeau and Maurice Hennequin, has met with an excellent reception. The plot is very simple. Angèle Ribadier has married twice. Her first husband was unfaithful to her, a fact of which she only became aware after that gentleman's death. The result is that this man's successor, Ribadier, has rather a difficult time, inasmuch as his wife, now very suspicious, keps a watchful eye on him. For all that, he follows his predecessor's example, and deceives Angèle whenever he can To prevent her from following him, he sends her into a magnetic sleep, and wakes on his return from his escapades. He is, however, stupid enough to impart his secret to Thomereux, one of Angèle's admirers. Thomereux then calls on Angèle and acquaints her with all Ribadier's tricks. Angèle, to punish her husband, makes him believe that during her magnetic sleep somebody has taken advantage of her, and it is only on Ribadier repenting and promising to turn over a new leaf that his wife dispels his fears.

At the Opéra the "Russian Season" has been brought to a close with a fine performance of *L'Oiseau Bleu*, a Russian tale. Young Ivan Tsarevitch sees a magnificent bird. He follows it and pulls out a feather from his tail. In doing so he has ventured on the domain of the sorcerer Kostchei, who lays hold of him and wants to change him into a stone statue. But it turns out that the feather from the bird's tail is a talisman and that the bird is a fairy. Thanks to this talisman the princesses and knights whom the sorcerer had imprisoned are set free, and in the enchanted gardens pluck the golden apples that give eternal happiness. To this old Russian tale M. Stravinsky has written some delightful music, which, however, shows that the composer has been strongly influenced by Debussy, a fate he shares with many others.

GARRICK AND THE MEMORIAL THEATRE.

"What would Garrick say," writes Louise Kenny in the *Irish Independent*, "of the projected Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in London—a project national so far as England is concerned, and cosmopolitan to the rest of the world? Well, I think this theatre in the air has a fighting chance of materialising, as I'm full sure Garrick would pat it on the portico and bow in the first night's audience, if we could only seem him. There were witty, therefore thoughtful, speeches at the meeting just held in Trinity College to enlist Irish sympathy in this cause, and the assemblage would have been distinguished in any case under the presidency of the most graceful Shakespearean exponent the cause has known, but, all the while, one thought of Garrick just as much as of Shakespeare.

"It was Garrick who set the fashion of these Shakespeare Memorials. The little man his numerous friends called the great little man, and his numerous enemies viewed as the little great man, tip-tilted an assertive chin against great thundering John Milton himself and his sense of the uselessness of piled stones to the memory of a man whose own works are an eternal edification. The Gallic and Irish passion for buildings into which you can put a brick yourself—or throw a brick at the head of the master-builder—broke out in Garrick. Even if you build without self-consciously edifying intent, and still leave behind you something good to look at and know one's way about in, that is something done and worth doing. It made Paris a most stimulating earthly Paradise to a very agreeable order of intellects, and at a turn-the corner of the eighteenth century it got a chance here in our own city which leaves the present Dublin a city of an unreplaced past.

"And as for David Garrick, do you know why he was the most notable actor who ever appeared on the English stage, and why some indefinable elixir of mentality ran so lively through all his blood? It was because he was not really an Englishman, though born in England. And the Frenchman's son had a mother who was full-blooded Irish, though born in England—Arabella Clough, the parson's daughter and wife of Peter Garric, son of old David de la Garrique, the Huguenot refugee. Not merely the mind, but the nature to make out his case, broke out in young David Garrick when he turned away from the wine trade and merchandising of commodities, and raised into a liberal art his calling whose pursuers were branded by the majesty of the law as rogues and vagabonds, and—what was worse—eyed by the public as poor devils, anyhow."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), solicitor. Third edition.

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER UEBERFALL."

Opera, in Two Acts, by Heinrich Zoellner. Produced at the New Royal Opera on June 19.

Wilhelm	HERR HOCHHEIM
Reine	FRAU GURA-HUMMEL
Rascal	HERR VON SCHEIDT
Rodolph	HERR STRICKRODT
Mme. Coutier	FRAULEIN JULICH
Franktireur	HERR DIEHL
Bursch	FRAULEIN NORWIG
Ulan	HERR WINDGASSEN
Zweiter Ulan	DR. WOLFF
Wachtposten	HERR PAHREN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 23.—This little work has been drawn by the composer from a story by the late Ernst von Wildenbruch. It is not of great importance as an opera, but serves to show Herr Gura's good intentions in the way of deviating from the beaten track. Whether it would not have been better to have saved the cast the trouble of rehearsing the novelty is, however, a question. The reception was cordially respectful, and that was all. The music is mediocre, and is written round an episode—which is very readable, coming from the pen of a writer like Wildenbruch—in the Franco-German war. It treats of the love of a young German for a girl who saves his life, the French peasant Reine, which can, in the nature of things, only have a tragic ending. The plot appears in the libretto to be partly brutal, partly sentimental; the book is, in fact, very poor, and the music is in keping. On the other hand, the interpretation was admirable, and worthy of a better cause. Frau Gura-Hummel—wife of the director of the Gura Opera, and daughter of the Berlin composer, Ferdinand Hummel—gave a very good account of Reine, and Herr Hochheimer's pleasing tenor was heard to advantage in the rôle of Wilhelm. The opera was followed by a capital performance of *Der verlorene Sohn* (l'enfant prodigue), with Herr and Frau Gura as Pierrot, senior and junior. The audience obviously enjoyed the pantomime better than the preceding work.

THE opening night of the Gura Opera season was dedicated to Wagner. *Die Meistersinger* was in the bill with a thoroughly efficient cast. The fine tenor of Herr Miller from the Imperial Opera, Vienna, was heard to best advantage in the part of Stoltzing, and Frau Gura-Hummel's rendering of Eva is well known and appreciated here. Perhaps the best impersonation was the Hans Sachs of Herr Feinhals, from the Munich Royal Opera; the artist was in capital voice, and the audience applauded him enthusiastically. The chorus and orchestra, under the skilful leadership of Kapellmeister Stransky were, on the whole, satisfactory. Less successful was the performance of *Lohengrin* on Friday; the cast was uneven, and several unfortunate episodes marred the evening. Herr Stransky was unable to conduct on account of sudden indisposition, and his substitute was far less experienced. At the close of the second act the manager came forward saying the impersonator of Telramund was taken ill, and could not continue. Herr Gura himself filled the breach, and creditably, too, but the performance suffered on the whole. The name-part was in the hands of the Dresden artist, Herr Boettger, who is the happy possessor of a pleasing tenor and good "school." The rôle of Elsa was given by Fräulein Petzl in artistic and sympathetic style. To-night *The Walküre* is in the bill, with Herr Miller as Siegmund and Herr van Rooy in the part of Wotan.

A WILDLY-IMPOSSIBLE farce was produced with favourable results at the Rose Theatre last week. The title is the somewhat clumsy one of *Die Wach und Schliessgesellschaft*, meaning the night watchman's company, and the collaborators are Herren Richard Mainz and Franz Winter. To detail the piece, which is in three acts, would be a task beyond my powers. The characters are all well known to theatre-goers; they include the energetic mother-in-law, her own weak and amorously-inclined spouse, the son-in-law who deceives his wife and is found out, and, on expressing penitence, is forgiven. It is the customary cast in a would-be "piquant" farce. All the persons of the play meet at the rendezvous intended only for one pair of lovers, and this creates the usual number of complications. In spite of the poorness of the plot, there is plenty to laugh at in the smart dialogue, and the audience enjoyed themselves, calling the authors before the curtain and applauding vigorously.

SIEGFRIED WAGNER is expected here to superintend rehearsals of his new opera *Der Kobald*, which is to be produced at Gura Opera in a short time. The composer will himself conduct.

"DER REGIMENTSPAPA."

Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Mouézy-Eon and Durieux, Produced at the Komische Oper, June 21.

Bontin	HERR DEUTSCH
Célinotte	HERR ELZER
Frau Célinotte	FRAULEIN KAROLY
Paradelle	HERR EHRLE
Mirette	FRAULEIN WILKE
Lacaparéde	HERR LASKE
Chavillon	HERR SCHNEIDER
Frau Chavillon	FRAULEIN LAASNER
Lucienne	FRAULEIN KOENEN
Martial	HERR HABERMANN
Olympe	FRAULEIN BELLIEN
Poileux	HERR LAUER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 30.—This remarkable *pot-pourri* does not belong, it is hardly necessary to say, to the regular bill of the Komische Oper. The boards are now occupied by the company of Herr Linsemann from Vienna, and there is nothing good to be said about the "guests." The manager understands the uselessness of putting anything very serious on during the dog-days, but something a little less confused would have served his purpose just as well. Herr Max Schönau has translated the farce very freely and drastically, pandering to popular Berlin taste as it is in the holidays, and the result is that the audience laughed incessantly, very often without knowing why. The action centres itself in a lieutenant who is sentenced to a week's arrest just after his wedding. An idiotic lawyer pretends to be the lieutenant for some reason best known to himself, and out of these two facts the authors spin a web of utterly impossible complications, misunderstandings, and situations. The colonel of the regiment is a good-natured, easy-going ass—to use a classical expression—and is duped by his subordinates accordingly. Among all the persons of this astounding play there is not a single one who would not be qualified for admittance in the county asylum. Herr Poldi Deutsch—one of the cleverest low comedians extant—made all the running in the part of the silly old colonel; his very stupidity created roars of laughter, and the audience would not be satisfied until they had called him before the curtain times innumerable. An awkward incident in connection with this piece occurred before the second performance. A large and expectant audience arrived at the theatre to find the doors closed; the crowd grew in size and impatience, until the police sent them home again, saying the performance would not take place that night. Indignant, but obedient, as becomes a Prussian crowd, the disappointed ones returned the way they came. An explanation has not yet been given, but it is believed the sum of money which the police authorities require as security from a visiting company—in this case £200—had not been deposited early enough. The following night the performance took place as usual.

ANOTHER French play—a serious one—was given at the Deutsches Chamber Plays last week by a summer company in the absence of the company proper. The author is M. Bataille, and the title—which is the original signifies "the wedding march"—has been rendered by Herr Ettlinger as *Liebeswalzer*. I have said the piece is serious; it is more, it is so tragic that the eyes of more than one young German fräulein were moist. A maiden of noble birth falls in love with her pianomaster and elopes with him. The love is at the beginning very warm, but it cools down after the couple have played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" a few times—at least, it cools on the lady's side. She finds after all that her real heart—whatever that may be—belongs to a married gentleman of rapid proclivities, and she feels convinced that there is no way out of the dilemma but one. To the soft strains of Moszkowski's "Love Waltz" the unhappy lady takes her life, a revolver shot making the one discordant note in the music. The interpretation was very good, but the audience would obviously have preferred to laugh, no matter how wild a farce might have been put before them.

THE performance of *Die Walküre* at the Gura Opera on Thursday was the least successful of the Wagner operas as yet given by that excellent company. Herr van Rooy was all that could be desired as Wotan, and Herr Lattermann gave a good account of Hunding; but the important rôles of Siegmund and Sieglinde—by Herr Miller and Frau Gura-Hummel respectively—were inadequate. The latter is not physically equal to the demands made upon the voice in that particular part, and the Viennese guest appeared to be indisposed. Frau Langendorf's Fricka was the reverse of goddess-like. On the other hand, the Brunhilde of Frau Guszalevicz was a splendid rendering, both in the matter of acting and singing. The performance of *Siegfried* was a very fine one, the name-part being interpreted in a masterly manner by Herr Urkus, of Leipzig. The house was crowded with an enthusiastic audience.

EDUCATIONAL PLAYHOUSE.

"Believing that every boy and girl possesses dramatic instinct, which longs to express itself, but does not know how," says the *New York Herald*, "and convinced that this instinct, when properly directed, will broaden and beautify the life of the child, furnish a legitimate form of amusement and mould character, a group of earnest women in this city have worked out a plan for this development, which they call the Educational Playhouse Association.

"This association, which has been in existence only a few months, works along lines similar to those followed by the Children's Educational Theatre, which had a brief life some time ago, but there are points of difference between the two organisations which philanthropists consider favourable to the future work of the new plan. The success with which the Playhouse Association has already met has been most encouraging to the directors.

"It does not recruit the ranks of the theatrical profession. One of the former officers of the Children's Educational Theatre, who is associated with the newer organisation, said that of fifteen hundred children who were being taught dramatic expression only three ever drifted to the stage. The others, having learned the true art of portraying emotion, which is the natural one, could not be satisfied with that kind of art which imitates an emotion.

"During the winter little one-act plays have been presented by the members of the Playhouse Association, but their most ambitious offering for the season was *Pygmalion and Galatea*, which was given at the Barnard College Theatre. The cast included young girls and boys, who are self-supporting, and have taken up the educational dramatic work for recreation.

"Younger players are to participate in a still more ambitious production, which will be given for the benefit of the Flower, Fruit, and Plant Guild. This is to be Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, with a cast including dozens of youngsters, boys and girls, for elves and fairies, and some older members of the association to fill the principal rôles. It will be played on the roof of the New Amsterdam Theatre, with well-known society women for patronesses.

"The Association wants to organise dramatic clubs and children's orchestras, to utilise the love of playing for the development of the entire human being. Of course all this is for the future, but they hope and believe that it is a near future.

"Already educational dramatic work has been introduced in one of the public schools this winter with great success, and we look forward to its adoption in all the public schools of that district next year. What folk dancing does for the muscles of the body we aim to do for the moral muscles. It limbers them up, gives them perfect freedom and self-confidence.

"We have classes for instructing teachers and settlement workers in the principles which govern the educational use of dramatic instinct, and these teachers are more and more in demand in private schools and institutions. To quote Dr. G. Stanley Hall: 'Dramatic instinct is one of the strongest motive and motor forces in adolescence.' Yet this great force has, up to the present time, been neglected by educators. One result of this neglect is the low dramatic standard which prevails almost universally.

"Another result is the multiplication of cheap theatres, which have sprung up like a crop of evil mushrooms all over the city, theatres which are crowded afternoon and evening with children and young people. Yet children would rather act in good plays than see bad ones, but they must be guided and led in the right direction.

"Thus far our association has been self-supporting, and we hope to keep it so. We must make it stand on its own feet if we are to compete with the cheap shows all over town. However, there are several wealthy women interested in the association, who stand ready to help us financially when we need it.

"Mrs. Emma Sheridan Fry, under whose direction the policy of the Educational Theatre commanded the attention of educators throughout the country, is working with the children.

THE Incorporated Stage Society have removed from Arundel-street to larger offices at 36, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Vesta Brownie, who plays Lucky 'Liza, was presented with a solid silver perfume spray from the company, and a solid silver card-case from Mr. Dickie Clare on the occasion of her birthday, June 22.

Mrs. CALEB PORTER
COSTUMIER.
Stage Costumes supplied on the Shortest and at Lowest Prices.
SUMMER SALE
July 4th to 18th.
175, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.
Telephone 1266 Kensington.

THEATRICAL SPORTS.

STAMFORD BRIDGE, TUESDAY, JULY 5. 1910.

The eight annual theatrical (London) sports will take place on Tuesday next, commencing at twelve o'clock noon, on the Stamford Bridge Sports Ground, Fulham-road.

The proceeds derived from these sports will be divided between the benevolent funds of the Dramatic and Variety Theatre Employees' Provident Association, and a benevolent fund available to assist men and women employees whose case is recommended by a subscriber to the prize fund or by a donor of a prize or by any theatrical or music-hall association.

It is gratifying to learn that a large number of prominent managers, actors, and actresses have kindly responded to the appeal made to them on behalf of the sports and these benevolent funds. Not only do the sports afford an opportunity for all sections of the profession to encourage a manly and wholesome form of recreation, but also to assist one of the most needed and deserving funds connected with the variety and dramatic professions.

The following ladies and gentlemen, many of whom will be present, have given prizes or donations to the prize fund:—Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Conan Doyle, Sir John Hare, Sir Edward Moss, Sir Arthur W. Pinero, Sir Albert Seymour, Bart., Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. J. Grant Allen, Mr. E. Arnold, Miss Jessie Bateman, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. S. M. Bligh, Miss Lillah Braithwaite, Miss Stella Patrick Campbell, Mr. James Carew, Mr. L. Carson, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Miss Pauline Chase, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Miss Compton, Mr. Frank Desprez, Mr. T. J. Digby, Miss Maxine Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. John Galsworthy, Mr. John Grant, Miss Dorothy Green, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Edmund Gwen, Mr. Walter Hann, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss Florence Hayden, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. Robert Horton, Miss Marie Illington, Miss Ethel Irving, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. W. H. Kendal, Mr. John Lawson, Mr. J. H. Leigh, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. William Lestocq, Mr. Eric Lewis, Miss Marie Lohr, Mr. Robert Lorraine, Miss Madge McIntosh, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Gaston Mayer, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. Arthur Phillips, Mrs. Sara Raleigh, Miss Ada Reeve, Mr. E. V. Reynolds, Miss Gertrude Forbes Robertson, Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Norman Forbes Robertson, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Miss A. Saker, Lord George Sanger, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. E. Lyall Swete, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. C. Thorogood, Mr. Herbert Trench, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Henry Vibart, Miss Ruth Vincent, Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Genevieve Ward, Mr. James Welch, the Directors of Drury Lane Theatre, Ltd., the Proprietor, *The Era* (five gold medals), the Proprietors, the *Daily Telegraph*, Messrs. Crampton and Ward, Messrs. C. and S. May, Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, Messrs. C. Taylor and Co., and Messrs. Whitbread

The Sports Committee, of which Mr. James Carew is chairman; Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, hon. treasurer; Mr. A. P. Horne, St. James's Theatre, deputy chairman; Mr. Wm. Johnson, hon. secretary; and the following members of the committee, Mr. J. Cullen, Mr. C. T. Cory, Mr. Phillip Raphael, Mr. Phillip Sheridan, Mr. Harry Porter, Mr. Charles Thorogood, Mr. Arthur Palmer, Mr. G. H. Dyball, Mr. H. J. Kemp, and Mr. A. Malcolm, have worked hard to ensure success, and, with a satisfactory sale of tickets, they feel sure it will be possible to hand over a substantial sum to the benevolent funds.

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as judges:—Mr. James Carew, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. Robert Horton, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. A. P. Horne, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. John Lawson, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. F. W. Parker, Mr. Frank Shorland, and Mr. Norman Trevor.

The Reception Committee includes Mr. James Carew (Coronet Theatre), Mr. W. F. Crowe (Lyceum Theatre), Mr. James Cullen (St. James's Theatre), Mr. C. T. Cory (Vaudeville Theatre), Mr. Arthur Garrett (the New Theatre), Mr. A. P. Horne (St. James's Theatre), Mr. J. W. Lethbridge (Criterion Theatre), Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (*The Era*), and Mr. Wm. Johnson (hon. secretary).

Mr. G. H. Dyball (stage-manager, London Pavilion) will be the marksman; Mr. E. Arnold (St. James's Theatre), the timekeeper; Mr. George Thurling, starter. Clerks of the Course:—Mr. W. L. Rignold (Shaftesbury Theatre), Mr. G. H. Brooke (Holloway Empire), Mr. F. B. Fidge and Mr. Phillip Raphael (Lyceum Theatre), Mr. A. Palmer (Comedy Theatre), Mr. H. Mather (Drury Lane Theatre), Mr. Phillip Sheridan (Strand Theatre), Mr. A. Malcolm (Walturdaw, Ltd.), and Mr. H. J. Brett.

Tickets, admitting to the ground and covered grand stand may be obtained at theatres and from the hon. secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, at 6d., 1s., 2s., and 5s., if purchased *before* the day. On the day the prices will be 6d., admitting to ground; for ground and grand stand, 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 5s.

ORDER OF EVENTS

(Subject to Alterations by the Sports Committee).

Event No. — Time, 12.0.

EVENTS.

1. 100 yards Running Handicap (First Eleven Heats).
2. 100 yards Veterans' Running Handicap (First Two Heats).
3. Boys' 100 yards Running Handicap (First Two Heats).
4. 100 yards Running Handicap (Semi-Final, Three Heats).
5. Ladies' Race (First Four Heats).
6. 100 yards Veterans' Running Handicap (Final).
7. Quarter-mile Running Handicap (First Four Heats).
8. One mile Walking Handicap.
9. Half-mile Running Handicap.
10. One mile Cycling Handicap (First Three Heats).
11. Quarter-mile Running Handicap (Final).
12. Boys' Handicap (Final).
13. Tug of War Competition (First Round).
14. One mile Cycling Handicap (Final).
15. 120 yards Obstacle Sack Race.
16. 100 yards Running Handicap (Final).
17. Quarter-mile Obstacle Race.
18. Five miles Cycling Championship Race (First Three Heats of One mile).
19. Tug of War (Second Round).
20. Ladies' Race (Final).
21. 50 yards Boot Race.
22. Tug of War (Third Round).
23. Four-lap Relay Race.
24. 50 yards Blindfold Race.
25. Tug of War (Final).
26. Five miles Cycling Championship Race (Final).
27. PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

PROGRAMME AND HANDICAP.

Special Note.—The sports handicap was revised by the Handicapper, Mr. Robert P. Watson, on Thursday evening, and he says this handicap is made on the Sheffield handicap principle, viz.—Scratch man on three yards mark. This gives indifferent runners a better chance, having less distance to go. This handicap cannot properly be compared, as to individual starts, with last year's handicap unless this new method is borne in mind.

Ticket sellers are urged to let the Hon. Secretary have unsold tickets and receipts for those sold by 8 p.m. on Monday at the very latest.

100-YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (FIRST ELEVEN HEATS)

(First in each Heat to run in Semi-Final.)

First Prize—A Silver Tankard (presented by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred. Terry).
Second Prize—A Marble Clock (presented by Sir Arthur W. Pinero).
Third Prize—A Silver Cigarette Case (presented by Mr. J. Martin Harvey).
Fourth Prize—A Silver-mounted Paper Knife (presented by Sir Squire Bancroft).

		yds.
	First Heat.	
1	J. Jimpson (Lyric)	3
2	B. H. Moore (Empire, Hackney)	4½
3	A. J. Manning (Empress, Brixton)	4½
4	A. F. Harris (Messrs. Fox, Ltd.)	8
5	J. Hurst (artist)	10½
6	A. S. Harris (East Ham Palace)	15
	Second Heat.	
7	G. J. Thacker (Empire, Kilburn)	3
8	A. Cousins (Drury Lane)	4½
9	Ronald Adair (actor)	5½
10	J. O'Gorman (artist)	7
11	R. Rodber (Alhambra)	10½
12	G. Galters (Hippodrome, Richmond)	20
	Third Heat.	
13	W. Asher (artist)	4
14	Reg. Bolton (artist)	5
15	W. C. Kemp (Alhambra)	5½
16	T. A. Aitchinson (Alhambra)	6½
17	W. Rosser (South London Palace)	8
18	G. O. Connor (artist)	10
	Fourth Heat.	
19	F. A. Riches (Lyceum)	4
20	M. Bailey (Queen's)	5
21	Fred Mayo (artists' dresser)	7
22	B. Womack (Empire, Kilburn)	7
23	D. O'Gorman (artist)	8
24	T. T. Ellis (St. James's)	22
	Fifth Heat.	
25	F. Bellamy (actor)	3
26	J. McGee (Empire, Kilburn)	4½
27	J. Fitzmaurice (Drury Lane)	5½
28	P. H. Snowdon (Empire, Stratford)	6
29	H. J. Green (Lyceum)	9
30	J. Byswater, Senr. (Haymarket)	26
	Sixth Heat.	
31	H. E. Robinson (Queen's)	3
32	M. Cushing (South London Palace)	5
33	W. Green (Lyceum)	6
34	H. Elgar (Hippodrome, Richmond)	7
35	T. Gamble (New)	9
36	W. H. Williamson (Hippodrome, Balham)	10
	Seventh Heat.	
37	H. J. Rennior (artist)	5
38	A. J. Oswick (manager)	5½
39	E. Olroy (Hippodrome, Richmond)	5½
40	T. Cowan (artist)	6
41	C. Turner (Hippodrome, Putney)	8½
42	B. Brantford (artist)	12
	Eighth Heat.	
43	F. Huckett (Lyceum)	5½
44	C. Entwistle (James Welch's Co.)	6
45	E. Dawson, Senr. (Hippodrome, Balham)	6½
46	A. H. Lenton (Globe)	8½
47	J. Bundy (Lyceum)	9½
48	A. E. Whale (Duke of York's)	12
	Ninth Heat.	
49	F. H. Harman (Empire, Leicester-square)	4½
50	W. Wilby (Empire, Kilburn)	5
51	F. A. Collins, Junr. (New)	5
52	J. Marsland (Drury Lane)	6
53	W. Powell (Garrick)	7
54	H. Chilton (Haymarket)	8
	Tenth Heat.	
55	Hal Forde (artist)	4½
56	A. Swanson (Aldwych)	4½
57	G. Carter (New)	5
58	W. Durbridge (Grand, Clapham)	5
59	Clito Clifford (artist)	6
60	E. T. Burt (Alhambra)	8
	Eleventh Heat.	
61	A. E. Horne (St. James's)	4½
62	R. Donald (Duke of York's)	5½
63	C. Mason (Grand, Croydon)	5½
64	W. Tinney (Hippodrome, Woolwich)	6½
65	F. Collins, sen. (New)	20

100-YARDS VETERANS' RUNNING HANDICAP (FIRST TWO HEATS).

For Men Over Fifty Years of Age.

First two heats, first two in each heat to run in Final.

First prize—A silver cup (presented by Mr. Alfred Lester).
Second prize—An oil painting (presented by Mr. E. A. Taylor).
Third prize—An umbrella (presented by Mr. H. J. Brett).

No.		Yds. start
	First Heat.	
1	T. McGovern (Oxford) (53 years)	Sc.
2	H. Cooper (Hippodrome, Willesden) (62)	4
3	J. Ashley (Surrey) (57)	11
4	H. Smith (Adelphi) (59)	13
5	H. Stanford (65)	18
	Second Heat.	
6	M. Smith (Lyceum) (50)	2
7	E. Large (Hippodrome, Richmond) (51)	3
8	P. Findley (East Ham Palace) (59)	13
9	J. Crickmore (Savoy) (61)	16

BOYS' 100-YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

(Under 12 years of age. Sons of Employees.)

Two heats, first two in each heat to run in Final.
First prize—A silver watch (presented by Sir Albert Seymour, Bart.).
Second prize—A bat and ball (presented by Sir Albert Seymour, Bart.).
Third prize—A silver medal (gold centre).

No.		Yds. start
	First Heat.	
1	George Toplis (Empire, Holborn) (11yrs.)	Sc.
2	J. Esau (Empire, Hackney) (11)	1
3	C. D. Prescott (Alhambra) (11)	1
4	H. Dawson (Hippodrome, Balham) (10)	4
5	T. Fuller (Grand, Croydon) (8)	10
6	C. Barnes (Hippodrome, Putney) (6)	20
	Second Heat.	
7	T. Swift (Alhambra) (11)	1
8	T. H. Andrews (Hippodrome, Putney) (11)	1
9	G. H. Dyball (London Pavilion) (10)	4
10	G. R. Simms (Playhouse) (7)	11
11	G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon) (7)	13
12	H. Rennior (4)	40

LADIES' RACE (50 YARDS EGG AND SPOON RACE).

(First Four Heats.)

(First two in each heat to run in Final.)

The egg must be carried on the spoon in one hand, held forward, from starting mark to finishing mark; if the egg falls it may be picked up with the spoon only. First lady arriving at finishing mark with egg in spoon wins.
First Prize—A Silver Tankard (presented by Miss Ada Reeve).
Second Prize—A Silver Mirror (presented by Mrs. R. Arnold).
Third Prize—Hair Brush.

		Yds. start
	First Heat.	
1	Miss E. Brown (Grand, Clapham).	
2	Miss C. Cross (Elephant, late).	
3	Miss Lily Russell (The Kennedy Girls).	
4	Miss Louise Williams (The Kennedy Girls).	
5	Miss Fannie Desmond (The Kennedy Girls).	
6	Miss Florence Wooder (Woolwich Hippo.).	
7	Miss Hettie Anderson (South London Pal.).	
8	Miss Elsie Riches (Lyceum).	
	Second Heat.	
9	Miss Sadie Thrower (The Kennedy Girls).	
10	Miss Florrie Nicholson (The Kennedy Girls).	
11	Miss Maud Hutchinson (The Kennedy Girls).	
12	Miss Sophy Hepner (Lyceum).	
13	Miss A. Dawson (Balham Hippodrome).	
14	Miss L. Nash (Alhambra).	
15	Miss Louisa Smithers (Woolwich Hippo.).	
16	Miss E. Barnwell (Grand, Clapham).	
	Third Heat.	
17	Miss Ethel Truefitt (The Kennedy Girls).	
18	Miss Sybil Fawcett (The Kennedy Girls).	
19	Miss Zena Blanche (The Kennedy Girls).	
20	Miss Dolly Griffiths (The Kennedy Girls).	
21	Miss May Wooder (Woolwich Hippo.).	
22	Miss Ethel Shelley (Lyceum).	
23	Miss Rosie Hill (Lyceum).	
24	Miss L. Wilson (Alhambra).	
	Fourth Heat.	
25	Miss Edina Stulle (The Kennedy Girls).	
26	Miss Molley Locke (The Kennedy Girls).	
27	Miss Hilda Gallaway (The Kennedy Girls).	
28	Miss Polly Kelly (The Kennedy Girls).	
29	Miss Nancy Beavington (Lyceum).	
30	Miss Skeff (Duke of York's).	
31	Miss M. Wilson (Alhambra).	
32	Miss Nellie Lonergen (Emp., Leicester-sq.).	

QUARTER-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP

(First Four Heats.)

(First three in each heat to run in Final.)

First Prize—A Silver Box for Cigarettes, engraved (presented by Miss Ellen Terry).
Second Prize—A Marble Clock (presented by Mr. Alfred Sutro).
Third Prize—A Silver Cigarette Box (presented by Miss Marie Illington).

		Yds. start.
	First Heat.	
1	F. Bellamy (Actor)	Sc.
2	W. Wilby (Kilburn Empire)	13
3	P. H. Snowdon (Empire, Stratford)	16
4	Hal Forde (Artist)	17
5	A. J. Manning (Empress, Brixton)	20
6	Fred Mayo (Artist Dresser)	20
7	J. McGee (Kilburn Empire)	25
8	C. Turner (Hippodrome, Putney)	25
9	W. C. Kemp (Alhambra)	25
10	Reg. Bolton (Artist)	25
11	A. H. Lenton (Globe Theatre)	40
12	M. Flanagan (Apollo Theatre)	85
	Second Heat.	
13	H. C. Robinson (Queen's Theatre)	Sc.
14	T. Cowan (Artist)	15
15	J. Marsland (Drury Lane)	20
16	H. Hildyard (Hippodrome, Balham)	25
17	A. J. Oswick (Manager)	25
18	F. Huckett (Lyceum)	26
19	R. Donald (Duke of York's)	27
20	G. Carter (New Theatre)	27
21	A. S. Tong (Lyceum)	28
22	A. Bell (Holborn Empire)	30
23	J. Bundy (Lyceum)	37
24	A. F. Harris	40
	Third Heat.	
25	F. A. Riches (Lyceum)	7
26	George Bampton (Adelphi)	15
27	J. O'Gorman (Artist)	16
28	H. J. Rennior (Artist)	18
29	W. Tinney (Woolwich Hippodrome)	24
30	W. Rivers (Holborn Empire)	25
31	A. Swanson (Aldwych)	25
32	F. H. Harman (Empire, Leicester-square)	25
33	W. J. Eagle (Empire, Leicester-square)	26
34	A. E. Whale (Duke of York's)	27
35	C. Mason (Grand, Croydon)	28
	Fourth Heat.	
36	G. J. Thacker (Kilburn Empire)	7
37	W. Green (Lyceum)	8
38	Clito Clifford (Artist)	12
39	W. Durbridge (Grand, Clapham)	13
40	A. E. Horne (St. James's)	15
41	Ronald Adair (Actor)	24
42	C. S. Powell (Brewster's Millions Co.)	24
43	B. Rodber (Alhambra)	24
44	C. Eddington (Drury Lane)	25
45	H. F. Green (Lyceum)	25
46	B. Barnard (Hackney Empire)	25
47	Bert Womack (Kilburn Empire)	26
48	J. O'Connor (Artist)	26
49	C. Entwistle (James Welch's Co.)	28

ONE MILE CYCLING HANDICAP (First Three Heats).

(First two in each heat to ride in Final.)

First prize—A Cycle. Presented by Mr. James Carew.
Second prize—A Flower Stand. Presented by Mr. John Lawson.
Third prize—Oak Salad Bowl and Servers.

		Yds.
	First Heat.	
1	F. H. Harman (Empire, Leicester-square)	Sc.
2	E. S. Dawson (Lyceum)	Sc.
3	F. Stephenson (Hippodrome, Balham)	25
4	R. Lennock (Actor)	40
5	E. Norrington (Grand, Clapham)	70
6	W. Burbridge (Grand, Clapham)	110
7	C. Birch (Lyceum)	125
	Second Heat.	
8	A. J. Hickling (St. James's)	Sc.
9	F. G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon)	50
10	F. Robb (East Ham Palace)	65
11	A. Drayton (Lyceum)	70
12	P. Burrows (Alhambra)	100
13	J. Byswater, jun. (Haymarket)	113
	Third Heat.	
14	V. C. Marra (Duke of York's)	Sc.
15	R. Chappell (Tottenham Empire)	56
16	J. Reilly (Queen's Theatre)	73
17	A. J. Clements (Alhambra)	82
18	A. W. Pullinger (The Globe)	85
19	W. E. Proud (Lyceum)	90
20	J. Byswater, sen. (Haymarket)	140

TUG OF WAR COMPETITION (First Round).

For a Challenge Shield (presented by the Proprietors of *The Era*).

The weight of each team is limited to 60 stone, with a maximum allowance of 10lb. per team. The teams will weigh on the ground, and the conditions set forth in the rules and regulations strictly adhered to.

The Shield will be a perpetual trophy, and may be exhibited for six months next following the date of the Sports in the theatre represented by the winning team. The trustees, for the time being, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees shall be the custodians of the Shield, and in the event of any dispute the donors of the Shield shall decide the same.

Holders: The Woolwich Hippodrome Team.

First Prize—5 Gold Medals (presented by *The Era*).
Second Prize—5 Gold Centre Medals.
(The coach of each of the teams pulling in the final will be presented with a medal.)

1. Putney Hippodrome.—1, A. Brooker (fireman); 2, S. Simonds (flyman); 3, A. Gadd (flyman); 4, — Ridgewell (attendant); 5, — Mills (attendant). Coach: — Fry.
2. Holborn Empire.—1, H. Brewer (electric); 2, J. Crockett (stage); 3, A. MacBeth (janitor); 4, P. Hodson (janitor); 5, C. Bell (janitor). Reserve coach: Alec Fraser.
3. Richmond Hippodrome.—1, H. Elgar (flyman); 2, J. Olroy (stage); 3, W. Olroy (stage); 4, Geo. Egaliers (flyman); 5, Bert Russell (attendant). Reserve, Sydney Bristow (attendant). Coach: Harry Kettle (s. manager).
4. Woolwich Hippodrome.—1, D. McCarthy (flies); 2, E. Manning (flies); 3, D. Harbottle (stage); 4, A. Condon (electric); 5, E. Winchester (stage). Reserve: J. Barber (janitor). Coach: C. Pickett (flies).
5. Balham Hippodrome (A).—1, Edgar Thomas (stage); 2, A. Loweth (stage); 3, H. Ody (doorkeeper); 4, A. Larke (attendant); 5, J. Baughen (attendant). Reserve: A. Ireene (attendant). Coach: H. Hildyard (s. manager).
6. Drury Lane (A).—1, J. Clark (fireman); 2, A. Keith (electrics); 3, C. Eggers (stage); 4, I. O'Brien (electrics); 5, — Thompson (props). Reserve: J. McMahone. Coach: A. Surrey.
7. Balham Hippodrome (B).—1, J. Larke; 2, Dan Osborne; 3, A. Ireene; 4, A. Henry; 5, G. Rose. Reserve: C. Rose. Coach: E. Dawson, senr.
8. Drury Lane (B).—1, H. Skinner; 2, J. Fitzgibbons; 3, E. Larner; 4, G. Galloway; 5, R. Benson. Reserve: W. F. Ernsinger. Coach: J. Belger.
9. Queen's Theatre (A).—1, A. Wood, jun.; 2, A. Barbey; 3, F. Wood; 4, L. Honour; 5, N. Mann. Coach: Wm. Graham.
10. Queen's Theatre (B).—1, A. E. Wood (stage); 2, E. O'Connor (stage); 3, — Percy; 4, — Veitch; 5, A. E. Whale (electrics). Reserve: N. Mason. Coach: Wm. Graham.
11. Kilburn Empire.—1, J. E. Skinner (bill inspector); 2, E. Potter (bill poster); 3, A. Watterston (bill poster); 4, C. Evans; 5, B. Edkins (attendant). Reserve and coach: G. Perry (stage dept.).
12. The Bedford Music Hall.—1, H. Wright; 2, F. Govey; 3, W. Stoodley; 4, J. Dunne; 5, J. Smith. Reserve: W. Wallace. Coach: H. Bilbow.

FIVE-MILES CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

(First Three Heats of One Mile. First Two in Each Heat to Ride in Final.)

For the Dewar Championship Shield (presented by Sir Thomas Dewar).
Holder—A. J. Hickling, Kingsway Theatre.
Shield must be won three times in succession to establish ownership. The shield may be held six months by the winner, at his own risk, and exhibited for six months as arranged by the Sports Committee.
First Prize—A Coffee Set and Tray (presented by Miss Violet Vanbrugh).
Second Prize—Oak Combination Tantalus (presented by Miss Maxine Elliott).
Third Prize—Cake Basket (presented by Miss Maxine Elliott).

First Heat.

1. F. H. Harman (Empire, Leicester-square).
2. E. S. Dawson (Lyceum).
3. F. Stephenson (Hippodrome, Balham).
4. R. Lennock (actor).
5. F. Robb (East Ham Palace).
6. A. Planes (Drury Lane).

Second Heat.

7. E. Norrington (Grand, Clapham).
8. J. Bywater, jun. (Haymarket).
9. P. Burrows (Alhambra).
10. R. Chappell (Palace, Tottenham).
11. A. Drayton (Lyceum).
12. V. C. Marra (Duke of York's).

Third Heat.

13. A. J. Hickling (St. James's).
14. A. J. Clements (Alhambra).
15. C. Birch (Lyceum).
16. F. G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon).
17. W. Durbridge (Grand, Clapham).

FOUR-LAP RELAY RACE.

The runner for each team will start from scratch mark carrying a flag, the number worn by the members of each team indicates the theatre represented; he will run one lap, and on arriving at the home mark will hand the flag to the Relay Walker, who will walk one lap, and on arriving at the home mark will hand the flag to the Relay Cyclist, who will cycle two laps. The first cyclist in wins for his team.

For a Silver Challenge Cup. Presented by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith.

Holders: Lyceum Theatre Team (second year in succession).

The cup will become the property of the manager for the time being of the theatre or music hall whose team wins this race three times in succession. The cup may be exhibited for six months at the theatre represented by the winners at each meeting, subject to the conditions specified by the Sports Committee.

First Prize—Three Silver Cigarette Cases (engraved). Presented by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree.
Second Prize—Three Tankards.
Third Prize—Three Silver (Gold Centre) Medals.

1. Alhambra, W. C. Kemp (runner), R. H. G. Coombes (walker), A. J. Clements (cyclist).
2. Lyceum (A), H. Green (runner), A. S. Tong (walker), F. Hodsell (cyclist).
3. Lyceum (B), W. Green (runner), J. Warner (walker), E. Dawson (cyclist).
4. Holborn Empire, A. Bell (runner), G. Toplis (walker), W. Whitmore (cyclist).
5. Duke of York's, A. E. Whale (runner), F. J. Cross (walker), V. C. Marra (cyclist).
6. Grand, Croydon, C. Mason (runner), D. Crouch (walker), F. G. Fuller (cyclist).
7. Lyceum (C), J. Bundey (runner), A. Lewis (walker), C. Birch (cyclist).
8. Balham Hippodrome, W. Williamson (runner), J. Ford (walker), F. Stephenson (cyclist).
9. Empire, Leicester-square, J. Green (runner), C. Russ (walker), F. H. Harman (cyclist).
10. Drury Lane, T. Belger (runner), A. Surrey (walker), A. Planes (cyclist).
11. Camberwell Empire, W. Norris (runner), H. Jeapes (walker), B. H. Norris (cyclist).
12. St. James's Theatre, A. E. Horne (runner), J. Underwood (walker), A. J. Hickling (cyclist).
13. Queen's Theatre, H. E. Robinson (runner), F. Wood (walker), J. Reily (cyclist).

ONE MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by Sir John Hare).
Second Prize—Oak Case of Cutlery (presented by Mr. W. H. Kendal).
Third Prize—A Dress Case.

		Yds. start.
1	George Toplis (Holborn Empire)	owes 130 yds.
2	H. H. Jeapes (Empire, Camberwell)	6
3	F. Bellamy (actor)	20
4	J. Warner, jun. (Tottenham Palace)	20
5	G. Carter (New Theatre)	25
6	A. E. Horne (St. James's)	25
7	J. Underwood (St. James's)	35
8	T. Aitchison (Alhambra)	35
9	A. B. Cross (Duke of York's)	35
10	H. Lee (Queen's Theatre)	37
11	C. Russ (Empire, Leicester-square)	39
12	G. H. R. Coombes (Alhambra)	40
13	A. S. Harris (East Ham Palace)	45
14	J. Ford (Hippodrome, Balham)	50
15	F. E. Ashford (Globe)	50
16	A. Harris (Messrs. C. H. Fox, Ltd.)	50
17	T. Aris (Hippodrome, Richmond)	50
18	F. J. Cross (Duke of York's)	70
19	F. Hornett (Drury Lane)	85
20	T. McGovern (The Oxford)	88
21	J. Warner, sen. (Lyceum)	90
22	M. Flannagan (Apollo)	100
23	M. Smith (Lyceum)	100
24	A. S. Tong (Lyceum)	172
25	D. Crouch (Grand, Croydon)	195
26	E. Dawson, sen. (Hippodrome, Balham)	228
27	H. Stanford (Covent Garden, late)	365
28	D. O'Gorman (artist)	30

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander).
Second Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by the directors, Drury Lane Theatre, Ltd.).
Third Prize—A Case of Spoons (presented by Mr. H. B. Irving).

		Yds. start
1	F. Bellamy (actor)	Scratch
2	F. A. Riches (Lyceum)	Scratch
3	W. Asher (artist)	Scratch
4	George Toplis (Holborn Empire)	15
5	W. Powell (Garrick)	22
6	Geo. Bampton (Adelphi)	25
7	A. E. Horne (St. James's)	30
8	F. Burnly (Balham Hippodrome)	30
9	W. Wilby (Kilburn Empire)	35
10	Clito Clifford (artist)	40
11	T. Cowan (artist)	40
12	Rex Gresham (actor)	40
13	A. J. Manning (Empress, Brixton)	40
14	A. Cousins (Drury Lane)	41
15	J. Allen (Alhambra)	44
16	C. S. Powell (*Brewster's Millions* Co.)	44
17	J. Underwood (St. James's)	45
18	J. O'Connor (artist)	46
19	A. Swanson (Aldwych)	47
20	B. Barnard (Empire, Hackney)	50
21	M. Bailey (Queen's)	50
22	J. Marsland (Drury Lane)	50
23	F. Mayo (artist)	50
24	B. H. Moore (Empire, Hackney)	51
25	H. Hildyard (Hippodrome, Balham)	52
26	F. J. Cross (Duke of York's)	52
27	J. McGee (Kilburn Empire)	52
28	Bert Womack (Kilburn Empire)	52
29	W. C. Kemp (Alhambra)	53
30	F. Huckett (Lyceum)	53
31	C. Eddington (Drury Lane)	54
32	W. Rivers (Holborn Empire)	54
33	A. E. Whale (Duke of York's)	57
34	C. Turner (Putney Hippodrome)	57
35	A. B. Cross (Duke of York's)	60
36	A. Bell (Holborn Empire)	60
37	R. G. H. Combes (Alhambra)	61
38	C. Mason (Grand, Croydon)	72
39	A. H. Lenton (The Globe)	80

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

A picturesque note is struck in the dresses in *Billy's Bargain* at the Garrick, many of the costumes having been brought expressly from Russia. A charming dress, worn by Miss Olga Morra, is arranged with a long tunic made of a coarse material—a mixture of serge and mohair. This tunic is dead-black, but is richly trimmed at the bottom with embroideries worked in green and blue and black, headed by bands of gold braid, which in their turn are surmounted by a design worked in gold sequins. The sleeveless bodice is cut square at the neck, where the gold braid and embroidery are repeated to make a wide edging, while the sleeves and chemisette are of coarse white linen worked in red cotton cross-stitch. The tunic falls over a long, straight dress of very coarse white linen, decorated at the foot with embroideries in blue and purple beads, worked after a heavy floral design, below which is arranged a deep frill of crochet lace.

Another dress has a tunic of very stiff mohair, beautifully embroidered in coarse white thread. This decoration is carried up the front to the waist, and is framed by further embroideries in gold sequins, while the edge of the tunic is finished with a deep scallop piped with yellow and black. The under-dress is of cotton, and is edged with a frill of crochet lace bordered with tiny green beads, and the loose sleeves are finished at the wrists in the same manner. The stockings worn with these dresses are of coarse wool, with elaborately embroidered fronts, and the leather shoes are quaintly made and are fastened across the instep like sandals.

Fashionable evening dresses, displaying a variety of tunic effects, are also to be seen. One very charming example is carried out in petunia-coloured satin. The corsage is draped across to one side, and the draperies are caught at the waist by a deep band of silver lace, which is also used to decorate the edge of the straight tunic and to make the chemisette and sleeves. A second evening dress is of pastelle-blue satin, with a tunic which is cut to have a square effect, it being longer at the sides than in the front. This tunic is edged with silver lace, and is bordered with deep white bead fringe. The corsage is crossed with bands of silver lace, and is finished at the back with two tiny tabs edged with the lace. A tunic of mole-grey net over blue satin makes another lovely dress; and dark brown net and pale buff satin are combined for a fourth.

The Princess of *Priscilla Runs Away*, the new comedy at the Haymarket, is charmingly dressed by Miss Neilson-Terry. In the first act Priscilla is seen in an evening gown made of white mousseline de soie, with embroideries of silver and strass, and finished with finely-kilted white mousseline de soie, which beneath the tunic falls in soft folds.

The running-away episode finds Miss Neilson-Terry in a gown of fine mother-of-pearl grey cloth with a yoke and inner sleeves of chiffon and net and a skirt arranged in flat panels, alternating with soft folds drawn into a broad hem at the sides. Over the dress is worn a grey cloth motor-coat, lined with satin to match, and fastened with large cabochon buttons, and a hat is added of coarse straw of a pale shade of rose like the soft pink of mother-of-pearl, trimmed with wings shading from grey to pink and mauve. In the last act the Princess, as the invalid victim of influen

MR. OSCAR ASCHE IN AUSTRALIA.

The members of the Adelaide University Shakespearean Society assembled at the University on May 21, to tender a reception to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Asche. Rp. Glynn (one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society) presided.

The chairman cordially welcomed the visitors on behalf of the society. They came to Adelaide, remarked the speaker, with a double reputation—they represented the perfect union of soul and interest—which was really typical of imperial union, the leading idea of modern statesmanship—and they were exceptional exponents of the histrionic art. It was appropriate that the University Shakespearean Society should extend a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Asche, for it had as its object the inducing of a keener relish for the works of the great master, and the development and popularising of them in a wider sphere. He was sure the visitors could appreciate the depth and sincerity of their welcome, because they brought with them a company which maintained the finest traditions of the British stage. They had offered citizens of Adelaide an opportunity, which rarely came, of seeing in the flesh some of the greatest types which the master presented, and of having these brought home to the mind by perfect voice and action, which were secrets of perfect acting. The effect of the drama must be all the greater when it was remembered that the drama was really wedded to some of the best literature extant, and when they found in Shakespeare not only the classical to read, but works which were capable of perfect representation. A few months ago he had taken a night off from the insincerities and delusions of politics to see *Othello* played by Mr. Asche, and it was one of the few occasions in his life upon which he found that reputation and report had not exceeded merits. In Mr. Asche's Othello they had the Othello of Shakespeare—the simplicity and greatness of character, and the perplexities and perturbations of mood and spirit. The Desdemona of Mrs. Asche was also the Desdemona of their imagination. Citizens of Adelaide were deeply indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Asche for having organised a company worthy of the traditions of the British stage. As a vice-president of the University Shakespearean Society he extended to the visitors a hearty welcome.

The Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. L. Cohen) expressed the pleasure of the citizens at the presence of the distinguished visitors in their midst. The great and immortal Shakespeare, in one of his plays, had said that the evil that men did oft lived after them; the good they did was oft interred with their bones. He would not presume to transpose one word of so great a writer as Shakespeare, but at the same time he thought that it was the good that men did which lived after them. The advent of Mr. and Mrs. Asche in South Australia would do good in South Australia, and give people an opportunity of hearing the great works of Shakespeare interpreted as they had never heard them before. He was confident that the inhabitants of the City of Culture would show their appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Asche's all-too-short visit by recording splendid attendances at the plays to be presented to them. Apart from the personal point of view—for Mr. and Mrs. Asche were well known to them by fame—the visit, he ventured to say, would, from a Shakespearean point of view, do much to improve the mind and enable young people, in particular, to realise the beauty of the writings of the great master.

Mr. Oscar Asche, who was received with enthusiastic applause, returned thanks on behalf of his wife and himself, and the members of his company. It was not the original intention of his company to appear in Adelaide. They had, in the first place, come to Australia for only six months, and were to appear for three months each in Melbourne and Sydney. As they had been appreciated in each of those cities—the cities of business and pleasure, according to Mr. Foster Fraser—it was due to the City of Culture that they should come to Adelaide. They had been unable to secure more than a fortnight at the Theatre Royal, and it had to be decided what were the best plays to produce. There were seven or eight plays in their répertoire, all but one of which were Shakespearean. Finally, they had fixed upon a farce, *The Taming of the Shrew*; one of the master's finest productions, *The Merchant of Venice*; his greatest domestic tragedy, *Othello*; and an historical play, *Julius Cæsar*. They had divided the plays so that lovers of Shakespeare in the State could come to see different aspects of Shakespeare's genius on different nights of the week. The Mayor had referred to the words "the evil that men do lives after them." He hoped that they would do no evil in the State that would live after them. It would be their effort to do good, and offer to citizens of Adelaide the best of their art. When he first came to Australia he was told that it was no use bringing Shakespearean plays out, because Australia was the home of musical comedy. During the company's stay in Melbourne, though, it had put to rout several musical comedies. He had even heard one person say, coming out of the theatre, "It's as good as any musical comedy I have ever seen." Shakespeare's humour was cleaner, more wholesome, and funnier than any of the humour of modern dramatic writers. Although his company had here and there taken liberty with the Shakespearean text, as they had to consider many things, such as late trains and so on, they had endeavoured to retain as much of the text as possible for a three hours' production. He might mention that, approaching the city of Adelaide in the train, it had seemed to the members of his company and himself, when they looked out of the carriage windows, that they were back in England. He did not know whether it was the autumnal tints which caused that impression, but the scenery was like that of some of the midland counties of the old country. When he left Australia he hoped it would be to return in two years' time. He thanked them heartily for the welcome accorded him and his wife.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mr. Leonard Carrodus, Miss Elsie Avril, Miss Janet Macfie, and Mr. John Snowden were the executants in Dvorák's Quartet for Strings, in F major, at the College concert on Thursday evening, June 23. The attack was somewhat uncertain in the opening movement, but the young performers secured a good rendering of the Lento and Molto vivace, and received much applause at the conclusion of the quartet. Miss Bertha Nottingham and Miss Ellen Bartlett were associated in an able performance of W. Hurlstone's rather dull and uninteresting Sonata for Piano and Violoncello in D major. The Adagio, with its plaintive theme, is not without merit, but the Scherzo and other movements were far too long. Miss Dorothy Devin proved herself a clever violinist in Sulzer's "Sarabande," "Albumblatt" (Wagner), and Sarasate's difficult "Zigeunerweisen," and well deserved her hearty recalls. Miss Florence Richardson sang "Immer bei dir" (Raff) and Brahms' more effective "Sonntag" with good tone and expression; while Mr. Joseph Ireland, for his fine artistic singing of "Young Dietrich" (G. Henschel) had a most enthusiastic reception. The programme was completed with the singing of Berlioz's "Absence" by Miss Bessie Jones, and Mr. Arthur Heberden's organ solo, Toccata and Fugue, in D minor (Bach). The accompanists were Miss Alice Cotton and Mr. William Murdoch.

AMONGST the audience at the performance of *Faust* at Covent Garden on Wednesday were the Duchess of Rutland and her daughters, the Earl of Portsmouth, Dora Countess of Chesterfield, the Countess of Craven, Lord and Lady Raglan, Baron and Baroness de Meyer, Lady Margaret Douglas, and Lord Cecil Manners.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON.

Yeoman service in the cause of the drama has been done by Mr. Percy H. Vernon, who completed his twenty-fifth year on the stage last August, his principal engagements having been in répertoire companies. He commenced in a stock company at Torquay, playing Rowley (*School for Scandal*), and combined the duties of prompter. After unimportant tours, Mr. Vernon joined the late Miss Sarah Thorne for three years, tours and stock work, playing many parts, from Shakespeare to burlesque. An engagement with Mr. F. R. Benson came next, playing character parts and discharging the stage-management, under Mr. Hugh Moss. Having fulfilled a long tour as Harry Seabrook (*Captain Swift*) and Felix (*Mystery of a Hansom Cab*), Mr. Vernon joined Mr. Ben Greet for three years, playing, amongst other parts, Sir Oliver Surface, Hardcastle, Colley Cibber, Capulet, Le Beau, William, Old Gobbo, Osric, Trinculo, Sir Toby Belch, Ægeus, and Oliver the Devil. Tours with *A Life of Pleasure* (Edmund Tearle) and *Royal Divorce* followed. During vacations in following years Mr. Vernon had stock seasons and pastoral plays with his own companies. He then rejoined Mr. Ben Greet for Glabrio, and played it for over two and a half years, followed by Sabaal (*Daughters of Babylon*), Lord Rintoul (*Little Minister*), and *Three Musketeers*. He was Mr. Greet's stage and general-manager for most of the time. Afterwards he toured as Lord Lorton (*Lady Windermere's Fan*), Earl of Cavisham (*Ideal Husband*), Lord Dangars (*Profligate*), Roderick Heron (*Lady Bountiful*), Sir George Gilding (*Professor's Love Story*), and stage-management.

Engaged by Mr. Leonard Rayne for three South African tours, 1900-1904, Mr. Vernon played in over seventy plays, some of his parts being Tramp (*Message from Mars*), Charles II. (*English Nell*), Father Lamplugh (*Christian*), Dudley Roper (*Prodigal Daughter*), Hon. Percy Blanchflower (*Masqueraders*), Scarsi (*Life of Pleasure*), Mardyke (*Human Nature*), Chigi (*Cardinal*), Oxley (*Sunday*), Louis XIII. (*Musketeers*), Dr. Ceneri (*Called Back*), Angelleli (*Eternal City*), and Bishop (*Bishop's Candlesticks*). Then came a tour as Larolle (*Under the Red Robe*), Alderman (*Garrick*), Sparkish (*Country Girl*); and next he stage-managed and played the Postman in *Duke of Killicrankie*; also Lord Petworth (*Sowing the Wind*), Bartholomew (*Spectacles*), and General Merryweather (*Idler*). After the Scala production of *A Royal Divorce* and a suburban tour, Mr. Vernon joined Miss F. Glossop-Harris as stage-director, and played Mercutio, Malvolio, Touchstone, Tranio, Don Pedro, Gratiano (*Merchant*), Whiskerandos (*Critic*), Col. Anketell (*Royal Oak*), Varville (*Camille*), and collaborated with Mr. Cellier in a dramatic version of *Carmen*. Following a tour with Ibsen's plays as Judge Brack (*Hedda Gabler*), Krogstad (*Doll's House*), and Ulric

[*Photo by Sala Arbus.*

MR. PERCY H. VERNON.

Brendel (*Rosmersholm*), Mr. Vernon rejoined *A Royal Divorce* company as Talleyrand. In the spring of last year he was with Mr. Robert Hilton, playing Joseph (*Richelieu*), Alderman (*Garrick*), Louis XI. (*Gringoire*), and creating the comedy part in *A Dance of Love*. He has recently concluded an engagement with Mrs. Lewis Waller's *Admiral's Lady* company. Mr. Vernon has had an excellent training for stage-manager, under the able direction of Mr. Hugh Moss, Mr. Charles Daly, and the late William Sidney. During his career he must have played in some 400 plays and enacted 700 parts.

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD.

Miss Sophie Lingwood, so happily cast as the celebrated Mrs. Wiggs, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, is peculiarly fitted to be an exponent of the eccentricities of the American character, for her childhood was spent in Victoria, B.C. In San Francisco she studied elocution with that famous old actress, Mrs. Judah, and singing with Signor Mancusi. She made her début as Lydia in *Fatanitza*, and achieved such an extraordinary success that she was cast for Bettina in *La Mascotte*, the next production. Subsequently she appeared in such rôles as Josephine in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, the Countess in *Olivette*, Leila in *Satanella*, and Serpolette in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Miss Lingwood afterwards toured the United States with several musical comedies, next taking up Miss Minnie Palmer's part in *Fun in a Boarding School*, and playing it for nearly a year.

Her first engagement in England was with Mr. Willie Edouin, who at once secured her for Meemo in *The Japs*. Thereafter Miss Lingwood made an especial study of character parts. A prolonged tour with Miss Melnotte's *Erminie* company was followed by another with Mr. H. J. Leslie's *Dorothy* company. She then went to South Africa with Mr. Hirchfield's comedy company, and on the conclusion of that tour was engaged by Messrs. Thorne and Perkins for comic opera and burlesque. During her stay in South Africa she played, among other parts, Mrs. Gillibrand, *Arabian Nights*; Mrs. Gilfillian, *Sweet Lavender*; Tina, *My Sweetheart*; Zeffie, *Hans the Boatman*; Suzanne, *Madame Favart*; and Phœbe, *Yeomen of the Guard*. Miss Lingwood regards the two years spent in South Africa as being among her pleasantest experiences.

On her return to England she toured with revivals of *Erminie* and *Dorothy*, and created the character of Widow Ferns in Mr. Murray Ford's opera, *Gretna Green*. Later on, following the example of Miss Marie Tempest and Miss Ethel Irving, Miss Lingwood forsook light opera and musical comedy for rather more serious work. She played Countess Zicka in *Diplomacy*, Lady Staunton in *Captain Swift*, and Miss Gwyn-Stanmore in *The Idler*. She was with Mr. Penley during his last season at Penley's Theatre, and was in several tours of Mr. Mouillot's *Man from Blankley's*. She also played Lady Gwyn-Stanley in Mr. Eugène Stafford's *Simple Simon* company. In her recent tours with Mr. Edward Terry she has played Mrs. Gilfillian and all leading character parts.

Practically her first chance to play a really emotional character came when Miss Lingwood was offered the part of Mrs. Smith in Mr. Walter Reynolds' *Mr. Smith*, and the reception which her portrayal of this charming old lady met with left her no more in doubt that her real strength lay in the delineation of pathos. Shortly after this she had the very real pleasure of seeing Mrs. Madge Carr-Cook as Mrs. Wiggs, and realised that this was a character after her own heart. From the first she had an idea that she would play it herself some day, and this proved to be one of those very few presentiments which "come true."

This versatile lady has had the good fortune to meet with a very considerable amount of success as a journalist, and also as a writer of light fic-

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD.

tion. She has contributed to the *Referee* among other journals, to *Modern Society*, and also to *M.A.P.*

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY.

An adventurous as well as an artistic career has been passed by Mr. Herbert Shelley, whose popularity is great both in this country and in America. For a number of years Mr. Shelley played principal parts in dramatic productions on the legitimate stage, but, like many of his brother artists, he eventually became a deserter, and took to the halls with dramatic sketches of his own composition. Since he has been in the vaudeville business there have been remarkable changes both in the music-halls themselves and the attitude towards the artists. For instance, six years ago the professional club of which Mr. Shelley is a member had only two actors who had gone over to the halls on its books—Mr. Albert Chevalier and Mr. Shelley—whilst at the present time there are more than fifty.

From the age of thirteen Mr. Shelley has spent his time in England, America, and Canada, and he confesses that he has to thank the people on "the other side" for the hustle and perseverance he has cultivated, and which has carried him over several failures to success. When the Canadian Pacific Railway line between Vancouver and Montreal was opened, Mr. Shelley travelled on the first passenger train that made the journey, and he rode hundreds of miles in the saddle up country beyond Winnipeg when practically all that one saw were the whitened remains of buffalos round about the lakes, very little vegetation, and rarely a human being, except an occasional Red Indian. In that same place there now exist—after the lapse of only a few years—large and flourishing cities, in which are huge public buildings, gorgeous theatres and music-halls, and even football leagues.

From Canada Mr. Shelley went to New York, where he joined Lester Wallack's stock company on Broadway. There he had some valuable experience in old comedy, including *She Stoops to Conquer*, and the usual round of English comedies, together with *Speed the Plough* and other pieces seldom played now. Subsequently Mr. Shelley toured the States as a member of several other companies, and on coming to England joined the late Osmond Tearle, the famous Shakespearean actor. Since then he has divided his time between acting, both in theatres and music halls, and in working as a dramatist. In the theatres he has been in several celebrated companies, including

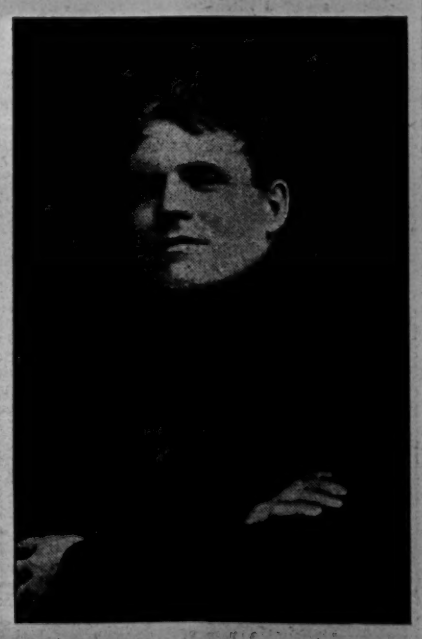

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY.

those of Sir Charles Wyndham and Mr. Arthur Bourchier.

During the past few years Mr. Shelley has had a number of pleasant engagements with Mr. Oswald Stoll, whom he regards as the hope of the music-hall artist for the future. He believes that it is Mr. Stoll's idea eventually to give artists fifty weeks' work in every year, which will be a good deal better than the present system, under which performers from time to time experience "gaps," or "weeks out," and do not like them. Mr. Shelley is of the opinion that the vaudeville business is in the transition stage, and that the outcome will be a lighter form of entertainment in which only the better artists, singers, and instrumentalists will participate. It would not surprise him—in fact he almost expects it—to see variety performances consisting of a continuity of one-act musical comedies or operas with surroundings of bright colouring and pretty faces.

As an author and composer Mr. Shelley has also won renown, and many popular songs and successful operas and plays have emanated from his pen. Altogether Mr. Shelley has written 150 songs that are well known to the general public, amongst which is the camp song, "As I smoke, smoke, smoke," which met with such general favour during the Boer war, whilst amongst his plays and operas are *The Handy Man*, *An English Violet*, *Dan the Outlaw*, *The Marriage of Mignon*, and *Bill Adams*, an opera which was written for Mr. Arthur Roberts. Mr. Shelley also wrote a number of songs for Dan Leno, whilst other ditties from his pen have been sung by other distinguished variety celebrities.

One of Mr. Shelley's most successful sketches was *Hamlet the Harmless*, which he wrote for Mr. Oswald Stoll, for production at the London Coliseum. It was played by Mr. Walter Passmore and other old Savoyards. In conjunction with Mr. Frank E. Tours, Mr. Shelley wrote an opera called *Melnotte*, founded upon *The Lady of Lyons*, which was produced at the Coronet Theatre, London, and taken on tour. *Sweet Briar* was another pretty musical play which he wrote, and it ran for three years. Mr. Shelley, too, wrote the version of *East Lynne* which Mr. Henry Dundas has toured for years.

MR EDWARD S. PETLEY.

Mr. Edward S. Petley was born at Old Charlton, in Kent, and comes of an old Service stock, his father and grandfather being officers in the Royal Navy, while he has many relations in both Services. He was early interested in dramatic art as an amateur, and was one of the founders of the Dagonet Dramatic Club, which still flourishes. His first professional engagement was with the late Trevor Warde in a répertoire consisting of *Sweet Lavender*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, *A Bunch of Violets*, *The Balloon*, &c., which was followed by an excursion into the fit-ups with Carlyon and Charlton as Captain Holcroft in *In the Ranks*. Shortly afterwards he was engaged by Mr. George Alexander for his long tour while the St. James's Theatre was rebuilt, appearing in *The Ambassador*, *In Days of Old*, *The Masqueraders*, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, &c., afterwards accompanying Mr. Alexander to town for the run of *Rupert of Hentzau*. Then followed a tour with Mr. Sydney J. Pease in *For the King* as Rupert Vane, subsequently rejoining Mr. Alexander for the production of *Paolo and Francesca*. Later he was engaged by Mr. Watson Mill for the juvenile part in *The Seal of Silence*, followed by lead in *The 10.30 Down Express*, juvenile lead in *The Grip of Iron* with the late John Atkin, a stock season at the West London with Mr. Bailey in *My Jack*, *Star of India*, &c.

Change came with sketch work on the halls at various times with Arthur Conquest, Fred Winn, Brien McCullough, Frank Gerald, &c. Deserting melodrama, Mr. Petley played Mr. Plant for a tour of *Oh! Susannah!* Mr. Coke in *The Liars*, and

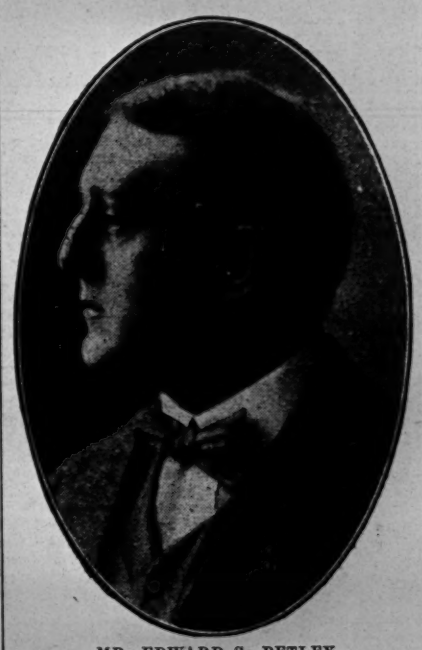

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY.

then joined Mr. Ernest E. Norris to play Richelieu in *The Three Musketeers* and Lord Caversham in *An Ideal Husband*. Other parts he has sustained with Mr. Norris are Reggie Slingsby in *The Dancing Girl*, Count Muller in *The Woman of Kronstadt*, Pasquali in *The Morals of Marcus*, Howard Collingham in *John Glayde's Honour*, &c. Shakespeare was the next change, Mr. Petley appearing in *Cymbeline* in the Glasgow and Birmingham productions, interspersed by a tour as Abernethy Ruppershaw in *In the Soup*, with Mr. Tom Thorne as Charlie in *Our Boys*, Mortimer in *Confusion*, &c., and a stock season with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden in *Jim the Penman*, *Wheels within Wheels*, *Camille*, &c. Under Mr. John Hart's management he has played tours as Hildebrand Carstairs in *The Second in Command*, Colonel Jardine in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, &c. He returned to town for *The Sin of William Jackson* at the Lyric.

Mr. Petley achieved considerable success on the first two tours of *The Flag Lieutenant* as Surgeon Crutchley, and returned to the halls for awhile in Fred Winn's fine sketch *The Light in the Window*. He has dabbled, moreover, in play-writing, being part author of the successful farce *The Other Man's Business*, and he recently finished a costume play in collaboration with Mr. Francis Chamier.

Mr. Petley has now gone into management, in conjunction with Miss Una Gilbert, and is touring this summer the recent Playhouse success *Little Mrs. Cummin*, by Richard Pryce.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the students' concert on Monday afternoon the first item on the programme was the "Allegro Brillante," from Schumann's E flat Quintet for piano, two violins, viola, and 'cello, intelligently played by Miss Briand Prager, Miss Constance Martin, Miss Hazel Giles, Mr. James Carroll, and Miss Winifred Love, members of the Chamber Music class. In two songs of Landon Ronald's, "Down in the forest" and "The spring, my dear, is no longer spring," Miss Edith Davies greatly pleased the audience; while Miss Eugénie Lenaerts, a very young pianist of the college, neatly executed Chaminade's Moment Musical; "Rose in the Bud" (Forster), and d'Hardelot's popular "Because" were ably sung by Miss Jessie Blake; and Miss Hilda Felstead, an advanced student, sang with excellent expression two songs (MS.), cleverly written by Miss Eunice Mort, pupil of Dr. Saunders. The songs were entitled "An impression" and "Wind o' the autumn," the latter proving the more attractive. A piano solo, "Danse Nègre," by Cyril Scott, was effectively played by Miss Flora L. Willoughby; and Miss Doris Fell, another clever young pianist, gave a good account of Chopin's C sharp minor Scherzo. "The Flower Song" (*Faust*) was sung by Miss Jennie Clarke; and Mr. Harry Gray was much applauded in his piano solo "Hexentanz" (MacDowell).

MISS IDA HERON has been engaged by Mr. Tom Watt for his *East Lynne* company for the rôle of Mme. Vine.

"THE WRONGS OF WOMAN."

Drama, in a Prologue and Three Acts, by Frederick A. Marston and Maurice Scott, Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, on Friday, June 24.

Paul Desmond	MR. HUBERT HELLIWELL
Sir Herbert Comerford	MR. BASIL MITCHELL
Comer Helmstone	MR. F. OWEN CHAMBERS
Colonel Cronshaw	MR. CHARLES F. JOHNSON
Tom Drewitt	MR. FRED LUARD
David	MR. J. O. STEVENSON
Peter	MR. OWEN EDWIN
Friar	MR. FRED A. MARSTON
Matteo	MR. D. ROSS
Zanoni	MR. JAS. ROSTRON
Italian Woman	MRS. ROSS
Kitty Maynard	MISS EMILY LEWIS
Nellie Yeulett	MISS MADGE MAHER
Mrs. Helmstone	MISS ADA HENDER
Miriam Cronshaw	MISS MAUD GARTH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The attendance at the old Theatre Royal, on Friday evening, the 24th, when the above drama was produced, must be considered as quite satisfactory, and it is with pleasure that we have to record the success achieved. Messrs. Frederick A. Marston and Maurice Scott are to be praised for the able manner in which they have constructed their play, which keeps the attention of the audience riveted throughout. The dialogue is effective, and the characterisation leaves nothing to be desired.

In the prologue Sir Herbert Comerford makes his appearance with his child, and announces that, owing to a carriage accident, his wife has been killed, and that his child is at death's door. Sir Herbert confides in his half-drunken servant, Comer Helmstone, that if his boy dies his name dies with him, together with all his hopes and ambitions. Sir Herbert has been pronounced incurable of a painful malady, and if he dies without issue his title and estates would pass to the family of Colonel Cronshaw, heirs-at-law and life-long enemies of the Comerfords. He induces Helmstone to place his own son in the cradle, and Sir Herbert's by his wife's side, promising to bring the exchanged boy up as heir to the Comerford estates. Comer hands his child over to Sir Herbert, who is just opening the door when Mrs. Helmstone appears at the top of the stairs. She screams for her child. Her husband seizes her by the arm, and strikes her. She falls across the table, and in doing so clutches the document in which Sir Herbert agrees to pay Comer Helmstone a thousand pounds in consideration of the exchange of the children. Mrs. Helmstone takes the exchanged baby from the cradle, and discovering that it is not hers, curses those who have robbed her of her offspring.

Between the prologue and Act I. twenty-five years are supposed to elapse, and we are introduced to the false Sir Herbert, the villain of the piece, who tries all kinds of subterfuges to win Miriam Cronshaw as his wife, in order to get some much-needed cash. Miriam is in love with Paul Desmond, a manly and upright young medical man, and Sir Herbert, in order to blacken his character in the eyes of Miriam, drops a note, which he contrives to get from Nellie Yeulett, whom he has betrayed, and in which Paul Desmond is accused of being the father of her unborn child.

Sir Herbert and Miriam are next seen at Venice, where he tries to force her to marry him. The marriage is about to take place, but is intercepted by Paul Desmond. In the last act Mrs. Helmstone produces the document, which proves her supposed son to be the real heir to the estates. She tries to claim the love of her son in spite of his evil nature; but he brutally spurns it, and in his rage stabs and kills Comer Helmstone, the rightful baronet.

The piece was well acted by Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company. To Miss Ada Hender as Mrs. Helmstone we cannot give too much praise, her acting being intensely dramatic, and she gained the heartiest reception for her admirable conception of a most trying part. Another lady who also scored a conspicuous success was Miss Maud Garth, who, as Miriam, played in charming style. Miss Madge Maher did full justice to the character of Nellie Yeulett. Mr. Hubert Helliwell left nothing to be desired as Paul Desmond, a part he played in a thoroughly manly and convincing manner. A lot of work fell to Mr. Basil Mitchell as Sir Herbert Comerford, the evil genius, but throughout he acted with a restraint and cleverness that calls for special praise. Mr. F. Owen Chambers, an actor of great ability, made a popular and clever exponent of the part of Comer Helmstone. Mr. Charles F. Johnson, besides undertaking the duties of business-manager of the company, made a dignified and typical old soldier and retired gentleman of Colonel Cronshaw. Miss Emily Lewis as Kitty Maynard and Mr. Fred Luard as Tom Drewitt made themselves very popular, and kept the audience in continual merriment, their scene at Venice, where Tom poses as an Italian, being provocative of one continual roar of merriment. Mr. J. O. Stevenson did capital work in the character of David; and Mr. Owen Edwin deserves praise as Peter. Mr. Fred. A. Marston (part author) appeared satisfactorily as the Friar. At the close of the play the audience gave the company hearty applause. We should not omit to mention that Mr. Hubert Helliwell staged the play in admirable style.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB.

On Saturday last a dinner was given to celebrate the opening of the new and beautiful premises of the above club, at 5, Wardour-street, the president, Mr. Wentworth Croke, taking the chair. His health was proposed in a very happy and apt speech by the vice-president, Mr. Montague Leveaux. The principal toast of the evening, "The King," which Mr Wentworth Croke duly proposed, was received with the expression of loyalty which was to be expected. Then Mr. Leveaux spoke in detail of the new premises, explaining the many advantages and central position as compared with the old premises in Savoy-mansions. He drew attention to the hard work that had been done by the committee regarding the moving and furnishing of the new premises, also urging the necessity of the members working together to further their own cause and support the new club, as naturally great expense had been incurred in the removal. Mr. Wentworth Croke, in a very neat and brief speech proposed the health of the sub-committee, and thanked them for all they had done to make the club the success it now was, impressing upon them the great point of unity in working together for a common cause. This was suitably responded to by Mr. Carlton Wallace and Mr. Lauderdale Maitland. The new premises consist of three floors, elaborately furnished and decorated, the writing and dining-rooms especially so. There are card-rooms, buffet, and billiard-room, and in course of erection what will be a great luxury in the summer months, viz., a winter garden. Amongst those present were Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Mr. M. V. Leveaux, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Louis De Reeder, Mr. A. Paumier, Mr. W. Muskerry Tilson, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, Mr. E. Norris, Mr. W. Barton, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. W. Martin, Mr. Trueman Towers, Mr. Carlton Wallace, Mr. E. Taylor Piatt, Mr. George Gray, Mr. Stanley Ashworth, Mr. C. Barth, Mr. G. B. Lambert, Mr. Ernest Simmons, Mr. W. Gifford, Mr. Edward Jose, Mr. H. A. Langlois, Mr. W. C. Simpson, Mr. Harry Lumley, Mr. Leon M. Lion, Mr. Cayley Calvert, Mr. C. H. Woodhouse, Mr. A. H. Brydon, Mr. W. Scott Phipp, Mr. Sam Walsh, Mr. G. Spencer Edwards, and Mr. Carson.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROBERTSON AT THE CORONET.

"CASTE."

Last Saturday the late T. W. Robertson's *Caste* was revived at the elegant Notting Hill-gate theatre by Mr. Robert Arthur, under the auspices of Mr. Bade Montefiore, with signal success. Miss Ellen Terry and Sir John Hare, among others, have been the first to congratulate the management on the thorough enjoyment of these interesting revivals. *Caste* is perhaps the most satisfying of Robertson's dramas, and never fails to meet with a hearty welcome when it is adequately cast. In the present instance an excellent all-round representation is given, with here and there quite a noticeable triumph of histrionic skill and ability. Miss Adeline Bourne is a powerful tragic and emotional actress, with the art of moving her audience almost imperceptibly until they are roused to intense and poignant feeling, and as Esther Eccles she has full scope for the display of her personal magnetism. Mr. O. B. Clarence as the drink-sodden, despicable old Eccles, forever belauding work and never doing a stroke himself, has an excellent field for the exhibition of his versatility and keen sense of character. It is an admirable embodiment, full of deft suggestions of the degradation of the man and the meretricious nature of his philosophy. Miss Rosie Begarnie is very bright and alert, and acts with feeling and expressiveness as the devil-may-care Polly Eccles, and not the least convincing part of her performance is her persistent ingenuous extenuation of her father's conduct. Mr. Athol Stewart is earnest, virile, and sincere as the Hon. George D'Alroy, and is always well in the picture as the lovelorn leveller of rank and position. Mr. James Carew is rapidly improving in his profession, and the part of Captain Hawtree fits him like a glove, the more serious side of the character being cleverly dwelt on as well as the more obviously comic attributes. Mr. Edgar Kent is as merry as a grig as Polly's plumber and gasfitting sweetheart, the enterprising and business-like Sam Gerridge. Miss A. B. Tapping is quite the grande dame as the Marquise de St. Maur, and instils much grasp of character into her performance, which is one of great merit. The selections from Schubert by the Chamber Quartet, under the direction of Mr. W. Meyer are excellently rendered.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 27, the Drama, entitled

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."

Mr. Horace Stanley's company in *The 10.30 Down Express* is here this week. In Jack O'Malley, capably represented by Mr. T. Arthur Plummer, we have a hero who is by turn an officer in the Navy, convict, signalman, and sailor again. Mr. George Arthur is the recipient of much abuse as the villainous James Inderwick; Mr. Edwin Clarke makes a good detective as Huntley Mason; Mr. T. B. Brabazon plays well as Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Ivan Roland is the broken-down gamekeeper, Seth Coombs; as Sam Wagstaffe Mr. Horace Stanley is a conspicuous success and a very hard-working comedian; Mr. A. E. Francis as Butterby Baggs, the broker's man, is an eccentric figure; Miss Cora Linda well sustains the part of the heroine, Bessie Leigh; Miss Ida Fare scores greatly as Letitia Leigh; and Miss Kate Kilpack makes things lively as Peggy Potts. The play is well staged under the direction of Mr. Evan Roland, the scene representing the signal-box and the attempted destruction of the express being very realistic.

THE BROADWAY, S.E.

On Monday, June 27, the Drama, by Tom Taylor, entitled

"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

This is the last week of the engagement of the stock company, and the various members are seen to advantage in the ever-popular *Ticket-of-Leave Man*. The story of Bob Brierly's misfortunes always interests, and Mr. Vassall-Vaughan is excellent in the part; Miss Alice Defoe gives a pathetic rendering of the faithful, loving wife May Edwards; Miss Amy Venimore is a capital representative of the talkative but lovable Mrs. Willoughby, whose mischievous grandson Sam is capitally played by Miss Claire Milvain. The Green Jones scenes, so often omitted, are played with excellent effect by Mr. R. A. Robinson as Jones and Miss Sadie Neville as Emily St. Evremond; Mr. Fred Terriss gives a fine portrait of Jem Dalton; Mr. Ellis J. Preston makes a hit as Hawkshaw; Mr. Will H. Clement is a clever Melter Moss; and Mr. E. Emery a dignified Mr. Gibson. All the well-known situations receive their due meed of applause.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 28, the drama entitled

"MONTE CRISTO."

Mounted with care, and remarkably well played, the capital adaptation of Dumas' novel has proved very successful at this popular South London playhouse, where the members of the stock company have become established favourites. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is to be highly commended upon his versatile and spirited acting as the Count de Monte Cristo; and Miss Mary Pemberton realises perfectly the character of the Catalian, Mercedes. Both artists deserved the ovation they received. Mr. Newman Maurice revels in the humours of the drunken tailor, Caderouse, and his popularity is remarkable. Mr. W. H. Porter does valuable work as Danglars; Mr. Walter Graham is to be commended for his M. Novitier; as is Mr. Victor Loraine for his impersonation of M. Villefort. Albert de Morcerf is in clever Mr. Marius St. John's hands; Mr. Will Smith impressively enacts the Abbé Faria; and Mr. Herbert Godard is prominent as the Count de Morcerf. Miss Grace Emery is well cast as La Carconte; and Miss May Day makes the most of the character of Marie. The play is handsomely staged, and reflects every credit on Mr. Newman Maurice and his clever coadjutors. The incidental music is well played by the orchestra under the skilful direction of Mr. W. T. Gliddon.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 27, the Drama entitled

"HANDS ACROSS THE SEA."

The revival of Henry Pettitt's absorbing and well-constructed drama *Hands Across the Sea* by Mr. Robert Arthur's stock company at Kennington Theatre this week proved one of the most interesting of the present series, and Mr. H. Barrett Brandreth, the acting-manager, has had occasion to congratulate himself on the magnitude of the business done. The production was complete in every respect, in acting, staging, and dressing. Mr. Walter Gay was excellent as Jack Dudley, the hero, and the rôle of the heroine (Lilian Melford) was again filled by Miss Jessie Wynter. This lady possesses an engaging personality, but her impersonation would be improved if she imparted more warmth to the love scenes with the hero, this apparent slight aloofness being the one drawback in an otherwise clever and attractive study. Mr. Fred Morgan found ample scope for his very considerable histrionic talents as Robert Stillwood, and his efforts were ably seconded by Mr. Wilson Blake as the selfish Joseph Stillwood. The comic relief was furnished by that astute comedian Mr. Maitland Marler, who was full of fun as Tom Bassett. Mr. Frank Crimp, in the rôle of the roué Count Paul de Reval, won fresh laurels, whilst Miss Winifred Whyte gave a vivid little sketch of the character of Mme. Valerie, the keeper of the gaming saloon. Another graphic piece of stage portraiture was Mr. Frank Robertson's impersonation of Jean de Lussac, the French adventurer, and he scored heavily in the last scene. Mr. G. P. Polson was well placed as the warm-hearted Richard Melford; and others who deserve mention are Mr. Leslie Fergusson (Lieut. Victor), Mr. George Carter (Inspector Thompson), Mr. G. D. Hunter (Mate), and Miss Elsie Videau (Midshipman).

THE LYCEUM.

On Saturday, June 25, the Revival of the Drama, in Four Acts, by John Rutherford, entitled

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

Lieut. Beresby, "The Rat" ..... MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Viscount Dorsington ..... MR. PHILIP HEWLAND
Col. the Hon. Clement Hungerford ..... MR. CHARLES GLENNEY
Col. Sir Henry Curwen ..... MR. ERIC MAYNE
Col. Bagshaw ..... MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Capt. Stanhope ..... MR. EDWARD COMBERMERE
Capt. Rashleigh ..... MR. ALFRED MANSFIELD
Lieut. Willoughby ..... MR. DENHOLM MUIR
Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham ..... MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Cornet Pit Keyton ..... MR. PERCY FOSTER
Corporal Lumsford ..... MR. GEORGE COOKE
Corporal Saxton ..... MR. A. B. MCKAY
Will Lumsford ..... MR. B. A. PITTAR
Jevons ..... MR. A. WILSON
Servant ..... MR. DAVID BAIN
Hon. Margaret Hungerford ..... MISS BRENDA GIBSON
Mrs. Bagshaw ..... MISS BESSIE ELDER
Helena Pierrepoint ..... MISS SYBIL WALSH
Batty ..... MISS N. DE SILVA

Mr. Martin Harvey on Saturday evening appealed to an immense crowd of his admirers at the Lyceum Theatre in a part that he may be said to have made his own. It is nearly seven years since he first asserted himself in the fine romantic character of Lieutenant Beresby, nicknamed "The Rat," in *The Breed of the Treshams*, a piece that has added considerably to the popularity of his repertory, first in the provinces and then in London. We are again in the picturesque period of Royalist and Roundhead, which has been as prolific in its supply of plays for the stage as the French Revolution, and become immediately interested in the fortunes of the protagonist of the story, who, with the blood of the Treshams in his veins, will not stoop to the betrayal of the man who has trusted him. In the opening act, Mr. Harvey, who looks a strikingly picturesque figure, sounds the keynote of the character of Beresby by sufficiently suggesting the devil-may-care recklessness that belongs to it by the right of theatrical effectiveness. In the second act, where the lieutenant feigns drunkenness in order to circumvent his enemies, Mr. Harvey becomes a veritable swashbuckler in his behaviour, and the way "the Rat" in a few serious moments pots his enemies brings down the house. The best acting, however, is to be noted in the third act, where our hero is put to the test. The features of the actor—pale and drawn—are eloquent of the torture that the unfortunate lieutenant has undergone, and his attempt to kill himself rather than bear more agony brings down the curtain on a situation of intense interest. Mr. Harvey's triumphs, which are enthusiastically emphasised by his admirers at the termination of each act, are shared by Miss N. de Silva, whose Batty is as picturesque and poetic a figure as it was when *The Breed of the Treshams* was seen at the Adelphi in June, 1907. Mr. Charles Glenney handles the part of the mean-spirited traitor Colonel Clement Hungerford with his customary ability, the agitation of the guilty one being very clearly displayed during the third act. Mr. Philip Hewland is a duly stern and uncompromising Viscount Dorsington, and that great favourite of Lyceum audiences, Mr. Eric Mayne, for once doffing his mantle of stage villainy, wins our hearts by the virility and sunniness of his impersonation of Colonel Sir Henry Curwen. Mr. S. Major Jones is quite in the picture as Colonel Bagshaw; and Mr. Edward Combermere's Captain Stanhope lacks nothing in the effectiveness of its malignancy. Mr. Leonard Craske puts the necessary touch of lightness into his love scenes with the fair Mistress Margaret Hungerford, a part played with pathos and refreshing naturalness by Miss Brenda Gibson. The brutality and spite of Corporal Lumsford are capably realised by Mr. George Cooke; Mr. Percy Foster makes the most of his slender chances as Cornet Pit Keyton; and Messrs. Denholm Muir as Lieut. Willoughby, A. B. McKay as Corporal Saxton, B. A. Pittar as Will Lumsford, and A. Wilson as Jevons play small parts adequately. Miss Sybil Walsh as Helena Pierrepoint and Miss Bessie Elder as Mrs. Bagshaw add to what may be termed the feminine interest—not a strong feature of the play. The scenery, by G. J. Dodson, E. G. Banks, and R. McCleery, is a series of interesting interiors, which cleverly reflect the Stuart period, and the stage director, Mr. John Kurkamp, who is assisted by Mr. David Bain, may be complimented on the completeness of the production. Mr. Frank B. O'Neill is Mr. Harvey's courteous business manager, and the overture and incidental music by H. Darbey are well played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 27, the Drama entitled

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."

The author of the above thrilling piece, Mr. Harry Tilbury, is extremely funny as Micky Doolan, his scenes with Miss Etta Spalding as Araminta being ludicrous in the extreme; Mr. A. G. Fry as the village blacksmith, Frank Lindon, is a fine powerful actor, with a physique well suited to the part; in the title-rôle Miss Belle Tilbury is very sympathetic, and wins all hearts; as Lord Devant, "a disgrace to society," Mr. Alex. Alexander is a typical villain; as also is his companion in crime, Tom Redman, admirably enacted by Mr. Frank Orchard. Mr. Geo. Walkly is well placed as Geoffrey Harvey; Mr. A. S. Goring does well as Arthur Cooper; and Mr. Fred Owen makes the most of his opportunities as Nell Locksley, of Scotland Yard. Very prettily do little Violet and Grace Stafford enact the part of Mabel Lindon, the former in the early portion of the play, and the latter in the fourth act; Miss Arline T. George is sweet as Alice Harvey. The scenery is of the best and the effects are perfect.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 27, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled

"SAPHO."

The above play, adapted from Daudet's celebrated novel by Miss Ada G. Abbott, and cleverly rendered by members of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company, is meeting with much success at the Shakespeare Theatre this week. The lighter side of Parisian life is well depicted, and the subject of the play has been skilfully treated, and was received by the audience with much favour on Monday evening. Miss Ada Abbott handled with tact and judgment the part of Sapho, whose moral wrong-doing was more than atoned for by her self-sacrifice in the end, and earnestly portrayed the changing moods of the woman who loved not wisely but too well. Miss Marjorie Tennant, although handicapped by a severe cold, did full justice to the part of Nichette, and Miss Ethel Tinsley made the most of Aunt Divonne. Miss Florence North was a pleasing Lucy, and Miss Gladys Annice as the young boy Joseph acquitted herself with credit. Miss Mary Douglas as Marie, Miss Rose Duncan as La Coriane, and Miss Nellie Ivinson as Marcelle also rendered good support. Mr. Edward Ouston gave a praiseworthy delineation of the young provincial, Jean Gaussin, and played the part in convincing style; Mr. Edwin Keene humorously enacted the rôle of the amorous Uncle Cesaire; Mr. Stephen Crossley did well as the felon, Flamant; Mr. John Drake as Henri Dechelette was effective; Mr. John Lester as Caoudal and Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown as Hettema contributed valuable assistance; Mr. Weedon Ross submitted a clever character sketch of Old Legrand; and the minor parts were capably sustained.

"THE FLAME."

Play, in One Act, by Marianne Stayton, Produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday afternoon, June 30.

Mrs. Hallett ..... MISS HELEN LEYTON
Rose Hallett ..... MISS MARIANNE STAYTON
Jim Hallett ..... MR. HARRY WELCHMAN
A Young R.E. Officer ..... MR. ERIC MARRETTI
Captain Anderson, R.A. ..... MR. H. E. PEARCE

Marianne Stayton's play *The Flame*, produced at the National Service League Matinée at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday afternoon, and the title allowed by the courtesy of Mr. Mark Perugini, is a strong and impressive little piece. The scene is the drawing-room of Mr. Hallett's country cottage during the supposed invasion of England. News is brought to Mrs. Hallett and Rose, his mother and wife, that things are going very badly with the English, and Rose especially is terrified at the thought that her husband, Jim Hallett, is in danger. The elder woman is more resigned, and tries to comfort Rose, but the latter admits that she doesn't think "the Flame" burns in her. She is overjoyed when her husband enters, and goes out to get him something to eat. Then his mother, wondering how it is he has returned, learns from him that he has been set a task and failed. He had allowed himself and his men to be trapped by the enemy by a ruse that any schoolboy should have seen. He himself has managed to escape, but he has decided that the only thing left for him to do is to blow his brains out. His mother implores him not to do this, but he sees no other way out of his disgrace. Just then a comrade is brought in, evidently badly wounded. He, too, has been given a task and failed—the blowing up of a tunnel which would mean certain death to anyone undertaking the work. He has been shot before he can accomplish it, and the enemy are rapidly advancing. In two hours reinforcements would arrive, and they would be able to hold them back. "It was my job—my job!" he moans, and then falls back dead. The conclusion may be guessed. Covering the body with his coat, Jim Hallett decides to take his place. There is a very harrowing scene of farewell between him and his wife, and as he goes out to certain death Rose falls fainting on the floor. The impressive little piece was powerfully acted throughout, Miss Helen Leyton being splendid as the calm, brave mother, Mrs. Hallett, quite resigned to losing her son fighting for his country, as his father had done before him. The anguish and anxiety of Rose were realistically portrayed by Miss Marianne Stayton, particularly intense being her acting in the scene where she learns of her husband's resolve; Mr. Harry Welchman skilfully realised the distress and utter hopelessness of the young officer, Jim Hallett; and Mr. Eric Marzetti's death scene was impressive, Mr. H. E. Pearce being admirable as Captain Anderson. The large and fashionable audience gave a very favourable hearing and reception to the play.

A delightful interlude in the programme was *Mrs. Hilary Regrets*, the amusing little comedy being perfectly played by Sir Charles Wyndham as the Irish doctor, Power, and Miss Dorothy Thomas as the young widow Blanche Hilary. Sir John Hare and the company supporting him also supplied another rare treat by their finished playing of *A Quiet Rubber*. Other popular artists down on the bill were Miss Cicely Courtneidge, in a song from *The Arcadians*, Mr. Albert Chevalier, Miss Florence Smithson, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mme. Ada Crossley. A short address on the aims and objects of the League was given by Lord Willoughby de Broke, introduced to the audience by Earl Roberts, who thanked Mr. Courtneidge for lending the theatre, the artists for their services, and all who had worked in any capacity for the matinée, which should yield a substantial sum.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The annual elocution competition (final examination) of the above society was held on Monday afternoon in the Queen's Theatre, kindly lent by Mr. H. B. Irving. Mr. Irving also acted as judge, and as over forty students competed, each reciting two passages from the works of the Bard—comedy and serious—it may be guessed that his task was a very difficult and tiring one. Occupying the seat of judgment for something like three hours and a half, in giving his awards at the conclusion he promised the audience *he* wouldn't detain them long. They had had plenty of Shakespeare that afternoon—in fact, he doubted if they had ever had as much before. Remarking on the all-round level of excellence of the students and the extremely high elocutionary ability of nearly all of them, Mr. Irving said that in the circumstances he had to take dramatic force and understanding into consideration, and not judge them solely from an elocutionary standpoint. He hoped the students would be satisfied with his decisions, but he did not expect they all would, and he quite anticipated one of these days a great actress coming to him and reminding him that he had failed to recognise her talents as a student. In the class for juniors Mr. Irving gave the first prize to Miss Mabel George, a gifted young lady who was heard in passages from *Julius Cæsar* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, both selections reaching a high level of excellence, as regards both delivery of the lines and dramatic significance. Miss Dorothy Lemarchand (Juliet's Potion Scene and Viola's Soliloquy) was awarded second prize. In the amateur ladies' class Miss Clare Absolom gained the first prize, Miss Nellie Innes being second, Miss Constance Fairbairn, Miss Alice De Grey, Miss Lydia Loderhouse, and Miss Lilian Kirby being highly commended. First in the amateur gentlemen was Mr. A. C. Rickatson (excerpts from *Henry V.* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Mr. James Sianners was second; Mr. Denchfield Baker and Mr. W. B. Thursfield being commended. In the professional class for ladies Miss Maud Hartley was awarded first prize for her impressive delivery of a passage from *Macbeth*, her selection from *The Merchant of Venice* also being admirably given; and Miss Florence Geere, in scenes from *The Merchant of Venice* and *Julius Cæsar* gained the second prize; Miss Madelinell Clayton being commended. Ability of a high order was shown by Mr. Horace Braham, first in the professional gentlemen class, passages from *Richard III.* and *Much Ado About Nothing* enabling him to display his versatility and undoubted aptitude for character acting. At the conclusion Miss Morritt, the hon. secretary of the society, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Irving for his kindness in giving the use of his theatre, and also for acting as judge. This was seconded by Mr. Acton Bond, one of the directors and hon. treasurer, who also paid a tribute to the arduous work of Mr. Alan Mackinnon, Miss Esmé Beringer, and Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, the preliminary judges. Eleven more candidates than last year qualified in their respective centres to take part in the competition. In addition to candidates from the London centre, competitors came from the following branches of the Society:—Birmingham, Bristol, Cheltenham, Darlington, Ealing, Glasgow, Liverpool, New Cross, Norwood, Sheffield, and Stratford-on-Avon. In the previous preliminary examination in London there were twenty candidates more than last year in one class alone.

A PROFESSOR of Music at fifteen, Prof. Mario Lorenzi, who gave a harp recital at the house of Mrs. Mudie-Cooke, in Porchester-terrace, on Wednesday, began to play the harp when he was six years old. At the age of eight he performed at a concert of the Philharmonic Society of Florence.

"THE MAGNETIC GIRL."

A Romantic Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Fred Jarman, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday, June 27, 1910.

Estrella Gomes ..... MISS OLIVIA ELTONE
Belle Lightfoot ..... MISS IVY MOORE
Mrs. Greythorn ..... MISS ETHEL CLARK
Wm. Henry Stockholder ..... MR. WILLIAM CLARK
Albert Greythorn ..... MR. GERALD MIRRIELEES
Sir Victor de Bompas ..... MR. SAM LOCKRIDGE
Timothy de Bompas ..... MR. NORMAN CLARK
'Arry de Bompas ..... MR. EDWARD CARLTON
Emanuel Garcia ..... MR. ERIC BASS
Marx ..... MR. RICHARD TOMS
George Minshull ..... MR. FRANKLYN BELLAMY

The above play was first produced at Weston-super-Mare on June 6 last, and has met with great success since. It is full of rollicking fun from start to finish. The play opens in the garden of the El Dorado Hotel, where the three members of the De Bompas family are much exercised in their minds as to which is to marry Estella Gomes or forfeit a fortune. Unknown to her three suitors, however, Estrella is already engaged to George Minshull, who is really a De Bompas, his father changing his name on going to America years before. Estrella carries a magnetic battery, as she suffers from "nerves," and anyone she comes in contact with receives a violent shock, much merriment being caused thereby.

In order to obtain an increased allowance from his millionaire uncle, Sir Victor, one of the three suitors, has persuaded his cousin, Mrs. Greythorn, to pose as his wife. Mr. Greythorn has disguised himself as the French maid of the music-hall artist, Belle Lightfoot, whom he has already introduced to his uncle as Lady de Bompas, the uncle being mystified as to which lady he has previously met. Belle Lightfoot takes a snapshot of the millionaire uncle flirting with Sir Victor's imaginary wife, and he being the head of a missionary society in New York offers a fabulous sum for the photo, under the threat of having it reproduced at a picture show next door to his mission-hall. The act concludes with Estrella taken with violent hysterics, and emitting sparks from her battery, shocking everyone who comes near.

In Act 3 George Minshull procures the papers giving him proof of his birth, but, like "Brer Rabbit," "lays low." The three De Bompas's discuss the subject of which of them is to marry Estrella, but are suddenly confronted with the news (arranged between Estrella and Belle Lightfoot) that the French maid (Greythorn) is the real heiress. The cousins thereon decline to marry the real Estrella, and thus forfeit the fortune to her. George Minshull produces the proofs of his birth as a De Bompas, which a lawyer cousin has procured. Belle, who has received a handsome cheque from the uncle, marries Sir Victor, Estrella being wedded to the man she loves, and thus claiming the fortune.

As Estrella Miss Olivia Eltone is simply charming, acting her part to perfection. Extremely clever is Miss Ivy Moore as Belle Lightfoot, who causes no end of fun. Miss Ethel Clark is capital as Mrs. Greythorn, her scenes with the millionaire uncle, well realised by Mr. William Clark, being very funny. Mr. Gerald Mirrielees as the flightly Albert Greythorn is a host in himself. The three members of the De Bompas family extract a large amount of fun from their parts. Mr. Franklyn Bellamy is particularly well placed as George Minshull; and the other members of the company acquit themselves capably.

There was also produced, at the same theatre on the same day, a drama, in one act, by Hilda Smithson, entitled

"THE PASSING OF SINCLAIR."

Eric Roxburgh, F.R.C.S. ..... MR. SAM LOCKRIDGE
Laura Sinclair ..... MISS EILEEN MARTIN
Roland Sinclair ..... MR. GERALD MIRRIELEES
Linlater ..... MR. ERIC BASS

This is a pathetic little playlet of everyday life, in which the principal person sacrifices love for duty.

Sinclair, after a quarrel with his wife, decides that, owing to incompatibility of temper, it is impossible to live with her any longer, and although the fault is entirely on his side, he deserts her and leaves for Australia. Left alone, without home or friends, she succeeds in obtaining a situation as housekeeper to an eminent brain specialist, Dr. Eric Roxburgh, F.R.C.S., who, struck with her manner and appearance, falls in love with her, but says nothing of his passion, until by chance he reads in a newspaper of a man's body being found in Sydney and identified as that of Sinclair.

As a result of this news he resolves to propose marriage to his housekeeper, and upon showing her the proofs of her husband's demise, she accepts the doctor's offer. The servant, Linlater, enters with the news that a terrible motor-car accident has happened outside the house, and that a man, seriously injured, has been brought into an adjoining room. On seeing the patient, the doctor immediately recognises him as Sinclair from a photo of her husband which has been shown him by his housekeeper. If the man lives, the doctor cannot marry the woman he loves, and he is tempted to let the sufferer take his chance; but the scientific side of his character prevails, and he decides to save Sinclair's life. Whilst he is breaking the news to his housekeeper, Sinclair recovers consciousness, and endeavours to realise his whereabouts. He enters the room where the doctor and Mrs. Sinclair are, misunderstands the situation, and from the effect of excitement falls dead at their feet. This leaves the woman free; the doctor renews his proposal, and she accepts him.

As the noble-minded Dr. Eric Roxburgh Mr. Sam Lockridge was a distinct success, his natural and refined acting being greatly admired. Mr. Gerald Mirrielees as the jealous, excitable, ill-tempered Roland Sinclair was excellent. As the servant, Linlater, Mr. Eric Bass did well; and the deserted wife, Laura Sinclair, was ably enacted by Miss Eileen Martin, her variation of moods, now passionate, appealing, now sympathetic and subdued, being extremely clever. The play was particularly well received, and the authoress appeared and bowed her acknowledgments.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 27, the Drama entitled

"HER FATAL PAST."

Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is making a good show. Miss Ward fills the title-rôle, Honor Symes, in most able style, sustaining the tone of her character perfectly throughout some difficult scenes; Leonard Fernside is well interpreted by Mr. Harry Emmerson; Mr. Charles Yorke makes an excellent Gilbert Fernside, the heavy lead suiting him well; Mark Desmond is placed wisely in Mr. Bernard Elliott's hands; Mr. T. Edward Ward as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs supplies a welcome comic element. The very amusing and agreeable part of Dicky Bird is allotted to Mr. H. Macauley, who justifies the choice; Miss Emilie Entwistle as Little Leonard deserves considerable praise for the crisp way in which she plays her part; Miss Gabrielle Romero as Belle de Lara is imposing; Ruth Fernside is aptly played by Miss Fannie M. Wellesley; and Miss Kate Newman is good as Sal Jenkins. The remaining parts are capably sustained, viz., Reuben Treadway by Mr. Claude Page, Constable Smithers by Mr. Wilfrid Smith, Kitty Sprigwell by Miss Clarrie Yandell, and Martha Sprigwell by Miss Esmai Ellys.

LORD IVEAGH has given £250 to the Dublin fund for the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre scheme.

"THE PIGEON HOUSE."

Musical Play, in Three Acts, Written and Composed by Eric Hope, from a Story by Molly Elliot Seawell, with Additional Lyrics by W. B. Parker and Archie Sullivan, Produced at the New Theatre, Cardiff, on Monday, June 27.

Paul Bouchard ..... MR. O. E. LENNON
Victor de Meneval ..... MR. ERIC HOPE
Major Fallieres ..... MR. A. WELLTON FORDHAM
Dr. Delcasse ..... MR. H. CHUBB
Pierre ..... MR. TREFOR DAVIES
François ..... MR. F. J. SCHROETER
Jacques ..... MR. LIONAL LINDSAY
Vicomte de Chanticler ..... MR. DAN G. THOMAS
Concierge ..... MR. B. FRANK
Destocque ..... MR. F. W. SENINGTON
Caron ..... MR. P. M. ROGERS
Mme. Vernet ..... MISS OLIVE MAY
Mlle. Celeste Bouchard ..... MRS. SNEAD DAVIES
Elise ..... MISS JULIA SYLVESTRE
Princess X ..... MISS MILLICENT JONES
Duchess de Grand Marnier ..... MISS QUENNIE WATTS
Aglaia ..... MISS VIOLET DENE
Olga ..... MISS D. GRIFFITHS
Louise ..... MISS IDA DUNCAN
Pepita ..... MISS E. LOEFFLER
Leontine de Meneval ..... MISS THELMA RAYE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Originally produced as a play at Worthing a few years ago, *The Pigeon House* has now been set to music by Eric Hope (the *nom-de-plume* of the Earl of Yarmouth), and transformed into a delightfully captivating musical comedy. The audience privileged to be present at the first production on Monday night was undoubtedly charmed by the performance, and nothing but praise was heard on all sides.

The plot is not intricate, and is agreeably interspersed by clever musical items. The first act is set in the apartment of a lawyer, Paul Bouchard, who, endowed with a youthful and light-hearted spirit, has removed from the solitude of his sister's dwelling to gayer and more frequented quarters. Here he is visited by the husband of his ward, Captain Victor de Meneval, who desires the lawyer to advance him the necessary wherewithal to meet liabilities incurred through numerous visits to a *café chantant* called "The Pigeon House." As security, the Captain leaves his wife's diamond necklace, valued at 20,000 francs, explaining that, in order to avoid arousing the suspicions of his wife, he has replaced a paste replica of the necklace. He is followed by Mme. Leontine de Meneval, who, although imagined by her husband to be a model wife as regards expenditure of her allowance, is, as a matter of fact, heavily in debt for various costumes and millinery. Mme. Leontine submits her necklace to the lawyer as her security for an advance, not being aware that her husband has substituted paste for the genuine stones. Bouchard exchanges the necklaces, telling madame that the one she now has is paste, whereas in reality she has the diamonds. The lawyer's next visitor is a captivating widow he has met by chance on a previous occasion, and this lady secures the necklace and carries it away under the impression that it is of great value.

Act II. finds the several parties assembling at the Pigeon House Restaurant without the others' knowledge. Captain and Mme. de Meneval are there together, and Bouchard with the widow. The former couple watch the lawyer flirting with his companion, and the Captain is surprised to find his wife's necklace on the lawyer's acquaintance. When she is alone he confronts her with the fact, and demands the return of the trinket. The widow manages to get de Meneval taken away by two gendarmes as insane, and, after extracting Bouchard's pocket-book, with his notes, effects a speedy exit. De Meneval is released, but Bouchard is nearly carried off by the gendarmes through being unable to pay his account for supper, &c.

Act III. opens in Victor de Meneval's rooms, and his wife enters, to find supper laid, with bouquets on the table addressed to the four dancers of "The Pigeon House." Victor eventually appears in the midst of the four ladies, but his wife joins them all at supper and astonishes de Meneval by her gay and frivolous spirits and her frequent resort to the champagne-cup. After considerably shocking her husband Mme. Leontine eventually confesses she has only been acting to cure him of his flirting propensities, and that she has been drinking nothing stronger than ginger ale. The widow appears in the midst of the reconciliation, by appointment, to receive 2,000 francs in return for the paste necklace and her silence on behalf of the lawyer, but has to make her exit discomfited.

The part of Leontine de Meneval is in the hands of Miss Thelma Raye, whose acting throughout is light, vivacious, and clever, while her musical numbers are rendered in charming style. "Kitty, kitty, cat" and "Cigarette" are two of her most pleasing songs, the latter being particularly pretty. The author is undeniably successful in the part of Victor de Meneval; Mr. O. E. Lennon is well suited as Paul Bouchard, his animated appearance and mannerisms making his portrayal greatly amusing; Mr. A. Wellton Fordham as Major Fallieres has many opportunities in which to show to advantage his capital voice, his rendering of "Life of a soldier" being one of the most successful items of the piece; Miss Olive May as the widow, Mme. Vernet, acquits herself creditably of her responsibilities; Mr. Trefor Davies does well in the rôle of Pierre; and Mrs. Snead Davies as Mlle. Bouchard and Miss Julia Sylvestre as Elise are to be congratulated upon excellent interpretations. The chorus work is extremely well done.

Prolonged applause awaited the conclusion of the piece. The author, in a few words, acknowledged the hearty reception accorded to the play.

PASTORAL PLAY AT CRYSTAL PALACE.

The grassy glades in the grounds of the Sydenham pleasure house formed a fitting frame for Mr. Patrick Kirwan's répertoire company in Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, although the weather of late has not been the kind for out of door plays, and the damp grass did not make an ideal reclining place for the players; but, notwithstanding these disadvantages, the representation went merrily, and was well received by quite a good audience.

Mr. Kirwan as Bottom, the weaver, was excellent throughout, his scenes with Titania being full of humour, and Miss Rosamund Mayne Young as Helena gave a most telling and dramatic rendering of this tearful part. Mr. P. Gedge Tyman's fine presence gave distinction to the part of Lysander, and he acted well and naturally; and Mr. Stanley Roberts as Demetrius was satisfactory. The Hermia of Miss Mary Allistree was well conceived, and one could not desire a more charming exponent of the part. Mr. J. A. M. Napper as Oberon made a fine and dignified fairy king; and Miss Daisy Smith as Titania was light and dainty. Miss Alys Rees was an energetic sprite, her appearances causing great amusement.

Mr. Kirwan received the very best support from the gentlemen enacting the Athenian amateurs. Mr. Alfred Ibberson as Quince had a most diverting stammer, of which he made the very best use; and we would also especially mention the Flute of Everard Vanderlip as being a rich bit of comedy acting, and the make-up and dressing of this group was altogether good.

The music, which is such a feature of this production, was well rendered, Mr. Godfrey's band giving Mendelssohn's well-known overture in fine style, and the incidental vocal music was ably rendered by an invisible choir of ladies.

ACTORS' DAY.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The existence of the Actors' Day Fund was well justified at the annual meeting, held at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday afternoon. Steady progress has been made with the movement, and the report and financial accounts show that good work has been accomplished.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Sydney Valentine, chairman of the Advisory Board, and there were also present Messrs. Blake Adams, Arnold Lucy, Chris. Walker, Burton Cooke, C. F. Collings, H. Story Gofton, H. A. Saintsbury, Walter Selby, James C. Taylor, Acton Bond, Henry Kitts, Cecil Barth, Chas. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, Miss Eugenie Kemble, Miss Georgina Hamilton, and Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, hon. secretary.

The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The secretary read the report and submitted the account of receipts and payments from Oct. 1, 1908, to Sept. 30, 1909.

RECEIPTS.

1908.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Oct. 1.	Balance from last Account :—		
	On Current Account at Bank	66 11 7	
	On Deposit Account at Bank	750 0 0	
	In hand	24 15 8	
			841 7 3
1909.	Contributions		299 5 9
	Interest on Deposit and Investments		18 16 10
			£1159 9 10

PAYMENTS, &c.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Grants and Loans, less amounts repaid		60 12 6
	Sundry :—		
	Rent	27 14 6	
	Typewriter purchased, &c.	9 4 9	
	Telephone and Gas	7 9 1	
	Advertisements	13 11 2	
	Printing	26 12 0	
	Stationery	4 16 5	
	Typewriter's Wages, &c.	22 11 8	
	Postage	30 3 8	
	Miscellaneous	5 19 1	
			148 1 10
1909. Sept. 30.	Cash Balances and Investments, viz. :		
	£ s. d.		
	Cash on Current Account at Bank .. 188 3 3		
	Cash in hand 15 17 3		
		204 0 6	
	Investments (Trustee Stocks, see footnote)	746 15 0	
			950 15 6
			£1159 9 10

THE ASSETS OF THE FUND, EXCLUSIVE OF OFFICE FITTINGS, ARE :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The Cash Balances, shown above		204 0 6
£300 Chinese 4½% Bonds, 1898, at cost	305 5 0	
£200 City of Quebec 4% Debentures, at cost	204 0 0	
Grs. 3000 Dutch 3% Bonds, at cost	237 10 0	
		746 15 0
		£950 15 6

SYDNEY VALENTINE, Chairman of Advisory Board.
A. E. DRINKWATER, Hon. Secretary.

I have compared this Account with the Books and Vouchers of the Fund, and certify it correct. I have verified the Cash Balances and the Investments.

A. G. SAYERS,
Chartered Accountant, Hon. Auditor.
19, Hanover-square, London, W.
Dec. 15, 1909.

"The Organising Committee, in presenting the balance-sheet for the year, have the satisfaction of reporting that, while the Fund depends entirely on the contributors themselves, the receipts for the year were £109 8s. 3d. in excess of all grants and loans, less amounts repaid, and all expenses. The capital of the Fund was thus increased from £841 7s. 3d. to £950 15s. 6d. Owing to sickness and other urgent causes a large number of applications (about one out of every nine contributors) were received for the benefits of the Fund. Every application was promptly dealt with, and the Committee were able to render assistance of the utmost value. A substantial part of the loans granted has already been repaid. No expenses beyond actual necessities were incurred. The committee and the hon. secretary gratefully acknowledge the valuable help gratuitously rendered by Mr. Burton Cooke, which has enabled them again, as in past years, to confine the cost of the clerical work to the temporary services of a shorthand clerk at the time of the Annual Collection. The committee also offer their best thanks to the honorary auditor."

In answer to questions the secretary said the sum of £60 odd was not the whole amount paid in grants and loans, but was less by the sums repaid, some of which were advanced in former years. Some were not loans at all, but actual grants. A substantial part of the £60 referred to had been repaid since the termination of the year. With regard to the loans outstanding he did not think they were hopeless. In some cases loans were repaid after a very long time.

Moving the adoption of the report, the CHAIRMAN said the amounts not repaid were very small considering the numbers they had helped. The books of the loans repaid were very interesting and very satisfactory reading, and ought to make them very proud of their profession. In many cases people had borrowed fair amounts and had paid back the whole in small sums like 5s. That was a satisfactory feature of the Fund. The fact that they were a little stronger than last year was another source of congratulation, as showing that they were going forward. If only they could persuade more of their fellow-actors to join the Fund, and go on increasing in strength, they would be able to build up a big fund, which it was a gratification to feel they were able to maintain themselves. (Hear, hear.) The sacrifice they made yearly was one night's earnings, and they did not get any advertisement out of it. Some of the members of the profession gave largely to funds if they got an advertisement out of it; but when it came to giving one night's salary, the amount of which was not stated, they hesitated. The Fund did not want those people. So long as they got a certain number of good men together they need not fear for the future of the Fund. (Cheers.)

In reply to Mr. CHRIS. WALKER, the chairman said there were some old members who had dropped out. There were a few at first who joined with the idea of paying in one night's salary, and having got their loan, promptly drop out. Those people were more or less confined to the first year.

The SECRETARY said the number of those who contributed every year was greatly increasing. The fact that they were getting stronger would make people think there was something in it. The number of contributors, he added, was just under three hundred.

Mr. ACTON BOND asked whether every opportunity was taken to make known the good the Fund was doing, because in one or two instances it had been of the utmost value, and if this were made more generally known, they would have less difficulty in getting subscriptions.

The CHAIRMAN replied that they did not feel entitled to spend a great deal of the Fund's money in advertisements; they relied more upon the recipients themselves to make their cases known. If they gave specific cases of benefits conferred it might lead to identification, and that was just what they wanted to avoid.

Mr. BOND suggested that the annual meeting should be held nearer the time of the collection, before the enthusiasm raised had evaporated. They were a self-help society, and they should do everything possible to force it and make it stronger.

The SECRETARY said the meeting was fixed at a date to allow of the preparation of the accounts for their financial year, which ended in September. They could, however, be accelerated so as to come nearer the date of collection.

Mr. SAINTSBURY suggested that the number of people who had been helped from the beginning should be stated, showing how much money had been put in circulation for the benefit of the profession.

After further discussion, a resolution, proposed by Mr. BOND, and seconded by Mr. WALKER, that the annual meeting be held between the end of the financial year and the date of the collection—Oct. 21—was carried unanimously.

The following members of the Advisory Committee, who retired by rotation, were re-elected:—Messrs. Henry Ainley, Blake Adams, Cecil Barth, C. T. H. Helmsley, Laurence Irving, Walter Maxwell, and Brandon Thomas. Mr. BARTH on behalf of himself and Mr. Thomas, thanked the meeting for their re-election.

The CHAIRMAN said there were two points to which he would draw attention, and which the committee were rather exercised about. When a member joined the Fund and contributed his night's salary for the first time, he might be in difficulties shortly after and apply for a loan. The genuine cases they were only too anxious to help, but they had had cases in which a man had contributed one night's salary with the idea of having a loan and letting it go at that. They wanted to fix a limit to the amount such a person is allowed in order to prevent any such men from drawing a loan after the first year's contribution and then dropping out of it. They wanted to make a distinction between the applications of those members in their first year, and those who had been longer on the books. During the Fund's first year they met with the impostors he alluded to, individuals having a loan and never repaying either that or any more subscriptions. There was very little of that going on in subsequent years; but they wanted to be prepared for the contingency. He asked for suggestions to guide the committee. The other point he wished to refer to was that of another type of case—that in which a man contributed once and then let two or three years go by without renewing his subscription, and then finding things going "rocky," sent up a big contribution. It was not right that such people should be in the same position as those who had contributed all through. If a member did not contribute, and did not take the trouble to give any explanation, and went on for a number of years, that man should cease to be a member, but that was rather a drastic method.

Miss HAMILTON suggested that a fine should be imposed, but the chairman pointed out that it would be difficult to fix a sum, as no one knew the amount contributed by any member. That circumstance put all the members on an equality. It was an absolute essential of the Fund that the amount of a member's contribution was not known even to the trustees, the contributions being collected by the acting-manager of the theatre or company, and forwarded in bulk. Each contributor was supplied with receipts in the shape of stamps, which acted as a check on the manager.

A member said he had not received stamps or any other acknowledgment for his contribution.

The SECRETARY said the method worked perfectly where the acting-manager fell in with the requirements, but he had great difficulty in getting them to do so. One of the company was appointed to collect all the stamps and forward them to the secretary, who would send each member a receipt for one night's salary without any amount being mentioned. If the member who had made the complaint would walk round to the office after the meeting, he could show him the counterfoil of the receipt alluded to. The form sent to the actor-managers was simplicity itself, but instead of getting the form returned properly filled in he often got a statement that "So-and-So" had contributed, but got no addresses. In that case they sent to the acting-manager and asked him to distribute the receipts.

Miss HAMILTON thought there was rather too much sentiment about the administration of the Fund. It was very unbusinesslike that people should be able to send up a small salary and then be able to demand a sum as large as he who had paid a big figure.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Fund was not an insurance company; if it were, there would be legal restrictions to contend with.

On the suggestion of Mr. WALKER, the matter was left over to the next general meeting, so that members might consider it in the intervening period.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. secretary. Mr. Drinkwater, he said, worked very hard indeed for the Fund, the number of people he had to deal with being remarkable.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. STORY-GOFTON, and heartily endorsed.

Mr. DRINKWATER, in acknowledgment, said it was a great pleasure to him to have the administration of the Fund so far as it lay in the secretary's hands, and he was deeply interested in its future. If they could only make the profession realise what the Fund was and did, he was certain it would grow by leaps and bounds. He would go on doing his best, and hoped to leave the Fund on a firm basis.

Mr. BURTON COOKE, who also received the thanks of the meeting, said the Fund was a great scheme that ought to be supported by the whole profession. It was not a charity, but a fund for those people who liked to put a little away for a rainy day. It had been rumoured that some of them who were working for the Fund were getting something out of it. (Laughter.) He must say that Mr. Drinkwater was looking very fit on what he was getting out of the Fund. He was giving up his time and getting nothing for it but hard work. (Hear, hear.)

Votes of thanks to Mr. Valentine and the Advisory Board, and to Mr. Chas. Frohman and Miss Gertrude Elliott and Messrs. Liebler for the loan of the theatre, concluded the meeting.

[*Photo by the London News Agency Photos, Ltd.*

FOSTER—BROGDEN WEDDING.

Mr. Basil S. Foster, the well-known Worcestershire cricketer and member of *The Dollar Princess* company, in which he plays the part of the Earl of Quorn, was married on Wednesday last at the Roman Catholic Church, Spanish-place, to Miss Gwendolene Brogden, who played Cinderella in *Pinkie and the Fairies*. Our photograph shows the bride and bridegroom leaving the church.

At the twentieth annual meeting of the Torquay Theatre Company, held on the 17th ult., the directors reported that the total receipts on the trading account had been £8,513 16s. 2d., and the expenditure £7,876 16s. 9d., leaving a profit balance of £637 18s. 5d. to be carried to the net revenue account. The balance available for dividend was £1,378 0s. 6d., and the directors recommended the payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. The trading account showed that cash at doors, bookings, &c., amounted to £8,370 17s. 4d., as compared with £8,968 3s. 3d. in the previous year; £5,219 1s. 10d. had been paid to the theatrical companies, as compared with £5,633 1s. 1d.; salaries and wages absorbed £1,300 4s., as against £1,323 6s. 5d. The profit was about £200 less than the previous year.

THE Chairman, Mr. W. H. Mortimer, in moving the adoption of the report, said that whilst he could congratulate the shareholders on a fairly successful year, he had to report a decrease of nearly £600 in receipts under the heading of cash at doors and bookings. There was no doubt that the general election was mainly responsible for the falling off, for up to that time they were in quite as good a position as in the previous year. After the election two or three companies, which had been booked, and which would probably have drawn fair houses, at least, cancelled their engagements, and other companies had had to be substituted without much choice on the part of the directors. The accounts showed that the visiting companies were the principal losers, £414 less than the previous year having been paid to them. The resolution was unanimously accepted.

THE ACTOR'S CHANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your leading article of the 18th ult., under the heading of "The Actor's Anxiety," with its just and discouraging picture of the theatrical underworld, where artists of capacity often live unmeritedly obscure lives, appears, nevertheless, I should like to suggest, at a moment when there is a faint indication of a turn towards better times for the actor.

The drama itself—the written drama—has already begun to lift its head, and its revival has been impulsed from within, as all regenerations are, and the nucleus of vitality of which it consists has already acquired a financial backing, and is appreciably attracting a favourable and supporting public opinion. It is the strength of the drama that is giving it a new position; the fact that it offers real value and vitality which, in the end, must appeal; and it is on this basis of a reversion to higher quality that the interpretive craft, too, shows signs of wrestling successfully with its desperate condition.

As your article indicates, the expedient of informing public opinion as to professional affairs is doubtless good strategy, but the information to be conveyed is not of disabilities or evils, but of merit that will give value for support of the presentiment of high virtue, such as the drama has exhibited. That seems the only appeal—and perhaps the only just appeal—that will bring aid. This presentiment has already begun in an outward and obvious form, not only in London, where the Repertory Theatre offered a general, as opposed to a particular, high level of performance, but in provincial centres as well. These exhibitions of a general high level of talent, however, must go to the credit of the drama that will not tolerate anything else. They cannot be claimed yet by the profession as indicative of its own inward general regeneration.

The drama has been revivified because some of the potent literary intellect of the age has turned its attention to the theatre and works largely in stage form. Intellect is very self-conscious, and so the drama is no longer blind or groping, without power to discern its aims or capabilities. Nor is it dumb and unable to answer its antagonists; but on all hands it sees pretty clearly its ideals, its outline, limits, its merits, claims, aspirations, and stands four square and strong. The regeneration of the actor's calling will work—indeed, is working—along the same lines.

The supreme artist always does, and doubtless always has, worked his way out into self-consciousness, but the general intellectual level of the profession being raised of late years, self-consciousness—and consequently strength and order—is becoming more common among the majority; a greater number are at that altitude of mind wherefrom they are enabled to perceive their own psychology, and can discern some of the principles of their artistry and the general scope, capacity, outline, and laws which govern what used to be, more or less, blindly undertaken work. It is not likely to be suggested, of course, that the high flights of any artistry are not, on the whole, blind actions governed by inexplicable intuition, but long and conscious practice of first principles most certainly underlies the most effective spontaneous abandonment that can be achieved, and it is the knowledge of these first principles that is becoming more widely distributed and ceasing to be the exclusive possession of the few whose inherent attainments have carried them to knowledge, but who, hitherto, have seen fit to be almost silent on the matter.

The illusion that stage interpretation is accomplished chiefly by some sort of haphazard emotionalism has been the most potent cause of the present overstocking of the professional ranks with inappropriate material. The few talented artists always have known how futile the illusion is, and it is because an ever-increasing nucleus—chiefly, just now, gathered round the new managements—is awakening to the same self-consciousness of distinct and guided artistry, that the outlook for the future—doubtless, so slow do revolutions move—the far future, is not entirely without hope of betterment.

When the actor clearly sees himself as he is—his exact relation to the author—the curious, inspiring, and unassailable position that he holds in the dramatic scheme, he will be revivified with the inspiration of a new ideal of workmanship which, though its roots are deep planted in seriousness, in renunciation and hard work, is yet impulsed with finer exaltations than the ideals of easy living that have of recent years guided the majority of aspirants; and by the acquirement of the higher truths about his art he will be enabled to defend it, and, publicly and privately, to support and enforce its inherent value and dignity. In this way alone will public sympathy be enlisted.

As an aid to this end, and as a means of making itself vital and of real power, the Actors' Association might seek to institute lectures and addresses on technique, training, and the fundamentals of capacity and ideals, by eminent members of the profession, by dramatists and critics, and to encourage discussion and a literature on the subject. This will help to rouse the only spirit tending towards unity and concerted action that perhaps ever animated any artistic community, the inherent and ineradicable scorn and detestation of the vital artistic nature towards insincerity, fatuity, incompetence, and the rest of the vices of the dilettante. Samson needs to pull down the temple of ease that the private income has erected (the income is still needed but with other activities), and by self-sought enlightenment and self-consciousness, in a few years the profession, like the drama, revivified from within, may deserve and be entitled (which it is not now) to the protection of public opinion which will help to conserve its best energies and give it a new start.—Yours faithfully,

BREMBER WILLS.

Actors' Association, June 28, 1910.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An orchestral and choral memorial concert for the founder of the Royal College was given on Wednesday evening under the conductorship of Sir Charles V. Stanford. Bach's Trauer-Ode, "Lass, König, lass noch einen Strahl," came first in the programme, the text being adapted for this occasion by Mr. A. G. Haltenhoff. In the Trauer-Ode the chorus sang well and produced a full rich tone, while the soloists, Miss Agnes Christa, Miss Matilda Bodycombe, Mr. Ivor Walters, and Mr. George Baker displayed intelligence, although somewhat faulty in their German; in this respect the alto and bass were most successful and also vocally. Brahms' beautiful Rhapsody for Contralto, male voices and orchestra, Op. 53, was admirably sung by Miss Florence Taylor, the male voices and orchestra blending in fine effect with Miss Taylor's pure-toned contralto voice. An interesting note in the programme states that at the first private performance of the Rhapsody at Mme. Schumann's house, with the composer at the piano, the late Mme. Pauline Viardot-Garcia sang the solo part. The orchestra gave an interesting and fairly correct rendering of Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, No. 3, in E flat, the large audience standing during the Marcia Funebre, and Brahms' Schicksalslied "Song of Destiny" concluded the concert.

"THE PRINCESS."

A Pastoral Play, in Five Acts, adapted from Tennyson's Poem, Produced in the Grounds of Ashburton House, Putney Heath, on Saturday, June 25.

King Gama	MR. ROBINSON
The King of the Northern Empire	MR. JACK POTTER
The Prince	MR. GAFFAGAN
Florian	MR. RIVINGTON
Cyril	MR. DIGBY
Arac	MR. CLIFFORD J. ST. QUINTIN
First Twin Brother	MR. F. M. SKELT
Second Twin Brother	MR. S. C. SKELT
Princess Ida	MISS COLVILLE
Lady Blanche	MISS PHYLLIS MAYHEW
Lady Psyche	MISS PALEY
Melissa	MISS WEBSTER-JONES

Organised for the purpose of benefiting the funds of St. Mary's Church Schools at Putney and the Japanese Seamen's Institute, E., the performances of Tennyson's *The Princess* at Putney, on Saturday, deserved better treatment at the hands of the Clerk of the Weather. Through the kindness of Mr. Charrington the fine old mansion and the lovely grounds surrounding it had been secured for the two performances, which it was intended should have been given in the open, but the weather was so unpropitious in the afternoon that the play had to be presented indoors. The weather conditions, however, were so improved in the evening that it was possible for the second performance to be given on the spacious lawn at the rear of the house, and it was voted by all who witnessed it as a great artistic success. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, who undertook the production of the play, has had a large experience in such ventures. Part author of *The Coal King* and of *A Gentleman of England*, and one of the teachers at the Ben Greet Academy of Acting, Mr. Llewellyn, threw himself into the work of rehearsal with so much energy that the whole of the numerous company engaged in the play made creditable appearances and the principal parts were presented with conspicuous ability. Mr. Robinson made a most capable King Gama, and succeeded in extracting a good deal of humour from the part. Mr. Jack Potter as the King of the Northern Empire, was also a success, speaking and acting his lines with much acceptance. A remarkably fine performance was given by Mr. Gaffagan as the Prince, his efforts receiving particularly favourable notice. Miss Colville as the Princess also won favourable notice for the grace and ease with which she filled the part. Mr. Rivington as Florian was also very good. The make-up of Mr. F. M. Skelt and of Mr. S. C. Skelt as the twin brothers of the Princess was clever, and each gave a most creditable impersonation. Mr. Clifford St. Quintin was a fine soldierly Arac, Miss Phyllis Mayhew scored a success as the elderly Lady Blanche, and Miss Webster-Jones won admiration by her impersonation of Melissa, her singing and dancing being particularly admired. Great care had been bestowed upon the dressing of the play, which in this respect was beyond reproach, and the incidental music was capably performed by the Woodborough Orchestra of a dozen performers. In the course of the performance Miss Webster-Jones sang "Tears, idle tears" and "Now sleeps the crimson petal." Miss Gay (who filled a subordinate part) warbled "The splendour falls," and Mr. Gaffagan sang "Oh, swallow, swallow." The singing and the dancing were accompanied alternately by Mrs. St. Quintin and Miss Elfrida Paley.

The Princess was played again on Monday night at the Memorial Hall, Kensington-place, the weather again interfering with its presentation in the grounds of Aubrey House, Campden Hill. There was a distinguished gathering, including the Japanese Ambassador.

THE BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

Mozart's *Cosi fan Tutte* (They all do it), performed at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday night, completed the operas of Mozart in Mr. Thomas Beecham's highly successful Mozart festival. In the story of *Cosi fan Tutte*, two Neapolitan officers, betrothed to the sisters Isidora and Dorabella, have a wager with a crusty old bachelor, Alfonso, who does not believe in woman's constancy, that they will prove their ladies true. The wager is accepted, under the condition the young officers will place themselves entirely in Alfonso's hands, and act as he directs. After the lovers have taken leave of Isidora and Dorabella, they shortly reappear disguised as rich Albanians, and, with the help of Despina, waiting-maid of the ladies, who enters into the plot by order of Alfonso, introduce the supposed Albanians to the sisters. The gentlemen make love to Isidora and Dorabella, but without any success. In the second attempt, the two Albanians pretend to poison themselves; but, although the ladies are alarmed, the ruse does not make any impression. Determined not to fail, Alfonso gets the maid to persuade the sisters that constancy is quite out of fashion, and men may be treated with far greater freedom. This, coming from one of their own sex, influences the ladies, and they receive with favour the Albanians. Alfonso, of course, wins the wager, but as his only object was to give the lovers a lesson, he helps in clearing up the matter, and all ends well.

Slight as the subject of the opera is, it afforded Mozart ample opportunities for some charming music. The lovely trio at the end of the first act, the lovers' farewell, and the duet sung by Isidora and Dorabella, are all fine examples of the great composer's genius. The performance was excellent and full of spirit. Miss Ruth Vincent and Miss Lena Maitland as the two sisters sang and acted admirably, Miss Vincent being particularly successful in Isidora's florid aria in the third act. Mr. Walter Hyde and Mr. Frederic Austin as the lovers acted and sang well, and entered into the lively situations with animation. Mr. Lewys James was successful as the old bachelor; and Miss Beatrice la Palme gave a capital impersonation of the scheming maid. The finale of the second act was beautifully sung; while for refinement and finish the orchestral playing, under Mr. Beecham's skilful direction, could not be improved upon.

JUDGMENT was delivered in the Glasgow High Court on the 21st ult., in the case of the young Italian, Augustus Cinque, who was charged with having, on May 4, in the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, discharged a loaded revolver at John M'Kay, an attendant of the theatre, seriously wounding him. The judge said that all the evidence went to show that the revolver had been deliberately discharged. There was no evidence to show that it was not deliberately aimed at M'Kay, and every evidence that it was aimed in his direction. If a man aimed a shot in the direction of a person and that person was struck, it was only reasonable to conclude that the shot was aimed at the person. He agreed with the Advocate-Depute that the fact that the accused was under the influence of drink did not lessen but increased the responsibility attaching to the act. A fire-arm in the hands of a person in that condition was a much greater menace to public safety.

AFTER a brief retirement, the jury unanimously found the prisoner guilty. In passing sentence, Lord Salvesen commented on the seriousness of the crime. It was not, at the same time, premeditated. The prisoner was a young man engaged in earning an honest livelihood. The sentence would be one of fifteen months' imprisonment, and he would grant an order under the Aliens Act for the expulsion of the accused from the country after he had served his sentence.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree, who since his return from his provincial tour has been actively rehearsing the autumn production of Shakespeare's *King Henry VIII.*, has decided on Thursday, Sept. 1, as the date of the opening performance.

Sir John Hare is a distinguished addition to Mr. Charles Frohman's répertoire company, and will make his reappearance on the London stage next year. Sir John will be seen in plays with which his name is already associated, but not in *The Gay Lord Quex* or *A Pair of Spectacles*, as he bade farewell to them during his short season at the Garrick in the autumn of 1908. Neither will the eminent actor again play in Manchester, Liverpool, or any of the big provincial cities, having made his farewells in those important dramatic centres two years ago.

The last rites over the remains of the late Mr. Henry Neville were performed at Christ Church, Denshaw, near Oldham, on the 24th ult. The lamented actor was well known in the district, his mother having resided for a considerable time at Wood Brow, Denshaw, situated at the foot of the Yorkshire moors. The church was endowed by his mother and sister, who are interred in the family vault.

The funeral cortège, which had journeyed from London, reached Oldham about 1.30, and proceeded to Denshaw, arriving at the church at half-past two. The vicar conducted the funeral service, after which the party proceeded to the vault, where the body was laid to rest. The coffin was of polished oak, bearing a plate inscribed "Henry Gartside Neville. Died June 19, in his 74th year." The only mourners were the deceased's brother, Mr. Fred Neville, his sons, Mr. Albert, Mr. Willoughby, and Mr. Ernest Neville, and his nephew, Mr. Henry Neville. A list of wreaths and floral tributes sent in great variety and bearing affectionate inscriptions was given in our last issue.

Miss Lena Ashwell, with the object of stimulating the work of unknown British dramatists, will during the forthcoming visit of her company to Harrogate produce on one date a play written by a local playwright. The play is to be selected by a committee of residents in Harrogate, formed by Mr. William Peacock, managing-director at the Opera House, to whom manuscripts must be sent in on or before July 14. The plays are to be restricted to six characters, and the actual time of representation is not to exceed thirty minutes. In the production the author will have the assistance of Mr. H. Ralph Kempton (late stage director of the Scottish Repertory Theatre).

Mr. H. B. Irving, some three weeks ago, accepted for production a play, dramatised by Mr. George Pleydell from Mr. A. E. W. Mason's novel, "Clementina." Mr. Irving will be seen in the historical character of the hero, Charles Wogan, whose rescue of the Princess Clementina forms the background of Mr. Mason's highly popular novel—a part of a kind which is quite a new departure for Mr. Irving. Madame Liza Lehmann has composed some special music for the play. The scenery for an elaborate production is in hand, and Mr. Tom Heslewood has been commissioned to design the costumes. The present season at the Queen's Theatre wil conclude to-night, when Mr. Irving will act Lesurques and Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail* for the 166th time in London.

Mr. Herbert Sleath, by arrangement with Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville, will shortly appear at the Lyceum in a revival of *A White Man*, which was produced at the Lyric by Mr. Lewis Waller, and has since been toured by Mr. Sleath with great success in the provinces. At the Lyceum he will appear as the chivalrous hero, Captain Wynnegate. Mr. Eric Mayne, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. W. F. Grant, and Mr. W. Brandon will also be in the cast.

Mr. Hermann Vezin, the actor, who died on June 12, left estate of the gross value of £137, with net personalty nil. The testator left all of his property upon trust for George Henry Arthur Vezin, failing whom to the testator's brothers and sisters, Mrs. Ernst Hasenclever, of Reimscheid, Ehringhausen, Rhein, Prussia; Mrs. Samuel Grant, of Philadelphia; Mr. Henry A. Vezin, of Denver City, Colorado; Mr. Oscar Wm. Vezin, of New York City, U.S.A.; and Mr. Otto Vezin, of Crefeld, Germany.

A codicil to the will states:—"I direct the executrix of my said will, or such other person as shall have the disposal of my remains after death, and my wish is that the same shall be reduced to ashes in the least expensive manner at the Golder's Green Crematorium, near London, and in the afternoon, if, as I am informed is now the case, a lower charge then obtains than in the morning; and that such process of cremation be attended by no formality or ceremony of any sort or kind, and particularly by no religious service of any description, and that none of the ashes to which my remains are so reduced be preserved or kept by anyone in any urn, receptacle, or otherwise howsoever, but that the same be spread as manure on the ground by one of the gardeners at the cemetery at Golder's Green aforesaid.

"And, further, that no tombstone, urn, or other monument of any kind be erected or dedicated to my memory; and I also earnestly desire that no relative or friend of mine should express his regret for my death by the wearing of mourning or by the sending of any wreath or floral emblem or token to place on or with my remains or in any other conventional manner. And I earnestly request and desire my said executrix or such other person as aforesaid, and all my relatives, friends, and acquaintances to respect and observe my wishes as hereinbefore expressed or indicated."

A fashionable function was the wedding at St. James's Roman Catholic Church, Spanish-place, on Wednesday of Mr. Basil Foster, actor and athlete, and Miss Gwendoline Brogden, the popular musical comedy actress. In addition to the parents of both bride and bridegroom there were present at the ceremony the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, the Countess of Londesborough, Lady FitzGeorge and her daughters, Mrs. Lycett Green, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Miss Lily Elsie, Miss Maxine Elliott, Mrs. Coyne, Miss Phillis Le Grand, Miss Marjory Moore, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Knox, the fast bowler, the Hon. C. N. Bruce, and all the Foster brothers with the exception of "M. K.," who is abroad.

The ceremony was performed by Father Bernard Vaughan, assisted by Canon Gildea. The bride, arrayed in white, was attended by four bridesmaids carrying flower-bedecked wands. Miss Gabrielle Ray, Miss Emmy Wehlen, Miss Kate Welch, and a number of the bride's girl friends from Daly's Theatre were among the wedding guests. The bridegroom had his brother, Mr. G. N. Foster, for best man. Following the service, a reception was held at the Coburg Hotel, and later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Foster left for Venice. On their return to England they will go on tour together from Daly's Theatre with *The Merry Widow*.

When the theatrical season is in full swing in Paris artists and playwrights are too busy to devote much time to quarrelling, and they, therefore, wait till the end of June to start hostilities. This year the one to open the ball was M. Georges Courteline, a clever and witty playwright; and the decision given by the Court of Cassation is important in so far as it has a direct bearing on authors' rights in respect to cinematographs. The case, which aroused a certain amount of interest, is as follows: Cinematographs in Paris are plentiful, and within the last few years there has already been trouble between them and authors and theatres for the infringement of copyright. M. Courteline, having come to the conclusion that a cinematographic play, called *Ta Femme te Trompe*, bore a family likeness to his well-known comedy *Boubourouche*, brought an action against the management of that show for piracy. When the case came on for hearing the Court found for the plaintiff. The defendants having appealed to a higher Court, the latter reversed the judgment and decided in favour of the defendants, ruling that in both plays there was a husband, a wife, and the latter's lover who hides in a cupboard, elements that may be called common property in the theatrical world. This ruling created some excitement in the playwright's world, and M. Courteline then carried the case to the Court of Cassation. The judges there rejected M. Courteline's appeal, holding that there was not sufficient similarity between *Boubourouche* and *Ta Femme te Trompe* to justify an action for piracy. M. Courteline, therefore, lost his case; yet dramatic authors here are delighted, for the Court, having delivered judgment, referred to the question of law, and said "that an author's rights in a dramatic production extends to any reproduction of the scenes of the piece on a cinematograph."

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *Speckled Band* is being played to good houses at the Adelphi. Mr. Lyn Harding's interesting and thrilling interpretation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott, adds another portrait to that actor's wonderful gallery of criminal studies. So great is the success of the play that foreign managers have been competing with each other to secure the rights for their respective countries.

There has been some discussion as to whether the late Mr. Hermann Vezin played Pierre Lorance in *Proof* at the Adelphi. The explanation is that during the ten months' run of the piece the wrongfully-convicted hero had four delineators. When the piece was first produced, on April 20, 1878, Daniel Bandmann played the part, which, however, he only sustained for a month. On May 20 he was superseded by Charles Kelly, who held it till August, when Henry Neville played it for six weeks. On Sept. 23 Hermann Vezin took up the rôle, and played it till the end of the run.

We understand that certain statements in the letter from Mr. W. Payne which we printed last week require explanation. Mr. Charles Frome, to whom Mr. Payne refers, has received altogether £202 15s. from the Actors' Benevolent Fund. We are informed that it is many years since Mr. Frome earned £3 10s. a week; that his refusal of the Fund's offer of a £1 a week engagement was offensively expressed; and that he has never contributed anything to the Fund.

Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Walter Peace will shortly start on a pastoral tour with their own company, which includes Mr. Loring Fernie, Mr. Croker King, and Mr. C. Leveson-Lane. *The Fantasticks* of Edmond Rostand, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night*, George Peele's masque *The Arraignment of Paris*, and the *Hippolytus* are among the plays in their extensive repertory, as well as scenes from Maeterlinck and several one-act plays, some of which have been adapted by Miss Erskine from the French and German. The first performance will take place at Killerton, the beautiful Devonshire residence of Sir Thomas and Lady Acland, after which the company will play in the Kursaal Gardens at Harrogate and at many of the principal watering-places.

Of *The Arraignment of Paris* Francis Nash, writing in 1589, gave it as his opinion that this masque displayed Peele's "pregnant dexterity of wit and manifold variety of invention, wherein he goeth a step beyond all that write." The masque derives the title of *The Arraignment of Paris* from the circumstance that towards the close the Trojan shepherd is brought to trial before Jove for having adjudged the apple of discord to Venus. Peele intended the characters of Paris and Œnone to represent the Earl of Leicester and Lady Sheffield. The work was represented before Queen Elizabeth by the children of her chapel before 1582, and anonymously printed in 1584, fifteen years before *The Old Wives' Tale*. Peele's "pleasant conceited comedie" was "plaid by the Queen's Majestie's Players."

During the coming week Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Walter Pearce will be seen in a new farce, called *Looking for Trouble*, at the West Pier, Brighton.

Mr. George Alexander, as President of the Society of West-end Theatre Managers, and representing the Actors' Association, gave some important evidence on Tuesday, before Section A of the Local Registration Committee, which was considering the section of the London County Council General Powers Bill, which deals with employment agencies, including theatrical and music-hall agencies. Mr. Alexander advocated the substitution of licensing for registration. Mr. Alexander, in answer to a question from the chairman, said his position was that there were people carrying on the business of agents whom he had reasonable ground to suspect were not fit and proper persons, but against whom there would be difficulty in proving a case before a magistrate, but who would not face an appeal if the council refused a licence. Mr. Alexander also referred to the injury done to the theatrical profession by "bogus" agents. All agents of standing and respectability would be glad to see anything done which would eliminate the "bogus" agent and the class which, under pretence of theatrical or musical agency, carries on a very different class of business.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith is to be congratulated on the substantial success which has been already secured by Robert Lascelles' sensational farce at the Garrick Theatre, the demand at the box office for every part of the house showing very plainly that *Billy's Blunder* is just the change from the usual style of farce that is wanted by the public. The pruning knife has been judiciously used, and the piece now plays much closer, the curtain falling each evenig at 11.5. The big scene in Act II. is greeted with rounds of applause, and the great duel between the notorious brigands arouses the greatest enthusiasm, and necessitates this particular act-drop being raised six and eight times at each performance.

Older members of the profession will regret to learn of the death of Mr. George Mulliss, the well-known theatrical boot and shoe maker, late of 292, Strand, and 168, Wardour-street. He passed peacefully away at 25, Chesterton-road, North Kensington, on the 21st ult., at the advanced age of eighty-one.

"Tantalising Tommy," which is still running merrily at the Playhouse, will start its provincial tour at Bristol on August 1, under the direction of Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper, with Mr. George Mallett in charge. An excellent company has been engaged, including Miss Nellie Lonnen, Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Roy Byford. The same management re-open their tour of *The Flag Lieutenant* in August, and Mr. Edgar Kent will again be seen as Dicky Lascelles. This company recently celebrated their 500th performance at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

The Rehearsal Company will appear at the Court Theatre on Friday evening next, in Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, with Mr. Clive Currie as Petruchio and Miss Eva Balfour as Katharine. *The Bishop's Fortune*, a new one-act play by Gaston Gervex, and a garden fantasy, with music by Mme. Liza Lehmann, entitled *The Life of a Rose*, will also be included in the programme.

"The Bishop's Fortune" deals with a phase of factory life, and also contains a strong clerical interest. The leading parts will be played by Miss May Saker and Messrs. Montague Mazeran and Dennis Cleugh. Mrs. Fowler is the wife of the Rev. Montague Fowler, the rector of All Hallow's Church, London Wall, late chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Mrs. Fowler has already achieved success as a dramatist, being the authoress of *The Accolade*, the striking dramatic episode of the Reign of Terror, which was played at the Court Theatre the other day with Mr. H. A. Saintsbury in the leading part.

Mme. Réjane's first London "causerie" took place at the Ritz Hotel on Tuesday. Mme. Réjane talked about Theodore de Banville and Verlaine. She told her audience that they should know more of these poets, who, in spite of their doubtful reputation as poets for the "jeune fille," had written some of the tenderest poems. She recited two poems. Mr. Hugh Peyton sang, Mlle. Renée Labatut played the harp, and the entertainment ended with a little one-act comedy, *La Dame de Niort*, in which Mme. Réjane was assisted by Mme. Daynes-Grassot.

Mme. Réjane, at her causerie at the Ritz Hotel on Wednesday, recited works by two French poets, Albert Samain and Soulary. She also appeared with Mr. George Grossmith, jun., in Meilhac and Halévy's *Madame Attend Monsieur*. Practically a monologue, this clever little piece was one of the favourite selections of Chaumont. Mr. Grossmith described with keen humour the misadventures of the Lancers dance. Mme. Renée Labatut played very agreeably on the harp.

It is stated that Whistler's "Arrangement in Black," otherwise the portrait of Irving as Philip II. of Spain, has been bought by the Metropolitan Museum of New York with some of the interest on the million sterling bequeathed by Mr. J. S. Rogers in 1901. The portrait was not a commission, Whistler parting with it to Mr. Howell for "£10 and a sealskin coat." Later it passed into the hands of Mr. Graves, who sold it to Irving for £100, and it was purchased at the Irving sale of 1905 for 4,800 guineas on behalf of Mr. George C. Thomas, of Philadelphia, who died in 1909.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Osmond (Miss Hettie Zillwood), of Glenville and Osmond, are taking a well-earned rest at Ramsgate, after their successful six weeks' stock season at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, where they became big favourites. They commence their autumn tour of Glenville and Osmond's successful drama, *For Wife and Kingdom*, at the Palace Theatre, Ramsgate, on July 18, and are well booked up at the best theatres until December when a ten weeks' vacation will be taken to enable them to produce their attractive pantomime, *Aladdin*. The other company, under the direction of Mathew H. Glenville, concludes at the Hippodrome, Sheerness, on July 2, a successful summer tour of *Arrah-na-Pogue*, and begins, at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Aug. 1, the autumn tour of that evergreen favourite, *The Still Alarm*, which is nearing its seventh year under this go-ahead management.

We regret to announce the death, at the age of 78 years, of Mr. Wm. Chart, who some thirty years ago was proprietor of the refreshment bars at the old Theatre Royal, Brighton. At that time his brother, the late Henry Nye Chart, was proprietor and lessee, and his other brother, Tom Chart, was treasurer. Deceased, who passed away at Burgess Hill, Sussex, on June 21, leaves a widow. The funeral took place on Saturday, near Dorking, Surrey.

Mr. Alex. Maclean has decided to extend the tour of his new romantic play, *My Lady Bellamy*, owing to the enthusiastic reception it is meeting with. A production in London is in contemplation.

The first production in Australia of Mr. Arthur Shirley's new drama, *The Mother of His Child*, took place at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth, on June 4. The piece was produced by Mr. George Marlow's company.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. Overton (Anna Beaumont), after a most successful tour with *Temptation*, have been re-engaged for the autumn by Miss Nora Carton.

The vivid impersonations of the stage, especially in feminine rôles, owe a good deal to the appropriateness of the dresses with which they are fitted. Especially is this the case in regard to the character of Enid Stonor, so admirably played by Miss Christine Silva in *The Speckled Band* at the Adelphi. The gowns made for this part, and supplied by Mrs. Caleb Porter, are entirely in harmony with the intensity of purpose of the play. The note of suspense and dread, which accompanies the heroine closely through each act, is subtly indicated in the dress—from the "mourning" gown of the first act, a wonderfully clever treatment of black on the stage, to the various tones of heliotrope blue used in the dresses which lead up to the grey and mauve negligée of the last act, and convey symbolically the colour scheme of the fateful "hyacinth," which must have been the artistic idea. The gowns are carried out, moreover, with an undulation of line that has a serpentine effect, in perfect keeping with the climax: the appearance of the snake itself.

The stage work recently done by Mrs. Caleb Porter, who has built up an enviable reputation as a costumière, includes, in addition to those described above, the character dresses for *Tantalising Tommy* at the Playhouse, Empire dresses for Miss Dorothea Desmond and Miss Lydia Bilbrooke in *The House of Temperley* (the purple colouring of one gown made for this lady has induced many of the "red-haired beauties" on the stage to patronise Mrs. Porter's atelier); Miss Christine Silver's gowns for Keble Howard's play, *The Cheerful Knave*; Miss Rose Begarnie's and Miss Compton's gowns for *The M.P.* at the Coronet, and Miss Begarnie's dresses for the next production, *Society*; Miss Brandon Thomas's Doctor's dress for Portia at the recent production of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Court (from a design by Mr. Herbert Norris); and Miss Viva Birkett's gowns for *Miss Dolf Wyllard*, Miss Elliot Page's play to be produced at the Apollo shortly. The firm is also dressing several plays going on tour. People who require accuracy of detail and have little time available will be saved much trouble and expense by going to Mrs. Caleb Porter.

The two young actresses, Miss Beatrice Brooke and Miss Queenie Myles, who have been remanded on a charge of stealing a diamond and ruby pendant belonging to Miss Therese Masse, a milliner, of Palace-street, Westminster, where the prisoners lodged for a fortnight, were again before Mr. Francis at the Westminster Police-court on Wednesday. The principal witness for the prosecution was a young servant girl, Florence Lee, who said she found the more valuable portion of the missing pendant in a trunk in the prisoners' room. When cross-examined by Mr. T. D. Dutton, who defended, the girl admitted that money and jewellery had been missed at several houses in which she had been in service recently, and that she had been accused of theft. She also admitted that she had presented a young man with whom she kept company with a gold watch, paying £3 5s. for it. Her wages at this time were 5s. a week. Since the present charge was preferred her mistress had lost a gold brooch. Mr. Francis said the case against the prisoners rested almost entirely on the evidence of the girl Lee. She had no doubt concocted the story, and he was sorry the young women had been charged. He then discharged them.

Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, daughter of Mr. Ian Robertson and niece of Mr. Forbes-Robertson, was married in New York on Thursday to Mr. Swinburne Hall, a lawyer. The popular actress and Suffragette, having arrived from England in the Teutonic, hurried to the City Hall with her fiancé in a motor-car and obtained a marriage licence. Half an hour later the couple were married in the presence of a dozen friends at the Church of the Ascension.

Miss Forbes-Robertson made her first professional appearance at the Criterion in the autumn of 1900 as Winifred in *Mamma*. She afterwards toured with Mr. Forbes-Robertson, playing Ophelia, Desdemona, and other rôles in his répertoire, and later appeared at the Duke of York's, the St. James's, His Majesty's, and several of the London theatres. Subsequently she went to America, where she played Judith Mainwaring in *The Morals of Marcus* and Miss Roberts in *The Mollusc*.

Lady de Bathe has bought from the Wesleyan Methodists a chapel near her residence at Kentford, and has fitted it up as a village games club and reading-room. At the opening entertainment on Monday she recited "The Seven Ages of Man," and supplied several monologues and items.

Miss Clare Absolom, the lady who gained the first place (Amateur Class) at the British Empire Shakespeare Society's Elocution Competition, is a pupil at the Ben Greet Academy, and has been entirely trained by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn. This student also took the best "Under Age" prize, being under nineteen years of age.

The Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, has been enjoying such decided success that it will remain open during the summer months. The theatre's stock company, including Mark Lester, Henry J. Corner, J. J. Daly, Misses Frances Ruttledge, Nellie Dade, and May Hallatt, will play next week *The Clockmaker's Hat*, the remainder of the programme being devoted to dramatic sketches and other interesting pictures on the hioscope.

Mr. Fred Kerr has returned from America, where he has been fulfilling a long and successful engagement in *Mrs. Dot*, but will go back to New York in October and join Miss Maxine Elliott for the revival of Mr. Frank Stayton's comedy *The Inferior Sex*.

Mr. Frohman has commissioned Miss Gladys Unger to do the English version of *Le Bois Sacré*, by MM. De Caillavet and De Flers, from whom Mr. Frohman has secured the rights in their next three plays. The rights of two pieces by M. Henry Bernstein and three by M. Henry Bataille have also been secured by Mr. Frohman, who will soon start for New York to commence rehearsals of eleven different productions. He will return at Christmas to undertake a second set of productions.

Mr. Frohman has kindly yielded to Mr. Charles Hawtrey the comedy called *Inconstant George*, adapted from *L'Ane de Buridan*, which was played by Mr. John Drew in America last season.

Miss Evelyn Millard will reappear, on Wednesday, Aug. 31, at the New Theatre, in an English version of Pierre Berton's four-act play *La Rencontre*, originally performed at the Comédie Française in June, 1909. Everyone will welcome Miss Millard's return to the stage, and her reading of the rôle of the heroine, Camille de Lancay, is certain to be deeply sympathetic.

Miss Sophie Harriss, who has just returned from a Continental holiday, and whose headquarters are now at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, will take out a musical comedy in the late autumn.

The following Scholarships in connection with the Royal Academy of Music will be offered for competition at Michaelmas, 1910: The Goring Thomas, for composition; the Henry Smart, for organ playing or composition, open to ladies only; the Sainton-Dolby, for singing, for ladies; the Liszt, for composition or pianoforte; the Ross, for wood-wind instruments; the Dove, for violin; six Ada Lewis scholarships respectively for contraltos, tenors, basses, violinists, viola or violoncellists, and harpists; and the Stainer Exhibition for the organ. Detailed particulars and forms of entry can be obtained from the secretary on application.

Miss Iris Hawkins, the charming little actress so well-known to playgoers, was successful in gaining the prize in the ladies' punting race at the fancy-dress rinking carnival at Maidenhead on Wednesday last. Miss Hawkins is evidently as thoroughly at home on the rink as she is on the stage. On Thursday night the clever little lady organised a concert in the Town Hall in behalf of the funds of the local cottage hospital.

"Society" will be the fourth of the Robertson revivals on Tuesday next at the Coronet. Three important members join Mr. Robert Arthur's company for this production—Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. W. G. Fay, and Mr. Arthur Wontner, just free from engagements with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree; while other prominent parts will be taken by Miss Rosie Begarnie, Miss Adeline Bourne, Mr. O. B. Clarence, and Mr. Lionel Rignold. It is of interest to add that Mr. Frank Hill, who is to play Moses Aaron, was in the original production of this play at Liverpool in 1865.

At an audience which the Kaiser gave in his sick room to Chief Burgomaster Kirschner and the city architect, Herr Hoffmann, the Kaiser agreed to sell the Berlin Opera House to the municipality. The price is not yet fixed, but is supposed to be about 400,000. Thus passes out of Hohenzollern hands a building which has been in their possession since the days of Frederick the Great. The house is not to be pulled down, but altered. Under municipal management it is to serve no longer as a theatre or opera house, but as a concert hall and place of civic entertainment. The ugly emergency staircases outside, hurriedly run up after the Iroquois Theatre disaster in Chicago, will be removed, and the existing narrow stairs broadened. The structural alterations have begun.

Mr. J. Forbes Knowles has just concluded a successful stock season at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen. The plays submitted were *Her Marriage Vow*, *Woman and Wine*, *Home Sweet Home*, *The Lightning's Flash*, and *Man's Enemy*, all of which Mr. Knowles produced, besides playing the juvenile leading parts. Before leaving Aberdeen, Mr. Knowles arranged to make and paint in the theatre's scenic studio the scenery for his autumn production of *Nick Carter (Detective)*, which will be the most ambitious production Mr. Knowles has yet attempted.

Miss Mary Allestree will play Annie in *Shame*, by Mrs. Chapin, to be performed at that lady's matinée on Friday, July 8, at the Rehearsal Theatre.

Mr. Frank Elliott, who has just finished a very successful leading engagement with Mr. Percy Hutchison, playing John Crewys in *Peter's Mother*, has been specially engaged to sustain the part of Sir John in the forthcoming revival of *The White Man* at the Lyceum Theatre.

On Monday afternoon an enjoyable "at-home" was given by Mr. W. Higgin, at her beautiful residence, Malone House, Belfast, in honour of the visit of the Rev. Donald Hole, M.A., of London, the capable and energetic organising secretary of the Actors' Church Union. The Rev. Mr. Hole gave a short address, explaining the work and objects of the Actors' Church Union.

Mr. Charles Hartley and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull left Victoria yesterday by the boat train for Flushing, en route for Carlsbad, where they will give their entertainment to-morrow (Sunday) evening.

Mr. Wentworth Croke and Mr. Edward Compton have left London to spend a week-end on a "bueman's holiday" with Mr. Hall Caine at Greeba Castle, Isle of Man.

Mrs. Alfred B. Cross terminated on the 24th ult. a special engagement as the Duchess of York in Mr. Martin Harvey's production of *Richard III.* at the Lyceum Theatre.

Since Mr. J. Chas. Imeson has taken over the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, things have been brisk at that magnificent house, and little wonder considering that such companies and stars as the following are included in the bookings:—Mr. Lewis Waller and company, *The Arcadians* (Mr. Walter Passmore), *The Dollar Princess*, *The House of Temperley*, *Dear Little Denmark*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Fires of Fate*, *Our Miss Gibbs*, the D'Oyly Carte répertoire, *The House Opposite*, *The Whip*, the Carl Rosa Grand Opera Co., Mr. John Tiller's record pantomime, and several others.

Pupils' performances will be given at the Ben Greet Academy, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, on Tuesday, when the programme will consist of the Casket scenes from *The Merchant of Venice*, the Hubert and Arthur scene from *King John*, Mr. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox's comedietta *The Impertinece of the Creature*, and the Lyric drama *King Rene's Daughter*. The stage will be under the direction of Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn.

Mr. Brandon Thomas, who again played the Showman outside the "National Memorial Theatre," at the Actors' Orphanage Fête on Tuesday, was assisted in the platform entertainment and the periodical processions round the grounds by Miss Grace Vanna as Columbine, Mr. Roy Byford as the Brigand Chief, Mr. Frank Arlton as Little Willy, Mr. Hugh Wakefield as Policeman, and Mr. Cecil Barth as the musical director, Herr Paddy Whiskey.

Miss Clara Morris, the famous American actress of the last generation, has been seriously ill, and is now totally blind. She is threatened with expulsion from her home at Yonkers, the holder of a mortgage upon the property having foreclosed, and the premises now being advertised for sale by auction.

The 500th performance of *Our Miss Gibbs* will take place at the Gaiety Theatre this evening.

"Without straying into the arena of political polemics," says the *Musical News*, "one may suggest that certain policies in the Kaiser's Government are superior to ours. To note one only here, pending the passing of an Imperial theatre law by the Reichstag, it is proposed that at every theatre there should be an advisory committee to deal with the question of the stage-struck amateur, and to contend with an evil which is common to both nations. The cases in this country and Germany are parallel. Amateur actors and vocalists with more money than ability are crowding out a deserving body of professionals. The influx of such *dilettanti* to the stage is an obvious advantage to the managers, who are naturally more human than humane. Let us take an example of ordinary occurrence. A musical comedy is about to be produced. Young Mr. A., an ex-public schoolboy, having persuaded his wealthy parents that he is no good for anything else but the stage, applies for the second leading part.

"Having a fair voice, a good appearance, a knowledge of stage dancing, and plenty of assurance, the part, which is not a difficult one, could be undertaken tolerably well by him. His parents, ready to give him a send-off, are prepared to pay the manager a premium of £300, repayable by a three-pound-a-week salary, the duration of the run being mere speculation. If the piece lasts over two years, their get their money back. Probably it won't, but at least their boy's name appears 'under the clock' nightly for a few months, and he is on the way to permanent engagement.

"A first-class professional also applies for the part. He wants the not unreasonable salary of £6 a week, not much when the length of the engagement is in doubt, and when the endless tips to dresser, call-boy, stage-door attendant, and others are considered. Whom do you suppose the 'cute manager will take? So long as he has three eminent artists to head the bill, the two leading juveniles and the comedian, his cast is satisfactory. In Germany this sort of thing is going to be stopped. The advisory committees—to which, by the way, those connected with any dramatic academy will be inadmissible—will interview the stage-struck amateurs, advise them as to their talents (advice which will in most cases be a polite rejection), and see that the genuine professionals are not underpaid or rested. There is plenty of scope for such committees in this country."

"At present the disadvantages under which English singers have to work, as compared with their Continental brethren, are very great," writes "A Music Lover" in the *Mail*. "The English artist has not infrequently to learn a part in an opera that he or she has never seen or has had any opportunity of seeing, whereas the foreign artist can easily see it in the nearest town and is probably quite familiar with it. Then, too, there are no permanent opera houses in this country where singers can get any regular training, and too often their rôles are given to them without allowing enough time for necessary preparation and rehearsal. These facts are not mentioned to cast blame on any operatic management, but rather to point out, as already mentioned, the immense handicap of the English singer in the operatic field."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

An Anecdote of Hermann Vezin.

Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre writes:—"I have just been reading the last will and testament of poor Hermann Vezin. It is sad reading. My memory took me back to many pleasant hours in his company, and to one in particular. Dear Henry Neville had invited a lot of us to a launch party to start from Reading, and to return in the evening to the George Hotel, which he had some little time before acquired. We were theatricals, artists, authors, journalists, and private friends. After the dinner, which I need not tell anyone who knows anything of Neville as a host was of the very best, and the champagne flowing freely, the evening was given up to short speeches, songs, and recitations. In a slight lull, and there were not many, I got on my feet and said, 'Mr. Chairman, may I beg upon you to call upon a gentleman whom, with all your perspicacity, you might be likely to pass over. He is one with a serious mien, a poet's head, and is, in fact, a tragedian. But, Mr. Chairman, perhaps you are not aware that behind that appearance of seriousness there lurks a sense of humour little dreamt of. The gentleman I allude to is known as one of the best *raconteurs* of the day, and I would like you to call upon him to give us a few of his best *drawing-room* stories. I allude, sir, to Mr. Hermann Vezin.' I got a 'Roland' for my 'Oliver.'

"Vezin rose and began: 'Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, once upon a time it fell to my lot to play Iago to a certain gentleman who happened to be the proprietor of the theatre I was performing in. Wild horses shall not drag his name from me—which it was Pitt Hardacre. After the performance the worthy Othello had a crowd of friends in his dressing-room, and they were full of compliments. "Oh, guv'nor, you were splendid! Why, Vezin wasn't in it. You knocked him into a cocked hat. You were magnificent," &c., &c. But he, with his knowledge of the world, simply turned round and quietly said, "Irish or Scotch?"'"

Sir Herbert on Henry VIII.

"Shakespeare's *Henry VIII.*," says Sir Herbert Tree, in a *Daily Mail* interview, "is essentially a pageant play, and from its nature requires elaborate production. As we shall present the play at His Majesty's the performance, exclusive of entr'actes, will occupy two and a half hours. It will be given in three acts, one of which will contain the coronation of Anne Boleyn at Westminster Abbey. This is hallowed by tradition, for it is recorded that in 1725 a performance was given in which the coronation was introduced, the mounting of that scene alone costing the enormous sum—for those days—of £1,000.

Shakespeare and Pageantry.

"I believe that in Shakespeare's time pageantry played a very large part in the production of *Henry VIII.* In the original folio the order of the procession passing through the streets is given in detail; also a description of the christening of Queen Elizabeth is contained in the author's directions. It is a very curious fact that a play written and performed during the reign of that Queen should have brought her into it, and that another monarch not long dead should have figured as its chief character. The equivalent of that would be impossible to-day. In those days the stage had a wider scope; it was the abstract and brief chronicle of the time."

The Provincial Drama.

The recent criticisms of the drama by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, the well-known playwright, have aroused a great deal of controversy, and the somewhat daring statement in his most recent speech, which declared that the drama was virtually dead in the provinces, has been warmly challenged. To a representative of the National Press Agency, who called upon him at his London residence, Mr. Jones said: "I retract nothing. As a rule the country theatres are deserted except at pantomime times, or when a London star comes down, or when some notable success in musical comedy is played. The immense popularity of the music-halls is perhaps the chief cause. The music-halls are better organised, and their entertainment is brighter, livelier, and more amusing than the entertainment of the theatre. The performance is more cheerful, and the various entertainers are better versed in the art of holding and amusing the public. In a music-hall a single performer, or a troupe of performers, have to keep the audience amused every moment; if they are unable to do this they instantly fall out of the bill. But in the theatre an actor, who is only one member of the company, may let a scene down, and he is not instantly dismissed, so the impression is given that the play is a dull one.

He Blames the Managers.

'But I must say the chief part of the blame attaches to the managers of the provincial theatres. I am told by managers of theatrical touring companies that there is little disposition amongst touring country managers to meet the opposition of the music-halls by giving a better entertainment at the theatre; on the contrary, as the music-halls have gradually bettered their entertainment, the theatre managers, instead of trying to meet it with a better entertainment at the theatre, have cut down their expenses in every way, and often refused to give the touring manager sufficient terms to enable him to bring out a good company. It is obvious that if the theatres are to compete with the music-halls, they must do so by continually bettering their productions. I believe that the drama, if properly represented, will always possess the greatest attraction for the people; but before the drama can again be a means of entertainment in the country it will have to be organised in some different manner and presented to the masses under more favourable conditions.

A Practical Suggestion—

"In each of our leading towns a local company should be started, something on the lines of the company that Miss Horniman has organised in Manchester. I see the *Manchester Guardian* has called me to account for not mentioning the good work that Miss Horniman has been doing in Manchester. I intended to mention this in my speech at Oxford, but in the hurry of debate I passed it over. I am, therefore, very glad to acknowledge that the *Manchester Guardian* is quite right in drawing my attention to it; and I should like to make amends by saying very plainly that I think that in the multiplication all over the country of some such scheme as Miss Horniman has organised in Manchester, lies a way in which we may hope for a remedy to the present neglect and unpopularity of the theatre. A similar scheme has also been tried at Glasgow, under Mr. Alfred Wareing, and has, I believe, met with encouraging success. In the establishment in all our large towns of local companies prepared to play a round of plays we may, I think, hope for a beginning of better things.

And a Promise.

"Would you offer your own plays to these local companies?"—"Certainly I should—all of those that are available—and I feel persuaded that my brother-authors would also lend the scheme every encouragement. The essential thing is that in each town the scheme should be controlled by a man who loves the drama for its own sake, and who is prepared to give the local population the best plays. I believe that the local populations everywhere will respond."

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE FUND FETE.

Always a very popular function, the Theatrical Garden Party, in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held at the Botanic Gardens on Tuesday last, attracted, we should think, a record number of visitors. The weather, inclined to be fickle, kept fine throughout the afternoon, and the scene in the main avenue was a very bright and animated one. All the notable people in the profession in town appeared to be present, determined to help this most deserving of charities, either by giving their services in the many directions necessary, or by cheerfully "shelling out" to the pretty and daintily-clad actresses, who, with winning smiles and artless pleadings, disposed of tickets for the numerous side-shows, programmes, teas, &c.

"THE PICK OF OAKHAM."

It was impossible in the time to "do" all the attractions; but it was very early evident that the majority of the visitors were determined to visit the Theatre Royal, the "only National Theatre in existence." A procession round the grounds advertising the play promised "plenty of blood," and doubtless the popularity of Mr. Cyril Maude and the other artists appearing in this "nerve-racking" melodrama, and the remembrance of similar "thrillers" played at previous fêtes, were responsible for the crowds that lined up and packed the tent at every performance. Mountains of millinery somewhat obscured the view of many of those unable to gain front seats; but no one allowed a detail like that to interfere with their enjoyment, and the play was voted a "screamer" by all who witnessed it. *The Pick of Oakham; or, the Girl with the Bad Habit*, was written by Mr. Leo Trevor and Mr. John Harwood, and the cast was as follows:—

The Earl of Lowater .....Mr. E. M. Robson
Hon. Jack Cholmondeley..Mr. Kenneth Douglas
Major Sutton D'Ethe .....Mr. Cyril Maude
Ned Snaffle .....Mr. John Beauchamp
Tiny Pulham .....Mr. Lennox Pawle
Cocksure .....Mr. Harry Nicholls
Oddson .....Mr. Fred Lewis
Binns .....Mr. Lionel Rignold
The Hon. Gwendoline Mortgage
Miss Hilda Trevelyan
Pansy Pulham .....Miss Clare Greet
Faith Mercy .....Miss Maidie Hope

This "timorous, terrifying tincture of tragedy," Lowater was funnily enacted by Mr. E. M. Robson; Mr. Lennox Pawle as Tiny Pulham, the jockey, was simply immense; that delightful little actress, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, gave a droll enactment of the heroine; and all the other players submitted equally clever portrayals. The "magnificent picture" in front of the booth was painted by Mr. Bruce Smith; Mr. Brandon Thomas was the Showman; and other gentlemen who gave valuable assistance in connection with the Theatre Royal Booth were Messrs. Alfred Turner (manager), John Harwood (stage-manager), C. B. Keston, Marshall, Simms, Pemberton, and Batchelor. The "National Theatre" takings during the afternoon amounted to over £230.

LORD GEORGE GROSSMITH, JUN.'S CIRCUS.

Another prominent attraction was the delicious fooling of the circus company of Lord George Grossmith, jun., the popular Gaiety comedian, appearing as ringmaster, drolly discoursing on the marvellous performance of the Bounding Brothers from Bermondsey, the Marvellous Paynes (Teddy and Freddy), their spoof business creating roars of laughter. Then there were the "Princess Gladys de Hompé," the strongest woman in the world, exhibited by her proud parent Fredemney; Captain Robert Hale, the lion-tamer; George Ali as a dancing pony; and numerous other turns. The orchestra, known as the March Hare Band, heralded in the troupe, among whom were Messrs. Edmund Payne, Ernest Lamberti, W. H. Berry, Fred Emney, Jack McArdle, Davy Burnaby, P. Braham and company, Francis Hector, Harry Pettitt, W. Stephens and Boy, Albert Felino, Fred Payne, Arthur Atherton, Miss Constance Hyem, Miss Gladys Homfrey, Mrs. W. H. Berry, and Mrs. Davy Burnaby.

JARLEY'S LIVING WAXWORKS.

Arranged by Miss Jessie Bateman, with Mr. Arthur Playfair as the showman, inviting the onlookers to "walk up, roll up, or tumble up," and witness the Speckled Band, Roosevelt back in America, and many other wonderful sights, Mrs. Jarley's Waxworks also came in for much attention. Mr. Paul Rubens, the composer of *The Balkan Princess*, presided at the piano, and Mr. Athol Stewart was the acting-manager. The "waxworks" were enacted by Mr. George Barrett, Roosevelt ("Modesty"); Miss Frances Wetherall, the Woman in the Case; Mr. Arthur Whitby, follow: Gladys Silvani and Harry Grattan, 1; Miss Dundas Slater and Godfrey Turner, 2; Cicely Villiers and Alfred Lester, 3; Miss Morene and Westheimer, 4; and Miss Wyte and George Giddens, 5. A second competition was held, Miss Hodson, Miss Thornton, Miss Doreen Drew, Miss Mannering, and Miss Warner being the ladies who obtained prizes. Male milliners who secured awards were Mr. Turner, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Mr. Philip Leslie, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. Charles Amden, Mr. George Giddens, and Mr. Tom Graves. Some £140 resulted from the efforts of the ladies and gentlemen in these competitions.

THE TEMPLE OF FLORA.

Dainty Miss Marie Lohr presided in this rose-entwined rustic temple, and did a roaring trade in flowers, tea, &c. The ice-cream tent was under the direction of Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Evelyn Millard, and Mrs. Mangles, assisted by Misses May Chevalier, Olive Dickens, Elaine Dickens, Muriel Eddis, Gladys Erskine, Molly Evans, Fitzgerald, Winifred Fraser, Eric Groves, Holtz, Hunter, B. Kilby, May Lloyd, Ruth Maitland, Margery Maude, G. Redwood, Elaine Smith, Amy Brandon Thomas, E. Vetter, B. Vetter, and Gwenta Wren.

"WATER RATS" HELP.

In the Palais de Luxe a continuous entertainment was given by the Grand Order of Water Rats, under the direction of Miss May Warley and Mr. W. H. Clemart. Messrs. Harry Tate, Neil Kenyon, Charles Coborn, Bransby Williams, Hal Forde, Dutch Daly, and many other music hall favourites were down to give a turn.

SIGNED PHOTOGRAPHS AND PICTURE POSTCARDS.

Under the direction of Miss Compton and Mrs. L. Gay, a number of charming actresses did a brisk trade in signed photographs and picture postcards of footlight favourites. The following assisted in this department:—Misses Adrienne Augarde, Maie Ash, Crissy Bell, Daisy Belmore, Lilian Burns, Shelley Calton, Lilian Cooper, Dorthy Dix, Cecilia Cavendish, Ciara Evelyn, Yvonne Fitzroy, Evie Greene, Kathleen Hayes, Joan Hayes, Isabel Jay, F. Glossop Harris, Nancy Keene, Edyth Latimer, Mabel Love, Netta Lynde, Olive May, Gertrude May, Helena Millais, Louie Pounds, Mabel Russell, Dora Sevening, Nina Sevening, Elsie Spain, Florence Smithson, Doris Stocker, Gertrude Thornton, Ruth Vincent, Ida

[*Photo by Topical Press.*

THEATRICAL GARDEN PARTY AT THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS.

HAT-TRIMMING STALL (MISS P. BROUGHTON AND MR. FRED WRIGHT, SEN., IN CENTRE).

in four acts and four scenes, was a delightfully droll burlesque of a sporting melodrama, full of witty lines, outrageous puns, and screamingly funny business. In the first act, the Hunting Breakfast Room at Castle Glanders, the Earl of Lowater, financially embarrassed, of course, owing a few paltry thousands to the villain, Major Sutton D'Ethe, imagines that the latter has come to demand the hand of his daughter, the Hon. Gwendoline Mortgage in settlement of the account. The terrible Major, however, cares not for Gwendoline, who, by the way, is betrothed to the handsome hero, Jack Cholmondeley—proud of the name, every syllable of it. It is Lowater's horse, Tortoise, Sutton D'Ethe covets; and learning from Tiny Pulham, a jockey, that he has a better animal in Limberger, Lowater agrees to part with the Tortoise. In the next scene, a Drury Lane near Bluemarket, Sutton D'Ethe and Oddson, a bookmaker, decide to nobble Limberger, and here also they murder (apparently) Tiny Pulham and Faith Mercy, the villain's victim, "the bad girl of the family"—wink included. This was a most ludicrous episode. Their bodies are "hidden" behind something resembling a tree—a Haw-tree remarks one of the characters, renowned for speaking the "naked truth." Cocksure, the detective, who has been disguised as Chantecler, soon after enters, and accuses the hero, Jack Cholmondeley, of the murder, and there is more absurdly funny business. The villains explain that the horse Limberger is suffering from indigestion, and they are about to administer sour milk; and in the next act they endeavour to give this extraordinary quadruped a poisoned pill. The fiery, untamed steed, of course, enters into the spirit of the thing, and villainy is for a time frustrated by Pansy Pulham, the jockey's mother. In a struggle between Sutton D'Ethe and Cholmondeley, the former declares he will vanquish his enemy with a bite, each of his teeth containing a poisoned pellet. Of course, Limberger is the victor in the race on Upson Downs, the winning post being shifted about to suit his convenience, and the curtain finally descends on a riotously comic scene. Pistol shots, sword thrusts, and terrible shrieks and struggles were numerous in this wildly farcical "tale of the shiers," and the company presenting it appeared to revel in its absurdities, and worked tremendously hard throughout. Mr. Cyril Maude, in a wonderful make-up, was a truly terrible villain; Miss Frances Dillon, Cinderella; Mr. George Shelton, a Scarecrow; Miss Madge Titheradge, a Russian Dancer; Mr. Henry Kitts, Little Lord Fauntleroy; Miss Elaine Inescourt, Mrs. Sarah Siddons; Mr. Nelson Keys, A Baby ("Innocence"); Miss Esmé Hubbord, Hodge the Ploughboy; Mr. J. H. Brewer, Sandow; Miss Lydia Rachel and Miss Amy Fauchette, his pupils; Mr. Sam Walsh, Charles Peace; Miss Winifred Bateman, Joan of Arc; Miss Joan Burton, the Bad Girl of the Family; Mr. Neil Kenyon, Mrs. Jarley; Mr. Harry Danby and Mr. Arthur Burne, her assistants. Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Robert White, jun., Jack Frost, E. Gordon, and Miss Polly Emery also lent valuable assistance in this department.

ACTRESSES *V.* ACTORS AT CRICKET.

A diverting and unconventional game this, of course, Mr. Rutland Barrington particularly distinguishing himself as a fun-maker. The gentlemen carried their right arm in a sling, and occasionally no one seemed to know what had become of the ball. At the conclusion of the match Mr. Barrington put up for auction a bat inscribed with the names of all the beautiful actresses who had taken part in the game on its blade. Drolly expatiating on its value, he succeeded in getting 21s. for it. Those announced as taking part in the match, under the captaincy of Miss Vane Featherston and Mr. Hayden Coffin were Messrs. Charles Bishop, Rutland Barrington, Ernest Cameron, Vincent Clive, Basil Foster, Louis Goodrich, A. S. Homewood, Alfred Mansfield, Godfrey Tearle, Sam Sothern, and Lorne Wallett, and Misses Joan Challener, Margaret Fraser, Charlotte Granville, Ethel Hodgkins, Christine Jeansen, Mellie Pearson, Adelaide Rind, May Saker, and Mrs. Webb Ware.

HAIR DRESSING AND HAT TRIMMING COMPETITION.

This was under the direction of Miss Phyllis Broughton; Mrs. George Alexander acting as judge. Extraordinary effects were obtained by the actors in their droll efforts to fashionably dress the tresses of a number of charming actresses; and the hat-trimming competition by well-known actors also resulted in some most grotesque "models." The prizes in the former went to the "victims," and the awards in the first competition were as Lytton, and Emmy Wehlen. Managers: Messrs. A. Lytton and C. Milne Gay.

Miss Cicely Richards had charge of the Grand Refreshment Kiosk, assisted by Misses Dorothy Chard, Lilian Digges, Dorothy Drake, Norah Kerin, Hettie Muret, Lillian Rees, Ethel Harper, and Messrs. Ralph Hall-Caine, W. S. Miln, and Leslie Stiles.

The Anglo-American Shooting Gallery was also well patronised, and provided plenty of fun. Those giving their services here included Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Gabrielle Ray, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Miss Madge Murray, Mr. C. M. Hallard, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Miss Evelyn Beaumont, Mr. Herbert Haines, Miss Pauline Chase, Mr. Robert Loraine, Miss Lily Elsie, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Mr. Guy Standing, Miss Florence Harwood, Mr. Harry Gerrish, Mr. Clifford Brookes, and Mr. Henry Ainley.

The Lake Tea Châlet had for its managers three popular actresses in Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Constance Collier, and Miss Eva Moore, many prominent actors and actresses giving assistance; and the Strawberry and Cream Tent, under the direction of Miss Lilian Braithwaite and Miss Ethel Irving, also kept a number of well-known people busy. The band of the Royal Military School of Music, by permission of Colonel A. G. Balfour, played during the afternoon; and the Hampstead Mandoline and Guitar Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Roberts, was also in attendance.

Aspiring playwrights will be interested in a case which was decided on Saturday in the Paris courts. Mlle. Jeanne Dortzal, formerly an actress at the Odéon and the Vaudeville, wrote a one-act play in verse, entitled *Stenio*, and submitted it to the director of the "Cercle des Essayeurs," an institution which aims at discovering young talent and producing the works selected as possessing those qualities which make for success. The play was received in 1908, and its author paid £60 to cover the cost of two performances. The piece was never played, the reason being that M. de Max could not interpret the principal rôle, and Mlle. Jeanne Dortzal sued for the return of her money. The court has ordered both money and manuscript to be returned to the author.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Elizabeth Arnim, Produced at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday, June 28.

Herr Fritzing .....Mr. E. Lyall Swete
Dr. Billetson .....Mr. Edward Rigby
Baron Osterman .....Mr. E. A. Warburton
Henry, Prince of Lucerne Mr. Charles Maude
The Grand Duke of Lothen-Kunitz
Mr. Charles V. France
Robin Morrison .....Mr. Louis Goodrich
Sir Augustus Shuttleworth
Mr. Donald Calthrop
A Plumber .....Mr. J. Fisher White
A Carpenter .....Mr. H. R. Hignett
A Clerk .....Mr. R. W. Hutton
Mr. Price .....Mr. Norman Page
1st Footman .....Mr. J. Dickson-Kenwin
2nd Footman .....Mr. Arthur Webster
The Princess Priscilla of Lothen-Kunitz
Miss Neilson-Terry
The Grand Duchess of Gerstein
Miss Helen Haye
Annalise .....Miss Amy Lamborn
Mrs. Jones .....Miss Sydney Fairbrother
Mrs. Morrison .....Miss Agnes Thomas
Lady Shuttleworth .....Miss Frances Ivor
Emma Jones .....Miss Victoria Addison
A Nurse .....Miss Margaret Murray
A Maid .....Miss Enid Rose

It is not too much to say that the audience at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday evening were entirely under the spell of a bewitching and irresistible personality. But apart from the influence of Miss Neilson-Terry on the house, *Priscilla Runs Away* is a most pleasant, amusing, and entertaining play. A beautiful young Princess runs away from home with her tutor, Herr Fritzing, to avoid a marriage arranged for her without her consent with a certain Prince of Lucerne.

Priscilla and Herr Fritzing get safely to England, and select a village called Symford as their dwelling place. The Princess, of course, knows nothing of real life, and her amiable errors are very amusing. She offers to buy a pretty cottage, which is inhabited by the only invalid in the village, Mrs. Jones, a peevish, petted old woman. Sir Augustus Shuttleworth, the young and timid son of the Lady Bountiful of the place, and Robin Morrison, the rather vulgar offspring of the Vicar and his severe spouse, come to the cottage bearing gifts for Mrs. Jones, and meet Priscilla, who has taken a false name, and has introduced Herr Fritzing as her uncle. Sir Augustus falls in love with her at first sight; and Robin Morrison pesters her with impudent attentions. Mrs. Jones imposes on Priscilla's ignorance as far as to induce her to send for a bottle of rum, on the plea that it is her "medicine." Then the Princess indulges in reckless liberality to the villagers, to whom she gives a treat on the Sabbath.

The reckoning comes ten days later, in the third act. The rum proves to have been the worst thing possible for Mrs. Jones, who becomes hysterical and troublesome; the children are all ill from overeating at the treat; the lady's maid breaks out into open mutiny; and, worst of all, the money which Fritzing brought from Lothen-Kunitz has all been spent, and the local tradesmen come clamouring for their money. Morrison tries to kiss Priscilla, and she boxes his ears; Sir Augustus proposes marriage to her, and is told that it is out of the question; and, humbled and harrassed on all sides, the poor Princess almost breaks down. Fritzing rushes out to chastise Morrison, and is locked up by the police; and, in the midst of all these misfortunes, Prince Henry, who has kept himself informed of Priscilla's movements, appears with money and renewed devotion. Horrified by a chorus of indignation, in which the vicar's wife, the tradesmen, and Mrs. Jones join, Priscilla snatches the money, puts on her hat and cloak and starts for Lothen-Kunitz, the Prince's announcement of his and her rank astounding the Symfordians immensely. There is some amusing comedy in the last act, in which the inevitable result of Priscilla's repentance and acceptance of Prince Henry is attained.

The triumph of Miss Neilson-Terry in the part of the Princess Priscilla was thorough and complete. Her strikingly beautiful appearance in a very becoming costume won admiration at the outset; but this was not the chief factor of her success. Miss Neilson-Terry is a born actress, and seems to have grasped all the principles of her art in the comparatively short time during which she has been on the stage. Her performance was, throughout, brilliantly effective, without the least sign of artifice or mechanism. Her facial play, both when speaking or listening, was eloquent, and her varied expression, the strong yet unexaggerated manner in which she dealt with the outburst of hysterics in the third act, and the delicate tact and judgment she displayed in the whole of her performance satisfied the audience that they were in the presence of a young artist liberally furnished with natural dramatic gifts, and with the means, physical and mental, of developing that gift to the highest degree. Great interest will be felt in Miss Terry's future career and achievements; and her parents must be warmly congratulated on the beauty and ability of their offspring. Mr. E. Lyall Swete, so well remembered by his admirable performance in *Old Heidelberg*, made a strong, bold, and vigorous Herr Fritzing, his characterisation being capital; and a neat bit of comedy acting, much assisted by an ingenious make-up, was contributed by Mr. Edward Rigby as Dr. Billetson. The stiff formality of the Grand Ducal Chamberlain was admirably suggested by Mr. E. A. Warburton. The part of Prince Henry of Lucerne was played with delicate tact and fine judgment by Mr. Charles Maude, whose appearance and general tone were excellent; and Mr. Charles V. France as the imperative and matter-of-fact Grand Duke made an important and effective appearance. Mr. Louis Goodrich was quite realistic as the aggressive "cad" Robin Morrison; and Mr. Donald Calthrop expressed with poetic feeling the romance and fervour of Sir Augustus Shuttleworth. Mr. J. Fisher White gave a quaint a sharp performance as the plumber; Mr. H. R. Hignett was natural and droll as the despondent carpenter, and Mr. R. W. Hutton was efficient as the clerk, and Mr. Norman Page was decidedly good as Mr. Price, the Footmen being imposingly represented by Mr. J. Dickson-Kenwin and Mr. Arthur Webster. Miss Helen Haye looked and acted well as the Grand Duchess of Gerstein; and Miss Amy Lamborn was very vigorous in the third act as the rebellious maid Annalise. An irresistibly funny rendering of Mrs. Jones was contributed by Miss Sydney Fairbrother. The querulous old woman was depicted most oddly and humorously, and with the effect of evoking some of the loudest laughter of the evening. It was certainly a memorable impersonation. Miss Frances Ivor as Lady Shuttleworth was the most benign and amicable of Lady Bountifuls. Miss Agnes Thomas is unapproachable in parts like that of the stern, unbending Mrs. Morrison, and she embodied the particular type chosen most truthfully; and Miss Victoria Addison was natural and quietly comic as the country girl Emma Jones, Miss Margaret Murray and Miss Enid Rose being very excellent as a nurse and a maid. The play, which was produced for Mr. Herbert Trench by Mr. Norman McKinnel, went extremely well, and achieved undeniable success. The scenery, costumes, and appointments—no unimportant items in a production of this sort—were admirably designed and arranged by F. Cayley Robinson; Mr. Joseph Harker's sets were worthy of that famous scenic provider; and Miss Neilson-Terry's dresses, by Paquin and Debenham and Freebody, were charming. The reception of *Priscilla Runs Away* was very enthusiastic.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

JUNE.

LONDON.

The Image, comedy, in three acts, by Lady Gregory (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 1.

The Speckled Band, play, in three acts, by Arthur Conan Doyle, founded on his tale of the same name; Adelphi, June 4.

The Girl in the Train, musical comedy, in two acts, adapted from the German of Victor Leon, with music by Leo Fall, and lyrics by Adrian Ross; Vaudeville, June 4.

Civil War, comedy, in four acts, by Ashley Dukes (Incorporated Stage Society); Aldwych, June 5.

Glass Houses, English version, in three acts, by Kenneth Barnes, of Paul Hervieu's comedy, *Connais-Toi*; Globe, June 6.

The Eloquent Dempsy, comedy, in three acts, by William Boyle (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 6.

The Lily Queen, fairy play, in two scenes, by Lila Field, dramatised from the poem "The Ride of the Flowers," by the author, S. R. Littlewood, lyrics by S. R. Littlewood, music by Clive M. Waterlow; Queen's, June 7.

Harvest, play, in three acts, by S. L. Robinson (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 7.

Jack's Little Joke, comedietta; Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, June 6.

The Wallingfords, comedietta, by Lila Field; Queen's, June 7.

The Glittering Gate, play, in one act, by Lord Dunsany (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 6.

Thomas Muskerry, play, in three acts, by Padraic Colum (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 10.

The Accolade, play, in one act, by Gaston Gervex; Court, June 16.

Stalls for Two, play, in one act, by Mrs. George Norman and Mr. David Ellis; Rehearsal, June 17.

The Duchess of Down; Rehearsal, June 17.

The Building Fund, comedy, in three acts, by William Boyle (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 18.

My Lady Bellamy, play, in four acts, by Dorothea Moore; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, June 20.

It's Always the Woman, drama, in four acts, by "Riada"; Shakespeare, Clapham, June 20.

The Cross Roads, play, in two acts, by S. L. Robinson (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 20.

The Green Helmet, play, in ballad metre, by W. B. Yeats (Irish National Theatre); Court, June 22.

Billy's Bargain, sensational farce, in three acts, by "Robert Lascelles" (originally produced as *Among the Brigands*, at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Oct. 25, 1907, afterwards presented at King's Theatre, Hammersmith, May 2, 1908, as *Billy Rotterford's Descent*); Garrick, June 23.

Her Secret Lover, drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, April, 1909); Theatre Royal, Stratford, June 27.

Priscilla Runs Away, comedy, in four acts, by Edward Arnim; Haymarket, June 28.

REVIVALS.

The Case of Rebellious Susan, comedy, by Henry Arthur Jones (originally produced at the Criterion, on Oct. 3, 1894); Criterion, June 1.

M.P., comedy, in four acts, by T. W. Robertson (originally produced at the Prince of Wales's, April 23, 1870); Coronet, June 6.

The Lyons Mail, play, in three acts, by Charles Reade; Queen's, June 13.

Caste, comedy, in three acts, by T. W. Robertson; Coronet, June 25.

Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner, romantic comedy, in three acts, by R. N. Stephens and E. Lyall Swete (originally produced at the Imperial Theatre, on April 16, 1904); Lyric, June 30.

The Breed of the Treshams, play, in four acts, by John Rutherford (produced originally at Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sept. 28, 1903), Mr. Martin Harvey; Lyceum, June 25.

PROVINCES.

Oh, Christina! comedy, in three acts, by J. J. Bell and Laurence Therval, founded on the story of the same name by J. J. Bell (Glasgow Playgoers, Ltd.); Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, June 6.

The Choice, problem play, in one act, by Alan Monkhouse; Gaiety, Manchester, June 6.

Going to the Ball, comedy sketch, duologue, by J. Willoughby Woodward; New Oxford Theatre, June 6.

The Heiress, comedy opera, in two acts; Theatre Royal, Birmingham, June 13.

Paying the Price, drama, in four acts, by J. S. Willard; Alexandra, Hull, June 13.

Three Old Men, melodrama, in four acts, by John Darlison; New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, June 20.

Turning the Tables, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Oswald King; Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, June 20.

A Sportsman and a Gentleman, sporting drama, in four acts, by Clifford Rean; Theatre Royal, West Stanley, June 20.

The Pigeon House, musical play, in three acts, written and composed by Eric Hope (the Earl of Yarmouth); New Theatre, Cardiff, June 27.

Moll, playlet, by Charles Masse (copyright performance); Theatre Royal, Scarborough, June 24.

The Wrongs of Woman, drama, in a prologue and three acts, by Frederick A. Marston and Maurice Scott; Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 24.

"THE VERY DEVIL."

Farcical Comedy, in One Act, Written by Mr. A. H. Young, Produced for the First Time at the Gaiety Th., Douglas, on Monday, June 20.

Horace Welbourne .....MR. GRAHAM PHILLIPS
Alf. Higgs .....MR. CHARLES GRAHAM
Mrs. Lovelace .....MISS NORA MCDONNELL
Mary .....MISS MAUD BRITTEN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is an airy, fairy dramatic trifle, smartly written, but of no pretension. Its principal *raison d'être* is to display Mr. Charles Graham's versatility. And the contrast between his performance of Alf. Higgs, burglar, and his impersonation of Captain Harry Peyton in *Elizabeth's Prisoner*, both given in one evening, is emphatically artistic. The scheme of Mr. A. H. Young's comedy is slight. Alf. Higgs, burglar, takes advantage of an open window in Mrs. Lovelace's flat to enter with felonious purpose. Mrs. Lovelace has returned late from the theatre. Her supper is laid, so she dismisses her maid and leaves the dining-room to change into a dressing-gown. On her return she is confronted by Higgs, who robs her of all her possessions, gags her, and secures her with cords to a chair. He then departs to plunder the rest of the house. Mr. Horace Welbourne comes on the scene. Rigged in fancy dress as Mephistopheles, he, like Higgs, seeing the open window, suspects something. He is Mrs. Lovelace's undeclared lover. After a pretty love scene he confronts Higgs, who returns swollen with swag. Higgs is frightened because he thinks he is face to face with the incarnation of evil. He is forced to disgorge, and then in consideration of their new-found happiness, the lovers forgive him.

Miss Nora McDonnell, tastefully gowned, played with grace and charm as Mrs. Lovelace; Mr. Graham Phillips was bright and debonnaire as Horace Welbourne, and looked very well in his masquerade costume. The Alf. Higgs of Mr. Charles Graham was a clever study. His make-up was after the manner of Phil May, and his identity was completely concealed. Miss Maud Britten was amusing as Mary. Mr. A. H. Young's clever little play was well staged, and the audience thoroughly appreciated it.

THE BERLIN THEATRE TAX.

(FROM OUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.)

The threatened tax upon theatre tickets in Berlin is gradually assuming tangible shape. The municipality has now handed the matter to a commission, and it will probably be settled before Christmas. Berlin needs money, and the authorities, seeing, or professing to see, the advantages derived from a similar tax in other cities, will scarcely allow themselves to be dissuaded. The proposed tax—from a penny to 1s. 6d. on each ticket—is expected to add something like £200,000 to the municipal coffers, but how many theatres will be ruined is a question that does not seem to appeal to those in power. It is an open secret that no small number of our managers are in financial difficulties, while all our stages, with few exceptions, have a struggle for existence. The increased dearness of everything has unquestionably diminished the number of theatre-goers; the average German of the middle classes now thinks twice before taking his family to the play, which was formerly their chief recreation. In Munich, where the tax has already been levied, the pinch is felt keenly, and serious consequences are inevitable. Berlin possesses two theatres—the Royal Opera and Royal Schauspielhaus—that are very largely subsidised by the privy purse; in other words, by the ratepayers of the entire population. All the other theatres owe their existence to individual enterprise or love of art.

The Berlin municipality quotes three German cities in support of their theory that the tax system works well. These cities are Elberfeld, Frankfurt, and Magdeburg. A moment's reflection will show the futility of such argument. Frankfurt places two magnificent theatres—an opera house and a recently-erected playhouse—at the disposal of a limited company. The city pays all rates and insurance fees in connection with them, as well as the expenses of any alterations the police may demand from time to time, and, in addition to all this, gives towards the general expenses of the theatres an annual sum of 288,500 marks (£14,425). In return, the city levies a tax upon all tickets, which brings in an average of 120,000 marks, or £6,000, in a season. Magdeburg supplies a manager with a large, handsome theatre, accompanied by numerous advantages in the way of heating and light, and grants a considerable subsidy in ready money in addition. The city makes by the ticket tax about £500 a year. Sixpenny tickets are exempt, and an extra halfpenny is charged on tickets costing more than two marks, and a penny surcharge obtains upon tickets costing more than two marks. Elberfeld manages matters in a similar way. Thus municipality and managers are served, or as Dr. Loewenfeld, manager of the Schiller, rightly observes, these cities give rather than take. Berlin, on the contrary, which does nothing to support histrionic art, is exacting sacrifice after sacrifice.

In the name of the Berlin Managers' Association, Dr. Otto Brahm, manager of the Lessing, and Dr. Raphael Loewenfeld, manager of the Schiller, have just forwarded a memorial to the Berlin City Fathers, renewing the objections and misgivings to which the association gave utterance when the tax question was first mooted some years ago. The association considers the tax proposals a grave danger to German art. Dr. Brahm draws attention to the financial situation, and points out innumerable difficulties that will arise should the tax come into force. "Where," he asks, "will the line be drawn?" The tax in all fairness must extend to cabarets and other forms of amusement besides theatres. Now in the cabarets there is frequently no charge for admission, but merely high cloakroom and programme fees. How will taxation be possible here? And what about Press and other free tickets, advantageous terms (as is the custom here) for students and others, and invitations to prominent persons? Is the manager not to be permitted to invite his own guests? And then, again, how is the control to be exercised? Perhaps, as recently in Munich, where the books in the manager's private office were demanded—an affront which caused storms of indignation. All these questions and many more are introduced clearly and concisely in the memorial.

The association, with the memorial in view, has asked the opinions of leading Parisian colleagues. These are printed in the pamphlet, sandwiched between the representations of Dr. Brahm and Dr. Loewenfeld, and form very interesting reading. M. Antoine says, in a lengthy reply: "The taxation of the theatre—already the most overloaded of any enterprise—appears to me perfectly senseless, and it has been repeatedly proved in the case of bankruptcy that the sum paid in taxes to the Commissioners of the Poor would more than have sufficed to pay the bankrupt's debts. If a tax must be levied at all, it should only be upon the net takings. It is abominable to tax the gross profits. I am convinced that all my colleagues will tell you the same, and we Parisians did very wrong to remain quiet, and not to fight by all means in our power against our tax."

M. Porel, of the Vaudeville, writes: "May the German managers continue to combat the ticket tax, for that is the cause of the slow but sure death of their French colleagues! In my long career I have had over 25,000,000 francs income, of which the Poor Commissioners have had 2,300,000 francs. To-day it is I who am the poor man, and I assure you I am neither extravagant nor vicious." The manager of the Gymnase trusts that the day is not far away when this harmful tax will be abolished, for now it is not worth living in a republic that taxes its enterprisers so unequally. MM. Coquelin and Hertz write as follows: "If your city authorities imagine that the Paris managers do not feel the enormities of the ticket tax, they should cast an eye at our business books. They would see that we have nights when our takings amount to 2,000 francs, while our expenses are 2,500 francs; yet, notwithstanding this loss of 500 francs, we are forced to pay a tax of 181 francs. The clearest proof of the injustice of the ticket tax is that in every case of bankruptcy the under-balance has been found to be less than the poor rates enforced." The manager of the Folies Bergères puts his answer to the association in the form of a conundrum. He says: "When a manager has 4,000 francs expenses and only 3,000 francs receipts, consequently a loss of 1,000 francs, he must pay, nevertheless, 275 francs tax. Is this logical?" All the Paris managers combine in wishing their German colleagues success in the justifiable fight.

Not only is the Actors' Association protesting, but the Social-Democratic Party is taking up the cudgels in defence of the innocent amusement and recreation of the people. Meetings were held in six parts of the city one night recently, a resolution couched in sharp terms being passed in all. The tax, it was declared, was an enemy to culture and education of the masses; it was unjust and tyrannical. The resolution demanded the municipality to prove their vaunted Liberalism, and not to follow the example of Junkerdom. In a word, the proposed taxing of the intelligent recreation of the people has become a very general and acute question here.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

M. Gustave Charpentier's opera *Louise* was performed at Covent Garden on Saturday night, June 25, and the great impression the opera made when given last year for the first time in England was increased by the fine representation at the Royal Opera on Saturday.

In the cast there were some changes. Signor Marcoux replaced M. Gilibert, whose powerful study of the Father last year aroused such interest in the opera. Signor Marcoux's reading was thoughtful and artistic; while the affection of the old French workman for his daughter and his horror of her leading a Bohemian life in Paris, were finely expressed. To give the intense contempt felt in France by homely, yet dignified workmen for anything approaching a poetical or artistic career, the part really requires a Frenchman; but in purely dramatic situations, such as the pathetic scene where Louise is dismissed from her old home by her father, Signor Marcoux fully rose to the occasion. Mme. Edvina has improved on her delightful Louise of last season, and strikes a deeper and more pathetic note, her acting also shows greater contrast. Mme. Edvina sang "Depuis le jour" beautifully, and she displayed dramatic power in the final scene. M. Dalmorès again impersonated Julien most successfully and made an impassioned lover. The fine duet between Julien and Louise was sung with splendid fervour, and M. Dalmorès acted with refinement and manly grace. As the Mother Mme. Bérat was perfect in the truth and realism of the character; while Mlle. Olga Loewenthal, in the parts of Le Gavroche and L'Apprentie revealed true comedy spirit. Excellent also was the Irma of Mlle. Edna de Lima and the Camille of Mlle. Symiane. The graphic workshop scene, with its lively incidents, was admirably acted, and among other members in the long cast who distinguished themselves may be mentioned Mlle. Bourgeois, Miss Phillips, Miss Edith Clegg, Mr. Edmund Burke, and Mr. D'Oisly. Orchestra, scenery, and stage-management were all excellent. M. Frigara conducted skilfully, and a large audience gave the opera a most enthusiastic welcome.

In the performance of *Faust* on Wednesday night at Covent Garden, the Russian artist, Mme. Kousnietzoff, impersonated Marguerite. Last season Mme. Kousnietzoff achieved great success in this part, and her beautiful voice and original acting gave special interest to the performance on Wednesday. Mr. Edmund Burke appeared for the first time as Mephistopheles and sang the music admirably. Mr. Riccardo Martin again was Faust, and Mr. Bourbon Valentin, the rest of the cast being the same as on a former occasion. M. Frigara conducted and a large audience was present.

AN ACTOR SUES FOR SALARY.

At the Westminster County Court, before his Honour Judge Woodfall on Monday, Mr. Philip Cuningham, an actor, sued Mr. Ernest Dare, an actor-manager, to recover £10, the balance of salary for a special week's performance at Cambridge of a play entitled *Mrs. Darcy and the Don*, in which the plaintiff took a leading part.

Mr. Arthur Mulligan, instructed by Mr. H. Percy Becher, solicitor, was counsel for the plaintiff, and defendant appeared in person.

The plaintiff's case, according to counsel's opening statement was that the defendant rang up plaintiff at his club, and plaintiff not being present, defendant left a message. Defendant wrote to plaintiff asking him whether he was at liberty to perform for a special week at Cambridge from May 31 for a leading part in a new comedy, and also stating that the cast included Miss Annie Hughes. Later Mr. Cuningham met the defendant at the Primrose Club, and in reply to Mr. Dare said his terms were £20 a week. Mr. Dare said he thought £10 would be sufficient, and then, said counsel, the usual result came about, and they agreed to split the difference and agreed the week's salary to be £15. The play was rehearsed from time to time, and on Sunday, May 30, the company went down to Cambridge. On the following night the play was produced. There was not a very large audience, but in spite of that the play was produced again on the Tuesday night. About 5.30 on the Wednesday night a notice was posted, signed by Mr. Dare, to the effect that he had booked the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, for the last three nights of the week, and the company were requested to assemble at Cambridge Station for the train at a certain time. During that evening Mr. Dare went to the plaintiff's dressing-room and handed the plaintiff an envelope containing £5. Mr. Cuningham asked him for £2 10s. to make up the additional proportionate salary up to that time. Mr. Dare told plaintiff he could have "any amount of money next morning, if he wanted it," and that he would be travelling with him in the train to the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich. On the following morning the company arrived at Cambridge Station, and on inquiry they found that Mr. Dare had already left for London, and had left the tickets in charge of the stationmaster. The company did not know whether in the circumstances they should go on to Woolwich or not, but took the train to Liverpool Street. There the Station Superintendent handed to Miss Hughes a piece of paper containing the telephone message, "Woolwich date cancelled." Plaintiff made inquiries and found that the Woolwich Theatre had been booked, but that something went wrong. Mr. Cuningham demanded several times of Mr. Dare the balance of his salary, £10, but had been unable to get it, though defendant had never repudiated the contract. Defendant had in the correspondence suggested that plaintiff should work out the odd three days by giving flying matinées or something of that sort, but had never suggested that he did not owe him £10.

The plaintiff in the course of his evidence in support of counsel's statement, said he was an actor of twenty-five years' experience on the stage, and had played leading parts for the last twelve years.

Defendant said plaintiff was engaged by him for three nights certain, it being optional on his (defendant's) part to extend the engagement for another three nights.

Plaintiff: That is untrue, your Honour.

Defendant, replying to the Judge, said he took the tickets for the company's return to London.

His Honour said whichever way one looked at it the defendant was liable for the balance of the salary, and there must be judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

A DOUBLE tragedy was enacted in Stuttgart on Wednesday, when Dr. Olois Obrist, until recently conductor of the Court orchestra, murdered Fraulein Anna Sutter, a Court singer well known on the concert stage. The doctor had long cherished a passion for Fraulein Sutter, and lately, in agreement with the singer, he had secured a divorce and was to have married her shortly. The wedding day was about to be fixed when the lady, who appears to have formed a friendship with a young opera singer, informed Obrist that she would not marry him.

ON the morning of the tragedy Dr. Obrist called at Fraulein Sutter's flat with a bouquet of flowers, and, brushing past the servant, rushed through the salon into the bedroom, where Fraulein Sutter was asleep in bed. There, without saying a word, he drew a pistol and shot the sleeping woman twice in the breast with fatal effect. The murderer then shot himself twice in the chest, and fell dead on the spot. Fraulein Sutter, who was about thirty-five years of age, was exceedingly popular with the Stuttgart public.

"PRINCIPALS" OR "SUPERS."

In the Marylebone County Court, on Monday, before His Honour Sir William Selfe, Mr. Herbert Edward Terry, an actor and sketch producer, of Melrose-avenue, Cricklewood, sued the Stockport Empire Theatre Corporation, Ltd., for £17 10s., being half the amount agreed to be paid for the production of a sketch from May 9 to May 16 of this year.

Mr. L. Tyfield was counsel for the plaintiff, and Mr. Compton Smith represented the defendant.

Mr. Tyfield said that the action arose out of the production by the plaintiff of a sketch called *Wanted*, at an agreed expenditure of £35. The sketch was produced, and on the third day Mr. Gilmore, the managing-director of the Stockport Empire, sent for the plaintiff, and complained that he had not six principals in the cast, as stipulated. Mr. Terry denied that this was so; and Mr. Gilmore then demanded that *Wanted* should give place to another of Mr. Terry's sketches, entitled *Retribution*. This, Mr. Terry explained, was impossible, as the artists, scenery, &c., were in London, and rehearsals were necessary, and time did not permit. Mr. Gilmore, however, refused to allow *Wanted* to be played for the remainder of the week, or to pay the plaintiff more than half the sum agreed upon for the week, and the present action was for the balance.

Mr. Herbert Edward Terry, in bearing out counsel's statement, said that the sketch was produced with six principals and two supers, and on the opening night was applauded. On May 11 he was told that Mr. Gilmore, the managing director of the theatre, wished to see him, and, during an interview, Mr. Gilmore asked him how many principals there were in the sketch. Witness replied that there were six, and that two of these were men he had engaged in the town. Mr. Gilmore said that he had no right to engage persons locally, and almost immediately afterwards he again sent for witness, and then demanded that he should at once substitute *Retribution*, another of witness's sketches, for *Wanted*. Witness explained that that was impossible, as the *Retribution* company, scenery, &c., were all in London, and it would be impossible to get them to Stockport in time. Mr. Gilmore then said that, as *Retribution* could not be substituted, he could only pay witness for the night's production of *Wanted*, and that the remainder of the engagement would be cancelled. The following day, when witness went to the theatre, he found that another turn was billed in place of his sketch.

Plaintiff, in cross-examination, said that it was the usual custom to engage men locally to play minor parts in sketches. A principal was a person who had a speaking part in the production. It was true that some had not very much to say, but they had to say it properly.

Mr. Smith: Tell us what they said.

Witness replied that such sentences occurred as: "Well, what is the trouble, sergeant?" "Do you think Morgan has got a hand in this spoof?" "What is he like?" and "Good luck to him!" (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: In the case of two of these men, who were engaged locally, I suggest that they never spoke at all, but that someone behind the scenes spoke for them.

Plaintiff: Certainly not. I was on the stage all the time, and it could not have occurred.

Mr. Smith: What did you pay these supers, or principals, or whatever you call them?—I paid them 4s. for rehearsals and 2s. each performance.

Mr. George Gray, an actor and sketch producer for twenty-five years, called as a witness, said that a principal performer was one who spoke lines.

Mr. Tyfield: Any number of lines?—Yes.

Mr. Smith: If a man came on the stage and said "Hurrah!" would he be considered a principal?—No; I should regard him as a super.

Suppose he said "Hurrah!" two or three times, would he be a principal?—No, but there is the man who says: "My lord, the carriage waits." (Laughter.)

Would he be a principal?—He would have to be a principal, because he would have to be able to speak the lines properly.

If you paid a man 2s. a performance, would you regard him in any case as a principal?—If he could speak his lines intelligently. You would not get that from anyone in the North. You must get those who can speak the King's vernacular.

Witness added that it was not at all unusual to engage men in provincial towns to take up small parts. Generally there were such men about looking for parts, some of them old actors, and others accustomed to speak from a stage.

Mr. Lionel Nathan, stage manager to the plaintiff, corroborated Mr. Terry's evidence, and said that he was on the stage when the sketch was produced, and he was certain that no one spoke the "troopers'" lines for them at the wings.

For the defence, Mr. Black, acting-manager at the Stockport Empire, said that he heard a voice off the stage, and believed that it was someone speaking for the "troopers." Two of the men who played troopers he knew as old supernumeraries. They had been engaged in that capacity at the Empire.

Mr. Smith: Did they ever speak?—One did once. (Laughter.)

And he never spoke again?—No. (Loud laughter.)

Did they speak intelligently?—No.

Mr. William George Gilmore, managing-director of the Stockport Empire, said that they were very dissatisfied at the theatre with the sketch *Wanted*, and he considered that he was perfectly justified in demanding that it should be substituted by the sketch *Retribution*, which, with four principals, witness considered a much better production. *Retribution* only cost £25 a week to put on, whereas *Wanted* cost £35, but witness said nothing about the reduced cost. He considered that the sketch *Wanted* was not what it had been represented.

Mrs. Gilmore, wife of the last witness, said that she sat out the sketch *Wanted*, and saw Mr. Terry, who was at the side of the stage, speaking for the "troopers."

His Honour said that he was of opinion that the plaintiff could not have substituted the sketch *Retribution* in the time given him, and he was also convinced, as Mr. Terry and another witness denied, that the "troopers" on the stage had had their parts spoken for them at the wings, that Mrs. Gilmore must have been mistaken. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for £17 10s. and costs.

THE authoress of *Priscilla Runs Away*, the new play at the Haymarket, is a typical Englishwoman, but loves to talk about her home in Pomerania, where she has lived for several years. "It is the solitude of my Pomeranian home that is, in a way, responsible for the new play," she confided to an interviewer. "It lies in the hills away from all town life. Soon I discovered that I was suffering from that old English complaint, common to my sex, of 'Nothing to do.' So I took to writing—jotting down my daily fads and fancies in a journal. I sent it to a publisher, who accepted it, to my absolute astonishment. That was how my first book was written. Then I wrote 'Princess Priscilla's Fortnight,' my characters being created from types, not, as some people have thought, from living individuals. One day a friend of mine suggested I should weave it into a play. I do not know much about theatres, but I found playwriting very fascinating."

A BOMB was exploded in the Colon Theatre, Buenos Ayres, on Sunday, and as a result seven persons were injured, two of them seriously. About one hundred Anarchists have been arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the affair.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

June 1.—Wedding of Miss Evie Greene to Lieut. Ernest Keanaway Arbuthnot at St. Luke's, Hampstead.

June 1.—Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore returned to the Criterion in *The Case of Rebellious Susan*.

June 1.—Fourth Annual General Meeting Travelling Theatre Managers' Association, Criterion Restaurant.

June 2.—Annual general meeting Theatrical Managers' Association, Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden.

June 2.—At a debate of the Oxford Union Mr. H. A. Jones made a lengthy speech in support of the National Theatre.

June 2.—Addresses on the subject of a Repertory Theatre were delivered by Mr. Granville Barker, Miss Horniman, and Mr. Nigel Playfair at the University Club, Liverpool.

June 3.—Complimentary luncheon to Sir Herbert Tree, given by the Bohemians at the Bear's Paw, Liverpool.

June 5.—Actors' Church Union Service, St. Mary Abbots, Kensington.

June 5.—Special general meeting Terriers' Association, for alteration of rules.

June 5.—Music Hall Ladies' Guild first Sunday concert, Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road.

June 7.—Sir John Hare presided at a special meeting of the Kensington Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at 195, Queen's Gate, S.W., at which Mr. Forbes Robertson spoke in favour of the movement.

June 8.—500th performance of *The Islanders* at the Apollo.

June 9.—Mr. Granville Barker lectured on The Future of the Drama in England at the *Times* Book Club.

June 10.—Deputation from the West-end Theatrical Managers' Association was received by the officials of the London County Council. The object of the deputation was to point out the great danger to life that exists at crowded performances of plays at clubs uncontrolled by the Council.

June 11.—Wedding of Mlle. Adeline Genée to Mr. Frank Isitt, All Saints, Margaret-street.

June 12.—Annual dinner Royal General Theatrical Fund, Hotel Metropole, Mr. Martin Harvey in the chair.

June 14.—200th performance of *The Whip* at Drury Lane.

June 14.—The Select Committee of the House of Lords to consider the Movable Dwellings Bill held its first meeting this session.

June 18.—Transfer of the Empire, Camberwell, to Mrs. Louise Cissie Lawson.

June 19.—Mr. H. A. Jones responded for "The Drama" at a dinner given by the Library Committee of the City Corporation at the Guildhall.

June 21.—At the instance of the Theatrical Managers' Association, the London Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., was fined £30 for performing a stage play at the Kilburn Empire.

June 23.—Annual general meeting Rehearsal Club, St. James's Theatre, Miss Fanny Brough in the chair.

June 23.—At the Westminster Police Court Mr. Horace Smith delivered judgment to the effect that the Albert Hall Theatre was not properly licensed for stage-plays.

June 26.—Annual river outing Terriers' Association.

June 27.—Annual meeting Actors' Day, Duke of York's Theatre. Mr. Sydney Valentine in the chair.

June 27.—British Empire Shakespeare Society's Annual Elocution competition, Mr. H. B. Irving officiating as judge, Queen's Theatre.

June 28.—Theatrical Garden Party, Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, in aid of the Actors' Orphanage.

June 28.—At the House of Commons the Local Registration Committee considered the section of the L.C.C. General Powers Bill which seeks to deal with employment agencies, including theatrical and music hall. Mr. George Alexander gave evidence.

MR. J. D. HUNTER'S BENEFIT.

Mr. J. D. Hunter, general manager of the Hastings Pier Pavilion, secured two crowded houses on Wednesday, the 29th ult., for his farewell benefit. After thirty-five years' active service as artist, entertainment, and general manager his popularity drew to his side a host of artists and friends who volunteered their services.

As was to be expected, the entertainments were under distinguished patronage, including that of his Worship the Mayor, Mr. R. W. Mitchell, M.A., J.P., Mr. Arthur du Cros., M.P., and Mrs. Arthur Du Cros, Mr. Harvey du Cros, J.P., and Mrs. Harvey du Cros, chairman and directors of the Hastings Pier Co., Mr. W. E. Brown, Mr. Lewis T. Weston, chairman and directors of the Gaiety Theatre Co., Mr. W. Rowlands, Mr. Charles Scutt, chairman and directors of the Rinkeries (1909), Ltd., Mr. Leopold (manager of the American Palace Pier), Mr. Wallis Arthur (of the Beach Concert Pavilion), Mr. W. Slade (manager of the Public Hall Co. and director of the Royal Concert Hall Co.). Amongst the many attractions on the occasion, the Royal English Opera company, under the direction of Mr. T. H. Friend, produced *Don Giovanni* and the Cottage Scene from Flotow's opera *Martha*, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Lawton; Mr. Hunter and his combination of artists, including Messrs. Cowell and Hawker and the Misses Bayley and Vera Dudley, performed in a laughable farce *The Secret*, they also appearing in the Trial Scene from *Pickwick*.

Mr. J. D. Hunter also gave the first song he sang on the Hastings Pier, "My old wife and I." Numerous other artists—Mr. George Blackmore, Miss Vera Dudley, Miss Winifred Dixon, Mr. J. Baker Guy, Mr. Val Marriott, &c.—volunteered their services, and the entertainments were a great success. At the conclusion, in a very effective speech, Mr. Hunter thanked the amusement committees and the music halls for their generous assistance.

THE Crown Skating Rink, Neath, is to be converted into a theatre early in August, after being entirely redecorated and furnished. Mr. Leon Vint, of the Palace, is the proprietor, and his manager, Mr. Arthur Noice, will combine similar duties at the theatre.

ON Tuesday, June 28, at the Liverpool County Court, before Judge Thomas, Harry E. Jones, of Wallasey, and part manager of the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, brought an action on a judgment summons against Ludwig Blattner, manager of New Brighton Pier Pavilion for Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale, to recover £41 17s. 8d., costs in an unsuccessful slander action brought by Blattner in the Liverpool Court of Passage, and in which judgment was given for the defendant Jones without the case for the defence being heard. Ludwig Blattner, in cross-examination by Mr. Morris, barrister, instructed by John O'Hara, solicitor, said that he was manager for Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale, who controlled about 30 places of entertainment, but for this he received no salary, but was to have 10 per cent. of the profits at the close of the season. He admitted that he drew cheques for his expenses. Asked about the line on the various bills, "Blattner's Pier Orchestra," he said he got nothing out of this. After hearing counsel, His Honour gave judgment for £2 per month, and in default gave permission to apply for a commitment order.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 4.

A CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Grand T., Birmingham.
A COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
A FAST LIFE.—Star T., Swansea.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Sunderland.
AN UNWEDDED WIFE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O. H., St. Helens.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—King T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Margate.
BLACK MASK, THE.—Court T., Wigan.
BOOTH, JUNIUS.—Queen's Dublin.
CANDIDA.—O. H., Blackpool.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Pier, Eastbourne.
CRUISE OF THE CONSTANCE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—Hippo., Scarborough.
DIVER'S LUCK.—Empire, Fleetwood.
DOLLY REFORMING HERSELF.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
DRAYCOTT, MR. C., REPERTOIRE.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—Metropole, Birmingham.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—T. R., Belfast.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Alexandra, Hull.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Grand, Southampton.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Pavilion, Weymouth.
FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE.—Star T., Liverpool.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—T. R., Sheffield.
HER FATAL PAST.—Osborne T., Manchester.
HER LIFE IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Bury.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Bristol.
IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN.—T. R., Stratford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—P. H., Fermoy.
JANE SHORE.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
JUDITH.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
LITTLE STRANGER, THE.—Gaiety, Douglas.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—King's, Longsight.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—Lyric, Dinnington.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Crown T., Eccles, Manchester.
MAUDE, WINIFRED.—Palace, Newcastle.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Queen's T., Leeds.
MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER.—O. H., Buxton.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED.—Hippo., Sheerness.
MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE.—T. R., Worthing.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
MY IRISH MOLLY.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
MY LADY BELLAMY.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
NAPOLEON AT WATERLOO.—Royal Palace, Ramsgate.
NEW BOY and A COUNTRY MOUSE.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Alexandra, Birmingham.
RAYNOR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Junction T., Manchester.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Victoria Pav., Ramsgate.
SHADOWS OF A CRIME.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
SINS OF A CITY.—Palace T., Newcastle.
THE DRAMA OF LIFE.—T. R., Scarborough.
THE EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Batley.
THE FATAL WEDDING.—Pavilion, Liverpool.
THE LOVE OF A PRINCESS.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
THE IDOL OF PARIS.—T. R., Darlington.
THE MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Alexandra, Sheffield.
THE NEW BARMAID.—T. R., Portsmouth.
THE NIHILIST.—Prince's, Bradford.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Hippo., Huddersfield.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Stockport.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Royalty, Morecambe.
WRECKER OF MEN.—T. R., Birkenhead.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Woolwich.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

JUNE 1.—Marie Gerald, aged 52.
" 6.—Polly Randall (Mrs. Walter Burnot), aged 57.
" 6.—Mrs. Hughes (Polly Kinsella).
" 9.—Henry Erastus Reed, aged 83.
" 10.—Armstrong Bell.
" 12.—Hermann Vezin, aged 81.
" 12.—Henry Johnson, aged 103.
" 13.—James Dooner, aged 70.
" 15.—Ellen Tymms (Nellie Thearle).
" 19.—Henry Neville, aged 73.
" 20.—Mrs. Celian Kattaun.
" 20.—John Pownall.
" 21.—James East Philp, aged 42.
" 21.—George Mulliss, aged 81.
" 21.—William Chart, aged 78.
" 23.—Madame Sanyeah, aged 68.
" 24.—Hugh Astley, aged 78.
" 26.—A. H. Burdett.
" 27.—Lucy Dare.

OWING to the indisposition of Miss Violet Vaughan, Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell has created the part of Margaret Dane in Mr. Van Biene's sketch, *Karl's Luck*, which was recently produced at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, after *The Broken Melody*. Miss Denbeigh-Russell returns to *Are You a Mason?* to take up her old part of Eva Perry at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, on July 4.

"WE are in reaction from the school of Bouccicault and Gerald Griffin," says Mr. W. B. Yeats, in an interview in the *Manchester Guardian*. "These men write of Ireland with the thought of England in their minds. They always thought of Ireland as a prisoner in the dock before a packed jury, and themselves as the prisoner's advocate. These new dramatists are thinking only of Ireland. For the first time in comedy we find the harsh satire which has been characteristic of the Irish from the time of Swift to the time of Tim Healy. It is not that we are peculiar in this, for Spain and France—you may say the Continent generally—is harsh in its satire. England is amiable. Probably to the very end the satire of Ireland will be that of Goya rather than that of *Punch*. When one of our Cork naturalists sees a thing he believes to be evil he describes it in the strongest images he knows, because he is excited about it. He is only thinking of Ireland and its needs. England heard Bouccicault and Griffin, but she only overhears our young men. Synge never interrupted his reverie to think whether the rich man beyond the sea might misunderstand it. He wrote as if he were talking to himself on some Western hillside. . . . The harsh sincerity of our young men comes of their passion for reality."

MR. JACK STRAW, one of the joint hon. secretaries for the Music Hall Sports, sends us the following from the Hippodrome, Coventry:—"As the result of the labours of our worthy chief bandit and chairman, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. Coborn, and myself, I am greatly delighted to be able to give you the following 'fat' result of our joint robberies up to the present. The following are a list of our victims:—Harry Tate, He of the White Eye, Joe Elvin, Bransby Williams, Harry Lauder, Fred Kitchen, Harry Ford, Herbert Darnley, Elliotts and Savonas, Rutland Barrington, Ernie Mayne, Albert Boisset, Ted R. Box, Steve McCarthy, Ernest Rees, Albert Le Fre, Jack Straw, Herbert Shelley, Stevens and Rennior, Larola, Carl Lynn; Misses Ada Reeve, Marie Kendall, Mabel Mavis, Percy B. Broadhead (5 guineas), Mr. Smith (Alhambra, Brighton), Tom Pacey, M.H.A.R.A., Terriers, V.A.F., *Era*, *Performer*, *Encore*, Messrs. Willson, Leicester (5 guineas); Messrs. Wylie, Dr. Goldberg, Messrs. White (Nottingham), Willie Clarkson, Barney Hyams, Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, and Mr. Danby Hare.

"RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

ABORIGINS (Flint).—*We have had no account of the lady's death. The report of that occurrence some years since was "much exaggerated."*

H. ST. H.—*Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. D. Lyn Harding were both on tour in the autumn season of 1897, the former in the Saucy Sally company and the latter in the company presenting* In the Ranks.

H. M.—*Charles Godfrey, the famous actor-vocalist, died at Brierley Hill on March 23, 1900. As far as we remember, he did not perform at the Empire, Stratford, which was first opened in April, 1899.*

ORLANDO.—*We think it was in the year 1865 that Mr. Hubert Jay Morice (better known as Hugh J. Didcott) made his appearance as Othello at Drury Lane Theatre. He also appeared at the New Royalty Theatre on Tuesday, Aug. 8, 1865, in the character of the Moor at the benefit given to the late Mr. Charles Harcourt.*

LUTHER MUNDAY (Littlewick).—*You will find an article on Players in the Peerage in the "Green Room Book" for 1906, published by T. Sealey Clark, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, London, E.C. The information therein contained does not go as far back as Elizabeth Farren, Countess of Derby, who died in 1829, nor as forward as the marriage of the Gaiety actress, Miss Sylvia Storey, daughter of Fred Storey, to Earl Poulett in 1903.*

H. RAYNOR.—*The cast of* The Tree of Knowledge, *the play, in five acts, by R. C. Carton, produced at the St. James's on Oct. 25, 1897, was as follows:—Nigil Stanyon, Mr. George Alexander; Sir Mostyn Hollingworth, Mr. W. H. Vernon; Brian Hollingworth, Mr. Fred Terry; Loftus Roupell, Mr. H. B. Irving; Major Blencoe, Mr. H. V. Esmond; Sweadle, Mr. George Shelton; Royds, Mr. H. Ives; Mrs. Stanyon, Miss Carlotta Addison; Monica Blayne, Miss Fay Davis; Deborah Sweadle, Miss Winifred Dolan; Belle, Miss Julia Neilson.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

BROOKES—ANDERSON.—At Eastbourne, June 23, by special licence, Alf Brookes to Edie Anderson.
CALDEN—SWINBOURNE.—On June 28, at Stratford Registry Office, by special licence, Harry Calden to Lottie Swinbourne. Friends please note.
FOSTER—BROGDEN.—June 29, at St. James's Roman Catholic Church, Spanish-place, by the Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan, Basil S. Foster to Gwendoline Brogden, both of Daly's Theatre Company.
SHERIDAN—FRAMPTON.—23rd ult., at Sunderland, by special licence, Jack Mark Sheridan, son of the Mark, to Irene Frampton, daughter of C. H. Frampton, scenic artist.

DEATHS.

ASTLEY.—June 24, of syncope, Hugh Francis Lethbridge Astley, formerly chairman of the London Pavilion, Ltd., aged 78.
BURDETT.—June 26, accidentally drowned, A. H. Burdett, manager, Hippodrome, Boscombe.
CHART.—June 21, at Burgess Hill, Sussex, William Chart, formerly proprietor of refreshment bars at the old Theatre Royal, Brighton, aged 78.
DARE.—June 27, at 15, Walhouse-street, Walsall, Lucy Dare, the beloved mother of Doris, Eddie, and Kittie Cameron, after three years' painful illness. Deeply mourned by her heartbroken daughter, KIT.
MULLISS.—June 21, at 26, Chesterton-road, North Kensington, George Mulliss, formerly theatrical boot-maker, of Wardour-street and the Strand, aged 81.
POWNALL.—June 20, at the Victoria Cottage Hospital, Morecambe, of pneumonia, John Pownall, late Moody-Manners and Carl Rosa companies.
SANYEAH.—June 23, at Lambeth Infirmary, Mme. Sanyeah, formerly gymnast and teeth performer, aged 68.

IN MEMORIAM.

GROVES.—In ever-loving memory of Charles Groves, who died July 3, 1909. Inserted by his sorrowing wife and children.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Eugene Stafford—Saturday, July 2.
Ray Maskell—Saturday, July 2.
Mary Moore—Sunday, July 3.
Grace Arundale—Sunday, July 3.
Butler Stanhope—Monday, July 4.
Albert Brasque—Monday, July 4.
Fred Poplar—Monday, July 4.
Whimsical Walker—Tuesday, July 5.
Billie Bint—Wednesday, July 6.
Walter Stockwell—Wednesday, July 6.
May Blaney—Wednesday, July 6.
Fanny Brough—Thursday, July 7.
Amy Augarde—Thursday, July 7.
Florry Cooper—Friday, July 8.

MDLLE. KARSAVINA, fresh from new triumphs in Paris, where she was awarded the Palme Académique, will return on Monday to the Coliseum, where she will dance "L'Oiseau de Feu" with Monsieur Kosloff. Mdlle. Baldina will also be seen in the "Warrior Dance." With the exception of Miss Cecilia Loftus, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, the programme is a new one, namely, Jack Pleasants, the shy comedian; Miss Jen Latona, who will appear without the quaint Frank, in cheery songs; the Marsumas, comedy cyclists; the Kratons, hoop manipulators; Alice Raymond and Co., in *A Night in Egypt*; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; and the Leslie Brothers, musical comedians.

MR. W. CLARKSON has sent a handsome set of silver-mounted carvers as a prize for the Theatrical Sports.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Alexander, —
Alexander, Mr.
Allen, Miss Mabel
Allen, Miss Maud
Arnles, The
Ashwynne, Miss M.
Astor, Mr. Leslie
Athelda
Banfield, Miss Iris
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bartlett's Circus
Bavista, Herr Da
Beechman, Mr. Thos.
Bell, Mr. G. B.
Benham, Mr. Ernest
Bergeron, Mrs.
Blyth, Mr. J. S.
Bolder, Mr. Robt.
Bross, Mr. Michel
Brune, Miss P.
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Callam, Mr. John
Cancellor, Mr. Leyton
Carey, Mr. W. P.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia
Cerise, Miss D.
Chambers, Miss
Chard, Lieut.
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clensey, Mr. Cyril
Clevere, Miss Amy
Cliffe, Mr. H. C.
Coleman, Miss F.
Connor, Mr. F. J.
Cook, Mr. Albert
Court, Mr. F.
Coutts, Mr. Henry
Currie, Miss Lily
Currie, Mr. Byder
Cuthbert, Mr. Alfred
Dandy, George
Darrell, Mr. and Mrs.
Dawson, Mrs. H.
Day, Mr. Geo. R.
Desmond, Miss Nell
De Winton, Miss Dora
Dobell, Mr. R. H.
Dockwray, Mr. Chas. W
Drury, Miss Lily
Elliott, Miss Violet
Elliott, Mr.
Ellis, Mr. Guy P.
Everard, Mr. Francis
Farrar, Mr. Eugene
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Foldi, Miss I.
Forbes, Mr. Alec
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Tom
Garland, Miss Fanny
Gascoynes, The
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Grey, Miss Marion
Hackenschmidt, Mr. G
Hall and Earl
Halstan, Miss M.
Hare, Miss W.
Harcestion, Mr. George
Hast, Mr. Walter
Heath, Mr. Guyton
Hemming, Mrs. Alfred
Hicks, Mr. Seymour
Hilliard, Mr. Harold
Holding, Mr. Thos.
Hope, Mr. Jones
Howard, Mr.
Howood, Mr. G.
Hunt, Miss Violet
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Miss Ethel
Irving, Mr. Laurence
Jensen, Mons. L.
John, Mr. Arthur
Johnson, Mr. Kid
Kay, Mr. Jay
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kremo, Mr. Karl
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Lane, Mr. Horace
Lauretta and Laura.
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Leslie, Mr. James
Leslie, Mr. Montague
Lewis, Miss Rose B.
Lingard, Mr. Horace
Lloyd, Mr. H. C.
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Lomas, Esq.
Lukishamas, The
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Mannikins, The
Maros, Miss B.
Martin, Mlle. Sylvia
Martin, Mr. Albert L.
Martin, Mr. Leslie
Martino, Madame
Maude, Miss Alice
Mayke, Mr. T.
Mayne, Miss Lilian
M'Call-Chambers, Mr.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Melton, Miss Irene
Merlin, Mr. Jack
Mitchell, Miss Ada
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Nolan, Mr. Alf
Nord, Miss Serene
Norton, Mr. Jack
Oakley, Miss Ada
Pawle, Mr. Lennox
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Pettigrove, Mr. Louie
Pettigrove, Mr. Thomas
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Proveanie, Miss Edie
Purcell and Newns
Randolph, Louise
Raymond, Miss Alice
Robertson, Mr. Ian
Romanos Trio
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Ryan and Hall
Saxonians, The
Schartz, Mrs. Louis
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Sefton, Miss Clarice
Seymour, Mr. E. A. O.
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Simmonette, Mr. Harry
Stephens, Mrs. L. E. B.
Stewart, Miss Lilly
Strange, Mr. George
Sutton and Raynor
Swanborough, Mr. Harold
Taft, Mr. Gilbert
Tarong, Mr. Harry
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Titus, Mr.
Tower, Mr. Allen
Vaselisan Troupe
Vonette, Mlle.
Walonell, Mr. Jack
Walsh, Mr. J. Fenton
Ware, Miss N.
Warren, Mr. P. Carne
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Weston, Miss Lucy
Westwood, —
Wheeler, Miss Daphne
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss May
Williams, Mr. E. H.
Winona
Wordsworth, Mr. C. A.
Zenssen, Mr. L.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DONT BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 853, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 15, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 514,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England. (Patent No. 16388/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes
Re-appearance of Mr. EDMUND PAYNE
and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production.
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.
Daily, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries, "The Scarab," a New Magical Farce, by Nevil Maskelyne and David Devant, introducing a series of Novel and Startling Illusions, &c., &c. Closing July 9 till August Bank Holiday.
Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
ETHEL LEVEY, Three Sisters Athletas, Franco Piper, Merlin, The Excellos, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! LONDON."
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
Petit Roberto, Emerson and Baldwin, Mazuz and Mazetto, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson and Clark, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers and Co., Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon, Bert Levy, Fannie Ward and Co., Merian's Canine Actors, Royal Funeral in Actual Natural Colours, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—"Chanteclair," by Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' Co., Harry Tate "Flying," Daisy James. Dutch Daly, Ella Shields, Maidie Scott, the Seven Bramusas, Madge Temple, Lawrence Barclay, Les Martas, Gertie Gitana, Lotto Troupe, Victor Kelly and Agnas, Spalding and Riego, O'Gorman Bros., Hayman and Franklin, Three Cape Girls, Frank Maura, Farr and Farland, Angus Strong, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.10. Saturday matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
HERBERT SLEATH and CO.
LIANE D'EVE, Mary Law, Clarice Mayne, The Two Bobs, Will E. Stopit, The Five Orioles, Herbert Clifton, Gladys Huxley, "The Odd Man Out," by Lennox Pawle and Company, Milt Wood, Vera Saunders, Rosie Lloyd, Wallace Lupino, Meredith Meredro, Hall and Earle, Cinquevalli, and others.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
Tony Black, Marie Blythe, Walker and May, Herbert Clifton, Victor Niblo's Birds, Lil Hawthorne, Haley's Juveniles, Florrie Forde, Haines Borthwick and Co., Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Ella Shields, Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, Four Netherlands, Hal Forde, Carina Sisters, Herbert La Martine, Guy Rider, Ruffell's Bioscope, Florrie Forde, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Monday. O'Malley and Brown, Will Gordon, Fred Hastings, Tina Frank, Lily Burnand, Vigoranto Trio, Bioscope, Vincent, Ena, and Florence Faste, Jenny Castelle, Fred Karno's Company in "Perkins, M.P." Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, July 4.
Evelyn Beresford and Co., in "Spies of the ——" Fred Karno's Co. in "Early Birds," Flo Cecil, Walter Stanley, Gennie Castelle, Rob Rossi, Ada Oxley and Co., Montague Bigge, Bioscope, Phil and Nettie Peters, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, July 4. John Lawson and T. B. Vaughan's Co. in "The Boatswain's Mate," Dick Tubb, Edward Cranston, Mrs. Bennett and Co., Henriette and Selina, Ellerslie Pyne, Lenton and Lane, Les Andrés, Sisters Harcourt, Harry Clarke, Kimberley and Melbourne, Raie Brown, Dave Wallace, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carney; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may enter at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
Full particulars on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville Place, Manchester Square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards
Has Arrived in England.
Address, C/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Kakaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen, Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali" London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Only Vacancies this year Oct. 3 and Dec. 12. Fast Booking 1911.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND. Always open to treat with really High-class Companies and Stars for either or both Theatres. See other advertisements.
All communications, J. F. Elliston.

BOOTLE. — NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.
The above Theatre is intended to be open on the 12th December next by the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd. (who are also proprietors of the Muncaster Theatre), and are open to book Pantomime, Musical Comedy, and other first-class companies on and after the above date.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the Provinces, having a population of 100,000 within a three-quarter mile radius, seating capacity over 1,800, and will be fully licensed.
Apply Registered Office, 59, Park-street, Bootle.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EVESHAM.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed,
good accommodation; proscenium if required;
seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Aug. 29 (six nights), Sept. 12 (three nights),
Sept. 19 (six), 26 (three), Oct. 31 (six),
Nov. 10 (three), 14, 21 (six), Dec. 1 (three).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, 12, 26, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Xmas Production.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager,
Mr. Charles Revill.
Vacant Jan. 16 and 23 onwards, with exceptions.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
PROVINCIAL THEATRES
AND
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

NOTICE
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
I, MARCUS D. DRAPER, of Adel Rectory, Leeds, England, hold absolutely the No. 2 and Fit-up Rights of producing and representing the play in a Prologue and Four Acts, entitled "THE CHRISTIAN" in the Provinces of Great Britain for a period of twelve months from June 1, 1910, with the option of a further twelve months from June 1, 1911.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.),
Published at "The Era" Offices,
Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lilla	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan	July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Asheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie	Jan. 29, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence	July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida	July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Knight, Miss Agnes	July 10, 1909
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy	July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pembroke, Mr. Clifford	Sept. 4, 1909
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Stadt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Trevosper, Miss Marguerite	July 3, 1909
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Watson, Mr. John B.	July 10, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Wootwell, Mr. Tom	Aug. 7, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Miss Molly	July 10, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHERS,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1910.

REPERTORY THEATRES.

Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN'S courageous experiment at the Duke of York's Theatre has been extremely interesting to watch, and has shown both the delight and the difficulty of carrying out the repertory idea. The delight is on the side of the fastidious, intellectual, and cultured minority of the British public; the difficulty is on the part of the devoted manager. A permanent Repertory Theatre in London would be a treasure and a delight. The general principle involved is that of the representation of minorities. There are many pieces which are "caviare to the general," but are intensely attractive to the epicure in dramatic sensation. VICTOR HUGO thought that the mass of patrons of the drama was composed of the mob, who loved action and incident, the women, who admired sentiment, and the thinkers, who desired intellectual exercise. It is chiefly to the thinkers that a Repertory Theatre appeals, or should appeal, to persons of literary taste, to the poetical, the thoughtful, and the delicately humorous.

Unfortunately, in England, talent which is capable of appealing to these classes is rarely combined with the dramatic instinct. The late ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON, Mr. HENRY JAMES, TENNYSON, BROWNING, SWINBURNE, and Mr. THOMAS HARDY are all unsatisfactory as playwrights. For it is necessary in writing a play to conceive it in the terms of the material employed. It is rare that a painter is successful as a sculptor, because the vehicle of expression in each case is entirely different. In France, however, the drama is treated as literature, and dramatists write for a reading public. Plays are bought as novels are in England, and any delicate merits they may possess are appreciated and understood. The Repertory Theatre is an attempt to cater for the small cultivated class which has the same tastes as the large cultivated class in Paris.

We hope that Mr. FROHMAN will persevere with his experiment next year in the same spirit as that in which he has conducted his Repertory Theatre at the Duke of York's in this. For a Repertory Theatre cannot be judged by a single season. It must be maintained for some time in order that a school of acting and playwriting may have time to grow. The supply of actors and actresses capable of interpreting the most subtle and original work is agreeably liberal. The great difficulty is obtaining a sufficient number of plays.

A Repertory Theatre is a tremendous devourer of brain-work. In order that a constant supply of plays may be provided quite a large number of authors must be inventing, writing, and submitting plays of the peculiar class and quality required. Now even the most intellectual dramatist likes to receive a rich reward for his labours; and the system of short runs is against any very large monetary emolument. This is the real justification of a National Theatre. Mr. FROHMAN'S Repertory Theatre has not had time to establish itself, or to become famous and permanent. In the case of an ideal National Theatre it would be an honour to have a play produced there, and the fame and glory would attract authors more ambitious of honour than of gold. Our leading dramatists must often conceive ideas for plays which they reject as being too fine in texture or too deep in meaning for the ordinary public. The large sums they receive from their ordinary labours place them above commercial considerations; but they require, if not long runs and the resultant profits, that the stamp of intellectual approbation shall be placed on their work by its production at a theatre exclusively devoted to the higher grade of dramatic art.

This question of plays is one of the greatest obstacles in the way of carrying on an intellectual theatre. We use the adjective to convey as best we can our meaning; though, as Mr. BREMNER WILLS pointed out in his interesting letter to us last week, the description should rather run "vital and in relation to life." But intellect is needed to appreciate and enjoy a drama which deals with social questions seriously. Only a small percentage of the population has any care for, or any understanding of, such questions. As a race we are not given to self-examination. We "muddle through" our mentality, as we "muddle through" our wars and our social politics. The play which is a sermon or a lecture in disguise only appeals to a small minority. An audience is a crowd, an assembly of human beings who, when they are part of the crowd each of whom has lost consciousness of certain of his individual mental characteristics. As M. LE BLON says in his thoughtful essay on this subject:

"The mental qualities in which men differ from one another are the acquired qualities of intellect and character; but the qualities in which they are at one are the innate basic passions of the race. A crowd, therefore, is less intellectual and more emotional than the individuals that compose it. It is less reasonable, less judicious, less disinterested, more credulous, more primitive, more partisan; and hence, a man, by the mere fact that he forms a part of an organised crowd, descends several rungs on the ladder of civilisation. Even the most cultured and intellectual of men, when he forms an atom of a crowd, loses consciousness of his acquired mental qualities and harks back to his primal nakedness of mind. The dramatist, therefore, because he writes for a crowd, writes for an uncivilised and uncultivated mind, a mind richly human, vehement in approbation, violent in disapproval, easily credulous, eagerly enthusiastic, boyishly heroic, and carelessly thinking."

The feature of the intellectual theatre in England may be greatly attributed to the gloomy, not to say pessimistic, spirit in which most of the plays are written. The public does not mind being castigated if the castigation be accompanied by amusement. When Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER and Mr. J. F. VEDRENNE concluded their celebrated season at the Court Theatre in 1904 they had paid their expenses and each had a considerable sum in hand at the end of the season. But this was only while Mr. BERNARD SHAW, who is a humorist, supplied them with plays. When Mr. SHAW'S wallet had been, for the time, emptied, and other authors equally anxious to expose abuses, but not equally gifted with amusing qualities, competed for public favour, the results were unsatisfactory. In the case of the French stage, the higher class theatres are eclectic. Their literary pieces are often as comical as they are intellectual. The difficulty of making both ends meet with a pessimist, or at any rate a wistfully melancholy, repertory is shown by the case of the Irish National Theatre. They had the free use of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and a subsidy; yet they are asking for what amounts to £800 a year to keep their enterprise "vigorous, intellectual, and courageous for another half a dozen years." There were apparently no heavy expenses in mounting or dressing the plays; the salary list could not have been high; and yet the receipts and expenses could not be made to balance.

Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN'S season at the Duke of York's Theatre has given intense and peculiar pleasure to hundreds of playgoers, and it would be a great pity if he had abandoned his enterprise. A certain amount of mystery hangs round the finance of the season, and, of course, we have no right to expect that the veil which conceals a theatrical manager's private business should be lifted. Still, surmise may be permitted. For instance, the first performances of *Misalliance* and *The Madras House* were received with demonstrative approval. We can only imagine, from the prompt withdrawal of these works, that they were not successful. In the case of a Repertory Theatre there must be a certain amount of sacrifice by all concerned. The great thing is to make up our minds what we are aiming at—an advanced theatre with small profits but great distinction, or an ordinary theatre with ordinary plays and the prospect of commercial success.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 28, at 32, Regent-street. Present: Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood in the Chair; Messrs. Chris Walker, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, Cyril Cattley, Henry Le Grand; Misses Beatrice Chester, Mildred Cottell, Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Two delegates were elected for the proposed arbitration between a member and a manager. The Secretary was instructed to submit the names to the secretary of the Touring Managers' Association, and inform them, on receipt, of the date on which the Court of Arbitration is to be held.

With reference to Mr. Cecil Raleigh's appointment as delegate to the Parliamentary Committee of the County Council, the Secretary was instructed to endeavour to see Mr. George Alexander and to ascertain if he would be willing to give evidence in place of Mr. Raleigh, who, on the information of the County Council representative, was detained in Paris, and therefore unable to attend the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee.

The House Committee's Report was presented by Mr. Murri Moncrieff and adopted.

The Finance Committee's Report was presented by Miss Beatrice Chester and adopted.

The Secretary reported two engagements.

Elections: Milly Lester Stephens, Robert Symes Entwistle. Nomination: Jane Comfort, proposed by Frederick Annerley, seconded by Phyllis Relph.

Mr. Le Grand suggested the formation of a golf club in connection with the Association, so that golfing members visiting provincial and suburban theatres might be able to show their credentials to local clubs as members of a club attached to the Actors' Association. He promised to give a further report at the next meeting.

"THE ADVENTURES OF NOBBLER AND JERRY" have been extended into a comedy in five acts, and under that title it was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Stratford on June 29. The authors are Harry Boden, David Worton, and Lew Lake.

"THIS, THAT, AND THE OTHER," a comedy, in three acts by F. C. Broadbridge, was produced for copyright purposes at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, on June 24. Mr. George Thorne was principal comedian. The piece will go on tour in the autumn under the management of Mr. Charles Cecil.

"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER."

The Drama, by Robert Neilson Stephens and E. Lyall Swete, Revived at the Lyric Theatre, on Thursday, June 30.

Captain Harry Peyton ....MR. LEWIS WALLER
Major John Colden .....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Sergeant Carrington .....MR. CRONIN WILSON
Mr. Valentine .....MR. HERBERT JARMAN
John Edwards.....MR. CATON WOODVILLE
Black Sam .....MR. GEORGE WELSH
Cuff .....MR. CHARLES KEENE
Mistress Sarah Williams ..MISS LOTTIE VENNE
Molly Edwards .....MISS GORDON LEE
Miss Elizabeth Phillips..MISS MADGE TITHERADGE

When *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* was first produced, we remarked in our critique that the play was frankly theatrical, with a first act full of stir and movement, and one very cleverly-devised situation; a rather weak second act; and a third act that brought on the inevitable happy ending without any undue strain upon the probabilities. The series of exciting and romantic incidents which result in the union of Miss Elizabeth Phillips and Captain Harry Peyton need not be re-described by us in detail; suffice it to say that the chivalry of Peyton, the impulsiveness of Miss Phillips, and the cruelty and cowardice of Major John Colden created as much pleasure in the audience at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday as they did when Mr. Robert Neilson Stephens and Mr. E. Lyall Swete's play was first performed at the Imperial Theatre on April 16, 1904. On that occasion Mr. Lewis Waller was the Captain Harry Peyton, Mr. Norman McKinnel the Major John Colden, Mr. Owen Roughwood the Sergeant Carrington, Mr. E. Lyall Swete the Mr. Valentine,, Miss Lottie Venne the Mistress Sarah Williams, Miss Constance Walton the Molly Edwards, and Miss Grace Lane the heroine. We need only remind the reader that the pivot of the plot is the affection which young Captain Hugh Peyton pretends to feel for the young lady, Miss Elizabeth Phillips, who has taken him prisoner, in order to induce her to assist him to escape. Afterwards he becomes really in love with his fair captor; but she hears from a tattling friend in whom Peyton confided his first stage of feeling that he has only been tricking her; and she is correspondingly indignant. However, in the end, the young people come to an understanding, and the piece ends happily.

Mr. Lewis Waller is as romantic and expressive an exponent of the part of Captain Harry Peyton as he was six years ago, and his spirited and striking impersonation will create intense admiration and enthusiasm in the ardent admirers who will certainly crowd the Lyric box-office in order to buy seats to witness Mr. Waller in such a congenial character. Mr. Frank Woolfe gives a most graphic and effective reading of the rôle of the repulsive and contemptible Major John Colden; and Mr. Cronin Wilson, in the part of Sergeant Carrington, supplies a reading of the rôle which could hardly be excelled. The character of the octogenarian widower, Valentine, is played with a mixture of humour and irony by Mr. Herbert Jarman, and played exceedingly well; and Mr. Caton Woodville's John Edwards is a performance of remarkable merit, and deserves warm praise. Mr. George Welsh is entirely satisfactory as Black Sam, and Mr. Charles Keene merits commendation for his clever embodiment of Cuff. It was fortunate that Miss Lottie Venne was available to repeat her diverting performance as Mistress Sarah Williams, full, as it is, of humour, finesse, and bright and cheerful comedy. Miss Gordon Lee gave a delightful reading of the telling little part of Molly; and Miss Madge Titheradge as the heroine was warmly expressive, full of grace and feeling, and admirably earnest, alert, and vivacious. *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* was preceded by a one-act piece by W. Cronin Wilson, played for the first time, and entitled

"THE GREAT GAME."

Jim Marsh .....MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON
Bill Hamlin .....MR. W. CRONIN WILSON
Snippy .....MR. STANLEY LOGAN

This *lever de rideau*, which was described on the programme as a "trifle," was a thrilling bit of low life, well invented, crisply written, and giving good opportunities to all the actors engaged in it. Bill Hamlin, a burglar, is wanted by the police for a brutal murder at Kensington, and is hiding in a basement in a house at Tilbury from the pursuit of a detective named Jim Marsh, who is on his track. Bill's pal, Snippy, a thief, in order to reassure him, shows him a concealed door and secret passage by which at need he can escape into the adjoining house. Then there arrives on the scene a little, silly, talkative Scotchman, who says he has come to see his aunt, the woman who keeps the house. By his never-failing prattle and apparent innocence, he throws the criminals off their guard, and when they discover that his bag contains a chicken and other tempting food, they seize on the eatables and prepare to enjoy a meal. But the burglar has left his revolver on the mantelpiece, and the simple Scotchman, who is Jim Marsh in disguise, possesses himself of it, covers the two rascals, and forces Snippy to handcuff Hamlin, who, covered by the weapon, savagely precedes Marsh in his departure from the place. The success of the acting in the "trifle" was Mr. Alec. F. Thompson's remarkably clever portrayal of the detective, and his neat assumption of the Scotch accent; but Mr. W. Cronin Wilson made a magnificently broad and bullying burglar; and the frisky sneak Snippy had a lively and characteristic representative in Mr. Stanley Logan. *The Great Game* had the favourable reception which its terse effectiveness deserved.

A Barge Theatre.

A CURIOUS example of the travelling theatre, says the *Daily News*, travels from place to place through France and Germany by means of the rivers and canals. The theatre is called "International Marine Theatre," and is constructed in the body of a barge 132ft. by 27ft. wide. The stage is nearly 18ft. wide, and there is room for 500 people. The second barge is fitted up with twelve cabins for the members of the company, besides a dining-room, writing-room, and kitchen. In the third barge are the stage properties, including the costumes, scenery, a carriage, six horses, and a donkey.

As soon as the players arrive at a village, they dress up in some of their most picturesque costumes, harness the horses to their gaily decorated carriage, and parade through the streets to announce their arrival. They have an extensive repertory, and sometimes stay for several days in one place.

THE company consists of eighteen persons, several of whom belong to the old family of Perney. The Perneys early in the seventeenth century were strolling players, wandering about the country with a wooden stage made up of loose boards. One of their number hit upon the idea of a barge playhouse, and in the course of years amassed quite a little fortune. His children, however, again took to the road, and for several generations went in waggons from village to village with their show, half circus, half theatre. Now the old idea has been resuscitated, and it seems as if the descendants of the original Perneys would follow their forbear's example and make a very comfortable living with their International Marine Theatre.

WHEN moving from place to place the players dress and live like fisherfolk. They are constantly adding new plays to their repertory, and spend much time learning their parts. The womenfolk make their own costumes, and the men have remarkable facility in scene painting.

THE MASQUE OF SHAKESPEARE.

Written by the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, Produced at St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, on the Afternoon of Thursday, June 30.

IMMORTALS.

Fame .....LADY BEERBOHM TREE
Tragedy .....MISS LILLAH M'CARTHY
Comedy .....MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
History .....HON. VENETIA STANLEY

SPIRITS OF MORTALS.

The Messenger (a Poet) ..MR. VERNON STEEL
Charles Betterton .....MR. HERBERT MANSFIELD
David Garrick .....MR. GEORGE OWEN
Edmund Kean .....MR. ERIC W. HALL
Peg Woffington .....HON. IRENE LAWLEY
Kitty Clive .....THE LADY EILEEN WELLESLEY
Sara Siddons .....MRS. WALTER RUBENS

FIGURES IN PROSPERO'S MASQUE.

Poetry .....MISS FRANCES TENNANT
Imagination .....MISS RUTH LYSTER
Fancy .....MISS KATHLEEN TENNANT
Architecture..THE HON HELEN MEYSEY-THOMPSON
Dance .....MISS ALISON BALFOUR
Painting .....THE LADY WINIFRED GORE
Music .....MISS WINIFRED SHELLEY
Writing .....THE HON. FRANCES LYTTELTON
Sculpture .....MISS TERESA HULTON
Drama .....MISS ELLEN TERRY

The following represented the Shadows from the Plays: King Richard III., Mr. Geoffrey Howard; Hamlet, Mr. Howard Rose; Romeo, Mr. Maclintock Clive; Benedict, Mr. Hugh D. Robinson; Orlando, Mr. Alan N. Birch; Petruchio, the Hon. Guy Charteris; Othello, Mr. Malcolm Bullock; Macbeth, Mr. H. Talbot Rice; Lear, Mr. Tom Heslewood; Prospero, Mr. J. Patric Curwen; Falstaff, Mr. Frederick Anerley; Oberon, Miss Mary Lyttelton; Ariel, Miss Daisy Benson; Puck, Miss Elizabeth Asquith; Ophelia, Miss Joan Balfour; Juliet, Miss Felicia Stewart; Beatrice, Miss Martha Vigo; Rosalind, Miss Muriel Martin Harvey; Katharine, Mrs. Godfrey Baring; Desdemona, Miss Rosamund Grosvenor; Lady Macbeth, Miss Marjorie Villiers; Portia, the Hon. Victoria Sackville-West; Titania, Miss Barbara Jekyll.

By kind permission of the Earl of Londesborough, *The Masque of Shakespeare*, or at least a portion of it, was performed on Thursday afternoon in the grounds of St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, the proceeds being in aid of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Fund. At four o'clock, the hour fixed for the start of the performance, a shower of rain was falling, but the downpour soon ceasing a beginning was made. However, the weather was most unfavourable for an outdoor entertainment, the sun being obscured by black, threatening clouds, and a rather strong wind blowing across the "sylvan glade" where the masque was performed. The plot had reached the stage at which Falstaff makes his appearance, when a heavy shower caused the players and the audience to take shelter under the trees. The rain continuing for some time, and the grass becoming thoroughly saturated it was reluctantly decided to abandon the performance for that day. Lady Macbeth under an umbrella and a Romeo in the rain was scarcely in accord with the spirit of Poetry, though such a sight certainly bordered on Comedy; while a dismal, damp Hamlet scampering over the grass in search of shelter was calculated to raise a laugh even among the Immortals. Alas! the fickle English climate was responsible for the flight of masquers and their disappointed audience, and general were the expressions of regret that the concluding portion of the performance could not be given.

The Masque, by the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, was produced under the direction of Mr. Philip Carr, and the music, which had been specially written for it by Mr. Morton Stephenson, was performed by the members of the New Symphony Orchestra. The minuet, which was danced, had been arranged by Mr. D'Egville, the Dance of Poetry, Imagination and Fancy by Miss Margaret Morris, and the other dances by Mr. Philip Carr. To quote from the somewhat quaint phraseology of the argument *The Masque* "is devised to set forth the true honouring of our rare and precious poet William Shakespeare." The scene is a sylvan glade, the abode of the Goddess of Fame. To her comes a messenger from the earth—the Poet, who, having found no fitting monument to Shakespeare in the land, appeals to the goddess for help. She thereupon calls on Tragedy and Comedy, and bids them summon up the creatures of Shakespeare's genius. These characters or shadows, having no speech save that which has been set down for them in the plays to which they belong, can give utterance to no new thought, and are thus not able to impart counsel. The Poet begs for leave to speak with the spirits of great mortals. The shadows will have none summoned but players who in times gone by have given them shape and spoken their words. A few are called, but alas! the shadows and the players do not agree. The messenger asks for Titania and Oberon, spirits of another sort. They come, attended by Puck and the fairies, but they, too, can give no counsel. They dance instead, and so do some of the shadows. The Poet thinks he had better return to the world of men, as there is no help to be obtained here. There is a sudden and noisy interruption from Prince Hal's boon companion, Falstaff, and then Drama, having gathered the wreaths which the sister arts have earned, speaks of the reverence that should be paid to Shakespeare, and of the temple which must be erected in his honour. Shakespeare himself is then seen crossing the green sward. Of grave demeanour and silent of tongue, he passes slowly out of sight, followed by the Shadows, the Spirits of Mortals, and the Immortals.

Lady Beerbohm Tree as Fame acted with her usual grace of manner, and spoke her lines admirably; Miss Lillah M'Carthy also scored a success as Tragedy; and Miss Lilian Braithwaite was an excellent selection for the rôle of Comedy. The Hon. Venetia Stanley, in the part of History, deserves praise. Mr. Vernon Steel did exceedingly well as the Messenger, and Mr. Herbert Mansfield as Charles Betterton, Mr. George Owen as David Garrick, and Mr. Eric W. Hall as Edmund Kean gave capital representations. The Hon. Irene Lawley was a handsome Peg Woffington, the Lady Eileen Wellesley proved to be a charming Kitty Clive, and Mrs. Walter Rubens is to be congratulated on her Sara Siddons.

The Figures in Prospero's Masque, including Miss Ellen Terry as Drama were all ably impersonated, but, like the Shadows from the Plays, had very little to say or to do. The Hamlet of Mr. Howard Rose, the Romeo of Mr. Maclintock Clive, the Othello of Mr. Malcolm Bullock, the Macbeth of Mr. H. Talbot Rice, the Lear of Mr. Tom Heslewood, and the Falstaff of Mr. Frederick Anerley were all satisfactory, while the ladies who appeared as shadows, gave an equally good account of themselves. But all the players were badly handicapped by the wet, cheerless weather.

THE Earl of Yarmouth, who has produced at Cardiff an up-to-date musical comedy of his own writing and composing, in which he himself takes a leading part, has had a good deal of previous stage experience, and some years ago, it will be remembered, he created a sensation not only by singing and acting in public, but also by appearing in the rôle of a skirt-dancer at the Theatre Royal, Hobart. Lord Yarmouth, it was declared, twirled his skirts with skill and dexterity worthy of Loie Fuller herself, but some censorious folk affected to consider the performance an undignified one all the same. As Eric Hope he appeared under Charles Frohman in New York, in *Wheels Within Wheels*.

A MAYOR'S ATTACK.

The preliminary business of the Hammersmith Borough Council meeting on Wednesday evening having been dealt with, Alderman Mulholland asked the permission of the Mayor (Alderman S. Bewsher) to broach a question of which he had given private notice.

The Mayor: You may as well get it over.

Alderman Mulholland said the matter indirectly concerned himself, but more directly concerned the Mayor. He had received several letters in reference to it on that and the previous day. Alderman Mulholland then read the following excerpt from the Mayor's speech reflecting upon theatres and music halls as reported in the *West London Observer*:—"There was a large class of people who were not altogether satisfied with the entertainments given in theatres and music halls. He regarded himself as belonging more or less to 'the old brigade,' who felt simply bored if he had to listen to a long play which might be interlarded with indecencies. He referred to plays put on the stage at the present moment, so-called comic opera, or problem plays, where the problem was the story of an idiotic blind husband. Some of them who were not satisfied with that sort of thing could come into such places as that picture palace not only to be entertained, but to improve their minds." Strong representations had been made to him (the Alderman) both by theatre managers and others. He felt the Mayor's words must have been erroneously reported, as he could not imagine him indulging in such broad, sweeping, and general condemnation. But he and his friends would be glad to know as to whether his Worship had been correctly reported.

The Mayor replied that he had only just seen the report. He had not had time to look at the paper that week; but they must understand that this was a cut-down and abbreviated report of his lengthy speech. He did not know that it was his business to defend what he had said on that occasion, but he was prepared to stand by it. What he intended and meant to say was this: that he had reached an age when some of the comic operas, and he mentioned the name of one, which was the last comic opera he had seen (which he repeated), and he mentioned that it was full of indecencies, and he stuck to that now. He went on to say that some modern problem plays, which were spun out into three acts, might easily be concentrated into a twenty minutes' farce. He stuck to that, too. He had no sympathy whatever with the ordinary problem plays which were put on the stage. Beyond that he did not denounce the theatres, with which he was sure the gentlemen who were present on that occasion would agree with him.

Alderman Mulholland expressed surprise that the broad statement had not been withdrawn. Having made his protest he would let the matter drop so far as that Council was concerned. But he was sure the Mayor's explanation would not satisfy his (the Alderman's) friends, and he was bound to say they did not satisfy him.

The incident then closed.

The following letters have appeared in the *West London Observer*:—

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—It is a matter of keen regret to me to have to refer to any public utterance of the Mayor in terms other than of agreement; but if I were to pass over, without protest in your columns, his remarks at the opening of a picture palace, as reported in your last week's issue, I feel that it would be taken in some quarters as a tacit admission of their truth. The matter was reported in your paper as follows:—"In speaking of the development of theatres and music halls, the Mayor said there was a large class of people who were not altogether satisfied with the entertainments given in theatres and music halls. He regarded himself as belonging more or less to 'the old brigade,' who felt simply bored if he had to listen to a long play which might be interlarded with indecencies. He referred to plays put on the stage at the present moment, so-called comic opera, or problem plays, where the problem was the story of an idiotic blind husband. Some of them who were not satisfied with that sort of thing could come into such places as that picture palace, not only to be entertained, but to improve their minds."

It will be observed that his remarks were not confined to a particular play or theatre, but that on the contrary he made a general and sweeping condemnation, not only direct, but by inference, of all theatres and music halls. When I asked a question on the subject at last night's meeting of the Council—a question of which I had given the Mayor private notice—his reply did little, if anything, to qualify or modify the damaging nature of his statements as published. In the circumstances, I desire to say that his attack is both unmerited and unjust; and most of all is it unfair, inasmuch as it is a generality, which always renders the individual more or less helpless.

I speak more especially on behalf of the theatres; but although I have not an equally intimate knowledge of the music halls, I have no doubt whatever that the Mayor's strictures are equally undeserved. Such views expressed by a private person would be practically negligible; but when they emanate from the chief magistrate of this important borough they possess a power within that borough to prejudice and to damage which is hardly to be estimated, and their influence is calculated to extend far beyond its boundaries. I should like to add that, knowing Alderman Bewsher as I do, and having enjoyed his friendship for some years, I do not believe even now that he meant his words to convey the meaning they do convey; but there it is in cold print.—Yours truly,

J. B. MULHOLLAND.

King's Theatre, Hammersmith, June 23, 1910.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I am sorry to see by the Mayor's speech at the opening of above, reported in your issue of the 17th inst., that he (the Mayor) has such a poor opinion of theatres and music halls, and thinks electric theatres educational and entertaining and a distinct advantage to the borough. There are in Hammersmith borough two theatres and two music halls, paying a large sum in rates. These places of entertainment are conducted on the best public lines, and the majority of plays performed are quite as entertaining, instructive and educational as pictures at an electric theatre. I have no prejudice against cinematograph theatres, as I am myself a shareholder and director of a large company, and I am pleased to see the Mayor of Hammersmith take such an interest in them; but to throw mud at the theatres and music halls, and to refer to being bored by plays which might be interlarded with indecencies, is, to say the least of it, a very unkind and uncalled-for remark.—Yours faithfully,

WENTWORTH CROKE.

Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.
June 22, 1910.

BOURNEMOUTH begins the celebration of its centenary, for which it has made most elaborate preparations, next week. Numerous fêtes will take place, but a feature of the proceedings will be the aviation meeting. Among the artists engaged in connection with the celebrations are Mme. Melba, Mme. Clara Butt, Miss Edna Thornton, Miss Margaret Cooper, Messrs. Backhaus, de Pachmann, Mischa Elman, Kennerly Rumford, Robert Maitland, and Landon Ronald. At the concert of works by English composers Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Charles Stanford, Sir Edward Elgar, and Mr. Edward German will conduct in turn.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The French Ministry of Public Instruction has paid special honour to the English variety profession by conferring the order of Les Palmes Académique on Little Tich, who is now appearing at the Oxford. He thus becomes an "officier d'Académie."

The order was instituted by Napoleon in 1808, and is conferred on literary men, scientists, and all who advance education. The decoration consists of an oval crown formed by two branches—one a palm and the other a laurel, in gold—and is suspended from a violet ribbon attached to the left breast.

English artists are too prone, perhaps, to call the art of entertaining the public a "business." Frenchmen who have a standard of art in the House of Molière know better, and the many thousands who have laughed at Mr. Harry Relf will rejoice at the honour that has been conferred upon a public favourite—at once so cosmopolitan and versatile.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rickards, as briefly announced in our last issue, arrived in London on Friday, the 24th ult., after a pleasant voyage, on the Orient liner, the Orvieto. Since his arrival Mr. Rickards has been so overwhelmed with correspondence that he finds it utterly impossible, even with the assistance of his private secretary, Mr. Clifton Clarke, to reply to all. He therefore hopes that artists and agents will take his silence as a polite negative.

Mr. Rickards, who looks bronzed and well, will be in this country until Oct. 21, and hopes to be able to greet his old friends in London and the provinces during his stay. His newest relative is his baby grandson, the child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harwood. Mr. and Mrs. Rickards are enjoying themselves at Westwood, his estate near Margate. Letters may be addressed to him, care of *The Era*.

The prospectus has been issued of the Victoria Palace, Ltd., the company which has been formed for the purpose of acquiring the Royal Standard, together with considerable additional property, and erecting thereon a large and luxurious modern theatre of varieties. The capital of the company is £80,000, in shares of 10s. each.

Mr. Alfred Butt contradicts the report that he is interested in the new Middlesex. He was approached on the matter and invited to become managing-director; but after consideration, he decided not to associate himself with the scheme. He will run one performance a night at the new Victoria Palace.

Miss Louie Freear leaves England in three weeks' time under engagement to the Hymans for the Empire, Johannesburg. After fulfilling engagements in South Africa she hopes to go to Australia. In Britain overseas our quaint little comedienne should sound a note of comedy not readily forgotten.

To know the late Mr. Charles Wilson, whose brilliant career as an inventor and producer of ballets and spectacles was cut short in July last year, was to know one whose heart was attuned to the joy of life, and the writer, who cherishes the recollection of many a conversation with him, found in "Charlie" a man of gentle courtesy, of wide sympathy, and one who reached to a high ideal in art. The qualities that endeared him, more particularly in his home life, to his intimates exercised a genial influence over those associated with him in the various administrative departments of the Moss and Stoll amalgamation at Cranbourn-mansions, among whom his early decease was sincerely mourned.

Upon the "silent shore of memory are graven thoughts of the departed," we are told by the poet Wordsworth, but the love of those he has left behind has suggested a more permanent memorial to Charles Wilson, and in a week or two a few friends will be invited to see the cenotaph that marks the spot where he sleeps his last sleep in Highgate Cemetery.

The memorial consists of a granite cross with anchor and chain. The curb, also of granite, has four posts. All is polished except the anchor and chain. A marble vase and case will stand in the centre of the curb. The date for the touching ceremony of the presentation of the memorial to those nearest and dearest to the departed has been fixed for Aug. 4, when a few words will be said by the Vicar of the parish.

Miss Annie Hughes, whose appearance and success on the variety stage has been voted a success as *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, will have to relinquish all bookings with herself as Sans-Gêne until November, when she will be seen again in London as the good, beautiful laundress. Miss Hughes starts a provincial tour with *Miss Tommy*, a comedy drama by Jerome K. Jerome, in July, this tour extending until the end of October. Miss Hughes has made Mr. Jerome's heroine *Miss Tommy* famous in the provinces, and hopes to repeat the good impression the play created three years ago.

Miss Kitty Marion writes from the Hippodrome, Hastings:—"Will you allow me, for the sake of justice and fairness, to contradict the statements regarding the disturbance in connection with the representation by the Bros. Luck of *H.M.S. Perhaps*. Their show does not require any such advertisement, and there is nothing in it for Suffragettes to take offence at. I have seen and thoroughly enjoyed it when on the same bill with it some time ago, when it was an enormous success without Suffragette (?) disturbances in front."

Not only frequenters of the London Pavilion, but the music-hall world in general, have heard with regret of the death of Mr. Hugh Francis Lethbridge Astley, who has been chairman of the company from the first, from the time, some twenty-three years ago, when the old "Pav." passed from the late Mr. Edwin Villiers and entered in 1887 on its successful career as the "London Pavilion, Limited." He was also connected with Ronacher's, Vienna, and the Newcastle Pavilion, Ltd.

Mr. Astley, whose familiarity with the halls from their earliest days rendered him a veritable storehouse of music-hall lore, had reached his seventy-eighth year, and was buried at Brookwood on Tuesday last. Formerly a clerk in the Foreign Office, he was a county magistrate for Wiltshire, serving also in the Yeomanry of that county.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May (secretary) begs most gratefully to thank the following: Miss Fannie Harris (Dent and Harris), giving and collecting 16s.; Miss Camelia Norris, lady's coat and hat; Mrs. Charles Coborn, lady's hat; Miss Lottie Albert, gentleman's dressing-gown and collars; Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper, useful parcel of clothing. Will Mrs. Arthur Hatton, who was present at a meeting of above on Aug. 11 last year kindly communicate at once to above. The handsome portière curtain belongs to her ticket, number 50. Will anyone make an offer for fifteen large sized band books, given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris, per Sisters Macarte.

The Leicester Palace Theatre is now in the hands of the decorators and furnishers, the work proceeding without stopping the performances. The hall, which is one of the largest and handsomest in the provinces, will present a charming appearance when finished.

Mr. Pan. E. Draco, who has been the popular acting-manager of the Palace Theatre, Reading, since its opening, took a farewell benefit at the Cross-street hall in that town on Monday. His friends rallied round him well, and a capital variety programme was presented.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, proprietors of the Opera House, Northampton, have determined to embark upon a new enterprise in that town. A freehold site, centrally situated, has been secured, upon which is to be erected an up-to-date variety theatre, which will be booked and worked in conjunction with a combination of London and provincial halls.

Plans passed by the Northampton Highways Committee provide for another music-hall with an imposing elevation in Abingdon-street, with a convenient approach at the rear in Mellow's-row. Mr. W. T. Simmonds, of Reading, is the purchaser, acting on behalf of a powerful London syndicate, who have allotted £20,000 for the venture.

Mr. P. D. Elbourne, late resident-manager of the Birmingham Hippodrome, has been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll, the managing-director of the Leicester Palace Theatre, to a similar post at that hall. Mr. Elbourne, who comes to Leicester with excellent credentials, entered upon his new duties this week. Mr. W. S. Buccleuch, the assistant-manager, is also back again after his visit to the United States, where he went on business and pleasure combined.

The new Scottish Zoo is to be reopened by Mr. E. H. Bostock at Glasgow on Monday next, and all the attractive features that made the success of this popular resort in the past are to be revived in up-to-date style. Signor Volpi's Italian Circus will provide a large part of the entertainment for the opening weeks.

The Regent Theatre of Varieties, Salford, closes to-night for alteration and decoration, and will reopen on August Bank Holiday.

The Palace Theatre, Darlington (Ltd.), having been let on lease to the East Coast Variety Halls (Ltd.), all contracts are cancelled as and from Aug. 27 next, in accordance with the Arbitrator's Award.

The Matlock Bath Urban District Council are desirous of letting their newly-erected Pavilion and Pump Room, with the grounds adjoining. Mr. Fred W. Gill, Clerk to the Council, Hunter's Chambers, Matlock, will give all particulars.

"Lydia and the Parson," a spoilt tragedy in one act, by Archibald H. Pocock, will be produced, under the personal stage direction of Mr. Martin Moore, at the Alhambra, Brighton, on Monday next. The sketch is a distinct departure, combining as it does bright natural comedy with intensely dramatic situations.

Dr. Walford Bodie has been playing this week at the Empire, Dudley, to record business, both houses being packed to the doors nightly with the élite of the town. Recent events seem only to have increased the doctor's popularity, and his soul-stirring electrical experiments are cheered to the echo nightly. His local challenges to electrical and scientific experts are creating quite a sensation. He is now fully booked till November, and has had to refuse many offers of immediate dates.

The second annual report and accounts of the Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd., to be submitted to the shareholders at the annual general meeting on Tuesday next, shows the profit available for distribution to be £2,338 13s. 1d., which it is proposed to apply as follows:—To pay 8 per cent. on ordinary share capital (of which an interim dividend of 4 per cent. has already been paid), £1,200; to place to general reserve fund, £1,000; to carry forward, £138 13s. 1d. The retiring director, Mr. W. G. England, offers himself for re-election, as does also the auditor, Mr. James Gibson. Mr. Will Smithson is the managing-director of this prosperous concern.

A correspondent writes: "In a recent issue of the *Glasgow Evening Times* I noticed a prospectus in connection with the floating of the Glasgow Panopticon (Ltd.). After perusal, it brought to my mind fresh memories of the 'Brit.' and the many talented singers and comedians who used to appear in my boyhood's days.

"The lessee, Mr. W. H. Rossborough, in competing against the old Scotia, brought the cream of the profession to the Trongate hall, which proved a decided success financially, for at his decease he left some £30,000.

"Here are a few of the names that made the 'Brit.' such a favourite place of amusement amongst the working classes, from boatyard labourer to the 'toffs' in the big warehouses: George Leybourne, A. G. Vance, Harry Liston, Sam Torr, Fred Albert, Harry Sidney, Harry Rickards, Jolly John Nash, James Taylor (champion comic), John Blanchard, James Fawn, George Ware, W. J. Ashcroft (the Solid Man), J. W. Rowley, J. H. Milburn, Harry Dale, Charles Coborn, Dick Geldard, Horace Wheatley, Jenny Hill, Marie Lawson, Marie Loftus, Ruth Stanley, and Marion Smith.

"Among the old school of entertainers who appeared were Peter Aitken, Alf. Milner, Ben Hoskins, N. C. Bostock (the Comic King), W. G. Ross, and Pat Feeney. Among the black-and-tan warriors were Louis Lindsay, George Washington, Will Parker, Abe Cox, Brown and Newland, and a host of other stars that were at the very top of the ladder of fame in the profession."

A very grave boating disaster occurred in Bournemouth Bay on Sunday, when there were four lives lost, amongst the unfortunate victims being Mr. Arthur H. Burdett, the popular resident-manager of the Boscombe Hippodrome. It appears the party (five in number) went for a sail, and after a time a squall struck the boat and she capsized, throwing all the occupants into the water. Only one man was able to regain the boat, but his efforts exhausted him, rendering him unable to assist his companions, who disappeared one by one, the last to give in being Mr. Burdett. The survivor was picked up by a Bournemouth pleasure steamer on Monday morning.

Mr. Burdett, who was only twenty-six years of age, was most popular in his district. He started his career in the music-hall profession as assistant-manager at Southampton Hippodrome, remaining there for some considerable time. From thence he went to the Portsmouth Hippodrome. In 1908 he took the position as manager at Tunbridge Wells; but, owing to ill-health, ultimately went to Boscombe in December, 1908, when he took over the district-manager's position at the re-opening of the Hippodrome. The deepest sympathy is felt for the relatives in their sad bereavement.

At the moment of going to press Mr. Fred Kitchen informs us by wire of the death of his father, R. H. Kitchen, in his 81st year. We gave some interesting particulars of the deceased gentleman's long career in our issue of June 25.

Griff, the funny conceit, has sent two guineas for the old people in the Music Hall Home.

Mr. Jack Mark Sheridan, son of the popular comedian and patterer, Mark Sheridan, was married by special licence at Sunderland, on the 23rd ult., to Miss Irene Frampton, daughter of Mr. C. H. Frampton, scenic artist. Congratulations.

Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donegan, the famous skaters, sailed on June 22 from New York by the Mauretania for London, to open at the Palace Theatre on Monday for the summer. They reached London early in the week.

Miss Constance Mori produced her clever Chinese dancing scena at the Surrey Theatre on Monday, June 27, and made an enormous success. Result: no vacancies this year. Beecham and Wheeler are arranging this lady's business.

Mr. Edward Lauri and Miss May Beattie, after a short absence from town, return there on Monday, when they will present the brilliant and funny farcical musical comedietta *The Lady Bandits* to audiences at the Holborn Empire.

Cissie Lawson's new hall, the Camberwell Empire, has been playing to enormous business this week, and opens on Monday with a star company, including La Milo, the beautiful; Cissie Lawson, in *A Bride for a Living;* the Ten Dixie Girls, and others.

We regret to hear that Mr Hamilton Hill, at one time a most successful baritone vocalist in the London halls, has died in America, leaving wife and child unprovided for. Unfortunately he was not associated at the time of his death with any of the artists' organisations or benefit funds.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair, who is playing the Coliseum, Glasgow, appeared on Monday also at both houses at the local Empire. Though he has appeared over and over again at all the other halls in Glasgow it was his first appearance at the Empire, where his songs were as popular as elsewhere. He was repeatedly recalled.

Mr. F. Warden Reed and Miss Jennie Stevens will start on a fourteen weeks' provincial tour, commencing on Monday next at the Tivoli, Manchester, with their duologue, *Married or Photographed?* They have in active preparation a new act written by F. Warden Reed and A. E. Mathews, entitled *A Day's Racing*, which they hope to produce in October.

Mr. Charles Beresford, who has now taken over the management of the Camden Hippodrome, is no stranger to North London, for he has already held positions at the Empire and Marlborough Theatres at Holloway, and we feel sure that his old friends will all welcome him, and that he will add countless new ones at the Camden, where he has quickly settled down.

Graham, the human marionette, who tops the bill at the King's, Gateshead, this week, is drawing big houses there with his "Music Hall: 1875-1910." He has been offered, by the Great Lafayette, a tour of the world, a tempting offer that he has had to refuse, in consequence of being booked solid by Marinelli for the next two and a half years—a sufficiently gratifying testimonial of originality and ability.

Mr. R. G. Knowles, according to the *Daily Telegraph*, has determined to make New York his permanent residence. He has, indeed, arranged to build a theatre in that city, of which the site alone is to cost £10,000. It will be situated in the Bronx, somewhere about 160th Street. He does not propose, however, to cultivate there the higher forms of drama. His theatre is intended for the cinematograph and vaudeville.

The Stockwell Angling Society, which includes amongst its members many prominent variety artists, recently gave President Redfern, of the New York Nippers, a tremendous reception after his long absence on tour, and two more anglers were added to this fine club's list by the election as members of Messrs. Ben and James Obo, who were sponsored by Mr. Bernard Stavordale. Mr. Wal Pink has been having some tremendous catches of late, he being a prominent member of the club.

The usual weekly meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. committee was held on Wednesday at the offices, with Mr. Harry Blake in the chair. Others present included Messrs. Charles Coborn, J. W. Cragg, H. Cee Mee, Lieut. Albini, Tom Packer, and C. Douglas Stuart. Dr. Lindsay Smith, 102, Cheetham Hill-road, Manchester, was appointed a medical adviser to the Association. The weekly statement showed fifty-four new members and a cash total of £56 5s. Next week's committee meeting will be held on Thursday, because of the fête and gala on the previous day at Rosherville.

Miss Mildred Blanchard will produce this month a new powerful sensational dramatic sketch entitled *Nanon Lafarge*, specially written for her by Geo. R. Sims. She will be supported by a company of four well-known West-end artists, also some supers. Arrangements have been made for special elaborate scenery and characteristic costumes. An Indian knife-fight takes place, and a genuine full-blooded Indian has been engaged for the part. Mr. George R. Sims says *Nanon Lafarge* is the strongest dramatic work he has ever written.

Mr. Douglas Stuart, Secretary of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, writes:—"It has become increasingly and regrettably common lately for certain of our daily newspapers to publish with great detail utterly unfounded and injurious statements which do grave injustice to the unselfish work which has been done for many years and is still being carried on by the committees of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Ladies' Guild on behalf of the poor of our class. Of course, journalism has its requirements, but it has also its responsibilities, and one of the latter is to refrain from hastily issuing *ex parte* statements calculated to do great harm to organised charitable effort.

"The most recent case is that of the late Mme. Senyah. This case had been fully considered and largely helped, especially by the last-named institution, but we find in the papers only such accounts as would lead outsiders to imagine that those artists who professed to assist their more unfortunate brethren had been singularly wanting in their duty. A very little inquiry would prove to these hasty scribes that such suggestions are entirely unwarranted by the facts as they really are.

I need not take up your valuable space by giving particulars as to the case I have quoted, but I am desired, through you, to assure all and sundry that every case which comes under our observation is relieved to such extent as our funds will permit and the circumstances appear to warrant. Our committee members give up their time cheerfully and bring their knowledge and experience to bear upon the work of administering faithfully the funds which are entrusted to them, and it does not appear too much to ask that their really charitable efforts should not be hampered and discounted by those whose professed intention and obvious duty are to help on to the right."

Sam Glenroy has once again lost his well-known bull-terrier dog Bob, whose permanent address is *The Era* office. Should any artist come across him in their travels please notify his owner.

Mr. George Robey has arranged for the Kilties' Band (twice commanded to perform before his late Majesty King Edward VII.) to appear this week at the Empire, Tonypandy, and in the Park on Sunday afternoon and evening prior to their departure for America.

Miss Gwennie Hasto, the charming fancy dancer, produced at the Empire, Stratford, June 17, a very quaint and original number, "Miss Robinson Jones," written and composed by Walter Emerson and Gilbert Wells with which she is scoring heavily on the Stoll tour.

Mr. Edward Sillward, the famous animal impersonator, who plays the dog in *Peter Pan*, is by way of producing, at the Tottenham Palace on Monday next, a new and original fantasy entitled *Le Gorille*, written by himself and produced by Harry Grattan. He will be assisted by Miss Pauline Prim.

Last week burglars paid a visit to the Theatre Royal, Atterciffe. They smashed open a brand new hamper, belonging to Miss Della Ray, turned out all her beautiful new dresses, and appropriated a suit belonging to her husband, Harry Kent (brother of Duncan and Godfrey). The culprits were disturbed before they had time to commit further depredations.

A dramatic licence has been again refused for the Palace Music Hall, Durham. On behalf of Mr. T. C. Rawes, the proprietor, some 3,400 people in and out of Durham asked that the licence might be granted. Canon Greenwell, who presided over the bench of "the great unpaid," said that nine magistrates declined to grant the licence, and he did not see how they could reverse their decision. The bench, however, concurred in the grant of a cinematograph licence.

We regret to announce the death, on Friday last, after a prolonged and painful illness, of Albert Burrows Smith, the only son of H. Burrows Smith, the variety agent. The interment took place on Wednesday in Greenford Park Cemetery. Among the wreaths sent were those from his parents' old friends Fred Maxwell and Lois Du Cane, Mr. and Mrs. Coombes and his old schoolfellow William Coombes, and Miss Amy Milton, who followed with the bereaved parents.

Miss Clara Wieland's long absence from England is due to her great success in America, where she is also known as Mary Ann Brown. At her recent reappearance at Henderson's, New York, her success was instantaneous. Miss Wieland's songs are all of the rollicking English type, and her many changes of costume are pretty. She has capital songs in "I'd rather be like Pa" and "You've got to get off and walk." Her series of impersonations includes Fay Templeton, Vesta Victoria, Anna Held, and George M. Cohan, the much-impersonated Yankee comedian.

For July 4 (Monday) the Palace Theatre programme is quite cosmopolitan. America is represented by that dainty actress Miss Fannie Ward, in the new sketch entitled *An Unlucky Star;* Mr. Bert Levy, the famous caricaturist; and Radford and Winchester, comedy jugglers. The artistic interests of Russia are in the keeping of Mlle. Anna Pavlova, M. Mordkin, and company of Russian dancers; and England has in Mr. Barclay Gammon (accompanied by a piano), Mr. Arthur Prince (the clever ventriloquial entertainer), and Mr. J. P. Ling (comedian), a sufficiently versatile trio.

The Sunday Defence Committee have decided to hold a meeting on Friday, July 22, at Terry's Theatre, by kind permission of Mr. Edward Terry, from one to three o'clock, for the purpose of considering the Sunday entertainment question in its new aspect, arising out of the decision of Mr. Cecil Chapman and the proceedings initiated by the Cinematograph Defence League in convening a meeting of the managers' and proprietors' Associations to consider the opening on Sundays of all kinds of theatres.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., will preside, and representatives of various societies will be asked to speak, including many of the honorary vice-presidents of the Sunday Defence Committee. Actors, variety artists, musicians, and employees are urged, in their own interests, to attend this meeting and support the following resolution:—"That, in order to avert the imposition of a seven days' working week upon actors, artists, musicians, and employees, this meeting declares it to be imperative that the licence of any place licensed for public amusement should prohibit the opening of such premises on Sunday by way of trade or personal gain."

Mr. W. H. Clemart, chairman of the V.A.F. and the Sunday Defence Committee, will propose this resolution. Members of the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Association, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees, will be admitted on showing their card of membership. Tickets will be obtainable from the hon. secretary, Wm. Johnson, at 29, Wellington-street, W.C.

Miss Mabel Mavis, the justly celebrated glassophone soloist and exponent of many musical novelties, is continuing her successful tour of the provincial towns and cities. She has lately purchased of Mr. James Elliott, of the renowned Elliott and Savona Troupe, a peculiar musical instrument called the "Moreamba," a species of xylophone, with certain attachments as resonators, giving greatly increased power and volume to the tone. To the playing of this with the right hand, she accompanies herself on the piano with the left. Mr. Harry Burns, the hustling provincial agent, has brought upon himself the thanks of this talented lady for his energetic and successful endeavours in the way of booking.

An ex-painter named Williams, now performing as a tight-rope walker under the style of "The Great Houndin," had a terrible experience recently during the progress of a big carnival at Niagara Falls. The day was being observed as a civic holiday by the twin cities of Niagara Falls, and Williams had arranged to furnish a thrilling termination to the afternoon's merrymaking by executing a "slide for life" across the gorge from the American to the Canadian shore, hanging by his teeth from the sloping wire which he had had suspended between the cliffs. Through a miscalculation, however, he stopped short in the middle of his slide, and was only rescued after half an hour of agony, shared by the crowds who were watching him.

The new version of the Empire Theatre revue, *Hullo! London*, is to be replete with novel scenes and parodies on Monday next. Mr. J. F. M'Ardle will appear as Jimmy Valentine in the great safe-opening scene, while Mr. Fred Leslie will be Sherlock Holmes; besides this Mr. Fred Leslie will appear in conjunction with Mr. Roberts, Miss Maud Jay, and Miss Frances Kapstown in a skit upon the village players. Mr. M'Ardle has two numbers, and Miss Valli Valli—around whom the revue is now developed—besides her very important waltz song, will have her parody on Miss Gertie Millar's successful duet, in which she will have the support of Mr. Ralph Roberts as "Teddy" Payne, and a new number dealing with the delights of the latest dance, "The Boston."

Billy Ross and company are doing remarkably well with their comedy boxing act competition—big draw.

Mr. David Taylor is the managing director of the Tonypandy Hippodrome, the resident-manager under him being Mr. Will Pearson.

Two cheques for £60 each, the proceeds of a charity matinée on May 2 at the Camden Hippodrome, were handed during the performance in the second house there on Monday to the Mayor of St. Pancras (Councillor Bryan), for division between the St. Pancras Female Orphanage and the Home for Aged Poor. His Worship, in a brief speech, thanked the artists, the staff, and Mr. Walter Gibbons.

A rowing and athletic club has been inaugurated at the Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, in connection with which a double sculling race took place on Sunday last from Blackfriars Bridge to Lambeth Bridge, which resulted in a most exciting finish, witnessed by a large number of people on the bridge and Embankment who became most enthusiastic. A four-oared race has been arranged for Sunday next, from Vauxhall Bridge to Westminster Bridge to start at 12 noon. All performers interested in rowing should obtain particulars of the club from the hon. secretary, T. Cavill (Cavill's Agency) at the Spread Eagle. The president is Major G. Houghton Gastrell, M.P.

Lions, tigers, yaks, dromedaries, and other animals, comprising the Crystal Palace menagerie, are to be sold by auction on July 14. There are ninety-eight lots catalogued, including the famous African lion Prince and his sire Sultan. An Indian jackal, a grizzly bear—Old Darkie—a Canadian wolf, and a llama are also to be sold. Several macaws, cockatoos, and parrakeets, some of which are described as "good talkers," are to be included in the auction.

The Alhambra management is to be congratulated on having secured the services of the young American girl, who sings under the name of Signorina Corona. Born in New York of Irish-American parents, Gracia Clere (Signorina Corona), eight years ago sung before Mme. Melba, who advised her to secure the best possible European tuition, and the gifted young American went straight to Rome, where she took up her training as the protégée of the First Secretary of the American Embassy in that city.

After four years of steady training her voice was pronounced finished enough for grand opera. Before she had reached the age of nineteen years she had sung in every opera house in Italy, and twice in private before the King and Queen of Italy. Her principal successes were in *Carmen, Linda, Rigoletto, La Bohème, Lohengrin,* and *Fra Diavolo*. Having no engagements in Italy till the opening of the Pergola Opera House in Florence, Miss Clere came to London, and, unequipped with introductions, sought an audition from Mr. Alfred Moul at the Alhambra. Mr. Moul, who is an experienced authority on things musical, immediately recognised the rare quality of her voice and the finish of her methods, and thereupon engaged her for two months.

The fête and gala at Rosherville Gardens on Wednesday gives every promise, providing the weather is fine, of being one of the greatest open-air entertainments ever organised in the variety world. The following favourites have kindly consented to appear either in the afternoon or evening:—Misses Gertie Gitana, Clarice Vance, Maidie Scott, Lil Hawthorne, Marie Kendall, Adele Levey, Maie Hoey, May Moore Duprez, Alexandra Dagmar, Maude Mortimer, Dora Challoner, Marie Blythe, Constance Moxon, Florrie Robina, Katie Cohen, Lily Rouletta, Jessie Albini; and Messrs. Joe Elvin, G. H. Chirgwin, Harry Tate, Neil Kenyon (if possible), Charles Coborn, Albert Christian, Steve McCarthy, Harry Weldon, Herbert Shelley, Bert Marsden, Harry Brown, Bosanquet, Gilbert Girard, Edwin Barwick, Ernest Rees, Pat Carey, Fred Greville, Ross and Grayson, Pender Troupe, and Keen and Waller. The latest recruits to the programme are Mr. George Ali and Mr. Whit Cunliffe.

The band of the Royal Marines has been specially engaged; a classical concert will be given in the Italian Gardens; Mr. Jack Collinson and company will perform the dire drama of *Maria Martin* in the Richardson Theatre at frequent intervals; Lieut. Albini will give an entertainment of conjuring and handcuffing; Jack Straw's Castle of Mystery will draw many of the inquisitive; Mme. Dolores, the charming lady palmist and clairvoyant, will have a tent in which to tell everyone's past, present, and future; the magic caves will be illuminated; and Jeapes' well-known cinematograph pictures will be on exhibition, and in the ballroom there will be hourly sessions of dancing. The admission price will be sixpence, as usual.

There are several ways of getting to Rosherville, all at the same price. For one shilling and ninepence (this sum including the sixpence admission) the visitor can either take train from Charing Cross, Waterloo Junction, Cannon Street, or London Bridge, by the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway by certain cheap trains to Gravesend, or he can go from Fenchurch Street, Stepney, or Burdett Road for the same money by any train on the London, Tilbury, and Southend to Tilbury and cross by the ferry; or, again, he can avail himself or herself of the new City Steamboat Co.'s steamers leaving Westminster, Charing Cross, and London Bridge Piers either morning or afternoon, direct to Rosherville Pier, thus enjoying a two hours' trip on the river each way, and all for 1s. 9d. The above tickets can be obtained by writing to the Hon. Directors, Messrs. Woodrow and Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

When the theatrical season is in full swing in Paris artists and playwrights are too busy to devote much time to quarrelling, and they, therefore, wait till the end of June to start hostilities. This year the one to open the ball was M. Georges Courteline, a clever and witty playwright; and the decision given by the Court of Cassation is important in so far as it has a direct bearing on author's rights in respect to cinematographs. The case, which aroused a certain amount of interest, is as follows: Cinematographs in Paris are plentiful, and within the last few years there has already been trouble between them and authors and theatres for the infringement of copyright. M. Courteline, having come to the conclusion that a cinematographic play, called *Ta Femme te Trompe*, bore a family likeness to his well-known comedy *Boubouroche*, brought an action against the management of that show for piracy. When the case came on for hearing the Court found for the plaintiff. The defendants having appealed to a higher Court, the latter reversed the judgment and decided in favour of the defendants, ruling that in both plays there was a husband, a wife, and the latter's lover who hides in a cupboard, elements that may be called common property in the theatrical world. This ruling created some excitement in the playwright's world, and M. Courteline then carried the case to the Court of Cassation. The judges there rejected M. Courteline's appeal, holding that there was not sufficient similarity between *Boubourocha* and *Ta Femme te Trompa* to justify an action for piracy. M. Courteline, therefore, lost his case; yet dramatic authors here are delighted, for the Court, having delivered judgment, referred to the question of law, and said "that an author's rights in a dramatic production extends to any reproduction of the scenes of the piece on a cinematograph."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, who at Walsall has been captivating all hearers by his fine renditions of Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski's "There's a little black cupid in the moon," and Alf. J. Lawrance's "Mr. Owl," has had the gratifying intelligence that his song "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" is becoming the rage of New York, it having been introduced into that bright revue *The Follies of 1910*. Messrs. Francis and Day publish all three of these favourite numbers.

MISS ETHEL LEVEY, at the Alhambra, has been singing those fine songs of Messrs. Francis and Day's "Miss O'Hara and her emerald tiara" and "I've got rings on my fingers," with great success, and has, in addition, been creating her usual furore with "Pride of the prairie Mary," which is also issued by the firm.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE opens at the Oxford on Monday, when she will be heard in that fine chorus song, "On the silvery, silvery sands." The item is issued by Mr. David Day's firm.

AT the Hackney Empire Miss Nell Emerald has been singing with the greatest possible success Messrs. Francis and Day's song, "My pony boy." It is a very fine number, and Miss Emerald sings it charmingly.

MR. FRED BARNES is at Hackney this week, and is specially featured both on bills and programmes for his fine song "The scapegrace of the family." There is great inquiry for this number, which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

ERNIE MAYNE has again set them crazy at New Cross this week with the production of a new song, entitled "Pork and rabbit." The audience got it in once, yelled the chorus, and shrieked at the funny verses. That it is a big winner there is no doubt. It is by Alf. Ellerton.

FROM Messrs. W. Morley and Co., 6, Great Portland-street, W., comes a song entitled "Young England," by Richard B. Mason, words by Lord Norton. The song is dedicated by permission to Sir George Reid, High Commissioner, Premier first Federal Parliament of Australia. The song, as the title suggests, is patriotic in subject, and has a fine, stirring refrain, well shown by the following lines:—

"True to the colours, lad,
Red, White, and Blue,
Britons for ever, lad,
Brave hearts and true."

The song is in two keys, F (compass C to D) and G (compass D to E).

MISS DOROTHY WARD, the charming musical comedy actress, and principal boy in last season's pantomime at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, is playing a short season on the halls. Last week at the Empire, Liverpool, and this week at the Empire, Glasgow, she has literally made "the hit of the bill" with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad, "I wonder if you care?" The Star Music Co. publish this number in keys to suit all voices. Concert artists note.

GEORGE LASHWOOD'S many admirers will be glad to know he has secured another of those epoch-making songs for which he has become famous. This "newest and best" has been written by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, and is entitled "The Moonlight Promenade." The chorus is one of the kind you have to sing whether you want to or not, and the verses and ever-changing couplets are brimful of real humour. This is going to be another typical Star Music Co. winner.

TOM COSTELLO has secured from A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott a witty number with a polka time melody, called "The Skirt," and satirises this indispensable garment in a truly humorous manner. To see the genial Tom in evening dress careering round the huge stage of the London Coliseum, gracefully embracing a dainty silk skirt, is a sight for the gods—not to mention the rest of the house. The Star Co. will shortly issue this number.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

"THE BOY POET."

Dramatic Chapter, in One Act, by Brian Daly. Produced at the Putney Hippodrome, on Monday, June 27.

Chatterton .....MR. PAUL LOVETT
Lady Constance Heseltine ..MISS MARY LOVETT
Widow Winlove .....MISS VIOLET GREVILLE

The programme this week at Putney is made notable by the production of what is described as a dramatic chapter, in one act, entitled *The Boy Poet*, written by Brian Daly and presented by Paul Lovett, late of the Royalty Theatre. Of plot there is but little, the sketch being merely an effective picture of the last few hours in the life of Chatterton—"the marvellous boy who perished in his pride." The curtain rises on the room occupied by the poet, and from the garrulous old landlady we learn of his extreme poverty and of his sleepless nights. As, however, "all poets are mad," in her opinion, she fails to realise how dangerous a thing she is doing when she gives him some laudanum with which to induce sleep. During their conversation there arrives Lady Constance Heseltine, who, scorning the conventions, has sought out the poet for the purpose of helping him out of his difficulties. In answer to her direct question he admits that an accusation made against him at their last meeting is true, and though she leaves him to fetch money to relieve his immediate necessities, we know that the iron has entered his soul, and that the end is near. The last straw is the loss of his linnet, which he finds dead in its cage. It had been his sole companion, and in his state of mind he sees in the incident another stroke of fate. The laudanum left by the landlady is used as a means to escape from the world and its frets, and Lady Heseltine returns only in time to see him die.

Mr. Paul Lovett as Chatterton gave a careful and consistent rendering of the poet, though hardly suggesting his youth—he was only nineteen; Miss Mary Lovett as Lady Constance Heseltine and Miss Violet Greville as the Widow Winlove were both admirable in the respective parts. A very cordial reception was accorded to these fine players, and we are confident that wherever the little sketch is produced it will meet with favour. It is easily and naturally written, and its essentially human note is a welcome relief from many of the sketches one sees nowadays.

A great welcome on Monday awaited the ever-popular Harry Tate in his new *Flying* absurdity. Harry being interviewed by the local reporter, and afterwards replying to an address of welcome from the Mayor is screamingly funny. A welcome turn, full of snap and go, was provided by the Kennedy Girls. There is not a dull moment all through, and they give the impression of enjoying it all as much as do the audience. Some very clever dancing was done by Tiny and Mite, two diminutive artists who have some neat steps. Fred Lincoln, in his comedy character creation; Madge Allen, comedienne; Norton Folgate, a twenty-stone sailor boy; and the Maples, in a burglar skit, also appeared. The Bioscope showed some telling pictures based on Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables." The music at Putney is always delightful under the able direction of Mr. Edward Leicester.

ADELE LEVEY scored with her little tales and recitations at the Empress, Brixton, on Thursday last, having to respond to numerous encores.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Miss Fannie Ward, an American born actress, who has won many successes on this side of the pond, made her reappearance on Monday at the Palace Theatre—where all the leading West-End actors and actresses go in their turn—in what may be called a spoof tragedietta, by Ray Cooper Megrue—

"AN UNLUCKY STAR."

Peggy Star .....MISS FANNIE WARD
Julia .....MISS MARGARET HASTINGS
Peggy's Husband .....MR. PHILIP KNOX
Billy .....MR. JOHN M. DEAN
An Author .....MR. WM. H. BOYD

We were given to understand that the plot was the subject of a good deal of mystery, and that the audience would be not only thrilled but surprised. With a jealous husband, Peggy Star, an actress, should have been more frigid in her relations with Billy, an admirer, an irresponsible being who puts no rein upon his inclinations. Billy is very rash, and when he comes to Peggy's boudoir at the Ritz in defiance of her wishes, we naturally see trouble ahead. The husband has preceded Billy, but conceals himself, and the pair proceed with their conversation uninterruptedly. Billy makes love, and though Peggy protests and resists, she eventually falls into his arms. A noise is heard, Billy draws his revolver, resolved to shoot first. With an anxious look at the door, and six-shooter in hand, he waits. The husband approaches him in the rear, also with a six-shooter, then comes an interruption from the supposed author in the stalls. He is not at all satisfied with the way the crucial situation is led up to, and an altercation ensues between the trio—leading lady, leading man, and author. The lady suggests that she should shoot her husband. She is quite sure that she will have the sympathy of many of her lady friends in front, who have come to assist at the rehearsal, and are anxious for her to get on with it. Other uncomplimentary things are said, and eventually the leading lady in a dismantled scene has to retire discomfited. Miss Fannie Ward worked up the excitement to concert pitch on the night of our visit, and looked very handsome in a pretty dress of heliotrope. Mr. John M. Dean, a capital actor, was sufficiently warm and impassioned as the lover; and Mr. Philip Knox was quite effective as the husband, the author's indignation and sarcasm being amusingly interpreted by Mr. William H. Boyd.

Miss Kittee Rayburn, who has happily recovered from a bad attack of influenza and laryngitis, made her first appearance at the Shaftesbury-avenue house on Monday, when she asserted her charming individuality in an up-to-date song, "The girl in the Chantecler hat," a distracting headgear that makes on think naturally of one's best girl being "feather-brained." But fashion dictates and woman obeys—bless her, and if her obedience brings about such an agreeable result as presented by Miss Kittee, the mere man should be the last to grumble. And this brings us to the consideration of the comedienne's second song, "It's a' over with the men," the verses of which tell in the drollest manner of some of the possible happenings to the man when the weaker (?) sex are "endowed" with the vote. This song, like Hamlet's play, has no offence in it, but treats in a light vein a burning question of the day. Mr Barclay Gammon at the piano has revived "Three little Suffragettes are we," written by Fred Bowyer, and met on Monday evening with some interruption. Mr. Bert Levy has come back to renew his popularity in drawing and caricaturing; Mr. Arthur Prince has returned to his maritime ventriloquial monologué; Miss Anna Pavlovna and Michael Mordkin continue the Saison Russe with great success.

Lawson and Namon are ball-punchers and bicyclists—the lady does the punching, the mere man rides the bike. She is particularly attractive and smart—a fine figure of a woman; and he has quaint notions of fun that tickle the house. The show is decidedly popular. So is that presented by Radford and Winchester, American comedy jugglers, with trick scenery and properties and heaps of humour. Miss Mary Grey's singing is delightful; and Mr. Herman Finck has arranged a new pot-pourri of melodies selected from the répertoire of the Follies. This is appropriately entitled *Pélissiana*.

THE TIVOLI.

The fame of Mr. Herbert Sleath as an actor on the regular stage has been associated with the delineation of characters both picturesque and strenuous, but we remember that on his first appearance in variety at the Palace Theatre a year or so since, with his charming wife, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, he made a most agreeable impression in light comedy. He has now made an arrangement with Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. Charles Frohman, whereby he is able to do a turn at the Tivoli in conjunction with playing his part in *Glass Houses* at the Globe Theatre. At the Strand hall he is delighting Mr. Joseph Wilson's numerous patrons by the presentation of

"THE LITTLEST GIRL."

Carruthers .....MR. WM. F. GRANT
Hon. Jimmy Leyland .....MR. HERBERT SLEATH

The story opens with the Hon. Jimmy Leyland carrying into the chambers of Carruthers the sleeping form of a little girl, who has been playing a fairy queen in pantomime. Jimmie pities the child, and every sentence he speaks to Carruthers shows his strong antipathy to the appearance of young children on the stage. Carruthers is not at all pleased with the philosophy of his visitor, whom he thinks may do a good deal of needless harm in one evening, but who, when older, will be more considerate and less likely to interfere with other people's affairs. Jimmy admits that he has done the unconventional thing, but he has done it for the sake of the child. Carruthers is not to be turned from his mood of bitterness. He talks of his marriage to Ida Clare, a dancer, and the wretchedness that was its sequel. He does not want to see the child again; but, of course, the parental instinct asserts itself, and when the curtains close in on the scene the still sleeping child is in the father's arms. The play is pretty enough, but scarcely dramatic. It is exceedingly well acted by Mr. Herbert Sleath as the Hon. Jimmy Leyland and Mr. Wm. F. Grant as Carruthers, and the mounting of the apartment in which the action takes place is very tasteful and complete.

An artist new to the London variety stage is Smith (?), who recently made a great success as one of the rulers in *Two Merry Monarchs* at the Strand. Smith appears in petticoats, and as a gushing spinster patters very amusingly, being assisted by an alleged "dude" from the audience, who have given the newcomer a series of hearty welcomes during the week. Smith is a credit to his very large family, and should go far in the variety world. Mr. Frank Lawton, the whistler of *The Belle of New York*, in which he originally played at the Shaftesbury Theatre the part of Blinky Bill, the "mixed ale pugilist," goes well in his scena; Mr. Herbert Clifton gives a couple of imitations successfully; and Mr. Will E. Stepit, in a remarkable display of acrobatism, brings down the house.

Other popular contributors to the bill are the incomparable Cinquevalli, Liane d'Eve, the charming Parisian chanteuse and dancer; the Gotham Quartette of musical eccentrics; Mary Law, a young violinist of exceptional ability; Madoline Rees; Ella Shields; the Five Orioles, in song and dance; Miss Ida Barr; the Two Bobs; Miss Gladys Huxley, and the Westbrooks, the whole constituting an interesting company.

THE BEDFORD.

The genial resident-manager, Mr. Arthur Edwards, always finds plenty of support from the Camden Town people, who are always ready to enjoy the good fare provided for them. This week, on visiting this hall, we found a good all-round bill, with Miss Marie Kendall at the head, and providing a fine répertoire of songs for the delectation of her numerous admirers. Miss Kendall had a rousing reception, and her coster song especially went with a bang. Harry Bonville has a song, "Send them along to me," which has a rousing chorus, which soon finds favour, and is lustily sung by the gods. Always sure of a good reception is Miss Queenie Essex, who sings most charmingly. On this occasion she sings a song about the popular craze, "Rinking," which has a melodious refrain.

Hayman and Ritter are presenting the National Trio in a farcical scena, *The Troublesome Boy*, which caused amusement. It is, however, not particularly funny, though the company, including Mr. Harry Pleon, jun., worked hard with somewhat poor material. A very popular turn

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

MR. EDWARD AVINAL has been secured by Mr. Cecil Gray to create Captain Vivian, the heavy rôle in the sketch entitled *To-morrow's Dawn*, which was produced on Monday at the Olympia, Shoreditch.

FRANCIS AND DAY OUTING.

The sun has smiled consistently on the excursions of the famous firm of music publishers hitherto, but on Saturday last, when the ninth annual outing was celebrated, Phœbus withdrew his patronage from the occasion, and the party were fain to dwell upon the delights that might have been. A particularly pretty spot had been selected in Batchworth Heath, a rural eminence close by Harrow-on-the-Hill, whither the staff, having sounded a chord in an appropriately minor key, journeyed by reserved carriages from Marylebone. Soon after arrival, however, clouds dimmed the sky, and the party were forced to seek the shelter of Ye Olde Greene Manne Hotel, which formed the headquarters for the day. The excursionists bore themselves with becoming fortitude under distressing circumstances. "We'll make the best of it; you leave it to us," said one optimistic employee, and there was every evidence that they did, the piano being set merrily going and thunderclaps being drowned in "Sixpenny Pops." Occasionally the weather brightened, and between the showers it was quite a cheerful sight to see Mr. Eyke, the Izaak Walton of the company, preparing bait for a small boy who was fishing in the village pond.

The dinner hour arrived when the storm was at its height, and the committee were publicly thanked for arranging it so opportunely. Mr. Charles Wilmot in the chair was flanked by Mr. David Day, the guest of honour, and Mr. Charles Plucknett. Mr. William Eyke held the vice-chair, and among those present were Messrs. Lester Barrett, Edgar Bateman, Fred Leigh and H. B. Pether, Hermann Darewski, Murphy and Lipton, Wm. and Arthur Francis, and John Abbott.

A much-appreciated interlude was furnished after dinner, when Mr. Charles W. Taylor, who, under the name of "Cee Tee," wields so facile a pencil in studies in black and white, sang a sonnet of his own composition. As it deals with well-known men we make no excuse for reproducing the essay almost in its entirety:—

I'd like to say how pleased I am
To be with you to-day,
I've read of all your outings
In your paper *E R A*,
I'd like to thank your genial chief
For his kindly thought of me,
He knows I love composers, for
I thought one I should be.

I used to worship from afar
Professor Pether's art,
And when he shook me by the hand
It seemed a joy apart.
We have foregathered in a pub,
And many times I've said,
I mean to call him Harry, once
Before I'm really dead.

To get in touch with Mr. Leigh
I had to form a plan,
I made mistakes in spelling, for,
This lyric-writing man,
He had to overhaul his work.
I saw him, and he said,
How pleased he was to see me—
Well, I nearly called him Fred

Now what do you think of Lester B.,
Rotund, robust, and bright?
You cannot count the crowd who roar
His choruses at night.
And what do you think of Darewski, H.,
Who takes you by the ear,
And leads you through melodic realms?
The lyre's always near.

Now, what do you think of the Cockney bard,
Who makes all London laugh,
Then goes into the provinces
With fishing tales and chaff?
He's equally good at sentiment,
Of course at fun he's fine,
He's something when your pen can put
A laugh in every line.

Now what do you think of Wilmot, Charles?
Six feet of versatile,
A business bard, a versic card,
Writes sonnets by the mile.
He'll tell you that the guv'nor's out
With a steady vacant stare,
And tell you to call in a year or two,
And he will not turn a hair.

I should like to dedicate a verse
To a friend I knew in youth,
When both as boys we played the flute,
Bob Burridge knows the truth.
I hope my old friend, David Day,
Will annually decide,
When you invite him out again,
To have me by his side.

After the loyal toast had been honoured, the chairman said they all looked forward to the opportunity of showing how they received the toast of Francis, Day, and Hunter. (Cheers.) He did not want to keep them out of the sunshine (laughter), but he could not allow the afternoon to pass without expressing the feeling of loyalty that animated them towards the chief of the firm. They knew how much their success in life was bound up with the firm; its success meant their success, and they were determined to do all they could in their various departments to assist that good work. In all vicissitudes, Francis, Day, and Hunter still retained their proud pre-eminence, and they hoped it would always continue. That would be gained by their loyal adherence to business principles, coupled with Mr. Day's wonderful charm and courtesy, to which the prosperity of the enterprise was, in a large measure, due, and which won the admiration of all who came in touch with him. They could congratulate themselves on the fact that the business was increasing, and the sale of the Annual pointed to something like a record year being achieved. (Cheers.) They missed the presence of Mr. Fred Day; but they knew he was with them in heart, and they hoped he was having as good a time as ever, and was helping to make the firm of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter as big a success in New York as the parent firm was in London. He would ask them to drink success to the firm, coupled with the toast of Mr. David Day—a jolly good fellow.

Mr. Day received an affectionate demonstration when he rose to respond. He tendered his most sincere thanks for the very hearty way in which they had greeted the toast. His response would be a very simple one. The success of Francis, Day, and Hunter, which had obtained in the past, and which they wished to continue, was due, and would be due, to the loyalty of the staff. (Hear, hear.)

The vice-chairman proposed the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the names of Mr. Charles W. Plucknett, Mr. Charles Taylor, and Mr. Edgar White, the representative of *The Era*, adding that it was a great pleasure indeed to welcome such friends of the firm, and those they had known for many years.

Further harmony reigned during the afternoon, Mr. Herbert Lucas displaying promising comedy methods in the singing of "Setting the village on fire," and various members of the staff exercising a talent for improvising on the piano. The evening was fortunately fine, and the party found compensation in cricket, rounders, and other games. The committee, it should be added, were Messrs. W. Francis, F. Redmond, and F. Abbott.

MR. FRANK COYLE, the now successful variety agent, having so much business to do, is removing to more spacious offices after next week, and on July 11 and after his address will be 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds, where all business will be transacted.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 21.)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have a great chorus song, entitled "Let's have a little bit of sunshine," written and composed by Mr. Glover-Kind. Mr. Fred Barnes is the sole singer. It is rather early to speak of pantomime, but if a song can possibly be judged before, we should say this will be one of the biggest pantomime numbers of the year.

Mr. Fred Barnes has secured the rights of a very big comedy chorus song, entitled "What's the matter with father?" published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.

At the Empire, Glasgow, during the current week Miss Dorothy Ward has been the recipient of unstinted applause for her delightful rendering of Mellor and Gifford's new chorus song, "Everywhere I go I'll leave my heart with you," one of the most "likely" songs published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. for some time past.

Mr. Fred Barnes, at the Empire, Hackney, this week, has been duplicating the stupendous success he achieved all round the provincial Stoll houses, with J. Glover-Kind's sterling comedy number, "I'd rather be by the fireside," which Feldman's publish.

Miss Gertie Gitana, who returns to town on Monday next, will make a speciality of the new chorus song, "I was coming through the corn, Molly, dear," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, which has earned her vociferous encores in every provincial town she has visited recently. This is another Feldman "winner."

Mr. Arthur Aldridge returns to the London Pavilion next Monday, where he will specially "feature" John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves' new ballad, "All in a day." Mr. Aldridge will also, of course, again sing Feldman's big ballad hit "Beautiful garden of roses" at the same house.

Miss Ella Shields has been received with acclaim at the Tivoli and her other turns this week in her spirited renderings of William Hargreaves' two fine songs, "In the Army" and "Come by the drum in the big brass band." At the Oxford Miss Shields will, on Monday week, specially produce a new chorus song by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves, entitled "Remember me to the boys you see." Messrs Feldman publish all three of Miss Shields' songs.

Miss Ada Reeve has had a great success throughout the whole of her recent Stoll tour in the song of sentiment from the pen of Chas. K. Harris, "Nobody knows—nobody cares." At every town she has visited the pathetic and eminently tuneful chorus has become the property of the "man in the street," and Feldman and Co., the publishers, have again hit the bull's-eye of public approval with this charming successor to "Somewhere."

At the Gaiety Theatre, Burnley, this week, in the Irish-comedy drama *My Irish Molly*, according to a letter just received by Feldman and Co. from Mr. Karl Edwards, who plays the principal comedy part therein, Messrs. Rogers and Neat's chorus-song, "Do you miss me in the dear homeland?" is the hit of the piece. Another song of Feldman's, "Put off all your troubles till to-morrow," is being introduced into the same play this week.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and John Neat's comedy chorus number, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," which Feldman and Co. publish, has proved a great pierrot success; and Miss Lena Pinaud has been specially successful with it at Great Yarmouth in Chappell's Ring, where she is singing it to the accompaniment of tumultuous applause.

Carrick's Entertainers, at Weymouth, are singing a number of the Feldman publications. Specially successful are "Pretty little girl from Nowhere," "I'm longing for someone to love me," and "Georgie took me walking in the park," all sung by Miss Beattie Moore; "I wonder if it's true?" and "Somewhere," sung by Miss Jennie Mackay; "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "I want to roller-skate, Johnny," sung by Mr. Bobbie Hall; and "I must go home to-night," sung by Mr. Percy Agutter.

Messrs. John P. Harrington, E. W. Rogers, and Orlando Powell have just supplied Miss Hetty King with a song speciality, entitled "I suppose—she knows." Miss King will produce the same trio of writers' new policeman song, "I'm afraid you'll have to come along o' me," on Monday next. They are executing several other special commissions for the same artist.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Light entertainment, appropriate to the season, is provided at the pretty hall at Clapham Junction, which has long been under the rule of Mr. Walter Gibbons. The principal item of the bill is furnished by *Bloomsbury Burglars*, the funny sketch wherein the irrepressible Jerry and "Nobbler" were first introduced to the public. The sketch, with its droll situations and sensational finish, proves as diverting as ever, Mr. Lew Lake as Nobbler and Mr. Bob Morriss as Jerry, the two resourceful window-cleaners who turn burglars, revelling in the fun of the production. Mr. Harry Lavers is again the owner of the burgled house, and Miss Kitty Wilmore effectively realises the designing lady who commissions the inseparable pair to do their nefarious work.

A merry time is spent in the company of Mr. Sammy Shields, whose unlimited patter keeps the audience in continuous mirth. The comedian has amusing references to cricket, but speedily gets back to the football that has won him fame. Mr. Shields cuts quite a smart figure in his Chesterfield of Mackenzie tartan, and his popularity at Clapham is great. The Six Buster Browns remind one forcibly of the coons who minister to the entertainments at seaside resorts at this period of the year. Dressed in smart suits they give a variety of songs and dances, one of the gentlemen excelling in some varied and well-executed footplay.

Novel methods of making music are employed by the Hungaria Trio, the gentleman playing an instrument resembling the dulcimer, and two young ladies being seated at piano-shaped arrangements, from which they produce a sweet-toned chiming accompaniment. Pleasing melodies are thus rendered, the most effective being "Men of Harlech," which is given as an encore. Miss Daisy Hurdle is a dainty singer, and renders with praiseworthy distinctness the affecting ditty, "Write me every day," the humour of which she brings out with much point. The programme also includes Larry Lewis, in comedy concoctions; Goggin and Davis, grotesques; Bert Woodward, the steeple-chasing cyclist; and Baby Boden, comedienne and dancer. The Bioscope is responsible for an amusing series of pictures. Mr. Fred C. Cockerill remains in his position as manager, but is at present away on holiday, and Mr. Frank Bradsell is a skilful musical-director.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra 1⅛, Empire (15s. paid) 1⅜, Empire (10s. paid) 1½, London Pavilion (5) 2⅜, London Pavilion Pref. (5) 5½, Metropolitan ⅜, Moss' Empires (5) 4, Oxford (5) 7, Palace Theatres (9s. paid) 15-16, Tivoli, New (5) 6¼.

"FLAT 13."

By Arthur Law-Raynor and George Bellamy. Produced at the Camden Hippodrome, on Monday, June 27.

Ralph Hersee ..... Mr. Ernest Leicester
Mary ..... Miss Ruth Maitland
Commissionaire ..... Mr. Arthur G. Leigh
Tavener ..... Mr. R. Van Reuney
Maid ..... Miss Muriel Johnston
Butler ..... Mr. F. Chantler

This sketch is aptly described as of the Grand Guignol type, and the authors have without a doubt written a little play which is intensely dramatic. A shot is heard just as the curtain rises, which discloses Ralph Hersee covering up the body of one Tavener, whom he has shot during a quarrel. The commissionaire and butler come into the flat to see what is the matter, but Ralph puts them off with a plausible explanation. Ralph then prepares to make good his escape, and at that moment Mary, his wife, who had divorced him some years before, enters, having mistaken the number in the flat to which she was going. A big scene follows this dramatic appearance when she discovers her former husband's victim lying prone. After a violent scene she is allowed by him to go away. Ralph then sees the muddle he has got himself into, and poisons himself, only to find just before his death that Tavener was not killed, the bullet having lodged in his cigarette case, and that he is slowly recovering from a dead faint. As Tavener slowly raises himself Ralph falls dead.

It can be easily seen that here is a story of the most thrilling nature, and it is capitally acted by a first-class company, with Mr. Ernest Leicester at the head. Mr. Leicester played magnificently, and always without exaggeration. He had a sure grip throughout, and carried the whole through in a most finished manner. Miss Ruth Maitland likewise acted in a most dramatic fashion as Mary, and she and Mr. Leicester were excellent throughout. Mr. Arthur G. Leigh put in much good work as the commissionaire, and the other parts were admirably played. The sketch made an immediate success, and congratulations are due to the authors, while a word is due for the general production, which is on a most elaborate scale.

The Darlington Hippodrome is closed for five weeks for redecorations.

Mr. Malcolm Spurgin, who went to Worthing with Mr. C. Adolf Seebold in the autumn of 1904, having been previously associated with him at Southend for several years, has just undertaken a fresh set of duties at the Theatre Royal, Worthing. Hitherto he has acted as stage manager and electrician, but in view of the fact that Mr. Seebold will be busily occupied for the present in developing his Kursaal scheme on the Marine-parade, Mr. Spurgin has been appointed assistant manager of the theatre, and assumes control of the box-office. The duties of electrician will now be fulfilled by Mr. Jarrott, who has been with Mr. Spurgin for the past two years.

"REPARATION."

A Dramatic Playlet, in One Act, by Charles Bruce Winstey and Harry Abbas, Produced at Collins's on Monday, June 20.

John Ronald ..... Mr. Chas. Bruce Winstey
Mary Ronald ..... Miss Fyfe Alexander
A Convict ..... Mr. Harry Abbas

The above sketch is one of considerable interest, relating, as it does, to home life. It is a tale of the eternal trio—the wife, the husband, and the other man. As the story opens we see John Ronald seated at his desk, hard at work, although the hour is late. The day is one of special importance to his wife, and at her request he ceases from his labours and begs of her to tell him the secret of her past, which appears to be a constant source of worry to her. However, upon this occasion she particularly wishes to place her troubles aside, and asks her husband to defer this none too pleasant task until the morrow. He complies with her wishes.

In her absence he is disturbed by a sudden crashing of glass, and finds that a convict has forcibly entered his house to evade the clutches of the law. The escaped criminal, who pleads for mercy, tells a bitter story of the past. Once he took pity on a poor girl singing in the streets, and finally married her, although she cared nothing for him. After this trouble overwhelmed him, and heartfelt worry made the way easy to crime. Inwardly feeling that his wife cared nothing for him, but showed willingness to tie the marriage-knot out of sheer gratitude for his kindly action, he had let her believe him dead. Touched by this pathetic story, John Ronald determines to do what he can to assist the fugitive to escape. Whilst seeking in another room a fresh suit of clothes for him the wife enters, and, to her dismay, finds that the convict is no other than her first husband—apparently returned from the dead. He craves her forgiveness, and in the end frees the woman from an unwelcome bond by shooting himself.

The piece is exceedingly well put on, and a most perfect interpretation is secured. Mr. Chas. Bruce Winstey capably undertakes the rôle of John Ronald; whilst Miss Fyfe Alexander plays with skill as the wife, Mary Ronald. Much praise is due to Mr. Harry Abbas for his powerful portrayal of the convict.

Princess Baratoff, whose singing at the London Hippodrome will be well remembered, has been the victim of a singular error. She was resting in her flat in the Avenue Victor Hugo when three strange men entered unannounced. They were bailiffs, and they had come to seize the princess's goods at the request of a dressmaker in the Rue Royale. She was unaware of the existence of the dressmaker in question, and naturally protested against this unjustifiable intrusion; but the bailiffs were inexorable. The Princess sought the assistance of the law, and when she and the dressmaker appeared in Court both soon realised that an error in identity had been made. The President lost no time in ridding the Princess of the bailiffs.

"ALCIS."

Sketch, by J. A. Bentham, Produced at the Empire, Liverpool, on Monday, June 27.

Corresus ..... Mr. Richard Norton
Butus ..... Mr. Sydney Kearns
Slave ..... Mr. Max Martini
Cophas ..... Master Bert Clerc
Alcis ..... Miss Elise Craven

(From our own correspondent.)

This trifle is evidently arranged for the purpose of affording that wonderfuly clever little dancer, Elise Craven, an opportunity to display her powers. Apart from this, however, it is a pretty scena, with a short, touching story. When the curtain rises an artistic and picturesque view of a vineyard, situated near Athens, is shown, with a strolling player, named Butus, and his two pupils, Cophas and Alcis, asleep by the wayside awaiting the dawn. The first peep of the sun awakens Butus, who is apparently bound for Athens in order to reap a monetary return for the dancing of the little ones. Rousing the children, he threateningly admonishes Cophas for his bad dancing, promising him a few strokes of a whip he carries should he not do better. During the temporary absence of Butus the children have a rehearsal, Alcis endeavouring to improve her companion's style, and here the remarkable little dancer Elise Craven has an opportunity of showing her talents to a great extent. At this point Corresus, a high priest of Minerva, appears in the guise of a beggar, and to him the children offer food. Butus, on returning, attempts to thrash Cophas for his backwardness, whereupon Corresus interferes, and terrifies Butus by revealing his identity. The curtain comes down on Butus being ordered to take the road to the north, while the priest and the children go towards Athens. The audience on Monday evening were charmed with the little sketch, the whole of the characters filling their parts in praiseworthy manner. In addition to Elise Craven, some smart dances, arranged by Miss Elise Clerc, were performed by Master Bert Clerc and Mr. Max Martini. The mounting was elaborate, and wherever produced *Alcis* should prove very acceptable.

Jennie Alexander, the clever child mimic, is this week on a return visit to the Grand, Hanley. She has just finished a most successful four months' London engagement, and returns to town on Aug. 1 to play her sixth date at the Holborn Empire.

Immediately the result of the Jeffries-Johnson contest comes to hand on Monday night a number of the provincial music halls will send up red rockets if Jeffries wins and green ones for Johnson's victory.

Mr. Ben de Frece, the resident-manager of the Hippodrome, Colchester, was the recipient on June 23 of a handsome diamond buckle ring as a birthday gift from the staff and a few intimate personal frends, who thus united in their efforts to give tangible effect to the esteem in which they hold him.

"TO-MORROW'S DAWN."

Dramatic Play, in Two Scenes, by S. S. Edwards, Produced at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday, June 27.

Capt. the Hon. Jack Granby ..... Mr. John Manners
Capt. Francis Vivian ..... Mr. Frank Dale
Tony Fowler ..... Mr. Eric Norman
Natalie ..... Miss Dora Eastlake
Dorian, Earl of Norton ..... Mr. Cecil Gray

After the success of *The Last Straw* on the London music halls, one waited with interest for the curtain to rise on Mr. Cecil Gray's newest production, *To-Morrow's Dawn*. Monday last, however, saw its successful launching, and the many critics who stated that Mr. Gray would find it difficult to "go one better" than *The Last Straw* have been compelled to admit that in *To-Morrow's Dawn* he has found a play that leaves *The Last Straw* far in the background.

Dorian, Earl of Norton, returning to his ancestral hall, Norton Castle, with his newly-made bride, is welcomed by his younger brother, Captain the Hon. Jack Granby, and a number of fellow officers and civilian guests. Dorian, it appears, had met the fair Natalie abroad, and made her his Countess, giving her all the love of his strong and noble nature. But the tragic note is struck with startling suddenness when the younger brother recognises in his sister-in-law a woman with a past—a woman whose sinister reputation is well known to all but the infatuated husband.

The Countess, taking advantage of the admiration of one of Jack's fellow officers, Captain Vivian, persuades him to spread the report to the assembled guests that Jack is in love with her, and this he does in a strong scene—clinching the lie by stating that he has seen them in each other's arms—has seen them even kissing each other. These statements are overheard by the Earl, who promptly knocks the traducer down, and sending for Jack asks for and accepts his word of honour that he has not betrayed him. The Countess, finding her confederate has failed to convince her husband, now takes the matter in hand herself. While telling her husband's brother that she loves him, she hears the Earl approaching, and quickly decides on a master stroke of duplicity. As the Earl appears, she clasps his brother in her arms and rapturously kisses him.

The outraged Earl, treating his brother's denials with contempt, denounces the seemingly guilty pair, and in a powerful scene goads his brother into stating what he meant never to reveal. In reply to Dorian's reproaches Jack tells him the true character of the Countess, and is forced into stating that she had been notorious throughout the regiment when quartered in India, and that the pure angel of Dorian's choice had previously been his younger brother's mistress. The Earl, mad with passion, strikes his brother to the ground, and at the same moment a fierce and devilish laugh from the Countess breaks upon the silence which follows the Earl's rash blow, and then the woman's real character and purpose is made known to the unhappy Dorian. Her father, she declares—one Borachi, an Indian seditionist—was sent to the gallows by Dorian's father for killing one of England's famous Indian officials, and since that day she has devoted her life to wiping out the race of the Granbys.

At this moment her revenge is complete, and she leaves Dorian standing over Jack's body, and her triumphant and half hysterical laugh rings through the corridors of the castle. Vainly calling on his brother to come back to life, the noble mind begins to fail, and Dorian, fifth Earl of Norton, his brain snapping under the cruel strain, becomes a raving lunatic.

The second scene shows the scheming woman, with her accomplice, Captain Vivian, reigning in Norton Castle. Jack, recovered from the awful blow and subsequent brain concussion, has just returned from a fruitless search for his brother. The Earl supposed by the guests to be travelling abroad, is in reality chained in a dungeon in the old castle, access to which can only be found through a secret panel in the hall. Dosed with brandy by his faithless wife and her paramour—who hourly expect his death—Dorian with a madman's ingenuity and cunning, contrives to break his chains and suddenly appears, through the secret panel, and stands in his rags, a raving maniac, in the midst of the assembled guests. After a furious struggle he is forced back into his prison, and the Countess begs her startled friends to respect the family secret, and keep from the world the awful fact that the Earl of Norton is a hopeless madman.

The guests depart, the Countess retires to her room, again the secret panel flies open, and Dorian is loose upon his work of vengeance. The unhinged mind has remembered the spring of the panel, and the wretched madman wanders round the great hall. The Countess enters alone, and, seeing her, the memory of his wrongs fills the empty vessels of the brain, and with one wild leap from the balcony Dorian grips the woman by the throat. For some minutes nothing can be heard but the mad yells of the avenger and the despairing shrieks of the doomed Countess. At last all is over—Dorian's last remaining strength has been exhausted in the struggle; he is dying. At this moment Jack's voice is heard, sadly singing a favourite song of their childhood, and the younger brother enters to find the faithless woman dead, and Dorian kneeling by her. He calls Dorian by name, and the mad soul hears, as he thinks, his brother calling from the spirit world and answers him. Then with a prayer for forgiveness and mercy on his lips the poor, tired soul takes its flight, and Dorian, fifth Earl of Norton, falls lifeless beside the woman who had wrecked his life. Mr. John Manners was good as Captain the Hon. Jack Granby; Mr. Frank Dale was effective as Captain Francis Vivian; Mr. Eric Norman did excellent work as Tony Fowler; Miss Dora Eastlake was seen to advantage as Natalie; and Mr. Cecil Gray was really powerful as Dorian, Earl of Norton.

Miss Cissie Thompson returns to town again next week, to open at the Syndicate Halls, having just completed a highly successful provincial tour with Moss and Stoll. In answer to numerous inquiries, Miss Thompson wishes it to be known that her latest successful songs, "There's danger on the line" and "My pals are at home," are her sole property. Anyone singing them without her permission will be proceeded against.

Mr. Sydney Chaplin, one of Mr. Fred Karno's principal comedians, now resting in Switzerland, has recently met with a thrilling adventure and a narrow escape from death. When mountain climbing, making his way from Caux to Les Avants, he came across notices posted up forbidding anyone to go farther under penalty of a heavy fine owing to the dangerous blasting operations that were taking place. But as there were no other paths leading to his destination, and not relishing the idea of turning back, he decided to go on and risk it.

He had just reached the pass that runs under Les Dents de Jaman when he was startled by a terrific explosion some distance up the mountain. Down came a perfect avalanche of huge boulders of rock, carrying everything before it. He crouched close up to the mountain side, expecting death instantly; but though the stones shattered all round him he escaped with nothing more serious than a badly cut hand and a bruised shoulder. About a month ago the body of a man was found badly mangled close to the place where Mr. Chaplin's accident occurred.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder - - - -	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood - -	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve - - -	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby - - -	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott - - - -	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana - -	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes - - - -	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements -	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge - - -	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Mignon Tremayne and Harry Claff - - -	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.
Miss Dorothy Ward - -	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter - - - -	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields - -	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard - - -	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox - -	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein -	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne - -	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Children's Carnival at Consett.
THE children had special attention at the Consett Skating Rink on Monday, when a fancy dress carnival was held for their behalf, and to which spectators were admitted at a nominal charge. This was followed by a grand summer dress carnival on Wednesday. The Consett Military Band will be in attendance at the closing ball to be held at the Rink on Monday. The expert demonstrations of plain and fancy skating by Professor Jas. Patterson Munro, I.P.R.S.A., have decided attractions. In roller skating as in everything else, there is always something to learn, and those who have had the advantage of this teacher's training are enabled to add to the sources of their enjoyment considerably.

Olympia, Cardiff.
THE attendances at the Olympia Skating Rink, in Queen-street, Cardiff, have been well maintained. The band continues to provide irresistible two-steps, waltzes, and marches, which, combined with the splendid quality of the skates and the well-nigh perfect nature of the rink, produce plenty of swing and enjoyment.

Novel Competition at Scarborough.
VISITORS are finding their way to the Grand Rink, Scarborough, in large numbers, and appreciation is being expressed on every hand of the fine skating surface, and the efforts of the management to ensure every comfort. A huge attraction has been arranged for Thursday, July 7, when an advertisement carnival will be held. The coupon competition closed on June 30, and the piano to be given to the persons possessing the largest number of coupons will be presented at the carnival.

West Stanley Skating Rink.
In spite of the counter attractions, this place is still well attended by skaters and spectators.

Davidson at Reading.
PROFESSOR JOHN F. DAVIDSON has been specially engaged to give his exhibition display of trick and acrobatic skating at the Central Skating Rink, Reading, this week. His clever and difficult performance has been greatly admired.

Clacton's Confetti Carnival.
ON Wednesday the season of the indoor rink at the Clacton-on-Sea Skating-rink and Palace was terminated with a carnival, confetti fête, and dance, and was attended by a large number of spectators and skaters. Handsome prizes were presented for the two best costumes (ladies) and two best costumes (gentlemen). On Thursday the inauguration of the magnificent new open-air rink took place. A large number of skaters were on the rink, and expressed delight with it. A good military band was in attendance, and the proceedings were watched by a crowd of spectators. The extensive grounds of the Palace have been remodelled and beautified. The rink is surrounded by charming walks. Numerous refreshment rooms have been provided, and from these a good view of the skating can be commanded. The rink is within a few yards of the North Sea, which will render rinking at Clacton an extremely healthy pastime. The grounds are illuminated with fairy lamps, and the view of the rink at night is charming. Mr. H. R. D. Cooper is the managing-director, Mr. T. Butt combining the duties of general-manager and secretary.

Prof. Wingard at Portland Rink.
THERE was a crowded house at the Palace and Rink, Portland, on Saturday night last, when Professor Wingard, the Royal Illusionist, was specially engaged. His clever entertainment was keenly enjoyed by all present, and voted quite one of the best that had ever visited Portland.

A ONCE FAMOUS GYMNAST.

Once universally famed as a tight-rope walker and trapeze artist, Mme. Senyeah, who in the days of her prosperity was known as "Empress of the Air," has died in Lambeth Infirmary, the shadow of poverty having darkened her last years. It was her boast that she had performed before every crowned head in Europe, including Queen Victoria and King Edward and Queen Alexandra, when Prince and Princess of Wales. Unfortunately, she fell on bad times, and in late years has been living in a single room in Dawlish-street, Kennington. A month ago she fell ill with brain trouble, and was removed on an ambulance to the Infirmary. She was then in a dying condition, but lingered until Thursday, the 23rd ult., when she passed away. With her were Mrs. Lawrence and her daughter, Miss Vesta Victoria, who, living in Stockwell, have interested themselves in her case, and have brightened the last eighteen months of her life. Nothing was known at the Infirmary of the deceased woman's antecedents, and in the books she was described as "Phœbe Hall, suffering from cerebral thrombosis." To none of the nurses did she speak of her career.

Mrs. Lawrence states that when Mme. Senyeah found she was no longer wanted as a trapeze artist she took up the training of dogs, and went on the music-hall stage, but finally she was forced to get her living by performing in the streets, and often she did not take more than twopence or threepence a day. Mrs. Lawrence, continuing, said, "It was our greengrocer who found her in his stable nearly frozen to death the winter before last. He took her and put her in front of the fire, and brought her round. She got through the winter somehow. About twelve months ago she came to my daughter, Miss Vesta Victoria, and told her her sad tale. My daughter said you need not cry and worry any more. I will see that you don't want again. Since then my daughter has paid the rent of the room and the stable where she kept her four dogs, which were passionately devoted to her. Another lady in Clapham-road found her food."

The deceased artist's maiden name was Phœbe Frost, and she and her sister Zephyr Frost were the daughters of Mme. Antonio, wife of Dan Harvey, clown, and she married a Mr. Haynes, a well-known acrobat, her professional title being that surname read backwards. In our advertisements of the London Pavilion in 1868 her name was printed Senyah, and in *The Era Almanack* of the same year we find in the list of gymnasts and acrobats of that period the names of Mr. and Mrs. Senyah (coupled).

The funeral, the entire expense of which was borne by Mrs. Lawrence, took place on Tuesday, from the premises of Mr. W. R. Dunkley, professional undertaker, of 88, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E., the interment being in Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting. The mourners in the first carriage were Mrs. Irene Lawrence (mother of Miss Vesta Victoria), with deceased's favourite dog Pigeon, Mrs. Webb, of Clapham, and Nurse Jessop. In the second carriage were Miss Mary Webb and Master George Webb (of Clapham), Mrs. Whitman, and Miss Strickland. The wreaths came from Mrs. Lawrence, Mrs. Webb, her friend Jackie Webb, the little boy who used to feed her dogs, Tommie Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Kingdons (her greengrocer friends), Mr. and Mrs. Whitman, Mrs. Rowlands, and Nurse Jessop.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON PRODUCERS.

A CHAT WITH FRANK PARKER.

The fact that Mr. Frank Parker has just terminated a 10½ years' contract with the Moss Empires at the London Hippodrome is an excellent reason for giving a brief résumé of a busy career. "I began," said Mr. Parker, "in the refreshment department at the Adelphi Theatre under my uncle, John Parker, in 1878. For five years I acted as gas-boy in the same house, 'behind,' first under Chatterton, then under Mr. Clark, and later under the Gattis. The pieces that were then presented? Let me see. Roughly, I can remember *The Golden Plough*, by Paul Merritt; The Carl Rosa Co., in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, by Otto Nicolai; *The Golden Cross* and *The Marriage of Figaro*; and, in the dramatic season the same year—1878—*Proof; or a Celebrated Case*. At different times the part of Pierre was played by Herr Bandmann, Hermann Vezin, and Henry Neville, with Arthur Stirling as Lazare. Although my position was humble, I took the keenest interest in every play that was produced. *The Crimson Cross* followed *Proof*, then *Ninon*, *Forbidden Fruit*, revivals of *Peep o' Day*, *The Shaughraun*, *Arrah-na-Pogue*, and the production of *The O'Dowd*. In the three last-named the great Dion Boucicault, the father of stage-managers, appeared, and it was a lesson to see him work. I left the Adelphi in 1880, and went to Drury Lane under Augustus Harris for *The World*, and then for *Mother Goose*. I was promoted to the position of prompter. Here were produced a number of German plays in 1881, and *Youth*; next, a pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe*, with Fannie Leslie, Miss Amalia, Arthur Roberts, James Fawn, Harry Nicholls, Harry Jackson, and Fred Storey, the production being an enormous success."

[*Photo by Campbell Gray, Ltd.*
MR. FRANK PARKER.

Mr. Parker remained at the Lane, working upwards all the time, during the runs of *Pluck*, *Queen Elizabeth*, with Madame Ristori, German opera, and more British dramas, *A Sailor and His Lass*, *Freedom*, *Youth*, *Human Nature*, *A Run of Luck*, and, indeed, all the plays with which Drury Lane was identified under the rule of Sir Augustus Harris, as well as the operas, English, German, and Italian. Mr. Frank Parker was studying in a good school, and, after leaving the National Theatre, he went to the Gaiety, for *Monte Cristo*, in 1886, as assistant stage-manager to Charles Harris. Here he was associated with the production also of *Esmeralda*, *Frankenstein*, *Ruy Blas*, and *Cinder-Ellen-up-too-late*, the last piece in which poor Fred Leslie and Nellie Farren appeared.

"Those pieces cover a number of years, as you know," added Mr. Parker. "Then I went to the Shaftesbury Theatre in 1893, where my first production, *Morocco Bound*, was a splendid success, and had a long run. I migrated to the Trafalgar in March, 1894, to do *Go Bang*, by Adrian Ross and Osmond Carr, and when that was in full swing I crossed over to the Avenue for *Dandy Dick Whittington*, in which Miss May Yohe sustained the chief part. Then came *The French Maid* at Terry's and the Vaudeville, and at the latter house *Her Royal Highness* in September, 1898. In the meantime and at various periods I may state that I filled up my spare moments and days and weeks by producing pantomimes at Brixton and Brighton—at the former place *Cinderella*, *Robinson Crusoe*, and *Aladdin*, and at the latter *Whittington and His Cat*.

"Then came my engagement by Mr. Moss, now Sir Edward, as producer for the London Hippodrome, which he was then opening (1900). Among the many successes at that house I might mention *Siberia*, which was played twice a day for six months, and was again revived for four months. *Cinderella* played 181 performances—a world's record for pantomime—*Tally Ho* scored another six months' run, and amongst other hits were *Aladdin*, *The Bandits* (288 performances), *Dick Whittington*, *The Redskins* (239 performances and revival), *The Golden Princess*, *Butterflies in Fairyland*, *Among the Stars*, *The Flood* (274 performances), *The Earthquake*, *The Avalanche*, *Sands o' Dee*, and *The Motor Chase*.

"I have several offers in view," added Mr. Parker in answer to an inquiry as to the future. "Amongst the most tempting are one for America and two for Australia." Mr. Parker is devoted to his work, and, having gone through pretty well every department in the profession, knows exactly what to do, when to do it, and how to do it.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS has arrived in London in search of fresh attractions for his many Australian ventures. He is accompanied by his wife, daughter, and secretary.

THE Kursaal Gardens, Worthing, of which the proprietor and manager is Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, were opened this week by the popular lessee of the Theatre Royal, and it is admitted that this enterprising gentleman has supplied a long-felt want in this delightful seaside resort. The gardens are only part of a huge scheme which will provide for Worthing a huge hall capable of holding some 3,000 people. The Lawns are situated in a sheltered position on the Marine-parade, and make a pleasant retreat from the gusty weather that may be prevalent on the front. Among the chief attractions of the Lawns are the admirably laid-out flower beds, and at the witching hour of night the gardens are brilliant with electrical illuminations. During the week the many visitors to the gardens by the sea have been able to listen to the Comedy Comets, who have already established themselves warm favourites. The company includes Mr. Matt Melrose, Mr. Harry Taylor, Mr. Ernest Stanley, Mr. Markwell, and Miss Lalla Melrose and Miss Nina May. Three performances are being given daily.

"THE SUMMING-UP."

A Play, in One Act, Written by Hans P. Gore, Produced at the Woolwich Hippodrome on Monday, June 20.

The Judge .....MR. ARNOLD BELL
The Woman .....MISS FRANCES CAMPBELL
Judge's Secretary .....MR. F. C. ROBSON

The scene opens in the Judge's chambers, with the secretary at the telephone. The Judge enters, stating that he has had a hard, racking day. He has everything he schemed for—fame, position, everything, but the love of a woman.

The secretary enters, and explains that a woman who has tramped a long way, and waited many weary hours, thought that the Judge might see her. The Judge says he will see her.

Among the prisoners there is a man charged with embezzlement from a wealthy firm of merchants. She tells the Judge he must put the case back. The Judge informs her that he cannot, and if the man has stolen he must take the consequences. The woman replies that for a miserable pittance he had to pay all accounts, handle hundreds of pounds weekly, and he gave way to a sudden temptation. His heart listened to the piteous cry of a dying child, who wanted to see the green fields and blue sky once more. Their home was all gone in getting what the doctor ordered, and he applied to his employers, and their answer was that if not satisfied he could get work elsewhere. He stole, and hurried home only to find the boy had passed away.

The Judge eventually discovers that the boy is his own child, and that the woman, who pleads so pitifully is she whom he wronged many years ago, and that her husband, for whom she is pleading, is he who, though he knew her story, married her to give his—the Judge's—child a name.

"God bless him," says the Judge; but he can only do his duty, that which the law expects and demands of him. As she does not love this man, why does she want him back? To which she responds that when she married she told her husband she did not love him, but his devotion to her and her child had taught her almost to worship him, and if any sacrifice of hers could save him she would willingly consent to it.

The Judge begs her to come back to him. He will make it worth the man's while to go out of her life. She refuses, and the Judge, seeing his mistake, begs her forgiveness. She scorns him and tells him that one day a Judge more just, more merciful than he will "sum up," and as he has dealt with others here so will he be dealt with there.

As the Judge Mr. Arnold Bell acted with great force, and showed great earnestness. Miss Frances Campbell as the woman was a strikingly pathetic and powerful figure. The Judge's Secretary is admirably enacted by Mr. F. C. Robson, who does everything required of him in a most satisfactory manner. We congratulate artists and author on a charming little play.

"REPARATION."

A One-Act Sketch, Produced at the Grand Theatre, Halifax, June 29.

On the rising of the curtain Max Tracey is lamenting the possibility of the failure of his wife to induce his twin brother Hubert to give up a document he (Max) has forged. After committing the forgery Max becomes afraid of the result of his crime. Before the marriage of Max and Lena Hubert had been the choice of Lena; but Max, by means of lies and slander, managed to persuade Lena to marry him. He has now tired of his wife, and wishes to get rid of her. Lena returns without the cheque. Max confesses the forgery to Lena, and tells her he must flée the country. Lena, under the impression that Max intends to take her with him, readily agrees. Max refuses to take her. Lena confesses to Max that his brother Hubert made violent love to her, and overwhelmed her with kisses. In her frenzy she took up a dagger from the table and stabbed Hubert, and believes him dead. She searched the pockets of Hubert, but could not find the cheque, only a bundle of bank notes, which she hands to Max. Max now has the wherewithal to quit the country. He promises to take Lena, and sends her to her room to get ready. Max writes a letter to Lena informing her that she is not his wife, as at the time of his supposed marriage he had a wife living. Max, under the pretence of calling a cat, leaves the house never to return. Lena re-enters the room, finds the letter, and on learning its contents and believing herself a murderess, goes mad. In her madness she sees herself condemned to death, and in her eagerness to escape the hangman poisons herself. As she lay helpless Hubert enters to tell her what a brute he was, and that the stabs were only flesh wounds. Lena points out the letter to Hubert. Hubert tells her she is now free to marry him. In her dying moments she confesses her love for Hubert, and thus make reparation for the wrong she did him in marrying Max.

The story is concisely told, and the dialogue is well written. Though bordering on the tragic side, the sketch is a clever piece of work and reflects great credit on the author, Captain Gerald Gambier. Mr. Gilson Brooks played the dual rôles of Max and Hubert, and acquitted himself very well. The trying part of Lena was undertaken, and splendidly played, by a well-known Halifax young lady, who has achieved considerable success as an amateur actress and a Shakespearean student.

ALTHOUGH the weather was not ideal for outdoor enjoyment, those who took part in the seventh annual picnic of the staff and friends of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Sunday last had a very pleasant experience. The party, of about ninety ladies and gentlemen, headed by Mr. Lester Collingwood, the genial proprietor of the theatre, included Mr. E. Foster (Grand Theatre), Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire Theatre), Mr. Albert Bushell (Gaiety Theatre), Messrs. Barrett and Knowles, Mr. Cull Pitt, Miss Ray Ford, Mr. McManus (Deputy Chief Constable of Birmingham), and other Birmingham friends.

THE programme for the journey was well arranged, the party travelling by train to Stratford-on-Avon, and from thence by coaches to Bidford. A capital dinner was served at the White Lion Hotel, Bidford, and subsequently several toasts were honoured.

MR. LESTER COLLINGWOOD proposed "Our Friends, which was responded to by Mr. Matcham. The health of "The Guv'nor" was also toasted with enthusiasm. During the afternoon an enjoyable programme of sports events was gone through, the winners being:—100yds. scratch race.—1, Miss Knott; 2, Miss Ray Ford. Egg and spoon race.—1, Miss Knott; 2, Miss Powell. Hop, skip, and jump (gentlemen).—1, B. Hicken. 100yds. scratch race (gentlemen).—1, Mr. Wilkes; 2, Mr. Harrison. Prizes were awarded to the successful competitors, being provided by friends included in the party, and distributed by Mr. Collingwood. The fancy sock competition, which appears to be quite a recognised feature of the annual outing, was won easily by Mr. James Rowlands, of the Market Hotel, Birmingham.

THE pretty walks in the neighbourhood were appreciated by many members of the party, and boating was also a popular pastime. Tea was served at the White Lion Hotel, after which the trippers climbed again into the coaches and thoroughly enjoyed the return drive to Stratford in the evening. Birmingham was reached about 10 p.m., after a most successful day's outing.

THE TERRIERS' ASSOCIATION.

One of the best known societies connected with the variety profession, the Terriers' Association, continues to flourish amazingly, and its members are to be congratulated upon an exceptionally prosperous season, and the soundness of the financial position. During the past eighteen months the whole of the work of the Association has been thoroughly reorganised. The Sunday meetings, too, have developed from a "Free and Easy" into a gathering on Masonic lines, with all the glory of regalia, robes, &c. New and up-to-date methods have been introduced, and the benefit society work of the Association is carried out under the Registered Friendly Societies Act. Artists are beginning to realise that it is to their advantage to join the Association, and applications for membership are numerous.

The Association was formed on May 25, 1890, by a few music hall artists, amongst whom was the late Mr. Joe Lawrence, known as Terrier No. 1. Their aim was to promote good fellowship and society amongst its members, to assist one another socially, professionally, or financially, to extend the hand of friendship in prosperity or adversity. The brotherhood so ably conceived, has, in its eighteen years of existence, developed into an Association of world-wide fame and importance.

Should a member meet with misfortune anywhere, he has only to communicate with the Association and he is immediately overwhelmed with offers of assistance, and any necessary financial aid is rendered forthwith. If he is taken ill, he has but to call in the nearest doctor, and he need have no anxiety whatever regarding the cost. The Association pays all his medical expenses, and also provides him with adequate sick pay, whilst any Terrier who happens to be in the neighbourhood will hasten to his bedside to cheer him up. Should he die, his wife or nearest relative, &c.,

Photo by Hana.
MR. ARTHUR WERE.

will receive £20. On the death of his wife, he receives £5 towards the expenses.

If a Terrier is in urgent need of a loan for any reasonable purpose, it is granted at once, and he can repay it at his convenience, and no interest whatsoever is charged. The bond of sympathy that unites the brotherhood is so strongly manifested that no Terrier ever calls for assistance without a universal desire on the part of the other members to render any necessary aid. Should a member require legal advice, the services of the hon. solicitor are at his disposal. In case of loss of properties by fire, the Association has made arrangements whereby he will receive compensation.

Any person over the age of eighteen and under forty-five years, who in the opinion of the committee is a legitimate performer, actually earning his livelihood on the music hall or variety stage, or in a circus, or other building properly conducted as a place of entertainment, is eligible as an active member. Anyone either directly or indirectly connected with, or interested in the profession is eligible as an honorary member. The entrance fee is £2 2s., and the weekly subscription 1s. Honorary members pay an entrance fee of £1 1s., and a yearly subscription of 10s. 6d.

The annual dinner and ball is a great event of the year, and a feature is also made of occasional "Pig's Head Banquets." During the winter months ladies' concerts are held upon the first Sunday in the month, and are invariably crowded. A ceremonial meeting of the Association is held every Sunday night at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington-road. Officers are elected every month for various positions, and there is always keen competition for the different posts.

The president of the Association, Terrier H. H. Griff, the jesting juggler, has recently returned from a tour in America, and the event was made the occasion for a "Welcome Home" banquet, which was a very enjoyable function.

Mr. Arthur Were, the energetic and popular secretary, is an accountant by profession, and was educated at Dulwich College. After three years in commercial offices, he obtained an appointment upon the secretarial staff of the People's Palace for East London, at the time of its opening in 1887. He gained considerable experience in the organisation of workmen's and apprentices' exhibitions, fêtes, dog, cat, bird, and numerous other shows, and entertainments of all kinds. During his five years on the staff at the Palace, he received two public testimonials, and two silver and one bronze medals, in recognition of his labours. He organised the Garrick Dramatic Company (an ambitious band of theatrical students), and at their performances of well-known plays, on behalf of various charities, at the principal town and public halls in the East End, acquired a reputation of being a first-class character actor. In later years he has devoted his spare time to running "The Petite Comedietta Company," which he founded in order to provide an entertainment suitable for institutes, barracks, clubs, piers, &c. He has written and successfully produced, for this combination, some twenty comedy and dramatic sketches, all the songs and music being from his pen. His entertainment, given in conjunction with Miss Violet Murray (the talented elocutionist) and others, included many original comedy skits, dramatic scena, songs, and quick-change studies from plays. On various occasions he has joined his old friend Mr. Henry Bedford, and played a round of parts in that well-known actor's repertoire company. Mr. Were has also appeared at various halls in dramatic sketches.

An enthusiastic first-nighter, Mr. Were is president of the Gallery First Nighters Club, of which he is one of the founders, and an old member of the O.P. and Playgoers' Clubs. At various music hall banquets this year he has gained a reputation for delivering witty speeches, although he asserts that he has a morbid disposition which he attributes to his studies in astronomy. His business experience and general knowledge of theatrical and vaudeville affairs have been of great service to the Terriers.

THE TERRIERS' OUTING.

The annual river outing of the Terriers' Association took place on Sunday last in glorious weather, and was a most successful function. Eighty Terriers and their friends assembled at Waterloo station at 9.30 a.m. Specially reserved saloon carriages were provided for the journey to Windsor and ample refreshments supplied. Upon arrival at the castle town, the company embarked upon the saloon steam launch, The King, a very commodious boat. After the "goods" had been safely stowed aboard, and Signor Uccelli's chef and staff ensconced in the pantry, "we parted from the shore." Terriers Walter Norman and Charles Cornish speedily erected a miniature "Stag's" bar, and were kept busy all the day dispensing cocktails and other beverages, and did so with a skill that aroused the envy of Terrier Salter.

The company present included Alec. Alexander, A. Alexander, jun., J. Abrahams, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barnard, E. Braybrooke, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Brandow, Ted E. Box, Mrs. Barnes, Mr. Bremner, Charles Chapman, Chas. Cornish, George Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Crook, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Dunkley, Miss Radena Dey, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gait, Mr. and Mrs. George, Chas. F. Gage, George Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hooper, Mr. A. Hempel, A. W. Hanwell, Miss N. Horman, Beresford Hope, L. Josephs, Miss Elsa Joel, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kohler, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Kloof, Fred Larola, J. Mitchell Langley, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Mervyn, Pete Moriggia, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Maisner, M. Morris, Bert Marsden, Percy Madden, Miss E. Morrison, Miss Marlow, Walter Norman, Miss Marie Newholme, Miss Ada Ohlson, Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard, Mr. and Mrs. A. Plumbe, Ernest Powell, Mrs. Pierce, Mme. Rose, Sammy Shields, George Shirley, Captain A. Smith, Percy Smith, H. Stewart, C. Douglas Stuart, S. N. Salter, Mr. and Mrs. Trim, Mr. and Mrs. Wagstaffe, Miss D. Wagstaff, Miss M. Wagstaff, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Woodger, Mr. Wood, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Were.

Amongst the exciting incidents of the voyage may be chronicled the wreck of a skiff, with the rescue of its unfortunate occupants; the comedy duologue between Bernard Mervyn and a lock-keeper; and the sight of three ancient anglers (in a punt), whose woe-begone appearance aroused universal merriment, and caused the comedians of the party to join lustily in the "Three blind mice." An excellent luncheon was served by Signor Uccelli, of the Hôtel Boulogne.

After tea, upon the return journey, the party landed at Monkey Island, for the purpose of holding sports, for which some valuable prizes had been given by Terriers W. R. Dunkley, Ted E. Box, F. Larola, Syd Walker, and S. N. Salter. The organisation of the sports was in the hands of Terrier Ben Woodger, chairman of the Sports Committee, and valuable assistance was rendered by Terriers Ted E. Box and W. R. Dunkley in carrying out as many events as was possible in the short time at their disposal. Terriers Harry Barnard and Percy Madden acted as judges.

The following races, &c., were decided:—50yds. race (ladies').—Miss N. Horman, 1; Mrs. Russell Brandow, 2. 100yds. race (Terriers only).—F. Larola, 1; Ernest Powell, 2; Ben Woodger, 3. 200yds. race (visitors').—L. Josephs, 1; G. Shirley, 2. 75yds. race (ladies').—Miss Radena Dey, 1; Mrs. Arthur Were, 2. Hat trimming contest.—Pete Moriggia, 1; Geo. Cooper, 2. Threading a needle.—Mrs. Ben Woodger, 1; Mrs. C. W. Kloof, 2. Mrs. F. A. Hooper presented the prizes to the blushing recipients.

The musical arrangements for the outing were ably carried out by Terrier Ernest Powell, and most of the artists on board contributed to the programme. Great credit is due to the stewards, Terriers W. R. Dunkley, Russell Brandow, Beresford Hope, Bert Marsden, Ben Woodger, S. N. Salter, and Chas. F. Gage, for their assiduous attention to the comfort of the party. The secretary, Arthur Were, was responsible for the general arrangements of the outing, which were carried out to the satisfaction of all. An excellent photograph was taken by Mr. B. F. Hunt, 4, Bolton-road, Windsor, and copies of same (2s. 6d. each) may be ordered of the secretary.

MUSIC HALL SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—When I began to write this letter I felt in a fearfully "lecturing" mood, but as I don't think there is much money in that sort of thing, as nobody really likes to be lectured, I will avoid giving way to it any more than I can help. Through your kindness, sir, and that of others, I have made urgent appeal to my brother and sister artists for help in connection with the above-named event. Certainly help has been sent and promised, but very little, considering what might, could, and should be done. This is one of our most important public functions. This is an occasion when we have a splendid opportunity to show our friends (the public) how earnest, energetic, and whole-hearted we can be in the cause of our poorer colleagues. If we do so we infallibly win the public's sympathy and the public's help, which is, after all, the chief object. The point I want to drive home is this—a number of artists give liberally of their time and labour in order to collect funds, and to see that those funds are honestly and carefully distributed as they were given and intended. Is it too much that they should confidently look to such of their brethren as are well "fixed" as to this world's goods, but who have not the same time to spare (or say they haven't), to assist their efforts in every other way they can? I venture to think not. We cannot evade our obvious duties and retain even our own self respect. Of course, my committee and I are thoroughly grateful to those friends who are helping us, but this word of suggestion ought not to be considered out of season by those who have not yet responded. We want some good prizes and donations—small and large *ad lib*. We have already about fifty-five prizes, and want about twenty more. Now then, boys and girls, don't wait till you get a letter. Write in. Look how well the actors and actresses worked at the Botanical Gardens the other day. High and low were at it. And what a success! As I said before, I am thankful to those who have sent help, and am pleased to add the following names to those already published. They say it is hard to get money out of a lawyer, but, anyhow, I managed to get a nice little five guineas out of our friend Eugene Judge for a prize, and by quite a painless operation, too, my old friend Sandow kindly sent me £3 3s. for another; J. W. Cragg tumbled into my net; he's a very soft case (got a two-page advertisement out of him as well); Mr. A. Jenning, of the Buchanan-street Station Hotel, Glasgow, has sent a guinea prize, in addition to a former contribution. The agents have not held back, as both Mr. Harry Burns and Messrs. G. and F. Peel are prize-givers. Should like to hear from some more—and managers. And finally, for the present, Scotland is well represented by Willie Frame ("Hooch aye!") and Harry Lauder with a guinea each, and Neil Kenyon, the "Islander" (not "Highlander," gentle reader), with five guineas. So you see, sir, we are getting along. Intending competitors should note that entries will not be accepted later than the last post on Saturday, July 9—that's next Saturday—so hurry up!—Yours truly,

CHARLES COBORN.
40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W., June 30, 1910.
Telephone, Brixton, 277.

MR. J. S. TERRY, of Terry and Lambert, Golden West Villa, Morsemere, New Jersey, U.S.A., is asked to write to W. R. Williams, now lying in the Sick Ward of the Hospital, Cowen, N. Wales.

PROPOSED LICENSING OF AGENTS.

DECISION ON THE L.C.C. BILL.

Since Tuesday a Select Committee of the House of Commons, presided over by Sir Francis Leyland-Barratt, have been considering in detail that portion of the London County Council (General Powers) Bill which seeks further powers in regard to employment agencies, and in particular to bring theatrical and music hall agencies under their control by having them licensed. On Thursday what promised to be a long inquiry suddenly closed and the preamble of the Bill was declared passed. Opposition came from a body of employment agencies and agents in the county of London, but Mr. Blennerhasset, K.C. (who with Mr. Ram, K.C., represented them) having listened to the chairman's declaration that, if agencies were to be licensed, theatrical and music hall agencies should be included, said that what they would agree to was registration or licensing so long as there was a power of appeal to a Bench of magistrates and if that pointed to a court of quarter sessions. The L.C.C. counsel then consented to the powers of appeal being inscribed in the Bill, and the chairman announced that there should be licensing of agents, coupled with the double power of appeal, and that notice of objection to renewal should be given, otherwise renewal would be granted as a matter of course.

On Tuesday, the Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald, K.C. (with him Mr. Ewan Charteris) opened the case for the L.C.C., remarking that probably the most important question raised was as to employment agencies. The powers at present possessed by the L.C.C. under their General Power Act of 1905 had not been found sufficient to suppress the evils, and it was necessary for the Council to ask for more effective powers. Employment agencies were of many kinds. There were the well-known employment agencies for domestic servants, for governesses, typewriters, and persons of that sort, there were agencies dealing mainly with clerks, waiters, and employees of that kind, there were theatrical and music hall agencies, there were philanthropic agencies, and many others. He admitted that many of those agencies were of the highest class and were carried on without any reproach whatever, and if they had only to deal with such agencies it might probably not be necessary to have any powers at all. But these agencies gave great scope for fraudulent practices and, in some cases, for immoral practices. Such agencies were often dealing with young girls and with persons of both sexes with very little means very anxious to get employment, but often with very little knowledge of the world and very easily deceived. Some of these agencies dealt largely with foreigners, who were attracted over here by advertisements or sent by agents abroad, and who had no or very little knowledge of this country at all. Other agencies made it a portion of their business to find employment for English girls abroad. In some cases they were girls who had never been abroad, who had no real knowledge of the foreign country they were being sent to, and who did not apprehend for a moment the real nature of the employment offered. The provisions of this Bill were directed in the main against these low-class agencies. Counsel passed on to observe that when powers were granted by the 1905 Act they were necessarily of a tentative character, because there was no experience of the working of such provisions, except in Manchester. Therefore the powers were very limited in scope, and mainly confined to agencies for governesses, female domestic servants, and other female persons in similar capacities. The powers also extended to theatrical and music hall agencies where preliminary fees were taken, but where no preliminary fees were taken the Act did not extend to them. Accordingly they would find that practically, although not absolutely, all theatrical and music hall agencies were outside the Act. Then, under the provision of the Act the keepers of the agencies who came under the Act were compelled to register the names and places of business with the Council, and the Council were authorised to make by-laws requiring books to be kept, &c., for the prevention of fraud and immorality, but those by-laws were not applicable where no preliminary fees were charged. The Council were not authorised to refuse to register anyone. Anyone was capable of being registered, and the only way of getting rid of an undesirable person was to make application to a police magistrate, who in certain circumstances was authorised to expunge the name. But that power had been found to be ineffective. It was almost impossible when a person had got on the register to get the necessary evidence which would induce the police magistrate, sitting in a judicial capacity, to expunge that person's name unless that person had been convicted. So during the five years the Act had been in force there had only been five cases in which application had been made to a police magistrate, and in every one case that person had been convicted of some criminal offence. Experience had shown that the powers now possessed by the County Council were not sufficient to cope with the very serious evils arising from some of those employment agencies. The first great difficulty was that the County Council were bound to register any person who applied for it, however unfit and undesirable he might be. They had no discretion in the matter at all. They took no certificate of good character or anything else, and accordingly they would find that ex-convicts, persons of bad character, and other most undesirable persons—who, if there were any discretion vested in the authority, would never be allowed to carry on an agency—were registered by the Council. There was the very greatest difficulty in proving fraud when it was committed, because the persons who were defrauded hesitated to come forward. Counsel also pointed out that people abroad knew nothing as to the real meaning of that registration, and a man who might be a most undesirable man, but who had been registered by the L.C.C. as an employment agent, could advertise the fact both at home and abroad, leading applicants to think that was some index of respectability. As to theatrical and music hall agencies, of course, there were some of these which were quite respectable and high class, against which nothing could be said, but there were many others which were not in that category at all, and by not taking preliminary fees, or at any rate by saying they did not, they escaped all control, and were not required to be registered. It was absolutely necessary that these theatrical and music hall agencies should be under some control, and the committee would find that representations had been received by the L.C.C. from many representative societies—the Actors' Association, the Variety Artists' Federation, and the Actors' Union—supporting this Bill, and asking for an alteration of the law which would bring these agencies under control. Some of these theatrical and music hall agencies were of the very shadiest character; girls who were induced by advertisements to seek employment were defrauded. The girls had no knowledge of the stage; it was represented that they could easily get on the stage, whereas it was a very difficult thing to do—at any rate, as a remunerative employment; they were induced to spend their money in trying to do this and that, and then they found they got nothing. There were worse cases. These girls were sent abroad, and sent abroad in circumstances that could only result in their earning their living by immorality—a most serious evil. They would find that girls were being sent all over the continent of Europe, to Russia and South America, and unless something were done that traffic would continue. It was impossible to speak of these matters without a certain feeling of indignation that the law was powerless to interfere to prevent such terrible affairs.

The remedy suggested was licensing instead of registration. Under the present system the position of the L.C.C. was merely administrative, and under the proposed system it would be open to the L.C.C. to refuse a licence. That was to say, that before they granted a licence they would require some evidence that the applicant was a proper person to be entrusted with an employment agency, and a licence could be refused to a person who was not of good character. In those circumstances they would have no foreign convicts and persons of that kind setting up employment agencies in London. The L.C.C. already granted annual licences to many places, including theatres and music halls. It was proposed to ask the committee not to insert any power of appeal.

Mr. Fitzgerald then read the report on the Bill issued on May 27 by the Home Office. The Home Secretary first pointed out that as to the need for strengthening existing powers in respect of agencies already under regulation a distinction must be drawn between (1) registries for governesses, female domestic servants, &c., and (2) theatrical agencies. As regarded agencies for theatrical and music hall engagements, the Secretary of State understood that the existing powers had been rendered practically a dead-letter through the operations of the exemption for the agencies which did not take preliminary fees. In addition, he had had brought to his notice in connection with endeavours to suppress the white slave traffic several bad cases in which, apparently by misrepresentations on the part of the agents, young girls had been induced to enter into engagements abroad at music and dancing halls, &c., of the lowest and most undesirable class, and having once entered on their employment had been unable to free themselves, and had been led or forced into a life of immorality. Such cases could no doubt only be effectively dealt with under general legislation and by international co-operation, which the Secretary of State was glad to think was making progress; but meanwhile he would welcome the adoption for London of any further steps which, while not interfering unnecessarily and unreasonably with the proper conduct of such agencies, would be likely to be effective in suppressing this particular evil. The question as to the manner in which the existing powers should be strengthened presented, no doubt, considerable difficulty, but the Secretary of State was of opinion that the method adopted by the Council in the Bill was open to serious objection. As regarded theatrical, &c., agencies, the Home Secretary made the following suggestions for the consideration of the committee:—

(1) The exemption which the Act of 1905 confers on agencies taking no preliminary fees should be repealed, and the registration system, including the by-law making provisions, should be made to apply without reservation to all theatrical, &c., agencies.

(2) If the Committee find that greater facilities for cancelling or suspending registration were required, the powers for this purpose at present vested in courts of summary jurisdiction under the Act of 1905 might be extended to the Council in cases where proof is presented to them of misconduct.

(3) By-laws might be made supplementing No. 5 of the Council's existing by-laws for regulating the conditions under which the engagement of females for employment abroad may be allowed. It would probably be desirable to take specific powers for this purpose.

(4) There might be a provision inserted in the Bill directly prohibiting any agent from effecting any engagement for employment abroad in any music hall, dancing hall, or similar place in the case of young girls. This would be a drastic step, but might be justified by the evidence.

No (said Mr. Fitzgerald) let me pause here to make one remark. Anyone reading this report from the Home Office would not imagine for a moment that the County Council had been in communication with the Home Office for more than a year before and putting before them the proposals which were included in the present Bill and had never received any objection from the Home Office. On March 24, 1908, the Home Office sent a letter asking for particulars as to the working of the Act of 1905, and on March 28 the Clerk to the Council wrote a reply stating that the Committee of the Council whose duty it was to administer the Act were not satisfied that the powers given were sufficient for the protection of the public in the matter of employment agencies. On May 21, 1909, the Clerk to the Council wrote referring to previous correspondence, and formulating certain proposals for remedying the evil state of the law. The first proposal was that licensing instead of registration was essential if employment agencies were to be properly regulated. Other proposals were that agents not expecting preliminary fees should not be exempted from the necessity for obtaining a licence, that in the case of theatres, music halls, and variety places powers should not be given to inspect agents' books or prescribe the form in which the books should be kept, and that agents should be licensed under their usual trading name and only carry on business at their prescribed address. The committee should see that the principal provisions of the present Bill were suggested in that letter, which also stated that the London County Council desired that effect should be given to the proposals as soon as possible; if not, the Council proposed to apply to Parliament in 1910 for powers to give effect to them. The only answer the Council received was in reply to a letter inquiring whether the Home Secretary would receive a deputation. The Home Secretary wrote that owing to the condition of public business he saw no prospect of carrying his recommendations on the subject, and that in the circumstances no useful purpose would be served by receiving a deputation; but should the Council desire to proceed by private Bill, as suggested, he would, of course, give careful consideration to it. In that letter there was no suggestion of any objection being raised to the proposals by the Home Office or any suggestion of an alternative proposal. One would have thought that if the Home Office had had some alternative proposal the least they could have done was to communicate with the County Council in the matter. Take No. 4 suggestion in the report of the Home Office:—"There might be a provision inserted in the Bill directly prohibiting any agent from effecting any engagement for employment abroad in any music hall, dancing hall, or similar place in the case of young girls. This would be a drastic step, but might be justified by the evidence." That, of course, was a most serious alteration of the law, but if that suggestion had been made by the Home Office before the Bill was introduced the Council would have had an opportunity to consider whether they could introduce it into their Bill. How could they introduce an alteration of the law of that magnitude? The suggestion made was now of no assistance, and the Home Office report was only issued on May 27. One regretted that when a public body was making a strong effort to remove what was a crying evil the Home Office should now bring forward such a suggestion. Counsel concluded by reading and commenting on the petition against the Bill by the employment agencies and agents concerned.

Evidence was then called, the first witness being Mr. J. Ollis, chief officer in the Public Control Department of the London County Council. He said the most important difference between the old legislation and the proposed Act was the substitution of licensing for registration. The number of agencies at present registered by the Council was 596. In London especially, in connection with theatres, there was a larger number of agencies than in the provinces. When the Bill of 1906 was going through Parliament the Council applied that power to license should be given, but the Parliamentary Committee gave them instead the power of registration. Having had experience of the operation of the 1905 Act, the County Council considered what further powers were necessary, and passed resolutions, chief of which were that there should be licensing instead of registration, and that in the case of theatrical and variety agents powers should not be sought to inspect agents' books or prescribe the form in which the books should be kept. At the present moment the County Council had no protection at all.

Mr. Talbot: Licensing could enable you to keep an undesirable man out of the business, whereas registration only enables you to get rid of him when he has done the mischief?

Witness: That is the case. If we could have licensing there are some who would never apply for licence. There had only been five applications to remove persons from the register.

Mr. Talbot: I presume the great majority of agents are absolutely straightforward?

Witness replied "Yes," and proceeded to describe cases of persons of bad character getting on the register. If licensing had been in force he was convinced none of these persons would have applied. Glasgow was the only town in the United Kingdom where licensing existed. The witness next referred to the countries where licensing of agencies prevailed, and remarked that in some cases theatrical agencies were exempt from the liability to register.

At this point the Committee adjourned.

On Wednesday Mr. Ollis resumed his evidence. Replying to Mr. Charteris, he admitted that in the Act of 1905 the theatrical and musical agencies obtained a special clause exempting them from control except in cases where preliminary fees were taken or commission received before procuring employment. When the Bill was before Parliament the variety, concert, and music hall agencies opposed on the ground that they were then engaged in forming an association which would deal with the very matter, and their suggestion was that only persons of known honesty and good behaviour would be admitted to membership.

Mr. Charteris: And I think they also stated that it would be necessary for someone to set the criminal law in motion in connection with any agency that acted fraudulently, and that their association would be in a position to discharge that function.

Witness: Yes; that they would be able to pick out the black sheep of their own class. The association took no action until the end of 1908, but did not come into corporate existence, and a deputation which came did not succeed in satisfying the Public Control Committee. Representations had been made to the L.C.C. by the Actors' Association, the Variety Artists' Federation, the Actors' Union, and the Society of West End Theatre Managers, in which they urged that something required to be done in order to give protection. The matter had also been urged before the Public Control Committee by Mr. Bullock (the Assistant Commissioner of Police) and by Mr. Coote (of the National Vigilance Association). In the present Bill there was a provision exempting theatrical agencies from inspecting books, and this was inserted because such agencies were not carried on in the same way as the business of other employment agencies, and that as a matter of fact engagements were subjects of written contracts. Each engagement was the subject of a special contract, and for that reason inspection was not required.

The chairman remarked that if his recollection were correct there was some other reason given for inscribing the clause in the 1905 Act. Was it not that a large number of these theatrical and music hall contracts were confidential between the principals and the agents.

Mr. Blennerhasset: I think the reason given was that private contracts would be disclosed.

MR. ALEXANDER'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. George Alexander, who is chairman of the Theatres and Music Hall Committee of the London County Council, was present, and Mr. Charteris asked permission to call him at that point as he had an afternoon engagement at his theatre. Mr. Alexander then took the witness chair, and explained that he was present only as understudy to Mr. Cecil Raleigh, who was prevented from attending. I speak (said Mr. Alexander), on behalf of the Society of West End Theatre Managers and the Actors' Association. Those bodies are strongly of opinion that the powers proposed under this Bill should be granted.

Mr. Charteris: From your knowledge of the theatrical profession, are you aware of a great number of abuses of the character referred to, and, in your opinion, is the substitution of licensing for registration the only means of dealing effectively with these abuses?—I think it is desirable.

The Chairman: You are of opinion that theatrical agents should be brought within the purview of the law?—I am.

Mr. Charteris: Will you illustrate the abuses you have in your mind?—The principal evil arises from advertisements appearing in newspapers. In these advertisements agents—I am not speaking of the general body of theatrical agents, but only of a section—offer engagements to people without training or experience. Young girls answer them. They leave their homes in the country, often without consulting their friends, and find themselves in London. Their money is taken as fees by these unscrupulous agents and, as they are afraid to return home, very often their only refuge is the street.

As a member of the County Council you have had brought to your notice representations made by various authorities?—Yes.

In your view the elimination of disreputable agents would have the effect of adding to the prestige and to the business possibilities of the reputable agents?—It would, in my opinion, have that effect.

Mr. Ram, K.C., for the opponents, said he offered no objection to an extension of the existing legislative provisions to theatrical agents. Do you realise (he asked the witness) that the crucial thing the Bill asks for is not only substitution of licensing for registration, but power for the County Council to constitute itself sole judge, without any appeal against charges which are brought forward?

Mr. Alexander: I realise that, and I may say at once that I am in sympathy with an appeal.

Do not you think it would be sufficient if the class of agent of whom you speak were brought under the existing law?—I doubt it.

In what way do you think the law could be altered so as to meet the real evil?—I think, in the first place, it is desirable when an agent is applying for a licence he should have two responsible persons to answer for his character.

Could not that be done just as well with registration as with licensing?

The Chairman: Under the law at present anyone can demand registration.

The Chairman: Your position is that there are people carrying on the business of agents who you have reasonable ground to suspect are not fit and proper persons, but against whom you would have difficulty in proving a case before a magistrate; and you think that if you had the power to refuse licences, and did so, these people would not face an appeal?—Quite so. Unless it can be proved that a man is in touch with genuine employers, he ought not to be an agent. A very large amount of harm is done to the theatrical profession by bogus agents. People stranded by these agents sometimes find their way to the police-courts, and are there described as actors or actresses.

Mr. Ram: At present a man is arraigned like any other felon, and has the right to appeal, but under this Bill you would propose to do away with it.

Witness replied that he believed in an appeal. He agreed that a person should only be judged upon clear evidence and not upon mere suspicion.

Re-examined, Mr. Alexander said that if licensing were substituted they would not, in the first instance, have applications from undesirable persons. A very large amount of injury to the theatrical profession was done by bogus agents. Mr. Alexander then left the witness-chair.

The Chairman later remarked that, with regard to theatrical agencies, if any exemptions were to be made they would require strong evidence as to the reason why. He asked the parties to consider between then and Thursday morning whether what was really needed was an extension of the powers as regarded registration, subject to appeal, the Council to be given power to suspend or cancel such registration. What he had in his mind was a certificate of good character for an applicant for registration, and that should apply even to present agents.

Mr. Bulloch, the Assistant-Commissioner of Police, resumed his evidence. He described how foreigners of an undesirable class advertised for girls desiring theatrical engagements. Sometimes these men, after registering an agency in this country, went abroad and started branches, which they worked in connection with their London agent. He considered that in this matter much good could be done by having agents licensed instead of registered. Theatrical agents were not bound to register, and anyone could advertise as a theatrical agent.

The Chairman remarked that, in his opinion, no agent should be allowed to advertise unless he was registered.

At this point the Committee adjourned.

On Thursday consideration of the Bill was resumed.

Alderman Percy Simmons stated that until recently he was chairman of the Public Control Committee of the London County Council. With several members, he had interviewed some of the victims of the fraudulent practices complained of, and he could put in a statement showing that agents advertised for persons anxious to enter upon a stage career.

The Chairman intimated that the Committee were in favour of bringing theatrical and music hall agencies within the scope of the law, whatever that might prove to be.

Mr. Simmons added that a familiar method of the class of agents referred to was to advertise in newspapers. He would substitute licensing for registration; in fact, it was the only way to deal effectively with offenders.

Mr. Ram, K.C., said that he and Mr. Blennerhasset, K.C., were prepared to concede that some power should be conferred on the L.C.C. to enable them to do two things—to refuse registration in the first instance, and by that means keep off the list improper persons, and to insist on a certificate of good character in whatever way was thought necessary. It was something like that that Mr. George Alexander suggested on the previous day. In this way they would get over the initial difficulty of improper persons getting on the register and continuing their wrongdoing before they could be turned off.

The Chairman interposed with the remark that the Committee were in favour of granting power of appeal to applicants.

Mr. Charteris said the L.C.C. maintained the view that licensing and not registration was the most effective way of dealing with the matter. He took it that the Committee were satisfied that evils in connection with some agencies did prevail.

The Chairman: That has not been disputed.

Mr. H. W. Clemart (Chairman of the Variety Artists' Federation) was then called. That body, he said, had considered the provisions of the Bill and were in favour of substituting licensing for registration. They considered that licensing was the most effective machinery by which the interests of the various persons in the profession could be safeguarded, and that it provided the best method for preventing disreputable agencies from coming into existence in the first place. He had seen the proposal of the petitioners against the Bill with regard to certificates of character for applicants, and he would not object if his Federation gave that certificate.

The Chairman remarked that one knew cases showing the facility with which certificates of character from individuals were obtained.

Mr. Charteris: One would imagine it would be an easy thing to get a certificate from two householders, but perhaps you might also require a certificate to guarantee the householder. (Laughter.)

The witness observed that possibly the householders would know nothing about the agency. He had seen the names on the petition against the Bill, and, with the exception of one or two, the leading agents in the variety business were conspicuous by their absence.

Mr. Montague, secretary of the Restaurant and Hotel Employees' Association, with 140 branches all over the world, and 7,500 members, gave evidence in support of licensing; and that closed the case for the L.C.C.

Mr. Blennerhasset said he had consulted the opponents of the Bill, and they would accept either licensing or registration, provided it was not left entirely to the option of the L.C.C.

Mr. Charteris said the L.C.C. members in the room had been consulted, and were quite willing assent to an appeal to the courts where a licence was refused.

The Chairman thought the L.C.C. would also agree that where a person had applied for a licence and had made arrangements to open the agency, he should be able to carry on the business until the appeal to the police-court—and, if necessary later, to the Court of Quarter Sessions—had been heard.

Mr. Charteris said he would consent to that.

The Chairman then announced that the Committee had unanimously come to the conclusion to grant the general principle of licensing proposed by the Bill, subject to the double appeal, and that notice of objection to renewal of a licence be given, otherwise renewal would be granted as a matter of course.

Mr. Ram, K.C.: You don't suggest any preliminary terms as to sureties or a certificate of character?

The Chairman: No.

Mr. Ram: Anyone can apply, and if refused he can go before a magistrate?

The Chairman: Yes. We also suggest that the time limit for the appeal should be fourteen days.

The preamble of the Bill was then declared roved, and the Committee adjourned until Tuesday next, when the clauses as readjusted will be considered.

Patrons of the Empire, Wakefield, will learn with regret of the resignation of Mr. S. H. Laycock of his position as manager. He has won the esteem and respect of one and all, and will be greatly missed.

MUSIC HALL SCENE.

An incident which took place in the Bedford, Camden Town, on the evening of April 30 last year, resulted in an action for damages for assault and battery being brought against the proprietors by Captain Harvey Browarigg Jay, of White Lodge, Purton, Wiltshire. With the object of seeing the production of a sketch called *Paid on Delivery*, by the Brothers Cox, the Captain and two friends took a box. In the course of the evening they were requested to leave, and the Captain complained that great violence was used in ejecting him. On the other hand, it was pleaded that there was no unnecessary force in the circumstances.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Rose-Innes and Mr. Edwards (instructed by Mr. Charles E. Lacy). Mr. Hohler and Mr. Morle (instructed by Mr. Frank Daphne) appeared for the other side.

Mr. Rose-Innes explained that plaintiff was formerly lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, and subsequently became captain in the Colonial Forces.

Plaintiff (examined by Mr. Edwards) said that on April 30 last year he telephoned to the Bedford Palace of Varieties and engaged a box. He was accompanied by two friends, Mr. Allan Morgan and Mr. Percy Stanley Sykes. A friend of Mr. Morgan's—Mr. Harding Cox—was appearing in a sketch. While they were in the box one of the performers was singing a song and appealing to the audience. Several shouted back an answer, and so did we. An attendant came to the box and requested us to make less noise. I replied, "All right," and turned my attention to the stage again. Mr. Sykes then asked me if I had paid for the box, and on my replying in the affirmative he said, "Will you please tell that fellow to shut the door?" Upon this several other attendants rushed in and shouted, "Out you go!"

His Lordship: A sort of chorus by all the attendants?

Plaintiff: One or other of them said it—perhaps two or three. I saw there was no use having a row, so I said, "Come on; we must go." I proceeded to take my hat off the peg and to leave the box. There was a flight of stairs just outside, and as I was going down an attendant immediately behind me kept hitting me in the back with his knee. The only response to my request that he should "chuck it" was a more violent blow in the back. I told him that if I had him outside I would give him a hiding. With that he seized me round the neck—resistance was absolutely impossible, of course—rushed me down the steps, and through the auditorium. I am told the swing doors were opened for him to fling me through. I missed the flight of steps, I suppose, and fell on to the kerbstone, where I lay insensible. I remember nothing further until I was in Dr. Cross's surgery in Regent's Park-road, being put to rights. By reason of the treatment I received my thumb will never be of use to me again. One of my means of livelihood was riding horses that refuse a bit. I cannot now carry my whip in my left hand, and I am utterly unable to ride a horse if it swerves to the left. I used to do very well. I also used to write poetry, and do very well at it. Now I am utterly unable to compose any poetry.

Witness denied that he and his friends threw lighted matches on to the people below, or spat upon them, or applauded at the wrong time, or disturbed the audience in any way. Ben Albert was on the stage at the time the fracas took place.

Mr. Percy Stanley Sykes also gave evidence.

Mr. Hohler (cross-examining): You all behaved exceedingly well?—According to my standard.

Is yours a high standard?—I am sure I cannot say. The house was orderly, and we were orderly.

Questioned about "back chat," witness said he had answered back when he had had the ready wit, but he did not often have it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Allan James Morgan, of West Hampstead, a solicitor, who said he did not practice, explained that he went to the Bedford Palace for the purpose of seeing Mr. Harding Cox in a sketch called *Paid on Delivery*. They joined in the choruses, and other people did the same. When spoken to by the attendant he remarked, "We had better leave quietly." Captain Jay and Mr. Sykes were hustled away, but no one put his hands on him.

Mr. Hohler, opening the case for the defence, said he proposed calling evidence which he ventured to say would satisfy the jury that the ejection of Captain Jay was justifiable, and that no unnecessary violence was used.

Mr. Harry Goodson, superintendent of the Bedford Palace in April of last year, said that on going into the box opposite to that occupied by Captain Jay, he noticed the people in the circle and gallery looking towards the Captain and his friends, and calling out, "Chuck him out!" or something to that effect. The gentlemen were singing different tunes from the artists, and were out of tune. They were applauding at the wrong time at intervals all through. When Ben Albert was on the stage Captain Jay and his friends began to chaff him, shout at him, and applaud him. He saw an attendant named Hempstead go to them three or four times, and afterwards saw Captain Jay being carried out by Hempstead. The audience were all shouting, "Chuck him out!" at the time.

Witness said that on this evening there was not a single performer at the Bedford on the occasion in question who invited answers or ostensible answers. There might have been songs which demanded choruses, but the song which Captain Jay kept singing was not on the programme at all.

Mr. Ben Albert, comedian, gave his version of the conduct of Captain Jay and his friends. He said that before he could open his mouth one of the gentlemen made a noise. He looked up and said, "Don't be a cad," but no notice was taken of him. He had only got to the end of the first line of his song when one of the gentlemen called out, "Rotten; get on." Upon this some of the audience called out, "Turn him out." He remarked, "He is only a baby; give him a rattle to play with." He did not indulge in what was called "back-chat." He could not get on, because of the interruptions.

The attendant Hempstead said that it was only when the Captain struck him on the left cheek—not a hard blow, but sufficient to discolour his eye—that he took hold of him and carried him outside. Witness did not fling him into the street. He simply dropped him. Nobody but himself went into the box on the night in question.

His Lordship, in his summing-up, observed that anyone visiting a place of entertainment had the right to express approval or disapproval within limits, mentioning two cases, in which Covent Garden Theatre was concerned, where this ruling was held good.

The jury, after consulting in private for about half an hour, found that Captain Jay's conduct was such as to justify his ejection, but that the force used was considerably more than necessary. They accordingly awarded him £100 damages.

His Lordship accordingly entered judgment for plaintiff for that amount, defendants being allowed costs on the issue in which they had succeeded.

A stay of execution was granted in view of an appeal.

The Penzance Borough Bench on Monday granted Miss Lily Pritchard a temporary licence for music and dancing at the Alexandra Grounds, where the Queer Quakers are now performing; and also granted to Mr. Alex. Corrison a music hall licence for a portable theatre to be erected at Wherrytown. Mr. Corrison informed our correspondent that the licence is obtained for the purpose of running a cinematograph show.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Bradford, on the Midland, Great Northern, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Stokeferry, on the Great Eastern; Wakefield, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Great Northern, and Great Western; Chipping Norton, on the Great Western; Sampford Courtenay, on the London and South-Western; Bognor, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Haxey, on the Great Northern and Great Eastern; Headless Cross, on the Midland; Menston, on the Midland; Chapel-en-le-Frith, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Ringwood, on the London and South-Western; Stroud, on the Great Western and Midland; York, on the London and North-Western, Great Central, North-Eastern, Great Northern, and Great Eastern; Hawick, on the North British; Perth, on the Highland, Caledonian, North-Western, Midland, Great Northern, North British, North-Eastern, and Great Western; Pontypool, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; and Llanllyni, on the Manchester and Milford Railways.

Burslem Wakes.

This old-time fair under modern conditions was kept with great vigour and undiminished spirit by the people of the Pottery towns, vast crowds visiting the New Wakes Ground on the Wakes Saturday and Monday. The fair was well set out by Mr. P. Collins and his able manager, Mr. H. C. Humphries. Amongst the great attractions of the Wakes were found P. Collins' British Circus, P. Collins' Gordon-Bennett motor-cars (the No. 2 set), and P. Collins' bicycle racing track, Mrs. Davies' four-abreast galloping horses, the steam yachts, and the three-abreast gallopers, Millers' helter-skelter tower, Harry Hughes' school of boxers and athletes, Mrs. Hughes' novelty booth, and E. Ball's Tiny Town midget show.

The Minor Amusements of the Fair.

These included juvenile roundabouts by S. Mercer and J. Wright, football penalty frame by Hickman, houp-la circles by G. Dixon, A. Birch, Bettany, and Cordwell; shooting range by Wright, cocoanut sheets by Wright, Hart, and Beaumont; throwing games by S. Mercer, J. Cordwell, C. Hart, J. Jewell, E. Clough, Camfield, and Sorton; Pannum stalls by R. Dixon and Mulhearne; toy bazaar and numerous stalls by local and visiting caterers.

Longton Park Miners' Demonstration.

The miners of the Staffordshire District held their annual demonstration at Longton Park on Monday, June 27. The Fair ground amusements were provided by Mr. John Collins, who exhibited his famous roundabouts, steam yachts, shows, and machine novelties. With Mr. Collins were associated a number of amusement caterers with minor amusements, throwing games, stalls, &c.

Penistone Feast.

The chief attractions at this feast were provided by Messrs. W. H. Marshall and Sons, assisted by other well-known caterers on the Yorkshire circuit.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. W. H. Marshall:—Messrs. J. W. Burgin, 10s. 6d.; W. H. Hill, 5s.; W. Pullen, 5s.; J. Bentley, 5s.; J. Westray, 5s.; J. Easthope, 5s.; J. Moore, 5s.; H. Gledstone, 5s.; J. Gledstone, 5s.; T. Reaney, 5s.; A. Duck, 5s., and Mrs. Fletcher, 5s.

The Guild Chaplain in Scotland.

On Sunday next, July 3, the annual meetings of the Showmen's Guild will take place at Greenock Fair, the afternoon meeting at 3.30, on the fair-ground, and the evening meeting at 7. The Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, will speak at both gatherings.

The Movable Dwellings Bill, 1910.

The next meeting of the Select Committee of the House of Lords to consider the Movable Dwellings Bill has been fixed for July 12, at 2 p.m.

Mr. Fred Connor opens his circus season at his headquarters, Douglas, Isle of Man, on Monday next. The company is a good one, embracing the best items in circus craft.

That veteran and highly-respected showman Mr. William Haggar, proprietor of one of the finest bioscope shows on the road, has just purchased outright the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, South Wales. Mr. Haggar was negotiating for the erection of a permanent picture palace in Llanelly when the theatre was offered to him, and he at once closed with the offer. The theatre will be carried on on the same lines as it always has been; but Mr. Haggar will give at frequent intervals picture shows at it. The theatre will in future be known by the name of its proprietor, Haggar's Theatre.

Sedgwick's No. 1 Menagerie is making a most successful run through West Wales, and creating a very good impression wherever it stays. At Kidwelly it met with very great success. The show contains no less than twenty specimens of the King of the Forest, including two very small and charming baby lions. The performances in the dens of the wild animals by the two clever and daring trainers, and Miss Rosie's dance in the lions' den, were most sensational. The veteran proprietor has good cause to be proud of his show.

Shipston-on-Stowe Fair.

The principal amusements here were provided by Chipperfield, with cinematograph theatre, and Forrest, with steam roundabouts.

Bromsgrove Fair.

At this famous Midland pleasure fair the following excellent concerns and amusements were located:—P. Collins' Wonderland exhibition, Sydney Milles's Noah's Ark menagerie, S. Braham's trained birds and lady conjurer, H. Cullis's school of boxers, P. Collins's motor car set, galloping horse set, and steam yachts, Williams's racing cycles, throwing games, and minor amusements by Powell and other caterers.

Sale of the Crystal Palace Menagerie.

Mr. Leadbeater, the proprietor for three years past of the excellent menagerie located at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, has determined to sell the whole collection of wild animals by auction. There will also be sold the menagerie waggons and other effects. For date of sale and other particulars see advertisement columns.

Beauty Show at Folkestone.

We would call the attention of our readers to an advertisement on another page regarding the forthcoming beauty festivals to be held at Folkestone. These shows are unique of their kind, and year after year are boomed by the English and Continental Press. This year the selection and crowning of the British Beauty Queen will take place on Friday, August 5, and Mr. Robert Forsyth, the organiser, will pay the expenses of competitors from any part of the British Isles. The International Beauty Pageant will take place on the following Friday, August 12, and Colonial and foreign ladies staying in England are invited to compete. Very valuable prizes are being offered, and entries are already rolling in. The theatrical profession possesses many beautiful women, and our fair readers are specially invited to communicate with Mr. Forsyth, the manager of the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, where this novel show will take place.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS BILL, 1910.

SECOND ARTICLE.

In our issue of June 18 we dealt with the Movable Dwellings Bill, with a special reference to the case against the Bill as presented by the Local Government Board and the Home Office. As these two great Departments of State would have to administer the Act, their views upon its provisions would have great weight with the Select Committee. It is obvious that private legislation seeking to strengthen existing law must come under the careful consideration of those who, in the end, would have to work it.

In our previous article we showed that the great mass of official evidence was against the Bill, the answer of the Government to its promoters being that all that could reasonably be expected from van-dwellers was already amply provided by existing laws. It is the purpose of this article to show that the position taken by the Government is the same as taken by the showmen. In his evidence-in-chief, speaking for show life, the Rev. T. Horne, the organiser and chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, submitted that the conditions of life amongst showmen, tested by all the standards of national progress, compared favourably with any other class of skilled workers in the country; nay, further, he expressed the opinion that there was a more deeply rooted ethical basis for the family life than obtained in many other sections of the community.

He claimed for showpeople as a class that there existed a greater honour for the marriage state, more ardent domestic affection, coupled with a careful observance of the decent amenities of life.

Contrasting the showman van-dweller with the gipsy van-dweller, he said that "show-life differed from gipsy life in this great essential particular—it must be lived in the great centres of population. The showman must at every point of his daily life carry with him the good opinion of his patrons—the show-loving public. Even a breath of suspicion against the health condition of show-vans is enough to ruin his trade.

"Through the ages of his industrial evolution the showman has had to be above suspicion on the question of possible danger to public health. This has led him to be ever on the alert to have the best type of living-van obtainable. The showman's van of to-day is a veritable model dwelling; in hygienic fitness superior to the great majority of permanent dwellings.

"With regard to sufficient sleeping accommodation for all the members of the family, and the necessary separation of the sexes, this has always been adequately provided.

"The provisions of the Bill as regards show-van life in these particulars are not necessary, for the showman has never neglected to provide for the necessary decencies of family life. In so far as the Bill includes all van-dwellers, the implication that legislation is necessary to secure decency of life is keenly resented. A visit to any typical fairground and a friendly inquiry of any mother of a family would reveal the fact that for generations showpeople have maintained a very high standard of domestic purity, and that the restraints and sanctions of family life are more effective amongst them than many other classes in the Commonwealth."

He claimed for them that the ordinary incentives to decency of life and freedom from disease were fully operative, and that special legislation was not needed, and concluded his evidence on this point by the following important statement:

"The age-long struggle of showpeople to retain the good opinion of their patrons—the public—compels the strictest attention and vigilance to thorough cleanliness of life.

"Arising out of this, it must be remembered that every inch of available space in the movable home has to be utilised, and, in consequence, no part of it escapes daily cleansing. Experience has bred a type of housewife that nothing but the most thorough work will satisfy.

"I know these homes as no other man can know them; I visit hundreds of them every year of my life. I was born in one of them, reared in one of them, and remember it still as 'home.'

"I hold that no legislative spur is necessary, other than the ordinary law of the land, to keep these homes sweet and clean. No other incentives are needed to maintain the purity of life in these homes other than those that move the life of the whole of the people—of whom showmen claim to be a necessary part—the inspiration of holy religion and the upward trend of social life.

"I agree with my people in their contention that if the Bill is meant to include all van-dwellers, it is not needed for them. They have at all times and in all places readily obeyed the laws of the land.

"I agree with them in regarding the Bill as an insult to their home-life, as marking them out as needing special legislation."

In support of this view, the Guild chaplain submitted that show-vans were already under the law.

Existing Law Covering Show-vans.

All the provisions of the Health Act and the whole body of the sanitary laws of the country apply to van life.

Section 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875 (38 and 39 Victoria, Ch. 55), is of great importance to our contention, for in a later Act—the Housing of the Working Classes Act [48 and 49, Ch. 72]—mention is made of tents and vans, and the penalties for van-dwellers not fulfilling the law are the same as those imposed upon all house-dwellers by Section 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Housing of the Working Classes Act specifically and clearly states in Section 9 that "(1) A tent, van, shed, or similar structure used for human habitation, which is in such a state as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, or which is so overcrowded as to be injurious to the health of the inmates, whether or not members of the same family, shall be deemed to be a nuisance within the meaning of Section 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875. (2) A sanitary authority may make bylaws for promoting cleanliness in, and the habitable conditions of tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation, and for preventing the spread of infectious disease by persons inhabiting the same, and generally for the preventon of nuisances in connection with the same."

Other clauses in the same section provide for the properly-authorised sanitary officer having the right of inspection of vans and tents used for living purposes.

Here we have enough law in all fairness for the possible demands of public health and security for the showman and his family life.

Still More Legislation.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889 [52 and 53 Victoria, Ch. 72], Section 13 (1) provides that the Act applies to "Every tent, van, shed, or similar structure used for human habitation, in a like manner, as nearly as may be, as if it were a building."

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Extension Act, 1899 [62 and 63 Victoria, Ch. 8], makes the Act of 1889 operative all over the country by extending its operation to all sanitary districts that had not voluntarily adopted it.

Every living-van is a house for all health and sanitary purposes. It is as much under the rule and government of the sanitary and health authorities as any other building, permanent or temporary, used for human habitation. There is just the same law, and just the same liberty, for the van-dweller's home on wheels as the town-dweller's home of wood and stone. In the matter of all necessary safeguards for public health the law as it is is all-sufficient. It is just, because all must obey it. To endeavour to fix special and clearly invidious rules upon the showman that do not apply to householders in permanent homes is an insult and an invasion of his rights and liberties that every showman is bound to resist with all the vigour at his command.

He submitted that the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, in Clause 9 fully provided for the care, control, and inspection of all movable dwellings, and in a supplementary paper tendered to the Select Committee by the executive council of the Showmen's Guild the words of the Act are quoted in full, as follows:—

(1) A tent, van, shed, or similar structure used for human habitation, which is in such a state as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, or which is so overcrowded as to be injurious to the health of the inmates whether or not members of the same family, shall be deemed to be a nuisance within the meaning of section ninety-one of the Public Health Act, 1875; and the provisions of that Act shall apply accordingly.

(2) A sanitary authority may make bylaws for promoting cleanliness in, and the habitable condition of tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation, and for preventing the spread of infectious disease by the persons inhabiting the same, and generally for the prevention of nuisances in connection with the same.

(3) Where any person duly authorised by a sanitary authority or by a justice of the peace has reasonable cause to suppose either that there is any contravention of the provisions of this Act or any bylaw made under this Act in any tent, van, shed, or similar structure used for human habitation, or that there is in any such tent, van, shed, or structure any person suffering from a dangerous infectious disorder, he may, on producing (if demanded) either a copy of his authorisation purporting to be certified by the clerk or a member of the sanitary authority or some other sufficient evidence of his being authorised as aforesaid, enter by day such tent, van, shed, or structure, and examine the same and every part thereof in order to ascertain whether in such tent, van, shed, or structure there is any contravention of any such bylaw or a person suffering from a dangerous infectious disorder.

(4) For the purposes of this section "day" means the period between six o'clock in the morning and the succeeding nine o'clock in the evening.

(5) If such person is obstructed in the performance of his duty under this section, the person so obstructing shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

The Adequacy of the Existing Law.

But that was not all the evidence on the public health side of the question. In the showmen's brief against the Bill it was pointed out that the Vagrancy Amendment Act, 1898, applied with equal rigour to movable dwellings as to permanent ones; that the tent-dweller and the van-dweller were on the same footing as regards offences punishable under the Vagrancy Act with house-dwellers of all kinds.

Still further, existing law fully provides for the notification of infectious disease in a movable dwelling or caravan.

In order to make this point clear, we quote the Operative Clause of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, as follows:—

3.—(1) Where an inmate of any building used for human habitation within a district to which this Act extends is suffering from an infectious disease to which this Act applies, then, unless such building is a hospital in which persons suffering from an infectious disease are received, the following provisions shall have effect, that is to say:—

(a) The head of the family to which such inmate (in this Act referred to as the patient) belongs, and in his default the nearest relatives of the patient present in the building or being in attendance on the patient, and in default of such relatives every person in charge of or in attendance on the patient, and in default of any such person the occupier of the building, shall, as soon as he becomes aware that the patient is suffering from an infectious disease to which this Act applies, send notice thereof to the medical officer of health of the District:

(b) Every medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit the patient shall forthwith, on becoming aware that the patient is suffering from an infectious disease to which this Act applies, send to the medical officer of health for the district a certificate stating the name of the patient, the situation of the building, and the infectious disease from which, in the opinion of such medical practitioner, the patient is suffering.

(2) Every person required by this section to give a notice or certificate who fails to give the same shall be liable on summary conviction in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts to a fine not exceeding forty shillings;

Provided that if a person is not required to give notice in the first instance, but only in default of some other person, he shall not be liable to any fine if he satisfies the Court that he had reasonable cause to suppose that the notice had been duly given.

In the Amending Act of 1899 it is further provided in Clause 1:—

1. The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, shall after the commencement of this Act extend to and take effect in every urban, rural, and port sanitary district, as defined for the purposes of that Act, in England or Wales, whether that Act has or has not been adopted therein before the commencement of this Act.

2. In any such district in which the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, has not been adopted before the commencement of this Act, that Act shall for the purposes of section fourteen thereof (which relates to the operation of local Acts) be treated as having been put in force on the commencement of this Act.

It is the showmen's contention that the cumulative force of these several Statutes fully covers all that the promoters of the Movable Dwellings Bill can reasonably expect to gain. Notice the argument. For all purposes of law, the Housing of the Working Classes Act brought every tent, van, or movable structure used for human habitation under the same control as other dwellings. That, however fragile or temporary the erection may be, it is for all purposes of health and sanitation a building within the meaning of the Health Acts and the Notification of Diseases Acts, and also, as regards morals and good conduct, it is as open to the search warrant of a magistrate as any other abode.

The evidence submitted by the Showmen's Guild on the health conditions of show van life was frankly accepted by the committee as conclusive proof of that part of the showmen's case against the Bill, and it is a matter of the greatest satisfaction to the whole body of travelling showmen that an opportunity has been afforded them of vindicating their domestic life from the ill-informed, and, we fear, in many cases prejudiced, aspersions of those who would if they could, to quote the words of the expert from the Home Office, "wipe the showman from the face of the earth."

We shall deal in a later article with the extraordinary powers to abolish fairs, sought by the Bill.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT BURSLEM WAKES.

Since the year of the most successful struggle to retain Burslem Wakes for the people the Guild has held a meeting at the annual wakes. Having impressed upon the Borough Council that the showmen were well organised and able to defend their trade and in a large measure help the people to maintain their ancient fair rights, the Guild Executive Committee thought it wise to continue that good impression by an annual meeting at Burslem Wakes. The meeting this year took place in Collins' Circus. In the unavoidable absence of the President of the Guild, Mr. P. Collins, Mr. T. Bentley, ex-Town Councillor and the highly esteemed local leader of the crusade against the abolition of the wakes, was unanimously voted to the chair. The principal speaker was the Rev. T. Horne, Organiser and Chaplain. Messrs. R. Stephenson, H. C. Humphries, C. Shaw, C. Hart, and other showmen and stallholders were present.

The Chairman's Address.

In opening the proceedings Mr. Bentley expressed his whole-hearted appreciation of the good work done by the Guild. Although not a showman in the fairground sense of the word, he was linked with them as an amusement caterer in being, as he was, one of the proprietors of the Burslem Hippodrome, an enterprise that until quite recently he had carried on single-handed. He knew something about shows and fairs, because he had had to defend the local fairs under the attacks made upon them in the past forty years. The local efforts to abolish the wakes he had always met with strenuous opposition. He and others like-minded had fought in years past for the people's fair rights. He had won and held for years a seat on the Borough Council very largely on the Wakes question. He was not now on the Council. He resigned his seat because of the federation of the pottery towns into one huge Corporation. He objected to federation on principle, and refused to serve on the Federated Borough Council.

He was proud to be enrolled as an honorary member of the Showmen's Guild. Of the benefits of combination for trade defence he was a strong advocate. Whilst the organised showmen had such leaders and workers as the Organising Chaplain and their President, not mentioning many others who had done such excellent work for the defence of the show business, the success of the movement was sure. He understood that the President had been called away that very morning on urgent business that would not brook delay. He was quite sure that only the most necessary call of duty would prevail to draw Mr. Collins away from the meeting. He felt honoured in being called upon to occupy the chair on that occasion. He was only too glad to render all the help he possibly could to their friend and champion, the Rev. T. Horne. He would have the greatest pleasure in renewing his annual subscription to the Guild Funds, and would now call upon the Guild Chaplain to make his annual speech on the work of the society.

The Guild Chaplain's Speech.

After an appreciative reference to the great part taken by the chairman, Mr. Bentley, in the fight for Burslem Wakes the chaplain passed in rapid review the earlier work of the Guild in vindicating the showman's life and character from prejudiced and fanatical attacks. The society was now in its twenty-first year of active usefulness. Originally founded with the definite object of defeating bad legislative proposals, it had widened out, and had increased its beneficent work to cover the whole domain of trade defence and social betterment. As a trade union it safeguarded the business and trading rights of all its members. As seeking to uplift the show business it encouraged all efforts to improve the amusements of the people, and to raise the status of the travelling showman. It was concerned in preserving the people's fair rights whenever threatened. In its Parliamentary work the society since 1896 had successfully opposed the proposals of sixty Corporations in private Bills sent to the Houses of Parliament to penalise or to prohibit the show business. He could not exaggerate the importance of this work alone. He asked the meeting to consider the condition of the showman's work and enterprise if these sixty centres of life had been closed to him.

"But that was not all."

Since the Guild began the work of vigorously opposing Corporations that attacked their business in Parliament the number of such proposals had rapidly decreased, until this last two years the number had gone down to two in each Session of Parliament. He asked them to imagine what would have happened if the Guild had not carried on this work. He did not doubt that the number of authorities seeking restrictive and prohibitory powers would have rapidly increased, and that a vast number of towns and villages would have been closed to their business. When people asked what good the Guild was doing to the small trader and the employee of the fairground the answer was clear and to the point. In Parliamentary work alone the society has secured the liberty of the smallest stallholder as also the biggest capitalist of the fairground to pursue his business in peace and quietness, and with liberty of life.

Other Details of the Work.

With regard to the Movable Dwellings Bill, they had submitted the showmen van-dwellers' case against the measure in full. So complete and satisfactory was the result of the evidence that he (the Chaplain) had tendered that he had been assured that the offer of further evidence which the Guild was ready and eager to submit would not be required. The Committee had heard all they needed on the showman's side of the question before them. Personally, he was proud of the position the Guild now held in public esteem. It was a great instrument for good, not only in protecting the travelling showmen, but in the no less important work of preserving the Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes of Great Britain for the people. He instanced the recent success of the Guild in saving three Metropolitan Fairs and the triumph of the showmen candidates at the Mitcham election as proof of the ever-widening influence and increasing power of the Showmen's Guild. He concluded his speech with an earnest appeal to support the society in its good work.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman and to the Guild Chaplain brought the conference to a close.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.—Mr. T. Bentley, Hon. Member, £1; President P. Collins, third subscription, £1; Mr. H. C. Humphries, 5s.; Mr. C. Hart, 5s.

Guild Service at Night.

Collins' Circus was the scene at night of the popular service of the Guild. The assistant clergy of the Parish of Sneyd (in which the New Burslem Wakes Ground is situated) and the united church choirs materially helped to make the service a success. The circus was well filled. The Rev. T. Horne conducted the service and preached.

White City, Old Trafford.

Acceptable programmes are provided this week by the Band of the 1st Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. The fireworks on Saturday evenings by Joseph Wells, of Earl's Court, are much enjoyed by the crowded patrons of this favourite resort. The immense ball-room continues to attract great numbers to that favourite amusement of Lancashire people. The roller skating pavilion draws large numbers of votaries. The numerous outdoor shows and riding devices are kept working continually.

FILM GOSSIP.

Life in Our Navy and Army.

Patriotic in their conception and powerful in their appeal to the public, Mr. Alfred West's animated pictures of Life in Our Navy and Army justly stand in the forefront of kinematograph exhibitions, and their presentation last week at Eastbourne Pier created marked enthusiasm. Humorous pictures were also shown; and a splendid series of coloured films show wild birds at home, these nature studies being amongst the best it has been our fortune to witness. The programme concluded with a specially clear series showing the funeral scenes of the late King.

"Women Love to Weep."

Miss Hattie Williams, the American actress, has—says *Vanity Fair*—been giving her opinions of the changing conditions of the theatre stage. "The moving picture houses have helped to change the situation somewhat," she says. "They have injured the galleries of many theatres, and that has its effect upon the kind of productions that are demanded. It looks as if there would be not so much musical comedy and more serious drama. The men want the musical comedies, but the women—well, did you ever see a woman who didn't just love to weep? If she hasn't got any troubles of her own to weep over she must go to a tearful show and have it out there."

West's Pictures at Bournemouth.

At the Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth, last week, Mr. T. J. West provided a splendid up-to-date list of pictures. Harding Davis's famous novel, "Her First Appearance," is told very clearly through the medium of the cinematograph, whilst A Plucky Russian Maid is romantic and picturesque. The Newcastle Coal Mines of New South Wales, exhibited by the special permission of the Australian Commonwealth Government, is a picture of great interest to all those interested in the development of the national resources of our Empire. Laughter is supplied by such themes as Foolshead as a Porter, Max Ludner as The Short-sighted Duellist, It Pays to Advertise, We Want Your Vote, &c. That dainty little actress and vocalist, Miss Lucy Caine, who charmed Bournemouth audiences some few months back as Cinderella, sings some musical comedy songs in fascinating fashion.

Picture Palace for Merton.

A building contract has just been signed for the erection of a new picture theatre, the property of the Surrey and Sussex Picture Palaces, Ltd., on a corner freehold site, situated in High-street, Merton, with a return frontage to Mill-road. The theatre, the architect of which is Mr. H. R. G. S. Smallman, 3, Queen-street, Cheapside, will be of a highly ornamental character, and will provide accommodation for about 400 people. An agreement has also been signed on behalf of the same company for the purchase of a commanding site near Richmond Bridge, situated between the Middlesex end of the bridge and the tramway terminus. Here shops are to be erected, and a theatre to hold between 700 and 800 people. The company's theatre at Kingston-on-Thames, situated at the corner of Richmond- and Cromwell-roads, is approaching completion, and is expected to be open in August. Negotiations are proceeding for other sites, and it is hoped to have seven theatres open by the autumn.

Pathé's New List.

Next week Pathé's will release a number of subjects, the titles of which are Fra Diavolo, The Cat That Was Changed into a Woman, The Ordination of a Bonze (Buddhist Priest) in Indo-China, Lumbering in Sweden, Absent-minded Max, A Fickle Maid, The Awkward Recruit, His New Appointment, A Terrible Secret, The Luck of Marmaduke, Two Wrongs and a Right, and A Normandy Fair.

Cinematographs and Authors' Rights.

The Court of Cassation, Paris, on the 27th ult., gave an important decision affecting the rights of authors. The Court found that an author's rights in a dramatic production extended to any production of the scenes of the piece on a cinematograph.

Col. Fox and the Cinematograph.

Lieut.-Colonel Fox, chief of the London Salvage Corps, Southwark Bridge-road, recently gave a brief address before the Association of Professional Fire Brigade Officers upon the subject of "Non-inflammable Films." He said that all knew that in the past cinematograph films had been a source of grave danger on account of fire and panic, and anything that could be done to stop that danger was good. If they could arrive at a really non-inflammable film it must be taken up and encouraged, because it was going to save a lot of lives. He had a film with him which was marvellous, and which, he thought, solved the whole question of safety. He was unaware of the name of the manufacturer. Proceeding to test a piece of transparent film, Colonel Fox held it over a lighted spirit-lamp without its burning; had it been of celluloid it would have flared up at once. As soon as he put it into the flame, and held it there, it took fire, not suddenly, but (in his own words) slowly, as if it were wood, and it extinguished itself. Colonel Fox then placed a cigarette in his mouth, lit it, and held a piece of film against the smouldering end. Were the film celluloid, he said, he would not dare to do it. As it was, the burning cigarette bored a hole through the film, but absolutely refused to ignite it. He had no commercial interest in it, but he had informed the makers that he would do all he could to encourage it.

Ealing Cinematograph Theatre.

This house maintains its reputation as one of the most elegantly-appointed and up-to-date of the Pyke group of electric theatres. With its smoking lounge and tea-rooms it has all the attractions and sociability of a club combined with the, every day, more popular bioscope. This week the programme consists mainly of excerpts from *Faust*, accompanied with the string of melodies which has made this opera so famous, and Mr. Ashley M. Booker, who is now in command here, may congratulate himself on the presentation of such an excellent bill of fare.

Passion Play Film Withdrawn.

At the request of the Bishop of Gloucester, the management of Poole's Picture Palace, Cheltenham, have withdrawn the Passion Play film. The entertainment naturally suffers somewhat in consequence. However, a capital set of films are presented and appreciated. A newly-installed bijou orchestra is a welcome addition.

Leicester's Latest Picture Palace.

The Leicester Town Council on Tuesday evening passed by a large majority the lease and plans for another picture-hall, which is situated in the Town Hall-square, with the entrance in Granby-street. At the last Council meeting the plans were referred back, but satisfactory alterations were made. Leicester will now have seven picture-houses open in a short time. There are already three at work—namely, the Empire, in Wharf-street, and the Empress Palaces, in Mere-road and Belvoir-street. Three others are now now nearing completion, being situated in Silver-street, High-street, and by the side of the Boulevard Rink, and are expected to be opened to the public in a short time. The latest hall is to cost £3,000.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

JUNE.

A Great Conspiracy, sketch, in three scenes, by Chris Davies; Olympia, Shoreditch, June 6.

An Eye for an Eye, dramatic episode, in one scene, by George de Lara; Surrey, June 6.

The Forest of Happy Dreams, African fantasy, in one act, by Edgar Wallace; Camden Hippodrome, June 6.

Smiler's Watch, nautical sketch, by F. D. Bone; Camden Hippodrome, June 13.

The Odd Man Out, a triologue, by Affleck Scott (originally produced at the Vaudeville Theatre as *Breaking It Gently*, on May 20, 1908); Tivoli, June 13.

Honourably Mentioned, comedy, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare; Holborn and Kilburn Empires, June 13.

East Lynne, tabloid version of Mrs. Henry Wood's novel, by Fred S. Jennings; Queen's, Poplar, June 13.

On the Shores of the Shannon, drama, by C. A. Clarke; Royal Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, June 13.

The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring, fantasy; Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, June 13.

The Altar of Duty, sketch; Canterbury, June 20.

Chanteclair; or, Hi Cock-a-lor-um, a feathered fantasy, in three fits, adapted from the production at the Ronacher Theatre, Vienna, book by Joe Peterman, music by Frank Leedam; Oxford, June 20.

How Nick Carter Solved the Mystery of the Living Dead, miniature play, by W. J. Patmore; Bow Palace, June 20.

Under the White Ensign, tabloid drama, in three scenes, by Commander Neale, R.N.; Surrey, June 20.

Iron Bars, dramatic episode, by Frances Delaval; Islington Empire, June 20.

A Wife for a Song, humorous musical interlude, by Arthur Newton, music by E. Bucalossi and Archibald Evans; Peckham Hippodrome, June 20.

The Tea-House, Japanese drama, presented by native players; Coliseum, June 20.

An Amateur Anarchist, comedy playlet, by George Arthurs; Empire Palace Theatre, Edinburgh, June 20.

The Iron King, drama, in one act, by Edwin Birch; Theatre Metropole, Devonport, June 20.

Bill's Brother, musical trifle; Bedford, June 20.

The Bottom Dog, sketch, by Arthur Shirley; Peckham Hippodrome, June 20.

An Unlucky Star, playlet, in one scene, by Roy Cooper Megrue; Palace Theatre, June 27.

Flat 13, sketch, by Arthur Law Raynor and George Bellamy; Camden Hippodrome, June 27.

The Littlest Girl, sketch, originally produced in America; Tivoli, June 27.

To-Morrow's Dawn, dramatic play, in two scenes, by S. S. Edwards; Olympia, Shoreditch.

The Boy Poet (Chatterton), sketch, in one scene, by Brian Daly; Putney Hippodrome, June 27.

NEW MANAGER FOR BARRY.

Mr. William Minto is succeeding Mr. Arthur Brogden as manager of Mr. Leon Vint's Electric Palace, Barry Dock. Mr. Brogden, who is general manager for the whole of Mr. Vint's houses, has been resident at Barry since the opening in this district, and was previously manager of the late Hippodrome at Barry, that was destroyed by fire. He has had many years' experience in the "Profession," having occupied the position of manager of the Coliseum, Blackpool; Theatre Royal, Long Eaton; Gaiety and Empire Theatre, Dundee; and Theatre Royal, Workington. He also conducted his own companies, *Dan the Rake* and the Apex Chronophone Co.

Edward Pablo writes from Brighton under date June 25:—"Having read accounts in several papers re the death of Johnson, a centenarian acrobat, who stated he was with the original Sanger's and also with Hughes's Circus some ninety years ago, I beg to say that ninety years ago there was no Hughes's Circus, neither was there an original (or any other) Sanger's Circus on the road.

"In the accounts published of Johnson's career are just mentioned circuses that were not in existence and those that were in existence are not in any way referred to. The writers might have been near the mark had they talked about Ducrow's Circus, for that famous combination appeared before King William IV. and Queen Adelaide at the Palace Royal, Brighton, also before the late Queen Victoria and Prince Albert at Astley's Royal Amphitheatre on May 20, 1840.

"Then, again, there was Usher's Circus (I have one of their bills before me dated 1821); they would be in vogue about the time Johnson mentioned. He states that when they went to China there was 'a' juggler. What was the juggler's name? The only names he knew were Sanger, Hughes, and Malabar. He did not seem to know the professional terms. He said 'he could stand on his head on a pole,' whereas a circus performer would tell you he did 'the poleanders.' Johnson also said 'he could do somersaults on a horse,' not that he 'could ride a somersault act.'

"On looking through some old circus bills, some sixty in number, of Usher's, Pablo Fanque's Ducrow's, Hillier's, and Batty's, dating from 1821 to 1843—and between those dates Johnson should have been at his best—I fail to see his name announced, nor do I see a somersault-act rider amongst all the equestrians, and they were the best of their day—viz., Taylor, Andrew Ducrow, Hillier, Moseley, Stickney, Bottari, Pablo Fanque, Pablo Fanque, jun., Adams, Williams, Bell, Frost, Hinne, Moffatt, and Mackintosh. So that if he 'could do somersaults on a horse' (to quote the centenarian acrobat) he would have been quite a Halley's comet amongst these ordinary stars, and have also taken precedence of those other great riders that were to follow—viz., Macullum and Hernandez.

"It seems strange that my father (the late Pablo Fanque) was born March 17, 1795, in the same city (Norwich) as Johnson, and from boyhood travelled with a circus, becoming a proprietor about 1838 to 1871. I, too, was born in the circus business, and have been performing since seven years of age. Yet (barring reading of him in the papers this last five or six years) neither my father nor I ever saw Johnson or heard of him or met with his name on a bill or found him pitching with Malabar.

"The last time I met Malabar (by himself) was when I was engaged at the Scotia, Glasgow, in 1880. He was walking about the streets rigged up in his old Chinese dress. I have also asked two old circus boys, one eighty-one and the other just on ninety-three years of age, who have been in the circus business all their life until about twenty-five years ago, and they cannot place Johnson. So I have come to the conclusion that he never was a Halley's comet, but something like a rocket."

Feckenham Wakes.

Scott, with galloping horses, stalls, and throwing games, and C. Herbert with pony roundabout, hoop-la circles, and other amusements, afforded great delight to the people of Feckenham at their annual wakes.

T. G. Cagney (Cagney Bros., New York) proprietors of the celebrated miniature railways, arrived in London yesterday. One of these interesting attractions can be seen working at the Crystal Palace, where it affords delight to large numbers daily.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company present *Diana of Dobson's*, preceded by *Out West*, to appreciative audiences. Miss Mary Crewe is capital as Mrs. White Frazer; Miss Delaporte submits an admirable portrayal of Diana Massingberd; Capt. Bretherton is skilfully delineated by Mr. Leslie Rea; Miss Marie Ault is good as Miss Pringle and the old woman; good characterisation is displayed by Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as Sir Jabez Grinlay, Bart.; and Mr. Leslie Crowther as Police-Constable Fellowes. The minor parts are all well played.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Mr. George Formby heads the bill, and has a good reception; Mr. Mike S. Whallen's humorous turn is much appreciated; Beatrice and Bert introduce a musical act, *The Yokel and the Lady*; Lena Verdi, in song and mimicry, scores; a laughable dialogue, "There's no place like home," is contributed by Mueller and Coyne; Amy Marsden, the low comedy girl; Three Sisters Kilner, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; and the bioscope complete.

Grand Electric Theatre (Ocean Road).—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Barney Noble, comedian and raconteur, is well received; and new films are shown on the bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. M'Leod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*A Soldier's Honour* is being produced here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Captain Deane is exceptionally well portrayed by Mr. Will Hee; Mr. Dobson Clyde shines as Captain Gerald Temple, and Mr. Harry Lyndon is good as Sub.-Lieut. Percy Brattle; as the honest Jemima Eliza Miss Clarence is particularly amusing; Miss Mabel Scudamore plays Fanchette with much approbation; and Miss Hilda Vokes is charming as Queenie Deane; sweet Doreen Illingworth is admirably impersonated by Miss Isa Lyndon; Miss Cissie St. Elmo has a great part in Cora Lee, which she plays with capital vigour and is responsible for much of the success of the production; Mr. Sidney Fiennes Henry Thornton is an apt study of the cool villain.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Wolkowsky Troupe perform some delightful music on the Balaliake. Their singing is skeet and their Russian dances charming; David Poole is a clever and amusing ventriloquist; the Rizarellis and the Three Ricars are fascinating, and Miss Molly Seymour plays the violin agreeably; O'Hanlon Trio are dancers quite out of the ordinary, and Rhobins and Kruso's musical scena is excellent. Barney Murphy's turn is appreciated.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company has this week displayed the sensational features of *The Greed of Gold*, to the delight of large audiences. Mr. Jack Edwin acts with skill and ability as Harry Hood; Mr. Alf. Edwards pleasingly impersonates Mr. Brightstone, K.C.; Mr. H. Leonard as Con Cremer makes a typical Irishman; Tom Welstead is admirably portrayed by Mr. B. M. Fox; Arthur Errol has a capable representative in Mr. Monson Thorpe; and Miss Mabel Phillips acts with sympathy as Dora.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—This is the fifth week here of Mr. Montgomery's talented company, and *Secrets* . . . . is the attraction. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon looks and acts the part of Lieut. Herbert Markham; Mr. S. E. Scanlan acts powerfully as Mourzedin Ali; Mr. Geoff Sutherland is pleasing as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Harry Cooke is amusing as Peter Wilkins, and Miss Nina Vaughton is charmingly graceful as Ismalia.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Ten-Ka troupe of Japanese magicians head the bill here, and are well appreciated; the Rangers are an amusing trick-cycling team; Lola Patey is a clever character comedienne; the Three Florodoras present an entertaining comedy act; Mamie Morris is a clever comedienne and dancer; Fame and Fortune are amusing comedians; the Wedburns are wonderful instrumentalists and comedians; and Thompson and West give a delightful comedy act.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The powerful drama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company. Mr. Wilson Coleman gave an excellent portrayal of Felix Beverley; Mr. Reginald Brown played with distinction the part of Geoffrey Langdon; Miss Amy Ellam was charming as Mary; and Miss Kathleen Magee was good as the Hon. Mrs. Sands. The rest of the company were all good.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre, Palace of Varieties and Picture Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Signor Arvi heads the bill with his scientific art mystery, "Les Metables"; Marie Rivers is a good turn; Bert Boden is an up-to-date comedian; Shamus and Rivie win constant applause; The Sardous, in a series of mysteries, are a capital draw. The pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. T. W. Bolam's company is here in *Harbour Lights*. Miss Ada M. Ryder plays excellently as Dora Vane and Miss Lilian Earle does justice to the difficult rôle of Lena Nelson; Mr. John B. Shinton gives a fine performance as David Kingsley; Mr. Sydney Renouf is good as Mark Helstone; and Mr. Oswald Saxon is a capital Capt. Nelson. Mr. Stanley Bidwell does excellent work on strong lines as Nicholas Morland; as also does Mr. Arthur Holland as Frank Morland. The humour is in the excellent care of Misses Annie Brunnette and Kittie Terris, and Mr. Bert Atherton.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Adelina is giving some clever impersonations here in a pretty scena, entitled *Britain's Levée*; Harry Boldon is a capable banjoist; and the Vaudevilles present a capital sketch, entitled *Taming a Suffragette*. The pictures are all good.

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Miss Zona Vevey, with her accompanist Max Erard, is having an enthusiastic reception here, her songs being received with approbation. Holden's Mannikins contribute a popular turn; Harry Herbert, comedian, scores with a well-delivered recitation; the Kirbys are eminently successful in a capital burlesque; Orpheus proves himself to be an instrumentalist of consummate skill; Little Fred Foss is decidedly entertaining; some agreeable vocal work is submitted by the King's College Boys; and Chas. J. Johnson executes some smart dancing.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Pictures and Varieties Co.—A good programme of pictures and variety is on view here. The Lannons give great delight with some smart pedestal dancing; and the Mars Trio accomplish a difficult gymnastic act.

SWINDON.—County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures are drawing good houses.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—The chief attraction here is The Story of Esther, a fine dramatic film. Good houses continue.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—Excellent pictures are presented, among which is a capital dramatic subject, The Message of an Arrow. Mr. Tyers is successful in his songs.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. S. Duckworth.—Mr. J. F. Preston and company are here with *The Hand of Justice*. Mr. A. Wade is well cast as Sir J. Montgomery, and a highly-creditable interpretation of Philip Montgomery is given by Mr. W. H. Barlow. Mr. G. Tempest is suitably placed as Lord Henry Dudley, and the Count Michaeloff of Mr. H. Rutland is meritorious. Miss M. P. Barlow is eminently successful as Lillian Stanmore, and as Esmé Miss E. Rainsford is good. The Welsh-McFarland Fight is shown nightly, and is of course a great draw.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. D. Taylor; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Pearson.—The Bros. Ethairien top the bill here in fine style; Otto and Olga score heavily; the Famous Ives is popular; and Flo Warner, Denby and Dent, and R. G. Fry are all well received.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Young.—The Canadian Kilties' Band are an attraction here. Their performances reflect great credit on the worthy master, Mr. T. Scott. Helen Martin sings beautifully; Harry Morris's patter is well received; Bert Daniels, cornettist, does well; and the Clan-Johnstone troupe of dancers deserve high encomiums.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is appearing in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*. The rôle of Mrs. Dane is portrayed with much force and power by Miss Lillian Hallows, whose acting throughout is of a high order; Mr. Hal Charlton is equally successful as Lionel Carteret; and Mr. F. Pennington-Gush makes a dignified Sir Daniel Carteret. Miss Viola March is well suited to the part of Lady Eastney; and Miss Kitty Crichton is a quaint and winsome Janet Colquhoun.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Charles Heslop's company, "The Brownies," are attracting good houses here. Miss Beatrice Willey is a talented vocalist, and acts with considerable charm, Miss Dorothy Webb at the piano being very acceptable; Mr. Alec S. Clunes sings well; and Miss Vivian Stafford and Miss Maidie Field sustain their parts excellently. Mr. Charles Heslop is an amusing humorist; and Mr. Harvey Brinton wins frequent encores for his items at the piano.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Henry Coutts and Gwladys Soman head the bill and score in their spectacular and quick-change production entitled *Outflanked*; Les Piccolinos, midget performers, in Russian dances, wire-walking, shooting, trick cycling, &c., obtain a flattering reception; The Four Garricks are seen to advantage in a charming pot-pourri of songs and dances; Mabel Fairchild is a comedienne of considerable ability; Alec Lawson, dancer; Waul Langtry, comedian; and the pictures complete the programme.

VENTNOR.—Grand Pavilion, Esplanade.—On Tuesday evening, June 28, Mr. Arthur Hare and company gave Sydney Grundy's comedy, *A Pair of Spectacles*. There was a full house, which greatly appreciated the treat that was given them. Mr. A. Hare as Benjamin Goldfinch was excellent; Mr. R. F. Symons as Gregory acted the part of the keen business man from Sheffield to perfection; Mr. Guy Vivian and Mr. Dudley Stuart sustained the parts of Percy and Dick in good style; Miss Carmena Rivers as Mrs. Goldfinch captivated the audience, her charming manner being much appreciated; and the part of Lucy was taken by Miss Gladys Moss-Wright, who was well suited to the character. Mr. Walter Bannister was the typical old butler Joyce. The rest of the cast—Mr. Neville Scot, Mr. Jack Bertram, and Mr. Tom Mason—each did his work in good style.

WAKEFIELD.—New Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.; Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Miss Florrie Gallimore, who heads the bill here, has a rousing reception, her popular catchy songs giving great delight to large audiences; Leonard Charburn's Young Stars, under the direction of R. L. Griffiths, in a pretty vocal scene, arouse enthusiasm; Tom and Edie Kelso, comedy artists, score with amusing patter; Ford and Maxwell, comedians, are expert dancers; Miss Lucy Coventry, comedienne, is a clever dancer; Frank Melvin, comedian, provides an admirable turn; and Miss Ethel Edwardes, comedienne, does well.

Hippodrome.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Victoria Minstrels, a local troupe of clever amateurs, fill the programme this week, and present a capital entertainment.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—Premier Picture Hall.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—The Dawn of Freedom and The Common Enemy are the two chief pictures at this popular hall. Tom Groome, actor-vocalist, makes a hit.

Tyne Picture Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. McHarg; Manager, Mr. W. Utteridge.—The Road Agent is the title of the chief film. Little Alice proves herself to be a comedienne and dancer of merit.

Royal Picture Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg.—This hall is still doing good business under the present management. The Tenderfoot's Triumph is the chief attraction of the present bill.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A crowded house gave a hearty welcome to G. H. Elliott, who occupies the premier position on this week's bill. La Freya, presenting her original artistic visions, has an act of great attractiveness; the De Wynne Brothers are a pair of athletes most clever and amusing; Emma Don is seen to advantage in her song scena, "On the Thames Embankment"; and Tom E. Hughes is a smart character comedian. The pictures are good, and make up a most interesting programme.

The Imperial Hall.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Pictures are the main feature here, and they continue to be of a most up-to-date and interesting character.

The Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Electric Picture Palaces (Midland), Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Stanley Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. W. Robinson.—The series of pictures here are most striking, and include sets entitled The Gold Seeker, The Master Mechanic, &c. The humorous films are good, and cause much laughter.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The bill of fare at this house is of a most enjoyable nature. The views depicting scenes on the Rhine are again a source of much pleasure; Cheebert's Chinese troupe are remarkable performers, their conjuring, acrobatic, and tumbling act being very fine; Edgar Cook is a particularly smart humorous illusionist; Eileen Hall is a charming vocalist; Dave Abbott is a capital Scotch comedian; Roche and Roche score in the sketch *The Chameleon and It*; Archie is a capable comedian; Gordon Stretton is a splendid coon delineator; Fred Graham is as big a favourite as ever, and the pictures are all good.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings are mystifying everyone; Alice Craven, a typical Lancashire lass, scores with her humorous ditties; Les Arabellas is clever in a wire act; Clara Reid and John Power are responsible for laughter in the sketch *Wanted, a Chambermaid*; Harry Keeble, ventriloquist, has plenty of up-to-date business; Charles Woodward is a good comedian; Gladys Wells has a charming contralto voice, and the pictures are good.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters. Closed for decoration purposes.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. John Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—Mr. Dickie Clare's musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza* is presented here this week. Miss Vesta Brownie soon gets into favour with the audience by clever acting; Mr. Dickie Clare plays the three rôles of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French waiter, and is distinctly meritorious; and loud applause is the reward of the Jesmond Trio for clever dancing.

King's Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Thompson.—The chief pictures here this week are Tommy Atkins and Fire at Sea, both of which are interesting.

Victoria Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Shallcess.—The Pitman's Derby (the Northumberland Plate) and a Tale of the West are the principal attractions.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—King's Palace.—Some capital pictures are being shown this week. The turns are Florrie Wright, Sinclair's Mannikins, and an excellent comedian in Tom Lenner.

Empire.—An interesting vocal and dancing performance is given by the Four Cecilians, and striking illusions by Albert Morrow. Songs and dances are contributed by the Sisters Robertson, The Barrys, The Daintons, Queenie West, Arthur Gilroy, and Rose Wilson.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is this week presenting *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Beaudyn himself in the title-rôle works hard to ensure the success which the piece achieves; Miss Irene Munroe as Mercedes gives good support.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—There is another highly attractive programme at this place of amusement this week, for in addition to an excellent lot of pictures the Uniques provide a most enjoyable turn of funny melodies and harmonies; Amy Stevens is a clever comedienne and dancer; and Green and Elder, in an up-to-date comedy act, are remarkably clever, the show all round being very smart and clever.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. G. Thompson.—Ernest Shand heads the bill this week, his business being funny; the musical act of Frank and Jen Latona is an excellent one; a clever juggling sketch is presented by M. and Mme. 'Ah Agoust; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is cleverly worked; Ethel Bourne contributes a pleasing vocal turn; the Phœnix Trio of harmony singers and dancers appear in a novel act; and Walter Wade, comedian, adds to the enjoyment of the evening.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—A strong variety programme is attracting large audiences twice nightly. Miss Ida Kessanly tops the bill with her Royal Fox Terriers, who show remarkable intelligence. Miss Lydia Neilson and quintette of boys and girls make a hit, especially with their terpsichorean efforts; Dunn and Reano are loudly applauded for their comedy act; and so are the Sisters Urma, who excel as gymnasts; Miss Alice Winsome is well received; a charming lady is Miss Cissie Thompson, whose light comedy songs are rendered with expression; Mr. James Law as a comedian is a great favourite. Excellent pictures are shown on Lambert's Bioscope.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The fourth week of the stock season was commenced on Monday with the production of *The Three Musketeers*, Louis XIII. was admirably played by Mr. Eddie Vane; and as Cardinal Richelieu Mr. Leonard Thackeray was equally good; as Raoul D'Artagnan Mr. F. B. Woulfe again displayed his abilities; whilst as Athos, Porthos, and Aramis Messrs. Charles March, Henry Parr, and F. Branigan were well placed. As Constance Miss Josephine Richards was very good; and as Ann of Austria Miss May Irene Wright acquitted herself creditably; Miss Edith Loraine as Miladi de Winter was effective. *The Bellringer, David Garrick, Sleigh Bells*, and *The Gamester of Metz* are also billed.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessees, Messrs. Cottrell and Campbell.—In addition to the pictures, the following artists are appearing: Aldro Lucos, in his man-monkey speciality act; Messrs. Hayman and Houghton, comedians and dancers; and Cavalli, ventriloquist. Good houses are the rule.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Whitley Bay Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve.—This week, in addition to the permanent season's company, we have Hurman and Arthur, comedy jugglers; Roma Marquise, engaging soubrette; Marquise and Truly, comedians; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singers and dancers; Tom E. Bates, comedian; and Thompson Wood's Tiny Stars.

The Coliseum.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Animated pictures still hold sway here, and interesting varieties are contributed by Professor Davison, conjurer; George Leonard, blind concertina player; and Reid and Wright, versatile artists.

Empire.—Resident-Manager, Mr. T. J. Gregson.—The latest films are on view here, and excellent variety is submitted by The Tymes, with a novel song scena; and Vera Snowdon, a smart soubrette and dancer.

Links Band Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Local Urban Council.—Mr. Wm. Catlin's Pierrots are still able to draw excellent audiences to listen to their merry quips and cranks.

The Toreadors.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Elderton.—Mr. Elderton is offering the very best of good fare to his numerous patrons.

Baths Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—In addition to some of the most recent pictures the Hendersons contribute an interesting turn.

WIGAN.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's talented company. Zaco Malleto finds an able exponent in Mr. Jerrold Heather; Mr. G. M. Hancock gives a capital impersonation of Colonel Crichton; the part of Wilfred Grey is in the capable hands of Mr. Colin Heather; and Mr. Gerald Byrne is eminently successful as Paul. Miss Hilda Shirely proves herself to be a talented actress as Myra Maletto; and Miss Winifred Rutland makes a charming Lily. Much laughter is created by Miss Laura Wright as Dolly Dimple, who is ably assisted by Mr. Tod Squires as Peter Pimple.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. George A. Street is appearing here in two dramatic sketches, *War* and *The Cattle Thief*, both of which give Mr. Street ample scope for proving his dramatic ability, ably supported by a well selected company. The remainder of the programme is devoted to pictures, all of which reach a high standard of excellence.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—For aviation week the management have secured a sensational attraction in La Milo, who is appearing here for the first time, and "standing-room only" is the rule at both houses nightly. The poseuse presents an entirely new répertoire of classical studies, all of which call forth much admiration and unbounded applause. During the change of each pose the lightning cartoonist, Cruickshanks, occupies the attention of the audience with exceptionally clever caricatures. Will Van Allen, tramp musician and raconteur, meets with a hearty reception on his reappearance; Olga Dore, the Australian prima donna, wins vociferous applause for her delightful rendering of "Banished Sorrow"; Selby and Myers, comedians, in song, patter, and dance, contribute a pleasing turn; and an unusually strong programme is completed by Ina Lorimer, comedienne and dancer; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; and Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian.

Electric Theatre.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman.—The programme here includes The Message of the Arrow, Double Dealing, Mr. Piecan's Invention, Hunting in France, &c., and excellent business is being done.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—A strong variety programme is provided this week. The clever acrobatic turn of the Five Whiteleys has proved highly attractive; the Royal Diamonds, one-legged jumpers and equilibrists, give a remarkable exhibition of agility; Mlle. de Lilo is a skilful posture artist; and M. Metz juggles cleverly with rubber balls; Mr. Syd Crossley is an inimitable comedian; and Mr. Harry Wright scores a great success in his extempore vocal numbers; Sterling and Cashen sing and dance cleverly; and Miss Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; and Mr. Henri Alexander complete an excellent programme.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—That historical play *A Royal Divorce* was presented here during the first part of the week by the capable company toured by Mr. W. W. Kelly. A high degree of dramatic capacity was maintained throughout. The part of Napoleon was played with much success by Mr. Frederick Moyes; and Miss Violet Ellicott made a capable Josephine. To Miss Winnie Tempest was entrusted the part of Marie Louise, and she did it full justice. Among the remaining members of the company engaged were Messrs. J. H. Roberts (Talleyrand), Charles Stirling (Marquise de Beaumont), Ernest Plumpton (General Augereau), H. Arnold Allen (Marshal Murat), and George Hudson (an especially praiseworthy innkeeper), and the Misses Dorothy Garth (Stéphanie), Florence Cudlipp (Blanche), and Loyale Frere (the Gouvernante), with little Miss Dorothy Hudson as the young King of Rome.

St. James's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Scott and Mansfield.—The clever vaudeville party the Queries are in possession here, and have just introduced an innovation by giving tea matinées. These are proving popular. The excellent company consists of Mr. Eric Seymour, Mr. Ernest Hay, Mr. Harry Lea, Mr. Fisher Jones, and the Misses Lucy Elliott and Mabella May.

The Pier.—Manager, Mr. Reginald Paine.—The Royal Navy Ladies' Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mme. Florence Sidney Jones, perform here three times daily, and a vaudeville entertainment is provided by the Frolics, under the direction of Mr. Willmott Fowler. Mr. Carson Hicks, Mr. Ernest Preston, and Mr. Marcus Stone and Miss Rena Ress and Miss Winifred Bostock contribute.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Kavados, a clever juggler, equilibrist, and cannon-ball performer, tops the bill here, and has made a distinct hit. Miss Flo Melville is a dainty comedienne and a burlesque actress of marked ability, and receives a big share of the applause. The pictures continue an attraction.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The principal films are Converts, the latest A.B. picture Votes for Women, and Stratagem. The cinephone, as usual, has illustrated songs.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Theodor's Flutter* is a merry trifle; Miss Doris Woodall, equally clever as actress and singer, has in Aurelia a part in which she has ample scope to display her well-known powers, the reception accorded her being most flattering; Mr. E. C. Hedmont invests the part of Adolph with any amount of go, and renders the incidental songs in a particularly finished manner; Mr. Charles Victor manifests his versatility by giving an irresistibly funny rendering of Durand, and is ably played up to by Mr. Bob Owen, a quaint and mirth-provoking Moveau. Miss Lawson Taylor is vivacious and chic as Toinette, and with Mr. S. Boulderstone, a most quaint Theodor, indulges in a clever duet which is warmly applauded; as Durand's daughters, Miss Marion Broom, Miss Annie Van Dyck, and Miss Hilda Morris are alike excellent; Mr. R. F. Matthews, Mr. Schofield, and Mr. Wm. O'Connor as the French Hussars act with much spirit, and, taken as a whole, the production is a decided success.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Consul heads the bill this week, and his doings have attracted large audiences; the fare provided by J. P. Ling proves acceptable, and the ventriloquial efforts of Neiman are heartily received; Dan Daly is a comedian with a rare voice; the Almas are expert equilibrists of great merit; Mr. Austin Temple is an up-to-date illusionist who finds much favour; Benn's Dutch Girls and Boys are heartily applauded; and a neat sketch, entitled *Cupid in a Lodging House*, is presented by Amy Manfree and company.

POST-OFFICES AND TELEGRAMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Dear Sir,—We have compiled the two following lists, after wading carefully through the 876 pages of the Post-Office Guide. They will be exceedingly useful to professionals who travel at night and wish to send or pick up a telegram during their journey, so we trust they will paste them in their pocket-books.—Yours faithfully,

DOLLY and MADGE McCALLA.

List of towns where the post-office is always open and where telegrams are delivered at all times:—

Aberdeen	Ipswich
Birmingham	Leeds
Brighton	Liverpool
Bristol	Leicester
Belfast	London
Cardiff	Newcastle (also for Gateshead)
Cork	Norwich
Derby	Nottingham
Devonport	Newport
Dundee	Peterborough
Dover	Plymouth
Darlington (closes 3 a.m.)	Portsmouth
Dublin	Sheffield
Exeter.	Southampton
Edinburgh.	Swansea
Hull	York
Huddersfield	

List of towns where the post-offices close at 8 or 10 o'clock, but where telegrams can be sent from the railway station office during the night. Telegrams may also be sent there to be called for. They do not deliver, however.

Accrington	Ipswich
Bedford	Nuneaton
Blackburn	Oxford
Bolton	Reading
Burton	Rotherham
Cambridge	Rugby
Chester	St. Helens
Chesterfield	Shrewsbury
Crewe	Shipley
Croydon	Stafford
Doncaster	Stockton
Folkestone	Todmorden
Fleetwood	Wakefield
Gloucester	Worcester
Grantham	

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 18, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3.
31, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Jan. 23, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 14, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Sep. 5, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
July 25, Sept. 12, Oct. 24, 31, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18 (6 nights), July 28 (3 nights), Aug. 15 (2 nights), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 22, 26, on.
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Walter Maxwell is now booking First-class Attractions for the Season. Three Nights and a Matinée; the week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.

Monday, July 4 (week)
Mr. Leonard Boyne in "Raffles."

It is possible that July 28 and Aug. 15 (three nights each) may fall vacant.
WALTER MAXWELL, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, First-class Company for August Bank Holiday, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, and July 18, Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, onwards, with exceptions.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 19, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26 (no drama).
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
Sept. 5 (twice nightly).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 15 (three nights).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (three nights), Sept. 12 (5).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

KELLY'S THEATRE,
KELLY'S THEATRE,
Paradise-street, just off Church-street,
Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 15 and Sept. 26.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for King's Theatre, Glasgow, Aug. 1; Edinburgh, July 25, Aug. 1 and 15; Newcastle, Aug. 8 and Sept. 5. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
July 18, 25,
Sept. 19, 26.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, a really big Pantomime, Xmas, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 11, one or two weeks in August.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?), Sept. 1, 2, 3 (?), 8, 9, 10 (?), 15, 16, 17 (?), Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 28.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

Vacant July 25.
Vacant July 25.
Vacant July 25.
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Only vacant date this season (through obliging).
WANTED, First-class Company, Musical Comedy or big Variety Combination, for above.
Write or wire,
Councillor CHARLES PRICE, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Star Attractions, with own Companies, on sharing terms, July 18 and 25. State fullest particulars. T. A. EDWARDES.

WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions for Theatre Royal, Bolton, July 25, Aug. 1, 8 (?), Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12.
Address, J. P. HILLYARD, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 15, Nov. 7, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Grand opening July 25, with R. Macdonald, Esq.'s, Principal Company, in "The Dairymaids."
Vacant Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Dec. 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, Aug. Bank Holiday. State lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 1. Please quote lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the Handsomest Theatres in the Country.
Holding capacity, 3,500. Visited by all the First-class Companies and Stars.
Very big money is taken here with first-class attractions. Refer to all the big Managers.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1, 8, and 15 (Race week, open), and onwards, with exceptions.
CASTLE THEATRE STOCKTON.
This Handsome Theatre will re-open August.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15 (Race week), 22, and Sept. 5.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, T. R., Middlesbrough.

EMPIRE THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Managing-Director, RICHARD THORNTON.
The most gorgeous and up-to-date Theatre out of London.
Bookings include George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Dollar Princess," Moody-Manners Opera Co., Seymour Hicks and Co., Great Pantomime Production, "Aladdin"; other important engagements pending.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical or West End Attractions, for one or two vacant dates.
London Stars playing North could arrange Flying Matinées. All communications to HARRY EDDEN, Empire, Sunderland.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, July 18, Aug. 1 and 8.
Address, Mrs. T. CULKEN.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 22 (?), Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Christmas (three weeks for Pantomime). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Raffles," &c. Re dates direct to JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE, OLDHAM.
WANTED, good Dramatic, for Aug. 8.
Apply, WM. EASTWOOD.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22, and several good Autumn Dates.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, non-musical, Sept. 19 also Oct. 10, and probably Oct. 31, owing to transferring Mr. George Edwardes's company. Feb. 13 also vacant. Only Best Attractions can be entertained for these dates.
Particulars to SIDNEY COOPER.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 24, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée. First vacant date Aug. 4. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic, Musical, or Variety, July 11, and on; also Attraction for Bank Holiday. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 4 and 18 (wire), and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

WANTED, Known, the Best Season Dates, Sept. 19 (Race Week) and Sept. 26 (Autumn Holiday), Vacant at Perth Theatre, for First-class Companies; also Aug. 1 (the opening) and Oct. 13 (three nights).
Address, J. H. SAVILE, 72, Promenade, Jopps, N.B.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, for vacant Autumn Dates, open three nights weekly. Address, MAX JEROME, 238, Castellain-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Sound Dramatic Attraction, July 11.
No opposition whatever.
Wire, MARK LORNE,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 28, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, July 25, Aug. on. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 1, 15 (?), 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, 28, Jan. 9, 23 (?), Feb. 13, 27 (?), March 13, April 10.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW,
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THE OPERA HOUSE,
BRIDLINGTON.
Proprietors, The New Spa and Gardens, Ltd.
WANTED, for Aug. 4 (3) and Aug. 8 (3), High-class Companies, Musical Comedy preferred. The above to complete season's bookings, which include "The Merry Widow," "Miss Hook of Holland," "The Arcadians," "Gay Gordons," "Don," "When Knights Were Bold," "Dolly Reforming Herself," "Little Damozel," "Walls of Jericho," "Miss Tommy."

Wanted, Strong Attractions on and after Oct. 15, for three nights.
Wanted, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 (weeks), Musical Comedy or Pantomime.
Address, Manager, as above.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions,
Aug. 8 (?), Oct. 24 (?), and 1911, onwards, with exceptions.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
First-class Up-to-date Pantomimes. Send vacant dates, Jan. 2, onward, August (?), and onwards, 1910, with exceptions; 1911, with exceptions. The above Theatres are now under the direct control and supervision of Mr. A. C. Moody, are fitted and upholstered in the most modern and up-to-date fashion, and do
Excellent Business All the Year Round.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant July 4, 11, and Sept. 8, 9, 10.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, First Three Nights of Week, Sept. 5, and later dates. Drama twice nightly, Aug. 11, 12, 13 (only vacancy for Drama until February).

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Reopening after extensive alterations, Sept. 5.
Vacant Sept. 8, 9, 10, Oct. 10, and on.
Rugby, Loughborough, Gainsborough, and Lincoln may be worked three nights each with Chesterfield.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED.—A few Good Dates Vacant in October and November.
Bookings already include D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, Geo. Edwardes's "Merry Widow," F. R. Benson's Co., &c.
J. B. HOWARD, 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Dramatic and Variety Attractions, for
SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES,
from Aug. 1, onward.
Address, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL,
STOCKPORT.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, for Aug. 1.
Address, CHARLES REVILL.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate, vacant July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, 22 (all three nights), Season dates, not Drama. WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. E. POTTS.

GRAND, MANSFIELD, AND KING SUTTON.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10.
CLAYTON, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, on, with exceptions, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 8, 15, 22, on, with exceptions, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22.
FRED FREDERICKS.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, for Aug. 8, 15, and 22 (?), also Nov. 7 (?).
Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, good Drama, July 18 week.
SIDNEY COOPER.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 3, 10, 31.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for alterations and reconstruction.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 5, various on.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 5, 12 (Holiday date), Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
PALACE THEATRE, PORTH.
Sole Lessee, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, good Attraction, Musical Comedies, Dramas, &c., for Aug. and later dates. All communications, W. S., Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, good Attractions, for July 25, 28 (three nights), 14,000 Territorials in Camp, Sept. 1, 12, on, with exceptions. PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 11 (3 nights), Sept. 12 and 26, Oct. 3, 17, 24, 31, for St. Helens and Warrington. LOADER, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 330; scenery. H. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for July 25, Aug. 1, for Special Attraction; 8, 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, July 18 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, July 25.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN, Aug. 1.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, Aug. 1, 15.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK, Aug. 1 (?), 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

RUGBY.
NEW PALACE THEATRE.
Proprietor and Manager, FRANK LANGLEY.
An up-to-date Brick and Stone Building,
Stage 36ft. deep, 54ft. wide,
Stage Floor to Grid 40ft,
Proscenium Opening 27ft.
Seating Accommodation for over 1,000.
Electric Lighting.
Architects, Messrs. Franklin and Newman, Rugby.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies, Jan. 16 and Feb. 27. A good week's business assured; also Vacant March 6, 13, 20, April 3, 10, 24, and on.
All communications,
FRANK LANGLEY, New Palace Theatre, Rugby.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for July 18, Aug. 8, 15, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 8, 15, and 22. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug., Sept., on.
A. D. VERNON.

WANTED, Attractions, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1 and 8.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 1.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, July 11, for "The Female Swindler." DOUGLAS BRUCE, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIH CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD," "BABES IN THE WOOD." Thanks Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Eight Dates. Clean, smart, funny, and bright. Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, for few Remaining Vacancies (Lancs. or Yorks.) Address, J. L. BARRY, 49, Sidney-street North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, on, Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 17, 24.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY,
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Vacant Dates, Aug. 22 (3 nights, Midlands or North), Sept. 19 (North), Oct. 17 and 24, Nov. 21 (3 nights, South).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, First-class Theatres "A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17 (North or Midland), also Dec. 26, at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS NORA CARTON'S TOURS,
with Russell Vaun's latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
One of the strongest Casts on the road.
WANTED, Aug. 29 (precede Paisley), Sept. 19, Oct. 10 and 31, Nov. 7 (precede Ramsgate), Dec. 5 (precede St. Helen's), Dec. 26 (between Warrington and Star, Swansea), Jan. 30, and Feb. 6, March 20, and April 17.
All coms., MARTIN CONSTOCK,
Abercrombie Hotel, Bootle-street, Manchester.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

CHARLES GIBBON'S TOURS.
WANTED, for the Screamingly Funny Fantastic Farce,
"THE LITTLE STRANGER,"
"THE LITTLE STRANGER,"
from the Criterion Theatre,
July 28, three nights (precede T. R., Newcastle).
"ALONE IN LONDON,"
"ALONE IN LONDON."
Wanted, for this Magnificent Production, with carefully selected company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as Nan, the Flower Girl,
Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Address, CHARLES GIBBON, to-day, Pier, Eastbourne; next, Gaiety T., Douglas.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8 (South Coast preferred), 29.
Address, ERNEST E. NORRIS, Empire T., Southend.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, a Good Theatre, Jan. 16 (2 weeks), to follow London; also "Cinderella," Jan. 9, North or Midlands.
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BROWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Midlands.
EDWARD LLOYD, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted. Dates.
Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted Dates.
Sept. 19, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 3, 10, Dec. 26, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

DOT STEPHENS and CO.,
in
"A CHILD OF THE STREETS,"
by Frank Price.
A Drama suitable to any class of audience. Grips from the start and holds audience till final fall of curtain.
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 13, 20 (South), April 17.
Bookings include Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Birmingham (third visit in 15 months), Rotherham, Walsall (return), Wolverhampton (return), Nottingham, Winter Gardens, Blackpool, Grimsby, Birkenhead, Oldham, Rochdale, Wigan, Brighton, &c., &c. Records broken at many theatres last Autumn. Managers requiring a Real Drawing Attraction kindly address with best terms,
DOT STEPHENS, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 8, 15 (South, between Devonport and Bristol), Nov. 28 (between Portsmouth and Burnley), Jan. 2, and various Spring.
A new Musical Farce in active preparation, by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

MR. LOUIS MEYER'S CO.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
MISS FLORENCE LLOYD as CLAIRE FOSTER.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Mr. Louis Meyer holds the entire rights of "The Woman in the Case," with the exception of Fit-ups and certain small towns leased to Miss Florence Tyrrell. Entire Garrick Theatre Production travelled. A new plant of pictorial printing is being specially cut for this Tour.
Address all communications, E. CLIVE ROSS, 13, Old Burlington-street, Mayfair, W.
Now Booking Autumn.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 10, 17, and 31 (Midlands), Nov. 14 (North), and Nov. 28 (South or Suburbs).

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
Wanted, a Few Good Autumn Dates.
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, July 18 and 25, to follow Portsmouth, "Caste," G. W. Anson as Eccles.
CORA ANSON, 3, Gloucester-rd., Kensington.

July 4, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Aug. 29, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Opera House, Blackpool.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 5.
DICKIE CLARE,
Lyric, Dinnington, Yorks.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15, 22 (South), and Sept. 26 (North). FRANK YEARSLEY, Pier, Eastbourne.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, and Jan. 2. J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., Bury.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, for "THE SAILOR'S WEDDING," to follow Kennington Theatre.
Address, BERTRAM, Garrick Theatre, W.C.

R. HILL MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Sept. 26 (?), Oct. 10, 31.
A few Spring Dates Vacant 1911.
R. HILL-MITCHELSON, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, July 11 and 18, "Her Marriage Vow," twice nightly. Wire to-day, KNOWLES, T. R., Jarrow; Monday, T. R., Bury.

WANTED, First-class Seaside Theatres, in Aug. and Sept., for Farcical Comedy. Address, Mr. A. BINGHAM, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, with big holding capacity, Aug. 8 and 15, Sept. 5, 12,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
for
The John Leopold Pantomime Comedy Production Co.,
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY,"
preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
The shows that draw the money.
THEATRE MANAGERS IN WALES.
THEATRE MANAGERS IN IRELAND.
THEATRE MANAGERS IN SOUTH OF ENGLAND
having vacant dates Sept., onwards, please communicate.
ARRANGE ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
All communications to
GENERAL-MANAGER, 198, Brixton-rd., London, S.W.

J. W. LINDSAY-ELLIS
Presents the Famous Military Play,
"LIGHTS OUT,"
as Produced by Mr. H. B. Irving.
WANTED, Aug. 22 (between York and Kidderminster), Sept. 5 and 12 (three nights, to precede Cromer), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ARTHUR T. BARUCH,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"THE GAY GODDESS."
WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1, 15, onwards.
LESLIE STANLEY, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

"THE TRUANTS"
(from the Kingsway Theatre).
WANTED, Theatres, July 25, onward. Apply, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., London.

The New Musical Comedy,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3. HENRY L. OSMOND, Kendall House, Houghton-le-Spring.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction, July 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.

"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.

PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres (Production Date settled), Jan. 16, 23, 30.

"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

HARRY BURNS
HARRY BURNS
HARRY BURNS
HARRY BURNS
HARRY BURNS
HARRY BURNS
presents
MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD
MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD
as
DANDINI,
and
MISS EDITH FINK
MISS EDITH FINK
as
CINDERELLA
in the Gorgeous and Spectacular Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, a First-class Theatre, for this Gigantic Production.
Communicate at once, with full particulars,
HARRY BURNS,
HARRY BURNS,
HARRY BURNS,
Head Office,
Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Telephone 231.
Wires, "Chosen, Hartlepool."

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Guaranteed one of the finest mounted plays on the road.
WANTED, Theatres, vacant July 25, Sept. 5, 12, through transferring.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Vacant Sept. 12, Sept. 12.
Managers refer re business and play this week at Stratford, E.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
Through prolonging Tour, Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10.
Managers needing good sound Attractions, Wire, KIMBERLEY,
97A, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

FRANK ADAIR'S NEW PRODUCTION,
"IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN."
Produced with pronounced success at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, June 20. H. Dudley Bennett, says: I congratulate you; you've got a winner this time. Press opinions: A strong, thrilling, and human drama, which went crisply and without a hitch. The reception of the play was enthusiastic.—Pall Mall Gazette. The play is full of human interest.—Evening News. A pathetic story of domestic life.—Daily Graphic. Acknowledged with loud applause at the close of each act. From beginning to end the play is very thrilling.—S. Western Star. It met with a very favourable reception.—Reynolds's. If we are to judge from the reception accorded to Frank Adair's new melodrama on the occasion of its first performance, it should be as popular as any of its predecessors.—The People.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, and on. Thanks the following gentlemen for Contracts: Percy Broadhead (4), H. Dudley Bennett (2), Milton Bode, John Hart, Ernest Dottridge, Charles Revill (2), Harris Fineberg, and a host of others in pencil. All printing specially cut. No Stock stuff used. Address, FRANK ADAIR, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON,
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
The great Play of the day, bar none.
Only vacant date until Xmas, Aug. 29.
WANTED, Theatres, vacant Aug. 29, Aug. 29. Wire,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, 97A, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

WANTED, good Theatres, Nov. 14 and Xmas, for the great success, "His Real Wife."
Address, T. E. WARD, Osborne T., Manchester.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Enormous success played twice nightly in eleven scenes at the Crown Theatre, Eccles, this week. It will mean money to every Manager who will take the trouble to witness this production.
WANTED, Theatres, first vacant date Sept. 12, Oct. 17, 24, and 31, Xmas, Jan. 16, on; also big Theatres for Lent. Note, this play is a big draw all through Lent. OSWALD CRAY, Empire Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

J. PITT HARDACRE in "EASILY LED."
WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, through obliging R. Flanagan, Esq., to precede T. R., Bradford.
Address, STAINES.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (3 nights), Aug. 22 (3 nights), between Scarborough and Westgate, for
"MISS TOMMY."
Comedy-Drama in Three Acts, by Jerome K. Jerome. All engagements made.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as MISS TOMMY.
50, South Croxted-road, Dulwich, London, S.E.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS; OR, GUILTY GOLD."
WANTED, July 11, 18, London only.
Address, HORACE STANLEY,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
Next, T. R., Woolwich.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, and various Spring, 1911.
Jerrold Heather as Zsco,
Hilda Shirley as Myrs.
Wire, ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth; Monday, Creek Side, East Molesey.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S No. 1 COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 7. Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, for a First-class Variety Combination, July 11, 18, 25.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29,
THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO., including
Mr. FRANK BERESFORD as Archibald Carlyle.
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. Bullock, and
Miss IDA HERON as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine.

Press Opinions.
The North-Western Daily Mail (Barrow), June 28: For years past it has been looked upon as an "old stager," but never as a back number. Its popularity with the public seems to increase instead of diminish. . . . In a most realistic manner, Miss Ida Heron fillies the rôles of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine. She takes both parts most excellently, her acting being fine. She awoke the sympathies of her audience by her good work, and she had a very popular reception at the close. In both death scenes, Miss Heron acted with power. Mr. Frank Beresford adds further laurels to his reputation for his work as Archibald Carlyle. . . . Attractiveness is added to the piece by the introduction of P.C. Bullock. Mr. Joe Rowland's impersonation of the constable caused endless fun and amusement, his funny sayings and doings being uproariously received.

Barrow Herald: Miss Heron lived the part as only a great artist could.

23rd Consecutive Week of Tour. Booked to Aug. 8.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, 26, and on, with exceptions. Write or wire, TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C. July 4, Theatre Royal, Belfast (return).

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.
Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town. He is the most natural performer in the world. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.
WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Owing to mistake in Bookings, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and on, with exceptions open.
Wire, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.
July 4, Grand Theatre, Derby.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 12 (follow Scarboro');
Oct. 17 (follow Norwich).
Admitted by Press and Public to be one of the biggest successes Touring.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND CO. in the most successful Farcical Comedy,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 29 and Sept. 5 (three nights). July 4, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

MR. H. HAMILTON STUART'S COMPANIES.
This sterling attraction.
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, Theatres for July 28 or Aug. 1, Three Nights.
LANGTON LANE, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

ARTISTS WANTED.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID"
(North and South).
WANTED, Known, several leading and responsible parts vacant in both companies; rehearse July 25; open Aug. Bank Holiday. Apply to Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Musical Comedy Artists, in all Lines, Pair of Sisters, Troupe of Dancers, &c. References, lowest terms, HENRY L. OSMOND, Kendall House, Houghton-le-Spring.

WANTED, for Miss Nora Carton's Tours, commencing August Bank Holiday, tall, powerful, Heavy Lady; must dress the part really well, long tour. Photos., height, lowest terms in first letter, last two refs., address for next two weeks, to MARTIN COMSTOCK, Abercrombie, Bootle-street, Manchester.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, tall, powerful, heavy man.
Particulars to
A. R. FEATHER, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

LEIGH LOVEL COMPANY.
WANTED, Juvenile Actor, rehearse next week. Particulars and terms. Address, Box 7,934, "The Era."

WANTED, good Singing Juvenile Man, able to dance preferred; also Bass Chorister, must be stout. Terms, particulars, and references to Box 7,940, "The Era."

"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."
WANTED, tall smart Young Man, of good appearance, for Assistant Acting-Management, to play small part; good chance for beginners. Send references, photos., lowest terms, for long tour, SAM LIVESEY, 138, Holton-rd. Barry, Glam.

WANTED.—Vacancy occurs for one or two Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen to walk on in Farcical Comedy on Tour.
F. DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, several refined Ladies and Gentlemen, without experience, to prepare for Small Parts in New Production. Every facility for those desirous of adopting the legitimate profession. Box 7,917, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an opportunity occurs for two Amateur Gentlemen to join established Music Hall Sketch Company, walk on and understudy principal parts; thorough tuition given; small premium required; commence immediately. Write, photo., height, X. Y. Z., 34, Leeds-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Baritone or Bass, with well-trained voice, for a permanent appointment, in London, not over 30 years of age; hours 9.30 till 4.30, Saturdays till 2; salary £100 per annum, with prospect of good increase and pension.
Apply by letter only to
Mr. JAMES BATES, London College for Choristers, Paddington, London, W.

WANTED, for "The Earl and the Girl," young, bright, and pretty Chorus Ladies; must be fairly tall; also young Tenor and Bass Choristers. F. DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Experienced, Attractive Soprano, for Musical Comedy; also First-class Young Baritone. Fullest particulars by letter only to Mr. A. BINGHAM, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to commence first week in Aug., a Lady with good voice, Soprano, for Illustrated Songs and combine Violin, refined and reliable. Age, photo., &c., MANAGER, County Electric Pavilion, Swindon.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss R. Cunningham (Elocutionist, &c.), prepares Ladies and Gentlemen for the Stage and Concert Platform. Lessons given in Elocution, Singing, Dancing, &c., &c. Terms moderate. Engagements guaranteed when proficient. Excellent references. Miss R. CUNNINGHAM, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, by Young Lady Vocalist, Engagement in select Tea Rooms in London, extensive Répertoire, Old English and Scotch Ballads a speciality, also excellent Pianist and Accompanist. Address, Box 7,901, "The Era."

WANTED, an Agent, to secure Concert Engagements, for Grace Roberts, Soprano, the well-known Singer. 59, Pembroke-road, Seven Kings, Ilford.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Pantomimes, not less 5ft. 7in. Photos., references to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, also Chorus. Photos essential. Letters only. No callers. B. H. WARD'S Agency, 1, Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

WANTED, Artists for Pantomime,
Must have Experience.
Good Comedians.
Also Ladies for Principal Parts.
Apply by letter only, enclosing photo and full particulars, to PANTOMIME, c/o WILL COLLINS, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists, 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. WILL MOLESWORTH, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by F. E. Boden, Scenic Artist, any size Contracts, four frames, new Studio, 196, High-street, Merton. 'Phone 919 Post, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery, at lowest prices, now supplying complete new stock to Tivoli, Aberdeen; Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness; Olympia, Coalville, &c. W. B. ROBINSON, Fulham Theatre, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, an Acting Manager for the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, must have a thorough knowledge of both Theatrical and Variety business. Applications, with copies of recent references (which will be applied for), stating age and full particulars, also salary required, to HUGH ROBERTSON, as above.

WANTED, Resident Manager of Theatre, must thoroughly understand every department, including Bars and Advertising, to commence July 18. Apply, with terms and references, Box 7,910, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Gentleman to learn the duties of Business-Management with well-known company; premium required; tour over sixty weeks. Box 7,918, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Stage-Manager, to rehearse Children's Pageant at Pevensey; experienced; three weeks, 2½ guineas a week. Apply letter, WOOD, Swallow's Nest, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Smart Young Gentleman, Shorthand-Typist, and Good Book-keeper; must open at once. Permanent engagement. State age, references, and lowest terms. All particulars first letter, to LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Working Manager, for Branch Billposting Business.
Write, stating qualifications and salary required, to
BILLPOSTING Co., Coventry.

WANTED, Carpenter, with Theatrical Company or Sketch, carrying scenery, travelling London to Liverpool, Sunday, July 10, to convey small scene (flats) to Liverpool; substantial payment. Write, J. G. GRAHAME, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Autumn Tour, First-class Stage Carpenter. Full particulars, H. V. NEILSON, 5, Rochester-terrace, London, N.W. (W. Larkey communicate.)

WANTED, by Mr. William Lockhart, late of H. M. Theatre, Carlisle, and Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, position as Resident or Travelling Manager, see Cards.

WANTED, by Two Young Gentlemen (26), engagements as Assistant Manager and Advance Manager. Experienced touring or resident, latter preferred, first-class references; preferably joint engagement, but not essential. Write, C. and V., 13, Gloucester-crescent, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman wishes to meet Artists with Acts of exceptional, novel nature, suitable for the Continent, to represent them as business-manager or act as interpreter. Advertiser understands best connections abroad. Offers invited. Box 7,923, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, or by Aug. 1, resident post as Assistant-Manager, Accountant, or Advertisement Inspector, young, good qualifications, 22s. 6d. weekly. Box 7,922, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, S. Ackton at Liberty, Property Man, Bill Inspector, or position of trust, Billposter and Window-biller; 12 years' experience. Albert Hall, Derby.

WANTED, Situation by Electrical Engineer, experienced in all branches of theatre work, bioscope and lantern. PARKER, 66, Latimer-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Actor-Dramatist, rectifies errors of construction in plays and sketches, and makes them actable. FORBES DAWSON, c/o "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Violinist-Conductor, well up in Dramatic and Variety Business.
State age, terms, references.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THE HIPPODROME, PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, DARLINGTON.
Lessees, THE EAST COAST VARIETY HALLS, LTD.
WANTED, for Re-opening, Aug. 1, Musical Director (Violin); smart appearance, thoroughly experienced in Variety Business. Age, with last references, to Signor PEPI, Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Musical-Director, for Provincial Theatre, Drama and Pantomime. State salary required, full particulars, and references, to Box 7,921, "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to Open at Once, First-class Conductor, also Solo Cornet;
must be used to Variety.
State absolute lowest summer terms, JAMES BELL.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
WANTED, good Leader, open Aug. 1, ten to eleven months annually.
Age, refs., &c., to FRED W. WARDEN.

WANTED, First-class Leader, proficient Variety Business, terms £2 7s. 6d.; also Full Orchestra. None but first-class men need apply. Open King's Theatre, Edinburgh, July 18. Age, refs., A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX, The Hasbury, Derby-square, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, experienced Lady Violinist, good Reader and Soloist; permanency. State lowest terms to live out. PIANIST, 20, Hawley-square, Margate.

WANTED, immediately, really good Solo and Orchestral Violinist, with temperament, lady or gentleman, young, good appearance essential. Send references, recent photo., state age, lowest terms, HUNT, Pier, Scheveningen, Holland.

WANTED, Violinist or Flautist, to join Harpist (London), for evenings.
Address, Box 7,931, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin (leader), combine Second or Third Clarionet, for King's Hall, and Council's Military Band. Age, terms, &c., BELLERBY Denecholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, Violinist and 'Cellist, for Quartette (Hotel). Must be First-class players, soloists, and thoroughly experienced. Good salary. Box 7,937, "The Era."

WANTED, for E. H. Bostock's Railway Circus, Trombone and Horn, at once; must be steady. Terms £1 12s. 6d. Sat., Sun., Falkirk; Mon., Linlithgow, N.B. S. POWELL, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Euphonium Player, Evenings and Saturday Noon Sessions.
£1 a week.
Apply, PRICE, Empress Rink, Ipswich.

WANTED, a First-class Orchestral and Solo 'Cellist, from July 17 until Oct. 2 (seaside). Write to Box 7,924, "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cellist, for Seaside. Call, with instrument, Sunday morning next, before 2, at 61, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, also Double Drummer, Military Band, at Redcar and Saltburn, 8 weeks, commencing July 18, twice daily. Lowest terms, G. B. ROBINSON, Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Lady Flautist and Piccoloist, for Ladies' Orchestra, for long Irish Tour, commencing Aug. 15. References, terms, with photo., Dr. ORMONDE, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh.

WANTED, from July 11 to Sept. 3, Piano, &c., Cornet, for Dancing; three programmes daily. Terms, M. D., Glaudwr, Rhyl.

WANTED, Accompanist, able to do turn at Piano or other Instrument. GEO. FAY, Black Cats Concert Party, Castle Rink, Bedford.

WANTED, for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, to commence on July 18, Principal Clarionet, also Second Oboe and Cor Anglais (low pitch), must be very first-class players; permanent engagement. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Musical-Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

GRAND HALL-BY-THE-SEA, MARGATE.
WANTED, Several Musicians, to Complete Summer Orchestra, opening July 11, Cornet, Drums, Trombone, First Violin, Clarionet, Double Bass, &c.; must be thoroughly sober and reliable, and well up in variety business and dancing. Write full particulars, experience, age, and salary expected, to
CHAS. EVANS, as above.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, from July 9 to Oct. 2, Double Bass, Flute and Piccolo, Oboe, Bassoon (Flat pitch), 'Cello. Only first-class instrumentalists need apply. Applications, stating experience, with references and salary required for two performances daily, to be sent to Mr. JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, good and thoroughly experienced Solo Cornet, Solo French Horn, and E Flat Saxophone, to travel with my Military Band; to gentlemanly, reliable, and competent players a permanent engagement is offered.
Apply, with full particulars, references, age, and lowest terms, to
REANO, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, July 4, six nights, three matinées, and rehearsals, for Italian Opera, Flute, Clarionet, Horn, Trombone, and Drums.
Lowest terms inclusive.
Wire, PEILGEN, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, a Ladies' Orchestra, six in number, with smart uniform, for Skating Rink in Kent. State lowest terms for six months to Box 7,916, "The Era."

WANTED, Military Band, Musicians, for Portsmouth, one week, July 10 to 16; no fancy price. BANDMASTER, 74, Florence-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Musicians, for Flagship Canadian Navy. Only thoroughly competent performers, string, combined reed or brass, of British naval and military pensioners, whose certificates and testimonials will bear the strictest examination need apply. Age limit 46 years. Medical examination. Conditions of service, pay, &c, with copies of certificates should be sent to the Naval Musical Agency, 596 Commercial-rd. Portsmouth.

WANTED, to open Monday, July 11, Musicians, Violinist, Clarionet, 'Cello, and Bass.
Lowest and references.
ALLAN MILTON, Hippodrome, Buxton.

WANTED, Musicians, New T. R., Barry Dock. Rehearse July 18. Salary, refs., age, photo., A. CARLTON, T. R., Worcester. Mark envelopes "Orchestra."

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 727, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, LONG GROVE, EPSOM, SURREY.
WANTED, Male Attendants, must be tall and strongly built, unmarried, and not exceeding 35 years of age; wages £31 per annum, rising (on satisfactory completion of six months' probation) to £33, and then by £1 per annum to £43, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Asylum experience not essential. Ability to play Oboe competently a recommendation. Daily leave, subject to convenience of service, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days; annual leave, first six months (after nine months' service) six days, the following twelve months 12 days, each succeeding twelve months 14 days. Applications, stating age, height, experience, and previous occupation, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to be sent to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Wake, Musical Director and Solo Violin, Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, at Liberty First-class offers.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical Director (36), Violin, Bâton, London reference 5 years, variety, theatre. FRANCOIS MANSER, 609, Kingston-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Beatrice Westall, Violin and Viola, Disengaged for Summer. Tudor House, Hawley-square, Margate, Kent.

WANTED, by Good Violinist, Leader, Engagement, at Liberty through closing, variety preferred. Address, J. F. C., 11, Gilpin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, George Klee, late Leader Moody-Manners Opera Co. (A), at Liberty. Address, 32, Violet-road, Walthamstow, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, Variety. Apply,
VIOLINIST, 31, Mayfair-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, by First Violinist, Re-engagement, thoroughly experienced all lines; abstainer, good refs.; can open Monday. VIOLINIST, 33, Farnworth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, also Clarionet; first-class references. Apply, MUSICIAN, c/o Fletcher, 96, Cook's-road, Kennington Park.

WANTED, Engagement, open immediately, steady, Violinist, or Deputise, near district; good references. Write, VIOLINIST, c/o Mrs. Mason, 27, Bell-road, Seacombe.

WANTED, by Experienced Violinist, 4 years Leader at Tivoli Music Hall, London. First-class references. Apply, VIOLINIST, 10, Summers-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, Experienced Violinist, any business; Solo Cornet also at Liberty. Wire, Violin or Cornet, 59, Hilderthorpe-rd., Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, either First or Second; abstainer. Apply, VIOLINIST, 5, St. Paul's-terrace, Newport Pagnell, Bucks.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in short sea voyages (about a month's duration), permanent. Bonus given. ALBERT, 10, High-street, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, Orchestra, or Military Band; experienced; young, abstainer. Box 7,913, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Orchestral Cornet, can join at once. TITHERINGTON, Solo Cornet, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, good First or Second Cornet, any business; just finishing 12 months' Skating Rink. JACKSON, 73, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet, any business, First or Second, age 30. ELLIS, 65, Scarborough-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced and Reliable Clarionet, highest refs., and a competent performer. JOE HEATH, 5, Sandhurst-place, Bedford.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, young and sober; any business.
Address, Box 7,881, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass, immediate Engagement, experienced in all branches; highest references; reliable and steady. 142, Wakefield-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass; steady and reliable; references; out through theatre closing. L. UNSWORTH, Dial House, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Euphonium, or Baritone player, any business. Apply, P. EWINS, 6, Garrard, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Trombone, best of experience all branches; can open at once. SAMPSON, 63, Oxford-street, Watford.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone, at Liberty, any business, strictly attentive and reliable, highest references. TROMBONE, Montrose, West-street, Pontypridd, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, any business; thoroughly experienced; references. TAYLOR, 38, Millsdene-terrace, Kimberley-rd., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Experienced, any business, can open at once. J. THOMAS, 21, Queen-street, Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, by Competent Trombonist, Permanency, through closing for alterations. GEORGE NICKS, 14, St. James's-park, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement. Wire, Saturday, GRICE, c/o Post Office, Leslie, Fife; after write, c/o Wilson, Theatre-buildings, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon, abstainer and reliable. Address, J. COOMBES, 108, Princess-street, Edgware-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, by F. H. Moody, Bombardon, Engagement, any business; excellent refs. Apply, 38, Millsdene-terrace, Kimberley-rd., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by good E Flat Alto Saxophone, young and experienced. OWEN, 60, Hall-place, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement. Good references.
J. S., 27, Fish-street Hill, E.C.

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Cellist, Theatre or Variety; good refs.; thoroughly experienced; near London preferred; would deputise. Box 7,919, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced 'Cellist, Engagement.
Address, Box 7,925, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, 'Cello or String Bass, any business; would deputise.
C. F. LAW, 142, Watergate-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, any business, young and reliable; excellent references. BERNARD GOODALL, 30, St. Mary's-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Child, 'Cellist, Disengaged through misrepresentation, any distance. Address, The Oaklands, Offerton-lane, Stockport.

WANTED, by Experienced 'Cello, Engagement. First-class references. Address.
'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Solo 'Cellist, at Liberty, large répertoire, late Brighton Municipal Orchestra, Landon Ronald's Orchestra, Soloist, great success London Coliseum.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement; young, steady.
Box 7,912, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Harpist, Solo and Orchestral; experienced. MME. HOPKINS, 64, Douglas-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, at Liberty, late H.M. Service, good refs., any business. GEO. LAWS, c/o Mrs. Huntley, 3, New St. David-street, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo at Liberty, any business, steady and reliable. FLAUTIST, 46, Chatto-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement by good Flute and Piccolo Soloist. Can open immediately. String or Military. Excellent refs. FLAUTIST, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Good Engagement, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, string, military, theatre or music hall. Refs. FLAUTIST, Prince's-av., Wilton, Droitwich.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, Military Band, Variety, or any business. Good refs. ALEXANDER, 251, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, re-engagement, Lady Pianist, experienced orchestral, dramatic, variety, pictures a speciality. PIANIST, 28, Glenfield-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist (20), experienced, sight-reader, MSS., pictures a speciality. Miss DORA GRAY, 18, Wensleydale-ter., Link-rd., Blyth.

WANTED, Engagement in London, by smart young Lady Pianist, in any capacity. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, few weeks' Engagement; experienced Variety or Pictures; would deputise. PIANIST, 19, Leeds-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by High-class Pianist, Engagement as Accompanist, brilliant Soloist. PERCY R. RAPHAEL, 51, St. Matthew's, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Pictures preferred, where no turns engaged. 30, Farndale-street, York, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Double Drummer and Effects; experienced Dramatic, Variety, any business; excellent refs. DRUMS, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drums and Effects, any business, experienced, sober, and reliable, now or season. 27, Towson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, good Double Drums at Liberty; all-round experience; reliable; good refs.; age 30. WHITE, 15, Temple-st., Oxford.

WANTED, by First-class Drums and Effects, Engagement, through disappointment, highest refs., open at once. DRUMS, 58, Tudor-terrace, Aberdare, Wales.

WANTED, by First-class Drums and Effects, Engagement, Tubular Bells, Tympani, and Glockenspiel. Experienced all lines. Excellent refs. Disengaged through closing. DRUMS, 38, Willows-road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, specially engaged at the New Spa, Bridlington, vacant dates July 16 and onwards.
Address, New Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Small Orchestra (Ladies), consisting of Violin, 'Cello, Flute, Piccolo, and Piano, desire re-engagement (Seaside); Disengaged July 2. Highest references.
CASEY,
9, Victoria-road, Perry-street, Gravesend.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette, "Les Dames Blanches" (two Violins, 'Cello, Piano), Leader Medallist, R.A.M. and R.C.M. Extensive répertoire. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, an Engagement, by a First-class Brass Band (nine), at Liberty July 11; present engagement 12 months; first-class rép. of music. Box 7,927, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to open Tenting Ireland, July 11, good Acts, also Comedians; American Buck and Wing Dancers, Lady Performers; good Circus Agent write. Lowest terms, STEPHENSON, 13, Mayor-st., Dublin. Allow time for forwarding letters.

WANTED, First-class young male Bareback Jockey Rider, one able to ride in lady's costume (no female required). CIRCUS PROPRIETOR, Box 7,929, "The Era."

WANTED, Tight-rope Walker, single date August, must be cheap; immediate.

Write, with full particulars, to TIGHTROPE, Box 7,928, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, Novel, and Sensational Attractions, Aerial Shows, &c. Acts that can be shown on a Rink Floor.

Lowest terms, lithos., &c.. HUMBER, Beach Rink, Aberdeen.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
Proprietor and Manager, FRED J. CONNOR.
Reopening for the Season, Monday, July 4, 1910.
WANTED, to attend Rehearsal, Hoppit, Toney, and Terry, Frederico and Edgaro, De Ora, Miss Mona Connor, The Brilliants (Rose and Maie), Mr. John Madigan and Fox Terriers, Captain Roberts and Troupe, Douglas Connor, The Circuscope up-to-date Animated Pictures, the World-famed Leopold Leglere and Troupe, Willie Richards (Rabbit, the Original), Funny Frisk, Antonio, Kipper. Ring Master, W. R. Albino; Musical-Director, A. D. Willcox; Secretary, W. Sweeney.

WANTED, Known, Ted Hodgini's Full Circus Company will shortly be at liberty for Carnivals, Circuses, Amusement Grounds, Fêtes, Galas, &c. All communications to be addressed to TED HODGINI, Circus, Zoo, Halifax, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro the Great, Unparalleled and most Daring High-wire Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas. Terms, 99, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Le Mere's Original Clown Cricketers are at Liberty, Aug. 1 and 2, any distance; first-class game guaranteed. 1A, Cyril-st., Walworth, London, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

THE HIPPODROME AND PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, DARLINGTON.
Lessees, THE EAST COAST VARIETY HALLS, LTD.
Managing-Director, SIGNOR PEPI.
WANTED, Variety Artists of every description, for above Hall, grand re-opening August Bank Holiday.

All communications to SIGNOR PEPI, Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE, DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Comedy Acts. July 11, onwards. Terms, bookings. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Irish Tour (seven months), commencing Aug. 15; must engage for full time, or useless. Lowest terms, references, &c., Dr. ORMONDE, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, North, send vacancies, lowest terms, and permanent, to STEVE SMITH'S Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Monday, July 18, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, July 11, and on, lowest terms; also Stars willing to share. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS.
I Lead, follow who can.
WANTED, Artists, Big Specialities (no singing turns), July 11, 18, Aug. 1, onwards, for BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS AND MODERN MARVELS COMPANY.
State when last in Seacombe, Derby, Keighley, Bishop Auckland, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Birkenhead, Leeds, and Bradford.
No fancy prices. Combination terms.
Also two First-class Lady Pianists, for No. 2 and 3 Shows. To suitable turns a long and comfortable engagement guaranteed.
Gigantic success last week, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent; this week playing twice nightly to houses packed to the doors at Empire, Dudley. The whole talk of the town. Patronised by the élite of the town. Packed nightly with beauty, art, fashion, and literature. Dr. Bodie cheered to the echo again and again. More successful than ever. Local electricians and scientists staggered, flabbergasted, and bewildered at the daring and up-to-date experiments with the deadly electric current.
Also the Beautiful La Belle Electra.
Dr. Bodie's Public Challenges creating quite a furore. Winning hands down every time. Undoubtedly still the greatest and most powerful draw in the country. Thanks to Managers for offers; no vacant dates now till November. Thanks to Harry Burns, Esq., for contract at princely salary. He should know genuine talent and a draw. Managers who want me now can't get me till November, so hurry up and book ahead. Still the Greatest Star in the Vaudeville World.
All letters address to
Dr. WALFORD BODIE,
The British Barnum,
Empire, Nuneaton.
Look out next week for startling advt.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,
MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with lowest terms.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, Novelties, Specialities, immediate and future dates. This week's Bookings include: Mons. Charlier (Mimic), Five Musical Marvels, Richards Trio, Two Florias, Charles Daix, James Brady, Violet Gerald, Beatrice English (three dates), Maclain and Mac (Shanaras Goats). Address, 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds. 'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Leeds." Look out for my new address.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY,
Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, for towns in the North. Apply, RAWES and CLARANCE.
WANTED, all Artists coming North send list of Bookings and vacant dates to ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

B. H. WARD'S AGENCY,
1, Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, S.W.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, good Comedy Acts. Sisters Adair, Lucia Collins write. Letters only.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 11, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.
WANTED, Artists for immediate dates. Write or call, J. W. JOHNSON, Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, including really Good Comedian; must be smart, have good, clean numbers and gags. Apply, with photo., NEVILLE DELMAR'S CADETS, Exeter.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
15, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 11, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Specialities, &c., for London and Provinces. Full bookings, terms, &c., HARRISON and COLLINS, 17, Hamilton-road, Ilford.

ASTON HIPPODROME, LTD.
WANTED, Known, Artists are requested to forward all Bill Matter for above Hall to Mr. S. T. NEWSOME, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Artists, to see me when in need of Good Songs, Acts, Plays, &c. EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for July 8, and onward, Stars in all Lines. Stars in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

SYNDICATE HALLS.
BEFORE CLOSING LIST.
WANTED, Original Turns who have not appeared at above to send terms, bookings, &c. No callers.
WARREN Agency,
21, Victoria-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Double Turn, able to work on small stage; and Gentleman, take charge stage-management and lecture pictures. Particulars, terms, &c., F. Bosco, Circus, Mon., Bagnalestown; Tues., Kilkenny; Wed., Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
WANTED, Known, Trial Turns will be seen from twelve until one. Apply above.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates.

Cynski, Angeline Trio, Gregson Comedy Trio, Please send addresses.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1685 Royal.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential. HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Big Acts, for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained. Novelty Acts unknown to me state where can be seen. Silence polite negative pro tem. Also Tops and Bottoms of Bill, London and Provinces, and Pantomime Principals for Best Theatres. Previous engagements and lowest terms first letter.
WANTED, Wanted, immediately, First-class Big Star Acts and Comedy Specialities, Comedy Musical Acts, &c.
For Blackpool, Southport, and Morecambe, for July, Aug., and Sept.
WILL SEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
Who is it?
Why
BARNARD'S AGENCY, SHAW-ST., LIVERPOOL.
Tele.. 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Acts in all Lines, for immediate dates.

STAR PALACE, BRIDGETON, GLASGOW.
STAR, PARTICK, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Star Acts and Attractions, for immediate and future dates.
Nothing too big, nothing too small. Partick opens July 4, and will be one of the largest halls in Scotland. Money no object for the right acts.
All communications to G. LAZENBERG, General-Manager, Star Palace, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Sensational Act, Gigantic Novelties, and Useful Turns, for Gala, Aug. 25.
Terms, lithos., immediately, to EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, good refined Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c.
Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Musical Acts, Comedy Acrobatic Troupes, Sensational Specialities, Big Animal Acts, and anything both Novel and Original, for July 18, 25, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, good Gala Acts, doing two turns preferred, two weeks, July 28, Aug. 1, and other dates. Lithos., memos., terms, bookings, &c., to GEORGE BURTON, 5, Lacey-street, Widnes.

WANTED, Acts or all Descriptions new to Tynemouth, Whitley Bay, Sunderland, and Shields. Write or call, MOORE and BENTZ, 7, Johnstreet, Adelphi, London.

To Music-Hall Starz.
WANTED, First-class Drawing Acts, who desire to run their own Shows through the United Kingdom at Music Halls and Theatres, to communicate with Advertiser (a well-known Manager), who can undertake the booking of dates and all booming, managerial work, &c. Box 7,932, "The Era" Office.

EMPIRE THEATRE, HYDE.
WANTED, big Star Attractions, on Salary or Share.
Artists all Lines new to Hyde for July 4, 11, 18, 25;
Also Wanted, Big Star Acts for all dates, for North and Midlands.
All communications, CLIQUOT'S Agency, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Real Top Line Attractions, for the Grand Theatre, Bolton, nothing too big, Drawing Stars with open dates address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Big Novelties, Star Turns with Odd Dates, communicate lowest terms and full particulars. WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-st., Liverpool. 'Phone 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy," Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, High-class Variety Combinations, Aug. 8, 22, 29.
Next week, Reano and his Band.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, Attractions for Gala, weeks July and Aug.; Novel, Original, or Sensational; anything that will draw. Write full particulars, lowest terms, LARCHER, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners, Artists all Lines, Halls, Galas, Pictures, Pantomime. List of bookings, permanent, printing, 43, Bilston-st., Wolverhampton.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM, on Main Line.
WANTED, Big Tops, Aug. 1, onward. T. C. RAWES.

SELECTING AND CROWNING OF BRITISH BEAUTY QUEEN
AT FOLKESTONE PIER PAVILION,
Aug. 4 and 5.
WANTED, pretty English Ladies, to compete, all expenses paid; valuable prizes offered.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY PAGEANT, on Aug. 12.

Wanted, Colonial and Foreign Competitors. All expenses paid. Valuable prizes.

Please note this is THE show recognised and BOOMED by the London, Provincial, and Foreign Press.

Intending Competitors please send photo. and full particulars immediately to ROBERT FORSYTH, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, Clever Amateurs, Beginners, for Small Halls near London; immediate engagements. Write, MANAGER, 27, Greet-road, Brentford.

WANTED, Dog Show, for Fête, July 9, back London same night. Lowest terms, SULLINGS & Co., Pyrotechnists, George-st., Ipswich.

WANTED, Good-looking Young Lady, fine stage appearance, able to walk the wire a little preferred. Particulars to WYNDHAM, July 4, Coliseum, Glasgow; 11th, Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, a First-class Comedy Acrobat, who can talk; also two First-class Ground Tumblers. State age, height, and what you can do, in letter addressed to MOONEY and HOLBEIN, 8, Dagnan-road, Balham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, One or Two Smart Tumblers, with good comedy tricks; also Knockabout Contortionists. Lowest terms and particulars, JOSH. CLIFTON, 16, Alexandra-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Young Man for Comedy Acrobats, able to tumble a little, second mount and knockabout. State tricks and terms, also age, in first letter, single man preferred.
Apply Box 7,938, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Operator, with own Cinematograph, must thoroughly understand his business; also Marionette Figure-worker. Write, KELSO, Variety Theatre, South Elmsall, S. Yorks.

WANTED, Known.—If you are a Comedienne in search of Good Song-Act, and are not afraid to talk to an audience, write at once to EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co., at Liberty Aug. 1 and 8. Thanks Frank Macnaghten, Esq., Jack Waters, Esq., and Fred Rawes, Esq., for Contracts. To-day, Palace, Lincoln (return); next, Hippo., Norwich (return).

WANTED, Monday, July 11, on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer, Champion of the World and Gold Medallist, "Top Boots." This week, Methil.

WANTED, Known, Ada Claudina Cuffs, Coloured Vocalist and Dancer, Gaiety Theatre, Methil, return booked Aug. 29; offers invited Aug. 8, 15, 22. 22, New Bond-street, Leicester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Sisters Ely, Monday, also 11th and 18th, refined, talented Vocalists, good songs, and pretty dress. Wire or write, 7, Carmer-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Terry, an Entertainment in Themselves. At Liberty July 11, 18, 25. Address, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti. July 11, 25. This week, Empire, Middlesbrough; next week, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday, and on, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. This, Victoria T., Kettering. Wire, save time, 1, Cromwell-road, Kettering.

WANTED, Known, Lola May Trio, Refined Lady Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists. Instantaneous success everywhere, on Tour with Alexandra's Grand Hippodrome. Add., Helen Cottage, Mattershall Burgh, Norfolk.

WANTED, July 11 and 18, by Bert Danson, the Famous Comedian. Latest success, "Archie," the talk of every town. Last week, Empire, Portsmouth (fourth visit, and got another); this, Court, Warrington; next, Hip., Bury (fourth visit).

WANTED, July 11, 18, Harry Hunter, Vocalist and Ice Skate Dancer. This week, Sadler's Wells; July 4, Palace, Bow.

WANTED, Monday, also July 11, by Dave Abbott, the Eccentric Scotch Comedian and Dancer. This, Court T., Warrington; after, 76, Caledonian-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, 11th, 18th, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Colliers' Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures (copyrights). Empire, South Shields; next, Avenue T., Sunderland.

The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
The Great Vincent, Acrobatic Table Expert.
WANTED, July 4. Wanted, July 4. Wire quick, Hippodrome, Hastings; after Saturday, 129, Linaker-street, Southport.

WANTED, July 4 and 11, JEAN SEUL, 134, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, this week usual big reception, New Hall, Bargoed, S. Wales; Tuesday, Freddy Welsh acted as timekeeper, Eddie Carsey, Freddy's mascot, was referee. Coms. above, or 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, July 4, 11, Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian; The Wymans, Comedy Duo; one or both. 34, Warburton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, wonderful hoop juggling effects, from the London Hippodrome. Vacant July. Address, 83, Upper Conran-st., Manchester.

WANTED, July 18, Aug. 8, various, onwards, The Mocktons (Fred, Lillie), Comedy Duologuists, presenting "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat," &c., &c. July 4, Alexandra, Pontefract.

WANTED, Known, Warden Reed and Jennie Stevens, in their Comedy Duologues, only vacancies July 18 and Aug. 1, wanted, North. Next, Tivoli, Manchester (fourth return); July 11, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, the Bright, Smart Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire for a Sure Laughing Hit, Palace, Normanton.

WANTED, Monday next King Leo, Ventriloquist, and Jessie Star, the Lady Lauder. Wire, Empire, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Knotellas (Harry and Rose), Comedy Acrobats and Dancers, &c.; Liberty Monday, on, with exceptions, Fêtes, Galas; two distinct Specialities. All coms., 4, Peterboro'-flats, Fulham.

WANTED, Dates, Halls, Circuses, Galas, &c., Phinas and Aida, vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15. Per. add., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

WANTED, July 11, by Ward and Davis (Ryder and Eva), Double or Singles. Coms., Monday, T. R., Dewsbury. Who's original?

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 11.
Address, The Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, big success Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, The Tylers, Eminent Saxophonists, in their Original Musical Comedy Sketch. All coms., TOM CLAXTON, 6, Gordon-mansions, Francis-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, Monday next, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians and Dancers; can introduce concertina solos, &c. Wire, 26, Richard-st., Jarrow.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Novelty Grotesque Comedians, July 4. Wire, 10, Clifford-st., Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, July 11, onwards, Rohde and Roche, the Greatest Novelty Act, the Chameleon, Artist, and It. Enormous success, Court Theatre, Warrington. Guardian, June 29:—The pick of the basket is undoubtedly. . . . Rohde and Roche run them a close race for the second favours, &c. July 4, Hippo., Peterborough. Top, Bottom, or Centre any bill.

WANTED, July 18, for Tour Edinburgh, Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic, Seaside Scene. Perm. address, 61, Cooksey-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Stebbing and Isabelle, double Acrobatic Act, two Turns for Galas. Address, 2, Elsden-road, Bruce-grove, Tottenham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of Theatres, Halls, and First-class Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Owing to mistake in Bookings, Sept. 5, 12, 19, and on, with exceptions open.
Wire, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.
July 4, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Funny Jake, smart comic Three-bar Act; Volta, Acrobatic Man-Monkey Act; two first-class turns. 35A, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, the Three Winskills, at Liberty through misunderstanding for Aug. 1, for Galas, in their Flying Trapeze and Casting Act; no poles required, only clear stage. 76, Upton-road, Southgate-road, N.

WANTED, Known, the Florias, Comedy Slack Wire Artists and Equilibrists, just returned from Continent, Vacant July 11 and 18. Address, July 4, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Monday, by Atlas and Vulcans Troupe, World's Premier Athletic Artists. Wire, ATLAS, The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Max Merlin, "Crocodile," "Glittering Garden," starred, town's talk everywhere. Midland Tribune, June 14 (extract): Merlin simply amazing, and makes one wonder whether he has anything breakable in him, and setting of his scene effective. Liberty July, onward, Pantomime. 65, Caledonian-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Wanted, Smart Youth, Acrobat. Post Office, Ammanford.

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, Bouncing Peps, Star Gymnastic Comedy Act. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 11, 18, Bouncing Peps. Big success, Guinness Fête, Dublin. The Comedy Act. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, Bouncing Peps. A Star Act to please the People. This week, Pav. Pal., Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, Known, will Share with Combinations, Bouncing Peps, Top or Bottom. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, in new and sensational Revolving Break away Ladder Act. The greatest aerial gymnastic displays before the public. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, by Gulliver, World-famous Ventriloquist, and his Dog with the laugh. Strong Comedy Draw. Thanks Messrs. De Vere, Cliquot, and Albany Ward for contracts and offers. This week, wire, Empire, Hyde.

WANTED, July 11, Aug. 22 and 29, by RICH. TAYLOR, The Whistling Ventriloquist and Entertainer, Piers, Halls, &c. This week, Empire, Birmingham; next, Alexandra, Pontefract. An Act that is unique, novel, and refined, and always a success.

WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, by Hubert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, July 11, for Arnold Richardson, in "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law" Sketch. Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday next, also 11, by Billy Ross and Co., great Comedy and Scientific Boxing Act. Starring, Empress, Brixton. Competitions nightly if required. Wire.

WANTED, for July 11, and onward, Engagements for T. W.'s Tiny Stars (seven in number). Terrific hit, Whitley Bay Pleasure Gardens. Next, People's Picture Palace, Southbank. Good agent wanted.

MISS ELLA'S CELEBRATED LION SHOW.
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, and 15 (?), Prior to Continental Tour. Communications, 23, Lennox-road, Worthing.

WANTED, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, Fêtes, Galas, and Al Fresco Speciality, a success. Wire or write, 19, Sherfield-road, Grays.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

BERSAGLIERI'S BAND.

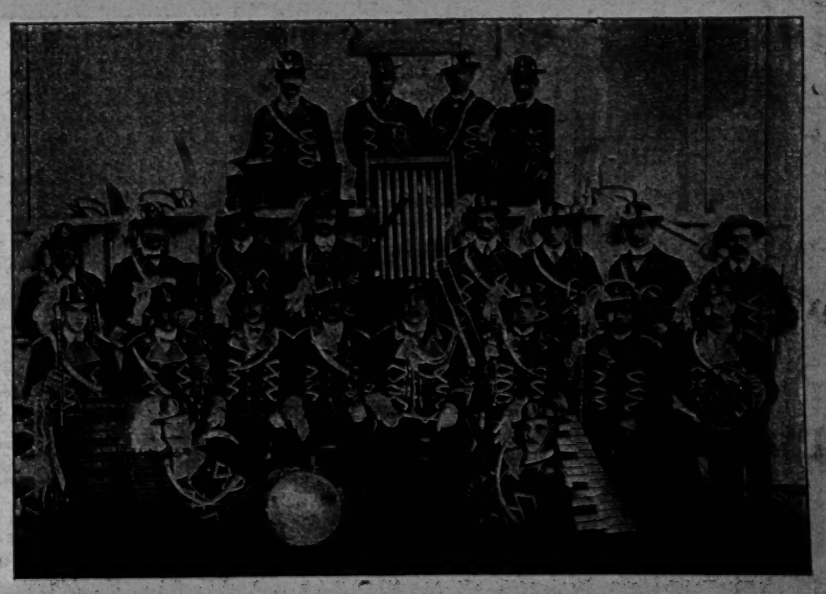

WANTED ENGAGEMENTS BY THIS FAMOUS NOVELTY BAND
Apply, BANDMASTER, 74, FLORENCE RD., BRIGHTON

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

SUBSEQUENT (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 4, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Chung Ling Soo, Happy Fanny Fields, Onetti Sisters, Staley's Transformation, Du Gros Trio, Barrington, Animated Pictures, Harry Jolson, Juliette's Sea Lions, Leonie Dixon.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

George Robey, Lena Verdi, Amy Marsden, Miller Bros., Mons. and Mme. Alf Agoust, Kirbys, Frank Lynne, Sisters Kilner, Pictures, Fred Storey and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

R. G. Knowles, Sybil St. Elmo, Harry May Hemsley, Ryan and Hall, Keene and Adams, Findens, Wyndham and Kitty, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

William Mollison and Co., Northcotes, Arthur Slater, Millie Payne, Mezzettis, Smite and Smote, Edie King, Marconis, Bioscope, Sable Fern.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Piccad Troupe, Mildred Bryan, Brull and Hemsley, Alcide Capitaine, Binns and Binns, May Henderson, Six Lancashire Lasses, Johnny Walker, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ Grinder."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mme. Hanaka and Co., Dorothy Ward, Charles Erard, Woodhouse and Wells, De Wynne Bros., Peter Davey and Co., Russell Carr, Bioscope, Rinaldo, Five Mowatts.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

"Futurity Winner," Westwoods, Billy French, Bros. Artois, Will H. Fox, J. W. Hall, Fielding and Hull, Monie Mine, Bioscope, Ben Albert.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Mozart, Frasettis, Mary Ambrose, Walter Wade, George D'Albert, Andos Japs, Three Belle Belles, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Master Edward Garret and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Airship, Cull Pitt, Conan and Doyle, Staig's Steeplejacks, Dan Crawley, Florrie Gallimore, Emma Don and Co., Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Formby, Nina Wood, Three Laurels, Seven Peresoffs, Gothams, Horace Pollock, Cassie Walmer, Lily Flexmore, Bioscope, Harry Marte, Zigeuner Quartette.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Girard and Gardner, Leonards, "Belles of the Kitchen," Martialo Troupe, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Vesta and Minnie Pine, Bioscope, Claire Romaine, Albert Whelan.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"The Rose of Sicily," Lyric Quartette, Chas. Torbay, Verno and Voyce, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Doody and Wright, Chas. Leighton, Bioscope, Camille Ober, H. O. Wills.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Victoria Monks, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Siems, Barrett and Knowles, Edward Davies, Daisy Irvine and Co., Jock Mills, Chris Richards, Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Anna Chandler, George French, Bioscope, Ricaldo and Salving, Bros. Redmond, Bugler Carr, Maudie Francis, Tom Foy and Co., Daisy Dormer.

EMPIRE NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Chirgwin, Alice Kingsley, Will Johnson, Tom Stuart, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Hardini Trio, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Lipton's "Songland."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Songs, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Ali and Co., Little Keeno, Bioscope, Abdullah Arabs, George Newburn, May Mars, Rose and Calvert, Brennans, Charburn's Young Stars, Ernie Mayne.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Alice Raymond and Co., Jack Pleasants, Kratons, Leslie Bros., Bert Williams, Marsumas, Bioscope, Olgar Elgar and Eli Hudson, Jen Latona.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Twelve Fezzans, Phil Parsons, Frank and Free, King's College Boys, Fred Earle, Lux's Dogs, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Ella Retford, Syd May.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Bransby Williams, A Ba-Be's Album, Fatmah Diard, Ted E. Box, Peggy Pryde, Will Poluski, jun., Azella Wilson, Bioscope, Harry Lamore.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Oswald Williams, Adrienne Augarde, Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Hilda Jacobsen, McConnell Trio, Elly Adair, Bioscope, Anartos.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Bioscope, Rhoda Pahl, Delevines, Frank Melvin, Edith Blain, Winifred Hare, Lestree.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Serene Nord, Hans and Lux, Jennie Johns, Carmos, France and Stewart, Northern Troupe, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Will Evans, Hy. Marlow.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Wilkie Bard, Bioscope, Alice Maydue, Little Sophie, Florence Smithers, Leo Stormont, Mitchell and Cain, Jackley Trio, Chas. J. Johnson, Griff, Harry Weldon, Bensons.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Hetty King, Bioscope, Leo Tell, Bertha Winder, Frank H. Fox, Marco Belli, Avolos, Spry and Monti, Drew and Alders, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ernest Shand, Kellinos, Ike and Will Scott, O'Gust, Margaret Parker and Co., Wilson and Waring, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Lillian, Ted, and May Hopkins, McGregors, Bert Harrow, Duncan's Collies, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Winifred Ward, Graesis.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker, P.C.," Stanley and Greenop, Nell Emerald, Bros. Bright, Cumminger and Colonna, Lillie Lassah, Bioscope, Fisher's "Vocalesques."

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Zona Vevey and Max Erard, Phillips and Merritt, Mlle. Aglaia, Shirley and Ransome, E. K. Sinton, Cora Koland, Pictures, Orpheus, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Three Merrills, Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Alf. Gibson, New Macs, Glenroy Troupe, Rauschle.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mike S. Whallen, Tom E. Hughes, Lydia and Amelys, Francis McNulty, Bioscope, Jackson Family of Musicians.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Fred Bronte, Lily Esplin, Fred Arthur, Jennie Hartley, J. H. Milburn, Pictures, Maxey and Pete, Billie Burford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Syd Penna, Counsill and Mills, Fred Wilkinson, Bros. Durant, Blanche Vincent, Pictures, Tom Davies' Trio.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JULY 4.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Oliver Martyn, Fred Ward, "Roots, Rash Chemist," Guest and Newlyn, Vonetta, Jessie Wilton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Reg. Beauchamp, The Sages, Mamie Morris, Sandy McNab, Shiela McNeil, Thiessen's Dogs, Sears, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Blanche Marion, The Seddons, Rose and Jeanette, Fallows and Beaumont, E. D. Nicholls, and Co., Will Rennie, Hannaway Bros., Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Will Cornish, Lauri Wylie, The Mysterious Cross, Susie and Protti, Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon, "The Circus," Rosie Archer, Carlton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Leo and Roland, Geo. Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Bessie Neilson, Pictures, May De Rowse, "Re-United," Harcourt Mills, Bros. Gerard. **FORESTERS'.**
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Tod Lowen, Pictures, Josephine Crook, Dancing Paceys, Gladys Hooley, National Girls, Tom Groves, "A Sister's Honour," Johnny Hurley, "Cowboy Millionaire," Horace and Olga's Dogs and Cats.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Velanche's Dogs, Sissie Brand, Sydney Brandon, Creagh and Cruikshank, Vay's Juveniles, Tom Gott, Four Rosebuds, Les Arabellas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Vela, Ethel Entwistle, Tennyson and Wallis, The Fitzroys, Messrs. Peterman and Ricketts' Co., The Cedrics, Clara Coverdale's Dots, Palace Perfection Pictures, The Showells.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Harry Rousby and Nell Rene, Arthur Croxon, Ada Gatley, Judge's Cockatoos, Sisters Edwards, Heron and Co., Harriet Rose, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Leolin, Flo Burnett, Baron's Animals, The Merrions, Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Bert Crosbie, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Vesta Nixon, Dan Fraser, Clara Reid and John Power, Lilybelle, The Warsaw Bros., Eight Empire Girls, Johnny Cecil, Tom Clare, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Clive Caitley, The Days, Myrtle Grove, Marion Scott, Burt Shepard, Miss Elsie and Bob, Musical Silvo, Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Pier Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Nellie Nora, Chas. Woodward, Dora Poole and Fred Maguire, The Milwards, Ford Wiliams, William's Jubilee Singers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Josh Dixon, Three Phydoras, Lily Hill, Walter Read, Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas, Alice Craven, Baines and West, Mr. Fred Lindsay, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment. Vera Mayne, Della Ray.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Pictures Entertainment. Joy Jeffries, Le Hurst.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"A Woman Worth Winning."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Harold Heath, Lily Edwardes, Pit Brow Girls, Burnetti, The Vaudeville Trio, Jeff Martin, Carney and Armstrong, Bardoff, Palace Perfection Pictures.

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
(Closed.)

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Norah Desmond, Pictures, Harry Hunter, Will Challoner, Arnold Bell and Co., Dainty Danes, My Lady's Chamber, Walton and Williams, Martell, Lucy Gillett.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Lew Lake and Co., Milsted Bell Trio, Doris Druce, Irene May, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Elsie Claire, Lomas Duo, Daisy Taylor, Alle Moore, The Comerfords, Pictures, Revene Elton.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Alskarno Trio, The Coopers, Geo. Campbell, Laurie and Elsie, Two Lees, Dick Tubb, Alice Lawrence, Pictures, Norah Noble, Brandon and Co., Sunday Picture.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

THE PALACE THEATRE, DARLINGTON (LTD.).

In consequence of the Palace Theatre, Darlington, having been LET on LEASE to the EAST COAST VARIETY HALLS (Ltd.),

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

according to the Arbitrator's Award, that ALL CONTRACTS are therefore CANCELLED, as and from Aug. 27 next.

On behalf of the Palace Theatre, Darlington (Ltd.),
ARTHUR PANSON, Secretary.

WANTED.

CONCERT PARTIES.

Plenty of Humour, Troups, for weeks Aug. 15 to Sept. 19. Quote Terms and Sharing. Address,
COHU, St. George's Hall, Guernsey.

Posters for all New Films
SEND FOR CATALOGUES, &c.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's. Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

CRYSTAL PALACE

MUSIC HALL COMPETITION.

OPEN TO ALL.

A GRAND MUSIC HALL COMPETITION will be held at the Crystal Palace commencing
MONDAY, JULY 4.

First Prize, **£3 3s.,** with the offer of an engagement for the following week at **£4 4s.**
Second Prize, **£2 2s.** Entrance Fee, **2/6**
Each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
Semi-Final, Friday. Final, Saturday.

Two Competitors selected each night to take part in the Semi-Final on Friday. Four Competitors selected from Semi-Final to compete in Final on Saturday.
Any Turn of whatever kind can compete.
The decision of the Referee must be accepted as final. Entrances to be dealt with in order of application (which must be accompanied by remittance), addressed to the Manager, "Music Hall Competition," Crystal Palace, S.E.

MATLOCK BATH, DERBYSHIRE.

The MATLOCK BATH & SCARTHIN NICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL are desirous of

LETTING

their newly erected
PAVILION AND PUMP ROOM
with the grounds adjoining.

For particulars apply to
FRED W. GILL, Solicitor,
Clerk to the Council,
Hunter's Chambers, Matlock.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BENSON-ON-THAMES. — Wallingford House, 5 bedrooms, 2 sitting, bath, large garden, motor shed. E. Mansfield.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M. — Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW. — Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Mrs. Matthew, 90, Cambridge-st. (late Dundee). Two front Combined Rooms, Piano; excellent references.

LIVERPOOL. — Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, E.—Correspondent required to Supply occasional Reports of the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-road. Comfortable furnished bed and sitting-room, also single combined; well recommended. Vacant Sunday.

MANCHESTER. — 426, Stretford-rd. Comfortable apartments, all convenience. Bed sitting or double bedroom, or combined. Mrs. Hackett.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional apartments. Highly recommended. Moderate terms.

SOUTHPORT.—Mrs. Rappo, 82, Lord-street. 1 sitting-room, and 1 or 2 bedrooms, also 2 combined rooms, near Empire Pav. Vacant Sunday.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

CLAPHAM PARK.—One of these fine old detached houses, beautiful garden, stabling or garage, to be let at absurdly low rent of £30 (or £65 on lease) or the Head Lease (14 years to run) would be sold, a bargain. If desired payment £50 down, balance by instalments. Apply Veryard and Yates, 337, Norwood-road, S.E.

ABERDEEN SKATING RINK CO., LTD.,
IN LIQUIDATION.

To be

OFFERED FOR SALE

by PUBLIC AUCTION (unless previously disposed of by Private Treaty) at the offices of Messrs. WATT and CUMINE, Advocates, 8 Golden-square, Aberdeen, on Friday, July 15 next, at twelve o'clock noon.

The recently-erected and up-to-date Building used as a Roller-skating Rink, belonging to the above Company, and situated in Forbesfield-road, Aberdeen, together with Skates, Furniture, and Equipment complete, including Office and other Fixtures and Furniture.

The **SKATING FLOOR SURFACE** measures 225ft. by 75ft., and the Skates are the well-known Winslow Patent Roller Skates.

The **RINK** is lit by electricity, and heated by a system of gas-radiators.

The **LEASE** of the ground expires on Whit-Sunday, 1919, and is subject to a rent of £60 per annum, payable half-yearly, at Whit-Sunday and Martinmas.

For further particulars apply to Mr. R. R. DALY, Chartered Accountant, 5, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; or to Messrs. WATT and CUMINE, as above.

FOR SALE BY TENDER
ON OR BEFORE JULY 5th, 1910.

ONE SET OF SWITCHBACK CONDOLAS.

Machine recently overhauled throughout, Engines and Boiler in thorough order, Rounding boards, Cornice, Outside droppers and all Centres, etc., laborately carved and Machine complete with all Trucks and appurtenances.

May be seen running any time by Day's notice.

Apply
THOMAS WALKER, Engineer, Tewkesbury.

SALE by AUCTION of the valuable COLLECTION of WILD ANIMALS, formed by Robert Leadbetter, Esq., and being the menagerie exhibited for the last three years at the Crystal Palace, and removed therefrom for the convenience of sale.

MESSRS. MOSS and JAMESON will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, July 14, 1910, at one o'clock precisely, on the PREMISES, 207, ST. JAMES'-ROAD, EAST CROYDON, the whole of the valuable COLLECTION of WILD ANIMALS, as above, comprising elephants, lions, tigers, camels, dromedaries, yaks, llama, Indian sacred cattle, jackals, bears, dingoes, wolves, foxes, antelopes, kangaroo, monkeys, parrots, &c. Also cages, wagons, and carts. On view day prior and morning of sale, and at the Crystal Palace till July 12. Catalogues forwarded. Auction Offices, 77, Chancery-lane, W.C. Telephone No. 6, Holborn.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
FOR
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price **3/6.** Post free, **3/9.**

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, HINTON AND WOOTON, Originators of a Football Match on Bicycles, Vacant July 11 and 25, through Paragon and Croydon closing. Only Vacancies. Wire, to-day, Empress, Brixton; July 4, King's Theatre, Southsea. Agents, DE VERE and SLY.

WANTED, Known, W. Salmon, Trick and Musical Cyclist, Liberty for Galas, &c. Still a salmon worth catching. 25, Albany-terrace, Barnley.

WANTED, July 11, 18, Swift Duo. A really funny act on cycles. Monday next, Theatre, Aberaman, South Wales. Wire.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy and Champion Somersaulting Cyclists. Always a success. Vacant 4, 11, 18, Aug. 1. Terms, 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Hall and Wilson, Motor Cycling Sensation, Vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 8, 15 (South preferred), precede Paris. Managers requiring a Clean Act and Draw, wire. This, Hippodrome, Bursiem; next, Empire, Hull (fifth return).

PIERROT WANTEDS.

PIERROT TROUPES.

WANTED, Variety Combination or Single Turns, for Horsham Olympia, Sussex, weekly or fortnightly engagement. Apply by letter only, SECRETARY, Yorkshire Portable Rink Co., Ltd., 117, Park-lane, Leeds, giving dates and terms.

WANTED, for two weeks, open July 11, smart Pierrot Troupe, for Picture Show, one hour's sit-round and sketch, pianist provided. Address MANAGER, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, First-class Pierrot Troupe, Five or Six Artists, from now till end of September. Apply, stating terms, Marine Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, High-class Concert Parties, &c., July 11, and on, with exceptions. W. G. BELL, Pier Pavilion, Cowes.

WANTED, to open Monday, a good Al Fresco Pianist, do turn, also a young and dainty Soubrette, large répertoire, and used to concerteds, &c. Terms, &c., for season, to MANAGER, Pierrot Pavilion, 24, St. John's-place, Halifax.

WANTED, a Smart Comedian, young and refined, for Al Fresco, open Monday next. Low terms. Wire or write, OLLY SEERS, Spa Gardens, Ripon, Yorks.

WANTED, a genninely funny, refined Humorist or Entertainer, for highest class audiences. Must be a gentleman. 329, London-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement in really good Alfresco Troupe by First-class Eccentric Comedian Patterer, Instrumentalist, Sketch Artist, &c. Funny business at piano. Splendid gags. Full particulars to WILMOT HASTINGS, 6, Queen-st., Plymouth.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late Catlin's Scarboro' Pierrots, Vacant Monday, Al Fresco. Wire, 37, Victoria-st., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Al Fresco, Monday, on, Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist and Entertainer, great success Crystal Palace, Humorist, large rép.; four distinct Vent. Acts, Concerteds, &c.; first-class shows only. Wire, County Theatre, Reading.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.

By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Everything for the Fair. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham. Rifles, Cartridges, Targets, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, &c. Lists free.

WANTED, for Grand Industrial Exhibition and Fancy Fair, July 9, on, Novelty Stalls, Side Shows, &c. Also Variety Artists (doing two or more turns preferred).
Particulars, H. SILVANI,
Exhibition Hall, Botanic Gardens, Belfast.

WANTED, First-class Freaks and Other Good Attractions, for Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter.
A. E. PICKARD,
American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, for Humber's Waxworks, George-street, Aberdeen.
Mr. Bealey send address.

WANTED, Smart Young Men for Illusion Show. Write full particulars, stating age, exact height, lowest terms, last two references. Box 7,936, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Pleasure Grounds, for Summer Season, wages 30s. and commission on takings. Address, Box 7,890, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady Palmist and Novelties, for Automatic Arcade, shares or rental.
MANAGER, 1, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

WANTED, a First-class Descriptive Vocalist, to travel with Auction Mart. Apply, L. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Mardy, Rhondda Valley.

WANTED, High Diver and Fancy Swimmer, for Victoria Pier, Folkestone, to commence Monday, July 11. Advertiser has sole rights for the above, and will provide advertising, diving platforms, and do all collecting for one-third of the receipts; really good business can be done by first-class man. Apply, LEOPOLD, Victoria Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, High and Fancy Diver. Collections.
Apply, PIERMASTER, Claremont Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, Season, open Monday.
JONES, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Smart Girl, for Handkerchief Machine, at once. Write, H. W. LARCHER, Royal Arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement, by Palmist, Phrenologist, seaside, season. DEANE, 26, Worcester-street, Gloucester. Would rent studio in a good position.

WANTED, Known, Vilo, Juggler, Lamp and Japanese Block Manipulator; Harland, Punch and Judy Dog Toby, Liberty Galas. 53, Sylvan-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known.—Kidwelly, South Wales. Fair Field to Let, cheaply, right in centre of town, and splendid business certain. Great success Sedgewick's Menagerie last week. Apply, MORRIS, Cowpark, Kidwelly.

WANTED, to Let, Large Plot of Land, about one acre in extent, Coppy Quarry, Bradford, centre of city, for exhibition purposes. Further particulars, apply, SAMUEL WRAY and Co., Coppy Quarry, Westgate, Bradford.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR JULY.

ENGLAND.

2. Ashover (2,362)
2. Barlborough (1,942)
2. Bishampton (340)
2. Silstone (2,180)
2. Stainsby (120)
4. Bradford (279,809)
4. Stokeferry (580)
4. Wakefield (41,514)
5. Chipping Norton (3,780)
5. Sampford Courtenay (768)
6. Bognor (6,189)
6. Haxey (2,020)
8. Headless Cross (3,500)
9. Menston (1,745)
9. Chapel-en-le-Frith (4,652)
9. Ringwood (4,629)
9. Stroud (9,200)
9. York (77,793)
11. Leeds (428,953)
14. Burnley (97,044)
14. Mansfield (Statutes) (21,411)
15. Chumleigh (1,321)
15. Linton (1,515)
16. Holmesfield (510)
16. Horsham (9,500)
16. Sutton-in-Ashfield (14,862)
16. Tunstall (19,492)
16. Atherstone (5,248)
18. Baildon Feast (5,797)
18. Darwen (38,200)
18. Dursley (2,372)
18. Spilsby (1,500)
20. Kingsbridge (3,000)
20. Swaffham (3,400)
21. Brierfield (7,288)
21. Tipton (30,543)
22. Chesham (7,245)
22. Haworth (5,100)
22. Nelson (32,816)
23. Chiddingley (831)
23. Dewsbury (28,050)
23. Glemsford (1,975)
23. Hatherlow
23. Hollinwood (8,962)
23. Longsight (13,916)
23. Normanton (Temple)
23. Stalybridge (27,000)
23. Walton (1,470)
25. Bramley Feast (9,000)
25. Epsom (10,918)
25. Hockwold (800)
25. Reading (72,214)
25. Tamworth (7,300)
27. Cley-next-the-Sea (700)
27. Melksham (2,500)
28. Alresford (2,000)
29. Bollington (5,224)
29. King's Nympton (586)
29. Olney (2,684)
29. Padiham (11,327)
29. Unsworth (2,289)
30. Alfreton (17,505)
30. Compstall (2,300)
30. Heyford (813)
30. Mellor (1,384)
30. Mossley (13,452)
30. Redditch (13,493)
30. Shirland (3,697)
30. Stretton (615)

SCOTLAND.

2. Greenock (67,626)
9. Hawick (15,000)
9. Perth (33,566)
11. Glasgow (760,468)
11. Motherwell (30,418)
14. Johnstone (10,502)
18. Forfar (12,117)
18. Dunfermline (25,250)
20. Rothesay (9,325)
21. Kirkcudbright (2,386)
21. Leven (6,000)
23. Arbroath (22,546)
25. Kinross (2,391)
28. Kilmarnock (33,142)
28. Leith (77,385)
30. Tweedmouth Feast (3,469)

WALES.

5. Pontypool (6,126)
6. Llanllyni (4,972)
30. Tenby (4,400)

THE WINTER GARDENS, ONCHAN HEAD, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, this is the largest open air Roller Skating Rink and Dancing Floor in the Island; popular attractions; a few Spaces to be Let. For terms apply, COTTIER CUBBIN, Proprietor.

NOTICE.

To Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, Amusement Caterers, and Others.
Sale by Public Auction at Short Notice.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman has received Instructions from the owner (who is retiring from the business) to Sell by Public Auction, at the Sultan Yard, Ditherington, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday, July 6, at 2 o'clock prompt, the whole of his Concerns, as follows:

Lot 1.—One Set of Three-abreast Gallopers, 40ft. frame, Savage's make, comprising splendid Centre Truck, Savage's Engines, Carved and Gilded Top Centre, 14 Carved and Gilded Rounding Boards, Cornish, and Droppers, measuring over 5ft. deep when together, 36 Carved Horses, Double-seated, by Spooner, and 2 Motor Cars, altogether seating 74 persons, Carved and Gilded Bottom Centre, new Platform, Steps, &c., large Gavioli Organ, the whole illuminated by 10 Excello Lamps; also three Wagons, to carry same, splendid new Bodies and Underworks, by Savage's, fitted for Traction work, without a doubt one of the best Lots now travelling; also one 8 h.p. Burrell's Compound Traction Engine and Dynamo, one Living Carriage, 14ft. by 6ft. 6in., by Orton. Notice.—All the above are in first-class working order and ready for taking money. For cards to view, catalogues, &c., apply to the Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C., or from the Vendor, A. DOBSON, Sultan Inn, Ditherington, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, to Sell, magnificent travelling Picture Palace, including a very fine Organ, electric light plant, machine, films, and everything complete, licensed under the new Act, can travel in any part of England can be used as either a permanent or movable structure.

For price and particulars write,
Box 7,930, "The Era."

To Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen generally.

WANTED, Known, that having been favoured with instructions from Mr. Arthur Dobson, who is retiring from the business, to Sell by Public Auction, on Wednesday next, at 2 p.m., at Sultan Yard, Ditherington, Shrewsbury, all that First-class Up-to-date Three-abreast Gallopers, Organ, Traction Engine, Dynamo, Living Waggons, Swings, &c., &c., complete, as a going concern. I can specially and highly recommend all the above to anyone really wanting a thorough good, clean, convenient, quick money-taking lot, to come and see the above.
Signed, TOM NORMAN,
Silver King,
Auctioneer.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.

A Teddy Bear Roundabout,
all complete, with or without electric light, in thorough working order, and well worth the money. To responsible people part of the purchase-money can be arranged.
Apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, a First-class Rail Living Carriage, Howcroft's make, 18ft. long, 8ft. wide, packing irons on sides and end, inside beautifully fitted, stove, bed, &c., in good condition, a bargain for cash.
Apply, JIM HAGGAR,
Villiers Hotel, Briton Ferry, Wales.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, Living Van, Tent, Shuttered Booth, good, complete lot goes by rail; or let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, for Sale, "The Rage of Paris," the Patent Zigzag Stairways, machines now running in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, and Egypt, great moneytakers. Apply, COOPER, Albert Works, Chatsworth-rd., Stratford, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Hindu Spirit Writer, £2 10s., latest model, bargain, practically new. HENRY, 56, Batoum-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Floss Candy Machine.
T., 108, King-street, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Waxworks or Complete Show. Also Distort Mirrors and Good Novelties. HARPER, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, the Address of Siva, or Osca write, if at Liberty.
25, Osbourne-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by Floor Manager and Instructress, position on Rink, Seaside or Provinces, or Engagements as Exhibition Skaters. All coms., G. T. GRAHAM, 1, Loraine-row, Tynemouth.

WANTED, to Let, Skating Rink on South Coast during Summer Season, 100ft. by 54ft, suitable for Exhibition or other attractions.
Address Box 7,909, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, Large Skating Rinks, Exhibition or Drill Halls, from Aug. 27, onwards, for Royal Italian Circus.
All necessary erections carried, which can be fixed up without nails or screws.
Mat carried 2in. thick, which covers the entire ring. Full particulars, with dimensions of hall, to EDWIN GILLEY, Royal Italian Circus, "Scottish Zoo," Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell or Rent, Skating Floor, 20ft. by 28ft., for music hall stage, been used three weeks.
Address, Box 7,906, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Secondhand Floor Machine for Sale (Hand), guaranteed to do the work; price, including demonstration, £9. Rink Floors Planed; mechanic and machine, £3 per week. Floors laid, prompt and cheap. EXPERT, Box 7,933, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Winter Season, from Oct. next, prominently-located Skating Rink or other large building, in a big city.
Reply, with full particulars,
PYKE and PYKE, 47, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE,
Sole Lessee and Manager, CHARLES FROHMAN.

WANTED, WANTED, KNOWN, AS THIS THEATRE IS TO BE ENTIRELY RE-DECORATED, RE-UPHOLSTERED, AND RE-CARPETED DURING THE FORTHCOMING VACATION, THE WHOLE OF THE PRESENT CARPETS, DRAPERIES, CURTAINS, &c., WHICH ARE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION, ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF.
APPLICATIONS ARE THEREFORE INVITED FROM POSSIBLE PURCHASERS, TO VIEW THE SAME, WHICH MAY BE SEEN ANY MORNING DURING THE NEXT THREE WEEKS. APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING, WHEN AN APPOINTMENT WILL BE MADE, TO
JAMES W. MATHEWS, BUSINESS-MANAGER.

TO SMALL CAPITALISTS OR CINEMATOGRAPH COMPANIES.

WANTED, Known, an excellent opportunity is open to Small Investors or Cinematograph Companies to participate in or acquire a genuine Cinematograph Theatre, about to be open in the best part of a densely-populated town.
Success assured.

Apply, Box 7939, "The Era."

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.

WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
LUCAS, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, small detachable Top Limousine, makers Fiat, 24h.p., gate change, four speeds, painted and upholstered in blue, with oil and gas lamps, absolutely in good order, suitable for Artists.
Price £175. No Agents.

Address, W. T., c/o Street's, 30, Cornhill, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, 20 First-class Bioscope Machines and Spool Boxes, good as new, Urban, Warwick, and Gaumont Machines.
Bargains to clear.
JURY'S, LTD., 142, Long Acre, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, large quantity of Films, all in good condition, by leading makers, Comic, Dramatic, Travel, and Art subjects. Bargains to clear. Write for lists.
JURY'S, LTD., 142, Long Acre, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Fireproof Spool Boxes, at 17s. 6d. each; rewinders, 7s. 6d. each; new linen sheets, 12ft. by 12ft., 15s.; and all accessories for the Bioscope business. Always a quantity of New and Secondhand Bioscopes in Stock, from £9. Our Film-hiring Service at 17s. 6d. per 1,000ft. (changed twice weekly) is acknowledged to be the finest in the trade. Write for hire list.
MAGNET FILM Co., LTD., 30, St. Martin's-court, Charing Cross-road (facing London Hippodrome), London, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Grand Orchestraphone, fitted with Bells, Drums, Triangle, &c., splendid tone, equal small band, quantity of high-class Cardboard Music height about 8ft., cost £45; genuine bargain, £10. Apply, LESSEE, Bijou Hall, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Concert Grand Piano, 9ft. long, suit any Hall, Bioscope, &c.
Address, Box 7,915, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Rattles, Tubaphones, Macaronis, Glockenspiels, Gongs, Marimbas, Tubular Bells, Resonaphones, Organ Chimes. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, plated, folding stand, standard key, new, 5ft. 3in. high, £4. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno Plain, with Ruche, 3s. 11d. doz.; Accordion Pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, one of the smallest and sweetest pets alive, jet black Pomeranian female, 2 years old, guaranteed weight to-day 2lb. 9oz., winner 13 first prizes, £10, worth double. Money wanted.

SROL-MOS, 2, Khartoum-flats, Drury-lane, London.

WANTED, to Sell, good Performing Dog, Skipping, Flowers, six other tricks, free worker, £3 10s., bargain. MURRAY, 72, Edward-st., Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, excellent Acrobatic Monkey Act and Model Blériot Aeroplane, complete outfit, electric motor, switchboard, cable, &c. A fortune to a competent man.
Address,
J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Oak Chamber, reverse side painted Kitchen, also other useful stuff. 'Phone 919 Wimbledon. BODEN, Studio, 196, High-street, Merton.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, 200 Tip-up Chairs, new, a bargain. LEWIS and DEAKIN, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274.

WANTED, to Sell, some Men's and Women's Papier-maché Bodies, jointed arms, 10s. each. STIFF,
18, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 36in. Ventriloquial Boy Figure, winks, smokes, £1 2s. 6d., list price £2 10s., as new. QUISTO, 11, Lammermoor-road, Balham.

WANTED, to Sell, Lantern Apparatus, on Portable Standard, with resistance for the Arc Lamp attached, Condenser, and Extending Lens. ELECTRICIAN, 70, Ling-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Acetylene Generator and Jets for lighting Al Fresco, several Illusions, White Drill Costumes, &c. FREDRICKS, Brunswick-street, Bath.

WANTED, to Sell, Cinephone, complete, £6; also a quantity of Stage Dresses.
POWER and PRYER, Acton Picture Palace, Church-road, Acton, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, New Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus, catching pigeons in mid air, gold fish, net, and table, umbrella to rose tree, chair to portmanteau. 212, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, 10 Scarlet Patrol Jackets (no trousers), gold corded, blue collars and cuffs, all as new, only used a few weeks. Cost £20; accept £10, or nearest offer. LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Sell, Small Rights of London Success; also Full Rights of several other Plays. Fullest particulars to
Mr. A. BINGHAM, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Excellent, Up-to-date Musical Comedy and two Good Melodramas, Small Casts.
EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Songs, Sketches, Playlets, Duologues, Monologues, Plays, Comical, Pastoral, Historical, Tragical. State requirements. BIRD, Castle Bromwich, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, good Hebrew Song (melancholy style), Irish character song, 3 good serio-comics (one French style), several other comic songs.
EGAN,
Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, complete run of "The Era" Newspapers, 1879 to end of 1909, bound in yearly and half-yearly volumes. C. KLEISER, 22, Parliament-street, York.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. PEARSON, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Purchase, good secondhand Arc Lamps, Flags, Scenery, suitable for Skating Rink. Address, Box 7,914, "The Era."

WANTED, small Troupe of Dogs, smart and clean, July 11, week, Summer terms; probably longer. HENGLWR, Tudno House, Rhyl.

WANTED, to buy, Magical Apparatus and Illusions. Must be able to see same in London. Offers, Box 7,935, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy or Hire, Hot Air Balloon, must be sound and cheap. Send full description to 86, Dudley-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Songs, Wanted, Songs,
Baby,
Polyglot,
Dialect,
Smart Character,
and Patter.

Address,
Miss MADGE GREY,
Eden Cottage,
Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in July and o, wards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let a Large Hall, Midlands, seats 600, stage, scenery, seating, operating box, electric light, been run as picture hall for two years. Leighton House, John-st., Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Factory Premises to be Let or Sold, excellent position, on main tram and 'bus route, suitable for Cinematograph Theatre, or Site would be Sold, total area about 7,500 square feet (larger site might be arranged).

Apply, PARKHOUSE and PEARSON, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 179, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, to Let, off Westminster Bridge-road, 4, Hercules-road, well positioned Shop, good workroom, living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent. EDWARDS, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, High-class Comedy Sketch, Light Comedian and Juvenile Lady. Opening for song for both. Maid (small part). FORBES DAWSON, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent, Building for Pictures. Would join someone with Hall. Perm., London or near. OPERATOR, 167, Rosslyn-rd., Tottenham.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Halls, or Public Halls, for long or short terms. All particulars to LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Good Halls for Bioscope, on Share or Rental, end July, onwards. South or West. Send vacant dates, &c., M. C., 62, Alexandra-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Partner, with £200, to Tour Money-making Comedy.

Address,
Box 7,911, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, with Small Capital, for Successful Comedy Dramas, recently toured with success. Scenery ready. Allen's printing; Part or Management. MONCKTON, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Known, a Partnership would be entertained by an Experienced Actor and Producer, preferably with an established management. Box 7,926, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, with Bioscope (complete 1910 outfit) will share with responsible local manager of good hall or pier requiring first-class exhibition. Permanency or odd weeks only. Other offers considered.
M. C., 62, Alexandra-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Lady about to be Trained for the Stage, Gentleman Partner for Double Turn. Share profit and expenses. Advertiser can influence bookings. Write, E. H., c/o 56, High-st, Islington.

WANTED, by Tom Hearne, Good Tumbler, to join a First-class Troupe, or Partner.
32, Wilton-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Partner, to join Author, Comedian, Pianist, and Dancer preferred.
Box 7,933, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3650 and 3651 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT Co.,
5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 165, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowns, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. FOX and SON, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known.—Song-writers Notice. I cannot supply the great demand for my songs. Will undertake the sale of few songs, if very good. Nothing commonplace handled. EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Dainty Comedienne's Song and Dance for Sale. Songs Written, Band Parts, Music Copied. EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

Bogus Managers.

WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus. The Council regret they cannot utilise the Funds of the Association for non-members.

WANTED, Miss Dolly Bell, or her mother, Mrs. Bell, lately residing at 295, Kennington-road, London, S.E., or anyone knowing their present whereabouts to communicate with
Mr. GEORGE A. HATTIN,
51, St. Andrews, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

WANTED, Wanted, Information, Coloured Vaudeville Actor from Worcester, Mass, U.S.A. Year ago was travelling in Denmark, Sweden, with partner, as Two Lewis's, Eccentric Dancers. PAULINE JACKSON, 418, Main-street, Worcester, Mass, U.S.A.

WANTED, Known, to Owners of Great Danes or Boarhounds. At stud, the cropped imported Harlequin, fee 4gs., prepaid or by arrangement; height at shoulder 35in., weight 168lb. The Goliath of the Fancy. Send for photo and stud card. Puppies for Sale. H. SCARD, JUN., Wadbrook and Scard's Picture Palace, Porthcawl.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

If it is Artistes or Engagements, Scenery or Properties, Baggage Collected or Delivered, To Buy, Sell, or Hire Wardrobe, Scripts, Parts or Letters Typed, a Permanent Address for Redespatching Letters—in fact, if you are in any Doubt or Difficulty, and want to save yourself Time and Trouble, Ring up

Gerrard 3714,

THE UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU,
49, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams—"UTRIBURO, LONDON."

WE WILL FIND IT!!!

LEOLYN HART CO.
SOENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Machines, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

55a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1895 Dalston.

MEMOIRS OF MRS. SIDDONS, with portrait, two vols., first edition, original boards, uncut, clean, perfect, published 1829, cheap. CHAPMAN, Agent, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

LOST on Sunday last.
Missing from Guard's Van between Warrington and Blackburn,
JAPANESE HOLDALL and LARGE BUNDLE wrapped in leather rug fastened with straps.
Information leading to recoverey of same will be rewarded.

Address
VONETTA, Palace, Halifax.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ACCRINGTON.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The company here is headed by Elmo and Rego, knockabout eccentrics, who display considerable skill and ability. Those excellent speciality dancers, the Bros. Dean, have a great reception, and give a highly-finished exhibition; David Poole, novelty ventriloquist, is a great favourite, and has an hearty welcome; Kirk and Sarsaki, lady aquatic marvels, do a distinctly interesting swimming act; Ada and Gert, juvenile vocalists and dancers, have a flattering reception; R. C. Note, "swell" comedian, has the house with him in two capital chorus songs; Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, in a musical, vocal, and dancing scena, are acceptable; Lily Arthur, comedienne and dancer, scores a success; and the Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Variety is the order here, and a good programme has for the chief item D'Arc's Marionettes. It is indeed a marvellously clever exhibition, in which many "stars" are shown. It would take very little to imagine that these figures are in the flesh. Cambo and Castelle, the musical monkey and Italian maid, give a sensational musical act; Collin and Irene's exposition of thought-transmission is wonderfully clever; Bonnetti and Corrie as eccentric jugglers are laughter-provoking. Witty Wattie Walton, character comedian, is still a favourite; Revel and Ray, in dance, patter, and song, add to the attractions; Miss Mabelle May is well received for her graceful dancing; and Miss Gyp Hodgson as a vocal comedienne does well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*A Woman's Past* is the title of a stirring drama presented here by Messrs. Hamilton and Locke's company Miss Dora Page, an actress of ability, sustains with touching tenderness, and in some strong passages with moving force, the character of Bessie, the heroine; Mr. Percy Dawsone as David Heath also scores a success; and Mr. Chas. Locke interprets the part of Frank Delannoy with skill and intelligence. Mr. Alexander Knight is forcible as Clement Harper; and Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Uriah Craven, the villain, is sufficiently callous. Mr. James McLeod as Bloater, Mr. John Meade as Scrubby, Mr. William Freemantle as Spriggins, and Mr. W. Portswood as Bob are effective exponents of character; Mr. Henry Bargate does well as Jack Crawford; as Clara Darrell Miss Phylliss Elton vividly depicts a designing, cruel woman; as Dorothy Heath Miss Cherry Veheyne finds ample scope for her dramatic talents; Miss Mabel Northam as Kate is capable; and Miss Laura Bitterne is fully equal to all demands as Mrs. Brown.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—Drama has displaced variety at the Empire for a week, and Mr. Oswald Cray and dramatic combination are producing *When It Was Dark*. Mr. Oswald Cray makes of the Rev. Basil Gortre an impressive personality; Miss Lillian Herries as Gertrude Hunt gives a sound and capable interpretation; Miss Rosalie Notrelle finds plenty of scope for her dramatic abilities in the delineation of the varied moods of Helena Byars; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse as Schwabe, a millionaire, gives an effective study; Mr. Edward Valentine as the scoundrel Robert Llewellyn is clever.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—The programme for the current week is quite up to date, and proves very attractive.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—A good supply of pictures is kept up here. Loyall Leeder is a smart comedian.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—The best animated pictures are provided here. Crawford and Wood are acceptable comedians and cross-talkers.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—We have here a good all-round vaudeville company, including Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in *The Piano Tuner;* Maclaine and Mac, Scotch comedy artists; De Lilo and Metz, jugglers and contortionists; Avon and Crest, a mirth-provoking couple; the Richards Trio, excellent comedy acrobats; the Keppels, sweet singers of tuneful ditties; Lilian Lowe, first-class vocalist; and the Five Jovers.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Edmund Tearle's company, in *Jeanie Deans*, is here. Miss Kate Clinton, in the title-rôle, is very clever, and Miss Mary Campbell is a capital Effie Deans; Mr. Edmund Tearle shows fine elocution as Counsel for the Defence; and Mr. Denis Hogan is a dignified Duke of Argyle; Mr. Ernest Lodge does well as Geordie Robertson, and Mr. B. S. Stuart is a convincing David Deans; Miss Constantia Brooke is a queenly Caroline and Miss N. Blackwood a capable Madge Wildfire. *Ingomar* is also billed.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Villagers, a costume concert party, are here.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's picture and variety company are presenting a capital programme here this week. The pictures are most interesting, and the Leonas provide an excellent instrumental musical act.

BARRY DOCK.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—The Three Behans, in a novelty quick-change dancing act are deservedly applauded; also successful are the Four Scoreys, whose playing on various instruments, together with an acrobatic turn by one of the number, pleases the audience; little Doris May is a clever young singer and dancer. The pictures are of the usual interesting kind.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Two thrilling sketches, *The Key* and *Saved by Wireless*, in which Mr. Gilbert Heron and Miss Jessie Danvers are associated, are the leading items in this bill. These accomplished artists are well supported by Mr. R. C. Harcourt and Mr. George Robinson; Harry Rousby and Nell Rene are seen to advantage in a Lancashire comedy duologue, *Fine Feathers*, which goes extremely well. Ada Gatley is responsible for smart juggling and slack wire feats; Lily and Elsie Judge introduce their marvellously trained cockatoos, parrots, and macaws; the Sisters Edwardes, vocalists, dancers, and drummers, are always welcome; Arthur Croxon is decidely versatile; and Harriet Rose, vocal comedienne, is a favourite.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—For Rose Show week Mr. Carl Fredericks and his popular Les Vivandieres are back again. Mlle Cordelia, the chameleon sylph, is an additional attraction.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—After an absence of only a few weeks, when the success achieved was quite phenomenal, the evergreen play *East Lynne* was on Monday again staged by Mr. Tom Watts's company. The rôle of Lady Isabel was sustained with undoubted skill by the clever emotional actress Miss Ida Heron; and honours were also achieved by Mr. Frank Beresford as Archibald Carlyle. Mr. Wilfrid Percy Mansfield was all that could be desired as Levison; and Mr. Joe Rowland was quite inimitable as Bullock. Miss Alice Moseley's acting as Little Willie reflected much credit on her; and Mr. Jerrold Manville was thoroughly efficient as Justice Hare. Mr. Eric Lugg made an admirable Richard Hare; and Mr. Clifford Clifford made the most of his opportunities as Lawyer Dill. The rôle of Cornelia Carlyle could scarcely be in better hands than those of Miss Isabel Singleton; and Miss Alice Seymour was thoroughly satisfactory as Barbara Hare.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is the Great Lafayette, whose remarkable feats have been enthusiastically received; the Juggling Geraldos also occupy a premier position on the programme; the L.V.O. Trio appear to advantage in *Those Troublesome Servants;* Laurie Leyton, distant voice ventriloquist; Dave Carter, Irish tenor; Miss Anna Hope, a cultured soprano; and the Hipposcope are other attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading position here is held by Mr. George H. Elliot, whose finished coon impersonations are accorded a terrific reception, his new song, "Moon, moon," affording much pleasure to many Belfast admirers; a veritable sensation has been caused by the performance, entitled Motoring in Mid-Air, by the Tom Davis Trio; Professor Thornbury's lightning painting act has been vociferously applauded; and the Brothers Durant stage with much effect their humorous act *Kings of the Airship*. Miss Blanche Vincent is a capital burlesque actress; and Miss Kathleen Gray a dashing comedienne, with good songs. Syd Penna, comedian, and the Bio. complete the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among many beautiful pictures exhibited here may be mentioned Elektra, An Old Soldier (a story of a lost locket), His Last Burglary, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Dunvilles, in their smart comedy musical act, and Hennessey and Martell, "the spirited duo."

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some capital films have been shown here, including The Way of the World, Outwitted by a Child, Across the Plains, &c. Miss Becky Sharpe, soprano vocalist, appears at each performance in illustrated songs.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—The success of Belfast's latest picture palace continues, and the pictures exhibited include The Highlander's Defiance, A New Life, The Girl and the Judge, &c. Alf. Holness, "the singing Heater boy," has no reason to complain of his reception, which nightly is of the most flattering nature.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Two capital pictures shown here are Carmen and Dr. Phantom, or the Devil Woman. A smart display on the trapeze and rings is given by Pazarro and Leoto. The singing and dancing of Molly Doon are keenly appreciated.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Two performances nightly by Mr. C. Watson Mills's company of the interesting play *A Wrecker of Men* give intense satisfaction. Miss Ruth Zillwood's fine delineation of the rôle of Resco Mallinson holds the audience enthralled; her sister is admirably played by Miss Doris Melville; and Mr. Arthur Pitt is an excellent Jim Murley. Other parts are well filled, and the production is creditably staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Keating.—Wee Georgie Wood, a precocious young comedian and mimic of exceptional ability, is a leading attraction; the Violas, in their clever thought-reading act, are on a welcome return visit; and Mr. J. W. Rowley, the veteran comedian, is renewing previous triumphs. An excellent company also introduces Duncan and Godfrey in *The Coster's Courtship;* Miss Gladys Revell, a talented chorus singer; Cosgrove and Burns, in a farcical sketch; Miss Annie Schubert, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—On Monday Miss Augusta Tullock's company appeared in *Judith, the Woman Who Sinned*. Miss Tullock gave a powerful rendering of Judith; Jack Carrington was forcibly enacted by Mr. Alec Young; and the rôle of Eugene Darvelle was ably handled by Mr. Edward Vivian. The comedy element was well supplied by Miss Amy Osbourne and Mr. William de Lacy.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Will Letters' company, in a smart musical sketch entitled *They Would Be Pierrots*, furnish a most acceptable entertainment.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Will Glaze introduces a company of talented performers in his striking melodrama *No Mother to Guide Her*. It is a thrilling story, abounding with dramatic and sensational incidents. Miss Rene Belle Douglas is admirable as Nan, the flower-seller; and in the rôle of Julia Patterson, Miss Georgette Thierry gives a convincing interpretation; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers makes a fine villain; and Mr. John S. Millward as the Rev. Tom Pelham emphasises the manliness of the character; Mr. J. O. Stewart makes a typical bullying old blackguard; and other characters are in capable hands.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The drama *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, presented by Mr. Morton Powell's company, deals with a strong subject in a very effective manner. The story tells of a cousin's great self-sacrifice, and the persecutions of an unscrupulous man of the world. The part of Ruby Wright, who compromises herself to save her married cousin, is well played by Miss Maud M. Powell; and Miss Edith Wallis is equal to all demands as Ruth Wright. Mr. Leslie Austin gives a vigorous portrayal as Robert Ray; and Mr. Walter Clarke displays great ability as Lucas List. Mr. Henry Scatchard gives a good character impersonation as Octavius Screwe; and Miss Ana Corri is clever as Mme. de Meral. The humorous situations are ably executed.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. Harry Tilbury is presenting a strong company in *His Dishonoured Wife* for the first time in Aston. The part of Frank Lindon, the village blacksmith, is cleverly sustained by Mr. A. George Fry; and Miss Belle Tilbury gains a high place in public favour as Florence Lindon. Mr. Alex. Alexander ably sustains the villainous character of Lord Devant; and Mr. Fred Owen proves his ability in the part of Neil Locksley, the detective. Mr. Harry Tilbury (Micky Doolan) and Miss Etta Spalding (Araminta Dustpan) are responsible for many excellent humorous situations; and there are several other clever persons in the cast.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—It speaks well for the popularity enjoyed by the Carlton Dramatic Company that the audiences each evening show no falling-off, despite the slack season. The drama *The Romany's Revenge* was presented this week, the story containing all the necessary elements that make for success. Mr. Victor Gardom as Dave Renard, the scheming steward, scores well; and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam gives great satisfaction in the dual rôle of Lilian Hope and Elspie, her gipsy half-sister. Mr. Norman Tracy is a warm favourite as the hero, John Hope; Miss Yoza Summers skilfully plays the part of Zamet, the gipsy boy; and the humour is well sustained by Miss Nancy Mitchell and Mr. Newton Pearce.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Joseph Hart's company, in *The Futurity Winner*, heads a strong bill, and this dramatic playlet is received with striking enthusiasm; Ben Albert is a comedian with an original style, and he is warmly welcomed; Billy French is a big favourite here, and his dancing creates rounds of applause; Will H. Fox, at the piano, is a bright and up-to-date entertainer; the Brothers Artois are exceedingly clever on the bars; Fielding and Hull are responsible for a most enjoyable musical comedy "tit-bit"; J. W. Hall is as funny as ever; Morrie Mine, in story, song, and dance, is a vivacious performer with a bright future.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster.—George Mozart is enjoying a "red-letter" week and meeting with enthusiastic receptions. He tells numerous stories in his usual droll style, and his burlesque moving picture drama is exceedingly funny. Master Edward Garratt is the leading member of Bellaw and Stock's company, who present a sketch, entitled *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, which contains many humorous situations, and is well-acted; a wonderfully clever performance is given by the Andos, a Japanese troupe; a delightful musical entertainment is that of Les Frasettis; George D'Albert is indisposed, and Billy French is an adequate substitute; Mary Ambrose sings to her own violin accompaniment, and is warmly applauded; Walter Wade is a comedian with a resonant voice; a pretty vocal and dancing act is provided by the dainty Three Belle Belles; and Nellie Farrell is an accomplished singer of Irish songs.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—An excellent all-round bill is headed by Mr. George Sheldon and company in the dramatic military sketch *Before the Dawn*. Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery produce a new comedy act, *An Amateur Anarchist*, which is beautifully staged, and which allows ample scope for Mr. Livesey's broad humour; Fred Herbert is repeatedly encored for his topical songs; Harry Russon is a smart elocutionist; Bi-Bo-Bi appears in a refined musical act; a novel and entertaining show is given by Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor; Rose D'Aulby has well chosen chorus songs; Clarke and Mostel have bright songs and dance well; and pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The visit of Fred Karno's company, in the new humorous production *Wontdetania*, is arousing considerable interest. Crowded audiences thoroughly enjoy a feast of fun, provided by the Karno Troupe, which includes Mr. Shaun Glenville and Mr. Harold Wellesley. The Waldrons are comedy artists of distinction, whose turn meets with hearty approval; Miss Helen Martin uses a splendid soprano voice to advantage in several Irsih melodies; Sibb and Sibb contribute a smart double trapeze act; Barney Murphy is a witty comedian; Watson and Naylor are popular comedy artists; and Fayre and Mayne, "the two in green," also figure prominently.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The new colourgraphy pictures shown here are arousing much comment by the excellence of their presentation. The Troubadour is the title of one of the most popular subjects. There is a good selection of pictures of an instructive nature, and the humorous films are much enjoyed. Pleasing vocal items are contributed by Mme. Alice Smythe and Miss Dorothy Veitch.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Kennedy.—Dramatic and humorous pictures are greatly appreciated by good audiences, and smart variety turns add to the enjoyment.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Capital houses are the order here, an excellent bill being provided. Minola Hurst and her miniature bounders are clever, and Everhart produces a great turn of hoop manipulating; Harry Drew's songs are well received; The Cromwells in their juggling act are remarkably smart; Al and Lal are good in their musical and ventriloquial turn; Merton and Rydon are especially good in their patter, songs, and dancing turn; and Walsh and Tanner cause any amount of laughter in *The Tramp's Surprise*. Happy Attwood does exceedingly well with his patter, and the Hipposcope picture entitled The Test is successful.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents Miss Maire O'Neill and company in *Candida* here this week. A delightful actress, Miss O'Neill enacts the title-rôle with rare skill; Mr. Ian Maclaren contributes a most intelligent rendering of the Rev. James Morell, and Mr. Esme Percy is the very ideal Eugene Marchbanks; Mr. Francis Hope as Mr. Burgess and Miss Muriel Pratt as Prosperine Garnett also materially assist to make the production a pronounced success. *Delicate Ground* is the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*Divorcons*, played by Mr. Horace Lingard and company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Lingard plays M. des Prunelles with his well-known ability, and Cyprienne is in the capable hands of Miss Beatrice Moreau; Mr. Rayson-Cousens as Adheimar and Mr. Wilfred Compton as M. Clavignac also give a good account of themselves. The performance commences with *A Nautical Breeze*.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Little Tich is once again carrying all before him here this week; Leipzic, the juggler, is also a great favourite; Howard and Harris go well in a sketch; Walter Munroe is always popular in his Irish songs; Maude Vera is a very dainty comedienne; Harry Grey is a funny man from Australia; Victor Bros. are clever equilibrists; Charles Penrose is a comical comedian; and Ernesto excels as a musical juggler.

TOWER CIRCUS.—The season here opened on Monday with an excellent company, in which a very artistic and entertaining turn is provided by the Brothers Webb, clowns, whose musical novelties are very successful, their handbell and concertina performances being capital, and their clog-dance decidedly spirited.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Crowded houses welcomed Miss Stella Gastelle, who is making her first appearance at this hall, as Alesia in a scena from *La Poupée*, assisted by Mr. Leva Simkin as Hilarius. The programme also comprises the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of Australian trick cyclists; Miss Bessie Slaughter, contralto vocalist; Smith and Gibbs, quaint equilibrists; Fred S. Howard, artistic entertainer; Diana Hope and Monte Bayly, in *The Altar of Duty;* Rose Gower, chorus singer; Cling and Clancy, comedians and dancers; Madison and Webb, in *My Husband;* the Tennessee Coloured Guards, in a refined military skit of camp life; and the Premier Imperial Bioscope pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—During the Centenary fêtes here "The Wrotters" entertainment party hold the boards all this and next week, giving two performances nightly. The company includes Mr. Arthur Whitby, with excellent recitations; Mr. Harry Caine, an admirable comedian; Miss Cissie Saumarez, a talented vocalist; and Miss Nellie Moore, Miss Peggie Ross, Mr. Edmund Rignes, and Mr. Geo. Buchanan. The first part of the programme is concluded with a play, entitled *Afterthoughts*, in which Mr. Arthur Whitby is conspicuous by his clever impersonation of the Burglar.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Messrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company occupy the boards with *The Nihilist*. Miss Edna Clare as the persecuted Alexina Orloff and Mr. G. Mitchell as the abused and suffering Ivan Nowasky win sympathy; Miss Florry Kelsey acts with power as the betrayed Princess Olga; and vigour marks the Prince Alexander of Mr. Silverstone and the Karl Orloff of Mr. Cowell Clark. Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart and Mrs. Silverstone as Katrina Zindoff are responsible for much humour; and the stage effects are effectively managed.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Remarkable daring and wonderful skill and agility are features of the acrobatic performance given here by the Twelve Fezzans, "natives of the Sahara"; Syd May's clever imitations of popular comedians and his burlesque wrestling win laughter and applause; a performance particularly clever and unique is given by Lux and his dogs; Phil Parsons, light comedian, finds favour; May B. Brilliant is a very charming comedienne; with her customary skill and charm Ella Retford, comedienne, quite wins her audience; the King's College Boys, in their students' scena, submit good vocalism; Fred Earle is a very diverting comedian; Frank and Free present a smart and amusing comedy turn; and there are some entertaining Bioscope pictures.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. B. Harrison.—Valenche's Canine Football Team, introducing cleverly-trained dogs and a performing fox, forms a feature of the good bill here; Sissie Brand is a charming comedienne; Sydney Brandon presents some excellent character studies; Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks are very good in a dramatic sketch, *Her Return; Life in the Slums* is a bustling sketch with comedy and pathos blended, successfully presented by Vay's Juveniles; Tom Gott is a most diverting comedian; the Four Rosebuds are charming and graceful dancers; an exceedingly clever wire performance by Les Arabellas wins unstinted applause; and the Palace Perfection Pictures are a well-appreciated item of the entertainment.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Norfolk Megone's fine municipal orchestra has been raised to its full high-season strength, and is this week giving some brilliant programmes in the Floral Pavilion before crowded audiences. Mr. Cynlais Gibbs, the talented Welsh tenor, is succeeded by Miss Ida Bloor, whose clear soprano voice is a great treat to listen to. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Walter George and his Smart Set entertainers opened for the season on Monday.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Mme. Angless and her talented orchestra are giving promenade concerts three times daily under the glass dome to capital audiences, who fully appreciate the excellent performances of this clever band of young ladies. The Stingarees concert party excel in their pleasing and amusing entertainment.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The stock company here is performing the drama *In the Midst of Life*. Mr. Frank E. Petley submits a sterling impersonation of David Armstrong; Mr. Austen Milroy gives an admirable enactment of Henry Germiston; Miss Maisie Hanbury merits high praise for her representation of Margaret Gray; Miss Nellie Lauraine is well placed as Lady Helen Rosmead; Mr. Fred Acton's Captain Bargery and Mr. Jack G. Maine's Richard Dixon are able portrayals; while Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Joe Drummond and Miss Lucy Murray as Molly Bargery are distinctly effective.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls give a charming display of vocalisation and dancing; the Four Kasracs are capital trick comedy acrobatic artists; Martin Moore's company is highly successful in *Lydia and the Parson;* Harry Blake is a favourite comedian; Madge O'Neill is a pleasing vocalist; the Woolhafs appear with success in a comedy acrobatic musical absurdity; Paul Jones is an eccentric comedian; Harry Maynard is a good chorus vocalist; Gertie Grace is a capital comedienne and dancer; and Arthur Kenny, comedian, gives an appreciated turn.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Servias Le Roy, Mlle. Taima, and Leon Bosco are clever illusionists; the Three Prestons are diverting in the novel act *The Village of Shift-em;* Frank Hartley is a skilful young juggler; King and Benson appear with success in the musical burlesque *Around the Town;* the Two McKays are juvenile duettists and dancers; Kitty Colyer is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Nipper Lupino Lane is a popular comedian and eccentric dancer; Clark and Hayden, musical comedy artists, are well received; Fred Land is an eccentric comedian; and J. W. Gallagher, comedian, is highly entertaining.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Good houses here are the invariable rule, and the series of animated pictures is warmly appreciated. The Motor Gymkhana at Hove is especially interesting from its local associations; The Pluvoise Disaster, illustrating the funeral of the victims, is an excellent film; Two Brothers, Message of the Arrow, Saved by Her Dog, and A Ranchman's Wooing convey stirring stories; and the comic pictures include Mr. Tubby's Triumph, The End of the World, and Her Golden Locks.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—Linda of Chamony is a splendid drama replete with stirring incidents; A Hindoo's Treachery is also of a dramatic character; and plenty of fun is afforded by A Knight in Armour, The Rubber Boom, The Persuasive Powers of a Revolver, and Smuggling Up-to-Date, while Making Matches is interesting and instructive. Mr. Osland Denner's baritone songs are warmly appreciated; and great praise is due to Mr. Arthur Briggs for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—This popular place of entertainment is well patronised. The animated pictures this week are of a varied and enjoyable character. The films of a dramatic nature include Little Mother, Generosity of a Great Indian Chief, The Two Fathers; Sensational Logging is instructive; and much amusement is furnished by Good Doggies, Moonlight Flitting, Persuasive Powers of a Revolver, and Black and White.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Her Secret Lover* is the attraction here, the drama being well played by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Mr. Arthur St. John and Miss Laura Walker both act excellently their respective parts of Gilbert Seymour and Ivy Seymour; Miss Flora Leslie and Mr. Alfred Stretton are consistent and effective as Alicia Royale and John Strange; Mr. Walter H. Wilson is pleasing as Captain Darrell Rose; and Miss Lynn Darlington is capital in the comic part of Jane Maria Wilkes. The remaining parts are carefully taken, and the play is staged well.

PALACE.—Local Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The well-known sketch *The Little Stowaway* is being well played here to appreciative audiences, and the staging is very complete and effective; Van Bern is successful with his speciality, the turn including impersonations, banjo-playing, sleight-of-hand, amusing patter, &c.; the Greys are excellent dancers; Halma does some smart juggling, &c.; Jack Sheridan amuses with song and patter; Charlie Gardiner, comedian, is successful; Allis and Casati, comedians and dancers, do well; and Lily Hayes is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—The popular comedienne Marie Kendal is here this week, and scores heavily; Charles Whittle, always a favourite, has some new and amusing songs; Bert Errol, female impersonator, makes up well, and sings pleasingly in falsetto; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer, is successful; the Hyde-Cody Trio of eccentric acrobats do a smart turn; and Harry Emeric, comedian, is appreciated. A sensational Cornish sketch, entitled *The Candle*, is very well staged, and excellently played by Tom Stanley and company; Miss Barbara Gott displays much power in her fine impersonation of the female rôle. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The educational value of cinematography is emphasised here by the picture The Ostrich and the Lady; and the list submitted also contains many delightful dramatic and comic subjects, which are greatly appreciated.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The outstanding feature of the programme is Tom Clare, who gives a thoroughly artistic entertainment at the piano; the Warsaw Brothers are musically clever and highly funny; and Lilybelle is a pretty bare-foot dancer. Dan Fraser, in Highland costume, pleases with "Flora"; and Vesta Nixon is a chic comedienne. Clara Reid and John Power appear in a funny sketch, *The Chambermaid;* and Sydney Russell's Eight Empire Girls are very nice dancers. Johnny Cecil, light comedian, and A Spanish Bull-fight by the Palace Pictures complete the programme.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ede Hague Body.—Joe Almasio and company, including Yamina, a charming and clever lady tumbler, top the bill here; the Bros. O'Brien, in their horizontal bar act, meet with unstinted applause, and a good reception is accorded to the

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

CLEAN UP FOR YOUR

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"27, Moore Street, Lennox Gardens, S.W., May 22nd, 1910.

Mr. HARRIS,—I am very much obliged to you for the prompt way in which you attended to my request, and also for the very satisfactory way in which the things were dyed.—Yours faithfully (Signed) ENID SPENCER-BRUNTON."

"45, Green Road, Southsea, Hants, May 18th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Thanks so much for taking the trouble to do a little order like this so quickly for me.—Faithfully yours, STUART ALEXANDER."

"Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, May 26th, 1910.

Dear Mr. HARRIS,—Goods just received; am delighted with them. Very many thanks. Kind regards.—Yours faithfully, J. W. CORDINER."

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Denaro Brothers, in their special line of acrobatics; the Robin and Kruso Trio, in their musical comedy scena *Pastimes on the Island*, show ability; a good comedy dancing act by Dower and Denville is likewise in favour, and other turns are given by Dolly De Mayo and Nellie Denver, a finished singer and dancer.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and his powerful company are presenting twice nightly the sensational drama *Her Marriage Vow*. The villainous Gilbert Carlton is admirably played by Mr. W. Burgess and Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gives a finished performance as Ned Benton. A clever character-study is presented by Mr. Harry C. Momber as Daffy Dan; Miss N. Shirley acts well as Hestor Horton; and Miss V. Winifred is happily placed as Kate Walters. Others in the cast who do good work are Richard Nugent as Larry Leary, Mr. William Blythorne as Eben Chobb, Mr. Joe Rockley as William Walters, and Miss Nellie Waddington and Miss Nancy Lawrence as Almira and Maggie Clare respectively.

Circus of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures again prove very popular, and Lottie Holland, vocalist, and Dan Daly, a comedian with clever parodies, are also in the bill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—A capital bill is headed by Jake Friedman and company in *Happy Holland;* another effective turn is that of Lavall and Bodine in an aerial gymnastic act; the Bros. Curran are well received in their novel boxing act; the Three Aza Boys are a smart trio of simultaneous dancers; Bob Lloyde, comedian; Bert Danson, comedian; and Little Vestas, juvenile vocalists and dancers, also achieve success.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—The first half of the week Mr. Charles Graham's company entertained interested audiences with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Mr. Graham Phillips was a satisfactory Major John Colden; and Mr. Fred Penley gave a clever sketch of the amorous old gentleman Mr. Valentine. Mr. Richard Welsh invested Edwards with the necessary importance; and Mr. Frank Woodville made an excellent Black Sam. Mr. Alex Wiseley was amusing as the black boy Cuff; Mr. Charles Graham was in every way excellent as the hero, Captain Harry Peyton; and a most artistic and womanly reading of the title-part was given by Miss Winifred Scott. Miss Leonora Braham played Mistress Sarah Williams with much judgment; and the small part of Molly was nicely acted by Miss Norah McDonnell. The play was well staged.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—Miss Dinah Morris is here, giving imitations of several well-known music-hall stars, and is deservedly applauded; Miss Nellie Moore gives clever character impersonations; Les Belle Rays are capital comediennes and dancers; and the Brothers Morris cause endless amusement in a quaint comedy and dancing act. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, very good.

CARDIFF.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Miss Adrenne Augarde makes an appearance in a delightful sketch, entitled *Dick's Sister*, in which she is capably assisted by Mr. Victor Huntley. Oswald Williams, the illusionist, presents a mystifying performance which thoroughly deserves the hearty applause accorded it; the Jackson Family achieve a distinct success with their sensational and daring cycling act; and the Two Anartos have a diverting musical item; the McConnell Trio display vocal ability in a breezy comedietta entitled *The Invalid;* Hilda Jacobsen and Ely Adair, in an Irish number, find favour, and Fred Poplar and Kitty Wager are also in the bill, which the Bioscope completes.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Good business has been done here. Carlotta de Yonson and her gifted company of players take up a large portion of the programme with an entertaining sketch entitled *Sexton Blake in America*, which proves a truly dramatic act. The Merrions gain hearty applause in their amusing and refined turn; Chas. Baron's burlesque menagerie supplies a novelty; Flo Burnett proves a favourite chorus vocalist; and Leolin, in a club juggling scena, and Bert Crosbie, in popular songs, also appear. The Palace Perfection Pictures are to the fore.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The performance by Mr. and Mrs. Stuart's company of the musical comedy, *My Irish Molly*, attracted a capital audience, and quite enthusiastic applause greeted the efforts of the principal performers. In the title rôle Miss Winifred Stuart looked charming, and soon became a favourite; the Dennis of Mr. St. John Medley was a fine impersonation; and a capital character sketch by Mr. Edwin Firth met with well deserved approval. The comedy scenes were chiefly in the hands of Mr. Karl Edwards, who as the cockney showman sang several songs in amusing style. The heavy parts were ably filled by Mr. Gordon Robey and Miss Elma C. Turner.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Sears, the American illusionist, heads the bill, and his clever performance admirably aided by good scenery and electrical effects proved mysterious and attractive; Sandy McNab is again here, and is funnier than ever, laughter loud and long greeting his every effort; Thiessen's Dogs, in their smart acrobatic and balancing act must be seen to be believed; the Sages give a burlesque entertainment full of merit; and Mamie Morris pleases with dance and song. Shiela McNeil, in a bright Scottish comedy act, and Reg Beauchamp, a brisk and amusing comedian, are favourites.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—The Loyal Dominion Co.'s animated pictures, which occupy the premier position on the bill, are received with great enthusiasm by crowds who assemble nightly. Miss Ethel Bourne's refined style and pleasing voice captivate the house; Miss Saxon-Devon, soprano vocalist, sings illustrated songs in pleasing style; King and Rene, in a vocal scena, "A Loyal Old Soldier," are thoroughly appreciated.

CHATHAM.—Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Starr and Leslie make a hit with their comedy business and smart display with Indian clubs; the Brothers Ford dance themselves into favour; Billy Farrell proves very entertaining; the Menzies score with a suffragette skit; Mlle. Adelaide Waldorf's ballads are greatly appreciated; and Edwardes and Edwardes, with musical selections, and Andie Burns, dancing comedian, also appear.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—A most attractive item in the programme here is *Rough Justice*, produced by Miss Lily Hammersley and company. Miss Hammersley is very successful as Madge Goodwin, and receives admirable support from a well-chosen company, including Mr. Norman Partriege (an excellent Pete Karney) and Mr. H. Fairfax (a popular and powerful Jack Halsey). Alice Golding's chorus song, "I'll be waiting for you," is a great favourite; Zellini scores strongly in burlesque and genuine juggling feats; J. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, meets with a hearty reception; and others appearing are Les Wambas, with musical selections and a smart trapeze act; Snowdon and Alexander, in comedy skit; and Doreen May, comedienne. Lacey's Erascope continues to find new films.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully cooling and refreshing during the summer after motoring, golfing, cycling, tennis, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Heat, and Irritation, and gives a resisting power to the skin surface in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores.—M. Bertham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

COLCHESTER.—Hippodrome.—Joint Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The top line is the dramatic episode *The Face at the Window*, by Fred Wynn and company. Lennie and Hast, in the musical idyll *The Maid of Polaria*, provide an entertaining item; Phil Bransby, with two favourite numbers, gains unstinted applause; Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers, are much appreciated; and Don and Dixie, in a musical and art-work entertainment, Maud Cranley, comedienne and dancer, Sadie Bizet, comedienne, and films by the American Biograph Co. complete an interesting and varied programme.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsone; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Sam Mayo, the quaint comedian, heads the bill. A series of living statues, arranged and designed by Albert Toft, and entitled "Makers of History," portrays many notabilities; a comedy sketch entitled *The Sleepwalker* is given by Walter Ellis and Co.; the Claymore Trio contribute skilful club juggling and dancing; Mr. Charles Norton, in his monologue, *Pros at the Racecourse*, and Calile and Walker, comedy entertainers, are successful; and Guila Denza is an attractive comedienne and a dainty dancer.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Three Langfords cleverly dance themselves into favour; L. B. Athol is a character comedian of merit; Maud Wilton is a charming comedienne; Amelie de L'Enclos' fine voice is heard to advantage; George Benson is a praiseworthy comedian and mimic; Raie Walters, comedienne, creates quite a furore with her exhilarating songs; Pete and Juno are commendable dancers; Wish Wynne is an enchanting comedienne, whose ditties show careful study; Bert Woodward's humorous cycling act is exceptionally smart; Mason and Moore's company are well received in sketch, *The Usurer;* and pictures on the Bioscope complete the programme.

Queen's Hall.—The animated pictures here are quite up to high-water mark, and visitors are crowding the hall. The singing pictures are an attractive feature.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A capital bill is headed by Reano and his band, whose performances enlivened two packed houses on Monday; La Troupe Ringaldo give an exceedingly clever show on bicycles; an amusing turn is supplied by Mike Grey and his dog "Dooley"; the Saletis are up-to-date equilibrists; Mayfield Grove, comedian, is funny; Mlle. Du Roche has a fine soprano voice; Renie, Ernie, and Allie, a juvenile trio, dance well; Frank Weaver is in the front rank as a dancer; and some fine pictures are shown on the Darliscope.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; General-Manager, Mr. D. P. Cooper; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—Captain Devereux's dogs provide a capital turn, showing very careful training; and W. Kay, negro comedian, is well received. Among the films shown are From Gipsy Hands, The Toreador, and The Picture Thieves.

Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—Sadie and Vone, American comedy artists, are deservedly applauded, as also is Little Francis, child vocalist and dancer. Excellent films include The Stricken Home, A Crowded Hotel, and The Champion Bowl Player.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—A powerful star attraction is Raymond, a weird illusionist, whose entertainment consists of the more advanced forms of mystic art. On Monday evening he had a hearty reception. Second place is deservedly occupied by Les Grossi, terpsichorean experts, who submit a finished representation of *Les Danse des Apache*. Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, are as clever as they are amusing; Moore and Morris, as dancers, are thoroughly appreciated; Luella Cross is a charming comedienne with a répertoire of pretty songs; Will Owen, comedian, keeps the house in roars of laughter; and Little Sunbeam, a promising youngster, sings and dances in a pleasing manner. The Bioscope supplies amusing pictures.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Mr. P. J. Selbit, presenting Dr. Wilmar's spirit-paintings, succeed in completely mystifying the audience, and many and varied are the conjectures as to "how it's done"; Miss Beatrice Webb and Mr. Joseph Bruce are responsible for an attractive little sketch, entitled *Uncle's Courtship;* Roglus succeeds with an amusing juggling turn; Nora Dene is the possessor of a choice and well-cultured voice, doing full justice to some well-known numbers; the Delvaines furnish a first-rate marionette exhibition; Harry Merrylees is a Scotch comedian far above the average; and Cora Corina is a popular character vocalist.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The capable stock company does full justice to a drama dealing with the interesting problem of capital and labour, entitled *Toilers of the Town*. As Simon Scrope, the evil genius of the play, Mr. Chas. Vivian is responsible for some excellent work; whilst it would be difficult to better the hero's part of Charles Scrope as played by Mr. John Sargent. Mr. Leonard Aardale is well suited to the part of Michael Savage; Mr. Chas. Lincoln is popular as Jack Dale; and Mr. Conrad Stratford is well suited to the rôle of Alf Derrick.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hubert Asquith.—Mr. Ernest Dottridge's variety company is here, the leading item being Dottridge and Harwood's new musical scena *When the Cat's Away*, which is well received; Teddy Mills is a funny comedian, and successfully enacts the Page. The scena is excellently staged. Les Rallis have a very good reception for their absurdity *The Artist and the Monkey*, James Rallis giving a realistic impersonation of the ape, and performing some really wonderful acrobatic feats. Marlo is responsible for clever juggling, for which he has a great ovation; Zelda submits a unique musical turn, and much amusement is caused by Wal Owen in his comedy act. The Sisters Delany are a couple of good singers and dancers, and are greatly appreciated; Ward and Davis, in a comedy act, *Leaving Home*, and Jimmy Hoffman, comedian, are included in the programme.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—The principal attraction here is J. G. Grahame and Zerlenda Harrington, in a very racy sketch, *A Daughter of Pleasure*, which is well received; the Sisters Gerretti give a clever display on the double trapeze, which is undoubtedly successful; Cole and Rags contribute a fine comedy juggling performance, which evokes laughter; Florence Esdaile has a good voice, and sings selections from grand opera to everyone's satisfaction; Regan and Ryan vocalise and dance well, and cause considerable amusement. A very pleasing turn is done by the Three Royal Temples, whose singing is appreciated; Patty Yole wins applause for her singing and dancing; and Dulcie King-Lloyd, comedienne, and some excellent films on the Palascope complete the entertainment.

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—A bright and entertaining programme of pictures, humorous and dramatic, is provided for the patrons of this place of amusement, the principal being The Indian's Bride, Frozen North, and Bradford's Claim.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The variety here includes the humorous and dramatic episode *Wrong 'Uns*, by Messrs. James Hare and company; Wal Langtry is diverting in his patter; the resourcefulness of the Rosses is conspicuous; Russell Brandow is a good dancer; the Corman Juveniles (twelve in number) are smart; Jack Holland, eccentric comedian, is particularly happy; Goodall and Knox, acrobatic and patter comedians, cause the audience to enthuse; and Miss Helen Charles, with pleasing personality, a sweet voice, and clever execution on the piano, is a most agreeable turn.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. E. Compton; Resident Manager, Mr. T. B. Wood.—Messrs. Williams and Dunn are presenting the success *Are You a Mason?* at the Grand Theatre this week. Miss Agnes Maud as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood imparted sincerity to a stereotyped rôle; Mr William Lockhart was amusing as the peccant husband; the Mrs. Perry of Miss Grace Denbigh Russell was quite charming; and the other daughters of the gay Lothario, Amos Bloodgood, were brightly played by Miss Rennie Lestrade and Miss Clare Townsend; Frank Perry, as played by Mr. Howard L. Tracey, was a piquant contrast to Mr. William Lockhart's elderly gay dog; Mr. Archie Selwyn was bright as George Fisher.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Business Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Lancashire audiences laugh at the antics of *The Little Stranger*—a baby in arms in the morning, and a walking, talking, cigarette-smoking, whisky-drinking "materialisation" in the afternoon. This difficult and abnormal rôle was artistically played by little Miss Hetty Hornsby, quite captivating in her precocious cleverness; Mr. Charles Gibbons presented a portrait of the arch humbug Paul Tronski, which bristled with artistic intelligence; Miss Nellie Cyde was an interesting Mrs. Dick Allenby; Miss Evelyn Robson as Mrs. Allenby, Miss Mabel Gwynne as Lady Peacock, and Miss Joan Harcourt as Effie Peacock aped the affectation of the soul hunter craze with remarkable skill; Mr. Edgar Jephson as the Hon. Alec Howard and Mr. Charles Fancourt as Captain Dick Allenby looked their parts. The farce was preceded by Mr. Barton White's comedietta *The Second Mrs. Grundy*, well played by Miss Joan Harcourt and Mr. Charles Fancourt.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The rink is open all day, and at 9 p.m. Professor W. Easton Lawson gives an exhibition of trick skating. Dancing obtains in the ballroom to swinging music of Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra. The ballroom is admirably conducted by Mr. Fell, the M.C., and there is a quarter of an hour interlude for animated pictures at ten o'clock. The entertainment in the Opera House is quite good. Jack Lorimer with his pawky humour is a success; Miss Veronica Brady, a delightful comedienne and singer, appears with her company in a tabloid musical comedy *Miss Gretchin*. The author (Mr. Hugh Nolan) has invented a sparkling trifle, and Miss Veronica Brady in it scores all along the line as an actress and vocalist. Other turns and popular ones are Colpert, club juggler; Miss Alice Edwardes, male impersonator; the Zella Vondi Trio, in a charming musical pot pourri; Miss Stella Stahl, a smart soubrette; and Pipifax and Panlo, the original Humpsti Bumpsti.

Empire Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—Animated pictures and two performances nightly are drawing large audiences here. The variety programme is also much appreciated. Mr. Ernest D'Almaine's song scenas have quite a vogue; they are artistically illustrated. Little Harry Tullett, a juvenile comedian with new songs, secures applause; and Borle, a juggler, who has humour, is quite a success.

Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels on Douglas Head attract large and well pleased concourses of spectators.

Buxton's Amusements.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Buxton.—There is no lack of amusement at this emporium of pleasure. Pierrot concerts three times a day, the Picturedrome every evening, and variety entertainers, including Mr. Fred Buxton, roller skating and billiards.

The Onchans.—The Onchan Head Pleasure Grounds and Winter Gardens.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Collier Cubbon.—Mr. Charles Harvey, the inimitable droll and his associates; Miss Elsie Steadman, Miss Iris Banfield, Mr. Alexander Webster, Mr. Alf. Maynall, Mr. J. H. Scotland, and Mr. C. J. Lowe draw crowded attendances to Onchan Head three times daily. Other special attractions engineered by Mr. Collier Cubbon are open-air dancing (the largest floor in the island) grand firework displays twice a week, confetti carnivals, and Bal Masques, with cash prizes.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The centre of attraction here is provided by O'Hana San and company in a charming scena, entitled *A Vision of Japan*. The clever violinist Herr Jan Zakovosky, meets with a cordial reception; and Miss Helen Trix, character comedienne at the piano, is well received. Conn and Conrad, the aviators, have some very amusing business; and the Schmettans present a smart equilibristic act. Miss Arabella Allen in her clever character sketches makes a decided hit; John Humphries and company in their farcette *Ancient Britons*, keep the audience in good humour; and Mlle. Marguerite is popular in all parts of the house. G. H. Charlton, the phenomenal conjurer, scores a success; and Salge's animated sculpture completes a strong programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*Monte Cristo* is being produced by Mr. Junius Booth and company with success. Mr. Booth gives a capital rendition of Edmond Dantes, and Miss Lilian Deane as Mercedes contributes a careful study; Mr. Millar Anderson gives an effective impersonation of M. Nortier, and Miss Alice West act well as La Caronte. Mr. Harry Bannister portrays Fernand Mondago with credit; Miss Neta Sunnby and Miss Jessie Blake are equally good as Sophie Danglars and Marie. Others deserving of mention are Mr. J. Hawden as M. Vilifort, Mr. Frank E. Lester as Lieutenant de Morcef, Mr. Fred Martin as Abbé Faria, and Mr. Charles Baker as Carderousse.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George H. Marsh.—An excellent variety programme is headed by that clever versatile artist, Charles T. Aldrich, who meets with a flattering reception; in an amusing comedy cycle act, Maxey and Pete are recalled again and again; in a diverting sketch, entitled *Barney the Baron*, the Falconers create roars of laughter; and Fred Arthur, comedian, is as popular as ever. The old Dublin favourite, J. H. Milburn, is warmly welcomed; and Miss Jennie Hartley is an attractive comedienne and dancer. Billie Burford's chorus songs have caught on, and Lily Esplin, character comedienne, has a host of admirers; the vocalism of Fred Bronte is greatly appreciated, and the Empire pictures conclude.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Joe O'Gorman repeats his former success; an amusing speciality act is presented by the Le Crean Trio, and the Sylvester Trio's vocalism and dancing merits applause. Other successful turns include Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist; Mlle. Ottino, lady conjurer; Emmie Ames, comedienne; Barrie and Wood, comedy duo; Harry Waldon, comedian; Ireland's Own Band, and the Bioscope.

Palace Pleasure Gardens, Rathmines.—The promenade concerts are drawing large audiences daily, and the orchestral band of the Misses Mathers is greatly appreciated.

Arcadia Bar.—Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The following artists are successfully appearing here:—Frank Dunlop, comedian; Miss Lilvan Wesson, vocalist; Archie Watts, humorist; Mr. Francis Royne, tenor; Mr. Alfred Leslie, comedian; and Miss Irene Vere, soubrette and dancer.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James; Manager, Mr. Robert W. Sprengel.—The artists appearing here include:—Pat Keen, comedian; Dora Kearney, Irish comedienne; Dubb and Lin, the Dublin Daisies; Witty Will Pearce, comedian; and Billy Fox, comedian and dancer.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—The programme this week is an admirable one. At the head of affairs is the popular Scotch comedian, Harry Lauder; the Great Torontos win hearty approval with their athletic act; a most enjoyable song and dance turn is furnished by the Garricks; and Ross and Lewis, a versatile Yankee duo, score an instantaneous success. Little Pam is a clever young humorist; Bolano shows some novel juggling tricks; and Harry Moore's exhibition of paper-tearing is much admired. Some fine films are shown on the Kingscope.

Gaiety Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—The third week of Miss Dora Hammersley's stock season, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, opened auspiciously on Monday with Lewis Gilbert's *A Daughter of the Sea*. Miss Dora Hammersley took the house by storm as Sunshine; Mr. Charles Kean exhibited considerable skill as Kenneth Morland; a notable exposition of blackguardism came from Mr. Leslie Vyner as Mark Glensdale; Dan Glensdale was enacted with ability by Mr. Edwin Morton; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards sustained the part of Captain Ben Morrison with success; and Mr. James Sommerville contributed a good delineation of the profligate, Sir Maxwell Brentwood. Mr. Finn Doyle played Billy with a nice sense of humour; Mr. Tom Mortimer supplied a spirited study of Jack Strong; Miss Clarise Jenner as Mollie fitted her rôle admirably; and Miss Bell as Power appeared to advantage as the housekeeper.

DUNNINGTON (Yorks.).—Lyric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—*Lucky 'Liza* made a complete conquest of a large audience on Monday evening, Mr. Dickie Clare's company being responsible for the production. In the title-rôle Miss Vesta Brownie is the life and soul of the piece, and received well-deserved applause for her clever mimicry, catchy songs, and lightning step dances; Mr. Dickie Clare, in the triple character of Silas Slim from New York, U.S.A., the Judge, and the French waiter, sang several catchy songs. The parts of Peter Pettitoe and Paul Pettitoe were well represented by Messrs. F. W. Benson and Leonard Maitland respectively; Miss Evelyn Wood as Sadie Potts was applauded in some tuneful numbers; Miss Helen Douglas in the character of Maisie Pettitoe was accorded encores for her dainty dances and exquisite singing. The Jesmond Trio (Miss Maudie Clarke, Miss Kitty Daly, and Miss Cissy Bates) gave several excellent turns; whilst Mr. F. W. Forrest and Mr. Will Merry did excellent work. The piece is well staged, and the dresses very chic. The improved orchestra, under Mr. Leslie Lewis, were responsible for some excellent music.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Harry W. Lumley's company is appearing here in *The Cruise of the Constance*. Mr. Charles McNaughton is conspicuously successful in raising laughs as Potts; Mr. Albert Kavanagh sings capitally and is a gay and breezy Captain Jackson; Mr. Fred Hobbs is excellently suited in the part of Lieut. Wensleydale; Mr. William Collard works hard and well as Admiral Weber; Mr. Claude Casey is the stage-manager and a funny Mike, and other parts are in good hands. Miss Carlotto Sylvano is a charmingly attractive Isobel Higgins, who sings delightfully; Miss Irene Verona, full of vivacity and life, is a great success as Mrs. Hope; Miss Trissie March, Miss P. Dickenson, and Miss M. Shine are expert and graceful dancers, while other ladies help effectively. Mr. C. W. Nightingale directs a tuneful chorus, and the scenery is pretty.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company is appearing here in a number of grand operas. On Tuesday evening *Rigoletto* was staged. Signorina Bianchi is possessed of a fresh flexible voice and sang very delightfully as Gilda; Signora Rocco did well as Magdalen, and Signora Surdiosca was a capital Countess Ceprano. Signor Siroll used his fine tenor voice artistically, and acted well as the Duke of Mantova; Signor Vail deserved very high praise for his fine rendering of the part of Rigoletto; and Signor Vittori, of full rich bass voice, did excellently well as Sparafucile. *Traviata, Lucia di Lammermoor*, and *Faust* find a place in the bill for the week.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—The Four Kahns completely mystify the audience with their black magic; Miss Rose Atherton's sketch, *Murphy's Affinity* is well staged and played; Selbo is one of the cleverest and smartest jugglers seen here for a long time; Miss Belle Belmont sings her songs in good style; the Five Bombays sing, dance, and please the audience; Mr. Sam Bean is an amusing comedian with up-to-date songs; Miss Sadie Stuart is a pleasing comedienne; and Mr. R. Dunning is a clever ventriloquist.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and company are presenting Shakespeare twice nightly and also the well-known romantic play *Leah, the Forsaken*. In the latter piece Mr. Marsh makes a capital Rudoff, and is ably seconded by Mr. Wilson Gunning, who makes the most of his opportunities as Nathan; as Lorenz Mr. A. E. Walker acts with distinction; Miss Carrie Baillie's impersonation of Leah is a powerful one. Alternate representations of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *Taming of the Shrew* are also announced.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The Scottish Repertory Theatre Company, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Waveing, began a three weeks' engagement here on Monday with the comedy *Oh, Christina!* The play makes no claim to qualities of a high dramatic order, but it has wit and moments of homely pathos, and contains several clever sketches of character which are invariably interesting. The title-part is acted by Miss Margaret Nybloe with a great deal of spirit, and the young actress shows a genuine gift of eccentric comedy in her admirable reproduction of the saucy manner and appearance of the character; Miss Purvis, the lovable, timid, elderly spinster, upon which the author has bestowed some of his best work, was wholly delightful in the hands of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, an actress of power and much versatility; Miss Lola Duncan as Miss McIndoe and Miss Agnes Bartholomew as Mrs. Leerie display distinct talent; Mr. Campbell Gullan's performance of James Baldwin, the commercial traveller, is a fine thing of its kind; and Mr. George Tawdle is droll as Jimsie McPhee. Other parts are excellently done by Mr. Walter Roy and Mr. Norman McKeown. The comedy is preceded by a strong little play, *Jean*, by Mr. Donald Colquhoun, in which Mr. Campbell Gullan and Mr. Walter Roy give vivid impersonations of two Scottish peasants, a father and son. Mr. Albert Cazabon, violinist, exhibits to advantage his full tone and faultless execution in his rendering of several solos between the acts.

King's Theatre.—Closed for short summer vacation; will reopen on Monday, July 18.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. George Roby filled the first place on a programme which has drawn crowded houses; Mr. Frank Lynne provided a great deal of fun in very acceptable fashion; Lena Verdi's imitations of well-known vaudeville performers were favourably received; and the Miller Brothers furnished amusement as comedians of the gymnastic persuasion. The bill was further strengthened by the smart juggling sketch of M. and Mme. Alf Agoust, which these dexterous performers carried through with much smartness. The most attractive item dramatically was contributed by Mr. Fred Storey and a clever company, who presented, in six scenes, a most enjoyable condensed version of *Rip Van Winkle*. Meritorious variety turns were supplied by the Kirbys, Amy Marsden, and the Three Sisters Kilner; and up-to-date pictures were shown on the American Bioscope.

Operetta House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Love of Lady Irma, The Indian Raid, and films showing the Johnson and Ketchell fight are the features of a programme which includes an excellent variety of humorous subjects, one of the most amusing being Poolshead as a Porter. The audiences are large and appreciative.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—Powerful pictures are displayed here, under the titles of Capital *v.* Labour and The Indian Raid, and the humorous series is both fresh and entertaining. St. Malo and Coombs contribute capital turns to the programme.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The Band Court is occupied by the band of the 2nd Batt. Northumberland (the 5th) Fusiliers, whose performances, under the direction of Mr. W. F. Cooper, are fully appreciated. Balloon and parachute manœuvres and the motor-car somersaults gather crowds of interested spectators; and all the other outdoor sports are in full swing. In the concert-hall Mr. Stuart Alexander's So-and-So's provide a capital entertainment, the company including Miss Alma, at the piano; Miss M. White, an accomplished dancer; the Misses Davis and Biddulph, both good singers; and Messrs. Alexander, Quininborough, and Leslie, all of whom are excellent in their several ways.

ELLESMERE PORT.—Hippodrome and Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The chief attraction at this place of amusement this week is the appearance of Mr. Courtney Robinson and company, who during the first portion of the week presented *A Broken Heart*. The leading parts were ably undertaken by Mr. Robinson, and the minor rôles were in capable hands. Judging by the applause nightly, the musical entertainment of the Bohemians is very much appreciated. The animated pictures thrown upon the screen continue to be enjoyed. *A Woman's Hate* was played during the latter part of the week.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Genuine pleasure is derived from the appearance of Mr. Hamilton Stewart and his capable company in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. Hamilton Stewart gains general approval for his excellent interpretation of the Mummy, Lord Lumley; Miss A. Bruce-Joy portrays Lady Lumley in a charming and effective manner; the rôle of the Humming Bird, Signor d'Orelli, is entrusted to the safe hands of Mr. Lewin Mannering, who does full justice to the part; Mr. Charles Groves, jun., earns distinction as Giuseppe, and plays with real feeling; Miss Constance Barton enacts Ruth Thornton with great ability; and Mr. Percy Marmont is responsible for some good acting as Lord Rowland. The scenery and effects are excellent.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre, Ltd.—Chairman, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Sturger.—John Clempert, with his numerous escapes from handcuffs, chains, and locked water tanks, has created no small amount of enthusiasm; Bromley and Fontein are an entertaining pair of speciality artists; V. Wakeman is a mimic of more than average merit; Ridiculous Rocco is surely the quaintest of burlesque acrobats; the Three Comedy Chanters are heard to advantage in a singing act; Henry Hilton performs a series of deceptions with unusual dexterity; Annie Lang is a clever dancer; and the Kingscope also provide an enjoyable turn.

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—Mr. F. W. Bolam's stock company return to play drama twice nightly, *The Boom of Big Ben* being the play presented. Mr. John B. Shinton acts strongly as Tom Battleby; Mr. Stanley Bedwell makes an excellent Harry Sugenbach; the part of Tony Prebble affords Mr. Bert Atherton another good opportunity of showing his ability; Mr. Fred Elvin does well as Gilbert Galloway; Mr. Sidney Rennef ably depicts Capt. Galloway; Miss Ada M. Ryder, in the part of Marjorie Galloway, scores another success; Miss Lillian Earle is an effective Olive Lorrette; and Miss Annie Brunnette lends capital assistance as Judith Galloway.

GLASGOW.—Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The Irish Players, who have for a month past been delighting large audiences, entered on the last week of their engagement here on Monday. The drama presented was *The Famine*, by Hubert O'Grady. To Miss Annie Hylton was entrusted the rôle of Nellie O'Connor, to which she imparted much grace and feeling; Mr. Fred Lloyd was manly and telling as John O'Connor; Mr. Henry C. Ward cleverly depicted the nature of Lumley Sackville; Mr. Dane Clarke (under whose direction the play was produced) gave a fine performance of Father Barry; from Mr. Tyrone Power as Sadler came a clever and able sketch; Dr. Kilmore was effectively played by Mr. Morley Carroll; and Miss Annie Grahame submitted a careful portrayal of Lady Alice, Miss Jessie Glenn being excellent as the Matron. On Friday a special performance was given of *The Colleen Bawn*.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Quite a flattering reception has been accorded R. G. Knowles this week. The famous raconteur is at the top of his form. *Drummed Out* is successfully presented by A. C. Lilly and company; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finder are well received in an amusing sketch; quite a dainty and clever turn is presented by Keene and Adams; Harry May Hemsley's ability is undoubted; comical acrobatic work is got through by Ryan and Hall; Sybil St. Elmo

Mrs. CALEB PORTER
COSTUMIER.
Stage Costumes supplied on the Shortest Notice and at Lowest Prices.
SUMMER SALE
July 4th to 18th.
175, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.
Telephone 1266 Kensington.

well deserves the reception accorded her; Wyndham and Kitty are clever exponents of walking on the tight wire; and the Bioscope films conclude.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest B. Foster.—Arthur Roberts is here in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*, and this inveterate gagger does his utmost to keep the audience on the broad grin and to upset the other members of his own company as well. The Geni Family give a very clever Risley act, introducing three ponies; the Heriot Trio prove very entertaining in their farcical sketch *Father's Footsteps*; Stewart and Morgan once again take well in their Irish song-scena; the Four Amarantha are acrobatic dancers of very special ability; Zetta Russell is a dainty little comedienne and dancer; and another juvenile artist is Elise Malpass, who takes well in imitations of other performers and in songs and dances of her own. The Oakes Duo are responsible for several hearty laughs for their comedy turn, and Johnson and Bert complete a varied bill.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The Four Ascots occupy the leading position here, their amazing dexterity and precision as step-dancers proving a revelation. The chorus songs of Edna Latonne form another attractive feature in the programme; a very touching sketch, *Clancy's Mother*, is cleverly rendered by John G. Brandon and company; the Four Vagabonds' vocal comedy interlude is highly entertaining; and several harmonised songs are sung by the Three Welsh Girls with pleasing effect. *The Golfer and the Caddie*, a vocal comedy skit by Victor and Louis, goes remarkably well, other amusing items being the burlesque juggling of Carl Howard, the triple-bar act of Elton and Elma, and the eccentric singing and dancing of Ernest Clifford.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A powerful and dramatic little play, *The Touch of the Child*, heads the bill here, and in the hands of Mr. Wm. Mollison and his able company holds the audience enthralled. Mr. Henry Deas ably supports Mr. Mollison, and Miss Evelyn McNay and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald complete the cast. Miss Sable Fern makes a decided hit with her *Boy Scout* scena, and the songs and business introduced go extremely well. The Mezzettis contribute a smart and amusing bar performance; Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, once more demonstrates his sterling ability as an imitator of birds; the Marconis, in a wonderful electrical turn, introduce some marvellous and startling feats; Smite and Smote, comedy acrobats and wrestlers, keep the audience in roars of laughter all the time they are on; the Northcotes are a couple of dainty vocal duettists, and are well received; Edie King dances charmingly, and is a clever comedienne; Millie Payne's low comedy items are quaint; and the Bioscope shows some amusing films.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The outstanding subjects depicted included Fortune's Wheel, The Ranger's Bride, Baron Legrade, Aristocrat and Brigand, and The Unchanging Sea. The Auxeto-Gramophone selections are enjoyed.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Mr. H. Smart, comedian and dancer, provides capital amusement; the Glasgow Singing Newsboys are harmonious; Hay and Hunter are a clever pair; Belle Ray's illustrated chorus songs are a pleasing feature; and May Beaumont is a smart dancer. The Bio Pictures are appreciated.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The variety turns here are provided by Miss Molly Dean; Frisco in a clever and amusing juggling show; and Messrs. Clarke and Cambridge, local cross-talk comedians.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—At the top of the bill here is Massona, eccentric juggler; Louie and Wally, comedy duettists, cause much amusement; Little Eileen is a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer; Cissy Gordon, a charming chorus vocalist, and Walter Ford, comedian, is very entertaining. Pictures by the Monarch-scope complete.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Miss Cora Anson's well-selected company is appearing here in *Caste*. Mr. G. W. Anson gives a finished performance of Eccles, his acting being superb, and he is supported by a very able company.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Banzai Family of Japanese artists accomplish the most extraordinary balancing feats; La Belle Linder give a graceful trick cycle performance; Messrs. Seely, West, and Rhodesia score with their mirth and music turn; Fred Dunstone contributes excellent songs; Leicester Cooke gives a first-class display of horsemanship; Taylor's Four Mermaids give a graceful aquatic display; Mme. Holt's Juvenile Follies contribute an enjoyable scena; and Doodles and Pimple keep the audience in a merry mood.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Carter's Royal Pierrots opened their season at the Pier-head on Monday under most favourable conditions, and the reception they obtained augurs well for their future success.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—The season opened here on Monday with the appearance of a concert party styled The Georgians, who presented a very entertaining programme. Mr. Banks is an artist of marked ability, his animal mimicry being exceptionally clever; Mr. Robert Carr sings some excellent songs in clever style; Miss Ida Freeman and Miss Roma Costelle each contribute well-rendered songs; Mr. John Doran sings well, and Mr. Sidney Locklyne is a first-class artist.

THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. V. Barr.—A fine series of pictures are being presented, and, in addition, Miss Rosa Loader scores with her songs at the piano, and Mr. Leslie Selbit is a first-rate entertainer.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The current programme includes some excellent films. "There are nice girls everywhere" is given on the Cinephone.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*Dolly Reforming Herself* is being presented here by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company. Miss Dorothy Giles plays Dolly Telfer with pleasing lightness and daintiness; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards is effective as Harry Telfer; Mr. Cecil Brooking displays appropriate whimsicality as Matthew Barron; Mr. Hanworth Browning acts with distinction as Captain Wentworth; Miss Florence Steventon is excellent as Mrs. Sturgess; and Mr. Russell Barry as Professor Sturgess, and Mr. Arthur Arthur Vezin as the Rev. James Pilcher, represent prominent parts capitally.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—An amusing combination of burlesque and music is *Sergeant Longfellow*, and Mr. Will Lytton, in the principal part, is responsible for the creation of unlimited laughter here; Pat Rafferty's Irish comedy is appreciated, he has good songs, can sing them well, and tells good stories; George Goodfellow and Jennie Gregson are an entertaining couple, and have an abundance of smart humour; Austen Temple is a conjurer with new business; Tom Franks is a ventriloquist with good ideas; Charley and Connor have a smart Scottish comedy act; and the Sisters Bronton are clever comediennes and skipping-rope dancers.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and varieties continue to attract good audiences. A capital turn is provided by Frankford and Maine, comedy couple; and Miss Cissie Loveday.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—F. S. Kimberley's company is here with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. E. Birker is effective as General Kingsley; Mr. J. L. Leigh takes the part of Captain Carsdale very well; Mr. P. Turner's Captain Darrell is a good portrayal; Miss M. English and Miss M. B. Douglas are good as the two Drummer Boys; Miss V. Langley's Alma Kingsley is excellent; and Miss Ada Champion's Margaret Rivers a praiseworthy effort.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Pictures are still the attraction, relieved by two good turns—Miss Sarah Berry, ballad vocalist, and Charles Bernhardt, comedian.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Vonetta is a smart quick-change artist, a clever illusionist, and accomplished conjurer. Fred Maitland and Pauline Walker appear to advantage in a humorous playlet, *Roots, Rash Chemist*; Fred Ward, comedian, gets an excellent reception; Alfred Guest and Dorothy Newlyn, the Hebrew and the soubrette, are a clever pair, and have some smart patter; Jessie Wilton, comedienne, gives entire satisfaction; and Oliver Martyn, patter comedian, and the Pictures complete.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Mr. James Willard and his talented company are here in *The Devil's Box of Bricks*, which is creating a sensation; Roma and Romani introduce a fine musical act; the Kremka Brothers are very successful in an acrobatic act; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist, is again well received; Abel and Welsh, eccentric comedians, are clever; Daisie Morell, coon vocalist, sings "The Coon's Lament" charmingly; Rob Wilton, comedian, appears with success; and Dolly and Madge McCalla are clever in song and dance.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—Variety is in the bill here this week, and Consul is the chief turn. This wonderful ape proves a great attraction. Miss Rosie Gaston is a good comedienne; the Almas as equilibrists are well received; and Rosina, musical expert, the Saxony Sisters, dancers, Amandus, impersonator, Fred Neiman, in a ventriloquial act, Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, and Little Ruby an expert toe soloist, with the sketch *Cupid in a Lodging House*, are other attractions.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. B. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Mr. John Warren is here this week with his sketches *The Magic Carpet* and *The Conjurer at Home*. Miss Rachel James is the vocalist.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—In addition to a capital selection of Pictures shown by the Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope, the variety turns appearing this week are the Hesseys, who give an enjoyable musical selection upon numerous kinds of instruments; Ethel Edwardes, who renders some songs in a style that gains an encore; and Cummin and Seaham, who have a good reception in eccentric comedy.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. O. E. Scutt.—*The Chorus Girl* holds the boards here, played by Mr. William Mollison's company. Miss Rita Carlyle does some clever acting as Patricia O'Brien, and she thoroughly identifies herself with the character. Excellent results are achieved by Miss Elsie Vron-Neville as Nora O'Brien; Mr. John Sima-Woolley as Dan Hallory, Mr. Henry Ludlow as Dick Crawford, and Miss Josephine Woodward as Mrs. O'Brien, each character being presented with distinctive excellence; Miss Mabel Durrant as Sylvia Simpson ably sustains the rôle. Other noticeably good performances were Mr. Harold Neville's as Patrick O'Brien and Mr. R. F. Marshall's as Rogers. Mr. Eric Dane stage-managed.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Mr. Leonard Boyne and company are here in *Raffles*. Mr. Leonard Boyne gives a remarkably vital realisation of the name-part. A clearly-drawn sketch of the Earl of Amersteth is shown by Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Curtis Bedford, as presented by Mr. E. W. Thomas, is excellent; Mr. Harold West as Harry Manders plays with ease and skill; Miss Agnes Knight's Lady Melrose is interesting; Miss Hilda Moore as Gwendoline Conran acts with much finish; and Miss Elaine Inescourt quite realises the character of Mrs. Vidal.

BEACH PAVILION.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's concert party, under the conductorship of Mr. George Blackmore, is well patronised. These half dozen accomplished vocalists go through a programme of varied interest. Mr. Blackmore, a host in himself, creates great amusement by his humorous songs and patter; Mr. Oldbury Brough is a brilliant pianist, as well as an excellent singer; Miss Nellie Perryer, at the piano, submits delightful renderings; and Miss Gladys Hill reveals a voice of excellent quality. Some humorous songs are given by Mr. Harold Vincent and Mr. Harry Kemp.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A short season of drama is inaugurated by Mr. Chas. Harrington's company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The long cast has for its principal members Mr. J. H. Boehm as Uncle Tom, Mr. A. Hayes as Fletcher, Mr. Claud Graneley as St. Clair, Mr. Eric Williams as Harris, Mr. Tom Bowron as Legree, Mr. R. Kloff as Marks, Miss Hero Hathaway as Eliza Harris, Miss Annie Watson as Topsy, Miss Geb Lloyd as Eva, and Miss Hetty Johnson as Cassy. There is a large troupe of real negroes, who give their specialities.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Darside.—Quite a sensation is caused by the wonderful manipulation of the Australian stock whip by Mr. Fred Lindsay. His varied feats are executed with unerring accuracy. Also appearing are Josh Dixon, a quaint comedian; the Three Phydoras, eccentric dancers and musicians; Miss Lily Hill, an accomplished juvenile vocalist; Walter Read, expert on the banjo; Miss Alice Craven, a charmingly natural Lancashire dialect ballad singer; Barnes and West, expert dancers; and Mr. and Mrs. Alaskas, in a clever comedy acrobatic act. The pictures complete an attractive programme.

HULL.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is a play that is meeting with plenty of praise. Miss Pauline Manton made the most of the rôle of Mavis Laverton, while Mr. Louis Lingard gave a good account of himself as George Tremain; Mr. F. F. Lloyd created a great success as Dean Clifton; Mr. Charles Digby played the humorous rôle with full effect. The remainder of the cast were capable.

GRAND THEATRE closed for summer recess.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—The big attraction here is Miss Hetty King, the popular male impersonator, in all her latest successes, and the greeting she received was one to be proud of. A really funny pair are Drew and Aldera, in their latest act, *The Coastguards*, who win the approbation of all; Nellie Wallace keeps the audience in one continual roar of laughter; Bertha Winder, the dancing marvel, is an acquisition to the programme, and Les Marco Belli, Continental comedy conjurers, are applauded; Frank H. Fox, the active comedian, and Spry and Monti in *The Song Writer and the Soubrette* win much favour; Leo Gell's imitations of instruments and animals are appreciated; the Avolos, expert acrobats and somersault throwers, are a very fine turn. An interesting series of pictures on the Bioscope concludes a good bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Mlle. Suzanne de Vernueil and her ladies present a series of classical poses which are both delightful and artistic; Martin Adeson, assisted by Clara Bernard, plays a neat and funny skit entitled *Dr. Maud's First Patient*; Cliff Ryland and the Bros. Maxwell are responsible for much fun. The Videos, expert roller skaters, Marie Brayman and Ethel Donna, both bright comediennes, also contribute to an excellent programme.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—A leading feature is the entertainment here is the sensational novelty, "Man v. Motor," presented by Messrs. Hall and Wilson, who achieve a distinct success. Williams and Warden, in an Irish vaudeville act, receive well-merited applause; Robb Gilmore, in his policeman song, is very funny; Sisters Terry, duettists, and the Three Gays, a dainty trio of singers, are to the fore; Three Eltons, triple bar comedians, Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio, and the Brown Trio, in their boxing absurdities, all win favour.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. E. Sawyer.—Mr. Albany Ward's electric pictures this week include, amongst many interesting ones, the Jersey Potato Industry, specially taken by their own operator, Mr. B. Clements; this film is most excellent. Ray, Miles, and Roy are exceedingly smart jugglers. The second turn of vaudeville is the Craig, Rose, and Craig Troupe; these clever gymnasts received a recall, which was well merited.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. C. A. Barnett.—The Ladies Cremona Orchestra is still here. The great attraction this week is the engagement of the Six Magpies.

TRIANGLE PARK.—This week see the first of the open-air entertainments. The Dandies appear each evening, whilst on Thursday the Band of the King's Own played selections.

LEEDS.—THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is presenting Hal Reid's American play *At Cripple Creek* here. Mr. Dernham Ryott is particularly good as Joe Mayfield; and Mr. Charles B. Johnson and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as the villains are quite excellent. Miss Agnes Verity as Dynamite Ann is appreciated; and Miss Daisy Carlton capably sustains the rôle of the Little Amazon. Mr. Pringle Roberts and Mr. Harry Benson give clever character studies; and Mr. Will Hook supplies the comic element with success.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Kollinos present a new risley act, *On the Road*, here. It creates much applause. Ernest Shand gives some popular songs; Nelson Jackson is excellent with piano and story; Wilson and Waring supply a *mélange* of song, dance, and jest, and are very popular; Harvey's American Boys and Girls render some songs and dances cleverly; Miss Margaret Parker and company take part in a stirring sketch, *Lucky Jim*; Johnny Fuller gives a wire act, dressed as a cat; Ike and Will Scott are favourites; and O'Gust's clever mimicry completes the entertainment.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Y. Osborn Burgoyne's ballet, including Espinosa, a clever male dancer, is the principal attraction here; La Belle Nello is very smart and graceful in an equipoise act; L. W. Harris is a popular light comedienne; and Lillie Soutter is a favourite. The Melbournes, Harry Zeiter, Gladys and Alber, Charles Stevens, Nevill Graham and company, and Elise Wulff, and Waldon render attractive items.

THE CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Ted Waite, a comedian who is rapidly making headway, is topping the bill here; Snowball and Dolia give an excellent exhibition of dancing; the Lizette Troupe are smart acrobats and dancers; Hargreaves Trio are excellent in a comedy act; and good turns are done by Molly Augarde, Ethel Stevenson, and Stevens and Brett.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Twice nightly drama, in place of variety, is being given here. A condensed version of *A Passion of Life* is the attraction this week.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Mr. Raymond Phillips' great invention, consisting of an airship under wireless control, is the leading attraction here; Bert Coote is presenting his episode, *A Lamb in Wall-street*, with satisfactory results; Florrie Gallimore is a comedienne who is always sure of a good reception at Leicester. Her songs are rendered in captivating style. Dan Crawley, another Leicester favourite, is creating endless merriment; Staig's Steeplechase Cyclists go through a remarkably clever performance; Cull Pitt is aptly described as appearing in a terrific tirade of tricks, talk, travesty, and topics; Emma Don and company introduce the entertaining vocal scena *On the Thames Embankment* with success; Conan and Doyle are amusing comedians and dancers; and the Bioscope is also retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Mr. E. D. Nicholls and company are retained over another week with the amusing comedy sketch *Dripping on Toast*. The Seddons, the lady juggler and the comic waiter, are on a successful return visit; the Brothers Hannaway are conversationalists and dancers of marked ability; and others who contribute to a good show are Blanche Marion, Rose and Jeanette, Fallows and Beaumont, and Will Rennie.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—A large programme of excellent pictures here this week includes as the most prominent The Engineer's Daughter and The Heroine of Mafeking. Others shown include The Normandy Butter, The Fireman's Wedding, Two Christmas Tides, Forbidden Fruit, Two Men and a Girl, Two Sailor Men and a Girl, Choosing a Ma-in-Law, A Pair of Slippers, and A Wedding Amongst Rag and Bone Merchants. Chas. Ashdown, comedian and legmania artist, is on a successful return visit.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The stock company have done well during the concluding week of their season in staging the two Boucicault dramas *Arrah-na-Pogue* and *The Colleen Bawn*. Mr. A. W. B. Kingston was quite at home as Shaun the Post; and Mr. Richard found a congenial rôle in Colonel O'Grady; while the parts of Beamish M'Coul and Major Coffin were carefully rendered by Mr. Ernest Regent and Mr. Addison Thomas; and Mr. John Darlison's characterisation of Michael Feeney made the informer duly execrated by the gallery. Mr. J. T. Dale, Mr. Mark Hannam, and Mr. Paul Dysart gave useful aid in the less prominent rôles. Miss Doris Brookes as Arrah Meelish, Miss Eleanor McHardy as Fanny Power, and Miss Kitty Thomas as Katty Walsh were very successful in their renderings. In *The Colleen Bawn* Mr. Kingston revelled as Myles-na-Coppaleen; and Mr. Ferris made an excellent Hardress Cregan, with Miss Brookes a captivating Eily O'Connor and Miss McHardy well cast as Anne Chute. Good support was given by Mr. Regent as Danny Man, Mr. Thomas as Father Tom, Mr. Dale as Corrigan, Miss Thomas as Sheelah, and Miss Paulina Gear as Mrs. Creegan.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we are having Mr. C. Watson Mill's stirring play, *The Love of the Princess*, which is doing satisfactory business. Mr. Frank Harvey undertakes the rôle of Prince Conrad, which he plays with telling effect; Miss May Beatrice earns much favour for her Princess Idalia; the part of Count Danilo is strongly presented by Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews; Mr. John Worth makes the most of Lieut. Zaroff; Miss Maud Steeple is a capital Lady Ramona; and other supporters are Messrs. Francis Serle (Duke Scarfe), Beckett Bould (Lieut. Orlans), John Burton (Josef), and Miss Josephine Lee (Constantia).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction is Mr. Fred J. Webb's company in *For Old Time's Sake*. Miss Marie Danvers-Smith holds the part of Sareta Berkley, which is sympathetically and carefully undertaken; Mr. Fred J. Webb presents an able study of the scoundrel Rupert Sydney; the character of Paul Sydney is well handled by Mr. J. C. Carlyle; Mr. Harold B. Lewis as the outcast Jean Brooke makes a favourable impression; Dr. Heathcote is well given by Mr. W. Palliser Acock; a charming Phyllis Brooke comes from Miss Mamie Stanton; and excellent work is also done by Messrs. Tom J. Taylor (a funny Jimmy Jepps), R. Oliver (Frank Rivington), Louis Nanton (Evan Berkeley), and the Misses Marie Robertson (Polly Pearson), and Lallah Price (Mrs. Hale).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*A Soldier's Honour* is here this week, with Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Excellent business is being done. Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays strongly as Cora Lee; Mr. Will Hee makes a manly Captain Deane, and delivers his lines well; Mr. Dobson Clyde fills the part of Captain Temple with distinction; Mr. Clavering Craig does well as Henry Thornton; Burley Bill is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Vernon Cooper; Mr. Harry Lyndon is an amusing Percy Brattle; as General Rochester Mr. J. Russell Bogue affords every satisfaction; Miss Fanny Wallace is particularly amusing as Jemima Eliza; Miss Hilda Vokes proves an attractive Queenie Deane; and Miss Isa Lyndon is admirably suited to the rôle of Doreen Illingworth. After this week the theatre will close for cleaning and decoration until August Bank Holiday.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—There is a very attractive programme here this week. Courtice Pounds and company are delighting everybody with the admirable comedy *Charles—His Friend*, which is being received with immense favour; Eddie Girard and Jessie Gardner make a hit with *Dooley and the Diamond*; the favourite Claire Romaine charms everybody with her latest songs; Albert Whelan's impersonations of popular comedians are loudly applauded; a clever musical show is gone through by the Miles-Stavordale Quintette; Vesta and Minnie Pine have a neat comedy turn which earns much favour; Belles of the Kitchen are clever juveniles in song and dance; some astonishing juggling and balancing are shown by the Martisio Trio; and Bob and Jennie Leonard present a pleasing trifle, *An Interview*.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The two-house-a-night drama here has proved very popular. This week *The Great Awakening* is the fare, with Miss Olga Audre's able company. Miss Audre makes an effective Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs does well as James Selby; Mr. Charles H. Mortimer affords every satisfaction in the character of Captain Lambart; Miss Evie Conway is pleasing as Molly Merton; and some excellent comedy comes from Mr. Ernest Kendrick (Billy Brass), and Miss Dorothy Oswald (Selina Worts).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The Brothers Horne are here, causing endless laughter with their amusing boxing sketch, *The Biter Bit*; J. W. Rickaby brings his latest, and pleases greatly; Harry Rogerson has a clever turn; some smart hand and head balancing is executed by the two juvenile Lillys; Coram's ventriloquial turn with "Jerry" provokes endless laughter; as dancers and vocalists the Palace Girls earn loud applause; smart acrobatic work is done on the trapeze by the Lacori Family; the Okadians have a pretty miniature musical comedy; and Kitty Upton sings in agreeable style.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are this week presenting *A Lion's Heart*, by Shirley and Landeck. The principal characters are in the good keeping of Messrs. Leo Montgomery (Dick Lorimore), Sydney Grant (Villefort), Harry Tresham (Rizzardo), R. Seath Innes (Dobson), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Marion Lorimore), and Miss Lina Nazeby (Sister Gertrude and Mme. Cheminat). Brown's bioscope shows A Lesson by the Sea.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Top of the bill here this week is the comic operetta, *The Rose of Sicily*, presented by Sidney Dooley's company, which comprises Howard Waller, Freddie French, Herbert Speed, Fred Eastman, Sam Lockridge, Rita Moore, and Kathleen Starling. The work is affording every delight. H. O. Wills keeps his audience in roars of laughter; Mlle. Camille Ober, possessed of a remarkably rich voice, pleases greatly with her singing; Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas again afford delight with their sketches from Dickens; Charles Torbay's hand shadows cause endless amusement; some acceptable harmonised illustrated songs are rendered by the Lyric Quartette; those popular singing comedians, Verno and Voyce, give some entertaining scenas; and Sid Doody and Edie Wright, American comedy duo, and Charles Leighton, comedian, also appear.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of a good bill here this week is Ada Pagini, an Italian violinist, whose work is marked by great skill; Miss Ada Fawn, with her burlesque work, finds much favour; Paul Corrix and assistant go through a smart equilibristic and speciality act; *The Plumbers* is a very funny sketch submitted by Tom Taylor and company; Percy Williams presents his Nine Yankee Belles, who have some lively dances and smart songs; Frank L. Gregory's troupe of hoop rollers and jugglers afford every satisfaction; and also in the list are Burt Ward, whistler and raconteur; the Three Delaries, with the speciality act *In the Demon Grotto*; and Morris and Myers, Hebrew impersonators.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Morelli and Moore, comic musicians, in a sparkling and original turn; and Williams' Welsh Minstrels, vocalists and harpists, an excellent quartette, are both highly appreciated additions to the programme of pictures.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—Mr. T. E. Johnstone, character vocalist, introduces some clever representations here.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and company are presenting a répertoire of plays, including *Sapho, Camille*, and *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mrs. Bateman, who submits a fine piece of acting as Sapho, is deservedly applauded, excellent support being given by a capable company. The staging and dressing are highly commendable.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—This popular house reopened for the season on Monday with a strong programme, which included the Zasonis, jugglers; Ellis Barrieton, baritone vocalist; Carlos Menard, expert musician; and Mlle. Dalmere's miniature circus of fifty performing animals. Some highly interesting pictorial subjects are also given.

MANCHESTER.—GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Raynor and company are here in répertoire, including *David Garrick, Camille*, and *The Tree of Knowledge*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Répertoire is the fare here. Mr. T. Edward Ward's company opened on Monday in *Her Wedding Day*, which met with a popular reception, the same being accorded to *Moths* on Tuesday. These plays are alternate during the week, with the exception of Friday, set apart for the production of *Trilby*.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Herbert Darnley's company, in *The Skirmishers*, provide plenty of fun here; and another prominent turn is that of Lady Mansel and Juveniles in *A Concert Rehearsal*. The programme is agreeably completed by the Haverleys, song illustrators; Barney Armstrong (and Kelly), ventriloquist; Penstone and Sango, versatile artists; Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians; and Syd Garti and Miss Lucky Law, in the novel vocal sketch *Jack's Mother*.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn presents here the successful drama of every-day life *For Honour and Revenge*. The company includes Miss Sidney Crowe, who gives an excellent depiction of Maude Desmond, and Mr. G. M. Montanini, whose interpretation of James Galston is a big feature of the evening. Mr. Herbert Skardon adds a very good impersonation of Sir Gilbert Redville; Mr. Charles Russell makes a capable Harry Travers; and Mr. Howard Hardy contributes to the success of the performance as Arthur Redville. The humorous parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Herbert Woodin and Miss Madge Palmer, as Joe Reckitts and Nancy O'Brien respectively.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company are here in *A Fool's Paradise, The Glass of Fashion*, and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. On Monday night the first-mentioned was presented in fine style. Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy played well as Sir Peter Lund; Miss Henrietta Schrier was highly successful as Beatrice Selwyn, playing with her usual charm; Mr. Andrew Money as Philip Selwyn was convincing; and excellent support was rendered by Miss Veronica Clinton, Miss Marie Ramuz, Mr. Robert Borlande, Mr. F. Douglas Howard, and Mr. A. J. MacFarlane.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mme. Hanako and company, in *The Tea House*, a tragic episode, and Dorothy Ward, the musical-comedy actress, share the chief honours of the programme here, in conjunction with the dual prominence worthily accorded, at the bottom of the bill, to Rinaldo, the wonderful wandering violinist, and the Five Mowatts, with lightning juggling. Peter Davey gives also a popular act in his company's presentment of a burlesque Chanteeler sketch, entitled *Cock-a-doodle-doo*. Capital turns are added by Charles Erard, at the piano; Russell Carr, the military ventriloquist; De Wynne Brothers, fine athletes, with their comedy dogs; and Woodhouse and Wells, smart comedians and dancers.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital programme here stars the Piccad Troupe of pantomimists as *The Burglars of New York*, a lively and comic creation, and Ramsey and Cordova's dramatic sketch *The Organ-grinder*, which also makes a popular appeal; Binns and Binns add a really funny turn in comedy and music; Alcide Capitaine is rightly described as the perfect gymnast; May Henderson, the well-known coon comedienne, is very well received; and other enjoyable items are provided by Mildred Bryan, an accomplished vocalist; Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley, in *Fun in a Music Shop*; the Six Lancashire Lasses, vocalists and wooden shoe dancers; and Johnny Walker, comedian.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Lalla Selbini, in her clever trick cycling and juggling act, is the top attraction here; while the other places of distinction are filled by Phil Ray, the popular comedian, and the Six Ceylons, in the pantomimic acrobatic sketch *A Dream in an Opium Den*. Eadie and Ramsden, the musical-comedy couple, are also an excellent turn; Drum and Major are entertaining in *The Broker's Man*; and other pleasing acts are those of Edith Haley, vocal comedienne; Du For Trio, smart dancers; Will Van Allen, the tramp musician and raconteur; and Will Haines, character comedian.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Lilian Herlein, an American prima donna, tops the bill here, and is well appreciated; while Ruth Lytton is also to the fore in a selection of her charming Scotch songs. Irma Corlette and company are seen in the sketch *Mistaken*; Reed and Stevens, in a farcical duologue, are entertaining; and other varied items are Gladys Wells, comedienne; Durzcoe and Azella, equilibrists and hand-balancers; Lucie Caine, musical comedy artist; Harry Keeble, ventriloquist; and Les Atans, pot-pourri gymnasts.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Robins and Collier, who top the bill here, are highly successful in *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*, a farcical incident; the Juggling McBanns go through a performance of great merit; the Brooklyn Comedy Four are well received; and Hanson and Hartley make a hit as vaudeville artists. Other enjoyable items are offered by Phyllis Seymour, neat dancer; W. B. Raby, comedian; and the Sisters Lindos, comediennes and dancers. A Twisted Trail and Indian Blood are excellent films. Kurkamp, the popular singing conductor, did not appear on the occasion of our visit owing to indisposition.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Morrison.—A beautiful film shows dense volumes of water falling and lovely scenery around Schaffhausen. There are a large number of other good films, including The Drumm

THEATRICAL SPORTS 1910

1. P. H. Snowdon, of the Empire, Stratford, winning the Quarter-Mile Running Handicap.
2. Over the plank in the Obstacle Sack Race. Winner, G. Bailey, Paragon.
3. No. 11, G. Fuller, jun., of the Grand, Croydon.
4. A close finish in the 100yds. Running Handicap, P. H. Snowdon first (No. 28); H. J. Rennior, on his right, second.
5. The assault on the dustbin in the Quarter-Mile Obstacle Race for the Matheson Lang silver challenge cup and Miss Mary Moore's prize.
6. Distinguished visitors. Reading from left to right—Mr. Edward Terry, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Marion Terry.
7. Lucky competitors who have found their boots, lacing them to run for the finish
8. Scramble for footwear in Boot Race.
9. Woolwich making the victorious pull in the Tug-of-War contest for *The Era* challenge shield.
10. Miss E. Barnwell carrying the spoon to victory in the Egg and Spoon Race.

THEATRICAL SPORTS.

STAMFORD BRIDGE, TUESDAY, JULY 5. 1910.

Unabated interest was again taken in the annual sports promoted by the National Association of Theatrical Employees, which were decided at the Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham, on Tuesday. Competitors mustered in strong force to contest for the trophies and costly prizes which had been provided, and added importance was given to the event by the presence of people distinguished in the dramatic world. The arrival of Miss Ellen Terry was signalised by loud cheers, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, who had kindly consented to distribute the prizes, had a similar ovation. Mr. Edward Terry, Mrs. George Alexander, and Miss Marion Terry also graced the occasion, and in the intervals of duty in the field, Mr. James Carew, the chairman of the Sports Committee, and Mr. Fred Terry joined the party, who were constantly besieged by photographers.

Shortly after arrival Miss Vanbrugh was presented with a magnificent bouquet of sweet peas in a pretty shade of mauve and white pinks, and Miss Terry with a bunch of yellow roses.

Among others present on the ground were Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. Willie Clarkson, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*.

The day was favoured by fine and at times brilliant weather, and the various events were decided with all dispatch under the direction of Mr. Wm. Johnson, the indefatigable secretary. The attendance was the best up to the present, and gave encouragement for future years. The proceeds derived from the sports are divided between the benevolent funds of the Dramatic and Variety Theatre Employees' Provident Association and an "open" benevolent fund available to assist men and women employees whose case is recommended by a subscriber to the prize fund or by a donor of a prize, or by any theatrical or music-hall association.

MR. JAMES CAREW,
CHAIRMAN THEATRICAL SPORTS COMMITTEE, 1910.

The officials for the day were as follow: Reception Committee: Mr. James Carew, Mr. W. F. Crowe, Mr. James Cullen, Mr. C. T. Cory, Mr. Arthur Garrett, Mr. A. P. Horne, Mr. J. W. Lethbridge, Mr. William Johnson, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. Referee and Handicapper: Mr. Robert P. Watson. Judges: Mr. James Carew, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Robert Horton, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. A. P. Horne, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. John Lawson, Mr. F. W. Parker, Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Frank Shorland, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and Mr. Fred Fredericks. Official Starter: Mr. George Thurling. Honorary Timekeeper: Mr. E. Arnold. Marksman: Mr. G. H. Dyball; assisted by the clerks of the course, Messrs. W. L. Rignold G. H. Brooke, Philip Sheridan, Philip Raphael, A. Malcolm, A. Palmer, H. J. Brett, F. B. Fidge, and H. Mather. Stewards: Messrs. C. Thorogood, Atterton, Stow, Porter, Bowmer, Phelps, Weaver, Bevington, Hooper, Pickering, Wood, Swift, Finnigan, Farrell, Dyer, Hall, Hodsell, Kemp, Beasley, and Palmer.

SUMMARY OF THE SPORTS.

Good form was exhibited in the contests, particularly in the Five Mile Cycling Championship, in which the favourite was defeated by a rider who developed unexpected prowess, and won a popular victory. The hero of the occasion was Mr. R. Lennock, an actor, who has not, if we remember rightly, before figured prominently at the sports. Only five competitors were left in the final, C. V. Marra having a spill in the third lap, though he pluckily mounted again, but retired after a few rounds. J. A. Hickling was the holder of the shield, which he wrested last year from E. S Dawson, who had held it twice in succession. In a trial of strength midway, Hickling took the lead closely pursued by Lennock. At the last lap, Lennock drew off in front, with Harman at his heels, who in turn was followed by Hickling, with the other riders close behind. In this order they remained to the end, Lennock winning a keen ride by two lengths, three lengths separating Harman and Hickling.

Lasting interest was aroused by the tug-of-war for *The Era* Challenge Shield. The twelve teams that entered were representative of London and suburbs, the Irish champions from the Dublin Empire not having crossed the Channel this year. The final lay between the Woolwich Hippodrome, the holders of the shield, and the Bedford Music Hall, and went in favour of Woolwich, by two pulls to none, who thus for a second year have the privilege of holding the prize, which is in the nature of a perpetual trophy. Loud encouragement was given to each side as it made its way to the scene of the struggle, and as one or other team, after long and strenuous endeavour, drew their opponents over the line, the cheers of their supporters were loud and inspiriting. The winning team, a regular band of stalwarts, got a tremendous reception.

The Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race was liberally patronised, the entries being swollen by the Kennedy Girls, who, to the number of a dozen or more, travelled to the ground in a waggonette. The customary merriment was aroused by the efforts of the fair competitors, all charmingly arrayed for the occasion. The exit of the eggs from their places in the spoons were followed by exclamations of dismay from their holders, and frantic efforts were made to regain ground lost through the time spent in picking up the elusive egg. Miss E. Barnwell, a curly-haired blonde, proved expert at handling the spoon and romped home an easy winner.

Plentiful entertainment was also provided by the Quarter Mile Obstacle Race, of which a water jump, a "slippery mountain," and a dustbin were only a few of the difficulties that confronted the contestants. The prizes included a silver challenge cup, and it was secured by the holder, J. Hurst, whose victory was in a measure due to the fact that one of his opponents, who had a capital lead, was too bulky to get through the sack, and for an alarming time stuck fast in the middle.

Great fun was occasioned by the boot race, and by the abortive efforts of the runners to secure their footwear, only to find that it had been thrown by their opponents ruthlessly to distant parts of the field. There was merriment, too, over the blindfolded race, and the amazement of a stout gentleman—who had run his course with remarkable rapidity considering his avoirdupois—when he took off his bandage and found himself in the neighbourhood of the scoring board was very comic.

Running honours were gained by P. H. Snowdon, who had greatly improved his pace since last year. He won both the 100yds. handicap and the quarter-mile.

The Mile Walking Handicap proved very interesting. All the competitors walked well, and kept within the limits of the contest, no one being disqualified. Toplis, who owed 130 yards, maintained a pretty pace, and passed the majority of his opponents at the first lap, while in the second he had little to make up. His strongest opponent was H. H. Jeapes, who had 6 yards start, and when Toplis overtook him there was an exciting neck-and-neck race to the end, Toplis eventually winning by about three yards.

Excitement was keen over the Four-Lap Relay Race, for a silver challenge cup held by the Lyceum two years in succession. Toplis' walking powers again proved superior, and enabled Whitmore, who took the flag from him, to cycle home first. A determined attempt was made by

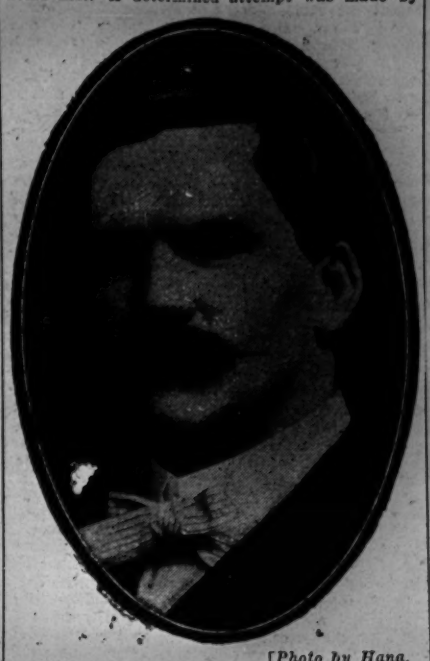

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. WILLIAM JOHNSON.
Secretary.

Dawson to secure second place from Hickling, but the latter got in on the mark.

The events gave the utmost pleasure to lovers of healthy sport, apart from the interest felt in the representatives from the various establishments, and those of the general public who were there were well repaid. Appended is the list of results.

100-YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Tankard (Engraved; presented by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry).
Second Prize—A Marble Clock (presented by Sir Arthur W. Pinero).
Third Prize—A Silver Cigarette Case (presented by Mr. J. Martin Harvey).
Fourth Prize—A Silver-mounted Paper Knife (presented by Sir Squire Bancroft).

Heat winners: J. Jimpson, Lyric, 3yds. (11sec.); B. Rodber, Richmond Hippodrome, 20yds. 11 1-5sec.); W. C. Kemp, Alhambra, 5½yds. (11 2-5sec.); Fred Mayo, artists' dresser, 7yds. (11sec.); P. H. Snowdon, Stratford Empire, 6yds. (10 3-5sec.); W. H. Williamson, Balham Hippodrome, 10yds. (11sec.); H. J. Rennior, artist, 5yds. (10 4-5sec.); A. E. Whale, Duke of York's, 10yds. (10 4-5sec.); W. Wilby, Kilburn Empire, 5yds. (11sec.); Clito Clifford, artist, 6yds. (11sec.); R. Donald, Duke of York's, 5½yds.; C. Mason, Croydon Grand, 5½yds.; F. Collins, sen., New, 20yds., dead-heat. Final: Snowden 1, Rennior 2, While 3, Clito Clifford 4; won by a foot, a yard divided second and third; time, 10 4-5sec.

100-YARDS VETERANS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

FOR MEN OVER FIFTY YEARS OF AGE.

First Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by Mr. Alfred Lester).
Second Prize—An Oil-painting (presented by Mr. E. A. Taylor, Master Carpenter, Scala Theatre).
Third Prize—An Umbrella (presented by Mr. H. J. Brett).

H. Smith, aged 59, Adelphi, 13yds., 1; T. McGovern, aged 53, Oxford, scratch, 2; J. Ashley, aged 57, Surrey, 11yds., 3; time 13 3-5sec. Won by a yard; two yards separated second and third.

BOYS' 100-YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

(Under 12 years of age. Sons of Employees.)

First Prize—A Silver Watch (presented by Sir Albert Seymour, Bart.).

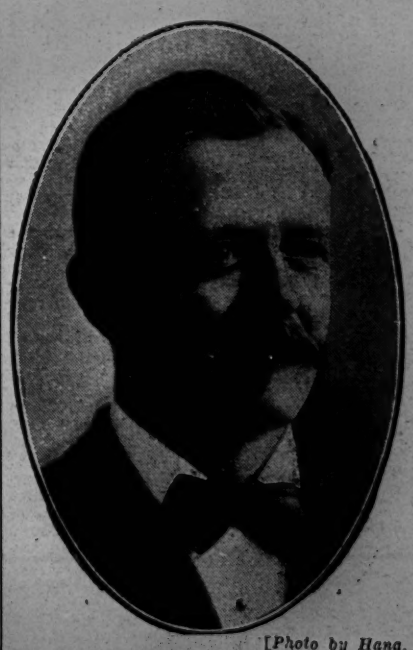

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. F. H. PEDGRIFT, Hon. Treasurer.

Second Prize—A Bat and Ball (presented by Sir Albert Seymour, Bart.).
Third Prize—A Silver Medal (gold centre).

G. Fuller, Croydon Grand, 13 yards start, 1; G. H. Dyball, London Pavilion, 4yds., 2; C. D. Prescott, Alhambra, 1yd., 3.

LADIES' RACE (50 YARDS EGG AND SPOON RACE).

First Prize—A Silver Tankard (presented by Miss Ada Reeve).
Second Prize—A Silver Mirror (presented by Mrs. H. Arnold).
Third Prize—Hair Brush.

E. Barnwell, Clapham Grand, 1; L. Wilson, Alhambra, 2; Miss Skeff, Duke of York's, 3.

QUARTER MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Box for Cigarettes, engraved (presented by Miss Ellen Terry).
Second Prize—A Marble Clock (presented by Mr. Alfred Sutro).
Third Prize—A Silver Cigarette Box (presented by Miss Marie Illington).

Heat 1: P. H. Snowdon, Stratford Empire, 16yds., 1; W. C. Kemp, Alhambra, 26yds., 2; F. Bellamy, actor, scr., 3; time, 53 2-5sec. Heat 2: T. Cowan, artist, 18yds, 1; H. C. Robinson, Queen's Theatre, scr., 2; F. Huckett, Lyceum, 26yds., 3; time, 55sec. Heat 3: C. Mason, Croydon Grand, 28yds., 1; Geo. Brampton, Adelphi, 15yds., 2; W. Tinney, Woolwich Hippodrome, 24yds., 3; time 56sec. Heat 4: C. Entwistle, James Welch Co., 29yds., 1; Clito Clifford, artist, 12yds., 2; W. Durbridge, Clapham Grand, 13yds., 3; time, 53sec. Final, Snowdon 1, Clifford 2, C. Entwistle, 3. Time, 52 2-5sec. Won by 8yds.; a foot between second and third.

ONE MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by Sir John Hare).
Second Prize—Oak Case of Cutlery (presented by Mr. W. H. Kendal).
Third Prize—A Suit Case.

George Toplis, Holborn Empire, owes 130yds., 1; H. H. Jeapes, Camberwell Empire, 6yds., 2; D. Crouch, Croydon Grand, 195yds., 3. Won by 2yds. Time, 7min. 26 3-5sec.

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander).
Second Prize—A Silver Cup (presented by the directors, Drury Lane Theatre, Ltd.).
Third Prize—A Case of Spoons (presented by Mr. H. B. Irving.

A. E. Horne, St. James's, 30yds. 1; F. A. Riches, Lyceum, scr., 2; C. Mason, Croydon Grand, 72yds., 3; time, 2min. 3sec. Won by 15yds., 6yds. separated second and third.

ONE MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.

First Prize—A Cycle. Presented by Mr. James Carew.
Second Prize—A Flower Stand. Presented by Mr. John Lawson.
Third Prize—Oak Salad Bowl and Servers.

Heat 1: R. Lennock, actor, 40yds., 1; F. H. Harman, Empire, Leicester-square, scr., 2. Heat 2: A. J. Hickling, St. James's, scr., 1; J. Byswater, jun., Haymarket, 113yds., 2; time, 2min. 28sec. Heat 3: R. Chappell, Tottenham Empire, 55yds., 1; A. J. Clements, Alhambra, 82yds., 2; time, 2min. 22 2-5sec. Final: Lennock 1, Hickling 2, Chappell 3. Won by 6 lengths, 2 lengths between second and third. Time, 2min. 22sec.

TUG OF WAR COMPETITION.

For a Challenge Shield (presented by the Proprietors of *The Era*).

The Shield will be a perpetual trophy, and may be exhibited for six months next following the date of the Sports in the theatre represented by the winning team. The trustees, for the time being, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees shall be the custodians of the Shield, and in the event of any dispute the donors of the Shield shall decide the same.

First Prize—5 Gold Medals (presented by *The Era*).
Second Prize—5 Gold Centre Medals.
(The coach of each of the teams pulling in the final presented with a medal.)

Nine teams pulling:—Holborn Empire, Bedford Music Hall, Queen's (A), Putney Hippodrome, Drury Lane (A), Richmond Hippodrome, Drury Lane (B), Woolwich, Kilburn Empire.

1st Round: Holborn Empire *v.* Drury Lane (A)—Holborn won.

2nd Round: Kilburn *v.* Holborn Empire—Kilburn won. Bedford *v.* Drury Lane (B)—Bedford won. Queen's Theatre *v.* Richmond Hippodrome—Richmond won. Woolwich *v.* Putney Hippodrome—Woolwich won.

3rd Round: Woolwich *v.* Richmond—Woolwich won. Kilburn *v.* Bedford—Bedford won.

Final: Woolwich *v.* Bedford—Woolwich won.

120 YARDS OBSTACLE SACK RACE.

First Prize—A Cup (presented by Messrs. C. and S. May).
Second Prize—An Inkstand (presented by Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Esmond).

G. Bailey, Paragon, 1; W. Rosser, S. London Palace, 2; F. Collins, jun., New Theatre, 3.

QUARTER-MILE OBSTACLE RACE.

Silver Challenge Cup (presented by Mr. and Mrs. Matheson Lang).

This cup must be won three times in succession to entitle the winner to exclusive ownership. The cup may be exhibited for three months in the theatre or music hall where the winner is engaged, subject to the manager assuming responsibility for its safe custody; otherwise the secretary of the Sports Committee shall be the custodian of the cup.

First Prize—An Oak Combination Tantalus (presented by Miss Mary Moore).
Second Prize—A 15-ct. Gold Medal (engraved) (presented by Mr. Cyril Maude).
Third Prize—Salad Bowl and Servers.

Jack Hurst, artist, 1; Tom McKay, artist, 2; Rex Gresham, actor, 3.

MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH, WHO PRE SENTED THE PRIZES.

FIVE MILES CYCLING RACE.

For the Dewar Championship Shield (presented by Sir Thomas Dewar).

Shield must be won three times in succession to establish ownership. The shield may be held six months by the winner, at his own risk, and exhibited for six months as arranged by the Sports Committee.

First Prize—A Coffee Set and Tray (presented by Miss Violet Vanbrugh).
Second Prize—Oak Combination Tantalus (presented by Miss Maxine Elliott).
Third Prize—A Case of Carvers (presented by Mr. W. Clarkson).

Preliminary heats of one mile:—Heat 1: R. Lennock, actor, 1; F. H. Harman, Empire, Leicester-square, 2; time 2min. 33sec. Heat 2: V. C. Marra, Duke of York's, 1; R. Chappell, Tottenham Palace, 2; time 2min. 35sec. Heat 3: J. A. Hickling, St. James's, 1; A. J. Clements, Alhambra, 2; time, 2min. 58sec. Final: Lennock, 1; Harman, 2; Hickling, 3; won by 2 lengths, 3 lengths separated second and third; time, 14min. 7sec.

50 YARDS BOOT RACE.

First Prize—A Silver Cigarette Case (presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier).
Second Prize—A Clock and Pair of Candlesticks (presented by Mr. G. H. Elliott).
Third Prize—A Pair of Welt Boots (presented by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne).

Tom McKay, artist, 1; Ronald Adair, actor, 2; F. Collins, jun., New, 3.

MILE RELAY RACE.

For Silver Challenge Cup (presented by C. Aubrey Smith).

The cup will become the property of the manager for the time being of the theatre or music hall whose team wins this race three times in succession. The cup may be exhibited for six months

at the theatre represented by the winners at each meeting, subject to the conditions specified by the Sports Committee.

First Prize—3 Silver Cigarette Cases (engraved) (presented by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree).

Second Prize—3 Tankards.

Third Prize—3 Silver (Gold Centre) Medals.

Holborn Empire (A. Bell, G. Toplis, and W. Whitmore), 1; St. James's Theatre (A. E. Horne, J. Underwood, and A. J. Hickling), 2; Lyceum "A" (W. Green, J. Warner, and E. Dawson), 3.

50 YARDS BLINDFOLD RACE.

First Prize—A Case of Dessert Knives and Forks (presented by Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks).

Second Prize—A Case of Spoons.

Third Prize—A Silver (Gold Centre) Medal.

W. Kendal, Woolwich Hippodrome, 1; J. Fitzmaurice, Drury Lane, 2; H. Chilton, Haymarket, 3.

Additional prizes were given, one to Mr. A. George, master carpenter, Lyceum Theatre, who obtained the largest number of entries, and one to Mr. Raphael, also of the Lyceum, who sold the largest number of tickets.

THE PRIZE-GIVING.

The sports were succeeded by an interesting function, in which the popularity of the various leaders of the profession was publicly manifested. Miss Vanbrugh proceeded to the spot where the prizes were laid out, the value and variety of the awards exciting many expressions of admiration. Miss Vanbrugh had a gracious word of compliment for every winner, and Miss Terry interjected amusing commentaries. The various victors were loudly cheered, the actor who had won the cycle championship—a handsome young man with a face of decided character and a musical voice—coming in for special applause.

A vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had given prizes was proposed by Mr. James Carew. Their gifts, he said, symbolised more than their actual value; they symbolised the brotherly feeling that they of the profession experienced towards all connected with the stage. They thanked Miss Vanbrugh with all their hearts for so graciously and kindly coming there that day. (Cheers.)

Miss Vanbrugh said in reply: I want to thank you very much indeed for the honour—the very great honour—you have done me in asking me to come here to-day. If in my own life I receive one-tenth part as many prizes as I have given away this afternoon I shall feel amply satisfied. The first prize I received was when, as a very small girl, I took part in a village school treat, and entered for five races, covering myself with glory by winning the first, the prize for which was a box of sweets. My sense of taste must have been very much keener then, because I ate the whole box of sweets, and thus disabled myself from taking part in any more competitions for that afternoon. (Laughter.) I thank those of the music-hall profession for the graceful compliment they have paid through me to my sisters in art in asking me to come here to-day. Early in this year I made my first appearance on the music-hall stage, and I devoutly hope it will not be my last. On behalf of those who have won prizes this afternoon, I thank in the name of the committee, those ladies and gentlemen, members of the most open-handed profession in the world, who have given prizes, for their generosity and kindness. Also I want to thank your committee for giving me this beautiful bouquet, and especially for asking the sweetest flower as well as the gracious queen of the English stage—Ellen Terry—to give it to me. (Cheers.) No words that I can say can express one half what Miss Terry's friendship has meant to me both on and off the stage; but she knows she has my heart. Her geniality and tenderness towards everyone in front of the curtain is only equalled by her tenderness and geniality behind the scenes.

There were renewed cheers for Miss Terry and cries for a speech, which the eminent actress acknowledged by a bow.

Mr. James Cullen said as President of the National Association of Theatrical Employees he had the greatest pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. James Carew, the husband of Miss Terry, whom he had known for many days. Mr. Carew had worked very hard and energetically to bring the sports to a successful issue, and he was delighted to say they would be able to add something substantial to the benevolent fund of the Association.

In acknowledgment, Mr. Carew said it had been a great pleasure to him to do his little towards keeping alive an institution that did so much good and charitable work. If his efforts had been at all successful he would be more than repaid if they had helped to keep the wolf from the door of a few people connected with the profession. As the years went on they hoped to increase the numbers by a great many. (Cheers.)

The progress of the sports was agreeably enlivened by a well-assorted selection of music by the Alexander Imperial Military Band, under the direction of Mr. George H. Anthony, A.M.U.

The following donations to the prize fund have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. J. Grant Allen	1	1	0
Mr. Robert Arthur	1	1	0
Miss Jessie Bateman	1	0	0
Mr. S. M. Bligh	1	1	0
Mr. Dion Boucicault	1	1	0
Miss Lilian Braithwaite		10	0
Miss S. Patrick Campbell		7	6
Mr. L. Carson	1	1	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	1	1	0
Miss Pauline Chase	1	1	0
Mr. A. Chudleigh	1	1	0
Miss Compton	1	1	0
Proprietors, *Daily Telegraph*	3	3	0
Mr. F. Desprez	1	1	0
Mr. I. J. Digby	1	1	0
Sir A. Conan Doyle	1	1	0
Miss Maxine Elliott	2	0	0
Mr. Maurice Farkoa	1	1	0
Miss Gertrude Forbes-Robertson	1	1	0
Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson	1	0	0
Mr. N. Forbes Robertson		10	0
Mr. Chas. Frohman	1	1	0
Mr. John Galsworthy	2	0	0
Mr. John Grant		10	6
Miss Dorothy Green		5	0
Mr. Wm. Greet	1	1	0
Mr. Edmond Gwenn	1	1	0
Mr. Walter Hann		5	0
Mr. Lyn Harding		10	6
Mr. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Miss Florence Haydon		10	6
Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley		10	6
Mr. Robert Horton	1	1	0
Miss Ethel Irving	1	1	0
Mr. H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Mr. H. A. Jones	1	1	0
Mr. W. H. Kendall	2	2	0
Mr. J. H. Leigh	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Lestocq	1	1	0
Mr. Eric Lewis	1	1	0
Miss Marie Lohr	1	1	0
Mr. Robert Loraine		10	6
Messrs. Lush and Cook	1	1	0
Miss Madge MacIntosh		10	6
Mr. Cyril Maude	2	2	0
Mr. Gaston Mayer	1	1	0
Sir Edward Moss	1	1	0
Mr. Cecil Paget		10	6
Mr. Arthur Phillips		10	6
Sir Arthur Pinero	2	2	0
Mrs. Saba Raleigh		10	6
Mr. B. V. Reynolds		10	6
Mr. Kennerley Rumford	1	1	0
Miss A. Saker		5	0
Lord George Sanger	1	1	0
Sir Albert Seymour	1	0	0
Mr. Otho Stuart	1	1	0
Mr. Alfred Sutro	1	1	0
Mr. E. Lyall Swete		10	6
Messrs. C. Taylor and Co.		10	0
Mr. Edward Terry	1	0	0
Mr. C. Thorogood	1	1	0
Mr. W. G. Tilling	2	0	0
Sir H. Beerbohm Tree	3	3	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	1	1	0
Miss Violet Vanbrugh		10	6
Mr. H. Vibart		10	0
Miss Ruth Vincent	1	1	0
Mr. Lewis Waller	1	1	0
Miss Genevieve Ward	1	0	0
Mr. James Welch	1	1	0
Messrs. Whitbread and Co.	1	1	0
Total	75	0	6

The sale of tickets, as reported to the hon. secretary, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
J. Atterton, Vaudeville		12	0
H. G. Brooke, Holloway Empire		15	0
F. Chappell, Hippodrome, Peckham	1	0	0
C. T. Cory, Vaudeville	1	10	6
J. R. Craig, Willesden Hippodrome		5	0
J. Cullen, St. James's		7	6
G. T. Dalgarno, Empire		4	0
G. Dyer, Drury Lane		17	6
A. Fraser, Holborn Empire	1	3	0
J. Grant, East Ham Palace		11	0
W. Hall, Alhambra		10	0
F. H. Harman, Empire		18	0
H. Hildyard, Balham Hippodrome		11	6
W. P. Hooke, Kilburn Empire		6	0
G. Hooper, Vaudeville		4	0
A. P. Horne, St. James's	4	1	0
H. Laurence, Hackney Empire	1	3	0
E. Law, Hippodrome, Richmond	1	0	0
A. J. Manning, Empress, Brixton		2	0
J. O'Connor, Queen's		10	6
A. Palmer, Comedy		4	6
G. Palmer, Grand, Clapham		10	0
J. Phelps		4	0
H. Porter, Criterion		11	6
H. J. Powell, Globe	1	2	0
R. B. Presland, Woolwich Hippo.	2	0	0
P. Raphael, Lyceum	12	15	0
H. J. Rennior		5	0
F. W. Runham, Metropolitan		5	6
P. Sheridan, Strand		5	6
E. Stow, Covent Garden		5	0
T. Swift, Alhambra	1	3	0
C. Thorogood	1	1	6
E. Turner, Putney Hippodrome	1	6	0
A. Ulpton, Coronet		10	0
W. C. Wall, Prince of Wales's		1	6
J. Warner, Tottenham Palace		2	0
W. C. Weaver, Vaudeville		6	0
W. Wilby, Kilburn Empire		18	6
A. H. Wolfe, Court		2	6

BEN GREET ACADEMY OF ACTING.

The pupils of the Ben Greet Academy of Acting gave a performance at the little Studio Theatre in Bedford-street, Strand, on Tuesday afternoon and evening last. The pupils may be said to have acquitted themselves admirably, and had evidently been carefully taught, their elocution in nearly every instance being particularly good. The bijou theatre was well filled by an appreciative audience at the afternoon performance, the first item in the varied bill being the Casket scenes from *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Alfred Dight capitally realised the part of the Prince of Morocco, and spoke his lines excellently, the Prince's passion for Portia and his disappointment when he discovers he has chosen the wrong casket being skilfully shown. Mr. Ralph Gaffagan made an ardent and gallant lover of Bassanio, his scene with Portia at the conclusion being especially effective. A delightful representation of the character of Portia was given by Miss Charie Hardy, who can be warmly commended for her artistic performance, and Mrs. Hardy also distinguished herself by her easy and natural portrayal of Nerissa. The other parts were all capably undertaken. In a scene from *King John*, which followed, Miss Isobel Clare made an excellent impression as Arthur, her pleadings to Hubert being very pathetic and her performance throughout praiseworthy, Mr. Ralph Gaffagan submitting a convincing portrayal of Hubert. The recitation "The Jewish Maiden" enabled Mrs. Hardy to display her elocutionary powers to advantage, and her rendition was very impressive. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox's amusing playlet *The Impertinence of the Creature* was capitally enacted, Miss Daisy Desmond making a charming Lady Millicent, and Mr. Alfred Dight cleverly depicting the embarrassment of the "unknown gentleman," who thinks everything is "ripping." The concluding item in the bill was the lyric drama *King René's Daughter*, in which especial praise must be awarded Miss Mary Clare for her natural and in every way admirable performance of the beautiful character of the Princess Iolanthé, King René's blind daughter, her scenes with Count Tristan being particularly well rendered. Mr. Dight and Mr. Gaffagan again did excellent work, and Mr. Alexander Argenti as the leech, Ebn Jahia, submitted a quietly impressive performance. Miss Daisy Desmond was not well suited in the rôle of Sir Geoffrey, but the other parts were all creditably enacted by pupils mentioned above. In the intervals—somewhat lengthy, doubtless owing to the limited stage room—Mrs. Fewlass Llewellyn played many acceptable pianoforte selections; and at the conclusion Mr. Llewellyn, the stage-director, was "called" by his pupils and loudly cheered.

BODY AND BRAINS.

Sir,—I have read the letter in your issue of June 25 headed "Stage Qualifications," in which the writer infers, as far as I am able to judge, that it is the custom of managers to choose persons to impersonate characters in plays from their external appearance alone, regardless of whether a mind lurks in the presumedly beautiful body. I can hardly agree with this, as any person who appreciates the production and performance of a play, whether that person be a layman or what is usually termed an "artist," has only to witness the graceful and complete productions usually seen upon our West End stages, and then witness the same play some years afterwards presented by, no doubt, intensely clever people who had not been individually selected for their various parts, to acknowledge that the judgment of the original producer in his selection of bodies or minds, or both combined, was not so much at fault, after all.—Your faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.

Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W., July 7.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROBERTSON AT THE CORONET.

On Tuesday, July 5, the Revival of "SOCIETY."

"Society" usually has a strong voice in matters of taste and fashion, and the late Tom Robertson's *Society* had its share in an unusually large degree in shaping the fortunes of the gifted author. After being rejected on all hands, it made the name, fame, and fortune of the dramatist. Byron of *Our Boys* fame first helped to bring this play, which was first produced by Alexander Henderson at Liverpool in 1865, into prominence by calling Marie Wilton's attention to it. Lady Bancroft (as she is now) took a fancy to the play, and her production at the Prince of Wales's, Tottenham-street, took the fancy of the press and public. The very points which were open to question were the most approved of all, notably the scene where Bohemian journalists of the out-at-elbow sort forgathered at "The Owl's Roost." The life-like human nature of the piece appealed to audiences all unused to anything but the theatrical and garish.

Society, unlike *Caste*, was most likely better suited to the period when it was produced, less ideal, and possibly more subject to the stress of time. This interesting revival at the Coronet is the first for twenty-nine years, when Lady and Sir Squire Bancroft produced it in 1881. Mr. Arthur Wontner is a very manly, interesting, and agreeable Sidney Daryl; Mr. Edward Lass comes out very strong in the part of the journalist; Tom Stylus, a rôle which he renders in most impressive and realistic manner; Miss Rose Begarnie is most charming and natural as Maud Hetherington; and Miss Adeline Bourne acts with appropriate acerbity as Lady Ptarmigant, a part which does not give her much scope for her undoubted emotional ability. The part of Lord Ptarmigant is safe in the hands of Mr. O. B. Clarence, and as a portrait of fretful and senile old age ranks with his other excellent work; Mr. Charles Hartley as John Chodd, sen., is good; and Mr. Lionel Rignold is every inch a snob as his highly objectionable son; and his character acting in the part is unmistakably realistic. Many other excellent silhouettes of some of Robertson's journalistic comrades are presented by the representatives of the members of "The Owl's Roost" by Messrs. James R. la Fane, W. G. Fay, James Skea, J. H. Brewer, Martin Yorke, William Rokeby, F. Hutchison, and Whitford Kane. All the parts are well played, and the whole revival is most interesting and instructive. Mendelssohn's music is played by the Chamber Quartet, under the direction of Mr. W. Meyer. *Progress*, to be produced on the 18th inst., is to be dressed in the Early Victorian period.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, July 4, for the First Time in London, the Romantic Play entitled

"LOVE THE CONQUEROR."

William of Orange	Mr. Eric S. Crowther
Brian Norval	Mr. Frank Lindo
Sir John Mortimer	Mr. Sidney Dench
Count Leon Lascelles	Mr. Leonard Laurence
Capt. Rupert Armadale	Mr. Norton Shields
And. Albertree	Mr. Harry Belford
Peter	Mr. Bert Dench
Gaoler at Taunton	Mr. Gerald Rogers
Nicholas	Mr. W. Gregory
Dame Norval	Miss Nellie Benson
Susan Shortly	Miss Helen Holmes
Beatrice Mortimer	Miss Marion Wakeford

A capital story of romance and chivalry is unfolded in Mr. Mark Lindo's new play, *Love the Conqueror*, which was produced for the first time in London at this theatre on Monday evening last. We have a hero with a true Wallerian style, afraid of no one, and ready to fight the world for his lady love, who, of course, is blessed with all the world's graces and virtues. Brian Norval, who is a highwayman known as the "Prince," has been outlawed by James II., and has taken to the road as a means of livelihood. The play opens at the Blue Posts Inn, where a King's officer appears on the scene with a proclamation offering a reward for the outlaw's body dead or alive. Immediately the officer leaves the Count Lascelles arrives, and states that he has been robbed of all his possessions by a highwayman. Brian Norval comes to the inn (the innkeeper being his friend), meets, quarrels, and fights with the Count Lascelles and wounds him, thus making him a complacable enemy. Brian Norval recounts a story to the innkeeper of how he that day had robbed an old gentleman and his daughter. They arrive at the inn, and tell the story, saying their coach is in the ditch. Norval offers his services, which are accepted by the old gentleman, who is Sir John Mortimer travelling with his daughter Beatrice. The scene finishes with Brian Norval becoming fast friends with Sir John and his daughter, much to the disgust of Count Lascelles. A meeting of the adherents of William of Orange is held in Sir John Mortimer's house, their object being to overthrow the reigning monarch, James II., and here Beatrice gives Count Lascelles an opportunity to prove his love for her by taking a letter to Lord Churchill in London. The Count, having no liking for such a dangerous mission, refuses, and Brian Norval offers to go instead. His offer is accepted, and on his way he visits his mother's cottage, where he is entrapped by the wily King's officer. He, however, escapes and delivers his letter. On his return he is again arrested and condemned to die, but is saved by Sir John's daughter, Beatrice, who has by this time fallen hopelessly in love with the brave outlaw. Needless to add, Norval returns her affection, and the play ends with the union of the two lovers, a knighthood being conferred upon Norval by William of Orange for bravery, and villainy, in the person of Count Lascelles, receives its due reward by being summarily shot.

Mr. Frank Lindo makes up well and scores a great success as the swashbuckling hero, Brian Norval, seeming thoroughly to revel in rescuing fair ladies and performing wonderful feats of valour; Mr. Eric S. Crowther makes an impressive figure as William of Orange; Mr. Sidney Dench is the fine old English gentleman to the life as Sir John Mortimer; and Mr. Leonard Lawrence plays well as the saturnine and cowardly Count Leon Lascelles. Mr. Norton Shields distinguishes himself as the rough soldier of fortune, Captain Rupert Armadale; the character of And. Albertree finds a most capable representative in Mr. Harry Belford, and Mr. Bert Dench is also distinctly to the fore as Peter, with a great fund of dry humour. Miss Nellie Benson plays pathetically as the sweet old Dame Norval; and Miss Helen Holmes infuses a good deal of comedy into the part of Susan Shortly. Miss Marion Wakeford has a good many opportunities offered her in the character of Beatrice Mortimer, and she takes full advantage of same, playing throughout in a natural and sympathetic manner which quickly gained the approval of the audience. The production is well staged throughout, and the costumes for the most part are good.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 4, the Play entitled

"EAST LYNNE."

This piece is holding the attention of big audiences, and particularly fascinates the gentler sex. Mr. Leonard Yorke ably interprets the part of Archibald Carlyle; and Francis Levison meets with adequate treatment at the hands of Mr. George R. Montford. Mr. Chas. E. Dering is happily cast for Lord Mountsevern, while Mr. Arthur E. Maskell takes the rôle of Ebenezer Walker in a manner much appreciated by the audience. Mr. Thomas Barry makes a very good comic as Justice Hare; Richard Hare is well represented by Mr. John Blake. Miss Muriel Marsden is eminently successful in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine, being especially good in the scene of the death of Little Willie, a part ably sustained by Miss Winnie Rousby. Miss Mary Hardacre as Cornelia Carlyle is good, and Miss Dorothy Clifton as Barbara Hare is charmingly effective. Reuben Hallijohn finds a sympathetic impersonator in Mr. Lewis Aldwin. Mr. Otway Bethel is successfully treated by Mr. George Harding; Miss Lydia Bland is good as Afy Hallijohn; and the parts of Detective Jones (Mr. L. Ritchings), Joyce (Miss Ethel Lockhart), and Wilson (Miss Lottie Chesterman) are suitably allotted.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 4, the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."

A goodly crowd assembled at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday evening to witness the opening performance of Dion Boucicault's sensational drama, *The Streets of London*. The piece was excellently acted, and the staging left little to be desired, the fire scene, especially, being very realistically presented. Mr. Julian Cross scored a decided success in his thoroughly sound representation of Badger. He made light of the difficulties of the part, and his clever acting evoked sustained applause; Mr. William P. Sheen's talents were well employed in the rôle of the needy but generous Puffy, and his sterling work greatly added to the success of the play. Mr. Kenneth Black enacted Captain Fairweather with much earnestness; Mr. Frank J. Robertson played Paul in manly and vigorous style; Mr. J. Ridgway Thorne as Mark Livingstone acquitted himself with credit; Mr. Herbert Hollister presented a careful study of the scheming Gideon Hardman, and having a thorough grip of the character, made it stand out very prominently. Miss East Robertson skilfully portrayed Alida, and acted throughout with dramatic force; Miss G. Middleton gave a very natural representation of the sorely-tried Lucy, winning sympathetic applause; Miss Julia Summers as Mrs. Puffy contributed valuable assistance; and Miss Jessica Black done all that was possible in the rôle of the boy Dan. The comfort of the audience was well attended to by Mr. H. Percival Young, the acting-manager, for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 4, the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. R. Sims, entitled

"THE LIGHTS OF LONDON."

The Lights of London has drawn big and appreciative houses here. The local setting of the Borough especially appeals to South London audiences, and, on the whole, the play has been excellently staged and well acted. The story is full of exciting incidents, blended with plenty of comedy; so that the attention of the onlooker is riveted throughout. The two leading rôles—those of Harold Armytage and Bess, his wife, were played by Mr. Walter Gay and Miss Jessie Winter with much keen intensity. Mr. Gay was an admirable hero, and gave a fine study of the hunted man, who had been wrongfully convicted. Miss Jessie Winter was a lovable Bess, playing with genuine sincerity of feeling throughout, and looking very pretty. Mr. Maitland Marler and Miss Lucie Evelyn surpassed themselves in the comedy rôles of Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis, the travelling players, and were ably supported by Miss Elsie Videan as Shakespeare Jarvis. Mr. Marler has a wonderful fund of humour, and he kept the house in continuous merriment whenever he was on the stage. Mr. Frank Crimp doubled the parts of Squire Armytage and a detective, and was equally good in each. The second rôle he enacted with especial skill. As Clifford Armytage, that clever actor Mr. Fred Morgan won fresh honours, delineating the character with remarkable fidelity. Seth Preene was represented by Mr. Herbert Lloyd, who gave a vivid study of the villain's remorseful accomplice. Mr. Wilson Blake deserves high praise for his amusing sketch of Philosopher Jack, and Hetty Preene was finely impersonated by Miss Winifred Whyte. Among the representatives of smaller parts, Mr. Herbert May must be singled out for his faithful representation of the police officer, both as constable and superintendent, and Mr. Horatio Baker made a sturdy workhouse porter. Miss Marie Clayton as Sal, Miss Maggie Hogan and Miss Winnie Booth as the servants, Mr. R. Harbord as the broken-down masher, Miss Doris White as the street arab, Mr. Slade as a solicitor, Mr. Walter Blake as Bess's father, and Mr. A. St. John as the boy in the travelling show were very good.

THE PAVILION, E.

On Monday, July 4, the Drama entitled

"MAN AND WIFE."

The above drama, from the pen of Walter Howard, is attracting large audiences. The stock company still occupies the boards, and does full justice to the play. As Paul Revere Mr. Ashley Page acts well and carefully, not the least of his good qualities being his distinct enunciation; Marcelle is played by Miss Marion Denvil with great intelligence and much sweetness and gentleness; Mr. Oswald Lingard is admirable as the ruthless Colonel Satour, vividly depicting the evil nature of the part. The other characters are in capable hands; and from start to finish the performance goes without a hitch.

WOOLWICH THEATRE ROYAL.

On Monday, July 4, the Drama entitled

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."

This old and popular drama, now in its twelfth year of tour, has been played in practically every country in which the English language is spoken. It is being presented here by Mr. Horace Stanley and a powerful company, and was accorded on the night of our visit a hearty reception. The piece abounds in exciting incidents blended with a fine vein of humour, and with elaborate scenery and powerful acting is ensuring full houses. As Jack O'Malley, a manly hero, who in the course of the play is practically a "Jack-of-all-trades," Mr. Ernest Fare does extremely well; Mr. George Arthur receives his share of hisses and howls from the pit and "gods" in his representation of James Inderwick; Mr. Edwin Clarke makes the most of Huntly Mason, of Scotland Yard; the broker's man, Baggs, is well played by Mr. A. E. Francis; Sam Wagstaffe, A.B., as presented by Mr. Horace Stanley, is really funny, his business with Peggy Potts, cleverly delineated by Miss Kate Kilpack, creating any amount of fun. Miss Ida Fane as the Suffragette, Letitia Leigh, is effective, and Miss Cora Linda is a sympathetic Bessie Leigh. The remaining characters are played by experienced artists.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, July 4, the Comedy entitled

"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

By arrangement with Mr. George Dance, Mr. Neville Claude's company is playing this most successful musical comedy. Apart from the general attractiveness of the piece, there is some capital part-singing in the second act, and a trio given by a pierrot and two pierrettes (Mr. Jameson Thomas and Misses May Wiltshire and Leamy Green) is enthusiastically received. A powerful company includes Miss Florrie Millington, who has been specially engaged for the title-rôle, in which she is most successful. Mr. J. W. Hooper, as Max Hoggenheimer, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Rosie Bernett gives a finished representation of Norah Chalmers; from the part of Norah's maid, Ellen, Miss Dorothy King extracts much fun; Mr. Chas. Leverton as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle is on the top of his form and meets with approval all round. Mr. Harold Perry is a capital Harry Gordon, and the remaining members of the cast, some twenty in number, are practical and experienced artists, who do not allow the play to flag for an instant. The chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. T. D. Lewis, do everything that is required of them right well.

MEMORIAL THEATRE MEETING.

A meeting was held on the 30th ult. at Christ Church Parish Hall, Edison-road, Crouch End, in connection with the movement for establishing a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre.

The Mayor of Hornsey (Councillor W. Gaskell) presided.

Among the letters read was one from Lord Ronaldshay, M.P. for Hornsey, who in expressing his best wishes for the success of the meeting, stated that the prospect was one which had his heartiest approval. It was one which he felt sure would meet with a ready response from the public.

The Mayor said the meeting had been called in furtherance of a resolution by the Town Council, which requested him to convene a meeting of the burgesses at an early date to consider the question of the proposed national theatre. A number of municipalities were taking an interest in the work and associating itself with the movement. They felt that Hornsey not only ought to have the opportunity, but ought to take its share in the scheme put forward. The scheme would not mature until 1916, the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death, so there would be ample opportunity for anybody who wished to give a donation to the fund to make is as easy for themselves as possible by spreading it over that period of years. The committee had received £70,000 from an anonymous donor, and they had a great prospect of raising the money if they could get the support of the municipalities. Their meeting that night was not a large one, but great things sometimes had small beginnings. The idea was to have a local committee formed, and for meetings to be arranged in various wards. They hoped to approach the inhabitants so that everybody would have an opportunity of giving. The English people were slow to recognise genius. They had been three hundred years in making an effort to recognise Shakespeare. Foreign countries had their national theatres, and there was no reason why England, the richest country in the world, should not have one also.

A summary of the movement, its aims and objects, and the useful purpose which a national theatre would serve, formed the subject of an interesting address by Mr. Perris, the organising secretary.

Dr. Brackenbury moved a resolution pledging the meeting's hearty support of the movement, and that it would use its best endeavours to get a substantial local contribution to the fund. The mere statement of the two objects they had in view, he remarked, was enough to carry conviction to all those who pretended to any interest in the educational and literary and artistic welfare of the country. It appealed to him as a great national movement in which all sorts and conditions of people throughout the Empire could be associated, with the object of commemorating a glorious past and at the same time to help in organising a movement to help the present and to benefit the future. It could be described as pre-eminently a great national movement, a great Imperial movement, in which all of them could feel an honour to take part. The more they knew of Shakespeare's view of life, the more tolerant, the more genial, and the more sympathetic they were bound to become in their relations with their fellow-men, and that was something worthy of a great commemoration.

The resolution, seconded by the Rev. C. J. Sharp, and supported by Mrs. Pigott, was unanimously agreed to, and the meeting proceeded to the question of appointing an executive committee.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 4, the Drama, in Three Scenes, by W. J. Patmore, entitled

"THE JAWS OF DEATH."

This thrilling playlet was quite to the taste of the emotional West Londoners, who always eagerly welcome dramatic fare of this sort. The working of the mechanical hydraulic press in the coiners' den was most realistically done, and the snatching of Ned Dexter from "the jaws of death" was welcomed with cries of relief. Mr. Edward Cranston as Teetotal Jim played with all his old-time energy and resource in characters of this kind, and was most successful. Mr. Raymond Wood enacted the coiner, Michael Fawn, who posed as a slum missionary in a characteristically revolting fashion; Mr. Ronald McHugh portrayed Ned Dexter in a finished and convincing way, and also spoke his lines admirably; whilst that always popular and experienced actress Mrs. Bennett sustained the rôle of Nellie Dexter with all her accustomed ability and effect. Several pictures were clearly screened during the evening, amongst the best being Tommy's Locomotive, Trials of a Chauffeur, The Barber of Seville, and Foolshead Wants to Marry. Mr. F. R. Griffiths' watchful manager, Mr. H. Nugent, keeps a careful eye on everything, and able assistance is rendered him in front by Mr. J. H. Shotton. The orchestra, under Mr. Ward Bailey, contribute several appropriate numbers, which are much appreciated.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

The members of the Alexandra Theatre stock company are this week presenting *The Clockmaker's Hat*, in which, as Mr. Christopher Capstick, Mr. Mark Lester contributes yet another of his amusing impersonations. He is ably seconded by Mr. Henry J. Corner as Colonel Capstick, Mr. J. J. Daly appearing as Mr. Duplex, the clockmaker. Miss Nellie Dade scores heavily by her performance of the servant, Sally Smart, and claims a large share of the general success; Miss May Hallatt and Miss Frances Ruttledge as Jemima and Mrs. Capstick add to the attractiveness of the entertainment by the excellence of their performances. Miss Annie Dodge this week contributes the illustrated songs, and the two principal films being shown are An Episode of 1812 and St. Elmo.

MISS HORNIMAN'S COMPANY.

The Buxton dramatic season at the Opera House opened auspiciously on the 30th ult. with a representation of Mr. George Bernard Shaw's *Candida*, by Miss Horniman's company of the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, under the direction of Mr. Edwin T. Heys. A capital house welcomed the play and greeted the representation with unlimited applause. The brilliant satire and exceptional acting certainly made a great impression. The play was cast with admirable judgment. Of the acting there can be nothing said but great praise. Mr. Ian Maclaren as the specimen of muscular Christianity, the Rev. James Mavor Morell, gave an exact embodiment of the part; and Miss Maire O'Neill as the sweetly sympathetic and womanly Candida was delightful. A subtle and picturesque performance was Mr. Esmé Percy's Eugene Marchbanks. The passion of the poetic lover was so delicately handled as to prevent its becoming at all ridiculous, yet the lighter side of the character was delightfully insinuated. The remainder of the cast were excellent. Miss Muriel Pratt played Prosperine Garnett with keen appreciation; a very amusing caricature of the father-in-law, Mr. Burgess, was presented by Mr. Francis Hope; and Mr. Frank Darch did his work well in the commonplace rôle of the Rev. Alexander Mill. To commemorate the commencement of the tour, Mr. Edwin T. Heys entertained the company, Miss Horniman, Judge Parry, Sir William Bailey, Mr. Iden Payne, and several other distinguished people to supper at the Crescent Hotel after the show.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 7.*)

MAIDSTONE.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—Varieties are given here by Vasey and Ramsey, expert dancers; and George Hunter and Bob, eccentric knockabouts.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—G. W. Hunter is heading the bill here; a good musical sketch, entitled *Ye Squire's Dance*, is provided by the Norman and Leonard Trio; a sketch, entitled *The Lady and the Waiter*, is funny, as played by Edwards, Dacre, and Co.; Marion Armitage is good in her comedy turn; good music is supplied by the Phœnix Trio, whose dances are enjoyable; and Tom Joy, comedian; and Trixie de Tay, comedienne and dancer, are also in the bill. The electric pictures are instructive and amusing.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Lamb.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean (North) company opened their second week's engagement here on Monday with a performance of *Twelfth Night*. Mr. Robert Atkins sustained with dignity the rôle of Orsino; Mr. Cyril Sworder was excellent as Sebastian; Mr. John Hood and Mr. Joseph O'Dowd were good respectively as Antonio and a Sea Captain; whilst Mr. John Cairns as Sir Toby Belch and Mr. H. S. Cohen as Sir Andrew Aguecheek were well placed. Mr. Henry Herbert as Malvolio received quite an ovation for his excellent portrayal; and Mr. Eric Snowden as Fabian and Mr. Charles Sparrow as Feste were all that could be desired. Miss Lila Barclay gave a delightful rendering of Olivia; and Miss Gladys Vanderzee made a pleasing Viola. The other pieces billed for the week include *King Lear, Coriolanus, As You Like It, The Merchant of Venice, King Richard II.*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—An all-round attractive and entertaining programme is contributed to this week by the Six Brothers Luck with *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which is received with roars of laughter. A good turn is provided by the Society quartet of vocalists and expert dancers; Frank Le Dent, the man with the bounding hats, is amusing; and Mabel Mignon, dainty comedienne and dancer; Charles Granby, eccentric comedian; Elsie Denby, the "postcard girl"; Young and Evans, Hebrew comedians, also give much-appreciated turns.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainment, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson Withers.—*The Life Beyond*, with Mr. Hugh Montgomery as Jack o' Lantern, Mr. Alfred Goddard as Bob Mayberry and Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mavis Hawthorne, is the attraction here.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The new films include Industries of California, Double Sight, The Minstrel, Sweetheart and Judge, An Awkward Situation, Faithful Effects a Rescue, Victims of Fate, and School Girl's Dilemma.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*My Lady Bellamy* as submitted by Mr. Alex Maclean and company attracts appreciative audiences nightly. Miss Laura Leigh in the title-rôle and Mr. Alex Maclean as Sir Gervase Bellamy sustain the principal characters in a manner which commands approbation and the other members of the company all acquit themselves well in their respective parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson. — The Repertory Circuit Company this week is presenting *Rip Van Winkle*. In the title rôle Mr. A. Austin-Leigh is a distinct success as Derrick; Mr. Robert Entwistle does well; Mr Arthur Dennis plays with ability the character alloted to him; and much praise is due to the portrayal of Gretchen by Miss Emmie O'Reilly.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G Rembges.—The Selbinis submit their well-known and clever cycle act with success; Mysticus gives a weird and attractive performance; and Ward and Davis, comedians; Zera and Zana, equilibrists; Haley's Garden of Girls; Miss Mena Brae in the pastoral musical scena *Springtime*; Martin Henderson, musician; Claude Gardner, comedian and dancer, also entertain. The Empirescope picture complete.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Pictures continue to draw well at the "Hip."

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. Charles Windermere is here this week in a clever farcical comedy, *Where is William?* written by himself, and in which he assumes the leading rôle with distinct success. He is ably seconded by Mr. Rule Pyott, Mr. Robert Urquhart, and Mr Leslie Norman; Misses Zoe Davis, May Rosine, Claire Manifield, and Belle Donaldson. The piece is preceded by a once-act play, *The Clown*, in which Mr. Windermere also appears with success.

WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Percy B. Broadhead.—Lulu Russell is topping the bill here, and her beautiful voice, handsome figure, and general artistic ability have captivated all hearts; Mlle. de Louvois' company of models present some fine examples in living statuary, drawing for subjects upon ancient and modern incidents; Edwin Garth and Tom Merry are the comedians, and they raise a plentiful crop of laughs; Cara Magda is a dainty gymnast, and does some smart tricks; the Five M.P.'s, musical specialists; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; and Blanche Montague, comedienne, are also in the programme.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Mappin and Webb are the particular attraction here, and their harmonising duets create warm approval. Phil Lister introduces a clever musical act; and Ruby Hill, top boot dancer and club swinger, finds favour. The Two Renos, sketch artists, cause amusement. Pictures are up to the usual standard.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Condensed operas are given by Mr. John Riddings company, *Fra Diavolo* being played on Monday evening before a good house, and on Tuesday *Maritana* was sung before a crowded audience. *Satanella, Daughter of the Regiment, Lily of Killarney*, and *Waterman* are in the week's bill. The company includes Miss Sara Williams, Mr. F. S. Gilbert, Miss Lucy Lever, Mr. M. Kemble, Mr. J. Riddings, Mr. F. Clenden, Miss J. Browning, Miss Vera Virgard, and Mr. C. Williams. The increased orchestra is conducted by Mr. Ernest Carter.

THE TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—In the theatre the go-as-you-please concerts are well patronised. Every afternoon and evening variety and pictures constitute the programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—A week of comedies has been arranged.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Miss Winifred Maud's company, in the *Sins of a City*, is the attraction here this week. The heroine is effectively and winsomely portrayed by Miss Maud, and the part of Sandy McDonald, her sweetheart, is in the hands of Mr. William Vane; Mr. Morris Maud, as Ralph Blackwater, K.C., also contributes materially towards the success of the performance.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Amongst the many notable turns presented here this week Mr. George Formby occupies the foremost position. The Zigoener Musical Quartette provide a turn of exceptional merit, and well deserve the unstinted applause bestowed on them; a laughable sketch, *Hester's Mystery*, is presented by Horace Pollock and Co.; and the Three Laurels show surprising skill and agility in an original speciality act. Other capital turns are provided by The Gothams, the Royal entertainers; Cassie Walmer, vocalist and dancer; Nina Wood, pianoforte entertainer; Harry Marie, comedian and dancer; Lily Hexmore, the renowned flexible dancer; and the Seven Perezoffs, in a juggling pantomime.

NEWRY.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Pinchin.—An excellent variety company and entertaining films attract crowded houses. Mr. Henri Hertz, conjurer, tops the bill with some really clever performances; Miss Rita O'Neill, Irish comedienne, is very popular, as is also Miss Lilian Walsh, vocalist. As a Scotch comedian, Master John Shortt has made a name.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The leading pictures are: The Luck of Roaring Camp, A Mother's Gratitude, The Skipper's Yarn, The Way of the World, and The Firemen of Cairo. The songs furnished by Miss Margaret Payne are "Texas" and "My heart has learned to love you," and are favourably received.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Some excellent coloured films are projected, notably The Bride of the Haunted Castle. Good dramatic subjects are found in The Broken Spell and The King of the Beggars, whilst Races at Heliopolis is most instructive.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. E. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—This week's pictures include Thread of Destiny, On the Border Line, A Mother's Heart, and Empire Day in Northampton, showing the children assembling in the Market-square.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The stock company is drawing good houses with *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. Albert Sember appears with conspicuous success in the rôle of Tom Cooper; Mr. Edward E. Lewis gives a clever portrayal of George Benson; Mr. C. Alan Hinson is well suited to the part of Nathan; Mr. Lonnen Meadows makes a hit as Jim Farren; and Mr. Ernest R. Allen scores as Arkwright. As Nellie Standish Miss Fay Garnet Vayne deserves considerable praise; Miss Kate Froude makes the most of her opportunities as Annie Standish; and Miss Effie Macintosh proves a smart Biddy Roonan. On Thursday evening the popular acting-manager (Mr. Horace Lee) took his annual benefit, an attractive bill of fare being provided for the occasion.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The pictures here continue to be well up-to-date and very interesting, as well as amusing, and this week Madame Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, sings most pleasingly; and Professor Thompson's auxetophone delights all.

YE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—A new company, sent by Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale, appears here this week, and meets with much approbation. Miss Florence Driver sings pleasingly, and Mr. J. W. Hughes meets with success; Mr Edgar Driver is very humorous; Mr. F. Hulme is really funny; and Baddow gives a clever ventriloquial sketch. Miss Spindler ably accompanies.

THE NEST, ROSARY ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's Pierrots are still attractive here. Miss Rosie Effingham has some new songs which please; Miss Cissie Scott makes herself a favourite; Miss Eileen Delmore creates a great impression; Mr. Jack Bonny scores all round; Mr. Ernest Beare is decidedly good; Fred Capron renders his violin solos with much taste; and Mr. Leslie Sears evokes many a laugh by his droll ways.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's Madcaps continue to be well patronised, and under the management of Mr. Bert Gordon the entertainment gains in attraction.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Serene Nord's graceful and clever diving performance is made all the more delightful by the picturesque scenic effects; Will Evans bubbles over with humour, and his "Chantecler" song is an excellent addition to his répertoire; the Great Northern Troupe of dancers present an admirable exhibition of the terpsichorean art; France and Stewart add to the laughter by their smart sketch, *The Little Puritan*; while the Sisters Jerome dance with skill and precision; the juggling of Carmos calls for special praise; Hans and Lux exert themselves in cross-talking; Jennie Johns sings brightly; and Harry Marlow is well received for his songs.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr H. F. Miller.—The Six Brothers Luck present rollicking fun in their clever sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*; another side-splitting sketch, *A Dotted Crochet*, is smartly presented by Selvidge and Holland; the skilful violin solos of Romanoff rouse the audience to enthusiasm; Rappo and his assistant Ella come in for a large share of applause by their daring gymnastic work; the tumbling of the Becketow Bros.; singing by Francesca; a song scena by the Two Eduns; and Harry Lawson, comedian, add to the enjoyment of patrons.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott commenced the third week of the stock season on Monday with *Colleen Bawn*. Mr. Charles Draycott delighted the audience with a clever performance as Myles-na-Coppaleen, a character in which he is perhaps seen at his best; Mr. George Steel made a capital Hardress Creegan; Mr. Theo Balfour was a venerable Father Tom; Mr. Clinton Boddeley successfully represented the despicable Mr. Corrigan; Mr. Joseph Magrath capably equitted himself as Danny Man; Ann Chute, as played by Mrs. Charles Draycott, left little to be desired; Miss Louise Millward successfully depicted Mrs. Creegan; Miss Issa Steel made the most of her opportunities as Sheelah; and Miss Nana Hensberg was entirely satisfactory in the title-rôle. For the latter half of the week *Shadows of a Great City* and *The Green Bushes* are billed.

OLDHAM. — COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. William Eastwood.—*A Wedded Wife* is being played here by Mr. Will Casey and company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar gave a good performance as Marion; Mr. Arthur Cheeves, as Frank, acted excellently; and Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes played Philip Blackstone convincingly; Mr. Ern Turner, as Christopher Lennox, was excellent; and Mr. L. Ernest, as John Hawthorne, was also good; Miss Ethel Spense, as Elsie Langham, acted in a sympathetic manner; and Little Doris Corsey, as Reggie, was clever; Mr. Will Casey plays Napoleon B. Boomer in his usual hearty manner; and Miss Annie Mitchell, as Carraway Crumpet, aids him with much success; Mr. Frank Masters, as P.C. O'Runyin, was most amusing. The remaining characters are well played.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital bill is being shown this week, Father and Son being a fine dramatic picture of English manufacture, showing a colliery explosion. There is also an interesting love story interwoven in it. Saved by Her Dog is a touching story of a child and a dog; Redeemed and The Fisherman are excellent dramas; and A Trip Through the Laos States is an excellent example of colour photography; Baby's First Tooth is very amusing; and Ready In A Minute is of much interest to the ladies. Mr. Roger Alwyn contributes a good song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Gold Seekers is a good picture, as is The Bad Man and The Preacher. Mr. Tubby's Triumph, Water on Every Floor, and The New Sign of the Globe Hotel are also in the bill. Mr. King sings "Killarney."

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Father and Son, Electra, and A Broken Spell, are good dramatic pictures. Brown's Weekly Journal is proving popular: Empire Day at Syndney is good; Tontoline as Buffalo Bill, Invincible Gentleman, and Poorluck's First Tiff, are laughable, and several other films are also depicted.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. William Hughes.—The Centurion's Daughter: a Story of Ancient Rome, is the top liner; Outwitted By A Child is a capital picture. Worker's Wife, Parted to Meet Again, Precocious Cyclist, Water on Every Floor, and Kidnapped Paper, and Mr. Hartley Cooper, in some good songs, fill the programme.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—One of the principal attractions here is Nerigne, classical artist, whose scene "Oenone," is especially good. Attractive also are Monte Walker, the Lancashire K'nut; La Belle Greta, comedienne; and Dick Francis, piano entertainer. Harvey and Jesson, dancers, have a good reception; Sharon, street musician, is successfully encored; the Sauteron Wonders are clever leapers; and Winona and King are worthy contributors to an excellent programme.

PAISLEY. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Patrons here are being well catered for during the summer season by good pictures of every nature, and large houses are the rule at the two entertainments each evening. The pictures this week include some very fine ones. The singing of Adela Varcoe in songs beautifully illustrated adds to the enjoyment.

PENZANCE.—ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—Miss Lily Pritchard's "Queer Quakers" is one of the best parties who have ever occupied these grounds. Miss Margaret Bradshaw possesses a pleasing soprano voice, and her songs are well received; Mr. Edward W. Pritchard plays violin solos, and ably assists in duets and quartets; Miss Evelyn Heighton's songs at the piano are dainty and refined; Mr. Wilson Bramer has a fine tenor voice, and is much appreciated; Miss Lily Pritchard's recitations are clever and her songs well received; and humorous selections are given by Mr. McCall Chambers, an excellent humorist, who keeps the house in continual merriment.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Kloof and Ramsey, the popular musical comedy duo, are the star turn here; Carrie Joy is an attractive comedian; Mlle. Pollo gives a very clever show on the trapeze; Jack Straw, comedian, gains much applause; the Two McMays, in new and original creations, give a good account of themselves; as do Rohde and Roche, in a series of contortions and acrobatic comicalities; Jack Warman keeps the house in good humour with his funny songs and patter; and the Karnoscope shows some excellent films.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Miss Ellaline Terriss makes a first-rate leading attraction of the piece *The Pink of Perfection*, which suits her admirably, the other characters being capably undertaken by Miss Maie Ash and Messrs. Ronald Chester and Stanley Brett. The other turns are considerably above the average. Archie Royer is a brilliant acrobat dancer; the Eight Elves are smart juvenile dancers; the Countess Bekofsska executes some skilful flower painting; Julian Mack has a fund of original patter; the Hon. St. Vincent Ellesmere has a rich baritone voice; and Stuart and Evans provide the remaining number of a first-rate bill.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—The Elliott-Savonas, musical marvels, head the bill with their creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*. The company number eight artists, and are repeatedly encored at each performance; Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns appear in a singing and dancing act; the Monckton's present a screaming comedy sketch, entitled *A Woman's Curiosity*; Rich Taylor appears in an original whistling, singing, and ventriloquial scena; Gilbert's performing Dogs and Cats give a capital entertainment; Senorita Elvina deserves praise for her graceful gymnastic performance; Mlle. Florence sings illustrated songs with a clear voice; Harry Morris, as a Lancashire comedian, makes a decided hit; and the Alexscope shows good pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Owing to stage extensions and alteration this theatre is closed for theatrical performances for a short period, and pictures are shown on the Theatrescope.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—*The Lighthouse Robbery*, an excellently staged drama, is presented by Mrs. E. H. Knight's company. Mr. Percy Beresford as Tom Manley is admirable; Miss Hilda Baynton makes a charming Rosa Prescott; Miss Freda makes a hit as Little Nellie; and Miss Louise Carlton as Ruth is much appreciated. Mr. Rupert Talbot as Sam Kiddie is very funny. Other characters are capably sustained by Mr. S. Fortescue, Mr. Gordon Ingram, and Mr. J. Paley.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Horner.—Miss Violet Osmund presents a good company this week in *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Alexander Loftus is a quaintly amusing Bertie White; Mr. Charles Adeson scores a hit as the waiter; Miss Madge Prior is charming in the title-rôle; Captain Lovebury is well impersonated by Mr. George Fox; Miss Murielle Mascot takes the part of Mabel with considerable ability; and Miss Beatrice Erle makes a lively lady journalist.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Boughton has again successfully met the popular demand for two houses each night, and also made a great feature of the animated pictures. *Jane Shore*, that fine old historical drama, is the first of this series of short plays which are to be performed by artists from the leading London companies.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—"Happy" Tom Parker is amusing in song and patter; Radie Furman is very successful in impersonations of a merry little Dutch Girl; Clifford Marle and Josephine Colona present a capital naval phantasy, entitled *Nelson*; the Cavalotti Bros. are talented instrumentalists; Kelso and George have a humorous Yorkshire sketch; and other good turns include The Rabusios, acrobats; Bert Lytton, comedian; and Gala and Norris, skatorial duo.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The star turn this week is Miss Marie Lloyd, who proves as popular as ever in her latest attractions; Hanvarr and Lee are clever comedy club jugglers; Walton and Lester provoke much mirth as the World's Worst Wizards; Mernie Myers scores heavily as a patter comedian; Valvero is a realistic lightning marine depicter; Shirley Lygins and Co. present a vocal scena, *A Twilight Serenade*; and Lucia Collins, Joe Belmont, and Lily Lonsdale are turns that please.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Abundant mirth is prevalent, Mr. Fred Kitchen producing his laughable sketch, entitled *Private Potts*; Jay Laurier also provides excellent humour; Pichel and Scalo are clever comedy acrobats; Hinton and Wooton give a remarkable display of trick cycling; a capital turn is provided by Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre; and other good turns include La Belle Greta, Spanish dansense; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy; and the harmonious Quality Quartette.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—*For Wife and Home*, a romantic French play, is well adapted to the patrons of this house. Mr. Robert Faulkner, as the hero, and Miss Marian Rider, are especially good, and the remaining characters are all adequately enacted.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—An excellent programme is presented this week. The famous Craggs, in their latest acrobatic conception, *The Territorials; or England's Last Hope*, have excellent opportunities for displaying their wonderful acrobatic specialities; a big favourite is Alec Hurley, *Cockneys in Japan* proving very entertaining; Praatz's Dogs is one of the cleverest animal turns we have seen here; and Friend and Downing, the original Rosenthal and Harrigan, contribute some capital patter; Baker and Balfe are clever performers on the xylophone; and little Sadie Lundy is a pleasing vocalist; the Bio film which gives the bout between Johnson and Burns in Australia is particularly interesting.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. C. Price.—The re-opening of the Pavilion for the dramatic season was auspiciously inaugurated on Monday night, when Mr. W. W. Kelly's company staged *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Violet Ellicott plays Josephine in a manner which appeals to all, and she is warmly applauded for her excellent acting. Mr. Frederick Moyes gives a fine character study as Napoleon; and all the other parts are ably played. Friday evening was set apart for a benefit to Miss Ellicott.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Mr. Scott Alexander ("Scottie") and his clever company appear here in a capital programme. *Napoleon at Waterloo* is a big item, and it is well presented and thoroughly appreciated. Mr. Alexander does admirably as Napoleon; while Miss Kitty Aaen pleasingly takes the part of a brave Irish child, Kathleen O'Moore. There are attractive varieties in the bill. Wana and Wanotee give a remarkable muscular entertainment on the trapeze; and Sandy and Ramsay prove themselves amusing at patter and expert at dancing. Whizzing the Whirl is a novel sporting feature.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Large audiences at the Marina have enjoyed the first-class picture show set before them. As usual, the films are up-to-date, clear, and steady. Variety of a thoroughly good character is afforded by the Frohmans, musical experts, who have been nightly encored.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats, give an expert vaulting and acrobatic display; Lee and Bentley appear with success in *The King's Counsel*; Ruhart gives a rapid succession of burlesque productions; Ray and Lingard produce a comedy duologue, *The First of April*; Dave O'Toole, comedian, creates roars of laughter; Kydd and Kydd, patter comedians, indulge in some amusing repartee; St. Ruth and Conyers, operatic duettists, give an artistic musical turn; and the performance concludes with an excellent film, the building of a Trans-Continental Railway.

RHYL. — OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Little Mona Vivian is delighting everyone with her clever singing and dancing; Bert Byrne, comedian, is another favourite; Archie Glen, Maud Hughes, Charles Cardle, and Thersa Foote are all well received.

MARINE PAVILION AND GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. J. Mellard.—Hambourg's Russian orchestra is giving excellent promenade concerts three times daily. The Whips, a smart and up-to-date company of entertainers, opened here on Monday with a capitally-rendered programme.

PIER AMPHITHEATRE.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale are providing a series of interesting vaudeville entertainments. This week's programme is contributed to by the Anglo-Indian Concert Party, including Blanco White, Jimmie Watson, Emily Clifford, Ethel James, Mimi Fisher, Bernard Knox, Chas. North, Jack Lennox, Jackson Collis, and George Adams.

OTHER attractions in Rhyl are Gilbert Rogers's Jovial Jesters, the Queen's Skating Rink, which is well patronised, and animated pictures at the Central Hall.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Shadow of a Crime*, by Nita Rae, was witnessed with interest by a good house on Monday. Mr. Whitmore Ledger carefully played the hero, Jim Murdock. The villain, Ralph Esmond, was well sustained by Mr. Victor Gordon. Much comedy was contributed to by Mr. Geo. Millard (as Samuel Brown), Mr. Tom Maynard (James Tod), and Miss Hettie Jeffries (Sarah Murdock). Miss Ethel Savill was seen to advantage as Loyale Norman. Miss Violette Vivienne as Mrs. Brown. Miss Nellie Freeland as Dora, Miss Ada Arthur as Winnie Murdock, Miss Daisy Free as Bella all did charming work. Mr. Robt. Hewland as Captain Harry Bullington and Mr. Pat Quinn as John also did well. The scenery was very good.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—W. C. Fields, the comic juggler, heads an excellent programme; Cullen and Carthy, with Little Cluley, are old favourites whose welcome is clearly shown. The other acceptable turns include Dolly and Elsie, dainty duettists and dancers; Ida Dorrie, chic comedienne; Jock McNeil, comedian and expert novelty dancer; Beatrice Bonnie, in her dancing act; Adras Brothers, acrobats; the Brooklands, dainty comediennes and dancers. The prize fight film of the Johnson v. Burns Fight is very good.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—An Eye for an Eye, Oh, so Sick, A Light Heart is Better than Riches, Native Life in Malacca, Double Sight, As It is in Life, Adventures of a Double Bass, &c., are some of the pictures shown this week to big houses.

CENTRAL HALL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD. — Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures, always good, include The Troubadour, La Travatore, Cheque from Uncle, Sign of Globe Theatre, Bravery's Reward, The Merry Beggars, Dining Acquaintances, and Tenderfoot's Triumph.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (PENDLETON).—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Whiteley.—The pictures this week are drawing large houses, as usual.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' company is paying a return visit here in *The Thief*. Mr. Bernard Limpus gives an excellent representation of Richard Chelford; Miss Barbara Everest is distinctly successful as Marise Chelford; Miss Mary Forrester does well as Isabel Leyton; and Mr. F. Morland ably sustains the rôle of Raymond Leyton. Mr. W. Somerset gives a capital study of the detective; and Mr. Carl Lindsay makes the most of his opportunities as Harry Leyton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Mr. J. E. Barne's company is appearing here in *The Drama of Life*, with Mr. Graham Woods as Harry Beech; Mr. Archie Heisby, Walter Beech; Miss Pattie Hastings, Sylvia Beech; and Miss Alice Oliver, Lady Jane Wilde. All the characters are well represented.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*Diana of Dobson's* is excellently played by Miss Lena Ashwell's company. Miss Eva Leonard Boyne appears to advantage in the title-rôle; and Mr. Brisco Owen admirably enacts Captain Bretherton.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—Included in this week's programme are Captain Permane's Live Teddy Bears, Clara and Pastor, speciality artists; Four Janowskys, acrobats; Daisy Lannon, dancer; Canard, the man on time; Edgar Graham, Lilliputian wonder; Arthur Ferriss, comedian; Doc Thomas, ventriloquist; and the Palsco Pierrots.

THE SEA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—Very attractive programmes are submitted by Mr. H. G. Amer's band, and the picture displays in the Electric Theatre maintain a high standard of excellence.

CATLIN'S ARCADIA, FORESHORE-ROAD.—A special attraction was provided here on Monday night, in the form of a balloon flight by Captain Spencer, who, after attaining a height of 3,500ft., descended by means of a parachute into the sea, where a motor boat was awaiting him. Owing to the success of *The Giddy Old Chantecler* on Saturday night, it was repeated on Monday to a full house.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. Hinton and Mr. Travis Green's capable company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Hinton. Miss Hilda Shirley is a graceful Myra, and acts with emotional ability; Mr. Jerrold Heather makes a powerful Zaco; and the other parts are cleverly sustained.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is here, played by Mr. Graham Arthur's company. Miss Mabel Elliott was very successful as Alva Kenyon; and other characters were carefully acted by Messrs. W. Graham Arthur, Ernest Wingfield, J. Barker, Lowe Mackenzie, B. Philips, J. E. McCann, Roland Devonport, Miss Ida Lovett, Ada Band, and C. Middleton. Some well painted scenery added to the effect.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The programme here is contributed to by the following artists: Mr. Wilkie Bard, a clever comedian; Mr. Harry Weldon, burlesque impersonator; Mr. Leo Stormont, baritone vocalist; the Bensons, in *The Page and the Maid*; Mitchel and Cane, comedy merchants; Mr. Johnson, the original Black Diamond; Miss Florence Smithers and company, in a farcical absurdity; the famous Jackleys, acrobatic drolls; the celebrated Griff, with up-to-date comicalities; and Little Sophie, juvenile artist.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The sensation here this week is the appearance of "The Balloon Girl"; Mr. A. Richardson, in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, convulses the audience with laughter; Mr. Thos. Bentley and his pretty little girl, in scenes from Dickens's "Old Curiosity Shop," are loudly applauded; Mr. Syd Walker, in his great comic creation, *The Debt Collector*, brings down the house; and other able performers here this week are Mr. Philip Levard, illusionist; Gus Blake and Miss Granby, in a comic sketch; Miss Lottie Bellman, the bright and chic musical comedy actress, vocalist, and dancer; Moon and Morris, dancers; the Goodlow Trio, in a novel act; and Mr. Dave Samuels, Hebrew impersonator. Scenes in Delhi and other pictures are also pleasing items.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here in *The Education of Elizabeth*. Miss May Norris presents a striking impersonation of Elizabeth Black. Miss Roberta Pulleyne provides capital amusement as Blanche Macyntyre; and Mr. Ernest E. Norris is well suited as the mirthful Reggie Hankey. Mr. Herbert Carthorne is a worthy exponent of Harry Fairfax; Mr. Fred Castleman well impersonates Mr. Whitby; Miss Helene Forest makes a pleasing Lucy Middleton; and Miss Una Erle as Lily Kerr is satisfactory.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE (late KURSAAL).—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—This week's variety entertainment, submitted twice daily, proves most popular. Mr. Graham, as the human marionette, gives a delightful and talented impersonation of a music hall programme of long ago, and finishes up with selections of the present-day comedians with telling effect. He is giving a special morning children's performance to-day (Saturday). Mollie Seymour is heard to advantage both as a vocalist and violinist; the Stewarts are clever in Scotch duologues; Carrie Ford pleases as a comedienne and dancer; smart comedy bar performances by Hugo and Smit win capital recognition; Vowles and Bryan, in a scena, Rose and Bud as comedy sketch artists, and Zoe and Bunnie, in song and dance, all entertain successfully. A good dancing programme is also gone through twice daily.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. H. Angless.—The three-act farcical comedy, entitled *What Happened to Jones*, is affording capital amusement here nightly. By special request daily matinées of *East Lynne* are given this week by the same company. Miss M. Lane Daro is responsible for the impersonation of Lady Isabel, a rôle in which she is admirably suited.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietary, The Southend Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The artists here this week are George Lambton, juvenile swell comedian; Viviana and company in *The Toy Shop*; Maud Esmond, an attractive chorus comedian; Kathleen Cogan

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Martin Harvey, in deference to arrangements previously made, will bring his season at the Lyceum to an end on Saturday, which will, therefore, see the last performance of *The Breed of the Treshams*. The success of the play has been so decided that Mr. Harvey hopes at some future time to continue the run. On Aug. 22 Mr. Harvey starts on a lengthy provincial tour, playing in the course of the itinerary at Harrogate, Llandudno, Glasgow, Liverpool, Belfast, Dublin, Birmingham, and the Coronet.

Mr. H. B. Irving brought his present London season to a termination on Saturday evening, when he acted Lesurques and Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail* for the 166th time, at the Queen's Theatre. At the end of the play Mr. Irving announced that his next new production in London would be Mr. George Pleydell's dramatisation of Mr. A. E. W. Mason's popular novel, "Clementina," with Miss Stella Patrick Campbell in the title-rôle and himself as the soldier hero, Charles Wogan.

The usual monthly meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at the office of the Fund, Savoy House, 115, Strand, on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. Edward Terry (hon. treasurer), in the chair, and Messrs. H. Cooper Cliffe, Robert Courtneidge, Tom Craven, T. F. Dillon Croker, Arthur Curtis, Alfred H. Elliott, Douglas Gordon, M. R. Morand, Charles Rock, F. Percival Stevens, A. B. Tapping, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). A hearty and cordial vote of thanks was accorded by acclamation to Mr. Martin Harvey for his strenuous efforts on behalf of the Fund and his kindness and courtesy in presiding at the sixty-fifth Festival, when, notwithstanding the regretful circumstances of the deaths of some of the chief supporters of the institution during the past year, it was confidently expected that the nett financial result of the function would be greater than that of the Festival of 1909. The committee appointed to consider the revision of the rules of the Association reported progress. A member was elected, and a candidate for election was nominated. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

A phrase in our leader last week might easily convey the idea that the celebrated Vedrenne-Barker management of the Court Theatre ended in 1904. As a matter of fact, it began on Oct. 18, 1904, and ended on June 29, 1907, in which time 32 plays by 17 authors were produced, and 946 performances given.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith and Miss May Palfrey are giving their services at a matinée in aid of the Actors' Church Union, on Thursday, July 14, at the Shaftesbury Theatre. They will appear, with Mr. Wilfred Forster, in a new playlet, entitled *How It's Done*. Miss Palfrey on this occasion makes her re-appearance on a West End stage after an absence of nearly two years, and it is some considerble time since she and Mr. Weedon Grossmith were last seen acting together.

Others who have given their services are Miss Constance Collier, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, and Miss Pauline Chase. Miss May Palfrey will appear in a one-act piece, and Miss Anna Stannard will make her first appearance on the stage in this country in the second act of Mr. Thomas W. Broadhurst's version of *Medea*, supported by Mr. John Clulow, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, and Miss Rosalind Ivan.

The promoters of the matinée performance of the new comedy *His Lordship's Cure*, by Dolf Wyllarde and Elliott Page, at the Apollo Theatre on Tuesday next, have decided to keep the price of reserved pit stalls at 3s. and gallery seats at 1s. Every penny raised by the matinée will be handed to Prince Francis of Teck. Amongst the patrons are the Marchioness of Donegall, Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Countess of Bective, the Countess Drogheda, Dora Countess of Chesterfield, Lady Giroand, and Mr. and Mrs. Bland-Sutton, who are working with Mrs. E. Hatheway Turnbull to make the performance a financial success. Mr. Alec Henderson has kindly lent the Apollo Theatre, and Mr. Platt, the business manager, and the entire staff are giving their services free. Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Cicely Courtneidge, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, Miss Dorothy Hammond, Miss Dolly Castles, and Miss Eileen Castles have volunteered to sell programmes. Music will be provided by the Lilla von Glehn String Trio, and the following artists are rehearsing under Mr. D. G. Williams, of the Comedy Theatre:—Miss Granville, Mr. Lloyd Lowndes, Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Miss Viva Birkett, Mr. Bryan Egerton, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. Cremlin, Miss Armine Grace, and Miss Katherine Pole.

The foundation-stone of the new building of the Royal Academy of Music in Marylebone-road will be laid, in the absence of the president, his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, by Lord Strathcona and Mount-Royal (one of the vice-presidents), at twelve o'clock on Thursday, the 14th inst. The Bishop of Kensington has consented to conduct a short service. The Royal Academy of Music students' choir will take part in the proceedings and sing an unaccompanied choral piece, "My soul would drink those echoes," written by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the principal, for the occasion; and the band of the Royal Engineers (by permission) will be in attendance, the bandmaster, Neville Flux, A.R.A.M., being an ex-student. The Royal Academy of Music has now only one more year to pass in Tenterden-street. The new school will be a very handsome building, with all the modern improvements, a large concert-hall, and three new organs.

Miss Edith Cole (Mrs. W. W. Kelly) made her first appearance on the stage of her husband's Liverpool theatre (Kelly's) last Monday week, when she appeared as the Duchesse de Verviers in *The Broken Melody*, supporting Mr. Auguste Von Biene. Record business was done throughout the week, people being regretfully turned away from all parts each evening. Miss Cole made a remarkable hit, and was received with enthusiasm.

A big move is being made in Liverpool to create interest in the institution of a repertory theatre, and Mr. Kelly, together with some of his brother managers, has offered to set aside a portion of the autumn season at Kelly's Theatre to repertory if he is given an adequate promise of support by responsible people. The matter is being taken up by the newly-formed Liverpool Playgoers' Society, an organisation which held its public inaugural meeting last week.

Mr. Kelly has made some capital engagements for the autumn season at his Liverpool theatre. They include the Castellano Opera Co., Miss Annie Hughes in *Miss Tommy*, *The Hypocrites*, *The Girls of Gottenberg*, *The Dairymaids*, &c. The autumn season will open on Monday, Aug. 1, with Mr. Lester Collingwood's *When London Sleeps*.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark's highly successful and artistic pantomime *Dick Whittington* will visit Exeter this year for a run of four weeks and then go on tour. At the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, these well-known managers will produce at Christmas an entirely new and original version of *The Babes in the Wood*, which will be sumptuously mounted and dressed.

Mr. Edmund Gerson, the well-known American manager, who has conducted for many years past many first-class theatrical enterprises in New York, &c., has taken Terry's Theatre, and will present there, on Aug. 22, the well-known actress Miss May Robson, in *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*, which has run for three years without a break in the United States, and has been an immense success on the other side of the Atlantic. Miss Robson was for eighteen years under the management of Charles Frohman, and during that time she appeared in a long line of parts in the Frohman successes that ranged in character from ingénues to *grande dames*. "I tried to count the other day," said Miss Robson, "just how many different rôles I have played for Mr. Frohman. I got up to eighty-four when I stopped, because I could not think of any more." Miss Robson was the comedienne of that organisation, and was cast for all the feminine eccentric comedy characters. Her greater hits have been made in "slavey" parts, one of the most notable being that of Emma in *Gloriana*, and a similar one in *Nerves*. She also had congenial rôles in *Lady Bountiful*, *Liberty Hall*, *Lord and Lady Algy*, *His Excellency the Governor*, *Bohemia*, and other productions, and has appeared as well in several of Charles Frohman's musical comedies.

The Thomas Beecham autumn season of grand opera at Covent Garden commences on Oct. 1, and lasts until Dec. 31. Among many new and unfamiliar works will be included Eugen D'Albert's *Tiefland*, Mousseorgsky's *Boris Godounow*, Tschaikovsky's *Pique Dame*, and Saint-Saëns's *Henry VIII.* The proposed repertory embraces over twenty-eight operas, with eight new productions and some notable revivals, among them Sir Alexander Mackenzie's *Colomba*.

Mr. Cairns James, having entered eight of his pupils for the British Empire Shakespeare Society elocution examination, five were selected for the final examination, held at the Queen's Theatre by Mr. H. B. Irving, and he awarded the junior prize to Miss Mabel George, a pupil at Mr. Cairns James's school of musical and dramatic art, and the professional prize to Miss Maud Hartley, a pupil of Mr. Cairns James at the Guildhall School of Music.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark will produce next month and afterwards send on tour an entirely new romantic opera, entitled *A Bedouin Beauty*, written by Talbot Hughes and composed by Frederic Rosse. An elaborate production is being prepared.

That able and experienced actor, Mr. J. H. Barnes, is publishing his series of essays on the current drama, viz., (1) "The Attitude of the Public"; (2) "On Plays and Playwriting"; (3) "The Dramatic Press," at the convenient price of sixpence. Copies may be obtained at the offices of this paper.

Miss Nellie Farren Lonnen, daughter of the late E. J. Lonnen, and godchild of the late Nellie Farren, has been engaged by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper to play the title-rôle in the autumn tour of the successful Playhouse piece, *Tantalising Tommy*, starting at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, Aug. 1. Miss Lonnen has lately been playing for Miss Ellaline Terriss, at matinées, the part of the Dashing Duke with great success.

The Shakespeare Summer Season which Mr. F. R. Benson is organising at Stratford-on-Avon, will open on July 25 with *The Winter's Tale*, and the following evening the prize play, *The Piper*, will be produced with Miss Marion Terry in a leading part. Nine plays of Shakespeare will be presented, including the whole of *Hamlet*, which will be given in two consecutive performances, and the season, which will last three weeks, will include revivals of *Masks and Faces* and a concert by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mallinson, of Dresden. The annual flower show and sports are fixed for Aug. 1.

A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held at the new premises, 5, Wardour-street, W., on Friday, the 1st inst. There were present Mr. M. V. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. H. Ralland, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, Mr. L. Maitland, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. A. Paumier, Mr. E. E. Norris, Mr. A. Bertram, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Wentworth Croke, and Mr. M. Martin (secretory). It was resolved that in future the club be kept open every week-day from 11 a.m. till 1 a.m., and on Sundays from 12 noon till 11 p.m. The following gentlemen were elected members of the club:—Mr. Keith G. Kenneth, Mr. Frank G. Bradsell, Mr. St. Barbe West, Mr. Harold Benjamin Levy, Mr. B. Iden Payne, Mr. J. E. Bull, Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn, Mr. A. Wykes Ashdonne, Mr. Malcolm Wilson, Mr. Wallace G. Court, and Mr. Sydney Branegrove.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on Friday, the 1st inst., at the Managers' Club. Present: Mr. E. Graham Falcon (in the chair), Mr. L. Maitland, Mr. H. Ralland, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. G. C. Wallace, Mr. H. A. Langlois, Mr. A. Paumier, Mr. E. Norris, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. A. Bertram, and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. H. Ralland were elected to act as representatives of the Association in an arbitration case between a member and an artist, with Mr. E. Graham Falcon as chairman.

"The Speckled Band," which has been very successful at the Adelphi Theatre, will be moved to the Globe on Monday, Aug. 8, the cast remaining the same as at the Adelphi. A provincial company with the thrilling drama will start its tour at Blackpool on July 25, Mr. C. W. Somerset playing Dr. Rylott; and in another company which will visit the suburbs Mr. Bassett Roe will be the murderous medico, Mr. O. P. Heggie Sherlock Holmes, and Miss Mary Forbes Enid. Two country tours have also been booked for *The House of Temperley*, the one beginning at Blackpool on Aug. 15, and the other at Lowestoft on the 22nd.

Miss Horniman took her M.A. degree in the Whitworth Hall, at Manchester University, last Saturday. The Vice-Chancellor (Sir Alfred Hopkinson) presided, and Professor Conway, in presenting Miss Horniman for the degree, said:—"I have now to present to you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Miss Ann Horniman, who has had the boldness to render a service to our national culture which no masculine mind had dared to attempt. It is the privilege of a university whose distinctions are not limited by sex to express to her the gratitude of a community which can never have too many protectors from its own Philistine instincts. Miss Horniman has converted us from the old system of theatre management to her own more excellent way, and she has added something to the gaiety of nations by her control of the Abbey of Dublin and by her maintenance of the Gaiety of Manchester. Relinquishing sternly the financial glories and the intellectual stagnation associated with 'the long run,' so dear to the male manager, she has established once more in England a company of actors fit and willing to present a succession of plays, a company of whom, like Cleopatra, we may almost say that 'age cannot wither them, nor custom stale their infinite variety.' And she has also established a theatre in which lovers of the stage may find a play that is literary as well as dramatic, plays that cannot merely be acted but are the artistic expression of real and independent thought."

Mr. Francis Laidler, the popular proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, together with his able lieutenant, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth, devoted the proceeds of the Tuesday afternoon matinée to the aid of the sufferers in the recent sad accident at Roundhay Park, Leeds, where several people lost their lives. The entertainment was under the patronage of the Lord Mayor of Leeds, and the sum of £46 was realisedfia very welcome addition to the fund which is being raised.

The run of *Glass Houses* at the Globe Theatre will be temporarily suspended about the end of this month in order that Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who badly need a holiday, may take one. This is only judicious, in view of Miss Vanbrugh's important undertaking of the part of Queen Katherine in Sir Herbert Tree's *Henry VIII.* production at His Majesty's.

Miss Gertrude Boswell, the wife of Mr. George H. Smith, has returned to London after a brief visit to Australia. She will be in town for some time on business.

Miss Gertrude Kingston's "Little Theatre" will be opened to the public in October. There will be seats for about 300, and though the house itself is comparatively small, the stage is as wide as that of St. James's and as deep as that of the Comedy. There will be no gallery or pit; the whole being constructed on one floor, rising from the stage, to a set of private boxes at the back.

Miss Maire O'Neill, the young Irish actress who has made such a favourable impression during the visits of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, company, to London, made her first appearance with an English company on the 30th ult., when Bernard Shaw's *Candida* was put on at the Opera House, Buxton, by Mr. Edwin T. Heys's company. Miss O'Neill played with a charm and grace that riveted attention, her comeliness and her musical voice contributing to an eloquent rendering of Bernard Shaw's most womanly heroine. Mr. Esme Percy played Marchbanks with great tact and skill, and Mr. Ian Maclaren was excellent as Morell. There was great enthusiasm at the close of the performance.

Afterwards, Mr. Edwin T. Heys, who is Miss Horniman's business-manager at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, entertained his company and some of his audience to supper at the Crescent Hotel. The guests included Judge Parry, Miss Horniman, Councillor Butterworth, Mr. B. Iden Payne (who produced the play), and Mr. Stafford Dawson (the stage manager). The occasion was a thoroughly enjoyable and memorable one.

The third performance of the *Masque of Shakespeare* took place as arranged at Knole on Saturday afternoon, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Sackville. It was played in a lovely glade surrounded with old beech trees in the Old Park, and was attended by a large number of people, many motoring down from town. The cast was almost the same as before, but Miss Shelley took the part of Peg Woffington instead of the Hon. Irene Lawley, who was unable to be present. Lady Eileen Wellesley again made a most piquant Kitty Clive, and the dance by Miss Barbara Jekyll as Titania attended by her fairies, was received with enthusiasm. Although the success of the *Masque* was much curtailed by the bad weather, it is hoped that a substantial sum in aid of the movement will be the result of the three performances.

Though a sound and well established success at the Duke of York's Theatre, *The Dawn of a To-morrow* must perforce be withdrawn within the next few weeks, to enable Miss Gertrude Elliott to carry out her antecedent engagement to appear in America in September. Meantime Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's remarkable drama (produced in London at a time when the nation was newly plunged into mourning, and when, moreover, its original and elaborate stock of American scenery lay at the bottom of the sea in the foundered Minnehaha) has, by its sheer vitality and the splendid efficiency of its cast, quite won the hearts of London playgoers.

Professor Gilbert Murray, the dramatist, who occupies the Greek Chair in the University of Oxford, and whose young daughter is about to publish a novel under the title of "The Leading Note," is a son of Sir Terence Murray, an early Irish settler in Australia, who rose to distinction in the public life of New South Wales, the parent State of the Commonwealth. Sir Terence also distinguished himself by running down and capturing a number of bushranging desperadoes.

Mr. Ellis J. Preston, who has just concluded a successful stock season for Messrs. Moss and Stoll at Broadway Theatre, New Cross, as producer and stage-manager, was highly complimented on the excellent manner in which he directed affairs behind the curtain. He takes this opportunity of thanking the ladies and gentlemen of the company who worked so conscientiously during the five weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Preston (Miss Amy Venimore) have been engaged by Messrs. Walter and Fred Melville for their autumn tour of *The Fighting Chance*, Mr. Preston as manager.

"The Little Damozel," after a short but well-earned holiday, makes her reappearance on Monday at Douglas, where Mr. Mark Blow and Miss Ida Molesworth's company opens at the Gaiety Theatre a tour of the principal seaside and No. 1 towns. The company, which is a strong one, includes Miss Emilie Polini as Julie Alardy and Mr. Alick Chumley as Recklaw Poole.

Mr. H. E. Sawyer, late manager of the Hippodrome, Peckham, has been appointed acting manager of the Opera House, Jersey, *vice* Mr. Stanley Hope, who goes in the capacity of manager to Mr. Oswald Stoll's theatre at Croydon.

Miss Freear is fulfilling a special engagement with Mr. Frederick Mantell this week at Felixstowe—her last appearance in England prior to her South African tour. She met with a big reception on Monday evening.

Miss Lydia Donovan, who has just returned to town, having concluded a starring engagement with Mr. John Clyde, was the recipient of several gifts last week on the occasion of her benefit performance at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, among others being a magnificent basket of roses presented to her by the directors of the theatre.

It is now announced that a marriage took place on Friday, Aug. 6, 1909, at St. Clement Dane's, Strand, between Francis Geoffrey Pearson, third and youngest son of Sir Weetman and Lady Pearson, and Miss Ethel Lewis, of the D'Oyly Carte company. Miss E. Lewis had played both at the Savoy and on tour with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. In the *Pirates of Penzance* she was one of the principal daughters, and in *Iolanthe* one of the three fairies in attendance upon the Queen. On tour she appeared as Josephine in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. She had a powerful voice. On her marriage with Mr. Francis Pearson she gave up her professional career. The wedding was very quiet, and only the most intimate friends of the bride were aware of it. Mr. Francis Pearson was barely eighteen years of age at the time, having been born on Aug. 23, 1891.

We understand Messrs. Murray King and Clark (the popular managers of the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne) are taking over the Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, on a twenty-one years' lease. Ipswich is a large town, and with experienced managers like these the house should do really well.

Dr. F. J. Furnivall, who passed away at a ripe old age last Saturday at his house at Primrose Hill, was the founder of the New Shakespeare Society, and the author of an important work on the text of Shakespeare; the Introduction to the Leopold and Royal Shakespeares; and the Introduction to the Thirty-nine Volumes of the Century Shakespeare. He also edited the Old Spelling Shakespeare with F. W. Clarke. Mr. Furnivall was an enthusiast at boating, and the promoter of a rowing club for working girls.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon. The remains were removed from deceased's residence, St. George's-square, Primrose Hill, to the Golder's-green Crematorium. There was no service, but an organ recital was given by Mr. Philip Cooke. Dr. Percy Furnivall, son of the deceased, was the chief mourner, and amongst others present were Sir Edward Clarke, Mr. G. H. Radford, M.P., Mr. A. J. Mundella, Mr. H. Frank Heath (of the Board of Education), Mr. Sidney Lee and Mr. F. S. Boas (representing the English Association), Dr. G. F. Warner, Mr. Barclay Squire, and Mr. A. W. Pollard (of the British Museum), Mr. A. G. Snelgrove (hon. treasurer) and Mr. C. T. Hunt (hon. secretary of the London Shakespeare League), Mr. R. J. Reynolds (hon. secretary of the Shakespeare Society), Dr. Henry Bradley (of the Oxford Dictionary), and Mr. Charles Cannan (secretary of delegates Oxford University Press).

At a meeting on the 1st inst. at the Bear's Paw Restaurant, Liverpool, of the recently-formed Liverpool Playgoers' Society, Mr. B. Iden Payne, the part director of the Manchester Gaiety Theatre, in an address on "The Dramatic Renascence," took exception to the description "new drama" as applied to the works of promising modern playwrights. It was no more new than any other art which was healthy and vital and was an expression of real life, and it should be rather called "a renascence of sincere drama." They were passing away from the stage of mechanical tricks and devices of the merely commercial theatre into a more full expression of dramatic life.

Mr. Payne touched upon the more recent development of the touring system and the "long run," which he objected to on the ground that they converted the actor into a machine. Nobody, he said, could act one part for 3,000 or 4,000 nights. Actors and actresses who did that sort of thing became artistically insane. The public were having their dramatic fare given them by artistic lunatics. That was a serious thing, because primarily it was turning the public into lunatics. The audiences they met nowadays were mad. It was because they were lunatics that they accepted the modern plays.

Enlarging upon the need for the repertory theatre, the speaker complained that the provinces were entirely dependent for their dramatic fare on the crumbs that fell from the metropolitan table. That was a thing which they must not tolerate. The advantages of a repertory theatre included the training of actors and actresses and the encouragement of dramatists. He appealed for a living art in their midst—above all, for the dramatic art, which was the one art that was universal.

Mr. W. P. Irving (hon. secretary of the Leeds Playgoers' Society) outlined the work of the Leeds Society, and showed how, both on its own initiative and in co-operation with societies in other towns, many advantages had been conferred upon the playgoing community. The chairman (Professor C. H. Reilly, M.A.) announced that both Mr. Arthur Lawrence and Mr. W. W. Kelly had offered to place their theatres at the service of the society for the presentation of plays by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Galsworthy, and others.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell has commissioned Mr. W. B. Yeats to write a play for her in which she will appear as an actress whose conduct in the course of a revolution has an important influence on the country to which she belongs. The piece is a fantastic comedy, written in verse, with a good deal of rhyme.

Mr. George O. Starr, general-manager of the Crystal Palace, has received the following letter from Queen Alexandra, in recognition of the wreaths sent by the Palace Company and Schools: "Buckingham Palace, July 5, 1910.—I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all the kind donors of the beautiful wreaths and flowers which were sent as tokens of affection in memory of our beloved King.—(Signed) Alexandra."

Mr. Hardy has bought for Mr. Henry de Vries a new four-act play by Messrs. E. W. Hornung and Frederick Fenn. It is a story of criminal life in London, and in it, of course, Mr. De Vries will impersonate various characters.

Mr. Stanley Cooke will reopen the Strand Theatre on Sept. 10 with A. S. du Souchet's farce, in three acts, entitled *The Man from Mexico*, which had its first production at the Coronet Theatre in the November of 1908, with Mr. Cooke as Benjamin Fitzhugh. The farce has had a very long run in America.

Mr. Frohman has secured for Miss Violet Vanbrugh a new play entitled *The Impostor*, by Mr. Michael Morton and Mr. Leonard Merrick. The piece is in three acts, and deals with certain phases of English life.

Mr. Lewis Waller will commence his provincial tour at Birmingham on Monday, Aug. 29, when he will produce a new play, by Mr. Henry Hamilton and Mr. Rafael Sabatini, called *Bardeleys the Magnificent*, dealing with the Louis XIII. period. The monarch will be in evidence, and Mr. Waller will enact one of his nobles. Miss Madge Titheradge will sustain the leading female part, and Mr. William Haviland will have a prominent and important rôle. The drama will be seen in London in January.

The late Mr. Hermann Vezin's library will be sold by auction at Puttick and Simpson's on Thursday, July 14. It includes a number of acting editions of plays, and books relating to the drama.

Amongst the numerous local committees which have been formed throughout the country to organise support for the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre movement the Chelsea Committee is one of the first to commence work for the cause. On July 14, at 4.30 p.m., an open-air performance of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* will be given, in the grounds of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, for the benefit of the local fund. Mrs. Carl Leyel, who is organising the effort, has got together an excellent company, who are kindly giving their services. Miss Ellen O'Malley will play Silvia and Miss Thyrza Norman Julia. Mr. Nigel Playfair will appear as Launce, and Mr. H. R. Hignett and Mr. Athol Stewart as Valentine and Proteus. Arrangements have been made to hold the performance indoors at St. Mark's College, in case of inclement weather.

Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, the esteemed business-manager for Mr. Martin Harvey, is to be married on the 18th inst. to Miss Mary Vincent (Miss Mary Gray). Mr. O'Neill's many friends, with all of whom it is practically impossible to communicate, will hasten to congratulate him.

An action for breach of contract was brought at the Monmouth Assizes on the 29th ult., by Mr. Stanley Carlton against Messrs. E. and H. Tilney, proprietors of theatres in Abertillery and Ebbw Vale, for damages for alleged breach of contract in not allowing the plaintiff to carry out a contract to perform *A Girl's Repentance*. The plaintiff claimed the amount of salaries paid to the artists and money for printing; and the defendants counter-claimed with respect to the loss they are alleged to have suffered in consequence of the performance being inefficient.

The defendants contracted to provide a theatre for plaintiff's company to perform *A Girl's Repentance* during the week following Jan. 31, 1910. From Jan. 10 to Jan. 17 the plaintiff's company performed *Her Life in London* at Messrs. Tilney's theatre at Ebbw Vale, and then the next week at Abertillery. The defendants stopped the company playing *A Girl's Repentance* at Abertillery on the grounds that the company were not efficient; that the ladies' dresses were poor and did not suit them; and that the ladies were amateurish and that certain characters were duplicated.

Mr. Stanley Carlton said no complaint was made as to the inefficiency of the company until he received a letter from Messrs. Tilney's solicitor. He played three weeks in defendants' theatres, and his share of the gross takings were settled on the Saturday nights after the show. At these settlements no suggestion was made that he had carried out the contract badly. He would have played at Abertillery on the 31st had he been allowed, but the other company's printing was out. He was willing to cancel the engagement to oblige Mr. Tilney and accept another date, providing that the salaries of the company were paid.

Mr. Ernest Tilney said the performance of *Her Life in London* at Abertillery was below the standard. The receipts were poor, although it was the best time of the year. The morning after the performance of *A Girl's Repentance* he told Mr. Carlton that the "show" would not suit him at Abertillery. He offered plaintiff £10 towards expenses if the contract was cancelled.

Other evidence having been given, Mr. Justice Lawrance said the question underlying the whole thing was whether defendants were entitled to put an end to the contract owing to the incompetency of the company. He pointed out that the plaintiff's circular said he had twenty recognised artists. However, there were only eleven on the stage. There were also two ladies who could not be heard, and one who suffered from stage fright. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff with £30 damages

Mr. Walter Maxwell's *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* will embark next week at the Theatre Royal, Margate, upon a long tour of the principal theatres in the kingdom.

Mr. Hugh Fleming, completely recovered by a lengthened rest at Brighton from the effects of an operation upon the eyes he underwent some time ago in Brussels, has been secured by Mr. Walter Maxwell as advance manager for his *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* tour.

Miss Elizabeth Firth returns to Daly's Theatre this evening to take up the part of Olga in *The Dollar Princess*, replacing Miss Emmy Wehlen, who goes on tour with Mr. George Edwardes' principal company in the early autumn.

Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., are sending out on Monday, for a long theatre tour, that clever company of entertainers from the Queen's Hall, "The Grotesques." A few of the towns to be visited are Hastings, Yarmouth, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Newcastle, etc., etc. The entertainment is of the best, and should prove one of the principal attractions of the autumn season.

Mr. Norman V. Norman, accompanied by Miss Beatrice Wilson, played a special week's engagement at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas. Neither Mr. Norman nor Miss Wilson had appeared in Douglas for some years past, but were received with the greatest enthusiasm. On the Monday the "House Full" boards were put out shortly after the performance commenced.

"A Woman of Two Lives," a drama by Mr. Charles Darrell, will be produced by Miss Hilda Beverley at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, on July 18.

At the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue (by kind permission of Mr. H. B. Irving), on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, July 26 and 28, Miss Clara Alexander will give two musical and dramatic matinées in aid of West Ham Hospital. The chief novelties will be two short plays by Kate Lyon, entitled *Peace* (an episode of the American Civil War) and *The Rose* (a story of Italian peasant life), in which Miss Alexander will appear. They will be "produced" by Mr. Norman Trevor of the Globe Theatre, who will act the rôle of a Confederate officer in the first playlet. Among the variety turns who have promised to assist will be Miss Cecilia Loftus, Miss Lydia Kyasht, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Florence Smithson, Miss Clara Evelyn, Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Christine Hawkes (accordion), Miss Marta Cunningham, Mr. Guy Standing, Mr. C. H. Workman, Mr. Alfred Lester, Mr. Hugh Peyton, and Mr. Gordon Cleather. The accompanist will be Miss Lucie Gerrard, L.R.A.M., and programmes will be sold by ladies from *The Arcadians* and *The Girl in the Train* companies.

"Moll," a playlet by Charles Masse, was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Scarborough, on June 24.

The Imperial Copyright Conference, which was summoned to discuss the revised International Copyright Convention of Berlin and to settle the lines on which it would be possible to amend the Copyright Law of the Empire, has now held its final meeting. The Conference met recently at the Foreign Office. Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, presided at the meetings of the Conference, and was assisted by Sir H. Llewellyn Smith, Permanent Secretary; Mr. G. R. Askwith, K.C., and Mr. W. Temple Franks, representing the Board of Trade; Mr. H. W. Just, Secretary to the Imperial Conference, representing the Colonial Office; Mr. A. Law, representing the Foreign Office; Sir Thomas Raleigh, member of the Council of India, representing the India Office; and Mr. F. F. Liddell, of the office of the Parliamentary Council. The representatives of the self-governing dominions were: The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, accompanied by Mr. P. E. Ritchie (Dominion of Canada), Lord Tennyson (Commonwealth of Australia), the Hon. Sir W. Hall Jones (Dominion of New Zealand), the Hon. Sir R. Solomon, K.C. (Union of South Africa), and the Hon. Sir E. Morris, K.C. (Newfoundland). Mr. A. B. Keith, of the Colonial Office, and Mr T. W. Phillips, of the Board of Trade, acted as joint secretaries of the Conference. A series of resolutions were passed dealing with the various subjects within the scope of the Conference.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A New Title.

"DURING the hearing of the theatrical case at the Monmouth Assizes last week," remarks the *Cardiff Western Mail*, "the interesting admission was made that the same play had been staged at various times under three different titles. The circumstance reminds a hills' correspondent of the subterfuge resorted to some years ago at a portable theatre which was pitched for a while in the neighbourhood. *Hamlet* had been selected for representation on a certain night, but the proprietor, evidently believing that some other name would prove more attractive to the unsophisticated in matters dramatic, and so yield a corresponding increase in the pay-box takings, 'billed' Shakespeare's tragedy under the title, *How the Stepfather was Paid Out*."

A Haunted House.

A GREAT many people, nearly all connected with the stage, firmly believe that the Princess Theatre, Melbourne, is haunted. Others who laugh at the idea of ghosts admit that an apparition, inexplicable and curious, does appear in the O.P. side of the dress circle, and is there visible for hours, though intangible and impalpable. The evidence available seems to indicate that a distinct abnormal something, whether it be a strange shadow, an extraordinary reflection, or an optical illusion of some other kind has been seen and watched by various people during the last few years.

THIS ghost first made its appearance about five years ago, having been discovered by a fireman on duty in the theatre. Those who believe in ghosts—and there are many, especially among stagefolk, who are notoriously superstititious—recall the case of the Italian baritone. He was playing Mephistopheles in *Faust* in the Princess Theatre about twenty-five years ago. One night he drew Faust down the glowing red trap into Hades, and just as he reached the floor below the stage he groaned and collapsed dead. The superstitious declare that it is his ghost which haunts the theatre still, but the fireman has seen a portrait of the baritone, and says he is not a bit like the dress circle ghost.

A FAMOUS actress suspects that it may be the ghost of her father, who worked in the theatre for many years, and used often to stand with his back to the identical pillar where the ghost is now seen, but the fireman has assured her that it is not he. Dozens of actors and actresses have sat through the small hours on the stage in front of the curtain gazing for hours across the empty blackness at the point where the ghost appears. Most of them have watched in vain, but many have seen it. The last who saw the apparition were an actor and his wife. They and the fireman all saw it at the same time. The lady promptly fainted, and investigations had to be postponed till she recovered. By that time the ghost had vanished. The ghost is always seen in the same spot, and that is directly beneath the bunch of heavily glassed electric lamps, the third bunch up from the stage on the left-hand side of the circle.

Had to be Seen to.

"No more popular figure existed in the old Theatre Royal, Dublin, than Levy, the conductor," says Mr. Harry Furniss in an article on "Some Unrehearsed Stage Effects." "He was the father of some very celebrated musicians—one of them was Levy, the cornet-player, who made such a sensation with his cornet and his diamond rings in the Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden, under Rivière's direction, twenty-five years ago. Old Levy had a very large family ('Paganini redivivus' was another of his famous sons), and a story is told that when conducting the overture to an opera in the Theatre Royal, a boy jumped up from under the stage and said:—'Misther Levy! Misther Levy! Your woive has just had a babby!' 'The Lord be praised for all His mercies!' said the conductor, keeping the bâton going.

"In a few seconds the boy again appeared. 'Misther Levy! Misther Levy!' 'Well, boy, is anything wrong?' 'Missis Levy has had another babby, sor!' 'Thank Heaven! All's well!' And the bâton waved with greater vigour, working up the orchestra to a tremendous flourish.

"Once more he was disturbed by the same messenger. 'Misther Levy! Misther Levy!' 'Git out, boy! What's the matter now?' 'Begorrah, there's another! As y' call 'em trins!' The conductor rose and, putting down his bâton, said:—'Gintlemen, it's toime I wint home and put a stop to this!'

Supporting Foli.

"The great baritone, Signor Foli, when singing in grand opera in his native city, Cork, had to sing one of his songs from a stage balcony. The arrangements were not very perfect, and the manager, fearing the carpenter had not made the balcony strong enough to sustain the weight of the big man, told off two assistants to hold it up from beneath. The lengthy Signor was only half through his song when one man said to the other:—'Be jabers, Moike, this Oitalian is moighty heavy!' 'Let's dhrop him, Pat; he's only an Oitalian, afther all!' Voice from the Signor above: 'Will ye, ye divils, will ye?' 'Tare-an'-'ounds! Pat, but he's an Oirishman; hould him up for the loife of yez!'

A Pince-nez Performance.

"One of the most popular authors of the present day began life, like so many authors, as an actor. 'The worst actor that ever trod the boards,' he said to me a few days ago. 'I could never recollect my part or my "business," and without my glasses I am as blind as a bat. My first chance was in a travelling company as the lift attendant in *Our Flat*, and I walked on the first night with them on. This caused the ire of the principal actor and manager to rise. "Whoever saw a liftman in pince-nez?" "All right," I replied. "I'll take them off to-morrow night, but I will not answer for the consequences." The next evening I entered, and the first thing I did was to knock over a table and fall into a seat I didn't see. When I went off there stood the actor-manager ready to kill me. "You have spoilt all my business," he said. "*I* was to knock over that table, you fool, and fall into that chair. The performance is ruined." ' And so was my friend's career as an actor."

Opera in English.

MR. DAVID BISPHAM in the "Century Magazine" for July, says that it would be better if operas were sung in English in this country and the United States, and commends the action of the Kaiser in commanding that opera in Germany must be sung in the national language. "The reason that every language but our own is used," he says, "is simply that our artists will not, and foreign artists cannot, sing in English; or vice versa, if it pleases either party better. The Italians in the gallery want to know what their idol on the stage is singing about, and the German declines to go to hear what he cannot understand. Why should not we? The fact is that so-called 'grand opera' is the fashion; and, as with many fashions, there is little sense in some phases of it. America is opera mad, and anything that is good is patronised even if it be not understood."

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN MARSHALL.

We regret to record the death from lung trouble and other complaints on Friday afternoon, July 1, at a nursing home in Paddington—where he had moved after a stay at Cannes—of Captain Robert Marshall, the author of so many amusing and delightful plays. Captain Marshall was born in Edinburgh in 1863. He was the son of Mr. James Marshall, a local J.P., and was educated at St. Andrews and the Edinburgh University. As a young man he was an active amateur actor, but eventually he enlisted as a private in the Highland Light Infantry. He was thence transferred to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and served for some years with it in the West Indies, a little piece of his entitled *The Subaltern*, being performed by a company of amateurs at Bermuda. At Cape Town he held a staff appointment, and in Natal he acted as aide-de-camp to the Governor, Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson. There he wrote his first important play, *His Excellency the Governor*, which a lady in England sent to Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, by whom it was accepted and produced at the Court Theatre on June 11, 1898. Captain Marshall's first London production, however, was a curtain-raiser, *The Shades of Night*, which was produced in 1896 at the Lyceum, under the joint management of Mr. Forbes-Robertson and Mr. Frederick Harrison. His next piece, *The Broad Road*, was presented at Terry's on Nov. 5, 1898, with less success; but Captain Marshall fully redeemed his reputation in *A Royal Family* and *The Second in Command*. In the latter, which was performed at the Haymarket in 1900, Mr. Cyril Maude made a palpable hit as Binks. Captain Marshall never did anything better than this clever and interesting piece, and his succeeding efforts, *The Duke of Killiecrankie*, *The Lady of Leeds*, and *The Alabaster Staircase*, were distinctly inferior. The last-named piece, which was done at the Comedy in 1906, was a decided failure, and it is said that Captain Marshall never recovered from the disappointment. In spite of a cast which included Sir John Hare, Miss Lottie Venne, and Miss Gertrude Kingston, the play failed to attract, possibly owing to the subject—the intractable one of politics, a Cabinet Council being one of the incidents. The following is a list of Captain Marshall's plays:—*Shades of Night*, Lyceum, 1896; *His Excellency the Governor*, *The Broad Road*, Terry's, autumn, 1898; *A Royal Family*, Court, 1899; *The Noble Lord*, 1900; *The Second in Command*, Haymarket, 1900; *There's Many a Slip*, 1902; *The Unforeseen*, Haymarket, 1902; *The Haunted Major*, 1902; *The Duke of Killiecrankie*, Criterion, 1904; *Everybody's Secret*, Haymarket, 1904; *The Lady of Leeds*, Wyndham's, 1905; *The Alabaster Staircase*, Comedy, 1906; *The Outsider* (with Mayne Lindsay), Royal, Manchester, 1908.

Captain Marshall's military career was a very creditable one. He was Lieutenant in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, already mentioned, became Captain in 1895, and retired in 1898. His plays disclosed in their author an agreeable lightness of touch and a peculiar knowledge of military and official life. *His Excellency the Governor*, with its amusing, yet realistic depiction of official life in a colony, was in the same key of pleasant ridicule of pomp and "pride of place" as *A Royal Family*, one of the cleverest comedies of kingship ever written, never degenerating into caricature, and marked by great polish and brightness. *The Second in Command* was in a more serious and sentimental vein, and was generally considered to be the best thing Captain Marshall ever wrote. It is probable that his gradually failing health had much to do with the comparative feebleness of his later productions. Lately he had been obliged to spend most of the winter months abroad, but this could only postpone the inevitable end of one of the cleverest, most humorous, and most amiable authors who ever wrote for the London stage.

The funeral took place in the Grange Cemetery, Edinburgh, on Tuesday. A service was conducted in the house, 49, Gilmour-road, by the Rev. Dr. Bruce B. Begg, Abbotshall, Kirkcaldy, and the Rev. Mr. Minty, Cannes. At the graveside prayer was offered up by the Rev. George Christie. Among those who sent wreaths were Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir John and Lady Hare, Sir Arthur Pinero, Lord Burnham, the Earl of Rosslyn, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, the general staff of the Playhouse, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, and the Dramatists' Club.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Two organ solos were included in the programme of the students' recital on Thursday evening, June 30, Mr. John Cawley playing Dr. Harwood's "Pæan" with excellent results, and Mr. George A. Allbright proving himself a clever executant in Dubois's very effective Toccata in G. Miss Edith Nance sang "She wandered down," Clay's once popular song; and Mr. Donald Griggs was heard in "Pilgrim's song" (Tschaikowsky), which did not, however, suit the vocalist. Bishop's famous old song, "Should he upbraid" was gracefully sung by Miss Jessie Booth; and in her piano solo Miss Elizabeth Weiss neatly executed Moszkowski's "Tarantelle." Another clever pianist was Miss Myfanwy Ridge, who played Sinding's "Prelude"; Mr. W. J. West's 'cello solo of "Romance" (Duport) was much applauded; while "Mountain Lovers" was capitally sung by Mr. W. Vawdrey Ley. Miss Marie J. Cox (a pupil of Mr. Cairns James) gave a lively recitation of Burnand's "Rather at Sea"; and the trio "The harp in the air," from *Maritana*, sung by the Misses Gillespie and Goodwin, proved a very interesting feature in the concert. Miss Marjorie Russell sang "I come to you," by Noel Johnson, with good tone and expression; and Miss Winnie Gollancz had a very hearty recall for her excellent performance of Schumann's Nachstück in F for piano. Miss Hyman was the accompanist; and the recital concluded with an effective recitation, "The Old Stage Queen" (Ella Wheeler Wilcox), by Miss Irene Jones, pupil of Professor Paul Berton.

THE Sheffield Stage Plays Committee at their meeting, on Tuesday afternoon, had before them a letter from Mrs. Wycliffe Wilson, the wife of a prominent Sheffield Liberal ex-alderman, and city magistrate, complaining of the title of the play *Mockery of Marriage*. She contended that if the play answered to the title it was likely to encourage young people not to marry and to live in immorality. An alderman said his experience was that such plays did not set up immorality as something to be copied, but to be avoided. The committee decided to reply to the letter that they had no power to act.

MR. JUSTICE SWINFEN-EADY in the Companies' Winding-up Court on Tuesday had again before him the petition by H. Gittelsohn and others for the compulsory winding up of the Cambrian Theatres (Limited). The Hon. C. E. Macnaghten, K.C., who, with Mr. Sims, appeared in support of the petition, said that it had been presented by two shareholders who had fifty £1 shares each, and it was supported by two creditors. The company had a short, but not very prosperous, though certainly a very irregular, career. Mr. Russell, K.C. (with him Mr. Simmons), for the company and creditors and shareholders opposing, said that out of the independent shareholders, who numbered about one hundred, he thought fifty were in favour of a compulsory order, and under these circumstances he did not oppose the order the petitioners were asking for. His lordship accordingly made the usual compulsory order.

"BRITANNIA'S MUSTER."

HOW IT WAS DRESSED.
A CHAT WITH MR. W. CLARKSON.

The splendid success of the great spectacle "Britannia's Muster," which really forms the most picturesque portion of the Royal Naval and Military Tournament at Olympia must be due to its efficient dressing. No spectacular show is possible without accurate local colour, however clever the marshalling. In this instance Mr. William Clarkson, the famous perruquier and costumier, must be awarded special honours. Thanks to a natural aptitude for tackling gigantic things, he has given us one of the most brilliantly dressed pageants ever seen.

"'Difficult' you say," said Mr. Clarkson, when amazement was expressed at the complexity of uniforms required to dress over 500 soldiers of different grades and regiments. "Well, it is. But the work is ever so much easier if you look at it in the brightest light. Some people fail in their efforts for the reason that, having taken something gigantic on, they are either afraid to execute it or execute it badly for want of confidence. Believe me, the order for dressing, wigging, and supplying arms and accoutrements for 'Britannia's Muster' I received but fourteen days before production. That was to clothe over 500 men, provide five emblematical cars, and scenery, to say nothing of detail props. Then the wigs and beards—not two alike—and head-dresses. Still, it was done—and the public says 'well done,' as witness the tremendous financial success."

"I see you have had to provide uniforms for fifty-seven Indian and Colonial regiments. Where did you get them in so short a time?"

"Get them? Why, made them! And I'll guarantee every one correct in detail. They average five of each—an officer and four men. Do you know that even the buttons are the correct thing: each has the distinctive regimental crest upon it. Nothing has been omitted. But now let me tell you something. I dare say some of these regiments you have never heard of. They represent South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and India. Don't ask me how many tailors, braiders, and so on worked night and day, I haven't time to count them. Suffice to say the whole lot entailed a preliminary expenditure of

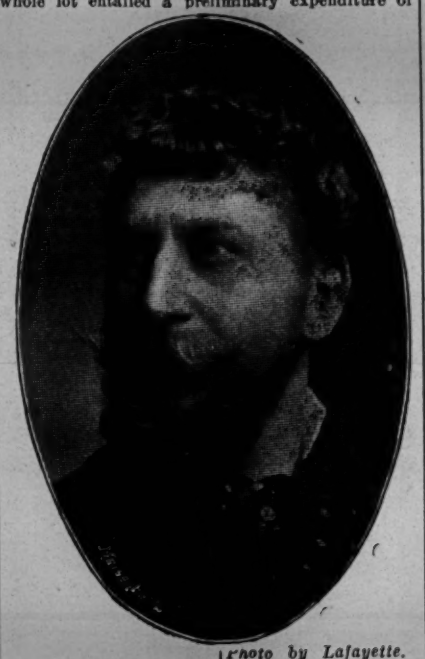

Photo by Lafayette.
MR. W. CLARKSON.

over £4,000 on my part. Not that is is the biggest of its kind I have done; far from it. I'll tell you something else presently. Do you know this is the seventeenth year in succession I have had the sole handling of the picturesque side of the Tournaments? Yes," said the genial Clarkson, "and in that time I must have provided 25,000 or 30,000 costumes and wigs to adorn Tommy Atkins. Ah, by the way, don't the soldiers enjoy being 'mummers,' and don't they take care of the props! I'm rather pleased to supply the wigs and whiskers—they positively get 'drilled' with military precision, and when they come home they almost know their own places." So says Clarkson.

"I have twelve men and four women at Olympia on my staff, and they do not get much rest I can assure you. Not that Tommy is helpless; but I like everything done, down to the finest point, accurately. Every soldier must pass muster before going on, Make-up? Yes, that's quite a big item. Soap, towels, spirit gum, &c.—oh, it goes down a hundredweight at a time."

"Now tell me, Mr. Clarkson. There has been a lot of talk about your beautiful Britannia who is supposed never to smile. Why shouldn't Britannia smile and enjoy her position?"

"Well, you see, it is like this. I've had some of this smiling business, and its all very well; but it eventually resolves itself into a smile that *will* come off, and the absurdity of it spoils the show. Out of 190 applicants I selected Miss Tony Lawrence for Britannia, but only on one condition—*no smile in the arena*. Ah, this is funny! Perhaps you are aware that I advertised for a woman to represent Britannia, and to bring own costume, etc. Do you know that 75 per cent. of them turned up made up almost like the late Queen Victoria; and most striking some of them were."

"Now about the cars. Did you make them all at Wardour-street?"

"No; at Olympia. They cost about £200 each. They represent 'Britannia,' with John Bull driving; 'Africa,' emblematical of peace and industry; 'Canada,' with its polar iciness and its growing commerce; 'Australia,' the golden colony; &c. Not the least attractive number in the Tournament is the tent-pegging by Arabs, all of whom are the British Army's finest horsemen—the pick of the Army. Their picturesque Moorish costumes are by me, consisting of the real 'rig-out,' including the 'sandbags'—stockings.

"I have received a most gratifying letter from Colonel George Nugent, the honorary secretary of the Royal Naval and Military Tournament, in which he says:—'Dear Mr. Clarkson,—I am much obliged for all your work in "Britannia's Muster." The dresses, makes-up, and cars could not have been better, and last, but by no means least, the lady you engaged to play Britannia (Miss Lawrence) was charming, and played her part most gracefully. The great success of the whole Pageant is due in no small measure to you.'

"Now, just a word more. I have dressed the whole of the Toronto Semi-Centennial Pageant at Toronto, sending over 1,500 costumes—all made in forty-eight days—to the Armouries for Sir Henry M. Pellatt. There was a ton of arms and twenty-five tons of other props. Then Chester Pageant on July 16, which runs for two weeks, takes up 2,000 wigs and costumes of all ages and a staff of ten people continually on the spot. For the Fulham (Army) Pageant there are 400 odd uniforms occupied in the artillery battle scenes, 'Corunna,' &c.; and a curious order for this week, a whole pastoral play—everything—called *A Maiden's Wit*, dressed in the Georgian period, to be played at the Rue Mozart, Passy, France. There!"

"LOOKING FOR TROUBLE."

A Farcical Play, in Three Acts, by Hélène Gingold, Performed for the First Time at the Brighton West Pier Theatre, on Monday, July 4.

Mr. Crawling ..... MR. GEORGE FISHER
Bethel Petch ..... MR. HOWARD BRENAN
Captain Porches ..... MR. WALTER PEARCE
Angus Macpherson ..... MR. BLAKE ADAMS
Mrs. Bellingham ..... MISS ELLA ERSKINE
Mrs. Porches ..... MISS RITA TOMKINS
Silvia Porches ..... MISS MURIEL JOHNSTON
Pierpoint Porches ..... MR. HENRY DOUGHTY
Charles Bracebridge .... MR. STEPHEN T. EWART
Inspector Gotham ..... MR. HUBERT PINDER
No. 18,420 ..... MR. MARTIN ROSS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The new farcical play was accorded a hearty reception, and the authoress was warmly called at the termination of the performance. Though the story of the play is slight, it is well treated, and the dialogue throughout is instinct with humour. The plot is interspersed with some rare fun that arises over the matrimonial designs of Mr. Pierpoint Porches, a highly respectable stockbroker, who desires to bring about the marriage of his niece Silvia with the son of a very old friend, Mr. Bracebridge. It happens, however, that Mr. Porches's son and heir, Captain Porches, is in love with Silvia, and to defeat the design of his sire he, by the aid of a wig, whiskers, and false nose, so successfully masquerades as his father, that he not only deceives his mother and the entire household, but gives a paternal consent to his own wedding. Captain Porches has unfortunately become involved in a card scandal, and after striking a brother officer he escapes to avoid arrest by the police. He discloses his identity to his sister, Kate Bellingham, and to his soldier servant, Angus Macpherson, and the two put their heads together to extricate him from his troubles. Shortly after Porches, sen., arrives with Charles Bracebridge, and the services of the Captain's servant, Angus, are enlisted to frustrate the designs of the old stockbroker. Angus is disguised as Silvia, and at once proceeds to make violent love to Charles Bracebridge, who is disappointed, not to say much disgusted, with his prospective bride, and eventually, much to his relief, manages to escape from her. Hardly has he done so than Angus encounters Porches, sen., and introduces himself as Janet Macpherson, Angus's wife. So the complications continue until Mr. Porches meets his household, and is so mystified that he at last denounces them as a lot of lunatics. To make matters worse, Mr. Porches and Charles Bracebridge are arrested at the instigation of Angus, and are taken off to the police station, but happily are bailed out by a friend of the captain. In the end, however, everything works out smoothly. Charles Bracebridge and Kate Bellingham find they are well suited to each other, and Frank and Silvia also come to a similar understanding.

Miss Ella Erskine played the part of Kate Bellingham with much vivacity, and looked very handsome in some charming costumes. She was especially successful in her love scenes with Charles Bracebridge. Miss Rita Tomkins was a dignified Mrs. Porches; and Miss Muriel Johnston made the sweetest and daintiest Silvia Porches. Mr. Blake Adams was admirably suited to the character of Angus Macpherson, his quaintly characterised embodiment of a Scotchman being highly diverting, and much of the success of the play was due to his efforts. The part of Porches, sen., was in the experienced hands of Mr. Henry Doughty, who was responsible for the production of the piece. Charles Bracebridge had a manly representative in Mr. Stephen T. Ewart. Able support was also given by Mr. George Fisher, Mr. Howard Brenan, and Mr. Hubert Pinder.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, July 5, at 32, Regent-street, at 2.30 p.m., Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton, in the chair; Messrs. Cyril Cattley, Frederick Annerley, Leonard Shepherd, C. F. Collings, Edward Morgan, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. Duncan Young, Secretary.

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th ult., and the meeting confirmed and the Chairman signed same.

With regard to the arbitration, the Secretary reported that the arbitration had been fixed for Wednesday, 13th inst., to be held at the Touring Managers' Association, and likewise notified the fact of the names of those forming the arbitration court for the Touring Managers' Association.

The Secretary read letters from the Home Secretary, Messrs. Loundy, Son, and Kedge, and received instructions.

With regard to Messrs. Willing's estimate for a "hanging sign," it was proposed by Mr. Cyril Cattley, seconded by Miss Mildred Cottell, that the Secretary be instructed to see that the sign be put in hand without delay. Agreed to unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Collings, seconded by Mr. Cattley, that copies of the standard contract be sent to the Touring Managers' Association, Theatrical Alliance, and the Theatrical Managers' Association. Agreed to unanimously.

The Secretary reported the fact of Mr. George Alexander having attended on behalf of the Association the L.C.C. Parliamentary Committee, and on the motion of Mr. Leonard Shepherd, seconded by Mr. C. F. Collings, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. George Alexander for his kindness in attending to that duty. Carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Morgan and adopted. On the motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Annerley, Mr. C. F. G. Collings was elected a member of the Finance Committee.

Proposed by Mr. Annerley, seconded by Miss Cottell, that a notice be placed on the board to the following effect: "That all members whose annual subscriptions are unpaid will be debarred the use of the rooms on and after Monday, July 11." Carried unanimously.

The Hon. Solicitor's report was read and adopted.

Elections: W. Walton Palmer, Geoffrey Guise, Katherine Morris. Nominations: Margaret Drew, Martha Cowper.

"SCARAMOUCH."

Play, in One Act, by Dion Clayton Calthrop, Produced at the St. James's Theatre, on Friday afternoon, July 1.

Scaramouch ..... MISS ETHEL IRVING
John Delorme ..... MR. NORMAN FORBES
Craven ..... MR. RICHARD HATTERAS

The story of *Scaramouch* is that of a very rich man who is suffering from depression and ennui, so that his life is a burden to him. As he is about to commit suicide a young beggar-girl enters through the window of the room, and tells him that the dread of starvation has brought her to the point of resolving to drown herself. She gets hold of the pistol with which Delorme was about to commit suicide, and orders him to write her a cheque for £50,000. Delorme tells her to fire, and the girl is softened and soon goes to sleep. Eventually the two intended suicides cancel each other's griefs, and all ends happily. That admirable artist Miss Ethel Irving was very characteristic and clever as Scaramouch; Mr. Norman Forbes gave a firm and impressive performance as John Delorme; and Mr. Richard Hatteras was good as the Secretary. Mr. Barrie's quaint sketch *A Slice from Life* was another item in the bill of the performance, which was for the benefit of the National League for Physical Education and Improvement.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Friday night, July 1, Meyerbeer's opera, *Gli Ugonotti*, was performed at Covent Garden, the house being filled in every part. For this opera a strong cast is always required, and in the performance on Friday night the female parts, at least, had splendid representatives. Mme. Tetrazzini and Mlle. Destinn appeared as Margarita di Valois and Valentina, and both famous artists being in fine voice, the music was superbly sung. Margarita's florid air, "A questa voce sola," was so brilliantly sung and the concluding shake on a high note executed with such exquisite ease and finish by Mme. Tetrazzini that the audience were aroused to great enthusiasm. Mlle. Destinn also acted and sang with magnificent dramatic expression, and in the great duet with Raoul at the close of the opera she rendered the music with a power and intensity that has never been surpassed. In the part of Raoul Signor Zerola certainly displayed vigour, particularly in the last act, but earlier in the opera his singing of "Piu Bianca dei Velo," and the duet with Valentina, "Tu mio sospir," in the matter of perfect intonation left something to be desired. The rich, sonorous voice of Mr. Murray Davey was heard to advantage in the music of the rugged old Huguenot soldier Marcello, and "Finita e pe frati," the famous "Piff paff" solo, was ably sung. M. Lestelly as the gallant Conte di Nevers proved himself a clever artist in spite of a certain absence of dignity in his acting; and the San Bris of Mr. Edmund Burke had many excellent features. Mlle. Edna de Lima's voice was somewhat light for Urbano's music, but she sang "Nobil Signor" gracefully and acted well. For the rest of the cast, Travennes, De Cossé, and Bois-Rosé were successfully impersonated by Signor Zucchi, Mr. D'Oisly, and M. Lheureux. Mme. Savage and Mme. Bérat appeared as the first and second maid of honour; and Mlle. Egener in the little part of Leonardo. The opera was handsomely mounted, the chorus sang with spirit and animation, and the delightful ballet in the second act was admirably danced. Signor Panizza conducted, and under his able direction the orchestra gave an excellent account of Meyerbeer's attractive score.

La Traviata was given at Covent Garden on Saturday night, July 2, when, owing to the indisposition of Mme. Melba, Miss Miranda appeared as the unhappy Violetta, and made a good impression on the audience by her excellent singing and the fresh, youthful quality of her voice. Mr. McCormack sustained the part of Alfredo, and Signor Sammarco that of the elder Germont, both their impersonations being familiar and greatly esteemed by the operatic public. Signor Campanini conducted, and the minor characters were ably undertaken.

Baron Frederic d'Erlanger's opera, *Tess*, founded on the well-known novel of Mr. Thomas Hardy, was performed for the first time this season at Covent Garden on Wednesday night. When produced last year at the Royal Opera, *Tess* aroused considerable interest, due partly to d'Erlanger's melodious music, and also to Signor Illica's libretto, which gives the chief incidents and the sylvan spirit of Mr. Hardy's powerful rustic story. Mlle. Destinn again impersonates the unfortunate Tess, and, although the part does not give Mlle. Destinn much opportunity for the display of her great dramatic gifts, the music was sung with unfailing beauty of tone and pathetic feeling. Mr. Riccardo Martin as Angel Clare achieved a great success. The composer has written the most dramatic music in the opera for this part, and Mr. Martin sang with splendid power and fervour. In the scene of Clare's proposal to Tess, and the fine duet at the close of the last act, Mr. Martin was supremely effective, and he shared the honours with Mlle. Destinn in the enthusiastic applause. Signor Sammarco again played Alec d'Urberville, and his reading of the part could not be surpassed. Vocally, Signor Malatesta was excellent as Jack, Tess's father, and Mme. Bérat gave a clever study of Joan. Mlle. De Lys sang well as Aby, Tess's brother, while Nancy and the jealous Dark-Car were ably undertaken by Mlle. Egener and Mlle. Bourgeois. The picturesque scene of Jack Durbeyfield's old cottage in Blackmoor Vale, Wessex, and the realistic Talbothay's Dairy were admirable stage effects, and greatly admired, while the delightful May Day rustic revels and the quaint old world dance helped to give the sylvan atmosphere to both music and story. The chorus sang with excellent effect, both in the dairy scene and the female bridal chorus. Signor Panizza conducted, and the audience accorded the composer a very hearty reception when he appeared with Mlle. Destinn and Mr. Martin at the close of the third act.

THE BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

Johann Strauss's comic opera *Die Fledermaus* (*The Bat*) was successfully revived by Mr. Thomas Beecham at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday night. The composer, who was born in 1825 at Vienna, has written much fascinating dance music, and besides *Fledermaus*, several small operas—*Indigo Cagliostro*, *Methusaleu*, *Blindekuh*, and *Spitzentuch*—while the number of his works amount to five hundred.

The plot of *Die Fledermaus* is admirably adapted to the bright, sparkling music. Eisenstein, the hero, for having insulted and struck an officer of the Court, has to serve a short term of imprisonment, but having a little time before the arrest, he goes to a masked ball given by a Russian Prince. Now Eisenstein has a very attractive wife of coquettish disposition, and she, thinking her husband has gone off to prison, accepts an invitation to supper from Alfred, a singer and former admirer. A private room is engaged, but while Alfred and Eisenstein's wife, Rosalinde, are having supper, the Governor of the gaol seeking Eisenstein arrives, and thinking Alfred is the man he wants, as Rosalinde, to save appearances, does not undeceive him, takes him off to prison. Rosalinde, deprived of her lover, and fearing a dull time, goes to the same fancy dress ball of the Prince, wearing a mask and domino. Little thinking to find his wife at the ball, Eisenstein carries on a violent flirtation with Rosalinde. In the last act, which takes place in the Governor's room in the prison, all complications are cleared up. The joyous spirit and vivacity of the music, Rosalinde's charming Hungarian song, the delightful dance music in the ballroom scene, and the various amusing situations were all so greatly enjoyed by the large audience that it is a surprising thing such an attractive and melodious opera should not have been heard for so many years. The performance on Monday night was excellent in many respects. Mr. Joseph O'Mara as the gay Eisenstein sang and acted in quite the right spirit, while Miss Carrie Tubb greatly distinguished herself in the part of Rosalinde, and in the ballroom scene gave her solo with brilliant effect. Mr. Walter Passmore as the humorous Governor of the gaol was extremely comic, and Mr. John Bardsley may be warmly praised for his clever study of Rosalinde's old lover. Mr. Frederick Ranalow appeared as the solicitor friend of Eisenstein, and the small, but amusing part of Mrs. Eisenstein's maid, who comes to the ball in a dress of her mistress, was capitally played by Miss Beatrice La Palmo. Miss Muriel Terry was very successful as the Russian Prince who gives the masked ball, and Miss Vivian Tailleur proved a graceful exponent of the enchanting dance music. The costumes were handsome, and the scene of the masked ball rich in colour and very picturesque. Mr. McCunn conducted, and the orchestra gave a successful account of Strauss's brilliant score.

"FLYAWAY'S DERBY."

Farcical Sketch, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, Music by Edward Jones, Produced at the Canterbury, on Monday, July 4.

Tim Welsh .....Mr. W. Cutler
Barney Flipp .....Mr. Colston Mansell
Lord Fairfax .....Mr. Edward Leith
Sam Defoe .....Mr. Willie West
P.C. Shuffiebottom .....Mr. Walter Nugent
Jim Defoe ....."Smith"

Ludicrous incidents abound in this farcical playlet, which evidently appealed to Monday night's audience at the Canterbury, when the sketch was played before an appreciative audience, who found plenty of excuse for laughter in the "flying" feats of Jim Defoe and the other characters who partake of some of his lively mixture. Jim, an ex-jockey, enjoys the reputation of being known as the "laziest man on earth." When we first make his acquaintance he is sleeping soundly in his apartment, and his son Sam, a jockey, enters and endeavours to arouse his snoring sire. All attempts fail until the young man draws the stopper from a bottle of beer, and Jim then begins to take an interest in life. While he has been sleeping, it should be mentioned Tim Welsh, the owner of a racehorse Temperley, and Barney Flipp, his jockey, have entered the room, and expressed their determination of preventing Sam from riding Flyaway, the one horse they fear will beat Temperley in the Derby. Their plan is to leave a bottle of "dope" in Sammy's room, and then call in the police and have him arrested. Ere this happens, however, Jimmy is induced to test the efficacy of some mixture sent him guaranteed to make him lively. Extraordinary results follow the sprinkling of a little of the fluid on different parts of his body, and eventually he soars upwards till the ceiling is reached. As he is attired in his night-shirt the spectacle is a very ludicrous one. When Police-Constable Shuffiebottom comes to arrest his son, a little of the flying fluid is administered to him, with a like result, and, finally, the two disappear through the window. In the next scene, the interior of a police-court, Sammy is in the dock charged with attempting to nobble Temperley. Of course, he protests his innocence, and in spite of his pleadings that he is to ride Flyaway in half an hour is about to be taken to the cells when his father and Shuffiebottom fly in by the window. The judge's astonishment and indignation at the curious behaviour of the twain may be imagined, and as he refuses to release Sammy he also is sprinkled with the flying fluid, and joins the others in their mid-air careerings. The third scene shows the Weighing-room, Epsom. Flyaway's owner, Lord Fairfax, is anxiously awaiting the arrival of his jockey Sammy. He must arrive in two more minutes if he is to ride Flyaway, and as he fails to put in an appearance his father, Jim Defoe, offers to ride in his stead. In the last scene, the course at Epsom, a very animated and well-staged picture, we see the horses going up to the starting-post, and in the race for the Derby Jim's mount literally flies home. The sketch was presented by Mr. George Kirby's company, and the important part of Jim Defoe was undertaken by "Smith," the new comedian from the Strand Theatre. Very droll was Smith in the amusing business of the first scene, and his performance throughout was a most comic one. Mr. Willie West as his son Sammy also submitted a funny impersonation; Mr. Edward Leith as the anxious owner, Lord Fairfax, contributed an admirable performance; and the other parts were all capitally undertaken. The flying business was adroitly managed, the effects being arranged by Messrs. Kirby.

The variety portion of the bill at the Canterbury contains many other entertaining items, early in the evening Mr. Gordon Stretton, the "natural coon," contributing a tuneful darkey ditty, his accompanying dance being also well executed and loudly acclaimed. Mr. Stretton has a good voice and style, and his artistic impersonations and scenas, "There's a Brown Girl out in Old Dahomey," &c., should speedily bring him to the front. Little Zola has an eccentric style and a couple of comic songs that gain him liberal applause; Raymond, the "artistic coon," is assisted by his clever daughter Ivy in some graceful and difficult dances that win loud expressions of approval; Daisy Stratton and Ethel Eden are a couple of captivating comediennes and dancers who come in for much admiration; and the artistic and varied musical act of the Carina Sisters merits all the appreciation it receives. Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, employs a droll method which is very effective, his impersonations of different people singing "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" especially creating hilarity. The Brothers Rees do some wonderful feats in cannon-ball lifting, &c., their military act, "Soldiers at Play," being a well-worked interlude; and the Columbia Trio, vocal comedians, quite justify their title. As funny men they are particularly resourceful and always laughter-compelling, their turn being full of surprises, and their vocal numbers are all well rendered. Altogether a very enjoyable interlude. Miss Frances Letty contributes three well differentiated and taking impersonations that prove her versatility and cleverness, her concluding number, a very attractive and humorously worked coon song and dance, especially enabling her to display her expertness as a dancer. She received valuable assistance in this item from a smart youngster, and the piano-playing of Mr. James Sutton, America's brilliant rag-time pianist, also added to the attractiveness of a very popular turn. Harry Champion rattled off at lightning speed the familiar "Boiled beef and carrots," and a couple of other mirth-provoking ditties, and his welcome was most cordial. Wilbert and Leland submitted a comic nautical novelty that includes much clever flying-ring business; Miss Gladys Soman's fine voice was heard with pleasure in "Star of my life" and another number; and Mr. Herbert Rule amused greatly with a couple of comic ditties, the one with the "Yip-i-addy-i-ay"-like chorus being particularly laughable.

Animated Weekly Newspaper at Swansea.

Excellent galleries of living pictures are to be seen at the Palace, Shaftesbury, and Tivoli Bioscope Halls, Swansea. Besides the usual features to which we have now quite grown accustomed—features which have built up enduring popularity for this class of entertainment—a distinct novelty was introduced last week in the shape of an animated weekly newspaper, which will be found replete with living pictures from all the news-centres of the world. The cinephone and vivaphone formed a prominent part in the bill, and the vocalist was Miss Beatrice Morris.

A novel turn has been engaged at the Tivoli, viz., the Two Bobs (Bob Adams and Bob Alden). These gentlemen made their first appearance in England last week at the Tivoli in characteristic American songs. On their initial performance they achieved an instantaneous success. Their business is smart and refined, and they have been exclusively engaged to appear until they sail for America in September to fulfil a long tour, reappearing at the Tivoli next year.

The marvellous balancing act performed by the Zantrellas has been secured by Mr. Harry Rickards for Australia through Tom Pacey's agency.

A sale will take place at the Army Pageant Costume Dept., in Fulham-road, on July 11 to 17, of Army Pageant costumes and uniforms, Army Pageant armour of all periods from Edward III. to Charles I., and embroidered armorial surcoats, painted banners, steel swords and shields, from authentic designs. The sale should include many excellent bargains.

THE EMPIRE ON MOTORS.

The ideal way of travelling into the country is by motor, and the delights which the staff of the Empire, Leicester-square, experienced on the occasion of their outing last year led to a unanimous demand for a repetition. A detachment of Great Western char-à-bancs, 150 of which minister to the needs of excursionists and travellers all over the country, were accordingly chartered for last Sunday, when the Empire staff, some 180 strong, reviewed the leafy panorama provided by a journey through the Thames Valley. A special train from Paddington landed the party within half an hour at Slough, where seven luxuriously-appointed motor-cars were quickly brought up to convey the excursionists to Reading, some twenty-five miles distant.

Spasms of sunshine induced the hope that the day would be fine, but the "sky-border" too constantly gave way to "dark-cloth." No more effectual way of cheating the elements, however, can be conceived than that of travelling by motor, and the excursionists, snugly housed in the char-à-bancs, were able to survey the beauties of the surrounding country untouched by the heavy downpour, which was almost incessant. The way lay through picturesque Eton, and, by permission of the Deputy-Ranger, through Windsor Forest, where the pretty white goats and the horned deer were objects of admiration. Through Windsor Park, via Queen Anne's Gateway, the party was taken on to the castle, to gaze reverently at the chapel where King Edward sleeps his last sleep, and note the very paths which the historic procession traversed. By way of Ascot Racecourse the motors sped, and shortly after a halt was made at the Crispin, where the rain suspended operations for just sufficient time to allow of refreshments to be indulged in in delightfully *al fresco* style.

Reading was reached at 1.30, and dinner was immediately served at Caversham Bridge Hotel, in a spacious apartment overlooking the river. Mr. A. Aldin, Mr. H. J. Hitchins' able lieutenant, presided, and the speeches were short and to the point. The loyal toasts having been honoured, Mr. A. J. Reynolds, the energetic secretary for the outing, whose ubiquity during the day was little short of marvellous, gave "Prosperity to the Directors and Management of the Empire Theatre," acknowledging, with warm thanks, the support given to the outing by a handsome cheque for twenty guineas. He begged Mr. Aldin to accept their very best thanks for his efforts towards bringing the affair to a successful issue.

The Chairman said it gave him great pleasure once more to occupy that proud position. Mr. Hitchins, their esteemed manager, was unfortunately unable to be present, but he wished them well. Mr. Aldin proposed the health of "The Visitors," and coupled with it the name of Mr. W. C. Simpson, the theatrical representative of the Great Western Railway.

Mr. Simpson, who was heartily cheered, said they had not come to make speeches; they had come for the trip. He hoped they would enjoy themselves, as everyone did when they went to the Empire. So far as the Great Western Railway was concerned, he trusted he would have many opportunities of doing in the future what he had in the past. He thanked them earnestly on behalf of the visitors for the kind welcome extended to them.

Mr. Barker proposed the health of the hard-working secretary and stewards, coupling with it the names of Mr. Reynolds (their secretary) and Mr. C. Winter (their treasurer).

Mr. Reynolds acknowledged the toast, saying that the executive had done all in their power to make the day a success, but the weather they did not provide for. Mr. Winter was called for, but, by a brilliant strategical movement, evaded the necessity for making a speech; while Captain Williams, who enjoys remarkable popularity with the staff, acknowledged from the precarious eminence of a chair the ovation which greeted his belated entry.

The afternoon was spent on the water, a trip up river towards Pangbourne being taken on the steam launch Britannia. Meanwhile, Mr. Simpson and his party tested the merits of a fine new car in an exhilarating ride to Henley. Tea at the Caversham preceded the journey back, and before the admiring eyes of the natives the party embarked soon after six for Slough, by way of Maidenhead and Taplow. The journey was accomplished in marvellously quick time, and Mr. Reynolds, who had meanwhile led the harmony during the home journey, was able to see his merry men safely aboard the train, which reached town at ten precisely. The committee, it should be added, were Messrs. W. Sheldon, E. Bungay, T. Russell, C. Winter, P. Grieveson, and E. Heath. Every satisfaction was again expressed at the means of locomotion adopted. The motors, the cost of which compares very favourably with that of other modes of travelling, are, it may be added, always at the service of similar outings, a few days' notice to Mr. Simpson only being requisite.

"SPIES OF THE ——?"

Play, in One Act, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, July 4.

Admiral Sir James Tindley ....Mr. Geo. Ide
Baron Von Groom .....Mr. Robert Forsyth
Adolf Stumpff .....Mr. Arthur Charrington
Frank Rutley .....Mr. A. Tugg
Violet Fairford .....Miss Evelyn Beresford

This is described by the authors as an incident of England's everyday peril, and deals with the manner in which a Continental Power seeks to acquire secret information regarding British naval and military matters. The action takes place in the Admiralty House, Portsmouth, and it seems that the Admiral has invented an electric airship which would destroy any invading army. The Baron Von Groom, alias Burrowes, under which name he is in the service of the English Government, wishes to secure the plans for his own Government, and he finds out from Stumpff, a worthless character, that Violet Fairford, the Admiral's secretary, has some years before got into the clutches of Stumpff, but has managed to escape from the life he tried to force her into. Violet is engaged to Frank Rutley, of the Secret Service, to whom the Admiral shows his invention. In their absence the Baron tries to get the plans from Violet, after having threatened to expose her past life to her lover. The Baron tries to get her own story from her lips and record it on a phonograph. Happily, by chance Violet is able to pass off some worthless plans on him, and in the scene which follows the Baron falls into his own trap, for the phonograph records his villainy, and eventually leads to his full exposure and at the same time proves Violet's fine character.

It is a well-written little play, and created great enthusiasm. Miss Evelyn Beresford is capital as Violet, a part she plays with much charm. Mr. G. Ide makes a fine Admiral, while Mr. A. Tugg is seen to advantage as Frank Rutley. The Baron is depicted with much skill by Mr. Robert Forsyth, who scores an unqualified success by his effective rendering of the part. The mounting is in every way adequate, and the whole may be written down as a big success.

Cinema House.

Cinema House, 225, Oxford-street, the enterprise of the London Cinematograph Company, the latest and perhaps the most ambitious of living picture theatres in London, the building also including a restaurant and suites of offices, will be opened by the Duchess of Portland on July 14, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

THE LATE MR. B. H. KITCHEN.

Mr. B. H. Kitchen, who completed his eightieth year on the 25th ult., did not long survive his birthday. He passed away on Friday, the 30th ult., at Brixton, and in his death another link is snapped with the famous Grimaldi, for the famous old clown, like others of his generation, took the great Joey as his model. He was the last of the old English school of pantomimists, and was also famed for his performance in *The Dumb Man of Manchester*. He was the father of Fred, Harry, and the late Dick Kitchen. It is now seventy-three years since the deceased gentleman was first apprenticed to Messrs. Frampton and Fenton at the Victoria Theatre, Waterloo-road, and he worked continuously for fifty-seven years, taking his farewell of the stage at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, at Christmas, 1894. Fred Frampton, one of his masters, during his career was connected with the Adelphi and Olympic Theatres, and was stage-manager for Alfred Wigan at the Old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre. He was likewise one of the first directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and died on Nov. 26, 1884. A notable performance by Mr. Kitchen was Dusty Bob in Mr. Joe Cave's revival of *Tom and Jerry* on March 5, 1870. In criticising the representation, a writer in our columns at the time said:—"A Grimaldi comic pantomime scene was introduced just before the finale, and is full of that bustling and practical fun so dear to a Victoria audience, when Mr. Kitchen is the clown, and consents to play the fiddle, sing comic songs, and dance a hornpipe in answer to the reiterated 'Bravo, Kitchen!' which greets his efforts." Mr. James Fawn, who played Jerry to the Tom of Mr. J. H. Fitzpatrick, was then "an energetic young fellow, with a good-humoured face that exactly fitted him for the part." Misses Harriet and Florence Farren, sisters of the celebrated Nellie, were also in the cast.

Mr. Kitchen was harlequin on Boxing Day in 1851 in the pantomime of *The Lion and the Unicorn*, by Mr. Higgie, one of the members of the stock company, Mr. Paul Herring being the clown. Variety used to be the order of the day at the Victoria in the fifties, for after the presentation of that highly moral drama of real life *The Betting Boy's Career, from his Home to the Hulks*—quite a Hogarthian piece—we read of young Kitchen giving a variety of dancing, assisted by Mlle. Zitella and Phœbe Johnson, and of his appearance in the ballet *The Dream Before the Wedding*, which completed an evening in which two dramas were given. This was in 1851. Boxing night in 1852 was ushered in at the "Vic." by a production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*—of which there were numerous versions—and concluded with the pantomime *The World of Flowers; or, Harlequin King Nosey and the Old Woman and Her Six Daughters from Baby Land*, written by E. L. Blanchard, who gave so much of his brightest humour in later years to the Christmas spectacles presented at Old Drury. In the production mentioned, Mr. Kitchen played Prince Calidor—a part that would be most probably assigned to a lady in the present day—and harlequin. He played harlequin at the same house on Boxing Day, 1853, in *The Seven Champions of Christendom* pantomime. He was quite in his element in the canine drama of the day, and *The Mountebanks; or, The Showman and His Dog, the Dumb Girl of Genoa, The Life of a Tramp; or, Punch and His Dog Toby*, and the famous *Dog of Montargis; or, The Forest of Bondy* were among his histrionic triumphs.

In 1863 he was again at the Victoria, to play clown in the "stupendous spectacular pantomime" by F. Fenton and W. R. Osman, entitled *Giselle; or, The Phantom Night Dancers*. The subject had been musically treated by E. J. Loder, and Adolphe Adam had written a ballet, *Giselle*, for the Grand Opera, Paris, in 1841. This was but recently reproduced at the Coliseum. Like Fred Evans, Tom Lovell, and other clowns, Kitchen gravitated to the halls, and we meet with his name in the Metropolitan programmes in the ballets *Comic Lovers, The Dancing Scotchman, Mad as a March Hare*, and *La Statue Blanche*. This was during the proprietorship of Mr. Wm. Meacock in 1866. In the fifties one of his contemporaries was James Doughty, who, when at the Grecian, was designated "The King of Clowns." This veteran is still alive, and is now earning his living with a troupe of performing dogs at Brighton.

Mr. Watty Brunton writes:—"Still another of our old players has answered the 'last call'—R. H. Kitchen, who was peacefully laid to rest in Norwood Cemetery on Wednesday, July 6, at the great age of eighty years. With him goes the last of the true 'English School' of pantomimic art. Apprenticed to the late Mr. Frampton in the year 1837, he became one of his most promising pupils, and during his apprenticeship played many parts. Not only did he shine as a pantomimist, he even essayed Shakespeare, he was also a musician of no mean ability, and from the waving of the harlequin's wand he developed into Clown, who in his day had no equal. For 57 years he was the public's servant, and the name, I venture to think, will not die while we have such a comedian as his youngest son, Fred Kitchen, in our midst.

"He was followed to the grave by Mrs. R. H. Kitchen (widow), Mrs. George Orford (daughter), Mrs. Sutherland (daughter), Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Harry Kitchen, Mr. Reuben Kitchen, Mrs. Dick Kitchen, junr., Miss Carrie Kitchen, Miss Gladys Orford, Mr. Herbert Darnley, Mr. Watty Brunton, Mr. Frank Boisset, Mr. Ted Almonti, Mr. Charles Jones, Mr. John Osborne.

"Amongst the numerous wreaths sent were those from 'Fred and Nell,' Boys and Girls of *Perkins, M.P.* Co., *Private Potts* Co., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Boisset, Mr. and Mrs. Will Cowan, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Reaney, Hermance, Dick, and Harry, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rees, Reuben, Lizzie, Mrs. George Orford, Sid, Harry, Gladys, and Georgie Orford, Harry, Annie, and Dolly, Miss Burry (sister-in-law), Miss Tiny Kitchen and Mr. Herbert Darnley (Cap and Bells), and one with no card. Amongst those at the graveside were noticed: James Almonti, Albert De Voy, George Craig, Steve Asher, W. Harris, James Le Fre and Mrs. Pahud."

A strong bill is presented for the opening week at the Clacton-on-Sea Palace of Varieties, and good business is being done. Jack Smiles, who is always a favourite with Clacton audiences, sings in his usual funny style and dances capitally; Mart and Pep, acrobatic hand-to-hand balancers, perform very clever tricks; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is original and funny; Edward Marris and company, in their farce *A Doctor's Dilemma*, create screams of laughter; Miss Jessie Stuart, vocal comedienne, contributes a couple of excellent songs, and Miss Lylie Read and the Child Trio of musicians also do well. Good pictures are shown.

Novel Pictures at Jersey.

Mr. E. Clements, Mr. Albany Ward's smart cinematograph operator at the Jersey Opera House, has this week produced a most interesting and excellent film, taken by himself, of the potato industry. Jersey undoubtedly possesses the greatest ready money market in the world, for although the season only lasts ten weeks, an average of £400,000 is paid on the nail to the farmers during this short period, and over 65,000 tons of potatoes are shipped. The largest cargo to leave the island was 17,059 packages, weighing 925 tons. Mr. Clements has admirably depicted the tubers being dug in the fields and carted through the picturesque lanes of the island to the busy scene on the St. Helier market, where the English merchants are shown bidding against each other for the farmers' produce. This is followed by animated scenes of the potatoes being packed in the stores and shipped on board the steamers for England.

THE ROSHERVILLE GALA.

"The place to spend a happy day!" Yes, in spite of leaden skies and the heavy rain which dropped almost continuously throughout the afternoon, those who journeyed to the famous gardens at Gravesend on Wednesday had only themselves to blame if they failed to derive enjoyment from their outing. The occasion was a fête and gala in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, under the patronage of Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., Lady Parker, Alderman H. E. Davis, C.C., Mayor of Gravesend; W. E. Randall, Mayor of Chatham; Mr. T. Church, chairman Northfleet Council; the Grand Order of Water Rats; the Terriers Association, and the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association. The objects of the institution are well known to all interested in the variety profession, and there was great disappointment when it became known that Mr. Joe Elvin, who is particularly interested in this work of charity, being its founder and a very liberal supporter, would be unable to be present owing to indisposition. Amongst the well-known artists who put in an appearance and worked hard throughout the day, may be mentioned Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, who not only did a turn at the open-air entertainment during the afternoon, but used his persuasive powers to entice the multitude into the side-shows, and also proved himself a crack shot at the rifle range, the "white-eyed" one smashing a bottle with almost every shot. Mr. Charles Coborn likewise was early on the scene, and he it was who bravely volunteered to do the first turn at the alfresco concert in the pouring rain and face an array of empty chairs, the audience seated in shelters at the side, heartily applauding him in his two songs, "Nothing but girls" and that perennial favourite "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo." Other artists who appeared at the afternoon concert were Marie Blythe, Gertie Gitana, Alexandra Dagmar, Constance Moxon, Florrie Forde, Andy Burn, Harry Wright, Ross and Grayson, Maidie Scott, and the Tally Ho Trio. At the evening concert the following appeared:—Fred Greville, Adele Levey, Charles Coborn, Dolly Harmer, Gilbert Girard, Jessie Albini, Edwin Barwick, Elsa Joel, Walter Norman, Constance Moxon, Pat Carey, Florrie Robina, and Professor Astley. Mr. Pat Carey was stage manager, assisted by Mr. Edward Giles.

At intervals, in the Old Billiard-room, Jack Collinson's celebrated company was well patronised in the representation of the old Richardson show, the drama of *Maria Martin; or, the Murder in the Red Barn*, Miss Lottie Swinburne, and Messrs. W. May, Jack Collinson, and Monte Maitland enacting this famous "blood-curdler." Admission to this "grand theatrical treat" could be obtained for the modest price of twopence; fauteuils a penny extra. Lieutenant Albini, assisted by Mlle. Gautier, presented an entertainment of conjuring and legerdemain; and Hermalin, the handcuff king, was also announced to give his marvellous performance. The unsophisticated were lured into the mysterious magic caves; and not a few consulted Dolores as to their future in the palmist tent. Curtis Leo, the Irish Hindoo, in his marvellous performance of "Atching Heggs"; Lazernino, the Wizard from Dum-Dum, in "Feats of Fun and Fits of Folly"; Miss Florrie Robina, with her museum of all kinds of antique and interesting curios; all offered unique attractions. Jack Straw's Castle, under the direction of Jack Straw, assisted by Miss Flo Hastings, boasted "a sheep which talks," and Jeaps' cinematograph theatre, with all the latest pictures, appeared to be well patronised. Then there were the Kokobama Dandies, and Clifford and Hill's Pierrot Company; the Metzgar-Leno aeroplane, designed and made by Messrs. Metzgar Bros. and Leno (son of the lamented Dan); and Astley's Marvels of the age, the smallest horses in the world.

The "Fun City" suffered severely owing to the miserable weather, but those who tramped through the slush saw many well-known pros pleading for patronage at cocoanut-shies, roundabouts, and all the fun of the fair. Mr. Arthur Were, the popular secretary of the Terriers' Association, tried hard to do business at a stall where, for the humble brown, one was entitled to three shots at a number of globes containing goldfish. If you were successful in placing a ball in one of the globes, it was yours, goldfish and all. The proceedings were considerably enlivened by the members of the Sutcliffe Family, who paraded the grounds with drum and pipes; and the fine band of H.M. Royal Marines, under the direction of Mr. Charles Hoby, played selections during the afternoon and evening. At a ballad concert in the evening the following gave their services:—Miss F. Raynor, Mr. C. R. Green, Miss Bertha Barnes, Miss Katie Cohen, Mr. Alec Davidson, Mr. F. Wilson, and the Kokobama Dandies. Many well-known and charmingly-costumed ladies sold programmes, flowers, picture postcards, &c., while their earnest appeals for pence in the collecting "bricks" should result in a substantial sum. Mr. C. Douglas Stuart and Mr. H. Cory Woodrow, the hon. directors, worked untiringly throughout a long day for the success of the function and the comfort of visitors; and valuable assistance was given by Messrs. Harry Blake, Harry Bawn, Ted E. Box, and a number of other well-known gentlemen. Amongst the programme-sellers and lady assistants were Mrs. H. Cory-Woodrow, Misses Elsie Athas, Kitty Bell, Chrissie Capell, Mrs. Chapman, Misses Radena Dey, Ethel Eldric, Mabel Fairchild, Blanche Key, Jeffie Maitland, Ada Norman, Cissie Paris, Minnie Priddle, Kathleen Rayburn, Marie Rose, Cissie Smythson, Indiana Smythson, Violet Tremayne, Amy Denton, Jessie Denton, Rose Bancroft, Kittie Brandow, Nellie Gannon, Flo Hastings, Elsa Joel, Marie Jones Ruth Maitland, Olga May, Violet Murray, Ruth Wallace, Mrs. Jimson, Mrs. Pete Murray, Miss Melinda May, Mrs. C. C. Bartram, Mrs. Bradsell, Mrs. Chas. Coborn, Mrs. Vernon Cowper, Mrs. Fawkes, and Mrs. G. H. Smythson.

"KARL'S LUCK."

Sketch, by Leon Cassilis and Lena Burnleigh, Produced at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, on Friday, July 1.

Karl Wertheim .....Mr. Van Biene
Ned Christie .....Mr. George H. Child
Margaret Dane .....Miss Violet Vaughan
(from our own correspondent.)

This is a smart little curtain-raiser that is well worthy of being put in front of any play. We find two Australian miners seated in their hut deploring the constant bad luck that has followed their search for gold. The younger of them, Ned Christie, having left his wife many years before, decides to abandon the work of mining and commit suicide. With this intention he leaves the hut. Karl for some time has been advertising for a wife, and having decided upon one applicant asks her to call upon him. Ned suddenly returns with Karl's revolver, which he had taken by mistake, pointing out that had that been found beside his dead body he (Karl) might have been accused of shooting him. At this juncture the intended bride appears, and turns out to be Ned's wife, who believed him to be dead. Having parted in anger, there is a little coolness between the couple, but Karl's interference brings about a reconciliation. Mr. Van Biene played the rôle of the wife hunter in excellent style, and Mr. Child was particularly fine as the disconsolate young miner. Miss Vaughan made a pleasing Margaret.

Mr. W. F. Frame, who says a laugh's the cream o' medicine, will tickle the Brighton people next week in the Alhambra Theatre there with his hooch-aye stories.

LICENSING OF AGENTS.

In last week's issue we gave a full report of the hearing by a Select Committee of the House of Commons of the London County Council (General Powers) Bill, in which powers were sought to have licensed, instead of registered, all employment agencies in the County of London, including those connected with theatres and music halls. The Committee decided in favour of licensing, but stipulated that where a licence was refused, the applicant should have the right to appeal, in the first instance to a bench of magistrates, and, if necessary, to a Court of Quarter Sessions. On Tuesday the adjusted clauses were brought before the Committee by Mr. C. B. L. Browne (Messrs. Dyson and Co., Parliamentary agents), on behalf of the L.C.C. Mr. Johnson, Parliamentary agent, appeared for the petitioners against that part of the Bill dealing with employment agencies.

Mr. Browne put forward the following addition to Clause 25: "Provided that the licensing authority shall not refuse to renew a licence unless they shall have given to the person applying for such renewal not less than seven days' previous notice in writing that objections have been or will be taken to such renewal and unless on written application made within three days after the receipt of such notice they shall have afforded to the applicant an opportunity of being heard against such refusal." He said a proposal was made by the other side that not only should seven days' notice of objection be given, but also particulars of the objection itself. There were substantial difficulties in the way, as a week before consideration of the refusal to renew it might well be that all the grounds of objection were not within the minds of the licensing authority.

The addition was then inserted.

The chairman said he noticed that the L.C.C. proposed to charge three guineas for each new licence and one guinea a year for renewal. To a large agency three guineas might not seem much, but it was a large sum for a small business.

Mr. Browne said the object was to prevent persons of no substance or who were undesirable to embark in a business of this kind—at any rate that was one reason for the charge. Further, the administration of that part of the Act would involve a substantial amount of expense.

The Chairman: The Committee think two guineas for a new licence is enough.

The alteration was made, and the committee next accepted the following sub-sections to Clause 25: "(4) If the licensing authority refuse to grant or renew a licence under this part of the Act they shall, if required by the applicant, deliver to him within three days of the receipt of such requirement, particulars in writing of the ground or grounds, upon which such grant or renewal is refused.

"(5) Any person who deems himself aggrieved by the refusal of the Licensing Authority to grant or renew a licence to him may appeal, in the case of an employment agency in the City of London, to a magistrate of that City, or, in the case of any other employment agency, to a metropolitan police magistrate, provided that such appeal is made within fourteen days from the date of such refusal, and that not less than four days' notice in writing of such appeal is sent to the Licensing Authority."

The L.C.C. agent next asked to insert the following to Clause 25: "(6) The Licensing Authority or any person aggrieved by a decision of a magistrate under this section, may appeal therefrom to the next ensuing Court of Quarter Sessions."

Mr. Johnson objected to the inclusion of "the Licensing Authority." If an agent succeeded at a police court he might not have the means to go to a Court of Quarter Sessions if the Council took him there, and the sub-section, as it stood, would give the L.C.C. two shots to the agent's one.

The Committee decided to strike out the words "the Licensing Authority," and to substitute "next practicable court" for next ensuing Court of Quarter Sessions.

To Clause 25 there were also added the words "The costs of any appeal under this section shall be paid in such manner, and by such parties to the appeal, as the Court may direct."

Mr. Browne next raised the question as to the authority which should have power to revoke a licence following an offence. He said the L.C.C., as the Licensing Authority, might be expected to exercise wisely the wide powers given to them.

Mr. Johnson contended that it would not be logical for the authority appealed against to have the power to revoke a licence. It should be for a court considering the matter and imposing a penalty to say whether or not a licence should be revoked.

The Chairman asked what was done under the Act of 1905.

Mr. Johnson said it was done by the court, subject to appeal to Quarter Sessions. An offence might be a trivial one, and to give the L.C.C. the right to revoke a licence would be according them enormous powers.

The Chairman said the decision of the Committee was that the procedure of the Act of 1905 should be followed.

The following addition was made to Clause 26: "The Licensing Authority may make bye-laws requiring person holding licences under this part of the Act to keep either books, cards, or forms, at the option of such persons, showing the business conducted so far as it relates to their employment agencies, and for prescribing entries to be made in connection with such business, and for the prevention of fraud and immorality in the conduct of employment agencies, and for regulating any premises used for the purposes of, or in connection with, the business of such agencies."

To Clause 28 there was added the following: "Provided that no person who shall have appealed to a magistrate or to a Court of Quarter Sessions, in accordance with the provisions of this part of this Act, against a refusal by the Licensing Authority to grant a licence to any person making application under sub-section 2 of the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "Applications for licences," or to renew a licence, shall be liable to any proceedings under this section for the offence of carrying on an employment agency without a licence under this part of this Act until such appeal shall have been heard and determined, or shall have been abandoned."

The Bill, as amended, was then ordered to be reported to the House.

AN APPEAL FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—Messrs. Roberts and Archer, of the famous firm of Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett, are dead, and Mr. Fred Bartlett is at present in Cape Town, where opportunities for engagement are rare indeed. His financial position is precarious, and a few friends, both inside and outside the profession, help him—when they can. Mr. Bartlett is far advanced in years—long past the allotted span—and his friends suggested I should address you, asking that out of your goodness you would make an appeal on his behalf through your paper. There must be many in the profession who remember the kindly old gentleman, and who would be glad to help make his old age comfortable.

Any letters addressed to Mr. Bartlett, as above (care of W. Baxter), will be handed him.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER BAXTER,
Editor of the Cape Town *Licensed Victuallers' and Sporting Gazette*.
14, Parker's-buildings, Burg-street, Cape Town.
June 15.

Mr. Frank Cowle's agency is making headway, and he has now gone into more commodious offices at 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 11.

An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Sunderland.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
At the World's Mercy.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Black Mask, The.—T. R., Belfast.
Booth, Junius.—Star T., Liverpool.
Candida.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
Castellano's Opera Co.—T. R., Worthing.
Country Girl in London.—T. R., Smethwick.
Diana of Dobson's.—Buxton and Macclesfield.
D'Oyly Carte.—Great Yarmouth.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—Elephant and Castle T.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Eyes of the World.—T. R., South Shields.
Fast Life.—Alexandra T., New Washington.
Female Swindler.—T. R., Worcester.
Florodora (Constant).—Jersey and Guernsey.
For Old Time's Sake.—T. R., Stratford.
Her Fatal Past.—Junction T., Manchester.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Youghal and Queenstown.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Aberystwyth.
Marsh, Alexander.—King's T., Longsight.
Maude, Winifred.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Midnight Mail.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Empire T., Southend.
Mockery of Marriage.—T. R., Southport.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
My Irish Molly.—Prince's T., Preston.
My Lady Bellamy.—O. H., Harrogate.
New Boy.—O. H., Southport.
Nihilist, The.—T. R., Leeds.
No Mother to Guide Her.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Raynor's Repertoire Co.—Empire T., Ashton.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Blackpool.
Shadows of a Crime.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Sins of a City.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Grand T., Stockton.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Hippodrome, Liverpool.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., Birkenhead.
When it was Dark.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Where is William?—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Wilkie Allan.—O. H., Burton.
Woman's Past.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Bury.

"THE GARDEN OF EVE."

A Comedy in Three Acts, from the Italian of Paolo Ferrari, *Revenge is Sweet*, Produced at the Zoological Gardens, Clifton, Bristol, on July 1.

Eve, Lady Dacre — Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay
Miss Adela Lane — Miss Margaret Bussé
Marie — Miss Aileen Curran
John Cartwright — Mr. Herbert Dansey
Sir Charles Blundell — Mr. E. Harcourt-Williams

(from our own correspondent.)

The action of the comedy takes place in the garden of Lady Dacre's villa on the Riviera. Her ladyship is a young and wealthy widow, and she has several suitors. Sir Charles Blundell is anxious to buy the villa, from the sentimental reason that his mother died there, and Lady Dacre expresses her willingness to exchange the villa for one of Sir Charles', but does not wish to sell. Adela Lane, who has come into a large fortune, and Cartwright have various unpleasant things to say about Lady Dacre, who happens to overhear their "cattish" remarks, and she resolves to teach them a lesson. Sir Charles, much against his inclinations, gets drawn into the petty gossip, and after a lot of misunderstanding and amusing complications Lady Dacre agrees to marry Sir Charles, and Cartwright and Adela resolve to take a similar step.

Mr. Harcourt-Williams and Miss Mackinlay acted cleverly their respective parts of Sir Charles Blundell and Lady Dacre, being admirably supported by Miss Margaret Bussé and Mr. Herbert Dansey, and Miss Aileen Curran made an attractive French waiting-maid.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. pd.), 1⅜; ditto (10s. pd.), 1⅛; London Pavilion, 3; ditto pref., 5⅛; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empires, 4; Oxford, 7; Palace Theatre (9s. pd.), 1; Tivoli, New, 6¼.

Despite wind and rain, a large number of well-known showmen, roundabout proprietors, &c., connected with the Midland Counties, assembled, at Tom Norman's invitation, to compete for the well-known concern of Mr. Arthur Dobson, who is retiring from the business. Competition was brisk, sharp, and lively from start to finish, our old friend Ball starting the bidding for the riding machine, traction engine, &c., at £700, which very quickly ran up to £1,300, at which figure it was knocked down to that well-known and much-respected Shropshire traveller, Mrs. Gotthimer, the splendid saloon carriage being purchased by Mr. Jacob Gotthimer, husband of the above lady, for £55. After the sale the company returned to the Rifleman Hotel, where a splendid repast was provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Newton, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Mr. Joseph Wright, "the friend of the showmen's children," will give his annual treat on Glasgow Fair Sunday, July 17, to the youthful wanderers who will assemble on the show ground. The function is looked forward to with much anticipation by the showmen and showwomen of the future, and by the Boswell and Lovells of the gipsy tribes, who look to Mr. Wright as their "Romany Rye."

The semi-final round for the inter-theatre golf shield, between the Gaiety and Daly's Theatres, was played on June 28 at Bushey Hall, and resulted in a win for Daly's by three games to love. N. A. Knox beat J. A. Evelyn, 6 and 5; W. H. P. Price beat A. Hatherton, 5 and 3; H. A. Henson beat E. Torrens, 6 and 5. Daly's will now meet the Comedy in the final, when 36 holes have to be played.

West-End Roller Rink, Glasgow.

The many patrons of this establishment continue to be well catered for, the enterprising management providing every necessary comfort. An excellent maple floor and smooth running skates are attractions for the devotees of the pastime. The rink is well ventilated.

Skating at Rothesay, N.B.

The new Rothesay Pavilion opened with much success two weeks ago, and is being run on the lines of rinking and variety combined. The Pavilion has proved a hit in the popular Clyde resort, which has always felt the need of an attractive indoor entertainment, especially during inclement weather. Mr. Charles A. White is in command at the new hall, with Mr. Wm. C. McGaw (formerly of the Coliseum, Glasgow) as his able lieutenant.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6 0	One Year	£1	12 0
Six Months	0	13 0	Six Months	0	16 0
Three Months	0	6 6	Three Months	0	8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

R. C. H. (Blackheath).—*Mr. James Doughty was clown at the Royal Grecian, City-road, in 1854-55 in the pantomime* Little Red Riding Hood. *He was then called the King of Clowns.*

Thos Fisher.—*It would be scarcely possible to give the exact date. The song was published by Charles Sheard and Co. in the months of April or May, 1891. Write Mr. Herbert Darnley, 44, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.C., enclosing stamped envelope. He should be able to tell you.*

Montagu Dixon.—*1. They were married on Oct. 27, 1906. 2. The Music Hall Strike (Gibbons and Payne circuits) commenced on Jan. 22, 1907, and extended to the London, Collins's, and Cambridge on the 31st. The Metropolitan and the Bedford were also affected. The stars returned on Feb. 25—that date being known as Peace Day.*

Charles Wilmott.—*There are at least a dozen theatrical versions, as well as music hall sketches, of Dumas' novel "Les Trois Mousquetaires," dramatised under the title of* The Three Musketeers. *The version by Charles Rice, Charles Dillon, and Augustus Harris, sen., was produced at the Lyceum, Oct. 16, 1856. Henry Hamilton's version was produced by Mr. Lewis Waller at Camberwell Metropole, Sept. 12, 1898; Globe, Oct. 22, 1898; Lyceum, Nov. 3, 1900; and revived by Mr. Lewis Waller at the Lyric, March 3, 1909. Sydney Grundy's version, called* The Three Musketeers, *was produced at Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, by Mr. Beerbohm Tree on Nov. 3, 1898. Frou-Frou, drama in five acts, by Meilhac and Halévy, was produced in Paris in 1869, at the Gymnase Theatre. The first English version of this play was by Benjamin Webster, jun., produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on March 14, 1870, reproduced at St. James's Theatre, London, April 14, 1870. Frou-Frou, by Augustin Daly, Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, Feb. 15, 1870. Another version by Sutherland Edwards was played for the first time at the Olympic Theatre, London, April 16, 1870. Mr. Comyns Carr wrote a version (Princess's Theatre, London, June 4, 1881); and Mr. Charles Charrington and Miss Janet Achurch were also responsible for an adaptation (Comedy Theatre, Manchester, Dec. 9, 1886). Other versions were given at Comedy Theatre, London (March 17, 1894), at the St. James's (July 10, 1890), and at the old Globe Theatre, Newcastle-street, Strand (July 26, 1888). The whole of the versions bore the same title as the original piece.* Merrie England, *comic opera, was produced at the Savoy, April 2, 1902;* The Dancing Girl, *Haymarket, Jan. 15, 1891;* Chantecler, *Porte-Saint-Martin, Paris, Feb. 7, 1910;* Oh! Susannah, *Royalty, Oct. 5, 1896 (after a first production at the Brighton Eden Theatre, Sept. 6, 1897); and* The Second in Command, *Haymarket, Nov. 27, 1900.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Haggar.—On July 1, 1910, at Briton Ferry, Mrs. James Haggar, of a fine boy. Mother and child doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Pearson—Lewis.—Aug. 6, 1909, at St. Clement Dane's, Strand, Francis Geoffrey Pearson, third and youngest son of Sir Weetman and Lady Pearson, to Ethel Lewis, of the D'Oyly Carte company.

DEATHS.

Cariss.—July 1, at 40, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester, very suddenly, Mary Kitchin Cariss, mother of Madge Clare (Mrs. Carl Vallender).

Kitchen.—June 30, at Brixton, R. H. Kitchen, pantomimist, aged 80.

Marshall.—July 1, at a nursing home in London, Captain Robert Marshall, late of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, aged 47.

Morrison.—On the 2nd inst., at 4, Woodland Vale-road, Mary Isabella Morrison ("May"), to the inconsolable grief of her lifelong friend, Lottie.

In Memoriam.

Scott.—In loving memory of our dear father, Walter Scott, who passed away July 11, 1909. Never forgotten by his loving daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren, Lizzie and Ned Hannaford and family.

Not gone from memory, nor from love,
But to our Father's home above.

Wakefield.—In ever-loving memory of our dear brother, J. H. Wakefield, who died July 3, 1900. By us never forgotten.

Walton.—In loving memory of my dear father, William Walton, who died July 8, 1904. R.I.P.

Walton.—In loving memory of my dear uncle, William Walton, who departed this life July 8, 1904. Not forgotten.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Carlotta Addison—Saturday, July 9.
Ethel Bourne—Saturday, July 9.
Julian Cross—Saturday, July 9.
James Brady, Sunday, July 10.
Agnes Hazel—Tuesday, July 12.
William Holles—Tuesday, July 12.
Percy Victor—Tuesday, July 12.
Gladys Archbutt—Wednesday, July 13.
Laura Walker—Wednesday, July 13.
Austin Brereton—Wednesday, July 13.
J. E. Vedrenne—Wednesday, July 13.
Jessie Millward—Thursday, July 14.
Ida Mackay—Friday, July 15.
Marie Tempest—Friday, July 15.
Fred Herbert—Friday, July 15.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Miss Maud
Anderson, Miss Mary
Arthur, Mr. George
Ayrton, Mr. Frank
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bantock, Mr. L.
Bartlett's Circus
Bavista, Herr Da
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Bergeron, Mrs.
Bolder, Mr. Robt.
Broadbridge, Mr. Claud
Brough, Mr. Lawrence
Brune, Miss P.
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Callam, Mr. John
Carey, Mr. W. P.
Carter, Mr. D.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia
Cecil, Mr. Chas.
Cerise, Miss D.
Chambers, Miss
Chippendale, Mr. A. A.
Claff, Mr. Harry
Cook, Mr. Albert
Court, Mr. F.
Coutts, Mr. Henry
Currie, Miss Lily
Currie, Mr. Byden
Darewski, Mr. A. E.
Dark, Mr. Fred
Davins, Mrs.
Day, Mr. Geo. R.
De Winton, Miss Dora
Douglas, Mr. George
Drury, Miss Lily
Elliott, Miss Violet
Ellis, Mr. Guy P.
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Evant, Mr. Stephen
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Tom
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Garland, Miss Fanny
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. A. F.
Gittins, Mr. E. C. H.
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glynn, Mr. O'Rourke
Gray, Mr. Cecil
Gregory, Mme. Dan
Grey, Miss Marion
Halstan, Miss M.
Harrison, Mrs.
Harveston, Mr. George
Hast, Mr. Walter
High, Mr. Bert
Holding, Mr. Thos.
Hortopp, Mr. A. W.
Howard, Mr.
Hunt, Miss Violet
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Irving, Miss Ethel
Irving, Mr. Laurence
John, Mr. Arthur
Kay, Mr. Jay
Kennedy, Mr. Edmund
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Latham, Miss J.
Lecard, Brothers
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Leslie, Mr. Montague
Levey and Cardwel
Lewis, Miss Rose E.
Lewis, Mr. G.
Lingard, Mr. Horace
Lloyd, Mr. H. C.
Lloyd, Mr. James
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Luxmore, Miss M.
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Mannikins, The
Maron, Miss B.
Morris, Miss Lily
Martin, Mr. Leslie
Martino, Madame
Maude, Miss Alice
Mayke, Mr. T.
Mayne, Miss Lilian
M'Call-Chambers, Mr.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest P.
Melton, Miss Irene
Merlin, Mr. Jack
Mitchell, Miss Ada
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Nolan, Mr. Alf
Nord, Miss Serene
Norton, Mr. Jack
Oxley, Mr. Gus
Paull, Mr. E. G.
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Petley, Mr. Ed.
Pettigrove, Mr. Louie
Pettigrove, Mr. Thomas
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Proveanie, Miss Edie
Purcell and Newns
Ray, Miss Belle
Raymond, Miss Alice
Rigby, Mr. Arthur
Romanos Trio
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Ryan and Hall
Samson, Mrs.
Schartz, Mrs. Louis
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Sefton, Miss Clarice
Seymour, Mr. Edwin
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Simmonette, Mr. Harry
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Stanley, Mr. Frank
Stewart, Miss Lilly
Strange, Mr. George
Sutcliff, Mr. J. Mellor
Sutton and Raynor
Swanborough, Mr. Harold
Symonds, Mr. A.
Tarong, Mr. Harry
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Titus, Mr.
Tower, Mr. Allen
Vasellsan Troupe
Vera, Miss Maud
Walsh, Mr. J. Fenton
Warane, Mrs. P. C. Lu
Ward, Mr. Hugh
Warne, Miss O.
Warren, Miss Gwynne
Warwick, Mr. Bob
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Westwood, Mr.
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss May
Winona
Wood, Mr. W.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 3. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

MUSIC HALL SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—If I write you much oftener, I expect you will want to set the dog on to me next time I call. But I can't help it. It's a good cause, and my chairman, Albert Le Fre, says I've got to keep on talking and begging till he tells me to stop. Well, we are getting along very nicely. What we want now is lots of entries for the various competitions and splendid prizes. Intending competitors should send in to Albert Le Fre, 49, Upper Tulse Hill, S.W., at once. Closing time for these first post next Wednesday morning, 13th inst.

Got prizes last night from our old friends Billy Grimes and Alf. Abrahams; G. H. Elliott sent along a handsome gift; Mr. H. G. Pelissier, of "The Follies," has given me a donation; so has Chris van Bern, who says I wheedled him out of it; Yamamoto sends a suit case; Clarkson a fine and large dressing case, all fitted and complete; Tom Branson, of Hastings, W. D. Chipchase, Miss Alice Raymond, R. G. Knowles, Miss Marie Kendall, Fred Griffiths, and Chirgwin, who, besides giving prizes, have bought a lot of tickets, are all helping on the good work. F. V. St. Clair and several others have sworn to sell all their tickets or perish in the attempt. *The Era* prize is a thing of beauty—two things, in fact. Wish I could win 'em; and I really haven't the time to mention now everyone helping, though I should like to.

One thing I would like to say to those who have had tickets sent to them. Don't send them all back if you can help it without just a little "bob" or two to soften the blow. And, then, there's no particular hurry. There's time to sell a few, anyhow, between now and the 21st. The Ladies' Guild Committee will again help us by taking charge of the programmes on the day. Oh, and finally, there are still a few pages of the programme to let for advertisements. And what a chance! My word if I catch you not advertising in it! Thank you, Mr. Editor. Good day.—Yours truly,

CHARLES COBORN.

40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W., July 8, 1910.
Telephone, 277 Brixton.

P.S.—I nearly forgot to mention that the Great Lafayette has sent a splendid donation; that Mr. M. H. Hills, of Stanningley, is sending a fine travelling hamper (with his very own patent double lock), to keep the White Brothers' prize company; also that George Mozart is sending us a prize. More next week, if you will stand it. Honest Injun, I don't know what we should do without you newspaper chaps.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearsaller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Rose Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 353, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1295 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.
ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.
MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.
Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, FITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Mr. EDMUND PAYNE
and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
and Mr. Allan Aynesworth in their original parts.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
New Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Grand Amateur Day,
THURSDAY, July 21, 1910.
Valuable Prizes.
Entrance fee, 2s.
Application for entry to be addressed to
The Manager, Amateur Competition,
Crystal Palace, S.E.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
ETHEL LEVEY, Schichtl's Marionettes, Molly Malone, Franco Piper, The Excellos, Signorina Corona, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! PEOPLE,"
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
Petit Roberto, Emerson and Baldwin, Mazuz and Mazetto, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson and Clark, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers and Co., Arthur Prince, Barclay Gammon, Bert Levy, Merian's Canine Actors, Royal Funeral in Actual Natural Colours, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—"Chanteclair," by Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' Co., Wee Georgie Wood 9.35, Harry Bedford, Winifred Ward, La Belle Linda, Harry Radford, Gipsy Woolf and Co., Dutch Daly, Ella Shields, Maidie Scott, the Seven Bramusas, Madge Temple, Les Marbas, Gertie Gitana, Victor Kelly and Agnas, Spalding and Riego, O'Gorman Bros., Hayman and Franklin, Three Cape Girls, Frank Maura, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.15. Saturday matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
HERBERT SLEATH and CO.
LIANE D'EVE, Mary Law, Clarice Mayne, The Two Bobs, Will E. Stopit, Herbert Clifton, Gladys Huxley, "The Odd Man Out," by Robert Whyte, Mona Harrison, and Lennox Pawle, Milt Wood, Vera Saunders, Rosie Lloyd, Wallace Lupino, Meredith Meredro, Hall and Earle, Cinquevalli, and Sam Stern.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
Overture, Cissie Thompson, Will E. Stopit, O'Gorman Bros., Dollie Denton, Les Frasettis, Meredith Meredro, The Schmettans, Harry Roxbury's Co., Eight 'Varsity Girls, Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
The Child Trio, under the direction of Edward Platt, Hary Bedford, Rastus and Banks, Ian Colquhoun, Eight 'Varsity Girls, Queenie Finnis, Ida Barr, Ruffell's Bioscope, Marie Blythe, The Olympian Team of Cyclists.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Monday, Ferguson and Mack and Co., Kisbey, Arthur Albert, Harry Ormonde, Sisters Hall, Winnie Melville, Bioscope, Cyrus Dare, Herbert Clifton, Fred Karno's Co., "Skating," and Harry Brettell, Leonard Robson and Co. in "An Indian Romance." Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, July 11.
Amateur Carnival, Bioscope, Edie Anderson, Three Orleans, Chummie La Mara, Guver and Valle, Laurie and Leslie, Eglen and Percival, Bella Belmont, Perrier, Mason and Moore, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, July 11th, Fred Conquest and Co., Annie Purcell, Big 4, Mabelle Fournier, Alice Hughes and Co., Florence Yaymen, Harry Sims, Tom Moore, Hemsley and Ambrose, Elmore and Evans, Tina Franks, T. G. Royde, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tels., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 5d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. New Pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may enter at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
July 13, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert.
Prospectus and Concert Tickets on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville Place, Manchester Square, London, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £260.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali" London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 13, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Only Vacancies this year Oct. 3 and Dec. 12. Fast Booking 1911.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Bench,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EVESHAM.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed, good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courteneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Sept. 26, Nov. 7 and 21, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Sept. 12 (three nights),
Sept. 19 (six), 26 (three), Oct. 31 (six),
Nov. 10 (three), 14, 21 (six), Dec. 1 (three).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, 12, 26, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Xmas Production.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

ROCHDALE.—Correspondent Required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 6.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager,
Mr. Charles Revill.
Vacant Jan. 16 and 23 onwards, with exceptions.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
6 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend" for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward ..... June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William ..... Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila ..... July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ..... March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E. ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W. ..... April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank ..... June 11, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan ..... July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ..... March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ..... March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. Willie ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian ..... June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ..... March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie ..... May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola ..... June 11, 1910
Conway, Late Mr. H. B. ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita ..... April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence ..... July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J. ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice ..... June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W. ..... March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Ellis, Mr. Walter ..... June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry ..... June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward ..... March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert ..... May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy ..... June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R. ..... May 28, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H. ..... April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J. ..... March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D. ..... April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland ..... May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie ..... June 18, 1910
Illing, Late Mme. Meta ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida ..... July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C. ..... June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ..... Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie ..... July 2, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom ..... May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J. ..... April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel ..... April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy ..... April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance ..... April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W. ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy ..... July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry ..... June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank ..... July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W. ..... April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R. ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S. ..... July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ..... March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William ..... April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus ..... June 18, 1910
Rexos, The ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Rhodes, Mr. Percy ..... June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Robina, Miss Fanny ..... July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry ..... March 5, 1910
Salambos, The ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr ..... April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake ..... May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ..... Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney ..... April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert ..... July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C. ..... Feb. 26, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert ..... May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace ..... June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred ..... March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley ..... April 2, 1910
Stadt, Mr. Henry ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry ..... May 28, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie ..... March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L. ..... April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H. ..... July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann ..... June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily ..... March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud R. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn ..... May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur ..... July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember ..... June 18, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles ..... July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel R. ..... Dec. 11, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H. ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ..... Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1910.

ART AND BUSINESS.

The recent success of the revolt by the society known as the National Theatres Owners' Association against the monopoly held by the Theatrical Trust of America must have delighted all in England who have the real interests of our stage at heart. We are not in the least prejudiced against the Trust. We have heard both managers and artists speak highly of the convenience of making arrangements through one great monopolising medium strong enough to be despotic, and absolutely business-like and reliable. There is a very natural temptation to enjoy such convenience without considering the injury eventually done by it to dramatic art in general.

All art has its business side. The artist has to live, and often finds it impossible to do so without "pot-boiling." But it is too often forgotten that, the necessities of life once supplied, the pleasure of art work is greater to the artist than anything that its monetary reward can purchase. Of course, there are all grades and degrees of the art-impulse. There are hewers of wood and drawers of water in all arts, and they must not be expected to have the same feelings as the aristocracy of their craft. But whatever worthy work is done in any art—and particularly the art of the theatre—is not done for bread alone. There is an old-fashioned word which defined the motive power of the actor in the last generation; it was described as "the desire of Fame." To enjoy the affectionate admiration of one's fellow creatures was, and is, though discretion may conceal it, the impulse which makes people leave their fathers' businesses and become, through poverty, hardship, and anxiety, painters, sculptors, dramatists, and actors.

And, therefore, by a curious paradox, the more unbusinesslike are the professors of an art the better business is done in it. The pictures which sell for such large sums now were painted by artists who were fanatically attached to their work and not particular about their wages. (This, of course, does not mean that geniuses are imbecile in money dealings, but simply that they are not thinking of big cheques when they are painting their pictures, however they may haggle afterwards.) The artistic temperament, which is so much talked of is often made the excuse for many eccentricities, but seldom for meanness or avarice. The extravagance which often attaches to it is merely an exaggeration of the instinct that the one thing needful is the art itself, and that material considerations are secondary. An artist does not do a better portrait for £300 than he formerly did for £30; he does his best in every case. Most actors would rather play Hamlet at a West End Theatre at a low salary than—even if it were possible for them to do so—be a super at a third-rate playhouse at enormous wages.

It is sometimes stated that everything can be bought at a price; but this does not hold good of high art. An advertisement offering wealth beyond the dreams of avarice to a dramatist equal in ability to Sir A. W. PINERO, or an actor equal to the late Sir HENRY IRVING, would meet with no satisfactory reply. Genius is not to be had for the asking, or even by paying heavily for it. The high price of rubber is due not to the large amount of money available for its purchase, but to the small quantity of rubber which is on sale in the world.

All the instruction-books on acting and playwriting are based on the supposition that genius can be artificially created. It can only be cultivated. A manufactured article sooner or later becomes wearisome. The success of the music halls in the provinces is chiefly due to the spontaneousness of the art offered at them. The slump at some of the provincial theatres may be attributed to the fact that the attractions offered were, in many cases, mechanical.

At the same time, we cannot go as far as Mr. H. A. JONES did in his speech at the Oxford Union the other day, when he said that "serious drama in London has no hold whatever upon the public." That there is a public for serious drama as there is a public for frivolous plays, the success of any really strong piece proves. The real difficulty is the dearth of great dramatists and extraordinary actors and actresses. It is not correct to attribute the former shortcoming to the fact that literary men will not take the trouble to "learn" the craft of playwriting. The truth is, good dramatists, like really fine novelists, are born, not made. How it happens that one type of intellect is born to see art through the medium of the printed book and another through that of the footlights we do not know. But the "first pieces" with which Sir A. W. PINERO and Mr. H. A. JONES made their *débuts* as dramatic authors were as technically excellent as their later and greater achievements.

All, then, that can be done to assist dramatic art to develop itself is to cultivate its germs. And this certainly is being done in England at present. What with our Stage Society, our Rehearsal Theatre performances, our Play Actors, and the generally "open mind" of our managers, it seems impossible that any aspirant of genius should be crushed by the impossibility of production. The real enemy of the English stage is the new philosophy. The British public is composed of two sections—a small one which is agitated by social problems, and a large one which is, so to speak, in a state of nature. Most of the writing and talking power is on the side of the first contingent; most of the money and a vast preponderance of numbers are on the side of the latter. Many of our cleverest young dramatists are tainted with the new philosophy. They are not strong enough to be IBSENS, and to be PINEROS they are—so they say—ashamed. The result is that we have to go to Paris for strong dramas which are at the same time not sermons on Socialism or pessimist protests against society. But all this intellectual yeast will in time "simmer down"; and then our advanced aspirants will make, let us hope, practical dramatists, as able and efficient as Mr. SOMERSET MAUGHAM. We must not, however, expect the long runs of old days; they were a symptom of a time when there were fewer idols to worship. The entertainment which avowedly appeals to the sensuous, the frivolous, and the comical side of human nature will always enjoy long runs, though it may be observed that there are only two pieces of this kind at present enjoying long runs in London. Managers will no longer be able to rest from anxiety for a twelvemonth without a change of bill. But the old-fashioned long runs were objectionable to both actors and actor-managers, except as providing the "sinews of war" for a new enterprise. As it is, the condition of the English stage is far more hopeful than that of the stage in America. The result of a purely commercial view of the drama may have made fortunes for a few capitalists, but it has certainly been bad for acting and dramatic art generally. America, once fertile in great actors, the native country of BOOTH, FORREST, and DAVENPORT, has produced few, if any, actors of the highest eminence lately, and scarcely any dramatists of genius. We export ideas and individuals to the United States, taking in return the tribute-money, which often helps to make up deficiencies caused by the misfortune or unlucky enterprise in England. The whole idea of a commercial monopoly is unfavourable to originality, ambition, and aspiration. It tends to reduce managers, authors, and actors and actresses to a submissive flock, satisfied with ease and subordination, and only interested in obtaining the almighty dollar. We are glad on principle to see the idea successfully opposed.

A GRATIFYING ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. Will Edwardes-Sprange has received the following acknowledgment of a poem sent to H.M. the Queen-Mother Alexandra:—

[COPY.]

"Buckingham Palace, July 2, 1910.

"Miss Knollys is commanded by Queen Alexandra to thank Mr. Edwardes-Sprange most sincerely for his kind sympathy and touching verses."

The following are some of the verses of the poem:—

Never dawned day more gloriously fair,
Spring in her beauty was omnipotent;
Yet never contrast so complete, the air
With mournful sighs was rent.

The regal golden noon shone down upon
An Empire vast, with one heart sorrowing,
For he, the King, the man of men, was gone:
Its friend as well as King!

Vanished like mist before the rising sun,
The sad-faced millions all have gone their way:
Their hearts at sympathy were all as one
With thine that anguished day.

Thou all-beloved Queen-Mother, may the Power
Which took from thee and us our gracious King
Illume the darkness of the awful hour,
And ease its aching sting.

The great Peacemaker hath been called to peace.
And now, wholeheartedly, give we his son
Such trust and loyalty as shall not cease
Till life itself be done.

We are not all bereaved, though sore bereft,
Since Heaven hath pleased our Edward to remove,
For Britain's sons their Mother-Queen have left
To reverence and to love.

"I did my duty." Were there truer phrase
From him, whose whole life was in duty spent,
Who strove for Britain's good through toil-some days,
And, striving, was content?

When the dark shadow from these hours hath pass'd,
And healing Time hath brought its balm to thee,
Thou wilt review his triumphs, world-wide, vast,
That Peace should surely be.

WILL EDWARDES-SPRANGE.

THE "BULLOCK VERSION."

In the Bill Chamber of the Court of Session on Wednesday there was presented to Lord Dewar a note of suspension and interdict by John Pitt Hardacre, Staines, Surrey, who asked that Richard Waldon, proprietor and manager of the Royal Princess Theatre, Glasgow, should be interdicted from producing or causing to be produced a drama which is the original adaptation to the stage of Mrs. Henry Woods' novel "East Lynne," and which is known as the *East Lynne* Bullock Version. Interdict was also asked against the respondent producing or causing to be produced any version of the drama copied or only colourably altered from the drama, the copyright of which belongs to the complainer. *East Lynne* was written in 1861. Prior to March 16, 1866, John Coleman Chute wrote a drama, the principal incidents of which were taken from the novel. Being of opinion that a play taken entirely from the novel would be too sad and dull to suit the taste of playgoers, Mr. Chute introduced the character of John Bullock, the comic policeman. On June 23, 1888, Mr. Chute assigned all the acting rights in the drama to the complainer, and he was registered as proprietor with the sole liberty of representation or performance. The complainer averred that during the week beginning April 25 last the respondent produced at the Royal Princess Theatre the "Bullock" version of *East Lynne*, or a version thereof only colourably altered from the "Bullock" version, and on the ground that that production was an infringement of his rights the complainer asked interdict. In the respondent's programme "Bullock" appeared as "Policeman X Rays," and the actor personating that character was known by the stage name of "X Rays." In other respects the drama as produced by the respondent was said to be identical with that belonging to the complainer. This state of matters was not due to any ignorance on the part of the respondent, as the complainer's rights have been frequently declared by the courts in England and Scotland.

In his answers the respondent stated that he, like many others, dramatised a version of "East Lynne," and that he had been representing his version on the stage for the last twenty-four years. In it the policeman is called "Policeman X-Rays." During the week beginning April 25 that drama was produced at the Royal Princess Theatre. It was admitted that one of the actors at his own hand instructed the policeman to add a few words in addition to what was contained in the respondent's version, but nothing attracted the respondent's attention until the present action was served. The matter being thus brought to his notice, the respondent at once took the policeman out of the play, and on the Friday and Saturday it was given without that character appearing. The theatre was closed on April 30 for the season. The respondent disclaimed any intention to encroach upon the complainer's rights or to adapt anything from his special form of the drama, and gave an undertaking not to do so. It was maintained that the complainer's statements were insufficient to support the conclusions of the action, and that the respondents' drama being in no fair sense a copy or colourable imitation of the complainer's version the action should be dismissed.

Mr. Stevenson, for the respondent, explained that his friend (Mr. Morton, for the complainer), claimed the sole right to put a comic policeman in the play. The respondent's policeman was also a comic policeman. He had lodged a tender in which in full of the complainer's claims he undertook that he would not at any time without licence from the complainers produce the Bullock policeman part of the copyright version, and he also undertook that he would not produce any of the other portions of the play which the complainer could specify as special to his copyright.

His Lordship.—You have a drama of your own?

Mr. Stevenson.—There are several.

His Lordship.—Has your drama a policeman in it?

Mr. Morton (interjecting): Oh, yes; it has.

Mr. Stevenson said he understood there were several dramas, with this difference, that there was a comic policeman in his friend's drama. His friend claimed the right to put the comic policeman in this part. "I think our policeman was also a comic policeman," counsel continued. He asked the Court to dismiss the note as in view of his tender there was nothing else in the suspension. The respondent was willing that interdict should pass in terms of the tender. He also tendered a small sum and expenses.

Counsel submitted the following letter, which had been sent by the respondent to the complainer on April 29:—

"My Dear Hardacre,—I am surprised at what you have done this morning. I did not think from the friendly relations that have always existed between us that you would have so acted towards me. You know my old version of *East Lynne*, which I have played for twenty-four years, is not the 'Bullock version,' nor does my manuscript contain any of the dialogue which your policeman speaks. If any of my artists have inadvertently spoken in a mistake (through, perhaps, having played with you in your version) any dialogue they have previously studied, it has been against my wishes. I would not encroach upon anyone's rights. 'Twas not my intention to play *East Lynne* this week, but I was left in a hole by a company who failed to come here, and in order to keep the theatre open (as other managers have to do sometimes) I had to fall back upon my old version. Really, old chap, I have done you no harm, and I think you ought to act at once upon my assurance that the lines complained of have been immediately excised, and, in fact, although there is a policeman in the novel by Mrs. Wood, I have at once, to show you my *bona fides*, and how unimportant such a figure is in my version, and, further, old friend, to even please and satisfy you I have taken the super policeman right out, so that no figure of a policeman is seen at all. Therefore, I ask you to stop, squash, and prevent any further steps being taken in any such law case occurring between you and myself."

Mr. Morton moved the Court to pass the note for the trial of the case. He said he wanted to go on with the closed record to show from examination of both versions that in point of fact the version that had been played at Glasgow was an infringement. Did the respondent intend to have no policeman in his play?

Lord Dewar said that at this preliminary stage he thought the complainer had made out enough, and the respondent had admitted so much as to lead to the note being passed for the trial of the case. His Lordship accordingly passed the note. Counsel for complainer: Mr. Lyon Mackenzie and Mr. Morton; Agent, Mr. Norman M. Macpherson, S.S.C. The counsel for respondent was Mr. Stevenson; Agents, Messrs. Auld and Macdonald, W.S.

A THEATRE at Nancy which for the past six years has been devoted to periodical productions of the Passion Play, will this year stage *Jeanne d'Arc*. Four hundred actors will figure in the piece. The play is a succession of scenes, starting with Joan of Arc's mission received at Domrémy, and ending at the stake at Rouen. The march of the fugitives, the appearance of the saints, the gratitude of the king at Chinon, the capture of Tourelles, the triumphal entry into Orleans, the coronation of the king at Rheims, the stage at Rouen, and the apotheosis are all realistically represented. The elaborate spectacle has been organised in the interests of charity.

SHAKESPEAREAN DISCOVERIES.

Sir Edwin Durning-Lawrence, speaking on "The Real Shakespeare, of Stratford-on-Avon, Gentleman, and the New Discoveries," at the annual meeting of the Bacon Society on the 30th ult., said that Dr. Wallace's recent discoveries had really told us more about the Stratford householder than the whole of our previous knowledge. First, they proved beyond cavil that William Shakespeare, of Stratford-on-Avon, gentleman, was totally unable to write so much as one letter of his own name, for while one other signature to interrogatories was signed by the witness, Shakespeare's signature was composed of three little dots, his name being written by the Law Clerk. Sir Edwin then analysed this supposed signature, comparing it with the five signatures said to be authentic. He threw facsimiles of them on the screen, saying that analysis proved that Shakespeare never wrote any of them—for the all-important and the only sufficient reason that he could not write. He had examined the purchase deed and the mortgage deed in the British Museum said to contain the signatures. Neither of the deeds said it was "signed"—only "sealed"—and it was not at that time necessary that such deeds should be signed. The names were written in the law script of the time, while the signatures of the other two parties to the deeds were in ordinary script. Similarly the signatures on the will were in law script. No signatures of Shakespeare existed. All were written in good law script by clever penmen, and were widely different. If William Shakespeare never did and never could write his name the controversy was closed, and the Shakespeare myth must at once and for ever disappear. The true story was that eleven plays had been brought out anonymously, when in consequence of political exigencies it was absolutely necessary that a name should be attached to them. Bacon had used the name William Shakespeare for his "Venus and Adonis" in 1593 and for his "Rape of Lucrece" in 1594. An extremely insignificant person, known as Shaks or Shaksper, was found who, for the then very large sum of £1,000, was willing to take the risk of being imprisoned and so forth. Accordingly, in 1597, New Place was purchased for him, and he was sent away to Stratford-on-Avon. Then, and then only, was the name of "Shakespeare" attached for the first time to a play, *Love's Labours Lost*, and immediately thereafter it was stated that the eleven other plays and also the poems were by the same person. When Shakespeare went back to Stratford no play had borne his name, and probably no one in London connected the name Shakespeare with the Shaks, the hanger-on at the theatre. There never was a Shakespeare's company of actors, and Shakespeare never was a manager of any theatre, neither was he ever an actor of repute. The leading Stratfordians only claimed two of the existing portraits as authentic—the Stratford bust and the engraving in the First Folio, 1623. Every Baconian ought to know that in 1904 Mrs. C. Carmichael Stopes, who was not a Baconian, proved that the Stratford bust could not have been in existence in its present form till about 130 years after Shakespeare's death. The other "authentic" portrait was that of a cleverly-contrived dummy purposely prepared with a sham doublet, left-handed, and a mask, to teach those capable of understanding that the name "Wm. Shakespeare" was a mere left hand, a mask or pseudonym for the real author, the wonder and mystery of all ages, the man known to them under the name of Francis Bacon.

Mrs. C. Carmichael Stopes could not accept Sir Edwin's conclusions. She claimed to be the only person alive who had been through the signatures at the Record Office and at Stratford-on-Avon. She agreed that they were written by a Law Clerk, but as that was then customary she did not accept that as evidence that Shakespeare was illiterate.

THE FIRST THEATRE IN RHODESIA.

It is interesting to note *en passant* that Miss Florence Imeson, the talented exponent of *Our Miss Gibbs*, &c., in South Africa (for Messrs. George Edwardes and F. and B. Wheeler's company), had the pleasure to play aforementioned part on Monday, May 30, 1910, at the opening of Messrs. Wheeler's fine theatre, which is the first theatre ever erected in Bulawayo, Rhodesia. After this performance six of the principals, including Miss Imeson, were entertained to supper to commemorate this red-letter day in the annals of this far-distant outpost of our Empire in tropical Africa, on the site of which only twenty years ago Lobengula's mealies were growing.

After a two weeks' engagement in this mushroom city Bulawayo, Miss F. Imeson and the chief members of the company left for the Victoria Falls, 280 miles north-west of Bulawayo, on the Zambesi River, the eighth wonder of the world. These Falls are 400ft. high and 1,900yds. wide (as long as from Marble Arch to Tottenham Court-road), two and a half times as high and twice as broad as Niagara, U.S.A.

The native races very appropriately named these Falls "Mosi-oa-tunya" ("smoke that sounds"), as the spray therefrom at full flood ascends to 3,000ft.

These musical-comedy artists gave a concert at the hotel one and a half miles from the Victoria Falls, and are some of the first, if not the first, entertainers who have ever performed there—1,442 miles from Cape Town.

Miss Imeson's tour of South Africa has been a succession of triumphs in every city she has visited, and the *Johannesburg Star* dubbed her "the best artist yet associated with musical comedy in South Africa."

She may return to England next September, and we truly hope she may here secure the gilt-edged engagements such talent as hers so richly deserves.

OPEN-AIR PLAYS.

On Monday Mr. Harcourt-Williams opened a series of performances at Hayesleigh School, Old Trafford, Manchester, with *As You Like It*. In the grounds of this establishment there is a pretty piece of greensward which makes an admirable field of operations, fringed as it is so naturally in the rear by a clump of shrubbery, enabling the artists to make most effective entrances from the borders of the copse or exits into its heart.

The performance began at the second act, and went right on without interval. As the dusk set in, limelight thrown from the back of the spectators' gallery heightened the beauty of the scene. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay made a charming Rosalind. The ease and naturalness of her acting was accentuated by an exquisite modulation of voice. In the lighter phases of the character she struck the right note of mirth; in the more pathetic passages her delivery was marked by rare tenderness. Her enunciation of the epilogue was spirited. The Orlando of Mr. Harcourt-Williams was a happy piece of work. In the affecting scene where Orlando procures relief for the distressed Adam Mr. Harcourt-Williams's delineation was one of simple dignity. The Jaques of Mr. Clarence Derwent was a finished attempt, and Mr. A. G. Onslow sang the songs of Amiens with good effect. Mr. Wilfred Beckwith proved an able Duke; and Mr. Herbert Dansey played Touchstone with no lack of energy. The rôles of Corin and Silvius were in the safe hands of Mr. Alfred A. Harris and Mr. H. Scott Sunderland respectively. Celia had a piquant exponent in Miss Jean Gregor, Audrey being well placed with Miss Margaret Bussé. A string orchestra added to the pleasure of an excellent performance, for which all arrangements were made by Mr. Alexander Cassy, the general manager.

AN UNNECESSARY CASE.

In the Nisi Prius Court of the Lancaster Assizes on July 1, Denis Lyndon, an actor and stage-manager, residing at Hackney, formerly in the employ of Mr. Harry Benet, sometime proprietor of *The Lady Slavey* and other companies, brought an action against Calvert Routledge, proprietor of His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow, to recover damages for alleged slander, uttered at Barrow on Nov. 9, 1909. Mr. Cavanagh was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Settle for the defence.

The plaintiff said he had been engaged in the theatrical profession for twelve years, for nine or ten years of which he had been a stage-manager, lastly with *The Lady Slavey* company, of which Mr. Henry Benet was the proprietor, at a salary of £5 weekly. In November last the company was engaged at His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow, and on Nov. 9, at the termination of the first act, the defendant came round to the stage while plaintiff was superintending the setting of the scenery for the second act, and made a complaint that the curtain had been down too great a length of time. Plaintiff said his orders were not to "ring up" in less than twenty minutes. Mr. Routledge said, "I will see it is done," and witness said, "I shall see that my orders are carried out." There had previously been no altercation between defendant and himself. After the performance he saw Mr. Routledge talking to Mr. Lister Mara, the general-manager of the travelling company, and the latter asked him if he had any complaint to make, and he said, "Yes, against the gentleman who is playing the Major," a character undertaken by the witness. Defendant repeated the assertion that he considered plaintiff incompetent, and refused either to withdraw or apologise, and later on in the property-room defendant said he considered plaintiff was "absolutely incompetent," whereupon witness said he should put the matter in the hands of his solicitor. Since last February witness had not been able to secure another engagement, and this he attributed to Mr. Routledge's statement having "gone the rounds" of the profession.

Cross-examined by Mr. Settle: He agreed that a manager of a theatre had a right to criticise a company, and he should not complain of it unless he considered it improper. He simply obeyed orders, and rang the curtain up within the proper time. If the audience shouted and "booed" it would not make any difference to him; he obeyed orders. If there was an undue delay it tended to damage the theatre.

His Lordship: And the proprietor of the theatre is entitled to remonstrate; of course, plaintiff says there was no undue delay.

Mr. Kingsley, who was "in front of the house" for Mr. Benet at Barrow, gave evidence, and said defendant came to him and said plaintiff was incompetent, and also said one could not expect to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

Mr. Lister Mara, the stage-director of Mr. Benet's company, stated when he asked Mr. Routledge whether he considered Lyndon incompetent Mr. Routledge affirmed that he did, and would not withdraw.

Cross-examined: Witness was rather excited, especially as Mr. Routledge attacked his (witness's) character.

Mr. Harry Benet and two members of the company followed, and said they heard Mr. Routledge utter the expression as to Mr. Lyndon's incompetency.

Mr. Calvert Routledge stated that he was colessee with his wife of His Majesty's Theatre, and had been for five years. He had a long knowledge as actor and manager, and his wife had also had a long experience. It was the custom of the resident-manager to criticise the travelling company, and occasionally the travelling company criticised the local management. After *The Lady Slavey* company had been engaged and appeared at Barrow, Mr. Kingsley, the acting-manager for Mr. Benet, asked that the curtain should go up later than the advertised time, and it was arranged that the curtain should go up at 7.45, and that the interval between the acts should be a quarter of an hour. On Monday the interval was twenty-seven minutes, and on Tuesday the same, but on Wednesday, after he had complained, this was shortened to eighteen minutes. There was a great noise in the auditorium on the Monday night because of the length of time the curtain was down, and he went on the stage and spoke to Lyndon, who replied that he would do as he liked. On Tuesday he warned Kingsley that the interval must not be so long as it was the previous night. Kingsley said, "The stage-manager says he cannot possibly do it in less time." Witness replied, "All I can say is that the stage-manager must be inadequate." He never said Lyndon was no good or anything of that sort. Later in the evening there was a great noise amongst the company, and the barmaid, Miss Wilson, asked them to cease using filthy language. Mara and the plaintiff were in a most excited condition, and threats against witness were used. Witness said he never had the slightest malice against plaintiff. They threatened to have "what money he had got," and "fill in his eye." He had never heard the latter expression before; he had heard of "banging up" the eye.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cavanagh: He had known of cases in London where a curtain was down for twenty minutes, and the fact was advertised on the programme, but a London audience would stand more than a provincial audience. The stage-manager could have had the curtain up quicker, but he purposely kept it down because the play had been so cut down that it would not run a sufficient time. He was responsible to the public for the proper conduct of the theatre. The plaintiff asked him to withdraw what he had said, and witness said, "I shall withdraw nothing." He suggested that the witnesses who supported plaintiff had simply remained behind to hear what he was likely to say.

Mrs. Routledge, wife of defendant, said that on the Tuesday she heard Mr. Routledge say the curtain must not remain down at the interval longer than fifteen minutes, and Mr. Kingsley said the stage-manager said it could not be done in less than twenty-five minutes. In the evening the gentlemen concerned used the most fearful language she had ever heard in her life. The next morning Mr. Benet said she must not take any notice of Mr. Lyndon, because he had Indian blood in his veins.

His Lordship, in summing up, asked the jury to decide (1) did the defendant use words which were defamatory to the plaintiff; (2) was he actuated by any improper or indirect motive; and (3) what were the damages.

The jury returned an answer in the affirmative to the first question, no to the second; damages one farthing, without costs. The jury, through the foreman, said the case should never have been brought, and the Judge agreed.

As the result of the united efforts of several influential Widnes gentlemen, the twenty-first year of Mr. James Kiddie's management of the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, has been fittingly recognised. A testimonial fund and complimentary benefit performance, which the Mayor (Councillor T Smith) engineered, were organised, the latter being held a week or two ago. Meanwhile, the testimonial fund had been kept going, and the result of both movements was seen on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Kiddie was made the recipient of a cheque to the value of £70. The presentation was made at the Railway and Commercial Hotel, by the Mayor of Widnes, who referred in eulogistic terms to the services Mr. Kiddie had given to Widnes in amusement catering and all charitable movements. A supper was held, and many artists contributed to the success of the evening.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. H. H. Wells has been appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors of the London Pavilion in succession to the late Mr. Hugh Astley. Mr. Lord, of the firm of Newson-Smith, Mills and Co., has been nominated a director of the company.

Benzoline is the favourite beverage of Captain Spalding, a "regular fire-eater," who as a baby toyed with live coal. Some years ago at the smaller halls a gentleman of small wit used to sing "You can't eat coke," but Spalding is very partial to molten lead and burning sealing-wax, and varies the monotony of life by licking red-hot pokers. In time we may see this fireproof phenomenon at the halls.

Sunday, July 17, is the date arranged for the motor run of the Grand Order of Water Rats to Brighton. Mr. Harry Tate is again organiser-in-chief, and has secured the support of Sir William Treloar, Bart., and of other leading lights in the motoring world. Those who would like to be beside the seaside are timed to start from the Vaudeville Club at 11 a.m., and lunch will be taken at the Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton. The up-river outing of the Water Rats has been fixed for Sunday, August 7.

The Paragon was reopened on Monday last by the Brothers Jacobs (late of the Wonderland), after having been redecorated throughout in red and white. The prices of admission are greatly lowered, and the programme consists of Bioscope Pictures, variety turns, and the Jewish actor Mr. Waxman in *The Revolutionist*. The people in the surrounding district have taken advantage of the cheap seats, for on the evening of our visit the house was absolutely packed.

Another unique attraction has been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll for the London Hippodrome, and it will be shown on Monday next. It is known as "The Eagle and the Girl," and while America declared it to be "the most startling act in all vaudeville," France and Germany have been fascinated by its charm and novelty. The Eagle is a large white bird with lambent green eyes, and, flapping its wings, it soars over the heads of the spectators, carrying with it a pretty girl in white, who sings as she floats round the house.

Save for the illuminated eyes of the plainly-seen Eagle and for small electric lamps which light up the lady's face the auditorium is in darkness, and the floating girl and bird far up in the air are at once beautiful and mystifying. They both vanish suddenly from sight, and instantly the theatre lights are turned on, but there is no sign or trace of the eagle or the girl. The question London will be asking itself next week is: "However can that enormous white eagle be made to fly gently round the edge of the circle and immediately over the stalls bearing in its talons a self-possessed young lady?" In addition to "The Eagle and the Girl," next week's newcomers to this house include Miss Helen Trix, the American comedienne, and Farr and Farland, comedians.

All booking business for the halls controlled by the United County Theatres, Ltd., viz., the Palace, Plymouth; the Grand Theatre, Stonehouse; the Palace, Bristol; the King's Theatre, Gateshead; the Palace, Aberdeen; the King's Theatre, Dundee; and the Hippodrome, Devonport, is now conducted from the head offices of the company at Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, and all communications relative to the same should be addressed to Mr. Herbert Taylor, booking department.

The numerous friends and admirers of Mr. George Bastow will be pleased to hear that the comedian is entirely recovered from his long illness, and feels and looks fit and well. He will get into harness again on the 18th inst., opening at the Palace, Douglas, I.O.M., his répertoire including new numbers, by himself and Fred W. Leigh, entitled "Captain Ginjah," "Hey John! Ho, John!" and "Dang ee politics." He will also sing his admired song, "They won't know I coom from the coontry."

Mr. Fred Farren, as an exponent of wordless paris, has been trained in the best traditions, and his work at the Empire has stamped him as a very fine pantomimist. His many friends, therefore, will be interested to hear that there is a possibility of seeing him in a petite emotional drama of gesture, which has been written by Mr. Laurence Housman, part author of *Prunella; or, Love in a Dutch Garden*, so that daintiness and charm are sure to be the distinguishing features of the production, with which Mr. Farren is delighted. Pierrot and Pierrette are the only characters in the piece, written on much the same lines as *L'Enfant Prodigue*, which, it will be remembered, was brightened by the genius of Mlle. Jane May and enjoyed much favour at the Prince of Wales's and Criterion Theatres in 1891-92.

Mr. Farren, we hope, will be able to produce the little work at the Empire, with Miss Beatrice Collier in the rôle of Pierrette. She has been his artistic comrade in several Empire successes, and there is no doubt that she possesses the dramatic fibre and eloquent expressiveness so necessary to the impersonation of silent heroines. The Apache Dance—so sensational and yet so dramatic—revealed the power of Miss Collier, who, we feel sure, would welcome a greater opportunity of showing that miming is not a lost art in this country. The music of the piece is by Mr. Dalhousie Young, a composer as yet unknown to fame.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's own version of *East Lynne* is booked for a run of sixteen weeks in the London halls of the Gibbons Circuit—that is, from Monday next until Oct. 20. In a chat with Phœbus, of the *Daily Express*, Mr. Croke, speaking of his adaptation of the forty-year-old novel, says: "I call it a tabloid drama in seven scenes, and it plays twenty-eight minutes. This is what they want in the halls—good solid drama. You can cut out your comedy. Audiences want relief from comedy. There is not a line of it in this *East Lynne*. I want the tears—and 'tears' are as safe an appeal in the halls as in the theatre. I give them the bed-rock story of *East Lynne*. There is not a laugh in it."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier takes an entirely opposite view to Mr. Croke. After his recent experience at the Palace in that powerful little playlet *The Knife*, he reverted to pure comedy with *A Marriage Has Been Arranged*, and expressed the opinion that variety audiences should be treated to light fare, and not have their feelings shocked with tragedy or their hearts wrung by anything of a sorrowful nature. The entertainment should be joyous, and evoke the sunshine of a universal smile.

Another West End manager, whom we found carefully and conscientiously going through about five one-act plays of a heavy character, informed us that he had counselled his directors to accept only pieces of a light nature for production at an important London hall situate in the heart of the West End. From personal observation of the attitude of less sophisticated crowds in the houses of the outer metropolitan area towards drama of the domestic type we should be inclined to back Mr. Croke's opinion that there is a big public for the drama of tears, and if a "good cry" is not relished in Shaftesbury-avenue it is much enjoyed in Balham or Brixton.

The concluding games of the Glasgow Theatrical and Vaudeville Football League have now been played, and premier honours in the competition have been gained by the Pavilion, with the Empire second, and the Metropole third. Mr. Evan Good, general manager at the Pavilion, is naturally highly pleased at the success of his team.

Mr. Harry Lauder was entertained on Thursday, the 30th ult., at an informal little luncheon in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Glasgow, under the auspices of the Scottish Musical Artists' Benevolent Fund.

Seated to the right of the chairman—Mr. W. F. Frame, "the man you know"—the guest of the day related his experiences in America in interesting fashion. Although he kept his face as solemn as a judge, there was a twinkle in his eye which showed the inward laughter.

Wullie Frame proposed Harry's health in a racy speech, claiming him as one of themselves—one of the fund. They all knew the deep interest their chief guest had taken in the work of the fund. Just to show how it was prospering, he need only point out that they began with a cypher not so long ago, and now their funds totalled £1,200. They were all pleased, concluded the cheery chairman, to see that their friend Harry was just as sensible, as free, and as genuine as in the old days.

On Saturday last a special matinée was devoted to a complimentary benefit to Mr. Frank Weston, acting-manager of the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, whose tact and geniality have established him a great favourite. A splendid programme included the support of practically the pick of the artists appearing at the Birkenhead and Liverpool halls, and a crowded house was naturally the result

Some years ago Mr. Gus Lazenberg opened a picture hall in the Bridgeton district of Glasgow. From its opening night it proved a most successful venture, and this success prompted Mr. Lazenberg to look around for new worlds to conquer. He settled on Partick as the most suitable point of vantage, and a hall was secured in the centre of the populous suburb. He has had the interior tastefully decorated, the stage much improved, and tip-up chairs established, the result being a very comfortable hall.

On Saturday last the Press and a number of friends had a private view, when Mr. Lazenberg explained that it was his intention to run the place more as a variety show with two or three pictures in between.

Bailie Hogg welcomed Mr. Lazenberg to Partick on behalf of the Corporation, and said a hall of the kind worked on good lines should do splendid business. An admirable programme was carried through by several artists, after which refreshments were served. On Monday the hall was opened to the public, when a large audience enjoyed the performance immensely.

The Tower Pavilion, Portobello, has recently concluded a long season as a skating rink. During the past two weeks the building has been closed for alterations, and re-opens to-day (Saturday) as an up-to-date picture and variety hall. The concern will be under the guidance of Mr. Harry Marvello, the original founder of the building, and his great popularity in this famous seaside resort spells success to the new venture. A warm welcome awaits Mr. Marvello after his absence of eighteen months.

Some surprise having been expressed at the fact that the Birmingham Hippodrome is closed for this week, an inquiry at the theatre on Monday elicited the information that the building had been closed in order to carry out the work of redecoration. Mr. Edmund Beech, secretary to the Hippodrome Company, told our representative that they were only going to close for a week or so to do certain repairs. The hall would probably be opened on Monday next, but the exact date was not definitely decided.

The New Theatre of Varieties at Northampton, the plans of which have just been approved by the authorities, will be erected from the designs of that eminent theatre architect Mr. W. G. R. Sprague. The house will occupy a fine frontage of about 90ft. to Abingdon-street, with a depth of about 180ft., and will be practically isolated. There will be accommodation for nearly 3,000 persons, and the building, planned throughout on the most modern lines, will be luxuriously decorated, furnished, and fitted with all up-to-date details. Building operations will commence forthwith.

As is generally known, the grounds of the Tower, New Brighton, are illuminated at various parts by tall arc lamps, and the globe of one of these, just outside the theatre, has in some way been damaged, enabling a couple of linnets to build their nest inside. The other evening, after the current had been turned on, a spark from the carbon fell on the nest, and it was completely destroyed, but the daring birds, nothing daunted, promptly built another. In this are now four eggs. The management have decided not to light the lamp again until the eggs are hatched. The globe is taken down twice daily and shown to visitors. The remarkable thing is, that the birds have not been scared by the brilliant light which has shone every evening a few inches from their comfortable-looking but strange nesting-place.

Fresh from his successful season at the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces, London, Mr. F. J. Connor brings a strong company to Douglas, where he opened on Monday to a large and delighted audience. Mr. F. J. Connor is a most popular entrepreneur. He has a large and loyal clientèle, and his clever children (Mona and Douglas Connor) are not only great favourites, but are expert and daring riders. They secure the most enthusiastic applause, and thoroughly deserve it. All the items of the extensive programme are well worth witnessing. The Leopold Legiere Troupe are sensational acrobats; Deora, a startling aerial gymnast; Miles. Rose and Maie play the xylophone as William in *Black-Eyed Susan*, and sing like angels; Mr. George Madegan's performing foxterriers are surely the limit of canine intelligence; Captain Roberts and his troupe present athletic feats, differentiated by musical displays; the clowns are up to the best circus traditions, and Mr. W. R. Albino is to the manner born as ringmaster.

On Monday evening the directors opened Derby Castle, Douglas, Isle of Man, for the first time this season with a considerable flourish of trumpets. Extensive alterations and additions have been carried out during the winter, which make for our visitors' enhanced enjoyment. The variety entertainment is distinctly good. Mr. Sam Elton is a mirth-provoking mimic; the Raglan Lady Quartette do credit to their birthplace—Mona's Isle, the home of melody; the Four Panamas are funny in their sketch *The Delineator*; Miss Ouida Macdermott is a popular actress-vocalist; and a special feature at Derby Castle are dancing competitions, with substantial prizes, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McEwen. The manager is still the popular Mr. Charles Fox.

Mr. Tom Pacey is moving his agency to more convenient offices at 179, Brixton-road, S.W., nearly opposite the old address.

Laddie Cliff is in London, purchasing new material for exploitation in the United States, where he is an established favourite everywhere. His stay is a short one, he having to depart again a fortnight hence.

The paragraph in the report of the L.C.C. Theatres and Music Halls Committee relating to the Sunday opening of cinematograph shows was again presented to the Council just about midnight on Tuesday. Once more it was opposed, and had to be further adjourned.

Mr. Stanley Hope, who for some years has been resident-manager for Mr. Edward Marris and Mr. Albany Ward at the Opera House, Jersey, has been appointed as manager for Mr. Oswald Stoll's new house to be opened August Bank Holiday at Croydon. Mr. H. E. Sawyer, late of the Peckham Hippodrome, has been selected as his successor.

Miss Cissie Lawson, who has acquired the Empire, Camberwell, is the only lady proprietress in England. Mr. Albert H. Adams, who has been selected by her as general-manager, has had considerable experience on the Gibbons' circuit, having been at the Camden Hippodrome, the Olympia, Shoreditch, Putney Hippodrome, and Rotherhithe Hippodrome.

Miss Nellie Donegan (Mrs. Earle Reynolds), the famous skatorial artist, has undergone a severe operation, from which she is now recovering. Miss Donegan was engaged to appear at the Palace, but the engagement has had to be postponed in consequence of her illness. We wish this most charming artist a speedy recovery.

Miss Vera Saunders, who is still in her early teens, has been much applauded during the week in her Dutch business at the Tivoli, where she has been retained. The young artist, with her charming appearance and her comedy gifts, shows considerable promise, and should not experience any great difficulty in going ahead. She will shortly produce a new song called "Billy."

Miss Cecilia Loftus, the gifted actress and mimic, whose turn is just at present one of the chief attractions at the Coliseum, has kindly consented to present the prizes at the Music Hall Sports at Stamford Bridge on Thursday, July 21.

It is expected that the wonderful chimpanzee, George the First, introduced by Dandy George, will give an entertainment in front of the grand stand at the Music Hall Sports. Several managers and agents have entered for the events set apart for their branches of the business, and good sport is expected.

Intending competitors for the various excellent prizes at the forthcoming Music Hall Sports at Stamford Bridge Grounds on Thursday, July 21, will please notice that the time when entries can be received is extended to the first post on Wednesday, July 13. Please hurry up and send names in, or apply for forms to Mr. Albert Le Fre, 49, Upper Tulse-hill, S.W.

For a really enjoyable and exhilarating farce, commend us to Sir Francis Burnand's *No. 9*, which Mr. Lawrence Brough, a capital comedian, and five other excellent people are presenting at the halls. When we happened on it at the London Pavilion its funny situations, in the most rollicking vein, set the whole house in a roar. It was presented with a finish worthy of the Criterion in the day of *Pink Dominos*.

Mr. Fred Williams, who some years since became a great music hall favourite in variety versions of popular pantomime stories, is progressing favourably after the operation he underwent last week. For some years Fred has been enjoying retirement at Clacton-on-Sea, and he, with Dan Leno, Herbert Campbell, and Harry Randall, was among the first of the artist-proprietors. Fred is the brother of Arthur Williams.

Mr. Pat Carey writes:—"I read with much pleasure the excellent report of the Terriers' Association by its good secretary, Mr. A. Were, and I note that he says it was founded on May 25, 1890, by a few music hall artists, including the late Mr. Joe Lawrence. Would it be out of place to ask you to name that few? They were Mr. Cecil Merrie, Mr. Frank Caffrey, deceased, Mr. W. F. Fletcher, and yours faithfully, Pat Carey (its first secretary)."

A most pleasing interlude took place at the Woolwich Hippodrome on Tuesday. At the Theatrical Sports at Stamford Bridge in the afternoon the Hippodrome, Woolwich, team, the holders of the tug-of-war shield, again won it for the third time in succession. Mr. Herbert H. Laidman, the genial manager, handed the gold medals (presented by *The Era*) to the team and trainer; also a set of silver fruit knives to Mr. Will Kendall, a stage hand, who won the first prize in the blindfold race.

During the performance of the sketch *Le Gorille* at the Tottenham Palace on Thursday evening by Mr. Edward Sillward and Miss Pauline Prim, the lady unfortunately broke her arm above the elbow, and had to be taken immediately in a motor to the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham, where she has been retained as an in-patient. Another accident happened at the same house on Tuesday evening, when one of the Brothers Donato, the one-legged clowns, in some unaccountable way struck his temple, and fell senseless. He soon recovered, however, under the care of a medical man who happened to be in the building.

Jack Straw had to "hustle around," as they say in America, on Wednesday to leave Peterborough to attend to his Castle of Mystery at Rosherville and get back to Peterborough the same night and work two shows. He has obtained a promise of a bicycle from the well-known firm of Rudge-Whitworth, of Coventry. The following is a fresh list of victims for sports prizes:—Geo. Mozart, H. E. Pelissier, New Goswell Printing Co., Yamamoto, Dick Tubb, Water Rats, Victoria Monks, J. Lawson, Geo. Clarke, sen., Maidie Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Syd May, Jackson Pixley and company, Alexandra Dagmar, and Whit Cunliffe.

The permanent address of Bob, a bull-terrier, the property of Mr. Sam Glenroy, is *The Era* offices, London. Bob really is a born globe-trotter, and sometimes travels so far that he is unable to find his way home again. This peculiarity is excusable when it is known that Bob accompanies his master on tour, and perforce has to live at various addresses, thus becoming quite confused as to the exact location of his home. Through wearing on his collar a plate engraved with the words *The Era* Offices, London, Bob has been returned to his owner no less than six times. Last week he again disappeared, to be again restored. This time, although residing at Shepherd's Bush, Bob had trotted as far as East Ham. It is thought by Mr. Glenroy that the dog remembered a visit to Stratford, and was on his way there when he was arrested by the East Ham police for having neither home nor visible means of subsistence.

Miss Louie Tracy, "the Dapper Dandy Boy," and her husband, Mr. Sidney T. Keith, sail for South Africa on Saturday next, July 16, per R.M.S. Saxon. Miss Tracy is under contract with Messrs. Hyman for two months at the Empire, Johannesburg.

"The Battery," a new farcical sketch, by Mrs. Christie Murray, authoress of *Dick's Chum* and other playlets, will be produced at the Royal Standard this evening at 7.30 p.m.

A dramatic episode in one scene, by William T. Gliddon, author and composer of *The Flower Girl*, entitled *Till Death do us Part*, will be produced on Monday, and will tour the halls in the autumn.

Mr. Lionel Atwell and Miss Phyllis Relph bottom the bill next week (July 11) at the Empress, Brixton, in a revised version of the tragic little play *The Fourth Kiss*, by W. Douglas Newton, the well-known magazine writer.

"An Indian Romance," a story of the North American Indians, will be produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday next, with Mr. Leonard Robson in the leading part. The prologue will be seen on the Bioscope, the story opening twelve years later.

Mr. Frank Harwood, the versatile performer, is making a great success with his latest number, "Early-closing day." He gets every ounce of comedy out of it. Audiences at the Camden this week appreciate the merits of his interpretation of the song by calling him three or four times.

The Tourmalines, who have just arrived in London, will appear at the Canterbury on Monday in a novel entertainment in two scenes entitled *The Palace of Terpsichore*, of which one of the salient features will be "the lemon coon," a very remarkable exhibition of dancing. We shall say more about this next week.

The following candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association have successfully passed the ballot:—Mr. William Leslie and Mr. Frederic Leslie (Leslie Bros.), Mr. George McNully and Mr. John McNully (the New Macs), Mr. Pete Lee, Mr. Edward Berry, Mr. Dicky Bird, and Mr. William Doust, Mr. Erne Chester, and Mr. Eric Farr, of the Tallyho Trio. Terrier Pete Noriggia was elected as W.D., and Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman as Y.B. upon Sunday last.

Photographs of the river outing party, price 2s. 6d. each, can be obtained upon application to the Secretary. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Harry Conlin, Charles Clark, D. M. H. Hoffman, Harry Wright, W. Wisper, and Ben Whiteley upon their reappearance in the Kennel on Sunday last.

At a meeting of a committee of the Burnley Corporation last week plans were approved for the reconstruction of the Empire Theatre, Burnley.

A number of the Oxford Music Hall waiters and assistants were able to enjoy a very pleasant Sunday at Hemel Hempstead, making the journey by road under the pilotage of Mr. F. Tomlin, who has for a very long time occupied the position of head waiter at this widely known hall. Mr. Tomlin took the chair genially at a subsequent sumptuous spread at the White Hart, a popular hostelry, the landlord being his son, Mr. C. Tomlin.

Mr. C. Bailey ably fulfilled the duties of vice-chairman. The happy company enthusiastically received the toast of "The King," the healths of Mr. C. E. Blyth-Pratt, their highly-esteemed and ever-considerate chief of staff, and of Mr. F. C. Upton, the popular assistant-manager and secretary, being also most cordially received.

In view of the repeated appearance in the public Press of paragraphs stating that certain music hall entertainments have been interrupted by the protests of Women Suffragists, it is necessary once more to give to these statements a categoric denial. The Woman Suffrage Societies are not in the least concerned with music hall politics, except that their members, in common with the general public, are amused by them. The scenes described are not made by women who are working for woman suffrage.

Bert Swan and Marie Vesta, the original Bill Smith and Liza, will produce on Monday next, at the Hippodrome, Poplar, an original coster episode, written by Bert Swan, with music and lyrics by Percy Ashdown, entitled *Liza's Wedding Day*, in which they will introduce *Answers* famous prize donkey and governess car. The special scenery will be by Chas. Sharp and company. The novel effects, including the church organ and peal of chimes, are supplied by Messrs. Hunter and Co. and Messrs. Hawkes and Co., of Piccadilly.

During the present week a novel competition is in progress at the Crystal Palace. The contest, which is open to amateur or professional, consists of what may be described as music hall "turns." About 140 competitors have entered, and these are being gradually thinned out by the tests each evening in the theatre. From the fourteen remaining in on Friday, six will be selected for the final competition to-night. Some of the competitors have shown considerable ability, and Mr. Charles Parker, of the Æolian Concert Party, the judge and director, has had some difficulty in making his selections for the final contest.

Dr. Walford Bodie broke all records last week at the Empire, Dudley, playing to packed houses nightly, and on Saturday night turning hundreds away at both houses. He was twice patronised by the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor and four times by the ex-Mayor and party, also many of the magistrates and doctors.

Mr. Charles Savage, the Corporation electrician, supplied Dr. Bodie with an electro-motor, which was connected to La Belle Electra, and the whole of the Corporation supply of electric current passed through her body, driving the motor, lighting arc lamps, &c. Dr. Bodie was also challenged by two local electricians to pass 30,000 volts through his own body. This extraordinary feat was accomplished by the Doctor at the second house last Friday in the presence of a huge audience and over two dozen of a committee including several leading electricians and well-known local gentlemen. This week he is receiving quite an ovation nightly at the Empire, Nuneaton.

Mr. Ben Woodore, Secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to thank, on behalf of the committee, Mr. Finch Hatton (Palace, Leicester), per Ted. E. Box, for 13s. 6d.; Mrs. Harry Gait and Beresford Hope for £1 17s. 6d. (collected at the Terriers' River Outing); Empire, Camberwell, 7s. 6d.; T. H. Wells (Angel Arms, Brixton-road), 3s. 6d.; Neiman and Benn's Agency, 11s.; and Mr. Harry Bawn (Empire, Edmonton), per Fred Alexander, £2 5s. Men's cast-off clothes are urgently needed, and are always very acceptable. The address is 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday next at noon at the Three Stags, Kennington-road. Griff, President of the Terriers, has sent a donation of £2 2s. to the Home fund. Mr. Arthur Were and Mr. Berry Hope have been added to the list of the Home committee. The date of the presentation to Miss Vesta Tilley and Miss Kitty Colyer will be shortly announced.

The Palace, Greenwich, after being closed for a period of six weeks, reopened on Monday under the auspices of Mr. D. M. Kerr.

The annual meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday next, at 4 p.m. All members in town are invited to attend.

Beatie and Bass, after a seven weeks' successful run in London and provinces, returned on Monday to the Continent, and opened at the Ausstellung Variété, Munich, with the greatest success.

Mr. Len Teel, "the suffering dame," will be heard during next week at the South London, where he will be singing new numbers by Gilbert Wells and Will Godwin. For the last four years Mr. Teel has been with Mr. Robert Arthur in pantomime, but has not yet settled for next Christmas.

Among the newcomers at the Coliseum next week are Miss Dorothy Ward, the musical comedy favourite; Phil and Nellie Peters, entertainers; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in a singing sketch; Cornalia and Eddie, eccentric acrobatic comedians; and Black and White, two acrobatic girls. Mesdames Karsavina and Baldina and the other Russian dancers, Olga, Elgar, and Bli Hudson, Jen Latona, and Cecilia Loftus remain on the bill.

Miss Melinda May, Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild (61, New Oxford-street, W.C.), on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mrs. Vernon Cowper (collection), 4s., contributed principally by Griff; Mrs. Crowsher (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. McGovern, stage costumes and wardrobe basket; Mrs. Vernon Cowper, leather portmanteau and basket.

Will Mrs. Arthur Hallon kindly communicate at once to above? She attended a meeting on Aug. 11 last year. The handsome portière curtain is hers, her ticket being No. 50. Will anyone make an offer for the fifteen large-sized band books, given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris, per Sisters Macarte?

"Hungary," of June 15, a society journal published in Budapest, contains the following: "Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Knowles, with their kinsman Mr. Johnson, are arranging a tour in Hungary for the purpose of picking up information and taking moving pictures for their forthcoming autumn lectures in the United States. They are expected here towards the end of this month.

"On the occasion of his flying visit a couple of weeks ago Mr. Knowles met with a cordial reception at the Ministries of Commerce and Public Instruction, where every facility was promised him to attain the object of his visit, even to the placing at his disposal of a guide and interpreter to accompany him to Babolna, Mezohegyes, Kecskemet, and other places in the interior of the country." Mr. Knowles returned to this country on Monday, and the same day journeyed to Glasgow to fulfil a week's engagement. What a hustler!

The original Amasis, the Egyptian Man of Mystery, is scoring a big success at Collins's this week, presenting several new and baffling illusions. This is his second week in London after a most successful tour of nearly twelve months in the provinces, where he has made a big reputation. His original illusion, "The Evolution of the Golliwog," must be seen to be believed. His assistants disappear and appear in most bewildering fashion, and he works with a coolness and ease which evoke great applause.

On Saturday night last, July 2, Sir Thomas Lipton and suite, accompanied by Provost Miller and Councillors Fisher and Cunningham (of Rothesay), paid a visit to the Rothesay Pavilion. After witnessing the entertainment and skating, Sir Thomas Lipton and party were entertained by Mr. J. Horn (director) and Mr. Charles A. White (Manager), to whom he expressed his great delight in the building and his thorough enjoyment, and personally congratulated Mr. White and wished him every success.

At Kiralfy's Theatre, Brussels, on Saturday, a fine *féerie* was produced called *Au Pays des Merveilles*. It is in eleven tableaux, and the ballets are very big and beautiful, 300 dancers being employed. One of the hits of the evening is made by the Webb Troupe of swimmers, with their exciting and amusing entertainment, which is given in a "veritable canal" which has been made between the audience and the stage. The Brussels papers are loud in their praises of Mr. Bolossy Kiralfy and of Mr. Durell, the producer of the spectacle.

If the condition of Charles Hilbury (on whose behalf an appeal was recently made over the signature of Mr. Charles Wilmott) will permit, an effort will be attempted, possibly to-day (Saturday), to move him to Westcliff, in the hope that the change of air will benefit him, if ever so slightly. Fred Murray, who has collaborated so often and well with the stricken composer, will see to his comfort en route. The latter will be glad to hear from friends and admirers of Charles Hilbury at 48, Offley-road, Brixton, S.W.

Frederick Thomas, a lad of sixteen, was singing for chance coppers in a street off the Strand, when the quality of his voice attracted the attention of a music hall agent. The result is that Thomas is to appear on Monday at the Euston Music Hall at what must be to him the magnificent salary of £10 a week. He is possessed of a pure soprano voice of considerable power, which experts state will never break. A long tour has been arranged for him. Sometimes he will appear at two halls a week, when, of course, he will earn £20. The two songs he will start with are "Long Live the King" and "Good-bye, Noreen," both by Bowker Andrews.

A remarkable occurrence in a railway carriage was reported on Thursday from Watford, where, at the hospital, a young Glasgow man named John Burke lies in a critical condition from a wound in the throat. When between Pinner and Bushey, on Wednesday night, the 7.10 train out of Euston was pulled up by means of the communication cord, and going to a first-class carriage the guard found Burke and Miss Jessie Templeton, the well-known music hall artist. "I do not wish to travel with this gentleman any further," said Miss Templeton, and the guard thereupon induced Mr. Burke to go to another carriage. The train then restarted, but on reaching Bushey Burke was found in a collapsed state owing to a terrible wound in his throat, apparently self-inflicted.

The new "Kinemacolor" pictures to be included in the Palace Theatre programme next Monday comprise some brilliant views of an Atlantic liner under full steam—a veritable thing of life, undreamt of when Coleridge, a century before the age of cinematography in Nature's actual tints, deplored the idleness of "a painted ship upon a painted ocean." The Cedric, of the White Star Line, arrives from New York at Holyhead, her passengers disembark, and entrain by the sumptuous boat express for Euston. As a foil to all this bustle and activity, Mr. Urban will supplement the exhibition with a delightfully rural and particularly seasonable subject, illustrating the growing and gathering of Kentish strawberries at St. Mary Cray.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

YOUTH must ever have its "turn" served, and also its "fling," and Messrs. Francis and Day—always mindful of the fact that the countless "votaries of Terpsichore," as Mr. Turveydrop would say, will shortly direct enquiring eyes in their direction for new dance music, although the publication of their Twenty-ninth Dance Album is staying the said dancers' appetite for a while, especially at the great palaces of Blackpool and Douglas—have just secured for publication in due course some new and original items for the youth (and beauty) of these islands to turn and evolute to in the shape of new dances and dance music which will delight and fill with amazement the most fastidious disciples of "the mazy."

AMONG the pieces that will be received with acclamation may be mentioned two that at the recent annual conference of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing were awarded first prizes. One is "La Vallière" square dance (which also received a certificate of merit), invented by G. F. Childs, P.B.A.T.D., composed by Walter Seward; the other is "The Pembroke" round dance, invented by Edward E. Mawdett, composed by Miss E. Gladys Mawdett. Another piece that will also be issued by Mr. David Day's firm is the "Aero" two-step, which was honoured with a second prize by the above-mentioned body. It is invented by R. B. Kennedy and composed by Clement Harris.

OTHER pieces of the highest merit also to be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day are the "Cleveland" gavotte, invented and composed by Arthur Morris, who gave the world of dancing the original veleta; "Mac's Own" schottische, by James Follit and Clement Harris; "Murmuring Waves," by Karl Kaps, the celebrated composer and bandmaster; "Dance Barbaric," by Cyril Dengard; and "The Bonton Parade," by T. Almond and Clement Harris.

AT the Metropolitan and also at Chelsea Miss Florrie Forde, looking radiant in a grey costume and picture hat, has during the week been proving that audiences, however lusty, cannot drown her fine voice, which they attempt to do during her rendering of the chorus of "Flanagan," the easy first among the rags of 1910. A very striking portrait of this popular artist adorns the title-page of her new song, "Has anyone found a girl?" which was issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, the publishers of "Flanagan," a day or two since.

AT the Duke of York's Theatre, where *The Dawn of a To-morrow* is the premier attraction, that other great attraction, Mr. John Crook's orchestra, has been adding to its admirers by musicianly renderings of Herbert E. Haines's dance "Coquette" and Archibald Joyce's "Songe d'Automne" waltz. Many applications for these pieces continue to arrive at Messrs. Francis and Day's, the publishers of both.

A PRETTY song from the pen of Leonard Cooke, with music by H. E. Pether, has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is entitled "May I ask you what your name is?" The same house are issuing a number with the quaint title of "Down goes the brick wall!" The names of R. P. Weston and Hermann E. Darewski on its frontispiece are good and sufficient reasons for its inclusion in any firm's catalogue.

THE irrepressible Tom W. Connor (the number of whose songs for stars has been literally legion) has published with Messrs. Francis and Day an up-to-date comic song, entitled "Only think of it! (Half-a-dollar divorce)." Mr. Fred Earle has secured the singing rights.

THAT favourite vocalist, Mr. Frank Harwood, has in his newest song one that will be of great value to him judging by the manner in which it has been received by audiences in the Metropolis. By Paul Pelham and J. P. Long, and entitled "Early-closing day," it will be shortly issued in sheet music form by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AT the London Coliseum Mr. Jack Pleasants, specially billed as the "Shy Comedian," has been winning his usual meed of applause with the song published by Messrs. Francis and Day entitled "I'm shy, Mary Ellen, I'm shy!" He has published this week with the same house songs entitled "Said I—Said she" and "Ma! ma!" both by Charles Ridgwell and G. A. Stevens.

MR. CHARLES R. WHITTLE, whose song, "He's a naughty, naughty boy!" is a great favourite with the masses, has acquired a new number which will also be published by Messrs. Francis and Day. Its title is "I've said good-bye to the dear old Strand," and it is written and composed by F. W. Carter and J. A. Glover-Kind.

A SONG, the melody of which is by C. W. Murphy and the words by George Arthurs, is bound to command attention, and such a one is their "Don't do anything until you hear from me," which has just been purchased by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AMONG other songs about to be produced by Messrs. Francis and Day may be mentioned "The simple little girl from town," by E. W. Rogers and John Neat; "I don't want to go to bed," by G. A. Stevens; "My Pearl of Putney," by Ralph Nairn and Bertrand Davis; "In your gown of grenadine," by Fred Murray; "You can't beat London for the girls!" (sung by Mr. Arthur Woodville), by H. Staunton, W. E. Haines, and D. Meher; and "In the evening when I leave you, Eva dear," by Charles Collins.

MISS MARIE BLYTHE seems to have the knack of divining the popular ballads each year, and her intuition is seldom at fault. She is this week appearing at the Metropolitan, where she is making a great impression with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's great chorus ballad, "I wonder if you care." The Star Music Co. are to be congratulated on this winner.

WHIT CUNLIFFE has secured from A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott another fine chorus number in "Up she goes." This song gives the favourite light comedian many opportunities for showing himself in humorous vein, besides having a chorus which looks like equalling the same composer's "Hello! it's a different girl again." The Star Music Co. publish "Up she goes," and have in hand another Whit Cunliffe number, of which more anon.

MISS ROSIE LLOYD has in study a novelty by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott entitled "When I take my morning promenade." The costume which the charming little lady is having prepared for this number is a Parisienne creation of artistic elegance. At the Tivoli Miss Lloyd is meeting with great success with Aylmer Lee and Maurice Scott's fine chorus song, "Love is like a balloon." This looks like rivalling the same composer's "Swing me higher, Obadiah," and is published by the Star Music Publishing Co.

(*Continued on page 20.*)

A COMPANY has been formed to erect an up-to-date palace of varieties in Doncaster. A prominent site has been secured in the heart of the town, and building is to commence forthwith. The holding capacity will be about 2,500. It is proposed to open it in March next. There is an influential board of directors, with Signor Pepi as managing-director. The architects are Messrs. Ward and Ball, of Birmingham.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE COLISEUM.

Mr. Oswald Stoll's forward policy here is being generously supported, and the excursus of the famous house into the realms of ballet is receiving justification daily and nightly in the applause of delighted lovers of true classical dancing. The return of such a gifted prima donna as Mlle. Tamara Karsavina, after a highly successful engagement in Paris, seemed to be extremely welcome to her admirers on Monday, especially as she was seen in a poetic dancing fantasy new to this country, entitled *L'Oiseau de Feu*. The storyette is charged with the temporary despair of a lover, whose twin soul becomes a bird. Sorrow endures only for a short time, for joy floods the heart of the lover when the star of his existence changes back into the creature with fairy footsteps who has been the idol of his dreams. Mlle. Karsavina fascinates us all the time in this pretty production, and she has a most agile partner in M. Theodore Kousloff, whose steps are light and gestures significant.

Miss Jen Latona is no stranger to the Stoll houses in London, having appeared both in the West End and suburbs with her husband Mr. Frank Latona; but on Monday she entertained the audience *solus*. So great was her opening success that she is not likely to work in double harness again—at any rate, not for some time. She opened at the piano, playing her own accompaniment to the well-known "Flower song" sung by Siebel in *Faust*. Then taking up the concertina, she showed her musical versatility in the blithe Scotch song, "The Thistle." "I've got rings on my fingers and bells on my toes," which is said to be the rage of England and America, gave opportunity to the singer to emphasise the lighter vein, but her greatest triumph came when she sang the quaint song, "Because I'm married now." The audience called her again and again, and would not be denied the encore. As Miss Latona—who, by the way, looks a particularly dainty housemaid in cap and apron—is equal to giving parodies of Tetrazzini and Harry Lauder, she may be said to be particularly well endowed as an entertainer, and should go far.

A musical turn far above the average is presented by Eli Hudson, the well-known flute and piccolo virtuoso, Olga, a charming singer, and Elgar, a young lady flautist, closely related to Mr. Hudson. Grieg and Gounod are drawn upon in the selections of the trio, the rendering of the famous "Berceuse" of the latter composer being most artistic. Miss Cecilia Loftus astonishes one by the range of her impersonations. To go from George Formby to Yvette Guilbert is a *tour de force* in the realms of artistic impersonations, but quite as great a contrast is furnished by Mr. Alfred Lester and Miss Margaret Cooper, or Miss Clarice Vance and Miss Ethel Irving. The great success of this gifted artist continues, and she might very well occupy the stage for an hour. Alice Raymond scores in *A Night in Egypt*, her fine playing evoking loud applause. The Kratons are particularly clever hoop rollers; Bert Williams wins favour as a ventriloquist; and it is a long time since we saw anything so genuinely droll as the turn of Leslie Brothers, comedians and instrumentalists. Their business is a screamer from start to finish. Mr. Jack Pleasants has a capital song in "I'm shy, Mary Ellen, I'm shy," to which he does complete justice; and the Marsumas are clever bicyclists, whose smartness and fun are never in doubt.

THE HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The Lady Bandits have levied a heavy toll upon the Holborn Empire this week, and extorted from a willing public rich spoils in the way of mirth. The realisation of a golf course in the Surrey hills has brought forth unstinted admiration, and the brightness and sparkle of the production has made its success inevitable. Mr. Edward Lauri exerts his talents as a comedian to the utmost purpose in the part of the genial M.P., who is taken prisoner on his own golf-course by a party of ladies posing as banditti, and made to undergo various exciting incidents. Mr. Lauri turns everything to comic account, and every droll delivery gains a laugh. His song of "The seaside girl" is greatly effective. Miss May Beatty makes of Lady Diana a handsome and debonair brigand chief, and sings tunefully, her voice asserting itself melodiously, even amid the uproarious laughter aroused in the comedy scenes. Miss Cicely Lowe as Lady Daisy and the rest of the comely crowd make up a pretty picture, and the choruses are nicely sung.

An elaborate item of the bill is also the sketch *Perkins, M.P.*, in which Mr. Albert Bruno portrays the redoubtable Perkins, and by his eccentricities in the House of Commons puts the house in front into uncontrollable mirth. A novel act, in which grand pianos figure, is that of Carlisle and Wellmon, who play duets on those instruments with remarkable facility. Their entertainment is varied by song and dance and by conversational interludes that prove amusing. Mr. Ed. E. Ford is rightly described as the "President of the Face Trust," and with his marvellous manipulation of his features diverts and astonishes the audience. His reproduction of a man going through the various phases of an interview with his dentist proves as excruciatingly funny as ever, and a billiard player handling the rest is equally grotesque.

The comedy powers of Ray and Calden are exercised with the customary effect, and bursts of laughter greet the ever-varying antics of the comedian. The expertness and grace of the lady's dancing is also recognised. Miss Ethel Loftus sings with extraordinary effect a song about "Father"; dainty Venie Clements as Marie Louise makes a bewitching blancheuse of Paris; the Yankee Doodle Girls move in terpsichorean revels with rhythmic grace; and the liberal programme also includes Mimi Thornton, speciality dancer; Gwladys Soman, descriptive vocalist; the Prince Milner Trio; Gene Morelle, "ragged virtuoso"; and Wilson Hallett, in his children impersonations. The duties of manager are ably discharged by Mr. E. Leslie Conroy, and Mr. James Sale, at the head of the orchestra, secures the happiest results.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

This week the programme here—a particularly lengthy one—contains many sparkling items providing an entertainment of great attractiveness. The Kennedy Girls are an exceedingly smart troupe of singers and dancers. A special feature of their performance is the jiu-jitsu dance, which appears to be an interesting mixture of this famous style of wrestling and a dance of an athletic and artistic nature. Their turn is much appreciated. Sid Bandon sings "I met her on Yarmouth sands"; and Miss Lillian French, a popular vocalist and mimic, scores with her impersonations of Vesta Tilley and Gertie Gitana.

Mr. Edward Lauri, Miss May Beatty, and company have secured a successful one-act musical-comedy play in *The Lady Bandits*. This society seems to be composed of women who have determined to cast aside the skirt and to strike out boldly for their rights. Much to his discomfiture, the gentleman golfer captured by them is told that he must also cast aside his trousers and become a member of the band. Miss May Beatty is a capital Lady Diana, the head of the bandits; Miss Cicely Lowe capably supports the rôle of Lady Daisy; and Mr. Edward Lauri creates roars of laughter in the character of Josephus A. Muddifat. Some pretty music is introduced into the piece.

The Dick and Dorothy Trio, in harmony, music, and dance, show much ability in each of their specialities. Their steps are executed with remarkable precision, and their performance is worthy of special comment. Joe Hayman, the Hebrew jester, makes a speech of a particularly droll description, and afterwards sings a song, the words of which contain much truth. The Keeley Bros. supply a ball-punching display of a distinctly novel character; Miss Ivey Aberdare does well in song and dance; and Mr. Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, brings down the house with his clever impersonations at the piano, where he shows how various people would sing "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" His efforts to amuse are much appreciated. Jack and Evelyn appear with conspicuous success in their latest concoction, "Introductions"—without a doubt one of their best and funniest.

Mr. Walter Bird's company produce a screaming comedy sketch entitled *Her Husband*. Henry Moore, a doctor, is called away from home, and during his absence his house is entered by burglars, one of them being a particularly noisy one who creates roars of laughter at the expense of his companion. It is afterwards discovered that the most respectable of the housebreakers is an escaped lunatic and the first husband of Mrs Moore. He is shot by his confederate, who thus releases the lady from a most unwelcome bond. The part of Harry Moore, the doctor, is well played by Mr. L. Grove; and Miss R. Heath is a satisfactory Jessy Moore. The maid Babette is charmingly portrayed by Miss H. Costa; William Huntley, the escaped lunatic, is effectively pictured by Mr. A. Dane; and Mr. Ernie Lotingam evokes considerable merriment by his droll impersonation of Jemmy Josser. The sketch is received with roars of laughter. Some new pictures on the Bioscope conclude this excellent entertainment. Mr. A. W. Deer, the energetic and courteous manager here, discharges his duties with marked ability and tact.

BALHAM HIPPODROME.

After a week of theatricals, during which *The Bad Girl of the Family* officiated at the Hippodrome, that popular hall has returned to varieties, but has kept the dramatic fire burning with a new sketch of tragic import. It is a Russian episode by Sidney Blow and George Bellamy entitled

"FOR THE CAUSE."

Rudolph Rudinoff ..... MR. CHAS. VANE
Prince Kubemoff ..... MR. RICHARD LANE
Count Murovotkin ..... MR. CECIL ELGAR
Petroff ..... MR. W. D. FAZAN
Karabol ..... MR. MURRAY YORKE
Olga ..... MISS JULIE KENNARD

Thrilling situations are provided in the sketch, which introduces a number of Russian exiles, who meet in Rudolph Rudinoff's apartments in Paris. Great uneasiness has been caused among the comrades by the fact that several of their number who have secured pardons have been arrested on arrival in Russia and sent to Siberia. The cause of the trouble is Rudinoff himself, who is in the pay of the Russian Government, and his latest victim is the young Prince Kubemoff, for whom he obtains a pardon and passport, with the intention of having him seized on his arrival at Warsaw. The Prince, however, has conceived a love for Rudinoff's wife, which he allows to override his enthusiasm for the cause, and refuses to leave Paris. At the meeting of the conspirators the Prince is accused by one of their number of being the traitor, a Government envelope with the latter part of his name still decipherable being produced in evidence. He is condemned to death, and on lots being drawn the task of shooting him falls to Mme. Rudinoff. A pistol is forced into her hand, but ere she is able to draw the trigger one of the refugees, who has escaped from Siberia, breaks in and denounces Rudinoff as the betrayer. It thus becomes the task of Mme. Rudinoff to shoot her own husband, but before she can bring herself to consummate the tragedy a shot from the escaped prisoner lays the traitor low.

The arduous rôle of the lady revolutionary was acted by Miss Julie Kennard with vehemence and much emotional power. Mr. Chas. Vane made Rudinoff duly sardonic and despicable, and Mr. Richard Lane was a refined exponent of the Prince. The president of the assembly was portrayed effectively by Mr. Cecil Elgar, and a realistic appearance was made by Mr. Murray Yorke, who spoke his lines with intensity as the fugitive Karabol. The orders and decorations of the various characters denoted their rank, and the picture of a group of revolutionaries was complete. The principals were warmly recalled at the close.

The programme which the able manager, Mr. E. W. Hancorne James, has to present is judiciously varied. Mr. Whit Cunliffe supplies the headline, and renders three songs with his customary vivacity and sparkle. Mr. George Prince styles himself the "crazy comedian," and by his antics causes general laughter. The character creations of Mr. Alix Lukos are neat snapshots of distinguished persons; Rose Cambrey is a comely comedienne from Australia; and the Great Bertisch accomplishes marvellous weight-lifting feats, in which strength and skill are combined. Others in the programme are Miss Nora Stockelle, the Sisters Draycott, and Tiny and Mite, juvenile artists, together with the Bioscope.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Large audiences assemble at every performance and enjoy to the full the liberal fare provided by the management of this popular hall, so ably managed for the proprietors by Mr. Fred Epitaux, assisted by Mr. Will Horsfield, the stage being under the capable direction of Mr. Walter Smith. A great favourite of the current bill is the evergreen Chirgwin, whose personality is so well known, and whose popularity never wanes. He was very warmly greeted on the night of our visit, and his clever contributions received their due meed of applause. Miss Alice Kingsley delighted all hearers, her fine contralto voice being heard to great advantage in her numbers; Will Johnson was received with continuous merriment, and fully deserves the title of "the lively popular comedian"; Tom Stuart is excellent in his impersonations, both dramatic and burlesque—in fact, it would be difficult to conceive any improvement. Miss Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten is an excellent entertainment. The clever little people are admirably trained, and all act, sing, and dance with evident ease and enjoyment, and make the *Model School* an acceptable item on any programme. Each and all were rewarded with prolonged applause.

The Hardini Trio, in a Continental musical act, pleased all by their clever manipulation of their various instruments. Miss Daisy Martell contributed a highly-appreciated and attractive turn, which received its due meed of applause. Messrs. Campbell and Barber, the well-known cyclists, give an exhibition of wonderful skill in comedy and acrobatic cycling, all their tricks being worked with smartness and precision. They were warmly applauded by the audience.

Dan Lipton's company in *Songland* made a great hit. There are three scenes—The Runaway Marriage, Trafalgar-square, and A Floral Bower—all exceedingly well made and arranged. Miss Eva Kelland as the Italian girl has some very pretty numbers, to which her beautiful voice and artistic method do ample justice. She is assisted by a quartette of pretty girls, each representing a floral bouquet. The clever vocal *chef d'orchestre* is Mr. Forshaw Kershaw; and the business arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Tate. The entire production was a decided success. Up-to-date pictures on the American Bioscope brought an excellent bill to a satisfactory finish.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The management here, by means of very engaging programmes, are not finding it difficult to successfully combat the attractions that the summer months provide, audiences ruling very large. The bill for the current week is capitally varied, and designed to cater for the most exacting requirements. The Sisters St. Julian, who open the proceedings, sing a couple of good songs, and conclude with an attractive dance. They are well received. Siems, the Danish card and coin manipulator, submits a clever act. The artist does some wonderful feats, everything he presents being performed with great dexterity and finish, and he deservedly gained a most hearty reception.

Barrett and Knowles, in a cross-talk act are most amusing. Their burlesque ballad business is very humorous, and their concluding number is very quaint. They secured one of the receptions of the evening, and took a great number of "curtains." Mr. Edward Davies, the well-known operatic tenor, is an artistic feature of the evening. He rendered Tosti's "Good-bye" and "Mary of Argyle" in faultless style, gaining much applause. Jock Mills, Scotch comedian, sings a couple of songs, the second being the better of the two, and gives an original dance, his performances meeting with approbation.

Miss Daisy Irvine and company appear in a dramatic episode entitled *A Sister's Love*, by Percy Fullerton and Mrs. Russell. The plot appears to us to be deficient in probability and weak in its climax. Electrical inventors are not as a rule so careless with plans or so communicative in conversation. Miss Daisy Irvine herself was satisfactory as Sarah; Mr. Chas. Felton gave a capital study of the German, Von Helm; and Mr. Austin Mortimer as Richards filled in the picture. The playlet was received with great favour, Miss Irvine and Mr. Felton sharing the honours of a call.

Chris Richards, who is bracketed at the bottom of the bill, is making himself a great favourite. Irresponsibility is the characteristic of his show, and he contrives to keep the audience thoroughly amused the whole time he is on the stage. He is, in addition, a wonderfully clever dancer, and the house was obviously sorry to part company with him.

Tom Edwards, the ventriloquist, with "Curly," who is also at the bottom, is renewing previous successes. His business with the newspaper boy is as entertaining as ever, and in addition he provides a new item in the shape of a newly-born infant. In the course of this the artist carries on conversations with the nurse and other members of his family who are "off." The whole thing is very cleverly done, the imitation of the child being wonderfully realistic, and quite accounting for his recent most disconcerting experience in the States. It also served to display Mr. Edwards's gifts in comedy, and the audience thoroughly appreciated it and accorded him a great reception.

At the top of the bill Miss Victoria Monks is the attraction. The Bioscope is, as ever, entertaining; and Mr. Greco's fine orchestra give a capital performance of National American Airs. Mr. Charles

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
THE RAGE OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

Martè is attentive and courteous in front, Mr. Cyril Percival, his assistant, being also agreeably in evidence.

THE FORESTERS.

An excellent programme is submitted to the patrons of this cosy and well-conducted establishment in the East End of London, the many recent improvements in the seating and decorating making it one of the most comfortable in the district. The top item for this week is Harry Roxbury's company, headed by Mr. Tubby Edlin, in *The Cowboy Millionaire*, written and produced by Mr. Roxbury, with music by Dudley Powell and Tubby Edlin. The trifle throughout is quite good, the music being bright and the humorous portion is well cared for by Mr. Edlin as William Wiggs, a funny ex-convict, who, in the disguise of a postman, calls at the house of Major Titus Blazes and is mistaken for a certain millionaire who is expected to arrive, dressed in some curious get-up. The Major's object is to marry his daughter to the rich visitor, and much good fun is witnessed in the little love scenes of the pair. The character of the daughter, Fay Blazes, is charmingly played by Miss Clara Moore, who renders great assistance to Mr. Edlin in the laughable portion of the skit. Mr. Herbert Wellesley is good as the Major, and Mr. Fred Guinness does well as Phipps, the page, the minor characters being well enacted by Mr. Henri Dore as Columbas K. Collacash and Mr. Fred Devenport as Tom Westover.

A clever item is given by Horace and Olga's table troupe of dogs and cats, the animals performing their amusing feats with great rapidity, for immediately one is finished another dashes forward to do his trifle, the whole being smartly accomplished throughout. Miss Gladys Hooley in a delightful little scena, *My Fiddle and I*, displays her wonderful powers on that instrument, her many selections being well received, and at the finale the lady is deservedly encored. Mr. Tod Lowen, comedian, in old melodies with new words, possesses good numbers in "Hilarity" and "Getting old and silly," the latter well suiting the artist's particular style. Miss Josephine Crook has a powerful soprano voice, and with the assistance of pictures illustrated on the Bioscope renders two tuneful songs in "Where are the scenes of yesterday" and "Ship, ahoy!" the chorus of the latter being well taken up by the audience.

Norman G. Acton, Arthur O'Keene, and Miss Gertrude Churchill are playing their dramatic episode, *A Sister's Honour*. The story is full of thrilling events, and every opportunity is taken by those concerned to get the utmost possible out of the characters. The hearty reception accorded them is fully justified.

The Seven National Girls, in costumes representing the British nations, prove themselves all capable artists, for much good dancing and singing is indulged in, particularly good items being "An English girl" and a Scotch song. Mr. Johnny Hurley, a bright little coster comedian, has a tuneful song, "I don't want," the music of which is decidedly catchy; and Mr. Tom Groves sings "Let it go," which refers mostly to spending money in helping those in need. The Dancing Paceys give a smart dancing act, and many good films are displayed on the Bioscope. Mr. Pete Murray has been installed here as resident-manager, and the genial young Charles Hale as his assistant.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

A very noticeable and gratifying feature of this outer metropolitan hall has been the marked increase in the attendances at both houses during the past few weeks, and each succeeding week produces better records than the previous one. The reason for this is twofold. First, the closing of the Paragon as a music hall has been the means of many music hall lovers having to find a new house of entertainment, and a goodly number of East Enders take the opportunity of running over to Ilford, a journey which only occupies a comparatively small amount of time, thanks to the accelerated tramway service since the L.C.C. cars have inaugurated the through system from Aldgate to Ilford. Secondly, the management of the Hippodrome have continued to engage the premier talent available, and given special attention to the proper blending of variety in the programme. These two features have undoubtedly brought the Hippodrome into the front rank of East End halls, and there is every reason to believe that the position will not only be maintained but improved.

The programme this week is full of entertaining items, and a popular favourite is seen in Harry Randall, whose topical ditties and amusing patter bring forth much mirth. His two songs, "The Servant" and "Harry, the handy man," are rendered in his own inimitable style. An excellent performance is given by The Katos, with their automatic theatre. The imitation orchestra and audience in private boxes is very cleverly manipulated, and on the miniature stage mannikin representations of Miss Vesta Victoria and other well-known stars elicit the heartiest applause.

Mr. Jan Rudenyi and company present a good sketch, entitled *The Power of Music*, in which all the artists excel. Mr. Jan Rudenyi demonstrates his wonderful abilities as a violinist, and his beautiful rendering of "The Cradle Song" is vociferously encored by the audience. Mr. Fred Maxwell, assisted by a powerful company, also comes in for a hearty reception in his presentation of the sensational romantic episode *The Girl I Love*. The special scenery and effects are on a very elaborate scale. Speedwell, the wizard painter, gives a unique exhibition of lightning drawing and painting, and his sketches of the King and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain are wonderfully lifelike considering the speed at which they are drawn.

Miss Louie Tracy, the dapper dandy boy, scores heavily with her song, "Where's the girl who doesn't love a soldier?" and Miss Ve-Ve Wootton is very fascinating with her dainty singing and dancing. Frank Frayne, comedian, and Miss Mabel Thorne both contribute excellent items, and Miss Anna Gold presents a clever singing and dancing scena, assisted by her two dancing boys. Her singing of "The Soldiers' Chorus" (*Faust*) receives very warm applause. Some interesting films are exhibited on Ruffell's bioscope.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

On the evening of our visit to this spacious and popular house of varieties we found a crowded house, a state of things without doubt due to the general excellence of the programme submitted by the genial managers.

Miss Maud Hildyard and company are topping the bill in a weird, enthralling episode, entitled *The Price of a Soul*. The scene, which is of a startling and novel effect, is set in the chambers of a rising surgeon in London, who has for a period of years forsaken practitionary work and devoted himself to a scientific study and research of the Egyptian art of embalming. During his itinerary he discovers a well-preserved mummy, which appears to bear out his theory, and for experimental purposes he brings this specimen back to London. Mr. Russell Vaun as the scientist, who has chosen absinthe for a counteractive force, puts excellent dramatic fervour into his part, as does also Miss Maud Hildyard in the portraiture of "The Mummy." The setting is unique, and it is safe to say that whenever and wherever this powerful episode is produced it is bound to have a warm reception.

Lindsay and Harte, the Scotian couple, have a good turn—"all Scotch." The humour is pawky. The lady rendered in grand style (as a baritone) "Asleep in the deep." At the close of their number the audience clamoured for more. Miss Maggie Carr, to the accompaniment of her banjo, gives a good exhibition of the light fantastic, which was appreciated. She has a good song in "Georgia," the swinging chorus of which was taken up by "the gods." Mr. Ambrose Thorne proves himself a favourite with his songs, "Hope they won't put a tax on girls" and "If I was a Member of Parliament." The Michel Brothers give an excellent gymnastic display. Their hand-balancing tricks are clean and smartly done, and their head-to-head work is loudly applauded. Barnard's mannikins in *The Coons' Revelry* is an exceptionally smart and humorous sketch, and draws from the house loud and well-merited approbation. The several characters are deftly manipulated. The introduction of the comedy rooster "Chantecler" is greatly appreciated.

The Bon Dramatique Trio presented a thrilling episode in three scenes, entitled *Saved by Repentance*, the several parts in which were portrayed by artists whose names do not appear on the programme. Miss Peggy Monks received a good reception with her song, "Call round any old time," and got heartily encored.

The Bioscopic pictures depicting a Seaside Flirtation and Putting Back the Hands of Time are clear and well reproduced. The excellent orchestra is under the capable direction of Mr. Martin.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

The fare provided this week at this popular hall would satisfy the most fastidious frequenter of music halls. It also comes as an additional "soother" after the disappointment of last week, when Marie Lloyd was to have appeared. In Richard Walley we have a juggler who is fast becoming a second Cinquevalli, his manipulation of billiard balls, cues, chalks, hats, chairs, tables, sticks, flowers, and, finally, blazing torches, being quite bewildering. Those popular comedy artists, The Maples, bring their screaming skit, *How to Treat a Burglar*, which is too funny for words. Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Picaninnies add to their laurels here, a storm of applause greeting them on their appearance. Their buck dancing speciality is preceded by a coon song and dance by their instructress Miss Lily Vine. The final dance round and cake-walk, in which the little coloured lady is bending almost double, is really a most clever performance.

Borrett and Walden (ladies) present an original pantomimic episode, *A Dutch Romance*. The scene is laid in the courtyard of a Dutch laundry, and whilst Gretchen is busily engaged at her tub, Hans enters and pays to her his addresses, of which she does not approve. After snubbing him she turns her back, kicks off her sabots, and prepares to knit, when Hans snaps them up and deposits them in the soapsuds, to the dismay of Gretchen. Hans looks over the wall, and then climbs over with a dainty pair of shoes and a bouquet. After a little coquetry she accepts both, and a graceful dance finishes a pretty little scena.

Walter Barrett, the renowned Lancashire baritone, sings his latest success, "Long live the King," the refrain of which is thrown on the sheet and taken up by the audience with great gusto. He also sings "Thora" with great feeling and power. Addie Lennard, the well-known comedienne, brings a couple of new songs, her first, "National lovers," being rendered in her own inimitable style. Her second, "The Circus Clown," is extremely clever, as is also her eccentric dance which follows. The Sisters Condor are well received in their musical sketch, their singing, acting, and playing reaching an unusually high standard. Dusty Rhodes, popular as ever, convulses his audience, first with his parody on "Somewhere" in clerical garb, and later as a footballer in "Pictures I saw in a candle flame." The Bioscope displays some fine films, notably A Friend in Need, which illustrates the truth of the old maxim. Cecil Gray brings a company, including Miss Dora Eastlake, in a new and original one-act dramatic play entitled *To-morrow's Dawn*, by the Rev. S. S. Edwards, author of *The Last Straw*. Mr. Jno. Manners is very clever as Captain Jack Granby; Mr. Frank Dale is well placed as the miserable sneak, Captain F. Vivian; Mr. Eric Norman is a dapper Tony Fowler; Miss Dora Eastlake as Natalie leaves nothing to be desired; and the Dorian of Mr. Cecil Gray is powerful.

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.

There is great satisfaction when visiting a variety house at seeing a grand array of talent, and East-Enders have every confidence in the enterprising policy of Mr. Manager Monroe. The provision of a programme of great length and excellence has resulted in packed houses during the week. When Mr. Herbert Shelley, the celebrated actor-author, first produced his protean play *Dan the Outlaw*, we predicted that it would have a record run, and after four years of great success with it he has been fortunate enough to surpass himself in a new farcical piece from his own pen—a farcical comedy playlet—entitled *Patsy's Courtship*. The scene of this is laid in Phœnix Park, Dublin, 1800. This act is the crowning effort of Mr. Shelley, as it embodies a range of character from the variety farceur to the legitimate comedian. Then there are two specially good songs introduced, and there is no need to say that they are rendered by the protagonist of the play in a way that he has made entirely his own. They bear the titles of "Nail the horseshoe on the door" and "Patsy Riley," and bring forth round after round of applause. West-End audiences will have the opportunity of seeing this novel new act three weeks hence at the Oxford, but meanwhile we may heartily congratulate Mr. Shelley on the instantaneous success of his great new production, for which we anticipate a long run.

Among other attractions in the capital entertainment are Ingram and Irving, in a screaming absurdity, *The New Office Boy*. This happily associated duo are responsible for a good deal of amusement, and go well. Little Ganty as the captain of the Boys' Brigade cut some remarkable capers; the Keebles, duettists and dancers, are seen and heard at their very best in a couple of numbers "Bathing" and "Sunbird"; the latter number goes extremely well, and the music of a finely-executed dance is very tuneful. Tom Moore, a comedian with a fine voice, causes much laughter in a ditty in which he describes his first and last cigar. He is recalled over and over again. The Three Orleans, who should not be missed, sing very nicely, and their rich harmony arouses the house to a great pitch of enthusiasm; the Hulls, in a comedy musical act, prove themselves to be a couple of smart entertainers.

Mr. Henry Bedford and company, in *The Bottom Dog*, is very warmly welcomed. The story of the play is very interesting and it is brightly written. Mr. Bedford as Bill Baxter is decidedly powerful, and deserves all the applause he receives. Mr. Fred Hasker as the Clergyman (Sky-Pilot) is exceedingly good, and aids the success. Very interesting pictures here on the Bioscope are always appreciated. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. W. McDonald, and the selection and accompaniments are well played.

THE EMPRESS ANNIVERSARY.

The eleventh anniversary of this popular hall was celebrated on Thursday, the 30th ult., when the management put on a programme which was in every way worthy of the occasion. In addition to the usual turns, many of our leading artists had, if their other engagements permitted, promised to assist, and it seemed a pity that the extreme length of the bill did not permit them all to appear. Needless to say, the holding capacity of the house was taxed to its utmost. An early start was made with a well-rendered overture by the orchestra, and from thence onward turn followed turn with great rapidity. A very popular number was that of Sid May, who gave some exceedingly clever imitations of leading variety comedians, among them being George Robey, Mark Sheridan, and G. H. Chirgwin. Ferguson and Mac made a decided hit, their efforts causing roars of laughter. Maidie Scott gave her old favourite, "Everybody works but father," and its sequel, to the satisfaction of all present; and Miss Lottie Lennox gave a well-rendered number which earned her deafening applause.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar, as usual, was a host in herself, and showed that her hold on the public is as great as ever; and Herbert Clifton repeated former successes. The singing of the Royal Italian Trio was one of the treats of the evening, their voices blending most admirably. Some exceedingly clever juggling was shown by Gicardo, who performed tricks with an ease that made them appear facile in the extreme. A very amusing sketch, entitled *Half a Dollar*, was presented by Haines and Borthwick. This has been recently considerably improved, and was a veritable scream from start to finish. Miss Daisy Dormer, as usual, rendered a good account of herself in one of her popular chorus numbers, and it was a pity that the length of the programme did not allow her to give some of her inimitable dancing.

Miss Gladys Nelson, one of the daughters of the popular manager here, had a most enthusiastic reception, and proved herself to be in excellent fettle. For one so young her impersonations of some of our leading comediennes were wonderful, and on concluding she had many times to bow her acknowledgments. The dancing of Master Doonan earned him plenty of applause, and Gordon is to be complimented upon being the lucky possessor of a fine voice. Amongst others who contributed mention may be made of Kate Gourlay, The Maples, Bella Belmont, The Curtis Trio, The Glenvilles, Allen and Austen, Edwards and Espinosa, Hayman and Harvey, Margaret Ismay, Daisy Silcott, George Prince, and Billy Farrell.

FELDMAN'S
SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder - - - -	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood - -	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve - - -	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby - - -	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott - - - -	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana - -	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes - - - -	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements -	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge - - -	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff - - -	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE.
Miss Dorothy Ward - -	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter - - - -	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields - -	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard - - -	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox - -	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein -	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne - -	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, ARTHUR ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 19.)

Dashing Miss Ella Shields will next week produce at the Oxford and her other turns Messrs. John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves' new chorus number, "Remember me to the boys you see," which good judges confidently anticipate will be one of the biggest successes sung by this accomplished artist. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are the publishers.

Messrs. Feldman and Co. wish it to be distinctly understood that Miss Venie Clements, the original singer of "Marie Louise," Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford's great song, has prior singing rights everywhere, and no other artist is empowered to sing it unless she has written permission from the Arthur-street firm to do so.

Miss Dorothy Ward, at Glasgow, made a great success with Chas. K. Harris's latest big ballad, "Yesterday," published by Feldman and Co. She has also been eminently successful with other songs published by the same firm.

Miss Clara Beck, who has just returned to England after her successful pantomime engagement in South Africa, will shortly open at the principal London halls in a répertoire of new songs specially supplied by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

Miss Ethel Beech, at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, is this week achieving success with Messrs. Harrington, Neat, and Rogers' rustic romance, "My sweet garden queen." This song is published by Feldman and Co.

Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff are winning golden opinions at the Hippodrome, Rochdale, this week, with Feldman and Co.'s dainty number, "I wonder if it's true?" by Clare Kummer. They will sing the same song in their refined sketch, *The Demon and the Fairy*, next week at the East Ham Palace.

Two important interpolated numbers in the Empire, Leicester-square, revue are Mark Sheridan's "record winner," "I do like to be beside the seaside," and Mr. Fred Barnes's equally great success, "I'd rather be by the fireside," both of which are going with a bang in Mr. George Grossmith, jun.'s up-to-date comedy concoction. These two songs are published by B. Feldman and Co.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Orlando Powell, who have been responsible for so many of Miss Millie Hylton's past successes, have just fitted that clever lady with a new comedy character number, for special exploitation at the Coliseum and other important Stoll houses shortly, entitled, "I couldn't help being a lady," and are now busily engaged on other commissions for the same artist. Messrs. Harrington and Powell have also just fitted Miss Marie Lloyd with a very clever "song with interruptions," which she will produce in town early in August.

"HULLO, PEOPLE!"

The chief feature of a revue is its constancy to change; and even the name of *Hullo, London!* at the Empire has been altered, with the production of a revised version on Monday evening, to the title quoted above. The return, too, of Miss Valli Valli from America has enabled the management to secure the services of that eminent favourite of Empire patrons as the new commère. Early in the progress of Mr. George Grossmith, jun.'s, scheme of fun she appears as the Balkan Princess, with a number of suitors of various degrees of ugliness; but in this skit there is not much possibility of amusing travesty. Greater opportunity is found by Mr. J. F. McArdle in his broad, good-natured skit on "Teddy" Roosevelt, who sings a capital topical song on the way that the ex-President would run the British Empire, with a verse of special significance on Egypt. The distinguished Yank's passion for speaking is satirised. To the question, "Have you been to the city?" he replies, "Oh, yes; they gave me the Freedom in a casket." "I thought you took it—in your speech," is the witty rejoinder. Teddy also has an unhappy knack of shooting big game on sight, and is with difficulty prevented from potting the lion or the brown bear in the Zoo scene—a capital realisation of the famous gardens by Mr. R. McCleery. Mr. McArdle pays a compliment to everybody's friend, Willie Clarkson, in his make-up as a perruquier, and sings a capital song in "Ou, la, la!" one of Witmark's brightest numbers. There is some capital business in the burlesque of *Alias Jimmy Valentine;* and another real bit of fun is the burlesque of the Village Players headed by Mr. Fred Leslie, who has inherited a great deal of his famous father's histrionic ability. He is ably assisted by Mr. Ralph Roberts, Misses Maud Jay and Frances Kapstowne. The Chantecler skit is, of course, retained in the final scene, which is further brightened by the waltz, an engaging melody, by Mr. Napoleon Lambelet, to which Miss Valli Valli in the sweetest of dresses, dances most bewitchingly with Mr. Fred Leslie. The political reference—without which no revue would be considered complete—to Mr. Winston Churchill, "Winny," and Mr. Lloyd George, "Davy," goes rather flat. Both want a "ship," not a Dreadnought but the premiership. Mr. Ralph Roberts gives a capital impersonation of Teddy Payne in *Our Miss Gibbs*, but there is no special significance in his Kermit Roosevelt. Mr. Charles Childerstone, an old Savoyard, finds scope for his abilities as an actor and vocalist in the parts of a keeper and a conductor. Feldman's songs, "Beside the seaside" and "I'd rather be beside the fireside," make distinct hits. Miss Valli Valli, if not liberally endowed as a vocalist, has a keen sense of satire, and is responsible for very graceful dancing and bright work in parodies of *The Speckled Band* (with a very real-looking snake), *The Girl in the Train*, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, and Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. The waltz melody lays rather too high for her voice. There is no lack of briskness or beauty in the latest phase of Mr. George Grossmith's go-as-you-please burlesque, which on Monday evening afforded an immense amount of amusement to a very large audience, who were evidently exhilarated by the constant brightness of the *mise-en-scène*, the tasteful dresses, and the excellent work of the ballet and chorus.

The Euterpeans are at the Montpelier Pavilion, Cheltenham, this week. Messrs. Alf. Wood, Herbert Spalding, Percy Watson, and Philip Ward, with the Misses Margery Barras and Edith Payne, contribute to a really excellent entertainment.

Francis Willmott, of St. Olave's-road, Fulham, was summoned, before Mr. Francis, at South-West London Police Court, for assaulting an attendant at Putney Hippodrome, named Frederick Mills, living at Danmere-street, Putney. It was stated that while a performance was in progress the defendant rose and shouted at one of the artists. When the complainant went to him he said he would have his money back. The witness told him he must see the manager about it, whereupon the defendant put out his leg and threw the witness to the ground. He afterwards nearly strangled the complainant, and so serious was the situation that two or three of the audience came to the witness's assistance—a very unusual thing. The defendant denied the assault, which, however, was corroborated by another attendant, and Willmott was fined forty shillings and costs.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairground fixtures for next week are Burnley, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Mansfield, on the Great Central and Midland; Chumleigh, on the London and South-Western; Linton, on the Great Eastern; Holmesfield, on the Midland; Horsham, on the London and Brighton and South Coast; Sutton-in-Ashfield, on the Midland; Tunstall, on the North Staffordshire; Atherstone, on the London and North-Western; Glasgow, on the London and North-Western and Caledonian Joint, the Midland and North British, the North-Eastern and Scotch Railway connections; Motherwell, on the Caledonian; and Johnstone, on the Glasgow and South-Western Railways.

The Guild Meetings at Greenock.

THE meetings announced for Sunday, July 3, were postponed to Sunday, July 10. The altered date was owing to the fact that only a part of the fair was opened on Saturday, the 2nd inst., the greater number of shows, machines, &c., could not draw on the No. 2 fairground until after the Sunday. The fair holiday began July 6, and on that day both the No. 1 fairground and the No. 2 ground were set out in grand array by the lessee, Mr. John Wilmot and his energetic sons, who assist him in his business. It is confidently anticipated that next Sunday's meeting, owing to the great number of showpeople at Greenock this fair, will be a record one. The meetings will be at 3.30 and at 6.30, in the Temperance Tent on the No. 2 fairground. The afternoon gathering will be the Guild business meeting, when the Organising Chaplain will speak, and the leading showmen at Greenock will take part in the proceedings.

Greenock Trade Holiday Fairs.

NEARLY all the great towns in Scotland have their Trade Holidays in July. Greenock and Port Glasgow, the great shipbuilding centres on the Clyde, begin their holidays on the first Wednesday in the month, and Glasgow itself keeps holiday the week after. There are two well set out fairgrounds at Greenock, close enough together to be regarded as one huge fair. The veteran Scotch showman Mr. John Wilmot controls both grounds. He is able to open one of the grounds a few days before the holidays commence; the other ground is not available until the actual fair days. On the No. 1 ground Mr. Wilmot exhibits his fine set of steeplechasers—a favourite roundabout on the Wilmot circuit of fairs—and the racing cockerels, another attractive set. The other novelties on this ground are Howard and Sons' ships in the air and J. Wilmot, jun.'s gem horses and park swings. The principal shows are McIndoe's Scottish Palace of Light and varieties (proprietor and manager, Mr. A. Henderson), A. Sedgwick's lion show, and J. R. Style's midget marvel show. Caddick's American photo saloon car is a special feature, and Boswell's palmistry pavilion forms a well-appointed and clever side show.

Shooters, Houp-las, and Games.

THE shooting ranges, jungles, and rifle galleries are provided by those experts of the breechloader Messrs. Dawson, Wright, Sheeran, and Palmer; Houp-las of all kinds and shapes by Messrs. J. Caddick, jun., Slater, H. Strand, H. Irvin, jun., Mrs. Hunter, Messrs. J. McIndoe, A. Carrick, J. Wilmot, jun., J. Blockley, C. Johnson, H. J. Johnson, and E. Stevenson. The fine array of variety stalls and throwing games are provided by Messrs. F. Towers, H. Newey, Strand, J. Wright, Slater, McIndoe, H. Dawson, Mrs. Smith, and several others, whose names are already chronicled as exhibitors of the popular game of houp-la.

The Number Two Fairground.

ON this ground the lessee exhibits his magnificent set of motor-cars. The other machine attractions are Walter Wilmot's jumping horses and range of swings and Smith's overboats completing the moving galaxy of mechanical novelties. The exhibitions are President George Kemp's magnificent picture palace—the cinema theatre de luxe—Chipperfield's French menagerie, Walter Wilmot's new picture theatre, "The Electric Show," Prince Samouda's new concern, Rayner's miniature animal jungle, and Kemp's novel side show, the Teddy Bears.

Minor Amusements—Variety Stalls, &c.

QUITE two sides of the square of this second fairground are occupied by throwing games, houp-las and variety stalls providing all the "fun of the fair," the merrimen and funmakers being Messrs. W. Smith, D. Kennedy, Wm. McIndoe, W. Kelly, J. Kelsall, J. May, C. Thomas, E. Stevenson, E. Moore, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. T. Wright, and many others.

Port Glasgow Fair Holidays.

CLOSELY linked with Greenock Town is the shipbuilding district of Port Glasgow. Only a few miles separate the two towns, and for trade and industrial purposes the two may be regarded as one. In olden times the fair at Port Glasgow was held the three days before Greenock. Now the trade holidays govern the whole district, and one result is that both fairs are held together. It is one of the few remaining street fairs in Scotland, and it has the advantage of brightening by its very presence the centre of the town and the market square by the Town Hall and quayside. The lessee of the fair is Mr. James Wilmot, son of Mr. John Wilmot, so that the three fair-grounds of Greenock and Port Glasgow are under expert management.

Shows, Roundabouts, and Other Amusements.

MR. JAS. WILMOT exhibits his splendid set of electric motor-cars. The other machine novelties are Broughton's juvenile motor-cars and swings, Talbot's juvenile horses, Slater's racing bike track, and Palmer's park swings. The shows are A. Biddell's cinematograph theatre and T. Paulo's circus and living-picture show, and J. Buckley's miniature animal jungle and Teddy Bears. The houp-las (round and square) are the concerns of Messrs. Odgen, West, Entwistle, Horne, and Kelsall; and throwing games and variety stalls in well-ordered array by Messrs. Dorrington, Talbot, Cunningham, Taylor, Horner, Simonoff, Weldon, and other caterers. Toy and confectionary stalls were by local caterers. The opening days of the holiday were fine, and as a consequence great crowds of eager patrons were at both the local fairs, and good business was done.

AT the Chipping Norton fair, or club, on Tuesday there were Forest's roundabouts, swings, and shooting range, Benfield's swings and hoop-la, Hatfield's shooting gallery, hoop-la, &c., Fletcher's Emma sheet and hoop-la, together with numerous stalls and coccoanut shies,

AT Wakefield Fair were Mr. G. Aspland, motors; Mr. J. W. Waddington, motors; Messrs. Farrar and Tyler, scenic railway; Mr. Stephen Waddington, yachts; Mr. G. A. Holden, cinematograph; Mr. Enoch Farrar, cinematograph; Messrs. Farrer and Tyler, cinematograph; Mr. E. Farrar, boxing show; Mr. G. Cornwell, Winchester and bottle shooters; Mr. H. Gledstone, bazaars; Mr. S. Doubtfire and Mr. J. Gavon, juvenile horses and gems; and Messrs. S. Doubtfire, W. Steward, and G. Cornwell, Emmas, &c.

The Movable Dwellings Bill, 1910.

THE next meeting of the Select Committee on this measure will take place on Tuesday, July 12, at 2 p.m.

GUILD SUBSCRIPTION, 1910.—John G. Dixon, 5s.

THE MOVABLE DWELLINGS BILL (1910).

THIRD ARTICLE.

SUMMARY POWERS TO PROHIBIT FAIRS.

There is an extremely novel and dangerous feature in the Movable Dwellings Bill as introduced by Lord Clifford of Chudleigh. We refer to Clause 5 of the Bill, which reads as follows:—

"When it appears to any registration authority that the presence of Movable Dwellings on any specified place or places within their area would be dangerous to public health, or constitute a nuisance to the neighbourhood, the registration authority may by by-laws prohibit such movable dwellings being on such specified place or places; and any person acting in contravention of any by-law made under this section shall be guilty of an offence under this Act."

Ill-judged and drastic as the provisions of previous attempts at legislation were, none of them asked for such extraordinary powers as those sought in Clause 5 of the present Movable Dwellings Bill. Here we have invidious class legislation at its worst. It is Local Government gone mad. If by any mischance such proposals become law, the taint of criminality would be attached to 70,000 law-abiding subjects of the King. The stigma of being thought fit subjects for special and oppressive laws would immediately be cast upon a large and industrious class of persons carrying on a skilled craft and necessary work in the nation. The determination to oppose Clause 5 of the new Bill became the centre of the fight of the organised showmen against the Bill. The statement of the Showmen's Guild, "That if the Movable Dwellings Bill only contained one clause and that was Clause 5, it would be the duty of showmen to oppose it at every stage of its career in Parliament" was the only pronouncement that could have been made in the circumstances.

In the course of his evidence in chief for the showmen, the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, told the Select Committee of the House of Lords that Clause 5 was from the showman's point of view the fatal flaw in the Bill. It would give to local authorities extraordinary powers without any check. The showmen dreaded that these powers might be used as the instruments of oppression and harassment against them and their avocation in life. Further, that these powers might be used to abolish fairs without any appeal whatever to the people, as provided under the existing Statutes. He referred to the Abolition of Fairs Acts. The showmen's case against such abuse of powers he stated to be as follows: Under the Abolition of Fairs Acts, the constitutional way to abolish a fair was for the local authority to apply to the Home Secretary under the Statutes. The Home Secretary then caused an official inquiry to be made. At this inquiry the people of the town, the showmen, and local traders had a full opportunity of expressing their opinions on the matter.

Wherever public opinion supported the application of the local authority, the Home Secretary, under the Statutes, proceeded to abolish the fair. Where public opinion did not support the application of the authority, the Home Secretary invariably refused to exercise his powers.

The showmen objected to fairs being abolished by a sort of side wind, backstair operation, or local factions trying to override the wishes of the people.

Clause 5 and Possible Amendments.

Answering Lord Clifford of Chudleigh the Chaplain said that showmen invariably camped on recognised fairgrounds, and that the other classes of movable dwellings did not, as a rule, use the same ground.

Lord Clifford suggested that it might be possible to make an exception in Clause 5 to cover fairgrounds. Mr. Horne pointed out the extreme difficulty of so doing. The council of the Guild had tried to draft such an amendment. As regards the Charter and Corporation Fairs, and the regular fairs of the show season, it would be possible to frame one. The question was complicated by the fact that a certain section of their members, and that, too, the poorer section, were compelled in the winter months to lease private land, generally in the suburbs of the large towns, to open on Saturdays and Mondays for a little possible business. This was necessary in order to provide for the working staff of the shows during the slack season of the year. The Committee would see that an exemption clause, merely covering recognised fairgrounds and at fair times, would not cover the necessities of the winter months.

Clause 5 would give the local authorities powers to harass showpeople and to drive them from place to place in the most cruel time of the year. Nothing short of full exemption for the settlement of show vans at all times and all places would meet their objections to Clause 5.

At an earlier stage in the proceedings of the Committee, when Mr. John Pedder, an official of the Home Office, was under examination, the showmen's objections to Clause 5 were strongly supported by the evidence tendered by the Home Department against it. Effective and convincing as the arguments of the Guild against the clause were, much more effective and far-reaching in their scope were the objections to the clause submitted by the expert from the Home Office. In addition to the argument that the clause would give arbitrary powers to local authorities to prohibit fairs, Mr. Pedder said that the Home Office objected to additional powers being granted by by-laws that would not come before the department for possible revision before confirmation. Entirely apart from the question as to the justice of the proposals, the bill did not propose to submit by-laws made under the Act to the Home Office for confirmation. This alone marked the Bill as extraordinary and out of correspondence with the whole trend of Local Government legislation. The right of persons threatened by proposed by-laws to petition against them was a well recognised and necessary safeguard. The proposed powers of Clause 5 utterly ignored that right, as well as the control of the Central Authority acting for the Crown in matters lawful. Under the various corporation and municipal Government Acts all by-laws were submitted to either the Home Office or to the Local Government Board for confirmation—or rejection. Clause 5 seemed to be an endeavour to get beyond this necessary safeguard, and to give absolute powers without revision or sanction to the local authorities.

The Limitation of Class Legislation.

There were, he pointed out, already on the Statute Book a large number of special powers, and in his opinion the object sought by Clause 5 (so far as it was just to obtain such objects) was already dealt with by Section 9 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885. Although these matters referred chiefly to health and sanitation, the operation of these powers had come before the Home Office, and it was part of his evidence to refer to it.

For many years complaints had come to the Home Office, mostly from the home counties, that new powers were wanted. When inquiry had been made and the Home Secretary had written back saying, "Please direct your attention to these powers" (the powers under the Housing of the Working Classes Act and the Public Health Act with regard to nuisances, gipsy encampments, van and tent dwellers), the answers had been extremely vague, and sometimes none at all; and there the matter had dropped. Further, he said that under the common law it is possible for the local authority to obtain an injunction to restrain the letting of land for the purposes of gipsy encampments. This had been done, and there was a leading case on the subject.

Proceeding, he said that with regard to nuisances other than sanitary, such as "acts of theft," damage, and intimidation," these offences are punishable under the ordinary law, whether they are committed by vandwellers or not. The general principle of the Home Department in reporting upon Bills is that if an offence can be punished (by whomsoever committed) that is an objection in the first instance to special provisions penalising a special class of persons for doing the same thing. In many cases that had come before the Home Office with regard to the difficulties dealing with gipsies they have not been able to satisfy themselves that the law had failed from its essential weakness. The thing failed because it had not been pursued properly. With regard to "good rule and government," he had one or two more Acts to mention. These were the old Vagrancy Act of 1824 and the Highways Act of 1835, which dealt directly with gipsies and vandwellers. The Vagrancy Act dealt with persons wandering about without visible means of subsistence, and committing offences which would bring them within the meaning of the words "rogues and vagabonds." The Highways Act imposed penalties for pitching upon the highway or any part of the highway, and this Act had been found effective for its purpose. He drew the attention of the Committee to the Commons Acts of 1876 and 1899, and also to the Open Spaces Act of 1906. Under these Statutes local authorities could take steps to acquire control and could obtain powers to make by-laws for the regulation of commons and open spaces.

Most of the by-laws confirmed by the Home Secretary had been by-laws directed to the prevention of encampments in these places, but, in his opinion, that was a different thing from a wide general prohibition all over the country.

Clause 5 Creates a New Crime.

Coming to the actual effect of the clause, Mr. Pedder observed that it was a surprise to his department to find it in the Bill; it seemed to go against the tendency of the previous attempted legislation for this reason: the earlier Bills, of which there had been a number from 1887 onwards, were directed mainly to the health, the betterment of van life, and to the education of vandwellers' children.

It was significant that not until 1908 (more than twenty years after the appearance of the first of these Bills) did this clause make its appearance. It seemed to them that Clause 5 is directly opposed to the intention of previous measures dealing with vandwellers. It practically made them outlaws and created a new crime.

If the local authority decides that "such a place is not to be entered by a vandweller, then and there a vandweller is prohibited, although the vandweller might be able to show that he was quite ready to conform to all the regulations and laws, quite ready to prevent himself being a nuisance, yet, if the edict once went forth that there was a place where they would be a nuisance, he could not go there.

That, in particular, seemed to them to be hard on travelling showmen, because although they might be perfectly proper as popular amusement caterers and able to keep themselves in order, if the local authority marked a certain place as being liable to become a nuisance, the showmen could not go there save under a penalty.

There is no provision to allow him to go in spite of the original prohibition.

In his opinion, the matter could not be dealt with by giving the local authorities powers to "permit or licence" individuals or particular trades. That would go against the expressed will of Parliament in recent years and the views of the Home Office as represented to Parliament, for it would constitute preferential treatment of individuals within a given class.

Some Useful Reflections.

It is encouraging to notice that the better mind of the great departments of State with regard to show life exactly coincides with the time that showpeople began to defend themselves from invidious attacks. When the attention of the country was drawn to the real life and character of the travelling showman, then it was that the Home Office and the Local Government Board began to scrutinise more carefully by-laws sent up to them for confirmation in order to strike out proposals that would act unfairly against show life.

Petitions sent in by the Showmen's Guild against by-law proposals gave the departments of State critical and expert data for their information and guidance. The agitation and propaganda work of the Guild by public meetings and informing articles and correspondence in the press materially helped in forming a healthy and wise public opinion favourable to the hitherto misunderstood show people. The later and extremely important work of the Guild in opposing Private Bill legislation attacking show life, the evidence given in Private Bill Committees of Parliament, brought the showman's case more particularly and personally before the permanent officials of the departments of State, with the result so eminently satisfactory at the present time that the official view invariably corroborates the defence set out by the Guild. This is the greatest of all the results, and the rewards for hard work won by the organised showmen. Twenty-one years of strenuous toil has brought the leaders of showland the abounding satisfaction of knowing that both at the Home Office and at the Local Government Board it is well known and accepted that the showman's objections to penalising and restrictive legislation, whether by Act of Parliament or by special by-laws, are valid and reasonable objections. It is recognised that the travelling showman has a useful place to fill in the economy of the State—that our fairs, feasts, and wakes are providing wholesome and necessary recreation and amusement for the great mass of the people. The great Government departments agree with the position taken up by the Showmen's Guild that instead of increasing the local powers to harass and to control shows and showmen to restrict or to prohibit fairs and the people's holiday, the already existing powers need the most careful restraint, if justice is to be secured to the travelling showman and the toil-worn people who still enjoy the open air fun and jolly comradeship of our fairs.

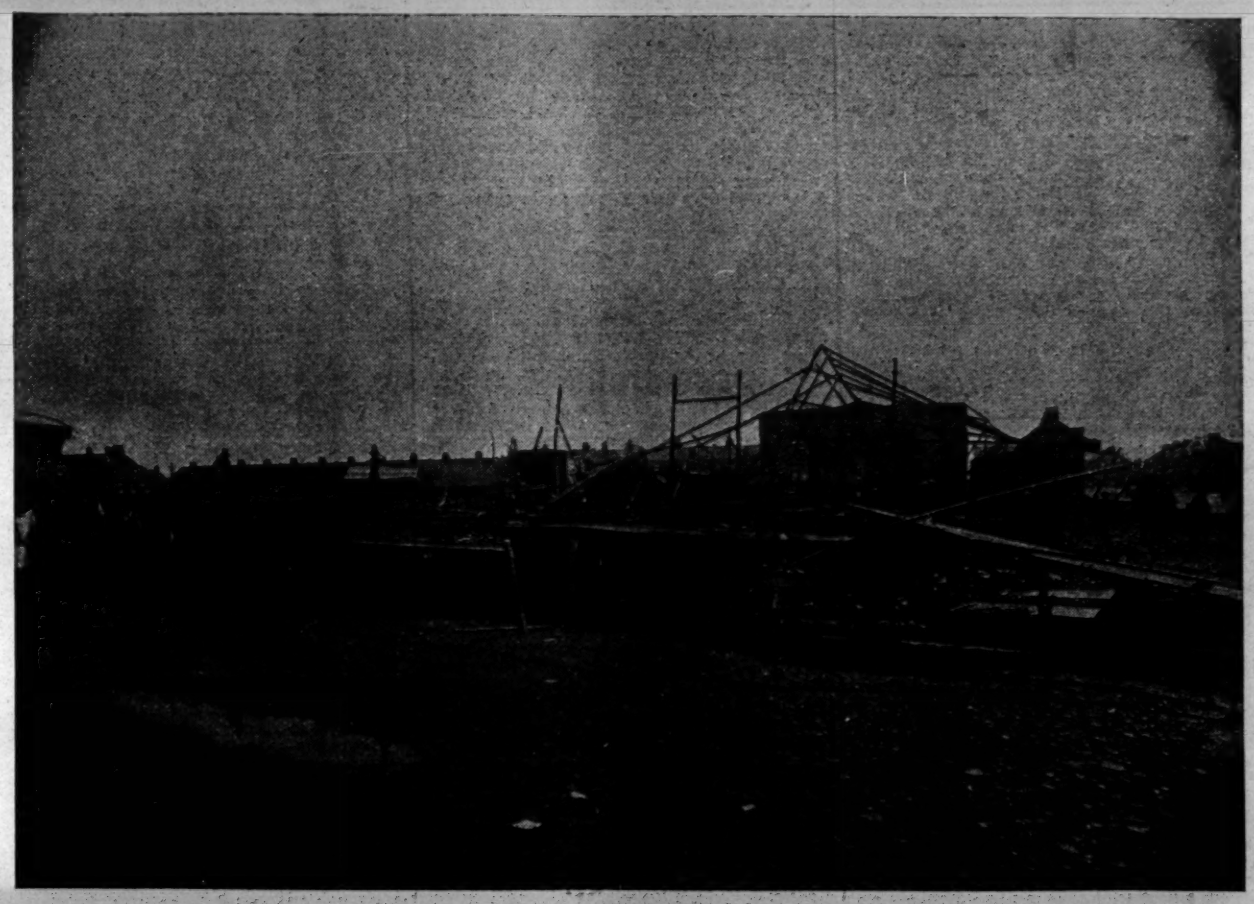

[*Photo by W. Smith.*

ALL THAT IS LEFT OF ALF. BALL'S BIOSCOPE SHOW, TILBURY DOCKS.

"The Newspaper of the Future."

FROM an interesting article in *T.P.'s Weekly* last week, entitled "Seeing the Pictures," we quote the following:—"One may learn from books and newspapers that things are different in other lands, and that disasters and great historic events are taking place. Reading of these things does not give complete satisfaction or knowledge, and one turns instinctively to the pictorial presentation. This desire for the fuller knowledge that comes from pictorial presentation has led to the rapid growth of the illustrated Press. In a sense it is correct to say that the old way was better, that the pictograph gave the more lasting impression than the word, and that in seeking something new mankind instinctively turns to the old. The book or press illustration is inert—dead. Men sought for something better, something that would increase knowledge, and found the old pictograph endowed with life and accuracy in the cinematograph. The living picture will be the newspaper of the future, and the greatest educational force of the twentieth century."

AT the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, Mr. Barrett presented a petition from St. Pancras in favour of granting six-day licences to cinematograph shows.

REOPENING OF THE GLASGOW ZOO

It is just fifteen months since Mr. E. H. Bostock dispersed the fine collection of "birds, beasts, and reptiles" which he had collected and shown in the above building for eight or nine years previously, and since then the premises have been occupied as a roller-skating rink, and latterly were leased to Mr. Frank C. Bostock for his American Zoo and Jungle.

The patronage bestowed on the latter entertainment showed that the popular attraction of a menagerie was as strong as ever, and even the Glasgow Corporation, which declined to buy Mr. E. H. Bostock's collection of animals at the gift prices he offered them to form the nucleus of a public Zoo, have since then discussed the feasibility of starting such in one or other of the city parks. Under the circumstances, Mr. Bostock was fully justified in reverting to the type of entertainment which made the success of the Scottish Zoo in its earlier days. The walls are lined with cages containing a wonderful variety of the animal kingdom, and the cages are so arranged that there is a passage behind leading to a larger central cage in which performances take place with the trained animals. In addition, there has been erected in the centre of the large Zoo, a well-arranged circus, with excellent seating accommodation comprising gallery (free) and pit, balcony, and stalls at moderate prices of admission. Mr. Bostock has thoroughly ransacked the British and Continental repositories in his search for a representative collection, and the result is that the present Zoo will rank with anything of the kind ever seen in Glasgow. Only three of the animals were in the old collection, and these are a group of young performing lions which, owing to a dispute between two buyers at the sale, remained in Mr. Bostock's possession.

The opening ceremony on Monday was under the patronage of the magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow, and on their behalf Bailie Campbell made a speech of welcome in declaring the building open. This was followed by some racy remarks from "the man you know," Mr. W. F. Frame, and then Mr. Bostock expressed his thanks for their good wishes. Most of the old Zoo staff are to be found in their familiar places, and the performing animals are again put through their paces by Captain Taylor.

In the circus building the entertainment is provided by the Brothers Volpi's Italian Circus, and the fine collection of ponies, dogs, monkeys, goats, &c., combine to make an excellent attraction, in which the numerous clowns ably keep the humorous element to the fore. Mr. Edwin Gilley manages the circus portion, and the Zoo itself is under the personal control of Mr. E. H. Bostock, ably assisted by his son, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock, and by Mr. J. Arbuckle. Large crowds patronised the opening performances both afternoon and evening, and the proceeds were entirely given to the three Glasgow infirmaries, Mr. Bostock generously augmenting the sum taken at the doors.

Alf. Ball's Bioscope Destroyed.

MR. ALFRED BALL, brother to Alderman J. H. Ball, J.P., of Hanley, has sustained a severe loss. Mr. Ball travels with a huge picture palace show, which was built in Paris, at a cost of £5,000, and only came out last season. It is supposed to be one of the first "Palaces on wheels" in England, the front of the organ being 55ft., and the depth of palace 80ft. The show was at Tilbury Docks, Essex, on Saturday, and at about 4 o'clock on Sunday morning Mr. Ball was awakened to find the whole concern was in flames. The fire brigade were soon on the spot, and did their utmost to save something, but were unable to cope with the fire, and everything was burnt to the ground.

MR. A. BALL and his son were slightly burnt, and a prize dog and monkey perished in the flames. The only thing saved was the carriage in which Mr. Ball lives, which stood away from the palace. This house was badly scorched. It is believed that the fire was caused by the show being struck by lightning during the thunderstorm which raged during the night.

MR. BALL writes:—"As you know, my show and front have been completely destroyed by fire on Monday at 4 o'clock a.m., so I am sending you particulars. On Sunday night, as usual, I took a last look round to see that everything was all right at about 1.30, and retired to bed confident that all was in perfect order and safe. At about 3.30 my wife woke me up and told me that the wind was blowing hard and something had fallen on my organ front. I jumped out of bed, and on looking out of my waggon window I discovered that the side of the front was a mass of flames.

"I RUSHED out in my night attire and called my son and men up, but in less than fifteen minutes from the time I first discovered the fire the whole of the tilts, shutter, and organ front were completely burnt to a cinder. The only thing that it was possible to do was to try and shift my living waggons, one of which, standing 12ft. away from the front, had already caught, and was only saved by the arrival of the Tilbury Fire Brigade, whose smart work quickly put the flames out. The policeman on duty tells me that he passed and had a look round at 3 o'clock, and all was quiet and safe; at 4.15 all that remained of the show was a mass of cinders. Unfortunately for me the show is not insured, and I have now to make a fresh start with what I can fix up, which will be a hard task with the elaborate shows that are travelling the country and fairs. The only conclusion I can come to is that the show was struck by lightning, as nothing has been discovered to point to any other cause. With these particulars you can put a report in your paper."

MR. PAT COLLINS, ever generous, upon hearing that Mr. Ball's loss will amount to something like £3,000, informed him that he had started a subscription list for his benefit. We shall be pleased to receive and announce any subscriptions sent to alleviate the great loss Mr. Alf. Ball has sustained. Unfortunately he was not insured.

MRS. ELIZABETH CRECRAFT, the oldest living show proprietor in the world, has just celebrated her ninety-second year. She has never known what it is to live in a house. In an interview with a representative of the *Western Mail* she said:—"I have lived in the reigns of six Sovereigns, and, what is more, I have seen them all—George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Victoria, Edward VII., and George V. I can't tell you what I haven't exhibited in my time. In turn I have shown menageries, waxworks, living skeletons, and fat women; a man 21lb. in weight and another 42st.; a dwarf 27in. in height and a giant 7ft. 4in.; in fact, I have exhibited practically every kind of living novelty known in my days. Many of the best-known showmen of to-day learnt their business with me."

THE Messrs. Crecraft are paying a visit to Carmarthen this week, and opened on Monday evening with their fine electric bioscope and variety entertainment, having taken up their position on the Corporation Fair Ground. Included in the programme is the appearances of Dizart, the wonderful jail breaker and handcuff expert, whose performances create no end of wonder and surprise. The bioscope exhibition consists of new and up-to-date pictures, both of a sentimental and comic nature, and the comic songs, contributed by members of the company, go a long way to assist in the highly entertaining proceedings. Good attendances are the order nightly.

FILM GOSSIP.

The Johnson-Jeffries Pictures.

Mr. Howell Davies, M.P., has given notice to ask the Home Secretary if he has power to prohibit photographs of the recent prize fight in America being exhibited at cinematograph shows in this country, and, if so, will he, in the interest of public decency, exercise his power of prohibition. The Glasgow Corporation discussed their power on Thursday to prevent the public exhibition of moving pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight. It was explained by the town clerk that if the show was given in a duly licensed place the civic authorities could not interfere. No offence or breach of the law seemed to be involved.

Pathé's New List.

Next week Pathé's will release The Grasshopper and the Ant, Salome, A Mother's Evil Dream, Fashoda, Buffalo Hunting in Indo-China, Love and Goodfellowship Pills, Carlo's Portrait, Soap in His Eye, Does She Love Me? The Broken Vow, Betty's Removal, The End of a Dynasty, and Hunting Chamois in the Alps.

The Latest in Singing Pictures.

By arrangement with the Animatophone Syndicate, Ltd., the management of the Electric Theatre, Wolverhampton, this week have inaugurated quite the latest idea in singing pictures. By an ingenious piece of mechanism, aided by electricity, the operator in the biograph box at one end of the theatre is able to control in the orchestra the instrument responsible for the vocal and musical effects, with the result that the latter absolutely synchronise with the action of the pictures. This is one of the first instruments of its kind to be installed, and the proprietors intend to adopt this system at all their theatres, and periodically give representations of grand opera.

Wide World Pictures at Aldershot.

Always up to date, the management are showing all the topical pictures of recent events, and a splendid programme is presented. Full houses are the order at the two performances nightly.

Celestial Cinematographs.

The French Consul at Tientsin reports that the cinematograph has caught the Chinese taste to such an extent that German and Japanese firms are making enormous sums in China with moving picture shows. The Chinese, he says, like war scenes best, but not the Western idea of humour.

Johnson-Jeffries Pictures Banned.

The police have notified the proprietors of more than a hundred theatres in the district of Columbia that the Commissioners have forbidden any exhibition of moving pictures showing the Jeffries-Johnson fight. This strong opposition to the pictures was aroused by the fear that the exhibitions would inflame both negroes and whites. The United Society of Christian Endeavour of Boston, with branches in every city and town in the country, has begun a strenuous campaign for the suppression of the pictures, and has telegraphed to Mr. Roosevelt with regard to it.

Houghton-le-Spring Picture Palace.

Full houses continue to be the rule at the Houghton-le-Spring Picture Palace. An enjoyable programme is being submitted this week, leading pictures being The Toreador, The Suit Case Mystery, The Girl and the Fugitive, and The Ostrich and the Lady.

New "Kinemacolour" Pictures at the Palace.

New "Kinemacolour" pictures to be included in the Palace Theatre programme next Monday comprise some fine views of an Atlantic liner under full steam. A delightfully rural and particularly seasonable subject illustrating the growing and gathering of Kentish strawberries at St. Mary Cray will also be shown.

Gotch v. Zbyszko.

The great match between Gotch and Zbyszko for 25,000 dollars, which was wrestled to a finish at the Coliseum, Chicago, on June 1 last, before a crowd of 13,000 people, can be witnessed in its entirety in London during next week, as it will be shown hourly from 2 o'clock at the Piccadilly Cinematograph Theatre, Great Windmill-street. The film is of excellent quality. Every movement of the contestants is portrayed from the moment they enter the ring till Gotch rises victor. Before the actual contest is shown, views are given of both Gotch and Zbyszko training.

Fight Films Rushed to London.

The films of the Johnson-Jeffries fight are now being rushed across the American continent, and will probably be seen in London next Monday week, though it is possible that some places of amusement may be able to show them on the Saturday night previous. For films of the Burns-Johnson fight in Australia well over £5,000 were paid for use in this country, but, apart from this, pictures of boxing in far-off places have not created much of a stir here. For the privilege of photographing exclusively the battle of Monday night the Vitagraph Company, of New York, paid £40,000 to the interested parties, and, in addition to this James Jeffries and Jack Johnson will draw royalties.

Picture Palace for Annfield Plain (Durham).

Mr. Armour and Co., Gateshead, are preparing plans for a fine hall, to seat about 1,500 people, at Annfield Plain, West Durham, with tip-up chairs, and all the latest electric improvements, and which will rank as one of the finest buildings in the provinces. It is to be worked on day and night, and will open in nine weeks' time. Built on Bloom's Market Ground, to the order of R. J. W. Bloom, of Sunderland, it will be named the New King's Royal Picture Palace.

The paragraph in the report of the L.C.C. Theatres and Music Halls Committee relating to the Sunday opening of cinematograph shows was again presented to the Council just about midnight on Tuesday. Once more it was opposed, and had to be further adjourned.

Cinematograph Pictures in the Open.

Walter Tyler, Ltd., of 48 to 50, Waterloo-road, the well-known manufacturers of every description of photographic apparatus and films, gave, last Tuesday afternoon, an interesting demonstration to the Press of projecting lantern slides and cinematograph pictures in the open daylight, an innovation which is certain in the near future to obtain a firm hold upon the up-to-date showman, who depends much upon the sea-shore and the open air for exhibits, and which have hitherto been only permissible to evening shows, and mostly those within the doors of the popular theatres now so largely devoted to that object. Although some of the exhibits were, in the opinion of our representative, not quite removed from the embryonic stage, they were unquestionably successful when the meagre means available for obtaining the requisite light for the productions came to be taken into consideration. Some of the familiar pictures deserved special mention for their first introduction to a daylight audience whose numbers were too small to be enthusiastically demonstrative, but were, nevertheless, impressed with the fact that Walter Tyler's indefatigable operators were up to their work, and intended that no flaw should in the future mar their endeavours to still further improve upon the show they gave on Tuesday afternoon.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Rinking Revels at Wandsworth.

Mr. Simmons Barker, the enterprising manager of the Central Hall Skating Rink at Wandsworth, introduced two original events into a highly successful gymkhana recently held at his establishment. One was a performing donkey on skates, which kept a large audience in roars of laughter throughout the evening. The animal, which was of the pantomime fraternity, consisted of two well-known trick skaters enveloped in a skin, who alternately "two-stepped," waltzed, and capered round the rink in a manner which was irresistibly comical.

Obstacle Race on Skates.

The other event of interest was the obstacle race on skates. The skating surface was equipped with all the obstacles associated with a similar competition on the "flat"—swinging tubs, tarpaulins, trapezes, and hurdles being much in evidence. The difficulties of surmounting such obstacles whilst fettered with skates provided many thrills for both competitors and onlookers alike. The race was won by Mr. Hunt, with Mr. Sutton a good second. These two competitors caused much amusement during the course of the competition by both making for a swinging tub at the same moment, and eventually becoming wedged, to the vast amusement of the onlookers. Other interesting events were the hockey ball race, won by Miss Bright; a half-mile backward handicap; and an individual two-step, won by Miss Gillis, with Miss Wilkinson, of graceful skating fame, a good second.

Skating Ball at Blackpool.

A scene of animated splendour was presented at the Colosseum Rink, Blackpool, recently, when a grand skating ball was held. The event was promoted by the Colosseum Social Skating Club, who are to be congratulated on the success which attended the most enjoyable function. There was an attendance of about 200 persons, whilst over 100 skaters thoroughly enjoyed the admirable programme, and at the same time pleased the spectators immensely. The rinkers disported themselves merrily in light summer attire, and the gay scene was considerably enhanced by the brilliant coloured illumination of hundreds of suspended fairy lamps. During the evening an interesting and clever exhibition of fancy skating was given by Miss Jessie Darling, whose prominence in the skatorial world has earned for her an enviable reputation. Another delightful feature was the appearance of "Dainty Little Doris," aged ten years, and reputed as the youngest exhibition skater in Great Britain.

Rinking at Brighton.

The boisterous winds which the Clerk of the Weather has been sending us make everyone seek for an enjoyable shelter, and where is there in Brighton a better retreat than the Skating Rink in Church-street? It being midsummer, one might get the idea that the weather would be too hot for skating, but those who visit the rink can vouch for its coolness, the management claiming it to be "the coolest rink in England." A perfect floor, and a good pair of skates, and delightful surroundings are all the devotees of the fascinating pastime require, and all these are to be found at this popular rink. There is only one session daily—that being in the evening—except on Saturdays, when three sessions are held. Mr. F. Reed (the general manager) has recently opened the West-street Skating Rink as the "Pop" Winter Garden.

Blackpool's Pleasure Beach Rink.

The largest rink in Blackpool is in the centre of the open air fun city at South Shore, on the glorious sands, where thousands are attracted daily by the many attractions on the Pleasure Beach. This rink, which was very popular with the visitors last year, is so arranged that the sides may be opened and fresh breezes from the Irish Sea may be breathed while partaking of the delightful pastime of roller skating. The floor is perfection itself, and the skaters glide over the spacious surface to the delightful strains of a full military band, under the direction of Mr. Fred Robinson. The management is in the capable hands of Mr. J. D. Tweddell, who is never tiring in his zeal to make his patrons comfortable and happy.

Olympia Skating Rink, Cardiff.

Roller-skating at the Olympia Rink, Queen-street, is still popular, and the attendance of patrons has been well maintained. The efforts of the deputy manager (Mr. W. O'Keefe) to provide for the comfort of both skaters and other visitors have been much appreciated. The floor has been consistently looked after, and every foot of it is in first-class condition. The ventilation, too, is perfect, a good band is always in attendance, and under these conditions it is not to be wondered at that the Olympia is one of the favourite rinks of the town.

Juvenile Champions at Clacton.

Two race contests took place at the Open-air Skating Rink at Clacton on Monday. The events were a mile race for gentlemen (prize, solid silver cup) and half mile race for ladies (prize, solid silver rose bowl). Competition was keen and the results were a surprise, both trophies being won by rinkers who were about twelve years of age. Master E. Whitcher was the winner of the gentlemen's prize and Miss Miller the ladies'.

Darlington Skating Rink.

The New Olympia Skating Rink, Darlington will be reopened on Wednesday, the 27th inst., after having been closed for a few weeks for renovation. The management propose to introduce new features during the forthcoming season.

Edinburgh Rinks Well Patronised.

Though we are at midsummer, there is no apparent diminution in the number of skaters on the various rinks in Edinburgh At the Belle-Vue Rink, Elm-row, the attendances are still at a high figure, and with the floor in good condition, and with splendid ventilation, it is a delight to glide over the surface, to the accompaniment of suitable music. To its salubrious surroundings the Marine Gardens Rink owes much of its popularity, and large crowds are to be seen sporting themselves upon its well polished floor nightly. Added to this, the popular selections played by the rink band serve to add to the pleasure of a skate on this rink.

The American Rink, Portsmouth.

In the cool of the evening the American Rink in Clarendon-road is open nightly, with an extra afternoon session on Saturday. An orchestra is in attendance, and the Rink is tastefully illuminated with coloured lights.

Carnival at Rhyl.

On Monday, at the Queen's Rink, Rhyl, a pretty carnival was held, when the chief prizes for costumes were won by Miss Wallace, Oldham; Miss Winnie May, Rhyl; Mr. Payton, Birmingham; and Mr. C. Rhodes, Pontefract. Miss Monty May won the ladies' half-mile championship on skates.

West Stanley Rink.

The Hockey Tournament, which has been progressing for the last three weeks at the West Stanley Skating Rink, is nearing completion, it being anticipated that the final heat will be played on Friday next. A fancy dress carnival is billed for next week, with valuable prizes for various events The rink is being well patronised.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 11.)

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company appear in *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Lester is manly and vigorous as Josh. Harker; the villainous Pedro Li Calci is ably impersonated by Mr. Hugh Travers; Mr. Bert Albert portrays Kit Oswald in breezy style; and Mr. W. Carr is good as the Sheriff. Kate Evelyn is charmingly depicted by Miss Dorothy Riddell; Miss Lallah Davies is a powerful and emotional Eulalie; and Wee Winnie Warden is capital as Vanetta, the baby detective. The comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. Horace Buckley as Tim McCarthy and Miss Jennie Clare as Nancy Dorn. The staging is excellent. *Moths* was billed for Wednesday.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier turn is Zona Vevey, assisted by Max Erard and his piano, and it is artistic and pretty; Orpheus, the master of melody, still continues to please; Shirley and Ransome introduce a delightful sketch, *Jim's Pal*, which is cleverly acted; Phillips and Merritt, Society entertainers, are well liked; Mdlle. Agalia is a smart acrobat; Cora Roland, comedienne and dancer, E. K. Sinton, comedian, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

Grand Electric Theatre (Ocean Road).—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Charles Chard, refined comedy artist, has an excellent reception; Annie Casey, up-to-date comedienne, is also much appreciated; and the animated pictures delight good audiences.

SPENNYMOOR. — Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—An attractive programme produced here by the A.B. Electric Picture Company is appreciated by crowded houses. The star turn is Mr. George Benard, actor-vocalist, who is well applauded for his descriptive songs. The principal subjects of the films are the Race for the North Derby, Scientist's Nightmare, Danish Dragoons, Tontolini, White and Black, and His Last Burglary.

STAFFORD. — Winter Gardens. — Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Another good vaudeville programme is presented here, among the artists being Will Blackwell, a clever banjoist; Miss Marjorie Moore, smart comedienne and dancer; Harry Arnold, baritone; Frankland Grey and Archie Graham, really amusing comedians; and Miss Violet Romaine, a talented vocalist.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Under the Iron Heel* has been presented here by Mr. Wilson Howard's company; Réné de Maupassant is impersonated in manly style by Mr. Douglas B. Watson; Mr. J. W. Richards makes a capable Otto Marks; and Sergeant Blincher is amusingly played by Mr. Austin H. Longford; as Andre Miss Marie Angus acts delightfully; Miss J. Douglas-Hicks is satisfactory as Maman Gouffe, and Miss Carlotta Anson plays Germaine Mirbleau with sympathetic grace.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company is here this week with *The Love That Women Desire;* Mr. Dunlop Stewart enacts Squire Abingdon with natural ease and ability; Mr. S. E. Scanlon's acting as Richard Abingdon is thoroughly effective; as Philip Carna-by Mr. Stanley S. Gordan is admirable; and Mr. Harry Cooke is genuinely amusing as Dennis O'Rourke. Miss Nina Vaughton is sympathetic and charming as Sybil; Miss Lillian Radbourn acts with skill and power as Madge Abingdon; and Pattie Swift is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Mabel Tremere.

STOKE.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company is here in *The Woman Worth Winning*. The play is produced under the personal direction of the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre Variety Hall, and Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The Victas head the bill here this week, and give a smart acrobatic show; D. W. Watson, instrumentalist, is much appreciated; the Bros. Graham are capital acrobats; Carl Bennie, the singing ventriloquist, goes well; and the Rowntrees are a very amusing turn. The pictures are well chosen.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr Harry Esden: Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn—Mr. Fred Granville's company is playing here in the drama *Another Man's Wife*. Miss Ruby Loncraine is excellent in the arduous rôle of Lucia; Miss Dorothy Love does much good work as Lucy; Miss Hazel Head plays with dramatic effect as Inez de Castro; Miss Lilian Griffin is interesting as Masie Matterson; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe gives a masterly performance of Carlos de Vergas; Mr. Henry Carlisle is a finished Gilbert Eardsley; and Mr. Edwin Davis a good Col. Matterson; Mr. Fred Granville plays on strong lines as Paul Birnstoff. Miss Marion Mayne and Messrs. Willie Reid and Leonard Marshall are responsible for the humour, which is excellently handled.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Dan Ashton, the collier lad, is giving good vocal and pictorial illustrations of the Whitehaven disaster; Ike Bradley is submitting some intrepid cycling feats; Mint and Mart submit a clever paper-tearing exhibition, and the pictures are good.

Empire Theatre. — Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Chas. Austin is heading the bill here with *Parker, P.C.* The Vocalesques are good in burlesque and harmonious items; Cumminger and Colonna submit some extremely clever dancing; Bros. Bright contribute a popular turn; Lillie Lassah is an acceptable comedienne; Nell Emerald is successful; and Stanley and Greenop, banjoists, are warmly appreciated.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.—Rozel is giving a smart sensational gymnastic act here this week. The Arthur Gallimore Trio have a capital comedy act, and the Cairo Trio, in a musical act, secure much approbation. From Shadow to Sunshine is one of the best pictures.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Dewhirst.—Pictures are again the attraction here, and, together with a good whistling turn, are much appreciated.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—A packed house assembled here on Monday evening to witness a varied and instructive programme. Especially noticeable was The Eleventh Hour (dramatic) and The Race for a Wife (comic). Mr. Tyers' illustrated songs meet with deserved approbation.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Dockworth.—Mr. J. F. Preston and company conclude their engagement this week with two of Max Goldberg's plays, *Nell Gwynne* and *Lady Godiva*, each being presented for three nights. In *Nell Gwynne* the title-rôle is admirably sustained by Miss M. F. Barlow; Miss E. Rainsforth is good as the maid, Abigail; Miss B. Beverley is well placed as the Duchess of Portsmouth; Mr. J. F. Preston creates his usual effect as Bellicose Betterton; Mr. H. Rutland makes a sufficiently regal King Charles; and the Duke of York of Mr. Geo. Tempest is highly commendable.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. D. Taylor; Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Pearson.—Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi provide a thrilling turn; the Newmans are extremely clever trick cyclists; Chas. Bignell is a big favourite; Maxford and O'Neill and Flo Inman also score well. The best films are A White Lie and Romance of the Western Hills.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. Young.—Signor Arvi in his "Mystery Les Metables" meets with great success; Fred Peake and company, in sketches, are strong favourites; the Markies present an acceptable comedy scena; Warren and Granville are well received; Tennis and Laune, Winnie Wyn, and Bert Bowden all win applause. The Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company concludes its season here this week with *Jim the Penman*. Mr. F. Pennington-Gush presented a careful study of the title-rôle, and portrayed the character with considerable power; Miss Lilian Hallows as Mrs. Ralston appeared with much success; and Miss Kitty Crichton made a charming Agnes Ralston. Mr. S. G. Vane was excellent as Lord Drellingcourt; and Mr. Theodore Kelly was a typical Captain Redwood; Mr. Arthur Gibbons delighted the house by his rendering of Baron Hardfelt; and Mr. Hal Charlton was very good as Mr. Netherby, M.P.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremletti.—Mr. Harry Leslie's company, in *The Gay Lieutenants* is appearing here. Mr. G. Holland is a light comedian of considerable talent; and Mr. Grief Hodson is very amusing. Miss Nan Taylor (soprano) and Miss Cicely O'Shea (dancer) contribute acceptable items. Mr. Alec Rubinoff is the possessor of a good baritone voice; and Mr. Fred Shepherd, at the piano, thoroughly delights the audience.

VENTNOR. — Pier Pavilion.—Les Militaires commenced a week's engagement on Monday with a very successful performance; Miss Edith Wynne soprano, sang very sweetly; and Mr. Henry Jordan pleased the large audience with his fine rendering of tenor songs. Mr. Laurie Ray and Mr. Chas Ross were great favourites with their humorous duets; Miss Daisy Cordelia won great applause for her excellent dancing; and Miss May Florence captivated the audience with her neat fancy dancing Mr. Harry Langton was an able accompanist.

WAKEFIELD. — New Empire. — Proprietors Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Les Piccolinos, midget performers, give a clever exhibition of sharp shooting, wire-walking, and equilibrism; the Three Florodoras, lady vocalists and dancers, are smart and entertaining in an interlude; Mr. W. E Hilton, Scotch ventriloquist, receives warm appreciation; the Musical Bentleys present a novel and interesting turn; Miss Haidee St. George sings sweetly in a vocal scena; Miss Ada Tilley and Mr. Harold Wagner and company cause merriment in a sketch *At Duty's Call;* and Miss Gerti Martini, mimic vocalist, is well received.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. H. Westwood.—The Three Merrills, trick cyclists, are very clever; Rauschle gives creditable impersonations; dainty Gwennie Hasto is a comedienne and dancer of grace and refinement Alf. Gibson has a dry sense of humour; the New Macs have some new patter; and the Glenroy Troupe of Dancers are deserving of the highest praise. The pictures are good.

The Imperial Hall.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. H. Westwood.—A very fine film is entitled The Hand of Fate, and Capital and Labour is a picture on a popular subject. Vocal items by Harry Henrick are well received, and C. France is a pictorial songster above the average.

The Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Electric Picture Palaces (Midland), Ltd.; General-Manager Mr. H. Stanley Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. W. Robinson.—An interesting coloured film is The Bride of the Haunted Castle; The Knot in the Plot is a fine story of cowboy life; Betty and the Fireworks is most amusing; and other good films are highly appreciated by large audiences.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court.—Proprietor Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The entertainment at this house continues to be of a high-class description, and following on some beautiful views showing scenes in Italy, the Blue Myths are seen to advantage in a most versatile programme. The vocalisation is exceptionally good, and the burlesque *The Early Girl* is an amusing sketch. Several recitals are given, and a scena from *Martha* is vociferously encored. The selections of the Elysian Bohemian Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Tom Boothroyd, are very acceptable, the two violin solos of the leader being admirably played.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Messrs. Peterman and Rickett's company in *The Pawnbroker* head the bill, and score finely. Vela is a clever and humorous exponent on the slack wire; Ethel Entwistle charms all with her vocalisation; Tennyson and Wallis, old favourites here, have new business, which is much enjoyed; the Fitzroys are smart gymnasts; Florence and Rose Showell delight with good duets; and Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots are seen to advantage in the vocal scena *The Gypsies' Revels*. The Cedrics are smart comedians, and the Pictures are good.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—This place was reopened on Monday night, having been in the decorators' hands. Many improvements have been effected, and its cosy nature won the appreciation of a packed house. Maggie Walsh, a Warrington lass, is popular with her delightful vocalisation; the Hartley Wonders are seen to advantage in a barrel-jumping act; Walter Sutton scores as a society entertainer; Bertha Alexander is a remarkable child mimic; C. W. Deacon's illustrated songs are a source of pleasure, and the pictures are good.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull.—The attraction here is *The Scapegrace*, a tale of South Africa, presented by Mr. John Levey, who gives a capital portrayal of Bill Burke. Miss Nellie Lambert proves a talented actress as Nellie Burke; Miss Maudie Lambert is pleasing as Mary, the housemaid; a more convincing Sir John Fanshaw could hardly be found than Mr. F. Dudley; Mr. Larry Clements is good as Larry McGehan; Miss Maudie Western is well received as Dick the Outcast; Harry and Jack are well played by Mr. W. A. Buckstone and Mr. A. T. Creswell; and Mr. J. Willoughby is an excellent Ralph Marsden.

King's Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomson.—Pictures of dramatic and general interest are drawing good houses.

Victoria Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Shalless.—Tiny Ashton, impersonator, is well received. The best picture is one entitled A Mother's Love.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — King's Palace.—Tom Lenner has an extended engagement, and is a strong favourite; the Mays cause continual laughter; and other acceptable turns are James Huntley and Lucretia and Josephine.

Empire.—A really fine programme was presented on Monday, when an alteration was made to the once-nightly system. Brenda Leslie's art poses were very nicely done; Crawford and Johnson, dancers and creole instrumentalists, were loudly encored; Charles Collings proved a merry comedian; Miss Ethel Clifton was a capital vocalist; and Ethel Hall very successful at the piano and in a recitation; the Sisters Lawrence were good harmonising duettists; and May Mostyn a pleasing comedienne; Jack Haylon was droll with his Lancashire patter; Eric and Nora cleverly went through a musical turn. A capital piece of acting was displayed by Vena Clifford and company in a sketch, entitled *My Friend, the Thief*.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn and company are presenting to good houses the exciting detective drama *Under Remand*, the great feature of the play being the "Knife of death." Mr. Beaudyn portrays with great ability the character of Ned Trueman, Miss Irene Munroe doing full justice to that of Nellie; Ben Burleigh is in the capable hands of Mr. Dick Eckersley; Mr. Charles D. Pitt makes a capital Jean Leroy; and Miss Muriel Inglis gains credit for her portrayal of Daphne Houghton. The piece is well staged and dressed.

New Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. R. Colin; Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—Good houses greeted the opening performances of *The Major*, presented by Miss Ada Wallis and company. Mr. T. C. McQuire, in the title-rôle, is all that one could desire; Mr. Emlyn Davis is very successful as George Goodman; Mr. J. W. Groves submits a clever study of the sentimentalist Jeremiah Stony, Mr. Fred Draper doing well as his son; Miss Ada Wallis makes the character of Clare O'Neale stand out prominently, well deserving the applause accorded her; and the Chantaclere Girls create an agreeable impression.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Mike Whallen heads the bill this week and is a big success; the Jackson Family present an attractive musical turn; Burns and Bentley are clever in simultaneous dancing; Lydia and Amelys, Parisian dancers, are smart and brisk; Frances McNulty, comedian and dancer; Tom E. Hughes, comedian; and Kitty Trewhitt, comedienne, also contribute.

Seaton Marine Theatre.—This is an enterprise of Mr. Albert Maxted, the lessee of the Empress Theatre, who has erected a stand for open-air entertainments at this pretty little watering-place so near to West Hartlepool. A company of artists, named The Entertainers, are appearing this week in an amusing comedy sketch, *The Cruise of the Losertanner*, which goes with a swing from rise to fall of curtain; capital songs, dances, and scenas are presented by Miss Ivy Proudfoot, Miss Kitty Allen, Messrs. Albert Royle, Kennedy Allen, H. Robinson, and Martin Pitts.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Boswell's Royal Circus is on a return visit. The ponies, donkeys, monkeys, and dogs are wonderfully educated. The star turn is Little Togo; his daring slide from roof to floor is vociferously applauded. Luigi's leaping and somersaults over twelve ponies is extraordinary; Frisky Willie is an excellent clown, and Edwin Cronesti is decidedly good as a raconteur. Mlle. Verbena and her dogs are given a good reception.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Vaudeville twice nightly is proving an enormous success here. At the top of the bill is Addie Dorina, a clever protean artist; the Three Van Dammes are highly talented acrobats; the Taffies are applauded for their comedy song-scena, and Miss Marie Kay excels as a dancer; Sam Williams, vocal comedian, is favourably received, and a very clever ventriloquist is Fred Vallance. Mr. James Law's Comedy Entertainers are engaged for afternoon shows in the Pavilion, and are a big success. Miss Langley's songs are artistically rendered; as a comedienne Miss Williams is decidedly chic; Miss Sharlotte is a finished elocutionist, and Mr. Sykes's fine voice is heard to advantage; Mr. Noel is a comedian far above the average; songs are well rendered by Mr. Griffiths; Mr. James Law's sketches at the piano are highly diverting. Some very fine pictures are shown on Lambert's Bioscope, and the Viennese Band grows in popularity.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The stock season is being continued here. The first part of the week a new version of *East Lynne* by Mr. Mark H. Lindon was produced with success. Mr. Henry M. Parr was an able Lord Mountsevern, and as Captain Levison Mr. Chas. M. Julian was good; Mr. F. B. Woulfe as Archibald Carlyle sustained his reputation as an actor of considerable ability; Mr. E. C. Coates did full justice to the part of Justice Hare, as did also Mr. Leonard Thackeray to that of Richard Hare; Mr. Dill and George Hallijohn were ably embodied by Messrs. Frank Brandon and Eddie Vane respectively; Miss May Irene Wright was an excellent Cornelia, and as Barbara Hare Miss Josephine Richards was highly creditable; Miss Florrie Lyndon as Suzanne and Mr. Alf. Raymond as Giffen were the cause of much merriment, and as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine Miss Edith Lorraine was excellent. *The King of Crime* is billed for the remainder of this week.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessees, Messrs. Cottrell and Campbell.—The variety programme here comprises Ted Lucknow, musical comedian; the Two Le Bruns; Edie, vocalist and premier juggler, and Edgar, quaint comedy equilibrist, and Gus Hindell, in scena, song, and story. The best pictures are The Hand of Fate, The Twisted Trail, and Why Girls Leave Home.

WIDNES.—Co-operative Hall.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Mons. Friscary provides a unique juggling and hat manipulating turn, and his feat with coins is wonderful; Mr. Cliff Dacre is a pleasing singer; Mr. Ronald George displays exceptional merit on varied instruments; Messrs. Harley and Melton have a captivating singing and dancing turn. The pictures are good.

WIGAN. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*The Black Mask* is represented here by F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company. The title-rôle is skilfully interpreted by Mr. F. Marriott Watson; as Walter Blackmore Mr. J. Woodall Bird is eminently successful; Philip Cunninghame finds an able exponent in Mr. Willis Elton; Miss Florence E. Florence makes a charming Nellie Cunninghame; and Miss Mabel Harland leaves nothing to be desired as Stella. The humorous characters are ably filled by Mr. Fred Imbert as Samuel Winkle, Mr. James Abbott as Thomas Bryant, and Miss Hettie Senior as Emma Burt.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—Mr. W. V. Garrod this week presents his own company in *A Country Girl in London*. Mr. Charles Halling plays with excellent effect as the hero Frank Gordon; Mr. Fred Wilberforce sustains with dignity the part of Squire Hamilton; Mr. Scott Leighton is successful as the villain, Godfrey Clinton; Mr. Frank Dallas gives a clever rendition of Henrich Oppenheim; whilst the Job Smithers of Mr. Owen Redmonde is a good performance. Miss Maude Merrick as Marjorie Hamilton makes a dainty little heroine; and Miss Elsie Marriott Watson's assumption of Gwendoline Gordon is worthy of praise.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—La Pia, in her latest fantastic and art dances, is starring here and is very successful; Wilman, an instrumentalist of much merit, is particularly good in his cornet solos; R. H. Douglass's merry monologues cause roars of laughter; Beatrice Allen's charming appearance and manner soon establish her a prime favourite; Harry Webber is a Hebrew comedian with a distinctive style; Chris. Baker, comedian, scores heavily in two numbers; and Baby Boden is a delightful little juvenile artist.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—An excellent programme

includes Rapoli in a wonderful variety of juggling feats; the Arnolds in their clever cabinet mystery; Kittie Corrie, an attractive vocalist and dancer; Norman Holt, who provides a fund of humorous Lancashire patter and plays the concertina most skilfully; Will and Rose, in an amusing Café act, which includes some wonderful tumbling and dancing; Chas. Sloman, a comic vocalist of high ability; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville in a smart duologue; and an excellent series of pictures.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—Local playgoers have this week had the opportunity afforded them of witnessing three separate plays presented to them by the capable company that is controlled and toured by Mr. Keith G. Kenneth. On Monday and Wednesday evenings the piece selected was *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Kenneth was himself a manly exponent of Captain Mowbray; Colonel Jardine was amusingly depicted by Mr. Horace Sinclair; Mr. Charles Ashwell did well as Lieutenant David Cairn; and as Jennigan, the detective, Mr. Arthur Linay was excellent; Miss Evelyn Ward gave a convincing portraiture of Mrs. Jardine; and as the frivolous Mrs. Gorringe, Mrs. Betty Fairfax sustained the part with consistency. In the rôle of Isabel Kirke Miss Dorothy West Symes was good, and the characters in the cast were completed by Miss Isabel Ormond, Miss Mynee Kirk, and Mr. Robert Reuben. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings was presented *The Money Spinner*, preceded by the one-act comedy *Nan*. Last night the company produced *Under the Greenwood Tree*, to be repeated this evening.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—The pictures here still attract crowded houses. The Cinephone delights with illustrated songs.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Mr. James Fawn's witticisms have been heartily received here this week; James Willard and company, in *The Ace of Hearts*, have been well received; Dainty Dorretta is an acrobatic dancer of great merit; the Adams are clever cyclists; Geo. Nolan is the possessor of an excellent voice; the Rohda Bros. are sensational gymnasts; and *When Nights Were Bold* is presented by Cedar and Elgar. Lola Patey is deservedly popular, and Frank Solebey's imitation of children is amusing.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Jimmy Shields is a warm favourite here, and Bioscopic representations of *Faust* are heartily enjoyed. The Cowboys is a film of much merit.

"SINNERS."

Dramatic Playlet, in One Scene, Produced at the Battersea Palace, on Monday, July 4.

Blanche Despard .....MISS FLORENCE BARNES
Victor Dupree .....MR. ARNOLD MUSSET
Leon Despard .....MR. LEONARD BOOKER
Paul Colette .....MR. JOHN F. TRAYNOR

Contrary to usual custom here, only one sketch appears upon the bill this week—*Sinners*. It is described as a dramatic playlet in one scene, and is performed by H. G. Brandon's capable company. In the private parlour of a Paris restaurant we are introduced to a number of members of some secret society or brotherhood. One of them, Leon Despard, is accused by another of having sold certain secrets, his accuser, Paul Colette, presently proving, however, to be himself, so to speak, the villain of the piece and the enemy of Despard. When Despard, having admitted his guilt to the meeting and expressed repentance for his act of betrayal, is handed a pistol and is requested to put an end to himself and the matter generally in an adjacent chamber, the arrival of his wife when he is on the point of doing so prevents so undesirable a catastrophe. Denouncing Paul Colette as her early betrayer, she proclaims her husband Despard the saviour of herself and her child, pleading that Despard's act of betrayal of the society was committed in order to procure funds to save her and the child.

Upon this somewhat slender basis the members of the society argue at some length, with the ultimate result that the two men Despard and Colette are brought together to settle matters between them, the society awaiting the issue. A shot is heard off, but Colette returns to say that no one has been shot to date. The five gentlemen then renew their argument, the chief amongst the company finally putting the problem that the man who is without sin must put an end to Despard, and no one in the meeting finding himself up to this standard, it is finally decided that the only course open is to reunite husband and wife. The motives of the various characters appear to be somewhat lacking in common sense as far as one can gather in so brief an episode. Without giving great scope for acting, the parts were adequately represented by Miss Florence Barnes as Blanche Despard, Arnold Musset as Victor Dupree (an artist), Leonard Booker as Leon Despard, and John F. Traynor as Paul Colette.

Dick Tubb, a most amusing comedian, is a favourite at Battersea. He is gifted with a particularly indiarubber-like and adjustable countenance, and is very funny in gag, dance, and song. The Coopers give a vaudeville entertainment which goes well. The lady member of the trio both sings charmingly and is an exceedingly graceful and pleasing dancer. The Two Lees give their much appreciated musical speciality. Alice Lawrence sings prettily; Laurie and Elsie, two young girls, render their duets in capital style, their voices harmonising very delightfully; the Alskarno Trio cause roars of laughter with the comic episodes of their entertainment; Norah Noble, very simply and prettily costumed, receives great applause for her songs; and George Campbell, a clever patter comedian, and an excellent series of pictures complete the bill.

THE Hambledon (Surrey) Rural District Council has decided to apply to the Home Secretary for the abolition of the Haslemere Charter Fair, which dates from the reign of Queen Elizabeth. "Great difficulty is experienced," the Council state, "if the stallholders are obstreperous, and the police are unable to deal with them efficiently owing to the fact that as long as the Charter is in force the men are able to set up their stalls in the streets of the town. This they have frequently threatened to do when pressure has been brought to bear on them."

WHILST the well-known lion tamer, Albert Williams, was putting two lions through their performance on Friday, July 1, at Hayle, Cornwall, one of the animals, from whom for a moment he withdrew his attention, savagely attacked him in the back. He was attended by Dr. Hamilton, Trepolterrace, Hayle, Cornwall, who found that he was badly lacerated. The lion was finally driven off with irons.

YORK FAIR will be held on Nov. 21 to Nov. 26 (Monday to Saturday inclusive) for those who can be accommodated for six days. As the fair is held in the centre of the city and market-place, only a small number will be able to secure positions for six days. Spaces are already let to Aspland (motor-cars), G. T. Tuby (two round-about machines), and G. Aspland, Howden and G. T. Tuby (shows).

THE Queen Mother sent the following letter to "The Showmen of the Empire": "I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all the kind donors of the beautiful wreaths and flowers which were sent as tokens of affection in memory of our beloved King."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
July 18, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Jan. 23, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 14, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
July 18, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
July 25, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
This Theatre will in future be booked by Mr. MILTON BODE, and all communications re dates should be addressed to him at COUNTY THEATRE, READING. All other communications to G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.
A full week may be booked in conjunction with Pier Theatre, Hastings (three nights each).
WANTED, Companies for July 18 (6 nights), July 28 (3 nights), Sept. 5 and 12 (6 nights each), Sept. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 26 (6 nights), on
Apply MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for August Bank Holiday, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, and July 18, Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 26, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

KELLY'S THEATRE.
KELLY'S THEATRE.
The most popular Theatre in Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 15 and Sept. 26.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (no drama).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 15 (three nights).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (three nights), Sept. 12 (3).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 12, and Oct. 10.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for few remaining Autumn Dates, Musical Comedy and West End Attractions only. Silence polite negative.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, through mistake, Powerful Attraction, Aug. 8.
Address, RICH. WALDON.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 5 and Dec. 12.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

PALACE THEATRE, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, for Summer Season, 1911, First-class Musical Comedy Productions.
ROSEN and BLISS, 12, Henrietta-street, London, W.C.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?), Sept. 1, 2, 3 (?), 8, 9, 10 (?), 15, 16, 17 (?), Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 28.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
Address, R. G. ELDER, General-Manager.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 22 (?), Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Christmas (three weeks for Pantomime). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Knights Were Bold," "Raffles," &c. Re dates direct to JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Three Nights, One Matinée. First vacant date Aug. 4. Apply, C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate, vacant July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, 22 (all three nights), Season dates, not Drama. WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22.
FRED FREDERICKS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 8, 15, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Grand opening July 25, with R. Macdonald, Esq.'s, Principal Company, in "The Dairymaids."
Vacant Aug. 1, Sept. 19, Dec. 12, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, Aug. Bank Holiday. State lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 1. Please quote lowest certainty.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, July 18 (3 nights).
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN, Aug. 1.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, Aug. 15.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK, Aug. 1 (?), 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the Handsomest Theatres in the Country.
Holding capacity, 3,500. Visited by all the First-class Companies and Stars.
Very big money is taken here with first-class attractions. Refer to all the big Managers.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1, 8, and 15 (Race week, open), and onwards, with exceptions.
CASTLE THEATRE STOCKTON.
This Handsome Theatre will re-open August.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 15 (Race week), 22, and Sept. 5.

All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, T. R., Middlesbrough.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14 (?), 28 (?), Jan. 16 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 17, 31 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Sept. 29 (3, with Tunbridge Wells), Oct. 3, 13 (3, with Folkestone), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne).
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, non-musical, Oct. 10 and 31, owing to transferring Mr. George Edwardes's Company; Feb. 13 also vacant. Only best Attractions can be entertained for these Dates.
Particulars to SIDNEY COOPER.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Aug. 1 and 15, on.
A. D. VERNON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Oct. 3 and 24, Dec. 19 and 26.
Address, HARRY J. SNELSON.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Oct. 3, 4, 5, Oct. 10, 11, 12, Oct. 24, 25, 26, Oct. 31 (3 nights each), Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 15, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Known, the Best Season Dates, Sept. 19 (Race Week) and Sept. 26 (Autumn Holiday). Vacant at Perth Theatre, for First-class Companies; also Aug. 1, Sept. 5, 12, and Oct. 13, 14, 15 (three nights).
Address, J. H. SAVILE, 72, Promenade, Joppa, N.B.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only vacant dates, Nov. 3-5 (?), Oct. 24, Dec. 5, Jan. 2 and 30. Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, July 25, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, first three nights, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 27, on, with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 8 (Musical Comedy preferred), 29, Sept. 5, 12, and Oct. 17. SHERWOOD and Co., O. H., Wakefield.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, Aug. 8 and 29. Now booking 1911.
Address, Mrs. T. CULLEN.

WANTED, Musical Attractions, for P.O.W. Theatre. Specially reserved dates, Oct. 10, 31, Dec. 5. A. F. CROSS.

PARDOE'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, a First-class Drama, Aug. 22, for the reopening, Sept. 19, and onward, with exceptions. Fullest particulars. W. PARDOE.

WANTED, Musical or Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, on, exceptions, Chorley; also Aug. 8, 15, 22, on, exceptions, Radcliffe. SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Dramas, Musical Comedy. Companies holding contracts please confirm. PERCY SILVER, Manager, Empire and Theatre Royal, Hyde.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 1, 15 (?), 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, 28, Jan. 9, 23 (?), Feb. 13, 27 (?), March 13, April 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several dates Autumn, 1911.

Good Stock Companies Wanted for all Theatres. Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
WANTED, Light Attraction, Sept. 19, for first three nights of week, Dramas, twice nightly, last three nights of week, Aug. 1 and 8.
No other vacancies for Dramas until Feb., 1911.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
This Theatre is now being re-decorated, and will re-open on Aug. 22. Wanted, good Companies, Nov. 22 (three nights), Dec. 5 (three nights), Jan. 16 (three nights). Vivian Charles please send address.

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Lessees, Messrs. HENSON and DAVIS.
Now being re-built and re-furnished, and will re-open on Sept. 5. Wanted, good Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 12, 13, 14; 22, 23, 24, and 29 (all three nights); also Oct. 17 and 24 (six nights) and 31 (three nights).
The Corporation Theatre has one of the largest stages in the Midlands, is being seated with tip-up chairs, and will be run at popular prices.
Rugby, Loughboro', Lincoln, and Gainsboro' may be booked in conjunction.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.
Sole Booking Agent.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Sept. 8, 9, 10 (Musical Company only), and 22, 23, 24 (Drama).
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

BOOTLE.—NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, the above Theatre is intended to be open on Dec. 12 next by the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd. (who are also proprietors of the Muncaster Theatre), and are open to book Pantomime, Musical Comedy, and other first-class companies on and after the above date.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the Provinces, having a population of 100,000 within a three-quarter mile radius, seating capacity over 1,800, and will be fully licensed.
Apply Registered Office, 59, Park-street, Bootle.

August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.
August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.
August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.

WANTED. Powerful Attraction,
August Bank Holiday week.
August Bank Holiday week.
August Bank Holiday week,
This important Date
Vacant,
Vacant,
Vacant,
owing to error.
Communications,
HARRIS FINEBERG,
Star Theatre,
Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Musical Attractions,
Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, and on.
JAMES BELL.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 10, Oct. 3, 24, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, for Aug. 1.
Address, CHARLES REVILL.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

VICTORIA THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, big Attractions, for few remaining dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. (last three nights preferred), also Xmas week (?). ALF BAILEY and Co., Managers.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, good Company, for Aug. 29, through obliging a Manager.
Copy of Daybill and particulars to
J. H. CURRY, as above.

WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 1, 2, 3, 12, 22, onwards (3 nights).
Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 10, Nov., Dec. 5.
Apply, Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Grand Theatre, Nelson, Aug. 1, 15, and 29.
Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for alterations and reconstruction.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 5, various on.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Perth, and Palace Theatre, Gloucester, First-class Companies, Aug. 1 and later Autumn dates. All communications, WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Attractions, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, open September, onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
WANTED, First-class Company for week commencing Aug. 8. Address,
J. B. MULHOLLAND, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, Powerful Dramas Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Pantomimes, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED First-class London Successes, for July 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, 15, and Sept. 5.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Dramatic and Variety Attractions, for SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES, from Aug. 1, onward.
Address, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions,
Aug. 8 (?), Oct. 24 (?), and 1911, onwards, with exceptions.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
First-class Up-to-date Pantomimes. Send vacant dates, Jan. 2, onward, August (?), and onwards, 1910, with exceptions; 1911, with exceptions.
The above Theatres are now under the direct control and supervision of Mr. A. C. Moody, are fitted and upholstered in the most modern and up-to-date fashion, and do
Excellent Business All the Year Round.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ROCHDALE and HALIFAX.
WANTED, twice nightly, Dramas, July 25.
Wire, OTTO C. CULLING, T. R., Bury.

NEW THEATRE, FERNDALE, GLAM.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 15 (3), 19 (5), few onwards; large stage, band, staff, electric, and good business with good shows; everything up-to-date. Apply, DAVID WILLIAMS.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1 and 8.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 1.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, and January Dates.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD," "BABES IN THE WOOD." Thanks Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Eight Dates. Clean, smart, funny, and bright. Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, for few Remaining Vacancies (Lancs. or Yorks.) Address, J. L. BARRY, 49, Sidney-street North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Sept. 5 and Oct. 3.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, on, Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Hippodrome, Wigan.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, Aug. 13, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 17, 24.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. H. HAMILTON STUART'S COMPANIES.
This sterling attraction.
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, Theatres for July 28 or Aug. 1, Three Nights.
LANGTON LANE, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

BEATRICE MOREAU,
HORACE LINGARD, AND CO.
Jerome's clever Four-act Play, "FANNY," and Répertoire.
Grand, Blackpool; next, Royalty, Morecambe.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Aug. 8, Sept. 19.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
HERBERT C. LLOYD'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 17 (between Glasgow and Workington, owing to transfer) and Nov. 28.

"THE THIEF" CO.
MESSRS. LIMPUS' No. 1 CO.
Wanted, three nights, Sept. 8, 9, 10, between Sheffield and Lancaster; Oct. 10 and 17, Midlands.
Booking Agent, W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17
(North or Midland),
also Dec. 26, at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer B. Parcezer, Esq., for business this week at Southend.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 1, 8 (South Coast), Aug. 29, onward.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
West Pier, Brighton (third visit with this play).

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES
WANTED, Aug. 15 (3 nights), Aug. 22 (3 nights), between Scarborough and Westgate, for
"MISS TOMMY,"
Comedy-Drama in Three Acts,
by Jerome K. Jerome. All engagements made.
Miss ANNIE HUGHES as MISS TOMMY.
50, South Croxted-road, Dulwich, London, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 14.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth. Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Aug. 29, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 10, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."

WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address,
Charles Gibbon, Londesborough T., Scarborough.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Enormous success played twice nightly in eleven scenes. Now doing the Broadhead Tour.
It will mean money to every Manager who will witness this production.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 12 (once or twice nightly), Oct. 17, 24, and 31, and Xmas.
Oswald Cray, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

MR. LOUIS MEYER'S CO.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
MISS FLORENCE LLOYD as CLAIRE FOSTER.
MR. LEONARD PAGDEN as THOMPSON.
Entire Garrick Theatre Production carried.
New plant of Pictorial Printing.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Aug. 22 (South), Sept. 26 (South), Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28.
All communications, F. Clive Ross,
13, Old Burlington-street, Mayfair, W.

E. HILL MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Sept. 26 (?), Oct. 10.
A few Spring Dates Vacant 1911.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, C/o "The Era."

J. W. LINDSAY-ELLIS presents the famous Military Play, "LIGHTS OUT," as produced by Mr. H. B. Irving.
WANTED, Aug. 22 (between York and Kidderminster), Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, Arthur T. Barugh, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

J. PITT HARDACRE,
in his own version of "DRINK,"
"BASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 15 and on, to follow Queen's, Manchester (return), and T.R., Bradford. All communications, Staines, Middlesex.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Aug. 29 (3 nights), Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 2. Haldane Crichton, Grand T., Douglas.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Midlands.
Edward Lloyd, Queen-square Hotel, Bath.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 5.
Dickie Clare,
Lyric Theatre, Dinnington, Yorks.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, and Christmas.
Address, Horace Stanley,
to-day, Royal, Woolwich;
next, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham (two weeks).

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (South) and Sept. 26.
Frank Yeardsley, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 17, 24.
All coms. re above, T. R., Bristol.

"THIS, THAT, AND THE OTHER,"
By F. C. Broadbridge.
Original and Up-to-date Farcical Comedy, in three Acts.
WANTED, dates, July 25 (South), Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, onwards.
Terms, &c., to Charles Cecil,
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, S.W.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY,
in the Great Comedy Success,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
Only vacant dates this year.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26 (three nights), Oct. 17 and 31, Nov. 14 and 21.
July 11, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, "The Prodigal Parson," Sept. 5 and 19; "A Country Girl in London," Sept. 5. Address, Mr. Chas. Halling, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

AUGUSTE VAN VIENE, in
"THE BROKEN MELODY."
WANTED First-class Theatres, for Autumn and Spring Tours. Address, Edward Van Biene, New Theatre Royal, Edmonton, N.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Dec. 12, 19, 26.
Jan. 9, various, onwards.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.
Wire, Arthur Hinton, Creek Side, East Molesey.

The New Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 19, 26. Henry L. Osmond, Kendall House, Houghton-le-Spring.

"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, Nov. 7.
All coms., Martin Comstock,
Abercrombie, Bootle-street, Manchester.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 12 (follow Scarboro');
Oct. 17 (follow Norwich).
Admitted by Press and Public to be one of the biggest successes Touring.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Address, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, July 18, 25, onward, for "The Major," once or twice nightly.
T. C. McQuin, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

Olga Audre in "THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (W. or Wales), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 24 (precede Alex., Hull), Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Excellent company. Just on £200 gross T. R., Bolton, last week. Enormous houses, Liverpool, refer H. C. Arnold, Esq. This, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool. Monday, Palace, Perth.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26,
Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction,
July 25, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.

"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.

PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Good Theatres,
Jan. 16, 23, 30.

"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatres, with big holding capacity Aug. 15, and onwards (South),
Sept. 5, 12,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
LANCS, YORKS, or MIDLANDS,
for
The John Leopold Pantomimic Comedy Production Co.,
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY;"
preceded by
our LATEST AND GREATEST SUCCESS,
"THE STADIUM."
The shows that draw the money.
ARRANGE ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
All communications to
Charles Goff, 198, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
a Musical Farce in Two Acts.
WANTED, Good Theatres, with holding capacity, Aug. 8 and 15, Between Devonport and Bristol; Nov. 14 and 28, precede and follow Portsmouth; Jan. 2, and various Spring.
Ready shortly, the New Musical Farce, by the author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited," entited
"LAUGHING 'LIZA."
Wanted, Late Autumn and Spring Dates.
Address, Miss Florence Baines, Empire, Southend.

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME."
WANTED, Sept. 5, and various, onwards, Good theatres only.
Walter J. Horne,
Empire, Fleetwood.

O. SILVERSTONE and HENRY WRIGHT'S CO.
"THE NIHILIST; or, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING," Queen's, Dublin, last week, Choice of return date offered Monday night. A tribute to our excellence which speaks volumes. Refer. See us T.R., Leeds, next week; result, you will book us.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, Xmas, on.
Wires, Prince's, Bradford; letters, T. R., Leeds.
O. Silverstone.

Mr. GASTON MAYER'S CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 7. Coms., Walter D. Nicoll, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for "His Real Wife," Nov. 14, Xmas, and onwards. Money-making Theatres Only. Address, T. E. Ward, Junction Theatre, Manchester

WANTED, Theatre for Drama, once or twice nightly, Special Weeks or Short Seasons; over 200 protected plays to select from. Share or certainty. Beresford Whitcomb, West London Theatre, N.W.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Sept. 12, Sept. 12.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
by Walter Howard.
Wanted, Aug. 29, Sept. 19.
Address,
F. G. Kimberley, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

"THE SINNER,"
known as the Winner.
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
WANTED, for either play, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Xmas, and Whit, 1911.
Wilson Benge, Moorlands, Robin Hood's Bay, Yks.

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS," "A LION'S HEART," "JEANIE DEANS," "IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND, &c.; also Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire.
WANTED, Theatres, July 18 (South), 25, Aug. 1 and 8, vacant. Wire, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, for a First-class Variety Combination, July 18, 25 (?).
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Halls and Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Halls and Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Halls and Theatres,
for Aug. 1 and onwards,
for Aug. 1 and onwards,
for Aug. 1 and onwards,
for Aug. 1 and onwards,
for High-class Variety Co.,
for High-class Variety Co.,
on Sharing Terms.
on Sharing Terms.
Big business certain; everything done by way of advertising.
Managers, if you want to pack your houses, book this Combination.
Coms., J. Brown and Co.,
58, Chicksand-street, London, N.E.
Tel., 1098 City.

WANTED, July 18, 25, and Aug. 1, onwards, for First-class Combinations with Star Tops. Only recognised Theatres and Halls on adequate sharing terms entertained.
THE GREAT RAPOLI,
this, Palace, Worcester; next, Queen's, Farnworth.
THE SARNTHALER TROUPE,
this, Garrison, Tidworth; next, Empire, Swindon.
Managers having disappointments kindly note, we can furnish you with complete Company on the shortest notice and guarantee satisfaction.
All communications, The Variety Combination Co., 91, Shaftesbury-av., London, W. 'Phone 6365 Cent.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
First-class Theatres or Music Halls, and Star Artists only. Lowest terms, immediate time.
This week, Hippodrome, Keighley;
next week, Opera House, Northampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO., including
Mr. FRANK BERESFORD as Archibald Carlyle.
Mr. JOE ROWLAND as P.C. Bullock, and
Miss IDA HERON as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine.
As to business, refer, among others, F. Morgan, Esq., Marriot Watson, Esq., Sydney Cooper, Esq., F. Warden, Esq., Robert Redford, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq.
Press opinions on present Tour:
Seating accommodation taxed to its utmost. . . . audience thoroughly enjoyed the original "Bullock" version. . . . company acted one and all splendidly. . . . no one should miss it.—Irish News.
Miss Ida Heron as Lady Isabel and Madam Vine.
She takes both parts most excellently, her acting being fine. She awoke the sympathies of her audience, and had a very popular reception.
Miss Heron acted with power.
She lived the part as only a great artist could.
Intensely realistic.
Twenty-fourth consecutive week of present tour.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, 26, and on, with exceptions. Write or wire, Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
July 11, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 18 and 25, "Caste," G. W. Anson as Eccles; Cora Anson. Aquarium, Yarmouth. July 11, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.
Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town. He is the most natural performer in the world. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.
WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of First-class Theatres, Music Halls, and Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Only a few weeks in September,
and on, with exceptions, open.
Wire, Grand Theatre, Derby.
July 11, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

RELWYSKOW.
RELWYSKOW.
The Royal Wrestler, World's undefeated champion, presented with World's Championship Prize by H.M. Queen Alexandra.
RELWYSKOW
Challenges nightly; special matches arranged for slack nights.
WANTED, good Theatres, for Combinations, Share or Certainty (Share preferred), for July 18, 25, Aug. 8. All records broken Hippo., W. Bromwich and Hippo., Burslem. Refer Mr. Colin, Tivoli, Brierley Hill, or ring 77, Brierley Hill, or Relwyskow, Hippo., Burslem Staffs.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately for Stock, Leading Lady and Responsibles. Also MS. of "Sorrows of Satan." James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Lady for Cornelia, one with Child Actress for Little Willy preferred. Child must be over 14. Write Sec., 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, a Little Girl for Eva, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," slight, small, 14, golden hair. Photo., terms, full particulars to Charles Harrington, Hippodrome, Wigan.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Tall, Powerful, Heavy Man.
Particulars to
A. R. Feather, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR (about 40 weeks).
WANTED, Gentleman for Lead, Comedy, Responsibles. Particulars, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, good Actor for Prince Maurice (Juvenile) and Understudies. Age, height, references, photo., and lowest terms, Hallatt and Howard, 8, Homefield-road, Chiswick, London, W. Interviews by appointment only.

G. CARLTON WALLACE CO'S.
WANTED, for Autumn Tours, First-class Heavy Gentleman, strong Character Actor, to assist Acting-Management. Smart Low Comedienne, first-class Carpenter. Send recent photos. to 27, Golder's-gardens, Golder's Green, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, two Responsible Gentlemen, one Comedy, one Serious; can join at once. Mrs. Poulton, Star Theatre, Falmouth, Cornwall.

WANTED, Juvenile Gent., to combine Ass. S.M.; open July 25. Terms, &c. Personal interviews between 11 and 1 Saturday. Frank Adair, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

WANTED, shortly, Juvenile Man for Seconds; good clear delivery; thoroughly experienced; height not less than 5ft. 9½in., and good physique. Full particulars, refs., and photos., to T. Edward Ward, Junction T., Manchester.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, a good Robust Character Comedy Actor, also Gent. to sing and dance, and Fat Man for Silly Billy part, Acrobats and Tumblers communicate. Tour, C/o Nolan's Agency, Whitcombe Court (next Prince of Wales' Stage Door), London, W. Call 11 a.m. to-day.

WANTED, immediately, experienced and up-to-date First Low Comedian. Terms, &c., in first letter. Mrs. Poulton, Theatre, Falmouth.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Young Actor, about 25, for Costume Juveniles, must have powerful voice. Also Carpenter for small part. Rehearse 19th, open 25th. Everything found. Lowest terms, references, age, experience in costume work, photo (stamp). Frank Elliston, Alhambra, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, an Amateur Gentleman, to play small part, understudy, and learn Acting-Management; premium required, returned in salary. All particulars, Lewis Gilbert, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, good useful Couple, capable of Lines, joint preferred, with Turns. James, Standard Theatre (portable), Upton-on-Severn.

WANTED, Known, the Empire Comedy and Dramatic Company, Autumn Fourth Tour, have vacancy for Lady and Gentleman Pupils. Sound tuition. Green and Gordon, 19, Leith-road, Wood Green, N.

ARTISTS WANTED.

BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
EGYPT. INDIA. CHINA. JAPAN.
Annual Reorganisation
of
THE BANDMANN OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, for
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS,"
"THE MERRY WIDOW,"
"THE ARCADIANS,"
"OUR MISS GIBBS,"
"THE BALKAN PRINCESS,"
"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN," &c., &c.
A First-class Principal Soprano, young, good-looking, strong voice;
A thoroughly Experienced Soubrette, young, good-looking, and dancer;
A Principal Tenor;
Ladies and Gentlemen, for small parts;
Several Vacancies for Chorus.
All must be young, good-looking, with good voices.
Hotel expenses paid by the Management from the time of leaving England until return, so salaries clear.
P. and O. return tickets booked for all Artists before starting.
Substantial Advances made if required.
Artists leave England in September, and rehearse in Calcutta.
Hotel expenses during rehearsal paid by the Management.
Exceptional references essential.
Address (by letter only, stating lowest terms, with full particulars as to previous experience, enclosing recent photographs, with stamped envelope for return, and permanent address), to
44, Cranbourn-street, W.
No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, pretty petite Girl
Wanted, pretty petite Girl,
Wanted, pretty petite Girl,
for Immediate Engagement;
must have good appearance
and
exceptional Soprano voice.
Peter Davey,
Royal County Theatre,
Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Chorus Men, Bass, Baritone, and Robust Tenor or Baritone; willing to be generally useful. Letters only, Dan Lipton, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Choristers. Three Male Choristers who can play Cornet, Euphonium, Trombone, or Side Drum. Apply Box 7,971, "The Era."

WANTED, for Chorus, Robust Baritone and Tenor, height 5ft. 9in. or over. Apply in person, Delome, 49, Elsinore-road, Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, for High-class Hotel Pavilion, Engagement, good Baritone; good appearance and extensive répertoire; open July 18. Salary £2. Evenings free. Phipps, Port Soderick, I. of Man.

WANTED, for Dan Lipton's "Songland" Co., Robust Baritone and good Bass Baritone. Apply, letters only, Arthur Tate, 189, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, High-class Young Girls, between 14 and 15 years of age.
Must dance well, for London Company Autumn Tour.
Apply, Monday next, 11 o'clock,
Stage Door, Haymarket Theatre.

WANTED, Known, the New Frances Club, 425, Strand, W.C.,
will remain open till it is moved into new premises in the autumn.
All communications to be addressed to
Miss Frances.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Principals, Comedians, Knockabouts, Dancers, Troupes, Juveniles, and Artists all Lines, for Panto. 1910-11. Photos., refs., and where working, to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists for Pantomime, must have experience,
good Comedians,
also Ladies for Principal Parts.
Apply by letter only, enclosing photo and full particulars, to Pantomime, c/o Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Pantomimes, not less 5ft. 7in. Photos., references to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Harry Hollanda, in Comedy Juggling; vac. Panto., Speciality and small Part. Coms., 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery, at lowest prices, now supplying complete new stock to Tivoli, Aberdeen; Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness; Olympia, Coalville, &c. W. B. Robinson, Fulham Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Gentleman to Finance First-class Vaudeville Company, headed by big Continental Act, and supported by selected Artists; moderate capital required, and under own control. Tour arranged by advertiser; strictest business meant; good profits absolutely ensured; everything ready for Tour. Address Box 7,973, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an opportunity occurs for an experienced Gentleman to take charge of Management for an old-established Theatrical Agency, must invest £100. References required and exchanged in confidence. Principals only. Box 7,965, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Booking Manager, capable of arranging a Tour, for big novelty Vaudeville Show. First-class Theatres only. Best refs. exchanged. All communications, Byron, 9, Danvers-road, Hornsey, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

To Sketch Authors and Others.
WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

WANTED, Assistance of Gentleman conversant with Provincial Amusements,
for a few hours weekly.
Box 7,955, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Acting-Manager, for Palace Theatre of Varieties, Reading, open Aug. 1, 1910. Apply, G. Howard Watson.

WANTED, young Gentleman of good address and appearance, to assist in Business-Management of established Dramatic Company, one with own typewriter preferred; premium required, returnable in salary when proficient; thorough tuition given. Address, with photo and full details, Manager, 3, Albert-terrace, High-street, Stockport.

WANTED, capable Man, to manage Cinematograph Show. Apply, with full particulars of age, experience, salary required.
Morris,
Garw Valley Rink Co.,
Pontycymmer, Glam.

T. ELDER-HEARN.
WANTED, Competent Assistant Carpenter; must be alive, under 30, sing.e teetotal.
References, lowest terms, first letter.
July 11, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Man and Wife, Carpenter and Bill Inspector and Cleaner. Lowest terms, references, first letter, commence July 18. Sante, Radcliffe.

WANTED, good Property Man, willing to make himself generally useful, Billing, &c., not over 30. Apply, Empire Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, a good steady Billposter, for Stock work; permanency to a good man.
Apply, Billposting Co., Doncaster.

WANTED, Tall Attendant of French nationality, but must speak English fluently; good references required. Apply, Manager, Camberwell Empire, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Stage-Manager and Electrician, late Alhambra, Openshaw; excellent references. Address, Wilson, 635, Ashton Old-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting-Manager or Advance, experienced, thorough knowledge of Provinces, Fit-ups, &c. Write, Dickins, 32, Fleetwood-avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Experienced London Manager, Management London or Provinces.
Thorough knowledge Front, Stage, Advertising, and Bars. M. O., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, post as Assistant-Manager in Variety Agency or Music Hall, by energetic, capable, foreign languages speaking Gentleman, experienced in all branches of the International Variety Agency and Music Hall business. Box 7,967, "The Era."

WANTED, by Assistant-Manager, resident post, immediately or Aug.; expert accountant, &c.; young, abstainer, 22s. 6d. weekly. Box 7,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Post as Assistant-Manager, Secretary, or Box Office, town or country, thoroughly experienced. Assistant, 8, Wise-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Engagement as Advertising Manager or Bill Inspector; first-class experience and references. Address, Joseph N. Gray, 9, Alfred-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Gentleman, 30, post as Secretary, Assistant-Manager, similar, college education; good business ability, appearance, and address. Box 7,946, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Advertiser, educated, typewriter, correspondent, and all-round performer; undeniable references. Box 7,972, "The Era."

WANTED, good Resident Engagement by Practical Carpenter and Scenic Artist. Highest refs. Now or August. Box 7,949, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Arthur Purdy, Bill Inspector, Doorsman, or Advance Agent, competent and used to twice nightly system; age 35; good refs. 10 years, late T. Barrasford, Esq. A. Purdy, 5, Collingwood-road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, French Lady, 35, speaking English, Spanish, Italian, good needlewoman, packer, wishes get situation Lady's Companion, with actress going to South America. Box 7,948, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HIPPODROME, NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, Musical Director, July 18, with up-to-date Répertoire and Standard Overtures; Orchestra of twenty performers. Letters only, stating age, terms, and references, to T. A. Edwardes, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Pianist, Conductor, used to Drama and Variety, for Theatre work, from Sept., on; to open on July 16, as Pianist for Pictures, six weeks. Terms and references (last two years), W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

TIVOLI THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, First-class Leader,
to open July 18,
used to Variety.
Terms, references, age, &c.,
to Conductor, Tivoli, Aberdeen, N.B.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME.
HARROGATE.
WANTED, Leader and First Violin, both to commence July 11. Particulars and lowest terms to J. Drake, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Leader and First Violin (Salmon write). My engagements are permanent to good men. W. Smithson, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, immediately, for First-class British Orchestra, now in fourth year of Tour, young Solo Violinist, able to lead when required, lady or gentleman, répertoire includes Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Overtures, Symphonies, Selections of Grand Operas, Wiener Operettes, &c. Only First-class Artists, with temperaments, apply. Obedience, good manners essential. Permanency for suitable artist. Send recent photo, particulars of experience, and where studied, Hunt, Pier, Scheveningen, Holland.

WANTED, to Open July 18, reliable Solo Cornet, also 'Cello and Solo Clarionet. Terms and refs. to Musical-Director, H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Monday, 11th, good Cornet, for Skating Rink, three sessions daily. Wire, lowest terms, Jackson, Skating Rink, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Cornet, young, for small Rink. Refs. and lowest summer terms,
M. S. S., 57, Craven-gardens, Wimbledon.

WANTED, for Southend Town Band, good Cornet Player, also E Flat Bass.
J. H. Gifford, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, First Clarionet and First Cornet. References and particulars to Musician, c/o Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Double Bass, used to First-class Variety, twice nightly, open Monday, July 18. References, salary required. Manager, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Lady Trombone Soloist, young and good-looking, permanently. Interview Monday, between 11 and 2. 161, Milkwood-road, Herne Hill.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Euphonium and Double Drummer, terms 30s. per week, join at once. Newcastle Emlyn, Sat.; Llandyssil, Mon.; Llanybyther, Tues.; Cardiganshire.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Bombardon, July 13, play twice daily for season. Apply, absolutely lowest terms to CONDUCTOR, 17, Walker-street, Withernsea, Yorkshire.

WANTED, at once, First-class 'Cellist, for seaside; also Oboe and Cornet. Write, stating particulars, to Box 7,962, "The Era."

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo Player, must be good, reliable, abstainer preferred, open at once. State age, married or single, lowest terms, six nights, two matinées weekly, references, to C. A. SEBBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Young Gentleman Pianist. State age and lowest terms to live in, with full particulars, DOUGLAS, Alexandra Hotel, York.

WANTED, First-class Variety Drummer, for two weeks, commencing Aug. 1, everything found except Side Drum. Terms, refs., to ENCYL LEWIS, H. M. T., Walsall.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, Double Drummer (with effects); permanency to suitable man. Apply, with refs., age, lowest terms, to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Drums and Tymps., open July 18, Flute, 'Cello, Aug. 1. Age, refs., lowest terms, WILHELM RUSSELL, 3, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, Musicians, Wanted, Musicians, Wanted, Musicians, Wanted, Musicians, all instruments can write in, in the Orchestra of a First-class Theatre, near London.

The Theatre is open all the year round, and gives a comfortable and permanent engagement to suitable men.

Every preference will be given to ambitious, studious, and well educated young men who are efficient soloists.

Apply in first instance, Box 7,944, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Musicians, New T. R., Barry Dock. Rehearse July 18. Salary, refs., age, photo., A. CARLTON, T. R., Worcester. Mark envelopes "Orchestra."

WANTED, Musicians, to complete Military Band, for Tour, preference given to A.M.U. men. All instruments write in, with refs., experience, &c., to Box 7,956, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, Canadian Flagship, Bandmaster, must be smart, practical performer, and conductor, also Musicians to combine String and Reed or Brass; preference to ex-Naval and Military Bandsmen. Musicians' pay, 3s. 5d. to 4s. 1d. a day; free kit. Medical examination; age limit 45 years. Further details apply, the NAVAL MUSICAL AGENCY, 596, Commercial-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. BLACK, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Military Band, Seaside, Piccolo, Solo Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Trombone; others write. B. M., 108, Princess-st., Edgware-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, good First Violin, Clarionet, Cornet, and Trombone, six weeks, July 22, Yorkshire Coast. Age, terms, references, GREENHEAD, SEN., Herne Bay.

WANTED, Bagpiper Leader, Violins, 'Cello, Solo Cornet, and Trombone, for String. Start 16th or Aug. 1, in Hamburg, daily seven hours, if satisfactory all year, double handed preferred. Trial essential, London. Thoroughly experienced professionals (useless otherwise). Send in lowest, &c. DIRECTOR, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor, could provide good small Military or Orchestral Band, reasonable; experienced in Bandstand Programmes; scarlet uniforms. Refs., MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical-Director, Music Hall preferred, good refs. 263, Claremont-rd., Alexandra Park, Manchester S.

WANTED, Known, Fred Eplett, the well-known Conductor and Composer, is Open to Accept Engagement; town or country. 32, Horsedge-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical Director (36), Violin, Bâton, London reference 5 years, variety, theatre. FRANCOIS MANSER, 609, Kingston-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Known, well-known Musical-Director (Pianist), at Liberty, July 18. Box 7,961, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Well-known Conductor (violin). Highest refs., library. Wire, CONDUCTOR, c/o 12, Silver-street, Whitby.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, experienced Orchestral, first, Soloist, lead if necessary, Summer Engagement. Address, R. B., 23, Greville-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Known, Miss Beatrice Westall, First Violin and Viola, Disengaged. Box 7,969, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal, Leader and Cornet, now disengaged. Permanent add., 137, Cannon-st.-rd., Aldgate, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, any business; excellent refs. LISSINGTON, 32, Barlow-street, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin (Variety), highest references. Apply, M. P. DUDDY, Leader, Tivoli Theatre, Dublin; desire change.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Re-engagement, any business, thoroughly experienced, good executant and soloist, pupil Henley, member Symphony and principal Midland Orchestras, has good Orchestral Répertoire, age 26, smart, can start immediately; tip-top references. VIOLINIST, 26, Bull's Head-lane, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, Variety. Apply, VIOLINIST, 31, Mayfair-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, First-class Cornettist, at Liberty, experienced any business, good references; can open at once. C/o MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Empire, York.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Cornet, First or Second; good references and sobriety; any business. BIANCOLI, 16, Griffin-buildings, Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, now Disengaged, young and reliable, any business, seaside preferred. W. FOAD, Waterside, Carshalton-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet Soloist, finish with Yeomanry 9th; experienced, any Bus.; abstainer. Wire, CLARIONET, 40, Hamilton-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist; experienced in Variety. Refs. LITTLER, 131, Burlington-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Contra Bass, is at Liberty to accept Engagements, any Business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, would deputise, Military and Orchestral experience, good refs.; any business. W. A. BROWN, 38, Relf-road, Peckham.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass; steady and reliable; references; out through theatre closing. L. UNSWORTH, Dial House, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass or 'Cello, any business; 5½ years last engagement. C. F. LAW, 260, Seaside, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Trombone Soloist, Engagement in First-class Theatre or Music Hall, smart and staunch teetotaler, well used to the business. TROMBONE, A.M.U. Club, 120, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombonist, at Liberty through disappointment. FRED W. JACKSON, Tidmarsh, Pangbourne-on-Thames.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone, experienced all branches, steady and reliable, and good references. FRANKLIN, 8, Portobello-road, Notting Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Trombonist at Liberty, through disappointment. 83, Northcote-avenue, Southall.

WANTED, permanency, by thoroughly experienced and competent Trombonist, Liberty through closing for alterations. GEORGE NICKS, 14, St. James' Park, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second French Horn; thoroughly experienced in Orchestra and Military Bands. Highest references; steady, reliable. W., 20, Parkville-road, Fulham.

WANTED, an Engagement, as 'Cellist, Theatre or Variety; good refs.; thoroughly experienced; near London preferred; would deputise. Box 7,919, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist (Lady), for few weeks; experienced. Box 7,960, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist. Address, W. KNUSSEN, 12, Allendale-av., Aintree, Liverpool.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, Reader and Musician, Variety or Drama; good references. 'CELLIST, 74, York-road, Bedminster Bridge, Bristol.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, or as deputy; good refs.; age 32. Address, R SORTINO, 55, Torren's-buildings, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, good references; permanency if possible. WHITE, 15, Northcote-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, Military Band, Variety, or any business. Good refs. ALEXANDER, 251, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Johnson, Flautist, Musician, Crewe, copyist, orchestration. Arrangements for small and large orchestras. Songs and new compositions, chorus and quartette part writing. Write terms.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly reliable Flautist, experienced Variety, &c.; good refs. Apply, FLAUTIST, 28, Victoria-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any business, or would deputise, good Piccolo Soloist. FLAUTIST, 93, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, at Liberty, late H.M. Service, good refs., any business. GEO. LAWS, c/o Mrs. Huntley, 3, New St. David-street, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, by experienced Lady Accompanist, immediate Engagement, Orchestral or Concert Tour. Address, M. B., 23, Greville-rd., Kilburn.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Lady Pianist, Highest Class Experiences. Orchestral, Pictures, MS. sight, expert accompanist. PIANIST, 35, Telferscot-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch., or self, any biz; steady, reliable, excel. refs., good reader. Any dis. 17, Lawrence-street, Caerphilly.

WANTED, by Pianist, experienced Accompanist, &c., lady, good appearance. Engagements, Cinematographs. Box 7,920, "The Era," Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Pianist, Sight-reader (lad 16): London only. J. D., 40, Ravensbourne-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, by Thoroughly Experienced Double Drummer and Tympanist (lady), permanency in good theatre. First-class references, good appearance, own Tympani, Drums, Glockenspiel, &c. Would accept 35s. weekly. Commence August or later. Box 7,969, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, specially engaged at the New Spa, Bridlington, vacant dates July 16 and onwards. Address, New Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, Miss Kathleen Wooseley's Quartette, "Les Dames Blanches" (two Violins, 'Cello, Piano); extensive répertoire, Leader Medallist R.A.M., R.C.M. 88, Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Known, Herr Blomé's Orchestra, fifth season Victoria Pier, Blackpool, enormous success. Now booking dates for Winter Season, 1910-11, from Oct. 3, on, for Exhibitions, Bazaars, &c. All coms. re terms, HERR BLOMÉ, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

Roller Skating.
WANTED, by Band, old-established Continental, consisting of twelve performers or more if required, in elegant uniforms, Engagement with Roller Skating Rink, free Nov. 1 or earlier; best reference. Further information apply, M. BISGAARD, 386, Uxbridge-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Band of five, Rinks or Exhibitions, more if required. State requirements. Refs. PALMER, St. Peter's Tavern, St. Peter's-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Agents, for First-class String Quintet, used to first-class Engagements; good references. Address, Box 7,941, "The Era."

WANTED, Hotel Engagement, Seaside preferred, by excellent Trio, Violin, 'Cello, Piano; shortly finishing season in town. Box 7,958, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, I can supply Bands for Rinks, and at a low price. GEORGE ST. CLAIR, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

THE ZOO CIRCUS, GLASGOW.
WANTED, for Aug. 29 and onwards, to follow the Royal Italian Circus, First-class Equestrians, Musical and Talking Clowns, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, and Sensational Acts of every Description that can be done in a Circus Ring. Also a good Ringmaster, to take charge of circus, one able to produce Spectacles, Ballets, &c. Address, with all particulars, E. H. BOSTOCK.

WANTED, for July and August, Circus, Menagerie, or any Sensational Show for outdoors. Will Purchase reply? Write, with full particulars, LARCHER, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, good Novelty Act. Open July 16, 3 months' engagement. Mr. DUFFY, Carnlough, Co. Antrim.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a good Comedy Bar Performer, the Clown that worked with Mezetty at Leeds, Holbeck, Queen's Theatre, week of Sept. 22, 1907, preferred, until Aug. 10, 1910. GEORGE PATTERSON, 10, Rue du Cirque, Bruxelles, Belgium.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown. Received a good reception and proved a big success on my opening at Bostock's Zoo Circus, Glasgow. Dan Gregory is a hit and a success wherever he goes.

WANTED, by Arthur Hanlon and Mlle. Carl, Lady and Gent., Trampoline Comedy Bar Act, free for Galas, Tenting; Circuses wanting Combination groom, tentmen, and performer save stamps. Free July 11, on. Address, Post Office, Seaforth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE, DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Send lowest terms to FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards. Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

THE EMPIRE, NUNEATON.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, July 18, onward. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, for Hancock's Picture Coliseum, to open at Honiton July 18, Variety Artists, any Good Act that can be done on a 20ft. stage, long engagement to suitable people, no travelling expenses after joined. Apply until Tuesday, Hancock's Carnival, Topsham, Devon. Private Address, Richmond-walk, Devonport.

WANTED, Monday, July 25, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, July 18 and 25. State lowest salary; also Stars willing to share. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Aug. 1, and onward, Variety Artists in all Lines. Lowest in first letter. ARNOLD and LYONS, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 25, on. Big novelties and good small turns. Sisters Dudley please communicate. HENRY CARLTON, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Variety Artists, suitable for Open-air Performances on large covered stage. Apply, G. GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS.
I lead, follow who can.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines (no singing turns), July 18, Aug. 1, 8, 15, and onwards, for Dr. Walford Bodie's Royal Magnets, the Greatest and Most Up-to-date Show on the Road. Playing to packed houses nightly; great and glorious success last week, Empire, Dudley. All records broken. Packed to the doors nightly with the élite of the town. Receiving quite an ovation nightly this week at the Empire, Nuneaton. My sixth visit. Call Monday next at 1 prompt, Grand Theatre, Derby, for Atlas and Vulcana, Jack Diamond, Dolly Robson, Tom Gold, Sisters Atlas, Bella Skene, Bioscope, Mlle. Doris and Performing Dogs, La Belle Electra, Nurse Le Hay, Captain Stanley Roberts, Dr. Bodie, and Full Staff. All must attend; no excuses. Contracts waiting for Leoni Clarke, Lillie Le Main, Bros. Olden, &c., &c. All letters, address to Dr. WALFORD BODIE, Grand Theatre, Derby. See Startling advt. on another page.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,
MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with lowest terms.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, for towns in the North. Apply, RAWES and CLARANCE.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, for Manchester, Sheffield, Northampton, Barnsley, Warrington, Bolton, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Bradford, &c., July 18, onwards. Terms, bookings, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. Coms., 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, First-class Artists, with Drawing Powers, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 29, and later; nothing but the best. All communications, WILL SMITHSON, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Artists for Gala, anything big, two shows each day, August Bank Holiday, Monday and Tuesday. Terms, OWEN, PAV., Mumbles.

WANTED, for the Llanelly Hospital Fête and Gala, Aug. 19, 20, some First-class and Up-to-date Artists. Would like Aeroplane Exhibition to write.

HENRY STUDTS and SONS, Market-place, Macsteg.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines July 18 on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Picture Shows. Mark envelope "Pictures." DERTRICH'S Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
Lessees, THE TON-Y-PANDY HIPPODROME Co.
WANTED, for the above, July 25, Artists, Stars, and Specialities in all Lines. Preference given to those who have not worked the Rhondda Valley the last twelve months.

All communications to D. TAYLOR.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE, DEWSBURY.
Reopen for the season Monday, July 25.
WANTED, Artists for Aug. 8 and Future Dates; also Combinations for Sept. 5, onwards GEORGE WELDON, Manager.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 18, onwards. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists, Head Lines only, for best London and Provincial Houses. Write full list bookings, lowest terms, HENRY CAYMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines to communicate immediately. Full particulars, Terms, and Dates. Nothing too Big. Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once. VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY, 12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Artists and Specialities, for Sept., and on. Lowest terms and particulars, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Known. I have several good numbers on hand for music hall artists, and if I have not what you want, I can write it for you. Reasonable charges. EGAN, Bedford House, 3 Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Known, PACEY'S AGENCY removed to 179, Brixton-road. 179, Brixton-road. Telegrams, "Paceys, London." 'Phone 87 Brixton. TOM PACEY, 179, Brixton-road. PACEY'S Agency.

Make a note of my new address.
FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, July 18, good Star (Serio), also First-class Specialities and Novelties, First-class Sisters, First-class Comedians, for immediate and future dates. Nothing too big; nothing too much money. Booked over thirty turns this week. Address, 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Leeds."

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, July 18 and onward, Stars in all Lines. 105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, big Speciality Turns, for Aug. 1, onwards. Address, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
WANTED, Known, Trial Turns will be seen from twelve until one. Apply above.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, immediate and future Dates. Alsopp and Beckwith, Jack Hylton, Gregson Comedy Trio, please send address. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, Fioni, Liverpool. Telephone, 1606 Royal.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential. HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Sensational Novelties, First-class Juvenile Troupes, &c., for July 25, Aug. 1, onwards. Address, with lowest terms, samples of Printing, to MANAGER.

"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
Who is it? Why,
BARNARD'S AGENCY, SHAW-ST., LIVERPOOL.
Tele., 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Acts in all Lines, for immediate dates.

WANTED, July 11, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, High-class Variety Acts; I can fix you. Full bookings imperative. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Variety Star Attraction, with own Company, on sharing terms, July 25, twice nightly; must have Pictorials. Address, T. A. EDWARDES.

EMPIRE ROLLER SKATING RINK, COWDENBEATH.
WANTED, Smart, Novel, and Sensational Attractions, Aerial Shows, &c. Acts that can be shown on a rink floor. Lowest terms, sharing terms, lithos., &c., Communicate, PENMAN, Empire, Cowdenbeath, Fife. Surrounding population over 20,000. No opposition. Largest and finest hall in Fifeshire.

WANTED, for Galas, July, Aug. 1, and later Dates, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Cyclists, Comedians, Novelties. Terms, lithos., bills, WOOD, Caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

HIPPOS., BILSTON and WEDNESBURY.
Sole Lessee and Manager, EDWIN C. JAZON.
WANTED, First-class Specialities, all Lines, Aug. 1, on. Can place suitable acts twenty weeks. Artists vacant Panto, write in, lowest terms and list bookings, JAZON'S Agency, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
N.B.—Bilston and Wednesbury are 8 and 10 miles from Birmingham, and 6 and 3 from Wolverhampton.

WANTED, First-class Specialities, also Scotch Character Comedian, Nine Months' Tour, commencing Monday, Aug. 8. Photo, age, lowest terms, references, and full particulars. Must be clever and refined. Scorr's Royal Cinematograph Co., Church-street, Belford, Northumberland.

BUFFALO PALACE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities, all Lines, Picture Show. Apply, LAMB.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Novelties for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained. State where can be seen July and Aug. Also Star Acts for London and Provinces, and Pantomime Principals for Best Theatres.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top Liners, Artists all Lines (Halls, Theatres, Galas, Pictures), immediate dates, Acrobats, First-class Gala Acts, near London, Aug. 1, week on; for Pavilion, Wolverhampton, 25th, on. Full bookings, permanent, printing, 43, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton. Silence not necessarily a negative. Impossible to answer individually the hundreds of letters received.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only, STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM, on Main Line.
WANTED, Big Tops, Aug. 1, onward. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, big Tops, Aug. 1, on, also Star Combinations. NIGHTINGALE'S Agency, Theatre R., W. Bromwich.

JOHN ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, July 18, Aug. 1 Also acts, all descriptions, various dates Address, ADAMS, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Big Top, for July 18, 25, for Empire, Hyde. Wire, CLIQUOT'S Agency, 9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists to see me when in need of new songs, acts, scenas, plays, &c. EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wire-walker, Fête, Aug. Bank Holiday. Lowest terms, fares paid. Letters only. No callers. SYLVESTER'S Agency, 271, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Empire Touring Military Tournament, now organising with the object of touring England, then Egypt, S. Africa, Australia, Canada, &c., several smart, trustworthy young gentlemen, willing to assist in the general management and also take part in the great Battle Scene, each man joining must also be willing to adapt himself to work under strict military discipline. A salary of £6 weekly, including free board and camp accommodation. Each member will be required to take a small financial interest in the company to the extent of 25 £1 shares.

Apply, MANAGER, Tournament Office, County-chambers, Watford.

WANTED, Clever Amateurs, Beginners, Aspirants for Small Halls and Picture Theatres, immediate engagements. Write MANAGER, 27, Greet-road, Brentford.

WANTED, Troupe of Dancers and Variety Artists or capable Manager to organise such Troupe, immediate and future dates, London and Provinces. Box 7,947, "The Era."

WANTED, Vocalists to Sing to Illustrated Songs. Photo essential, which will be returned. GILLSMITHS, LTD., Electric Theatre, Winter Gardens, Cheltenham.

WANTED, two small, bright, attractive, pretty Page Girls, must be quick and smart, able to sing and dance, exceptionally good figures essential. Send photos. and full particulars, height, age, weight, envelope for reply. Silence polite negative. Interviews by appointment only. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Manager, The Great Raymond Co., Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Refined Dancer, Comedienne, age 13 to 17. Write for appointment. CLEVELAND, 53, Chesilton-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, smart Serio and Dancer, for Monday next, Hall small, terms low. Other cheap Acts write for later dates. ARTHUR IZON, Palace, Morley.

WANTED, immediately, Good All-round Dancer to complete Troupe for America, long engagement, good salary. Apply, with practice dress, Monday, 3 to 5, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Girl, about 16, able to sing and dance, to join Troupe. Apply, GIPSY WOLFF, Wonderland, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, girl about 16, Dancer, Acrobatic, or one able to do a little Juggling preferred. Address, with full particulars, Box 7,963, "The Era."

WANTED, one or two good Show Girls, who can play Page, for big Illusion Show. Send photo. and full particulars to ILLUSION, c/o WILL COLLINS, Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket.

WANTED, at once, Lady Gymnast, height 5ft. 5in. to 5ft. 7in., good figure and appearance essential; long engagement and half salary to suitable Artist. Photo., with terms, to ARCHIE GOODALL, Derby.

WANTED, Girl, 16 to 20, Trick Cyclist. State age, tricks, send photo. CLEMENTS, 143, Graham-road, Hackney, London, N.E.

WANTED, Young Lady for Posing (Living Statuary). Photo, lowest terms. Two months if suitable. FORSTER, Revolving Tower, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Comedy Couples, Comedians, and Comediennes, Halls, funny, smart. Send list of bookings, photos. LESLIE, 23, King's-terrace, Southsea.

WANTED, a short Robust Character Comedian, for Sketch in America. Full particulars, and where to be seen if playing, to Box 7,964, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Bioscope Operator, sober and reliable, to do billing, and make himself generally useful in day time, open Aug., resident Midlands; permanent job to right man, one with own machine preferred. Write, lowest terms, age, height, full particulars, with copies of references. Box 7,968, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, at Once, with own Machine and Films; shares or salary; gas cylinders. HODSON, Theatre, South Elmshall, S.O., Yorks.

WANTED, Operator, experienced in all departments electric work. References for past two years and terms, W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, Known, two very good waltz songs on hand for serio-comic. Several songs for comedian. EGAN, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima-Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co., at Liberty Aug. 1 and 15 (to precede and follow Empire, Middlesbro'), and Sept. 5 (to follow Manchester). Thanks Charles G. Rembges, Esq., for Contracts, also Sydney Arthur, Esq., for Contracts for this and next year. To-day, Hippo., Norwich (return); next, Queen's Palace, Shipley (return).

WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Dancer. Empire, Dublin; Monday, St. George's Hall, Belfast.

WANTED, Monday, July 18 and 25, on, by Miss Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer. Permanent, 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Della Ray, Beautifully Gowned Chorus Comedienne, at Liberty July 11, 18, 25. Sure success. 6, Homer House, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia) Duettists and Dancers, July 18 and 25. Next, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also 25th and Aug. 1, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers, to precede Nuncaton. 1, Cromwell-road, Kettering. Vacant Panto.

WANTED, July 11 and 18, by The Zettlas (Carlotta and Rita), Comedy Couple. This, Success, Hippo., South Bank, near Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Harcourt, Duettists and Dancers, vacant Aug. 1 (to precede Ton-y-Pandy). This week, Royal Standard and Empress, Brixton; July 11, Empire, Camberwell; July 18, A., Sandgate; July 25, Palace, Greenwich. Open Pantomime. 1a, Loughborough-rd., Brixton. S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Terry, an Entertainment in Themselves. At Liberty July 11, 25. Address, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by Eileen and May, Sisters, Bright Musical Act, Expert Dancers, July 18, 25. This, E., Rochdale; next Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, July 18 and 25, Aug. 1, 15, 29, by Bert Danson, the Famous Comedian. His Latest Screamingly Funny Burlesque, "Archie," the Talk of Every Town. Just concluded, E., Portsmouth (fourth visit). This, H., Bury (fourth visit). Next, Grand, Aberaman (third engagement with Poole's).

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, Liberty Monday next; all new songs. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 11, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, "The Eagle and the Girl," Onetti Sisters, Farr and Farland, Bert Errol, Du Gros Trio, Staley's Transformation, Helen Trix, Juliette's Sea Lions, Animated Pictures, Chung Ling Soo.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for :—

George Formby, Mike Whallen, Phillips and Merritt, Orpheus, Cassie Walmer, Three Laurels, Lydia and Amelys, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Amy Augarde and Co. in "The Sicilians."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

George Robey, Bioscope, Nina Wood, Lily Flexmore, Mons. and Madame Alf. Agoust, Kirbys, Ben Albert, Arabella Allen, Amy Marsden, Gothams.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker P.C.," Ena Compton, Westwoods, Miller Bros., My Fancy, Chas. Vincent, Helene Donald, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Fred Story and Co. in "Rip Van Winkle."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

"Futurity Winner," Evelyn Stoll, Blessings, Grassis, Doody and Wright, Harry Jolson, Rosie Fitzgerald, Cull Pitt, Bioscope, H. O. Wills.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Raymond Phillips's Wireless Airship, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Roma and Romani, Wilson and Waring, Hasse and Mariette, Tom E. Finglass, Griff, Livesey and Rosebery, Camile Ober.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Poluskis, Azella Wilson, Martialo Troupe, Smite and Smote, Winifred Hare, Lawrence Barclay, Six Lancashire Lasses, "Smith," Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ-grinder."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jewel's "Change," Frank Cass, Bioscope, Duncan's Collies, Matthews and Cowper, Three Merrills, McGregors, Northcotes, Sam Mayo, Harry Ford.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

George Ali and Co., Frank Crouch, Bioscope, Lyric Quartette, Margaret Parker, Dot Stephens, Delevines, Musical Silvo, Dorothy Dainty, Ed. E. Ford.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Dan Crawley, Harry Lamore, Glenroy Troupe, Fred Curran, Phil Rees's Stable Lads, Shirley and Ransome, Tom E. Hughes, Emma Don and Co., Bioscope, Bros Egbert.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Ten Loonies, Madame Hanako and Co., Mezzettis, Edie King, Three Belle Belles, Woodhouse and Wells, Keeley Bros., Jewel St. Leger, Bioscope, Ella Retford.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. T. Aldrich, Wyndham and Kitty, Florence Smithers, J. W. Hall, Evelyn Beresford and Co., Harry Leybourne, Harry May Hemsley, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Fred Earle.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Bioscope, Vesta and Minnie Pine, Tom Parker, Sable Fern, Thora, Lottie Lennox, Leonards, Cumminger and Colonna, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

G. H. Chirgwin, Tom Edwards, Jock Mills, Cissie Curlette, Barrett and Knowles, Chris Richards, Siems, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Le Roy, Talma, and Boscoe, Daisy Dormer, Bioscope, Maudie Francis, J. C. Scatter, Ricaldo and Salving, Bros. Redmond, Bugler Carr, Tom Foy and Co., George French.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Anna Chandler, Dan Lipton's "Songland," Hardini Trio, Will Johnson, Tom Stuart, Campbell and Barber, Laurie's Kindergarten, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Chas. R. Whittle.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Dancers, Cecilia Loftus, Cornalia and Eddie, Dorothy Ward, Black and White, Phil and Nettie Peters, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, Farr and Farland, Bioscope, Olga Elgar and Eli Hudson, Jen Latona.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

R. G. Knowes, Aida Martine, Lillian Dundas and Co., Leo Stormont, Mitchell and Cain, Jackley Trio, Maxey and Pete, Bensons, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Elly Adair, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Hilda Jacobsen, McConnell Trio, Kitty Wager, Anartos.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Edward Davies, Rhoda Paul, Tom Costello, Carmos, Bert Harrow, Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Tom and Marie Motramo, Florrie Gallimore.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, Fatmah Diard, Will Poluski, jun., Ted E. Box, Peggy Pryde, Rossi Ashton, Bioscope, Burt Shepard.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Wilkie Bard, Johnny Walker, Bros. Bright, Gwennie Llewellyn, Musical Jees, Brull and Hemsley, Bros. Dean, Baby Boden, Bioscope, Rauschle.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Rinaldo, Courtice Pounds and Co., Keene and Adams, Pat Rafferty, De Wynne Bros., Jack Lane, Chas. Torbay, Hans and Lux, Bioscope. Nell Emerald, May Henderson.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Kellinos, Phil Parsons, Frank and Free, King's College Boys, France and Stewart, Lux's Dogs, Ryan and Hall, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Hetty King, Bioscope, Leo Tell, Bertha Winder, Haytors, Marco Belli, Avolos, Spry and Monti, Drew and Alders, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Victoria Monks, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Rose and Calvert, May Mars, Leslie Bros., Charburn's Young Stars, Brennans, Ernie Mayne, Girard and Gardner.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Charlier, Conan and Doyle, Millie Payne, Ike and Will Scott, Helen Charles, Five Vernons, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Chas. Norton.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Seven Perezoffs, Harry Marte, Fielding and Hull, Mars Trio, Drum and Major, Annie Lang, Pictures, Horace Pollock and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Andos Japs, Bioscope, Lillian, "Vocalesques," Harry Herbert.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Gwennie Hasto, Stewart and Morgan, Frank Lynne, Four Mayos, Bioscope, Dion Wade, Callahan and St. George.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Sybil Lister, Sid Penna, Alice Maydue, Chris Van Bern, Bros. Durant, Blanche Vincent, Pictures, Tom Davies' Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Billie Burford, Arthur Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Finden, Lily Esplin, Fred Arthur, Pictures, Lena Verdi, Fred Bronte.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Closed for Alterations.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JULY 11.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Josh Dixon, Four Rosebuds, Narow Bros., Irene Meldon, Niblo's Birds, Pit Brow Girls, Clive Cattley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Warsaw Bros., Ryder Slone, Sisters Darnton, Sydney Brandon, Ethel Entwistle, Jeff Martin and Co., Bardoff, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Three Diamonds, Tom Garland, Millwards, Burt Ward, Hesseys, "Last Halt" Co., Bert Anderson, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Dolly Ross, Simms, Vonetta, Zellini, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, "Saved by Wireless" Co., "Roots, Chemist," Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Gretna Green," Two Lillies, Lilly Lang, Alexandra Park Races, Pictures, "Wife for a Wife," Doris Duce, Gertrude Bibby, Irene May, "Perkins, M.P.," Bessie Neilson.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Four Sydney Girls, Lizzie Daniels, Geo. Brooks, Geo. Campbell, Alexandra Park Races, Raymond and Toy, Vena and Velma, Pictures, Bernard Mervyn and Co., "G.P.O." Karno's Co.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Oliver Martyn, Showells, Jessie Wilson, Seddons, Colley and Scott, Walter Read, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dene, "Is it You?" Competition, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Velanche's Dogs, Harold Heath, Miss Elsie and Bob, Vaudeville Trio, Sisslo Brand, Danvers and Rosslyn, Sears and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Ellerslie Pyne, Will Cornish, Jack Hamilton, Hymack, Maud Cranley, Broughton and Creedon, Erne and Foster, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Chas. Woodward, Cedrics, Vela, Joe Belmont, Lilybelle, "Adder's Tooth" Co., Sisters Belmont, Geno Morelle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Alaskas, Fred Ward, Zanfrellas, Three Delaries, Carlton, Guest and Newlyn, Mysterious Cross, "The Circus," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Merrions, Rose and Jeanette, Ford Williams, Thiessen's Dogs, Harry Brown, Reed and Stevens, Rd. Fineberg, Chantello, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Rousby and Rene, Ada Gailey, Marion Scott, Pat Lynch, Gillin, Marriett Rose, Peterman and Co., Dan Fraser, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Reg Beauchamp, Reid and Power, Baron's Animals, May Knight, Arthur Croxon, Tom Clare, Lestree, Arabellas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Will Rennie, Flo Burnett, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Alice Gill, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Her Life in London."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Vera Mayne, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Tennyson and Wallis, Little Spencer, William Singers, Werds Bros., Scottish Chiefs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Alskarno Trio, Norah Desmond, Henri Cazman, National Girls, Pictures, Glen and Earle, Sadie Hart, Miss Desborough, "Sinners" Sketch.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Dan Conroy, Laurie and Elsie, Dancing Paceys, May De Rowse, "Re-United" Co., Sunday Pictures, Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendal, Arnold Bell and Co.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Leo and Roland, Tod Lowen, Jos. Crook, Aliaop and Beckwith, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Ruby Maybutt, Go-as-you-please Competition, Elsie Claire.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.

Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.

Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE TO ARTISTES, AGENTS AND OTHERS

The above Company is in no way responsible for the bookings of the

Hippodrome, Birmingham.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

I having this day appointed Messrs. H. ALTMAN and CO., 24, of Cranbourn-street, W.C., as Sole Booking Agents for my Halls and Concert Tours, Artists requiring Engagements will please communicate direct with the above firm.

ALBERT LEIGH,
Coliseum, Ilkeston.

July 4, 1910.

"ARTISTE" SERIES.

Smart Photogravure Stationery

Astounding Bargain !!!

SUPERB HALF-TONE BLOCK. Most superior block possible to produce.
100 SHEETS STYLISH NOTE. Printed with Photo Block, Name & Address. Elegant Type.
100 SUPERIOR ENVELOPES. Printed with Name and Photo Block.
100 FINE ART POSTCARDS. With Photo Block. Real Works of Art.
100 DATE LISTS. Printed with Photo Block, Name, etc.
100 FINEST IVORY BUSINESS CARDS. Printed with Photo Block, Name, & Address. Magnificent Cartes de Visite.

ONLY 10/6 — THE COMPLETE SET. — ONLY 10/6

Post Free !!!

Send your Photograph immediately with P.O. to
ELITE PHOTOGRAVURE STATIONERY CO.
63, Conduit Street, Leicester.

UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Limited, and HIPPODROME, DEVONPORT, LIMITED.

Chairman and Managing Director:
Mr. Alfred Moul.

Notice to Artists, Agents, Proprietors & Managers

ALL BOOKING BUSINESS

for Halls controlled by
UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd.,
viz.:—
Palace, PLYMOUTH; Grand Theatre, STONEHOUSE; Palace, BRISTOL; King's Theatre, GATESHEAD; Palace, ABERDEEN; King's Theatre, DUNDEE; and Hippodrome, DEVONPORT.
is now conducted from the HEAD OFFICES of the COMPANY at

BROADMEAD HOUSE, PANTON ST., HAYMARKET, LONDON.

and all communications relative to the same should be addressed to
Mr. HERBERT TAYLOR, Booking Department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artists and Agents seen by Appointment only.

THE STANDARD Folding Typewriter.

Price - - £12 12s.

Possesses advantages that can be found in no other typewriter AT ANY PRICE.

LIGHTNESS ... ... Weight 5¾lbs.
PORTABILITY ... 10in. by 8in. by 4in.
Visible Writing, Two-Colour Device, Aluminium Frame, Steel Wearing Parts, etc., etc.

Suitable for the Office, Private Use or Travelling Purposes.

Particulars Post Free.

HIDALGO MOYA

(DEPT. 2.)
LONDON: 85, STRAND, W.C. — *LEICESTER:* 22, LONDON ROAD.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Mrs. Matthew, 90, Cambridge-street (late Dundee), 2 front combined rooms; piano; excellent references.

LIVERPOOL. — Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Knight, Plemont House, 126, Lambeth-road. Sitting-room, bedrooms, large, combined; gas; pianos; near Canterbury and Surrey.

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms from 10s., combined ditto, and suites, bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, W.C. — 1, Guildford-place. Good home for travelling artists; bed-sitting rooms vacant, also single room; meals optional.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano, bath (h. and c.), gas. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over 30 years. Accommodation for Professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-street. Professional Apartments. Highly recommended. Moderate terms.

TO LET,
FIVE-ROOMED FLAT,
Denmark Hill,
unfurnished; low rental.
CHAS. LAWSON, Empire, Camberwell.

ABERDEEN SKATING RINK CO., LTD., IN LIQUIDATION.

To be

OFFERED FOR SALE

by PUBLIC AUCTION (unless previously disposed of by Private Treaty) at the offices of Messrs. WATT and CUMINE, Advocates, 8 Golden-square, Aberdeen, on Friday, July 15 next, at twelve o'clock noon.

The recently-erected and up-to-date Building used as a Roller-skating Rink, belonging to the above Company, and situated in Forbesfield-road, Aberdeen, together with Skates, Furniture, and Equipment complete, including Office and other Fixtures and Furniture.

The **SKATING FLOOR SURFACE** measures 225ft. by 75ft., and the Skates are the well-known Winslow Patent Roller Skates.

The **RINK** is lit by electricity, and heated by a system of gas-radiators.

The **LEASE** of the ground expires on Whit-Sunday, 1919, and is subject to a rent of £60 per annum, payable half-yearly, at Whit-Sunday and Martinmas.

For further particulars apply to Mr. R. R. DALY, Chartered Accountant, 5, Fenwick-street, Liverpool; or to Messrs. WATT and CUMINE, as above.

BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

WALSALL FAIR.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Corporation of Walsall have

GRANTED A LICENCE

to Mr. JAMES PERCY, the Lessee of the Fair and Market Tolls, for the Holding of a Fair on the 30th day of July inst. and 1st and 2nd days of August next, on a piece of land situate at the junction of Midland Road and Tasker Street, Walsall, on which all Shooting Galleries, Shows, Booths, Vans, or other Exhibitions are to be placed.

Any person Holding a Fair on any other land within the Borough, without the Licence of the Corporation, will be liable to a penalty of £50 for each day on which such Fair is held.

APPLICATIONS FOR STANDINGS are to be made to Mr. J. Pascoe, Collector to the Lessee of Fair and Market Tolls, 37, High Street, Walsall.

By order,
JOHN R. COOPER,
Town Clerk.

Council House, Walsall.
4th July, 1910.

COSTUMES

Army Pageant Costumes and Uniforms

FOR SALE.

All Periods. *Low Prices.*

ARMOUR! ARMOUR!! ARMOUR!!!
Army Pageant Armour
FOR SALE.
All Periods from Edward III. to Charles I.
Also Embroidered Armorial Surcoats, Painted Banners, Steel Swords and Shields, from authentic designs.

The Sale will take place at the
ARMY PAGEANT COSTUME DEPT.
903, FULHAM ROAD, S.W.,
JULY 11 to 17.
Hours, 10 to 1; 3 to 9.

FOR SALE.

The Entire **WARDROBE**, specially made by Baruch and Co., Berlin—London, for English Theatre Meta Illing in Germany, comprising complete **Costumes** for "THE RIVALS" (17), "SHE-STOOPS" (20), "CANDIDA" (4), "TRAGEDY OF NAN" (16), "FLORENTINE TRAGEDY" (5). For Sale in One Lot, or for each Play complete.
Particulars, apply, Dr. ZIEMSSEN, Berlin N.W. 6.

Boxing Lithos.

New Printing for Latest Subjects.

STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone Gerrard two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, next week, Beatrice Bonnie, Quartette, Wonderful Staviaphone Dancers. Big Novelty, Hippo., Salford. Private, 83, Upper Couran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ted Lucknow, refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Comedian. Success Victoria, Stanley; Monday next, Picture Palace, Consett; Lib. July 25.

WANTED, by Vulcaris, Humorist at Piano, and other Specialities, July 16, 23 (only vacancies). My original chorus songs are nightly devoured at the Imperial Picture Palace, Moston-lane, Manchester. 110th appearance and re-booked.

WANTED, by Perce Upton, Dame and Char. Comedian, July 18, 25, precede Liverpool. Hit, Crystal Palace. Wire, 268, Brownhill-road, Catford.

WANTED, July 11 and 18, by Martin Henderson, Blind Musical Genius. Middleshro'; next, Ivy Cottage, Regent-street, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Monday next, 11th, also 25th, by Ryder Davis, in Song and Monologue, any distance. Wire quick, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Dan Ashton, Collier's Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. Hamilton's Palace, Glasgow, 18th; McLaran's Palace, Govan, Glasgow, 25th; vacant onwards.

WANTED, Known, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian with the Corkscrew Dance, is vacant Monday next, also July 18. Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer. This, Victoria Hall, Blackburn. Offers invited, July 11 and 18. 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Dates, by Little Hackenschmidt, World's Greatest Bantam-weight Champion Wrestler, £100 challenge, &c. Coms., New Hall, Bargoed, South Wales.

WANTED, 11th, on, wire, the Great Countess Bekoffska (genuine title), Lightning Flower Painter; also the Hon. St. Vincent Ellesmere, R.A.M. (Baritone, Carl Rosa Co., &c.). Recent Great Successes, Palace, Worcester; Alhambra, Brighton; Grand, Halifax; Empire, Burnley; Palace, Plymouth. Starring Everywhere. Over £30 value of her paintings given free to audiences every week. All Managers delighted; refer to any. Great Draw. Wanted, also Advance Dates for "First Halls." Am spending £150 to make it Finest Act on Variety Stage.
This, Palace, Plymouth.
Perm., 42, Rugby-place, Brighton.

WANTED, July 18, Aug. 8, various, on, The Monckton, Comedy Duologists presenting "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two-in-a-Flat," &c. July 11, Hippodrome, Bury (Fourth Return Visit).

WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, by Rohde and Roche, the greatest Novelty Act Seen. "The Chameleon, Artist, and IT." Enormous success, Hippodrome, Peterborough. Monday, County Theatre, Reading. The only act of its kind.

WANTED, Monday, also 18th, Aug. 1, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, good Singles. Permanent address, 20, St. James'-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the Bright and Smart Vocal Comedy Act. Wire for a Sure Laughing Hit. 7, Arboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Lees, Novel Musical Speciality, twenty weeks with Macnaghten's Tour. Palace, Battersea, London, Wire.

WANTED, by Kloof and Ramsay, Comedy Musical Novelists, July 11, 18. Hip., Peterborough, Topping Bill. After Sat., 19, Sancroft-st., Kennington Cross, S.E.

WANTED, July 18 and Aug. 1, The Smalleys, Comedy Bar Act; Nellie Duval, Comedienne. C/o Mitchell, 4, Wemyss-place, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 11, 18, Edwards and Ward, smart, refined, and attractive Comedy Duo. Address, 23, Grosvenor-terrace, Camberwell Gate, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, also 18th, 25th, through transferring, The Dunvilles, Latest Unrivalled Comedy Musical Pot-Pourri Act. Wire, Alhambra, Belfast (third return).

WANTED, July 25 and Aug. 1, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality and Champion Somersault Dog "Jack." Own scenery, splendid lithos. Sure success. 23, Coopers-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Floria, Comedy Wire Artist and Wonderful Equilibrist. Vacant Monday, July 11. Wire, Opera House; or 25, Newland, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla walks and swings the high wire mounted on stilts; Touring the West Coast. Perm., Forest View, Waltham Abbey. Thanks T. Hay Contracts for High Wire, also H. Austin, Esq.

WANTED, Known, Lolo and May Trio, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists, magnificent silver and electric apparatus, costly wardrobe. On Tour, Alexandra's Hippodrome. Address, Helen's Cottage, Mattershall, Burgh, Norfolk.

WANTED, July 18, 25, Funny Jake, Clever Comedy Three-bar Act, also vacant for Fêtes. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Pot-pourri Act, free July 11, on. Wire, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, at Liberty 18th, Aug. 1, for Galas or Halls, in their New Sensational Revolving Breakaway Ladder Act. Big Success last week's Galas. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, July 25, Aug. 1, 8.
Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, July 18, Three Original Hodginis, Aerial Gymnastic Wonders (Seaside Scene). This week, 2, Wellington-terrace, Hanley; next, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas. Alex and Jolly, Comedy Three-bar Act; The Holmars, Acrobatic Clowns, &c. 35A, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, three Acts. Wanted, Smart Youth, Acrobat. 3, Hall-street, Ammanford.

WANTED, July 11, 18, Bouncing Peps, Star Novelty. Share or salary. Theatres, Pictures, Galas. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

Just returned from Long Successful Continental Tour.
J. OLRAC'S COMEDY FIVE,
the World's Greatest Acrobatic Comedians.
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 29. A sure draw. Screams, yells, applause. Wire or write, 218, Stockwell-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, July 11, 18, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, Strong Comedy Draw. Agents, De Vere, Oliver. Monday, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, July 18, 25, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two Smart Acts. Offers invited. Hippo., Chopwell, Durham.

WANTED, Oct. 3 and 17, by Forder's Merry Mannikins. Always new.
Pier Pavilion, Hunstanton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes. Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment. Creating a positive Furore everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of First-class Theatres, Music-Halls, and Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Only a few weeks in September,
and on, with exceptions, open.
Wire, Grand Theatre, Derby.
July 11, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

MISS ELLA'S LION SHOW.
WANTED, Known, vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, and 15, prior to Continental Tour.
All communications, 23, Lennox-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Vac. July 18. Add., 17, William-st., Bradford.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1, by Mlle. Doris and her highly-trained Troupe (8) of Fox-Terriers. Wire at once for a Top-liner. Monday, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, Fêtes, Galas, and A1 Fresco Speciality, a success. Wire or write, 19, Sherfield-road, Grays.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Wonderfully Wise Dogs, the Pugilistic and Dramatic Dogs, the only Show of its kind in the world. Bank Holiday vacant. Palace Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act; big for Pictures. Want July 18. Com. Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, by Hall and Wilson, in Motor-cycling Sensation, Vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 15 (South preferred), precede Paris. Managers requiring a Clean Act and a Draw, wire. This, Empire, Hull (fifth return and still topping). Manager more than satisfied. Thanks for offers. Next, T. R., Goole.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Champion Somersaulting Cyclists, "Football on Wheels," vacant 11th, 18th, 25th. Perm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 1, by The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; also Lillian Sivado, in her Novel Trapeze Act. Next week, Wilder's Galas. Address, 39, Salthouse-road, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, for the Great Cumberlands, the Cycle Act, July 18 and July 25, 1910, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1910.
All letters,
Next week, Circus, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Pauletti, Somersaulting Cyclist; Les Caros, Novel Gymnasts. Two or three acts. A few vacancies, Galas. 106, Bigland-street, Salford.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, First-class Refined Troupe of Pierrots and Pierrettes, with good Ventriloquist Turn, for July 18 and onwards; guarantee and share. Apply immediately, with full particulars, General-Manager, Erdington Rink, Erdington, Birmingham.

WANTED, Musical Amateurs, Ladies and Gentlemen, during the Summer, for S.W. Suburban Al Fresco Evening Concerts, party of four, vocal and instrumental (weekdays only); salary guaranteed and collection allowed; opportunity for talent. Write full particulars, Box 7,945, "The Era."

WANTED, Refined Artists all Lines, for High-class Concert Company, sharing terms, genuine, booking tour. Particulars, with répertoire, age, height, photo, to Kingsley, 85, Cowbridge-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, High-class Concert Party or Pierrot Troupe, Aug. 1, Sharing Terms.
Manager, Rink Palace, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, by Gent., with Stage and Seating room, an Al Fresco Pitch at Welsh Seaside Resort. Greenwood, 176, Wellington-rd., Heaton Chapel, Stockport.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
Full particulars, sample lithos. and post-cards in first letter.
A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, for Edinburgh and Dundee, 3 or 4 weeks in each city. Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, at Once, for Best Position in Town, High-class Side Show, mirrors or wax group. Royal Family. Will hire, or work on sharing terms. Sherman, Bijou Hall, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, reliable Lady Palmist, for Seaside, established business; sharing terms or salary. Box 7,950, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA (late Kursaal).
WANTED, Aeroplane, for short flights and as Side Show.
Wanted, Motor-car Roundabouts, Portable Bioscope Theatre, and other Attractions for grounds. Splendid results from opening grounds free; over 100,000 passed turnstiles during week ending July 2.

Wire or write,
T. W. Hilton, as above.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, for Cheltenham, smart Doorsman, used to High Window-billing, height about 5ft. 11in.; sobriety and civility indispensable; permanent engagement to suitable man. Apply, F. Cheshire, Poole's Picture Palace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, open Monday.
Jones, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, a First-class Doorsman, for Spectatorium, depicting Naval Battle, one capable of taking a lecture preferred; must be tall, smart, and of good address.

Apply, The Secretary, Monitor and Merrimac, Ltd., Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, High-class Doorsman for the Finest Side-show in existence. 25% on takings. Best position here. Barron, Exhibition, Yarmouth.

WANTED, a thorough good Comedian and Planksman, also Descriptive Vocalist; men used to the business preferred. Apply, R. Williams, Auction Mart, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, for the Season, an experienced Young Woman, for Shooting Gallery; live in. W. Russell, Belton Gardens, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Smart Girl, for Handkerchief Machine; must be good Saleswoman. Commence at once. Write, Larcher, 22, Royal-arcades, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by Gent., with Stage and Seating Room, an Al-fresco Pitch at Welsh Seaside Resort. Greenwood, 176, Wellington-road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport.

WANTED, an Engagement by Lady Tank Performer.

Address,
Ethel Doran,
35, Queen's-road, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Signor Trevori, Punch, Conjurer, and Ventriloquist, Vacant for Fêtes, &c. Ivanhoe House, Green-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Del Vaine's Charming Marionettes, vacant Monday next, also July 18, 25. This, Hippo., Devonport; after, 74, Upper Kennington-lane, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Palmist, young lady. Terms 36s. weekly. Address, Scientific Hand Reading, 47, Gillingham-street, Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, for following Fairs and Regattas for all Kinds of Amusements, Holdsworthy, July 12, 13, and 14, Honiton, July 18 to 25; Seaton Regatta, July 26 and Bank Holiday over; Great Primrose League Habitation Fête, near Ottery St. Mary, Aug. 4; Paignton Regatta, Aug. 9 and 10; Sidmouth, one week, then Dartmouth Regatta, Aug. 24, 25, 26, and 27; Totnes Races and other places to follow. Apply, Anderton and Roland, Launceston, Saturday; then, Holdsworthy, rest of week.

WANTED, to Let, Large Plot of Land, about one acre in extent, Coppy Quarry, Bradford, centre of city, for exhibition purposes. Further particulars, apply, Samuel Wray and Co., Coppy Quarry, Westgate, Bradford.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for all kinds of Novelties, also Strong Show or Marionettes, rent or shares, in Duchess of Gainsborough Arcade. Lord Geo. Clowes, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Sole Rights, South Sands, Bridlington, suit Ventriloquist or Punch and Judy. Wrightson, 7, Thorpe-street, Bridlington.

PLEASURE BEACH,
SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Building, 27ft. by 35ft., to Let for good Side Show.
Apply,
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach Co., Ltd., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Large Hall, 44ft. square, in principal business street in Brighton; also Bowling Alleys for Hire, on commission; first-class money-makers. Apply, Cheshire, 47, Havelock-road, Hastings.

WANTED, to Let, Fine Shop, suitable for Quick-showing novelty, Auctioneer, or any Game. Finest position in the town, facing the sea. Also room for Sketch Artist or Palmist on the Spa. Apply Smith, 12, Victoria-road, or Foreshore-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Seaside, Space, on Shares, for Novelty. Will rival the Johnstone Flood. Electric light essential. Harland, 97, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that having received Instructions to Offer for Sale by Public Auction that well-known Established Travelling Bioscope Show known as Chittock's Empire, I shall offer same at an early date. Full particulars as to the day and place of sale will be advertised in these columns next week.
Signed, Tom Norman, Silver King Auctioneer.
Address, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.

A Teddy Bear Roundabout,
all complete, with or without electric light, in thorough working order, and well worth the money. To responsible people part of the purchase-money can be arranged.
Apply,
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 6s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny-in-Slot Piano, cost £48, 10 tunes, almost new; take £14.
Branson, Queen's Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell at once, eight good Distorting Mirrors.
A. Whiteley, 12, Tenison-st., Waterloo, London, S.E.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by Floor Manager and Instructress, Re-engagement; excellent reference and testimonial last situation. Apply, G. W. C., 3, Gladstone-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Rent, Skating Floor, 20ft. by 28ft., for music hall stage, been used three weeks.
Address, Box 7,906, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Skating Rink on South Coast during Summer Season, 100ft. by 54ft, suitable for Exhibition or other attractions.
Address Box 7,909, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, Lease (5½ years, together with electric plant), Picture Palace, centre 35,000 population, mining district, the hall seating 800, low rent, expenses small. Apply, Langabeer, St. Andrew's-road, Exmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Building, 120ft. by 60ft., suitable for Picture Palace or Variety, in centre of Yorkshire town, 26,000 population. Box 7,942, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, two very fine interiors, as used at the Adelphi Theatre, comprising one conservatory set and one oak chamber, both in excellent condition, very cheap to immediate purchaser. Models can be seen. R. C. Buchanan, 6, John-street, Adelphi.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Walturdaw Bioscope, complete, with lamp and lenses; also Travelling Box; £10.
Manager, Hippodrome, Lancaster.

WANTED, to Sell, Kamm "Universe" Bioscope, including lens, condenser, lantern adjustment, with lens, new travelling case, with legs to use as stand, in good working order and condition. Price £15.
A. C. Rogers, Picture Palace, Ipswich.

WANTED, to Sell, Kamm's Universe Bioscope, iron house, arc lamp, sheet; £21, cost £36. C. Weldon, 50, Grosvenor-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, to Sell, 10 Scarlet Patrol Jackets (no trousers), gold corded, blue collars and cuffs, all as new, only used a few weeks. Cost £20; accept £10, or nearest offer. Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Known. Important sale of High-class Educated and Performing Horses and Ponies, with coloured harness and all performing utensils. The stud consists of nine high-class animals, all young, and in good condition, including two Beautiful Jet Black Horses, mare and entire. The mare goes through the scene of Dick Turpin death of Bonnie Black Bess to perfection. The whole stud is well trained and been touring Scotland this season, and proved a tremendous success. Must be sold separately or lot. Owner retiring. For particulars apply, Rintoul, Jigburn House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, to Sell, having just arrived, two of the Smallest Baby Teddy Bears ever seen alive in this country, about the size of a cat. For price and particulars,
Box 7,952, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, excellent Acrobatic Monkey Act and Model Blériot Aeroplane, complete outfit, electric motor, switchboard, cable, &c.
A fortune to a competent man.
Address,
J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, a Jumping Dog, 18 months old, not a would-be jumper, but a real jumper. Hunt, Jumper, Warrington.

WANTED, to Sell, Japanese Spaniel male puppy, two months old, show specimen, and very tiny, strong and healthy, faultless pedigree. 45, Bensham Manor-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome Dalmatian Pups, bitch and dog, 5 weeks old; also pure white Bull Terrier, 23 months old. Branson, Queen's Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, Pure White Thoroughbred Bull Terrier Football Dog; worth £10. Best offer. Trainer, 12, Silver-street, Whitby.

WANTED, to Sell, Photo Frame, 39 by 27, with strong travelling case, nearly new; also Make-up Box. Seen in London. Box 7,953, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Rattles, Sleigh Bells, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Macaronis, Glockenspiels, Organ Chimes, Resonaphones. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Box Trick complete, with Curtains, sack, cover, &c., £3 15s.; also other good tricks, cheap. Maurice, 19, Castelnau-gardens, Barnes.

WANTED, to Sell, Mystic, the Mechanical Talking Head, complete Act, suit Halls or Side Show, £15. Pharos, 25, Osbourne-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome "Cinderella" Coach, practically new condition, just redecorated. Apply, Potterton, Opera Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Flame Arc Lamps (2), brand new, cost £6 10s. each, accept £2 10s. each; 4,000 candle power. Electric, 99, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Al-Fresco Folding Chairs, 12s. a doz. to clear, quick sale. Edgar, 49, Wellington-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, or Hire out, Practical Circus Ring, with two folding doors; can be used on Drawing-room Floor or Meadow.
Apply, H. Cazman, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, One Musical Comedy, One Melodrama, Several Bright, Catchy Songs, Acts and songs written to order. Egan, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, Operating Iron House, for Bioscope, 5ft. wide by 6ft. 6in. high. Hodson, Theatre, South Elmsall, S.O., Yorkshire.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Vent, Figure, pretty Lady or Head Only, light in weight, cheap. Send photo. Le Hurst, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Bioscope, complete, cheap for cash; also sheet, measure 18ft. by 24ft. Apply, Box 7,964, "The Era."

WANTED, to buy, Big and High-class Illusions. Must be new and sensational. Send full particulars. Box 7,970, "The Era."

To Sketch Authors and Others.
WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Songs, Polyglot, Baby,
Dialect Patter,
Chorus,
also
Recitations.

Address,
Miss Madge Grey,
Eden Cottage, St. Andrew's-road,
Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, a thoroughly well written Sketch, with strong Star Part for well-known Leading Lady, Comedy or Drama. Apply, Box 7,974, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

COLISEUM, SOUTHAMPTON.
WANTED, to Let, for Fêtes, Concert Parties, Exhibitions, &c. Apply, with full details, to W. Trussell, Palace Theatre, Southampton.

EXCHANGE HALL BUILDINGS, WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
WANTED, Known, the Directors are prepared to receive applications for renting for a term of not less than five years the above Hall and Buildings, in most central position, holding 800. Applicants to state rent they are prepared to offer. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. J. W. Fisher, Wellingborough, to whom, marked on the outside "Tenders for Exchange Hall," applications must be sent by the 20th inst. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer. July 5, 1910. Willam Jackson, Chairman.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in July and o, wards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer months. Secretary, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Large Hall, Midlands, seat 600, stage, scenery, seating, operating box, electric inside and out, fully licensed, pictures and variety, ready to open. Leighton House, John-st., Smethwick.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

To Animated Picture Proprietors and Others.
WANTED, to Let, a Large Hall, about 40ft. by 100ft., suitable for picture show at a very small outlay. Apply, Peter Hamley and Sons, 104, Old Town-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and good Hall Spaces, for Advertisements, also Programmes. P. Beardsworth, Picture Palace, Foresters' Hall, Stalybridge.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Halls, or Public Halls, for long or short terms. All particulars to Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Rent, on agreement, or preferably lease, Theatre or Music Hall, in good position. Apply, stating full particulars as to seating accommodation, rent, &c., to M. C. E., Box 7,957, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, for Cinematograph Theatre, seating for about 400, including 100 tip-up chairs. State terms. Box 7,943, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, White or Cream Ponies, with Harness. Send particulars, Potterton, Opera Buildings, Tunbridge Wells.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Partner with £100, to open Picture Hall, which is already fitted with requirements; have own machine and first-class Operator. Full particulars, references required. Principals only. Box 7,966, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Tumbler, Second Mounter, Catcher, to join Troupe or Partner. Apply, J. M., 154, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Lady, now being trained, Gentleman Partner for Double Turn. Share expenses. E. H., 56, High-street, Islington.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 165, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ACCRINGTON.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Quality Quartette of Male Vocalists top the bill here, and contribute a highly-appreciated turn in "Gems of Vocal Harmony." The Woodwards in their sensational balancing act are warmly applauded; Johnny Deane, comedian, receives an ovation; a smart and prepossessing vocalist is Miss Nellie Wigley; Carl Lynn is excellent as an animal mimic; Sadie and Vone in music, mirth, and ragtime dancing provide a capital turn; Marguerita, a most graceful trapeze artist, is deservedly popular; and the Pictures on the Bioscope complete the programme.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—A good variety programme is presented here. The Roysterers, in a new musical interlude, entitled *Uncle's Annual*, are very successful; the Videos prove to be particularly skilful skaters; Agnes Molteno, in *Dolly and the Coach*, is effective; Arthur Rigby gives clever and funny renderings of *Woman's Rights* and *The March of the Married Men*; the Great Vincent, in a table tumbling act, is highly acceptable; and the Bros. Lawrence, in a vocal and dancing act, are deservedly well received. Harry Blake, an old favourite in new songs, again does well; and Miss Rosie Lee as a comedienne and dancer pleases.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Revill for the summer season is relying upon modern melodrama, and the people are giving fair support. This week the romantic, domestic drama *For Wife and Home* is being produced by Power and Faulkner's company. Mr. Robert Faulkner is impressive as Roland St. Pierre; Miss Marion Ryder as Rosette Legrand, the Rose Bud, must be complimented on her grace and dignity of carriage and her forceful and sympathetic acting; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn scores as the half-brother Henri St. Pierre; Mr. Edwin Maydew as Gaspard le Farge, a mesmerist, finds favourable opportunities to elaborate a clever study of character; and Mr. Edward De Vere, Mr. Bruce Williams, Mr. Frederick Lisle, Mr. Clifford Locke, Mr. G. Swale, and Mr. Stanley Hobane do good work in minor rôles. Miss Georgina V. Clifford as Celeste le Grand finds scope for her dramatic resources, and Miss Alice Bradshaw as Miladi St. Pierre is well cast.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem. — Mr. Raynor and his répertoire company opened on Monday evening with the play *David Garrick*. Mr. Raynor's interpretation of the nom-rôle lacked nothing in courtliness, and in the great scene of the play he did extremely well; as Simon Ingot, the city merchant, Mr. Milton C. Curtis was responsible for a stern, yet kindly, impersonation of the indulgent parent; Mr. Conrad Heywood was the coarse, wine-bibbing Squire Chivy to the life; and Mr. J. B. Montague realised cleverly the coarse humour of Mr. Smith. Mr. Charles Brandon as Mr. Browne and Mr. W. A. James as Mr. Jones were able exponents of their respective rôles; Miss Cecilia Dare presented a clever study of the impulsive, impressionable Ada Ingot. On Tuesday evening Mr. Raynor gave a tense and touching interpretation of Count Skariatine in *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—Love Among the Roses is a comedy of the pastoral kind. There is something, too, of love and romance in the details of the story. It is presented by the A.B. company of actors. The Two Brothers is a narrative of Spanish hatred, vividly portrayed by the A.B. players. There are numerous other striking pictures. Watson and McHugh sing and dance successfully.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Mr. Leckie's efforts to please his patrons receive due recognition. This week's bill is varied in its selection of pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—The management here are having an entire change of pictures twice weekly, and are drawing increased patronage as a result. Variety turns are given by Ray and Douglas (Ida and Fred) in a comedy scena, *The Postman and the Girl*; and Mr. Fred Locke, eccentric comedian.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—The excellent programme presented here this week includes some of the latest and best productions of the picture world, the principal series being Cowboy's Devotion and Bride of the Haunted Castle.

BARNSLEY. — EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Hutton.—The quality of the entertainment here is still excellent. J. W. Darley and Co., in *Music*, submit a highly acceptable musical sketch; the Van Domines are funny in a quaint and clever acrobatic act; the musical side of the bill is further sustained by the Sisters Brand and Brooks Bros., both excellent turns; John Donald is received with much appreciation in his scena *A Scottish Girl's Dream*; acrobatics of a high order are supplied by the Adras Bros.; and Tom and Neil are humorous exponents of the acrobatic business. Fred Stay's Steeplejack Cyclists complete the bill.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—The great Raymond is here with some fascinating tricks; Little Sunbeam is a bright singer; the Two Kokos are good burlesque artists; Les Grossi are realistic dancers; Morris and Moore are expert dancers; Ryde and Beeman give some acrobatic eccentricities; Luella Cross is a dainty comedienne; and Miss Lily Vane is an amusing artist.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Vallagers are still here with a capitally varied programme.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Fred Newman British Empire Pictures and Variety Company are still enjoying great popularity here, and draw good houses.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. H. G. Pelissier and the Follies commenced at Bath on Monday their summer "flying" tour of provincial visits. Most cordial welcomes were accorded to the old favourites, Miss Gwennie Mars, Miss Ethel Allandale, Mr. Dan Everard, Mr. Lewis Sydney, and Mr. H. G. Pelissier, and the new-comers Miss Effie Cook, Miss Muriel George, Mr. D. Maclaren, and Mr. M. Harvey.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mr. Hymack, the chameleon marvel, is bewildering all who see him, and his turn is much enjoyed; Will Cornish, handbell ringer, delights with his melodious selections; Jack Hamilton, with songs, stories, and dances, wins approval; Erne and Foster amuse the house in their Jack and Jill interlude; excellent singing and artistic instrumentalism is given by Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon; Mr. Ellerslie Payne, in dramatic recitations, displays fine elocutionary powers; the Palace Perfection Pictures please.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The entertaining performances of the Whips, a costume concert party, on their first visit to Bath, are greatly appreciated.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Mr. F. Marriott Watson's company opened here on Monday with *The Black Mask*. Miss Florence E. Florence was good as Nellie Cunningham, and Mr. F. Marriott Watson deserves commendation for his enactment of Henry le Noir; Mr. Willis Elton appeared to advantage as Philip Cunningham, and Mr. J. Woodall Bird was excellent as Walter Blackmore; Miss Mabel Harland was all that could be desired as Stella, and a capital impersonation of Samuel Winkle was given by Mr. Fred Imbert; Miss Dot Forde's Philip le Noir was a skilful study, and Miss Hettie Senior was a vivacious Emma Burt. Other rôles were adequately presented by Miss Flo Norman, and Messrs. Jas. Abbott, Elton Morgan, Aubrey Winn, and Jas. Chippendale.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading position here is held by Spissell Bros. and Mack, who present with success mirth-provoking pantomimical sketches. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, the popular Irish humorist, delights his many Belfast admirers, and Mr. Harry Friskey, comedy juggler, has made a big hit; the trapeze performance of Natalia and Diana is graceful and smart, and the tumbling feats of Pasquali Bros. are wonderful; Mr. Monty Walker is a comedian with new ideas, and Tray and Rich gain deserved encores for their patter and dancing. The bill is completed by Mr. Ernest Clifford, comedian and dancer, and the Hipposcope, with humorous picture Foolshead at the Ball.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—A series of artistic living statues, under the style of "Makers of History," forms the premier attraction here this week, and meets with much appreciation; Billie Burford, with chorus songs, gains hearty approval; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden present with much success one of their mirth-provoking sketches; Mr. Arthur Slater, comedian and whistler, has a good reception, and Miss Lena Verdi is an accomplished comedienne and mimic; Mr. Fred Arthur, comedian, is a favourite, and Miss Lily Esplin a character comedienne of ability. Also here are Mr. Fred Bronte, vocalist, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Many attractive pictures have been presented here, including The Gold Seekers, Susan's Revenge, St. Elmo, &c. The variety element is sustained by those versatile artists Jesta and Hope and Mr. Barney Murphy, comedian and dancer.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some interesting films have been shown here this week, including The Soul of Venice, A Western Romance, The Legend of the Horse-shoe. Miss Babs Lloyd, comedienne and danseuse, appears with success.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among some attractive films presented here may be mentioned Told in the Golden West, For Her Country's Sake, The Mexican's Revenge. Mr. John Short, Scotch comedian, supplies the variety, and his songs have created merriment.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—The pictures shown this week include The Prodigal Son and A Dash to Death. Sim Maree, a marvellous contortionist, and Lilian Lowe, popular vocalist, also appear.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Wilson Howard's company, in *Under the Iron Heel*, with Miss Carlotta Anson as Germaine Mirblemeau, a part which she sustains with marked ability. Mr. Douglas B. Watson is an admirable Rene de Maupassant; Mr. J. W. Richards is well to the front as Otto Marx; Mr. Dennis Clyde is efficient as Major Schromberg; and the representation generally is excellent.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—The Royal Banzai Troupe of Japanese entertainers, including Little Togo and Tiny Nogi, are a big attraction. Miss Bessie Slaughter, a talented contralto vocalist; the Great Four, a vocal quartette of ability; Miss Kathleen Gray, comedienne; Mr. David Poole, a smart ventriloquist; Mr. Charles Bignell, the popular comedian; Will Haines, an entertaining comedian, all contribute enjoyable turns. Brown's Royal Bioscope varies the programme with excellent films.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—The well-known drama, *The Diver's Luck*, capably represented by Mr. Andrew Emm's company, is cordially received; Mr. Edmond O'Grady as Barney Bawn is most amusing; Mr. Wm. Macready gives a fine rendering of Martin Faber; Tom Hale is cleverly enacted by Mr. Herbert Vere; and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff appears with distinction.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Calder O'Beirne's company, in Dibdin's ballad opera, *The Waterman*, are prominent here.

BIRMINGHAM. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—There is much human interest in the drama *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*, which is produced here by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company, and audiences show their appreciation in a hearty manner. Miss Agnes Collier is a conspicuous figure as Alice Walters, and Mr. Fred Emery displays the necessary force in the character of the Rev. John Alberry. As the Farmer and his wife Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell and Miss Florence Delmar are responsible for several effective situations. Mr. Edward Fryer cleverly portrays the heavy character, and Mr. Herbert Fuller deserves praise for humorous acting.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. A. B. Mackay's comedy-drama *The Beginning and the End* is finding favour with audiences, the humorous and exciting incidents which abound in the production occupying full attention. Mr. Mackay portrays the character of Greville Brayle with distinct success; and Miss Ida Mackay as Dora Brayle displays artistic feeling. Miss Lillie Lewis is clever as Marcelle de Valcour; and Mr. George Diaper ably sustains the dual rôles of George Brayle and Captain Nemo. Mr. Jack Corlan and Miss Trixie Leighton are popular in humorous characters.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The closing week of the Carlton Dramatic Company reveals no falling-off in patronage, the comedy drama *For Life and Liberty* being produced. Mr. Norman Tracy gives a good account of himself as George Linforth, the hero, and Miss Nellie Thorn Hallam wins approval in the rôle of Mary Linforth. Mr. Victor Gardom adds another to his many successes by a clever portrayal of Richard Walshaw; Mr. Newton Pearce is amusing as Silas Swiverley; and other parts are well presented by Mr. Geoffrey Broughton, Miss Yoxa Summers, Miss Margaret Thorne, and Mr. Frank Holyoake.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Williams.—The Poluskis are paying a very welcome visit to this hall, and their show is as fresh and amusing as ever; Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's company present a very effective sketch, entitled *The Organ-grinder*, in which a splendid reception is accorded to Little Bella Terry; Lawrence Barclay is a comedian with a clever style; Winifred Hare is a popular contributor; Smith makes a hit with his merry patter; the Six Lancashire Lasses are a bright combination; the Martialo Trio are expert jugglers; and Smite and Smote, Azella Wilson, and the Bioscope provide other notable turns.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The spectacular production of *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*, by the Jewels, forms an excellent top-liner, the remarkable stage effects being very effective, whilst audiences thoroughly enjoy the humorous situations; those two popular comedians Harry Ford and Sam Mayo are well to the fore, and each keeps the house well amused by his own peculiar style of wit; Matthews and Cowper present a successful sketch; the Three Merries are smart trick and comedy cyclists; Duncan's Royal Scotch collies perform remarkable feats; the Northcotts are applauded for charming singing; the Musical McGregors render pleasing items; and Frank Cass is a clever character comedian.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The eight charming Daughters of Eve are proving a big attraction this week. Audiences are delighted with a splendid series of artistic tableaux. A favourite singer is Daisy James, and the choruses of her songs are heartily taken up; Kelso and George are smart dancers; Clifton and Gibson are a diverting couple; Edie George has a good reception; and other good contributions are provided by the Lester Brothers, dancers; Will Brockton, the Three Rochesters, G. Webber, and George James. The Bioscope is well to the front with good films.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Edward Lauri, May Beatti, and company present their musical comedy play *The Lady Bandits*, which scores a great success. The humour is of a rich order, and the company a very capable one. Walter Emerson is a popular contributor, and his songs are well received; Newman and Knight present a smart comedy skit; Aggie Nolan is a dainty comedienne; the Ellimans are popular musical entertainers; the Little Vestas are promising juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Newman and Knight score in *The Juggling Milkman*.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—An attractive programme is here this week. The Colorgraphy pictures are an important feature amongst the animated subjects, The Troubadour, with special music, being greatly enjoyed. The Toreador is another popular picture; and interesting colour views are provided, illustrating a journey in the Laos State. Pictures of the late King's Funeral attract much attention at matinées. Miss Dorothy Veitch is making her first appearance, and is a popular vocalist.

KING'S HALL.—Owners and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The principal attraction in the programme of pictures this week is a dramatic subject, entitled The Smugglers. The beautiful scenery of the Imatra Rapids is displayed in a splendid film, and there are many other subjects of a popular nature, the humorous pictures being well received.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The crowds who flock to this popular picture house are well catered for. There are many new subjects exhibited this week, dramatic and humorous films being popular.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Arthur Gallimore Trio are a good comedy turn; Cash and Clair are clever dancers; Cestria is pleasing in his juggling and acrobatic turn; and Ada Fawn's songs delight the house. Included in the bill are the Bros. Obo, Michel Madden, Les Zelovas, and the Hipposcope.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is paying another visit here this week, with *A Royal Divorce*, and big houses are the rule. Mr. Keith Fraser as Napoleon, and Miss Edith Cole as the Empress Josephine receive their usual warm reception, and the other parts are in capable hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*Dolly Reforming Herself* is being capably presented here this week by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company. The title-rôle is carefully played by Miss Dorothy Giles; and Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes supplies a capital study of Harry Telfer. Professor Sturgess finds an ideal exponent in Mr. Russell Barry; whilst Mrs. Sturgess is ably accounted for by Miss Florence Steventon. Mr. Arthur Vezin as the Rev. James Pilcher, Mr. Hanworth Browning as Captain Wentworth, and Mr. Cecil Brooking as Matthew Barron also play their parts with credit and distinction.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Lander is the big attraction here this week, with old and new songs; the Craggs appear in their acrobatic sketch, and are successful; the old favourite, Walter Munroe, dances and sings Irish songs; Devon and Earle are marvellous dancers; Archie Royer is a versatile performer; the Gaudsmidts are clever clown acrobats; and Maude Vera is a dainty comedienne. Howard and Harris contribute a good sketch.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A capital company is appearing here this week, comprising Maud Lordy's troupe of wonderful and clever dog acrobats and actors. Charles Rothwell, quaint comedian; Henry Hilton, magician and sleight-of-hand expert; Calile and Walker, novelty vocal comedy entertainers; Denaro Bros., juvenile hand equilibrists, acrobats, and tumblers; Albert Rees, drawing-room entertainer; the Geo. A. Richmond Trio, vocalists, dancers, and paper manipulators; Master George Doonan, comedian and expert dancer; De Canty's grand illuminated water grotto, in which is introduced Mlle. De Silva; and the Premier Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Will Letters and company are entertaining crowded houses here with a musical farce, entitled *The Would-be Pierots*. Mr. Will Letters is the life and soul of the performance. An excellent entertainment is completed by the bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maurice Mahony; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Shackleton.—The big attraction here is Miss Marie Lloyd, in all her latest successes. Julian Mack, the popular pattering Dame comedian, is amusing with his patter; Maurice, the marvellous mystifier, shows cleverness in his card manipulation; Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French impressionist, is successful; Arthur Woodville, comedian and dancer, keeps the audience entertained; Addie Lennard, comedienne and dancer, also deserves mention. The Hippo pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—This week Mr. Frank Adair is presenting Mr. F. Maxwell's drama *The Heathen and the Christian* here. Mr. Adair's representation of Li the Avenger is marked by intense dramatic power; he is ably supported by Mr. Herbert Sydney as Chang Lu, and by Miss Louie Adair as Mira Sampson. Miss Stanley Burt acts with earnestness as the persecuted May Berresford; Mr. F. Withers effectively fills the part of Lung Hi; the broad burlesque humour of Miss Connie Meadows as Becky Fibbins is acceptable, and there is noticeable merit in the George Berresford of Mr. Dudley Wynton, the Lieut. Allendale of Mr. G. Shirley, and the Admirable Freebold of Mr. G. Turner.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—A rousing reception greeted the comedian and raconteur R. G. Knowles on his reappearance here on Monday, and in song and "patter" he was as diverting as ever. In their vocal and musical comedy act *The Page and the Maid* the Bensons are entertaining; the Jackley Trio, with the funny George, do some good acrobatic work; Aida Marline is a dainty comedienne; Maxey and Pete are clever trick cyclists and very humorous; as Nance Arden in a dramatic episode *Convict Nance* Miss Lilian Dundas acts with power and pathos, and she is admirably supported; W. Mitchell and John J. Cain, in their turn *The Frenchman and the Other Fellow*, are diverting. Leo Stormont, baritone, renders his songs well, and the Bioscope pictures are amusing.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—A finely-acted military episode, *For Honour*, is winning for Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene golden opinions here; Oliver Martin, "sporting patter" comedian, wins favour; and Jessie Wilton is good in character vocalism. The Seddons are clever and diverting comedy jugglers, and Walter Read's banjo solos are well executed. There is some smart comedy by Colley and Scott (Fred and Minnie), excellent entertainers; the Alaskas are capital comedy acrobats, and the Palace Perfection pictures include some interesting local views.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Chas. Palmer.—Mr. Norfolk Megone commenced his series of symphony concerts on Thursday last, when his full orchestra gave a finished performance of the various numbers in the programme, the splendid Italian Symphony by Mendelssohn being magnificently rendered under Mr. Megone's talented conductorship. Miss Margaret Wigley was the solo pianist, and her rendering of the solo part in Grieg's Concerto in C was a masterly performance, for which she was twice recalled. Elgar's "Wand of Youth" suite was very finely rendered by the orchestra, and Mr. Megone is to be congratulated upon the success of the first of his series of symphony concerts, which attracted a large audience. The vocalist at the promenade concerts this week is Miss Esther Yunson, a pleasing contralto. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Walter George and his "Smart Set" entertainers are drawing big houses to their talented performances. A new cinematograph "house" has been erected outside the Pavilion, and the new show was successfully inaugurated on Monday evening, the pictures being thrown on the screen with wonderful clearness and effect. Mr. Palmer, the energetic manager to the Corporation, is giving his thousands of patrons one of the biggest programmes to be found at any watering-place on the East Coast of England.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—A clever company of entertainers, "The Gay Birds," under the management of Mr. Alexander Lee, opened here on Monday night before a crowded audience. Miss Langdon is a charming comedienne and dancer, and her songs at the piano were capitally rendered; Miss Doris Trevelyan possesses a sweet soprano voice, and she was recalled at each turn; Miss Jessy Cliff is a smart soubrette; Mr. Alexander Lee shone in his elocution; Mr. Frederick Park is a humorous comedian; Mr. Vivian Munro is an excellent light comedian, and his duets with Miss Langdon are very smart performances; Mr. Harry Taylor is the solo pianist, and a most efficient accompanist; and the staging and effects are well carried out. Mme. Angless and her Ladies' Orchestra continue to give great pleasure by their concerts under the Glass Dome, the special artist this week being Miss Annie Croft, a clever young vocalist, entertainer, and dancer.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The stock company here is performing *Pete* this week. Mr. Frank R. Petley displays masterly skill in his portrayal of Pete Quilliam; Mr. Austen Milroy merits praise for his enactment of Philip Christian; Mr. Fred Acton's Cæsar Cregeen is an admirable character study; and Miss Maisie Hanbury imparts charm and sympathy to her representation of Kate Creegen. The remaining characters are ably sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—W. F. Frame, Scotch comedian, is very diverting with his songs and patter; Al Lawson and Frances Namon are well received in their comedy cycling and ball punching turn; the Eight Elves are very pleasing in their refined singing, dancing, and instrumental act; Merrie Maie Dillon is a capital Dutch comedienne and expert dancer; the Cardows are entertaining with dialogue and vocalism in their athletic display; the Two Romers are appreciated in their vocal and military duologue *Comrades in Arms*; Will Challiner, as a comedian and dandy dancer, is effective; the Walonells appear in a comedy bar act; Victoria Wright is a charming comedienne and dancer; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Phil Ray, the popular patter comedian, is enthusiastically applauded; Jay Laurier is a quaint and pleasing comedian; Bertisch is very successful in an athletic act; La Belle Greta is a dainty vocalist and dancer; Phil Hermon, Tyrolean and character vocalist, is entertaining; Marshall and Parr present a refined comedy and vocal act; the seventeenth century sketch, *The Last of the Desmonds*, is favourably received; Dale and O'Malley are diverting comedians; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy, is cordially applauded; and the Turkish musical comedy, *The Belle of the Orient*, is presented by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company are here this week with *The Education of Elizabeth*. Miss May Norris gives an artistic impersonation of Elizabeth Black; Miss Emily Stevens makes a winsome and entertaining Blanche Macintyre; Mr. E. E. Norris is a droll Reggie Hankey; Mr. Herbert Garthorne is an admirable Harry Fairfax; Miss Helene Forest as Lady Middleton, and Mr. Fred Castleman, as Mr. Whitby, merit praise.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—The picture plays here prove very attractive. The Way of the World conveys an impressive story, the scenes of which are laid at the famous San Gabriel Mission, California; Sound of the Horn, Double Dealing, and Abandoned are replete with stirring incidents; and the amusing pictures include Susan's Revenge, Poor Pa Pays, and The Story of the Re-naming of the Hotel. Mr. Julian Rutt, at the pianoforte, is effective.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here continue to attract good houses. La Sevelli is a moving dramatic story full of exciting incidents, Beautiful Windermere is charmingly picturesque, The Sorceress is highly dramatic, the Shepherd's Dog conveys an instructive story, and much fun is provided by The Order to March, The Faker's Flute, and Neo, the impressionable artist. Mr. Osland Denner gives his baritone songs in artistic style, and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits warm praise for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—Crowded houses are the rule here, the series of animated pictures being warmly appreciated. Parks and Lakes at Stockholm is a finely descriptive film, The Paymaster, and the Stolen Purse, are dramatic, and the pictures of a comic character include Am I Mad? Coco and the Earthquake, and Mex Tries Ski-ing.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The Follies, under the direction of H. G. Pelissier, paid a flying visit here on Tuesday last, giving their entertainment both in the afternoon and evening to crowded houses. The various items of the first part of the programme went admirably. The "Potted Plays" were *Henry of Navarre*, *Fires of Fate*, and *King of Cadonia*, and the performance concluded with a very amusing "Burlesque of a Modern Music Hall," in which the whole strength of the company took part.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here with *For Honour and Revenge*. Miss Sidney Crowe displays considerable dramatic ability in her study of Maude Desmond; Miss Netta Mitchell plays in sympathetic style as Mary Galston; Mr. G. M. Montanini acts cleverly as James Galston; Mr. Herbert Skardon is convincing as Sir Gilbert Redville; Mr. C. Russell is impressive as Harry Travers; and Mr. Howard Harvey makes the most of the part of Arthur Redville. Miss Madge Palmer and Mr. Herbert Woodin evidently revel in the comic parts of Nancy O'Brien and Joe Reckitts.

PALACE.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Local Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Fred Karno's latest production, *Mr. Justice Perkins*, heads the programme, and is appreciated. Dr. Wilmar's mysterious "spirit paintings" prove interesting; Silbon's Cat Circus is amusing; Percy Farrimond is a pleasing tenor vocalist; Edna Deno sings and dances in good style; Russell Carr is an effective ventriloquist; the Keiths present a good musical turn, the lady member of the company dancing in excellent style; and Williams and Warren entertain with a lot of smart patter, &c. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—King and Benson, a really smart comedy duo, head the bill with much success, their patter being amazing. The Claymore Trio do some smart dancing, club juggling, &c.; Blanche Marion is a pleasing comedienne; the Four Kahns excel in their magical act; Albert Letine, "dame" comedian, has some smart songs; Royston and Bradfield amuse with their speciality *The Bailiff and the Actress*; R. Dunning, ventriloquist, is successful; Dolly Harmer is a pleasing comedienne; and Dan Smart, comedian, obtains applause. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Signor

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL.

Copy of Letter.

Mr Harris, The Chemical Cleaning Co., 13th July, 1910.

Dear Sir,

Although somewhat late will you please accept my best thanks for the great care and trouble you took in cleaning the White Silk Wedding Gown.

My Client, although one not easily satisfied, could only express surprise at the result. Your success has got us out of a difficult situation.

Yours very sincerely,

GEO. E. LAWSON.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Arvi presents here his artistic mystery "Les Metables," a really wonderful performance, and on each evening holds a fancy costume and beauty prize competition for local ladies and gentlemen; Ben Lewin, an artist of ability, gives clever character impersonations; Marie Kay and Ray Royal contribute good singing, the latter lady's songs being assisted by bright illustrations; the Borella Brothers are responsible for a novel acrobatic speciality; Phil Kaufman is a favourite comedian; and the Operascope maintains its usual excellence.

BURY (Lancs.). — Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company, in *A Wrecker of Men*, is here. Mr. Arthur S. Pitt gives an able rendering of Jim Murley; Mr. Arthur Robinson displays ability as Guise Strange; as Pharosaphus Mr. Victor gives a clever study; Rallton is well played by Mr. Richard Boeco; Mr. Thompson Carruthers acquits himself admirably as Eric Melville; Mr. Edward A. Brooke provides clever impersonations of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus; Mr. William A. Armour is most efficient as Hon. Reggie Verincourt; Miss Lydia Hart is an amusing Vavazole Slopper; Doris Melville is delightfully played by Miss Gwendoline Talbot; and as Risca Mallinson Miss Ruth Zillwood gives a particularly powerful performance.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—The pictures are still proving a big attraction, and pleasing variety is introduced by Alice Craven, Lancashire vocalist; and Drury and Lane, comedians and dancers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Herbert Darnley and company, including Chas. H. Bell, in *John Jay, Jun.*, provide a popular turn; the Monctons are successful in *A Woman's Curiosity;* another good turn is that of Herman and Evelyn, in a pot-pourri act; the Sisters Lindos are capital comediennes and dancers; George Dollin gives impersonations of well-known stars; Alick Lauder, Scotch comedian, and the Cromwells, in a really clever juggling act, complete the bill.

BUXTON. — Opera House. — Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company, in *Diana of Dobson's*, paid the Opera House a third visit on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week. Miss Eva Leonard Boyne acquitted herself admirably in the name-part, and was well supported by Miss Nannie Hume, who doubled the parts of Miss Smithers and the Old Woman; Miss Hilda Francks, who played exceedingly well as Mrs. Cantelupe, and Miss Mary Crave, who gave a neat little sketch of Mrs. Whyte Fraser; Miss Edith Robey enacted Kitty Bront nicely, and smart work was also done by Miss Cicely Oates as Miss Jay and Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe as Miss Morton. Mr. Thomas Pauncefort was well suited as Sir Joseph Grinlay, and Mr. Briscoe Owen deserves commendation for his work as Captain the Hon. Victor Bretherton. The play was preceded by *Out West*.

CARDIFF.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The popular comedian Will Evans is a big attraction here; the well-known tenor Edward Davies brings down the house with his beautifully-rendered ballads; Florrie Gallimore is as popular as ever; Tom and Marie Motramo, musical comedy artists, cause no end of laughter; the Carmos are a couple of sensational jugglers and acrobats; Tom Costello, in new songs, is entertaining; and Bert Harrow, the rum comedian, is very funny. Beaty and Blanche, prepossessing duettists, obtain a good reception; Rhoda Paul, comedienne and male impersonator, sings and dances admirably. The programme is brought to a close with the Bio.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—*The Adder's Tooth*, presented by Louis Taylor's London company with distinction and success, is a prominent turn here this week. Mr. Dudman Bromwich is admirable throughout as Teddy Maddox, and does full justice to a striking character; Mr. Hodgson Taylor is also exceptionally natural as James Bannister; while Miss Katherine Clarke wins the favour of her audience as Kate Bannister. A turn full of surprises and fun is that of Gene Morelle, the ragged virtuoso; Lilybelle is a graceful barefooted dancer; very successful is Vela, in his comedy wire act; Joe Belmont, the human bird, is clever; and Charles Woodward, light comedian, obtains considerable commendation. The Cedrics, comedy artists, the Belmonts (Hettie and Bessie), talented dancers, and the Bio complete.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The enterprising manager here is giving his patrons a taste of variety. Reano and his band head the bill. The Saletos are truly described as "equilibristic marvels"; Barney Stuart is a mimic with an original and taking style, and Mlle. Du Roche's sweet soprano voice is heard to advantage in popular numbers; Mike Gray, assisted by his dog Dooley, juggles to the delight of his audience; and Manfield Grove, a Dame comedian, Zasma, a clever athlete, and Renie, Ernie, and Allie, three precocious and smart little performers, contribute popular turns. A turn quite out of the ordinary is provided by the Tennessee Guards, whose drill movements and wall scaling are quite a feature of the bill.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—One of the most entertaining turns this week is given by Sidney Brandon, his dramatic character studies and impersonations being wonderfully realistic and impressive; a character comedian of ability is Mr. Ryder Slone, who has two quaint songs; the Warsaw Bros. contribute a comedy musical sketch, and Jeff Martin presents "The Sport of 100 Years," concluding with an excellent boxing bout between Dick Murray and Joey Smith, clever exponents of the art. Ethel Entwhistle, with nice songs well rendered, Bardoff, the Russian strong boy, in weight-lifting feats, the Darntons, lady vocalists, and some fine pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A powerful attraction and the most interesting picture shown here this week is one by Gaumont of the local schools' sports, ten Maypole dances and parade by some very young girls. Crowded houses are assembling. Lambert and Vernon are duettists of considerable ability; the lady also shows merit as a dancer. Harry Albery, comedian, is a success with songs and patter.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Stanley Arkins, the messenger boy; Tennis and Laune, pleasing serios; the Brothers Curran, in a medley of mirth; the Five Bombays, with a lively and popular singing and dancing act; Lily Palmer, a neat and pleasing dancer; Tom Joy, with parody and patter; and Horace Hunter and company, who present in excellent style the sketch *Under Suspicion*. Lacey's Erascope has some interesting films.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Mabel Sinclair is one of the leading attractions here, and delights all with her well-known clever ventriloquial entertainment; Miss Dot Hardy's low comedy songs go well; audiences marvel at the dexterity displayed by the Brothers Babusio; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls contribute an entertaining scena; and others appearing are the Hendersons, speciality artists, and T. Edwin and C. Penrose, comedians.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Palace of Varieties.—Business Manager and Secretary, Mr. Thomas Butt.—Tom Leamore, comedian, creates roars of merriment with his songs and eccentric dancing; Jack Smiles, who has been engaged for a further week owing to his great success, continues to amuse, and is this week serving up his latest creation "Fish Sauce"; the comedy sketch *Her Husband is* well played by Ernie Lotinga and company; Gulliver supplies a clever turn as a ventriloquist; Ina Lorimer is a comedienne and dancer of ability; and Dorothy Sephton is a charming burlesque artist; Peter Kelly sings a good comic song; and the Palace pictures present one or two good films. The excellent orchestra is under Mr. A. Malcolm Parkes.

Operetta House.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Jury; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles F. Meadows.—The films shown here this week include several of a humorous character. Mr. Walter Gray is the accompanist and Mr. E. Grant the operator.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Miss Violet Osmund's company in *The New Barmaid* is here for six nights. Mr. Alexander Loftus in the rôle of Bertie White scores heavily, whilst he has a good aide in Mr. Chas. Adeson as William; Mr. Geo. Fox sings creditably as Capt. Lovebury; Miss Madge Prior makes a fetching Dora Heather; Miss Beatrice Erle is most vivacious; Miss May Hawthorne appears as Brenda; and Mr. E. W. Chewd undertakes the part of Colonel Claymore.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moulliot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The big item this week is another visit by that standard animal turn Lockhart's Elephants; the Society Quartette, in dance and song, present an excellent entertainment; Addie Adell, an old favourite, again scores a triumph with her high-class vocal numbers; Bonetti and Corri in a comedy juggling act are much enjoyed; Flo Cecil again proves a welcome turn; Johnnie Osborne goes well in a racing monologue; Maisie Dene dances with extraordinary abandon, and is greatly applauded; and the Pathé films are interesting.

CONSETT.—Daly's New Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—An excellent bill of fare is provided here. The Two Le Bruns hold premier place in a capital juggling and comedy act; Ted Lucknow, musical clown, is another good turn; and the pictures are of a high standard.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsone; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The top turn this week is provided by Miss Lily Hammersley and company in *Rough Justice*, a stirring story of life in the Far West. Mr. Norman Partridge as Pete Karney acts with great ability; Mr. Stanley Harris as Jack Halesy is successful; Miss Hammersley as Madge Goodwin is all that can be desired; Miss Lillian Drury takes the part of Halesy's sweetheart very well indeed. The Bouncing Dillons, novel comedy gymnasts, give a very smart and interesting turn; the Three Warners perform some extraordinary acrobatic feats; James Stewart, "the tramp at the pianoforte," gives a good performance; George D'Albert proves a very popular comedian. Other artists who do good work are Billy Rex, versatile entertainer; Hughes and Elliott, very fine dancers; and Daisy Taylor, singer and dancer.

CROYDON. — Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Harry Tate and company are very funny in the sketch *Flying;* Harry Barford and company make a hit in the sketch *Cottage or Palace?* George Rae is a clever Scotch comedian and dancer; Les Marsumas are great in a humorous cycle act *The Navvy's Rest;* Jack Pleasants is an entertaining comedian; Ray Ford, comedienne and dancer, is very good; Daisy Hurale and Grace Langley are charming comediennes; Larry Lewis is a praiseworthy comedian; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Richards.—A word of praise is due for the excellent management of this popular picture hall. Visitors crowd to see the up-to-date and exhilarating programme, and comment has been made of the civility of the attendants. This house has quite held its own in spite of the keen competition.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—An excellent variety programme is submitted this week headed by Fasola, the Indian fakir; the Sisters Gave are dainty duettists and dancers; the Codys give an excellent performance as lasso experts; the Lannons in their comedy act, *The Policeman and the Maid*, introduce clever pedestal dancing; Leon and Tee are funny in an act entitled *On the Farm;* Silverstone is a fine mimetic entertainer; Harry Bland, comedian; Iva Mona, comedienne; and the Darloscope pictures conclude.

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—The Walons (Ranee and Willie) provide a musical comedy turn of merit; Arthur Richards, character comedian, is appreciated; capital films shown include A Lesson by the Sea, Black Peril, and Lieut. Rose and the Spy.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Walford Bodie made his first appearance here on Monday, and achieved as great a success as elsewhere; Atlas and Vulcana, assisted by Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, present a first-class exhibition of heavy weight-lifting; Mlle. Doris is successful with her cleverly trained dogs; Dolly Robson suitably sustains her title of a bell-voiced vocalist; Jack Diamond is a deserving trick dancer; Bella Skene is a pleasing comedy artist; and Tom Gold does well as a comedian. There is also an interesting series of pictures in natural colours by the Bio.

DEVONPORT.—Theatre Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The Irish drama *The Colleen Bawn* was accorded a hearty and well deserved reception. Miss Dolly Gilroy as Eily was a general favourite; Mr. Leonard Aardale ably impersonated Myles. The other members of the cast were Mr. Conrad E. Stratford, Mr. Sam Roberts, Mr. John Sargeant, Mr. Chas. Lincoln, Mr. T. McDonnald, Mr. N. Purke, Miss Rita Sponti, Miss Jannie Tatman, and Miss Maggie Lindsey.

Hippodrome. — Manager, Mr. G. Prance. — Albert Whelan is a big favourite with audiences here; the Canworths provide appreciated banjo selections; the Smarte Bros. are clever comedy acrobats; Lily Hayes delights the house with her songs and dances; the Keppels contribute an especially good vocal turn; the Czar Troupe of Royal Imperial Russian dancers are excellent; and the sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, was well produced.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Will Glaze's company in the melodrama, *No Mother to Guide Her*, is presented here twice nightly. Miss Rene-Belle Douglas gives a remarkably fine rendition of Nan, the flower seller; Mr. John S. Millward as the Rev. Tom Pelham acts with skill and impressiveness; Mr. J. O. Stewart as the bully Bill Bunce is repeatedly applauded for some very fine acting; as Bob Coleman, Mr. Will Glaze is very successful; Julia Patterson has a strong and capable exponent in Miss Georgette Theirry; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers as the villainous Felix Campbell, *alias* Green, gives a powerful portrayal; a sympathetic rendering of Millicent Saxby is presented by Miss Betty Seymour; Mr. Tom Beasley as Tim does well. The other characters are well sustained.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Heading a strong bill is Will H. Fox, who delights everybody with his comedy and trick piano playing; Hayes and Merritt are aptly described as the Bounding Wonders; the Three Prestons give a very novel and diverting sketch, *The Village of Shift 'Em*, and are accorded an excellent reception; a very popular turn is Miss Ethel Thomas, the Welsh nightingale; J. H. Ellis is a very funny comedian; Kingstone-Trollope submits a powerful dramatic rendition of his monologue, "Only a dream"; George Adams has an excellent baritone voice, and goes well; Monie Mine is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Tiny Arnold is greatly appreciated. Up-to-date animated pictures are also shown, during which the orchestra under Mr. E. G. Summerfield play some fine selections, and a cornet solo by Mr. J. W. Grayson is highly appreciated.

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. Christian.—Some excellent films are shown here this week, including Thou Shalt Not, Taming a Grandfather, Western Justice, and a host of other interesting and humorous pictures.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Woman's Past* was unfolded here on Monday by Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company. Mr. Percy Dawsone as the victimised husband, David Heath, illustrates the character with chastened dignity; Frank Dellaney as portrayed by Mr. Charles Lock is lovable and popular; Messrs. Alexander Knight and Clifford Hamilton as Clement Harper and Uriah Craven are both clever; the Jack Crawford of Mr. Henry Bargate is well sustained; Miss Laura Bitterne enacts the rôle of Mrs. Brown effectively; Dorothy Heath is played with refreshing charm by Miss Cherry Veheyne; Miss Phyliss Elton acts capably as Clara Darrell; and Miss Dora Pass plays cleverly in the title-rôle.

DOUGLAS. — Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—The late Tom Robertson's *Caste* was staged here on Monday evening. Miss Madge Crichton's Pollie Eccles was a distinct creation; Miss Ida Phillips made a pathetic Esther; and Miss Lucy Beaumont a dignified Marquise. The Eccles of Mr. George Delaforce was a broad comedy study; Mr. Frank Tennant was a picturesque and forceful George Dalroy; the Captain Hawtree of Mr. Douglas Vigors was true to tradition; the Sam Gerridge of Mr. Jack Crichton was crisp and self-contained, and made an admirable foil to Mr. George Delaforce's Eccles. The company gave only three performances of *Caste*, the other nights being occupied with the representation of Mr. Arthur Shirley's *The Artfulness of Ada*, in which Miss Madge Crichton appears as Ada Byron Bruce. On each occasion the play of the evening was preceded by an incident, *Music Hath Charms*, cleverly conceived by Mr. Douglas Munro and sincerely enacted by Mr. Geoffrey Berwick, Mr. Stanley Liston, Mr. George Munro, and Miss Kathleen Rae.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Little Damozel* was played here on Monday. Miss Emilie Polini in the title-rôle did well, her insouciant Bohemianism and unrestrained passion being delicately "stippled in." The Recklaw Poole of Mr. Alick Chumley was to the manner born. He was typical of the plunger who has lost, the racing man who has gone under, and yet who knows the possibilities and the pain of "it might have been." The Hon. Fitzroy Luck as presented by Mr. Guy Newall was a distinct study of decadence illumined by a sense of humour; Mr. George R. Brandram in the rôle of Captain Neil Partington was of quite real artistic value to the *ensemble;* Mr. William Matthews imparted character to Walter Angel, proprietor of the Café Angelique; as Papa Bertholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham, members of the orchestra of the Angelique, Captain Gambier, Mr. H. Ravenscroft and Mr. Frank Roy were always in the picture. *The Little Damozel* was preceded by a smart curtain-raiser, *Curing A Selfish Husband*, brightly penned by Mr. Newall and artistically played by the author, Mr. George R. Brandram, and Miss Maud Rivers.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Dancing, skating with competitions, and exhibitions are the staple fare here. The variety programme is comprehensive. Mr. Harry Weldon provokes laughter by legitimate means; Colbert is a clever club juggler and hoop roller; Miss Alice Esty is a painstaking male impersonator; Ross and Grayson make for merriment in their piano playing; Miss Ouida Macdermott sings with vim; Burley and Burley are smart acrobats; the Four Royal Scots are refined vocalists, instrumentalists, and entertainers; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is a fine draw in the ballroom at ten o'clock.

Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's entertainers are a feature in the Olympian Gardens, adjoining the Palace, every evening, and the Sunday concerts are ever a great vogue.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The popularity of Derby Castle is always a certainty, and on Monday a large and well-pleased audience attended the function. Mr. Jack Lorimer is a real draw—his quaint humour, his clever songs, and his dancing get there all the time. One of the smartest and most original turns presented to the public for many moons is that which the Zella-Vondi Trio are giving this week. It is a musical pot-pourri act, which enables the leading lady artist to demonstrate that she is an original musician of fine quality. Miss Veronica Brady repeats her success as Gretchen in the dainty trifle so cleverly written for her by Mr. Hugh Nolan; *Humpsti Bumsti*, as presented by Pipifax and Panlo, is a remarkable act; Miss Stella Stahl is a smart soubrette; and Mr. Sam Elton completes a very entertaining programme.

Connor's Grand Circus.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Connor.—The audiences here must have been quite acceptable to the enterprising entrepreneur who runs this popular pleasure resort. One reason for this is that the clowns are really amusing, and while they preserve time-honoured tradition they have novelties to negotiate. Little Mona Connor's riding is daring and graceful, and her brother's is equally good in its way. The other artists, who include the Leopold Legless Troupe, De Ora, Rose and Maie Brilliant, Mr. George Madigan, Captain Roberts and company, Frederico and Edgardo, and the Circuscope, make more friends and admirers with ever-changing audiences.

Buxton's Amusements.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Frederick Buxton.—Pierrot concerts here increase in popularity by reason of the appearance of such bright entertainers as Miss May Birkett, Miss Edith Butler, Mr. John Story, Mr. Ernie Famont, Mr. Allan Hanbury, and Mr. J. J. Mannix among others. Special attractions also are the Picturedrom, the skating rink, and the billiard saloons.

Onchan Head.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Collier Cubbon.—The attendances at Onchan Head must be most gratifying to the engineers of the popular attractions offered. Mr. Charley Harvey and his associates go on increasing in public favour. The firework displays draw large concourses of people. The bal-masques competitions for cash prizes have caught on. The open-air dancing is quite a vogue, while the skating rink is well patronised.

Other amusements in Douglas are Dare's Empire in Regent-street, which with pictures and varieties is accorded its due share of public patronage, and Dare's Minstrels on Douglas Head.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Large audiences continue to be attracted here. This week we have Little Tich, whose clever performance is heartily enjoyed. Scott and Whaley give great satisfaction in their eccentric dancing; Cummin and Seaham are amusing in their funny business, "The Ragman and the Postman"; the Garricks submit a delightful song-scena, and the Newmans, with clever tricks on their bicycles, and the whistling performance of Shrillo are well appreciated; Sophie, the juvenile artist, sings pleasingly. The Bioscope pictures conclude.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is here with *The Greed of Gold*. Miss Amy G. Earle's impersonation of Mrs. Maxwell is excellent; Mr. Carthage-Caldcleugh cleverly enacts the part of Harry Hood; Mr. Alf. Edwardes does full justice to the rôle of Mr. Brightstone, and Dora Hood has a capable representative in Miss Amy Doris. Mr. Herbert Leonard makes the most of the part of Con Creamer, and Mr. G. Newell is capital as Mo Chow; Miss Violet Leyton is all that can be desired as Patty Mayfield, and Master Bernard Fox makes an admirable Cecil Hood.

Empire Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—Mr. G. H. Elliott, "the Chocolate-Coloured Coon," who tops the bill here, sings several of his well-known songs with great success, being recalled again and again; Miss Alice Maydue is a most convincing comedienne, and the Davis Trio in their daring act, "Motoring in Mid-air," are received with much applause; Miss Blanche Vincent's pleasing voice is heard in several ditties; Sid Penna is a capital comedian; Chris Van Bern is very versatile; and Iva Voyce and the Brothers Durant also appear.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Harry Tate's No. 1 Company in *Motoring* is on a welcome return visit. The L.V.O. Trio in their sketch *Those Troublesome Slaveys* create much laughter, and Fayre and Manning are capital comedians. Others on the bill are Talberto and Douglas, "Extremely Absurd People"; Les Lanas, vocalists and dancers; the Unites, comedy acrobats; Lisbon and Barker, extemporising comedians; Ada Marjutti, the Flexible Venus; Florence Brooke, in singing scena; and the Bioscope.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Robert W. Sprengel.—The following artists are successfully appearing here:—Miss Amy Wilton, ballad vocalist; Bell and Bell, comedy duo; Miss Ida Parr, serio and dancer; Miss Norah Howard, singer of chorus songs; and the Sisters Hibbert, harmonising vocalists.

The Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—"The Scarieteers" are appearing here this week and are being well attended. Miss Mary Hope gave several recitals, "Pa's Soft Spot" and "Reggie," in an exceedingly clever manner; Miss Daisy May was very entertaining in songs and dances, and Miss Lilian Sanders sang her songs, "It is the time of daffodils" and "Who shall have the roses?" in a most pleasing and effective style; Mr. Harry S. Clark, Mr. Sydney Leon, and Mr. Teddy Miles also do some excellent singing, which was warmly appreciated, and the pictures supplied by Messrs. J. T. Jameson and Co. are up-to-date and amusing.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—George Leyton is starring here in *Lucknow*, in which he is assisted by a number of war veterans; the Georgians are smart musicians; and the merry acts of Courtney and Wilton and D'Ort and Leonard are to the liking of the audience. Lily Edwards is making a hit with catchy chorus songs, and Gordon Stretton's coon ditties take well; Morimura is a smart juggler. On the Kingscope is displayed an admirable film of the Review of French Troops by ex-President Roosevelt.

Gaiety.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—The Hammersley stock company continue to attract large audiences. This week's drama is *The Dear Homeland*, in which the leading parts are cleverly played by Miss Dora Hammersley and Messrs. Charles Kean and Finn Doyle. Miss Bella Reid is a charming child actress.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Another attractive picture programme is being submitted to the numerous patrons of this Hall. Rastus in Zululand is a beautiful study of tropical scenery.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—Fine business continues the rule here.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. William Mollison's company is appearing here in *The Chorus Lady*. Miss Rita Carlyle cleverly extracts humour and pathos from the part of Patricia O'Brien; Miss Elsie Vron-Neville does good and capable work as Nora; Miss Josephine Woodward is a delightfully natural and artistic Mrs. O'Brien; Miss Agnese D'Aragan makes a small part prominently successful as Mrs. Coote; Miss Mabel Durrant is a handsome Miss Simpson, and a number of pretty ladies in beautiful dresses enact with much realism the parts of chorus ladies. Mr. Henry Ludlow works earnestly and well as Dick Crawford; Mr. John Sims-Woolley is a pleasing, manly Dan Mallory; Mr. Harold Neville does well as Patrick O'Brien; and Mr. Eric Dane and Mr. R. Marshall are life-like stable boys.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Edwin T. Hey's company is appearing here this week in *Candida*. Mr. Ian Maclaren does excellent and consistent work as the Rev. James Morell, Mr. Francis Hope is a conspicuous success in his comedy work as Mr. Burgess; Mr. Frank Darch undertakes the part of the Rev. Mr. Mill easily and naturally, and the clever work of Mr. Leonard Mudie as Eugene Marchbanks deserves the highest praise. Miss Maire O'Neill is an animated and pleasing Candida, whose sympathetic work in the third act is particularly effective; and Miss Muriel Pratt cleverly makes every point as Miss Garnett. *Delicate Ground* precedes, and is well played by Miss Pratt, Mr. F. Darch, and Mr. Ian Maclaren.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—At the top of the bill here are Mooney and Holbein, who sing, dance, and patter in a clever and amusing style; Amasis is a smart conjuror; Miss Maggie Fraser has a sweet voice, and sings pleasingly; Mr. Johnny Hurley scores as a coster comedian; Messrs. Young and Evans are amusing patterers and dancers; the Evalos are expert ring performers; Mr. E. exhibits a variety of slides and makes comments upon them, and new pictures are shown on the bioscope.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and company are this week presenting *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr. Lovel as Benjamin Goldfinch is responsible for a clever piece of character acting; Mr. Watkin Wynne in the character of Uncle Gregory is all that can be desired; Mr. Frederick Meads as Percy plays throughout with distinction; Mr. Melville Chiswell as Dick is to be complimented on his clever impersonation; and Miss Octavia Kenmore as Mrs. Goldfinch has a marked sense of character. On Friday night, when Miss Kenmore took her benefit, she played the title-rôle in *Magda*.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Edinburgh playgoers have had the opportunity this week of seeing the Scottish Repertory Theatre Company in a promising work, *Barbara Grows Up*, by another new dramatist, Mr. G. J. Hamlen. The comedy contains several amusing episodes, and the dialogue is bright and clever. The outstanding feature of the performance has been the admirable impersonation of the heroine by Miss Muriel Pope. Miss Pope is gifted with an attractive presence, an expressive face, and a voice of great sweetness and charm. Her portrait of the young wife was extremely natural and girlish, and revealed powers which augur well for success in her profession. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Margaret Morrison showed the remarkable variety of her comedy style. Graceful in bearing and perfect in elocution, she played the sensible woman of the world with striking effect. That sterling character actor Mr. Campbell Gullan was excellent as Kenneth Morrison; and a Scotch serving maid was depicted with humour and an easy command of the Doric by Miss Lola Duncan. Mr. Walter Roy as Andrew Purdie, Mr. Norman McKeown as Barney O'Brian, and Miss Winifred Gunn as Mrs. O'Brian helped, by their capital studies of their respective parts, to the general buoyancy of the play. The comedy is preceded by a strong, if somewhat repellent, one-act piece, *The Last Man In* by Mr. W. B. Maxwell, in which Mr. Norman McKeown gives a powerful bit of acting in the title-rôle, and Miss Dudgeon displays with telling pathos the part of his mother. Mr. Albert Cazabon's finished rendering of various violin solos are again received with rounds of appreciative applause.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—One of the principal attractions here is that quaint comedian Mr. George Formby, who comes with several new songs, of which "Playing the game in the west" is a really clever piece of burlesque work. Mr. Formby is recalled again and again. The charming vocalist Miss Amy Augarde and her company appear in the musical farce *The Sicilians*, in which the fair singer renders wth her customary expressiveness and effect one or two delightful ballads. Mr. Mike Whallen tells with all his well-known power stories both humorous and pathetic; Orpheus shows his command of a large variety of musical instruments; Lydia and Amelys give, with grace and ease, a series of Continental dances, concluding with a realistic exposition of the Apache dance; the Three Laurels display dexterity, neatness, and muscular power in a smart acrobatic act; and Miss Nellie Farrell sings her Irish songs with vivacity and humour. Other items in a capital programme include Miss Cassie Walmer, a splendid dancer; Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers; and views of Ski-jumping by the American Bioscope.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Frankenstein, The Price of Fame, and A Romance of the Western Hills are admirable examples of powerfully dramatic pictures in this week's programme. Bird Life is a charming and educative series, and the amusing subjects include, amongst others, The Short-sighted Duellist, a very funny picture.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A moving drama, The Mystery of Temple Court, is the leading picture here, but The Cowboy's Sweetheart is not far behind in its attractiveness, while St. Elmo is another excellent subject. Carlile and St. Malo and Coombs impart admirable variety to the programme.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—Favourable weather and local holidays have helped to swell the tide of visitors and pleasure-seekers during this past week. The popular programmes of music rendered by the band of the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers under Mr. W. F. Cooper's direction have drawn crowds to the band court, and in the concert hall packed houses have been attracted to the enjoyable entertainment provided by Herr Meny's White Viennese Orchestra, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas in their Dickens impersonations, the conjuring of Mr. Owen Clark, and Bioscope pictures. The skating rink continues to receive good support. A ballroom was opened with much success on Friday evening, and further special attractions are in preparation for the holiday season.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Starring here this week are the Three Torontos, in a smart athletic act; Alfred Wellesley returns to make a hit with the farce *Uncle's Courtship*, in which Miss Beatrice Webb and Mr. Joseph Bruce lend valuable assistance; Mabel Mavis, an accomplished musical entertainer, finds much favour; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists, are popular; Eva Strauss renders two ballads with feeling; Harry Moore, in a paper-tearing act; Demerell and Rutland, comedians; and the Kingscope are other pleasing items.

Metropole Theatre. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—*The Shaughraun* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Fred Elvin is a pleasing Conn; Mr. John B. Shinton ably fills the rôle of Captain Molineux; Corry Kinchella receives excellent treatment at the hands of Mr. Stanley Bedwell; Father Dolan affords Mr. Sidney Rennef an opportunity of showing his ability; Mr. Bert Atherton scores as Harry Duff; Miss Ada M. Ryder faithfully portrays Clara Ffolliott; Miss Lilian Earle scores as Arte O'Neill; and Mrs. O'Kelly is cleverly impersonated by Miss Annie Brunnette

GLASGOW. — Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Tom Watt's company is here in the Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*, presented in highly-creditable style, the parts of Archibald and Lady Isabel being most adequately filled by Mr. Frank Beresford and Miss Ida Heron. The rôle of Bullock (Mr. Joe Rowland) is likewise in very capable hands; and as Levison Mr. Wilfrid Percy Mansfield ably maintains the traditions of the character. Mr. Tom Watt gives proper weight and dignity to the part of Lord Mountsevern; the Justice Hare of Mr. Jerrold Manville is a well-finished performance; Mr. Eric Lugg does well as Richard Hare; and the parts of Dill and Hallijohn are ably taken by Mr. C. Elliott and Mr. Clifford Clifford. The Cornelia of Miss Isabel Singleton is a clever study; and Miss Alice Seymore makes an attractive Barbara Hare.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—George Robey is the star here this week, and the popular comedian is in his best form. All his songs go well, and the King Charles impersonation is intensely funny. The Gothams cause roars of laughter with their comedy business, and their singing is first-rate; Arabella Allen's impersonations of Dickens characters again proves her sterling ability, and her reception is cordial; Ben Albert is most amusing in his various songs, and takes well; Nina Wood, at the piano, contributes several catchy and enjoyable songs; the Kirbys give a lively and enjoyable comedy turn, full of funny business, and with a steady flow of entertaining patter; Lily Flexmore's acrobatic dancing is marvellous; M. and Mme. Alf Agoust give a clever juggling act, with a lot of new feats introduced; Amy Marsden's low-comedy sketches take well. The Bioscope concludes a varied programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—An amusing sketch, *The Plumbers*, is the principal item in the bill here, and is the cause of a succession of hearty laughs, as played by Messrs. Fred Emney and Harry Grattan, and Misses Emily Spiller and Blanche Doris; Ivan Tschernoff's ponies, dogs, and pigeons all show evidence of careful training, and the turn proves most enjoyable; Edna Latonne makes a hit

comedy act, which takes well; Sam Thomson's humour as a Scotch comedian makes him a big favourite at this hall; Sisters Cara, as pantomime favourites in the Princess's Theatre, are accorded a hearty reception; Mlle. Ottino gives a smart conjuring turn, and keeps the fun going with her bright and lively talk throughout; Barnes and West are a clever couple, and are heartily applauded; Edith St. Clair makes a hit with an Irish song, and also as a chorus vocalist; the Rizarellis give a smart and dancing trapeze act; and another good acrobatic turn is that of the Azar Trio of lady gymnasts. Wynnie Darrell is a comedienne and dancer with a bright and lively style. Some clever new films are shown on the Palacescope.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Chas. Austin, as that excruciatingly funny constable *Parker, P.-C.*, provides the audience with a lively half-hour's fun, in which he is ably assisted by the members of his company; in another vein is the condensed version of *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Fred Storey once again makes an excellent impression as the light-hearted Rip; My Fancy, in her dancing scena, "Winter, Spring, and Summer," shows her sterling ability, and rouses the audience to enthusiasm in each part; Miller Brothers are a clever and amusing couple of horizontal bar artists and burlesque wrestlers, whose turn takes well; Eva Compton is a dainty comedienne; Helene Donald sings several songs in cultured style; and the Westwoods are neat and graceful in their cycling display; Charles Vincent is accorded a hearty reception for his parody items; Three Sisters Kilner give a display of acrobatic dancing; and the Bioscope concludes a good programme.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Tasmania, with a seal hunt in progress, and warships and airships manœuvring in various parts of the world are among the fine collection of romantic and comic pictures presented here.

PANOPTICON, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Messrs. Allen and Austin top the bill here, the vocal part of the entertainment being exceptionally good; in Miss Madge Field we have a vocalist and dancer of merit; Mr. Fred Lloyd, an established favourite, adds to his reputation with several new songs; the vocal numbers submitted by Miss Marie Ross are pleasingly rendered; Messrs. Raymond and Colby are responsible for a smart turn. There is a choice selection of pictures.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Milne.—In addition to pictures, Joe Melrose, Scotch comedian; Bella Ray, in illustrated songs; and the Waltons, duologue artists, contribute to the programme.

STAR PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Guss Lazenberg.—For the second week of the Star Palace the management had again a well-selected company of artists. Miss Agnes Tina proved herself an especial favourite; and the Attilla Brothers win popular favour. The pictures are again in great demand; Mr. Harry Leaton, character vocalist, adds pleasant variety with his songs; W. H. Smart completes the programme. During Monday evening the manager, in a neat speech, appealed to the public to support his efforts to run a music hall in Partick.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—To judge by the attendance here since the opening night, Signor Volipi's Royal Italian Circus is sure to prove a big attraction. The feats of many of the animals are remarkable. Jumbo, jun., the baby elephant, delights with its musical lesson; and Thurga, the calculating pony, is positively intelligent. The other animals are both amusing and interesting. The clowns, Bishop and Winkles and Dan Gregory, add a spice of humour to the entertainment. The Zoo collection is also very interesting.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Messrs. Pooles Theatres, Ltd.—A capital picture show is given here relieved by illustrated songs by Miss Kitty Woodford, and despite the hot weather good houses rule. The dramatic season begins on Aug. 1, when *The Fatal Wedding* will be played.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Boultwood.—Pictures are the entertainment here, and a capital performance is given.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—The Monarchscope pictures and varieties are doing good business here; Hall and Wilson, trick and racing cyclists, are seen in a number of daring feats; Sam Ello is a comedian of much merit; Grover, card manipulator, gives an excellent display; Clavie Hastings is a charming descriptive vocalist; Palette and Otto provide a pleasing musical comedy act; and Max is a clever performing dog. The pictures are again of the best.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—This pretty little theatre reopened for the summer season on Monday with *The Thief*. The acting of Mr. Bernard Limpus as Richard Chelford is on a high level throughout; Miss Barbara Everest as Marise Chelford treats the part with true artistic touch; the Raymond Leyton of Mr. F. Morland leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay gives a clever reading of Harry Leyton; Mr. W. Somerset makes an admirable Mr. Protheroe; and Isabel Leyton is suitably placed with Miss Mary Forrester.

AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is presenting here *The Mikado*, *The Gondoliers*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Patience*. On Monday the ever-popular *Mikado* was played to a capital house. Mr. Henry A. Lytton portrays the irrepressible Ko-Ko, and quickly takes the popular fancy; Mr. Fred W. Pattrick, with a commanding presence, does well as Pooh-Bah; the Mikado himself is well rendered by Mr. Leicester Tunks; Nanki-Poo is well portrayed by Mr. Henry Herbert, who sings in good style; Pish-Tush is presented by Mr. Sydney Granville; and Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, and Peep-Bo are undertaken by the Misses Marjorie Stone, Beatrice Boarer, and Myfanwy Newell. The Katisha of Miss Louie Rene is characterised with good acting and singing.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—A good collection of pictures, humorous and interesting, is being submitted here during the holiday week, and excellent houses rule. The selection includes The Hand of Fate, A Knot in the Plot, The Bride of the Haunted Castle, Baby's First Tooth, Trapped, and Water on Every Floor.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The American drama *At Cripple Creek* is here again. Mr. Wernham Ryott gives a vigorous portrayal of Joe Mayfield; Mr. Charles E. Johnson vividly represents Martin Mason; Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson, as Manuel Alvarez, is equally good; Miss Agnes Verity realises admirably the character of Dynamite Ann; Miss O'Neil acts pleasingly as Belle Gordon; Mr. Pringle Roberts is excellent as the Indian, Wahketah; Mr. Harry Benson creates amusement as Ben White, the negro; and Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason, Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood, and Little Doris as Little Tatto also accomplish good work.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The spectacular speciality presented by the Venetians has many novel features, and their representations of living statuary are thoroughly artistic; Graham is also responsible for an entertaining speciality, *The Music Hall of 1875 and 1910*, giving marionette impersonations of artists of different periods; *Her Devonshire Father* is a laughable farcical sketch, the principal part being taken with much success by Mr. Victor Widdicombe; Ross and Lewis are a good turn; Sara Rosebery is an excellent Lancashire dialect comedienne; The Lurellas, lady gymnasts, perform smartly; and Little Pam dances prettily.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric pictures and varieties continue at this premier place of amusement, and, notwithstanding many counter-attractions, the attendance is good. Two special films are particularly fine, The Kid and Conscience, and truly realistic is the one depicting Hunting Wolves in Russia. Capital turns are provided by Miss Ivy Deene, in song and dance; the Gelders, society entertainers and magicians; and the Caritons, who foot it in style.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—Messrs. Robert Cunningham and John Le Hay are here giving refined vaudeville entertainments.

CANDIE GARDENS.—The Galeties, headed by Mr. Wilson James, are here for a short season, and are drawing good audiences.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Haldane's company is here with *The Cingalee*. The company includes Frank Barclay (Harry Vereker), Hylton Warde (Chambhuddy Ram), Frank Lennard (Boobhamba), Grafton Williams (Sir Peter Loftus), Herbert Franklyn (Bobby Warren), Isa Bowman (Nanoya), Florrie Greensmith (Peggy Sabine), Winifred Stone (Miss Pinkerton), and Ray Anderson (Lady Patricia). Miss Winifred Stone contributes a clever solo dance.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Les Grossit, three fine specimens of physical manhood, give a turn conspicuous for grace and strength; Bessie Handman is a good soprano; and there is a fine display of pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—G. W. Blythe's vocal scena *The Toilers* is a brilliant success. The two ladies sing well. Victor Riblo's talking birds are exceptionally clever; Irene Meldon is a smartly-dressed, pretty, and talented young comedienne and dancer; Josh Dixon, comedian, keeps the house in a roar; the Four Rosebuds are clever dancers; the Narow Bros., comedy cyclists, give a clever and sensational turn; and Clive Cattley is a good light comedian.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Mildred Bryan, an Irish mezzo-soprano, is received with much favour; Jennie Johns delights as a comedienne; Alice Cheshire and company, in a sketch, *Wanted a Wife*, appear successfully; Harry Levaine, eccentric patter comedian, is quaint; the pictures are decidedly clever; the Quaint Q's are loudly recalled; Crosby and Walker, the jocular Eton Boys, are excellent; James Willard and company head the bill for the second week in *Ace of Hearts*.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—Three films shown this week are of exceptional merit, viz., The Man, The New Old England, and Outwitted by a Child.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Alex Maclean and company occupied the stage with a new play, *My Lady Bellamy*. Mr. E. H. Brooke was excellent as William III.; Mr. Maule was well placed as Mr. Robert Tarfax; and Mr. Arthur Layland dignified as Lord Crawford. Mr. Alex Maclean as Sir Jervase Bellamy and Miss Laura Leigh as the child-wife Henrietta Bellamy submitted satisfactory impersonations. Other parts were in good hands. For the rest of the week variety was in the bill.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—In addition to an excellent series of films shown on the Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, some capital variety turns are booked. These include Hearne and Palmer, comedy acrobats and tumblers; Mabel Moss, a dainty comedienne; and Earl and Melville, comedians, dancers, and patterers.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—A large house was attracted on Monday by Mr. Hamilton Stewart and his company in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. Stewart's impersonation of Lord Lumley (the Mummy) was an excellent realisation of character, and he was ably supported by Miss A. Bruce-Joy, who played throughout with much feeling; Mr. Chas. Groves, jun., was natural as Giuseppe, and Mr. Lewin Mannering well assumed the rôle of Signor D'Orelli. The breezy and honest Lieut. Ronalds was well played by Mr. Percy Marmont; Miss Constance Barton was a charming Ruth Thornton, and the remainder of the cast was adequate.

THE AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr. M. Leopold.—The Maida Vale Rink Orchestra, conducted by Herr Adolf Voorzanger, is transferred here for the summer, and opened its season on Sunday with two concerts, which are continued daily. Other attractions were a baby show on Monday and a fancy dress carnival and confetti fête on Wednesday. The pavilion is still used for cinematograph entertainments, and roller skating continues in the covered rink.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Mr. Norman V. Norman, Miss Beatrice Wilson, and company are here in *The Marriage of Kitty*. Seldom has Mr. Norman given us anything more finished than his study of Sir Reginald Belsize. Admirable in every respect is Mr. Lock Whittaker's sketch of the solicitor, John Travers; Miss Betty Stannard is refreshingly simple as Rosalie, the French maid; Miss Beatrice Wilson is a charming Kitty, quite realising the character. A brisk and vivacious representative of Mme. de Semiano is seen in Miss Thornton. Twice during the week Mr. Norman V. Norman appears in *David Garrick*, himself taking the title-rôle.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Under the direction of Mr. George Blackmore Mr. Wallis Arthur's concerts continue to be well patronised. Mr. George Blackmore has a good répertoire of humorous songs, whilst his patter is laughable; Miss Nellie Perryer at the piano submits some delightful renderings; Mr. Harry Kemp's cultivated bass voice is heard to advantage; Mr. Oldbury Brough introduces much humour; a cordial welcome is given Miss Gladys Hill, whose songs are bright and tuneful; Mr. Harold Vincent is successful as a humorist.

HEATON-ON-TYNE. — BRINKBURN PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—Excellent business is being done at this new hall. The Two Zets, speciality dancers, receive a flattering reception; Love Among the Roses and Silent Paths are the principal pictures for the present week.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Miss Winifred Maude and her company are appearing here, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, in the drama entitled *The Sins of a City*.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Clever Tom Clare and a piano roused a good house on Monday night to much enthusiasm. Other turns are Miss Clara Reid and John Power, in an amusing comedy sketch; Reg. Beauchamp, a diverting eccentric comedian; Charles Baron and his troupe of animal comedians, introducing the racing cats; Miss May Knight, comedienne; Lestree, juggler; Les Arabellas, in a smart and graceful act on the tight-wire; Arthur Croxon, comedian. The pictures conclude the list.

HULL.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Life for a Life* is the attraction this week. The little actress Miss Winnie Warden has caught the public fancy. Mr. Chas. H. Lester is well cast as Don Leon. In the hands of Mr. Hugh Travers Pedro suffers nothing. Miss Lallah Davis is a satisfactory Lulalie; Mr. Harold Kinton attains success as Bunker Ben. The remainder of the characters are well sustained.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—A capital programme here stars the famous Kellinos, in their new act, entitled *On the Road*. The popular comedian Ernest Shand gives several funny songs; the King's College Boys prove themselves vocalists of merit; whilst Frank and Free, in a smart turn, win much favour. Clever and unique is the performance given by Lux and his dogs, who exhibit wonderful training and intelligence. A neat little sketch is that presented by France and Stewart, named *The Little Puritan*. Ryan and Hall, two comedians of the acrobatic persuasion, Phil Parsons, the popular light comedian, May B. Brilliant, comedienne, who has a couple of catchy ditties, and the Bioscope complete.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—S. W. Wyndham is scoring a big success here; Lucy Gillette is a clever juggler; Regan and Ryan, popular eccentric comedians, and Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians, achieve success; F. A. Martell is a skilful equilibrist. Patty Yole, charming comedienne and dancer, the Juno Trio, three local boys who have proved themselves favourites, and Martin Henry, English Hebrew character actor, well supported by Irene Ross in *The Silver Medal*, gain approbation for their clever acting.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Slingsby.—The chief attraction here is Kioto and Eso, who present a clever equilibristic act; the Gilberts, on the tight-wire, are appreciated; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, in their realistic vocal scena, and Hal and Lal, versatile artists, are prime favourites; Will Willis, Jack Hayton, and Charles Rowe are all excellent comedy turns; whilst Vennie Veldon is pleasing.

THE PRINCE'S HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Morton.—A feature of the entertainment here is the excellent films shown to packed audiences, who amply testify to the quality of the fare.

JARROW. — PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Gibson and Stienlet; Business-Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—The chief attraction here this week is the appearance of The Eldras, in a new canine and acrobatic act, which is heartily appreciated; the Sisters Robinson, comediennes, provide another capital turn. The chief films this week are The Village Inventor and The Death Disc.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—Mr. Charles Constant's No. 1 Company in *Florodora* opened the season here. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Anthony Tweedlepunch was exceedingly funny; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores made a hit with her fine voice, as also did Mr. C. R. Dutton, his excellent baritone voice being heard to great advantage in "Under the shade of the palm"; Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus G. Gilfain was good; Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood was successful; Mr. Johnnie Junior played Captain Arthur Donegal, Miss Florence Hersee was a dainty Angela Gilfain, and their dance, La Danse des Apaches, was a great success.

OLYMPIA WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. C. A. Barnett.—The Magpies opened their second season here, and are doing good business.

THE TRIANGLE PARK.—The Dandies are still the attraction here.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. John Warren, the versatile dramatic illusionist, is here in his magical sketch "The Conjurer at Home," also "The Magic Carpet Mystery"; the favourite comedian Charles Coborn receives a hearty reception; Frank Melvin, comedian, is a big favourite; the Tintos are smart in an acrobatic comedy act; F. G. Fenn appears in an elocutionary scena; Minnie Warner and Marmaduke are also in the bill.

LEEDS.—THE ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Nihilist* is being performed here. Mr. O. Silverstone and Mr. C. Newton Buckland in the rôles of Prince Alexander and Pierlree Petoff act with much vigour; Miss Edna Clare represents Alexina Orloff with success; and Miss Florence Kelsey makes a capable Princess Olga.

THE EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Mr. Fred Lindsay, the Australian stockman, successfully deputises for Miss Hetty King here. The Avoloe throw some smart somersaults from perpendicular poles; the Haytors are talented and funny in a new comedy skit; Drew and Alders appear in *The Coastguards*; Les Marco Belli, comedy conjurors, give an interesting performance; and other turns are those of Leo Tell, Bertha Winder, Spry and Monti, and Nellie Wallace, who sings several successful songs.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The Mysterious Balloon Girl, Mlle. Denarber, successfully tops the bill here. Mr. Herbert Sleath's London company appear in a new sketch, which we describe elsewhere; the Du Lor Trio are smart dancers; Ted Curtis and Pics are popular in song and dance; Sterling and Love appear with success in a new act; Rowland Hill, the popular "dame" of the Grand pantomime, renews his popularity; and Max Lauber, a nice whistler; Cissie Lupino, in a pretty transformation dance; and the Goodlow Trio, novelty acrobats, complete an excellent programme.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots provide a pretty song and dance scena here; J. P. Carroll, the military tambournist, gains much applause; and Arthur Harris, Radie Stuart, Archie Pitt, and the Three Favourites in a speciality burlesque, *Park Pets*, are all capable turns.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*The Midnight Mail* is being performed here by a capable company. Mr. George Harvard make a capital Harry Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Eveson gives an excellent study of Billy Brewer; Leonard Royle has an able exponent in Mr. Henry W. Hatchman; and Nancy Brewer and Mary Steyne have able representatives in Miss Mildred Carr and Miss Trissie Humphreys.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Geo. Ali and company hold premier position here this week in the laughter-compelling comedy sketch *Papa's Day Off*. Master James Hollom is distinctly good as Tommy; and others who assist in capital style are Walter Blagest, Jennie Lester, Bessie Harrison, and Fred Grove. The Delevines maintain their popularity in their briskly-worked comedy legmania act *Flipp and Flopp*; a good reception is being given to Miss Dorothy Dainty, a young Leicester lady with a phenomenal voice; Ed. E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, is aptly described as "President of the Face Trust"; Dot Stephens is again being accorded a flattering reception for her impersonations; the Lyric Quartette are heard to distinct advantage in their beautifully-illustrated harmonised numbers; Musical Silvo is very entertaining in his performance on the musical glasses and silvochimes; Miss Margaret Parker and company make a hit in their stirring interlude *Jucky Jim*, in which Miss Parker, in the name-part, is conspicuously successful; Frank Couch is a pattering comedian with original ideas; and the Bioscope is also a feature.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Finely staged and acted, Mr. Wilfrid H. Benson's company are scoring a well-deserved success in the episode *The Last Halt*, in which Miss Mabel Wynn as Rebecca Marstein and Mr. Wilfrid Benson as Prince Paul Lerkoff are conspicuously successful. They are supported in good style by a most capable company. The Heseeys give a delightful, high-class, and refined musical act; Sinclair's Three Diamonds are making a hit in a smart exhibition as skate-dancers and vocalists, Little Babs displaying especial neatness as a toe-dancer; the Millwards are very clever in their feats of strength; Tom Garland scores as a ventriloquist of special ability; Bert Ward is an entertaining comedy whistler and raconteur; Bert Anderson is an expert conjurer. Bioscope pictures are also on the bill.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The patrons of this home of animated photography can always depend on a first-class and diversified programme, the two chief films this week being To Save Her Soul and Custer's Last Stand, backed up by a full list of other films. Tom and Eileen Melbourne, in *A Sentry-box* and *A Soldier and a Maid*, are also appearing.

THE EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—Both these halls are continuing to show pleasing pictures. A continuous change takes place each week.

LINCOLN.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—*The Pawnbroker*, presented by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts' company, is being presented here by a smart combination; Gillin's ventriloquism is entertaining; a hit is made by Rousby and Rene in *Fine Feathers*, a Lancashire episode that is admirably presented; and Ada Gatley (in an equilibristic and wire act), Marion Scott and Harriett Rose (with chorus songs), Pat Lynch (wooden shoe dancer), and Dan Fraser (Scottish comedian) make up a bright bill.

LIVERPOOL.—STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week Mr. Junius Booth and his company are paying a return visit. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings they staged *Monte Cristo*. In the part of Edmund Dantes Mr. Booth played with considerable skill; Miss Lilian Deane was a delightful Mercedes; Mr. Miller Anderson filled the rôle of Nortier in commendable fashion; Mr. J. Sanger did everything necessary with Danglars; Mr. Harry Bannister made a good Mondego; an effective impersonation of La Carconte was given by Miss Alice West; Sophie Danglars was ably presented by Miss Lela Scarlett; and other worthy supporters were Messrs. J. Hawden (Villefort), Fred Martin (Abbé Fara), Charles H. Brooke (Caderousse), and Miss Jessie Blake (Marie). The rest of the week was occupied with *Way Out West*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top of the bill here this week is the famous Japanese actress Mme. Hanako and her company, who present *The Tea House*; Ella Retford, comedienne, brings her latest successes; the Keeley Bros., American athletes, present a smart comedy novelty, *The Demonstrator*; those lively comedians, the Ten Loonies, are as amusing as ever with their *Dotty* sketch; Woodhouse and Wells afford satisfaction with their singing and dancing; the Mezzettis cause shouts of laughter with "The New Recruit" tit-bit on the horizontal bar; an artistic entertainment of singing and dancing is presented by the Three Belle Belles; Edie King had a flattering reception for her dancing and singing; and Jewel St. Leger renders some popular songs.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is here this week with Hinton and Green's company. Mr. Jerrold Heather handles the character of Zaco in powerful style; Miss Hilda Shirley shows high talents in the rôle of Myra Maletto; Mr. Colin Heather is well suited to the part of Wilfred Grey; and Dolly Dimple (Miss Laura Wright), Colonel Crichton (Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock), and Lily (Miss Winifred Rutland) are also well-played characters.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Here this week G. Osborne Burgoyne presents his company of English dancers in the ballet *Les Idolatres*, into which are introduced some remarkable forms and styles of dancing, Espinosa being among the artists; Lalla Selbini, the "American Bathing Beauty," has a novel act of juggling and trick cycling; the Five X-Rays are wonderful acrobats; Juno Salmo is a remarkable contortionist; Syd Walker is a smart comedian; Gladys and Alber have a neat comedy act; Moon and Morris please with their singing and dancing; Blake and Granby, comedy duologue artists, amuse greatly with *The System*; Philip Levard is a clever conjurer and illusionist; and Harry Zetter, comedian, also appears.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are this week giving *They All Love Jack*, from the pen of W. R. Waldron. Mr. Harry Tresham looks the part of the heroic Jack Shelford; Mr. Sydney Grant acts with telling effect the rôles of Sir Philip Treherne and Abel Pugsley; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood capably impersonates Richard Penryn; Miss Lina Nazeby makes an excellent Margery Pugsley; Miss Gertrude Entwistle pleases greatly with her neat Phyllis Penryn; and worthy support also comes from Messrs. R. Seath Innes (Dr. Mason), Tom H. Solly (an amusing Larry Logan), Leo Montgomery (Pel Pugsley), E. D. Allen (Prison Warder), and Miss Florence Cameron (Rose). Brown's Bioscope shows The President's Special.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big line here this week is Charles T. Aldrich, whose capital entertainment of quick changing and burlesque on modern conjurers is being richly enjoyed. The favourite comedian Fred Earle is here with his latest songs; *The Half Caste* is an exciting Indian episode presented in excellent style by Evelyn Beresford and company; a merry sketch, *Our Mary Jane*, comes from Florence Smithers; Wyndham and Kitty have a clever wire act; J. W. Hall keeps his audience in a merry humour; Harry Leybourne, at the piano, provides a neat turn; Harry May Hemsley is a smart caricaturist, and Jennie Hartley pleases with her singing and dancing.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The Canadian Kilties Band is prominent here this week, making a last appearance in this country after a tour of the world. The clever efforts of the Abdullah Arabs are watched with interest; Geraldos perform some remarkable juggling; *Olga's Oath* is a stirring military sketch, well given by J. G. Grahame and company; Lady Mansel and her Juveniles repeat their neat "Concert Rehearsal"; Mitchell and Stott have a humorous gymnastic trifle, "The Clever Tramps"; and also in the programme are the Lyons Robertson Trio, tumbling pantomimists, and Dixie Dee, American comedienne.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—The amusing farcical comedy *Where is William?* is here, and excellent business is being done. Mr. Charles Windermere "hits off" the part of Sir William Gregory in laughter-provoking manner, and is ably supported by Mr. Rule Pigott, as the butler. The rest of the cast is in safe hands, and the mounting and dressing are deserving of mention. *The Clown* is a capital little curtain-raiser.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—In addition to an excellent pictorial display, we have the Vetter Bros., equilibristæ, in *The Page's Recreation*; Gicardo, juggler; and Fred Dunstone, humorist, from the Palace Theatre.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Mr. Paul Mill and his Court Jesters are in full swing here.

BEACH PAVILION.—Mr. Will Edward's concert party are providing popular al fresco concerts.

CLARENMONT PIER.—Mr. Hickman Smith's Royal Entertainers are attracting good business.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company in *Diana of Dobson's* opened here on Thursday for three nights.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. J. Everton.—Some interesting films are presented here, including A Child shall Lead Them, His First Valentine, The Pineapple Industry, A Baby's Power, Buddhist Customs in India, Niagara Falls, and A Sticky Proposition.

MAESTEG.—EBLEY'S OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. Ebley.—The above place of amusment was opened for the season on Monday, a large audience attending. The piece chosen was *The Prodigal Parson*, when Mr. E. Ebley gave a clever portrayal of the Rev. Tom Godley. Equally good was Miss Edith Maitland as Vera Godley. The minor parts were well sustained.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—The bill here is topped by the Frohmans, in an original musical turn; Joe Stirling, comedian, is funny; Li Chang Hi, illusionist, is smart; and Pictures complete.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week Mr. Edmund Tearle's talented company has given a series of plays to good houses, winning great favour. In *The Three Musketeers*, given on three nights, Mr. Tearle played as D'Artagnan with skill and ability; Mr. Horace Price as the Cardinal was impressive; Mr. P. P. Miller made a striking figure of King Louis; Mr. Edmund Grogan as Count de Rochfort was successful; Mr. Bernhardt Turner in the rôle of the Duke of Buckingham was effective; Mr. Fawcett Lomax was an amusing Boniface; and the three Musketeers were represented by Messrs. D. J. Hogan, E. Lodge, and H. Pettitt. The chameleon character of Miladi was cleverly played by Miss Kate Clinton; Miss Mary Campbell made a typical Queen of Austria; and Miss Constantia Brooks a charming Constance.

MANCHESTER.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Oswald Gray, by arrangement with Mr. Morton Powell, presents here this week a revival of *When it was Dark*, Mr. Cray being seen to advantage in the part of the Rev. Basil Gortre, and capitally supported by his company, among whom Miss Lillian Herries is specially prominent as Gertrude Hunt. Mr. Edward Valentine plays strongly as Sir Robert Llewellyn, and Mr. C. Wordley Hulse is good as Schwabe. The play is well staged, and put on twice nightly.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Miss Ida Millais' company is attracting good houses here in *No Man's Land*. Mr. Henry Herne as Harry Oaklands is the mainstay of the cast, and he is well supported by Miss Marie Kildare as Mary Bathurst; while the sinister interest has excellent exponents in Mr. John Cecil as Silas Moore and Mr. Henry Cullenford as Mat Marsden. Mr. Henry J. Carlisle plays well in the dual rôle of Gilbert and Captain Bathurst. The humour is efficiently rendered by Mr. W. Mallalieu and Miss Emma Stockley.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The bill here is headed by Fred Karno's *Wontdetainia*, which is much enjoyed, while prominent also are Frank Hartley, the famous young juggler; and the Brooklyn Comedy Four, in harmony and humour. Other good turns are Phyllis Seymour, a neat dancer and vocalist; Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer; the Three Romas, gladiatorial wonders; and Bruce Green, the popular dame comedian.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company are here in répertoire, including *Her Wedding Day*, *Moths*, and *Trilby*, each play affording special scope for the undoubted talents of Miss Ward, his leading lady.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Joseph Hart's *Futurity Winner* is the top attraction here, well acted and sensationally staged; while the next place of honour is occupied by H. O. Wills, who is well described as the funny man with the funny voice; Harry Jolson, the American black-faced vocal comedian, is another popular turn; Sid Doody and Edie Wright, the American comedy duo, give a funny act; an athletic act by the Blessings is remarkably smart and effective; Cull Pitt's burlesque conjuring is racy and humorous; and other entertaining items are contributed by Evelyn Stoll, comedienne; the Grassis, novelty musicians and acrobats; and little Rosie Fitzgerald, featuring *In Dreamland*, a nursery nightmare.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. Raymond Phillips, with his airship under wireless control, is the big attraction here this week, and full houses are the rule. Highly amusing is *An Amateur Anarchist*, well played by Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, very ably supported by Leo Minster, who makes the most of his opportunities; Mlle. Camille Ober, a Parisian star vocalist, provides a pleasing turn with remarkable singing; Hasse and Mariette are Continental whirlwind dancers of merit; J. W. Wilson and Nellie Waring make a hit in song, dance, and talk; Tom E. Finglass, the cowboy coon, scores with "My baby"; Griff gives an excellent turn; Roma and Romani offer an enjoyable musical instrumental act; and

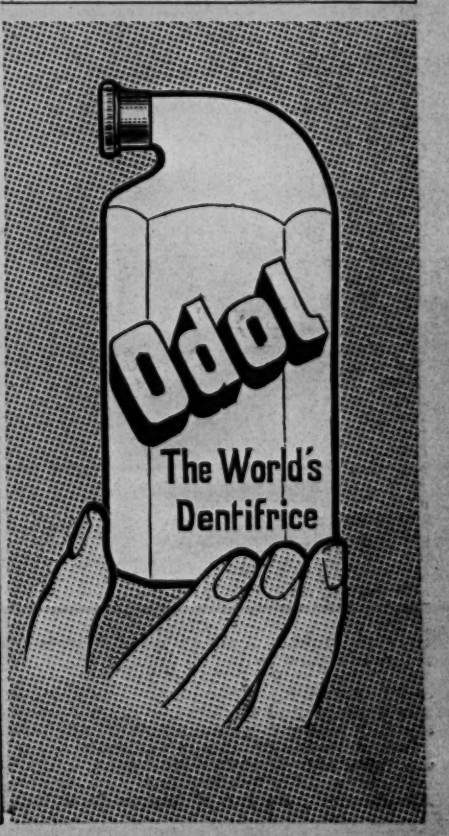

the Sisters Jerome are exceedingly neat dancers. The bioscope pictures are particularly good.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The Harmony Four, who top the bill here this week, are vastly amusing in quaint comedy; very pleasing are the Palace Girls, vocalists and dancers; Mephisto, the Mysterious, presents twelve illusions smartly and with decided success; and R. H. Douglas, the well-known monologue artist, gives a clever and bright act; Hanvarr and Lee are smart, as usual, in their comedy juggling act; Beatrice Allen sings nicely; Elise, Wulf, and Waldoff go through an exceedingly neat acrobatic and gymnastic performance; Harry Webber, Hebrew comedian, has some good patter; and Wilman is a good instrumentalist. Pictures, very interesting, complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The celebrated actress and singer Decima Moore is to the front here this week, and meets with a deserved good reception, her turn being an artistic treat throughout. Viviana and company score a big success in *The Toy Shop*, a bright dancing act; Vesta Nixon is a smart comedienne and dancer; Rhoda Gordon, Scotch comedienne, has a charming style; John Beech and Norman Arding, ably assisted, presents a dramatic episode, *Money's Power;* Violet Bilton pleases with her singing of taking songs; Ward and Davis are amusing in *Wanted, a Typist;* and the Sisters Robertson are dainty dancers. The pictures are good as usual.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and company, including Miss Carrie Baillie, are here this week, and, notwithstanding the hot weather, are playing to full houses. For two performances nightly the programme is very ambitious, and includes *Leah, the Forsaken, Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. All the plays are well staged and gowned, and great credit is due to the promoters of the enterprise. The company is a very capable one, and besides Mr. Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie in the principal parts, includes Messrs. Wilson Gunning, William Morrison, jun., A. E. Walker, Lawrence Meade, Doan Gardiner, James Vernon, and the Misses May Grimshaw, Elly O'Dempsy, Edith Elkins, and others.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—The Silent Humorist is W. C. Field's new designation, and it fits him like a glove. He tops the bill here this week, and his clever juggling and eccentric business is greatly enjoyed. Friend and Downing, American comedians, are very funny; Lavail and Bodine go through a very graceful and clever gymnastic act; and the famous Lavilles are quaint comedy acrobats. Other good items are offered by Harry Luck, comedian; little Sadie Lundy, the child prima-donna; Dix and Dox, Continental musical grotesques; Gertie Rex, character comedienne; and the Spadonis, excellent dancers. The Unchanging Sea on the Bioscope is a good film.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Harry Leslie's Comedy Cadets are here for the first time this season, and meet with a great reception; the Marvellous Days (of mental telepathy fame) and Little Myrtle Grove being particularly successful. Lulu Fancourt, soprano, sings well; Ernie Percival shines as a light comedian; Rene Steadman is a smart and charming comedienne; George Curzon, baritone, has a good voice; Roland Bailey is good at the piano; and last, but not least, Jimmie Pullin, comedian, is as popular as ever.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—A set of excellent films is presented this week, and includes Father and Son, Ranchman's Wooing, Rural Tragedy, The Hand of Fate, &c.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company has been presenting this week, with marked success, Mr. R. C. Carton's cleverly-written and droll farce *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and large audiences have revelled in the funny situations and witty lines contained in this most mirth-provoking piece. The all-important part of Hamilton Preedy is taken by Mr. A. W. Baskcomb, and he presents a splendid character study of the nervous but chivalrous little man; an excellent selection is that of Miss Nella Powys for the difficult part of Joanna Countess of Rushmore, the calm, resourceful woman of the world being admirably realised; the over-bearing, burly John Bounsall is capitally played by Mr. John Nesbitt; Mr. Cecil Humphreys makes an aristocratic and altogether admirable Earl of Rushton; the Hon. Robert Jennerway is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Hamilton Deane; the senility of the aged Lord Kinslow is cleverly suggested by Mr. J. D. Goddes; and Mr. Edmond Beresford as the solicitor Mr. Sidgrave is worthy of high commendation. Mr. J. McClintock Clive as Reginald Saunders, a dental surgeon, and Mr. Shirley Lea as Preedy's manservant contribute effective impersonations; Miss Violet Greville as Mrs. Sidgrave, Miss Ruth Bidwell as Emma Sidgrave, and Miss Ninon Dudley as Harriet Budgen make the most of their opportunities. The farce has been preceded each evening by *The Change*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—This week's programme is headed by La Pia, the enchantress, who presents four effective dances, and her turn has evoked loud applause at each performance; Maud and Sidney Wood, duettists and dancers, give a much-appreciated contribution to the programme; Jack Mackenzie, comedian, is very good; Taree, the musical bushman, is a clever musical mimic; the Edward Marris Trio are most successful in their amusing farcical hit *A Medical Muddle*. George Lambton, juvenile comedian, and the Sisters Allen also contribute to the programme, giving pleasing and entertaining turns.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the Sole Direction of Mr. Charles Evans.—Mr. Charles Evans opened this popular place of amusement on Monday. This week's programme includes Violet Desmond, the favourite serio; Revene and Elton, acrobatic comedians and vaulters; Teddy Denham, character comedian; Eunice and Zena, pre-eminent instrumentalists; Poole and Maguire, in their refined comedy duo; and Cyclumina, in a wonderful electric cycling novelty. Last, but by no means least, come Lew Lake's Six Buster Browns, in their American vaudeville singing and dancing act.

MATLOCK BATH.—May's Smart Society Cadets, located in the Pierrot Pavilion on the promenade, are receiving satisfactory patronage. The company consists of Will Daniels, comedian; George Parry, light comedian; Miss Lilian St. Aubyn, comedienne; Miss Evelyn Hurst, descriptive vocalist; Ernie Barry, accompanist; and Jack Rean, comedian and dancer, who is also the manager. Their entertainment proves a thoroughly enjoyable one. Another combination, called the Mugs from Monte Carlo, are also here for the season.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The Repertory Circuit Company this week presents *Caste* in a most creditable manner. Miss Beatrice Burdett is a refined Esther; Miss Lester Stephens is admirably adapted to the part of Polly; the Hon. George D'Alroy is in the capable hands of Mr. Clifford Pembroke; and Captain Hawtrie is finely played by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh. Mr. Arthur Dennis is a capital Eccles; Mr. Fenton Wingate an amusing Sam Gerridge; and the Marquise de St. Maw is efficiently portrayed by Miss Emmie O'Reilly.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Charles Graham and company with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* are meeting with success. Miss Winifred Scott is a capable Miss Elizabeth; the part of Mistress Sarah Williams is well played by Miss Leonora Braham; Mr. Charles Graham makes a fine Captain Harry Peyton; the Major John Colden of Mr. Graham Phillips is deserving of praise; and Mr. Cecil Clayton does well as Mr. Valentine.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembyes.—Bosanquet, "the human violin," pays a return visit, and this wonderful instrumentalist is as successful as ever; Messrs. A. C. Lilly and company, with *Drummed Out*, do well; and Russell and Held, American song and dance artists; Dolly and Madge McCalla, song and dance artists; Billy Hobbs, comedian and dancer; Frank H. Fox, comedian; and the Empire pictures all do well.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—A capital show of pictures and an acceptable turn, submitted by Harry Harvey, comedian, meet with much appreciation here.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Empress, the handcuff queen, has again created quite a *furore* here. Numerous challenges have been made and accepted, and the clever manipulator of locks, bolts and bars, and strait jackets has come out of each attempt with flying colours. Amy Hall, termed the "pocket Vesta Tilley," is a local young lady, and has been repeatedly encored for her male impersonation; Chas. Cassell, descriptive vocalist, and Charlie Buxton, eccentric comedian, keep up the interest in the "show"; and amongst the pictures the film of the fight between Welsh and Daniels is a decided draw.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—In spite of the hot weather, big business is being done here. The bill is headed by Mr. Auguste Van Biene and company in a delightful sketch, *Van Biene's Baby*. The 'cello solos bring down the house. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Meymott, in their sketch *My Artful Wife*, create roars of laughter; Henry and Tyler are wonderful cyclists; and other turns include Mr. G. H. Carlton, conjurer; Canard, a novelty comedian; and Lytton and Bland, in a dancing and dialect speciality.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—A large number of trippers daily visit the Tower and grounds. This week's programme includes the Three Royal Temples (vocalists), Louie and Wally, entertainers; and Mr. Harry Herd, an eccentric comedian. The Towerscope pictures are always excellent.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—A week of American humour has been arranged, and Mr. W. T. Ellwanger and company produce *Who Did It?* and *The Peacemaker*. The Mosaics give another sketch, entitled *The Suffragette*. All are well received.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*Judith, the Woman who Sinned* is here this week, presented by Miss Augusta Tullock, the authoress. Jack Carrington is excellently portrayed by Mr. Alex Young, and that of Judith by Miss Tullock. Other rôles are adequately filled.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Ever a favourite on Tyneside, Dan Crawley on Monday evening was enthusiastically applauded. Another popular turn is that of the Egbert Brothers, whose amusing and skilful tumbling furnishes abundance of wholesome merriment; Tom E. Hughes makes a big hit with his songs, whilst Harry Lamore is very successful in a smart entertainment. The Glenroy Troupe provide a pleasing turn, whilst Phil Rees' Stable Boys provide plenty of amusement; Fred Curran, comedian, is amusing; and Shirley and Ransome, in *Jim's Pal*, and Emma Don are quite successful.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The North Sea Fisheries is an instructive subject; the Indian's Bride, In the Frozen North, and Told in the Golden West are good dramatic subjects. Miss Margaret Payne successfully sings "Mother" and "Does the girl you've left behind ever wish you back again?" with illustrations.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Over Silent Paths, a sensational American drama, holds the lead this week; The Buried Man of Tebessa and The Ordination of a Bonze, an interesting Buddhist ceremony, are highly interesting subjects. The principal week-end picture is The Wrestling of all Nations.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. E. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Some fine subjects are in the bill this week, including His Chum, The Minstrel, Lieutenant Rose and the Spy, and Victims of Fate. The Messenger Boy Magician is a good comic.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Large audiences still continue the rule here, and the stock company has this week produced *My Partner*, which has been warmly greeted. As Joe Saunders Mr. Albert Sember submits a sterling impersonation; Mr. Ernest R. Allen gives a capable interpretation of Ned Singleton; Mr. Edward E. Louis makes an admirable Josiah Scraggs; Mr. C. Alan Hineson scores a success as Matthew Brandon; Mr. Lonnen Meadows is clever as Major Brett; Mr. A. S. Baker makes the most of Sam Brawler; Mary Brandon is played in capital style by Miss Kate Froude; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne submits a careful rendering of Grace Brandon; and Miss Effie Macintosh is happily placed as Rosey.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The pictures this week are unusually attractive, and Miss Marie Leonard sings some pleasing songs.

THE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—The Georgians Concert Party are here this week, and receive hearty greetings. They include Mr. Robert Carr (baritone), Mr. Sydney Loculynne (in mimic sketches), Mr. Bertram Banks and Mr. John Coran (clever musical humorists), Miss Ida Freeman, and Miss Roma Castille. The quartettes by the company are quite a feature.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's Pierrots are still going strong here.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. F. Lynne's Madcaps, under the direction of Mr. Bert Gordon, are meeting with much approbation. Miss Cecil met with a slight accident on Monday, and is unfortunately temporarily indisposed.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The humorous ditties and business of Wilkie Bard keep his audience in a constant state of amusement, and the delightful vocalism of Gwennie Llewellyn is one of the most charming features of the week. Impersonations by a Ruschie are remarkably faithful; smart dancing and plenty of fun mark the sketch provided by Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley; the Bros. Dean are seen in a neat dance; an athletic turn by the Bros. Bright evokes applause; and the Musical Jees contribute a pleasing entertainment. Baby Boden, comedienne, Johnny Walker, comedian, and the Bioscope complete.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—With apparent ease John Clempert rids himself of manacles, strait jackets, &c., to the delight and astonishment of audiences. Walter Ellis and company present a laughable sketch, entitled *The Sleep-walker;* the Carmody Trio are expert jugglers; Anna Hope uses a fine voice to advantage in a song; the patter of Happy Attwood pleases mightily; Cullen, Carthey, and Little Cluley are amusing cross-talkers; Frances Hanlon dances animatedly; Reno's trick cycling is deservedly appreciated; and Ernesto's musical juggling is popular.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott commenced the last week of their stock season on Monday with *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Charles Draycott submitted a fine performance of Robert Brierley; Mr. Clinton Baddeley cleverly represented James Dalton; Mr. George Steel was a cute and alert Hawkshaw; Mr. Theo Balfour ably portrayed Mr. Gibson; Miss Nana Flensberg was a successful Sam Willoughby; Miss Issa Steel a charming Emily; Miss Louise Millward a most amusing Mrs. Willoughby; and Mrs. Charles Draycott a highly-appreciated May Edwards. *The Octoroon, East Lynne, Sorrows of Satan*, and *Arrahna-Pogue* have been presented during the week.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Cowboy's Devotion is a capital picture of the Wild West, and The Egyptian Maid is a fine example of a picture in colour. Mr. Roger Alwyn contributes a good song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The topliner here is a most dramatic picture—A Treacherous Maid. A go-as-you-please competition is very enjoyable, as is Mr. Leicester King's song.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. William Hughes.—Charity and The Call of the Heart are a couple of most dramatic films. Several other pictures of interest are also thrown on the screen.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—An excellent variety entertainment is again the attraction here. Nerigne, classical artist, worthily heads the bill, and scores in both song and dance; Dick Francis, piano entertainer; Sharon, street musician; Harvey and Jesson, clog dancers; and Winona and King, in their clever rifle-shooting act, are repeating the successes they achieved last week; while fresh additions are Tom Craven, comedian; Elsie Craig, singer and dancer; and the Oowana Girls, comediennes and dancers, who all merit the applause liberally bestowed.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—The principal films for the current week include Lieut. Rose and the Foreign Spy (Clarendon), Love in a Mining Camp, Brothers, and The Ranch King's Daughter. Mr. George E. Hedges contributes largely to the evening's enjoyment by his clever and up-to-date pianoforte selections.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Solway.—An attractive picture programme is given, supplemented by the Bijou Juvenile Troupe in a refined musical scena.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—James and Jennie Jee have won popularity by their clever feats on the tight and revolving wire; the Three Pirmans score heavily in their comedy bar speciality, as do the Jaxons, a troupe of graceful dancers; Norman Telma is a clever contortionist; Reg Bolton provides a funny turn, "The Editor's Imp"; the Sisters Reeve are responsible for a pleasant interlude; and Allis and Cassatis appear in an entertaining sketch.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—*The Great Awakening* holds the boards here, presented by Miss Olga Audre and company. Miss Olga Audre cleverly enacts Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs ably sustains the rôle of James Selby; Mr. Chas. H. Mortimer as Capt. Lambert is a success; excellent results are achieved by Miss Evie Conway as Molly Merton; and Mr. Ernest Kendrick and Miss Dorothy Oswald are funny. Other parts are well sustained.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Tom W. Robertson's celebrated comedy *Caste* receives an excellent rendering at the hands of Miss Cora Anson's company. Mr. G. W. Anson is true to the life as the drunken Eccles; Mr. T. A. Shannon is conspicuously successful as George D'Alroy; his loyal comrade Captain Hawtrey is capitally impersonated by Mr. Cecil Collins. The sympathies of the audience are evoked by the emotional acting of Miss Lydia Busch as Esther Eccles; and Miss Helen Vicary as the Marquise de St. Maur effectively conceives the spirit of the play. The lighter vein is skilfully developed by Miss Cora Anson (Polly) and Mr. W. Allison as the honest, bluff Sam Gerridge.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Frank Bertram presents us this week with that touching drama *East Lynne*. A good all-round company includes Mr. Frank Stone, who successfully portrays Archibald Carlyle, Miss Gwendoline Hay making an admirable Lady Isabel Carlyle; Mr. Alfred Holles, who gives a capital rendering of Justice Hare; and Miss Aerita Vivien, who is a charming Barbara Hare. The remainder of the cast has been well chosen.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—John Bull's Indian wrestlers, Gama, Imam Bux, Ahmed Buksh, and Gamu are a big attraction this week. They genuinely challenge all comers, and succeed in throwing their adversaries in a wonderfully short space of time. Gus Garrick's humour is irresistible; Kittee Rayburn delights with lively song; the Rangers are clever comedy acrobats; and other good turns include the Frantz Comedy Five, acrobats; Harding and Preston, duettists; and Charles Lilburn, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The high standard of entertainment is fully maintained this week. Horace Goldin repeats here his demonstration of bewildering illusions, assisted by Jeanne Fransioli; Haley's Juveniles in song, dance, and pose reflect credit on their teacher; Victor Courtney, as Boots, gives an amusing turn at the piano; the Bros. Horne in their boxing sketch amuse; Rex Fox appears quite at ease on the wire; Walter King evokes plenty of laughter; Selby and Myers, Ruby Roya, and the picture of A Happy Home complete the programme.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The Six Brothers Luck are paying a return visit with their nautical absurdity *H.M.S. Perhaps;* the famous Cinquevalli is exhibiting his wonderful dexterity with billiard balls, &c.; a clever comedian and dancer is Lupino Lane; the Two Mackays are clever young duettists and dancers; Clarke and Hayden, Prince Milner Trio of wire walkers, Sisters Wingrove, Stephens and Rennior, likewise appear with success.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—The Irish musical comedy *My Irish Molly* is being presented here this week by a capable company. Miss Winifred Stuart gives a clever rendition of the title-rôle; Mr. John Medley is a manly Dennis; Mr. Gordon Robey makes an accomplished villain as Captain Vere; Miss Elma C. Turner as Lady Blanche plays and looks the part to perfection; Tim Doolan is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Edwin Firth, as is also Father McGuire by Mr. Kenyon Gray. Mr. Karl Edwards as the Cockney Billy is funny, and he is ably supported by Miss Katie Norris, who is a pert and vivacious Sally.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Much amusement is derived from Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts*, the title-rôle being enacted by that funny comedian Fred Kitchen, supported by a capable company comprising about fifty people; the Norman and Leonard Trio give a clever musical act; Field and Mansel (Charles and Retta), lightning picture painters, give a novel turn; Emmie Ames, comedienne, in "Emmie's Christmas Tree," is a pleasing vocalist; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, sings a couple of good songs; and W. B. Raby and Bob Lloyd, comedians, also contribute. Private Muggins, V.C., is a capital film, and concludes.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. John Lawson, the well-known Hebrew impersonator, has been appearing here this week, the chief items in a capital programme being *Humanity* and *The Monkey's Paw*. There have been big audiences at each of the two houses nightly, and the show has gone with a rare swing. In addition to the dramatic sketches named, there have been various musical turns of a thoroughly acceptable character.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment Manager, Mr. C. Price.—*The Girl from Kay's* has made a welcome appearance here this week, and there have been good audiences. Miss Florrie Millington plays the title-part with grace and charm, and she is admirably supported by a good all-round company. Mr. Baron H. Heron (as Joseph, the hall porter) and Master H. Pink (Pepper, the page boy) contribute materially to the fun of the production, and praise must also be accorded Mr. Charles Leicester for his imitation of a society Johnnie, and Mr. J. W. Hooper for his representation of Hoggenheimer. Dresses and scenery are distinctly good.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—There have been large attendances of the public at the Marina Theatre this week to witness the excellent series of animated pictures shown there. The Woolhaffe have made popular appearances in the smart comedy act.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., are presenting another good programme this week; Shirley Liggins' company of coloured vocalists produce a good comedy scene, entitled *A Twilight Serenade;* the Bros. Ethairien are droll eccentric comedians and burlesque parodists; Vasey and Ramsey introduce some clever dancing in their comedy act, *Jerks, the Butler;* Hinton and Wooten go through an exciting cycling football match; Harry Wenburn is a good patter comedian; Miss Kitty Marion is an accomplished vocalist; Messrs. Rhode and Roche are entertaining in their novel episode *A Strange Meeting*. The show concludes with a good bioscope film From Music Master to Highwayman.

ALL the living picture exhibitions continue to give excellent shows.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Chas. Collins.—We have a grand selection of films here this week, and Little Dando is scoring well with his clever antics.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company are here with the Anglo-Indian play *Passion of Life*. Mr. F. Owen Chambers played well as Captain Horace O'Neal; and the hero, Jack Kenny, was presented by Mr. Hubert Helliwell. Mr. Basil Mitchell made an excellent villain of Ralph Flint; Miss Ada Hender did well as Belle O'Neal; Miss Maud Garth was a charming Nita O'Neal; and Alice Kenny was prettily presented by Miss Madge Maher. The comedy parts were well filled by Mr. Owen Edwin (Fergus MacKenna), Mr. Fred Luard (Dan Sprouts), and Miss Emily Lewis (Tilly Tripp). The other parts were carefully handled, and many exciting incidents were included. *The Wrongs of Woman* was announced for Thursday and Friday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Jake Friedman and company, in the burletta *Happy Holland*, give pleasure; the violin solos of Ada Pagini are well played; Robins and Collier give *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*, and gain much applause; a very good athletic act is provided by Smith and Gibbs. Other clever turns include Alan Adair, light comedian; Paul Corrix and assistant, in novel equilibristic act; and Rex and Ford, eccentric cross-talk comedians.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Child of the Squadron, The Sorceress of the Strand, Modern China, Saved from the Tide, Embarrassing Legacy, Mystery of Temple Court, and other good pictures are shown this week. Mr. Tom Sherlock sings "O'Neill of Derry."

CENTRAL HALL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond Co.; Manager, Mr. A. H. Gilbert.—The Raymond pictures this week include La Seville, Telegraph Boy's Revenge, Sign of the Globe Hotel, Saved by Her Dog, Embarrassing Legacy, Skating Mania, The Gold-seekers, &c.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (PENDLETON).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiteley.—Among this week's films are Magda, Renunciation, Magic Fountain Pen, Hair Restorer, Sammy's Purse, The Hand, &c.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—George the First, the marvellous educated chimpanzee, introduced by Dandy George, is a big attraction here; The Crisps, in a dancing scena, arouse interest; Dewson contributes an enjoyable turn at the piano; Hicks and Hunter, ice skate dancers, are successful; Ike Bradley, comedy cyclist, is smart; Mint and Mart, patter and paper-tearing couple; Tom Collins, comedian; Howe and Ardie, eccentric acrobats; and Sybil Ray, vocalist, contribute to a good programme.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is here this week. Though Nemo dominates the drama, all the other characters are effective studies in the hands of Mr. William Benge's clever company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. C. Ramsay.—*At the World's Mercy* is being played to delighted audiences by Mr. Carr Loates's company. Mr. Fred Muntz is the dashing representative of Captain Manley; Mr. Carr Loates is good as the shady solicitor, Jabez Barber; and amusing types are Mr. W. H. Irving's Charlie Smart, Mr. A. Burrows's Goldstein, Mr. F. Overton's Slouching Sam, Miss Clara Hall's Mrs. Rouke, and Mr. W. Leonard's Dan. As Alice Lloyd Miss Maggie Hobart is graceful and interesting, and Miss Alice Hunter as Rose and Miss May Douglas as Dot are excellent.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A well-varied bill of fare this week includes Mons. Rinaldo, the wandering musician; Mr. Pat Rafferty; Hans and Lux, in novel act; Keene and Adams, two smart artists; Mr. Courtice Pounds and company, in an amusing musical comedy sketch; the De Wynne Brothers, expert performers in their special line; Miss May Henderson, the vivacious "dusky coloured queen"; Mr. Charles Torbay; Mr. Jack Lane, the truly rural humorist; and the graceful and elegant Miss Nell Emerald, in new songs, dances, and chic dresses. Artistic pictures of topical events conclude.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Barrasford Co., Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—*The Pride of the Regiment* has gripped large audiences this week; Mr. J. W. Rickaby supplies character songs, which amuse; the Sisters Doris and Frances are two accomplished dancers; the Lacori Family are graceful trapeze artists; the Six Ceylons appear in a novel tumbling pantomimic act *A Dream in an Opium Den;* and Miss Kitty Upton, a tuneful vocalist; Mr. Joe Conway, variety entertainer; Mr. Harry Rogerson, burlesque artist; and Mr. Will Allen, vocalist and dancer, are well received with deserved applause.

THE picture theatres—The Grand, The Central, The Palace, The Surrey, and The Imperial—continue to do excellent business.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*A Country Girl in London* is being presented here by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company. Mr. Fred Wilberforce figures to advantage as Squire Hamilton; Mr. Charles Halling sustains with dramatic power the part of Frank Gordon; Mr. Scott Leighton plays cleverly as the adventurer Godfrey Clinton; Messrs. Owen Redmonde (Job Smithers), Frank Dallas (Henrick Oppenheim), Seymour Perry (Wilberforce Puddyphat), and Edward Ashton (Joe Button) provide the lighter fare; Miss Elsie Marriott Watson is an aceptable Gwendoline Gordon; Miss Alice Clarke gives excellent assistance in the comic element; Miss Maude Merrick depicts with feeling and naturalness the vicissitudes of Marjorie Hamilton.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Weston.—Mr. Morton Powell's excellent company is here, in *A Girl's Temptation*, by Mrs. Morton Powell. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne, a clever young actress, scores as Kate Stirling; Mr. Frank V. Fenn is a manly Guy Warren; Mr. Clifton Earle a delightfully villainous Mark Klaw; Miss Winnie Donovan and Miss Blanche Lee are both excellent in their respective parts; and a word of praise must be given to the comedy efforts of Miss Amy Corallie and Mr. Albert E. Mann.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—T. E. Dunville, with his quaint mannerisms and extremely comic effusions, stars here, and makes a big hit; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are huge favourites; and a well-liked turn is given by Lennie and Hast, in *The Maid of Polaria*. Lovely Lily Burnand is as chic as ever, and Ernest Cadle's *Casey Army*, with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey, is a medley of fun and frivolity. Others are Lily Lonsdale, Ernie Myers, and Metz and Metz.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Mr. Alfred West's "Our Navy and Army" cinematograph exhibition is proving a very strong attraction here.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Pareezer.—This week's attraction is provided by Miss Florence Baines in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, which gave intense delight on Monday, when the company gained a hearty reception. Miss Florence Baines' amusing impersonation of Mary Ellen Thompson kept her audience in continual laughter, and she is alike successful in acting, singing, and mimicry; Mr. Charles Swinburne as Harry Higgins and Mr. David Donaldson as John Higgins make capable exponents; Mr. James E. Manning is well suited as Moses Goldberg; Mr. Joseph Burley ably characterises the rôle of Herbert Fox; Mr. Payne Fletcher gives a good portrayal of John Henry Thompson; and the Misses Joan Earle as Bertha Higgins and Miss Locker as Mrs. Thompson are both worthy delineators.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The two daily programmes are well supported this week. *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, ably presented by Mr. Arthur Watson's company, gains much favour; while the dances of the Vera Troupe and the musical items are additional features of enjoyment. The principal exponents include Messrs. Arthur Watson, Robert Leardo, Aubin King, and Harry Neilson, and the Misses Flo Stanley and Beatrice Hayden. Some clever dancing by Eddie Granton, a comedienne who pleases, wins recognition; the Sisters La Blanche, in duets and dances, entertain successfully, as also do the Leonards in a like turn; Rosa Neilson is a good transformation dancer; and Levano gives a clever tumbling performance.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—*Trilby* is the attraction here this week, and is presented by Miss M. Lowe-Dare and company admirably. Mr. Ernest Dare gives a convincing impersonation of Svengali, and shares principal honours with Miss M. Lowe-Dare, whose interpretation of the title-rôle is ably sustained; Mr. Jack Leyland is well suited as Little Billee; Messrs. E. Vere Montague and Gordon Meagor as Taffy and Sandy enact their respective parts creditably, as also do Mr. Arthur Foster as the Rev. Bagot and Mr. Lionel Waltham as the Concert Manager. Miss Maggie de Hallé makes a strong exponent of Mme. Vinard; and Miss Hope Willoughby is a pleasing Gecko.

THE HIPPODROME.—Salge's Animated Sculpture is at the Hippodrome this week in an exhibition of a very attractive character; the Kennedy Girls are clever dancers and acrobatic performers, and are as popular as ever; Clark and Hamilton are good in an amusing creation, "New York, London, or Paris"; Tommy Clifford is a clever ventriloquist; Henriette and Selina play cleverly on several instruments; while Karr and Kooney tell some funny stories. Aimee Roberts is a vocalist of a high order, and is accorded a hearty welcome; Goodfellow and Gregson, a comedy couple, and Robb Wilton complete the programme.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*The Eyes of the World*, by Charles Darrell, is being played here by Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss Ethel Van Praagh as Hélène de L'Orme captivates by her powerful and emotional acting; Mr. J. Edward Whitty depicts M. Achille Fanfarade in good style; Mr. Charles O'Connor (Hector de L'Orme), Mr. Guy P. Ellis (Gaston de Carnac), Mr. Royce Carleton (Octave), and Mr. R. Wilton Bedford (Paul Roqueville) are all well placed. The same may be said of Miss Flora Hastings (Esmé de Carnac),

David Collins.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company presents here *Her Marriage Vow*. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles makes a capital Ned Benton; Mr. W. Burgess as Gilbert Carlton was a success; Mr. Harry C. Momber in the rôle of Daffy Dan gave a capital impersonation; Mr. Joe Rockley as William Walters also did good work. The heroine, Kate Walters, was cleverly portrayed by Miss Effie Bartlett; Miss N. Shirley did justice as Hester Horton; and the comedy element was in the capable hands of Miss Nancy Lawrence and Mr. Richard Nugent.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—A successful programme of pictures is given here by the A.B. Electric Picture Company, the leading subjects being Gold Is Not All, The Fence on Box Two Ranch, Generosity of An Indian Chief, The Twisted Trail, Foolshead on Skates, Lieut. Rose the Gun Runner. An excellent variety turn is given by the Sisters Lillian.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Morton Powell's company occupy the boards this week in *Brought to Ruin*. Mrs. Morton Powell appears as Miss Minnie Waters, and her clever acting of a difficult part gains her much favour; Miss Geraldine Verner is also successful in the emotional character of Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott leaves nothing to be desired in his portrayal of the faithful sailor Harry Hailing; and Mr. Richard Vane is remarkably good in the double character of a rone and a judge in Philip Dare; the fun of Mr. Sydney Bryant as Jack Jossie adds much to the enjoyment of the play; and Miss Jeannie Bisley gives a good sketch as Lucy Lawton; the Solomon Sleek of Mr. Alaric Burton is well played.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Elmo and Rego are most amusing in their knockabout; and Lindsay and Hart are also very humorous; Ada and Gertie are sweet little songsters, and gain great applause; the Sylvester Trio sing and dance in fine style; and Karl Cynski as the one-man band, is excellent; Helen Martin captures the audience with a new patriotic song; and Lily Arthur dances daintily; Jack E. Roseve's turn is also a capital one.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company in *The Mockery of Marriage* is attracting large audiences here this week. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs impersonates the character of the villain, Sir Montague Jephson, with power and skill; Mr. Ernest Wingfield acts in manly style as Jack Stanley; Mr. Lowe Mackenzie's acting as Seth Pearse is impressive; Alva Kenyon is capably represented by Miss Mabel Elliott, and Miss C. Middleton acts charmingly as Rose Verham; and Mr. David Phillips as Toby Wright and Miss Ada Band as Mary Ann Barnicott are amusing.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. Montgomery's company continues to entertain patrons here with *The Mysteries of London*. As the villainous Frenchman, Victor Levigne, Mr. S. E. Scanlon acts effectively; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon makes an acceptable Philip Conway; Lena North is sympathetically impersonated by Miss Nina Vaughton; and Miss Lillian Radburn praiseworthily fills the character of Sybil Grey; whilst the comedy parts are exceptionally excellent in the hands of Mr. Harry Cooke as Dick Coppem and Miss Mabel Tremane as Liza Stumps.

STOKE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Mr. Stanley Carlton and company are this week presenting the drama by Arthur Shirley indicative of the white slave traffic, entitled *Her Life in London*.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE VARIETY HALL AND PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Yettmah, assisted by O Sasa San, heads the bill here this week with his marvellous Anglo-Japanese magic act; the Sisters Dudley are operatic vocalists of extraordinary merit; Surrey and Carlton appear in a capital comedy sketch *She Would be an Actress;* the Two Daniels are first-class negro entertainers; and Sylvene, a novel equilibrist, foots the bill and does a smart turn. The pictures are above the average, and give general satisfaction.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Will Casey's company is playing here this week in the drama *The Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar is in the rôle of Marion, and displays great histrionic ability; Miss Ethel Spence is capital as Elsie Langham; and little Doris Sorsby gives much promise as Reggie; Mr. L. Ernest makes a satisfactory John Hawthorne; and Mr. Arthur Cheeves is equally good as Frank Armstrong. In the rôle of Philip Blackstone, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes proves himself a capable stage villain; and Mr. Joe Wright is well placed as Christopher Lennox. The comedy is in the excellent hands of Mrs. Will Casey and Messrs. Will Casey and Frank Masters, whose united efforts cause much amusement.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Cora Roland, comedienne, is here this week; Doyle and Gibson contribute smart work; and the pictures are excellent.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The bill here this week is headed by Charlier, ventriloquist and comedian, whose humorous performance is warmly received; Charles Norton makes a hit with his cleverly delivered mimetic monologue, *Pros at the Races;* Helen Charles is popular with good juvenile impersonation; Johnny Fuller does some smart acrobatic work and clever feline impersonations; the simultaneous dancing and repartee of Ike and Will Scott are keenly appreciated; the Five Vernons supply a good musical turn; Conan and Doyle, comedians, and Millie Payne, low comedy artist, also appear with success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton's Picture and Variety Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—Captain Deveraux's Dogs create much amusement here; Godfrey Price sings "The Trumpeter" in capital style; Mozetto, juggler, performs feats of skill; and the pictures are good.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—This theatre reopened on Monday evening with an attractive variety programme. The Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean Singers head the bill, and are enthusiastically applauded; Jimmy Grant, Scotch comedian, is successful; Otto Crusino, vocalist, sings nicely; Starley Brothers give a clever cycle act; Arthur George, comedian, is amusing; the Sisters Lavender, comediennes, are much appreciated; Maisie May, comedienne, pleases; and Milton Ray's comedy duo, *The Puzzled Coroner*, in which Messrs. A. Milton and George Leigh appear, cause much fun.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—An interesting set of films is provided here, including The Broken Spell, King of Beggars, Mr. Poorluck's First Tip, Races at Heliopolis, Dutch Children, Young Deer's Gratitude, and Bride of the Haunted Castle.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—"The March Hares" are proving a great attraction here this week. Miss Beatrice Read, a talented vocalist with a charming presence, is a great favourite; Miss Doris Lind is a popular comedienne; Miss Sybil Clare performs with considerable skill; and Mr. Bernard Ansell is a baritone of much power and ability. Mr. Edmund Hollick is a humorous entertainer, and Mr. Davy Burnaby keeps the house in laughter; Mr. Philip Braham at the piano is very acceptable.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Minnie Kaufmann, trick cyclist, heads the bill this week, and on Monday night received a flattering reception; Chinko, juggler, is paying a welcome return visit; Scholey and Scholey are seen to advantage in a comedy act entitled *Winning a Wager;* Lil Elfreda is a mimic of ability; Bromley and Fontein score in sketch entitled *The Man Behind the Music Stand;* Ciss and Will, juvenile duettists and dancers; the Seymons, in juggling act; and Henry A. Moore, monologue artist, also contribute to the programme; the Palace orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Percival Goffin, continue to please by their various and well-rendered selections. Animated pictures conclude.

WAKEFIELD.—NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Francini, Olloms, and Page give a fine acrobatic and musical turn; Bennett and Martell, comedians, create much merriment; Miss Elise Malpass is a smart juvenile mimic and dancer; Clarke and Mostel, comedians, are capital dancers; Waul Langtry, comedian, is amusing in song and patter; Cavallis is a clever ventriloquist; and the Emson Girls are dainty comediennes and dancers.

HIPPODROME.—The stage was occupied on Monday and Tuesday nights by local talent in a complimentary benefit to the permanent staff, when there were two overflowing houses.

WALLSEND.—PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—A strong bill is provided here this week, the chief films being St. Elmo (Vitagraph), Indian Blood (Selig), The Way of the World (Biograph). Billy Clithro, comedian, receives a hearty reception.

ROYAL PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—Silent Paths and The Gold Seekers are the chief pictures this week. Frank Stanert, comedian, is seen to advantage.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — The Andos Happy Little Japs provide the chief turn this week, and are very clever; Harry Herbert is a smart eccentric comedian; Lillie Lassah is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Beautiful Lillian as a trick cyclist is clever; Charles Fisher's Vocalesques are a fine trio of vocalists. The pictures are particularly interesting.

THE ELECTRIC PALACE.—Some fine pictures are to be seen here this week, chief amongst the series being a film entitled Love's Stratagem; the picture A Daring Performance is a fine animal study. Other pictures worthy of mention are the Mistaken Identity and Caleno Tries Cold Water Cure.

IMPERIAL HALL.—The pictures here are very good, St. Elmo being a most touching story. Other films are up to the usual standard at this popular hall. Vocal turns are provided by the Delroys and C. France, and are much appreciated.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The Blue Myths are here again this week, and their refined vaudeville entertainment is meeting with appreciation. The pictures, showing views of North Wales, are a charming collection.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—The remarkable American illusionist Sears is here this week, and his mystifying tricks astonish all; Johnny Danvers and Eva Rosslyn score in the sketch *A Pantomime Boy;* Velanche's canine troupe are well trained; Sissie Brand is a delightful comedienne; Miss Elsie and her cousin Bob score well in a series of fine balancing feats; Harold Heath is a smart coon singer and dancer; and the Vaudeville Trio are good vocalists and dancers. The pictures are good.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Witty Wattie Walton is scoring well here with new business; Lillie Black has made many friends with her up-to-date songs; Rose Gower is a charming chorus vocalist, and Terry and Tate are thoroughly versatile artists. The pictures are again a delightful assortment.

GRAND.—Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. Sidney Felton. — This house was opened on Monday by Mr. Harold Smith and Lady Greenall. It is a charmingly cosy place, and an excellent series of pictures have met with due appreciation.

WASHINGTON.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—Mr. Walter Steel presents *A Fast Life* here this week. Mr. Fredk. Garrett is acceptable as Sir Oliver Franklin; Mr. J. Hamilton does well as the Bank Manager; a song and dance by Billie Burke (Mr. W. Barrett) gains loud applause; Mr. E. Kingsley as Lord Craven scores heavily; Wheatcroft is capably played by Mr. Hal Howles; Mr. J. Selwyn is successful as Lockfast, the warder; Mr. J. Moffatt is effective as William; Miss B. Hone scores as Lady Franklin, and Miss Maud Ryder sings her songs pleasingly.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—In addition to other interesting pictures shown here this week, the proprietors have enterprisingly pioneered a local cycle parade, that is drawing very large audiences. The turns are Bu-Val, who has, and deserves, the title of the "Happy Dutchman"; Connie Isca, a capital vocalist; and Clare and Pastor, in song and dance.

EMPIRE.—This week's programme is giving great satisfaction. Chief honours are carried off by Blanche and Diacoff, in their sensational turn "Cycling the Whizz," a daring performance; Memora's marvellous memory proves equal to all calls; Will Godwin acts powerfully as the drunken husband in *Night and Morning;* and other turns include Rene, a clever little juggler; Roy Bevis, Cissie Carter, Josie Neilson, Dan Scott, Arthur Hayes, and Queenie Doris.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Under the direction of Mr. Montague Beaudyn *Her Kingdom of Love* is being played to crowded houses. Mr. Beaudyn's portrayal of Rupert is strong and lifelike; Colonel Strelsburg is smartly played by Mr. D. Eckersley; Miss Muriel Inglis makes the most of her character of Baroness Von Holden; and Miss Irene Munroe acts with womanly feeling as Kate Forrest. Mr. A. A. Tomlins, in conjunction with Miss Phyllis Rae, are all that can be desired as Sergeant Devries and Marie; Major Halstein is well played by Mr. C. D. Pitt, and the same applies to the Captain Devries of Mr. George Overs.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. R. Colin; Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—A fine set of pictures is being shown here this week, interspersed by some excellent turns. Jenny Starr, comedienne, is well received; as also is King Leo, who gives a smart ventriloquial turn; Bella Leaburn contributes some catchy songs; and a clever musical speciality by the Leonas.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Mr. Bert Coote as Harold Tapsley Framingham in the amusing *A Lamb on Wall Street* is delightful, and is ably supported by J. C. Aubrey and Ada Russell; Callahan and St. George, in a pretty character Irish study, *The Old Neighbourhood*, introduce some effective harp solos and Irish humour; Stewart and Morgan have a hearty welcome; the Four Mayos, in an eccentric skating act, are smart; Gwennie Hasto, in speciality dance, is grace personified; Frank Lynne is a funny comedian; and the efforts of Dion Wade always result in hilarity.

QUEEN'S RINK.—Mr. Maxstead, of the Empress, with his usual enterprise, has made this the home of his troupe of Royal Entertainers when the weather is unfavourable to them appearing in the open on Seaton's beautiful foreshore. A change of programme is announced for this week, Messrs. Adeler and Allandale's company appearing in *The Gay River*. The company appearing are Horace Jones, Starrie Fawn, Forde Roberts, Reg Manning, Ted Roberts, Arthur Parry, Myles Clifton, and Misses Edie Fawn, Marie Leigh, Peggy Tolgarthen, Marie Wilson, and Carrie Parry.

PALACE.—Black's Popular Pictures go as well as ever, packed houses twice nightly being the result of the excellent programme submitted. In addition to the pictures a pleasing turn is contributed by George Leonara, a blind musician, whose mastership of the concertina is indisputable; and Hayman and Houghton, comedians, who create laughter by their comedy and their parody on "Kelly."

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Another attractive bill is provided here this week. Maude Courtney and Mr. C.'s songs and patter prove delightful; the Cheers, with their educated cats, are loudly applauded; the Victor Brothers are clever as equilibrists; Joan Deering is a charming singer who plays her own accompaniments on the violin; Fields and Lewis evoke much laughter by their burlesque; and the Vanderbilts are an acceptable turn; Miss Florence makes a hit with her mimicry; and Mr. Lambert, as usual, shows some beautiful pictures.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—This is the last week of the stock season here. On Monday and Tuesday *The Octoroon* was produced, Mr. Leonard Thackeray appearing as George Peyton. Mr. Henry Parr was good as Jacob McClosky, and as Salem Scudder Mr. F. B. Woulfe played in his usual forcible manner; Mr. Alf Raymond was an excellent Pete; as Wah-no-Tee Mr. Eddie Vane acquitted himself creditably; Miss May Irene Wright was a capable Mrs. Peyton; and as Zoe Miss Edith Lorraine gave entire satisfaction. Miss Josephine Richards did full justice to the part of Dora Sunnyside.

WEYMOUTH. — PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company are appearing in *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. F. Pennington Gush scored a success as John Glayde, and Miss Lilian Hallows as Muriel Glayde was very effective; Mr. Hal Charlton played the difficult part of Trevor Lerode with care; Mr. Alfred Brandon was good as Howard Collingham; as also Mr. Leslie Bennett and Mr. Arthur Gibbons as Christopher Branley and Michael Shurmur. Miss Victoria May Holmes gave a capital rendering of the Princess Castagnary; Miss Viola March was very charming as Lady Lerode; while Mrs. Rennick and Dora were faithfully impersonated by Miss Phyllis Hume and Miss Kitty Crighton. Mr. Theodore Kelly was a capital Walters.

WHITLEY BAY.—WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. A. Peuleve.—The following are appearing here: Sadod, the world's greatest original juggler; Mi Narom, the star comedy girl; Ruffell's pictures; Royal Quintette International Dancers; the Danbys, eccentric comedians and dancers; Morrisey, balancer and musician; Sisters Lyelle, character duettists and dancers; Dan Whitley, comedian; Dolly Hook, comedienne; Reuben Hill, actor-vocalist; Victoria Carmen, ballad vocalist; Harry Dungo, comedian; Gipsy Earle, soprano vocalist; and H. A. Griffiths.

COLISEUM.—Managers, Messrs. A. Blake and Fred Patterson.—In addition to some excellent pictures, the chief variety turn is contributed by Master Victor, the wonderful juvenile violinist.

WIGAN. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 Company. As Uncle Tom Mr. J. H. Boehm is successful; Mr. Claud Graveley gives a capital impersonation of Mr. St. Clair; Mr. E. Leonard is powerful as Dan Haley; and George Harris finds an able exponent in Mr. Eric Williams. Miss Gem Lloyd proves herself to be a talented little actress as Eva; while Miss Ethel Vernon as Aunt Ophelia and Miss Annie Watson as Topsy capably occupy the humorous rôles.

PAVILION.—Lessees, The U.S.A. Animated Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Fletcher Sansome.—Some capital films are presented here this week. The principal picture is The Unchanging Sea, a dramatic illustration of the toil and strife of fisherfolk; On the Borders is an exciting story of American life amongst the cowboys. Other dramatic films are The Livingstone Case and At the Eleventh Hour. Susan's Revenge and The Bald-headed Corporal are the comics.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Ball.—A change in the usual run of heavy dramatic fare is provided this week in the engagement of Mrs. Frank Bateman's company, who are appearing in *Sapho, Camille*, and *No Wedding Bells for Her*. The first-named was produced on Monday night, and in the title-part Mrs. Frank Bateman displayed conspicuous ability, and received adequate support from Messrs. Fred W. Goddard, Charles Clifford, Harry Aynsleigh, Percy Shaw, and Mesdames Mattie Everett, Lily Shaw, and Winnie Redfern.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Top of the bill here this week are the Elliott-Savonas, who present their well-known musical show in a most gorgeous stage setting; Jock Whiteford is well to the fore in his humorous Scotch songs; Barnes and Ascott win loud applause for their clever wooden shoe dancing; Edith Haley, in masculine attire, sings charming love songs; Senorita Eloina executes graceful feats on the trapeze; Tom Lee is a smart light comedian; and Miss Florence, with illustrated songs, completes.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—The opera company controlled by Cavaliere Castellano is on a welcome return visit here.—*La Traviata* was given on Monday, *Rigoletto* on Tuesday, and other operas in the répertoire include *Lucia di Lammermoor, Cavalleria Rusticana, I Pagliacci, Il Trovatore, Faust, Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and *Carmen*.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—An attractive programme is presented here this week. Brothers, an excellent British Dramatic picture, and Too Many Admirers are the leading pictures here. Other pictures shown are In the Mirror, Daddy and Mammy, The Right Decision, The Champion Bowl Player, and Isis. The cinephone sings all the latest songs.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—There is a capital company engaged this week. Binns and Binns have been warmly applauded; Alcide Capitaine is a clever and daring gymnast; Gertie Martini is a sweet singer; Geo. Antill is a funny comedian; and the sketch given by the Oakes Duo is an enjoyable item. Senor ngel Blanco, the accomplished violinist, is heartily received; and the Phœnix Trio, the Rowntrees, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—A Heart of Gold is a highly dramatic picture, and Davy Crockett and Caught in the Wind are warmly applauded. The comic films also are well received, and Nellie Neall is a popular singer.

PRINCESS BARIATINSKY, the Russian actress, whose appearance at His Majesty's last season in *Hedda Gabler* and other interesting plays is well remembered, and who will shortly appear at the Théâtre Michel, Paris, in a new modern play, entitled *Le Meilleur Moyen*, written for her by two French authors, has for her special ambition a London success in an English piece, and she is improving her acquaintance with our language with that object. It will be remembered that Mme. Modjeska, a popular West End actress, always spoke with an accent which did not detract from her charm.

"ARLECCHINO:
A ROMANCE OF THE FOOTLIGHTS."

BY J. H. WRANGHAM.

From the most unlikely sources come strange happenings. Tiny tragedies tremble in sordid places, and pink-tinged romance occasionally illumines sombre surroundings. To the ordinary observer the last places to look for real tragedy or romance are those Hippodromes controlled by Flathead Brothers in Cottonopolis. But one such delicate idyll did occur at the Cowes Theatre, Cottonopolis. The Flathead Brothers, seeing that their *clientèle* were getting sick of the yellow-haired, raucous comediennes, who could not sing, and whose wit consisted only in the unsavouriness of the things not said, of comic men who were obsessed by the "lodger gag," had engaged an artist known as Arlecchino to appear in a new dumb show play. Arlecchino—or, to give him his right name, the Hon. Denzil Fane is sitting in his dressing room in his make-up reading an anonymous script which he was to play that night.

"I do not know the author," mused Arlecchino, "but his play is exquisite. There is in it tears trembling on laughter and real fun, making its pearls of pathos shimmer as if the sun had kissed them. Yes, I've got my chance, and for the kiddie's sake I'll take it. Otherwise I should not care. I thought I was alone except for my other and my better self, both derelicts on a Dead Sea of hopes forgotten, of ambitions frustrated, of desires denied. My wife had dishonoured me, denied me, defied me, left me. So I chucked the world social. I climbed down or up, as the good God pleases, into Bohemia. And what a beautiful world is Bohemia. There are two very beautiful things in this world. They are to love and to suffer. To give to others, not out of your plenty, but to pinch it from your poverty and deny yourself."

There came a knock at the door, and in response to Arlecchino's "Come in" there entered a very striking child of fourteen, with a pathetic face—a face not exactly beautiful, but fascinating, with its dark eyes, scarlet lips, ivory complexion, and bronze hair. It is Joan Howarth Fane, Arlecchino's only child, and his one treasure on earth.

"Are you nearly dressed, daddy?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he replies, drawing her to him. "My darling, are you happy, quite, quite happy in this nomad life of ours, or would you rather be back in the cloistered calm of convent walls?"

"Quite, quite happy with you, father. Of course, if you say so, I will go back. You are my world. What you say is Mosaic law—I obey. But I am afraid I should greet, Daddy. In this world of ours there is life and light and colour. In the convent, beautiful as the sisters are, the outlook is drab and drear."

"Then you shall not go back, my dear, my sweetheart. You shall not go back. You shall be a child of joy, not a little sister of grief."

"Father, I have never questioned you before, but I am growing into a woman, and I want to know something."

"Yes, dearest, growing into a woman, and, I thank God, pure womanly. What is it you want to know?"

"Where is my mother? Other children have mothers. They used to come to the convent and see them and kiss them and cry over them. No mother has ever come to see me."

"Your mother, dear, went a long, long journey from us many years ago. She left you with me because, at the bidding of an inexorable law she followed the passionate impulse of a perverse nature. But she left you with me. She left you with me, thank God for that."

"Then, Daddy, you do not want me to ask you more."

"No, dear, no. How is your throat?"

"It feels very bad, daddy, and the cough hurts."

"Does it, dearest? Come and lie on the sofa." It is only a fragile little body that Arlecchino carries to the sofa and covers up with a rug. Then he rang the bell, and kneeling by his child, chafed her hands until his dresser answered his summons. "Go to Mr. Musgrove, Simmons, and ask him if there is a doctor in front. If not, will he 'phone for one?"

"Yes, sir," replies the dresser, and he silently leaves the room.

"Are you easier, darling? The doctor will be here directly."

"Yes, daddy, much easier. Tell me your part again."

"My dear, it is a beautiful conception. It is a splendid idea. An idea into which is wrought sentiment embroidered with a silver crochet needle of phantasy and woven with a scarlet thread of passion which is shot with the gold of chastity. Grim tragedy is also worked into it—the pathos of mean streets, the epitome and essence of those tiny tragedies which lie just beneath the surface of our everyday existence, but worked into the scheme with worsted. It is the worsted issues millions know. Most of us, dear little child, have sometime felt the sap of life spur us on to fine ambitions. The fine ambitions are choked by the worsted of commonplace, strangled by the wool of circumstance. Too few of us find the scarlet thread shot with gold.

A voice interrupted them—the voice so often heard at the back of a playhouse: "Beginners, please. Beginners, please. Beginners, please," and then Simmons came into the room, followed by the doctor. He was a young, pleasant-looking man, who went straight to the little girl and examined her.

"Your child?"

"Yes, Joan Fane."

"Bad case of diphtheria. Can your dresser go to the front of the house. In the dress circle he will see a nurse in uniform."

"Do you hear, Simmons? Go at once. She will get better, doctor, she will get better? Tell me she will get better. In storm and stress, in times when the pinches of life's bruises, which are poverty's reward, pressed hard, I and the kiddie faced the music bravely. Her little kisses made a man of me. If she goes to the Great Beyond I shall be alone in a sea of anguish—derelict, without a plank of hope."

Once more the raucous voice at the door: "Overture."

"I can't go! I won't go!" came harshly from the artist's lips. "How can I play the fool when the kid may be dying? Has Punch no feelings? God tries us all very hard, but this is the limit. How can I play?"

"I am not going to talk platitudes, Signor Arlecchino," said the doctor, softly, "but your duty is on the stage. Human skill and God's mercy can help your child. That skill and that mercy shall be given to your child."

"The curtain is up. It is only two cues off you, sir," said Simmons, bursting in.

Arlecchino knelt by his child and kissed her. "Good bye, little one. If I make a success and you do not win through they will be faded laurel leaves I place on your grave. If you do live they will be green for ever," and without another word the actor went towards the footlights.

"Where's the nurse, dresser?" said the doctor at the door of the dressing-room.

"She is here," and Simmons ushered a lady attired in the neat uniform of the hospital nurse into the room.

"You want me, doctor?"

"Yes," replied the doctor, with difficulty making her hear through the applause and cheers which came from the front of the house. "Serious case of diphtheria. She is sleeping now. The child should be removed, but it is too critical to chance it."

"What is the child's name?" asked the woman, who was known in her hospital as Nurse Danvers.

"Joan Howarth Fane."

"Doctor—God help me, it is my child!"

"Your child," he returned aghast.

"Yes, my little child. In the days that are dead I left my husband for my lover. It was Guinevere over again, and Launcelot overshadowed King Arthur. I left my baby—I could not rob my husband of everything. And now she is dying, and I can do nothing!"

"Yes, you can. When my assistant comes you can help me. Where is the man you went away with, and why are you a nurse?"

"The night I stole away from home—the night I left honour and respect behind me there was an accident to the train in which we travelled, and Gerald Dare was crippled. I tended him. He grew to hate his sin and despise his fellow-sinner."

"But your husband divorced you. Why did not the man marry you? He was by way of being a gentleman?"

"Because I would not. He had ceased to love me, and though, doctor, I was an adultress in thought I was not in deed. Since then I have worked and suffered."

"Where is Dare now?"

"He died this morning with his hand in mine. I came here to-night to fulfil his last desire. His final work, his swan song, was the tiny drama which Arlecchino is playing now. Listen to the cheers, the laughter, the applause," she broke off to listen to the acclamations which were swelling up to them from the auditorium. "Arlecchino's success is his atonement, his expiation."

They are interrupted by Simmons entering with a small professional-looking case. The doctor takes it, and proceeds to administer an anæsthetic to the little patient, while the nurse, though busying herself preparing the child, still listens intently to the cheers and applause which penetrate the silent room.

"To save her I must suck the poison."

"No; I will do it. It is my child," and the nurse kneeling down applies her lips to the aperture which the surgeon has deftly made in the child's throat.

"She will live, she will live," cries the doctor.

At this moment Arlecchino bursts into the room. "Little Gertie. Success, success, success. Where is she?"

"There, she will recover. This brave woman has saved her at the peril of her life. She will sleep, and as soon as possible she shall be removed to the hospital."

The nurse turns from the bed, and Arlecchino recognised her. "You! You! and here?"

"Yes; but I am going now. Going back to loneliness and isolation to a starved life, crimsoned by regret and remorse. A woman alone, with the world against her."

She stoops, kisses the child, and turns to the door.

"Stay. Where is the man you left me for?"

"Gerald Dare is dead. But he never wronged you except in thought. I was never his wife. I was never his mistress, and he did one beautiful and gracious thing before he died. You were always a great, but undiscovered, artist. He knew it, and wrote for you by way of a last atonement the play, the little play by which this night you have made yourself famous."

"Gerald Dare did this for me?"

"Yes; Gerald Dare did that for you."

"And you this night have risked your life for the child—yours and mine. Can we not let the dead past bury its dead?"

"If we only could."

"We will. You shall be the joy of your real husband, the teacher of your child."

"Guv'nor, guv'nor; they are calling for you," shouted Simmons.

"Yes, yes." He opened his arms, and his wife is folded in them.

M. JOSEPH BOULNOIS, chorus master at the Opéra-Comique, Paris, is writing the music to *Marcellus*, the libretto being by M. Léo Lacrie, in collaboration with M. Poutier, who died last year after the completion of the work. M. Lacrie is also busy on a tragedy called *Augusta*, by no less a person than the famous barrister M. Décori.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH," which ran for several years in the United States without a break before it was seen on this side of the Atlantic, is said to have yielded nearly three-quarters of a million pounds profit for those who were lucky enough to have a share in its production. Enormous as has been the success of this popular play, it still falls far short of the record made by *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Joseph Jefferson appeared over 5,000 times, and which earned the amazing sum of £1,000,000. *The Old Homestead*, with Denman Thompson in the leading part, is said to have yielded £950,000 in a dozen years at the rate of nearly £80,000 a year; while *Erminie* was a gold mine across the Atlantic, running for 1,267 nights at a single theatre, and earning well over £800,000. *Colleen Bawn, East Lynne, Peep o' Day, Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and several other plays have made profits running far into six figures, and *The Private Secretary* is credited with a total clear profit of £300,000.

FIFTY years ago £50 an act, or, say, £250 in all, was considered a big price for a play (says a writer in the *Penny Illustrated Paper*), and for that sum the author disposed of his entire rights—London, provincial, foreign, colonial, and amateur. To-day a successful play should bring its lucky author anything from £10,000 to £20,000 in one year, whilst he still retains his copyright, and with it the probability of making another £20,000 before his play is finally done with.

THIS remarkable change in the dramatist's earnings is due, of course, to the introduction of the royalty system, by which the author, in place of a lump sum for his work, is paid a percentage on the gross receipts at the theatre where the play is produced. The receipts of a theatre, of course, vary with its holding capacity, but £1,500 a week is not an excessive sum to put down for the average weekly takings during the run of a successful play, and on this the author would take £150 a week, and with a year's run he nets in London alone £7,800.

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable preparation than

ENO'S

'FRUIT SALT'

THE OLD TIME, EVER-POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY FOR

Biliousness, Sick Headache, Errors in Diet (Eating or Drinking), Giddiness, Constipation, Thirst, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold with High Temperature and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It proves beneficial in the early stages of Diarrhœa. Most valuable to Travellers, especially in hot countries.

CAUTION.—*Examine the Capsule, and see that it is marked ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT,' otherwise you have the sincerest form of flattery—IMITATION.*

Prepared only by J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'FRUIT SALT' WORKS, LONDON, S.E.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.

On Monday, July 11, a New Comedy, in One Act, by Kathleen C. Lion, entitled

"THE WILES OF THE WIDOW."

Betsy Pye .....Miss Clare Greet
Mary Beasley .....Miss Joy Chatwyn
James Beasley .....Mr. Holliday Atlay
Daniel John Scatt .....Mr. Hubert Druce

The prosperity of *The Naked Truth*, with the unapproachable Charles Hawtrey always at hand to tell it, shows no signs of waning; but as a concession to those staunchest patrons of the drama, the early pittites and the eager gods, Mr. Frank Curzon "placed" a new curtain-raiser at Wyndham's on Monday. The little piece by Kathleen C. Lion, an authoress who is new to us, though it is theatrical in its essence, and at times naïve in its humour, has been written with some perception of satire and drollery of situation, and it was pleasant to hear the laughter that continually burst forth during its presentation.

When widows are wily on the stage they are really Machiavellian; and the strategy of Mrs. Betsy Pye, who had buried "her first," and had contrived ever since to make a snug living out of the little general shop of the village, is clothed with a few shreds of the higher diplomacy. Pye has been gathered to his fathers about eighteen months, and as every conventional form of respect has been paid to his memory, his relict is looking out for a second, who will in time share the grave for three, which, with an eye to the future, and in pursuit of a forward policy, she has bought. The village constable, Daniel John Scatt, is evidently impressed by the charms of the lady, and does not regard her little bit of property with indifference; but her heart has gone out to James Beasley, the skipper and the owner of the Mary Jane. James, "in a manner of speaking," is handicapped by a promise given to his parents that he will always keep a home for his sister Mary, an unattractive spinster of thirty-seven. Brilliant thought! Why not bring Constable Scatt and Mary together, and thus secure the gallant fisher captain for herself? Very artfully does Mrs. Pye go to work. With a dissimulation that seems the very essence of candour, she draws a picture for Scatt of Mary's good fortune if she marries. She will have a silver teapot, a fine china tea-service, and a pig! All these presents, it need hardly be said, will come from the widow. Scatt is evidently impressed, and as a preliminary to courtship, begs back the posy given by him to the widow, that he may offer it to Mary, who is quite easily captured, and the arch-diplomatist takes James Beasley to her arms. The outlay of the money on the grave is not to be wasted.

The plot might be more convincing if Miss Joy Chatwyn, who plays in such effective fashion the part of Mary Beasley, were not made up with such uncompromising ugliness, or if she was improved in appearance by a few deft touches to the hair and complexion on the part of the widow—a part admirably played indeed by Miss Clare Greet, a capital comedienne. Mr. Hubert Druce was very funny as the Constable, and did not hesitate to exaggerate the bucolic stupidity of the character. Quite in the picture was Mr. Holliday Atlay's artistic sketch of the fisherman, James Beasley.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 11, the Drama in Five Acts entitled

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."

At the Shakespeare Theatre this week Mr. Horace Stanley's excellent company is holding the boards with the thrilling drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*. Full justice is done to the play, which goes strongly from start to finish, and the audience show their appreciation in the most enthusiastic manner. The scenic effects are particularly good, the scene depicting the express train being a triumph of stagecraft. Mr. Horace Stanley takes full advantage of his opportunities in the rôle of the true-hearted bluejacket Sam Wagstaffe, and his amusing antics evoke uproarious laughter. In this direction he is well supported by Miss Kate Kilpack, who is a vivacious Peggy Potts; Mr. Ernest Fare gives a manly and vigorous portrayal of Lieut. Jack O'Malley, and a sound performance of the villainous James Inderwick is contributed by Mr. George Arthur, who acts with convincing force. Mr. Edwin Clarke is responsible for an admirable rendering of the part of the Detective Huntley Mason, and Mr. T. B. Brabazon faithfully delineates the stern pride of Cuthbert Leigh. Mr. Evan Roland is well to the front with a clever impersonation of the broken-down gamekeeper Seth Coombes, and Mr. A. E. Francis does well as Blotherby Blaggs. Miss Violet Agnew acts with feeling the part of Bessie Leigh, and elicits the fullest sympathy. Miss Ida Fape creates considerable laughter by her humorous representation of Letitia Leigh, and Miss Clara Santley acts with sufficient abandon as Olive Coombs. The minor parts are capably sustained, and the whole performance is very enjoyable.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 11, the Drama entitled

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

On Monday night Mr. Morton Powell presented to an appreciative audience his excellent company in Mrs. Morton Powell's latest play, *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. Miss Maud M. Powell plays naturally as the persecuted village school teacher Ruby Wright; Miss Edith Wallis as the betrayed Ruth Wright by some forceful acting gives us a terrible example of the effects of vice and drink; Miss Ana Corri is sufficiently subtle as the proprietress of a massage and bath establishment, Mme. de Meral; Miss Lilla Nordon plays vivaciously as the cheery barmaid Bessa Betts; Miss Eva Norman is a pathetic figure as the crippled boy Ned Chipplet; Mr. Leslie Austin is a strong nautical hero as Robert Ray; Mr. Walter Clarke plays well as the lustful Lucas List; Mr. Henry Scratchard is the repulsive Octavius Screwe; Mr. Edward Swinton as Billy Broad, Mr. Mackintosh Clyde as Bobby Broad, and Mr. William Clements as Freddy Feather are responsible for some excellent pantomimical humour, and generally keep things lively. Mr. William Berson plays convincingly as the Rev. Christopher Lovett.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, July 11, the Military Drama, entitled

"SECOND TO NONE."

The stirring military drama entitled *Second to None* is being played here to large audiences. Mr. Ashley Page, in the character of Harry Wilding, does full justice to his part, and is greatly applauded from all parts of the house. Miss Marion Denvil, a great favourite at this house, is the cause of much enthusiasm, her impersonation being most interesting. Mr. Fred Rivers impersonates Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C., with much ability; Mr. Alexander Bradley, who has established himself at the Pavilion as a remarkable delineator of stage villainy, is a great success; Miss Phyllis Orme is very good in a light part; Miss Nellie James, supported by Mr. Allan Carruthers and Mr. Will Harman, supply much laughter, and are greatly appreciated. This being the last week of the Pavilion stock company, a benefit was given to Mr. Ashley Page on Thursday evening, when speeches were made from the stage. The stock season has been most successful, and the house has worn a prosperous look nightly.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 11, the Drama, entitled

"HER SECRET LOVER."

This piece has a capital story, chiefly concerned with the misfortunes that overtake the principal characters on account of the unreasonable jealousy of the hero, Gilbert Seymour, and has drawn full and enthusiastic houses here. The play, written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, is produced by her and Mr. Kimberley. Mr. Arthur St. John's interpretation of the part of Gilbert Seymour is very powerful. Mr. Walter H. Wilson has the house with him in his rendering of Captain Darrell Rose. Mr. Alfred Stretton as John Strange plays the heavy lead efficiently. The part of Ivy Seymour is strongly played by Miss Laura Walker, and Miss Flora Lealie as Alicia Royale is very effective. Mr. Victor Vernon is a delightful Billy Burley, and Miss Lynn Darlington as Jane Maria Wilkes enacts the part of the servant with excellent comedy. Mr. J. Newton-Cowling as Jim Jones does extremely well, and evokes complimentary hisses. Mr. Robert Lord makes up well as Mr. Murfield, and sustains the part with considerable force. Sergeant Smith is smartly embodied by Mr. Hugh Clayton, and Mr. Felix Lawson is good in the rôle of Inspector Wilson. Warden Phillips is faithfully interpreted by Mr. Harry Cob, and Mr. Alfred James is good as the Rev. Arthur Holmes, Mr. Fred Evans being satisfactory as Vernon Cooper.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 11, the Drama, by G. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled

"THE HARBOUR LIGHTS."

The Kennington répertoire company have put some of their very best work into the famous Adelphi drama *The Harbour Lights*, the big attraction here this week, and the whole performance runs through smoothly. Mr. Walter Gay as Lieut. David Kingsley gives a vivid and graphic sketch of the stalwart sailor lover, and he finds a sympathetic companion in the Dora Vane of Miss Jessie Winter, who plays with a warmth of feeling and engaging frankness which evokes genuine admiration. Mr. Maitland Marler is full of good comedy as Tom Dossiter, and is ably supported by Miss Nellie Burdette, who makes a bright and skittish Peggy Chudleigh. Mr. Frank Crimp is admirable as Jack Lirriper; Mr. Fred Morgan is quite at home in the sinister part of Nicholas Moreland, the villain; his accomplice and tool, Squire Moreland, being well taken by Mr. Frank R. Robertson. Mr. Herbert Lloyd furnishes a grim and realistic study of Mark Helstone; Miss Winifred Whyte does good work as Lina Nelson; Miss Lucie Evelyn is an amusing Mrs. Chudleigh; Miss Mary Kilpack adequately fills the part of Mrs. Helstone; Miss Maggie Clayton is a slatternly Bridget Malone to the life; and Miss Maggie Hogan is well placed as Polly. Mr. George Poulson makes an excellent Captain Hardy; Captain Nelson is realistically impersonated by Mr. Wilson Blake; Mr. William Sidney is deserving of a passing word as Detective Wood; and others who assist materially in making *Harbour Lights* a success are Mr. H. Baker (the sentry), Mr. Leslie Ferguson (Dick Hockaday), Mr. T. E. Collins (Will Drake), and Miss Elsie Videau (midshipman) The play is mounted in a really first-class style.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, July 11, the Drama, by Lewis Gilbert, entitled

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA."

A breezy, seasonable drama is *A Daughter of the Sea*, which opened to a full house at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday. There is a distinct suggestion of the briny in the tarpaulins which pretty Sunshine wears so effectively and in the numerous sea-coast incidents, and the story itself is graphically written, and apparently hits the taste of popular playgoers exactly. Mr. Lewis Gilbert has a well-selected cast, and the scenery is picturesque and appropriate. As Sunshine, the pretty and plucky damsel whose life story provides the title, Miss Florrie Green is a decided favourite. Mr. Lewis Gilbert as the cunning old reprobate Mark Glensdale is remarkably realistic in make-up, voice, and gesture. As the crippled young fisherman Ken Moreland Mr. Ashmore Vincent wins much sympathy, and Mr. H. C. Langley does well as Captain Ben Morrison. Mr. Joe Monkhouse, in the excellent comedy part of Billy, the village idiot, is decidedly droll and entertaining, and Mr. Sidney Dench, jun., is a genial representative of Jack Strong. As the week-kneed Dan Glensdale Mr. J. Gordon Blyth is satisfactory; Mr. Sutton Taylor, in the short part of Sir Maxwell Brentwood, fulfils all requirements; and Miss Allyce Wyllyams is a bright and engaging Mollie.

Messrs. Rebman, Ltd., will shortly publish a drama by Sarath Kumar Ghosh, on the same theme as his recent romance *The Prince of Destiny*. It will be the sole modern drama of India by an Indian, and will deal with the present condition of India. Messrs. Rebman hope that it will take its place in English literature next after Elizabethan drama, alike in theme and in treatment. It will combine the essential elements of modern, Elizabethan, and Hindu classical drama, and by this new development may confirm Schlegel's contention that dramatic art was first begotten in India.

"I feel sure that the Vote is near," said Miss Gertrude Elliott the other day to a representative of a suffragist paper, "and that the reward of all our watching and our waiting is almost within our grasp. The very anxiety of the Anti-Suffragists, their organisation of their slender band, means that they see dangers ahead, and that they feel we are nearing our goal.

"Mr. Forbes-Robertson is an ardent Suffragist; his father and mother were keen Suffragists before him, and his godfather, Professor Masson (of Edinburgh), was one of those who spoke for Women's Suffrage in Mill's time. Looking over some old speeches and writings of the Professor's on Woman Suffrage, it seems to me that many of them might have been written at the present day.

"The zest with which well-known actresses have taken up this question is due largely to the feeling of equality in wage-earning that the stage gives. There your salary depends upon your drawing power, and has nothing to do with your sex. It is rather galling to find that off the stage the leading lady has not citizen rights which the stage carpenter possesses."

"What is your experience in the taste of the public in women, as seen from behind the footlights?" "The public always likes the fighting woman who is resourceful, and at the same time full of the joy of life, and what they ask for from the stage is the exaggeration of what they want in everyday life. They have no use for the woman who does not do things; they do not want her to talk a lot, but what she says must be human and worth saying."

Miss Fanny Ward recently gave evidence at Marlborough-street with reference to her loss of £50 in bank notes at Lucile's, court dressmaker, Hanover-square. Florence Rhoda Emma Bainton, eighteen, an assistant at the shop, was charged with having stolen the money. Miss Ward said she was being fitted with a dress, and laid her purse, containing five £10 notes on a table, and then passed into another room. She did not miss the money until she returned to her hotel and had occasion to open it.

A detective said the accused was arrested on Friday night at her home. She said she stole the notes. He believed that about £30 had been spent by her. She told him she had a sweetheart. Her parents were highly respectable. The girl's father, who seemed deeply distressed, stated, in answer to the magistrate, that his daughter was paid 10s. a week and her food, and had been employed about three months. A remand was ordered.

THE LATE MR. AUGUSTUS DUBOURG.

The few playgoers who can remember the name of Mr. Augustus W. Dubourg, who has just passed away at the age of 80, on London playbills must be now past middle-age, for it was as far back as 1866 that he collaborated with Tom Taylor in the three-act drama *A Sister's Penance*, produced at the Adelphi on Nov. 26, 1866. This play was brightened by the genius of Kate Terry and the late Mr. Hermann Vezin as the young hero, named Markham. To the same collaboration London playgoers of the mid-Victorian era owed the admirable comedy *New Men and Old Acres*, which, after a trial at the Manchester Theatre Royal on Aug. 20, 1869, came to the Haymarket on Oct. 25 in the same year. Miss Madge Robertson scored one of her earliest successes in the part of Lilian Vavasour, and Mrs. Chippendale, that fine impersonator of aristocratic dames, was highly praised as Lady Matilda Vavasour. Henry Howe played the matter-of-fact Samuel Brown; and Caroline Hill was the Fanny Bunter. Mr. W. H. Kendal was not in the cast. The comedy was a great success, and at its revival at the Court in 1876 Miss Ellen Terry distinguished herself in the part of Lilian and Sir John (then Mr.) Hare acted Chippendale's part of Sir Marmaduke Vavasour, giving an entirely original reading of the character.

Mr. Dubourg found another collaborator in the late Edmund Yates, but *Without Love*, the play due to their joint efforts, which was selected by Miss Ada Cavendish as the opening attraction of her management of the Olympic (Dec. 16, 1872), was considered rather morbid, and did not attract. The deceased author's first play from his own pen was *Women and Men* (Manchester Theatre Royal, May 22, 1871), with Mr. Kendal as Charles Westby, Miss Madge Robertson (Mrs. Kendal) as Ethel Lyster, and Mr. Clifford Cooper as Topham Lyster. *Sympathy*, a comedietta, was produced at the same house in April, 1873; and on July 4 of the same year *Twenty Minutes' Conversation Under an Umbrella*, a duologue, was introduced as an after-piece on the occasion of Mrs. Kendal's benefit. That delightful actress then essayed, for the first time in London, the rôle of Lady Gay Spanker in *London Assurance*, Mr. Kendal being the Dazzle. In the duologue named the happily-associated pair played Cousin Will and Cousin Madge.

Other plays from Mr. Dubourg's pen were *Bitter Fruit* (Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, October, 1873), *Art and Love*, a dramatic sketch (Opera Comique, February, 1877), *Land and Love* (Globe, May, 1884), and *Vittoria Contariri* (Princess's, May, 1897). *Just Like a Woman*, produced at the Gaiety in November, 1879, was simply *Women and Men* renamed, and its presentation was chiefly noticeable for the first London appearance therein of Miss Adela Measor (Mrs. J. C. Buckstone), who has been appearing lately at the Coliseum in support of Mr. Seymour Hicks in *Scrooge*. Miss Measor made a hit as Maggie Macfarlane in a revival of W. S. Gilbert's *Engaged* at the Court Theatre on Nov. 30, 1881, and her touching performance as Giannina in Jerome K. Jerome's *Fennel*, an adaptation from François Coppé's *Le Lathier de Cremône*, produced at the Novelty in 1888, will be well within the memory of middle-aged playgoers.

The late Mr. Dubourg, like his collaborator, Tom Taylor—appointed Secretary of the Board of Health in 1854—and Robert Reece—the famous successor of the Brothers Brough as a writer of burlesque—held a Government appointment, having held, until his retirement twenty years ago, the position of Chief Clerk of the Judicial Office of the House of Lords. He died at his residence, The Mount, Wilton, Salisbury.

Mr. F. Bayley Robinson, speaking at the annual dinner of the Allied Artists' Association at the Holborn Restaurant, said the theatre had been described by Goethe as "the spoilt sister of the arts, who squanders the whole goods and chattels of the household." Nevertheless the influence of this far-reaching and most popular art was incalculable both for good and evil, and he felt that those managers who were endeavouring to raise the standard of dramatic art in this country were doing a great national service, and that we should do all we could to support them. With regard to the staging of plays, the whole thing was to his mind usually much overdone. The forcing of colour and effect distracted one's attention from the acting.

Although the orchestra was considered out of place in the French theatre, he considered it was of great value to concentrate and attune the mind to the play. Following upon the concluding notes of the prelude as the curtain rose, came the scenic artist's moment for him to continue the music of preparation and awakening suspense. The scene should then be lighted to the best advantage, as the eyes of the audience, naturally following the rising curtain, took in the ensemble at a glance—and the light afterwards should be gradually brought to bear upon the actors, as it was essential that their expression should be seen when speaking, the scenery subsequently becoming a background to be felt rather than seen.

A sentence of penal servitude for life was passed in Paris on Wednesday upon a woman named Marie Bourette, who was convicted of poisoning M. Godard, a well-known tenor. Marie Bourette was for some years the friend of a M. Doudieux, who asked her to marry him. She refused, and M. Doudieux not long afterwards became the husband of another woman. Marie Bourette then repented her refusal, and conceived a plot to poison Mme. Doudieux and regain the affections of her rejected lover. She left a packet of an apparently harmless medicine—which she had impregnated with arsenic—upon Mme. Doudieux's doorstep.

M. Godard visited the Doudieux at the time, and after dinner suffered from an attack of indigestion. His hosts gave him a dose of the medicine found upon the doorstep, and he died in agony. For some time there was no clue to the sender of the poisoned medicine, and it was only the fact that Marie Bourette avoided M. Doudieux when he chanced to meet her in the street and even denied acquaintance with him that caused suspicion to fall on her.

The prisoner denied all the charges made against her, and practically secured her own conviction by her denials. A chemical expert declared that ten grammes of arsenic were found in her room, whereas a fifth of a gramme is sufficient to cause death. The public prosecutor pleaded for the death sentence. He said M. Godard before his death was earning £2,000 a year, and had a £4,000 engagement in America. His widow and orphan were now left destitue.

We hear with regret of the very sudden death, from heart failure, on June 17 last, of J. W. Trievnor, who was very well known in the theatrical, music-hall, and music-loving world. Of late years he wrote and composed, under the name of J. W. Ronvert, and was for ten years with Miss Sarah Thorne, and was afterwards musical director for Mr. J. W. Boughton at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth. He was also with Messrs. Graham and Atkinson for some years at the Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, and there arranged many pantomimes for John Lovey and John Wright. Mr. Trievnor was the husband of pretty Jennie Ronvert, a popular music hall turn in her time, and whom he has left, we regret to say, unprovided for.

REHEARSAL COMPANY AT THE COURT.

The Rehearsal Company, which did much good work at the little theatre in Maiden-lane, have removed to more ambitious quarters in Sloane-square, and at the Court Theatre on Friday, the 8th, presented a varied and entertaining triple bill, consisting of *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Bishop's Fortune*, and *The Life of a Rose*. The version of *The Taming of the Shrew* played had been condensed and arranged by Mr. Clive Currie, who himself undertook the part of Petruchio, an impersonation on which he is to be congratulated. Particularly good was Mr. Currie in his handling of the earlier scenes, where Petruchio so effectually subdues his "merry Kate," and his performance throughout was a very vigorous and humorous one. Miss Eva Balfour as Katherine in the earlier portions of the play scarcely realised the character of the self-willed hussy, but towards the end her portrayal was much more convincing, the obedient and loving wife of the last act being admirably depicted. Miss Letty Paxton was a pretty and artless Bianca, and the love scenes with Hortensio and Lucentio were played in exactly the right spirit. Miss Grace Richardson submitted a very satisfactory enactment of the part of Curtis; Petruchio's male servant, Grumio, being a very droll personage in the hands of Mr. Keith J. Shepherd. Mr. Lewis Carlton's stuttering tailor was responsible for laughter; and Mr. Wilfred Fletcher as the foppish and conceited servant Tranio also supplied an amusing impersonation. Mr. C. H. Croker King and Mr. Dennis Cleugh as the ardent and gallant lovers of Bianca both looked and acted their parts admirably, very humorous being the scene where they masquerade as Bianca's tutors. Mr. W. A. Mackersy as Baptista, Mr. Montague Mazeran as Vincentio, and Mr. Ribton Haines as Gremio all gave excellent support, and the other parts were satisfactorily undertaken. The first piece of the evening was a new play in one act by "Gaston Gervex," entitled

"THE BISHOP'S FORTUNE."

Bishop of Granchester Mr. Montague Mazeran
Dowager Lady Mills .....Miss May Saker
Lady Mills .....Miss Laurie Flockton
Lord Mills .....Mr. Dennis Cleugh
Miss Plinge .....Miss Dorothy Tanqueray
Servant .....Mr. Elgin Huntly

The Dowager Lady Mills has, we learn, been for some time estranged from her son, he having offended his parents by marrying a mill girl. The devoted young couple have been living abroad, but when the father dies they return home. On condition that he cuts himself adrift from his wife, the bulk of his father's money will go to the young man; if he refuses to do this the Bishop of Granchester has it to spend on charitable work. His mother persuades the young wife to sign some papers and promise to go abroad and leave her husband, but Lord Mills, coming on the scene, tears up the document, and declares that though he is penniless he will not be parted from his wife. Then it is that the Bishop, who has previously befriended the young people, gives them the fortune—it will be an act of charity that will be sure to result in good; and the young wife endeavours to console the Dowager Lady Mills, evidently not greatly pleased at the Bishop's action. This rather unconvincing play was favourably received by the audience on Friday, the authoress being given a hearty call. The hard and unnatural mother was admirably enacted by Miss May Saker; Miss Laurie Flockton as the young wife submitted a sympathetic portrayal; Mr. Dennis Cleugh was manly and sincere as Lord Mills; and Mr. Montague Mazeran creditably enacted the Bishop of Granchester. The other item in the bill was a song-cycle, descriptive of "The Life of a Rose," words and music by Mme. Liza Lehmann. Sung by Miss Adelaide Rind and accompanied by illustrated dancing on the stage by a Bee, the Spirit of the Storm, and a Rose, the last-named being portrayed by Miss Violet Furnivall, who danced attractively, the trifle proved a very pretty and pleasing one.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held on Tuesday, July 12, at 32, Regent-street, at 2.30 p.m. There were present:—Mr. C. F. Collings (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Vita Spencer, F. J. Arlton, Chris Walker, Murri Moncrieff, Henry Le Grand, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th inst., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

The secretary read a letter from the Touring Managers' Association, acknowledging receipt of the model contract, which will be submitted to the committee of that Association at their next meeting on the 1st prox.

With reference to a complaint against an agency, the council instructed the secretary to file the letter for further reference.

The Finance Committee's report was submitted by Miss Rose Cazalet, and adopted.

The hon. solicitor's report was submitted by Mr. Mote, and the council discussed at some length a member's case against a manager. After hearing Mr. Mote's advice, the council, on the motion of Mr. Chris Walker, seconded by Miss Vita Spencer, unanimously agreed that the action be dropped.

The House Committee's report was submitted by Miss Rose Cazalet and adopted.

Jane Comfort was elected a member, and Beatrice Fay, Charles Sparrow, and Bessie Rignold were nominated.

THE CASE OF CHARLES FROME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Referring to the appeal of Mr. W. Payne in your issue of June 25, on behalf of an old actor, who has fallen upon bad times, Mr. Charles Frome, and the paragraph thereon in your issue of July 2, I shall be glad if you will allow me to make a slight correction.

Your paragraph states that it is many years since Mr. Frome earned £3 10s. per week. This is apparently intended to contradict the statement in the appeal, to the effect that Mr. Frome had an engagement at £3 10s. per week last Christmas. It is obvious that the correction is quite beside the mark, as it does not in any way affect the statement contained in Mr. Payne's letter, namely, that the engagement was for £3 10s. per week.

With regard to the alleged refusal of the Fund's offer of £1 per week engagement, Mr. Frome denies that any offence was expressed or meant in refusing the engagement. If there were any words which looked at all offensive, they were simply in reply to the not very courteous and off-handed way in which the engagement was offered.

With regard to the statement that Mr. Frome never contributed anything to the fund, I am informed that this is absolutely incorrect, as Mr. Frome has always paid as much to the fund as he could afford—various sums of from 2s. 6d. up to 10s. per week.

The fact still remains that Mr. Frome is in distress, and the Actors' Benevolent Fund refuses to contribute.

I trust, Sir, that this explanation will substantiate the fact that Mr. Frome is not quite undeserving of sympathy.—Yours faithfully,

W. DRAKE.

45, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., July 12.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

Richard Strauss's comic opera *Feuersnot* was produced for the first time in this country by Mr. Thomas Beecham at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday night, July 9. The story of Feuersnot, which was originally heard in Dresden in 1901, is more weird and quaint than comic, and the libretto of Ernst von Wolzogen includes the legend of St. John's Eve. The period of the opera is the twelfth century, and the action takes place in a square in Munich, where the people are lighting bonfires in honour of the Festival of St. John's Eve. Ortolf, the Burgomaster, arrives, accompanied by his pretty daughter, Diemut, and her three lady friends, Margret, Elsbeth, and Wigellis. The children surround them and are given wood for the bonfires and small presents. In the midst of all the animation of such a scene, Kunrad, a young man supposed to be a magician, enters. Greatly impressed by the Burgomaster's charming daughter, for, indeed, it is a case of love at first sight, Kunrad, after a very melodious solo, suddenly kisses Diemut, at which there is a storm of protest from the townsfolk, and the young lady herself is very angry. Even in the twelfth century ladies evidently objected to such treatment in public, and Diemut, who would not have been greatly shocked by a handsome young man kissing her in private, determines on revenge. In the evening Kunrad stands beneath the Burgomaster's house, and when Diemut appears on the balcony outside her window she pretends to forgive him, and they join in a love duet. Diemut then asks Kunrad to get into the wood basket that she may wind him up to her window, but when only half way she leaves him, and calls her friends and the townsfolk to jeer at his unpleasant position. A large crowd assemble underneath the basket, and promise the lover a very warm reception when he descends, but the fun is not entirely on their side, for Kunrad, who is really a magician, by a spell extinguishes all the lights in the town. At this there is a great outcry, and the populace implore Diemut to receive her lover. She at last consents, hoists Kunrad up to her window, and he enters the room. After an impassioned orchestral interlude the lights in the houses and the bonfires burst into flame, while the people rejoice, and Kunrad and Diemut are heard singing a duet. Although Richard Strauss to some extent makes use of native folksong in his opera, there is a charming solo for Kunrad and a fervent duet for the lovers; while Margret, Elsbeth, and Wigellis, the playmates of Diemut, who come to ridicule Kunrad in the basket, have a most dainty air. A waltz in the festival scene is also a very striking number, and the various choruses for the children proved attractive. The orchestra had no easy task, but under Mr. Thomas Beecham's skilful direction did justice to Strauss's extremely difficult score, on which the music of *Feuersnot* chiefly depends, while the picturesque scene of the old square at Munich was well up to the high standard Mr. Beecham has reached during his present season. Miss Maude Fay, who sang the music of Diemut, and Mr. Mark Oster, the Kunrad, are both experienced artists, but Miss Fay was somewhat uncertain in her intonation, and the Kunrad of Mr. Oster had no great amount of vocal charm. Certainly to sing well while hanging in the wood basket was almost impossible. Mr. Oster, however, acted artistically, and in the address to the populace greatly distinguished himself. Mr. Robert Radford as the Burgomaster was excellent; and Mr. Harry Dearth did justice to the part of the innkeeper. The Misses Lena Maitland, Stella Phelps, and Lilian Coomber acted and sang with spirit as Diemut's three friends, and the other characters were ably sustained by Miss Edith Evans, Miss Caroline Hatchard, and Messrs. Arthur Wynn, Byndon-Ayres, Lewys James, and Herbert Langley. The chorus of children was capital, and their life and animation did much to ensure success for the first comic opera of Richard Strauss. For the English version of *Feuersnot* given on Saturday a translation was provided by Mr. William Wallace.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The programme of the students' concert on Wednesday afternoon commenced with Bach's Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, for organ, played by Mr. Herbert Dawson. Miss Marie C. Foster was much applauded for her singing of "God is My Shepherd," from the Biblical Songs of Anton Dvorak. In her pianoforte solo of Ole Olsen's Petite Suite Miss Eunice Mort displayed the requisite delicacy of touch and neat execution in the Sérénade, Danse Caprice Norwégienne, and Papillons, the most attractive of the five movements. The violin playing of Miss Gwen Bury in Canzonetta (d'Ambrosio) greatly pleased the audience. Two songs, "What is love?" and "I heard a maid," MS., by C. H. G. Mottram, were interesting, the last-named being cleverly written and very well sung by Miss Alice Booth. A youthful student, Miss Nannie Pritchard, gave a piano solo, Rondino in E (Sterndale Bennett); a somewhat difficult task for the young performer. Rheinberger has written more attractive music than the Moderato (on "Tonus Peregrinus") from his Sonata in A Minor for organ, but it was carefully played by Mr. Clifford Cartwright. An ambitious song, "Clouds," MS., by Edward S. Mitchell, was sung by Miss Kathleen Lawler with some effect, but little purity of tone. Both composer and vocalist were recalled and applauded. After an able pianoforte solo by Miss Gladys Pearce, who played Schumann's Toccata in C, the concert ended with the trio for violin, 'cello, and chromatic harp, Miss Olga Corrigan, Miss Kathleen Thompson, and Mr. Sidney Sheppard giving a good account of Tottenham Lucas's pretty "Berceuse."

Fraulein von Sussmandl, the Austrian opera-singer, has sued Baron von Frankenstein for breach of promise. A marriage had been arranged between them some months ago, and the date of the wedding had been fixed, when the Baron declared the engagement at an end. The opera-singer claimed £1,200 damages. Before judgment was given an arrangement was come to, by which Fraulein von Sussmandl received £520.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

For cleansing the blood of all impurities from whatever cause arising, there is no other medicine just as good as Clarke's Blood Mixture—that's why in so many cases of Eczema, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Boils, Sores of all kinds, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Blood Poison, Rheumatism, Gout, &c., it has effected truly remarkable cures where all other treatments have failed. It will do the same for you.

CURES ALL SKIN & BLOOD DISEASES

Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/6 per bottle.

"A WOMAN OF WESTMINSTER; or, VOTES FOR MEN."

Comic Opera, in Two Acts, Written by W. H. Higginbottom, Composed by F. Dallas Barnes, Produced at the Royal Tunbridge Wells Opera House on July 12.

The Right Hon. the Prime Ministress of the British Isles ..... MISS EVELYN BARNES
Theodore Jenkinson-Smythe ..... MR. NEVILLE R. STONE
Julia ..... MISS MARGOT BIRD
Byles ..... MR. E. E. BUTCHER
Corinthia Cormorant ..... MISS RUBY BAUDAINS
Dolly Parkins ..... MISS E. ANDREWS
Gertie Lynn ..... MRS. NEWTON
Gerald Allenby ..... MR. R. L. SEVENOAKS
Arthur Harding ..... MR. J. WATTS
Loris Mornington ..... MR. HUBERT CURLING
A Nurse Inspectress ..... MISS V. WHITE
A Police Girl ..... MISS F. LOVELL
Sergeants ..... MRS. WATTS, MISS STEVENSON
A Flunkey ..... MR. BOCKING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A more than usually interesting item of the Tunbridge Wells Cricket Week theatricals was the production of the above comic opera. The author has taken Female Suffrage for his theme, by presupposing not only that women have got the vote, but also seats at Westminster, and that a feminist Cabinet is, in fact, in power. The first act, the scene of which is laid at Hyde Park, shows us the complete political and administrative triumph of the fair sex. Women legislators, women soldiers, women officials hold the sway, and mere man has been relegated to a secondary, not to say domestic position. The author deals very humorously with the feminist régime, and then leads us up to the inevitable reaction. The men find petticoat government too much for them, and conspire to get rid of it.

Their conspiracy develops in the second act, which is laid at St. Stephen's, Westminster. Here we have the typical comic opera conspirators engaged in the overthrow of government by women. The cares of State have not proved so absorbing that the ladies can resist the temptation of the annual bargain sales, and while they are besieging certain well-known drapery emporiums the men seize the administrative machinery, and get everything into their own hands. They capture the bureaucratic machine, and even the Prime Ministress and her colleagues have to yield to the inevitable. The surrender is, however, made easy for them. There is, of course, a subsidiary love plot, and several of the ladies, chafing under the despotic régime which would regulate even their marriages for the good of the State, have placed the dictates of the tender passion before the call of duty, with the result that they pair off very contentedly with their political enemies, and apparently forget about politics in the prospect of connubial bliss. Such, briefly, is the plot which is ingeniously and amusingly worked out. The music is bright and tuneful, and has been elaborately orchestrated, and the lyrics allotted to the principals made a very favourable impression, and were often redemanded. One of the best of these is sung by the husband of the Prime Ministress, and is entitled "Perfidious Eve," who says the lady

"Contrived in her cunning to cheat us,
By her feminine arts to deceive."

The Lady Commander-in-Chief also has a pleasing song, "Artless Art," which deals with feminine deception. What is perhaps the greatest hit of the evening is made with a topical song allotted to the Court Perruquier, who heads the band of conspirators. This is entitled "Plot and counter-plot," and among other topics deals in a spirited verse with Anglo-German naval relations. There are also several charmingly composed concerted pieces and effectively written finales for each act. The composer made a heavy demand upon the resources of the orchestra and chorus, but found ready response. The mounting of the piece was well carried out, the ladies' military costumes selected in imitation of crack regiments of Guards and Lancers being particularly effective. For amateurs with limited opportunities of rehearsing to produce comic opera on an ambitious scale is naturally a very onerous task, and one may congratulate all concerned upon the measure of success which attended their efforts. Mr. T. C. Fairbairn stage managed and Mr. F. D. Barnes, the composer, personally conducted the orchestra.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

JUNE.

PARIS.

Le Crampon, Vaudeville, Two Acts, by Robert Dieudonné; Nouveautés, June 1.
Bagnes d'enfants, Drama, Four Acts, by André de Lorde and Pierre Chaine; Ambigu, June 2.
La Damnation de Faust, Dramatic Legend, Music by Hector Berlioz; Adapted by R. Gunsbourg; Opéra, June 10.

BERLIN.

Wem gehört Helene? Three Act Comedy, by E. Buchner; Hebbel, June 1.
Kasernelust, Volks Play, by MM. Stein and Söhngen; Lessing, June 1.
Koketterie, One Act Comedy, by R. Auernheimer; Hebbel, June 1.
Jakob und Kristoffer, Four Act Comedy, by Peter Egge; Deutsches Chamber Plays, June 2.
Lena Warnstetten, Play, in Five Acts, by E. Ritterfeldt; Luisen, June 4.
Liebeswalzer, Four Act Play, by H. Bataille; Deutsches Chamber Plays, June 15.
Wach-und Schliessgesellschaft, Three Act Farce, by MM. Manz and Winter; Rose, June 17.
Der Ueberfall, Opera, in Two Acts, by H. Zöllner; New Royal Opera, June 21.
Der Regimantspapa, Three Act Farce, by MM. Mouszy and Durieux; Komische Oper, June 21.
Der Graf von Monte Christi, Play, in Three Acts, by MM. Steinmann and Ritterfeldt; Luisen, June 25.

IN a tiny shop not far from Pall Mall, says the *Daily News*, Mrs. David Longworth, an American lady sculptor, is hard at work every day fashioning impressions in plaster of many of the most popular theatrical stars of the moment. "I have been here seven months," said Mrs. Longworth to a representative of the *Daily News*, "but it is only recently that my work has begun to catch on at all. Miss Maud Allan was my first subject, and Mr. Butt was so pleased with the novelty of the idea that he immediately bought the bust and had it put on view at the Palace Theatre."

THIS so encouraged Mrs. Longworth that she set to and made statuettes of other stars, and to-day her shelves include Pavlova, Mr. H. B. Irving (a remarkably fine piece of work, treated with copper bronze, of the actor in *The Lyons Mail*), Mlle. Schollar, now at the Hippodrome, Réjane, and Fred Farren and his lady colleague in their Empire Apache Dance, &c. Plaster of Paris is the foundation of each statuette, but the work is so beautifully finished that it might well be old ivory or real copper or silver bronze at the first glance.

When Mrs. Longworth decides to "do" an artist, that artist is quite unaware of the fact. The sculptor just sits in her seat at the theatre, gets a "photographic impression" in her mind, and then works it up. Usually Mrs. Longworth is wonderfully accurate, even to facial expression. The sculptor has already disposed of a number of her casts, those of Pavlova, Maud Allan, and Schollar being especially popular; but for all their growing popularity there is yet a strange prejudice against them in the breasts of many people.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, MAY 24.—All places of amusement closed on the day of King Edward's funeral, the 20th, and marvellous manifestations of mourning abounded. At the Naval and Military Demonstration in the Centennial Park over 250,000 people stood, silently bowing their heads when the massed bands, the Liedertapel, Philharmonic Society, and State school children rendered the solemn music selected for the service.

NEXT night saw the production of Hall Caine's own dramatisation of "The Manxman," known as *Pete*, at the Criterion, a revival of *The King of Cadonia* at Her Majesty's, and the first Calvé concert. In *Pete* Mr. Matheson Lang was altogether admirable as the loving, simple, trusting young Manxman. Miss Hutin Britton also scored heavily as Kate. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw made an excellent Philip Christian; Cæsar Cregeen was cleverly undertaken by Mr. Arthur Styan; Miss Maggie Knight, an old favourite, was a good Nannie; and Mr. B. W. Tyrer made much of flippant Ross Christian. Smaller parts were Nancy (Miss Jennie Pollock), and others by Messrs. Tom Cannam and John Howard and Miss Hilda Meade, and Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell had fine scenery painted by Phil Goatcher.

"THE KING OF CADONIA" at Her Majesty's brings back J. C. Williamson's comic opera company with none of the old vivacity gone astray. Miss Dorothy Court is again the Princess Marie, and that means good singing, acting, and speaking. Mr. Herbert Clayton once more plays the King, and sings admirably; Mr. Bert Gilbert was very funny as the Duke of Alasia. Clever Miss Susie Vaughan played the Duchess; and Miss Lottie Sargent enacted Militza as charmingly as ever. Roland Hogue, Phil Braaf, Pat Bathurst, Victor Prince, Arthur Jessant, Irene Sandeman, and a host of young Australians were in the cast.

THE TIVOLI has now Carter, the magician, who made such a stir at the Palace Theatre some time ago. Miss Olive Lenton has captured alike old friends and new; Fred Bluett, the Howard Brothers, the Wheelers, Albertus and Millar. All these and others are in the bill.

MR. WALTER BENTLEY and Mr. Douglas Ancelon, with Miss Stella Chapman (for the ladies' section) have started a fine college for the necessary teaching of elocution. It was opened on the 21st by an influentially-attended soiree musicale.

SYDNEY, JUNE 1.—*The Dollar Princess* was superbly mounted at Her Majesty's Theatre by the J. C. Williamson firm on the May 28. A new lady from America, Miss Grace Edmonds, was cast for Alice, and did some bright singing. The other ladies, Miss Lottie Sargent (Daisy) and Miss Olive Godwin (Olga Labinska) were excellent, and made their scenes go gith vim; and Mr. Bert Gilbert extracted the last ounce of fun out of Harry Q. Conder. Mr. Herbert Clayton was an impressive Freddy Fairfax, and Mr. Frank Greene put in good work as John, Earl of Quorn. Our own pocket comedian, Mr. W. S. Peray was Mr. Bulger: that meant plenty of laughs. Mr. J. R. Hogue was Dick, a capably and forcibly played character. The minor parts were well filled. Mr. W. R. Coleman and Mr. George Upward painted three beautiful scenes; the costumes were bright and good. Mr. Fritz Hart controlled orchestra and chorus, and Mr. Alexander Butler directed the whole production, which was a most decided success.

MR. MATHESON LANG, Miss Hutin Britton, and the Clarke and Meynell dramatic company are making *Pete* draw good business at the Criterion.

"THE THIRD DEGREE," at the Royal, is witnessed by highly interested audiences, the acting of Miss Katherine Grey, Mr. Julius Knight, and Mr. James Bryant being of the very highest order. The next Williamson bill will be *Henry of Navarre*.

THE TIVOLI has some new people selected by Mr. Harry Rickards for his patrons: Billy Williams, who has at once caught on; the Raymond Trio of clever mandoline and dance turns; Godfrey James, an excellent tenor; and the Harmonious Huxhams, an Australian trio of very expert vocalists and instrumentalists. Hilda Lane, Fanny Powers, Baby Watson, Fred Bluett—all "our own"—and a host of more clever people make up a great bill.

MISS AMY MURPHY, our bright soprano, has had a triumphal march through New Zealand, whence she hails, and has returned for a long list of engagements.

MELBOURNE, MAY 31. — PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh J. Ward; Business-Manager, Mr. Walter Monk.—*The Girl from Rector's*, presented by Mr. Hugh J. Ward and a strong comedy company, has been filling this theatre since the opening night. The piece abounds in humorous situations, and the fun is never allowed to flag for an instant. Mr. Ward and Miss Palotta appear in the leading parts, and are ably supported by a first-class company. The play, in spite of its popularity, will shortly be withdrawn, and *The Man from Mexico* is announced as its successor. Mr. Ward has a popular and capable manager in the person of Mr. Walter Monk.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The musical and scenic charms of *A Waltz Dream* have drawn many playgoers to this theatre during the past week. In some respects it resembles *The Merry Widow*, and will, in all likelihood, be just as popular as Lehar's opera. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Williamson is generously giving the use of the theatre for a special matinée in aid of the Women's Hospital, for which a strong programme is being prepared. So far the sale of tickets has been very satisfactory, and the management anticipate a bumper house.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The highly sensational Australian drama *Thunderbolt* is proving very popular with the patrons of this theatre. The many exciting situations in the play are nightly watched with keen interest by large and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. George Cross, Miss Eugenie Duggan, and the rest of the company all do justice to their various rôles. On Saturday evening next *Man to Man* will be revived for a short season.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—After a highly successful season extending over ten weeks the last nights of *The Arcadians* are announced. *The Arcadians* has proved one of the most popular productions that Messrs. Meynell and Clarke have so far placed before their patrons, the theatre having been filled nightly since the beginning of the season. On Saturday evening, June 11, Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton will make their reappearance in Melbourne for a short farewell season.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Bonita, champion rifle shot, and Cleopatra, snake charmer, are the leading attractions here at present. The former of these artists gives a wonderfully clever exhibition of rifle shooting, while the latter handles snakes and other reptiles with great ease and skill. Their performance throughout is a novel and entertaining one, and has proved one of the most popular turns that Mr. Rickards has presented to his numerous patrons for some considerable time. On Saturday evening Mr. Fred Keeton, comedian, made his first appearance, and met with a good reception. Mr. Keeton sang a number of very witty songs in character, and so pronounced was his success that the audience was loth to allow him to leave the stage. Other artists appearing with success at present include Lieut. Travis and Miss Marjorie Deane, Albertus and Millar, the Three Dardinis, Lillie Langtry, Ted Kaufman, Will White, the Barnards, Con Moreni, Alma Lyndon, Two Colliers, George Sorlie, the Two Bells, and a host of others.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS GERTRUDE LITTLEWOOD.

Miss Gertrude Littlewood (her own name, by the way) is, like many other actresses, the daughter of a clergyman. She was educated at Cheltenham, and finished her studies in France and Germany. Always attracted by the theatre, she determined, after considerable experience in amateur work, to take up acting as a profession. Her first engagement was at a small provincial town, during which she played several small parts in Shakespearean productions, and also had the opportunity of appearing in several stock pieces—*Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *Sorrows of Satan*, *Trilby*, &c. Following six months in drama, in which she played the heavy parts, and several short engagements as Mrs. Bagot in *Trilby*, Mrs. Willoughby in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, &c., Miss Littlewood was engaged by Mr. Ian Maclaren for his Shakespearean répertoire. This appointment lasted four years, and during that time she played the whole of the character comedy and heavy leads in the répertoire of Shakespeare and old English comedy.

The rôles undertaken by Miss Littlewood include Mrs. Hardcastle, Mrs. Malaprop, Mrs. Candour, and Lady Sneerwell; The Queen, in *Hamlet*; Olivia and Maria, in *Twelfth Night*; Audrey, Nurse, and Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*; Bianca and Emilia in *Othello*; and Second Witch in *Macbeth*. During the whole of her last tour with Mr. Maclaren she played Lady Macbeth. She also appeared in various other plays, creating the

MISS GERTRUDE LITTLEWOOD.

part of Frau Schultz in *The Free Lance*, and playing Catherine in *The Bells* and the character-part in *Henry of Lancaster*. After this came an engagement with Mr. Geo. Munro for a short autumn tour, during which she played her old parts in the comedies, Catherine in *The Bells*, Jeanne in *The Lyons Mail*, and Mme. dei Franchi in *The Corsican Brothers*. Next she was engaged by Mr. Leigh Lovel for a short tour of *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, in which she played Jane, making a wonderful success in this short part.

At Christmas last year Miss Littlewood was re-engaged by Mr. Munro for his spring tour for the character and heavy parts, and as he added Shakespeare to his répertoire, she had the opportunity of playing all her old parts of Queen, Emilia, &c., in addition to those undertaken on the previous tour. Altogether, into her six years of stage experience, Miss Littlewood has crammed some fifty parts, ranging over Shakespeare, modern melodrama, old melodrama, and old and modern comedies.

MR. FRANK R. GWYN-RICHARDSON.

After studying for a marine engineer and serving for two years on a Wilson liner, Mr. Gwyn-Richardson threw up the sea and adopted the stage. His first engagement was in *English Nell*, in which he walked on, and afterwards "rose" to a small part. At the end of the run he was engaged by the late Mr. John A. Atkin for De Belfort in *A Grip of Iron*, with which drama he stayed for six months, leaving it to play Charley in *Charley's Aunt* for two years under Mr. W. S.

MR. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON.

Penley's management. Then came a succession of varied engagements in *Driven from Home*, *When London Sleeps*, *Trilby*, and *At Duty's Call*, including stock seasons under Mr. Arthur Carlton's management. Mr. Richardson then took up stage-management with Mr. Frank Bertram's *Hearts Adrift* company, from which drama he was transferred for the same duties to *The Breed of the Treshams*. In the latter company he only served six weeks as stage-manager, for at the end of that brief time Mr. Bertram made him general-manager.

After a tour with Mr. Hamilton Stewart in *Sherlock Holmes*, Mr. Richardson was engaged by Messrs. Helters, Ltd., as resident-manager of their various amusements at Southport. Then he returned to *The Breed of the Treshams* as general-manager, this time producing the piece. An engagement for the light comedy part in *Second to None* concluded, he was re-engaged by Messrs. Helters, Ltd., for a six months' season, dividing his time between Southport and Morecambe. It was during this period that Mr. Richardson first found his engineering knowledge useful in the profession. "It was like this," he remarked. "The engineer in charge left suddenly, and I thought I might as well do the work myself. It seemed a little strange at first, but it all came back very quickly, and I have dispensed with an engineer's services ever since." Mr. Richardson is particularly fond of studying make-up, and spends many spare moments with his grease paints.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"UN CAS DE CONSCIENCE."

Comedy, in Prose, by MM. Paul Bourget and Serge Basset, Produced at the Comédie-Française, on July 2.

La Comtesse ..... MLLE. DU MINIL
Georges ..... M. GERBAULT
André ..... M. BASSEUIL
Robert ..... M. E. NORMAND
Comte de Roqueville ..... M. PAUL MOUNET
Dr. Poncelet ..... M. SIBLOT
Bernard ..... M. JOLIET
Jean ..... M. FALCONNIER
Dr. Odru ..... M. ALEXANDRE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, July 7.—This work is founded on a novel by M. Paul Bourget, who assisted M. Basset in dramatising it. Molière hated doctors, and in nearly all his comedies the medical practitioner plays the rôle of the funny man. Things have changed since then. Modern science has imparted to the doctor a position that does not lend itself to farce; and that gentleman, not unfrequently, has to deal with cases affecting the mind as well as the body. Painful family secrets are poured into his ear, and there are moments when the power he wields over life and death cannot but frighten him, especially if—like in the above play—the following terrible case comes under his notice. A man is dying; a slight operation can prolong his life for a few hours. Is the doctor, however, justified in giving his patient this slight lease of life if he knows that the patient will use it to dishonour his wife and ruin his children's future? The Comte de Roqueville, dangerously ill, hears accidentally that his wife has had a lover, and that one of his sons is not "legally begotten." The Comte knows he is dying, but, hard and implacable, he will not quit this life before having avenged himself. In a violent scene with his wife he has commanded her to give him the name of her seducer, but, as neither prayers nor threats can make her divulge that name, the Comte resolves to punish her by dishonouring her before her children. We know all these details from the conversation between Dr. Poncelet and his colleague, Dr. Odru. The Comte has given orders that his three sons are to be sent for, but Dr. Poncelet, to whom the Comtesse has imparted the secret, promises to help her to keep the sons away, alleging that their presence might upset the patient, who is suffering from a heart disease. The boys, however, have received the telegrams, and the Comtesse knows that in less than a couple of hours they will be with their father. Once more the Comte orders her to give her lover's name, and, his rage getting the upper hand, his strength fails and he faints. A little blood-letting will recall him to life, and the doctor has already seized his scalpel when the Comtesse raises her hand. "Must four lives be wrecked in order to give a slight respite to a dying man?" is the question she asks. The doctor hesitates a moment, but he shakes his head. "Whatever may be the consequences," he says, "I must not be an accomplice to a murder." After a while the Comte opens his eyes, and his three sons enter: one a young lieutenant, the second an attaché, the third still at college. The father eyes them in silence. He then embraces the eldest and the youngest, but, as he is about to lay his hand on the arm of the second, he suddenly hesitates. Instinct, or perhaps an unconscious movement of his wife, has warned him, and he remains motionless. "Don't you know our brother George?" whisper the two others. The father does not reply; he only sighs, and dies in their arms. He has not dared to poison these three young lives by a horrible revelation. The play, which met with a good interpretation, was very well received.

THIS sombre work was followed by a revival of *Les Erinnyes*, if anything still more gloomy. It is by Leconte de Lisle, and belongs to the classical répertoire, brought out at the Odéon in 1873, when it scored a great success. It is the story of Orestes, the son of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra. When the former is cruelly murdered by his wife young Orestes is saved from his mother's dagger by his sister Electra. Arriving to the years of manhood, he avenges his father's death by assassinating Clytemnestra, but he is tormented by the Furies as a punishment for the murder he committed. In Leconte de Lisle's tragedy we see the Furies in the first scene, and also in the last, when they appear before the frightened Orestes as he leaves the palace. M. Paul Mounet is a trifle too old to impersonate a young man, but he played his part with conviction. The same, unfortunately, cannot be said of the other exponents.

YESTERDAY we had the "Tragedy" competition at the Conservatoire, with a large audience, but it proved an uninteresting afternoon; in fact, as far as the pupils went, it was a very poor show, and I cannot blame the jury for having distributed the awards with a sparing hand. Among the lady competitors was Mlle. Deroxe. I noticed she had a slight accent, and learned that she was American. She recited "Athalie's Dream," and did not acquit herself badly of her task. She did not secure a prize, but she has the making of a good actress, and I would not be surprised if she soon came to the fore. The favourite was Mlle. Ducos, who last year received an honourable mention. She recited the famous tirade in *On ne Badine pas avec L'Amour*, known as "Les Imprécations de Camille," a difficult venture, hardly suited for her sweet, harmonious voice. Everybody expected she would only receive a second prize, but the jury showed themselves generous, and gave her the highest distinction.

AT the Porte-Saint-Martin *Chantecler* continues to draw crowded houses, at a reduced tariff. The rôle of the Hen-pheasant, created by Mme. Simone, is now played by Mlle. Carmen Dermisy.

"LA VEUVE JOYEUSE" (*The Merry Widow*) is also doing well, and M. Alphonse Franck won a rather big bet in respect to this work, which he said would have a good run during the summer months.

As to the Renaissance, they are coining money with *Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans*. As I said before, there is nothing in the plot, but the Belgian French is so shriekingly funny and the acting so magnificent that everybody wants to see the piece, and seats are booked long in advance.

PARIS, THURSDAY, July 14.—Under the auspices of the Comte de Clermont-Tonnerre, a great patron of the drama, *Joconde*, a new play by Fernand Noxière, was brought out before a very aristocratic audience, and scored a genuine success. The plot is frothy. Astolphe, the young King of Milan, is handsome and fascinating, so fascinating that the ladies of his Court are in love with him, and only wait for a sign to show him their admiration in a practical form. All this is very flattering for the young monarch, but a bit tiring. The ladies, moreover, are apt to become a bit familiar, addressing him as "Your Majesty" as they enter his bed-chamber, and calling him "Astolphe" when they emerge. The King thereupon has a happy inspiration. Finding he cannot attend to love's labour all by himself he sends for Joconde, a young knight, who, he feels sure, will assist him in the task. Joconde arrives, but he is in anything but a good humour, for on the very day he receives the King's command to betake himself to Court he has discovered that Beatrice, his wife, is deceiving him with Lélio, a page. When he tells this mournful story to the king, the latter roars with laughter. His Majesty's merriment, however, does not last long, inasmuch as his royal eyes are opened to the dismal fact that his Queen is enjoying herself on her own account with the Jester of the palace. Being brothers in misfortune, the King's and Joconde's first impulse is to wreak vengeance on the two flighty wives, but they come to the conclusion that vengeance is as foolish as it is mean. In a philosophical spirit they endure what they cannot cure, and decide to start on a voyage through Italy to see if in their country they cannot find a lady beautiful and virtuous. But, as a precautionary measure they take with them the page and the jester. They travel far, they travel long, and at last discover, as they think, this *rara avis* in the person of Isabelle, a charming little creature, the daughter of Léonard, a farmer. But Léonard and Isabelle turn out to be only "fakes." He is no farmer, and she is not virtuous. Both have been engaged by Beatrice and the Queen, who want to punish their husbands for their presumption. Astolphe and his partner look at one another in silence, and return to Court, more than ever convinced that whereas infidelity is stern reality, virtue seems to be a myth. The work, full of biting satire, was played by a brilliant cast, comprising Mlle. Marthe Mellot, Mlle. Dulnc, Mlle. Dorziat, Mlle. Colonna, Mlle. Devimeur, Mlle. Pascal, and M. Beaulieu, the only man among this bevy of ladies.

No more new plays are to be produced during the holidays. The Comédie Française at first proposed to bring out MM. Adolphe Aderer and Armand Ephraim's new play in the course of next month, but the management wisely have postponed the première until the middle of September.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF SHAKESPEARE.

Mr. Daniel Jones, Lecturer on Phonetics, at the summer meeting of the English Association, recently held at University College, delivered a lecture on "The Pronunciation of English in the Time of Shakespeare." Mr. Jones said that it was only within the last few years that people had come to realise how very greatly the pronunciation of English in Elizabethan times differed from that of the present day. This notable change was one of considerable interest and importance, both from the philological and the literary point of view. He spoke, of course, of standard English, the form current among educated persons in the South of England, more particularly in the Metropolis and at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. If Shakespeare could hear his plays spoken according to the modern pronunciation he would often have difficulty in recognising his own words, and, similarly, when people in the present day heard a passage of *Hamlet* or *As You Like It* read according to the reconstructed pronunciation of Shakespeare's time it was often more or less incomprehensible. Everyone admitted that much of the charm of fine poetry lay in the element which might be called its musical effect. Shakespeare's lines, therefore, had suffered a detriment by being deprived of the pronunciation in which he intended them to be spoken. Those who had taken the trouble to make themselves familiar with the spoken English of the reign of Queen Elizabeth were unanimous in declaring that Shakespeare's words were far more beautiful in that form of speech than in the English of the present day. Not a few passages in his words were sensibly impaired by the altered pronunciation of modern times. Thus, in Elizabeth's time the letter "r" was rolled, as in the mouths of Scotsmen of the present day, "earth," for instance, being pronounced "airrth." This strong "r" gave great expressiveness to a word like "thunder." Much of the effect of Shakespeare's play upon words was lost to the modern ear. In *All's Well that Ends Well* the word "muddied" in the phrase "muddied in Fortune's mood" was formerly pronounced "moodied," and Falstaff's pun on "reasons" and "raisins" had more significance from the fact that those two words were identical in pronunciation. It was sometimes asked, "How do we know how words were pronounced three hundred years ago?" There were four principal sources of evidence: the statements of numerous scholars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries who wrote books dealing with pronunciation; the evidence of spelling, the evidence of rhymes, and the principle of continuity in sound development. Mr. Jones read several extracts from the poet's works with as near an approximation as possible to the pronunciation of Shakespeare and his fellow-players of the Globe. Mr. Sidney Lee, in proposing a vote of thanks, said that, while he had given little attention to the study of phonetics, he thought, after hearing Mr. Jones's readings, that the fact that hardly any of us knew what was the pronunciation of Shakespeare's time showed that there was a serious defect in our system of education. Mr. Jones had told them about the past, but could he foretell the future? Would the English educated classes of the future say "piper" for "paper"?

MR. MARK HAMBOURG, the famous pianist, who recently returned from a tour in Canada, has had some amusing experiences, and relates them in *M.A.P.*

ONE of the greatest inconveniences of his tour was the transport of the piano, for he took his own piano with him wherever he went. He did not, however, meet with the same obstacles that confronted him in South Africa, where the Kaffirs refused to touch the instrument, thinking that the box contained devils because of the sound of the strings! As a consequence, it was necessary to employ convicts to move the piano, while the warders superintended matters, each armed with a rifle.

AT a recital in Sydney, New South Wales, he was playing with an accompanist, and the two pianos were set back to back on the platform. The hall was not very light, and the man at the other piano was quite invisible to certain members of the audience. During a Concerto of Chopin Mr. Hambourg stopped playing for a few bars, while the other man continued to perform, a fact which called forth the following remark from a musical enthusiast who could not see the accompanist from where she sat: "Oh," exclaimed this lady to her friend, "isn't Mark Hambourg a wonderful musician? Why, look at him now, he's taken his hands from the keys and is playing with his pedals!"

ANOTHER anecdote which tells against Mr. Hambourg arose out of the visit of a lady journalist to interview him. She made the usual notes during the interview, which he finally brought to a close with some such remark as this: "And now, I'm afraid, I must be off. It's a dreadful bore, but I have to go and dine with some horrid people to-night." What was his horror next day to find this remark reproduced in cold print at the end of that interview! It was his last dinner at the house in question.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES, paying a visit the other day to one of his *Merry Widow* companies on tour, observed a curious gesture on the part of a leading man during his songs. "He sings well," said Mr. Edwardes, "and he's an uncommon good actor, but, tell me, why does he move from side to side like that with his hands out?" "Weel," replied the doughty Scot in charge of the outfit, "you see he fields first slip in our cricket team, and he's rather caught the movement." "Oh, I see," said the governor. "Well, put him mid-on for a week or two."

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN SARGENT, of the New York Academy of Dramatic Arts, and Mr. Francis Wilson have arranged a school for the children of the stage, where the youngsters may learn reading, writing, and arithmetic without interfering with their professional duties. A large apartment has been engaged at Carnegie Hall, and school will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. daily, except when the pupils are engaged at matinées. The teachers will be women. The regular course is from September to June, but there will be summer sessions.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S revival of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which has passed its 260th performance, will continue to be the attraction at the St. James's Theatre during the summer. When a new piece is needed in the autumn, Mr. Alexander will produce a play, in four acts, by Louis Evan Shipman, entitled *D'Arcy of the Guards*, in which he, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, and Mr. J. H. Barnes will appear in the principal characters.

AT the end of the run of *D'Arcy of the Guards*, Mr. Alexander will stage a new comedy by Mr. R. C. Carton, for which he has specially engaged Miss Compton, who will appear for the first time under his management. Mr. Alexander's future plans include a production of Oscar Wilde's Florentine tragedy, *The Duchess of Padua*, and *An Ideal Husband*, the rights in the latter having recently been acquired by him. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones and Mr. A. E. W. Mason are both engaged in writing new plays for him, which will in due course be produced at the St. James's.

MR. EDWARD TERRY will commence his annual tour at Margate on the 28th inst., after which he will visit the leading towns in the provinces, where he is an immense favourite. The leading part in *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, which was such a success at the Playhouse, and which Mr. Terry has added to his repertory, will suit his fine blend of pathos and humour exactly, and its performances should be very prosperous, especially as Mr. Terry has engaged that gifted and experienced actor Mr. Robert Pateman to support him.

MISS NEILSON-TERRY, in Countess Arnim's merry comedy, *Priscilla Runs Away*, is drawing smart society to the Haymarket Theatre. Amongst those who visited the Haymarket during the past week were the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Duchesse of Wellington, Lady Kinnaird, Lady Troubridge, Lady St. Davids, Lady McIver, Lady Bell, Lady Airedale, and Lady Lewis.

SIR ARTHUR AND LADY PINERO have left London for Stillands, Chiddingfold, Godalming, until the autumn.

MISS WINIFRED EMERY will repeat her magnificent impersonation of Queen Elizabeth in Mr. William Devereux's spirited drama *Sir Walter Raleigh*, which will commence its provincial tour at Portsmouth on Monday, Aug. 15, finishing at Bournemouth on Nov. 5. Blackpool, Yarmouth, Bradford, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Dublin, Liverpool, and Birmingham will be visited in the course of the tour. That powerful actor Mr. Lyn Harding, will be the Sir Walter.

MR. H. B. IRVING has arranged with Mr. J. C. Williamson for a long tour with Mrs. Irving (Miss Dorothea Baird) in Australia next year; but not until after his next London season, which begins next spring, when Mr. Irving will present the new play founded by Mr. George Pleydell on Mr. A. E. W. Mason's novel "Clementina." The success of Mr. Irving and Miss Baird in Australia may be looked upon as certain.

MR. J. E. VEDRENNE, whose three years' season with Mr. Granville Barker at the Court Theatre is one of the marvels of theatrical history, has taken a West End theatre, where, about the middle of September he will produce a new play by Mr. William J. Locke, entitled *The Man from the Sea*. The piece is a romantic comedy of English country life. The leading part has been allotted to Mr. Robert Loraine. Miss Cecilia Loftus, who will enact the heroine, has been appearing in America in such important parts as Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Elsie in Mr. Walter Frith's play *The Man of Forty*, and as leading lady with Mr. E. H. Sothern. Her performance as Margaret in Sir Henry Irving's revival of *Faust* at the Lyceum in 1902 is well remembered, and she has also been one of the exponents of the part of Peter Pan at the Duke of York's. Mr. Vedrenne has also engaged Miss Beryl Faber, a clever actress with an excellent record.

MR. LIONEL RIGNOLD, who is now playing John Chodd, jun., in the Robertsonian revival of *Society* at the Coronet Theatre, has been kindly released by Mr. Robert Arthur, and will start his seventh tour with Judge Parry and Frederick Mouillot's amusing comedy *What the Butler Saw*, on July 20. The play has been such a success that he has been offered dates at nearly all the first-class theatres in the kingdom, and could easily have booked three tours for the piece, but he believes in personal supervision, so has decided to send out only one company this autumn, which will be under his sole control.

AMONG those who signed the volume forwarded by English actresses to the Queen-Mother expressing their profound grief and sympathy with her on the occasion of the King's death, a considerable number of those who signed the book omitted to leave their address with Miss Lena Ashwell. As Miss Ashwell is anxious to communicate individually with each, she will feel obliged if anyone who has not heard from her on the subject will kindly inform her of the fact by letter, addressed to 36, Grosvenor-street, W.

CONSIDERABLE attention has been created at Margate this week by the kite advertisement used by Mr. Walter Maxwell to announce the visit at the Theatre Royal, Margate, of his company in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Mr. Douglas Eley, who is so well known in connection with this kind of advertisement, has a fleet of kites, some twelve in number, all of which are in use; and as each kite bears a banner 36 x 16ft. in dimensions, it can readily be observed that not many of the visitors to Margate are unaware of the visit of the play. Mr. Eley is personally superintending the flying, and must be pleased at the success attending on his clever invention

AT Bournemouth on Thursday Mr. Robert Loraine, under the name of "P. Jones," made an attempt for the slow circuit prize on his Farman biplane, but after passing once round in excellent style he sharply came down at that part of the course furthest from the starting-point. He was not hurt, and his machine was only slightly damaged.

AT a special meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club, held at 5, Wardour-street, W., on Thursday, there were present Mr. Herbert Ralland (in the chair), Mr. Cecil Barton, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. W. Muckerry-Tilson, and Mr. Martin (secretary). The following gentlemen were elected members of the club:—Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. Frederick H. Anderson, Mr. Thomas Reay Wood, Mr. Fred Osmond, Mr. John Waddington, Mr. Charles Dyer, and Mr. Mathew H. Glenville.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES commences her tour with *Miss Tommy* at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on July 25. The author of *Miss Tommy*, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, is personally supervising the revival. Miss Hughes' tour with *Miss Tommy* extends until the end of October, after which she will be seen in London again as Napoleon's Washerwoman, the character of Sans-Gêne having made Miss Hughes a favourite with variety audiences.

In *A White Man*, which will be revived at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday next, Mr. Herbert Sleath will make his first appearance at this house since the days of the Old Lyceum, in the part of "Jim Carston." The cast will include Mr. Herbert Sleath, Mr. Eric Mayne, Mr. Frank Elliott, Mr. W. F. Grant, Mr. Harry Cane, Mr. R. A. Brandon, Mr. Gerald Valentine, Mr. Stanley Warmington, Mr. Hugh Taylor, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Frank Mayo, Mr. Martin Thornton, Mr. S. Major Jones, Little Kitty Rogers, Miss Gladys Storey, Miss Lilian Tweed, Miss Violet Vorley, and Miss Georgina Winter.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE must be warmly congratulated on his exceptional list of bookings for the forthcoming autumn season at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. This theatre, after redecoration, will be reopened on August Bank Holiday with *The Speckled Band*, from the Adelphi; and among the bookings to follow on are the following attractions:—*The Bishop's Son*, Hall Caine's new play, presented by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton; *The Whip*; Mr. Lawrence Irving, Mabel Hackney, and company in *Margaret Catchpole*; Mr. Fred Terry and entire New Theatre company in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Henry of Navarre*; *The House of Temperley*; *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*; Mr. H. B. Irving in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson; the Carl Rosa Opera Co.; Mr. Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's company in *Tantalising Tommy*; *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, presented by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton; Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Don*; Mr. Arthur F. Hardy's répertoire company in a quintuple bill, including two pieces by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *A Pot of Cavaire* and *Foreign Policy*, F. Anstey's *A Short Exposure*, and Mrs. Herbert Cohen's *The Chain*; Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton; and Mr. Charles Frohman's company in *Alias Jimmy Valentine*.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR'S fifth revival of Robertson comedies is *Progress*, played at the Globe in 1869. This will be seen at the Coronet on Monday next, with Mr. J. H. Brewer, Mr. James Carew, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. Edward Sass, and Mr. Arthur Wontner in the cast. Miss Nell Compton plays the heroine, while Miss Annie Brunton, a niece of the late T. W. Robertson, will appear for the first time this season. The play will be dressed in Early Victorian style.

MR. HARRY P. TOWERS'S cast for the autumn tour of Guy Eden and Reginald Somerville's romantic Savoy opera, *The Mountaineers*, will include Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Aida Jenoure, Mr. Fred Eastman, Mr. Frank Lawton, Mr. Claude Flemming, and Mr. Leo Sheffield. Mr. Reginald Somerville will personally conduct the orchestra. The tour will start at Great Yarmouth on August Bank Holiday. Active rehearsals are already in progress at the Strand Theatre as well as for two other big productions which Mr. Harry P. Towers is sending out in the autumn. Mr. E. Taylor Platt is general manager for all these tours.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL commenced his tour with Mr. R. C. Carton's clever play, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday. During the summer months the company will visit Folkestone, Hastings, Eastbourne, Brighton, Worthing, Jersey, afterwards touring the bigger provincial towns. An excellent company has been engaged, including Mr. A. W. Baskcomb (whom everyone will remember as Slightly Soiled in *Peter Pan*) for the part of Preedy. Mr. Maxwell has staged the play with his usual thoroughness, and the enterprise starts on the road under the happiest auspices.

THE matinée of a new musical play by Violet Hatherley and Cyril Winchcomb, entitled *The Girl on the Boat*, arranged by Mr. Harry W. Lumley to take place at the Garrick Theatre, kindly lent for the purpose by Mr. Wentworth Croke and his co-directors in aid of the Middlesex Hospital, and under the immediate patronage of H.S.H. Prince Francis of Teck, was cancelled owing to the sudden illness of Mr. Harry Lumley, whose doctor has ordered a long sea voyage and an entire rest.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD will only be running two companies this autumn, viz: *The Earl and the Girl* and *When Knights Were Bold*. The former opens at the Marlborough Theatre on July 30, with Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese, Miss Lena Hicks as 'Liza, Mr. Herbert St. John as Dick Wargrave, Mr. Lionel Scott as Creweboodle; Mr. D. Fisher, jun., as Downham; Mr. J. R. Tate as Talk; Mr. Harry Courtin as Bunker Bliss; Miss Lily Gullick as Elphin Haye, Miss Blanche Astley as Daisy, Miss Edith Blande as Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Flora Gordon as Miss Bliss. *When Knights Were Bold* opens at Ilfracombe on August Bank Holiday, with Mr. Sam Lyons playing Mr. Welch's part. Mr. Howard's autumn season at the Crystal Palace opens on Sept. 26 with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company.

THE Committee of the Playgoers' Club were entertained on Thursday night at dinner at the House of Commons by Mr. E. Marshall Hall, K.C., M.P., the President of the Club.

MR. GEORGE BARRETT, the chief comedian in *The Whip* at Drury Lane Theatre, will be married on Thursday, July 28, to Miss Betty Rutherford. After the ceremony there will be a reception at the Waldorf Hotel. It may be of interest to note that Mr. Arthur Collins has still further strengthened the cast of his next pantomime at the National Theatre by engaging Mr. George Barrett and Mr. Harry Randall to support Mr. George Graves—a trio of very popular comedians.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON (Mrs. Atkin) has been engaged by Mr. Watson for Mrs. Rennick in *The New Boy* and Lady Sylvia in *The Country Mouse* for one month. Mr. Gilbert Porteous has then secured her services for autumn to support Miss Ethel Irving in *Dame Nature*, for Mrs. Garford, the part originally played by Miss Agnes Hewitt in town.

MISS ELSIE CHESTER, who had been engaged to appear at Wyndham's in September in "George Paston's" play, *Nobody's Daughter*, has, we are sorry to hear, had to have her leg amputated; but it is cheering to know that when she has recovered from the operation she hopes to be able to still act and teach.

THE late Professor W. J. L. Millar, who died at Newport News, Va., U.S.A., on June 25, after two days' illness, was born at 410, Broadway, New York, in January, 1825. He built the first theatre in the State of New Jersey in February, 1847. He was formerly manager of Junius Brutus Booth, sen., Mrs. Scott Siddons, Miss Braddon (the novelist), Dan Rice, and Barney Williams. He brought Signor Bosco before Queen Victoria at Balmoral Castle in 1856, when the Prince Consort and the late King Edward were present. He was lessee of the Theatre Royal, Cork, Ireland, and of the St. James's Hall, Liverpool. He lived in London for a number of years, and knew the British Isles intimately. He was Royal Arch-Mason of Bath, England. The body was interred at Newport News on June 28 with Masonic honours, the Misses Katie and Jessie Millar being present at the funeral.

MESSRS. LYN HARDING AND SIDNEY COOPER'S first tour of Mr. Cyril Maude's latest success, *Tantalising Tommy*, will open on August Bank Holiday at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. Miss Löhr's part will be played by Miss Nellie Lonnen, and Mr. Maude's by Mr. Hastings Lynn. Other members of a most excellent cast include Messrs. Ambrose Flower, Roy Byford, Ernest Hollway, Olaf Hytten, Geoffrey Denys, Cyril Percy, Miss Eva Brickwell, Miss Margaret Stuart, &c. Every scene will be carried, and has been painted by Mr. M.D. Hobbes, who did such excellent work for Messrs. Harding and Cooper's *Flag Lieutenant* companies. Much time and thought have been given to the printing, which should prove both attractive and novel, and includes a very humorous poster by Hassall. Mr. George Mallett is the general-manager, Mr. Jack Parson the business-manager, Mr. Ernest Hollway the stage-manager, and Mr. H. Val Kirwin the advance representative.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS, who has long been meditating an appearance as Richard III., will be seen in the battle scene of Shakespeare's play at the Coliseum in October. The "sketch" will be liberally mounted, and 180 supers will represent the soldiers. Mr. Hicks possesses wonderful versatility, and his Richard is sure to be active and original.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN, the well-known business and advance Manager, concluded on Wednesday his engagement as business manager for Mr. Alex. Maclean's *My Lady Bellamy* company, and rejoins *Les Cloches de Corneville* company as advance manager, having been re-engaged by Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart. Mr. Martin's first engagement under Mr. Milton Bode's management dates back to 1896.

OWING to the indisposition of Miss Maggie Teyte, it has been decided to postpone the production of *A Summer Night* and *The Impresario* at His Majesty's Theatre, to Saturday evening next. This evening *Tales of Hoffmann* will be given instead, with Miss Ruth Vincent, Miss Muriel Terry, Miss Caroline Hatchard, Mr. John Coates, and Mr. Frederic Austin in the cast.

MR. FRANK CURZON and Mr. Gerald du Maurier's partnership will result in the production at Wyndham's Theatre, on Sept. 1, of "George Paston's" play, *Nobody's Daughter*, in which Mr. Du Maurier will appear in a middle-aged part, supported by Mr. Sydney Valentine, Mr. Marsh Allen, Mr. Leon Quartermaine, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Rosalie Toller, and Miss Henrietta Watson.

MISS JEAN AYLWIN has been kindly permitted by Mr. George Edwardes to resign her part in *Our Miss Gibbs*, and to join the company which will appear in the successful musical play next month in New York.

MR. COURTICE POUNDS, supported by his own company, will appear in four musical pieces every evening and at two matinées next week at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings. The pieces are *Box and Cox* (musical version), *The Voice of the Charmer*, *Charles, His Friend*, and the Kitchen scene from *Twelfth Night*.

THE Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, closes for one week this week-end, the Carlton Dramatic Company concluding a very successful season there.

MR. ROBERT MAITLAND, an English baritone, has signed an important contract with Mr. Oscar Hammerstein to create in America the title-part of a new opéra comique which Mr. Hammerstein is producing at the Manhattan Opera House next September. The opera is written by M. Louis Ganne.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL, whose tour with *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* opened at Margate this week, had close upon 400 applications for the part of Joanna, Countess of Rushmere, the character so admirably sustained by Miss Compton in the original production at the Criterion Theatre, and which is now being played on tour with conspicuous success by Miss Nella Powys, a young actress of striking originality, who distinguished herself under the Vedrenne-Barker management at the Court.

MR. A. W. BASCOMB, who is starring as Mr. Preedy in Mr. Walter Maxwell's *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* company on tour, was the recipient of a huge ovation on Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Margate, where he served his novitiate under the régime of the late Miss Sarah Thorne. Mr. Bascomb, who has played Slightly Soiled (his original part) in *Peter Pan* over 1,000 times, enjoys the unique distinction of having played Clown (the part he originated) in J. M. Barrie's *Pantaloon* before his late Majesty at Sandringham and Windsor twice within a month, and is the proud possessor of a jewelled scarf-pin presented by the King as a memento of these visits.

MANY of our readers will be sorry to learn that Mr. Duffy, Mayor of Wallsend and owner of the Borough Theatre of that town, is dangerously ill, and at time of writing his condition is causing his family and friends great concern.

ON Saturday next the last two performances of the present run of *The Dawn of a To-Morrow* will be given at the Duke of York's Theatre, as Miss Gertrude Elliott's presence in America is demanded under a previous contract, and the necessity for undertaking rehearsals immediately upon her arrival will even restrict the holiday she so well merits to her journey across the Atlantic. In the meantime the fact speaks eloquently for the attractiveness and drawing powers of Mrs. Hodgson Burnett's very notable drama that *The Dawn of a To-Morrow* is (all rumours notwithstanding) to be the piece with which, about a month hence, Miss Gertrude Elliott will open at the Maxine Elliott Theatre in New York.

MR. ALEX MACLEAN concludes his successful spring tour of *My Lady Bellamy* at the Opera House, Harrogate, this week. After a short vacation he will commence his autumn tour with practically the same company, including Miss Laura Leigh in the tile-rôle, Mr. E. H. Brooke as King William III., and Miss Mary Palmer as the Queen. The play has been enthusiastically received in the provinces, and managers who have already seen it express themselves highly delighted with the production.

OF all the novel and pretty spectacles which have been witnessed in the magnificent Ball-room of the Blackpool Tower none have anywhere approached in interest and brilliance the children's ballet produced there this week by Mlle. Pauline Rivers, a ballet directress of London and Continental fame. The title of the production is *Our Children's Farmyard*, and although inspired by Rostand's much-discussed play, it is not so much to tell a story as to present a succession of pretty and striking pictures. One hundred and fifty children take part, in gorgeous costumes representing all the fowls and animals usually seen in a farmyard, together with moths, butterflies, and scarlet poppies all dancing together, the mise-en-scène is one of unusual splendour, the equal of which has probably never been previously witnessed on a ball-room floor. The entire production has been designed and supervised by Mlle. Pauline Rivers, for which she deserves the warmest encomiums. The costumes have been supplied by Messrs. Samuel May and Co., London, and the music has been arranged by Messrs. J. Woof Gaggs and Thos. Cheetham, of the Tower Co.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, who has been resting in North Wales for the last two weeks, has returned and is now busy rehearsing his companies for the autumn, which include two companies of *Smith*, *Brewster's Millions*, and *Don*.

THE first of the Hutchison companies to go on tour this autumn will be *Don*, with Miss Emma Hutchison, Mr. Charles Harley, and Mr. Gordon Bailey. The company opens at Douglas on Monday. The next is *Smith* (South company), the cast of which includes Mr. Robert Minster and Miss Cicely Stuckey, Mr. H. Douglas Greet, Miss Ethel Hodgkins, Miss Pauline Straus, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, and Miss Ethel Wellesley. Mr. T. J. Phillips is the business manager, and Mr. George Gamble the stage-manager. The North company of *Smith* starts on Aug. Bank Holiday at Southport, and the cast includes Miss Jessica Thorne, Mr. Montagu Love, Mr. Vivian Gilbert, Miss Eleanor Delaporte, Miss Katherine Collier, Mr. Cecil Brooking, and Miss Eileen Atherley. Mr. Launcelot Lowder is the stage-manager.

THE productions for both companies of *Smith* will be exact replicas of that used at the Comedy Theatre, and the play is being personally produced by Mr. Hutchison. Mr. Hutchison's own personal tour of *Brewster's Millions* starts on Aug. Bank Holiday at Blackpool, this being the fourth visit of the play to Blackpool within eighteen months.

WE are asked to state that the seating, upholstery, and appointments of the Theatre de Luxe at the Brussels Exhibition were designed and manufactured by the well-known firm of James S. Lyon, of High Holborn.

THROUGH the enterprise of Mr. Percy B. Broadhead, the patrons of the Crown Theatre, Eccles, have had the pleasure of witnessing *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Taming of the Shrew*, twice nightly, and the result has been an artistic and financial success. The company who were engaged by Mr. Broadhead for the venture was Mr. Alexander Marsh's, and included Miss Carrie Baillie. The business was enormous, pantomime records being broken.

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD has been engaged by Mr. Louis Meyer for his No. 1 *The Woman in the Case* company.

MR. DOUGLAS STUART is busy compiling this year's edition of his well-known "Railway Fare Book," which will be the eighth he has published. It will be issued early in September. The whole of last year's edition has been sold out.

THE Opera House, Southport, will reopen for the autumn and spring seasons on Monday with Miss Decima Moore and Mr. Robert Minster in *Lady Frederick*. For the coming autumn Mr. Hutchison is able to announce such strong attractions as the original London companies of *The Blue Bird*, *The House of Temperley*, *The Brass Bottle*, *The Mountaineers*, and *The Speckled Band* Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. F. R. Benson, The Carl Rosa Opera Company, The D'Oyly Carte Company, *Arsène Lupin*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Arcadians*, *The Whip*, *Our Miss Gibbs*, and a host of other recent London successes.

MR. ROBERT MINSTER has been specially engaged to play Tom Freeman in Mr. Percy Hutchison's autumn tour of *Smith*. Next week Mr. Minster will support Miss Decima Moore in *Lady Frederick* at the Opera House, Southport, where he is rehearsing for *Smith*, the tour of which starts on the 25th at Lowestoft.

MR. OTHO HAZLEWOOD, after a short rest in the country, is again by Mr. Percy Hutchison's side as his General Secretary, and will, as usual, go on tour with Mr. Hutchison in *Brewster's Millions*.

A MOST gratifying success was achieved by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company of *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* on its initial venture in the provinces at the Theatre Royal, Margate, and it seems that Mr. Maxwell has secured in this play a worthy successor to *The Little Minister*.

THE success attending the production of the new farcical play, *Looking for Trouble*, by Hélène Gingold and Lesser Columbus, during its recent week's trial run at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, would appear to be something quite out of the ordinary, as packed houses followed upon the opening night, and scenes of quite exceptional enthusiasm were aroused at the fall of the curtain at each performance. On the Saturday night the big audience did not leave the auditorium until they had brought all concerned before the curtain seven times and cheered them to the echo. Mr. Cowen has received a most flattering and congratulatory letter from the local management emphasising the hit which the play made, and expressing unbounded confidence in its future.

MR. COWEN is now negotiating for a West End theatre for *Looking for Trouble*, the "preliminary canter" at Brighton justifying this course, and has already received so many offers of dates from the provinces that he will send out two companies with it in the autumn.

AT Grimsby County Court, on Tuesday, Sir G. Sherston Baker, Bart., awarded Mrs. Louisa Connell, wife of a Grimsby engineer, £40 damages against the *Gay Gordons* company, who were performing at Grimsby on Feb. 22. On that day Mrs. Connell was walking past the Prince of Wales's Theatre, when some glass fell from one of the dressing-room windows, and cut her face. She claimed damages against the theatre company and W. A. Seymour, responsible manager of the *Gay Gordons* company. It was admitted that a dresser at the theatre on the date mentioned pushed some glass out of the window, but it was claimed that the dresser was employed by the travelling company and not by the theatre company.

"ALL PARIS," as usually, is much interested in the annual prize competition at the Conservatoire, writes our excellent Paris correspondent; but the attitude of the male and female members of "All Paris" is no better than it was in previous years. If these well-dressed society loafers only applauded those who receive awards there would be little cause to complain. But if the jury's decision does not meet with their approval they shriek, hiss, and insult the gentlemen who sit in judgment on the competitors. In England, where people are taught to respect the "chair," half a dozen policemen would put these cads into the street as a lesson to others; but here the same disgraceful scenes are witnessed year after year.

MR. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN proposes to build a fine opera house in London and present grand opera here next year on the same lavish scale that he did in New York. When he was in London two months ago he selected the site, which is in the West-End, and began negotiations for a ninety-nine years lease of the property. It includes two parcels. On one Mr. Hammerstein has already made payment, and holds the option on the other. He is obliged to go to America now to settle affairs for the Manhattan for next season, but will return in two or three months and complete the negotiations in London. The house is expected to be finished next year, in time to open at the beginning of the season. It will be modelled on the same plan as Mr. Hammerstein's opera house in Philadelphia. After his London season closes Mr. Hammerstein will take his company to America and tour there.

M. RAOUL LEPARRA'S opera *La Habanera*, which was first heard in Paris on Feb. 26, 1908, at the Opéra Comique, will be performed at Covent Garden on Monday. The libretto is exciting, its chief situations being the murder of one brother by another for the love of a woman and the return of the dead man in spectral shape. The cast will include Mlle. Demellier, M. Dalmorès, M. Bourbon, Mr. Murray Davey, Mlle. Egener, M. Lheureux, Mr. D'Oisley, M. Morin, M. Verheyden, and Mr. G. Sargeant.

MASTER MAX DARewski, the famous boy composer and pianist, profoundly impressed a large and critical audience at Mr. Carl Weber's Pupils' Concert at Bechstein Hall on Tuesday evening, With Miss Maude Dixon he executed in a most masterly manner variations on a theme by Beethoven for two pianos, arranged by Saint-Saëns, and afterwards gave Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 13, and a Paraphrase of *Rigoletto* by Franz Liszt.

LESSER COLUMBUS'S sensational play, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*, starts its fourth tour of the provinces the end of August, and is booked to visit the most important towns in the country. The tour will last until Whitsuntide, 1911, and new scenery is being painted for the production.

AT the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, on Friday evening, on the occasion of the complimentary benefit accorded by the management to the popular and charming actress Miss Ida Heron, who is at the present time delighting everyone by her skilful and pathetic rendering of the dual rôle of Lady Isabel, the performance of the Bullock version of *East Lynne* by Mr. Tom Watt's company, was announced to be followed by a farcical absurdity entitled *A Lively Hibernian*, by Mr. Joe Rowland (the ever-popular P.C. Bullock) as a special item.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE asks us to mention that his office is now at the Lyceum Theatre.

MR. A. C. MOODY, the popular lessee and manager of the New Theatre Royal, Blyth, has acquired the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, and opens this theatre on Aug. 29 with Mr. H. Armitage's company in *Leah Kleschna*. In the vacation Mr. Moody has had the interior of the Ashington Theatre gutted, and has provided for his patrons new tip-up chair seats in the circle, stalls, and pit, and has put an entirely new stage in. He has already booked several good attractions for this theatre.

MR. T. CAMPBELL BROWNE has been appointed manager for Mr. Moody, and is in town booking companies for both theatres. Mr. Browne will be remembered as business-manager for Mr. R. C. Buchanan's pantomimes and Mr. George Dance's *Girls of Gottenburg* company.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE is opening his next tour, extending to Whitsuntide, 1911, at the Opera House, Buxton, this week, and will mark the occasion by the production of *Twelfth Night*. With this addition the Shakespearean productions toured by Mr. Wilkie now number no less than twelve; and he has still further increased his repertoire by acquiring the full provincial rights of Louis N. Parker's famous romantic play, *The Cardinal*, which he purposes producing very shortly. Mr. Wilkie's excellent company now includes that finished comedian, Mr. Philip Gordon, so long associated in principal comedy parts with Mr. Edward Compton.

AN interesting cricket match took place at Portsmouth last week, on the Milton Asylum Ground, between the lady members of the *New Barmaid* company, who were playing at the Theatre Royal, and eleven local gentlemen, resulting in an easy win for the ladies by 48 runs. The gentlemen used prepared bats and played left-handed, and the ladies played cricket proper. Miss Violet Osmund made top score, viz., 41 runs. The whole company were entertained at tea in the stand between the innings.

MISS MAIE HOEY, who made such a success in her Eastern dances in their pantomime, is specially engaged by Messrs. Murray King and Clark as principal in their dances in their new production in August at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

THE pretty theatre at Tunbridge Wells reopened for the summer dramatic season with the annual cricket week theatricals, when a new comic opera dealing with the Suffragette question was successfully produced, as recorded on another page. While the house has been closed the grand circle has been enlarged with three additional tiers of seats, the auditorium redecorated, the floor of the orchestra sunk, a fireproof chamber constructed for the bioscope, and other improvements effected which cannot fail to add to the popularity of the theatre. An attractive list of bookings extending well into the autumn has been arranged.

MR. DOUGLAS SLADEN has collaborated with Mr. W. Wigmore in the compilation of "The Green Book of London Society," and the result has been published by Messrs. Whitaker and Sons (Limited). It is a directory of British titles, and a directory of peers and peeresses and official personages, set out in an abbreviated yet compendious form, and supplemented with lists of leading names in the principal professions and artistic and literary occupations. The list of actors, dramatic authors, librettists, composers of musical comedy, lyric writers, and scenic artists has evidently been compiled with care, and that of the London theatres with their lessees or actor-managers, their business-managers, and other information concerning them, is well arranged.

MR. HARCOURT WILLIAMS'S Pastoral Play company was rained out on Wednesday, and Mr. Edwin T. Heys, the business-manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, found a haven of refuge for them there in the evening at six hours' notice, whilst extensive alterations, especially in the electrical department, were in progress, and all the staff were scattered on their holidays. Within an hour after Mr. Heys's arranging to receive Mr. Williams, bills were printed and posted, and the box office was opened. A staff was assembled, scenery were carted in, a new switchboard erected, and the theatre cleaned throughout. This was certainly a "record," and Mr. Williams spoke strongly at the close of the performance of the extraordinary speed of the preparations.

SINCE the destruction of the Hippodrome at Barry, by fire, in November last, the town has been without a theatre beyond cinematograph entertainment houses, and the erection of a new Hippodrome of a permanent structure is viewed with considerable satisfaction by the townspeople generally. The extensive building is almost completed, and on Monday evening last the Barry District Council granted a dramatic licence, subject to the approval of the work by the Licensing Committee, it being stated that everything would be complete by to-day.

MR. ROBERT MACDONALD'S *Dairymaids* company have been engaged for the opening week, which will commence on Monday. The proprietors of the theatre are Tours, Ltd., and on Tuesday Mr. Arthur Carlton, managing director, will entertain the members of the District Council and other leading townsmen at a banquet.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Ibsen's Paintings.

As a young man, Ibsen was by no means certain of his vocation, writes the Norwegian journalist John Paulsen, quoted in the current number of *The New Age*. Until he was thirty-two he believed himself to be born for painting. In fact, a pretty big exhibition might be got together of the canvases painted by Ibsen in the days of his early manhood, and scattered now throughout the farmhouses and country villas of Norway. He remained all his life profoundly interested in art, and his judgments of ancient and Renaissance art in Italy are always original. Of Raphael he said: "Raphael's art has never warmed me. His beings belong to the Garden of Eden before the Fall."

The Time of Day.

IBSEN'S conception of drama was of something supreme in literature. The creation of dramas was indeed for him not merely a substitute for life, but life itself. He could not conceive that a man should be able to write both novels and plays; for drama demanded the devotion of the whole of a man's powers. In the art of drama, he said, there are a thousand and one artifices of finesse which the novelist knows not of. "Have you ever thought," he remarked to Paulsen, "that in a play the conversation of the morning must have an entirely different colour from the conversation of the evening?"

No Nonsense.

JONAS LIE, the well-known Norwegian writer of sea stories, was asking Ibsen's advice one day about a play he was contemplating. How long, he asked, may a character chatter on the stage? (He had in mind, perhaps, some such conversational plays and displays as we have lately seen at the Repertory Theatre.) "Chatter!" said Ibsen, witheringly, "nobody is allowed to talk nonsense either on the stage or off."

Ibsen's Explainers.

IBSEN, like every other great author, was perpetually being asked to explain what he meant by his plays. Just as perpetually he pretended not to know. "Somebody," he said, "will one day come and tell me what I do mean. The critic is always ready to see a double meaning in everything. In *The Doll's House*, for example, there is the scene in which Nora enters, followed by a porter carrying a Christmas tree. Nora takes her purse and gives the porter a shilling instead of the usual sixpence. A Swedish critic, if you please, found a symbolic meaning in the act. Nora, he thought, was a Socialist, who desired to equalise wealth, and Ibsen was a Socialist propagandist!"

Even Wallpapers.

"You never notice anything," Ibsen once said to a friend. "For instance, you don't remember at this moment the colour of the wall-paper in your own bedroom. But when I enter a strange room I notice the very smallest details. Nothing escapes me. Yes, I see everything."

His Secrecy.

ONCE when Ibsen was engaged in writing a play he by chance dropped a scrap of paper on which were the words "the doctor says." Mrs. Ibsen determined to have a joke, and one day casually remarked, "Who is that doctor in your new play? I suppose he'll say some interesting things?" Ibsen at first was silent with astonishment. Then he broke out into a fit of rage, full of reproaches for her spying.

His Early Loves.

WHILE at Bergen Ibsen fell a little in love with a pretty girl, who used to bring the young poet flowers from the wood. One day while walking with her the pair were suddenly met by the young lady's father, who had no respect for an impecunious poet. Ibsen, like Goethe, was no hero, and incontinently fled, leaving the girl to explain as best she might. It was to her that the poem "Flowers of the Wood" was written. Ibsen was also in love for some time with his wife's sister, Mary; and it was to her that he addressed the poem "With a Water Lily," in which occurs the famous line, "It's dangerous to dream near Mary."

Goethe a Goat.

IN some respects Ibsen was not unlike Goethe, for whom he had a profound admiration. He could not tolerate, however, the German adoration of Goethe's amorisms, which filled his strict puritanic temperament with disgust. After listening one day to somebody's praises of Goethe's loves, Ibsen remarked, laconically, "That goat!"

An Energetic Actress.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON says:—"I think highly of the actress of to-day. Unlike her sisters of twenty-five years ago, she believes in devoting her spare time to outside affairs—hobbies, if you like—and there is nothing better calculated to broaden one's outlook on life than mixing in the busy world. Then just think with what fresh vigour you return to your particular sphere. I live up to my opinion, having illustrated several children's books, acted as organising Secretary during the South African War for the Actors' and Actresses' Hospital Hut, contributed sundry articles to the *Fortnightly Review*, &c., and, finally in October I take up the management of a theatre."

A Money Order.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE says the deadhead is a destroyer of drama. "Once give a man a free seat for a play," he said, "and you will have a difficulty ever afterwards in making him 'pay to go in.' While I was once playing at a famous old playhouse in an ancient town, the theatre at which *Macbeth* was to have been given was burnt down. For our next week there our chief contrived to borrow a playhouse a little way out of the district. On reaching there to rehearse on the Monday, the manager received a letter saying that the writer had been given two dress-circle orders for the performance of *Macbeth*, but as that play was not performed owing to the destruction of the theatre, the writer surmised that the manager would remit the money value of those orders."

A Rubber Boom.

IN Mr. Neil Kenyon's dressing room at the Apollo Theatre last week there was an extra number of autograph books handed in. Mr. Harry Danby, who had looked in for a chat, suggested in his saddest manner that a rubber stamp would be useful; and the matter dropped, as some jokes have a habit of doing. The following evening, however, Mr. Kenyon was surprised to have no less than three representatives of rubber-stamp firms send in their cards. Mr. Kenyon, seeing Mr. Danby's fertile brain in this, ordered an autograph stamp from each, giving "Harry's" name and address and scrawling on the order form "cash on delivery." Like many others, Danby is now a sadder man at the mention of rubber.

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

"HIS LORDSHIP'S CURE."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Dolf Wyllard and Elliott Page, Produced at a Matinée at the Apollo Theatre on Tuesday, July 12.

Lady Jane Wrightways ..... MISS GRANVILLE
Dennison ..... MR. ARTHUR BURNE
Mr. Wrightways ..... MR. EDGAR B. PAYNE
Enid Marchmont ..... MISS VIVA BIRKETT
George Alston ..... MR. BRIAN EGERTON
Sir Philip Vesey, F.R.C.S. .... MR. BASSETT ROE
Lord Charles Howard .... MR. MALCOLM CHERRY
Archie Gillies ..... MR. FRED CREMLIN
Tibbie ..... MISS ARMINE GRACE
Primrose ..... MISS KATHARINE POLE
A Boy ..... MR. R. BRIGHTEN SALISBURY

Under the immediate patronage of His Serene Highness Prince Francis of Teck and many distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the above play was produced at a matinée given on Tuesday at the Apollo Theatre, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Alexander Henderson. There is much merit in *His Lordship's Cure*. It contains some pretty scenes and several well-conceived and interesting characters. It is brightly and pleasantly written, and the story, if not strikingly original, is clear, entertaining, and agreeable.

The action opens at the London house of Lady Jane Wrightways, a match-making, meddlesome woman, who, seeing that her nephew, Lord Charles Howard, is getting fat and losing his health as the result of his idle and dissipated mode of life, schemes to marry him to a charming girl named Enid Marchmont. Enid is under the dominion of her step-brother, George Alston, a scamp, who has gambled away most of her money, and has, by a trick, managed to break off her engagement with the young man with whom she was in love. Alston tells her that she is practically ruined, and that the best thing she can do is to marry Lord Charles. By a very simple trick, Lady Jane brings about the semblance of an engagement between them. She asks Lord Charles to go to a jeweller's and select a bracelet. When he brings it, she pretends that he has bought it as a present for Enid, and makes him clasp it on the girl's arm. In order to get Lord Charles to marry and settle down, Lady Jane has induced his doctor to warn him of his condition, and it is this medical opinion which leads him to visit Western Lodge, his house in the country.

The tenants on the estate have been very badly treated by Lord Howard's last secretary, who apparently acted as his steward as well; and the old gardener, who, with his wife and a lady assistant, Miss Primrose, are the only people at Western Lodge, are expecting the coming of the new secretary. Lord Charles arrives, and Primrose mistakes him for the subordinate. In the course of their conversation she gives him a bit of her mind as to his own character and mode of life. The piquancy of the situation attracts Lord Charles, who maintains her error, takes her advice as to exercise, comes out and digs in the garden, and gradually falls in love with her. Just as he is about to propose to Primrose, Lady Wrightways swoops down on Western Lodge, accompanied by Enid, Alston, and others. Now, of course, trouble begins. We learn that Primrose is Enid's sister, who, disgusted by Alston's behaviour, has determined to earn her own living. When Alston tells Primrose that Enid is engaged to Lord Charles, she is, of course, very indignant, and the act-drop falls on her outburst of passionate grief.

Matters are cleared up in the last division of the piece. Enid's old sweetheart, it appears, is Lord Charles's present secretary; so, when she tells him, as she thinks it her duty to do, about her "prior affection" and the way it was broken off, Howard is able to bring the lovers together, and thus break off his engagement with Enid gallantly. He then interviews Alston, who tells him a story about Primrose having disgraced herself and left her relatives; but Howard turns the rascal out of the house, explains matters to Primrose, and easily obtains her forgiveness.

The success of the piece was very greatly owing to the admirable way in which it was acted. The performance by Miss Katharine Pole of the part of Primrose was a charming and clever one. She was exactly suited to the character, and she depicted the bright, lively, yet strong and spirited girl to the life. Miss Pole gave a vivid representation of a certain type of modern womanhood, and made a very fascinating and interesting lady gardener. Her performance was full of intelligence and feeling, alert, active, earnest, and affectionate. It was a real and very winning impersonation. Another embodiment which must be warmly praised was Mr. Fred Cremlin's Archie Gilles. As the sturdy, shrewd, and slightly sarcastic Scotch gardener, he was thoroughly firm, human, and convincing, and his admirable make-up, the "pawky" humour of his characterisation, and the tender and dignified way in which he handled his share of the interview with Lord Charles in the last act made his creation a meritorious and a memorable one. Mr. Malcolm Cherry was well chosen to represent Lord Charles Howard. His lightness of touch in the earlier part of the performance, and his genuine vigour and emphasis later on were very commendable; and the comedy spirit of his acting in the scenes with Primrose was excellent. Miss Granville was more than equal to the requirements of that superficial personage Lady Jane Wrightways, and her polish and style were liberally bestowed on her task. Mr. Arthur Burne contributed a clever bit of acting as the gloomy man Derwent Dennison, and Mr. Edgar P. Payne did all that was possible as the dyspeptic Mr. Wrightways. Miss Viva Birkett looked very pretty as Enid Marchmont, and well suggested Enid's pathetic helplessness, bearing herself with charming delicacy and grace; and a particularly sharp, subtle, and incisive representation of the sly and scheming George Alston was supplied by Mr. Brian Egerton. It was an easy thing for such an able and experienced actor as Mr. Bassett Roe to impersonate the flattering, "finicking" physician Sir Philip Vesey, and he did so irreproachably. Miss Armine Grace was curiously original as Tibbie, and Mr. R. Brighten Salisbury was satisfactory as a smiling yokel. The play, which was produced by Mr. D. J. Williams, and stage-managed by Mr. Charles A. Maynard, went extremely well, and as there was a good house and all monies received were handed over to the hospital intact, without the deduction of any expenses, the charitable purpose of the matinée may be assumed to have been effected.

MISS CONSTANCE BEERBOHM writes:—"In 1908 and 1909 I was able to send away a number of governesses, hospital nurses, typists, musicians, secretaries, actresses, and ladies engaged in other professions who could not have afforded the expense, and yet to whom the good of a refreshing change and rest was untold. The lives of these workers in some cases are not only exposed to the positive sufferings attendant on poverty, but to a blank monotony of work and anxious outlook. Moreover, toilers of gentle birth are often overlooked whilst those of a different class are liberally provided with holidays. I appeal urgently to those who look forward themselves to a happy holiday this summer to hold out a friendly hand to the friendless and chiefly to the workers broken down in health and spirit. Any contributions sent to 48, Upper Berkeley-street, W., will be as carefully distributed as gratefully acknowledged.

"A MODERN MEDEA."

A Tragedy in One Act, by Alice Chapin, Produced at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Friday, July 8.

Jeannie ..... MRS. ALICE CHAPIN
Freda ..... MISS BEATRICE CHESTER
Ellie ..... MISS ELSIE CHAPIN
Reginald Vere ..... MR. GOODWIN NOCK
Alfred Whitlake ..... MR. BASIL OSBORNE
Felix Villon ..... MR. MAURICE ELVEY

MRS. Alice Chapin's one-act play was the only novelty in the programme of a matinée performance given by her and Miss Elsie Chapin for the benefit of the Women's Freedom League. The scene is an artist's studio, occupied by Reginald Vere, and when the curtain rises Jeannie, a middle-aged model, is being painted in the character of Medea. She proposes introducing a new model to the artist, a young girl, who is a nursery governess, and is very tired of gaining her livelihood by that prosaic occupation. But to introduce an innocent young girl into Reginald Vere's Bohemian set is a risky experiment, so far as the youthful model is concerned, and Jeannie is anxious that her young friend Ellie should never lead the life that she herself has lived since she was betrayed and abandoned by the man she loved and in whom she placed her trust.

Fresh arrivals at the studio are Freda, another model, of the blatantly vulgar type, Alfred Whitlake, an artist, and Felix Villon, a Frenchman, familiarly known among his intimates as "Mouser." They are all anxious to see the new model, more particularly the fast Frenchman, who, it is pretty evident, makes love to every pretty young woman he meets. Ellie has to pose as Galatea, and her classic robes are arranged by Jeannie. By a series of questions she learns that the young girl is her own daughter by the man who deceived and then deserted her. Ellie shocks her newly-found mother by her avowal that she is prepared to make any sacrifice for the sake of living a life of ease and comfort, and she does not seem to be indisposed to encourage the advances of Villon, who is said to be a wealthy man. Her mother, however, warns her of her fate if she listens to the libertine, who would soon tire of her and cast her off. Freda, who has no friendly feeling for Jeannie, brings her a bottle of absinthe, knowing her weakness for drink. The woman cannot withstand the temptation, and gradually becoming intoxicated, falls asleep. When in the early morning of the next day the Frenchman breaks into the room the girl, disgusted with the turn affairs have taken, stabs herself to the heart in the presence of her horrified mother, exclaiming that with her life seemed impossible.

Mrs. Alice Chapin, who, as author, was specially called for at the conclusion of the play, gave an excellent embodiment of Jeannie, and Miss Elsie Chapin also played well as the young girl Ellie. Miss Beatrice Chester ably represented the vulgar, loud-spoken Freda. Mr. Goodwin Nock was good as Reginald Vere, Mr. Basil Osborne acted with earnestness as Alfred Whitlake, and Mr. Maurice Elvey was capital as the Frenchman Felix Villon. The play was produced by Miss Edith Craig, and was preceded by the one-act drama *Shame* (also by Mrs. Alice Chapin), in which Miss Mary Allestree scored as Annie, the despairing young woman who is prevented from committing suicide, and Mr. C. C. Calvert and Mr. Maurice Elvey did well as Dr. Conang and Dr. Hewett.

The last item in the programme was Mr. George Bernard Shaw's one-act play *Press Cuttings*, which was acted with much spirit and caused great merriment amongst the audience, which consisted principally of ladies. Mr. Harold Chapin was a laughably ferocious General Bones, Mr. C. C. Calvert made good use of his opportunities as the worried Prime Minister; Mr. Basil Osborne was very amusing as the Orderly; Miss Agnes Thomas played with real humour the part of Mrs. Farrell, the Irish charwoman, to whom the General makes a proposal of marriage; Mrs. Alice Chapin was an amusingly aggressive Mrs. Banger, and Miss Elsie Chapin, who also fulfilled the duties of stage manager, was an attractive Lady Corinthia Fanshawe.

THE public examination was held and concluded on Wednesday of Wilfred Lawson Butt, of Cliftonhill, W. The debtor stated that he was an actor, and that he attributed his insolvency to losses incurred by him in connection with the production of the plays *The Open Sea* and *The Royal Rival* and to lack of engagements, in consequence of which his net earnings had been insufficient to meet his expenditure. The liabilities were returned at £498, and the assets at nil.

THERE was a panic at the Comédie-Française the other night during the performance of M. Bataille's *Le Songe d'un soir d'amour*. Towards the end of the act, at the moment when the poet pours out a cup of tea for the lady lying on the sofa, several persons rose from their seats, and at the same time a slight smell of burning pervaded the house. There was a rush for the doors, but M. Grand, the actor, came forward and said: "Ladies and gentlemen,—Please remain seated—there is no fire whatsoever!" This statement having been confirmed by the police commissary on duty, the frightened spectators returned to their places, and the performance was allowed to continue.

THE Paris Conservatoire competitions are over. The successful candidates have carried home their prizes, whilst the unsuccessful ones attribute their failure to a vindictiveness on the part of the partial jury. But if there is gnashing of teeth in the students' camp, there also reigns dissatisfaction among the journalists, who very rightly complain of the enormous number of seats given to people who have no claim whatsoever to being admitted to these functions. A well-known musical critic having been refused a seat managed to purchase one for 15 francs, and as there is no admittance except by invitation, it is obvious that unprincipled persons traffic in these tickets. The critic made the most of his grievance, and the French Fine Arts Director, M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, has been compelled to take the matter in hand, and is instituting an official enquiry. But this "official" enquiry will, of course, lead to nothing, and things will remain as they are.

THE annual report of the Exeter Theatre Company states that the expenses for the year were practically the same as those of last year, but the receipts were nearly £700 less. This was to be attributed to several causes, chief among which were the occurrence of the General Election in January, which materially affected the receipts from the pantomime, both in Exeter and elsewhere, and the demise of the Sovereign in May. In addition to these causes, the severe competition to which the theatre was subjected could not be overlooked, and it was not likely that this would diminish, in view of the building of the additional places of amusement in the city, and the opening of a bioscope theatre in High-street. Every effort had been made by the directors to increase the comfort of the audience and to attract the best class of companies, but unless the shareholders generally endeavoured themselves to secure patronage for the theatre it would be increasingly difficult to maintain its prestige. The uncertainty of the law as to the value of dramatic and other licences still continued to be a source of considerable difficulty to the directors, and it was hoped that the Government would speedily take action in the matter. Mr. C. T. K. Roberts and Mr. Robert Hancock retire from the Board, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Thursday morning at twelve o'clock the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Royal Academy of Music in Marylebone-road, N.W., took place. The stone was laid by the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., and the dedication service carried out by the Bishop of Kensington. The event is of great importance in the musical world, and a large number of distinguished visitors were present at the ceremony. For many years the Royal Academy of Music has been sadly cramped for space in the inconvenient premises at Tenterden-street, Hanover-square. An increasing number of students and the need of a large concert hall or theatre, with room for an orchestra, in which dramatic and operatic performances could be given, became imperative for the famous old school so ably conducted by Sir A. C. Mackenzie. The new building in Marylebone-road, near York Gate, will have an imposing frontage of 180ft., comprising a central block and two wings. In the concert hall—122ft. long by 45ft. wide—will be erected a large organ by Messrs. Norman and Beard, given by Mrs. Trelfall in memory of her husband, the late chairman of the Committee of Management. Messrs. Ernest George and Yates are the architects, and Messrs. Wallis and Sons, the builders, expect to have the work finished by June next year. The new school is convenient in position, being near the Baker-street Station and Bakerloo Tube. The Royal Academy of Music, founded in 1822 by John Fane (Lord Burghersh) eleventh Earl of Westmorland, was opened to the public on March 24, 1823, under the patronage of His Majesty King George IV., and it is somewhat a coincidence that the stone of the new building was laid in the reign of his present Majesty King George V. Always under Royal patronage, for King George the Fourth gave an annual donation of one hundred guineas and a Charter to the School on June 23, 1830, King William IV. was also a patron, and Her Majesty Queen Victoria; while, when Prince and Princess of Wales, His late Majesty King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra conferred the greatest honour on the institution by attending in person the distribution of prizes in St. James's Hall in 1897. Ever since 1868 the number of pupils has annually increased. No. 5, Tenterden-street, was acquired in 1876 and a house in the adjoining street taken, and in 1892 the school was enlarged by the addition of No. 6, Tenterden-street. During more than eighty years the Academy has trained over 6,000 pupils, and space does not permit the mention of a host of talented students who have risen to fame in the musical world. For its principals the Academy has had Dr. William Crotch, 1823; Mr. Cipriani Potter, 1832; Mr. Charles Lucas, 1859; Sir William Sterndale Bennett, 1866; Sir George A. Macfarren, 1875; and Sir Alexander Campbell Mackenzie, 1888, who still holds the office, the President of the Academy being H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., and it is worthy of mention that in the year 1823 only twenty pupils were admitted, while the number at the present day is over 500. The proceedings on Thursday morning commenced with a Dedication Service, conducted by the Lord Bishop of Kensington, assisted by the Rev. W. D. Morrison, LL.D., Rector of St. Marylebone, in the course of which two hymns—"Angel voices ever singing" and "Now thank we all our God"—were sung by the choir of the Academy. After the stone of the new building had been "well and truly" laid by the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., the Bishop pronounced the Benediction, and the part-song "My soul would drink those echoes" (written for this occasion by Sir Alexander Mackenzie) was ably sung by the students. Votes of thanks were given to Lord Strathcona and the Bishop of Kensington, to which both responded. Lord Strathcona spoke of the difficulties the Royal Academy had to contend with in the past at their old school and his hopes for the future in the new building, and the Bishop of Kensington, in the course of a humorous speech said how pleased he was that, instead of a great row of ugly flats, a handsome school of music would be built in Marylebone-road, for music was the joy of life, and it would be a poor thing without it. The Rector of St. Marylebone also expressed his pleasure that the new Royal Academy School would be erected in his parish. There were various other speeches, and a telegram was read out from Sir Arthur Bigge to Sir Alexander saying His Majesty King George would be pleased to honour the Royal Academy with his patronage. A telegram was also read from the President H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, expressing regret at being absent from so interesting an occasion and his good wishes to the Principal. An interesting feature also was a kind message sent from Lady Rose Weigall, a descendant of Lord Burghersh, founder of the Academy in 1822. When the Principal rose he had a most enthusiastic reception, and it was some moments before Sir Alexander Mackenzie could proceed. The Principal, in a short speech, said: "We have been honoured by the King, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and a descendant of the founder of the school on this occasion, which has long been looked forward to, but we must remember, in spite of the past eighty years, the Academy really begins now. This event will call for increased energy, but I have no fear and every hope for the future. It must be ours to uphold English music and its ever-increasing importance, and to make our new home an honour to England." Sir Alexander then called upon the students to give three cheers for the old and new Royal Academy, and three very hearty cheers were also given to Sir Alexander himself. The band of the Royal Engineers, by kind permission of Colonel J. L. Irvine, performed Mr. F. Corder's overture "The Golden Dawn"; overture, "Richard III." (German); "Imperial" Grand March (Neville Flux); and Sullivan's incidental music to *Henry VIII.*, under the conductorship of Mr. R. Neville Flux, A.R.A.M. The weather was perfect on Thursday morning, and the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Royal Academy of Music was carried out under most pleasant and hopeful circumstances.

The fine site which has been secured in the Marylebone-road, till now occupied by the Marylebone Charity School for Girls, for the new habitation of the Royal Academy of Music has a frontage of 180 feet, with ample light and air on all sides. With the many means of communication it is easily accessible to students and professors. The important new building, the design of Messrs. Ernest George and Yeates, the drawing of which is now in the Royal Academy Exhibition, consists of a central block with two wings, that on the right hand containing the concert Hall, 122 feet long by 45 feet wide, with its entrances and exits on the main road and on the side street, also communicating internally with the building on the ground and on the first floors. The concert room will be provided with a fine organ by Messrs. Norman and Beard, Ltd., the gift of Mrs. Threlfall, in memory of her husband, the late Mr. Thomas Threlfall, who was for many years chairman of the Committee of Management. On the ground floor are the rooms of the principal, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the secretary and the staff, as well as hall, waiting rooms, &c. By an ample staircase a well-lighted basement is approached with the students' luncheon rooms, kitchen, and cloak rooms. The upper floors are occupied by the class rooms, including organ rooms, the library, and examination rooms. The fireproof building is of Portland stone and brick. The difficult problem of deadening sound has been studied in the construction of floors and partitions, and double doors are arranged to all the rooms.

A short account of the history of the Academy is *apropos*. It was founded in the year 1822 through the patriotic exertions of John Fane (Lord Burghersh), eleventh Earl of Westmorland, and was opened to the public on March 24, 1823, under the direct patronage of His Majesty King George IV., whose interest in its welfare was manifested by an annual donation of one hundred guineas. One of the last official acts of the monarch was the signing, on June 23, 1830, only three days before his death, of the charter granted to the school. His successor, King William IV., was also a patron of the Academy, and continued the pecuniary contribution to its funds. In 1834, by his royal command, the proceeds of the Handel Festival held in Westminster Abbey, at which the students of the Academy took part in the performance of *Israel in Egypt*, were divided equally between the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain, the Choral Fund, the New Musical Fund, and the Royal Academy of Music, the Academy benefiting thereby to the extent of £2,250.

Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, on her accession to the throne in 1837, graciously continued the patronage and support extended to the Academy by her two predecessors, and, together with the late Prince Consort, honoured with her presence a concert which was given for the benefit of the school in 1858.

On the lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha in 1900 the Academy was honoured by the gracious acceptance of the presidentship by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn.

The objects of the Academy, as set forth in its charter, are "to promote the cultivation of the science of music, and to afford facilities for attaining perfection in it by assisting with general instruction all persons desirous of acquiring a knowledge thereof."

During the early part of its career, "Academic" concerts for the benefit of the institution were given by the directors, in which, although the celebrated artists and musicians of the day contributed largely to the programmes, the orchestral class and a few of the more prominent students of singing took part. But it is worthy of mention that, as early as 1828, the Royal Academy of Music students were permitted to give a concert before King George IV. in St. James's Palace. In the same and also in the following year a series of Italian operas (the vocalists as well as the orchestra being composed entirely of Royal Academy of Music students) took place in the English Opera House and King's Theatre, *Il Barbiere*, *L'Inganno Felice*, *L'Italiana in Algeria*, *Il Matrimonio Segreto*, and *Così fan Tutte* being the operas performed. The third and fourth performances in England of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony were given in 1835 and 1836, under the direction of Mr. Charles Lucas; also the first performance in England of Haydn's *Seasons*. As the school developed, these performances were continued—first in the Hanover Square Rooms, and afterwards in St. James's Hall and Queen's Hall.

Since 1868 the number of students has annually increased, and, as occasion demanded, additions to the building have been made. The concert room was enlarged to its present dimensions, and the lease of No. 5, Tenterden-street, acquired in 1876. Subsequently, a house in the adjoining street was taken, and again, in 1892, it was found necessary to add yet another house (No. 6, Tenterden-street) to those already occupied.

The curriculum, which includes tuition in all branches of music, and the study of elocution and languages, is comprehensive and complete.

The school has, since his foundition, never failed to retain its leading position, and within recent years years the educational course has been augmented by the institution of the sight-reading classes, the operatic and dramatic classes, classes for ensemble practice, the students' fortnightly concerts, weekly lectures, and the addition of deportment, stage-dancing, fencing and physical drill classes.

Owing to the great and increasing interest taken in the dramatic class and the marked ability displayed by many of the students in acting and elocution, the committee have, with a view to the further encouragement of these arts, decided to permit each of them to be made a subject of principal study in connection with a suitable musical curriculum in either case.

For many years the Royal Academy of Music held local examinations throughout the kingdom, which were popular and lucrative. In order, however, to raise the standard of these examinations and assist the public towards the elimination of defective instruction in music, the Royal Academy of Music entered into negotiations with the Royal College of Music for combined action in the matter. These negotiations happily resulted in a union of the forces of the two institutions for the purposes of local examinations in Music, and the formation, in the year 1889, of the "Associated Board" under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The work of the "Associated Board" of the two great Chartered Schools of Music has already produced excellent results. The scheme includes the Local Examination of Schools, as well as "Local Centre" Examinations, and has recently been extended to the Colonies.

The Academy continues its own separate examination in London (independent of Academy Teaching) of music teachers and performers. This is known as the "Metropolitan Examination." Successful candidates at this examination, which increases annually in popular estimation, receive diplomas certifying to their proficinecy, and are created by the directors Licentiates of the Royal Academy of Music.

During over eighty years of a useful existence, the work of the Academy in the cause of musical education has been, with the assistance of many eminent musicians and lovers of music, conducted successively by its principals, Dr. William Crotch, 1823; Mr. Cipriani Potter, 1832; Mr. Charles Lucas, 1859; Sir William Sterndale Bennett, 1866; Sir George A. Macfarren, 1875; and Sir Alexander Campbell Mackenzie, 1888.

The number of students who up to the present time have received either their complete or partial musical training within its walls is computed at over 6,000. The growth of the school may be estimated by the fact that whereas in the year 1823 only twenty students were admitted, the number now under training is usually over 500.

Past students, many of whom have risen to positions of eminence and distinction, have, in the course of their respective careers, extended the good work, not only in Great Britain, but in the Colonies and in India; and it is a gratifying fact that the connection with their Alma Mater is rarely, if ever, severed either by the lapse of years or by the distance which may divide them. Space does not permit of the enumeration here of more than a few of those who have distinguished themselves in their profession since leaving the Academy. Among many others whose names are to be found in the lists of Fellows and Associates, the following may be mentioned: Mathilde Bauermeister, Dora Bright, Mary Davies, Agnes Larkcom, Kate Loder, C. A. Macirone, Marian McKenzie, Julia Neilson, Charlotte Sainton-Dolby, Clara Samuell, Charlotte Thudichum, Alwina Valleria, Maude Valérie White, Hilda Wilson, Edith Wynne, and Agnes Zimmerman; H. C. Banister, Joseph Barnby, John Francis Barnett, G. J. Bennett, William Sterndale Bennett, Henry Blagrove, Philip Brozel, Frederick Corder, William G. Cusins, Ben Davies, Eaton Faning, Edward German, C. H. Allen Gill, Thomas Harper, W. H. Holmes, John Hullah, Charles Lucas, George A. Macfarren, Walter Macfarren, Alexander C. Mackenzie, Arthur O'Leary, Brinley Richards, William Shakespeare, Charles Steggall, Arthur Sullivan, Arthur Goring Thomas, John Thomas, Frederick Westlake, Thomas Wingham, Henry J. Wood, &c.

ROSHERVILLE FETE AND GALA.

The hon. directors of the Fête and Gala at Rosherville Gardens last week and the Committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution desire to express, through these columns, their deep sense of gratitude to one and all of those who in any way assisted. Special thanks are due to all the following "star" artists who, despite the gloomy elements, journeyed down to keep faith with the Gravesend public:—G. H. Chirgwin, Charles Coborn, Alexandra Dagmar, Marie Blythe, Gertie Gitana, Constance Moxon, Florrie Forde, Andy Burn, Harry Wright, Ross and Grayson, Maidie Scott, Tally Ho Trio, Fred Greville, Adele Levey, Dolly Harmer, Gilbert Girard, Jessie Albini, Edwin Barwick, Elsa Joel, Walter Norman, Pat Carey, Florrie Robina, and Prof. Astley. Mr. Pat Carey as stage manager could not have done his work better, and kept to his post the whole of the day.

Mr. Harry Blake, the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, at no little inconvenience came expressly up from Brighton, where he was appearing, to render assistance; while Mr. Jack Straw, although in bad health, travelled all the way from Peterborough to supervise his castle, and hurried back again to appear at the local Hippodrome at night. One manager at least who may be justly styled "the artists' friend," Mr. Harry Bawn, became for the nonce an "assistant," and insisted upon everyone he could find entering his "Magic Caves."

Among the stewards were: Lieut. Albini, Jack Collinson, Bernard Stavordale, Harry Wright, T. C. Callaghan, Jack Straw, Harry Blake, and Pat Carey. Amongst other helpers who must not be forgotten are Mrs. Woodrow, who for weeks past has worked like a Trojan, telephoning and telegraphing every hour, and running messages incessantly, and Mr. Busbridge, a local gentleman, who gave much valuable assistance, and who did not mind what trouble he took for the cause. Mr. Edward Swift, the manager of the Gardens, kindly placed everything possible at the disposal of the organisers, and the Press, both professional and local, were very generous in regard to their space. Mr. Jack Collinson deserves warm praise for his representation of Maria Martin, which caused unbounded laughter, and was ably backed up by his dramatic company.

In brief, the Hon. Directors would shake everyone who assisted by the hand, and fervently say "Thank you."

During the afternoon the following telegram was received from Joe Elvin, the founder of the institution, who, to his deep regret, could not be present owing to illness:—"Regret owing to indisposition unable to appear. Have sent doctor's certificate. Sorry to disappoint, but impossible to play. Best wishes, Joe Elvin."

Mr. Fred Herbert, Chairman of the Committees, M.H.A.R.A. and V.A.B. Fund kindly sent the following wire from Birmingham:—"Best wishes for successful day. Good luck.—Herbert."

Other telegrams were as follows:—"Joe Elvin,—God bless your efforts, dear old boy.—Fred Willes, Clacton-on-Sea."

"Weather too bad to appear in the open.—Lil Hawthorne."

"Rush of business, impossible to come. Cheque follows.—Herbert Shelley."

"Regret cannot be with you. Wish best success. Do everybody happy.—Harry Brown, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea."

"Greatly regret too hoarse to sing to-day. Very sore throat. Best wishes for success.—Katie Cohen."

Mr. Harry Tate, the President of the V.A. Benevolent Fund, motored down, and although he was unable to perform, was to be seen busily paying out at the fairground and elsewhere, and visiting all the side-shows.

The following is a list of the amounts collected in the bricks for sale of programmes, flowers, postcards, &c. Considering the incessant downpour it must be reckoned as a good result, and the best thanks of the organisers are due to all the ladies who worked so hard under such miserable conditions, including especially the members of the Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild:—Miss Indiana Smythson, £1 16s. 3d.; Miss Dora Challoner, £1 13s. 8d.; Miss Elsie Athas, 19s.; Misses Amy and Jessie Denton, 15s. 6½d.; Mrs. Bartram (sale of mirrors), 13s. 2d.; Miss Jessie Smith, 10s. 3½d.; Mrs. Minnie Priddle, 10s. 2d.; Miss Kathleen Rayburn, 9s. 1d.; Mrs. Smythson, 8s.; Miss Elsa Joel, 7s. 2½d.; Miss Olga May, 6s. 1½d.; J. Brooklyn, 5s. 10d.; Mrs. Fawkes, 5s. 8½d.; Miss Florrie Robina, 5s. 1d.; miscellaneous amounts in unnamed boxes and amounts under 5s., £5 15s. 2½d; total, £14 19s. 3½d.

The Star Palace, Partick (Glasgow), has been successfully inaugurated by Mr. Gus Lazenberg, who has been rejoicing in great audiences during the week, the card "House full" being displayed nightly.

Electric Theatre for York.

Messrs. Richardson and Trotter, auctioneers, of Lendal, York, have negotiated, on behalf of the National Electric Theatres, Ltd., the purchase of a site in Fossgate, York, for the erection of an electric theatre. Plans have been prepared by Mr. W. T. Whincup, architect, of York, and the same have been approved by the Streets and Buildings Committee of the Corporation. The whole of the seating accommodation will be on the ground floor, and the façade of the building is of an ornamental character. It is proposed to open the new theatre early in September, and the entertainment will comprise the most up-to-date cinematograph pictures.

MUSIC HALL COMPETITION AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Crystal Palace Theatre has been well filled for the last week, and a spirited competition for a prize for the best music hall turn, inaugurated by the management of the Empire Pageant, has drawn together a varied assemblage of amateurs, semi-professionals, and professionals.

Each night the weeding-out process has been going on, and last Saturday witnessed the final heats of the competition, when nine turns presented themselves for the vote of the public, and a most amusing evening resulted. The first turn was given by Mr. Herbert Godfrey, the popular conductor of the Crystal Palace Band, who in a street scene and in the garb of a policeman skilfully rendered solos on trombone, French horn, baritone, and cornet, supplementing this clever performance with a really excellent display of his ability in sketching accurate portraits of celebrities on sheets of obscured glass, evolving the portrait by the process of scraping away the surface until an excellent result was obtained. His performances were greeted with genuine rounds of applause.

Turn No. 2 was "Mr. Black," a baritone singer of sea songs, with a voice of pleasing quality, but whose performance would have been improved by a little more action, but his voice secured him a hearty encore.

The Brothers Uno, who next appeared, gave a remarkable example of simultaneous clog-dancing, and, without the aid of any special costume or get-up, simply brought down the house by their perfect dancing, which appeared all the more remarkable when given by two ordinary individuals in their work-a-day clothes.

"Miss Cinda," low comedienne, infused any amount of go into two songs of the Ada Lundberg or Vesta Victoria type, but her reception was hardly as good as she deserved, perhaps because of the somewhat broad tendency of her humour.

The Four Jarrattis were four young gentlemen attired in the mess dress of officers and sitting at a discussion of the coming production of a regimental concert, but as only one of their number could really sing we do not think that their contribution as a whole would be very valuable.

The next turn, "Little Kathleen English," described as "a pocket Vesta Tilley," was a little lady of certainly not more than nine or ten summers, but whose singing and deportment showed the highest training, and her two songs were rapturously received; her winks and gestures in the rendition of "All the nice girls love a sailor" were a revelation, and it is no wonder that the applause accorded to her stopped the performance for some time.

Miss Winnie Heal was an intelligent child reciter, but it is a pity that both her selections were to the sombre side. However, she received a full meed of applause from the audience.

The Brothers Sperryn made a bold bid for popularity as simultaneous dancers and back-talkers, and although excellent from an amateur standpoint, they failed to get home with the audience.

The last turn was the Brothers Wix, two genuine seaside or racecourse "nigger serenaders," and certainly their performance went with a swing and some of their wheezes smacked of novelty, but they represented a taste that is now well-nigh gone, and although very deserving, they did not score heavily.

The judging was really by the measure of applause received by each artist at the hands of the audience, and Mr. Charles Baker, who had throughout acted as introducer and referee, announced the results, which were very much to the liking of all concerned. Miss Kathleen English was undoubtedly first favourite, and received the prize of £3 3s. and an engagement for this week at a salary of £4 4s. Mr. Herbert Godfrey was second favourite, but the reward of £2 2s. was handed to the Uno Brothers, a decision which seemed to please everybody. A special prize of 10s. 6d. was awarded to the Brothers Wix, and a splendid box of chocolates was handed to Miss Winnie Heal.

The success of this competition has been so great that the management announce another to begin on July 20, which no doubt will cause even more attention than the present one.

Friends of Miss Madge Brownie will be pleased to hear she has recovered from her serious attack of appendicitis, and will resume her work at Boscombe on Aug. 1.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the L.C.C. on Tuesday approved of the drawings of the proposed electric and gas lighting installations at the Finsbury Park Empire.

Black Bros.' Outing.

Last Sunday, July 10, the staffs of the various halls controlled by Black Bros. met and journeyed by rail to the picturesque spot of Barnard Castle, where a most enjoyable day was spent. Sports formed part of the day's programme, many interesting events taking place for numerous valuable prizes. It was a glorious day, and during the afternoon a drive around the countryside proved very enjoyable. This enterprising firm are now running the Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool; Black's Palace, Gateshead; Tivoli, High Shields; and Black's Picture Hall, Sunderland; and on August Bank Holiday will be opened the very elaborately constructed theatre at North Shields, which will bear the same title as the old theatre that was burned down some time ago—viz., The Borough Theatre.

A VARIETY ARTIST'S FATE.

A ghastly murder, of which a once popular member of the variety profession is believed to be the victim, has been revealed this week. The police have little doubt that some human remains which have been discovered in the coal-cellar of 39, Hilldrop-crescent are those of Miss Belle Elmore, a music-hall artist. Mrs. Cora Crippen, otherwise Belle Elmore, an American lady, was married some years ago in New Jersey to an American doctor named Hawley Harvey Crippen, alias Peter Crippen, alias Franckle, who for some years represented Munyon's Remedies in London, was connected with the Drouet Institute, and has latterly carried on a dental business at Albion House, New Oxford-street, as the Yale Tooth Specialist. Mrs. Crippen was a very charming lady, and was very popular in the music-hall world, and was honorary secretary to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

For the past four years they have resided, apparently very happily, at 39, Hilldrop Crescent, Holloway. On Feb. 2 last Crippen circulated a report that Mrs. Crippen had left for America to transact business. Later on he said he had received intelligence from America that she was seriously ill with pneumonia, and later still that she was dead, and had been cremated near San Francisco, and that the ashes were on the way to him.

Although her friends were not satisfied with Crippen's story, they did not inform the police until June 30 last, when a lady and gentleman friend of hers came to New Scotland Yard and gave information as to her mysterious disappearance to Superintendent Froest and Chief-Inspector Dew. Every possible inquiry was made by the latter, who, not being satisfied as to Mrs. Crippen's death, interviewed Crippen, who admitted that all his former stories were incorrect; that he had had a quarrel with his wife, who had gone away, saying that she should never see him again, and he believed she had gone to America.

On Saturday last Crippen and Miss Le Neve, whom he had told people he had married, disappeared together about one p.m. Chief Inspector Dew, with Sergeant Mitchell, continued the inquiry, made a thorough examination of the house and garden, and on Wednesday afternoon determined to make a still further examination of the garden and house.

In making a close examination of the cellar, and probing the brick floor, they found that they could move the bricks in some parts easier than in others, and decided to dig the whole cellar up, with the result that the inspector, after digging some little distance down, came across what was evidently a portion of a human body, and later on the mutilated remains of a body were found. He communicated these facts to New Scotland Yard, when Sir Melville Macnaghten and Superintendent Froest attended and viewed the remains.

Additional details are; that early in February, the following letter from 39, Hilldrop-crescent, but undated, was received by the Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild:

Dear Friends,—Please forgive me a hasty letter and any inconvenience I may cause you, but I have just had news of the illness of a near relative, and at only a few hours' notice I am obliged to go to America.

Under the circumstances, I cannot return for several months, and I therefore beg you to accept this as a formal resigning from this date of the honorary treasurership of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

I am enclosing the cheque-book and the deposit-book for the immediate use of my successor, and to save any delay I beg to suggest you should vote to suspend the usual rules of election and elect to-day a new treasurer.

I hope some months later to be with you, and in the meantime wish the guild every success, and I ask my good friends and pals to accept my sincere and loving wishes for their own personal welfare.—Believe me, yours faithfully,

Belle Ellmore.

Suspicion was aroused in regard to this letter by the fact that the name "Ellmore" was spelt with two "l's," whereas Mrs. Crippen always signed her name to letters and cheques with one "l." It is believed that the letter was a forgery.

Also, a notice of Mrs. Crippen's death appeared in the obituary columns of *The Era* of March 26 last. It was worded:—

Elmore.—March 23, in California, U.S.A., Miss Belle Elmore (Mrs. H. H. Crippen).

We were rather inclined to query the notice at the time it was handed in to us, the reason being that we thought we recollected seeing Miss Elmore with some of her friends just a few weeks previously in the office. Still we were not quite sure, but we had the notice endorsed at the back in the usual way by the person handing it in.

All railway stations, docks, and outgoing ships are being watched, and the police are doing all that is possible to arrest Crippen and his companion.

Miss Melinda May, the secretary of the Music Hall Artists' Guild, says of Miss Elmore:—"She was a bright, bonny, and beautiful woman, of sweet disposition, and worked very hard for the Guild. We first became suspicious that there was a mystery attached to her supposed departure for California when we received the letter on Feb. 2, purporting to come from Mrs. Crippen herself, asking me to put someone in her place, because she wished to resign. It was not her handwriting."

Miss May mentioned the strange fact that at the annual dinner of the Music Hall Railway Associations on Feb. 28 Mr. Crippen appeared with his typist, who was very showily dressed. "It was noticed by the majority of our members, who were somewhat startled, that she was wearing a handsome sealskin coat similar to one which had been worn by the deceased, and even then we did not look so much at her fine clothes as at a beautiful brooch she was wearing, which was exactly like a piece of jewellery worn by Mrs. Crippen.

"At the dinner the typist sat at his right hand, and later in the evening Mr. Crippen danced with her. It was given out in some quarters that the typist was his wife."

The annual outing of the employees of the Metropolitan took place on Sunday last. The party journeyed to Weston-super-Mare, lunch and dinner being provided in a specially engaged saloon car.

The new Aberdeen Tivoli when it opens on Monday next will be under the management of Mr. Walter Gilbert, late of the Aberdeen Palace, which re-opens the same day, after extensive alterations, with Mr. Percy H. Gallagher as manager.

Opening of New Picture Theatre at Maidenhead.

On a site immediately adjoining the Pavilion Pleasure Gardens a commodious and handsomely-furnished building has been erected by Messrs. Boyle Lawrence and Frederick Mouillot. The show will be continuous from 2.30 to 11 p.m., Mr. Nowne being the resident-manager, and the films being supplied by the London Cinematograph Company. The building is of brick and iron, covered with a preparation of stone; it is lighted and ventilated by electricity, and warmed by gas radiators. Tip-up accommodation is provided for 500, while the prices range from 3d. to 1s.; each series of pictures will last for an hour and a quarter. On the occasion of the opening, Saturday, July 9, the venture was well patronised, with a continuous full house. The pictures, which are to be changed twice a week, include Saturday in Maidenhead High-street, Ascot Sunday at Boulter's, Henley Regatta, Funeral of King Edward VII., and The Rice Industry in Japan.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 18.

As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Berry.
Black Mask, The.—Star T., Liverpool.
Candida.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Catch of the Season.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Country Girl in London.—T. R., Aston.
Diana of Dobson's.—Llandudno and Harrogate.
D'Oyly Carte.—Scarborough.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—Met. T., Manchester.
East Lynne.—T. R. Sunderland.
Eve of Her Wedding.—King's T., Manchester.
Fast Life.—Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
Fatal Wedding.—W. G. T., Morecambe.
Florodora (Constant).—Southampton.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Her Fatal Past.—Crown T., Eccles.
Her Fatal Marriage.—T. R., St. Helens.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., South Shields.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Clonmel.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Morecambe.
Love of the Princess.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Marsh, Alexander.—Star T., Swansea.
Maude, Winifred.—Grand T., Stockton.
Midnight Mail.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Ramsgate and Walmer.
Mummy and the Humming Bird.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
My Irish Molly.—New Washington.
New Boy.—Grand T., Blackpool.
No Mother to Guide Her.—T. R., Sheffield.
Raynor's Repertoire Co.—Empire T., Ashton.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Stockport.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., Stratford.
Under Two Flags.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
When it was Dark.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Where is William?—Yarmouth.
Wilkie Allan.—O. H., Buxton.
Woman of Two Lives.—Junction T., Manchester.
Woman's Past.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Wrecker of Men.—Court T., Wigan.

MUSIC HALL SPORTS.

The names of entrants and their handicaps in four events of the Sports on Thursday next are given hereunder. The complete list had not reached us up to the time of going to press:—

120 YARDS HANDICAP.

	Yards.
H. T. Rennior	5
W. Walker	5
Bert Earle	5
John Earle	5
H. Anderson	5
Bert Wallace	5
George Piercy	5
E. Stanley Yorke	5
Fred Morrisy	5
Luis Hardt	5
Ralph Stanley	5
Ray Stanley	5
Rex Gresham	6
Roland Adair	6
James Agustin	6
A. J. Oswick	6½
Andy Clark	7
George Clarke, jun.	7
Jack Hurst	7
E. Leslie	7
Ted Waite	7
Sam Mayo	7
Clito Clifford	8
Ted Cowan	8½
D. M. H. Hoffman	8½
Fred Larola	9
Wilson Hallett	9
Dusty Rhodes	9
Fred Laurel	9½
George Clark, sen.	10
Mike Asher	10
Victor Kelly	10
Harry Tate	10
Bert Burnell	11
W. L. Murray	11
Sam De Wynne	11½
Thomas Wighany	12
Harry Bancroft	12
Harry Ford	12½
Bert Brantford	14
Little Ganty	15
Syd May	15
Frank Sauteron	15

120 YARDS HURDLES.

	Yards.
James Agusti ..... owes	6
H. J. Rennior ..... owes	2
Chas. Teitor ..... owes	2
Bert Earle ..... owes	2
Frank Sauteron	scr.
Luis Hardt	scr.
Sam Mayo	2½
Bert Brantford	2½
George Clarke, jun.	2½
Tom McKay	3
Fred Laurel	3
F. Dunlo Shelley	5
Harry Ford	5½
D. M. H. Hoffman	6
Ronald Adair	6
Artie Oswick	6
Bob Olrac	6
Ted Waite	6
Ted Cowan	6½
Victor Kelly	8
Jack Hurst	8

Harry Tate, Dusty Rhodes, Wilson Hallet owe 10 hurdles.

MANAGERS' 100 YARDS.

	Yards.
Bert Womack	scr.
Artie Oswick	1
W. L. Murray	5
Jack Cohen	8
C. Foster Marner	8
Ernie Lepard	8
Harold Jeaps	8
B. G. Maclachlan	10
A. L. Williams	10
Geo. E. Wright	10
Harry Bawn	12
H. A. Sprake	12
Charles F. Reed	12
W. H. Boardman	14

Harry Tate, Sam Mayo, Wilson Hallett, Dusty Rhodes, Harry Ford, Ted Waite owe confirmations.

AGENTS' 100 YARDS.

	Yards.
Harry Leat	scr.
H. Sheen	2
Lewis Lewis	4
Tom Pacey	8
Syd. Smith	8
Paul Murray	10
Harry Bawn	12
Papa Brown	20

Ted Waite, Harry Ford, Sam Mayo, Dusty Rhodes, Wilson Hallett, Harry Tate owe 10 per cent.

"Rayne's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving and affectionate memory of our only and beloved Daughter Jeannie,
the sunshine of our lives,
Who passed peacefully away,
Friday, July 16, 1909,
aged 18.
Deeply mourned and sadly missed by her sorrowing Father and Mother,
Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie.

THE LATE MISS JEANNIE BODIE.

God hath called away our only girl,
Placed our bud amongst His flowers;
Taken back the one He lent us
To a better home than ours.

We loved her—yes, no tongue can tell
How much we loved her and how well.
God loved her, too, and He thought best
To take our Darling home to rest.

A precious one from us has gone;
A voice we loved is stilled;
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.

The Angel of Death did enter our home
And bore our dear loved one away.
The chair that she filled in bygone days
Is sadly empty to-day.

Gone, dear daughter, much we miss thee;
No dear form like thine is near,
No kind word to soothe or comfort,
None like thine our hearts to cheer.

Oh, God, how mystic are Thy ways—
To spare the frail and old,
And take away the beautiful—
The choicest of the fold.

In loving and affectionate memory of our dearly beloved Sister, Marie Walford Henry Bodie (Mystic Marie), who died July 19, 1905, sadly missed by her loving and devoted sister and brother, Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie.

THE LATE MYSTIC MARIE.
(Miss Marie Walford.)

Time cannot blot you from our minds
As the days and years pass by,
When we stand at your graveside, sister,
And look on the place where you lie.

Sweet be thy rest, thy memory dear.
'Tis sweet to breathe thy name.
In life we loved you very dear;
In death we do the same.

W. B.

The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

Byeways of Byron.

Mr. Gilbart-Smith's picture-play, The Byeways of Byron, which was witnessed by so many people early in the season, will be given every day at the Piccadilly-circus Cinematograph Theatre, Great Windmill-street, at four o'clock, and at the Oxford-street Cinematograph Theatre at seven o'clock. Many interesting pictures, never before published, and the actual scenes which inspired "Childe Harold" illustrate the libretto. The play goes to Edinburgh in August.

History of a Sardine Sandwich.

The management of the Bath Electric Theatre continue to present first-rate picture entertainments. An interesting and educational film recently shown is entitled the History of a Sardine Sandwich, which deals with the whole process of tinning sardines from the time when they are caught. Another interesting film is a most graphic reproduction of a performance by the Ramon Garcia Troupe of gymnasts. There is an exceptionally clear film of that celebrated fairy tale "Little Snow White," which is well taken, and should especially appeal to the younger element. Two humorous films are entitled Foolshead Tries Somersaults and Poor Pa Pays Again, while Grandfather's Heart is a tale of love with the usual happy ending.

The Choice of Tyres

It is a singular thing that a man will spend six months choosing a car, and grudge six minutes to choosing the tyres for it. This is rather short-sighted, for tyre troubles are quite equal to car troubles, and tyre bills to car bills. Moreover, there is always a BEST somewhere. If by taking thought you can add a few hundred miles to your present tyre mileage, is it not worth the thinking? Our suggestion to you is that you co lect a little evidence about

"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE."

There are many ways, but the quickest is to

specify

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

OSBORNE.—July 11, at 31, Ridgmount-gardens, Gower-street, the wife of Oscar Osborne, solicitor, professionally known as Lottie Albert, of a daughter.

SCENER.—July 8, at Leipzig, to Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Scener (Scener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian Troupe), a boy.

MARRIAGES.

LORENZO—FLORADORA.—By licence, at Gravesend, July 13, Fred Lorenzo (Astley's Circus) to Miss Ivy Floradora (Floradora Girls). Thanks for congratulations and flowers.

STOKER-SWEETING.—Recently, at St. Andrew's, Ashley-gardens, S.W., Noel Irving Stoker, son of Mr. Bram Stoker, and godson of the late Sir Henry Irving, to Miss Nellie Deane Sweeting, younger daughter of Dr. Deane Sweeting.

DEATHS.

ASHLEY.—July 4, 1910, at 21, Royston-street, Liverpool, Charles Milton Ashley, late proprietor Ashley team of skaters. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, Lina Ashley.

DUBOURG.—July 8, at The Mount, Wilton, Salisbury, Augustus W. Dubourg, late Chief Clerk of the Judicial Office, House of Lords, and dramatist, aged 80.

IZARD.—July 11, at Kingsgate, Kent, Alfred Edward Izard, pianist and Professor of the R.A.M., of Telford-avenue, Streatham Hill, aged 47. Interment at Brookwood Cemetery to-day.

TROLLOPE.—May 31, at Sydney, N.S. Wales, Frederick James Anthony Trollope, son of the late Anthony Trollope, novelist.

WILLIAMS.—July 9, Tom Williams, stage-manager of the Theatre Warrington, passed away. Will be missed by many. Gone, but not forgotten.

IN MEMORIAM.

BLANDE.—In memory of my mother, Mrs. S. A. Blande, who died July 15, 1901.—EDITH.

COOKE.—In loving memory of my darling husband, Steve Cooke, who departed this life July 14, 1909. Never forgotten by his loving wife, Mrs. Steve Cooke, Peggotty's Hut, Gorleston-on-Sea. His rest is peace.

HARGREAVES.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Marcella Hargreaves, who passed away July 11, 1908. Sadly missed by her sons, WILLIAM, ROBERT, and JAMES.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Ada Blanche—Saturday, July 16.
Conway Wingfield—Saturday, July 16.
Evelyn De Worms—Saturday, July 16.
Joseph O'Mara—Saturday, July 16.
Will Sley—Saturday, July 16.
May Korrie—Saturday, July 16.
Armando Caicedo—Saturday, July 16.
E. A. W. Abadaroff—Saturday, July 16.
Frank Percival—Saturday, July 16.
Arthur W. Howard—Saturday, July 16.
Herr Fritz—Saturday, July 16.
Minnie Jeffs—Sunday, July 17.
Florrie Robina—Sunday, July 17.
Ada Brogden—Sunday, July 17.
Tom Edwards—Sunday, July 17.
Marjory Armstrong—Sunday, July 17.
Wilton Friend—Sunday, July 17.
Victor Knight—Sunday, July 17.
Cecil Clayton—Monday, July 18.
Mrs. Austin Melford—Monday, July 18.
Queenie Leighton—Monday, July 18.
Gracie Clements—Monday, July 18.
Charles Pierpoint—Monday, July 18.
Peggy Pryde—Tuesday, July 19.
H. Cooper Cliffe—Tuesday, July 19.
Lizzie Norman—Tuesday, July 19.
Nellie Gannon—Tuesday, July 19.
Norman Yates—Tuesday, July 19.
Datas—Wednesday, July 20.
Clara Wieland—Wednesday, July 20.
John Henry Savile—Wednesday, July 20.
Miss Beattie Shamrock—Wednesday, July 20.
J. Warwick Moore—Thursday, July 21.
C. Aubrey Smith—Thursday, July 21.
Little Tich—Thursday, July 21.
Frank A. Wood—Thursday, July 21.
Flo Elvin—Thursday, July 21.
J. P. Lallen—Thursday, July 21.
Freddie Bentley—Thursday, July 21.
Gus Elen—Friday, July 22.
Haldane Crichton—Friday, July 22.
Robb Gilmore—Friday, July 22.
Leoni Clarke—Friday, July 22.
Florence Marston—Friday, July 22.
Frederic Robinson—Friday, July 22.
M. Gordon Ebbutt—Friday, July 22
H. Evan Gibbon—Friday, July 22.
Marie Scharning—Friday, July 22.
Wallie Kaufman—Friday, July 22.
A. E. George—Friday, July 22.

A FEW days ago an amusing incident occurred at the Trocadéro, Paris. M. Henri Maréchal's magnificent cantata, "Chant de Fête" was being performed, the orchestra, chorus, and soli comprising 1,100 performers. The huge hall was packed with people, and the chorus consisted of children belonging to the Paris public schools. These children—whose ages varied from twelve to fourteen—had been carefully trained, and at rehearsals a piano, of course, had replaced the orchestra. The opening bars of the work are played by the trumpets, a fact of which the children unfortunately were not aware. And when the brass instruments suddenly started their terrific din it gave many of the youngsters such a shock that they had to be promptly removed from the hall.

AT Woodbridge Petty Sessions recently an application was made by Mr. George Walter Curtis, manager of the Weights Theatre of Varieties Company, under the Theatres Act, 1843, for a licence for the performance of stage plays in a portable building to be erected on a meadow in the Avenue, Woodbridge, for the space of three months. The applicant stated that the entertainments would consist of dramas and comedies. He had already had three licences granted him, and was now located at Saxmundham. Mr. Skinner and Mr. J. Cole had consented to be his two bondsmen. The building would seat about 550 to 600 people, and there was sufficient number of doors in the buildings to allow it in case of necessity to be cleared in 1½ minutes. There would not be any Sunday performances, and no liquor would be allowed to be taken on the premises. Replying to the Bench, Mr. Curtis said there was no vulgarism in the dancing and singing, which were part of the contents bill submitted to the Bench. After a retirement of about a quarter of an hour, the Chairman said the Bench would like further references as to the performances, and in order to ascertain the feeling of the residents of the town they would adjourn the application for a fortnight.

FRIENDS of little Molly Shiells, the clever child actress, who made such a success of Nellie in Ramsey and De Cordova's sketch *The Organ Grinder*, will be sorry to learn that a month ago she was compelled to relinquish the part whilst playing at Olympia, Liverpool, owing to an attack of appendicitis. She was taken to the children's infirmary there and operated upon immediately. The case being a very serious one, there was grave danger for some days, but we are glad to learn that she is now going on splendidly, and hopes to be able to resume her old part of Europena, which she has played for two and a half years, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, in the autumn.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

H. B.—*Write and inquire of the various Play Societies.*

G. B.—*No. Apply to French, Limited, 26, Southampton-street, Strand.*

KATE.—*The Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, was burned down June 30, 1884.*

J. B. SPENCER.—The Seven Poor Travellers, *by J. B. Johnstone, was played at the Surrey Theatre.*

M. P.—Charley's Aunt *was produced at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, Feb. 29, 1892.*

V. B. M. M.—*It was at the Shaftesbury Theatre on April 12, 1898, that Miss Edna May made her first appearance on the London stage in* The Belle of New York.

BUTTERCUP.—*The policeman's song is in* The Pirates of Penzance; *the "Ruler of the Queen's Navee" in* Pinafore; *the Sentry's song in* Iolanthe; *the "Very Intense Young Man," Patience; and "The Merry Man and the Maid,"* The Yeomen of the Guard.

G. L.—*Sheridan Knowles's five-act comedy of* Old Maids *was produced at the Covent Garden Theatre on Oct. 12, 1841. In the cast were Messrs. Charles Mathews, Harley, G. Vandenhoff, Wigan, Walter Lacy, Mme. Vestris, and Mrs. Nisbett.*

J. A. W. (Shepherd's Bush).—*Consult our advertising columns for the names of publishers. Either Messrs. Francis and Day or Mr. B. Feldman might be able to arrange for a melody if they think the verse and the subject good enough to put to music. You might submit a copy of songs you have written to a music hall comedian at your local variety theatre. Keep copies of your verses.*

A. J. C.—*Some members of the Savoy Company recently concerned with revivals of Gilbert-Sullivan opera at that house are now with the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company on tour—this week at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth—among them being Mr. H. A. Lytton and Miss Beatrice Boarer. Miss Elsie Spain is at the Apollo; and Miss Dorothy Court has just returned from Australia. Of the lady you mention we know nothing. Try Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Savoy Hotel, Strand, W.C.*

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON'S "Little Theatre" is progressing steadily, and she hopes to be able to open it in October. Miss Kingston proposes to produce a new piece on the first Tuesday of every month, so as to have always something to fall back upon. Of course, the run of a successful production will not be interrupted, but Miss Kingston hopes to thus acquire a stock of plays on which public approval has been pronounced.

BENGER'S

FOR ACTORS, ACTRESSES, VOCALISTS AND ATHLETES.

When fatigued or overstrung, the first refreshment should be Benger's Food, because all exceptional physical effort and nervous strain causes a temporary lowering of the digestive capacity, just when Food is required as a pick-me-up.

It is unwise then to take ordinary food, and stimulants should be doubly avoided, Benger's Food is, however, just what is required to revive from fatigue, to give immediate nourishment, and to tone up the system in readiness for ordinary food.

Benger's is the lightest and daintiest of foods; it is also the most digestible and most highly nutritious.

It should be made with new milk strictly in accordance with the directions contained on each tin.

Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere.

3 365

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Miss Maud
Anderson, Miss Mary
Anderson, Mr. Dallas
Anderton and Rowland, Messrs.
Arliss, Mr. George
Arthur, Mr. George
Bannister, Mr. Walter
Bantock, Mr. L.
Barker, Mrs. G.
Barth, Mr. Cecil
Bartlett's Circus
Bavista, Herr Da
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Benson, Mr. F. R.
Bergeron, Mrs.
Bolder, Mr. Robt.
Broadbridge, Mr. Claud
Brough, Mr. Lawrence
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Carter, Mr. D.
Casey, Mr. Claud
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia
Chalmers, Mr. Kendal
Chambers, Miss
Claff, Mr. Harry
Cook, Mr. Albert
Cotton, Mr. Wilfred
Court, Mr. F.
Currie, Mr. Byden
Darewski, Mr. A. E.
Davins, Mrs.
Davis, Mr Tom
De Gracia, Mrs. B.
De Winton, Miss Dora
Douglas, Mr. George
Drury, Miss Lily
Ellis, Mr. Guy P.
Ellis, Mr. Walter
Evant, Mr. Stephen
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Francis, Mr. C.
Friedman, Mr. Harry
Garland, Miss Fanny
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. A. F.
Gittins, Mr. E. C. H.
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Gray, Mr. Cecil
Grey, Miss Marion
Griffiths, Mr. W. H.
Grundy, Mr. S.
Harveston, Mr. George
Hast, Mr. Walter
Haverley, Mr. C. E.
Hortopp, Mr. A. W.
Howard, Mr. W.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
John, Mr. Arthur
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirk, Miss Florence
Kirk, Mr. G.
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Latham, Miss J.
Lecard, Brothers
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Lestrade, Mr. Sid
Levey and Cardwell
Lewis, Mr. G.
Lloyd, Mr. James
Lukushima Troupe
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Mannikins, The
Marco, Mr.
Marshall, Miss M.
Martin, Miss Edie
Martin, Mr. Leslie
Martino, Madame
Maude, Miss Alice
Mayke, Mr. T.
M'Call-Chambers, Mr.
McDermott, Miss Ouida
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Melton, Miss Irene
Merlin, Mr. Jack
Michel Brothers
Mitchell, Miss Ada
Morgan, Mr. King
Morris, Miss Lily
Mundell, Mr. F.
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Nord, Miss Serene
Pauli, Mr. E. G.
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Petley, Mr. Ed.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Proveanie, Miss Edie
Ray, Miss Belle
Raynor and Esto
Richmond, Mr. Arthur
Rigby, Mr. Arthur
Romanos Trio
Roy, Miss Elsie
Russell, Miss Freda
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Samson, Mrs.
Saxionas, The
Schartz, Mrs. Louis
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Seymour, Mr. Edwin
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Simmonette, Mr. Harry
Stapley, Mr. Kenneth G.
Stewart, Miss Lilly
Sullivan, Mr. L.
Sutcliff, Mr. J. Mellor
Swanborough, Mr. H.
Symonds, Mr. A.
Tarong, Mr. Harry
Temple, Miss Marie
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Tower, Mr. Allen
Wade, Mr. Stanley
Walsh, Mr. J. Fenton
Ward, Mr. Hugh
Warne, Miss O.
Westwood, Mr.
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss May
Winona
Wood, Mr. W.
Young, Mr. Ted
Zola, Master J.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Telegrams, Impresario, London.
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, Theatre Royal, Melbourne, Australia; Mr. Arthur de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Messrs. Fernandez and Paine, New York. Address, 34, Malden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
Paid up £200,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1236 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

Admitted by the Profession to be the most Valuable Remedy ever discovered.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE
The Original and Only Genuine, is the best-known remedy for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM IN DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, AND DYSENTERY, and
Effectually cuts short all attacks of Spasms.
The only palliative in NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.
None genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.
Convincing Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

TRADE MARK. No. 314,135.
Velvet Grip Compress
Registered Trade Mark No. 204004.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England. (Patent No. 16388/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Mr. EDMUND PAYNE
and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Summer Variety Season.
Twice nightly, at 7 and 9.
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
New Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
ETHEL LEVEY, Schichtl's Marionettes, Molly Malone, The Uessems, Merlin, The Royal Colibris, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"HULLO! PEOPLE."
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
LYDIA KYASHT
in New Series of DANCE IDYLLS.
"EAST AND WEST."
Geo. Mozart, Petit Roberto, Emerson and Baldwin, Mazuz and Mazetto, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson and Clark, &c. Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Arthur Prince, Barclay, Gammon, Bert Levy, Merian's Canine Actors, Henley on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—"Concordia," by Percy Honri and Co., Wee Georgie Wood, Madge Temple, Gipsy Woolf and Co., Chirgwin, Winifred Ward, The Seven Bramusas, Harry Bedford, Gertie Gitana, Kelly and Agnes, O'Gorman Bros., Hayman and Franklin, Flo Esdaile, Les Marbas, Marie Reeve, Frank Maura, H. Nelson, Spalding and Riego, Bioscope.
Open 7.20. Saturday matinés at 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—CARRIE MOORE, THE DUMONDS. THE TWO BOBS, Roland Bottomley, Fred Elton, Duncan and Godfrey, Ernest Rees, Mary Law, Clarice Mayne, Herbert Clifton, Gladys Huxley, Milt Wood, Vera Saunders, Rosie Lloyd, Wallace Lupino, Meredith Meredro, and Hall and Earle.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly,
at 6.40
and 9.10.
May Fayre, Fred Elton, Corina Sisters, Harry Bedford, Fred Karno's Co. ("Mr. Justice Perkins"), Ray Wallace, Five Whiteleys, Little Zola, Lily Burnand, Alice Yorke and Co., Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Wild, Willie, and West, Harry Grey, Bros. Bright, Bertha Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning in "Our Wedding Anniversary," Maude Courtney, Mr. C., Evelyn Taylor, Leonard Teel, Ruffell's Bioscope, Lennie and Hast and Co. in "The Maid of Polaria."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Monday, G. H. Chirgwin, Tom Moore, Bioscope, the Wyffs, Fred Thomas (the street singer), Renee Dey, Will Challiner, Grimson Naylor and Phyllis Dailley and Co., in "Knocked Out," Fred Karno's Co., in "Mumming Birds," Paul Cavalle. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, July 18.
Fred Karno's "Skating," Sadie Stuart, John Bennett, Zelini, Charles Erard, Three Videos, Johnny Danvers, Bioscope, the Maxims, Davis and Peake, "Swashbuckler."
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, July 18, Graeme Campbell and Co., Marie Collins, Martin Adeson and Co., Joe Archer, Crown Trio, C. Cardigan and Co., The Miller Sutcliffes, Kitty Arnold, Elsie Denby, Mundille and Maude, Glen and Earle, Fred Durban, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Open 7.30. Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32 REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.
Founded in 1867.
Committee Meetings second Wednesday in the month at 4 p.m.
Sick Payments—£1 for 6d. per week, £1 10s. for 9d. per week. £10 paid to nearest relative on death of member. President, Mr. FRED KARNO. Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Brisco and T. Carney. Trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings, Jesse Sparrow, and Douglas White; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; Treasurer, Mr. Pat Carey; Secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. Address all communications, the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.
(Inst. 1872.)
Chairman of Board, Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies, G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations, C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Students may enter at any time, and are received for a single subject or the Course.
July 19, at 5 p.m., Performance of Handel's "Acis and Galatea," by the College Choir.
Prospectus and Concert Tickets on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville Place, Manchester Square, London, W.

SOMETHING NEW.
STEDMAN'S STUDENTS' STAGE SOCIETY.
Subscription only £1 1s. per annum.
A Great Boon to all talented Amateurs,
JOIN AT ONCE: IT'S A GOOD THING.
Full particulars of Hon. Sec., 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England. Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

MADRAS.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Dioramas, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE,
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For Dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestons, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
Always openings for really First-class Attractions, but must be First-class.
All communications, J. F. Elliston.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Directors, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EVESHAM.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed,
good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or Rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Sept. 12 (three nights),
Sept. 19 (six), 26 (three), Oct. 31 (six),
Nov. 10 (three), 14, 21 (six), Dec. 1 (three).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, S.E.—Correspondent Required to supply occasional reports of the Rotherhithe Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. Dorrill, Managing-Director,
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
This theatre will be under the sole management of Mr. Gerald Spencer on and after Aug. 22. All bookings made by the present management are hereby cancelled, as provided for in contract.
The theatre will be closed for a short time between now and the above-named date, and will be thoroughly overhauled and re-decorated.
When re-opened it will be run as a first-class dramatic house (once nightly).
Touring Managers holding contracts who wish to play their dates, please communicate at once.
N.B.—Wanted a very big attraction for re-opening date (Aug. 22). Nothing too big.
Various open later on.
Add., Gerald Spencer, KING'S T., EDINBURGH.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £250; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £30. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK.
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

W. PAYNE SEDDON'S ENTERPRISES.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.
THE SPA, WHITBY.
Lessee, W. Payne Seddon.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK, N.B.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, W. Payne Seddon and Geo. Robertson.
NEW THEATRE, NEWARK-ON-TRENT.
Lessee, W. Payne Seddon.
Booking Agent for
CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
CO-OPERATIVE HALL, RUGBY.
TOWN HALLS, LOUGHBOROUGH, HAWICK,
For vacant dates at above, apply
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
8, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
8, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward ..... June 11, 1910
Barbour, late Mr. William ..... Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila ..... July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ..... March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted H. ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W. ..... April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank ..... June 11, 1910
Buonaparte, Mr. Juan ..... July 31, 1909
Bushell, Mr. Albert ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ..... March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ..... March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Asheton ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. W. ..... July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian ..... June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ..... March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie ..... May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola ..... June 11, 1910
Conway, Late Mr. H. B. ..... Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita ..... April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Dalton, Miss Florence ..... July 31, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Darien Mr. Philip ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J. ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice ..... June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W. ..... March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W. ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Ellis, Mr. Walter ..... June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry ..... June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sabie ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward ..... March 26, 1910
Ford-Howlit, Miss Gladys ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert ..... May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy ..... June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R. ..... May 28, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H. ..... April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J. ..... March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D. ..... April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland ..... May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie ..... June 18, 1910
Illing, Late Mme. Meta ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Jenoure, Miss Aida ..... July 17, 1909
Jerome, Miss Daisy ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C. ..... June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ..... Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie ..... July 2, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom ..... May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J. ..... April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel ..... April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy ..... April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance ..... April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W. ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Morell, Miss Daisy ..... July 17, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry ..... June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank ..... July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W. ..... April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R. ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S. ..... July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ..... March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William ..... April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus ..... June 18, 1910
Rexos, The ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Rhodes, Mr. Percy ..... June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny ..... July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry ..... March 5, 1910
Salambos, The ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr ..... April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake ..... May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ..... Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney ..... April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert ..... July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C. ..... Feb. 26, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert ..... May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace ..... June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred ..... March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley ..... April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry ..... May 28, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie ..... March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L. ..... April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H. ..... July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann ..... June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily ..... March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn ..... May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur ..... July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember ..... June 18, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles ..... July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel R. ..... Dec. 11, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H. ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ..... Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 8, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.

Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-Date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom
for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1910.

GARRICK'S VILLA.

It will be a great pity if, as is threatened, DAVID GARRICK'S old villa at Hampton is demolished; and we trust that the Society of West End Managers and the Middlesex County Council between them will find some means of preventing the destruction of so interesting a relic of the past. GARRICK was not only an actor of genius; he anticipated the modern manager in the respect which he won for himself and his calling. He would have been knighted had not the narrow mind of "Farmer George" objected to thus honouring a man whose chief associates belonged to the Whig party in politics; and he was received on terms of intimacy and consideration by all the distinguished men of his day. Dr. JOHNSON, who was half jealous, half contemptuous of the actor-manager, nevertheless was his friend; and Queen CHARLOTTE, when on a certain occasion she called at the Hampton villa and found Mrs. GARRICK pickling onions, sat down beside her, called for a second knife, and joined the good housewife in her occupation. GARRICK often dined with such men as Lord Chief Justice MANSFIELD and Lord Chancellor CAMDEN, and was a *persona grata* with a very large number of fashionables and people of title. His tact "taught him when to be reserved and free"; and his talent as a conversationalist made him welcome in all sorts of society. At the same time, he hated brainless fops and foolish rakes, and wasted no time in cultivating their acquaintance. He was, besides being a great actor and a marvellous manager, a consummate man of the world.

In another point GARRICK anticipated the modern manager; he was economical. In an age of gambling and extravagance, and with a record and character so free from weaknesses that it was difficult to find in him a point for attack, it is not surprising that GARRICK was ridiculed by the envious for his care and common sense in money matters; but he broke the bad tradition which coupled dramatic genius with folly, and which derided a rich manager because he avoided waste and insisted on having a shillingsworth for a shilling.

Especially did GARRICK show his wisdom in the choice of a wife. LA VIOLETTE was a dancer, and a teacher of dancing; an Austrian Court favourite, and the Terpsichorean instructress of the children of MARIA THERESA. Her portrait in the SHAKESPEARE Memorial Gallery shows a pretty, shrewd face, with a slim and symmetrical figure and a good deal of natural elegance. In order to remove her from the vicinity of the Austrian Emperor, whose infidelities to his "predominant partner" were numerous and notorious, LA VIOLETTE was sent to London in the disguise of a boy, and was received into the household of the Earl and Countess of BURLINGTON, probably as governess and companion to their daughter. She danced in pastoral and heroic ballets at the Haymarket Opera House and Drury Lane Theatre, where the Countess used to wait for her in the wings with a pelisse. She fell in love with GARRICK after seeing him on the stage, and a marriage was soon arranged between them, Lord BURLINGTON generously settling on her £4,000.

It is pleasant to think of the young couple starting housekeeping in Southampton-street, Covent Garden, and afterwards moving to ADAMS'S newly-built Adelphi Buildings; but there are more picturesque associations connected with the villa at Hampton, which GARRICK bought in 1754. The engraving of the house which was published at the time shows a simple, semi-classical frontage, a lawn sloping down to the river, a quaint little temple with Ionic pillars at the portico, and a weeping willow bending over the water. Fortunately the house has been little altered. According to Mrs. CLEMENT PARSONS, who recently visited the place, the low-roofed entrance-lobby, with its corner cupboards flush with the panelling, is the same as in GARRICK'S day; and so is the medallion decoration of the staircase. The large upstairs drawing-room presents what must be a comparatively rare complete specimen of eighteenth-century taste, in its canvas-hung walls painted with subjects *à la Chinoise*—pagodas, junks, and parasols—in colours now dark from bitumen, while the round-topped doors are encircled with trellis in painted and gilded plaster. A curious feature of the grounds is that the high road runs between the villa and the lawns, so that a tunnel had to be run under the highway to the part of the garden where stands the temple in which the GARRICKS used to sit over their wine on summer evenings. At Hampton they received as guests all the notable people of their day. FOX, BURKE, SHERIDAN, GIBBON, REYNOLDS, and BEAUCLERK assembled at GARRICK'S garden parties. It was proved, what now seems self-evident to us, that the social status of a great actor, if he will only adapt himself to general society and respect its customs and regulations, could even in the eighteenth century be made brilliant and secure.

As the author of an interesting article in *T.P.'s Weekly* reminds us, Mrs. GARRICK survived her husband by more than forty years, and retained the tenancy of the villa. After her death it passed into the hands of her solicitor, Mr. CARR. One day in 1829 "Rainy Day" SMITH pulled the bell and took shelter from a threatening storm. He found the house full of GARRICK relics, which Mrs. CARR showed to him with pride, including trees planted by Mrs. GARRICK, and a mulberry tree which had been a sucker from SHAKESPEARE'S tree at Stratford. HOGARTH'S famous election pictures, which GARRICK had possessed, were no longer there. They had been bought at the sale of GARRICK'S pictures, in 1823, by Sir JOHN SOANE, and are now in the SOANE Museum, Lincoln's Inn. SMITH had the satisfaction of sitting on a sofa which had often supported Dr. JOHNSON. When he thanked his hosts for their hospitality, Mr. CARR said: "This house was ever famous for it. Dr. JOHNSON has frequently knocked up Mr. and Mrs. GARRICK at a very late hour, and would never go to bed without a supper."

The speculating builder is rapidly swallowing up relic after relic of the past. Such memorials cannot be replaced. Places like Hampton Court Palace and Kew are national possessions, and the nation should make some small sacrifice to save from destruction anything of the same sort. Can nothing be done to preserve GARRICK'S villa?

DRAMATIC "THRILLS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your leading article in the current issue of *The Era* it is contended that the section of the British public interested in social problems—on the stage or elsewhere—is but a small one. This is true; but it should be emphasised that the failure of certain recently presented sociological plays to satisfy the dramatic instincts of even the interested minority was founded upon the same inward inefficiency which causes the advanced contemporary mind to reject conventional plays of a past age. It may be accepted as axiomatic that thrills are the fundamental basis of vitality in the theatre, as in life, but that the nature of these changes, as does the nature of other things, as the generations pass. There was a time—in what may be called the dagger-thrust period—when the thrills of the theatre and of life lay in the violence and accident of material action; but we are no longer agitated by this, not even the spectacle of bodily death producing the awe and the purging that it used to effect. But the point to be considered is, that for the advanced modern mind little thrill lurks in any surface action whatever, whether it be ancient or modern, smooth and silent running, as is contemporary life, or tumultuous, as existence was of old. So it is that the dramatic instinct rejects the most valuable modern intellectual compositions when it but photographically reproduces surface life for much the same reason that it rejects antiquated stage forms—because these seek to limit the appreciation to the mere crust of things after these have lost their old significance.

For this reason a play like *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, constructed for the most part, for stage purposes, in an old, conventional form, yet raised itself in the scale of dramatic acceptability above some of its more awakened and vital intellectual contemporaries because, at one point at least, it allowed the eddy of surface-movement to cease and the underlying imaginative idea to come forward and produce its thrill. The advanced mind of to-day is not thrilled by bodily change in the concrete, but it is moved when the dramatist or actor presents this as a symbol of a struggle that goes on, in some degree, in the souls of all men. Perhaps the only authentic twentieth-century thrill in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* was in the last scene, when the imagination no longer pictured a man local to any spot of materiality, but knew that the being whose footfalls behind the walls of the laboratory came to the sensual ear was yet in reality a spirit wrestling for his heritage of the fair things of existence far away in some intangible inferno of the mind.

The only real thrills that exist to-day—in life or in the theatre—are those that come to the imagination when the threads of the surface action are drawn aside and the beam of some radiant or diabolic immaterial idea sets the imaginative nerves tingling. Ibsen's thrills are of this kind, also those of Maeterlinck, and the sense of satisfaction in the recent plays that contrast the complexity and falsity of the social fabric against some elemental and simple standard of nature—usually of Colonial birth—is reared on the same basis.

As a critic pointed out, certain vital plays recently presented supplied an intellectual feast, but left some inward corner of the imagination hungry "almost to the point of starvation." But this will happen to any play dealing in any subject matter whatever if the author fails to supply thrills as well as argument—thrills being understood to advance in quality to the same point as every other product of the time. If we seek to define the idiosyncratic note of the thrill of to-day we find it perhaps in the imaginative pleasure we take in observing the particular and passing as it is related to the universal and enduring. To some extent we have lost interest in the individual destiny as such, and are moved chiefly when it finds contact and is modulated by some force that is constant and eternal in action on the life of all men. The individual is of little appeal, except when its action touches and merges itself in the stream of some enduring and immortal emotion. We seek, in short, to observe constant quantities under the surface ebb and flow, because these allow us to participate in the sensation of mankind's far-spread and linked-up destinies, and the imagination enjoys the peculiarly twentieth-century thrill of partially realising an immortal life.—Yours faithfully,

BREMBER WILLS.

Actors' Association, July 13.

"HOW IT'S DONE."

Playlet, Produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday Afternoon, July 14.

Louisa Marmette De Vere..MISS MAY PALFREY
Captain Vivien .....MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH
Reginald Bantock .....MR. WILFRED FORSTER
Proprietor of the Hotel ..MR. ALFRED DRAYTON
Waiter .....MR. P. LEACH
Policeman .....MR. C. MCGUINNESS

Played for the first time at the matinée given at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday last in aid of the Actors' Church Union, *How It's Done* certainly proved one of the most diverting items in the fine programme. The author, whose name is not given, funnily shows how the confidence trick is worked, and in describing the plot of the play it is difficult to give an adequate idea of its humour. Louisa Marmette de Vere, an auburn-haired lady, posing as a wealthy widow, and Capt. Vivien, her accomplice, both really very impecunious, make it clear soon after their entry on the scene what their game is. Vivien has managed to get acquainted with a young man, named Reginald Bantock, and learns he has a considerable sum in notes on him, and, with the assistance of the "widow," he means to annex them. Louisa, out walking by herself, had purposely dropped her bag, and Bantock, picking it up, is of course profusely thanked, and when he calls, presumably at her request, at the hotel in Surrey-street, where the "widow" is staying, she again expresses her gratitude to him and explains the real value of the service he has rendered her. She had been on a visit to her lawyer's, and her bag contained her late husband's will, a large sum of money in notes, and precious stones worth a fabulous amount. How can she repay him? Of course he will accept nothing. But Louisa insists that he must be rewarded. She has an idea. There is a clause in her husband's will by which anyone proving worthy may benefit to the tune of £1,000, provided he can show a quarter of that amount Bantock evidently would have no objection to the £1,000, but he has his suspicions of Louisa, and declares he has no money, and the lady departs. Captain Vivien, who all this while has been silly aiding his accomplice with plausible talk and posing as a son of a distinguished military man, then tells Bantock how foolish he is not to take advantage of the "widow's" generosity, and when Louisa returns the young man is eventually induced to produce notes to the value of £150, which, however, he keeps his eyes and his hand on. Tell the tale as they will, Bantock does not seem inclined to part. Suddenly, however, the bag of valuables is knocked or falls to the ground, the contents are scattered, and Louisa implores the young man to help her collect the unset rubies, diamonds, &c. Then it is that the scheming couple are rewarded for their perseverance, for before Bantock has risen from his hands and knees Louisa and Vivien have taken the notes, disguised themselves, and departed. When Bantock calls in the police they immediately tell him he is the victim of the confidence trick, the red-haired widow and Balaclava Bill being well-known adepts at the game. The finished representation given the playlet by the three principals was a very important factor in its success. Miss May Palfrey enacted the apparently artless widow—so ignorant of the world and its ways and so anxious to reward Bantock—in an easy and artistic manner. Mr. Weedon Grossmith supplied another inimitable portrait of an amusing little bounder, his impersonation of Captain Vivien being embellished with many funny little bits of business that were very effective; and Mr. Wilfred Forster played Reginald Bantock in exactly the right spirit, and contributed a very convincing and sound portrayal.

Much amusement was also created by the representation of Frank E. Potter's little play *Proteus in Petticoats*, in which Miss Viola Compton displayed her varied abilities as an actress in the rôle of Diane Dio, receiving excellent support from Mrs. Fred Wright, sen., Miss Lorraine Stevens, Mr. Arnold Lucy, and Mr. E. M. Robson. *Medea* (founded on Euripides' tragedy) and the duologue *Constancy* were also down for representation. Mr. Wilfred Douthett's fine voice was heard with pleasure in the Prologue to *Pagliacci* and another number, and Miss Eva Moore delighted all with a serious and a comic recitation, the latter especially appealing to her auditors. Mr. Henry Ainley, Clara Novello Davies' Royal Welsh Choir, Mons. Bogea Oumiroff, Miss Jonatha, Mr. George Giddens, Miss Clarice Howard, Prof. Luigi Magistretti, and little Vera Fleming were also other talented artists on the alluring programme.

THAT there is a rapprochement between music hall and regular stage in Paris is illustrated by the fact that Mlle. Véra Sergine, the talented actress, will appear at Marigny next season in a one-act drama, with the actor De Max. Mlle. Sergine has also been engaged at the Odéon, and will make her début there in *L'Aveu*, a three-act comedy by M. Gabriel Trarieux.

"IT is a good thing that I am a quick study," Miss Neilson-Terry has told a representative of the *Lady's Pictorial*, "for I only had a clear fortnight to learn and rehearse Priscilla. And it's a long part, too. She is chattering almost the whole time she is on the stage, and her moods are nearly as many as her words, too. You like my little snatches of song? I'm glad; and, really, my singing has been very useful in every part I've played so far. I've been studying for one and a half years now at the Royal Academy of Music—following in mother's footsteps again, you see—and I'm still continuing my lessons, though I'm going to make acting, not singing, my great aim. As to the rest of my studies, they were carried on at a boarding-school at Westgate, and completed three years ago in Paris, while as to my amusements, I don't think that any sports appeal to me especially, though I'm very fond of swimming. And, of course, always, from the time I can first remember, I've loved going to the theatres!"

"I DO a good deal of my studying and rehearsing at home. Do I go over my parts a great deal with dad and mother? No, perhaps less than you would think. They never actually 'coached' me, but they talked things over with me, and explained the meaning of situations and sentences—told me where my ideas were wrong, and so forth—and this, you know, helps more than anything. In this new 'Priscilla' part it seemed quite strange, though, to be acting without father—he'd been with me in everything else I had done, and this was the first time, too, that I ever wore fashionable 'grown-up' gowns."

BOURNEMOUTH and district is now very gay. The Bournemouth Centenary Fêtes are now in full swing, and thousands of people are daily visiting this beautiful seaside health resort. The programme provided is colossal, and grand concerts are arranged, at which the following well-known artists are appearing:—Mme. Edna Thornton (vocalist) and Zimbalist (violinist), Herr Backhaus (pianist), Miss Margaret Cooper, Mme. Melba, the Royal Welsh Male Choir, M. Vladimir de Pachman (pianist), Mme. Clara Butt and Mr. Kennerley Rumford, Mischa Elman, Miss Susan Strong and Mr. Robert Maitland, Mr. Plunkett Greene (baritone), and the Gaieties, under the direction of Wilson James. The following bands play daily in different parts of the town: The Band of H.M. Coldstream Guards (personally conducted by Dr. Mackenzie Rogan, M.V.O.), the Band of H.M. 7th Hussars, the war pipers of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Bohemian Orchestra (personally conducted by Herr Elderhorst), the Band of the 7th Hants, and the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra of sixty performers (personally conducted by Mr Dan Godfrey, hon. R.A.M.).

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"RENAISSANCE,"

Versical Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Von Schönthan and Koppel-Elfeldt, Revived at the Neues Theatre, June 28.

Marchesa di Sansavelli .....FRÄULEIN RENIER
Vittorino .....FRÄULEIN RITTER
Silvio .....HERR REUSS
Bentivoglio .....HERR STOECKEL
Severino .....HERR BERCHER
Isotta .....FRÄULEIN HELMERT
Coletta .....FRÄULEIN LONGARDT
Mirra .....FRÄULEIN LEVERMANN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, July 7.—After an interval of some eight or nine years this charming little verse-play has been revived. It was produced for the first time at the Berliner Theatre, and took the town by storm. Frau Prasch-Grevenberg gave the important rôle of the lad Vittorino, and gave it in such splendid style that it soon became one of the best in her comprehensive repertory; she has played it, I am told, over 500 times. A description of the plot will hardly be necessary. Suffice to say that the reception was cordial enough to justify the prediction of a renewed successful run. The interpretation was good all round. The part of Vittorino and that of his mother Marchesa were well acted by Fräuleins Ritter and Renier respectively, and the grateful rôle of the good old Benedictine, Father Bentivoglio, met with full justice at the hands of Herr Stoeckel. The mounting was very tasteful and effective.

A VARIATION on the old idea of *Box and Cox* is *Wem Gehort Helene?* (*To Whom Does Helen Belong?*) which is still running at the Hebbel. For a piece with such an utterly impossible plot it is unusually successful. Helene, the heroine, is the wife of a German telegraph clerk who is on duty every night and all night long. This state of things does not please the lady, so she has recourse to an adventurous ruse by which her solitude is removed. She goes on an ostensible visit to her parents, but in reality she runs across to London and marries a certain Herr Krause, the manager of an office, who is only occupied throughout the day. She obtained her second spouse through a matrimonial agency, and has no idea that he and Birnbaum—her legitimate mate—are old friends. In the day Helene is Frau Birnbaum; the remaining part of the twenty-four hours she is Frau Krause, and this game of hide-and-seek goes on for some time. The fun grows fast and furious, and ultimately the cat is out. Then the question arises which forms the title of the play. After it is proved that the London marriage was only a hoax the solution becomes easy, and Herr and Frau Birnbaum make it up. The acting is bright, and the audience is usually the lenient one known as a summer audience.

As a curtain-raiser a little piece entitled *Koketterie* was put in the bill, but very soon removed. It has been replaced by a "caprice" by Kurt Muenzer, entitled *Spuk*, about which there is not much good to be said.

A POT-POURRI called a three-act farce, and entitled *Der Gesundbeter*, was produced at the Rose Theatre last week, and met with a friendly reception. The author is A. O. Weber, and that he is a novice is evident throughout. He apparently had a number of friends and admirers among the audience, for the calls and applause that fell to his share were scarcely due to the merits of the play. The acting was all that could be desired.

THE Gura Opera is doing excellent business, while from an artistic point of view the enterprise is a distinct success, and deserving of every possible encouragement. The Nibelungen cycle has been attended by the best results, the performance of *Der Rheingold* being particularly good. Herr Siegfried Wagner has been some days in Berlin directing the rehearsals of his new work *Der Kobold*, which sees the footlights for the first time to-night. There is not a ticket to be had now for love or money, and booking in advance for subsequent performances is very brisk.

MME. NIKISCH, wife of the well-known conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra, has composed a comic opera entitled *Meine Tante, Deine Tante*, which is to be produced at the New Operetten Theatre here, and later on will be given in New York under the title of *Suschen Unverzagt*.

"CHILDREN ON THE STAGE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to a report of the case of Connie Thorne, in which I was fined the maximum penalty at Manchester, may I crave the indulgence of your columns in order to air a grievance which I have in the matter. In this case I took every precaution which was humanly possible to ascertain that the child was over the regulation age. I obtained a letter from her father stating that she was over fourteen; I also asked for a birth certificate, which was promised, and, although I did not receive it, I have ascertained as a fact that myself and others have been misled in the matter by the production of the child's sister's certificate. On finding that I had been misled, and that she was under age, I immediately took her off and wired to London for another child to take the part. Having regard to these facts, and also that I have been fined the maximum penalty, it would be interesting to learn what penalty the magistrates would impose upon a manager who did not take these precautions. With reference to this matter, I also have pleasure in enclosing you herewith copy of a letter written to Scotland Yard in reference to another child, and also a copy of their reply, from which it appears that they think more of red tape than of a child's welfare.

[COPY.]

"Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith,
"June 25, 1910.

"To the Superintendent of Police,
"Scotland Yard, S.W.

"SIR,—I am applying on July 4, at Bow Street Police Court, for a licence for a child, Winnie Rousby, age fourteen next November, to appear at this theatre in *East Lynne* for the following week. The following sixteen weeks will be played in various London theatres, and I want to know if it will be possible to obtain a licence for the entire period.

"I am sure you will agree with me that it is not nice for a child to have to appear at a police court every week. Furthermore, it means her missing school for a half-day every Monday.

"As we are able to obtain a licence at Bow-street for Hammersmith, I thought perhaps it might be possible to obtain a licence for the full seventeen weeks.—Yours faithfully,

"WENTWORTH CROKE."

[COPY.]

"Scotland Yard.

"*Re Winnie Rousby, Child Performer.*

"SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 25th ult., I am directed by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis that it would be entirely contrary to the terms of his Order in Council of March 5, 1910, for a licence to be granted for such a period at various theatres.

"It will be necessary, under the circumstances, to make a separate application week by week, giving the Police at least seven days' notice in each case.

"I enclose forms of application."

Yours faithfully,
WENTWORTH CROKE.

17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W., July 13.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

It is inferred from the discussion which took place at the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday last, upon the Theatres Committee's report as to the action taken to appeal against the decision of Mr. Cecil Chapman, that should the appeal fail the Council will reconsider its regulations as applied to entertainments given in music halls and theatres on Sundays. The whole question may, therefore, be re-opened, and no one can say what the result will be. In these circumstances the discussion at the meeting to be held in Terry's Theatre next Friday afternoon, under the auspices of the Sunday Defence Committee, is likely to be interesting.

Mr. J Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., will preside at one o'clock p.m., and among the speakers will be the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwark, Canon H. B. Ottley (hon. secretary the Imperial Sunday Alliance), Mr. W. H. Clemart (chairman the Variety Artists' Federation), Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Charles Jesson, L.C.C. (secretary London branch the Musicians' Union), Mr. Wm. Johnson (general secretary the National Association of Theatrical Employees), Mr. J. A. Seddon, M.P., Captain Watson (lay secretary of the Church of England Men's Society), and the Rev. Donald Hole (organising secretary, the Actors' Church Union).

The resolution to be submitted is as follows: "That, in order to avert the imposition of a compulsory seven days' working week upon variety artists, actors, musicians, and employees, this meeting declare it to be imperative that the licence of any place, licensed for public amusement, should prohibit the opening of such premises on Sunday by way of trade or personal gain."

The following are extracts from letters to be read at the meeting:—

The Bishop of London writes to express regret at his inability to attend the meeting, and "... Wishes Godspeed to the efforts of those who are trying by every means to safeguard Sunday."

The Bishop of Croydon writes: "... From my heart I wish your efforts Godspeed. The endeavour to secure one day of rest a week to every toiler is surely an endeavour after freedom...."

The Dean of Manchester, Bishop Welldon, who would have attended the meeting, but is leaving for America on that day, writes: "... It is easy to forget that the recreation of one class may involve the labour of another, and I shall be truly grateful if I may assure the theatrical and musical professions that I believe the Church will heartily support their just desire."

Mr. Oswald Stoll writes: "... I regret I shall be unable to attend the meeting on Friday, the 22nd inst.... If I had been in town I would like to have been present, as, of course, I am quite in sympathy with the movement...."

Mr. Charles Hawtrey writes: "I am afraid I shall not be able to attend the meeting ... but I am in sympathy with the objects of the Sunday Defence Committee, and cordially approve the resolution...."

Mr. David Shackleton, M.P., regrets he cannot attend and says: "... The resolution to be moved is one which has my hearty support."

Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., writes to say he is sorry he cannot attend, and "... I fully approve of the resolution, and am in hearty sympathy with the object your committee has in view."

Mr. Harry Lauder writes: "Had I been at home it would have been a pleasure for me to say something on the subject. Down with all Sunday work unless it is for a charitable purpose."

Mr. R. A. Roberts writes: "... Providing I can get to town, I shall be very pleased indeed to come.... The staffs in American theatres are in an agitating mood (or at the time of my last visit in April) to stop Sunday shows. The want of some sort of break in their lives is writing itself vividly on their too anæmic and pallid countenances...."

The Rev. Donald Hole, organising secretary to the Actors' Church Union, writes: "I am in entire sympathy with the objects of your committee, and with the resolution to be submitted to the meeting.... I shall hope to be present on that occasion...."

Variety artists, actors, musicians, and employees who wish to preserve their Sunday as a day of rest are urged in their own interests to attend this meeting and assist the Sunday Defence Committee to establish conditions which will ensure (1) That no man or woman shall be compelled to work on Sundays, (2) to accept employment on six days of the week on condition that he or she shall work on Sunday.

Members of the V.A.F., the A.A., the A.M.U., or the N.A.T.E. will be admitted on showing their membership cards. Tickets may be obtained by others interested from Mr. W. H. Clemart (chairman), Mr. J. B. Williams, Mr. Charles Jesson, L.C.C., Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. G. H. Dyball, members of the committee, or Mr. William Johnson, hon. secretary, The Sunday Defence Committee, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

THE Academy of Dramatic Art, which is bringing its summer term to a close this week, is in its sixth year of existence. The committee and the staff of teachers are devoting themselves to giving young actors and actresses as thorough a training as possible. If they think that applicants are unsuited for the stage they say so at once. Others they try with a year's training, and then, if the aspirants show no improvement, they are advised to seek some other career. Another thing the committee are careful to guard against is allowing students who do not do well to proceed with their instruction. In this way the Academy helps to prevent overcrowding of the profession. Among those who, after passing through the Academy, have achieved success on the stage are Miss Marjorie Maude, Miss Mary Barton, and Miss Athene Seyler. Miss Grace Croft, the lady who was so highly complimented for her acting at the last annual examination of the Academy, has become Mr. H. B. Irving's leading lady in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* on tour, and other students of the Academy are acting with Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Mr. Benson.

MR. STEPHEN FISKE, in *Sports of the Times*, says: "At present we know only two methods of regulating the effects of the weather—fires and steam heat in winter and cooling with ice in summer. But the inventors, who have too long neglected this easy opportunity to amass fortunes, will discover a method of keeping theatres and all sorts of buildings at a uniform comfortable and healthful temperature all the year round. Roof-gardens—especially when they are roofed in the modern style—do not solve the problem. In one of the roof-gardens in New York last week the heat was so intense that the panting and exhausted audience were literally burned out of their seats and fled to the streets for coolness. What the performers suffer the Lord only knows. A well-ventilated theatre, scientifically cooled, is more enjoyable than a hothouse on a roof."

HERR ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK, who has just completed his opera *Die Königskinder*, has gone for a holiday with his wife and family to Norway. The composer has worked at the opera for two years, and put excellent work into it. Those who have heard portions of the music say it is far and away better than *Hansel und Gretel*. In November Herr Humperdinck goes to New York, where at the Metropolitan Opera House the work is to be produced shortly before Christmas. The text of the new fairy-opera is by Ernst Rosmer, in private life Frau Bernstein, wife of the famous Munich barrister. Both husband and wife are writers of plays, and intimate friends of the composer. In January we shall make the acquaintance of the opera.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The tragic discovery of the body of Miss Belle Elmore under the cellar floor of a house in Hilldrop-crescent, Camden-road, is referred to at length in another column. The late Miss Elmore was hon. treasurer of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and very popular with the committee of that charity.

Sunday is the date fixed for the third annual motor run to Brighton of the Grand Order of Water Rats, starting from the Vaudeville Club, 38, Charing Cross-road, at 11 a.m. Prince Rat Harry Tate, of *Flying*, *Fishing*, and *Motoring* fame, is organiser-in-chief, and on Sunday last he motored down to the Sussex watering-place, accompanied by Scribe Rat W. H. McCarthy, to make the necessary arrangements for luncheon at the Royal Albion Hotel, which is to be the rendezvous this year.

Mr. Tate has been fortunate in again securing the valuable support of Sir William Treloar, who has promised to be present, together with Sir William Dunn, and, given fine weather, another successful outing is assured.

Amongst others the following have generously offered to supply cars: J. Adams (Belsize), F. S. Bennett (Cadillac), J. W. Stocks (De Dion), Michael Egan (Dunlop), D. Perry (Ford), Warwick Wright (Metallurgique), Guy Lewin (Friswell), D'Arcy Baker (F.I.A.T.), Frank Shorland (Talbot), R. Herbert Smith (Brown), — Middleton (Vinot), — Cooke (Darracq), F. C. Baisley (Gladiator), George Peele (Swift), A. Mosses (Clement), —— (Daimler), and Peter O. Serck ——.

Miss Carrie Moore opens at the Tivoli next Monday with three new songs, specially written for her by Arthur Wimperis, Herman Finck, and Chas. Norton. This will be this lady's last appearance on the variety stage for some time, she having been engaged by Mr. George Edwardes to star in the provinces in Miss Gertie Millar's part in *Our Miss Gibbs*.

The directors of the Empire have decided to produce a new ballet entitled *The Dancing Master* in about four weeks' time, and it is now in active preparation. It is derived from the first scene of *The Débutante*, which was so successful at the same house with Mlle. Adeline Genée in the leading part. *The Dancing Master* will be found to contain much of Mr. Cuthbert Clarke's delightful *Débutante* music, and many of the fine features of that delightful ballet, together with a number of new dances and new airs. Mlle. Lydia Kyasht will appear in the leading part and Mr Fred Farren in the title-rôle. Miss Phyllis Bedells and Miss Beatrice Collier will surely be found parts in the new production.

Miss Dorothy Ward, the charming musical comedy star, who is playing a season in variety, made her first appearance at the Coliseum on Monday. A hearty welcome was given the fair singer, who made a pronounced hit with two excellent numbers from the joint pens of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. Her first song was the now popular ballad "I wonder if you care," of which, by the way, Mrs. Ward is the original singer, having produced it at a special performance in Birmingham some months ago. Her second number was a bright, tuneful song with a martial lilt, entitled "Cheer up, my Highland lassie!" In the last chorus a couple of tiny tots in typical Scotch attire came on to illustrate the happy finale. This has "brought down the house." The Star Music Co. publish both songs.

The Secretary of the Terriers' Association, Mr. Arthur Were, having been ordered to take a rest, in consequence of ill-health, is leaving town on Saturday next for his favourite retreat in the Luxemburg Ardennes. Terriers are requested to note that during his absence all correspondence, &c., will be dealt with by the committee at the Friday meetings.

For a time we are to lose Miss Cecilia Loftus, who is leaving variety to play the heroine in the play to be produced by Mr. J. E. Vedrenne. In America Miss Loftus has played a number of important Shakespearean parts, and in the 1906-6 revival of *Peter Pan* made a big success as J. M. Barrie's boy hero.

Mr. Alfred Butt has decided to place Mr. W. L. Courtney's little play, *A Woman's Revolt*, originally produced at a Maud Allan matinée at the Palace Theatre, on July 7, last year, into the regular bill at the same house on the evening of Aug. 29.

Mr. Walter Gibbons embarked for America on board the Campania on Saturday last for New York. Much speculation is rife as to the business that takes the variety magnate across the Atlantic, but there is not much doubt that it has to do with the development of the "merge" in which Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Walter de Frece, and Mr. Beck of the States are concerned.

Mr. Seymour Hicks's promise to appear as Richard III. is to be realised at the Coliseum in October, where the famous battle of Bosworth Field will be produced very elaborately, the pomp and circumstance of this famous fight between the protagonists of the White and Red Roses entailing the co-operation of no fewer than 180 soldiers. The revolving stage at the Coliseum will be put to its widest use, thus ensuring a spectacle unusually striking and of great variety.

In about five weeks' time the work of demolishing the Royal Standard, Victoria, the oldest music hall in London, will be commenced. Only the foundations of the old structure will be utilised for the new building. The new Palace, like all modern theatres and music halls, will be a two-tier house. Although there will be a permanent managerial representative at the new hall, the direction of the house and the booking of the "turns" will be in the hands of Mr. Alfred Butt.

Mr. Ernest Wighton, the very able manager of Olympia, Liverpool (Moss' Empires largest theatre in the provinces) has been promoted by Mr. Stoll to the palatial new Finsbury Park Empire, which is to be opened shortly. Mr. Wighton's return to London, where he has a large circle of friends, will be welcomed, and his wide experience of managerial work, both in this country and America,, augurs well for a brilliant future to the new Empire.

Mr. Wighton will be succeeded next Monday by Mr. George M. Slater, who is well known in connection with the Gaiety Theatre, London, where he was stage manager and late general manager of the Gaiety provincial tours. Upon the conclusion of his engagement under Mr. George Edwardes Mr. Slater acted as London representative for Mr. Milton Bode. Mr. Slater, by the way, is a well-known writer of lyrics and a librettist.

Our Paris correspondent writes:—"The news that Little Tich has received the "Palmes Académiques" has given much satisfaction to his Paris friends, who are very glad to learn that his efforts to amuse the public of la ville lumière have received the acknowledgment they deserve. It is a gratifying sign of the times that the English music hall has been officially honoured in the person of this popular artist.

Newark-on-Trent, which has for many years been without a licensed building, is to be provided with a new hall for theatrical and other entertainments.

Mr. Rowland Hill, who has been elected a member of the Grand Order of Water Rats, was duly initiated last Sunday evening by King Rat Charles Warren.

Mr. Maurice Mahony has taken up the resident management of the popular Boscombe Hippodrome. Mr. Mahony has had most of his experience at the Prince's, Manchester.

Mr. Johnny Renson, of Renson and Waite, the Yorkshire comedian, has been appointed manager of the Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes, near Great Grimsby, for the summer season.

The Palace Theatre of Varieties, Jarrow, has recently changed hands, and the present owners (Messrs. Gibson and Stenlet, of North Shields) have had the interior practically reconstructed and a new proscenium opening added, bringing the building entirely up to date.

As an illustration of Mr. A. E. Pickard's enterprise, we may state that he is running a special trip to Blackpool on Glasgow Fair Monday at the nominal charge of 7s. 6d. We are informed that the trip is being largely taken advantage of by his numerous admirers and their friends.

Mr. Jack Williams, son of Mr. Arthur Williams, played Mr. Fred Kitchen's part of Private Potts at the King's Theatre, Southsea, most successfully on the occasion of Mr. Kitchen having to be in London for his father's funeral. In recognition of his readiness and versatility, he was the happy recipient of a handsome silver cigarette case from Mr. Kitchen and a nice increase in his salary from Mr. Herbert Darnley.

Since His Majesty's Theatre was opened some four years ago, the old Guild-street edifice, that served the theatrical needs of Aberdeen for more than a generation, has been closed. About a year ago a local company was formed to take over the building and convert it into a modern, up-to-date vaudeville theatre. This has now been successfully accomplished, and on Monday the Tivoli, Aberdeen, is to be opened with a first-class variety company.

Practically only the shell of the old theatre has been retained, and so well have the new architectural improvements been blended with the old fixtures that the ordinary observer quite fails to see where one ends and the other begins. The stage has been considerably enlarged, and by patent appliances all the scenery will be dropped from on high, instead of being stored and folded in wing fashion.

The embellishment of the theatre has been most tastefully done. The leading colour of upholstery and fittings is light electric green, with white groundwork throughout and gold facings. There is an absence of garishness in the scheme of decoration that is pleasing to the eye, and yet the effect is brilliantly animating and artistic.

The new theatre will have comfortable seating accommodation for some 1,600 people, and the entrances, corridors, and exits are roomy and elegantly equipped with all modern conveniences and comforts. By an ingenious device, a series of limelight effects will be controlled from the back roof of the building, and every part of the capacious stage can be illumined from this source. The resident-manager for the Tivoli Company is Mr. Walter Gilbert, and it is intended to give two performances nightly. The house opens on Monday.

Yet another is proposed to be added to Glasgow's entertainment houses. Arrangements are being made to erect a new variety theatre, to be known as the Olympia, at the north-east corner of Charles-street and Orr-street, Bridgeton Cross. The nominal capital of the company is to be £40,000.

Provost M'Millan, Greenock, will be chairman of the company, and the managing-director and general-manager will be Mr. Samuel Lloyd, formerly manager of the Pavilion Theatre, and at present occupying the same position at the Glasgow Coliseum Theatre. Mr. Lloyd leaves the latter house in a week or two, and will at once assume his new duties, as the plans and the building of the new Olympia will be under his supervision from the start.

The members of the General Purposes Committee of the West Riding, who have the granting of stage-play licences, were asked recently for a stage-play licence in respect of the Empire, Wakefield.

Mr. T. T. P. Sherwood, who made the application, explained that of course they had the usual music, singing, and dancing licence, but they desired a stage-play licence in order to safeguard themselves in the months of January and February, when they were anxious to produce pantomimes. Eventually the application was granted, on the understanding that the use of candles was discontinued in the dressing-rooms and that an excise licence was not applied for.

The Spennymoor Hippodrome (Limited) has been registered as a private company, with a capital of £3,000 in £5 shares, to carry on at Spennymoor or elsewhere the business of music hall or theatre proprietors and managers, &c. The subscribers are Mr. A. E. Nicholls, Darlington; Mr. R. Pepis, Bishop Auckland; Mr. A. I'Anson, Middlesbrough; Mr. W. M. Tress, Spennymoor; Mr. J. J. Taylor, Darlington; Mr. P. Minor, Darlington; and Mr. R. Spencelagh, West Hartlepool.

Mr. Horace Livermore, during his residence in Bristol, has become popular amongst a large section of citizens, and his retirement from the position of manager of the Palace Theatre, and his appointment as district inspector by the same company is considered by a number of influential friends a favourable opportunity to promote a concert on his behalf.

This is to take place shortly at the Colston Hall, and in furtherance of the arrangements a representative committee is to be formed. A meeting with that object was held at the Crown and Dove Hotel, Bridewell-street, on Friday. Mr. Livermore has always practically identified himself with various movements organised for the benefit of local institutions, and, in various other ways, has given help and assistance where required. The proposed concert is certain, therefore, to be influentially supported.

Large crowds of visitors continue to patronise Matlock Bath, that beautiful Derbyshire haunt. As an extra inducement the authorities are now building what has long been required, and that is a hall to accommodate some thousands of people. The building is to be called the Kursaal, and is now in an advanced stage. It is intended to provide various entertainments, and is a long-felt want, as up to the present time there has been no building in the town to which visitors could go.

Duncan and Godfrey will produce an entirely new and original coster scena, entitled *The Coster's Courtship*, at the Tivoli on Monday next.

Mr. Wilkie Bard has sent a donation of five guineas (£5 5s.), and Miss Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, Edward Lauri, Will E. Fox, and many others have purchased tickets for the sports.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners (Miss Fanny Moody), who have done so much for the cause of English opera, will be at the head of the bill at the London Hippodrome on Monday, July 25. They will, of course, introduce scenes and soli from various operas.

Graham, the human marionette, has scored an unprecedented success at the Palace, Grimsby, the show being the talk of the town. The reception on Monday night was positively great, and on Tuesday, at the second house, money had to be refused at the doors.

Miss Ella Shields, one of our most popular chorus singers, was unable to answer her number on Monday at the Oxford, but a temporary indisposition should disappear with the week's rest which she is taking. She hopes to be able to open at the Hackney Empire on Monday.

Malcolm Scott's absence from the London Pavilion is due to the fact that he has been defending an action in the Edinburgh Court of Session at the suit of Mrs. Williams of the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, for £250, which has resulted in his favour. He will return to the Piccadilly-circus house on Monday.

Mr. Benjamin Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires on behalf of the committee to thank Mr. Harry Bawn, proprietor of the Empire, Edmonton (per Fred Alexander), for box collection of £2 5s.; also Mr. Nelson Barry, Hippodrome, Manchester (per A. Trussell), for box collection of £1.

While in London during May and June, Walter Emerson was very busy hearing songs written by the leading scribes, and secured fifteen numbers which he considers suitable to his particular style. Two of these he produced at the Hippodrome, Aston, this week, and one, entitled "Mother, mother, mother," met with unbounded success.

Mr. Gus Elen is again playing his favourite part of the gentle angler. Starting from his London residence on Sunday, he is now having a restful time at his cottage some miles beyond Aberdeen, and here he will remain shooting and fishing until his next engagement in six weeks' time at the Empire, Glasgow.

"The Organ Grinder," by the favourite London Hippodrome collaborators, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, will make its first appearance at the Coliseum, after a tour of several weeks on the Moss-Stoll circuit. Mr. Lawson Butt, the powerful villain of the Hippodrome water spectacle *The Sands o' Dee*, heads the company as the Padrone.

Friends will be pleased to hear that Miss Nellie Donegan (Mrs. Earle Reynolds) is now well on the way to recovery. On Tuesday last she underwent a very serious operation, performed by Dr. Hunter Richards, of Harley-street. Mr. Alfred Butt and other managers have very kindly postponed the dates of her engagements in consequence of her regrettable illness.

We need no excuse for a further announcement of the general meeting at Terry's Theatre on Friday next of the Sunday Defence Committee. The Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Suffolk will attend and speak, and speeches will also be made by Mr. William Johnson, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and Mr. W. H. Clemart, secretary of the V.A.F.

Owing to the enormous success of the recent Crystal Palace competition, the management beg to announce that a second gigantic Music Hall competition will take place in the Theatre on the week commencing Monday, July 25, 1910. Prizes, four guineas, three guineas, two guineas, and one guinea. There will be a grand amateur night on Thursday next, entrance fee, 2s. 6d.

Plenty of fun and keen competitions are assured at the Music Hall Sports on Thursday next at Stamford Bridge. The prizes, to be presented by Miss Cecilia Loftus, are the finest that have ever been offered, and the crowd watching the track should be swollen by every performer in the metropolis. The exchequer of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund is ever in need of contributions, and everyone with the necessary leisure, and particularly those connected in any way with the profession, may help and combine duty with pleasure by attending Stamford Bridge. The prices rule from 6d. to four shillings.

The events include a pursuit race between George Clark, jun., champion runner, H. J. Jeapes, champion walker, and Bert Hughes, champion cyclist, a 120 yards running handicap, a mile handicap, a half-mile running handicap, a one mile running championship, a one mile bicycle scratch race, a 360 yards cup obstacle race, and a running high jump.

Mr. Albert Le Fre, chairman and organiser of the Sports Committee, requests ladies and gentlemen giving prizes to send them to 18, Charing Cross-road, this week, in order that they may be classified in time to be included in the official programme. Sir Edward Moss has given a £5 5s. prize. Mr. Oswald Stoll is presenting a £25 challenge shield, the winner of the 120 yards race to hold the shield for the year. Each successive winner to have his name, the date, etc., engraved on the shield.

The report of the directors of the Granville Theatre of Varieties, Walham Green, up to May 31 last, discloses a gross profit on the year's working of £3,295 0s. 5d. After making the deductions for debenture interest, capital expenditure redemption, and 5 per cent. depreciation of furniture, fittings, scenery, and plant, and after expending the sum of £369 on re-decorating the theatre, and providing new carpet, boiler, radiators, uniforms, etc., and also purchasing £400 Consols to reserve fund, there remains on the year's working a profit of £2,188 8s. 6d.

The directors recommend the payment of a dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, less income tax, and after payment of same there will be carried forward a sum of £188 8s. 6d. to the current year's account, together with £1,100 cash in hand. The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders will be held at the Granville, Walham Green, S.W., on Tuesday next.

Mr. Hermann Finck, the popular conductor of the Palace, not only wields with signal success the conductor's bâton, but in his spare moments gives himself over to the pleasures of composing. He has again written the music for the Blackpool ballet, entitled this year *Lovely Lucerne*, being produced on Monday at the Winter Gardens in that town. Mr. Arthur Sturgess has supplied him with the scenario. The Swiss environment is productive alike of picturesque scenery, effective costumes, and music of the most inspiriting kind.

Miss Rosie Buttsrick heads the list in the variety world for the *Pelican* competition for the "smartest lady of the season," having 688 votes recorded in her favour.

Little Lily Shaw, "the Toy Vesta Tilley," was on Saturday wired to by Mr. Oswald Stoll to deputise for Miss Hetty King at the Hull Palace, and was an immense success. It was a great honour for one so young to take the place of such a great artist.

The London Pavilion management announces a revision of prices of admission for the summer months, commencing on Monday next, the 18th inst., as under:—Orchestra stalls (reserved), 5s., pit-stalls (reserved) 3s., first circle (unreserved) 2s. 6d., second circle (unreserved) 1s., pit 1s.

Miss Melinda May (Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C.), on behalf of the Committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mrs. Herbert Shelley (collecting), 8s. 1d.; Mrs. George Smythson (ladies' hats).

Will Mrs. Arthur Hatton kindly communicate at once to Miss Melinda May? She attended a meeting on August 11 last year. The handsome portière curtain belongs to her. She has No. 50 ticket.

Mr. H. B. Sawyer, the popular acting-manager of the Peckham Hippodrome, has been appointed resident-manager of the Opera House at Jersey, which is under the joint control of Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward.

The Bath Citizens' King Edward Memorial Fund has lately been enriched by the sum of £10—a share of the takings at a special entertainment given at the Palace Theatre. In the list of additional subscribers appears the name of Miss Octavia Barry, who has contributed one guinea to the fund.

Mr. W. J. Churchill's up-to-date minstrels, consisting of twenty first-class artists, are meeting with excellent receptions at Llandudno, where their popularity has never waned since they came under the auspices of the clever entertainer and comedian who is so much liked at the famous North Wales seaside resort.

It was Mr. Wallis Clark who last week played the Scientist in *The Price of a Soul* at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome, and not Mr. Russell Vaun. Oh those programmes! Mr. Clark, by the way, has been specially engaged for Miss Maud Hildyard's new piece now in course of rehearsal, owing to his success in her last production.

Miss Gina Cormani has just succeeded to the position of principal boy at the Alhambra, hitherto held by Miss Julia Seale, who has been a favourite for many years at that house. She is an Italian, and took her first place in the *corps de ballet* while still a child. She speaks several languages, and at present takes the part of John Bull in the entertainment *Our Flag*.

Mr. Fred Lorenzo (of Astley's Circus) and Miss Ivy Florodora (of the Florodora Girls) entered into a life contract at the Gravesend Town Hall on Wednesday. Miss Florence Raynor was in attendance on the bride, and Messrs. H. Cory Woodrow and Mr. E. H. Swift (lessee of Rosherville Gardens) looked after the bridegroom. The bridegroom's mother and one sister were present from Chigwell. The provincial engagements of another brother and sister—Horace and Olga—prevented their attendance.

The wedding breakfast was held at Rosherville Gardens in the Bijou Theatre, where the happy pair were the recipients of numerous congratulations. Among the wires received from friends and relatives unable to be present were one from Kate Carney and another from Fred Baugh. The bridegroom's gifts to the bride included a handsome diamond ring and a diamond and cut crystal brooch. We are pleased to state that the variety stage is not to lose Miss Ivy Florodora's services.

The second annual outing of the staff of the Aston Hippodrome proved a very happy event. By popular vote it was decided to revisit Holt Fleet, a pretty village on the Severn, where a most enjoyable day was spent last year. The party was composed of about forty ladies and gentlemen, including the genial manager and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Middleton, and several guests. Special saloons were engaged for the train journey between Birmingham and Worcester, the party arriving at the cathedral town about 10 a.m.

The pleasure steamer Avonmore was in waiting at the riverside, and the merry party, after a stroll through the town, enjoyed a picturesque journey up the river. The Wharf Tavern, Holt Fleet, was made the headquarters, and upon arrival the party split up, a good many enjoying the pretty scenery in the neighbourhood, whilst several enthusiastic sportsmen indulged in exciting games of cricket and football. An excellent dinner was partaken of, after which the afternoon was spent in pleasure-seeking according to individual tastes.

Local playgoers will probably not be greatly surprised to learn that the Palace Pier Company, St. Leonards, has signed an agreement with Mr. J. D. Hunter for him to appear in the pavilion there for several weeks in the summer, with a view, we believe, to eventually arranging a permanent engagement. Mr. Hunter will organise a company to appear in a series of attractive entertainments.

One of the first things said by Mr. Hunter's friends when it was made known that his connection with the Hastings Pier was to cease was that it would be a good move on the part of the St. Leonards Pier to secure his services. Time will prove whether the move will be profitable to the St. Leonards Pier Company, just as it will also prove whether the Hastings Pier directors are wise in the first step they have taken in their attempt to compete with the Gaiety Theatre—raising the prices of the seats in the pavilion and abolishing that very popular attraction the free standing room.

The Croydon Hippodrome opens on August Bank Holiday. The building, which occupies a commanding central position in the town, has its main frontage to Crown Hill and entrances and exits on each side. The richly embellished and well appointed interior embraces stalls and pit on the ground floor, a large circle and gallery over, and will accommodate about 2,000 persons. The building has been designed by Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co. for the Croydon Hippodrome Co., Ltd.

Next week marks the close of the Russian dancers' season at the London Coliseum. Mlles. Karsavina and Baldina and M. Kosloff, with the entire troupe, having to return to St. Petersburg for the opening of the Imperial Opera House. The new arrivals on Monday include the Australian Woodcutters, who provide an exceedingly interesting entertainment. In order to reproduce this act of the Australian backwoods it has been necessary to obtain the actual timber with which the men have been accustomed to work, and some hundreds of tons of the blue gum tree have been shipped to London for this purpose.

The new manager of the Coliseum, Glasgow, is Mr. John M. Hay, assistant manager of the Ardwick Empire.

Messrs. Walton and Lester return to London on Monday for a season of seventeen consecutive weeks. The world's worst wizards have the talisman of humour in their entertainment, and will again largely increase the gaiety of London.

Miss Viola Spencer, the lady parachutist, died during Thursday night from the injuries she received at Coventry last Saturday, when she fell 40 feet into the street owing to her parachute, on which she had descended from a balloon, coming into contact with some telegraph wires.

Laddie Cliff, who was reported to be in London looking for new songs, was compelled through serious illness to cancel his American engagements, having been ordered to England by his medical adviser. It is hoped his native air will bring a speedy convalescence to this clever artist.

Mr. Ben Abrahams, the popular secretary and assistant manager of the Queen's, Poplar, is leaving there. At present nothing has been definitely decided regarding his future arrangements, but he should easily find scope for his ability and energy elsewhere.

Mr. Jack Hart has become very popular at the Palace, Hammersmith, and last week some of his friends took the opportunity provided by his birthday on the 5th to present him with a solid silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, as a slight token of their esteem.

Miss Vera Saunders completes her first two weeks at the Tivoli to-night. The engagement has proved in every way a successful one, and the directors of the popular Strand house have retained the little lady's services until 1913. Her new number "Billy" scored an instant success last Monday.

The London County Council, at their meeting on Tuesday, approved of an appeal being made by the Theatres and Music Halls Committee against the recent decision of Mr. Cecil Chapman at the Tower Bridge Police Court, on May 24 last, in respect of cinematograph shows being permitted to open on Sundays.

A few months ago the Croydon County Council granted to Mr. James Watt a cinematograph licence for his new building known as the "Picture Palace" in Portland-road, South Norwood. Mr. Peard, solicitor, on behalf of Mr. Watt, on Monday, asked the Council for a full dancing and music licence.

Mr. Watt has seven or eight other theatres, and in three cases had successfully applied for music and dancing licences after holding a cinematograph licence. The Norwood building was erected originally as a cinematograph theatre, and a licence was applied for simply for that purpose. The Council decided not to accede to Mr. Watt's application.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilmott are enjoying a vacation at Scarborough. It is darkly hinted that Mr. David Day's secretary chose this noted Yorkshire resort in order to get away from the melody of "Flanagan," which has been permeating the air of Charing Cross-road for some little time past.

But he imagined a vain thing, for his arrival almost synchronised with that of Miss Florrie Forde, who at the Opera House and Hippodrome has been infecting the multitudes with that great song of Will Letters and C. W. Murphy, and who by imperative desire has had to sing her great success of last season, "Has anybody here seen Kelly?"

Edgar Bateman, whose staggering experience on Littlehampton beach a few days since will probably appear shortly in these columns, was one of the first to wire his congratulations to Mr. Harry Randall anent his return to Drury-lane at Christmas—to the great stage whereon his two comrades of former years—Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell—appeared with such distinction.

Mr. Fred Herbert (chairman) presided over the M.H.A.R.A. committee meeting held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday. Messrs. E. W. Edmonds, T. C. Callaghan, Lieut. Albini, and Tom Packer were present. It was decided to close the offices of the Association on Thursday next for the Music Hall Sports. A new agency was appointed at the Fleetwood Arms, Runcorn. The weekly statement showed an increase of twenty-four new members and receipts of £29 12s.

The troupe of Russian dancers, who are appearing at the Palace Theatre with such conspicuous success, were honoured on Wednesday afternoon by the presence of the Grand Duchess Xenia (sister of the Czar) and suite. Her Highness arrived early, and apparently greatly appreciated the dances of Mlle. Pavlova and M. Mordkin, together with their company. The programme was augmented by the inclusion of Miss Mary Grey, Mr. Barclay Gammon, and a long series of pictures in natural colours depicting King Edward's funeral procession.

Bert Swan and Marie Vesta, the original Bill Smith and 'Liza, produced on Monday last at the Hippodrome, Poplar, an original episode of coster life, entitled *'Liza's Wedding Day*, with special scenery and novel effects, including a church organ and peal of chimes. They also introduced the prize donkey and governess car, presented to them by the proprietors of *Answers*, for advertising that journal in the well-known sketch, *The Coster's Prize*. *'Liza's Wedding Day* proved an instantaneous success, and was immediately secured for the Gibbons' circuit, and will shortly be seen at a West-End hall.

By forty-five votes to twenty-nine the London County Council decided on Tuesday that it was not expedient that the pictures of the Jeffries and Johnson fight at Reno should be shown in London. The proposal was brought forward by the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, an ex-chairman of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, who moved: "That in the opinion of the Council the public exhibition, at places of entertainment in London, of pictures representing the recent prize fight in the United States is undesirable, and that the proprietors of London music halls and other places licensed by the Council for cinematograph performances be so informed."

Mr. Edward Ross (Rose and Challoner) and Mr. Richard Bird were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, P.W.T., assisted by Terrier Russell Brandow, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as Organist. Messrs. Eddie Gibbs (Eddie and Ethel), Reg. Beauchamp, and Arthur Whalley Stanley (Stanley and Greenop) have successfully passed the ballot for membership of the Association. Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman was elected as W.D. and Terrier W. E. Dunkley as Y.B. on Sunday last. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Jack Cosgrove, Leo Roland, and Tom Packer upon their reappearance in the kennel. The Association has placed at the disposal of the committee of the Music Hall Sports a very handsome large silver rose bowl on a pedestal as a prize.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

PRINCIPAL boys should on no account miss hearing Miss Madge Temple's fine number, "On the silvery, silvery sands," by Arthur C. Findon and Hermann E. Darewski. This number is creating the liveliest interest, notably at the Oxford, where the fair artist is delighting patrons with the witty lines and taking melody. In this song Messrs. Francis and Day have one of the best pantomime songs of the coming Christmas, and one already ear-marked for premier honours by the cognoscenti.

AT the Stratford Empire Miss Eva Kelland, in that beautifully staged production *Songland*, has been winning all hearts by her refined vocalisation in the three numbers, "At Gretna Green," "Take me back to Pompeii," and "In my bouquet." All these songs are issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AT the Alhambra in Leicester-square Miss Ethel Levey is creating with "Down in Jungletown" the same furore nightly as she did recently with "Pride of the prairie, Mary," and in "Miss O'Hara and her emerald tiara" the gifted lady has a song that fits her like a glove. All three are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. HICKMAN SMITH, who directs and controls so many of the brightest and best companies entertaining the sojourners by the sea at this period of the year, has during the current week at the Claremont Pier, Lowestoft, been extolled both by visitors and the local Press for his fine renderings of those well-known songs, issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, entitled "Without you," by J. Edward Fraser and Douglas Munro; "The eyes are the windows of the soul," by Charles Wilmott and Ernest Milton; and "I'm coming back to Erin and to you," by Arthur Lynch and Herbert E. Haines. Miss Marie Westcott, one of the foremost among the bevy of lady vocalists who owe Mr. Smith allegiance, is charming everyone in Lowestoft with Fred Leigh's "Come back to Mallow, Molly," also published by Mr. David Day's firm.

THAT charming and powerful-voiced young artist, Miss Lilian French, has just had accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day her pretty ballad "When the summer sun is dying, Rose Marie." Percy Edgar is responsible for this admired item.

MISS BERTHA STUART is the fortunate possessor of Joseph Tabrar's fine new song, "When the bells ring out for Rosie." Messrs. Francis and Day have the song, which bears in every word and note the impress of its talented writer, in the press.

J. H. BARNES' new waltz, "The Nun's Dream," will be presently placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A FREE song entitled "I want to get right home," written and composed by E. W. Rogers, Frank Calvert, and Orlando Powell, is about to see the light in sheet music form, it having been purchased by Messrs. Francis and Day.

IT is always good news to hear that Miss Millie Hylton will be singing a new song, and when it is from such practised pens as those wielded by J. P. Harrington and Orlando Powell, the result is a foregone conclusion. The new ditty is entitled "Puff! Puff! out went the moon!" Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

A NEW song by E. W. Rogers and J. A. Glover-Kind has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. Its title is "Come round to tea on Sunday."

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT'S clever song, "Everybody calls me 'Carrots,'" which is a perfect cameo, giving the artist the opportunity of exhibiting the talents the lady possesses in abundance, is from the pen of Mr. Alfred Wood. Miss Scott will probably in the near future be heard in a song specially written with an eye to her by the author and composer of her admired song, "The great invasion play."

MR. CHARLES R. WHITTLE, at Stratford, has been nightly the recipient of thunderous applause for his fine renderings of Messrs. Francis and Day's "Come and have a drink with me" and "He's a naughty, naughty boy."

(*Continued on page 20.*)

"THE BATTERY."

Farcical Sketch, by Mrs. Christie Murray, Produced at the Standard on Saturday, July 9.

With a little quickening in the action Mrs. Christie Murray's farcical playlet should prove an attractive sketch at the halls, for the main idea is funny, and the audience was kept busy laughing during its representation for the first time on Saturday. Mrs. Ponsonby-Smith, a gushing female no longer in the first blush of youth, comes to the Bond-street rooms of a palmist. She is anxious for a glimpse into the future, but the maid by her tall tales of the happenings that go on soon makes her wish she had never ventured therein. Her mistress's powers, indeed, are wonderful, for even the tables and chairs have been known to frolic, strange moans and groans are of frequent occurrence, and altogether the uncanny revelations quite terrify the foolish Mrs. Smith.

When the palmist enters Mrs. S. is, of course, awed, but the picture the veiled lady conjures up of her future soon pacifies her. There is a dark and handsome young lover somewhere pining for her; she will live in a marble palace; every luxury that money can buy will be hers—and so on. Mrs. Ponsonby-Smith, entranced, would hear more, but the palmist declares that the oracle will reveal nothing else just at present. Will she wait a little while, and doubtless further disclosures will be forthcoming.

The palmist then remembers that a male idiot she has in another room is also named Ponsonby-Smith, and that his errand is the same as his wife's, and the *denouement* may be guessed. The lights are lowered, and the couple are left together. Becoming aware that there is a female in the room, Ponsonby-Smith soon makes violent love to the charmer, and the lady, after pretending to a deal of coyness, reciprocates his protestations of affection, and agrees to fly with him to foreign climes. Each wonders what the hum-drum partner at home will say—and up go the lights! Ponsonby-Smith flees and his wife faints, but "the battery" soon brings her round, and down comes the curtain.

Miss Rose Edouin made a droll Mrs. Ponsonby-Smith, very funny being her acting in the incident where her future is being revealed to her, and her impersonation altogether was a clever and finished one. The names of the other characters and their interpreters were not given on the programme, but all were capitally enacted.

BELFAST is to have another cinematograph theatre. Property has been acquired by the Provincial Cinematograph Theatre Company, Ltd., in Royal-avenue, the leading thoroughfare, and it is their intention to open a theatre on thoroughly up-to-date lines. It is proposed to have a continuous entertainment from 2 o'clock in the afternoon until 10 p.m., and beautifully fitted tea-rooms, reading-rooms, lounges, and retiring-rooms form part of the scheme. The new building will have a length of 95ft. and a breadth of about 70ft., and will be able to accommodate from 1,500 to 2,000 persons. The site is central, and it is expected the new theatre will be opened at n early date.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE HIPPODROME.

Last week in our columns we enlarged on the novel sensation promised at the Hippodrome for Monday, and on that afternoon the sensation promised, entitled "The Eagle and the Girl," duly made its appearance for the first time on this side of the Atlantic. The novelty is due to the invention of Mr. Asa Cummings, a Chicago engineer, and we are given to understand that it is in no sense an optical illusion. The ornithological curiosity, which is something like an eagle, is a huge white bird, and we believe it is endowed with mechanism whereby it can be sustained in space. Therefore the whispered word "Wires," heard faintly in the auditorium during the eagle's flight on Monday, covers a solution of the problem that would be too familiar to the public to be in any sense a new sensation. During the flight of the mammoth bird of prey the house is completely darkened, but by means of a coating of radium paint the lady and the eagle stand out in bold relief. The eyes of the bird are aglow with incandescence, and on the features of the singer, Miss Ferguson, a purple light is shed. It was unfortunate that curious sightseers in the balcony on Monday afternoon struck matches in the vain hope of elucidating the mystery. The wings slowly flapped as the "bird" and its burden circled round the auditorium, and Miss Ferguson sang "Won't you fly with me?" and when the number came to an end the mysterious bird floated behind a black curtain, and the mystery remained quite unexplained.

A very welcome reappearance is made by Miss Helen Trix, the American comedienne at the piano, who, it will be remembered, first won the favour of London audiences at the Coliseum. Miss Trix, in a very pretty gown, opened with a song to her own accompaniment, entitled "Honest little girlie, I'm strong for you. When you're gone away I long for you." For her second number she appears in a neat brown suit, to sing, with the orchestra, "You needn't say you love me, because I'm pretty sure you don't," a catchy song to which the artist imparts much archness and liveliness. In her final number we notice a decidedly English note in the make-up, dress, and business. It is entitled "Sam," and its low comedy is very acceptable.

Mlle. Juliette's sea lions, amphibians that made a real sensation in London a few years since, have lost none of their skill and intelligence, and their juggling with balls, their hat-throwing, and their music provide many laughable moments, as well as evoking much astonishment. They are affectionate creatures, and admirably disciplined by their fair trainer. Farr and Farland indulge in cross-talk that has a spice of originality, and one of them, in an imitation of Mr. G. P. Huntley, now in America, is decidedly droll. In Staley's Transformations from a cooperage to a completely furnished drawing-room, with the necessary changes in dress, is found a quick-change musical act that is distinguished by much ingenuity and charm; and other turns include the Onetti Sisters, clever and graceful gymnasts; Bert Errol, a female impersonator who warbles "Il bacio"; the Du Gros Trio of comic gymnasts; and Chong Ling Soo, Chinese magician, whose neat tricks are much applauded. A much appreciated number in the dances of the Russian ballet is the Danse Bacchanale of Glazounow, presented by Mlle. Ludmila Scholla and M. Theodore Kosloff with wonderful abandon.

THE OXFORD.

Chanteclair, one of the most ambitious productions that has been seen on the music-hall stage since Joe Elvin produced *Over the Sticks* at the same popular house, has found its way to the permanent favour of large audiences attracted by Mr. Blyth Pratt's capital programme. The "bird" of the story struts and frets now to the continual accompaniment of applause and laughter; the entertainment, in a novel environment, has become brisker and funnier, and the work of the cast throughout reaches a higher artistic level than during the opening week of production, and is in for a long spell of prosperity on the variety stage.

To the variety portion of the bill there are two lady contributors who have became immense favourites by the right of exceptional artistic endowment—Miss Gertie Gitana and Miss Madge Tempie. It is just a few years since the former young lady, then quite a little girl, appeared for the first time at an Oxford matinée, and was at once acclaimed as a youngster of considerable ability. The promise of childhood has been more than fulfilled by Miss Gertie in the springtide of her youth, and her joyous *abandon*, her clever and pretty dancing, and her ballads make of her a *persona grata* to audiences at the Oxford. Just now she is well fitted with a tender ballad, "You were coming through the corn, Mollie dear," which brings about enthusiastic applause.

Miss Madge Temple comes from the ranks of comic opera and musical comedy, and first made her mark with Mr. Richard Green in the early days of the Coliseum. She then attracted considerable notice by her impersonation of a romantic heroine named Fenella; but it was at the halls that she developed her delightful comedy, and, aided by cleverly-written lyrics and tuneful melody, always touched with lightness and humour the craze or whim of the moment. "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," in which the responsive and eager gods roar the chorus, is her first number. In her second Miss Temple may be said to waft the scent of the ozone over the footlights, when she sings with sly archness and irresistible humour "On the sands," in which the verses are so many storyettes of the ever-rolling sea, whose tides—at flood or ebb—have so much to do with the affairs of man and woman. Miss Temple always wears very charming hats, and her outdoor costume is a revelation of neatness, nattiness, and exquisite taste.

Miss Gipsy Woolf, a brunette of great attractiveness, brightens the later half of the Oxford programme with a most fascinating dancing scena, the nature of which is revealed in the title "The Mermaids of Margate." Wee Georgie Wood as an *enfant terrible* in frocks, keeps the house laughing during his vagaries with a nurse and a Teddy bear, and also mimics Marie Lloyd and Harry Lauder cleverly. Mr. Frank Maura made his London début at the Oxford just a few years since, and his show of foot equilibrism is as startling as ever. Miss Winifred Ward has two catchy songs in "I can't keep away from the girls" and "Keep your eye on father"; Mr. Harry Bedford's dancing is particularly quaint; the Cape Girls are smart long-boot dancers; Hayman and Franklin are still exploiting their successful duologue *A Matrimonial Agency*; and Mr. Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, is as smart and as popular as ever.

A fine and effective instrumental turn is supplied by the Seven Bramusas, a musical family possessing decided musical ability. Boys and girls play brass instruments with all the facility of experienced soloists, and the background to their act "Music Afloat" is a fine representation of the deck of a liner. A second scena, given in answer to the strenuous demands for an encore, is "On the Mississippi." The Bramusas are a charming family, and have a way with them that should be productive of continuous engagements. Other turns on the full and varied bill include Spalding and Riego, comedy bar performers; Mr. Harry Nelson, comedian; Les Marbas, acrobatic dancers; La Belle Linda; Miss Ma Shields, comedienne; the O'Gorman Brothers, speciality dancers; Miss Maidie Scott, more popular than ever; and Mr. Dutch Daly, in dialogue and concertina solos.

EAST HAM PALACE.

The bill of fare provided here this week is of a particularly bright and entertaining character, several of the turns being excellently novel and original. Considering that so many of the "top of the bill" artists are resting, the array of talent is a very formidable one. The especial feature of the programme is Rousby's Greater London, produced in the form of a scenic review, with fine panoramic cloths combined with the up-to-date electrical appliances. The various scenes depicted are Evening Festivals at the White City, giving a wonderful representation of the Flip-Flap in motion, and numerous airships passing overhead; and Mighty London in 1910, of which the dioramic effects of a rainstorm, with vivid flashes of lightning, and sunset and dawn, are most realistic.

Dusty Rhodes comes forth with his usual round of merriment and his parody on "Somewhere" is screamingly funny. A wonderful performance is that of G. W. Walker, blind comedian, assisted by Miss Ida May, in a vocal vaudeville scena, and one which elicits the warmest applause. Max Waldon, the famous impersonator of international stage "stars," is making a welcome reappearance, and his clever representations of a Spanish dancer and a Parisienne café-chantant dancer receive unstinted applause.

Valazzi, the supreme juggler and pedipulator, gives a marvellous exhibition of amazing feats, a special feature being "sloping the slope" on an ordinary cannon-ball. Many of his juggling feats are also astounding. George Kirby's company of comedians present an amusing sketch, entitled *Flyaway's Derby*, the strong company of fifty artists being very clever in their eccentricities. Two racehorses are also on the stage. Other pleasing "turns" are Kisbey, "the call-boy," Evelyn Taylor, Adey Spencer (comedienne), and Katie Marsh (vocal comedienne), whose sweet singing is much admired. Mr. Albert E. Hill, the genial manager, in front is ably assisted by his lieutenant Mr. H. Wincott.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

It is not often we notice that a change of ownership makes such an immediate difference to the business done by a music hall, but in the case of the above house its popularity seems to have increased tenfold since the incoming of Mrs. Cissie Lawson. This is not surprising considering the way in which she personally attends to the comfort of her patrons, mixing with them in the gallery or pit and making them happy and studying their interests in many little ways. Mrs. Lawson has been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. Albert Adams as her general manager. This gentleman has had great experience in the profession, and should help in a large way towards the success of the house. The decorators are working on the place night and day, and when they have completed their task the Camberwell Empire should be one of the prettiest and the most comfortable variety establishments in London.

The programme this week contains many novelties of a varied and interesting description. Hemsley and Ambrose appear in their humorous and pathetic episode entitled *A Fatal Rehearsal*. The piece has many happy incidents, and at the same time it has its serious moments, and is much appreciated. Miss Gladys Clinton has a dainty style with her, and sings "I've got money in the bank," and afterwards dances with ability. Carter's Bijou Octette supply a musical scena of high worth. The boys and girls in the troupe possess good voices and dance with neatness and precision, one of their number giving a praiseworthy rendering of "Killarney" on the cornet. Mr. Nat Lewis sings in excellent style "After the pubs are shut," and creates merriment with his droll recitation.

Fred Karno's sketch *The Mumming Birds* is evoking its usual amount of mirth. Miss Lily Denville has two numbers, "Schneider" and "Prairie Flower," to both of which she does full justice, and also dances well. Miss Betty Lincoln and Mr. Charles Tuppen delight with music and song in their comedy sketch, *The Slavey's Birthday*. Mr. Tuppen plays tastefully and with considerable skill on the coach horn. The Sisters Harcourt, a captivating couple, sing "Ebenezer Brown" and "Rustus, wake up" in fine style, and earn well-deserved applause. Mlle. Liane D'Arigny is a classical dancer of considerable charm, and her dance poem, "La Danse d'Amour," is extremely well executed and well received.

Mrs. Cissie Lawson produces her highly successful sketch, *The Devil's Sunday*. The piece holds the profound attention of the audience from beginning to end, and Mrs. Lawson plays in her usual brisk and entertaining manner and supplies a delineation of great power and interest. The evening's enjoyment is brought to a happy close with pictures shown by what is now termed "Cissie's Bioscope."

THE STANDARD.

Mr. T. S. Dickie's programme at this old-established and popular hall is of that attractive and varied nature patrons are accustomed to, and is particularly strong in comedy interludes. One of the funniest turns in this week's bill is the farcical playlet *Something for Nothing*, presented by Fred Conquest and company. The head of the combination is, of course, responsible for a very droll and finished portrayal of the miserly moneylender, Mr. Grabbit, the extraordinary antics, facial expression, and behaviour generally of the eccentric and artful old man provoking almost continuous laughter. Such a clever character study is seldom seen at the halls, and is an eloquent tribute to the splendid training Fred Conquest had under his famous father. The company supporting him have little opportunity of distinguishing themselves, but all valuably serve their chief, Mr. W. Seguin as Mr. Owitt and Mr. Ainslie Burton as an office boy, who belies his name of Soppy, merrily helping along the fun and giving sound portrayals. Mr. Frank Gordon as a mysterious and maniacal visitor to old Grabbit, with a weird and wonderful make-up, also supplied an effective little bit of acting, and Miss Olga Kate Vernon, the velvet-voiced heroine of many a Surrey drama, has a part unworthy of her abilities in Mrs. Soppy, a charwoman, to which she does every justice.

The Star of the Bazaar, a funny comedietta with a serious finish, is also a much-appreciated item in the bill. Miss Alice Hughes as the seemingly frolicsome burlesque actress who intends to annex bank-notes belonging to the curate contributes an attractive and effective impersonation, the shocked cleric and his faithful, if familiar, servant also being capitally enacted. Hemsley and Ambrose have a comedy coster interlude, also with a pathetic moment, in *The Fatal Rehearsal*, and the amusing trifle is responsible for many laughs. *The Porter and the Singer* is a droll duologue, smartly given by Rose and Challoner, the lady distinguishing herself as a tuneful vocalist, and her partner as a faithful mimic of T. E. Dunville and Sam Mayo.

Miss Mabelle Fournier, the talented juvenile première danseuse from the Folies Bergère, Paris, is paying a welcome return here, and her four selected dances are all cleverly given and loudly acclaimed; and Miss Tiny Franks, comedienne, and Mr. Charlie Lloyd and Miss Cissie Barwick, comedy duo, contribute amusing and enjoyable items. Miss Florence Yaymen's novel caricature coon songs always win her a flattering reception, and, in addition to these cleverly worked and original numbers, on the night of our visit Miss Yaymen tunefully sang a verse of the old darkey song "The Swanee River," a droll dance also being included in her much-appreciated turn. Mr. Tom Moore has a serious selection in "The songs my mother used to sing" and a comic one in "No one can resist it," to both of which he did full justice. Mr. Harry Sims extracted all the humour possible from his number "You ought to hear him play his old ta-ra-ra," and that delightful comedy artist Miss Annie Purcell pleased the house immensely with "My Belle of Aden," "Jack Jones," and another pretty selection. Mr. T. G. Royde, comedian, is also on the programme, and the two series of animated pictures shown by the Edisonograph include Poor Fido, a pathetic tale of a dog's fidelity, Misfits, a funny trick film, and many other interesting and amusing subjects. Mr. Maurice Volny is the courteous and capable manager here.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

After a week of melodrama, Mr. C. Foster Marner has a fine variety bill on hand, and excellent business is being done. After a bright overture by Mr. Horace Sheldon's capital orchestra, a very melodious turn is given by Lyster and Cooke, who play a varied selection of airs on some quaint but very pretty instruments, and they are highly popular.

The chief honours of the evening undoubtedly fall to Miss Wish Wynne, the new comedienne, who, by reason of her sheer ability, has come to the front at one bound. Miss Wynne has some capital songs, and the first one she essays, entitled "Swank," is decidedly smart. Her studies of the London school girl and also that of the shy country lass are equally fine, and show off her talents to the best advantage. Will Musgrave is amusing in his song "Not to-night, Josephine," and Curtis Leo is giving his juggling act, with which he scores a big hit. This juggler works at high speed, and his various tricks are done in most nimble fashion. Anna Gold and her dancing boys, who supply a dancing accompaniment, as it were, to her singing, the effect of which is very pleasing. The boys also contribute a clever solo dance. Horton and La Triska present a novel number with their clown and automaton. The lady's absolutely immobile features are wonderful, and her muscular control is indeed striking. Although the doll is brought among the audience, most people are completely deceived until, on her return to the stage, the lady contributes a song and dance.

Some delightful songs are rendered by Mlle. Amélie de l'Enclos, who has a wonderful range, and whose singing causes astonishment as well as enjoyment. Coram and his little friend give an amusing ventriloquial sketch which is full of diverting patter and goes well. Herbert Rule is, as usual, well to the fore with his comic ditties. On this occasion he indulges in a clever parody of "Yip-i-addy," which causes general diversion. Another interesting turn is that of Barnard's Mannikins; the antics of the little figures are most amusing and cleverly worked. Miss Carlotta

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY SOUTHERN ROSE.
A Novelty Chorus Ballad sung by MISS MAUD COURTNEY and MISS ANNA CHANDLER.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

De Yonson and company are presenting their fine sketch *The Case of the Kidnapped King*, in which Mr. C. Douglas Carlile again gives his impersonation of Sexton Blake, and Miss De Yonson appears with success as the Princess Myra. The Bioscope concludes.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

It frequently happens that a programme which does not seem to appeal to one when the street bills first catch the eye, turns out in the testing to be quite up to a good average, and sometimes even goes further. The present week's menu at the popular house presided over by the popular Mr. Pierre Cohen is a case in point. The casual observer—the blasé man in the street—might say, like Sir Charles Coldstream, "there's nothing in it." But that is just where he would make one of his inevitable mistakes. Not only is there plenty in it, but there is much of very excellent quality. Mr. Cohen is to be congratulated and thanked for giving his patrons something in the nature of a "surprise packet" in his programme for this week. It is gratifying to note that the public are not slow to recognise a good thing when they get it, and that "business" is surprisingly good for the season of the year.

An excellent start is made by Gus Ryder, a vocalist of no mean order, smart and alert in his military uniform, who sings well and whistles sweetly; the Corina Sisters are two engaging young ladies, charmingly dressed, who perform on instruments too numerous to mention, but all beautiful; an instantaneous success is made by Little Zola, who is aptly described as an unusual comedian. One can only wish that his talents were more usual. His song, "It makes me feel so small" has much appropriate humour, and his extraordinary dancing fairly brings down the house.

Fanny and Harry Dent appear in a novel mélange, *The Indian Bottle*, singing and dancing with an amount of vigour and humour combined that certainly deserves, as it receives, some of the loudest applause of the evening; Ethel Campbell, looking supremely dainty, sings "Love is like a balloon" charmingly, and even betters that effort with "You must admire a man like that"; Harry Taft is a very original comedian, and is exceedingly funny in his song, "My Mother was a lady," his whistling is of an extraordinary nature, and, to some sensitive hearers, may partake of the earsplitting quality, but it is very clever; Hammon and Wyatt, the Sandow Girls, with their magnificent (there is no other word for it) appearance, create something of a sensation, first in their duet, "Dreaming," and anon in a picturesque Mexican scena.

A huge reception is accorded to Harry Champion. He first captivates his hearers with that plaintive hymn, "Boiled Beef and Carrots," again with a song having the refrain, "You don't want to keep on showing it," and again with "Down came the blind." Not content with screaming themselves hoarse over these, Mr. Champion's sturdy admirers insisted on having—and got—a fourth contribution, and his "Don't do it again" sent the house into convulsions of laughter.

The Five Whiteleys repeat a performance that has been seen here before, but is always welcome. Their acrobatic feats on the wire, their tumbling and general business, must be classed among those things that must be seen to be believed. Whatever the Whiteleys do they do well, and the breathless interest with which the audience follows the daring exploits of the lady member of the company, such as jumping over five chairs on the wire, is, in itself, a tribute to the excellence and grace of their entertainment. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope winds up the evening with some thrilling pictures of North American Indian life.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Variety gives place to drama this week, and Matthew Lynton and company are producing James Willard's mystery play, *The Girl with the Angel Face*, presented for the first time at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Aug. 3, 1908. The absorbing interest of the plot loses nothing of its attractiveness in the hands of the capable company now filling the principal rôles. An Ealing audience loves a play with strong situations, and this *The Girl with the Angel Face* supplies in full.

Miss Minnie Love fills the name part, and right well does she translate the author's ideas. Alternately vindictive and cajoling, she looks and acts the character to the life. Whether tricking her benefactor, Sir John Wentworth, bullying her old grandfather, Jasper Death, or threatening the would-be blackmailer, Martin Flood, she is ever forceful and convincing. As Jasper Death Mr. E. Ling gives a fine character study of a cringing, cunning, loquacious old man; his make-up is good, and some of his business excellent, and he is quite successful in acquiring the hatred of the audience. The two sisters, Ena Wentworth and Mollie Maitland (Eno's sister), have good representatives in the persons of Miss G. Vernon and Miss L. Potter. The temperament of the two daughters of Thomas Wentworth—the one happy and boisterous, as if filled with the very joy of life, the other broken-hearted, yet brave in her betrayal—loses nothing of its pathos, nothing of its gaiety, in the hands of these clever actresses, and the house was not niggardly in showing its appreciation. The Rector of West Marlow (Mr. M. Lynton) has some fine opportunities, notably in the struggle with the blackmailer, Martin Flood, in the second act, a conflict which is ended by a shot from Litt'e Nellie—Ena's child, prettily played by Miss R. White. The Hon. Percy Paget, a masher and a gentleman, who is sweethearting with Mollie Maitland, finds excellent representation from Mr. E. Beresford, while the chauffeur, Jim Bates (Mr. W. Hicks), forms an amusing foil for the witticisms of an Earl's son. Mr. G. Winsford represents the Man of Mystery, Sir John or Thomas Wentworth, and succeeds in maintaining the secret of the vault in West Marlow Church up to the very last. Mr. J. Stirling makes an able lawyer-friend to Sir John, while the unsympathetic character of Stephen Arkwright, the private secretary, is well supported by Mr. M. Lawson. The drama is well staged, the incidental music capably rendered by the Hippodrome band, and Mr. J. A. Molloy, the manager, must be gratified at the excellent use he has made of his double licence.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

A visit to Mr. Cecil Paget's popular South London house reveals to us the fact that in spite of the summer weather it is still enjoying plenty of support from Peckham patrons. The ball is opened by Miss Gladys Warren, a shapely young lady, who sings with success a couple of songs, but a little more animation on her part would add to the attractiveness of her effusion. Mr. Irve Hayman, assisted by a clever little child artist, whose name is not on the programme, presents a telling episode, entitled *Christmas Eve*. Mr. Hayman presents an admirable character sketch of the repentant burglar. Mr. Phil Bransby scores a decided success in his two coster effusions, "There's always a welcome for a stranger" and "It aint my place to interfere," which he renders with much humour. Miss Jessie Stuart proves herself the possessor of a fine soprano voice in her two vocal efforts "Mr. Moon" and "My song bird."

Mr. Jack Hayworth is an extremely clever delineator of Scotch character, and his two songs, "That's mine" and "McCloskie mon, I wish that I was you," are received with abundant laughter and applause. Messrs. Kydd and Kydd are successful in their comedy scene *A Mix-up Story of a Shipwreck*, but their patter needs brightening up. The smart Athos troupe of ball manipulators and acrobats gain a deservedly big reception. Messrs. Wild, Willie, and West, described as the "Three Bounding Navvies," soon bound their way into the favour of the audience, their knockabout business being extremely clever and withal intensely comic. Mr. Maurice Lee and his three young lady artists, styled "The Militaire Brigade," favour us with an attractive turn of song and dance.

The bright entertainment concludes with some most picturesque and realistic films upon Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, entitled A Corner in Wheat, which shows us how a Yankee millionaire corners the wheat market, and ultimately meets with dramatic justice by tumbling into the wheat pit, and being smothered by the falling grain.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

This week the management have wandered from the variety path, and for a short period have reverted to the "legitimate" with *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. H. Hargreaves as Lieut. Richard Marsh, R.N., made the most of the part; as Harry Gordon Mr. Harry Thornton was a typical stage villain; the Lord Erskine of Mr. Fred W. Freeman was effective; and Mr. Tom May a very funny Sammy Snozzle, and Mr. W. Pemberton as the Jew Barney Gordon, with Miss M. Hungerford as Sally Smithers, kept the play alive and the audience in a good humour. Mr. Geo. Belmore was well placed as the hooligan Jerry Holmes; Miss C. Carew was very good as Honour Moore; so, too, was Miss Daisy Cook as Gladys Erskine. Miss Violet Crossley made a capital Bess. The remaining characters were in capable hands, especially Mr. Jas. Selwin as Rev. Evans. The play is well dressed and mounted, and the scenery everything that could be desired.

Mr. Fred Carr, of Carr and Rose, is lying in St. Thomas's Hospital suffering from appendicitis. He would be pleased to hear from his friends.

The Two Bobs (Bob Adams and Bob Alden) on their first appearance in Europe have made a decided success. Their performance at the Tivoli is quite novel, and their style distinct, either playing the piano, singing, or dancing. They have a charm which quite takes the fancy of the audience.

A Northumbrian, Mr. J. W. A. Eskdale, the manager of the Gourock Pavilion, has travelled far and exercised his talents in many spheres, at times conducting the very fine musical combination at the Pavilion. He has managed for Arthur Jefferson, but, so far, has never appeared in the legitimate.

The Eskdale Select Band was a force in the Glasgow parks, and on his appearance in Regent's Park, London, with the Scotch band, Mr. Eskdale won high commendation. He was a pupil and friend of Philip Aimes, Mus.Doc., Durham Cathedral.

A man of many parts, Mr. Eskdale has been church organist, leading violinist, and cornet and saxophone soloist, and has supervised the thousand and one items that make up the duties of a Government contractor, having for ten years the training of boy bandsmen.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS VERA SAUNDERS.

Miss Vera Saunders may be numbered amongst our growing band of young entertainers. The young lady in question is just over seventeen years of age, and only finished her schooling some three months ago at St. Margaret's College. Always, in her own words, "crazy to go on the stage," the little lady was a member of two amateur dramatic and operatic societies. Mr. Leon Beaudout taught her dancing, in connection with a little Dutch operetta he produced some six months ago. Finding Miss Saunders an apt pupil, he took pains to develop her talent in this direction, and succeeded in turning out a finished little dancer. The possessor of a good soprano voice, Miss Saunders is being carefully coached by her music master, Mr. Lionel Cochrane, and that gentleman states she is one of the most natural singers he has trained.

[*Photo by Langfier.*

MISS VERA SAUNDERS.

Mr. Harry McKelvie gave Miss Saunders her first engagement in Scotland, Mr. Frank Allen immediately booking her, whilst she has appeared at the Grand, Clapham, the South London, the Metropolitan, and the Tivoli in succession. Her bookings include the Syndicate Halls for 1910-11 and the Gibbons tour.

Miss Saunders is a member of an old Surrey family, her father being well known as an authority on rose culture. Cycling and boating form her chief amusements, and in emulation of her father she is an enthusiastic grower of white roses. Her present ambition is to appear as Red Riding Hood, and play Marie Löhr parts with songs and dances.

"'LIZA'S WEDDING DAY."

An Original Episode of Coster Life, by Swan and Vesta, Produced at the Poplar Hippodrome, on Monday, July 11.

This is a pretty little scena, and should last Swan and Vesta for some time. The scenic effects are decidedly good. The dialogue requires some slight alteration, but, no doubt, after a while this will be effected. 'Liza and Bill are to be married. They drive up to the church in a very swagger donkey chaise, but, unfortunately, next to the church is the Barley Mow, and Bill, feeling somewhat thirsty, proposes beer. 'Liza objects. She states her reasons, and it leads to a right royal row, during which Bill tears up the licence. Matters appear to be irreparable for a time, but the strains of the wedding march from the church repair the damage done, and both quickly decide to make it up. They enter the church, and leave just as the curtain falls—a very effective finish.

The Poplar Hippodrome programme also includes Marie Wilton, comedienne; Chas. Russell, comedian and vocalist; Jack and Evelyn, in their latest, *Introductions;* Mamie Fenton, with "Bonnie Sandy" and "Donald McIntyre." Mamie, who appears in full Highland costume, has a particularly pleasing style. Her efforts are greatly appreciated. Claude Gardner sings about "I want a girl like that," also "I'm going to meet my girl," the latter a very taking number. The Maples have a laughable comedy skit in *How to Treat a Burglar;* and Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy, has quite a novel scena in "In Days of Old," in which several feats of strength are cleverly given.

Barney Armstrong, assisted by Kelly, makes the hit of the evening in a burlesque of the simultaneous song-and-dance act, so much in vogue. The house literally rocks with laughter. Harry Randall, with funny patter and clever character; Kitty Colyer, a fine dancer; and the Bioscope, with new pictures, are also in the bill.

The Villagers, a recent addition to the ranks of first-class concert parties, have made a decided hit at H.M. Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, at which most of the leading concert parties have appeared, and owing to the fine business done during their opening week, were immediately offered a return contract for their first open date by Mr. Calvert Routledge, the lessee and manager. Messrs. Moore and Bentz are negotiating with The Villagers for an extended colonial tour.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 19.)

At the London Pavilion during the present week Mr. Arthur Aldridge has been repeating his former triumphs at this house with Feldman and Co.'s great ballad-success, "Beautiful Garden of Roses," and is also received with acclaim for his rendering of "Mary, you're a big girl now," another Feldman number.

The success which Miss Gertie Gitana achieved on the Stoll tour with Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford's graceful pastoral ballad, "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," has been duplicated this week at the Oxford and her other London turns, at all of which this delightful song and singer have won the suffrages of all auditors in a very marked manner. Messrs. Feldman and Co. publish this latest success of Miss Gitana's.

Mr. Fred Barnes is going great guns at the Euston and other engagements with two Feldman songs, both from the accomplished pen of Mr. John A. Glover-Kind, entitled: "I'd rather be by the fireside" and "Let's have a little bit of sunshine," both of which are chorused by his hearers and literally applauded to the echo.

Mr. J. R. Tyrell, proprietor of the Pierrots at St. Andrews, N.B., writes Messrs. Feldman and Co. most enthusiastically anent the success his company is making with four of the Arthur-street firm's songs, to wit: "Pretty little Girl from Nowhere," "Alpine Dress," "Hello, little girl," and "I do like to be beside the seaside," all of which are going big up North.

Mr. Lloyd Edgar's popular troupe the Savoyards are opening next Monday at the Pier, Aberystwyth, when Miss Frances Leonard will sing at every performance no less than four Feldman numbers, viz.: "Alpine Dress," "Sunbonnet Lady," "I wonder who's kissing her now," and "Pretty little Girl from Nowhere."

Miss E. Pooley, at the Theatre Royal, Goole, last week made a most sterling sucess with her rendering of "Looking for the lovelight in your eyes," which Messrs. Feldman and Co. publish, it being encored again and again by the delighted hearers of this talented young artiste.

Mr. Reed Pinaud, jun., has been most successful at the Hippodrome Gardens, Llandudno, with his renderings of "I do like to be beside the seaside" and "I'd rather be by the fireside," and will shortly feature several other Feldman publications.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Orlando Powell have just fitted Miss Millie Hylton with a strong dramatic song-scena, entitled "The Dawn of a To-morrow," which she will produce at the Empire, Hackney, on Aug. 1, and throughout her forthcoming Stoll tour, including the Coliseum, where she opens on the 8th prox. She will also sing two other specially written songs from the same pens, "I couldn't help being a lady" and "Puff, puff, out went the moon."

"Hail! King George!" published by B. Feldman and Co., was produced for the first time at the Court Theatre, Brighton, on Monday with terrific success, the singer having to respond to no fewer than seven and eight calls.

Miss Sadie Simpson, comedienne and dancer, who has been engaged for Douglas for two weeks, commencing July 24, will be featuring in Manxland her original song "My little girl from nowhere."

Harry Sims is just now featuring two excellent songs, respectively "You ought to hear him play his oom-ter-ara" and "The very first girl I see." Both numbers are published by the Star Music Co.

Miss Winifred Ward, a member of the excellent company at the Oxford, on Monday evening produced a new song, by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, entitled "Keep your eye on father." This item fits Miss Ward like the proverbial glove, and allows her many opportunities to display her humorous talent. Laughter and spontaneous applause was the well-earned reward for a really fine performance. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

The Star Co. are the publishers of Mr. C. R. Whittle's new chorus song, which is entitled "Fall in, and follow me." Arthur J. Mills and Bennett Scott are to be congratulated on a number of which much will be heard.

THE MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. William Bailey presided, and there were also present Messrs. Pat Carey (treasurer), W. H. Handley, S. Whyte, F. Boyce, A. Drew, W. Collins, T. Carney, H. E. High, W. Bailey, jun., and R. T. Baines (secretary).

The principal business was the election of officers and committee for the ensuing year.

On the motion of Mr. T. Carney, seconded by Mr. F. Boyce, Mr. Fred Karno was reappointed President of the Society. Mr. W. H. Handley proposed, and Mr. S. Whyte seconded, the proposal that Mr. W. J. Wainratta be re-elected Vice-President, and this was carried unanimously.

Messrs. H. Jennings and Douglas White were, on the proposition of Mr. Pat Carey, seconded by Mr. T. Carney, re-elected trustees of the Society, and Mr. Leon Zeitlin was appointed the third trustee in the place of Mr. Jesse Sparrow resigned.

Mr. Pat Carey was re-elected treasurer, and Messrs. T. Carney and F. Boyce appointed hon. auditors. Other officers again nominated and elected included Messrs. G. F. McCarthy and J. H. Griffin, hon. medical advisers, and Mr. A. Oldred Clarke, hon. solicitor.

The committee of management for the ensuing year was also duly elected. It is worthy of record that the committee, which met on March 18, 1867, when the society was formed, included the late Wm. Holland (chairman), F. Ledger (of *The Era*), Wm. Page, J. D'Auban, F. French, J. Wardo, P. Corri, Arthur Lloyd, and G. W. Hunt. Mr. Fred Strange was the first President of the Society, with Mr. Harry Huggins as hon. president, Mr. J. J. Liveasey was the first treasurer, and Mr. J. R. O'Hara the first secretary, his successor being the late G. W. Hunt, the author of the famous "jingo" song originally sung by Mr. J. H. Macdermott.

On arriving at the popular West of England seaside resort, the travellers were met by many friends, and, marshalled under the guidance of Sergeants Tom Cook, Dan Crawley, Fred W. Bristow, and others, motors, waggonettes, and boats were engaged. Some preferred to take a stroll on the Esplanade, others through the woods and town. Great credit and praise are due to the servants of the G.W.R. Co., who attended, not only to the outer, bu tinner man, going and coming.

Mr. Edgar Hyman, the South African impresario, was an interested spectator at the Palace, Glasgow, on Friday (8th), and during an interval formed one of a lively theatrical group, including Mr. A. E. Pickard (of the Panopticon), Mr. Harry McKelvie (of the Palace), Mr. Prince Bendon, Mr. Harry Thurston, and others, and many amusing comparisons between variety business as conducted in South Africa and in this country were exchanged.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE
Miss Dorothy Ward	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"GRETNA GREEN."

"Pugilistic Playlet," in Two Scenes, by Fred Moule, Produced at Sadler's Wells on Monday, July 11.

Sir George Buckley .....MR. FRED MOULE
Amos Crissel .....MR. JACK WAYHO
David Rothwell .....MR. JACK COLLINSON
Millicent Dale .....MISS ANNIE THOMAS
Harry Merton .....MR. FRANK KINGSLEY

Exciting situations are plentiful in Mr. Fred Moule's latest sketch, a "pugilistic playlet," *Gretna Green*, which, excellently played and mounted, appealed successfully to Monday night's audience at Sadler's Wells, the fight with the "raw 'uns" at the conclusion being particularly effective. In the Tally Ho Inn on the Great North-road we learn that Sir George Buckley, a rascally lawyer, and a shady patron of the "noble art," has appropriated for his own use the fortune of his ward, Millicent Dale, and prepares certain documents concerning her money which he thinks the simple maiden will sign without reading. The unsophisticated damsel, however, informs him she has been told never to put her signature to anything she does not understand, and soon after reveals the fact to her guardian that it is her lover who has put her on her guard. This young man, Harry Merton, was formerly Buckley's head clerk, and has latterly been taken into partnership by the lawyer, and is evidently aware of the nefarious practices of the latter, for he denounces him, and severs all connection with the firm. Buckley is determined to put an end to the wooing of the young couple at once, and tells his ward to prepare for a long journey. With the help of Amos Crissel, a prize fighter ready to do any dirty work, his plan is to keep the young man at the Tally Ho Inn, and himself take Millicent, who will not be mistress of her own affairs and her money for nine months, to Gretna Green and marry her. Merton, concealed behind a cloak, overhears this proposition, and manages to detain Buckley, himself hurrying to Gretna Green with Millicent. In the next scene, the Village Smithy, the young couple arrive, and implore David Rothwell, the blacksmith, to marry them. He tells them that he cannot, as they are a mile from Gretna Green, but learning the name of the man they are trying to outwit he promises to help them, as Buckley wronged him years ago. When Buckley and Crissel come in pursuit he puts them off the track for a time, and Millicent and Merton ride off on horseback to Gretna. The blacksmith then locks the door, and when Buckley and Crissel, finding they have been tricked, demand that the door be opened, he refuses to obey them. He then tells Buckley that years ago, when he, Rothwell, was a prize fighter, in an encounter with Crissel Buckley caused Rothwell to be drugged, Buckley having backed Crissel to win for a large sum of money. He is not drugged now, and he will fight Crissel on the spot, and if the latter wins the blacksmith will give up the key of the door. Buckley agrees, and Crissel appearing to offer no objection, the couple are soon engaged in their pugilistic encounter. Needless to remark, the blacksmith soon proves his superiority over Crissel, whom he frequently "downs," and when the latter has to acknowledge defeat Millicent and Merton are at the door—man and wife. Mr. Fred Moule admirably realised the character of the scoundrelly lawyer Buckley; Mr. Jack Wayho and Mr. Jack Collinson were both excellent as Amos Crissel and David Rothwell, the fight being skilfully managed; Mr. Frank Kingsley was a satisfactory Harry Merton; and Miss Annie Thomas was a bright and engaging Millicent, but the laugh of triumph she indulges in every time she scores over her guardian was rather overdone.

A big line in the varied and entertaining programme is *Perkins, M.P.*, presented by Fred Karno's company of comedians—one long laugh from beginning to end. As the Labour candidate Mr. Tom Nelson can be complimented on a very humorous and arduous performance, and whether "spouting" in the street in opposition to Grub, flirting with a buxom Suffragette, posing to a photographer, or behaving in most ludicrous fashion in the House, Perkins always makes for merriment. A small comedian drolly helps along the fun, and the hard-working crowd all contribute valuably to the success of this "screamer." Mr. David G. Noble and company present a dramatic sketch, *Wife for a Wife*, which holds the attention of the house throughout and is admirably enacted; the Two Lillies, dainty dancers, cleverly execute a novel terpsichorean "mirror illusion"; Miss Irene May, the Lancashire nightingale, displays a cultured and excellent voice in "Beautiful garden of roses" and another tuneful number, and is loudly acclaimed; and the illustrated song "Sweet Maid of Erin's Isle" of Miss Bessie Neilson was also a much appreciated number. The Pick of the Picture World includes an interesting film, The Senorita, and scenes taken in the public ring at Alexandra Park are also shown on the Bioscope. Other entertaining items in the bill are contributed by Miss Lily Lang, juvenile character vocalist; Little Doris Dace, comedienne; and Miss Gertrude Bibby, the protean artist, in the drama *Bonnie Prince Charlie*.

"MR. JUSTICE PERKINS."

A Sketch in Three Scenes, written by Herbert Sidney, Albert Bruno, and Fred Karno, Produced at the Palace, Bristol, on Monday, July 11.

Justice Perkins .....MR. ALBERT BRUNO
Mayor of Spoddleton .....MR. HERBERT SIDNEY
Hezekiah Dull .....MR. FRANK RICKARDS
Gotty .....MR. ALFRED STUART
Phyllis .....MISS LYDIA WEBER
Mary Ann Blobbs .....MISS LALLAH DAVIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Fred Karno is a name to conjure with in the music hall world, and all sketches emanating from his fold are waited for with keen interest and anticipation. His latest production, *Mr. Justice Perkins*, ranks with any of its predecessors. The plot is quite original, and centres round the idea of a villager named Perkins being promoted to the rank of a Justice of the Peace, who amongst other experiences has to try his own breach of promise case. There are innumerable side-splitting situations, and the audience are kept in roars of laughter from start to finish. The whole atmosphere of the sketch, in construction and design, is distinctly original, and far in advance of the accustomed music hall farce. The scenery, dresses, and general ensemble are conspicuous features of the production.

The part of Perkins is capitally sustained by Albert Bruno, which fits him like the proverbial glove. There was not one dull moment whilst he was on the stage, and his performance was a great personal triumph. A capital character sketch of the Mayor of Spoddleton was given by Mr. Herbert Sidney, and the same may be said of Mr. Frank Rickards as Hezekiah Dull. Miss Lydia Weber was full of daintiness as Phyllis, and Miss Lallah Davis supplied a clever character study of Mary Ann Blobbs. Alfred Stuart as Gotty is well placed. The authors are to be congratulated on the success they have achieved, and *Justice Perkins* is assured of a prosperous career.

Sheffield Skating Club.

THE officials of the Sheffield Skating Club have received and accepted an invitation from the Manchester Ice Rink Company, Ltd., to be present on the opening night of their new rink early in October. It is intended to begin with a grand exhibition of skating, wherein all the best skaters now resident in England, together with representatives from Stockholm and Berlin, are expected to take part.

"THE FOURTH KISS."

A Dramatic Episode, by Douglas Newton, Presented by Lionel Atwill and Miss Phyllis Relph, at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, July 11.

John Hughes .....MR. LIONEL ATWILL
Phyllis Manners .....MISS PHYLLIS RELPH

The scene is Miss Manners's flat, where, on the rising of the curtain, she is found working. A moment or two afterwards there comes a knock at the door, and on opening it she is greatly surprised to find standing before her her fiancé, John Hughes, whom she imagines to be buried somewhere in Central Africa and working hard. After the joy of meeting has subsided, she remarks that Jack is looking far from well. He attributes this to the recent death of his brother and uncle. She sympathises with him and tells him that in a sense they had been expected. The matter is passed over, and in the course of conversation Phyllis tells him that he must leave her for a short while as she has some important work on hand which she must finish at once. Jack picks up a paper and retires to another room to try and kill the intervening time. Almost immediately he rushes back looking absolutely terrified, and on her asking him what is the matter, he says that he has just read of the death of another near and dear relative. She tries to calm him, but all he seems to mutter is "the curse," "the fourth kiss," which he keeps on repeating. She is, of course, completely mystified. After a short time she manages to get him to give her the reason for these strange remarks.

It appears that whilst in Africa Jack one day got frightfully drunk, his extreme loneliness—there being only one other white man with him—being given as the reason. Whilst roaming about in this condition, he came across a priest worshipping an idol, and after mocking him, proceeded to kiss it. This was too much for the priest, whose fury knew no bounds, and he cursed Jack. The nature of the curse was that wherever he was he would feel the idol kiss him. The first three kisses would mean the death of three of his nearest relations, and the fourth his own death.

Phyllis tries to persuade Jack that it is nothing more or less than coincidence, and just as her words seem to be doing him some good, he jumps up terrified, and says that he can feel the dreaded thing near him. Just as he has finished saying this, he exclaims, "My God! It has kissed me again!" and falls back dead.

This powerful little sketch, which grips the audience from start to finish, should have a long and successful career. Mr. Lionel Atwill as John Hughes both acts and looks the part; and to Miss Phyllis Relph nothing but praise can be given for the splendid support she gives him.

At the top of a very strong programme we have Harry Tate in *Flying*. As may be supposed, this causes many a laugh. That popular chorus comedienne, Miss Dora Lyric, has an enthusiastic reception and gives of her best in two numbers, viz., "Hello, Mr. Captain, are there any girls below?" and "Give us a grip of your hand." The choruses of these, especially the latter, are most heartily taken up, and it is a long while before the house will let her go. A very droll comedian, Jack Pleasants, causes intense amusement by his quaint rendering of "'Liza had hold of my hand" and "I'm shy.' The Calcotts, in a wayside episode entitled "Rags and Tatters," contribute an excellent singing and dancing number, and Learto, assisted by his clever poodle Pom Pom, seems to be able to extract music from anything. A comedienne who scores well is Marie Blaymen, with a most taking style. Her two numbers "Don't take me home" and "Send them along to me" are tunefully rendered. Mildred Parr at the piano is a great success. Amongst other songs, she gives a very pathetic number entitled "He is only a little 'un," which is immensely appreciated.

The weird dancing of the Phydoras, in which the male member excels, is cleverly executed, and other items towards a most pleasant evening include Harry Simms, Albert St. Clair, Em Roll, O'Malley and Brown, Tom Moore, and Hayes and Watson. Edward's bioscope is responsible for some capital pictures. The seating arrangements have recently been considerably improved by making an aisle through the centre of the stalls, which adds much to the comfort of the audience.

"AN INDIAN ROMANCE."

Scena, Produced on Monday, July 11, at the Queen's, Poplar, by Leonard Robson and company.

Black Eagle .....MR. T. WATTS
Jack Rayson .....MR. LEONARD ROBSON
White Lily .....MISS ELMIE KEMP

The prologue of this scena is projected on the screen by the Bioscope. It shows us Black Eagle as an unsuccessful suitor for the hand of Jack Rayson's mother. Taunts against his colour madden him. He vows vengeance, and with the help of other members of his tribe murders the woman who has spurned him, and carries off her daughter to his home on the prairie. Twelve years elapse between the prologue and the play proper. White Lily has grown into a charming girl. Black Eagle wishes her to marry him, but she revolts from the idea. He threatens her, and is about to use force, when Jack Rayson—who has been steadily tracking down the murderer of his mother—arrives in time to protect his sister from harm. He struggles with the Indian, and after a desperate encounter, shoots him dead. The sketch was very well received. Mr. Leonard Robson was a manly Jack Rayson, and played vigorously. The rôle of Black Eagle was effectively portrayed by Mr. T. Watts. The honours of the evening were with Miss Elmie Kemp for a natural and pretty rendering of the character of White Lily.

The programme also included Harry Ormonde, comedian; Cyrus Dare, the popular entertainer; Winnie Melville, comedienne; Herbert Clifton; Harry Brettell, a new mimic with some life-like impersonations of Gus Elen, Wilkie Bard, and Mark Sheridan. Harry should most certainly go far, as he is without doubt clever. Ferguson, Mack, and company have a new comedy sketch in *A Military Pickle*, which, although somewhat similar to their previous sketch, is genuinely funny. Their comedy-tragedy acting is quite good, and their efforts were greatly appreciated by the crowded house. The Sisters Hall have a couple of good songs, and render them well; Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist; Kisbey; and Fred Karno's company of comedians, in *Skating*, also appear.

Pleasure Beach Rink, Blackpool.

THE popularity of the South Shore Pleasure Beach rink is being demonstrated by the large throngs of visitors, who daily present a scene of bright, animated gaiety. The spacious floor has an excellent skating surface of 16,200 feet of finest American kiln-dried rock maple, and it is the scene of happy pleasure-seekers obtaining the maximum amount of enjoyment. With admirable music supplied by a full military band, there is nothing wanting to complete the success of the rink. Special provision is made whereby the rink can be converted into an open-air skating pavilion by the removal of the wooden partitions which form the walls. This advantage will commend itself to those rinkers who wish to pursue the fashionable pastime under the most healthy and exhilarating conditions. The rink hockey matches which take place here periodically are very attractive and much enjoyed.

West Stanley Skating Rink.

THE hockey competition, which has been some time in progress, was concluded on Friday night, the 8th, in the presence of a large number of spectators. A fancy dress carnival was held on Wednesday, for which several valuable prizes were given. It was well attended.

A CHAT WITH HARRY RICKARDS.

It was in 1872 that Mr. Harry Rickards, then a young and successful comic singer, first set foot in Australia, having taken out a small company, with which he went through the now prosperous Commonwealth and New Zealand. He did not then anticipate the great development of entertainment that obtained later in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide, and for some years pursued with unquestioned success the even tenor of his way as a comic singer, becoming, with James Fawn, Arthur Roberts, Chirgwin, Macdermott, and others, what may be termed one of the stock company at the London Pavilion. About four or five of the principal halls and spells in the provinces were sufficient in those days to keep a star variety comedian going. But this was long before the period of one week engagements and two houses a night.

The full history of the growth of Mr. Rickards's enterprises, were we to give it, would read like a chapter of romance, but a few minutes' chat with him enables one to immediately grasp the fact that the popular Australian pioneer of variety is a stickler for exactitude, and that he is peculiarly modest in his own estimate of his success. "The opportunities seemed to come my way, and I took them," said he casually to *The Era* representative who endeavoured to break down the barrier of his reticence and get him to talk about himself. It was in the late eighties that Mr. Rickards began to make his influence felt as a caterer "down under." When he appeared at the St. George's Hall, Melbourne, in the eighties, he did not anticipate becoming the owner of that fine freehold property the Melbourne Opera House.

Alert, up-to-date, and preserving admirably a youthful appearance, Mr. Rickards confesses an affection for some of the usages of the early music hall. The salaries were small, he admits, but the engagements were long; but now, even in Australia, he has had to shorten his tour from twenty-six weeks to twelve, a necessity that, of course, adds largely to his expenses for journeys overseas. His public are very staunch but very exacting. The best artists only are good enough for them; and from July to October Mr. Rickards divides his time between England and the Continent in his search for high-class novelties for his

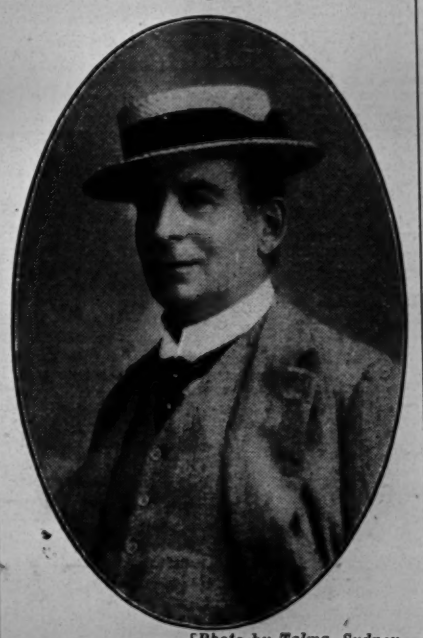

[*Photo by Talma, Sydney.*

MR. HARRY RICKARDS

circuit, which includes the Opera House, Melbourne, the Tivoli, Sydney (the most up-to-date house in Greater Britain, rebuilt by its owner, with all the latest improvements, after it was burnt down); the Tivoli Theatre, Adelaide, of which Mr. Rickards has just acquired a further lease; and the Palace Gardens, Perth.

When asked as to the possibilities of a linking up of Colonial variety interests, Mr. Rickards does not become prophetic. Of course, like ourselves, he has heard of gigantic schemes of outspreading variety, but at the moment of writing he is not by way of merging, though as a 'cute business man he would treat with every consideration an offer from any well-established and wealthy corporation.

He is not yet tired of being a one-man proprietor, and if he should become so there is the substantial offer of £120,000 from a prominent Colonial financier as the purchase price of the Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Perth properties to be moulded into a syndicate, with Mr. Rickards as managing-director. This offer holds good until Mr. Rickards's return in October, and, if accepted, it will be only under the condition that all engagements made by him are to be ratified by any new management that may be in power. In Mr. Rickards's opinion there is no chance for the two-houses-a-night music hall in the cities of Australia; the population is not large enough. The plan when tried resulted in an ignominious failure. With the branch of the Variety Artists' Federation established in Australia he is the best of friends, and all of his musicians are union men except two, one of whom has been in his service seventeen years. Mr. Rickards, like all Colonists, loves the Old Country, and is enjoying immensely his residence at his charming house and grounds near Margate. He looks particularly well, and regards as his most agreeable experience the greetings of old friends. He will shortly be visiting the various capitals of the Continent on business and pleasure bent, and will not turn his back on dear old England until October.

THE popularity of the Palace steamers is more evident than ever, vast numbers of passengers being carried daily on holiday bent to Southend, Margate, and Ramsgate, or enjoying the delightful trip to Deal and Dover, with its exquisite views of the Kentish coast. The Kohinoor and Royal Sovereign still maintain their position as the best appointed and most luxurious of the boats that throng the waterway between London and the seaside. Members of the profession largely avail themselves of the opportunities thus afforded of combining business with pleasure, the presence on deck of professional baskets of properties showing that artists on tour frequently avail themselves of so cheap and pleasant a means of transit from one engagement to another.

Newark Skating Rink.

THE directors of the Newark Skating Rink are carrying out extensive alterations, including the erection of a movable stage equipped with scenery, &c., for theatrical performances. The hall is to be fitted with tip-up chairs, heating apparatus, and modern conveniences. Arrangements have been made with Mr. W. Payne Seddon, lessee of the Lincoln and Gainsborough Theatres, to provide theatrical entertainments for three nights per week throughout the coming season.

St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

THE St. James's Hall, Plymouth, which has been occupied by Messrs. A. and H. Andrews, will be reopened on Aug. 2 by Mr. Henry N. Phillips with the British Animated Pictures. Mr. Phillips has taken a long lease of the above premises.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

The report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee on Tuesday's L.C.C. agenda contained the following paragraph:—"The Council on 6th July, 1909, referred it to us to consider and report whether the Council should not seek power to inspect the Royal Albert Hall and any other place of public entertainment at present unlicensed by the Council, with a view to enforcing the usual regulations for the protection of the public against dangers of fire and panic. In connection with our consideration of this reference our attention was drawn to the fact that public performances of stage plays were frequently given in the theatre at the Albert Hall. The theatre is not licensed for stage plays, and we were advised that the Royal Charter, dated 8th April, 1867, under which the hall was erected, and the supplemental charter, dated 25th October, 1888, did not authorise the use of the premises for theatrical performances. The attention of the corporation in whom the management of the hall is vested was accordingly drawn to the illegality of the performances, and an assurance was asked for that the premises would not be used for the performance of stage plays unless and until a licence under the Theatres Act, 1843, and a certificate, with regard to the structural fitness of the premises, under section 12 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, had been obtained.

"The corporation, however, contended that the Royal Charters authorised the performances, and refused to give the assurance asked for. We therefore gave instructions for proceedings to be taken to determine whether the Council had any responsibility for the safety of the public frequenting the theatre. The case was heard by Mr. Horace Smith, at Westminster Police Court, on June 10, 11, and 18, and was then adjourned until June 23, 1910, in order that the magistrate might consider his decision. For the defence it was contended that the Council was not the proper authority to take proceedings, as the theatre was in the area over which the Lord Chamberlain exercised jurisdiction under the Theatres Act, 1843, and further that the theatre was kept open under letters patent by virtue of the charters granted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The magistrate decided that the Council had the right to take proceedings, and that the Royal Charters did not entitle the corporation to use the theatre for stage plays, and he imposed a penalty of £20, which will be paid to the Council. Upon the application of the defendants the magistrate consented to state a case for the opinion of the High Court, and we have instructed the solicitor to take the necessary steps to uphold the magistrate's decision in the event of the case being proceeded with. We will, in due course, report on the reference to us with regard to the Albert Hall premises generally."

The Council on Tuesday approved of drawings of the proposed electric and gas lighting installations at the Finsbury Park Empire.

SUNDAY OPENING OF CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS.

In the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee the original paragraph relating to the opening of the Picture Palace and Cinematograph Theatre, Borough High-street, was brought up again. The proprietors of the establishment were summoned for infringing the conditions laid down by the London County Council, in granting the licence, that there should be no Sunday exhibitions; but Mr. Chapman, the Stipendiary, ruled that the Council had acted *ultra vires* in prohibiting the shows on Sunday, Good Friday, and Christmas Day, and therefore dismissed the summons with five guineas costs. Against this decision the County Council are now appealing.

On the motion for the reception of the report, which was simply a recital of the facts without any recommendation,

Mr. Jesson, Labour member, offered strong opposition on behalf of members of the entertainment profession to the decision of the magistrate, which he contended would, if upheld, mean to them a seven days' week. If facilities for Sunday opening were given to these cinematograph places indiscriminately, they could not deny them to the music halls. In a couple of years or so the boom in cinematograph shows would be over; but in the meantime very serious competition to the music halls would have arisen, and that placed artists and employers at a very serious disadvantage. The electric theatres, as they were called, made a boast of it that they could run their shows on £20 a week, earning dividends of £40, £50, and £60 per cent. If these cinematograph places were given the privilege of Sunday opening, it would come to it that there would be Sunday opening all round; and Sunday work for musicians and employees in every case. The conditions would be that if a man was not prepared to work on a Sunday neither should he be employed on a week-day; and then the position for the workers would be the same as in America and on the Continent, which all those who had to do with places of entertainment would very much deplore. He asked the Council to look upon the matter, not from the spectator's point of view, but simply from the point of view of the thousands engaged in work at the halls and shows. It was quite clear that in this matter what London did to-day the country would do to-morrow. The musical profession, on their part, would be very sorry to have their Sunday rest abolished. They had quite enough of Sunday work at the seaside resorts. They had found that in supporting the Sunday League they had been backing the wrong horse. By the action of the Council, the League had been able to compete successfully with individual proprietors, and the consequence must be that in time there would be Sunday opening all round, just as it was in America and on the Continent. There would, however, be a big movement on the part of the musical profession to do away with all Sunday labour, but for the moment it was desired to so control Sunday entertainments as to inflict the least hardship upon artists and employers. The professional men claimed the same right of Sunday leisure as others did. He could imagine the indignation which would be aroused if it were proposed that shopkeepers should keep their places open on Sundays and demand the services of their employees for people who never came to them on any other day. When the Sunday movement was first started, the entertainments were confined to town halls and such like places. There was no idea that it would be extended to theatres and music halls; but when the Council in a moment of weakness gave permission to the opening of those places on Sunday, they at once inflicted a great hardship on the musical and other members of the profession. The Theatre and Music Halls Committee, he contended, should not have been so liberal in granting permission for Sunday opening to all who came along. There was the case of the Women's Health Association, who undertook work which should be done by the sanitary authorities, and which by no stretch of the imagination could be called a philanthropic institution. Musicians, variety artists, and stage employes alike claimed that they were vitally interested in this question of Sunday opening; and it was unfair that they should be put in the position of having to fight for a privilege which the County Council had taken away from them.

Mr. Rogers supported the views of Mr. Jesson. There was creeping in upon them a seven days' week, and the cinematograph shows were the effect rather than the cause of the change. Mr. Chapman's decision seemed to have been based upon the Cinematograph Act; but whatever that might be, he thought the Council could claim power under the Act of George III.—which had never been repealed—which prohibited the opening of any place of amusement on the Lord's Day. It was cruel that variety artists and cinematograph employés should be robbed of their Sundays. He was one who believed in an eight hours day and a six day week, and he thought the Council should do all in its power to prevent a seven-day week from creeping in under the Cinematograph Act.

Mr. Greenwood, chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, thought it rather unfortunate that a discussion on the subject should have been raised at the present moment—that the Committee should be asked to rescind its regulations when the appeal against Mr. Chapman's decision had been lodged in Court, which it was hoped would give its decision before the Long Vacation. He thought it was undesirable and unfair to draw any distinctions in the matter of Sunday opening between theatres and music halls, and the halls where simply cinematograph shows were given, between the places frequented by the wealthy and those frequented by the poorer classes. The cinematograph exhibitions were enjoyed by the poor, and to say that they should be stopped on account of the crowds which assembled at them, any more than concerts, was not right. He hoped that whatever might be done in the matter of Sunday opening would be done fairly as between the two great classes of the community. He repudiated the idea that the applications for cinematograph licenses were not carefully scrutinised. So far as they could learn, nothing improper had taken place at any of the shows. All cinematograph cases were treated alike, and the Council might rest assured that the Committee would do all in its power to guard against any irregularity. As to the Women's Health Association, he understood that it had done a large amount of good.

The report was then received.

PRIZE FIGHT PICTURES.

On the plea of urgency, the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett obtained permission to bring forward the following motion:—"That in the opinion of the Council the public exhibition, at places of entertainment in London, of pictures representing the recent prize fight in the United States of America is undesirable; and that the proprietors of London music halls and other places licensed by the Council for cinematograph performances be so informed." He said he wished to clear himself of any imputation of being animated by narrow views with regard to sport. As a matter of fact, he was in favour of every kind of manly sport, and he had not the slightest objection to an exhibition of scientific boxing. He had no desire to put down any such exercises, which he held to be good, both physically and morally, for those who practised them. The objection he felt for the proposed exhibition was best expressed by a writer in a daily paper, who, referring to the fight, said it was quite impossible to forecast the result because the abyssmal brute which was latent in us all had been thoroughly aroused in the two men engaged in the fight. That exactly represented the standpoint from which he viewed the proposed exhibition. Such pictures were calculated to arouse the abyssmal brute in those who looked upon them. The fight had attracted an assemblage of undesirables from all parts of the world, and it had stirred up racial animosities because the premier pugilist of the world happened to be a man of dark skin. The fight had been followed by deplorable consequences, and throughout America and in the British Colonies a movement was on foot to prohibit the exhibition of the pictures of the fight. After referring to the fact that the proprietors of the halls would be coming to the Council before long for the renewal of their licences, the speaker suggested that by passing this resolution the Council would be voicing the general sentiment of the vast majority of the community, as well as the general desire of those who frequented these public performances, and also of those who did not want to cater for a demoralised taste. He would not inflict upon the Council many expressions of public opinion, but he might mention that he had received from the Bishop of London a communication expressing the hope that the Council would pass the resolution; another from the Bishop of Southwark, who wrote: "The whole thing gives an unpleasant shock, and I look upon it as a real outcrop of barbarism"; and a third, equally strongly worded, from Mr. Silvester Horne, M.P.

Captain Swinton, in seconding the motion, said it was not an ordinary prize fight or an ordinary glove fight, for long before the event it was boomed as a fight between a black man and a white man, and he thought that was a very dangerous thing. Although there was no racial difficulty in London, he wished that members would realise that a number of coloured races were included in the British Empire.

Mr. C. J. Matthew opposed the motion, as he held that the Council ought not to legislate for faddists. It was new to him that boxing was degrading, and he pointed out that in the films that would illustrate the Johnson-Jeffries fight all the unpleasant features would be eliminated. As showing that it was an exhibition of scientific boxing he quoted the remark of Jeffries "that he could not hit the beastly man." He was strongly of opinion that all the fuss which was now being made was because the white man was beaten. With regard to the statement that the pictures would be likely to corrupt children, he pointed out that already there had been films shown illustrating fights since 1896; and he further submitted that the power of the Council should be enforced on grave occasions only. He appealed to the Council to pause before doing what was proposed, and objected to any communication of the kind being made to the proprietors of shows, as it was in the nature of a threat.

Mr. Dennison-Pender also opposed the motion, pointing out that the view held in England regarding the colour question was entirely different from what it was in America. He saw no reason why pictures of the fight should be withheld from the people of London.

Other members rose to continue the discussion, but there were loud cries of "Vote, vote!"

The Chairman thereupon put the motion, and on a show of hands declared it carried by 45 votes to 29.

"HER LADYSHIP'S GUEST."

Sketch, in One Act, by Harry M. Vernon, Produced at the Hippodrome, Leeds, on Monday, July 11.

Lady Arlington .....MISS MARY GRIFFITHS
Servant .....MR. W. F. STIRLING
Tricky Dugan .....MR. MERVYN RENTOUL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Herbert Sleath's London company has met with great success in the production here of the above well-written sketch. The plot of the story is as follows: Cyril Arlington, heir to a noble family, leaves his father's house as a protest against the unhappy state of domestic affairs there, eventually finding himself in New York in a state of destitution. Chance throws him into the society of the burglar Jim—alias Tricky Dugan—who, discovering who the youth is, and being deeply impressed by his manly, upright character, reforms, and comes to England to seek the boy's relations. He succeeds, and obtains an interview with Lady Arlington, Cyril's grandmother, to whom he discloses all he knows, and influences her ladyship to seek the return of her grandson. The police, however, get wind of the presence of Dugan in the neighbourhood, and they call to arrest him on suspicion, but he is saved by Lady Arlington informing them the "gentleman" is "her guest."

Miss Mary Griffiths was excellent in the rôle of Lady Arlington, and played the part with much impressiveness; Tricky Dugan is a character which requires some clever acting to do it justice, and Mr. Mervyn's conception of it was most praiseworthy; Mr. W. F. Stirling made a typical butler, and with such a clever trio of artists the performance met with conspicuous success.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are: Baildon Feast, on the Midland; Darwen, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Dursley, on the Midland; Spilsby, on the Great Northern; Kingsbridge, on the Great Western; Swaffham, on the Great Eastern; Brierfield, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Tipton, on the London and North Western and Great Western; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Haworth, on the Midland; Nelson, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Chiddingley, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Dewsbury, on the London and North Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Great Northern; Glemsford, on the Great Eastern; Hatherlow; Hollinwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Longsight, on the London and North Western; Normanton, on the Midland, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and North Eastern; Stalybridge, on the London and North Western, Great Central, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Walton, on the Lancashire, Derbyshire, and East Coast; Forfar, on the Caledonian; Dunfermline, on the North British; Rothesay, on the Caledonian; Helensburgh, on the North British; Kirkcudbright, on the Glasgow and South Western; and Leven, on the North British Railways.

The Irish Bearded Lady.

Stewart's Waxworks, in Dundee, are doing a record business with the Irish bearded lady, Miss Maud Temple. This attractive lady is considered the only bearded lady living, and in time will outrival the great Annie Jones.

Alf. Ball's Great Loss.

We are confident that Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball's many friends in Showland will sympathise with them in this hour of calamitous loss. The destruction of the costly and beautiful Electric Lyceum by fire at Tilbury Docks last week will be a shock to many people, and its consequences terrible to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. It is no exaggeration to say that the hard work and well-won savings of a lifetime were spent upon the show, and now comes calamity and loss, not by any neglect on their part, but in the mysterious providence of events, struck by lightning and fired. On the Metropolitan circuit of fairs, where Ball's show is a household word, and where Alf. Ball ranks as a leader and champion of Showland, the consternation and grief will be widespread, and the sympathy most personal and real. We trust that response for contributions to the Ball Show Fire Fund will be both immediate and adequate. We strongly commend this matter to the ever generous heart of Showland.

Mr. Ball writes to us to say that he has received so great a number of sympathetic letters from his brother showmen that he is unable to reply to them individually. He asks us to acknowledge these kind expressions, and to say that in the time of trouble and calamity it is a great comfort to himself and family to find how dear a place they have in the hearts of hosts of friends.

Notes from Wales.

Mr. Henry Studt's annual summer pleasure fair at Maesteg is being held this week. The attractions include motor-cars, gondolas, Mme. Howard, the lion-faced lady, Prof. A. B. Ennett's novelties, freaks of nature, &c., W. Thomas's zoological collection, Davies's coalmine exhibition, Prof. Thomas (tattooist), and houp-las and shooting ranges by Messrs. J. and W. North, J. Chedwick, and W. Emma.

Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son attended the annual fête and gala at Neath Abbey last week, with several other attractions, such as palmistry, shooters, etc., in aid of the Church Fund of Neath Abbey. The Rev. T. C. Philips, hon. local Guild Chaplain, was in attendance. Through the generosity of Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son a good sum was realised and handed over to the Vicar, who passed a hearty vote of thanks to all who assisted in making the fête such a success.

Messrs. Wadbrooke's premier show paid Porthcawl and Kinfig Hill a welcome visit, and with some of the newest and best bioscope subjects, interspersed with varieties, commanded good houses. Mr. Glover makes a capital guide, assisted by our old friend Mr. Jeffries, in recitations, &c.

Messrs. Haggar, at Milford Haven, had a good reception from his old friends. Some excellent pictures are shown to crowded audiences, ably introduced by Mr. Walter Haggar. Some excellent varieties are introduced nightly. Mr. Roberts, who is looking well, joins Mr. Haggar at Neyland with big wheel, houp-la, swings, and shooters.

Mr. John Studt is advertised for his annual visit at Cogan with his beautiful motors and bioscope show with an excellent array of star artists.

Mr. S. White is in the Rhymney Valley with bioscope show, tunnel railway, shute tower, houp-la, &c.

Messrs. Crescraft are building their new show at Llanelly, showing they are keeping abreast of the times.

The many friends of Mr. Arthur Noice, Mr. Vint's popular manager at Neath, will be glad to hear of his little boy's recovery following the operation on Sunday last.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Hawkey (Cleethorpes): Mr. M. Woolmark, 5s.; Mr. C. H. Horton, 5s.

Opening of Cinema House.

The Duchess of Portland on Thursday opened the new cinematograph theatre in Cinema House, a handsome building constructed by the London Cinematograph Co. (1909), Ltd., at 225, Oxford-street, close to Oxford-circus. Her Grace made a few suitable remarks to the effect that the object was to provide healthy and popular recreation of an educational character at moderate prices. The entertainments given, she added, would be of the highest character. After the Duchess of Portland had declared the theatre open, the orchestra played the National Anthem, and a portrait in colour of King George was displayed on the fixed white surface—not a sheet—on which the films are shown. An exhibition of moving pictures was given, the first being an excerpt from *Fra Diavolo*, then an amusing domestic comedy arising out of Baby's First Tooth, interesting aviation experiences at Rheims, with airships performing evolutions aloft, and rowing finals at Henley Regatta. The theatre is sumptuously upholstered, the tip-up chairs being of the most modern type. Dark oak panelling and broad beams, with white interstices, form the ceiling and side walls, and the interior is spacious and well-proportioned. It is intended to open the theatre at noon and close at eleven p.m. each day, and to change the programme every Monday and Thursday. Continuous performances will be given, so that visitors can enter the theatre at any time to suit their convenience, and without waiting are assured of seeing the whole of the entertainment. The series of pictures will last about one hour and a quarter, and the repetition of any particular film will denote that the visitors have seen the entire series. Popular prices will be charged for admission, ranging from 6d. to 1s. for seats on the ground floor, and 3s. for seats in the circle tier.

THE MITCHAM CONSERVATORS AND THE FAIR.

MR. H. MALLABY DEELEY, M.P., ON THE BOARD'S POSITION.

An important statement as to the future of Mitcham Fair was made by Mr. H. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., the chairman of the Mitcham Common Board of Conservators, at their meeting on Tuesday night.

After mentioning the attitude taken up by the Press on the question, Mr. Deeley said that did not concern that Board, but he did think that when statements were made with regard to the attitude of that Board, it was only fair that a statement should be made as to how the matter really did stand. In that connection he was bound to review the action he had undertaken some years ago on behalf of that Board. He might say at once, as so many misstatements had appeared in the Press, that personally he was against the continuance of the fair in Mitcham. With regard to his public position he was neither for the fair nor against it. It would be remembered some years ago, when the question as to how to deal with the Fair came before the Board, they passed a resolution leaving the matter in his hands, and he was instructed to see the Home Secretary (Mr. Gladstone) in order to put right the difficult position in which all parties found themselves. He saw the Home Secretary, also Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, and the Secretary, and he met with a considerable degree of success from both parties. Both the Home Secretary and the Guild were perfectly willing to leave the matter in his hands, to make some amicable arrangement. They met him perfectly frankly and fairly, and told him so. Mr. Gladstone asked his opinion on the question personally, and also the view he took as the Chairman of that Board. He told him that personally he was against the continuation of the fair, but as the Chairman of the Board he was neither for nor against, but was anxious for an amicable settlement for the sake of all parties. They might remember that when he had reached that stage of the proceedings he reported the matter to the Board, and it was moved and seconded that the matter be further left in his hands. On the Mitcham members voting against that resolution, he declined to go on with the negotiations. That was the present position of the Board with regard to the Fair, and he thought himself that it was an unfortunate thing that his negotiations were not allowed to continue, because he honestly believed that by now there would have been an amicable settlement arrived at, and the fair would have been moved away from where it was held now by an agreement signed by all parties. He thought it his duty to let the Mitcham people know exactly his position with regard to the fair, and also the Board's position. Personally he always took the view that to pursue a course of legal proceedings every year the fair came round was unsatisfactory in every sense. Although they had got a good number of injunctions against people coming to the fair, it was no guarantee that others were wrong in coming to the fair. That was the Board's difficulty, and that was why he objected to legal proceedings. The Conservators were anxious to have the matter amicably settled, and he felt certain that his negotiations, had they been allowed to have gone through, would have been successful.

Mr. Willcocks: What is our position with regard to the coming year?

Mr. Deeley: Exactly the same.

Mr. Willcocks: Here we have a possible revenue of £200 or £300 every year, and I say I am not against the fair if it is removed to a place beyond reproach. I think steps should be taken now to bring about an amicable settlement.

Councillor Johnson said he would like more powerful testimony as to the views of the inhabitants of Mitcham on the subject. Simply changing the venue of the fair would not correct the morals of the people who came down to prey on the public.

Mr. Willcocks: A parish meeting was held, and it was wholly in favour of the continuance of the fair.

Mr. Cubison: Half in the room were boys under twenty-one.

The question was postponed until the Board had settled the matter of securing the fair rights of the common.

Vindication of the Guild Policy.

It is with great satisfaction that we give the above clear statement of the position of the Mitcham Board of Conservators with regard to the Fair controversy. Mr. Mallaby Deeley's attitude towards the question is both manly and dignified. Whilst in his individual view he is against the Fair, he recognises fully that as chairman of the Board of Conservators he has a public trust to administer for the benefit of the people of Mitcham, and that whatever his own private views might be, he is conscientiously bound to administer the public office he holds for the general good of all parties concerned.

Ever since he has held the chairmanship of the Board he has done his best to effect an amicable settlement of the question at issue between the abolitionists of the Fair and the people who do not wish that it should be taken from them.

This obviously impartial treatment of a public question reflects the greatest possible credit upon Mr. Mallaby Deeley, and we are glad to notice that the Board under his public-spirited guidance has not, nor will it, lend itself to further legal proceedings to prevent showpeople frequenting the Fair until the Board is in actual possession of the Fair rights.

This brings us to the very point we have aimed at all through the dispute. Mr. Mallaby Deeley's desire to bring about a just settlement is all fours with the action taken by the Showmen's Guild. The people of Mitcham desire the continuance of their Fair; they are ready to admit that the Fair has outgrown its present site, and, whilst rejecting abolition, favour removal.

The first step towards a settlement is the one decided upon by the Board that the Conservators should become the possessors of the Fair rights. After that, both the showpeople and the people of Mitcham would be able to approach the Board with regard to the removal of the Fair to a better site on the Common Lands under the control of the Conservators.

In every way possible the Showmen's Guild will assist the Board in arriving at a mutually satisfactory conclusion of the matter.

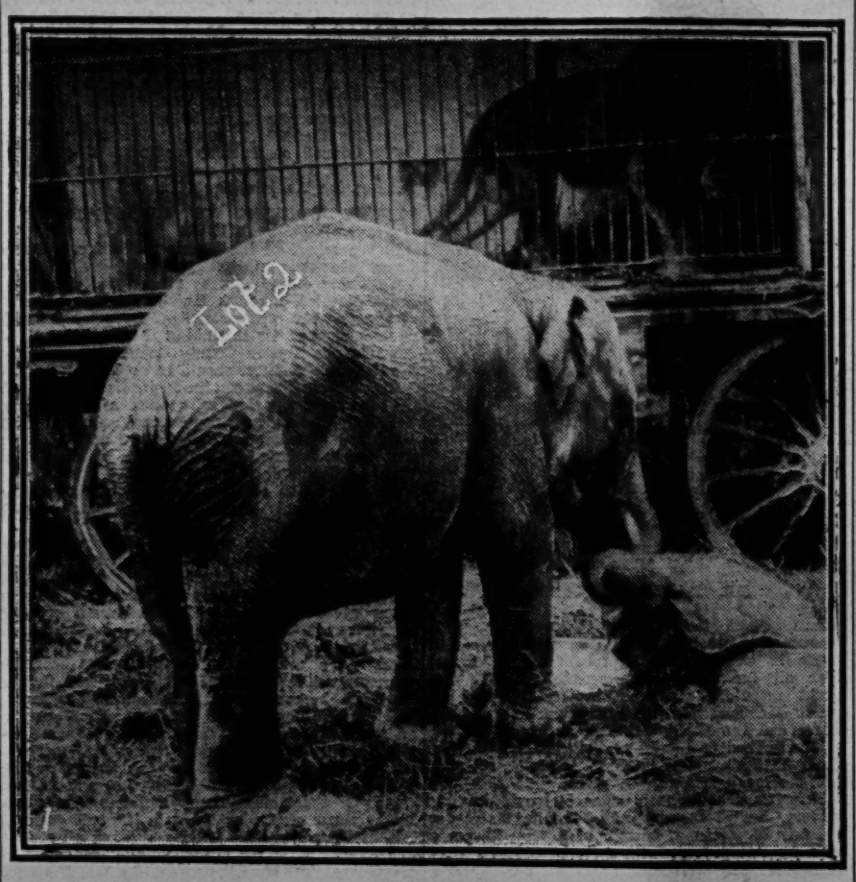

["Daily Mirror" Photo.

"BABS," THE CLEVER LITTLE ELEPHANT PURCHASED BY CLIFFE BERZAC FOR £150.

There were a large number of buyers and representatives of menageries and circuses at the sale of Mr. Robert Leadbetter's valuable menagerie of wild animals. The sale took place on Thursday at East Croydon, and the various items came under the hammer of Mr. Jameson, of the firm of Moss and Jameson. Amongst those who attended to catch the auctioneer's eye were Mr. William Pinder, Mr. Sam Lockhart, Mr. John Sanger, Mr. Ted Bostock, Mr. Frank Bostock, Mr. Douglas Bostock, Mr. T. Read, Mr. Jamrach, Mr. Billy Sedgwick, Mr. Fred Ginnett, jun., Mr. Frank Wilson, Mr. Hyatt, Mr. Henry, Mr. Tom Norman, Mr. Manders, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Cliffe Berzac, Mr. Hamlyn, Mrs. Robert Fossett, Mr. John Emberson, Mrs. Chittock, Mr. Picard, Mr. Cross (of Liverpool), and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

One of the most attractive items in the catalogue was No. 2, a young male elephant, "Babs," five years old. This was secured by Mr. Cliffe Berzac for the sum of £150. We understand that "Babs," amongst other things, is credited with the feat of having walked up the stairs of the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond-street, and delighted the little patients by strolling round the wards. We give a picture of "Babs." The highest price fetched was £190, given for "Lowla," a fine elephant, nine years old. This was purchased by Mr. E. H. Bostock. A very fine Bengal tiger realised £105. "Prince," an African lion, five years old, went for £100. A male dromedary fetched £40; a male camel, £16; a female camel, £27; a male Llama, a fine-looking animal, only £12 10s.; three yaks fetched £3, £6 10s., and £9 respectively. Lions and lionesses were cheap. "Valeni," a Nubian lioness, £30; "Umbala," three-year-old lioness, £27; "Prince Edward," seven-year-old lion, £47; "Princess Alice," six-year-old lioness, £25. Dingoes fetched from £1 2s. 6d. to £2, and jackals 25s. and 35s. Foxes went for 25s. each, wolves from £1 each to £4 10s. a pair, and a six-year-old male emu, destined for the Glasgow Zoo, realised £1. Cockatoos, parakeets, and monkeys were cheap. A number of menagerie wagons were also sold.

Park Fêtes, Hanley.

The Park Fêtes encountered bad weather, and, therefore, considerable loss in takings. The fair-ground was very animated. There were Mr. Pat Collins's No. 1 Wonderland, No. 2 motors and bicycles; J. Collins's four-abreast horses, yachts, motors, cake-walk, and haunted castle; Miller's helter-skelter; Hughes' assault-at-arms; Davies' horses; Wright's shooters and gem horses; Mercer's houp-la; Hughes' little Wonderland; Cordwell's glass and china bazaar. Varities were supplied by Dixon, Hodgkiss, Birch, Malaren, Gunthorpe, Jewel, Campfield, Beaumont, Clough, Dace, and Mills.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

At this popular and luxurious family rendezvous the following films have been included in the week's fine programme: A Valuable Hat (Itala), After the Fall of the Eagle (Eclair), Scenes in the Austrian Tyrol (Urban), Absent-minded Max (Pathé), The Princess and the Outlaw (Cines), An Affair of Hearts (A.B.), and Muscite's Caprice (Eclair).

Cinematograph Bill, 1909. May be obtained at *The Era* Publishing Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., post free threepence.

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

The president of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain writes as follows:—

"To the Editor, *The Era*, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"Dear Sir,—

"I shall feel obliged by you inserting the enclosed appeal and opening up a subscription list in *The Era* for the Alf. Ball Fund.

"On Monday, July 4, Mr. Alf. Ball's cinematograph show, whilst located at Tilbury Dock, was struck by lightning, and was completely burnt to the ground. Not being covered by insurance, it has resulted in a most deplorable loss—the life's work of Alf. Ball.

"I have known Alf. Ball for many years—indeed, he is well known to the travellers of the United Kingdom—and have always found him a very hard-working and industrious person, ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need; and now to lose in a few hours what has taken his lifetime to get together is exceedingly sad.

"As president of the Showmen's Guild, I am opening up a subscription list in *The Era*, and feel sure that my fellow travellers will readily respond by contributing what they can so as to make this subscription list a very substantial one, worthy of the fraternity, and one that will show our practical sympathy in our friend Ball's great and heavy loss.

"I am, yours as ever,
"Patrick Collins,
"President of the Showmen's Guild."

In a letter, under date July 9, enclosing a cheque for £5, Mr. Frank Turner, of the Agricultural Hall and Liverpool-road, Islington, writes:—

"Herewith my small contribution to list for Alf. Ball. I am sure every showman will sympathise with a man who was always ready to help others, and I trust you will get a good list.—Yours faithfully, Frank Turner."

Subscriptions.—First List.

Patrick Collins, £10; Frank Turner, £5; Wm. Taylor, £5; Charles Thurston, £5; Robert Fossett, £2; Joseph Ball, £2; Mrs. E. Ball, £2; Mrs. J. Ball, £2; Mrs. J. Whiting, £1; Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, £1; Mrs. Mitchell, 10s.; "Princess Pauline" (Midget), 10s.

Additional subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Offices, and will be duly acknowledged in our columns.

Benefit Performance at Tilbury Dock.

Organised by the local clergy and the Town Council of Tilbury Dock a grand benefit performance in aid of the Alf. Ball Fund will take place in a large booth erected on the site of the burnt-out Electric Lyceum.

Many members of the Council will be present; the Vicar of Tilbury is taking the kindest interest in the matter. He at once came to the rescue by giving Mr. Ball the free use of the school yard and outbuildings as temporary workshops during the reconstruction of the show. This he was able to do as the school holidays are now on. All the local talent and many London music-hall artists have volunteered to appear and a big programme will be submitted.

THE "FIGHTING PARSON" CASE.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday Mr. George Gray was the defendant in the case of Barrasford and Macnaghten *v.* Gray, in which £130 was claimed from him as damages for breach of contract.

Mr. Hume-Williams, for the plaintiff, said the late Mr. Barrasford was lessee of the Britannia Music Hall, and Mr. Macnaghten was manager. The defendant was an actor, engaged in giving at music halls a sketch called *The Fighting Parson*, in which he appeared in clerical attire. In 1906 the defendant entered into a contract with Mr. Barrasford and Mr. Macnaghten, by which he was to appear in *The Fighting Parson* at various music halls, including the Britannia, at which he was to give performances for one week from December 3 for £130, one of the terms being that he should pay plaintiffs £130 if he failed to fulfil his contract. Afterwards he appeared to have entered into another contract with the proprietors of the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces to perform at those music halls, and at no others within two miles of them. After his first day's appearances in Hoxton, the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush people applied for an injunction against him—the Britannia being within two miles of the Hackney Hall—and obtained it. Mr. Gray went to the Britannia Theatre on the Tuesday, and explained to the audience why he was unable to continue his performances. Counsel went on to explain various causes which had, he said, delayed the bringing of his action into court, the latest being the death of Mr. Barrasford, whose widow and executrix had since been joined in the action. The defence set forth in the pleadings was that Mr. Gray had not signed the alleged agreement, or that if he had the plaintiffs had suffered no damage by its breach; and he put in a counterclaim for £50 for the performances actually given.

Mr. Shearman for the defence said that the agreement was made with Mr. Barrasford only; that the action was begun without Mr. Barrasford's consent, and was not proceeded with during his lifetime; and that plaintiffs, having obtained three performances of *The Fighting Parson* without paying for them had suffered no damage.

His lordship having suggested a settlement, Mr. Hume-Williams said his clients would be quite satisfied if Mr. Gray would now give a week's performances at the Britannia.

Mr. Shearman: Yes, for £130.

No settlement was arrived at, and Mr. Baugh, who had acted for plaintiffs as manager at the Britannia Theatre, and gave evidence in support of the claim, emphatically stated that Mr. Barrasford had been a consenting party to the action.

The hearing was adjourned.

Wales and Sunday Picture Shows.

At the monthly meeting of the Rhyl Council, on Monday, Mr. T. D. Jones, as chairman of the General Purposes Committee, moved that, in the granting of cinematograph licences that a clause should be inserted prohibiting Sunday exhibitions. He urged that people in Wales did not ask for that sort of thing, and that they should keep the Sabbath as quiet as possible. Several members supported the proposition, and urged that the Welsh people were very conservative as to their Sundays; while other members contended that, as the Council had allowed pictures to be shown by a lantern in their own pavilion, they should not prevent the living pictures elsewhere. On a vote being taken, it was decided by a large majority to restrict the cinematograph licences to six days.

New North Shields Picture Palace.

In a remarkably short space of time, out of the ashes of the old popular Borough Theatre, North Shields, a beautiful new edifice has been erected by the enterprising Black Brothers. The palatial edifice will be a handsome adjunct to the town. The building operations have proceeded steadily yet rapidly. The fine structure is now nearing completion, and will open its doors to the public on August Bank Holiday. The picture entertainments, of which the late Mr. George Black was the pioneer in North Shields, will be continued, and with more perfect pictures and mechanical improvements being put on the market every day a high standard of excellence can now be reached. A special departure will be the catering for the children on Saturday afternoons, when special selections of films will be shown, comprising educational items of travel and history, and, of course, the necessary leavening of comedy.

FILM GOSSIP.

Johnson-Jeffries Pictures.

Sir H. Davies (Bristol S., Min.), in the House of Commons on Monday, asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he had power to prohibit photographs of the recent prize fight in America being exhibited at cinematograph shows in this country; and, if so, would he, in the interest of public decency, exercise his power of prohibition. Sir F. Channing (Northants, E., Min.) asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he would take steps or recommend to local authorities to take steps to prevent the exhibition of cinematograph pictures of the recent prize fight in America. Mr. Winston Churchill (Dundee): With the permission of my hon. friend the member for the Eastern Division of Northampton I will answer at the same time his question which appears on the paper. I am advised that I have no powers in the matter. Mr. Clough (Yorks, W.R., Skipton, Min.): Will the local benches in the provinces have any discretionary powers to suppress these exhibitions? ("No.") The Speaker: The hon. member must give notice.

L.C.C. and Boxing Pictures.

The London County Council, by 45 votes to 29, on Tuesday adopted a motion declaring that the public exhibition of pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries boxing contest is undesirable, and decided that the proprietors of places licensed for cinematograph performances should be so informed.

Objection to Fight Films.

The question of the possible exhibition of Johnson-Jeffries fight pictures at Wolverhampton came up for discussion at Wolverhampton Town Council meeting on Monday. Councillor Bantock asked the chairman of the Watch Committee whether, if any attempt was made to exhibit pictures portraying the fight, he would take steps to prevent it. Alderman Gibbons said that the Watch Committee should be called together immediately. Personally, as chairman, he should not do anything in the matter. He would rather like to see the pictures. Councillor Bantock moved that it be an instruction to the Watch Committee to prevent an exhibition of this wretched affair should an attempt be made. Councillor Weaver seconded, saying that such a show would lower the tone of the town. Several members were against the instruction being given. Alderman Craddock said that the steps proposed seemed dictatory. After all, the Council might safely depend that nothing would be allowed in Wolverhampton until it came before the Watch Committee. Alderman Gibbons intimated that he intended to call a meeting of the Committee at the earliest possible moment, and the matter then dropped.

Cinematograph Defence League and Fight Films.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cinematograph Defence League, held on Tuesday afternoon, the question of the Johnson and Jeffries fight film was considered, and a resolution passed to the effect that the executive committee felt that whilst they had no desire to dictate to cinematograph proprietors as to the particular films they should or should not show, it is in a general way against the best interests of the business to encourage the production and use of films of this character.

C.D.L. and Advertising Films.

An advertising film now being offered to showmen for exhibition at their halls, with in some cases a high rent demanded for the use of same, was under full consideration, and it was eventually decided that a circular letter be sent to members of the League, and to film manufacturers and hirers, expressing the opinion of the executive committee that the use of advertising films of any description whatsoever is likely to prove a serious detriment to the cinematograph business, and that, in the opinion of the executive committee, showmen would be well advised in the interests of the future of this business to refrain from showing such advertising film.

Bournemouth's Electric Theatre.

Comedy and drama, interspersed with panoramic views and other topical matter, are being served up in lavish style at the new Empire Electric Theatre, situated in the Square, Bournemouth. The existing arrangement of "come in when you like and go when you like" is providing a long-felt want in the town, and proving a great convenience to those who do not like to be tied down to fixed times. The pictures are going continuously from 3 o'clock in the afternoon until 10.30, and it takes two hours to go through the entire programme.

Stoll's Panopticon, Cardiff.

The possibilities of cinematographic effort were shown to perfection last week at Stoll's Panopticon, Cardiff, in a series of splendid new pictures, including Elektra, a marvel in acting and a masterpiece in pictorial art. Another triumph of cinematographic progress is seen in the sensational production Father and Son, presenting the finest coalmine pictures ever yet seen, and a realistic and touching story of parental estrangement and final reconciliation. The "prehistoric age" is seen under queer circumstances. The Sweets of Forgiveness is a pretty and charming drama in seven tableaux, and there are other pictures of various sorts, some instructive in character, others sensational and awe-inspiring, others, again, provocative of most uproarious merriment.

New Picture Theatre in Manchester.

The directors of Victoria Picture Theatres, Ltd., whose registered offices are at 45, Deansgate-arcade, Manchester, have now completed their arrangements for the purchase of a well-known site at the corner of Hyde-road and Stockport-road, Ardwick, Manchester, where now stands Apsley House. The commanding position of this corner, where seven different tram routes converge, renders it unique for its prominence, and it is most accessible from all parts of the city and suburbs. Elaborate plans for a spacious and lofty theatre have been prepared by the architect, Mr. Longworth, and special provision has been made for the public safety and for the full supply of emergency exits, enabling the theatre to be emptied in less than a couple of minutes. At the back of the theatre there will be an elegantly appointed café lounge, slightly raised from the main floor of the house, which will permit of patrons enjoying light refreshment amidst refined and luxurious conditions, whilst at the same time seeing the pictures. The floor will be made with an unusually liberal amount of fall or rake, so as to ensure a full and uninterrupted view of the pictures from all parts.

Attractive Programme Promised.

It is intended to give the popular continuous (hourly) entertainment a trial, and therefore from 3 p.m. until 10.30 p.m. or 11.0 p.m. patrons can enter or leave at any time, and for 3d., 6d., or 9d. can secure a good seat from which they can view the latest events of the day portrayed in moving pictures. With the aid of mechanical devices for synchronising the picture projector with the gramophone it is intended to present talking and singing pictures, and to include in this department abbreviated operas of the highest class. The theatre, built upon a net area of about 1,200 square yards, will provide seating accommodation for over 1,000, whilst the café lounge will accommodate nearly 200 more.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 3.
31, Feb. 13, 20, 27, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Jan. 23, Feb. 13, March 13, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 14, Feb. 27, March 6, April 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for August Bank Holiday, and Aug. 22, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedy or Comedy,
July 28 (three nights).
July 28 (three nights).
July 28 (three nights).
Guarantee will be given to really strong attraction.
Wire, HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

PIER PAVILION, HASTINGS.

Three nights and a matinée, booked in conjunction with the Pier, Eastbourne.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Address,
WALTER MAXWELL, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 6, 26, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Oct. 10.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Oct. 3.
Address, CHARLES REVILL,
T. R., Stockport.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, for few remaining Autumn Dates, Musical Comedy and West End Attractions only. Silence polite negative.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 15, Oct. 24,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 15
Sept. 12,
Oct. 10.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 1, 8, 15, Sept. 5.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

DOUGLAS, GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the season date Sept. 12 (through rearrangement). Address, JAS. BUCK, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies Sept. 1 (3 nights), Sept. 5, 19, 26, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Spring, 1911. MACDONA.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 8, and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

KING'S THEATRE, SHEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SHEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SHEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 10, Nov., Dec. 5.
Apply, Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. B. PORTS.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards. Communications, C. A. SEEBOLD.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Aug. 15 (Local Holiday Week); also few Later Dates.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Aug. 22, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 25, Aug. 8, 15, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Grand opening July 25 with R. Macdonald's Principal Company, in "The Dairymaids."
Vacant Sept. 19, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Aug. 8, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Country.
Holding capacity 3,500.
WANTED, for the Re-opening, Aug. 1, a Big Attraction (Musical preferred); also Aug. 8 and 15 (Race Week), one of the Biggest Weeks of the Year, and Aug. 22, Sept. 5.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedy or Comedy,
July 28 (three nights).
July 28 (three nights).
July 28 (three nights).
Guarantee will be given to strong attraction.
Wire, HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 4, 5, 6 (?), Sept. 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 10, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 19, 25 (?), Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 7 (?), 21, Xmas (4 weeks' pantomime). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, JAY AND MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, good Attractions, Musical and Dramatic, most dates vacant this year and onwards owing to change of management.
All communications,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 5, 12, and Oct. 17,
Address,
CHAS. ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only vacant dates, Nov. 3-5 (?), Oct. 24, Dec. 5, Jan. 2 and 30. Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug. 8, 15, 22, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 15 (6 nights), 22 (3). W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Reopening Date, Aug. 1, also Aug. 8 vacant. Address, RICH WALDON, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15 and 22.
FRED FREDERICKS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for alterations and reconstruction.
WANTED, Attraction, Aug. 1 (opening date).
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 5, 12, and Oct. 17 (?). Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

BOOTLE.—NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, the above Theatre is intended to be open on Dec. 12 next by the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd. (who are also proprietors of the Muncaster Theatre), and are open to book Pantomime, Musical Comedy, and other first-class companies on and after the above date.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the Provinces, having a population of 100,000 within a three-quarter mile radius, seating capacity over 1,800, and will be fully licensed.
Apply Registered Office, 59, Park-street, Bootle.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, on. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 1, 15 (?), 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, 28, Jan. 9, 23 (?), Feb. 13, 27 (?), March 13, April 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several dates Autumn, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for Autumn, 1910, Smart Pantomimes for 1911, and powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions. This theatre is now being redecorated, restaged, and reseated in the most up-to-date manner, regardless of expense, and will be under the personal direction and supervision of Mr. Arthur C. Moody.
Touring Managers may be assured thereby that no effort will be spared to make it a huge financial success.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Wanted, Strong Company, for
Aug. 8, Aug. 8, Aug. 8, 1910,
also
First-class Companies for 1911 (with a few exceptions.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 1, 2, 3 (owing to cancelling of Tour), also Sept. 8, 9, 10.
THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
Wanted, Light Attraction, Sept. 19, for first three nights of week, Dramas, twice nightly, last three nights of week; Aug. 8, 22, and 29 (six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
This Theatre is now being re-decorated, and will re-open on Aug. 22. Wanted, good Companies, Aug. 29, Nov. 2 (three nights), Dec. 5 (three nights), Jan. 16 (three nights). Vivian Charles please send address.

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Lessees, Messrs. HENSON and DAVIS.
Now being re-built and re-furnished, and will re-open on Sept. 5. Wanted, good Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 12, 13, 14 (all three nights); also Oct. 17 and 24 (six nights) and 31 (three nights).
The Corporation Theatre has one of the largest stages in the Midlands, is being seated with tip-up chairs, and will be run at popular prices. Rugby, Loughboro', Lincoln, and Gainsboro' may be booked in conjunction.

THE NEW THEATRE, NEWARK-ON-TRENT.
Wanted, Attraction for opening date, Aug. 29, Oct. 3 and Nov. 21 (three nights per week only).

W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.
Sole Booking Agent.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
Aug. 1.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Aug. 15.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
Aug. 1 (?), 8 (?), 22.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND THEATRE, W. HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (no Dramas).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8 and 15, Aug. 29 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Sept. 8 (3 nights).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This Handsome Theatre Re-opens Aug. 1.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 8, 15 (race week), Aug. 22,
Sept. 5.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, a First-class Company, Sept. 5, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 1, week. Apply, J. H. ROWE, c/o A. J. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Aug. 8 Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction.
Apply, J. M. CHUTE, Bristol.

JERSEY AND GUERNSEY.
WANTED, Big Attraction, for Sept. 12, one of the very best season dates. Can take £500 with good show. EDWARD MARRIS, Grand T., Brighton.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, through change of arrangements, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 22 and 29; also Vacant, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 8, 15, 22, Grand, Radcliffe. SANTE, Radcliffe.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
July 28 (three nights),
Sept. 8, 9, 10 (?),
Sept. 12 (?),
Sept. 22, 23, 24,
Sept. 26 (week), and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 1 and 8; only open dates.
Write, HEAD, G. T., Manchester.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or First-class Drama Company, for Aug. 3, Theatre Royal, Bolton. Letters, J. F. ELLISTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, WHITLEY BAY.
The Premier Theatre on the East Coast.
Seating capacity 2,000. Capable of Staging the Largest Production Touring.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies only, Sept. 26, onwards, Musical Comedies and High-class Comedies preferred. Apply, AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
Closed for alterations and reconstruction.
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 1, opening date.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

COMPANIES WANTED.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 17, 31 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 14, 28 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Sept. 29 (3, with Tunbridge Wells), Oct. 3, 13 (3, with Folkestone), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne).
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, Known, Murray, King, and Clark have taken a Lease of this important Theatre, which will be conducted on Up-to-date Business Lines.
For Vacant Dates from August 1 apply,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.
August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.
August Bank Holiday Week Vacant.

WANTED, Powerful Attraction,
August Bank Holiday week.
August Bank Holiday week.
August Bank Holiday week,
This important Date
Vacant,
Vacant,
Vacant,
owing to error.

Communications,
HARRIS FINSBERG,
Star Theatre,
Liverpool.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
Also Palaces at Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughborough, Neath, Bradford, Rugby, Exmouth, &c.
The above entirely New Theatre will open about the middle of August. Lighted throughout with Electric Light, Seating Capacity about 1,600, situated in the centre of a densely-populated district. Neath has been waiting for a theatre for years, and business is bound to be most excellent.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies from Aug. 15, either share or certainty. None but recognised managements dealt with. All communications re dates to
WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, 29.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, owing to alteration in opening arrangements, first-class attractions for the following dates,
Aug. 1 and 8, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge,
Aug. 1, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
For these and other autumn vacancies apply
R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, London, W.C.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED, good Company, Oct. 31, also several Good Spring Dates.
J. B. HOWARD,
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, 22, 26, onward (not Drama). All Three Night Season Dates. WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Vacant Aug. 8 and 15.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Wire, LUTANIST, Gateshead.

WANTED, big Attractions, for few remaining dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. (last three nights preferred), also Xmas week (?). ALF BAILEY and Co., Managers, Victoria T., Kettering.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 1 and 15, Grand Theatre, Nelson, newly renovated. Wire, HORNER, Victoria, Burnley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 24, Nov. 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, London District, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, and January Dates
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6, 13.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 49, Sidney-street, North Shields.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, on, Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 17.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, First-class Theatres
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17 (?),
(North or Midland),
also Dec. 26, at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer B. Parcezer, Esq., for business this week at Southend.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 1, 8 (South Coast), Aug. 29, onward.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
West Pier, Brighton (third visit with this play).

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA CO.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and Sept. 26. FRANK TERRIOT, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 31, Dec. 26, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 10, Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, and various Autumn Dates, for
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."
Everything carried; exceptional Cast.

Sept. 19 (Lancashire), Oct. 17, 24, only vacant dates, for
JOHN CHILD,
the eminent Tenor, in
"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN."
Musical Comedy-Drama.

Oct. 24, Lancashire, for
MR. HERBERT SLEATH'S COMPANY, in
"A WHITE MAN."

Address, A. BERTRAM, Garrick Theatre, London, W.

Telegrams, "Breather, London."

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON,
T. R., Colchester (3); Marina T., Lowestoft (3).

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 12 (follow Scarboro');
Oct. 17 (follow Norwich).
Admitted by Press and Public to be one of the biggest successes Touring.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.

Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY,
in the Farcical Comedy success,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 19, 26 (3 nights), Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21. Return dates booked at Brighton, Blackpool, Yarmouth, Folkestone, Hastings, Eastbourne, Lincoln, Barrow, &c., &c. July 18, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

MR. H. HAMILTON STUART'S COMPANIES.
This sterling attraction.
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, Theatres for July 28 or Aug. 1, Three Nights.
LANGTON LANE, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

"MISS TOMMY," by Jerome K. Jerome.
MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Aug. 22, 23, 24, Oct. 17, 18, 19.
Miss Hughes as Miss Tommy.
Address, 50, South Croxted-road, West Dulwich.

Mr. W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"THE PRODIGAL PARSON, Sept. 5 and 19; "A COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON," Sept. 5.
Address, Mr. CHAS. HALLING,
Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

"MY LADY BELLAMY."
"MY LADY BELLAMY."
WANTED, Aug. 4, 5, and 6 (?), and Various Dates onwards,
for the above High-class Romantic Costume Piece.

No. 1 Company, including
Mr. Alex. Maclean and Miss Laura Leigh,
in their Original Parts.
First-class Costumes,
Special Scenery and Printing Carried.

Refer Messrs. Murray King and Clark, D. P. Theatre, Eastbourne; C. Imeson, Esq., O. H., Middlesbrough; Wm. Peacock, Esq., O. H., Harrogate, &c., re production.

All coms.,
ALEX. MACLEAN,
10, Canfield-gardens, South Hampstead, N.W.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (North), through transfer, New Production shortly.
"THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT."
Address, GEO. A. DE GRAY,
8, Mount Havelock, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, July 21 and 25,
"CASTE."
G. W. Anson as Eccles.
CORA ANSON, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
July 17, 3, Gloucester-road, Kensington, W.

The New Musical Comedy Success.
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 29, Sept. 19 and 26, only vacant dates this year. Now arranging Spring and Autumn dates, 1911.
H. L. OSMOND, Kendall House, Houghton-le-Spring.
N.B.—Aug. 1 and 8 may possibly be vacant through breach of contract.

WANTED, unexpectedly, Aug. 15, for
"Tantalizing Tommy,"
Only vacant Date.
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Now doing enormous business on the Broadhead Tour.
WANTED, Theatres.—First Vacant Date Sept. 12, once or twice nightly.
Oct. 17, 24, and 31,
Xmas.
OSWALD CRAY, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, for "Nick Carter, Detective," by Shirley and Landeck. Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, and on. J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., South Shields (fifth visit).

BEATRICE MOREAU,
HORACE LINGARD, AND CO.
Jerome's clever Four-act Play, "FANNY,"
and Répertoire.
WANTED, Aug. 15, to follow P. O. W., Birmingham. Royalty, Barrow.

J. PITT HARDACRE,
in his own version of "DRINK,"
"EASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 15 and on, to follow Queen's, Manchester (return), and T.R., Bradford. All communications, Staines, Middlesex.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above, to follow Llandudno.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 29 and Sept. 5.
DICKIE CLARE, Olympia Theatre, Coalville, near Leicester.

"THE LADY OF OSTEND,"
by Sir Francis Burnand.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and 29, In First-class Houses only.
LAWRENCE BROOKE,
39, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT,"
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres. First Vacant Dates, Sept. 12, 26, and on, with exceptions.
PANTOMIMES. "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

THE MELODRAMA PRODUCTION SYNDICATE, LTD.,
Proprietors of the Celebrated Dramas,
"SEXTON BLAKE, DETECTIVE,"
"HUSH MONEY,"
"THE MASTER OF THE MILL," &c.
WANTED, Theatres for "Sexton Blake," Dec. 5 or 12 (South); "The Master of the Mill," Oct. 10 (North). Only Vacancies this Autumn. Now rapidly booking Spring and Autumn, 1911, for all three productions. Applications cordially invited. Address, A. H. Graham, 21, John-street, Adelphi, W.C. Telephone, City 2431.

MR. COWEN'S COMPANIES.
"LOOKING FOR TROUBLE."
A Farcical Play, in three Acts.
By Helene Gingold and Lesser Columbus.
Produced last week at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, with enormous success to enormous business. Refer W. H. Gibson, Esq., Chairman, West Pier Company, Brighton.
Brighton West Pier Company, Brighton, July 11, 1910.

Dear Mr. Cowen,—
"LOOKING FOR TROUBLE."
I am so delighted at the success achieved by this play on the occasion of its production at this theatre that I am writing you my congratulations on your good fortune in securing so clever and so amusing an attraction.
The unexpectedly large business which has resulted during the week is proof of its drawing powers, and on all sides I have heard nothing but eulogistic comments.
Speaking from an experience of many years at this theatre, your play is, in my opinion, the first produced here that has proved an unqualified success. It is bound to be received elsewhere with the same chorus of appreciation and delight that has been its lot here, and I should be glad to recommend it to other managements as the cleverest and funniest farce produced for many a long day.
Yours faithfully,
W. H. Gibson, Chairman.
A great success was achieved at the West Pier Theatre with "Looking for Trouble," a new farce.—Daily Telegraph, London.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept., onwards.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, & THE DEVIL."
By Lesser Columbus.
A few various dates, Autumn and Spring.
8, Thames-chambers, York-buildings, Adelphi, W.C. Tel. City 2843. Gen.-Manager, Walter J. Bayliss.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
WANTED, Sept. 5 (to oblige Mr. Sidney Cooper), Nov. 7, 14, Jan. 2 (to follow Wigan), and various Spring.
Wanted, for the new Musical Farce,
"LAUGHING 'LIZA,"
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited," Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 13, and on.
Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

JAY AND MANN'S TOUR of "THE TRUANTS," from Kingsway Theatre.
WANTED, Theatres, August, September, onward, with exceptions.
Aug. 1, Wire.
Charlton Mann, Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"THE POWER OF A WICKED WOMAN."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 28 (?), Xmas.
Wire or write,
Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, Xmas, Jan. 9, various, onwards.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco.
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton, Creek Side, East Molesey.

MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL'S CO.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Aug. 4, 5, 6, to follow Cromer; Aug. 29, 30, 31, follow Ipswich; Sept. 19, week. Florence Tyrrell, 203 Victoria-st, S.W.

Mr. J. W. LINDSAY ELLIS
presents
"LIGHTS OUT,"
as produced by Mr. H. B. Irving.
WANTED, Aug. 22, between York and Kidderminster, and onwards with exceptions.
Address,
Arthur T. Barugh, Opera House, Torquay.

"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10 and 31, Nov. 7.
All coms., Martin Comstock,
Abercrombie, Bootle-street, Manchester.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, and Christmas.
Address, Horace Stanley,
Shakespeare, Clapham, this and next.

WANTED, for the great success, "His Real Wife," Nov. 14 and Xmas, money-making Theatres. Address, T. E. Ward, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2.
Haldane Crichton, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, for E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "King and the Unknown Woman," Oct. 31.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Managers with open dates, for really First-class Pantomimes, to communicate at once with J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

"LITTLE DAMOZEL."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Oct. 3, for Mark Blow's Co., vacant through transferring to oblige Mr. Robert Arthur. Apply Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, W.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."
WANTED, good No. 1 Theatres (North), Oct. 31 and Nov. 14.
J. B. Howard,
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
First-class Theatres or Music Halls, and Star Artists only. Lowest terms, immediate time. This week, Opera House, Northampton; next week, Central Pier, Morecambe.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.

TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.,
As to business, refer, among others, F. Morgan, Esq., Marriot Watson, Esq., Sydney Cooper, Esq., F. Warden, Esq., Robert Bedford, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq.
Press opinions on present Tour:—
Seating accommodation taxed to its utmost. . . . audience thoroughly enjoyed the original "Bullock" version. . . . company acted one and all splendidly. . . . no one should miss it.—Irish News.
Miss Ida Heron as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine. She takes both parts most excellently, her acting being fine. She awoke the sympathies of her audience, and had a very popular reception.
Miss Heron acted with power.
She lived the part as only a great artist could.
Intensely realistic.
Twenty-fifth consecutive week of present tour.
Vacant Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, 26, and on, with exceptions. Write or wire, Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
July 18, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes.
Twenty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment.
Creating a positive Furore everywhere.
Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.
WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of First-class Theatres, Music Halls, and Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Only a few weeks in September, and on, with exceptions, open.
Wire, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
July 18, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

RELWYSKOW.
The Royal Wrestler, World's undefeated champion, presented with World's Championship Prize by H.M. Queen Alexandra. RELWYSKOW. Challenges nightly; special matches arranged for slack nights.
WANTED, good Theatres, for Combinations, Share or Certainty (share preferred). This act, with Strong Company, is Breaking Records Everywhere. Wanted, Theatres, Aug. 1, on, with exceptions. This week, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich. Address next week, Hippo., Nottingham. RELWYSKOW.

WANTED, Theatres with Big Holding Capacity from Aug. 1, 1910, onward, for Big Sensational Vaudeville Production, including
"WEBB'S NOTIONS,"
the Greatest Money-drawing Act on the Market, with either full Vaudeville Company or shares for Own Act.
Apply for particulars to
Messrs. ANGER and BAUER,
132, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres Halls for Variety Combination, Aug. 1, onwards.
Address, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour of "A Message from Mars," commencing Aug. 1, Aristocratic Lady for Aunt Martha, look about 40; also Messenger, must be tall and good voice essential, long tour; joint could be arranged. Terms, height, photos., references, Dudley Stuart, Assembly Rooms Theatre, Great Malvern.

WANTED, Strong Character Actor, Robust Leading Man, good Singing Comedian, for Autumn Tour. Lowest terms and references. Box 7,996, "The Era."

WANTED, Leading Lady, Chambermaid, and Character Old Lady, for Autumn Tour. Lowest terms and references, Box 7,996, "The Era."

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" CO.
WANTED, Petite Juvenile Lady, for Sunshine, must look 17, capable of Comedy and Pathos. Photos (absolutely essential), age, height, terms, refs. Rehearse July 26, open Aug. 1.
Lewis Gilbert, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
WANTED, Juvenile Lady, for Ethel Smedley, must be pretty, vivacious, experienced.
Callers only. Saturday 12 to 2.
Shelton, Percy Hall, Tottenham Court-road, W.

WANTED, Lady, for Mrs. Chalmers, "The Girl from Kay's," combine Pierrot, with powerful soprano voice. Andrews, Royal, Margate.

WANTED, a tall Lady and Gentleman for Douglas and Edith, "Private Secretary" Tour. Reply at once, with lowest terms and all particulars, Stafford, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, Eva, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," London, open Monday.
Call Weathersby's Agency, Bedford-street, W.C.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, tall, powerful Heavy Man. Particulars to A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, for above, to Rehearse Aug. 8, First-class Comedian, for Silas Crump; must sing and dance really well, and have at least two Specialities.
Smart Musical Director (Pianist)
Soubrette for Judith, sing and dance (not fake).
All must be young and experienced. Letters only, J. W. Cordiner, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, experienced Actor to take Charge of Company and Play; one willing to take share preferred, or work on percentage.
Box 7,993, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for "Alone in London," Autumn Tour, tall refined Actor for Mr. Burnaby and A.S.M.; pretty Juvenile Actress (tall) for small part and understudy; tall man for baggage, &c., able to speak a few lines and make himself useful. Apply, with photographs, fullest particulars, references (which will be applied for) and lowest terms, to Charles Gibson, T. R., Colchester (3).

FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS TOUR.
WANTED, experienced Shakespearean Actor, also Gentleman for small parts and sing. Photos., terms, &c., to Max Jerome, Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, tall Juvenile Gentleman, for "Great Awakening," rehearse Wednesday; probably other vacancies. Lowest terms, &c., Olga Audre, Theatre Royal, Halifax.

WANTED, Harry Vereker, "The Cingalee." Open Monday Southend.
Wire, Fred Creasy, 7, Great Percy-street, S.W.

"FROM CONVENT TO THRONE."
WANTED, to rehearse July 25, Manchester, Powerful Robust Character Actor, for Military Part and S.M.; state build and full particulars, with photos., to J. A. Campbell, Theatre, Grantham.

"THE GAY COUNTESS."
WANTED, Light Comedian; must have good Baritone voice.
References, age, photo, and terms to
Henry Kemble,
Thistle Hotel, Tonypandy, South Wales.

WANTED, good Responsible Gent, to combine Acting Management; rehearse Monday. Photo. Harry Foxwell, 230, Central-drive, Blackpool.

WANTED, by First-class Music-Hall Management, for a New Production, Lady Amateur, capable of Comedy and Pathos; height about 5ft. 5in.; must be young and good appearance. Interviews by appointment only. Apply, with photo., Messrs. Brayne and Lloyd, 22, Sisters'-avenue, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Boy Actor (small), capable of Star part, Sketch. Particulars, terms (letters only), H., 13, St. Ann's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Amateurs, Ladies and Gentlemen, for London success, good appearance. Photographs, height, experience (if any), Secretary, 20, St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington.

WANTED, two smart Lady Amateurs for Small Parts in London Success; must be young, pretty, and dress really well; no premium; expenses paid. Write full particulars, Manager, 25, Lyme-street, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, a Gentleman, refined and well educated, to give lessons in Elocution in the North of England, one or two days per week. Apply, giving age, experience, and references, to Box 7,984, "The Era."

WANTED, twenty tall Responsible Gentlemen to walk on in new production, one week, Aug. 1, London. Letters, V. C. Newman, Pier Pavilion Theatre, Herne Bay.

WANTED, good Tenor, for Refined Concert Party, for Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. Photo and terms, Geo. Dickinson, Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Fred Horsfall, Double-voiced Mimic, July 18 and 25; starring, second week, Public Hall, Barnsley. After Saturday, 24, Burton-street, Leeds

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Principals, Comedians, Knockabouts, Dancers, Troupes, Chorus Ladies, Juveniles, and Artists, all Lines, for Panto. 1910-11. Photos. refs., and where working to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Important. Give permanent address.

WANTED, some Smart Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes. Long Tours.
Not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, references to E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, Christmas, for "Dick Whittington" (twice nightly) Pantomime. Long Tour. References, photos to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Principal Boy, Dame Comedians, and Refined Speciality.
Johnson, Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists for Pantomime, must have experience, good Comedians, also Ladies for Principal Parts.
Apply by letter only, enclosing photo and full particulars, to Pantomime, c/o Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Attractive Good Figured Women, Chorus, Ballet, extras, good appearance indispensable. Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Soho, London.

WANTED, Good Pantomime Artists, all Lines. Principal Boys, Girls, Comedians, Knockabout. Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Soho, London.

Dancers.
WANTED, a number of Smart Dancers. Suitable girls can have long engagement. Address, letters only, Collins, 8, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.

Chorus.
WANTED, Forty Girls for Pantomime and earlier. State full particulars and salary, London and Provinces. Letters only, Collins, 8, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.

WANTED, for Panto., Aspirants with Talent, for Ballet, Chorus, and small parts. Previous experience unnecessary. Letters only, Manager, 27, Greet-road, Brentford.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement, by Geo. H. Keith, Demon King, Emperor, Sultan, &c.; best of references from first-class Managers. Address, Pavilion, Kirkby, Notts.

WANTED, Known, Vacant for Panto., Jack Volta, Monkey Speciality on Horizontal Bars and Animal Parts; only vacancy this year. Dooner's Empire, Bargoed, South Wales.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, for two weeks, open Monday, own brushes.
John Lawson, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Immediately, Scenic Artist to touch up Scenery. Apply Henry L. Osmond, Kendal House, Hampton-le-Spring.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Good Workmanship; Second-hand Sets for Sale; also 6 h.p. Water-cooled Tri-car. Wayne Bros., Harders-mews, Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement as Resident Scenic Artist; ten years Theatre. Paisley. J. M. O'Tarrell, 28, Seedhill-road, Paisley. Reference, Saville.

MISCELLANEOUS.

To Sketch Authors and Others.
WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

Financial.
WANTED, Gentleman, to Finance Experienced Troupe of Variety Artists, in New Production, to be booked throughout the leading circuits of Britain, America, and the Continent. High-class references. £150. Box 7,985, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman wishing to Produce some English Plays next Season in Nice (small theatre secured) would like to meet with Gentleman or Lady Wintering on the Riviera willing to help financially; also good Amateurs in search of practice and training. Write, Box 7,981, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, with £30, for well-known Company; Duties of Business-Management; 40 weeks guaranteed to suitable applicant; experience unnecessary.
Box 7,975, "The Era."

WANTED, by West End Manager, Gentleman to Learn the Duties of Acting-Management in recognised Company; premium required, and good salary paid to accepted client. Box 7,976, "The Era."

WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager, for West End Variety Theatre; must be tall, smart, and of good appearance; previous experience essential; references must bear strictest investigation. Apply, stating age, experience, and salary required, to Box 8,008, "The Era."

WANTED, Assistant-Manager, at once.
Write or call,
Henry N. Phillips, Picturedrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Eighteen Weeks, "The House Opposite," Advance Manager, Assistant Stage, and Acting Managers. Full particulars, H. B. Neilson, 5, Rochester-terrace, N.W.

HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
WANTED, for Aug. 1, fully experienced Staff.
Apply, Arthur R. Harrison, Manager.

Mr. W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.
WANTED, Practical Carpenter, to combine Baggage and play Small Parts. Full particulars to Chas. Halling, Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, good Baggage Man, for "Earl and the Girl"; one who knows the piece preferred.
Apply, Darrell and Co.,
415, Strand.

WANTED, Good Smart Baggage and Property Man, capable of Small Part, open immediately. References and fullest particulars (letters only), to Lawrence Brough, 22, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED, Property Man, young man, for Act on Halls, must be able to play small parts.
Box 7,991, "The Era."

BIRKENHEAD HIPPODROME.
WANTED, to Open Aug. Bank Holiday, complete Staff, including Front of House, Stage Bill Inspector, Barmaids, &c., &c.
All must have first-class references.
Frank Weston.

WANTED, First-class Bill Inspector, young, to open July 25; good worker; must know his business thoroughly, and able to assist in Theatre at night. Terms, age, references, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced High-window Biller, for Lord John Sanger's Circus. Full particulars, W. Hinds, P.O., Kingswood, Bristol.

WANTED, Window Billers, for Monday next. Write, or call (interview).
Henry N. Phillips, Picturedrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, immediately or August, Resident-Engagement by Assistant-Acting or Advertisement Manager; young, abstainer; moderate. Box 8,001, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman (21) requires Situation in West-End Box Office. Previous experience. Reply, Box 7,988, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty July 23, Practical Stage Carpenter (resident or tour), 7 years' reference from Cecil Beryl, Esq. Address, W. H. Janeck, "Dawn of a To-morrow" Co., Duke of York's Theatre, London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Bandmaster for Ashford Railway Works Prize Band (Military); suitable employment found. Apply, Secretary, 31, Christchurch-road, Ashford, Kent.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Leader, Violin, open Aug. 1, Grand Opera.
Apply, lowest terms and refs., permanent. Macdona.

WANTED, immediately, First-class First Violin, Leader, for Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, play three times daily, twice Sundays; only first-class man need apply, with lowest terms, to Manager, as above.

WANTED, First-class Leader, well up in Variety business, to open July 25.
C. Meek, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Leader, to open August. Apply, with references and lowest salary to R. J. Bell, Manager, Opera House, Cork.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and Pianist, for Rink near London. Age, refs., and lowest terms, Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, First Violin and Flute, experienced first-class Varieties.
Salary 30s. and half matinées.
Mundell, M.D.

WANTED, Violinist, to combine Clarionet; also Flute and Piccolo, for Military and Orchestra; open at once. Terms, refs. age, Bellerby, Denecholme, Ilkley.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, to open, August Bank Holiday, Solo Cornet and Leader (violin), must be used to variety. Musical Director, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, immediately, Clarionet, well up in Dramatic work.
Wire terms and reference,
Nightingale, Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to open July 25, a good reliable Solo Clarionet. Apply, with references, to Musical-Director, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Clarionet, five weeks, from Aug. 1; Flute, for fortnight. Walter Butcher, Mus. Dir., 3, Picton-road, Tenby. Trombone write.

WANTED, First Clarionet and First Cornet, also Trombone. References and particulars to Musician, c/o Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket.

WANTED, immediately, experienced Double Bass, used to Variety, terms 30/-; also experienced Violinist, capable of Leading. Wire, Gilbert, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Trombone, for Military Band at Redcar and Saltburn, seven weeks commencing July 23, twice daily, including Sundays. Lowest terms to G. B. Robinson, Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Good Trombone, to combine Euphonium, New Theatre Orchestra, Cambridge, to re-open Sept. 19. Salary, age, and refs., Conductor, 33, Glisson-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, Trombonist, for Opera House, Cheltenham, six weeks, commencing Aug. 22. State terms. A. W. Chapman, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Euphonium and First Cornet, Bass, Treble Cleft, evenings, Saturday matinée, £1 week.
Empress Rink, Ipswich.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, two First-class 'Cellists, for Hippodrome, Southend (open Monday, July 18) and Portsmouth (open Aug. 1); must be good Soloists and Smart at Twice-nightly Variety; also smart Drummer, for Margate, open Monday, July 18. Permanent engagements to Musicians of sound experience. Good First Cornets may write in. State age, terms, and addresses, for reference, in first letter to
Amos Parker, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello, at once. References to F. H. Jepson, Musical Director, The Palace, Blackpool.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Flute for a few weeks, commencing July 25; also French Horn and Trombone, for special week, July 25. Lowest terms and references. Address, Henry Bowman, Manager.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Solo and Orchestral Pianist; must be first-class accompanist and used to orchestral work, and combine Second Violin, for Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, play three times daily, twice Sundays. Apply, with lowest terms, Manager, as above.

WANTED, smart Al Fresco Pianiste, able to arrange and transpose at sight, rehearse next Thursday, open following Monday. Lowest terms, age, refs., and photo. to Ramsdale, Railway Hotel, Bishop Stortford, Herts.

WANTED, Pianist, able to play with Band, also alone to Pictures, must be thoroughly efficient. Hours 3 to 5 and 6.30 till 10.30 daily (not Sundays). Lowest terms to G. B. Robinson, Bandmaster, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Aug. 1, Pianist, to combine Second Violin, also Drummer with own Tympani. Age, refs., J. H. Hodgson, Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, used to Variety.
Sykes, Musical-Director, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, for Season, East Coast, July 25, Double Drums and Effects, three times daily. No Sundays. Lowest and references, Box 7,998, "The Era."

WANTED, to Open July 25, Alhambra, Morecambe, Drummer, variety; also Good Pianist, for Warrington. Apply, stating terms, to H. Steele, 3, Henry-street, Warrington.

WANTED, two First-class Trumpeters, with own instruments, to act as Heralds, new production, one week, Aug. 1, London. Letters, V. C. Newman, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, for Military Band, Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Whitley Bay, at once. Bandmasters with first-class Bands write. Hours 12 till 2.45 p.m. and 5 till 7.15 p.m. daily. Lowest terms in first letter to A. A. Peuleve, Gen.-Manager.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Solo and First Clarionet, E Flat Clarionet, Solo Tenor Horn, Euphonium, Bass, Drums (effects), ex-Army men preferred. Box 7,983, "The Era."

WANTED, good Musicians.
Lowest terms, names, addresses, last two references, Hamilton Warden, New Theatre Royal, Barry Dock.

PALACE, READING.
WANTED, to open Aug. 1, First Violin, First Cornet, Viola, Bass, Clarionet, only first-class men, used twice nightly, need apply. Age, refs., terms, Musical Director, 33, Vastern-road, Reading.

WANTED, Musicians, Bexhill-on-Sea, commence July 25, six weeks certain, possibly longer; four hours daily, Sunday once if required. Lowest terms, Solo Cornet, Second, Solo Clarionet, First ditto, Bombardon, Flute, Trombone, and Euphonium, First and Second Saxhorns or Horns, Drums and Effects; reliability and sobriety indispensable. Double-handed men preferred. Add.: Leon, Hope Lodge, Milward-crescent, Hastings.

HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to complete Orchestra, Leader, Viola, Clarionet, Cornets, Drums, with Tympanis, for Aug. 1. Age and references.
Harry Hinchcliffe.

WANTED, Musicians, Cornet, Clarionet, Trombone, Drums (ladies). Open July 25.
Write Box 8,000, "The Era."

WANTED, competent and classy Orchestra, eight or ten performers (with piano preferred), eight weeks, perhaps longer, Dublin Rotunda Pictures, twice daily, must be first-class, with extensive library, classical and popular music, say if costumed. Terms, &c., Jameson, Horrox's Hotel, Strand. In London until Friday.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Bolton, Aug. 1, Full Orchestra. Must state experience, age, and last two references, to Albert E. Wilson, Mus. Dir.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. Williams, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-st., W.C.
C. Jesson, Secretary.

WANTED, First and Second Horns, for Ireland, permanent, 35s. and 30s.; Variety. Apply, Manchester Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Viola, combine Saxhorn, for East Coast, open Monday, Rink and Variety, £2. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Drummer, for Morecambe, open July 25. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, First Violin and First Cornet, 35s.; Viola and Bass, 32s. 6d.; open Aug. 1. Apply, Reading Branch Secretary.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Sydney Davies, Musical-Director (Violin), Disengaged, all-round experience, smart, reliable, best possible references. Address, Providence-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Director, well up in Variety business.
253, Claremont-rd., Alexandra Park, Manchester, S.

WANTED, by Competent Musical Director, Engagement in a Music Hall or Theatre; a splendid library of music. Highest refs. Box 7,900, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor, could provide small Military or Orchestral Band; experienced; scarlet uniforms. Refs., MADDISON, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement by Well-known Conductor (violin). Highest refs., library. Wire, CONDUCTOR, c/o 12, Silver-street, Whitby.

WANTED, Known, Conductor, Foreign Band, Dramatic, requires Seaside Engagement. Refs. Photo., library. C., 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Fred Epletl, as Conductor, Town or Country. Good refs. Add., Kennington-rd. Post Office, London (called for).

WANTED, Known, reliable Leader and experienced Pianist and Accompanist, Disengaged from July 23 to October. Address, Miss TITA JARRATT, 35, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Known, New Permanent Address, Rose and Femmie Schoenthal, Leader and Cornet. 59, Miranda-rd., Highgate, N. Now Dis.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ruby Verni, Leader Violinist, just concluded Continental engagement. Offers. 9, Gordon-street, Leamington Spa.

Music.

WANTED, by Lady, Engagement during August, Vocalist; Violinist, Pianist, good Accompanist and Sight-reader, as Companion, Teacher, or Performer; Disengaged July 23. Address, FOSTER, Walden-road, Hornchurch.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, experienced all lines, good references. DALTON, 15, Portland-crescent, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin; young, experienced. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First Violinist, experienced; abstainer; good refs.; age 32; can open Monday. VIOLINIST, 66, Percy-road, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, young excellent Violinist and Soloist as Leader or First Violin; good appearance; ready at once. Please wire. FRED W. DAVIS, 50, St. George's-road, Belgravia, London, S.W. For telegrams, Ueberall.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, 14 years' experience, in all lines. VIOLINIST, 42, Connaught-street, South Bank, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement, Variety, Musical Comedy, thoroughly reliable, Disengaged July 23. FIRST CORNET, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Military or String; can join Monday. C. STEAD, 1, Beaufort-buildings, Pittville, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Miss L. Devere Disengaged, Contrebasse.
53, Glamorgan-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Nicholls, Contra Bass, is at liberty to accept engagements, any business. 74, Cowley-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon, Theatre or Music Hall preferred; excellent refs.
Box 7,989, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by String Bass, Theatre or Variety, any district.
J. REEVES, 7, Swingate-lane, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, by experienced String Bass, Re-engagement through closing, any business. Address, S. BOOTH, Church Institute, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, good references, reliable, any business. BASSO, 53, Shakespeare-road, Herne Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, in First-class Music Hall or Theatre, strictly attentive and reliable. Address, Box 7,932, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone, Euphonium, or Baritone. Any business. Apply, EWINS, 6, Garrard-street, Reading.

WANTED, by thoroughly competent Trombonist; permanency if possible; 3 years' reference. GEORGE NICKS, 14, St. James-park, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, by Trombone, permanency, any business, ten years' experience; best refs. HIBBS, 12, Poacher's-lane, Latchford, Warrington.

WANTED, by E Flat Bombardon, A.M.U., Engagement, thoroughly experienced, good reader, abstainer, highest refs.; any distance. CLARK, 12, Rushton-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Bombardon, experienced, steady and reliable, first-class refs., any business. BOMBARDON, 56, Carlton-av., Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second French Horn; thoroughly experienced in Orchestra and Military Bands; reliable, steady; highest references; would deputise. Address, W., 20, Parkville-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, can open at once, used to variety, &c., good reader, good refs. 'CELLIST, 1, Lansdowne-cottage, Court-rd., Malvern.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist. Address, W. KNUSSEN, 12, Allendale-avenue, Aintree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, good references; permanency if possible.
WHITE, 15, Northcote-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, Second Violin, combine Piano, can open Monday; experienced all Lines; excellent references. VIOLA, 13, Camden-square, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Professional Lady can teach Harp, Violin, Piano, Dancing, &c. Offers slight services for unfurnished apartments. F. W., 118, Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, at Liberty, late H.M. Service, good refs., any business. GEO. LAWS, c/o Mrs. Huntley, 3, New St. David-street, Pentre, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist, any business, six years Empire Sheffield. C. ORTTON, 58, Marshall-road, Woodseats, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, Military Band, Variety, or any business. Good refs. ALEXANDER, 251, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo, First-class, Touring or Resident.
SMITH, Teville-terrace, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Reliable and Experienced Flute, through closing theatre, six years last engagement. FLAUTIST, 93, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham Common, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch., or Self, anything; steady, reliable, excel. refs., good reader, any dis. Address, Post Office, Lydbrook.

WANTED, Engagement, as Accompanist (Lady), just finishing London Engagement, experienced, any business except al fresco. Box 7,992, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by smart young Lady Pianist, in any capacity. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, by Pianist, steady and reliable, Rink or Pictures; good refs. PARRATT, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, combine Second Violin; Theatre, Variety, or Rink; at Lib. July 25. MANTON, 18, Plumblands-lane, Whitehaven.

WANTED, by Pianist, Permanent Engagement in Orchestra, on a liner or in England. Apply, J. W. F., Skating Rink, Lowestoft.

WANTED, at once, Engagement by good reliable Double Drummer and Effects; experienced Dramatic or Variety; refs. DRUMS, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drums and Effects. Experienced, sober, and reliable. Any business. Now at liberty. 27, Towson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, &c.; smart uniform; any business. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Anglesa's Orchestra of Ladies. Great success at New Spa, Bridlington; re-engaged.
Permanent address,
61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Herr Blomé's Orchestra, Booking Dates for Winter Season, 1910-11, from Oct. 3, on, for Exhibitions, &c. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, for Winter, excellent Rink Band, smart uniform, Disengaged Sept. Terms moderate. CONDUCTOR, 116, Shirebrook-road, Heeley, Sheffield.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Circus Artists, New and Startling Sensations, and Star Turns in all Lines, to Know that Mr. Ohmy, of the Three Royal Ohmys, has been instructed by Circus Proprietors in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, to visit England in search of Novelties. Will arrive in London this Saturday, then leave for Blackpool. Will be pleased to hear from any up-to-date Acts. Money no object for big turns for Bech Olsen's New Circus, Copenhagen, &c. Address, KING OHMY, 111, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1, onwards, for South Wales, Bristol, Glasgow, Rochdale, Variety and Speciality Acts. Full bookings. Parker and Parr write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, good Jockey Act Rider, with own Horse, and Talking and Singing Clowns, to Open Luna Park, Southend, July 23, with lowest terms. Address, FRED LORENZO, Roslerville Gardens, Gravesend. Will Bob Yelding wire?

WANTED, Agouste and Clown, must be clean and smart, at once for several weeks. Terms low. HENGLEUR, Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors to Note, The Royal Ohmys, Greatest of all Acrobatic Bare-back Riders, are still making the Greatest Success ever known at the Grand Circus, Norbeck, Bergen, Norway. Specially engaged for the grand programme for the visit of the King of Norway and the Kaiser to Bergen. No other circus artists have ever made the success in this country before. The Royal Ohmys are specially engaged for the opening of the Grand New Circus, Copenhagen, Aug. 3, for the season. The Royal Ohmys will be at Liberty end of November.
Address, THE ROYAL OHMYS,
Circus, Norbeck, Bergen, Norway.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, Galas, big success, Liberty Aug. Bank Holiday; also myself and Miss Pinder, Bare Back Equestrians, for Circus Season; with seven Acts, own Ring Horse, Riding Dog, and Flight of Pigeons. Address, 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ted Hodgini has been re-engaged for a few weeks longer with his Great Equestrian Sketch at the Halifax Zoo. Offers invited for First-class Halls, Circuses, &c. At Liberty Aug. 15, '10. Perm. address, TED HODGINI, Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown. Received a good reception and proved a big success on my opening at Bostock's Zoo Circus, Glasgow.
Dan Gregory is a hit and a success wherever he goes.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artist, with Novel Firework Effects, Sports Field, The Spen, co. Durham. Perm., 5, Devon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by The Osliecrs, Flying Rings and Trapeze Performers. At liberty for Monday, Aug. 1. Wire. Address, 5, Trafalgar-street, Walworth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists, in all Lines,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Salford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, &c., &c., &c.
Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE,
DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Send lowest terms to
FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
39, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,
MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with lowest terms.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, now and onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 1, and onwards. Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines to communicate immediately. Full particulars, Terms, and Dates.
Nothing too Big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY,
Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, for towns in the North. Apply, RAWES and CLARANCE.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, all Lines, Artists with reputations absolutely necessary. Terms, bookings, permanent address, MOORE and BENTZ, 7, John-street, Adelphi, Strand.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, July 25, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Speciality Acts, Comedy Acts, July 25, on. Terms, bookings, &c.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone, 9251 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 25, on. 14, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists for Immediate and Future Dates. Write or call with full particulars.
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety and Pantomime Agent,
64, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Fêtes and Galas; Jean Kram write. WILL TEMPLE, Fête Contractor, 124, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

BEANLAND AND EMERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Hall near Leeds, Aug. 1, and onwards, able to work on outside stage if necessary. Good Dumb Acts write. State lowest first letter.
BEANLAND and EMERSON,
Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. Coms., 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Empire, Cleethorpes, opens July 18; rehearsal 11 o'clock sharp for Band and Artists. Manager, JOHN RENSON.

PALACE, WATFORD.
WANTED, for Aug. 1, 8, 15, Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, suitable for Picture Shows, all weeks after July 18, refinement absolutely essential. Vacancies and lowest terms, JOHN R. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
WANTED, Known, Trial Turns will be seen from twelve until one. Apply above.

WANTED, Turns, for Outside Stage, Bar, Aerial, or Knockabout Acts, for Bank Holiday week and onwards. MANAGER, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates, McAleavey Marvels, Brady and Johnson, Gregson Comedy Trio, Jack Hylton, Carl and Mary Ohm. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Comedy Act or Speciality, also Pantomimical Sketch (with special scenery preferred), or anything novel, with drawing powers, for July 25, Aug. 1, onward, must be real Top Liner, or useless. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Acts having Vacant Season Dates and requiring Seaside Holiday Engagement, should write absolute lowest salary and full particulars, to CHAS. EVANS, Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate. Please mark envelopes "Artistes."

BUFFALO PALACE,
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities in all Lines.
Apply, LAMB.

WANTED, Specialities and Novelties, for Aug. 8, onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, for Early Autumn Dates, High-class Variety Combinations, or can entertain really Big Tops, on salary or shares, but must be Big and New to Darlington. JAMES BELL.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Novelties for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained.
State where can be seen July and Aug.
Also Star Acts for London and Provinces, and Pantomime Principals for Best Theatres.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
for
THE HIPPODROME, HULL,
THE HIPPODROME, HULL,
July 25, onwards,
Tops of Bills,
the Bigger the Better.
Share or Certainty.
Can also place immediate weeks,
Good Serios, Comedy Sketches, Comedians, Knockabouts, and Comedy Acts.
Apply, with full particulars and lowest prices,
WALTER BENTLEY, 168, Brixton-road, S.W.
Please note.—Can be seen personally only by appointment.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill, for July 25.
Artists all Lines for
Hyde, Rochdale, Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland Big Attractions wire quick.
Apply to CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only.
STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM, on Main Line.
WANTED, Big Tops, Aug. 1, onward.
T. C. RAWES.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Top, July 25 (Midlands), Gala Acts, Aug. 1, Birmingham, for London, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th. Several Dates for powerful headliners. Artists all lines for Halls, and many Picture Shows. Bookings, lowest (no over-estimated salaries), 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS AND VARIETIES.
WANTED, to commence Aug. 22, a real good Top-liner, refinement most essential. Lowest terms, &c., to J. W. POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, for Stockton, Middlesbrough, Scarborough. Terms, lithos, full bookings. Note my address until Sept. 17.
Prof. AINSWORTH, Aquarium, Scarborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Beginners, Aspirants, for Small Halls and Picture Theatre; Children for Juvenile Acts. Letters only, MANAGER, 27, Greet-road, Brentford.

WANTED, Lady of Experience to organise and manage company of Lady Variety Artists; dancing special feature. Immediate engagements for town and provinces. Box 8,004, "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 1, 2, 3, for Fêtes, Jumping Comedy Acrobats, Bar and Trapeze Specialities. Artists doing two acts preferred. GANNON, Agent, West-grove, Bristol.

CASINO, VICTORIA PARADE, BROADSTAIRS.
WANTED, a Funny and Refined One Hour's Show, twice daily, for Concert Hall of above. On share or rental. Ventriloquial and conjuring or marionettes. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, two small, bright, attractive, pretty Page Girls, must be quick and smart, able to sing and dance, exceptionally good figures essential. Send photos. and full particulars, height, (must not be more than 5ft.), age, weight, envelope for reply. Silence polite negative. Interviews by appointment only. MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Manager, The Great Raymond Co., Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Good Smart Star Comedienne, also Musical Turn, July 25 and Aug. 1.
Address, 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Smart Dancers, for Troupe, tall and graceful, and have good voices. Letter, with particulars, CECIL PAGET, Peckham Hippo.

WANTED, Small Girls over 16, also a pair of Sisters, Instrumentalists. Apply to PAPA BROWN, Agent, 14, Hilda-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, two Young Ladies, for Illusion Show, Sisters or similar in appearance. Write full particulars, Box 8,007, "The Era."

WANTED, for Living Statuary, Good-looking, Well-built Young Ladies. Call 7 this evening, BUCHANAN, Manchester House, 295, Kennington-road.

WANTED, First-class Funny Comedians, Tenor and Contralto (both to accompany), Pianist with piano. Sketches. Letters, ELECTRIC ENTERTAINERS, 603, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Comedy Couples, Versatile, Novelties, &c., nothing too big. Photos., list of bookings, LESLIE AGENCY, 23, King's-terrace, Southsea.

WANTED, for Song Scena, Girl able to Play Up to Comedian; must be young, pretty, and good figure, or useless.
Photo (returnable), lowest terms, &c., to
BERT DANSON,
c/o "Era."

WANTED, a Smart Tumbler, with Comedy Tricks, and can do Butterfly round stage, for well-known Comedy Act. One or two years engagement to right party. Single man preferred. Lowest terms, tricks, and full particulars in first letter. Box 7,997, "The Era."

WANTED, Boy, about 14 years, apprentice, for Acrobatic Business, good home for good boy. OLRAC, 218, Stockwell-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Tall Comedian.
Able to Dance and Knockabout.
Particulars, Box 7,999, "The Era."

WANTED, Boy Singer, must have good voice, small in size, but old enough to comply with the Law, for Act on the Halls. Box 7,990, "The Era."

WANTED, an Experienced Gentleman to Lecture and Sing to Pictures. Must be able to tell the tale and be of gentlemanly appearance. State age, experience, references, salary.
Address, Box 8,005, "Era" Office.

WANTED, competent Operators, used to both currents and limelight, for two-hour shows; only first-class reliable men, with good references, need apply. JURY'S, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co., at Liberty Aug. 15. Thanks Messrs. Fred and Horace Reeves, Wm. Mould, F. Elliston, and Signor Rino Pepi for Contracts. To-day, bottom of bill at Palace, Shipley (return); next, T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, July 18, 25, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Dancer. Great hit, fifth return, E., Dublin. Wire, 6, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Monday, July 18 and 25, on, by Cissie Arris, Vocalist and Dancer. Champion of the world and gold medallist top-boots. 6, Carrick-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, July 18, by Mlle. Du Roche. Wire please,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Vie, Premier Posense, Big Scenic Effects; only open date till November. Wire, Palace, Kettering.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an entertainment in themselves, Liberty July 25. This week, Opera House, Harrogate; July 18, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Aug. 29, onwards, through hall closing, Sisters Adair Trio, Comediennes and Dancers, coming North of England. Per., 27, Shalimar-gardens, Acton, W.

WANTED, Aug. 15, The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Dancers. Thanks to Percy Broadhead, Esq., for Contracts. Next, Hippodrome, Preston.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Original and Only Famous Singing Boxmakers. Monday, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Ted Lucknow, Refined Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, success Palace, Consett; Monday next, Theatre, Thornley; Liberty July 25.

WANTED, July 25, also Aug. 1, by Harry Morris, Popular Comedian and Raconteur. This, Empire, Southport; next, W. G., New Brighton.

WANTED, by Bert Danson, the Famous Comedian, July 18 and 25, Aug. 1, 8, Latest Success, "Archie." Wire, Grand, Aberaman; next, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Monday next, by Martin Henderson, Blind Musical Genius. Opera House, Harrogate; next, Ivy Cottage, Regent-st., Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Known, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian with the Corkscrew Dance, is Vacant Monday next. Wire, Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, July 18 and Aug. 1, 15, Harry Hunter, Vocalist and Ice Skate Dancer. Wire, 381, Portobello-road, London, W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, July 25, by Sergeant Bert Powell, the famous Military Entertainer and Illusionist. Concludes to-night, King's Theatre, Dundee; next, Theatre, Methil, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt is Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15. This return, Tredegar; next, re-engaged Bargoed, after two weeks' absence. If business slack, communicate, New Hall, Bargoed, Wales.

WANTED, Next Week, Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
107, Midland-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Known, Henry D. Adams, the Juggling Comedian, the Smartest Juggler in England, Vacant July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8. Address, 75, Bickley-st., Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Monday and Aug. 29, various, onwards, The Monckton's, Comedy Duologists, presenting Farcical Funniosities, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat." Wire, Hippodrome, Bury (fourth visit); or CLIQUOT'S Agency, 9, Monton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, by Payne and Errol (Gilbert and Ethyl), in the original Episode, "3 A.M." Please note, this is not a pocket-money Act. Good Agent required.
Address, WHITE COONS, Carnoustie.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, on, by Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, three acts. Next, Picture Palace, Fitzroy-st., Cambridge.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, also Panto. Mon., Palace, Burnley.

WANTED, July 18, 25, by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in Sporting Scena. New scenic effects. Gaiety, Birmingham; next, 36, Cremorne-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday and Aug. 1, by Hal and Lal, Hal and Lal, Novelty Artists, introducing the World's Greatest Lady Ventriloquist. A vent. figure which is a triumph of mechanical ingenuity. Wire, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida will be known in future from this date, July 16, 1910, as The Noels.

WANTED, Mon., on, by Chant and Chant, who Chant and Patter. Hippo., Stockton; after Sun., 7, Aboretum-terrace, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Sirron and Simkin, Burlesque Conjurers and Jugglers, return to England shortly after long Continental tour, new tricks, at Liberty Aug. 1. Permanent address, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Galas, Carnivals, &c., Alex. and Jolly, Funny 3-bar Experts; The Holmars, Acrobatic Clowns, &c.; two good distinct turns.
Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Carl Fredericks' Les Vivandieres, unexpectedly Vacant Aug. 1, to oblige a Manager. Best offers, share or cert. The Show with Drawing Powers, and one that never fails to please. Communications, Pier, Penarth.

WANTED, Known, vacant next three weeks, Beatrice Bonnie Quartette, Stairaphone Dancers; also Stylo, Expert Juggler. Pal., Burnley, 83, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Four Van Earles, Beautiful Ballads, great Comedy Eccentric Clog Dancers, finest Clog Dancers before the public. Mon., Pal., Oldbury. Fred Mavis write.

WANTED, Knotellas, Comedy Acrobats, Dancers, Fêtes, two acts, Lib. days only till Aug. 8, then on. 45, Stanley-road, Southend.

Screams, Yells, Applause.

WANTED, July 18, 25, Aug. 8, 29, John Olrac's Comedy Five, in Acrobatical Funniosities. A sure draw. 218, Stockwell-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, by Sisters Geretti, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15. Dewsbury Press Opinions:—The News, July 9: The Sisters Geretti are styled on the programme as double trapeze wonders, and they thoroughly deserve the title. The refined pair go through a series of lightning tricks in a manner which earns them unstinted applause. Their tricks are entirely new to Empire goers, which makes the performance all the more delightful. The Weekly, July 8: The Sisters Geretti are aptly described as double trapeze wonders. At the very outset of their performance they arose the enthusiasm of the audience, which is maintained to the end, when they are the recipients of loud and enthusiastic cheering. It is one of the cleverest shows of the kind yet seen here. The Reporter, July 9: The Sisters Geretti earn for themselves torrents of applause by the rapidity and ease with which they perform a numer of particularly daring trapeze feats. Their performance is a combination of skill and grace in a unique degree.—Address, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, and 15.
Empire, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, July 18, 25, Attilla Bros., Grecian Gladiators; Novel Strength Display. Enormous Success, Topping, Star Palace, Partick, Glasgow, where wire.

WANTED, July 25 and Aug. 1, the Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, own scenery, splendid lithos.; also Comic Competition on Bouncing Table if required. Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, July 18. Wire, County Theatre, Reading, the Great Rohde and Roche. A refined and pretty opening, with a clever comedy finish. July 25, King's Hall, Exmouth. Also Vacant, Aug. 1, onward.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., Comical Jake, Comedy Triple Bar Act, two acts.
34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gent Gymnastic Speciality Acts. 18th, Empire, Southport; free 25th, wire as above.

WANTED, Aug. 8, by Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic Seaside Scene. This week, Empire, Southport; next, Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, in their great Aerial Ladder Act. For vacant dates apply, WILDERS, Great Frances-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 25, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, also Youth, Acrobat. Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Florias, Wonderful Wire Artists and Equilibrists, have vacant Aug. 22 and 29. Address, this week, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 22, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, strong drawing Comedy Act. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 8, 29, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Monday, on, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist and Entertainer, Halls or Al-fresco. Large répertoire, refined. Success guaranteed. Wire, BAUMBER, Lincs.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.
WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, Gardens, &c.
Wires and letters,
permanent address,
BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, Ltd. & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

SUBSEQUENT

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 18, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Arthur Lennard, Onetti Sisters, Helen Trix, Severus Schaffer, Staley's Transformations, O'Gust, Ferry Corway, Animated Pictures, Chung Ling Soo.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Dan Crawley, Nina Wood, Nellie Wigley, My Fancy, Seven Perezoffs, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Shirley and Ransome, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Gothams.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mike S. Whallen, Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, J. W. Hall, Lottie Lennox, Three Laurels, Brothers Dean, Marie Adair, Bioscope, Mowatts.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Formby, Phillips and Merritt, Orpheus, Cassie Walmer, Horace Pollock and Co., Hasse and Mariette, Stuart Macmillan, Chas. Torbay, Bioscope, Girard and Gardner.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Fred Kitchen and Co. in "Private Potts," Chas. T. Aldrich, Harry May Hemsley, Azella Wilson, Harry Leybourne, Five Vernons, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Fred Conquest and Co. in "Something for Nothing."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Victoria Monks, Frank Cass, Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Smite and Smote, Matthews and Cowper, Mezzettis, Geo. Antill, Six Brothers Luck in "H.M.S. Perhaps."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ten Loonies, Harry Weldon, Sisters Jerome, Will Poluski, jun., Peggy Pryde, Luis Alvarez, Lillian, Bioscope, Kratons, Camille Ober.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Robey, Maude Esmond, James Stewart, Miller Brothers, Fisher's Vocalesques, Dancing Gilberts, Bioscope, Burley and Burley, Ernie Mayne.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Arthur Roberts and Co., Four Royals, Harry Herbert, Three Merrills, Duncan's Collies, McGregors, Lily Lassah, Bioscope, Fred Earle, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Will Evans, Maidie Scott, Alfred Woods' Co., James Curwell, Andos Japs, New Macs, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Bioscope, Helene Donald, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

R. G. Knowles, Rinaldo, Dan Fraser, Chris Richards, Gwennie Llewellyn, Mons. and Mme. Alf Agoust, Westwoods, Bioscope, "Dolly's Deception."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"Futurity Winner," J. H. Milburn, Millie Payne, Haytors, Quaint Q.'s, Chas. Vincent, Brothers Durant, Gladys Soman, Bioscope, Sanford and Lyons.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Eugene Stratton, Ethel Beech, Haig and Novel, Grassis, Albert Whelan, Hans and Lux, Keene and Adams, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Ella Shields.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Thora, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Tom Parker, Little Ganty, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Leonards, Dot Stephens, Happy Fanny Fields.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Airship, Sisters St. Julian, Bioscope, Barrett and Knowles, Piccad Troupe, Tom Edwards, Cissie Curlette, Siems, Jock Mills, Bella and Bijou.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Poluskis, Daisy Dormer, Bioscope, Ricaldo and Salving, Brothers Redmond, Harry Jolson, Bugler Carr, Maudie Francis, Tom Foy and Co., George French.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Dancers, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Delevines, Spissell Brothers and Mack, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ Grinder," Mike Nono, Bioscope, Australian Woodcutters, Jen Latona, Zanettos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

La Milo, France and Stewart, May Henderson, De Wynne Brothers, Nell Emerald, Pat Rafferty, Frank Lynne, Bioscope, Rich Taylor, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Tom Costello, Tom and Marie Motramo, Rhoda Paul, Bert Harrow, Florrie Gallimore, Rossi Ashton, Beatty and Blanche, Bioscope, Charburn's Young Stars, Carmos.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Rosa Loader, Rauschle, Alf. Gibson, Roze and Calvert, Anna Chandler, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Sam Mayo, Elly Adair, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Hilda Jacobsen, McConnell Trio, Kitty Wager, Two Anartos.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Billy Merson, Zigeuner Quartette, Johnny Fuller, Ed. E. Ford, Peter Davey's Co., "Chantecler," Marco Belli, Ike and Will Scott, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Dan Lipton's "Songland," Musical Jees, Little Keeno, Woodhouse and Wells, Dorothy Ward, Staig's Steeplejacks, H. O. Wills, Lawrence Barclay, Cull Pitt, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co. in "Drummed Out."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, Leslie Brothers, Jackley Trio, Leo Stormont, Griff, Wilson and Waring, Six Lancashire Lasses, Aida Martine, Bio, Charlier.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Ford, Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Frank and Free, Billy French, Lillian Dundas and Co., Lux's Dogs, Ryan and Hall, Phil Parsons, Bioscope, Bensons.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Geo. Ali and Co., Will Johnson, Hardini Trio, Laurie's Kindergarten, Tom Stuart, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Chas. R. Whittle, Campbell and Barber, Patrick O'Shea.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

G. H. Elliott, Brull and Hemsley, Leo Tell, Fred Curran, Lily Flexmore, Feilding and Hull, Bioscope, Kellinos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Keen and Waller, Tom E. Hughes, Rosie Fitzgerald, Glenroy Troupe, Jock Barrie, Pictures, Chas. Norton, Callahan and St. George, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

John Warren and Co., Musical Silvo, Walter Wade, Esta Stella, Maxey and Pete, Bioscope, Harvey's Boys and Girls.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

La Pia, Edie King, Helen Charles, Roma and Romani, Bioscope, Bert Williams.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Toft's Statuary, Sisters Kilner, Arthur Slater, Lena Verdi, Mr. and Mrs. Finden, Barney Murphy, Vi Laurie, Pictures, Vardon, Perry and Wilbur.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Minnie Cunningham, Iva Voyce, Alice Maydue, Gilbert's Dogs, Chris Van Bern, Amy Marsden, Pictures, Kirbys.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Opening Bank Holiday, Aug. 1.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JULY 18.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Harold Heath, Lancashire Lads, Baron's Animals, Bros. Webb, Sissie Brand, Days, Myrtle Grove, Ada Fawn, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Alaskas, Rose and Jeanette, Creagh and Co., Guest and Newlyn, Sim Maree, Ada Gatley, W. Ellis and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Susie and Protti, Henriette and Selina, Rousby and Rene, Pit Brow Girls, Lestree, Walter Price, Peterman and Co., Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
The Belmonts, Vela, "The Adder's Tooth," Jack Hamilton, Alice Craven, Mr. Fred Lindsay, the Cedrics, Tom Clare, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, The Living Dead, Arnold Bell and Co., Josephine Crook, Tiny Arnold, Will Lytton, Lottie Bray, Roy Beavis, Mlle. Rene, "G.P.O.," Karno's Comedians.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Rizarelas, Red Car Trio, Allsopp and Beckwith, Laurie and Elsie, Baby Woolf, Two Lillies, Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendal, "Wife for a Wife," Gladys Clinton, "Perkins,, M.P."

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Joe Belmont, Ford Williams, Maude Mortimer, Irene Meldon, Russell and Held, Forest and Co., Sophie, Ruhart, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Werds Bros., Josh Dixon, Little Spencer, Charles Coborn, Bardoff, Fred Ward, Jeff Martin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Pat Lynch, Hulbert's Girls, Wat Tyler, Williams's Singers, Kittie Corelli, Arabellas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Dolly Ross, Broughton and Creedon, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Roots Chemist, Carlton and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures, "Mysterious Cross," "The Circus."

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Elsie and Bob, Valenche's Dogs, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Three Van Dammes, Walter Read, Sinclair and Whiteford, Four Rosebuds, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
The Darntons, Tom Garland, the Hulls, Clara Reid and John Power, Maude Beaumont, Bert Anderson, Ethel Entwistle, L'Incognita, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Three Diamonds, Billy Elliott, Zanfrellas, Hesseys, Rd. Finberg, Daisy Taylor, Sears and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Arthur Harris, Ryder Slone, Vaudeville Trio Seddons, Thiessen's Dogs, Three Delaries, Howard and Harris, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Le Hurst, Daisy Rhyl, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Will Renee, Vera Mayne, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment, Ellerslie Pyne.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"A Fast Life.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Mamie Morris, Oliver Martyn, the Olympian Cyclists, the Merrions, Sydney Brandon, Alfred J. Long, Enzer and Miss Clarice, Barnes and West, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Lew Lake and Co., Flo. Burnett, Doris Duce, Dan Conroy, May De Rowse, Irene May, The Coopers, H. Moore, Ted Wilson, Re-United, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Tod Lowen, Norah Desmond, Ruby Maybutt, Ben Albert, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Lily Lang, Walton and Williams, Casey's Army, Sisters Edward, Billy Whitlock, Alexandra Park.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Dollie and Rosie, Dancing Paceys, Vena Velma, Dainty Danes, "Gretna Green," Pictures, Glen and Earle, Kimberley and Melbourne, Ladies' Competition, Three Comerfords, Bessie Neilson.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE SURREY VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Ltd.
Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award, Eight Weeks' Notice is hereby given that the above Theatre

Will be Closed on Saturday, July 30, 1910,

for the purpose of Rebuilding A definite date for re-opening will shortly be announced. All Artistes booked will be given other dates.

FREDERIC BAUGH,
For the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Ltd.

All Coms, The Foresters' Vaudeville Theatre, Cambridge Road, London, E.
Telegrams: "Stageyness, London." Telephone: 5954 Avenue.

C A L L. —
DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS,
HIPPODROME, KEIGHLEY.
Monday next, at 1 prompt, for Leoni Clarke, Dolly Robson, Bella Skene, Jack Diamond, La Belle Electra, Tom Gold, Minnie Le Morin, Capt. Stanley Roberts, Bioscope, and full staff. All must attend. No excuses.—WALFORD BODIE, F.R.S.A.
Grand Opera House, Derby.

CRYSTAL PALACE, S.E.

Owing to the enormous success of the recent Competition, the Management beg to announce that a

SECOND GIGANTIC
MUSIC HALL COMPETITION.

will take place in the Theatre on the week commencing

Monday, July 25, 1910.

Prizes, four guineas, three guineas, two guineas, and one guinea. Entrance fee, 2s. 6d.
Note.—In addition to the above there will be a grand AMATEUR NIGHT on Thursday, July 21, 1910. Entrance fee, 2s.
Entry forms and particulars of both these events on application to the MANAGER, Music Hall Competition, Crystal Palace, S.E.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Cullford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's. Bmgham"

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

Boxing Lithos.
New Printing for Latest Subjects.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

UNITED COUNTY THEATRES,
Limited,
and
HIPPODROME, DEVONPORT, LIMITED.
Chairman and Managing Director:
Mr. Alfred Moul.

Notice to Artists, Agents, Proprietors & Managers

ALL BOOKING BUSINESS
for Halls controlled by
UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd.,
viz.:—
Palace, PLYMOUTH; Grand Theatre, STONEHOUSE; Palace, BRISTOL; King's Theatre, GATESHEAD; Palace, ABERDEEN; King's Theatre, DUNDEE; and Hippodrome, DEVONPORT.
is now conducted from the HEAD OFFICES of the COMPANY at

BROADMEAD HOUSE,
PANTON ST., HAYMARKET, LONDON.

and all communications relative to the same should be addressed to
Mr. HERBERT TAYLOR, Booking Department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Artists and Agents seen by Appointment only.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
WALTER MELVILLE has removed his office from Oakley House, Bloomsbury, to Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS
AND
SUBSCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.

J. ROLAND KAY & CO.
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS,
172, WASHINGTON STREET,
CHICAGO, U.S.A.,
from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.

American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Cosy sitting-room and bedroom, also two combined, ex. cooking. Convenient to all parts. 42, Charlwood-street.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

MANCHESTER.—426, Stretford-rd. Comfortable apartments, all convenience. Bed sitting or double bedroom, or combined. Mrs. Hackett.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both staions; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-street. Professionals' Apartments. Highly recommended. Moderate terms.

FURNISHED FLAT TO LET (not self-contained), 1 sitting-room, 1 bedroom, kitchen and lavatory; exceptionally large rooms; electric light and piano; 30s. a week, plate and linen extra. Love, 34, Redcliffe-square, S.W.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and echnicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIER, June 8, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Troupe of Russian Poodles, success this week Floral Fête and Gala, Wolverhampton; Saturday, Fête and Gala, Skipton; vacant Aug. 1, Oct. 10, for Galas, Music Halls, &c. Com., Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1, by Margaret Doris and her highly-trained Troupe (8) Fox Terriers, the smartest Dog Show in the World. Great Act for Galas. G.P.O., Grimsby.

WANTED, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, Fêtes, Galas, and Al Fresco Speciality, a success. C/o Mr. Dansie, Cosy Corner, Ilford.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8, by The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists and Skaters; also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two Acts. Next week, Grimsby Charity Gala and Thornton, N.B., Gala. Address, G.P.O., Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Table Balancing, Somersaulting Cyclist. Les Caros, Herculean Gymnasts. This and next, Wilder's Galas. 105 Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Swift Duo, Comedy Cyclists, vacant 18th, 25th. Wire, Ivorites Hall, Ammanford, South Wales. After Sat., 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Hall and Wilson, Motor Cycling Sensation, July 25, Aug. 8, 15, precede Continent. Thanks Slingsby, Empire, Hull, for extra salary, Saturday. Managers Picture Shows also invited. This, T. R., Goole; next, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Comedian, refined, a week or two, Aug. or Sept., at seaside. Will E. Sparkes, 50, Camden-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Comedy Acrobatic Balancer, Posturer, and Tumbler. Box 7,987, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Lib., Head and Hand Top Mount, 9st; all-round Gymnast. Refs. Wheeler, 119, Long-street, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Hand, First-class Picture Lecturer, is at Liberty Monday, July 18, tour or perm.; first come, first served. Wire or write, Palace, Gateshead.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, at Once, Holiday Musical Troupe for Tea Gardens at Bungalow Town, Shoreham-by-Sea.

For particulars, apply, Miss Little, 5, Beach-lawns, Shoreham Beach, Sussex.

WANTED, Baritone, Al Fresco, used to Sketches and Concerteds, share or salary. Age and rép. Conaghan, Pierrots, Bundoran, Ireland.

WANTED, immediately, Refined Low Comedian, for High-class Costume Concert Party. Photos., lowest terms, &c., Herbert Dickeson, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, smart young Soubrette, Dancer preferred, High-class Al-fresco. Lowest refs., &c., Reuben More, Paddock Gardens, Guildford. Other Artists write.

WANTED, by Charles Armstrong, Comedian, Engagement with High-class Concert Party. Large Rép. of Concerteds, Trios, Duets, &c. Refined and good appearance.
Season 1908, Principal Comedian "The Majors." Season 1909, 34 weeks H. Flockton Foster's Co. Season 1910, from Easter, K. Scott-Barrie's Co., Leeds. Wire, K. Scott-Barrie's New Pav., Leeds.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, for Edinburgh and Dundee, 3 or 4 weeks in each city. Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter.
A. E. Pickard,
American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 1, on, for Lynton's Marionettes, Side Show, or any kind of business, no piano required. Opera House, Wrexham.

WANTED, a Lady Palmist, on Shares or Rental, also Novelties, suitable for Automatic Arcade. Pauley, Fairyland, 1, St. Mary-st., Southampton.

WANTED, Lady Palmist for the Season, shares, good appearance.
Apply, Capt. Dando, Ballybunion, Kerry, Ireland.

WANTED, a First-class Doorsman, for Spectatorium, depicting Naval Battle, one capable of taking a lecture preferred; must be tall, smart, and of good address.

Apply, The Secretary, Monitor and Merrimac, Ltd., Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

Doorman.
WANTED, Good Sober Doorman-Porter, for Season. Write full particulars, age, height, salary expected, to
Chas. Evans, Grand Hall-by-Sea, Margate.

WANTED, immediately, Good All-round Auctioneer and First-class Clean R.O. Worker. Good remuneration for capable man. Saxton's Auction Mart, 72, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, three men, any colour or nationality, generally assist Side Shows; reliable workers. Lowest terms. Day, 12, Wood-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, by Face Reader, suitable Seaside position, also experienced Partner, to talk, &c.; Shares. X. Y., c/o 392, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton.

PLEASURE BEACH,
SOUTH SHORE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, Building, 27ft. by 35ft., to Let for good Side Show.
Apply,
Secretary, Blackpool Pleasure Beach Co., Ltd., Blackpool.

LINDFIELD PLEASURE FAIR.
Monday, Aug. 8, 1910.
WANTED, Known, Notice is hereby given by the Lindfield Parish Council that all applications for Space at this Pleasure Fair must be made to me on or before Monday, Aug. 1, and that payment for Space allotted must be made on or before Aug. 5. John Sharman, Clerk, L.P.C.

WANTED, to Let, Sole Rights, South Sands, Bridlington, suit Ventriloquist or Punch and Judy. Wrightson, 7, Thorpe-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, to Show Men. Narberth, Sept., Oct. Hiring Fairs. Book ground now and get it free. Fred Thomas, Commercial Inn, Narberth.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Let, two Shops, built in the Pavilion, outside frontage of the Hastings Pier. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, to Sell, two Living Waggons, every convenience, inside, well finished and decorated with gold outside, both in good order. For particulars apply Rintoul, Jigburn House, Dunfermline. 'Phone 243.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, with Living Van, goes by rail, or Let on terms.
R. O., 65, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, at once, two Flat Top Stage Trollies or Front Drays, splendid condition. Barber, Auction Mart, Sandal, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman, having been favoured with instructions from Mr. James Chittock, who is retiring from travelling owing to ill-health, to offer for Sale by Public Auction all that well-known Travelling Show, known as the Queen's Cinematograph, comprising six loads in all, namely, two Front-carved Living Wagons, 12ft. long, in splendid condition; also large nearly new Back Wagon, suitable for any class of travelling show; also Men's Living Wagon, fitted to carry shutters, gallery, seats, &c., thereon; ditto a grand Carved Band Carriage, which carries large organ (two barrels); ditto a splendid nearly new Flat Lorry, likewise Small Organ and Harmonium, for inside show; large Bass Drum, quantity of Brass Lamps, Shuttered Box for Pictures, three Cinematograph Machines, two Cylinders, ten Spools of splendid Films. The front opening out 40 by 70 back, the whole forming one of the most compact, light, and convenient shows travelling, and is now open and doing well. N.B.—The above is too well known to need any comment whatever, and can be seen any time by appointment to the Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C. This lot is suitable for Traction or Horse Haulage.
Sale will take place at
Windmill-road, Croydon,
on Tuesday, July 26, next.
Further entries are invited in this important Sale.
For particulars apply to the Auctioneer.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.

A Teddy Bear Roundabout,
all complete, with or without electric light, in thorough working order, and well worth the money. To responsible people part of the purchase-money can be arranged.
Apply,
P. Collins,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Everything for the Fair, Rifle Ranges, &c. British Co., 457, High-rd., Tottenham. Rifles, Cartridges, Swings, &c.

WANTED, to Purchase immediately, for cash, two Road Caravans, for use as fixtures, bodies of which must be in good condition, underworks not absolutely necessary so; those in Kent, Surrey, or Sussex preferred. Apply, Tom Norman, Auctioneer, "The Era" Office, London, W.C.

WANTED, Electric Engraver and Accumulator.
Wire Worker,
Marine Parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, September, Managers for First-class Continental Rinks, must speak French, possess exceptional references, and be experienced in management of large Rinks. Apply, stating salary, full particulars, with photo., to J. C. Grealy, Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED, for Olympia Rink, Middlesbrough, Floor Manager and Lady Instructor; must be Advanced Skaters and of good appearance and address. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, by experienced Skate Mechanic and Electrician, Berth, used to any make of Skates, own tools, &c.; excellent references. Apply, Box 7,979, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 390 pair Gents' and 378 pair Winslow Skates, assorted sizes, first-class condition, some unused; 429yds. wiring and coloured lights, with holders and lamps, 30in. apart; also 16yds. and 12yds. wiring and coloured lights, 12in. apart; colours red, orange, and blue. State best offer. Box 8,002, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

Theatre, Music Hall, or Cinematograph Theatre, &c., Maindee, Newport, Mon.
WANTED, to Sell, Freehold Ground, suitable for building either of the above, in the centre of a large and fast-growing population; splendid position; nothing of sort within a mile. Apply to Mr. James Stephens, Estate Agent, Arcade-chambers, Newport.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Known, Important Sale of High-class Educated and Performing Horses and Ponies, with Coloured Harness and all Performing Utensils. The Stud consists of Nine High-class Animals, all young and in good condition. The following: One Jet-black Entire, 4 years, 16½ hands, a handsome animal, clever and refined performer, £100; Jet Black Mare, 6 years, 16 hands, beautiful mare, several good acts, including Dick Turpin, Death of Bonnie Black Bess, £100; Jet-black Horse, 6 years, 16 hands, Brown Horse, 6 years, 15½ hands, the two horses work together, for the 2 £60; Roan Horse, 6 years, 15½ hands, good performer, grand style, good worker in harness, £50; Brown Cob Gelding, 5 years, 13½ hands, very clever, good jumper through hoops of fire, tricks too numerous to mention, good worker in harness, £70; Little Kelly, brown Welsh pony, 3 years, 11 hands (you should see him on the revolving table), good jumper and clown pony, just a beauty, £30; Brown and Black Ponies, both 4 years, 12 hands, the two ponies work together, with two large Black Dogs, French Poodle and Russian Retriever, first-class Bareback Riders, cause roars of laughter, £40. The whole stud is well trained, and been touring Scotland this season, and proved a tremendous success. Owner retiring. For particulars, apply, Rintoul, Jigburn House, Dunfermline. 'Phone 243.

WANTED, to Sell, a good paying Cinematograph Show, about £500, as it stands. It is small, but in a good town, and in the right place. Been running for over two years. Good reason for selling. Apply to Box 8,003, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Great Song for Irish Comedienne. Full of go. Don't miss this one. Egan, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Pantomime, "Sinbad," purchase, to let, or partnership. Complete, in splendid condition.
J. W. Johnson, Variety Agent, 64, Waterloo-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, three Universe Bioscopes, complete, including lens, condenser, lantern adjustment with lens, slide carrier, and case. Best offers, John R. Poole, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, ten Bioscopes, good condition, cheap to clear.
Jury's, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

King's Funeral Film.
WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,009, "The Era."

WANTED, to clear, large quantity of second-hand Films, big bargains to clear. Lists ready. Jury's, Ltd., 142, Long Acre, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Cable, 110yds., 7-16in., suitable for Cinematograph, brand new. Cost £4 15s.; sacrifice £2 12s. 6d. Electric, 99, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Film Rewinder, brand new, cost £1 1s., 15s. 6d.; also all metal Slide Carrier, cost 15s., 9s. 6d. Electric, 99, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Cinematograph Arc Lamp, very heavy, 100 amp., Urban type, brand new. Cost £6; sacrifice £2.10. Approval. Apply, Electric, 99, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno, Plain, with Ruche, 3s. 11d. doz.; Accordeon Pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. King, 2, Dysart-rd., Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell. I have Four Great Comic Songs for you. Several good songs for Serio or Comedienne. Acts, Scenas, Sketches, Plays written to order. Egan, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Secondhand, Turnstiles, registering, little used, twenty Penny-in-Slot Closet Locks, Chairs, and Weighing Chair. Address, Secretary, Box 7,977, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Rattles, Spielaphones, Marimbas, Resonaphones, Tubular Bells, Macaronis, Organ Chimes, Sleigh Bells. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Stage Lime, complete, with arc lamp, 6in. lens, aluminiumed fireproof box, peep-holes, and holder, all brand new, cost £5.15, sacrifice 25/- Electric, 99, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, charming sleeve specimen Pekinese bitch, most dainty figure, splendid pedigree, aged 11 months. Can be seen in town if required. Merryfield, Fernlea-avenue, Herne Bay.

WANTED, to Sell, Sketches and One-Act Plays of every description. Apply, H. C. Fisher, Addington, Thyra Grove, North Finchley, London, N.

WANTED, Character Comedienne to Purchase Original Song, sure success.
Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand.

WANTED, Known, I have another One-Act Opera on the way. Come in and see me. It might be just what you want. Songs, Acts, &c., written to order.
Egan,
Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, a few Jockey Dresses, to fit person 5ft. 11in.; also one or two pairs of Top Boots, for bare-back riding. Apply, Box 7,986, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, 120 Tip-up Chairs, cheap, must be in good condition, or useless; also Street Cloth, 12 by 16. Particulars, George Beesley, Manager, Queen's Hall, Dariaston.

WANTED, to exchange, Act Drop, willing to pay or receive, according to value and condition, size 26 by 24. Bennett, Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, Smart Dog, used to Stage and Music; beg well; good disposition. Approval. Write, Walters, 33, Rigault-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Stage Cloth, Suite High-back Oak Furniture. Dozen Red Plush Tip-up Stalls. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

To Sketch Authors and Others.
WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

WANTED, Conjuring Tricks, cheap, including good growth of flowers. A. Collyer, 50, Bromfelde-road, Clapham Rise, S.W.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, to be Let by Tender for a period of three or six months, with option of purchase, this modern, well-equipped, and fully licensed Theatre, with a seating capacity for 2152 persons, lighted throughout by electricity.
Tenders may be sent not later than July 26 to Lomax, Sons, & Mills, Auctioneers, 54, John Dalton-street, Manchester; or, Lytton, Pownall, Blakey, and Higson, Chartered Accountants, 42, Spring-gardens, Manchester.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in July and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

Large Rehearsal Room in West End.
WANTED, ——— to Let.
Apply,
Stedman's, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, to Let, a Large Hall, for Rehearsals, with use of Piano. Terms moderate. Apply, Harry Paulo, 4, Walnut Tree-walk, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Large Furnished Flat, Central.
66, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and Programmes for the Season.
Apply, J. B. Howard,
15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Halls, or Public Halls, for long or short terms. All particulars to Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, at once, Hall for Picture Palace. Give full particulars (no callers), Pictures, 48, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, Automatic Orchestrion, suitable for small Rink. Full particulars to J. Bunce, Hippodrome, Halifax.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, Lady or Gentleman, for Autumn Tour of New Drama; Already Produced and Booked. willing to invest £50 towards working capital.
Box 7,994, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, very versatile Comedian, playing Scotch, Irish, Yorkshire, American, German, Jew, Cockney, Dude, &c., wishes meet experienced Comedian to do Double Turn or Quick Change Sketch. Reply, full particulars to Box 7,976, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Partner, American Actress, controlling fine Drama, to back Tour.
Address in first instance,
Box 8,006, "The Era."

WANTED, a Partner, with money, to join a Paying Business.
All letters to
W. J. Churchill,
Llandudno.

WANTED, by good Acrobat, to join Partner with Acrobatic Act, or Partner willing to work up Comedy Act. L. Sylvester, 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only, M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co.,
5, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Old Gold, Silver, Artificial Teeth, and Disused Jewellery, &c., bought in any condition. Cash by return, or offer made.

Henry Pearce and Co.,
169, Oxford-road, Manchester.

Bankers' reference.

WANTED, Known, Announcement Slides, any wording, artistic designs, beautifully coloured, 1/1, post free. Claude H. Eve, Pringle's Pictures, Edinburgh.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Band Books with linen slips, 7s. 6d. and 6s. doz.; samples, 9d. and 7d. Arthur Lusby, Chapel-lane, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. Fox and Son, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known.—Do You Want a Good Patter Song? Let me write one for you. Reasonable. Egan, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Authors and Proprietors of Dramas, Plays, Sketches, &c., new to Australia, to communicate with Messrs. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand.

WANTED, Known, Will Billy Parkinson, late of Wilkins Bros., Liverpool, communicate with Geo. Lewis, Marine Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Address of Dalgarnos. Contracts await.
Fred Higham, Agent.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
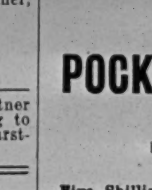
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE!

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.

Price ONE SHILLING.

Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling. Purchasers of this work will not only be making a good investment, but will also be adding to the funds of two deserving charities. The above work, got up in a convenient size for the waistcoat pocket, should be in the possession of every actor, every music hall artist, and every entertainer, in fact everyone concerned in the Amusement World.

CONTENTS.

Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.
All About Artists' Luggage.
Lists of Clubs.
All about stamping Contracts
Foreign Money Tables.
London Music Halls and Theatres.
Their Telephone Numbers
List of Brougham Proprietors.
List and Address of Photographers.
Size of Theatrical Printing Paper.
Names and Addresses of Theatrical
Railway Managers, &c., &c.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.

THE BOOK WILL BE SOLD AT ONE SHILLING
Post Free.

The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions,

THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
AND
THE MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Garrick Theatre, writes: "I thank you for the little book, which I am sure will be very useful."
Mr. Seymour Hicks, Aldwych Theatre, writes: "I thank you for the Telephone Book, which I find most useful."
Mr. Joseph Wilson, the Tivoli, says: "The distance chart is very handy."
Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt, the Oxford, writes: "The little book should be very useful."

Send 12 Stamps to the Publisher.
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, W.C.

'Phones: 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address: "The Era, London."

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—After a brief vacation His Majesty's Theatre reopened this week, when Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company presented the dramatic version of Ouida's popular novel "Under Two Flags." The company is a capable one. Miss Agnes Verity makes a charming Cigarette; Mr. Wernham S. Ryott represents the hero with fidelity; Mr. Charles E. Johnson makes a typical villain; and Mr. Harry Benson as Rake provides the more humorous side of the play in a very satisfactory manner. Miss O'Neill as the Silver Pheasant, Mr. David Hawthorne as Lord Rockingham, Mr. Wilfred Jessop as Bertie Cecil Royallieu, Mr. Charles Brooke as Lord Royallieu, Mr. Arthur Redmond as Captain Claude de Chanrellon, Miss Marion Lockie as Lady Beatrice Guinevere, and Miss Mary Morrell as the maid Levina all give satisfactory representations.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The Palace reopened this week with an excellent variety programme. Reano's band is the star attraction, the playing of the talented instrumentalists being strong and harmonious; the Twelve Georgians sing and dance delightfully; the Three Torontos exhibit weight-lifting feats of startling power; Courtney and Wilton are seen in an amusing sketch, *A Marble Flirtation*; Scholey and Scholey present an admirable skit, *Winning a Wager*; Mima Thornton dances gracefully; and Lily Edwards rounds off the programme with several popular songs.

The Tivoli.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Tivoli opened its doors for the first time with an interesting variety programme. The Harmony Four are appreciated musical experts; the Creo Brothers give a clever acrobatic display of much originality; the Avolos are gymnasts of a high order; Morny Cash's Lancashire dialect songs are greatly enjoyed; Dix and Dox play skilfully on a number of grotesque instruments; the Sisters Herbert sing and dance admirably; Tom Lee is a smart light comedian; Ethel Ra-Leslie sings attractively.

ACCRINGTON.—New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Stavordale Quintetee, in a very entertaining and refined musical turn, are particularly good; Lindsay and Hart, in their Scotch comedy act, win golden opinions; Adelaide Waldorf is a capital vocalist; Carl Cynski, instrumentalist, is deservedly popular, and Harry Conlin is successful. Kitty Kearnes, in song and dance, provides a pleasing turn; Bert and Dora, comedy entertainers, are seen to advantage; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—A capital variety programme is presented at this popular house of amusement this week. Marie Santoi and her Merry Japs, in their scena *A Night in Japan*, sing and dance well; the Spanish Goldini Troupe's unique performance includes marvellous acrobatic feats and carpet-spinning; the Tintos, in their double acrobatic comedy act *African Gambols*, cause much amusement; De Lilo and Metz, styled the beautiful lady bender and the comedy juggler and champion ball bouncer respectively, perform extraordinary feats; E. J. Sheldon gives a capital turn in patter and song; and Minnie Warner, "the Rubber Girl," finds favour with her dainty dances and catchy songs. Others who go to make up a capital bill are George Doonan, comedian; and Minnie Wheaton, comedienne and dancer.

ASHINGTON.—Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stoker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Rozel, the King of the Air, in his flying trapeze turn, is excellent; Marquis and Truly, eccentrics, are very good; and Tiny Ashton is a pleasing vocalist. The pictures prove very attractive.

Buffalo Palace.—Proprietors, J. and E. Lamb; Business-Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—The Eldras, in their canine acrobatic novelty act, are particularly clever; Cade Burnett is well received in his descriptive songs; and the pictures are up to the usual standard.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here with *The Mockery of Marriage*, and has revived local theatricals somewhat in Ashton for the week. Mr. W. Graham Arthurs as Dick Kenyon of the prologue, which takes place at the goldfields, Klondyke, and afterwards as Sir Montague Jepson, of Richmond-on-Thames, has evidently evolved from the author's creation a sturdy and intelligent man of the world; Mr. Ernest Wingfield was a manly Jack Stanley; Seth Pearse had a strong delineator in Mr. Lowe Mackenzie; Alva Kenyon, the heroine, found in Miss Mabel Elliott an actress of conspicuous ability; a charming Rose Verham was submitted by Miss C. Middleton; Mr. D. Phillips as Toby and Miss Ada Bond, in the humour of the piece, are very sparkling.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Buralem.—The present visit of Mr. Rayner and company to the Empire is being prolonged for another week.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A first-class programme of pictures is submitted here this week. Variety turns are introduced by Sabino, whose musical act is highly appreciated; and Little George Gregory, in popular chorus songs.

Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—This week's list of pictures includes a highly dramatic series, Shadow to Sunshine, Over Silent Paths, and Never Despair. Comedy is represented by Chantecler Hat, and His New Appointment. Helen and Florence, vocalists, are appearing with success. Mr. W. A. Guest's Scarlet Band is still an attractive feature of the programme.

BARRY DOCK.—Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—Heading the bill here are the Victor Bros., a pair of clever acrobats; a singer with a fine voice is Sam Williams; The Frohmans are a good musical turn; and there is the Bioscope.

BATH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mr. Chas. Schuberth, back from his foreign travels, submits a fine all-round bill here. Miss Kittie Corelli sings delightful ballads; Wat Tyler meets with a cordial reception; Elsie Hulbert and her Dancing Girls in vocalism, sabot, sand, and clog dancing arouse much enthusiasm; the rapidity with which a young lady named Arabella performs a series of wire feats is wonderful; Pat Lynch wins further laurels for his marvellous step-dancing; and a popular turn is Wiliams's Jubilee Singers, an octett of coloured lady and gentleman vocalists.

Electric Theatre.—Always to the fore with the latest stirring events of the day, the management are showing a particularly fine film of the army dirigible previous to its flight round St. Paul's, with excellent portraits of the King and Queen. The other pictures are of a varied and amusing description.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Mr. John Levey's company opened here on Monday with *The Scapegrace*. Mr. F. Dudley sustained the rôle of Sir John Fanshaw, Bart., with credit, and Mr. W. A. Buckstone deserves commendation for his fine acting as Captain Harry Fanshaw; Miss Beatrice Weston was a capable Margaret Marsden, and congratulations are due to Mr. A. T. Cresswell for his skilful handling of the rôle of Jack Fanshaw. Mr. John Levey was convincing as Bill Burke, the Avenger, and a powerful impersonation of Ralph Marsden was submitted by Mr. Wallace Curnock. The humour of the piece was in the capable hands of Miss Maude Lambert as Mary and Mr. Harry Ives as Larry McGehan; and Miss Nellie Lambert furnished a clever impersonation of Nellie Burke; Miss Maudie Western appeared to advantage as Dick, and other rôles were efficiently sustained by Messrs. T. Chapman and J. Ballard. *The Dumb Man of Manchester* was on the bill for Friday.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Great Verona Troupe of trick cyclists; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden are an entertaining comedy duo; and that smart monologue artist Mr. R. H. Douglas furnished a clever and amusing performance; Cullen and Carthy (assisted by Little Cluley) are paying a welcome return visit; Miss Helene Martin is loudly encored for her capable vocalism, and Talberto and Douglas are capable comedy artists. Also appearing are Dollie and Elsie, comediennes and dancers; Miss Mabel Florence, comedienne; Wilman, speciality artist; and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is the favourite comedienne Miss Minnie Cunningham, whose clever rendering of Irish and other songs have gained her repeated encores; The Kirbys, comedy and burlesque entertainers, speedily make themselves favourites; Gilbert's performing dogs furnish a clever performance; and the fine contralto of Miss Iva Voyce has been heard to advantage; Miss Alice Maydue is a characteristic comedienne of ability; and Chris Van Bern stages his clever act, in which the unexpected always happens. The Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Gilney, completes.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Under the direction of this popular manager many beautiful pictures have been presented, including The Hand of Fate, A Mad Infatuation, Hidden in the Camp Fire, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Andy Fagan, comedian, and the Wedburns, clever burlesque instrumentalists.

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some capital films have been shown here, including Paid in Full, As It is in Life, The Miner, Camille, &c. Ritt and Ritt, duettists, appear at each performance with acclamation.

Princess Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake. The programme of pictures exhibited here includes A Cowboy's Sweetheart, On the Border Line, The Telephone Call, &c. Mr. Tom Wotherspoon, humorist, appears with success.

BILSTON.—Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A capital entertainment is provided here this week by the Yissots, living marionettes, and Vi Eplett, a charming vocalist. A capital series of pictures is also shown.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—The drama twice nightly continues to exercise a healthy stimulant here. This week we have Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail* drama, possessing a particular fascination to the popular parts of the house. Mr. George Harvard as Harry Steyne plays with great discrimination and effect, the impersonation being a thoroughly popular one. Mr. H. W. Hatchman is well suited as Leonard Royle, and Miss T. Humphreys is in every respect excellent as the heroine. Remaining characters are all ably represented, and the scenic effects are realistic. Both company and piece have produced an excellent impression.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Horace Hunter and his capable company, in a splendid performance of the interesting sketch *Under Suspicion*, are deservedly the premier attraction; the Whittakers, in their clever comedy act *Dick Whittington*, with Fred Whittaker as the cat, is brimful of humour; and Doody and Wright, clever Australian comedians, are well received; Alec Kendall, a resourceful comedian; Billy Hobbs, an entertaining coon-vocalist; Miss Bertha Winder, an expert dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope, with some good films, complete an excellent programme. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

Hippodrome.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company, in the strong drama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, command extensive patronage. Mr. Wilson Coleman gives an incisive and telling performance of Felix Beverley; Miss Amy Ellam makes many friends by a faultless performance of Mary. The cast is most efficient throughout, and brisk business is being done.

Winter Gardens, Rock Ferry.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Adeler Sutton and Alandale's party of Pierrots, including Mr. C. D. Reekie, the popular comedian; Dave Stewart, D. Jenkins, Miss Edith Heron-Brown, Miss Alice O'Connor, J. A. Tunbridge, and Master Charlie Bray in a tabloid musical comedy, entitled *The Mountaineers*, are very popular here.

BIRMINGHAM.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—It would be difficult to find a play which preserves its freshness and attraction so well as *Sapho*, which is not belying its reputation here this week. Mrs. Frank Bateman shines in the title-rôle and shows a thorough grasp of the character, and Mr. Fred W. Goddard as Jean Gaussen displays great dramatic ability, and Mr. Percy Shaw in the humorous part of Uncle Cesaire is responsible for much mirth. The other members of the company are well chosen.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company, in *A Country Girl in London*, is claiming much attention this week, the production being a very strong one. The story is on original lines, and whilst there are plenty of thrilling incidents to engage one's attention the humorous side has not been overlooked. Miss Maude Merrick acts with natural charm in the title-rôle; Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson capably fills the character of Gwendoline Gordon; Mr. Charles Halling earns approval for a good study as Frank Gordon, and excellent impersonations are given by Mr. Scott Leighton, Mr. Frank Dallas, Mr. Seymour Perry, Miss Alice Clarke, &c.

The Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Business excellent, and a good programme. Harry Weldon is a genuinely funny man, and his performance merits the repeated encores; a screaming farce, entitled *Dotty*, by the Ten Loonies, creates roars of laughter; Peggy Pryde is in great form, and is a big favourite; Mlle. Camille Ober is justly described as the pheuomenal Parisian star vocalist, her voice being sweet and powerful; Will Polnski, jun., is a quaint comedian, who keeps the audiences in merry mood; Luis Alvarez is loudly applauded for his operatic selections; an interesting exhibition of spinning hoops is given by the Kratons; the Sisters Jerome are pretty girls, who sing and dance very prettily; and a clever cycling act is given by "the beautiful Lillian."

Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—George Robey is a big favourite here and he is enjoying a big welcome. He is as amusing as ever, and his new material is up to his usual high standard. Another expert mirth-maker is Ernie Mayne, who has quaint and funny songs and patter; James Stewart, "the tramp pianist," is a merry entertainer; Maude Esmond has some bright, catchy chorus songs; a pleasing entertainment is provided by Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques, which combination, in comedy, burlesque, and harmony, are highly successful; skilful and graceful dances are executed by the Dancing Gilberts; and Burley and Burley are a couple of quaint acrobatic comedians.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The re-engagement of the Six Charming Daughters of Eve is proving one of the greatest successes of the season. Theirs is an entertainment of artistic value, and their tableaux-vivants have a big reception each evening. Les Piccolinos are a smart midget combination whose feats are deservedly appreciated; the Laurie Bros. in an acrobatic turn of much merit introduce some excellent comedy business; Mlle. Dalmere's performing dogs, cats, doves, and rats perform astonishing feats; the Martineks are well received in a musical act; and the bill is also contributed to in capable style by the Markies, La Belle Alva, Jack Lane, and Edie Anderson.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The sketch *Pride of the Regiment*, by Nevill Graham and company, contains elements of pathos that at once ensure its success, and audiences show lively appreciation. Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots take a high place in public appreciation in a pretty vocal scena, "The Gipsies' Revels"; The Three Welsh Girls are popular singers, and Adeline Yohle and company create endless mirth in a musical interlude entitled *Difficulties*. Little Vera Elmore is a mimic of great promise; Elmo and Rego are amusing knockabouts; T. W. Barrett causes many laughs with his funny talk, and his songs are well received; Tom E. Dean is an up-to-date comedian, and the Hipposcope pictures are an interesting feature.

Curzon Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—A reproduction of the popular Shakespearean tragedy *Macbeth* is a popular feature in a good programme of animated pictures. The incidents of the play are represented with wonderful clearness, and the film is accorded a good reception. Amongst other films of a popular nature are Theatrical Garden Party at the Botanical Gardens, The Animated Gazette, and The Bride of the Haunted Castle. There were also some excellent amusing subjects.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing Director, Signor Pepi.—A capital bill is again provided here, Louis Hardt giving a fine exhibition of muscular strength; Phil Percival is a wonderful burlesque comedy pianist; Jennie Moore, in her comedy studies, is excellent; "Smith" is a fine comedian; and Crosby and Walker are especially noticeable for their smart songs; Max Merlin is a good contortionist; and Garti and Law, in their harmonious duo, do well. The Hipposcope films are interesting.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddleston.—An excellent company is here this week playing *The Little Damozel*. The title-part is in the capable hands of Miss Emelie Polini; Mr. Alick Chumley is very successful as Recklaw Poole; and Mr. Guy Newall presents a highly creditable portrayal of the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. G. R. Brandram, as Captain Partington and Miss Marion Lockie as Sybil Craven, also merit commendation. *Curing a Selfish Husband* is the title of an admirable curtain-raiser.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr. John E. Watson and company is playing *The New Boy* here this week. Mr. A. B. Tapping causes great fun as Archibald Rennick; and Bullock Major is cleverly impersonated by Mr. H. F. Widdy; whilst Dr. Candy is ably accounted for by Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood. The minor parts are in efficient hands.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Lauder is retained here another week, and is giving delight to huge crowds; The Gaudsmidts are clever clown acrobats; Carney and Armstrong are comedians of a new school; F. V. St. Clair sings the latest topical songs; Jennie Johns pays a welcome return visit with new songs; Harry Levaine is a great fun-provider; The Blessings shine as equilibrists; Tom Gott sings Yorkshire songs with success; and Archie Royer is a smart comedian and dancer.

BOLTON.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mephisto the Mysterious, assisted by a clever company, heads the bill here, with twelve original illusions. Other turns are Harry Lamore, versatile entertainer; Zeta Russell, a dainty comedienne and dancer; Percy Johnson, comedian; John Donald, Scottish baritone, in an original scena *A Scottish Exile's Dream*; the Adras, novelty acrobats and head-to-head balancers; Katie Butler, character comedienne; the Cromwells, in their unique and novel juggling act; Ada Tilley and Harold Wagner and company, in their farcical sketch *The Lodger*; F. E. Ford, dancer, &c.; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler Sutton, and Allandale; Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—The bill of fare provided this week at the Winter Gardens is an excellent one. Blanco White was loudly applauded for his coon impersonations and dances, and Jimmy Watson proved himself a capable comedian. Other items of merit were contributed by Mr. Jackson Collis, Mr. Chas. North, Miss Mimie Fisher, Mr. Andy Williams, Miss Emilie Clifford, Miss Ethel James, and the Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Maurice Mahony; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Shackleton.—The Bros. Horne this week present their comedy boxing sketch *The Biter Bit*; Ernie Myers, comedian, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; the Rawsons are a clever young pair of society entertainers; Lily Lonsdale, vocalist, is heartily applauded; the Three Orleans have a refined singing and dancing entertainment; Walter King, the doleful comedian, is droll; Shirley Liggins and Co., in *A Twilight Serenade*, are well received; Selby and Myers are also good as comedians and dancers; and the Hippo Pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Bernard Shaw's *Candida* is being performed here this week by Mr. Edwin T. Heys and Miss Horniman's company, with Miss Marie O'Neill in the title-rôle, her delightful Irish accent contributing to make her finished acting very attractive; Mr. Leonard Mudie plays with earnestness as Eugene Marchbank; Mr. Ian Maclaren displays considerable power as the Rev. James Morell; Miss Muriel Pratt, as Prosperine, makes her character prominent, and deserves special mention; Mr. Frank D'Arch is good as the Curate; and Mr. Francis Hope as Mr. Burgess presents a clever character study. *Delicate Ground* precedes, in which Messrs. Ian Maclaren, Frank D'Arch, and Miss Muriel Pratt took part.

BRADFORD.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—A good all-round company is this week appearing here in Mr. Walter Howard's drama, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas, exponents of the title-rôles respectively, Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith, achieve distinction; Mr. J. L. Leigh is an excellent representative of the hero, Captain Carsdale, and his rival, Captain Darrell, is effectively played by Mr. Polson Turner. The part of the dissolute Margaret Rivers Miss Ada Champion represents with marked ability and skill; Mr. Wilson Holmes' Jim Barker is a capital character sketch; and the humour in the piece is well sustained by Miss Patrica Connaughton, Mr. W. Percy, and Mr. A. Selwood.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—La Milo is well received here; Bert Coote, the delightfully humorous comedian, is capitally supported in his excellent sketch, *A Lamb on Wall Street*; Richard Taylor presents a clever turn as a ventriloquist; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, is a big favourite; *The Little Puritan*, is a bright sketch, smartly presented by France and Stewart; Nell Emerald, comedienne, wins favour in her buoyant and animated impersonations. With perfect ease and composure the De Wynne Brothers accomplish some clever feats in head and hand balancing; and Frank Lynne, with quaint comic songs, and Pat Rafferty, with his Irish humour, complete a fine company, supplemented with Bioscope pictures.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—In American song and dance, Fred Russell and Lilian Held are successful here this week; and Joe Belmont very realistically imitates the singing of birds; the Welsh bass vocalist, Ford Williams, sings well; in a capital sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*, Edgar Forest and company amuse the audience; Sophie, a clever juvenile, acts, sings, and dances in a manner which wins her unstinted applause; Ruhart is very entertaining as a comedy parodist; Maud Mortimer's catchy songs and pleasing style win favour; and Irene Meldon, "the dainty dot," and the Perfection pictures make up the excellent programme.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. W. L. Cockburn, Scotch baritone, who has returned from a most successful winter season in America, gives great delight to the crowded audiences here. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Walter George and his Smart Set entertainers are drawing crowded houses, and on Wednesday night at a grand carnival and fireworks night the newly-installed electric illuminations were especially fine.

New Spa and Gardens and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The celebrated Wingates Prize Band are a great attraction here. The confetti carnivals are an attractive feature in the Spa. In the Opera House Mr. Alexander Lee's Gay Birds are giving a most attractive programme daily.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday with *A Girl's Temptation*. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne gave a charming and sympathetic treatment of the character of the wayward Kate Sterling; Mr. Frank V. Fenn was very popular as the hero, Guy Warren; Mr. Charles Herbert's Basil Warren and Mr. Gerald Nolan's Geoffrey Sterling were admirable impersonations; Mr. Clifton Earle was well suited as Mark Klaw; Miss Winnie Donovan's Lady Constance Heathfield merits warm praise; Mr. Fred J. Mace achieved success as Jim Judd; and the comic element, in the hands of Miss Amy Coraille as Jemima Jossop and Mr. Albert E. Mann as Sammy Sniggles, was well sustained. The play, well staged and mounted, has attracted good houses.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Alice Hollander, a gifted Australian contralto vocalist, is enthusiastically applauded for her songs; the Seven Walfrunas, comedy acrobats, are very amusing in *Fun in a Café*; Little Dando is a very eccentric comedian; Dan Hendy is a capital acrobatic comedian; Lane and Lambert prove entertaining comedians and patterers; Millie Doris wins hearty applause for her character comedy selections; Marie Lea, character comedian, is also well received; the Two Lees are very effective in their musical speciality; Hugo and Smit are clever comedy acrobats; and the Alhambra Picturegraph.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Kitty Gordon's songs are very enthusiastically appreciated; Paul Cinquevalli is as clever and popular as ever; he is undoubtedly "the incomparable." The Romps, a bevy of pretty young ladies, give a charming turn; little Jack Marks, comedian, is favourably received, his business being very amusing; George Newburn is a capital mimic; Les Ados give a fine exhibition of athletic skill; and pleasing turns are also contributed by the Sisters Wingrove, the Jason Troupe, Hughes and Elliott, and S. W. Wyndham.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company is doing good business here this week with *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. Ernest E. Norris gave a masterly impersonation of John Glayde; Miss Kathleen Russell is distinctly successful as Muriel Glayde; Mr. T. Edgar Stevenson as Trevor Lerode, Mr. Herbert Garthorne as Howard Collingham, and Mr. F. Sutherland as Christopher Branley add materially to the success of the performance; Mr. Fred Castleman is well placed as Michael Shurmur; Miss May Norris is a graceful Princess de Castagnary; and able support is given by Miss Keith Lytton (Lady Lerode), Miss Una Earle (Mrs. Rennick), and Miss Marjorie Palgrave (Dora Longman).

Palace Pier Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Picture plays are still the great attraction, and are dramatic and amusing.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—This place of entertainment worthily retains its popularity. The series of animated pictures exhibited here this week are interesting and amusing. The Common Enemy is a strong drama; The Way of the World and An Old Story are intensely interesting stories; Lumbering in Sweden is instructive; and the comic films include Mr. Tubby's Triumph, Calino at the Bar, and Tontilini, Bullfighter. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs in good style.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—A capital series of pictures is exhibited here this week, and attracts crowded houses. The Angel of Dawson's Claim, The Sheriff's Young Bride, and From Gipsy Lands convey dramatic stories; and much amusement is afforded by Coco Policeman, Her Golden Locks, and What Gentleman won the Million?

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here for a second week, the romantic drama *Send Him Victorious* being staged. Miss Sidney Crowe acts splendidly as the Countess Kara Von Mechlinberg; Mr. G. M. Montanini displays considerable power as Colonel Heinrich Kaufman; Mr. Herbert Skardon and Miss Netta Mitchell are both very pleasing in their respective parts of Captain Frank Allison and Ethel Harding; and Miss Madge Palmer and Mr. Bert Woodin are really clever in their comic parts of Gretchen Holtz and Geordie Walker. Other characters are effectively taken by Messrs. Charles Russell, Howard Hardy, James Archer, Charles Higgins, Lionel Garteret, and Albert Mellitt. The uniforms, dresses, and scenery are appropriate.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Sable Fern and company head the programme with their musical scena *Boy Scouts in Camp*; Miss Fern sings several songs in pleasing style, and the scena is both interesting and appropriately staged; Graham presents a fine turn with his imitations in miniature of past and present music-hall stars; the Simms (two ladies) are exceptionally clever dancers, and their songs are also appreciated; Rastus and Banks are highly successful as coloured song and dance artists; the Czar's troupe of Russian dancers display much agility in their quaint national dances; Charles Woodward, light comedian, is successful; Smarte Brothers are clever acrobatic eccentrics; Gené Morelle amuses with his burlesque musical act; and Waul Langtry, patter comedian, obtains considerable applause. The interesting animated pictures include The Vanderbilt Coach Trip to Brighton and the Lieutenant's Dinner.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—This week we have an amateur carnival for the best local talent in all lines of music-hall business. There are four money prizes, and the absolute winner at the second house on Friday evening is to be awarded an engagement for six consecutive weeks at the variety houses under the control of the management. It is stated that there are 150 entries, and the competitions so far are interesting. Perrier amuses with his ventriloquial act; Lily Arthur, comedienne, is a smart dancer; Cameron Matthews and company interest with their dramatic sketch *A Dilemma*; Lace and Leno score as comedy artists and eccentric dancers; Johnson and Bert do well with their speciality, *A Queer Customer*; Harry Claff and Alice Tremayne amuse with their burlesque *The Demon and the Fairy*; the Four Marzipans are pleasing singers and dancers; and Parks and Price are successful as musical entertainers.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Rome: Past and Present is a highly educational and pleasing picture, and among the dramatic films The Planter's Wife is received with approbation.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Three Van Dammes are extremely smart in original acrobatics; Sinclair and Whiteford are a refreshing couple; Miss Elsie and "Bob" give a series of clever and well-executed feats; Valenche demonstrates to what extent dogs can be trained; and the Four Rosebuds are pleasant dancers; Walter Read, banjoist,

On their garments not a blemish.
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS WHEN IN OR NEAR LONDON

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL.

Copy of Letter. 165, High St. Tonbridge.

Mr Harris, The Chemical Cleaning Co., 13th July, 1910.

Dear Sir,

Although somewhat late will you please accept my best thanks for the great care and trouble you took in cleaning the White Silk Wedding Gown.

My Client, although one not easily satisfied, could only express surprise at the result. Your success has got us out of a difficult situation.

Yours very sincerely,

GEO. E. LAWSON.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

and Harry Keeble, ventriloquist, are very good; and the Palace pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Good variety turns include Rapoli, a smart balancer and weight-bearer; the Vigorato Trio, clever acrobats; Lynn and Collingwood, in an entertaining comedy and dancing act; Cherry Lass and Marie Kay, two bright comediennes; Gladys Vernon, in a good comedy duologue; Norman Holt, skilful manipulator of the concertina; and up-to-date films on the New Bioscope.

BURY (Lancs.). — Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*At the World's Mercy* is presented this week by Carr Loates' company, prominent among whom is Miss Cissie Milford, a clever actress in the parts of Kitty Knott and Skittles the Stowaway; Captain Frank Manley is admirably played by Mr. Fred Muntz; and Mr. Carr Loates appears to advantage as Jabez Barker; Messrs. A. Burrows and W. H. Irving, as Morris Goldstein and Charlie Smart respectively, give good representations; Miss Alice Hunter is a delightful Rosie; and Alice Lloyd is well played by Miss Maggie Hobart. The remaining parts are in the capable hands of Mr. F. Overton as Slouching Sam, Mr. Walter Leonard as Dan, Miss Clare Hall as Mrs. Rourke, and Miss May Douglas as Dot.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Miss Mildred Bryan, vocalist, pays a return visit, and her excellently rendered songs prove very enjoyable; and a clever exhibition of club juggling is submitted by the Brothers de Hais. A series of interesting pictures complete the bill.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Miss Zerlina Harrington appears in a strong dramatic sketch, presented by J. G. Grahame, and gives a most excellent performance as Olga Orloff, Messrs. J. G. Grahame, George E. Butler, J. Sherwood, and Miss Dulcie Lawrence render valuable assistance; Arthur Sharp is amusing as the Facial King; Harry Luck is a clever comedian; Clifton and Gibson are successful as eccentric comedians; Phyllis Seymour is a charming singer and dancer; Hartley Wonders give a clever exhibition of jumping; and Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire Singing Mill Girl, is a popular turn.

BUXTON. — Opera House. — Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. Alan Wilkie and his Shakespearean company opened their tour here on Monday evening with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Allan Wilkie made a rollicking Petruchio; and Mr. Henry Hargreaves was an excellent Lucentio. Mr. G. Edward Dunstan played capitally as Tranio; and Mr. Sinclair Neill was a capable Baptista. Mr. John Paley made the Pedant amusing; and Mr. Houston McLarry missed no opportunity as Biondello. Mr. Philip Gordon's Grumio was excellently played; and Mr. Herbert Mansfield was successful as Hortensio. Miss F. Hunter Watts played Katharina with all the fire and spirit so essential to this character; and Miss Hilda Plowright was a sweet and graceful Bianca. Miss May Dallas was satisfactory as the Widow; and Miss Mary Lovett played intelligently as Curtis. During the week *The School for Scandal*, *The Sleigh Bells* and *The King and the Miller*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Twelfth Night* were produced.

CARDIFF.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The programme at the Empire this week is a strong one. Horace Goldin, the well-known illusionist, is the star turn, and mystifies his audiences with his amazing tricks. A hit is made by Anna Chandler, American comedienne; Rauschle, impersonator, supplies an interesting turn; big favourites are Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan, original Hebrew comedians; Alf Gibson is a droll comedian; Roze and Calvert's sketch, *Captain Kettle and His Charming Mate*, causes much merriment; Frank Couch, the pattering comedian, is funny; Rosa Loader, the "happy slavey at the piano," commands attention; and the Bioscope concludes.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The versatile Arthur Carlton is here this week, presenting his burlesque on "The Circus," assisted by the Two Hillands and Jock Walker; also his clever card manipulation and his bewildering rendition of "The Mysterious Cross." Other contributors to the performance are Fred Maitland, supported by Miss Pauline Walker, in a funny skit, *Roots, Rash Chemist;* Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon, in a refined vocal and instrumental scena; Dolly Ross, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in a pleasing comedy sketch; while the Bioscope shows interesting films.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Variety still holds sway here, and judging by the large and enthusiastic audiences at every performance is distinctly popular. The Great Raymond, who heads the bill, is a wonderfully successful conjurer and illusionist, and as he adds much humour to the mystery of his performance he is already a big favourite. A precocious little lady is Little Sunbeam, described as the "miniature Marie Lloyd"; Morris and Moore's clever step-dancing is encored nightly; Frank Solbey is a comedian with excellent songs; Ryde and Beeman's originality is a strong feature of their smart performance; Snella Cross's efforts as a comedienne and vocalist are much appreciated; and a quite uncommon dancing act is contributed by Les Grossi, Continental dancers.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—A delightful sketch brimful of bright and sparkling comedy is *The Sleepwalker*, played for all it is worth by Walter Ellis, Miss Nydia Marcelle, and Miss Elsie Craig. It is a real screamer. A sketch of an entirely different character and quite as clever in its way is *Her Return*, given with fine dramatic effect by Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks. We do not often see a loose-wire act nowadays, so that it almost appears as a novelty. Ada Gatley, who now introduces it, is so clever and graceful that she compelled the admiration of her audience from start to finish. Something quite new in pantomimical acrobatic work is contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaskas, hard and successful workers; Sim Maree, on a return visit, repeats his previous success; Guest and Newlyn have some excellent comic patter as the Hebrew and the soubrette, but score most in their nimble dancing. Rose and Jeanette, singers and dancers of merit, and some fine pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A fine range of films is shown here this week, all being remarkably clear and interesting. A couple of excellent variety turns are given. This theatre will be closed from to-day until August Bank Holiday.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have the Four Kahns, in an interesting illusory act; the Four Flying Orevins, in a daring gymnastic and flying act; Billy Rex, a versatile entertainer; Alex. Keith and Co. in *The Notorious Mrs. Eggflip;* Phil Kauffman, with chorus songs; Dalveri and Wallace, in laughter and song; and May Mack, comedienne.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—*The Chinese Idol*, as played by Miss Lily Langley and company, proves amusing; Edgar Budden surprises all by his dexterity as a roller skate dancer; Madame Pollo displays ability in her trapeze act; Zimpa's mimicry is much appreciated; Miss Gwen Zalska shows merit as a dancer; and the Claymore Trio are deservedly applauded in club juggling and dancing.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—The theatre reopened on Monday for Pageant Week with an attractive variety programme. The Dauntons-Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists top the bill with a marvellous show of wheeled feats; George Russell is a good vocal comedian; May Knight is an ideal chorus singer; and the Florias are undoubtedly wonderful novelty equilibrists and comedy slack-wire artists. The Levans are tuneful and clever in up-to-date illustrated songs; Hylton and Wallace, mirth-provoking cross-talk comedians and simultaneous dancers, and the Sutcliffe Troupe, in full Highland costume, are skilful pipers, dancers, and acrobats. Biographic pictures conclude the entertainment.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—West Cliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell and Bentley.—Here we find an exceptionally strong and attractive programme this week. Bert Graham's "Water Scenes" is a funny number in which he is heard at his best; Bernard Russell is excellent in "Archibald, certainly not!"; and Will Bentley's humorous item "When the bugle calls" keeps the audience rocking with laughter. Fred Vallance, a clever conjurer, also provides a good ventriloquial entertainment; Joseph Boddy has a tenor voice of exceptional quality; and Miss Maude Niner contributes some clever violin solos. Mr. Cyril Weller ably accompanies.

Palace of Varieties and Skating Rink.—Business-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Thomas Butt.—Lockhart's Elephants, at the top of the bill here, give a wonderful turn; Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist, submits a clever performance; Marie Pera and Mr. Thomas Kennard bring down the house in their comedy duologue *Two Doors and a Passage;* Ruby Roya is a smart comedienne and dancer; Harry Rogerson and the Pearl Trio appear successfully in the comedy sketch, entitled *The Bad Boy of the Family;* and Ethel Campbell, comedienne, is also a pleasing turn.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—For the first three nights this week the attraction was Mr. Chas. Gibbon and company in *The Little Stranger*. As Tom Pennyman little Hetty Hornsby supplied an admirable impersonation; Mr. Chas. Gibbon worked assiduously as Paul Vronsky; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson made a characteristic Eames; whilst as Nurse Miss Carrie Young was well placed. Mr. Bruce Lindley made the most of the part of Sir George Peacock; Miss Nellie Clyde was splendid as Mrs. Dick Allenby; and as the latter's husband Mr. Charles Dancourt was good; Mr. Edward Jephson was convincing as the Hon. Alec.; and the other characters were cleverly depicted. Last (Friday) night was allotted as Mr. Fred Graham Macdona's annual benefit, and the bill was Mr. H. G. Pelissier and company in "The Follies"; the bookings made a crammed house a foregone conclusion.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moulliot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Elliott-Savonas are nightly receiving a splendid reception for their fine performance; Yangar, the West African mystery man, is a big success; Fred Lincoln's eccentric comedy songs go well; the Prince Milner Trio give a versatile entertainment; Metz and Metz, cross-talkers and dancers, are popular; Senorita Eloina, gymnast, and Mlle. Florence, with illustrated songs, bid successfully for popular favour.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsone; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Miss Margaret Cooper, the celebrated singer, had a magnificent reception on Monday, the audience applauding enthusiastically after each of her songs. The Five X Rays, "mad athletes," gave a clever entertainment; Victor Widdicombe and company presented an excellent sketch, entitled *Her Devonshire Dad;* the Four Sydney Girls sang and danced excellently; the Sisters Train did some good juggling; Walter Emerson sang some funny songs; Beatrice Allen is a dainty comedienne and vocalist; and Harry Raymond and his little daughter are clever dancers.

CROYDON. — Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Charles Austin and company are here in the comic sketch *Parker, P.C.;* Percy C. Ford and E. C. Webb's company present the dramatic episode *The Spy;* Dorothy Rose is a charming comedienne; Alf. Passmore is a quaint comedian; Madge Allan, comedienne and dancer, is entertaining; Walker and Lake are funny patter comedians; Hurman and Arthur are clever in comedy juggling; Talbot and Pearce are entertaining in *Over the Garden Wall;* Victoria Dagmar and comedy assistant win applause in their gymnastic display; and the Bioscope pictures.

Queen's Hall.—Manager, Mr. Dicks.—An excellent programme of Bioscope pictures is attracting good audiences here. A noteworthy feature is the fine performance on the piano of Mr. G. Corfield. The singing pictures are appreciated.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The programme this week, twice nightly, is drawing large houses. The principal turn is the Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers, who received a hearty welcome. Mr. Arthur Milton causes heaps of fun in the sketch *The Puzzled Coroner;* Priscarry is a clever hat juggler; Jimmy Grant, Scotch comedian, goes well; the Stanley Bros. are marvellous on the cycle and motor-cycle; the Sisters Lavender are perfect comediennes and dancers; George Shurley is responsible for much humour in his comedy songs; and the Darloscope shows some very humorous pictures.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—The premier attraction this week is the Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian dancers, vocalists, and instrumentalists. Their performance is in every way excellent, and is successful throughout. Bros. O'Brien, in their horizontal bar act, are extremely workmanlike, and earn all-round recognition; Joe Almasio is both clever and diverting in his juggling turn, and is well supported by Yamina, a graceful Arab lady tumbler; Syd. Cotterell and company appear to advantage in a sketch entitled *The Substitute*, in which there are many amusing situations; Nellie Denver, juvenile comedienne, sings and dances with grace and charm; Sam Fay, the novel comedian, is responsible for much merriment; the Sisters Ely are pleasing duettists and dancers; Duncan and Foster, clever eccentrics and dancers, and C. Allen is successful in his song-scena. The Bio. contributes to the general enjoyment.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Florrie Forde is a strong draw here, her various songs, to all of which there are most catchy choruses, taking well in all parts of the house. James Willard and company have an excellently-rendered dramatic episode, entitled *The Devil's Box of Bricks;* the Newmans provide some interesting cycling, culminating with an amusing boxing match on wheels; Russell Carr as a ventriloquist is far above the average; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire collier with a beautifully mellow tenor voice, is heard to great advantage in a couple of well-known ballads; Haidee St. George provides a high-class vocal number; and the Musical Keiths complete.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—The attraction here is Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company in *The Passion of Life*. Mr. F. Owen-Chambers is an excellent Captain Horace O'Neal; Miss Ada Hender submits a pleasing rendition of Belle O'Neal; the hero, Jack Kenny, is ably presented by Mr. Hubert Helliwell; Miss Maud Garth as Nita O'Neal is responsible for some good acting; Alice Kenny is in the capable hands of Miss Madge Maher; and the comedy element is well sustained by Miss Emily Lewis as Tilly Tripp, Mr. Fred Luard as Dan Sprouts, and Mr. Owen Edwin as Fergus McKenna.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of the bill here is Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, who in juggling, music, and comedy score well. Bromley and Fontein in a sketch, *The Man Behind the Music-stand*, are heartily appreciated; Barrie and Wood, the comedy duo, achieve success; Alice Cheshire and company in a comedy sketch, *Wanted, a Wife*, evoke much laughter and applause; W. B. Raby, a smart comedian, goes well; Jack Rae, gymnastic comedian, provides another good turn; and C. E. Stelling and Kiswaski, Jessie Wilton, comedienne, and animated pictures complete.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—With a programme of such generous proportions, and each unit being really clever, there are crowded houses here at this week's variety entertainment. Pleasant memories are awakened by the great Fasolo, the famous Indian fakir, whose sensational feats have lost none of their attractiveness. Harry Bland, comedian, is popular; the Sisters Gaye, duettists and dancers, furnish an acceptable turn; the Codys, lasso experts, impress with their adroitness; Ivy Mona, comedienne, sings with good effect; Silverstone, mimic, has a big reputation, which was enhanced by his representation of Sally in our Alley; a Yorkshire reception awaited the Lannons, vocalists and pedal dancers, in their comedy act *The Policeman and the Maid*, and they were roundly applauded; Leon and Tee made a great hit in their musical act, their musical farm being a novelty of striking modernity. The concluding item was happily conceived, viz., a beauty competition, which put on view the charms of Doncaster womanhood, by no means insignificant. Well-favoured, prettily-attired, and engaging girls came up by the score, the semi-final and the final being awarded respectively at the first and second houses on Friday evening.

DOUGLAS. — Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co.; Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—*The Cingalee* was presented here on Monday. Mr. Haldane Crichton, who engineers the show, has an artistic company. The Nanoya of Miss Isa Bowman is vivacious and picturesque; Miss Florrie Greensmith makes a charming Peggy; Miss Winifred Stone an excellent Miss Pinkerton; Miss Ray Anderson an attractive Lady Patricia; Mr. Frank Barclay a bright Harry Feruker; the Chambhuddy Ram of Mr. Hylton Warde was Kiplingesque; Mr. Frank Lennard was an amusing Boobhamba; the Sir Peter Loftus of Mr. Grafton Williams was well conceived; and Mr. Herbert Franklyn's Bobby Warren was an exhilarating piece of work. Miss Winifred Stone contributed a graceful dance.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*Don* was presented here on Monday by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's London company. Miss Emma Hutchison was effective in provoking laughter as the Mother; Mr. Charles Harley made a great impression as the ex-soldier and revivalist; Don, as played by Mr. Gordon Bailey, was earnest and painstaking; Mr. Arthur Willoughby as Canon Bonington subtly suggested the clergyman of Anthony Trollope. Miss Ethel Royale had too little to do as Mrs. Sinclair; Miss Violet Harley made the most of all her chances as Elizabeth, and Miss Viola Garland was pleasing as Ann. The play of the evening was preceded by Mr. Eille Norwood's little piece *Chalk and Cheese*.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—A most popular variety entertainment is presented here this week. Mr. George Bastow, an original comedian, is thoroughly appreciated by the numerous visitors; Mr. Harry Tate's No. 1 company evoked much laughter by their quaint interpretation of the sketch *Fishing;* Miss Lola Patey sings clever songs with emphasis; Boden and Bell are chic little dancers and vocalists; the Athos Troupe are really expert acrobats and ball manipulators; Barrington has collateral security on a piano; and the Four Royal Scots meet with enthusiastic applause.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The management here realise the value of the old proverb, let well alone, so they still retain that ever popular Scotch comedian, Mr. Jack Lorimer, Miss Stella Stahl, and the Humpsti Bumpsti, a most clever turn. Also Farr and Farland, a novelty which takes; Ross and Grayson, expert with humour at the piano; Miss Ruth Lytton, who sings delightfully; and Jack and Evelyn, smart duettists, are also of the company.

Connor's Grand Circus.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred J. Connor.—All goes right merrily at this well-conducted place of entertainment. Wednesday was the birthday of Little Mona Connor, who for fifteen years has been a popular idol with the Manx public and the island's visitors. She is a plucky and a graceful horsewoman, who revives the best traditions of the arena. The function, a most charming one, was under the patronage of the Mayor of Douglas, the Mayoress, members of the Town Council, and a large number of people of importance. The lady was honoured with many recognitions of her talent.

Messrs. Allandale and Adeler Sutton's Pierrots give an entertainment in the Palace Grounds every evening at 7.30. The artists number Mr. Harry Merrylees, Mr. Alf. Johnson, Miss Ethel Dunford, Mr. Joe Dale, Mr. Harold Knight, Miss Mira de Freece, Miss Vera Vere, and Mr. T. Nelldom. These are all brainy people, and they exploit an ideal al-fresco show.

Other amusements in Douglas are Buxton's enterprises, the Onchans, Mr. Charles Daro's Empire and White Minstrels on the Head. All excellent attractions and all attracting.

DUBLIN. — Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. Andrew Emm's company occupies the boards here this week with *The Diver's Luck*. Mr. William Macready achieves success as Martin Faber; Miss Chrissie Bicerstaff is exceedingly good as Helen Wyngate; the rôle of Barney Rawn is in the capable hands of Mr. Edmond O'Grady; and Miss Edna Godfrey Turner as Peggy Mahoney fills the part well; Tom Hall has an able exponent in Mr. Herbert Vere, and Miss Marie Stewart is excellent as Daffodil Bolter; Mr. Herbert J. Walton makes a capital Maurice Wyngate, and Miss Phyllis Spalding as Winnie Hall gives a good portrayal.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The ever-popular Bransby Williams is the attraction here, drawing crowded houses nightly. An addition to the programme is the clever turn of Mr. Hymack, chameleon comedian, who is loudly applauded. The Will Douglass troupe of Five Jolly Bakers gave a smart and entertaining acrobatic performance; and Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers, are well appreciated. Jack Horton and Mlle. La Triska, the clown and human doll, score a success; Jemmy Danver and Eva Rosslyn, in their vocal burlesque, *A Pantomime Boy*, meet with a good reception; the Eight Empire Girls are very pleasing in song and dance; and the Bioscope shows an amusing picture entitled Poorluck's Misfortunes.

Empire. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—The principal item here this week is a series of artistic living statues styled "Makers of History," which brings forth loud applause; in a laughter-provoking sketch Mr. and Mrs. Harold Findon score a decided success, and Vi Laurie is an attractive comedienne and dancer; Barney Murphy, a comedian of more than ordinary merit, is recalled again and again, and Lena Verdi, vocalist and mimic, is popular in all parts of the house; Arthur Slater is a capital siffleur, and the Three Sisters Kilner, acrobatic dancers, meet with warm appreciation; a delightful musical act is presented by Vardon, Perry, and Wilbur, and the Empire pictures complete.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Peter Birmingham, Scotch humorist, is very successful here; Tray and Rich present an excellent turn of song, dance, and patter; the Two Lillys are clever acrobatic performers; Ross and Lewis, "Yankee Doodle Dancers," are well received; and others on the bill are Witt and Wynn, the comedy couple; Harry Friskey, American comedy juggler; little Pam Child, comedian and eccentric dancer; Andre Romanoff, Russian Violin virtuoso; Fred Hallam, comedian, and the Bioscope.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietors, Brothers Sprengel.—The company engaged here this week includes the Sisters Hibbert, harmonising vocalists; Bell and Bell, comedy duo; Miss Norah Howard, comedienne; Miss Ida Parr, serio and dancer; and Miss Amy Wilton, ballad vocalist.

The Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—The Will o' the Wisps this week are drawing capital houses here. Mr. Arthur Gourlay is well appreciated for his excellent vocalism, and Miss Ethel Walker is entertaining at the piano; Mr. Conway George's quaint humour is greatly enjoyed, and other artists deserving of mention are Mr. R. Bagnall, Miss Cynthia Cooper, Mr. Tom Sutton, Miss Sara Venbell, and Mr. Claude Russell.

Arcadia, Bray.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Miss Lilian Wesson delights all here with her singing, and as a comedian Mr. Frank Dunlop would be hard to excel; Miss Irene Vere is heartily recalled for her singing and dancing; Mr. Archie Watts' quaint songs are much enjoyed; and others who contribute successfully are Mr. Francis Rayne, tenor; Mr. Alfred Leslie, comedian; and Mr. Leslie Leonard, solo pianist and accompanist.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping the bill here is Amy Augarde, who has scored a success in the entertaining musical farce, *The Sicilians*, in which she is ably assisted by Harry Turner, James Roy, and Wilfred Howard. The Three Comedy Chanters, in a jolly jumble of harmony and humour, are vociferously applauded; Charles Santon, the male soprano, meets with a cordial reception; Wynnie Darrell dances with grace and charm; the Three Warringtons perform daring equilibristic feats in finished style; Ciss and Will are dainty juveniles; Ernesto's juggling is marked with considerable neatness and precision; Cash and Clair win favour with their brilliant dancing; and a fine picture of the Motor Cycle Races at Douglas on the Kingscope completes a capital bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* on Monday evening proved a decided hit as interpreted by Miss Dora Hammersley's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean. A thorough and convincing study of Robert Brierly was given by Mr. Charles Kean; Miss Dora Hammersley scored a success as May Edwards; Mr. Edwin Morton fully realised the part of James Dalton; and Mr. James Sommerville was very good indeed as Melter Moss. Hawkshaw was played to perfection by Mr. Leslie Vyner; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards submitted a polished and consistent delineation of Mr. Gibson; Mrs. Willoughby was excellently portrayed by Miss Bella Power; and Miss Clarise Jenner was an amusing Sam Willoughby. Miss Maud Henderson and Mr. Will Henderson capably sustained their parts.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company is appearing here in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart undertakes the part of Lord Lumley, and contributes a characteristic performance; Mr. Lewin Mannering is a clever D'Orelli, Mr. Percy Marmont is entertaining as Lieutenant Lord Ronalds, Mr. Charles Groves, jun., realises the possibilities of the rôle of Guiseppe, and makes it interesting, and Mr. Eric Morden is an excellent Judson. Miss A. Bruce-Joy does able and earnest work as Lady Lumley, Miss Constance Barton is bright and pleasing as Ruth, and Miss Eva Turnour does good duty as Annette.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Miss Madge Crichton and company are appearing here in *Caste* and *The Artfulness of Ada*. In the first of these Mr. Frank Tennant introduced spirit and manliness as George D'Alroy; Mr. Douglas Vigors was natural and polished as Captain Hawtree; Mr. George Delaforce contributed a clever performance as Eccles, and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick was an amusing Sam Gerridge. Miss Madge Crichton was a girlish and enthusiastic Polly; Miss Ida Phillips played with womanly sympathy and feeling as Esther, and Miss Lucy Beaumont enacted the Marquise de St. Maur in artistic fashion. Later in the week Messrs. Jay and Mann's company appeared in *The Truants*.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. T. Edward Ward is this week presenting his répertoire company. On Monday night *Moths* was produced. Mr. Chas. Yorke as Prince Zouroff gave a capital delineation of the character; Mr. Clifford Rean as Raphael de Corrèze was all that could be desired; as Lord Jura Mr. Bernard Elliott acted with distinction; Mr. H. Macaulay as the Duke of Mull proved himself a capable exponent of the part; Miss Ward as Vere Herbert was successful, being ably assisted by Miss Esmai Ellys as Lady Dolly and Miss Clarrie Yandell as Fuchsia Leach. *Trilby* and *Her Wedding Day* are also in the repertory.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—For the concluding week of their season, the Scottish Repetory Theatre company, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Wareing, appeared in Dr. Neil Munro's interesting and agreeable comedy *Macpherson*, of which a most enjoyable performance was given. The piece has the merit of improving as it proceeds, and the players too seemed to gather force as the play developed, so that the last act rippled along in continuous laughter from start to finish. Mr. Campbell Gullan and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon were delightful in their rôles of Mr. and Mrs. Latimer, and Mr. Walter Roy was in every way excellent as Archie Macpherson. The characterisation of their parts by these leading performers cannot be too highly commended, the pithy and pawky humour of the author being most happily interpreted by all three. Miss Muriel Pope made a very winsome Clotilda Fortune, and her lover Charles Stuart was well represented by Mr. Leslie. A quartet of Glasgow culture-club members were successfully and not unfairly caricatured by Miss Lola Duncan, Miss Winifred Gunn, Mr. Norman McKeown, and Mr. Cyril Griffiths; and the minor part of George Archibald became noteworthy from the strenuous but perfectly natural way in which it was rendered by Mr. R. Ridley.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—After a fortnight's recess, the King's reopened on Monday evening with an exceptionally strong variety programme. Francini-Ollioms and his page appear in an attractive musical and acrobatic turn, with juggling and other clever interpolations, the xylophone and concertina playing—the latter to an accompaniment of somersaulting by the performer—being among the more notable features of a smart entertainment. The celebrated première danseuse, Ray Espinosa, from the London Lyceum, gives an exhilarating display of her accomplishments in a reminiscence of Taglioni, a skirt dance, and American buck dancing; Pick, Tholl, and Taylor show to great advantage in their amusing sketch *The Dancing Master;* and the Corcoran Brothers are very happy in an enjoyable musical speciality and quick-change act; while Damerell and Rutland put a great deal of fun into their humorous conversation. Cling and Clancy, comedians and dancers, Miss Frankie Manners, the Brothers Hannaway (who patter successfully), and Bioscope pictures, all contribute to the gaiety of an enjoyable bill.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Dan Crawley is the head-liner of this week's bill, and the popular comedian's versatility and quaint methods are so vastly entertaining that the audiences are unwilling to let him go; Nina Wood sings several pretty songs at the piano in a particularly pleasing way; and Nellie Wigley, as Prince Charming, is most acceptable in selections from her répertoire of ballads and lyrics; the well-known dancer, My Fancy, presents her latest scena, *Winter, Spring, and Summer*, in the course of which she introduces, among other terpsichorean specialities, a dance upon ice skates. Dancing is also included in an act entitled *Not A Crook*, contributed by Phil Rees' Stable Lads, who likewise sing, box, and whistle; and Harry Marte, a promising comedian, adds eccentric step dancing to his singing turn; Shirley and Ransome are outstanding in an interesting episode, styled *Jim's Pal*, which is played by both artists most effectively; The Gothams, old favourites here as elsewhere, provide great enjoyment with their many vocal numbers, all most melodiously rendered; the Seven Pezeroffs cause the usual bewildering sense of wonderment by the skill with which they carry through the comic juggling pantomime *In a Parisian Café*, the finale giving rise to considerable hilarity; and Bioscope pictures complete a strong holiday programme.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A film showing the Johnson-Burns fight is the great draw here, and has created considerable interest and curiosity this week. Among other attractive pictures there are also shown several dramatic Wild West episodes and cinematograph comedies, including a due proportion of mirth-provokers, of which Tubby's Triumph and Betty in Hot Water are remarkably successful. Crowded houses have enjoyed the generous fare provided for holiday folk by the enterprise of the management.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. George Edmunds.—A return visit of Bandonie, "the One-Man Band," has been well timed for the local trades holiday week. This expert performer appears able to play on any number of musical instruments at the same time, and he imitates on the concertina alone bugle calls, posthorns, and so forth with extraordinary skill. The Bioscope pictures are up to the usual standard of excellence, comprising not only stories of pathetic interest, but also notable productions of such sterling works as *Fra Diavolo* and *The Common Enemy*.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The famous Italian Band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars have been engaged here this week, this being their first appearance in Britain; and the performances in the Band Court, under the direction of Signor J. Zanfi, have merited and received most earnest attention from crowds of visitors. In the Concert Hall a pleasant variety programme is provided by Graham Moffat's Scotch Players, Mozzetto's juggling séances, and Mr. Philip Malcolm, the eminent baritone vocalist. The skating rink and the lately opened ballroom continue to be well patronised; and the many outdoor attractions have been added to by Dickinson's Merry Mascots, who give open-air entertainments at intervals during the day.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—On Monday night Mr. Walter Maxwell presented Mr. R. C. Carton's amusing farce, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. The rôle of Hamilton Preedy is in the hands of Mr. A. W. Bascombe, and he is responsible for a fine interpretation of the part; Miss Nolla Powys is natural as Joanna Countess of Rushmore; and John Bounsall is capitally enacted by Mr. John Nesbitt. The part of the Earl of Rushmore is in the safe hands of Mr. Cecil Humphreys; and an amusing portraiture of the Hon. Robert Jennerway is given by Mr. Hamilton Deane. Mr. J. D. Goddes scores a success as the aged Lord Kinslow, and Mr. Edward Beresford is very effective as Mr. Sidgrave. The remaining characters are excellently enacted by Mr. J. McClintock Clive as Reginald Saunders, Miss Violet Greville as Mrs. Sidgrave, Miss Ruth Bidwell as Emma Sidgrave, and Miss Ninon Dudley as Harriet Budgen.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Heading a strong bill here this week is a dramatic playlet, *Before the Dawn*, excellently played by Messrs. George Sheldon and F. Rawson Buckley's company, which includes Mr. Buckley (Major Stetson), Master R. Connor (Dick), and Messrs. F. Levison (the Colonel), and J. Hampden (the Ramah). Norman Telma is a contortionist of remarkable ability; Carmen and Redwin pay a welcome return turn visit with their refined drawing-room act; The Armions are seen to advantage in a musical act; The Melbournes present a lively comedy turn; Henry A. Moore presents some faithful impersonations; Chas. Grantley sings and talks with much success, and the Kingscope completes.

Metropole Theatre. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Dixon.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is being staged here this week. Mr. John B. Shinton does well as Brierly; Mr. Fred Elvin is an excellent Dalton; Hawkshaw is quite well done by Mr. Stanley Bedwell; Mr. Bert

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully cooling and refreshing during the summer after motoring, golfing, cycling, tennis, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Heat, and Irritation, and gives a resisting power to the skin surface in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores.—M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Mrs. CALEB PORTER
COSTUMIER.
Stage Costumes Supplied
on the SHORTEST NOTICE
and at LOWEST PRICES.
175, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.
Telephone 1266 Kensington.

Atherton is seen to advantage as Melter Moss; Miss Ada M. Ryder gracefully depicts May Edwards; Emily St. Evremond is in the capable hands of Miss Lilian Earle, and Mrs. Willoughby is well done by Miss Annie Brunnette.

GLASGOW. — METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. R. Marriss-Davis presents Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company in the sensational drama *The King of Crime*. Mr. F. B. Woulfe gives due effect to the part of Ronjarre; Miss Edith Loraine is a pathetic Henriette; Louis Mascarot has a good interpretation at the hands of Mr. R. Marriss-Davis; and Miss Josephine Richards acts excellently as Mathilde. Simon Gandelu is ably filled by Mr. Leonard Thackeray, and Mr. Alfred G. Raymond gives a capital performance of Mick Maloney, Miss Florrie Lyndon being a vivacious Clarisse. On Thursday *The Two Orphans of Paris* was presented.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Mike S. Whalien is here again with amusing stories; Lottie Lennox sings "A little ray of sunshine" and "Put on your old plaid shawl"; the five Mowatts display wonderful club-juggling; the Bros. Dean are dancers of ability; the Warsaw Bros., droll instrumentalists, are deputising for J. W. Hall; and the Three Laurels (acrobats), Harry Bancroft (vocalist), Marie Adair (entertainer), and Emmie Ames (comedienne) also contribute.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Wilkie Bard is here once again, and is crowding the house twice nightly, his new songs and his "Door-keeper" scena being one and all intensely funny. The Kennedy Girls give a most enjoyable song and dance turn; Mlle. de Rose, the lady baritone, sings "The Wolf" in good style; J. H. Hawtrey takes well in "Good-bye, Australia"; Flora Cromer's chorus songs are joined in heartily by the audience; the Four Garricks give a charming pot-pourri of songs and dances; Francis and his assistant Alfred make a hit in their juggling display, with comedy interspersed; Alec Lawson takes well as the dancing acrobat; and Connie Mascot is a charming comedienne, and is well received.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Minola Hurst, a clever and refined comedienne, ably assisted by two midgets, who cause much humour, is a great attraction here. Everhart, the hoop expert, is as entertaining as of old; Jay Laurier, comedian, is a favourite; the Rosses are excellent dancers; Randell and Rene deputise for Valery with much success; Gordon Stretton is a clever coon singer; and Dort and Leonard, acrobats, and Belle Sylvia, contralto, complete.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—George Formby is again keeping the audiences here rocking with laughter at his eccentric comedy, and the holiday crowds have been lavish in their appreciation of him. Horace and company are well received in Sir A. W. Pinero's comedietta *Hester's Mystery*; Orpheus contributes a musical turn that is clever, well staged, and most enjoyable; Cassie Walmer's coon songs as sung by various types of singer soon put her on good terms with her audience; Eddie Girard and Jessie Gardner are responsible for some good comedy in their sketch *Dooley and the Diamond*; Charles Torbay's silhouettes are extremely clever, and his reception is hearty; Phillips and Merritt are a smart couple, and in song, comedy, and dance items were equally successful; and Hasse and Mariette, whirlwind dancers, and Stuart Macmillan, juvenile Scotch comedian, complete an enjoyable performance.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A variety of films, both humorous and serious, have been arranged to meet the tastes of the holiday audiences, and the patrons of the Gaiety have shown their appreciation of the fact, both by their attendance and the heartiness of their applause.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. William Sinclair.—Following his usual practice, Mr. Pickard opened his doors at 6 a.m. during the Fair holidays, and provided a continuous variety show from 12 noon. Peter Gill, the battle-axe swinger, is attempting to create a new record; clever turns are given by Murray and Murray, Nelly Ellaine, Tony Clarke, Annie Casey, and Charles Chard, and the attendance throughout the week has been most gratifying.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Pictures grave and gay again form the principal part of the programme here, and a wonderful variety of these is given. In addition, smart turns are contributed by Charles Clifford, the harpist; Dave Abbott, comedian and eccentric dancer; and the Victors, who give an enjoyable vocal and comedy act.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Guss Lazenberg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Chandos.—The holiday spirit has been much in evidence here during the week, and the number of people who, after a day at coast or country, finish the evening in a hall is steadily on the increase.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—The combined attractions of the fine collection of animals here and the clever performance of the ponies, dogs, monkeys, &c., which are introduced by the Bros. Volpi, have proved a great source of enjoyment to the crowds of amusement-seekers during Glasgow Fair, and as the wild animals are still being added to by fresh consignments there is always the charm of novelty to be found.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—Another attractive programme is presented here this week. The Sisters Delmore, vocalists and dancers, are highly successful; the Walrich Trio give an enjoyable comedy and harmony turn; the Walons are successful in comedy duo; Mabel Robarts is an excellent soprano vocalist; Phil Lester provides a capital musical turn; and Arthur Richards is seen to advantage in burlesque tragedy. The Monarchscope pictures are also worthy of praise.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Mr. Charles Constant's company in *Florodora* is proving a delightful change here. The chief laughter-maker is Mr. Johnnie Schofield, who as Tweedlepunch keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Cyrus Gilfain is capably undertaken by Mr. Stanley White; Mr. Johnnie Junior sings and acts breezily as Captain Donegal; Mr. Coutier R. Dutton makes a hit as Frank Abercoed; Miss Daisy Lake is a fascinating Dolores; Miss Kate Leicester is a charming Lady Holyrood; Miss Florence Hersee is a delightful Angela Gilfain. The end of the week is filled in with electric pictures, and an exceptional turn is provided in "Vonnetta," whose marvellous performances are well known.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—The Society Idols, including Miss Nellie Bowman and Mr. Harry Benet and company, are here giving refined entertainments.

CANDIE GARDENS.—Mr. Wilson James and the Gaieties are still here.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Olga Audre's company are here with *The Great Awakening*. Miss Audre gives an excellent portrayal of Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs is a good James Selby; Mr. C. H. Mortimer acts with distinction as Captain Lambert; and capable support is given by Mr. A. Winpenny (Jack Merton), Mr. T. Arkinstall (Guy Logan), Mr. A. Francis (Billy Brass), Miss E. Conway (Molly Merton), and Miss D. Oswald (Selina Worts).

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Susan's Revenge is one of the funniest pictures exhibited here for a long time. Les Reanos are equilibrists of a high standard; Rogerson Bros., the happy Scotchmen, give a much-appreciated turn; and the Kings have a good singing and dancing act.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Charles Baron's Burlesque Menagerie displays the perfection of animal training, the cats being especially good; the Marvellous Days give an interesting exhibition of second sight; the Bros. Webb, musical Grimaldis, are another excellent turn; the Eight Lancashire Lads keep up their standard of merit; Harold Heath is a good coon singer and dancer; and Ada Fawn, comedienne, Myrtle Grove, child actress and vocalist, Sissie Brand, comedienne, and excellent pictures, complete.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—A good all-round programme here includes Dolly Clare, who shows much promise; Archie Pitt, eccentric comedian; the Narow Brothers, comedy cyclists; Bradshaw Brothers, funny and clever acrobatic eccentrics; Mitchell and Cain, in a novel act; Stanley and Greenop, banjo players of decided skill; Frank Elliston and company in *My Lady Betty*; and, as a star attraction, the Vampire Dance, presented by T. Terriss and M. Deverez.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This popular theatre continues to do good business. Among the chief pictures are Halley's Comet and A Knot in the Handkerchief. The vaudeville items are by George St. Helen, with a clever song-scena.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Hanworth Browning's company appeared in *Dolly Reforming Herself*. Miss Dorothy Giles was excellent as Dolly; and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards was very good as her husband, Harry Telfer. Mr. Frank Storrey as Matthew Barron was well placed; and Captain Lucas Wentworth had an admirable exponent in Mr. Hanworth Browning. Mr. Arthur Vezin made a typical parson as Mr. Pilcher; and Miss Florence Steventon was very good as Mrs. Sturgess. Smaller parts were in good hands. *Dolly Reforming Herself* was preceded by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, finely played by Mr. Edwards and Miss Steventon. For the rest of the week Miss Lena Ashwell's company staged *Diana of Dobson's*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—The management continue to provide excellent variety turns to supplement the capital display of pictures by the Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. This week Zero and Zema are heading the bill, and give a marvellous display of hand-balancing feats, for which they are repeatedly applauded; Henry Curwen is popular in Yorkshire comedy; and Annie Lang, a dainty and fascinating comedienne, has a splendid style and takes well.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Scutt.—For the present week Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., have provided the attraction here with the Grotesques. *Some Impressions of a Ballad Concert* are hugely entertaining, and *A Village Concert*, at which Mr. Cecil Cook as the Vicar, presides, is a merry burlesque; and "Short Stories," contributed as an interlude by Mr. Leslie Maurice, are singularly witty and original.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Mr. Courtice Pounds and company are holding the boards here with short sketches and scenes from Shakespeare. Mr. Courtice Pounds in the principal parts sings with great expressiveness, and is ably supported by Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, an excellent actor, Harry T. Davies, and the Misses Gladys Ivory, Mary Sheridan, and Mary Forbes. The selected pieces are *The Voice of the Charmer*, *Cox and Box*, two scenes from *Twelfth Night*, and *Charles, His Friend*.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Mr. Wallis Arthur is singularly fortunate this season in securing good audiences for his accomplished vocalists. As a composer as well as a humorous singer Mr. George Blackmore quite excels. Mr. Oldbury Brough's popularity gains him much applause; Miss Nellie Perryer sings with sweetness and expression; Miss Gladys Hill submits delightful renderings of her songs; Mr. Harry Kemp has a baritone voice of excellent quality; and Mr. Harold Vincent achieves a distinct success.

HEATON-ON-TYNE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—The Harringtons, in comedy juggling combination, receive a good reception; Cissy Madcap proves herself a speciality dancer of ability. The pictures this week include Flower of the Ranch, Muriel's Stratagem, Lobster-Catching, and The Spirit of the Sword.

BRINKBURN PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary; Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Little Minnie Langtre, a smart juvenile comedienne, is here. The principal films this week are In the Season of Buds, An Affair of the Heart, and The Cowboy's Devotion.

SUN PICTURE HALL.—Proprietors, The North-Eastern Picture Co.—Victoria May, comedienne and dancer, is a popular turn here. Pictures worthy of note are Jane Eyre and A Daring Performance.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson. — An excellent company is occupying these boards, playing C. Watson Mill's drama, *The Love of the Princess*. The principal parts are capably played by Mr. Frank Harvey, who is well placed in the rôle of Prince Conrad; Miss May Beatrice, a charming Princess Idalia; Mr. John Burton, whose ripe experience is effectively displayed as the crafty old King of Ilarnia; and Mr. John Worth, a manly Lieut. Zaroff. The mounting and dressing of the play are highly commendable.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The variety turns are Billy Howard and Miss Kathryn Harris, comedy entertainers; Ryder Slone, comedian; Arthur Harris, vocal comedian; the Vaudeville Trio of expert dancers; Thiessen's clever troupe of trained dogs; the Three Delaries, in a good trapeze act; the Seddons, comedy jugglers; and interesting pictures on the bioscope.

HULL.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Woman's Past* is a play that has all those qualities that attract, and is popular with local playgoers. Mr. Percy Dawson is an excellent David Heath; Mr. Chas. Lock fills the rôle of Fred Delaunay with success; while Mr. Clifford Hamilton is a good Uriah Craven. Miss Dora Pass is a distinct success as Bessie; Miss Phyllis Elton plays the heavy rôle with good effect. The play is well mounted.

THE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lillian Rosebery submit a new and original comedy playlet, entitled *An Amateur Anarchist*, with much success; the Leslie Brothers create merriment with *Music Mad*; distinctly novel is the ventriloquial part of the entertainment given by Charlier, the French comedian; effective comedy is supplied by Griff with his jest and juggling; and Wilson and Waring, in a *mélange* of song, dance, and jest. Other artists include Leo Stormont, the well-known baritone; the Jackley Trio, acrobatic comedians; the Six Lancashire Lasses, vocalists and dancers; and Aida Martine, comedienne. The Bioscope completes.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—The all-round excellent programme here includes Dale and O'Malley, a pair of really funny comedians; *Fun on the Links*, an act full of comedy, is exploited by the Four Burnells; Harry Brown, the coloured comedian, is a favourite; Harry Cotton, eccentric comedian, and Kendrick and Lauri, comedians and dancers, keep the audience entertained; whilst Maggie Fraser (comedienne), Dalvaine's life-like Marionettes, and Eugene (the girl baritone) all submit enjoyable contributions.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—A good bill of fare is here, the top-liners being the Four Mayos, clever skaters; Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque, in *My Lancashire Wife*, receive many plaudits; the Northcotes, operatic duettists, are a popular item; whilst the following turns receive due approbation: Doyle and Gibson (comedians), Preston Holme (in a musical speciality act), Jackson and Marie (patter comedians), and Kitty Keyworth (comedienne).

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week variety is meeting with success here. J. H. Greener, the singing Pit Lad; Irene and Morton, high class comedy artists; Mme. Adah Payne, the original Australian Nightingale; J. P. Carrol, the military tambourinist; Hamilton and Gillespie, in a refined comedy act; Les Wambas, with their instrumental and trapeze act; and Miraculous Misticus form the company.

THE PALACE.—Lessees, Jarrow Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—This palace of amusement is showing some fine pictures. Variety is introduced by Mr. Jimmy Lowry, the singing furnaceman, and Frank Pickard and Miss Marie West in a novel athletic and vocal pot-pourri act.

THE GEM PICTURE HALL.—Lessees and Managers, J. Tweedie and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Rabey.—In addition to excellent pictures Mr. Tom Berrick, the black tit-bit, and Mr. Ben F. Bailey, baritone, are entertaining.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwards.—Consul, "the almost man," is the great attraction here this week. Mlle. Haydon's Miniature Theatre is a fine entertainment; the Delafiores do a good musical turn; the Brothers Erard give a clever acrobatic act; the Saxony Sisters are graceful dancers; Miss Lena Leslie is a taking comedienne; Bernard and Weston are smart patterers; and Mr. Harry Drew has a good voice.

ROYAL HALL.—West's pictures are drawing good houses here. The orchestra is under the direction of Leslie Curzon, Mus.Bac.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks.—The Seven Victors are appearing here this week, and prove highly successful.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Dandies remain here for this week.

ALHAMBRA.—Proprietors, Messrs. Langlers and Pontain.—Electric pictures continue to be the chief draw here, whilst the principal variety turn is Eva Ward, who is a good burlesque actress.

KEIGHLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Dr. Walford Bodie, the electric wizard, is drawing crowded audiences; Leoni Clarke's cats, monkeys, &c., win rounds of applause, the turn being a very popular one; Lillie Le Main introduces her living marionettes with much success; Tom Gold, comedian, is well received; Dolly Robson sings in good style; and Jack Diamond, Bella Skene, and La Belle Electra complete the bill.

LEEDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—In *The Heathen and the Christian*, presented here, Mr. Frank Adair is very successful as Li, and Miss Louie Adair ably fills the rôle of Mira; Mr. Dudley Wynton is satisfactory as a missionary, and the humorous parts are well taken by Mr. Charles Luck and Miss Connie Meadows.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley. Fred Karno's company in *The Boy 'Ero* makes a hit; Harry Ford is on a welcome return visit, and the Bensons are warmly greeted; Lilian Dundas and company appear in a sketch, *Convict Nance*, and Frank and Free, Billy French, Ryan and Hall, and Phil Parsons are all capable turns.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Captain Spaulding gives a unique demonstration of swallowing boiling molten lead and eating hot liquid sealing wax; Elise Loubert's splendid voice is much admired; one of the hits of the bill is the clever dancing of the Four Ascots, and Coeman's Juveniles are likewise successful; Miss Teddy Edmonds and company appear in a popular sketch, *The Lady Jockey*; Juno Salmo is a clever contortionist; and Philip Levard, Sisters Bartholomew, and the Six Ceylons also entertain.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—A sensational dramatic sketch, *Yellow Fang*, tops the bill. Also appearing and taking well are Hayton's Manchester, Wallace Whitney, Queenie Mayer, Billy Farrell, and Beattie Foster.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*Another Man's Wife*, the third of a series of dramas, is this week presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company.

THE ARCADIAN PAVILION, under the directorship of Mr. Arthur G. Hart, is drawing good audiences. The capable company of artists assisting him includes Misses Nellie Mascotte and Edith Devonshire, and Messrs. Alf. Shaw (humorist), Reg. Hamilton (tenor), Cliffe Owen (comedian), and Mr. Arthur G. Hart himself. Leslie Whittam acts as accompanist.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The leading attraction in an excellent programme this week is a welcome return visit of Arthur Roberts and company in the farcical sketch *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Roberts keeps the audience in a continual roar of merriment, and receives capital support from his company, Miss Ruby Celeste being especially good as Mrs. Thunder. Ella Retford, a smart and attractive comedienne, is making a hit; Fred Earle is as mirth-provoking as ever with his songs and antics; Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies give a remarkably fine performance; the Musical McGregors play well on cornets and concertinas; the Three Merrills, trick and comedy cyclists, make a decided success; Lilly Lassah is a smart comedienne and dancer; Harry Herbert, eccentric comedian, creates plenty of laughter; the Four Royals are amusing in their absurdity *Bella*; and the Bioscope is also retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Topping this week's bill is Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's company in *The Pawnbroker*. G. W. Blythe's musical scena *The Toilers*, introducing Lancashire pit brow lassies, is making a big success; Harry Rousby and Nell Rene are good in their comedy study in Lancashire, entitled *Fine Feathers*; Susie and Protti display smartness in their novel dancing creation; Lestree does some clever feats as a juggler, his concluding performance with two fireballs being effective. Henriette and Selina deserve praise for their instrumental selections; Walter Price, a successful débutant at the trial matinée here, is displaying his skill as a fancy skater, and in connection with his engagement a competition is also being held. A Race for a Monkey and other pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—A first-class picture programme is submitted here, the most attractive films being Lieut. Rose, R.N., and the Robbers of Fingal Cave, A Mountaineer's Honour, Foolshead at the Ball, Visits in Japan, Why they Married, The Lamplighter, A Cowboy's Romance, Grandsire, The Scientist's Nightmare, and a Child's Forgiveness. An additional attraction is a return visit of Annie Adams, a favourite vocalist.

LIVERPOOL.—STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The attraction here this week is *The Black Mask*, presented by Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company. In the part of Henri Le Noir, Mr. Watson displays sound dramatic judgment, earning much commendation; Miss Florence E. Florence handles the rôle of Nellie Cunninghame in a manner which wins for her a deal of favour; Phillip Cunninghame is capitally played by Mr. J. Chippendale; an excellent Walter Blackmore comes from Mr. J. Woodall Bird; Miss Mabel Harland plays Stella in strong fashion; and others who deserve praise are Messrs. Fred Imbert (Samuel Winkle), James Abbott (Thomas Bryant), Miss Dot Forde (Philip Le Noir), Miss Hettie Senior (Emma Burt), and Miss Flo Norman (Mother One-Eye).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—A big line here is R. G. Knowles, whose stories are enjoyed as much as ever; Rinaldo exhibits remarkable powers as a violinist; Dan Fraser, the Scotch comedian, keeps his audience in excellent humour; Chris. Richards has a deal of amusing patter, which is richly enjoyed; Gwennie Llewellyn, possessed of a wonderful voice, delights everybody with her songs; as Continental jugglers Alf and Mme. Agoust would be hard to beat, many of their tricks being novel and new; the Westwoods go through a daring and original cycling performance; and John Scott's company, including Iris Hoey, please greatly with the farcical episode, *Dolly's Deception*.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Charles Harrington's company are here this week with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, played twice nightly. Mr. J. H. Boehm as Uncle Tom is effective; Mr. Eric Williams ably presents the character of George Harris; Miss Annie Watson proves an exceedingly amusing Topsy; as Aunt Ophelia Miss Ethel Vernon plays with much tact; Mr. Claude Graveley makes a capital St. Clair; Miss Gem Lloyd affords every satisfaction as Eva; a powerful Dan Haley comes from Mr. E. Leonard; and Mr. A. Hayes worthily fills the rôle of Phineas Fletcher. A plantation festival is introduced into one of the scenes.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—That jolly little Dutch girl, May Moore Duprez, is here this week, renewing acquaintances in "Bits of Vaudeville"; Lottie Bellman, assisted by Bay Russell, affords every satisfaction the turn being greatly admired; a smart singing and dancing speciality is provided by Ted Curtis and Pics; Sterling and Love present an able musical act; the Goodlow Trio of novelty acrobats earn great applause; Max Laube whistles in fine style; Cissie Lupino, transformation dancer, is an admirable turn; Hanvarr and Lee go through an able comedy club juggling act; and George D'Albert brings his latest successes.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here this week is presenting *For Love of a Woman*, from the pen of Nita Rae. Mr. Harry Tresham plays Ned Merrick in effective style; a powerful Guy Manor comes from Mr. Sydney Grant; Miss Lina Nazeby well suits the rôle of Jane Manor; Miss Gertrude Entwistle plays Nell Paget with much discretion; and others who lend good support are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (Allen Paget), R. Seath Innes (Major Hulmes), Leo. Montgomery (Everemond), Tom H. Solly (Sam Halland), E. D. Allen (Walter Tom Jones), and Miss Florence Cameron (Marjory Hulmes). Brown's bioscope shows Cheese and Kisses.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—The top line here this week is Joseph Hart's *Futurity Winner*, which is enjoyed as greatly as ever; Sandford and Lyons delight everybody with their songs and simultaneous dancing; the Haytors (Frank, Walter, and Winnie) cause endless laughter by reason of the sketch *The Electrician*; one of the best turns of the evening is that provided by the Quaint Q's, four harmonious comedians, who sing and dance in fine style; Millie Payne, with her everyday characters, pleases immensely; and J. H. Milburn, topical and descriptive vocalist; Chas. Vincent, parody comedian; the Brothers Durant, with their airship; and Gladys Soman, contralto, also appear.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Here this week good audiences are enjoying Mr. Herbert Darnley's merry sketch, *John Jay, jun.*, which seems to have lost none of its drawing powers; the popular Barney Armstrong and Kelly are causing endless laughter; Robins and Collier have an exceedingly funny trifle, entitled *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*; Grace Lawn sings and dances in pleasing manner; the Three Romas have a clever hand-balancing turn; Little Sadie Lundy sings agreeably; Penstone and Sango present a neat vaudeville entertainment; Rex and Ford have some amusing patter; and Frank Hartley shows remarkable skill as a youthful juggler.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—This theatre opened on Monday, the 18th, for the season, and for the first three nights Miss Lena Ashwell's No. 1 company appeared in *Diana of Dobson's*. Miss Eva Leonard Boyne makes a typical Diana; Miss Lake is good as Miss Pringle; Miss Mary Crewe is well placed as Mrs. Whyte Frazer; Mr. Thos. Pauncefort as Sir Jabez Grinlay and Mr. Brisco Owen as Captain the Hon. Victor Bretherton are excellent. Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore appeared on Thursday in *A Pair of Spectacles*.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—The popularity of "Vint's" is still growing, and good houses are attracted at each of the two nightly performances. An excellent set of pictures this week includes Hunting in France, Mr. Tubby's Triumph, Indian Blood, The Foundling, The Modern Messenger, and other interesting films. Clare and Pastor, comedy and speciality artists, give a smart variety turn; and Ella Blair's Bowery Boys and Girls are responsible for clever dancing.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—Loyal Leeder, comedian and mimic, supplies a good vaudeville turn, and the pictures maintain their high standard.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—For the first part of the week we have Mr. Chas. Graham's company in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Mr. Arthur Poole makes a realistic Captain Harry Peyton; and Miss Olive Noble scores a genuine success as Elizabeth. They are splendidly supported. For the remainder of the week Mr Charles Gibbon and company appeared in *The Little Stranger*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The variety bill includes Milton and Horton, bar performers; the Rangers, comedy cyclists; and the St. John's, in a capital musical act. The pictures include the recent motor-cycle race in the Isle of Man.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Morton Powell's company are here this week in the appealing human drama, *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. Miss Geraldine Verner as Jessie Burton, the workgirl, and Mr. Harry Scott as Harry Halling efficiently sustain the heroic interest; and Mrs. Morton Powell has a strong part as Winnie Waters, in which she shows to great advantage. Mr. Richard Vane's depiction of the villainous Philip Edge is admirably done; a good piece of work is that of Miss Kathryne Eckhart as the stepmother, Mrs. Burton; and Mr. Sydney Bryant shines in the light rôle of Jack Jossie, a London lad.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Morton Powell's company are appearing here in *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, a play full of exciting incident and clever characterisation. Miss Edith Wallis is especially good as Ruth Wright, a victim; and Miss Maud M. Powell, as Ruby Wright, the girl who is driven to destruction, displays considerable power and sympathy in the part. As Robert Ray, who is in love with Ruby, Mr. Leslie Austin gives a telling performance; and other commendable delineations are added by Miss Lilla Nordon, Mr. E. Swinton, and Mr. Macintosh Clyde. There is plenty of humorous relief, and the play is well staged.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Oswald Cray and company are here in *When It Was Dark*, which was played with success at the Metropole Theatre last week.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—A new play, *A Woman of Two Lives*, was produced here on Monday by Miss Hilda Beverley. A notice appears elsewhere.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Big houses are attracted here by Fred Kitchen, who appears with Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts*; and Chas. T. Aldrich, the well-known quick-change comedy impersonator; while Fred Conquest and company are also to the fore in a clever and well-acted farce, *Something for Nothing*. Other good turns are Jennie Hartley, an engaging comedienne and dancer; Harry May Hemsley, entertainer; Azella Wilson, a graceful lady gymnast; Harry Leybourne, entertainer at the piano; and the Five Vernons, expert xylophonists.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Victoria Monks, a favourite comedienne, is the top star attraction here this week, and scores a big success. The Six Brothers Luck are highly amusing in a well-staged comedy sketch, *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Smite and Smote provide an exceedingly funny turn, which is well received; the Mezzettis make a hit in a finished and laughable triple-bar performance; Gwennie Hasto charms with her dancing and singing; Matthews and Cowper play well in the sketch *When the Clock Went Wrong*; Frank Cass, character comedian, is good; and George Antill is smart as a comedian and legmania artist. Up-to-date pictures complete a good all-round show.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—A novelty is provided here this week by Mlle. Denarber, who receives applause for her French songs, one of which she sings while floating over the auditorium in a balloon. Tschernoff's Animals are very cleverly trained, and give an interesting performance; the Pasquali Brothers are tumblers and equilibrists of exceptional ability; Gus Harris earns his usual success by his Hebrew songs; Ferguson and Mack excite much laughter by their patter and eccentric drolleries; Sam Stern arouses merriment by his Hebrew and Italian characterisations; Natalie and Diana are good trapeze artists; Lucia Collins—daughter of the late Lottie Collins—sings nicely; the Soho Trio contribute good sentimental songs and clever dancing; and the pictures are up to their usual high standard.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Henri De Vries, who tops the bill here this week, is highly successful in an effective sketch, *A Moving Picture*. He meets with a deserved big reception. Mr. and Mrs. William Calvert play well in *On the Quiet*; and Laura Leycester and company are good in a dramatic episode, *Who Was the Woman?* Doon and Dixey provide a smart musical act; Elise Malpass is a very clever child mimic and dancer; Eva Weigh gives a charming turn; whilst other enjoyable items are those of Nellie Nestle, comedienne; Frank Jester, comedian; and the Dainties, vocalists and dancers. Ruffell's Bioscope pictures complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, a new domestic play, is well presented here this week by Mr. Wilson Benge and company. As George Tremain, the hero, Mr. Benge plays with care; Mr. Louis Lingard, in a dual rôle, scores a big success; Mr. Frederick F. Lloyd and Miss Florence Zillwood are effective in sinister parts; and Miss Pauline Nanton as Mavis Leverton acts with charm. Support is rendered by Messrs. Jay Kay, Ben Carr, W. H. Pointon, Herbert Hastings, and Miss Amy Milstead; whilst the humorous element is in the safe hands of Miss Sybil Hare as Kinkie and Messrs. Charles Digby and K. Arthur.

BIRMINGHAM (SNOW HILL).
GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY
NEW ROUTE
LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM
IN 2 HOURS
SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES BY ARRANGEMENT.

	WEEK DAYS.				SUNDAYS.	
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Paddington ..dep.	9.10	11.5	2.35	4.0	10.20	3.30
		p.m.			p.m.	
Birmingham ..arr.	11.10	1.5	4.35	6.0	1.25	6.55
Wolverhampton ,,	11.34	1.34	4.59	6 24	1.55	7.32
Dudley .. .. ,,	11.46	1.48	5.47	7.5	2.30	7.45
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.
Dudley .. .. dep.	8 8	10.30	11.20	2.0	9.35	11.35
Wolverhampton ,,	8.30	10.51	11.43	2.18	10.10	12.56
			p.m.			p.m.
Birmingham.. ,,	8.55	11.15	12.7	2.45	11.0	1.42
		p.m.			p.m.	
Paddington .. arr.	10.55	1.25	2.13	4.50	2 20	5.45

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Jake Friedman and company, including Florence Hanton, score their usual success here this week with *Happy Holland*. Tennyson and Wallis, comedians, provide an excellent turn; the Geraldos go through their wonderfully clever juggling performance, and are loudly applauded; Tom Taylor and company cause endless laughter with their sketch *The Plumbers;* and other good turns are offered by Michael Madden, comedian, with funny business; Richards Trio, in clever eccentric acrobatic act; and the Sisters Lawson, vocalists and dancers. The Gold Seekers on the Bioscope is a good film.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—The So and So's are here this week, and a smart and clever combination of artists, including Stuart Alexander, tenor; Pattie Biddulph, contralto; Gilbert Leslie, light comedian; Maude Davis, soprano; Madge White, comedienne and mimic; Harry Quiningborough, comedian; and Miss Alma, at the piano.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lamb.—Mr. George Dance's company has been the attraction this week in the musical play *The Girl from Kay's*. The principal characters have been delightfully sustained by Miss Florence Millington as Winnie Harborough, and Mr. J. W. Hooper has been remarkably successful as Max Hoggenheimer. A very capable all-round company gives admirable support, the singing is good, the chorus full and effective, and the trio sung by the Misses May Wiltshire, Leamy Green, and Jameson Thomas has been loudly applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The always welcome and versatile Marie Lloyd heads the excellent programme presented here this week, and, as usual, she has met with a rousing reception; the Tokio Troupe, ladderists, in their "slide for life," cause a sensation; and the other contributors to the programme, all of whom receive most cordial receptions, include Stevens and Brett, comedians; L. W. Harris, comedian; Addie Adell, actress vocalist; Mark Leslie, coon comedian and dancer; Captain Kettle, conjurer, who has been making a welcome re-appearance; and the entertaining pictures have also been much enjoyed.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—Marguerite Ismay and girls are appearing here this week in a series of dancing and vocal scenas, and they have had a very flattering reception; Trillo, ventriloquist, is also much enjoyed; Russell Brandow, special dancer, gives an attractive turn; the Leedons, double club jugglers, ball punchers, and boxers, give an entertaining show; Dresda and Mona, comedy specialists, with "The Birthday Teddy Bear," cause great amusement; and Dainty Doretta, serio; with Niagara and Falls, eccentric acrobats, make plenty of fun and cause unrestrained laughter.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Charles Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. Robert Hewland and company are giving creditable performances of *The Shadow of a Crime*, in which Mr. Hewland appears with much success as Captain Harry Billington; Mr. Whitmore Ledger does full justice to the part of Jim Murdock; Miss Ethel Savill capably portrays the wronged Loyale Norman; and Miss Ada Arthur is a capable Winnie Murdock.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—The Brooklyn Comedy Four provide harmony and humour in a manner which meets with well-earned approval; Goodfellow and Gregson, comedy artists, go well; *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, as presented by Arnold Richardson and company, creates much laughter; Wyndham and Kitty give a capital wire act; Miss Bella Belmont is well received; Barney Stuart, an old favourite on Teesside, goes well; Dan Whitley, comedian, gives satisfaction; and the Empirescope pictures are much appreciated.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Capital pictures continue at the Hippodrome, and the programme is this week relieved by a pleasing turn submitted by Adelina, who impersonates many celebrities.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Maud May Murray is the bright particular star at this popular rendezvous of amusement this week, and her electrical dances are accorded a very enthusiastic reception; Pastor and Rene, comedy and musical duettists, contribute several capital numbers; Alf. Warner is a versatile comedian; and a really charming vocalist is Gracie Bard.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—An excellent programme of pictures is presented here. The varieties consist of Bonair and Jess, four clever quick-change artists; Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats; and Bekker, a first-class conjurer.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—On Tuesday evening the "House full" boards were exhibited at this very popular resort, where an excellent programme is presented. Sandy McNab and company head the bill, and gain loud laughter; Carlos Menard scores a success with his violin and piano playing; the Harrison Brothers are responsible for much mirth; and Spry and Monti, in a comedy and dancing act; Master Harcourt Mills, a clever young actor; Walter Lawley and Miss Gallafeat, in delightful song scena, and Harry Morris, in song and story, all greatly please the audience.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Crowds daily flock to the Tower and grounds, and in the theatre animated pictures and variety are given afternoon and evening. The company includes Watson and McQue, comedians; Sisters Langley, vocalists and dancers; and Godfrey, conjurer. The films are good, and depict both dramatic and humorous subjects.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—This week we have some old favourites, together with one or two new artists. Mr. Leo Carle, in quick change act; Mona Vivian, clever child performer; Bert Byrne, comedian; Miss G. Fall, soubrette; Douglas Campbell, comedian; Miss Elise Kahn, vocalist, and last, but not least, the Quality Quartette of Singers, all add to the general success.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical Director, Mr. C. Bye.—The top of the bill here is filled by that well-known comedian, Sam Mayo, whose songs are in the best comedy vein, and win abundant favour; the Two Anartos, as the musical swell and the talkative postman, are very amusing; Hilda Jacobsen, a vivacious musical comedy artist, has a good reception; rare skill and daring are exhibited in the clever cycling feats done by the famous Jackson Family; Eily Adair, in a couple of characteristic Irish ditties, wins hearty applause; and Kitty Wager is warmly greeted for her daintily rendered songs. Others contributing are Fred Poplar and the McConnell Trio.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The Rock Climber is a good travel picture, and Ramona, Her First Appearance, St. Elmo, and Western Justice are interesting and dramatic. Miss Margaret Payne sings "Sweet Dreams" and "Santa Fe" most pleasingly.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—A good sporting film is Buffalo Hunting in Cochin China; The Grasshopper and the Ant is a splendid colour picture; Fruits of Vengeance, Carlo's Devotion (a fine story of a faithful dog), and The Conqueror are all good dramatic pictures, and the comics are up to the mark.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. E. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—A successful succession of pictures is presented here. The leading subjects are: Lieutenant Rose and the Gun-runners, The Reign of Terror, Love Among the Roses, the Mystery of Temple Court, and The Isle of Capri.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—This is the last week of a highly successful stock season, *The Mysteries of London* proving a great attraction. Mr. Albert Sember appears as Victor Levigne, and presents a well-finished performance; Mr. Ernest R. Allen displays much ability as the Rev. Phil Conway; Mr. George Wallace provides a good impersonation of William Rawson; Mr. Lonnen Meadows is well to the front as Dick Coppin; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson deserves commendation for his enactment of Robert Best. As La Zaleska, Miss Kate Froude portrays the character with distinct success; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne supplies a capital study of Lena North; Miss Effie Macintosh is smart as Lila Stumps; and Miss Violet Crauford does well as Charity Rawson.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Some choice pictures are presented this week, and Miss Marie Altino pleases in well selected illustrated songs.

THE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—This week the Merry Mirth Makers, seven in number, present a pleasing entertainment; Miss Edie Day is a pleasing singer and dancer; Miss Doreen Day is successful as a vocalist and mimic; Mr. Fred Merry is well received; Mr. Gerald Mount is a good singer; Mr. Wilfred Burnard gets applause for his imitations of music hall celebrities; and Wee Jock Laird causes hearty laughter.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's company of Madcaps sustain their reputation. Miss Vie Huntley and Miss Marjorie Cecil sing their pleasing songs in a charming manner; Mr. Harry Cove's fine baritone voice is heard to advantage; Sandy Lawson is amusing with his Scotch melodies; Will Pim is a capital comedian; whilst Mr. Bert Gordon is exceedingly popular; Mr. Will Hoppe as a pianist is entertaining. It is pleasing to say Miss Cecil was able to reappear after a brief rest.

CHAPEL FIELD GARDENS.—At a musical fête held here on Monday, Mr. E. V. Barr gave his popular entertainment of humorous sketches.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—No more delightful and artistic entertainment can be imagined than the musical treat offered by the Zigeuner Quartette; Miss Winifred Hare renders several songs in tasteful manner; Peter Davy and company give an amusing Chantecler skit; the burlesque business of Billy Merson is an excellent piece of comedy; and Edward Ford's facial contortions; Johnny Fuller, cat impersonator; Ike and Will Scott, dancers; May B. Brilliant, comedienne; and Les Marco Bell, comedy conjurers, are all well received.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—J. W. Rickaby's spontaneous humour is capitally exploited in several skits that make him a huge favourite; a sketch on dramatic lines, *The Last of the Desmonds*, is successfully played by P. Pherman and Co.; a striking contrast is seen in the sketch *The Village Shiftem*, given by the Three Prestons, to the accompaniment of hearty laughter; Slippere, a blind musician, supplies an enjoyable item; the comedy acrobatic juggling of Cestria is both novel and clever; Phil Herman, vocalist; Chiko, contortionist; dancing by the Milfords, and Clarice Sefton, comedienne, add their quota to the general satisfaction of the audience.

NUNEATON.—EMPIRE ELECTRIC THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL.—The great sensational novelty, Man v. Motor, by Hall and Wilson, is proving an immense attraction; Les Ralis, as *The Artist and His Monkey*, are clever and amusing; Wal Owen keeps the house in a constant state of hilarity; Zelda is a charming instrumentalist; Harwood's Juveniles present a delightful song scena entitled *Christmas Eve;* and the turns are interspersed with first rate films.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The Two Brothers is a fine dramatic film, the scenes taking place in Spain, and is well worth seeing; A Daring Performance is shown, wherein two animal trainers are seen giving a show with twenty-two lions, the title being well earned; An Episode of 1812 is a good historical military drama, in which the great Napoleon figures; She Wanted a Bow-wow causes hearty laughter, and To-Morrow is Pay Day is very funny. The bill also includes other capital films, and Mr. Roger Alwyn sings a new song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Buried Man of Tebessa is a fine film, and is much appreciated; A Call of the Heart is also very good. The amusing element is well supplied, and includes Accidents Will Happen, Poorluck's First Tiff, and The Merry Widow Takes Another Partner. An amusing competition is being held. Mr. King also contributes a song.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. William Hughes.—The well-known story of St. Elmo is the top-liner, and is being well patronised. The Sheriff's Sacrifice is a capital study in black and white, and As It is in Life and A Mother's Evil Dream are very good dramas; The Female Sherlock Holmes, To-Morrow's Pay Day, and Mistaken Identity are amongst the comics. Mr. H. Entwistle is the vocalist.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Brown's Weekly Journal is proving to be very popular, showing events in which Sir E. Wood at Chelmsford and the Wreck of the Zeppelin Airship are notable features. Taming a Grandfather is a fine production, and An Old Soldier is very sympathetic; Off for the Holidays is a good comic, amongst other capital pictures.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Varieties continue to hold the boards here. An entirely new programme, under the direction of Mr. J. Leigh Cameron, includes the Brothers Watson, interesting blind vocalists and smart patterers; Spry Palmer, an amusing comedian; Miss Lucy Bell, a charming comedienne and coon impersonator; Ronald Graham, a descriptive vocalist with a good voice; Almyr Vane, who is successful as a character actor; Mercer and Thomas, amusing comedians and cross-talkers; and Miss Olive Young, an admirable male impersonator. The programme concludes with a dramatic episode, *The Chorister*.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—A high standard of pictures is being twice nightly shown at this place of entertainment. Refined comedy is presenetd by Miss Madge Field.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Daisy James, the well-known metropolitan comedienne, scores in her latest successes, the popular "Ship, ahoy!" song going great guns; the original Amasis, described as the Wizard of the Nile, is responsible for some skilfully executed conjuring tricks; Minnie Kauffman performs daring evolutions on the bicycle with noticeable grace; Chinko executes some charming bits of juggling; Arthur Pier as an actor-vocalist has unquestionable ability; Williams and Warden have some amusing patter; Edna Deno completes.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company are presenting here *The Thief*. The play goes strongly from start to finish, Mr. Bernard Limpus giving a vigorous portrayal of Richard Chelford, being splendidly supported by Miss Barbara Everest as Marise. Raymond Leyton was delineated with effective restraint by Mr. F. Morland; and an admirable impersonation of Detective Protheroe was submitted by Mr. W. Somerset. The lovesick Harry was well played by Mr. Carl W. Lindsay; Miss Mary Forrester doing justice to Isabel. *The Man in the Street*, affording opportunities to Messrs. R. Ashby (Philip Adair), W. Protheroe (Jabez), and Miss May de Launey (Minnie), was an interesting curtain-raiser.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Mr. Frank Bertram is this week successfully presenting the sensational drama *Ten Nights in a Bar Room*. Mr. Frank Stone gives a good impersonation of Edward Milton; Miss Gwendoline Hay takes the part of Grace Milton with much feeling; Kate Adams, a salvation lass, finds an excellent counterpart in Miss Verita Vivien; Mr. Alec Forbes successfully portrays Jabez Hawke; and the remaining artists give creditable renderings to their respective parts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson are delightful in a refined and unique musical act; *'All-a-Dollar* is a comical sketch, well presented by Haines, Borthwick, and company; Albert Letine is a comedian whose female characterisations are very clever; the Sisters Caselli are successful in song and dance; Walter Stanley scores in quaint humour; and other good turns include Lylie Read, juvenile vocalist; Gibbon and Bell, acrobats; and Ruby Emmerson, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Packed houses testify nightly their keen appreciation of the bountiful menu provided. Clark and Hamilton, in their amusingly clever comedy duologue, command attention; T. E. Dunville, in his railway song, &c., evokes unbounded laughter; Phil Ray likewise is loudly applauded, his particular style being new to the audience; the Palace Girls sing and dance most gracefully; Mildred Parr's abilities were heard to advantage on piano, and in short recitation from *King John*; Mart and Pep, young acrobats, are smart head and hand balancers; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls sing in good style; an amusing ventriloquist is Tom E. Clifford; and Addie Lennard's singing and dancing pleases. The orchestra, under Mr. Amos Parker, deserves special mention.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Another wondrous illusionary entertainment by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, when men and women are produced from nowhere with baffling rapidity, is the star turn this week; the Bros. Egbert centre their fun in the beating of a carpet; the well-favoured young Bertisch, after exhibiting his muscle development, demonstrates the result with heavy weights and carrying three attendants on a triple chair; the Three Cape Girls display their skill as long boot dancers; a welcome musical turn is the prison scene by the Faust Operatic Trio; Athas and Collins are bright fun-makers; Irene Velma is a smart little dancer; and Frank Melvin's songs go well.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—A symphony concert of unusual excellence was the feature on Sunday afternoon and evening by the full strength of the R.M.A. string band, nearly fifty strong, under Bandmaster Mr. B. S. Green. Harry's Leslie's Comedy Cadets and the Merry Boys and The Mascots supplying the entertainments during the week.

GOSPORT THEATRE.—This house continues to do very well, the unseasonable weather favouring indoor amusement. Helena Roberto and *The Girl and the Coon*, performed by the Lafrasers, are attractions; the chief films being The Call of the Heart, The Sheriff's Sacrifice, and Hunting Wolves in Russia.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Sydney Spenser's No. 1 répertoire company is paying a welcome visit here in *My Sweetheart, Pegg Woffington*, and *A Wonderful Woman*. Mr. Edward Rawlinson as Tony in *My Sweetheart* is excellent; Miss Lizzie Hall is a vivacious and captivating Tina; Mr. Sydney Spenser a capital Joe Shotwell; Mr. A. W. Thompson a breezy Dr. Oliver; and Miss Hilda Eyre as Peek-a-Boo, Miss Elsie Heap as Christie, and Miss Violet Etherington, are each most successful in their respective parts. Miss Gipsy Alexander is a really excellent Mrs. Fletcher; and Miss Belle Russell as Mrs. Hatzell is equally a success; Mr. Arthur L. Read is a realistic Harold Bartlett; Mr. Fred Russell a most amusing Dudley Harcourt; and Mr. Harry Jackson a typical Farmer Hatzell.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—W. C. Fields, the silent humorist and exceedingly clever juggler, tops the bill here; Jock Whiteford brings down the house with his songs and football match item; Miss Ada Pagini, Italian Court violinist, creates a sensation; Henri Cazman, the one-man music hall, is most versatile; Florence Yaymen, American coon caricaturist, is at the top of her particular line; the Aza Boys are a clever Trio; the Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia) are chic duettists and dancers; and an interesting film is A Twisted Trail.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's production, *For Wife and Kingdom*, a military drama, has been played to good audiences during the past week. The company responsible for the play is a strong one. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville as Captain Maximilian Lubeck makes a first-rate hero, and Mr. Fred Osmond does well as Karl Ludhayr. As Baron Maurice Breslaw, a scoundrel of the worst type, Mr. Albert Guyon is extremely good; while Mr. Frank Setterfield makes a capital General von Nestold. Miss Hettie Zillwood and Miss Margaret Frame as the heroine and the villain's accomplice respectively, both act in good style; and Miss Alice Buckland gives a pleasing study of a pert little lady's maid. The remaining characters are all in efficient hands, and the play is exceedingly well staged.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment Manager, Mr. C. Price.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, was presented on the first three evenings of the week. Miss Florence Baines makes a welcome appearance in the principal part, and her humorous and clever interpretation of the character elicits the hearty admiration of the audiences. The other parts were excellently handled. On Thursday the ever-popular *Charley's Aunt* was put on by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Large audiences have assembled at the Marina Theatre this week at the twice-nightly shows. The animated pictures are thoroughly admirable, and Elroy, the armless wonder, has given astonishingly clever performances.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—This is the closing week of the variety season here. The theatre will be closed next week, and reopened for the regular dramatic season on Bank Holiday. Miss Adrienne Augarde presents her original comedy duologue, *Dick's*

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham.} Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
77. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations for Theatres, Halls, Electric Theatres, Skating Rinks, etc., etc.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Invite all who are interested in Picture Theatres to see their work just finished at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch.

Will be pleased for their artists to get out schemes for Decorations free of all charge.

Write for Dean's New Catalogue of Tip-up Chairs and Seatings of every description.

Good Serviceable Tip-up Chair from **4/11**, delivered and fixed free.

Good Upholstered Tip-up Chair in Velvet or Pegamoid from **5/11** to **27/-**

Good Serviceable Upholstered Running Seats from **2/6** per foot fixed.

Good Linoleum from **2/-** square yard laid.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply Fibrous Plaster and other Decorations, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, Curtains, etc., far cheaper and better than any other house in the trade. Samples sent free.

Advise all who think of seating or reseating their Halls to write for their Catalogue, select the samples they would like to see, and compare same with those of their competitors. DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., will, in nineteen cases out of twenty, obtain the contract.

Still retain the services of MR. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, MR. BARDELL as Manager of the Decoration Department, MR. L. BECK as Manager of the Factory and Works.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.

Sister, with great success; Dick Tubb, the grotesque comedian, creates immense merriment. The Five Musical Tritons give a most effective turn, the scene being gorgeously illuminated by electricity. The performances of the quintette on various instruments, tubular bells, etc., are well harmonised and excellently rendered. Walter Barrett, the renowned Lancashire baritone, is an accomplished vocalist; Jules Kiaro performs some clever equilibrist feats; Ted Karno and company are exceedingly funny in their pantomimical sketch, *The Hotel de Quick*; Jessie Brickley, vocalistic comedienne, sings very pleasingly, and some good films on the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

RHYL. — MARINE PAVILION AND GARDENS. — Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. J. Mellard.—A clever company of entertainers, "The Gay Lieutenants," are here this week. Griff Hodson is a humorous comedian; Nan Taylor possesses a sweet soprano voice; Cis O'Shea's singing and dancing is much admired; Alex. Rubinoff is a talented vocalist; Arthur Holland an excellent light comedian; Eric Thornton and Fred Shepherd both contribute good turns; Hambourg's Russian Orchestra continues to give three concerts daily in the Gardens, and their delightful music attracts many people.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—This week's company includes Signor Torti, who pleases the audience with his fine rendering of tenor songs; Marriot Edgar is a favourite comedian; Jack Hughes receives warm appreciation for his songs; Millie Williams, comedienne; Maud Hughes, soprano; Dave Kidd, baritone; and James Haddock, accompanist, complete a good bill.

PIER AMPHITHEATRE.—Mr. Will Letters and company present a musical farce entitled *They would be Pierrots*; Hal Hutton, Charles Calvert, Victor Crawford, René Retford, Ennis Parkes, J. Walker, Chas. Moore, and Will Letters work well together.

QUEEN SKATING RINK.—Skating is a very popular amusement, and the New Electric Picture Theatre shows a fine selection of the latest films. Chester and Lees, marionettes, are also an attraction.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—John Power and Robert Faulkner's company have an interesting domestic drama, *For Wife and Home*, which drew a good house on Monday. Mr. Robert Faulkner made a fine hero of Roland St. Pierre; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn does good work as the villainous half-brother, Henri St. Pierre; Miss Marion Ryder portrays the heroine, Rosette Legrand, with ability; comedy is presented by Mr. G. Hardie as Cicard Picole and Miss Nancy Harvey as Nanceu; the short part of Miladi St. Pierre is well done by Miss Alice Bradshaw; good work is also done by Mr. E. Maydew (Gaspard-le-Farge), Mr. F. Lisle as Jean Legrand, Mr. Edward De Vere (Abbé Latouche), and Miss M. Monte (Celeste Legrand).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Ida Millais' company, under the direction of Henry Herne (who takes the part of the hero), presents *No Man's Land*. Herbert Cecil as Silas Moore and Harry Cullenford as Matt Marsden present good studies of those villainous parts; Miss Marie Kildare is a charming Lady Mary Bathurst; comedy is kept to the fore by Geo. Marriott, jun., as Solomon Jacobs and Miss Lottie Pearce as Bessie Poodle. The programme also includes acceptable turns by Charles Wilson, a clever jumper; Alick Lauder, Scotch comedian; Bruce Green, talkative dame comedian; Golden and Chance, in novel eccentric act; and Gertie Rex, character comedienne.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—There are a good number of excellent films this week, including The Wrong Man, Her First Appearance, Roman Walks, &c.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE SPA.—Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—This week the entertainment in the open-air theatre is in the form of a musical comedy, *The Gay River*, under the management of Messrs. Adeler Sutton and Allandale, which has been most favourably received.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company are delighting crowded houses here with *The Mikado*, *Patience*, *Yeoman of the Guard*, and *Iolanthe*.

THE AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman. — The production of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levey's *The Inquisitive Kiddie* and *The Sleeping Princess* is winning admiration here; the Palace Pierrots in the Indian Theatre put in some fine work and supply attractive programmes daily. The varieties include George Dollin (impersonator), the Seymons (equilibrists), J. H. Fox (comedian), Judge's Cockatoos and Macaws, Bert Ward (whistler), and fine pictures are exhibited and swimming exhibitions given during the day.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Manager, J. Tully.—Miss Juliette gives a fine performance with her sea lions, as do the Genli family of acrobats. Monty Walker (comedian) and the Oakes Duo (in a sketch) are also included in the programme.

THE FLORAL HALL, ALEXANDRA GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Scarborough Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Charles Cardow.—The Irish Guards' Band gave four performances in this magnificent hall over the week-end. Mr. Cardow has a fine combination of entertainers, who submit various items in a polished manner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Garside; General-Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company in *The Eyes of the World* is the attraction here this week, with Miss Praagh in the title-rôle.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Scottie's colossal variety combine is on a return visit here. A good sketch is that of *Napoleon at Waterloo*, in which Mr. Scott Alexander takes the leading part; Scottie's Operatic Ballet Troupe score a success in *The Cry of the Children*; Miss Ivy Cornwallis is a clever comedienne; the Merries are delightful entertainers; Freda and Frank give a skilful exhibition of club swinging; and Will Warren, actor vocalist, Wana and Wanotee, refined entertainers, Sandy and Ramsay, patter comedians, and Whizzing the Whirl complete.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Mr. Will Glaze and company are appearing successfully in the domestic drama, *No Mother to Guide Her*. The striking portrait of a London thief is submitted by Mr. J. O. Stewart; Miss Rene Douglas acts with genuine feeling as the motherless waif Nan, who has a humble and humorous protector in the ever-cheerful Joe, cleverly represented by Mr. Will Glaze; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers is good as a "heavy swell" of easy morals, and the other characters are excellently played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.— Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A stirring story of longshore life is *A Daughter of the Sea*, which was acted to a good house on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Lewis Gilbert. In the title-rôle the charming young artist Miss Florrie Green fairly captivated the audience, and sympathetic applause rewarded her for her artistic work; Mr. H. C. Lancelly's old sea-captain was a breezy and characteristic impersonation; Mr. Sutton Taylor appeared as the villain, Sir Maxwell Brentwood; and other characters were cleverly acted by Mr. Jo. Monkhouse, Mr. Sydney Dench, jun., Mr. A. Vincent, Mr. W. G. Gonne, Mr. Hellyer, Miss Allyce Williams as Mollie, and Mr. Lewis Gilbert, whose Mark Glensdale was a curious and effective study of aged rascality.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A generous programme was submitted on Monday, and hearty applause was given the following artists:—Miss Eva Kelland and a capable chorus in a well-mounted musical spectacle *Songland*, presented by Mr. Dan Lipton; Mr. H. O. Wells, a very funny comic vocalist and eccentric; Staig's Steeplejack Cyclists in a thrilling and sensational act; Miss Dorothy Ward, a graceful and refined vocalist and burlesque artist; Mr. Lawrence Barclay, a clever and laughter-compelling comedian; the famous Jee Family, in a pleasing musical and pantomimic sketch; Mr. A. C. Lilly's company in the military sketch, *Drummed Out*; Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians and dancers; Mr. Cull-Pitt, entertainer; the Bioscope, with comic films; and Little Keeno, comic.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A first-class company is delighting large houses this week, the performers being Miss Lalla Selbini, the pretty, piquant, and talented vocalist, dancer, and cyclist, in her elegant new act *The Seaside Beauty*; the terpsichorean spectacular phantasy *Les Idolatres*, in which the expert dancer M. Espinoza and a troupe of graceful ballerines appear; Harry Zetter, a smart comedian and dancer of the Fred Vokes type; Elise, Wulf, and Waldron, agile acrobats; Tom Woottwell, the original loose-legged comedian; Haley's refined and picturesque scena, *A Garden of Girls*; Miss Lillie Soutter, serio-comic vocalist; Mr. Caram, a diverting ventriloquist, with new patter; Carlotta Levey, in *Dear Old Pals*; the Bioscope, with the big Jack Johnson fight, a fine series of pictures; and Señor Blanco, violin soloist, supported by M. Le Gar's company in a musical scena.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Beginning and the End*, from the pen of Mr. A. B. Mackay is being staged this week, and was well received on Monday. Mr. Percy Norman's company is responsible for the production. Mr. A. B. Mackay portrays the character of Greville Brayle with success; Mr. George Daiper cleverly doubles the parts of George Brayle and Captain Nemo; Mr. Louis Newman is amusing as Bertie Wilkins; Mr. Jack Corlass is well placed as Constable Mike Maloney; Miss Ida Mackay creates a good impression as Dora Brayle; Miss Lillie Lewis is clever as Marcelle de Valcour; Miss Trixie Leighton is a vivacious and amusing Peggy Perkins; other parts are well interpreted by Messrs. W. Black (the Kipper), L. Graham Hamlyn (Sneaky Baxter), Arthur Lesly (Pincher Jim), and Miss Elsie Joyle as Little Dora.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. L. Parcezer.—Mr. Haldane Crichton presents *The Cingalee* here this week. Mr. Jack Crichton, who admirably impersonates the rôle of Chambhuddy Ram, has capital assistance from Miss Ida Ernest, a pleasing Peggy Sabine, and their duets win much applause; Mr. Milroy Cooper makes a typical and successful Boobhamba; Mr. Scott Cullen and Miss Pauline Hague, as Bobby Warren and Lady Patricia Vane respectively, also entertain delightfully; Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme as Nanoya; Mr. Arthur Cartwright as the Hon. Harry Vereker; and Mr. Carl Beechey as Myangah, sing and act creditably; and Miss Trissie March is a clever danseuse. Mr. F. W. Ford ably impersonates the rôle of Sir Peter Loftus.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—This week's variety entertainment is a pronounced success throughout. A musical speciality by Eric and Nora proves a delightful item by clever execution; the Maro Duo are smart and quaint bar comedians; Willie and Johnson, as coloured equilibrists, are both interesting and capable; Horace and Olga show wonderful care and aptitude in training their table troupe of cats and dogs; Ellis and Campbell contribute in happy and successful manner as comedians and dancers; Jessie Star pleases as a Scotch comedienne; and King Leo (ventriloquist), and Mark Hall (comedian), both give satisfaction.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—A splendid series of most entertaining films are given three times daily this week by the London Cinematograph Co., when travel, drama, comedy, and farce are depicted in realistic style, the whole affording a capital entertainment.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burgh.—The great attraction at the Hippodrome this week is Kate Carney and company in their delightful Romany sketch, *The Fun of the Fair*; Maud and Sidney Wood sing and dance with ease and grace that is delightful to hear and watch; Bessie Slaughter is a good vocalist; Julian Mack is a clever comedian; Rex Fox, the clever wire walker, is well received; and the Brothers Rees show great skill and strength in their unique gun, shell, and cannon ball act.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—After being closed for the midsummer vacation the Opera House was reopened on Monday, when Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, including Miss Decima Moore and Mr. Robert Minster, presented a capital interpretation of Mr. W. Somerset Maugham's charming comedy *Lady Frederick*. Miss Decima Moore delighted the audience by her clever representation of the title-rôle; Mr. Robert Minster was successful in the rôle of Paradise Foukes; Mr. F. G. Thurstans submitted a commendable impersonation of the irascible Admiral Carlisle; Mr. Gordon Ash is to be credited with an excellent study of Lord Mereston; Miss Cicely Stuckey enacted charmingly the part of Rose Carlisle, and was admirably supported by Mr. Otho Hazlewood as Sir Gerald O'Mara; as Lady Mereston Miss Celia Gordon played very effectively; Miss Pauline Strauss was a chic exponent of the French maid Angelique; whilst the rôle of Captain Montgomery was well played by Mr. Aubrey Mather.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles's company present *Her Marriage Vow*. Mr. Knowles is seen to advantage as Ned Benton; Mr. Harry C. Momber makes a good Daffy Dan; Miss N. Shirley enacts Hester Horton powerfully; and Miss Effie Bartlett is a sweet Kate Walters. All the parts are in good hands.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Callahan and St. George, in a bright musical sketch, *The Old Neighbourhood*, are much appreciated; Keen and Walker contribute a good comedy acrobatic turn; Charles Norton, the old firm, in his monologue, "Pros. at the Races," scores; Jock Barrie, Scotch comedian, is much liked; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is very funny; and some capital dancing by the Glenroy Troupe, songs by Rosie Fitzgerald, soubrette, and the Bioscope complete.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—Good houses welcome Little Frankie, the Highland laddie, and the Fordyces, the latest London comedy duo. Excellent films are shown.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—The attraction here consists of *The Drama of Life*, presented by Mr. J. E. Barnes's combination. Mr. Graham Woods was a satisfactory Harry Beech; in Mr. Archie Helsby was a capital Walter Beech; Mr. Sidney C. Cranston a successful Sir Dobson Wilde; Mr. Marshall Meade an interesting Jack Lawton; Mr. George Bryne came out well as Count de Fot; and Mr. Vincent Harvey as Dave Crane played well. Miss Pattie Hastings was much admired as Sylvia; and Miss Alice Oliver did well as Lady Jane Wilde.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*The Fatal Marriage* is being played here this week by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company. Mr. Jerrold Heather is successful in producing an unusual type of villain in the character of Zaco Malleto; to the part of Myra Malleto Miss Hilda Shirley imparts vitality; Mr. Colin Heather renders the part of Wilfred Grey very ably, and Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock plays well as Colonel Critchton. The adventures of Detective Smart as portrayed by Mr. Lancelot Usher become thrilling; the half-witted Paul of Mr. Percy Morton Wright is a careful study; and the humorous element is imparted by Miss Elsie Dene (Dolly Dimple), and Mr. Frank Shepherd (Peter Pimple) with good effect; Miss Winifred Rutland makes a charming Lily. The staging is excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—The Waldrons have a big reception here; Regan and Ryan's stories are comical; Kirk and Saraski give a fine exhibition under water; the Bros. Lavello are smart acrobats; and Patty Yole does a nice dance and song; Watson and Naylor are amusing; and Edith Chantler sings well for one so young.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revell.—Large audiences have testified to the popularity of *A Royal Divorce*, which has been capably presented here by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company. As the Empress Josephine Miss Edith Cole acts with dignity and power; Mr. Keith Fraser's acting as Napoleon is impressive; Mr. J. H. Roberts impersonates the character of Talleyrand with ability, and Mr. George Hudson is amusing as Grimaud.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. M. Montgomery's talented company has presented *Sapho* here this week, to the evident pleasure of large audiences. Miss Nina Vaughton, in the title-rôle, commands appreciation; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts with his accustomed ability as Jean Gaussin; Mr. Geoff Sutherland makes an effective Henri Bechette; Mr. S. E. Scanlan acts powerfully as Flamant; and Mr. Harry Cooke amusingly portrays the character of Uncle Cesaire.

STOKE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Machaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—*A Fast Life*, presented by Mr. Walter Steele's company, is a drama full of thrilling incidents. Mr. Steele scores in the part of Dixon, the escaped convict; and Miss Lilian Burns is pleasing in the part of Lady Franklin.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE, AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Mlle. Bartenelli, the lady contortionist and gymnast, heads the bill, and takes well; Miss Beattie Bloom is a comedienne of great merit; Miss Ivy Mayer a capable dancer; and Wisper, the comedy "kid" juggler, is decidedly smart; the pictures are well chosen.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Tom Watts's company is playing here this week to crowded houses in *East Lynne*. Miss Ida Neron does good work in the dual rôles of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine; Miss Beryl Forbes gives a capital portrayal of Barbara Hare, as does also Miss Isabel Singleton of Cornelia Carlyle; Mr. Joe Rowlands' handling of P. C. Bullock stamps him a first-class humorist; Mr. Frank Beresford gives a good performance as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Wilfred Mansfield as Francis Levison proves himself to be an able exponent of villainy; much good work also comes from Messrs. Jerrold Manville (Justice Hare), Eric Lugg (Richard Hare) Tom Watt (Lord Mountsevern), and Clifford Clifford (Lawyer Dill). Misses Alice Moseley (Little Willie) and A. Seymour (Joyce) acquit themselves creditably.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Large audiences are being attracted here by an excellent bill this week. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, is at the top, and is having a tremendous reception for his artistic rendering of his songs and dainty dancing; The Keldinos are successful in their risley act, "On the Road"; Leo Tell scores with his clever mimicry of dumb animals; Lily Flexmore is a clever dancer; Fred Curran is popular with his droll parodies; Brull and Helmsley are diverting in a humorous item *Fun in a Music Shop*, and Fielding and Hull are good in their musical comedy *Mixed Bathing*.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Glenisters, harmonising vocalists, are here this week. Maude Lorette is popular with her clever impersonations. The pictures are capital, including The Cow-Puncher's Ward, an interesting love story.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—There is an attractive programme here this week. Fred Storey delights all in the amusing rôle of Rip Van Winkle, and has much valuable assistance; the living statuary done by Mlle. Sara's Trio is of a high order, and the Three Eltons give a funny gymnastic act.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Carta and Mertziana, Continental gymnasts, merit the applause they gain; Daisy Mead, comedienne, wins popularity; Walter Wallis, comedian, goes down well; Clinton and Walletort are vocalists and dancers of ability; Marco is a smart conjurer; Sisters Lovell sing and dance nicely; Digo is a clever animal impersonator; Garroll, Irish comedian, is well received; and Zaida provides an acceptable wire rope act, introducing some performing pigeons.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mrs. E. H. Knight presents her No. 1 Company in *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Tom Manley is admirably played by Mr. Percy Beresford; Mr. S. Fortescue is well suited as William Farren; Mr. Gordon Ingram does excellently as James Hammond; Mr. J. Paley gives a clever study as David Morris; as Sam Kidder Mr. R. Talbot is good; Miss Hilda Baynton gives a successful rendering of Rosa Prescott, and Baby Freda as Little Nellie wins great favour.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Ton-y-Pandy Hippodrome Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. David Taylor; Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Pearson.—Craig, Rose, and Craig pay a highly welcome return visit; Ray, Miles, and Ray, in a juggling speciality, do well; Halbert is an elastic comedian; the Nicholson comedy duo and Trixie De Fay score heavily. The leading film is The Mascot.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. Young.—The Sisters Geretti, trapeze wonders, are a worthy top of the bill; Mr. Henry Kemble's *Gay Countess* company are re-engaged; Nipper Lupino Lane meets with rounds of applause; Lila Maddison and Freddy Webb give a praiseworthy turn; Todd Jones, tenor vocalist, is well received, as also are Ella Ley, Le Wist, Dolly and Pley, and Reno.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's company in *Lights Out* opened here to an enthusiastic house on Monday. Miss Pauline Emerie in the rôle of Klara Volkhardt is exceedingly popular, and presents a careful study of the part; whilst as Sergt. Volkhardt a capital representation is given by Mr. Robert Noble. Mr. Frank Cariello portrays with considerable power the character of Lieut. Von Lauffen; whilst Mr. Harry Hoban as Corporal Helbig is a favourite. Mr. Arthur J. Baragh is an amusing Corporal Quiess; and the minor parts are well sustained.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Philip Braham's company, the March Hares, continue to attract large audiences. Mr. Davy Burnaby is very funny in several amusing sketches; Mr. Bernard Ansell is a tuneful baritone; whilst Mr. Edmund Hollick is an entertainer of considerable talent. Miss Sybil Clare is a good soprano, and is frequently encored; Miss Doris Lind acts with much versatility; and Miss Beatrice Read is also very popular. The concerted numbers are rendered very harmoniously.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Miss Violet Osmund's company, in a new version of *The New Barmaid*, has been well received this week. Miss Madge Knox gives a charming interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. Alexander Loftus infuses some excellent comedy into the part of Bertie White; and Mr. Chas. Adeson also gives a most humorous study of William White; Miss Esme Vaughan as Brenda, Miss Beatrice Earle as Dora Heather, and Miss Clifford as Lady Moreton all give excellent impersonations, as well as Mr. H. Basil as Col. Claymore and Mr. Geo. Fox as Capt. Loveday. For the week end Mr. Murray King and company are presenting *Our Flat*.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Brothers Permane, eccentric clowns, are very amusing; Alfred Wellesley has a novel sketch, entitled *Uncle's Courtship*, and is ably assisted by Beatrice Webb and Joseph Bruce; Arabella Allen introduces some clever Dickens impersonations; the Bros. St. Clair, comedy trick cyclists, perform amusing and original feats; Arthur Croxon, burlesque impersonator; and the Musical Marvels, eccentric instrumentalists, also contribute enjoyable turns. Animated Pictures conclude.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Virto and Venita, who head the bill here, have a good reception for a talented musical turn; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna give a fine display of sand dancing; Belrose and De Velin, operatic vocalists, sing delightfully; Happy Attwood is an amusing comedian; Cummin and Seaham, comedy acrobats, provide a successful act; Sados, juggler and equilibrist, performs some wonderful feats; and Miss Nellie Neil, comedienne, is popular. A good Bioscope show.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE. — PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—Crowds of would-be patrons are being turned away from this popular hall nightly. Billy Mueller, comedian, is appearing this week, and on Monday was accorded a flattering reception. Biograph films are being featured, and the chief pictures are In Old California and Thou Shalt Not.

TYNE PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—The pictures here this week are His Last Game, and The Cow Puncher's Ward. Edna Gale, a cultured vocalist, is also an attraction.

ROYAL PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—An Affair of the Heart and Victims of Fate are the two principal films at this hall.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The company here includes John Warren, the military magician, ably assisted by Miss Mollie Wynter, Mr. H. J. Collis, and Mr. F. G. Fenn, introducing his successful illusion, *The Magic Carpet*; Harvey's Boys and Girls, a clever troupe; Esta Stella, the military maid; Walter Wade, a comedian with a fine voice; Musical Silvo, who is very entertaining; and Maxey and Pete, clever trick and comedy cyclists.

THE IMPERIAL HALL.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The pictures continue to draw good audiences, and are of a very striking nature. The vocal items provided by Mr. C. France, tenor, are much appreciated. The Delroys, a coloured duo, go well in songs and cross-talk.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The Queen's Courtiers are here this week, and their refined entertainment has been highly appreciated. Miss Isabel Oliver and Mr. Hugh Stanhope are encored vociferously. The humorous efforts of Mr. Hubert Dickeson and Mr. Claude Dampier are very acceptable. The sketch, *A First Rehearsal*, is capitally acted. The pictures are excellent.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Charles Coborn, the popular comedian, has had a splendid reception here this week; Bardoff, the strong Russian boy, who is only seventeen years of age, astonishes with his herculean feats; Jeff Martin's sketch, *Sport of Hundred Years*, is quite up to date; the Ward Brothers are smart eccentric acrobats; Josh Dixon's songs are well received; and Young Spencer is a smart clog-dancer. Fred Ward scores well; Little Hilda Heyes is a charming burlesque actress and dancer; and the boxing exhibition of Murray and Smith is a good show. The pictures are good.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Good business is being done here this week. Mlle. Margutte scores well in the scena *From Demon to Fairyland*; the Carney Brothers are smart comedians and cross-talkers; Beatrice Harris is a charming vocalist and dancer; and Leolin's juggling act goes well. The pictures are good.

WASHINGTON. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—*My Irish Molly* is staged here this week. Mr. St. John Medley as Dennis, a true-born Irish lad, is a great favourite; Mr. Gordon Robey fills the rôle of Captain Vere well; Mr. Kenyon Gray is an excellent Father McGuire; a good portrayal of Tim Dolan is given by Mr. Edwin Firth; Mr. Karl Edwards as Billy Slim is great; and Soft Murphy, the laughter-maker, is capably played by Mr. Will Richards. Miss Elma C. Turner is good as Lady Blanche; and Misses Katie Norris and Mabel Carlton are both capable as Sally and Bridgett respectively, a capital portrayal of Kathleen being given by Miss Yoonie Laing. Miss Winifred Stuart is a great success as Molly.

WEDNESBURY.—KING'S HALL.—Sole Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—Mr. Fred Ward, comedian, is side-splitting; the lightning artist Varlo provides an admirable turn; and an interesting entertainment is given by the Sinclairs' Mannikin Music Hall.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Manager, Mr. Walle Spinner.—An important engagement here is that of Giovanni Daruso, violin virtuoso; Wood and West, in their refined comedy singing and patter act, create a good impression; Polo and Florence contribute a remarkable performance as the Herculean Equilibriste; and unique and original pictures complete programme.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—The Sisters Marie and Nellie are responsible for some attractive dancing; Miss Jennie Dowton is a vocalist above the average; and Probyn and Bates have a cordial reception.

EMPIRE.—The chief items here this week are Gus Fowler, the Watch King, in a remarkably fine turn; Wragg and Wragg, in a clever exhibition of swordsmanship, and the Sisters Reeve, whose sweet and refined duets greatly please the audience. The Baynhams' comic musical act is all too short; some specially fine dancing is given by Dower and Denville, and George Ellis, Queenie Melville, De Roy, Eva Daunton, and Wheatley are also on the programme.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is here with *The World*, the Drury Lane drama. As Sir Clement Huntingford he admirably fills the part; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt is good as Harry Huntingford; and Mr. Geo. Overs makes an excellent Jew. Miss Irene Munroe is a charming Mary Blythe; Miss Cora Patey a good Mabel Huntingford; and Miss Phyllis Rea admirably fills the part of Ned Owen.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ted Lesmar.—Playgoers have this week the opportunity of seeing Mr. Chas. Carle in his remarkable impersonation of Jerry the Tramp in the well-known play *A Noble Brother*. Other capital parts are excellently sustained by Miss Gwen Garrick, Miss Edna Wing, Mr. Howard Thorne, and Mr. Jack Brandon.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The artists engaged this week are La Pia, in a novelty, *The Sea Nymph*; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, with "talking and singing shadows"; Johnson and De Vere, in a cycling act; Helen Charles, drawing-room entertainer; Roma and Romani, musicians; Ellie King, comedienne; and W. T. Eelwanger and company, in a comedy sketch *Who Did It?*

MARINE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—"The Picaroons" are the special attraction this week, and when weather permits their entertainment at the pretty watering-place, Seaton Carew, is witnessed and thoroughly enjoyed by a large assembly. Bowman and Morton, a clever comedy couple, are decidedly amusing in their business; Peggy Paton, a charming soprano, has many admirers, who are not slow to show their appreciation of her vocal ability; Geo. Charlestom, the Australian baritone, makes a good impression, his splendid singing is much enjoyed and appreciated. Light comedy is supplied by Colin Mail. An episode, *A Motor Mishap*, and a comedietta, *The Water Cure*, are very amusing. Joyce Flawn, who is at the piano, is an expert undoubtedly.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Hodginis, aerial gymnasts, are topping the bill this week; Silbon's cat circus is another good turn; the Canworths, expert banjoists, are loudly applauded; as comedy artists Avon and Crest deserve the highest encomiums; Ivey Aberdare, a charming comedienne, is a fine exponent of the terpsichorean art; Petro and Leon deserve nothing but eulogy for their gymnastic feats; and Simosa San and her juggling pigeons are received with much enthusiasm.

WEYMOUTH. — PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is appearing here in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. W. F. Pennington-Gush is very effective as Captain Mowbray; Mr. Theodore Kelly is amusing as Colonel Jardine; Mr. Hal Charlton creates amusement as Lieut. David Cairn; Mr. Arthur Gibbons gives a careful rendering of Mr. Jernigan; and Mr. Leslie Bennett contributes a capable interpretation of Charles. Miss Kitty Crichton is resourceful as Mrs. Gorringe; Miss Viola March gives a capital study of Mrs. Jardine; Miss Lilian Hallows is a charming Isabel Kirke; and Miss Victoria Wray Holmes as Vicky Jardine and Miss Phyllys Hume as Mrs. Potts were quite successful. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *What the Butler Saw* was presented.

WHITLEY BAY. — THE WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, LTD.—Resident General Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Pouleve.—A strong and well-diversified bill is being submitted. The leading features are contributed by the Four Kasracs, in a comedy acrobatic scena, *Buffet-de-Falls*; the Leonas, with a musical and fencing act; the Brothers Weltham, Russian dancers; Ernest Clifford, comedian; Dolly and Madge McCalla, duettists and dancers; and the Heriot Trio, in the farcical sketch *Father's Footsteps*. In addition to this goodly list there is the season's stock company, comprising Dollie Hook, a prime favourite; Reuben Hill, actor-vocalist; Victoria Carmen, ballad vocalist; Harry Dunco, comedian; Gipsy Earle, soprano vocalist; and H. A. Griffiths, comedian. In the grounds and gardens the Figure Eight railway is in high favour. The Water Chute, the Old Mill, and the Social Whirl are severally kept going strong.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, The Coliseum Co.; Managers, Messrs. Alf. Blake and Fred Patterson.—Some excellent and up-to-date pictures are being shown here, those of the North-Eastern Railway Company's engine building and repairing shops at Gateshead having an especial local interest. The variety element is principally contributed by De Vere and Dagmar, in their amusing comedy act.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Gregson.—The very latest films are to be found on exhibition at this hall on the front. In addition there are several excellent variety items by Hilton, a Scotch ventriloquist of some note; and Annie Lang is acceptable as a vocalist and dancer.

WIGAN. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—A welcome return visit is being paid here by Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Ruth Zillwood is a powerful Risca Mallinson; Miss Gwendoline Talbot a sympathetic and charming Doris Melville; Mr. A. S. Pitt does full justice to the character of Jem Murley; Mr. Victor Rae deserves special mention for his delineation of Pharosaphus; and Mr. Victor Rae is conspicuous as Railton, the silent servant.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—L

SUNDAY CLOSING OF THEATRES.

A meeting of variety artists, actors, musicians, and theatre employees was held at Terry's Theatre on Friday, under the auspices of the Sunday Defence Committee, to urge the establishment of conditions in licences prohibiting the opening of theatres by way of trade on Sundays. There was a numerous attendance. Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., presided, and among those who supported him were the Bishop of Southwark, Canon Bickersteth, H. Ottley (hon. sec., Imperial Sunday Alliance), Mr. W. H. Clemart (chairman Variety Artists' Federation), Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Charles Jesson, L.C.C. (secretary London Branch Musicians' Union), Mr. J. A. Seddon, M.P., the Rev. Donald Hole (organising secretary, the Actors' Church Union), Mr. J. B. Mulholland (theatrical manager), and Mr. William Johnson (hon. sec., the Sunday Defence Committee).

At the opening of the proceedings, Mr. William Johnson read letters supporting the movement from the Bishop of London, Bishop Welldon, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. David Shackleton, M.P., Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., Mr. Harry Lauder, and Mr. R. A. Roberts. These letters have already been published in *The Era*. In an opening address, Mr. J. R. Macdonald, M.P., declared that they were not there as Sabbatarians. He was one of those who was brought up under the conditions known as a dull Sunday. It was very irksome, and, looking back upon it, he was not quite sure that he could honestly say that he enjoyed it. Nevertheless, and on the other hand, he did not think he could honestly say that he was very much the worse for it. However, be that as it might, they must banish from their minds—and the public must do the same—all idea that that was a movement to re-establish the dull Sunday or to prevent any sort of rational recreation that may have been growing up within recent years in connection with the Sunday. The point was a very simple one. What the Sunday Defence Committee asked and what it said was this: "Men and women should not work seven days every week." (Applause.) Modern conditions of things were becoming very complicated indeed, and he was afraid, for good or for ill, they must put behind them the idea that on Sunday all work and all labour must stop. (Hear, hear.) That was impossible. He would like it if it were possible. What they could say was what he hoped the people would always be intelligent enough to say, that "six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work." The seventh must be a day of rest and peace, quiet and recuperation. That was what the Sunday Defence Committee were demanding, and also the friends of the Sunday movement. If employees worked for seven days a week for week after week they became mere mechanical drudges. Art consisted in spontaneity, and the commercial value of the members of the theatrical profession to their employers consisted in initiative in the power to think and act naturally and in striking their audience as being natural artists, as men and women who were not forcing things, but whose heart and soul was in the profession—not merely men and women who worked as marionettes. The whole commercial value that was attached to those who were in the profession depended upon their being fresh, spontaneous, and feeling their parts. Let the managers be in too great a hurry to pile up profit and to keep their places open seven days a week under whatever pretext—let them do that, and what were they doing? They were drawing upon their (the employees) artistic capital; they were making them bankrupt; they were destroying their ultimate profit-making efficiency—that was putting it at its lowest level—they were degrading the whole of the profession and making it ineffective. The Sunday Defence Movement was far-seeing in that it knew that nothing was more disastrous to the profession than that those who were engaged in it should be compelled to go upon the stage weary and worn and tired workmen. That was the ultimate and unassailable defence of the Sunday Defence Movement. The managers to-day were not any worse than they used to be; they were driven by the force of circumstances to make the most out of the artists and to take short-sighted views of their benefit and of the benefit of the artists. It was all part and parcel of the modern cut-throat suicidal and altogether disastrous competition. But there were good managers, and the good manager was often handicapped by his very qualities. The bad manager could very often drive the good manager into conduct which the good manager knew perfectly was foolish conduct, but which for the time being he was compelled to adopt. They had got to resort to legislation to protect the good manager against the bad manager. They must go to the whole of the managers and to the profession, and if they could not go to them directly they must go to them through the House of Commons, through the London County Council, and through the municipal authorities. The whole conditions under which they worked must be regularised and levelled up, so that every manager was put on precisely the same footing as every other manager. He was rather sorry that even the question of charity should be an exception. They never could define charity. He had known a great many people flourishing upon charity, and he was afraid it was going to be his fate before he died to know a great many more. (Laughter.) Charities could not flourish in that sort of way. If hospitals wanted £1,000 a year more, let them appeal for it in the proper way. Why should not he go to the House of Commons on Sunday and charge sixpence for being looked at by country cousins, and make a stump speech for the occasion? Mr. Seddon might act as Speaker and wear a full-bottomed wig, the Bishop of Southwark might sit in the chair, and they might create all that tomfoolery for the sake of showing American sightseers how the House of Commons did its business, and then excuse the whole thing by saying that every brass farthing collected by the Sergeant-at-Arms standing with his hat at the door was going to relieve the charities of London. (Laughter.) It was silly, and it was all nonsense. (Hear, hear.) Six days' work a week was enough. Let them have one day to renew their bodies and spirits, and to think about something else, so that they might go back to work fresh men and women, and so that their humour was real humour, and their art was spontaneous art. (Cheers.)

Mr. W. H. Clemart moved:—"That, in order to avert the imposition of a compulsory seven days' working week upon variety artists, actors, musicians, and employees, this meeting declares it to be imperative that the licence of any place licensed for public amusement should prohibit the opening of such premises on Sunday by way of trade or personal gain." He said the present position had been brought about by the popularity of electric theatres, and the question that had arisen in regard to opening them on Sunday. He would like to make it clear that they had no animosity towards the cinematograph industry. (Hear, hear.) But if they were living next door to a man who filled his cellars with barrels of gunpowder, and then went down to smoke a cigar, he thought they had a perfect right to object. They were at present awaiting the result of an appeal in a case tried at the Tower Bridge Police-court. Mr. Chapman ruled that the London County Council had no power whatever to insist upon the closing of cinematograph theatres on Sunday. If this was established such music hall managers as wished to open on Sunday would have every right to do so. He pointed out that this would ultimately result in artists working seven days a week, because if they had a day off during the week the public would not know what they were going to see, and there would be confusion. He assured them they were much nearer to Sunday work than they dreamed of, unless they could bring pressure to bear on the licensing authorities, and it was always much more difficult to pull down than it was to prevent the growth of an abuse. (Applause.)

Mr. Charles Jesson referred to the National Sunday League, which, not content with what had happened in our Sunday trading, had been propagating the opening of theatres and music halls on Sunday. It was all right until they persuaded the County Council to allow them to use theatres and music halls on Sundays. As soon as that permission was given the position of the employees in those theatres and music halls was given away. The same organisation brought into competition with musicians all kinds of military bands and amateur bands, and the Musicians' Union were compelled, as a matter of self-defence, to see that the thing was guided on lines which would not be inimical to their interests. Proceeding, he referred to the Paragon Music Hall, which, he said, had broken out into Sunday entertainments on the two-shows-a-night principle, ostensibly under the patronage and for the benefit of the London Hospital. The musicians in that hall had to give two performances a night averaging two hours each for 6s. The musical director was offered 10s., and declined it. As he would not take it on the management asked him to get the leader to do it for 7s. 6d. (Laughter.) The London Hospital had absolutely nothing to do with the management of the concerts being run ostensibly by the hospital. Every one of the County Council's regulations was being regulated, and the secretary himself said they could not carry out all the conditions if they felt disposed, for the simple reason that they were a hospital and a charity, and could not use their funds for speculative purposes. He pointed out that in one case a music hall handed over something like £5 a week to a hospital for permission to use the name of the hospital as a cloak to run their show under. They saw exactly how the thing was going. Unless they put their foot down at once and stop that kind of thing it would lead to a worse position for them all.

Mr. William Johnson (secretary of the Sunday Defence Committee) said, with regard to the Paragon, there was additional evidence on behalf of the manager to show that they did not pay the Award rate for the six days a week. With regard to the statement that the electric theatre proprietors had sought out societies whose names they could use, Mr. Johnson remarked that, as an interrupter had denied that, he would refer him to the Bioscope official organ. The Sunday Defence Committee had no concern, directly or indirectly, with any Sunday entertainment; they did not propose to encourage or assist in organising any Sunday entertainment for any purpose whatsoever. They wanted equality of opportunities with the licence given to every proprietor, so that that equality might be the foundation of equal treatment of all employers. But he spoke more particularly for the employees, of which there were two sections—night and day. With regard to the former, many of them did other work in the day, and to subject men who worked from six in the morning till midnight to Sunday labour was making their life a mere existence. Sunday was becoming a more valuable asset in the reform movement than ever it was. In every industry they were speeding up human energies to almost breaking point, and more than ever they needed a period of rest and reflection. They would resist to the utmost of their power any attempt to hand the Sunday over to amusement, advocate that by what specious arguments they might.

The Bishop of Southwark said he thought it was a comparatively poor job, if he might say so, to guard the Sunday on behalf of people who did not care enough about it to guard it for themselves. It might be necessary or charitable to do so, but he called it a very poor job. But when persons who were themselves concerned saw what it was that was at stake and valued it at its right worth, and were determined to defend it, then he thought it was for the public to come in and show their sympathy by lending a hand. If anyone in the chair would convince them that that was not a movement of one class trying to legislate for another, but a movement simply of one class trying to secure what was right for itself, he thought Mr. Ramsay Macdonald was that man. That was a profession to which they all owed so much because it had borne so much on their account; a profession on the surface of whose life all was sparkling and delight and freedom, but those who had an inkling of what the profession meant behind the scenes and what effect it had on the physical and moral strength and the nervous system knew that if there was a profession which needs its opportunities of repose it was the theatrical profession in all its parts. Then it seemed to him they were going about their business in the right sort of way. He was thankful that the L.C.C. had taken the highest and best line in that matter. They said to the L.C.C.: "Be true to your policy; do not allow it to be twisted out of your hands. Do not allow your intention to be frustrated and other people to be deprived of the treatment you would give them by ingenious devices, and by the mere fact that you have not got the proper instrument to enforce what you want. He had been the recipient on more than one occasion of generous treatment from managers of theatres with regard to charities, he hoped wholesome and useful for the community in which he was engaged; but those, he was glad to say, were not Sunday performances. He for his part would far rather that there was no use of those places for charitable purposes on Sunday than that it should be the cloak and means of bringing about what they had heard from the speakers who had preceded him. They were going about the thing in the right way by supporting the London County Council, and they were also going to other local authorities in the country and asking them to "level up," if they still needed it, to the level of the L.C.C. With regard to his clerical friends and himself they were not there under any false pretences. They were not there as though every person present was piously desirous of a religious Sunday on which he would go to church twice. (Laughter.) There were two parties. They desired to see a Sunday which was a day of rest, but which was also a day of piety and religion. They found their fellow-citizens were ready to go with them in the first stage of the journey. The place to which they reached in company was not a place merely which they wished to pass through and leave behind. They wanted a day of rest, and of the physical, moral, and mental effects which it gave to the community at large. They were not hopeless of increasing the number of their fellow citizens who would take the remaining stage. It was well to ask to what use they would put that day of rest. It was a day in which they must, whatever they meant by it, come into purer air than the air of the daily working life, and find room for the exercise of the more delicate and sublimer faculties of human nature for which on the weekday there was no opportunity. They had come away a great deal from the dull Sunday; they had come towards others in that respect, but for his own part he was thankful that he was so brought up that what was called the dull Sunday was a happy day to him. (Laughter.) Still, that dull Sunday left a great deal for the community at large, who had not his advantages. He hoped they would go forward in the race of progress and civilisation. (Applause.)

Mr. J. B. Mulholland said it seemed to him that the Sunday League policy was more or less within the four corners of the Council's regulations that Sunday opening should not be for the purpose of trade or private gain. He was inclined to think that the systematic opening on Sunday was more the fault of the authorities than of the lessees or managers. Men responsible for Sunday opening disguised themselves under the mask of charity, and "charity covers a multitude of sins." (Laughter.) The operation of the Licensing Acts as they were applied in London were making a large number of entertainment caterers not only liars, but hypocrites. (Hear, hear.)

Canon Bickersteth, Ottley, reminded the meeting of the last message to the London Police from the late King Edward intimating His Majesty's gratification upon the granting of the weekly rest day, and stated he had reason for believing that the purpose for which that meeting had been called had been made known to His Majesty King George. While for obvious reasons it would not have been possible for the King to depart from the usual precedent by sending any communication relative to the special object before that meeting, yet he (the speaker) intimated that there was good reason for knowing that, like our late Sovereign, the present King heartily sympathised with any movement towards assuring to working people rest on Sunday. (Hear, hear.) So they might well rejoice to feel assured of the Royal interest in and sympathy with the efforts of those "working people" who were so fully represented on that occasion to safeguard their Sunday rest. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. A. Seddon, M.P., supported the resolution. He criticised certain "philanthropic" efforts, and said he believed people who were anxious to do good at other people's expense were not always actuated by the purest motives.

Mr. W. H. Broughton, who has a proprietary interest in cinematograph theatres, stated that Mr. Jesson had suggested to him that the Sunday performances should be for the benefit of the Musicians' Union.

Mr. Jesson: That is not true.

Mr. Broughton said the cinematograph trade were prepared to close to-morrow if everybody else closed. He said that Mr. Jesson's presence on the platform was indefensible, as he was running almost more entertainments than anybody in London, his desire being to crush the Sunday League and take the work out of their hands.

Mr. W. Johnson, in replying, attacked the methods of Mr. Broughton. With regard to payment for Sunday work, he said a man employed by Mr. Broughton stated, "You can put down what you like for Sunday duty, but if you put down more than you are getting, you get the sack."

Mr. Broughton: Name!

Mr. Johnson: Do you think I am going to give you the name so that you can sack him?

Mr. Broughton: Tell the truth.

Mr. George Gray (President of the Scotch Artists' Association) said there was an Act of Parliament whereby anyone exercising his calling on a Sunday was liable to a fine. All they had to do was to put that law into force. He would like them to add to the resolution words urging that where places of entertainment were open to the public on Sunday for charitable purposes there should be legislation subjecting to a heavy penalty any manager or representative of a manager who coerced of intimidated any employee to work on the Sunday. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Mason suggested an amendment providing that places of entertainment should not be opened on Sunday for any purpose, charitable or otherwise.

The Chairman thought the amendment would not be advisable, and it was not put to the meeting.

The resolution was carried, the only dissentient being Mr. Mason, who thought it did not go far enough.

The proceedings closed with votes of thanks to the speakers and to Mr. Edward Terry for lending his theatre.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Roller-skating Under Sail.

In Berlin and its suburbs most of the streets are paved with asphalte—an inducement to roller-skaters of which they have been quick to take advantage. Lately, we read, there has been a new development—skating under sail. The skater supplies himself or herself—ladies are as keen on the sport as men—with an oblong-shaped light bamboo frame, covered with canvas and held on to by a vertical mid-rib. The frame averages some 5ft. 9in. in length by a yard, all but half an inch, in width. With anything of a breeze the skater speeds along gaily, and quick and clever manœuvring in and out among the passers-by is sometimes witnessed. It is quite easy to stop by holding the sail up horizontally overhead.

Aberdeen Olympia Rink.

So long as the Olympia Rink is run under the conditions obtaining at present, Aberdeen will always have a first-class roller skating establishment where all the latest novelties in that pastime are submitted to the public without loss of time. The rink is being most efficiently managed, and this no doubt is the secret of its sustained popularity. The Beach Rink is also liberally patronised, and with the increase in the number of visitors there has been a corresponding increase in the number who take advantage of the splendid facilities which this establishment affords for pursuing the recreation.

Chorlton-cum-Hardy Rink.

The spacious rink here is open thrice daily, with a good band in attendance. Mr. Ormsby Trench is the manager.

Charity Carnival at Garston.

To augment the funds in connection with the recent Garston Cycle Carnival, spoiled by the inclement weather on the night of the parade, a fancy dress seaside rink carnival was held on the Garston Skating Rink recently. There was a large attendance, both of skaters and spectators, and considerable interest was taken in the proceedings. The arrangements were carried out by a sub-committee of the general Carnival Committee, with Mr. G. H. Ubsdell as chairman and Mr. E. W. Minshull secretary.

Newcastle Skating Rinks.

The management of the White City Rinkerie have decided to allow the White City to remain open until further notice. Had previous arrangements been carried into effect, the rinkerie would have closed last week, but at the expressed desire of a large patronage, and taking into account the cold weather of the past few weeks, the management felt justified in the step taken. That the action is being appreciated is shown by the increased attendance at all sessions. The St. Mary's Rink, Exhibition Hall, the Grand Stand Skating Rink, and other rinks in the city continue to do good business. Each has made a point of cooling their rinks for the summer, and therefore comfort is assured.

Cannot Keep off the "Rollers."

The New Empress Rink, Nottingham, is closed for the season, reopening in September. The manager, Mr. George Holt, cannot, however, keep off the "rollers." He is taking a month's trip up the Baltic, and writing to us from Wiborg, Finland, says he is feeling quite in the "pink," and ready for the coming season. Lucky man!

West Stanley Rink.

The fancy dress carnival held last week at the West Stanley Skating Rink proved such an immense success that a gymkhana is now advertised, which will no doubt prove equally attractive.

MISS BELLE ELMORE'S DEATH.

Miss Belle Elmore, who is supposed to have been the victim in the Crippen murder case, opened her career at the Old Marylebone Music Hall some twelve years or so ago, where she appeared in a small operetta and wore an embroidered gipsy gown. She appeared at the Grand, Clapham, and the Holborn. She also toured in the provinces. She last appeared at the Bedford Music Hall early in 1907, when she sang a song called "Down Lovers' Walk," and also a coon song. She wore a short spangled dress. She also sang a costume song called "The Major," and appeared in a musical duologue entitled, "The Unknown Quantity." In one of the scenes she had to hold a sheaf of £5 notes. Crippen's desire for realism was so great that he gave her a bundle of genuine bank-notes, which she left on the stage the first night. Fortunately they were seen by her leading man, Mr. Douglas. Others of her songs were, "She never went further than that" and "Sister Mary Ann." In the costume song called "The Major" she appeared in full military costume.

Mr. Harry Goodson, the stage superintendent of the Bedford, says he became acquainted with Belle Elmore about ten years ago. She was at that time a singer whose turn consisted of a tuneful song with a catchy chorus. He wrote two songs for her, which she sang at the Foresters' and the South London. About five or six years ago Belle Elmore left the stage, but, the Bedford being within easy distance of Hilldrop-crescent, she occasionally used to go there with her husband.

The letter from the stepson, Mr. H. Otto Crippen, which confirmed the suspicions of the friends of Mrs. Crippen in the Music Hall Ladies' Guild that Crippen's story of the death of his wife while on a visit to her stepson at Los Angeles, in California, was untrue, was written in response to an inquiry for any details of his stepmother's death. It ran:

Los Angeles, Cal., May 9, 1910.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May.

Dear Madam,—Received your letter forwarded to me from the County Clerk, April 23, 1910, but owing to many misfortunes, sickness ,and death of our son, I overlooked your letter until this date.

The death of my stepmother was as great a surprise to me as to any one. She died in San Francisco, and the first I heard of it was through my father, who wrote to me immediately afterwards. He asked me to forward all letters to him, and he would make necessary explanations.

He said he had, through a mistake, given out my name and address as my stepmother's death-place.

I would be glad, if you find out any particulars of her death, if you would let me know of them, as all I know is the fact that she died in San Francisco.—Yours very sincerely,

H. Otto Crippen.

1,612, Holmby-avenue, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Smythson, vice-president of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, on March 31 gave information of Mrs. Crippen's disappearance to Scotland Yard, and said that she had suspicions. The officials asked her if she could bring any definite charge against any one, and when she refused to do this they replied that they could do nothing. She then went to the American Embassy in Victoria-street, and was there given the name of an official in Saratoga. Mrs. Smythson wrote to him asking if Mrs. Crippen had died there, but got no answer, and she inquired the address where Belle Elmore died from Dr. Crippen. At last he said that she had been cremated. He also gave Mrs. Smythson his son's address. She wrote to the son, and in reply was told that his step-mother had not died there, and that the address had been named in mistake. Mrs. Smythson then went to the house in Hilldrop-crescent, and made inquiries of the neighbours on either side. She asked them if they had seen any luggage leave the house, and they replied in the negative. Afterwards she saw Dr. Crippen, and inquired if he had any news concerning his wife's death. "Oh, yes," he replied, "she was cremated, and I have the ashes at home." The point that first aroused the Guild's suspicions in the letter Miss Elmore sent to the Guild announcing her departure was that she suggested the appointment of a treasurer till her return. That was quite unlike her. She was proud of the position. Then, too, Mrs. Smythson saw Miss Le Neve wearing a brooch which had belonged to Mrs. Crippen at a dance, and frequently saw her with Dr. Crippen.

Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest on Monday afternoon, at the Islington Coroner's Court, on the human remains supposed to be those of Mrs. Crippen (Belle Elmore). Several prominent members of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild were present in court, including Mr. H. O. Seyd, the honorary solicitor, Miss Melinda May, honorary secretary, Mrs. Smythson, vice-president, Mrs. Paul Martinetti, Miss Lil Hawthorne, Mrs. Eugene Stratton, Mrs. C. C. Bartram, Mrs. Gentiro, and Mrs. Fawkes. Chief Inspector Dew, of New Scotland Yard, represented the police authorities.

The main facts of the case are familiar to our readers, and we gladly spare them the evidence relating to the ghastly details of the discovery.

Mr. John Edward Nash, theatrical manager, of Park-mansions, Vauxhall Park, said his wife, Miss Lil Hawthorne, and himself were great friends of Mrs. Crippen, who was the wife of Dr. Crippen, and was theatrically known as Belle Elmore.

The Crippens had dinner at his house on Jan. 19 of this year. That was the last time he saw her alive. On Feb. 2 he heard through his wife that Belle Elmore had resigned from the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. That week Miss Hawthorne was playing at the Tottenham Empire, and he thought it was strange that she should resign so suddenly. My wife, said Mr. Nash, got me to send to her saying we would call on Saturday night, as we wanted to try and talk her into withdrawing her resignation. No one was there; the place was closed, and on Feb. 6 we heard that Belle Elmore had left for California.

From whom did you hear that?—From Miss May, the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. It was a big surprise to everyone. On Feb. 27 there was a dinner of the Benevolent Institution, presided over by Mr. Joe Elvin. My wife and I were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti. I was very much surprised to see Mr. Crippen enter with his typist. They sat right opposite to us. Mrs. Paul Martinetti recognised that she was wearing one of Mrs. Crippen's brooches, and it made a great impression on me. On March 23 my wife and I sailed for New York. In the first week in May over there we received a letter from Mrs. Paul Martinetti telling us that "poor Belle" had died. About the middle of May we met Mrs. Fred Ginnett, president of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, in New York, and she was very much upset over Belle Elmore dying. She did not like the look of affairs, so she wrote to the authorities at Los Angeles. She did not get a satisfactory reply. She got the police of Rochelle, a village where she was staying, to make official inquiries, and then she got a reply to the effect that no such person as Belle Elmore or Mrs. Crippen had died at Los Angeles. Then we felt very bad about it, and thought it was a very mysterious affair. We sailed from New York on June 15. Mrs. Ginnett was there to see us off, and to say "Good-bye," and I promised her that as soon as I arrived in London I would go and interview Mr. Crippen. On June 28 I visited, in company with my wife, Dr. Crippen at his office. That is the first time we had seen him since the reported death of Belle Elmore. We went to offer condolence, and he seemed to be very much cut up. In fact, he sobbed. He seemed to be very nervous, and he was twitching a piece of paper throughout the interview. He gave it out at first that she had died at Los Angeles. When I questioned him he said it was not Los Angeles, but some little town near San Francisco. Not knowing that I had lived for two and a half years in San Francisco, he was rather surprised when I questioned him about a number of the districts. I mentioned several small towns, and he said it was some little Spanish town. I tried to refresh his memory, and I mentioned Alemeda, and he said he thought that was the place. I asked him if he was sure of this, and he said "No," and I said to him, "Peter, do you mean to say that you don't know where your wife has died?" He said he could not remember the place. I then said to him, "I hear you have received her ashes," and he said, "Yes, I have got them in the safe." I asked him the name of the crematorium and about the certificate of death, and he then commenced to get very nervous. He added, "You know there are about four crematoria round there. I think it is one of those." I said, "Surely you have received a certificate?" and he replied, "I think I have got it somewhere."

He was getting very nervous then, and at this time I began to feel that there was something wrong. When a man cannot tell where his wife had died, and whence he has received the ashes of her remains, I make up my mind that there is something wrong, and in this case I determined to communicate with Scotland Yard at once. That was the last occasion I saw him. In company with my wife I went straight to Scotland Yard, and I made an appointment to see Superintendent Froest and Inspector Dew on June 30. I know Superintendent Froest personally. I came over here, and found that no one had had the courage and pluck to take up this matter. I therefore felt it my duty to take action myself.

Mr. H. O. Seyd, solicitor to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, said he did not know the deceased woman very well, although he had met her on one or two occasions. He added that she fulfilled her duties as hon. treasurer in a very satisfactory way.

Mr. Paul Martinetti said he was a retired music hall artist, and he lived at King Edward's-mansions, Shaftesbury-avenue. He had known Mr. and Mrs. Crippen for about a year. On a certain occasion, said Mr. Martinetti, Crippen called at my flat, and told me his wife had gone to America on very important legal business, and that she might be away for six months. He said something about the possibility of it leading to a title. He also said he should sell his furniture, as he had never liked the house. I called on him next day, and advised him to take the first steamer to America. He did not make any reply to that suggestion, but he said something about his wife having double pneumonia. I offered to assist him in selling his furniture, and in packing his things, but he did not accept the offer, and he never gave me any decisive answers to my questions. I next saw him at the Music Hall Benevolent Fund Ball, with his lady typist. The next time I saw him he called and asked me and my wife to go to dinner with him and the lady typist, and to a theatre afterwards, but we declined the invitation.

Mrs. Clara Martinetti said she became acquainted with Mrs. Crippen about a year and a half ago at "Pony" Moore's house. Belle Elmore persuaded witness to join the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and they met frequently at Guild functions. On Monday, Jan. 31, she and her husband dined with the Crippens, and left their house about half-past one on Tuesday morning, Feb. 1. That was the last time witness saw Mrs. Crippen alive.

This concluded the evidence taken on Monday, and the inquiry was adjourned till Aug. 15.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The river outing which took place last Sunday under the auspices of the Heads of Departments Association was a great success, in spite of the unsettled weather during the earlier part of the day. Among those present were Messrs. J. Cullen, Raphael, and McCrae, the St. James's Theatre; Mr. W. Smith (electrician), the London Coliseum; Mr. Hickman (master carpenter) and Mr. Barker, London Hippodrome; Mr. C. T. Cory (master carpenter) and Mr. F. Sheffield (electrician), the Vaudeville Theatre; Mr. W. B. Willcox (property master), the Garrick Theatre, and Mrs. Willcox; Mr. Philip Raphael, Mr. A. George (master carpenter), and Mr. F. B. Fidge (electrician), Lyceum Theatre; Mr. H. S. Henby (who recently went to America with Miss Maud Allan as her stage manager), Mr. Philip Sheridan (electrician), the Strand Theatre; Mr. David Sheridan (electrician), Mrs. Philip Raphael, Mrs. A. George, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins, Mr. and Mrs. Woolnought, Mr. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Thompson, jun., Mr. Valeriani, Mr. Metzen, Mr. Spiers and Mr. Spiers, jun., Mrs. Kent, Miss Blackner, Mr. Green, Mrs. Green, Mr. R. J. Carter (electrician), Terry's Theatre; Mr. and Mrs. Absolam, Mr. Townsend, Miss Merriman, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Johnson, and others.

The party left Paddington by the 9.40 a.m. train for Bourne End in reserved corridor carriages. The river launch La Burgoine, a most commodious and comfortable launch, took the party from Bourne End to Henley-on-Thames, where lunch was provided at the Catherine Wheel Hotel at 2 o'clock. After lunch a toast to the success of the Association was proposed by the chairman, Mr. J. Cullen, who also proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Philip Sheridan (hon. secretary) and Mr. Wm. Johnson for their services in arranging the outing. The party then proceeded up the river, tea being provided on board, and a musical entertainment, arranged by Mr. A. George, to which the following contributed: Mrs. Julia Richardson, Mr. J. Hutchins, Mr. Dan Barker, Mrs. J. Hutchins, Mrs. Raphael, Mr. and Mrs. McCare, Mr. Willie Smith, Miss Clarke, Mr. Metzen (who sang songs in several different languages), Mr. F. Hutchins, and Mr. H. Gilbert. Mr. Philip Raphael brought a gramophone and numerous records, and Mr. C. T. Cory also brought some very fine records.

Arriving at Bourne End about 8 o'clock, the party returned to London by the 8.55 for Paddington.

The Sunday Defence Committee have received the following communication, dated July 15, from the General Purposes Committee of the Cumberland County Council:—"I am directed to inform you that your letter of March was before the General Purposes Committee of the Cumberland County Council at their quarterly meeting held to-day, and the following resolution was passed thereon, viz.: 'Resolved, that this committee is heartily in sympathy with the Sunday Defence Committee, and recommend the County Council to express their opinion that permission should not be given to hold entertainments on Sunday by way of trade or for personal gain on any licensed premises, inasmuch as it will be prejudicial to the best interests of the people.'—Yours faithfully, G. W. Allan Hodgson, Clerk of Committees."

A notice of the meeting held in Terry's Theatre on Friday, under the auspices of the Sunday Defence Committee, will be found in another column.

The first staff benefit ever given at Wakefield was held at the Hippodrome on the 11th and 12th, and realised over £38. The orchestra, stage, and front staff wish to return their thanks to Mr. Sidney Tolfree for generously placing the hall at their service, to Messrs. T. Sherwood and Harry Burns for kindly giving permission to the artists, and to the latter for their kindly assistance in making the benefit such a success.

MR. MANNERS'S SCHEME.

Mr. Charles Manners is desirous of securing the co-operation of influential people who are interested in the subject of "United Empire Grand Opera," and who are willing to take shares in a limited liability company to place grand opera in English at popular prices before all classes of the community in all parts of the Empire, beginning with London and the provinces. Mr. Manners does not desire any portion of the profits or any emolument of any kind whatever for the services of his wife or himself, or for the use of his property. These he is willing to give freely.

Mr. and Mrs. Manners propose to found a company to be constituted for a period of three years only, since a short period of this length will represent a suitable opportunity for consideration of the effects of its operations. At the end of that time the shareholders can decide whether the profits made shall be devoted to the continuance and development of any scheme, or whether the capital shall be returned plus a bonus derived from the balance in hand at the time of winding up.

The company would be floated for the sum of £12,500, in 100,000 2s. 6d. shares; no shareholder to be allowed to hold more than eight shares, and the shares to be not negotiable. The object is not to form the company for the purpose of paving a dividend, but to secure the interest in the undertaking on the part of the general public, which would arise from the fact that large numbers of that general public would be in the position of holders of shares, preferably not more than one each.

It is not proposed to devote the profits to paying dividends. The surplus will be carried forward. Holders of share certificates will have the privilege of obtaining first choice of seats in all parts of the theatre, and of always taking precedence over the general public in booking seats. Each shareholder will also have the privilege of taking his unreserved seat at the theatre a quarter of an hour before the doors open to the general public. A Voluntary Committee of six will be elected each year by the shareholders, and this committee will submit or answer any questions the shareholders may wish. Preference in allotments of shares will be given to representative applicants and those whom it may be deemed will prove most useful to the scheme.

Mr. and Mrs. Manners do not intend to appear in the operas. They promise to give their services as managers, and the use of scenery, properties, costumes, band parts, with storage (except book of words), connected with the operas they have had in their répertoire of the past thirteen years; and they will take one half-crown share each. Such new material as may be required for operas that have not been performed by Mr. and Mrs. Manners to be furnished by the United Empire Grand Opera, Ltd., and to remain its sole property.

Mr. Manners will have the complete management of the company in every detail, except that the committee shall have the right to investigate financially to their own satisfaction anything they may deem necessary. After each week's visit to a town, a financial statement, signed by one of the committee, or an accountant appointed by it, will make public the profit or loss sustained by the company in that town. Should the 100,000 subscriptions not be forthcoming, the company will not be formed.

A COMPANY CATECHISM.

Mr. Charles Manners, who is forming a company to produce grand opera in English in London and the provinces under the title of the "United Empire Grand Opera," has drawn up the following list of questions and answers, which may be studied by intending shareholders:—

Question.—How do you know that there will be any profit at the end of three years?

Answer.—Because, the first year I took out a company, twelve years ago, it was, financially speaking, my worst year, and that year I made £1,200 profit. Since then we have made sufficient to make us independent.

Question.—How much of the capital will you spend before starting out?

Answer.—Not £200, as the company will be already equipped.

Question.—Then you do not want any capital at all?

Answer.—None.

Question.—Then why ask for it?

Answer.—First. To find out if there are enough people interested in National Opera before I give my work and property to the scheme;

Second. To have as much capital in the bank as I can at the end of the three years to further help National Opera; and

Third. Because the more shareholders we have the more interest the progress of the company will obtain throughout the Empire.

Question.—Then you would prefer eight 2s. 6d. shareholders rather than one shareholder with eight shares?

Answer.—Yes, ever so much more.

Question.—How much do you think you will have in the bank at the end of three years?

Answer.—Well, after giving some forty weeks' performances each year for three years, both in London and the provinces, far superior to anything I have done up to now, together with perhaps a company or two sent to the Dominions, I cannot see how there could possibly be less than £25,000 to £30,000, including the capital.

Question.—Why do you limit all this to three years?

Answer.—Because by actual experience I have found that everything is gained by experience, and at the end of three years everyone concerned will have gained experience that will put us in a position to map out more safely a further step towards eventually permanently establishing opera, and it would be well for the majority to be free to carry out the step for advancement as the result of this three years' experience.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 15th inst., before Mr. Registrar Linklater, an application for discharge was made by Norman J. Norman, of Ridgmount-gardens, Holborn, who failed in August last. The liabilities were returned at £4,162, and the assets at £3,601, but only a small amount had so far been realised. The debtor, an American citizen, came to England in 1898, and for some time carried on a tourist and theatrical agency in the Haymarket, S.W. Early in 1907 he became associated with a person who had taken a lease of the Shaftesbury Theatre. It was alleged that he was a partner in the venture, and was liable for half the loss—estimated at £1,598—which had accrued, but this he disputed. The only offence alleged was the insufficiency of the assets to pay 10s. in the £, and his honour granted the order of discharge, subject to the minimum suspension of two years.

Norman against Norman.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who went, with Miss Beatrice Wilson, to play for a week in Mr. Walter Maxwell's new venture, the Hastings Pier Pavilion, arranged to display some flags on which was painted his name in large scarlet letters. Walking behind a lady accompanied by a small boy, who were apparently deciding what place of amusement they would patronise, Mr. Norman saw the boy suddenly catch sight of the flag, and heard him exclaim to the lady: "Oh, mother, look! What is that? Norman against Norman, what match is that?" "It is evidently water-polo, my dear," replied the lady. "Oh, I would rather see that than anything else," said the boy, and the mother went to the box office to purchase two seats. There is a great deal in a name.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MARY FORBES.

Miss Mary Forbes started her career on the concert platform and at "At Homes," giving scenes from Shakespeare and recitations. Her first appearance on the stage was as juvenile lead in a sketch, after which she played in several similar productions, both comedy and tragedy, gaining some very useful experience on the halls. At one time the company were doing four houses a night, going from one to the other in a motor. All went well until one night in a poor part of London one of the wheels came off the vehicle, and they were turned out. Fortunately no one was hurt, but great excitement was caused amongst the onlookers by the company's appearance in their costumes and make-up.

Miss Forbes is a very quick study. On one occasion she played the part of the Countess Shulah in *Her Love Against the World* after a

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*

MISS MARY FORBES.

few hours' notice, never having seen the play before, and was afterwards congratulated by the author. Her next engagement was as Fairy Queen, and in connection with that part an exciting incident occurred. She was waiting at the wings to go on, when, to her horror, she saw her dress in flames. One of the sequins on her dress must have touched a live electric wire, setting her dress alight. With great presence of mind she gathered the filmy costume up in her hands, and so extinguished the flames, just as her cue was given. She went on with her part quite calmly, though her hands were smarting terribly and her pretty dress was much damaged. Soon after Miss Forbes joined Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton's company, playing in *As You Like It*, *Taming of the Shrew*, and *Othello*—very delightful work with a very delightful company. Miss Forbes, who is the fortunate possessor of a beautiful speaking voice, has recently been achieving further triumphs as Princess Iris in *Her Love Against the World*. She recently concluded an engagement as Mrs. Vanstart in *The Fighting Chance* at the Lyceum, and on May 1 distinguished herself in the Play Actors' production of *The Red Herring* at the Court.

MR. CHAS. A. STEPHENSON.

The first appearance of Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson was made at the tender age of four as Harry in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in his father's (Mr. R. H. Stephenson's) company. He also figured as Willie in *East Lynne*, Tiny Tim in *Christmas Carol*, &c. Later he joined Victor Rosini's Royal Spectral Opera Company, and at fifteen was playing principal comedy parts. Seeking fresh fields and pastures new, Mr. Stephenson went with a number of companies, both stock and touring, not disdaining the wood roof or portable theatre. "To my mind," says Mr. Stephenson, "there is no

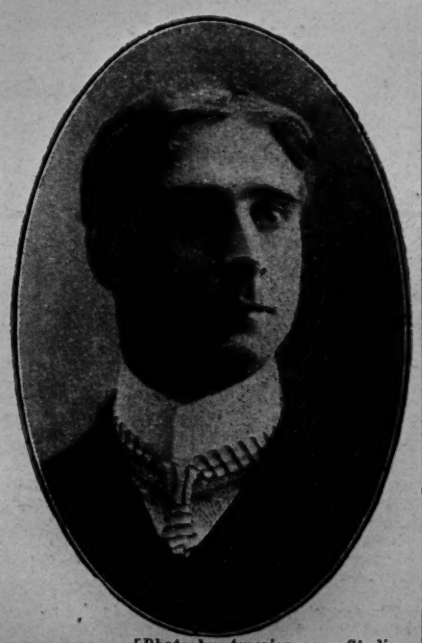

[*Photo by American A.. Studio.*

MR. CHAS. A. STEPHENSON.

better school for a young actor to gain confidence and alertness in an emergency. For instance, one week's record consisted of Duke of Gloucester in *Jane Shore*, Tigellinus in *Sign of the Cross*, Talbot in *Our Boys*, Charley in *Charley's Aunt*, and Bob Brierly in *Ticket-of-Leave Man*, with for Saturday afternoon a grand pantomime for the children, and in the evening Jacques Strop in *Robert Macaire* and William Corder in *Maria Martin*. We used to be not far short of perfect; in fact, there's very little gagging done in a good portable, and I never forget many a happy time I spent under the wood roof and king pole."

Mr. Stephenson played juvenile lead in Harry Bruce's *A (K)night in Armour* company, and figured as one of the robbers in Terence Ramsdale's pantomime *Babes in the Wood*. Later he undertook juvenile lead with Mr. L. Gilbert's *Sons of Toil* company, an engagement which involved a bit of quick study. Mr. Stephenson, who had never seen the piece before, joined the company at the Star Theatre, Wolverhampton, by the 3 p.m. train on the Monday, had the part given him, and played the juvenile lead at night without a wait or a stick in any of the lines. A tour with Mr. Esmonde Bramley's company as Dè Rochefort in *The Three Musketeers*, as Chateau Renaud in *The Corsican Brothers*, and as Archibald Carlyle in *East Lynne*, was followed by an engagement with Mr. J. Steele's company, playing the title-rôle in *The Jack o' Hearts*. His next tour was with Miss Winifred Maude's company, playing the title-rôle in *The Convict*, and at the end of that tour he joined Mr. D'Arcy Clayton's concert party as the Jester in his "Star Dominoes," "The Gipsies," &c. For pantomime he was with Mr. F. Mouillot's company, playing Billy Crusoe, and next appeared as Captain Donegal in Mr. J. B. Howard's *Florodora* company. More pantomime, same part and same management as before, more *Florodora*, and then pantomime at Leicester, again the same part and management. Mr. Stephenson next went to Terry's Theatre with Mr. W. H. C. Nation to play Dick in *Weighed in the Balance* and the Jester in *The Last of the Legends*, and then joined Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Three Little Maids* company, playing Lord Cheyne, principal comedian. After four tours as Private Charley Taylor with Mr. F. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company Mr. Stephenson joined Mr. E. Marris's *Dandy Doctor* company, to play Brown, the millionaire, the principal comedy part, and was next with the Six Brothers Luck in *Liftem's, Ltd.* Mr. Stephenson has played in nearly 200 pieces, and been with over forty companies. His favourite part is Scrooge in *The Christmas Carol*, and his pet aversion "looking for digs. on a snowy night with a large basket and a small pair of boots."

MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG.

Miss Rosamond Mayne Young is a great granddaughter of the tragedian, Charles Mayne Young. The first months of her professional career were spent walking on, understudying, and playing small parts at Drury Lane, and with Mr. Charles Hawtrey, but she was soon engaged by Messrs. Thalberg Corbett and Gerald Gurney for the part of Ottilia in their production of Stephenson's *Prince Otto* at Glasgow. Subsequently she went on tour with Mr. Corbett and Miss Marion Terry in *Lady Windermere's Fan* as Lady Plymdale and understudy to Miss Terry. Next Miss Young joined Mrs. Lewis Waller, to play Alice, the ingénue, in *Zaza* on tour, and she was re-engaged for the same part when Mrs. Waller brought the play to the Royalty for a London season. At the same theatre she then played Lady Maisie Mull, the sentimental heroine of Mr. Anstey's *Lyre and Lancet* during Mr. George Giddens' season in 1902.

Since then Miss Young has enacted a number of leading parts, including those of Lady Windermere, Lady Harding, *The Idler*; Ruth, the Ameri-

[*Photo by Grosvenor Studios.*

MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG.

can heiress, in Mr. Walter Reynolds's *Mr. Smith*; Mrs. Chieveley, in Mr. Edward O'Neill's tour of *An Ideal Husband*; entire lead in a round of dramas for two stock seasons at Mr. Robert Arthur's theatres; Lady Isabel for Mr. R. C. Buchanan; and during the last two years Lady Mary in *Peter's Mother*, for Mr. Percy Hutchison—in which she was Miss Terry's understudy during the Haymarket revival—and for Mr. F. R. Benson, Lady Macbeth, Portia, Rosalind, Katherine (the Shrew), Ophelia, Lydia Languish, and Regan.

Miss Young's favourite line is Shakespearean, and for several years she has taken out her own company each summer in pastoral plays from the Poet. Miss Young played Mrs. Dane in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*, and the title-rôle in *Candida* for the late Mme. Illing's German tour in November and December last. Most recently she won popular favour as Caroline in *Two Merry Monarchs* at the Savoy.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS.

As he was born in the dressing-room of the old Queen's Theatre, Hull, Mr. Lonnen Meadows claims to be a Yorkshireman. He belongs to an old theatrical family, his father and mother, the late Mr. and Mrs. William Champion, being both in the profession, while his brothers were the late E. J. Lonnen, of Gaiety fame, Walter Lonnen, and Victor Champion, musical conductor, now in Australia. Mr. Meadows' first appearance on any stage was made at the tender age of twelve months, when he was carried on in long clothes at the old Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland, in a piece called *Gin and Water*. His next appearance was as a girl, that of the child's part in *Ten Nights in a Bar-room*. After that he joined Charles Adams' Circus, working two performances a day and six towns a week. Then came an engagement with Frank Frayne's Kentucky Rifle Team, in a piece called *Si Slocum*, his duties including that of standing stock still while an apple was shot off his head and a pipe out of his mouth.

When he was fifteen Mr. Meadows played the second low comedy parts and most of the first with the late Barry Sullivan. He also had three tours with the late Charles Dillon, as assistant stage manager and comedian, and travelled with Mme. Modjeska and Miss Marriott, appearing with the latter actress at Sadler's Wells Theatre. His ability as a pantomimist and broadswordsman enabled him to play such parts as the Dumb Man of Manchester, the Monkey in *Jack Robinson*, the Monster in *Frankenstein*, and Chalet the Ferryman with the late Andrew Melville, with whom he remained four seasons. An engagement followed with Walter Hatton in *My Partner* and *Still Waters Run Deep*, as comedian and stage manager, and subsequently he produced *True to the Core* for the late Osmond Tearle. His next venture was to lease the Marylebone Theatre—now the West London—for six months, during which he produced a number of plays. Then came a long engagement with J. F. Elliston as his principal comedian and producer, among the various pantomimes he has produced for him being *Cinderella*, *Sleeping Beauty and Yellow Dwarf*, *Dick Whittington*, and *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and he also went to the Grand, Islington, to play Fitzwarren in *Dick Whittington*. The dramas produced by Mr. Meadows in the provinces are *Alone in London*, *The Cotton King*, *The Union Jack*, and *Light at Last*, in all of which he played the comedy parts. He has also fulfilled four stock seasons with Mr. Elliston, and holds the record for the Grand, Bolton, where he stayed twelve weeks without a break, writing and producing a new sketch each week. He produced *Tommy Atkins* for Mr. Milton Bode, playing Sergeant Paddy Molloy for a season, and also *The Plunger*

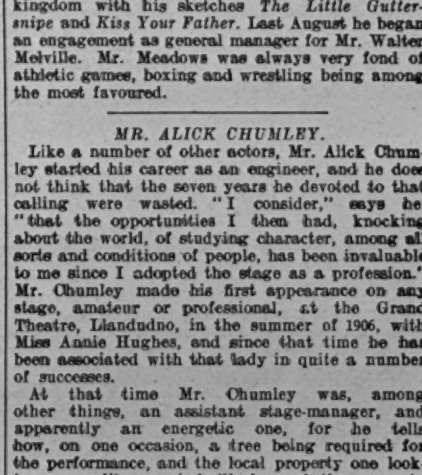

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS.

for Hardie and Von Leer. For two years Mr. Meadows toured the principal music halls of the kingdom with his sketches *The Little Gutter-snipe* and *Kiss Your Father*. Last August he began an engagement as general manager for Mr. Walter Melville. Mr. Meadows was always very fond of athletic games, boxing and wrestling being among the most favoured.

MR. ALICK CHUMLEY.

Like a number of other actors, Mr. Alick Chumley started his career as an engineer, and he does not think that the seven years he devoted to that calling were wasted. "I consider," says he, "that the opportunities I then had, knocking about the world, of studying character, among all sorts and conditions of people, has been invaluable to me since I adopted the stage as a profession." Mr. Chumley made his first appearance on any stage, amateur or professional, at the Grand Theatre, Llandudno, in the summer of 1906, with Miss Annie Hughes, and since that time he has been associated with that lady in quite a number of successes.

At that time Mr. Chumley was, among other things, an assistant stage-manager, and apparently an energetic one, for he tells how, on one occasion, a tree being required for the performance, and the local property one looking more like a windmill, he and the property man went forth armed with an axe and saw, and returned triumphantly with a laburnum, the result being "most realistic." His first important part was that of Algernon Grey (Mr. Martin Harvey's original part) in a revival of *Sweet Nancy*, which was later followed by nearly a year's engagement to play the lead on tour with Miss Hughes in *A Bit of Old Chelsea*. Another successful appearance with that lady was as Tom Clodd in Jerome K. Jerome's comedy, *Miss Tommy*. His next important engagement was for the part of Mr. Baxter in Sir Charles Wyndham's company of *The*

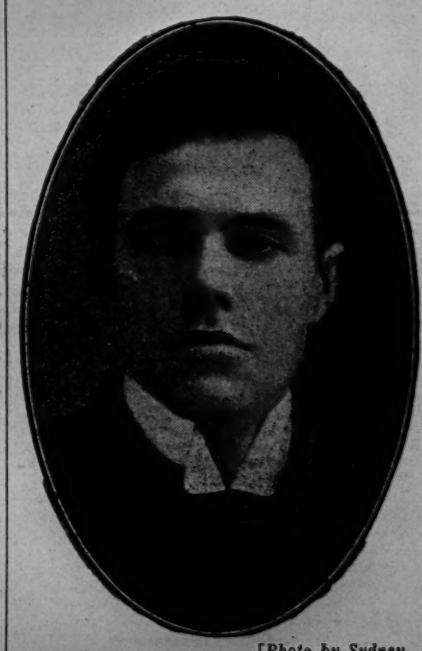

[*Photo by Sydney.*

MR. ALICK CHUMLEY.

Mollusc, in the autumn of 1908, at the conclusion of which he went under the management of Messrs. Murray King and Clark, to play the juvenile lead in their production of *Toddles*. Shortly after he was kindly released by that management to take up the part of Rian Hobart, in the first company that Mr. Frank Curzon sent on tour with *An Englishman's Home*, at the conclusion of which he went under the management of Mr. Robert Arthur, followed again by engagements as Lord Bantock in Jerome K. Jerome's play *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, George Allerton in Somerset Maugham's *Explorer*, Mr. Bourchier's part in *Simple Simon*, and Mr. Lorraine's part in G. B. Shaw's *Press Cuttings*. He also created the part of Tom Senoakes with Miss Madge Crichton in a new play of Arthur Shirley's. Mr. Chumley has been playing Mr. Charles Hawtrey's part in *The Little Damozel*, in the provinces. His favourite pursuits are walking and yachting.

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ENGLISH THEATRE.

(SEEN THROUGH GERMAN GLASSES.)

"The theatre in England differs from that in Berlin in that in the former the goings-on do not resemble the Battle of Waterloo. During *premières* in Berlin all concerned have always the feeling that the fate of Europe is being decided. If I, during my time with Reinhardt," writes Mr. Hermann Bahr, the husband of the famous singer Frau von Bahr-Mildenburg, recently heard at Covent Garden, and himself an actor of note, in a *feuilleton* to the *Berliner Tageblatt*, "ventured to hint at times that there might exist in this great cosmos of ours matters more important, or at any rate quite as important, as the casting of *Kosinsky*, they all got very frightened, Holländer thought me mad, and even those of milder temperament declared it a certainty that I possessed no theatrical instincts. This Berlin idea of being imbued with theatrical instinct, as though the rest of creation existed merely for furnishing material for running theatres, does not appear to be harboured in England. The English public certainly does not merit its reputation for coldness. I never witnessed such scenes of enthusiasm as at the London *première* of *Elektra*, and again when on the occasion of its fifth performance Strauss appeared in the conductor's chair. The Englishman, on the other hand, never forgets that there exist such matters as cancer research, redistribution of wealth, and kindred questions. The Berlin idealism, capable of forgetting in a world of make-believe all the stern realities of the actual world, does not flourish among Englishmen. Such idealism is fostered by them only in the cases of football or golf.

"Another difference is to be found in the fact that, according to British ideas, the drama has really nothing to do with art or with literature. The Englishman, as a rule, is not in the habit of asking what anything is supposed to represent, but contents himself with what it is; but demands that whatever it is must be of the highest quality. Thus our criticisms of theatrical amusements, constantly striving to connect them somehow with the whole life of the nation, is to him incomprehensible. He understands that a poet may at times make use of the dramatic form; but he does not see why he should have it performed in a theatre, a place where even the few spectators who are in any way in touch with art or poetry least expect to encounter either. I once expressed my surprise to an eminent English critic that Shakespeare was so rarely seen on the English stage. He replied that the Englishman thought too much of Shakespeare to allow him to be desecrated by such performances. And he asked me whether the Germans could seriously bear it to see *Faust* sacrificed on the stage. We did not arrive at any agreement, and to this day I am not sure whether our difference arose from the fact that the Englishman does not regard the theatre as something so closely connected with art as we do, or perhaps because he looks upon art from a more artistic standpoint than ourselves, and for that reason does not wish to have it mixed up with all sorts of things. Just as little do I know whether the English are so furious with Shaw because he disturbs their comfortable theatre habits by his earnestness, or because to them an earnestness which is displayed in so common a place as a theatre does not appear earnest enough. We are occasionally inclined to treat our theatre as our church. And we are proud to show the theatre such high esteem. To the Englishman it seems rather as though we thereby testify our contempt for the church. I have never succeeded in making it plain to an Englishman that there can be any vestige of sense in producing things which properly belong to the pulpit, the rostrum, or into a book, before a congregation of digesting human beings, who are entitled for their money to expect to be pleasantly excited, sensuously amused, and to be relieved of their accumulated internal ponderousness by means of all sorts of adventures.

The Englishman does not dream of turning the theatre into an institution of morality: he has quite enough of these. Neither does Wagner's idea to give us heroic life in the theatre appeal to him; for that purpose he prefers India or South Africa. He does not look upon the theatre as a matter for the people, for what he regards as the people cannot be accommodated in boxes and dress circles. The theatre in England is nothing more or less than a social function. Not quite so ceremonious as an English dinner party, and always with a slight flavour, dating from puritanical days, of something not quite permissible, something rather improper, a concession to sinful pleasure on which the intrepid sense of freedom of the British middle classes insists. This coincides with the British tendency of contemplating the possibilities of immorality without taking any moral harm. Strong emotions they avoid, convinced that in this respect the stage cannot compete with sport. The latter forms the centre of the national life, influencing religion, art, and politics. No such attempt is made by the theatre. It suffices to serve up slightly sensual pleasures, not entirely devoid of spiritual charm, with discreet ceremonial, after dinner to well-to-do, fashionably dressed, and by nature somewhat taciturn people, who could not possibly be expected to undergo the exertions of conversation before dropping off to sleep. Let us not overlook the fact that the old German Court theatres were much the same until they became alarmed at the assumptions of bourgeois idealism. Just such another old German Court theatre, only adapted to the broader and soberer tastes of the middle classes, is the English theatre of to-day. It disappoints the large demands which the German stage pretends to cater for.

"In England there exists but one maxim, to please as many as possible, which is regarded with us in the light of a disgrace; the German despises what pleases him, and believes to have a sure test for the beautiful in the secret knowledge that it displeases him. In England playwright and actor have no other object but to entertain the spectator, and he, in turn, only desires to be entertained. Thus with determined goodwill on both sides their object is easily attained. Englishmen sit in the theatre with astounding devotion, something like the Italians, who also look forward with joy like children to the promised play. And, like children, if it pleases them, they are so grateful that they never stop to ask themselves whether they really ought to be pleased. For that reason dramatic criticism is of less importance in England than in Germany. The principal trait of British dramatic art is the outcome of the fact that it has to deal with children. Children insist on having the same stories told them over and over again, always with as many thrills as possible. This is the nucleus of British dramatic art. For centuries past it has told the same stories, but provides surprises in competitions of technical skill. A great German actor is one who is somebody out of the ordinary, a specimen of strong, intense humanity; a great English actor is one who can do something out of the ordinary, a being of unusual and striking aptitude. The power of a great German actor consists in being able to show how much a man can achieve. Whilst the Germans demand nature from their actor, the Englishman asks for arts. The great English actors never quite come up to German expectations as regards to soul: they appear too artificial. On the other hand, many of the smaller artists, who are scarcely appreciated in England, show a skilled knowledge of their profession which is almost unknown in Germany. The greatest praise, too, is due to the good taste displayed on English stages in the matter of costumes, decorations, and lighting, which are not approached on German stages."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROBERTSON AT THE CORONET.

"PROGRESS."

Robertson's *Progress*, produced at the Globe Theatre in 1869, was adapted from Victorien Sardou's *Les Ganaches*. It may be interesting to note the cast of the play as then presented:—Lord Mompesson, Mr. Charles Collette; Hon. Arthur Mompesson, Mr. Henry Neville; Dr. Brown, Mr. John Clarke, Mr. Bunnythorne, Mr. Parselle; Bob Bunnythorne, Mr. E. Marshall; John Ferne, Mr. John Billington; Mr. Danby, Mr. H. Westland; Eva, Miss Lydia Foote; Miss Myrnie, Mrs. Stephens. Mr. Collette is now the only survivor of the original cast.

Progress preaches the gospel of progress against prejudice, science versus sentiment, trade combating tradition, invention allied to iconoclasm in the grips with insular irresponsibility. The play is full of strong characterisation and many quiet touches of humour, but it at times deteriorates into mere melodrama, bald and unconvincing. It is the usual tale of the course of true love which only runs smoothly at the end of the chapter, but it serves as a vehicle for some excellent pictures of the manners and thought of the times. The fierce opposition to the destruction of the old Abbey to make way for a railway is one of the chief features of the plot. The recent innovation of railways, velocipedes, penny papers, and other such-like atrocities are held up to scorn and contumely. In these days of motor-cars, aviation, and universal cheap literature it is necessary to dress the play to the period to preserve its impressiveness and reality. Mr. Edward Sass acts with authority and a splendid sense of character and feeling as Dr. Brown; Mr. Arthur Wontner is particularly good as the Hon. Arthur Mompesson, quietly scoring all his points; Mr. O. B. Clarence is most amusing as the muddle-headed old advocate of "the good old times," Mr. Bunnythorne, sen., and as his young hopeful, Bob Bunnythorne, Mr. J. H. Brewer is distinctly droll, his poetic utterances and sublime self-conceit being excruciatingly funny. Mr. James Carew is strong and impressive as the engineer, John Ferne, a part most skilfully handled by this promising actor; Miss Nell Compton is an attractive and sympathetic heroine, Eva Summers, and the Miss Myrnie of Miss Annie Brunton is chock-full of feline spitefulness and ascerbity. Mr. James la Fane as old Lord Mompesson, a part which he fills with ability, and Mr. Whitford Kane as Mr. Danby and Mr. William Rokeby as Wykeham do good service in small parts. The rendering of Grieg's music by the Chamber Quartet gains frequent applause. Altogether this is a most interesting and enjoyable revival.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 18, the Drama, entitled

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

This week Mr. Fred Melville is presenting the version by Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman of this popular novel. The stock company give a capital interpretation of the play, and have become favourites with local playgoers. Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman well realises the character of Prince Lucio, and is admirably supported by Miss Ethel King as Lady Sybil Elton, whose meritorious acting is deserving of warm eulogy. Miss Marie McAulay does good work as Miss Fitzroy; Mr. Newman Maurice is highly popular with Brixtonians, and deserves the applause he receives for his impersonation of the Earl of Elton. Mr. Frederic Serjeant is good as Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. W. H. Porter stands out prominently as Viscount Lynton; and Mr. Walter Howe makes the most of Capt. Forbes. Mr. Victor Loraine does justice as Mr. Morgerson; and Mr. Will Smith is a capital James. Miss Marie Duncan is very good as Diana Chesney; and Miss May Day is capital as Mavis Clare. Miss Norah Layton deserves commendation as Mrs. Hardeen; and Miss Essie Baulsh is also capital as Ernest. *The Sorrows of Satan* is well mounted and dressed, and the production deserves praise.

"TILL DEATH US DO PART."

A Dramatic Episode by W. T. Gliddon, Produced for the first time, at the Brixton Theatre, on Monday, July 18, 1910.

Lady Carholme ..... Miss Marie McAulay
Lord Carholme ..... Mr. Will Smith
Jimmy Jorkins ..... Mr. Newman Maurice
Mr. Chanley ..... Mr. Victor Loraine
Sam Bredford ..... Mr. Will H. Porter

This little play, written by Mr. W. T. Gliddon, who has so long been honourably associated with this theatre as musical conductor, had a warm and encouraging send-off on its initial production. It is a well-constructed and powerful "episode," and should have a prosperous career. The opening scene takes place in the drawing-room at Lord Carholme's, where his lordship and Mr. Chanley (his lawyer) are discovered arranging for the disposal of the estate in case of his lordship's demise. Lord Carholme decides to leave everything to his wife, and Mr. Chanley reminds him that his son, whom the family have not heard of for twenty years, may be alive. His lordship, however, will not alter his will, and signs it in favour of her ladyship. At this moment a tramp, named Sam Bredford, calls and asks for employment. In this disreputable fellow poor Lady Carholme finds, to her astonishment, her first husband, whom she long supposed dead. Sam promises to leave her in peace on certain terms, but she will not consent. A bitter quarrel follows, in which her ladyship is injured, and Sam bolts through the open window. Lady Carholme fears to tell the horrible truth to her husband, and shields Sam, explaining that her condition is due to faintness. Her engagements for that evening, for the opera, she cancels, in order that she may meet Bredford, and come to some arrangement. This gentleman, however, had noticed the safe in the Carholme mansion, and returns to rob it. Lord Carholme, who hears a noise, enters the room, which is darkened, and is shot dead by Bredford. Then her ladyship comes into the room, picks up the revolver, and is accused by Sam of murdering her husband. Luckily, Jimmy Jorkins, the valet, has been hiding in a suit of armour, and is a witness of the tragedy. When the lights are turned on in the darkened room Sam discovers that he has killed his own father, and turns the revolver on himself. Mr. W. T. Gliddon must be highly congratulated on his début as an author of a strong dramatic story, although he is well known as the writer of several successful musical plays, especially that favourite musical comedy *The Flower Girl*. Miss Marie McAulay gave a powerful rendering of the part of Lady Carholme, and Mr. Will Smith was, as usual, capital as Lord Carholme; Mr. Newman Maurice was amusing as Jimmy Jorkins; Mr. W. H. Porter did good work as Sam Bredford, and Mr. Victor Loraine made an admirable lawyer.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 18, the Drama entitled

"THE SILVER KING."

The revival of that well-known and ever-popular drama *The Silver King* by Mr. Robert Arthur's Répertoire company at the Kennington Theatre on Monday was received with every mark of appreciation by a packed house. The part of Wilfred Denver was taken by Mr. Walter Gay, who added yet another to his long series of triumphs at this house. As Nellie Denver, Miss Jessie Winter was in her most winsome and attractive mood; as Cissie, Denver's daughter, Miss Ethel Videan showed considerable talent; and in the rôle of Captain Herbert Skinner, the Spider, Mr. Fred Morgan made one of his greatest hits; the little peculiarities of Mr. Elijah Coombe, the ancient Thameside marine store-dealer, who acts as one of the Spider's assistants, caused roars of laughter, the character being taken with great credit by Mr. Herbert Lloyd; Crippa, the locksmith, another partner of the Spider's, was ably impersonated by Mr. G. P. Polson; Mr. Frank R. Crimp, as Samuel Baxter, the detective who tracks down the Spider, looked the part to perfection; whilst a fine piece of acting was that of Miss Winifred White as Olive Skinner, the wife of the Spider; Mr. Arthur Wright earned considerable applause for his rendering of the character of Jacques, the devoted servant of the Denvers; and Mr. Ralph Leon gave a life-like representation of Henry Corket, clerk to Geoffrey Ware, the young engineer whom the Silver King is supposed to have murdered. The numerous other characters which make up the large cast were excellently drawn, and altogether the piece was highly successful. Cinematograph pictures were shown before and after the performance.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 18, the Drama entitled

"GUILTY GOLD."

The series of sterling melodramas which Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett is producing at his popular house at Clapham Junction is proving very attractive, and throughout this week crowded houses have thoroughly enjoyed the presentation of Mr. Horace Stanley's powerful drama *Guilty Gold*. The play is acted by a company admirably suited to the various rôles, and the success of the production is enhanced by the scenery. Mr. Ernest J. Fare shows considerable ability in his delineation of Martin Haldane, and makes the character very interesting. The villainy of Ralph Bartlett is pictured with striking force by Mr. George Arthur, who ably emphasises the callous nature of the man; John Hampton is well portrayed by Mr. T. B. Brabazon, who acts with dramatic power; Mr. T. Arthur Plummer, as Frank Seymour, is a manly clergyman, and his excellent methods of delivery give every value to his stirring lines. Mr. Horace Stanley, whose comic resource is infinite, makes the character of Timothy Titmouse laughable, and keeps the audience in a state of merriment. Other contributors to the humour are Mr. Edwin Clarke as Uriah Fudge, Mr. Arthur E. Francis as Charlie Wragg, and Mr. Evan Roland as Peter Bell; Miss Violet Agnew is a pleasant and attractive Hetty Hampton; Miss Ida Fane as Euphenia Wragg acquits herself with credit; Miss Bernice Fielding as Rhoda Hampton gives a meritorious presentation, and Miss Kate Kilpack lends good support as Selina Naggett.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 18, the Drama,

"HER SECRET LOVER."

Messrs. Barnards are to be congratulated on their capital booking this week, in the shape of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, in that spirited play *Her Secret Lover*. We have in this a play with a simple, but interesting plot, which is well interpreted by a distinctly capable company. Mr. Arthur St. John is the hero, Gilbert Seymour, who afterwards takes the name of Elmore; his performance is worthy of much commendation. Mr. Walter H. Wilson does well as the "good fellow," Captain Darrell Rose; Mr. Alfred Stretton makes a distinguished villain as John Strange; Mr. Robert Lord plays in lifelike manner as old Mr. Muirfield; Mr. Victor Vernon is a comedian of no mean order, and scores greatly as Billy Burley; Mr. J. Newton Colling is also humorous as Jim Jones; Miss Laura Walker plays naturally as the much-tried heroine, Ivy Seymour, bringing a handsome presence to the aid of some good acting; Miss Flora Leslie brings out all the wickedness of the adventuress, Alicia Royale; Miss Lynn Darlington is aptly described on the bill as a funny servant, and her rendering of the part of Jane Maria Wilkes is responsible for much laughter, and is a bright, amusing piece of acting; Mr. Harry Cob is the good-hearted Warder Phillips. The drama is well staged.

"THE TURQUOISE NECKLACE."

Play in One Act, by Constance Meredyth, Produced at the Criterion Theatre on Thursday afternoon, July 21.

Major Robert Sinclair.... Mr. Dawson Milward
Lady Tallents ..... Lady Clarke-Jervoise
Miss Araminta Smith ..... Miss Alice Bett
Telegraph Boy..... Master Maurice Edmonds
Dorothy Morgan..... Miss Constance Meredyth

Not much need be written of the above play, which, though pleasing in idea, is slight in treatment, and did not give its exponents any great opportunities of distinction. The story is that of a certain Dorothy Morgan, whose lover, Major Sinclair, returns from India, having on the journey home become engaged to a rich young widow. Dorothy, who is introduced to the lady, conceals the Major's fickleness, and gives the widow a turquoise necklace which he had sent Dorothy from Colombo. That capable actor Mr. Dawson Milward and Miss Alice Bett made the most of their material. In the general entertainment, which was for the benefit of the King Edward Memorial Pensioners of the Blind Relief Society, Miss Dorothy Varick's recitations at the piano were agreeable and interesting; Mr. Percy French's "Chuckles in Chalk" created amusement; Mr. Barclay Gammon, with a piano, was again acceptable; Miss N. de Silva and Mr. Henry Ainley, in *An Hour of Seven Days*, made a contribution to the bill which atoned for many deficiencies; Miss Edith Kirkwood sang three of Mr. F. Lambert's songs with ability; and Mr. Fraser Gange, Miss Cecilia Loftus, and Lady Constance Stewart Richardson also appeared with credit.

The Great Western Railway's new route between London and Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Shrewsbury, has been made by building an entirely new piece of line between the villages of Ashendon and Aynho. 1906 saw the opening of what has now become the first portion from London of the new route, by the inauguration of the line through Beaconsfield, High Wycombe, and Princes Risborough, and by cutting across country from a point a few miles north of the latter place, at Ashendon, to a point near Banbury, and it has been possible to rejoin the G.W.R. line from Oxford and avoid the journey round by Reading, Didcot, and the University city, and effect a saving of twenty minutes. Of this new route, the G.W.R. intends to make full use, and a magnificent service of weekday express trains in each direction is announced. Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool, and Manchester share equally in the benefits afforded to the great metropolis of the Midlands, and the times to Leamington, Warwick, and "Shakespeare's Country" generally have also been accelerated.

Florence Rhoda Emma Bainton, aged 18, a costumier's assistant, of Turret-grove, Clapham, was charged, on remand, before Mr. Mead, at Marlborough-street, on Saturday, with stealing five £10 notes belonging to Miss Fanny Ward, actress, living in Berkeley-square. On the afternoon of June 23 Miss Ward was being fitted at Lucile's, Ltd., Hanover-square, with a costume, and left her purse on a table. On arrival at her hotel she found that five £10 notes had been stolen from the purse, which was of a kind that could not open automatically and let things drop out. When arrested the girl said: "I stole them. You know where I work—at Lucile's. Miss Ward must have dropped them." Witness added that the prisoner had spent about £30 of the money, and the firm who employed her were prepared to refund that sum to Miss Ward. He had recovered £21 5s. Among other articles she purchased was a cigarette case and jewellery, the cigarette case being recovered from her sweetheart, who had asked her not to send him presents. The prisoner was sentenced to seven days in the second division.

A copyright performance of a drama in four acts, by Miriam Michelson, entitled *The Duchess Barbara*, was given at the Court Theatre on the 11th inst.

"NIGHT AND MORNING."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Libdo, Performed at the New Lyric, Hammersmith, on Monday, July 18.

Richard Sefton ..... Mr. Stanley Carlton
Lionel Mildmay ..... Mr. Bertram Damer
Dr. Gilmour ..... Mr. Claude Aymond
Lucas Hardshore ..... Mr. John Croudace
Bob Barleycorn ..... Mr. Willis H. Vernon
M. Dupois ..... Mr. Chas. Wilson
Peter Sharkley ..... Mr. James Fielding
Muggins ..... Mr. Frank Fortescue
Rev. Samuel Holmes .. Mr. Arthur Merdaunt
Sowerby ..... Mr. Alfred Dean
Bolton ..... Mr. Tom Murray
Jonathan Crisp ..... Mr. Dan Warden
Thomas Hammond ..... Mr. Percy Roland
Jenkins ..... Mr. G. E. Gilmour
Charlie ..... Little Gertie Renaud
Mary ..... Miss Nora Bond
Mrs. Barleycorn ..... Miss Jenny Bostock
Selina ..... Miss Marion Holly
Alice Wylford ..... Miss Rubie Maude

The above drama, which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Feb. 4, 1901, abounds in strong action. There is a wealth of brightness and humour in it, relieving the tension of the plot, which keeps the audience up to a high pitch of eager interest. There are some particularly well-conceived characters, and the piece moves along in a most entertaining manner, the sequence of incidents being clear and direct.

The story deals with a fortune coveted by Lucas Hardshore, an important official in the G.P.O., who has misappropriated Government money. His two step-children, Alice Willford and her small brother Charlie, stand between him and a fortune. Charlie is put in charge of Dr. Gilmour, a schoolmaster, with instructions to kill him by ill-treatment; and Alice is placed at Dr. Gilmour's college as a teacher and his ward. Lionel Mildmay, an assistant master at the school, is to marry the heiress and share the fortune with Hardshore. Richard Sefton, however, another assistant master, becomes betrothed to Alice, in defiance of the scheme, thrashes Hardshore, who is about to beat Charlie, and leaves the school, taking Alice and Charlie with him. The trio find refuge in the lodgings of Bob Barleycorn, a showman; employment is found by the teachers, and the wedding-day is fixed, but the bridal is prevented by the plotters, who accuse Sefton of theft; the latter is arrested, but a clergyman protects Alice. The nature of the drama may be gathered from this opening, the progress of the plot involving several effective mechanical effects, including a scene in which the hero hangs on to a mail-bag, is caught by a passing train, and is thus able to prevent the villain from throwing the heroine out into a quarry.

The acting throughout is of a very high order, and the cast has been very happily chosen. Mr. Stanley Carlton as Richard Sefton fills the part with a completeness which convinces, and his work is clean and dignified. Lionel Mildmay could hardly have been in better hands than in those of Mr. Bertram Damer, whose fine and stalwart figure harmonises well with the character. His make-up is excellent. The part of Dr. Gilmour is given its full value, and well characterised by Mr. Claude Aymond. Mr. John Croudace supplies a crisp rendering of Lucas Hardshore. Miss Rubie Maude's impersonation of Alice Wylford mirrors the tenderness and sweetness of the author's conception. Miss Marion Holly as Selina keeps the house in peals of merriment. The baker's boy, Muggins, is ably enacted by Mr. Frank Fortescue, who earns golden opinions. Miss Jenny Bostock as Mrs. Barleycorn is a round peg in a round hole. As Bob Barleycorn Mr. Willis H. Vernon is delightfully hearty and genuine. Mr. Arthur Merdaunt's Rev. Samuel Holmes commands respect and admiration; and Mr. G. E. Gilmour as Jenkins, the constable, is droll and amusing. Thomas Hammond and Jonathan Crisp are cleverly portrayed by Mr. Percy Roland and Mr. Dan Warden, who, together with Mr. Alfred Dean as Sowerby and Mr. Tom Murray as Bolton, give satisfactory performances. Remaining members of a promising cast are Miss Nora Bond as the servant Mary, Mr. James Fielding as Peter Sharkley, and Mr. Chas. Wilson as M. Dupois. Little Gertie Renaud as Charlie is excellent. The scenery, by the Lyric Studio and R. Berre, of Earl Studio, Hastings, deserves mention, and the music, specially composed by Charles Cross, is very appropriate. The general-management is in the hands of Mr. Stanley Carlton, and the stage management is controlled by Mr. Frank Fortescue, assisted by Mr. John Croudace. Mr. G. E. Gilmour is acting-manager.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

A vocal recital by the students of Miss Fannie Kreuz was given at the Trinity College on Monday afternoon. Mr. Harold Treadaway sang "Hear ye, ye winds and waves" (Handel), and Miss Evelyn Matthews was applauded for her intelligent rendering of Liszt's song "The Loreley." One of Miss Kreuz's most successful pupils was Miss Agnes Browning, who sang "Down in the forest" and "A little winding road," both by Landon Ronald, and Liza Lehmann's "Thoughts have wings" with admirable purity of tone and enunciation. It is not a bad plan for students to try and sing well in English before attempting any other language. This, of course, applies chiefly to native pupils, for Mr. Rudolph Gaillard sang Massenet's "Herodiade" with considerable confidence and success. No student vocal recital would be complete without the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*, of which Miss Edith Roder gave a fair average performance; while Miss Alice Booth displayed intelligence in her singing of Mozart's Rondo from *Titus*. Mr. Harold Treadaway was again heard in "Du bist wie eine Blume" (Schumann) and "Hedge roses" (Schubert). In "Sändmannchen" (Brahms) and Stange's "Demon" Miss Evelyn Matthews had perhaps greater success than the difficult "Loreley." Mr. Rudolph Gaillard gave two songs from Cycle "Dichterliebe," "Wenn ich in deine Augen seh" and "Ich will meine Seele tauchen" (Schumann), and Mozart's "Warnung"; while Miss Alice Booth and Miss Edith Roder were again again heard in songs of Landon Ronald and Tosti, the recital ending with Florence Aylward's song "Beloved, it is morn" (organ accompaniment by Harry Gray), sung by Miss Agnes Browning.

On Tuesday afternoon the College Choir of the Trinity College of Music, conducted by Dr. H. T. Pringuer, gave Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. The solo parts were undertaken by the Misses Florence Griffiths, Bertha Tomlin, and C. Wisdom, and Messrs. J. Watts Daunton, M. Henderson, J. Myers, A. Collini, and S. W. Sharvell. All the students did credit to their professor, and some displayed exceptional talent. Strangely enough, the most difficult solo in *Acis and Galatea*—the recit. "I rage, I melt, I burn," and air "O ruddier than the cherry"—was capitally sung; while next in importance and successful interpretation came the solo "When beauty's the prize." Greatly applauded also was the fine trio "The flock shall leave the mountain" and the tenor solo "Softly, gently, kindly treat her." The beautiful solo "Love in her eyes is playing" was rendered with intelligence, and Galatea's air "Bring my Acis back to my sight" was sung with good expression; but, on the whole, the male vocalists were most successful. Two duets were well sung, and the chorus produced an excellent tone. Handel's serenata, although a somewhat ambitious work for students, was performed with earnest care that did great credit to the pupils of Dr. H. T. Pringuer.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The annual meeting of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music was held at twelve o'clock on Tuesday at the Royal Society's Rooms, Burlington House. Sir William B. Bigge took the chair, and among those present were Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie (Principal of the Royal Academy of Music), Sir C. Hubert Parry (Director of the Royal College of Music), Mrs. T. P. Lockwood, Miss Newlyn, Mr. Oscar Browning, Mr. Louis Cohen (New Zealand), Mr. Frank Cundall (Jamaica), Mr. Eaton Faning, Mr. Edward A. Harvey, Sir J. Herbert Marshall, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Cav. Alberto Randegger, Mr. Franklin Taylor, Mr. Hans Wessely, and Mr. James Muir (secretary).

Sir William Bigge, in moving the adoption of the report, said: "This is a very sad occasion, and the first paragraph of the report, which has just been read, indicates, so to speak, the minor key that must predominate at our proceedings to-day.

"We deplore the great national calamity of the death of his late Majesty King Edward the Seventh, which has been felt with peculiar poignancy by the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, and by ourselves. It has brought in its train the loss of our President, a loss which is emphasised by the place in which we are meeting to-day, and the person who to-day has the honour of presiding. I am very thankful to be able to announce that his Majesty King George the Fifth has been graciously pleased to become our Patron, and to express, on behalf of the Board, our loyal thanks for his consideration and condescension.

"It will certainly not be out of place to put before you the record of our work during the reign of his late Majesty, as illustrating what you have just heard, that he saw the work increase from small beginnings to its present vast dimensions. In the year 1901-2, the first year of his late Majesty's accession, the number of our local centre entries was 3,057, and our school entries 8,687, while in the period 1909-1910 they were respectively 4,373 and 18,679, making a total in the first period of 11,744, and in the period that has just closed of 23,052. In Australasia, during the same period, the entries were 3,469, as against 8,908; in Canada, about 100, as against 459; in Gibraltar, 60, as against 86; and in Malta and Jamaica, where examinations were not established in the first period, we have had respectively 148 and 154 candidates; while in South Africa, where the increase is extraordinarily marked, in the first period the entries were 788, while in the latter period they were 2,800, the totals respectively being 16,161, as against 35,607. Turning to our exhibitions, in the United Kingdom in 1901-2 they were tenable for two years, and twelve were actually current, while in the period that has just closed they were tenable for three years, and twenty-five were actually current, and six others were granted, but have not yet been taken up, and altogether, in the whole period of our existence, we have examined over 300,000 candidates and have awarded eighty-two exhibitions.

"Before I pass to other matters connected with the report, I have the greatest pleasure, in the name of the board, in expressing our warmest thanks to the President and Council of the Royal Society for their great kindness in permitting us to hold our annual meeting here in this shrine of science.

"It is a significant and most encouraging fact that last year, out of three gold medals two were gained for harmony, while out of five silver medals four were awarded for the same subject, for up to only a very few years ago but few medals were awarded for harmony, which shows that the study of this all-important subject is gaining ground amongst our candidates.

"The increasing number of public distributions of certificates is a most satisfactory feature of last year's work. These distributions bring our work into contact with the healthy breezes of public life and opinion, and they establish personal and friendly relations between the members of the board, its examiners, and the teachers. My only regret is that as so many of these distributions, perforce, take place during term time, it is well-nigh impossible, as you will readily understand, for either the Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, or the Director of the Royal College of Music, or the musical members of the board, to attend (though they would very much like to do so), having regard to the enormous amount of work that devolves upon them all here during the session of the great colleges.

"In last year's report, you will remember that it was announced that, following on the expiration of the agreement between the Associated Board and McGill University, the board had taken effective steps for again conducting its own examinations in the Dominion of Canada independently of their late partner, and it will be very gratifying to you to hear that the Canadian entries, since April 30, 1910, show an increase of 50 per cent. over those of last year.

"I would reiterate and endorse our sense of obligation to the Honorary Local Representatives throughout the Empire, and I should like to welcome amongst us to-day Mr. Cohen, of Wanganui, New Zealand, and Mr. Cundall, of Jamaica. The Honorary Local Representatives are the all-important factor in our organisation, as supplying the links which bring us into touch with the teachers, who, in their turn, provided the candidates for our examinations. These, as I have said, number about 300,000 since the board came into existence, which speaks eloquently for the support we have received in the past, and enables us to look forward with all confidence to the future.

"Lastly, I would specially thank the municipal and other bodies who have helped us, and ask that their valuable co-operation may always be ours, for it is of the highest importance to our work that we should receive the continuous countenance and support of those whose high office it is to safeguard and develop our civic and municipal life.

"I move that the report and balance-sheet be received and adopted."

This motion was seconded by Mr. Ernest Mathews, and was adopted unanimously. A vote of thanks to Sir William Bigge, proposed by Sir Alexander Mackenzie and seconded by Sir Hubert Parry, was carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students of the Royal Academy of Music took place at the Scala Theatre on Thursday afternoon. A short selection of music by the students commenced the proceedings. Conducted by Mr. Hans Wessely, the violin ensemble class gave an excellent account of Sir A. C. Mackenzie's "A Song of Thanksgiving," Méhul's "Gavotte," and a very crisp performance of Bohm's "Moto perpetuo." The selected female choir, conducted by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, sang two part songs, "Bonnie Annie Laurie," arranged by Charles Macpherson, and Mr. F. Corder's "Gentle Night," with admirable tone, and were warmly applauded. The accompanists were Mr. Rowsby Woof and Mr. S. Hartley Braithwaite.

In giving his annual address, Sir Alexander Mackenzie (who had a very hearty reception), said: "During the last few days the Academy has been moving so much beyond its customary grooves, performing unusual ceremonies on unfamiliar spots, and there are so many important changes looming in the near future, that it seems quite in keeping with the roving spirit it has developed in its old age that we should find ourselves in this unwonted locale at the final meeting of this eventful year.

"Truly eventful has this year been to us in the sad share we bear in the calamity which befel the nation so recently. The death of King Edward is felt as a personal loss, and as an Institution we lose a generous patron. The most important moment in our history was that in which our kind Vice-President, Lord Strathcona, laid the first stone of our future home, and when the Chairman, Mr. Alderman Cooper, read the Duke of Connaught's telegram: 'Congratulate you on stone of our new building being laid.'" In speaking of Tenterden-street the Principal said: "It may be cramped and dingy, its passages tortuous and many, and certainly our needs have long outgrown its capacity nevertheless many treasured associations and traditions have accumulated with the years, which are not likely to be effaced. It has been the nursery of many of the best-known musicians our country has produced. Some of the most honoured names in English musical history were made there, even while their owners were still students. In the concert hall of our new school will be placed the largest of three new organs which by the generous assistance of the widow of our late chairman are to be erected in memory of one who, alas! was not permitted to witness the completion of a scheme the earlier stages of which he earnestly furthered until the day of his untimely death. These instruments will bear the name of Thomas Threlfall. During the year no fewer than four past students have been called to the staff of Professors, Mr. York Bowen, Mr. Benjamin Dale, Mr. Rowsby Woof, and Mr. Felix Swinstead. Mr. E. J. Hickox is now also on the long list of pianoforte teachers." Sir Alexander spoke of the loss the Academy had sustained by the death of Mr. Ebenezer Prout, and a valued ex-student and professor, Mr. Alfred Izard. "Our Chamber and Orchestral Concerts have maintained their intrinsic interest in a satisfactory manner, and several effective new compositions were produced. The most important essay on our little dramatic stage was that of Gilbert's *Palace of Truth*. The operatic class also made an exceptionally spirited effort in the performance of *Colomba*, and on a subsequent occasion the second act of *Lohengrin* was followed by one of the merriest and best performances of Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* which I have ever seen. One is glad to note the increasing interest taken in opera in our own tongue, and to think it is now on a fair road towards permanent recognition. The value of operatic training in our music schools has been receiving a considerable amount of attention. As a matter of fact there is quite a number of our past students now on the operatic stage. It gives me much satisfaction to see just now in His Majesty's Theatre the names of at least a couple of ex-students worthily representing the Academy. In the production of *Feuersnot* I noted three of them. Under enlarged and more favourable conditions which await us we shall be able to take a fuller share in the national project. The wings of the Dove Prize bring no peace or rest to me. The Dove has hovered between a couple of female students, and has finally settled on one who is an excellent violinist, a good pianist and accompanist, while never absent from her seat in the orchestra. I award it to Miss Phyllis Parker. Messrs. Chappell and Co. and Messrs. Challen and Sons have given two gold medals. The Chappell medal goes to Mr. Frank Hutchens and the Challen medal to Miss Adela Hamaton. The names of Grisi and Mario are household words in England, and the daughter of those world-famous artists, Mrs. Cecilia Maria Pearse, to perpetuate the memory of her parents, has founded an annual prize of ten guineas for vocalists. Finally, I should mention the beautiful bust by Signor Manzoni of the great 'cellist, Alfredo Piatti, presented in February to us by his daughter, the Countess Piatti-Lochis."

After Sir Alexander Mackenzie's interesting address, Mrs. Edward E. Cooper, wife of the honorary treasurer, distributed the numerous prizes and awards to the successful students. One prize calls for special mention, and that is the Rutson Memorial Prize, the gift of Mr. John Rutson in memory of his brother, for clear enunciation of words and steadiness of intonation in singing, was divided between Miss Molly Smyly, Cynlais Gibbs, and Cecil Pearson. Also important was the Betjemann Gold Medal for operatic singing, won by Mr. William J. Samuell.

After a vote of thanks to Mrs. Cooper the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

THE "RICHELIEU" FAILURE.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Phillimore and a Common Jury, was heard the case of Palmer v. Bickers. This was an action brought by Mr. Palmer, trustee in the bankruptcy of Mr. John Arthur Harrison, theatrical costumier, against Mr. H. Sheridan Bickers, described as a dramatic critic, to recover £760 5s. 6d., under a guarantee given by the defendant to Mr. Harrison. The defendant denied liability. Mr. Dickens, K.C., and Mr. Henn Collins (instructed by Messrs. Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hodderwick) appeared for the plaintiff; while Mr. H. McKenna (instructed by Messrs. Bircham and Co.) represented the defendant. Mr. Dickens, opening the case for the plaintiff, said that last January Mr. Harrison took a lease of the Strand Theatre from the liquidators of the Law Guarantee Society, with the object of sub-letting it. He entered into negotiations with Mr. Robert Hilton, who was anxious to have the theatre in order to produce the play *Richelieu*, and Mr. Hilton agreed to take the theatre for three months at a rental of £175 a week, payable fortnightly in advance, and to deposit the sum of £350. Mr. Hilton was unable to find the necessary money, and Mr. Harrison said he would not allow the theatre to be opened until the agreement had been completed. On February 10 the defendant, with three other persons, guaranteed the payment of £760 5s. 6d. by noon on February 12, and the further sum of £350 at a later date. Mr. Hilton was accordingly allowed to open the theatre, but after three performances it was again closed. The first sum due under the guarantee was not paid, and an action was commenced against the guarantors. Judgment had been entered against the defendant's co-guarantors, and the only question for the jury was whether the defendant was informed at the time he signed the guarantee that he would not be held responsible under it until Mr. Harrison had brought an action against Mr. Hilton and failed to recover the money.

Mr. John Woodhouse, solicitor, who acted for Mr. Harrison in connection with this matter, said that the guarantee was fully explained to Mr. Bickers before he signed it.

Mr. Gerald Lindley, who was engaged to play in *Richelieu* by Hilton, said the latter asked if he would give his signature to a document as a matter of form to guarantee a sum of money. When he and the others signed Hilton assured them that the money was on the way, and would be in town on the Friday.

The defendant, in the course of his evidence, said that on Feb. 8 Hilton called upon him. He explained that his backers were prepared to find several thousand pounds, but the following day informed him that for the moment he was short of cash, and asked if witness could find anyone who could lend him a little on good security. He added that he would give a charge on the scenery and drapes, upon which he had spent £1,600.

Witness then proceeded to give his versions of the interviews which took place at Mr. Woodhouse's office and the theatre.

Mr. Harry Raphael, who also signed the document, said he understood Mr. Woodhouse to say Hilton would be used first, and W. Hilton, Mr. Farquhar, and Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, who were supposed to be his guarantors. Witness added that he had signed other guarantees for Hilton, and lent him money.

The jury found in favour of plaintiff, for whom judgment was entered, with costs.

"THE UNLUCKY FAMILY."

An Original Burlesque in One Act, by Mrs. Henry De La Pasture, Produced at a Matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, July 15.

Mr. Chubb ..... Mr. Frederick Volpé
Mrs. Chubb ..... Miss Hilda Hamilton
Aunt Emily ..... Miss Alice Beet
Mr. Higginbotham ..... Mr. Ernest Thesiger
The Papuan Chief ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
Dreamy Dorothea .. Miss Edmée De La Pasture
Careless Charles ..... Master Desmond Urwick
Busy Matilda ..... Miss Betty Hamilton
Clumsy Caroline ..... Miss Gabrielle Urwick
Greedy George ..... Master Frank Thorndike
Selfish Cissie ..... Miss Mimi Crawford
Wilful William ..... Master Philip Tonge
Sharp Little Emily ..... Miss Florrie Lewis
Princess Fulanga ..... Miss Nora Mond
Princess Kambara ..... Miss Mary Mond
Prince Savu ..... Master Richard Cave
Prince Koro ..... Miss Margaret Morris
Princess Vanna ..... Miss Isabel Urwick

This burlesque, by the author of *Peter's Mother*, was produced at a matinée, postponed from May 23, given in aid of the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women, and the Infants' Hospital, Westminster. The piece, which was of a somewhat old-fashioned type, served as a means of introducing the clever performances of some well-trained children. The characters were divided into grown-ups, the children, the little Papuans, and the big Papuans. Mr. Chubb, of Upper Tooting, takes his wife and family, together with Aunt Emily, on a yachting trip, but being an inexperienced seaman, manages to run the vessel ashore on the coast of Papua. There are no fewer than nine children, including infant twins; and as they have no provisions the position of the Chubb family is exceedingly awkward. Clumsy Caroline breaks a couple of plates, but as there is no food to put on them it does not much matter. Greedy George, however, succeeds in finding a box of chocolates, but they are speedily appropriated by his equally greedy father, who, while condemning the conduct of his son, calmly proceeds to devour them himself. The family having gone upon an exploring expedition, there appears upon the scene another Englishman, Mr. Higginbotham, a missionary, who has, it seems, been appointed schoolmaster to the Papuans. Through some dereliction of duty he has, however, incurred the displeasure of the natives, and they decide to put him to death. He is accordingly bound by a rope to a tree, and the Papuans, after the custom of their kind, encircle their prisoner and execute a death dance, with much shouting and many menacing gesticulations. Their purpose, it would seem, is to roast the unfortunate missionary, but during the temporary disappearance of the savages the Chubbs return, and release the prisoner. The scene closes with the return of the Papuans and a repetition of the uproar which invariably accompanied their erratic proceedings. The piece was produced for the author by Mr. Norman Page; the dresses, grouping, and direction of the Papuan children were kindly undertaken by Miss Viola Tree, the dances were arranged and taught by Miss Margaret Morris, and the lyrics composed by Mr. C. E. N. Charrington.

Mr. Frederick Volpé gave a capital embodiment of Mr. Chubb, and Miss Hilda Hamilton did well as Mrs. Chubb. Miss Alice Beet was amusing as Aunt Emily. Mr. Ernest Thesiger comically depicted the terror of Mr. Higginbotham, and sang a humorous song in good style. Mr. Henry Ainley was a handsome representative of the youthful Papuan chief, and Miss Edmée De La Pasture scored in the rôle of Dreamy Dorothea, described as a beautiful maiden. Masters Desmond Urwick, Frank Thorndike, and Philip Tonge as Careless Charles, Greedy George, and Wilful William all did excellently, and the Misses Betty Hamilton, Gabrielle Urwick, and Mimi Crawford were praiseworthy as Busy Matilda, Clumsy Caroline, and Selfish Cissie. Miss Florrie Lewis as Sharp Little Emily was loudly applauded for a charming song and dance. Specially deserving of favourable mention was the Prince Koro of Miss Margaret Morris, and Miss Isabel Urwick as Princess Vanna, Miss Nora Mond as Princess Fulanga, Miss Mary Mond as Princess Kambara, and Master Richard Cave as Prince Savu all contributed to the success of the performance.

A presentation of purses to Her Royal Highness Princess Alexander of Teck on behalf of the Boys' and Girls' Guild afterwards took place on the stage. Amongst the ladies who had the honour of being presented to Her Royal Highness were Miss Viola Tree and Miss Margaret Morris.

The second part of the programme consisted of a "Soirée Watteau," arranged by Lady Mond, and sung and danced by Miss Margery Maude, Mrs. George Swinton, Mr. Hans Lissmann, and Mr. Hubert Bromilow. The dances were arranged by M. Louis Hervey d'Egville. M. Raymond Lanzeste gave a recitation, "Hommage à Watteau," with orchestral accompaniment. The orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Thomas Beecham.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, July 29. Present:—Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Chris Walker, C. F. Collings, Henry Le Grand, Fred Annerley, Edward Morgan, and Misses Cottell, Rose Cazalet, Vita Spencer, Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th inst., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

Mr. Derwent suggested that a letter of congratulation be sent by the council to Mr. Robert Loraine on his success as an aviator, and this was agreed to.

Three matters were referred to the hon. solicitors to deal with.

On the motion of Mr. Chris Walker, seconded by Miss Cottell, the secretary was directed to thank Mr. Robson Paige for his letter, and to say that the council accepted his offer to occupy the position (during the secretary's absence) with many thanks.

The secretary submitted Messrs. Bowman Bros.' estimate for cleaning of furniture, which was referred to the House Committee, to be dealt with and reported on at the next meeting of the council.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. C. F. Collings and adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Chris Walker, seconded by Miss Cottell, the council agreed that a half-yearly membership (to take effect from July 1), with a total fee, including entrance fee, of 12s. 6d., be instituted, and that quarterly members who have already paid two quarters may have the option of paying the remaining portion of the year at the rate of half-yearly members. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Le Grand proposed and Miss Chester seconded that a special letter be sent to twenty members as a test, informing them that their subscriptions were overdue, and an amendment proposed by Mr. Chris Walker and seconded by Miss Spencer that the names of those whose subscriptions were unpaid be submitted to the L.A.P.T. on Sept. 1. The amendment was put to the meeting; the voting being 5 to 2, the amendment was declared carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Story Gofton, Dr. F. W. Hewitt, of Ilford, was suggested as a hon. medical officer, and the secretary was instructed to make the usual inquiries and report.

Elections: Margaret Drew and Martha Cowper.
Nominations: Rita Salvage and Janet Hope.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"FAITH OF OUR FATHERS."

Romantic Roman Drama, in Five Acts, by Miss May Irene Wright, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Theatre Royal, West Stanley, on July 13.

Vulpian ..... Mr. F. B. Woulfe
Aurelius Varro ..... Mr. Leonard Thackeray
Justus Gratian ..... Mr. Edwin C. Coates
Argobast ..... Mr. Henry Parr
Symphorian ..... Mr. Eddie Vane
Stilico ..... Mr. Frank Brandon
Tombs ..... Mr. Maris Davis
Bombastus ..... Mr. Cyril Jarvis
Colossus ..... Mr. Alf Raymond
Lady Angela ..... Miss Edith Lorraine
Campaspe ..... Miss May Irene Wright
Milorie ..... Miss Josephine Richards
Eros ..... Miss Florrie Lyndon
Cymballa ..... Miss Minnie Holmes

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Miss May Irene Wright, in *Faith of Our Fathers*, has still further demonstrated her ability as a playwright in her new and picturesque drama, of which the period is the early days of Rome. During the reign of Honorius, 408 A.D., Vulpian, the high priest of the Pagans, is fighting for supremacy against Christianity. We are introduced to Justus Gratian, a ruined patrician, whose wife is coveted by Aurelius Varro. Gratian is loved by Campaspe, Varro's discarded mistress. He further incurs the Tribune's hatred by refusing to sell Argobast his slave, who has proved his strength by killing a tiger which had escaped from the circus and wounded Eros, a boy owned by Orestes, an Athenian, who leaves him in Angela's care. Campaspe persuades Vulpian to seize Angela and sacrifice her to his idol, Serapis. Vulpian is confronted by Symphorian, head of the Christian Church, and Angela is rescued by Argobast.

In Act 2 the Tribune is plotting to gain possession of Argobast in order to match him against his Nubian slave at the coming sports. He lays a wager with Gratian, in which, if Argobast overthrows the negro, the black slave shall become the property of Gratian and vice-versa. The men meet, and Argobast breaks the Nubian's neck. The scene changes to Symphorian's dwelling, where Vulpian now lives under his protection as a servant and pretended convert to Christianity. Milorie, Symphorian's daughter, is betrayed by Vulpian to the Tribune. The father, who believes his child guilty, drives her from her home. Symphorian is tempted by Vulpian to renounce his faith in exchange for his child's restoration; but he refuses, and goes forth to find her.

In Act 3 Angela is denounced by Campaspe as a Christian, and Gratian sends his wife to the Mamertine prison to avert death in the arena. Argobast waylays the guard and rescues the prisoner, whom he carries to his hut, where Symphorian and his daughter are reconciled. Aurelius pursues his prisoner, and Argobast defends the hut and saves his master's wife.

In Act 4 Vulpian, having discovered a breach in the Roman wall, comes to the Gothic camp to seek an audience of Argobast, who is now a Gothic chieftain. He offers to the Gothic forces the key of the secret entrance on condition that they will massacre the Christians. The offer is rejected, and Vulpian returns to the temple a maniac. Angela returns to prison, and offers herself in exchange for the boy Eros, who has been captured by Aurelius and tortured. Eros dies, and Gratian finds his wife in prison. He kills Aurelius, and under the Emperor's mandate releases the prisoners of the Cross.

In Act 5 Vulpian—still a maniac—fires the temple, and Justus, who has embraced Christianity, again rejects Campaspe. She persuades Vulpian to seize upon Angela and make of her the last sacrifice to Serapis. The maniac turns upon her as the final victim. Symphorian, who has discovered in Vulpian his long lost brother, is commanded to pronounce upon the Pagan's head the curse of the Church. He is slain by Vulpian, to whom he reveals himself. Vulpian, stricken with remorse, is suddenly restored to sanity, repents, and is received by "faith alone" into the Way, the Truth, and the Light.

The play was most favourably received by a large and appreciative audience. Mr. F. B. Woulfe in the rôle of Vulpian was, as usual, in his best vein; and as Argobast Mr. Henry Parr looked a veritable athlete; as Symphorian Mr. Eddie Vane was very effective; Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Aurelius and Mr. Edwin C. Coates as Gratian were very telling in their respective parts. Miss Edith Lorraine as Lady Angela displayed great talent; and as Milorie Miss Josephine Richards was equally good. Miss May Irene Wright was perfect in the part of Campaspe; and as Eros Miss Florrie Lyndon gave entire satisfaction.

In the Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday, before Mr. H. M. Winearls, Official Receiver, the creditors and shareholders met under the winding-up order made against the Amusements Development Syndicate (Ltd.). The company was formed in June of last year to acquire places of entertainment, public gardens, &c. In October it entered into an agreement for the tenancy of the Britannia Theatre and the Britannia Tavern, Hoxton, but possession of the latter was never obtained. The directors state that the company suffered considerable damage in consequence, and attribute its failure to that fact. The theatre was opened with *Dick Whittington*, but the enterprise was not financially successful. The accounts showed liabilities £3,754, of which £2,467 is expected to rank, and assets £1,800, of which all but £512 is required to meet loans on Debenture bonds and preferential payments. The liquidation was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER KOBALD."

Opera, in Three Acts, by Siegfried Wagner, Produced at the Gura Opera, July 6.

Gertrud ..... Fraulein Pahren
Verena ..... Frau Gura-Hummel
Ekhart ..... Herr Lattermann
Trutz ..... Herr von Scheidt
Fink ..... Herr Albert
Kümmel ..... Herr Rauschal
Friedrich ..... Herr Hochheim
Graf ..... Herr Kruse
Gräfin ..... Frau Costa-Fellwock
Ein Geck ..... Herr Martin
Jeanette ..... Fraulein Julich
Jean ..... Herr Pahren
Käthe ..... Fraulein Langenhahn
Seelchen ..... Fraulein Achsel
Galgenmännchen ..... Fraulein Reim
Knorx ..... Herr Pelazino

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, July 14.—Herr Wagner may be thoroughly satisfied with the reception of his latest work, and with his own welcome also. He has been fêted ever since his arrival in Berlin, and as soon as he entered the theatre he received an ovation from the crowded house that must have gratified him extremely. It may at once be said that *Der Kobald* is an exceedingly pleasing opera; the music is at its best when in lighter vein. The folk-songs are charming; the music to the more humorous passages is wonderfully bright, merry, and characteristic; when, however, the composer attempts tragedy or dramatic moments there is a falling off. Great dramatic effects such as Richard Wagner understood in so masterly a manner have not cast their mantle upon his son. The music does not thrill its hearers, but it pleases them mightily and puts them in a good humour; the orchestration is particularly harmonious and admirably constructed. As to the libretto, it is enigmatical in the extreme, even with the aid of the text-book. A "kobold" means in its proper signification a merry wight—a Puck—but the title of Herr Wagner's opera has nothing in common with anything so frivolous. His kobold is the spirit of a murdered child whom he calls Seelchen (little soul), who cannot find rest in his grave until all the members of his family die to save him. Seelchen—who wanders about with the fatal dagger in his breast—is, or was, the son of Gertrud, the village inkeeper. One night he appears to his sister Verena, and implores her to save him, but she, not recognising him, understands as little as we do about the whole matter. So Seelchen goes away disappointed, but leaves his sister a talisman—a bright and shining stone—which has the power of making a lover faithful. The scene changes to a merry village festival, with strolling singers and players, among whom is Verena's lover Frederich. The Count and Countess also come to look on; the latter has heard of the talisman and determines to gain possession of it. Verena declines to give it up, and the Countess persuades Gertrud to sell it her, which she does, with the chain Frederich had given to his sweetheart on her birthday. Trouble comes now thick and fast. The naughty Countess begins a flirtation with Frederich, and the Count makes violent love to Verena, who in a struggle with him, wounds him with his own dagger. The lady, tired of her play, accuses Frederich—who has obtained possession of the talisman—of theft, and the Count declares Trutz, the leader of the singers, to be a murderer, he having been found with the dagger that he took from the frightened Verena's hand. The artists take to flight and conceal themselves in a barn, which the Count's minions set fire to. Frederich attempts to escape, and would have fallen a victim to the watching servants, but the faithful Verena receives for him the fatal stab. She expires in her lover's arms, and Seelchen is released from his torment; we hearing him singing his song of joy somewhere up in the clouds. This, in a few words, is the astonishing plot. The interpretation was almost faultless. Frau Gura-Hummel was a delightful Verena, and she was in capital voice; Herr vom Scheidt was admirable as Trutz; and other very good renderings were those of Fräulein Pahren, Herr Lattermann, and Herr Hochheim. Orchestra and chorus were everything that could be desired. The composer conducted in his own masterly style, and was compelled to bow his acknowledgments to the audience more times than one could count.

"FALSCHSPIELER," at the Volks-Oper is still running at intervals, but there is so little to be said in its favour that any description of the plot is superfluous. The author is Karl Schüler, an amateur of no talent to speak of, and it is a matter of surprise that any stage could put it on.

"REICHSTAGWAHL."

Political Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Turszinsky and Wurmfeld, Produced at the Deutsches July 10.

Meyer ..... Herr Eckert
Rudi ..... Herr Karchow
Von Kloesing ..... Herr Montua
Traumberger ..... Herr Bois-Reymond
Tea ..... Fraulein Wehrmann
Zimmermann ..... Herr Pick
Baron Wiesingen ..... Herr Karchau
Isidor Levy ..... Herr Morway
Samuel Levy ..... Herr Graetz
Kapsinger ..... Herr Botkow
Tupfenwalder ..... Herr Richard
Frau Hinterhuber ..... Frau Richard
Nasi ..... Fraulein Horak
Burgel ..... Fraulein Wilhelm

BERLIN, THURSDAY, July 21.—Among the dearth of novelties which marks our dull season, anything should prove welcome. The reception, nevertheless, accorded to the latest effort of two well-known collaborators was not altogether cordial. The authors made a mistake in calling their farce a "political comedy," which led to false expectations. They have begun in fine style, with a very funny idea as main scheme, but—for some utterly unknown reason—have let it drop just when it promised interesting development, and have wandered off into banalities. The amusing "idea" is the fact of a hard-up student being taken by the country people for a Reichstag candidate. The action passes in Bavaria, where beer-drinking students abound, and the two sons of Alma Mater, Ferdi Meyer and Rudi Zifferer, are more devoted to their mugs than their studies. They are both "burnt up"—which is the German equivalent for stony broke—and are dunned to the verge of desperation by landlady, tailor, and other creditors, when the mistake concerning the Reichstag candidate occurs. The fun begins, but, as has been already said, dies away very soon. The plot fades into nothingness, and all sorts of incidental and superfluous incidents are introduced. Some of the characters are well-drawn types, and say laughable things. There is a pastor, who is far more concerned about the welfare of his prize pigs than about his parish, and there is a Jew who, for diplomatic reasons, is the chief prop of the orthodox party. But, taking it as a whole, the new farce is little short of a failure, notwithstanding very excellent acting. Some of the scenes were heartily applauded, but others met with scant favour, the audience testifying to their disapproval in the usual unflattering manner.

ANOTHER performance of the *Nibelung Ring* is being given at the Gura Opera (New Royal Opera), and meeting with the same success. *Siegfried* was particularly good. The title-rôle was rendered by Herr Knote, the famous tenor from the Munich Royal Opera, and the rôle of Brunhilde was in the capable hands of Frau Leffler-Burckhardt, of the Imperial Theatre at Wiesbaden. The latter was an impersonation of exceptional artistic taste, while all the qualifications of an ideal Wagnerian singer are possessed by this fine actress. I am told it will not be long before Frau Leffler-Burckhardt, who is a great favourite of the Emperor's, is transferred from Wiesbaden to Berlin, which would be a distinct gain for our own Opera House.

THE Gura Opera put Leoncavallo's *Bajazzi* into the bill last week, but it was not nearly so successful as the German performances. Frau Gura, who sang the part of Nedda, was in good voice, but her talents do not lie in the direction of Italian opera, although she is a delightful Elsa and Elisabeth. The tenor of the evening, Herr Hochheim, was not up to his work, and was even described—cruelly enough—by one of our critics as a parody upon Caruso. This meant, by the way, no disparagement to the former artist's good voice, but to his exaggerated style of acting.

AT the Deutsches Theatre, under the summer management of Dr. Geyer, an excellent performance of Goethe's graceful little play *Die Laune des Verliebten* met with an enthusiastic reception, and the piece has been given nearly every night this week. The classical play is proving a curtain-raiser to Nestroy's clever parody *Judith and Holofernes*, which was produced for the first time over sixty years ago, but which has lost none of its powers to amuse. Altogether, Dr. Geyer and his excellent company are to be congratulated. Kleist's play *Amphitryon* was given at the Deutsches one day last week by the Literary Association. The interpretation was good all round, and it was a pity that the performance could not be repeated. Heinrich von Kleist, the ill-fated German writer of such great talent and promise, termed his play "a comedy in the style of Molière," which is a very good designation.

THE threatened theatre and entertainment tax proposes a uniform charge of thirty marks upon each cabaret performance, and a tax of two marks upon every space of four square metres in a concert-room. The latter arrangement is also to apply to garden restaurant entertainments, which are so usual here in summer. All performances extending beyond eleven o'clock will be taxed doubly.

MM. STEINMANN and Ritterfeldt have adapted from Dumas' well-known novel a very effective play entitled *Der Graf von Monte Christi*, which was produced at the Luisen Theatre last week with the best results. Acting and mounting being alike commendable, the piece will certainly have a lengthy run.

DEPARTURE OF MR. CHAS. FROHMAN'S COMPANY, "OUR MISS GIBBS," TO U.S.A. GROUP, LEFT TO RIGHT—MISS STICKMAN, MISS MOLLIE LOWELL, MR. F. WRIGHT, JUN., MISS GERTIE MILLAR, MISS JEAN ALWYN, MR. ERNEST LAMBART.

A SOCIAL EVENING.

In aid of the committee of the Grocers' First Aid Personal Work, a concert and social evening was given in the charming Doré Picture Gallery, New Bond-street, W., on Thursday evening, under the patronage of Lady Fairbairn. Mr. W. Davenport (of Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd.) presided, and the musical programme was arranged by Miss Bertha Bird. The concert commenced with a piano solo of Rachmaninoff, Prelude in C sharp minor, well executed by Mr. J. W. Francis, after which, to the great pleasure of the audience, Miss Bertha Bird gave her delightful rendering of "Lo here the gentle lark," with an admirable flute obbligato by Mr. Ernest J. Spink. Miss Bird is renowned for her wonderful compass and the purity of her high notes, and Bishop's famous air suits the vocalist to perfection. After the interval Miss Bird was again heard in "Pale white is the rose" and "Elfin music" by Miss M. S. Whitcombe and accompanied by the composer. Mr. Robert Anthony sang Wallace's "Son of mine" and "The Rebel" with great spirit, while Mr. Montague Marshall was also very successful in "For you alone," a pretty song by H. Sheel. Miss Olive M. Allen thrilled the audience in her recitation with music, "The Last Token." Two excellent flute solos, "Souvenir" and "Saltarello" (Ed. German) were given by Mr. Ernest J. Spink. In the latter part of the programme Mr. Robert Anthony again sang, and Miss Olive M. Allen recited, the concert concluding with the trio, "The Minstrel Boy," sung by Miss Bertha Bird, Mr. Robert Anthony, and Mr. Montague Marshall. An excellent speech by the chairman, Mr. W. Davenport, was given on behalf of the Grocers' First Aid Personal Work, and Mr. Davenport concluded with a vote of thanks to Miss Bird for her valuable assistance, and to the other artists who gave their services in so good a cause.

MR. E. W. WINGATE-SAUL, with a jury, sat in the Sheriff's Court, at the Manchester Assize Courts, last week, to assess damages in an undefended action, the plaintiff in which was Michael Barry Kirwan, an advertising contractor, of Ackers-street, Manchester, and the defendant, Z. Andrews, secretary and manager of the New Theatre, Aberdare, and a former lessee of the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly. Mr. E. Crosfield Pearson, who appeared for the plaintiff, explained that this client entered into a contract with the defendant in January of this year for the advertising right for twelve months of the curtain and the programmes at the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly. That contract the defendant repudiated in June, and the plaintiff now sued him for the loss he had sustained by reason of the repudiation. In the previous year, when the plaintiff and defendant entered into similar contract, plaintiff made a profit of £122 12s., and he (Mr. Pearson) asked the jury to award him a similar sum in respect of this year. Mr. Wingate-Saul read a letter from the defendant in which he said he never entered into the contract, but was unable to defend the action through lack of means. The jury awarded the plaintiff £122 12s.

FOR the first three nights of the week Mr. Brandon Thomas's company played *Charley's Aunt* to appreciative audiences at the Town Hall, Westgate-on-Sea.

"THE MYSTERY OF THE FENS."

Drama, in Four Acts, by George S. King. Produced at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, on Monday, July 18.

Mark Holmes ..... Mr. John Sargent
Joan ..... Miss Rita Sponti
May ..... Miss Dolly Gilroy
Luke ..... Mr. Ullick Burke
Simon Bravo ..... Mr. Leonard Aardale
Jake Pollen ..... Mr. William Dafnell
Daft Manshed ..... Mr. Charles Vivian
Nanny ..... Miss Maggie Lindsay
Nina Stuart ..... Miss Jessie Yatman
Wm. Hamlyn ..... Mr. Sam Roberts
Mrs. Green ..... Miss Sally Coy
Dr. Davey ..... Mr. James Dalton
Dr. Mott ..... Mr. M. Melrose
Detective Ransom ..... Mr. Chas. Lincoln
Mr. Teverton ..... Mr. T. Macdonald
Judge Bodera ..... Mr. Ralph Sydney
Mr. Isaacmaster, K.C. ..... Mr. M. Sarune
Mr. Brett ..... Mr. Conrad E. Stratford

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

If Mr. King's piece has a fault it is that he has, here and there, slightly over-elaborated the side issues revolving round the main plot; otherwise it is an effort far ahead of anything which the manager of the Metropole has previously placed on the boards. It is no exaggeration to say that from 7.30 to 11.30 on Monday night a full house was held by a story which is quite out of the beaten track—by situations as powerful as they are novel, and by dialogue which is always strong, convincing, and to the point. Every character is imbued with life and reality, and the result was a success as conspicuous as it was deserved.

Simon Bravo, under the impression that Mark Holmes, a farmer at Denver, in the Isle of Ely, has, out of friendship for his dead father, brought him up and educated him, consents, at Mark's request, to marry his benefactor's elder daughter Joan, although he is really in love with May, her younger sister. Only a few days after his marriage with Joan, Simon, now in charge of the farm, learns from Luke, Mark's outcast son, that he was not left in penury, as Mark had always asserted, but that he had been left £2,000 by his father, and that Mark had, as his father's trustee, embezzled the whole of that amount. Luke, down at heel and literally starving, comes late at night to rob his father, but Simon dissuades him from so doing, and gives Luke £5 to help him in his present need; and in return Luke gives Simon a letter he had found at the farm two years before, which amply bears out Mark's duplicity and roguery. Luke departs, but not before May has overheard of the useless sacrifice Simon has made in marrying Joan to please his supposed benefactor. Simon now endeavours to persuade May to leave her father's roof and to go to London with him; but this, although passionately in love with him, she, out of love for her sister Joan, refuses to do, and instead packs up her few belongings and leaves Denver.

Simon strives to bear his lot with a wife for whom he cares nothing and with a father-in-law he silently hates, and is only stirred out of the lethargy into which he has fallen by the brutal maiming of cattle which takes place on Holmes' farm, and which he attributes to Daft Manshed, a farmhand in love with Joan. One day in the harvest field Simon, stung by Mark's defense of Daft Manshed, whom he openly accuses of the stabbing of a cart-horse, informs Mark that he knows how he (Holmes) has swindled him out of his birthright. Angry words ensue, Mark eventually leaving to go by train to Fordham to dispose of some sheep. Joan, concealed behind a shock of corn, has heard the quarrel between her husband and her father, and implores Simon to believe that she did not know of Mark's treachery and fraud to his dear friend, Simon's father. Simon here learns for the first time that Joan really loves him, and he is inclined to believe her.

We need not follow the complicated and eventful story through all its ramifications. Suffice it to say that within twenty minutes of Mark's departure a fire breaks out in the barns on the farm, and afterwards his dead body is discovered at Blackwater Waste. By the side of the body is found Simon's mackintosh, covered with blood, and he is arrested. But at the trial of Simon for murder Luke confesses that he, unknown to May, travelled in the same train as herself, met his father, who was watching from Blackwater Waste the fire he had started in his own barns in order to secure the money for which they were insured, asked him for a gift of money that he (Luke) might get cured of the disease from which he suffered, and, on being refused, did Mark to death. Luke does not live to bear the punishment of the law, and the curtain falls on Simon and Joan's happiness.

Miss Dolly Gilroy as May was thoroughly charming and clever, and her depiction of the anguish of the unhappy girl in the scene with Luke in the third act was full of feeling and earnestness. Miss Jessie Yatman was easy and attractive as Nina Staart; and her agreeable performance give importance to a minor character. As Simon Bravo, Mr. Leonard Aardale acted with marked ability, and his efforts were keenly appreciated. He rendered the rôle with admirable skill and spirit. Mr. John Sargent as Mark Holmes and Mr. Charles Vivian as Daft Manshed supplied excellent impersonations of rough fen-men, their delivery of the dialect being extremely natural and correct. Mr. Charles Lincoln as Detective Ransom played the part with keenness and appreciation, and with true and accurate emphasis. Mr. Ullick Burke as Luke Holmes gave a striking and subtle performance. The part is a peculiar and critical one, and Mr. Burke's rendering of it, carefully analysed and acutely interpreted, conferred great credit on its representative. Mr. Burke deserves warm praise for an embodiment which must have cost him much pains and thought; Miss Rita Sponti made an interesting Joan, Miss S. Coy being quaint as Mrs. Green; and Mr. Leonard Aardale excellent as Simon Bravo. The drama had a hearty reception.

AT Caxton Hall, Westminster, on the 15th inst., at the resumed proceedings of the Public Morals Conference, Mr. W. T. Stead, who spoke on the "Influence of the Stage on Morals," said that if the conference was to carry weight with the public or the Home Secretary the members should define in their resolutions what they meant by impropriety. He knew of a waiting-maid who had been indescribably shocked by seeing a Highlander walk down the street in uniform. Some said that it was beside the question to refer to the private life of actors, but to his mind it was of paramount importance, for to many people, say between the ages of fifteen and thirty, the actor was a patron saint, to be worshipped with the adoration of a neophyte. The presence of twelve curates in the Divorce Court was of less consequence than one actor or actress. The Rev. Hugh Chapman stated that the aims of the music hall and the Church were not antagonistic. What mattered was that the music hall, the theatre, and the Church should be controlled by men full of the spirit of Christianity.

A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.—*Sunday Times*.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

SIR JOHN HARE, the President of the Irving Memorial Fund, has received a communication from Mr. Thos. Brock, R.A., to the effect that he finds it impossible to satisfactorily complete the Irving Statue until August. As it would be most undesirable that the unveiling should take place at a season of the year when the majority of subscribers will be absent from London, the committee have decided not to fix the actual date for the ceremony until after the holidays.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING'S production, at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, of the new and original five-act play entitled *Margaret Catchpole*, by Mr. Walter Frith, the author of *A Man of Forty*, and other well-known successful plays, comes off next Saturday. Mr. Frith has followed closely the traditional story as told by Cobbold. The first four acts take place in the neighbourhood of Ipswich, and the fifth in Australia. Miss Mabel Hackney (Mrs. Laurence Irving) has a strong part in that of Margaret, and as Luff, an old smuggler, Mr. Laurence Irving has a grim character which should exactly suit his particular bent. Mr. Irving will produce in Birmingham on Thursday, Aug. 4, for the first time in England, his own dramatic version of Dostoievski's novel, "Crime and Punishment." The version is entitled *The Unwritten Law*, and has been performed in America with great success by Mr. E. H. Sothern.

AFTER their visit to Birmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Irving will produce both plays in the principal provincial towns, and will also give some matinées of *The Incubus*, which was so successfully produced in London two years ago, and has proved a great draw in America.

MR. EDWARD TERRY, on his autumn tour, opening on Thursday at the Theatre Royal, Margate, will be supported by the folowing artists:—Mr. Robert Pateman, Mr. Templer Powell, Mr. Wm. Dexter, Mr. Percival Madgewick, Mr. Christopher Steele, Misses Kathleen Leigh, Dorothy Radford, Christine Rayner, Eugenie Vernie, Adah Barton, and Ella Dixon. The stage managers of the company are Messrs. George Byrne and Percy Bell, and the advance representative is Mr. Walter Dean. The business management will be in the hands of Mr. Arthur Graeme.

MR. FRANK B. O'NEILL and Miss Mary Vincent were married very quietly at Hampstead last Saturday, and are spending the honeymoon at various places on the Norfolk coast. The following members of the profession sent presents and good wishes. The presents numbered over 100:—Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, Miss Muriel Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glenney, Mr. Percy Foster, Mr. Norman O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. T. Helmsley, Miss Ada Allen, the members of Mr. Martin Harvey's company, Mr. and Mrs. Shee, Mr. Owen Roughwood, Miss Hilda Antony, Mr. and Mrs. R. Neville, Mr. Malcolm Wilson, Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Mr. G. T. Minshull, Mr. Arthur Lawrence, Mr. W. F. Morton, Mr. W. Peacock, Mr. Arthur Armstrong, Mr. J. W. Chancellor, Mr. George Battersby, Mr. John Kurkamp, Mr. A. Bertram, Mr. E. Bertram, Miss Bessie Elder, Mr. W. F. Crowe, Mr. P. Raphael, Mr. H. L. Carlo, Mr. Walter Maxwell, Mr. Harvey Braban, Mr. John Waddington, Mr. Ralph Leach, Miss Ethel Jacobs, Mr. Alexander Morton, Mr. W. A. Ogg, Mr. Stafford Picton, Mrs. Benson, Mr. H. Orme, Miss Maudie Vaughan, Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rivers, and Miss Maie Hoey. Mr. O'Neill is an M.A. of Trinity College, Oxford, and has been with Mr. Harvey for nearly ten years.

THE Committee of "The Queen's Own Rifles," Toronto, Canada, who have just held their historical pageant, which has proved one of the greatest financial and artistic successes ever held in Canada, have awarded to Mr. Leolyn Hart, the famous London scenic artist, a bronze medal of merit—only two were issued—and have forwarded him through Mr. John Henderson, the producer, the following delightful letter:—"Dear Sirs,—I wish on behalf of the Committee in charge of the Queen's Own Historical Pageant of Ontario to express to you their hearty appreciation of the beautiful woodland scenery you sent out for our picture. We have already stated this more in detail to Mr. Henderson, who has some excellent photographs of the picture as it stood. Thanking you for your excellent work, I remain, Gentlemen, yours truly, G. J. RIDDELL. P.S.—Medals are being sent by Mr. Henderson." The scenery referred to consisted of over 65,000 square yards of painting, and when erected extended the full length of the Grand Stand, over 600ft., and on an average 60ft. high.

THE Freedom of the Borough of Stratford-upon-Avon will be presented to Mr. F. R. Benson by the Town Council in the Guildhall, at 5 p.m., on Monday. The last recipient of this honour was David Garrick, who was steward of the Stratford Jubilee in 1769.

THE marriage took place on Monday at All Saints', Highgate, of Mr. Henry Richard Pigeon (son of Mr. E. M. Pigeon, of 10, Lewes-crescent, Brighton) and Miss Minnie Melville (daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Melville, of London). The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. F. H. A. Hawkins. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Fred Melville, wore a dress of soft white satin, draped with ninon and trimmed with Brussels lace, her fine tulle veil, embroidered with true lovers' knots, covered a coronet of orange sprays, and white exotics composed her bouquet. Miss May Horsey was the only bridesmaid, wearing a dress of pearl grey ninon de soie and a veiled Tagal hat. The bridegroom presented her with a gold mesh purse and a bouquet of shaded mauve sweet peas. Mr. J. P. Searight acted as best man. The reception was held at "Oakleigh," Shepherd-hill, Highgate, by Mrs. Walter Melville, and early in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Pigeon left for Bernival, near Dieppe, the bride going away in a grey shantung coat and skirt.

THE KING has sent £3 to Mr. James Doughty, an old-time clown, who will be ninety-two next month, and who claims to be the oldest active actor in his Majesty's dominions. Doughty is a survivor of the race of clowns made famous by Grimaldi. He has appeared on every stage in the United Kingdom, with the exception of Cork. He performed at Covent Garden under the management of the father of the late Augustus Harris. Mr. Doughty, who is still appearing with his performing dogs at Brighton West Pier, wrote to the King the other day, telling his Majesty that he—Doughty—was old and feeble, and mentioning that he had performed before Queen Victoria and the late King. Mr. Doughty received a reply from Lieut.-Colonel Sir William Carrington, acknowledging the receipt of the letter, and enclosing a Post Office order for £3 from his Majesty's privy purse. Mr. Doughty will celebrate his ninety-second birthday on Aug. 27 by giving a benefit performance, when he will again appear in his clown's costume.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE will, after a brief holiday, make his reappearance as "Jimmy" Cottenham at the Playhouse on Monday, when the 163rd performance of that delightfully humorous play *Tantalising Tommy* will be given.

MISS LENA ASHWELL'S career has been most interestingly dealt with by Miss Jean Milne in the *Busy Man's Magazine*. Miss Ashwell is the daughter of Captain Pocock, R.N., who gave up steering ships and became a clergyman in the Church of England in Canada. Her brother, Captain Roger Pocock, is the well-known traveller and author. The foundation of Miss Ashwell's career was laid in Bishop Strachan School, in Toronto. She next went to Switzerland, Paris, and finally finished her education at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Miss Ashwell was originally intended to adorn the musical profession as a singer, and only abandoned this idea on the strong advice of Miss Ellen Terry.

MISS ASHWELL has had many triumphs, but she herself thinks Irene Wycherley, in the play of that name, one of her finest parts. Among the many notable players with whom she has been happily associated may be mentioned the late Sir Henry Irving. She took the part of Elaine in *King Arthur* at the Lyceum in 1895, and she was with him again in *Richard III.* Then she played the leading feminine rôles in *Dante* at Drury Lane with Irving. And she has appeared with the recently knighted Beerbohm Tree as Katusha in *Resurrection* at His Majesty's, and as Yo San in *The Darling of the Gods* (1903). Another part that must be referred to as being an artistic triumph is Leah Kleschna in *The Shulamite*.

MISS ASHWELL is the wife of Dr. H. J. Forbes Simson, whom she married in October, 1908. He is the eldest son of a well-known Bengal Civil servant, and carries on a large practice. Miss Ashwell is very fond of motoring, and delights in week-ends at her seaside home. When asked if she intended to go in for management again, she replied: "I may some day, but it takes up all one's time, and one has no leisure for home."

IN the Shakespeare season at Stratford-upon-Avon from July 25 to Aug. 13, when Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their company will give a number of performances at the Memorial Theatre, nine plays of Shakespeare will be presented, including the whole of *Hamlet*, which will be given in two consecutive performances, and *Masks and Faces*, by Tom Taylor and Charles Reade. *The Piper* (the prize play), by Josephine Preston Peabody, the production of which was to take place during the festival in May, and was postponed owing to the death of King Edward, will be produced on July 26, with Miss Marion Terry in the part of Veronika, and the prize of £300 will be presented to the successful author after the first performance.

MISS MAGGIE TEYTE, we are glad to hear, is now on the high road to recovery from her recent illness, and she hopes to be well enough to travel to the country in order to take a short rest prior to her Continental engagements during August and September. Miss Teyte will return to London in time to fulfil her operatic engagements with the Thomas Beecham season of grand opera at Covent Garden in October.

MR. ARTHUR LEE MITCHELL (of Old Bond-street), who toured *In the Shadow of Night* last spring, begs to thank the numerous friends who have made kind inquiries. He was successfully operated on the week before last by Mr. Chas. Ryall at the Cancer Hospital, and is progressing favourably. He hopes to be wheeled into the garden next week, but it will be a long time before he will be about or able to attend to any business.

THE Guildhall School of Music, following the example of the Paris Conservatoire of Music, is inviting Press representatives to the various prize competitions in which the students of the school take part. From Tuesday till Friday this week singing, piano, organ, violin, and elocution competitions have been given, and amongst the judges are singers from the Royal Opera and other persons who are prominent in the artistic world. It may be noted that the Guildhall is the only musical and dramatic school in England which is provided with a fully-equipped stage.

MISS HELEN FERRERS presented her husband, Mr. E. F. Mayeur, with a fine girl baby on Saturday last. Miss Ferrers was married in 1906, and served her apprenticeship to the stage with Mr. F. R. Benson, with whom she first appeared in 1890. After several tours with him she came to London, where she has made for herself an enviable reputation under many managements.

WE regret to have to record the death of Mr. W. Moy Thomas, at Eastbourne, on Thursday, at the age of eighty-two. From 1868 to 1901 he was dramatic critic for the *Daily News*, and he acted in a similar capacity for the *Academy* and the *Graphic*. Mr. Thomas was much interested in the copyright question, both as regarded books and plays. He was an all-round journalist, a vivacious and various writer, and a most amiable and popular man. He wrote a novel called "A Fight for Life," which was dramatised. For some time past Mr. Thomas had been suffering from illness, but his last years were passed at the beautiful seaside resort in the devoted care of his daughter.

MR. ROBERT LORAINE, who has been flying so successfully lately under the name of "Mr. Jones," made his return flight from the Isle of Wight to Bournemouth on Tuesday evening in under half an hour. Having travelled during the day from London to Alum Bay, he boarded his Farman biplane shortly before 6.30, at a spot known as Needle Point Cliff, above Alum Bay. After flying over Yarmouth, he headed straight across the sea for Bournemouth, and arrived at the aerodrome about 6.53. Upon alighting within a short distance of his shed he was warmly cheered by a large crowd, and had to sign his name in the autograph books of a number of girls who surrounded him. Mr. Loraine attained an altitude of 1,500ft., and covered a distance of about fifteen miles.

WHEN *The Master Builder* was first presented to an English audience exception was taken to Mrs. Solness's fondness for her dolls. An interviewer has discovered that Miss Alexandra Carlisle is very fond of rag dolls, and keeps several in her dressing-room. Miss Carlisle's dolls are of giant size, and are washed and undressed now and then.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN and Miss Beatrice Wilson are playing with the greatest success in *The Marriage of Kitty*, and have usually succeeded in drawing crowded and enthusiastic audiences to witness their performance in this brilliant and clever comedy.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS, who has spent some thousands of pounds in trying to establish grand opera in London, recently told the members of the Concert Goers' Club that if he could ensure that every seat in Drury Lane would be taken, he could give grand opera there with a chorus of 150, a band of 100, a prima donna and a tenor "at not more than £600 a performance," baritone and bass at £200, and contralto at £50, and have between £200 and £300 over each week. This, too, at popular prices—sixpence in the gallery, and the highest-priced seats at 6s.

MR. WILLIAMSON'S Australian company, with *The Whip*, which sailed for the Antipodes on Friday, includes Miss Winifred Scott, late of Mr. Bourchier's Garrick Theatre company, who is playing heavy lead (Miss Nancy Price's part) in the Drury Lane drama, and Mr. Charles Graham, who is cast for Mr. Basil Gill's part. Mr. Graham has been appearing with his own company in the provinces in Mr. Lewis Waller's rôle in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, with Miss Scott as Miss Elizabeth, and he has secured many popular plays, including *An Enemy to the King*, which had a forty weeks' run in New York, and an unproduced play, *Clementina's Highwayman*, by the late Robert Neilson Stephens and Caleb Porter, both of which, as well as *Elizabeth's Prisoner*, Mr. Graham hopes to produce in Australia after *The Whip*. Mr. T. J. Holmyard, late business-manager for Mr. W. S. Penley's companies, has charge of Mr. Graham's *Elizabeth* company in England during his absence.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK" will go on tour in England on Aug. 1, under the excellent management of Mr. Harold C. Lloyd, with a very fine company. Mr. Hudson-Taylor plays the part of the Stranger; 'Stasia is well represented; and Miss Elizabeth Dexter, who has returned from America, takes the part of Vivian.

THE niece of His Excellency the ex-United States Ambassador, Miss Elizabeth Choate, a fellow-countrywoman of Miss Dexter, has signified her intention of being present with a party of friends to witness and enjoy Mr. Jerome's wonderful play on Aug. 1 at Tenby. Miss Choate is spending the summer in Wales.

MR. F. ANSTEY'S amusing and successful farcical play *The Brass Bottle*, from the Vaudeville Theatre, starts a long provincial tour at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on July 25. Mr. Gaston Mayer, an astute entrepreneur who leaves nothing to chance, is sending along Mr. Holman Clark, Mr. Rudge Harding, and Miss Mary Brough in their original parts, and these, together with Mr. Langhorne Burton, Mr. Percy Marshall, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Miss Edith Hunter, Miss Hilda Sims, Miss Phyllis Birkett, and Miss Marjorie Chard, form an exceedingly strong company. Mr. Alfred Rivers is stage manager and Mr. E. H. Bull is the general manager.

THE latest theatre projected in New York, which will be erected immediately, is to be owned jointly by Messrs. Henry B. Harris and Jesse L. Lasky, two well-known managers. It is to be built on a plot of ground at Nos. 206 to 212, West Forty-sixth-street, just west of Broadway and alongside the Gaiety Theatre. Mr. Harris owns the Hudson and Hackett Theatres, and Mr. Lasky is identified with large vaudeville productions.

MESSRS. GEORGE COHAN AND SAM HARRIS, the American entrepreneurs, will engage more English actors this season than ever before, Hartley Manners' new play, *The Girl in Waiting*, calling for an all-English cast. Those engaged are Messrs. Galwey Herbert, Fredk. Powell, Wallace Erskine, Arthur Lewis, H.T. Carvill, Norman Tharp, Frank Hollins, Herbert Budd, J. M. Troughton, and Misses Nina Herbert, Marion Abbott, Mary Keogh, and Miss Laurette Taylor, who is featured as the Girl in Waiting. The play will open its New York season at the Gaiety Theatre early in August.

MR. NAT GOULD'S sporting drama, *The Chance of a Lifetime*, was successfully produced at the King's Theatre, Melbourne, Australia, on Saturday, the 16th inst. The piece was well received and enthusiastically applauded. Mr. William Anderson, the lessee, and Mr. Frank Gerald, the producer of the play, who undertook the powerful part of Captain Clinch, were called upon for speeches, and a cablegram was sent to the author announcing the success.

MR. HENRY HALLATT, who to-day completes a ten weeks' stock engagement at Messrs. Moss and Stoll's Alexandra Theatre, N., playing the juvenile parts in many of the favourite old English farces, *Done on Both Sides, Turn Him Out*, &c., is now rehearsing for the juvenile lead, Prince Olaf, in Messrs. Paumier and Howard's Lyceum success, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, at West Hartlepool, where he will open on August Bank Holiday. It is interesting to note that Mr. Hallatt is one of the youngest members of the profession playing leading business, his age being only twenty-two.

MR. ALEXANDER MARSH'S Shakespearian tour, which commenced on June 27 last, will extend until June 10, 1911. In these days of short tours this, for a Shakespearean company, will probably constitute a record. Particular care has been taken with the mounting of Mr. Marsh's productions, the scenery being specially painted by Mr. Fred Green (late of the Prince's Theatre, Manchester) and the properties made by Mr. James Flanagan, of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

IT is seldom that a composer of opera illustrates a Chinese subject, but the scene of M. Pons' *Le Voile du Bonheur*, the libretto of which is by M. Georges Clemenceau, formerly President of the Council of Ministers, is laid in China. The hero, on the principle that "what the eye doesn't see the heart doesn't miss," blinds himself in order that he may be spared mental suffering, and the music is rich in local colour. It will be produced at the Opéra Comique, Paris, in the autumn. Another of the composer's operas, *Laura*, in which Mlle. Alice Verlet created the title-rôle, was given with great success at Aix-les-Bains.

LAST week a boy about 14, named Daniel Boland, while bathing in the Shannon near Plassey, in Ireland, with some companions, got into fifteen feet of water and sank immediately. Fortunately two ladies and two gentlemen happened to be passing at the time, and one of the party, Mr. S. J. Waddell, of Limerick, without divesting himself of his clothes, jumped into the river and brought the drowning boy to the surface. Mr. Waddell's gallant act is to be brought before the Royal Humane Society for recognition. Mr. Waddell is "Rutherford Mayne," of the Ulster Literary Theatre, the talented author of *The Drone* and *Captain of the Hosts*.

MESSRS. LEEDHAM BANTOCK AND LESLIE MORETON are about to produce, for copyright purposes, a new two-act musical comedy dealing with the present craze for Pageantry. The comedy, which is entitled *The Girl in the Pageant*, will be toured for a few weeks in the country prior to a West End production.

"THE VOICE OF THE EMPIRE," a new one-act play, by "Stephen Grace," the nom de plume of a well-known naval officer, will shortly be produced in London by Mr. Henry Bagge. It is a dramatised version of *The Brass-Bound Cap*, which appears in Mr. Grace's "Yarns." There is much realism about this little piece, the scene being laid on the deck of a destroyer during a torpedo attack upon a hostile squadron. The play is attracting great interest in Service circles, as it is the first time that an episode of this kind has ever been placed upon the stage. Mr. Bagge has just returned from Devonport, where he has been spending three days studying every technical detail, so as to ensure absolute accuracy.

APROPOS of Mr. Robert Arthur's revival at the Coronet, under Mr. Eade Montefiore's auspices, of Robertson's comedy *Progress*, it may be interesting to note that the play was written specially to order for Buckstone and the Haymarket Company. When Robertson read it to Buckstone, the celebrated comedian looked aghast, saying, "My God, they are all old people in it?" "Why not?" said Robertson, "I've written a play for your company." It can be easily called to mind that at that time the principals of the Haymarket company consisted of Buckstone, Howe, Chippendale, Compton, Braid, &c., and none of them were very young in years. Bunnythorne was meant for Buckstone, and Bob Bunnythorne for Buckstone's son, who was then making his first appearance. But Buckstone was very angry with Robertson, and refused it.

MR. FRED MOULE, the well-known author and producer of playlets, has made the following statement in reference to the death of Mr. Weldon Atherstone: "On May 21 last I wrote to Anderson giving him an engagement to play in *The Grip of the Law*, and forwarding the words of the part he had to play. This letter was sent to 17, Prince of Wales-road, and in it I asked him to meet me in Bedford-street, Strand, at 1 p.m. on Monday, May 23. At 2 p.m. he turned up and expressed surprise at the idea of an appointment. I told him I had written to Prince of Wales-road. He said: 'That explains it; I have not been home all night.' He then said he would go and fetch the letter and the part, but explained that he was leaving his lodgings there and would in future live at 14, Great Percy-street, King's Cross.

"On the Wednesday or Thursday following, after a rehearsal, he told me he left 17, Prince of Wales-road because he was jealous—of whom, or on account of whom, he did not say. He added that he felt very keenly the parting with an old friend of his family and charming lady in whose flat he had lodged for many years. He spoke of her as an intellectual companion, one who sympathised with him in his love of books and could talk to him."

"He mentioned no one by name, but he was clearly very upset about the affair and the cause of the breaking of this friendship. Starting on the following Monday, May 30, at Bow Palace, he played with me at Sadler's Wells, the Foresters', the Battersea Palace, and at the Surrey Theatre, finishing on July 2. While we were at the Battersea Palace I said: 'It's a pity you do not live at Prince of Wales-road still; you would not have so far to go home.' He replied: 'It's finished; that will never be opened up again.'"

MR. WILLIAM P. SHEEN writes:—"In reference to the sad end of Weldon Atherstone, I note that last night's *Star*, in giving a list of his engagements, etc., mentions that he made a great success in my play *The Temptress*. This is quite true. With the exception of one tour, he played the part of Lucas Denbeigh for the whole of the time the play was running, and with the greatest success, and to prove my appreciation of his talent, I, on Saturday evening last, just about the time the poor fellow was murdered, was suggesting to Mr. Newman Maurice that he should resume the part in the forthcoming Bank Holiday production of the play at the Brixton Theatre."

MR. PERCY MARMONT and Miss Elsie Davison have been engaged by Mr. Cyril Maude for his forthcoming tour of *Sir Walter Ralegh*, Miss Davison to understudy Miss Winifred Emery and Mr. Marmont to play the Earl of Essex.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL will produce his latest play, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, on Monday at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, where it will run for two weeks. Mr. Campbell will also have touring his beautiful production of romantic drama, *From Convent to Throne*, also the domestic play, *The Old Folks at Home*. His theatre, the Royal at Grantham, has been entirely redecorated insire and out, the circles entirely re-carpeted and re-seated.

No person in theatrical circles in Birmingham is more respected and esteemed than Mr. Goodwin Woodward, and the news of his retirement from the managership of Bordesley Palace Theatre has occasioned considerable surprise. Mr. Woodward has had considerable experience in all branches of theatrical work, and for three years he has worked like a Trojan at Bordesley. Mr. Woodward has not decided definitely upon what rôle to adopt in the future.

THE Berlin City Council intends to impose a municipal tax on all kinds of public entertainments and amusements, such as theatre performances, recitals, concerts, circus performances, biograph pictures, public dances, masked balls, races, bazaars, and so forth. It is proposed that there shall be a tax of one halfpenny on tickets to such entertainments and amusements costing not more than sixpence, and that there shall be a further tax of one halfpenny on each additional sixpence charged for the ticket. On all performances which take place or extend later than 11 p.m. it is proposed that a double tax shall be levied. Several meetings of protest against the proposals have has been held already.

MISS LILA FIELD'S sixth dramatic and musical matinée, at the Court Theatre on Tuesday, was as successful as its predecessors. Miss Field's charming play, *The Goldfish*, and the first scene of *The Lily Queen* were nicely performed by a company of clever children; and in Miss Grete Hahn's sketch, *Outside the Window*, Miss Mona Sinclair played a little crossing-sweeper very prettily. Miss Edna Maude and Miss Olive Goff danced daintily; and the song and dances of Misses Irene and Maxine Hyman and Miss Alma Samuel were well received. Part of the proceeds of the entertainment were given to the Maurice Hostel, Hoxton.

ON the occasion of her benefit, at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, on the 15th ult., Miss Ida Heron, who has made such a success as Lady Isabel in the original Bullock version of *East Lynne*, toured by Mr. Tom Watt, was presented with a magnificent bouquet from her admirers in Glasgow. In response to the demands for a speech, Mr. Frank Beresford, the popular young actor, well known to Glasgow audiences, thanked the huge assembly on Miss Heron's behalf in a few well-chosen words. In addition to *East Lynne*, Mr. Joe Rowland produced *A Lively Hibernian*, playing his original part, supported by Misses Pardy and Forbes and Messrs. Manville and Mansfield, the little farce being received with shrieks of laughter.

"THE NAKED TRUTH," the merry play which is crowding Wyndham's Theatre nightly, will make its first appearance out of London on Monday next at Brighton, with Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's No. 1 company, which will visit all the principal towns this autumn. Mr. Stanley Logan will be the "Bunny." The cast includes Messrs. Townsend Whitling, Besley Beltram, Erskine Lang, James Heddon, J. Sinclair, Miss Violet Ley, Miss Ormonde Wynne, Miss Dora Fellowes, Miss L. M. Russell, Miss Violet Temple, and Miss Kathleen Maude, and the business arrangements for the company are in the hands of Mr. Arthur Law Raynor.

MR. OSWALD CRAY has acquired the rights from Mr. T. Morton Powell of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *The Woman who Gambles*, which two pieces he will shortly produce, and possibly play in conjunction with his present great success, *When it was Dark*. Mr. Cray is still further extending his répertoire in the immediate future, and intends putting on *The Lyons Mail* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. These five well-known attractions will make a very interesting and varied répertoire, and give considerable scope to his own talents, as well as to those of his exceedingly clever and versatile provincial company.

THE 100th performance of *The Islander* will take place at the Apollo Theatre on Monday next. The success which we predicted for the piece has been fully attained, and we are glad to see its many merits have been appreciated by the public.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has engaged Miss Alice O'Brien, of the Opéra Comique, Paris, to appear for one month at Daly's Theatre on Aug. 1 in the title-rôle of *The Dollar Princess* while Miss Lily Elsie is away on her holiday. Miss Alice O'Brien was one of the principals at Covent Garden Opera during the grand season last year. This will be her first appearance in musical comedy.

THE fiftieth performance of Mr. George Edwardes's successful production *The Girl in the Train* will be given at the Vaudeville Theatre this evening.

MR. LIONEL ATWILL sailed yesterday for Australia on the S.S. Omrah under contract with Mr. J. C. Williamson as leading man for six months It will be remembered that Mr. Atwill was leading man on the first tours of *The Bondman*, *The Flag Lieutenant*, and *The Prisoner of the Bastille*.

THE Compton Comedy Company starts its autumn tour at the Opera House, Buxton, on Aug. 8. The répertoire includes *Davy Garrick*, *The School for Scandal*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Rivals*, *A Reformed Rake*, *The Road to Ruin*, *Tomorrow, or the Eighteenth Century*; and Mr. Compton's latest success, *Used Up, or The Blasé Baronet*, played in conjunction with *Cool as a Cucumber*.

THE Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, will be re-opened on Aug. 1 with a revival of Stanley Houghton's comedy, *Independent Means*. The company will include Miss Darragh, Miss Holbrook, Miss Isabel Roland, Mr. Henry Austin, Mr. Esme Percy, Mr. Whitford Kane, etc. *Cupid and the Styx*, by Dr. J. Sackville Martin, will be played on Aug. 8.

MR. STUART LOMATH has been compelled to postpone the opening date of his autumn tour until early in September, owing to the dangerous illness of his wife, Miss Ellen Owen, who is now lying in Guy's Hospital, after having undergone a very serious operation. She is happily making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON AND MR. PERCY HUTCHISON'S *Smith* company will make its début before the provincial public at Lowestoft on Monday. Rehearsals have been taking place for the last two weeks at Southport, and Mr. Hutchison has taken great pains to ensure the production being in every way a complete replica of the original London production. So great is Mr. Hutchison's faith in *Smith* that he is sending out No. 1 tours of it this autumn.

THE *Sussex Daily News*, in dealing with the production at the Brighton West Pier Theatre on the 4th inst. of Miss Hélène Gingold's new play *Looking for Trouble*, says:—"Mr. Walter Pearce acted with a pleasant sense of style, and ensures for Captain Porches a military smartness and gentlemanly *bonhomie*, and makes up very cleverly for the disguise of his father."

MISS EDITH COLE is now again undertaking a short tour as the Empress Josephine in *A Royal Divorce*. As at present arranged, Miss Cole (Mrs. W. W. Kelly) will only appear in a few cities, making a feature of special appearances in Dublin and Belfast, which cities she has been specially asked to visit.

MR. W. W. KELLY will reopen his successful Liverpool theatre, Kelly's, in Paradise-street, for the autumn dramatic season on Saturday next, the initial programme being Mr. Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps*.

MISS BEATRICE WILSON, whose charming performance of Kitty Silverton in *The Marriage of Kitty* aroused great admiration, was the recipient of a large bouquet in Hastings the other day, presented by eleven different people who had witnessed the performance and admired Miss Wilson's impersonation.

MR. MARK LORNE, who has been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll as manager of the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, has for the past three years been connected with the Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatre, Ltd. He left the Grand, Mansfield, to take up the general-management of the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, which, under his spirited management last season, proved most successful.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD is adding to the many attractions of *The Earl and the Girl*, the charming musical play which will start its autumn tour on Saturday, July 30, at the Marlborough Theatre, N., a *bonne bouche* in the form of a merry musical scena in Act 2, founded on the celebrated *Chantecler* play, costumed in wonderful original *Chantecler* dresses, designed and executed by Willie Clarkson, and never before seen in suburban London.

MISS MARY BROUGH has presented Mr. Tom Craven with a dressing-case which was formerly the property of the late Lionel Brough.

THE conclusion of a very successful season at the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, was celebrated in a fitting manner by the members of the stock company, who have been performing there during the past fourteen weeks. A farewell dinner took place on the stage after the performance on Thursday evening, July 14, the guest of the evening being Mr. James Alexander, the popular manager of the theatre. In a neat little speech Mr. Alexander thanked the members of the company for their work during the season, and remarked that they had broken all records in Birmingham. He hoped to see them all back again next year, and that they would prove as big favourites as they had done during the past season. The festivities extended until early on Friday morning. The season came to an end on Saturday evening, July 16, and many presents and souvenirs were bestowed on members of the company, including the Misses Nellie Thorne Hallam, Yoxo Summers, Marguerite Thorne, and Nancy Mitchell, and Messrs. Victor Gardom, Norman Tracy, Geoffrey Broughton, Newton Pearce, Frank Holyoake, and Willis Collins. At the conclusion of the performance all the artists joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne," which was taken up heartily by the audience. The final curtain descended amidst tumultuous applause, bringing to a close a red-letter night at the Carlton Theatre.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

How the Ghost Walked.

"How and when the 'ghost walks,'" writes a correspondent of experience, "is naturally of interest to the actor, touching, as it does, not his 'inmost heart,' but his 'inner pocket'; but accustomed as we are now to receiving our little packets on the Friday evening during or after the performance, it was not always thus, as my more than thirty years' experience can testify. What would an actor say now if he were to be at the theatre at 12 o'clock Saturday, and although the treasury might be punctually opened at that hour if anyone holding a subordinate position in the company had to wait, as I have done, until 2 o'clock before receiving the reward of merit?

The Old Plan.

"THE rule in those days held that we had to enter the sacred portals of the treasury in rotation, according to our status in the company. If two or more leading members of the theatre were inclined to be garrulous—as our 'old woman' invariably was—woe betide the unfortunate 'second walking gentleman' or 'responsible utility' waiting for his or her turn. On one occasion I remember the dear old lady in question—much as she was loved and called 'Granny' by us all—had so little thought for us poor small fry that she remained gossiping for twenty-five minutes with our worthy treasurer. This occurred at a theatre bordering on the Strand, and under a well-known and respected actor-management.

Quick Work.

"IN contrast to this, I remember on one of my earliest tours—*Lord Clancarty*—under the management of the late Richard Yonge, that delightful actor and gentleman used to pay the entire company in about five minutes. At 12 'sharp' he would appear on the stage with his lucky bag, and, dipping his fingers into the same, handed to each one his or her little packet, with no distinction as to one's position in the company—'first come, first served.' Thus, the baggage man, as it occurred on one occasion, was paid the first and the leading man the very last, much to the amusement of the company. The leading man was my dear old friend George Rignold.

Friday Payments.

"ONE of the first managers to introduce payment of salaries on the Friday night was the late Charles Rice, of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, where in the past E. S. Willard, George Sinclair, Mark Melford, and H. C. Arnold were members of the company. Mr. Rice was extremely partial to notices, printed or otherwise, both before and behind the curtain—some excellent in their way, such as, 'All the staff to wear list slippers, under penalty of dismissal,' &c. Whether this was intended, as one of our comics observed, to prevent the said stage staff from crossing the road to obtain their refreshment instead of having to pay their coppers into the theatre canteen, I cannot say; anyway, it was to the advantage of the artists, especially in their 'quiet' scenes.

An Odd Order.

"A CERTAIN treasury notice was a wondrous concoction. I remember distinctly the wording of a portion of it. 'In order to enable the ladies and gentlemen of the company to complete their marketing before rehearsal on Saturday treasury will be held for the future at 10 o'clock Friday night in the green-room.' Some wicked wag in the company drew a most amusing picture of one of the company as he appeared on the Saturday morning, and had the audacity to place the same on the call-board. The actor was depicted with a joint of meat under his arm, groceries bulging out of every pocket, and potatoes and other vegetables in a sack on his back. This humorous culprit, though well known to the company, was never discovered by the management, or I am afraid his career at the Theatre Royal might have been prematurely cut short.

"THE late Mr. Newcombe, of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth—that wonderful old gentleman who used to 'don the pink' and follow the hounds in the daytime whilst appearing in pantomime at night, singing and dancing when over seventy years of age, used to hold his treasury on the Tuesday—a most unusual time in the week. Tuesday was his regular day, but, members being allowed to 'sub' regularly on the Saturday, they had the pleasing experience of receiving two treasuries in one week. On one occasion, owing to the managers being away on a holiday and my name not being on the treasury list, I had to wait for my salary until they returned in four or five weeks—this at a West End theatre. It is needless to add that when the managers returned I received my money in full with apologies for delay."

The Hero's Part.

THE following appears this week in the *Sporting Times*:—"'Who plays the hero?' asked the new stage manager, as he stepped upon the stage for the first rehearsal of the great sensational moral and religious drama. Then it was that the unhappy little man in the obscure corner who had been seduced into putting up the money asserted his position. 'I do,' he replied, firmly, withal modestly."

A Weird Experience.

"I REMEMBER a weird experience that befell me under a well-known American management," says Mr. Lawrence Grossmith in an interview in the *Whitehall Review*. "In America they do not provide understudies in burlesques. In Philadelphia one evening, just as the curtain was rising, the manager was informed that George Beban, the actor playing the part of a Frenchman, was unable to appear. A hurried consultation was held. The omission of the Frenchman's part would have ruined the play, as all Mr. Fielder's big scenes were with him; so Mr. Fieldes asked me if I would consent to go on and play it in addition to my own. I agreed. To add to my difficulties I did not know a line of the part, but Mr. Fieldes implored me to attempt it, assuring me it would not matter what I said, so long as we got through the scene somehow or other.

"NOT the least of my difficulties was that I had to be continually whisking out of one make-up into another and putting on a moustache and a black wig. The climax was reached in the last act, where we were all supposed to be on the scene together playing a rubber of bridge, the four card-players being a Dutch Jew (Lew Fieldes), a theatrical manager (Peter Daley), the absent Frenchman, and myself in the shape of an effeminate brainless dude, an English earl.

"THIS was got over by playing dummy bridge. The Frenchman's part was ostensibly cut out, but, dressed as his vapid lordship, I *had to extemporise the Frenchman's lines with a Piccadilly accent.* We got through it somehow, and the audience, who had received an announcement that George Beban was indisposed, bore the contretemps with a very good grace. These American burlesques are more like a 'revue,' or the programme of a performance of Monsieur Pelissier's 'Follies,' than anything else I can liken them to; the actors have licence to 'gag' as much as they please. It is hard work touring with such a company, as they alter the bill every three weeks. I have played in the States, too, under Mrs. Langtry's management."

"A WHITE MAN."

A Romance of the West, by Edwin Milton Royle, Revived at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday, July 20.

Captain James Wynnegate..MR. HERBERT SLEATH
Earl of Kerhill .....MR. ERIC MAYNE
Sir John Applegate .....MR. FRANK ELLIOTT
Bates .....MR. WILTON JAMES
Mr. Chiswick .....MR. HENRY ASHMEAD
Malcolm Petrie .....MR. WILLIAM F. GRANT
Lieut. Henry George .....MR. WILLIAM HEAL
Lieut. Alex Leslie .....MR. SYDNEY HOPE
Lieut. Charles Magarth....MR. GEORGE NORTON
The Dean of Trantham .....MR. HARRY CANE
Big Bill .....MR. R. A. BRANDON
Shorty .....MR. GERALD VALENTINE
Andy .....MR. STANLEY WARMINGTON
Grouchy .....MR. HUGH TAYLOR
Baco White .....MR. F. THORNTON
Tab-y-wana .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Cash Hawkins .....MR. FRANK MAYO
Nick .....MR. J. FLOYD
Bud Hardy .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Clark .....MR. DAVID DOUGLAS
McSorely .....MR. JOHN BELL
Parker .....MR. JACK COUTTS
Pete .....MR. GERALD EARLE
Parson .....MR. JOHN ROGERSON
Punk .....MR. ALFRED GORDON
Mr. Hiram Doolittle .....MR. W. FLETCHER
Little Hal .....Little KITTY ROGERS
The Dowager Lady Kerhill..MISS DORA MORDANT
Lady Mabel Wynnegate....MISS GLADYS STOREY
Mrs. Hiram Doolittle.....MISS LILIAN TWEED
Music Hall Artist .....MISS DOROTHY DUNCAN
Nat-u-rich .....MISS VIOLET VORLEY
Countess of Kerhill.....MISS GEORGINA WYNTER

Mr. Edwin Milton Royle's play *A White Man*, which was performed for the first time in England at the Lyric Theatre on Jan. 11, 1908, is a strong, direct, and telling drama, romantic, pathetic, and powerful, with much picturesqueness both in subject and treatment. In the Lyric production Mr. Lewis Waller played Captain James Wynnegate and Mr. Herbert Sleath the Earl of Kerhill, Miss Nora Lancaster being the Countess of Kerhill and Miss Mary Rorke the Dowager. As our readers will remember, the young Earl of Kerhill embezzles the funds of a military orphanage of which he is president, and also commits forgery. The chivalrous Captain Wynnegate, his cousin, to save the family honour, takes the blame of Kerhill's crime, and decides to emigrate. The Countess of Kerhill has a deep, though perfectly pure, affection for Wynnegate, and guesses the reason for his departure. We next find him living in the Western State of Wyoming, where he incurs the enmity of Cash Hawkins, a cattle-stealer, and narrowly escapes being shot or hanged. His life having been saved by Nat-u-rich, an Indian chief's daughter, Wynnegate marries her. Kerhill dies, and the Captain becomes heir to the estate; but he refuses to desert Nat-u-rich, though he consents that Little Hal shall go to England to be educated. Nat-u-rich, however, cannot endure to part from the boy, and shoots herself, leaving Wynnegate free to return to England and marry the Countess.

An enthusiastic and optimistic audience welcomed the return of *A White Man* to the Lyceum last Wednesday, under the leaseeship of Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville; and, judging by the way in which the drama was received and the number of calls before the curtain which were insisted upon, the play will in all probability be as successful as it was under the *régime* of Mr. Waller at the Lyric. Mr. Herbert Sleath's performance as Captain James Wynnegate was full of reserved energy and strong, firm feeling. It was excellent all round, and Mr. Sleath was especially striking in the scene in the second act, the Long Horn Saloon, in which Wynnegate so successfully "bests" the cattle-stealing Cash Hawkins. Mr. Eric Mayne admirably portrayed the weak, erring Earl of Kerhill, though the part gave him no opportunity of displaying his strongest points. Mr. R. A. Brandon made a decided hit as the foreman Big Bill, his delivery of his lines being especially telling and humorous. The powerful and realistic performance of the part of Cash Hawkins given by Mr. Frank Mayo was decidedly one of the features of the performance. The rôle offers excellent scope, and its opportunities were taken full advantage of. Mr. William F. Grant was business-like and incisive as Malcolm Petrie, the Kerhill family lawyer, and made the most of his opportunity in the ranch scene, in which Petrie urges Jim to send his little son Hal home to England. Miss Georgina Wynter won all hearts with her excellent portrayal of Diana Countess of Kerhill, being most effective in the saloon scene, where Diana recognises in Jim Carston Captain James Wynnegate, V.C. The Nat-u-rich of Miss Violet Vorley was excellent, and the actress made a deep impression in the third act, in which Nat-u-rich learns that her boy has to go to England. Little Kitty Rogers spoke her lines very well indeed as Little Hal, being seen to special advantage in the scene in which Jim says "good-bye" to his son. Special mention must be made of the clever work done by Mr. S. Major Jones as Bud Hardy, the County Sheriff. His make-up, gait, and appearance, as well as his American accent, all deserved high praise. As Tab-y-wana, the Indian chief, Mr. Frederick Ross was dignified and solemn, his declamation of the Indian tongue being very impressive. His clever make-up and general appearance helped him greatly to score, as he did in the "Long Horn Saloon" scene, in which Cash Hawkins makes the chief drunk in order to get him to sign a paper. The part of Baco White, whose work chiefly consists of interpreting Tab-y-wana's conversaiton with Jim Carston in the fourth act, was made the most of by Mr. F. Thornton. Mr. Harry Cane deserves praise for his excellent work as the Dean of Trantham. Mr. Frank Elliott supplied some delightfully humorous relief as the dandified Sir John Applegate, a friend of the Kerhill family. Mr. J. Floyd made the most of the rôle of Nick, the bar-keeper of the Long Horn Saloon. The three cowboys, Shorty, Andy, and Grouchy, were admirably portrayed by Messrs. Gerald Valentine, Stanley Warmington, and Hugh Taylor. Miss Gladys Storey gave a breezy and clever impersonation of Lady Mabel Wynnegate. As Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Doolittle Mr. W. Fletcher and Miss Lilian Tweed were responsible for much amusement in the saloon scene, in which the travellers find the company of cowboys quite a contrast to their usual acquaintances. Miss Dorothy Duncan did all that was possible with the small part of the music-hall artist. The parts of Pete, Parson, and Punk, cowboys of the Long Horn Saloon, were safely placed in the hands of Messrs. Gerald Earle, John Rogerson, and Alfred Gordon respectively. Mr. David Douglas made the most of his little rôle of Clark, the Sheriff's deputy; and Mr. John Bell and Mr. Jack Coutts did sound work as the engine driver and conductor of the train. The private secretary, Mr. Chiswick, was well hit off by Mr. Henry Ashmead; and Mr. Wilton James played Bates after an approved method. The three lieutenants, Henry George, Alex Leslie, and Charles Magarth, had able exponents in Messrs. William Heal, Sydney Hope, and George Norton. The scenery was picturesque and effective, and praise is certainly due to the excellent stage-management of Mr. S. Major Jones. The waits between the acts were considerably shortened by the delightful selections given by the Lyceum orchestra, under the baton of Mr. H. Sullivan Brooke. The production was under the direct supervision of Mr. Herbert Sleath, who may be congratulated on the result of his enterprise.

DEATH OF ALICE BARTH.

It will be with considerable regret that older readers of *The Era* will hear of the death of Mme. Alice Barth (Mrs. Campbell Bishop), who passed away after a short illness on Monday afternoon. It was at the Gaiety on Feb. 17, 1873, that Alice Barth made her first appearance in Robert Reece's *Don Giovanni in Venice*, in which she played the part of Donna Elvira. Mr. J. L. Toole was the Don, Nellie Farren the Leporello, Miss Alice Cook the Zerlina, Mr. John Maclean the Commendatore, Mr. Alfred Bishop the Don Ottavio, being now the only survivor of a famous cast. It was at the Alexandra Opera House, Camden Town, run by Mr. Thomas Thorpe Pede, that she created one of the singing rôles in *The Magic Pearl*, which opened the autumn season of that house on Sept. 29, 1873, and on Dec. 8 of the same year appeared at the same house as Celiante in *In the Clouds: A Glimpse of Utopia*, by Gilbert A'Beckett. Such was her versatility that she played the principal boy in *Mother Redcap*, the first Alexandra Theatre pantomime. For two years she left the stage, but love of her art induced her to return, and for a time she devoted herself to concert and oratorio work chiefly, appearing at the St. James's Hall ballad and other leading concerts. A season of English opera at Her Majesty's Theatre followed, where Miss Barth played Arline, in Balfe's evergreen opera *The Bohemian Girl*, for the first time, without rehearsal, and at a few hours' notice. Soon after she was associated with Mr. Sims Reeves in ballad opera, playing Polly Peachum to his Captain Macheath, Julia, in *Guy Mannering*, etc. Her first appearance with the Royal Carl Rosa Opera company occurred in 1888, whilst touring with Mr. Arthur Rousbey, when, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, she played Countess Almaviva, in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. After fulfilling several other special engagements for the Carl Rosa company (during tours with Madame Ilma Norina and Mr. Valentine Smith) she joined for the tour in 1891, sharing prima donna rôles with Madame Marie Roze, etc. With Charles Durand and Alice Barnett she appeared at the Grand, Islington, on Oct. 3, 1892, in the English version of Rossini's *Cenerentola*, playing Clorinda to the popular lady Savoyard's Thisbe, her husband, Mr. Campbell Bishop, being the Alidoro, Mr. M. R. Morand the Pedro, Mr. Leslie Crotty the Dandini, and Miss Georgina Burns (Mrs. Leslie Crotty) Cinderella. In 1894 she rejoined the Carl Rosa Opera company for character parts, her chief success being made as the Countess, in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and in *Hansel and Gretel*, playing both the Mother and the Witch. After a ten months' season Miss Barth left to join Mr. Wm. Greet's *Gay Parisienne* company, playing Mrs. Honeycombe on three consecutive tours, and in July, 1897, she appeared as Lady Hawser, in *The French Maid*, at Terry's Theatre, and also in "Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales" at Christmas matinées. After *The French Maid* was transferred to the Vaudeville Theatre she continued her successful assumption of the Admiral's wife until the close of the run. In *Her Royal Highness* she appeared as the showman's wife. Miss Barth toured with her own opera company for many successive summer seasons. She studied singing under Signor Randegger and the late Messrs. Thorpe Pede and Sidney Naylor. She never had a lesson on the pianoforte (though she was a proficient musician) nor in acting; and there was no branch of the histrionic art she was not familiar with, except melodrama, from grand opera down to farce and pantomime. The interment took place on Friday (yesterday) in Highgate Cemetery.

THE LATE MISS ALICE BARTH.

AN ACTOR SHOT.

Mr. T. Weldon Anderson, aged 47, an actor, better known under his stage name of Atherstone, was killed in the back garden of a flat in Battersea on Saturday night. The way in which he met his death is a mystery; but a taxicab driver, named Noice, saw a man hastily scaling the wall which separates the back portion of the flats in Clifton-gardens from Rosenau-road. The man, who disappeared in the darkness, is supposed to have been about 5ft. 6in. in height, and to have been dressed in a dark tweed suit, wearing sharp-pointed boots or shoes. Other people living near heard revolver shots. Mr. Anderson was found dying from the effects of two, evidently fired at him point-blank.

It would appear from the attitude in which the deceased was found—in a seated position on the doorstep—and from a bullet-mark in the wall above, that on opening the scullery door on the ground floor, and going out into the back garden, Mr. Anderson found himself face to face with his assailant. There were two wounds—one in the mouth and the other on the forehead, and the face was blackened by powder. The murderer probably approached the rear of No. 17, Clifton-gardens, by scaling the wall, over which he subsequently made his escape.

Mr. Atherstone was a quiet, reserved man, and a sound and useful actor. His best impersonation was that of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in *Jane Shore*, but he played heavy lead in Mr. Sheen's drama *The Temptress*, and also sustained a leading part in a piece, called *Under the Red Cross*, written by Mr. G. P. Nicholls, the Somersetshire cricketer, and dealing with incidents in the Boer War. He also acted with Mr. Hill Mitchelson's company in a play called *Revenge*.

At the inquest at Battersea on Tuesday afternoon, which was presided over by Mr. Troutbeck, the Coroner for South-West London, Miss Harriet Anderson said she had seen the body of the deceased man and had identified it as that of her brother. The inquest was then adjourned over the Long Vacation.

"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."

A Mystical Melodrama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell, Produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, July 18.

Capt. the Hon. Travers West..MR. HERBERT PEARSON
Lieut. Lord "Billy" Tremaine...MR. J. ARMITAGE
Garda Khan .....MR. JAMES JARRETT
James Harper.....MR. T. GRAHAME SMITH
Dick Smarter .....MR. E. HALL ELDON
Archibald Briggs .....MR. TOM SLATER
Col. St. Aubrey Fenton ..MR. ARTHUR SWAINE
Kulata Ra .....MR. LEONARD CONROY
Jhuldoo .....MISS LOUIE UNDERWOOD
An Orderly .....MR. J. L. LESLIE
P.-C. Andrews .....MR. FRANCIS CAVINS
Drumpardi Lares .....MISS MARY BRAMMER
Lady Arabella Mountphayton.. MISS LOUISE GILMORE
Lottie London ....MISS DOROTHY HILDEBRANDE
Ogarita ..... } MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
Angela Fenton ..... }

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The mystical character of Mr. Charles Darrell's play *A Woman of Two Lives* is derived from the practice of witchcraft in the region of Upper Burmah. This magical quality is invested in the person of one Drumpardi Lares, known as the Red Witch of Burmah, whose motive lies in her grandmotherly relationship to the heroine of the play. The conditions of army life in those far-away places form an interesting groundwork for the action, which is sufficiently exciting and unusual to produce an effect of originality, though the pruning knife is required (and will doubtless be used) for the sake of brevity and congruity of humour.

The opening scene is a military station in Upper Burmah, where Captain Travers West, much liked by his subordinates, is also passionately loved by Ogarita, who lives with him as his wife, and whom he has promised never to leave. Ogarita tells him the story of her mother, who, finding herself deserted with a little child (herself) by an Englishman known as the Golden Sahib, who was recalled after similar promises, hanged herself in sorrow and despair. Desertion is the fate foretold for Ogarita by the Red Witch, who at this juncture reveals to the girl her knowledge of a potion which will change the nature and appearance of any person of mixed blood, so that Ogarita might be either a fair, golden-haired, loving angel of a girl, full of sympathy, or a pure Hindoo, dark with passion and revenge. Ogarita refuses to take the potion, but the witch prophesies that she will drink it without persuasion before an hour has passed. This happens, for Captain West is called home by the arrival of English letters, which inform him that his uncle has died and left him his fortune and title, and he makes it quite clear to Ogarita that to go with him is impossible. Ogarita curses him, and when he has gone drinks the potion, and falls fainting, with the result that she is transformed into a beautiful fair-haired English girl, to be known as Angela Fenton, the Golden Sahib's daughter. The scene changes to the London home of West, now the Earl of Aylestone and Quorn. Among his guests are Angela, with whom he has fallen in love, and the Red Witch, who is now known as Her Highness of Allaharabad, other people of interest being Garda Khan, a seditious Hindu, who is also in love with Angela, and Col. St. Aubrey Fenton, the father of Angela. West proposes, and is accepted; and now begin the schemes of the witch to punish both him and Fenton for their conduct in India. She invites Fenton to see some curious Burmese specimens in a mysterious room at her house. Previous to his arrival she prompts Angela to drink the potion again, by which she is changed to a Hindu, more vengeful than the old Ogarita. Told of Fenton's identity, she is easily persuaded to murder the latter on his arrival in the chamber. Rather unexpectedly upon this tragic event the police rush in, followed by West, who is startled and horrified by the sight of Ogarita with the bloodstained knife in her hand. Ogarita is at once arrested. The subsequent scenes in the police-cell are outside probability, but the purpose of the drama is served by the Witch's opportunity to administer once more the magic drug to Ogarita, so that she is enabled to walk out unquestioned as Angela Fenton. The wedding morn succeeds this, the ceremony being celebrated at the Begum's town mansion. The latter's object is to transform Angela into Ogarita, thus confronting West with a dramatic requital of his heartless desertion of his Indian mistress; but by this time Angela has become aware of her dual personality, and prefers to remain as she is. During her husband's temporary absence, however, Garda Khan and the Witch force her to take the potion. She is placed behind a screen, where the transformation is supposed to be taking place; and when West returns, asking for his wife, the Witch announces that he will find her there—not Angela, but the forsaken Ogarita. This time, however, the Witch is disappointed, for the draught has failed to act. There is Angela, in her bridal dress, half fainting, but unchanged. At this juncture the police are at hand to take into custody the Witch and Garda Khan for complicity in Ogarita's mysterious escape from prison. Thus the lovers, husband and wife, are left to their newly-found happiness, and the story is at an end.

Miss Hilda Beverley made a great success as Ogarita and Angela—the one character invested with typical force and passion, and the other delineated with a contrasting sympathy and gentleness. Mr. Herbert Pearson's impersonation of Captain West was quiet, soldierly, and appealing. The more difficult rôle of the Red Witch was well and tactfully handled by Miss Mary Brammer, and a clear and forcible depiction of the politically mischievous Garda Khan was submitted by Mr. James Jarrett. Mr. Jack Armitage contributed a clever sketch of a society Johnny as Lord Billy Tremaine, and Miss Louise Gilmore played smartly as Lady Arabella Mountphayton. The comedy element was efficiently exploited by Mr. E. Hall Eldon as Dick Smarter and Miss Dorothy Hildebrand as Lottie London; and the remaining parts were sufficiently well done. Praise must be added for the staging, which was highly effective.

AT the concert organised by the Duchess of Marlborough, and given in the fine ball-room of Sunderland House, in aid of the National Physical Recreation Society, the first item on the programme was a display of drill by members of the society, followed by songs from Chevalier Edvardo Burry, Mrs. Walter Rubens, Mr. Bertram Binyon, and Lady Maud Warrender, a recitation by Miss Ellen Terry, a playlet acted by Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Dorothy Thomas, and Mr. Walter, imitations by Miss Cecilia Loftus, and violin solo by Lady Speyer, who also played an obbligato for Lady Maud Warrender's second song. The entertainment was very fashionably attended.

IN the Westminster County Court on the 15th inst. a case was down for hearing in which Ethel Lumley Dann (wife of Thomas Lumley Dann, Press agent, of Hind-court, Fleet-street) claimed fifty guineas from Mr. Frank Curzon. This amount she asserted to be due under a verbal agreement into which he entered with her for assisting in carrying out, by way of advertisement, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, "a certain matinée hat incident on April 2." Mr. Dann also claims £100 on the same alleged agreement. Owing to cases in front of it the suit had to be adjourned. Judge Woodfall offered a special day, July 23. Mr. Schwabe (for the defendant) said that could clash with an arrangement which the defendant had made to get married. The action was then adjourned over the Long Vacation.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 21.—Like in the preceding years, the 14th of July has been celebrated in a worthy manner, most of the Paris theatres having given gratis afternoon performances to those citizens who cannot afford to buy a seat, even in the gallery. The 14th of July being the anniversary of the taking of the Bastille, and also of the Proclamation of the Republic, we are supposed to be very patriotic on that day, and at every performance the "Marseillaise" is sang. Written in 1792, this impressive hymn still retains its hold on the masses, and I recommend visitors to Paris to edge their way into a playhouse on the great National Fête day, when they will see how enthusiastic a French crowd can grow over Rouget de Lisle's celebrated song. At the Comédie Française *Le Mariage de Figaro* was given. The house was enraptured, and thundering applause greeted the artists, who certainly did their best to please the humble but delighted audience. Towards the end of the second act a bouquet of flowers was thrown on to the stage and fell at the feet of Mlle. Leconte, who impersonated Chérubin. Mlle. Leconte picked up the flowers, but, instead of bowing to the "house," she kneeled down before the Comtesse and offered them to her—a tactful proceeding that was fully appreciated by the spectators. It was Mdme. Segond-Weber, the great actress, who sang—or rather recited—the "Marseillaise," and the effect of her recitation was electrical. The Opéra had selected *Aida*, and the huge building was filled to overflowing. One of our confrères comments on the fact that people once inside the house are not allowed to leave their seats during the entr'acte to breathe some fresh air outside. This—says our confrère—is a tyrannical measure, if applied to poor people who only go once a year to a theatre. It would be far better if it were applied to the "better" (?) classes, who converse during the performance, and return to their seats after the curtain has risen. For some unknown reason the Opéra Comique is more patronised on the 14th of July than any other Paris theatre. Already, at an early hour, a long file of men and women could be seen on the Place Boieldieu, patiently waiting for the clock to strike one, when the doors will be thrown open. The majority of these good people brought their luncheon, and the little square in front of the Opéra Comique at one time looked as if a gigantic picnic were in full swing. Others, however, came unprovided with refreshments, and relied on the itinerant vendors to supply them with the necessaries of life. These necessaries consist of "charcuterie," i.e., sausages, cold veal, bread, cakes; other vendors do a roaring trade in lemonade and other refreshing drinks. At last the clock struck one, and half-a-dozen stalwart policemen stood in front of every open door to prevent a crush that might have proved dangerous to life and limb. *Le Roi d' Ys* appeared on the programme, a wise selection. It is not generally known that the composer of this stupendous work was nearly 70 when it was at last produced. He had waited years and years to see it brought out, with the mortification of hearing fragments of his opera hissed at the Concerts Pasdeloup. Edouard Lalo died in poverty, and broken-hearted, for the hour of triumph had struck too late. This time it was Mlle. Brophy who sang the "Marseillaise," and she threw so much pathos into her work that the song was encored.

I am sorry to have to chronicle the death of M. Leon Jancey, Sécrétaire-Général of the Opéra Comique. He had fallen seriously ill a few weeks ago, and his friends had hoped that a stay in the country would restore him to health; but he passed away on Sunday last at Montclar. M. Jancey had been an actor, and appeared at the Odéon in vaudeville. But he gave up the stage and devoted himself to tuition, until M. Carré offered him the post of Sécrétaire-Général. Courteous and amiable, M. Jancey will be deeply mourned by his numerous friends.

Mme. Delphine Ugalde has also passed away at the age of 81. She was a celebrity in her time. Born in 1829, she became her mother's pupil, and married M. Ugalde, a distinguished musician. She made her début in 1848 at the Opéra Comique in *Le Domino Noir*, and in the course of the next few years developed into a star. Her husband having died, she became the wife of M. Vascollier, took over the management of the Bouffes-Parisiens, where she produced Offenbach's répertoire, and appeared in the principal rôles. But the Bouffes-Parisiens was an ill-starred house, as Mme. Ugalde found out at her cost. She therefore threw up the management, and returned to the Opéra-Comique, where, in 1870, she was much applauded in *Ded*. This, however, was her swan's song in public; and from that moment she devoted herself to teaching singing, and had many famous pupils, among whom were Mme. Marie Sasse. Mme. Delphine Ugalde has a daughter, Mlle. Marguerite Ugalde, a charming actress and singer, who has made a great name for herself.

During the "silly season" we hear a good many stories about diamonds and pearls, supposed to be stolen from actresses or operatic singers, who employ this cheap and effective method of bringing their names before the public. Sometimes, however, these stories are true; and the one referring to Mlle. Cécile Sorel's pearls is certainly funny. A well-known financier in Paris received a visit from a M. Henri Jacquinet, who brought with him a carefully-sealed jewel case and a letter, bearing the signature of Mlle. Cécile Sorel, of the Comédie Française, wherein that lady asked for a loan of £1,000 on her pearl necklace, which, she said, was worth three times that amount. The banker, flattered that so charming an actress should have applied to him for a loan which he could grant under such safe conditions, consented to do the business, paid M. Jacquinet £750, and locked the pearls in his safe. After a few days, however, he suddenly had his suspicions, and showed the pearls to a jeweller, who, with a grin, told him that they were worth about five shillings. He then communicated with Mlle. Sorel, and received the startling reply that she did not know this M. Jacquinet, and had never entrusted him with any jewels—real or false. M. Jacquinet is now under lock and key, but the money advanced by the banker has not been recovered.

THE public examination was held on Thursday of John Arthur Harrison, of Leicester-square, W.C., who had acted as managing-director of a company carrying on the business of theatrical costumiers. The debtor's statement of affairs showed liabilities £3,030, and assets 8s. 7d., not taking into consideration a bad book-debt of £1,164. In reply to the official receiver, the debtor said that he had been in receipt of £500 a year from his post of managing-director down to the date of his failure, but he was afraid that he had not kept his expenditure within his salary. His failure was due to his connection with the Strand Theatre. He was originally managing-director of a syndicate which produced a musical comedy at the theatre, a lease of which he took in January last. He sublet it to another person (Mr. Robert Hilton) for three months certain, but that gentleman "bolted" after presenting a play (*Richelieu*) for three days, and the contractor for the bars then took proceedings to recover part of the sum paid in advance, and obtained judgment for £173 and costs. The contractor then instituted bankruptcy proceedings, and obtained a receiving order. The examination was concluded.

"DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

THE 'ERA' SHILLING FUND

The Record Broken.

7,454½ SHILLINGS = £372 14s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Collected by Vesta Tilley	100	0	0
,, ,, Kitty Colyer	65	13	0
Walter De Frece	20	0	0
Collected by Dick Tubb	10	3	0
,, ,, Harry Conlin	8	6	6
,, ,, May and Ted Hopkins	5	10	6
,, ,, Ted E. Box	4	17	0
,, ,, Berry Hope	4	15	0
,, ,, My Fancy	4	0	0
,, ,, Geo. Gulliver	3	18	0
,, ,, Mr. Hymack	3	14	6
,, ,, Bertha De Pas	3	0	6
,, ,, Elliotta and Savonas	2	12	0
,, ,, Hannaway Bros.	2	11	0
,, ,, Horace Wheatley	2	11	0
,, ,, Welda and Wynne	2	2	0
,, ,, Daisy James	2	2	0
G. H. Griff, President Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Collected by Queenie Leighton	2	1	0
,, ,, Little Fred Zola	1	18	0
,, ,, Beatie and Babs	1	16	0
,, ,, Geo. French	1	13	0
,, ,, Francisco	1	12	6
,, ,, The Craggs	1	11	0
,, ,, Miss Bessie Butt	1	11	0
,, ,, Miss Florrie Forde	1	11	0
,, ,, Jenny Johns	1	11	0
,, ,, Tom Branson	1	11	0
,, ,, Ben Brown	1	10	6
,, ,, Miss Ruby Dahl	1	9	0
,, ,, Gertie Gitana	1	8	6
,, ,, Hayman and Franklin	1	8	0
,, ,, Chandos and Constable	1	7	0
,, ,, Fred Sinclair	1	7	0
,, ,, Sister Cora	1	7	0
,, ,, D. Kloof	1	7	0
,, ,, Miss Josie Mooney	1	6	6
,, ,, Scener and Fridkins	1	6	0
,, ,, Mr. Barney Armstrong	1	6	0
,, ,, Mr. Alf. Meers	1	6	0
,, ,, Miss Marie Blythe	1	6	0
,, ,, The Emsons	1	6	0
,, ,, Miss Ray Ford	1	6	0
,, ,, Mrs. Cestria	1	5	0
,, ,, Miss Aggie Nolan	1	5	0
,, ,, Livesey and Rosebery	1	5	0
,, ,, Jimmy Shields	1	5	0
,, ,, Elton and Elma	1	5	0
,, ,, Miss Fanny Robina	1	5	0
,, ,, Dave Carter	1	5	0
,, ,, Carl Hertz	1	5	0
,, ,, Sid Cotterell	1	5	0
,, ,, Jack Smiles	1	5	0
,, ,, John Bramham	1	5	0
,, ,, Miss Dora Lyric	1	5	0
,, ,, Herbert Shelley	1	4	0
Harry Tich	1	4	0
Collected by Rowland Hill	1	4	0
,, ,, Theodore Jones	1	4	0
,, ,, Fred Land	1	4	0
,, ,, Vivian Evans	1	3	0
,, ,, Charles Cardow	1	3	0
,, ,, Smith and Johnson	1	3	0
,, ,, Cissie Lupino	1	3	0
,, ,, Atroy	1	2	0
,, ,, Harry Taft	1	2	0
,, ,, W. Pratt	1	2	0
,, ,, Andie Burns	1	2	0
Bros. Webb	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	1	0
Collected by Cullen and Carthy	1	1	0
,, ,, Frank Coyle	1	1	0
,, ,, A. R. Hollands	1	1	0
,, ,, Fred Kitchen	1	1	0
,, ,, W. J. Churchill	1	1	0
,, ,, Miss Daisy Wood	1	1	0
,, ,, Bert Chapman	1	1	0
,, ,, A. N. Hennessy	1	1	0
,, ,, Olgar, Elgar, Hudson	1	1	0
Harry Fragson	1	0	0
John Lawson	1	0	0
Collected by The Alaskas	0	18	0
,, ,, Conway and Leland	0	18	0
,, ,, Fred Herbert	0	18	0
,, ,, Abel and Welsh	0	18	0
,, ,, Mr. Barry Gilmore	0	17	0
Collected by Regan and Ryan	0	16	0
,, ,, Carl and Carr	0	16	0
,, ,, The Wedburns	0	16	0
,, ,, Louis Rosenberg	0	16	0
,, ,, Henry R. Brown	0	16	0
C. Clifford	0	15	0
Collected by Ben Obo	0	15	0
,, ,, F. and M. Mulvey	0	15	0
,, ,, W. Purvis	0	15	0
,, ,, Hanid Alexander	0	15	0
,, ,, Master H. Clark	0	15	0
,, ,, F. V. St. Clair	0	15	0
,, ,, Harry Wright	0	15	0
,, ,, Kirk and Saraski	0	14	0
,, ,, Newham and Latimer	0	13	0
,, ,, The Lovelaces	0	13	0
,, ,, Will Harris	0	13	0
,, ,, Mi Narom	0	13	0
,, ,, W. H. Atlas	0	13	0
,, ,, Achmed Ibrahim	0	12	6
,, ,, Mr. Walter Norman	0	12	0
,, ,, Mrs. Geo. Formby	0	12	0
,, ,, Will Johnson	0	12	0
,, ,, Sisters Melba	0	12	0
,, ,, Cole and Rags	0	12	0
,, ,, Frank Lynne	0	12	0
,, ,, Young A. Elvy	0	11	6
,, ,, Bliss and Bliss	0	11	6
,, ,, Morrisey	0	11	0
,, ,, Harry Gribben	0	11	0
,, ,, Sam Williams	0	11	0
,, ,, Alice Digby	0	11	0
,, ,, Legardo Bros.	0	11	0
,, ,, Rosie Gaston	0	11	0
,, ,, Gladys Henderson	0	11	0
,, ,, Lucy Coventry	0	11	0
E.	0	10	0
Ralph Pringle	0	10	0
Collected by Syd Godfrey	0	10	0
,, ,, Will Lindsay	0	10	0
,, ,, Robb Gilmore	0	10	0
Jock Millar	0	10	0
Collected by Sisters Terry	0	9	0
,, ,, Steel and Lang	0	9	0
,, ,, Cummin and Seaham	0	9	0
,, ,, Flo Stanley	0	9	0
,, ,, C. Cornish	0	9	0
,, ,, Ethel Donna	0	8	0
,, ,, Steve Buckingham	0	7	6
,, ,, Lizzette Trio	0	7	0
,, ,, Sterling and Love	0	7	0
,, ,, Fields and Lewis	0	7	0
,, ,, Minnie Wheaton	0	7	0
,, ,, H. Bancroft	0	7	0
,, ,, Mrs. J. J. Fruin	0	7	0
,, ,, Arthur Were	0	7	0
,, ,, Sam Elton	0	7	0
,, ,, Shenton and Chicks	0	6	0
,, ,, Miss M. Murray	0	6	0
,, ,, Fred Moule	0	6	0
,, ,, Ben Whiteley	0	6	0
,, ,, Foiay and Francis	0	6	0
,, ,, Lily Hayes	0	6	0
,, ,, Burnetti	0	6	0
,, ,, Woodhouse and Wells	0	6	0
,, ,, Mr. Percy Ford	0	6	0
,, ,, Dale and Vale	0	5	6
,, ,, Milsted Bell Trio	0	5	0
,, ,, Benj. Woodger	0	5	0
,, ,, Stylo	0	5	0
,, ,, Rene Clayton	0	4	0
,, ,, Len Hale	0	4	0
,, ,, Henri Bekker	0	4	0
,, ,, The Michel Bros.	0	3	6
,, ,, A. Gallimore Trio	0	3	6
,, ,, Miss Nellie Coleman	0	3	0
,, ,, Lillie Hales	0	3	0
,, ,, Harry Luck	0	3	0
,, ,, Syd Crossley	0	3	0
,, ,, Henry Hilton	0	3	0
,, ,, Roland	0	3	0
,, ,, Miss Lillie Lassah	0	3	0
,, ,, A. Burridge	0	3	0
,, ,, Rappo and Ella	0	2	0
,, ,, Cash and Clair	0	2	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0
	£372	14	6

STATEMENT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions as announced	372	14	6	April 22, By Cheque, M.H.H.	100	0	0
				July 12, By Cheque, ditto, to balance	272	14	6
	£372	14	6		£372	14	6

F. H. PEDGRIFT, Hon. Treasurer.

MUSIC HALL HOME.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of cheque for £272 14s. 6d. to balance. With hearty thanks from my Committee and myself,—Yours faithfully,

HARRY BARNARD,
Chairman and Treasurer, Music Hall Home.

To Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. July 12, 1910.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

At the head of an extremely attractive programme this week is Mr. George Ali and company in the now well-known and popular sketch *Papa's Day Off*. Mr. Ali, it will be remembered, jumped into fame in this country with his performance as the cat in the last Drury Lane pantomime but one, and followed that last Christmas with an almost equally humorous impersonation of a Chinese dog. *Papa's Day Off* provides Mr. Ali with an excellent opportunity for displaying his remarkable ability as an animal impersonator, and "Sport" is probably as fine a performance of a dog as has ever been seen. The sketch is responsible for roars of laughter, and Mr. Ali receives excellent support from Mr. James Hollom as the mischievous boy, Mr. Walter Elagest as Tommy's father, Miss Jennie Lester as Tommy's mother, Miss Bessie Harrison as Aunt Betsy, and Mr. Fred Grove as Count Wizzle.

Tom Stuart, in his dramatic and burlesque imitations, proves himself a clever and versatile artist, his imitation of a certain type of music-hall comedian being both strikingly true and richly humorous. That clever troupe of juvenile singers and dancers known as Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, conduct "A Model School" on distinctly original lines (as the programme says), and, as always, provide excellent entertainment. Will Johnson is a comedian who may always be relied upon to put an audience in a good humour, and with a couple of numbers such as "Serves him jolly well right" and "Poor old Martha," his task is one of no great difficulty. His second number, it may be mentioned, is what is known as a "dame" song. Patrick O'Shea is the lucky possessor of a delightful tenor voice, and his singing is very popular, whilst Daisy Martell is an attractive and pleasing comedienne.

The Hardini Trio, which consists of three pretty German girls, appear in a musical act, their violin playing of a lengthy selection of Gounod's *Faust* being a particularly appreciated item in their contribution. Campbell and Barber, whose comedy acrobatic cycling act is well known, achieve their usual success, and the American Bioscope is showing a series of up-to-date pictures.

The programme is completed by Mr. Chas. R. Whittle, one of the neatest and most versatile comedians our music-hall stage can boast. Mr. Whittle is this week singing his new song, "Fall in and follow me," the ever-popular and very funny "Come and have a drink with me," and another new song, "He's a naughty, naughty boy." Mr. Whittle is a genuine artist, and his success with these three songs is quite sufficient proof of the fact.

Mr. Lewis Vincent is as attentive as ever to the comfort of those in front, and receives admirable assistance from Mr. Herbert Mack.

ARTISTS' REFERENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I really think that managers who engage artists should take the trouble to write for references. During the past few months I have received letters from four managers who have engaged people giving me as a reference. In neither of these cases was I applied to in support of the reference. Now I am written to and informed that these people are unsatisfactory. I find that three of the people mentioned were with me for periods ranging from one day to two weeks, and the other has never been with me at all. I could have mentioned this, and saved a lot of annoyance at the first.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.

Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W.
July 21, 1910.

Mr. Frank Hawthorne, who was engaged to support Miss Margaret Parker in *Lucky Jim* during her Stoll tour, and who made such a big impression in the part of James Carstairs, has returned to town after a twenty weeks' engagement.

"MR. JUSTICE PERKINS."

Farcical Sketch, in Three Scenes, written by Herbert Sydney, Albert Bruno, and Fred Karno, Produced for the first time in London at the Metropolitan on Monday, July 18.

Mr. Justice Perkins, being the further adventures of the popular character that has figured so prominently in other of Mr. Fred Karno's laughable productions, was presented by this well-known combination for the first time in London on Monday, and is one of the principal attractions in Mr. Henri Gros' fine programme. Joshua Perkins in this instance is a celebrity in the village of Spoddleton, chiefly by reason of the fact that he is the treasurer of three or four local institutions—evidently a very lucrative position, judging by his explanation of the meaning of the word to his tiny companion. The Mayor coming on the scene to select someone as the borough magistrate, the assembled yokels and village maidens unanimously vote for Perkins, and after much farcical business he is elected. There are many laughable encounters in the scene outside the Court between Perkins and the ghostly-looking usher, the counsel for the defence and prosecution, Mary Ann Blobbs, a distressed damsel who is suing him for breach of promise, and other characters, and, needless to remark, he always manages to come out top dog. His ludicrous behaviour as Justice of the Peace inside the court also keeps the audience continuously on the laugh, his lightning decisions, his familiarity with all the officials, and his effective method of getting the jury to agree with his way of thinking all being screamingly funny. Mr. Albert Bruno in the all-important part of Joshua Perkins works untiringly throughout and always with success, his impersonation being a very droll one. The names of the other characters and their interpreters are not given on the programme, but mention must be made of the effective work of those responsible for portrayals of the Usher, Mary Ann Blobbs, Phyllis, and the little companion and adviser of Perkins—a particularly funny impersonation. There is an attractive chorus and dance of villagers in the opening scene, and the "crowd" in the last scene contribute valuably to the fun. *Mr. Justice Perkins* will certainly become as popular as any of the many laughable playlets with which Mr. Fred Karno's name is connected.

Miss Alice Yorke and her companion also supply a humorous little interlude in *A Yacht for Sale*, the duologue of droll misunderstanding being capitally enacted; and Mr. Fred Elton in his scena at the piano, "On Board an Ocean Liner," sings with considerable point a funny song, "Kate," and a smartly-written medley, his turn being a particularly entertaining one. Mr. Harry Bedford manages to arouse laughter in his comic ditty, "You're looking yourself again," and his "Crossed in love was Crissie" impersonation also created merriment, the clever eccentric dance at the conclusion being especially appreciated. Little Zola employs a quaint style that is very effective in "Whoever would have thought it?" and his other number also pleased; and that accomplished mimic at the piano, Miss Ray Wallace, gave faithful imitations of the voices and mannerisms of Misses Vesta Victoria, Victoria Monks, and Connie Ediss—a turn that was loudly applauded. Miss Lily Burnand has a funny "French Maid" song, but her chief success is won in her alluring "Widow" impersonation, a well-rendered item that appealed greatly to her auditors. The Carina Sisters in their artistic and clever instrumental act, the Five Whiteleys, remarkably skilful wire walkers, acrobats, &c., Miss May Fayre, an attractive soubrette, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope are also on the programme.

A "BLUE BIRD" WALTZ.

In the Chancery Division on Monday, before Mr. Mr. Justice Eve, an action was brought by Messrs. Elkin and Co., Ltd., music publishers, Beak-street, against Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, music publishers, Charing Cross-road, to restrain them from the publication of a waltz which had been put upon the market, and which plaintiffs said deceived purchasers into the belief that they were buying music from the well-known play *The Blue Bird*. Mr. Charles Coote was the composer of the waltz, which was embellished by an illustration of what defendants called an "American blue jay" flying. *The Blue Bird*, written by Maeterlinck, was first performed in Moscow in 1908. The first performance in England took place at the Haymarket on Dec. 8 last, but announcements had appeared in the Press beginning on April 29, 1909. The play was advertised by blue birds in flight, and it had been a great success. Mr. Norman O'Neill, a co-plaintiff, had composed the music for the play, and the music itself was an integral part of the performance. There were songs and dances, four of the latter being "The Dance of the Hours," "The Dance of the Maids of the Mist," "The Dance of Fire and Water," and "The Dance of the Stars." Those four dances were published separately on Jan. 18 this year by the plaintiffs, who had the musical rights. "The Dance of Fire and Water" was a waltz dance. On Feb. 4 of this year defendants' waltz was published, but, said counsel, it was not the same class of music as that published by plaintiffs. The music in *The Blue Bird* was what appealed to really artistic people. The plaintiffs said that the publication of the defendants' music would do harm to their musical rights; it would prevent people going to the play and buying the music.

The defendants alleged *The Blue Bird* was not a musical piece in which such a thing would be done, whereas, as a matter of fact, arrangements had been made for bringing out "The Blue Bird Waltz," which should appeal to people with classical tastes, and since the action had commenced plaintiffs had brought out that waltz. In April last year Mr. Coote had four sets of new music—two waltzes, a polka, and a march. They were his own composition. He offered the polka to defendants as a present, and they agreed to take the other pieces on business terms as publishers. Accordingly, one of the waltzes was published with the title "L'Oiseau Bleu," and bearing the illustration of a blue bird in flight. Defendants had pleaded that the title was suggested in August, 1909, long before the play was produced, and that the pictorial representation was designed on Dec. 8, 1909. Plaintiffs did not suggest that their design had been copied or that their music had been taken. It was purely a question of passing off. They suggested that the blue bird, or American blue jay, had been taken from a natural history book.

Mr. W. W. A. Elkin, a director of the plaintiff company, said the music was not founded on any music in the play; it was not of such an artistic character as that in the play. There was a custom of publishing various arrangements of the music in a play.

Mr. E. F. Spence, barrister-at-law, said he had been a dramatic critic for seventeen years.

His Lordship: I thought that was a very dangerous occupation.

Witness: I am afraid it is. Speaking of *The Blue Bird*, witness said that nearly one-half of the play was devoted to music. The music was a very important feature of the play. He considered it was an integral part of the play.

In cross-examination witness stated that the drama was the predominant element of the play.

The hearing was adjourned.

George French and troupe, trick cyclists, are in Scotland, combining business with pleasure. They have made a great success at the Castle Douglas Fêtes, and are having a most enjoyable holiday fishing. They are specially engaged next week for the gala at Normandy Park, Frodingham.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

BY AMERICUS.

Eddie Emerson, of Emerson and Baldwin, at the Empire, is now a "real Englishman." The act has been over here for some time, and Eddie is so popular with the boys that he was recently elected president of the Americans in England Bachelor Club. But the electric flashes in the air tell me that Eddie will not hold the present honour later than the coming "fall," the cause of his resignation being a beautiful American dancer, who made her début at the Palace last summer with her brothers and sisters. Good luck to you, Mr. President!

Friend and Downing, who came to England last season absolutely unknown to English managers, and who made a big success right from the start, returned again to "this side" a few months ago, and are well booked up in the provincial halls. They play at the Hippodrome, Coventry, next week.

Willette Whitaker and Wilbur Hill, who returned to America some time ago, after a year over this side, recently purchased a nice home at Harrington Park, near New York. They will return here in another year for a twelve months' stay.

Willie Gardner and his wife, Annie Heath, will sail for England the latter part of this month. The little roller-skate dancer was unable to make satisfactory terms with the American managers. As his wife is well booked up on this side, he did not think it worth while to remain over in America, and consequently will return to England shortly.

Clarice Vance arrived in New York in the latter part of last week, and had many offers of engagement immediately. She will, however, take a summer's rest before appearing in New York halls.

The White Rats in London were all pleased to hear of the Agency Bill receiving the signature of Governor Hughes. The question now debated is: Can the booking offices and agents get round the present Bill? Many think that it will be quite easy to do business just the same. The agents claim that the Bill will affect them very little, and that they will in future act as personal representative and manager of their clients, receiving a salary.

Mordkin and Pavlova are booked for America during the opera season.

Karsivina and Kosslof, the Russian dancers who have been at the Coliseum, are booked for the Percy Williams circuit by Marienilli. They will open some time in October.

Dub in San Francisco in the latter part of this month, from Australia, are Valroy Mayor, Maud Cosheim, the Howard Brothers, Alburtus and Millar, Wise and Milton, the Two Crottons, and Ranch Smith. It is quite easy for almost any good "act" to remain a year, now, on the Pacific Coast circuits.

Chas. Ahearn, another producer, will arrive in England about the middle of August. He intends to put out a No. 2 company of comedy cycling comedians, to be called Ahearn's Cycling Comedians.

The Belleclaire Bros. opened at the Brighton Beach hall last week, after which they will appear in and around New York.

"Acts," when they address agents in America now, approach them in this way: "Good-morning, sir. I am desirous of engaging a manager to look after my personal and public business affairs in the amusement world. Are you open for an engagement as manager, and what are your terms?" It seldom fails that the former agent refuses the job.

Bert Levy, it is said, will have trouble in Germany. Rumour has it that a German cartoonist has patented Bert's act in that country, and will stop him from playing German.

Mr. Passport, the Continental booking representative of the Orpheum circuit, returned to the Continent last week for a short stay. Mr. Passport will take charge of the New Orpheum headquarters here in London, installing a London office for the big circuit of America.

Herbert Loyd arrived last week from America, and will remain here for some little time.

The clever coin-manipulator, Nate Leipsic, has booked time with Harry Rickards's circuit in Australia, and will open there on Feb. 14. Before reaching Australia he will play a short engagement for Sidney Hyman in South Africa, opening there in the early part of November.

Nellie Donegan is progressing favourably. Dr. Hunter Richards expects her to be up within three weeks at the most, after which he has advised her to take a three or four weeks' stay at Brighton or some other resort. The skating act of Reynolds and Donegan will, in all probability, appear at the Palace just as soon as Miss Donegan has recovered.

Frank La Dent, sometimes known as Bolo, sailed on Wednesday for America.

The Jackson cycle act is on the Stoll tour. They have been "over" some little time, and "do fine." Mr. Jackson was some years ago a great skater, appearing with splendid success in many of the large rinks in America.

Mike Simmons, stage-manager and director-in-chief extraordinary of the Hammerstein's Victoria, New York, sailed on Wednesday for New York. During his stay over here he failed to find any novel acts that he liked for the New York house. A big crowd of Americans was at Waterloo Station to bid him bon voyage.

Grace Foster, of Ritter and Foster, returns this week from Milwaukee, where she has been spending some time with her parents. The team will get right to work within a week, and remain over here for some time, playing at the English halls.

Harry First arrived in New York, and was met by a good crowd of his friends and actors at the boat. They had a fine trip over, so states the cable. The weather is awfully hot.

Helen Trix is quite an English performer now. She has been over so long that she even has the English dialect, and it is quite noticeable in her songs. Her act is going well at the Hippodrome.

Hayman and Franklin are back at work, and Miss Franklin, who was quite ill some weeks ago, says she is quite recovered and is feeling better than she ever did in her life.

Mr. Merians, of Merians' Dogs, which is at the Palace, will, when his present engagement has ended, have played one year at this house, this making about the fifth time he has played there, from two months' engagement to a three months' stay each time.

The Dunedin Troupe will return to England in the spring for a trip over the Stoll tour. They are at present playing a summer's engagement at the Hammerstein's Victoria, New York, in both their cycle and skating act.

Martin Beck arrived in New York, and went to Chicago for a short time. He will make a tour of inspection of the many new houses the Orpheum circuit has in course of construction before returning to New York, and then return to this side.

Geo. Wilson, the American black-faced comedian, arrived in London on Wednesday. Mr. Wilson will spend some time in England before returning to the States.

Jules Hurtig and his two brothers have arrived in London from the Continent, where they have been to see the Passion Play. Mr. Hurtig is the senior partner of the firm of Hurtig and Seaman, of New York. London will remember them quite well some seven years ago, when they brought Williams and Walker and an unbleached music comedy company, with *In Dahomey*, which played for some time at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Mr. Hurtig is taking in the music halls, and looking over quite a lot of acts. As he has a number of burlesque shows on the road each year, he will endeavour to strengthen them with a number of English acts. They sail next Wednesday via the German line.

"THE FIGHTING PARSON" CASE.

Before Mr. Justice Phillimore, in the King's Bench Division, on the 8th inst., the hearing was resumed of the action brought by Mrs. Barrasford, as executrix of her late husband, Mr. Thomas Barrasford, and Mr. F. Macnaghten, lessees of the Britannia Music-hall, Hoxton, against Mr. George Gray, proprietor of the sketch entitled *The Fighting Parson*, to recover £130 as liquidated damages for alleged breach of contract. The case for the plaintiffs was that the defendant entered into a contract to produce his sketch at the Britannia Music-hall for the week commencing on Monday, Dec. 3, 1906, at a salary of £130. The defendant appeared on the Monday, and then the Shepherd's Bush Empire Palace Company obtained an injunction restraining him from continuing the engagement, the defendant having under a contract with them agreed not to perform at any hall within a radius of two miles of the Hackney Empire during the week in question. Under the contract with them plaintiffs said the defendant agreed that in the event of his failing to appear at their hall he would pay the sum claimed as liquidated damages. The defendant denied liability.

Mr. Hume Williams, K.C., Mr. Martin O'Connor, and Mr. James D. Cassels appeared for the plaintiffs, while Mr. Shearman, K.C., and Mr. Storry Deans represented the defendant.

Mr. James Macarthy, manager of the Palace Theatre of Varieties at Battersea, stated that in December, 1906, he was manager of the Britannia Music-hall. The defendant appeared at the hall on Monday, December 3, and explained to him that he expected to have an injunction issued against him. On the following day the defendant came to the hall and informed the audience that he expected an injunction to be served upon him restraining him from appearing. The defendant held a document in his hand and tore it up on the stage.

In cross-examination, witness said the defendant was not anxious to appear on the Tuesday night.

This closed the case for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Shearman, for the defendant, submitted that the contract was between his client and the late Mr. Barrasford, and that Mr. Macnaghten had nothing to do with it. He also maintained that the £130 was a penalty, and not liquidated damages, and could not be recovered.

The defendant was called and stated that he was the proprietor of several sketches, including *The Fighting Parson*. In August, 1906, he entered into a contract with the late Mr. Barrasford to appear at the Britannia Music-hall during the week commencing Dec. 3 of that year. Mr. Macnaghten's name was never mentioned and he never heard that Mr. Barrasford and Mr. Macnaghten were in partnership. He appeared at the Britannia on Monday, Dec. 3, and gave three performances, but he was not allowed to complete the engagement owing to the action of Mr. Stoll of the Hackney Empire. When he received the writ in December, 1906, he went and saw Mr. Barrasford, who informed him that he had not given instructions for the writ to be issued and that he would put an end to it. He heard nothing more about the action until 1909. He then went to Mr. Barrasford's residence and saw Mrs. Barrasford, who told him that Mr. Barrasford was ill, that he had seen a letter which witness had sent to him, and that nothing further would be done.

In cross-examination, defendant said he thought the contract he made was with Mr. Barrasford, and in consequence he accepted the £130 instead of £150 per week. He went to the theatre on the Tuesday night prepared to perform, and was told that there was a man looking for him with an injunction. Mr. Baugh said he could not perform, and he (defendant) replied, "Very well, you break the contract, and not I."

His Lordship: Did you tear up the document handed to you?—No. I tore up a scene plot.

What was the document with which you were served?—It was a writ or summons, I think, to appear next day.

After other evidence,

His lordship said his judgment would have been for the plaintiffs but for one point, and that was the point that this £130 was a penalty. He did not propose to give his judgment on that point. He should postpone his judgment, and after what he had said he hoped the parties would arrive at some reasonable terms, and end the case.

Miss Lilian Durand, the dramatic soprano, opens on Monday at the Camberwell Empire. She will present the new song success, "Your eyes have told me so," with choral effects.

Mr. Fred Duprez, the American monologuist, who has been touring Europe, arrived in London last week. Mr. Duprez will sail for New York to-day to open on the Orpheum Cidcuit.

Miss Frankie Manners, who is appearing at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, this week, has been engaged by Mrs. Lillie Williams as principal boy for the pantomime at the same theatre this Christmas.

Dent and Harris, who deputised with much success for Miss Clarice Mayne at the South London Palace this week, introduced some really clever foolery into a burlesque on the Russian dancers.

Miss Elsie Forster, who was one of Mr. Percy Honri's Concert Party at the Alexandra Palace last year, is appearing daily with Mr. Lionel Braham at The Jumbles, Roker, Sunderland, this season with her customary success.

Mr. Ted Hopkins' Blackbird entertainers, are in their usual rendezvous at the Cosy Corner, Porthcawl, where a grand programme is presented. Mr. Ted Hopkins himself is a clever artist, his funny gags and patter being much enjoyed; Will Hopkins, as a comedian, is accorded a hearty welcome with his old friends; Mr. Claud Morton scores a success in his songs, &c.; Mr. Reg. Thrayer has to respond to encores; also Vicky Smith, who has some excellent items, which are greatly appreciated. Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son are here also with switchback, James Day and Jones in houp-la sets, and juvenile set by W. Odley.

One of the best variety programmes put on at the Kingston Royal County Theatre since varieties were made an occasional attraction there, is being presented this week. A very pretty little dramatic sketch entitled *Enchantment* is taken part in by Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton, Mr. Cecil Crossley, and Miss Grete Hahn, and possessing as it does a wholesome moral, finds great favour with the audience. Reg London sings a comic song on roller skates, upon which he also executes some remarkable evolutions; Edna Payne and Fred Kent appear in their comedy act "Old Clo'," in which they illustrate the trials of two music hall artists down on their luck, and give a few amusing turns; Miss Edie Graham sings some of her own songs at the piano with much acceptance, and Mr. G. W. Foster causes much merriment by his singing in the guise of a policeman; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws also appear in their sketch *The Days of Romance*, which is most favourably received. Some very good cinematograph pictures vary the programme pleasantly, which is still further enchanced by a descriptive fantasia played by the orchestra under the direction of M. Kopski, the talented chief. A notice of a new musical play entitled *Jolly Japan*, produced at the theatre this week, appears in another column.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 25.

ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Bury.
ARCADIANS (S.).—Yarmouth.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Queen's T., Leeds.
AT CRIPPLE CREEK.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—T. R., Rochdale.
BEGINNING AND THE END.—Palace T., Porth.
BLACK MASK, THE.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
BULMER, MR.—Court T., Wigan.
CANDIDA.—Tunbridge Wells and Llandudno.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Hastings and Folkestone.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—County T., Kingston.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Alex. T., Sheffield.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—New T., Barry.
DANGEROUS WOMEN.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Pier, Southsea.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—W. G. T., Blackpool.
DON.—O. H., Southport.
D'OYLY CARTE.—T. R., Newcastle.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Doncaster.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Met. T., Manchester.
FAST LIFE.—T. R., Stratford.
FATAL WEDDING.—Palace T., Gloucester.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Portsmouth.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
GAMESTER OF METZ.—T. R., Belfast.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—Hippodrome, Dover.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—O. H., Leicester.
HUSH MONEY.—Grand T., Southampton.
IRVING, LAURENCE.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
JUDITH.—T. R., Smethwick.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Athlone and Longford.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—O. H., Buxton.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Londonderry.
MAN TO MAN.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Weston-Super-Mare.
MAUDE, WINIFRED.—T. R., Halifax.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Osborne T., Manchester.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—Pav. T., Ramsgate.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—O. H., Torquay.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—Pier, Hastings.
MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD.—T. R., Worthing.
NEW BOY.—Grand T., Douglas.
NO MAN'S LAND.—Hippodrome, Ilford.
OUR FLAT.—Empire T., Swindon.
PASSION OF LIFE.—T. R., Colchester.
QUEEN'S COURTIERS.—Court T., Warrington.
RAYNOR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—Queen's Pk., Manchester.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
SILVER KING.—T. R., Edmonton.
SMITH (S.).—Lowestoft.
SPENCER SIDNEY REPERTOIRE.—W. Pier, Morecambe.
TERRY, EDWARD.—T. R., Margate.
TRUANTS, THE.—T. R., Margate.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—T. R., Leeds.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Alhambra, Manchester.
UNDE RTHE IRON HEEL.—Hippodrome, Stoke.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—New Hall, Bargoed.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Pav. T., Weymouth.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—T. R., Birkenhead.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—Court T., Wigan.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Grand T., Llandudno.
WILKIE ALLAN.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—Hippodrome, Salford.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Colosseum, Oldham.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Grand T., Nottingham.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH'S recent article in the *Saturday Review* on the degrees of popularity of modern plays contains (says the *Glasgow News*) a happy definition of the element in them to which their favour with the public may be ascribed. He terms it the "lyric idea, an organic form of emotion which shall exhilarate." This moving quality may be found in plays very crude in form, in which everything is over-emphasised, overwrought, in blatant and glaring colour. Or it may be present in work of a high order of merit, in the plays of Synge, of Ibsen, of Rostand, or of Shakespeare. Wherever it exists, the play possessing it is assured of success.

There are many plays, however, in which this lyrical appeal is necessarily lower in tone. In the plays of Shaw, for instance, where a subtle intellectualism is the dominant note; or in those of Galsworthy, in which the social reformer stands in front of the dramatist; or in Yeats's Irish plays, where a subdued, poetic atmosphere of mystery and symbolism takes the place of emotional human themes. It is this latter class of drama, Mr. Trench considers, the prevailing conditions of the theatre tend to destroy, and for the encouragement of which one would like to see erected some partially endowed playhouse.

It is always a moot question how far it is wise to thrust a class of playwriting on the public in which they have only a lukewarm interest. If plays are meant to please, we may ask what place there is for those that do not please. There is this, however, to be said for them. There are works which cannot win for themselves an instant appreciation, but grow in favour on a longer acquaintance, and it is good for neither public nor playwright if such work does not get its chance.

Mr. Shaw, in a letter replying to Mr. Trench, points out that there are two kinds of popularity. There is the popularity of cheap, tricksy works, like the song of "Nancy Lee" or Du Maurier's novel of "Trilby." They are in demand everywhere, carry everything before them for a certain length of time, then in a day, almost an hour, they vanish from our ken, "gathered unto death without a dawn." Whereas the works of Shakespeare, some of Shaw's own plays, and some of Galsworthy's and Hankin's show the qualities of an enduring life, and have, in the managers' phrase, "money in them." The conditions of the stage ought not to be such that a play must be strangled unless it can leap into a full-grown popularity at its birth. But at present managers have no other resource. Their expenses and heavy rentals hang over them like a sword of Damocles, and to save their own skins the dramatist is thrown to the wolves. Things that endure are usually of slow development. It is the noxious fungus growth that comes to maturity in a day.

In the discreet management of the repertory system the only hope seems to lie for the encouragement of this better and more delicate class of drama. It should not be impossible to choose a fair proportion of works, which, while artistic in form, are strongly endowed with the "lyrical appeal." This would supply the means of playing from time to time the works which can only make their way forward slowly. Only, a certain excellence of form in the popular works should be insisted on. This is necessary for the development of public taste, and for the training of the actors who are to produce the better work. It should not be an impossible thing for our young dramatists to learn how to combine artistic form with the strong human appeal that secures public support. But to write down to the public to obtain it is the way of death, and will only prolong the degraded state to which the managerial system has reduced the drama. A. W. F.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6	One Year	£1	12
Six Months	0	13	Six Months	0	15
Three Months	0	6	Three Months	0	8

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER.

"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).

Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

CAVATINA.—*They were really sisters.*

PARD.—*You cannot do better than write to your collaborateur, as you suggest.*

H. W.—*We can only refer you to the daily papers. See the* Daily Telegraph *of Thursday and Friday, 21st and 22nd inst.*

H. SANDERS.—*We do not think permission is really necessary; but you would certainly score a mark for courtesy by asking permission of the author of* Peter Pan.

PORTABLE THEATRE.—*We know of no such book. You might try at Shaw and Sons, Publishers, of 7, Fetter-lane, E.C., who publish handbooks on Local Authority law.*

B. W. W.—(1) *Little Tich played Little Toddlekins in the production of the pantomime of* Bo-Peep *at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, 1890-91. Mr. Thos. W. Charles was the lessee of the theatre.* (2) *George Robey appeared in the Comedy Theatre, Manchester, pantomime,* Jack and Jill, *1894-95, in the part of Brother Bill.* (3) *No.*

PLAYGOER.—*Barbara Grows Up, comedy, in three acts, by George J. Hamlen, was produced at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Sept. 6, 1909, by the Repertory Theatre. The cast on that occasion was Janet, Miss Jean Cadell; Barbara Morrison, Miss Mary Jerrold; Kenneth Morrison, Mr. Hubert Harben; Margaret Morrison, Miss Penelope Wheeler; Andrew Purdie, Mr. Campbell Gullan; Mrs. O'Brian, Miss Marie Hudspeth; Barney O'Brian, Mr. Perceval Clark. We have no record of the production of this comedy in London.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

CLAXTON.—July 15, at 6, Gordon-mansions, Francis street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C., wife of Tom Claxton, variety agent, of a boy.

MAYEUR.—July 16, at 32, Hamilton-terrace, the wife of Mr. E. F. Mayeur (Helen Ferrers), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

O'NEILL—VINCENT.—July 16, at Hampstead, Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, manager to Mr. Martin Harvey, to Miss Mary Vincent, of Gunnersbury.

PIGEON—MELVILLE.—July 18, at All Saints', Highgate, Mr. Henry Richard Pigeon (son of Mr. E. M. Pigeon, of 10, Lewes-crescent, Brighton) to Miss Minnie Melville (daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Melville, theatrical proprietor, of London).

POOLE—STAFFORD.—At Gedling Church, on July 19, John Reginald Poole, eldest son of C. W. Poole (Poole's Myriorama), to Rosie Marie Stafford, second daughter of J. G. Stafford (Stafford and Co., printers, Netherfield).

DEATHS.

ANDERSON.—July 16, Weldon Anderson (Atherstone), actor. Funeral took place at Abney Park Cemetery on Friday.

BARTH.—On the 18th inst., Mme. Alice Barth, in her sixty-second year. Friends please accept this (the only) intimation.

BARTH.—July 18, Mme. Alice Barth, operatic vocalist, in her sixty-second year. Interment at Highgate Old Cemetery, on Friday.

SAWYER.—On July 15, at 58, Chicksand-st., after a long illness, Simon Sawyer, beloved father of Joe Sawyer (Joe Brown). A loving father. May his dear soul rest in peace.

WALLIS (SABINA).—July 15, at Cromwell Villa, Percy-road, Shepherd's Bush, Sabina, beloved wife of the late Fritz Wallis (Scenic Artist), at the age of 83.

IN MEMORIAM.

BARRETT.—In loving memory of Wilson Barrett, who fell asleep July 22, 1904. At rest and peace.

D'ALMAINE.—In loving memory of Mary D'Almaine, who died July 18, 1906, at Hippodrome House, Brighton. Never forgotten by her daughter, Maud Barrasford, and grandchildren, Patsy and Teddy. R.I.P

DE VERE.—In affectionate memory of our never-to-be-forgotten darling son, Camille De Vere, who died July 25, 1909, aged 24. Ever regretted by his loving father, C. De Vere, mother (Okita), brother, sisters, and a host of friends.

Rest in peace, dear Cam.; you are always in our mind.

HAWLEY.—In unfading memory of Emma C. Hawley, died July 22, 1896, and of Frederick Hawley ("Haywell"), died March 13, 1889.

". . . for we look beyond the shadows
And the loneliness of night."

AT Bow-street Police Court on the 15th inst., before Sir A. de Rutzen, Henry Foster, an actor, living in Great Barlow-street, Marylebone, was charged with stealing a revolver at the Lyceum Theatre. The prisoner was charged at the court on May 26 with firing a revolver on the public highway near Covent Garden Market, and was bound over in his own recognisances. The revolver, which was detained by the police, was afterwards identified as one which had been missed from the property-room at the Lyceum Theatre on the previous day. The prisoner now stated that in May last he was engaged by the stage manager to Mr. Martin Harvey, but he was discharged. As he was passing the property-room on leaving the theatre he was tempted to take the revolver with the object of spoiling the rehearsal. He had no idea of stealing the weapon, and would have returned it the next day if he had not been arrested. The accused was remanded.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

Price 2s., post free 2s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Miss Maud
Anderson, Miss Mary
Anderton and Rowland, Messrs.
Aoki Troupe
Ariss, Mr. George
Barker, Mrs. G.
Bartlett's Circus
Beaumont, Miss Maud
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Borello, Carl
Broadbridge, Mr. Claud
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Busch, Miss Lydia
Carne, Mr. Joseph
Carter, Mr. D.
Casey, Mr. Claud
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia
Chambers, Miss
Chard, Lieut.
Claff, Mr. Harry
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Conway, Mr. Tom
Cook, Mr. Albert
Cook, Mr. C. E.
Cotton, Mr. Wilfred
Court, Mr. P.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Daly, Mr. Mark.
Danvers, Mr. Fred
Davins, Mrs.
Davis, Miss Bella.
de Celle, Mr. E.
De Winton, Miss Dora
Douglas, Mr. George
Elton, Mr. Fred
Evant, Mr. Stephen
Fanning, Mr. H.
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Folay and Francis
Francis, Mr. C.
Garland, Miss Fanny
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. A. F.
Gittins, Mr. E. C. H.
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glyn, Miss Ruby
Gray, Mr. Cecil
Grayson, Miss Ethel
Grundy, Mr S.
Hare, Miss W.
Holt, Madam
Hortopp, Mr. A. W.
Howard, Mr. George
Howard, Mr. W.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kingston, Miss G.
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kipling, Mr. Edward
Kirk, Miss Florence
Kirk, Mr. G.
La Martine, Miss C.
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Landon, Mr. J.
Latham, Miss J.
Latham, Mrs. Jean
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lecard Brothers
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Lestrade, Mr. Sid
Levey and Cardwell
Lewis, Mr. G.
Littlewood, Miss G.
Lloyd, Mr. James
Lopez, Mr. Stephen
Lovell, Mr. and Mrs.
Lukushima Troupe
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Mannikins, The
Marco, Mr.
Marshall, Miss M.
Martino, Madame
Mayke, Mr. T.
McDermott, Miss Ouida
McLeod, Mr. Gordon
McMerry, Miss
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Merlin, Mr. Jack
Milner Trio, Prince
Morris, Miss Lily
Mundell, Mr. F.
Murray, Mr. G. B.
Neill, Mr. Sinclair
Neville, Mr. Harry
Nord, Miss Serene
Norman, Miss Lizzie
Norris, Mr. Russel.
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Provenzie, Miss Edie
Richmond, Mr. Arthur
Ridge, Mr. Pett
Ridgway, Miss N.
Rigby, Mr. Arthur
Rogers, Mr. Charles
Romanos Trio
Roy, Miss Elsie
Russell, Miss Freda
Russell, Miss Helen
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Samson, Mrs.
Saxionas, The
Schariz, Mrs. Louis
Schofield, Mrs.
Schonberg, Mr. W. L.
Selman, Mr. E. W.
Seymour, Mr. Edwin
Seymour, Mr. Ernest
Sivado, Mr. C.
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Standing, Mr. C. W.
Stapley, Mr. Kenneth G.
Sullivan, Mr. L.
Swanborough, Mr. H.
Symonds, Mr. A.
Tarong, Mr. Harry
Terry, Mr. Jack
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Tower, Mr. Allen
Van Allen, Mr. W.
Vernon, Mrs. G.
Vigors, Mrs. Douglas
Wade, Mr. Stanley
Waller, Mrs. Lewis
Walsh, Mr. J. Fenton
Ward, Mr. Hugh
Warren, Miss Gwynne
Waters, Miss Jessica
Willard, Mr. J.
Williams, Miss May
Wood, Mr. W.
Young, Mr. Ted
Zola, Master J.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Malden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

WE wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Elsie Forster—Friday, July 22.
J. Henry Twyford—Saturday, July 23.
Odeyne Spark—Saturday, July 23.
Richard Cass—Saturday, July 23.
William Mackintosh—Saturday, July 23.
Charles Fulton—Saturday, July 23.
Margaret Story-Gofton—Saturday, July 23.
Anna De Grey—Saturday, July 23.
J. Henry Twyford—Saturday, July 23.
Fred Durban—Saturday, July 23.
William Gillette—Sunday, July 24.
Martin Adeson—Sunday, July 24.
Barney Vox—Sunday, July 24.
Margaret Radcliffe—Sunday, July 24.
Carmon Amoros De Caicedo—Sunday, July 24.
Kate E. Leslie—Monday, July 25.
Nat C. Goodwin—Monday, July 25.
Arthur Rigby—Monday, July 25.
Nat Travers—Monday, July 25.
Winifred Wood—Monday, July 25.
Roy Cochrane—Tuesday, July 26.
Frank Tyars—Tuesday, July 26.
Frank Lester—Tuesday, July 26.
Gus Garrick—Tuesday, July 26.
Tom Craven—Tuesday, July 26.
Mark Lorne—Tuesday, July 26.
Olga André—Wednesday, July 27.
Fred Bentley—Wednesday, July 27.
Percy Boucher—Wednesday, July 27.
Nellie Marler—Wednesday, July 27.
Alf Robini—Wednesday, July 27.
Ray Ford—Wednesday, July 27.
Truly Shattuck—Wednesday, July 27.
Mary Anderson—Thursday, July 28.
Kate Phillips—Thursday, July 28.
Lillian Russell—Thursday, July 28.
Marie Kendall—Thursday, July 28.
Will Poluski—Thursday, July 28.
Will Onda, jun.—Thursday, July 28.
Marie Lohr—Thursday, July 28.
Hettie Fritz—Thursday, July 28.
Charles Collette—Friday, July 29.
Agnes Imlay—Friday, July 29.
Leonard Williams—Friday, July 29.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.
ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Apply or Address,
C. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.
MESSRS GORDON AND GOTCH.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.
Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
Mr. EDMUND PAYNE
and full Gaiety Company.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
July 25 and every evening at 7.45, Matinée every Wednesday at 2.30, "The Christian."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA, RI-TCHAVES, &c.
Last week of ETHEL LEVEY.
SCHICHTL'S MARIONETTES, M. Carvey, THE UESSEMS, Merlin, The Royal Colibris, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
"HULLO! PEOPLE."
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
"EAST AND WEST."
Geo. Mozart, Emerson and Baldwin, Mazuz and Mazetto, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson and Clark, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers, and Co., Arthur Prince, Redford and Winchester, Bert Levy, Merian's Canine Actors, Eclipse Stakes on Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée full programme, Saturdays at 2.
Special Matinée Wednesdays at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—"Concordia," by Percy Honri and Co., Wee Georgie Wood, Madge Temple, Gipsy Woolf and Co., Chirgwin, Winifred Ward, The Seven Bramusas, Harry Bedford, Gertie Gitana, Kelly and Agnes, O'Gorman Bros., Hayman and Franklin, Flo Esdaile, Les Marbas, Frank Maura, H. Nelson, Spalding and Riego, Bioscope.
Open 7.20. Saturday matinées at 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT

TIVOLI.—
CARRIE MOORE, MARY LAW.
THE TWO BOBS, CLARICE MAYNE, Roland Bottomley, Fred Elton, Duncan and Godfrey, Ernest Rees, May Fairclough, Maggie Carr, Josephine La Bark, Gladys Huxley, Milt Wood, Rosie Lloyd, Wallace Lupino, Meredith Meredro, and Hall and Earle.
Open 7.40, Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Ethel Campbell, Max Waldon, Hon. Eva O'Connor, Bros. Wright, Albert Le Fre, Austin Latham, Carrie Moore, Adam Tomlinson, George Carney and Co., Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
G. H. Chirgwin, Winifred Ward, S. and C. Auer, Walter Munroe, Loring Fernie and Co., in "The Devil's World," Josie Mooney, Harry Nelson, Adey Spencer, Kisbey, Ruffell's Bioscope, Walton and Lester.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock, Monday, Arthur Rigby's Co. present "Uncle's Annual," Jenny Grant, Fred Hartley, Bioscope, Lydia Neilson's Boys and Girls, Melene and Emilon, Trevor and Ware, Maggie Fraser, Fred Eustace and Co., and Vincent. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, July 25.
Charles Douglas Carlisle's Co., "King of the Road," Four Broadway Boys, Vera Crackles, Burns and Danvers, O'Mara Duo, Bert Errol, The Bernices, Four Sparks, Bioscope, &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL (facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, July 25: Leonard Barry and Co., Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, Madge O'Neill, Alfred Wellesley and Co., Sylvesto and Rumbo, Leonard Barry, Fred Herbert, The Ives, Frank Boyce, Gladys Earle, Barn and Bardell, Harry Ormonde, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30; Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart, C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Birch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre. Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EVESHAM.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed, good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HASTINGS. — PIER PAVILION.
Three Nights
and a
Matinée.
Booked in conjunction
with
The Pier, Eastbourne.
Walter Maxwell,
PIER, HASTINGS.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE,, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BAROLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courteidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Sept. 26, Nov. 7 and 21, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Sept. 5 (six nights),
Sept. 19 (six), 26 (three), Oct. 31 (six),
Nov. 10 (three), 14, 21 (six), Dec. 1 (three).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE.
ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 6.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, for first-class attractions only.
Silence a polite negative.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
This theatre will be under the sole management of Mr. Gerald Spencer on and after Aug. 22. All bookings made by the present management are hereby cancelled, as provided for in contract.
The theatre will be closed for a short time between now and the above-named date, and will be thoroughly overhauled and re-decorated.
When re-opened it will be run as a first-class dramatic house (once nightly).
Touring Managers holding contracts who wish to play their dates, please communicate at once.
N.B.—Wanted a very big attraction for re-opening date (Aug. 22). Nothing too big.
Various open later on.
Add., Gerald Spencer, KING'S T., EDINBURGH.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law," ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright" as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted R.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Cascilli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Curlette, Miss Cissie	Oct. 23, 1909
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 9, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Wilner	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Bateson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Iling, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Melville, Mr. Andrew	Oct. 2, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Moore, Late Mr. G. W.	Oct. 2, 1909
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. B.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Rexos, The	Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter	Nov. 6, 1909
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny	July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schönberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Oct. 16, 1909
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whiting, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Wilson, Late Mr. Charles	July 31, 1909
Winslow, Mr. Samuel E.	Dec. 11, 1909
Workman, Mr. C. H.	Sept. 11, 1909
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY
MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1910.

MODERN SCENE-PAINTING.

That enterprising paper the *New Age* has been putting a series of questions to many persons connected with the theatre, both in this country and abroad. The queries were as follow:—"1. Have recent developments, in your opinion, shown any advance in the direction of increasing the beauty of the stage pictures? 2. Do you think that managers and producers are yet using to the full all the advantages offered by the modern studio? 3. Would you say that artists are availing themselves as fully as they might of the opportunities open to them in the modern theatre?" One of the most pithy replies received was from Mr. E. A. BAUGHAN, the dramatic critic of the *Daily News*. Mr. BAUGHAN is by no means a pessimist in his view of contemporary scenic art, and his remarks were sound and sensible. He said:—

Not only in lighting and design has the stage picture developed, but in the matter of colour it has made great progress. At the same time not enough attention is given to the massing and contrast of colours in costumes, nor are they always in harmony with the scenery. This may be because in many cases the costume-designer works almost independently of the scene-painter, and both again are at the mercy of the producer and stage-manager, who arrange the lighting and grouping. The whole stage picture should be the expression of one man's conception. He need not be an artist, but he must have an artistic mind, and he must understand the stage.

The art-specialist does not quite understand the needs and conventions of the stage. The picture is only the background to the drama, and at the risk of every kind of unnaturalness the protagonists of the drama must stand out and not be overwhelmed or dwarfed by the scenery. It would be well if the upward light of the footlights could be abolished, as Professor HERKOMER suggested many years ago, but the artist's idea of natural lighting will not do. If you cannot see the players' faces the drama has lost its expression, whatever it may have gained as a picture. In the adaptation of artistic ideals to the conventions of the stage lies the secret of successful scenic production. The artist has to learn that the stage-picture must not interfere with, but must emphasise the drama. This means that a painter, if he uses his talents for the stage, must be ready for sacrifices and compromises in the interests of the drama.

The discussion itself was interesting, but futile. Strange as the statement may seem, there never was a time when the ordinary painter had less chance of employing his talents in scene-painting than at present. The only writer who has tried to "tackle" the theory of scenery logically is Mr. PERCY FITZGERALD, who gave the palm for consistency and illusion to the system of mounting in vogue in the "fifties." Then, he said, the stage represented not a room from which one side had been removed, but a "segment." When there was a cloth exhibited, with side scenes to mark the exits and entrances, there was simply a background for the performers. They were not enclosed; and, for persons in the pit and stalls, the background was there, just as it was for the actors. "The system of flats or painted cloths," said Mr. FITZGERALD, "may be considered the truly scenic one." He also drew attention to the method of lighting employed in the pre-GARRICK days. This, he said, was infinitely better; but then it was not intended to illuminate the materials, objects, and decorations. The four heavy chandeliers that hung down halfway over the heads of the actors lit up just the zone in which they stood.

The method of lighting has practically governed the art of scene-painting. In the old system the back cloth was simply a picture of a landscape or of one wall of an apartment. The "flats" did not pretend to represent anything accurately. By the convention of the stage then in force they were tolerated or ignored. An ordinary painter might therefore turn his hand to scene-painting easily.

In his admirably-argued essay on the subject, Mr. FITZGERALD warmly lauds the old system, and is correspondingly critical of the present method. The essence of his argument is that the illusion of relief can be conveyed more effectively by painting than by material imitation, and that the mounting should be unimportant or subsidiary to the figures on the stage—i.e., the actors and actresses. "The object of scenery," wrote Mr. FITZGERALD, "is negative rather than positive—the exclusion of the homely outside world and its details, with the creation of an illusive world; instead of which the aim now appears to be to introduce the outside world, and all its details, and join the stage to real life."

But it is useless to try to "put the clock back" in such matters. For good or evil the built-up scene and the electrically-lighted stage are with us, and have come to stay. We must make the best of them, and the best is very good.

It was during the transition state, when the combination of building-up with cloth-painting was not so well understood, that inartistic results were most frequent. In the old cloth and flat system the scenic artist and his assistants practically produced the scenery. Under the building-up system very often half of it is made not painted. In the transition period the results of this combination were sometimes quite painful. A foreground tree, bad in construction and colour, would be stuck in a prominent position "on its own," and would entirely spoil the general effect of the scene; or the juncture of the built-up rocks with the painted portion of the scenery would be so obvious as to entirely destroy all illusion.

But we have changed all that. It is true that the modern scenic artist grumbles that a great part of his work is done by the modeller and the carpenter; but as he—the artist—designs the scene in its entirety, and gets all the credit for it, it is hard to see how he can reasonably complain. It is surprising how realism of stage setting has kept pace with the increase of the amount of light which is thrown upon the stage. We see exteriors in which flights of steps, walls, and arbours are made parts of the scenic whole, and at the same time we have exquisite effects of distance and middle distance created by pure painting. The difficulty of the searching, all-pervading light has been met and conquered, and the result at times nearly approaches perfection of illusion.

Of course, on logical and realistic grounds, the stage-picture is indefensible. However strong sunlight may be, it always comes from one side or the other, and throws a shadow. On the stage there are three or more suns, and sometimes a kind of moon in the shape of the limelight. But was the old system, with the three chandeliers, any more real or true to nature? The truth is that we have to abandon consistency in a stage representation. In Mr. GORDON CRAIG'S experiments he, in some cases, succeeded in creating a fine artistic effect, as far as the scene was concerned; but the result was injurious to the audience's view of the faces of the performers. Nothing can make up for this. The play is the thing. Accustomed as we are to elaborate mounting, too much generalisation in scenery would worry us and distract our attention. And after the first grateful recognition of a beautiful stage-picture, who, in the case of a thrilling and enthralling play, troubles about the scenery at all?

THE TIVOLI, ABERDEEN.

The new Tivoli Theatre, Aberdeen, formerly Her Majesty's Theatre and Opera House, Guild-street, which was opened in 1872 by Mr. William Gomersal, and has now been made into a music-hall, and was opened on Monday amid scenes of great enthusiasm. There were three performances, at every one of which hundreds were turned from the doors. The old familiar theatre in Guild-street has been transformed by tasteful designers and skilled hands into a veritable palace of entertainment. The lighting effects brilliantly set off the tasteful decorations. The light green upholstery, the whitened walls, and the prettily corniced ceiling were fittingly admired by thousands of Aberdonians, who well remembered the former bare and uninviting aspects of the building. To all intents and purposes, it is a new theatre, capable of ranking amongst the best equipped in Scotland.

There was no special ceremony at the opening. The afternoon performance was somewhat of the nature of an initial reception, most of the local shareholders being present, and many of the public representatives of the city. Councillor Leith, chairman of directors, was assiduous in his attentions to the spectators and guests, and the manager and assistants had their hands full in regulating the crowds who sought admission and in directing the internal arrangements.

Not a hitch occurred during the opening performances, and the interest of the audiences was equally divided between the stage performances and the effective scheme of decoration by which the internal arrangements of the place had been so charmingly transformed.

It was voted by spectators and promoters alike to have been a most promising and successful opening, and the prospects seem to augur well for a continuance of the initial support and excellence of entertainment.

The programme presented was of an appropriate and pleasing character.

The opening performance was contributed to by the Harmony Four, who created roars of laughter; Dix and Dox, whose performances on a variety of grotesque instruments were extravagantly absurd; Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, whose songs were enthusiastically received; those clever gymnasts the Avolos, and the Creo Brothers, smart and active acrobats; the Sisters Herbert, with their singing and dancing, were warm favourites; and Tom Lee, light comedian, was decidedly successful; Morny Cash, Lancashire comedian, made a palpable hit; and the entertainment ended with a funny bioscope film.

A CONCERT is to be promoted in Bristol as a testimonial to Mr. Horace Livermore, who has retired from the position of manager of the Palace Theatre. It is to take place shortly at the Colston Hall, and in furtherance of the arrangements a representative committee is to be formed. Mr. Livermore has always identified himself with movements to benefit local institutions, and has given help and assistance where they were required. The proposed concert is certain, therefore to be influentially supported.

MR. FRED W. LAURAINE (Hector and Lauraine) has received the following: "To F. W. Lauraine, 10A, Morat-street, Brixton-road, S.W.—His Majesty the King, through the Private Secretary, wishes to thank Mr. Fred W. Lauraine for the verses sent to him.—Buckingham Palace, July 19, 1910."

THE BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME.

The Hippodrome, Birmingham, closed down quite suddenly on July 2, after part payment only of the salaries of the artists engaged on June 20. On Thursday, July 14, a joint meeting was held between the directors of the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, and the directors of Barrasford, Limited, for the purpose of clearing up matters and opening the house on Monday last. Unfortunately, this result was not attained. Late on Friday evening—too late for insertion in our last issue—we received the following letter:—

"18, Fleet-street, London, E.C.
"July 14, 1910.

"*Re* BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME.

"DEAR SIR,—On the instruction of our clients, Messrs. Barrasford, Ltd., and Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd., we enclose you copy of a letter we have to-day sent to the secretary of the Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited.—Yours faithfully,

"AMERY-PARKES, MACKLIN AND CO.

"W. H. Clemart, Esq.,
"The Variety Artists' Federation,
"18, Charing Cross-road, W.C

[ENCLOSURE.]

"July 14, 1910.

"*Re* BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME.

"DEAR SIR,—A joint meeting of the directors of Barrasford, Limited, and Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, was held to-day to consider the position created by the action of the directors of the Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited, in closing these premises.

"The directors of Barrasford, Limited, have instructed us to say they strongly protest against the course taken by the directors of the Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited, without first consulting them on the matter, as they would have been quite prepared to take steps to ensure the premises being left open. This would have obviated the irreparable injury which has now been done to the premises, and would have enabled the company to carry out its contracts with the artists.

"Apart from the financial interest of Barrasford, Limited, in the Birmingham Hippodrome, the directors of Barrasford, Limited, and the directors of Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, have instructed us to say that, with a view to the fulfilment of these contracts, they are prepared at their own expense to reopen the premises, and to undertake the management as from the 25th inst., and to carry out the contracts, and to indemnify the company against any loss whilst the property is under their management.

"This course would enable the directors of the Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited, not only to keep faith with the artists, but save the company from heavy liability, and would give the directors an opportunity of negotiating the sale of the Hippodrome as a going concern.

"We are requested to ask that you will be good enough to give us an answer on or before Monday next. Time is obviously of the greatest importance if the premises are to be reopened by the 25th inst.

"We are sending you by separate letter an offer for the premises, which our clients are prepared to leave open for fourteen days, for acceptance, so as to give you an opportunity of getting a better offer, if possible, in the meantime.

"We have to add that, in addition to that of Barrasford, Limited, we have the authority of Mr. Sley and Mr. Grosvenor Hamilton to say that they concur in the course proposed. As you are aware, they collectively represent one-half of the share capital in the Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited.

"On the instruction of the directors of both companies we are sending a copy of this letter to the Variety Artists' Federation.—Yours faithfully,

"AMERY-PARKES, MACKLIN AND CO.

"E. W. Beech, Esq.,
"Secretary,
"The Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited,
"37, Temple-street, Birmingham."

At an accidental meeting with Mr. Alfred Butt Mr. Clemart pointed out that those artists who had been booked by the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, for the week of June 20 were still without the balances of their salaries, whereupon Mr. Butt stated that they should be paid—even if out of his own pocket—and an appointment was then and there made for 3.30 p.m. for Monday last at Randvoll House. The meeting accordingly took place, both Mr. Alfred Butt and Mr. Walter de Frece being present. Without hesitation Mr. Butt and Mr. De Frece agreed that, although according to contract no legal responsibility could attach to the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, as a point of honour the amount claimed should be paid, and a cheque was at once made out for £83 13s. 8d. Messrs. Butt, Gibbons, and Walter De Frece have taken care that the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, has a contract in strict accordance with the Award; the parties who are to be held responsible for any breach of contract are clearly indicated, and the contract is entirely free from ambiguity.

THE PALACE, ABERDEEN.

The Palace Theatre, which has been closed for the past four weeks, was reopened on Monday. The interior of the building has undergone several alterations, and has altogether been considerably improved. The area has been lowered and made into one complete floor. The orchestra stalls, consisting of eighty tip-up chairs, are covered with crimson plush cloth which gives to the whole area a very bright appearance.

Behind these are the ordinary stalls, which now total 260 chairs of similar design and similarly covered, but in a less elaborate way. At the back of the ordinary stalls are the pit stalls, which have been fitted up with new seats with backs. Two new boxes have been erected, one at each side of the orchestra stalls. There are private entrances to boxes, and patrons of the orchestra stalls will have a new entrance from the east side of the theatre. The stage has been lowered six inches and has been entirely renewed.

The grand circle has been fitted up with chairs, covered to match those on the ground floor. The walls of the entire building have been divided into panels, which are artistically painted. The general scheme of painting is cream colour, picked out with darker shades of cream and a light tint of green, while the whole of the mouldings of the panels are picked out in gold. Outside, a substantial verandah has been erected along the entire building. The verandah is being fitted up with a row of coloured electric lights. The number of lights illuminating the stage have been more than doubled. Everything possible has been done to bring the theatre up to date, and make it in every way comfortable for its patrons.

It is hardly conceivable that such a transformation could have taken place in the short period of four weeks, and the result of the alterations is a credit to Mr. W. E. Bickers, architect, Bradford, and Mr. John Rust, city architect, Aberdeen, under whose direction the work was carried out. Visitors to the Palace Theatre will much appreciate the improvements which have been effected, and there is little doubt that, under the able management of Mr. Percy H. Gallagher, this popular house of amusement will continue to receive a large share of public patronage.

MR. WILL A. JACKSON, who has been the popular manager of the Palace, Cardiff, for some little while, has been transferred, and his place is filled by Mr. Arthur Burton, who was in charge at the opening of this hall three years ago by Mr. Macpaghlen.

THE THEATRES ALLIANCE.

The following is the report of the Sub-Committee of the Theatres Alliance upon the Censorship Committee's Report: The members of the sub-committee were Mr. James Bell, Mr. J. L. S. Moss, Mr. J. B. Mulholland, Mr. Clarence Sounes, and the Hon. Secretary (J. Moverley Sharp).

To the Theatres Alliance,—

We, as your Committee, have fully considered the report of the Joint Select Committee of the House of Lords and the House of Commons on the Stage Plays (Censorship), and on general principles agree with the majority of the conclusions and a large number of the recommendations therein contained.

We wish, however, to draw special attention to the following specific points, which should in our opinion be reconsidered and carefully provided for in any legislation that may result.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. On pagt 11 of the Report it is suggested that:—

"The licence of a theatre which has been indorsed three times within a period of five years should be liable to forfeiture by the Court which directed the last endorsement, and be incapable of renewal for a period of five years following to or for the benefit of the same licensee."

The effect of the recommendations as they now stand would be to make the actual theatre building responsible for the wrongful acts of lessees or temporary occupiers, such for instance as touring managers visiting suburban and provincial theatres with touring companies.

If the structure is not suitable or is not properly maintained, or for other definite reasons an "entertainment" licence may be opposed at the outset or on application for renewal, but having been obtained this licence should not be capable of being interfered with because of the personal fault or neglect of a lessee, occupier, or touring manager. The punishment should fall on the delinquent and not on owners, mortgagees, shareholders, or workmen, who would be entirely innocent of the breach of the law. Powers are or can be made adequate to deal with any offence against law or decency there and then, but any breach by any particular management does not interfere with the future good conduct by other persons, or with the suitability of the premises for the purposes for which they are designed.

2. On page 12 of the Report it states:—

"The powers of the authorities which license theatres should remain as they now are; that is to say, that they should be empowered to withdraw a theatre licence provided that they are acting 'according to the rules of reason and justice.'"

On page 18 the Committee states:—

"We are of opinion, therefore, that it would be advisable that the licensing of the forty theatres which are now in the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain should be transferred to the London County Council, whose officers already visit them regularly in order to advise as to the safety of their structure and of their accommodation for the public."

As regards the first part of the above recommendation it must be insisted that whatever the licensing authorities may be there *must* be rights of appeal. This is an essential and a right now officially recognised in practically every matter except licensing.

In connection with the second portion of the recommendation dealing with London alone, whilst not wishing to make any recommendation that would interfere with the wishes of the proprietors of theatres now under the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, it is not in the views of your Committee desirable that this jurisdiction should be enlarged.

3. On page 16 of the Report, when referring to the courses open for dealing with the questions of theatre and music hall licences, in reference to the second suggestion which is that sketches in music halls should be legalised, the Censorship Committee says:—

"The second alternative we regard as unjust to the proprietors of theatres. They ask that, if the existing law which ostensibly protects their interests is not to be enforced, they shall at least be allowed to meet their competitors on equal terms, and, if they so desire, during a part of the year, or, it may be, as a portion of their entertainment, to present performances other than stage plays. *This cannot but be regarded as a reasonable demand.*"

This is followed by the recommendation of the third alternative, the proposed "entertainment" licence.

With this recommendation on the basis and the ground set out in the Report we are in accord.

4. On page 17 the Censorship Committee state:—

"We are of opinion that all places of entertainment holding the new single licence should be required to obtain a Justices' licence if it is proposed to sell intoxicants upon the premises, but that existing theatres which now hold an excise licence should be entitled, subject to good conduct, to continue to sell under that licence *for a period to be determined in the statute.*"

It cannot be too strongly pointed out that theatre proprietors are not asking for the single licence otherwise than in default of the enforcement of the law as it now stands, and therefore if in consequence of the trespass on theatrical proprietors' rights by music hall proprietors any alteration is necessitated, the existing rights or privileges of the former should not be interfered with or curtailed. Neither should there be any statutory term limit to the existing right to an excise licence.

We therefore strongly recommend that the words "for a period to be determined by the statute" should be deleted.

We do *not* agree with the opinion that all places of entertainment holding the new single licence should be required to obtain a justices' licence if it is proposed to sell excisable liquors.

We recommend that for the future any theatre holding an entertainment licence (which licence should be strictly limited to theatres and music halls proper) should have the right to an excise licence, subject, however, to conditions that may be imposed as now by the licensing authority, with right of appeal as previously mentioned.

5. The present objectionable method of granting licences at police-courts and the like should be abolished, and a licence having once been granted (which would only be upon proper notice and compliance with certain rules) should be renewed automatically, failing objection by proper notices.

In the event of proper objection being lodged, the objectors and the applicants would be heard in the usual way with rights of appeal as before mentioned, but proper provision should be made authorising the authorities to order payment of costs.

6. On page 13 of the Report it says:—

"The Lord Chamberlain is now authorised to receive plays for examination only from the managers who propose to produce them. Several witnesses have urged that the authors also should have a right of access to the licenser. Such right of access, however, would add greatly to the work of the licenser. It would be likely also to throw the cost of the licensing of their plays as a regular burden upon authors, often perhaps not in a position to bear it. We recommend, therefore, that the existing practice should continue, unless it should appear that the authors as a body would prefer that this right should be given."

Your committee are in accord with the report on the question of the optional licence for plays, but do not agree with the existing anomalous practice of granting those licences to managers.

It is not thought that the question of the possible trivial expense to authors need be taken into consideration. As a matter of practice the licence is not likely to be asked for till production is intended, and if a play is accepted the payment of the fees (if they are kept on the present reasonable basis) will not be a serious matter to either party, and is not in the least likely to be any obstacle to a play that is deemed sufficiently good to be performed.

We therefore recommend, and desire to emphasise, that licences for plays should in the ordinary course be issued to the authors, but if a manager or other owner of a play or the performing rights therein desires to have the licence, it should be granted to him as owner and not in the capacity of theatre licensee as at present.

J. MOVERLEY SHARP,
Hon. Secretary.

Criterion Chambers, Jermyn-street, S.W.

This report was approved and adopted by the Theatres Alliance at the general meeting on the 12th inst.

CONSTRUING A CONTRACT.

In the Court of Appeal on Wednesday, the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Farwell and Kennedy, heard the case of "Clifton *v.* the New Tivoli (Limited)," which came before the Court upon the plaintiff's appeal from a judgment of a Divisional Court of King's Bench, reversing a decision of the learned judge of the Westminster County Court.

The plaintiff, Mr. Herbert Clifton, a music-hall artist, sued the defendants to recover salary which he alleged to be due to him in the following circumstances:—In November, 1907, the plaintiff entered into a contract with the defendants to perform at the Tivoli for six weeks in 1908-9-10. One of the provisions of the contract ran as follows:—"The management hereby engages the artist, and the artist accepts the engagement to appear as mimic, or in his usual entertainment, at the Tivoli every evening, and on Saturday afternoon when required in accordance with clause 3, for the period and at the salary stated in the schedule." Clause 3 ran:—"The artist agrees to appear at any matinées required by the management, and shall be paid for each matinée at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary." The plaintiff's salary was £8 10s. a week, and £1 4s. 3d. for a matinée. The plaintiff performed at the evening performances for two weeks, and also at two matinées. On Aug. 20 he received a letter stating that, owing to the length of the programme, his services would not be required at the matinée on the following Saturday. The plaintiff also received a similar notice with regard to the matinée on the following Saturday. The plaintiff was tendered his salary for these two weeks without the fee for the two matinées, but he refused to accept the amount tendered, and sued the defendants in the County Court for the two weeks' salary due to him, the fees for the matinées, and for damages for not being allowed to perform. The defendants paid the amount of the two weeks' salary, less the fees for the matinées, into Court.

The County Court Judge held upon the construction of the contract that the words "any matinées when required" meant matinées required by the management, and that the plaintiff, Mr. Herbert Clifton, was entitled to his fee if a matinée were given, whether he actually performed or not. He accordingly gave judgment for the plaintiff for £20 8s. 6d., being the amount claimed for salary, including matinées, with £1 damages in addition.

The Divisional Court, however, upon the defendants' appeal, reversed the decision of the County Court Judge, holding that upon the construction of the contract the plaintiff was only entitled to be paid for performing at a matinée when requested to do so. Hence the present appeal of the plaintiff.

Mr. Atkin, K.C., and Mr. Doughty appeared for the appellant, and Sir F. Lowe, K.C., and Mr. Campbell Johnstone for the respondents.

At the conclusion of the arguments of counsel for the appellant, and without calling upon counsel for the respondents, their Lordships held that the decision of the Divisional Court was right, and dismissed the appeal with costs.

MASONS AT WORK.

The regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge (No. 3,098) was held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Friday last. Owing to the absence in Glasgow on business of Mr. Harry Bawn, the Worshipful Master of the present year, the lodge was presided over by Mr. Albert Le Fre as acting W.M. The following officers were also present:—Mr. W. P. K. Walton, S.W.; Mr. G. H. Dyball, J.W.; Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, Treasurer; Mr. C. J. Doughty, Secretary; Mr L. G. Sharpe, S.D.; Mr. E. T. R. Lester, J.D.; Mr. A. E. Nicklin, I.G.; Mr. Angelo A. Asher, Organist; Mr. A. Felino, Steward; and Mr. J. H. MacNaughton, Tyler. Previous to the business of the day being transacted, a very hearty vote of congratulation was passed to Mr. W. S. Lyon upon his safe return from his trip to Canada and the States, it being the first time he had attended Lodge since being invested as an officer of Grand Lodge. Mr. Lyon feelingly replied.

He related his experiences, and spoke of the reception given him in the Lodges in Montreal and New York, and delivered a fraternal greeting and remembrance from "Serpentello," a P.M. of the Lodge, whom he had met in New York.

The acting W.M. initiated Messrs. J. T. M. Siems and Chas. F. Stirling into the mysteries, and advanced Messrs. Crossland, James Stewart, and Will Johnson, and then vacated the chair in favour of Mr. James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., who initiated Messrs. J. P. Ling and Bert Marsden into the mysteries of the Order. Urgent business calling Mr. Mathews away, the chair was again taken by Mr. Le Fre, who completed the ceremony with Mr. A. G. Harman.

After several letters and telegrams from absent members regretting their inability to be present had been read, the Lodge was closed in due form, the members present, in addition to the above-named officers, being Messrs. Booker Andrews, Frank Hardie, Wm. Ward, Pete Murray, James Stewart, Will Johnson, Ben Whiteley, A. G. Harman, Herbert Austin, C. H. Burton, Ed. Crossland, J. T. M. Siems, Chas. F. Stirling, J. P. Ling, and Bert Marsden; also the following visitors:—Messrs. T. Slegarist, Camden Lodge, 704; Walter Barrett, Glasgow Dramatic, 571; Sydney Gaunt, Prince Consort Lodge, 52, Province of Quebec. The members and visitors adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel and partook of a cold collation.

STAMP-COLLECTING is a hobby in which Mr. George Robey has indulged for some time. He has, accordingly, had a number of dealings with Mr. F. Ginn, of the Strand, and the latter on Wednesday brought an action against him respect of several lots of stamps—particularly Mauritius and "Old Colonials"—forwarded to Mr. Robey between Dec. 2 and Dec. 14, 1909. They were retained until the latter part of the following April, when Mr. Robey kept some and returned the others. Plaintiff, however, contended that, by reason of the unreasonable time he had had them in his possession, Mr. Robey ought to take the lot. Hence he sought to recover their value, £276. Mr. Justice Bucknill on Wednesday, when the action was tried in the King's Bench Division, intimated that he would give judgment this morning. He however, suggested that in the meantime the parties should endeavour to come to terms.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Cecilia Loftus, who was announced to return to the Coliseum programme on Monday next, will unfortunately not be able to appear on that date. On the advice of her medical attendant she will undergo an operation, and will not appear again in public until further notice. Miss Loftus was unable to be present to give away the prizes at the Music Hall Sports on Thursday.

"The Dancing Master," a divertissement in one scene, music by Cuthbert Clarke, will be produced at the Empire on Monday, by Fred Farren, who will play the title-rôle. Miss F. Martell will be Celestine, M. Adolf Bolm Armand, Miss Phyllis Bedells Mlle. Lutine, Miss Beatrice Collier Mlle. Rosita, and Mlle Lydia Kyasht Mimi Laffleur. The period is 1840, and the scene the rehearsal room at the Opéra, Paris.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten reached London on Wednesday after a most enjoyable trip to South America, which has enabled him to have a health-giving holiday of two months. He returned by the Araguya as far as Spain, travelling overland to Paris, where he made a brief stay.

John Lawson will submit his latest production, *The King of Palestine*, a prophecy in four episodes on Aug. 1, at the Olympia, Shoreditch. Mr. Lawson will be surrounded by an extremely strong cast, and some 70 or 80 supernumeraries. The uniforms and costumes for the great Congress scene are being specially prepared by Louis Benjamin and Co., who are taking care that every detail of the uniforms, etc., is correct.

The officers and men of his Imperial Japanese Majesty's warship Ikoma have accepted an invitation from Mr. Oswald Stoll to visit the Coliseum and Hippodrome on the afternoons of Monday and Tuesday, the 25th and 26th. They will muster in all about 1,000 warrant officers and men, and as leave cannot be given to the whole number, they will visit the two theatres in drafts of about 250.

Notwithstanding repeated efforts on the part of Mr. Alfred Butt to retain the services of Mlle. Pavlova, M. Mordkin, and company of Russian dancers, it has been found impossible to do so, owing to the fact that the gifted dancer has signed a contract to appear at the Grand Opera House, New York. Mlle. Pavlova will, therefore, terminate her engagement at the Palace Theatre on Aug. 6, but in addition to the evening performances she will dance at three special matinées on July 27, Aug. 3, and, in deference to a widely expressed wish from those intending to visit London, a further matinée will be given on August Bank Holiday.

Captain Suogi, commanding the Japanese cruiser Ikoma, with a party of officers who were on an official visit to the Admiralty and War Office, paid a visit to the Palace on Wednesday evening, and received the Russian dancers with great enthusiasm. Mr. Barclay Gammon at his piano had bright things to say on the occasion, whilst Mr. Bert Levy, the Australian caricaturist, drew a series of Japanese types which highly delighted the special visitors.

Miss Daisy James is appearing at the Palace, Plymouth. She has plenty of tuneful songs, among which the widely-sung "Ship Ahoy!" is still the favourite. Another song which Miss James has made popular is "The Hallelujah Band."

Miss Katie Lawrence goes to the Rotherhithe Hippodrome on Monday with new songs and new business. Miss Lawrence made a sensation as Daisy, the tandem bicycle heroine. She should be able to give us a humorous notion of the airship lady.

Miss Nora Kerin, the Miranda in Sir Herbert Tree's revival of *The Tempest* in 1905, who has also become a favourite of the halls in sketches, is the fortunate winner of the diamond pendant, the first prize in the *Pelican* smart woman competition. Miss Rosie Butterick has won a three-guinea hat, and Miss Kittee Rayburn, Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Mildred Deverez, and Miss Simeta Marsden have won similar prizes.

Mr. Martin Harvey writes:—"I am told there are certain gentlemen on the variety stage who are repeating as a music hall turn a long speech that I make in *The Breed of the Treshams*. The speech seems to be generally known as 'the Rat's speech,' and it is that in which he relates the story of his lost love. Several gentlemen have written to me asking permission to be allowed to use this speech, and I have always declined their request, because, of course, any portion of *The Breed of the Treshams* is absolutely copyright. If the thing is persisted in I shall have to take proceedings."

We are glad to be able to announce that that favourite comedian Mr. Harry Randall is to return to Drury Lane, and he will be associated with Mr. George Graves and Mr. George Barrett in Mr. Arthur Collins's Christmas production. His first season at the famous house was with the lamented Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell, who both died within a few months of each other in 1904. Mr. Randall was secured to take Dan Leno's place, but the latter rallied, and was able to take his place as usual as chief fun-maker—alas! for the last time.

The Vaudeville Club Golfers have appointed Gus Garrick hon. secretary, in the place of Hal Forde, now on his way to South Africa. A scheme of affiliation has been proposed by the Honor Oak Golfing Club, and intending members should send in their names to the new secretary at once. The following well-known names have already been enrolled: Harry Meymott, present holder of the music hall golf pennant, Ed. E. Ford, J. W. Rickaby, and Hal Forde, ex-music hall champions; also Wilkie Bard, Morny Cash, George Sanford, and others.

For the first time on Monday Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, who have done so much to foster a love for Grand Opera in this country, will appear upon a variety stage at the London Hippodrome. Their extensive répertoire includes such favourite items as Tosti's "Good-bye," "To-morrow will be Friday," "In cellar cool," "Father O'Flynn," "Scenes that are brightest," "The last rose of summer," "Home, sweet home," "The Diver," and the stirring "Here's a health unto His Majesty." Such a programme of immortal ballads sung by two of the most renowned vocalists of the day should prove a delight to all.

The New Tivoli (Strand) report shows that the net profit for the year ended June 30 last, after providing for £5,688 interest on the mortgage and debentures, amounts to £10,851. In January last an interim dividend of 4 per cent., less income-tax, was paid. The directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of 6 per cent., less income-tax, for the half-year ended June 30, 1910, making 10 per cent for the year. After payment of this dividend the directors propose to deal with the surplus by applying £3,000 to the general reserve fund (making £26,000 to the credit thereof) and carrying forward the balance to the current year's accounts.

The directors kindly granted the use of the Boscombe Hippodrome for a matinée on Wednesday in aid of the fund which is being raised for the benefit of those bereft of their breadwinners by the recent boating disaster at Boscombe. Twenty-five star turns contributed to a fine programme.

Graham, the human marionette, who has been winning golden opinions recently at Grimsby and Bristol, sails on the Oceanic on Sept. 21 for America, where he will be for a period of forty weeks on the Orpheum tour. His first vacant date is in February, 1912.

We understand that, after being in abeyance for some months, the work in connection with the erection of the Hippodrome at the corner of Macklin-street and Green Hill, Derby, is to be proceeded with, and that tenders have been invited for various work, to be completed at an early date.

Mr. Julian Graham, who has been resident-manager of the Hippodrome Theatre, Sheerness, commenced duties in a like capacity on Monday at the Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea, both places being under the lesseeship of Mr. B. Pareezer.

Mr. B. G. Maclachlan, of the Moss and Stoll central offices, is, owing to a change in the management, supervising affairs this week at the Glasgow Coliseum, where he was for some years the resident-manager, and next week he visits Birmingham on a similar duty. Following this, Mr. Maclachlan will be for three weeks at the London Coliseum, to take up the duties of absentees on holiday.

Mr. W. F. Frame, who is said to wear a picture postcard smile, starts his autumn vaudeville tour on Monday, Aug. 1, in Kilwinning, where Robert Burns first saw Masonic light—"Mother Lodge." It's always a big night when Brother Frame is there. This tour through Scotland and the North of England lasts for twelve weeks.

Mr. John M. Hay, who has just been promoted from the assistant managership at the Ardwick to be resident-manager at the Glasgow Coliseum, has had fourteen years varied experience in the profession. When he last visited Glasgow he was playing the Prince in *The Prince of Pilsen*, and in musical comedy and romantic drama he is equally at home. His engagements in recent years have included one with Sir Herbert Tree at His Majesty's and one at the Savoy, with provincial tours in several leading companies.

Mr. Hay is married to a member of that well-known West of Scotland family the Colquhouns of Luss (on Loch Lomond), and numbers several distinguished military and naval heroes among his family connections. His grandfather was an officer on the Bellerophon when that famous vessel had the great Napoleon on board as a prisoner of war.

Mr. Mark Lorne, who has been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll as manager of the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, has for the past three years been connected with the Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatre, Ltd. He left the Grand, Mansfield, to take up the general-management of the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, which, under his spirited management last season, proved most successful.

Mr. Lorne is well known both in dramatic and variety circles, having been manager and licensee of the old Palace, Southampton, which position he held before he was twenty-one. His fertile pen has supplied most of our leading stars with songs and scenas. His pet hobby is catchy advertising, and he is never so happy as when penning a "gag" bill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lorne were the recipients of many gifts from the numerous friends they have left behind in Sutton.

The enterprise of Mr. A. E. Pickard, of the Panopticon, Glasgow, in organising a cheap excursion to Blackpool at Glasgow Fair was amply taken advantage of, and two lengthy trains, carrying about 2,000 trippers, left Glasgow on Sunday night last for the popular Lancashire resort. Mr. Pickard is now dubbing himself the "excursion king" and "Cook's only rival"!

Mr. H. B. Sawyer, who was appointed manager of the Jersey Opera House some two or three weeks ago, has gone to the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, and has been replaced in Jersey by Mr. Lindsey Edwards. Mr. Lindsey Edwards is well known in the theatrical world, not only as an actor, but as proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Long Eaton. He was manager of the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, for four years, under Mr. W. Payne Seddon, and subsequently manager of the Electric Hippodrome for Mr. Leon Vint.

A new music hall is to be built in Doncaster. A freehold site has been acquired in Hall Gate and Silver-street, and on this a handsome modern theatre will be erected, having its principal frontage in Silver-street, with an exit in Hall Gate. The building will have a holding capacity of from 2,000 to 2,500.

The directors are:—Chairman, Mr. H. J. F. Crosby, director of the Palace Theatre and Buffet Company, Ltd., Grimsby, and also of the Alliance Insurance Company; vice-chairman, Mr. Tom Shaw, variety agent, 18, Adam-street, Strand, London; chairman of the Palace Theatre, Darlington, Ltd.; Mr. Fred Reeves, The Cedars, Grove-road, Brixton, London, director of the Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, Ltd.; Mr. Arthur I'Anson, chartered accountant, Middlesbrough, director of the East Coast Variety Halls, Ltd.; Mr. W. Lowry Cole, C.C., Doncaster, and Mr. M. E. Clark, Barnby Dun.

The managing director will be Signor Rino Pepi, who is also managing director of Darlington, Durham, Bishop Auckland, and other halls. It is the intention of the promoters to provide a clean, intellectual, and amusing entertainment, free from coarseness or vulgarity, and by so doing they hope to attract patrons from all classes of society in Doncaster and district.

At the conclusion of business at the Empire, Wakefield, on Friday (15th) the members of the staff and a few friends gathered together at the Woolpacks Hotel for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. L. H. Laycock, whose association with the management of the Empire ended the previous Saturday.

Mr. T. T. P. Sherwood, who was called upon to make the presentation, said that at the time Mr. Laycock joined the staff at the Empire that building was sailing through very troublous waters, waters which had been safely navigated by the pilotage of Mr. Harry Burns, whose respected father was there that night. But Mr. Laycock, by his untiring efforts, his strict attention to duties, and perfect willingness at all times to do everything that lay in his power in the interests of the proprietors of the Empire, has materially helped to place the building amongst the paying music hall properties of the provinces. Mr. Laycock was asked to accept a purse with the very best wishes of all who had subscribed. Mr. H. Burns, jun., Mr. Tolfree (Hippodrome), and Mr. Alan D'Albert (chef-de-orchestre) also spoke. Mr. Laycock suitably and feelingly responded.

Miss Madge Temple was specially sent for on Monday last to deputise for Miss Clarice Mayne at the Tivoli, where she is meeting with very great success. Miss Temple is also appearing at the Oxford and Canterbury.

Miss Adele Level, with her little tales, recitations, and monologues, was a much appreciated entertainer at the Hospital Fête at Walthamstow on Saturday last. She appeared on Wednesday at the Irish Club, where a warm welcome awaited her.

Mrs. Cissie Lawson, of the Empire, Camberwell, has had the misfortune to lose a lovely gown, bought at the Franco-British Exhibition, and a beautiful sable boa out of a dressing-room. This should be a warning to ladies and gentlemen to always see that their dressing-rooms are locked.

Messrs. Royston Keith and Alfred Cuthbert have written a new dramatic sketch entitled *Ned the Devil*, which has been accepted for production at the Surrey for the week commencing Monday next. The scene is laid in a riverside public-house called "The Rat Hole." Mr. Royston Keith in the name-part will be supported by a strong company.

Miss Margaret Parker, supported by a West-End company, will present for the first time on Monday at the Euston an inspiration, entitled *Her Twenty-First Birthday*, written by herself, and produced under the direction of Miss Kate Rorke, the music being composed and arranged by Mark Strong and Margaret Parker. This is the first sketch Miss Margaret Parker has written entirely alone.

Mme. Elena Knipper-Rabeneck's Eight Æsthetic Dancers from the Théâtre de Arts, Moscow, will make their first appearance in London at the Hippodrome on Monday. To the world's most fascinating music these graceful girls in classical drapery dance, pose, and act and interpret in a way never previously equalled, and there is no question that their appearance next week will cause a sensation.

Mr. Pat Carey, who is a broth of a boy as an Irish entertainer, is starting his season with the Pelican Pierrots at the Sun Hotel Gardens, Market-place, Kingston-on-Thames to-day (Saturday). He will be glad to hear from any artists whose engagements may permit of their helping to give him a send-off on this occasion. They may write to him c/o M.H.A.R.A., 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

On Monday next and every evening during the week another music hall competition is announced to be held at the Crystal Palace Theatre. A long list of amateurs will be presented each night, each competitor enthusing some amount of excitement among the audience. At the end of the week the prize winners will be announced, when many valuable prizes will be given to the most talented artists. These competitions often make of an amateur a clever professional, for it is a well-known fact that many of our leading artists of the present day were in the making amateurs whose talent made them famous.

His host of friends in Leeds and district will learn with regret of the impending departure from Leeds of Mr. Sam Jones, acting-manager of the City Varieties Music Hall.

It is nine and a half years since Mr. Jones essayed the management of the Varieties, under the wing of Mr. Fred Wood, and the association has been of the happiest and most prosperous. Mr. Jones, whilst in Leeds, has always upheld the dignity and traditions of the profession, and has ever been among the first to come forward and assist in the cause of charity whenever occasion has arisen.

Mr. Jones has been associated with the stage for thirty-five years. He is a London man, and twelve years ago accepted a managerial appointment at the Tivoli, Glasgow, for Messrs. Colquhoun and Barney Armstrong, coming to Leeds from there. Mr. Jones is now, after an absence of about a round dozen of years, returning to London, though his plans for the future are not yet complete. He was the original singer of "Where did you get that hat?" written for him by James Rolmaz. When he sang this famous number he was known as Fred Payne.

Mr. Newman Maurice, the business manager of the Brixton Theatre, writes:—"It may be interesting to readers to know that Miss Belle Elmore was engaged by me to appear for six nights at the Bijou Theatre, Teddington (which no doubt will be remembered was run by my wife, Miss Rosa Moncrieff, and myself for some years). Her engagement there commenced on Sept. 10, 1900. This was understood to be her first public appearance in England after her return from America."

In the report of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild read at the general meeting in February, there occurs the following passage:—"Thanks are also due to Miss Belle Elmore, honorary treasurer, for her hard work during her year of office, and for her organisation of the dinners, which, with the help of the committee, proved such an unqualified success." Poor Belle Elmore never heard these words of praise. Her dismembered remains were under the cellar at 39, Hilldrop-crescent, at the time they were read.

In the list of the guests at the dinner and dance of the Music Hall Railway Association at the Criterion on Feb. 20 occur the names of "Dr. and Mrs. Crippen." The lady was Miss Le Neve; and the circumstance that she was passing as Mrs. Crippen must have aroused grave suspicion in the minds of the murdered woman's friends in the profession, especially as a letter—confessedly not in her handwriting—had been received by the Music Hall Ladies' Guild announcing her impending departure for America. The dinner, by the way, was presided over by Mr. Eugene Stratton, and not by Mr. Joe Elvin, as stated in the evidence given at the inquest. Mr. Elvin was, of course, present, and giving enthusiastic support to his brother Rat.

The Aberdeen Palace Theatre, which is under the auspices of the United County Theatres, Ltd., reopened on Monday after such a thorough overhauling and reconstruction that the house is now quite up to date. A fine rake now gives an excellent sight-line for the occupants of pit and orchestra stalls—tip-up seats, prettily upholstered in green velvet. Red plush is the covering of the luxurious seats in the grand circle. The stage boxes have tasteful curtains and upholstery, and the roof and proscenium are embellished with frescoes. Tea and refreshment rooms add to the convenience of the theatre. The resident-manager is Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.

The Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association met on Wednesday at the offices, the following being present: Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), Jack Straw, E. W. Edwards, T. C. Callaghan, Tom Packer, J. Atroy, and Lieutenant Albini. The weekly financial statement showed thirty-six new members and a cash total of £52 17s. 6d. The statement for the month showed the following totals: Reserve fund, £545 17s. 3d.; deposit account, £157 7s. 4d.; current account, £87 16s. 4d.; and petty cash, £45. The amount paid to the V.A.B.F., representing the extra shilling on the green cards for October to June, was £268 13. Mr. W. C. Trow, of the Panama Hotel, Luton, was appointed agent in that town.

Mr. Phil Brandon was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Fred Hooper, W.T., assisted by Terrier Russell Brandow, V.T. Terrier Russell Brandow officiated as organist.

Messrs. Harry Roma, William Cromwell Knox, and Thomas Howard Ward, candidates for membership of the Terriers' Association, have successfully passed the ballot. Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman was elected as W.D., and Terrier W. B. Gillin Y.D. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Fred Hughes, Ted E. Box, Julian Mack, W. B. Gillin, and A. N. Hennessy upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

During the absence of Secretary Arthur Were, Terrier Tom Packer has kindly consented to undertake the duties. A cricket match has been arranged by Terrier W. R. Dunkley on Sunday, Aug. 7, at Cranford Bridge. All Terriers wishing to take part should send their names in to Tom Packer, secretary pro. tem. Further particulars later.

Miss Vera Saunders will commence a return engagement at the Tivoli on Dec. 12 next, when she will introduce a new number now in preparation, from the pen of M. Felix Santhe, the well-known French composer. Her latest success "Billy" is now in the hands of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

Mr. Harry Liston, after a long interval, will renew his acquaintance with Great Yarmouth next week at Wellington Pier, where he will be assisted by his talented colleague, Miss Lord Lumley. When Mr. Liston last performed in Yarmouth our late beloved King, Edward VII. (then Prince of Wales) was his patron.

Miss Melinda May has had much extra work of late in connection with the terrible tragedy that has robbed her and the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild of a beloved colleague. She wishes, on behalf of the committee, to thank many friends for visits and letters too numerous to answer individually for their sympathy. Her acknowledgments are due to Miss Gintaro, from South Africa (giving and collecting), £1 1s.; and Mr. Samuel H. Berwitz (donation), 2s. 6d.

Miss Margaret Halstan will produce, at the Coliseum on Aug. 8, a new one-act play by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, author of *The Likeness of the Night* and *A Long Duet*. Miss Halstan will play the leading part, which is a strong emotional one, while Mr. Dawson Milward, who recently appeared as the irritable general in *Don*, has also been provided with a fine part. Other smaller parts will be played by Miss Emma Lovett and Mr. Harvey Braham.

Dr. Walford Bodie created quite a furore last week at the Grand Opera House, Derby. He played with his own company to packed houses twice nightly, being patronised by the elite of the town and district. He had a great reception at both houses on Saturday night, being cheered again and again at the conclusion of his act. Many of his patients he presented with clothes and boots in exchange for their irons and crutches. This week he is playing to overflow houses at the Hippodrome, Keighley, being his third visit to the town.

Through the enterprise of Mr. Oswald Stoll Croydon has an elegant new variety theatre, named the Croydon Hippodrome, which will be opened on Aug. 1, and privately viewed on Thursday next. That all the best talent of the variety world will be seen there goes without saying, because Croydon Hippodrome will be booked in conjunction with the Coliseum, the London Hippodrome, and the powerful Moss-Stoll-Thornton and Allen syndicate. The proprietors of the Croydon Hippodrome are the Croydon Hippodrome, Ltd., of which Mr. Stoll is chairman and managing-director.

The convenience and comfort of patrons have been consulted in every way: in the seating, in the entrances, in the exits, in the waiting-rooms, and in length of programme, which permits of everyone travelling by train or tram to get home in comfort. The theatre itself stands on the site of the old Theatre Royal on Crown Hill, practically the centre of the town, and is thus within a single minute's walk of the trams, which directly connect East, West, and South Croydon with this important point

Two complete and distinct programmes are to be given every night, and in addition an interesting novelty has been introduced. So widespread has entertainment by animated pictures become, thanks in the first place to the acumen of variety theatre managers in first placing these wonderful applications of photography before the public, Croydon Hipodrome is to have the special feature of "Afternoon Tea Picture Concerts." These concerts will be held daily at three o'clock, and will consist of high-class animated pictures and gramophonettes of music and the leading singers of the day. Tea will be served free, except to children, between four and five o'clock, in the fauteuils, grand circle, stalls, and pit. The afternoon programme will be changed every three days—that is, twice weekly.

The building, erected from the designs and under the superintendence of Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., architects, of London, by Messrs. J. Smith and Sons, of South Norwood, occupies an island site with a frontage of 40ft. to Crown Hill, 180ft. to the public thoroughfare of Priddy's Yard, and 100ft. to a private road.

The vestibule is approached through four large doors, and thence the way to the stalls and circle is by two wide staircases. The pit and gallery entrances are in the private roadway at the side. Comfortable waiting-rooms are provided for each part of the house, so that patrons can avoid the discomfort of waiting in the public street. The house is divided into stalls and pit on the ground floor, with a commodious circle containing eleven rows of tip-up seats; and immediately above the circle is the gallery fitted with upholstered seats. There are no columns to obstruct the view.

Miss Lelia Rose (Mrs. Downes-Martin), with her husband and niece (Miss Verona Philis) was present at the fête given in aid of the Boy Scouts' Fund at Eel Pie Island, Twickenham. A programme, composed of many prominent theatrical and variety artists, was provided in the Pavilion. During the performance a tiny Pekinese puppy, presented by Princess Toussoun in aid of the Fund, was put up for auction, and after spirited bidding was carried off in triumph by Miss Lelia Rose at the highest bid of fourteen guineas, amid a storm of applause from the packed house.

The Crisps, who go to the Palace, Bristol, on August Bank Holiday, though in the springtide of youth, have had quite a lengthy career. They were known as Darnley's Dots for over a year, played The Golliwogs in *Through the Looking Glass* (Alice), and toured America twice with Olga Nethersole and Laurence Irving, besides filling engagements during four pantomime seasons with Mr. Robert Arthur. They are a great success in their novel comedy and dancing scena, *The Little Deputy*, which we shall see at the Oxford on Sept. 5. They are quite content with their present prospects; but, then, Will Oliver is hustling for them.

Owing to Mrs. Sillward breaking her arm at the Tottenham Palace on the 7th inst. all engagements have had to be cancelled in *Le Gorille* till Oct. 1, when Mr. and Mrs. Sillward open at Brussels at the Palais D'Ete.

There was some interesting evidence given in an application at the Ramsgate Police-court on Monday by Mr. Frederick Charles Dew, lessee of the Marina Theatre Gardens, for a music and dancing licence for performances to be given on a stage in the Marina Gardens.

Mr. J. H. Robinson appeared on behalf of the applicant. The Town Clerk (Mr. A. Blasdale Clarke) opposed on behalf of the Borough of Ramsgate Entertainments Association and the Sands Committee; and Mr. J. Emery represented Mr. H. Gold, lessee of the entertainment pitches on the sands, who also opposed.

Mr. Dew, in his evidence in support of his application, said he had a twenty-one years' lease of the Marina Theatre, Shades, and Gardens. He now applied for a music and dancing licence for the gardens. He had entered into arrangements with Mr. Tom Fancourt, of the concert party, to perform there. The licence was granted.

At the Central Conference of American Rabbis in the States recently, it was reported that the campaign against offensive stage caricatures of the Jew had not been successful, although the New York Managers' Association had declared itself to be in complete sympathy with the desires of the Rabbis. Generally speaking, the most offensive caricatures on the variety stage on this side come from the members of the Hebrew race themselves.

At the London Bankruptcy Court, on Tuesday, creditors and shareholders met under the winding-up order made against the Amusements Development Syndicate, Ltd., of which Mr. Humphrey Ellis Brammall is a managing director. The company in October entered into an agreement for the tenancy of the Britannia Theatre and the Britannia Tavern, Hoxton, but possession of the latter was never obtained.

The directors state that the company suffered considerable damage in consequence, and attribute its failure to that fact. The theatre was opened with *Dick Whittington*, but the enterprise was not financially successful. The accounts showed liabilities £3,754, of which £2,467 is expected to rank, and assets £1,800, of which all but £512 is required to meet loans on debenture bonds and preferential payments. The liquidation was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas last week at the Marine Gardens, Portobello, proved such a draw that Mr. Lumsden, the manager, offered them a return in a month's time, although they had only appeared at the Empire, Edinburgh, three weeks previous. They were unable to accept owing to other engagements, but they are secured for two weeks next season. This week they are starring at Harrogate.

Miss Lottie Albert writes:—"Will you allow me, through your valuable columns, to correct a misstatement made at the inquest on the late Miss Belle Elmore that 'no one had the pluck to take the matter in hand'? As a matter of fact, several influential members of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild and myself have for the last few months been investigating the lamentable affair, and it is entirely due to my instrumentality that Mr. Michael Bernstein intervened, and I supplied him with my own private photographs and papers and the original letters entrusted to my care by the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, many of which have been reproduced. I will, therefore, thank you to give the matter the required publicity, as I personally resent the remarks of Mr. Nash."

The exposure of so-called "massage establishments" and "medical homes" is the unsavoury subject of the *White Slaves of London*, a dramatic sketch, produced at the Canterbury on Monday. According to the programme, this is a dramatic incident, taken from life, in which Nurse Gladys, who has been rescued from a West-End massage establishment, appears. After Nurse Gladys was rescued from the house where she was lured, she resolved to expose publicly the crying shame of England, as a warning to her sisters who get daily ensnared in the supposed "medical homes."

The scene is apparently the reception room of a massage establishment, and soon after the rise of the curtain a foreign procurer enters, and with him a couple of ruffians, carrying a body in a sack—a sailor who has been drugged, and whom the procurer is determined to silence for ever, as he is likely to thwart some evil scheme the villain has on hand. The body is taken into an adjoining room, and soon after a patron of the house enters—an elderly roué supposed to be suffering from rheumatism—who is told that Nurse Eva—evidently a favourite—is not available, but that Nurse Gladys, a young and attractive girl, will shortly wait on him.

Gladys, who has been lured to the place, not knowing its true character, would leave, but is prevented. She, however, speaks her mind plainly to the vile matron, and firmly refuses to do her bidding. She also tells a few truths to the "rheumatic subject," asking him to think of his own daughter and his feelings if she were placed in a similar position, and he eventually retires, vowing never to visit the place again. The matron is greatly enraged at her conduct, and the procurer is about to administer a thrashing with a whip to the distressed girl, when other "customers" arrive, and the girl is allowed to depart.

Then enter a couple of young swells, one of whom is evidently ignorant of the nature of the house. When his companion informs him he is very indignant, for, holding some official position in Vienna, he has some knowledge of the snares laid for young girls, who are shipped abroad and ruined. He also tells his companion of his sweetheart (Gladys), who has mysteriously disappeared from the last address she left him, and shows him her photograph which he has in a letter-case. The couple soon decide to quit the place, and the matron is informed that they also are not likely to visit it again. When they have left, the letter-case containing the photo is found, and the villainous matron and her male companion determine to show the photo to Gladys. Thinking her lover is a regular visitor she will be disgusted, and they imagine will no longer have any scruples as to her mode of conduct. This they do, and the poor girl is horrified. Later the owner of the photo., finding he has lost his letter-case, comes back for it, and is eventually confronted with Gladys. Explanations follow, and the procurer, entering, threatens to 'phone to Scotland Yard to have the young man arrested for murder if he exposes the place. Finding his threats unavailable, he does ring up the police; but the drugged sailor, who has been in an adjoining room, comes on the scene and denounces the foreigner as the criminal. The names of the characters and those responsible for their portrayal are not given on the programme, but all the parts are admirably enacted, and the sketch was attentively followed by the audience, who gave it a favourable reception.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THAT pretty song, "A dainty pair of shoes," one of Arthur du Soir's most admired numbers, is quite the talk of more than one seaside town of note, its refinement being as marked as its music is delightful. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

THE reports from coast resorts anent the success of Messrs. Francis and Day's seasonable new songs and selections are, as is only to be expected, up to the high-water mark of previous years, and tell the same unvaried tale. When the wares of a firm have for nearly thirty years been a synonym for all that is best and brightest in the world of popular song, small wonder is it that in 1910 the publications of the great house are justly considered the standards by which success is to be measured by entertainers and the steelyards by which the public taste can be accurately gauged by all who cater for visitors to the sea at this period of the year. In short, few, if any, popular programmes anywhere exist that do not include several Francis and Day items, for the simple reason that, just as any dish would be flavourless without salt, so would a programme for a mixed seaside audience be insipidity without the songs of the idols of the people, and as the old-established firm of Messrs. Francis and Day publish the majority of the songs indicated, the success achieved by it is deserved and not unexpected.

AMONG the numbers of which report speaks highly, included in programmes almost everywhere in these islands, might be mentioned all those ditties that have been foreshadowed as probable hits months back, and the long list is being daily added to, and in the professional department even at this summer period early birds have been observed making sure and certain of various luscious morsels (not to be found in any other garden) for use at pantomime time.

MEN of Devon have taken as kindly to "Flanagan" as have the males elsewhere, and Miss Florrie Forde, at the Devonport Hippodrome, has had, as usual, to repeat again and again the chorus of the song of the year, and has been vociferously cheered for other of Francis and Day's admired songs.

MR. EUGENE STRATTON, at the Hackney Empire on Monday, was the recipient of roars of welcome from two crowded houses, and his new song, "I may be a millionaire," caused furores. It has an interesting theme and a haunting melody, and the arrangement is one that must satisfy even this most fastidious and artistic of performers. The number, which is by Fred Godfrey and Charles Collins, is one that will be much sought after, and has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day. Mr. Stratton was not permitted to depart till he had obliged with his classic "I may be crazy," and danced with the verve and abandon that are his alone.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE, who has ready for production a new song by Harry Carlton and Terry Sullivan, is advancing by leaps and bounds in the affections of the multitude, judging by the way she has been received nightly at the Oxford, notably for her rendering of "I'm looking for Grahame-White," and that coming pantomime hit, "On the silvery, silvery sands." Each is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS GLADYS HUXLEY, at the Tivoli, has been winning golden opinions for that pretty song, "Won't you come to Colombo with me?" which possesses a melody that grows on its hearers at each hearing. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE title-page designed by Mr. Sidney Kent for Mr. Harry Randall's forthcoming song, "I'm using Sunday language all the week," is worthy of the artist, and has a quaint ecclesiastical look, the initial letters being in what is technically known as "Church text," and they are illuminated in colours as were the missals and psalters of old. The portrait of the genial comedian, however, appearing on the same page, has a most uncanonical appearance. The song, which is by Edgar Bateman, Joe Burley, and M. Scott, will be placed on the market presently by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS IDA BARR'S new chorus song, "I don't care if I never get home," by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long, will be a great feature at future convivial meetings, and at the Euston and elsewhere has been greeted with those signs that bespeak popularity. Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the press.

A NEW two-step entitled "Rings on my fingers," founded on the popular song and equally popular "Miss O'Hara and her emerald tiara," is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Maurice Scott, who is honourably connected with both these sterling song successes in conjunction with F. J. Barnes and R. P. Weston.

MISS MAY MARS' very effective new song is entitled "Let me think I'm someone." It is by Frank Calvert and the striking melody is by Orlando Powell. It has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT, who during the week now ending has been giving Newcastle-on-Tyne a taste of her quality, has published her new humorous song, "Our Martha Jane can't read," with Messrs. Francis and Day. It is of the domestic order, and details the dire consequences of engaging, because her predecessor was always reading novelettes, a general servant who is illiterate. The song is by Edgar Bateman and Henry F. Greenfield.

MISS MARIE BRAYMAN, who has been making a great hit at all her engagements with Messrs. Francis and Day's popular chorus song "Send them along to me," is about to produce the same firm's "One of the girls."

MR. GEORGE BASTOW opened at the Palace, Douglas, on Monday last, after his long illness, and scored an immediate hit with his new song, "Captain Ginjah, O.T.," and visitors to the Little Man Island have since annexed the chorus, which promises to be a very popular item of his fine new repertoire, each of which got home. It is quite on the cards that "Captain Ginjah, O.T.," which is by the comedian himself and F. W. Leigh, will be published in the near future by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AT the Empire, Sunderland, Mr. George H. Elliott has been playing to delighted houses nightly, the audiences never seeming to have had enough of the "Chocolate-coloured Coon." His new chorus songs, "Mister Owl" and "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," both of which are published by Messrs. Francis and Day, have been in great request at each town where sung, and Sunderland buyers seem determined not to be left in the cold, judging by the orders for these ditties lately received.

THAT ripe comedian Mr. Charles West—once of Dunn's Concert Party on the old Britannia Pier at Yarmouth, and who is this year one of the principal comedians of Neville Delmar's naval cadets at Exeter—is making a great hit with Messrs. Francis and Day's great chorus song "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland."

(Continued on page 22.)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

The interest in Mr. Frank Glenister's current programme is sustained from first to last. No mediocre turn disfigures the bill, and the line from "The Fair Penitent"—"each wight is as welcome as the former"—may well be applied to every artist. Mr. Harry Russon, whom we remember in the revue at the Coliseum in 1906, has had no reason to regret his plunge into variety, the lesser stage giving him all the needful opportunity of showing his versatility. We have heard him recite a Kipling ballad; and now that he is singing a comic song on those alleged essentials of success in life, "Bluff and Swank," he is proving completely that he has a strong sense of humour. Mr. Fred Hastings rejoices one's heart too with some merry moments in his songs; and the Elite Harmony Boys have an interesting entertainment in *Messmates Ashore*. Harmony and comedy are judiciously allied in the turn of the Columbia Trio, who appear towards the close of the entertainment, and are received with much heartiness. One of the three is a veritable Anak, who has, moreover, a knack of being funny. He has a great command of jocularity, which is especially exploited in a travesty of the prison scene in *Faust*.

About midway in the bill we are able once more to enjoy the fun of that highly original production of *Town Hall To-night*, the novel farce with a real touch of pathos towards the end. Produced a few months ago at the Euston, the trifle has been somewhat condensed—wisely so, we think—with the result that every line evokes laughter. Mr. George Abel has never before been quite so funny on the variety stage as he is in the part *Secretary*—both decidedly good; and other turns include the Four Amaranths, a quartet of lady legmania dancers; the Three Gascoignes, comedy jugglers; the Kebbles, duettists and dancers; and Miss Elsie Southgate on the violin and Mr. James Coward on the Mustel organ. The musical entertainment given by the last-mentioned is certainly one of the most popular we have heard for many a day, and the audience becomes very enthusiastic every night. Miss Southgate, a very fine player, plays with great *brio* "Scènes de Czardas," by Hubay, and the tender melody of Mr. James Coward's song, entitled "Held in Bondage," is given with rare expression. The inevitable encore is "Annie Laurie."

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

An attractive programme is being presented here this week, and each turn gains a merited meed of applause. Happy Fanny Fields, the jolly little American-Dutch girl, is the star turn, and the mirth she evokes with her répertoire of song, story, and dance is a sufficient testimony of her great success. Another most amusing bit of burlesque is supplied by Vesta and Minnie Pine in their entertainment *The Golf Girl and the Caddie*. "I got as far as the door" and "Running all round the place" were the two funny effusions of Happy Tom Parker, a comedian with a humorous style that was immensely enjoyed by the audience. Much merriment also prevailed whilst Little Ganty, the "Little Lump of Fun," contributed his two songs "Too quick" and "The Boys' Brigade."

A lively duologue is served up by popular Bob and Jennie Leonard in their comedy act *An Interview*, and it was much enjoyed. The reception accorded Dot Stephens must have been very gratifying to her. She is a cultured vocalist, and scores a most pronounced success with "Just someone." A

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

of Hip Flitters, the "everything" of the fit-up theatre, where the scenery is painted by the local whitewasher. The cloth of the Strand, London, is a highly original specimen of scenic humour which arouses merriment in all parts of the house. Miss Ethel Arden as the actress with a silent sorrow is particularly good.

Miss Josie Delaine is one of the daintiest dancers that we have in the halls, and her turn is full of vim and sparkle. Miss Ray Wallace, who now sings an original song at the piano, still wins her chief success with imitations of Gus Elen, Connie Edise, and Vesta Victoria; Mr. Arthur Aldridge delights the house with his rendering of "Beautiful Garden of Roses"; Mr. Malcolm Scott's comments on the ballad "Where are you going to, my pretty maid?" are decidedly caustic. He might find material for his humour in "The Bailiff's Daughter of Islington." Mr. Whit Cunliffe sings of a young gentleman who assists a lady editor; and Briff, Braff, and Broff are among the smartest acrobats in the world, their tricks throughout being astonishingly clever. The comic man is especially good.

Miss Lil Hawthorne sings gaily of "The Maid of Monte Carlo," with a special scene, and then, doffing her beautiful costume for the tattered garments of a boy waif, she touches the heart with a selection—one of the best she has had—"Don't cry, little girl, don't cry." To this story-ette she does complete justice, and has her audience with her all the time. Mr. Ben Albert is still puzzling us with the problem of "to-morrow," which invariably becomes "to-day," and even "yesterday"; Mr. Fred Pardoe, who is making his first appearances at the Pavilion, gives impersonations of Jim Carson in *The White Man* and the Rev. Robert Spalding in *The Private*

particularly interesting and artistic item of the programme is supplied by Franco Piper, banjoist. His first contribution is a spirited rendering of the *William Tell* overture. This is followed by some juggling with banjoes, playing a tune all the time, with two, three, and four instruments. The audience reward his performance with enthusiastic plaudits. He concludes his entertainment with a finely-rendered solo, "The Pilgrims' Chorus" from *Tannhäuser*.

Something entirely new in the art of ventriloquism is contributed by Thora. It is only at the conclusion of the performance that the audience discovers that the artist, beautifully gowned, is of the male persuasion. The generous and hearty reception accorded to the Albert and Edmunds Troupe in *The Tower of London* and the mirth evoked is sufficient testimony of their success. The sketch is played throughout to an accompaniment of hearty laughter, the comic complications being very funnily portrayed by these clever performers. Mr. Bertie Ralland is the capable acting-manager here and Mr. Fred Camp has the conduct of the efficient orchestra.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Those who wish to spend the pleasantest of evenings have only to go to the Chelsea Palace to have that wish gratified. The management is in the capable hands of Mr. J. Norman Berlin, and he is happy and successful in his efforts to please. The programme, as is always the case there, is good. Lennie and Hast and company, in the romantic musical idyll *The Maid of Polaria*, take the audience to the Grand Canal, Polaria, and then take them quite out of themselves with witty remarks and fervent love songs. The turn is an excellent one. Mr. C. who sings and talks, keeps the house in a roar of laughter, and is one of the best raconteurs of the day; Bertha Stuart, a vocalist with a rare command of dramatic expression, sings with great success two Scotch songs, "Mary of Argyll" being the favourite; Leonard Teel as the suffering Dame evokes plenty of sympathy from the gentler sex; Evelyn Taylor in her latest success, "Easy-street," takes well; the Bros. Bright, with an athletic turn, and Maud Courtney, the American comediennes, are good turns; and Harry Gray, Australia's funny comedian, is very popular indeed in both his songs. His entrance hanging on to a flying machine is wonderfully effective. Wild, Willie, and West, "the three bounding mavvies," come in for a large share of applause; and *Our Wedding Anniversary*, a screamingly funny comedy duologue, is cleverly presented by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning. The husband being out of work, and having no money for the usual turkey to celebrate the "annual," pawns his watch. The wife, for the same reason, "lumbers" his dress suit. Each is surprised to find the other with a bird. She, remembering her needy friends, gives it to them; he, thinking two turkeys one too many, also gives his away. The subsequent dismay is relieved by the arrival of a hamper containing a third dinner, and thus virtue is rewarded. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some delightful pictures.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Whatever hard things may be said of the weather, no one can complain of the state of local amusement centres, where crowded houses have been the rule during the week. The orchestra starts right away to put everyone in a good humour, under the baton of Charles Holden; then the Sisters Romah evidence their title to "the Caledonian Harmony Lasses," and are both sprightly and tuneful. Chas. Ulrick exhibits some really wonderful balancing; *tow's Dawn* is sufficiently powerful in all conscience. Miss Dora Eastlake is the ill-behaved young lady of the play, and is altogether a bad lot as Natalie, the naughty Countess of Norton; Mr. Cecil Gray as Dorian, the fifth Earl of Norton, is intensely dramatic, and put in quite a lot of excellent work; Mr. Eric Norman as Tony Fowler did well; so, too, did Mr. Edward Avinal as Captain Vivian; Mr. Jno. Manners left nothing to be desired as the Hon. Jack Granby. The play is admirably staged, and the interpretation leaves nothing to be desired. In the front of the house is Mr. David C. James; his management and courtesy are alike excellent.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The management of this popular North London hall are not finding it difficult to sustain local patronage, despite outdoor attractions, business continuing to be quite excellent. The bill for the current week contains several strong features, the principal of which is Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in a tabloid version of the ever-popular *East Lynne*. This has been specially condensed by Mr. Fred S. Jennings, and within the scope of seven scenes he very faithfully presents all the salient features of the complete version, with the striking exception that no purely comedy part is introduced. A very strong company has been engaged. Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Carlyle acted with dignity and restraint; Miss Dorothy Clifton as Barbara Hare has not a great deal to do, but is very acceptable in the part; Miss Beth Elliott as the very foolish and unhappy Lady Isobel gave a very intense performance, particularly in the closing scene, and made a great impression. Miss Madge Leverton gave quite an effective character-study as Cornelia; and little Miss Winnie Roushy was successful as Willie. Mr. George R. Montford as Levison gave a conspicuously good performance, and in addition is responsible for the entire and elaborate production, for which he deserves congratulations. The attention of the audience was easily held throughout the progress of the playlet, and the principal characters shared the honours of a call at the close. It should have a long and prosperous career on the halls.

The Keeley Brothers submit an athletic show entitled *The Demonstrator*, which serves to introduce some wonderfully clever ball punching, their ability gaining great applause for them. The Three Langfords, who open the programme, give a clever exhibition of dancing, which was well received. Gladys Mavius is very successful in a song; the excellent enunciation of this artist is a very notable feature of her singing. La Freya, in a series of artistic visions, in which a lantern is utilised, met with a good reception. Joe Hayman, who is for the moment working as a single turn owing to the regrettable indisposition of his partner, contributes a very amusing turn in the shape of a stump speech on "The Land in which we Live." This contains some amusing and shrewd observations; and he concludes with a clever song on "Life." He was very heartily greeted. Colley and Scott, comedy entertainers, give a bright and amusing show. Both the lady and gentleman are well equipped for this style of business, and cause a good deal of laughter. Steven Bartle, edeophone and English concertina soloist, presented an attractive turn. Mr. Bartle is an excellent executant, and his solos were greatly enjoyed and enthusiastically greeted by the house.

Lotto, Lillo, and Otto are introducing their well-known cycle act, and their skill on these machines is as marked as ever, the comedian of the troupe being a very clever trick rider, and there was no doubt as to the complete success of their show. A feature of the bill this week is an amateur carnival which is securing a considerable number of entries. The nine or ten aspirants who appeared on the evening of our visit were all of very ordinary ability, and the audience were very kind and forbearing. Eva Ellis, comedienne and dancer, is also in the bill. Mr. T. Gray's fine band are of great service during the evening, and he personally renders yeoman service at the piano during the progress of the amateur carnival. Mr. R. Adams, the popular manager here, is away holiday-making, and Mr. T. Bennett, the acting-manager, is discharging his duties in the front of the house with great courtesy.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

After a week of melodrama the management have reverted again to variety. Sid Bandon, the character comedian, has evoked plenty of laughter in his policeman's song; the ever-popular Yorkshire comedian, Jack Pleasants, is still "shy," his make-up and dress causing roars. "'Liza had hold of my hand" is extremely funny, and the second, "I'm shy, Mary Ellen, I'm shy," vies with the first for humour. The Kenna Bros., in their aviation dash to the North Pole, are very good indeed. Seated on an aeroplane flying through the clouds is a good scenic effect. Jokes are cracked at the expense of various aviators and explorers, especially Dr. Cook. On arrival at the apex of the earth they discover a pole, which they promptly fix to a trapeze attached to an iceberg, and various smart evolutions are gone through by the pair.

Hinton and Wootten, a really clever cycling couple, appear as footballers, and with a miniature ball and goals, a game to represent Woolwich Arsenal *v.* Chelsea is commenced. Back and front wheels are used to propel the ball, whilst the opponent stops the shot with his machine when the goal is in danger. They charge each other in truly regulation style.

Marie Wilton, a prime favourite here, sings "I want to be a sailor" and "When your mother isn't with you," which please the audience immensely, the choruses being taken up with gusto. Hanid Alexander is a most versatile entertainer at the piano. Her first essay, "Cosmopolitan Lovers," is well received, and equally so is "Martha, of Ludgate Hill." As a fitting wind-up she renders delightfully Liszt's "Rhapsodie Hungarisch," with orchestral accompaniment. Allis and Cassell, in a few funny minutes, manage to extract a large amount of applause.

Little Miss Queenie May captures the audience from her entrance, her songs, "Play that dear old song again" and "Remember the days gone by," appealing to all. The Bioscope is showing a new series of pictures, A Fisherman's Honour being greatly admired.

Mr. Fred Maxwell, the favourite leading actor, brings a West-End company to present the romantic episode *The Corsican Brothers*, in a special version arranged by himself in three scenes, and each artist must be complimented on his or her performance, Mr. Maxwell being particularly fine in the dual rôle.

THE annual amateur carnival was held at the Bedford last week, when there were 187 entries, brought down to 37 for the semi-final on the Friday night. The first prize fell to Miss Cromer, coon and dance artist; the other awards being secured by Will Priest, Mamie Stella, and Bertha May.

THE winners of the carnival held in Shoreditch last week were Messrs. Rastus and Renie, smart buck dancers. The first prize consisted of £2 and six weeks engagement at the various halls controlled by the Gibbons' circuit.

AFTER a very successful management of seven months of the Industrial Hall, Dewsbury, Mr. B. J. Christian, the popular manager, is leaving to take over the management of the Victoria Hall, Southsea, the largest hall on Messrs. A. and H. Andrews' circuit.

MR. FRED CARR (of Carr and Rose), in answer to all inquiring friends, is pleased to say that he is out of hospital, and progressing favourably.

dancers known as Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

Miss May Lillian Levey will specially produce Feldman's big comedy chorus song, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," by John P. Harrington and John Neat, at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, on August Bank Holiday, and a week later will produce "Every girl loves a military man," by John P. Harrington and Fred Godfrey, also published by Feldman and Co., at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Both songs should prove great successes in Miss Levey's hands.

What promises to be one of the biggest hits of the present alfresco season, as well as forthcoming pantomimes, is a new characteristic number by John P. Harrington and John Neat, entitled "Cock-a-doodle-do, in the morning," which Messrs. Feldman and Co. have in the press. This song is likely to produce a veritable riot in the Isle of Man, Blackpool, and other popular seaside resorts shortly.

Ally Benson, the well-known "dame" comedian, has been making a very great success in alfresco at Colwyn Bay, with Feldman and Co.'s two big songs, "Georgie took me walking in the park" and "I'm longing for someone to love me." He is one of the principal members of Mr. Harry Reynolds celebrated "Serenaders" here, and both songs go enormously well at every performance.

Mr. Harry King, with Payne's White Coons, at Carnoustie, is doing enormously with Feldman's three great songs, "I must go home to-night," "I do like to be beside the seaside," and "I can't keep my eyes off the girls"; a similar fate having befallen Mr. Colin Carlisle at Blackpool recently with "Come by the drum in the big brass band" and "Do you miss me in the dear Homeland?"

Osland Denner, the well-known bass-baritone, who is at the Court Theatre, Brighton, this week, was the first to sing the new "song of loyalty," of which he is the composer, entitled "Hail, King George," and published by Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. He has already scored enormously in this number.

Miss Millie Hylton, who shortly commences a tour of the Moss and Stoll halls, will feature A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's latest chorus song, "She was a Dollar Princess." For this number Miss Hylton will wear a charming gown, an exact replica of the one worn by Miss Lily Elsie at Daly's Theatre. This number is one of the best the well-known writers have done recently. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

Whit Cunliffe, who is appearing this week at the Camberwell Palace as well as at the London Pavilion, continues to feature A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's strong comedy chorus song "Up she goes." This number is fast growing in popularity, and looks like being a hot favourite for pantomime. The Star Music Co. will issue the song forthwith.

A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott continue to receive fresh proofs daily of the sterling quality of their chorus ballad "I wonder if you care." One reason for the success of this charming number is the fact that it is what is known as "An easy song" for the average singer, and yet shows to advantage the voice of the more ambitious vocalist. The Star Music Co. publish this song in keys to suit all voices.

Admirers of Mr. Tom E. Finglas will be pleased to hear that the operation he recently underwent for nose and throat trouble has been entirely successful, and the well-known delineator of picturesque cowboy life and character will resume business at the London Coliseum on Bank Holiday.

BOW PALACE.

The general excellence of the programme here this week is drawing big houses, and the genial manager, Mr. Gordon Harman, was, on the night of our visit, beaming with evident satisfaction. After the capable orchestra, skilfully conducted by Mr. J. J. Starck, had rendered as an overture the two-step "Blue Feather," H. Moore came on and amused and entertained all with some clever paper tearing, many of the designs being quite original. Doris Druce is quite a tiny tot, and for her years certainly has no superior as a mimic. Her impersonations of Whit Cunliffe, George Formby, and Mark Sheridan were exceedingly good. In addition, the great contrast of styles of the artists showed the all-round ability of the little mimic. The Three Coopers worked hard and proved amusing; Flo Burnett was in very fine voice, her rendering of "No one knows" and "Your eyes have told me so" being greatly appreciated by the audience. Some clever impersonations were given by Ted Wilson, that of doubling Lew Lake and Bob Morris being quite the best.

A new and original sketch by H. G. Brandon was presented on Monday by Mr. F. Mullard. It is entitled

"RE-UNITED."

Fred Cunningham .....Mr. Lionel Gadsten
Captain Melville .....Mr. Oliver Rodgers
Will Cunningham .....Mr. Ellis Carlyle
The Rev. Mr. Goodson..Mr. Alexander Wills
Harding .....Mr. M. Steel
Amy Cunningham .....Miss M. Fredericks

The sketch, which is in three scenes, flavours somewhat of *East Lynne*. Captain Melville, wishing to force Amy Cunningham to leave her husband, tells her that her husband is false. The suggestion is enhanced by the arrival of a false telegram. He seizes this as an opportunity to propose to her, but she refuses to acquiesce to his suggestions until proof of her husband's infidelity is given to her. In the midst of all Fred Cunningham—who has been called away by means of a forged telegram—arrives, and after sending his wife from the room, has heated words with the Captain. The wife, thinking her husband unfaithful, disappears; and the husband, connecting her disappearance with guilt, considers her false. During the three months which elapse the Rev. Mr. Goodson calls upon the wife, tells her that her husband is broken-hearted, was never false, and generally paves the way to a reunion. This is accomplished during the wife's visit to the grave of her boy—who has died during her absence—for here she meets her husband. Explanations are given, but a reconciliation seems difficult until the clergyman appears, who, reminding them that "Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder," is successful in his efforts for husband and wife to be reunited.

As Fred Cunningham Mr. Lionel Gadsten played with quiet, dignified force. Miss M. Fredericks was the sorrowing wife to perfection; whilst Mr. M. Steel as Harding, the old butler, made the most of his opportunities. The remaining parts were adequately filled.

Dan Conroy, with his merry patter and his "Sullivan" song, raised many laughs. A most artistic rendering of "Beautiful garden of roses" was given by Irene May. In addition to a finely-trained voice, Irene possesses a charming personality. She received marked approval from an appreciative house. Lew Lake and his merry company played their well-known sketch *Old Chinas in China*, which loses nothing with frequent repetition. May de Rowse, comedienne, and the Palace Perfection Pictures were also in the bill. The managerial duties are ably and courteously attended to by Mr. Gordon Harman, by whom visitors are assured of a hearty welcome.

MUSIC HALL SPORTS.

Fair weather favoured the sports in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund at the Stamford Bridge Grounds on Thursday, and if it was not exactly an ideal July day, the rain kindly kept off. The object for which this always-popular function is given—to replenish the exchequer of a most deserving institution, a benevolent fund for variety artists founded by variety artists—should have drawn a larger crowd than was present, but possibly the gloomy morning outlook accounted for many absentees. There

[*Photo by L.N.A.*

MISS MARIE KENDAL

(With the Bicycle which she gave as a Prize for the Costume Race).

were, however, a fair number of the public to be seen at different points of vantage round the sports arena, and the grand and other stands were well filled with a bright and merry throng of well-known professionals, the fair sex, in charming toilettes, predominating. Perhaps one missed the mirth-provoking interludes that were so enjoyable to the crowd in the delightful annuals held at the Herne Hill grounds, when the lamented Dan Leno, assisted by Fred Griffiths and other chartered jesters, was the moving spirit in the fun-making. There was, however, plenty of "comic relief" in some of the events, and the sports altogether proved most enjoyable.

The lengthy programme was smartly got through. Good form was shown by many of the competitors in the serious contests. George Clarke, jun., won both the 120 Yards Running Handicap for the Oswald Stoll Shield and the One Mile V.A.F. Challenge Cup Championship, thus repeating his last year's victory. The One Mile Frank Allen Challenge Cup Walking Handicap—a good contest—again went to Harold Jeapes, the scratch man. The race for the One Mile "Buchanan" Challenge Cup Bicycle Race resulted in a fine finish, Mr. Tom Davis being first. Bob Olrac gained premier honours in the 120 Yards Hurdle Handicap; and the Running High Jump for the "Vulcana" Challenge Cup was, after a very strenuous effort on the parts of Bert Earle and Frank Sauteron, secured by Mr. Charles Triton, the winner clearing 5ft. 3in. This was a most interesting event. There was a dead heat in the 100 Yards Managers' Race, W. L. Murray, in the run off, just managing to beat the scratch man, B. Womack. The comic contests included a very amusing Pie-making Competition for Ladies, the damsels having to run a short distance to a table on which were placed a pie-dish, rolling-pin, dough, flour, and the "fruit"—a bunch of turnips. The one who then in the shortest time manufactured a pie that most appealed to the artistic eye of the lady judges won. The pastry that "took the cake" was that of Miss Daisy Stroud.

A novel event was the Golf Competition, in which each competitor had to drive a ball with a kind of parachute attachment, approach over a bunker to a flag, and putt out with an ordinary golf ball. This was won by Albert Le Fre. The 360 Yards Steeple-chase in Basket Horses, Ladies' Driving Competition, with Gentlemen (blindfolded) as horses, the Comic Costume Scramble, and the 360 Yards "Henri Gros" Cup Obstacle Race were all events that made for merriment, the last particularly so, the competitors having to negotiate hurdles, get in and out of a kind of bin, take a ducking in a pool, and crawl under some sacking.

At the conclusion of the sports Mr. Albert Le Fre announced that he had that morning received a message that, owing to most regrettable indisposition, Miss Cecilia Loftus, who had promised to present the prizes, was unable to do so. Mrs. Harry Tate, the wife of the popular President of the V.A.B.F., had kindly consented to deputise, and assisted by Miss Marie Kendal, charmingly performed the task, Mr. Albert Le Fre, the indefatigable chairman of the Sports Committee, lending a helping hand, and creating much diversion by his humorous remarks. Especially was this the case when his son received a prize presented by his wife; when he announced himself as the winner of the Golf Competition prize; and also when another of his boys and a daughter came forward to take their awards. The onlookers insinuated that it was a kind of Le Fre benefit, but proud papa only smiled, retorted funnily, and called up the next winner.

The list of events, together with the results, is as follows:—

120 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

For the Oswald Stoll Shield. Presented by Mr. Oswald Stoll. To be held by winner for one year only, and returned to the V.A.B.F.

First Prize—Canteen of 110 pieces of A1 Quality Plate and Cutlery. Presented by the Grand Order of Water Rats.

[*Photo by L.N.A.*

THE YOUNGEST COMPETITOR—MASTER RENNIER (age 2).

Second Prize—Silver Cigarette Case and Matchbox. Presented by *The Era*.
Third Prize—Presented by Miss Victoria Monks.
Fourth Prize—Pie Servers. Presented by Mr. Tom Sayers.
George Clarke, jun. (7yds.) 1st
H. J. Rennior (5yds.) 2nd
Burt Burnell (11yds.) 3rd
Time, 12sec.

ONE MILE "FRANK ALLEN" CHALLENGE CUP WALKING HANDICAP.

The Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, presented by Mr. Frank Allen, is to be held for one year only, and returned to the V.A.B.F. Holder, H. J. Jeapes.
First Prize—Solid Silver Rose Bowl. Presented by the *Stage*.
Second Prize—Silver Cup. Presented by Mr. George Carney.
Third Prize—Drinking Flask. Presented by Mrs. Harry Ford.
Fourth Prize—Flower Stand. Presented by Mr. W. F. Frame.
Harold Jeapes (scratch) 1st
G. C. Toplis (owes 150yds.) 2nd
Thomas McGoven (90yds.) 3rd
Time, 7min. 2 1-5sec.

100 YARDS CHILDREN'S HANDICAP (BOYS).

First Prize—Stationery Cabinet. Presented by Mr. Barney Hyman.
Second Prize—Silver Hair Brushes and Comb. Presented by Mrs. Albert Le Fre.
Third Prize—Dressing Case. Presented by Mr. Harry Burns.
Fourth Prize—Silver Watch. Presented by Mr. Albert Jennings.
J. Garrick (3yds.) 1st
Percy Le Fre (4yds.) 2nd
Lennie Rich (9yds.) 3rd
Sydney Le Fre (scratch) 4th

100 YARDS CHILDREN'S HANDICAP (GIRLS).

First Prize—Silver Toilet Set. Presented by Peels, Ltd.
Second Prize—Manicure Set. Presented by Mr. Fred Griffiths.
Third Prize—Wrist Watch. Presented by Messrs. J. A. Wyllie and Co.
Fourth Prize—Bag. Presented by Messrs. J. A. Wyllie and Co.
Irene Le Fre (5½yds.) 1st
Lily Garrick (5yds.) 2nd
Rosie Ford (13yds.) 3rd
Annie Cruikshank (scratch) 4th

ONE MILE V.A.F. CHALLENGE CUP RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIP.

(Open to V.A.F. Members only.)
Presented by Mr. G. H. Chirgwin.
Challenge Cup to be won three times before it becomes the property of the winner.
First Prize—Tea and Coffee Service on Tray. Presented by Sir Edward Moss.
Second Prize—Fruit Stand. Presented by the V.A.F.
Third Prize—Fruit Stand. Presented by the *Performer*.
George Clarke, jun. 1st
F. Dunlo Shelley 2nd
Peter Sharman 3rd
Time, 6min. 7 2-5sec.

100 YARDS AGENTS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—Leather Suit Case. Presented by Yamamoto and Koyoshi.
Second Prize—Presented by Mr. George Mozart.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. Whit Cunliffe.
Louis Lewis (4yds.) 1st
Tom Pacey (8yds.) 2nd
Syd Smith (8yds.) 3rd

GOLF COMPETITION.

First Prize—Travelling Hamper. Presented by Messrs. White Bros.
Second Prize—Silver Ink and Candle Set. Presented by Mr. Harry Lauder.
Third Prize—Patent Golf Club. Presented by Mr. Rutland Barrington.
Albert Le Fre 1st
Gus Garrick 2nd
Dusty Rhodes 3rd

100 YARDS MANAGERS' HANDICAP.

First Prize—Tantalus. Presented by Mr. Denby Hare.
Second Prize—Gold Mounted "Onoto" Fountain Pen. Presented by Miss Mabel Mavis.
Third Prize—Silver Carriage Clock. Presented by Dr. Goldberg.
W. L. Murray (5yds.) 1st
Bert Womack (Scr.) 2nd
Harold Jeapes (8yds.) 3rd
Time, 11 4-5sec.

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize—Cut Glass and Silver-Plated Rose Bowl. Presented by Mrs. Harry Tate.

The costume depicted below, representing Berry's Diamond Black King, is the king of prize-winning costumes, being awarded over forty prizes in one year at various outdoor carnivals, skating and fancy dress balls. Mr. Barker carried one of the collecting-boxes for the Fund.

Under are mentioned a few of the prizes awarded to the costume during twelve months:—First Prize, Fruit and Flower Stand (value 14s.), won at Old Kent-road Baths at fancy dress ball, held on Feb. 20, 1910. First Prize, Oak Clock, won at Princess Hall, fancy dress ball, on Nov. 8, 1909. First Prize, Gentlemen's Class, Entrée Dish (value 50s.), won at Covent Garden Ball, Oct. 22, 1909. Pair Skates (value 32s.), won at Clapham Skating Rink, Nov. 4, 1909. Second Prize, Pair of Fish Servers, in Case (value 20s.), won at Skating Carnival, held at Crystal Palace, March 16, 1910. First Prize, Set of Carvers, in Case (value 20s.), won at the Avondale Hall, Landor-road, Clapham, Nov. 6, 1909. Diploma awarded at Leytonstone Hospital

MR. O. BARKER IN COSTUME.

Carnival, Nov. 20, 1909. First Prize, Cycle Lamp (value 18s.), won at Brentwood Hospital Carnival, Oct. 9, 1909. First Prize, Shaving Set (value 30s.), won at Skating Carnival, Finsbury Park, Feb. 2, 1910. First Prize, Pair Opera Glasses, in Case (value 20s.), won Dec. 30, at Horns, Kennington-road, S.E. Leather Hand Bag, won at King's Hall, London-road, S.E., March, 1910.

Mr. D. Barker was the maker and designer of the costume. The prizes were won by the Brothers Barker.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE
Miss Dorothy Ward	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

Second Prize—Hand-Painted Clock and Vases. Presented by Mr. Gus Garrick.
Third Prize—Presented by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne.
Fourth Prize—Presented by Mr. Dick Tubb.
Will Kemp (40yds.) 1st
Fred Mayo (40yds.) 2nd
C. S. Powell (20yds.)..... 3rd
Rex Graham (35yds.) 4th
Time, 2min. 5 1-5 sec.

ONE MILE "BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE.

Challenge Cup. Presented by Messrs. James Buchanan and Co., High Holborn. To be won three times in succession. Holder, Bert Hughes.
First Prize—Rudge-Whitworth Bicycle. Presented by the Rudge-Whitworth Co., Coventry.
Second Prize—Presented by Mr. W. Grimes.
Third Prize—Carriage Clock. Presented by Mr. Tubby Edlin.
Tom Davis 1st
Frederick H. Harman 2nd
Bert Hughes 3rd
Time, 2min. 32 1-5sec.

120 YARDS HURDLE HANDICAP.

First Prize—Onyx and Bronze Clock and Figures. Presented by Mr. Harry Tate.
Second Prize—Fruit Stand. Presented by Mr. John Lawson.
Third Prize—Antique Russian Silver Box. Presented by Miss Margaret Parker.
Fourth Prize—Fruit Knives and Forks. Presented by Mr. G. H. Elliott
Bob Olrac (6yds) 1st
Ted Cowan (6½yds.) 2nd
James Augustin (owed 6yds.) 3rd
Time: 18 4-5sec.

PIE-MAKING COMPETITION FOR LADIES.

First Prize—Silver-plated Entree Dishes. Presented by Elliot and Savonas.
Second Prize—Silver Toilet Set. Presented by Miss Madge Temple.
Third Prize—Indian Leather Cushion Cover. Presented by Larola.
Fourth Prize—Hand-worked Tea Cloth. Presented by the Sisters Macarte.
Daisy Stroud 1st
Ethel King 2nd
Mrs. Bert Brantford 3rd
Mrs. Coborn 4th

FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

First Prize—Club Set of Cutlery. Presented by Mr. Bransby Williams.
Second Prize—Presented by Mr. J. W. Cragg.
Third Prize—Peterson Pipe. Presented by Mr. Jack Straw.
Jack Hurst 1st
Victor Kelly 2nd
H. J. Rennior 3rd

40 YARDS FLIP-FLAP RACE.

First Prize—Silver-fitted Dressing Case. Presented by the M.H.A.R.A.
Second Prize—Tea Service on Tray. Presented by Miss Alexandra Dagmar.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. Carl Lynn.
Bob Olrac 1st
John Earle 2nd
H. Anderson 3rd

360 YARDS STEEPLECHASE IN BASKET HORSES.

First Prize—Massive Set of Candelabras. Presented by the "Islander," Mr. Neil Kenyon.
Second Prize—Fitted Dressing Case. Presented by Mr. W. Clarkson.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. A. Smith.
Tom McKay 1st
H. Anderson 2nd
William Asher 3rd

LADIES' DRIVING COMPETITION
(with Gentlemen as Horses).

First Prize—(Gentleman) Travelling Basket. Presented by Mr. M. L. Hills.
First Prize—(Lady) Manicure Set. Presented by Miss Gertie Gitana.
Second Prize—(Gentleman) Silver Cigarette Case. Presented by Mr. B. G. Maclachan.
Second Prize—(Lady) Indian Burnt Leather Cushion. Presented by Mr. Herbert Kellino.
Third Prize—(Gentleman). Presented by Mr. Alf Abrahams.
Third Prize—(Lady) Silver Cake Stand. Presented by Mr. Ted E. Box.
Mrs. and Mr. Bert Brantford 1st
Hettie Anderson and W. Rosser 2nd
Ethel King and Tom McKay 3rd

RUNNING HIGH JUMP.

For the Vulcana Challenge Cup. Presented by Miss Vulcana (Atlas and Vulcana). To be won three years in succession. Holder, Bert Brantford.
First Prize—Solid Silver Tankard. Presented by Miss Ada Reeve.
Second Prize—Rose Bowl. Presented by the Terriers' Association.
Third Prize—Silver-plated Flask. Presented by Mr. Tom Pacey.
Chas. Triton 1st
Bert Earle 2nd
Frank Sauteron 3rd

COMIC COSTUME SCRAMBLE.

First Prize—Massive Silver-plated Flower Stand. Presented by Miss Marie Kendall.
Second Prize—Presented by the *Encore*.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Syd May.
William Asher 1st
Victor Kelly 2nd
Ted Waite 3rd

HALF-MILE PURSUIT RACE.

H. G. Jeapes (walker) rec. 1min. 30sec. start from George Clark, jun. (runner), who rec. 58sec. start from Tom Davis (cyclist).
Jeapes 1st
Davis 2nd

360 YARDS HENRI GROS CUP OBSTACLE RACE.

Champion Cup. Presented by Mr. Henri Gros. To be held by the winner for one year only, and returned to the V.A.B.F.
First Prize—Marble Clock and Vases. Presented by Mr. Eugen Sandow.
Second Prize—Silver Cigarette Case. Presented by Mr. Albert Le Fre.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. Albert Boisset.
Jack Hurst (scr.) 1st
William Rosser (6yds.) 2nd
Bob Olrac (5yds.) 3rd

100 YARDS CONSOLATION RACE.

First Prize—Silver-plated Cup. Presented by Mr. Steve McCarthy.
Second Prize—Presented by Mr. Fred Kitchen.
Third Prize—Presented by Mr. Herbert Darnley.
Fourth Prize—Gold-centre Medal. Presented by Mr. Tom Bransom.
Fifth Prize—A "Case." Presented by Mr. George Clarke, sen.
Jimson 1st
Willoughby 2nd
Snowdon 3rd
Morissy 4th
Adair 5th

The names of the officials were as follow:

President, Mr. Harry Tate. Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Edwin Adeler, G. H. Chirgwin, and Wal Pink. Hon. Trustees, Messrs. J. W. Cragg, Joe Elvin, and Harry Lauder. Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Harry Blake. Secretary, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart. Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of the Sports Committee, Mr. Albert Le Fre. Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Charles Coborn and Jack Straw.

Judges, Messrs. Jack De Frece, Hartley Milburn, and Harry J. Brett.

Timekeeper, Mr. Cory Woodrow. Official Starter, Mr. George Thurling.

Stewards, Messrs. "Atlas," George Clarke, sen., Edward Rose, W. Walton, E. Lester, Chas. Rich, Bert Williams, William Johnson, Billie Brown, Ted E. Box, Tom Packer, Walter Norman, Willie Been, Fred Neiman, Roland Martin, Tubby Edlin, Fred Morrisy, Will Johnson, and Hubert Davis.

Clerk of Course, Mr. James Le Fre. Marksman, Mr. Fred Morrisy. Handicapper and Referee, Mr. J. W. Simpson.

The Alexander Imperial Military Band, under the direction of George H. Anthony, A.M.U., was in attendance, their many well-played selections affording much enjoyment. Mention must also be made of the valuable work of the members of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild and others, who sold programmes and collected for the Fund.

MR. CHARLES MARTE, manager of the Hackney Empire, has received the following letter, dated the Palace Hotel, Shanghai, June 11 last:—"Dear Sir,—Mr. G. A. K****n, of Stoke Newington, wishes you to reserve him four orchestra stalls for the evening performance in the first house on June 28, 1910. Please do so. I don't suppose you often get seats booked in China, 12,000 miles away. Still, in these days we come home from here in 14½ days, and it will soon be twelve days exactly. I have been away from home nine months now, travelling on business through India, Burma, Ceylon, Siam, The Straits Settlements, China, and Japan, and shan't be sorry to see the inside of the Hackney Empire once more. Best wishes, and don't forget my seats—not too near the band.—Yours sincerely, G. A. K****n."

MADAME DELPHINE UGALDE, who was a celebrated operatic singer of the last generation, is dead. At the beginning of Napoleon III.'s reign she created a great sensation in Paris, where she made her début in 1848, at the Opéra Comique as Virginie in *Le Caïd*, at the age of 19. She was a pupil of her mother, Madame Beauge, who had married a musician named Ugalde. She had a remarkably supple soprano voice, and for fifteen years appeared in the leading rôles of all the new operas by Ambroise Thomas and others. She married M. Varcollier in 1866, and finally retired from the stage to devote herself to teaching.

"JOLLY JAPAN."

A Musical Playlet, in Three Scenes, by Arthur Stanley, Produced for the First Time at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, July 18, 1910.

Ruben Rottenheimer ..... MR. TOM PAYNE
Montague Wells ..... MR. BUCKSTONE CLAIR
Mark Antony ..... MR. WILLIE PARKE
The Widow Han-Kee ..... MR. TOM SEYMOUR
Y'Lang Y'Lang ..... MISS IVY MOORE
Gon-Do-Lah ..... MR. J. S. DURANT

Jolly Japan, the latest of the long roll of short plays which have made their debut at the Kingston playhouse, is perhaps the best. Occupying about half an hour, it has not a dull moment in it, whilst the third scene furnishes a wealth of colour, pretty girls, magnificent costumes, and tuneful music that is reminiscent of some of the best of the musical productions. The audience were prodigal in their manifestations of approval.

The "plot" has to do with the efforts of Ruben Rottenheimer, an adventurer with a shady history, to transport from Japan to the Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush a genuine tea-house, with its geishas and all the beauties that make it the envy of other tea-house keepers in Oh-Wai-Sai. He is commissioned to do this by a company promoter named Montague Wells, and his boisterous journey across the seas is most realistically portrayed by a cinematograph film illustrating the passage of a steamer through the Bay of Biscay. Arrived in Oh-Wai-Sai, Rottenheimer finds the tea-house to surpass all expectations. It is embowered in flowering plants, and the geishas are the most dainty little Japs and the most mischievous one could wish. There are a dozen of them, with a chief geisha, Y'Lang Y'Lang, who is even more charming than the others. The keeper of the tea-house, however, the Widow Han-Kee, is a disappointment, but she consents to the sale of the house only on condition that she also shall go to Europe with the girls and the house, and have her passage paid to and fro in addition to the price to be paid. The chief geisha, however, does not fall in with the idea, because she is in love with Gon-Do-Lah, a picturesque Jap ferryman, who declares that he will try to circumvent the Englishman and the widow by searching for some treasure which an ancestor had flung into the bay. All the arrangements are complete and things are looking very unpleasant for the two lovers, when Gon-Do-Lah announces that his search has been successful, and, outbidding the stranger, he becomes the possessor of the tea-house and its feminine charms, including the lovely Y'Lang Y'Lang, and the Englishman finds to his chagrin that an open promise to marry the widow is legally binding in Japan and condemns him to her society for the rest of his life.

Most of the action takes place in the third scene, Oh-Wai-Sai, which is perhaps one of the prettiest stage pictures one could imagine, and reflects the greatest credit upon all having to do with the making of it. The costumes of the ladies are really magnificent and worthy of a play of much greater pretensions. The book is exceptionally clever, the incidental music, which is written by M. Kopski, the *chef d'orchestre*, particularly tuneful, whilst one or two of the duets and solos are very pleasing. The final tableau, when the flags of England and Japan are displayed in the ladies' dresses and in a cloth inscribed "Amité," is very striking.

Mr. Tom Payne, whose company is appearing in the production, is the life and soul of the play, and between his drolleries and those of the widow the audience are kept in a continual state of merriment. Both Mr. J. S. Durant as the ferryman and Miss Ivy Moore as Y'Lang Y'Lang are the possessors of remarkably fine voices, which are heard to greatest advantage in a love duet as they arrive at the tea-house in a boat. The scenery, which is by A. G. Betts, is very good, and the chorus has been most efficiently trained. The dresses and appointments are by Mme. Contini et Cie.

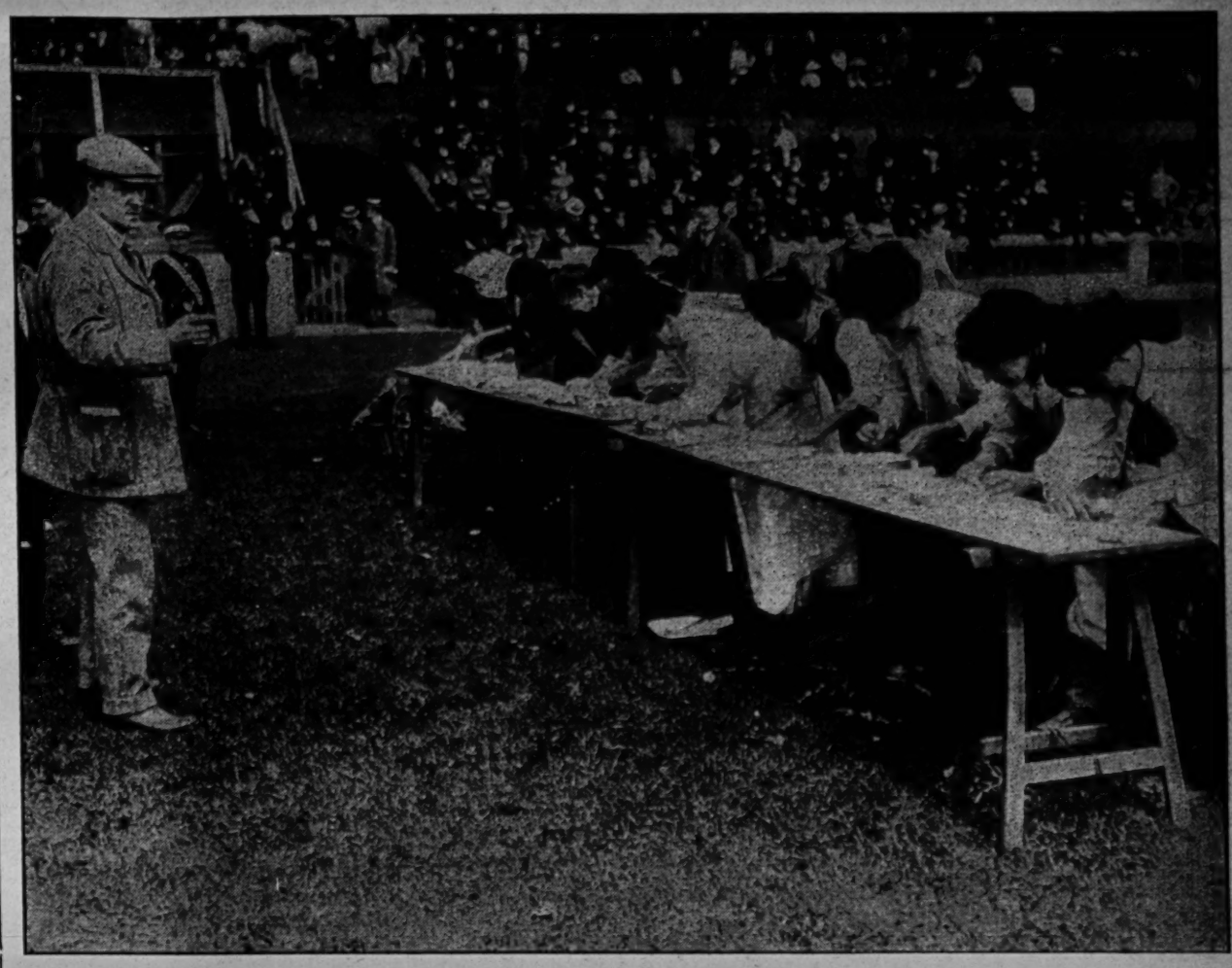

THE PIE-MAKING COMPETITION. [*Photo by Topical Press.*

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The pupils of Mr. Paul Berton gave a dramatic performance in the theatre of the Guildhall school on Friday evening, July 15. The programme commenced with a scene from *King John*. Miss Geneviève Bareham appeared as the rough but not entirely bad-hearted Hubert de Burgh, Miss Clementine de Vere as the attendant, and Miss Irene Jones successfully impersonated the unhappy Arthur. In *The Tyranny of Tears*, by Haddon Chambers, scenes from Act 2 and Act 4 were given. In the second act and the fourth Mr. Arthur Rose played Mr. Parbury, but the character of Mrs. Parbury was first undertaken by Miss Dorothy Walker and afterwards by Miss Helen M. Liddall, while in the part of Miss Woodward, secretary to Mr. Parbury, Miss Cicely Wilson-Taylor appeared in the second act and Miss Winifred Andrews in the fourth. Owing to Mr. Reginald Davis being unable to appear the part of Mr. Gunning was taken by Professor Paul Berton. Mr. Arthur Rose acted remarkably well as Mr. Parbury, who is so much worried by his tearful wife, and, of course, the experience of Professor Paul Berton was of great advantage to the performance and a stimulant to his clever pupils, the lively scenes between Mr. Gunning and the lady secretary being the most attractive feature in the comedy. One curious result of having two parts played by four performers was their different readings, for Miss Cicely Wilson-Taylor, who acted with marked ability, took quite a serious view of Miss Woodward, while the same part was played by Miss Winifred Andrews in a spirit of light comedy. The Mrs. Parbury of Miss Dorothy Walker was perhaps on the whole more convincing than that of Miss Helen M. Liddall, although both acted cleverly. Miss Margery Home was the servant Evans, and the two scenes from Haddon Chambers's comedy had evidently been well rehearsed. Mr. Paul Berton and his talented pupils were called on and heartily applauded. In a scene from *Hamlet* the four parts were played by ladies. Miss Cicely Wilson-Taylor displayed considerable talent as the Prince, and spoke her lines admirably. Miss Annie Nesbitt was also excellent as the Queen, and Miss Mildred Gibbon as the Ghost of Hamlet's Father, and Miss C. Marcus as Polonius both did well. The last dramatic item was a scene from *As You Like It*, in which the Rosalind of Miss Clementine de Vere deserved much praise both for clear delivery of the words and graceful, expressive action. Miss Dora Mahood's Celia also merited commendation, as did the Duke Frederick of Miss Mildred Gibbon. All the Shakespearean scenes were given in costume. During the evening Miss Lily White (a pupil of Mr. J. F. Barnett) gave on the piano solos of "Automne" (Chaminade), Henselt's "Si Oiseau J'Etais," Grieg's "Wedding Day," and two pieces of Mr. J. F. Barnett's, Nocturne in G flat and Fantasie on "The Ancient Mariner," which were well received.

WE have a very attractive programme of films at the Theatre Royal, Ryde, and Miss Lance Lovelle is paying a welcome return visit with new songs.

MR. FRED COLES has returned to England, and is now at liberty for acting and general management.

LADIES' DRIVING RACE. [*Photo by L. N. A.*

METZLER'S MUSIC FOR THE SEASIDE.

ANGELINA ... ... Sung nightly at the Gaiety Theatre, London, by **Mr. George Grossmith, Jun.,** in the New Version of "Our Miss Gibbs," instead of "Yip-i-addy-i-ay."

ANGELINA ... ... **Two-Step** on above Song. Composed by Vincent Scotto. An **immense success** in Europe under the title of "Caroline, Caroline."

I FEEL SO LONELY Written and Composed by Bert Lee. Sung nightly in "The Islander" at the Apollo Theatre, London, by Mr. Fred. Allandale.

MAID O'MINE .. From **The Islander** (Tenor or Baritone).

THE ORPHAN WARD. From **The Islander** (Soprano).

I LOVE SOMEBODY From **The Islander** (Soprano).

WHAT IS THIS THOUGHT REVEALING? From **The Islander** (Mezzo-Soprano).

JACK THE HANDY MAN. From **The Islander** (Baritone).

THE ISLANDER ... Waltz. Lancers. Two-Step. Composed by Philip Michael Faraday. Arranged by Karl Kaps.

THE ISLANDER ... Selection for Piano. Arranged by Jacques Heuvel.

LASS OF MINE ... By H. Lyall Phillips. (Tenor or Baritone.)

SAL O' SUFFOLK ... By Howard Fisher. (Tenor or Baritone.)

BENEATH THE MOON. By Cuthbert Clarke. (Mezzo-Soubrette.)

OVER THE SEA THEY'RE CALLING. By Charles Fountain. (Mezzo Soprano or Contralto.)

ONCE ON A DAY ... By Albert Fox. (Mezzo-Soprano.)

METZLER'S 1910 DANCE ALBUM. Containing Carmen Lancers etc., etc. Price 1/- net. **Professional Copies of any of the above sent post free, 8d. each, or any 5 for 2/6, Postal order (with card).**

METZLER & CO. (1909), Ltd., 40-43, Gt. Marlborough St., London, W.

THE WATER RATS' MOTOR RUN.

How doth the happy Harry Tate
Delight to Motor Run,
And lead the Water Rats in state
To Brighton in the sun.

And if London was very much in the doldrums at the time appointed for the start of the third annual motor Run of the Grand Order of Water Rats to London-by-the-Sea—directed again this year by that capital comedian and excellent sportsman Harry Tate—and weeping skies greeted the numerous arrivals at the Vaudeville Club, rain could have no melancholy effect on the joyousness of the cheeriest of the professional brotherhoods, especially when the clouds began to brighten as the first car and its occupants were despatched on their journey.

Punctuality, we all know, is the soul of business, but it is not the essence of pleasure; and no one grumbled at the start to Brighton taking place about an hour after the appointed time. Kennington and Brixton were, of course, particularly interested in the run, and many "familiars" waved farewells as the cars scurried past well-known hostelries. Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, seen at the front gate of his charming residence at Streatham—Easdale—received many greetings. Bowling a'long through Mitcham and Sutton, and gazing at the delightful uplands of Surrey, the feeling of exhilaration that comes of rapid travelling was heightened by the rays of the belated sun. There was some considerable "reinforcement of the tubes" at Sutton; and a halt was made at the George, Crawley, a typical market town well known to all and sundry for its ancient elm; and to the curious in church architecture for a legend carved on one of the beams of the ancient oaken roof of the church, dedicated to St. John. A small party of pressmen were dedicated to Clement—at least, that was the make of their landaulette; and when they rehearsed a hasty and impromptu version of Harry Tate's Motoring Act "on the road" with a natural backing of nature, a real policeman holding a notebook, and a small boy, they certainly plumbed the humour of the situation, especially with the happiest and most polite of chauffeurs, with a drop of petrol in one eye, completely realising the "unctuousness" of the performance from his position underneath the car. Not even a whisper of break-down French! The language, indeed, was distinguished by its beautiful restraint. A stay at the Crawley Garage righted matters, and without further stoppages the press gang, invigorated by the breezes from the magnificent Sussex downs, reached the sea—glinting in the glorious sunlight—about four o'clock.

The banquet was held at the Royal Albion Hotel facing the sea, and a crowd of upwards of one hundred guests sat down, under the presidency of Prince Rat Harry Tate, who was supported by a past Lord Mayor of London, Sir William Purdie Treloar—the friend of the cripples—and by Sir William Dunn, M.P., who will at no distant date also fill the exalted position of Chief Magistrate of London. The dinner was excellently served. The following is the menu, with the remarks of some of the diners attached:—

Scotch Broth
(Awf'y guid, ye ken)
Truite Saumonee Doria
(Sammy Trout, Esq.)
Chaudfroid Volaille
(We can all play at this "game")
Selle d'Agneau Banquetaire
(A nice tender saddle, in case we have to cycle home)
Canoton-d'Aylesbury.
Petit Pois à l'Anglaise
(Watch the old (d)rakes after this little duck)
Pêche Melba.
(May there be no speeches except *these* peaches).

The toasts were "The King"—God save him; "The Ladies"—God bless them! "The Visitors"—God help them! "The Water Rats"—God forgive them! and "The Press"—God guide them!

Mr. Harry Tate, on rising to propose the loyal toast, was received with a warmth and enthusiasm that must have been music in his ears. He made his remarks commendably brief, and called upon Dave O'Toole—a gentle gossoon from Galway, begorra!—to propose "The Ladies." Amid the encouraging laughter of the "darlinte," Misther O'Toole, in honeyed accents, talked of their graciousness, their amiability, and beauty. We ought to be very grateful to the ladies. He had been to many jollifications, and he was always happy when the ladies were present.

Miss Alice Lloyd, who responded, thanked Mr. O'Toole for his kind words about the ladies, and expressed her gratefulness to the Rats for their hospitality on the occasion of their outing. She had been away in America for a long time, but hoped in the future to be among her friends in England more than during the past few years.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Ben Brown, but as that gentleman could not be found, took upon himself the toast of the visitors; Mr. Charles Warren, the King Rat, he said, was regrettably unable to be present owing to a business trip to the Continent. He wished to express his thanks to Sir William Treloar and Sir William Dunn for gracing the proceedings of the day with their presence. He also heartily thanked the motoring gentlemen who had kindly supplied the cars.

Sir William Dunn responded briefly for the visitors.

Sir William Treloar was in his best anecdotic vein when he proposed the toast of "The Water Rats." He said the fraternity was a body of ladies and gentlemen animated by the true spirit of friendship and charity. He rallied Sir William Dunn on being in a sense an actor-manager. He remembered well being at a dinner of one of the City Guilds and hearing the question of an ancient toastmaster—"Who's going to *do* the Lord Mayor?" He was going to do the Rats, and he felt honoured in being selected to propose the toast. If his knowledge of their profession was limited he knew well their true sportsmanship and benevolence. He could not say sufficiently how grateful he was to the distinguished order for the great kindness shown by its members in giving a special matinée at the Coliseum in aid of the work of founding the Cripples' Home.

Mr. W. H. Clemart, past King Rat, responded. He said Sir William Treloar was incorrect in assuming that they had lady rats. Whether the suffragettes would exercise an influence in correcting what ought or what ought not to be in that direction he could not say. At any rate, they were pleased to welcome the ladies on their annual trips, and they were delighted to find so many gracing the run. The Water Rats were not a very large body. They numbered about 153 members, but they were united, they were loyal, and they were devoted to the promotion of the best interests of the profession.

Before dismissing the crowd to the fresh air, Mr. Harry Tate gave the additional toast "Absent Rats," which was the signal for a hearty rendering of the fraternity's own anthem. Burt Shepard telegraphed, "Good luck to everybody. Please bring Bill Manning and Bill Samson home." Mr. Blyth Pratt wired, "Kindest regards to all. Hope you will have a good time."

A drive along the front and the taking of photographs outside the hotel occupied the visitors until seven o'clock, when Mr. Harry Tate saw them off, he remaining for the night. Mr. Paul Cinquevalli was among the spectators, as well as Mr. Phil Ray. On the return journey the tea at Crawley was followed by a concert, to which Mr. Dave O'Toole and Mr. Charles Austin contributed an operatic burlesque on "Il Bacio." At ten o'clock the party proceeded to the Vaudeville Club, where another concert was held.

RATS' REFRESHMENT WARNING AT THE GEORGE HOTEL, CRAWLEY.

Amongst the ladies and gentlemen present were the following:—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tate, Sir William Treloar, Sir William Dunn, W. H. Clemart, Adrienne Ahgarde, George Brooks, Alice Lloyd, Daisy Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Austin, A. H. Richards, L. W. Hurman, Ben Brown, Bill Manning, Bert Austin, W. W. Samson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Mosses, representative *Morning Advertiser*, S. Williams, A. M. Purser (*Motor Trader*), Mr. and Mrs. Bob Leonard, Sisters Pine, Lily Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blake, Joe Blake, S. Ethardo, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hyams, W. Taylor, J. Collinson, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Earle, Central News Agency, Mr. and Mrs. Protti, Mr. and Mrs. N. Deakin, Harry Barrett, Kydd and Kydd, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Eustace Jay, Mr. and Mrs. Distin, Harry Tomps, Percy Honri, Reg. Ashley, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Garrick, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pleasants, Dan Lipton, C. W. Murphy, Fred Curran, Maudie Wood, Will Poluski, jun., Rosie Lloyd, W. Glyn Jones, *Evening News* representative, Mr. and Mrs. Vic Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Rhodes, James Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank, Mr. and Mrs. Dutch Daly, Sam Poluski, Harry Claff, Ed. E. Ford, George Arthurs, Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendal, Flo Kendal, L. T. R. Ridley, Ella Shields, Wm. Hargreaves, Mrs. Ashby, Buster Brown, R. G. Schwartz, Dave O'Toole, Mr. and Mrs. R. Herbert Smith, Agnes Allen, Tom Arnold, H. Belcham, A. D. Hamilton, E. M. Sansom, Chas. Clement, T. H. Case, Daisy Dormer, Albert Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Hill (Daisy Morell), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Knowles, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Hallett, Mr. and Mrs. George Cecil Hallett, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Maple, Mr. and Mrs. W. Johnson, Leslie Munro, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Le Fre, Miss Stroud, Mr. Serck, H. Schwartz, Mr. Boynton, H. Correze, Percy Smith (Liverpool), George Sanford, Issy Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Verno, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Baker, A. Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bartram, Mr. and Mrs. John Wood, Mike Simons, Mrs. Sime, J. Leslie Stewart, Harry Stewart, Leon Bassett, Fred Lucas, W. D. Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sinclair and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lotto, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, R. G. Batchelor, N. F. Screase, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rich, Mr. and Mrs. George Barclay, jun., Billy Brown, Frank Seeley, Winifred Ward, Ida Gibbs, Max Ritter, Sam McKee (New York *Morning Telegraph*), S. P. Chapman, G. Woods-Taylor, Mr. Smerdon, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Lotto, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess, Mr. Cordingley.

Every credit is due to Mr. Harry Tate and his able lieutenants, Messrs. W. H. McCarthy and T. H. Case, for the excellent arrangements carried out without a hitch. Personally, our thanks are specially due to Mr. H. J. Kennedy and to Mr. C. Walter, one of the best and politest of chauffeurs, who did much to add to our comfort and pleasure.

We are requested to specially thank the following gentlemen for the loan of cars:—J. Adams, F. S. Bennett, J. W. Stocks, Michael Egan, D. Perry, Warwick Wright, Guy Lewin, D'Arcy Baker, Frank Shorland, R. Herbert-Smith, — Middleton, — Cooke, F. C. Baisley, George Poole, A. Mosses, and P. O. Serck, and not forgetting several other kind friends whose names were not given.

THE RUN, AS SEEN THROUGH MOTOR GOGGLES.

"Precisely at 9.45 last Sunday morning," writes a motorist correspondent, "the speedy 14-16 1910 Darracq, kindly placed at my disposal by Messrs. Darracq, Ltd., pulled up at my house at Clapham to the accompaniment of torrential rain.

"10.15 found me outside the Vaudeville Club curiously inspecting the fine cars engaged for the journey. Many of these were lent by enterprising Messrs. Friswell, who sent five Standards, two Daimlers, two Peugots, and one Renault. The five Charron cars also made a most pleasing array, and some very fine private cars were drawn up in the long line, reaching almost to New Oxford-street. The one Vauxhall, with electric bull's-eyes cleverly inserted in the dashboard, quite upheld this car's high reputation on the road; as did the

(Double Extension Brass) HOODS AND SCREENS (Patent Folding Brass)
FREE £5 to £9. Tel. 2353 Hop. £4 17 6. FREE
We are fitting our automatic extension free this month to all purchasers of the above hoods.
ALEXANDER'S CARRIAGE WORKS, 132, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W.

MOTOR CAR
"Hurst," 20-24 H.P., 6 cylinder engine. Handsomely appointed Roi de Belges, side entrance, body seating 5 or 7 persons. Painted dark green, striped in black, cape cart hood, folding glass wind screen, Stepney spare wheel. Cost £700. Accept £150.
276, Clapham Road, Stockwell, S.W.

How to go to the Seaside

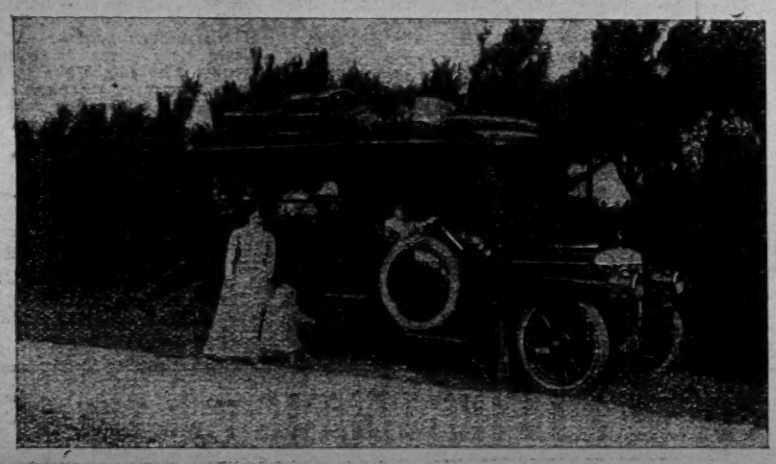

42 h.p. DAIMLER SHOOTING BRAKE.

ALL THE LUGGAGE, ALL THE CHILDREN,
and
1s. per mile loaded. PICNIC ON THE WAY. 9d. per mile return empty

THE Daimler MOTOR CO. (1904) LTD.
HIRE DEPARTMENT:
78, MARYLEBONE LANE, OXFORD ST., W.
Telephone 10223 Central.

80 Cars for Hire. Moderate Tariff.

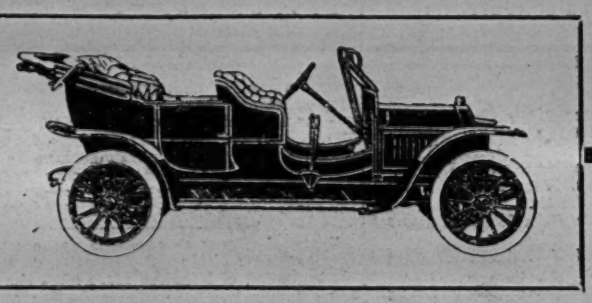

14-16 FOUR-CYLINDER
DARRACQ

Another Appreciative Letter:
BRIGHTON to LONDON and BACK WITHOUT CHANGING TOP SPEED.

S. B. Titcomb, Esq., Brighton, wrote on April 1st, 1910:—
"I thought perhaps you would like to have an unsolicited testimonial from me as to what I think of the 14-16 h.p. Darracq you delivered to me some little time back.
"As you know, I have had three Darracqs before, but none have come so near perfection as this one, and I am more than pleased with it.
"I should like to mention that my son and myself went to London and back without changing top speed. What do you think of that?
"I shall be pleased to tell anyone what I think of the car, or, if you wish, you can make use of this letter."

CHEAP :: SIMPLE :: ECONOMICAL.
Easily cleaned, suitable for all roads.
Powerful enough for all reasonable purposes.

With Standard Body as Illustrated (Michelin Square Tread Tyres). 231 Guineas Hood and Screen extra.
With handsome Torpedo Body (Michelin Square Tread Tyres). 271 Guineas.

EARLY DELIVERY CAN NOW BE GUARANTEED.

A. DARRACQ & Co. (1905), Ltd., Walnut Tree Walk, Kennington, S.E.
IRISH AGENTS—John Hutton & Sons, Summerhill, and 2, Dawson Street, Dublin. Dublin Motor Co., 33, Percy Place, Dublin—Joint Agents for Leinster. Johnson & Perrott, Nelson Place, Cork—Cork and District. Williams, R. C., Southern Hotel M. Garage, Macroom—Cork. Statham & Co. 18, High Street, Kilkenny—County Kilkenny, Buchanan, J. W., Strabane Motor Works—Strabane. Ulster Motor Works, 83, Donegall Street, Belfast—Province of Ulster, exclusive of Strabane and three miles around that town.

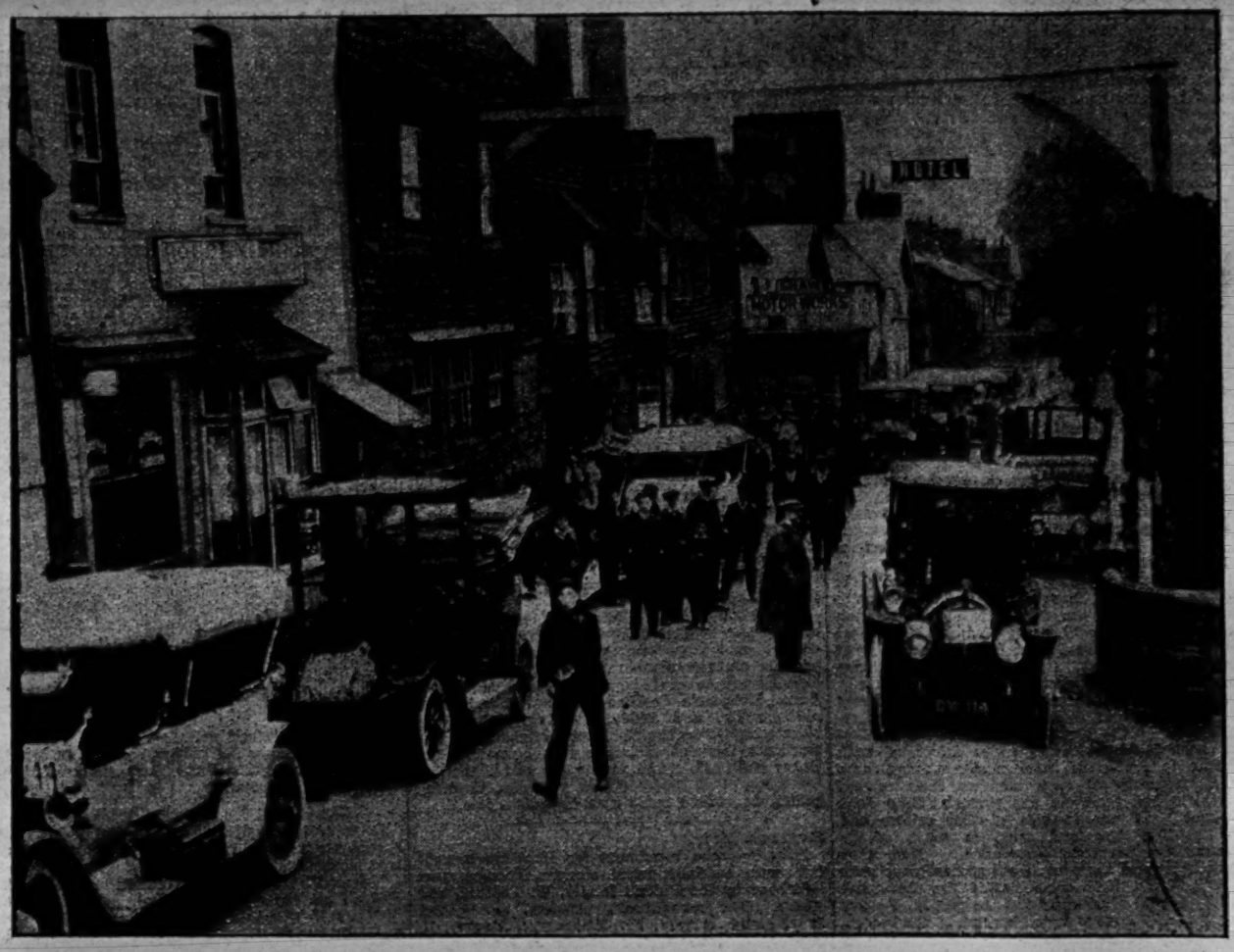

ARRIVAL OF WATER RATS' MOTORS AT CRAWLEY. [Photo by G. P. P.

"Car No. 3—a powerful Daimler—Mr. Bob Leonard and family; No. 4 (Darracq), Mr. Jack Lotto and party, including Mr. Henry, who desires to be known as 'Little Willie,' were soon away. Mr. and Mrs. Dutch Daly, in their own Wolesley-Siddeley; No. 6, bearing Mr. and Mrs. Verne, accompanied by Mr. Baker from Liverpool, and Mr. Alexander from the U.S.A., quickly left the Club behind. Car No. 7 I did not notice. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pleasants and Messrs. Dan Lipton and C. Murphy occupied No. 8—a Talbot. No. 9—another splendid Daimler—carried gentlemen of the Press, officered by Mr. Eustace Grey; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sinclair, and Mrs. Sinclair, in a very fine Talbot, departing shortly afterwards.

"No. 11 (Metallurgique; Mr. Lucas and party), No. 12 (Daimler; Mr. James Stuart and party), No. 13 (Mr. and Mrs. Maple and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson), No. 14 (Daimler; Mr. George Brooks, Mr. W. H. Clemart and party); No. 15 (Deasy; Mr. Dusty Rhodes and Mr. Victor Kelly), No. 16 (a Standard, one of the many cars kindly lent by Messrs. Friswell), No. 17 (Standard; Mr. Seth Egbert and party), No. 18 (Mercédès; carrying Mr. Griffiths, of picture palace fame), Nos. 19, 20, and 21 (three more powerful Daimlers carrying Press representatives), and No. 22 (one of the five Charron cars lent) were also soon away.

"Mr. and Mrs. Lester Barrett and Mr. Gus Garrick in a Darracq (No. 23), Mr. Jack Collinson and party in a Charron (No. 24), and No. 25 (another speedy Darracq) were next to depart.

"No. 26 (Charron; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blake, Mr. 'Joe' Blake' and friend), No. 27 (the only Vauxhall sent; Messrs. Earle and Proti), No. 28 (another Charron; Mr. and Mrs. Alf Lotto, and Mr. and Mrs. Burgess), No. 29 (Standard; Mr. Richards and party), No. 30 (Renault; Mr. Percy Honri and party), No. 31 (Charron; Mr. and Mrs. Edmunds, and Mr. and Mrs. Bartram) followed in somewhat irregular order.

"No. 32 (Standard; Mr. 'Billy' Brown, Miss Winifred Ward, Miss Ida Bates, and Mr. Frank Seeley), No. 33 (De Dion Bouton; Misses Marie and Flo Kendall and Mr. Steve McCarthy), No. 34 (a Unic, carrying Mr. 'Bill' Manning), No. 35 (a Simms, Mr. Charles Austin's own car, in which the genial 'Parker, P.C.,' was accompanied by Mr. Richards and Mr. Clements) all got away from Charing Cross-road before 11.45.

"A James-Brown car from Hammersmith was graced by Miss Alice Lloyd, who claimed Miss Millie Norrahs, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Sime, and Mr. Freeman as members of her party.

"Anxious now to observe all what was to be seen on the journey down, we now left, overtaking Miss Lloyd's car on the Albert Embankment. Reaching the summit of Brixton-hill we were afforded a hearty welcome by that best of fellows the genial White-eyed Kaffir, who seemed quite merry and bright, although not out for the run.

"12.20.—We passed through Croydon, where the first of the few trifling mishaps occurred. Arriving at Crawley we found Mr. Fred Sinclair with a collecting box hard at work extracting coins from willing givers for the local charities. Outside the George Hotel were pulled up a great number of the cars that had got away early from Charing Cross-road. The interior of this well-known hostelry was crowded with enthusiastic and thirsty Rats.

"Quickly away, we were soon speeding towards Brighton, via Handcross, shortly to be overtaken by 'Collector' Sinclair, in his high-powered Talbot, which, like the sturdy little Darracq that bore us on our way, laughed all hills to scorn. Ten miles out from Crawley the rain came down in sheets, until we wondered whether we were on the road or in the sea, but thanks to our glorious changeable climate five miles farther down the road we were welcomed by brilliant sunshine. Nearing Brighton we noticed car No. 20 (Press representatives) held up by a puncture. This car, however, finished its outward journey on a flat tyre. Reaching the Royal Albion at Brighton we found the first arrivals—three Daimlers and the one Vauxhall—Nos. 2, 14, 3, and 27. In quick succession Nos. 12, 6, 10, 16, 17, 18, 5, 8, 23, 13, and 20 followed. After a short interval the remainder of the cars arrived in the following order—Nos. 36, 28, 33, 26, 22, 4, 32, 44, 11, 38, 15, 9, 30, 40, 34, 24, 37, 41, 43, 42, 31, 7, and 39 (Miss Alice Lloyd and party) being the last to arrive.

"Apart from one or two punctures, and one case of a dry petrol tank, and slight carburretor trouble experienced by Mr. Seth Egbert, the down journey had been distinguished by the fine reliable and thoroughly trustworthy running of all the cars engaged—a striking tribute to the advance of a great industry in which I am proud to see Great Britain has made most magnificent strides.

"At 6.30 the homeward journey was recommenced, and at seven o'clock we followed the long line of cars that had gone before. Brighton sunshine soon surrendered to dull grey skies that threatened rain, but, fortunately, they only threatened, and allowed us to have a dry journey back to town.

"A hoarse scream from a most effective 'road-clearer,' and we find the mighty Metallurgique is behind us demanding a clear road to rush a long incline on 'top.' This we are not inclined to allow until we have accomplished the same object, and the two cars triumphantly breast the hill together.

"Crawley is soon reached, and here we find many of the merry Rats drawn up for refreshments. A fine local band discourses music while collectors keenly take advantage of this welcome visit of 'the' profession, and reap a golden harvest for their labours.

"Mr. Dutch Daly's chauffeur is busy with a punctured tube, but he is soon away—possibly the first car to leave the George behind for the last run of the journey. Following a little later, we overtake the placid 'Dutch,' ruefully contemplating puncture No. 3, but he cheerfully declined all assistance, assuring us he would soon be away. Pulling up to light our lamps, we find Mr. Daly's car is close behind us, and right into Croydon we bore each other company, the two cars running as smoothly and silently as two well-behaved sewing machines. Shortly afterwards, Clapham-road is reached, and we bid farewell to the sturdy little 14-16 Darracq that has done its work so well.

"'Brighton and back on Top,' so runs one of the many Darracq advertisements, and certainly my run out as motor correspondent to *The Era* fully justified the '14-16's' claim. And we had really courted trouble through our carelessness, or, should we say, our faith? Not a tool on board; no Stepney wheel, or a single spare inner tube! But we arrive home well before time, after a pleasant, novel, 'free from real trouble' run." L. M.

DAIMLER MACHINE.

MR. LEONARD MORTIMER.

A Motor Correspondent.

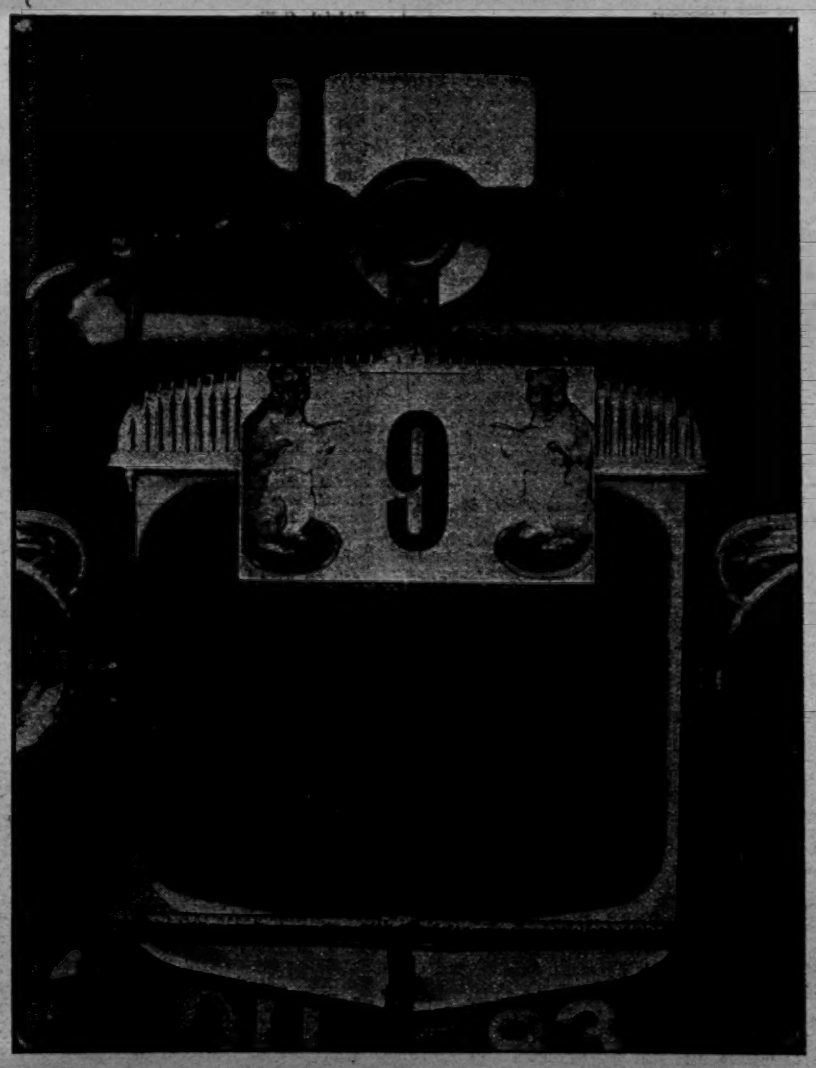

NUMBER BADGE OF THE WATER RATS' SOCIETY FIXED ON THE FRONT OF ALL CARS WHICH WERE IN THE RUN TO BRIGHTON.

A GROUP OF WATER RATS OUTSIDE ROYAL YORK HOTEL. [Photo by G. P. P.
SIR WILLIAM TRELOAR (PRINCE RAT), HARRY TATE, SIR WILLIAM DUNN, AND MISS ALICE LLOYD IN CENTRE OF GROUP.

"THE ORGAN-GRINDER."

Dramatic Sketch, by Alicia Ramsey and Rodolph de Cordova, Produced on Monday, July 18, at the Coliseum.

The Padrone .....MR. LAWSON BUTT
Sal .....MISS JOAN PEREIRA
Jim .....MR. LEOPOLD PROFEIT
Sir Horace Wyndham.....MR. CHARLES ALDRED
Nellie .....MISS BELLA TERRY
Arthur Thorne .....MR. WILLIAM B. HARBERD

This dramatic sketch, in three scenes, which has been seen in the provinces, cannot be said to reach the standard set by the well-known authors themselves in their productions at the London Hippodrome. The story is trite and the treatment of it conventional. The Padrone, seemingly, has been a kidnapper for years. To his criminal propensities Sir Horace Wyndham, Bart., residing in the neighbourhood of Park-lane, owes the loss of his only son—now known as Jim, the organ-grinder; and in the first scene, little Nellie, his only daughter, is hustled into the receptacle of a piano-organ, through the same villainous agency. Taken to a den in Saffron-hill, the kiddie's fair curls are cut off, and by means of make-up she is disguised as a little Italian. Jim befriends her and fights the padrone, who wounds him with a knife. Sir Horace at the opportune moment arrives, and rejoices in the restoration of his two lost children. Mr. Lawson Butt plays with no lack of sinister intent and well-simulated brutality as the Padrone; Miss Joan Pereira is picturesque and dramatic as Sal, who gives the Padrone away; Jim, as played by Mr. Leopold Profeit, sings pleasantly, to the accompaniment of the "handle organ"; and Mr. Charles Aldred does all that is necessary for the part of Sir Horace Wyndham. Miss Bella Terry is a delightful kiddie; and Mr. William B. Harberd as a conventional policeman is very good indeed. The sketch is finely mounted, a real horse and victoria being used for the departure and arrival of the baronet.

THE holiday attraction at the Alhambra will be *On the Sands*, a seasonable divertissement, garnished with topical humour, and arranged by Miss Elise Clerc. Miss Rita Leggiero will play one of the chief parts.

MR. CURLINE BALDRY, known in association with the Hippodrome, Birmingham, has been engaged by Mr. G. Howard Watson as acting-manager for the Palace, Reading. He will commence his duties on August Bank Holiday.

AT the Co-operative Hall, Widnes, Mr. Carl Lynn, animal mimic, supplies a capital turn; Messrs. Morris and Davies are refined humorists; Miss Fanny Humber presents a pretty musical act; while Mr. Jack O'Neil provides a clever Scottish dancing turn. The pictures are entertaining.

WITH a good show of pictures and three excellent variety turns, including the Two Zets, harmonising vocalists and wooden shoe experts; the Tymes, in a novel song-scena, *The Enchanted Clock*, and the Four Janowskys, in their marvellous acrobatic and ladder act, the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, is doing good business.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Bramley Feast, on the Great Central and Midland; Epsom, on the London and South Western and London, Brighton, and South Coast; Hockwold, on the Great Eastern; Reading, on the Great Western, South Western, South Eastern, and Metropolitan; Tamworth, on the London and North Western and Midland; Cley-next-the-Sea, on the Midland and Great Northern; Melksham, on the Great Western; Alresford, on the London and South Western; Bollington, on the Great Central; King's Nympton, on the London and South Western; Ginsy, on the Midland; Padiham, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Unsworth, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Alfreton, on the Midland; Compstall, on the Midland; Heyford, on the London and North Western; Mellor, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Mossley, on the London and North Western; Redditch, on the Midland; Sherland, on the Midland; Stretton, on the Midland; Kinross, on the Highland; Kilmarnock, on the Glasgow and South Western and Glasgow, Barrhead, and Kilmarnock Joint; Leith, on the Caledonian and North British; Tweedmouth Feast, on the North Eastern; and Tenby, on the Great Western Railways.

The Alf. Ball Fire Fund.

From all parts of showland expressions of sympathy and offers of immediate help have poured in upon Mr. Alf. Ball and family. It is a striking example of the brotherliness of showpeople, and it also proves the great truth—that if a man gives himself during his life for the good of others he need never fear the day of adversity. Good work always tells. Alf. Ball has devoted himself to the good of his brother showmen, and has been a hard worker in every struggle for right and justice for others as well as himself. That is why he is an acknowledged leader and a tried and trusted friend to his fellow-showmen. His work is the kind that never fails to make friends.

How the Showmen Come to the Rescue.

Mr. P. Collins not only took the lead, as president of the Guild, in organising the fund, but he offered at once to lend Mr. Ball one of his splendid cinematograph shows. Mr. Charles Thurston made a similar offer, and Mr. Fred Gray was the third showman to offer Mr. Ball a complete show. Professor Lloyd, a Welsh showman, now settled at Barry, offered to lend a complete cinematograph apparatus with hundreds of films. This readiness to help him has deeply touched Mr. Ball. The immediate thing to be done was to build a new booth and to get open as soon as possible. With the loan of a spare tilt from Mr. Charles Thurston and an organ from Messrs. Chiappa and Sons (also kindly lent free of charge) Mr. Ball and his working staff set to work, and in less than a week the framework of the new booth was up and tilted in.

Touching Expressions of Sympathy.

The most touching event of all was the offer of Mr. Banford, comedian and dancer of the show. Mr. Banford, on the morning of the fire, brought the whole of his hard-won savings—over £40—and offered it to Mr. and Mrs. Ball. This, of course, was refused, but the spirit of the offer deeply affected the distressed family. Mr. Banford was not to be refused altogether, for he headed the Tilbury local subscription with £10. The whole of the working staff volunteered to forego their wages until better times came again. Here again Mr. Ball refused to accept the sacrifice, whilst deeply sensible of its spirit and fellowship. "Let us," he said, "get to work and build the show and open; the wages will follow."

The local subscription is now over £20. The neighbouring town of Grays, where Mr. Ball is well known and highly respected, have at a benefit concert raised over £9.

Bostock Circus on Tour.

Mr. E. H. Bostock's International Railroad Circus visited Paisley at the end of last week for two days, and gave four performances to large and appreciative houses. There were no less than twenty items on the programme, comprising Mlle. Leoville, in a clever wire-walking act; Mlle. Helga Yensen, who introduced an excellently trained pony and dog; Harez and Jabez, in an amusing musical act; Miss Pinder, in a trick act on horseback; the Lorettes, in a double trapeze act; Billy and Harry, who were amusing in a boxing act, and introduced their boxing pony; Mlle. Chloe Convere and her celebrated cake-walking horse; Mlle. Florence, in a clever globe-walking exhibition; Mons. Ernesto and Charleroi, in an Olympian act on horseback; Mons. Holloway, on the perpendicular ladder; the Valdo Boys, in a comic acrobatic act; Mlle. Ida Evilo, in a daring balancing trapeze act; the Prairie Girls, in a clever riding exhibition; the Tokio Troupe, in a wonderful and daring performance; the Erneste Family, in an equestrian novelty; the Toreadors, in an eccentric bull fight; and Mons. Abex, the schoolboy Hercules. Eccentricities during the programme were contributed by Nimble Nip, Wee Willie, Little Tony, and Little Syd amused by his clowning. At the head of affairs was Mr. Frank Bostock, who managed the large show with commendable ability.

Mansfield Pleasure Fair.

This took place under excellent conditions, both as to weather and local prosperity. The principal shows were Proctor's picture palace and Holland's cinematograph theatre. The mechanical novelties were Hall and Proctor's motor-cars, Hall's roundabout, and Cox and Son's galloping horses. The juvenile horses and motors were supplied by A. Hall, houp-las and throwing games by Messrs. Holmes, Waller, Hazard, Hancock, Holland, and A. Hall; pannum and toy-stalls by Messrs. Westrop, Clarke, James, and many other caterers.

The somewhat limited area of the Corporation Fairground was well set out by the able and ever-obliging toll collector, Mr. H. Abell, who takes quite a personal interest in the well-being of the showpeople under his control at the Mansfield Fair and Statutes.

The Guild Chaplain in Yorkshire.

To-morrow (Sunday, July 24) the Rev. T. Horne will be at Dewsbury for the Feast. A meeting will be held in Aspland's show at 3.30, for the consideration of Guild business and the enrolment of members. The Guild service will be in the same show at 8.15 the same evening.

The Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

An important meeting of the Union is fixed for Tuesday next, July 26, at Dewsbury. For time and place of meeting see advertisement.

Public Sympathy with Alf. Ball.

A most gratifying expression of public sympathy with Mr. Alf. Ball and family took place at Tilbury Docks on Sunday evening, July 17. The Vicar of Tilbury Docks invited the Rev. T. Horne, the Guild chaplain, to preach in his church in support of the local movement to help the Ball family. Mr. Horne preached to a crowded church, and in his sermon referred to the ready way in which the Church stretched out the hand of fellowship to the travelling showman. He briefly outlined the spiritual and educational work of the Guild, and expressed the sincere gratitude of the Guild for all the kindness shown to its unfortunate member, Mr. Alf. Ball, in the hour of calamity and distress. The Vicar of Tilbury Dock has identified himself earnestly in the local effort to aid Mr. Ball.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN SCOTLAND.

Despite the glorious weather, tempting many down the Clyde, there was quite a good attendance at the annual Guild meeting at Greenock Fair on Sunday afternoon, July 10.

For several years past Greenock Fair has been the first big rallying-point for Guild purposes in Scotland. The first of these gatherings was organised at the express wish of John Wilmot, the veteran Scottish showman, one of the oldest vice-presidents of the Showmen's Guild, and a keen and generous supporter of its work and enterprise. It is largely owing to the personal influence of Mr. Wilmot and his family that the Greenock meeting has been year after year successfully carried through.

Amongst the prominent showpeople present at the gathering were Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilmot, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wilmot, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilmot, jun., Mr. Hugh Wilmot, Mr. Charles Wilmot, Mr. George Wilmot, Miss Ellen Wilmot, Miss Lizzie Wilmot, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Mr. Joe Caddick, Mr. H. Dawson, Mr. J. McIndoe, Mr. Wm. McIndoe, Mr. John Wright, Mr. J. Caddick, jun., Mr. R. J. Styles, Mr. Arthur Sedgwick, Mr. W. Slater, Mr. T. Miles, Mr. T. Cadona, Mr. R. Russell, Mr. C. Johnson, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. D. Moore, Mr. C. Thomas, Mr. W. H. Strand, Mrs. M. Smith, Mrs. T. Wright, and a large contingent of employees and others interested in the fairground business.

Mr. Wilmot, as the senior vice-president for Scotland, presided, but at his request Mr. James Wilmot spoke on behalf of his father, who, owing to his serious infirmity of deafness, begged to be excused from taking an active part in a meeting at which he was unfortunately unable to hear the speeches.

The Organising Chaplain's Address.

As the chief object of the gathering was to hear the deputation from the Executive Council of the Guild, the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, having been specially deputed for this work, began his fourth annual address to the Scottish showpeople. He paid a warm tribute of admiration to the unflagging zeal and interest that Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot (and, indeed, the "clan Wilmot") had shown for the necessary and important work of trade defence. He felt sure that the good work of the Guild from its very commencement had no better supporter and worker than John Wilmot.

It was indeed, he further observed, a matter of lament to them all that their "grand old man" of the Scottish show-world was now unable, by growing infirmities, to take the same active part in the conduct of their meetings as upon former occasions. They all rejoiced at his presence amongst them.

In James Wilmot (the acting chairman) they recognised that the burden of the future would be passed upon capable shoulders. To him (the speaker) it was a great encouragement in his work to come to Scotland and to find such unity of heart and purpose in supporting the Defence Work of the Guild, as was evidenced by the keen interest taken by the Wilmot family and other supporters of the movement.

He had, first of all, to congratulate the members present upon the coming of age of their Society. He himself, and many others before him at that gathering, had been concerned in the birth of the Guild. They had been its nursing fathers and mothers; they had watched its infant efforts; they had guided its childhood steps; they had counselled its youthful decisions; and now, in its full manhood, they had every reason to rejoice in its strength and vigour for its work and enterprise.

Quite recently he had made a review of only one department of the Guild's usefulness—the Parliamentary Defence work. Since they began that important branch of work (now twelve years ago) no less than sixty corporations and public bodies had been prevented obtaining extraordinary powers to penalise and injure the show business.

The greater number of these attempts had been prevented by the Guild executive officials pointing out to the local authorities concerned the injustice of the proposals in question. They had been able to show the Corporations that if the obnoxious proposals were not withdrawn the organised showmen were fully able and strongly determined to oppose their Bills in Parliament.

In every case where they had been met by refusal their opposition in Parliament had been signally successful. As regards this part of his argument, he ventured to ask them what would have been the condition of the show business in Great Britain to-day if sixty great centres had been closed to them by special Act of Parliament? Terrible as the possibility of that state of things might appear to them, there could be no doubt that in reality it would have been much worse.

Who can reasonably doubt that if the Showmen's Guild had not been in existence to actively oppose and defeat these sixty specific attacks upon the show business that a hundred or more other Corporations would have followed the lead of the sixty in the same crusade of attack and suppression?

The Betterment of the Show Business.

However great and necessary defence work had been, it was but a part of their enterprise. The Society stood for advance as well as defence. It was his duty to point out at gatherings of showpeople the important truth that anything that is worth saving is also worth improving.

The Guild stood for the betterment and uplifting of the show business as well as the preservation of the people's fairs and holidays. It was his work to keep this ideal before the people of showland, and, in a larger sense, before the whole world.

Referring to his own evidence on their behalf given before the Select Committee of the House of Lords (to whom the Movable Dwellings Bill had been sent), he expressed his strong conviction that whatever might be the ultimate fate of that Bill the showman van-dweller would receive justice, and that in the years to come no further attempt would be made to interfere with their domestic life or to asperse their character.

The showman and his work in life had been fully vindicated, and now after twenty-one years of strenuous work he was confident that show-life would receive the fullest recognition, and that instead of being a despised class, they would be acknowledged as fulfilling a useful part in the progress of the nation and justifying their claim to be citizens of the industrial commonwealth and law-abiding subjects of the Empire.

Trade Defence Work, 1910.

Coming to the last report of the Society's work, he pointed out that the Guild Council had been sanguine enough to anticipate that they might have reached the end of their extremely expensive work of Parliamentary defence. This optimistic forecast was, however, not justified, for the present year opened with two Corporations endeavouring by Private Bill legislation to harass and injure their trade and avocation in life. The Corporation of Middleton, in Lancashire, wanted a Cinematograph Act of their own, and the District Council of Handsworth, near Birmingham, wanted a Movable Dwellings Bill for their own district.

He had often been amazed at the temerity of public bodies in seeking in Private Bill legislation things that had been repeatedly refused by Parliament in more public measures. There seemed to be no way of real security but to watch every Bill, private or public, and to take care that all proposals to injure the show business or to restrict their liberty of life be met with instant and vigorous opposition.

He was glad to report that their opposition to both these Bills had been rewarded by complete success. Middleton withdrew their proposals with commendable promptitude, and Handsworth, after the Guild had manifested its determination to oppose the Bill at every stage, consented to withdraw their proposals *in toto*.

The Guild Committee has been engaged in the present year in dealing with many important matters of the deepest concern to the Showman World—matters too recent to require lengthened comment on his part. Ever since he had been able to visit Scotland he was proud of the response that his appeal had met with. Taking Greenock Fair and the annual benefit performance for the Guild funds at Ayr Fair as the combined effort of the Scottish showmen, Scotland stood in the honoured position of being the most generous supporter of the trade defence work of Showland, outside of the annual gatherings in London.

He knew that he was speaking to many who had already paid their annual subscriptions. He would remind them that the need for more funds was a real and pressing one. He ventured under these urgent circumstances to appeal for additional subscriptions as well as renewal of annual membership subscriptions.

Here was a work in which all were concerned, a work whereby all were benefited, and he was certain that as their work grew in importance and effectiveness it would meet with wider recognition, appreciation, and support.

Speeches in Support of the Guild.

Mr. James Wilmot, speaking for his father and also for himself, expressed the warm satisfaction with which they welcomed the annual visit of their Chaplain. It was a delight to him and the easiest of all possible duties to attend meetings and to listen to the able advocacy of their friend and defender, the Rev. Thomas Horne.

He hoped that for many years yet to come they might have the advantage and pleasure of meeting Mr. Horne at Greenock Fair. With regard to his father, he was, he trusted, always ready in every possible way to ease the burden from his shoulders. He knew how inadequately he could hope to fulfil with the same earnestness of purpose the position that long years of toil and service for the common good had become almost by right the position of his dear father.

If there was anything in the old proverb "Like father, like son" he would do his best to justify it. The work of the Guild had always won his most hearty approval, and as far as his influence went, he would endeavour to strengthen its great and beneficial work. He called upon Mr. Henderson to address the meeting.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, V.P., heartily endorsed all that had been said with regard to the splendid work of the Guild. It was an honour that he most highly esteemed to be associated with the trade Protective work under the guidance and leadership of such men as their revered Chaplain and their old and staunch friend John Wilmot. It was to men of that calibre and ability that Showland owed so much of its present freedom from persecution. More than that, he valued the educational and religious work of the Guild that demonstrated the showman's unity with all other classes of the people. He was ready at all times to bear his share of the burden, and to do his share of the work. The way in which the Christian churches recognised the valuable and inspiring ministry of their organising Chaplain was to him a matter of the greatest satisfaction. They had every reason to thank God for past successes, and to continue the good work with even increasing fervour and energy.

Mr. J. R. Styles, in a brief and eloquent address, asked his hearers to imagine the state of prejudiced misapprehension showland had been rescued from by the public work of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain. He doubted if any other body of organised workers in the United Kingdom could show so brilliant a record of success. The more he considered the work of their Guild during its twenty-one years of active life, the more amazed he became, the stronger grew his faith in its ultimate triumph, the more determined his zeal to help forward the grand work of the veterans who had brought their enterprise to its present position. It was now for the younger generation to take more of the labour upon their shoulders and to see that the good work of men like their Chaplain and Mr. Wilmot (not to mention many others) were doing was continued with unabated vigour.

The Guild and Gipsy Vandwellers.

Mr. C. Johnson, at the Chairman's request, also addressed the meeting in warm support of the Guild. At the conclusion of his remarks he asked Mr. Horne a question with regard to gipsies seeking admission into the society as vandwellers. With the question he expressed the opinion that as gipsies were bound to derive great benefit from the protection of the Guild in defending all vandwellers, they ought to be asked to support the funds of the Defence Movement.

The Chaplain dealt fully with the subject of the Guild's public action with regard to gipsy life. He explained that the society was concerned only in vindicating show life, and that an important part of their work was to clear away in the public mind the misapprehension, very prevalent until recent years, that gipsy and showman were synonymous terms. As an organised body of showmen, they had had to limit their energies to their own people. His answer was that they did not admit gipsies as gipsies, nor did he think it was wise so to do. For example, whilst he knew all about show life, he knew nothing about gipsy life. How could he speak for a people of whose mode of life he was ignorant? His own line of action had been quite consistent in this matter. If a man had a show and followed the fairs, he would advise the committee to enrol that man, whatever his nationality or tribe. The question he asked was: Is the applicant for membership a showman, or an amusement caterer, getting his living on the fairground? Prove that and he would advise his admission without any regard to colour or nationality. He reminded the meeting that, although a man's money might be accepted by a committeeman empowered to enrol members, that name had to be endorsed by the General Committee, so that anyone getting his name before the committee was liable to be rejected and to have his subscription returned. Hence these were necessary securities against the admission of undesirable applicants for membership.

Mr. Joe Caddick on the Gipsy Problem.

The interesting question and Mr. Horne's reply provoked a speech—a welcome rarity at Guild meetings—from one of the founders of the Guild, the veteran leader Mr. Joe Caddick.

Mr. Caddick recalled the important fact that the very beginning of their defence work was against a book written by the late George Smith—the author of the first Movable Dwellings Bill—entitled "Why I Went a Gipsying?"

He and those associated with him found the most tremendous difficulty in refuting the calumnies cast upon show life by the persistent way in which George Smith and those allied with him insisted upon classing show life with gipsy life. It had been of the greatest importance for showmen to maintain that they were not gipsies, and to keep their vindication of life and character entirely separate and apart from any connection with gipsy life.

He was still strongly of opinion that it would not do for them to weaken their defence movement by admitting gipsy van-dwellers to their ranks. Whilst he agreed with the justice of the definition of principle enunciated by their Chaplain—that no bar of race or colour should be set up by the Guild, provided that the would-be member was a genuine showman—he emphatically repudiated the wisdom of admitting anyone into their ranks whose mode of livelihood was not entirely concerned with the business of the Fair. His opinion was the same as ever—that it would not do to burden their already arduous defence work by linking it with defence of gipsy life. Undoubtedly it was true that the work of their society had been a bulwark of defence to all van-dwellers. It was no reflection upon gipsies that their society restricted its work to what it was originated to defend and to justify, show life, not gipsy life.

Enrolment of Members and Subscribers.

Subscriptions were then announced by the chairman:—Mr. Wilmot (second subscription), £2 2s.; Mr. A. Henderson (second subscription), £1 1s.; Mr. James Wilmot, £1 1s.; Mr. W. Wilmot, £1 1s.; Mr. J. McIndoe, 10s.; Mr. G. Wilmot, 7s. 6d.; Mr. C. Wilmot, 7s. 6d.; Mr. H. Dawson, 5s.; Mr. Arthur Sedgwick, 5s.; Mr. R. Russell, 5s.; Mr. C. Thomas, 5s.; Mr. T. Miles, 5s.; Mr. W. Smith, 5s.; Mr. D. Moore, 5s.; Mr. W. Slater, 5s.; Mrs. M. Smith, 5s.; Anon (second subscription), 5s.; Mr. H. Wilmot, 5s.; Mr. D. Kennedy, 5s.; Mr. T. Boswell, 5s.; Mr. W. H. Strand, 5s.; Mr. J. Wright, 5s.; Mr. T. Cadona, 5s.; Mr. W. McIndoe, 5s.; Mrs. T. Wright, 5s.; Mr. A. Carrick, 5s.; Mr. C. Johnson, 5s.; small subscriptions under 5s., £1 15s.

Temperance Work at the Fairs.

The Guild meeting in the afternoon was held in the British Women's Temperance Association tent, by kind permission of the local committee of the society. The ladies of the local committee of the B.W.T.A., with their usual kindness, provided a tea for the young people of the Fairground. This took place immediately after the Guild meeting, and was followed by a highly-successful temperance meeting.

At this meeting the Rev. T. Horne was an invited speaker, and several of the local clergy took part in the proceedings. A pleasing feature was the way in which the showpeople co-operated with the ladies' committee in making the gathering a success. Messrs. W. Wilmot and J. R. Styles made excellent speeches, and Miss Strand sang a temperance solo with great acceptance. The tent was crowded to its utmost capacity by the showpeople and their Greenock friends.

News from Scotland.

Following Greenock Fair, we have news of the capital fair held at Johnstone. The weather was perfect, and large crowds thronged the ground, and the amusements were well patronised. President Kemp's colossal show, the Cinema Theatre de Luxe, McIndoe's Scottish coliseum of animated photography, and Biddall's living picture and phantoscope were the chief show attractions. The machines included Wilmot's superb motors and Baker and Son's steam yachts, the fun of the fair consisting of all kinds of variety frames, throwing games, &c., which made up a high-class fair.

Horsham Fair.

Here to make merriment for Horsham ancient fair were Biddall's royal electric bioscope, and sideshows by the Biddall family, W. Bedford, and others. The roundabouts, shooters, and games in splendid variety by Messrs. S. Mayne, E. Hussey, A. Bond, Wm. Hastings, J. Freeman, C. Andrews, J. Matthews, T. Smith, A. Taylor, A. Bond, J. Castle, and others.

Burnley Summer Fair.

This fair marks the commencement of the Lancashire holiday season. Thousands of people take full advantage of the closing of the cotton mills to get away to the seaside for the annual holidays. Many thousands yet remain at home, and these numbers are increased by the crowds of visitors from the adjoining towns; so that Burnley Fair never fails from lack of attendant crowds to enjoy its well-arranged and up-to-date amusements.

The exhibition list included Capt. Tom Payne's electric bioscope, Charles Relph's Tiny Town and freak novelty show, E. Ball's midget exhibition, Lyon's Teddy Bears, and Prof. Julius's school of boxers and wrestlers.

The excellent array of machine novelties included sets by P. Collins, Relph and Pedley, Wm. Mitchell, Holdsworth, W. H. East, and Mrs. Holden, who exhibited motors, ostriches, jumping horses, flying pigs, and razzle-dazzle; juvenile horses and motors by Messrs. Shuttleworth and Burrows, steam yachts and swings by Messrs. Shaw and Mitchell, and overboats by Mrs. Cornwell; shooting ranges by Messrs. N. Burrows, Humphreys, J. Cornwell, Jewell, Hughes, and Martin; houp-las, throwing games, and variety stalls by Messrs. Forshaw, East, Taylor, Shorrocks, W. Jennings, R. Ingham, H. Langstaff, Jewell, Bliss, and Holden.

White City, Old Trafford, Manchester.

Delightful weather, with charming music by the Band of H.M. 16th Hussars (Prince of Wales' Own), has drawn large numbers of people to this beautiful amusement park, where the scenic railway and the numerous other riding devices, &c., have been well patronised. Roller skating and dancing in the large pavilions are also well attended.

Hoyland Common Wakes.

Quite a big array of shows, machines, &c., attended this popular fair—Tuby and Son's coliseum, Farrar and Tyler's picture palace, J. Crighton's cinematograph theatre, Westray's miniature animal jungle, Watson's athletes, and Gal Hague's boxers. Varieties by Silverwood, Norman and others. The big machines included Farrar and Tyler's scenic railway, Tuby's motor-cars, and Harniess's galloping horses.

The other amusements, throwing games, stalls, and shooters were provided by Messrs. Doubtful, Pullen, Bentley, Appleton, Calver, Tuby, jun., and Perceval.

Tyler's Green Fair, High Wycombe.

Mr. T. Hurst has forwarded to us for publication the following important official communication. We do not know the local circumstances, but probably some of our London readers who frequent the fair do. If any question of ancient rights is involved, will the tenants communicate direct to the Guild Secretary, *The Era* offices, and the matter will receive attention?

"CHIPPING WYCOMBE (RURAL) PARISH COUNCIL.

"12, Oxford-street,

"High Wycombe, July 14, 1910.

"Mr. T. Hurst, Secretary Showmen's Association, Pendlebury.

"Dear Sir,—Understanding you act as secretary to the Showmen's Association, my Council direct me to inform you, that having taken over from the Lord of the Manor all the greens and commons in the parish, together with all rights relating thereto, and bye-laws for the management thereof having been sanctioned by the Local Government Board, there will be tolls levied on each vehicle, show, or stall drawn upon Tyler's Green for the fairs; the next is in a few months time. These tolls will be the same in amount as are charged by the Parish Council for Wooburn Green Fair. I intimated this to the showmen attending Tyler's Green Fair last year, and they then collected enough money to meet the expenses the Council incurred in clearing away the rubbish incidental to a fair. Can you bring this to the notice of the showmen in your Association? As soon as I get the papers printed for this year I will forward one for your information.—Yours faithfully,

"Albert E. Taplin."

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

We are confident that Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball's many friends in Showland will sympathise with them in this hour of calamitous loss. The destruction of the costly and beautiful Electric Lyceum by fire at Tilbury Docks last week will be a shock to many people, and its consequences terrible to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. It is no exaggeration to say that the hard work and well-won savings of a lifetime were spent upon the show, and now comes calamity and loss, not by any neglect on their part, but in the mysterious providence of events, struck by lightning and fired. On the Metropolitan circuit of fairs, where Ball's show is a household word, and where Alf. Ball ranks as a leader and champion of Showland, the consternation and grief will be widespread, and the sympathy most personal and real. We trust that response for contributions to the Ball Show Fire Fund will be both immediate and adequate. We strongly commend this matter to the ever generous heart of Showland.

The president of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain writes as follows:—

"To the Editor, *The Era*, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"Dear Sir,

"I shall feel obliged by you inserting the enclosed appeal and opening up a subscription list in *The Era* for the Alf. Ball Fund.

"On Monday, July 4, Mr. Alf. Ball's cinematograph show, whilst located at Tilbury Dock, was struck by lightning, and was completely burnt to the ground. Not being covered by insurance, it has resulted in a most deplorable loss—the life's work of Alf. Ball.

"I have known Alf. Ball for many years—indeed, he is well known to the travellers of the United Kingdom—and have always found him a very hard-working and industrious person, ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need; and now to lose in a few hours what has taken his lifetime to get together is exceedingly sad.

"As president of the Showmen's Guild, I am opening up a subscription list in *The Era*, and feel sure that my fellow travellers will readily respond by contributing what they can so as to make this subscription list a very substantial one, worthy of the fraternity, and one that will show our practical sympathy in our friend Ball's great and heavy loss.

"I am yours as ever,

"Patrick Collins,

"President of the Showmen's Guild."

Mr. Frank Bostock writes:—

"Enclosed please find cheque value £5 5s. for the Alf. Ball Subscription Fund. I am indeed sorry to hear of his misfortune."

In a letter, under date July 9, enclosing a cheque for £5, Mr. Frank Turner, of the Agricultural Hall and Liverpool-road, Islington, writes:—

"Herewith my small contribution to list for Alf. Ball. I am sure every showman will sympathise with a man who was always ready to help others, and I trust you will get a good list.—Yours faithfully,

Frank Turner."

Writing to Mr. Ball, Messrs. Chiappa and Sons, the show organ builders, of London, say:—

"Dear Sir,—We regret very much to hear of your sad loss, and beg your acceptance of the enclosed cheque for £10, being our small subscription to the fund now being raised, and sincerely trust that the other travellers will all do their best to assist you, and that the fund will raise a good substantial amount. Assuring you of our sympathy and desire to assist you at all times.—Yours faithfully,

"Chiappa and Sons.

"London, E.C., July 18, 1910."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—FIRST LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Patrick Collins	10	0	0
Messrs. Chiappa and Sons	10	0	0
Frank Bostock	5	5	0
Frank Turner	5	0	0
Robert Fossett	2	0	0
Joseph Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. E. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. J. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. Denio	1	10	0
Mrs. J. Whiting	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Holmes	1	0	0
Mrs. Mitchell	0	10	0
"Princess Pauline" (Midget)	0	10	0
C. H. Horton	0	2	6

COLLECTED BY MR. CHARLES THURSTON.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Mr. William Taylor	5	5	0
Mr. J. H. Norman	0	10	0
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	0
Mr. Suett	0	10	0
Mr. Lewis	0	10	0
Mr. W. Westrop	0	5	0
Mr. B. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. W. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. H. Shaw	0	5	0
Mr. C. Summers	0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. John Harris	0	5	0
Mrs. T. Hearn	0	2	6
Mrs. T. W. Bond	0	2	0
Mrs. T. Essam	0	2	0
Mr. Joe Irish	0	2	0
Mr. A. Miller	0	1	0
Mr. P. Rolfe	0	1	0
Mr. E. Brown	0	1	0
Mr. T. Bridgeman	0	1	0
Mr. J. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. E. N. Purkis	0	1	0
Mr. A. Johnson	0	1	0
Mrs. Parkins	0	1	0
Total	£14	16	6

COLLECTED AT HORSHAM FAIR.

Mr. W. Biddall's subscription list of funds for the assistance to Mr. Alfred Ball in his serious loss by fire:

	£	s.	d.
Mr. W. Biddall	1	1	0
Mr. W. Hastings	1	1	0
Mr. C. Andrews	1	1	0
Mr. S. Mayne	1	0	0
Mr. E. Hussey	0	10	0
Mr. Alf. Bond	0	10	0
Mr. W. Bedford	0	7	6
Mr. J. Biddall	0	5	0
Mr. C. Biddall	0	2	6
Mr. G. Biddall	0	3	0
Mr. J. Freeman	0	2	0
Mr. J. Matthews	0	2	0
Mr. T. Smith	0	2	0
Mr. Castle	0	2	0
A. Bond, jun.	0	2	0
A. Taylor	0	2	0
Total	£6	13	0

Additional subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, E.C.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

At the meeting of the Islington Borough Council the following motion, of which Councillor Whittard had given notice, was agreed to without comment:—"That a copy of the resolution passed by the Council on the 1st inst. with reference to the London County Council obtaining powers to prevent cinematograph, bioscope, and funland shows, etc., being open on Sundays be forwarded to the other Metropolitan Borough Councils, and that they be asked to take similar action."

Poet and Picture Playlets.

THE Milan Tribunal has condemned the poet D'Annunzio to pay 1,200 francs compensation to the Italian Cinematograph Company for having failed to keep a contract to write nine playlets for the cinematograph. It was stated by the prosecution that the poet had not only failed to write the pieces, but had also received the payment for them in advance. The poet now states that he fully intended to write the pieces, but that he had accepted so many orders for literary work from Paris for the French theatres and from the editors of French publications that he had not the time even to think about cinematograph plays.

Anti-Pugilistic P.S.A.

THE London Federation of P.S.A. Brotherhoods and Kindred Societies expressed last Saturday their "intense disgust at and emphatic protest against the demoralising exhibition of cinematograph representations of the brutalising and degrading prize-fight in America."

American Picturedromes.

THREE new picture theatres will shortly open in London, under the title of the American Picturedromes—in Charing Cross-road, Ludgate Circus, and Cheapside—under the management of Mr. Alfred Alexander. Mr. Alexander is also arranging to take over the large premises of Messrs. Lewis, in Holborn Bars, which will be one of the largest picture halls in London. A company with a capital of £100,000 will shortly be formed, and Mr. Alexander will be managing-director.

Arthur Brogden's New Quarters.

MR. ARTHUR BROGDEN, general manager for Mr. Leon Vint's electric palaces, has removed his headquarters to Rugby, where Mr. Leon Vint is opening a new palace on Monday next.

Dick Knowles and Hungary.

MR. AND MRS. R. G. KNOWLES recently concluded their Hungarian tour, and the editor of the society journal *Hungary* makes the following reference in the issue of July 15 to their visit:—"These (Mr. and Mrs. Knowles) indefatigable American guests have just concluded their Hungarian tour, during which they have taken over 6,000ft. of cinematograph film and upwards of 800 'still' pictures of interesting scenes, for use in connection with their American lecturing tour.

Knowles as Lecturer.

"THE inaugural lecture is fixed for Oct. 15 in the New York Academy of Music, under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences—the same building in which Mr. Roosevelt lectures on Oct. 1. During their stay in Hungary the Knowles party (which includes Mr. Johnson, brother of Mrs. Knowles) have visited Budapest and its beautiful environs, the mountains, and other distant parts of the country, at all of which their cameras were constantly at work.

Hungarian Hospitality.

"THEY were specially charmed with Count Tassile Festetics's stately home at Keszthely, where they were honoured with the hospitality of the Countess (née Lady Hamilton) and her charming daughter, who kindly permitted a number of films to be taken of scenes in the castle, the park, and the gardens, which, with their ornamental fountains, parterres, and curiously trained trees and shrubs, remind one so much of Versailles."

Alexandra Theatre, N.

JUDGING by the crowded state of the house on Monday last the programme at the Alexandra Theatre is well maintaining its popularity. A varied and well-selected assortment of films is always to be seen here, which, with the farce and illustrated songs, make up an entertainment lacking neither in quality nor quantity. Buckstone's celebrated playlet, *Good for Nothing*, is chosen for representation this week. Nan, the child of the streets, is undertaken by Miss May Hallatt, whose rendering gained the enthusiastic approval of the audience. Mr. Murray Moore as the foppish young Mr. Simpson and Mr. Henry Hallatt as Charley lent adequate support; while Messrs. H. J. Corner and J. J. Daly as Nan's rather tiresome foster-fathers were quite up to their usual standard of excellence.

Chamois Hunting in the Alps.

ONE of the best travel films at present to be seen in London is Chamois Hunting in the Alps, one of the many fine pictures now being shown at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch. Every detail is splendidly brought out, and the representation of Alpine scenery is very fine. The Tongue of Scandal is an effective domestic drama film, and there are many other interesting and comic subjects in the excellent picture entertainment given here.

Electric Theatre, Forest Gate.

DIRECTLY the large and delighted audience left the above theatre last Saturday evening, their place was taken by a small but no less enthusiastic company. The gathering, consisting of the entire staff of the theatre, headed by Mr. Reynolds Benjamin, the general manager of the company, had met for the purpose of making a presentation to the popular acting manager, Mr. Thomas Beech, who was leaving to take up a similar position at the company's Cardiff establishment.

Presentation to Mr. Beech.

IN a particularly happy little speech Mr. Benjamin made the presentation, consisting of a massive silver matchbox, suitably engraved, and a handsome travelling rug. The speaker warmly congratulated Mr. Beech on his successful work at Forest Gate, and predicted a similarly successful career for him at his new home. Short speeches followed from Mr. W. S. Redfern (the new acting-manager at Forest Gate), Mr. Lavick (assistant manager), Mr. Sayers (chief operator), and Mr. Leslie, and in reply the retiring acting manager expressed the deep pleasure the presentation had given him, and offered the staff his heartiest thanks for the devotion and loyalty with which they had always worked. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Benjamin for presiding closed the proceedings.

Kensington Picture Palace.

IN the current week's programme at this popular picture palace have been included the following fine films:—Never Send a Man to Match a Ribbon (Hepworth), Trebizonde (Urban), One Night and then—— (A. B.), Fortune's Fool (Edison), and From Forest to Breakfast Table (Butcher's).

Attercliffe Picture Palace Outing.

THE staff of Mr. Matt Raymond's Picture Palace, Attercliffe, had their outing on Sunday, July 9. The party, numbering upwards of thirty, and including the genial manager and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dent, left Sheffield for Cleethorpes in a Great Central saloon carriage, arriving at the popular seaside resort before noon. An excellent dinner was served at the Victoria Restaurant, after which the company sought enjoyment in various ways, not the least popular being a visit to Grimsby Docks. The day was beautifully fine, and all the party thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Bert Dent's New Appointment.

MR. BERT DENT, who has ably discharged the duties of resident-manager of Mr. Matt Raymond's Picture Palace, Attercliffe, is severing his connection with that popular house, to take up an important position as general supervising manager for the Midland Electric Theatres, Limited, whose headquarters are at Derby, with theatres at Leicester, Nottingham, and Derby.

Bath Electric Theatre.

SOME new and interesting films are being shown this week at the Bath Electric Theatre. A specially attractive one is a fine long set of pictures depicting the King and Queen inspecting the war balloon previous to its flight round St. Paul's. Julia Colonna is a stirring drama of Italy, and the pictures are very beautiful from a spectacular point of view. A very good film is shown of what might have happened when the comet touched the earth, while A Deal in Broken China and A 'Tec's Dream are very funny indeed. A Romance of the Western Hills is also good.

West's Pictures at Bournemouth.

THE present week's programme at the Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth, is worthy of the traditions of T. J. West, both as regards interest of subject, excellence of photographic quality, and clearness of projection. A remarkable film is that of With Roosevelt in Africa, which gives some vivid ideas of Central African scenery, animals, and natives. Harvesting in Victoria shows the very up-to-date methods of our kinsmen at the Antipodes. The comedy pictures are numerous. The old favourite, Max Linder, is funnier than ever in his latest playlet, Absent-minded Max. The detective story, always so popular to picture audiences, is treated from a fresh standpoint in Nick Winter, which gives the comical side of the criminal investigator.

Dursley (Gloucestershire) Fête.

HELD on Saturday, July 16, and was the 22nd annual fête, and the pleasure fair was the largest hitherto seen here. Mr. W. Symonds, of Gloucester, had secured the contract for the eighteenth successive year, and did excellent business. There was an electric switchback on the ground, a fine set of galloping horses, and a beautifully-designed set of motors for juveniles. In addition, Mr. Symonds' cinematograph was a big attraction, his films of the Funeral of the late King being very fine. Sideshows were very numerous, besides which there was a good collection of swing-boats and stalls. Mr. Symonds, as usual, gave complete satisfaction to his patrons and the promoters of the fête.

Hunstanton Picture Palace.

THE Town Hall has been opened as a picture palace, and is doing good business, under the management of Mr. S. W. Barkham. Among the pictures being shown are Incidents in the Life of King Edward, Silkenberg Lakes, Scroggins finds the Comet, Race for a Bride, The Deserter, and Squaw's Revenge. The bioscope arrangements are in the hands of Mr. W. Winch, King's Lynn.

Empress Picture Palaces, Leicester.

THE Mere-road Hall is flourishing, and continues to give good shows, the leading pictures this week being A Sister's Sacrifice, The Jockey, Stone Foundry in Sweden, and Stickfast Paste. At the Belvoir-street house the bill is always of the best, and among the most prominent films are Our Banana Supply, Sylvia's Pets, The Godchild of Louis XI., The Bride of the Haunted Castle, Betty and the Fireworks, and Billy's Bulldog.

Sunday Opening Objected To.

THE Sunday opening of the Maidenhead rink and of the new picture theatre has caused much heartburning to the churchgoers of Maidenhead, and a petition bearing 1,300 signatures has been forwarded to the respective proprietors, the wording being: "We, the undersigned, respectfully request the proprietors of the new skating rink and the picture theatre of Maidenhead, in the interests of religion, to abstain from opening their respective places of amusement on Sundays." In each case a courteous reply has been sent, and in all probability there will be a conference between the promoters of the petition and the proprietors.

The President's Special.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL, a pathetic film, showing the effect of long hours' work in a railway signal box, is a much appreciated picture at the Manchester Bijou Electric Theatre. Hunting a Panther, The Doctor, The Three Brothers, A Hatlining's Responsibilities, The Smoker, and several other entertaining films are shown. Full houses are the rule.

Empire, Leicester, Outing.

THE Empire Theatre, Leicester, staff went for their annual outing on Sunday last, a merry and bright company journeying to Skegness in a special reserved saloon. After dinner Mr. Chas. R. Craig proposed the health of the Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths. The vice chair was taken by the secretary, Mr. Clement Lumley, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded for the work he had done in connection with the outing.

Rice-Gathering in Japan.

A DELIGHTFUL series of pictures are being shown at the Grand, Warrington, this week. Especially attractive are the coloured films showing the gathering of rice in Japan—remarkable specimens of the photographic art.

Sale of Chittock's Famous Show.

WE draw our readers' attention to the sale by auction of Chittock's Show, duly advertised in our columns this week. Mr. Tom Norman, the showman's auctioneer, has control of the sale. The matter could not be in better hands.

MILITARY BANDS and ORCHESTRIONS

For SKATING RINKS, HOTELS, CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS, BILLIARD ROOMS, CONCERT HALLS.

Special Models for Roundabouts.

THE NEW POLYPHON SUPPLY CO., LTD.,
2, Newman Street, London, W.
27, Jamaica Street, Glasgow.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Jan. 23, Feb. 13, March 13, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 10, Feb. 27, March 6, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 10, 24, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Sept. 29 (3, with Tunbridge Wells), Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, Known, Murray, King, and Clark have taken a Lease of this important Theatre, which will be conducted on Up-to-date Business Lines.
Wanted, Star Attraction, for Grand Re-opening date, Aug. 15.
Vacant later, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 13 (3), 17, and various onwards.
Thanks for numerous offers,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Oct. 10.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
Sept. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Aug. 15.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
Aug. 22, Sept. 12, 19.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for few remaining Autumn Dates, Musical Comedy and West End Attractions only. Silence polite negative.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES, under entire New Management. Sole Lessees, J. GAR KIDDIE and FRANK BRAY.
WANTED, First-class Dramas and Musical Comedies, Aug. 15, Oct. 10, and onwards, with exceptions; also good Pantomimes, Jan. and Feb. dates. The theatre has now been thoroughly cleaned and decorated. Good companies cannot fail to do big business. Re dates, write J. GAR KIDDIE

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, best Attraction, Sept. 26, to oblige "The Gay Gordons" Management, possibly Oct. 10 and 31 may also be vacant.
SIDNEY COOPER, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Oct. 3.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, unexpectedly, Sept. 5 three nights, First-class Musical Show or really good Comedy. Wire or write, MANAGER.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 1, 5, 19, on; nothing but the best can be entertained. W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 15 (6 nights), 22 (3). W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards. Communications, C. A. SEBBOLD.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 1, 29, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, on. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 8 and 15, Sept. 19. A. D. VERNON.
WANTED, Attractions, through transfers, for Sept. 12, Oct. 13-15, also Nov. 3-5 (?), 29, Dec. 5. Manager, O. H., Kidderminster.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 25, Aug. 15, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Grand opening July 25, with Mr. R. Macdonald's Principal Company, in "The Dairymaids."
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest up-to-date Theatres in the country. Holding capacity 3,500. Money capacity nearly £200; visited by all the principal Companies and Stars in the Theatrical World; vacant Aug. 8, 15 (race week, Musical Comedy preferred), Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 10.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre opens Aug.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, and Oct. 17. All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND THEATRE, W. HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (no Dramas).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8 and 15, Aug. 29 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 8 (3 nights).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15
Oct. 10,
Nov. 28.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 15 and Sept. 5, London.
Sept. 5 and 19, Newcastle.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 244, Regent-st., S.W.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, 29.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 29 (through transfer), Sept. 5, 12. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 8, Only Vacant Date this Year. Now booking 1911.
Address, Mrs. T. CULKEN.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Aug. 22.
Wire, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 8, 22, and on; also Musical Attraction for Christmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

EMPIRE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 1 and later.
Apply, WILL SMITHSON, Managing-Director

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, and later.
All communications,
WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. F. HUGHES, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

PALACE THEATRE, PORTH.
WANTED, Big Attractions (Dramatic), Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 19, and later dates.
Business good.
WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Something to Draw, Aug. 8, 15, Oct. 17, 24, Grand, Radcliffe (Re-opening Aug. 1 after eight weeks' vacation), with "The Great Awakening," Miss Olga Audre's fifth visit; also Aug. 29, Oct. 17, on, Grand, Chorley. SANTS, Radcliffe.

NEW STANDARD, HETTON, DURHAM.
WANTED, for Re-opening, Aug. 29, on, with exceptions, Sound Attractions, new management, electric light, holds £40. M. LEWIS, 89, Gladstone-street, Abertillery.

PUBLIC HALL THEATRE, STIRLING, and TOWN HALL THEATRE, HOWICK.
WANTED, for New Year's Week, Big Musical Play or Pantomime.
Must be first-class.
MACDONALD, 24, The Crescent, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 10, 24.
Apply, Mr. JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Really Good Musical Comedy, Aug. 29, Sept. 5. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.
WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug. 8, 15, 22, and intermediate onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.
WANTED, a First-class Company, Sept. 5, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 1, 15 (?), 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, 28, Jan. 9, 23 (?), Feb. 13, 27 (?), March 13, April 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several dates Autumn, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Aug. 8, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, that Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley take over the above theatre from Aug. 22. All bookings made by the present management are hereby cancelled, as provided for in Contract. Managers who wish to play their dates please communicate. This theatre will be run on first-class lines, and under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley will prove the popular house in the town.
Wanted, a very big production for opening date, Aug. 22.
Vacant Aug. 22, 29, onwards.
Vacant Aug. 22, 29, onwards.
Wire or write,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
Also Palaces at Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughborough, Neath, Bradford, Rugby, Exmouth, &c.
The above entirely New Theatre will open about the middle of August. Lighted throughout with Electric Light, Seating Capacity about 1,500, situated in the centre of a densely-populated district. Neath has been waiting for a theatre for years, and business is bound to be most excellent.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies, Aug. 15 (?), 22 (?), 29 (?), Sept. 19, Oct. 17 (?), 24, Nov. 7, on, also one or two First-class Pantomimes, either share or certainty. All communications re dates, with copy of day bill, to WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 5, 12, 19.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attraction, for second week of re-opening of season, after re-decorating; new seating, &c.
Wires, J. F. ELLISTON.

T. R., LEAMINGTON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 5 (six nights), Sept. 19 (5), 26 (3), Oct. 1 (6).
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Good Attractions, for Sept. 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 22, onwards, with exceptions, three nights. PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth

ST. ALBANS COUNTY HALL,
Holding capacity nearly 1,000.
WANTED, good Companies, for two or three nights, Sept. 12, 26, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12; electric light throughout, dimmers, good stage, permanent proscenium. Bookings include: "Arcadians," "Havana," "Pet," "Mrs. Wiggs," "Prodigal Son," &c. Sharing terms only. Apply, A. ROWDEN.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, for Feb. 20, April 3, and onwards.
COUTTS, Star Theatre, Swansea.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, through change of arrangements, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 22 and 29; also Vacant, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, big Attractions, for few remaining dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. (last three nights preferred), also Xmas week (?). ALF BAILEY and Co., Managers, Victoria T., Kettering.

WANTED, good Companies, for Aug. 18, 19, and 20, 25, 26, and 27, Sept. 1, 2, and 3, 8, 9, and 10, 22, 23, and 24. GAIETY, Th., Wisbech.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Cambridge, good Dramatic Répertoire or Musical Comedy Company, Monday next, onwards, twice nightly. Wire, ASKHAM, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

WANTED, Companies, New Palace Theatre, Rugby. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. FRANK LANGLEY. Open Dec. 26, 1910. Vacant Jan. 16 for First-class Attraction; also March 6 and April 10. Mr. LANGLEY, New Palace T., Rugby.

NEW OLYMPIC HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 26, onwards, two nights; also good Panto. for early in New Year; seating accommodation approximately 1,000. Apply, GEO. E. REDMAN, Theatrical Manager.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.
Lessee and Manager, PHILIP A. LENNON.
WANTED, Known, to oblige a Manager have the following good Dates open: Aug. 29 (three nights), Sept. 1 (three nights), the Only Vacancies. Bookings include "Miss Hook of Holland," "Cingalee," Norman V. Norman, "Charley's Aunt," "Miss Tommy," The Follies, Miss Margaret Cooper and Co., "Where is William?" John Le Hay and Party, &c., &c.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, good Attractions, Musical and Dramatic, most dates vacant this year and onwards owing to change of management.
All communications,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court.

THE PAVILION, WOODHALL SPA.
WANTED, for above, for one or two days the first week in Aug. (height of the season), good Entertainment, Concert Party, or Farcical Comedy.
H. JELLAND, Rolleston House, Horncastle.

WANTED, Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness; open Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.
WANTED, Light Attraction, Sept. 19, and onwards, for first three nights of week, Dramas twice nightly last three nights of week, Aug. 8, 22, and 29 (six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Lessees, W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope.
This Theatre is now being re-decorated, and will re-open on Aug. 22. Wanted, good Companies, Aug. 29, Nov. 21 (three nights), Dec. 5 (three nights), Jan. 16 (three nights).

CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Lessees, Messrs. Henson and Davis.
Now being re-built and re-furnished, and will re-open on Sept. 5. Wanted, good Companies, Sept. 12, 13, 14, also Oct. 17 (6 nights) and 31 (three nights).
The Corporation Theatre has one of the largest stages in the Midlands, is being seated with tip-up chairs, and will run at popular prices.
Rugby, Loughboro', Lincoln, and Gainsboro' may be booked in conjunction.

THE NEW THEATRE, NEWARK-ON-TRENT.
Wanted, Attractions, from Aug. 29, on.

DUMFRIES and HAWICK.
Wanted, Co.'s, three nights each, Aug. 29, on.

W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for Autumn, 1910, Smart Pantomimes for 1911, and powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions. This theatre is now being redecorated, restaged, and reseated in the most up-to-date manner, regardless of expense, and will be under the personal direction and supervision of Mr. Arthur C. Moody.
Touring Managers may be assured thereby that no effort will be spared to make it a huge financial success.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Wanted, Strong Company, for
Aug. 8, Aug. 8, Aug. 8, 1910,
also
First-class Companies for 1911 (with a few exceptions.
All communications,
Arthur C. Moody, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, owing to alteration in opening arrangements, First-class Attractions for the following dates:
Aug. 1, 8, and 15, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
Aug. 1 and 29, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
Aug. 1, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.
For these and other autumn vacancies apply, R. C. Buchanan, 6, John-st., Adelphi, London, W.C.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5; 13, 14, 15; 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms, re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 19 (?), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28 (?), Xmas Panto. (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
Wanted, Wanted, Companies.
Wanted, Wanted, Companies.
Wanted, Wanted, Companies.
Wanted, Wanted, Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR,
THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR,
Aug. 29,
Oct. 10, 17.

NEW HALL, BARGOED,
NEW HALL, BARGOED,
Aug. 15,
Oct. 3,
Nov. 21.

Apply,
Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

BOOTLE.—NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, the above Theatre is intended to be open on Dec. 12 next by the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd. (who are also proprietors of the Muncaster Theatre), and are open to book Pantomime, Musical Comedy, and other first-class companies on and after the above date.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the Provinces, having a population of 100,000 within a three-quarter mile radius, seating capacity over 1,800, and will be fully licensed.
Apply Registered Office, 59, Park-street, Bootle.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Company, Wales, August, First Week. Wire, lowest certainly, Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Barry.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, and January Dates. Douglas Bruce, Norwood, 20, Wentworth road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6, 13.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. Barry, General-Manager, Sylvan Villa, Filey, Yorks.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, on, Big Company,
Chorus, Specialities.
New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington,
Alhambra Theatre, Manchester.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 17.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
WANTED, Aug. 11, 12, and 13, for the above, to follow Llandudno.
Apply, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Oct. 10, 17, 31, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 10, Dec. 12. Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
Grand Revival
of
Messrs. G. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley's
Great Play.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Mr. MORTON POWELL,
having acquired the rights in this
World-famous Play,
will Tour same from
January, 1911.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, various onwards.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco.
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton, Creek Side, East Molesey.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address, Frank M. Thorne, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Aug. 29, between Birmingham and Liverpool. Wire,
F. G. Kimberley, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Refer Messrs. Barnard re Business this week at Elephant and Castle Theatre. Guaranteed one of the finest shows on the road. Excellent cast. Thanks for return date.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Sept. 19.
Refer re play, &c., this week at Bradford, next Leeds. Wire for dates this week and next, Kimberley, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address, Charles Gibson,
Spa, Whitby (three nights).

WANTED, Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 19, 26,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever. As to business refer, among others, F. Morgan, Esq., Marriot Watson, Esq., Sydney Cooper, Esq., F. Warden Esq., Robert Redford, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq. Vacant Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and on, with exceptions. Managers requiring a Sound Attraction and Sure Money-maker, write or wire. Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

WANTED, good Theatres, for High-class Farcical Comedy, September, onwards. Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, for E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "King and the Unknown Woman," Oct. 31.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, c/o "The Era."

MR. W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, "The Prodigal Parson," Sept. 5 and 19; "A Country Girl in London," Oct. 31. Address, Mr. W. V. Garrod, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

The New Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 1 and 8, through Luton and Bedford Theatres changing hands. Wire, Osmond, Kendall House, Houghton-le-Spring.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR.
"A FAST LIFE."
The great Drama that is beating
the big money-makers.
21st week of uninterrupted Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 29, Oct. 10 and 24 (South Wales), and Nov. 7 and 21.
Walter Steele, T. R., Stratford, E.

"'LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 29 and Sept. 5.
There is only one 'Liza who is always laughing—"Lucky 'Liza." The Original One.
Dickie Clare, T. R., Scarborough (return).

WANTED, money-making Theatres, Nov. 14, Xmas, onwards, for the great success, "His Real Wife" and Répertoire. T. E. Ward, T. R., Middlesbrough.

THE ALLAN WILKIE COMPANY.
WANTED, Aug. 15, unexpectedly vacant, North or Midland. Address, Stanley James, Prince of Wales Theatre, Grimsby.

Mr. J. W. LINDSAY-ELLIS presents "LIGHTS OUT," as produced by Mr. H. B. Irving.
The Torquay Directory and South Devon Journal says:—The curtain descends upon one of the strongest dramatic efforts seen upon the stage for some time.
WANTED, Aug. 22 and Sept. 5, and onwards with exceptions. Address, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, for "Sherlock Holmes," Sept. 17, 24.
Wanted, for "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," Aug. 11, 12, 13.
Langton Lane, T. R., Worthing, till 27th; after, The Runnacleve Theatre, Ilfracombe.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Still playing to enormous business on the Broadhead Tour.
WANTED, Theatres, only vacant dates this year, Sept. 12, Oct. 17 and 24, and Xmas.
Wire for Sept. 12, Oswald Cray,
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (between Glasgow and Doncaster). New Production shortly.
"THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT."
Geo. A. De Gray, Palace T., Newcastle (2 weeks).

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30. Wanted, Good Theatres, Sept. 5, on, with exceptions.
PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
LOUIS MEYER'S CO.
MR. LEONARD PAGDEN
and
MISS FLORENCE LLOYD.
Entire Garrick Theatre Production travelled.
WANTED, Theatres, for only vacant dates this year, Sept. 26, Nov. 28 (North), Dec. 5.
Mr. Meyer holds the entire rights of "The Woman in the Case," with the exception of certain small towns leased to Miss Florence Tyrrell.

All communications,
F. Clive Ross, 13, Old Burlington-st., Mayfair, W.

"MY LADY BELLAMY."
"MY LADY BELLAMY."
WANTED, Aug. 4, 5, and 6, and 22, 23, and 24, between Coventry and Cromer; also Sept. 5 (South) and onwards.
for the above High-class Romantic Costume Piece.

No. 1 Company, including
Mr. Alex. Maclean and Miss Laura Leigh,
in their Original Parts.
First-class Costumes.
Special Scenery and Printing Carried.
Refer Messrs. Murray King and Clark, D. P. Theatre, Eastbourne; C. Imeson, Esq., O. H., Middlesbrough; Wm. Peacock, Esq., O. H., Harrogate, &c., re production.

All coms.,
Alex. Maclean,
10, Canfield-gardens, South Hampstead, N.W.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
WANTED, Sept. 5 (to oblige Mr. Sidney Cooper), Nov. 7, 14, Jan. 2 (to follow Wigan), and various Spring.
Wanted, for the new Musical Farce,
"LAUGHING 'LIZA,"
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited," Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 13, and on.
Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Opera House, Torquay.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Dec. 5, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "A MESSAGE FROM MARS," (No. 1 Company), Aug. 22 (North), Oct. 17 (?), (North or Midland), also Dec. 26, at big Theatre.
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY, in "WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
The Funniest Play of the day.
Enormous success at the Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth, on return date, within four months. Refer to W. J. Nightingale.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26 (3 nights), Oct. 10 (?), 17 (?), Nov. 14 and 21, only vacant dates before West End Production.
July 25, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 1 (South Coast), Aug. 29, onward.
Ernest E. Norris,
South Parade Pier, Southsea.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 17 (follow Norwich), Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Admitted by Press and Public to be one of the biggest money-makers touring.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire,
James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

"SMITH."
WANTED, Sept. 19, Nov. 21 and 28.
Percy Hutchison,
Opera House,
Southport.

"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, good Theatre, Aug. 22,
to follow Chatham and precede Portsmouth, through transferring Dalston to oblige Milton Bode, Esq.
Lester Collingwood,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, and on, for
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."
Oct. 10 for
"HAPPY GO-LUCKY O'LYN,"
including Mr. John Child.
Oct. 24, for Mr. Herbert Sleath's No. 1 Company in
"A WHITE MAN."
Address,
A. Bertram, Garrick Theatre, W.
Wire, "Breather, London."

MISS NORA CARTON'S COMPANY.
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
Played, Staged, and Advertised.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10 and 31.
Martin Comstock, Theatre Royal, Ashton-u-Lyne.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, and Christmas.
Address, Horace Stanley,
This, Shakespeare, Clapham.
Next, GRAND, NOTTINGHAM (2 weeks).

WANTED, Known, "Nick Carter, Detective," by Shirley and Landeck. Grand production, T. R., Woolwich, Aug. 1. Vacant Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, and on. J. Forbes Knowles, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

WANTED, good Theatres, for Combination, Aug. 8.
R. G., Hippo., Great Yarmouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.
The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. Magnificent electrical effects. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes.
Thirty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment.
Creating a positive Furore everywhere.
Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town.
He is the most natural performer in the world.
Such an entertainment has never been seen before.
WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Live Wide-awake Managers of First-class Properly-equipped Theatres, Music Halls, and Piers having open time.
A Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Only a few weeks in September, and October, with exceptions, open.
Wire, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.
July 25, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Aug. 29 (3 nights), Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2. Haldane Crichton, Empire, Southend; next, Folkestone.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
First-class Theatres or Music Halls, and Star Artists only. Lowest terms, immediate time.
This week, Central Pier, Morecambe;
next week, R. T., Barrow.

WANTED, Theatres Halls for Variety Combination,
Aug. 1, onwards.
Address, Lotteridge, Empire, Oldham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, for Musical Comedy, good Comedy Character Gentleman, first-class Ladies and Gentlemen, good voices and appearance (for parts), good Male and Female Choristers. Terms, refs., and photos. to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Important.—Give permanent address.

WANTED, for Dudley Stuart's "Pair of Spectacles," Young Character Actor for Rough Yorks. part; Young Light Comedian; Ingénue; experienced Fit-up Business-Manager, to play small part; Carpenter, with tools, to play small part; Fit-up; also Advance Agent. Photos., &c., to Arthur Hare, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Character Actor, Juvenile Gentleman, Responsible Actor, good Baggage Man. Address, full particulars, photographs, E. Vivian Edmonds, Cliff Dene, Percy-avenue, Kingsgate-on-Sea, near Broadstairs. No printed envelopes.

WANTED, Gents, to play Responsible and Small Parts; Ladies, to play Responsible Small Parts. Letters only, N. V. Norman, 113, London-road, St. Leonards.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, Juvenile Lead, Stock, once nightly, rehearse 25th.
Adams, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

WANTED, for Trial Week, London, to support Leading Actress in High-class Dramatic Sketch, following Gentlemen: Heavy Lead, tall, robust, combine stage-management; also Responsible, tall; long tour if suitable. Only first-class Artists write. State age, height, lowest terms for trial week and tour. Box 8,030, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Actress, capable of true Pathos, for mother; also Gents for Lead, Juv., and Irish Character; Sketch, London. Full particulars, photos., L. D., 8, Stockwell Park-walk, London, S.W. No callers.

MISS MAGGIE MORTON'S TOURS.
WANTED, a smart Child Actress, 14 years of age, to play in Drama piece; rehearse Aug. 8. Apply, full particulars, enclosing photo., Charles Road-Night, Heathcote, Grimwood-rd., Twickenham. Also required, smart Wardrobe Mistress, to join at once.

WANTED, Lady Amateur (touring), to walk on and understudy; height about 5ft. 6in.; splendid chance to gain experience. No premium; no salary. All railway fares paid. M. C., Box 8,029, "The Era."

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, tall, powerful Heavy Man. Particulars to A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

TRAVIS GREEN and ARTHUR HINTON'S CO'S.
WANTED, Character Actor, for Small Parts and to combine Stage-Management (rehearse Monday); must be steady and thoroughly dependable. Photos., height, references, and lowest terms, to Green and Hinton, Creekside, East Molesey.

WANTED, Harry Vereker, in "The Cingalee."
Haldane Crichton,
Empire, Southend; next, Folkestone.

WANTED, Gentlemen, for Herbert Waring's part, "The House Opposite" and small part, 18 weeks. Particulars, Louis Wilson, 5, Rochester-terrace, N.W.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman. Fullest particulars, references, age, height, photo., lowest terms, to Charles Harrington, Alhambra Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Light Comedy Gentleman, for Sketch, "Her Devonshire Dad." Letters only, Victor Widdicombe, 26, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Two Weeks only, Comedian for Mes Bottes. Queen's, Manchester, Aug. 1; T. R., Bradford, Aug. 8. Address, J. Pitt Hardacre, Staines.

WANTED, for Sketch, an experienced Character Actor, about 5ft. 8in., robust; must be capable great intensity, small important part; also smart Young Carpenter, must be 5ft. 10in., to walk on. Full particulars, with photo, age, and latest references, to J. G. Graham, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, for Song Scena, Girl able to Play Up to Comedian; must be young, pretty, and good figure, or useless.
Photo (returnable), lowest terms, &c., to
Bert Danson,
C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Bright Lady Singer and Dancer. Spanish and French Répertoire, London, permanency. Marconi, 20, Bonchurch-rd., London, W.

WANTED, Two Small Jockeys, for Drama. Write, with references,
Box 8040, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Comedienne (refined), Mezzo, seeks Engagement; experienced in Sketches, Comedy, Drama; capable lead; dark, medium height. Box 8,023, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Principals, Comedians, Knockabouts, Dancers, Troupes, Chorus Ladies, Juveniles, and Artists, all Lines, for Panto. 1910-11. Photos. refs., and where working to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Important. Give permanent address.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, Christmas, for "Dick Whittington" (twice nightly) Pantomime, also Comedians. Long Tour.
References, photos., to
Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, some Smart Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes. Long Tours.
Not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, references to
E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, Dandini, Prince, price no object, Comedians, and all Lines, Chorus, 5ft. 7in. Full particulars, lowest, and photos., where to be seen, &c.,
Geo. Aytoun, 25, Camberwell New-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Ladies, Chorus and Small Parts, in Several Provincial Pantomimes. Write or call, Universal Theatrical Bureau, 49, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Pretty Girls and Young Ladies, also Oriental Dancer. See Sears' Advt. in "Wanted, Variety Artists" Column.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Frank K. Melville, Light Comedian and Dancer, on Tour, Oscar Mills' "Nonentities" Co. This, Spa Theatre, Whitby; next, Pav., Cheltenham; at Lib. Panto (Dandini).

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, clever, imaginative, and skilful Painter, experienced in Oriental Colouring.
Sears, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by Davies-Massey, Scenic Artist, Contract or Engagement, high-class work only. 4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GRAND THEATRE,
STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH.
To be opened early in September with popular Dramas, Twice Nightly.
WANTED, for the above, Expert Manager, Conductor (to play), Electrician, Bill Inspector, Carpenter, Bar Manageress, &c. All applicants must thoroughly understand running dramas twice nightly. Lowest terms, references, &c., to H. Taylor, Booking Manager, United County Theatres, Ltd., Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W.

WANTED, Business-Manager or Advance Agent, who is thoroughly familiar with all Theatres in India and the Orient; only those with first-class references (which will be investigated), and fully conversant and experienced with every phase of Show business need apply, stating full particulars first letter. Box 8,024, "The Era."

WANTED, clever, capable, tactful, and gentlemanly Stage-Manager, also Carpenter, Electrician, and Machinist; preference given applicants who can combine positions; all must be absolute masters of their craft, sober, and absolutely reliable, to such an excellent engagement. State everything fully, with photo. Sears, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, for Music Hall, Scotland, Young Man, as Assistant-Manager; must be smart, and total abstainer, able to handle a crowd, and not afraid to pack in pit and gallery. Premium payers and those who are afraid to soil their fingers please save stamps. Age, height, references (which will be applied for), photo., and lowest terms, in first letter. Box 8,032, "The Era."

WANTED, for Music Hall, London, Staff Assistant-Manager, young, one used to the clerical and book-keeping; thoroughly experienced, to start at once. Apply, stating age, salary required, and references, Box 8,041, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, competent Manager for up-to-date Picture Palace, must know his business thoroughly; excellent references required. Apply, Chairman Directors, Portland Lodge, Stoke, Devonport.

WANTED, experienced Booking-Manager for well-known Concert Party. Terms and full particulars to Box 8,011, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gent to learn Management in Well-known Play. Good Tour and Salary guaranteed. Small Premium. Manager, c/o Warrener's, 46, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, smart Young Man, for Props and Billposter; sobriety essential. State age, terms, reference, James Bell.

WANTED, First-class Bill-poster. Good references indispensable.
Apply, Rockley's, Ltd., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Young Man, steady, honest, deliver goods, attend to pony. Reference. Commence Aug. 8. Have for sale two Flat Top Lorries, excellent condition; must sell this week.
Barber's Auction Pavilion, Sandal, Wakefield.

"HAVANA" CO.
WANTED, a smart Wardrobe Mistress, to join at once. Wire, last reference, Chas. Road-Night, Opera House, Wrexham.

To Sketch Authors and Others.
WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

WANTED, by real live Manager, Provincial Engagement, thorough knowledge of all branches; excellent references. Apply, M. O., 187, North End-road, London, W.

WANTED, by Young Man of Good Address, Engagement as Assistant-Manager, thoroughly experienced in advertising and management of bars. Apply, Box 8,031, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager, Pictures or Music Hall, full knowledge of the business. MANAGER, 2, King Alfred's-place, Broad-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman (21) requires Situation in West-End Box Office. Previous experience. Reply, Box 7,988, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Gentleman as Assistant Electrical Engineer or Bioscope Operator in or near London. 66, Sydenham-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by ex-Army man, height 5ft. 8in., evening employment, disengaged after 4 p.m. E. L., 24, Arlington-st., E.C.

WANTED, Situation, as Attendant in Cloakroom, Theatre or Concert Hall; good references. B., 51, Blandford-street, Baker-st.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

To Bandmasters.

WANTED, Charge Attendant, at Caterham Asylum, Caterham, Surrey (under the Metropolitan Asylums Board), to act as Bandmaster, salary £34 per annum, rising to £40, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform, and an allowance of 1s. for each musical practice and performance.

Apply to THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, either personally (10 to 1), with testimonials, or by letter, with copies of testimonials. July 15, 1910.

WANTED, Musical-Director, capable of composing and arranging, effective, striking Oriental Music and brilliant effects; to such a one an excellent engagement; or would buy music. SEARS, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, Conductor (Violinist). Address, MURRAY KING, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WANTED, at Once, Conductor-Player, First Violin preferred. Full particulars first letter. MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, for Dan Lipton's "Songland," Singing Orchestral Conductor; must have extra good baritone voice. Letters only, 21, Walcot-square, S.E.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, First Violin; must be used to Dramatic and Variety Business. Apply, with references, age, and lowest terms, to WILL A. JACKSON, Manager, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, a First Violin; must be a first-class player, and thoroughly experienced in Classical Music. Permanent engagement. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Musical-Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Violinist, week after next, Pictures, Salary, also two references.
Conductor, WILSON, 3, King-st., Plymouth.

WANTED, to open Aug. 1, good First Violin and 'Cello; also Leader, to open Aug. 8. Permanency. Terms, age, and refs., CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, G. T., Hanley, Staffs.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, LONG GROVE, EPSOM, SURREY.
WANTED, Male Attendants; must be tall and strongly built, unmarried, and not exceeding thirty-five years of age. Wages £31 per annum, rising (on satisfactory completion of six months' probation) to £33, and then by £1 per annum to £43, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Asylum experience not essential; ability to play solo cornet a recommendation. Daily leave, subject to convenience of service, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days. Annual leave, first six months (after nine months' service) six days, the following twelve months twelve days, each succeeding twelve months fourteen days. Applications, stating age, height, experience, and previous occupation, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to be sent to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Nottingham, to open Aug. 1, Solo Cornet; must be thoroughly competent and strictly attentive to business. Union terms paid. Apply, with references, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR.

WANTED, to commence Aug. 8, Leader, Solo Cornet, for small Brass Band. SWALLOW'S Circus, Tuesday, Carnoustie; Wednesday, Arbroath, Forfarshire.

WANTED, Experienced Cornet, for Season. State age, terms, &c., to CHARLES DARE, Empire, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Clarionettist and Cornetist. Will E. H. Cunnington and R. Summers write. Box 8,016, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Solo Clarionet, Permanency, for steady, reliable man, shares, weekly subsidy from Corporation, good business. HOSKING, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

EMPIRE, DEWSBURY.
WANTED, Aug. 1, Good Trombone. Permanency.
Refs., age, &c., to E. G. SUMMERFIELD.

WANTED, Trombone, Drums, Summer Season, start immediately. Letters only, lowest terms, twice daily, to M., 17, Walter-st., Withernsea, Yorks.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, each establishment, good 'Cello Player, open Aug. 1. Apply, SHERWOOD & Co.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for six weeks, commencing Aug. 1.
Apply, G. R. CHAPMAN, Prince's T., Bristol.

WANTED, Flute and Drums, Variety. Open Aug. 1.
Apply, MANAGER,
Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Pictures. Lowest terms, names and addresses, last two references. HAMILTON WARDEN, Jessmondene, Broadstreet, Barry.

WANTED, for Wigan Hippodrome, to open Aug. 1, Double Drummer with own Tympanis and all effects, First and Second Cornets. Apply, with last refs., to WORSWICK, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Full Orchestra, Pianist (combine Second Violin or Viola); must all be accustomed to Variety and Grand Opera; sobriety essential. Permanency to good men. State age, terms, references.
W. H. DOBING, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Leader, First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums, for Aug. 1 (three nights), Aug. 11 (three nights), Aug. 18 (three nights), Aug. 22 (week). No matinées.
Apply, with terms, &c., for any or all dates, LENNON, Theatre, Westgate-on-Sea.

WANTED, Bandmaster, to supply Band of eight, for Street Parade and to Super on Stage. Those used to Circus and Showmen Life preferred. Long tour extending to next Whit. All particulars and lowest terms to GREEN and HINTON, Creekside, East Molesey.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. BLACK, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, to commence Aug. 22, First and Second Violins, Flute, Cornet, and Trombone, wear evening dress, and assist with fittings when travelling. J. W. POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Violin and 'Cello Players, London and Continent. State which preferred; good business. Terms, age, refs., experience, Box 8,022, "The Era."

WANTED, Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, Season, Military and Orchestral Band.
Age, terms, refs.,
BELLERBY, Deneholme, Ilkley.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 136, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. WILLIAMS, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-st., W.C.
C. JESSON, Secretary.

WANTED, Pianist, to combine Violin or Viola for Theatre near Glasgow.
Apply, Glasgow Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Flute and 'Cello for three nights, and matinée. Special terms. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, two good Cornets and Drums. Permanency. Open Bank Holiday. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, good Second Violin and 'Cello, for Variety, near Manchester. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, 'Cello, for Manchester Theatre.
Apply, Branch Secretary, Manchester.
Wanted, First-class Flute, for First-class Variety Hall. Open Monday next for 2 months' deputising. Possible permanency. Apply, Branch Secretary, Manchester.

WANTED, Full Band, for First-class Circus, Irish Tour, open at once, terms 32s. 6d., money sure; comfortable shop. Wire, Circus, Tullow, Co. Carlow.

WANTED, two B Flat Cornets, Euphonium, and Drums, comfortable shop. PERCY ASHTON, Bandmaster, Circus, Tullow, Co. Carlow, Ireland.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, Vocalists, Double-handed Humourist, Tenor, Tea Gardens, South Coast, Olympian Concerts. 22, Garden-row, London-road, London, S.E.

ASHFORD RAILWAY WORKS PRIZE BAND.
To Bandmasters.
WANTED, Known, selected candidates who are under consideration by the Committee will be duly notified. No more applications required.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor. Could provide good small Military or Orchestral Band. Any business. Scarlet uniforms. Refs. Bandmaster, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor (Violinist), highest refs.; extensive library, late De Frece and Macnaghten Circuit. CONDUCTOR, 166, Humberstone-road, Leicester.

WANTED, by Music Hall Conductor (Violin), smart and reliable, 10 years 'London experience, age 30, highest refs. CONDUCTOR, 22, Lower Cathedral-rd., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor, Brilliant Pianist, Disengaged, excellent references, fine orchestral library. GRAHAME, c/o Higgins, 5, Shamrock-st. W., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Conductor (Violin). Highest refs., library. Wire, CONDUCTOR, c/o 12, Silver-street, Whitby.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist Conductor, any business, Lib.; also Lady, smart Comedienne; not jointly. 48, Tenison-st., York-rd., S.E.

WANTED, by French Lady Violinist, Engagement, for Violin or Viola, experienced soloist, best references. Write, VIOLINIST, 18, Hogarth-road, South Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Beatrice Westall, First Violin and Viola. Disengaged. 48, Montpelier-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Leader (Violin). HAMILTON SALMON, 52, Bristol-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Leader, good Violinist, Engagement, reliable and experienced in Variety. Address, J. F. C., 11, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by good First Violinist, Re-engagement; experienced all Lines; abstainer, reliable; good refs.; open at once. VIOLINIST, 66, Percy-road, Ramsgate.

WANTED, an Engagement, by an experienced and reliable First Violin; any business; excellent refs. VIOLINIST, 359, Commercial-road, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, 14 years' experience all Lines. VIOLINIST, 42, Connaught-street, South Bank, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, young, sound and reliable player, wishes to get away for short season, would deputise at seaside engagement. Address, Box 8,034, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Theatre or Variety, thoroughly experienced, steady and reliable. F. WATSON, 11, Borthwick-road, West Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, Variety preferred; reliable; moderate terms for permanency. Good references. CHARLES WALTERS, 6, Stamfordham, near Consett, Durham.

WANTED, Known, good Cornettist, at Liberty, experienced Variety and Theatre, excellent refs.; open at once. CORNET, 49, Heslington-road, York.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, Skating Rink; good references; abstainer. HITCHCOCK, New-street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

WANTED, Engagement, for Clarionet, sixth season Pier Military Band, East Coast; London refs. Add., W. E. HARRISON, 14, Rockingham-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, through disappointment, steady and reliable, good refs. J. FELLERS, 22, Warberry-rd. West, Torquay, Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet (permanency), well experienced any business; good refs.; steady and reliable. A. MILLER, King's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionetist, Experienced in Variety. Refs., LITTLER, 131, Burlington-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon, Theatre or Music Hall preferred; excellent refs.
Box 7,989, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Double Bass Player, Disengaged, any business, anywhere; Seaside preferred. Moderate terms. BASSO, 12, Mostyn-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, for String Bass or Viola, reliable, and good references; permanent, OLIVER, 17, Hudson-street, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, at once, Engagement as Double Bass, thoroughly competent and reliable; good reference. BASSO, 53, Mount-road, Parkwood Springs, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Double Bass, Theatre or Variety, also combine Bombardon; good references. SMITH, 88, Cardigan-mount, Kirkstall-road, Leeds.

WANTED, by Trombone Player (combine Euphonium), Engagement, any business; sober and reliable; excellent references. HIBBS, 12, Poachers'-lane, Latchford, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, experienced Trombone, slide, at Liberty. Address, ALTOBELLI, 178, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced and first-class Trombonist, permanency. GEORGE NICKS, 14, St. James's-park, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, Second Violin, combine Piano, experienced all lines; good refs.; open Monday. BROWN, 20, Lillington-street, Victoria, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Experienced Voila or First Violin, Engagement, from now to Sept. 5. VIOLA, 3, Chillingham-st., Dingle, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as Harpist, combine Violin, any business, good Variety Theatre preferred; highest references; recent engagements seven years Barrasford's Halls, &c. HARPIST, Crown and Anchor, Ely, Cambs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Flautist; Disengaged now; good references; any business. Box 8,028, "The Era."

WANTED, good Engagement, by experienced reliable Flute and Piccolo; age 27; good refs. FLAUTIST, 20, St. Mathias-place, Kirkstall-rd., Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Competent Pianist, in Electric Picture Palace, Provinces or London; good répertoire. Address, HAROLD JONES, G.P.O., Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, steady and reliable; Rink or Pictures; good refs. PARRATT, 17, Woodhall Dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement in London by Smart Young Lady Pianist, in any capacity.
Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Lady Pianist; highest-class experiences; Orchestral, Pictures; M.S. sight, expert accompanist. PIANIST, 35, Telferscot-road, Streatham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, well experienced, first-class refs., young and reliable. W. LASKEY, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, smart uniform, now booking Autumn. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies. Great success at New Spa, Bridlington; re-engaged.
Permanent address,
61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Band, Variety, Drama, &c.; splendid collection of Up-to-date Music; can open at once. CONDUCTOR, 61, Edinburgh-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, Miss Kathleen Wolseley's Quartette, "Les Dames Blanches" (Violins, 'Cello, Piano). Leader Medallist R.A.M. 88 Chichele-road, Cricklewood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Quartette (Ladies), unexpectedly disengaged, hotel or café; two violins, 'cello, piano; together or separate. LEADER, Box 8,027, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Herr Blomé's Orchestra, Booking Dates for Winter Season, 1910-11, from Oct. 3, on, for Exhibitions, &c. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, an Engagement, by a First-class Orchestra, twenty performers; any business; fine library, brilliant uniforms. Wire or write, CONDUCTOR, 20, Stainsby-street, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

WANTED, by George St. Clair, Engagements for Rink Bands for the coming season, up-to-date music and satisfaction guaranteed. Particulars, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, N.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, useful Circus Acts, for small Circus, Ireland. Cairn's Circus, P.O., Millisle, Co. Down, Ireland. Illusionist may apply.

WANTED, Lady Rope Walker, and Open-air Attractions;
One Show Daily.
GLOBE GENERAL AGENCY, 199, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Original and only Three Royal Ohmys,
to thank Director Norbeck for the three beautiful gold and diamond medallions he presented to them on their last performance at his Circus as a memento of their visit to Bergen, and the offer of three years' engagement; also return thanks to all the kind friends for the beautiful presents and bouquets they presented them with at the last appearance in Bergen; the Circus ring was strewn with lovely flowers, and the applause could be heard all over the grand exhibition. No other artists have ever made a name in Norway like the Royal Ohmys, they have made an unheard-of record. The Royal Ohmys are specially engaged for the opening of the Grand New Circus, Copenhagen, Aug. 3, for 14 weeks; will be at Liberty end of Nov. Who wants the only Act of the kind in the world? Address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, New Circus, Bech Olsen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

WANTED, for the Winter Season, commencing October, Engagements by the Original Circus, Proctor, Family. Address, G. PROCTOR, Circus Proprietor, Fair Ground, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, English and Continental Comedy Musical Clown, Talking Knockabout Clown; Liberty Aug. 8. Address, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton.

WANTED, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Performer, introducing Novel Firework Effects. Recreation Ground, Consett, Co. Durham. Perm. address, 5, Devon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Galas, Circuses, Varieties, &c., Gilver Dunbar, Ring, Trapeze, and Teeth performer, vacant Aug. 1, on. 4, Billington-street, Hulme, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WELLESLEY PICTURE PALACE,
DENBEATH, METHIL, FIFE, N.B.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Send lowest terms to
FARMER and CAMPBELL, Proprietors.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 8, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday next, onwards. Full particulars first instance to HENRY CARLTON, Cleethorpes.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY,
Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, for towns in the North. Apply, RAWES and CLARANCE.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines to communicate immediately. Full particulars, Terms, and Dates.
Nothing too Big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.
WANTED, Music-Hall Artists,
MONDAY NEXT. Let me know by Monday first
MONDAY NEXT. post if open the following
MONDAY NEXT. Monday, with lowest terms.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Monday next and on,
also Big Tops for Combination.
Send full list of bookings, lithos., &c.,
MAURICE FRITZ'S Agency, Derby-chambers, Derby.
Telephone 260. Open on Sundays.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 1 on.
14, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties,
Aug. 1, onwards. Must state lowest, Bookings, &c.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

BEANLAND AND EMERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Hall near Leeds, Aug. 8, and onwards, able to work on outside stage if necessary. Good Dumb Acts write. State lowest first letter.
BEANLAND and EMERSON,
Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, good Artists on sharing terms; also good Combinations; twice nightly, popular prices, August Bank Holiday, onwards. NIGHTINGALE and BARNES, New Palace, Cradley Heath

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 1, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, Aug. 1, for Barnsley, Cleethorpes, Leeds, York, &c.
Address, 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Leeds."

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. Coms., 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
WANTED, Known, Trial Turns will be seen from twelve until one. Apply above.

WANTED, for Aug. 1, 8, 15, Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES.
Neath, Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughborough, Rugby, Long Eaton, and Exmouth.
Vacant dates from Aug. Bank Holiday.
WANTED, Comedy Musical Turns, numbering two or more Artists, Singing and Dancing Troupes, Clever Juvenile Troupes, &c. ARTHUR BROODEN, General-Manager, Palace, Rugby.

WANTED, Variety Turns, all Lines, Aug. 1, onward. Absolute lowest terms to ARNOLD and LYONS, Bijou Theatre, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Turns, all Lines, Immediate Dates and Future. Absolute lowest terms and bookings, MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Turns, all Lines, Aug. 1, and on, for Combination. Strong bottom on shares. Letters only. MANAGER, 142, Shirland-road, W.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, suitable for Picture Shows, all weeks after July 25, refinement absolutely essential. Vacancies and lowest terms, JOHN R. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Big Specialities and Artists in all Lines, Aug. 1, onward, Alhambra, Stourbridge. Rock-bottom summer terms. D. C. PHELPS.

WANTED, T. Elder Hearn,
Wanted, T. Elder Hearn.
Wanted, T. Elder Hearn.
Wanted, T. Elder Hearn.
Wanted, T. Elder Hearn.

Top of the Bill Acts, Comedy, not barred at Bradford, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Sheffield, immediate.

T. ELDER HEARN, this week, Central Pier, Morecambe; next week, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
Who is it? Why,
BARNARD'S AGENCY, SHAW-ST., LIVERPOOL.
Tele., 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Acts in all Lines, for immediate dates.

WANTED good Acts, for Combination, Aug. 8.
G. L., Hippo., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Palace, Sunderland, Big Funny Acts, Sensational Specialities, Comedy Acrobatic Troupes, Spectacular Productions, and anything with strong drawing powers, for Aug. 1, 8, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

BUFFALO PALACE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities, Aug. 1, on.
Apply, LAMB.

WANTED, Specialities and Novelties, for Aug. 8, onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

DARLINGTON.
ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, for early Autumn Dates, High-class Variety Combinations, or can entertain really big Tops, on Salary or Shares, but must be big and new to Darlington; good Shows can do big business. Refer, Reano, Pasola, Saranthaler.
JAMES BELL.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Novelties for Continent, Sole Agency only entertained.
State where can be seen July and Aug.
Also Star Acts for London and Provinces, and Pantomime Principals for Best Theatres.

WANTED, for Galas, Aug. 1 and later, Wire Acts, Gymnasts, Acrobats, and Novelties. Bills, lithos., WOOD, Caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Novelties, Ground and Lofty Acts, for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 1, onwards. Send terms, Bookings, lithos., to EDGAR STEBBINGS,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

PALACE, DURHAM, on Main Line.
WANTED, Big Tops, Aug. 1, onward.
T. C. RAWES.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for immediate and future dates, First-class Combinations, complete in themselves, or really Big Tops willing to Share; must have drawing powers.
Liberal terms and plenty of remunerative work for anything sensational and attractive.
Odd dates or Tours arranged.
Recent Bookings include:
The Great Raymond Co., eight weeks;
Gustave Fasola, seven weeks; &c.
Full particulars, past and future bookings, and specimen printing, to
ASHBURN'S Agency,
295, Kennington-road, S.E. 'Phone 5467 Central.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill, for Aug. 1, 8, 22.
Big Tops for Aug. 1, 8.
Big Tops for Aug. 1, 8.
Artists all Lines for
Rochdale, Newcastle, Hyde,
Hanley, Gateshead, Sunderland.
Wire for Aug. 1.
Wire for Aug. 1.
Also Wanted, Big Speciality Acts, Sisters, Troupes of Ladies for France,
for First-class Establishments.
Big Tops for Aug. 1 wire.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, the Greatest Top-liners, for First-class Halls, Artists all Lines. Exclusive Agent for Alhambra, Stourbridge, Pavilion, Wolverhampton, &c. Immediate dates vacant. Full bookings, permanent, lowest (no over-estimated salaries), 48, Bilston-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED. Wanted, Wanted,
for
THE HIPPODROME, HULL,
THE HIPPODROME, HULL,
Aug. 1, and onwards.
Good Tops of Bills.
Share or Certainty.
Apply, with full particulars
and lowest terms,
WALTER BENTLEY,
168, Brixton-road, S.W.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only.
STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

Amateurs, Pupils, &c.
WANTED, Known, Lady or Gentleman, Musical, and wishing to adopt the Variety Stage, can be received into old-established act; thorough tuition and long engagement when proficient; inclusive terms £50, travelling paid. Box 8,038, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
GIRLS, GIRLS,
young and pretty,
who can sing and dance,
for Spectacular Act,
English and American Halls.

Send photo.
R. R. SLATER,
Neue Welt Park,
108, Hasenhaide, Berlin, Germany.

WANTED, really Beautiful Girls, pretty of face and figure, refined and graceful appearance. Give fullest particulars, enclose photo. (returnable). Long, pleasant engagement, but applicants must possess unusual merit. Oriental Dancer also wanted. SEARS, Palace T., Halifax.

WANTED, Young Girl for Musical Show; experience unnecessary.
Call, Saturday, 82, Lowden-road, Herne Hill.

WANTED, Known, Ashbert and Wills require smart Boys and Girls for Music Halls, good voices essential; also Baritone capable producing Minstrel Show. Full particulars, King's Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, immediately, good All-round Dancers, to complete Troupe; long engagement; good salary. Apply, with practice dress, Saturday 12 to 4, The Bath House, Dean-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Male Eccentric Dancer.
Apply, Monday, three o'clock,
Mr. COLLINS, Broadmead House, Panton-street, W.

WANTED, pair of Sisters for Aug. 1; must be good. Wire or write immediately.
GEORGE PEARSON, Honor Oak, London, S.E.

WANTED, Knockabout Pantomimist, also Lady, for Sketch, both to do single turn; also Variety Artist. WYS, Conway-st., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, for well-known Double Comedy Acrobatic Act, a First-class Artist, weight not over 9st., must be funny, good tumbler, and used to Comedy Acrobatic business, as Top Mounter. Write, stating age, height, weight, tricks, if married, and all particulars in first letter, to Box 8,026, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Tumbler, with Comedy Tricks, and can do Butterfly round stage, for well-known Comedy Act. One or two years' engagement to right party. Single man preferred. Lowest terms, tricks, and full particulars in first letter. Box 7,997, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Man; must be small, speak correctly, slight knowledge of Tumbling and Violin-playing preferred; will be taught good Comedy part; amateur not objected to. Address, SANTE, 1, Saxon-passage, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, a Girl, Used to Cycling.
Send Photo.
TEMPLE, 248, Camberwell New-road, London.

ANDREWS' PICTORIAL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, to open Aug. 1 (South), First-class Baritone Vocalist and Lecturer, must have powerful voice, able to sing four songs daily and thoroughly Lecture Dramatic Pictures, must be well up in the business, or useless; a permanent engagement for the right person. Full particulars, refs., and salary required, to ANDREWS, 5, New Compton-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Adah Payne, the Original Australian Nightingale, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co., at Liberty Aug. 15, Sept. 12. This week's management say: A voice with a phenomenal range. To-day, T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne (Starring); next, Palace, Carlisle (return).

WANTED, Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Vacant 25th, Aug. 1, 8. Wire, 62, Up. Thomas-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an entertainment in themselves, Liberty July 25, Aug. 15 and 29. Address, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8, by Sisters Lucretia and Josephine, Harmonising Duettists and Artistic Dancers. Sure success. Best halls booked. Add., 50, St. Mary's-st., Ladywood, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 1 (to precede Farnworth), by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. Wire for good Turn. Picture Pal., Nuneaton.

WANTED, Known, Sinclair's 3 Diamonds are thrown out Aug. 1, through Empire, Dudley, closing. Who wants us? Wire or write, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Aug. 1, by Harry Morris, Popular Comedian and Raconteur. Big success Winter Gardens, New Brighton; next, Empire, Burnley.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD. & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

SUBSEQUENT

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 25, 1910.

Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, Mme. Knipper-Rabeneck's Æsthetic Dancers, Helen Trix, Adams and Ward, Staley's Transformations, Severus Schaffer, Ferry Corway, O'Gust, Animated Pictures, Sybil Arundale and Co., Cissie Curiette.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for :—

Will Evans, New Macs, Glenroy Troupe, Fred Curran, Nellie Wallace, Smite and Smote, Bioscope, Horace Pollock and Co., Andos Japs, Mary Ambrose.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Dan Crawley, Camille Ober, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Shirley and Ransome, Blessings, Harry Leybourne, Billy French, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs, Williams and Warden.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

"Futurity Winner," Harry Marte, Bioscope, Charles Leighton, Ruby and Laws, Niagara and Falls, Dan Thomas, Rosie Fitzgerald, Mabel Berra, Doody and Wright.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Master Edward Garrett and Co., Alice Maydue, Fielding and Hull, Haytors, Chas. Torbay, J. W. Hall, Lillie Lassah, Marconis, Bioscope, Hermann Melot, Syd May.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Wilkie Bard, Maude Esmond, Hilda Jacobeen, Chas. Vincent, Fishers Vocalesques, Westwoods, Bioscope, Drew and Alders, Martineks.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Fimans, Alf. Gibson, Gwennie Llewellyn, Stuart Macmillan, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Bioscope, Mrs. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Wilson and Waring.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Fred Lindsay, Courtice Pounds and Co., Dacey and Lewis, Ted E. Box, Laurie's Kindergarten, Mezzettis, Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Anartos.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Cumminger and Colonna, Rich Taylor, Leo Tell, Will Poluski, jun., Peggy Pryde, Lawrence Barclay, Azella Wilson, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

R. G. Knowles, McGregors, Duncan's Collies, Three Merrills, Esta Stella, Chas. Norton, Pat Rafferty, Ed. E. Ford, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Hetty King.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Gothams, Bioscope, Harry Bancroft, My Fancy, Miller Bros., Emmie Ames, Findens, Hasse and Mariette, Harriett Vernon, Fannie Ward.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Oswald Williams, Chas. J. Johnson, Lena Verdi, Matthews and Cowper, Three Laurels, Lupino Lane, Arthur Slater, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Five Mowatts.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bella and Bijou, Violas, Ethel Newman, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Ike and Will Scott, Du Gros Trio, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's Co. in "The Organ Grinder," Quaint Q's.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Bertha Winder, Haig and Novel, Florence Smithers, Albert Whelan, Hans and Lux, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Tom Leamore, Grassis.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Tom Parker, Onetti Sisters, Griff, Leonards, Ethel Beech, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship, Jock Mills, Bioscope, Barrett and Knowles, Chris Richards, Binns and Binns, Tom Edwards, Siems, Alcide Capitaine, Piccad Troupe.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Ada Reeve, Carney and Armstrong, Marco Belli, Albert Rees, Bros. Egbert, Campbell and Barber, Will H. Fox, Bioscope, Fred Kitchen and Co., Baker and Baife, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Faber, Jen Latona.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Livesey and Rosebery, Kellinos, F. V. St. Clair, Woodhouse and Wells, Lottie Lennox, Staig's Steeplejacks, Roma and Romani, Cull Pitt, Bioscope, H. O. Wills.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Rosa Loader, Rauschle, Roze and Calvert, Frank Melvin, Anna Chandler.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Alice Kingsley, Jock Whiteford, Rossi Ashton, Johnny Fuller, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, "The Little Stowaway," Will Johnson.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Rinaldo, Beaty and Blanche, Bert Harrow, Motramos, Carmos, Florrie Gallimore, Bioscope, Tom Costello.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Robey, Hardini Trio, Walter Wade, Goodfellow and Gregson, Sanford and Lyons, Lux's Dogs, Lillian, Bioscope, Girard and Gardner.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Poluskis, Ella Shields, Jennie Hartley, Tate and Tate, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Brull and Hemsley, Sylvia Du Barry, Arthur Lewis, Bioscope, Harry Jolson, Leslie Bros.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

La Milo, Bros. Dean, May Henderson, Lillian Dundas and Co., Nell Emerald, Frank Lynne, Bioscope, De Wynne Bros., Bensons.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

La Pia, Arthur Leslie, Jackley Trio, Maples, Mitchell and Cain, J. A. Wilson, Cassie Walmer, Alda Martine, Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co. in "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Mme. Hanako and Co., Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Bros. Redmond, Dorothy Ward, Daisy Dormer, Ricardo and Salving, Bugler Carr, Tom Foy and Co., George French.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Tan Kwai Troupe, Frank and Free, Gwennie Hasto, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Bros. Durant, Tom E. Hughes, Bioscope, Warsaw Bros., Ernie Mayne.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Jack Lorimer, Stella Stahl, Phil Parsons, Six Lancashire Lasses, Avolos, Jimmy Curwell, Pictures, Maidie Scott.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Chas. D. Aldrich, Ryan and Hall, Bioscope, Lily Flexmore, Jewel St. Leger, James Stewart.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Chung Ling Soo, France and Stewart, Reichen's Dogs, Norman and Leonard, Bioscope, Jennie Alexander.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mike S. Whallen, R. C. Note, Gilbert's Dogs, Lloyd and Borthwick, Grace Langley, Maie Dillon, Pictures, Kirbys.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Formby, Sisters Kilner, Harry May Hemsley, Phillips and Merritt, Orpheus, Nellie Wigley, Vi Laurie, Pictures, Varden Perry, and Wilbur.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Opening Bank Holiday, Aug. 1.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, JULY 25.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Werds Bros., Donaldsons, Nora Emerald, Le Hurst, Musical Silvo, Sears and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Reid and Power, Baron's Animals, Nellie Neil, Canard, Walter Read, Adah Payne, Oakes Duo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Harold Heath, Dolly Ross, Alice Hughes and Co., Garden Troupe, Sisters Lylle, Dulcets, Tom Gott, Geo. Acre, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Beauty Competition.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Five Bombays, Phil Ray, Cairo Trio, Johnny Cecil, Danvers and Rosslyn, Kittie Corelli, Lestree, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Tod Lowen, Fred Hilderson and Co., Ben Albert, Eva Reed, Jennie Moore, Josephine Crook, The Rizarellas, Redcar Trio, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Pictures, Go-as-you-Please Competition.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Dan Conroy, Arthur Pier, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Co., Ruby Maybutt, Glen and Earl, Harry Bret tall, Cissie Sylvester, Rita Rylle, Sketch "Reunited," Pictures, Go-as-you-Please Competition.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Edith Chantler, Merrions, Rousby and Rene, Days, Myrtle Grove, Ellersie Pyne, Guest and Newlyn, Palace Perfection Pictures, Fred Maxwell and Co.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Harry Martell, Jessie Wilton, Bros. Webb, Joe Belmont, Ross and Grayson, Carlton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Millwards, Tom Clare, Three Diamonds, Colley and Scott, Doris Druce, Bonair and Tess, Renz Bros., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Vaudeville Trio, Vera Mayne, Olympian Cyclists, Pat Lynch, "Irony of Fate," Jack Hamilton, Bob Berry, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Josh Dixon, Billy Merson, Cedrics, Vela, Maude Mortimer, Sydney Brandon, Rose Surridge, Hymack, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Milner and Storey, Henriette and Selina, Arthur Croxon, Fallows and Beaumont, Zanfrellas, Pit Brow Girls, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Arthur Harris, Creagh and Cruickshank.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Sisters Edwards, Irene Meldon, Wat Tyler, Martell, Gillette, Adderley Howard and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Four Rosebuds, Elsie and Bob, Julian Mack, Reed and Stevens, Atlas and Vulcana, W. Ellis and Co., Ethel Entwistle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Daisy Rhyl, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
May Knight, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Sages, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Under the Iron Heel."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
"Is It You?" Competition, Valanche's Dogs, Edwards and Edwards, Ada Fawn, Fred Ward, Vesta Nixon, Three Delaries, Empire Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures, The Seddons.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Dollie and Rosie, Allsopp and Beckwith, Wee Georgie Wood, Tiny Arnold, Hunter and Rob, Alexandra Park, Syd Walker, Lillie Long, Cosgrove and Burns, Pictures, "Gretna Green."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Norah Desmond, Will Lytton, Vena Velma, Two Lillies, Dick Tubb, Jessie Buckle, Chas. Carlisle's Co., Sketch, "Ned the Devil," Fred Karno's Co., "Perkins, M.P.," Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Flo Burnett, Fred Karno's Co., "G.P.O.," Sketch, "Wife for a Wife," Sidney Murrey, Barbara Evangeline, Irene May, Bessie Neilson, Sketch, "Convict 99," Pictures.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

UNITED COUNTY THEATRES,
Limited,
and
HIPPODROME, DEVONPORT, LIMITED.

Chairman and Managing Director:
Mr. Alfred Moul.

Notice to Artists, Agents, Proprietors & Managers

ALL BOOKING BUSINESS
for Halls controlled by
UNITED COUNTY THEATRES, Ltd.,
viz.:—
Palace, PLYMOUTH; Grand Theatre, STONEHOUSE; Palace, BRISTOL; King's Theatre, GATESHEAD; Palace, ABERDEEN; King's Theatre, DUNDEE; and Hippodrome, DEVONPORT.
is now conducted from the HEAD OFFICES of the COMPANY at
BROADMEAD HOUSE,
PANTON ST., HAYMARKET, LONDON.
and all communications relative to the same should be addressed to
Mr. HERBERT TAYLOR, Booking Department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Artists and Agents seen by Appointment only.

THE CHORLTON THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Recently rebuilt, enlarged and fully appointed, accommodate about 1500, immediate possession. FIRST CLASS OPENING FOR PICTURES, Alfresco, or other light entertainments.
Offers to the Secretary, Chorlton Theatre.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingsburst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

Boxing Lithos.
New Printing for Latest Subjects.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

Notice to Touring Managers.

CHANGE of MANAGEMENT

Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie & Frank Bray
have pleasure in announcing that they have taken over the **ALEXANDRA THEATRE** for a lease of a number of years, together with the Bookings.
All Managers holding Dates kindly write at once confirming same to
J. GAR KIDDIE,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

NOTICE.
To All Whom it May Concern.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE WIDNES.

MR. KIDDIE having leased the above Theatre to Messrs. J. GAR KIDDIE and FRANK BRAY, who have taken over the Bookings, requests Managers of Companies booked to communicate direct with the Lessees for confirmation of same.
Signed for JAMES KIDDIE,
THOS. SWINTON, Secretary.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

NOTICE.
Owing to change of proprietorship all engagements made by or on behalf of Mr. Walter de Frece will be cancelled after week ending Saturday, August 13, 1910.
Managers holding Contracts should communicate to
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 5d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomster-park. 3 sitting-rooms, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, lav. and bathroom in house, self-contained, highly rec., 5 minutes Hall, 2 minutes His Majesty's Theatre.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LIVERPOOL.—Holden, 31, Russell-st. Sitt. and bedrooms, also comb.; piano in each; mod. cons.; near Emp., Shak., and R. Court, Central.

LONDON, N.—Large front room, nicely furnished; terms moderate; good cooking; near music halls. Mrs. Dickens, 2, Florence-street.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Harry Lester has beautifully furnished sitting room and bedroom vacant Sunday; every home comfort; piano; very central. 7, Prima-rd., Kennington Gate, London.

LONDON, S.E.—Camberwell Gate. Large combined rooms; bath (h. and c.), piano; very moderate. Board-residence, 15s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Sitting and Bedrooms. Terms mod. Bath (h. and c.). Near two stations and 'bus route. Good cooking and attendance. Near Theatre. Terms on application. No children or animals taken. Mrs. V. Nash, 72, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms from 10s., combined ditto, and suites, bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional apartments, highly recommended; moderate terms.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and echnicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIER, June 8, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law" published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bert Danson, the Famous Comedian, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, Latest Success, "Archie," talk of every town. Wire, Grand, Aberaman; next, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, Liberty Monday, in all New Business. This, hippo., Blackpool; next, Albion Hotel, Stockton-rd., Sunderland.

WANTED, Aug. 8, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, Humorous and Descriptive Copyright Songs, Sketches, Extraordinary Colliery Pictures. King's Theatre, Bridgeton; 25th, Palace, Govan, N.B.

WANTED, Monday, by Dave Abbott, Comedian and Grotesque Dancer. Last week, Palace, Methil, N.B.; this, Hengler's Cirque, Glasgow, where wire.

WANTED, Known, Vilo, Juggler, Lamp and Japanese Block Manipulator, also Punch and Judy, Liberty Galas. 53, Sylvan-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, last week T. H., Tredegar. This, N. H., Bargoed, Wales, second visit in month, again re-engaged T. H., Tredegar.

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida will be known in future from this date, July 16, 1910, as LES NOELS.

WANTED, Monday next and Aug. 1, Ray and Lingard, in Comedy Sketch; also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Monday, by Wisper, Comedy Kid Juggler; Beattie Bloom, Star Comedienne. Wire, Alh., Stourbridge. Aug. 1, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, on, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas; good Singles. Coms., Picture Palace, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, Fête, Aug. 1, by The Rembrandts, Lightning Painters; likewise as Alfredo and Alice, Conjurers. 26, Arthingworth-street, Stratford, London.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, by the Two Le Bruns (Edie and Edgar), Unique Vocal Expert and Comedy Juggling Novelty. Add., Empire, Camberwell, London; or H. B. Marinelli, Ltd.

WANTED, Monday, 25th, the Musical Bronsons, specially retained second week, Whitby Electric Palace. No better show on stage to-day.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, great Comedy Act, Vacant Aug. 1 and 8, big hit, Grand Pier, Weston. Wire, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, wire.

WANTED, Aug. 1, onward, the Great Rohde and Roche, a real live Novelty Comedy Potpourri Act, the Chameleon Artist and It. Always a draw, an enormous success. Because why? It is it. King's Hall, Exmouth.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8, Beatrice Bonnie and Co., wonderful Dulcimer Dancers on the Stairaphone; excellent Top for first-class Theatres. July 25, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, by Three Clarks, Three, Aug. 1, 15, 1910, smart, clean, and original, in their Unique Speciality Act. Big success everywhere. Fred Clark, Globe Hotel, Buxton-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Funny Jake, Clever Comedy Three-bar Act. 35A, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, July 25 and Aug. 15, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, own scenery, splendid lithos. Sure success. Wire, Emp., Rochdale; after Sat., 33A, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Tom Wanotee's performance on the Trapeze conveys the idea of extreme flexibility coupled with strength and cleverness; he is assisted by a pretty lady, who sings in pleasing style.—Worcester Echo. WANA and WANOTEE in Com. Gym. Pot-pourri Act. Vac. Aug. 1, on. This, Hippo., Sheerness; next, Hippo., Dover.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Aug. 8, 15, and 22, Empire, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent. Aerial and Gymnastic Act, free July 25, Aug. 2, on. This, Emp., Southport. After Sunday, 14, Derby-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, in their Aerial Balancing Ladder Act. For dates, Wilder, Great Frances-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 8, the Three Original Hodginis. Gymnastic Seaside Scene. This week, Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare; next, King's, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Three Alskarnos, Great Comedy Risley Act. Vacant Monday, between London and Newcastle. Wire, 123, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female Novelty Acrobats. Three Acts. Wanted, Youth Acrobat. Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, The Ostieers, Flying Ring and Double Trapeze Performers, at Liberty for Aug. 1. Wire, 5, Trafalgar-st., Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent., and Conjurer, Vac. Aug. 15, precede Bradford. This, Pier Pav., Southport; next, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Monday, July 25, Aug. 8, 29, by Hubert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Wire, Saturday, Empire, Cleethorpes; after, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, and 22, for Mr. Richard Flanagan's No. 1 Sketch Company in "Compensation." Next, Tiv., Manchester. Albert Jones, Queen's T., Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 1, and on, for powerful Combination, including Mrs. Mark Melford and Co., in "Planted." Manager, 142, Shirland-rd., W.

WANTED, Early Bookings, Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley's Sketches. Songs. Mimicry; 15 minutes' turn, upwards. Wellington Pier, Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Aug. 1, 8, and 15. Only Vacant Dates this Year.

Com., Vryhied, Ripley-road, West Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Edith Tudora's Ponies, four in number, Liberty Aug. 8 and on. All coms., Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Devereux' Great Troupe of Dogs, the most novel Dog Show before the public. Big Act for Galas; Liberty Aug. 1 and 22. Address, Pal., Sunderland; after, P.O., Doncaster.

WANTED, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, Fêtes, Galas, and Al Fresco Speciality, a success. C/o Mr. Dansie, Cosy Corner, Ilford.

WANTED, Known, the Cyclinis, Comedy, Somersaulting, and Football Cyclists. Vac. Aug. 16. Sept. 5, onwards. Next, Picturedrome, Bradford. Agent, Stebbings.

WANTED, Known, Hall and Wilson, Motor Cycling Sensation, Vacant Monday next, also Aug. 8, 15. Sure draw. Wire quick, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, by Chas. Verno, Comedian, Comedy Part in Sketch, just finished three years John Tiller's Sketches and Pantos. Xmas, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham. 39, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

MINSTREL SINGERS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, BONES and TAMBOS, for England.

State all particulars,

R. Slater, Neue Welt Park, 108, Hasenhaide, Berlin, Germany.

WANTED, Known, will Mr. Alf. Bishop, of Rex and Ford's, if at Liberty first-class al fresco, wire add. immediately to Romer, "Era," London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Len Owen, refined Versatile Comedian; experienced. Address, 3, Kent-street, Fleetwood.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important. That the Next Meeting of the BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS AND SHOWMEN'S UNION will be Held at the Scarbro' Hotel, Dewsbury, on Tuesday next, July 26th, at 2.30 p.m. Important Business on the Agenda.

(Signed) Thos. Hurst, Secretary.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Klown, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Freaks or Novelties, rent or shares. Write, Merryland, 72, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and post-cards in first letter. A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for August Holiday, Blackheath, good Freak or Novelty, with paintings and flash. Fred Bowman, 399, New Cross-road, S.E.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, for Edinburgh and Dundee, 3 or 4 weeks in each city. Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Novelties, Capt. Clayton, Aeroplane Exhibition at Ilkeston, July 30; Bioscope Show complete, show front, organ, tent. Write, Wilson, Caterer, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Side Show, First-class, Shares or Rent, Folkestone. Apply, Manager, Exhibition, 49, Tontine-street.

WANTED, Hindoo or Indian Artists and Performers of both sexes; also Oriental and Indian Properties and Paraphernalia of all Descriptions. State absolute lowest cash price. Give full particulars and lowest salary; long, steady engagement. Sears, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

Palmistry.

WANTED, Lady, for good Practice; wages and commission. State experience and age, &c., to Box 8,019, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Palmist, on Shares; must be smart, references required, one used to Ireland preferred. Capt. Dando, Ballybunion, Kerry, Ireland.

Palmistry and Clairvoyance.

WANTED, Lady, 30s. week and commission. Apply, Madame Hunt, 87, Hurst-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Capable Auctioneer; also Floorsmen and Doorsman. Good salaries to good workers. Box 8,013, "The Era."

WANTED, Electrical Engraver and Wireworker, for the Seaside. Wages and commission.

Tetley, Laxey, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Fêtes and Galas, the World's Greatest Attraction,

Watson's Somersaulting Motor Car,

Vacant Bank Holiday. Vacant Bank Holiday.

Watson, 37, Lorn-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagements, Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, gas or hot-air; best Attraction for Fêtes and Galas. Apply, Newell, Nelson-road, Harrow.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.

A Teddy Bear Roundabout, all complete, with or without electric light, in thorough working order, and well worth the money. To responsible people part of the purchase-money can be arranged. Apply, P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete, with Living Van, goes by rail, or Let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Brooklyn Cake Walk, as new, bargain quick sale. Principals or solicitors only address, Knutt, P.O., New Brighton, Cheshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Finest Side-show in existence; £100; rent paid future, £15. Permanent. Alexander, 34, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Fair Goods, Rifle Range supplies, &c. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, London, N. Guns, Cartridges, Flare Lamps, Swing Ropes.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman, having been favoured with instructions from Mr. James Chittock, who is retiring from travelling owing to ill-health, to offer for Sale by Public Auction all that well-known Travelling Show, known as the Queen's Cinematograph, comprising six loads in all, namely, two Front-carved Living Wagons, 12ft. long, in splendid condition; also large nearly new Back Wagon, suitable for any class of travelling show; also Men's Living Wagon, fitted to carry shutters, gallery, seats, &c., thereon; ditto a grand Carved Band Carriage, which carries large organ (two barrels); ditto a splendid nearly new Fiat Lorry, likewise Small Organ and Harmonium, for inside show; large Bass Drum, quantity of Brass Lamps, Shuttered Box for Pictures, three Cinematograph Machines, two Cylinders, ten Spools of splendid Films. The front opening out 40 by 70 back, the whole forming one of the most compact, light, and convenient shows travelling, and is now open and doing well. N.B.—The above is too well known to need any comment whatever, and can be seen any time by appointment to the Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C. This lot is suitable for Traction or Horse Haulage.
Sale will take place at SEARLE'S FAIR GROUND, WINDMILL-ROAD, EAST CROYDON, on Tuesday next, July 26th inst., without reserve.
On view the morning of Sale.

N.B.—A number of other Lots, the property of other showmen, will be offered for sale at the same time, thus making this important sale worth the attention of Showmen and Travellers in general. Further entries can be received up till the morning of Sale.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Cannor Photo. Machine, and Stand, also 4 gross Frames. Accept £3 10s., everything complete. Lipman, 12, Kinmel-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, suitable Bioscope Hall. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, a Fairy Floss Sweetmeat-making Machine, nearly new. Apply, Curtt, Blake's-buildings, Russell-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Punch and Judy Show, complete, with pretty performing dog Toby. Wm. Durham, 33, Hawthorn-st., Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap, a Secondhand Gipsy Queen or Indian Spirit Writer. A. B., 46, Cuncliffe-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

SKATING.

WANTED, for South Wales Rink, commencing first week Sept., capable Manager, expert skater preferred; also clever Girl Skater and competent Skate Mechanic. References must bear strictest investigation. Apply, stating salary and full particulars, &c., Box 8,025, "The Era."

WANTED, Manager, for small Skating Rink on North-east Coast, Man, experienced in all classes of public entertaining preferred. State wages, &c., to Box 8,018, "The Era."

WANTED, for Continental Rinks, First-class Floor-Manager, must speak French, possess unquestionable references, and have had large experience in organising Fêtes, Exhibitions, &c. Apply, stating salary and full particulars, photo., to Secretary, Anglo-American Circle Roller Skating Rink, Rue de la Sante, Antwerp.

WANTED, an experienced Man, for Management and control of Floor of small Rink. Full particulars, Mr. W. O. Carr, George Hotel, Northampton.

WANTED, by experienced Skate Mechanic and Electrician, Berth, used to any make of Skates, own tools, &c.; excellent references. Apply, Box 7,979, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, a good paying Cinematograph Show, about £500, as it stands. It is small, but in a good town, and in the right place. Been running for over two years. Good reason for selling. Apply to Box 8,003, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Marquee, seats about 600; large Stage, Tableaux Curtains, Dressing-rooms, licensed for pictures, doing good business, seaside; purchaser can have pitch for this season; lowest, £100, pitch worth this alone. Fred James, Waxworks, Newmarket-st., Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, three Universe Bioscopes, complete, including Lens, Condenser, Lantern Adjustment with Lens, Slide Carrier, and Case, good as new. John R. Poole, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Kamm's Universe Bioscope, Arc Lamp, Iron House, Sheet, £21, used month. C. Weldon, 50, Grosvenor-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

King's Funeral Film.

WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,009, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, the complete Scenery and Properties belonging to the "Sunday" production, the unique Hut set, elaborate Garden set, with exterior mansion, and Conservatory set, Grass Carpet, Garden Furniture. Address for particulars, William Gifford, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., Leicester-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, a quantity of excellent Scenery and Properties, suitable for Pantomime. Address, Box 8,035, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Corridor, with working doors, suitable for Prison, Hotel; also Double Office Set. Mrs. Mark Kinghorne, Dagmar-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant. Suit Bioscope Hall. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, about forty Panto. Dresses, Boys, Girls, Principals, want room. Appointment view at 218, Amhurst-road, Hackney, N.E.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Set of Uniforms for "Merry Peasant." Apply, Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., 5, Clerkenwell-green, Farringdon-road, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, 265 Tip-up Chairs (blue and green), good condition, cheap, also scenery for "Cinderella" Panto., comprising 17 flats, 13 cloths, coach (electric), and wardrobe. Fred Gould, Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones, Rattles, Glockenspiels Tubular Bells, Organ Chimes, Tubaphones, Marimbas, Macaronis, Gongs, Resonaphones. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, complete, plated Set, 5ft. high, handsome folding stand, £4. Conductor, 9, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, three Performing Boarhounds, with Props. Cash price £30. To be seen working at 26, Graymare-lane, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, New Original Stage Illusions, quantity Stage Conjuring Apparatus. Call or write; will pay you. 212, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Sketches, Playettes, Duologues, Monologues, Plays, Musical Comedies, Pastoral, Comical, Tragical, Historical. Requirements, please. Margaret Ogilvie write. Bird, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Sketches (Costume Comedy (Drama, Farcical and Dramatic), also One-act Plays. H. C. Fisher, "Addington," Thyragrove, North Finchley, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Comedy Sketch, entitled "Binks's Birthday," £1 1s.; also Gentleman's Evening Dress, £1. James, 10, Elfort-road, Highbury, N.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture. Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy Blouses, Costumes, Boots, and Shoes, &c., for Provincial Tour; must be cheap. Box 8,017, "The Era."

WANTED, 500 to 1,000 Secondhand Fold-up Chairs, as used in Parks, also several Iron Registering Turnstiles. Box 8,021 "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a Bantam Cock, to crow when wanted to, also two Trick Birds, Cockatoos or Parrots, or any other kind, must be able to do three or four tricks each. State what tricks, where to be seen, and price, by letter only, to Reno, 6, in 8 Block, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton-road, London.

BASS DRUM.

WANTED, to Buy, a Secondhand Bass Drum, must be cheap. Box 8,039, "The Era."

WANTED, Script of "Woman of the People" immediately. Wire, H. B. B., Flat 4, St. Ann's-road, Brixton.

To Sketch Authors and Others.

WANTED.—Mr. G. Howard Watson, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading, will be pleased to read Sketches of every description with a view to purchase.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, to be Let by Tender for a period of three or six months, with option of purchase, this modern, well-equipped, and fully licensed Theatre, with a seating capacity for 2152 persons, lighted throughout by electricity. Tenders may be sent not later than July 25 to Lomax, Sons, & Mills, Auctioneers, 54, John Dalton-street, Manchester; or, Litton, Pownall, Blakey, and Higson, Chartered Accountants, 42, Spring-gardens, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in July and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

Large Rehearsal Room in West End.
WANTED, to Let.
Apply, Stedman's, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtains and Programmes at Five First-class Variety and Picture Theatres. Cash down offers only. Apply, "Pictures," Ivanhoe, West Derby, L'pool.

WANTED, to Let, Advertisement Curtain and Programme at the Empire Theatre, Fleetwood. Apply immediately, Claude A. Smyth, Secretary.

WANTED, Offers for Advertising Curtain, 24ft. by 14ft., at New Olympic Hall, Littlehampton. Apply, Geo. E. Redman, Manager.

WANTED, to Let, carefully written Dramatic and Musical Sketches, feminine interest. Crozier (Author "Fair Play," &c.), 295, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Halls, or Public Halls, for long or short terms. All particulars to Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other Large Halls in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to Box 8,014, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, Theatre; must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity and full particulars. James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

WANTED, to Rent, Share, or Purchase, Good Hall for Picture Show. I have powerful Electricity Engine, Flame Arcs, three Bioscopes, 100,000ft. of Film, 13 years' experience; have two shows on tour; would share with good showman who has show front. Bankers' refs. exchanged. Fred James, Waxworks, Newmarket-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Outside Pitch, at Seaside, for Living Picture Entertainment. Share, rental, or partnership. Box 8,033, "The Era."

WANTED, Large Shop or Shed, for Building Properties and Rehearsals, in or near London, period of six weeks to two months. Sears, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, to Hire, Scenery for Princess Ida, in December. Apply, Box 8,012, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £1,000 capital, to join advertiser with one of the finest concerns in Great Britain. The said concern has cost £4,000.

Advertiser guarantees 15 per cent. dividend for five years.

Principals only dealt with.

Communications, Box 8,015, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, with £500, to finance West End Pantomime; Advertiser has entire production, scenery, wardrobe, props, &c.; also dates. Address, Cutler, 6, Cobden-mansions, Stockwell-road, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Partner, in well-known Musical Comedy, on Tour.

Moderate capital.

Address, Box 8,036, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, with capital, anxious to take up the stage as a profession, to join well-known Music Hall Act as Partner; advertiser can show Contracts for this and next year. Genuine offer. Address, Box 8,020, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for quarter share in First-class Concert Party, must invest £25. Address, Box 8,037, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c., 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Telephone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, W.C., If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c. This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Melodies Composed and Arranged. Band-books supplied. Sample 9 stamps. Fox and Son, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, the American Picturedrome Co. Communications must be addressed to Mr. Alfred Alexander, Gen.-Manager, 4, Duke-st., Adelphi.

WANTED, Known. Will Edwin Arnold Palmer communicate with Samuel May, 24, Manhattan-mansions, London, N. Mother anxious. Blanche home from India.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

PUBLIC NOTICES.
I, Harry Aylin, of 1, Mervan-road, Brixton, jockey, hereby give notice that I will not be responsible for any debts incurred by my wife Marie Alice Victoria Aylin, née Courtenay.
Hicks, Arnold, and Mozley, Solicitors, 35, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of "THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The ever-popular American drama *At Cripple Creek* is presented in a most efficient manner by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Wernham Ryott displays distinct ability in the part of Joe Mayfield, and Miss Agnes Verity makes a charming heroine in the attractive rôle of Dynamite Ann; the humorous side of the play is effectively sustained by Mr. Harry Benson as Ben White, the nigger, of Cripple Creek; whilst Mr. Charles E. Johnson as Martin Mason, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as Manuel Alveraz, Mr. Wilfred Jessop as Mahketah, Miss Tina Langlois as Maggie Mason, Miss O'Neil as Bella Gordon, and Miss Norah Dillon as Sarah Lively, help to bring out the exciting incidents of the play.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Miss Amy Augarde, supported by a competent company, appears in *The Sicilians*, a musical sketch of distinct merit. Miss Augarde scores a decided success by her bright singing and vivacious acting. John Terry and Mabel Lambert amuse with *English Types through American Eyes;* the Three Warringtons give a daring exhibition of equilibristic feats; Ciss and Will, "the dainty juveniles," sing and dance melodiously and gracefully; Mr. Charles Santon has a wonderful vocal range; Lill Elfreda mimics excellently; Cash and Clair display ability in dancing; whilst Frank H. Vox is a versatile comedian.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This is musical week at the Tivoli, and the various items are of high order indeed. Jan Rudenyi, the Hungarian actor-vocalist, excels in a sketch entitled *The Power of Music;* Francini, Olloms, and Page give excellent renderings of high-class music on the old-time concertina; the Four Ascots display rare skill and energy in their unique clog-dancing; Fred Costin sings and dances drolly; Jules Charmette sings charming French songs; Ardell and Odell display comic abilities in a sketch entitled *Quarter to Nine;* Jessie Stewart sings sweetly; and Beatrice Allan shows herself to be a comedienne of vivacity and parts. Crowded houses are still the rule.

ACCRINGTON.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The principal place on the bill is occupied by Beatrice Bonnie and company in a smart dancing act, introducing "The Stairaphone"; Stylo scores a big success as a hoop manipulator; Gesta and Hoe, in mimicry, song, and dance, provide a capital turn; Zasma, society gymnast, receives a great reception; Helen Martin sings in a very cultivated manner; Tom Burton proves himself a most diverting comedian; Elsa Wynne is a dainty comedienne and dancer; The Warrens, local instrumentalists, meet with much applause; and the Bioscope pictures conclude.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The Great Fasola tops the bill, and his performance of weird mysticism is particularly clever; The Codys (Raven and Lily) as lasso experts are very capable; the Lannons are clever vocal duettists and high pedestal dancers, whilst their comedy act *The Policeman and the Maid* is very amusing; Leon and Tee, in a musical farcical act, *On the Farm*, are excruciatingly funny; Bu Val, the happy Dutchman, gives several selections and imitations on an English concertina which is much enjoyed; Ivy Mona, comedienne, does well; Silverstone, vocal mimic, is again popular; Connie Isca sings with good effect; and Dick Camp is also well received.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—The Merry Magnets—who have taken a snug little pitch in the grounds of the Skating Rink in Grosvenor-road—are giving a refined programme nightly, consisting of concerted numbers, dances, humorous sketches, &c. An effectively-arranged stage has been erected, and with electric lighting and capital seating accommodation it only requires fine weather to make the performances successful.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Nita Rae's domestic drama *The Shadow of a Crime* is being presented here this week by a company organised by Mr. Robert Newland. Jim Murdock is sustained by Mr. Whitmore Ledger in a breezy manner; Mr. Victor Gordon is effective as Ralph Esmond; the heroine is admirably portrayed by Miss Ethel Savill; Miss Ada Arthur gives a convincing impersonation of Winnie Murdock; Miss C. Cardrew ably enacts the part of Dora Bullington; Miss H. Jeffries as Sarah Murdock does good work; and the Misses Violette Vivienne and Daisy Free are also much in evidence as Brown's very much better-half and as a seaside flirt. Minor male parts are undertaken by Mr. Geo. Millard as Brown, Mr. Tom Maynard as Tod, and Mr. Pat Quinn as John.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—After a successful dramatic week the Broadhead programme at the Empire has been changed to "variety." The leading item on the bill is a farcical sketch, *No. 9*, a laughing success by Sir Francis Burnand. Mr. Lawrence Brough sustains in his inimitable style the part of Dick Whortles. He is admirably seconded by Miss Olga Esme as Dolly Whortles, his wife, with Mr. Alfred Hemming as Joseph Carbury, Dick's father-in-law. Capital support is given by Miss Bessie Harrison and Messrs. Payne and Durham. The other artists engaged are Rex and Ford, eccentric cross-talkers; Alan Adair, a clever and refined light comedian; Johnson and Hart, American hoop rollers and jugglers; Baby Wolff, an accomplished child artist; Victoria Dagmar and a comedy assistant in artistic gymnastic display; and Harrigan and Holt, the inspector and policeman. The company as a whole is a good one.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—A good selection of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The "star" pictures of No. 1 programme are: Over Silent Paths, one of the A.B. series, Dogs of All Nations. No. 2 programme includes, amongst others, a stirring drama, An Affair of Hearts, by the A.B. players. Another "star" picture is The Painter's Fan.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs, Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—"The World in Motion" pictures at this pleasure resort still draw the amusement-seeking public. Good pictures are shown at this old-time house. This week the extra variety turn is Mr. Forbes Gilbert, the actor, who gives delineations of famous stage characters: Coupeau in *Drink* and Gaspard in *Les Cloches de Corneville*.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—Pictures and variety still find favour with Mr. Marks' patrons. The speciality turns are Miss Vennie Veldon, chocolate-coloured male impersonator, and the comedian, Will Willis.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—Business here still continues good. This week there is a very attractive programme, including Mr. Chas. R. Whittle, the popular comedian, who is a big favourite; Miss Alice Gill is a charming vocalist; The Florias do a splendid wire act; Athelda does well in feats of strength; Ronna Shanara's Thibet mountain deer and goats are a novel show; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud are good vocalists; and Theo. C. Le Gar's company in *Music the Conqueror*, introducing Senor Angel Blanco, Spanish violinist, supply an interesting turn. Weisker's Biograph concludes.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Stone.—T. Hearn and company are this week presenting a variety of good turns to large audiences. As a quick-change artist and as "the lazy juggler" Mr. Hearn amazes and convulses his audience; Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoil le Noir, in the scena *The Rat*, foot the bill; the Sisters Sprightly, Professor Thornbury, Miss Dulcie King-Lloyd, Miss Gilden Stuart, Florence Gordon Fay, and Jno. Macaulay complete.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—The Colonials continue to draw good audiences; Miss Lillie Kenyon particularly appeals to lovers of good songs.

TIVOLI.—The Dayton Family head the bill this week. Other artists are "Smith," Phil Percival, Sisters Dainty, Arthur Clifton, Dot and Williams, and the Three Armadas.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. Newman's picture company is here this week. The variety portion of the programme is equally appreciated.

BARRY DOCK.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Wm. W. Minto.—Crowded houses are the rule at the above popular house. Topping the bill are Fredica's clever pony and dogs, who give an interesting turn; Welda and Wyne are clever comedy jugglers, and Maxford and O'Niel are amusing comedians.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Tom Clare, the well-known comedian, and a piano is making his début this week and scoring a big success. As merrymakers Colley and Scott again appear with success; the Millwards are smart gymnasts; another duo who perform acrobatic feats cleverly are the Renz Brothers; a pleasing turn is the quick-change scena by Bonair and Tess; the dancing of the Three Diamonds is received with acclamation, and the mimicry of Little Doris Druce meets with favour. Pictures are of the best.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—Mr. Reginald Wishart, the accomplished illusionist, in his mysterious bottle, handcuff, and double box tricks, is at the head of affairs at the Cosy Corner this week. Others of a clever party are Miss Mabel Emley, at the piano; Mr. Arthur Moss, a capital baritone vocalist; and Mr. Phil Ward, an amusing humorist.

ON Monday Sanger's Circus paid a visit to this city, and, considering the stormy weather, good patronage was given this admirable pageant.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRE is fully maintaining its position as one of the permanent amusements of the city, the management always striving to secure and succeeding in presenting the very latest films on the market.

ON Thursday Marshall Hill's great Fun City, including switchback, motor-car track, helter-skelter, and many other up-to-date diversions attended Weston (Bath) Flower Show.

BELFAST. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Miss Maude Western and company opened here on Monday with *Queen's Evidence*. Mr. John Levey plays the dual rôle of Gilbert Medland and Philip Stansfield with skill; and the clever actress Miss Maude Western may be congratulated on her assumption of the dual part of Ada Somers and Ada Sydney. Mr. W. A. Buckstone sustains the part of Sir Frederick Sydney, Bart., with credit to himself; Mr. Wallace Curnock was all that could possibly be desired as the iniquitous Matthew Thornton; Miss Beatrice Western was certainly convincing as Kate Medland; Mr. Harry Ives, who was responsible for the dual rôle of Isaacs the Jew and James Levant, was thoroughly successful; Mr. A. H. Cresswell appeared to advantage as Walter Wynford; Miss Maudie Lambert deserves a word of praise for her acting as Arthur Medland; Miss Nellie Lambert effectively portrayed the rôle of Laura Sydney; and other parts were sustained by Messrs. Wm. May, T. Oggier, and T. Chapman.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading position here is held by Bradshaw Bros., remarkably clever acrobatic eccentrics, who made a big hit on Monday; Rose and Lewis are aptly described as laughter-makers, their act being excruciatingly funny; the trick cycling act of the capable Lotto, Lilo, and Otto is quite amazing; Sinclair and Whiteford produce one of their capitally-acted sketches, which is responsible for much merriment; Miss Aggie Nolan is a refined comedienne and first-class dancer; the Quality Quartette of male vocalists gain much appreciation for their tuneful items; Miss Ada Cerito, comedienne, has been accorded a good reception; and also appearing are Little Pam (child comedian and dancer), Rose and Jeanette (dainty girl and male impersonators), and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Miss Minnie Cunningham, the charming singer of Irish and other songs, is retained here for six nights longer; Vardon, Perry, and Wilbur appear in their refined musical act; Orpheus plays a number of musical instruments to perfection; Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers, take well; Miss Nellie Wigley ("Prince Charming") sings two songs in first-class style; the Sisters Kilner are smart vocalists and acrobatic dancers; and also on the programme are Mr. Harry May Hemsley, vocalist, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some beautiful pictures have been exhibited here this week, including Capital *v.* Labour, Father and Son, Conscience, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Lynches, whose capably rendered illustrated songs have been cheered to the echo nightly, and the Billy Watson Trio, vocalists and dancers.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some interesting films are being presented here, including The Broken Spell, The Two Fathers, The Skating Carnival, &c. Mr. Clifford Dacre, baritone vocalist, appears at each performance.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Herbert M. King.—*When It Was Dark* is again meeting with considerable success. Mr. Oswald Cray in the character of the Rev. Basil Gortre displays histrionic abilities of a high order; clever acting is done by Mr. C. Wordley Hulse in the part of Constantine Schwabe; Miss Lillian Herries as Gertrude Hunt is fully equal to the demands of an exacting part; and Miss Rosalie Notrelli as Helene Byars acquits herself creditably. The piece is thoroughly staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Marie Kendall, the queen of comediennes, is renewing her popularity with new numbers; the Four Garricks sing delightfully; the ability of Coram as a ventriloquist is very marked, and his jokes are fresh; Gordon Stretton, who styles himself "the new coon," contributes a number of songs in pleasing fashion; Edie and Ramsden, in a smart little sketch, *Charlie's Visit*, submit some fine dancing and effective fun; Steve McCarthy is a popular comedian and dancer; and other good turns are provided by Rosie Coleman, comedienne and dancer; Harry Conlin, versatile comedian; and Chas. Rose, comedian and buck and acrobatic dancer. Good pictures are provided by Brown's Bioscope.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Alandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—A full house on Monday enthusiastically applauded the efforts of a capital company. Mona Vivian, the original Wee Mona, was billed to appear, but was unable to do so. Her place was taken by Mr. Wilfrid Burnand, who won favour for his eccentric sketches and mimicry and his humorous singing; Bert Byrne, the popular comedian, provides unlimited amusement; Miss Meri de Frece uses a beautiful soprano voice with excellent effect in a number of selections; Mr. Douglas Campbell is another successful comedian; Archie Glen's funny character sketches are irresistible; and Miss Theresa Foote, at the pianoforte, proves herself an accomplished performer.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Guest.—Crowded audiences are attracted here by *A Country Girl in London*, Mr. W. V. Garrod's company acquitting themselves creditably. Mr. Frank Dallas distinguishes himself as the unscrupulous German, Oppenheim; Miss Maude Merrick proves a charming heroine; Mr. Charles Helling is effective as Frank Gordon; and Mr. Scott Leighton is the popular adventurer Godfrey Clinton.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Musical comedy holds sway here, and provides material for almost continuous laughter. Miss Ada Wallis and company present the three-spasm farcical musical absurdity, *The Major*. Mr. T. C. McGuire in the title-rôle is responsible for a good deal of humour; and Miss Ada Wallis as Angelina "Touch-'em-up" is vivacious and popular; Mr. J. W. Groves portrays the character of a religious crank as Jeremiah Stoney; and others who take a notable part in the proceedings are Mr. Emlyn Davis, Miss Mercia Davis, Mr. Fred Draper, and Miss Ethel Tooney. The songs are well selected, and the Chantaclere Girls contribute pleasing dances.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Fred Karno has secured another screamingly funny production in *Jimmy the Fearless, the Boy 'Ero*; a hearty reception is accorded Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, the accomplished Dickensian impersonators; Alf. Gibson, the droll comedian, provokes much laughter; a humorous act is presented by J. W. Wilson and Nellie Waring; Stuart Macmillan is a clever little Scot; Gwennie Llewellyn has a sweet voice; the Firmans present a laughable sketch, *The Fire Station;* Fred Poplar has some up-to-date comic songs; and Kitty Wager is a charming comedienne.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Mr. Fred Lindsay's wonderful feats with a stock-whip cause quite a sensation; Mr. Courtice Pounds and company present an amusing sketch, entitled *Charles—His Friend*. The popular and versatile tenor is valuably assisted by Miss Gladys Ivery, Miss Mary Sheridan, and Mr. J. Cooke Beresford. The Anartos are a diverting couple; Chris Van Bern scores as an illusionist; Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten is well received; the Mezettis are amusing bar performers; Ted E. Box is an entertaining whistler; Dacey and Lewis are clever comedians; and Ina Voyce sings pleasingly.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Harwood's Juveniles head a meritorious programme with a bright song scena, entitled *Xmas Eve;* the Planets, a smart troupe of lady cyclists, introduce a new game, "Aviation Cycle Ball"; the Eight Daughters of Eve present a new series of artistic tableaux; Paul Corrix is a muscular equilibrist; Percy Dalton sings and dances cleverly; Winnie Derson creates a good impression; Tray and Rich are popular comedians; Augustin and Hartley appear in a comedy barrel act; Hurman and Arthur are amusing jugglers; and Harry Anderson, comedian, also contributes.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The latest detective sensation, forming one of the adventures of "The Man with the Forty Faces," is the subject of the principal turn this week. The sketch is entitled *The Raven's Toll*, and it is presented by Leonard Mortimer and company. The plot fully engages the attention of audiences, and it is cleverly relieved by dry humour. Rose Atherton's company present a popular comedy sketch, *Murphy's Affinity;* Kirk and Saraski perform wonderful feats under water; Tom and Eileen Melbourne are an amusing comedy couple; Lily Arthur is a clever comedienne and dancer; Talberto and Douglas are bright comedy artists; and Ken Jones, comedian; and Bert and Dora, comedy entertainers, also contribute acceptably.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—Travel pictures form an attractive feature of the programme. The scenery of Switzerland loses none of its grandeur exhibited upon the screen, and the film is a constant source of delight. The Friend of Man illustrates types of dogs, from the toy terrier to the St. Bernard; and The Adventures of Lieutenant Rose are again full of interest. A good pictorial drama is entitled Mexican Bill, and other popular subjects include In Old California, The Wrong Man, The Airship Craze, etc. Miss Lily Skett, a talented operatic vocalist, renders pleasing songs.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—There is a good programme of new pictures, one of the most popular being a beautiful production entitled Isis. The Frontiersman's Bride, A Romance of the Western Hills, and In the Frozen North are amongst the other popular items, and Ellis and Liston provide a smart vaudeville entertainment.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Excellent attendances at each performance testify to the enterprise of the management, the pictures presented being attractive and up-to-date.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Royal Tokio Troupe give a clever performance of acrobatic manœuvres on ladders, poles, ropes, etc.; and J. H. Hawtrey capably renders two good songs; Dan Whitley is a funny comedian; Alice Maude, a clever male impersonator; and Carl Lynn is very smart in his imitations; Mlle. de Rose and Hilda Claremont are excellent vocalists; the musical selections by the Cavallotti Bros. are greatly appreciated; and the Hipposcope films are pleasing.

BLACKBURN.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Anelay.—Velanche's canine "football team" cause great amusement; Ada Fawn makes a hit with "That little band of gold"; excellent parodies are given by Fred Ward; Vesta Nixon provides a good turn of singing and dancing; whilst Sydney Russell's Eight Empire Girls supply an attractive dancing act; the Three Delaries are skilful on the trapeze; the Seddons are smart comedy jugglers; and Edwardes and Edwardes, clever musicians and dancers.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Business-Manager, Mr. C. B. Clarkson; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Ersser.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is here in *Greed of Gold*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—The cinematograph season continues popular. Mr. P. M'Caffrey, baritone, is well received; and the Bros. Harrison give an interesting comedy and dancing turn.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Lena Ashwell and company is here with *Diana of Dobson's*, the title-rôle being in the hands of Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, whose acting wins the greatest admiration. Mr. Briscoe Owen plays Captain Bretherton with excellent effect, whilst Miss Marie Lalee as the forewoman at Dobson's and Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as the drapery baronet also give a good account of themselves. *Out West* is the curtain-raiser. V

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr. Arthur Hardy has selected a capable company to tour the provinces with *The Speckled Band*, which makes its initial appearance here this week. Mr. Julian Royce scores a big success as Sherlock Holmes, and Mr. C. W. Somerset presents a wonderfully clever study of Dr. Grimesby Rylott. Mr. Bellenden Clarke lends good support by his careful portrayal of Dr. Watson, and Miss Adelaide Grace cleverly delineates Mrs. Staunton. Enid Stonor has an ideal exponent in Miss Alice Leigh, and Miss Lucie Verrier makes the most of the character of Mrs. Soames.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Little Tich again meets with a warm reception here, and Florrie Forde is also as popular as ever. Jennie Johns is a favourite comedienne; Tom Payne, the musician athlete, provides a most acceptable turn; Natalia and Diana are skilful gymnasts; Lowenwirth and Cohan are diverting Hebrew comedians; Pasquali Bros. excel as tumblers and equilibrists; Mike Gray is a comedy juggler; and Colbert is a wonderful hoop manipulator.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—L'Incognita, soprano vocalist, is appearing here to appreciative houses. Other good turns are Jim Cheetham, boy whistler and bird mimic; the Armiens, in a refined musical speciality; Falso and Eida, in a Japanese ju-jitsu dancing act; Sidney, in an original and clever comedy cycle act; King Luis and partner, in a refined acrobatic equilibristic novelty; Harry Mackenzie, Scotch comedian; May Clarke, vocalist; Walter Bellonini, a smart juggler; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler Sutton, and Allandale; Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boult.—Mr. C. D. Reekie and full company are entertaining crowded houses at the Winter Gardens this week with *The Mountaineers*. The staging is excellent and the costumes are pretty and effective, and the piece is proving a decided success.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week *What the Butler Saw* is being presented to good houses. Lionel Rignold is the life and soul of the piece as Pink, the butler; Mr. Chas. Fawcett is also good as the Irishman, Jack Barrington; Mr. Pat Alexander makes an excellent Professor Shall; Mr. Raymond Dudley gives a manly interpretation of Sir Charles Foden; Miss Zoe Gilfillan is attractive, and makes a successful Mrs. Barrington; Miss Marie Daltra makes a perfect Miss Foden. Other characters, all suitably filled, are those of Mr. Harry H. Rignold, as Abraham; Mr. George M. Ascot as General Dunlop; Mr. Frank Stanley as Dr. Clayton; Miss Julia St. George as Mrs. Hake; Miss Florence Vennimore as Mrs. Fleming-Smythe; and Miss May Hart, who is particularly good as Sophonisba Hake.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—A crowded audience on Monday greeted very heartily *Sexton Blake*, the drama founded on a series of detective stories. In the title-rôle Mr. Murray Yorke made a favourable impression, and had able support from Mr. E. McLean as the self-accused Roger Blackburn; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as the deeply-dyed scoundrel Randolph Lovell, Miss Lydia Mannington as the adventuress, Philadelphia Kate, and Miss Elizabeth Watkins as the sorely-tried Marjorie Lovell. Mr. Millar Wilson as Tinker, Mr. S. Nicholls as the Rev. Edward Grey, Miss Dinah Wright as Euphemia Pattacake, and Mr. Sydney Barner as Faggas also contributed acceptably in sustaining the strong interest in the drama, which is finely staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—In their new Risley act, "On the Road," the clever acrobats, the Kellinos, are winning very hearty applause here; Roma and Romani are the recipients of unstinted marks of approbation for their fine instrumental act; Staig's Steeplejacks, motoring and cycling inside a perpendicular cage, furnish no end of genuine "thrills"; in a well-acted and well-staged sketch, *An Amateur Anarchist*, Miss Lilian Rosebery, Mr. Leo Minster, and Mr. Carter Livesey are very entertaining; Cull Pitt elicits much laughter with his "patter" and droll conjuring; H. O. Wills is a funny comedian, distinctly original in style; Woodhouse and Wells are entertaining with their "patter" and dancing; F. V. St. Clair pleases his audience with capital topical songs; with good songs and pretty frocks Lottie Lennox wins favour; and some amusing pictures are shown.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—The process of redecorating and renovating has been going on here for some time, and this popular resort is now presenting a charming appearance internally. *The Girl I Love* afforded Fred Maxwell fine scope for his dramatic talents, and he is ably assisted by Minnie Sadler and Fred Bailey. Ellerslie Pyne wins success in a scena, *Too Late; An Actor's Dream;* Myrtle Grove, child actress, and Edith Chantler, soprano, are young aspirants of promise; the Merrions (Will, Harry, and Fred) present a pleasing turn in comedy, and are novel in vocal and instrumental work; "Fine Feathers" is an amusing Lancashire dialect turn by Harry Rousby and Nell Rene; there is much humour in the clever item by Alfred Guest and Dorothy Newlyn, "The Hebrew and the Soubrette; and the Perfection Pictures are a feature of the entertainment. The Days give a clever and very perplexing performance in second sight and thought-reading.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The special artist at Mr. Norfolk Megone's symphony concert on Thursday last was Herr Zacharewitsek, who gave a finished rendering of Mendelssohn's violin concerto. The orchestra was especially fine in Schumann's B flat symphony, under Mr. Megone's masterly conductorship. This week Mr. Morgan Kingston, the new English tenor, is delighting crowded audiences at the promenade concerts by his beautifully clear and well-trained voice. On Wednesday evening the band of H.M. Coldstream Guards were accorded a hearty reception. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Walter George and his clever "Smart Set" entertainers draw huge audiences to their capital show, and the animated pictures, both here and in the Royal Victoria Rooms, give great delight.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Herr Julian Kandt and his fine band opened for the season on Monday evening before a crowded audience, and were accorded a hearty reception. Mr. Humphrey Bishop, baritone, is the vocalist for the week, and Miss Annie Croft is well received in her smart songs and dances. In the Opera House, Messrs. Ernest Crampton and Charles Heslop's original entertainment, "The Cigarettes," comprises a clever company of artists, including Miss Aimee Bebb, an attractive vocalist and actress; Miss Nellie Schrader, in some charming songs; and Miss Ida Stanley, pianist and vocalist. Mr. Ernest Crampton delights with his humorous songs; Mr. Leo Roy and Mr. Reginald Crowe are both responsible for much merriment.

SUMMER GARDENS. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Crowded houses are the rule here, and the company give some excellent programmes. One of the features this week is a most amusing burlesque, *Demented*, produced by Mr. H. B. Coda, which is capitally played by the members of this popular company.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Prior to its production at the Pavilion Theatre, London, E., next Monday, Edward Marris's sporting drama, *A Criminal's Bride*, is being performed here this week. Mr. Frank R. Robertson gives an admirable impersonation of Sir Henry Felstead, whose sweetheart, Lavender Loseby, has a charming exponent in Miss Ethel Ward; Mr. Annesley Hely shows great skill in his impersonation of the villainous Austin Deepdale; and his accomplice, Grant, is ably represented by Mr. Harvey Welton. Mr. Harry T. Butler makes an effective Archie Ravenscourt; Miss Maud Tremaine is a graceful Kitty Felstead; Mr. Herbert Belmore as Guiseppi Canova and Miss Ella Willmer as Tessa Gianelli are well placed; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. George Brentwood as P.C. Dumbleby, Miss Lillah Peltz as the maid Bellamy, and Miss Mollie Hackett as Jenny Jenkins.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Charles Coborn, the popular comedian, achieves great success with his songs; Tom Stuart gives some dramatic and burlesque impersonations in artistic style; Dot Stephens, dainty and vivacious as ever, wins hearty applause; Cyclumina submits a capital electric cycling speciality; the Great Vincent appears in an acrobatic table act; the Lomas Duo are well received in their speciality scena; Pauline West is a charming comedienne; Zimpa, mimetic humorist, is diverting; the Noels contribute vocal and instrumental selections; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

BERRISFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Harry Lauder, the Scotch humorist, arouses great enthusiasm with his songs, patter, and stories; Radford and Valentine keep the house rippling with laughter during their clever turn of "jolly Juggling" and quaint eccentricities; Jack Pleasants, comedian, is distinctly effective with his comic songs; Robins and Collier present *The Lady and the Porter* with great success; the Craggs are very amusing in their acrobatic comedy sketch, *Billy, the New Steward of the Channel Queen;* the Dufor Trio are enthusiastically applauded for their smart dancing; the Sisters Kebble are pleasing duettists and dancers; Jessie Templeton, comedienne, sings in good style; and Josie Delaine contributes much-appreciated songs.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here with *The Naked Truth*. Mr. Stanley Logan submits an admirable enactment of Bunny Darrell;

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

AUTUMN TOURS.

By special arrangement

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS.

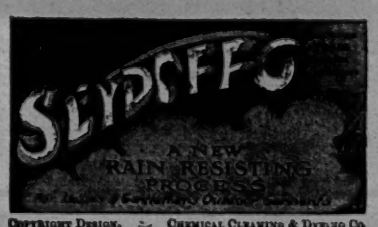

COPYRIGHT DESIGN. CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

The London Coliseum,
St. Martin's Lane,
July 27th, 1910.

Mr. T. Harris.

Dear Sir—I am delighted with your new "SLYDOFFO" process of rain proofing. The light Overcoat you did for me stood the following severe test, viz: 6½ hours Motoring in face of a continual deluge of wind and rain; result, I was absolutely dry, warm and comfortable. It should be a huge success.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) C. D. Slater, Manager.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Miss Kathleen Maude as Bunny's *fiancée* is also charmingly effective; Mr. Townsend Whitling is well suited as the irascible Uncle James; Miss Violet Ley achieves much success as Mrs. Haytor; Mr. B. Bealey Beltram's Mr. Hayter, Mr. Lawrence Arthur's Dr. Masters and Mr. Erskine Lang's Teddy Lestrange are ably played; and effective support is rendered by Miss Ormonde Wynne, Miss Dora Fellowes, and Miss Violet Temple.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Mr. Ernest Benham's company opened here on Monday with *Old Heidelberg*, which was admirably staged. Mr. Owen Nanes gave an excellent impersonation of Karl Heinrich; Mr. Frank Powell acquitted himself admirably as Staateminister Von Haugh; Mr. Walton Palmer as Hofmarschall Freiherr Von Passarge; Mr. Robert Laurence as Von Bretienburg; and Mr. George Wyley as Baron Von Metzing submitted sterling enactments. Mr. Ernest Bodkin's Dr. Jüttner, Mr. Sydney Hamilton's Lutz, Mr. Alex. Onslow's Graf Von Asterberg, and Mr. Charles Grenville's Von Wedell added to the success of the performance.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The series of animated pictures exhibited here continue to prove very attractive. The Story of Esther is presented in strong dramatic form, and St. Elmo also conveys very stirring incidents. The Lakes of Barona is an extremely picturesque film; and much amusement is afforded by Love and Good Fellowship Pills, Betty's Remorse, His New Mamma, and Bill's Serenade. Mr. Osland Denner, a fine baritone vocalist, contributes new illustrated songs; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits praise for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments to the pictures.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The animated pictures here are well patronised, crowded houses being the invariable rule. The film representing the local Police Sports and Fire Brigade Display in Preston Park is highly interesting; A Friend in Need and Sly Little Cupid are very dramatic pictures. In the Vicinity of Laos States is charmingly descriptive, while An Embarrassing Legacy, Totorline Toreador, A Valuable Hat, and Betty as Milliner's Apprentice are very amusing.

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here for a third week, the Anglo-Indian drama *A Traitor Prince* being now the attraction. Mr. G. M. Montanini acts with considerable power as Prince Rao Dalmirez; Miss Stella Carmichael presents a fine study of Vashti, a snake charmer; Mr. Howard Hardy is manly and effective as Lieutenant Frank Derrick; Miss Netta Mitchell acts pleasingly and expressively as Lola Vane; Mr. Charles Russell makes a good part of Cara, a half caste; and Mr. Arthur Rodney very effectively doubles the parts of Richard Vane, manager of a variety entertainment, and Colonel Vane, a retired Indian officer. The play is excellently staged.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Amasis heads the programme with interesting illusions, his Egyptian stage setting being both elaborate and attractive. James Willard and company successfully present a fine dramatic sketch, entitled *The Devil's Box of Bricks*; Mabel Fairchild displays much grace in her effective dances in the legend "A Belfry Dream"; Miss Fairchild being ably assisted by a young lady in song and dance; Harriett Rose is an attractive and pleasing vocal comedienne; Herbert Rule, comedian, is successful; Philip Levard is an expert society illusionist; Johnny Walker, comedian, obtains applause; and Bromley and Fontein please with their song-and-dance speciality. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Queenie Leighton is having a fine reception here, all her songs being appreciated; Peggy Lennie and Walter Hast please with their dramatic musical idyll, *The Maid of Polaria*; Maud Wheeman is an attractive vocalist; the Lowells do some smart juggling and balancing; Mario Wilton pleases as a chorus vocalist; Lawrie and Leslie, comedy entertainers, are successful; Johnny Hurley, coster comedian, sings acceptably; and Victor's Juveniles score with their singing and dancing act. Animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Included in the list of excellent pictures are In Gypsy Hands, The Cross of Napoleon, and The Mexican's Faith. Amongst the humorous films are Mr. Giddy's Revenge, A Difficult Task, and Race for a Monkey.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This house has been reopened for a few weeks until the contractors are ready for rebuilding, and a capital programme is drawing crowded houses. The Banzai Family of Japanese entertainers perform some remarkable feats in a gorgeous setting; and W. T. Ellwanger and company have a screamingly funny sketch, *Who Did It?* An encore is heartily accorded Gladys Revel for catchy songs, and the St. Johns are recalled for a refined and humorous musical turn. Seigel and Field, in a comedy duo, are good; and Harry Morris, Lancashire comedian, again appears. Mildred Bryan gives a very artistic rendering of songs, and the Empire Theatrescope shows amusing pictures.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Radcoe.—Mr. Hymack, truthfully styled the chameleon comedian, takes first place here, and mystifies the audience with his remarkable quick changes. Billy Merson, comedian, keeps the house in constant merriment; and Maud Mortimer, comedienne, is a big success. Sydney Brandon presents dramatic character studies; the Cedrics, comedy artists, have quite a host of good patter; Vela is a very funny tramp on a tight wire, Rose Surridge a pleasing vocalist and dancer, Josh Dixon a highly diverting comedian; and a capital Indian subject is shown by the Palace pictures.

CARDIFF.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Two packed houses on Monday night gave ample evidence of the popularity of George Lashwood, who delights his audience with a répertoire of new and pleasing songs. A welcome return is also made by that interesting sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, produced with great cleverness by Bertie Shelton; Rossi Ashton, war artist, in travestie song sketching with crayons, drew forth considerable applause; Johnny Fuller gained unstinted approval for his "mouser" wire-rope performance; and Will Johnson, a comedian of rare talent, delighted everyone with his humorous songs. Much appreciation was accorded the efforts of Alice Kingsley, a charming artist with a distinctly good contralto voice; while Jock Whiteford, the smart Scot, proved himself an able comedian. Daisy Martell, clever comedienne, and the American Bioscope complete.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The principal turn at the Palace is the Olmypia team of cyclists, who give a remarkably clever display of cycle football. The competition among members of the audience proves most amusing after the serious play of the experts. Bob Berry, the world's middle-weight champion catch-as-catch-can wrestler, is in no small measure responsible for the packed houses at each performance, this class of entertainment being exceedingly popular with patrons of the Palace. Jose G. Levy's company gives a skilful representation of the dramatic episode entitled *The Irony of Fate*; Vera Mayne, in illustrated songs, proves highly entertaining; the Vaudeville Trio achieve a distinct success with their delightful vocalism; while Pat Lynch, described as "the dancing demon," and Jack Hamilton, a gifted comedian, complete the list of contributors. The Palace Perfection pictures are interesting and amusing.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mrs. R. Stewart McKim and Thos. Courtice; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Miss Loie Esmond's company opened here on Monday in *The Love Birds*. In the part of Agnes Fritters Miss Blanche Courtenay was a distinct success; Miss Loie Esmond played and sang with great vivacity and archness in the part of Araminta Brown; Mr. Edward Neville was excellent as the fiery Colonel Fritters; Mr. Fred Alberto was very funny as Constable Blobbs; Mr. J. Russell was acceptable as Ferdinand Fluff; and other parts were in good hands.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Barrie's burlesque menagerie is a most amusing and interesting turn; Conrad's contortion act is full of novel ideas; Adah Payne is a refined and clever vocalist; the Oakes Duo, in a comedy quick-change act, entitled *Making a Man of Her*, are smart; Wallis Read plays popular pieces on the banjo in excellent style; Reid and Power introduce an attractive little sketch *The Chambermaid*; and Nellie Neil's singing and dancing never fail to gain applause.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—*Boys in Camp* is the leading attraction here, and with Miss Sable Fern in the chief rôle the sketch proves most entertaining; Raie Walters is a pleasing serio; Harvey and Jessop's simultaneous dancing is freely applauded; Clifford amuses with his ventriloquial entertainment; Alf. Brooks has a well-liked medley; W. B. Raby delights with his vocalism; while the act contributed by Francis and his assistant Alfred is a big success.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Lovely, lively Lily Burnand tops the bill here and makes her customary success; Koggin and Davis convulse the audience with their acrobatic comedy act; Annette and Leona are responsible for a clever trapeze performance; Zenora's speciality act meets with general approval; Walter Stanley renders well-written parodies; Ena Bruckshaw (vocalist) and George Phillips (dancer) complete the company, while the Edisonograph has an excellent film entitled The Sorceress of the Strand.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Palace of Varieties.—Business-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Thomas Butt.—The numerous attractive turns here this week include the Selbini Troupe of Cyclists in their pot pourri of cycling, juggling, etc.; Spry and Monti, in their miscellaneous comedy, *The Song Writer and the Soubrette*; Daisy Stratton, comedienne and dancer; Harry Claff and Miss Alice Tremayne in a musical comedy scena, *The Demon and the Fairy*; Dolly Elsworthy, the favourite comedienne; Hal Berte, the elastic comedian; Gwladys Soman, ballad vocalist; and Martin Adeson and company, in a farcical absurdity, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*.

The Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. Will Pepper; Manager, Mr. Allan Thomas.—The attractiveness of the programmes here has regained for the Pavilion all its old-time popularity. Miss Bessie Bowness is encored for her rendering of the "Waltz Song" from *Tom Jones*; Miss May Windsor, both in her songs at the piano and in her imitations of children, keeps audiences rocking with laughter; Joe Morley, the well-known banjoist, ably renders many of his own excellent compositions; Allan Thomas is a clever humorist; and Wilfred Stracey is a comedian who creates endless merriment. Mr. Bromley Carter's songs with banjo accompaniments are a pleasing feature. His popularity has been proved by the presentation to him of a handsome silver cigarette case by Mr. Legerton, the piermaster, on behalf of several admirers.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Hubert Helliwell and company are here for five nights with the drama *Passion of Life*. Mr. Helliwell himself admirably undertakes the part of Jack Kenny; Miss Ada Hender gives a powerful rendering of Belle O'Neal, whilst Mr. Basil Mitchell works hard as Ralph Flint. Mr. Owen Edwin is successful as Fergus MacKenna, and Mr. F. Owen Chambers makes a splendid Captain O'Neal; as a humorist, Mr. Fred Luard shines, and is assisted by Miss Emily Lewis as Tilly. Miss Maud Garth is a very attractive Nita.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Moulliot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' company, in *The Pawnbrokers*, are on a return visit this week; Dalmere's animals provide a very good entertainment; Hyde and Cody Trio give a clever display of tumbling; Albert St. Clair, the baritone-soprano vocalist, goes well; Olive Young presents a couple of good "male" songs; Billy Tucker gives a good ball-punching show; and Mark Hall, comedian, also gains applause.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—*My Irish Molly* is presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company, under the direction of Mr. Karl Edwards. Mr. St. John Medley as Dennis proves a big success; Father McGuire is in the capable hands of Mr. Kenyon Gray; and as Captain Vere Mr. Gordon Robey is impressive; Billy Smith, a Cockney showman, is humorously undertaken by Mr. Karl Edwards; whilst Mr. Edwin Firth scores well as Tim Doolan. Molly, in the hands of Miss May Warden, is a great favourite; as Lady Blanche Miss Elma Turner is good; and Miss Rosie Kearns is amusing as Sally.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murrray.—An excellent programme is provided this week. The Two Zets, vocalists and dancers, are a success; Horace Monto, in clever and original act, is a capital turn. Animated pictures conclude, among the best being Western Justice, The Way of the World, and Merry Beggars.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Heading the bill this week is Signor Arvi, who gives a mysterious production entitled *Les Metables*; Friend and Downing are a smart pair of comedians; Miss Adeline Yohle and company provide a popular musical turn, *Difficulties*; The Great Four, American comedy vocalists, sing glees and quartets admirably. Other turns are given by Crystal and Saville in musical duo, *Jack's Jacket*; Arthur Astill, the whistling ploughboy; and La Belle Alva, the gipsy peasant girl.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Amateur Carnival here is causing much amusement; Neville Graham and company hit the mark in sketch, *Pride of Regiment*; Tom Yorke is a clever character comedian; Victoria Monks makes a big hit in new songs; the Six Buster Browns sing and dance to perfection; Gladys Huxley is a charming comedienne; Staffo, patter juggler, wins unstinted applause; A. P. Whistler is a good comedian; Louise Zetland, vocalist, is well received; and the Bioscope pictures are popular.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The Elliott-Savonas top the bill, and get a big reception, houses being packed. The Five Oiracs give a clever and original performance in their acrobatical funnisities; Senorita Eloina is a graceful gymnast; the Forsythe, in their comedy act, *The Doll and the College Boy*, are very amusing; other special turns are Queenie West, comedienne; Chant and Chant, in a vocal comedy act; Sam Redfern, comedian; Mlle. Florence, singer, and the Darliscope pictures.

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Holden.—The Two Daniels give a smart negro comedy turn; Mme. Molly Baldwin, soprano vocalist, is recalled. Good films include The Centurian's Daughter, The Way of the World, Linda of Chamounix, and The Siam Teakwood Industry.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Heading a highly attractive programme are Minola Hurst and her Miniature Marvels, who are in every way acceptable; Torti, an Italian tenor, is enthusiastically appreciated; Everhart, hoop expert, and his four assistants give a clever exhibition; Witty Watty Walton is always popular here; Mlle. Bartinelli, a lady contortionist, is well above the average; Blake and Granby are successful in their amusing playlet *The System*; Phillips and Bristow are praiseworthy wooden shoe dancers; the Donatos, one-legged acrobatic clowns, meet with approval; and the Sisters Gaye soon sing and dance into favour. The Bioscope is as interesting as ever.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—The clever trick cycling act of the Daunton-Shaw Troupe is keenly appreciated here; Miss Ida Barr is a fine vocalist; Fred Maitland's farce, *Roots, Rash Chemists*, tests the risible faculties of the audience; Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers, score in some dexterous footwork; the Crisps have an interesting dancing scena, entitled "The Little Deputy"; Geo. Campbell has some original patter; and Gene Morelle concludes.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Her Secret Lover* is the week's attraction. As Gilbert Seymour Mr. Stephen Langton does full justice to a good part; Miss Laura Walker creates an excellent impression as the wronged wife, Ivey Seymour; Mr. Alfred Stretton is a first-rate villain as John Strange, being ably assisted by Miss Flora Leslie as Alicia Royle; and Mr. Walter Wilson works hard as Captain Darrell Rose.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Appearing here twice nightly is Mrs. E. H. Knight's company in the drama *The Lighthouse Robbery*. The part of Tom Manley, the hero, is capably sustained by Mr. Percy Beresford, whose fine acting comes in for much applause; Miss Hilda Baynton is a very dainty heroine and is immensely popular in the rôle of Rosa Prescott; Baby Freda as Little Nellie proves herself a clever child actress, and also sings and dances creditably; Miss Alice Dent gives a fine portrayal of Mrs. Manley; Mr. John Paley successfully enacts David Morris; William Farren is well embodied by Mr. S. Fortescue; and Mr. Gordon Ingram as James Hammond works hard. The comedy element is ably supplied by Mr. Rupert Talbot and Miss Louise Carlton in the parts of Sam Kidder and Ruth Manley respectively.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of an excellent bill here are N. T. Kyoto and C. H. Esa, who perform the very latest equilibristic feats, and also introduce their daring and sensational five-ladder act, which is truly marvellous and meets with a well-deserved reception. A fine turn is provided by Graham, human marionette, who gives life-like imitations of well-known artists; Tom Forestier and company display dramatic ability in the playlet *A Society Sinner*, and score a big success; the Murias submit a pleasing vocal, instrumental, and dancing scena; the Two Lees in their novel instrumental drawing-room act are heartily received; the Keppels prove themselves accomplished vocalists; and success also attends the Becketow Bros. in their comedy acrobatic act *The Butler and the Dude*, and Wynnie Darrell, who is a capital singer and dancer. There is the usual display of animated pictures on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—After being closed for a few weeks for renovation this place of amusement was reopened on Saturday last. Desmond and Dare, "the waiter, the dude, and the piano," win much applause for their humorous musical act; King and Rene in a patriotic sketch, *A Loyal Old Soldier*, introduce some good singing; and a novel and unique turn is supplied by J. P. Carroll, the soldier tambourinist, and is undoubtedly one of the hits of the evening. The Carlenos are a couple of good singers who dance neatly; Miss Saxon-Devon has a good soprano voice which she uses to advantage; and Florrie Elliston sings three songs in an excellent manner. Amongst the best of a good selection of films are The Foundling, The Tasks of Hercules (dramatic subjects), and Music Gone Mad, and The 'Tec's Dream (humorous pictures).

Industrial Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—The dramatic, humorous, and artistic pictures shown here still continue to draw good houses.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* was presented here on Monday. The hero, George Tremaine, was finely presented by Mr. Wilson Bence; Mr. Benn Carr made a success of Squire Leverton; Mr. Sydney P. Clewlane was excellent as Dick Leverton; Mr. Jay Kay played well as Rudolph Earle; Mr. Louis Lingard in the dual rôle of Paul Carshaw and Hiram P. Younger acted artistically; Mr. Herbert Hastings as Jack Herne, a cripple, supplied a pathetic portrayal; Renie de Telle had a charming representative in Miss Mona Gray; Gwendoline Younger was ably undertaken by Miss Nora Mason; Miss Dora Olga gave a good reading of Edith Trevanion; and the delineation of Mavis Leverton by Miss Pauline Nanton was all that could be desired.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. A. B. Tapping and his talented company are appearing here in two of Mr. Arthur Law's smart plays, *The New Boy* and *A Country Mouse*. The first-named comedy was the attraction on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Mr. A. B. Tapping was delightfully quaint as Archibald Rennick; Mr. Poole Kirkwood was a duly important Dr. Candy; Mr. Frank Bradley's Bullock Major was a page materialised from "Tom Browne's Schooldays"; Mr. Ernest Rivarez was adroit as Felix Roach; and Mr. Frank Bradley was droll as Theodore de Brissac. Miss Florence Nelson made Mrs. Rennick an imposing personage; Miss Evelyn Ormond was a bright and pretty Nancy Roach. The play was carefully produced.

The Gaiety Theatre.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Dairymaids*, presented by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, is successful. Miss Dorothy Glasdorff is a dainty and tuneful Peggy; the Eliza of Miss Edie Martin has comedy moments; and the Joe Mivens of Mr. Edwin Dodds arousse continuous merriment. Mr. William Spray and Mr. Harry Clark are smart as the two young officers.

The Palace, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—A galaxy of talent here comprises Miss Sadie Simpson, who is clever; Farr and Farland; Barrington, a piano virtuoso; Ada Gatley; Lola Patey; Pipifax and Panlo, acrobats; and Bransby Williams. Also there is dancing to Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra, skating, and side shows.

Derby Castle, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—Miss Lil Hawthorne is the bright particular star here, and truly scintillates. She works hard for public favour, and she gets it. Other attractions are Harry Tate's company, in the sketch entitled *Fishing*, which goes with a scream, Miss Ruth Lytton, a clever comedienne, and Mr. George Bastow, an effective fun-provoker.

Other amusements in Douglas are Mr. Fred Buxton's pierrots, The Onchans, Mr. Charles Dare's pictures at the Empire, and his White Minstrels on the Head.

DUBLIN.—Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. Bruce Warwick's *In the Shadow of Night* company is enjoying a successful week here. Mr. Forbes Carrington makes a distinct hit in the part of John Allington; and Mollie Woodstock is pleasingly represented by Miss Kittie Roze. Mr. Leonard Williamson ably sustains the character of Gordon Allington; and Miss Rena Arundale is seen to advantage as Violet Kingston. Mr. Ronald Douglas makes an excellent Clifford Yorke; and Miss Kitty Johnstone displays ability in the rôle of Bob. Mr. Jack White is capital as Tom Nainby; and both Jake Grudgewell and James Woodstock have able exponents in Messrs. William Hayward and Harry Emmerson.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Miss Lilian Herlein, an attractive and vivacious comedienne, is the star turn here, and meets with a flattering reception. Rutter's comedy dogs provide a clever and amusing turn; and Harry Levaine, patter comedian, is well received. The Borghetti Troupe, in their unique acrobatic act, are loudly applauded; and Randal Burleigh is a good baritone vocalist. The Sutcliffe Family, acrobats, pipers, and dancers, obtain much appreciation; Henry and Tyler submit a most acceptable cycle act; and the Ettenas, in a humorous globe-walking and spade-jumping display, score a success.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—Mike S. Whallen, the popular comedian and raconteur, holds premier position here, and is accorded a hearty reception. Charlie Lloyd and Cissy Barwick are very successful as comedy artists; and Miss Grace Langley is a dainty comedienne and dancer. The Kirbys' comedy and burlesque entertainment is greatly enjoyed; and R. C. Note has some catchy chorus songs which are warmly encored. The Brothers Weymen, expert dancers, make a decided hit; and Merry Maie Dillon sings several lively ditties which win applause. Gilbert's dogs perform very clever feats; and Vi Laurie, comedienne, who remains over from last week, and the Empire pictures, concludes.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—J. W. Rickaby, character comedian, heads the bill here, and meets with success; Miss Alice Hoodless, in her classical poses, gains great applause; Hylton and Wallace are an amusing pair of comedians and capital dancers; the Cromwells, in a novel juggling act, are deservedly applauded; and the other artists appearing are Will Leo, quaint comedian; Eva Carter, lady baritone; Les Atoms, aerial gymnasts; Tom E. Bates, eccentric comedian and acrobatic dancer; and Wilman, Australian instrumentalist. The bioscope concludes.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—The programme here includes: Charlie Lyndon, comedian; Miss Jessie Horner, soprano vocalist; Miss May Vivian, comedienne and dancer; and the Falconers, Irish sketch artists.

Pavilion, Kingston.—The John Ridding Opera Company are on a return visit here, and drawing good houses. On Monday afternoon the following artists successfully contributed to the opening concert: Mr. Fred Clendon, Miss Marion Stanley, Miss Lucy Lever, Miss Vera Vizard, Miss Christine May, and Messrs. Gilbert, Williams, Kemble, Ridding, and F. S. Gilbert. In the evening *Maritana* was presented, and was well received.

Arcadia, Bray.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The excellent programme presented here is drawing large audiences. Miss Lilian Wesson continues to please all with her vocal items; and Mr. Archie Watts is a most successful comedian. Mr. Francis Rayne, tenor, receives applause; and Mr. Frank Dunlop is as entertaining as ever. Miss Irene Vere's songs and dances are warmly encored; and Mr. Albert Leslie, comedian, and Mr. Leslie Leonard, solo pianist, complete the bill.

DUNDEE.—King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—For the local holiday week a strong bill is submitted, pride of place being accorded to Reano and his famous band, whose playing has created a furore; as a mimic and monologue artist Henry A. Moore is excellent; Mlle. Eldee's pretty turn is greatly admired; Scholey and Scholey score in a smartly-worked comedy sketch, *Winning a Wager*; Jay Laurier is a droll of a distinctly novel type; Sheila McNeil scores with her smart ditties and patter, and Norman Telma is an anatomical puzzle. Cody's Aeroplane Smash at Aldershot is shown by the Kingscope, and Mr. Geo. Mundell's fine orchestra continues to be a source of delight to music lovers.

Gaiety Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stowart.—Miss Dora Hammersley's stock company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, presents this week David Muskerry's drama, *The Poor Must Live*, which is excellently staged and acted. Miss Dora Hammersley acts impressively as Dorothy Murdock; Drummond Tredigar is finely played by Mr. Charles Kean; the villainous propensities of Clifton Manville are ably emphasised by Mr. James Sommerville; a fine delineation is that of Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as the Earl of Marswood; Mr. Leslie Vyner submits a capital study of Sam Sully; while Dick Sully and Hooker Holdsnitch have able exponents in Mr. Edwin Morton and Mr. Ted Mooney. Miss Delmaine is a satisfactory Countess of Marswood; Miss Lizzie Taylor realises well the part of Olga D'Eyncourt; Mr. Will Henderson as James Brown and Miss Maud Henderson as Mrs. Brown fit their parts admirably; and Sal and Moya Darling, as interpreted by Miss Bella Power and Miss Clarise Jenner respectively, prove interesting studies.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's fine company is attracting crowded houses here with *The Brass Bottle*. Mr. Holman Clark, distinct, penetrating, and impressive, does splendid work as Fakrash-el-Aamash; Mr. Langhorne Burton gives a bright and natural performance as Horace Ventimore; Mr. Percy Marshall is a polished and pointed Professor Futvoye; Mr. Rudge Harding is a delightfully bland and superior Spencer Pringle; Mr. Robert Ayrton is a very able and clever Samuel Wackerbath; and Mr. Harry Paulton is a realistic Rapkin. Miss Edith Hunter is the admirable representative of Mrs. Futvoye; Miss Marjorie Chard is the graceful and attractive Sylvia; Miss Mary Brough as the landlady Mrs. Rapkin is one of the great successes of the evening; Miss Hilda Sims does good work as Mrs. Wackerbath; and Miss Irene Wells as Zobeida the dancer and Miss Phyllis Birkett as Jessie give the best of help.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—The bill this week is of the variety order, with Mr. Arthur Roberts as the chief attraction. In the sketch *Till Sunday* Mr. Robert keeps the large audience in merry laughter with his capital comedy work as Doyle, Spufenstein, and Nurse Frutti; Miss Ruby Celeste, bright and animated, is an ideal Mrs. St. Hilary; and other parts are capably filled. Miss Celeste and Mr. Roberts also appear with great success in *Courtship and Marriage*. Miss Beatrice Hodgson and Miss Celeste play very nicely in vain regrets; Mr. Wilson Blackledge is a clever and merry entertainer; Cambo and Castille are a novel and smart musical couple; Mr. Alec Milne is good as a ventriloquist; and Miss Ida Furneaux is a pleasing comedienne.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company is this week presenting the musical comedy, *The Cingalee*. Mr. Frank Barclay as the Hon. Harry Vereker acts with distinction and sings capitally; Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Bobby Warren is very sprightly; Mr. Frank Lennard as Boobhamba is sufficiently ponderous; Mr. Helier Le Maistre is a capable Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Hylton Warde as Chambhuddy Ram is responsible for much merriment, his scenes with Peggy Sabine being the cause of hearty laughter. In the latter character Miss Florrie Greensmith is admirable; Miss Isa Bowman makes a decided success as Nanoya; and Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Patricia Vane acts and sings capitally.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Sir W. S. Gilbert's delightful old royalist drama *Dan'l Druce* has this week brought pleasant reminiscences to old playgoers and interesting entertainment to the younger generation. The piece is well rendered by Mr. Walter A. Chetham's repertory company. Mr. Dickson Moffat interprets with good effect the varying emotions of the trying rôle of the old blacksmith; Mr. Henry Earlesmere does well as Sir Jasper Combe; and Mr. Sydney Bland gives quite the Gilbertian flavour to his impersonation of Reuben Haines. The demure Puritan maiden Dorothy is charmingly portrayed by Miss Mildred Hodson, and her sailor lover, Geoffrey Wynyard, has a pleasing representative in Mr. Donald Gow. The several smaller parts are carefully handled by Mr. A. C. Bute as Marple, Mr. Arthur Stirling as Joe Ripley, and by Messrs. J. H. Cooper and Ernest Harrison as a sergeant and soldier of the Parliamentary army.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Morny Cash heads the bill, and his diverting ditties coupled with his droll method proves exceedingly entertaining. In another line of comedy a canine artist collaborates cleverly with his owner, R. M. Stratmore, a Scotch comedian whose accomplishments further comprise expert playing on the banjo and concertina. A very pleasing musical séance is provided by Parks and Price, who display extraordinary versatility as instrumentalists; Flora Cromer gains prominence as a vocalist in a series of finely-rendered songs, including her popular "Lavender" ballad; St. Ruth and Conyers sing a selection of duets acceptably; and Mimi Thornton charms the audience by her dainty dances. Gymnastics and acrobatics are exploited in novel and original ways by Dort and Leonard, Dort's double somersault being unique; and by the Three Original Hodginis, whose speciality is a sensational act on a revolving ladder. The Bros. St. Clair go through some extraordinary evolutions on bicycles, of which a football match is the crowning episode; and the King's Bioscope winds up the programme.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The bill is headed by the popular comedian Will Evans, whose "One, two, three" song and *Chantecler* burlesque have created unlimited amusement. The remarkable juggling and balancing performances of Ando's Happy Little Japs form another strong item; and the knockabout comedy acrobatics of Smito and Smoto furnish good entertainment. Horace Pollock and company appear with unqualified success in Sir A. W. Pinero's sketch *Hester's Mystery*; the New Macs patter and dance smartly; the Glenroy Troupe contribute another lively dancing speciality; and the single-handed turns supplied by Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist, Fred Curran, quaint parody comedian, and Nellie Wallace, low comedy artist, are all appreciated. Interesting Bioscope pictures complete a goodly bill.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—Some admirable films are exhibited on the Biograph to crowded and interested audiences. Over the Silent Paths, The Twisted Trail, and In the Nick of Time are notable in the way of picture story-telling; and a good selection of humorous subjects varies the display most agreeably.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. George Edmunds.—Tragedy and comedy are here alternated in a skilful and interesting manner by a judicious variation of Bioscope pictures, all shown with marked clearness and steadiness. The exhibitions continue to draw full houses.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—Adverse weather conditions have interfered not a little with the outdoor attractions, but whenever the elements permitted pleasant entertainment has been provided in the Band Court by Dickinson's Merry Mascots and the famous Italian Band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars. Dancing has been carried on with much vigour in the lately-opened ballroom, and the skating rink has attracted a goodly number of skaters. In the concert hall interesting programmes have included Leslie Harris, a popular humorist; Mme. Annie Walker and Mr. Bridge Peters, soprano and baritone vocalists; Mr. Fred Howard, the artist entertainer; Prince Tschagadaeff, the Russian balalaika soloist; and a good series of Bioscope films.

ELLESMERE PORT.—Hippodrome and Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—An excellent entertainment is provided here this week by The Whips, who render solos, concerted items, and dances. The Whips consist of the following, Misses Rose Alderman, soprano; Sybil Glynn, comedienne; Nan Hawkins, dancer; Messrs. Hinton Jones, tenor; J. Michael Watson, bass; J. Lincoln Taylor, humorist; Harwood Brierley, pianist. A musical comedietta, *The Hunt Supper*, is included in their attractive répertoire. Up-to-date pictures are also shown.

FOLKESTONE.—Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The visit of the Gipsies and their Jester is being attended with its usual popularity. The Jester (Mr. Will Gane) causes much amusement with his humorous songs and sayings; Miss Marie West's songs are much appreciated; Miss Elsie McIntosh is a charming vocalist and dancer; Mr. Edgar Berte's recitations are excellent; and Mr. Evelyn Wood has a powerful and well-trained voice.

Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company, in *The Cingalee*, has played to full houses during the week. The principals have included Miss Mollie Woolstenholme, Miss Pauline Hague, Miss Ida Ernest, Mr. Jack Crichton, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. J. W. Ford, Mr. Scott Cullen, and Mr. Milroy Cooper, who have all ably sustained their parts.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre, Ltd.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—The leading line here is filled by Mr. J. C. Piddock and Fred Winn's company in the sketch *The Light in the Window*, in which Mr. Winn achieves a triumph as Jim Wishart. Dave Samuels, American comedian, is popular; Allie Moore is a most daring roller skater; Ernesto is a particularly smart juggler; Dolly and Madge McCalla are pleasing duettists; Smarte Bros. are clever and amusing acrobats; Trixie De Tay, a comedienne with something new, and the Kingscope complete the list.

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr

pictures is shown here this week. The programme is varied by the excellent turns which also appear, viz., Miss Victoria Loving (comedienne and dancer), Vex and Mars (in a neat acrobatic act), and Harry Vernon (comedian and dancer).

THE GEM.—Proprietors, The Goodman Entertainment Co.; Manager, Mr. C. Goodman.—The films here are well up to the average, the chief of them being The Twisted Trail. Mr. Frank Harvey and Miss Nellie Cotter are entertaining in their different items.

GLASGOW. — METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. R. Marriss Davis' répertoire company is appearing here in a variety of plays. On Monday and Tuesday *Jane Shore* was given. The Duke of Gloucester of Mr. P. B. Woulfe, the manly Antony Yeaste of Mr. Henry Parr, and the Lord Hastings of Mr. R. Marriss Davis were faithfully portrayed. Miss Edith Lorraine, in the pathetic title-rôle, gave an admirable interpretation, ably supported by Miss Josephine Richards as Queen Elizabeth. The play was admirably staged. *The Priest of the Temple, The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Octoroon* were also in the week's bill.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Dan Crawley tops the bill here, and this lively comedian is in good form; Mlle. Camille Ober, Parisian chanteuse, shows herself the possessor of a phenomenal voice, and her various songs were enthusiastically applauded; the Seven Perezoffs provide lots of fun, and are very dexterous in their juggling turn; Harry Leybourne's imitations of the types of singers seen at a country concert prove amusing; Shirley and Ransome take well in a clever little domestic sketch of coster life, entitled *Jim's Pal;* Williams and Warden, contribute a lot of lively and smart cross-talk; Billy French's wooden-shoe dancing at once puts him on good terms with his audience; Phil Rees' stable lads are a smart lot, and their sketch, with songs, dances, &c., is cleverly carried through; the Blessings show much dexterity in a head and hand-balancing act. The bioscope concludes.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Clark and Hamilton's dainty and amusing turn always evokes the heartiest enthusiasm; the Harmony Four combine in a marked degree humour and excellent vocalism; roars of laughter greet the sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law;* Kitty Colyer is a dainty comedienne and expert dancer; the Schaffer Four show wonderful dexterity in their juggling turn; Madge Allen takes well in her comedienne business; Anita Barling is a lady juggler of more than average ability; and the Almas contribute a clever act, comprising equilibristic feats and tumbling.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Wrestling is again the chief attraction here, Pat Connolly challenging all comers; Harry Taft's whistling, patter, and eccentric comedy take well; Lily Edwards is accorded a hearty reception for two chorus songs artistically sung; the Phœnix Trio sing well as New York newsboys, their voices blending beautifully; Three Floradoras shine in song, dance, and comedy; Abel and Welsh give a wonderfully clever acrobatic and contortionist act, introducing a lot of novel feats; Arthur Gallimore Trio are very amusing in a comedy turn; Crosby and Walker, the two Eton boys, have some clever patter; and the latest films are shown on the Palacescope.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—*The Futurity Winner*, with its realistic setting of a racecourse and real racehorses, is presented by Joseph Hart's company, and proves popular; Doody and Wright are received with enthusiasm for their quaint comedy turn; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws are seen to advantage in a protean sketch, *The Days of Romance*, with a number of clever changes; Dan Thomas, the clever character comedian, is heartily applauded; Mabel Berra, a prima donna from New York, sings several operatic ballads in excellent style; Niagara and Falls as comedy acrobats put in a lot of hard work, and are well received. Clever turns are also given by Harry Marte, Charles Leighton, and Rose Fitzgerald.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Two fresh programmes of pictures weekly are still being presented, and excellent patronage is the result.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Herr Karl is a very amusing comedy juggler and cartoonist; Careta Dahlia performs daring feats on the flying trapeze; Belle Brandon is a smart comedienne and wooden shoe dancer; and Peter Gill displays wonderful agility in his club swinging act. Other contributors to the bill are H. M. Somers, light comedian; and Frank Newbury, whistler; and a capital selection of pictures is given on the bioscope.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Smart variety turns are given here by the Brothers Long, comedians and dancers; Becky Sharpe, illustrated songstress; and Tom Gilmour, comedian. The remainder of the programme consists of a fine series of films, tragic and comic, and selections are also given on the Auxeto-gramophone.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Guss Lazenberg; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Kerr and Shaw keep the house in good humour with their absurd antics, and are applauded for their clarionette playing; Matt Gilmour is a comedian and raconteur of exceptional merit; Mollie Doon sings in fine style and dances well. Pictures—grave and gay—make up the remainder of the programme.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—This house continues to draw large audiences. The already magnificent collection of animals is still being added to daily. Within the Zoo the Royal Italian Circus is an interesting item, consisting chiefly of the wonderful performance of ponies, monkeys, and dogs.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—One of the brightest attractions this season is the staging of the popular musical play *The Arcadians*, by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's excellent company. Mr. Gus Oxley as Smith keeps the audience in a continual ripple of laughter; Miss Devine plays with much charm as Eileen; Miss Gladys Silvani is a first-class singer; Miss Marion Edwardes as Sombra is exceedingly popular; Mr. Douglas Mars is an excellent Astropede; and Mr. W. Dawson plays well as Strephon. The play is beautifully staged, and the orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Albert Bartlett.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is presenting with much success *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb gives a clever performance of Mr. Preedy; Miss Zella Powys plays well as the Countess; and Mr. John Nesbitt makes an excellent Mr. Bonnsall.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The programme presented here is attracting large audiences.—W. Mills, the champion Australian whip expert, is scoring with his remarkably clever display; Elsie Hulbert and her dancing girls are very popular; the Faludy Troupe of acrobats perform clever feats; the Three Torontos are fine athletes; the Taylor Family give a capital aquatic display; and Doodles keeps the audience in a merry mood throughout the evening.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Dusty Rhodes is topping the bill and is immensely popular; Arthur Newman and Florrie Knights do first-rate juggling; Miss Annie Schubert scores with her scena, *The Deputy;* Kloof and Ramsey appear in a pleasing musical turn; Archie Nash is an entertainer of marked ability; the Whittakers' comedy skit is well received; the Lyric Mummers are first-class artists; and Jack North's songs are very amusing.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley score greatly with their speciality *Merry Moments;* Mr. Selwyn Driver's sketches at the piano are artistic and pleasing; Miss Maude Ashton renders some excellent songs to her own accompaniment; Mr. Cuthbert Allan's selections are well received; and Miss Shipley (soprano) and Mr. Ernest Pike (tenor) complete an entertaining programme.

THE GEM.—Manager, Mr. E. V. Barr.—In addition to a first-rate exhibition of pictures, Ching Ling Fee mystifies the audiences with some wonderful tricks; the Mackays' songs and dances are well received; and Mme. Constance Bellamy well renders songs from her répertoire.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Clayton.—In a fine array of pictures this week the foremost are: The Detective's Dog, The Call of the Heart, and Winter Bathing in the West Indies. The amusing part of the programme is furnished by The Merry Widow Again, Calino Tries the Cold-water Cure, and Off for the Holidays.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's company is presenting a répertoire of standard plays, beginning on Monday with *The Two Orphans*, with Mr. Wilkie as Jacques. Other plays in the week's programme were *The Sleigh Bells, The King and the Miller, Jane Shore*, and *Richelieu*. Prominent parts were undertaken by Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. Herbert Mansfield, Miss Hunter Watts, Miss Mary Lovett, and Miss May Dallas.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—*The Garden of Girls* is a very attractive speciality presented by Haley's company of vocalists and court dancers; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene appear in a clever comedietta, *My Lady's Chamber*, which has a strong dramatic interest; Enzer and Miss Clarice give a novel exhibition, combining juggling, sword business, and jiu-jitsu; Billy Farrell is as entertaining as ever, and his new act, *Becky's Masquerade*, is very popular; the Northcotes (Madge and May) are charming duettists; Robb Gilmore is a successful comedian who introduces quaint dancing, and Ernie Harlow is a clever mimic.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIAN. — Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Consul, the almost man, is the principal attraction here; Burnetti is a good character musician and impersonator; the Sisters Saxony contribute agreeable songs and dances; Lena Leslie delights with her vocal numbers; Mr. Harry Drew's songs create a favourable impression; the Delafiores, baton spinner, are clever; and Bernard and Western, comedians and patterers, interest all; and Mlle. Haydee's marionette show is smartly worked. Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, fill in the end of the week.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Winifred Maude is here with *The Stowaway*. Miss Maude takes the part of Althea Dale, and is ably supported by Messrs. Victor Du Cane, Wm. Vane, M. Maud, W. Ernest, M. Soucs, H. Heath, Simpson, H. Johnson, H. Marston, W. Foster, M. Ross, Miss M. Millward, and Mrs. W. Lawrence.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Bertha Ward, a young soprano, has a very sweet voice, and uses it with artistic effect; the Four Panamas give an excellent tumbling, dancing, and pantomimical sketch, From Shadow to Sunshine, a fine dramatic film; The Frontiersman's Bride, an excellent picture depicting a tale of adventure; and His New Mamma, a capital comic picture, are the best of a good selection of pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Sears is a very clever illusionist, and presents an elaborate and attractive turn; Marie Dreams, lady baritone, has a powerful and tuneful voice of good range; the Donaldson Bros. present their laughable sketch *Sports in a Jungle;* the Werds Bros. introduce some new and startling acrobatic feats; Musical Silvo gives a very pleasing turn; Le Hurst is a good ventriloquist. The pictures complete an excellent bill.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—*The Yellow Fang* is admirably played by Miss Mary Mayfren's company, which includes Mr. George Pickett and Miss Violet Campbell. Rocco, the burlesque acrobat, is clever; Wish Wynne presents a charming act; Fred Evans, in a novel absurdity, *Dreaming*, is received favourably; Barnes and West are expert dancers; the Brookland Girls are pretty; Hugo and Smit, comedy acrobatic performers, are funny. The pictures are good.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Capt. F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazelwood.—The chief films here are The Ranch Girl's Legacy, Gold is Not All, The Chemist, A Life for a Locket, &c. Allon Tonks supplies appreciated vaudeville items.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of this week Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's company appeared in the ever-popular *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Cyril Thompson as the Marquis de Corneville was excellent; Mr. E. St. Alban as Gaspard gave a fine impersonation; Mr. Fred Dark in the part of the Bailie was funny; Miss Ethel Negretti made a dainty Germaine; and Miss Dolly Castles was good as Serpolette. Other parts were in good hands. For the rest of the week Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company appeared in *The Little Damozel*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—A capital selection of Ruffell's Pictures is supplemented by the Saletos in a marvellous and refined equilibristic performance, and Kitty Desmond, a dainty and charming comedienne.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Scutt.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company opened on Monday a three days' visit in *Charley's Aunt*, which attracted a well-filled house and evoked continuous laughter. Mr. Hugh Wakefield very successfully played Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Henry Hare gave full effect to the character of Stephen Spettigue; the ladies had charming exponents in Miss Audrey Stafford as Donna Lucia, Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty, Miss Phyllis Back as Amy, and Miss Grace Vanna as Ela Delahay, and were excellently supported by Mr. T. McCausland Stewart as Colonel Chesney, Mr. Robert Burnett as Jack, Mr. R. B. Mason as Charley, and Mr. Sydney Compton as Brassett. *The Merry Widow* is being presented by Mr. George Edwardes's company the remainder of the week.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Mr. Charles Graham's company is here in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. As Capt. Harry Peyton, Mr. Arthur Poole gives a convincing rendering; Mr. Graham Phillips effectively personates Major John Colden; Mr. Valentine is a clever characteristic sketch by Mr. Cecil Clayton; Miss Olive Noble charmingly depicts Miss Elizabeth Philipsen; Molly Edwards is admirably represented by Miss Nora McDonnell, and Miss Leonora Braham is graceful in the part of Mistress Sarah Williams.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's concerts are well patronised. The programme is continually varied, and each alteration seems to be more attractive. Mr. George Blackmore has a budget of diverting and original songs, and his patter is as droll as ever; Miss Nellie Perryer at the piano sings charmingly; Mr. Oldbury Brough is a big favourite, his humour being much enjoyed; Miss Gladys Hill sings with expression; an accomplished singer is seen in Mr. Harold Vincent; and Mr. Harry Kemp receives applause for his spirited singing.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres, Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company are here in *Home, Sweet Home*. Miss Marion Wakeford is a charming Joan; Mr. Lindo is manly as Stephen Armitage; Mr. Sidney Dench plays with quiet dignity as the Duke of Ancaster; Mr. L. Laurence makes all his points well as the villainous Lyle; and much amusement is caused by the vagaries of the Hon. Percy (Mr. Bert Dench) and Sybil Fay (Miss Helen Holmes). The remaining characters are adequately represented.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The leading place this week is taken by Atlas, the strong man, who is accompanied by Miss Vulcana, the Sisters Atlas, and Little Gus, all of whom exhibit considerable skill and grace in their various feats of strength. Others are Miss Elsie and Cousin Bob in some clever and difficult feats of balancing; the Four Rosebuds, graceful singers and dancers; Miss Ethel Entwistle, a sweet and refined vocalist; Reed and Stevens, in a laughable duologue; Harry Waldon, comedian; and Walter Ellis and company in the screaming absurdity entitled *The Sleepwalker*. The pictures complete.

HULL. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Morton's Co.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton. — *The Mockery of Marriage* is a play that has already been spoken of with a considerable number of compliments on previous occasions, so that on the present it is only necessary to speak of the excellent acting. Mr. Graham Arthur's company is a good one, and Miss Mabel Liston as Alva and Miss Lillian Beaumont as Rose play with considerable force. The heavy rôle is rendered by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs; and Mr. M. McKenzie is an effective Seth Pearce. The comic relief is efficiently provided by Miss Ada Baird and Mr. David Phillips. The hero finds a good representative in Mr. Ernest Wingfield.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Variety is again doing excellent business. Mr. Jack Holland is an original comedian; Annie Lang, comedienne and dancer, wins favour; F. Mozetto is an expert juggler; Webb and Edna Branston, operatic duettists, achieve a success; the Custances have a sparkling comedietta, entitled *A Game for Two;* and the Musical Marvels, vocalists and novelty instrumentalists, and Mr. Ernest Montefiore and company in *The Little Colonel* are greatly admired.

THE PALACE.—Lessees, Jarrow Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—At this place of amusement some excellent pictures are being shown, and variety is introduced by Garton's Ten Star Coons, who are a big success. Mr. J. D. Williams, eccentric character comedian, also scores.

THE GEM.—Proprietors, Messrs. John Weddle and Co.; Manager, Mr. John Rabey.—This place of amusement continues to show some fine pictures. Variety is introduced by Jack Shevill, comedian, and the Sisters Laurenson, duettists.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwards.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company is here with that very successful play *The Thief*. Mr. Limpus acted admirably as Richard Chelford, and was heartily applauded; Miss Mary Carnegy was well received as Marise Chelford; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay won favour as Harry; Mr. F. Morland was an able Raymond Leyton; Miss Mary Forrester did well as Isabel Leyton; and Mr. W. Somerset appeared as Mr. Protheroe.

ROYAL HALL.—Mr. T. J. West is showing some excellent pictures here.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Leopold.—The Dutch Drolls are the chief attraction here, and are a very smart troupe.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Gaieties, old favourites, are paying a visit here after an absence of some years, and Mr. Wilson James and Miss Ruby Wilson receive quite an ovation.

ALHAMBRA.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Ponlain.—The Electric Pictures go well, and Eva Ward is still here.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Ernest Mansell opened here this week with his well-known patriotic entertainment, entitled "Life in the King's Service."

LEEDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith are well played by Miss Maggie English and Maudie B. Douglas respectively; and Captain George Darrell is convincingly portrayed by Mr. Polson Turner; Miss Violet Langley is splendid in the rôle of Alma Kingley; and Miss Ada Champion does well as Margaret Rivers.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—La Pia heads the bill here, and she appears in her Japanese and fire dances and the latest novelty, "The Sea Nymph," which is much appreciated; William Mitchell and J. J. Cain present a very laughable sketch, *The Frenchman and the Other Fellow;* and Cassie Walmer wins approval in song and sand dance. Other good turns are done by J. A. Wilson and his dog "Towser," the Jackley Trio, the Maples, and Aida Martine. Arthur Leslie gives two clever imitations; and A. C. Lilley and company present in new form their military sketch, entitled *Drummed Out*.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Sandy McNab makes his first appearance here in the humorous sketch *The Egyptian Mummy;* Lalla Selbini, American bathing girl, does a varied act, including trick cycling and juggling, and wins much approval; Ben Lewin gives capital character-studies from Dickens; Walker and Lake provide smart patter in a little sketch dealing with phrenology; Daisy James contributes several popular songs; Miss Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane are entertaining in *Visitors*. Kitty Upton, Enid Errol, and Chas. Hampden's company in *Cloudland;* and the Lacon Family also appear to complete a capital company.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, is a pleasing vocalist and also a clever pianist; Smith and Gibbs are exceedingly smart equilibrists; and Harry Raymond and Daughter are well received in coon song and dance; Will Rhodes, Hilda de Gray, Milton Trio, etc., complete a bright bill.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—An ovation is being extended to G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, who heads a good all-round programme here. Mr. Elliott's style is of such a fascinating nature, and his dancing so neat and smart, that he can be truly said to be one of Leicester's greatest favourites. Another artist who is achieving a big success is Peggy Pryde, the cheerful comedienne, who keeps the audience in continual merriment. The Twelve Fezzans, who are natives of the Sahara, give a remarkable acrobatic display; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna make a hit with their clever sand dancing; Rich Taylor's novel ventriloquial act is popular; Leo Tell's equine conversations and imitations of instruments are realistic; Lawrence Barclay makes a success with a really mirth-provoking turn; Azella Wilson is an attractive and clever lady gymnast; Will Poluski, jun., is a humorous comedian; Nellie Farrell renders an Irish song and dances cleverly; the bioscope is also retained.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The leading feature in a capital programme is Alice Hughes and company in the mirth-provoking playlet, *The Star of the Bazaar;* the Garden Troupe of International Dancers and Pipers are making a hit with a clever show; Tom Gott is good in his Yorkshire dialect songs and stories; the Dulcets (Edyth and Evelyn) are making a successful appearance. Others in the programme are Harold Heath, the dandy coon and dancer; Dolly Ross, comedienne; the Sisters Lylle, vocalists and dancers; and George Acre, character comedian. Another successful beauty and hair competition is being held, for which valuable prizes are competed for by large entries. The bioscope pictures include One Night—and Then; Susan's Revenge, and Fools of Fate.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. N. Craig.—The usual high standard of picture entertainments is maintained here, the two principal films this week being A True Indian's Heart and Setting Back the Hands of Time. Other attractive and well-shown films include Beneath the Gas, Woman from Mellons, Punch, the Benefactor; Simone, The Capture of a Vagrant, The Highlander's Defiance, and A Cocoanut Plantation. Ryder Davis, a popular comedian, is an additional attraction.

THE EMPRESS PICTURE PALACES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—At both the Belvoir-street and Mere-road halls, where the pictures are changed twice a week, the management continue to place before their patron's a diversified and up-to-date programme.

LIVERPOOL.—STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Night and Morning* is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. Stanley Carlton, who brings an able company, plays the part of Richard Sefton with spirit and dignity; Mr. Bertram Damer looks the rôle of Lionel Mildmay; Miss Rubie Maude admirably portrays Alice Wylford; Mr. Claud Aymond proves excellent as Dr. Gilmour; great laughter follows the work of Miss Marion Holly (Selina), Mr. Willie H. Vernon (Bob Barleycorn), and Miss Jenny Bostock (Mrs. Barleycorn); and creditable support also comes from Messrs. John Croudace (Lucas Hardshore), James Hart (Muggins), Arthur Merdaunt (the Vicar), and G. E. Gilmour (Jenkins).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top of the bill here this week is Miss Fannie Ward and company in the capital playlet *An Unlucky Star*. Miss Ward's powers as an actress are very telling. The always-welcome Miss Harriett Vernon brings her latest naval scena, "Emblems"; My Fancy, on real ice skates, shows some remarkable dancing in her new work, "Winter, Spring, and Summer"; the Gothams provide a treat with their harmonising singing and fun; as whirlwind dancers Hasse and Mariette do themselves much credit; the Miller Bros. cause shouts of laughter with gymnastic work and burlesque wrestling; Emmie Ames pleases with her latest "Christmas Tree"; the Findens (Mr. and Mrs. Harold) afford great pleasure with their sketch; and Harry Bancroft earns popularity by reason of his chorus songs.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Twice-nightly drama here continues to be exceedingly popular. This week we are having *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company. Mr. Wilson Coleman admirably undertakes the rôle of Felix Beverley; Mr. Edward E. Louis makes a capital Jack Sterling; Miss Amy Ellam as Mary acts with judgment; Miss Minnie Goepel pleases as Sweet Nancy; Mr. Reginald Brown exhibits power in the strong rôle of Geoffrey Langdon; and worthy support also comes from Messrs. Cyril Grier (Colonel Miles), Mr. Harland Brookes (Detective Banks), and Miss Kathleen Magee (Hon. Mrs. Sands).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The big feature here this week is Mlle. Denarber, the mysterious "balloon girl," who, whilst seated in a balloon, which is ingeniously swung over the stalls when the lights are down, sings very effective songs; Gorman's Juveniles have a pretty vocal scena, "The Waif"; the Six Ceylons are presented by Joseph Clifton, and go through a funny pantomimical acrobatic sketch, *A Dream in an Opium Den;* Lindsay and Hart offer a smart Scotch comedy act; Carlotta Lovey affords general delight with her latest songs; Susie and Protti go through a clever dancing turn, entitled "The Human Tee-to-tum"; the Hessey's submit a new instrumental act, which is greatly enjoyed; and also in the list are Madge Osmond, the "ideal dandy," and J. W. Gallagher, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Here this week the stock company are presenting *Moths*. Mr. Sydney Grant plays in capital style Prince Sergius; as Lord Jura Mr. Harry Tresham acts with ability; Miss Nina Blake Adams presents the Duchess de Sonnaz in most pleasing fashion; Miss Florence Cameron fits the rôle of Fuchsia; Miss Lina Nazeby carefully portrays Lady Dolly; and also in the cast are Mr. Tom H. Solly (Duke of Mull), Mr. Leo Montgomery (Raphael), Mr. Cecil Ravenswood (Ivan), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Vere Herbert).

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Foremost here this week is Oswald Williams with his excellent illusions, in which he is assisted by Winifred La Barte and company. The whole performance is richly enjoyed. A wonderful exhibition of lightning juggling is given by the Five Mowatts, and they earn rounds of applause; Mathews and Cowper create great laughter with their funny sketch, *When the Clock went Wrong;* Lena Verdi pleases generally as a vocalist and mimic; that lively coloured comedian, Charles J. Johnson, gains plenty of applause; the Three Laurels present a clever speciality act; Lupino Lane dances in good style; and also on the programme are Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," and Sybil St. Elmo, vocalist.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Topping the bill this week is Jake Friedman's *Happy Holland*, which is being received with delight. The company includes Jake Friedman, Leigh Ellis, Maud Lockwood, Chas. Mavern, L. Grey, and Florence Hanton. The singing of the Lancashire mill girl, Maggie Walsh, is much appreciated; *A Woman's Curiosity*, given by the Moncktons, causes laughter; the Hartley Wonders have an exceedingly clever jumping speciality; Alick Lauder sings amusing Scotch songs; as head and hand balancers the Adras show much skill; and contributions also come from Dix and Dox, Continental musical grotesques, Gertie Rex, character comedienne, and Harry Luck, comedian.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—The farcical comedy *Where is William* was presented to a full house on Monday. In the part of Sir William Gregory Mr. Charles Windermere was excellent, and thoroughly sustained the merriment throughout the evening. He was ably supported by Mr. Rule Pyott as William Jolly; Mr. Robert Urquhart gave a creditable performance of Harry, and Mr. Leslie Norman was well placed as General Rahbuh; Miss Belle Donaldson showed ability in the rôle of Lady Gregory; Miss Clare Manfield as Phyllis Patterson did well, and Miss May Rosine (Emily) and Miss Zoe Davis (Eliza) did all required of them. *The Clown* provided an ideal curtain-raiser, in which Miss Zoe Davis, Mr. Robert Urquhart, Mr. Rule Pyott, and Mr. Charles Windemere acquitted themselves capitally. *Candida* was announced for the last three days.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr. A. B. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Vaudeville Entertainers continue to draw crowded houses both afternoon and evening. The star artist is Mr. Fred Walmsley, who convulses the audiences with his witticisms; Nellie Le Bretton is a comedienne above the average; Norman Osborne's ventriloquial efforts are thoroughly appreciated; Emilie Tait's soprano solos are rendered feelingly; Olly King does well as a light comedian, and A. B. Sutcliffe, the local favourite, is as popular as ever. Bert de Crez is an efficient accompanist.

PIER PAVILION.—The orchestra under Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.C.M., delights large audiences nightly, and Miss Rosina Beynon is a great favourite.

LLANELLY. — HAGGAR'S THEATRE (late the Royalty).—Proprietor, Mr. W. Haggar, sen.; Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—This theatre, lately acquired by Mr. W. Haggar, of Bioscope show fame, has been thoroughly renovated by him and electric light installed. The theatre has been opened this week with pictures and variety on the "two-houses-a-night" system, and with great success. The pictures include the very latest, and the American film, Thou Shalt Not. Parr and Parker, Welsh comedians, are also in the bill, and are popular; Mr. Helliers is a taking vocalist, and his illustrated songs are very good.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Vint's entertainments continue to attract crowded houses. A superior set of pictures is shown this week, Paid in Full, The Sorceress, and Seabird Rocks being films worth special mention. Ray and Douglas (The Postman and the Girl) give a smart turn, their repartee being refreshing; Sadie and Vone, American Amusers (coloured artists), and the Three Van Earles, dancers and vocalists, are also good in song and dance.

TEMPERANCE HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The star pictures here are Cagliostro and Victims of Fate, two very fine films. The Lovelaces, American song illustrators, give a good turn, some of their "slides" being very effective.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mr. Percy Hutchson's company opened their tour here with a successful representation of the comedy *Smith*. The company is of all-round excellence, and the efforts of the players are cordially acknowledged by a large audience. Miss Cicely Stuckey and Mr. Robert Minster are seen to advantage in the more important characters and make full use of the opportunities afforded them. The play is mounted and dressed with taste.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Some capital varieties and pictures are drawing large audiences. The artists include the Brooklyn Comedy Four, in musical harmony; Taree, Australian instrumentalist; and the Luzellas, lady gymnasts, in a clever act.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—A strong bill is provided here this week, the chief films being The Lie, A Fisherman's Wife, San Juan Hill, and The Girl and the Ranger. Hearty receptions are accorded the Musical Palmers, and Alpho, the sleeping ventriloquist.

MANCHESTER. — ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The Midnight Mail* is the attraction here, played by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. The cast is an excellent one, Mr. George Harvard as Harry Steyne, the engine driver, Miss Trissie Humphrys as May, his wife, Mr. W. Hatchman as Leonard Royle, the Manager, Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy, and Mr. Fred G. Evison as the amusing Billy Brewer all supplying admirable impersonations.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—*Facing the World Alone*, a play of strong dramatic interest, is staged here this week by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty. Mr. J. Edward Whitty gives a powerful delineation of Caleb Valentine, and Miss Nellie Garside is quite equal to the character of 'Melia Burgess; Miss Edith Rutland as the Duchess of Pimlico handles a strong part well, and Mr. Charles O'Connor is capital as Capt. Parkhurst, while Mr.

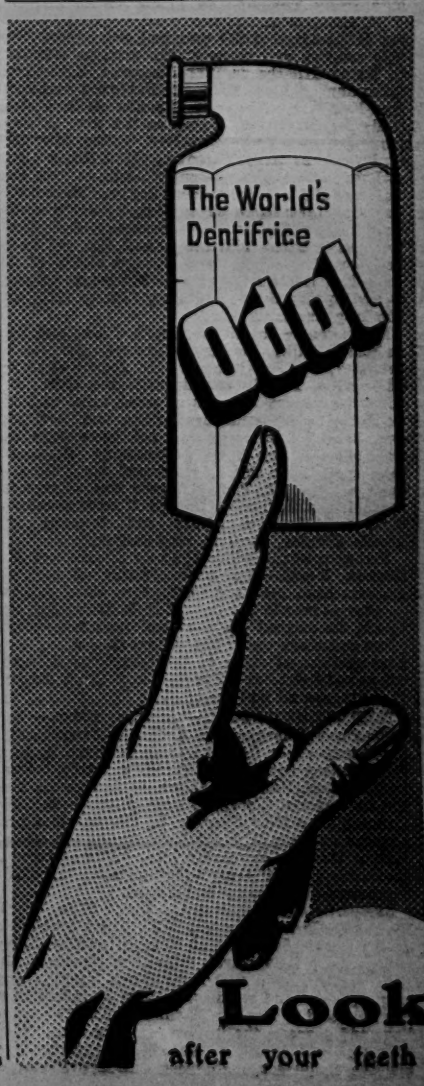

Guy P. Ellis comes in for appreciation as Jim Mouler. The other parts are well filled.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W Meek.—Mr. Raynor, supported by Miss Cecilia Dare and Mr. Joseph B. Montague and company, is here in répertoire.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The principal turns here this week are Master Edward Garrett and company in *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, a really comic sketch; Hermann Melot, the well-known conjurer, whose performance is as wonderful as ever; and Syd May, whose mimicry of well-known stars is greatly enjoyed. Good turns are added by J. W. Hall, the popular comedian; The Haytors, in their sketch, *The Electrician*; Fielding and Hull, comedy duo; Chas. Torbay, comedy silhouettist; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; and the Marconis, in a remarkable act.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The popular comedian Wilkie Bard meets with a big reception here this week; the Martineks, in a novel entertainment, *The Rag Doll*, score a success; Drew and Alders as the Coastguards are good; the Westwoods excel as trick cyclists; Hilda Jacobsen provides a pleasing turn; Charles Vincent, parody comedian, makes a hit; Charles Fisher's Vocalesques are well received; and Maud Esmond, a singer of capital chorus songs, take well. Up-to-date pictures complete.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The programme here this week is headed by George Gilbey, a funny comedian; Horace Hunter and company in *Under Suspicion*, hold the audience from start to finish; The Casey Army, with Will Murray as Mrs. Casey, are very droll in their farce, *The Battle of Casey's Backyard*; the Twelve Kennedy Girls give a novel Ju-jitsu dance; Tom Lee is a bright light comedian; La Belle Nello wins applause in a speciality act; while the Lecardo Brothers as the Tired Bakers, Charles Stevens, comedian, and the Sisters Hall, duettists, complete an excellent bill.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Annie Purcell, the accomplished vocalist, tops a strong bill here this week. Ruth Molloy is clever in her impersonations of well-known artists; the sketch entitled *Compensation* is funny; Charles Robinson is a good Irish comedian; Yetta shows ability as a wire performer, and the Hulls, in a comedy musical act, Florence Deighton, a pleasing vocalist, and Colin Carlisle, comedian, complete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. Frank Adair and company are drawing good houses here in *The Heathen and the Christian*. Mr. Frank Adair's depiction of Li is a strong piece of work, admirably supplemented by the Mira Sampson of Miss Louie Adair; Miss Stanley Burt plays agreeably as May Berresford, and among others who give valuable help are Mr. Charles Luke as Bah-Lamb Gentle, Mr. Dudley Wynton as George Berresford, and Mr. Gerald Shirley as Lieut. Allendale; while Miss Connie Meadows provides fun as Recky Fibbins, and Mr. Fred Barnes is good as the postman Robins.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Sam Elton is topping the bill here this week, with his inimitable act; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington are excellent in *Olga's Oath*; Kendrick and Laura, comedy duo, provide a popular turn; the Three Romas go through a clever head and hand balancing act; while other enjoyable turns are offered by Frances Hanlon, chic comedienne and dancer; Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians; Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer; the Three Aza Boys, smart dancers; and Angelina in her remarkable juggling and cannon-ball act.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—An excellent programme is provided here this week by the famous Olly Oakley and his humorists, including Nellie Gallafent, contralto; Marianne Watts, comedienne; Jan Hurst, at the piano; Stanley Greenwood, light comedian; Howard Innes, humorist; and Walter Lawley, tenor.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—Excellent business is done at this house, two shows a night and matinées Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Among the beautiful pictures shown are the following:—A Happy Home, Conscience, a Venetian Tragedy, Left Alone in the World, Competition of Police Dogs, The Beautiful Snow, The Wedding at a Fair, &c.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Lake.—Messrs. Jay and Mann's company presented for the first three nights of the week *The Truants*. Miss Molly Tremaine as Freda Saville and Mr. T. A. Shannon as Bill Chetwood supplied interesting delineations of the principal characters. Capable support was given to the principals by Mr. O. Powis Griffiths as Dick Chetwood, Miss Marie Scharning as Bent, Mr. C. B. Benjamin as Checkley; Mr. Frank Danby in the rôle of Lord Strelland; Mr. Mackenzie Rogan as the Rev. P. Preston, Miss Rita Trekelle as Mrs. Collins, Miss Mildred Orme as Lady Darnaway, Miss Elmie Kemp as Pamela Gray, Miss Dorothy Booth as Jack Carstairs, and Mr. H. Thomas as Pegler. The comedy has been preceded each evening by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, written by Cosmo Hamilton, and played by Miss Francis Titheradge and Mr. O. Powis Griffiths. For the three remaining nights of the week Mr. Edward Terry and his company were booked to play *Sweet Lavender, Liberty Hall*, and *The Magistrate*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Charlier, a French ventriloquist, comedian, and quick-change artist, gives a novel turn, and his reception is enthusiastic; Carlisle and Wallmon, composers, in their musical act have been applauded; and Sam Shields, Scotch comedian, has been greatly appreciated. Harry and Fanny Dent, in their *mélange, The Indian Bottle*; Marie Braymen, vaudeville comedienne; George Newburn, mimic; Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers; and Maude Cranley, vocalist, also contribute.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans.—The Czar Troupe of Russian Dancers head the programme; Gus Garrick is as popular as ever in his musical tit-bits, and Bernard Crook, in musical sketches and humorous songs, plays and sings well. The Sisters St. Julian, duettists and expert dancers; Brothers Gerrard, musical comedy duo; and Bonnetti and Corri, comedy jugglers, are all well received.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Charles Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Messrs. H. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company is here in *The Black Mask*. Mr. Marriott Watson sustains the character of Henry Le Noir capably; as Nellie Cunninghame Miss Florence E. Florence is a pronounced success; Miss Flo Norman fills the rôle of Mother One-Eye admirably; Mr. Willis Elton is a creditable Philip Cunninghame, and the other characters are in competent hands.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Ernest Shand is delighting all with his droll humour; Stewart and Morgan, vocalists, give satisfaction; Luis Hardt submits a pleasing athletic performance; and Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company command commendation in the comedietta, *The Husband of Peggy*. Dorris and Francis, comedians and dancers; the Rossers, dancing comedians; Miss Agnes Marshall, a pleasing soprano vocalist; and the Empirescope all meet with approbation.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—In addition to a first-class programme of pictures, Carl Bennie, the singing ventriloquist, and the Rowntrees, comedians, are pleasing the patrons of the "Hip."

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—The great Raymond has been delighting audiences with his mysteries and clever sleight-of-hand work. All his work is very cleverly done, and he has been supported by a strong variety company.

WEST PIER PAVILION THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. Bradshaw.—Mr. S. Spenser's répertoire company opened here for a season on Monday. The company is a good one. *A Wonderful Woman* and *Peggy* have been the leading attractions.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Mr. Gardner opened here for the season on Monday with a good variety bill, including Howard and Collinson in their well-mounted sketch *A Piece of Dresden China*; the Zaid Trio of Spanish Moors, in an entertaining act, including some effective contortionist business on the rings; Vi Maylott, comedienne; Frank Stanert, with his tubellophone; Bert Anderson, smart conjuror; Fame and Fortune, in a funny boxing act; Tom Garland, mimic and voice thrower; Rose de Aubley, charming singer; the Whatneys, neat club and hoop manipulators; and J. H. McCan, with a roller-skate speciality.

CENTRAL PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Emilius Hill.—Fred Conquest and company have suited large audiences with their farcical absurdity *Something for Nothing*, in which Mr. Conquest is excellent. Other varieties are contributed by Franciso, the clever equilibrist and juggler; Gus Hindell, comedian, with a smart style and good songs; Marcel and Boris Trio, presenting a clever equilibrist act; Lytton and De Silva, operatic duettists; Yettmah, Japanese magic; Dick and Dorthy Trio, music, dancing, and harmony; and the Five Havannas, a good comedy acrobatic act.

WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead.—W. C. Fields is topping at this house with his inimitable silent fun. Herbert Darnley's company scores with a comic military sketch *The Skirmishers*, in which they show to advantage in all departments; the Lyons-Robertson Trio have a smart pantomimical tumbling act; and other items are the Four Mayos, eccentric skating; Two Brilliants, lady xylophonists; Garte and Law, comedy duo; Three Comedy Chanters; and Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists.

TOWER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Bradley.—This latest addition to Morecambe show-places continues to attract good attendances. Sutton and Allandale's Gay River Company have provided a nice programme, and the band of the Yorkshire Hussars, under Mr. S. Cramer Suckley, have had a successful engagement.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Will and Rose head the bill this week, and introduce a novel act of sleight-of-hand and contortionism. Carrie Ford exhibits vivacity in song and dance, and Scotch and Polly enhance the programme with capital duets and dances.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—An attractive programme is presented this week, the pictures shown being very fine and much appreciated.—Excellent varieties are also included in the bill of fare. Victor Bros. are a smart pair of acrobats; and Lilly A. Vine as a comedienne scores. Bert Grosby, comedian, and Doyle and Gibson, comedians, are popular.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson.—Some clever figure dancing is executed by the Three Great Veros, who head a capital bill; Durazcoe and Azelea, staircase equilibrists and chair pyramidists, provide a sensational turn; and other good turns are Nobby (described as the smallest boy comedian on the stage), Alf Warner (Hebrew comedian and instrumentalist), Mitchell and Scott (comedy gymnasts), and Chas. Normand (dancer and bone manipulator). Excellent films are shown on the Palascope.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—*Dolly Reforming Herself* has caught the taste of the public, and crowded houses are the rule. The company organised by Mr. S. Dauncey and Mr. H. Browning is an excellent one, and includes Miss Dorothy Giles, Miss F. Steventon, Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, Mr. H. Browning, Mr. A. Vezin, Mr. F. Stoney, and Mr. Russell Barry. The stage arrangements are superb.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Several good films and variety are again put forward by the management in the huge theatre, and the holiday-makers thoroughly enjoy this fare. Mr. Dan Rodney, comedian, the Warners, versatile artists, and Wee Madge all give satisfaction.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—That popular French entertainer, M. Alex. Chantrens, heads the bill, and is supported by Mr. M. Edgar, Master C. Bray, Mr. J. Hughes, Mr. F. Hulme-Sharp, Miss M. Hughes, and Miss M. Williams. One and all work hard, and earn loud applause.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrews' Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The Northampton Cycle Parade is an interesting local subject, and reflects great credit upon the company's enterprise. The principal dramatic films are Generosity of Indian Chief, The Call of the Heart, Sweets of Forgiveness, and The Angelus. Miss Margaret Payne's new songs are "What will your answer be?" and "Ship ahoy!" which are well received.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—The leading dramatic films this week are Faust, The Cowpuncher's Ward, King Lear, and In the Time of the Pharaohs.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. E. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The principal subjects this week are The Two Brothers, The Enemy, Davy Crockett, The Road Agent, and The Fisherman and the Genie.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Junius Booth and his company have presented *Way Out West* twice nightly here this week. As Jack Hamlin Mr. Booth displays considerable ability; Mr. Miller Anderson as Jim Harkins plays the part in capital style; Mr. John Sanger is clever as Abner Byers; Mr. Harry Bannister makes a capable Bat Masterton; Mr. Charles Turner scores as Ah Foo; and Mr. Chas. B. Baker is a satisfactory Colonel Calpepper Starbottle. Miss Alice West gives a capital study of Helen Masterman; Miss Lilian Deane is greatly appreciated as Paquita, and Miss Nancy Biaku makes a hit as Arethusa Byers.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—On Saturday the Follies paid a flying visit here, and gave two performances to good audiences.

THE HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This is the last week of the pictures here, and next week the entertainment will revert to variety. Miss Lilian Rose is most successful with her pleasing vocal turns; and Day and Knight are responsible for some amusing items.

THE OLD SPRING GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—In consequence of the inclement weather the entertainments announced here have been held at the Rinkeries, which is close by. The Tatlers are appearing this week, and their varied and choice turns have met with hearty appreciation. The following artists comprise the company, which is organised by Mr. Louis Rihll, the Misses Christine Roy and Dora Dolaro, Messrs. Charles Wolseley, Leslie Henson, and Herbert Burney, the latter being the business-manager and Mr. Ronald Smith acting-manager.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. T. Halliesy.—The cinematograph continuous entertainment is very attractive here.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's company are doing well here. Miss Chrissie Murray, comedienne, is a newcomer, and has been heartily welcomed; Miss Marjorie Cecil and Miss Vie Huntly are deservedly well received; and hearty applause greet the efforts of Mr. Bert Gordon (manager), Mr. Harry Cove, Sandy Lawson, Will Pem, and Mr. Will Hoppe (pianist).

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD. — Proprietors, Messrs. Goodman.—The entertainments here continue exceedingly popular. Miss Cissie Scott and Miss Rosie Effingham are great favourites; Mr. Lawrence Howard made his début on Monday, and was well received for his fine baritone songs, sung with much taste; Mr. Jack Bonny's tenor songs please; whilst Mr. Ernest Beare and Mr. F. Capron receive well-merited applause for their contributions. Mr. Leslie Sears causes laughter.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The flying visit of Mr. H. G. Pelissier and his clever company drew a packed house.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—George Robey's abundant humour and quaint mannerisms never fail to create the heartiest laughter; *Dooley and the Diamond* makes an entertaining sketch, in which Eddie Girard and Jessie Gardener do some clever dancing; the highly-trained dogs of Lux give an excellent performance; while the trick cycling of Lilian is an interesting and skilful act. The Hardinis present a delightful item as violinists, and are warmly received; Gregson and Goodfellow supply some acceptable fooling; and Sandford and Lyons dance expertly. Walter Wade sings pleasantly; and films are shown on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The Dutch character-studies of May Moore Duprez met with the fullest appreciation; the Scotch Meisters are capital vocalists, whose comedy work blends excellently with their musical efforts; a skilful performance on the horizontal bars is provided by the Eltons; Cole and Rags are expert jugglers; classical poses by the Marblesque Trio call for praise; Zeta Grey and company are entirely successful in a musical comedy act; Hazel Ellis conjures smartly; Monty Walker, comedian, and Mabel Moss, vocalist, are well received.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. O. Waller.—The animated pictures continue to attract large audiences, who thoroughly enjoy the varied subjects submitted; the Sages are entertaining singers and patter well; while Mr. Frank L. Hearnshaw contributes a couple of songs in dashing style.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—The reopening of this popular theatre took place after a fortnight's vacation, when Mr. C. Watson Mill's company occupied the boards in *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Ruth Zillwood, in the character of Risca Mallinson, acted in a most vigorous and realistic manner; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt as Jim Murley gave a powerful delineation; Miss Gwendoline Talbot was charming in the part of Doris Melville, and Miss Mabel Jones made an excellent Marion Isaacs; Miss Lydia Hart as Vavasole Slopper caused much laughter; Mr. Arthur Robinson acted smartly as Guise Strange, and Mr. Richard Bosco as the silent servant Railton was very good. Mr. Felix Lawson as Tharosaphus did well, and Mr. Edmund A. Brooke was a capital Isaacs and Karnaphus the Mummy, and Mr. William A. Armour as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt proved clever.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—In addition to an attractive programme Mr. Roger Alwyn sings his usual song well illustrated.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Good business is being attracted here, the pictures being capital. There are also two competitions being held, the chief one being a wrestling tournament for a silver cup and a silver medal.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. William Hughes.—Capital pictures are shown here, and The Girl in the Barracks is a capital film, and Papinta is a good drama. The comedy pictures are very good, and include The Laundry Mark and Billy's Bulldog. Illustrated duets are well sung by Miss Hall and Mr. M. Mills.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—The Battle of Legano is one of the most striking of the many fine dramatic pictures being shown here. Mr. Macdonald sings well.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Attractive picture programmes are given, and Mr. Edgar Harper in illustrated songs meets with success.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—A strong picture programme, Charley Dixon, Kate Lynd, and the Digbys, in song and dance, constitute a good bill.

PENZANCE.—ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—The popularity of Miss Lily Pritchard's Queer Quakers continues. Mr. McCall Chambers is a clever humorist. On Wednesday a Japanese entertainment was given.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. F. Karno; Manager, Mr. P. Hart.—The star turn this week are the Maningos, whose head and hand balancing is marvellous. Another attraction are the Four Netherlands, clever barefoot dancers; Marjory Lawrence, comedienne, is delightful; George Caselli, comedian and dancer, provides an acceptable turn; Maggie Strachan is well received; Dora Martini, on the high trapeze, performs some remarkable feats; Crawford and Johnson are clever dancers; Vera Clifford is the possessor of a well-trained voice; and a competition for amateur singers concludes.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jock Field.—Lind, the wonderful female impersonator, completely mystifies his audience by his immaculate make-up, and his dancing is excellent. Dora Lyric has some first-rate chorus songs, which are taken up with great gusto by all sections of the house; the Stowe Brothers, a couple of juvenile artists, perform some wonderfully clever equilibristic feats; the Three Cape Girls are seen to advantage in some long boot and step dancing; Lilian Benson and company score in a well-rendered dramatic tabloid entitled *Silence*; Woul Langtry is a first-rate comedian with amusing patter, and Chas. Woodward is an excellent light comedian.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. A. B. Mackay and a talented company presents two excellent dramas this week, viz., *A Woman Worth Winning* and *The Beginning and the End*. On Monday night the first-named was staged, and was well received. Mr. A. B. Mackay as Fargus Lovinsky meets with much success; Amos Pauloff is capitally acted by Mr. Gilbert Standing; and Génil Borinsky is cleverly played by Mr. Geo. Daiper. Miss Trixie Leighton as Lola Kalnovsky is an accomplished lady. The humorous element is presented by Mr. C. W. Black as an English correspondent, Mr. Louis Newman as a man-servant, and Miss Ida Mackay as a maid-servant. Other parts are capitally taken.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. Charles Constant's company in *Florodora* is here this week. Johnny Schofield keeps the house full of merriment as Tweedlepunch; Miss Daisy Lake wins applause as Dolores; Lady Holyrood is successful in the hands of Miss Kate Leicester; Cyrus Gilfain and Angela are ably impersonated by Mr. Stanley White and Miss Florence Hersee.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Agate.—The last week of the twice nightly season is utilised by Mr. Frank Bertram's company with *Shadows of a Great City*. Miss Gwendoline Hay capably doubles the characters of Annie Standish and her daughter Nellie; Miss Nellie Sheffield is successful as the Irish girl, Rooney; Mr. Frank Stone gives a robust rendering of the sailor, Tom Cooper; the shady George Benson is effectively impersonated by Mr. Victor Moors; Mr. Brian Daly skilfully plays Jim Farrer, and the rest of the company are well up to their work.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The popular Kate Carney tops the bill this week, her production, *Fun of the Fair*, in which she is supported by a capable company, being a great success; the smart comedians, Verno and Voyce, made a welcome reappearance; Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist, was listened to with attention; the Two Romers' military duologue won hearty applause; and Ida Kathrena, Bert Weston, and Edna Deno all greatly please.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—An exceptionally strong programme is provided this week. Topping the bill is that cultured vocalist, Miss Kitty Gordon; that impressive dramatic sketch, *The Exposure*, is submitted by Leo Stormont; Tschernoff's performing ponies, dogs, and pigeons exhibit remarkable training; in their comedy sketch, *The Piano Tuner*, Wood, Wells, and Wilkins introduce "Daddy" with agreeable effect; fun is prevalent when Dale and Malley are on the boards; Arthur Woodville dances and sings well; and another good musical turn are the Ransons; Dixie Dee is a smart American comedienne; and the Ted Moxon Trio are amusing.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Fred Karno's company with a second edition of *Mumming Birds* create much laughter; Cornalla and Eddie, with their comic jugglery, are funmakers; Lillie Soutter is a diverting comedienne; the Jaxon Troupe excel as dancers, vocalists, and pianists; Signor Ados is expert as a hand balancer; Evelyn Taylor sings "Easy street" with success; the Schumanns as pianist and vocalist deserve praise; S. W. Wyndham is loudly applauded for his songs; and Hughes and Elliott score as dancers and singers. Some capital films depicting incidents of the King and Queen's recent visit to Portsmouth are shown by the Kingscope.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—The Pavilion is occupied by Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company with *The Education of Elizabeth*.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. E. Cole.—At this luxuriously appointed hall some excellent up-to-date films are being shown, prominent being the visit of their Majesties King George and Queen Mary, the Bournemouth Flying Meeting, The Foreign Spy, and The Ranchman. Miss Dorothy Alexander, vocalist, also contributes to the entertainment.

PRESTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Variety holds sway here this week. Topping the bill are the famous Russian troupe of vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists, the Wolkowskys. The Danaro Bros. are clever acrobats and equilibrists; Joe Almaiso is a capital juggler; the Bros. O'Brien on the horizontal bar prove smart gymnasts; Barney Moore has some droll songs and patter; Willie Denvers is a clever child vocalist; Duncan and Foster are eccentric comedians; C. Allen is a capital character vocalist; and Marie Kay a pleasing dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—At the top of the bill this week are Jack and Evelyn in their lightning comedy entertainment. Frank Hartley is a clever juggler; *The Plumbers* is a laughable sketch; Bert Rayburn is a clever comedian; Tennison and Wallis are a capital duo of cross-talk comedians; Michael Madden is a comedian with clever patter; the Sisters Lindos are attractive comediennes who win applause; and Bioscope pictures conclude.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation.—This theatre is now under the management of Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, late of the Theatre Royal, Darwin, and this week we have a fine selection of films, including Cowboy Millionaire, Love of Lady Irma, Dance of Fire, Western Chivalry, &c. Miss Daisy Silcock contributes the variety portion of the programme with success.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mrs. Frank Bateman's company is playing *Sapho* Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and *No Wedding Bells for Her* the following evenings. Mrs. Bateman supplied an excellent portrayal of Sapho; Mr. Fred W. Goddard was an excellent Jean; Henri Dechellette was in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Clifford; Mr. Harry Aynsleigh did well as Flamont; Mr. Percy Shaw made a good study of Uncle Cesaire; Miss Winnie Redfern (Mme. Hettema), Mr. Tom Pountney (Hettema), Miss Sadie Underhill (Little Nini), and the other members are all good.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*A Woman of Two Lives* drew good houses here on Monday evening, when Miss Hilda Beverley added to her laurels in the dual rôles of Ogarita and Angela; Mr. Herbert Pearson impersonates Captain the Hon. Travers West in an able manner; Miss Marie Brammer does well as the Red Witch; Garda Khan is in the capable hands of Mr. James Jarrett; Mr. Jack Armitage makes a good study of Lieut. Lord Billy; Mr. E. Hall Eldon (Dick Smarter) and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande (Lottie London) contribute acceptable comedy; and Miss Louise Gilmore brightly portrays Lady Arabella Mountphayton.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—The Common Enemy, Swedish Canals, Sudden Wealth, The Mountain Inn, The Airship Rage, Imagination, A.B. the Man, and several other good films are in the programme this week. Mr. Tom Sherlock has plenty of assistance from the audience in his song, "If I had a world to give you."

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars-road). — Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond.—The Raymond pictures this week include Bride of the Haunted Castle, Brave Little Drummer Boy, Poorluck's First Tiff, Betty's Fireworks, His New Appointment, Jealous Mr. Mugwumps, Merry Laughs, and Vein of Gold.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiteley.—Mr. Whiteley announced his benefit, with a special programme, on Thursday (28th inst.). The films shown on Monday included Life of Mozart, What's Your Hurry? Power of Love, Extra Turn, and Black Hand.

SALISBURY.—THE VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby has once more returned with his popular concert company, and their entertainments are much appreciated. Miss Lilian Ramsdale has several good songs, and is well supported by the members of the company.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*For Wife and Kingdom* is being presented here by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's capable company. As Captain Maximilian Lubeck Mr. Reginald T. Fox is deserving of high commendation; Mr. Frank Sutherland plays with ability as General Von Nestolde; Mr. Albert Guyon proves a capital Baron Brealaw; Mr. Charles H. Gallier makes the most of Sergeant Offenbeck; as the Duchess Marie Miss Hettie Zillwood appears to considerable advantage; Miss Lillian Malvern as Esther is worthy of praise; Miss Margaret R. Frame is clever as Camillie Von Nestolde; and enjoyable comedy is introduced by Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt and Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl Ludhayr.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager Mr. B. Hewitson.—Miss Augusta Tullock's play *Judith, the Woman Who Sinned* is being presented with conspicuous success. Miss Tullock herself fills the title-rôle with much ability; Mr. Alex. Young plays the part of Jack Carrington convincingly; Mr. Ed. Vivian distinguishes himself as the unscrupulous French adventurer; Mr. C. H. Hughes plays well as Silas Morris; the audience are kept in good humour by Mr. Ernest King (Sergeant Jones), Wm. De Lacy (Percy Hogg), Miss Rose Watson (Mrs. Bill Scamp), and Miss Amy Osbourne (Maudie Green); Miss D. Vivian gains the sympathy of the audience as Hester Norris; and Miss Dot Dainton is prominent as Blind Meg.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, under the direction of Mr. J. A. E. Malone, drew packed houses the first three evenings of the week. The chorus and augmented orchestra were ably directed by Mr. Harry Burton, and gave every satisfaction. Mr. Edward D'Arcy submitted a vigorous impersonation of Baron Popoff, and danced in capital style with Miss Katie May as Frou-Frou; Mr. J. Warren Foster, who possesses a good voice, was a powerful exponent of Prince Danilo; Miss Phyllys Le Grand made a capital character of the title-rôle, and was well received in both song and dance; Mr. Ripley Evans was eminently suited as Vicomte Camille de Jolidon; Mr. Fred Fowler was a mirth-provoking Nisch; and the Misses Ada Thomas as Natalie, Heather Featherstone as Olga, and Frances Midgley as Sylvanie gave creditable impersonations. For the rest of the week Miss Violet Osmund's company is presenting *The New Barmaid*.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Two daily performances of the excellent variety programme gain good support. Mr. Harry Wright, father of the popular manager, entertains as an up-to-date rhymester in irresistible style; dances and duets are given by the Chicago Belles in pleasing manner; Miss Nellie Gannon is a powerful singer, and meets with much favour; Charles Lea sings and dances delightfully; and Harry Wilson also gives pleasing songs. The military musical play entitled *The Pet of the Regiment* is presented by Mr. Arthur Watson and Miss Flo Stanley's company. Miss Flo Stanley as Peggy is an able exponent; Mr. Arthur Watson makes a humorous impersonation of Sergeant Wilkins; Miss Beatrice Hayden as Matilda Smith is well suited; Mr. Harry Watson as Trooper Green and Mr. Harry Neilson as Freddie Featherstone both cause merriment. The songs and tambourine dances alike are well executed. Astley and Lorenzo's circus and dancing are other attractions which meet with good patronage.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The London Cinematograph Co. again give this week's pictorial entertainment. Among a diversified series of excellent films of chief interest are those dealing with President Roosevelt's African hunting expedition.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burg.—Vera Rochdale in excellent voice renders two songs and dances in finished style; Marie Pera and company in the sketch *Two Doors and a Passage*, a domestic comedy of high life, cause excellent fun; the Sisters Allen are well received in song and dance, and Russell Carr gives an exceedingly clever ventriloquial performance; Ruth Davenport gives two selections from her répertoire in a finished and dainty style; Minnie Kaufmann does some marvellous cycle tricks; Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, exercises his customary effect; Chinko is a neat and original juggler; and the Soho Trio in song, dance, and trick jumping prove themselves artists of no mean quality.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE—WINTER GARLENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*Don* was presented here for the first time on Monday by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's London company. Miss Emma Hutchison merits much praise for her clever impersonation of Mrs. Bonington; Mr. Charles Harley is successful in the rôle of Albert Thompsett; Mr. Gordon Bailey is to be credited with an admirable representation of Stephen Bonington; Canon Bonington had a very able representative in Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Miss Celia Gordon is a good exponent of Mrs. Sinclair; Miss Violet Harley submits a capital study of Elizabeth Thompsett; Miss Viola Garland gives a pleasing rendering of Ann Sinclair; and Mr. Charles Tyrel and Miss Dorothy Gordon did well as General Sinclair and Fanny respectively.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*An Unwedded Wife* is presented here this week by Mr. Will Casey's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Marion does capable work; Miss Ethel Spense is good as Elsie Langham, lottie Doris Sorsby making an admirable Reggie. The humour of the play is capitally hit off by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer, Miss Annie Mitchell as Caraway Crumpet, and Mr. Frank Masters as Police-constable O'Runyin.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Jack Lorrimer, Scotch comedian, heads the bill, and has a good reception; Maidie Scott is a refined and vivacious comedienne; sensational somersaults are performed by the Avolas; the Six Lancashire Lasses are expert clog-dancers and singers; and Phil Parsons, light comedian, Stella Stahl, comedian and dancer, and the Bioscope are also on the bill.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—The pictures here are up to date and interesting. Mr. Joe Dixon, coon delineator, is given a good reception, and Moneta and Ford contribute an excellent comedy acrobatic sketch.

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable pre

ST. HELENS. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Welsker.—Barney Armstrong and Kelly top the bill this week, and create much laughter by their droll patter; Harry Friskey is clever and amusing as a comedy juggler; Tom Franks is capital in the ventriloquial line, and Harris Cornie is an expert dancer. The Three Welsh Girls are charming vocalists, and J. W. Atkinson also sings delightfully. Beale and Broadway as exponents of dancing and harmony are excellent. An interesting picture on the Hipposcope concludes.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The attraction here is *For Wife and Home*, played by Messrs. Power and Faulkner's company. As Roland St. Pierre, Mr. Robert Faulkner acts powerfully; as Henry St. Pierre, Mr. W. Llewellyn is effective; Gaspard le Farge has a capable representative in Mr. Edwin Maydew; and Mr. Bruce Williams is amusing as Picard; Miss Marion Ryder acts with pleasing grace as Rosette Legrand; Miss Georgina V. Clifford acquits herself ably as Celeste Legrand; and Miss Florrie Sorrby makes an efficient Nanette.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd; Acting-Manager, Mr. Black.—This is the ninth and concluding week of Mr. M. Montgomery's company here, *Lady Godiva* being presented to large audiences. Miss Nina Vaughton, whose ability and charm have made her a favourite, appears in the title-part; Miss Lillian Radbourn as Lady Aldyth acquits herself creditably; Mr. R. Seath Innes acts with dignity as Leofric; Mr. S. E. Scanlan impersonates Alga with his accustomed skill and power; and Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts pleasingly as Edgar.

STOKE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will. A. Jackson.—*Under the Iron Heel* is being presented by Mr. Wilson Howard and a strong cast. René de Maupassant is played in manly style by Mr. Wilson Howard, and he finds a sympathetic partner in Miss Carlotta Anson, who plays Germaine Mirbleau with much feeling. A finished piece of acting is given by Miss Marie Angus in the part of the charcoal burner's son; Mr. J. W. Richards as Otto Marx is the ideal personator of a villain; and Mr. Dennis Clyde as the German major quite captures the approbation of the house.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. Miss Gerald Vernier does well in the exacting rôle of Jessie Burton, and Mrs. Morton Powell is equally good as Winnie Waters; Mr. Harry Scott gives a convincing performance as Harry Halling; Messrs. Richard Vane (Philip Edge) and Alaric Burton (Solomon Sleek) prove themselves capable exponents of villainy, while Miss Katherine Eckhart does well as Mrs. Burton. The humour is in the good hands of Miss Jeannie Risley and Mr. Sydney Bryant.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Tan-Kwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats are astounding large audiences with their daring act; Harvey's American Boys and Girls give a pleasing item of song and dance; Warsaw Bros. present a comedy musical act; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is having a gratifying reception, and Ernie Mayne is equally popular with his humorous songs; Frank and Free submit an excellent comedy turn; Gwennie Hasto is an exceptionally skilful dancer, and the Bros. Durant give a funny serio-comic contortionist item.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Tyners are making a big hit here with a capital song-scena; Vera Snowdon is popular with her song and dance; E. K. Sinton, comedian, also gives an acceptable turn. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—Sprissell Bros. and Mack are presenting a capital absurdity here this week entitled *A Quiet Little Supper*, into which they introduce some very clever feats; the A1 Quartette submit some fine vocal work, which is warmly appreciated. The principal picture is entitled The General's Gratitude.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Murray King and company is giving two performances nightly of *Our Flat*. Mr. King, an old favourite here, makes a decided hit in the part of Nathanial Glover, evoking roars of laughter; Mr. Frank Lacy is a successful Reginald Sylvester; Mr. Claude Hogg submits a capable performance of Clarence Vane; Mr. McCullum finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Ardene Linden; Mr. Mather is well placed as Jeremiah Pinchard; Marjory Sylvester is delightfully sustained by Miss Florence Radcliffe; Lucy McCullum is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Amy Morris; Miss Evelyn Shelly does well as Madame Volant; and Miss Louie West is very amusing as Bella, a servant.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne. The pictures here this week include Buffalo Hunting, The Butler's Revenge, Off for the Holidays, Fruits of Vengeance, Scenes in Cairo, and Fashoda.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—The John Leopold pantomimic comedy company is here in the farcical absurdity *The New Frivolity*. Mr. John Leopold, jun., is exceedingly funny in the part of David Teething; Mr. Ed. De Vere is good as Oliver Buckwheat; Jules Vermiglio is ably enacted by Mr. T. Leopold; Mr. W. Leopold is a capital Samuel Vemiglio; Mr. Chas. Goff is first-class as Professor Fumble; Mr. Ernest Leopold makes a decidedly clever Tickle; Miss Kathleen Kavanagh is good in the rôle of Mme. Cobweb; and Miss A. Hall is a very pleasing Lucy Buck wheat. The rest of the parts are sustained by capable artists.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Miss Florence Baines is this week presenting *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and in spite of the attractions of the Naval Review is drawing good houses. In the principal rôle of Mary Ellen Thompson Miss Baines is the life and soul of the piece, thoroughly delighting the audience. Miss Mollie Shine makes a very pleasing Eva Lancashire, and Mr. Charles Swinburne is well placed as Harry Higgins. As John Higgins Mr. David Donaldson is decidedly good, and Mr. Joseph Burley and Mr. Payne Fletcher are very amusing in their respective parts.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Harold Montague's Vagabond Players are doing good business. Miss Gwen Lewis is a charming and attractive vocalist; Miss Winifred Kaye a graceful dancer; and Miss Belle Green gives some very amusing imitations. Mr. Leslie Burgiss proves himself to be a baritone of considerable talent, and Mr. Arthur Thomas as an instrumentalist displays marked ability. Mr. Albert Simner at the piano is very acceptable, and Mr. Harold Montague, a versatile entertainer, keeps the house highly amused.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The versatile Chas. T. Aldrich pays a welcome visit; James Stewart, the tramp pianist, is very clever; Jewel St. Leger has a good singing voice which is much appreciated; Lily Flexmore is a legmania artist of considerable ability; Ryan and Hall do well as acrobatic comedians; and the pictures are not the least part of the programme.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—The pictures here continue to be of a very interesting character and are drawing good houses.

THE IMPERIAL HALL.—The pictures this week are up to the usual standard, and the vocal items of Mr. C. France are greatly appreciated.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—The Queen's Courtiers are again here this week, and their refined entertainment is again meeting with approval, the sketch *Musical Misfits* being especially good.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Carlton tops the bill here this week, and his wonderful acts of illusion with cards is much enjoyed. The Bros. Webb are delightful entertainers, and they play pleasing selections on concertinas, banjo, violin, and handbells; Ross and Grayson are an entertaining comedy couple; Jessie Wilton is a dashing comedienne; Joe Belmont warbles and whistles effectively; Harry Martell's wooden-shoe dancing act is very clever; the pictures are good.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Agnes Molteno, assisted by H. Daque and Little Dolly, score well here this week with the musical sketch *Dolly's Coach*. Harley and Melton are capable comedians, and their patter good; Dolly Denver's songs go with a merry swing; and Nancy Renshaw's coon songs are much enjoyed.

GRAND.—Proprietors, the Palatine Co.; Manager, Mr. Sydney Felton.—The pictures at this house are up to the usual high standard.

WASHINGTON. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull.—*A Woman's Past* is presented here. Mr. Percy Dawson gives a powerful portrayal of David Heath; Mr. Charles Locke plays Frank Dellanoy in a manner which is much appreciated; Mr. Alexander Knight is good as Clement Harper; Mr. Clifford Hamilton is excellent as Uriah Craven; Mr. Tom Chapman scores as P.-C. Bloater; Mr. William Freemantle as Spriggins is capable; Bob is in the safe hands of Mr. Walter Portswood; Jack Crawford has a capable exponent in Mr. Henry Bargate; Miss Laura Bitterne is first class as Mrs. Brown; Miss Cherry Veheyne is capital as Dorothy Heath; Miss Phyliss Elton wins favour as Clara Darrell; Miss Dora Pass is excellent as Bessie, and has much to do with the success of the piece; and Messrs. Hamilton and Locke are to be congratulated on the excellence of the production.

WEDNESBURY.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Manager, Mr. Walle Spinner.—Topping the bill here are the juvenile trio, Rennie, Ernie, and Allie, in their clever harmony and dancing act; Mlle. Du Roche, the talented soprano vocalist, wins success; exceedingly popular also is Mayfield Grove, in his comic impersonations. There is an entire change of pictures, and capital houses are attracted.

KING'S HALL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. B. Kennedy.—An interesting programme includes C. H. Burns, vocalist, dancer, and instrumentalist; Frank Smyle, comedian; and a capital turn is given by the Delroys, American coloured comedy artists.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—The pictures this week are excellent; and Shawlene's whistling and imitations are nightly received with much applause. Cliff and Kean are strong in dancing; and Walter Ford is amusing.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is this week presenting *Paul Kauvar*, in which he appears with success in the title-rôle. Mr. Chas. D. Pitt is good as Gourac, Marquis de Vaux; and Mr. Geo. Overs as the Duc de Beaumont is also admirable. Miss Irene Munroe is a charming Diane de Beaumont, and Miss Phyllis Rae as Nanette is a delightful study. The other parts are well sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—There is an excellent company here this week in addition to some well-reproduced pictures. Miss Addie Leyton is a clever vocalist; Abe Dresner is a smart comedian; Sergt. Bert Powell provides a unique entertainment; Linton and Lang are clever comedy duettists; Morimura performs some extraordinary conjuring feats; Miss Gertie Blanche dances well; while Daly's comedians provide two capital turns.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Chung Ling Soo is the premier attraction here this week, and his performance is as mystifying as ever. The Norman and Leonard Tro, in a musical act, are also old favourites. The acme of animal training is the performance by Reichen and his canine wonders. France and Stewart are well received in a little sketch, *The Puritan*; Frank Ford is a master of the art of dancing; and Jennie Alexander, a dainty juvenile comedienne and dancer, gives some clever imitations of popular variety stars.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Alexander Marsh's répertoire company is paying its first visit here. On Monday evening *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented. Mr. Alexander Marsh gave a spirited and artistic interpretation of Petruchio; Lucentio found an excellent exponent in Mr. Wilson Gunning; Tranio was extremely well portrayed by Mr. Eugene Wellesley; Mr. Frank J. Fry was praiseworthy as Gremio, as was Mr. A. E. Walker as Baptista. Mr. Ian Fleming was richly humorous as Grumio, and Mr. Edwin Beverley made the most of Biondello. Hortensio was laudably impersonated by Mr. Ernest Digges, and the same can be said of Mr. Edward Stirling's Vincentio. Miss Carrie Baillie looked remarkably handsome and showed rare histrionic ability as Katharina; as Bianca Miss May Grimshaw must be eulogised. *She Stoops to Conquer, The Merry Wives of Windsor, As You Like It, The School for Scandal*, and *The Merchant of Venice* are in the week's bill.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John Stevenson.—At the top of the bill this week are the Burnells in their extremly comical sketch *On the Links*; the Creedons are smart in their novel sporting act; Caselli is a talented banjoist; Harry Zetta is a good turn; and Miss Bessie Callon excels as a vocalist; Miss Lillian Farrar proves herself a thorough artist in her song-scena *Bubbles*; Miss Maud Leah appears as a comedienne. Excellent pictures are shown on the bioscope.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Linden.—On Monday evening last the annual complimentary performance to Mr. and Mrs. Linden was held, on which occasion was produced a dramatic musical version of the opera *Maritana*, in four acts, dramatised by Mrs. Linden, entitled *Don Cæsar*. The play was well put on the stage and gave entire satisfaction to a large and appreciative audience. As Don Cæsar Mr. Mark H. Linden played with his usual ability, whilst as Don José Mr. R. D. Grundy was excellent; as the King of Spain Mr. Jas. Gates was very good, as was also Mr. Frank Rock as the Marquis; Mr. Geo. Clarke was highly satisfactory as Pedro; as Lopez and Pacolo Mr. Tim Holmes and Mr. J. McGoldrick were well placed; and as Captain of the Guard and Lieutenant Messrs. Lance Orr and J. Ritson were most creditable. As Lazarillo Miss Lily Lindon was a big success; Miss Minnie Holmes was a capable Marchioness; as Marguerite Mrs. McGoldrick gave much satisfaction; Mrs. Wilson carefully enacted Lola; as Maritana Mrs. Linden scored greatly; and Mrs. J. E. Fairley and Miss A. Farrell as Zilpha and Carmina respectively gave some excellent dances.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessees, Messrs. Cottrell and Campbell.—Excellent turns are being given here by the Leonas in their novel musical act, Kavado, cannon-ball juggler and equilibrist, and Barney Stuart, vocalist and mimic. Some interesting pictures are also shown.

WHITBY. — SPA THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Chas. Gibbons's company is appearing in *The Little Stranger* before large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Edward Jephson as the Hon. Alex Howard successfully portrays the rôle; whilst Mr. Chas. Fancourt as Captain Dick Allenby sustains the part meritoriously. As Paul Vronsky Mr. Charles Gibbon is clever, Mr. W. S. Stevenson giving a merited portrayal of General Allenby. Tom Pennyman is in the capable hands of Miss Lettie Hornsby.

WHITLEY BAY. — THE WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, LTD. (Theatre Royal).—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. A. Peuleve.—Appearing here are the Five Vernons, xylophone specialists, in a pleasing entertainment; Les Four Kasracs, in their comedy acrobatic scena, "Buffet de Falls," are very amusing; Corcoran Brothers, in a musical act, win favour; and Brothers Weltman, Russian dancers, Ernest Clifford, comedian and dancer, and Tom E. Conover, eccentric comedian, provide the principal turns, whilst the stock company work hard.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Whitley Coliseum Co.; Manager, Mr. William Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Some excellent pictures are being exhibited here, and the varieties are contributed by Little Ella, juvenile vocalist and impersonator, and Arthur Wynn, balancing expert and novelty trick cyclist.

PAVILION ELECTRIC THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—The latest and most up-to-date films are on exhibition here. The variety element is introduced by Martin Henderson, the blind musician.

EMPIRE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. J. Gregson.—Recent events are being depicted here, whilst dramatic and other intense incidents are also shown, the bill being diversified principally by Charles Chard, comedian, and Annie Casey, comedienne.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—*When Woman Hates* is being presented here by Mr. Bulmer's capable company. Mr. Richard Ferris gives a powerful interpretation of Lieutenant Fred Rokeby; Godfrey Lawton finds an able exponent in Mr. Austin Mortimer; and Mr. Percy Folliss is conspicuous as Colonel Hiram. Miss Doris Brookes proves herself to be a talented actress as Cora Daintry; Miss Jean Scott makes a sympathetic Edith Rokeby; and Miss Ada Oakley deserves praise for her representation of Marie Rokeby. The humorous rôles are capably filled by Miss Mary Dalby as Mrs. Sally Potts, Mr. Evan Roland as Patrick O'Brien, and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd as Alphonse Picolot.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—For the first three nights of the week the stage was occupied by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and his company, who presented for the first time locally the brilliant dramatic play *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. The interpretation of the part of Lord Lumley by Mr. Stewart was perfect; as the unscrupulous Signor Mr. Lewin Mannering deserved high commendation; and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., was a praiseworthy Guiseppe. Miss A. Bruce-Joy as Lady Lumley won the admiration of all. Others in the cast included Mr. Percy Marmont, Mr. Eric Morden, Mr. J. E. Turner, and Mr. George Branton, and the Misses Constance Barton and Maisie Richardson.

THE KURSAAL GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—The bright and entertaining party the Comedy Comets continue to do good business here, and the Gardens are filled nightly with appreciative audiences.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Messrs. Pooles have adopted an excellent plan, viz., of giving an entire change of pictures twice weekly. The leading films are Bradford's Claim, The Black Peril, Aviation, His Just Deserts, and The Eleventh Hour, a very thrilling picture. The Cinephone, as usual, has some excellent songs, illustrated.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE PICNIC.

Last Sunday the weather outlook was very unpromising, but the one hundred persons who went on the Birmingham Empire picnic to Bewdley did not give way to depression. It was a merry party, and the few showers of rain during the day did not mar the enjoyable programme arranged by the genial manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham, and his able lieutenant, Mr. A. Williams. This is how the day was spent:—9.30 a.m., entrained at Snow Hill Station, refreshments, varied and first-class, provided en route; 10.45, arrived at Bewdley, a charming village in the Midlands, on the River Severn; 11.15, prepared for fishing contest, and boating on river; 1 o'clock, five-course dinner at the George Hotel; 3 p.m., trip up the river to Arley, more refreshments; 6.30, return journey to Bewdley; 8.45, entrained for Birmingham. At the close of the dinner Mr. Matcham (who was in the chair), and who was supported by Mr. Westwood, of Walsall, Mr. Harold Wallis, and Mr. Albert Bushell (Gaiety), made an interesting presentation of a gold watch on behalf of staff and friends to Mr. Jim Hardy, who has retired from the staff to enter into business on his own account. Mr. Matcham said Mr. Hardy had been with the firm over sixteen years, and had proved a tried and trusted servant. He hoped Mr. Hardy would live as long as the watch lasted. Mr. Hardy, in returning thanks, said he could not wish to serve under a better master than Mr. Matcham, and the watch would always remind him of the happy days spent at the Empire. This ceremony over, laughter reigned while Mr. Matcham presented the prizes to the successful anglers. "Hold up your fish," called the chairman, and elderly persons in the company donned their glasses to view the sprats. However, if the fish (?) were valueless, the prizes were not. Mr. Selby, the popular stage-manager, received as first prize a silver drinking-cup; Mr. Thomas, second, a watch; Mr. Williams, third, case of pipes; and Mr. Francis a pipe and Mr Bushell's prize for the smallest catch.

HENRY FOSTER, an actor, of Great Barlow-street, Marylebone, was charged on remand, on the 22nd inst., at Bow-street Police-court, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, with stealing a revolver from the Lyceum Theatre. On May 26 the prisoner was charged with firing a revolver on the public highway near Covent Garden market, and was bound over in his own recognisances. The weapon was detained by the police, and it was subsequently ascertained that it had been stolen from the Lyceum Theatre on the previous day. Last week the prisoner, who was arrested by Detective Phillips, told the magistrate that he took the revolver from the property room at the theatre "for revenge," as he had been discharged for being late for rehearsal. It was now stated that although the prisoner had asked for employment at the theatre he was not engaged. Sir Albert de Rutzen said Mr. Martin Harvey, the actor, had written to say that the prisoner bore a good character. In the circumstances he would only be bound over in his own recognisances to come up for judgment if called upon.

AT the Ladbroke Hall on Friday, the 22nd inst., was given a special copyright performance of *The Girl of My Dreams*, a musical comedy in three acts, book and lyrics by W. D. Nesbit and Otto Hauerbach, music by Karl Hoschna.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. {Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
77. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations for Theatres, Halls, Electric Theatres, Skating Rinks, etc., etc.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Invite all who are interested in Picture Theatres to see their work just finished at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch.

Will be pleased for their artists to get out schemes for Decorations free of all charge.

Write for Dean's New Catalogue of Tip-up Chairs and Seatings of every description.

Good Serviceable Tip-up Chair from **4/11**, delivered and fixed free.

Good Upholstered Tip-up Chair in Velvet or Pegamoid from **5/11 to 27/-**

Good Serviceable Upholstered Running Seats from **2/6** per foot fixed.

Good Linoleum from **2/-** square yard laid.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply Fibrous Plaster and other Decorations, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, Curtains, etc., far cheaper and better than any other house in the trade. Samples sent free.

Advise all who think of seating or reseating their Halls to write for their Catalogue, select the samples they would like to see, and compare same with those of their competitors. DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., will, in nineteen cases out of twenty, obtain the contract.

Still retain the services of MR. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, MR. BARDELL as Manager of the Decoration Department, MR. L. BECK as Manager of the Factory and Works.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, the Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, entitled
"HOME."

On Monday, July 25, the sixth of these interesting revivals took place at the Coronet, before a large and appreciative audience. This comedy, from the pen of the late T. W. Robertson, was adapted from Emile Augier's *L'Aventurière*, and first produced in January, 1869, at the Haymarket, with such notable actors as E. H. Sothern, Henry Compton, Ada Cavendish, &c., in the leading rôles. In 1881 it was revived at the St. James's by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, with Sir John Hare and Miss Kate Bishop also in the cast. The present revival, under the auspices of the enterprising manager of the Coronet, Mr. Eade Montefiore, is replete with interest, and all the parts are excellently rendered. Mr. James Carew is really admirable as the "prodigal son," Alfred Dorrison, who returns from seeking a fortune in foreign parts just in time to prevent his venerable father from being caught in the toils of an adventuress, and to save his youthful sister from the unwelcome attentions of the cowardly swindler Captain Mountraffe. His manly appearance and humorous interpretation of the part quite win all hearts, and relief is experienced when the dangerous course of deception he is obliged to practise ends so happily for all parties concerned.

Miss Adeline Bourne acts with force and intensity as the finally repentant adventuress, Mrs. Pinchbeck, a lady of the Becky Sharp order, with yearnings after higher things. She is particularly fine in the closing scene, where all the woman's blandishments have met with ignominious failure, but her character is redeemed by real love for Dorrison, the man who has schemed to bring about her downfall. Miss Nell Compton gives us a fresh and charming picture of the schoolgirl in love in her interpretation of Lucy Dorrison, and she is ably seconded by Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson as Bertie Thomson, the amusing young lover. Miss Doris Marshall looks pretty, and is appropriately coy and demure as the somewhat spiteful little ingénue, Dora Thornhaugh. Mr. O. B. Clarence acts with dignity in the small part of the infatuated father, Mr. Dorrison, and Mr. Edward Sass is intensely funny as Mrs. Pinchbeck's drunken reprobate of a brother. His droll costume as the "little soldier" from Mexico, his drunken antics, and sublime self-conceit make "Captain" Mountraffe lose half his repulsiveness, card-sharper and bully though we know him to be. In the intervals of the play the Chamber Quartet played some greatly-appreciated selections.

THE KENNINGTON.

On Monday, July 25, the Drama, entitled
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."

Mr. H. Brinsley Hill's drama *The Sailor's Wedding* was produced by the Kennington répertoire company on Monday last. Mr. Walter Gay made a sailorly-looking hero as Lieutenant Gordon Drake of H.M.S. Fearnought; Miss Jessie Winter was a graceful and sympathetic Mary Bellini; Count Bellini was carefully enacted by Mr. Frank Crimp; Mr. Cecil Klein supplied an admirable enactment of Sir Victor Lascelles, the friend of Drake, his performance throughout being a very praiseworthy one; Mr. G. P. Poulson was a picturesque Ferici, the villain, who plotted for the hand of Mary; Miss Winifred Whyte found ample scope for her histrionic gifts as Lenore de Gresac, the adventuress, giving a powerful delineation of the character; Mr. Frank Bertram was full of dry humour as Jack Hawkins, the sailor lover of Polly Clarke, the waitress at the Bunch of Grapes. The latter part was played with much vivacity by Miss Nellie Burdette. Mr. W. Sidney as Bill Burns, the rival of Hawkins in Polly's affections, was excellent; and Miss C. Bertram was well placed as the French Maid. Mr. George Cockburn's interpretation of Giacomo Ferrara was a realistic study, Mr. W. J. Yeldham was admirable as the priest, and Miss Mary Kilpack adequately filled the rôle of Countess Bellini.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 25, the Drama, entitled
"THE BEAUTIFUL AVENGER."

This week witnessed the return of two of the popular stock company to play lead in this production, Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson and Miss Mary Pemberton, and a cordial reception has nightly been accorded this successful drama, with the ever-popular Mr. Newman Maurice in the cast as a grocer's assistant, Peregrine Patch. As the Beautiful Avenger Miss Mary Pemberton realised perfectly the character, and gave a clever piece of acting. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson, too, did valued work as the artist, Cyrus Telford. Mr. W. H. Porter stands out prominent as Zadok Foxbane; and Mr. Victor Loraine is successful as his son, Herman. Mr. Will Smith does good work as Jim Jhams. Miss May Day displays ability as Baldie Mansfield. Miss Lilian Claire is good as Edna Volta; and Miss Grace Emery is in every way a capital representative of Arabella Binks. A word of praise must be awarded to Mr. C. Johnston as the detective Weston. Mr. F. A. Scudamore's drama is very picturesquely mounted and staged. The orchestra played some pretty selections, under the bâton of the chef d'orchestre, Mr. W. T. Gliddon. The Bank Holiday attraction is *The Temptress*.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 25, the Drama, entitled
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

Mr. Morton Powell's No. 1 company is presenting the above-named play effectively. Miss Maud M. Powell as Ruby Wright adds to grace of person the charm of finished acting. Miss Edith Wallis as Lucas List's cast-off mistress is a powerful characterisation. Lucas List is admirably interpreted by Mr. Walter Clarke. Mr. Leslie Austin as Robert Ray portrays his part with great strength. Mme. de Meral as played by Miss Anna Corri could hardly be in better hands. Miss Lilla Nordon as Bessie Betts, the barmaid of the Blue-Bell, rings the changes on gaiety and gravity with success. Ned Chipples is ably played by Miss Eva Norman. Mr. Henry Scatchard's performance of Octavius Screw is excellent. Mr. Edward Swinton as Billy Broad is very funny. The part of Freddy Feather is suitably allotted to Mr. William Clements; that of the Rev. Christopher Lovett is well handled by Mr. William Berson. Miss Edith Taylor as Florence Slade and Miss Doris Drew as Lilly Chubb are satisfactory. Miss Emily Ruff is well played by Miss Rachel Rose. Mr. Mackintosh Clyde is good as Bobby Broad. Mr. George S. Darling is adequate as P.C. Clearing; and Mr. W. Witty does well as William Wadd.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 25, the Drama, entitled
"DANGEROUS WOMEN."

The attraction this week at the Shakespeare is Mr. F. A. Scudamore's well-known play *Dangerous Women*, which is excellently played by a capable company, under the direction of Mr. Otto Minster. The piece met with a good reception on Monday evening, and the interest and sympathy of the audience were enlisted from beginning to end. As Cora Fay Miss V. St. Lawrence is provided with a strong part, to which she did every justice, cleverly depicting the utterly infamous character of the woman. Her partner in vice, Lola Lascelles, was ably portrayed by Miss Lilian Duncher. Miss Ada Dawson contributed a sympathetic rendering of the part of the much-wronged Sylvia Rothwell; and Miss Lily Belding as Mrs. Raby was effective. Miss Maggie Arthur scored a success in the rôle of the generous newspaper boy, Joe Perkins; and Miss Rosie Arthur did well as the blind girl, Polly Perkins. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Miss Lucy Murray as Bessy Basket and Mr. George P. Lester as Elijah Smudge, who caused considerable amusement by their humorous antics. Mr. Otto Minster played in manly fashion as Ronald Courtney; Mr. Gerald Venning displayed ability in his impersonation of Colonel Rothwell; and Mr. Charles Fortescue made the most of his opportunity as Mark Raby. Mr. Walter Grahame was seen to advantage as Mr. Dysart; and Mr. Alexander Bradley gave a forcible delineation of the half-mad Dr. Paul Dysart. Mr. Elliston Bevens as Sir Reggie Hopgood acts in amusing style; and Mr. Tom Tindall put in some very excellent work as the burglar, Dick Pudsey. Other parts were capably filled.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, July 25, the Play entitled
"MAN TO MAN."

The above well-known play forms the attraction here, being presented by a company under the direction of Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown. A very consistent performance is given by Mr. Edward Lloyd as the much-tried and deeply-wronged hero, George Gordon. Mr. Charles Stirling infuses a sufficient amount of villainy into the despicable character of George Ellerton; Mr. Charles Coleman gives a manly and dignified impersonation of the Rev. Philip Ormond, known as the Mad Parson; and Mr. Bruce Williams is quite amusing as "the wanderer with no means of existence," Samuel Plumtree. A fine character-study is supplied by Mr. Clifford Bown as Bill Burkley, a convict. Miss Maude Ryder acts in a simple and effective manner as the boy, Ned Doyle; and Miss Anna Beaumont is at times amusing as Miss Lavina Dove. A good impersonation of the revengeful gipsy, Madge, is given by Miss Francis May, and Miss Beatrice Hone plays in a natural and sympathetic manner throughout as the true-hearted Ethel Maythorne. All the minor characters are in safe hands, and the play is well staged.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

After a long spell of varieties, which are appreciated by a large section of Kingstonians, there was a return on Monday to drama again, and dramatic productions will be the attraction for several weeks, Mr. Davey, the managing-director, having secured some first-class bookings. Mr. Marcus D. Draper's company are appearing in the play, and give a fine representation of the stirring incidents in this very human production. Filling the part of John Storm himself, he carries the house with him by the earnestness and force of his acting; and Miss Gladys Purnell, who appears as Glory Quayle, also gives a fine impersonation of the part. The Lord Robert Ure of Mr. Stephen Ewart is a finished piece of acting; and a most creditable appearance is made by Mr. W. Burgess Barratt as Horatio Drake. A pretty picture of Miss Callendar is given by Miss Rose Burgess, whose Scotch accent is beyond reproach; and other parts are ably filled by the Misses Marsie Richardson, Ina Rosant, Alexandra Lisle, Margaret Woolfinden, Dorothy Wilmer, and Winifred Palmer, and Messrs. Burton, Yaldwin, Edwin Ling, Aylmer Williams, Walter Watford, Percy Callingford, Julian Symes, and George Weir. Mr. Barratt also acts as stage-manager and producer.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, July 21, Giacomo Puccini's Opera, "MANON LESCAUT."

Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* was performed for the first time this season at Covent Garden on Thursday night, July 21. Since 1908, when Mlle. Cavalieri appeared as the heroine, *Manon Lescaut* has not been heard at the Royal Opera, as the great popularity of Puccini's later works has overshadowed the composer's operatic version of the Abbé Prévost's novel. Musically, Puccini's opera is most attractive, but the *Manon* of Massenet from a dramatic point of view deals more effectively with the various incidents of the story. The performance on Thursday week was excellent in many respects. Mme. Kousnietzoff, who played the heroine for the first time at Covent Garden, made a favourable impression on the audience. Although dramatically the part does not suit Mme. Kousnietzoff so well as some of her other impersonations, the music was beautifully sung, the Russian artist being at her best in the great scene with Des Grieux. Mr. Martin as Des Grieux sang with impassioned fervour, and if at times, owing to enthusiasm, the vocalist displayed a tendency to force his voice, the fine duet in the second act was splendidly sung by both artists; while Mr. Martin acted with no little dramatic power at the close of the third act. Signor Sammarco by his great ability made even the part of Lescaut interesting; and Signor Gianoli-Galletti gave a clever study of Geronte. Signor Zucchi was an effective Edmondo; and Mlle. Egener deserved praise for her singing in the charming "Madrigal" for female voices. The two parts of the Sergente and L'Oste were successfully doubled by Signor Sampieri; and Signor Panizza on the whole may be credited with obtaining from the orchestra a smooth and attractive performance of the opera.

The performance of *Aïda* on Saturday, July 23, has not been surpassed during the present season. Mr. Riccardo Martin impersonated Radames, a part which so admirably suited the American vocalist that it was a matter of regret this esteemed tenor has not been heard in Verdi's fine opera earlier. Mr. Martin sang grandly and with impassioned fervour worthy of his distinguished companion, Mlle. Destinn, whose magnificent performance of the unhappy slave girl is justly considered one of the famous artist's finest creations. As Amonasro M. Baklanoff appeared for the first time, and acted with dramatic intensity, while his fine baritone voice was heard to advantage in the music. After the third act the artists were received with a perfect storm of applause. Mme. Kirkby Lunn repeated her excellent interpretation of Amneris, and the rest of the cast was the same as on a former occasion. Signor Panizza conducted with zeal, and the ensemble generally reached a high standard.

La Traviata was given on Tuesday night at Covent Garden, and as Mme. Melba appeared in the part of Violetta a crowded house was the result. There is, of course, nothing fresh to say about Verdi's old opera, but the occasion had special interest owing to Mme. Melba's brilliant singing. Being in splendid voice, the great prima donna gave such a finished rendering of the certainly charming music that the enthusiasm was unbounded, and after a performance of "Ah fors' e lui," which the singer has never surpassed, Mme. Melba received a perfect ovation. Mr. John McCormack as Alfredo sang artistically, and Signor Sammarco was again an excellent Germont. Signor Panizza conducted, and secured a smooth performance.

M. Lugné-Poe's next work to be produced at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre will be *Kesa*, a play M. Robert d'Humières brought back from Japan, founded on a curious legend. The excellent cast will comprise Mme. Suzanne Desprès, M. de Max, and M. Lugné-Poe.

Among the most important novelties of the coming theatrical season in Berlin are the following plays: *Maria Magdalene*—if the censorship can be prevailed upon—and *The Blue Bird*, by Maeterlinck, both at the Deutsches; Georg Hirschfeld's drama, *Das neue Leben*, at the Lessing; *Helene's Heimkehr*, by Bornhagen, translated into German by Stefan Zweig, at the Berliner; and new French farces at the Residenz, Trianon, and New Schauspielhaus. Leoncavallo's *Maia* will be the first novelty at the Royal Opera.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL AT WHITLEY BAY.

The old "Spanish City," the first venture of anything like a permanent amusement abode in the popular seaside resort which has sprung to such prominence during the past two decades—due very largely to its close proximity to the metropolis of the North, Newcastle, and the whole of Tyneside and district, with its complex population of about one million souls, and also in a great measure to private enterprise and an excellent and practical local Council authority—has now been revitalised.

There is an excellent electric train service from and to Newcastle every quarter of an hour up to midnight. There is also connection to and from the North, to North and South Shields, to Sunderland, and surrounding districts.

Towards the close of last year the "Spanish City," with its various side-shows and other attrac-

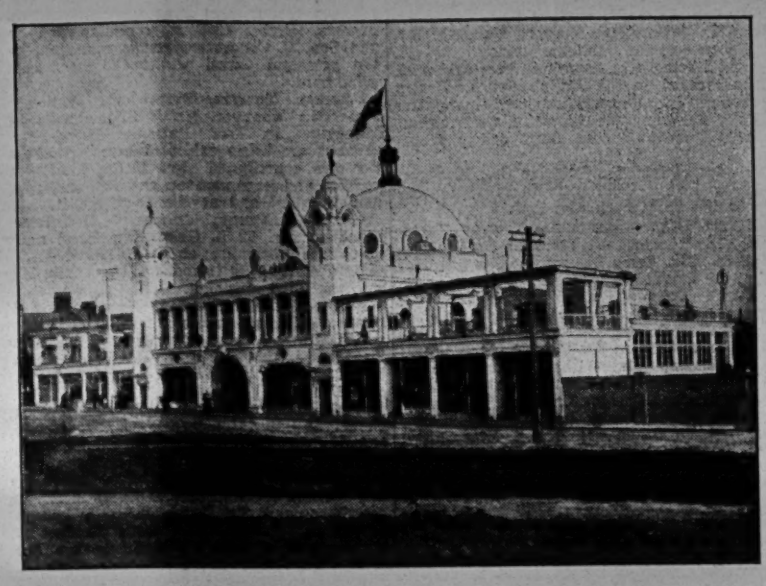

tions, was acquired and floated by the Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Limited, and o'er the ashes of the "City," Phœnix-like, has arisen a great white palace in a way only existing in the imaginative realms of the Arabian Nights, and those who are familiar to Whitley Bay, or anyone in the habit of spending part of their leisure on the invigorating coast, may well ask themselves if they are not living under the beneficent sway of Harum Al Raschid. The buildings are of a permanent character, the principal parts being on the most modern form of construction, known as ferro-concrete, on the Hennibigue principle—a mechanical combination of concrete and steel which is said to result in qualities of permanency that will vie with anything in the past. The strength of this material, considering its bulk and form, exceeds anything ever anticipated by the great constructors of former times. This was very strikingly evidenced the other day by the severe test to which the theatre gallery was subjected by the authorities, when something like 100 tons dead weight was applied on the extreme overhang of the cantilevers without showing any appreciable movement.

The effect from the links and front is decidedly impressive. The façade fronts on to the main promenade on the sea-banks, and its centre portion, some 120ft. in length, is double storied and is flanked by two imposing and elegant towers, surmounted with copper terpsichorean life sized figures. Immediately behind these the great dome

stands out boldly against the sky-line. It is a hemisphere of 50ft. in diameter, encircled at the base by twelve lunettes giving light to the interior. Crowning all is a 20ft. copper lantern. The total height from the ground to the top of the flagstaff is over 110ft., and it is believed that this dome is the largest yet constructed in ferro-concrete. The main entrance is in the centre of the front, and is approached through an archway 20ft. in width with a broad flight of marble steps leading to the interior.

Over the shops on either side of the entrance are open promenades and roof gardens, surrounded by colonnades with beams upon which hardy creepers climb round. These verandahs afford a commanding view of the sea and country both to the north and north-west of the whole of the grounds, with the manifold amusements therein.

The dominating feature on entering is the great rotunda, 80ft. in diameter, around which are ranged twelve great columns supporting the dome. This expansive space, which is somewhat unique in theatre vestibules, is elegantly treated in decorative plaster work. A broad balcony surrounds it, communicating with the fine café on the first floor and with the various roof promenades. From this expanse there radiates entrances to the grounds, theatre, and amusement hall. The theatre is approached by a wide easy flight of steps, and is designed on rather original lines. It skirts one side of the grounds, and is entirely open thereto, although quite protected from wind and rain by the broad projecting roof balcony, and in bad weather or during the winter season this open space can be entirely closed at will by revolving shutters, thus making it comfortable and cosy all the year round.

It is designed to afford a large promenading space, from which a full view of the stage can be obtained. It is elevated above the sitting area, and does not in any way interfere with the view of those seated in the auditorium. In the large ground area, which has a good rake, there is accommodation for about 1,500, the front portion of which is fitted with 600 tip-up chairs as stalls, the remainder being seated and upholstered to accommodate about 900 people.

There is a gallery in ferro-concrete that is capable of accommodating 500 to 600, every seat from which enables the holder to obtain an uninterrupted view of the stage.

The sweeping semi-circular roof is divided into small coffers in fibrous plaster, and is generously illuminated by electric lamps, giving a fine general effect to the interior. The proscenium is chaste and effective in design, and has an opening of 30ft.

The stage is large, and capable of putting on any modern production on the road. It measures from wall to wall 55ft.; footlights to back wall, 32ft.; and stage to grid, 42ft.

The electric installation is on the most recent principle, and complete in every detail, with the most modern appliances for the best stage-lighting effects.

There are several good and commodious dressing-rooms all fitted out with the necessary appliances for the comfort of the artists.

Some idea of the magnitude of the buildings will be conceived when it is stated that they cover considerably over three-quarters of an acre. In the grounds there are attractions such as the figure-eight railway, the water chute, the social whirl, the old mill, and subterranean water passage and caves, the Hall of Mirth, and the latest of money-makers that is doing so well as the Brussels Exhibition, yclept "The Joy Wheel Table," and sundry other side-shows, such as American skittles, &c.

The contractors are the well-known theatre compilers, Messrs. Davison and Miller, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the work was completed in a surprisingly expeditious manner even for this firm, who gained a name in this direction nearly twenty years ago. The whole is designed and carried out by Messrs. Cackett and Burns Dick, F.R.I.B.A., architects, Newcastle.

The resident manager is Mr. Auguste A. Peulevé, a gentleman who has had considerable experience of such ventures at some of our most popular resorts.

Fraulein Marga Burchardt, the clever young operatic singer at the Court Theatre at Hamburg, has signed a five years' contract under very favourable conditions for the Court Opera at Stuttgart, as successor to Fräulein Sutter. The latter artist, it will be remembered, was the victim of a terrible tragedy not long ago, having been shot by her lover—a Stuttgart doctor—in a fit of jealousy.

A novelty of the coming season at the Leipzig Opera will be the work of an Irish resident in Berlin, Mrs. A. Madison. The composition is drawn from Ludwig Fulda's fairy-tale play, *The Talisman*, which had such a long and successful run many years ago in Berlin, and has retained the same name.

"To understand the spirit of *Henry VIII.*" says Mr. Louis Parker, "it is necessary to remember that, contrary to the general idea, the Reformation was not a sudden but a gradual affair. People did not go to sleep one night as Roman Catholics and wake the next morning as Protestants. Elizabeth herself was christened according to the ritual of the Romish Church. Henry VIII. married Catherine Parr with the Romish ceremonies. The doctrine of Transubstantiation was upheld beyond the time of Catherine Parr, and it was not until the reign of Edward VI. that the change in ritual was complete. So that the spirit which informs Sir Herbert's production is Roman Catholic in its ceremonies and splendour."

"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."

Four-Act Sensational Sporting Drama, Written by Edward Marris, and Performed for the First Time on any Stage at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, July 25.

Sir Harry Felstead ....Mr. Frank R. Robertson
David Loseby .....Mr. Grayson Bancroft
Austin Deepdale .....Mr. Annesley Hely
Archie Ravenscourt .....Mr. Harry T. Butler
Giuseppe Canova .....Mr. Herbert Belmore
P.C. Dumbleby .....Mr. George Brentwood
Grant .....Mr. Harvey Welton
Mitchell .....Mr. J. Templar Ellis
Inspector Sharples .....Mr. Alf. Rushen
P.C. Barraby .....Mr. Eric Wilson
Rev. Chandos Goode .....Mr. Alfred Ames
Billy Tippit .....Mr. Teddy Leonard
Jenny Jenkins .....Miss Mollie Hackett
Bellamy .....Miss Lillah Peltz
Kitty Felstead .....Miss Maud Tremaine
Tessa Gianelli .....Miss Ella Willmer
Lavender Loseby .....Miss Ethel Ward

A very enthusiastic reception was given to *A Criminal's Bride* on Monday evening last, when it was performed by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company at the Grand Theatre, Brighton. On the termination of the last act, and in response to hearty and prolonged applause, the author appeared before the curtain. The story of the drama is replete with stirring and exciting incidents, the characters are ably drawn, the special scenery painted for the production by Charles H. Frampton is charmingly picturesque, and the hunting dresses, uniforms, and costumes are handsome.

The first act opens at Woodsorrel Hall, where Sir Harry Felstead is entertaining a hunting party, one of the guests being Austin Deepdale, a crafty and designing mesmerist. It is soon evident that Sir Harry Felstead is deeply in love with Lavender Loseby, his trainer's daughter; his love is reciprocated, and the trainer, David Loseby, gives his consent to their engagement. During Sir Harry's absence the evil Deepdale mesmerises Lavender, and while she is embracing the scoundrel Sir Harry makes his appearance and orders the latter out of the house; and the curtain falls as Deepdale is confronted by Mitchell, a Scotland Yard detective, who is keeping an eye upon him. In the second act, in a country police office, two Italian wanderers—Giuseppe Canova and Tessa Gianelli (the latter carrying a child)—are among the arrested. Here Mitchell learns from the Italians that Deepdale is the father of Tessa's child, and that he had cut off Giuseppe's left hand after mesmerising him. In the following scene of the act Deepdale continues his villainy, and, anxious that in a local race meeting Sir Harry's horse shall not beat the one he himself is running, determines that Sir Harry shall be prevented from riding. Deepdale had been stopped for furious motor driving, and had given his name as Sir Harry Felstead; he had failed to answer the charge, and as the result of a warrant being issued Sir Harry is taken in custody. The trainer, however, is equal to the occasion, rides Sir Harry's horse, and wins. In the last scene of the act Deepdale and his accomplice—his chauffeur Grant—arrange to steal the Felstead jewels. Lavender is again hypnotised by Deepdale, who actually compels her to open the safe with the key lovingly entrusted to her by Sir Harry, and to hand him the jewels. The inmates of the house are aroused, Deepdale's villainy is laid bare, the jewels are recovered, and Sir Harry refuses to prosecute, but makes Deepdale leave the house and promise to quit the neighbourhood. In the third act we find that Lavender has been abducted by Deepdale, assisted by Grant. The girl is taken to the Lecqmont Caves, where exciting incidents transpire. Sir Harry seeks his fiancée, and is about to enter the cave while holding on to a rope, when the rope is cut and the ardent lover falls upon the rocks below. He is captured and bound. Grant drinks a drugged liquor from a flask, thinking it pure spirit, and falls insensible. Arrangements are made by Deepdale for a secret marriage with Lavender. The latter has been rescued and taken outside the cave by Mitchell, and when a clergyman, under a threat of being shot, marries Deepdale to a lady, the latter is found to be none other than Tessa. In the fourth act we find Tessa at Deepdale's home, visited by her old lover Giuseppe. The latter realises Tessa's unhappy life, but hearing Deepdale approach he hides in a room, only to be compelled to listen to further insults heaped upon the young wife by the unprincipled villain. As Deepdale passes the room in which Giuseppe is hidden, the enraged Italian puts out his hand, strangles Deepdale, and leaves the house with Tessa. All ends happily for Sir Harry and his pretty bride, and outside the church in which their wedding takes place the spectacular display of the huntsmen in costume makes a charming stage picture.

Mr. Frank R. Robertson gave a polished enactment of the manly young English gentleman, Sir Harry Felstead; Miss Ethel Ward made a pretty and brightly winsome Lavender Loseby; and Mr. Grayson Bancroft was seen to great advantage as David Loseby. Mr. Annesley Hely submitted a masterly impersonation of the scheming villain, Austin Deepdale; Mr. Harry T. Butler made the most of his opportunities as Archie Ravenscourt, Sir Harry's friend; Mr. Herbert Belmore as Giuseppe Canova and Miss Ella Willmer as Tessa Gianelli played with strong dramatic fervour; Mr. J. Templar Ellis was distinctly effective as Mitchell; Mr. Harvey Welton acquitted himself admirably as Grant; Miss Maud Tremaine made a graceful Kitty Felstead; Mr. George Brentwood afforded unbounded fun as P.C. Dumbleby, and was ably supported by Miss Mollie Hackett as Jenny Jenkins, and Miss Lillah Peltz as Bellamy.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, July 26. Present: Mr. F. J. Arlton (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Chris Walker, C. F. Collings, Robson Paige, Langford Reed, Basil Dean, Frederick Annerley, H. Le Grand, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th inst., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

Mr. Arlton entered a protest against the alterations for payment of quarterly subscriptions passed last week without due notice of motion having been given, and gave notice to rescind that portion dealing with quarterly subscriptions of old members.

Mr. C. F. Collings gave notice that he should move that all motions passed by the Council remain in force six months.

The House Committee's report was read by Mr. Reed, and on the motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Miss Chester, adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Paige, seconded by Miss Chester, a vote of thanks was tendered to Miss Estelle Despa for her kind gift of pictures to the Association.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Collings, and on the motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Miss Cottell, adopted.

The hon. solicitor's report was read, adopted, and instructions given. Another compaint against Mr. Austin Leigh was discussed and instructions given.

The Council gave instructions for the closing of the rooms on Bank Holiday as usual.

Miss Beatrice Fay, Mr. Charles Sparrow, and Miss Bessie Rignold were elected members, and Miss Caroline Fenton was nominated.

"THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE."

A Drama in Four Acts, by J. A. Campbell, Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, July, 25.

Post-Captain Henry Drummond ..... MR. DOUGLAS TREMAYNE
Lieut. Philip Marchant ..MR. GERALD JORDAN
Derek Mason .....MR. GUY HASTINGS
John Melrose .....MR. T. LIONEL ELLIS
Jerry Dale .....MR. FINN DOYLE
Lieut. Arthur Barclay .....MR. STANLEY VINE
Edward Somerville .....MR. L. J. LAWRENCE
Capt. Hubert Sternroyd ....MR. E. H. CLARKE
Sir Dennis Jermyn .....MR. W. WEBB
Gabrielle D'Armaud .....MISS JANICE DEANE
Nanoya .....MISS BABS STUART
Audrey Melrose ....MISS GERTRUDE F. GODART

Mr. J. A. Campbell's latest contribution to popular melodrama, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, is a well-built piece of work, and likely to occupy a permanent place in the esteem of the public for whom he caters. It deals centrally with the double life and downfall of a naval officer, incidentally exploiting the heroic interest that one naturally looks for, as well as the human appeal of a woman and her baby in circumstances of trial and distress. The scene opens at the home of John Melrose, a coast-guard. He is a widower, and has set his mind upon a love-match between his only daughter, Audrey, and Derek Mason, petty officer on H.M.S. Hercules. Audrey, however, has been seen rather frequently about the quarters of Lieut. Philip Marchant of the same ship, and it presently transpires that she and the Lieutenant have been secretly married. The girl is troubled by the secrecy of it, and pleads for a confession to her father; but Marchant resists this on the ground that if he marries before he is twenty-eight (he is not yet twenty-seven) he will lose a large sum of money promised to him by a rich aunt on that condition. He is, meanwhile, jealous of Derek, and knows that he is not favoured by her father. The latter, finding him on the scene, demands the reason of his presence. Philip asks Melrose's consent to his marrying Audrey, but this, of course, is not granted. The situation becomes still more dramatic when from over the cliffs comes Gabrielle d'Armaud with intimate greetings for Philip; for in the midst of the latter's anger at her appearance it turns out that Gabrielle is his wife. The next scene is a room in Lieut. Marchant's quarters ashore, where he is visited by Lieut. Barclay, of H.M.S. Royal Edward, who presses for the return of a loan of £100. Marchant cannot pay, nor is the story of the aunt a true one—indeed, one of the objects of his bigamous marriage with Audrey is to acquire her father's money. A scene ensues between Gabrielle D'Armaud and the Lieutenant on the score of Audrey, which is interrupted by the latter's appearance, followed by her father, who suspects that something is wrong. Derek comes also, prompted to inquiry. Audrey begs Derek to go, and he is about to obey her desire when Marchant, his mouth full of lies, insults her father, and suddenly her feeling for the Lieutenant changes to hate. Melrose, more than ever convinced that something serious is amiss, asks Derek to find out what there is between Audrey and Marchant; and when Audrey and her father have gone there is a strong scene of recrimination between Derek and Marchant, whose evasions are assisted by Gabrielle, until Derek asks her to leave the room for a while. Then he confesses that his name is not Mason, that he is a victim of Marchant's people, who have defrauded him out of money that should have given him a better position in the world, and that Philip himself is always in the way of his ambitions. So bitter the argument becomes that in the end he strikes Philip, and challenges him to call the guard and have him arrested for striking a superior officer. Philip, dreading inquiry, declines, so Derek calls himself. Philip sends the men away, but Derek recalls them, and gives himself up. Next comes the court-martial on board H.M.S. Prince Consort, a really fine scene, not in the least overdone either in acting or staging. All concerned are called, and a very trying scene of inquiry is ended by Audrey's confession that Marchant is a bigamist, and she is shortly to become a mother. She falls fainting, Derek is put away, and Marchant is put on parole. We are returned to the living room in the house of John Melrose. Old John has not forgiven his daughter, though she is in his house with her child, almost mad with anxiety for Derek, whom she now loves as much as she hates the perfidious lieutenant. Asking forgiveness of her father, she lays her head on his knee and falls asleep from exhaustion. She is roused by the clicking of a revolver, and hears her father muttering of his intention to kill Marchant and then destroy himself. The sudden appearance of Marchant cuts short a tragic moment. He says he has been released, but the approach of soldiers and the hasty warning of Gabrielle reveal the fact that he has broken parole. He hides, threatening to shoot Audrey if they give him up. The soldiers come in, and ask if Lieut. Marchant has been there (he is levelling the revolver at Audrey from behind a door), and Audrey answers, "Yes, he is there!" There is a report, and Audrey falls, but not wounded. All this time the old man has been standing in a dazed fashion, taking no notice. The soldiers take Philip; and Gabrielle walks out, laughing and singing over the episode. Audrey rouses herself; the baby is brought in; and her father, unable any longer to resist the appeal of mother and child, forgives the unhappy victim at last. Upon this come the Judge-Advocate and Derek, free. Audrey, rocking the cradle, looks up, sees Derek, and goes to him; and he opens his arms for her. The curtain falls, but it raised again upon a tableau of Audrey and Derek kneeling by the cradle, and old John Melrose looking on, roused from his stupor. Thus the story ends.

The scenery and dresses were very pretty and effective, and there were here and there several amusing passages between Jerry Dale, of the Hercules, and Nanoya, Audrey's Cingalee maid, which were much appreciated. Nothing vulgar or suggestive was introduced at any part of the play; it was clean, interesting, and undoubtedly successful. Miss Gertrude F. Godart as Audrey carried off the prime honours. Her voice was full of pathos, and her style just suited to the part. Mr. Guy Hastings as Derek Mason was also very fine, carrying himself well, and acting with all his accustomed tact and skill. As John Melrose Mr. T. Lionel Ellis added a remarkably good depiction; Mr. Gerald Jordan brought out the villainy of Philip Marchant in commendable style; and Miss Janice Deane was good as the Frenchwoman, Gabrielle D'Armaud; while Mr. Finn Doyle as Jerry Dale and Miss Babs Stuart as Nanoya worked together with an admirable sense of humour. Calls for the author were duly answered by Mr. Campbell, who was much gratified by the hearty reception of the play.

MR. FRED C. WHITNEY, the American impresario, who is to produce *The Chocolate Soldier* in England, the musical version of Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man*, says the American public is weary of musical comedy. "I think," he said, "that the tide has once more turned. The public is sick of vaudeville in high places, except in cases of exceptional merit, and cloyed to a great extent with the heavy diet of grand opera. It has had an attack of indigestion, and comic opera—real comic opera—is the antidote. All that is necessary now is to nurse that condition by giving the public the right kind of works and in the right manner." There is no sign of any such weariness in this country.

MISS CLARA ALEXANDER'S MATINEE.

Opportunity was taken by Miss Clara Alexander, who is justly esteemed for her Negro impersonations, to display her talent in other directions, and for that purpose produced two new playlets at the Queen's Theatre on Tuesday at a matinée given by her in aid of the West Ham Hospital. Many of the artists on the programme were conspicuous by their absence, but an audience none too numerous greatly appreciated the efforts of those who appeared. Neither of the plays referred to, which were both from the pen of Miss Kate Lyon, contained anything particularly meritorious. The first was an episode of the American Civil War, entitled

"PEACE."

George Carter .....MR. NORMAN TREVOR
Tramp .....MR. J. LINDSAY
Jake .....MISS MARJORIE DAY
A Soldier .....MR. CECIL BEVAN
Elsie Winston .....MISS CLARA ALEXANDER

It depicts the endeavour of a Northerner to carry a message to the general in command of the Federal Army, by which a sanguinary engagement would be prevented. Pursued by the Southern soldiery, he seeks refuge at the hands of a young girl, whose horror of war induces her to assist him. Her lover, however, is less impressionable, and delivers the man up to his pursuers, not, however, before he has entrusted his despatch to the girl, who secretes it in a ball of wool, and declines to tell anyone of its whereabouts, although her sweetheart threatens to leave her if she refuses to obey. Nothing of an incriminating character being found on the prisoner, he is released, and regaining possession of the paper makes off, while the lover and his lass are reunited. Miss Alexander proved her ability as an actress by a charming impersonation of the gentle and warm-hearted Southern girl. She had invaluable assistance from Mr. Norman Trevor as the Southern officer, and Mr. J. Lindsay acted impressively as the refugee. A good word should also be given to Miss Marjorie Day, who played a Negro boy cleverly.

The other dramatic item was a story of Italian peasant life, also by Miss Lyon, entitled

"THE ROSE."

Reni .....MISS CLARA ALEXANDER
Alessandro .....MR. J. LINDSAY
Signor Werth .....MR. F. WARLOCK
Madre .....MISS ROSALIND ROSS
Riccardo .....MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT

A tedious imbroglio is furnished in the above playlet, the construction of which leaves much to be desired. It tells of an Italian gambler who, to gain money to pay his debts, sells his right to the love of his sweetheart to an unscrupulous Pole, whose advances, however, are firmly resisted by Reni, the young lady in question. She begs Alessandro, her lover, not to desert her, and, overcome by her pleadings, he resolves to return to his allegiance, making an appointment for the evening. Reni's brother has overheard the two men's compact, which he reveals to Reni, telling her that the Pole is coming to carry her off at the time appointed by Alessandro. Reni provides herself with a dagger in view of eventualities, and is about to plunge it into the heart of Alessandro, who is dressed like the Pole, when he reveals himself, and reconciliations ensue. Miss Alexander acted well as the Italian girl, displaying much dramatic fervour and emotional skill. Mr. F. Warlock made a properly sinister personage of the Pole, and Mr. J. Lindsay played the unthankful rôle of the lover.

Miss Alexander was also heard and applauded in some of her popular impressions of Negro life, and the rest of the programme was contributed by well-known artists. Mr. Gordon Cleather gave manifest pleasure with his rendering of "Drake's drum" and "The old Superb." Miss Sybil Arundale entranced all with her song "If only I'd been born a boy"; Miss Marta Cunningham sang Arditi's "L'Extasi" exquisitely; Mr. Cecil Bevan told funny stories in excellent style; and Miss Josephine La Barte greatly amused with admirably rendered songs at the piano.

NEW THEATRE AT BARRY DOCK.

The Theatre Royal, Barry Dock, erected for Messrs. Jours, Ltd., was opened on Monday by the managing-director, Mr. Arthur Carlton, and may properly be described as one of the finest theatres in the principality. The new theatre was designed by Mr. Ernest Knapman, of Barry Dock, and the imposing character of the building—its fine design and decorative work—reflects the highest credit upon that gentleman's skill. The auditorium is handsome and commodious, capable of seating 2,500. The stalls are finely upholstered in Rose du Barri velvet with silk stripes, while the front rows of the pit have comfortable arm-chairs. The wallpaper harmonises in colour with the draperies, carpet, and upholstering. A great feature is the electric lighting. On the stage alone are 800 lights, exclusive of several high-power arc lights, and two large dynamos give an output of 500 amperes.

The manager is Mr. Hamilton A. Warden, a gentleman of considerable experience, who will be assisted by Mr. Frank Dure.

A crowded and fashionable audience attended the opening on Monday evening. Mr. Carlton appeared on the stage after the entire company had sung "God Save the King," and had a rousing reception, for which he returned thanks in an able and eloquent speech. The opening attraction was *The Dairymaids*, presented by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company. Mr. Norman Bowers sustained the chief part (Joe Mivens) with credit, and immediately made himself popular; Miss Eva Ellis acted and sang delightfully as Peggy; and the rôle of Helen left nothing to be desired in the hands of Miss Phyllis Desmond; Miss Margaret Carter made an imposing Lady Brudenell; and Dr. Bryne was capitally portrayed by Mr. Bernard Vaughan. Very amusing was Miss Ruby Louis as Eliza, her duet with Mr Bowers in the Gymnasium scene gaining well deserved encores. Fun was provided by Messrs. Donald Price Evans and Algernon W. Lee. Miss Kathlene Simco was a pleasing Winifred. The chorus was strong and the mounting delightful.

Mr. Paul Smythe ably conducted an augmented orchestra. The production was under the capable management of Mr. Andrew W. Spens. The stage manager is Mr. Ernest Pearce.

AT Sotheby's Rooms on the 22nd inst. the first four folios of Shakespeare's works were submitted for sale. The first folio was sold for £1,800. The first edition probably consisted of 500 copies, of which about 200 survive, but of these less than twenty are perfect. The second folio realised £2 10s., and the third folio (published in 1613) sold for £850. The fourth folio made £76. The third folio is as rare as the first folio, for many copies were destroyed in the Great Fire of London. A defective first folio went for £600.

THE Festival of Empire, postponed owing to the death of his late Majesty King Edward VII., will be held at the Crystal Palace, London, in connection with the Coronation festivities upon a more gigantic scale than would have been the case this year. Mr. Leolyn Hart, the well-known scenic artist, is busily engaged upon one of the most stupendous productions ever placed before the public. This will be held in conjunction with the Pageant of London. It is an entirely new idea, and one that has never before been treated in such a manner. It is estimated that the production will find employment for over 2,000 men for about six months, and the whole will be completed for opening early in May, 1911.

DEATH OF HAWES CRAVEN.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Hawes Craven, the well-known scenic artist, which took place on the 22nd inst., of acute bronchitis and cardiac failure at the age of seventy-three. Mr. Craven was born at Leeds, and his parents were both on the York circuit. His father took young Craven to London, where the parent became engaged at the old Marylebone and Strand Theatres. At the latter house, the scene painter, Mr. Dearlove, advised young Craven to study drawing at the Marlborough House School of Design, where the future scenic artist carried off all the prizes. He was apprenticed to John Gray, the scene painter of the Britannia Theatre, where he gained a variety of experience and obtained a good deal of practice. They only did the special work such as the pantomime, a new piece for Easter, and an autumn drama. Mr. Gray having attracted attention by some really fine work, was offered a West-End engagement, and took young Craven with him to the Olympic Theatre, under the management of Alfred Wigan, which merged into that of Emden and Robson. Having made some progress, he was offered the engagement of second painter, and it was at the Olympic in 1865 that he painted the scenery for Wilkie Collins's play *The Frozen Deep*. Then commenced his real experience, which came about through Mr. Gray being seized with rheumatic fever. Mr. Craven used to tell the story as follows: "One day some gentlemen came up to the painting room concerning the production of a new piece, and the preparation of scenery for it. Mr. Emden, who was manager of the theatre then with Mr. Robson, asked me if I thought that I could do the work myself. The new scene was to represent the interior of a lighthouse. Another gentleman who was looking through a portfolio of my sketches from nature, questioned me very closely. Had I ever seen a lighthouse? I said yes. Among my holidays I had been to Plymouth, and been to the Eddystone; further, I had taken sketches, not only of the exterior, but the interior of the lighthouse and of its predecessors, which were hung and framed in the living room there. My old habit of drawing everything I saw stood me well then. They said they would like to see my sketches. Next day I brought them, and they came to see

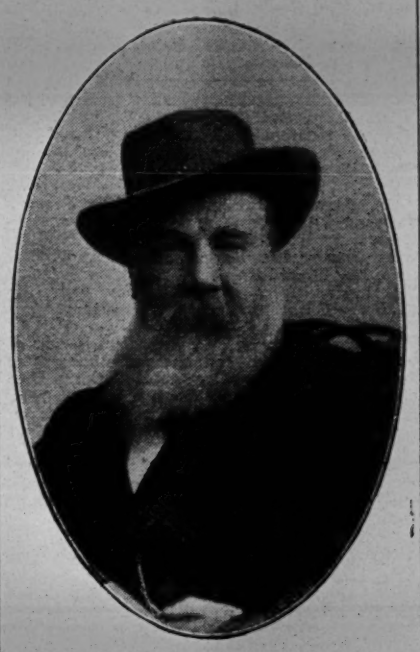

THE LATE MR. HAWES CRAVEN.

them. One of these gentlemen was Mr. Charles Dickens, who passed them over to another gentleman, who decided they were of some merit, and to his knowledge particularly truthful—in fact, just what they wanted, the action of the play taking place in the living-room of the Eddystone Lighthouse, a night scene with a violent storm. It was agreed that I should do the scene. As soon as this was settled the gentleman who had my sketches in his hand produced one of his own—Eddystone Lighthouse during a storm, with a wild moonlight sky, a passing vessel, and some wreckage in the wild waters. This was one of the finest things I had then seen, and no wonder, it was Clarkson Stanfield himself I was talking to—Clarkson Stanfield, the great scene painter, the Royal Academician, the finest marine painter living. He said, 'I want you to copy this, young man, for me, but do it large and do it in scenic colours on scenic canvas, that I may form my judgment. I will come in a couple of days to see it.' How I did work! I was at it early and late. I made a sketch 10ft. by 8ft. They all came to the appointment—Mr. Clarkson Stanfield, Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Wilkie Collins, Mr. Emden, and Mr. Frederick Robson, the famous actor. 'Bravo!' said Stanfield 'you shall paint that again—larger. You shall paint it as an act drop for this play for this theatre, as an idea of my own.' And I did. I also painted the scene and made my first success. Mr. Stanfield gave me his own drawing as a reward, and the management raised my salary."

Mr. Craven next joined the celebrated William Beverley at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, then under the management of B. T. Smith. On one occasion, when the pantomime was in full swing and they were approaching Christmas, some disaffection occurred amongst the assistants, and most of them suddenly left, there being no written engagements. Mr. Craven remained. Mr. Beverley said nothing, but he did something. Every painting frame was filled at once with scenery to be painted which would have fallen to the lot of the assistants up to Christmas. Beverley and Craven worked together for fifty-six hours. After that they worked a week the regular time—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Again they had fifty-six hours consecutively. For refreshments they had sherry and eggs, dry toast and tea. This went on till arrears were caught up.

During the management of Frederick Gye at Covent Garden, Craven did all the scenery for the great operas—*The Huguenots, Robert the Devil, Der Freischutz, Norma, Dinorah, Marta*, and many others. After some years Mr. Craven joined Charles Fechter, and did most of the work for *Monte Cristo, The Duke's Motto, No Thoroughfare, Black and White, Bel Demonio*, and *The King's Butterfly*, until the end of the Lyceum seasons under Fechter. In due course he was engaged by Mr. H. L. Bateman for the Lyceum Theatre. Upon the death of Mr. Bateman, Henry Irving became manager, and the work that Craven did at the Lyceum is still well remembered. He painted the scenery for *Richelieu, Hamlet, Macbeth, The Belle's Stratagem, Philip, Much Ado About Nothing, Faust, Charles I., Becket, King Arthur, Romeo and Juliet, Olivia, Coriolanus, Cymbeline, Richard III., The Amber Heart, The Dead Heart, The Cup, Eugene Aram, The Bells, The Merchant of Venice, Louis XI., Vanderdecken, King Lear, The Corsican Brothers, Queen Mary, The Lyons Mail, Werner, Ravenswood*, and many other dramas. Sir Henry Irving considered it necessary that Mr. Craven should visit the several countries wherein the scenes of the plays were laid, so that the impression of fidelity might be given to all the details, and the late artist undoubtedly owed much of his ability and success to this practice.

Even with every care, however, it was not always possible to avoid error. In the case of Irving's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in 1882, for which Craven painted the scenery, the artist had been given a free hand in dealing with one of the scenes, and he painted a magnificent cedar-walk. Mr. Bram Stoker tells us that a correspondent informed Irving that cedars had not been introduced into Messina until a few years before the time in which the scene is laid, and therefore they could not have attained the great size bestowed on them by the artist.

One of Craven's finest scenes was that of the interior of the Temple of Diana in Irving's production of *The Cup* in 1879. He made drawings from ancient vases, and part of a real column from Ephesus was used in the set. Irving, says Mr. Stoker, studied the mounting of *Faust* at Nuremberg and Rothenburg, and sent for Craven, whose visit to these beautiful old towns resulted in some wonderful scenes, which greatly delighted the Crown Prince Frederick of Germany when he saw the play at the Lyceum. Miss Ellen Terry wrote that "dear Mr. Hawes Craven, who so loved his garden, could paint the flicker of golden sunlight for the stage better than anyone." Mr. Craven also did the scenery for some of Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's productions at His Majesty's, including the Hades scene in *Ulysses*.

Craven's methods of work were characteristic. Mr. Bram Stoker, in his "Reminiscences of Sir Henry Irving," says he "could work like a demon when time pressed. Ordinarily he wore, when at work in those days, a long coat, once of a dark colour, and an old brown bowler hat, both splashed out of all recognition with paint. Scene-painting is essentially a splashy business, the drops of paint from the great brushes, of necessity vigorously used to cover the acres of canvas, 'come not in single spies but in battalions.' But when matters got desperate, when the pressure of the time-gauge registered not in hours, but in minutes, the head-gear was changed for a red handkerchief, which, twisted round the head, made a sort of turban. This became in time a kind of oriflamme. We knew that there was to be no sleep, and precious little pause even for food, till the work was done."

The funeral took place at Brockley Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon.

THE WALTER STEPHENS' APPEAL.

A SAD CASE.

Mr. Walter Stephens, a clever author, late a theatrical manager, and long an earnest supporter of and investor in theatrical and variety enterprises, is in need of help, caused by illness and adverse speculations. To prove his claim to the consideration of the benevolent we give some particulars of his work in the profession. Mr. Stephens, by his extensive support of, and investment in, theatrical enterprises has directly and indirectly spent many thousands of pounds and has given work to many hundreds of people.

On leaving, early in life, the legal profession, for which he had studied most successfully, Mr. Stephens started theatrical work by writing, in collaboration with Mr. Fenton Mackay, the highly successful farcical comedy *Brown at Brighton*. Later he wrote, by himself, another farcical comedy, namely *A Trip to Margate*.

About the same time he embarked in sundry touring enterprises with such celebrated plays as *The Cherry Girl* (two companies), *The Flood-Tide*, and *Human Nature*. He also became managing-director of these companies. Next Mr. Stephens, greatly daring, as was ever his wont, dramatised "Paradise Lost." This play was promptly prohibited by the English Censor, notwithstanding the fact that, as all students of Milton know, that great religious poet himself started a dramatisation of his mighty epic!

Mr. Stephens also prepared for the stage Tolstoy's story, "While Ye Have the Light," and he began to write extensively and eruditely on the Repertory and National Theatre schemes, also spending a great deal of money as well as time in seeking to forward these ideas.

Among Mr. Stephens's more recent dramatic work was his writing, in collaboration with Mr. Chance Newton, a farcical comedy, at present called *Are You a Smoker?* and an apparently very powerful and romantic new dramatisation of the immortal "Don Quixote." The production of these two plays has not, at present, gone beyond the "copyright" performance stage.

As regards Mr. Stephens's variety work, that has indeed been varied. In addition to writing several clever sketches, he claims to have "created" the Putney Hippodrome. Also of causing, somewhat less directly, the "creation" of at least three variety theatres out of previous playhouses.

In the engagement of certain variety companies of artists, and in generous subscriptions to variety (as well as theatrical) charities and funds, Mr. Stephens has spent both willingly and largely.

Mr. Stephens attributes his present painful position in a certain degree to the great music hall strike, followed by a most severe and painful illness, which rendered him quite helpless, and he is lying in immediate need of assistance. In his better days Mr. Stephens spent largely in charity, and was indeed ever a generous and benevolent man, and this appeal is made, especially to theatrical and music hall managers and professionals, in order that some of his friends among them, and also some whom he has helped in the past, may aid in assisting him over his present difficulties.

All donations forwarded to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Hon. Treasurer, at *The Era* office, will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue nine years ago of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition just published comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the New Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

A Summer Night, by Mr. G. H. Clutsam, was performed for the first time at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday night before a large audience. Mr. Clutsam, the composer, is a skilled pianist, has written several songs and a cantata, *The Quest of Rapunzel*, besides being a musical critic of modern ideals. The libretto of Mr. Clutsam's one-act opera is based on a story in the Heptameron by Marguerite of Navarre. Facio, a farmer, and his wife Lucretia have a maidservant Lisa, who is engaged to a young muleteer, Toni. Facio and his old friend Niccolo are talking of the coming marriage of the young couple and their own past days when Lisa enters. Facio gives her a ring, telling Niccolo not to mention it to his wife. Niccolo declares he will get back the ring, and the two friends have a wager about it. Facio is to ask Lisa to meet him at night, when Niccolo is to take his place. Lisa agrees, but also privately tells Lucretia all about the matter, and the wife determines to impersonate her servant at the meeting-place. Niccolo thinks Lucretia is Lisa, and secures the ring. Owing to an alarm Toni searches the garden, and Niccolo, to avoid him, gets into a tree. On Niccolo showing the ring and claiming the wager, Facio recognises it as belonging to his wife, and is in a great rage. Lucretia also is surprised to find that instead of her husband she had met Niccolo. All, however, is soon explained by Lucretia, who rebukes Facio and Niccolo for being so foolish, and the opera ends happily with the love matters of Toni and Lisa. Slight as the plot is, it serves to introduce some pretty music, the most important being for the orchestra. Lisa has a solo of considerable charm. The lovers' duet is pleasing, and the quartet admirably written, while an interlude for the orchestra, although somewhat long, has decided interest. The performance, excellent as it was, would have gone with greater spirit if spoken dialogue had been employed. Indeed, the gay themes in the orchestra seem to demand such treatment. Miss Beatrice la Palme was excellent as the vivacious Lisa, and sang admirably, while the more staid part of Lucretia, the farmer's wife, was most ably undertaken by Miss Muriel Terry. Mr. Walter Hyde sang and acted with spirit as the lover Toni, and Mr. Harry Dearth and Mr. Lewys James were entirely successful as the middle-aged friends Niccolo and Facio. The orchestra, under Mr. Thomas Beecham's skilful guidance, played superbly, and the scene of the old farmyard, with the Tuscan hills in the distance, was charming. *A Summer Night* met with a hearty reception, both composer and Mr. Beecham being called on. After Mr. Clutsam's opera, Mozart's lively work *Impresario* was given for the first time. Originally produced in Schönbrum in 1786, under the title of *Der Schaupielderektor*, Mozart's little comedy, arranged by Mr. Alfred Kalisch, proved extremely funny, and kept the house full of merriment throughout the performance. As the much-troubled impresario Frank, Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin was very diverting, while the satirical Buff of Mr. Hubert Carter proved also excellent. Mr. Calvert acted cleverly the part of Eiles, a banker, who is so eager that his lady friend Mme. Pfeil should be engaged by the impresario. Miss Caroline Hatchard as Mme. Hertz, the prima donna, sang delightfully, and Miss Beatrice la Palme, who impersonated Mme. Silberklang, gave an excellent account of the rondo, "Sweetest Damon, I am willing." These two ladies, of course, want the chief part as prima donna, and the fun is further increased by actors and actresses demanding special parts of the bothered manager. The Misses Elinor Foster, Doris Lytton, and Grace Croft appeared as the actresses, and a leadinng male character was ably sustained by Mr. John Bardsley. Mr. Cuthbert Hawley conducted the orchestra.

MR. MULHOLLAND ON SUNDAY PERFORMANCES.

It occasionally happens that a curtailed report of a speech, when certain portions are necessarily separated from their context, does not convey a correct impression of the whole, and this applies to the published account of Mr. J. B. Mulholland's remarks at the meeting held at Terry's Theatre last week. Referring to the many Sunday performances now given under the guise of charity, he said this seemed to be a charity which begins at home—and stays there! In fact, charity is made to cover a multitude of sins. The operation of the Income Tax Acts was said to be making us a nation of liars, but the operation of the entertainment licences was calculated to create a class not only of liars but of hypocrites. He did not agree, he said, with Mr. Jesson's criticism of the Sunday League, as that organisation appeared to him (Mr. Mulholland) to comply not only with the letter but with the spirit of the resolution that places of entertainment should not be open on Sunday "for purposes of trade or for profit and gain."

Licensing regulations were applied drastically to one class of licensee and loosely or not at all to another. This was unjust and wrong, especially to the conscientious licensee, not only because it gave his competitor an unfair advantage, but sapped his own sense of fairness and of right. But the anomalies of licensing were such that they might be referred to as chaos. A good deal had been said about the picture theatres, which, he understood, presented a similar programme on Sundays as on week-days. But supposing he produced the same play on Sunday which he had played during the week his licence would be forfeited. Much capital had been made out of the educational influence of the picture theatre; but he ventured to think that Martin Harvey in *The Only Way* or Forbes Robertson in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* would, on educational or moral grounds, compare not unfavourably with the most moving of moving pictures. He protested against invidious distinctions being made, but if they continued then he, as a theatre manager, would claim equal privileges as a right. He therefore supported the resolution upon general grounds, but entirely subject to its having a general application.

ON Monday the management of the Crystal Palace announce a long and entertaining programme of amusements, both in the vast building and in the extensive grounds. There will be military bands playing from 10.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m., including the East Surrey Military, London Victoria Military, Crystal Palace Military, and Crystal Palace Quadrille Bands; organ recitals by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock; grand variety shows, the artists including the Czars, Miss Kessanly's Dogs, the Carlens, and the Florias; a grand bioscope and gramophone entertainment in the electric theatre; side shows—Old London, Fairy Archipelago, water chute, rapids, boating, the ever-popular maze, and other such exhilarating excitement. There will be sports on the cycle track by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, and last, but most certainly the *bonne bouche* of the day will be Messrs. Pain and Sons' greatest spectacle ever witnessed, "The Fall of Pompeii." This is really a marvellous show, and on Monday visitors will have the opportunity of witnessing two performances during the day. Surely a programme to suit the most fastidious, for those tired of indoor entertainments, if they go to the Crystal Palace, can roam about the beautiful grounds which, with great thickets of trees, flowers, and picturesque lakes, more than equal many parks in and around London. The variety show performances will be given twice daily during the holiday week, and "The Fall of Pompeii" will be performed every evening at 9.30

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

SIR HERBERT TREE'S preparations for the production at His Majesty's Theatre of *Henry VIII.* on Sept. 1 are being rapidly pushed forward, and Sir Herbert and Mr. Louis N. Parker have completed a very effective and satisfactory "version" of the play. There will be more people employed on the stage in *Henry VIII.* than in anything Sir Herbert has yet done.

THE following will be the arrangement of scenes:—Act I.: Scene 1, A cloister; 2, The Council Chamber in the Palace; 3, The Banqueting Hall in York Place. Act II.: Scene 1, Riverside street on Watergate, in Westminster; 2, The Oriel Gallery in the King's Palace; 3, A pleasaunce at Windsor; 4, The Great Hall of Blackfriars. Act III.: Scene 1, A pleasaunce at Windsor; 2, Council Chamber adjoining a chapel; 3, Interior of Westminster Abbey; 4, Queen's Chamber at Kimbolton; 5, The Oriel Gallery in the King's Palace; 6, Tilt-yard in the Royal Palace at Greenwich.

THERE are no transpositions of the text in the new version, but Sir Herbert and Mr. Parker have omitted all that part of the play which deals with the political beginnings of the Reformation, which would hardly be comprehensible and would certainly not interest a modern audience. This, however, means hardly more than the omission of one scene. We have the Prologue, but not the Epilogue. The printed play is in five acts, but the revisers have merely rearranged the division of the scenes, not their sequence.

IF represented without any change of scene and no intervals whatever, *Henry VIII.* would take three hours to perform. At His Majesty's it will play for two hours and a half, "waits" included. The changes of scene will take a very short time, and the *entr'actes* will be brief. The scene in Westminster Abbey will be a magnificent spectacle, taking in the whole of the great stage of the theatre. The producers have ransacked every authority and obtained astonishing exactitude. They will introduce a part song, with the words and music by King Henry VIII.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has left London for a voyage on a friend's yacht until the middle of August, when he will return with Mrs. Bourchier (Miss Violet Vanbrugh) for Sir Herbert Tree's rehearsals of *Henry VIII.*

MR. JAMES WELCH will commence his sixth tour with Charles Marlowe's famous farce *When Knights Were Bold* at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, on Monday. Mr. Welch will be supported by practically the same cast that appeared with him at Wyndham's and Criterion theatres. Another company, with Mr. Langdon Bruce in Mr. Welch's part of Sir Guy, and Miss Isla Glyn as Rowena, will start a tour at Margate on the same date. This tour will run right through to May, and both will be under the direction of Mr. Arthur Whittaker.

MR. GEORGE BARRETT will, at the termination of the run of *The Whip* at Drury Lane, appear at the Tivoli in a seaside scena, which has been specially written for him by Herbert C. Sargent, the author of many of the popular tabloid comedies which form so prominent a feature in music hall programmes. Mr. Barrett will be supported by Miss Joan Burton and Miss Ray Vivien.

AFTER the performance of *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on the 22nd inst. Mr. Frank Curzon and Miss Isabel Jay were called on the stage by Mr. Bertram Wallis and presented by him—on behalf of everyone employed in the theatre, from the call-boy to Mr. Wallis himself—with a loving-cup in the form of a large silver bowl and two silver goblets.

REPLYING to Mr. Wallis's address of congratulation, Mr. Curzon remarked that the presentation did honour to two great occasions of his career, as it served not only to commemorate his marriage with Miss Jay, but also to remind him that that day (Friday) was the tenth anniversary of his management of the Prince of Wales's.

ON Saturday night, after the fall of the curtain on *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's Theatre, Mr. Curzon and Miss Jay were made the recipients of a handsome pair of candelabra and an autograph book with the signatures of the company and staff.

MISS JAY and Mr. Curzon were married on Monday at the Church of St. Dionis, Parsons Green, S.W., the ceremony having been delayed for half an hour, owing to a mishap to the bride's motor-car. The wedding was quite private, and attended by only a few near relatives. Miss Jay, who was dressed in a white costume covered with lace, was accompanied by a little girl, who acted as bridesmaid. Mr. Curzon's brother officiated as best man. After the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Curzon left for the Continent.

MR. EDWARD TERRY has appointed Mr. Percy H. Vernon his representative in London during his autumn tour.

A RATHER startling incident took place on Monday, July 25, at the Pier Pavilion Theatre, Hastings, during the visit of *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* company in connection with the Battersea flat mystery. The Scotland Yard authorities, following up a supposed clue, sent detectives to the theatre to make inquiries concerning two members of the company under suspicion, who, it appears, had been pupils at Miss Earle's Dramatic School, and, while pursuing their studies in a course of her instruction, had to call and see her at certain periods some time ago. The Scotland Yard people found that one of the artists had sailed for Australia, and that the last time he had performed in this country in the above play was on Friday night, July 15, at the Theatre Royal, Middlesbro'-on-Tees. After a long and searching examination at the Police Station it was proved to the satisfaction of the officials that one of the artists was acting in the drama on Saturday evening, July 16, the night that the tragedy took place, and that the other artist, now on his way to Australia, was in front of the theatre all Saturday evening, July 16, watching the play and seeing his successor in the part.

THE Hon. Ronald William Edward Finch, youngest son of the Earl of Aylesford, who is just twenty-one years old and a midshipman in the Royal Navy, was best man at the wedding on Monday at the Registry Office, Poland-street, W., of Mr. Edward Charles St. John Ronaldson and Miss Ida Stockwell. Bride and bridegroom were rehearsing at the Gaiety Theatre all last week, and will spend their honeymoon in *The Merry Widow* touring company.

COLONEL MAPLESON has arranged with Signor de Macchi, the Italian impresario of Rome, to give an Italian opera season at the Kingsway Theatre, commencing on Sept. 1. The opening performance will be Rossini's *Il Barbiere*, when Mlle. De Frate, daughter of Signor Gianoli Galletti, will appear as Rosina, in which rôle she has had a remarkable success in Italy. Several new Italian operas will be given, and the company will consist of many excellent artists, who will appear in England for the first time. Signor de Macchi will conduct on the opening night.

THE honorary freedom of the borough was conferred on Monday upon Mr. F. R. Benson, the well-known Shakespearean actor and theatrical manager, by the Stratford-on-Avon Corporation. David Garrick was similarly honoured in 1769. Mr. Benson has for over twenty years given the annual performances in the Memorial Theatre at Stratford to commemorate the poet's birthday, and during that time has produced thirty-three different plays of Shakespeare.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, whose tour of the provincial cities commences at the Opera House, Harrogate, on Aug. 22, proposes to spend a good portion of the vacation motoring, as is his custom. At present, in the company of Sir George Frampton, the celebrated sculptor, Mr. Harvey is visiting some of the historic spots in the West of England, and presently will move on to Scotland, where the two artists, each famous in his own sphere, will spend a considerable time.

MR. LIONEL RIGNOLD'S company opened its tour of *What the Butler Saw* at Weymouth on the 21st inst to a fine house, and did excellent business for the three nights. The comedy went like wildfire, and Mr. Rignold has been offered the best week of next year for a return visit. The local Press is enthusiastic.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who lately gave a special performance of *David Garrick* at Hastings, has been presented by a well-known doctor in that popular resort with a handsome signet ring, at one time the property of Sothern, the original exponent of the part.

THE Gaiety Theatre Company has had a very successful year, notwithstanding a temporary diminution of receipts for a few weeks, owing to the lamented death of the late King. After writing off £7,289 for depreciation, the net profit for the twelve months amounted to £29,096, which, added to £6,966 brought forward, makes a total available surplus of £36,062, apart from a reserve fund of £5,000 which it was decided to create last year. It is now proposed to pay a dividend of 3s. per share, together with a bonus of 1s., being equal to twenty per cent. for the year. It is also proposed to increase the reserve by £10,000, or to £15,000, which is equivalent to twenty-five per cent. of the share capital. A sum of £14,062 will be carried forward, being £7,096 more than the sum carried over last year.

MR. W. CLARKSON sends us a copy of the following letter which he has received from Toronto:—"Queen's Own Rifles, Semi-Centennial Reunion. Reunion Headquarters, 36, King Street East, Toronto, Canada. W. Clarkson, Esq., Dear Sir,—On behalf of the committee in charge of the Queen's Own Reunion and Historical Pageant, I am instructed to express to you their great satisfaction with the costumes sent for our use. Their completeness and general appearance of being the genuine article in all cases met with the hearty approval not only of the committee, but of the public who attended the Pageant, the richness of many of the costumes being universally admired. We had perfect weather, and we trust the costumes will be found in excellent condition, as no rain fell during the two weeks of dress rehearsals and the production of the Pageant."

"THE WHIP," Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton's sporting drama, which has been such an unprecedented success at Drury Lane Theatre, is in the ninth month of its run, and reached its 250th performance on Friday. The successful melodrama looks like continuing to attract the public until the pantomime is ready for production. Long since the patrons of Old Drury had "subscribed" a hundred thousand pounds to see the play, and the receipts are still increasing.

ARRANGEMENTS have been concluded with Mr. Percy Harrison whereby that well-known impresario brings Mme. Tetrazzini to the Crystal Palace for a special grand concert on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 24. Mme. Tetrazzini's triumphs, both on the operatic stage and concert platform in London, New York, and the Continent, are so well known that it is needless to dilate on them here. The concert at the Palace will be given in the Centre Transept, which will suit her magnificent voice exactly. She has more than once expressed her desire to sing there. Mme. Tetrazzini will be supported by a company of well-known artists.

THE attraction at the Marlborough Theatre next week will be J. Bannister Howard's *The Earl and the Girl* company, with Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese. In the second act will be introduced the famous *Chantecler* dresses, which have been specially made for this company by Mr. Willie Clarkson and are a facsimile of those used in Paris.

MR. ALEX. HENDERSON and Mr. F. C. Whitney will produce at the Lyric Theatre on Sept. 10 the comic opera in three acts, entitled *The Chocolate Soldier*, by Bernauer and Jacobsen, English version by Stanislaus Stange. The music is by Mr. Oscar Strauss. This opera was a sensational success last season in New York, and is being revived there in September. It is, however, essentially English, and will be interpreted at the Lyric Theatre entirely by English artists. Several interesting engagements are pending, full particulars of which will be given at a later date.

THE London County Council, at their meeting on Tuesday, sanctioned drawings submitted by Mr. B. Crewe, showing a proposal to erect a theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue and Broad-street, Holborn. The theatre will have accommodation for about 2,450 persons.

MISS MAY ROBSON and her company sailed for New York on Saturday, and will arrive in London on or about Aug. 11 to make preparations for the production of the American farce comedy *The Rejuvenation of Aunt May*, which will be produced at Terry's Theatre on Aug. 22 under the management of Mr. L. S. Sire.

THE autumn tour of Mr. Alex. Maclean's new and successful romantic play, *My Lady Bellamy*, will commence next week. Mr. Maclean will again be supported by Miss Laura Leigh, in the title-rôle, Miss Mary Palmer, Mr. A. D. Layland, Mr. Burke, and others of the original cast, noteworthy changes being that Mr. Lyttleton-Holyoake will play King William III. and Mr. Eric Snowdon the spy Tarfax. Mr. Maclean will probably prolong the tour over the period originally intended owing to the great appreciation the play has met with in the provinces. The tour opens at Whitby on Aug. 1.

MISS ROSE MONCRIEFF will tour this Christmas her pantomime production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, as played last year at Brixton Theatre.

AT the conclusion of the midsummer term of the Royal College of Music on Wednesday, the following awards were made by the Director and Board of Professors:—Council Exhibitions—Pianoforte, Gladys M. Cawston, £10; singing, David Ellis, £10; singing, Mary O. Congreve-Pridgeon, £10; violin, Antonio Piedra, £10; and organ, Cecil K. F. Wright, £10. The London Musical Society's prize for singing, value £3 3s., was won by William J. Dodds; Messrs. W. E. Hill and Sons violin prize went to Philip Levine; and the Savage Club Exhibition to Edith F. Ivimey (pianoforte).

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, the enterprising lessee and manager of the Opera House, Southport, is very busy just now working from eight to ten hours a day, and sometimes more, at rehearsals alone, for the new plays which he is going to shortly give Southport theatregoers and those from a wider field an opportunity of witnessing. For the visit of *The Blue Bird* the entire London production and company are being taken to Southport. The scenery for its setting is astonishingly elaborate, and before the visit could be decided upon the stage-manager of the Haymarket Theatre was engaged to inspect the Opera House and measure the stage accommodation there, and see whether it was at all possible to take that brilliant attraction there. However, with certain alterations it has been found possible to do this, and Southport is, therefore, not to have to forego this treat. The company will consist of no fewer than 140 artists, this play being in several senses the most stupendous that has ever been done in this class of production.

LATER in the year Mr. Hutchison is going to have *Peter Pan*, which will go direct from the Duke of York's Theatre, also with the original company, including Miss Pauline Chase in the leading rôle. The next production will be *The House of Temperley*. Here again the original company playing it has been booked to appear at the Opera House, and this company is over a hundred artists strong. *The Speckled Band*, *The Mountaineers*, and *The Brass Bottle* are also engaged. The Carl Rosa Opera company and the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company are to pay return visits, as also will *Our Miss Gibbs* and *The Arcadians*.

MR. F. R. BENSON, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. Ed. Compton will pay return visits; *The Merry Widow* and *When Knights were Bold* will be given in August; *The Naked Truth* and *The Chorus Lady* will be presented in the early spring; and Mr. Hutchison hopes in the course of the season to play Arsène Lupin in the drama of that name.

MR. R. F. SAGER will produce his new drama, entitled *Brothers or, Why Women Weep*, at the Public Hall, Haslingden, Lancs, this evening.

MR. WILFRED DRAYCOTT is returning to New York on Aug. 3, having accepted an engagement from Messrs. Cohan and Harris in a new play to be produced early in September. Mr. Draycott has been touring in the United States with Miss Marie Tempest in *Penelope*.

A NEW and original play, written by Miss Emma Litchfield, entitled *His Indian Wife*, will be produced on Monday by Messrs. Travers Green's and Arthur Hinton's company at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

MR. HARRY P. TOWERS'S *Dear Little Denmark* company will leave King's Cross at 11 a.m. tomorrow, by special train to Lowestoft. The company includes Miss Thelma Raye, Miss Winifred Volt, Mr. Edward Thirlby, Mr. Hartley Summers, Mr. Cameron Carr, and Mr. E. Taylor Platt. Mr. Towers will travel down with the company.

THE Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, will re open next week, the first performance being given by Cavaliere F. Castellano's Grand Opera Company, who will produce *Carmen*. Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, the present lessee, opened her initial tour at the above theatre in 1906 with a dramatised version of Merimée's story. Her fifth tour with her Shakespearean Répertoire Company starts on Aug. 22. A strong cast has been secured, including Miss Gertrude Gilbert and Mr. Frank Cellier.

THE staff of the Theatre Royal, Aston, will hold their annual summer outing on Sunday, Aug. 21, when they hope to spend an enjoyable day at Holt Fleet, a pretty resort on the Severn.

MR. EDWARD FOSTER, the manager of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, will to-day complete a fortnight's holiday at Weston-super-Mare.

"THE SPECKLED BAND" will continue at the Adelphi Theatre until next Saturday night, and on Monday, Aug. 8, will be transferred *en bloc* to the Globe Theatre. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury will register his 1000th performance in the character of Sherlock Holmes this evening, having played the part in the Sherlock Holmes' drama 935 times, and making his appearance as Holmes in *The Speckled Band* on that evening for the sixty-fifth time.

MR. PAT CAREY and Mr. G. H. Smythson's concert party, known as the Pelican Pierrots, commenced their riverside season at the Sun Hotel Gardens, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday evening, and have given performances every night since. The company consists of the Misses Barker, Jeffreys, and Willey, and Messrs. Phil Bert, Ted Kay, Jack Fern (who manages the show), and Mr. Carey, all attired in the regulation pierrot costume, and their singing and dancing, their jokes and their patter, have attracted a lot of people to each performance, which has been welcomed as a desirable addition to the attractions of the river.

THE inquest on the body of the late Mr. T. Weldon Anderson was resumed on Saturday. Much evidence was heard, and a statement by Miss Maud Earl, a teacher at the Academy of Dramatic Art, was read, but Mr. Anderson's death remains a mystery. The inquest was adjourned till the forenoon of Saturday, Sept. 17.

THE funeral took place on the 22nd inst. at noon, from the residence of deceased's sister in Tufnell Park-road. The interment took place at Abney Park Cemetery, Stoke Newington. The two sons and two daughters of the deceased and Miss Anderson were the chief mourners. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. A. O. Palmer, chaplain of the cemetery. The eldest son of the deceased assisted to bear the coffin from the mortuary chapel to the grave, and after the remains had been lowered into their place he placed on the coffin a bunch of roses, to which was attached a card bearing the words, "To our darling father, from his children." A card which was attached to a beautiful wreath of arum lilies and heliotrope bore the words, "With the fondest love and deepest grief of his sorrowing sister."

"MY idea of the character of Wolsey," says Sir Herbert Tree, in an interview in the *Standard*, "is that he was one of the greatest Englishmen who ever lived—and, mind you, I am not pretending to have made that discovery for myself.

"I see him stout of girth, clothed in the cardinal red, living well—he was an epicure even in water, for he spent £50,000 in laying pipes from Coombe to his palace at Hampton Court. He was very complex, subtle, and brusque, a very Prince of the Church, imbued with the ultramontane Italian spirit. Suggesting the plebeian, he had a touch of Bismarck, Gladstone, and Disraeli. He was utterly unscrupulous in serving God. In the scene of the end of his career as statesman, which puzzled me greatly for a long time, for I could not understand how Shakespeare imagined it, I have overcome the difficulties which I found by dividing the stage in two. I hope to have symbolised the tragic episode of his farewell to the world and his entry into monastic life by my treatment. You will see Wolsey quietly disappear from the world, knocking at the door of Heaven, as it were."

AT the Bootle Police-court on Monday, Mr. Edwin Berry, on behalf of the Pennington Estate Company, Ltd., made an application with regard to the plans of the New Metropole Theatre, which is now being built in Stanley-road. He explained that in December last the plans of the theatre were approved by the Bench. These included the taking down of two corner shops, and the present application was to vary those plans somewhat. The Company did not intend to demolish the shops, and therefore the site would occupy 1,000 instead of 1,300 square yards. The building itself would not be altered. It is to accommodate 2,500 persons, and it is proposed to open the theatre to the public about Christmas. The application was granted.

MR. ARTHUR HARDY'S *Quintuple Bill*, in conjunction with Mrs. Russ Whytal, will commence at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Aug. 29.

MR. ALFRED MANNERS, the popular proprietor of the Empire Theatre, Swindon, has started his season under the best auspices this week, having secured Mr. Murray King and his excellent company in *Our Flat*. Mr. Manners has again made a succession of excellent bookings for his increasing patrons during the season, and arrangements have also been made with Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Brydon Phillips to present two entirely new pantomimes.

MR. FRANK CURZON'S No. 1 company, with *The King of Cadonia*, starts its tour on Monday. The cast will consist of Mr. John Morley, Mr. Arthur Staples, Mr. Robert Selby, Mr. Lawrence Robbins, Mr. Francis Howard, Mr. Louis Russell, Mr. Alec Buchanan, Mr. C. B. Williams, Mr. Alfred Clark, Miss Joan Penrose, Miss Amy Preston, Miss Lily Hodson, and Miss Alice Venning.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX has been re-engaged to play Olaf in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, and opens on Monday at the County Theatre, Kingston. Mr. Cox has given five hundred performances of the part, being the first to play it in the provinces.

MR. G. E. WILLIAMS, the popular manager of the Alexandra Theatre, is taking a well-earned holiday for the next fortnight. As usual, he goes on his annual cricket tour, and will be playing for his county eleven.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS has been engaged by Mr. Stanley Cooke for his season of *A Man From Mexico* at the Strand Theatre. Mr. Collins, it will be remembered, played Bill Sikes with Sir Herbert Tree's company of *Oliver Twist* on tour, later playing Jason in the *Bondman* and Capt. McGregor in *The Drums of Oude*.

MISS WINIFRED PEARSON, who recently made such a success as Claire Forster in *The Woman in the Case*, has been re-engaged by Miss Annie Hughes for her old part of Vivian Morrison (the adventuress) in *Miss Tommy*.

THE elocution school prize at the Royal Academy of Music has been won and divided by Miss Florence Dickinson, pupil of Mr. Bassett Roe, and Miss Catherine Marshall, pupil of Mr. L. Cairns James. The prize was adjudged by Mr. Norman McKinnel.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR, who has been piloting *The Little Damozel* for Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow in the provinces, has been re-engaged by them to business manage *The Naked Truth* tour, which has opened with great success at Brighton; four and five curtains to each act is the nightly rule.

THE numerous friends of Miss Evelyn Shaw (Mrs. Richard Winslow) will be sorry to learn that she has been compelled to resign her engagement with Mr. Nevill Graham owing to ill-health. She is to undergo a slight operation on Tuesday, but hopes to be herself again by the end of the month.

MISS DORA HAMMERSLEY and her stock company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, will perform on Monday for the first time on any stage an entirely new and original play entitled *Married to the Wrong Woman*.

MESSRS. J. FORBES KNOWLES and Harry Masterman will produce at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on August Bank Holiday, a drama entitled *Nick Carter, Detective*, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck. The scenery has been painted at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, and the tour is already well booked. A fine company has been engaged, including Misses Helena Walbran, Nellie Fern, Nellie Shirley, Nellie Waddington, Nancy Lawrence, Little Hilda Vokes, Messrs. Raymond Thomas, Wm. Burgess, Harry Momber, Rich Nugent, Will Ellythorne, Reg. Turner, Jack Turnbull, and J. Forbes Knowles.

A PERFORMANCE for copyright purposes will be given at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Wednesday, Aug. 3, of two pieces by Clifford Seyler, *Squibs*, a play in one act, and *The Will and The Way*, a farcical comedy in three acts.

THE annual outing of the Colchester Theatre Royal staff took place on Saturday last, a large party travelling to Southend via Liverpool-street. Dinner was taken at the Borough Hotel, under the admirable presidency of the highly-popular lessee and manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona. Southend was quitted by tea-time, and the evening was spent in London, parties being made up for the Oxford, Coliseum, &c., the crowd uniting at Liverpool-street Station at midnight, and travelling home by the "supper" train. Mr. F. J. Byles once again did the secretarial duties to everyone's satisfaction.

THE Charles Lucas Silver Medal (composition) at the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Emma Lomax, the examiner being Dr. G. J. Bennett; the Schloesser Prize (accompanying) has been awarded to Evelyn Cook, the examiners being Messrs. Adolph Schloesser and Charles Macpherson. The Anne E. Lloyd Exhibition (singing) has been awarded to Gertrude Walton, the examiners being Messrs. Henry Beauchamp, Edward Iles, Fred King, A. Thompson, and Mme. Clara Samuell. The Parepa-Rosa Gold Medal (contraltos) has been awarded to Bella Newstead, the examiners being Mme. Marie Hooton, Miss C. Thudichum, and Mme. Carlotta Elliot. The Julia Leney Prize (harp) has been awarded to Violet M. Scotts, the examiners being Messrs. F. Corder and John Thomas and Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie. The James Tubbs and Son's prize (violin) has been awarded to Nellie Fulcher; the Hill and Sons' Prize (violin) has been awarded to Willie Davies. Other prizes are:—The Dove Prize (for general excellence), awarded to Phyllis Norman Parker; the Charlotte Walters Prizes (elocution), awarded to Lily Fairney and Violet Leonard; the Betjemann Gold Medal (operatic singing), awarded to William J. Samuell; the Westlake Memorial Prize (pianoforte), awarded to Elsie Jones; the Hannah Mayer Fitzroy Prize (violin), awarded to John Spink; the Alexander Roller Prize (pianoforte), awarded to Dorothy Craske; the Ridley Prentice Memorial Prize, awarded to Lucy Ehrmann; the Bowen Gift, awarded to Willie Davies; the Lesley Alexander Gift, awarded to Benno Pitt; the Challen and Son Gold Medal, awarded to Adela Hamaton; the Chappell Pianoforte Prize, awarded to Frank Hutchens.

THE first of *The Speckled Band* touring companies, with Mr. C. W. Somerset as Dr. Rylott and Mr. Julian Royce as Sherlock Holmes, started its tour on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool. This company will visit Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Swansea, Southampton, Nottingham, Birmingham, Belfast, Dublin, Cardiff, Oldham, Southport, Bradford, Sunderland, Aberdeen, Dundee, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Sheffield.

MR. H. P. TOWERS'S company with *The Mountaineers*, including Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Aida Jenoure, Miss Statham, Mr. Claude Flemming, Mr. Fred Eastman, and Mr. Frank Lawton, will start for Yarmouth on Sunday by special train from King's Cross at 11 a.m. Mr. H. P. Towers will accompany them.

MR. CHARLES KING has been engaged to play the part of Young Oliver Holt in *The Dawn of a Tomorrow* on tour.

BY a regrettable error in the Dublin correspondence inserted in our last issue the name of Mr. Mouillot was inserted as managing-director of the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Of course, it is well known that Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson is the managing-director of the Queen's.

AT the Woodbridge Petty Sessions, on the 21st inst., the adjourned application made recently by Mr. Walter Curtis, manager of the Weights Theatre of Varieties Company, under the Theatre Act, 1843, for a licence for the performance of stage plays in a portable building to be erected on a meadow in the Avenue, Woodbridge, for the space of three months, was considered. The Bench adjourned the application on the previous occasion in order to obtain references as to the performances, and also to ascertain the opinion of the residents of the town. Mr. Curtis said that if the Bench acceded to his application he asked that they would date the licence forward to Oct. 22, as owing to being uncertain about their decision he had applied for a similar licence at Beccles, which had been granted. He further put in contents bills of the performances to be given, and stated licences had been granted to him for Leiston, Stowmarket, Saxmundham, and Beccles. During the ten years he had been connected with the company no complaints, to his knowledge, had been received from anyone, with the exception of some publicans, whose complaint was that the performances kept the people away from their houses.

IN support, he called Mr. Robert Skinner, on whose meadow the building would be erected, and who witnessed one of the performances at Saxmundham. He stated the performances were "not so bad." They were well conducted and quite respectable. When asked if there was anything to object to, the witness replied, "Not altogether," and on being further pressed to give his reasons, said from a religious standpoint it was objectionable, otherwise it was all right.

FOUR superintendents of police spoke highly of the performances, and stated the theatre was well conducted and most respectable; and a petition was put in signed by a number of the inhabitants, and also a resolution from the Woodbridge Traders' Association, against the granting of the application. After retiring, the Chairman said the Bench had very carefully considered the application, and unanimously refused to grant the licence applied for.

MESSRS. SAMUEL FRENCH AND CO., LTD., have just published Mr. Charles Hannan's one-act version of his successful three-act farcical comedy *The Electric Man*, which was produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, and subsequently ran at the Royalty and Shaftesbury theatres, being afterwards given in the condensed version now presented at the Chelsea and Metropolitan halls.

AT the meeting of the Wandsworth Chamber of Commerce recently held at the Wandsworth Town Hall, Alderman S. Cresswell presiding, the General Purposes Committee recommended that the L.C.C. should be asked to restrict the type of posters displayed on hoardings round the Council property in Wandsworth. Mr. Wenmoth said that the posters chiefly complained of were those with suggestive titles purporting to display terrible scenes in plays produced at second or third-rate theatres. Some of these pictures were not fit for young people to look at. The Association agreed to send the letter proposed to the L.C.C.

A FULL meeting of the General Council of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala was held at the Bee Hotel in that city last week, Mr. Lewis Peake presiding. The reports of the various sub-committees were considered highly satisfactory, and only fine weather is required on Tuesday to crown their efforts with success. A most gratifying incident was the reading of a letter from Mr. Tom Watson, in which he stated that it had been decided to again allocate the proceeds of Liverpool's practice matches to the gala fund. Thus, as last year, a considerable sum will be available to assist the local charities.

THE Sports Committee reported that inquiries for forms of entry for the professional footballers' championship race had been received from all parts of the kingdom, and that a numerous and high-class entry would be forthcoming. For the handicap for Liverpool F.C. players Councillor Tom Bell, J.P., had kindly offered to furnish a silver challenge cup, and this offer had been accepted with thanks. During the twenty-one years the gala has been in existence no call has been made on the charitable feelings of Liverpool M.P.'s. It was, however, decided to approach them with the object of their providing the 50-guineas challenge trophy for the footballers' championship.

MR. W. W. RUTHERFORD, M.P., has already forwarded a donation of five guineas to the object. Councillor W. W. Kelly stated that the collecting bottles issued by the Novelties Committee had been a huge success, and he anticipated a considerable income from this source. Mr. W. A. Crouch (Floral Sales Committee) said that notwithstanding the present unsatisfactory state of trade, the committee had been successful in obtaining many gifts of prizes, &c. The committee of the brass band concert, to be held at New Brighton Tower on Aug. 6, announced that they had received from Messrs. Boosey and Co., London, a splendid silver cornet, of the value of eighteen guineas, as a prize to be given to the best cornet player on that date.

MR. FRANCIS LAIDLER writes: "In *The Era* of July 9 you stated that the proceeds of the previous Tuesday's matinée at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, amounting to £46, had been devoted to the fund in aid of the sufferers in the recent sad accident at the Leeds Roundhay Park Gala, but your notice conveys the idea that I was the only one who should be mentioned in connection with the success of the matinée. I shall be glad if you will therefore correct this impression by kindly inserting this letter in your next issue. This matinée was not one of the regular Tuesday matinées (which are discontinued until August), but a special performance in which Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's *Cripple Creek* company, and the entire theatre staff, together with the orchestra, gave their services free. The matinée was arranged by Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth, my acting manager at Leeds, and by Mr. Merrie, on behalf of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

East of Chicago.

WE take the following from "In Memoriam: Bronson Howard," a brief biography of the celebrated American dramatist which has just reached us from New York:—

"An example or two of the type of humour that made an especial appeal to Mr. Howard may not be inappropriate. Riding during the daytime in a sleeping-car in the far West, Mr. Howard's attention was attracted by the affectionate treatment bestowed upon a little girl by a gentleman with whom she was. The girl was a child of ten or twelve, the man was evidently her father. The relationship made an immediate appeal to the tenderness of Mr. Howard's nature, and he spoke to the father.

"'You seem very fond of that little girl,' he said.

"'Oh, yes,' the father answered; 'she goes nearly everywhere with me. This little girl has travelled with me all over the United States.'

"'Indeed!' Mr. Howard commented.

"'Yes,' the father answered, 'all over the United States.' And then, after a moment's pause, 'That is, except east of Chicago.'

"This easy elimination of the entire Atlantic seaboard struck Mr. Howard as especially characteristic of the western mental attitude."

The Important Exchange.

"ANOTHER story that he delighted to tell, as showing the Westerner's easy grouping of his own achievements with the volcanic wonders of Nature, was this: Mr. Howard had accompanied a citizen of Denver to a central elevation; the man was displaying the surrounding panorama.

"'That mountain over there,' he said, 'is Long's Peak. Right there in the middle is the Merchants' Exchange. That's Pike's Peak on the left.'"

The Lost Dramatists.

"SOME years ago [says Mr. Augustus Thomas], when a philanthropic gentleman endeavoured to found a Theatre of Arts and Letters, I found myself at a preliminary dinner sitting next Mr. Howard. The magazine and short-story writers of the time were also guests, among them such eminent gentlemen as Charles Dudley Warner, William Dean Howells, and Edmund Clarence Stedman.

"'What is the idea of this gathering?' I asked Mr. Howard.

"'Well,' he replied, 'our host has an idea that these literary gentlemen are the lost dramatists of America.'

"'Perhaps he is right,' I submitted, upon which Mr. Howard asked,

"'What is a dramatist, Thomas?'

"'I take it that a dramatist is a man who writes plays.'

"'Exactly. Have these gentlemen written p'ays?'

"'I don't think so.'

"'Then they are not dramatists. The dramatist shows his inclination at an early age, just as the artist shows his. It is impossible for an eminent business man at fifty to say "I will be a portrait painter," and thereupon succeed.'"

Comical "Corpses."

THE *Westminster Gazette* has an amusing article by C. M. S. called "At a Pageant Rehearsal":—"In pageant battles, those who are marked out for death wish even to expire in rows. 'Corpses, please don't die in a row.' That order was actually given from the watch-tower of a pageant grand stand! On that occasion the poor 'corpses' lost their tempers badly and walked off the field, amid the laughter of the mixed audience who were watching the dress rehearsal.

Real "Hard" Work.

"'I AIN'T going to die to-morrow. It's the turn of some other chap,' said one such aggrieved warrior, as he ruefully showed his bruises. A British King who had to stab himself, and then realistically roll, with a thud, down stone steps, injured his thigh so much that he had to employ an understudy to go shares in risks. Indeed, the ambulance tents in a pageant ground often have a real part to play. They render first aid to young soldiers who injure each other with wooden swords in the heat of mediæval battles, or who fire blank cartridges into each other's faces in the excitement of warfare. After one such battle, in which many young Territorials were engaged, party spirit ran so high that groups of Cavaliers and Roundheads were fighting it out in private when the battle was over. On that occasion splinters of wooden swords were picked up all over the field of action, and the properties tent was hard put to it to supply new weapons by the score to many doughty young warriors.

A Pageant Menagerie.

"ANIMALS play no mean part in modern pageants. At one large pageant this year the list of animals comprised a calf, a yoke of oxen, a goat, a flock of sheep, six pigs, a dog, and about a hundred horses, not to mention ponies and lap-dogs. The calf filled his first days with terrified lowing, and then became entirely reconciled to wearing a wreath of flowers and being prepared day by day for a bloodless sacrifice by a fierce Roman priestess, who is a most harmless lady in private life and a warm adherent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. That calf grew so fat that the pageant joke was that she would be a cow before the end of the performances.

Royal Robes.

"A PAGEANT is a great leveller of ranks, though it does provide a tent for the sham Royalty who are taking part. It is very curious to see the inscription over such a pavilion: 'For Kings and Queens,' and the adjacent tents are labelled with even more weird titles: 'Gents quick change' is one such name, and a little farther down the road we find: 'For pigs and ponies,' which strikes one as a queer mixture.

"ONE of the pageant kings had a very curious experience as he walked home in full Saxon Royal Coronation robes one evening. Two men who were motoring through the town, unmindful of a pageant, gazed at him with open-mouthed wonder and horror. Then one remarked to the other: 'My God, what is that?' However, as a rule a town keeps general carnival during a pageant week, and no sort of costume, or scantiness of costume, excites comment, though an ancient British maiden did overhear two little girls remarking: 'My mother would not let me go out like that if it were ever so, would yourn?' Perhaps that was not surprising, considering the fact that the lady in question had bare arms and legs."

A Galleryite's Retort.

"MR. F. R. BENSON," says the *Daily Sketch*, "has related some capital stories of his experiences on the stage. At one town he was playing to poor business. The occupants of the gallery were few and not over enthusiastic. The actor was about to make an exit, and it came to him to say, 'Tarry awhile, and anon I will return," upon which a voice from the gallery exclaimed, 'Don't trouble to return, guv'nor, we're going, and shall not be back.' And yet another. It was again a poor house. The manager was standing at the gallery entrance when a little boy came down the steps crying bitterly. Questioned as to the cause of his intense grief, he replied, 'I've been sitting up there by myself, and it seems so lonely!' And the solitary patron of the drama among the 'gods' went home, encouraged by the return of his admission money."

HONOUR TO MR. F. R. BENSON.

The summer season of the Stratford Festival opened on Monday last, when *A Winter's Tale* was presented to a crowded house. There were several alterations in the cast as compared with the performances already noticed in these columns, Miss Marjorie Patterson making her début in the leading rôle of Perdita, and Messrs. Eric Maxon and Murray Carrington exchanging their former parts of Polixenes and Florizel respectively.

Before the opening of the theatre a special meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Town Hall, at which Mr. F. R. Benson was presented with the freedom of the ancient borough of Stratford-on-Avon. The building was crowded for the occasion, and in addition there were large and enthusiastic crowds in the streets through which Mr. Benson, accompanied by Mrs. Benson, passed on his way to the Council Chamber, where there were assembled the Mayor, aldermen, councillors, borough officials, and a large gathering of townspeople.

The Mayor, in making the presentation, said the Council decided in April last to confer the gift upon Mr. Benson, and fully intended it to be made the following month, but the lamented death of King Edward VII. prevented this intention being carried out. The delay was not unprecedented, for it was singularly a fact that the last gentleman to receive the honour, David Garrick, was made a freeman on Oc. 11, 1768, and only actually received it on May 8, 1769, so that it was over 142 years since Mr. Benson's immediate predecessor was appointed. He thought Mr. Benson would feel the honour the greater that Garrick should have been in the same honourable profession, should have won his fame on the stage in the same town, and principally by producing the plays of their great poet and townsman, William Shakespeare. No living man had done more than Mr. Benson to make known and popularise the works of the greatest man this or any other century had produced. By his great tact, love of the cause and of Stratford-on-Avon, Mr. Benson had succeeded in bringing the annual festival to the high position it now held, and had made the town attractive to visitors from all parts of the world. In handing Mr. Benson the casket, with its contents, he felt that not only that gentleman, but Mrs. Benson and their family, would duly appreciate the gift. Mr. Benson would feel proud that he had won it, and they that he had received his due from the town in which he had worked so hard for the last twenty-four years, and upon the stage of which they were so proud he had produced upwards of thirty-three of their townsman's plays.

Councillor A. D. Flower, as representing the governors of the Memorial Theatre, said the Memorial Association and the Corporation were very closely identified in the borough. Theirs was the only theatre, he believed, in the United Kingdom where the Town Council was permanently represented by the inclusion of the Mayor and the aldermen among the ex-officio governors. Mr. Benson's success was due to the fact that throughout his life he had set a high ideal and kept it before him in face of difficulties and many discouragements, and an indefinable charm which inspired love and enthusiasm among all with whom he came into contact.

Mr. Benson, having accepted the gifts and subscribed his name to the roll, said no words of his could aptly express the joy, hope, and encouragement which filled his heart that day. The honour was far beyond his expectations, and was one he could not possibly have hoped to attain without the assistance of his wife and those loyal comrades whom Stratford had always treated so kindly. That day, in the words of the prize play, he had been constituted "Your knight, your friend, your serving-man," and he hoped they would allow him to remain so, and that he might be spared to owe them still his life and service.

Outside the hall Mr. Benson was presented with a handsome wreath of laurel by Mr. E. Fox on behalf of the burgesses, while Mrs. Benson was the recipient of a bouquet from the ladies of the town. Then Mr. and Mrs. Benson entered a decorated landau, and were drawn round the town by enthusiastic admirers, a band of Morris dancers leading the way.

THE STRATFORD PRIZE PLAY.

On Tuesday, July 26, at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, Mr. Benson and his company presented the play by Josephine Preston Peabody (Mrs. Lionel Marks) to which was awarded the prize offered by the Committee of the Stratford Festival for the best play worthy of production at the Shakespeare Commemoration. Its presentation was originally fixed for May 5, but was postponed owing to the death of King Edward. It was entitled

"THE PIPER."

The Piper	MR. F. R. BENSON
Michael	MR. ERIC MAXON
Cheat-the-Devil	MR. ALFRED WILD
Nicholas	MR. DENNIS DREW
Jacobus	MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Kurt	MR. J. MOFFAT JOHNSTON
Peter	MR. W. W. CAITHNESS
Hans	MR. HARRY CAINE
Axel	MR. G. F. HANNAM CLARKE
Martin	MR. JOHN HOWELL
Peter	MR. NIGEL BARRY
Anselm	MR. MURRAY CARRINGTON
Old Claus	MR. J. P. WILSON
Town Crier	MR. FRANK GROWCOTT
Jan	MISS HETTY KENYON
Hansel	MISS KATHLEEN YORKE
Ilse	MISS BEATRICE PITHER
Trude	MISS JOAN HASTINGS
Rudi	MASTER AUBREY SUMMERHAYS
Veronika	MISS MARION TERRY
Barbara	MISS VIOLET FAREBROTHER
Wife of Hans	MISS MARION FOREMAN
Wife of Axel	MISS WINIFRED DURIE
Wife of Martin	MISS C. MACDOWELL
Old Ursula	MISS ELINOR AICKIN

The authoress has taken as her foundation the legend of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, dating back to the year 1284. The Piper has already completed his contract to rid the burgh of its rats, but he has not yet reappeared to claim the promised reward.

The first act introduces us to the market-place of Hamelin, in which is prominent a large sculptured figure of the Christ. A company of strolling players of the period are producing the rude miracle play of the Salvation of Noah by means of the Ark, accompanied by the Pitchforking of Lost Souls into Hell. The priest Anselm (Mr. Murray Carrington) is pointing the moral:

It doth body forth
A Judgment that may take you unaware—
Sun-struck with mirth.

And Jacobus, the burgomeister (Mr. Alfred Brydone), none too sober, likens the deliverance of Noah and his company from the Flood to the deliverance of Hamelin from famine and the plague of rats. He alludes to the disappearance of the Piper as a providential interposition:

The rats are gone,
The man is gone. And there is nought to pay.

So his mean and sordid soul rejoices. But it happens that the Piper is in the Ark, playing the part of Reynard the Fox, and when the burgomeister proposes that the day should be brought to a close with thanksgiving to Saint Willibald,

Upon whose day the rats departed thence,

Reynard protests; and, backed by Hans the butcher (Mr. Harry Caine), Peter the cobbler (Mr. W. W. Caithness), Axel the smith (Mr. G. F. Hannam Clarke), and other humble members of the community, claims the promised thousand guilders.

Jacobus in his stingy reluctance to pay is supported by Kurt the syndic (Mr. Moffat Johnston), another cramped and stunted spirit. These two characters are intended to typify the narrow, selfish, and shrivelled life of the burgh, with its conventions, its gossip, and its greed.

It is against these conditions of life that the Piper protests. He typifies the Life of the Open Road. He abominates restriction. He would live where there are

No walls, no hedges,
No tolls, no taxes—rats nor aldermen.

He would live

Along with squirrels, and bright fish
And bubbling water.

So when the burghers, dominated by Jacobus and Kurt, propose to take advantage of the fact that he has "no scrip to show" for the contract but their word, and offer him a paltry fifteen guilders, coupled with the insult that

He is a stroller,
A wastrel, and the shadow of a man.
. . . . . Nothing is his.
He may not carry arms; nor have redress

For any harm that men should put on him, he determines to teach them a lesson. They go into the church, leaving him almost alone. Then he commences softly to pipe the Kinder-Spell. The children creep round him. And as he pipes gayer and louder every door opens, and the children follow him, fascinated, bewitched, to "The Hollow Hill," "a great, dim-lighted, cavernous place," where opens Act II., Scene 1.

This cavern, painted by Messrs. Joseph and Phil Harker, provides the setting for the quaintest scene of the whole drama. Here we have the main *motif* of the play, the Kinder-Spell, elaborated. It is not the mere magic of the Piper's music which endears him to the Kinder. It is that he incarnates the Child-Spirit, the elfishness and the irresponsibility of childhood. He is a child himself. He enters into their games, their make-believes, their dreams, their prankish joys, their wistful sorrows.

He has taken a peculiar affection for one little lame urchin, Jan (Miss Hetty Kenyon), son, as we learn elsewhere in the play, by a former alliance, of Veronika (Miss Marion Terry), now the unhappy wife of Kurt, whom she has wed to buy Jan

House

And warmth and softness for his little feet.

Jan's big heart in his little crooked body o'erflows with pity for the loneliness of the Christ in the market-place. He speaks of Him always as "the Lonely Man." He cannot understand why He never smiles.

It grieves him that the Head is always bowed
And stricken. But he loves more to be here
Than yonder in the church.

And he continually waits and watches

To see Him smile.

This sentiment strikes an echoing chord in the heart of the Piper, himself "a lonely man," the son of strolling players, banned by the Church. He tells, in one of the finest passages of the play, how his mother

Was a thing so trodden, lost, and sad
I cannot think that she was ever young
Save in the cherishing voice,

and how

She starved and sang;

And like the wind, she roved and lurked and shuddered
Outside your lighted windows, and fled by,
Storm-hunted, trying to outstrip the snow.

A love-element, originating in the first act, meets with further allusion in Act II., Scene 1, and is developed in Act II., Scene 2, the Cross-ways—another beautiful illustration of the genius of the Messrs. Harker. Barbara (Miss Violet Farebrother), the daughter of Jacobus, has stricken the fancy of Michael-the-Sword-Eater (Mr. Eric Maxon), one of the Piper's fellow-strollers. Life to him was

A death-black night
Until she came.

After the exeunt of the children of Hamelin, he made his way back to the burgh and saw her by stealth. There he learned that the burghers, in their fear and remorse, had resolved, in token of their repentance, to offer up to the Almighty a vicarious sacrifice by dedicating Barbara, their Burgomeister's daughter, to the service of the church, and immuring her within the four walls of a convent. She had dreamed that Michael, whom she took for "some noble in disguise," would come to rescue her. And when he appears she pleads with him to save her by restoring the children. But he is loyal to his chief, and, as he relates to the Piper:

I swore I knew not of thy vanishment
Nor the lost children. But I told her true
I was a stroller and an outcast man
That hid there, like a famished castaway,
For one more word, without a hope,
Helpless to save her.

Now, if there is one trait in the Piper's character as strong and deep even as his love of children, it is his hatred of cages;

How can I breathe and laugh
While there are things in cages?

he asks; and his mind is set on saving Barbara from her impending consignment to a nunnery. To Michael he says:

Take heart! I swear, by all the stars that chime!
I'll not have things in cages!

When the procession of the burghers, leading Barbara to the Nunnery of Rudersheim, headed by priests, and followed by the womenfolk, approaches the crossways, chanting a Latin hymn, Jacobus, meek, Kurt, very stern, the Piper, hidden in a tree, commences to pipe the Dance-spell. Here we cannot do better than quote the stage directions: "The hymn wavers; when the first burghers reach the centre of the stage, it breaks down. They look up bewildered; then, with every sign of consternation, horror, and vacant fear they begin to dance, willy-nilly. Their faces work, they struggle to walk on, but it is useless. The music whirls them irresistibly into a rhythmic pace of three-quarter time, and jogs their words, when they try to speak, into the same dance-measure. One by one—two and two they go—round and round like corks at first, with every sign of struggle and protest, then off, on the long road to Rudersheim." It was unfortunate that the small dimensions of the Stratford stage prevented Mr. Benson's company from realising all the humorous possibilities of this scene.

In the confusion of the Dance-Spell Barbara is left behind. She, too, is bewitched by the Piper's mystic music, and further effort on his unselfish part is needed in Act III. before her affections are duly transferred to Michael. But if Act III. opens in the chord of the sweet comedy of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It*, it ascends to true and high tragedy as Veronika appears on the scene, pale, worn, and haggard, and appeals to the Piper to give her back her little lame Jan. Miss Marion Terry met with deservedly warm approval in the rôle of Veronika. She addresses the Piper as

You, who have torn the hearts out of our bodies
And left the city like a place of graves.

He assures her that the Kinder live, and laugh, and asks

What's breath and blood—what are the hearts of children
To Hamelin, while it heaps its money-bags?

He scourges Hamelin with tongue.

. . . . . that town
Stands as the will of other towns, a score,
That makes us wandering poor the things we are!
It stands for all, unto the end of time,
That turns this bright world black and the sun cold,
With hate, and hoarding; all-triumphant greed
That spreads above the roots of all despair,
And misery, and rotting of the soul.

He threatens

Now shall they learn—if money-bags can learn—
What turns the bright world black, and the sun cold;
And what's that creature that they call a child.

He has

. . . . . to pay for fifty thousand hates,
Greeds, cruelties.

And at last he has it in his power. He has the children, and he will not give them up. Besides, as he persuades himself:

I *save* the children—yes, I save them, so.

And he pleads with Veronika to trust him—

I love thy child. Trust me—I love them all.
They are the brightest miracle I know
. . . . . .
. . . Now I have the children safe with me;
And men shall never teach them what men know.

He alludes to the children as

Those radiant things that have no wish at all
Save for what is all-beautiful! the rainbow,
The running water, and the moon, the moon!
The only things worth having!

and charges Veronika to return to Hamelin and wake up its dead souls.

Then follows the most remarkable scene of the play. The Piper pleads with the Christ on the Cross to be allowed to retain the children.

O let me keep them! I will bring them to you
Still nights and breathless mornings; they shall touch
Your hands and feet with all their swarming hands,
Like showering petals warm on furrowed ground—
All sweetness! They will make Thee whole again,
With love Thou wilt look up and smile on us!

But as no favouring answer comes from the dumb Christ, so does the Piper's voice rise in a crescendo of passionate entreaty, almost irreverent in its rude force, and he makes this offer:

Look, lonely man! You shall have all of us
To wander the world over, where you stand
At all the crossways, and on lonely hills—
Outside the churches, where the lost ones go!
And the wayfaring men, and thieves and wolves
And lonely creatures, and the ones that sing!
We will show all men what we hear and see;
And we will make Thee lift thy head and smile
. . . Let me keep but one.

Then he breaks down, accepts the Christ's continued dumbness as a refusal, and promises to release the children.

The last act shows us the melancholy and darkness that have fallen on the childless people of Hamelin; leads up to the return of the Piper, and an intensely dramatic situation as he conjures the believed-to-be-dying Veronika from her bed to welcome back her Jan; who is followed presently, in a poignantly emotional scene, by all the other children. The curtain falls as the Piper bids them all adieu:

There's so much piping left to do—
I must be off and pipe. I promised
The lonely man.

Although we understand that the authoress had not Mr. Benson in mind when she composed the play, yet it is no exaggeration to say that the part of the Piper fits him like a gossamer glove. The alternate pathos, whimsicality, elfishness, brooding sense of injustice, mysticism, protest, despair, joy, and sadness of the rôle give Mr. Benson the very opportunities which those who have followed his career closely know him so fitted to seize and develop.

The choice of Miss Marion Terry for the part of Veronika is as happy and fortunate as that of Miss Hetty Kenyon for the child part of Jan. In fact, the cast is of all-round excellence. And although in all the five acts the dominant figure is, as it should be, the Piper, Mr. Benson is thoroughly and loyally supported by every member of his talented company. Miss Violet Farebrother as Barbara particularly showing us the rapid strides she has made since first she joined the Benson company.

In a play of this nature, in which music is not merely an incidental but a leading motive, a heavy responsibility fell upon Mr. Christopher Wilson. It is essential to the vraisemblance and success of the play that the audience should accept the probability of the magic effect of the pipe music. In this Mr. Wilson has completely succeeded, and he has left in our memories haunting and wistful melodies in accord with the weird spirit of the play.

To Messrs. Harker's excellent work we have already alluded, and would only, in conclusion, congratulate the Shakespeare Festival Committee on having by their enterprise brought into the light of public prominence a real mistress of the dramatic art, who has enriched the Anglo-Saxon drama with a play of real beauty and consummate charm.

The play was received with unbounded enthusiasm by a crowded house. Players, author, composer, were all called before the curtain again and again, and many floral tributes were presented.

On Wednesday, July 27, Mr. Benson revived *Julius Cæsar*. The performance was almost identical with that noticed in our columns two months ago, the main difference being that Mr. Murray Carrington played the title-rôle instead of Mr. Guy Rathbone, and that Miss Violet Farebrother assumed—for the first time, but with noteworthy success—the part of Calphurnia. The feature of the evening was Mr. Eric Maxon's very powerful delineation of Cassius.

Actors' Religions.

"THE real religions of the people behind the footlights, who pass before us in the garb of priest or atheist, nun, or the woman of fads and spiritualistic fancies," says the *Scotsman*, "form a subject that offers surprises to the outsider who never sees stage people except when the bewildering orchestra and flaring footlights are between himself and them. Perhaps he thinks that in real life, if actors go in for such a thing as real life, they have no time for anything but late suppers after the show and bed all the next morning.

Footlight Faith.

"PEOPLE who scornfully think that actor folk are blasé, disillusioned, and cynical should go on the stage themselves and learn from their new comrades of the sock and buskin what idealism and simple faith are. Faith! Why, a sweet, childlike faith is essential to anyone who contemplates going on the stage. Perhaps that is why religion is rife behind the footlights—and especially new religions. All the latest styles in religion are largely followed by the men and women of the stage—Christian Science, New Thought, Theosophy, Yogi, or Oriental Occultism, and many others.

"HUNDREDS of stage folk have opened their hearts to the advantageous doctrines of 'Science and Health' especially, and they work it on themselves with extraordinary results. There is, for instance, a young woman understudying a leading part in a current production who has waited in vain for over half a year to get a chance to play. She is still waiting. And is it because the one for which she is substituting is an Amazon, one of the never-misses-a-day kind? Not a bit of it. She is a 'fainter,' always falling down in a dead faint just before the show. But 'it's all a mistake, this fainting business,' she tells the other members of the company after they have revived her; 'an error.' She sees her substitute leaning over her hopefully. 'I am perfectly able to go on with my part now,' declares the pale and trembling star vigorously, 'and when I am sufficiently perfected in science these errors will discontinue.'"

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, July 28.—The atmosphere in the theatrical world seems, at the present moment, to be charged with crime, for from every side we hear nothing but assaults, robberies, and *tutti quanti*. The case that attracts most attention is that of Mlle. Cavell, a charming actress I have had the pleasure of knowing for several years. A few nights ago, returning from Enghien with a M. Mouilleron, who had volunteered to take her back with him to Paris in his motor-car, she suddenly jumped out of the car because—as she says—M. Mouilleron drew a revolver from his pocket and, in a threatening manner, pointed it at her head. M. Mouilleron, on his part, denies having attempted to assault or even to frighten the lady; and his explanation is that Mlle. Cavell took fright at his removing his revolver from one pocket to another. Unfortunately, he goes further, and accuses Mlle. Cavell with attempting to blackmail him, claiming damages to which she is not entitled. This charge has created a very ugly impression in the theatrical world, where the lady is very well known. People shrug their shoulders, and very rightly laugh at the idea of a young woman jumping out of a motor-car travelling at the rate of thirty miles an hour, risking her life, with the object of securing damages from a man who is anything but wealthy. M. Mouilleron is not a murderer, nor is Mlle. Cavell a blackmailer; and it is easy to guess what occurred during that midnight ride from Enghien to Paris. M. Mouilleron—as is proved by witnesses—had been drinking rather freely. He was a stranger to Mlle. Cavell, and it is more than probable that, being in a "larky" humour, he pulled out his revolver, whereupon his terrified companion threw herself out of the car and received some ugly injuries. The matter, now sub judice, would never have assumed such proportions if M. Mouilleron had not taxed Mlle. Cavell with trying to blackmail him.

NEXT we have Mlle. Francesca Fiori, from the Théâtre Mondaine, who accuses a M. X., a young man to whom she had been introduced, with having given her a poisoned peppermint drop, which, the gentleman asserted, would cure her sore throat. She took the sweet, and became so ill that for several weeks she had to remain under medical treatment, the doctors asserting that her illness was due to poisoning. At her request, M. Hervouet, the secretary of the Dramatic Artists' Syndicate, wrote to M. X., asking him what he intended to do in the matter, whereupon that gentleman despatched one of his friends to Mlle. Fiori to tell her that he was willing to "organise a concert for her benefit." Mlle. Fiori indignantly replied that she did not want any charity, but "damages" for having been thrown out of employment. M. X.'s emissary thereupon shook his head and said that his friend did not possess a sou in the world. Acting on M. Hervouet's advice, Mlle. Fiori has now brought a criminal action against M. X., and M. Levy-Oullmann, the well-known barrister, is acting on her behalf. This queer and unpleasant story has been confirmed by independent witnesses, and the author of this unpardonable hoax appears to be a man belonging to the musical world who is in the habit of taking sweets prepared with some Eastern compound—no doubt, a kind of "hashish." His friends believe that it all arose through a mistake, but the official enquiry will bring the truth to light.

CASE number three concerns Mlle. Carmen Deraisy, who, in *Chantecler*, at the Porte-Saint-Martin, impersonates the hen pheasant, the rôle created by Mlle. Simone. She, too, has been assaulted. "At the close of the performance," she says, "whilst my maid was undressing me, a man, hidden behind a screen, rushed forward, struck me violently in the face, and ran away." Fortunately for her she recognised her cowardly assailant, and so did the people who rushed to her dressing-room attracted by her cries. M. Durand, the Police Commissary of the Porte-Saint-Martin district, is investigating the affair, and we may expect some sensational disclosures.

WHILST on the subject of *Chantecler*, I may mention that the work to follow it will be *L'Aventurier*, by M. Alfred Capus, with M. Lucien Guitry in the principal part. The other rôles will be held by MM. Jean Coquelin, Pierre Magnier, Signoret, Mosnier, Mmes. Gabrielle Dorziat, Juliette Darcourt, and Jeanne Desclos.

AT the Gymnase the next novelty will be *La Fugitive*, by M. André Picard, with Mlle. Yvonne de Bray in the name-rôle. Mme. Chérel, whom we applauded so often at the Palais-Royal, has also been engaged by M. Franck for the coming season.

M. EMILE MASSARD, always very much interested in the members of the "profession," petitioned the Paris County Council to open rooms in every Paris hospital specially reserved to actresses, actors, and members of the music hall stage. The question came under discussion, but M. Massard was informed that the City of Paris could not accede to his request, inasmuch as the authorities cannot draw any distinction between one class of patients and another.

MLLE. SUZY DELSART, the charming "Merry Widow," has made her last appearance as Missia Palmieri. When Miss Constance Drever left Paris it was Mlle. Delsart who assumed that rôle—a difficult undertaking—and Mlle. Delsart was delighted when the clever English artist complimented her on the manner in which she acquitted herself of her task. Her place has now been taken by Mlle. Jenny Bernals, and *La Veuve Joyeuse* continues to draw crowded houses at the Paris Apollo.

"GRETA."

Drama, in One Act, by Charlotte Brook. Produced at the Grand Opera House, Harrogate, on Friday, July 22.

Iddio	MR. THOMAS PAUNCEFORT
Greta	MISS MARY CREWE
Martha	MISS NANNIE HUME
A Stranger	MR. LESLIE CROWTHER

This sketch is the winner in Harrogate of a competition inaugurated by Miss Lena Ashwell. It is the story in a new form of the eternal triangle. Greta, when a small child, was found one night on the doorstep of Iddio's house. He, a poor, lonely, half-witted hunchback, takes her in and makes her his own. Years after he marries her, and when the play opens he is waiting, with some trepidation, her return from the village, whither she has gone to make some purchases. His jealousy is his all-consuming passion. Greta has been so carefully guarded that she has seen no man save her husband, for fear, when she does, she will turn from his misshapen body and know the meaning of love. Martha, the old housekeeper for the couple, seeks to comfort Iddio, but he is tortured with his fear. At length she enters and she reads to him of love. He retires to his room to bed, and bids her follow. When alone she lets in the stranger, whom she has been meeting of late. He proposes instant flight, and tells her of love, of life, and of the world outside. She consents to go. Iddio has meanwhile been concealed in the room, and had heard all. On the exit of the stranger to make arrangements for the flight Greta gets a few trinkets together. When her back is turned Iddio springs on her and strangles her, "to save her from dishonour." Mr. Thomas Pauncefort gave a clever reading of the jealous Iddio, and Miss Mary Crewe as Greta was good though inclined to make too long pauses. Miss Nannie Hume was excellent as the talkative Martha. Mr. Leslie Crowther as the stranger lover had some excellent lines to speak.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MOTOR JOTTINGS.

Messrs. Middleton have sent us the 1910 edition of their interesting publication "Motor Trips from London and Paris at a Glance." Published in handy form, this very useful guide contains exhaustive particulars of practically every circular route of interest throughout Great Britain.

Runs from a half-day trip to a three weeks' tour are given, and every city, town, and the principal "show-spots" to be seen and enjoyed by the sight-seeing motorist are carefully included and tersely but thoroughly described.

There are upwards of seventy excellent maps of the various runs selected, clearly showing each route without any of the usual bewildering and quite unnecessary complications.

A feature is made of the direct routes to the various race meetings, and another important innovation is the section dealing with tours in France, nine special maps of French trips being included.

The difficulty of how to get out of London quickly is set aside by the extremely useful inset map "The Way Out of London," and altogether Messrs. Middleton's handsome little guide—published at one shilling—is a most excellent and indispensable companion to the man with a car who is desirous of thoroughly knowing and appreciating the inexhaustive attractions of our tight little isle.

The City of Coventry is at present enjoying the luxury of a real trade boom that seems likely to continue. The Britisher may be slow to move, but he is thorough, and he has now got the great motor industry well in hand.

All the big works in the city of the historical Lady Godiva and the notorious Peeping Tom are working full time, the output of such well-known firms as the Daimler, the Deasy, and the Triumph Motor Cycle Co. being really enormous.

At Adderley Park, near Birmingham, the Wolseley Siddeley Autocar's record is one new car completed every working hour. Messrs. Vickers, Son, and Maxim, the proprietors (famous the world over for their mighty ships of war), offer a most highly-finished four-cylinder chassis—12-16 h.p. at £305, with many higher power types at corresponding prices.

He was quite a new victim to the fever of speed, and papa had generously, if perhaps unwisely, purchased for Algy a splendid new car. Not lacking in courage, "mamma's only boy" soon had the wheel in hand, and for fully ten minutes was rapidly, if somewhat unsteadily, careering down the sun-baked road. Soon, however, the new steed displayed a lagging tendency, and our hero's face wore a look of perplexity and keen disappointment. "I say Walters, my boy," he remarked to his chauffeur, "what ails the confounded hack? Don't seem in its full stride, don't you know." "Only the plugs, sir," answered the "shuvver" with a broad grin. "I think the two front cylinders are 'missing.'" "Two cylinders missing, Walters! Oh, isn't that demmed awkward? Don't you think we had better turn back, chappie, and see if we can—find them?"

The Premier Motor Cycle Co., Aston-road, Birmingham, are marketing their valveless, gearless motor cycle. In appearance it is very similar to the well-known Triumph, but its general constructions is widely different, and offers some interesting innovations. Its proprietors claim that the most troublesome parts of the four cycle motor are all eliminated. The valves, the timing wheels, cams, and tappets are dispensed with altogether, the only moving parts being the piston, connecting-rod, main shaft, and flywheel. With Bosch high tension ball bearing magneto Brown and Barlow carburettor, Clincher studded tyres, no expense has been spared to make this mount thoroughly reliable. It is 3½ h.p., scales only 140lb., and is offered to the retailer at 40 guineas.

Three of the directors of the Metropolitan Amalgamated Railway Carriage and Waggon Co., Ltd., Saltley, were involved in a serious motor-car accident in Great Francis-street, Birmingham, last Wednesday afternoon.

It was Thursday afternoon, and the matinée had just concluded. The "top of the bill," a very clever comedian, stood outside the "Hip." admiring his latest extravagance, a magnificent 20-30 h.p. car. The sun rays were shining on the beautifully-polished brass and the equally dazzing wind-screen of best mahogany and plate. "They make 'em in mica now, Jack," remarked his visibly-impressed companion, referring to the shield of glass. "Do they?" answered John the Comic; "well, I bought that bally lot in Preston. Support home industries, say I."

The staff of the Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, held their annual outing on Sunday. The resident-manager, Mr. Geo. Stone, accompanied the party, which left Barrow by the s.s. Lady Moyra at 9.15 for Fleetwood. Thence they travelled by motor-car to Lancaster via Knott End for dinner at the King's Arms Hotel. Various places of interest in Lancaster and district were visited, and on return to Knott End via Garstang a good tea was provided at the Bourne Arms Hotel. All this and the return sail to Barrow was greatly enjoyed.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Reynolds and Donegan Engaged for Paris.

Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donegan, the marvellous roller-skaters, whose attractive act, it will be remembered, was such a success at the Palace Theatre last year, have been booked to appear at the Folies Bergère, Paris, with their skating interlude, for one month, commencing on Sept. 1.

Gala at Sunderland Rink.

There were large numbers of people at the Whitehall Rink, Sunderland, on the occasion of the gala night on the 21st inst., and the affair was very successful. The event of the evening was the final of the mile handicap for amateurs, and after a good race N. Boucher carried off the large silver cup, and A. Harrison secured the second silver cup. The manager (Mr. Twemlow) presented the trophies. A squadron race between teams of three Sunderland skaters and three Newcastle skaters ended in a win for the local team by over a quarter of a lap. A half-mile race between a cyclist (C. Watt) and a skater (J. Brown) ended in the cyclist winning easily. At ten o'clock a confetti battle was begun, and the fun was maintained till 10.30, when the entertainment closed after a very enjoyable evening.

Roller Skating in Cardiff.

Those who predicted a brief life for roller skating have been extremely poor prophets when one finds how the Olympia Rink, in Queen-street, Cardiff, is being patronised. Large and fashionable crowds assemble at each session, and the scene is ever an animated one. A good deal of the success is due to the excellent methods of keeping the building cool, but the quality of the skates, the good floor surface, and the music of the band all contribute to a maximum of enjoyment.

Blackpool Beach Rink.

The rink at the Pleasure Beach, Blackpool, is the largest in the district, and, being well equipped in every respect, is well suited for patrons obtaining the maximum of enjoyment during the three sessions which are held each day. During the hot weather the rink can be thrown open at the sides, so as to provide every comfort for rinkers. The prices of admission are reasonable and within the reach of all, while the best of skates can be hired at moderate prices.

New Brighton Skating Rink.

There was some exciting races on the New Brighton Roller Skating Rink on Wednesday, the 20th inst., for gold and silver medals, and the finals were very close. In the boys' quarter-mile race Wallis, who was one of the youngest competitors, distinguished himself in the heat, but was most unfortunate in the final. He was leading in the second lap, but took too big a sweep when turning one of the corners, and as a consequence bumped into the rails and allowed his opponent, Douglas, to gain on him for some distance. Wallis, however, made a plucky attempt to gain ground, and almost recovered on tape. The winner of the gold medal was P. Douglas, and A. Wallis won the gold centre silver medal. In the ladies' race there was a keen struggle. Miss McCabe, who had been leading during the early part of the final race, fell, and little Miss D. Turner then led all the way and won the gold medal. The gold centre silver medal was won by Miss J. Little.

Carnival at Chesterfield.

Roller skating is still a popular pastime with Chesterfield people. The Premier Rink at West Bars has been closed during the summer months, and the local enthusiasts have not been able to enjoy a skate. Opportunity was, however, afforded them on Wednesday, the 20th inst., when a carnival took place, it having been arranged by the Chesterfield Roller Skating Hockey Club, with the object of augmenting their funds, so that the winter season can be started with a good balance on the right side. It was a great success, and Mr. Victor Davis and Mr. F. Renshaw, the secretary of the club, are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts. The management of the Premier Rink Company generously offered them the use of the rink gratis, and Mr. C. Cartwright, the local manager of the rink, who during the close season is superintending a rink at Scarborough, but who will return to Chesterfield in September, attended and rendered assistance. Over three hundred people attended, and they spent a thoroughly pleasant evening. The evening's enjoyment was concluded with a battle of confetti.

Penzance Rink.

This rink has been well attended during the past week. Large numbers from the combined fleet visiting Mount's Bay have paid it a visit, and a very pleasant time was spent.

Gymkhana at West Stanley Rink.

A highly interesting and amusing gymkhana was held at the West Stanley Skating Rink on Wednesday night, splendid prizes being given for several events, such as ladies' potato race, amateur half-mile race, obstacle race, wheelbarrow race, &c., &c.

The Wonderful Howards, the Royal telepathic entertainers, were due to appear at the De Valance Gardens, Tenby, next week, but being suddenly booked for America for twelve weeks, Mr. Sidney James kindly let them off and cancelled their dates until next season. They sailed on Wednesday in the Oceanic for New York, where they open on Aug. 8, and return home at the end of October.

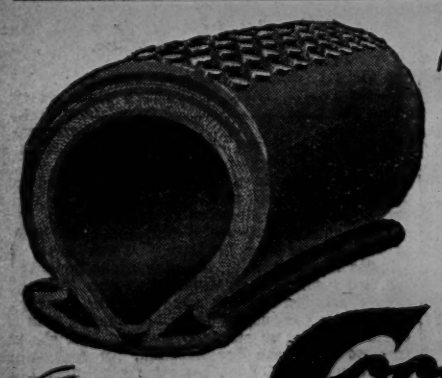

THE ARRIVAL OF THE FITTEST.

It sometimes happens that a motorist's search for the best tyre ends where it begins, that is he strikes the best first. This seldom occurs in real life. The usual process is the slow and painful one of weeding out the undesirables. If you are not one of the lucky ones, in other words, if you have not yet tried

Goodrich Tyres

TRADE G MARK QUALITY

try them at once. A new experience awaits you, a new standard of mileage and efficiency. In a word, you strike

"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE,"

a highly desirable set of figures representing the present limit of tyre science and tyre service.

Manufactured by THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., Snow Hill, London, E.C.

DEATH OF HENRI GROS.

A conspicuous figure of the variety world, and one whose influence on the contemporary music hall is immeasurable, is lost to view by the death of Mr. Henri Gros, who passed away on Sunday at his residence in Tavi-ton-street, Gordon-square, at the age of sixty. Possessing a strong personality and a thorough grasp of every phase of the entertainment business, Henri Gros threw himself whole-heartedly into its development so far as the music hall is concerned, and by voice and pen strenuously maintained the rights and privileges of the profession.

A man of keen business aptitude, Mr. Gros was also a formidable fighter. In 1900 he was appointed president of the London Entertainments Protection Association, a position to which he was elected for many years in succession. He was, of course, at the helm of that institution during the stormy period of the strike, and represented the association at the arbitration proceedings which resulted in the Award of 1907. On the "great sketch question," as he was wont to describe it, Mr. Gros discoursed eloquently and frequently, warmly advocating the legalisation of that form of entertainment. He was a ready speaker, and as a proof of his volubility it may be recorded that, presiding at an annual dinner of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Association, he considerably astonished his hearers by making a speech lasting an hour and a quarter.

He yielded to no one in his desire to promote the interests of professional charities. In the year 1903-4 Mr. Gros was president of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and remained a member of the executive up to the termination of that society some two years ago. He was, moreover, a generous contributor to philanthropic institutions, and served as a ray of sunlight in the beclouded lives of many a poverty-stricken professional. At the Variety Benevolent Fund sports last week the "Henri Gros Challenge Shield" figured among the prizes. Even while that trophy was being competed for its donor was rapidly sinking, and on the following Sunday he breathed his last.

Starting his career as a wine merchant, Mr. Gros made his first venture in music hall enterprise in 1892 by acquiring an interest in the Metro-

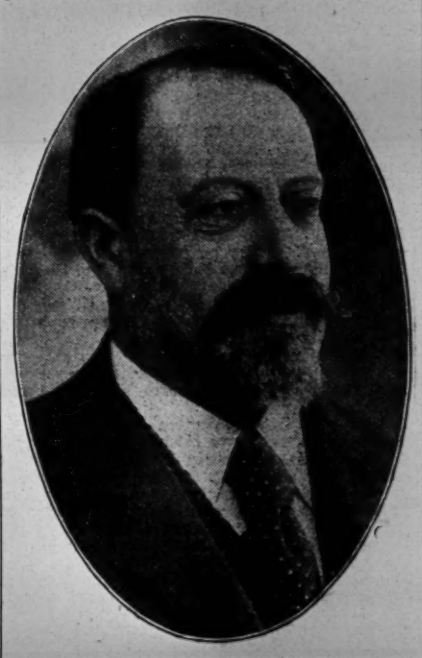

THE LATE MR. HENRI GROS.

politan, in Edgware-road, and up to the time of his death was managing-director of that variety theatre. He was also managing-director of the Variety Theatres Consolidated (Limited), which own the Metropolitan, Chelsea, Euston, South London, and Walthamstow Palaces of Variety, and managing-director of the United Varieties Syndicate, which runs the East Ham and Tottenham Palaces.

Mr. Gros' chief energies were devoted to the Metropolitan, which was originally opened in 1862 as Turnham's Varieties, being rechristened the Metropolitan in 1864. After the hall had undergone many changes of management Mr. Gros acquired it in the May of 1892. Six years later he formed a company, under whose auspices he transformed the hall into a handsome palace of varieties, some £30,000 being spent on the work. Two years ago Mr. Gros saw the necessity for further innovations, and on Aug. 24, 1908, the Metropolitan, after being reconstructed and redecorated at a cost of £10,000, was reopened on the two-houses-a-night system. Mr. Gros also took an enthusiastic interest in the Chelsea Palace, which he opened in the April of 1903, and of which he had chief control. His interest in the other establishments with which he was associated was less marked, perhaps, but he applied himself indefatigably to his responsibilities there, and before his health began to give way was constantly to be seen at the various halls.

He was an uncompromising opponent of anything in the shape of vulgarity on his stage, and more than once came into conflict with his artists on the subject. His hostility to the "blue business" on one occasion had an amusing result. Sitting in the stalls at the Chelsea Palace one evening, Mr. Gros noted certain objectionable lines in a song sung, and demanded that the words should be sent to him for revision. The song was duly submitted, and was returned with two verses cut out—the two, however, which the comedian had not sung.

Mr. Gros was consistent throughout in his dealings with artists and employees. The secret of his success in business lay principally in the fact that he recognised the worth of every man in his employ, and placed him in the position most suited to his capacity. He was a strict disciplinarian, but if he erred at all it was on the side of leniency, and would overlook almost anything in an old hand in order to retain him on the staff. By the employees at the halls with which he was more immediately concerned he was regarded with a feeling amounting almost to veneration, and his influence over them may be estimated by the remark of an old servant: "It was impossible to tell the guv'nor a lie."

For many months past the deceased proprietor had suffered from heart trouble and dropsy, but bore his affliction with marvellous fortitude. The death last October of his wife, to whom he was deeply attached, undoubtedly hastened his end. A few weeks ago he paid a brief visit to Folkestone, hoping to gain relief, but without avail, and he lingered on to the end, passing peacefully away in his sleep. His death will be sincerely regretted by all classes of the profession, but by none more than the smaller turns, to many of whom he proved a real benefactor. He leaves two sons, one of whom was recently admitted a solicitor, and two daughters.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at the Jewish Cemetery, Willesden, on Thursday; and evidence of the esteem in which the deceased was held by his many personal friends, his business associates, and more particularly by those in his employ, was shown by the large attendance and the numerous and beautiful floral tributes to which were attached cards inscribed with expressions of the deepest sympathy, regard, and regret. The funeral cortège, consisting of the hearse and fourteen carriages, started from the residence of the deceased, Taviton-street, Gordon-square, at eleven o'clock, and reached the cemetery a little after twelve o'clock. The chief mourners were Mr. G. Gros, Mr. S. Gros (sons), Mr. J. Beyfus (uncle), and Mr. S. de Groot and Mr. H. de Groot (cousins).

The Entertainment Proprietors' Protection Association were represented by Messrs. J. L. Graydon, P. J. Rutland, T. S. Dickie, and Underwood. Others present included Messrs. Henry Tozer, Jos. Davis, Walter Payne, Richard Warner, W. Huddleston, E. Warner, J. Somers, Wm. Bailey (manager of the Metropolitan), D. M. Trytell (conductor of the orchestra), W. H. Handley (who as pianist has been associated with the Metropolitan for over forty-seven years), Wilson Hallett, Percy Murray, F. Gooch, Blyth-Pratt, J. Wilson, J. McEvoy, Miller, T. S. Mayne, W. Wincote, J. M. Berlin, J. Andrews, P. Cohen, J. Cohen, the staffs of the Metropolitan, the Chelsea Palace, &c., including the stage hands, cleaners, check-takers, &c. The members of the music-hall profession were well represented in the large assemblage at the graveside. Messrs. Harry Tate, George Conquest, and Ernest Selig were amongst those who arrived after the service was over and the mourners had departed. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. Isaacs, of Devonshire-road Synagogue, the Rev. A. Adler (brother of the chief Rabbi), and the Rev. J. Spero, of the Great Portland-street Synagogue. The deceased was interred in a grave situated between two others, which contain the remains of his wife, Isabella Gros, who died on Oct. 20, 1909, at the age of sixty-one, and his mother, who passed away in 1902, aged eighty-one. Close by is the grave of Dr. Phineas Gros, who died on Dec. 14, 1902, aged thirty-four years.

The floral tributes of affection and regard were very numerous, and filled four landaus. Amongst the most prominent was a large crown composed of various choice flowers, the whole surmounted by a dove. This was from the staff of the Metropolitan, and the accompanying card was inscribed "R.I.P." Mr. Alfred Butt, of the Palace, sent a wreath, and the card attached bore the words "With deep sympathy. To one who was always sincere in his endeavours." On a cushion of white flowers was the word "Rest," and the card bore the following inscription: "To our dear governor. From his managers. God rest his soul." A tasteful design in red and white flowers came from the Grand Order of Water Rats. The management and staff of the Chelsea Palace sent a floral cushion of white flowers, with the word "Peace" prominent, and the inscription "Kind hearts are more than coronets and simple faith than Norman blood." A wreath from the Entertainment Proprietors' Protection Association bore the inscription: "To its devoted President." There were also wreaths from the directors of the New Tivoli, the London Pavilion, and the Oxford, the Canterbury and staff, the management, staff, and orchestra of the East Ham Palace, the Walthamstow Palace staff, members of the South London orchestra, the Variety Artists' Federation, the Fulham, Kensington, and West London Licensed Victuallers' Protection Association, Henri Gros. and Co., Mark Lane, Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton, the office staff Durham House-street, Mr. J. Pritchard (a design made up entirely of red flowers), Music Hall Ladies' Guild, Mr. and Mrs. Will Collins, Mr. Jos. Davis, Messrs. Jos. Wilson and Mr. Blyth-Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Kotin, Col. Probyn, Mr. E. H. Emmanuel, Mr. and Mrs. Gooch, Margaret Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Christian, Mr. Leonard C. Best Mr. Oswald Wylson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Masters, Mr. Leo Stormont, Mme. Blantot, Mme. Murot, Mr. J. Ibbetson, Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Barnett, Mr. Jos. Onzella, family of the late Mr. Jas. Lyon, Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reed, Mr. W. T. Titmas, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibbons, Messrs. A. and S. Gatti (the Adelaide Gallery), Mr. Leon Zeitlin, Mr. Percy Honri, Mr. H. Newson-Smith, Mr. Felix de Groot, Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Cohen (Kittee Rayburn), Mr. Wm. Bailey and family, Mr. Pratt and family, Mr. and Mrs. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Somers, Mr. and Mrs. Stadelmaier, Pam Valenani, Mr. H. H. Wells, Mr. F. W. Lord, Miss Abrahams, Nurse Hook, "Edith and Emma," the coachman, &c.

NEW HIPPODROME AT CROYDON.

The new Stoll Hippodrome at Croydon, which was opened on Monday, stands on the site of the old Theatre Royal in Crown Hill, built in 1800. After a varied history the old Theatre Royal was demolished in May, 1909, to make way for the more elaborate and up-to-date house which will now take its place with the other houses of amusement in Croydon.

The new palace of varieties occupies a commanding central position in the town, and has its main frontage in Crown Hill with entrances and exists on each side. The richly-embellished and well-appointed interior includes stalls and pit on the ground floor, a large circle and gallery over, and will accommodate about 2,000 persons. The building has been designed by Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co. for the Croydon Hippodrome Co., Ltd., and nearly £20,000 has been laid out on the new building, a full description of which was given in our last issue. Mr. J. Christie is the district manager and Mr. Stanley Hope the acting manager of this latest addition to the variety stage.

The scheme of decoration is in cream and gold in bold relief, giving an artistic and rich appearance to the interior of the house. A pleasant shade of green in the tapestry and upholstery work offers a welcome contrast to the rich red velvet pile carpets. Ample stage room has been provided, and artists will find that their comforts have been well thought of with dressing-rooms quite in keeping with the generous proportions of the whole of the magnificent theatre. A large number of influential ladies and gentlemen responded to the invitations to view the house on Thursday afternoon, when general admiration was expressed and the management congratulated all round upon this new elaborate addition to Croydon's palaces of amusement. There were no speeches, by order, but the Hippodrome orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Rattray, gave an excellent programme of music during the afternoon, and interesting selections on the Auxeto-gramophone were also appreciated. The directors had thoughtfully provided tea and light refreshments. The house opens to the public on Monday with a capital bill of fare.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

St. Ruth and Conyers, who are appearing at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, this week, are making a great success with their new Irish medley, which is much above the ordinary style of medleys, and is rendered artistically. Mr. A. Douglas Willcox is again responsible for the composition and arranging.

THE NEW TIVOLI.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the New Tivoli, Limited, was held at the Tivoli, Strand, W.C., on Wednesday, Mr. Henry Tozer (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr. Ilford Ibbetson, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditor's report,

The Chairman said: This meeting constitutes the nineteenth occasion upon which we have met to consider the results of the trading for the year. From the accounts of the company at June 30 last it will be seen that the net profit for the twelve months then ended (after providing for £5,688 interest on the mortgage and debentures) amounts to the sum of £10,851 16s. 8d. In January last an interim dividend of £4 per cent. was paid, and the directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent., making £10 per cent. for the year. After payment of this dividend the directors propose to deal with the surplus by applying £3,000 to the general reserve fund (making £28,000 to the credit thereof) and carrying forward the balance to the current year's accounts. The financial position of a company is undoubtedly the keynote to its soundness. Dividends rize and fall in accordance with the barometrical indications of general business conditions, but the ability of a company, after satisfying its obligations towards its mortgagees and debenture-holders, to earn year by year a substantial amount of net divisible profit is, it will be conceded, the feature which commands the most confidence and gives the most satisfaction to shareholders. Judging by this year's results, we have to congratulate you upon the fact that we are able to pay the substantial dividend of 10 per cent., to put aside a further £3,000 to our reserve fund, and to carry forward a fair balance of profit. This has been accomplished in spite of the severe drawback we experienced early in May by the lamented death of the late King. I may tell you at once that the loss of takings from that time up to June 30 (the end of our financial year), as compared with the corresponding period of 1909, has in the main accounted for the difference in the profit and loss of the past and present years. Other matters have occasioned and still occasion increased care and attention on our part; but we are gratified to be able to present to you what may be considered, in these days of severe competition and other detrimental circumstances incident at the present time to nearly every class of business, a satisfactory result of a particularly anxious year. I may, perhaps, mention as an illustration of modern movements, that at the present moment more than one-third of the shareholders are ladies, although in the early years of the company they were few. At the current rate of increase they will soon be in the majority—it may be because our articles of association give them equal votes to men shareholders. On all occasions we shall be willing, as we are to-day, to give the fullest information and explanation of the accounts, which have been simply and conclusively stated in the print we have, as usual, forwarded to the shareholders. With the final assurance, on the part of my colleagues and myself, that the takings have been encouraged in every way and the expenses most carefully controlled, I now beg to move:—"That the directors' report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1910, recommending a dividend of 6 per cent. (less income-tax) for the half-year ended that date, together equal to 10 per cent. for the year with the dividend already paid, placing £3,000 to the general reserve fund, and carrying forward the balance to the current year's accounts, be, and are hereby, adopted."

Mr. Henry Sutton seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, without discussion.

Mr. H. H. Wells, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Walter Payne, the retiring director, remarked that Mr. Payne rendered extremely valuable services to the company, and on legal matters they found his advice of the greatest importance, and undoubtedly an economy to the company.

The proposition was duly seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Sir John Runtz, in proposing that 500 guineas be voted to the directors as remuneration, said he was quite sure that the motion would receive the unanimous support of the shareholders. The chairman had, with his usual clearness and conciseness, placed the affairs of the company before them, but had not referred to all the favourable features which might have been put before them in connection with the figures. The chairman naturally had referred to the £3,000 placed to reserve, and also to the balance carried forward, which showed that the company had earned during the year 15 per cent. on their capital, whilst they had declared a dividend of 10 per cent., thus keeping 5 per cent. in the company. This, he considered, was very sound finance indeed, and he was quite sure that the shareholders would endorse this policy. He noticed on the other side of the accounts, in connection with Consols and India 3 per Cent. Stock, that these items last year stood in the books at, respectively, 84¼ and 87 13-16, whilst this year they were taken respectively at 82¾ and 82⅞. He supposed that this was done before the profits of the year were taken into consideration, and he mentioned this in order that the shareholders might know that the directors had their eye on all corners of the balance-sheet, and that their securities were not only written down, but were written down to a safe figure. They had earned 15 per cent., and they had, as he had previously pointed out, carried 5 per cent. to reserves. They shared, of course, in the general sorrow at the death of King Edward VII., but they could not control those circumstances, and, taking all the conditions of the year into consideration, the directors had managed the company extremely well, and he thought the shareholders would show their gratitude by unanimously agreeing to the proposition he had made.

Mr. R. Meyer seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman, in returning thanks, stated that there never was a time of greater anxiety in the whole ten years they had been managing the affairs of the company than the present. They were desirous of maintaining the prosperity of the company to its fullest, and there was nothing that would conduce to this end that would be left undone.

Last week Dr. Walford Bodie played to record business at the Hippodrome, Keighley, despite the week before the great Feast holiday—the worst week of the year. He played to packed houses nightly, and on Saturday had a rousing reception at both houses, being lustily cheered at the conclusion of his performance. This week he is playing to phenomenal business at the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees. On Monday night he opened to two packed houses at early-door prices. Monday next he appears with his own company at the King's Theatre, Seacombe. The Doctor has had many offers, but has no immediate vacant dates, being fully engaged till the end of November, but is booking for 1911.

Mr. Justice Bucknill gave judgment in the King's Bench Division on Saturday in the action brought against Mr. George Roboy by Mr. Frederick Ginn, stamp dealer, who claimed £276 in respect of stamps alleged to have been supplied. In respect of certain Mauritius stamps the defendant had paid £42 14s. 2d. into Court. Judgment was given in favour of the plaintiff for £43 13s. 11d., including the sum paid in, the plaintiff to have the costs of the action up to July 1, and the defendant the costs from that date.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 1.

ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Palace T., Newcastle.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R. Birkenhead.
ARCADIANS (S.).—O. H., Harrogate.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O. H., Workington
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—O. H., Kidderminster.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Blackpool.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Sunderland.
CANDIDA.—O. H., Belfast.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Pier, Hastings.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Grand T., Leeds.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—T. R., Norwich.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Weston-super-Mare.
DAWN OF A TO-MORROW.—Pier, Eastbourne.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
DON.—Opera House, Buxton.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Court T., Wigan.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Marlborough T., N.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—T. R., Hanley.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—T. R., Castleford.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Bradford.
FAST LIFE.—Hippodrome, Bilston.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—T. R. Wolverhampton.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—Palace T., Gloucester.
FIGHTING CHANCE.—New T., Cardiff.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Llandudno and Weston-super-Mare.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Chatham.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Newport.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—T. R., Smethwick.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS.—Bury St. Edmunds.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Junction T., Manchester.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—Empire T., Swindon.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—O. H., Leicester.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Scarborough.
HIS INDIAN WIFE.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Sligo and Enniskillen.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Londonderry.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Crown T., Eccles.
LUCKY DURHAM.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
MAN TO MAN.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—T. R., Bath.
MAUDE, WINIFRED.—Llanelly.
MERRY WIDOW.—T. R., Portsmouth.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—O. H., Dudley.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Bristol.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD.—Devonport.
MOUNTAINEERS, THE.—Great Yarmouth.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—T. R., Torquay.
NEW BOY.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
NICK CARTER.—T. R., Woolwich.
NO MAN'S LAND.—T. R., West Stanley.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—T. R., Smethwick.
PASSION OF LIFE.—T. R., North Shields.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—T. R., Nottingham.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
PROOF.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
RAYNOR'S REPERTOIRE CO.—T. R., Dewsbury.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Dublin.
SEXTON BLAKE.—T. R., Rochdale.
SILVER KING.—Grand T., Fulham.
SMITH (N.).—O. H., Southport.
SPENSER SIDNEY REPERTOIRE.—Morecambe.
STILL ALARM.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
TERRY, EDWARD.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Ashton-under-Lyne.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Barrow-in-Furness.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T. R., Barnsley.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Queen's T., Dublin.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—H. M. T., Dundee.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—New Hall, Bargoed.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—Ilfracombe.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD (N.).—Douglas.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD (S.).—T. R., Margate.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Southsea.
WILKIE ALLEN.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—T. R., Stratford.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Prince's T., Bradford.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BINGLEY.—Monday, July 18, 1910, at 34, Eleanor-street, Grimsby, the wife of J. R. Bingley, musical director, Prince of Wales's Theatre, of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CURZON—CAVENDISH.—July 25, at St. Dionis, S.W., by the Rev. Dr. Carter, Frank Curzon to Isabel Emilie Cavendish (Isabel Jay).

DEATHS.

BOWN.—On July 23, at his residence, Moseley, Birmingham, George Bown, the beloved father of Clifford Bown, in his ninety-first year.

COOPER.—On July 14, 1910, Richard Wightman Cooper, son of Mrs. Wightman Cooper (née Irene Carrington). Unutterably mourned by his heartbroken mother and grief-stricken relatives.

CRAVEN.—July 22, at his residence, Fairlight, Brockley, Henry Hawes Craven Green, scenic artist, aged 73.

CROCKER.—At the Hospital, Stockport, Claude, the darling son of Alfred and Mary Crocker, in his eleventh year.

GROS.—On the 24th inst., at his residence, 1, Tavistock-street, Gordon-square, W.C., Henri Gros, after a long and serious illness, patiently borne. Deeply mourned by his children.

IN MEMORIAM.

ABBOTT.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Matilda Emily Abbott, who entered her rest July 28th, 1909.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Fred D. Harris—Saturday, July 30.
(Miss) Sydney Fairbrother—Sunday, July 31.
B. Story Gofton—Sunday, July 31.
Wilson Howard—Sunday, July 31.
Winifred Emery—Monday, Aug. 1.
Sydney Brough—Tuesday, Aug. 2.
Algernon Syms—Wednesday, Aug. 3.
Ida Millais—Thursday, Aug. 4.
Charles Coborn—Thursday, Aug. 4.
Harry Lauder—Thursday, Aug. 4.
Marie Illington—Friday, Aug. 5.
H. B. Irving—Friday, Aug. 5.
R. Nightingale, Friday, Aug. 5.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.20 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "THE ERA" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).

Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

HAROLD FURBER.—*The copyright expired about a dozen years ago.*

J. G. VENING.—(1) *The sketch* Drummed Out *was never, to our knowledge, produced as a theatrical play.* (2) *The late William Terriss was assassinated on Dec. 16, 1897. The play he was acting in at the time was the American drama* Secret Service.

H. W.—The Sorcerer, *Opera Comique, Nov. 17, 1877;* Pinafore, *Opera Comique, May 25, 1878;* Pirates of Penzance, *Opera Comique, April 3, 1880;* Patience, *Opera Comique, April 23, 1881;* Iolanthe, *Savoy, Nov. 25, 1882;* Princess Ida, *Savoy, Jan. 5, 1884;* Mikado, *Savoy, March 14, 1885;* Ruddigore, *Savoy, Jan. 22, 1887;* Yeomen of the Guard, *Savoy, Oct. 3, 1888;* Gondoliers, *Savoy, Dec. 7, 1889;* Utopia, Limited, Savoy, *Oct. 7, 1893;* The Grand Duke, *Savoy, March 7, 1896.*

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON AT CARDIFF.

Mr. Forbes Robertson went to Cardiff on Saturday to address a meeting convened for the purpose of appointing a committee to raise a local fund for the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre. The meeting, which was held at the City Hall, was largely attended, and the Earl of Plymouth, who presided, was supported by Mr. Robertson and Mr. O. R. Dawson (representing the London Committee), the Lord Mayor (Alderman John Chappell), and others. The noble chairman, in an opening address, pointed out that the question was not a London one, it was really not a question for the British Islands: it was an idea which touched the whole English-speaking race. They appealed, however, in the first place, to their own countrymen. The chairman announced that Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., who was unable to be present, had promised fifty guineas towards the fund.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, who was received with great cordiality, said he hoped that in the near future there would be commenced a noble building, on some good site in London, in memory of Shakespeare. The movement had been attempted once or twice before; this time they were going to win. After briefly reviewing the history of the movement, Mr. Robertson continued: "We blunder along in some mysterious sort of way, and we have gone on far too long without some institution of this kind in our midst. We boast of London being the richest and most powerful and the largest city in the world, and yet there is the ghastly fact that there is no monument to Shakespeare in that city, for you cannot call that unfortunate statue which stands in the middle of Leicester-square a monument at all."

Even in Paris, he went on, there is a monument to William Shakespeare, and there was an excellent one in New York. The enthusiasm of the New Yorker had produced the most beautiful theatre in the world—a theatre devoted to répertoire, and where, it was distinctly understood, they should give a certain number of performances of Shakespeare. "If a young country like America can do that," said Mr. Robertson, "surely we British can do it—we must do it, we will do it."

Mr. Robertson pointed out the extent to which the drama was subsidised in other countries. Proceeding to discuss what he described as the ridiculous question often asked as to whether the drama is an educational force, the distinguished actor said it was perfectly obvious to any person who had ever thought of the matter for a moment that the drama was at least as powerful in its educational influence as painting, music, and sculpture.

"It delights me," said Mr. Robertson, "to find that we are met in this magnificent temple which Cardiff has raised in its midst. Here you have set the most beautiful and elevating buildings that fill one with feelings of delight and ideas of the most lofty kind. Great architectural features, noble pictures, well-proportioned houses, beautiful statuary—all these things have an influence upon even those people who are hardly educated at all. I speak of the beauty of Cardiff and of these noble buildings that you have raised, matching with the splendid ancient castle hard by, because we are badly in want in London of such buildings. London is a struggling octopus, with crowded streets, many of them poor and miserable in appearance, and that is another reason why we should put our shoulder to the wheel and do something to help to beautify that extraordinary and interesting city."

The Lord Mayor proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting cordially approves of the project of the establishment of a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre, constitutes itself a local committee for the city of Cardiff and district, with power to add to its number, and pledges itself to use its best endeavours to raise a substantial local contribution to the fund."

MISS OLGA AUDRE was the recipient of many handsome presents from the members of *The Great Awakening* company on the occasion of her birthday, July 28.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909, which came into force Jan. 1, 1910, also the Cinematograph Regulations made by the Secretary of State, which came into operation Jan. 1, 1910, with an appendix concerning Limelight and What the Cinematograph Showman must do. Explanations of the Act and the Regulations. The Act—the Regulations—the Explanations—sent post free, four stamps. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Anderson, Miss Mary
Anderton and Rowland,
Aoki Troupe
Arliss, Mr. George
Arntes, The
Aylmer, Mr. Frank
Barker, Mrs. G.
Bartlett's Circus
Barygo, Mr. M.
Bastow, Mr. Geo.
Beecham, Mr. Chas.
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Blair, Mr. R.
Borello, Carl
Broadbridge, Mr. Claud
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Bute, Mr. Henry
Carne, Mr. Joseph
Carter, Mr. D.
Casey, Mr. Claud
Chalmers, Mr. K.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Claff, Mr. Harry
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Cook, Mr. Albert
Cook, Mr. C. E.
Cotton, Mr. Wilfred
Crawford, Miss Alice
Cray, Mr. Oswald
Cronin, Mr. M. F.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dagmar, Miss V.
Dalton, Mr. Richard
Daly, Mr. Mark.
Danvers, Mr. Fred
Davins, Mrs.
Davis, Miss Bella.
Douglas, Mr. George
Elton, Mr. Fred
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fanning, Mr. H.
Finucane, Miss M.
Foley and Francis
Forbes, Miss Mary
Fossett, Miss Emma
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Chas.
Friedman, Mr. H.
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. A. F.
George, Mr. Chandos
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gittins, Mr. E. C. H.
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glyn, Miss Ruby
Goddard, Mr. A.
Gray, Mr. Cecil
Grayson, Miss Ethel
Grey, Mr. Vaughan
Grundy, Mr. S.
Hare, Miss W.
Hicks, Mr. A. J.
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Holt, Madam
Howard, Mrs. George
Howard, Mr. W.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kingston, Miss G.
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kipling, Mr. Edward
Kirk and Neil
Kirk, Miss Florence
Kirk, Mr. G.
Lancaster, Mr. W. J.
Landon, Mr. J.
Latham, Miss J.
Latham, Mrs. Jean
Lecard Brothers
Lennox, Miss Lottie
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Lesborough, Miss Violet
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Lestrade, Mr. Sid
Levey and Cardwell
Lloyd, Mr. James
Lopez, Mr. Stephen
Loraine, Mr. Robert
Lovell, Mr. and Mrs.
Lukashima Troupe
Lupino, Mr. George
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Manchester, Mr. Harry
Marshall, Miss M.
Martens, Mr. Hugo
Masco Twins
McDermott, Miss Ouida
McMerry, Miss
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Merlin, Mr. Jack
Milner Trio, Prince
Morris, Miss Lily
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Neville, Mr. Harry
Nord, Miss Serene
Norman, Miss Lizzie
Norris, Mr. Russel.
Noyle, Miss Pearl
Patey, Miss Lola
Payne, Mr. Walter
Pitt, Mr. F. W.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Preston, Mr. J.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Reed, Mr. Wilton
Richmond, Mr. Arthur
Ridge, Mr. Pett
Ridgway, Miss N.
Rigby, Mr. Arthur
Rogers, Mr. Charles
Romanos Trio
Roy, Miss Risie
Russell, Miss Freda
Russell, Miss Helen
Russell, Mr. Wensley
Samson, Mrs.
Saxionas, The
Sauteron Wonders
Schofield, Mrs.
Seymour, Miss Maude
Sharman, Mr. J.
Sivado, Mr. C.
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Standing, Mr. C. W.
St. Clair, Mr. Kent
Stapley, Mr. Kenneth G.
Steyton, Mr. Frank
Sullivan, Mr. L.
Symonds, Mr. A.
Thattle, Mrs.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Van Allen, Mr. W.
Vernon, Mrs. G.
Wade, Mr. Stanley
Waller, Mrs. Lewis
Ward, Mr. Hugh
Waterfield, Mr. C. W.
Watson, Miss Mabel
Williams, Miss May
Williamson, Mr. J. C.
Wood, Mr. W.
Zola, Master J.
Zolas, The Four

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up £200,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
Will Stop Immediately an Attack of
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.
Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.
To avoid disappointment, insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.
The Original and Only Genuine.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM
OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. J.W. No. 314,135.
Velvet Grip
Registered Trade Mark No. 804004.
Compress
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England.
(Patent No. 16883/08 and under Licence of Patent 24215/99.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINÉE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINÉE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Aug. 1, at 7.45, Matinée Wednesday at 2.30,
"The Prince and the Beggar Maid."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous Success of
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
SCHICHTL'S MARIONETTES, THE UESSEMS,
Henry Helme, OLYMPIA DESVALL, "ON THE SANDS," Merlin, The Royal Colibris, Jury's Pictures.
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
LYDIA KYASHT, FRED FARREN,
"HULLO! PEOPLE,"
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
Geo. Mozart, Emerson and Baldwin, Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson Clark, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Anna Pavlova, Michael Mordkin, Russia's Greatest Dancers and Co. (last week), Nat. M. Wills, Redford and Winchester, Bert Levy, Merian's Canine Actors, Goodwood Races on Bioscope and Kinemacolour, &c. Evenings at 8. Matinées, full programme, Saturdays and Mondays. Bank Holiday, at 2. Special Matinée Wednesdays, at 3.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—MARIE LLOYD (9.40), JOE ELVIN, in new sketch, "W(h)ines and Spirits" (9), Chirgwin (10.30), King and Benson (8.30), Victoria Monks (8.45), Warsaw Bros., Daisy Dormer, Herbert Shelley, W. S. Wyndham, Kitts and Windrum, Milt Wood, Barney Armstrong, Queenie Essex, Tom Woottwell, Harry Grey, Talbot and Pearce, Edna Latona, Lotto Troupe, Devon and Earle, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.15; Saturday matinées at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—Bank Holiday Programme.—LITTLE TICH, THE TWO BOBS, BEN WEBSTER and MONA HARRISON in "A Night of the Garter," Tom Clare, Dutch Daly, Sam Mayo, May Moore Duprez, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane in "Trixie," Max Waldon, THE TEN-KA TROUPE (Japanese Jugglers), Anita Bartling, Queenie Essex, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Larola, Minnie Mace, Jose Collins. Open 7.40. Saturday matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Delomes, Madge Osmond, King and Benson, Olgar, Elgar and Eli Hudson, H. La Martine, Valazzi, Tom Leamore, M. Parker and Co., Victoria Monks, Tom Woottwell, Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Marie Lloyd, Kitts and Windrum and Co. in "What a Night," S. W. Wyndham, Madge Osmond, The Calcotts, Henri Bekker, Lily Hayes, Will Driscoll, Bros. Horne in comedy boxing sketch, "The Biter Bit."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Harry P. Selwyn's Co. present "A Soldier of Fortune," Kittie Corelli, Bioscope, Will E. Haines, Frank Seeley, Les Frasettis, Vere and Green, Arthur Farrell, Vera Saunders, Jeff's Eight Juggling Girls. Artists must forward Bill Matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Aug. 1.
John Henderson and Co., in "Far Away Galgary," Elsie Athas, Hudson Duo, James Mooney, presents Sam Keey's "Laundry," Kitty Clowther, Baker and Balfe, Will Challoner, Athas and Collins, Marie Blythe, Bioscope, Pender's Giants, Gelday and Fox.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL (facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, August 1, Gertie Gitana, Dale and O'Malley, May Henderson, Lyric Mummers, Grete Hahn and Co., Jack Warman, Michel Bros., A. E. Mayne and Co., The Langleys, Jack Straw, Edgar Budden, Julia Gilbert, Laurie and Leslie, Daisy Gerard, Harry Bertelle, Sisters Volbecque. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30; Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Telc. 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
REOPENING, AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.
DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries.
Mr. MASKELYNE will introduce his famous Automaton, "PSYCHO," and prove that for 26 years it has remained a scientific and unsolved problem.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
Always Open for Real Tip-top Attractions.
Price no object.
All communications, J. F. Elliston.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 12, Nov. 7.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

EVESHAM.—NEW PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed, good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the
TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Sept. 22, 26 (three), Oct. 31 (three),
Nov. 10 (three), Nov. 28 (six), Dec. 5 (six).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Sept. 5, March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE.
ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 6.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Aug. 29, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 14 and 21, first-class attractions only.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 46ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frdk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barclay, Miss Lila	July 24, 1909
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brand, Late Mr. Oswald	Aug. 28, 1909
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Cecil, Mr. Douglas	Aug. 21, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Conway, Late Mr. H. B.	Aug. 21, 1909
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
D'Arc, Mr. W. J.	Aug. 28, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 9, 1909
Davidson and Mitchell	Aug. 7, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edgar, Late Mr. J. W.	Aug. 28, 1909
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walter	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hampton, Miss Louise	Aug. 14, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith	Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Iling, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910 other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Price 5s., 8vo, Cloth. By Post, 5s. 4d.
THIRD EDITION.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,
Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX.

	Pages.
Accidents, Compensation for	53, 209
Act of Paris	119
Actor, Illness of	11
,, Incompetence of	16
Adaptations, Copyright in	110
Agents	129
,, Award as to	131
,, Commission	129
Apprentices	36
Arbitrator's Awards	219
Austria-Hungary, Copyright with	116
Author, Who is the	87
Awards, Arbitrator's	219
Ballets	66
Band Music	101
Barring Clause	41
Berlin Convention	119, 186
Berne Convention	116, 177
Bill Matter, Clause as to	34
"Book," Meaning of	85
Booth	65
Children on the Stage	60
Cinematograph, Rules of the L.C.C. as to	73, 238
Cinematographic Performances and Copyright	101
Compensation for Accidents	53, 209
Consideration for Contract	1
Contract	1
,, Damages for Breach of	43
,, Determination of	3
,, Made by Letters	2
,, Meaning of	1
,, Music Hall	34
,, Stamp on	3
,, Theatrical	4
,, Variation of Written	2
,, With Infant	36
Copyright	83
,, Assignment of	87
,, Colonial	124
,, Dramatic	83
,, Essentials for	85
,, in Adaptations	110
,, in "Gag"	100
,, in Situations	98
,, in United States	120, 194
,, International	116
,, Licence to Perform	88
,, Musical	84, 160
,, None in Titles	90
,, not Infringed by Cinematograph	101
,, Performance	92
,, under Berne Convention	116, 177
,, Registration of	86
,, Remedies for Infringement of	105
,, Term of	89
Copyright Act, Dramatic, 1833	147
,, ,, 1842	149
,, ,, International, 1844	167
,, ,, International, 1886	118, 170
,, ,, (Musical Compositions), 1882	108, 160
,, ,, (Musical Compositions), 1888	107, 162
,, ,, Musical, 1902	114, 163
,, ,, Musical, 1906	114, 165
County Council, Granting Licences	77
,, ,, Regulations of London	234
Criticism	46, 125
Crowds may be a nuisance	50
Custom of the Profession	21
Damages for Breach of Contract	43
Dance, Performing Right in	100
Dancing, Licence for	74
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	144
Disorderly Conduct in Theatre	46
Distance, how determined	42
Dramatic Piece? What is a	93
Dramatisation of Novels	102
Drunkenness no Excuse	16
Duologue, When a Stage Play	68
Excise Licences	80
Exits	234
Fines	17
Fraud in Contracts	3
Garnisheeing Salary	35
Hire, defined	71
Hissing in Theatres	46
Illness of Actor	11
Incompetence of Actor	16
Infants	36
Infringement of Copyright, Remedies for	105
Injunctions	37
International Copyright	116
Letters, Contracts made by	2
Libel	127
Licence, Excise	80
,, for Children	60
,, for Cinematograph	73
,, Music and Dancing	74
,, Lord Chamberlain's	70
,, Provisional	70
,, Stage Play	70
,, Theatrical	64
Liquidated Damages	40
London County Council, Regulations of	234
Lord Chamberlain, Extent of Authority	68
,, ,, Regulations of	238
,, ,, Stage Play Licence	70
,, ,, Stage Play Licence, Fees of	71
Management and Audience	46
Mechanical Instruments, Infringement of Copyright by	112
Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Mistake in Contract	3
Music, Copyright in	107
,, Licence for	74
,, and Dancing Licence	74
Musical Compositions Act, 1882	108, 160
Musical Compositions Act, 1888	107, 162
Musical Copyright Act, 1902	114, 163
Musical Copyright Act, 1906	114, 165
"No Play, No Pay," Meaning of	39
Novels, Dramatization of	102
Nuisance caused by Crowds	50
Opera, Copyright in	111
Owner of Unlicenced Premises Liable	64
Payment and no room	48
Penalties	71
,, for unlicenced Music and Dancing	79
,, for unlicenced Plays	71
,, for sale of Intoxicating Liquors without Licence	82
,, on unstamped Agreement	3
Performing Right	84
,, ,, Term of	89
,, ,, Registration of	86
Piracy	111
Plans of Music Halls	77
Plans of Theatres	68
Plays, Similar	97
Posters, when a Libel	127
Preferential Payment to Artists	35
Public Entertainment Act, 1875	142
Public Health Act, 1890	74
Public House	77
Public Performance	65
Public Place	65, 96
Publication, Meaning of	90
Representation, Right of	84
Retaining a Seat	51
Riots in Theatres	46
Room, Performance in a	65
Salary, Garnisheeing	35
"Season," Meaning of	25
Seat, Retaining	51
Seat, Sold twice over	51
Sketches, Agreement as to	67
Society of Authors	104
Song, When a Dramatic Piece	93
Song, When a Musical Composition	94
Sunday, Performing on	19, 73
Stage Play, Meaning of	66
"Starring"	34
Stationers' Hall	86
Theatres Act, 1843	135
Theatres, Closing of	27
,, Patent	64
,, Unlicenced	4
Title, Rights in	90
Translations	119
Troupe, Performance by	31
United States, Copyright in	120, 194
Workmen's Compensation	53, 209

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1910.

COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE

The Theatres Alliance, a development of the Suburban Managers' Association, which was founded in 1894, is valuable as representing the very important body of "proprietors, lessees, licencees, directors, or responsible managers of London or provincial theatres in Great Britain and Ireland receiving touring companies"; and the fact of such an active and enlightened manager as Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND being the president of the Association suggests its business-like and active organisation. We may take it, then, that the very definite and thoughtful report of the sub-committee of the Theatres Alliance on the much-discussed report of the famous Censorship Committee expresses the feeling of a very large section of theatrical managers.

The sub-committee in this report draws particular attention to the part of the Censorship Committee's report which suggests that "the licence of a theatre which has been endorsed three times within a period of five years shall be liable to forfeiture by the Court which directed the last endorsement, and be incapable of renewal for a period of five years following to or for the benefit of the same licensee."

The effect of the recommendations as they now stand, the sub-committee point out, would be to make the actual theatre building responsible for the wrongful acts of lessees or temporary occupiers, such, for instance, as touring managers visiting suburban and provincial theatres with touring companies. If the structure is not suitable or is not properly maintained, an "entertainment" licence may be opposed at the outset or on application for renewal, or for other definite reasons; but having been obtained this licence should not be capable of being interfered with because of the personal fault or neglect of a lessee, occupier, or touring manager. The punishment should fall on the delinquent and not on owners, mortgagees, shareholders, or workmen, who would be entirely innocent of the breach of the law. Powers are or can be made adequate to deal with any offence against law or decency there and then, but any breach by any particular management does not interfere with the future good conduct by other persons, or with the suitability of the premises for the purposes for which they are designed.

This is so obvious and fair that it is surprising that the present system has been so long endured. The owner of a theatre can no more be held responsible for the offences of an occupier than the landlord of an ordinary house can be for the conduct of his tenants. The point should certainly be further discussed. With regard to the Censorship Committee's opinion that the licensing of the forty theatres which are now in the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain should be transferred to the London County Council, the Theatres Alliance considers it is not desirable that this jurisdiction should be enlarged.

This opinion, coming from such a representative body as the Theatres Alliance, endorses that which we have expressed concerning the proposed changes in the licensing arrangements. We are aware that the present ones cannot be defended on the ground of logical symmetry; but a drastic alteration, as we have often pointed out, requires a strong demand for change on the part of those chiefly affected. England is ruled by institutions that can be riddled with clever and amusing arguments, which, however, are entirely ineffective as regards effecting changes. For instance, the Liberation Society has for years been advocating, with great acumen and eloquence, the disendowment of the Church of England. Yet that institution is still firm and strong on its basis. It is for the subject to choose how we shall be governed; and all the logic and argument in the world will not alter his sentiments.

The sub-committee, however, is not entirely conservative. It is in favour, for instance, of a change in the licensing arrangements. It quotes from page 16 of the report, where the Censorship Committee said: "Proprietors of theatres ask that, if the existing law which ostensibly protects their interests is not to be enforced, they shall at least be allowed to meet their competitors on equal terms, and, if they so desire, during a part of the year, or, it may be, as a portion of their entertainment, to present performances other than stage plays. This cannot but be regarded as a reasonable demand."

With this recommendation on the basis and the ground set out in the report, says the sub-committee of the Theatres Alliance, we are in accord. And they comment weightily on the statement by the Censorship Committee that all places of entertainment holding the (proposed) new single licence should be required to obtain a Justices' licence if it is proposed to sell intoxicants upon the premises, but that existing theatres which now hold an excise licence should be entitled, subject to good conduct, to continue to sell under that licence for a period to be determined in the statute.

It cannot be too strongly pointed out, says the sub-committee, that theatre proprietors are not asking for the single licence otherwise than in default of the enforcement of the law as it now stands, and therefore if any alteration is necessitated, the existing rights or privileges of the former should not be interfered with or curtailed. Neither should there be any statutory term limit to the existing right to an excise licence.

The sub-committee therefore recommend that the words "for a period to be determined by the statute" should be deleted, and they do not agree with the opinion that all places of entertainment holding the new single licence should be required to obtain a justices' licence if it is proposed to sell exciseable liquors. They think that in future any theatre holding an entertainment licence (which should be strictly limited to theatres and music halls proper) should have the right to an excise licence, subject, however, to conditions that may be imposed as now by the licensing authority, with right of appeal as previously mentioned.

The sub-committee consider that the "existing anomalous practice" of granting licences for plays to managers and not to authors should be altered. They argue: "As a matter of practice the licence is not likely to be asked for till production is intended, and if a play is accepted the payment of the fees (if they are kept on the present reasonable basis) will not be a serious matter to either party, and is not in the least likely to be any obstacle to a play that is deemed sufficiently good to be performed."

We have already commented, in detail and pretty completely, upon the Censorship Committee's report; but this manifesto by the Theatres Alliance is a really valuable contribution to the settlement of the important questions involved. The fact is, in practical politics nothing is done without the impetus of agitation. And this is reasonable enough. If a class or calling will not make known its wants, if it is not loud and unanimous in demanding that its desires shall be gratified, how can it expect that anything will be done for it in Parliament? There has been, surely, sufficient evidence taken respecting the licensing question. Is it beyond the bounds of possibility that there should be a conference between the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Touring Managers' Association, the Entertainments Protection Association, the Theatres Alliance, and the leading music hall managers, at which some compromise may be arrived at and a course of action agreed on? If something of the sort be not done the general public and the politicians will imagine that both the theatrical and variety professions are contented with existing arrangements. If this is so, let us hold our peace and refrain from complaint. If otherwise, let us draw up a Bill and get a member of the House of Commons to introduce it. The Theatres Alliance, at any rate, has delivered its soul and distinctly defined its desires.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral and final concert of the present term took place at the Royal College on Thursday evening, July 21, under the direction of Sir Charles V. Stanford. Mr. J. D. Davis's pleasing and picturesque symphonic poem "The Maid of Astolat" came first in the programme, while the last item was Sir Alexander Mackenzie's "Three Preludes to Manfred," which was conducted by the composer and well interpreted by the orchestral students. Of the three movements, Astarte proved the most attractive. The Pastorale, although somewhat long, had pleasing features, and was ably scored for the orchestra while a spirited finale brought the work to an effective conclusion. Mr. Philip Levine and Mr. Cedric Sharpe gave a painstaking performance of Brahms's difficult Double Concerto for Violin and Violoncello in A minor, and were warmly applauded. The two songs included in the concert were accompanied by the orchestra, Mr. David Ellis singing the "Preislied" from *Die Meistersinger*, and Miss Catherine Ryan displaying a pleasing voice in "Deh Veini" from Mozart's *Figaro*.

MR. K. SCOTT-BARRIE'S New Pavilion in the Harehills district of Leeds offers a lavish entertainment, performers to the number of fourteen appearing. There is sprightly Nellie Towers, whose "Singing Maiden" is always welcome, and quite refreshing is the singing of Miss Ailas Moore, a dainty comedienne, whose versatility is unquestionable. The irrepressible K. Scott, in conjunction with ubiquitous Will Ambrose, is the cause of innumerable outbursts of merriment; Louis Shand is a baritone of considerable power; Geo. Taylor scores as the gent with the peculiar walk; Chas. Armstrong is another light comedian, whose "Esau" song might easily have been supplemented with others; and Harold Franklin gave a lively rendering of "Mlle. New York," and upon pressure obliged with "Reilly did it!"

"THE DANCING MASTER."

Ballet Divertissement, in One Scene, by C. Wilhelm, Music by Cuthbert Clarke, Produced at the Empire Theatre on Monday, July 25.

M. Pirouette ..... MR. FRED FARREN
Celestine ..... MISS F. MARTELL
Armand ..... MR. ADOLF BOLM
Mlle. Rosita ..... MISS BEATRICE COLLIER
Mlle. Lutine ..... MISS PHYLLIS BEDELLS
The Baron Salomon ..... MR. L. HUNTER
Rafael ..... MISS OSMOND
Coulisse ..... MISS L. HEWITT
La Brosse ..... MR. GIRARD
Signor Pesante ..... MR. JAMESON
Chevalet ..... MR. PERKINS
Friends of the Baron
MESSRS. FORD, WHITE, RODFORD and HARMAN
Jasmin ..... MR. LEWINGTON
Pupils ..... MISSES ARRIGONI, HILL, PAYER, CUNNINGHAM, BANKS, FARRANT, W. and D. TAYLOR
Dandies ..... MISSES COURTLAND, DAWSON, BOULLRIGHT, KAYGILL, REEVES, and RUBY
Mme. Lafleur ..... MISS PASTON
Mimi Lafleur ..... MLLE. LYDIA KYASHT

The above ballet—which is an elaborated version of the first scene of that delightful divertissement *The Débutante*—was produced with great success at the Empire last Monday night, under the personal supervision of Mr. Fred Farren, and went with smartness and swing from start to finish. The quaint and pretty old-time costumes of the period, the excellent dancing of Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, Mr. Fred Farren, and Miss Phyllis Bedells, and the bright and tuneful music of Mr. Cuthbert Clarke all added to the success achieved, and the ballet was received with great applause by an enthusiastic audience. The action takes place in the year 1840 in the rehearsal room at the Paris Opera, where M. Pirouette, the maître de ballet, aided by his son Armand, his assistant, is initiating the pupils in the difficulties of their art. Baron Salomon, a patron of the ballet, appears, accompanied by dandies of the day, who dance a merry step with the girls. The Baron attempts to do likewise, but is quickly reminded of his gout. Mme. Lafleur and her daughter Mimi then arrive, the latter bringing a letter of introduction to M. Pirouette, who thereupon asks her to dance. He engages her on the spot, being struck by the evident signs of talent in her delightful *pas seul*. There is to be a new ballet at the Opera, and the première danseuse is being put through her paces by Pirouette, but she takes exception to the brusqueness of the maître de ballet, and walks off in a huff. Who shall take her place? The understudy is tried, but is suddenly overcome, and sinks into a chair. After some persuasion, Mimi Lafleur offers herself for the part, to the evident pleasure and relief of M. Pirouette. She is led off by Pirouette's wife, Celestine, to change into costume, and on returning astonishes all by her winning grace and fairy-like movements; after which M. Pirouette takes her in hand, and they do a dainty dance together. Then Celestine, with Armand Pirouette as partner, gives a delightful exhibition of figure dancing, consisting of a *pas de deux* of enchanting delicacy. Mlle. Lutine then presents a graceful *pas seul*, the scene concluding with a tasteful scarf dance by the entire corps de ballet.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht as Mimi danced her way straight to the hearts of her audience, the charm and poetry of motion being apparent in her every movement. Mr. Fred Farren as the maître de ballet, M. Pirouette, cut a quaint figure, and was greatly responsible for the success of the show, his active and untiring efforts being much admired and applauded. Miss Phyllis Bedells danced with her accustomed grace and ability in the part of Mlle. Lutine. As Mlle. Rosita, Miss Beatrice Collier was an excellent exponent of the rôle of the première danseuse, dancing with great taste and skill. Mr. Adolf Bolm was an effective Armand Pirouette, taking with great success his share in the *pas de deux* with Miss F. Martell, a graceful Celestine. The part of the Baron Salomon was done full justice to by Mr. L. Hunter. Miss Osmond enacted with success the son Rafael. The characters of Coulisse, a call boy, and Jasmin, a costumier, were well undertaken by Miss L. Hewitt and Mr. Lewington. Miss Paston looked picturesque as Mme. Lafleur, and Mr. Girard was good as the scenic artist La Brosse. The parts of the *chef d'orchestre*, Signor Pesante, and Chevalet, the first violin, were excellently played by Mr. Jameson and Mr. Perkins; and the friends of the Baron and the dandies were in the safe hands of capable members of the company. After the curtain had been raised several times in response to repeated plaudits, bouquets were received by all the principals. The entire production was designed and invented by Mr. C. Wilhelm.

DANCERS AT DINNER.

At the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday evening a banquet was given in connection with the Congress of the Imperial Society of Dance Teachers. Mr. Cecil H. Taylor, of Leeds, presided, and early in the proceedings announced that in reply to his telegram to King George, expressing their humble, loyal, and devoted greetings to his Majesty, the following reply had been despatched from the Royal yacht at Torquay:

"The King thanks the members of your society for their kind message of loyal and devoted greetings.—A. BIGGE."

Amongst the company present were Mrs. Taylor, Mr. R. M. Crompton (past president), Mr. Charles D'Albert (vice-president and hon. secretary), Herr Rudolph Knoll, Mrs. Knoll, Mr. F. Gilbert Webb, Mrs. Webb, Mr. Emil Chandoux, Mr. and Mrs. Kehl, Mrs. Chandoux, Mr. F. W. C. Lester, and Mrs. Bedford.

A presentation of a handsome silver tray was made by the president to Mr. R. M. Crompton, who for five years occupied the position of president of the society. The president also asked Mr. Emil Chandoux's acceptance of a number of silver table ornaments, remarking that Mr. Chandoux had done very useful work for the society by translating three works on dancing into English. Both recipients having suitably responded,

Mr. F. Gilbert Webb, in proposing the toast of "The Society," remarked that the origin of dancing was undoubtedly in religious rites, and this was at present seen most clearly in Japan. Among some teachers of dancing the art of gesture and its significance were not sufficiently realised. The points that attracted the multitude were the significance of the dance, and what was in the dancer's mind. The importance of this significance showed the enormous value of that society, because it was only through that and kindred societies that the true elements of dancing could be handed down and inculcated. Dancing made people more polite, and its value to young men was not properly realised. He thought the more the world danced the better it would be.

The President, in responding, said that their society was on an absolutely sound basis, and in every way it had constituted a record this year. It was doing its utmost to bring dancing to the condition that they considered it ought to occupy, and the members would not rest until they got the State to say that no man should teach dancing unless he had satisfied the society that he was qualified to do so.

After dinner an interesting exhibition of dancing was given by members of the society and their pupils.

THE Arthur Gallimore Trio, who are appearing at the Palace, Glasgow, this week, open at the London, Shoreditch, on Monday next. The clever trio have an effective comedy act, admirably staged, with electrical effects and gorgeous dresses.

"NED, THE DEVIL."

Sketch, in One Act, Produced at the Surrey Theatre on Monday, July 25.

Ned Fenton ..... MR. ROYSTON KEITH
Fordham ..... MR. ALFRED CUTHBERT
Richard Elmar ..... MR. HERBERT OAKLEY
Flash Sam ..... MR. GEORGE SUMNER
Sergeant Bracey ..... MR. JAMES BURRELL
Nan ..... MISS GWEN STEWART

The above sketch, which has been produced at the Surrey Theatre this week, has considerable dramatic power. It abounds in "thrills" and exciting episodes, which are ably emphasised by Messrs. Royston Keith and Alfred Cuthbert's excellent company. The action opens in the "Rat Hole," a public-house near one of the London docks, which is kept by Ned Fenton and his companion Nan, and is the headquarters of a rascally gang. It is closing time; and Fordham, a detective, feigning drunkenness, is on the watch for Ned, against whom he has a deadly grudge owing to one of his companions having been slain by Ned's hand. Nan is endeavouring to persuade Ned to leave the place and start life afresh, when a traveller arrives, a certain Richard Elmar, from the Gold Coast, bringing with him a large amount of cash. This Ned determines to rob him of. Elmar then speaks of a girl whom he loved in the past, and who jilted him for another man, and says he will spend his whole fortune in tracking the seducer down. Nan's voice is heard in an adjoining room, and Elmar recognises it as that of his old sweetheart. Ned locks the door, which arouses Richard Elmar's suspicions, and leads him to think that Fenton is her betrayer. A struggle follows, in the course of which Ned knocks Elmar senseless, and is preparing to "bolt" with the money, when a knock is heard at the house door. It is Fordham, the Lynx," who has come for Ned. Nan, alone with Fordham, conveys to him, by writing on a slate, that if he will wait outside he may secure his man. Twelve o'clock strikes, and Ned is about to leave Nan and the "Rat Hole" for ever. But the Lynx seizes him, and a terrific struggle takes place. Ned, the Devil, is overpowered, and is taken away to suffer punishment for his numerous crimes.

Mr. Royston Keith as Ned Fenton does some powerful acting, which is greatly appreciated by the audience. Fordham, the Lynx, has a firm and strong exponent in Mr. Alfred Cuthbert, and Mr. Herbert Oakley creditably enacts Richard Elmar. The part of Nan supplies good scope for the dramatic power of Miss Gwen Stewart; and Messrs. George Summer and James Burrill are good as Flash Sam and Sergeant Bracey respectively.

"THE SIREN'S CALL."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Angus Hamilton, Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, July 25.

Jose ..... MR. FRANKLIN DYALL
Captain Gaussier ..... MR. GEORGE SILVER
Jean Rodriquez ..... MR. J. W. MACKIE
Mimi ..... MISS NELL DU MAURIER
Lu-Lu ..... MISS GERTRUDE LESLIE
Tara ..... MISS MABEL ADAMS
Silu ..... MISS CECIL

A much-travelled war correspondent, the author of the above sketch is no doubt well acquainted with the locality in which his little piece is placed, and has thus been able to secure a remarkably realistic atmosphere for his story of love and jealousy. Prompt measures and short shrift are the rule in the gambling house, situated on the shores of Delagoa Bay, in which the action passes, and the sharks that abound in the bay soon dispose of the evidences of any crime committed within its walls. Among the singing girls that form the attractions of the gambling house is Mimi, with whom Jose, the keeper of the house, is madly in love. Captain Gaussier, a pilot, pays marked attention to Mimi, whose obvious delight arouses the jealousy of Jose. He resorts to a sort of "spinning jenny" dubbed the "Siren's call," to which occult powers are ascribed by the natives, and after being

In the House of Commons on Tuesday Mr. supposed to denote death. Jose accordingly challenges Gaussier, and a duel with clasp knives takes place. After a desperate encounter Jose is disarmed, but defends himself with a shawl, and eventually deals Gaussier a fatal blow. The noise of the guard is heard outside, but Mimi, seizing her mandoline, begins to sing, and the patrol passes, leaving the crime undiscovered.

The dialogue of the sketch is dramatic and terse, and the action rapid—too rapid, perhaps, to be easily grasped. The piece was powerfully acted. Mr. Franklin Dyall invested the jealous Jose with passionate intensity, and his ferocity in the duel scene, when the disarmed man bounded like a panther at his adversary's throat, was quite sensational. Mr. George Silver played equally well as the amorous Captain Gaussier, carrying out his share of the fight perfectly. The part of Mimi, the young singing girl is not particularly well drawn, but Miss Nell Du Maurier availed herself of her opportunities, her pretty soprano voice sounding effectively in the weird snatches of the song which she has to sing. The sketch was mounted completely, and received an attentive hearing, Mr. Dyall being cordially recalled at the close.

"THE DEVIL'S WORLD."

Sketch, in One Scene, Produced at the Chelsea Palace, on Monday, July 25.

Blake Latimer ..... MR. CYRIL VERNON
Ashley Winn ..... MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
A Waiter ..... MR. CECIL CALVERT
Paul Harman ..... MR. LORING FERNIE

A very clever sketch is that produced here this week, under the direction of Mr. Lennox Pawle. The scene is in an upper room of the café of the Three Revellers, Paris. The story opens with Blake Latimer returning from a fancy dress ball in costume, he representing the Devil and his friend a pierrot. Entering the room of the café he recalls old times, and when the waiter brings refreshments they are surprised to see they are not alone. Winn does not like the atmosphere of the place, but his friend, recalling scenes there eight years ago, speaks of a friend who had every promise of becoming a great painter. He had married a model, who was a "good woman," and although they starved together in an attic they were happy because of their love. Then Latimer begged her to leave her husband and come with him to a wider and fuller world. The woman consented, but Latimer soon tired of her continual talk of "Paul," her husband. And now she was dead and buried in a strange land. All this time Paul Harman, the husband of the woman Latimer had ruined, lies asleep in a chair in the room, and Latimer decides to awake him and frighten him with the impression that the evil one is really before him. Latimer is successful in his trick, and Paul, who has become a "wastrel," shakes with fear, declaring his soul is not worth having. Latimer taunts him, and Paul, whose blood is a-fire, locks the door and then threatens to kill him. Latimer, full of fear, pleads friendship in olden days, but to no effect. There is a scuffle, and Paul stabs him, then calls on the world to be happy and lovers to come out, "for the devil is dead."

The sketch is skilfully written, and just as cleverly acted. Mr. Cyril Vernon's representation of the roué was characterised by a cynicism and cruelty which at once repelled and attracted, while Mr. Loring Fernie's interpretation of the wastrel was marked by dramatic ability of a high order. Mr. Douglas Imbert and Mr. Cecil Calvert contributed in no small measure to the success of the production.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE COPYRIGHT BILL.

IN the House of Commons on Tuesday Mr. Sydney Buxton asked leave to bring in a Bill to amend and consolidate the law of copyright, and to carry out the recommendations of the committee, presided over by Lord Gorell, which lately examined the Revised International Copyright Convention signed at Berlin in November, 1908, and considered whether the law of the United Kingdom should be altered so as to give effect to that Convention.

It will be remembered that at the above-mentioned Berlin Conference several changes were agreed upon in revising the Berne Convention of September, 1886. The contracting States constituted themselves into a union to protect the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works, the expression including—this is the part of the Revised Convention in which most of our readers will be interested—dramatic or dramatico-musical works, choreographic works, and pantomimes, the acting form of which is fixed in writing or otherwise; musical compositions, with or without words; and translations, adaptations, and arrangements of music.

The stipulations of the Conventions applied also to the public representation of dramatic or dramatico-musical works, and to the public performance of musical works, whether they were published or not. "Authors of dramatic or dramatico-musical works," said the Convention, "shall be protected during the existence of their right over the original work against the unauthorised public representation of translations of their work; and to enjoy protection, authors in publishing their works shall not be bound to forbid the public representation or performance thereof. Authors of musical works shall have the exclusive right of authorising: (1) The adaptation of those works to instruments which can produce them mechanically; (2) the public performance of such works by means of these instruments."

With reference to cinematographs, the Convention said:—"Authors of literary, scientific, or artistic works shall have the exclusive right of authorising the reproduction and public representation of their works by cinematography. Cinematograph productions shall be protected as literary or artistic works if, by the arrangement of the acting form or the combinations of the incidents represented, the author has given the work a personal and original character. Without prejudice to the rights of the author of the original work, the reproduction of cinematography of a literary, scientific, or artistic work shall be protected as an original work. These provisions apply to reproduction or production effected by any other process analogous to cinematography.

The Government is introducing a Bill in order to allow the public to form an opinion on its proposals. If a substantial agreement is arrived at it is possible that the Bill may be passed in the course of the autumn session of Parliament.

In asking for leave, Mr. Buxton briefly explained the effect of the alterations involved by the ratification of the Convention and by the proposals contained in the Bill. "In the first place," said he, "there is the abolition of what are called 'formalities'—registration and the like. Secondly, there will be uniformity of treatment of various works coming under the operation of copyright law. Thirdly, certain species of works will receive improved treatment, such as translations, lectures—I believe at present a lecturer has to go before two magistrates before he can protect his lecture—original adaptations and arrangements, and works of artistic novelty, including architectural works of art. On the other hand, the rights of dramatising novels, and, if I may coin a word, the 'novelised' drama, and the public performance of musical works will be reserved. Musical works are to be protected against unauthorised reproduction by mechanical means without payment. On the other hand, the record itself will receive protection."

Dealing with the duration of copyright, Mr. Buxton said: "The proposal of the Convention was life and fifty years. It was quite clear that that was the only basis upon which anything like international agreement could be arrived at. The Convention proposed the adoption of such a period, and with a view to obtaining international uniformity, the period proposed in the Bill was the period adopted by the Convention."

One of the clauses of the Bill would provide that on the death of the author, if the work were withheld from the public or published at too high a price, or if the reasonable requirements of the public were not met, a licence might be granted to publish or perform the work. Leave being granted, Mr. Buxton's Bill was brought in and read a first time.

"THE KING O' THE ROAD."

A Romantic Episode, Produced at the Bedford, on Monday, July 25.

Captain Dick ..... MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE
Clegg ..... MR. C. A. CARLILE
Colonel Willoughby ..... MR. J. DUNCAN
Barebones ..... MR. LEE GILBERT
Sir Rupert ..... MR. J. LANGFORD
Kitty ..... MISS HOWARD

This highwayman episode, dealing with life in the time of Charles II., had its initial production on Monday evening, and Messrs. Charles and Douglas Carlile, who are responsible for it, may be congratulated on the success it made. It has a little story running through it of love and intrigue, and revolves round the person of Sir Rupert, who is falsely accused of high treason by Colonel Willoughby, who is in love with Sir Rupert's sister Kitty, and hopes to force her into marriage by proving Sir Rupert's innocence. Captain Dick—a highwayman, but full of courtesy to the fair sex—discovers the plot, and to gain the good graces of Kitty he, at the risk of his life and through many adventures, proves Willoughby to be the scoundrel he is, and brings him to justice. He likewise secures free pardon for himself and joins the King's Army. It is a thrilling little play, and full of life and vigour, and is capitally played by a well-chosen company.

Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, whose Sexton Blake adventures are well-known, appears as Captain Dick, and gives a fine impersonation of the highwayman who risks his life so freely; Mr. C. A. Carlile is seen to advantage as Clegg, the good blacksmith who helps Captain Dick so much; and Colonel Willoughby is in good hands as played by Mr. J. Duncan. Mr. Lee Gilbert is amusing as the smug Barebones, and Mr. J. Langford makes a picturesque Sir Rupert; while Kitty is charmingly depicted by Miss Howard. The sketch is well mounted and dressed.

In addition to this production Mr. B. P. Lucas and his genial manager Mr. Arthur Edwards have a good company of variety artists on the bill, and Bert Errol, the lady impersonator, is again a big favourite with his clever vocalisation and comic side-play. Bert sings "Il Bacio" delightfully, and his turn is greatly applauded. The Four Broadway Boys—winners of the recent carnival at Crouch End Hippodrome—are sure of a successful future, for their dancing is splendid. The Four Sparks are a quartette of dainty little ladies, who sing and dance in a captivating manner and score heavily.

Belrose and De Velin, operatic duettists, sing in a most accomplished manner, and their turn meets with much appreciation; Vera Crackles has a sprightly song, "Don't look at me like that," and contributes a neat dance; while Jack Lowe is a comedian who appears as a dame, and patters amusingly. The Maro Duo are a couple of comic clowns, who do some clever bar work and give an attractive turn. The Bernices, harmony vocalists, and the Bioscope conclude.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Marie Lloyd, who has been recently enhancing the merriment of Margate in the course of a triumphal tour, returns to the Metropolis on Monday. The "Queen of Comediennes" will star at the Oxford and Chelsea Palace.

Miss Cecilia Loftus underwent an operation on the 22nd inst., and is reported to be going on quite satisfactorily. We trust she will soon be restored to robust health. On her return to the stage Miss Loftus promises "an impression" of Mme. Pavlova, the famous Russian dancer, who is appearing at the Palace.

The Finsbury Park Empire will be opened on Monday, Aug. 29. The new hall, if report may be trusted, will be the finest in the suburbs, and will accommodate 3,000 persons.

No opposition was offered to the London County Council (General Powers) Bill, which passed through the Committee of the House of Lords on Tuesday, only eight drafting amendments being effected in that portion of the measure dealing with agency business. After being reported to the Upper House and returned to the Commons the Bill should receive the Royal signature and become law in the course of next week.

"A Supreme Moment" has been selected as the title of the sketch by Mrs. W. K. Clifford which Miss Margaret Halstan will produce at the London Coliseum on Aug. 8. In addition to Miss Halstan the cast will comprise Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Harvey Braham, and Miss Emily Lovett. The action passes at a salon of a Paris boulevard.

The monument raised in Highgate Cemetery by his comrades to the memory of Mr. Charles Wilson, producer and stage-director for the Moss and Stoll amalgamation, will be presented to the family of the deceased on Thursday morning next at eleven o'clock.

A few evenings since, according to our contemporary *London Opinion*, Mr. Harry Tate was asked by a well-known aviator, who is a rigid abstainer, if he would like to accompany him on a flight. Mr. Tate, however, firmly refused. "I am like you," he said. "In what way?" inquired the teetotal airman. "Well, I am afraid of taking a drop too much," said Tate.

On the recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, the London County Council, at its meeting last Tuesday, agreed that the meeting for hearing applications for licences for music, dancing, and stage plays should be held at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, on Friday, Nov. 11, and the following day if necessary.

The Council approved the transfer of the licence of the Paragon Theatre of Varieties from Edward Rawlings to David Jacob Cashstein. In connection with this theatre, it was found at a recent inspection that the external gates of the exitway leading into Eagle-place from the stage and orchestra stalls were secured by means of a hasp and padlock during the time the public were on the premises. The Music Halls Committee were of opinion that notice should be served on the person keeping open the premises so as to enable proceedings to be taken should the exit doors or gates again be found to be improperly fastened.

Dramatic developments have occurred since our last issue in connection with the atrocious crime by which Belle Elmore lost her life. From information received by wireless telegraphy the latter end of last week, the Scotland Yard authorities learned that Crippen and Miss Le Neve were on their way to Canada, and Inspector Dew was immediately despatched by a faster vessel, which would overtake the fugitives before they reached port. Crippen, it is stated, is travelling under the name of Robinson, Miss Le Neve, who is dressed in male clothes, passing as his son. The Laurentic, with Inspector Dew, was expected at Rimouski yesterday afternoon, and the Montrose, which carries Crippen, will probably not arrive there until to-morrow, when the arrest will be made.

In the House of Commons on Thursday Mr. William Thorne asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he was aware that there had been grave neglect of duty on the part of Inspector Dew in not having the Hilldrop-crescent house watched after June 30 and in not having the movements of the man Crippen under observation after the interview he had with him; if he was aware that if the movements of Crippen had been shadowed in the same manner as those of the Russian Social Democrats whilst they were in London during last year it would have been impossible for him to have left the country; and if he intended taking action in the matter.

Mr. Churchill replied: "I have already intimated to the hon. member that at the present time it would not, in my opinion, serve the interests of justice to discuss the points raised. Meanwhile, I do not think it is fair to make a charge of dereliction of duty against a police official who by reason of his being engaged on special duty abroad is not in a position to make any answer."

Mr. John Lawson produces *The King of Palestine* at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday. Mr. Lawson will be supported by Messrs. Arthur Royston, J. H. Clyndes, Arthur Rose, Charles Stafford, Aubrey Fitzmaurice, and Miss Lucille Sidney.

Mr. George Barrett will, at the termination of the run of *The Whip* at Drury Lane, appear at the Tivoli in a seaside scena, which has been specially written for him by Herbert C. Sargent, the author of many of the popular tabloid comedies which form so prominent a feature in music hall programmes. Mr. Barrett will be supported by Miss Joan Burton and Miss Ray Vivien.

A committee meeting of the Music Hall Home Fund will be held at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, on Thursday next, at 12 o'clock. Thanks are tendered to Mrs. O'Brien, Rule's, Maiden-lane, for a box collection of £1 5s.; to Mr. Jack Wolff, of Wonderland, for a donation of £2 2s.; and to Simmons, Palace, Reading, for a box collection of £1 1s. 6d.

The well-known sketch artists, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Meymott, sail on Friday next, Aug. 5, by the Orient liner Osterley from Tilbury for Australia to fulfil their second engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards. If they can procure release from their English engagements they may accept a good offer to visit America before they return.

The Copyright Bill, which was introduced in the House of Commons on Tuesday by Mr. Buxton, President of the Board of Trade, will make the law uniform for the British Empire, and, indeed, for the greater part of the world, by incorporating the recent Berlin Convention. The Bill will not however, be passed this year. Copyright is given for the life of the author and fifty years after; but if after death reasonable facilities to the public are not given, the authorities may intervene. Copyright is secured as well for artists and architects, for composers against mechanical records, and, on certain terms, for moving pictures. At present copyright in books extends only for life and seven years after, or forty-two years, whichever is the longer period.

The new music hall at Gillingham is to be called the Grand, and will be erected at a cost of over £4000. It will be devoted to animated pictures and varieties.

Mrs. Arthur Lennard, who has undergone a most serious operation at her home in Streatham, and has been confined to her bed for the past two months, is now on the high road to recovery, thanks to the care of Dr. Sandford Arnott and to skilful nursing.

The Palace Music Hall, Durham, re-opens, after extensive alterations, on Bank Holiday. The chief improvement has been made to the proscenium opening, two marble columns having been erected at the sides, and the top being elaborately decorated in fibrous plaster. Adjoining the columns two elegantly fitted boxes have been erected, and will fill a long-felt want. The walls have been plastered and decorated, and the place transformed into what is now certainly one of the prettiest and cosiest halls in the North of England, upon which the proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes, is to be congratulated. The company opening on Monday includes Geo. Sheldon and company, in *Before the Dawn*, Chas. Grantley, Tiny Wilmot, Sisters Lylle, Zaid Trio, The Royal Quintette, and the Cathedoscope.

Cormack, the remarkable high diver, who has just finished an engagement at the American Park, Brussels, has another contract for two months at double salary. On Bank Holiday he goes to Leeds for Aug. 1 and 2, performing at the Hospital Gala, and the four following days will find the intrepid diver at the Coventry Gala. He then returns to Brussels to complete an engagement with Bolossy Kiralfy, extending to five months in all.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten's staff at the Leicester Pavilion Theatre held their annual outing on Sunday last, when a happy and merry party of between forty and fifty left the Great Northern Station at 8.20 for Skegness, where they arrived at 11 o'clock. The party were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence (acting-manager), Mr. and Mrs. Verdo, Mr. Fred Britcher (the musical director of the Pavilion), Mr. Frank Burdett, and a number of patrons of the hall.

The headquarters for the day were made at Hildred's Hotel, where a first-class dinner and tea were served. Mr. Joseph Lawrence presided at the dinner, and in proposing the health of their esteemed employer, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, spoke of the many good qualities of that gentleman, who always took a kindly interest in anything that appertained to the welfare of those who had the pleasure of serving under his banner. He also extended to Mr. Macnaghten their very best thanks for that gentleman's generous contribution towards their outing. The toast was accorded a most hearty and befitting reception.

In the afternoon the party enjoyed a drive in landaus to Chapel, situated some miles from Skegness, afterwards returning to the hotel for tea. The outing was a pleasant one, and the party reached Leicester safely at 9 o'clock. Praise should be accorded to Mr. Joseph Lawrence and Mr. Frank Burdett for the excellent arrangements made.

Whilst playing for Carlisle St. John's C.C. against the Post Office on Wednesday, Mr. John Power (of Reid and Power) accomplished a fine bowling feat, taking seven wickets for four runs.

St. Luke's Parish Church, Cradley Heath, Staffs., was the scene on the 16th inst. of the wedding of Miss Edith Adelaide Levaine, daughter of Mr. Gus Levaine, head of the troupe of artists appearing that week at the local Empire Theatre, and Mr. Billy Glenn, character vocalist, son of Mr. Edwin Cox, of Birmingham. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a charming dress of pale blue silk relieved with white lace and a wreath of orange blossom and forget-me-nots. She also carried a bouquet of white orchids and sweet peas.

The Sisters Collins were the bridesmaids, and they were prettily attired in amethyst silk and brown silk respectively, with cream hats, and carried choice bouquets. Miss Ruby Collins and Master Jimmy Goode (in nautical costume) attended the bride as pages. Mr. Tommy Williams was the best man. Mrs. Levaine, mother of the bride, was also present. After the ceremony breakfast was served at the Chainmakers' Arms, Mr. Gus Levaine presiding. The numerous presents included a marble clock from the members of the company, and a silver-mounted walking stick and an umbrella from the stage hands at the theatre.

The complimentary benefit to Mr. Horace Livermore, who is retiring from the position of manager of the People's Palace, Bristol, will be given at the Large Colston Hall on Saturday, Aug. 27. An influential committee has been formed for the purpose, with Mr. Fisher as chairman, Mr. E. B. Wood as vice-chairman, Mr. H. C. Alty as treasurer, and Mr. David Crombie as secretary. There will be two performances, one at a matinée and one in the evening.

The Chelsea Palace will have a sterling attraction on Bank Holiday in Marie Lloyd, the Queen of Comedy. Kitts and Windrum will appear in their effervescing sparklet entitled *What a Night!* and the Bros. Horne will once more be seen in their comedy boxing sketch entitled *The Biter Bit*. Others in the holiday programme will be W. S. Wyndham, Will Driscoll, Madge Osmond, Henri Bekker, The Calcottis, Lily Hayes, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

The suburban Moss-Stoll Empires next week boast attractive programmes. At the Hackney Empire the principal items of the bill will be Phillips' airship under wireless control, Ben Albert, the Sutcliffe Family, Millie Hylton, Verno and Voyce, and the Piccad Troupe. The Holloway Empire will have Phil Ray, Staley's Transformations, Ethel Newman, and the Du Cros Trio among its chief attractions.

In the New Cross Empire programme will figure Eugene Stratton, Albert Whelan, Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, and the Grassis. At the Stratford Empire Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, Franco Piper, Thora, and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe will provide the principal turns. The Shepherd's Bush Empire includes among a well-selected list Charles Austin in *Parker, P.C.*, Barrett and Knowles, Binns and Binns, Cissie Curlette, and Tom Edwards.

A tempting array of artists will be provided in the holiday bill at the Oxford, where Joe Elvin appears in another new sketch by Wal Pink, entitled *W(h)ines and Spirits*. Miss Marie Lloyd heads the bill, which will be contributed to by Milt Wood, Warsaw Bros., Daisy Dormer, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Herbert Shelley, Queenie Essex, King and Benson, Barney Armstrong, Kitts and Windrum, Edna Latona, Tom Woottwell Chirgwin, Talbot and Pearce, in *Over the Garden Wall*, Victoria Monks, Harry Grey, W. S. Wyndham, Devon and Earle, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

Mr. Joe Elvin, having enjoyed a well-earned rest, opens his London season on Monday, and will produce at the Oxford a new sketch called *W(h)ines and Spirits*, the title of which bears the touch of Mr. Wal Pink's witty pen. Mr. Elvin also appears at the Empress and the Poplar Hippodrome.

Mr. Neil Kenyon, whose fun has been the feature of *The Islander* at the Apollo, where it registered its 100th night on Monday, will soon be welcomed back to the halls, the musical comedy vacating the theatre next Saturday to make way for the Follies. The genial Scottish comedian will snatch a short holiday before opening in the provinces, and is due at an important West End Hall shortly.

Miss Millie Hylton, the attractive and versatile comedienne, will produce no fewer than five new songs on her reappearance on Monday next at the Empire, Hackney. The novelties will comprise "She was a Dollar Princess," from the pens of the well-known authors of "The Zuyder Zee," "U-li-i-atee," which Miss Hylton is confident will prove a second "Rowdy, dowdy boys," so closely allied with her fame, and three numbers by Harrington and Powell, viz., "I couldn't help being a lady," "The Dawn of a To-morrow," and "Puff, puff, out went the moon," the last-mentioned being enhanced by splendid moon effects. Special scenic effects will be provided by Mr. Francis H. Bull.

Miss Katie Laurence is making a hit at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome this week. This clever comedienne is in excellent voice, and has secured two and three calls nightly.

Miss Maidie Scott was highly gratified on Monday night at the South Shields Empire by the presentation of a beautiful bouquet of roses, with a card attached, bearing the inscription, "With the compliments of the directors, Richard Thornton and Frank Allen."

Mr. Georges Egbert, of Piccadilly-mansions, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, has been appointed sole booking agent for the Royal Hippodromes, Eastbourne and Dover.

An interesting matrimonial engagement just announced is that of Miss Sadie Simpson, the smart young comedienne, with Mr. Leo Montague, who is in England making bookings on behalf of Mr. Gardner Brown for whom he acts as manager. Hearty congratulations!

At the 668th meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. Executive Committee Mr. Fred Herbert presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. W. Edmonds, Arthur Rigby, T. C. Callaghan, Tom Packer, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The addition to the roll of twenty-one new members were reported. Mr. Downing, of the Bull Hotel, Nuneaton, was appointed agent in that town.

Mr. Fred Leigh, who, with his partner, Mr. H. E. Pether, is responsible for so many song successes, is just now indulging in a holiday by the sea. Anyone who chose to wander into a small hamlet a mile or two from Westgate last week would have found the clever author sampling the joys of a rural fête. Whether or no he will reproduce in verse any of the curiosities of a village carnival remains to be seen.

J. A. Wilson and his wonderful dog "Private Towser" have had many tempting offers to go to America, but the droll comedian has made up his mind to stay at home for at least another year. "The Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant" afford Mr. Wilson and his canine comedian ample opportunity to display their distinctive humour. The animal seems instinctively to realise that it is an important feature of the turn, and displays an extraordinary degree of intelligence.

Miss Louisa Peach will be back again at the Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, next week, with a big sketch dealing with "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab." Miss Peach will appear as Sal Rawlins, supported by an excellent company, which includes Messrs. E. Howard Templeton, Charles Daly, C. C. Calvert, H. Gray Dolby, Jack Collison, Mrs. Charles Daly, and Miss Gladys Hastings Walton. Special music has been provided by Mr. T. A. Hannaway.

Mr. Ernest Shand, who was increasing his popularity in Newcastle last week, was taken in hand by a local scribe, to whom he confided the fact that nineteen years ago he appeared in pantomime in Newcastle, playing the Dame in *Little Bo-Peep* at the Theatre Royal. They had a record run of fourteen weeks, with about three matinées a week, and the house was filled at every performance. "You know," added Ernest, facetiously, "I only sing comic songs to enable me to go salmon fishing and buy the children boots. I have been on the vaudeville stage twelve years; before that I was an actor for two thousand years."

Mr. Shand then went back to his amateur days, and told of the humiliation he once suffered at one of the Saturday evening concerts organised by Dr. Frazer. "There were many talented performers there on the evening I turned up, such as Brandon Thomas (author of *Charley's Aunt*), Oriel B. Spurr, and a host of others. My mother used to play the piano for them. I was there, ready to paralyse them and knock them silly. I went on with my first recitation, but lo! I couldn't remember a word of it. Think as I would, it was impossible. I had three or four goes at it, but it was hopeless. Gave it up; walked away.

"I went to my room and said, 'I will make it up in my second half; I will do it on 'em in the second half!' I got dreadfully worked up, and was simply itching to go back and retrieve my fallen fortunes. In the middle of it, Brandon Thomas, a popular man, came in and said he would say a few lines for them. He spoke for about twenty minutes. Here was I, dying to go on. Then Dr. Frazer got up and said, 'The next item on the programme is Mr. Ernest Shand. As it is getting very late I don't think we shall require his services!'"

A novel offence was charged against a youth at Liverpool Police Court on Tuesday, viz., committing a technical assault upon one John Cookson, by causing him to sneeze. On Monday night, during the second house of the Empire Theatre, Miss Harriett Vernon was on the stage when the audience began to sneeze violently, necessitating the performance being temporarily stopped. "A panic might easily have been caused," said Cookson, who was an attendant at the theatre, "and from information I received I turned the young man out." The accused then produced a bottle of snuff from his pocket. The bench thought the incident only a silly joke, and bound the defendant over.

Mr. Bert Levey, the clever Australian artiste-entertainer, is responsible for one of the most enjoyable varieties in the fine Palace programme this week. On a darkened stage, and working on a small glass, with the aid of a lantern the picture he draws is reflected in the making, and when complete greatly enlarged on a sheet at the back. A fine portrait of the late Mark Twain was quickly executed on the night of our visit, and a study of a dog and other subjects were skilfully drawn. The humorous "remarks" which accompany most of the pictures add considerably to the attractiveness of a novel and interesting turn, the undoubted success of which must be very gratifying to the talented artist.

Grand opera has yielded two of its most distinguished representatives to the variety hall this week, Mr. Charles Manners and Madame Fanny Moody appearing at the London Hippodrome in selections from popular ballads. Mr. Manners excelled in his singing of "In cellar cool," and in Tosti's "Good-bye" Madame Moody's vocal gifts and artistic expression were fully appreciated. "Father O'Flynn" and "To-morrow will be Friday" are old favourites that cannot be resisted by any audience.

A new introduction to the bill is also the troupe of Russian dancers headed by Madame Knipper-Rubeneck, whose evolutions exercise a fascinating effect. Grieg's "Death of Asa" from *Peer Gynt*, the barbaric dance to the strains of an excerpt from Gluck's *Iphigenia in Tauris*, and the entrancing movements illustrating Chopin's Grande Valse are among the selections which delight the eye. Another novelty of the week is the miniature musical comedy *A Ward in Chancery*, a tabloid version of *A Gipsy Girl* which was produced at the Waldorf in the January of 1907. Miss Sybil Arundale makes a captivating appearance in the title-rôle, and receives admirable assistance from Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald and Mr. Charles Danvers, who appears as an old showman.

Bank Holiday brings its customary constellation of stars to the variety theatre. The London Hippodrome will next week welcome Mr. R. G. Knowles, the comedian-lecturer, who has recently been pursuing an instructive tour in Hungary, gathering material for his "travel laughs." His entertainment at the Hippodrome will be up to date and novel. Miss May Chevalier, Mr. Hubert Wills, and Master Jack Hobbs also appear in the sketch *A Boy's Proposal*. Other newcomers are the Sisters Doherty, the Willy Pantzer Troupe, Jules Moy (the celebrated Parisian humorist), and the Mezettis (gymnasts). Ferry Corwey, Miss Helen Trix, Mme. Knipper-Raberneck's Russian dancers, and Charles Manners and Fanny Moody remain on the bill.

A bright holiday programme has been arranged for the Coliseum. Little Elise Craven returns to the scene of former triumphs, this time in company with Bert Clerq in selections which include a Greek dance duologue. Miss Ada Reeve, Messrs. Bellew and Stock's company, with Master Arthur Garratt, in *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, the Five Mowatts (club throwers), Lovely Lily Burnand, the O'Brien Bros. (gymnasts), Lily Flexmore (the flexible girl), Goodfellow and Gregson (comedians), Montgomery and Moore (American entertainers), and Tom E. Finglass (the coon singer, with new songs by Hermann Darewski, jun.) complete a strong and diversified bill.

Mr. Alfred Butt has arranged at the Palace Theatre a programme which contains the best talent from America, the Continent, and England. One of the principal newcomers is Mlle. Henriette de Serris in a series of living art reproductions, representing some of the most famous paintings, etchings, and bas-reliefs in the world. Mlle. de Serris has just returned to this country after a lengthy tour on the Continent, and so successful was she in Spain that the act was retained in one house no fewer than fifteen weeks, and was witnessed on many occasions by the King and Queen of Spain and members of the Royal Family. Another performer new to England is Mr. Nat M. Wills, who comes with a great reputation as a raconteur and humorous vocalist. Mlle. Pavlova and her brilliant company of Russian dancers enter upon their last week, special matinées being given on Bank Holiday and the following Wednesday and Saturday.

The general programme is particularly strong. Mr. Bert Levy, the Australian caricaturist and a contemporary of the late Phil May, varies his unique drawings each evening. Merian's Canine Actors will enact a distinct playlet without the visible aid of any trainer or assistants. Other features of the programme are Miss Lily Hall, a dainty comedienne; Mr. George Melvin, the new Scotch comedian; Mr. J. P. Ling, the society entertainer; and a comprehensive series of pictures on the Urbanora Bioscope and also by the Kinemacolour process.

Each of the eight beautiful girls who comprise the Russian troupe of dancers appearing at the London Hippodrome this week belongs to well-to-do Moscow families, and each is a pupil of Mme. E. Knipper Rabeneck, a noted professor of æsthetic dancing at the Theatre of Art, Moscow. Madame does not believe in the conventional in dancing, or, indeed, in the conventional in anything: in the street she wears sandals and art draperies. When she heard of the vogue for fine dancing in London she determined that England should see the work of her pupils, and, selecting the eight most accomplished, she came to this country, not to make money, but to show that ballet dancing is not the limit of Russian art.

The programme at the Empire for Bank Holiday is headed by the new ballet *The Dancing Master*, which has gained a popularity equal to that of any divertissement ever produced at the Leicester-square house. Clarke and Hamilton make a welcome reappearance with many novel items; George Mozart remains with his most amusing cinematograph act and his series of humorous themes; Smite and Smote are another new turn; and Emerson and Baldwin in their refined comedy juggling act; Johnson Clarke, a ventriloquist of exceptional cleverness, will also be in the bill. In *Hullo, People!* with Miss Valli Valli and Mr. J. F. McArdle in the leading parts, still further topics will be dealt with, including the new Prison Regulations and other subjects of burning interest. Mr. Lawrence Grossmith will make his first appearance in this most successful of Empire revues, which is now approaching its 150th performance.

The Standard, Pimlico, will have the following attractive aggregation for its Bank Holiday programme: Gertie Gitana, Dale and O'Malley, May Henderson, Grete Hahn and company in *Enchantment*, the Lyric Mummers, the Langleys, Jack Worman, A. E. Mayne and company in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Michel Brothers, Edgar Budden, Julia Gilbert, Jack Straw, &c., together with the Edisonograph pictures.

Seasonable fare will be provided at the Alhambra by the production on Monday of the new "frolic" *On the Sands*. Another speciality of the programme will be the first appearance in England of Olympia Desvall with her trained ponies and dogs. The ballet *Femina* is retained in the holiday bill, the remainder of which will consist of the Colibris; Merlin, card and coin manipulator; Henry Helme, chanteur; Français; Schichtl's Marionettes; the Uessems; and Jury's Pictures.

A feature of the Bank Holiday bill at the Tivoli will be a new sketch by George Grossmith, jun., entitled *The Night of the Garter*, in which Mr. Ben Webster and Miss Mona Harrison will appear, added interest being given to the production by the fact that the popular actor mentioned will make his first appearance on the variety stage. Another turn new to London is that of the Tenka Troupe, clever Japanese jugglers. Little Tich returns to the scene of many triumphs, and Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Tom Clare, the Two Bobs, Dutch Daly, Max Waldon, Sam Mayo, José Collins, May Moore Duprez and others complete a programme which may be accounted strong even for a Bank Holiday.

The front-of-the-house staff of the Alhambra, some eighty strong, went for their "annual" on Sunday, and experienced the lot that has fallen to most similar excursions this year. Under the guidance of Mr. William Roberts, the organiser, the party reached the Lion Hotel, Guildford, where the rain fell heavily. But once inside the comfortable hostelry, thanks to the efforts of Miss Beddington, the manageress, everything became merry and bright, and continued so till luncheon was served. Over this function Mr. Harry Woodford presided, as usual, supported on either side by Mr. Clarence Hunt, stage manager, and Mr. A. H. Corrick, treasurer.

In the course of the speeches which followed, Mr. Woodford handed Mr. Roberts a silver cigarette case inscribed: "Presented to William Roberts with all good wishes from the boys of the staff in the front of the house. July, 1910." Mr. Roberts, in thanking his associates, remarked upon the assistance he received from Mr. Corrick in arranging the annual outing, and Mr. Corrick replied that anything he did in this respect gave him nothing but pleasure. Mr. George Mitchell, on behalf of the company, presented Mr. Alfred Oxley with an umbrella, for which the veteran box-attendant, who has accompanied the Alhambra excursionists for forty-six years, returned thanks in touching terms.

Although the rain continued to fall after luncheon, a start was made in brakes for Godalming. At Newland's Corner, however, it was deemed advisable to return to Guildford by way of the Silent Pool. During a halt on the road, Mr. A. Williams, the Alhambra's master carpenter, known to his intimates as the "Surprise Packet," created a small sensation by stopping a runaway horse and trap which threatened to race to destruction over the downs. After tea Mr. Woodford introduced a star turn in "Mr. 'Tubby' Turner, raconteur," and the tales told by the manager of the Playhouse made the room ring with laughter. There was the customary collection for the Fresh Air Fund, which was benefited to the extent of five guineas.

Mr. Dan Ashton, the collier comedian, is successfully touring Scotland with a new scena.

Mr. Arthur Norton has just been appointed manager of the New Empire, Aberdare, which re opens on Monday next.

Miss Kitty Loftus has been secured as the star attraction with the Bric-à-Brac vaudeville company at the Felix Hall, Felixstowe, during the holiday week.

We are asked to state that if H. Anderson will send his address to Carl Lynn, Empire, Worcester, he will receive a handsome Waltham watch for winning third prize in the flip-flap race.

Mr. Harry Bancroft is scoring a decided success with his latest song, "Our wedded life over again," at the Empire, Liverpool, this week. The song is published by the Star Publishing Co.

Miss Fannie Robina and Miss Florence Cooper will resume business on Monday next at the Palace, Worcester, after several weeks during which the barring clause has been in operation.

Mr. Fred E. Tonge, whose now well-known Lyric Quartette have popularised the illustrated numbers on the music halls, will produce at Birmingham next week a new vocal and spectacular act entitled "The Garden City." The chief feature will be the rendering of Hamish McCunn's "Wreck of the Hesperus," with dramatic effects.

Miss Emmie Ames is making a big success on tour. She opens at Southport on Monday, followed by the Empire, Birmingham, Merthyr, Portsmouth, and Margate, and then returns to London to the Canterbury and Edmonton. She has no vacancies this year or next, and is almost fully booked for 1912.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, Miss Melinda May (the secretary) gratefully thanks the following for making collections:—Mrs. Frank Peskett, 17s. 6d.; Mrs. Chas. Coborn, 2s. 6d., towards which Mr. Elliott gave 2s.; Mr. Baldwin, Birmingham, 2s. 6d. (per Mrs. Vernon Cowper); Mr. Samuel H. Berwitz, Belfast, donation 2s. 6d.; Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis), 12s. 6d.; and Miss Vera Wootton, 5s. Thanks are also due to Mrs. Ernest Collins and Mrs. Northcott for useful parcels of clothing, a parcel (anonymous) from a friend, and a fishing-rod from Mr. Osborne. It should be noted that a prize will be given to anyone, in or out of the profession, collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months commencing from Nov. 4 last.

Mrs. Arthur Hatton is asked to communicate at once with Miss May, at 61, New Oxford-street. The handsome portière curtain is hers (ticket No. 50). Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday four to five o'clock. Will anyone make an offer for fifteen large-sized band books, given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Subscribers are requested to make cheques and postal orders payable to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Thomas Howard Ward (Ward and Davis) was initiated into the mysteries of the Order of the Terriers' Association on Sunday. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Fred Hooper, W.T., assisted by Terrier Russell Brandon, V.T., who also officiated as organist. The following candidates for membership of the Association have successfully passed the ballot:—Messrs. Harry Luck, James Lecardo (Lecardo Bros.), and Carl Hamlin. Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman was elected W.D., and Terrier Barry Hope Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to President Griff (after two years' absence), Terriers Harry Nelson, Harry Brown, Harry Barnard, Syd Walker, and Berry Hope on their reappearance in the kennel.

A cricket match, to which ladies are specially invited, has been arranged by Terrier W. R. Dunkley to take place at Cranford Bridge on Sunday, Aug. 7. Brakes are being supplied by Terrier Dunkley, and will leave headquarters, Three Stags Hotel, at 10 o'clock sharp, for the field, arriving at Cranford Bridge about 12. The match starts at 12.30, and the luncheon interval will be at 2 o'clock, a hot lunch being supplied at 2s. a head. All Terriers wishing to take part in the match, or being desirous of enjoying a ramble round the beautiful country, should send names in at once to Terrier Tom Packer, the secretary pro tem.

Dr. Walford Bodie is selling one of his hotels in Macduff. Owing to his numerous engagements, he has not the time to devote to all his enterprises, and has decided to dispose of the principal hotel in Macduff, the Fife Arms. It is freehold, and fully licensed, and has also a big hiring trade, billiards, fishing, bowling, golfing, &c. Macduff is a rising town fifty miles north of Aberdeen, and Duff House, lately presented to the towns of Macduff and Banff by the Duke of Fife, has just been opened as a high-class hydro., bringing many extra visitors to the town. The upset price is £3,300. Further particulars may be had from Dr. Bodie's son, Mr. Albert Edward Bodie, the Manor House, Macduff. Dr. Bodie is also sole proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, Bay View Hotel, the Corporation Marine Baths, and other large properties in the town.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE enormous demand for copies of Messrs. Francis and Day's Twenty-ninth Song Annual and for its pendant the Twenty-ninth Dance Album, still obtains, and edition after edition of each continue to be struck off. The Annuals and Albums have been called for from every quarter of the globe.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured coon, has this week at the Palace, Leicester, been repeating his triumphs of the prior week at the Sunderland Empire, where nightly he occupied the stage for thirty-three minutes, having to sing no fewer than four and five songs in each house, including his famous "I want to go to Idaho." Both of his new songs, "Mister Owl" and "There's a little Black Cupid in the moon," are among the most admired numbers of Mr. Elliott's extensive répertoire.

BLACKPOOL at the present moment is the envy of Douglas, for the news has been borne across to Mona of the extraordinary enthusiasm evinced nightly by delighted multitudes at the Palace Theatre at the first-mentioned place while Miss Florrie Forde has sung "Flanagan," the rage of the present year. At Douglas they know the song already, but they want to hear their idol sing it as they know only she can. Miss Forde has just disposed of her latest tried hit, a humorous song entitled "I've never had my licence cancelled yet," to the publishers of "Flanagan" and "'Tis a faded picture," Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Arthur J. Mills and Maurice Scott.

MISS HETTY KING'S two newest ditties have been requisitioned for the purposes of publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. One—a "policeman" song—is entitled "I'm afraid you'll have to come along o' me" and the other "I suppose she knows," and both are by J. P. Harrington, E. W. Rogers, and Orlando Powell.

MISS ADA REEVE'S new humorous song, "And just then he fell out of bed," has been now added to Messrs. Francis and Day's series of "Sixpenny Pops."

THE Hon. Evie O'Connor, who at the Metropolitan has won all hearts by her arch rendering of Herbert E. Haines' song "I'm coming back to Erin and to you," is adding to her répertoire Messrs. Francis and Day's other well-known ditty 'Top o' the mornin', Bridget McCue."

THAT fine comedienne Miss Maidie Scott, whose song—specially written for her alone—"Our Martha Jane can't read," is being expedited through the press, has acquired from Charles Ridgwell and Geo. A. Stevens a number named "If I'd had my mother to guide me!" Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

R. P. WESTON is still writing the humorous songs for which he is noted. Mr. Harry Bedford's new number, "Brown, breezy, and broke," is from his pen, and the genial comedian, who is a melodist of no mean order, is proud of his collaborator, they having written the number betwixt them. Messrs. Francis and Day have the song in the press. The same house are putting on the market a song entitled "Anastasia," from R. P. Weston's pen.

MISS AMY CLEVERE'S new song, "Belle, Belle, I'm sorry you're a coon," has been enchanting visitors to the Holborn Empire. It has the same melodious lilt as that possessed by her "Ain't you got a black moon?" and is from the same writer's pen—that of George A. Stevens.

MR. HARRY CHAMPION—who for so many years has been in a state of "galloping consumption of time," judging by his anxiety to let the next turn have a chance—has acquired a song which suits him to a nicety. It is called "The old high hat that I got married in," is by A. E. Sheppard and Chas. Collins, and will be published immediately by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A REMARKABLY pretty song has just been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day entitled "Only a passing shadow," by Leonard Cooke, who as a balladist is bad to approach, let alone beat, and Fred Elton. Messrs. Francis and Day are publishing the same.

(*Continued on page 20.*)

MR. AND MRS. E. H. LUCAS IN HARROGATE.

THE KURSAAL.

Undoubtedly the principal item of interest at the Kursaal this week has been the welcome visit of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, who have presented scenes from the works of Charles Dickens. The impersonations were presented in their usual histrionic style, and received loud and well-deserved applause. To-night (Saturday) Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, in addition to their usual programme, will give a sketch entitled "Mrs. Caudle," which should prove even more humorous than the "Cough Mixture" sketch, which has been received with marked success during the earlier part of the week. These talented artists are undoubtedly the best impersonators of the characters from the works of Charles Dickens that have ever appeared at the Kursaal. Their impersonations are thoroughly artistic—so high-class, in fact, as to come in the nature of a surprise to the patrons of even such a high-class place as the Kursaal. Certainly no more thoroughly artistic acting has been seen in the building than that of Mr. and Mrs. Lucas in their various scenes from the great master of English fiction. Ranging from the exuberance of merriment to the pathos of deep emotion, it is the same high standard of histrionic skill, and lovers of the dramatic will not fail to avail themselves of the opportunity of seeing and hearing Mr. and Mrs. Lucas to-night.—*Harrogate Times*, July 25, 1910.

"AN ARTFUL WIDOW."

Farcical Sketch, in One Scene, Written by R. S. France, Produced at the Standard Music Hall on Saturday, July 23.

Major Wellington de Montmorency ..... MR. ARTHUR CURZON
Pompey Piplin ..... MR. FRANK WALLER
Tisa ..... MISS SADIE BUSH
Clorinda ..... MISS LILY ANNESLEY

A testy elderly Major advertises for a housekeeper, and a widow puts in an appearance, charms and weds him, and then instals herself as absolute mistress of the house. One of the servants, a negro, appears as a ghost of the lady's first husband, and makes her confess that she murdered him by feeding him with heavy pastry. This subdues the widow, and all ends well. Mr. Arthur Curzon as the Major and Miss Lily Annesley as the Widow caught the spirit of the play and of their parts cleverly, and Mr. Frank Waller as the black servant and Miss Sadie Bush as the housemaid were effectively farcical. *An Artful Widow* will bear a little revision.

THE performances for the benefit of the Amalgamated Railway Servants at the Palace, Neath, were a great financial success. The mayor and corporation were present, and his worship, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Vint for his many kindnesses since his opening at Neath, wished him every success in his new venture, the Hippodrome, which opens next month. Mr. Noice suitably responded on Mr. Vint's behalf.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Topping the bill at Hammersmith this week is that popular comedian, Mr. George Mozart, who, with a fund of humour, keeps the audience in roars of laughter throughout his turn. Mr. Tom Stanley and company, in the sensational Cornish tragedy, *The Candle*, meet with great success. The sketch is most dramatic and thrilling, and is exceedingly well interpreted, Miss Barbara Gott as the wife giving an exceptionally clever portrayal. The scenery is effective, the storm effects being very realistic. Mr. Frank Harwood, smartly dressed, wins much applause with a chorus song, "Can you find room for a little boy?" but in his second—a humorous descriptive song—entitled "On early-closing day," he proved even more popular, and was recalled several times. Miss Eileen Northe, the Cullercoats fisher lass, is blessed with a charming voice, which she uses with much effect in Tosti's "Good-bye."

Mr. Harry Pleon's skit on *The Bad Girl of the Family* is laughable, the comedian working hard to secure his comic effects. One of the successes of the programme is the turn provided by the Columbria Trio, who mix some very clever comedy business in with their tuneful and well-harmonised trio singing. Their make-up and costumes add considerably to their success. Merlin is as mystifying as ever with his card tricks. His lucid explanations to the volunteers from the audience who helped him raised much laughter.

Lydia Dreams's ventriloquial turn showed considerable originality. This item concluded with a clever charcoal sketch of Mark Twain. Mr. Frank Boyce does well in a racing character song, and as Jimmy Josser, the cowardly burglar, are outstanding features of this playlet.

Alix Dukos presents some character creations which are well received, one number, entitled "King George the Fifth," written and composed by the artist, being specially worthy of mention. Eddie and Ethel as comedy artists are good, and Miss Vera Saunders gives a really clever exhibition of clog-dancing. Mr. Harry Knox, comedian, and Miss Anna Gold and her dancing boys are also appearing here, and the entertainment is brought to a close by a particularly fine portrayal of The Corner in Wheat on the Bioscope.

THE GRANVILLE.

Although the week preceding a Bank Holiday is generally a quiet one in the entertainment world, very little evidence of this was manifest at Walham Green this week, for the patrons of the Granville turned up in goodly numbers to applaud the several excellent turns provided by Mr. Robert W. Duce for their amusement. Perhaps the principal reason for this is to be found in the fact that figuring at the top of the bill is Mr. Bert Coote and his company, presenting a smartly-written episode of the New York Stock Exchange, entitled *A Lamb on Wall Street*. This up-to-date playlet was received with remarkable enthusiasm when played at the Tivoli a few months ago, and a no less cordial reception was given to it at Walham Green now. Mr. Bert Coote fairly revels in his impersonation of the guileless Harold Tapsley Frumingham, his many quaint conceits and irresponsible mannerisms evoking hearty laughter. Mr. J. C. Aubrey was determined and passionate as the scheming Randolph Horton; whilst Miss Ada Russell was entirely successful as the much-perturbed Eleanor Belding. The Franz Comedy

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

SONGS YOU WILL HEAR AT THE SEASIDE.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
Sung with Enormous Success by MISS MADGE TEMPLE

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

applauded. Al. Passmore is extremely funny in his dame song and patter; Prof. Athlone, Sandow's model, assisted by Mlle. Una, in living art and statuary and novel feats of strength, is a prime favourite.

The Eight College Girls, in their vocal speciality "The Students' Concert," are very good indeed. Four of them dance delightfully, and in their concerted numbers their voices blend well together. Carl Howard is billed as the world's worst conjurer, and certainly if taken seriously the description is quite correct, the turn being very funny. Ward and Davis appear in an amusing musical comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*.

Massona, a tramp eccentric juggler, supplies a clever and much appreciated turn. The Bioscope is up to its usual high standard of excellence, a new series of films being shown. Prominent in the entertaining programme is Clarice Mayne, who, assisted by her pianist-comedian, in selections from her répertoire, scores a big success. Her first song is "Put on your Ta-ta, little Girlie," this being followed by an imitation of Marie Lloyd. Miss Mayne also contributes the amusing "Georgie took me walking in the Park," and her reception is most flattering.

An amateur carnival has been held here this week, four money prizes being given by the management. They have also guaranteed that the winner shall have six consecutive weeks' engagement at the halls under their control.

GREENWICH PALACE OF VARIETIES.

This old-established and favourite place of amusement is enjoying a new lease of life under the able management of Mr. Bob Graham, who represents the new lessee, Mr. D. M. Kerr. There are some excellent artists on the bill. One of the most interesting items is the production of a new musical comedy sketch by Roy and Fenton. These clever performers show to great advantage in their smartly-written and admirably acted sketch, and were enthusiastically received by the delighted audience. Miss Gladys le Clair is a capital vocalist, and is warmly applauded in her chorus songs; Bob Lee is a capital comedian, and evokes loud laughter; Elvyn and Chip are smart and agile pedestal dancers; Miss Laura Maxted sings sweetly some excellent ballads; the Sisters Wayland give an attractive turn consisting of songs and dances; Harry Bent is a genuinely humorous comedian and clever mimic, who goes exceedingly well with the audience; Roelgin's Bird Actors are cleverly trained, and delighted all present; Miss Ruby Royal is a charming serio and dancer; Louin and Lake are an excellent turn, and give general satisfaction; Edward Thompson is a clever mystical entertainer; the Sisters Harcourt are attractive duettists and dancers; Merry May Mack makes a hit as a comedienne and dancer; Benetti and Bob Kellino Trio are capital risley and acrobatic performers; and the pictures conclude a capital programme.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The excellent programme at Willesden this week is drawing crowded houses. Mr. George Mozart heads the bill, and his humorous stories provoke a great deal of mirth. He also gives his well-known numbers "The Buskers" and "The Living Picture Drama," assisted by Corporal Slippery, both of these selections being greatly to the liking of his listeners, who respond with rounds of applause.

Rowland Carse's company are presenting *The Roundheads*, an entertaining interlude, in which a number of tuneful ditties are given. A toast to Cromwell, followed by toasts of a Soldier's Life, a Maiden's Eyes, and a Good Wine, all find the audience appreciative. The Sisters Draycott, looking very charming in blue, are attractive duettists, and their rendering of "Dear Heart" is heartily applauded.

Walter Bird's company is here in a comedy sketch, entitled *Her Husband*. The story deals with the appearance of burglars at a house in the country. The master has been called away suddenly, and in his absence the "wife" discovers that one of the intruders is her husband whom she had thought dead long since. The burglar-husband asks for money, and on being refused, a scuffle ensues, and in the melée the burglar is killed by his partner, who afterwards gets away. Upon the return of the master of the house his "wife" declares that she has shot the burglar, and thereby avoids the necessity of any disclosures. The humour and eccentricities of Ernie Lotinga, the Sisters Paget also appear. Ruffell's Bioscope are showing some good pictures, whilst the selection and the overture performed by the orchestra, under Mr. J. H. Cleve's guidance, are excellent. Mr. Jack M. Hart, the popular manager, is away holiday-making.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

There is an excellent programme here this week. Minnie Paget is a pleasing singer, and quite an expert with the concertina, her turn being loudly

Five have a very amusing acrobatic scena, entitled *Mrs. Wallop's Private School*, in which some very clever feats are ably and neatly performed, and one of the juvenile ladies deserves special mention for her display of skilful strength; Vandinoff paints some remarkable pictures with lightning rapidity, and it is little short of marvellous how beautifully he depicts a bouquet of choice flowers on an easel revolving at a tremendous rate; Miss Dot Hardy is a singer of vivacious eccentric songs that always meet with approval here, and she has two good numbers in "Swimming the Channel" and "Mr. Douglas Trunk"; Burley and Burley are two great comedy acrobats, who feature many new tricks, several of the bending feats on an ordinary table seeming to be almost impossible, until one sees how easily this well-trained couple manage them; Mr. Ted Saunders, the mimic, although suffering from a severe cold, manfully stuck to his guns, and gave a good idea of George Lashwood's rendering of "My Latchkey," some good samples of R. G. Knowles' witticisms, and a finished and artistic rendering of "My pal Jerry's Dying Address to his Companion Nobbler"; Miss Hamid Alexander entertained at the piano in her usual refined and effective way; and others who appeared were Master Harry Clark, a precocious juvenile comedian and dancer, and Clyne and Clark, a vivacious couple of black and white comedy artists, full of life and go, and clever dancers as well. The films on the cinematograph were clearly screened, and the band, under the skilful baton of Mr. Frank Thomas, ably render their selections and give the artists every assistance with their songs.

TOTTENHAM PALACE

Tottenham boasts of billing two of London's latest comedy successes this week in Harry Tate's *Flying* and Fred Karno's *Justice Perkins*, with Albert Bruno filling the title-rôle. The boast is no vain one, as certainly they are proving two of the best attractions Tottenham has had for some time; whereat Mr. T. S. Mayne, the ever-courteous manager, is on good terms with himself. Albert Bruno's Justice Perkins is about as funny a conception as it is possible to imagine. Mr. Bruno fits the part exactly, and turns out a solid laugh-raiser of the most hilarious kind. In the Court scene, where a general stage licence seems to prevail, we get a feast of fun from the "impartial" Perkins. He dispenses the law with lavish hand, and provides counsel, witnesses, and jury—to say nothing of the audience—with a "real good time." Those who are conversant with the entertaining abilities of Harry Tate can imagine the possibilities of *Flying*. Mr. Tate's treatment of the subject is intensely funny. The Frasettis present a tasteful musical act, their violin and harp playing being an especially pleasing feature of their performance. Walker and May and Guy Ryder, a smart whistler, and May Fayre, are all good in their respective lines. Miss Alexandra Dagmar's stateliness impresses at first sight, and helps her to "hit them" with her renderings. The Alaskas do an exceedingly smart acrobatic act, and are certainly one of the cleverest troupes in their style of business. Mr. William Burgess still wields the bâton well, and well-chosen selections, while the pictures continue to prove a popular adjunct to the evening's enjoyment.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Mr. Frederick Phelps, the popular resident-manager here, has every reason to congratulate himself upon the excellent business which is being done here this week. The programme is of an attractive nature, prominent among the many excellent features being the remarkably adroit and novel acrobatic and gymnastic exhibition given by the Tom Albertos. There is a freshness and originality about their feats which makes their display one of the most entertaining of its kind, and altogether their contribution is of a very enjoyable character. The Two Glenvilles provide a bright singing and dancing turn; and the Pemms are highly amusing in their songs and cross patter. Ross, Grace, and Elvio appear with success in a comedy sketch and miscellany of dance and acrobatic feats; and Jack Lowe causes much merriment with his "Advice" song.

Bob Pender's Bright Sparks in speciality dances are very smart; and the company includes Little Doris Pender, a graceful little danseuse. She gives several exhibitions of toe-dancing, for which she receives loud applause. Needless to say, Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* proves a great attraction and supplies one of the chief items of the programme. Kitty Crowther, winner of the recent Bedford Amateur Carnival, sings prettily "Rings on my fingers," concluding with a well-executed dance, and her efforts are loudly applauded. Belrose and De Velin's pleasing vocalisation is displayed in "The Call to Arms" and "Tell her I love her so," and these popular duettists score one of the chief successes of the evening. In view of the great interest taken in the Johnson-Jeffries fight and to show the many interesting points about the black giant's ability, the management are this week showing on the bioscope the complete film of the Johnson-Burns fight. A series of up-to-date pictures brings a very entertaining programme to a conclusion. An excellent overture and a selection during the evening are performed by the capital orchestra under the direction of Mr. Joseph Baker.

THE IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

The excellent programme submitted by the genial Mr. Frank Clarke for this week is greatly enjoyed by the patrons of this cosy little East-End hall. A prominent position on the bill is held by the Six Brothers Luck, who are playing two sketches at each performance, viz., *Lift'ems, Ltd.*, and their ever-popular *The Demon of the Cellar*. Plenty of good fun is seen throughout, the tumbling being especially good and greatly enjoyed. A particularly clever turn is given by the Three Videos, who prove themselves good skaters, their many difficult feats being greatly appreciated. Much laughter is caused by the partner in the pneumatic dress. Held and Sagar, the Soubrette and the Dude, are most amusing, the antics of the male partner being extremely funny. He has an ingenious property door from which he obtains many laughs, the finale being reached by the lady singing a tuneful song, concluding with a clever dance.

Laco and Leno, comedians and wooden shoe dancers, are a smart couple. The humorous portion of their act is quite original, and their dancing is remarkable, the many difficult steps being a distinct feature. An old favourite, Johnny Danvers, is also here, singing in his well-known style "If the missus says it's black" and "Why didn't you come before," a neatly executed dance also being included in a much-appreciated turn. Miss Lillian French possesses an exceedingly powerful voice, and sings in capital style "Rose Marie," and Joseph Gilbert (prize winner of the Amateur Carnival) is another good vocalist, and is heard with pleasure.

Miss Flo Cecil, a comedienne with a neat and taking style, renders well a cleverly written number, "As soon as Saturday comes." The Four Marzipans, a quartette of smart lady dancers, prove themselves experts at their business. Amongst many good films displayed on the Bioscope is the one showing the fight between Johnson and Burns, the exciting rounds being watched most intently. A capital orchestra is directed by Mr. H. A. Knight, the selection, "The Darkies' Dreamland," being excellent.

"A NICHT WI' BURNS."

One-Act Play, by George Reston Malloch, Produced at the Lyceum, Edinburgh, on Monday, July 25.

Robert Burns ..... MR. DICKSON MOFFAT
Ralph Farrell ..... MR. SYDNEY BLAND
Sir John Seymour ..... MR. HENRY EARLESMERE
Mrs. Burns ..... MISS IVY ROSS
Miss Isabella Seymour .. MISS MILDRED HODSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ralph Farrell has become enamoured of Miss Isabella Seymour, and having asked for the lady's hand from her father, is repulsed by old Sir John. The young couple plan an elopement, and set off in a postchaise on a wintry evening. On the road the chaise breaks down, and the lovers, seeing a light shining from a cottage window, seek refuge there, thinking the place may be an inn. The house, however, turns out to be the dwelling of Robert Burns and his wife, by whom the runaways are kindly welcomed on the circumstances of their flight being made known. Fate or fortune soon brings Sir John Seymour to the same cottage, having met with some mishap when in pursuit of his daughter and would-be son-in-law. Mrs. Burns promptly conceals the young people in an inner room as Sir John enters the kitchen, and Burns is now made the confidant of the angry father, who before long is engaged in the discussion of varied subjects with his unknown host over a bowl of punch. From one topic to another the conversation drifts to literature and poetry, and Burns, after rendering some of his own lyrics with some effect, works on the old gentleman's feelings by an impromptu flight of fancy, dealing graphically with the troubles and anxieties of the actual lovers, till finally Sir John melts. Then the youth and the maiden appear at the right moment, and receive their father's blessing. The strongest part of the little drama is, naturally, in the scene between Burns and Sir John Seymour, where Mr. Dickson Moffat in the rôle of the poet made the most of his opportunities with fine elocutionary skill; and Mr. Henry Earlesmere also, in the part of Sir John, acted with telling effect. Miss Ivy Ross was happy in occasional touches of humour as Mrs. Burns, and Mr. Sydney Bland with Miss Mildred Hodson respectively realised the ardour of Richard Farrell and the attractiveness of Isabella Seymour.

MISS KATIE MARSH will produce a new number, entitled "All for you, and only you," at the Canterbury on Monday.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 19.)

Miss Ada Reeve has made a phenomenal success at the Coliseum this week with Feldman and Co.'s two numbers, "Foolish questions" (by William Lee and A. Baldwin Sloane, the special English verses of which have been written by John P. Harrington) and "Nobody knows—nobody cares" (by Chas. K. Harris), which charming ballad has been the hit of the bill at the St. Martin's-lane house.

At the Hippodrome, Brighton, this week those charming duettists the Kebbles have been enthusiastically received for their delightful rendering of Madden and Weinrich's charming song of the prairie, "Silver Bell," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are publishing.

A furore is being created at the Tower, Blackpool, by Miss Pauline Rivers' talented troupe with the number "Cock-a-doodle-do in the morning," by John P. Harrington and John Neat, which forms the principal vocal feature of her charming production "Our Children's Farmyard; or, Chantecler in Fairyland." Messrs. Feldman and Co. have issued this number in music form.

That delightful chanteuse Miss Annie Schuberth is winning golden opinions at Yarmouth with Messrs. Feldman and Co.'s two exquisite songs, "Beautiful garden of roses" (by Dempsey and Schmidt) and James Wilson and Henrie Jaxon's "Though years go rolling by," both of which she will produce in London when she opens at the Standard, Pimlico, shortly.

At the Surrey Theatre this week Miss Vena Vaima has been the recipient of plaudits loud and long for her delightful rendering of "Have you met a girl named Mary?" by Fred Godfrey and Fred D'Albert. This Feldman publication certainly is hourly growing in popularity.

The Royal Osborne Minstrels at Llanfairfachen, North Wales, are at present featuring the following Feldman publications with success:—"Just like the dear old swing," "Playing the game in the West," "Come by the drum in the big brass band," "Molly O'Morgan," "It's a grand old world to live in," "In a waltz, waltz, waltz," and several others.

London will lose Mr. John P. Harrington August Bank Holiday week, as this well-known writer has accepted an invitation from Mr. George Lashwood to combine business with pleasure as his guest in South Wales. In Mr. Lashwood's new 25-h.p. motor-car we have no doubt this experienced comedian and writer will evolve many new ideas for the delectation of London in the near future.

Among the numerous novelties Messrs. Price and Reynolds have recently issued are to be found George Robey's "Somebody's got to go through it," Miss Maidie Scott's "Father started out to work this morning" and "Father's got a job," Miss Rosie Lloyd's "Moonlight on the Prairie," Miss Hetty King's "Follow the tramline" and "I've got the time—I've got the place, Miss Ray Wallace's "Won't you come rinking?" Miss Jennie John's "I like the little girl in the photograph," and the following American successes: "If I had a thousand lives to live," "If I had the world to give," "By the old oaken bucket," "I've lost my Teddy Bear," "Down by the huskin' bee," and "I wish I had my old girl back again.'

Miss Pauline Rivers's annual production at the Tower, Blackpool, *Our Children's Farmyard*, has scored an instantaneous success. Special songs have been written, including "The Greedy Gosling," "Underneath the bright blue moon," and "Good-morning, Mr. Sunshine!" The last-named song is the "hit," and is being encored at every performance. Price and Reynolds have secured the publishing rights of all three numbers.

Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's song "Gwennie from Abergavenny" is in great request at all the leading seaside resorts, being specially featured by many, including Miss Mona Vivian, Miss Molly Watson, Alf Lawrance, Alwyn Sawyer, &c., and should be in great request for pantomime. Price and Reynolds are the publishers.

Mr. Herman Finck's popular two-step "The Polar Bear's Picnic" is being played nightly at the Tower, Blackpool. "Aviation" Waltz, "Valse Enchanting," "Brooklyn Belle" barn dance, "Operatic" lancers, "Toni" valse lente, "Songe des Sirènes" valse lente, are all in request, and played by the leading bands. Messrs. Price and Reynolds are the publishers.

Miss Kitty Clinton, who returned to London last Monday after a successful provincial tour, has quite captured the hearts of patrons of the Empress, Brixton, by her effective rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's popular chorus ballad "I wonder if you care?" Miss Clinton's success with this song has been exceptional both in the provinces and at the Empress. The Star Music Co. publish a special edition of the song adorned with its charming interpreter's photograph.

Miss Dorothy Sefton is another delightful singer at the Empress, Brixton, and has been achieving a triumph with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's melodious descriptive song "When the war drums are beating." The Star Music Co. propose issuing this number forthwith.

Some people say: "Charles Whittle is a lucky man! He always gets such splendid chorus songs." The fact is, however, Mr. Whittle is a good judge of a song "in the raw," and he knows just what the public will take to. His latest winner is a case in point. "Fall in and follow me," written by those ubiquitous authors A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, is destined to equal, if not excel, in popularity any of this popular performer's previous numbers. The Star Co. are the publishers.

Mr. Rowland Hill, "Ye Dame," has just bought five new numbers, all from the pen of Tom B. Newsome. Three of the novelties Mr. Hill will produce next week at the Palace Theatre, Reading.

The staff and friends of the Holloway Empire spent a very enjoyable day last Sunday, the occasion being their tenth annual outing. Train was taken at 9 a.m. for Windsor, where a launch was in waiting to convey the party, numbering fifty, to Henley, which was reached at 4 o'clock, lunch and tea being served on board. In spite of the inclement weather everybody heartily enjoyed themselves.

The successor to Mr. Julian Graham, lately manager of the Hippodrome, Sheerness, who has been appointed to take charge of the Empire, Southend, will be Mr. A. Lingham Power, who goes to his new post with an excellent record. Nine years ago he joined Mr. Seymour Hicks's company at the Vaudeville Theatre, and there played in *Quality Street*. For two years he continued in the company, which, during that time, had been commanded to appear before the late King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra at Windsor. At the opening of the Royal Pavilion at Ramsgate he undertook its management under the Corporation of that town. Six years ago he became acting-manager of the Empire Theatre at Southend, under Mr. George Conquest, and on Mr. Pareener taking over the theatre Mr. Power became manager.

CHAT WITH MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.

The same name and her parents of the same nationality as the Queen-mother, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the popular and cultured vocalist and comedienne, was herself born in England. Very early in life she took to the stage, mainly because she liked it, studying singing and going in for a lot of concert, and, in fact, any work that came her way. During this arduous period of her career she played in many well-known dramas, including those perennial favourites, *East Lynne*, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*. Eventually she went with a concert party to America, first as accompanist and then as vocalist, travelling right through the States, afterwards appearing at Koster and Bial's, New York. Later on she appeared with her husband, Mr. Edmond De Celle, singing duets.

[*Photo by Guttenberg.*

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.

It was that fine judge of talent, the late Mr. Charles Morton, who, knowing the fondness of London audiences for high-class vocalism, gave Miss Dagmar her first real chance in the Metropolis, and since then she has never looked back. She appeared with gratifying success at the Alhambra, the Palace, Empire, Tivoli, Oxford, and all the leading London halls—with, of course, many happy returns. The accomplished vocalist has but lately returned from a tour of the Moss-Stoll Empires, where she has been winning golden opinions with her song and story interlude, especially successful being the recitation "Forsaken," and "A Marriage of Mayfair," and is this week at Walthamstow and Tottenham.

In a pleasant half-hour's chat with an *Era* representative Miss Dagmar told of the many countries she had played in and the different experiences encountered. "At one place in America," she smilingly remarked, "I was billed as the Great Russian Beauty and Favourite of the Czar!' The manager was evidently unaware of my nationality, or, perhaps he thought it would be a good advertising dodge." Once while travelling with James J. Corbett, in *Gentleman Jack*, in 'Frisco, the company having a very long wait before going on by Pullman car decided to give a show. Miss Dagmar was requested to give some pianoforte selections to attract the multitude, and she recalls how the manager entreated her to "Play up, there's another two dollars just come in." South Africa, with Mr. Sydney Hyman, and all the leading Continental cities have also been visited by the fair traveller, and it is gratifying to know that she has always "made good." "No audience, however," she declares, "is quite so appreciative or enthusiastic as an English one, if they are pleased with your show."

Miss Dagmar's attractive personality and fine vocal abilities have, of course, been invaluable in pantomime, and her many successes in this direction will be easily recalled by all familiar with the stage. The late Sir Augustus Harris specially engaged her to play Dandini in *Cinderella* at the "Lane," a part in which she made a big hit, and she has also undertaken important characters in "annuals" at the Grand, Islington, the Dalston, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, and other leading theatres.

Whilst in Berlin she studied Wagnerian opera, with a view to appearing therein, but circumstances—and engagements—prevented her doing so. Such a cultured singer would undoubtedly have succeeded in high-class work, but then the "halls" would have lost one of their finest vocalists. Last autumn Miss Dagmar enjoyed greatly a holiday visit to Coney Island—a splendid place to spend a happy time, to judge from the glowing account given us by the lady. She is very enthusiastic of American acts and American girls, the majority of whom, she declares, can sing—and sing well.

Miss Dagmar is by way of making a variation in her entertainment, and proposes giving vocal imitations at the piano. She holds engagements at the Tivoli and other halls, but would welcome a change—for a time at any rate—to the regular theatres, such as a comedy part in a musical play. To a lady of such varied accomplishments an opening should undoubtedly soon present itself.

CHAT WITH MISS MADGE TEMPLE

Firmly established as one of London's most popular songstresses, that delightful vocalist, Miss Madge Temple, should have no reason to regret the step she took when she deserted the ranks of musical comedy and comic opera for vaudeville. She first made her mark in the early days of the Coliseum as the romantic heroine of *Fenella*, singing with much charm of style one of the prettiest numbers in the operetta, "The Blackbird and the Dove." At the fine house in St. Martin's-lane, during Mr. Oswald Stoll's experiment with miniature opera, she also appeared with success in *La Mascotte* and *A Cup of Tea*, &c. Previous to this she had done much valuable work in the theatres, appearing in that popular musical play *The Chinese Honeymoon* at the Strand, and also in Stanislaus Strange's comic opera *Dolly Varden*, produced at the Avenue.

[*Photo by the Dover-street Studios.*

MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

The principal singing part in a pantomime at the Prince's, Manchester, with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, may also be numbered among her successes at the theatres, after which she was secured by Mr. George Edwardes for a part in *The School Girl*, that droll comedian, Mr. George Graves, being engaged about the same time. Circumstances, however, prevented the carrying out of the contract, and she resigned. Miss Temple next went on tour, playing the prima donna parts in *Florodora* and *The Chinese Honeymoon*.

She has also appeared with gratifying success on the concert platform, in association with some of the finest military bands and some of the foremost artists of the day, and in a brief talk with an *Era* representative referred with evident pleasure to one special occasion, on which she was complimented on her beautiful voice by Princess Henry of Battenberg and Princess Ena, now the Queen of Spain.

Since she has been working *solus* on the music halls she has appeared at most of the principal variety houses, her many ear-haunting numbers including "Pansy," "Esau, take me on the see-saw," "The tropical moon," "Rainbow," "I'm looking for Mr. Wright," and her present big hit, "On the silvery, silvery sands."

The last-named, which is sure to be numbered among the songs one will hear at the seaside, is published by the famous firm of Francis, Day, and Hunter, and is written by Arthur Findon and wedded to music by Hermann E. Darewski, jun. It has a fine, catchy chorus, and one of the verses tells of flirtations by the briny of a seaside boy, the song generally bringing the scent of the ozone to the tired toilers of the metropolis. Most of the melodies of Miss Temple's songs are composed by Mr. Hermann E. Darewski, jun., who is the lucky man privileged to be her husband. Miss Temple, however, is always on the look out for really good numbers by known or unknown writers, gratefully acknowledging how much of one's success depends on attractive material. The writer of the words, the melody-maker, and the interpreter are all dependent on one another, and neatly-turned lyrics and tuneful music need never go begging. But "winners" are scarce, as all those whose business it is to amuse the multitude are aware.

Miss Madge Temple has a happy way of "fixing" an audience directly she faces the footlights, and her fine voice, refined style, quiet sense of humour, and command of pathos when necessary, are responsible for the hold she has on the affections of the people. Her charming personality is always exquisitely clothed, her hats being triumphs of the milliner's art and her costumes the latest thing in elegance and good taste. For a mere man to attempt a description would be ridiculous.

Miss Temple was in the Scotch express disaster which occurred some years since, and as a result was confined to the house for some six months. This is her most thrilling experience, and one which she will never forget. Booked solid till 1913, the charming vocalist-comedienne's future would appear assured. But she has had to work very hard to attain the enviable position which is now hers. She delights in motoring, but finds her greatest pleasure in gardening—a health-giving and interesting recreation.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder - - - -	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood - -	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve - - -	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby - - -	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott - - - -	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana - -	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes - - - -	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements -	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge - - -	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff - - -	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE
Miss Dorothy Ward - -	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter - - - -	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields - -	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard - - -	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox - -	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein -	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne - -	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

"BEWARE OF THE DOG."

An Original Comedy Sketch, in One Act, by H. E. Garden, Produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre on Monday, July 25.

Harold de Slopkins.....Mr. Fred Hilderson
Dick Johnson .....Mr. E. Chesney
Lucy Leightleigh .....Miss Clarice Gummond

Produced by Mr. Fred Hilderson, this new comedy sketch has greatly amused Sadler's Wells audiences this week. Brightly written and smartly played, *Beware of the Dog* can be strongly recommended to all who enjoy a hearty laugh. Harold de Slopkins is one of that class of young men about town who pester actresses with their unsought attentions. He pretends to be a devoted admirer of Miss Lucy Leightleigh, whose husband, Dick Johnson, is a strong man. Harold is unaware that his charmer is already married, and seeks to beguile the heart of the young actress by presents of bouquets. Moreover, he discovers where she resides, and, armed with a big bouquet, gains admittance to the home of the Johnsons. Hearing voices, he dives under the table, believing that the male voice must be that of the young lady's father. On entering the room she catches sight of Harold concealed under the table, and comes to the conclusion that he is the unknown admirer who has been persistently sending her bouquets. Lucy is determined to teach him a lesson for his impertinence, and, seeing his hat on a chair, she pours into it water from a jug, and then proceeds to make use of the headgear as a vase for the flowers. Harold emerges from his hiding-place, and loses no time in making love to his charmer, whereupon she informs him that she is the wife of a professional strong man. This information is anything but pleasant for Harold, and his fear of personal chastisement by a man of might and muscle is greatly increased when he hears a knock at the front door and a male voice. "My husband has returned, and he will kill you if he finds you here," exclaims the actress. He must conceal himself somewhere, and a box ottoman serves his purpose. The lady pretends to be asleep when her husband enters, but his suspicions are aroused by the discovery of a man's walking-stick upon the table. Has his wife had a visitor? He awakens her, and relates how he has just met an old friend who nearly killed a fellow for hanging around after his wife. Harold becomes so alarmed that in his agitation he causes the lid of the ottoman to bob up and down. The strong man asks for an explanation, and his wife tells him she has a dog in the box, and the unfortunate Harold is compelled to bark to keep up the deception. More merriment is evoked when Harold, having at last emerged from his hiding place, is chased round the room by Dick, until, rendered desperate, he makes for the window, but is gripped by the strong man. Harold disappears, but Dick retains possession of his nether garment. Lucy declares that he has killed the young man, and Dick, in his turn, becomes seriously alarmed concerning what has happened. Fearing arrest, he also seeks concealment in the ottoman, but Harold presently returns and accepts the apologies tendered him.

Mr. Fred Hilderson made excellent use of his opportunities in the part of the timorous intruder who is so severely punished for his attentions to an actress. Mr. E. Chesney was a capital representative of the strong man, his physique being well suited to the rôle; and Miss Clarice Gummond deserves a word of praise for her able embodiment of Lucy Leightleigh.

Mr. Tom E. Finglass, the cowboy coon, who has quite recovered from his serious operation, will make his reappearance in London at the Coliseum on Monday, constituting one of the features of the bill.

The generosity of King George in sending a donation to the venerable clown James Doughty, who for the past thirty years has appeared on the West Pier at Brighton with his performing dogs, recalls the fact that he is an old colleague of "Witty Watty" Walton, the well-known comedian. As long ago as 1873-4 and 1874-5 "Witty Watty" and Jimmy Doughty played together in the Covent Garden pantomime, where they were engaged for two years in succession. The last-named is 92 years of age next birthday, and it may not be generally credited that "Witty Watty" is within three years of sixty. Despite this, however, he is as brisk and versatile as ever, and has a series of contracts for the Moss-Stoll tours up to 1912.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

[By AMERICUS.]

MANY American acts have arrived the past week, and most every boat has brought many good turns to this side. Some have come over to play contracted engagements, while others have made the trip to look over the vaudeville prospects and a vacation.

JOLLY AND WILD, in a musical offering called *The Music Teacher*, have been in London now over a week, and will play some time in the English music-halls.

GILDAY AND FOX, Hebrew comedians, are two late arrivals from the other side. They put their act on at Shepherds Bush last Saturday night for the managers to look them over. They have been offered some good time in the provinces, and will, in all probability, sign up for a tour before returning to the American side.

DONAVAN AND ARNOLDS, known in the States as the "King of Ireland and the Queen of Vaudeville," arrived last week for a short stay. This act played England last year.

DEVLIN AND ELLWOOD, a singing and talking act which has played the American tours, arrived last Saturday by the Cunard Line.

SAM GROSS is quite a busy person these days, and is dealing out some good musical stuff for the singers and dancers who want hits.

MISS ELLA SHIELDS, the clever singing comedienne from Baltimore, who has been on this side for some time, is playing Sheffield this week, and has been meeting with splendid success.

NAT WILLS is in London, and will open at the Palace in August. The famous tramp comedian brought along with him his big touring car, and says he is going to see England from one end to the other before he returns to Yankeeland. Nat has sure enough a big motor, and it was very much admired at the stage door of the Palace last week.

THE boxing bouts last Saturday night down at Wonderland drew a large crowd of American artists, and they all agreed that the English heavyweight Wells looked very promising, and showed evidence of a comer.

I RAN across a couple of the boys last week, who told me the boat sailed Wednesday. There is not quite so many over here this year, advertising steamship departures as last season.

RITCHIE and his troupe of cycling comedians are in Vienna this week, and will play the month of August at the Apollo Theatre. The act will be some little time on the Continent.

NAT LEIPSIC has invented a new card trick that he claims is a dandy. If it beats some of the rest he has, it must be a cracker-jack. For Nat is some boy with the cards and coins.

I WAS talking to Mr. Staley, who has the Staley transformation act at the Hippodrome, and he tells me that he had just received some good news from his brother relative to the Staley gold claims which they are working in Colorado. A good size pocket of ore was struck, and a number of good leads were discovered, which will be good news to all the performers who hold stock in these mines.

MAX RITTER is all smiles around the clubs. Mrs. Ritter (Grace Foster) arrived back from America on Monday night.

AL FRIEND AND SAM DOWNING are at Coventry this week, making them laugh with Panamas and other foolish jokes and gags. The team is well booked up, and are doing fine.

"CHUCK" has decided to go up to Holland Park Rink every day with Jimmy Britt and Earle Reynolds and train down to buck dancing weight.

ETHEL LEVY has been offered some fine engagements in the New York halls during the coming winter. Miss Levy was always a big head-liner in American music-halls.

JOE HAYMAN AND MAX RITTER are going to be real producers now, in addition to playing their own acts in the halls. They have a new skit called *The Mischievous Boy*, which they are rehearsing, and which will be ready in a few weeks for the managers to cast their eyes upon their efforts.

THE Two Boss have received offers galore for next season. They will sail for America after their Tivoli engagement, which will be the latter part of September, returning here next year for quite a stay.

MR. JARVIS BELL, secretary of the International Rinking Co., spent last Sunday and Monday in Paris looking over the rinks his company have in that city. Mr. E. B. Barnes, general manager of the company in England, also left Saturday night for a tour of the Continental rinks.

THE German Club back of the Queen's Hotel seems to be the headquarters for American artists. You can meet most any of the boys there after 11 p.m.

AFTER careful investigation, I find that the note in these columns relative to some artists in Germany copying Mr. Bert Levy's act was an error. Mr. Levy says there is no copy of his act as far as he knows, and as I have been over considerable ground the past two years, I have not seen anything resembling in the least way that the cartoonist is offering.

VARDON, PERRY, AND WILBUR, those three boys with a big répertoire of music, are making a most favourable impression all over the British Isles as entertainers extraordinary. Keep it up, boys; you are doing fine.

HELEN TRIX.

Still in Big Type at the Hippodrome.

SPISSEL BROS. and MACK.

AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER. NEXT WEEK—HIPPO., ROCHDALE. Vacant—Aug. 22.

RITTER and FOSTER.

Those Eccentric Singers and Dancers.

STALEY'S TRANSFORMATION ACT.

Doing the Changes at HIPPODROME. The Big Headliner for any Bill.

BERT LEVY.

A STANDARD NOVELTY ALL OVER THE WORLD.

At the PALACE as usual.

VARDON, PERRY, and WILBUR.

Those Three Boys. That's All.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.

Still at the Empire

McLALLEN and CARSON.

M. D. Waxman.

The Anglo-American Revolutionist.

RUSSELL and HELD.

THE LEADING SINGING & DANCING ACT.

SAM STERN.

THE ORIGINAL INDIAN JEW. ALSO ITALIAN CHARACTER.

PAUL MURRAY, Manager.

EARLE NELLIE

REYNOLDS AND DONEGAN.

MILT WOOD, known throughout the States as the "king of dancers," is making his feet patter in splendid style at the Tivoli.

CHARLIE AHEARN and his troupe of cyclists will leave New York in a few days, coming direct to London, where he will open on the Stoll tour.

THERE is some talk of a White Rat scamper. The date has not been decided upon, but will, in all probability, be within a few weeks. There is quite an army of White Rats in London this year, and more coming on every boat.

MR. R. H. FITZSIMMONS, who has handled some of the best wrestlers both in this country and America, recently returned to England for a short stay.

Send in Your Permanent and Route Address.

I WOULD be pleased to have all the American acts now playing in Great Britain. Send me your permanent and route address. Address same to "Americus," c/o *Era* Office, London, W.C.

Pat Casey May Visit Here in August.

I RECEIVED a letter from New York last week which stated that Pat Casey, one of the foremost agents in America, will take a few weeks' vacation in August, and will spend some time in this country. We don't know of any better country one can spend the summer in than England. So come along, Mr. Casey. There are plenty of us here to show you the mother country of the English-speaking language.

MCLELLAN CARSON DUO have been booked for pantomime for the coming season, and will remain in England for some time to come. Their clever conception of *Babes in Toyland* will without a doubt make a big number for the pantomime season.

SAM STERN is booked for Birmingham next week. The Original Indian-Jew comedian has added a fine medley number to his act, which has proved quite a winner.

A VERY clever diving act called the Devine Myrma, is due at the Palace soon. This act played the Morris circuit in America for some months before coming to this side.

HELEN TRIX, the dainty American comedienne, is now in her third week at the Hippodrome, and has scored a fine success. Miss Trix opens her turn at the piano dressed in a stunning frock singing a rag-time song, the second number sees her in boy's clothes of a natty brown, concluding with a clever song entitled "Fifty years ago," dressed in crinoline. Altogether, Miss Trix has enjoyed a splendid season at the Hippodrome.

RUSSEL AND HELD, who have been doing great with their singing and dancing, are at Collins's this week. Miss Held makes six changes in ten minutes, which is going some. "Norah Malone," her clever song number, is as usual a big encore number.

THE splendid versatile Yiddish actor, Mr. M. D. Waxman, who is now playing the English halls, has not only been a fine success here, but was a big draw and great success in America. His clever sketch, *Captain Dryfus, the Revolutionist*, shows the ability of this capable American actor.

CHARLIE FREEMAN has assumed his brother's duties here in London as variety booster extraordinary for the American variety, and makes every effort to show the newcomers that arrive from the other side London. Charlie has two maps of London in his pockets most all the time.

I WAS asked what was the cause of so many American vaudeville artists making the trip to this side this season. I am informed that the terrific sun's rays have been partly the cause. The weather has been so warm in the States that the majority of the theatres have closed down for the summer; in addition, many of the big hippodromes in ball parks, which used hundreds of acts, have been forced to close down on account of the hot weather.

EARLE REYNOLDS has rented a place at Margate for the month of August, where Mrs. Reynolds will spend four or five weeks in recuperating before opening in Paris in September.

SHERRY AND BRAFF told me the other day that Mr. Andre Charlot would return to the management of their New York office about the 1st of September. Mr. Charlot has been taking his vacation on the Continent during July and August.

HER TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY.

An "Inspiration," Written by Margaret Parker, Produced at the Euston on Monday, July 25.

Thomas Murphy ..... MR. JOHN HERBERT
Peter Lewis ..... MR. TAYLOR VINSON
Lord Fairweather ..... MR. ST. A. BENTLEY
Limb ..... MISS MARGARET PARKER

The heroine of this interesting playlet is a hoydenish young lady known as Miss Limb. On the rising of the curtain she is seen discussing with the kind-hearted butler the "Wanted" advertisements in one of the professional papers, for she is determined to go on the stage. A lady with Shakespearean experience being required, Miss Limb, in order to show her suitability for the rôle, gives an excerpt from the Bard, much to the bewilderment of the butler. To prove her versatility, she also gives a well-rendered song, to her own piano accompaniment, but further exhibitions of her talent are stopped by the entry of her guardian, Peter Lewis. It is the young lady's twenty-first birthday, and her guardian soon gives her to understand that she must quit his house at once. Up to that day he had always treated her kindly, and the girl is quite naturally distressed at his heartless conduct. He tells her it is quite time she was earning her own living, but to help her along until she can find remunerative employment he offers her notes to the value of £100, which she indignantly tears up, and eventually departs. She, however, is determined to outwit him, for she rightly guesses that he has some ulterior motive in wanting to get rid of her so suddenly. She is, it transpires, heiress to £20,000, and the impecunious guardian means to appropriate this sum for his own benefit. The solicitor who has been acting for the girl is to call that day with the money, and Lewis is anxiously awaiting his arrival, meaning to forge the girl's signature to the cheque. Miss Limb, disguised as a boy, learns his scheme, and just before the solicitor arrives makes her guardian, who does not know her identity, promise not to rob the girl, telling him that honesty receives its own reward. When the solicitor comes he refuses to part with the £20,000 to anyone but the girl, and learning that Miss Limb has left is greatly agitated, revealing to her astonished protector that he is her father. He has been abroad for a number of years and amassed a large fortune, and intends to reward Lewis handsomely for his kindness to his girl. Ashamed of his conduct to Miss Limb, the guardian apparently has some reluctance about taking the money, and the young lady herself, who has come on the scene as the "boy," insists that her father shall make a donation of £200 to the Foundling Hospital—where she might have passed her early days had it not been for the guardian's kindness, also persuading her father to make a handsome present to the kind-hearted butler, Thomas. Finally the "boy" tells them that Miss Limb shall be forthcoming almost immediately, and going to the back of the stage quickly changes back into that lively young lady, much to the relief of her father and guardian.

The finish of the sketch strikes one as being rather unconvincing, but otherwise it is a creditable and entertaining piece of work, and provides ample scope for the versatility of the clever delineator of the principal part, Miss Margaret Parker, who is also the authoress. In the earlier episodes she gave evidence of her ability both as actress and vocalist, and her impersonation of a boy was also skilfully realised. An excellent portrayal throughout. Mr. John Herbert as Thomas Murphy, the kind-hearted old retainer, supplied an admirable impersonation, and the other parts were ably enacted. The sketch was produced under the direction of Miss Kate Rorke, and the music was composed and arranged by Mark Strong and Margaret Parker.

Laughter was in the ascendant during the presentation of the sketch *Her Husband*, the ludicrous behaviour of the burglar as impersonated by that funny comedian Mr. Ernie Lotinga being mainly responsible for the merriment. A very enjoyable interlude in Mr. Fred M'Evoy's bill this week is also that for which Mr. Fred Elton is responsible. In his scena at the piano, "On Board an Ocean Liner," he drolly sings of his courtship with "Kate"—a neatly-written and well-rendered number; contributes a funny medley; and also sings "Ta-hi-hi," his novel and attractive "rubber boom" ditty. "Messmates ashore," is also an entertaining vocal scena, for which the Harmony Boys are heartily applauded; and the Royal Delomes submit a particularly clever and smart dancing act. Miss Cissie Thompson, looking very pretty in turquoise-blue, told in song of the splendid opportunities for "spooning" afforded by the picture shows; the popular and always entertaining Miss Maud Courtney has a couple of humorous numbers that are much enjoyed; and Mr. C., vocalist and raconteur, rattles off his funniosities very effectively, his turn being particularly mirth-provoking. Also in the bill are Bombardier Wells, boxer, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

THE construction of a magic box made for a music-hall artist, named Fredk. Wilkinson, of Crieff-road, Wandsworth, formed the subject of an action at Wandsworth County Court recently. The plaintiff was Edwin Acworth, a builder, of Crieff-road, who claimed £5 17s. 6d. for the frame, which he said he made to Mr. Wilkinson's instructions. It was stated that the apparatus was intended to hold a girl, and when a gunshot was fired the girl was to appear suddenly through a paper screen. While the box was being made the defendant expressed satisfaction with it, and it was not until a year afterwards that he disputed the account. The defendant stated that he complained of the frame while it was being made, and when it was completed it was useless. It weighed over 3cwt., and could not be used on the stage. The Judge found for plaintiff, remarking that defendant had only got himself to blame for going to a builder and giving him such meagre instructions.

AT Marylebone County Court recently, before Judge Sir Wm. Selfe, John Grun Marx, a professional strong man, residing in Camberley-road, Brixton, claimed £57 15s. 4d. from George de Fel, described as general-manager of the Alexandra Variety Agency, Gloucester-mansions, Cambridge Circus, in respect of money lent. Mr. L. Tyfield, counsel for plaintiff, said the parties had been associated professionally, both being connected with the music-hall world. The plaintiff was well known at the halls, and advertised himself as "the Modern Hercules" and "A King of all Strong Men on this Earth." The defendant, as agent, undertook to get him engagements, and, in order to finance his (defendant's) wife, who carried on a millinery business in the West-End, he asked plaintiff to lend him £150. This the plaintiff did, and defendant had repaid £25 of the amount. He had also procured plaintiff engagements, the commission on which amounted to £57 4s. 8d., and the present action was for the return of the balance. Plaintiff, who displayed considerable nervousness in the box, bore out counsel's statement. The defendant did not appear and was not represented, but sent in a medical certificate. His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed and costs.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR AUGUST.

ENGLAND.

1. Appleby (1,800)
1. Bicester (3,023)
1. Bilston (24,034)
1. Birkenhead (110,926)
1. Blackheath (21,000)
1. Brigg (3,137)
1. Burnham (3,532)
1. Calverley (2,678)
1. Cheltenham (49,439)
1. Chertsey (12,762)
1. Clivedon (5,898)
1. Fleetwood (12,000)
1. Garston (17,289)
1. Hampstead Heath
1. Haslingden (18,600)
1. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (22,450)
1. Ilkley (7,755)
1. Jarrow-on-Tyne (34,294)
1. Keighley (40,565)
1. Malvern (16,500)
1. Manchester (Queen's-road)
1. Middlesbrough (91,300)
1. Morecambe (11,798)
1. New Brighton (10,961)
1. Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
1. Northampton (87,008)
1. Old Trafford
1. Portsmouth (189,160)
1. Reigate (26,000)
1. Richmond (Surrey) (31,667)
1. Rushden (12,500)
1. Ryde (11,000)
1. Salford (220,560)
1. Sandford (1,349)
1. Saltaire (5,000)
1. Seaham Harbour (10,200)
1. Shipley (25,570)
1. Southport (48,087)
1. South Shields (97,300)
1. Stafford (20,894)
1. Taunton (21,078)
1. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
1. Windhill (7,352)
1. Wormwood Scrubs
1. Wyke (5,936)
2. Boston Spa (1,200)
2. Dartford (18,642)
2. Hunslet (59,321)
2. Knottingley (5,809)
2. Kingston-on-Thames (34,400)
2. Ludford (714)
2. Otley (9,210)
2. Rodley (2,100)
3. Boston (15,677)
3. Castleacre (1,234)
3. Hanley (61,500)
4. Accrington (43,000)
5. Milnsbridge (4,952)
5. Womwell (13,252)
6. Baslow (1,000)
6. Calow (611)
6. Calver (374)
6. Clay Cross (8,587)
6. Curbar (794)
6. Froggatt (84)
6. Greenhill (525)
6. Heywood (25,000)
6. Longton (35,815)
6. Marple (5,595)
6. Milnrow (5,100)
6. Royton (14,881)
6. Swadlincote (18,000)
6. Tanhill (8,200)
6. Wessington (614)
6. Whitefield (11,500)
8. Crabb's Cross (4,560)
8. Drypool (Hull) (32,000)
8. Featherston (12,092)
8. Horncastle (4,000)
8. Lindfield (2,236)
8. Manningham (45,051)
8. Silsden (4,304)
8. Stanningley (6,706)
10. Denholm (2,913)
11. Brighouse (21,375)
11. Earlestown (9,020)
11. Queensbury (6,416)
12. Mitcham (14,903)
12. Sowerby Bridge (11,477)
12. York (77,793)
13. Astwood Bank (1,462)
13. Barlow (1,110)
13. Bolsover (6,844)
13. Cheetham Hill (35,000)
13. Cowhill Wakes
13. Denton (14,934)
13. Highworth (2,500)
13. Hazel Grove (6,000)
13. Littleboro' (11,166)
13. Littleboro' (Notts.) (53)
13. Stockport (78,871)
13. Whitwell (3,380)
15. Bowling (27,500)
15. Eccleshill (8,500)
15. Kirkstall (4 000)
15. Lelant (1,719)
15. Morley (23,688)
15. Rawdon (3,110)
16. Lowmoor (2,178)
17. Birstall (6,750)
18. Gildersome (3,073)
19. Barnsley (41,083)
19. Paignton (8,385)
20. Ashton-under-Lyne (43,890)
20. Ashbourne (4,750)
20. Bracknell (2,482)
20. Glossop (5,000)
20. Droylesden (11,687)
20. Great Harwood (11,000)
20. Hartlepool (22,800)
20. Mottram (3,128)
20. Newton Heath (31,748)
20. Rochdale (83,112)
20. Saddleworth (12,319)
20. Shaw (5,000)
20. Whittington (9,416)
22. Beeston (19,301)
22. Crediton (3,974)
22. Guiseley (4,558)
22. Horsforth (7,785)
22. Ipswich (66,600)
22. Long Eaton (13,100)
22. Yeadon (7,059)
23. Skipton (11,986)
24. First Lea Fair
25. Cleckheaton (12,523)
26. Bakewell (2,850)
26. Hinckley (11,300)
26. Hooley Hill
26. Irlams-o'-th'-Height (5,000)
26. Shrewsbury (28,396)
26. Strood (12,519)
27. Bradford-on-Avon (4,957)
27. Darlaston (15,391)
27. Darley (804)
27. Dartmouth (6,579)
27. Delph (5,000)
27. Eccles (35,000)
27. Eyam (1,423)
27. Hatton (916)
27. Middleton (25,178)
27. Oldham (137,238)
27. Poynton (2,400)
27. Prestwich (12,830)
27. Romsey (4,365)
27. St. John's Chapel (1,525)
27. Westhoughton (9,356)
29. Bingley (18,438)
29. Farsley (5,500)
29. Halton Feast (2,200)
29. Pudsey (14,907)
29. Watchet (1,881)
31. Ilminster (2,287)

SCOTLAND.

1. Edinburgh (316,522)
2. Alyth (3,000)
2. Cupar (4,511)
4. Kirkcaldy (34,063)
5. Kelso (4,525)
8. Paisley (79,355)
10. Alloa (16,858)
12. Hawick (15,000)
18. Irvine (9,603)
19. Dumbarton (15,046)

WALES.

1. Cardiff (164,420)
1. Merthyr Tydvil (69,227)
1. Mold (4,263)
1. Newport (Mon.) (67,290)
6. Swansea (94,514)
16. Malpas (1,189)

Dewsbury Feast.

With Dewsbury Feast begins the great circuit of Yorkshire Pleasure Fairs, lasting right away, week by week, until the middle of October. The centre of this circuit of popular feasts and local holiday fairs is Leeds. Bradford, too, has many suburban feasts. Around these two great industrial cities of Yorkshire the holidays of the people are governed by the dates of the local feasts. As the big cities have grown they have absorbed the villages that a few years ago dotted the highways between the large towns; the village has become a city suburb, and one excellent result is that the suburban fair of to-day (formerly the village feast) supplies the need of the workers in the great cities for popular open-air amusement. Although Dewsbury is one of the large towns of Yorkshire, its ancient feast still remains in the centre of the town. The advantage of a central site for a fair is well seen at Dewsbury. Nowhere are there greater crowds and nowhere else in Yorkshire is the fair better appreciated than it is in Dewsbury. On Saturday, when we paid our visit to the crowded fairground, unless you moved with the living stream of sightseers you were speedily forced back again. Shows, roundabouts, and stalls were all doing a brisk business, and the good people of Dewsbury were enjoying themselves to the full.

Machine Novelties, Great and Small.

Messrs. Farrar and Tyler's gigantic machine (the pioneer of its kind), the scenic railway, was the star attraction and supreme novelty of the feastground. Goldthorpe Marshall's scenic railway was also a big draw; Redfearn's flying motors—now changed to aeroplanes—were much patronised; Aspland's superb set, the Gordon-Bennett racing motor-cars, well maintained their popularity. P. Collins' Teddy bears and wheeley-whirley cars, Holdsworth's flying pigs and waltzing balloons and helter-skelter tower, and H. Waddington's racing cockerels found crowds of eager patrons. W. Shaw and Dunwell Johnson's sets of steam swings were thronged; Howden's, Seed's, and Gledstone's juvenile sets were the delight of the youngsters. There were also park swings and high fliers.

All Sorts of Shows.

Aspland's splendid cinematograph theatre and Farrar and Tyler's Palace of Light and Picturedrome divided the honours between them for animated picture display and popularity. Prof. Vallo, with occult mystery and conjuring show, C. Relph's abnormal exhibits, P. Collins' haunted castle, Hill's model exhibition, and J. Westray's animal jungle were the principal side shows—all of them good of their kind and doing good business.

Bazaars, Stalls, and Games.

A special feature of Dewsbury Feast is "Bazaar Parade," nearly a thousand feet long—bazaar joining bazaar, stall after stall, "Toyland at the Fair"—a pleasing vision of the children's paradise of fairings that only a few favoured places can show. The toy merchants with their long bazaars were Messrs. Seed, Gledstone, Parkinson, Howorth, and Mrs. J. Seed. Another characteristic feature of the fair was the gingerbread stalls—a big array—and included many local caterers. The travelling pannum firms were Messrs. Wright and Co., Howorth, Geo. Wright, and Parkinson. The funmakers and masters of the revels with throwing games, houp-la circles, watch-la stalls, coker sheets, dolly frames, variety stalls, and shooting ranges and bottle batteries were Messrs. W. Steward, A. Baines, W. Turner, C. Guthrie, J. Holdsworth, Middlebrook, C. Blake, E. Firth, Sowden, B. Duffield, W. Lee, A. Rhodes, and a full score of other caterers.

The Guild Meetings at the Feast.

Owing to the drenching rain on the Feast Sunday, the attendance at the Guild meetings both afternoon and evening were much below the average. At the afternoon meeting Mr. B. Howden occupied the chair, and the prominent showmen present included Messrs. Holdsworth, G. Wright, W. Steward, W. Turner, F. Sowden, A. Rhodes, J. Parkinson, C. Guthrie, J. Handy, J. Westray, and G. A. Howden. There were also present a number of the show employees.

The Guild Chaplain's Speech.

The Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain and Organiser, addressed the meeting on the need for constant vigilance in the work of trade defence. The Guild was their most valuable agency for this necessary and important work. He dealt fully with the various departments of the Guild's Endeavour. He detailed the present highly satisfactory nature of their position—successful all along the line—in Parliament, both with regard to the Movable Dwellings Bill and Private Bills introduced by public bodies, their protective and preventive work with reference to proposed abolition of fairs and new by-laws.

The Difficulty of New By-Laws.

He explained the security of their position and the safety of their methods in dealing with Parliament and with corporations when fairs were attacked. He showed that so long as they kept their parliament scrutiny work effective that no material harm could come to them by inimical proposals under new Bills or by the abolition of Fairs Acts. Their greatest danger was in the possibility (always present under the present law) of bad by-laws coming into existence without the showmen concerned being aware of their proposal until it was too late to prevent their sanction. He asked every showman and stallholder to watch the Press for notices of new by-laws, and to send word at once to the Guild Secretary when such proposals were being discussed by corporations. It was satisfactory that the Guild did get to know through its members and friends most of the proposed new by-laws, but not all. He instanced a recent case where by-laws had been passed without even the saving clause exempting the fair. He hoped for the time to come when the Guild might make a step forward and introduce a Bill of their own remedying the obvious injustice of existing powers to make and enforce by-laws to penalise the show business.

The Increase and Onward March of Their Work.

The time had come, in his judgment, for showmen through their Trade Protection Society to go to Parliament and ask for the amendment of unjust laws that now cripple their industry, and make possible the persecution of showpeople by fanatics and faddists. The Acts of Parliament whereby by-laws might be framed to injure their Association in life ought to be so amended that at least the showman would be warned in time to petition against their manifest injustice.

Enrolment of Members and Subscriptions.

Mr. B. Howden, the chairman, appealed to those present to support the society. Dewsbury was a centre for Yorkshire showmen to join or to renew their subscriptions. He always paid his own annual subscription earlier in the year at Lynn Mart. He would, however, have pleasure in starting the subscription list with 10s.

Mr. G. A. Howden, acting as secretary to the meeting, enrolled the following members:—G. A. Howden, 10s. 6d.; F. Sowden, 10s.; W. Steward, 5s.; A. Rhodes, 5s.; J. Parkinson, 5s.; A. Baines, 5s.; W. Turner, 5s.; C. Guthrie, 5s. Additional subscriptions, B. Howden, 10s.; J. Handy, 1s.

Subscriptions for 1909.

By a mistake on the part of the committeeman who enrolled them, the following members' names and their subscriptions were not sent to the secretary in time to be entered in the list of members for 1909. The matter was put right at the Dewsbury meeting:—E. Firth, 5s.; C. Pullen, 5s.; C. Blake, 5s.; H. Neild, 5s.; E. Wood, 5s.; J. Anakin, 5s.; B. Duffield, 5s.; W. Lee, 5s.; W. Mitchell, 5s.; G. Tarbottom, 5s.; C. W. Webster, 5s.; J. H. Vanner, 5s. The committeeman in question was new to the work, hence the mistake. It will greatly help the Guild Secretary if committeemen will forward a quarterly list of members made to the Guild Office, *The Era*, London.

The Guild Service at Night.

Aspland's beautiful show pavilion was well attended by an attentive and devout congregation a good attendance of showpeople being noticeable. The choir of the Parish Church and members of the choir of St. James's Church led the singing, and the Rev. J. F. L. Orton, senior curate at the Parish Church and assistant hon. local chaplain intoned the service, which was choral throughout. The hymns and responses were most heartily sung by choir and congregation. The Rev. T. Horne was the preacher, and took for his theme the Holy Gospel for the day—the parable of the unjust steward. He applied its many lessons to the showman's use of his talents and gifts—for stewardship of God's good gifts as well as in its general scope to all sorts and conditions of men.

The Rev. T. Horne assisted at the Parish Church services morning and evening, and was the special preacher at evensong. The Vicar of Dewsbury, Canon Harvey, is hon. local chaplain of the Guild, and takes a keen interest in its work.

Sympathy with Alf. Ball.

The flow of subscriptions and expressions of sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball and family continue with unabated fervour. The veteran showman, Lord George Sanger, in sending a donation of five pounds to the fund, writes:—"I have been confined to my bedroom with a severe chill, or I should have written sooner. I wish the fund every success." The local benefit fund and concert at Tilbury Docks is expected to realise about sixty pounds. The concert itself was an immense success, the new booth being crowded to its utmost capacity. Councillor Blair Williams, Esq., chairman of the District Council, presided, and was supported by the Vicar of Tilbury, the Rev. T. Horne (Guild Chaplain), and several members of the Tilbury Council. The chairman, in a sympathetic address, referred in warm terms to the respect felt in Tilbury and district for Mr. and Mrs. Ball. He had no doubt whatever that the crowded audience that night was a tribute of sympathy and respect to a worthy showman in the time of distress and great loss. He was glad to have present the showmen's Chaplain, the Rev. Thomas Horne. It was only right and proper that on an occasion like the present they should have a few words from the showmen's Minister. He therefore asked Mr. Horne to address the meeting.

The Guild Chaplain's Address.

Mr. Horne, on rising to speak, was received with cheers. He told the meeting that the showmen of Great Britain, like the good people of Tilbury, were coming to the rescue of Vice-President Ball, of the Showmen's Guild. They in Tilbury had showed marked kindness to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. He had known them all his working life. From the bottom of his heart he thanked the people of Tilbury for all the good help they had given Alf. Ball. He could assure them that Alf. was worthy of all they had done. Alf. Ball never spared himself for the good of others. It was hardly likely that now, in the dark hour of misfortune and adversity, that Alf. Ball would be forgotten. He expressed his delight at the excellent programme of songs, sketches, and music, and humorously regretted that his singing days were over, for, parson though he was, he loved to see the people in merry mood, and would just as soon help to make people laugh as evoke serious thoughts in speech or sermon.

The Concert a Big Success.

In addition to the regular variety company of Ball's new Lyceum, including such stars as Mme. Olga, Princess Pauline, Nellie Bashford, the inimitable comedian Harry Banford, and others, the world-famous Sully and Saroni, the two Deutchers, gave their Dutch sketch, and secured a double encore. The Misses Sully gave delightful song turns; and Mr. Carter, the author of many popular songs, rendered some topical verse with reference to the Ball's burnt-out show, that created quite a furore of applause. Harry Banford, the Tilbury people's own comedian, could very well have monopolised the whole evening; the same, too, may be said of that miniature pocket edition of Little Tich in petticoats, Petite Princess Pauline; the Brothers Ralston, and several members of Mr. Lill's variety company from Grays gave delightful turns; in fact, a galaxy of star talent. It must be a great consolation to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family to witness the unanimous cordiality and genuine sympathy that meets them on every hand.

Revival of Village Plays and Morris Dances.

To showmen of the older generation the revival of the picturesque morris dancing will come as a pleasant return to the delightful experiences of fifty years ago, when almost all the Lancashire, Cheshire, North Yorkshire, Westmorland, and Cumberland village feasts and wakes were ushered in with dancing and singing by the lads and lasses in their bright-coloured costumes. The folk lore and dialect play is also a welcome revival. The *Yorkshire Post* of July 23 has the following interesting account of a dialect play and morris dancing at Hyning, Westmorland:—

"There, in a picturesque garden, cloistered east and west by trees, with fair full view to the south of the estuary of the Kent and the grey waters of Morecambe Bay, it was my privilege to see to-day enacted a dialect play, entitled *Welcome Home*, which had been written for outdoor performance by Miss Margaret Cropper. Nothing could have been more natural than the opening scene. The hay was on the ground, the haymaking girls came in with their rakes, working in line as they do in our meadows, and, though the wind whistled a little shrilly in the trees above our heads, one was able to enjoy the racy dialect in which they 'cracked on' as they worked, about George Birkett, just returned from Canada with his two thousand pounds in the bank, and the lass he had left behind, fretting for him. Under the haycock, hid from the girls, lay, listening to their talk, a scamp of a tramp, Jimmy Bush by name, who determined before the arrival on the scene of the real 'catch' from Canada, to personate George Birkett and to become the hero of the village.

"The men came very naturally over the wall from the neighbouring hayfield to their mid-day meal and rest, and one watched with great interest the coming of the tramp, who had 'donned' some 'bettermen' clothes, which he had found under a tree, and personated the real traveller from a distance with such success as to be made welcome to the village heart. He drew a long bow at a venture, and told several travellers' tales about a land he had never seen, and the dénouement of the play, when the real Birkett appears upon the scene, was excellent. Lovers of the dialect must congratulate Miss Cropper on the accuracy of the writing, and those who heard it spoken, while delighting in the acting, noticed with interest that there was great difference between the speech of the Northern Dales and the speech of the Southern littoral.

"The play ended, the lawn was cleared of its seats, and the morris dances began. The performance of these morris dances, with the old songs accompanying them, was divided between a band of younger children and the elder girls and men. We have to thank Mrs. Lund for her assiduous teaching and care of the elder group, and Mrs. Argles and Miss Walker for their training of the children, who were very fortunate, too, in having the help of local musicians, who were experts in the matter of accompanying; and the picturesqueness of the red bandana handkerchief of the violinist, with its gypsy look, and the smock and shepherd's hat of the piper, made a fitting addition, giving a finishing touch to the pastorality of the performance.

"A feature of the dress of the men was the old top hat with its gay ribbons, for which, we were told, Eton College had been put under contribution. The sun-bonnet of Westmorland was a fitting headgear for the girls. Among the dances that were given were 'Bean-setting,' 'Country gardens,' 'Riggs of Marlow,' 'Princes Royal,' and 'Trunkles,' and amongst the songs were the well-known ones of 'Mowing the barley,' 'Hares on the mountains,' and 'Blow away the morning dew.'

"In a pause, a man and two maidens showed us how Westmorland clog-dancing should be done. From first to last, the delight of the performers themselves added to the pleasure of the onlookers, and the refinement and simplicity of songs and dance made one feel glad to think England could be well mannered and merry at the same time. The Hyning Fête had a secret for us all, a secret of class mixing with class with a determination to share a common pleasure."

Fossett's Circus on Tour.

Sir Robert Fossett and Sons' circus paid their first visit to Salisbury on Monday last, and were located on the very central site, the Gaol Ground. The weather was very stormy, but did not interfere with the attendance, the tent being packed to its utmost limits in the evening performance. The programme of twenty-three items was one of the best ever seen in the district, and reflects the greatest credit to the management. Mr. Robert Fossett, jun., and Mr. Thomas Fossett gave some marvellous exhibitions of riding, and received a tremendous ovation. Miss Emmie Fossett, who is a very smart horsewoman, introduced two highly trained horses. An excellent wire-walking turn was given by the Two Rennies; the Four Zolas gave a marvellous display of acrobatic feats. Amongst the other artists were the Two Valtrines, trapeze act; Brothers Alpine, high perch act; Les Eschilles, ladder performers; Mons. Otto, hand-balancing and staircase runner; Miss Hilda and her performing pony; the Three Graces, novel hurdle riding. The troupe of clowns were highly amusing, including Comic Otto, Funny Jacko, and Clown Winkle. Mr. Roberts introduced a highly-trained elephant, which delighted the audience. Another smart turn was that provided by Cezar, the fire horse. The performances were brought to a close with a series of living pictures, showing the Funeral of King Edward VII.

White City, Old Trafford, Manchester.

The return engagement of the famous band and pipers of H.M. 1st Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) appears very popular from the large number of visitors who applaud their efforts. Lovely weather still prevails, and the whole of the amusements are in full swing.

The West Riding County Council and Sunday Shows.

The following circular is sent out by the County Council to all their licensees under the Cinematograph Act, 1910. It is of interest to all showmen using inflammable films, whether licensed in the county or not. The new regulation is enforceable as a "local condition" under the Act.

County Hall, Wakefield.
July 15, 1910.

Dear Sir,—

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1909.
Sunday Exhibitions.

I beg to inform you that the West Riding County Council have adopted an additional regulation whereby premises shall not be kept open on Sundays for the purpose of giving cinematograph exhibitions except subject to the following special conditions:—

Applications to give Sunday entertainments on premises licensed under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, shall not be considered unless the application is accompanied by an undertaking from some recognised society or organisation unconnected with the premises concerned to the effect that:—

(1) The entertainment will be properly conducted and not for private gain or by way of trade.

(2) A copy of the agreement entered into by the licensee and the society or organisation giving the entertainment will be supplied to the licensing authority.

(3) The licensee or his servants will have nothing to do with the arrangements for the entertainment (*i.e.*, the engagement of operators or employees, &c.) beyond being responsible to the licensing authority for the observance of the regulations.

(4) None of the persons employed at the licensed premises on week days will have any pressure put upon him or her to assist at Sunday entertainments.

(5) A balance-sheet shall be submitted to the licensing authority monthly and an audited balance-sheet at the end of each series of entertainments.

(6) The rules required to be observed on week days for securing the safety of the audience will be complied with.

(7) The heads of the society or organization will hold themselves responsible for seeing that the assurance given to the licensing authority is adhered to.

This regulation will commence as from the first day of August next.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS ALVEY DARWIN.

Chittock's Empire Cinematograph Show.

Mr. Tom Norman, the well-known show auctioneer, has sent us the following letter for publication:—"Dear Sir,—Owing to certain reasons, Mr. James Chittock's well-known travelling show, the Empire Cinematograph, was withdrawn from the sale by auction at Searle's Fairground, East Croydon, on Tuesday last. The concern is now for sale by private treaty.

"I beg to take this opportunity on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Chittock to sincerely thank those present who so kindly acted on their own generosity and contributed towards a subscription on that occasion, especially Messrs. C. Hyatt, W. and G. Biddall, F. Macklin, W. Slatter, J. Searle, Mrs. John Stroud, and others. It is a great kindness, which goes further to show the sympathetic feeling of one showman towards another, and one that was very much appreciated on the occasion. The concern can now be purchased privately. It can be seen open, and price and all particulars obtained from, yours faithfully, Tom Norman, Auctioneer, *The Era* Office, London, July 26, 1910."

Attercliffe Feast, Sheffield.

This excellent suburban fair was maintained with great success by Mr. G. T. Tuby, of Doncaster, who exhibited his colossal picture palace, motor-car set, and four-abreast galloping horses. The other entertainers were I. Amos, with steam swings and games, Hague's school of boxers, Percival's overboats, Lieske's big wheel, park swings, throwing games, houp-las, and shooters by Messrs. Fisher, Pullen, Calver, Campfield, Walker, Illingworth, Doubtfire, Haye, G. T. Tuby, jun., Middlebrook, and others.

NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HALIFAX.

The conversion of the old Riding School situate in Commercial-street into an up-to-date electric theatre or cinematograph hall is now completed. The National Electric Theatres, Ltd., of 20, Bedford-street, Strand, London, purchased the Riding School from Major A. H. Edwards, J.P., through his agents, Messrs. Richard Horsfall and Son, architects, Halifax. A new floor has been provided and raked, in order to ensure comfort to the patrons.

The main entrance is at the north end of the building, where a handsome marmo loggia has been erected. Passing through either pair of folding doors, one enters a commodious entrance or crush room, 21ft. by 20ft., in which is situate the pay-box. The crush-room is 14ft. high, the floor is of marble mosaic, ceiling of anaglypta, and walls covered with gold and white Japanese paper, relieved with Tyncastle frieze, the general decoration being white relieved with gold.

The manager's office is entered out of the crush-room, whilst the public go forward through a vestibule, 17ft. by 10ft. 6in., into the large hall, 93ft. by 57ft., and 26ft. high. The walls are panelled in fibrous plaster, with usual dado frieze, pilasters, and cornices, and picked out in cream, green, and pink. The ceiling is stencilled out into large panels. There are three electroliers hung from ceiling, and numerous brackets on walls. During progress of pictures the interior will be lighted by numerous red lights.

Ventilation has not been forgotten, and three large electric fans have been fixed in the ceiling, each having separate tubes and roof ventilators, which enables the whole of the air to be renewed in three minutes. The picture panel is on the wall at the south end, and is 21ft. by 16ft. It is, of course, perfectly rigid, and in order to give a perfectly clear picture, and to carry away the smoke, two special inlet ventilators are fixed in the floor just in front of the panel, air being drawn up by a fan overhead. The hall is heated with hot-water pipes running down both sides, in addition to numerous radiators. Apart from the entrance, there are six special exit doors, fitted with panic bolts. The hall will be fitted with 850 tip-up seats, upholstered in red plush. There will be carpet runners between the blocks of seats, and the remainder of the floor will be stained and varnished. There are the usual ladies' and gentlemen's lavatories near the entrance to hall.

The operators and staff have a separate entrance on ground floor, where the motor generator is fixed. The heating and coke cellars, and meter-room are under the lavatories. On the first floor there is a spacious operating room, 22ft. by 16ft., over manager's office and vestibule, with solid 9in. brick walls and concrete floor and ceiling, fireproof door, and automatic iron shutters for the two machines, in case of fire. The store-rooms and winding-rooms are adjoining. The electric lighting of the entrance will be a feature, having forty lights in loggia panels, and fifty lights round arch of same.

The entrance will have electrolier, wall-brackets, and numerous lights over pay-box. There will be several special electric letter signs on the outside, two arc lamps, and gable lights at the south end. The contracts, as let by the architects, Messrs. Richard Horsfall and Son, amount to £2,500. The opening of the theatre to the public took place yesterday.

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

We are confident that Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball's many friends in Showland will sympathise with them in this hour of calamitous loss. The destruction of the costly and beautiful Electric Lyceum by fire at Tilbury Docks last week will be a shock to many people, and its consequences terrible to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. It is no exaggeration to say that the hard work and well-won savings of a lifetime were spent upon the show, and now comes calamity and loss, not by any neglect on their part, but in the mysterious providence of events, struck by lightning and fired. On the Metropolitan circuit of fairs, where Ball's show is a household word, and where Alf. Ball ranks as a leader and champion of Showland, the consternation and grief will be widespread, and the sympathy most personal and real. We trust that response for contributions to the Ball Show Fire Fund will be both immediate and adequate. We strongly commend this matter to the ever generous heart of Showland.

The president of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain writes as follows:—

"To the Editor, *The Era*, Tavistock-street, Strand,

"Dear Sir,

"I shall feel obliged by you inserting the enclosed appeal and opening up a subscription list in *The Era* for the Alf. Ball Fund.

"On Monday, July 4, Mr. Alf. Ball's cinematograph show, whilst located at Tilbury Dock, was struck by lightning, and was completely burnt to the ground. Not being covered by insurance, it has resulted in a most deplorable loss—the life's work of Alf. Ball.

"I have known Alf. Ball for many years—indeed, he is well known to the travellers of the United Kingdom—and have always found him a very hard-working and industrious person, ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need; and now to lose in a few hours what has taken his lifetime to get together is exceedingly sad.

"As president of the Showmen's Guild, I am opening up a subscription list in *The Era*, and feel sure that my fellow travellers will readily respond by contributing what they can so as to make this subscription list a very substantial one, worthy of the fraternity, and one that will show our practical sympathy in our friend Ball's great and heavy loss.

"I am yours as ever,
"Patrick Collins,
"President of the Showmen's Guild."

Mr. Frank Bostock writes:—

"Enclosed please find cheque value £5 5s. for the Alf. Ball Subscription Fund. I am indeed sorry to hear of his misfortune."

In a letter, under date July 9, enclosing a cheque for £5, Mr. Frank Turner, of the Agricultural Hall and Liverpool-road, Islington, writes:—

"Herewith my small contribution to list for Alf. Ball. I am sure every showman will sympathise with a man who was always ready to help others, and I trust you will get a good list.—Yours faithfully,
Frank Turner."

Writing to Mr. Ball, Messrs. Chiappa and Sons, the show organ builders, of London, say:—

"Dear Sir,—We regret very much to hear of your sad loss, and beg your acceptance of the enclosed cheque for £10, being our small subscription to the fund now being raised, and sincerely trust that the other travellers will all do their best to assist you, and that the fund will raise a good substantial amount. Assuring you of our sympathy and desire to assist you at all times.—Yours faithfully,
"Chiappa and Sons.

"London, E.C., July 18, 1910."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—FIRST LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Patrick Collins	10	0	0
Messrs. Chiappa and Sons	10	0	0
Frank Bostock	5	5	0
John Collins	5	5	0
Lord George Sanger	5	0	0
E. H. Bostock	5	0	0
Jury's Imperial Bioscope Co., Ltd.	5	0	0
Frank Turner	5	0	0
Andrew Purchase	2	10	0
C. B. Cochran	2	2	0
Robert Fossett	2	0	0
Joseph Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. E. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. J. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. Denio	1	10	0
J. Bibby and Co.	1	1	0
Mrs. J. Whiting	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Holmes	1	0	0
Mr. Harry Cox	1	0	0
Mrs. Mitchell	0	10	0
"Princess Pauline" (Midget)	0	10	0
T. S. Whiting (Oxford)	0	7	6
C. H. Horton	0	2	6

COLLECTED BY MR. CHARLES THURSTON.

Mr. Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Mr. William Taylor	5	5	0
Mr. J. H. Norman	0	10	0
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	0
Mr. Suett	0	10	0
Mr. Lewis	0	10	0
Mr. W. Westrop	0	5	0
Mr. E. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. W. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. H. Shaw	0	5	0
Mr. C. Summers	0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. John Harris	0	5	0
Mrs. T. Hearn	0	2	6
Mrs. T. W. Bond	0	2	0
Mrs. T. Essam	0	2	0
Mr. Joe Irish	0	2	0
Mr. A. Miller	0	1	0
Mr. P. Rolfe	0	1	0
Mr. E. Brown	0	1	0
Mr. T. Bridgeman	0	1	0
Mr. J. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. E. N. Purkis	0	1	0
Mr. A. Johnson	0	1	0
Mrs. Parkins	0	1	0
Total	£14	16	6

COLLECTED AT HORSHAM FAIR.

Mr. W. Biddall's subscription list of funds for the assistance to Mr. Alfred Ball in his serious loss by fire:

Mr. W. Biddall	1	1	0
Mr. W. Hastings	1	1	0
Mr. C. Andrews	1	1	0
Mr. S. Mayne	1	0	0
Mr. E. Hussey	0	10	0
Mr. Alf. Bond	0	10	0
Mr. W. Bedford	0	7	6
Mr. J. Biddall	0	5	0
Mr. C. Biddall	0	2	6
Mr. G. Biddall	0	3	0
Mr. J. Freeman	0	2	0
Mr. J. Matthews	0	2	0
Mr. T. Smith	0	2	0
Mr. Castle	0	2	0
A. Bond, jun.	0	2	0
A. Taylor	0	2	0
Total	£6	13	0

COLLECTED BY MR. WM. BEACH.

Wm. Beach	5	0	0
W. Beach, jun.	0	10	0
Beach's employees	0	8	6
Mrs. T. Edwards	0	5	0
Miss S. Beach	0	5	0
Miss J. Beach	0	3	0
Totals	£6	11	6

Additional subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Patent Fire-proof Spool Box.

THE New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd., have recently put on the market a patent fire-proof spool box (patent No. 1,876) with adjustable rollers and universal fittings to suit the arms of various makes of machines. The object of the patent spool box is to facilitate the operator's task of re-threading the film on the spools in case a break in the film occurs. In the ordinary type of spool box the body of the box is fitted to the machine arms, but in the above the lid of the box is fitted to the arms, and the body of the box is detachable, leaving the spool absolutely free and so overcoming the difficulty of re-threading the film. The New Bioscope Trading Company have received congratulatory letters from many who have had the boxes fitted to their machines, expressing their complete satisfaction with same.

New Fire-proof Spool.

THE same company have also lately put a fire-proof spool on the market. In this spool the cheeks are separated by four stout brass pillars in place of the wooden core, and to these pillars a brass spring is fitted, but so arranged that to thread the film one has simply to press the spring down and slip the film through—a much easier method than having to thread the film under the spring. Full particulars and prices of these patented articles may be had on application to the New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd., 1 to 5, Cecil-court, W.C.

The Last Muster.

THE latest amount received by the Gaumont Co. on behalf of the Balaclava Survivors' Fund is £1 10s. 1d., which comes from Mr. Bert Bailey, of the Victoria Theatre, Kettering, and is the result of a collection taken up at the exhibition of the above film.

Goodwood on the Bioscope.

FOR the third year in succession, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon has afforded facilities to Mr. Alfred Butt, the managing director of the Palace Theatre, to present on the Urbanora Bioscope special pictures depicting the racing at Goodwood.

New Kinemacolor Picture.

AT the Palace Theatre, where "Kinemacolor" holds firmly the favour of the appreciative, a new subject which makes no pretence to represent an event of importance, but is unusually rich and abundant in the technicalities of natural-colour cinematography, has just been added. Horses fording the river Adur (the stream at Shoreham which visitors to Brighton pass on a trip towards Worthing) are pictured with such real sincerity of tone and colour that the film makes an instant appeal to the spectator. Of course, the splendid scenes of the Cedric at sea remain in the programme.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

IN this week's programme at the above theatre the following attractive films have been included:—Salt Fish (Gaumont), Trip on Historical River Midway (Walturdaw), Foolshead on Temperance (Itala), The Awakening of Bess (Brockless), A Quiet Pipe (Lux), College Boys in Camp, Lake Temagami, Northern Ontario, Canada (Butchers), The Poorlucks take part in a Pageant (Hepworth), The Little Doctor of the Foothills (Essanay), and Pathé's Animated Gazette, including all the latest topicals.

Child of the Ghetto.

A POPULAR picture at many of the cinematograph theatres this week is The Child of the Ghetto, a realistic story of a little American Jewess. This film is a big attraction in the interesting programme at the Picture Palace at Marble Arch, as is also the artistic coloured picture of In the Time of the Pharaohs, Mamma's New Dog, Betty and the Ball of String, and a Portrait are other entertaining films.

Bradford and the Johnson-Jeffries Fight.

BRADFORD is to have no cinematograph pictures of the great prize-fight in America. When resolutions were being sent to the Bradford City Council from various bodies protesting against the nightly enactment of such a spectacle there was a feeling that these would prove unavailing, the authorities, it was urged, being powerless to interfere in what was a matter of good taste rather than of public order. However, the question was referred to the Fire Brigade and Licensing Committee, and the outcome of this was an interview between the Chief Constable and the managers of the various places of amusement. Mr. Farndale's tactful suggestions found a ready response from Mr. Sidney Carter, on behalf of St. George's Hall, and after so excellent a lead the other representatives had no difficulty in falling into line.

"Midsummer Night's Dream."

AUDIENCES at the Clacton-on-Sea Operetta House this week are delighted with a programme of very fine films, that of greatest interest being a magnificent production of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Michael Strogoff, First Love is Best, and A Child's Forgiveness, are also subjects of great excellence.

Croydon Electric Theatre.

AN up-to-date and varied series of animated pictures are being shown at the Croydon Electric Theatre, and win approval.

New Electric Theatre at Derby.

THE directors of the Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd., opened their new Electric Theatre, Babington-lane, on Wednesday afternoon, when the principal citizens of the borough were their guests. A special programme of the wonderful Kinemacolor pictures was presented, and the novel entertainment was greatly enjoyed.

Dundee Picture Palaces.

CAPITAL picture programmes are submitted at the Palace and Empire Theatres, Dundee, an exciting film being A Daring Performance, in which a famous lion-tamer is seen putting his troupe of twenty-two lions through their paces. A very interesting picture is A Military Tournament by the 7th (Queen's Own) Hussars, the various exercises of the soldiers being very clearly depicted. The programme also includes Percy the Cowboy, The Cowpuncher's Ward, The Tongue of Scandal, The Stolen Heir, &c.

Edinburgh Picture House.

A NEW cinematograph theatre, situated at 111, Princes-street, Edinburgh, which has been in course of construction during the past few months, was opened on the 20th inst. by Sir Robert Cranston, K.C.V.O. The place will be known as the Edinburgh Picture House. It is one of a numerous group being started all over the kingdom by the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres (Limited), of which Sir William Bass is the chairman. It is constructed in the building lying immediately between the Conservative and Liberal clubs. It is seated for 330 people, is handsomely furnished and decorated, and is ventilated on the most modern principles, the air in hot weather being introduced over ice chambers and pumped into the building by electric fans, while provision has been made for heating the air before entering in winter.

Hastings Picture Palaces.

THE pictures at the Pelham Hall, Hastings, attract many visitors, who are well pleased with the topical selections provided by Mr. T. C. Daly, the manager. At the Electric Theatre in Wellington-place, good business is being experienced; and at the Electric Theatre of the American Palace Pier, St. Leonards, it is one of the attractions provided by the management for an all-day entertainment.

King's, Kirkcaldy.

A GOOD display of pictures is being exhibited at the New King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, this week. The spools containing Indian Tribes, Flossie's Theft, The Guerilla, and The Winning of Father, are highly appreciated. Other pictures are Treachery, Five Minutes to Twelve, Father Busy Papering, Mary was a Housemaid, The Old Maid and Burglar. Crowded houses are the rule.

Liverpool Justices and the Reno Fight.

THE Liverpool city justices at their meeting on Tuesday had under consideration the question of exhibiting in the city moving pictures of the Reno prize fight. It was reported that, pending the decision of the bench on the matter, the clerk to the magistrates had communicated with the licensees of halls in the city asking them for the time being not to exhibit pictures, and all of them had complied with the request. At Tuesday's meeting of the magistrates the following resolution was passed:—"That in the opinion of the justices of the peace of this city the public exhibitions at places of entertainment in Liverpool of pictures representing the recent prize fight at Reno is undesirable, and that the proprietors of halls in this city holding the justices' cinematograph licence be so informed."

Penzance Picture Palace.

WITH a capital all-round show of pictures and a change of programme twice weekly business at the Picture Palace, Penzance, should continue brisk. Excellent films during the past week include: A Story of Military Life, In Birdland, French Airship, The Republic, and Foolshead.

Bramley Feast, Leeds.

THIS famous feast was held last week-end under good conditions as to weather and business. The shows at the feast were Marshall and Son's picture palace, Farrar's mirth city, Bailey's circus, and Sid Ali, the Eastern mystic with Esoteric magic. The machine list included Waddington and Son's motor cars, steam yachts, and helter-skelter tower, Marshall and Son's roundabout, Morley and Son's flying gondolas, and Seed's juvenile motor cars. Houp-la circles, throwing games, stalls, coker sheets, dart boards, and shooting ranges by Messrs. Jameson, Cooper, Towers, Redfearn, Daly, Vanner, Brooks, Thompson, and Seed. There were numerous toy and pannum stalls by local and other stallholders.

THE Roundabouts, Shows, &c., appearing on the Sutton-in-Ashfield Market Fair Ground have been Hall and Procter's steam motors, A. Proctor's razzle-dazzle, Hy. Hall's steam horses, a few juvenile motors, Jno. Proctor's Cinematograph, Makin's athletic booth, several small shows, helter-skelter, a few houp-las, Hall's shooters, Bell's and others Emmas, skittles; cokernut shies by J. Whiting, A. Hall, and others; ginger-bread stalls by F. Westrop, H. Hall, A. Proctor, and Mrs. Chapman; Bazaars, stalls, joints, strikers, &c. For the first time during a great number of years Twigdon's were absent. During the first two or three days the weather was bad. There has been a large number of people about in the evenings, when a large amount of business was done; but daytime has been exceptionally slack.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, JUNE 21.—Messrs. Clarke and Meynell presented at the Criterion on the 18th *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* to an immense audience, many being turned away. The prospect of seeing Miss Hutin Britton and Mr. Matheson Lang free from the gloom and immodesty of *Pete* was the attraction. Every tilt at the petty meannesses of the landlady of the boarding house, and the generally tainted life of all concerned, was eagerly welcomed, and when the curtain fell upon a scene of moral regeneration, the audience enthused, and called again and again for the artists who had so well interpreted Jerome K. Jerome's comedy, and Mr. Matheson Lang made a speech, a wearisome custom of recent birth here, and congratulated the audience on its appreciation of the objective of the author.

Mr. Lang was the Reformer, Miss Britton the slavey 'Stasia, each being exactly the character. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw made Major Tompkins the rampant bully and repentant husband, a most enjoyable portrait. Miss Nellie Mirtyné brought vividly to our memories samples of the boarding-house-keeper of our experience. Miss Maggie Knight was "the shrew, the shrew, and nothing but the shrew," and a deliciously natural and unconventional Jew was Mr. Arthur Styan's Samuels. The raucous-voiced bookmaker was turned over to Mr. Tom Cannam, who did him justice. Miss Edith Deverell jilted her lover as Jerome intended her to do, and Mr. John W. Deverell (also stage-manager) was a despicable cad as Larckom, and all the smaller parts were conscientiously acted. Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell have put on this new bill with exhaustive completeness.

"A DOLLAR PRINCESS," in its high summer at Her Majesty's, keeps Poling's box-office hard at work. The J. C. Williamson firm has so well cast this clever musical trifle that the most critical are disarmed. Bert Gilbert, W. S. Percy, Olive Goodwin, Roland Hogue, and all the rest of the crowd of clever folks keep the harmony and fun going at a fast rate all the time.

"HENRY OF NAVARRE," the melodramatic distortion of French history, with its wild romance and exciting events, holds the Theatre Royal with a firm grip. Mr. Julius Knight is at home as the blustering Henry, safe when so many better men were being slaughtered, and Miss Susie Vaughan makes Catharine de Medici live again for our ardent execration. Miss Katharine Grey is still Marguerite de Valois by virtue of her persistent art, and all else, loyal and hard-working, help to tell the story, *quantum valeat*, of the St. Bartholomew slaughter.

THE TIVOLI has Charlene and Charlene back again, received with a hearty welcome. They are prodigious favourites. Miss Lillie Langtry has also returned for a short farewell season. Mendel, the blind pianist, has roused music-lovers to a pitch of delighted excitement. Mr. Harry Rickards has given his patrons no more genuine treat in all his catering career. Billy Williams and all the rest compete for public favour.

WEST'S PICTURES, Spencer's Theatrescope, the Bijou, and the scores of suburban picture places are all showing Royal Funeral films to very large audiences. Mr. Laurence Campbell, the elocutionist, has completed a series of six weekly recitals at the Y.M.C.A. Hall to large audiences. Mlle. Dolores will be publicly welcomed at the Town Hall on the 30th, and begins her concerts on July 2.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.
Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,
THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 27, April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Jan. 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Oct. 10.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5; 13, 14, 15; 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 19 (?), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28 (?), Xmas Panto. (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c Re dates, JAY AND MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5 19, Xmas on, with exceptions. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 8, 15, 22, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
Lessees and Managers, JAY and MANN.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedy preferred, for Sept. 12 and 19. This Theatre plays to very fine business in Aug. and Sept., and holds £100 at popular prices.
Address,
HERBERT JAY, Wyndham's Theatre, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, new to Stratford, Aug. 8.
A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, London, E.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 29, possibly Oct. 3, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, Jan. 12, 1911.
Mr. Gar Kiddie is again producing Pantomime Christmas week.
The New Opera House is the most popular place of entertainment in the town.
Open all the year round.
Wanted, Musical and Farcical Comedies, Jan. 23, onward.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Opera House, Harrogate.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Sept. 26, unexpectedly vacant, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
WM. MORTON.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.
WANTED, Known, through re-arrangement, have the Season Date, Sept. 12, Vacant for First-class Company.
Address, JAS. BUCK, Sec.,
30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards. Communications, C. A. SEEBOLD.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, Aug. 29.
Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 25, Aug. 15, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 52 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 amperes available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, onward with exceptions.
Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.
BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."
All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Sept. 29 (3, with Tunbridge Wells), Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Grand Re-opening date, Aug. 15.
Vacant later, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3 (3), 13 (3), 17, and various onwards.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for Autumn, 1910, Smart Pantomimes for 1911, and powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions. This theatre is now being redecorated, restaged, and reseated in the most up-to-date manner, regardless of expense, and will be under the personal direction and supervision of Mr. Arthur C. Moody.
Touring Managers may be assured thereby that no effort will be spared to make it a huge financial success.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
Wanted, Strong Company, for Aug. 8, Aug. 8, Aug. 8, 1910, also
First-class Companies for 1911 (with a few exceptions.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND THEATRE, W. HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (no Dramas).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 8 and 15, Aug. 29 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 8 (3 nights).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Sept. 12 and 19 possibly Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Address as above.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, Aug. 22.
Address,
RICH. WALDON, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Oct. 3.
Address, CHARLES REVILL.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Sole Lessee, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, good Theatrical Attractions, Aug. 22, 29, Oct. 10, and Later Dates.
PALACE, PORTH.
Sole Lessee, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
Wanted, Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 26, and later. All communications re dates, WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

WANTED, Real Attractions, Aug. 29, Oct. 17, on, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 22 (holiday), Sept. 26, Oct. 17, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. F. HUGHES, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, 22 (3-night Season Dates, not Drama), T. R., Margate.
WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 10, 24.
Apply, Mr. JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Derby, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and good printing; twice nightly, Sept. 5. on. Lowest terms by letter to T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 15 (6 nights), 22 (3). W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Aug. 15 (3 or 6), 22 (3), Sept. 1 (3), 5 (3), Oct. 10 (3 or 6).
W. E. POTTS.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, unexpectedly, Sept. 5 three nights, First-class Musical Show or really good Comedy. Wire or write, MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Sept. 12.
Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug. 15, 22, 29, and intermediates on. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 22 (Race Week) and Sept. 12 (3 nights).
Wire, MANAGER, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 8 and 15, Sept. 19. A. D. VERNON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 1, 15 (?), 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 15, 28, Jan. 9, 23 (?), Feb. 13, 27 (?), March 13, April 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn (1911) dates. Good Pantomime for two weeks at Christmas.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 8, Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several Autumn (1911) dates.
GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.
GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5. Several dates Autumn, 1911.
Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
One of the handsomest up-to-date Theatres in the country. Holding capacity 3,500. Money capacity nearly £200; visited by all the principal Companies and Stars in the Theatrical World; vacant Aug. 15 (race week, Musical Comedy preferred, one of the biggest weeks in the year), Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
This handsome Theatre opens Aug.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 5, and Oct. 17. All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 5 and 19, Newcastle, also Sept. 5, London.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, London, S.W.
LINCOLN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, and 31.
GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.
Vacant Oct. 3 and 24.
CHESTERFIELD.—CORPORATION THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 12 (3 nights), Oct. 10 (last three) and 31 (first three), Nov. 14 and 21.
NEWARK.—NEW THEATRE.
Various Dates Vacant from Oct. 3.
LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Jan. 2 (?) and April 3.
DUMFRIES and HAWICK.
Vacant Sept. 5 and 19.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, owing to alteration in opening arrangements, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
Aug. 8 and 15, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
Aug. 29, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
For these and other Autumn Vacancies at Coatbridge, Falkirk, Motherwell, Ayr, Leith, &c., apply R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
Also Palaces at Barry Dock, Kettering, Lough borough, Neath, Bradford, Rugby, Exmouth, &c.
The above entirely New Theatre will open about the middle of August. Lighted throughout with Electric Light, Seating Capacity about 1,600, situated in the centre of a densely-populated district. Neath has been waiting for a theatre for years, and business is bound to be most excellent.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies, Aug. 15 (?), 22 (?), 29 (?), Sept. 19, Oct. 17 (?), 24, Nov. 7, on, also one or two First-class Pantomimes, either share or certainty. All communications re dates, with copy of day bill, to WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.
WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 22, 29, and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

HIPPODROME, STOKE.
Dramatic Season, Twice Nightly. Sept. 12, 19, & 26.
WANTED, Good, Sound Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery. State lowest certainty terms. No heavy printing account.
ARTHUR BURTON, Palace Theatre, Cardiff.
WANTED, a First-class Attraction, Sept. 5, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for Aug. 1 (unexpectedly vacant), First-class Attraction.
Silence polite negative.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, through change of arrangements, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 22 and 29; also Vacant, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, Aug. 15 and 29, through obliging Manager.
Apply,
TRENCHARD, Theatre, Pontypridd.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, good Attractions, Musical and Dramatic, most dates vacant this year and onwards owing to change of management.
All communications,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court.
WANTED, Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness; open Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.
WANTED, for Camberwell Empire, good Drama that can play one hour or half-an-hour, twice nightly. Wires, CISSIE LAWSON, Theaterbau, London.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Vaudeville Combinations for Aug. 8, also Sept. 12, and 19.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.
WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Aug. 8, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 26, onwards.
See article in this week's "Era."
Apply, AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, Dec. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6, 13.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, on, Big Company, Chorus, Specialities. New Plant of Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal Barnsley.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12,
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, various onwards.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco.
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON, Creek Side, East Molesey.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 17 (follow Norwich), Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Admitted by Press and Public to be one of the biggest money-makers touring.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire,
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for Sept. 19 (North), Oct. 17 and 24 (Midlands or South),
Address, CECIL BARTH, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres for Nov. 21 and 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Curbar Cottage, Moor-lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Lancs. or Yorks. preferred, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 24.
HORACE STANLEY, Grand T., Nottingham (2 weeks).

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Aug. 29 (three nights), Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2. HALDANE CRICHTON, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy, from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres. Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 15 (South Coast), Sept. 5, onward.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (between Glasgow and Doncaster). New Production shortly.
"THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT."
GEO. A. DE GRAY, Palace T., Newcastle (2 weeks).

MISS NORA CARTON'S COMPANY.
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
Russell Vaun's Latest and Greatest Dramatic Success. Played, Staged, and Advertised.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 12, 19, and 26, also Oct. 10 and 31.
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Theatre Royal, Ashton-u-Lyne.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S COMPANY,
"EASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 15, 22, to follow T. R., Bradford.
Address, 36, Cedars-street, Cheetham, Manchester.

ERNEST SHIEL-PORTER'S High-class Répertoire Co., under the direction of Mr. J. A. Whitehouse. "Caste," "Sleigh Bells," "Snug Little Kingdom," &c.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 15, on, with exceptions, Lancs. or Yorks. preferred.
J. A. WHITEHOUSE, 17, Egerton-cres., Withington, Manchester.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Shirley and Landeck.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, and on. See page 2. J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., Woolwich, S.E.

Mr. OSWALD CRAY'S Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play, "WHEN IT WAS DARK" (by arrangement with T. Morton Powell). Opened to packed houses Monday last, at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, immediately booked by W. W. Kelly, Esq., at Kelly's magnificent Theatre, in Liverpool.
WANTED, Known, the Only Vacant Dates this year are: Oct. 17, 24, and Xmas week; also Jan. 16, 1911, and various on. OSWALD CRAY, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

The new Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, good Theatre, Aug. 29, only vacant week this year.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Oct. 10, 17, 31, Dec. 5, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates
Oct. 31, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted. Dates
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 10, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Production
Jan. 16, 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
Revival of
Messrs. Sims and Shirley's
Heart Play.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 2, 9, 30 (?), Feb. 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and her own
London Company,
in
New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 16, 23, 30. MORTON POWELL
(for dates only), Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7,
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever. As to business refer, among others, F. Morgan, Esq., Marriot Watson, Esq., Sydney Cooper, Esq., F. Warden Esq., Robert Redford, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq. Vacant Aug. 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, and on, with exceptions. Managers requiring a sound Attraction and sure money-maker, write or wire, TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Aug. 1, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

"UNDER THE IRON HEEL."
MR. WILSON HOWARD AND CO.,
including MISS CARLOTTA ANSON.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 28, Xmas, Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 27, March 27, and Easter, for this First-class Military Drama; superb production. Refer; refer.
WILSON HOWARD, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 5 and 19,
"The Prodigal Parson."
Mr. W. V. GARROD, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, for E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "King and the Unknown Woman," Oct. 31.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, c/o "The Era."

Mr. BASIL HORSFALL'S CO., in the New Comic Opera, "QUEEN OF THE FAIR." Excellent cast, including Harry Parker. Strong chorus. Entire Production carried.
WANTED, Sept. 12, Sept. 19, and Oct. 3. Communication re dates to WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND COMPANY, in the Funniest Play of the day,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 22 (three nights, South), Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26 (three nights, Midlands), Nov. 14, 21 (North).
Aug. 1, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

The Comedy Theatre Success,
"SMITH," by W. Somerset Maugham.
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 19.
PERCY HUTCHISON,
Opera House, Southport.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 29,
Sept. 5 (three nights),
for the 'Liza who is always laughing.
"LUCKY 'LIZA."
DICKIE CLARE, Hip., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, all Managers to know that John Barrett produces his new Drama, "Brothers, or Why Women Weep," at the Public Hall, Haslingden, to-day (July 30). Company includes Mr. Harry Cullenford. Printing by Moodys and Willsons. Vacant Aug. 15 (to follow Sandbach, Ches.). SAGER, 39, Belbeck-street, Elton, Bury.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S PANTOMIME.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
WANTED, Jan. 2 and 23.
Address, Brixton Theatre.

WANTED, Aug. 15, 22, follow T. R., Belfast, Miss Udall's Company in "Beneath the Stars." Wire or write, COLEMAN DAVIES, Manager, Star, Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, for First-class Pantomime.
BRYDON-PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

WANTED, Theatre for Oct. 31, for "Fighting Chance," to oblige.
Apply, POPULAR PLAYHOUSES, LTD.
Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
First-class Theatres or Music Halls, and Star Artists only. Lowest terms, immediate time.
This week, R.T., Barrow.
Next week, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Theatres for the Variety Combination Company. Enormous successes at Worcester, Peterborough, and Darlington, last week and this. Bookings on approved terms. Good results guaranteed. Splendid Tops and First-class Company. For terms apply, 91, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Telephone No. 6365 Central.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, for Variety Combination,
Aug. 22, onwards.
Address, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "Webb's Notions," the strongest Combination on the road. A West End Bill.
MOORE and BURTZ, 7, John-street, Strand.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted for this Great Attraction, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres, Oct. 3, onwards, with exceptions.
PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
LOUIS MEYER'S CO.
MR. LEONARD PAGDEN
and
MISS FLORENCE LLOYD.
Entire Garrick Theatre Production travelled.
New and Magnificent Dresses by Marcus, New Bond-street, W.
WANTED, Theatres, for only vacant dates this year, Sept. 26, Nov. 28 (North), Dec. 5.
Mr. Meyer holds the entire rights of "The Woman in the Case," with the exception of certain small towns leased to Miss Florence Tyrrell.
All communications,
F. CLIVE ROSS, 13, Old Burlington-st., Mayfair, W.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON,
T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
WANTED, good Theatres,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
Sept. 5, unexpectedly vacant, Nov. 7 (?), and various Spring.
"LAUGHING 'LIZA."
a New Musical Farce, by the author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Vacant Jan. 9, to follow Wigan; Jan. 23, to precede Warrington; Feb. 13, to follow St. Helens; Feb. 27, to precede Halifax; March 27, to follow Bury; and various on. Address,
Miss FLORENCE BAINES, Metropole, Devonport.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7.
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Dates, for this Gigantic Vaudeville Combination,
Nine Star Turns, La Valti and Company, in "Sprites of the Foam," Matheson and Johnson, in "A Gentleman Thief," Sisters Rosalind, Edward Mortimer, Lightning Cartoonist, Vent., and Humorist, Six Beautiful Gipsy Girls, Carmencita, Bioscope, Geo. Reeves (Comedian), Connie Duprez (Comedienne), The Great Amonda's Pantomime Company, in the "White Statue."
Three kinds of special Pictorial Printing, over two tons of Scenery and Props carried by this Company, representing a salary list of £175.
Vacant Aug. 8 and onwards, with exceptions.
MORTIMER, 49, Gartmoor-gardens, Wimbledon Park-road, London, S.W.

VERA DE ASTRA,
VERA DE ASTRA,
VERA DE ASTRA,
in her Most Sensational Original Creation,
"A DREAM OF THE YEAR,"
"A DREAM OF THE YEAR,"
"A DREAM OF THE YEAR,"
a Wonderful Combination of High-class Dancing and Picturesque Visions,
supported by the Famous Dancer, Mlle. Baranoff, and the Great Premier Dancer, Mr. Kund Frityof, from the Royal Opera, Copenhagen.
WANTED, Immediate Dates Only, from Aug. 8. A Sure Draw for Every Theatre.
Offers to L. LASERNO, Manager, 1, Litchfield st., W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, for Musical Comedy, good Comedy Character Gentleman, first-class Ladies and Gentlemen, good voices and appearance (for parts), neat Specialities, good Male and Female Chorisers. Terms, refs., and photos., to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Important. Give permanent address.

THE "TEMPLE" MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC BUREAU AND ACADEMY.
203, STRAND.
Entrance side door Essex-street.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Chorus and Principals,
for Musical Comedy and Pantomime.
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Refined Amateurs and beginners.
The services of Mr. Will Cutler, late Stage-Manager and Producer, Lyric, Shaftesbury, Prince of Wales, and Comedy Theatres, &c., have been secured to superintend the management of the Academy attached to this Bureau, where Dancing, Singing, Stage Deportment, &c., are thoroughly taught at moderate fees.
Engagements arranged, plays and sketches produced, Tours booked.
No premiums. Salaries for all Engagements.
Office hours, 11 to 4.
Call or write immediately.

FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANY.
"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN."
WANTED, for Tour, to support Mr. John Child, open Sept. 5, rehearse in London Aug. 25, good Baritone for Juvenile Part, also Soprano, Juvenile Lady, Heavy Gent, Soubrette (Negress part); all must be artists of ability. State experience, height, lowest terms, and enclose photo. with stamped envelope for return.
BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

WANTED, several experienced Artists, for Stock Season of Society Plays at Paignton; also Amateur Lady and Gentleman. Photos., lowest terms, to GERARD WINNE, Runnacleave's Theatre, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Juvenile and Heavy Lead, Lady and Gentleman, Child, also good Low Comedy Man and Woman. Apply by letter only, GLENVILLE, 317, High Holborn, W.C. Photos and lowest terms essential.

"THE BISHOP'S SON." On Tour.
WANTED, a Good, Responsible Gentleman. Must be Tall, Good Appearance, and have Good Voice. Apply (by letter),
Mr. WENTWORTH CROKE, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, several Ladies and Gentlemen, to complete Company, for Farmer Skein's Tour. Apply, letters only, Box 8,060, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady and Gent to play Responsible Parts, and a Lady and Gent to play Small Parts. Letters only, NORMAN V. NORMAN, 113, London-road, St. Leonards.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, short stout lady, strong voice essential, for broken German character part. Call to-day, 11 to 1, STUDIO, 246A, Marylebone-road, N.W.

WANTED, young, refined Musical Comedy Actress, for Principal in Vaudeville Playlet; good looks essential. Apply, stating experience, terms, to Box 8,070 "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Juvenile Leading Actress, open King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All particulars, photographs, references, height,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 33, Hosack-rd., Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, for First-class Pantomime, Feb. 6 and 13, Only Vacant Dates.
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Child Actress, look 12, but over 14, small boy's part. Full particulars, FREDERIC BAUGH, Foresters' Music Hall, E.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, a Leading Gentleman.
Address, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Smart, Tall Juvenile Man, Tour. White Swan, Tudor-street, Whitefriars, E.C. Apply up till 5 p.m. to-day (Saturday).

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, tall, powerful Heavy Man. Particulars to A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"UNDER THE IRON HEEL."
WANTED, First-class Heavy Man, Military part, capable of Big Sword Fight. State age, height, chest, latest refs., and lowest terms, with photo., WILSON HOWARD, Queen's T., Dublin.

WANTED, Versatile Character Comedian, robust type, for Tanner, in "The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown" and other parts; also Juvenile Lady. LEIGH LOVEL, Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, good Comedian, through sudden illness, "Life for Life" Tour; rehearse at once. Open Monday. Wire, LESTER, 8, Pollitt-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Lady Amateur, with good Singing Voice, for Provincial Tour. No premium; no salary. Railway fares paid after joining. T. M., Box 8,049, "The Era."

WANTED, several good Chorus Ladies (good figures and not too short), also good Soprano and Contralto, for Continental Tour. Photos and lowest terms essential. Letters only, GLENVILLE, 317, High Holborn, W.C.

WANTED, Lady or Lady and Gentleman (known Operatic Artists), Soprano and Tenor or Bass, must be good, and able to influence bookings, or useless, to take charge of Operatic Scena, already produced and booking up, or would sell or lease same to responsible persons. Box 8,043, "The Era."

WANTED, a Bass Chorister, for "The Cingalee."
HALDANE CRICHTON, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, a good Baritone Vocalist, for Paul's Season Band.
Lynmouth.
Terms, shares.

WANTED, Brilliant Pianist (gentleman), able to arrange, memorise, &c.; also Comedian, Tenor, for well-known Entertainers. Call immediately. KELSON TRUEMAN, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO., Established 1888.
WANTED, for Seasons 1910-11, Artists in all Lines, Good Specialities, Funny Comedians, Soprano and contralto, baritone (interlocutor), and Sisters. Full particulars, lowest terms first letter, to J. H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED by good Powerful Ballad Soprano (also Accompanist). Engagements, Sundays.
EMILIA, 36, Elsham-road, Kensington, London, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Principals, Comedians, Knockabouts, Dancers, Troupes, Chorus Ladies, Juveniles, and Artists, all Lines, for Panto. 1910-11. Photos. refs., and where working to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Important. Give permanent address.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, Christmas, for "Dick Whittington" (twice nightly) Pantomime, also Comedians. Long Tour.
References, photos., to
ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, some Smart Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes. Long Tours.
Not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, references to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Producer or Conductor, for Pantomime; experienced and reliable; own script if required, any subject. Box 8,058, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade.
A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, clever, imaginative, and vivid Painter, experienced in Oriental colouring. Send specimen sketch (returnable). SEARS, Palace, Blackburn.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
BERNASCONI'S, LTD., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
TOWNSEND and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. WILL MOLESWORTH, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by Davies Massee, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, High-class work only, at Liberty Aug. 8.
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for Grand T. and Hippo., Leek, an experienced Acting-Manager, used to Dramatic, Variety, and Pictures. Letters only, before Aug. 6, stating age, experience, and wages required, copies of not less than three refs., and when able to commence. MANAGER, 6, Ford-street, Leek.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Young Gentleman as Assistant Acting-Manager, must be good appearance and willing to take small salary to commence. Apply immediately, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Manager, for a well-known Provincial Theatre;
Gentleman used to full licence; must be experienced, and have exceptional references. Gentleman appointed would have to pass guarantee society.
Residence free of taxes and lighting would be provided. Write, stating full particulars, age, whether married or single, experience, salary required, and whether teetotaler, to
Box 8,067, "The Era."

WANTED, for Music Hall, London, Staff Assistant-Manager, young, one used to the clerical and book-keeping; thoroughly experienced, to start at once. Apply, stating age, salary required, and references, Box 8,041, "The Era."

WANTED, sober, reliable Advance Agent, for Irish Tenting Show. References, terms, and full particulars, Bosco, 470, Dudley-road, Birmingham. Allow time for re-directing letters.

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
WANTED, smart Young Man, to do Billing, &c. Communications to
ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, smart Youth, for Billposting, Cleaning, and to make himself useful.
HAL CUMMINGS, Palace Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Young Lady as Box-Office Keeper for Suburban Theatre. Must be thoroughly experienced in the duties. Apply, age, recent testimonials, to Box 8,061, "The Era."

WANTED, offers for re-engagement as Press Manager and Publicity Expert, by W. D. Nixon, late Press Manager of Olympia, London, also to American Roller Rink (Crawford and Wilkins), International Horse Show, Richmond Horse Show, Zbysco, &c. Creator of some of the biggest "stunts" of recent years. Syndicate or Artists personally; or is open to General-Managership Skating Rinks or Picture Palaces. Late General London Manager American Roller Rink Co.
Address,
Welcome Club, Westcliff-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager, Secretary, or Treasurer. Fully qualified. LILIAN DOD (late of Ipswich, Lyceum, and Broadway, New Cross), York House, Stornoway-road, Southchurch, Essex.

WANTED, by Gentleman with considerable Provincial experience, Employment as Business or Assistant-Manager, or Stage-Management in London theatre. Highest references from leading Managers. Apply, Box 8,071, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Props, Baggage, &c., highest refs. and exp.; industrious worker, thoroughly reliable; life abstainer; 5ft. 8in. Wire or write, READ, T. R., Margate.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bill Inspector, Window Biller, and Attendant; 24 years Hippo., Sheffield; good refs. Wire or write WATKINSON, 159, Warham-street, Kennington, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical-Director, capable of composing and arranging effective, striking Oriental music; to such, an excellent Engagement, or would buy music. SEARS, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, a First-class Musical-Director, for Variety business. References, terms, to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, for Tour with a Musical Comedy-Drama, opening Sept. 5, rehearse in London Aug. 25, young Conductor, able to arrange. State experience and lowest terms to BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

WANTED, for Empire, Dublin, Sub-Conductor (Violin), also Double Drummer, with own Tympani and Effects. Lowest terms and latest refs. to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Leader, Solo Cornet, and Bass, to open Aug. 1. Refs., age, and terms to HEYES, Musical-Director, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, immediately, thoroughly experienced Violinist and 'Cellist, for Ladies' Trio, good sight readers and soloists essential. Lowest terms to live out. PIANIST, 20, Hawley-square, Margate.

WANTED, First Violin, to open Monday, Aug. 15. References to
EDGAR HAINES, Conductor, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, First-class Violin, young, smart, abstainer preferred, good Concert Performer; open Monday, five weeks. CONDUCTOR, 44, West End-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, First Violin, also Double Drummer, open Aug. 8.
State experience, references, lowest terms, to
J. H. OAKDEN, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, good First Violin; permanency. Open all year round.
WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, for Llandudno Town and Promenade Band
a good First Cornet Player;
one used to pitching preferred. Terms, 35s. per week. Apply at once to
P. KOHL, Bandmaster, Llandudno Town Band.

WANTED, First Cornet, used to Variety business, to open Aug. 1. Wire, stating terms, references, &c., to D. J. CLARKE, Manager, Argyle Theatre of Varieties, Birkenhead.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, fully conversant with Grand Opera; permanency to suitable person. Terms, age, and references (which will be inquired into); sobriety indispensable. Address, J. R. BINGLEY, 34, Eleanor-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, to open Monday, Aug. Bank Holiday, good Cornet, used to Variety. Wire, CONDUCTOR, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, good Trombone and Clarionet, for Granville Music Hall, Walham Green. Monday next, Aug. 1, apply 36, Angell-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Trombone and Drums, to open Monday. Wire, HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Immediately, Euphonium, sober and reliable, tenting, 32s. 6d.
Wire, BANDMASTER, Circus, Halesworth, Saturday; Southwold, Suffolk, Monday.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist for long and comfortable Tour, starting middle of August.
Address, Box 8,062, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady 'Cellist for Ladies' Orchestra for Irish Tour commencing Aug. 15. Terms, references, Dr. ORMONDE, 3, Cathedral-terrace, Armagh.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open Monday, must be fully experienced in Variety business.
Wire, MANAGER, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, immediately, First-class Harpist, if possible combining another instrument.
Apply, JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. WILLIAMS, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-st., W.C.
C. JESSON, Secretary.

Business men appreciate business methods. Read the following from the M.D., Palace, Reading:—
"My band is now complete with A.M.U. musicians. You have helped me beyond measure. Convey my thanks to Mr. Jesson, who has dealt most kindly with me. I truly appreciate the business workings of the society."

WANTED, good Second Cornet Deputy at Hippo., Bolton, five or six weeks; open Aug. 1. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, good Drummer and Tymp., Aug. 1, for Hippo., near Manchester. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Flute and Pic., Hippo., Lancashire, for Aug. 8. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Flute and Pic., Bass, Piano (M.D.), for Aug. 8, Lancashire Houses. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Bass and Drums, for Rink. Open shortly. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Leader, Flute, Cornet, Drums, and Trom. Union terms. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Leader, Aug. 8. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Bass, Aug. 1. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, First Cornet, Drums, and Viola. Apply, Glasgow Grand Secretary.

WANTED, an experienced Solo Flute and Clarionet, to commence at once. Apply, with references and salary, to MUS. DIR., H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, accustomed to Military and Orchestra Season Band. Open at once. Send terms, age, and refs., BULLERBY, Council Offices, Ilkley.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, for Permanent Engagement in London; start Oct. 3 inst. (Soloist preferred). Write only to G. BOXHORN, Musical-Director to the "Cabins, Ltd.," 198, Oxford-street, W.

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
WANTED, a First-class Picture and Variety Pianist, salary no object to a man who knows his business; others save stamps.
Communications to
ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, immediately, Soprano-Pianist, strictly refined; good part in sketch. State age, height. WILFRED, 16, Bedford-st., Brighton.

WANTED, to open at once, First-class Picture Pianist, permanent. Wire terms, CHAS. McCOY, Town Hall, Folkestone.

WANTED, Drums and Effects; start Aug. 1. Apply, CONNOR, Empress Rink, Ipswich. 25s. week.

WANTED, to Tour with a Military Band, really First-class Solo E Flat Saxophone, Horn, Oboe, and Clarionettes. Must be thoroughly experienced, reliable, and gentlemanly players.
Apply, with full references and actual lowest terms, to HAYDEN,
New Prince's Theatre,
Blackburn.
N.B.—Other instrumentalists that go to comprise Military Band and who comply with the above requirements may write in.

WANTED, Drummer, Tympanist, and Effects; open Aug. 29. Permanency. Age, refs., and terms, J. FIELD, M.D., Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, to open Aug. 1, good Double Drummer, permanency to suitable man.
Address, WORSWICK.

WANTED, for Aug. 15, week and other special weeks, Leader, Viola, 'Cello, and Clarionet, must be first-class recognised experienced players. Terms and particulars to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, for Bostock Circuit, Cornet, Pianist, and Drums, well experienced, sober and reliable, for Variety, open Aug. 29. Terms 32s. 6d. Refs. and photo., MILLAR, Conductor, Hippo., Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, as Deputies, for few weeks, at Theatre, opening Aug. 22, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, Double Bass; must be good. Apply, HORACE TRAGUS, Musical-Director, Park-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, open August, First Solo Clarionet, Piccolo, Ripieno Cornet, Solo Euphonium, Solo Trombone, First Horn, Double Drums, with Effects. Lowest terms, CONDUCTOR, 74, Florence-road, Brighton.

WANTED, for Brighton Sept. 5 to 14, nine days, twice daily Orchestra; all instruments write. Terms, references (stamp for return), CONDUCTOR, "Silverdale," Stafford-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Empire, Kilburn, Flute, Clarionet, Oboe, Second Cornet, open Monday, Aug. 8; must be excellent instrumentalists. Apply, CONDUCTOR.

WANTED, Lady Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, Trombone, to commence Sept. 5. All comm., J. H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, to open Aug. 1, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums, for three nights. Wire terms, inclusive return fares London, LENNON, Theatre, Westgate-on-Sea.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Julian Rutt, Musical-Director (Pianist), will be at Liberty Sept. 24, concluding second season as Conductor, Palace Pier, Brighton. Can supply Orchestra if required. Hotel, Theatre, or Tour. 12, Kensington-street, Brighton, Sussex.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known, smart, and reliable Musical-Director, splendid Violinist; highest references. Address, CONDUCTOR, 12, Providence-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Musical-Director, either Theatre or Variety. State terms to Box 8,053, "The Era."

WANTED, by a First-class Conductor, Engagement, late of Moss' Empires; highest refs.; can open at once. Box 8,047, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, Pianist-Conductor, or Violin; any Business; good library. ROSSARS, 391D Mile End-road, E.

WANTED, by Conductor, Engagement (with or without Piano); 6½ years' good reference; very fine repertory; steady and reliable. 287 Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Music Hall Conductor (Violin), smart and reliable; ten years' London experience. CONDUCTOR, 22, Lower Cathedral-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, by French Lady, Violinist, Engagements, Violin or Viola, experienced Soloist, best references. Write, VIOLINIST, 18, Hogarth-rd., South Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gladys Althaus, Disengaged, Leader or Solo Violinist.
Address, ALTA, Sutton, Surrey.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Annie Hyman, Orchestral Leader and Solo Violinist, unexpectedly Disengaged for Summer Season, Hotel or Café. 25, Talgarth-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin; young, experienced. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin, thoroughly experienced. C. E. SAUNDERS, 20, Barcombe-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Cornet, any business; young, experienced, abstainer. Box 8,059, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet, steady and reliable; good refs. Wire or write, F. BUTLER, 45, Eleanor-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Military, Orchestra, Variety, Rink, or any Business; experienced; good references. ALFRED BENNING, 30, New-road East, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet (Solo or First) wants Engagement from Aug. 7 until Sept. 4, experienced all lines. CLARIONETTIST, 102, Freehold-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet, Permanency, any business, steady and reliable. Good refs. A. MILLER, King's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, for String Bass, experienced, Theatre or Music Hall; age 31; reliable. Refs. Address, Box 8,065, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon, Theatre or Music Hall preferred; excellent refs. Box 7,989, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, by young, steady, reliable Double Bass, permanency, any business; thoroughly experienced. MELLOR, 95, Prospect-place, Lee Mount, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, for String Bass or Viola, reliable, good references; ten years at one engagement. OLIVER, 17, Hudson-street, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, by Trombone, permanency, any business, ten years' experience, best refs. HIBBS, 12, Poacher's-lane, Latchford, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium, any business, or deputise. Apply, EWINS, 6, Garrard-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Orchestral Euphonium and Concert Soloist, sober, reliable, good references. TESORO, 7, Shepherd-street, St. Leonards.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, A.M.U., thoroughly reliable any business. HENRY WOODAGE, 9, Northfield-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, Theatre or Variety preferred, good references from Opera and Concert Orchestra (Johann Strauss); also Second and Fourth French Horn player. Address, W. DOCKL, 44, Fitzalan-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn Player, any business; good references. Box 8,045, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Lilian Sexton, Violoncellist and Pianist, at Liberty July 30, for Engagements or Deputising in London. 10, Connaught-street, Hyde Park, W.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady 'Cellist; reliable, experienced, Orchestra; at Liberty from Aug. 1. VINE HUNTER, 47, Park-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, Second Violin, combine Piano, experienced all lines; good refs.; open Monday. BROWN, 20, Lillington-street, Victoria, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Oboeist, Theatre or Music Hall; excellent refs. GREENWOOD, 4, Rose Hill-road, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, by experienced Oboeist Re-engagement; Military, Orchestra, or Variety; excellent credentials; abstainer, reliable; A.M.U. OBOEIST, 86, St. James's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Harpist, late of the Moody-Manners Opera Co. for seven years. FAITH NUNN, 4, West-street, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, any Business; used to Variety. FLAUTIST, 46, Chatto-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any business (string), used to Varieties; good refs. FLAUTIST, 82, Arthur-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, by good Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, reliable, any business, abstainer; excellent refs.; can open at once. FLAUTIST, 9, Aberdyberthi-street, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, experienced, any business. Good refs. No variety under 35s. (if twice nightly). FLAUTIST, King's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, orch, or self, any business; good reader, excel. refs.; any dis. Add., c/o Mrs. SMITH, Sparrow-hill, Coleford.

WANTED, Situation.—Wm. Milner, Pianist, seeks Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic, refs. 19, Little London-place, Chesterfield-road, Heeley, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, experienced, reliable, Rink or Pictures, good refs. PARRATT, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, by competent Pianist, Engagement in Electric Theatre, good répertoire, London or Provinces. HAROLD JONES, G.P.O., Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums; well up in Variety; long experience; good refs. W. LASKEY, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement as Drums, also have Tymps, good Varieties preferred. GEORGE PABLO, 37, Carter-terrace, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, smart uniform, now booking Autumn. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 577 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Ladies' Orchestra, any number, all Soloists; good répertoire; any business. Apply, 69, Miranda-road, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Herr Blomé's Orchestra, Booking Dates for Winter Season, 1910-11, from Oct. 3, on, for Exhibitions, &c. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, for Band (six or Eight), Rink or Pictures; smart uniforms, latest music. Terms moderate. COOPER, 39, Castle Mona-avenue, Douglas, I. of M.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Useful Circus People, Aug. 8 (week in a town). Particulars and lowest terms, BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, at once, for Sir Robert Fossett and Son's Circus, six good and respectable Grooms, also a good Shoeing Smith. Apply, letters only, Lodge Farm, Tiffield, Northamptonshire.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

HENGLER'S GRANDE CIRQUE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, for Winter Season,
Wanted, for Winter Season,
Wanted, for Winter Season,
Wanted, for Winter Season,
Wanted, for Winter Season,
the Cream of the Profession.
the Cream of the Profession.

First-class Acts of every description for Ring and Stage,
All must be new to Glasgow.

Price no object for Novelties.

Send fullest particulars of Acts, terms, open time, and where can be seen next three weeks, in first letter.
Mr. HENGLER, Grande Cirque, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artist, introducing Novel Firework Effects, Sports Field, Consett. Perm. address, 5, Devon-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, immediate and future dates.
Communications to
ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, Variety Artists coming North to send vacant dates and terms, JAS. ANDERSON and Son's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 15, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines.
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SILY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

PALACE, MORLEY.
Proprietor, TOM DIACOFF.
Resident-Manager, ARTHUR SNOW.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 8, onwards. Specialities that can work on small stage. Will the following Artists communicate? The Godfreys, Nellie Nora, Marguerite Ismay, Bros. Curran, Four Scoreys, Wyllie and Telka, Lester Bros., Dancing Paceys, Arthur and Angus, Leigh and Lawrie, Evalos, and Mr. E; Victor and Louis, Royal Quintette, Sisters Hula, J. P. Carrol, The Reays, Tom Garland, Jim Topping, Vanda, Cissy Trent, Henrietta and Selina, Alf Passmore, Yorkshire Tom, Musical Keiths, May Lillian Levey, The Sages, W. H. Downes, Willie and Johnnie Four Cecilians, Tom Gott, "Little Colonel" Sketch, Taylor and Bridge, Shenton's Chicks, Metz and Metz, Sisters McCalla, Chris Van Bern, Sisters Hypatia, Sisters Barnes, Will Farrell, Cestria Aidee Mellor, Barrie and Wood, Bert and Dora Harrison Bros., Little Vera. New Turns in all Lines write. Full list of Bookings and absolute lowest in first instance, TOM DIACOFF'S Agency, 56, Albion-street, Morley, near Leeds.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines to communicate immediately. Full particulars, Terms, and Dates.
Nothing too Big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7633.

EGBERT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, also good Comedy Acts, free from vulgarity.
Immediate dates for
ROYAL HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE;
ROYAL HIPPODROME, DOVER;
TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE;
NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY;
HIPPODROME, MAESTEG;
HIPPODROME, DOWLAIS.
Fullest particulars. Letters only to
Sole and Exclusive Agents,
EGBERT'S AGENCY,
Piccadilly-mans., 17, Shaftesbury-ave., London, W.
Telephone, 6,519, Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Egbertency, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY,
Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, for towns in the North. Apply, RAWES and CLARENCE.

WANTED, Artists all Lines,
Monday next and on,
also Big Tops for Combination.
Send full list of bookings, lithos., &c.,
MAURICE FRITH'S Agency, Derby-chambers, Derby.
Telephone 850. Open on Sundays.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Aug. 8, onwards. Must state lowest. Bookings, &c. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 8, on, 14, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists of every description, for Wales. Lithos., lowest terms, and list of bookings to CROWN Agency, Rhondda Restaurant, Seaside, Aberavon, South Wales.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 8, onwards.
Telegrams "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal.

SIGNOR PEPI'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines,
for immediate and future dates,
for several Halls in the North.
Big Tops can be placed at once.
Apply, Signor PEPI,
Palace Theatre, Darlington.

WANTED, Artists for Immediate Dates.
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety Agent,
64, Waterloo-road.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines (Comedy), Aug. 8 (Radcliffe), also Aug. 22 and 29 (North), Combination terms to LI-CHANG-HI, Marine Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. Coms., 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Call Aug. 1, 11 o'clock, for The Aerials, Sira Evalos, McAskell, Gus Gauntlett, De Ora, Neddy Vokes, Alfonso, The Potters. Sole Agent, ALLAN MCASKELL, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton.

WANTED, for Aug. 8, 15, 22,
Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
Stars and First-class Acts in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Proprietress, CISSIE LAWSON.
WANTED, Known, Trial Turns will be seen from twelve until one. Apply above.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, suitable for Picture Shows, all weeks after Aug. 1, refinement absolutely essential. Vacancies and lowest terms, JOHN R. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Monday next,
full set
Star Comedy Speciality Acts,
for
Edinburgh.
Edinburgh.
Wire quick,
HARRISON,
Agent,
C/o Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts for Britain and Continent.
Sole Agency for latter only entertained.
Also Panto. Principals for Best Theatres.

EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
WANTED, for Monday, 1st, really First-class Acts, new to Dudley preferred, no fancy prices, money sure, Musical Acts, Dumb Shows, and any First-class Drawing Number.
BAINTON, Manager, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, for Small Picture Halls,
Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
W. DALTON,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Refined Variety Acts, for Picture Shows, in Scotland, Aug. 8, onwards.
J. CUMMINGS,
97, Whitevale-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 22, Speciality Act, for long Tour, fares after joining. Lithos., lowest terms, full particulars, GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
"Aeroplane, Liverpool."
Who is it? Why,
BARNARD'S AGENCY, SHAW-ST., LIVERPOOL.
Tele., 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Acts in all Lines, for immediate dates.

BURNETT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Acts, also Artists, all Lines, for Picture Halls and Pantomimes. Bookings, &c., ARTHUR BOYNE, 58, Bank-parade, Burnley. 'Phone 459.

DARLINGTON
ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, for Early Autumn Dates, High-class Variety Combinations, or can entertain really Big Tops, on Salary or Shares, but must be Big, and New to Darlington.
Big Business waiting for Good Shows.
Refer Reano, Fasola, Elliott-Savonas, &c.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, New Sensational Outdoor Attractions, from Aug. 8 and onwards. Send lowest terms to MANAGER, Zoo, Halifax.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Powerful Star Attractions, Artists all Lines, plenty of work waiting for suitable Acts, First-class Halls and Picture Shows. Exclusive Agent for Alhambra, Stourbridge; Pavilion, Wolverhampton. Full bookings imperative. 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, big sensational Novelties, First-class Musical Acts, Pantomimical Sketches (with Trick Scenery preferred), big Comedy Acts, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Eccentric Acrobatical Troupes, &c., must be real Top Liners, for Aug. 8, 15, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of Printing, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Refined Novelties new to the North, Comedy Acrobats, Low Comedy Knockabouts. MOORE and BENTZ, 7, John-street, Strand.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill.
For Monday next,
For Monday next,
Also for Aug. 8, 15,
Also for Aug. 8, 15,
Artists, all Lines, for
Rochdale, Newcastle, Hyde,
Hanley, Gateshead, Sunderland
Also Wanted, Big Speciality Acts, Sisters,
Troupes of Ladies for France,
for First-class Establishments.
Big Tops for Aug. 1. Wire.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Top,
Aug. 8.
Telegrams, "Aeroplane, Liverpool."
BARNARD'S Agency, Shaw-street.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Hindoo or Indian Performers and Artists, both sexes; also Pretty Girls and Oriental Dancer. Send full particulars and photo. (returnable), SEARS, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, to open Monday, Tall Light Comedian, for part in well-known Sketch. Wire, stating lowest, Box 8,069, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Performers. Long and comfortable engagement to young and smart workers. Tumblers, Contortionists, and Comedy Acrobats.
Address full particulars, Box 8,062, "The Era."

PALACE, JERSEY.
WANTED, smart Serios and Dancers, Aug. 8, and on; also Brilliant Young Ballad Singer. Call, 11 to 5, SINCLAIR'S Agency, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Young Lady, tall figure, for First-class Trapeze Show; Dancing experience preferred. Apply, VETTER, 122, St. James'-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, for Continent, good Cycle Polo Player. Send age, height, and photo., CYCLIST, 33, Holland-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, that can Tumble and Knockabout a little, for Comedy Act. Age, height, weight, tumbling tricks, experience, and salary, to Box 8,063, "The Era."

WANTED, at once,
A Comedy Smart Acrobatic Tumbler.
Apply, BALDWIN,
Schwishauser Allee, 156 a/b,
Berlin.

WANTED, for Double Comedy Acrobat Act, a First-class Bearer; must also do little Tumbling. Write, stating if married and all particulars in first letter.
J. POWLER, 13, New Compton-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, two Apprentice Boys, for Acrobatic Business; age between 13 and 14 years; small figures. Those with knowledge of Tumbling preferred. Address all particulars and photo., to J. H. JEE, 61, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill.

WANTED, Operators and Assistants, used to both currents and gas. State lowest salary, and send copies of references, to S. T. J. KING, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Original Australian Nightingale, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co., at Lib. Sept. 12. Thanks E. H. Bostock, Esq., for offer. Yorkshire Post says: "A majestic presence, a clarion voice, and the dignity and carriage of a rare artist." To-day, Palace, Carlisle (return); next, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22,
by Lucy Lynd,
The Rising Star
Lancashire Dialect Comedienne.
Notice.
This week, Empire, York.
Billed amongst the Wines and Spirits.
After Monday night
Special Bills were put out
with Lucy Lynd
Bottom of Bill.
How is that for a Success?
All communications to
CLIQUOT'S Agency, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 22, on, Babs Lloyd, Star Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Wire, 62, Upper Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the clever and highly-talented Sisters Terry, an Entertainment in themselves; at Lib. Aug. 29. Add., Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, by the well-known Sisters Du Cane, to follow Aberdeen, Sept. 19 and 26.
2, Gainsborough-mansions, Queen's Club, W.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Three Van-Earles, Pretty Operetta, "The Gipsy's Farewell." Beautiful Ballads, Sensational Electric Dance performed in Mid-air. Clear stage only required. Tremendous success Vint Tour. Hippodrome, Loughborough. Monday, Empire, Shirebrook, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Famous Singing Boxmakers, Three Sisters. A Great Attraction and Good Value. Add., Hippo., Darlington.

WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15, Beatrice Bonnie and Company, Wonderful Dulcimer Dancers on the Stairaphone. Big Novelty. Topping Bill, Hippodrome, Accrington; next, Hippo., St. Helens.

WANTED, Ted Lucknow, English and Continental Comedy, Musical and Patter Comedian, Liberty Aug. 8, 15, Halls, Galas. Address, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton.

WANTED, by Sabino, Merry Musical Monarch, Monday, out through mistake. Big Musical Act. Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, Monday next, Aug. 1, also 6, by Ryder Davis, Smart Comedian, Halls or Al-Fresco. Wire, Empire, Leicester.

WANTED, Aug. 8, on, by Savaro, Sifleur Excentrique, in Farmyard Scena; also Equilibrist. Offers, P.O., Edenbridge, Kent.

WANTED, Perce Upton, Character Comedian, Aug. 8 and 22. Great success London tour. Perm. address, 268, Brownhill-road, Catford. Aug. 1, Gem Palace, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian, and The Wymans, Comedy Duo; one or both. Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, by Martin Henderson, the Blind Concertina Soloist, Monday next and Aug. 8. Add., Ivy Cottage, Regent-st., Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Famous Collier Comedian. Refinement; Copyright Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. See Cards.

WANTED, Known, the Original Will Owen, Dame and Comedy Dutch Comedian, Vacant Monday, Aug. 1, 8, and 15. Alfresco entertained. This, P., Sale, Cheshire; next, 70, Park-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, and Aug. 8, 15, by Barnard (Barney) Noble, well up in all items, Alfresco or Varieties. Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 1 and 8,
Jean Seul, "The Indian Mystery."
227, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Comical Jake, in his Clever Comedy Three-Bar Act; at Liberty. Wire, 354, Cemetery-street, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler, £100 challenge, still undefeated. The big draw everywhere. Address, Palace, Lye, Stourbridge, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, the Wonderful Howards, Telepathic Entertainers, thank S. James, Esq., for cancelling their dates until 1911, thus allowing them to accept American engagement commencing Aug. 8.

WANTED, Knotellas (Harry and Rose), Comedy Acrobats, Dancers, Lib. Aug. 4, on, exceptions. Coms., 4, Peterboro'-flats, Fulham.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 1, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Mme. Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Mme. Knipper-Rabeneck's Aesthetic Dancers, R. G. Knowles, Helen Trix, Sisters Doherty, Julee Moy, May Chevalier's Co., Ferry Corway, Mezzettis, Animated Pictures, Willy Pantzer Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for :—

Ernest Shand, Ella Shields, Musical McGregors, Tom E. Hughes, Duncan's Collies, Drew and Alders, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Gwennie Hasto, Bioscope, Chas. Norton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

La Milo, Gordon, Glenroy Troupe, Ando's Japs, J. A. Wilson, Harry Bedford, New Macs, Bioscope, Billie Burford, Severus Schaffer.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Will Evans, Bioscope, Iva Voyce, Chris Van Bern, Martineks, Matthews and Cowper, Narow Brothers, Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, Mary Ambrose, Fred Curran, Nellie Wallace.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ten Loonies, Darracq, Wyndham and Kitty, Findens, Ted E. Box, Sybil St. Elmo, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Leipzig.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 10.30 a.m. for :—

Fannie Ward and Co., Lena Verdi, Arthur Slater, Mons. and Mme. Alf Agoust, Lupino Lane, Holden's Mannikins, France and Stewart, Arthur Leslie, Bioscope, La Scala Opera Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Australian Woodcutters, Helene Donald, Flo Curran, Harry Herbert, Doody and Wright, Northern Troupe, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Amy Augarde and Co., Donaldson Brothers.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Douglas Bruce's Co. in "The Girl Who Lost Her Character."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Garden City Four, Bioscope, Queen and Le Brun, Lulu Williams, Peter Davey's "Chantecler," Bert Harrow, Jackley Trio, Mabel Berra, Rinaldo.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

George Robey, Chas. J. Johnson, Frank and Free, Conn and Conrad, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Katie Moss, Walter Wade, Bugler Carr, Bioscope, Kellinos.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Lauder, Hardini Trio, James Stewart, Burley and Burley, Fisher's Vocalesques, Lancashire Lasses, Phil Parsons, Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Bioscope, Amy Marsden, Billy French, Blessings, Dan Crawley, Griff, Dacey and Lewis, Marconis, Harry Roxbury and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Arden and Abel, Daisy Jerome, Rose and Challoner, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Signor Barbalonga, Kirbys, Tom Lloyd, A. G. Spry, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips's Wireless Controlled Airship, Leo Tell, Edie Gray and Boys, Sutcliffe Family, Millie Hylton, Verno and Voyce, Ben Albert, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Phil Ray, Staley's Transformation, Violas, Ethel Newman, Melford's "Non-Suited," Ike and Will Scott, Mike Nono, Sisters Allen, Bioscope, Du Gros Trio.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Bertha Winder, Haig and Novel, Grassis, Hans and Lux, Carl Howard, Olga Dore, Bioscope, Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, Albert Whelan.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Fredk. Melville's Co. in "Her Road to Ruin."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company. Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Le Roy, Talma and Boscoe, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Onetti Sisters, Thora, Dot Stephens, Tom Parker, Leonards, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Ada Reeve, Elise Craven and Co., Lily Flexmore, Tom E. Finglas, Goodfellow and Gregson, Master Edward Garrett and Co., Mowatts, O'Brien Brothers, Bioscope, Montgomery and Moore, Yamamoto and Koyoshi.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Poluskis, Leslie Brothers, Jennie Hartley, Brill and Hemsley, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Horace Pollock and Co., Tate and Tate, Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Jack Lane.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

"The Little Stowaway," Gothams, Rosie Fitzgerald, Johnny Fuller, Rich Taylor, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Jock Whiteford, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Wilkie Bard, Haytors, King's College Boys, Nelson Jackson, Marco Belli, Niagara and Falls, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Tom Foy and Co.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Rosa Loader, Alf. Gibson, Lux's Dogs, Roze and Calvert, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Rauschle.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Kitty Wager, Ricardo and Salving, Campbell and Barber, Hilda Jacobsen, Fred Poplar, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Anartos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Geo. Ali and Co., Maidie Scott, Aida Martine, Field and Hull, Brothers Durant, Cassie Walmer, Alf. Wood's company., Hugh Barclay, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," F. V. St. Clair, Roma and Romani, Woodhouse and Wells, Staig's Steeplejacks, Cull Pitt, Bioscope, Fred Earle, H. O. Wills.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Fred Kitchen and Co. in "Private Potts," J. H. Milburn, Gwennie Llewellyn, Nell Emerald, Syd May, Frank Lynne, Jimmy Curwell, Bioscope, De Wynne Brothers, Lottie Lennox.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Chas. Austin and Co., Jock Mills, Bioscope, Chris Richards, Guyer and Valle, Alcide Capitaine, Barrett and Knowles, Cissie Curlette, Tom Edwards, Binns and Binns.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Callaghan and St. George, Enzer, Bioscope, Esta Stella, J. W. Hall, Harry Leybourne, Lillian Dundas and Co., Avolos, Bogannys.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Lamberti, Victor's Juveniles, Mlle. Le Breton, Sisters Jerome, Ryan and Hall, "The Little Colonel," Pictures, Peggy Pryde, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Alexandre and Hughes, Elly Adair, McConnell Trio, Laurie's Kindergarten, Will Poluski, jun., Bioscope, Coverdale.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Zigeuner Quartette, Russel Brandon, Tom Costello, Ed. E. Ford, Charles Matthews, Bioscope, George Rae, Bensons.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Minnie Cunningham, Phillips and Merritt, Harry May Hemsley, Mackintosh and Royal, Nellie Wigley, Cliff Dacre, Sisters Aindow, Pictures, Orpheus.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mike Whallen, Harry Marte, Maie Dillon, Brothers Miller, Shirley and Ransome, Grace Langley, Pictures, Ethel Ra Leslie.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Vesta Tilley, Bioscope, Charburn's Young Stars, Bert Coote and Co., Siems, Three Meers, Harry Simms, Jen Latona, O'Gust.

SPECIAL NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, AUG. 1.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Shrillo, Alaskas, A. C. Lilly and Co., Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Cumminger and Colona, Edith Chantler, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Le Hurst, Lillian Rose, Werds Bros., the Scottish Chiefs, Burt Ward, Goggin and Davies, Raglus, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pat Lynch, Marie Altino, Atlas and Vulcana, The Hulls, Bros. Felton, Dalvere and Wallace, Marion Scott, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Beech and Aveling, Thiessen's Dogs, Marie Dreams, Poole and Maguire, Radford and Valentine, Friend and Downing, Palace Perfection Pictures, Harry Weldon.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Norah Desmond, "Satan," Brian McCullough, "1920," Harry Brown, The Phydoras, Roeglin's Parrots, Glen and Earle, The Maynards.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Gordon Wilde, Pictures, Jos. Crooke, Wish Wynne, Lily Lang, The Coopers, Gretna Green, Four Royal Scots, Jessie Star, Leo and Jerry.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Rehearsal, 11 o'clock sharp.
Harry Martell, Leo and Roland, Mollie Doon, "The Ace of Hearts," Juno Salmo, Asra, Palace Perfection Pictures, Sable Fern and Co.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
May De Rowse, Dick and Dorothy Trio, Williams's Jubilee Singers, Sisters Edwardes, Ted Waite, Lee and Parkinson, Palace and Hipp. Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Frank Boyce, Lestree, the Five Bombays, Vera Mayne, the Cairo Trio, Florrie Gallimore, T. C. Jaques, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Gladys and Alber, Wat Tyler, the Darntons, Gene Morelle, Empire Girls, the De Breans, Mr. Hymack, Ellersie Pyne, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
The Seddons, Jessie Wilton, Crosby and Walker, the Mars Trio, Jack Hamilton, "Black-Eyed Susan," L'Incognita, Palace and Hippo. Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, the Four Figaros, Walter Read, the Three Van Dammes, Dolly Ross, Rousby and Rene, Cissie Thompson, Pier Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Geo. Acre, Zellini, Daisy Rhyl, Pete and Juno, Edwardes and Edwardes, Arthur Croxon, Carter's Ten Dixie Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Tom Garland, Cosgrove and Burns, Pit Brow Girls, Kitty Clinton, Tom Gott, Wee Georgie Wood, Bert Anderson, Haines and Borthwick, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Bros. Victor, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Bert Crosbie, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Lucky 'Liza."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
The Cedrics, Musical Silvo, Vela, Creagh and Co., Ted Percival, Maude Mortimer, Arthur Harris, Elsie and Bob, Sears and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Tod Lowen, Pictures, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Will Lytton, Vena Velma, Ruby Maybutt, Clarke and Mostel, "Royal Rivals," Baby Woolf, "Battle of Life."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Flo Burnett, Pictures, Allsopp and Beckwith, Austral Trio, Rizarelis, Red Car Trio, Lillie Lassab, Norah Noble, Harry Moore, Joe Belmont, "Yellow Fang," Harry Bedford and Co.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, W. Stanley, Arthur Pier, Cissie Sylvester, Albert St. Clair, Morton Duo, Four Leopolds, Elroy, "Only an Israelite," Royston Bradfield, Harley and Melton.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

CALL for Rehearsal, Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes. Monday next, Aug. 1, 11 o'clock sharp. All must attend day show if wet. The Creedons, Fox and Melville, James Bowman, Gracie Bard, Barney Vox, Sisters Dudley, Edie St. Clair. Proprietor, J. Carter White; Manager, Johnnie Renson.

PUBLIC HALL for SALE, in first-class residential suburb twenty miles from London, suitable for Concerts, Stage Plays, Public Meetings, Cinematograph Entertainments, &c., &c. Spring floor for dancing. Electric light throughout. Main hall seats 800 persons, has large stage and is fitted with every modern convenience. Twenty-two reception, supper, and other rooms. Photographs and full particulars of Matthews, Wiseman, and Co., accountants, Queen Anne's-chambers, Westminster, S.W.

TO SYNDICATES, Company Promoters, Manufacturing and Trading Firms.—The most important Freehold Business Premises, having a frontage of 60ft. to High-street, Stratford, adjacent the Broadway, with superficial area of 9,250ft., factory, buildings, and vehicular entrance to Station-street, together with eight cottages adjoining. Particulars of W. G. NORMAN, Auctioneer, &c., Town Hall-chambers, Stratford.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.

Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

Leading Always.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.
NEW LITHOS and POSTERS.
Boxing, Aeroplaning, etc.
Netherfield Date Book, 1911-12, post-free 1/1.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingsburst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

FOR SALE THROUGH CUSTOMER'S DEFAULT:
Pros. Front, 30ft. by 24ft., opening 17ft. by 14ft.
Act Drop, on built roller and batten.
Landscape Cloth, ditto.
2 Pairs 12ft. Tree Wings, booked.
2 Foliage Borders.
9 Piece Chamber, 12ft.
2 Chamber Borders.
New Scenery, well painted on flax canvas. Will accept for the lot £50.
Also Palace Cloth, 35ft. by 24ft., new, £12.; Street Cloth, 35ft. by 24ft., new, £10.
Several good Fit-ups and quantity Secondhand Scenery; also ten 6ft. and eleven 4ft. Route Seats, upholstered tapestry, secondhand, £10.10.
Apply, FRED. WILKINS and BROTHER, LTD., Duke-street, Liverpool.

FOR SALE.
THE FIFE ARMS HOTEL, MACDUFF, N.B.,
belonging to Dr. Walford Bodie. A first-class Family and Commercial Hotel, freehold, excellent accommodation for Tourists and Commercial gentlemen. Free trout fishing from Banff Bridge to mouth of river, also excellent sea fishings, shootings, billiard saloon, stables; hiring in all its branches, lawn tennis court, bowling green, and golf course within easy distance. Sure fortune, and a beautiful home to an enterprising man.
Upset price, £3,300.
For further particulars, principals only, apply to ALBERT EDWARD BODIE, The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Bed, Breakfast, Bath, and Attendance, 4s. 6d.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomster-park. 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H.M. Theatre.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 35s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, N.—Large front room, nicely furnished, terms moderate, good references and cooking, near music halls. Mrs. Dickens, 2, Florence-street.

LONDON, S.E.—123, Kennington-road. One Large Sitting-room and Bedroom; also one or two Bed-Sitting-rooms, for Sunday next; every convenience. M. Gatehouse.

LONDON, S.W.—Brixton. Comfortable apartments (bath, h.c.), piano, good cooking, attendance, motor passes for West-End. Winchester Lodge, Effra-rd.

LONDON, S.W.—303, Brixton-rd. Very comfortable furnished bed and sitting-room. Well recommended. Vacant Sunday, July 31. Mrs. Peers.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Hope, 16, Grafton-st., Oxford-rd. Drawing-room-sit., also dining-room-sit., with good piano, and 1 combined room, vacant Sunday; bath, &c.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Rhyl. Professional apartments; moderate terms.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and echnicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIER, June 8, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.

SPORTING LIFE, May 16, 1910.
Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

SUNDAY TIMES, May 29, 1910.
A third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" is just published. The work has already established its value, as a comprehensive and accurate book of reference, and the new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion of all recent decisions of the courts, and the texts of the Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Law of the United States.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE MUSIC HALL, May 12, 1910.
Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of "The Era," has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.

SPORTSMAN, May 14, 1910.
"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. ("Era" Office, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15, by Ward and Davis (Eva and Ryder), in Comedy Act, "Leaving Home." All coms., Empire, Leicester.

WANTED, Monday next, and 8th, Ray and Lingard, Comedy Sketch; also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, 22, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, in Song Scenas; Sing.es. Coms., King's Hall, Bank Top, Blackburn.

WANTED, Aug. 1, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; and Gladys Wells, Novelty Contralto. Wires, 60, Norfolk-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, Mon. and Aug. 8, by Hal and Lal, Musical Ventriloquial Act, including England's greatest Lady Ventriloquist. Wire, Empire, Edmonton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Spot Lake, Eccentric Comedian; and Dainty Daisy Dale, Comedienne. Wire, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, by The Dancing Melias, Vocalists, Speciality Song and Dance. Last, Hippo., Heywood; this, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Aug. 8 and 22, by The Æolians, the smartest Vocal-Dancing Act extant, North preferred. Wire, Parker, Pier, Teignmouth.

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida will be known in future from this date, July 16, 1910,
as
LES NOELS.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Duettists, vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15. Address, 19, Shaw-street, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, great Comedy Act, away from others; vacant Aug. 8. Wire, Palace Theatre, Blaenavon. Wire, sure success.

WANTED, Aug. 1, Wire, the Great Rohde and Roche. A real live Novelty Comedy Potpourri Act. The Chameleon Artist and It. Enormous Success, King's Hall, Exmouth. Wire quick.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, in their great Aerial Gymnastic Act. Vacant dates apply, Wilder's, Great Francis-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Aug. 8, 15, and 22.
Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Floria, Comedy Slack-wire Artist and Wonderful Equilibrist; Vacant Aug. 8. Address this week, Crystal Palace, London.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic, Seaside Scene. This week, King's, Edinburgh; next, Fête and Gala, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe of Society Athletes (five), including the Beautiful Miss Vulcana, the Most Wonderful Lady Athlete of All Time. Also introducing her Marvellous Classic Poses. A Challenge to the World. Conclude Pal., Huddersfield. Monday, Pav., Leicester. Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 22 and 29, also Sept. 5, by
RICH TAYLOR,
The Whistling Ventriloquist,
Halls, Piers, &c.
The Modern Ventriloquist.
Always a Huge Success.
This, Palace, Leicester; next, Empire, Swansea.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 19, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart Acts. Offers invited. Central Hall, Staveley.

WANTED, Known, Walter Roselle, Ventriloquist, at Liberty Aug. 8, also as Lecturer, experienced. Add., 18, Farnworth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Al-Fresco, Halls, &c., by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist and Entertainer; refined; large rep.; Open Monday. Wire, 44, Hardies-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Monday next, by Zeta Grey Co., Original Musical Comedy Act, "The Lancashire Lass." Brilliant Singing, genuine Comedy, roars of Laughter. Starring, Hippodrome, Nottingham. Wire.

MISS ELLA'S LION SHOW.
WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15, only Vacancies this Year.
Communications,
Vryhied, Ripley-road, West Worthing.

WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, by Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, including educated Hybrid Wolf. Can also book jointly with Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Cornettiste; Harry Hellis, Comedian, Pianist, for Autumn, Sept. 5. 15, Havelock-street, Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Acrobatic Novelty Act on Bicycles, Wilder's Galas, Bourne Smethwick, Birmingham, Swindon, &c. C/o Messrs. Wilder, Birmingham.

WANTED, Swift Duo, Cyclists, Comiques, Aug. 1, Gala, Bury St. Edmunds, vac. 8th, 15th. Address, 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy, Somersaulting, and Football Cyclists. Always a Success. Vac. Aug. 15, Sept. 5, on Picturedrome, Bradford. Next, Galas. Agent, Stebbings.

ZASMA'S ALHAMBRA BIOSCOPE.
WANTED, Known, Operators with Complete Outfits sent on shortest notice. H. Pearson, Hippo., Accrington; perm. add., 66, Alver-road, Portsmouth.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER,
ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.
First-class
Outdoor Entertainments.
WANTED, Pierrots and Novelties.
Apply,
M. Leopold, Manager.

WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS,
SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, in all Lines, open Aug. 8, rehearse Aug. 3. State library and lowest terms to Auguste A. Peulevé, General-Manager.

WANTED, Immediately, Refined Low Comedian, with good songs, for High-class Concert Party. Send photo and full particulars at once to Hayes, Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, two good Comedians (Double Turn preferred), for Al Fresco, well up in Gags, Sketches, Concerteds, &c. Address until Saturday night, Renshaw, Theatre Royal, Warrington; after Saturday, Victoria Pier, Fleetwood.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late of Catlin's Scarboro' Pierrots, vacant Monday, Al Fresco. Wire, 37, Victoria-st., Longsight, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, good Freaks or Novelties, rent or shares. Write,
Merryland, 72, Upper-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, for Edinburgh and Dundee, 3 or 4 weeks in each city. Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for W. C. and S. Hancock's Open-air Carnival, a good Aerial Show or a good Sensational Platform Show, must have drawing power as it is for a free site for two weeks, one commencing Aug. 8 for one week, the other week commencing Aug. 27. Apply until Tuesday next, W. C. and S. Hancock, Amusement Caterers, Fair Ground, Exmouth; then, Regatta Ground, Babbacombe. P.S.—Ground to let at the Regattas. First Regatta, Dawlish, Aug. 4; Babbacombe Regatta, Aug. 5 and 6; the other Regattas en route.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and post-cards in first letter.
A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Quick Side-show, Season, shares; splendid position. Will Harry Addison wire. Barron, Sea View, Exhibition, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Hindoo and Indian Artists and Performers of both sexes; also Oriental and Indian Properties of all Descriptions. State full particulars, Sears, Palace T., Blackburn.

WANTED, Smart Man, as Doorsman, combine Billing; must be capable, sober, trustworthy, willing and able to use sticks and brush. Open immediately. Particulars, age, height, chest measurement, copies of last three refs., Griffin, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Open Once, Doorsman, Lecturer, Pianist, Sing to Illustrated Pictures. Lowest terms, address, Manager, Picturedrome, Rishton.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for good Practice; wages and commission. State experience and age, &c., to Box 8,050, "The Era."

WANTED, clever Lady Palmist, &c., rental or shares, best position Manchester. Address, Manager, Royal Coronation Waxworks, 80, Oldham-street, Manchester.

Palmistry and Clairvoyance.
WANTED, Lady, 30s. week and commission. Madame Hunt, 87, Hurst-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, for Fête, Monday next, Reading Punch and Judy. Wire lowest. Eugene wire if disengaged. Smith, Salisbury Club, Reading.

WANTED, Capable Auctioneer; also Floorsmen and Doorsman.
Good salaries to good workers.
Box 8,013, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Palmist, young lady, scientific hand reading, terms 36s. weekly.
Address, 47, Gillingham-street, Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Games &c. First-class Novelties only.
Particulars may be had by applying to
The Manager, Zoo, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, finest position in Southend for high-class Palmist. Apply at once, Manager, Marine Parade Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, that having received instructions from F. P. Sander, Esq., who is leaving England, to offer for Sale by Private Treaty, all the high-class well-known Exhibition
The Empire Stereorama (patented),
the only one in England, as a going concern. This Exhibition is a far greater money-taker than any Picture Show. Can be seen built up.

Full particulars, cards to view, apply
Tom Norman, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Shop and Shooting Range, in best position in Liverpool, as going concern; low rent; long lease; electric fittings throughout; very low price. Apply, Minerva Automatic Co., 3, Gloucester-street, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.
Apply,
P. Collins,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete with Living Van; goes by rail; or Let, on terms. R. O., 65, Market-st., Manchester.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY."
The finest Spectacular Model ever produced. Marvellous Electrical Effects; grand Transformation Scenes of Beauty.
The quickest money-taker in the world for Exhibitions, Parks, Piers, Shows, Arcades.
Height 7ft. 6in., width 6ft., depth 3ft.
WANTED, to Sell.
No reasonable offer refused.
Can be seen working any time at
14, Appold-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Battery, seven ivory handles, suitable Fairs, Exhibitions, &c. Seen at Rosherville Gardens. Reasons for selling. Howes, 83, Dover-road, Northfleet, Gravesend.

WANTED, secondhand or new, Gipsy Queen or Indian Spirit Writer, also things connected with Palmistry. Apply, Cheiro, 71½, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Rink Manager, for Seaside Town, in Sept. next.
State fully qualifications, salary, age, and other particulars.
Box 8,044, "The Era."

WANTED, for Rink in Kent, Manager and Instructor, experienced.
Open in September.
State full particulars,
Box 8,031, "The Era."

WANTED, September, Managers for First-class Continental Rinks; must speak French, possess exceptional references, and be experienced in management of large rinks.
Apply, stating salary, qualifications, with photo., to J. C. Grealy, Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, E. V. Tuttle, late manager, Olympia, London, invites first-class offers; would like large Rink; salary or percentage.
All communications,
Ivydene, Adderbury-grove, Hull.

WANTED, Management of Continental Rink, by gentleman, knows good Sites, had previous Continental experience. Eric Carr, 16, Hyde-road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, two experienced Instructors, Liberty for Continental Rinks, Russia preferred. 6, Loftus-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 150 pairs of Winslow's and 123 pairs of Phillips' Skates, in excellent condition.
A. F. Cross, Prince of Wales Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, secondhand, Surface Machine, also charge for sending to Surface Floor about 5,000 square feet, at Court's Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, to Close a Trust, a Modern Theatre,
in first-class state of repair,
situated in the heart of a
prosperous Midland town;
at present Let on Lease, with about three years to run, to a reliable Syndicate.
Can be sold to show a good return on rental value.
Apply, principals or solicitors only, to
Box 8,066, "The Era."

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontages of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, Palaceum, Southport, holds 1,000 people; fine building, handsomely designed. Cost £600; take £200. Bad health. Address, Mrs. Jones, 33, Portland-st., Southport, Lancashire.

King's Funeral Film.
WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,039, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

FILMS FOR SALE.

WANTED, to Sell, excellent subjects, by leading makers, from 4s.
Lists post free.
Reed, Brown, and Co., 148, Westgate-rd., Newcastle.

WANTED, to Sell, three Universe Bioscopes, complete, including lens, condenser, lantern adjustment with lens, slide carrier and case, good as new. Best offers. John R. Poole, P. T., Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell,
at once, cheap for cash,
Two of the Smallest
Baby Teddy Bears
in England.
Must be sold to first cash offer.
Both healthy,
and not the size of
a Fox Terrier.
Box 8,042, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Black Male Pomeranian Puppy, 3½ months old, 2lb. weight, 35s.; good pedigree, very cobby, with bushy coat. Approval. Mrs. Sharples, 12, Wareham-st., Little Harwood, Blackburn.

WANTED, to Sell, a Jumping Dog, the World's Champion. Cash down.
Hunt, Jumper, Warrington.

WANTED, to Sell, Powerful Xylophones, Marimbas, Tubular Bells, Macaronis, Rattles, Gongs, Resonaphones, Organ Chimes, Glockenspiels. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Buffet Tenor Saxophone, silver plated, very latest, in case. Cost £35; accept £14. 12, St. George's-mews, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, full set, complete, on folding stand, plated, grand tone, £4. Newman, 9, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, new Fit-up through death, four Cloths, Proscenium, and eight Wings. Lager, 39, Belbeck-street, Elton, Bury.

WANTED, to Sell, two Serio Stage Dresses, Ballet set; also large Stage Basket, cheap. Seen any time.
Hunter, 66, Ifield-road, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, three Ventriloquial Figures, Nigger, Old Man, and Woman. Cost £4 10s.; take £1 15s. Apply, Capt. Corner, 59, Church-rd., Newport.

WANTED, to dispose of, an entirely new and powerful Melodrama, by two successful Authors; fine plant of specially-cut pictorials ready. Excellent title for provinces. Cast of eleven. Plenty of Comedy. Apply, Box 8,068, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 100 Songs, 3 Three-Act Musical Comedy, Four-Act Society Drama, Four-Act Melodrama, Two One-Act Musical Comedies (one without chorus), several Sketches, Acts, Scenas, and Songs. Songs, Songs, Songs.
If you don't see what you want, ask for it.
Band Parts, Music written for Plays, &c.
Egan, Bedford House, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Excellent Sketches, three characters, 1 Comedy, 1 Dramatic; for cash, or on royalty. Two winners.
Address, Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, Indian and Oriental Properties, and Goods of all Descriptions; also Electric Flood and Spot Lights, Cable, &c., and First-class Picture Machine. State full details, lowest cash price, with photos. or sketches (returnable). Sears, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, to Buy, Double Action Harp, good condition; would exchange Novelty Instruments for same. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Buy, Midget Pony, or any other Novelty, for Side-show. On approval, or useless. Scotto, 9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy for cash, odd lengths Waterproof Tilting, about 12ft. wide, any length. Davies and Sons, Turnham Green-terrace, Chiswick.

WANTED, to Buy, a Bantam Cock, to crow when wanted to, also two Trick Birds, Cockatoos or Parrots, or any other kind, must be able to do three or four tricks each. State what tricks, where to be seen, and price, by letter only, to Reno, 6, in 8 Block, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, to Buy, must be cheap for cash, Acrobatic Felt and Rolling Globe. Address, Stebbing, 2, Elsden-road, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Known, a really good price will be given for telling incidental music and really good music suitable for song in elaborate Song Scena; opening music to introduce Kaffir Village and Song (sentimental), "Always Thine," no rubbish entertained. Letters only. Box 8,057, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Buy, Large Showy Curtains, with or without Stage Fit-up. Send particulars immediately, Forsyth, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, to Let, on Building Lease, or Sold.
For further particulars apply to Box 80,
C/o Messrs. R. F. White and Son,
General Advertising Agents, 33, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, Theatre; must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity and full particulars. James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GROSVENOR HALL, 200, Buckingham Palace-rd., S.W. Ball, Refreshment, and other Rooms.
WANTED, to Let on Mondays and Wednesdays, season 1910-1911, for Public or Private Subscription Dances, Whist Drives, Concerts, At Homes, Wedding Receptions. For terms apply to Secretary.

NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, Corner Block, 58ft. by 83ft., near Guildhall, Northampton, to be Let or Sold, said to be site for Modern-built Electric Theatre. Plan, Cooley, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Commanding Central Site for New Electric Theatre to Let on Building Lease; capital found by private arrangement. In first instance please address,
Box 8,048, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Successful Play (small cast), with scenery, props., music, &c.; also Mus. Com. Owner, 18, Kersley-st., Battersea.

WANTED, Suburban Theatre or Large Hall, with Dramatic Licence; must be within easy distance of London. Full particulars, Manager, Box 8,054, "The Era."

To Cinematograph Proprietors and Others.
WANTED, to Hire, Hall for Sunday Evening Meetings, from Oct., in an accessible part of London. State seating capacity, rent, &c., to Secretary,
at 2, Newcastle-street, Farringdon-street, E.C.

WANTED, Large Shop, or Shed for Building Properties and Rehearsals, in or near London, period of six weeks to two months. Sears, Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, with capital, anxious to take up the stage as a profession, to join well-known Music Hall Act as Partner; advertiser can show Contracts for this and next year. Genuine offer. Address, Box 8,020, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, to join well-known Actress as Partner to Learn Business-Management; premium £50, returnable in salary £2 per week. Letters, D., 37, Charlwood-st., S.W.

WANTED, Known, well-known Actor-Author about to Produce Novel Dramatic Sketch desires to meet with Lady capable playing Lead, to Finance same; must be young, pretty, and a gentlewoman. Amateur not objected to. Box 8046, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner.—Gentleman of good address and influence would join First-class Picture Hall; has capital site in hand. Box 8,056, "The Era."

WANTED, by Established Manager, Partner for Pantomime. First-class towns booked. Splendid opportunity for safe, big profit. Box 8,054, "The Era."

WANTED, Female Partner, good Dancer, or would join Sisters or Troupe. State particulars (must live near), Violet, 180, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, Mandolinist (Lady or Gentleman), smart player, as Partner, Musical Act. Particulars, with photo., Otto Reinhold, 7, Wellington-street, Woolwich, S.E.

WANTED, Partner, willing to work up Acrobatic Act; one that can dance preferred. Nicholas, 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co.,
6, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, George D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton, Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Known, that I am still running my Song Factory at 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., and I have a song that will just suit you. Come in and hear it?
Egan. Egan. Egan.

WANTED, Artists desiring Professional Copies of Foster's "Encyclopædia of Fun," apply immediately. Number strictly limited. Harold Foster, Ashville Mount, Halifax.

WANTED, Mr. Grahame Arthur to wire Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham, immediately.

"HAIL, COLUMBIA."
WANTED, The Stephensons to please send route to 40, Wellington-square, Hastings, at once.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

HARRY BRAHAM.
Jim wishes to see you.
St. John's Wood.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE
ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS,
Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces, on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents,
NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd, Scarborough.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA"
IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS.
NEW YORK.
"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.,
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-
ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.
American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE. — EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Victor W. Rowe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—The above place of amusement opened on Monday with a very fine bill to crowded houses. Kenneth and Kane are the chief attraction in their comedy duo, "Oh, Oh, Oh!" which is exceedingly funny; Wyotti is a clever and witty juggler; Lillie Palmer dances well, and is a good comedienne; Jennie Moore scores in her low-comedy turn; and the pictures are good.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Junius Booth and his company are this week presenting *Monte Cristo* and *Way Out West*. Mr. Miller Anderson, Mr. J. Sanger, Mr. Harry Bannister, Mr. J. Hawden, Mr. Charles Turner, Mr. Charles B. Baker, Mr. C. W. Smith, Mr. Sidney White, and Mr. W. Huron effectively undertake the male rôles, whilst Miss Nancy Braker, Miss Lillian Deane, Miss Alice West, and Miss Jessie Blake give praiseworthy renderings of the female parts.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. — The leading feature of the Palace this week is Mr. Fred Storey and company in *Rip Van Winkle*. The Brothers St. Clair give a marvellous display of cycling feats; Marguerite Ismay and Coons dance and sing skilfully; Norman Telma is a wonderful contortionist; Peter Bermingham, the Scotch comedian, is popular; Miss Eldee gives some realistic portrayals of framed pictures; and Sheila McNeil is a sprightly Scotch comedienne.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Comedy Meisters are big favourites; Horton and Latriska give a clever display as the clown and the automaton; the Schafer Four play attractively on various instruments; Abel and Welsh are amusing and energetic in their gymnastic displays; Winnie Wing sings commendably; and Jack Smiles irresistibly infects the audiences with his own contagious humour.

ACCRINGTON. — NEW HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and company are affording great satisfaction here in their classical poses; the Videos, in a mirth-provoking skating act, are clever; Robb Wilton, comedian, comes in for a hearty reception; Della and Pley, in a laughable skit, prove entertaining; Elisa Yorke is a charming comedienne; and Cagliostro and The Adversary's Card, depicted on the Bioscope, prove interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—For the holiday week variety has been the order. The Sarnthaler troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers give several melodious vocal contributions and novel dances; the Stavordale Quintette are on a return visit with their banjo and harp speciality, the human voice imitations being especially good; Rappo and Ella go through a clever gymnastic act; the Harrison Brothers, in patter and songs, are amusing; as also is Bert Danson, comedian. Others who do well are the Sages, the Sisters Slater, and Alice Mahnur.

ALFRESCO CONCERTS.—The Merry Magnets are again claiming a fair share of patronage at their pitch on the Skating Rink lawn.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Miss Nora Carton is presenting here this week *Temptation*. Mr. Chas. H. Mortimer as the Squire of Tremaine-court skilfully delineates the character; as the crafty Blight, Mr. Clifton Roystell scores; a strong personality is made of Thorne, a gamekeeper's son, by Mr. Norman A. Overton; an impressive characterisation is also given of an old blind fiddler by Mr. George Wallace; and Miss Nora Carton is engaging and wins sympathy as Hilda Dundonald; Miss Madge Seymour sustains admirably the twin sisters Araminta and Emily; as the adventuress, Ivra Blight, Miss Lilla Wilde plays cleverly. Other parts are well characterised by Misses Anna Beaumont, Kathleen Cranston, and Messrs. Frank Ayrton, C. Gaskell, H. O. White, Benson, and Melville.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jessee Burslem.—Messrs. Chattell and Denton are presenting Max Goldberg's drama, *Through the Divorce Court*, here this week. Miss Hettie Chattell as Lady Dolores acts with much naturalness, her portrayal being enhanced by a charming personality; Mr. R. Robinson does justice to the part of Lord Penarth; the Guzman di Mendoza of Mr. Henry C. Cooper is an excellent interpretation of a passionate Spanish Creole; the Hon. Algy, as played by Jack Denton, was provocative of much hilarity; Miss Cruikshank's Lady Hilda is consistently good; and little Constance Dagmar makes an admirable Sybil; Mr. Campling making the most of the part of Leon di Valdix; the Patsy Rafferty of Mr. Harry Colbeck is an excellent study; Messrs. G. F. Leicester and G. Martinengo are good. Other parts by Misses Hudson and Johnstone and Messrs. Milson and Trebell are well played.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—This week's picture "bill" includes some special films including In the Season of the Buds and Salome.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The Cowboy's Devotion and other films are good entertainment. The variety turns is a sextette of local amateur singers in part songs.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—A fine show of pictures, with Mr. Frank E. Taylor, comedian, in song and parody, make up an entertaining programme.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A strong programme of pictures forms a big attraction here. Vaudeville turns are given by The Suttons, duettists; Mr. Raymond Synnott, vocal comedian; and Miss Maidie Vere, in catchy chorus songs.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—After an absence of a few months, during which time he has been looking after Mr. Raymond's interests at the Hippodrome, Grimsby, Mr. Edward King has again taken up the duties of resident-manager at this popular house. The excellent programme provided here drew packed houses on Bank Holiday night, and also during the week. The principal pictures were The Conqueror, Carlo's Devotion, Butler's Revenge, Animated Gazette, and Betty and Ball of String. Miss Bella Leaburn, the popular comedienne, is meeting with well-merited success.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting *Two Little Drummer Boys* with a good cast. Mr. E. Bikker as General Kingsley is very fine; whilst Mr. Polsen Turner as the infamous Captain Darrell renders the character to perfection. The "boys" are Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas, who sustain their parts well. The success of the drama is also contributed to by Miss Ada Champion. Mr. J. L. Leigh, Miss Violet Langley, and Miss P. Connaughton.

HIS MAJESTY'S. — The Villagers are paying a return visit to this theatre, and are very warmly welcomed. The superior class of their performance, together with their wide range of programmes, will certainly ensure their success.

TIVOLI.—A very good variety bill is headed by the ludicrous knockabouts Humpsti Bumsti, who fill the house and keep it merry. Other numbers are the comedians Farr and Farland; Waul Langtry, in song and patter; Maudie Ford, who sings and dances; Walter Emerson, who drolly manipulates his cane; Max Merlin, contortionist; and Bishop and Bennett, together with the pictures.

HIPPODROME.—This home of animated pictures has this week added variety turns.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—This house re-opened on Monday for the holiday week with Mr. Alexander Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie at the head of their own company in a round of popular pieces. For Bank Holiday *Jane Shore* was staged, with Mr. Marsh and Miss Baillie in the rôles of Richard (Duke of Gloster) and Jane Shore. On Tuesday at the performance of *The Ticket of Leave Man*, the cheaper parts of the house were crowded to see and hear the trials of Bob Brierley, capitally portrayed by Mr. Alexander Marsh. Miss Baillie, of course, played May Edwards with her accustomed charm. Good support was given by Mr. Wilson Gunning as Jem Dalton; and that always reliable actor, Mr. A. E. Walker did good work as Hawkshaw; Mr. Ernest Digges enacted the kind-hearted Mr. Gibson; and Mr. Jan Flemming made an amusing Melter Moss; Mrs. Willoughby was humorously undertaken by Miss Agnes Gagan. *The Lady o' Lyons* and *David Garrick* have also been put on.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Holiday audiences are embracing the opportunity of hearing that ever-charming comedienne, Florrie Gallimore, who, in her latest songs, is scoring her usual big success; the Cairo Trio display marked ability as musicians, and the Five Bombays, for their singing and dancing act, are nightly recalled; Lestree riggles with wonderful skill; Frank Boyce sings a couple of character songs; Vera Mayne essays successfully some illustrated songs; and T. C. Jaques, comedian, also appears. The pictures are the latest and best.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—This lovely theatre re-opened its doors on Monday after vacation, with a sterling attraction in Bernard Shaw's play *Candida*, presented by Miss Maire O'Neill, the fascinating and accomplished Irish actress, and members of Miss Horniman's company. Congratulations are due to Miss O'Neill for her delightful impersonation of the title-rôle, her acting being characterised by every charm; and the enthusiastic reception accorded her was well won. Mr. Ian Maclaren, a fine actor, would indeed be difficult to equal in his interpretation of the Rev. James Mavor Morell; Miss Muriel Pratt made the most of her opportunities as Proserpine Garnett. The rôle of the Rev. Alexander Mill was done full justice to by Mr. Frank Darch; a character impersonation of exceeding merit was that of Eugene Marchbanks, furnished by a most capable actor, Mr. Leonard Mudie; and Mr. Francis Hope as Mr. Burgess completed the cast. *Delicate Ground* formed the curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*In the Shadow of Night* is presented by Mr. Bruce Warwick's company. Mr. Forbes Carrington plays the rôle of John Alington with consummate skill; and Mr. Edward Fletcher appears to advantage as Gordon Alington. Miss Irene Arundel is especially good as Violet Kingston; and Miss Kittie Roze must be commended upon her clever impersonation of Mollie Woodstock. Mr. Harold Breaves appears in the dual rôle of Rev. Nathaniel Hope and Joe Jackson, and acts capitally; and Clifford Yorke is in the safe hands of Mr. Roland Douglas. Mr. Jack White is thoroughly efficient as Tom Nainby; and Mr. Harry Emmerson all that could be desired as Farmer Woodstock. Miss Kitty Johnstone acquits herself well as Bob; and Mr. William Hayward is excellent as Jake Grudgewell.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The top of the bill here is occupied by Mr. Cyril Clensy, whose clever character impersonations have been accorded a terrific reception. Leslie Harris sings some capital songs at the piano, and speedily makes himself a favourite; and Hope, Bayly, and company successfully stage *The Altar of Duty*, an episode of modern life. Mr. Dan Conroy is one of the drollest of comedians; and the juggling feats of Ernesto are remarkable. Cladis Revell's chorus songs have afforded much pleasure; and Clara Coverdale's Nine Tiny Dots have a smart and up-to-date vocal scena. Adams and Ward, comedians; Mr. W. G. Wesley, comedian; and the Hipposcope, complete the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Mr. Mike S. Whallen, whose funny and original patter has created roars of laughter. Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, one of the most accomplished of comediennes, returns to this city and gains a tremendous reception nightly for her lake scena; Shirley and Ransome appear in what is aptly described as a delightful episode, entitled *Jim's Pal*. The Bros. Miller, gymnastic comedians and burlesque wrestlers, gain much approval for their clever act; and Miss Maie Dillon is a fascinating comedienne and dancer. Miss Grace Langley, comedienne; Mr. Harry Mark, comedian and dancer; and the bioscope are also included in the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some capital pictures are being exhibited here. The vaudeville element is sustained by Beckelow Bros., speciality artists; and Mr. T. E. Bates, comedian.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—A programme replete with some beautiful films is the attraction here. Mr. R. C. Note, a clever light comedian, appears with conspicuous success.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE. — General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—After being closed for a week for alterations, this popular palace re-opened its doors on Saturday last when a capital series of pictures was presented.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Mr. Walter Steele and his company presented *A Fast Life* as the holiday attraction, and a well-filled house on Monday gave it a hearty reception. As the rascally bank manager John Dixon, Mr. Walter Steele is eminently successful; Miss Lillian Ross gives an admirable performance as Mrs. Cleveland—"a mystery"; Mr. Willie Barratt is very amusing as a burglar with song and dance; Miss Maud Ryder makes a vivacious Juliana; and Mr. Cuthbert Taylor gives a creditable character study of a money-lender. The piece is nicely staged.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Fred Granville's company in the domestic drama *Another Man's Wife* is successfully playing twice nightly. Mr. Stanley Rodcliffe gives a very effective performance of Carlos de Vergas. Mr. Granville is a clever exponent of the rôle of Paul Bernstoff, and Miss Ruby Loucraine is a charming representative of Lucia de Vergas. Remaining parts are all in capable hands, and the production is liberally staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—An attractive combination comprises Jack Pleasants, a capital comedian and an established favourite here; the Brothers Bradshaw, clever acrobatic contortionists; Miss Teddy Edmunds' company in *The Lady Jockey* is a prominent feature; Moon and Morris, versatile variety artists; Miss Millie Howell, character vocalist; Miss Jessie Merrilees, an accomplished soprano vocalist; Larry Lewis, a versatile and amusing comedian; Miss Nellie Farrell, a favourite Irish vocalist; Miss Violet Stockelle, a charming comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope with some interesting films. Mr. Ernest Denny is musical-director.

HIPPODROME. — Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—After a brief recess for the purposes of embellishment, this house re-opened on Bank Holiday with Mr. M. Montgomery's company in *Lady Godiva*. Miss Nina Vaughton is a splendid exponent of the title-rôle, Mr. Stanley S. Gordone gives a fine rendering of Edgar, Mr. R. Seath Innes is well suited as Leofric, and Algar is finely played by Mr. S. E. Scanlan. Tom o' Coventry is well assumed by Mr. H. Hesselgrove, and the cast generally is most efficient.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Harry A. Dooley.—An excellent company includes The Picaroons, Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton, Peggy Paton, Geo. Charlestone, Joyce Flower, Colin Mail, Clifford Grey, and the comedietta entitled *The Water Cure*. Brisk business prevails.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Closed Summer Vacation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The drama *The Power of the King* is based on broad elementary principles, and Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company provides a capital entertainment. A military atmosphere pervades throughout, and the characters have a picturesque setting. Mr. Charles Whitlock gives a good portrayal as the King of Vallombrosa, and Mr. Arthur St. John is clever in the character of the unscrupulous Prince Oscar. Mrs. Kimberley is convincing as the Lady Anastasia, and Miss Lyndon shows unusual ability as Lady Florina. Mr. F. G. Kimberley affords a breezy impersonation of Fritz Talheim.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss and Stolls, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Horne.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is producing *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* before delighted audiences, the one-house-nightly system having again come into operation. The plot at once engages attention, and the principal characters are portrayed in striking fashion. Mr. Chas. Ashwell in the rôle of the clergyman hero is a popular figure, and Miss Lorraine Stevens enlists warm sympathy for her natural acting. Mr. Herbert Morgan as the villain and Mr. Charles Sparrow as a dashing private soldier also merit praise. The dresses and scenic effects are excellent.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, provides the attraction here this week. Miss Nell Oliver (Barbara Wade), Miss Ada Rothwell (Nellie Meadows), and Miss Doris Whyte (Constance Cornell) play admirably. Mr. Karl F. Kerzo appears as Jack Livingstone; and Mr. Edward Valentine gives a capital portrayal of the old farmer, John Meadows.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's drama, *A Thief in the Night*, is proving a strong holiday attraction. Full houses follow the fascinating story with interest. The cast is a powerful one, Miss Beatrice Homer in the rôle of Sonia Cleeve giving an artistic portrayal; Miss Florence Walton as Joan Escombe scores well; and Mr. Leyton Cancellor appears in a heavy character with good effect. The other parts are carefully treated by a capable company.

CARLTON THEATRE. — Licensee, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. W. V. Garrod presents his company in *A Country Girl in London*. Heinrich Oppenheim is cleverly represented by Mr. Frank Dallas; Miss Maude Merrick is popular in the title-rôle; and Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson, Mr. Chas. Halling, and Mr. Scott Leighton are also conspicuous. Humorous situations are ably sustained by Miss Alice Clarke and Mr. Seymour Parry.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Miss Amy Augarde, supported by an excellent company, is warmly complimented upon her clever work in a musical farce entitled *The Sicilians*; Jackson and McLaren give an exhibition of amazing dexterity with the axe, felling trees in a manner which perplexes the audience; *Sports in a Jungle* is the title of an absurd farce presented by the Donaldson Brothers, who create roars of laughter; Harry Herbert is successful in new humorous songs; Ethel Beech is a big favourite here, and sings pleasing chorus songs; a clever combination of dancers are the Great Northern troupe; Syd Doody and Edie Wright are American comedy artists with smart business; Helene Donald's songs are illustrated; and Flo Curran is a dainty comedienne.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Crowded audiences thoroughly enjoy a well-varied performance. Horace Goldin richly deserves the title of "the great illusionist," he has several new tricks, and introduces cabinet and trunk mysteries with the assistance of Miss Jeanne Fransioli; Peter Davey's "Cock-a-doodle-doo," a little farmyard episode of Chantecler type, proves diverting; Rinaldo, the wandering violinist, provides a welcome musical treat; Miss Mabel Berra, the American prima donna, sings her songs delightfully; the Garden City Four are enthusiastically applauded for their rendering of "The Wreck of the Hesperus," which is illustrated by a series of limelight pictures; the Jackley Trio are exceptionally clever acrobatic comedians; George, the whistling comedian, causes much merriment; Luke Williams is a dainty performer; Bert Harrow keeps the audience in merry mood with his bright songs; Queen and Le Brun supply a rare bit of foolery in their sporting absurdity, *A Cockney Huntsman*.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—At the head of the bill is a tabloid melodrama entitled *The Cattle Thief*, being an episode of the cattle country in Western Wyoming. It is acted by a capable company, and abounds with stirring incidents. Miss Mabel Thorne is a vivacious comedienne whose chorus songs are heartily taken up by the audience; Bert Woodward is responsible for a clever and amusing cycling act; Irene Rose is a sweet singer; Alf Brooks has a highly amusing song on the perils of rinking; Billy Hobbs, a coon delineator, has a bright future; Dolly and Madge McCalla sing and dance very prettily; and a clever company of juveniles deputise for Brayne and Lloyd.

HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben De Freece.—This hall has been reopened under successful auspices, full houses being the order. Fred Karno's company present a revised edition of the *Mumming Birds* which sparkles with fun; Tom and Marie Motramo are meeting with unqualified success, their comedy business being bright and up to date; a splendid comedy sketch is played by Martin Adeson and company; Sterling and Love are clever entertainers who are warmly welcomed; Ted Curtis and clever juveniles introduce a smart singing and dancing speciality; Max Laube gives whistling solos; Jessie Templeton is a charming comedienne; and others who contribute to an enjoyable programme are La Belle Greta, Sam Stern, and Beattie and Blanche.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Chas. T. Aldrich is proving a big draw in his versatile entertainment, and keeps the audience continually laughing; Little Maudie Olmar, a local star, is a popular dancer; Gus Fowler manipulates watches and clocks with bewildering dexterity; the Five Sisters Warwick are smart cyclists; Lila Vesta is a comedienne with a pleasing style; Elton and Elma are smart knockabouts; the Great Four render amusing part-songs; and Harry Levaine and Master Harry, comedians, are each well received.

CURZON HALL. — Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs. — The engagement of Miss Marie D'Alcourt and Mr. John Whelan, of Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company, has proved very popular during the holiday season. *The Highwayman*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana* are included in their repertory. Their singing is highly appreciated. There is a strong picture entertainment, a thrilling detective story being told in A Case of Identity. The other subjects are of a high standard.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The programme presented here this week contains many animated subjects of an attractive nature. The Ranch Boy's Wooing and Western Justice are amongst the most popular pictures. An aeroplane flight by a performing monkey provides a splendid sensation, and acceptable variety turns are also supplied by the Brothers Clarke, duettists and dancers, and the Sisters Sinclair. The Bijou Skating Rink attracts numerous patrons.

QUEEN'S HALL. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—This hall is filled each evening. An excellent series of pictures is being shown this week, the principal item being a coloured subject entitled The Minstrel. The comic pictures are numerous, and special vaudeville is provided by Little Lillian Jones and a local comedian, Artie Royde.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—This theatre was reopened on Monday, when Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company presented *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr. Woulfe capably depicts Decus Thonto; and as Hermanus Mr. Albert Waghorn is smart; Mr. Geo. Tempest sustains Valerius with effect; and Mr. Henry Parr gives a fine rendering of Appius Merdonius. Miss Josephine Richards is a charming Polita; and Miss Edith Lorraine a delightful Præstantia. During the week *The Three Musketeers* and *Lady Godiva* are to be given.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland) Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Syd Walker is an entertaining comedian; and Monty Walker, with his Lancashire dialect, is good. Augustin gives a clever barrel-jumping turn; and the Lizette troupe of ladies submit a refined acrobatic performance; the Corcoran Bros. are smart instrumentalists; and Harold Heath, in his coon turn, is excellent. Vincent displays an interesting turn; and the Hipposcope films are appreciated.

BLACKBURN.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Anelay.—Sears, illusionist, is starring here, and presents an excellent series of tricks; Maude Mortimer, chorus comedienne, is deservedly encored; Miss Elsie and Cousin Bob do clever and original feats of strength; Vela's comedy wire act is a capital turn; as is Musical Silvo, with glasses and "silvochimes." Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks present a dramatic episode, *Her Return*; and other good turns are those of the Cedrics, in their comedy act; Ted Percival, in illustrated songs; and Arthur Harris, comedian.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Business-Manager, Mr. C. E. Clarkson; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Ersser.—A change to variety is made this week, Reano and his band providing the star turn. The Tennessee Guards present a military skit, entitled *Camp Life*; Beale and Broadway, vocalists and dancers, prove favourites; Miss Lilian M. Murray is applauded for her singing; Lazern, illusionist, performs good tricks; Raizo does clever comedy juggling; and good turns are given by the Western Bros., dancers; the Three Clarks, club swingers, &c., and Elsie Denby, comedienne.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—The high standard of films is maintained, and varieties are supplied by Mr. Jock Pickop in a smart and novel musical instrument act; George Platt, baritone vocalist; and Agnes and Arthur Lynch, in illustrated songs.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying still another visit here with *Brewster's Millions*. Mr. Hutchison repeats his clever portrayal of Monty Brewster and Miss Lillias Earle is seen again as Mrs. Dande Mille. The other parts remain in the same capable hands, and the staging is magnificent.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is responsible for a very good production of *The Dairymaids* here this week. Mr. Edwin Dodds scores a success as Jack Mivens, whilst Miss Dorothy Grasdorff as Peggy and Miss Muriel Dance as Winnie likewise merit high praise. The chorus is strong and tuneful.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A good all-round programme is provided here this week by Mitchell and Caine, a pair of clever American comedians; the Waldrons, in a sketch; Sandy McNab, with *The Egyptian Mummy*; Henry Cazman, the one-man music-hall; Florence Yayman, in coon songs; the Romps, in a musical scena; and Francini-Olloms, the wonderful tumbling musician.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. J. F. Preston's well-known company in *Secrets* is the attraction here this week.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—The series of pictures shown are of an interesting description.

THE HIPPODROME.—A varied pictorial programme has proved attractive.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint-Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Sydney James is presenting his successful Royal Strolling Players, who give a capital musical and humorous entertainment. The company includes Miss Maidie Harrison, Miss Clara Pierse, Miss Lena Lawton, Miss Marion James, Mr. Victor Wallace, Mr. Steve Buckingham, Mr. Aubrey Kennett, and Mr. Gilbert Fernie.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week *The Naked Truth* is given here by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, with Mr. Stanley Logan as Bunny Darrell, a part which suits him admirably; Miss Violet Ley plays the part of Mrs. Hayter in a skilful manner; Mr. Erskine Lang capitally represents the brainless fop, Teddy Lestrange; Miss Dora Fellowes as Mme. Favre and Miss Kathleen Maude as Norah Creighton are both good in their respective parts; Mr. Townsend Whitling as the irascible uncle, Mr. E. B. Beltran as Mr. Hayter, Miss Ormonde Wynne as Mrs. Darrell, and Miss Lilian M. Russell as the maid Hammond well sustain their respective parts. *Feed the Brute* precedes.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—During the recess the theatre has been renovated and redecorated, and many improvements have been carried out in the interior, which presented a charming appearance on Monday night, when reopened by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company with the French society drama *The Eyes of the World*. Miss Van Praagh's clever and emotional acting as the wronged Helene de L'Orme won for her hearty sympathy and unstinted applause; and Mr. Charles O'Connor was effective in his representation of her erring husband Hector de L'Orme. Mr. Guy P. Ellis's Gaston de Carnac was a well-sustained effort; and as Octave (his son) Mr. Royce Carleton acted with genuine feeling and earnestness. Mr. Whitty invested the part of Achille Fanfarade with humour; Mr. R. Wilton Bedford acceptably sustained the rôle of Paul Roqueville; Miss Flora Hastings effectively filled the unenviable part of Mme. Esme de Carnac; as Mlle. Susanne Pomfleure Miss Nellie Garside was bright and buoyant; and Miss Edith Rutland quite won her audience in a tender and charmingly natural impersonation of Avice de L'Orme. The play is very prettily staged and costumed.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton. — Mr. C. Watson Mill's drama of strong interest and striking situations and incidents, *A Wrecker of Men*, is the attraction here, and Miss Ruth Zillwood as the vile Jezebel Risca Mallinson is earning groans of derision as a tribute to the strength and real earnestness of her acting. She has fine support from Mr. Victor Rae as Pharosaphus, Mr. R. Bosco as Railton, Mr. Thompson Carruthers as Eric Melville (her associates in crime); Mr. A. Robinson, as the badly-used hero Guise Strange; Mr. A. S. Pitt, as the genial burglar Jim Marley; and Miss Gwendoline Talbot, as Doris Melville; Miss Lydia Hart, as Vavasole Slopper; Mr. W. A. Armour, as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt; and Mr. E. A. Brooke, in the dual rôle of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus the Mummy. There are some clever and realistic stage effects introduced into the drama.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—The wonderfully clever trick cyclists, the Jackson family, are earning unstinted and well-merited marks of approbation here this week for a remarkable performance; the Polaskis (Will and Sam), with "parleying patter," elicit laughter; in *Music Mad* the Leslie Brothers are clever and very funny; Jennie Hartley is a most attractive comedienne and dancer; *Fun in a Music Shop* is a bright turn by Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley; Horace Pollock and company present A. W. Pinero's comedietta *Hester's Mystery* very acceptably; in a song-scena, viz., *In Andalusia*, with cinematograph effects, Sylvia Du Barry is dramatic, and she sings well; Otto Tate and Lola Tate's turn, *The Barmaid and Her Customer*, is very clever as an acrobatic display, and certainly eccentric; Jack Lane's Yorkshire dialect stories and jokes elicit very hearty laughter; and there are some amusing pictures shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Sable Fern, comedienne, presents here this week a stirring and musical scena, *Boy Scouts in Camp*, and, assisted by C. J. Russell as a Chelsea pensioner, the turn has a decided military flavour. As a wooden shoe dancer Harry Martell is expert; Leo and Roland give a daring and clever performance as ladder equilibrists; *The Ace of Hearts* is an intensely interesting dramatic sketch submitted successfully by James Willard's company; as an acrobat and contortionist Juno Salmo, "the devil dandy," is very clever; Mollie Doon, comedienne, sings some capital chorus songs; Aora, the billiard table juggler, introduces some smart and novel tricks; and the pictures are interesting. The redecorating of the hall is now completed, and the general effect is very charming.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and Hanworth Browning's company opened the theatrical season here on Monday with *Dolly Reforming Herself*. The comedy was admirably played Miss Dorothy Giles giving a very fine rendering of the title-rôle. Miss Florence Steventon as Mrs. Sturgess was equally good. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards as Harry Telfer and Mr. Frank Stoney as Mr. Barron played the parts to perfection; Mr. Russell Barry as the Professor, Mr. H. Browning as Captain Wentworth, Mr. Dauncey as Criddle, and Mr. R. Symonds as the Rev. Pilcher were all admirably suited, and the play went with a swing from start to finish.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Floral Pavilion is packed nightly at Mr. Megone's Promenade Concerts, and the principal orchestra being now at its full strength the well-chosen programmes are a great treat. Mr. Joseph Lycett is the vocalist, and his rich bass voice is highly appreciated. Miss Myra Hess was the special artist at the Symphony Concert, and gave a finished rendering of the pianoforte part in Saint Saën's No. 4 Concerto. Mr. Walter George and "The Smart Set" are drawing crowds to the Grand Pavilion. Miss Georgie Martin's humorous songs and dances are delightful, and Miss Kitty Farrell's selections are capitally rendered. Miss Lena Hutchings, soprano, and Miss Mabel Sylvester, elocutionist, are loudly applauded.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The season is now in full swing at this fashionable resort. Monday night was the Confetti Carnival, and on Wednesday a grand gala was held, with a big fireworks display. Herr Julian Kandt's admirable band is drawing packed audiences to the glass dome. Miss Gertrude Maxted, the vocalist of the week, possesses a soprano voice of great purity, and sings with admirable effect. Miss Annie Crofts, in her capital songs and dances is enthusiastically encored. Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots opened on Monday on the al-fresco stage which has just been erected, and quickly established themselves in favour.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here with *The Still Alarm*, which is effectively staged. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville gives an excellent impersonation of Jack Manley; Mr. Wilton Reed is forcible as the villainous John Bird; Mr. Henry C. Gilpin submits an admirable enactment of Doc Wilber; Miss Mabel Veriton is well suited as Mrs. Manley; Miss Minnie Willett makes a charming Elinor Fordham; much amusement is afforded by Mr. Edward Hobart as Willie Manley and Mr. Gerald Shirley as Joe Jones; Miss Lydia Andre is very successful as Carrie Wilber; and Mr. Lewis Gordon's Franklyn Fordham deserves commendation.

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Harry Tate's company provides plenty of amusement with *Motoring*; Frank Sylvo is clever and quaint as a comedy juggler; Tom Moore, comedian and vocalist, wins hearty applause; Walter Wallace is a diverting comedian; Madge Beresford is a pleasing vocal comedienne; Eddie Burns, wooden-shoe d

their vocal and dancing act; Bodpn and Bell are pleasing juvenile duettists and dancers; the Brothers Schilinsky are capital hand-balancing acrobats; Evelyn Taylor is a dainty comedienne; Rosie Lloyd, comedienne, contributes capital songs; George French appears in a football burlesque; and Toss 'Em Cornalla and Miss Em. Biddie are clever jugglers and acrobats.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened here on Monday with *Smith*. Mr. Robert Minster made a manly and popular Tom Freeman; Miss Cicely Stuckey as the maid-servant Smith gave a charming enactment; Mr. George Child as Fletcher submitted a good character study; Mr. H. Douglas Greet was effective as the parasite, Algy Peppercorn; Miss Pauline Straus was admirably suited as Emily Chapman; and good portrayals were given by Mr. F. G. Thurstans (Mr. Dallas-Barker), Miss Ethel Hodgkins (Mrs. Dallas-Barker), and Miss Ethel Wellesley (Mrs. Otto Rosenberg).

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Keal.—Mr. Leonard Boyne and company are here with *Raffles*. Mr. Boyne in the title-rôle displays masterly acting; Miss Hilda Moore makes a charming Gwendoline; Miss May Brooke is powerfully effective as the unscrupulous Mrs. Vidal; Mr. E. W. Thomas merits warm praise for his enactment of Curtis Bedford; Mr. Harold West gives a capital representation of Bunny; and other commendable impersonations are submitted by Mr. F. Kingsley Peile, Mr. D. Darrell, Miss Agnes Knight, and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The exhibitions of animated pictures here prove as popular as ever. Very dramatic stories are conveyed by Her First Appearance, Dog Detective, and Caught in the Web; Volendham is a picturesque travel film; and those of an amusing character include A New Appointment, Mistaken Identity, and The Merry Widow Takes Another Partner. Mr. Osland Denner contributes new illustrated songs.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—There is a capital series of pictures here, and, as a rule, there are full houses. The recent Brighton Naval and Military Tournament in Preston Park is admirably depicted; The Cowboy's Sweetheart and An Episode in 1812 are intensely dramatic; Sea Birds' Rocks in the Baltic is highly interesting; the comic pictures include Fabian Hunting Rats and A Modern Paul Pry; and Nick Winter, the Brainy Tec, is entertaining.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The attraction for the holidays is *Tantalizing Tommy*, capitally played by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company. Miss Nellie Lonnen is most amusing as Tommy, her vivacious style being happily suited to the part; Mr. Hastings Lynn acts effectively as Jimmy Cottenham; Mr. Ambrose Flower does well as Harry Kellick; and Miss Eva Brickwell makes a good character part of Bertha, the servant. The performance on Monday evening commenced with a short entertainment of song and story cleverly contributed by Miss Eileen Terence.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Harry C. Alty.—*The Midnight Wedding* is staged here. Mr. Alfred Paumier and Miss Lilian Hallows both act excellently their respective parts of Paul Valmar and the Princess Astrea; Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes is consistent and effective as Captain Rudolph; Mr. Stuart Black displays considerable ability as Lieut. Eugene Strelsburg; and all the remaining parts are in capable hands. The play is elaborately mounted and well dressed.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Tom Davies' Trio please with their sensational feat of "Motoring in Mid-Air," the saucer-shaped track being suspended above the stage; Fanny and Harry Dent score with their novel mélange, "The Indian Bottle"; Dora Lyric is a pleasing comedienne and chorus vocalist; the Crisps Trio of dancers present an excellent and attractive turn; Tom Ivy, comedian, is successful; Alice Blandford is an accomplished vocalist; the Stowe Brothers are smart equilibrists and tumblers; George Campbell, comedian, obtains applause; Lilian Benson and company do well with their sketch *Silence for Silence;* and animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Anna Chandler, American comedienne, presents a very pleasing and attractive turn; Fred S. Peake and Dora Davis score with their dramatic sketch *The Swashbuckler;* the Four Roses are appreciated in song and dance; Sam Bean, comedian, is popular; Truro and Breece are smart eccentric comedians; Sadie Stewart is pleasing both in song and dance; Belrose and De Velin are accomplished operatic duettists; Mazuz and Mazette obtain much appreciation for their comic speciality; Frank Harwood, light comedian, does an acceptable turn; and animated pictures of the Johnson-Burns fight conclude.

Zoological Gardens.—Superintendent, Captain E. W. B. Villiers.—The weather being fine, there was a very large attendance here for the August Bank holiday fête. The variety company included the Flying Winskills, in a clever trapeze act; Vant and Vant, comedians and dancers; Fred Zarinella, comedian; Fred Portch, comedian; the Two Ardells, negro comedians; Pasarno, lightning painter; La Belle Margo, trapeze and rope gymnast; and Le Blond and Miss O. I. Dare, in their novelty act. There was also a smart and acceptable extra turn of song and dance by a young lady whose name did not transpire; Mr. George Walker accompanied on the piano. There was the usual country fair. Mr. Tom Weymouth's band provided selections, and played for dancing; and a fine selection of fireworks was given by Messrs. W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham. Mr. Tom Wood, of Whitehouse, Bristol, catered for the whole of the entertainment.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The animated pictures shown here are welcomed by good audiences. The items are delightfully varied.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A beautiful series of tableaux is presented here by Miss Alice Hoodless; the Four Vagabonds are a fine vocal comedy quartette with excellent voices; Garti and Law are a neat comedy couple; Espinosa gives artistic examples of dances of different periods; and a good turn is provided by Lian and Davies in a vocal scena. Scholey and Scholey, in a comedy sketch, are good; and His Chum is depicted by the Empire Theatroscope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—L'Incognita takes first place here, and delights the house with brilliant soprano singing; the Mars Trio present a real gymnastic act; and Crosby and Walker have some funny patter. Jessie Wilton pleases with two nice songs; the Seddons are clever in a juggling set; and Adderley Howard and company present a naval sketch, *Black-Eyed Susan*. The Palace pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ede Hague Body.—The theatre was re-opened on Bank Holiday with an excellent variety programme. Mephisto, the mysterious, headed the bill with a most bewildering entertainment, which astounded the large audience assembled; Sybil Montague, soprano vocalist, was heard to advantage; a clever performance was given by Mr. W. A. Harvie on his telegraph wire; Rene, a clever lady juggler, was also well received; the Three Veros (Vera Dorrie and Dave) were responsible for some pretty figure dancing; Mr. Andee Burns, comedian and dancer, gained plenty of applause; and Miss Grace Lester and company, in a *Ruined Life*, acted effectively.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Resident-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*The Outcast of the Family*, presented twice nightly by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company, is proving a decided attraction. Prominent in the cast are Mr. Wybert Clive as Sir Henry Thorne; Mr. Jack McCaig as Harry Thorne; Mr. Bert Oates as Richard Martin; Mr. Tom Roydon as Stephen Barry; Mr. Edward W. Cudd as Abram Wasper; Mr. Tom Armitage as Joe Bushell; Miss Freda Beckett as Nancy Bray; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd as Grace Redburn; and Miss Elsie Shelton as Ruth.

Circus of Varieties.—Pictures maintain their popularity here, and the Sisters Page, duettists, and Tom Hamer, coon singer and dancer, are pleasing turns.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—A strong dramatic sketch, entitled *Under Suspicion*, is admirably played by Horace Hunter and company. Horace Hunter and Olivia Elione are particularly good in their parts. Other good turns are those of Annie Martin, comedienne; Smith and Gibbs, athletes; Jessie Jukes, comedienne and dancer; Monahan and Sheehan, instrumentalists and vocalists; Field and Mansel, lightning picture painters; and Jack and Evelyn, smart and versatile entertainers.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—The Bank Holiday attraction was Mr. Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's company in *Don*. The ingenious play was excellently performed, and was followed by the audience with very great interest. A capital Canon Bonington was submitted by Mr. Arthur Willoughby, and Mr. Gordon Bailey was really excellent as Stephen Bonington. Mr. Charles Tyrel played General Sinclair with conspicuous ability, and a fine piece of acting was Mr. Charles Harley's Albert Thompsett. Miss Emma Hutchison was particularly well suited with her part of Mrs. Bonington and Mrs. Sinclair had a capable representative in Miss Cecilia Gordon. A pleasing Ann Sinclair was Miss Viola Garland, who played with natural grace. Miss Violet Harley acted very prettily as the much-persecuted Elizabeth Thompsett, and was particularly successful in the delicate work in the third act. *Chalk and Cheese* preceded, smartly played by Mr. Lionel Bevans, Miss Viola Garland, and Miss Mamie Matthews. For the remainder of the week we have Mr. Benham's company in *Old Heidelberg*.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—A most exhilarating programme is headed by Slippere, the blind musician and mimic; the pictures are good; and among other turns are Martin Conway, comedian, and the Wards.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Fighting Chance* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Sydney Vautier acquits himself capitally as the hero, Captain Jim Blanchard; and Mr. Austin Milroy appeared to advantage as Stephen Blanchard. Mr. Arthur Elwyn ably fills the rôle of the villain, Captain Philip Rivers; Miss Helen Newton was a pretty and capable Marjorie Vorland; and Miss Marie Duncan as Ethel Hardy was deservedly popular.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The bill here is headed by the popular comedian Wilkie Bard, whose funny songs and business provoke the heartiest laughter; an entertaining turn is that of Tom Foy and company, in their absurdity *First of April;* Nelson Jackson proves himself an artist of ability; the King's College Boys, in their musical pot-pourri, "A Students' Concert," are pleasing singers; while the humorous disillusionments of Les Marco Belli caused much laughter. *The Electrician*, a comedy skit by the Haytors (Frank, Walter, and Winnie), goes well; and as comedy acrobats Niagara and Falls excel. Maudie Francis, juvenile comedienne, and the American Bioscope, complete a good programme.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, headed by Wee Georgie Wood, the boy comedian; Haines and Borthwick present with much success their funny sketch *Half-a-Dollar*, and others who appear successfully are Cosgrove and Burns, in a singing scena; Tom Garland, ventriloquist; Kitty Clinton, comedienne; G. W. Blythe's company, in the vocal scena, *The Toilers;* Tom Gott, Yorkshire comedian; and Bert Anderson, conjuror.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The popular and versatile actor Mr. Charles Collette is here in a bright little sketch, *Pyjamas*, in which he is ably supported by Miss Ethel Fane; Chas. Sloman is a clever comedian; Bert Retford is a stylish light comedian; and Trevor and Ware are clever dancers and patterers. The Newmans' cycling act is very popular; Eric and Nora give a musical act which is attractive; and Mabel and Hester Reeve, comediennes; Ethel Shepherd, comedienne; and Queenie Morris, in a novel swinging hoop act, complete the programme.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Raglus, the entertaining comedy juggler, is a big favourite here this week; the Werdo Bros. repeat their eccentric acrobatic act; Groggin and Davis are clever and amusing acrobats; Le Hurst is a diverting ventriloquist; and Burt Ward tells comic tales and whistles admirably. The Scottish Chiefs, pipers and dancers of much merit; Lilian Rose, an excellent character vocalist; and some fine pictures complete.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company opened here on Monday with *The Eve of Her Wedding*. George Tremaine is well played by Mr. Wilson Benge; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle gives a vigorous portraiture of Dean Clifton; Miss Mona Gray plays with intensity as Renie de Telle; while Miss Pauline Nanton ably depicts the sufferings of Marvis Leverton. Praise can be given to Mr. Jay K., Mr. Sidney P. Clewlow, and Miss Dora Mason, who, as Rudolph Earle, Dick Leverton, and Kinkie, work hard in humorous rôles. A clever study of Giovanni is contributed by Mr. W. H. Pointon; Paul Cairshaw is made a conspicuous success by Mr. Louis Lingard; while Mr. H. Hastings gives a sound delineation of Jack Herne, a cripple. For the last three days of the week Mr. Benge and company will play *The Sinner*.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. H. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—An excellent programme here is headed by the Jees (five in number), who, in a sketch, *The Musical Smithy*, prove themselves accomplished musicians; Miss Trixie De Tay is an excellent vocalist and dancer; Miss Florrie Elliston is a pleasing singer with a rich voice; a capital series of pictures is given by the Loyal Dominion company.

CHATHAM.—Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—The leading item in the programme here is the production of *A Night in Egypt*, by Alice Raymond and company, who get a capital reception nightly; Stacey and Williams may be placed among the smartest cross-talk comedians visiting this hall; the Three Orleans give a neat turn of song and dance; Great Scott surprises all by his dexterity upon an unsupported ladder; the Shelleys give an interlude entitled *Also Ran;* Lylie Read's vocal selections are appreciated; and Maude Vera is popular. The Edisonograph has capital pictures of the Japanese sailors during their recent visit to Gravesend.

CHESTER.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Will Douglas's Troupe of Five Jolly Bakers, in their comedy Risley act, *The Bakers' Beano*, is a big success; Amy Bellwood is a charming comedienne; Dennis and Morris are excellent comedians and dancing experts; and Argo deserves praise for his clever farmyard mimicry. The other artists are Colbert, in smart tricks with clubs and hoops; the Hendersons, original and clever speciality artists; and T. C. Buffery's Elite Harmony Boys, in an enjoyable vocal act. "Messmates Ashore." On Tuesday afternoon Mr. H. G. Pelissier and his famous Follies paid a flying visit, and delighted an appreciative audience.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Thomas Butt.—Edward Lauri and May Beattie, in a musical comedy play, entitled *The Lady Bandits*, are a great attraction; Cliff Ryland treates much merriment; Ethel Dove is a clever comedienne and dancer; Ray and Calden's comedy act is a pleasing item; Cecile Beresford, chic comedienne at the piano, scares heavily; and Harry Russon as an actor-comedian is also a feature of the programme.

West Cliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell and Bentley.—The excellence of the programme here is attracting full houses. The artists include Annie Bartle, soprano, Harry Barratt, baritone; Fred Pardoe, character impressionist; Bert Graham, humorist and monologist; Bernard Russell, comedian; Will Bentley, comedian; and Cyril Weller, at the piano.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully cooling and refreshing during the summer after motoring, golfing, cycling, tennis, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Heat, and Irritation, and gives a resisting power to the skin surface in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores.—M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Operetta House.—Lessee, Mr. W. P. Jury; Manager, Mr. Chas. F. Meadows.—The films here this week are of great merit, those deserving particular mention being The Tramp's Story, In the Pyrenees, and The Suit-case Mystery. During the evening Revene and Elton, acrobatic comedians, give a clever and humorous show.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona—The management secured a great musical treat for the holiday week in Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company. On the night of our visit *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were rendered in meritorious style, the remaining portion of the week being set apart for *Carmen, La Traviata, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Rigoletto, Lucia di Lammermoor*, and *Faust*. In the first-named performances Signor Barbato, Signor Vail, Signor Catini, and Signor Barterra scored; Signora Defral revelled in her parts in both operas; whilst Signora Barbato was very good. The audience was most enthusiastic, and curtains were frequent.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Notwithstanding the great heat, good houses were present on Bank Holiday. Ernest Cadle's *The Casey Army* tops the bill, and is a highly effective line for a holiday crowd; Hayes and Merritt gave a very fine display; the Moxon Trio works hard and successfully; Ruby Emerson, a pantomime favourite, scores with her two songs; Bert Marsden scores with his "comedian" repertoire; the Two Whites appear to advantage as a comedy duo; and Alice Maple does well as a comedienne and dancer.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mme. De Rose and Miss Hilda Claremont top the bill with pleasing duets, &c.; J. W. Hawtrey, character vocalist, does well; the Three Orros give a clever performance on the silver chains; while J. P. Carroll is clever as the soldier tambourinist. A capital series of pictures are also shown.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The variety entertainment here this week includes the Four Janowskys in a clever head balancing and acrobatic turn; Cissy Madcap, with song and dance; Wee Winnie, male impersonator, and pictures.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson's company opened here on Monday in *The House Opposite*. Mr. Neilson as Richard Cardyne gave a masterful conception of the part; Miss Amy Sangster enacted Mrs. Rivers with conviction and feeling; the Marie of Mrs. Dorothy Blackader was an engaging performance; and Miss Elfie Leigh Hunt was excellent as Mrs. Calthorpe. Mr. J. F. Fox as Sir Edward Harrowby, K.C.B., supplied an admirable portrayal; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde as the Right Hon. Henry Rivers, K.C.M.P., acted satisfactorily.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—This house reopened, after alterations and decoration, on Monday evening with the presentation, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*. The two chief characters are Jack Cunningham and the Beggar Girl, which are admirably taken by Mr. Norman B. Cannon and Miss Muriel Dean. Mr. Wm. J. Riley as Gilbert Lindsay and Miss Ernestine Walter as Maud Villiers are also largely responsible for the success of the piece. Mr. Fred Hodson as Dicky Storm, Mr. C. Barclay as Dr. Millbank, Mr. Frank McClellan as Norman March, Mr. Herbert Goddard as Robert Grimshaw, Miss Sybil Hare as Elsie Sunningham, and Miss Daisy Maynard as Tina Torkington all enact their parts capably.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The various musical numbers of the Elliott-Savonas are excellently rendered on many varied instruments; the turn is finely staged, the electrical effects being very pleasing. Ernie Mayne is a funny and eccentric singer; the Three Cunards are clever dancers; and a smart trapeze performance is given by Senorita Elvina. Other artists are Ethel Campbell, a dainty comedienne, and Russell Wallett, the famous entertainer and mimic.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The holiday bill here is full of talent. Marie Kendal sings her ditties with plenty of go; Fred Elton's songs are capital; Geo. Gilbey is a quaint comedian; Ridiculous Recco, burlesque acrobat, is droll; Clark and Hamilton keep the audience in good humour; Steve McCarthy is a commendable comedian; Frank Cass has a fine voice; Ross, Elvio, and Ross are great in acrobatic sketch, *Those Troublesome Slaveys;* Allis and Cassati, comedy duo, deserve a good word; the Three Oxford Boys sing and dance creditably; and genuine work is put in by Carlotta de Yonson and company in *Sexton Blake in America*.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A capital holiday programme is headed by Mr. Harry Kemble's company in a musical comedy sketch entitled *The Gay Countess*. Mr. Walter Dale as Marmaduke, Mr. Gus Danby as Charlie Chapell, and Miss Josie Parrington in the title-rôle make the comedy go with a swing. Included in the show is a clever quartette of singers and dancers. The Sisters Geretti are clever on the trapeze. Other good turns are Francesca, vocal; Dulcie Valli, comedienne; Bob Selvidge and Popsy Holland, in a musical absurdity; The Markies, in a quick-change scena; Francis Katkell with vocal pictures; and the latest pictures on the Darloscope.

Palace (late Hippodrome).—Lessees, The East Coast Variety Halls, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—After being closed for five weeks this hall has opened under new management. The building has been redecorated and great improvements have been made, making it one of the prettiest houses in the North. The clever Verona Troupe of cyclists head the bill, and are a great attraction; Paul Corrix gives a marvellous turn as heavy-weight equilibrist; Harry Nelson, comedian, is well received. Other attractions are Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing box-makers; Will McIvor, tenor vocalist; The Whittakers, in a comedy skit, *Dick Whittington;* Fayre and Manning, dancers, and the Bioscope.

DARTFORD.—The Conservative Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Dan Barnard.—Mansell Fane is very popular here in illustrated songs; Vex and Mars, in comic acrobatic specialities, are loudly applauded; while other excellent numbers are May Pritchard, comedienne; the Sisters Volbeque, comedy duettists; and Laura Maxted, vocalist.

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Among the pictures shown are Hunting Wolves in Russia, A Child's Courage, Double Dealing, and The Tec's Dream. Varieties are supplied by the Three Naughts, two smart piano players and a comic waiter, and Mlle. Waldorf, soprano vocalist.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—A musical comedy, entitled *The Belle of the Orient*, produced by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts' company, figures as the star turn of an excellent holiday programme. The sketch is brimful of fun, and goes with a swing throughout. Jack Mackenzie, as "A Woman" and "Other Things," provides some clever and amusing patter; Metz and Metz, versatile comedians and dancers, are well worthy of mention; Gladys Hooley is an accomplished violinist; Odeyne Spark is pleasing in song and dance; Les Arabellas give a clever and artistic wire act; Mlle. Pollo does well as a rapid trapezist; and Staffa causes much amusement in his novel juggling turn. The Bioscope concludes a good drawing bill.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Pearce.—The amusing comedian, Mr. George Bastow, is a big attraction here this week. Viviana and company, in *The Toyshop*, supply an admirable turn; Arabella Allen depicts characters from Dickens with realism; Danvers and Allen are entertaining in *A Pantomime Boy;* and Bromley and Fontein are responsible for an amusing sketch. The other contributors are Crystal and Savage and May B. Brilliant.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The musical farce, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is here this week. Miss Florence Baines, in the part of the Lancashire Lass, Mary Ellen Thompson, is an entertainment in herself; Miss Nellie Shine is fascinating as Eva Lancashire, and is a vocalist of ability; and Mr. David Donaldson does excellently in the part of John Higgins.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Raynor's répertoire company is drawing good houses, the plays produced being *Jim the Penman, Moths, Camille*, and *Still Waters Run Deep*. In *Moths* Mr. Raynor gives an excellent portrayal of Lord Jura, his fine acting receiving well-deserved applause; Miss Dora Dench displays much ability in her sympathetic impersonation of Vere Herbert; Mr. Charles Brandon gives an excellent rendition of Prince Zergius; as the Duchess De Sonnaz Miss Cecilia Dare is admirable; Mr. Conrad Heywood is well suited to the part of the singer, Raphael de Corrèze; too much praise cannot be given Miss Hilda Blanche for her able depiction of the American girl Fuchsia Leach; Mr. Milton Curtis as the Duke of Mull and Miss Frances Waring as Lady Dolly are effective. The play is capitally staged.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—The first anniversary of the opening occurs this week, and an attractive bill is submitted, at the head of which is Haley's Juveniles, who present a very clever scena, embracing smart singing and dancing; the Faludy Troupe perform some marvellous acrobatic feats; Reg Beauchamp furnishes a humorous turn; Eunice and Zena, instrumentalists, are successful; Alice Golding has an excellent voice, which she uses to great advantage; Helda de Grey scores heavily; Wisper, comedy juggler, is both clever and amusing; Miss Bloom is a pleasing comedienne; and an excellent film, entitled The New Boss of the Bar "X" Fence, is shown on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—Lawson and Odell are warmly received for some excellent singing and dancing; Annette and Leona are a couple of clever gymnasts; Dick Livesey, Lancashire ventriloquist, is original, and evokes much laughter and applause; Kavados receives a well-merited reception for his juggling; the Sisters Brenton score a success with their capital singing and dancing; Flo Melville is a dainty comedienne; and an outstanding feature of the programme is the Animated Pictures, which are remarkably clear and steady.

DINNINGTON (Yorks.).—Lyric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Jas. England.—The management are to be highly congratulated upon the successful reopening of the Lyric on Saturday evening last, when Miss Grace Warner's company appeared in a triple bill, including *The Wages of Sin, East Lynne*, and *A Scarlet Clue*. In the first-named drama Miss Warner acted quite up to her reputation, the house being moved alternately to tears and laughter by her pathos and humour. She is well supported by a powerful all-round company. George Brand, the curate, is powerfully portrayed by Mr. George Gordon; and Stephen Marler, the villain of the piece, is well portrayed by Mr. Frank Esmond. Josiah Deane, the millowner, has a capable exponent in Mr. Frank Hertie; and the part of Ned Drummond leaves nothing to be desired in the hands of Mr. Louis Nanton. The piece is well relieved by the drolleries of Jemima Bloggs (Miss F. M. Daly); whilst as Juliana Bloggs, an aspirant for histrionic fame, Miss Lizzie Palmer is excellent. A pretty duet, "The Elfin's Call," is well sung in the third act by Miss Ethel Warner and Master Willie Taylor. The piece is well staged and well dressed, and the orchestra quite equal to the task imposed upon it.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A successful holiday attraction is provided in *For Love and the King*, which has drawn large crowds. Mr. C. Watson Mill plays Gerald Meredith powerfully; Mr. Alfred Maurice gave a capital assumption of Michael Obrenovic; Mr. John C. Carlyle as Vladimir Obrenovic acted artistically; Mr. C. W. Spencer made a striking personality of King Kara Dragomir; Mr. Oscar Power was very funny as Carl Oppenheim; Miss Kitty Melville was a charmingly natural Grazia Obrenovic; and Miss Ivan Ellis, Miss Esther Staines, and Miss Rosa Mervyn were all well placed.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Wood.—*When Knights Were Bold* is here. Mr. James Welch is exquisitely funny in the chief rôle, and is admirably supported by Miss Audrey Ford and the other members of his company.

Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Dollar Princess* is presented by Mr. George Edwardes's smart company. Mr. Fred Leslie has his father's talent and resource, which is saying a good deal; Mr. Alec Worcester as Freddy Fairfax sang excellently; Mr. Hugh Henson as Dick played admirably; Mr. George Miller was funny as Mr. Bulger; and Mr. Charles Ross made an efficient Earl of Quorn. Miss Kathleen Courtenay was a captivating Alice; Miss Daisy Elliston was most commendable.

The Palace, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The attendance at the Palace recently has been numerically phenomenal, and the magnet has been Mr. Bransby Williams in his inimitable Dickensian impersonations. Miss Lil Hawthorne is singing the songs that the populace delight in with her usual vim and dash; Miss Sadie Simpson sings with aplomb and dances with daintiness; the Unitis and the Havanna Troupe are excellent acrobatic performers; Miss Ada Gatley presents a charming pot-pourri act; and Mr. Lloyd Morgan as a light comedian scores. In addition the ballroom is crowded with dancers; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, with its up-to-date animated pictures, adds to the enjoyment. The management here are also engineering fancy dress carnivals; and the skating rink, with exhibitions of the art, are given by Professor W. Easton Lawson.

Derby Castle, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—Vast crowds flock to this hall, where Miss Florrie Forde is singing "Flanagan." The boxing act of the Harvey Boys goes with a swing; Miss Lillie Lonsdale has a pretty soprano voice, which she uses to advantage; Mr. Ernie Myers, a patter comedian, makes for success. Other good items are Miss May Mars, the Pasquali Brothers, and Natalia and Diana. The Lyons Robertson Troupe present a smart comedy in tabloid form. Other attractions at Derby Castle are dancing and the various side-shows.

Onchan Head Pleasure Grounds and Winter Gardens.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Collier Cubbon.—Miss Grace Jean Crocker is appearing here, and had a most enthusiastic reception for her recitations; Mr. Charles Harvey is as funny as ever; Mr. J. H. Scotland sings with his usual power; Mr. Alf Maynall is an excellent comedian; and Mr. Alexander Webster sings with power. Miss Elsie Steadman is successful. Other attractions at Onchan Head are the open-air skating-rink, flower carnivals, bal masques, and fireworks.

Connor's Grand Circus.—Sole proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Connor.—The audiences at the circus have been large, and the entertainment provided has pleasured them. Miss Mona Connor's work as an equestrienne is daring and dainty; the clowns are really funny; young Douglas Connor is also a promising rider; and other excellent items are Frederico and Edgardo (eccentric acrobats), Stanley and Oakfield (smart dancers and fun-makers), and Karl Cynski, who presents a novel musical speciality. The Circuscope has fascination for many people.

Other attractions in Douglas are Fred Buxton's entertainments, which are multiple—pierrots, animated pictures, billiards, and skating; Mr. Charles Dare's Empire and White Minstrels on Douglas Head; and Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots at the Palace and Derby Castle.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Mouillot's company, in *A Message from Mars*, is here this week. Mr. F. St. Burbe West gave an excellent portrayal of Horace Parker; as the Messenger from Mars, Mr. William H. Brougham scored a success; and Miss Aubrey Ashton was admirable as Miss Parker; Mr. Norman Clark as the Tramp sustained the part cleverly and Miss Josephine Middleton made a bewitching Minnie Templar; Mr. Maitland Barr was good as Arthur Dicey; as also was Mr. Lionel West as Dr Chapman; and Mr. Eustace French as Sir E. Vivian; Miss Pamela Hope made a pleasing Bella; and Miss Magdalene Navarre capitally filled the part of Mrs. Clarence.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. O. F. Wright.—Mr. Wilson Howard's company, in *Under the Iron Heel*, opened here on Monday. Miss Carlotta Anson displays considerable ability in the rôle of Germaine Mirbleau; and Mr. Wilson Howard ably enacted the part of Rene de Maupassant; Mr. J. W. Richards as Otto Marx sustained the rôle cleverly; and Miss J. Douglas Hicks was excellent as Maman Gouffe; Mr. T Brown Elliott acts with credit as Father Mirbleau; and Miss Marie Angus as Andre filled the part well; Mr. Denis Clyde as Major Schomberg gave a good portrayal; and others deserving of mention are Mr. Gerald Smythe (Michael Bimet) and Mr. R. Merring (Colonel Bueller).

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce*, is on a return visit here. Miss Edith Cole gives a good rendering of the Empress Josephine, and is ably assisted by Mr. Keith Fraser as Napoleon; Mr. J. H. Roberts is a capital Talleyrand; and Marie Louise is well portrayed by Miss Winnie Tempest; Mr. Charles Hartopp is seen to advantage as the Marquis de Beaumont; and Miss Helen Meadows gives a careful study as Mother Lomas; the parts of General Augereau and Marshal Murat are in the able hands of Messrs. Ernest Plumpion and Alfred Grenville; and Miss Dorothy Hudson pleasingly represents the Little King of Rome.

Empire Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A strong programme is headed here by Minnie Cunningham, who is always sure of a hearty welcome; the Billy Watson Trio are successful; Orpheus contributes a clever musical turn; the Sisters Aindow are charming society entertainers; Cliff Dacre is an amusing comedian; and Nelly Wigley is a dainty comedienne; Harry Hemsley submits an entertaining turn; and Mackintosh and Royal, Phillips and Merritt, and the Empire pictures complete.

Abbey Theatre.—Lessee, Miss A. E. F. Horniman.—The Abbey Theatre Company opened here on Monday night with Mr. Yeat's play *Kathleen Ni Houlihan* and Mr. Boyle's comedy *The Eloquent Dempsy*, both of which were warmly received. Needless to say all the artists acquitted themselves creditably in their difficult parts.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here is Cullen Carthy and Little Cluley, whose funny turn wins much applause; El Tampico's Mexican Troubadours are well received; Aggie Nolan, comedienne and vocalist, is popular; and others appearing are Charles Rose, light comedian; Dollie and Elsie, duettists and dancers; Vaudeville Trio, vocalists and expert dancers; Victor and Vessey, sketch artists; O'Garlston Brothers, novelty dancers; Les Surpriskis, novelty gymnasts; and the Bioscope.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—The following artists are appearing here: Miss Jessie Horner, soprano vocalist; Pers

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. C. Watson Mills' company are presenting *The Love of a Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad Ramona gives an excellent impersonation of the character; as Count Nicholas Danillo Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews is all that could be desired; Mr. John Burton as Josef, King of Ilarnia, acts with distinction; Miss May Beatrice as Princess Idalia proves herself a competent exponent of the part; Miss Mary Churchill as Lady Irene Ramona is stately and dignified; and Miss Josephine Lee as Constantina supplies an artistic impersonation.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The D'Oyly Carte principal opera company opened a twelve nights' engagement here last Monday in presence of a crowded holiday audience which welcomed with ever-growing enthusiasm the players in an admirable performance of *The Mikado*. There is no more popular member of the company than Mr. Fred Billington, and his impersonation of Pooh-Bah remains a fine piece of acting, and a vocal treat. Mr. Henry A. Lytton acts with wonderful comic effect as Ko-Ko, and renders his songs with humour. To Mr. Henry A. Herbert is allotted the part of Nankie-Poo, which the young actor plays with grace and ease, and his excellent tenor voice is heard to advantage in the airs which fall to the character. Mr. Leicester Tunks presents with his usual ability the part of The Mikado; and Mr. Sydney Granville is a capital Pish-Tush. Miss Marjorie Stone is a charming Yum-Yum, who sings with unfailing expression. Miss Beatrice Boarer is a clever, vivacious Pitti-Sing; and Miss Myfanwy Newell a bright, engaging Peep-Bo. Miss Louie René is a stately Katisha, and sings with great dramatic power. On Tuesday *Iolanthe* was given, in which Mr. Sydney Granville appeared as Strephon, acting with skill and naturalness, and singing with taste. Mr. Leicester Tunks personated Earl of Mountararat with dignity; Mr. Henry A. Lytton was droll as the Lord Chancellor; and Mr. Strafford Moss was wholly satisfactory, vocally and dramatically, as Earl Tolloller. The interpretation of the remaining characters by Miss Louie René, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Hilda Cross, Miss Anna Bethell, Miss Ethel George, Miss Marjorie Stone, and Mr. Fred Billington left nothing to be desired. The chorus sang with remarkable precision and intelligence; and the *mise-en-scène* was beautiful. The programme during the week has included *The Gondoliers*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—An exceedingly good programme is presented here, a leading feature being Mr. Arnold Richardson, in an amusing farce entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*. Mr. Richardson is well supported by Mr. A. Gordon Law and Miss Ethel Lonsdale. Carmen and Readwin provide an admirable musical act, in which the piano selections are of a notably high order; and Mr. Sydney Brandon's dramatic sketches are powerfully acted, both *The Tale of a Tramp* and the dream scene from *The Bells* affording the artist an opportunity for the display of his forcible style. Mr. Ernest H. Gittins's company gives a condensed version of *The Daughter of the Regiment*, which is excellently performed, the cast including Miss Adele Prescott, in a capital impersonation of the title-rôle. Miss Mabelle Fournier is a dainty French danseuse; the Musical Marvels, five in number, submit an enjoyable act; Miss Ethel Edwards, comedienne, is very charming in her selections; and other artists who contribute to the entertainment are Mr. Joe Atkin, comedian, and Miss Jean Forret, pianist.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Ernest Shand, in some of his latest songs and successes, headed a good Bank Holiday bill, and the popular comedian, being in the best of form, provided very excellent entertainment, particularly with his "Nelson and Me" turn. Ella Shields gained much favour by her pleasant method of singing coon songs and other ditties. The Musical McGregors gave a brilliant display of their skill as experts on xylophones, cornets, and concertinas; and the well-known Miles-Staydale quintette created the usual furore by their wonderful banjo-playing and imitations of human voices on stringed instruments. Charles Norton was lustily encored for his clever mimetic monologue, *Pro's, at the Races*, in which he introduced vivid impersonations of leading variety favourites; Drew and Alders filled up a lively quarter of an hour with their hilarious sketch, *The Coastguards*; and Tom E. Hughes contributed a smart comedian turn. An outstanding performance was gone through in interesting and amusing fashion by Duncan's Royal Scottish Collies, who proved themselves to be quite an accomplished troupe of canine actors; and bioscope pictures completed an attractive bill.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A strong vaudeville company, headed by Mr. T. Elder Hearn, reopened this theatre on Monday evening, after the summer recess. Mr. Hearn did not spare himself in his three different acts, which he made very diverting. A realistic episode of French low life was presented in *The Rat*, performed with consummate ability by Gaston Chevallier, Mlle. Etoil Le Noir, and a company of fourteen artists; and an amusing knockabout sketch, entitled *Aunt Matilda*, was vigorously acted by Harry Elliston and company; while Richmond's Continental Wonders provided a finished comedy acrobatic act; and the clever Americans, Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, sang and played very pleasantly. The Delmores were well received; and the single-handed turns included Lady Gordon Stewart, a charming elocutionist and reciter; May Lillian Levey, a successful male impersonator; Dulcie King-Lloyd, conspicious as a pleasing vocalist; Wallace Galvin, who scored with his sleight-of-hand; and Phil Percival, clever in burlesques at the piano.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The programme at this house has several interesting pictures, The Unchanging Sea, perhaps, being the outstanding film. The other subjects, grave and gay, give much satisfaction to the large audiences, who have also enjoyed a go-as-you-please competition, with many amusing characteristics.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—An entire change of bill here has brought forward some pictures of much merit, and the management has kept in view the varied tastes of the patrons of the house in showing scenes which are dramatic and humorous. The musical entertainment is a good one.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The weather this week has been more favourable for out-of-door attractions, and large crowds have shown their appreciation of the admirable band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars and the capital entertainment given by Dickinson's Merry Mascots, a troupe of excellent pierrots. In the concert hall Miss Stella Gastelle and company have provided an admirable performance of scenes from *La Poupée*; Mr. Chas. Capper, the well-known silleur, has delighted with his whistling solos; and Li-Chang-Hi, the expert Chinese juggler, has mystified the audiences by his deft sleight-of-hand tricks; Miss Myra Dixon, a charming contralto vocalist, and Mr. Jos. Cheetham, an excellent tenor, are also on the programme. The Somali Village continues to draw many interested spectators. Two tiny ebony strangers have opened their eyes on the world for the first time within the past few days, and have been called by the elegant names, Ali Marina and Oudbri Portobello.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M Dunsford.—The attraction for the reopening after the summer vacation is provided by Mr. J. W. Lindsay Ellis's company, in *Lights Out*. As Klara Volkhardt Miss Pauline Emeric is seen to distinct advantage and wins well-earned applause; Mr. Frank Cariello gives a powerful interpretation of Lieut. Von Lauffen; Mr. Philip Renouf as Corporal Helbig is well suited to the part; and Mr. Robert Noble is excellent as Sergeant Volkhardt. A bright little curtain-raiser is found in *A Fair Exchange*.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Advantage has been taken of the summer vacation to redecorate and carry out various structural alterations to Mr. Karno's comfortable house, and on Bank Holiday the place presented a very bright and cheerful appearance. Large audiences were present at both houses, and the excellent programme provided met with undisguised approval. The principal attraction was provided by the Delevines, in *Flipp and Flopp*, which as a laughter-maker is very successful; Horace Wheatley, Irish comedian, wins well-deserved applause; Frank Morelli and Gertrude Moore present a humorous burlesque; and Marie Pera and company, in the duologue *Two Doors and a Passage*, make a decided hit. W. G. Webber has a voice of remarkable depth, and his numbers are much appreciated; Sid Crossley renders comic songs in good style, and is deservedly encored; and Edno Dano, a smart comedienne and dancer, completes, with the Hippodrome pictures, a programme of all-round excellence.

FERNDALE.—New Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. David Williams.—This week we have Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gives a convincing portrayal of Lord Lumley; as Signor D'Orelli Mr. Lewin Mannering acquitted himself with credit; while Miss A. Bruce-Joy as Lady Lumley played the part in an admirable manner.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*Two Merry Monarchs* paid its first visit here, and well deserved the hearty welcome extended to it. Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's accomplished company includes Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, who plays Prince Charmis. His manner and speech are in perfect consonance with the part, and his artistic acting and singing is loudly applauded. Miss Margory Moore gives a charming rendering of Princess Cynthia, her rich voice being heard to great advantage. Mr. E. Statham Staples's Rolandyl is a most amusing and diverting impersonation; Messrs. Tom Shelford and Mark Lester are to be congratulated on a very humorous and entertaining portrayal of King Utops and King Paul; and Miss Gladys Beach makes a winsome Iris. The Head Flunkey and Mandamus are capably sustained by Mr. Francis Paten and Mr. Frank Ashton. *The Brass Bottle* is billed for the latter part of the week.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Carlisle and Wellmon, two coloured gentlemen, are starring here with a musical item, which for originality and refinement has never been equalled here; Curtis Leo, conjurer and juggler, produces much laughter and astonishment; a huge success is scored by Stewart and Morgan in a song-scena named *Leaving Ireland*; Edith Courtney and Florence Wilton have an excellent vocal comedy duologue entitled *A Marble Flirtation*; the Floradora Girls present an original comedietta which earns much praise; Sim Maree is a wonderful contortionist; the Dancing Paceys and the Kingscope complete a strong bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. H. Armitage's excellent company is playing *The Greater Love* here. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid makes a welcome return appearance and achieves a triumph in the part of Paul Penfold, the martyr; Mr. Stanley Bedwell, who has been here some weeks, a member of Mr. Bolam's stock company, is eminently fitted for the rôle of Jack May, to which he does full justice; the part of the Rev. Arthur Warren affords Mr. Algernon J. Hicks an opportunity of showing his undoubted ability; Andrew Isted is well looked after by Mr. Dennis Bryan; Mr. Albert Campbell extracts all the humour possible out of the part of Ned Stubbs; Mrs. May is delightfully pictured by Miss Marion Fawcett; Miss Francesa Strickland is worthy of the highest praise for her depiction of Mary May; and Sarah Higgs is well done by Miss Ethel Russell.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—The Public Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Barnard Bros.—The best of the pictures is a dramatic film, The Planter's Wife. The variety turns are Miss Daisy Vince, dainty comedienne; Eddie Granton, eccentric comedian and dancer; and the Lenfords, comedy artists, who are welcomed on a return visit.

The Gem.—Proprietors, The Goodman Entertainment Co.; Manager, Mr. C. Goodman.—The patrons here are liberally catered for in the way of pictures, the best of which is On the Border Line. Variety is added in the form of songs by Miss Neil Cotter and Mr. Frank Harvey.

The Park Bandstand.—Proprietors, The Corporation.—The annual municipal fêtes were held here last week, and, favoured with fine weather, drew huge crowds. Among the attractions were concerts by the Savoyards and the Rustics' Comedy Party, who are great favourites here. Each evening there was a grand display of fireworks by Messrs. Brock and Co.

GLASGOW. — King's. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The season opened here with Mr. Walter A. Chetham's repertory company in *Dan'l Druce*, with Mr. Dickson Moffat (an elocutionist well known locally) in the title-rôle. The part gives excellent scope for dramatic effort, and Mr. Moffat was not found wanting. As Sir Jasper Combe, Mr. Henry Earlesmere was the Royalist colonel to perfection in speech and deportment, while Mr. Sydney Bland as his faithful sergeant, Reuben Haines, gave an exposition of the part that delighted everybody. Mr. Donald Gow gave a good account of himself as the sailor lover, Geoffrey Wynyard. Mr. Arthur Stirling depicted the "old salt" with fine judgment. The only lady of the cast, Miss Mildred Hodson, as Dorothy, gave a charming rendering of the part. The drama was preceded by a one-act play entitled *A Nicht wi' Burns*, the poet being realistically represented by Mr. Dickson Moffat.

Metropole, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company is paying a first visit to Glasgow in the rousing melodrama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife; or, The Love of a Good Woman*. Felix Beverley is the strong outstanding character in the play, and is portrayed with striking effect by Mr. Wilson Coleman; the part of Jack Stirling is played in fine manly fashion by Mr. Edward E. Louis, the heroine, Mary, being represented by Miss Kathleen Magee with pleasing grace. Mr. Reginald Brown looks and acts well in the rôle of Langdon; the Colonel Miles of Mr. Cyril Grier is characteristic; two very amusing servants are seen in the Thomas of Mr. Percy Brown and the Charles of Mr. Victor Raymond; the inane young swell Bellairs is cleverly hit off by Mr. W. Annesley; Mrs. Sands, the adventuress, is smartly sketched by Miss Lilia Drummond; and the Nancy of Miss Minnie Goepel is bright and winsome.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—After the summer vacation this popular theatre has once more reopened, and during the interval a wonderful transformation has been made in the decorative scheme of the interior. The entire building—theatre, entrance hall, vestibules, &c.—having been redecorated in a series of light and artistic tones, which give a specially attractive and enticing brightness to the place. For the opening play a happy choice has been made in Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's production, *My Irish Molly*, the combination of drama and humour, song and dance, proving exactly to the taste of the large audience. Mr. St. John Medley acts and sings with much spirit as Dennis, and his charming wife Molly is daintily played by Miss May Walden. Mr. Gordon Robey makes a duly vindictive landlord as Captain Vere, and is ably supported in his schemes by Miss Elma C. Turner as Lady Blanche. Mr. Karl Edwards as a cockney showman and Miss Rosie Kearns as Sally share the honours of the comic parts, and are a resourceful pair. Mr. Kenyon Gray is an impressive Father McGuire. Mr. Edwin Firth as Tim Dolan and Miss Yvonne Laing as Kathleen complete an able cast. The play is picturesquely staged.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The attraction here this week is La Milo, and her extended turn proves most interesting. La Milo poses in inimitable fashion, representing Una and the Lion, Perseus and Andromeda, and Leda and the Swan. Interspersed with the various poses Cruikshank deftly sketches caricature portraits of numerous persons of note. Severus Schaffer is responsible for a capital juggling act; J. A. Wilson is particularly well known locally, and with "Private Towser" never fails to amuse his audiences. The Glenroy Troupe of dancers are no strangers either, and well earn the applause accorded. The New Macs' smart patter and clever dancing proves amusing and interesting; Andos' Happy Little Japs provide a capital juggling and acrobatic turn; Harry Bedford is still popular, and his latest success, "Crissie was crossed in love," takes on immensely, while his eccentric dance is quite a feature of the evening. Billie Burford makes a fascinating appearance, and her choruses are heartily taken up. Gordon is possessed of a rich baritone voice, and renders his numbers tastefully. The Bioscope concludes.

Pavilion, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Saige's Animate Sculpture provides an excellent and artistic turn, the posing of Mlle. Marguerite in particular evoking hearty applause; Tiller's Palace Girls sing and dance in dainty style, and are strong favourites; Sinclair and Whiteford in their sketch *Getting Even* cause roars of laughter; Jan Rudenyi's violin-playing in *The Power of Music* rouses the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm; Coram is a ventriloquist of considerable ability; the Quality Quartette sing a number of ballads in excellent style, their voices blending beautifully; a wonderful display of strength is shown in the feats of the Three Warringtons; Albas, the wire-walker, introduces some sensational feats; and the dancing of the Crack-a-Jacks is smart and neat.

Palace. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Wrestling competitions have proved a considerable draw, and many clever exponents of the game have come forward to meet Connolly. Jessie Stuart provides an excellent vocal turn; Lawson and Namon, an American comedy duo, make a capital appearance in a ball-punching and cycling act; Beatrice Allen is a refined and dainty little lady with good songs; much amusement is caused by the Smarte Bros. in an eccentric act; Cash and Clair get through a lot of clever dancing; Richard Wally is a capable juggler; and popular chorus songs are rendered by Minnie D'Aubyn. The Bioscope films terminate the proceedings.

Colisseum. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Top position is allotted to Will Evans, whose diverting burlesque on the French play *Chantecler* amuses large audiences. Nellie Wallace, comedy artist, is another outstanding favourite. Chris Van Bern is both a conjurer and vocalist of more than ordinary merit. The other artists, who are all entertaining, include the Martineks, French comedians, in their novelty *The Rag Doll*; Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist; the Narow Bros., comedy cyclists; Iva Voyce, contralto vocalist; the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, vocalists and dancers; and Fred Curran, parody comedian.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dickinson.—The policy of giving an entirely fresh programme of pictures here twice each week keeps the Gaiety clientèle faithful to their favourite resort.

Panopticon.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The attendance was exceedingly large on the opening night. Principal among several entertaining turns are the Nicholsons, a comedy couple, who provide humorous songs and funny patter. Another item that was especially favoured was the banjo solo and dancing of Clarice Mignon. The other artists include Harry and Lily, refined comedy duo, and Dan Pedley, comedian and dancer. An interesting display of Bioscope pictures includes the championship tussle between Sam Langford and Ian Hague.

Hengler's.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—"Standing room only" is a sign constantly on view here. Clever variety items are given by the Smallies in their smart and humorous horizontal bar act; Flo Du Barry, with a number of neat male impersonations; and Dainty Dolly Price, comedienne and dancer. The films, funny and tragic, form the bulk of the programme, and are followed with great interest.

Star.—General-Manager, Mr. Guss Lazenberg; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Chandos.—In the fifth week of its existence, this venture is doing good business. Mr. George Bernard, the popular actor-vocalist, has a good voice and good songs with irresistible choruses; St. Ruth and Conyers are a couple of charming and accomplished duettists; the Carlsens give an excellent acrobatic show, entitled *Fun in a Restaurant*; the Great Tripello Trio come in for a share of the honours for an excellent musical treat; and animated pictures complete a most attractive programme.

Scottish Zoo and Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—The attractions of the collection of animals here and the fine circus performance contributed by the Bros. Volpi's Italian Circus company continue to draw the holiday audiences here at every show.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—*The Fatal Wedding*, presented by Mr. Percy Williamson's company is the attraction here this week. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is a capital exponent of Howard Wilson; and Mr. Alexander Wills is excellent as Robert Curtis. Mr. Percy Williams ably undertakes the part of Rev. Dr. Lanceford; and Miss Violet Keand proves a clever actress as Mabel Wilson. Mr. Frank Newton as O'Rilly, the policeman, is a favourite; and Miss Elaine Vanbrugh gives an admirable exposition. Mr. Watson Hume as Peter Schwartz and Mr. Harry M. Vernon as Toto are excellent, as is Miss Blanche Huber as Bridget. The children's specialities are among the most attractive features—Miss Myra Erton, in song and chorus; Dot Jefferies, in song, "Caraboo," with all the children taking part; Joe and Mary Grice, tiny Lancashire clog-dancers; Ethel Dew, child soprano; and Sisters May, duet and speciality dancers, winning much applause.

King's Hall.—Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.—The varieties here this week are Messrs. Williams and Warden, who are laughable; Lelrun and Irene, double jugglers, &c.; and Miss Kitty Woodford, illustrated songs. The Vocaphone and new Bioscope pictures make up an attractive programme.

Theatre de Luxe.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Boultwood.—Capital animated pictures given here are responsible for good houses.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—*The Mountaineers* is being staged here for Bank Holiday week. Marie Dainton's charming voice and clever acting as Clarice make her a big favourite; Claude Fleming's fine voice is heard to advantage in the part of Fritz; Fred Eastman as Pierre is very funny; Edgar Marsden gives a clever interpretation of Conrad; Aide Jenoure plays well as Miss Spinifex; and Ida Strathan is an excellent Annette. Frank Lawton scores with his whistling solo, and Leo Sheffield sings well as Sergeant Frederico.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is appearing with conspicuous success in W. W. Jacobs's delightful comedy *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Maitland Marler as Captain Barley is the life and soul of the play; Miss Ethel Stalman is a delightful Mrs. Baldwin; and Mr. Russell Davis a first-rate Lieutenant Seton Boyne. The Barge scene is a remarkable piece of stagecraft.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The production of the spectacular piece *Tally-ho!* has met with instantaneous success here. Each scene is most realistically staged, and the plunging horses and pack of dogs show careful training. The members of the company have been well selected, and the whole production reflects great credit on Mr. Hengler. The Olympian team of cyclists give a clever exhibition of trick riding; Mr. H. Beamont's ponies and dogs perform some remarkable feats; Salt Bush Bill continues his success of last week; the Cranworths appear in a pleasing musical turn; Almero gives a clever performance on the wire; and Doodles keeps the audience in a merry mood.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—For the holiday week Mr. Tunbridge has secured a company of first-class artists. La Vie's Poses illustrating the works of the Great Masters are greatly appreciated; Les Ados scores with an exhibition of muscle development; Mi Narom is a comedienne with an original vein of humour; the Zanfrellas give a clever and artistic performance on a pedestal 8in. in diameter and 8ft. high; Hal Bert is aptly billed as the elastic comedian; Charles Banks relates some amusing stories, while his dog Woof displays remarkable sagacity; Hilda Mascot sings and dances well, and Farley, Rennie, and Farley create a lot of fun with their sketch *Fun at a Railway Station*.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. A. Cash.—The "Go Bangs" Costume Party are presenting an entertaining programme. Mr. Charles Conyers is successful with his sketches; Mr. Bryan Sullivan has a fine baritone voice; Mr. Charles Restic's songs are well rendered; and Miss Edith Ratherley's songs to her own accompaniment are very pleasing. Molly Seymour is a first-rate violinist; and Graham, the gifted comedian, in his original entertainment as a human marionette, gives a most enjoyable number.

GREENOCK.—Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—A number of new subjects are included in a fine display of pictures, making a delightful entertainment. Percy, the Cowboy is a film that is attracting attention; and there is also a highly sensational picture entitled The Cowpuncher's Ward. The screamingly funny subject A Bolt from the Blue provides an effective wind-up.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham.} Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-u Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBURGH.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
77. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations for Theatres, Halls, Electric Theatres, Skating Rinks, etc., etc.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Invite all who are interested in Picture Theatres to see their work just finished at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch.

Will be pleased for their artists to get out schemes for Decorations free of all charge.

Write for Dean's New Catalogue of Tip-up Chairs and Seatings of every description.

Good Serviceable Tip-up Chair from **4/11**, delivered and fixed free.

Good Upholstered Tip-up Chair in Velvet or Pegamoid from **5/11** to **27/-**

Good Serviceable Upholstered Running Seats from **2/6** per foot fixed.

Good Linoleum from **2/-** square yard laid.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply Fibrous Plaster and other Decorations, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, Curtains, etc., far cheaper and better than any other house in the trade. Samples sent free.

Advise all who think of seating or reseating their Halls to write for their Catalogue, select the samples they would like to see, and compare same with those of their competitors. DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., will, in nineteen cases out of twenty, obtain the contract.

Still retain the services of MR. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, MR. BARDELL as Manager of the Decoration Department, MR. L. BECK as Manager of the Factory and Works.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North. — *Was She to Blame?* is here. Miss Nancy Roberts shows much emotional power as Lillian Norman; Mr. George Langdon depicts the scheming Frank Roselle in suitable colours; Mr. Charles March is responsible for a really clever character study as William Clarke; Mr. Henry Rutland accomplishes sterling work as the Vicar, John Norman; Miss Helene Forrest acts with considerable effect as Mrs. Rosselle; and others taking prominent parts are Mr. George Keene as Captain Courtney, Mr. Kennorth Black, jun., as Timothy Swales, and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Billy Merson creates endless fun with his budget of new songs and business; Rastus and Banks, a couple of coloured artists, score heavily, their singing being good and dancing clever; the Sisters Netherland are a vivacious quartette of comediennes with a really novel act; Cossitt and Partner are clown acrobats, and introduce well-trained dogs; a musical comedy sketch, *The Distinguished Visitor*, is brightly presented by C. Cardigan and company; Miss Vera Wootton is a pleasing comedienne with good chorus songs; and the Brothers Milford are expert dancers.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. tGeorge A. Deighton.—This week the boards are occupied by Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company in *The Thief*. The piece is well acted and staged. Mr. Bernard Limpus as Richard Chelford was notable for really good work; Mr. F. Morland played Raymond Leyton with considerable earnestness; Mr. W. Somerset as the Detective was smart; and Harry in the hands of Mr. Carl W. Lindsay was admirable. Miss Mary Forrester proved an interesting Isabel; and Miss Mary Carnegy worked hard and successfully in the arduous rôle of Marise Chelford.

St. George's Hall.—The Society Idols, including Miss Nellie Bowman and Mr. Harry Benet, supported by Miss C. Heney, Mr. Paul Smythe, and Mr. Sidney Gavin, still please here.

The Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines.—Sam Elio, comedian, and Miss Marie Taft figure here this week with the Palascope pictures.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. William Mollison has an exceptionally fine company, playing *The Touch of the Child* and *The Chorus Lady*. Mr. Mollison gives an admirable assumption in both plays, and is well seconded in the shorter piece by Mr. Harold Neville. In *The Chorus Lady* Miss Rita Carlyle gets a call at each curtain for her effective rendering of Patricia O'Brien; Mr. J. Sims-Woolley is a capital Dan Mallory; Miss E. Vron-Neville has a part that suits her well in Nora O'Brien; Mr. C. R. Shun (Patrick O'Brien) and Miss J. Woodward (Mrs. O'Brien) are both good; Miss A. D'Aragon is excellent in the low comedy part of the wardrobe woman.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—A capital series of films is exhibited; the Norman Leonard Trio give an excellent musical comedy act; and Harry Morris is a good dialect comedian.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—A. C. Lilly and company present a fine military sketch, *Drummed Out*, well played and admirably put on; Shrillo, operatic whistler, receives thunders of applause; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaskas give a good comedy acrobatic act; Frank Cumminger is a past-master of the art of sand-dancing, and is ably seconded by Miss Frances Colonna; Edith Chantler is a pleasing and refined singer; Wallace Whitney is a genuinely humorous comedian; and Beattie Foster, comedienne, is a good turn.

HANLEY. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone.—Mr. T. Watt's company, in *East Lynne*, reopened the Royal on Monday. Mr. Joe Rowlands as P.C. Bullock is a fine piece of character acting; Mr. Jerroid Manville is convincing as Justice Hare; Miss Ida Heron gives a fine rendering of the rôles of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine; Mr. Frank Beresford as Carlile is splendid; and Mr. J. John Hooker as Frank Levison does good work.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Six Brothers Luck are responsible for much merriment with *The Demon of the Cellar*; the Five X-Rays are smart and amusing acrobats; Sammy Shields, a Scotch comedian, is comical; Chas. Vincent also provides plenty of laughter; Barnes and Ascot, buck dancers, are fine; Hinton and Wooton introduce football on wheels; the Sisters Albert sing harmonised numbers sweetly; and Mr. Tom Moore shows Taming Grandfather.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The holiday programme here includes Isis, A Romance of the Western Hills, The Frontiersman's Bride, and The Frozen North, which are very emotional. The Fisherman's Luck, Betty in Hot Water, and Foolshead as a Porter, are funny. Sabino, the musical wonder, introduces many instruments successfully.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Walter Passmore as Simplicitas was most mirth-provoking, and was loudly applauded; Mr. Oliver J. Round as Peter Doody also supplied a laughable impersonation; Mr. Harold E. Pearce was a manly Jack Meadows; and Mr. Louis Victor made a vivacious Bobby. Miss Billie Sinclair made a pretty Eileen Cavanagh, and danced well; Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith was very funny; and Miss Ethel Erskine as Sambra has a beautiful voice, which she uses to much advantage. Miss Florence Ivy made a pretty Chrysea.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—In addition to the display of films by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, some capital variety turns are being given, consisting of the Rosses, comedians and dancers; Frank Solbey, a popular comedian; and Edie Enson, a dainty comedienne.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—The holiday attraction here was Mr. Gaston Myer's company in *The Brass Bottle*, which was played for the first half of the week. Mr. Langhorne Burton as Horace Ventimore was quite convincing; Mr. Holman Clark, in his original rôle of the Djinn was skilful; Mr. Percy Marshall as Professor Futvoye greatly assisted the illusion; Mr. Rudge Harding as Spencer Pringle acted very cleverly; Miss Marjorie Chard made a charming Sylvia; Miss Mary Brough played Mrs. Rapkin admirably; and Miss Irene Wells was an attractive Zobeida. For Thursday and remainder of the week Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company, in *The Two Merry Monarchs*, was the attraction.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Messrs. Peter Davey and Douglas Gordon are presenting *The Importance of Being Earnest* here this week. Mr. Douglas Gordon is diverting as John Worthing, M.P.; as Algernon Moncrieff Mr. Herbert Beaumont gives a finished piece of work; Mr. Harry Ashford's Rev. Canon is a capital portrait; Miss Harriet Trench takes the part of Miss Prism naturally; Mrs. Peter Davey quite realises the character of Lady Bracknell; Miss Barbara Hanny, in the part of Cecily Cardew, plays with considerable grace and finish; and as the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax Miss Phillis Relf gives an intelligent performance. The last part of the week Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company are billed to appear in *The Dawn of a To-morrow*.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's concert party at the Beach Pavilion continues to be well patronised. Mr. George Blackmore's songs and clever patter are received with much favour; Miss Nellie Perryer accompanies herself in her pleasing and artistic manner; the humorous songs of Mr. Harry Kemp are applauded; the contralto voice of Miss Gladys Hill is decidedly good; Mr. Harold Vincent sings with much humour and expression; and Mr. Oldbury is the pianist.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Ainsley and Hall.—After having been closed for a few weeks for renovation, &c., Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's No. 1 company opened the season proper at this house on Monday with *A Woman's Past*. In the part of Bessie Miss Dora Pass gave an excellent portrayal; and the comic element is cleverly interwoven by Mr. Tom Chapman as Bloater and William Freemantle as Spriggens. Others who contribute to an enjoyable performance are Mr. Percy Dawsons (David Heath), Mr. Charles Locke (Frank Dellannoy), Mr. Alex. Knight (Clement Harper), Mr. Wallace Portswood (Bob), Mr. Henry Bargate (Jack Crawford), Miss Laura Bitterne, Cherry Veheyne, and Miss Phylliss Elton.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Leah Kleschna* is the attraction here this week. The company, that of Mr. H. Armitage, is well selected, and includes Miss Marguerite Cellier, who as Leah sustains the rôle very effectively. Mr. Wm. Clayton is a commendable Kleschna; Mr. Cyril Austen Lee worked well as Sylvanie; Mr. Graham Pachell was a commendable Schram; the Raoul Berton of Mr. Armitage was a fine performance.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. Chas. Darrel's company, *What a Man made Her*, is the holiday attraction here. Mr. D. Cecil fills effectively the rôle of the Doctor; the Janet of Miss Renée Glendower is a charming portrayal; Mr. W. J. Buller is an effective Danescombe; and the comic relief is introduced by Miss Dorothy Dewhurst.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, John S. Barnett.—Pride of place is accorded that funny production *Jimmy the Fearless, the boy 'Ero*, presented by Fred Karno's company of comedians; a hearty reception is accorded Fred Earle in a budget of good songs; H. O. Wills, the funny man, provokes laughter; Roma and Romani evoke applause for their refined instrumental act; Woodhouse and Wells are entertaining with their patter and dancing; Cull Pitt, with his droll conjuring, is a popular item; F. V. St. Clair, topical vocalist, pleases the audience with good songs; Staigs, steeplejack cyclists, gain approbation; and the bioscope completes a very good bill.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—The programme here is an excellent one, and includes Phil Kaufman, the popular singer; the Tom Forestier company, who present a dramatic playlet *A Society Sinner*; Yetta, with her cakewalk on the wire; the Brothers Curran, in their unique boxing act; the Bijou juveniles, a popular item; Earle and Melville, comedians; Tennis and Laune; and Sid Bandon, vocalist.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Walter Bentley.—Rose Elliott has an excellent répertoire of songs, and Gus Harris, the Hebrew delineator, is also a big favourite; Spry and Austin win applause for their comedy; Captain Devereux's dogs display wonderful intelligence; Geo. Collins scores with good songs; Nell Cotter, comedienne; Arthur F. Ward, clever juggler; and Adah and Gert, juvenile duettists and dancers, conclude.

The Circus.—General-Manager, Edward Emerson.—The pictures shown here are nicely varied, and include subjects of an instructive, humorous, and dramatic character.

ILKESTON.—Coliseum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—This place was opened on Monday evening with an excellent all-round company. *Mumming Birds* is cleverly given by Mr. Fred Karno's company; Rose Cambry is a charming vocal comedian; the bioscopic show was greatly admired; and Stewart and Lorraine, musicians; Bros. Matthews, comedians and dancers; Ivy Leaf, comedienne and dancer; De Lilo and Metz, speciality artists; and Duncan and Brasque, in a *Society Butterfly*, give clever contributions.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company is here with *A Daughter of the Sea*. Miss Florrie Green plays Sunshine with winsome grace; Miss Allyce Williams is well placed as Mollie; and Mr. Carle Caigna makes a powerful Sir Maxwell Brentwood. Mr. Lewis Gilbert gives a striking performance of Mark Glensdale; and Mr. Ashmore Vincent is seen to advantage in the part of Ken Moreland.

Palace.—Lessees, Jarrow Palace Co.; Business-Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—This place of amusement has a wonderful selection of pictures, and the variety turns are the Royal Togo Japanese Entertainers and Volspian, the juggling soldier; and Joe Dixon, comedian and mimic.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—*The Merry Widow* paid her first visit here this week, and opened on Bank Holiday to a packed house, which appreciated to the full the excellence of the company sent out by Mr. George Edwardes. Miss Mary Ridley, who is the daintiest and most delightful of widows, receives splendid support from Mr. Robert Needham, whose Prince Danilo is a faultless study, and they are nightly recalled again and again; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter proves himself a superb comedian, and though his Baron Popoff convulses the audience, he never overdoes the part; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy is a creditable De Jolidon; Mr. Harry Emerric is very funny as Nisch, and his dances with Miss Neste Laurel, who appears as Frou-Frou, cause quite a sensation; Miss Mabel Hope is good as Natalie; Miss Eilleen Cianford is a handsome Olga; Miss Alice Humphries is a taking Sylvanie; Miss Nan Ainslie does well as Proscovia; Mr. Tom H. David as De Cascada, Mr. Spencer Lloyd as De St. Brioche, Mr. Cecil Warwick as Novakovitch, and Mr. C. L. Steward as Khadja ably play their respective rôles; whilst the Misses Neste Laurel, Ethel Darsley, Aline Winnington, Madge Steward, Beatrice Willis, and Joan Allen as the Girls from Maxims are a shapely sextette.

Royal Hall.—Mr. J. T. West's pictures this week include a film With Roosevelt in Africa.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leopold.—The Dutch Drolls are putting in another week here. The Ladies' Cremona Orchestra still remains.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—Electric pictures continue to be the chief feature here, whilst Miss Nancy Daintrey scores nightly as a singer and dancer.

West Park Pavilion.—Mr. Wilson James's Euterpeans are giving a first-rate programme here.

Oddfellow's Hall.—Mr. Ernest Mansell is doing well with his Life in the King's Service. The picture entitled 1812, showing Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, is a great feature.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Barrasford. — F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company, in *The Face at the Window*, is meeting with a good reception this week. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe deserves mention as Paul Gouffett; Mr. W. Houghton Macaulay gives a fine portrayal of Le Loup; Mr. Richard Oliver is manly and impressive as Lucien Cortier; Mr. James Chippendale's experience stands him in good stead in his various characters; Mr. John Stimson and Miss Frances Day score heavily in comedy parts; Miss Constance Glenalbyn does well as Marie; and La Pinau is in the capable hands of Miss Marie Tennant.

KETTERING.—Victoria Theatre.—Managers, Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co.—The holiday attraction is Miss Inez Howard's company with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*. Miss Cora Linda plays the part of Sophie Coventry with ability; and Miss Edith King presents a charming impersonation of Lucy Coventry. Mr. T. Arthur Plummer gives a powerful rendering of the character of Willie Mason; and Mr. Hal Charlton is good as Jack Fenton.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—On Bank Holiday this theatre opened with Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company in *A Life for a Life*. The part of Don Leon Ferandes was admirably portrayed by Mr. C. H. Lewis; Mr. Hugh Travis made a fine Pedro Li Calci; as Kit Oswald Mr. Geo. Porteous showed much ability; and the comic element was well sustained by Mr. Horace Buckley, in the character of Tim McCarthy; Wee Winnie Warden is clever in the child's part Venetta; as Eulalie, Miss Beatrice Anderson displayed considerable talent; and in the part of Kate Evelyn, Miss Dorothy Riddell was graceful and clever.

LANCASTER. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Mr. J. E. Barnes's company in *The Drama of Life* is the holiday attraction here. As Sylvia Beech Miss Pattie Hastings gave a clever portrayal; Miss Beatrice Hudson was a success as Betty Black, and Miss Dolly Bogue made a pleasing Master Robert Beech; Harry Beech was well played by Mr. Graham Woods; Walter Beech was capably handled by Mr. Archie Helsby; and Mr. Marshall Meade showed much ability as Jack Lawton. The comic element was introduced with success by Mr. Sydney C. Cranston as Sir Dobson Wilde and Miss Alice Oliver as Lady Jane Wilde.

LEEDS.—Empire.—Fred Kitchen is here in his new rôle of Private Potts, and is comic in the extreme; Syd May is as good as ever in his numerous imitations of Robey, Sheridan, Formby, &c.; Lottie Lennox is greatly appreciated in two popular songs; Nell Emerald, Gennie Llewellyn, James Curwell, Frank Lynne, J. H. Milburn, and De Wynne Brothers all contribute with much success to an exceptionally good bill.

Hippodrome.—De Wilmar's spirit-painting heads the bill, and mystifies the audience with artistic reproductions of famous pictures; Dave Samuels is popular in his parodies; Dave Carter is well received in two songs; Josie Delaine, whose versatility is astounding; the Henrys, Richard Walley, J. W. Gallager, Permane Brothers, and Harry Rogerson all prove very good turns.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—After being closed for the summer vacation, this theatre reopened for the season on Monday evening with Messrs. W. H. Hallett and Walter Howard's well-selected company in *Her Love Against the World*, in which Miss Ellen Snow as Iris and Mr. Fred Emery as Eric are conspicuous with excellent portrayals. Others who should also be singled out for performances of especial merit are Mr. W. H. Hallett as Prince Othmar, Mr. Roy Fortescue as Ulric, and Miss Rossie St. John as Lionel.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—This drama house also reopened on Monday evening after a more than usual lengthy vacation with Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in the drama *Mother*. The principal parts of Duncan and Nellie are admirably played by Mr. J. O. Stewart and Miss Edna Earl, who receive adequate support from the other members of the company.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Large holiday audiences are delighted with the excellent show here, at the head of which is George Robey, who, as usual, keeps the audience in a continual roar of merriment, and receives a cordial welcome; the pre-eminent risley acrobats, the Kellinos, are scoring a success with their new act *On the Road*, in which they display their agility in a remarkably clever performance. Other artists who contribute turns that meet with the hearty approval of the audience are Conn and Conrad, the clever "aviating comedians"; Frank and Free, enjoyable comedy artists; Harvey's American Boys and Girls, including Daisie Dennis and Frank Victor; Walter Wade, in his new monologue "Sandy McGregor"; Katie Moss, vocalist, violinist, and entertainer; Bugler Carr, balancing twenty regulation bayonets on his chin, &c.; and Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian and champion cakewalker. The Bioscope is also retained with good pictures. The beauties of the redecorations of this theatre are the admiration of all.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The leading feature in a good holiday bill here is the first appearance locally of Atlas and Vulcana, together with the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, the society athletes, who give a remarkably clever and finished performance, which earns unstinted approbation; a very good show is also given by Eric Dalvere and Phil Wallace, the two extremes; the Hulls are popular in their entertaining comedy musical act; the Brothers Felton are smart speciality gymnasts; Pat Lynch is cordially received for his intricate and clever dancing turn; and Marion Scott, character vocalist and comedienne, and Marie Altino, vocalist, introducing picture songs, are also entertaining. The Bioscope pictures, as usual, are of the best and latest.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Big houses here are unmistakable in their approval of the pictures shown. Charles Reinh, chorus vocalist, is scoring a gratifying success.

The Empress Picture Palaces, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—These two picture houses continue to cater for their patrons in a liberal manner, and present a most diversified and well-arranged programme, which is changed twice a week. At the Mere-road hall Miss Phyllis May, a smart young vocalist and comedienne, is on a successful return engagement.

LEIGH.—Assembly Rooms and Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—An excellent programme is again put forward to crowded houses. The following are the principal dramatic and humorous subjects this week: The Twisted Trail, Little Snow-White, Married in Haste, Setting Back the Hands of Time, His Vacation, and Mr. Dan Rodney, comedian, brings down the house with his songs.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The above place of amusement was reopened on Monday afternoon to a crowded house, the premier turn being supplied by the Hadj Haussen Arabs, in a clever acrobatic display; Drum and Major receive great applause for their neat sketch; Miss Mattie Lund, soprano, is heard to advantage; Sid Stanto, musical comedian, is well received; Messrs. Henry and Tyler present a clever and amusing cycling turn; the Three Pirmans do some really clever feats on the horizontal bars; Kitty Kearns is a charming comedienne and dancer; Cling and Clancy are a couple of clever comedians and dancers; and the Hiposcope pictures are good.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—After being closed for three weeks, during which period the house has been entirely redecorated, the autumn season was inaugurated on Monday evening with the "musical wilful absurdity" *The Love Birds*, wherein Miss Loie Esmond, Mr. Edward Neville, and company appear. Miss Esmond fills in vigorous fashion the rôle of a comedy servant, Araminta 'Awkins, and Mr. Neville is well cast as the peppery Colonel Fritters; other leading parts including Miss Blanche Courtenay and Mr. J. O. Russell, who are quite successful as the lovers Agnes Fritters and Ferdinand Fluff, Mr. Fred Alberts, a sturdy and amorous policeman, and Miss Violet Lesborough, well made up as a forbidding spinster of uncertain age. These principals fairly divide among them some lively lyrics and acrobatic dances, in which a bevy of housemaids (brightly represented by Misses Polly Wignal, Ethel Robertson, Annie Ross and Etty Gage), give useful aid; and the fun is also helped along by an astronomer, a chimney-sweep, a coal porter, and a page boy, characteristically rendered by Messrs. F. McKinnon, George Prince, F. J. Medcalfe, and J. Le Fleming.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Speckled Band* is here for a fortnight, and there is every evidence that it will meet with success. The large audiences that attend are gripped by the thrilling narrative, the unfolding of which, right to the gruesome end, is followed with the deepest and ever-increasing interest. Then the company to whose keeping it is entrusted are individually possessed of high histrionic powers, and bring out all the strong points with telling effect. Foremost is that able actor, Mr. C. W. Somerset, who holds his audience by reason of his brilliant exposition of the half-mad, nervous Dr. Rylott. All who witness the part are ready to acknowledge its close approach to reality. Mr. Julian Royce is another member of the company whose Sherlock Holmes is characterised by much tact and point; Miss Alice Leigh proves a winning Enid Stonor possessing a sympathetic touch; Miss Adelaide Grace looks the part of the intriguing, masterful housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton, and, although the part is not a very great one, the lady handles it to perfection. It is a pity that more cannot be seen of Mr. E. H. Paterson, who, as Armitage, presents a finished picture of the interfering, ill-educated village grocer. His altercation at the inquest is a little treat in itself. Much credit is deserved by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan for his altogether fine character study of the terrified butler, Rodgers; Master James Woodings delivers his lines set down for Sherlock Holmes's assistant in amusing manner; Messrs. F. Finch Smiles, H. Ainger, Gerald Merrielees, and Miss Lucie Verrier acquit themselves as the detective's clients; and Mr. Harold B. Standing (Mr. Scott Wilson) and Mr. Bellenden Clarke (Dr. Watson) afford the utmost satisfaction. The company is under the direction of Mr. Arthur Hardy.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—During a short term of closing this popular place has been redecorated and reseated, and now looks particularly bright and cosy. *An Unwedded Wife*, presented by Mr. Will Casey's company, is the attraction. Miss Chrissie Dunbar appears as Marion, a rôle which she handles in capable manner, earning much applause; Mr. Arthur Cheeves plays strongly as Frank Armstrong; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes makes a capital Philip Blackstone; great laughter follows the work of Mrs. Casey (Carraway Crumpet), Mr. Casey (Napoleon B. Boomer), and Mr. Frank Masters (police constable); Miss Ethel Spense is good as Elsie Langham; and the child part of Reggie is intelligently undertaken by little Doris Sorsby.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week we are having the interesting comedy-drama *Beneath the Stars; or a Lancashire Lad in London*, which is being submitted by Miss Eunice Udall's company. Miss Madge Trevelyan soon gains general approval with her carefully-played rôle of the heroine, Angel Marsden; Miss Eunice Udall, as Becky Wiggins, and Mr. Coleman Davies, with his Jemmy Hopblossom, convulse the audience; Miss Kitty Clifton is seen to much advantage in the character of Pauline Petrowski; Stephen Harcourt is a capital hero in the hands of Mr. J. Nelson Turner; and Mr. Terry Davies as Major Bionson, Mr. H. Reynolds (Lord Sylvester), and Mr. Arthur Gribben (Silas Clipper) do justice to their parts.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*When London Sleeps* is doing good business here this week, and Mr. Lester Collingwood has sent a capital all-round company. Miss Mabel Scudamore delights everybody with her excellent impersonation of the heroine, Queenie Carruthers; the heavy part of Captain Rodney Haynes finds in Mr. Kenneth Norbury a clever exponent; Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays strongly as the unprincipled Hilda Carode; and valuable work likewise comes from Messrs. George P. Dalper (David Engleheart), Willis Collins (Furnaby Fuller), Henry Cooke (Sammy Blythe), Charles Rogers (the Hon. Bertie), F. E. Thomas (Bob Jones), and Miss Lottie Lonsdale (Signorina Jonesia). The drama is staged and dressed in first-class style.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Included in a strong bill here this week are Fanny Fields and Dan Crawley. Each artist receives a very friendly greeting. Harry Roxbury and company create endless laughter with their sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*; Griff, the jesting juggler, again delights many old admirers; Dacey and Lewis go through a smart song-and-dance turn; some remarkable feats are accomplished by the Marconis, electrical wonders, who gain rounds of applause; the Blessings are able equilibrists; Billy French brings down the house with his wooden-shoe dancing; and Amy Marsden, low-comedy girl, proves diverting.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—*Man to Man* is being played here twice nightly by Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's combination. Mr. Bown is seen to advantage in his original part of Bill Burkley, which he has played 2000 times; and Mr. Edward Lloyd as the mad parson, the Rev. Philip Ormond, does well. Others in the cast are Messrs. H. Holland (Matthew Ellerton), Arthur Robinson (George Gordon), Charles Stirling (Richard Ellerton), Bruce Williams (Samuel Plumtree), Miss Beatrice Hone (an excellent Ethel Maythorne), Miss Francis May (Gipsy Madge), and Miss Eleanor Parera (Lavinia Dove).

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Frances Letty is here this week, delighting everybody with her songs and dances. She and her three assistants are nightly earning encores. Herbert Sleath's company present their interesting sensational episode, *The Trap*; the Grovini Sisters have rounds of applause for their lightning acrobatic feats; much commendation is bestowed on Elise, Wulf, and Waldoff, who supply a lively gymnastic turn "After the football match"; Marie Santoi and company again bring their pleasing and beautiful scena, *A Night in Japan*; the Brothers Ashley provoke great laughter by reason of a comedy boxing sketch, *Next Please*; Dolly and Rose are neat duettists and dancers; and also in the list are Dalmere's animals and Bruce Green, comedian. Mons. Footgers, a French comedian at the piano, was in the list, but has been unable to appear owing to indisposition.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. *Gipsy Jack* is being given here by the stock company, the principal rôles being in the capable hands of Messrs. Sydney Grant (Gerald Skinner), Harry Tresham (Gipsy Jack), Tom H. Soliy (Joe Banks), Cecil Ravenswood (Mr. Skinner), Miss Lina Nazeby (May Harvey), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Dorothy Dexter), and Miss Florence Cambron (Nan). Brown's Bioscope shows A Present for his Wife.

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Miss Ethel Arden and George Abel are pleasing very much with their new playlet, *Town Hall To-night*; Daisy Jerome jumps into popularity with her daintily-rendered songs; the Seven Perezoffs have a particularly funny juggling pantomime, *An Evening in a Parisian Café*; A. G. Spry has an amusing melange of song and dance; Signor Barbalouga, possessed of a rich baritone voice, renders in grand style several operatic excerpts; Phil Rees' Stable Lads have a novel racing act, *Not a Crook*, into which singing, dancing, boxing, &c., are introduced; the Kirbys present a merry musical comedy pot-pourri; Rose and Challoner, as the porter and the singer, are a diverting couple; and Tom Lloyd, comedian, also appears.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of the bill here this week is W. C. Fields, who keeps his audience in shrieks of laughter; *The Red Man's Home* is a neat little trifle, given by S. B. Sanders, an American actor-vocalist, assisted by Miss Bertha Jones (contralto); Albert Le Fre proves a most amusing comedian; Wyllie, a tramp musician, wins great favour; Tennyson and Wallis have a deal of new and funny business; Kendrick and Laura go through an able comedy, harmony, and eccentric dancing act; and contributions also come from W. F. Reno, with a comedy cycle act and the Spadonis, duettists and dancers.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. Charles Constant's company appeared the first three nights of the week in *Florodora*. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Anthony Tweedlepunch was excellent, his efforts from beginning to end calling forth roars of laughter; Mr. Courtier R. Dutton as Frank Abercoed acts and sings pleasingly; Mr. Johnnie Junior as Captain Arthur Donegal is quite at home, and plays well; Mr. Jack Parker performs the rôle of Leandro creditably; Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus G. Gilfain is a typical bumptious millionaire; Miss Daisy Lake is a captivating Dolores, and sings with effect; Miss Florence Hersee as Angela Gilfain plays appealingly; and Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood is first class. "La Danse des Apaches," by Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. Johnnie Junior, is a clever performance, calling forth rapturous applause. The scenic effects are good, and the orchestra most efficient. *The Mummy and the Humming Bird* was announced for Thursday, Friday, and to-day.

Pier Pavilion.—Secretary, Mr. Sam Hughes.—The orchestra has now been augmented to its full complement, and, under the direction of Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.C.M., delights enormous audiences morning and night. The vocalist this week is Mr. Webster Millar.

LLANELLY.—Haggar's Theatre (late Royalty).—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Haggar; Manager, Mr. Jas. Haggar.—Miss Winifred Maude and Mr. Victor du Cane, in *The Sins of a City*, are attracting crowds. Miss Maude appears with her usual great success as Seaweed, and Mr. du Cane as Isaac Levi is as good as ever; Mr. William Vane as Sandy Macdonald is capital; as is also Mr. Harold Heath as Donald McIvor; in the part of Ralph Blackwater, K.C., Mr. Morris Maud is conspicuous; and the Brothers Woodleigh are well represented by Mr. Maurice Jones; Miss Glad Maxwell as Jenny does exceedingly well, and the Misses Sybil Vaughan, Mona Leslie, Gipsy Dare, Minnie Millward, and Mabel Lane are all worthy of praise. The piece is excellently mounted. The new orchestra, under Mr. F. C. Hime, is most effective.

Picturedrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Samuel.—Much success is to be recorded here with all the newest pictures. Mr. Levi Harris, vocalist, is very good. Mr. Stediford, the manager and describer, is very popular.

LONDONDERRY.—Opera House and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. J. Mitchell.—This popular theatre was reopened on Monday, after the summer vacation with Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy and Mr. James Martin's company in *His Life for Hers*. Mr. Lodge-Percy was very fine as Lord Jura, and the Prince Zouroff of Mr. A. Money was superb; equally artistic was the study of Vera Herbert, presented by Miss Veronica Clinton, and the acting by Miss Henrietta Schrier of Fuchsia, the American girl. The piece has drawn large audiences twice nightly.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—Excellent variety fare is provided here by Bonair and Tees, quick-change artists; the Veroniques, a smart comedy duo; and Renz Bros., in a clever acrobatic display. A fine set of pictures is also appreciated.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Welcker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The "World in Motion" picture entertainment includes the Royal Agricultural Show at Liverpool, and other attractive films. Miss Lorna Lomond, contralto vocalist, renders her songs in good style; and the McGregors, comedy entertainers, provide fun.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mr. Harry P. Tower's talented company commenced a successful tour here on Bank Holiday, when the musical comedy *Dear Little Denmark* was witnessed locally for the first time. Mr. Paul Ruben's tuneful and delightful music was received with warm approval, and the company soon displayed all-round excellence, with bright acting and singing. Miss Thelma Raye showed marked ability as Christine, and her efforts throughout were thoroughly appreciated by the crowded audience; equally successful, too, was Miss Winifred Voit as Ophelia, in which she made the most of her opportunities; Mr. Edward Thirlby, an old local favourite, scored a big success as the Duke; and excellent support was given by Mr. Hartley Summers (Hans Hansen) and Mr. Cameron Carr (Conrad). Other parts were creditably filled, and the gorgeous dressing and admirable setting added greatly to a splendid all-round production, for which we confidently predict a triumphant tour.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—For the holidays another highly-popular programme is presented to large and enthusiastic houses. The current bill includes Lilian, lady trick cyclist; Gicardo, a clever juggler; Thornbury, a novel painter and artist; and Stelling, with his performing dog Kiswaski. The pictures are decidedly instructive and amusing.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Albert Leigh, by arrangement with the lessee, opened the theatre on Monday as a variety hall, giving two performances nightly. The b

her usual effect as Mrs. Forsyth; Mr. Whitford Vane, as her husband, handles the part with reserve; Mr. Esmé Percy is Edgar Forsyth to the life; as Sidney Forsyth Miss Isabel Roland scores a big success; Mr. Henry Austin repeats his fine performance as Samuel Ritchie; and Miss Louise Holbrook makes a decided hit with her excellent character study of Jane Gregory. The scenery and general mounting of the play is all one can desire. Mr. Esmé Percy's recital of Oscar Wilde's "Happy Prince," before the play, is exceedingly well done.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The big turn here this week is provided by Percy Honri, in his elaborate scenic production *Concordia*, which is as popular as ever; Elise Loubert ("the handsomest dressed woman on the stage") sings in cultured style; Herbert Sleath's company, in *Her Ladyship's Guest*, are effective and entertaining; and other clever contributors to an excellent programme are Walter King, Minnie Kaufmann, and Chinko, the juggler.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Meek.—A powerful bill here is headed by *Olga's Oath*, a Nihilist episode, thrillingly played by Miss Zerlina Harrington, supported by J. G. Grahame and company; while other strong turns of prominence are Alick Lauder, Scotch comedian, and Edwin Garth, comedian. Also in the bill are the Adras, head and hand balancers; Ida Dorrie, chic comedienne; Burns and Bentley, the artistic dancing duo; Johnson and Hart, hoop rollers and jugglers; and little Sadie Lundy, the child prima donna.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A remarkably good programme here especially features the Ten Loonies, who are more popular than ever; the sensational motor-car feats of Darracq, who provides surely the last thing in daring; and Leipzig, whose manipulation of cards is smartly and wonderfully done. Other good turns are Wyndham and Kitty, in their wire performance; the Findens, playing a clever sketch; Ted E. Box, comedian and whistler; Sybil St. Elmo, a fine vocalist; and the Sisters Kilner, acrobatic dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Miss Fannie Ward scores a big success here this week in a novel sketch, *An Unlucky Star*, which causes considerable amusement. She is ably supported. The La Scala Opera Company, including Mrs. Arthur Rousby, are heard to advantage in a pocket edition of *Cavalleria Rusticana*; Mons. and Mme. Alf. Ageust are amusing continental jugglers; Lupino Lane makes a decided hit with his remarkable eccentric dancing; Arthur Leslie is an excellent mimic; France and Stewart, in comedy sketch, *The Little Puritan*, are capital; Holden's mannikins are life-like; Lena Verdi is smart in song and mimicry; and Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, is very popular.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The *Airship; or, The Stolen Plans*, a thrilling up-to-date episode, by Mr. Roland Hastings, is here this week, and is highly successful, although badly handicapped for want of room. The company consists of Miss Eirene Douglas, Miss Dorothy Thompson, and Messrs. Edward Pollard, Wm. E. Ellis, Roland Grahame, and Gerald Grey. Alfredo Marschall goes through an astounding performance with cannon balls and a cannon; Rupert Pounds sings exceedingly well; Muriel Harding, Anglo-French comedienne, is very well received; Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and company score a success with *At the Stroke of Twelve* a dramatic sketch; and other good turns are offered by the Leonas, musical act; Fred Kendall, Hebrew comedian; and Gladys Wilton, girl contralto. Pictures complete.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Variety rules here, at the head being Ada Pagini, the accomplished violinist; while Lavail and Bodine, aeriel gymnasts, provide a prominent turn, distinguished by neatness, daring, and grace; *The Plumbers*, played by Tom Taylor and company, is a funny sketch; Bert Rayburn, a little lump of comedy, is entertaining; and other capital turns are Michael Madden, queen of dames; Alice Edwards, male impersonator; Hanson and Hartley, vaudeville artists; and the Two Brilliants, champion lady xylophonists.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Carlton, the well-known card manipulator and sleight of hand artist, is at the top of the bill here this week, and is scoring his usual big success. "The Mysterious Cross," a very clever illusion, presented by Mr. Carlton, is a positive sensation. Florence and Rose Showell, charming duettists, are deservedly well received; Lady Mansel's Juveniles are exceedingly smart; whilst other enjoyable turns are those of Cara Magda, in a neat gymnastic act; Otto and Olga, in a pleasing musical comedy melange; Daisy Taylor, comedienne and dancer; and Tom Merry, eccentric comedian. The Girl in the Barracks is a capital film.

RUSHDENE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. John Ridding's opera company is the attraction here this week, and includes Miss Lucie Lever, Miss Vera Vizard, Mr. Michael Kemble Mr. F. S. Gilbert, Mr. F. Clendon, Mr. Fredericks and Mr. Williams. The programme for the week is very ambitious, and comprises *Maritana, Daughter of the Regiment, Faust, the Waterman, Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. The singing is good, and Mr. Ernest Carter is the conductor.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—The pictures include Faithful, How Scroggins Found the Comet, The King of the Beggars, Exploits of Buffalo Bill, &c.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—Mr. James Welch's company is revelling in the broad farce of *When Knights were Bold*, keeping the audience in a continual ripple of laughter. As the irrepressible Guy de Vere Mr. H. Langdon Bruce's drolleries and witticisms are irresistible, and evoke frequent and delighted plaudits; as Isaac Isaacson Mr. Charles Lloyd gives a humorour presentment of the rich Jew, and Barker, the old retainer, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. John Cecil, who faithfully depicts the trials of that faithful servitor. Wittie is most plausibly played by Mr. Lawrence Stevenson, and Mr. P. Goodyer, as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, the humorist and jester, causes much merriment; Mr. Colin Johnston is a capital Dean, and invests the part with admirable weight and solidity; Mr. Humphrey does his best in the rôle of the despicable Sir Bryan Ballymote; Miss Isla Glynne is an ideal representative of Lady Rowena, handsome, haughty and dignified; Miss Violet Hunter is to be warmly commended upon her skill in depicting the rôle of Sarah Isaacson; Miss Lena Flowerdew is admirable as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave; and the rôles of Lady Millicent Eggington, Lady Marjorie Eggington, and Kate Pottlebury are well sustained by the Misses Mirielle Cuthbert, Lee Lewis, and Juliet Matheson; Miss Elspeth Oliphant is an attractive Alice Barker, and the remaining characters are all admirably sustained. *When Knights were Bold* is picturesquely mounted and charmingly dressed.

HIPPODROME, LTD. — Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The holiday programme is a strong one, and prominent among the turns is Herbert Lloyd, the King of Diamonds, a "champion spoofer," whose burlesque on "Variety" is a well-staged piece of absurdity. Another humorous item is the satirical skit on the "days when women will have the vote." A very smart ventriloquial performance is that given by Mr. Fred Russell, and other contributors to the programme include Nellie Lunelle, comedienne and dancer; Maurice, the mystifier, a very clever card manipulator; Maggie Frazer, vocal comedienne; and Arthur Rigby and company in *The March of the Married Men*.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the Sole Direction of Mr. Charles Evans. The holiday programme here has attracted large and appreciative audiences. Bob Pender's "Bright Sparks" head the list and give a delightfully attractive entertainment with their dancing à la Russe; little Doris Pender, as the premier danseuse, has evoked loud applause; Mona Garrick, reciter, has made a good impression; Jenny Castelle, comedienne and vocalist, goes well; Gus Garrick is filling a re-engagement with unqualified success; Miss Ethel Bourne, contralto; Henrietta and Selina, instrumentalists; and Cadwell and Verne complete the programme. There have been extensions of time and displays of fireworks on the Saturday and Bank Holiday nights, and a ball has followed the concert each evening.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson-Withers.—*Driven from Home*, popularised by the late Mr. J. K. Murray, and presented by Mr. Andrew Melville's company, secured hearty recognition from holiday audiences on Monday. Principal characters are undertaken by Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook, Mr. Percy Dawson as Willie, Mr. John B. Shinton as Geoffrey Waring, and Miss Ada Ryder in the dual rôles of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Will Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads, in a capable singing and dancing scena, had a bright and attractive holiday programme. Miss Maude May Murray's dances are much appreciated, and other favourite turns are contributed by Royston and Royce, Sir Cuffe, Golden Chance, and Fred Bamford. The pictures are excellent.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Miss Nannie Goldman's company opened on Bank Holiday with *The Stepmother*. Miss Patricia Bostock gives a powerful interpretation of the title-rôle; Miss Lucy Burrows makes the most of the part of Amy Bristow; Mr. William Holles submits a typical representation of the sea captain, Bob Bristow; the unscrupulous Abraham Wiggins is ably portrayed by Mr. Hy. C. Ward; a fine character study of Luke Trizel is given by Mr. H. P. Owen; Miss Nannie Goldman is charming as the boy Danny; and Miss Elsie Walton is capable as Clara. Mr. Barron H. Heron ably fills the rôle of Detective Blake. Excellent comedy is provided by the amorous Johanna Jones (Miss Edith Bruce) and the unresponsive P.C. Timothy Yapp (Mr. Teddy Myles).

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—His Last Dollar, Love of Linda, Hunting Wolves in Russia, Over Silent Paths, and An Old Soldier, and comic pictures comprise the programme this week.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The Best People* is delighting patrons of the Opera House. The fine comedy is admirably presented. As the ever-merry Lord Emsworth Mr. Henry Renouf is delightfully entertaining; and Mr. Claude Haviland is deserving of high praise for his portrayal of the philosophical father, Lord Wynlea. Mr. E. J. Trallope appears with success as Jackson; the Hon. Gerald Boyle is well taken by Mrs. Frederick Meades; Mr. James Spofforth is in the competent hands of Mr. Edward Nimmo; Miss Irene Lavington commands commendation as Lady Emsworth; and as the Hon. Mrs. Boyle Miss Evelyn Sommers is very praiseworthy.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company present *His Real Wife*, in which Miss Ward is seen to distinct advantage; Miss Gabrielle Romero gives every satisfaction as Lady Sybil Welton; Mr. Clifford Rean is successful in the part of Herbert Barton; and the character of Martin Avondale is well sustained by Mr. Albert Sember.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Cinquevalli is once more delighting the inhabitants of Ironpolis with his justly-described incomparable entertainment; Tray and Rich, comedians, are deservedly well received after a lengthy absence from the iron town; Ryder Slone, character comedian, makes a successful renewal of Teeside audiences. Austin and Cowan, vocalists; the Three Diamonds, vocalists and dancers; Ross and Lewis, comedians; Little Pam, comedian; and the Empirescope pictures are all well received.

NEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—A good holiday programme is presented to crowded houses. A beautiful coloured picture, The Cat Changed into a Woman, is worthy of notice; Sheriff's Sacrifice, a Texas story, wins applause; and most laughable is Billy's Serenade, The Big Drum, and Two Bears. Mme. Holt's Juvenile Follies, with her ten clever boys and girls, are very popular.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Mr. Will H. Fox, with his piano monologues, is a prime favourite here this week, and Mr. Walter Ellis and his company, in the *Sleepwalker* sketch, has made a big success. The Musical Bentleys have greatly pleased, whilst Messrs. Cummin and Seaham, the Five Singing Gypsies, Master L. Bedford, and Miss Morrie Mine all give satisfaction. The fine vocalism of Mr. William Anderson was received with much enthusiasm.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Variety and animated pictures still continue in the theatre and give great pleasure to large audiences, both afternoon and evening.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Sutton, Adeler, and Allandale.—This week the programme is changed from pierrots to farcical comedy, and *Facing the Music* finds favour. The characters are undertaken by Mr. Eric Bridgman, Mr. Eric Robson, Mr. F. Dalton, Mr. E. H. Albury, Mr. L. Palgrove, Miss Ida Chapman, Miss D. Marsdene, Miss E. Ross, and Miss T. Hansard.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Bolam.—A good programme is provided here this week. Newham and Latimer, burlesque artists, receive a flattering reception; Charles Voltaire is a trick skater of more than average ability; La Belle Watson is a cultured soprano; Sassie and Wally score in their duets and dances; and The Heathen Chinese and An Indian's Bride are the two chief films.

ROYAL PICTURE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Hall Jones.—Big business is being done at this popular hall, the chief pictures this week being The Impalement (Biograph) and The Royal Animated Gazette.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Manager, Mr. S. Cooper.—This week we have Mr. J. A. Campbell's company with *From Convent to Throne*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Byle.—A fine holiday programme has attracted crowded houses, George Lashwood's amusing contributions being especially appreciated. Alf Gibson has a fund of dry humour, and gains hearty applause. Roze and Calvert, in their capital little duologue, *Captain Kettle and His Charming Mate*, are responsible for much merriment. The cleverness displayed by Lux's Dogs shows efforts of careful training. Rauschle, the eminent impersonator, presents vivid impressions of past and present makers of history. Other entertaining turns are contributed by Frank Couch, pattering comedian, and Rosa Loader at the piano, whilst the Bioscope pictures depicting An Episode in 1812 are particularly interesting.

NORTHAMPTON.—FRANKLIN'S GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Wainwright.—These gardens were well patronised on Bank Holiday, when an excellent variety company, under the direction of Mr. Allan McAskell, provided a well-diversified programme. In addition to these there was the balloon ascent and parachute descent by Capt. Fred Bidmead and the music of the Rushden Rifles Silver Prize Band, under Mr. E. Whitworth. The comedy of Neddy Vokes was very funny; the Aerials on the flying trapeze were graceful and clever; Gus Gauntlett's vocal contributions and his display of sword, lance, and club exercises were greatly appreciated; the Evalos displayed agility in their juggling gymnastic act; De Ora's aerial flights, the equilibrism of Alfonza, the somersaults of the Potters, and the acrobatic performance of Sira, the one-legged phenomenon, were highly applauded, and McAskell's conjuring turn was very amusing.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr Frank Lyndon.—Love Among the Roses, A Doctor's Perfidy, The Paymaster, and The Entombed Woman are the principal films this week. Miss Zanazzi vocalises "Save your pennies, little man," and "Love makes the whole world young."

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The Principal subjects this week are On the Border States, Through the Darkness, The Little Doctor of the Foothills, and Burly Bill.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The Navy is a popular and instructive subject. Other good ones are Love Conquers All, Marie Antoinette, and Bravery Rewarded.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The Bank Holiday attraction here has been Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company in *The Passion of Life*. Captain Horace O'Neal is admirably played by Mr. F. Owen Chambers; and Miss Ada Hender as Belle O'Neal proves herself to be a clever actress. Mr. Hubert Helliwell makes a capital Jack Kenny; Fergus MacKenna finds a good representative in Mr. Owen Edwin; and Mr. Basil Mitchell interprets with satisfactory effect the part of Ralph Flint. Miss Maud Garth is seen to advantage as Nita O'Neal; Miss Madge Maher proves an acceptable Alice Kenny; and some funny comedy is introduced by Mr. Fred Luard as Dan Sprouts and Miss Emily Lewis as Tilly Tripp.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—This popular resort was re-opened on monday, the bill being headed by Virto and Venita, who presented an enjoyable musical act; Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Nightingale, rendered some enjoyable songs; the Harringtons, in their comic juggling and dancing, were favourites; and other good turns were provided by Tiny Ashton, boy vocalist; Billy Clithro, burlesque comedian; Leighton and Bee, the lively comedy couple; Jowsey's Juveniles, in their song scena, and the pictures.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—This theatre was re-opened for the season on Monday last with Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company in *For Mother's Sake*. Mr. George Fox was excellent as Old Goriot; Mr. M. Thorpe did well as Henri Romaine; Mr. Ernest Walters, as the Jew Louis Myers, skilfully played the part; Bill Higgins was safe in the hands of Mr. Victor Howard; and Mr. Alf Edwards was a typical gendarme Pomponnel; whilst the villain Luigi Ferroni was effectively enacted by Mr. Whitmore Ledger. Miss Hettie Jeffries was a vivacious Fifi Pasteur; Miss Evie Grahame was admirable as Mathilde; and Miss Mabel Phillips did well as Jacqueline. Pictures by the bioscope are shown in the intervals.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Marcus D. Draper's company is here with *The Christian*. Mr. Draper excellently renders the part of John Storm; Miss Gladys Furnell is well received as Glory Quayle; Mr. Stephen Ewart is good as Lord Robert Ure; the same may be said of Mr. W. Burgess Barratt as Horatio Drake; and Miss Rose Burgess is most successful as Mrs. Callender.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Councillor, F. W. Fitt.—The management has reverted to variety this week, and a capital programme is presented. The Tan Kwai Chinese troupe of juggling and acrobatic artists head the bill; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls give a pleasing musical entertainment; Seeley, West, and Rhodesia present juggling with music and comedy; Dan Hendy is an amusing acrobatic comedian; Renee Graham is a most successful male impersonator; Ess and Hoey exhibit good dancing on Canadian ski shoes; Maude Marshall and Fred Parr are well received for their vocal and comedy act; and the Hippo. Bio. is good.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's Madcaps are doing well here. Miss Chrissie Murray is most successful with her songs; Miss Marjorie Cecil continues a warm favourite; Miss Vic Huntly scores all round in her singing and dancing; Mr. Harry Cove is much appreciated as a baritone vocalist; and Mr. Bert Gordon receives hearty applause for his singing and dancing; Sandy Lawson, with his Scotch songs, raises hearty laughter, and Mr. Will Hoppe gives some choice selections.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs. Goodman.—Business has been good here this week. Miss Cissie Scott is very pleasing and Miss Rose Effingham is a charming vocalist; Mr. Laurence Howard has established himself a favourite; Mr. Jack Bonny is much applauded, and Mr. F. Capron's instrumental selections are entertaining; Mr. Leslie Sears is a good laughter-raiser.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Private Secretary* opened the autumn season here on Monday. Mr. James Hussey presented the Rev. Robert Spalding in thoroughly humorous style; the peppery Cattermole was excellently portrayed by Mr. W. Hargreaves; Mr. Arthur Claremont made a capital foil as Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Marsland received full attention from Mr. William Carriden; and Mr. Horace George gave a good account of himself as Harry Marsland. Miss Mary Mallalieu acted with charm and brightness in her impersonation of Edith Marsland; Miss Elsie Blythe made a vivacious Eva Webster; and Miss Cecily Wade was a satisfactory Mrs. Stead. The play was preceded by the farce *The Captain's Wife*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—The company of Mr. Horace Stanley are giving excellent representations of *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Ernest Fare handles the part of Jack O'Malley with success; James Inderwick finds a realistic exponent in Mr. Charles Burdon; Mr. Edwin Clarke is good as the detective; Mr. A. E. Francis plays Baggs on humorous lines; Mr. Horace Stanley's breezy portrayal of Sam Wagstaffe is thoroughly appreciated; Miss Violet Agnew supplies a charming embodiment of Bessie Leigh; Miss Ida Fane is funny as Letitia Leigh, and Miss Kate Kilpack makes a spirited Peggy Potts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—G. H. Elliott is always a welcome visitor, and his song, "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," is rapturously received. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas, in scenes from Dickens, supply an artistic and attractive turn; the Two Anartos create boundless fun by their humorous interlude; Hilda Jacobsen's spirited vocalism draws appreciative applause; Campbell and Barber show skill and neatness in their feats; and a remarkable acrobatic novelty is provided by Ricardo and Salving. Kitty Wager, comedienne, Fred Poplar, comedian, and Little Keeno, comedian, add to the fun.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Joseph Hart's playlet, *The Futurity Winner*, fully deserves its warm reception here; Haley's Garden of Girls sing and dance in an elaborate setting; The Burnells raise many a laugh in the sketch *On the Links*; the mimicry of Gilbert Girard is cleverly done; a comedy cycle act by Sidney and his Groom proves a mirth provoker; Stidder and Dunbar give an excellent musical item, and other interesting turns are the Borella Brothers, Cissie Lupino, and Billy Farrell.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard occupy the boards here in *The Greed of Gold*. Mr. Jack Edwin plays the part of Harry Hood in a forcible manner; Miss Mabel Phillips as his wife Dora acted delightfully; and Master Bernard Fox was natural as Cecil. Miss Amy Lloyd Earle as Mrs. Maxwell did well; and Miss Violet Leyton as Patty Mayfield played in a charming manner. Mr. B. M. Fox as Tom Welstead impressively portrayed the dumb man; Mr. M. Thorpe made a convincing Arthur Errol; and Mr. Herbert Leonards was amusing as Con Creamer.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company opened on Monday evening in *Judith*. Miss Tullock gave a capital rendering of the part of Judith Satoris; Miss Dorothea Vivian was a dainty Hester Norris; and Miss Dot Dainton as Blind Meg acted cleverly. Miss Rose Watson was good as Bill Scamp; and Miss Amy Osbourne as Maudie Green, in association with Mr. William De Lacy as Percy Hogg and Mr. E. King as Sergeant Jones, caused much amusement. Mr. Alec Young as Jack Carrington was excellent; and Mr. Edward Vivian as Eugene Darville was also very good. Mr. C. H. Hughes as Silas Norris was fully equal to his work.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Through the Darkness is a fine film. A Traitor to His Country is another capital picture. Plucky Youngsters, Building Carts in Sicily, Soap in His Eye, and Bill's Serenade are other popular pictures. Mr. Robert Leach is the vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—A Child of the Ghetto is a powerful story. The Military Tournament, Carlo's Devotion, The Aviator's Dream, and The Portrait are other interesting films.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—The Little Doctor of the Foothills, The Child of the Ghetto, The Swedish Alps, and The Prince and the Beggar are all good. Funny films include Ring Up When Wanted, The Suffragette Candidate, and The Bath Chair Attendant.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm Brown.—The Village Beauty, Hindoo Treachery, Brown's Weekly Journal, and The Mysterious Match-box are in the bill here.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Mr. Milton Bode began his third variety season here on Monday. The programme was a a strong one, O Hana San and company heading the bill in a beautiful Oriental scene, *The Vision of Japan*. Included in the programme are Choko, a clever equilibristic contortionist; May Knight, a successful chorus comedienne; Bernard and Weston, an amusing pair of patterers and comedians; Carpos Brothers, in a marvellous acrobatic act; Parkes and Price, clever musicians; and the Lovelaces, in illustrated songs. The Premier Imperial Bioscope pictures conclude.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—There was a full and appreciative house on Bank Holiday to welcome Mr. Arthur Leigh's company in Wilson Barrett's *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy's presentation of John Durham is a robust and clever piece of character; Mr William Calvert as Lord Mountfallon, and Mr. Chas. Wemyss as Mr. Vallerton, both render able assistance with their respective impersonations. Mr. Arthur Leigh is a general favourite, with his humorous and easy-going Hon. Reginald Steighton. Mr. Frank Elton fills the rôle of Arthur Walcombe successfully; Mr. W. F. Clitherow makes an effective Ben Vernstein; and Mr. John Hart does good work as Tasker. Miss Florence Tressilian is a charming Helen Vallerton; Miss Dorothy Turner imbues the Hon. Margaret Steighton with due restraint; while Miss Frances Wolviston is powerful and convincing as Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Nellie Bonser (in her original part) plays with a quiet yet forceful dignity and grace as Mrs. Durham.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Barger; Business-Manager, Mr. Norman Barger.—Mr. James Stephens and company opened here for a short stock season on Saturday last with *The Golden Chance*. Large holiday audiences were attracted, and were well provided for by a good company, including Mr. Jas. Stephens, Mr. J. Gordon Miller, Mr. Roy Denman, Mr. Arthur Roote, Mr. J. de Clifford, Mr. Edward Lester, Miss Phyllis Massey, Miss Lucie Victor, Miss Vivianne Douglas, Miss Agnes Stephens, and Miss Violet Cooper.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn. An attractive picture programme is given, which results in good business.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway; Secretary, Mr. F. J. Jones.—The management announce this to be the last week of the season. A splendid holiday bill is presented, which includes a welcome return visit of Bert Williams, the popular Welsh elocutionist.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—On Monday Miss Inez Howard's company presented *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Alfred Brandon acts the part of Prince Hildred with ease; Mr. Wm. J. Rea deserves every praise for his really admirable portrait of Prince Michael; while Mr. Chas. A. Baker gives a robust and manly impersonation of Prince Olaf. As Captain Hector Mr. J. Desmond Brannigan played admirably; and Mr. Lawrence Grove proved highly satisfactory as Lieut. Karl Stromberg. In the part of the maid, Miss Jessie Yatman realised the author's conception; Miss Ethel Savill looked charming as Princess Monica, and her acting was graceful and effective; Miss Gladys Moss-Wright as Viola gave a very effective performance; Mr. J. W. Brighten is well placed as the Bishop; and Mr. E. W. Parr as Nathan proving a faithful servant. The local arrangements were successfully carried out by Messrs. J. A. Rogers and Sons.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—*Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* was here for the first three nights this week. Mr. Charles Graham staged the play well, and presented a good all-round company. Mr. Graham Phillips gave a capital representation of Major John Colden; and as Captain Harry Peyton much credit is due to Mr. Arthur Poole. The character of Sergeant Carrington received able treatment from Mr. Donald Young; Miss Olive Noble as Miss Elizabeth Philipse was all that could be desired; and Miss Leonora Braham was good as Mistress Sarah Williams. Mr. Cecil Clayton as Mr. Valentine and Mr. Frank Woodville as Black Sam gave capital portrayals.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl, is a big success; Percy Lorraine is a clever animal mimic; Connie Duprez is a dainty comedienne; Conan and Doyle, in a singing and dancing act, are favourites; Tom Hayes, comedian, is well received; Mundill and Maude are successful in their dualogue *Uncle's Coat*; and the Hartley Wonders do some remarkable jumping.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The Royal opened on Monday with Fredk. Melville's *Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Violet Crossley effectively undertakes the part of Bess Moore; Miss Daisie Cook is fascinating as Gladys Erskine; Miss Margaret Queskie successfully portrays the difficult rôle of Honour Moore; and Miss Mona Hungerford is amusing as Sallie Smithers. Mr. Richard Lane makes a fine hero of Lieutenant Richard Marsh; Mr. Alec Bradley as Harry Gordon is an uncompromising villain; Mr. Luke Forster is a typical Hebrew as Barney Gordon; Mr. George Stirling in the rôle of Lord Erskine does well; and Mr. Tom May is a funny comedian as Sammy Snozzle.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jackfield.—Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's company in *Chanteclair* are the star attraction here. The principal characters are undertaken by Mr. Jack Martin (Chanteclair), Mr. Leonard Russell (Mother Goose). Mr. Ernest Sefton (the Boozy Rooster), and Miss Madeline Rees as the Hen Pheasant. Mr. Herbert Rule is a funny comedian; Diamond and Beatrice are heard to advantage in vocal and instrumental numbers; Mabel Fairchild and assistant have an attractive dancing scena entitled *A Belfry Dream;* and Pop Dearly, the dandy coon, is a popular contributor. The remaining turns are Johnny Walker (comedian) and Harriet Rose (comedienne).

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—Mlle. de Louvois and her talented company of seven artists give representations of art masterpieces in marble groups, bronzes, and bas-reliefs, which are admirably executed. The Two Lees give a pretty and unique musical act; the Three Royal Temples render with telling effect two songs; Spry and Bentley give a character sketch, *The Dude and the Dupe;* Sam Voss appears as the quack doctor; Will Renie dances on roller skates; Annie Estelle is a charming comedienne and dancer; and Carney Cairo is a light comedian and dancer. The Alexscope Pictures make up a capital evening's entertainment.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard. — Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company is here in *Her Nameless Child*. The various parts are well sustained by Mr. Arthur Keand, Mr. F. E. North, Mr. Leonard Aardale, Mr. Geo. Francis, Mr. L. Clements, Miss Rene Belle Douglas, Miss Beatrice Dover, Mr. Alfred Denham, Miss Eileen Davenport, Miss Clara Weber, and Miss Jean Wigney.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Secretaries, Messrs. H. S. Davies and Phillips.—The Columbia Pictures, of which Mr. A. E. Atkinson is proprietor, have an excellent bill, which is topped with the Welsh and McFarland Fight. The picture is a very fine one, and is drawing crowded houses nightly.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. Graham Arthur presents *The Mockery of Marriage* here this week. Miss Lilian Beaumont plays Alva with considerable force of character; and Miss Violet Wingfield as Rose Verham is a good impersonation. Mr. Lowe McKenzie as Seth Pearce is praiseworthy; and Mr. Ernest Wingfield as Dick Kenyon and Sir Montague Jephson is very effective. Mr. Dai Phillips, as Toby Jones, is responsible for much merriment.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* is here this week. Miss Louie Pounds plays the title-rôle with conspicuous success; the old favourites, Messrs. Lionel Victor and Tom Redmond, as Popoff and Nisch, are in their merriest vein; and Mr. Basil Foster does excellently in the rôle of the Prince.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Agate.—The attraction here is *The Master of the Mill*. Mr. Paul Beckett makes a convincing Tom Bolton, his young wife Nancy being well portrayed by Miss Enid Edoni. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as Julian Croft is a convincing villain, while his accomplice Isabel Ware is effectively undertaken by Miss Valerie Russell. Mr. Ewart Drake as Braithwaite and Mr. Frank Kingsley as Dykes provide good humour.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Claire Romaine, in her dandy impersonations and bright songs, is a prominent attraction here; several well-known Scotch airs, illustrated with coloured pictures, are splendidly rendered by John Donald; a lively knockabout turn is provided by Ted Karno and company, *Hotel de Quick;* the Cumberlands' acrobatic skill on cycles and Rupart's comic parody of weight-lifters, athletes, and conjurers were loudly applauded. Phil Bransby, coster comedians; Bros. Weltmann, and Rose D'Aulby win favour; and some amusing pictures conclude.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. H. P. Selwyn's sporting sketch, *A 55 to 1 Chance*, aroused enthusiasm; *Les Idolatres*, a novel Indian ballet scene, is introduced by a dancing troupe, which includes Espinosa; the McBanns manipulate Indian clubs with wonderful dexterity; and Little Sophie, a juvenile star; James Fawn, Vetter Brothers, Edith Haley, Chorley and Connor are warmly applauded.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—The Grenadier Guards' Band on Sunday attracted good audiences, and *Where is William?* by Chas. Windermere and company is delighting patrons of the Pavilion.

CLARENCE PIER.—The Excelsiors, a first-class company of comedy entertainers, are attracting crowds here, while military bands occupy the orchestra afternoons and evenings.

PRESTON.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank B. Burdett.—Ella Ret

in charming style; Mr. Newton Pearce as Tony Tibbits and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally acquit themselves well in the comedy business; and good studies are contributed by Mr. Geo. Addison (Shrimp), Miss Nellie Hope (Mrs. Barnard), Miss Daisy Rochefort (Little May), and Miss Ethel Grey (Mrs. Kellett). Some of the scenes are very pretty and good.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Toutshire Ballet Girl is a very laughable picture, and a powerful Western drama, Indian's Bride, is a good film, among many others. Wednesday's matinées allow trial turns for amateurs and professionals.

Central Hall (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Co.—Among the pictures this week are the Wreck of the Zeppelin, Shadow to Sunshine, and Flying at Rheims. Good houses are attracted.

New Central Hall (Pendleton).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiteley.—The films exhibited are well chosen and excellently depicted.

SCARBOROUGH.—Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—In *Our Miss Gibbs* Miss Jessie Lonnin gives an excellent rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. Theodore Leonard is very funny as Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Eustace Burnaby makes a capital Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint. Other characters, all well represented, are Mr. Toplady (Mr. Frank Sealey), Lord Eynsford (Mr. Fred Hill), Slithers (Mr. H. Vaughan), Mrs. Farquhar (Miss Nellie Cozens), the Duchess of Minster (Miss Helen Langton), Madame Jeanne (Miss Ellaline Thorne), Lady Betty (Miss Lilian Birties), and the Earl of St. Ives (Mr. Ernest Darrell).

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—The attractions for the holiday week included the usual gala and display of fireworks on Monday, and Mr. H. G. Amer's band and Mme. Melba and concert party on Wednesday night. In the theatre *The Little Damozel* is excellently played, Miss Emile Polini filling the title-rôle and Mr. Mark Blow the part of the Hon. Fitzroy Loch. Mr. Alec Chumley and Mr. George Brandram are successful in their respective parts.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*Her Path of Sorrow* is being presented by Mr. and Mrs. Chas Draycott's company, the leading characters being taken by Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Guy Lowther, Miss Fay Garnet Vayne (Nellie Rayne), Miss Florence Melrose Mullett (Pauline Ferrars), and Mr. John Davidson (Richard Burheld).

The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—The programme here includes Lockhart's Elephants, who occupy premier position; Dare, Austin and company in *His Wedding Morning*; Witty Watty Walton; the Celestas, harmony quartette; the Keppels; Lulu Lord, comedienne; the Sisters Essie and Nora Herbert, juvenile dancers and duettists; Dollie Bell, juvenile vocalist, assisted by Mlle. Lucette; Chas. Penrose, comedian; and Barrie and Wood, comedy pair.

The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The variety programme here includes Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's juvenile company in *The Inquisitive Kiddie and the Sleeping Princess*; Les Andres, protean artists; Jack Hayton, Lancashire comedian; the Three Comerfords, comedy acrobats; Charles Hatch, character comedian; and the Walleys, expert jugglers. Other attractions are the Palace Pierrots; Miss Sylvia Cavalho, appearing in a comedy sketch, *The Husband of Peggy*; the skating rink; and a troupe of swimmers.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—The above theatre opened for the season on Monday with A. E. Bodie's Royal Magnets, which include Dr. Walford Bodie in his hypnotic and electrical exhibition; La Belle Electra, described as the human Leyden jar; Jack Diamond, a very clever and precise trick-step dancer; Dolly Robson, a young lady with a voice of exceptional tone and power; Tom N. Mills, who scored heavily with his "John Bull" scena; Nellie Langtry, operatic vocalist, who rendered some popular numbers acceptably; Tom Gold, comedian; Lillie Le Main, with a smart show of living marionettes and Lilliputian mannikins; and Leoni Clarke's well-known troupe of clever performing cats, rats, mice, rabbits, pigeons, canaries, guinea-pigs, monkeys, &c.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Miss Violet Osmond's company, in *The New Barmaid*, paid a welcome return visit the first half of the week. In the name-part Miss Madge Prior gave a delightful and finished impersonation, singing and acting with ease and grace; Bertie White found a clever representative in Mr. Alexander Loftus, whose acting throughout was of the best as William White; Mr. Charles Adeson was most entertaining; Miss Beatrice Earle as Dora Heather was admirable; Mr. George Fox as Captain Loveday, Miss M. Stead (Braddy), Mr. H. Basil (Colonel Claymore), Mr. E. Osborne (James), all shone in their respective parts. For the remaining nights of the week Leslie Stanley introduces Miss K. Graham-Beck and company in the musical play *The Gay Goddess*.

Bandstand Enclosure.—Manager, Mr. T. Bingham-Sedgewick.—Special programmes are submitted three times daily by Rob. S. Williams' Alfresco Entertainers. The artists are Mr. Ernest Penfold, I.S.M., Mr. Rob. S. Williams, Mr. Pino Conti, Mr. Leon Hardi, Miss Ivy Regina, Miss Lillie Seldon, and Miss Bessie Millard. The items of the entertainment are well selected, and each artist receives hearty applause.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Sheffield's leading playhouse re-opened on Bank Holiday, and general admiration was expressed at the beauty of the artistic new decorative scheme, and the subdued but rich upholstery of the boxes, circles, and stalls. New draperies to the stage-boxes and a richly-embroidered plush velvet valkaince most admirably display the Louis XVI. details of the proscenium, and, with a new installation of electric lights for the stage, the Lyceum is well equipped for the winter season. The comfort of the pit, amphitheatre, and gallery patrons has also had Mr. Beaumont's careful consideration, and the dressing-rooms have also been thoroughly overhauled. The theatre fittingly opened with Shakespeare, under the direction of the popular tragedian, Mr. Allan Wilkie, who appeared with his excellent company (including the ripe, legitimate comedian Mr. Gordon) in *The Taming of the Shrew*, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a good house. The other plays billed were *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The School for Scandal*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Hamlet*. All the plays have been carefully mounted, and the interpretation all round showed careful study.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Cleaned fore and aft, from keelson to main-truck, resplendent in new paint and gilding, with pennons flying, and Captain Beaumont on the quarter-deck, the grand old craft "The Royal," which has weathered the storms of 137 years, started buoyantly on what will doubtless prove a prosperous voyage on Monday, cheered by the hearty wishes of all who love the happy memories associated with the old fabric. To inaugurate the rejuvenation Messrs. Silverthorne and Henry Wright's company gave a spirited performance on Bank Holiday to a large holiday crowd of the thrilling drama *The Nihilist*, with Mr. Henry Wright in the principal comedy part.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—After a week's closure this spacious and historic home of the drama opened on Saturday last, brave with all that the arts of the decorator, the upholsterer, and the electrician could effect in such a short time. Quite a transformation has been effected, and the big auditorium, with its spacious plafond and fine sweep of boxes and gallery-fronts, looks just the place to sit and enjoy "thrills" while the "villain still pursues her." The noble frontage of the theatre in Blonk-street has been re-painted, and many little but much-needed improvements have been made in the commodious regions behind the stage. The holiday attraction has been the favourite drama *The Prodigal Parson*, effectively staged, and well acted by a good company headed by Mr. W. V. Garrod and Miss Bertha Kingston, in their respective parts of Tom and Nelly Godley.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A house packed from floor to ceiling gave a cordial reception on Monday to the following talented artists: Mr. Geo. Ali, the unique animal impersonator, and company, in *Papa's Day Out*; Miss Maidie Scott, comedienne; the Twelve Fezzana, Oriental posturers and acrobats; Miss Cassie Walmer, the talented, graceful, and vivacious vocalist and dancer; the Bros. Durant, in a novel airship travesty; Mr. H. Barclay, vocalist; Mr. Alf Wood's company, in a sketch, *Ten Minutes*; Miss Aida Martine, comedienne; and Fielding and Hull, in *Mixed Bathing*. The Bioscope, with new and interesting pictures, concluded.

The Hippodrome.—Sheffield Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Pantomime business was the rule here for the holidays, the company comprising Mr. Jay Laurier, the well-known humorist; the charming Two Sisters Bartholomew; Mr. Leonard Teel, comedian; Mr. Ben Lewin; the Almas, in a smart act; Miss Lily French; Miss Keen and Waller, burlesque entertainers; Leslie and Stevens, original performers; and Mr. Herbert Darnley's company, in the farcical musical absurdity, *The Brigands of Tarragona*.

The Picture Palace.—The Sheffield Palace, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Leonard Shaw.—This new resort, a notice of which will be found in "Film Gossip," was opened on Monday, the picture programme including the local news, comic, topical, and dramatic pictures, &c., produced by the combination of the Vivaphone and Electric Auxeto Gramophone. Big business has been the rule at day and night shows.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—A joyous and appreciative audience assembled at this theatre on Bank Holiday on the re-opening of the house after the summer vacation. The attraction was *The New Boy*, capitally put on by Mr. John E. Watson; Mr. A. B. Tapping acts with considerable ability and irresistible drollery as Archibald Rennick; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood performs in a talented manner the part of Dr. Candy; Mr. Ernest Rivarz makes an exceedingly good Felix Roach; Mr. Frank Bradley makes a typical and vivacious Frenchman of Theodore de Brizac; Mr. H. J. Wildy merits high praise as Bullock Major; Mrs. Florence Nelson acts with care and success the part of Mrs. Rennick; Miss Evelyn Ormonde as Nancy Roach is a delightful juvenile actress, full of spirit and fun; Miss Madge Elswick is a smart servant; and Mr. J. E. Edge as Mr. Stubbon merits high encomiums. The piece is preceded by a capitally enacted curtain-raiser.

SLIGO.—Town Hall.—Proprietors, Sligo Corporation.—Mr. W. Dobell and company opened here on Monday with Frank Lindo's drama *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Dobell made a dignified Stephen Armitage; Mr. Thos. Whiett as Lucas Lyle gave a clever impersonation; Mr. Percy Dewhurst was amusing as the Hon. Percy; Mr. Marmaduke Dorricourt was good as Lord Silvermere; the Duke of Ancaster was capitally undertaken by Mr. Oscar Wyatt; Djek Redmayne was admirably embodied by Mr. H. Dewhurst; and David, in the hands of Mr. Morton Wright, was another excellent impersonation; Mr. Page Ware, in the dual rôle of Dr. Granby and Solomon Keary, acted powerfully; Miss Norah Baker made a sympathetic Joan; Miss Alice Ayle was delightful as Sybil Fay; as also were Nelly Melbourne as Dora and Miss Gladys Raymond as Lady Somerton.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The holiday attraction is Mr. Fredk. Melville's company, in *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Florrie Kelsey scores a great success as the "bad girl"; and Miss Alice Belmore is seen to great advantage as Gladys Erskine. Mr. Richard Lane ably fills the part of Lieut. Richard Marsh, R.M.; Mr. Sydney Lynn earns storms of hisses for his portrayal of Harry Gordon, a villain of the deepest dye; Mr. Percy Baverstock as Barny Gordon is eminently successful; and the comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Pat Waddock (Sammy Snoozle) and Miss Nellie James (Sally Smithers).

Hippodrome.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Yardley.—Leo Stormont and company are starring here in a dramatic episode, entitled *Exposure*, which is well played; the Four Amaranths are successful in a novel acrobatic act; Haidee St. George sings songs at the piano; Mart and Pep are clever head and hand balancers; the Du For Trio are excellent vocalists and dancers; and others who entertain are The Rawsons (Maggie and Jack); David Poole, a smart ventriloquist; and Reegan and Ryan, comedians and dancers.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—The Nonentities, a smart and vivacious concert party, under the direction of Mr. Oscar Mills, are attracting good houses with their merry and bright entertainment; Mr. Fred Evered, the eminent lady impersonator, is very popular; Mr. Bobbie Comber is a capital baritone vocalist; Mr. Frank Melville, a smart singer and dancer; Miss Mary Pitcairn, a charming contralto; Miss Marianna Carozzi, a sweet soprano; and, last, but by no means least, Mr. Oscar Mills, a favourite humorist and raconteur.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company gives an admirable presentation of *The King of Cadonia*. Mr. John Morley is successful in both singing and dancing; Mr. Arthur Staples is eminently suited as the Duke of Alasia, and gains singing honours; Miss Alice Venning is seen to every advantage in her graceful interpretation of Princess Marie, and sings successfully; Messrs. Robert Selby as General Bonski and Lawrence Robbins as Captain Laski give clever portrayals; and the Misses Lily Hodson as the Duchess of Alasia and Amy Preston as Stephanie are both capable. Mr. Alfred Clark and Miss Joan Penrose prove entertaining as Bran and Militza respectively, the latter being clever in singing and dancing.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The holiday attractions commenced on Sunday, when two concerts were given by Mr. Finlay Dunn's well-known clever company of "Dandies," and, assisted by Miss Marguerite Wortham, a clever violinist, whose selections were executed in finished style. Both concerts were well supported. On Monday, the London Cinematograph company, under the direction of Mr. Jack H. Blewitt, commenced this week's entertainment with a choice selection of pictures, and additional interest is supplied by the illustrated songs of Mr. T. R. Plaford, an alto soloist of much merit, and clever violin solos by Miss Marguerite Wortham.

The Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burg.—A first-class holiday programme includes the Boisset troupe, in their laughable sketch *The Bricklayers*; Bonetti and Corri, neat and original in their juggling act; Marie Braymen, a singer and dancer of a high order; Willie Allan, the Scotch dancer, who is well received in his songs and dances; Victor Niblo, who, with his talking birds, creates endless fun; the Russian dancers, who are much appreciated in their artistic dancing; Louis Seymour, a comedian of no mean order; and Maud Cranley, who posesesses an excellent voice.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Clarkson.—For the Bank Holiday week a strong attraction is provided by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, who, on Monday evening, commenced an autumn tour in Mr. Somerset Maugham's successful comedy *Smith*, which was capitally enacted, dressed, and staged. Mr. Montagu Love presented a manly and realistic portraiture of Tom Freeman; Miss Jessica Thorne is to be credited with a clever and sympathetic impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Eleanor Delaporte submits an admirable and characteristic study of the society woman in the part of Mrs. Dallas Baker; Algie Peppercorn had a cynical and effective representative in Mr. Vivian Gilbert; Mr. Cecil Brooking is a highly commendable exponent of Mr. Dallas Baker; Miss Kathryn Collier presents a clever study of Emily Chapman; Mrs. Otto Rosenberg was efficiently represented by Miss Eileen Atherley; and Mr. Lancelot Lowder did well as Fletcher.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Frank Lindo's company present *Love the Conqueror* here this week. Miss Beatrice Mortimer is played in excellent style by Miss Marion Wakeford; Miss Mary Barrett is good as Dame Norval; Mr. Leonard Laurence as Brian Norval portrays the part in an easy and breezy fashion; Sir John Mortimer is ably accounted for by Mr. Sidney Dench; Mr. Norton Shields is good as Count Leon Lascelles; Mr. Bert Dench is quaint as Peter, and extracts much humour from the part. He is ably assisted in the comedy by Miss Helen Holmes as Susan. A good word should be said for Mr. Tom E. Lewis as Captain Rupert Armadale, and Mr. Arthur Trail as Andrew Albertree.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Lamberti presents living portraits of Paderewski, Joachim, Gounod, Liszt, and Hollom, playing excerpts by these composers on the various instruments used by them; Victor's Juveniles are good miniature mimics, vocalists, and dancers; *The Little Colonel* is delightfully enacted by E. Montefiore and company; Peggy Pryde, the popular comedienne, is accorded a reception reserved for favourites; Ryan and Holt contribute a funny acrobatic item; Mlle. Le Breton is a smart lady gymnast; the Sisters Jerome sing and dance well; and the Bioscope completes.

Grand Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—This popular hall was packed on Monday night, and is showing new and excellent films on the Bioscope. De Vere and Dagmar introduce a good acrobatic act; and Alice Taylor, a refined soprano, was well received.

SPENNYMOOR. — Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Sleep.—This hall has undergone alteration during the past week by the introduction of a raked floor, which has made the building still more attractive. The Bank Holiday attraction was well appreciated, and the pictures were most interesting, especially a local film of the recent Good Templars' gala. E. Caselli, champion banjoist, fairly brings down the house by his selections; George Battle is a popular actor-vocalist; and a dramatic protean sketch, *Found*, is admirably played by George and Emmie Dainton.

Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—An attractive musical comedy is staged here for the holidays by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company, who enact with success *Miss Plaster, of Paris*, fun and laughter abounding from start to finish. Specialities are given by the Sisters Holman, the Three Berlin Belles, Ed. Ray, Harry Ugar, and Miss Nellie Harcourt.

Arcadia.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gowland.—This new house of entertainment commenced on Monday evening under favourable circumstances, and crowded houses resulted. The interior of the building is exquisitely decorated, and well seated with tip-up chairs. A lounge, with an efficient orchestra, has also been provided. The special picture is the opera *Faust*, which is a masterpiece of film-production.

STAFFORD.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—The al fresco entertainments given at this hall nightly draw big audiences. This week's attraction is the Bajazzox Troupe, including Billie Morax, smart in patter; Doreen Day; Fred Mason, whistling coster; Edie Day, in song and dance; Charles Cardle, baritone vocalist; Miss De Freece, soprano; and Sylvester, an entertaining magician.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*The Black Mask* occupies the boards this week, produced by F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company. Mr. Watson appears as Henri Le Noir, and his realistic impersonation creates much interest; Miss Florence E. Florence, as an emotional actress, is seen at her best in the character of Nellie Cunninghame, and obtains well-merited praise; Mr. Edwin E. Ashby acts cleverly as Walter Blackmore; Mr. Willis Elton is well placed as Philip Cunninghame; Mr. Tom J. Taylor makes much fun out of the part of Samuel Winkle, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Hettie Senior as Emma Burt; and Philip le Noir has a bright little exponent in Miss Dot Forde. The play is well staged.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Beatrice Bonnie and company are excellent dancers, and introduce some novel work on the "stairophone"; Spry and Monti are funny in their sketch; Tom and Eileen Melbourne's turn is enjoyable; Wilman plays sweetly on several instruments; Tiny and Mite are clever little dancers; Rolando Martin's patter is amusing; and Happy Attwood provokes much laughter with his comicalities.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is played by Mr. Percy Norman's company, under the direction of the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay, who also ably impersonates the character of General Borinski. Mr. H. Daneville acts with ability as Fergus Lorinski; Mr. Graham Hamlyn gives a powerful portrayal of Ivan Bardeff; Peter Popples is exceedingly funny as played by Mr. L. Newman; Mr. C. W. Black makes a pleasing Bertie Scribbles; and Miss Lillie Lewis acts with sympathy and feeling as Roma Pauloff.

The Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—A strong array of talent is headed by Heeley and Meely, "two lucky tramps," whose funniosities are much enjoyed; Gosling and Ferralls, Australian Bush Boys, in their song-scena, are entertaining; Rosa Tilley is a pleasing comedienne; W. Fulbrooke and company's comedy *Astronomy* causes roars of laughter; the Three Brothers Huxter contribute a clever acrobatic display; whilst the efforts of A. W. Scott, coon delineator; Prince-Milner Trio, wire walkers; the Sisters Terry, character vocalists; and the Fimans, in comedy act, command gratifying appreciation.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—This theatre re-opened on Monday with *Sowing the Wind*, by Mr. Leigh Lovell and company. Miss Octavia Kenmore was seen to advantage as Rosamund; and Mr. F. Pennington-Gush gave a fine delineation of Ned Annesley.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Three Merrills provide a clever trick-cycling exhibition, introducing the "unicyclist"; the Keeley Brothers are clever American athletes, and present a comedy act, *The Demonstrator*; Elsie Peach is a dainty comedienne, as is also Elsie Hubert. Other attractive turns are given by Charles Rothwell, Pedro and Leon, Clara Reid and John Power, and Lily Esplin.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — The Hippodrome. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The holiday attraction is provided by the bright and merry little musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza*, presented by Dickie Clare and his talented company. In the triple part of the American, the judge, and the French waiter, Mr. Clare shows his versatility, and he finds an excellent foil in Miss Vesta Browne, who fills the part of Lucky 'Liza with much charm and grace; the promising youth Paul Pettitoe is well played by Mr. Leonard Maitland. Smart and pleasing dances are contributed by the Jesmond Trio.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Adelina heads the bill with her marvellous impersonations of well-known people; Sidney Dolf gives a smart one-man show; Harry Bent is a clever mimic; Stanley's Art Pictures are good; Eileen and May have a smart musical and dancing speciality act; and Phelps' Electric Pictures are well chosen and capitally projected.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—The attraction here this week is the drama *The Girl Who Went Astray*. Miss Doris Brookes does excellent work as Madge Harvey; Miss Ada Oakley as Violet Harvey and Miss Mary Dolby as Mary Smart also play admirably; Mr. Richard Ferris acquits himself creditably as Captain Frank Julian; and Mr. Austin Mortimer gives a fine performance as Rupert Murdock. The other rôles are in capable hands.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Irish-American entertainers, Callahan and St. George, are here this week, and display histrionic and musical ability in their scena *The Old Neighbourhood*: Joe Boganny's Troupe of Lunatic Bakers create mirth with their clever risley acrobatic act; J. W. Hall, comedian, is an old favourite; the Avolas give a novel acrobatic act; and Harry Leybourne's studies in feminine foibles cause much amusement. Esta Stella is making a big hit in song and dance; Enzer, assisted by Miss Clarice, gives some cleverly carried-out ju-jitsu work; and Miss Lilian Dundas and Boy present a dramatic sketch with much success.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Joe Conway, comedian, creates much amusement with his eccentricities; Lillah Brett gives a clever exhibition of ball-punching; and Eugene, the lady baritone, is responsible for some fine vocalism. The pictures are excellent.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—Amy Anderson and company are popular here this week in their humorous scena *The Banana Queen*; Thompson Woods' Eight Tiny Stars are responsible for a clever turn, which includes songs and dances; Hurman and Arthur are making a hit with their comedy juggling act. The pictures are capital.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. John Levey and company opened here on Monday in *The Scapegrace*. Mr. John Levey, in the part of Bill Burke, did excellently; Mr. F. Dudley was good as Sir John Fanshaw; Mr. W. A. Buckstone as Captain Harry Fanshaw played creditably; Mr. A. T. Creswell was convincing as Jack Fanshaw; Mr. Wallace Curnock as Ralph Marsden was convincing; Mr. H. Ives as Larry was funny; and Mr. T. Chapman was excellent as Corbett. Miss Maudie Lambert made an attractive Mary; Margaret Marsden was ably portrayed by Miss Beatrice Weston; Miss Nellie Lambert was pathetic as Nellie Burke; and Miss Maudie Western made a good Dick.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company, in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, is the attraction here. Miss Nellie Powys appears in the important rôle of the Countess of Rushmere with much success, and is ably supported by Mr. A. W. Baskcomb as Mr. Preedy. As the Earl of Rushmere Mr. Cecil Humphreys is well placed; and Mr. Hamilton Deane makes an excellent Hon. Robert Jennerway. Mr. John Nesbitt as John Bounsell and Mr. Edmond Beresford as Mr. Sidgrave were well suited to their respective parts.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Alexander Lee's company, The Gay Birds, is doing good business here this week. Miss Doris Langdon is an artist of talent, her original compositions being much appreciated; and Miss Dorie Trevelyan is decidedly good. Mr. Alexander Lee is an elocutionist of ability; and Mr. Frederick Park does well. Miss Jessy Cliff and Mr. Harry Taylor contribute some acceptable items; whilst Mr. Vivian Munro is an entertainer of decided ability.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The eminent actor-musician Van Biene is paying a welcome return visit here, and his diverting sketch, *Van Biene's Dilemma*, receives hearty approval; the McKays, Scotch comedy juvenile duettists and dancers, are responsible for a capital turn; Rossi Ashton, the war artist, gives some admirable examples of rapid sketching; Lily Edwards, comedienne, is a vocalist of much ability; Howie and Ardie are responsible for a unique comedy gymnastic act; Martinett and Wallace coloured entertainers, score with their musical mélange; Marcel and Boris appear in an equilibristic act; there is a good show of Animated Pictures; and the Palace orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Percival Goffin, also add to the attractiveness of the excellent holiday programme.

WALLSEND.—Premier Picture Hall.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—The chief films shown here this week are Two Brothers and Paid in Full. H. Shotton, character actor and vocalist, receives a flattering reception.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Joint-Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—At the top of a first-class holiday programme are Alexandre and Hughes, with a supply of new business in the way of patter; sharing honours, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten are a troupe of juvenile singers and dancers, who gain well-earned applause; the McConnell Trio are seen to advantage in a new musical comedietta, entitled *The Invalid*; Elly Adair is a dainty Irish comedienne and dancer with a pleasing style; Coverdale, raconteur and burlesque mimic, and the pictures make up the bill, which is much appreciated by a large audience.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Leader.—Mlle. Ghita Corri, who heads the bill here, has a remarkable soprano voice of wonderful range and she sings her songs with rare effect; Mahatma displays clever second sight powers; the Three Sisters Sprightly are chic comediennes; Maxford and O'Neill are clever comedians; Mueller and Coyne score in the sketch *There's No Place Like Home*; and Miss Millie Booth and Mr. Arthur Rix are responsible for plenty of laughter with the sketch *Domestic Bliss*. The pictures are a delightful collection.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Williams's Jubilee Singers are scoring here; Tex Waite pays another welcome return visit; Dick and Dorothy Trio are heard and seen to advantage in harmony and dancing; May de Rowse scores with good songs; and the Sisters Edwards are smart vocalists and dancers; Lee and Parkinson are applauded for a clog-dancing act; and the pictures are very entertaining.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Skilful gymnasts are Mitchell and Stott; Edward Stearn is a capital comedian with plenty of up-to-date patter; Nellie Neil's songs are well rendered; and the Woellhafs score in a clever sketch.

Grand.—Proprietors, The Palatine Co.; Manager, Mr. Sydney Felton.—The pictures here are very attractive.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—Variety holds the boards here this week, the bill being topped by the Excelsior Glee Singers, fine vocalists; the Sisters English are attractive duettists and dancers; Horace Monto scores heavily in a pot-pourri act; a pleasing act is submitted by the Sisters Lillian; Andrew McManus is a vocalist and comedian of ability. Pictures complete the programme.

WATFORD. — Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—Under new management this house opened the autumn season to excellent business on Monday with a variety show of real excellence. Little Fred Zola is a huge success, and stands only second in the good opinion of patrons to Doris and Gladys, two young ladies whose polished and finished performance is quite above the average in the song and dance line. Cora Corina displays talent in many directions; and Lily Black has been recalled at every house. Ian Colquhoun's Irish song is preferable to his second number; Star and Leslie's cleverness wins great favour. Victor Widdicombe and company, in *Her Devonshire Dad*, Will Sullivan, and Burley and Partner complete the programme.

Conservative Hall.—Messrs. Jeape's pictures have opened a season under the management of Mr. George F. Howard. The show is of uniform excellence.

Corn Exchange.—The Kinetic Company's pictures are in their fifteenth month at this spacious building, and continue to attract overflowing audiences.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — King's Palace. — A good holiday programme is provided, and many have been turned away. Very acceptable performances are given by Louie and Wally, G. Costel, and Nellie and Queenie Carlton.

Empire.—The proprietors have returned to two performances nightly, and have introduced animated photos. The Sisters Robertson are prominent in the variety turns, others being given by Lily Kirton and Mostol.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—This house was reopened on Monday evening with Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* company. Mr. Victor Rae impersonated Prince Michael admirably; Prince Olaf has an able exponent in Mr. Henry Hallatt; and Prince Hildred is well played by Mr. Leonard Booker. Miss Viola Holland charmingly enacted the rôle of Monica; Viola has a pretty exponent in Miss Mona Hall; Miss Violette May gives an excellent rendition of Camiola; Mr. Herbert Burton as Captain Hector played capitally; Mr. Stafford Dickens as Lieut. Stromberg supplied an amusing impersonation.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The Ziegeuner Quartette of musical artists head the bill. The Bensons, in a musical comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*, are amusing; the many characters impersonated by Ed. E. Ford, the Australian sundowner, are capitally done; Geo. Rae, a Scotch comedian and dancer, is well received; novelty in dancing is introduced by Russell Brandow, famous jumper; Charles Matthews gives a wonderful exhibition of skill, in which he is assisted by Dorice Reece; and Tom Costello, the popular comedian, is loudly acclaimed.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's *Dairymaids* company is here this week. Mr. Norman Bowyer keeps the house convulsed as Joe Mivens; Mr. Donald Price-Evans is successful as Lieut. Sam Brudenell; and equally good is Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Lieut. Frank Meredith. Mr. Bernard Vaughan is artistic as Dr. O'Byrne; Miss Eva Ellis as Peggy sings and acts delightfully; Miss Kathleen Sinico is charming as Winifred; and much praise must be given Miss Ileen Burke for her impersonation of Helen. Miss Ruby Louis as Eliza made quite a hit; and Miss Margaret Carter was all that could be desired as Lady Brudenell. Miss Alice Drummond's Miss Penelope Pyechase is entitled to praise.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Heading the bill this week are the Bros. Hannaway; Litton and Bland appear as impersonators; the Bros. Obo, laughing comedians, are well received; Welda and Wynne, jugglers, Miss Bee Smart, comedienne, Mr. J. A. Maurice, light comedian, Miss Fannie Humber, musical act, and the Osticers, acrobats, make up the bill.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The holiday attraction here is provided by Miss Ida Millais' company in *No Man's Land*. Mr. Phil Harper does full justice to the part of Harry Oaklands, and as Silas Moore Mr. Edwin Bennett is equally good; Mat Marsden is in the able hands of Mr. Villiers Stanley; and as Dr. Buxton Mr. W. Mallalieu is satisfactory. Miss Alice Steinberg is effective as Mrs. Poodle, as is also Miss Lottie Pearce as Bessie Poodle. Miss Marie Kildare displays ability of no mean order as Mary Bathurst.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—Some excellent pictures are being shown here, the best being Outwitted by a Child and the Fruits of Vengeance. Professor and Miss Cottrell, in their display of ornamental swimming; Will Rennie, comedian, and Chant and Chant, in their vocal comedy act, also appear.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jacques.—This theatre opened for the season on Bank Holiday. Mrs. Morton Powell's company, in *How Girls Are Brought to Ruin*, was the attraction. Miss Gerald Vernier was successful as Jessie Burton; and Mrs. M. Powell was well cast as Winnie Waters. Mr. Richard Vane was good as Philip

the Sobo Trio, in a vocal and dancing act, and Phyllis Seymour, comedienne and dancer, also contributes pleasing turns.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. S. De Vine.—Excellent business is being done here, the principal films being The Rosary, Foolshead's Cannon Duel, The Mascot, and Sea Birds.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton.—A highly attractive variety programme has been provided for the holidays. Carl Lynn, the animal mimic, makes a successful reappearance; as also do Miss Fifi Gordon's clever company in *New Sabots*. Carlile and Walker are popular comedians, and Miss Fanny Rowena makes a hit with her songs; Joe Humphreys is responsible for a good vocal turn; Florence Cooper is a most acceptable vocalist; Bass and Guiness score as patter comedians; and Tom Dodd is equally good in a similar turn.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Kitto.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company in *As Your Hair Grows Whiter* is the attraction here this week. Miss Agnes Collier as Alice Walters played a difficult part with much artistic feeling; Mr. Grasswell as Farmer Walters was pathetic; Mr. Herbert Fuller as Timothy Slough and Mr. Louis Weston as the Christmas Wait provided plenty of fun; Miss Florence Delmar, Miss Lizzie Lemon, and Miss Lily Fuller all fitted their parts well; Mr. Edward Fryer as Squire Stoneley submitted an effective portrayal.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Fredk. Kitto.—The pictures and turns here are of the usual high order. Mr. Ormonde Penstone being well received.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—After an interval of five years, *Old Heidelberg* was produced here during the early part of the week by Mr. Ernest Benham's company. Karl Heinrich and Kathie were satisfactorily undertaken by Mr. Owen Nares and Miss Kitty Ricimer; Dr. Jutner was successfully portrayed by Mr. Ernest Bodkin; Mr Sydney Hamilton was a drolly dignified Lutz; Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will gave a quaintly-amusing study of the Little Steward; and the other characters were effectively played. For the remaining part of the week the farcical comedy *Those Terrible Twins* is being presented, with Mr. Lloedham Bantock in the rôle of William.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The bill is headed this week by the Double A's, who cause roars of laughter by their comedy sketch, *The Other Mrs. Brown;* Edie Rich and Harry Rare, who are described as "the quarrelsome pair," get endless fun out of their cross-patter and perversity; Harry Cline is a clever comedian, and has a budget of new and catchy songs; and Edie May is a burlesque artist of marked ability. The pictures are still a strong element in an always excellent programme.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Two new innovations are being given this season by Messrs. Pooles, viz., two changes of pictures, two houses a night, and some admirable variety turns. A superior set of pictures are shown, viz., A Rich Revenge, a stirring dramatic picture; A Child's Courage, Cheese and Kisses, On the Downward Path, The Sleepwalker, Moonlight Flitting, Black and White, Spirit of the Sword, and An Affair of Honour. Alpho, the ventriloquial college boy, gives a good turn; and Ned Gaydon, comedy instrumentalist, introduces saxophone, banjo, and concertina.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The management have been fortunate in booking as a holiday attraction Miss Annie Hughes and her company in *Miss Tommy*. In the title-rôle Miss Annie Hughes scores a distinct success; Miss W. Pearson as "Mr. Morrison" displays much ability, and Miss Vera Pole makes a charming Honor. Mr. Henry Deas admirably portrays the part of Dick Danvers; Mr. Fred Marston as William Clodd acts with much dramatic force; Mr. Ernest Kendrick effectively sustains the humorous part of the play as Flipp; Mr. Mayne Lynton distinguishes himself as Peter Hope.

EMPIRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—A striking programme is: George D'Albert, comedian, who is a great success; the Howard and Collinson Trio, who present a good act, entitled *A Piece of Dresden China;* Chass Lewis, a clever ventriloquist; Carlotta Levey, who is enthusiastically encored for her clever songs; the Twelve Murias, whose turn is much appreciated; the Bains Trio, comedy acrobats and dancers; Mary Golding, vocalist; Jackson and Marte, comedians; and the Empire Bioscope.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bradley.—This popular house reopened to crowded audiences after extensive alterations. The interior has been entirely rearranged, a most effective stage and excellent seating accommodation having been provided. A capital series of pictures are presented.

THE VICTORIA HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—The usual high standard of animated pictures is maintained. Roy Roy introduces a novel act.

A VIVID pen-picture of Shakespeare's acting days is drawn by Mr. Charles H. Heydemann, Ph.D., in his "Leaves From My Dreaming School," which appears in the current issue of the *Weekly Dispatch*. Describing the old Globe Theatre, Bankside, the writer says:—"Here, in Paris Garden, on the space now occupied by Lambeth, the most miserable and dirty quarter of London, came all the light-hearted and gay crowds of Londoners, full of the same pleasure-seeking and coarse temperamental emotions as their great Queen Elizabeth, who spat at a courtier whose coat offended her taste, boxed the ears of another, tickled the back of Leicester's neck when he knelt down to receive an earldom, rapped out tremendous oaths, and uttered every amusing sharp word that rose to her lips.

"THERE are great crowds at the entrance of the theatre. The 'groundlings' crowd round where stand the 'gatherer,' trusted man of the company, with his cash-box, collecting the sixpences, which he afterwards delivers to Burbage, the leading actor, or to Shakespeare. The extra prices for the better seats are collected inside by women. They range from a shilling to half-a-crown. Our Will goes with his friends to the back, to the 'dressing-rooms,' the tiring house, with accommodation very small and poor. Here to the tiring house come all the young fashionables. They pay an extra sixpence to sit on a three-legged stool on the stage, to see and be seen.

"THE 'bookholder' (the prompter), whose business it is to hand the actors their properties and see they do not forget their cues, is running about getting his 'props.' together. The musicians tune up their instruments. Here is a board, rudely painted 'Elsinore, a platform before the castle,' that will be hung up in sight of the audience. It is all the scenery they will get." In similar strain the writer goes on enumerating with an intresting pen the curiosities of the period.

PREPARATIONS for the reopening of the Repertory Theatre at Glasgow are in active progress. During the recess Mr. Wareing has been busy clearing arrears of play reading and play rejection. Much has been done also to add to the comfort and attractiveness of the theatre. New scenery is being built and painted, and the electric lighting has been brought up to date. The play chosen for the re-opening is *His Excellency the Governor*, one of the late Captain Marshall's most popular efforts, and it will be followed by a revival of *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Several new plays are in prospect. Mr. J. . Bell, whose *Oh! Christina*, was so conspicuously successful, has been encouraged again to enter the lists of dramatists. On this occasion he is to have the help of his old college friend Mr. G. J. Hamlen, the author of *Barbara Grows Up*. Dr. Neil Munro is also working on a new play, and another local playwright, Mr. Anthony Rowley, has written *The Weaver's Shuttle*, which will be produced in the early autumn.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. RANDOLFE READE.

Educated for the Army, but compelled through family reverses to abandon a military career, Mr. Randolfe Reade, after some preliminary stage experience, joined the Compton Comedy Company in 1895, and in the course of two tours played an endless variety of small parts in a répertoire comprising *The Rivals, School for Scandal, She Stoops to Conquer, Davy Garrick, Road to Ruin, Money, Home*, and *The Comedy of Errors*, also assisting Mr. Lewis Ball in the stage-management. He was then engaged by Miss Mary Austin to play the light comedy part, Patrice, in *Passion's Power*, being re-engaged for a couple of parts in *The Golden Ladder*, and for acting-management. Mr. Reade next joined the late Frank Bateman to play the juvenile part in *From Scotland Yard*, and was subsequently engaged by Miss Florence Marryat for juvenile lead in *The Gamekeeper*, an adaptation of her novel "Love's Sacrifice." An engagement as General Augereau in *A Royal Divorce* was followed by one with the late Charles Warner to play Captain Holcroft with him in the revival of *In the Ranks* at the Princess's Theatre. He was next secured by Mr. William Bourne to play the evangelist minister in *Voices of London*, and then by Mr. T. B. Thalberg to support Miss Marion Terry as Cecil Graham in *Lady Windermere's Fan* and

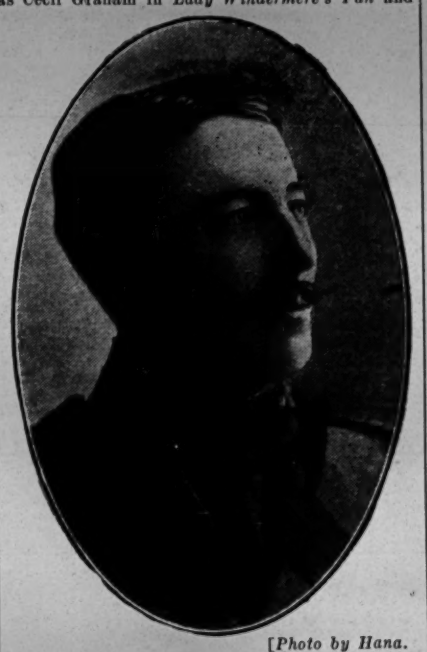

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. RANDOLFE READE.

Careless in *The School for Scandal*, being re-engaged for Charles the Wrestler and Corin in *As You Like It*. Mr. Reade next joined Mrs. Langtry's company to play Dr. Marat and the Marquis de Coigny in *A Royal Necklace*, being also cast for Lord Stornoway in *The Degenerates*. A long and highly successful tour with Mr. Bert Coote for the leading part of Howard Wilson in *The Fatal Wedding* was followed by an engagement with Miss Fortescue as Lord Jura in *Moths*, and by various short tours with Messrs. Thomas Thorne and the late Russell Rosso, with whom he played Charley Middlewick in *Our Boys*, Theodore in *The Guv'nor*, and Rupert in *Confusion*. Mr. Reade next went to Mr. Eugene Stafford to play Douglas Cattermole in *The Private Secretary*, in which he acted for two tours, being subsequently engaged by Mr. Herbert Ralland for Major Maurewarde in *His House in Order*, his second engagement in this part. Mr. Reade's chief hobbies are chess and the violoncello.

MR. CHARLES BROWN.

Born in Liverpool, Mr. Charles Brown early showed an aptitude for acting. He was engaged in the cotton trade during the day, but all his spare time was devoted to the art. His first effort as an amateur was the Clown in *Othello*, followed

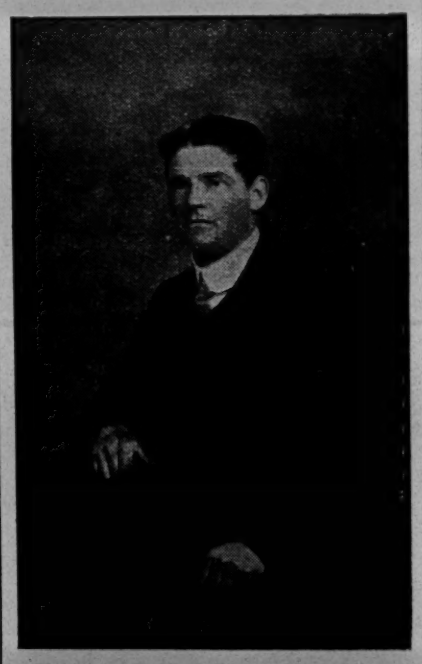

[*Photo by Folker.*

MR. CHAS. BROWN.

by Touchstone in *As You Like It*, Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*, &c. Encouraged by his success he went to study elocution with Mrs. Foulis (Mrs. Kendal's sister), and was retained by her to help in the management of her company. For eight years he assisted this lady semi-professionally, playing for her in that period more than 60 different parts in every conceivable class of play—Shakespeare, burlesque, modern and old English comedy, drama, and farce. Amongst others he played Eccles, Chrysos, Dick Phenyl, Touchstone, Roderigo, Melter Moss, Chamboran, Gandy, Colonel Damas, Pillicoddy, Crepin, Peter White, Trotter Southdown, Simmons, &c.

Eventually, the subject of our sketch was induced to try his fortunes on the regular stage. He resigned his position in the cotton trade, and accepted an engagement with Mr. Ian Maclaren, for whom he played Sir Oliver Surface (*School for Scandal*), Roderigo (*Othello*), Peter (*Romeo and Juliet*), David (*The Rivals*), The Stutterer (*David Garrick*), Corin and William (*As You Like It*), and Launcelot Gobbo (*Merchant of Venice*). His next engagement was with Miss Florence Glossop-Harris for old men and character parts, such as Verges (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Osric (*Hamlet*), Old Gobbo (*Merchant of Venice*), and the Pedant (*Taming of the Shrew*). Following this Mr. Brown did a round of the halls, playing William Henry in *Mary Ann's Darling*. Afterwards he was engaged to create and play on tour the part of Jim in Mr. Duse Mohamed's sketch *Santa Claus, Junior*, and was next secured by Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan to play the comedy part of Gaston Géricault in that extraordinary play *The Devil*. Recently he has been playing a comedy part in *Pete* on tour.

Mr. Brown is a keen critic and student of the French stage, speaking the language fluently. He can also claim to be one of the few who have acted in two languages, having played Adolphe in *Madame Bigarot n'y tient pas* and Joseph in *Le Voyage de M. Perrichon* for the Société Littéraire Française, of Liverpool. Mr. Brown is very fond of athletics and all outdoor sports, and is an enthusiastic footballer, hockey player, and cricketer.

MR. TOM GREEN.

This versatile artist was almost born in the profession, and comes of a musical family. As a little boy he played in the band under his father, Mr. John Green, who was the bandmaster on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, our late lamented King and his bereaved Queen. In 1872 the youthful artist toured with the late William Montague in the original production of the Tichborne romance. He has been principal comedian, stage-manager, and clown in quite thirty pantomimes; was principal comedian to Charles Dillon, the great Shakespearean actor, Henry Loraine, Tom Glenny, Julia Seaman, T. E. Evans, and many others. In the stock days he played drama, farce, and sang comic songs between, for a nine and ten months' season, changing the bill every night. Some of his principal parts are Conn, *The Shaughraun;* Miles, *The Colleen Bawn;* Perkyn Middlewick, *Our Boys;* Eccles, *Caste;* Hawkshaw, *Ticket-o'-Leave;* Tanner, *Strange Adventure of Miss Brown;* together with characters in the entire round of the legitimate plays.

The Christmas before last Mr. Green was engaged by Mr. Fred Little to produce the harlequinade and play clown at the Dalston, London. He has also produced many cinematograph pictures for nearly every firm of note. Added to his ability on the stage, Mr. Green is an excellent scenic artist, and holds a testimonial for ten engagements with the great cattle painter, Thos. Sidney Cooper, R.A.

Mr. Green has many humorous stories of the stage to relate. The following incident occurred during the later part of the 'seventies, in the old "stock days":—"It was new drama and farce every night, and generally three on Saturdays," says Mr. Green, "and everybody had to know their business. At the time that I had the old Theatre Royal, Gravesend, we mustered, among a company of experienced artists, one whom I will call 'Dick.' This gentleman was most obliging; he would go on at a minute's notice for anything—in fact, he has played pantaloon to my clown one night and given a very fair performance of Claud

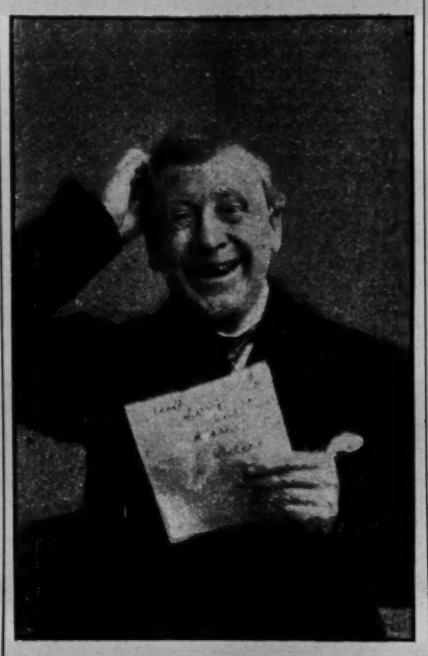

MR. TOM GREEN.

Melnotte for his benefit the next. One Saturday night the bill consisted of the great historical play *Catherine Howard*, concluding with the Irish drama *Kathleen Mavourneen*. In the first production 'Dick' had to make the following announcement:—'Atherwold, Earl of Northumberland, desires an audience with your Majesty'; in the second, as Dennis, he had to say to Kathleen:—'If you please, ma'am, the man's called for the empty beer-barrels.' Everything went on capitally, 'Dick' in a splendid suit of armour waiting to go on. The moment arrived, and, 'midst a flourish of trumpets, he *did* go on, and, bowing to Henry the Eighth, mixed up his cues, giving the second announcement first: 'Please, ma'am, the man's called for the empty beer-barrels.' Collapse of the Court, Catherine Howard, and King Henry."

MR. CHARLES STIRLING.

Born in London, the son of George Davies, manager for many years for Messrs. Gatti, Miss Kate Santley, &c., Mr. Charles Stirling travelled round the country with his father, playing in *In the Ranks, Bells of Haslemere, Trumpet Call*, &c. During an extensive career, Mr. Stirling has gone all through the business, from call boy upwards, has been agent in advance, and spent some time in the paint room. His first engagement was with Mr. Geo. Walton in a burlesque sketch of *The Corsican Brothers*, about the year 1894. In 1896 he was at Drury Lane in a nominal position under the late John Coleman, who had been Mr. Stirling's mother and father's manager before they were married. After that he went on a suburban tour with *The Duchess of Coolgardie*, then fulfilled a short engagement with Edward O'Neil in *Cruel Law*. He went to the Alexandra Palace, London, when it was opened by Mr. Hawkins, and for a season and a half had the theatre there in charge.

In the autumn of 1898 Mr. Stirling went out to play Inspector Sharples in *The Brixton Burglary*, and about Christmas he joined Messrs. Vincent and Bioletti for the light comedy part in *An Evil Life*. The following autumn found him playing Vyvyan in *The Happy Life*, and after this came an engagement as Sparta in *Siberia*, and Grey in *Humanity*. A little later he joined Mr. Frank Stone, with whom he played his first heavy part, Catesby, in *Jane Shore*, other rôles played while with him being Shore, Hastings, De Villefort (*Monte Cristo*), Old Dantes, Fernand, Laverennes in *Belphegor*. Then came a fit-up tour with *A Royal Divorce*, in which he enacted De Beaumont.

About this time Mr. Stirling had a rather rough experience with a show when the "ghost did not walk." The manager, who has since gone over to the majority, had no less than four companies out. Subsequently he joined the late Mr. Frank Cameron, Mr. Stirling fulfilling a joint engagement with his sister, Alice Defoe, the two playing brother and sister in *A Beautiful Fiend*. With that combination Mr. Stirling remained eighteen months. At Christmas, 1903 and 1904, he had a special seven weeks with Mr. William Gifford, playing Guise Darnley in *The Red Coat*. Then came a four months' engagement with Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren, with whom he appeared as Lazare in *Proof*, Beaumont in *Lady of Lyons*, and Alderman in *Garrick*. In the autumn of 1904 he joined Messrs. Careon and Granville for the juvenile part in *A Modern Adventuress*, relinquishing just before the Christmas to undertake with Mr. Frank Macnaghten the heavy rôle in *The King's Pardon* for a run of six months. He created the heavy part in *A Gambler's Daughter*, and following came engagements with Mr. P. Howard Sturgess for the character-part in *Queen of Villainy*. An autumn tour of *Held in Bondage*, with Mr. Vivian Grantham, for lead; two engagements with Messrs. Dagmar and Somerfield in the original production of *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* (?), and eighteen months with Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil for the heavies in *Her Luck in London* and *From Shop Girl to Duchess*. He fulfilled seven months in a similar line with Miss Van Praagh and Mr. Whitty, with *An Unwedded Wife*, and also played the juvenile part in *The Eyes of the World*. Immediately afterwards Mr. Stirling joined Mr. W. W. Kelly for Tallyrand in *A Royal Divorce*, and in August last again took up the character of De Beaumont. Among other parts with which Mr. Stirling is to be credited are Colonel Chateauroy in *Under Two Flags*, Levison in *East Lynne*, Geoffrey Tempest in *Sorrows of Satan*, Mark in *Streets of London*,

[*Photo by Coulson.*

MR. CHARLES STIRLING.

George in *The Octoroon*, Jem Dalton in *Ticket-of Leave*, Joseph Surface in *School for Scandal*, Leglade in *£1,000 Reward*, and Dr. Zambra in *The Power of Gold*.

MR. STUART BLACK.

In common with many of the present-day players, Mr. Black is closely connected with the pulpit, three of his brothers holding office under the American and Scottish Churches, the eldest, the Rev. Professor Hugh Black, of New York, D.D. of Yale and Glasgow Universities, being a world-famous preacher. Mr. Stuart Black commenced his theatrical career less than four years ago with Mr. William Maclaren, playing a small part in the prologue of *Claudian*. His next engagement was under the management of Mr. Esmonde Bramley, with whom he played small parts, such as Lennox, Bernardo, and Nym.

Before finally settling with Mr. J. Bannister Howard to play in *The Christian*, Mr. Black had to undergo an examination before the late Mr. Austin Melford for Mr. Howard's *Silver King* company, and he will always look back with pleasure at having met Mr. Melford, who was more than kindness itself in respect of overlooking a youngster's faults. In *The Christian* Mr. Black played Parson Quayle, Music Hall Manager, and Father

[*Photo by Whyte.*

MR. STUART BLACK.

Lamplugh. After five months, he finished "way down South" at Falmouth, and had a long and dreary journey "way up North" to Dundee, to join Mr. William Mollison in his first Shakespearean Répertoire company. Mr. Black remained a year with Mr. Mollison, filling in the summer months with a sketch, and with Mr. Russell Rosse in *My Soldier Boy*, in which he played the young captain to Mr. Dallas Welford's mock General.

After a week's vacation on leaving Mr. Mollison, he opened with Mr. Edmund Tearle on Boxing Night, 1907. Commencing with some of the minor parts, Mr. Black afterwards played "seconds" to Mr. Tearle, including Iago, Macduff, Cassius, Appius Claudius, Archibald Carlyle, and George Fielding. Mr. Black looks upon Mr. Tearle's company as one of the few organisations wherein there is no unemployment—no looking for work. In one year Mr. Black reckons to have played close on 100 different parts, beginning with Porthos in *The Three Musketeers*, Page in *Merry Wives*, and Montano in *Othello*, up to his present line of parts. On reopening a new tour with *Othello*, Mr. Black was down to play Cassio, but at 12 o'clock rehearsal was quite casually informed he was to enact Iago at night. He got through with only one "stick," and that was covered by hustling Roderigo off the stage and the cutting of only three or four lines.

SHAKESPEARE'S FELLOW-ACTORS

Of the twenty-five actors who are enumerated in a preliminary page of the great First Folio, as filling in Shakespeare's lifetime chief rôles in his plays, few survived him long, says Mr. Sidney Lee in "Shakespeare and the Modern Stage." All of them came in personal contact with h'm; several of them constantly appeared with him on the stage from early days.

The two who were longest lived, John Lowin and Joseph Taylor, came at length to bear a great weight of years. They were both Shakespeare's juniors, Lowin by twelve years, and Taylor by twenty; but both established their reputation before middle age. Lowin at twenty-seven took part with Shakespeare in the first representation of Ben Jonson's *Sejanus* in 1603. He was an early, if not the first, interpreter of the character of Falstaff. Taylor as understudy to the great actor Burbage, a very close ally of Shakespeare, seems to have achieved some success in the part of Hamlet, and to have been applauded in the rôle of Iago, while the dramatist yet lived. When the dramatist died, Lowin was forty, and Taylor over thirty.

Subsequently, as their senior colleagues one by one passed from the world, these two actors assumed first rank in their company, and before the ruin in which the Civil War involved all theatrical enterprise, they were acknowledged to stand at the head of their profession. Taylor lived through the Commonwealth, and Lowin far into the reign of Charles the Second, ultimately reaching his ninety-third year. Their last days were passed in indigence, and Lowin when an octogenarian was reduced to keeping the inn of the Three Pigeons at Brentford.

Both these men kept alive from personal knowledge some oral Shakespearean tradition during the fifty years and more that followed his death. Little of their gossip is extant. But some of it was put on record, before the end of the century, by John Downes, the old prompter and librarian of a chief London theatre. According to Downes's testimony, Taylor repeated instructions which he had received from Shakespeare's own lips for the playing of the part of Hamlet, while Lowin narrated how Shakespeare taught him the theatrical interpretation of the character of Henry the Eighth, in that play of the name which came from the joint pens of Shakespeare and Fletcher.

Both Taylor's and Lowin's reminiscences were passed on to Thomas Betterton, the greatest actor of the Restoration, and the most influential figure in the theatrical life of his day. Through him they were permanently incorporated in the verbal stage-lore of the country. No doubt is possible of the validity of this piece of oral tradition, which reveals Shakespeare in the act of personally supervising the production of his own plays, and springs from the mouths of those who personally benefited by the dramatist's activity.

Taylor and Lowin were probably the last actors to speak of Shakespeare from personal knowledge. But hardly less deserving of attention are scraps of gossip about Shakespeare which survive in writing on the authority of some of Taylor's and Lowin's actor-contemporaries. These men were never themselves in personal relations with Shakespeare, but knew many formerly in direct relation with him. Probably the seventeenth-century actor with the most richly stored memory of the oral Shakespearean tradition was William Beeston, to whose house in Hog-lane, Shoreditch, the curious often resorted in Charles the Second's time to listen to his reminiscences of Shakespeare and of the poets of Shakespeare's epoch.

Beeston died after a busy theatrical life, at eighty or upwards, in 1682. He belonged to a family of distinguished actors or actor-managers. His father, brothers, and son were all, like himself, prominent in the profession, and some of them were almost as long-lived as himself. His own career combined with that of his father covered more than a century, and both sedulously and with pride cultivated intimacy with contemporary dramatic authors.

It was probably William Beeston's grandfather, also William Beeston, to whom the satirical Elizabethan, Thomas Nash, dedicated in 1593, with good-humoured irony, one of his insolent libels on Gabriel Harvey, a scholar who had defamed the memory of a dead friend. Nash laughed at his patron's struggles with syntax in his efforts to write poetry, and at his indulgence in drink, which betrayed itself in his red nose. But, in spite of Nash's characteristic frankness, he greeted the first William Beeston as a boon companion who was generous in his entertainment of threadbare scholars. Christopher Beeston, this man's son, the father of the Shakespearean gossip, had in abundance the hereditary taste for letters. He was at one time Shakespeare's associate on the stage. Both took part together in the first representation of Ben Jonson's *Every Man in His Humour*, in 1598. His name was again linked with Shakespeare's in the will of their fellow-actor, Augustine Phillips, who left each of them a legacy as a token of friendship at his death in 1605. Christopher Beeston left Shakespeare's company of actors for another theatre early in his career, and his closest friend among the actor-authors of his day in later life was not Shakespeare himself but Thomas Heywood, the popular dramatist and pamphleteer, who lived on to 1650. This was a friendship which kept Beeston's respect for Shakespeare at a fitting pitch. Heywood, who wrote the affectionate lines:—

"Mellifluous Shakespeare, whose inchanting Quill
Commanded Mirth or Passion, was but *Will*,"

enjoys the distinction of having published in Shakespeare's lifetime the only expression of resentment that is known to have come from the dramatist's proverbially "gentle lips." Shakespeare (Heywood wrote) "was much offended" with an unprincipled publisher who "presumed to make so bold with his name" as to put it to a book of which he was not the author. And Beeston had direct concern with the volume called "An Apology for Actors," to which Heywood appended his report of these words of Shakespeare. To the book the actor, Beeston, contributed preliminary verses addressed to the author, his "good friend and fellow, Thomas Heywood." There Beeston briefly vindicated the recreation which the playhouse offered the public. Much else in Christopher Beeston's professional career is known, but it is sufficient to mention here that he died in 1637, while he was filling the post that he had long held, of manager to the King and Queen's Company of Players at the Cockpit Theatre in Drury-lane. It was the chief playhouse of the time, and his wife was lessee of it.

Christopher's son, William Beeston the second, was his father's coadjutor at Drury Lane, and succeeded him in his high managerial office there. The son encountered difficulties with the Government through an alleged insult to the King in one of the pieces that he produced, and he had to retire from the Cockpit to a smaller theatre in Salisbury Court. Until his death he retained the respect of the play-going and the literature-loving public, and his son George, whom he brought up to the stage, carried on the family repute to a later generation.

William Beeston had no liking for dissolute society, and the open vice of Charles the Second's Court pained him. He lived in old age much in seclusion, but by a congenial circle he was always warmly welcomed for the freshness and enthusiasm of his talk about the poets who flourished in his youth. "Divers times (in my hearing)," one of his auditors, Francis Kirkman, an ardent collector, reader, and publisher of old plays, wrote to him in 1652—"Divers times (in my hearing), to the admiration of the whole company you have most judiciously discoursed of Poesie."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROBERTSON AT THE CORONET.

"CASTE."

This ever-fresh and charming comedy is a welcome attraction at the Coronet during this week, beginning with August Bank Holiday, and will continue till the revival of *Ours*, on Wednesday, Aug. 10. The only alteration in the cast since the last revival in June is that Mr. Godfrey Tearle now undertakes the part of the Hon. George D'Alroy in the place of Mr. Athol Stewart, and gives a most attractive impersonation of the gallant and quixotic soldier. His performance throughout is manly and sincere. Mr. James Carew once more enlists our sympathies as the good-hearted, if somewhat priggish, Captain Hawtrey, and Mr. O. B. Clarence repeats a performance of sterling merit as the drunken old socialist Eccles. Miss Adeline Bourne contributes a pathetic and powerful impersonation of Esther Eccles, and is well contrasted by Miss Rosie Begarnie, whose Polly Eccles is full of fun and vivacity. As the irrepressible Sam Gerridge Mr. Edgar Kent scores a big success, and Mrs. A. B. Tapping makes an impressive Marquise de St. Maur.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, August 1, the Play, by Mrs. Morton Powell, entitled

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."

The re-opening, for the autumn season, of the King's commenced auspiciously with the production of Mrs. Morton Powell's powerful and instructive play *A Girl's Temptation*, which drew a huge Bank Holiday audience, who speedily evinced their liking for the sensational incidents and the strong and thrilling situations. Incidentally, the play shows vividly the temptations which beset women in their efforts to obtain an honest livelihood. A well-balanced cast is provided by Mr. Morton Powell's chief company. Basil Warren, the wealthy millowner, is excellently portrayed by Mr. Charles Herbert; and Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays in heroic fashion the part of Guy Warren, his son. A very powerful and cynical performance of the intriguing scoundrel Mark Klaw is given by Mr. Clifton Earle, who well earns the expressed hostility of the audience; Mr. Tom Handley, as the Hon. Charles Clade, acts creditably; and Geoffrey Stirling, the old working-man, is admirably undertaken by Mr. Gerald Nolan. A good characterisation of Jim Judd, a ne'er-do-well, is that of Mr. Fred J. Mace; and P.C. Locksley is neatly represented by Mr. Andrew Clarke. Mr. Albert E. Mann makes the most of his opportunities and creates any amount of laughter as Sammy Sniggles, a limb of the law; and Moss Isaacstein, a German sweater, is capitally rendered by Mr. William H. Grande. As the Lady Constance Heathfield, Miss Winnie Donovan acts with much power and ability and looks the revengeful woman to the life; Kate Stirling, the working girl, who meets with so many temptations and tribulations in her young life, is exceedingly well acted by Miss Isla Garnet Vayne, who quickly earns the sympathy of the audience; a merry and at the same time good-hearted Jemima Jossap is Miss Amy Corallie; and a thrilling performance of Annie Brown, a victim of temptation, is deserving of the highest praise. The scenery and effects are of material assistance to the success of the drama.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama, by Jones and Herman, entitled

"THE SILVER KING."

The Silver King occupied the boards at Kennington Theatre this week for the second time during the present répertoire season, and the production was thoroughly successful. The staging, acting, and dressing of the piece left nothing to be desired, and on Monday night the huge holiday audience which had assembled gave repeated and enthusiastic curtain calls. Mr. Walter Gay is always seen at the very top of his form as Wilfred Denver, and this week his performance was magnificent, constituting a real triumph of dramatic acting. Miss Jessie Winter was an engaging and sympathetic figure as Nellie Denver, and Mr. George Cockburn gave a remarkably clever study of the old servant, Daniel Jaikes. Mr. Fred Terriss interpreted the rôle of Skinner the Spider with considerable power, and Mr. Herbert Lloyd's sketch of the marine store dealer, Elijah Coombe, was a vivid piece of stage portraiture. Mr. G. P. Polson was well placed as Cripps, the locksmith; and Mr. Fred Wright made a good deal of fun as Corket. The part of Geoffrey Ware was creditably sustained by Mr. W. J. Yeldham, and Mr. Frank Crimp made a big hit as Baxter, the detective, a character particularly suited to him. Miss Elsie Videau won all hearts by the extreme naturalness of her representation of the part of Cissie Denver, and Miss Maggie Hogan was decidedly good as Susie. Miss Winifred White sustained the difficult rôle of the Spider's Wife with real ability, and Miss Nellie Burdette was highly amusing as Tabitha Durden. Messrs. Sidney and George were worthy of praise as the two betting men, and Mr. Henry Wills was a fine old Parish Clerk. Others who should be mentioned are Miss Kathleen Fraser, Denver's son Ned; Messrs. Clark and Weeber, Binks and Bronson; Mr. W. Garrett, Tubbs; and Mr. W. Brook, the tipsy passenger.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Saturday, July 30, the Musical Comedy, entitled

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

This theatre reopened after the summer vacation with J. Bannister Howard's principal company in the popular musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*, which has been running for several years, and is as much appreciated as ever. Tastefully dressed and mounted, and very well acted, the piece from beginning to end kept a good house on Saturday last in continuous merriment. Most of the laughter is caused by Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese, his posturing, facial play, and general business being intensely amusing. As Dick Wargrave Mr. Herbert St. John is expressive in all he does; his voice is melodious, his numbers being very tunefully rendered. Mr. Lionel Scott secures well-merited appreciation for his portrayal of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and Mr. D. Fisher, jun., besides being a comedian of considerable ability, is also a skilful vocalist, and wins warm approval for his characterisation of the American solicitor, Downham. Mr. Harry Courtin gains unqualified approbation for his blustering portrayal of A. Bunker Bliss, a part he must be thoroughly at home in; and Mr. Jos. R. Tate tickles the audience with his quaint delineation of the Jewish solicitor, Mr. Talk. Mr. A. Burgoyne gives a capital representation of "mine host" of the Fallowfield Arms; and Messrs. F. D. Fraser, C. Branden, and C. Hoddy render efficient aid as Dudley Cranbourne, George Belamy, and Hugh Wallander. Messrs. H. B. Talbot and Arthur Wilson create a favourable impression as the Footmen; and T. J. Chandler is good as the Ostler. Miss Lilly Tullick is a charming Elphin Haye. The possessor of a sweet voice, she renders her numbers with attractive charm, also acting and dancing with conspicuous ability. Miss Blanche Astley wins golden opinions for her winsome and prepossessing assumption of Daisy Fallowfield, materially brightening the performance by her artistic singing and graceful dancing. Miss Lind Hicks renders capital support to Mr. Edward Lewis (Jim Cheese); and Miss Edith Blande has an admirable stage presence for the part of Mrs. Shimmering Black. Miss Virginia Bliss is commendably played by Miss Edith Blande. Complete harmony is achieved by the chorus, materially assisted by the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Bert J. Paterson, and the stage-management is effectively superintended by Mr. Jos. R. Tate. A new feature has been introduced at the beginning of the second act, the world-famed Chantecler dresses, a facsimile of those used in Paris, and made by Mr. Willie Clarkson for this company, being effectively displayed by Herbert St. John as the Cock Bird, Miss Blanche Astley as the Hen Pheasant, and Miss Lily Tullick as the Guinea Fowl. An appropriate song and dance is successfully rendered by the trio, and the new number is highly entertaining. The front of the house is well looked after by the popular business-manager, Mr. J. Murray Herriot.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama entitled

"LOST BY DRINK."

The moral influence of the adaptation of Zola's *L'Assommoir*, which, under the title of *Drink*, was popularised in all parts of the English-speaking world by the late Charles Warner, has been exercised at Clapham Junction this week, and holiday audiences at the Shakespeare have been moved to sincere resolutions to avoid by all possible means the drunkard's career. The characters in the piece are differently named from those with which Mr. Warner was associated, but the incidents are very similar, and are fully as exciting. The principal part is called Dan Thomas, and is allotted to Mr. Otto Minster, who plays it remarkably well. His acting in the delirium tremens scene is very vivid, and exercises a poignant effect. A sweet-faced Jenny is found in Miss Lilian Duncker, who plays in refined style, and gains complete sympathy for the unfortunate wife of the drunkard. Miss V. St. Lawrence makes a beautiful fiend of Fanny, who pursues Dan Thomas and his wife with such determined hatred, and she sustains the humour and the passion of the part with equal effectiveness. A regular pantomime favourite is welcomed in Mr. W. P. Sheen, who as Tumbler Pidgeon exercises an influence for mirth that is irresistible. He receives substantial help from Mr. Geo. P. Lester, who utilises his low comedy gifts to excellent purpose as Bill Smith, and is invaluable in the funny episodes introduced. Mr. Gerald Venning's Harry Goodwin is a sincere and virile exposition of total abstinence principles, and the delivery of his homily on the curse of drink is marked by excellent elocution. Sinister effect is given by Mr. Tom Tindall to the part of Jim Black, who helps to contrive the ruin of Dan Thomas. The latter's two children are played with equal credit by Miss Millie Arthur and Miss Jennie Walker, two youthful and pleasing actresses, whose success in song and dance in pantomime at a neighbouring house will be remembered. Mr. Walter Ford is a typical public-house landlord, and Miss Lucy Murray as Biddy Malone gives a faithful representation of an Irishwoman. The play is a special production at the Shakespeare, and is well mounted. Mr. H. Percival Young remains the courteous acting-manager for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama, entitled,

"TWO LANCASHIRE LASSES IN LONDON."

The Dalston Theatre, cleaned and renovated, reopened its doors on Monday to a holiday audience, and the piece chosen for representation was the drama, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*. Mr. Robert Gilbert, as John Edmunds, an inventor, who suffers considerable hardship as the result of the overbearing action of an unscrupulous employer, is popular with the audience, and this goodwill is shared by Miss Cissie Bellamy, who gives a sympathetic rendering of the character of Bessie Edmunds, the inventor's wife. Miss Rita Corri is their little child, Lucy. The two sisters from Lancashire are Constance, played by Miss Florence Zillwood, who effectively represents the gay woman who becomes the evil genius of a callous-hearted manufacturer; and Nellie, whose ill-fortune it is to fall in with a bully, the latter character being enacted with touching sincerity by Miss Mabel Coleman. Jonas Dean, manufacturer and speculator, has a telling representative in Mr. Caspar Middleton. The part of the Rev. Frank Selby, from Lancashire, suits Mr. T. Dennis Byron, who seems quite at home in "the cloth." Miss Everleen Howard is cast for Mary, a servant at the Vicarage; Mr. Tom Newell immensely pleases the audience as Samuel Hallett, a typical Lancashire lad; and his eventual spouse, Jane Adelaide Bloomfield, the proprietress of a coffee shop, has a vigorous exponent in Miss Doris Kelvey. Mr. Dan Mining's conception of the character of Jim Price, alias the Basher, has a touch of Bill Sikes about it, and his companion in crime, Batty Gabbit, a cringing, deformed criminal, is effectively portrayed by Mr. Frank Irwin. Mr. Arthur Standen as Edward Langley, Mr. W. Thomas as Dean's footman, Mr. H. Dunstan as a police-sergeant, and Mr. William Grand as Dr. Gay, complete the cast.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama entitled

"THE TEMPTRESS."

The Bank Holiday production drew large houses to this favourite playhouse, and Mr. Frederick Melville's popular stock company gave an admirable performance of this exciting drama. Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman well realised the arduous part of Lucas Denbigh; and Mr. Lingard did justice to the rôle of Sir Oswald Fordyce. Philip Welford was capitally played by Mr. Frederick Sergeant; the ever-popular Mr. Newman Maurice was in his element as Bob Tanner; and Mr. Harry Bristow stood out prominently as Francis Fitzfluke. Mr. Will Smith was very good as John Gregory; and Mr. Loraine capital as Caleb Blake. Miss Marie McAulay must be highly praised for her skilful interpretation of the temptress, Stella Lady Fordyce, her powerful acting making a deep impression; Miss Lilian Clare was well cast as Marion Fordyce; and Miss Nora Layton remarkably good as Kezia Blake. Miss Evelyn Watson was to the fore as Madge Denbigh; Miss Violet Gordon and Miss Enid Thompson were clever representatives of friends of Lady Fordyce; Miss Helen Graham made an admirable Rhoda Brown. The remaining characters in a large cast were ably sustained. The piece was capitally mounted, reflecting much credit on Mr. Newman Maurice (the highly-esteemed manager) and his assistants.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama, entitled

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

Mr. Frederick Melville's company form an excellent combination, and Lyric patrons are very appreciative of their efforts this week. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson handles the part of George Maddison with power, and Charles Devereux is ably sustained by Mr. W. H. Porter. Mr. T. Macdonald is sympathetic as Geoffrey Broughton, while John Williams is well enacted by Mr. Vincent Lorraine. Mr. Conrad Stratford is adequate as the Rev. Mr. Dean, and Dr. Fenwick, as interpreted by Mr. Gordon Bland, is satisfactory. Mr. Harry Hinton deals effectively with the part of Inspector Young, and Mr. Joe Wells as Joe Lambton also supplies a praiseworthy and popular portrayal. Mr. Fred De Vere is bright and refreshing as Timothy Tuttut. Mr. George Lancaster is admirably delineated by Mr. Frank Denis, Benjamin Wardle is agreeably portrayed by Mr. Alfred East, and Mr. Leslie Lutter is good as Jenkins. Miss Alice Bowes is a charming Lucy, and Miss Florrie Groves makes the most of Patty Lovejoy. Miss Vera Grafton's figure and presence combine with sound acting to appeal convincingly as Lady Lancaster. Little Lucy suitably fills the rôle bearing the same name, and Miss Rita Tomkins is dignified as the Mother Superior.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama, by Fred Melville,

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Melville drama is always a good holiday selection, and *Her Road to Ruin* had a very friendly reception on Monday. The play is cleverly written and well acted, the principal parts being played by Mr. Charles Dickens, an excellent Frank Temple; Mr. Cecil Kerr, who gives a capital portrait of the poor journalist, Tom Wells; Mr. Knox Orde, a remarkably clever representation of Philip Hardy; Mr. Dane Clarke unites with the onerous duties of stage management a dignified performance of the Bishop. Messrs. Harry Winter and Harry Clarke are good as waiters at the Savoy Hotel, as is Mr. Henry Powell as Dicky Gerald; Mr. H. C. Stalwood is a typical Inspector from "the Yard"; Mr. C. H. Brooke is very good as Billy Boots; as is Mr. Thomas Henry as the Bruiser; Mr. William Wood is a capable Sir John Lewis; Mr. R. Leigh Ellis is admirable as Charles Cholmondeley; Miss Gertrude Tate presents a clever portrait of May Willoughby; Miss Grace Emery is a smart and attractive Jenny Crackling; Miss Margaret McClellan submits an excellent delineation as the Girl from Lancashire; Miss Doris Gilman is a delightful Jess Willoughby; Miss Gladys Clare, Sal Briggs; Miss Jessie Stevens, Lottie Baker; Miss Mary Halstead, the Scorcher; Miss Lucy Bentley, Clara Seaweed; and Miss Violet Cane, as the Wardress, all do well.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 1, for the First Time in London, the Mystical Melodrama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell, entitled

"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."

Capt. the Hon. Travers West ..... Mr. Herbert Pearson
Garda Khan ..... Mr. James Jarrett
Lieut. Lord "Billy" Tremaine ..... Mr. Jack Armitage
James Harper ..... Mr. T. Graham Smith
Dick Smarter ..... Mr. E. Hall Eldon
Archibald Briggs ..... Mr. Tom Slater
Colonel St. Aubrey Fenton, D.S.O. ..... Mr. Arthur Swaine
Kulata Ra ..... Mr. Leonard Conroy
Jhuldoo ..... Miss Louie Underwood
An Orderly ..... Mr. J. L. Leslie
P.-C. Andrews ..... Mr. Francis Cavins
Drampardi Lares ..... Miss Mary Brammer
Lottie London ..... Miss Dorothy Hilderrand
Lady Arabella Mountphayton ..... Miss Louise Gilmore
Angela Fenton ..... } Miss Hilda Beverley
Ogarita ..... }

Produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, as recently as July 18 last, *A Woman of Two Lives* has quickly appeared in the Metropolis. The story concerns the occult power and witchcraft possessed by the higher-grade mountain dwellers of India and the intrigues of British officers with India's daughters. To popular audiences the subject should prove very thrilling and interesting, for the story is embellished with picturesque and appropriate scenery, and the necessary comic relief is smartly written. The reception of the piece on the opening night was most cordial, and should augur well for its success on tour.

Briefly, the story concerns the liaison between the Indian girl Ogarita and the young British officer Captain Travers West. Through the death of a relative Travers West suddenly becomes a wealthy peer, and it doesn't "suit the book" to take Ogarita back with him to England. Ogarita is passionately in love with the Captain, but this is turned to intense hatred at her base treatment. Then it is the turn of the Red Witch of Burmah, Drampardi Lares, who tells the distraught Ogarita that similar treatment was meted out to Ogarita's mother, the daughter of the witch, who was betrayed and deserted many years back, and she suggests to the girl a scheme of revenge. By taking a mystical potion the Anglo-Indian blood in her veins will become separated, and from a daughter of India she will become a fair English girl. The plan is adopted, and the pair go to England in the wake of Travers West, Ogarita having become Angela Fenton with no knowledge of herself previous to taking the wondrous drug. As the English protégé of a presumed wealthy Indian woman she is wooed and won by Travers West, and the time is now ripe for the witch's revenge. The potion is again forthcoming, and the gentle Angela is changed into the passionate Ogarita. Firstly, Colonel Fenton, the officer who wronged Ogarita's mother, pays the penalty, and the girl escapes the death sentence by being retransformed into Angela. The culminating point of the witch's revenge is for Travers West and Angela to get married and then to change the girl back to Ogarita, afterwards destroying the phial containing the potion; but happily love conquers witchery and the drug fails to act, the end seeing the witch meet her doom at the hands of a disappointed accomplice, Garda Khan, and there is thus nothing to mar the future of Travers West and his fair bride.

Miss Hilda Beverley's company, under the management of Mr. Arthur Clifton, interpret the piece most satisfactorily. The brunt of the acting falls upon Miss Beverley in the dual rôle of the natural Ogarita and the refined Angela Fenton, and she is afforded full scope for her undoubted ability as an emotional actress, the two parts being well defined and in excellent contrast. Mr. Herbert Pearson as Captain Travers West acts incisively and with much tact; Mr. James Jarrett as the Indian conspirator Garda Khan looks the character well, and plays with conviction; Mr. Jack Armitage as the easy-going Lieut. Lord "Billy" Tremaine supplies an acceptable sketch of amiable inanity; and Mr. E. Hall Eldon is most amusing as Dick Smarter, his unobtrusive methods of provoking mirth being very welcome. Miss Mary Brammer in the important part of the witch, Drampardi Lares, is satisfactory; Miss Louise Gilmore is a duly dignified Lady Mountphayton; and Miss Dorothy Hildebrand is a pretty and popular representative of the "goey" Lottie London. Mr. T. Graham Smith does well as Sergeant Harper; Mr. Arthur Swaine makes the most of his opportunities as Colonel Fenton; and Mr. Tom Slater fulfils all requirements as the servant Briggs. Remaining parts are in quite capable hands.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

This week *The Arcadians* is paying a visit for the first time, and the delightful musical play is proving a big success. As James Smith, afterwards Simplicitas, Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson is irresistibly funny; Mr. Alfred Beers is also very humorous as Peter Doody, and his song "Always merry and bright" was loudly acclaimed. Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald makes a manly Jack Meadows; the dapper little Bobby, as played by Mr. Cyril Lane, is very good; the haughty Sir George Paddock of Mr. Wallace G. Court is a fine impersonation. Miss Mollie McIntyre is delicious as Eileen Cavanagh, singing and dancing attractively; Chrysea, as played by Miss Violet Roberts, is very good, as also is the Sombra of Miss Sybil Tancredi, her vocalism being greatly admired. Miss Gertrude Aylward as Mrs. Smith supplies a very droll embodiment. The remaining artists are well suited to the parts allotted to them.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, August 1, the Romantic Play, by Walter Howard, entitled

"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."

The return visit of this popular play was welcomed by a crowded house on Monday. Mr. Howard and Mr. Walter Paumier's company are a capable band of artists. Chief honours are earned by and awarded to Miss Annie Saker, who fills the part of the Princess Monica of Illyria with a captivating charm that won her friends in every part of the house. Whether as the stately Princess or as the beggar maid, a part that she assumes for the sake of her people, Miss Saker looks and acts the part to perfection. Miss Jessica Black also scores a success in the part of Viola. Prince Olaf finds a very capable exponent in Mr. Ernest Cox; and Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke acquits himself with credit as the scheming Prince Hildred. One of the finest and most touching character sketches in the play is given by Mr. Lionel Gadsden as the misshapen Prince Michael, who retains the sympathies of the audience throughout. And Mr. Benson North is also very good as the faithful Nathan. Other parts effectively presented are the Captain Hector of Mr. Fred D. Davies and the Lieutenant Karl Stromberg of Mr. C. V. Stanford. Too much praise can scarcely be given for the manner in which the play is staged and dressed, great care and considerable expense having been incurred in those directions.

THE PAVILION, MILE END.

On Monday, Aug. 1, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Edward Marris, entitled

"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."

Sir Harry Felstead ..... Mr. Frank Robertson
David Loseby ..... Mr. Grayson Bancroft
Austin Deepdale ..... Mr. Annesley Hely
Archie Ravenscourt ..... Mr. Harry T. Butler
Giuseppe Canova ..... Mr. Herbert Belmore
P.C. Dumbleby ..... Mr. George Brentwood
Grant ..... Mr. Harvey Welton
Mitchell ..... Mr. J. Templar Ellis
Inspector Sharpies ..... Mr. J. G. Maine
P.C. Barraby ..... Mr. Eric Wilson
Rev. Chandos Goode ..... Mr. Alfred Ames
Billy Tippit ..... Mr. Teddy Leonard
Jenny Jenkins ..... Miss Mollie Hackett
Bellamy ..... Miss Lillah Peltz
Kitty Felstead ..... Miss Maud Tremaine
Tessa Gianella ..... Miss Ella Willmer
Lavender Loseby ..... Miss Ethel Ward

Produced so recently as last week at Brighton, *A Criminal's Bride* reached London on Monday, and served as the Bank Holiday attraction at the "Drury Lane of the East," where a large house endorsed the favourable opinion expressed by our Brighton correspondent. The story abounds in stirring scenes and thrilling incidents, and the characters are drawn with a capable hand; while the comedy relief is found always in the right place.

A summary of the plot was given in our last issue, and it is now only necessary to repeat that the opening of the piece finds Sir Harry Felstead entertaining a hunting party at Woodsorrel Hall, one of the guests being Austin Deepdale, a crafty and designing mesmerist. Sir Harry Felstead is engaged to Lavender Loseby, his trainer's daughter; but Deepdale uses his hypnotic influence upon Lavender, with the result that Sir Harry finds her embracing the villain. The latter is ordered from the house, and the curtain falls as Deepdale is confronted by Mitchell, a Scotland Yard detective. The second act takes place in a country police office, where two Italian wanderers—Giuseppe Canova and Tessa Gianelli—are among the arrested. Mitchell learns from the Italians that Deepdale is the father of Tessa's child, and that he had cut off Giuseppe's left hand after mesmerising him. In the following scene Deepdale, anxious that in a local race meeting Sir Harry's horse shall not beat the one he himself is running, determines that Sir Harry shall be prevented from riding. Deepdale had been stopped for furious motor driving, and had given his name as Sir Harry Felstead; he had failed to answer the charge, and as the result of a warrant being issued Sir Harry is taken in custody. The trainer, however, is equal to the occasion, rides Sir Harry's horse, and wins. Later, Deepdale and his chauffeur Grant arrange to steal the Felstead jewels. Lavender is again hypnotised by Deepdale, who compels her to open the safe with the key entrusted to her by Sir Harry, and to hand him the jewels. The inmates of the house are aroused, and the jewels are recovered. Sir Harry refuses to prosecute, but makes Deepdale leave the house and promise to quit the neighbourhood. He is on the scene, however, in the third act, having abducted Lavender. The girl is taken to the Lecqmont Caves. Sir Harry seeks his fiancée, and is about to enter the cave while holding on to a rope, when the rope is cut and the ardent lover falls upon the rocks below. He is captured and bound. Arrangements are made by Deepdale for a secret marriage with Lavender. The latter has been rescued and taken outside the cave by Mitchell, and when a clergyman, under a threat of being shot, marries Deepdale to a lady, the latter is found to be none other than Tessa. In the fourth act we find Tessa at Deepdale's home, visited by her old lover, Giuseppe. The latter realises Tessa's unhappy life, but hearing Deepdale approach he hides in a room, only to be compelled to listen to further insults heaped upon the young wife by the unprincipled villain. As Deepdale passes the room in which Giuseppe is hidden he is strangled by the enraged Italian, thus paving the way for the complete happiness of the virtuous characters.

Mr. Edward Marris has produced his play on an elaborate scale, the scenery and dresses being superb, and the hunting dresses creating a striking effect. The representation of the drama is committed to Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Mr. Frank Robertson makes a veritable hero of Sir Harry, manly and chivalrous throughout. He is admirably paired by Miss Ethel Ward, a sweet and tender Lavender Loseby. The old trainer is ably portrayed by Mr. Grayson Bancroft. Excellent light comedy comes of the impersonation of Sir Harry's sister Kitty and his good-natured friend, Archie Ravenscourt, brightly played by Miss Maud Tremaine and Mr. Harry Butler. Miss Ella Willmer provides a good study of the Italian girl; and her revengeful father is vividly portrayed by Mr. Herbert Belmore. Mr. George Brentwood makes a droll policeman, Dumbleby; Miss Lillah Peltz is a vivacious servant girl; and Miss Mollie Hackett scores as Jenny Jenkins. The music for *A Criminal's Bride* is by Hubert Bogetti.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 1, the Drama entitled

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."

Newly-decorated and upholstered throughout, the Borough Theatre presented a decidedly smart appearance at the re-opening on Monday, when a typical Bank Holiday piece was presented in *Married to the Wrong Man*. The popular parts of this spacious theatre were liberally patronised, and the performance of Mr. Fred Melville's strenuous melodrama furnished general enjoyment. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as Jack Gladwin acts with vigour and variety, and cuts quite a soldierly figure. Miss Mary Pemberton as Ruth, the girl who is struck dumb during the play, is very charming, while her subsequent depiction of the heroine bereft of speech is a striking example of pantomimic art. The crafty Captain Deering is presented in forcible style by Mr. George Arthur, and Mr. W. Pemberton is a convincing Sergeant Manners. Mr. Leonard Thackeray portrays the unctuous old reprobate Jasper Skinner in telling manner; Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea is an active and alert Timothy Clinker; and Mr. Basil Lynn is an acceptable Archie Bird. Miss Clara Milvain makes a graceful Rose O'Connor; and Miss May Day is a pretty and pert Dolly Fritter. All other parts receive careful treatment, and the piece is staged very appropriately.

At the County Police-court, Leicester, on Saturday, Superintendent Bowley remarked, in reference to an application to the magistrates last week respecting a licence for a portable theatre at Wigston, that he and Mr. Burgess had been over to the premises, and everything was satisfactory. There was ample emergency exit provision, and he saw no reason why the licence should not be granted. The Chairman remarked that what the Bench wanted to secure was that the public, in case of fire or panic, could leave without difficulty. Superintendent Bowley: I have already made such arrangements. The Chairman, in intimating that the licence would be granted, said: Instructions should be given to the officer at Wigston to keep his eye on the place and report.

THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL.

On Thursday Afternoon, July 28, Mr. Benson Revived

"MACBETH."

Duncan ..... Mr. J. P. Wilson
Malcolm ..... Mr. Alfred Wild
Donalbain ..... Mr. James Turnbull
Macbeth ..... Mr. F. R. Benson
Banquo ..... Mr. Murray Carrington
Macduff ..... Mr. Eric Maxon
Lennox ..... Mr. W. W. Caithness
Ross ..... Mr. Harry Caine
Fleance ..... Miss Marion Foreman
Seyton ..... Mr. John Howell
A Doctor ..... Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
A Porter ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
First Messenger ..... Mr. Fraser Outram
Second Messenger ..... Mr. Nigel Barry
First Murderer ..... Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Second Murderer ..... Mr. Caithness
Lady Macbeth ..... Mrs. F. R. Benson
Gentlewoman ..... Miss Marion Foreman
First Witch ..... Mr. Alfred Brydone
Second Witch ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Third Witch ..... Miss Violet Farebrother
Hecate ..... Miss Winifred Durie
Armed Head ..... Mr. H. Meltzer
Bloody Child ..... Miss MacDowell
Crowned Head ..... Miss A. P. Nicholson

Despite all the counter-attractions of river and countryside on a beautiful July afternoon, a large audience assembled to greet this performance. Despite numerous cuts, the massive drama of Scottish history and legend requires a full three hours for its presentation; therefore, it says much for Mr. Benson and his players that the enthusiasm of the audience was unabated to the end.

The weird sisters were effectively represented by a curious combination—Mr. Alfred Brydone, Mr. H. O. Nicholson, and Miss Violet Farebrother. But the latter hardly succeeded in subduing her own undeniable beauty to the repulsiveness demanded by the rôle. Mr. Benson's interpretation of the Thane of Cawdor is powerful and subtle. Mrs. Benson gave a supremely fine rendering of Lady Macbeth, acting with admirable restraint and complete lack of that over emphasis which so often, in other hands, has marred this part. Mr. J. P. Wilson showed us a simple, benevolent, unsuspicious Duncan; and Mr. Alfred Wild a frank and dashing Malcolm. Mr. Murray Carrington was a rugged and picturesque Banquo; and Mr. Eric Maxon was completely at home as the avenging Macduff. All the minor rôles were well filled, and we would especially commend Mr. J. Moffat Johnston's Doctor as being a particularly able character-sketch of a minor part affording few opportunities. It is on the ability shown in the rendering of these minor parts that promotion to heavier rôles is deservedly earned. Mr. Benson himself sets an example by occasionally taking First Outlaws, Second Murderers, or the like; and it is characteristic of this presentation of Macbeth that the humblest parts, such as the Porter, the Bloody Child, and the Second Messenger were all carefully studied and played as though each of them were an indispensable wheel in the mighty machine.

On Friday Afternoon, July 29,

"TWELFTH NIGHT"

was produced, by way of a welcome variety, in the open air, in the Vicarage Gardens, with the following cast:—

Orsino ..... Mr. Murray Carrington
Sebastian ..... Mr. Alfred Wild
Antonio ..... Mr. Alfred Brydone
A Sea Captain ..... Mr. J. Howell
Valentine ..... Mr. James Turnbull
Curio ..... Mr. N. Barrie
Sir Toby Belch ..... Mr. G. Hannam Clark
Sir Andrew Aguecheek ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Malvolio ..... Mr. F. R. Benson
Fabian ..... Mr. W. W. Caithness
Feste ..... Mr. Harry Caine
First Officer ..... Mr. Harold Meltzer
Second Officer ..... Mr. F. Plinor
Priest ..... Mr. John Howell
Olivia ..... Miss Violet Farebrother
Viola ..... Miss Marjorie Patterson
Maria ..... Miss Ella Tarrant

The beautiful surroundings lent verisimilitude to the course of this picturesque comedy, which was acted throughout with admirable verve and spirit. The chief feature of the presentation was the remarkable *début* of Miss Marjorie Patterson in the exacting rôle of Viola. Miss Patterson has only been in the Benson company for about a twelvemonth; but she gave us a most finished, charming, and altogether delightful Viola, by far the most difficult rôle she has yet had entrusted to her.

On Friday Evening, July 29, Mr. Benson Presented

"MASKS AND FACES."

Sir Charles Pomander ..... Mr. Murray Carrington
Mr. Ernest Vane ..... Mr. Eric Maxon
Colley Cibber ..... Mr. W. W. Caithness
Quin ..... Mr. G. F. Hannam Clark
Triplet ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Lysimachus Triplet ..... Miss Hetty Kenyon
Mr. Snarl ..... Mr. J. Moffat Johnston
Mr. Soaper ..... Mr. Harry Caine
James Burdock ..... Mr. McLean
Colander ..... Mr. James Turnbull
Hundsdon ..... Mr. Alfred Wild
Call Boy ..... Mr. Gibson
Pompey ..... Miss Phyliss Edr
Mrs. Vane ..... Miss Ethel McDowall
Peg Woffington ..... Mrs. F. R. Benson
Kitty Clive ..... Miss Violet Farebrother
Mrs. Triplet ..... Miss Marion Foreman
Roxalana ..... Miss Kathleen Yorke
Servant ..... Miss Eva Hertz

This evergreen satirical comedy was played to a crowded house. Mr. Benson himself took a deserved rest, and had the pleasure of watching from the stalls the delightful and witching drolleries and pathos with which his wife invested the part of Peg Woffington. The play was also conspicuous for the charm and talent which Miss Ethel McDowall brought to bear on the ingénue rôle of Mrs. Vane. We do not remember to have seen Miss McDowall in any part of this importance before, and she is heartily to be congratulated on the naïveté and sweetness of her impersonation. But the masterpiece of the whole performance was the Triplet of Mr. H. O. Nicholson. It was almost beyond praise. Mr. Nicholson's surpassing merits often give cause to wonder at the good fortune of Mr. Benson in being able to retain him in the ranks of his company.

The author of *Chantecler* has had an unexpected reward for writing his play, M. Rostand having been awarded the annual Grand Prize of the French Society for the Protection of Animals as a tribute to the affection for the animal creation as shown in his piece. Several members of the society protested against the award very strongly on the ground that the tremendous display of plumage worn by Mme. Simone and other members of the cast could only have been obtained at the cost of much suffering. It was asserted that in some cases the feathers were plucked from the living birds, while Mme. Simone's costume contained £80 worth of feathers from birds of Paradise. *Chantecler* was also responsible for the new feminine fashion of wearing a grotesque display of feathers as trimming for hats.

Herr Albert Ausmann, who in his prime had a magnificent bass voice and sang at the leading opera houses, went mad at Halle on Thursday, and killed his wife with a revolver while she was reading the newspaper. He tried to blow out his brains, but as he did not succeed he hanged himself from a clothes-peg behind the door.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE RULES.

MR. MULHOLLAND AND THE CORPORATION.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland, the well-known theatre proprietor and manager, whose new theatre at Wimbledon is rapidly nearing completion, has had occasion to take the Corporation severely to task with regard to the delay over granting the necessary licence for the building. The whole position of affairs was discussed at length at Wednesday night's meeting of the Corporation, when a letter was read from Mr. Mulholland, in which he submitted a brief summary of the facts with regard to his application, and drew attention to the serious position in which he was placed by the delay in dealing with it. He duly made application on May 17 last, prior to which a print of the Corporation's form of licence, with the conditions, had been handed to him, and at that time no further conditions were suggested. He attended a meeting of the Watch Committee on May 25, and the conditions and rules were discussed clause by clause, and some alterations and important additions were mutually agreed to, but no further rules were suggested, and he understood the granting of the licence would be recommended to the next meeting of the Corporation. In June—five weeks later—he had an interview with the Town Clerk, who partially read to him a number of new rules, the great majority of which had never been previously suggested. Mr. Mulholland immediately raised objection, and stated his reasons in a letter dated July 9. It was doubtless generally known in Wimbledon that his theatre was nearing completion, and he had made important engagements on the strength of the specific assurance given when he met the Watch Committee. Since then, however, he had experienced similar delays to those of three years ago. If a special meeting of the committee was possible, he earnestly urged the members to have one to decide the matter.

Several motions were submitted for dealing with the letter, and eventually it was decided to take it into consideration at once.

Councillor C. How contended that the matter should be settled without delay. The site upon which the theatre was being built had been vacant for the past eight or ten years, and the Council had been paid no rates, and, had there been no delays over the building, it would have been completed almost two years ago, and he calculated the Council would have been paid rates between £500 and £600. That was a very serious matter for the town. Before laying out a large sum of money Mr. Mulholland consulted the borough surveyor as to the regulations. If the printed form of application which the Council had was suitable to the places already licensed in Wimbledon, it was equally suitable for this up-to-date theatre. He would like to know why the London County Council rules were being made applicable to Wimbledon when they were continually shouting that they did not want London to have any control over them. He strongly urged the Council to meet Mr. Mulholland in a reasonable manner.

Councillor J. L. H. Abbott, after tracing the early negotiations Mr. Mulholland had with the Council, said that it appeared the borough surveyor asked Mr. Mulholland to draft rules, and these were handed to him. They eventually passed through the minutes, and Mr. Mulholland objected to the form, as it appeared by the paragraph that he was ruling the town in the matter. In the very early days there seemed to be some misunderstanding between the officials and Mr. Mulholland, and, in his opinion, the gulf had been widened. In the Council's form of licence the word "theatre" was mentioned twenty-three times, so there could be no doubt about it being for theatres. Mr. Mulholland was evidently misled in the first place. He did not say purposely, but the Committee knew all the time what the form of the licence was.

Councillor L. Allen (chairman of the Watch Committee) said they had spent a great deal of time over the matter. They were accused of causing unnecessary delay, but the Committee was placing no obstacle in the way of an immediate settlement. They must have regulations which were proper; but he did not think Mr. Mulholland was as ready to meet the Council as the Council was to meet him. What they had to consider was the safety of lives. If a catastrophe occurred the first people to be blamed would be the Council, and it was perfectly ridiculous to say the old rules covered a building like this theatre. He thought they would have to adopt a firm attitude—frame rules, and tell Mr. Mulholland these were the rules which must be accepted. It was a matter for him to reject them, and go for a music-hall licence.

Councillor E. E. G. Williams said they had a very serious charge to meet, amounting to something like discourtesy in the negotiations, and Councillor Allen had made no attempt to rebut it. If it was their purpose to tie Mr. Mulholland down to certain rules, surely it was proper to inform him before Aug. 4.

The Town Clerk, on the invitation of the Mayor, made an explanatory statement. He said that the building plans for the theatre first came before the Council at a Public Works and Buildings Committee on April 3, 1907. The regulations referred to, which it was quite true were drafted by Mr. Mulholland, were the outcome of a conversation he had with the Borough Surveyor, who pointed out that the by-laws of the Council did not deal with buildings such as theatres. The only matter under discussion in 1907 was the building of the theatre, and what precautions were necessary to be taken in the planning of the building. The plans were referred to a strong sub-committee, that went into the plans so as to get a building which, in every sense of the word, would be safe for use. So quickly did the members do the work that on April 23, twenty days after the plans first came before the Council, they had gone through the regulations and assented to most of them. The amendments to the plans mutually agreed upon were not ready for the May meeting of the Council, and in the meantime a dispute arose as to the building line. Mr. Mulholland wanted to come forward to a point which the Works Committee thought he was not entitled to, and Mr. Mulholland put the matter in the hands of his solicitors, but on June 25 the building line was fixed. The plans were finally approved on Nov. 12, 1907, and from then there had been nothing to prevent Mr. Mulholland proceeding with the erection of the theatre.

Proceeding, he said the erection of the theatre was commenced, and in April last Mr. Mulholland wrote about the licence. He believed it was a fact that when the question of settling the building plans was under discussion Mr. Mulholland was handed a copy of the licence which the Council issued with regard to the buildings used for stage plays. He told Mr. Mulholland that the Council had never licensed a building erected as a theatre, and Mr. Mulholland understood perfectly it was not the licence they proposed to grant him, and that it simply applied to such buildings as the Baths Hall and St. Mark's Hall, in which an occasional performance was given, which technically came under the heading of stage plays. In the form they were bound to mention theatres, because the licences were granted under the Theatres Act, 1843. They had to follow the wording of the Act. On May 10 he mentioned to Mr. Mulholland that in all probability they would likely have his application, and the Watch Committee was so anxious to expedite matters that they held a special meeting, and at it the Borough Surveyor and other officials were ordered to compare the regulations with those of the London County Council, which applied to every theatre, whether old or new. He was asked to draft a licence, and thinking there would be no difficulty about it he wrote to Mr. Mulholland saying that he hoped in a few days to send on a copy, so that he could consider it and submit his observations to the next meeting. It was, however, reported to him that the water supply was not so good as it should be, and he did not send on the licence until it had come before the committee on June 7. Then it was agreed there should be a special meeting—the second held to avoid delay—to consider the rules and the water supply, and a representative of the Water Board attended. With regard to laying a high pressure water main to the theatre, the committee considered it unfair to pay the whole expense when the only object was to protect Mr. Mulholland's theatre. The committee resolved that the chairman and he should interview Mr. Mulholland with regard to the extension of the main. They knew Mr. Mulholland was a theatre manager of experience, and they wanted to make rules which would not act hardly upon him. They went over to Hammersmith to see him, and although Mr. Mulholland protested strongly against bearing any expense in extending the high pressure water main, he eventually agreed to pay half the cost, and they told him they would recommend the Council to agree to that. What the Watch Committee wanted was that there should be a sufficient supply of water on the top floor to play upon a fire without utilising the fire engine. With regard to the electric light supply, if Mr. Mulholland took it from the Corporation the rules in the licence would be all right, but if not, they would have to make other rules. Eventually Mr. Mulholland told them they were taking the London County Council rules *en bloc*, but he pointed out that they were not as they were modified, and then Mr. Mulholland said he had declared in public he would never build or manage another theatre under the London County Council rules. They considered the draft rules fair and reasonable, and to ascertain if the criticism of them was well founded, and that they were impracticable in working, they got an interview with the London County Council officials. After that a number of the rules Mr. Mulholland objected to were struck out and a draft of the licence sent to him. Experience up and down the country showed them that if a catastrophe took place the first persons to be blamed were the local authority. Mr. Mulholland had taken no objection to the rules. If there was anything Mr. Mulholland could point to as being unnecessary or unreasonable the Watch Committee was prepared to consider his objection, but he hoped the Council would adopt rules which would give reasonable protection to the public. (Hear, hear.)

The Borough Surveyor said he had not seen Mr. Mulholland since the start, except when he appeared at the committee meeting, and he had not written him since 1907.

The Mayor: The whole facts have been made known, as Mr. Mulholland wishes, and we shall proceed to the next business.

At a later stage of the meeting some further discussion took place.

The minutes of a meeting of the Watch Committee showed that the chairman (Councillor Allen) and the Town Clerk had had an interview with Mr. J. B. Mulholland as to the extension of the high pressure water main in South Park-road to the proposed theatre in Merton-road, and as to the rules to be annexed to the licence for the theatre, and reported the result thereof. It was resolved that the chairman (Councillor Allen) and the Town Clerk be authorised to make such arrangements with Mr. Mulholland as they may think expedient, and that, if necessary, a special meeting of this committee be held to consider any difficulties which may arise.

Councillor How suggested that they should get the rules in force at Kingston, Richmond, and Croydon, and base theirs upon these.

Councillor Williams moved that the minute be referred back, and the committee instructed to act according to Councillor How's suggestion.

Councillor How seconded.

The Town Clerk pointed out that the Surrey County Council's rules were introduced into the ones drawn up. They did not accept Mr. Mulholland's statement that theirs were the L.C.C. rules, for these had been modified considerably. The L.C.C. rules governed licences for music and dancing and referred to general matters, and they were to be followed according to circumstances. Mr. Mulholland had been told that even after they had dealt with the matter the building must be inspected by the County Surveyor before the licence was granted.

Councillor Abbott moved that the Town Clerk be instructed to base the rules upon those applicable to Surrey theatres, where the local authorities were as anxious to look after the lives of the people as this Corporation was.

The former amendment was then withdrawn, and Councillor How seconded Councillor Abbott's proposition.

Councillor G. Clement said he believed there had been a considerable amount of delay, but by referring the matter back and getting Mr. Mulholland before the committee new members would be able to see what type of gentleman he was, and probably they would then be able to arrive at some understanding. At one time every member of the Council was inundated with telegrams as late as 10 p.m. from this gentleman. He suggested that a special meeting of the General Purposes Committee be held to consider the matter.

This was agreed to.

Once more the partnership of Madame Sarah Bernhardt and M. le Bargy in a joint theatrical scheme is talked about, says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*. This time the undertaking is to be simply and boldly called "Le Chef d'œuvre." The name obviously means, first, that such a combination of talents can but achieve perfection. In the second place, it is intended to imply that only masterpieces, either of the French or foreign stage, are to be brought out. The authors who are to supply the masterpieces are MM. Paul Bourget, Brieux, Paul Hervieu, Octave Mirbeau, and last, but first of all, M. Edmond Rostand, a *Faust* by whom, announced almost as long ago as *Chantecler*, will, it is said, open the season of "Le Chef d'œuvre."

"Amongst my earliest remembrances," says "Playgoer" in the *Scots Pictorial* "is a modest wooden playhouse—the vulgar called it a 'geggie'—in a small country town, which, in ancient days, was considered to be half in the Highlands and half in the Lowlands. The soliloquising, heavy tragedian used to cross the proscenium in four or five contemplative paces, and he could never get doing a decent rant, so constantly did he come in contact with the pasteboard.

"Each man in his time played many parts in this theatre. Nay, each man in one night played many parts, and the like did each woman. It was no uncommon occurrence even for a girl to take the part of a young man, or vice versa. I fancy this sort of work, uncouth as it was, must have been an excellent training for a young actor or actress, and indeed in the theatre I speak of there was one lady player whose name, then unknown outside that countryside, is now in every illustrated paper. The plays, it is worth remarking, were practically all of a national character. *Rob Roy*, *Wandering Steenie*, *Jeanie Deans*, and other old Scots tragedies of the kind seemed completely to satisfy people there."

Father Benson, a well-known Jesuit, highly esteemed as a preacher, is publishing with Messrs. Longman, a sacred drama in three acts, which he wrote for the centenary of St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw. It is entitled "The Cost of a Crown: a Story of Douay and Durham."

A special committee at the Pan-American Congress has approved a proposal of Senor Alvarez concerning literary property. According to this, the fact of having obtained copyright for any literary work in one country of America would confer *ipso facto* copyright privileges in all the countries of America.

At Guernsey *The Merry Widow* is obtaining a most enthusiastic reception. This is the first visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company to the island, and the occasion had been eagerly anticipated. The performances have given unbounded satisfaction, and on the farewell night Miss Mary Ridley, the delightful Sonia, was the recipient of a handsome bouquet.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MYSTIFYING AN AUDIENCE.

Mr. H. B. Irving has been explaining to *Answers* some of the mysteries of quick change. He writes:—

"My interest in dual personalities explains, I dare say, why I so frequently act two parts in my productions. Sometimes, indeed, my changes are so complete that my audiences believe I am two separate actors!

"But perhaps this is not very surprising when, as in the last act of *The Lyons Mail*, both my characters appear on the stage at the same time.

"How do I manage this? Well, I will let you into the secret.

"The murderer, Dubosc, played by myself, is straining against the door of his garret, trying to keep out a mob of angry French citizens, who are coming to seize him and carry him off by force to the guillotine outside. Suddenly, as his strength fails, the door is forced open, the mob bursts in, and Dubosc finds himself face to face with his accuser, Lesurques—also played by myself. For a moment the audience believe that Lesurques is merely a double, made up to look like me. But then Lesurques opens his lips, and they hear my voice, while the murderer Dubosc is being borne back by the crowd. What actually happens is this: The door of the garret is situated in one of the side-walls, and as the people outside force it inwards Dubosc is swung back with it, and is momentarily covered from the audience's view. This is the instant in which the change is effected. My double enters, while I exit through an aperture in the wall behind the door. It is he who falls back from the door into the hands of the mob, while I, having quickly made the necessary alteration to my appearance, enter simultaneously as Lesurques.

"Rapid as this change is, however, there was one even more rapid in my last production, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. As a matter of fact, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde are really one and the same person, but in effect and appearance there is more difference between them than between Lesurques and Dubosc. Dr. Jekyll is refined and gentlemanly in appearance; Mr. Hyde, who represents his evil genius, looks more animal than human. The most important change in this piece takes place in full view of the audience, when, in the third act, Mr. Hyde drinks a potion that transforms him back into his better self, Dr. Jekyll. Before he drinks the draught he is a crouching, long-haired fiend, who lurks in shadows, and is not fit for human companionship. Afterwards, literally in a flash, he becomes the distinguished doctor of letters.

"But how I effect this change I must leave you to guess. There is no 'doubling' here, because I do not leave the sight of the audience for a single instant. I think some fate must have specially singled me out as a 'double' actor, because I recall an incident during the early days of my career when a mishap caused me to appear so before an Oxford audience. The incident is worth relating, although, at the time, it appeared less amusing to a highly strung young actor than it now does to a seasoned manager.

"The play was *King John*. At the end of Act II., I, as the English monarch, had to greet King Philip of France before the walls of Angiers. In some extraordinary way, we became entangled, and for several seconds we were forced to walk side by side, inseparably joined by the intricacies of our armour.

"But this was not the only mishap of that ill-fated scene. When the drawbridge came to be let down before the castle, it was found to be too short, and the castle had to be pushed forward to the bridge before the imprisoned inhabitants could come out. To complete the series of disasters, when the head citizen was kneeling down at the end of the act to render up the keys, he went too near the footlights, and as the curtain descended between him and the stage, he found himself kneeling alone on the wrong side, before a tittering audience. I have often been asked whether the playing of double parts in any way disturbs my daily life—that is to say, whether I find myself continually changing my personality, and alarming my family and friends.

"Happily, this is not so. On the stage I find it easy to change my personality, because the conditions of the play make it so. But if such alarming tendencies introduced themselves into my own home, I should very soon give up playing double parts."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

A new and up-to-date theatre, now in course of erection by the proprietors of the old theatre, Sir William Shipley and Captain Reginald Shipley, at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next.

The history of the Theatre Royal is interesting. Its precursor was a building in the High-street, erected about the year 1775, on the site of the present Constitutional Club. The theatre in those days was frequently patronised by the Royal Family, as the following extract from a Windsor paper will show:—

"From my eighth year upwards I could always obtain a free admission to that smallest of playhouses, the Theatre Royal of Windsor, where Majesty oft was delighted to recreate itself with hearty laughs at the comic stars of sixty years since. Tragedy was not to the King's taste. Miss Burney has recorded how he appreciated the dramatist whose Hamlet and Benedick were sometimes here personated by Elliston; and whose Richard III. Cooke coarsely but powerfully enacted on this stage: "Was there ever such stuff as great part of Shakespeare? only one must not say so! But what think you? What? Is there not sad stuff? What? What?" George III. has supporters in this opinion where we might scarcely look for them. I have heard one such heretic, whose intellectual dimensions would appear gigantic in comparison with those of the King, say of the writer of the sad stuff, "I always call him Silly Billy." The publicity of which I have spoken was, in the Windsor Theatre, carried to its extremest limit. That honoured playhouse no longer exists. The High-street exhibits a dissenting chapel on its site, whose frontage may give some notion of the dimensions of that cosy apartment, with its two tiers of boxes, its gallery, and its slips. It was not an exclusive theatre. Three shillings gave the entrance to the boxes, two shillings to the pit, and one shilling to the gallery. One side of the lower tier of boxes was occupied by the Court. The King and Queen sat in capacious arm-chairs, with satin playbills spread before them. The orchestra, which would hold half a dozen fiddlers, and the pit, where some dozen persons might be closely packed on each bench, separated the royal circle from the genteel parties in the opposite tier of boxes. With the plebeians in the pit the Royal Family might have shaken hands; and when they left, there was always a scramble for their satin bills, which would be afterwards duly framed and glazed as spoils of peace. As the King laughed and cried, "Bravo, Quick!" or "Bravo, Suett!"—for he had rejoiced in their well-known mirth-provoking faces many a time before—the pit and gallery clapped and roared in loyal sympathy: the boxes were too genteel for such emotional feelings. As the King, Queen, and Princesses retired at the end of the third act, to sip their coffee, the pot of Windsor ale, called Queen's ale, circulated in the gallery. At eleven o'clock the curtain dropped. The fiddles struck up "God save the King"; their Majesties bowed around as the house clapped; and the gouty manager, Mr. Thornton, leading the way to the entrance (carrying wax-lights and walking backward with the well-practised steps of a Lord Chamberlain), the flambeaux of three or four carriages gleamed through the dimly-lighted streets, and Royalty was quickly at rest. Our theatre was only open at the Eton vacations."

In 1815 a new theatre was built on the site of the present house, and next to it stood the house of the celebrated painter, James Bristow. In 1866 the property was thrown into Chancery, and an order was made for its sale. It was purchased by a Mr. Frederick Charsley, of Slough, and subsequently by a Mr. Freemantle.

In 1872 it again changed hands, being acquired by the trustees of the late Mr. Richard Gardner, M.P. for Windsor. It was bought in 1890 by the late Sir George Long, and used for political meetings, and in 1900 the property was sold to Sir William Shipley, who is an ex-Mayor of Windsor, having held office for three years. A number of improvements were made in the building, and the property let to Mr. Restall, who was followed by Mr. Samuel James, and subsequently by Mr. Jasper Redfern, of Sheffield, who was the lessee at the time of the fire in February, 1908.

The new house is being erected from designs by Frank Verity, Esq., on the site of the old theatre, with the acquisition of adjoining property, and will be considerably larger than the old building. Fire-resisting materials are being used throughout, and the steelwork is of the very latest pattern.

The exterior treatment is designed in the style of the Early English Renaissance or Jacobean, at the desire of the Crown authorities, by reason of its proximity to the Castle.

Entering from Thames-street we shall pass into a spacious crush hall, with cloak-rooms, box-office, and staircases right and left, leading down to the stalls and saloon, also communicating with the main corridor, which encircles and gives access to the box tier, an original feature placed at the back of the auditorium. This level includes the dress circle, and is the best part of the house. It will be raised a few feet above the level of the stalls and enclosed by the private boxes, the fronts of which will be treated with a simple order carried round, thus forming a circular auditorium.

Directly above this will be one continuous tier, designed so as to ensure a perfect view of the stage from every seat. It will be divided into balcony and gallery, each with its own saloon, lavatory accommodation, and separate entrances from Thames-street and exits into Thames-avenue.

The auditorium is designed in a simple, dignified, classic style, in which a colour treatment after the manner of the Italian Renaissance, will be introduced. The system adopted for regulating the temperature, and for ventilating the building, is one that will preclude the possibility of draughts.

In designing the electric light installation every precaution has been taken to minimise the risk of total extinction through the failure of supply. The two-circuit system will be installed throughout the theatre, in the auditorium, passages, entrances, and exits, the lamps being installed alternately on two circuits, these being connected through the necessary switchboards and change-over switches to the two sources of supply.

Behind the proscenium there will be a commodious stage, 35ft. deep, 48ft. wide, with an opening of 28ft. by 28ft., and a height of 53ft. from floor to grid.

Provision has also been made for cooling the curtain by means of a specially designed sprinkler controlled from the stage level, or, in case of necessity, from the stage-door.

The dressing-room block is to be connected with the stage on the O.P. side by a large waiting lobby, to which all the thirteen rooms communicate. Each room will be conveniently fitted, and have its own hot and cold water supply.

It is the intention of the proprietors to run the theatre on really first-class lines, and no expense will be spared by them to make the new house in every way worthy of the Royal borough.

The population within six miles of the theatre is over 40,000, and the promises of support received from a very large number of prominent and influential people in the district, coupled with the fact that there is a strong hope that the new house may be honoured with the attendance of members of the Royal Family, the success of the undertaking is practically assured.

Our leading touring managers will no doubt want to secure early bookings for their companies. It seems certain that Windsor will, from the very beginning, be an excellent date.

The proprietors have arranged with Mr. J. E. Hall, so many years associated with London suburban theatre management, to act as general manager on their behalf.

[*Photo by Gresswell, Southport.*

OPERA HOUSE, SOUTHPORT, OUTING.

The Southport Opera House staff had their annual trip on Sunday, when a party of over sixty journeyed to Stoneyhurst and Whalley Abbey. Train was taken to Preston, where the excursionists were met by two large 'buses, which took them for a fine drive to Stoneyhurst. The party sat down to an excellent dinner at the Royal Hotel. A visit was paid to the fine old Church and churchyard and the old Abbey ruins, after which a capital tea was enjoyed at the Town Hall.

The chair was occupied by Mr. G. Clarkson, the genial acting-manager of the Opera House, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Percy Hutchison, the popular lessee and manager. Others present were Messrs. H. Cornish (manager of Empire), W. P. Stone (musical director), and Fred Jones (secretary of Winter Gardens). After tea a vote of thanks was moved to Mr. Clarkson and the committee for their admirable arrangements. In an able speech the motion was seconded by Mr. Cornish.

Mr. Clarkson, who was received with great cordiality and musical honours, briefly thanked the company for their good wishes, and said it was a great regret to Mr. Hutchison that he was not able to be with them that day. Mr. Hutchison desired to convey to them all his hearty good wishes.

A photograph of the party having been taken, the drive back to Preston was made, whence they trained to Southport, all having spent one of the happiest days in the history of these enjoyable gatherings.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree returned on Wednesday from Marienbad greatly invigorated by his brief holiday. Arrangements are being rapidly perfected for the presentation of *Henry VIII.*, in which Sir Herbert in the rôle of Wolsey will make his reappearance at His Majesty's. The elaborate nature of the production has already been indicated in this column, and there is every indication that Thursday, Sept. 1, will witness the addition of another brilliant success to the distinguished actor-manager's record.

"Henry VIII." being so much in the nature of a pageant, Sir Herbert has determined to adopt the olden-time arrangement of the "apron" stage, which will be brought forward in almost semicircular shape over the orchestra, about nine feet in front of the original limit of the stage at His Majesty's Theatre. By this plan the players will be brought more closely into touch with the spectators, and much of the dialogue, colloquies, and speeches, instead of being spoken at a considerable distance from the audience, will be given in the auditorium itself.

The Welsh national drama has found a warm friend in Sir Herbert Tree, who wrote thus from Marienbad recently to Mr. Ernest Cove, an enthusiastic promoter of the cause:—"What better thing can Welshmen do than create a Welsh national drama? There are plenty of subjects to hand, and there is no medium of speaking to the people in so effectual and stirring a manner as does the drama. What you want is what we all want—a dramatist! May he not be straying at this moment, all unconscious of his destiny, on your wild coast, or vainly seeking for some outlet for his genius in some Cardiff tramcar? Here is his chance, but you must kindle the torch of enthusiasm to help him."

Miss May Robson, the famous American actress, who will reopen Terry's Theatre on the 22nd inst. with *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*, was born in Australia, near the Murrumbidgee River, and educated in Brussels and Paris. She made her first appearance as an actress in *The Hoop of Gold* at the Maddison-square Theatre, New York. Her success, it is said, has been won entirely in original parts.

The rôle Miss Robson will portray at Terry's, and in which she has received the eulogium of the United States, is that of a country old lady who lips into the delights o ftown life, and is so fascinated by them that she leaves her rural retirement never to return. Playgoers must prepare themselves for varied degrees of merriment as the result of Miss Robson's quaint performance, for if we are to judge by a sheaf of Press opinions contained in a booklet to hand, "ripples of laughter as steady and constant as the little waves on a wind-tossed lake were the rule at the theatre"; while the *Kansas Post* maintains that "the gale of merriment which was started soon after the rise of the curtain kept blowing throughout the three acts of the comedy."

Mr. Laurence Irving decided that, owing to the enthusiastic reception accorded to *Margaret Catchpole* at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, the piece should remain in the bill the entire week. The first production of *The Unwritten Law* in this country, which was announced for Thursday last, has therefore been postponed.

Mr. B. A. Meyer, who accompanied Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton to Australia as general manager, resigned his position on their return to England, having decided to remain in Australia and start farming there. Mr. Meyer was largely influenced in this decision by the fact that his wife (Miss Dorothy Grimston), who accompanied her husband to Australia, has been forced, through a very serious form of deafness, to retire from the stage.

Miss Grimston, who thus prematurely relinquishes a career of much accomplishment and greater promise, is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and made her début in May, 1903, with Madame Réjane in *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle* at the Garrick. She was one year with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, with whom she played in *The Golden Silence* and *The Fairy's Dilemma* and other pieces, and she was the Christabel Webmarsh in Pinero's *A Wife without a Smile* at Wyndham's. In 1905 she went to America with Miss Olga Nethersole, with whom she played lead, and two years later found her at the Criterion with Mrs. Patrick Campbell. Her marriage to Mr. Meyer was solemnised in the October of 1903.

Miss Terry Lewis, the secretary of the Anti-Woman Suffrage League, is a niece of Miss Ellen Terry, and daughter of Miss Kate Terry, a famous actress of the 'sixties, who made a temporary return to the stage a few years ago. The League is appealing for the substantial sum of £100,000.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland is not the president of the Theatres Alliance, as stated in the leading article in our last issue. The energetic proprietor of the King's, Hammersmith, was the first president, and acted for some years as hon. organising secretary, but the former position is restricted to one year, and is at present held by Mr. Wentworth Croke.

Mr. William Mollison had a great reception on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Halifax. By special request he appeared in that thrilling one-act play *The Touch of the Child*, with which he has been topping the bill at several of Messrs. Moss and Stoll's halls. After the exciting dénouement at the close of the sketch he was recalled time after time. As a special attraction Mr. Mollison will appear in this play in front of *The Chorus Lady* at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, next week, prior to its first London appearance at the Holborn Empire on Aug. 15.

Miss Annie Hughes started her tour with *Miss Tommy* most auspiciously at Brighton on July 25, the fashionable visitors of "London-by-the-Sea" all flocking to the Theatre Royal to see the clever actress in what is admitted to be her most successful assumption. Mr. Jerome's play has again evoked unqualified praise from the provincial Press, and its attractiveness is emphasised by crowded houses. Miss Hughes visits the Spa, Scarborough, next week, and will subsequently delight theatregoers at other favourite watering-places, including Ramsgate, Blackpool, New Brighton, and Liverpool.

Miss Alice O'Brien, who has won laurels in grand opera at Covent Garden, the Opéra Comique, Paris, and at Nice, has taken up the rôle of the heroine in *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's, Miss Lily Elsie being absent on holiday. Miss O'Brien sings the music faultlessly and acts with charming vivacity.

Miss O'Brien has been singing at Covent Garden in *Don Giovanni* and *La Boheme*. She created Manon Lescaut in Puccini's work, at Nice, and she was engaged at the State-subventioned Opera Comique in Paris—the scene of Van Zandt's long triumph as Mignon, and a house extremely difficult of access to a foreign artist—almost immediately after a preliminary trial.

Mr. George Alexander has decided to bring the long run of *The Importance of Being Earnest* to an end in September, by which time the comedy will have attained its 300th performance. Meanwhile the American play, by Mr. Louis Evan Shipman, called *D'Arcy of the Guards*, will be put into rehearsal, and will figure as the autumn production at the St. James's.

Mr. George Edwardes had nice things to say at the general meeting of the Gaiety Theatre Co., Ltd., on Tuesday about *Our Miss Gibbs*, which he declared had proved even more successful than *The Merry Widow*. The shareholders would remember that last year he prophesied that *Miss Gibbs* would prove a very successful piece, and he was very glad now to be able to say that his prophecy was more than verified. For the time when *Our Miss Gibbs* ceased to attract—and he thought that was not likely to be for a considerable period—another piece, which bid fair to prove a second *Miss Gibbs*, was already on the stocks.

They would observe that there was an increase in the receipts of about £11,000, while the working expenses were some £5,000 more, due to the fact that they had been open six weeks more than in the preceding year. The directors had written down the company's assets by a considerable amount, which was a wise precaution, and they proposed to place £10,000 to the reserve fund. The report, which proposed a dividend of 20 per cent. on the year, was adopted unanimously, without discussion, and £1,000 was voted to the directors for their services. Mr. Edwardes was re-elected a director.

Miss Mary Rorke made a praiseworthy defence of the stage at the meeting of the Roman Catholic Congress at Leeds on Sunday, when she read a paper on "The Artistic Side of Woman's Work." Miss Rorke began humorously. Art, she said, was only work disguised as enthusiasm, and it was a mistake to suppose that an artistic life was an idle existence spent in a velvet coat or a dress that looked like a bath towel and fitted like a sack. Artists, in the muddle which they so often made of the art of living, were very much on the same level as philosophers, who generally lived like fools, whereas fools usually lived like philosophers. Carlyle would rise, for instance, from writing "The French Revolution" and throw a leg of mutton out of the window because it was underdone.

As an artist on the stage, the speaker said she was convinced that if there were any girl there present who wanted to go on the stage, nothing she (Miss Rorke) could say or do would prevent her. One of the chief dangers of life on the stage was the idleness during the day. That idleness was responsible for more unhappiness and unfortunate results than any of the temptations to be found inside the theatre. After the actor and actress had passed through the stage door they were too busy to think of wickedness. The dangers of the stage were only the dangers of every-day life, with the limelight thrown on them. It was in the girl's hands. It rested with her whether she found the world a sink of iniquity or a tranquil pool of comparative righteousness.

To the girl who proposed to go on the stage her advice was, "Don't be in a hurry, especially if you are young." Most young girls, on leaving school, were possessed with one of two ideas—either they wanted to enter a convent or they longed to go on the stage. In both cases she should say, "Don't be in a hurry." The passage of a few years might find that the girl who wished to be a nun had drifted into the chorus of a musical comedy, and was leading there a good and happy life; whereas the girl who sighed to go on the stage might find herself in a convent, cheerfully performing her duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Curzon (Miss Isabel Jay) are enjoying a long motor trip in France. Miss Jay will return to her part in *The Balkan Princess* at the Prince of Wales's in a fortnight or thereabouts.

Messrs. Samuel French, Ltd., inform us they have taken over the business and acquired the rights of the Dramatic Authors' Agency from Mrs. Douglas Cox. A large number of plays controlled by the agency will now be issued in published form—notably *Beauty and the Barge* and *All-of-a-Sudden-Peggy*, and negotiations are pending for the publication of other important pieces.

On looking through the list of plays issued by the famous firm of French, one discovers every author of note now writing for the stage, but there is one important omission—Mr. Somerset Maugham, whose plays would be eagerly sought after and bought by the amateur actor. *Lady Frederick*, *Smith*, *Penelope*, *Mrs. Dot*, and *Jack Straw* should bring a harvest from our amateur friends, each one.

On inquiry as to the most acted play in amateur circles during the past season, we were told that the ever-green *Private Secretary* has held its head higher than any other piece. Pinero's *Magistrate* and *Dandy Dick* can apparently never become too well-known, and a strong claim is made by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies' pieces *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, *Cousin Kate*, and *The Mollusc*. Indeed, Messrs. French look to Mr. Davies chiefly to keep them supplied with material for their clients in the future. Mr. Davies' characterisation, situations, dialogue, and cleanly plots are admirably suited to amateur requirements.

The directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund held the usual monthly meeting at their office, Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, on Tuesday last. Mr. Chas. K. Cooper occupied the chair, and Messrs. Alfred H. Elliott, Bassett Roe, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary) were present. Three candidates for election as members of the Fund were put forward. It was agreed that the office be closed next week, and also from Sept. 12 to 17, inclusive.

The prize of £300 offered by Mr. Otho Stuart through the Governors of the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, was presented to the authoress, Josephine Preston Peabody (Mrs. Lionel Marks), at the conclusion of the performance of *The Piper*, of the production of which on the 26th ult. a detailed notice appeared in our last issue. The presentation was made by Mr. Archibald Flower, chairman of the governors of the theatre, and Mrs. Marks replied in a happily phrased speech, referring especially to the common regard for Shakespeare as a tie between the British and American nations.

For his revival of T. W. Robertson's *Ours* on Wednesday evening next Mr. Robert Arthur has made a very happy engagement in the dramatist's daughter, Miss Maude Robertson, who makes her reappearance on the stage to play Lady Shendryn. Mr. Jas. Carew will play Hugh Chalcot, Miss Rosie Begarnie, Mary Netley, and other rôles will be allotted to Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. Fred Permain, Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. William Rokeby, and Miss Adeline Bourne.

Miss Gladys Archbutt's little brown Pomeranian "Blarney" died, to the regret of all, on Monday of gastritis. "Blarney" was quite a famous doggie, having played parts at Terry's Theatre and in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, and was also a picture postcard beauty.

Mr. Percy Hutchison, supported by his Wyndham's Theatre company and production, commenced his autumn tour of *Brewster's Millions* on Monday at the Opera House, Blackpool. His reappearance as Monty Brewster, the part in which he has made such a conspicuous success, was enthusiastically welcomed by a big audience. Other companies under the control of the Hutchison management include *Don*, with Miss Emma Hutchison, which received a most favourable greeting at Buxton; and the North and South companies of *Smith*, appearing respectively at Southport and Brighton, also opened to packed houses.

The courtesy of the Lancashire Aero Club was extended to Mr. Percy Hutchison, who accepted their kind invitation to become an honorary member during his visit to Blackpool.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's season at the West Pier, Brighton, started on Monday with *Smith*, the reception of which by a large audience was so enthusiastic that its success in the provinces should be assured. Next week Mr. Hutchison will present *Don*, which has proved as big a success in the provinces as it was in London, and is booked at all the principal theatres for the autumn.

Mr. Graham White, the popular and intrepid aviator, visited the Opera House, Blackpool, on Thursday night with a party, and between the acts had a long chat with Mr. Percy Hutchison, who is playing to enormous business with *Brewster's Millions*.

An important première is announced for Monday evening next at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, in the production by Mr. J. E. Watson of *The Sowers*, a play dramatised by Messrs. David Kimball and Montagu S. Wolf from the celebrated novel of the same name by the late H. Seton Merriman. A powerful cast has been engaged, amongst whom are Messrs. Edgar Stevenson, Clifton Anderson, H. K. Ayliff, J. Hastings Batson and Charles Esdale, Mesdames Kathleen Russell, Frances Davie, and Maxine Hinton. The incidental music has been composed by Mr. Horace Middleton, and the play will be produced under the stage direction of Mr. Clifton Anderson.

The powerful story has been very closely adhere to, and, judging by the rehearsals, a striking success is anticipated. The production is on an elaborate scale, and the sack of the castle and the thrashing of the spy promise to be very stirring scenes. It may be remembered that *With Edged Tools*—a play from another of Seaton Merriman's novels—was produced under Mr. Mulholland's auspices at the King's Theatre some years ago, and has been successfully touring the provinces ever since.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier begins his season of management at Wyndham's on Sept. 1 with "George Paston's" (Miss E. M. Symonds) *Nobody's Daughter*. Mr. Frank Curzon has accordingly arranged with Mr. Charles Hawtrey to transfer *The Naked Truth* from Wyndham's to the Prince of Wales's at the end of this month. A week or two later *The Naked Truth* will be succeeded by a play adapted from the French, to be called *Inconstant George*.

Nearly three weeks have elapsed since the dying actor Weldon Atherstone was found on the back doorstep of an empty flat at 17, Prince of Wales-road, Battersea, and his murderer is still at large. Miss Earle is taking a holiday at a small French watering-place, and holds herself at the disposition of the police for the adjourned inquest on September 17.

Some startling evidence it is said has come into the possession of the police during the past week in connection with the Battersea flat case, the full particulars of which will probably not be received until shortly before the inquest is resumed in September. At the moment, however, the authorities decline to disclose the new theory upon which they are working. It would appear, however, that they attach very great importance to the discovery of the missing revolver, and, indeed, they are of opinion that if the weapon could be found the mystery would be entirely solved.

The police (says the *Standard*) find a curious difficulty in another direction. In their inquiries among members of the dramatic profession they have found a reticence which might almost be described as general. Owing to the commendable comradeship which exists among actors, Anderson's friends are apparently loath to give information from a fear that some casual suggestion might lead to the discovery of circumstances which might reflect upon him.

Mr. Douglas Eley is now entering on his eleventh year as producer and manager of *A Message from Mars*, and has been retained for another year by Mr. Fredk. Mouillot.

Mr. Montagu Love, after his two years' engagement with Messrs. Harding and Cooper in *The Flag Lieutenant*, is now playing the leading part in Mr. Percy Hutchison's North Company of *Smith* which opened at Southport on August Bank Holiday.

According to the *New York Herald's* correspondent, Mr. William A. Brady devoted his time during his visit to Europe to booming the American dramatist. He predicts that in two years the English managers will be scouring America for plays for their theatres, the same as American managers have in the past scoured England. Nobody has a greater faith in America as a happy hunting ground for plays and playwrights than he.

"I refer," said Mr. Brady, "to the best type of plays, of course—such as *Secret Service*, *Held by the Enemy*, *The Henrietta*, and all such plays as are turned out by men like Mr. Gillette and Mr. Augustus Thomas. Once set the fashion here with two or three big winners, and the trick will be done. Just look at your managers in London—all relying on the revival of old successes. Now, you know old successes will not last for ever. What will they do then? They can't go to Paris or Berlin any more, for they have both been squeezed dry. They have got to go to New York."

The Promenade Concerts begin at the Queen's Hall on Saturday next, and an attractive musical series is promised. The directors have decided to include in the répertoire a number of orchestral novelties and airs, among which will be an overture, a "Serenade for a small orchestra," a "Fantasia on English Folk Songs," and a set of variations on "The Vicar of Bray." An agreeable feature of the list of works put forward is the prominence accorded to the younger school of British composers, for out of a total of sixteen new compositions, twelve are representative of native talent.

A very pleasing ceremony marked the closing scenes of the performance given on July 27, the occasion of the sixth benefit accorded to Mr. Louis J. Beard, the popular manager of the Grand Theatre, Luton. After the curtain had fallen on the interpretation of *The Area Belle*, by the local Amateur Dramatic Society, Mr. Beard was called to the front and presented with a handsome silver salver.

Mr. Robert Loraine, who under the pseudonym of "Mr. Jones" has been winning fame as an aviator, secured second prize in the Blackpool competitions on Monday. "Mr. Jones," who rode a Farman biplane, went out for the duration prize at 3.15, and experienced a thrilling adventure, a message reaching the aerodrome a few minutes after five to the effect that he was on a quicksand near St. Annes, but he speedily returned triumphant. "Mr. Jones" said that his difficulty was due to the bagging of the tail of the machine, which nearly pulled him over, forcing him to descend. Otherwise, he said, the journey was beautiful, except while crossing the mouth of the Mersey, where the current met awkwardly for a time, and gave him an exciting battle.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's latest play, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, has proved a pronounced success. The staging is most elaborate, costly, and full of detail, the Naval Court Martial scene being admired, equally for its technique as for its tensity, and the old coastguard's room in the last act being complete, even to the weather-glass.

"The Little Damozel" has this week been delighting Spa Scarborough audiences. This charming play is visiting for the next six weeks only popular watering places, including Douglas, Blackpool, Yarmouth, Margate, and Harrogate. Return dates have been offered at every town visited.

"The Naked Truth" had a hearty reception at Brighton last week, and at Bournemouth this week holiday-makers have been delighted with the merry play and Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's excellent company.

The ever-popular *Under Two Flags* will be at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, next week, and at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, the following week. In the course of the next few weeks it will pay its fourth visit to the Marlborough Theatre. "Beauty," Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's thoroughbred horse, has now toured over seven years to take part in Cigarette's nightly ride for life, and has had many wonderful experiences in the course of his stage career.

After a fortnight's vacation, *The Nihilist* recommenced its tour at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, and is drawing capital business. Mr. O. Silverstone, part author, senior partner, and general manager of the company, will shortly complete 600 performances of the heavy rôle Prince Alexander. Mrs. O. Silverstone, the original Katrina of the piece, has recently purchased from her husband a full partnership in the attraction, and the company henceforth will be that of Mr. and Mrs. O. Silverstone and Henry Wright.

Visitors to Worthing are promised some theatrical treats during the present month. Among the London successes which Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, the popular proprietor of the Royal, has booked are *Havana*, *Miss Hook of Holland*, *The Geisha*, *Girls of Gottenberg*, *Our Miss Gibbs*, and *The Gay Gordons*. For his sixth annual benefit in the middle of next month Mr. Seebold has secured the romantic costume play *My Lady Bellamy*, which will be presented by the company controlled by Mr. Alec McLean.

An International Dickens' Testimonial in connection with the centenary next year of the birth of Charles Dickens is suggested in an article in the current issue of the *Strand Magazine*. The adoption of the scheme will enable the English-speaking world to pay its tribute of gratitude to a great writer and a great man, and at the same time benefit his descendants. It is pointed out that the famous novelist did not live long enough to enjoy the privileges of a copyright law under which a substantial sum would have been reaped in royalties from the enormous sales of his books, and there are now surviving three of his children and seventeen of his grandchildren, some of whom are in circumstances which must pain all lovers of Dickens. Three are in receipt of trifling Civil List pensions.

Their position, it is urged, could be ameliorated if a designed stamp were printed certifying that "a deferred royalty of one penny had been paid," this penny stamp to be purchased by possessors of the novelist's works and affixed in each volume. The plan thus formulated would yield a large sum, the whole of which would be handed over to the representatives of the Dickens' family to make such use of it as they wish. The idea has received the support of numerous famous Dickens lovers, and the stamp will be on sale all over the world next year.

Miss Florence Baines, familiarly known as "The girl who set London laughing," is about to produce a new play, entitled *Laughing 'Liza*. In another column Miss Baines invites our readers to advise her if such a title has ever been used. If the title is not owned by anyone it would seem to happily describe Miss Baines' style of work.

"Atonement," a play in three acts, by W. V. Garrod, was produced for copyright purposes at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on July 30.

Mr. Charles Windermere is meeting with great success on his seaside tour with *Where is William?* At the Grand Theatre, Llandudno, he opened to a packed house, and this week at the South Parade Pier, Southsea, the play and company were so well received that after the first performance on Monday the management arranged for a return date in three weeks' time. Mr. Windermere is now looking out for a West-End theatre whereat to introduce *Where is William?* to a London audience at Christmas.

Great improvements have been made in the lighting of the auditorium of the Theatre Royal, Bath, during the recess by the placing of electric brackets around the circles. The vestibules have also been repainted, thus greatly brightening the appearance of this historic house.

The new play by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies, which will serve as Mr. Cyril Maude's autumn production at the Playhouse, will be called *A Single Man*. The piece is said to resemble the same author's successful play *Cousin Kate*, produced at the Haymarket in the June of 1903.

Mr. R. F. Douthwaite has been appointed acting manager at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, in succession to Mr. Ernest Dixon.

The Lyceum, Ipswich, we understand has been leased for seven years to Mr. W. H. Savery, the manager of the Benson (North and South) Shakesperian Companies, in conjunction with Messrs. Murray King and Clark, the lessees of the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. The theatre during the vacation has had its annual redecoration, so that the new managers start well equipped for what it is hoped will prove a prosperous enterprise.

Popularly regarded as the German "Ellen Terry," Fräulein Gertrud Giers has died at Lucerne after a serious operation. She began her career as an actress in Cologne at the age of 16, and for some years only appeared in the chief tragedy rôles of Shakespeare and Goethe. She greatly admired the distinguished English actress, and adopted her interpretations of Shakespeare's heroines. Fräulein Giers performed in many cities of Europe and America, and was received with much favour in this country. She retired from the stage some fifteen years ago and settled at Lucerne.

Mr. Edward Compton will on Monday commence another long tour, extending from August 8 to Whit-week, 1911. During the autumn Mr. Compton will spend a month in Ireland, and in the spring will make a two months' stay in Scotland, during which time he will visit all the important towns in the North. Mr. Compton is now in his thirtieth year of tour with Old English comedy, and during that time has worthily upheld the best traditions of the theatrical profession. In the August number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* there is a very fine article on Mr. Compton and the old comedies, with several very good photos. It gives a concise history of the actor's career, and also some very interesting anecdotes.

Mr. Compton has now several touring companies on the road, being interested, in conjunction with Mr. Wentworth Croke and Mr. Milton Bode, in the tours of *The Bishop's Son* and *The Dawn of a To-morrow*. The Garrick Theatre, where *Billy's Bargain* has been going so successfully, is also being run by them. Owing to Mr. Weedon Grossmith's prior engagements in America, it will be necessary shortly to withdraw the attractive "sensational farce."

Miss Florence Baines has just concluded a very successful tour of the South, and notwithstanding the fact that the play, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, has been touring for the past six years, this is the first time that it has been taken into southern towns; in fact, with its continuous tours in Lancashire and Yorkshire, a prejudice was created that it was only suitable for Northern towns. To set this aside, Miss Baines toured Australia and New Zealand. The play is in Devonport this week, and its performance there on Bank Holiday is described by the *Western Daily Mercury* as the funniest show ever seen on the boards of the Metropole Theatre.

Mr. Oscar Asche, during his recent visit to Australia, had the opportunity of contrasting the wig-makers of the Commonwealth with those of London. "I have been asked," he said to a representative of the *Melbourne Herald*, "whether I tried very hard to get the Spanish wigs I required for *The Honeymoon*. I can only say that my representative called on a number of Melbourne firms and was unable to obtain them. The question of having the wigs made never entered into my mind, as they were wanted in two or three days. If any Australian wig-maker can copy, in accordance with requirements, in three days—one day longer than the London wig-maker can do it in—a wig of mine that I will hand them, I will give them double the price paid in London and will donate £10 to any charitable institution that may be selected.

"While it seems to me that a good deal of excellent work may be turned out in Melbourne," continued the popular actor, "is it reasonable to expect that, with the small demand here for theatrical wigs, they should be able to make these of the quality, and in the time, of a London wig-maker, like, say, Clarkson, upon whom the late Coquelin, Sarah Bernhardt, and other leading French actors and actresses, as well as practically all the leading London theatrical people, have bestowed, and bestow, their patronage? Sarah Bernhardt goes specially to London to Clarkson to have her wigs made. It does not seem reasonable that Melbourne wig-makers should, therefore, assert that they can equal the work, both as regards time and quality, of such skilled wig-makers, and the fact that I was unable to obtain the wigs I required in time supports my contention."

It is no easy thing to enter and become a pupil at the French Conservatoire. On the contrary, only a certain number of pupils are taken, and the entrance examination is exceptionally hard, especially for foreigners. "I have known English girls who have gained great honour in their own country," says a writer in the *Court Journal*, "attempt in vain to pass the golden portals of the Paris Conservatoire, and under all circumstances there is always a period of waiting before the admission can be obtained.

"It is the branch consecrated to dramatic art which, according to Sarah Bernhardt, Le Bargy, and Muratore, is in most need of reform. At present there is one, and one only, director of the whole institution, whereas there should be a separate one appointed for each branch of work, and one who would understand the particular needs of each. Then Sarah Bernhardt, the greatest actress of the age, would like particular attention to be paid to the qualifications of pupils before they are admitted to the study of dramatic art—youth counts for much, physical beauty, a clear voice—and absolutely impartial judges at the examinations.

"Le Bargy, whom as an actor we have all appreciated in England, would actually like the male pupils to study the methods of the English comedians! What a triumph for our Teddy Paynes, George Grossmiths, and George Graves! They have the unqualified approval of the great and impeccable Le Bargy! He also advises all pupils to visit museums and study the great works of art in painting and sculpture, and he would like to see scholarships founded which would enable pupils to travel and observe the methods employed by actors and actresses in England, Italy, and Russia."

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Allan Wilkie, Mr. John Paley undertook the part of Malvolio at the matinée performance of *Twelfth Night* at the Opera House, Buxton, on the 23rd ult.

The Lyceum production of *The Fighting Chance* started its tour at the New Theatre, Cardiff, on Monday. The play has met with a brilliant reception, and promises to beat anything yet sent on tour by Popular Playhouses, Ltd. The tour is under the direction of Mr. Ellis J. Preston, and the company, an exceptionally strong one, includes Messrs. Austin, Milroy, Sidney Vautier, Arthur Elwyn, and Misses Marie Duncan, Dorrie Roberts, and numerous others.

Mr. Henry Wolston sailed on Saturday per s.s. Norman for South Africa. The previous Thursday Mr. Wolston was approached by Mr. Walter Melville with regard to a visit to Africa to play the leads in his répertoire company. At first he naturally thought that the notice was too short, but at five o'clock the following evening decided to accept Mr. Melville's offer—quick work undeniably. Mr. Wolston has done exceptionally good service in this country. The last part he played in England was that of John Storm in Hall Caine's play *The Christian*, in which part he scored a success.

A new farce, entitled *Lovely Women*, by Paul Rubens and Harold Whitaker, figured among the Old Stagers' performances at Canterbury this week, and was produced on Monday. Mr. Whitaker himself appeared in the piece, and the clever company of amateurs included Lady Susan FitzClarence, Mrs. Charles Crutchley, Miss Sylvia Campbell, and Mrs. Hugh Brodie.

"The Bad Girl of the Family," which has enjoyed such remarkable popularity at the Aldwych, has reached the Antipodes, and had its first production at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth, Western Australia, on July 9. The melodrama, which, it will be remembered, is from the pen of Mr. Frederick Melville, was played by Mr. George Marlow's company, with Miss Nellie Fergusson in the title-rôle.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Playwright and Stableboy.

It is singular that the claims of Thomas Holcroft, stable boy, actor, playwright, novelist, and translator, were entirely overlooked in the celebrations of centenaries last year. It is now over one hundred years since he died, and his *Road to Ruin* has brought success to many a theatre. Holcroft, the son of a shoemaker, horse dealer, and pedlar, was born in Orange-court, Leicester Fields, on Dec. 10, 1745. His father's fortun fell so low that he was compelled to become a pedlar, and he and little Tom tramped the country trading in pottery, rags, buckles, buttons, pewter spoons, or anything else that would turn an honest penny. After an interval in a stable-yard at Newmarket, hungry, friendless, and penniless, he accepted an offer, due to a chance meeting with Macklin, to join a theatrical company in Ireland.

A One-night Production.

After seven years' wandering on the Continent, during which he acquired proficiency in French, German, and Italian, he came to London just at the time when Sheridan became manager of Drury Lane. But engagements were not to be had for the asking, and as a last desperate resource he wrote his comic opera *The Crisis; or, Love and Fear*, which Mrs. Sheridan was induced to read. It was performed at Drury Lane Theatre in May, 1776, for one night only.

A Vagabond Author.

His experiences as a strolling player were turned to account in his novel, "Alwyn; or, The Gentleman Comedian," where he is disguised under the name of Hilkirk. His first comedy *Duplicity*, a piece in five acts, was first performed at Covent Garden, Oct. 13, 1762; but after a few nights the play was withdrawn. He succeeded better with his translation of Beaumarchais' *Mariage de Figaro*, for which he had gone to Paris, and with his friend Bonneville he visited the theatre until they were almost letter-perfect in the words. This brought him £600. For his translation of the King of Prussia's works he received £1,200.

His Masterpiece.

His *Road to Ruin*, it is said, carried his fame into every corner of the Kingdom where there was a playhouse, and his profits were £1,300. But the joy of success, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, was marred by the tragedy of his eldest son, who, after robbing him of £40, had committed suicide. He wrote several sacred dramas. The closing years of the century saw him in Hamburg, a fugitive from his creditors; and the printing business which he established on his return to England ended in complete failure. Then came long illness, ending with his death in Clipstone-street, Marylebone, on March 23, 1809.

St. Swithin and the Summer Closure.

Mr. Stephen Fiske writes in *Sports of the Times*: "St. Swithin was finally abolished this year. It is strange that the silly superstition of the foolish curse of a mythical monk should have endured through so many centuries; but there are others just as silly. A moment's reflection would show that, if a monk's curse could control the weather for thousands of years and at distances of thousands of miles, the annual changes of the calendar would bring St. Swithin's day into another month. In New York there was a fair test. Not a drop of rain fell on Friday, July 15, sacred to St. Swithin, and according to tradition we should have had no rain for forty days and nights. On the Saturday night and Sunday morning it poured, and St. Swithin was drowned. The coolness that followed was most refreshing. But to say that we must expect hot weather in July is like saying that twice one makes two. Whether the theatres should close on account of the heat is a different question. I believe that all the year-round theatres are a necessity is every well-regulated metropolis, and that the public would soon grow up to them and support them.

Bernard Shaw and "Reward."

Mr. Mervyn McPherson, the secretary for the Western Counties of the Anti-Socialist Union, according to the Bath *Chronicle* of the 4th inst., made an extraordinary speech at an Anti-Socialist meeting in that town. He said although Mr. George Bernard Shaw, the author, was a Socialist, he did not believe he would write his plays unless he thought he was going to get a reward for them. He (Mr. McPherson) on one occasion discussed Mr. Bernard Shaw with an actor who got a large number of plays from Mr. Shaw.

Moral Approbation and Bargains.

Mr. Shaw talked of moral approbation, and said under Socialism men would produce works of art for the community; but when Mr. Shaw produced his wonderful plays he did not produce them for the good of the community or for moral approbation, but he was in the habit of striking a harder bargain with actor-managers than any other playwright with whom they dealt. Mr. McPherson said he did not blame Mr. George Bernard Shaw for getting all he could for his plays, but he did blame him, inasmuch as that while he bargained for the last halfpenny for his work he said that under Socialism a man was going to write plays and give them to the world for moral approbation.

"My Little Dutch."

I've got a pug—a wee Dutch pug—she's most loquacious,
She has the sweetest, quaintest ways, when not rapacious;
She hath a soul (for souls dogs have, there's no denying),
But *tho'* she *tries* to do her best, she's very trying.
In eating things she shouldn't touch she is voracious,
Of all the *dogs I've* met she is *the* most audacious.

I call her Jane—just wee plain Jane—our unmix'd blessing,
Jane! whose fawn-hued form was *made* for much caressing;
She rules the house, and mischief she is e'er inventing,
She spends her days in doing wrong and then—repenting.
You can't an angry word to Jane be oft addressing,
From her *one* look appealing is—so distressing.

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues, published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

Cicero and Mal-de-Mer.

"One of the most curious errors as to seasickness," says the *Daily Chronicle* "Office Window," "is that it is a suffering which the sturdier ancients did not know. The statement has been made over and over again, in French and in English. Really there is plenty of allusion to the trouble in the ancient classics. Above all there was that bout of sea-sickness which, according to Seneca, cost Cicero his life. It was so bad that rather than endure it any longer he put back to land, risking certain death at the hands of Mark Antony's agents if they caught him, as they did. Our very word 'nausea' is simply Greek, meaning literally 'shippiness.'"

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Emma Litchfield, Produced at the Elephant and Castle on Monday, Aug. 1.

Hubert Ainsworth ..... Mr. Arthur Hinton
Wolfsfang ..... Mr. Graham Winsford
Lonely Star ..... Mr. Travis Green
White Eagle ..... Mr. Gerald Byrne
Sir Walter Kingsley .. Mr. G. Moreton Williams
Billy Twiggle ..... Mr. Tod Squires
Little Lennie ..... Master Max Gumpert
Dakuta ..... Mr. Harry Sidney
Lynx ..... Mr. Davine Allen
Servant ..... Mr. Ardan Barne
Laguna ..... Miss Maud Evans
Jeannette ..... Miss Nellie Richmond
Black Duck ..... Miss Laura Wright
Lady Grace Kingsley .... Miss Emma Litchfield
Wild Rose ..... Miss Lil Zillwood

Effective lines and situations abound in the interesting romantic drama *His Indian Wife*, Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's autumn production at the Elephant and Castle. The opening scene is an Indian Encampment, where we learn that Hubert Ainsworth, a wealthy Englishman, prospecting for gold and big game hunting, has been seriously injured and taken prisoner by a tribe of Indians. He has been nursed back to health by Wild Rose, the daughter of the chief, White Eagle, and the girl has fallen in love with him, although he is quite unaware that he has her heart. Two of the tribe, Wolfsfang and Lonely Star, love the daughter of their chief passionately, and the former is for having Ainsworth killed—Lonely Star, being content to rely on the verdict of White Eagle—who has always been a just and good ruler. White Eagle himself is an Englishman who, some twenty-five years since, left home in disgrace, he having been blamed for offences committed by younger brother. White Eagle informs Ainsworth he may go unharmed if he will wed Wild Rose; but the Britisher is not inclined to marry anyone he is told to. The devoted Lonely Star tells Ainsworth of Wild Rose's love for him, and decides that if she weds the Englishman he will watch over them, and Ainsworth is not long in making up his mind to marry the Indian maiden when he has seen her. The act ends with White Eagle offering Ainsworth his liberty without imposing any conditions whatever; but the latter prefers to stay with the tribe and make Wild Rose his bride.

In the next act, Sir Walter Kingsley's bungalow, eight years later, Ainsworth calls on Sir Walter, an eminent physician, to ask him to come at once to White Eagle, who is seriously ill. Sir Walter's wife, Lady Grace, cherishes an unholy pasison for Ainsworth, whom she has known years before in England. Indeed, she has a locket with a secret spring, which holds a portrait of the hero, and an inscription beneath, in which she confesses her love for him. When she meets him she speaks disparagingly of his Indian wife; but he is too happy with Wild Rose and their little son Lennie to listen calmly to the jealous woman's cruel outpourings, and tells her plainly what he thinks of her. Then it is that she is determined to separate the devoted couple. Ainsworth has bought a revolver in a case for Lennie, and Lady Grace obtaining possession of it, places therein the locket and a note which will arouse the jealousy of Wild Rose, who will open it. The plan works admirably, and Wild Rose is greatly distressed at the thought that her husband is unfaithful to her, and faints. Further mischief is wrought by Wolfsfang, who, finding the note by her, and recognising the great similarity between her writing and Lady Grace's, tears off the signature and nails it to a tree. Ainsworth, coming on the scene, and finding it, imagines Wild Rose has a lover, and without asking for an explanation, leaves her. There is a very affecting scene here, where little Lennie endeavours to reconcile his father and mother, and also some very effective business where the youngster frequently thwarts Wolfsfang, and threatens to shoot him if he dishonours Wild Rose. There is also an exciting knife duel between Wolfsfang and Lonely Star. In this act Sir Walter Kingsley, who turns out to be the younger brother of White Eagle, comes to the Indian encampment to make reparation for his conduct of years ago, offering to give up his title and estates. White Eagle, however, is quite happy with the tribe, and decides not to leave them.

In the third act—the Ballroom at Ainsworth Hall, Hubert is seeking consolation in the brandy bottle, but he cannot forget his Indian wife and youngster, and has made a drawing of them, which he shows Sir Walter Kingsley. Lady Grace in this scene declares her passion for him, but he indignantly tells her to leave the house, Sir Walter, who has overheard the conversation, thanking him for saving his honour. Once again Lady Grace implores Ainsworth to become her lover in a later scene (Hubert Ainsworth's Bedroom) with the same result, and here he learns who it was that wrote the letter which has caused all the unhappiness. Persuading Lady Grace to confess all to her husband, and endeavour to make amends for the mischief she has wrought, he starts off post haste for the Indian forest.

Here he meets his Wild Rose, but she is not inclined to forgive him for his cruel treatment of her. The intervention of Lennie and the advent of Lady Grace, who confesses all, lead to a reconciliation between husband and wife. Then it is discovered that the boy is missing. He has been taken away by Wolfsfang to the cave of the Mad Medicine Man, there to be slowly tortured to death. Only one of the tribe knows the trail, Lonely Star, and he is dying. The devoted Indian, however, will make one last effort to save the lad he loves, and he just manages to crawl along to the cave in time to prevent Dakuta, the Mad Medicine Man, from completing his horrible work. He has previously despatched Wolfsfang, and dies happy in the knowledge that he has saved the child of the woman he loves.

A capital all-round presentation of the play was given by the excellent company engaged, Mr. Arthur Hinton being a manly and convincing exponent of the part of the happy-go-lucky Englishman of the first act, his handling of the later episodes, particularly the bedroom incident with Lady Grace, being very praiseworthy. Very impressive, too, were the scenes with Wild Rose, a part that was cleverly portrayed throughout by Miss Leila Zillwood. Miss Zillwood both looked and acted the part of the devoted young Indian girl admirably, her performance being a very natural, easy, and meritorious one. The malicious Wolfsfang was convincingly played by Mr. Graham Winsford, the hatred of the Indian for the paleface and his passion for Wild Rose being skilfully shown; Mr. Travis Green as the faithful Lonely Star submitted an impressive and thoroughly sound enactment; a dignified and altogether excellent representation of the chief, White Eagle, was submitted by Mr. Gerald Byrne; Mr. G. Moreton Williams did all that was possible with the rather unconvincing character of Sir Walter Kingsley, playing admirably throughout; and the boy Lennie was naturally and amusingly represented by Master Max Gumpert. The authoress herself undertook the unthankful rôle of Lady Grace Kingsley, and skilfully indicated the woman's ungovernable passion for Ainsworth, her acting in the later episodes being very good indeed. The abundance of comic relief was mainly supplied by Mr. Tod Squires as Billy Twiggle, Ainsworth's manservant, and his droll antics, amusing sayings, and ludicrous behaviour, generally were the cause of much mirth on Monday. He was ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Nellie Richmond as an alert and astute French maid, and by Miss Laura Wright as the massive and comical negress, Wild Duck. The other parts were all carefully and capably played. The drama was excellently mounted and put on, the picturesque Indian Forest scenes being especially admired.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, Produced at Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, Aug. 1.

Nick Carter ..... Mr. J. Forbes Knowles
Eustace Lee (Capt. Nero) .. Mr. Raymond Thomas
Dave Crowley ..... Mr. William Burgess
Bill Colson ..... Mr. Reginald Turner
Rathburne ..... Mr. L. C. Utley
Bud Mason ..... Mr. Richard Nugent
Inspector Lilson ..... Mr. J. Turnbull
Horatio Timmins ..... Mr. Harry C. Momber
George Slade ..... Mr. Will Ellythorne
Mr. Kentz ..... Mr. J. H. Royce
Robert Fisher ..... Mr. A. Sinclair
Matilda Timmins ..... Miss Nellie Fern
Bessie Timmins ..... Miss Nancy Lawrance
Stephanie ..... Miss Nellie Shirley
Nancy ..... Miss Nellie Waddington
Wardress ..... Miss Eva Kenyon
Cyril Carter ..... Little Hilda Vokes
Madeline Carter ..... Miss Helena Walbran

This, the latest production from the pens of those well-known playwrights, Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, is likely to prove as popular as any of its predecessors, and was accorded a flattering reception on its production on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich. The play opens with Nick Carter married to Madeline. Previously she had been forced to marry Eustace Lee, *alias* Captain Nero, the chief of a gang of thieves, supposed to have died in prison, but who obtains his release under the guise of a fellow-criminal whom he greatly resembles. Madeline and Nick Carter are on a visit to Horatio Timmins' villa at Epping, where Madeline encounters Eustace Lee, who, having heard of her marriage, taunts her, and tries to get her into his power. At a critical moment Bud Mason, traitor of the gang, turns up; also shortly after another member, Dave Crowley, who denounces Mason to the gang. Captain Nero shoots Bud Mason with Nick Carter's revolver, which Madeline had in her possession for her protection. The police are raiding the place, and all the gang escape by a secret passage, except Madeline, who has been decoyed to the rooms of Captain Nero by Stephanie. Nick Carter arrives with a posse of police, and finds his wife with a revolver in her hand and the dead body of the traitor Mason lying at her feet.

In the opening of the second act, Timmins, a bank messenger, is "enjoying" his monthly "day off," his blustering wife making him do the housework, which the down-trodden, henpecked "hubby" does to the best of his ability. There is also the daughter and her fiancé, George Slade; the comedy provided by this quartette in this scene and others relieving the severe tension of the play. Madeline is incarcerated for attempting suicide; but, owing to the extenuating circumstances in connection therewith, is released, and on leaving the prison she is met by her husband Nick, who begs her to return to her home and boy. On a promise of secrecy, and that the boy shall never know his mother's shame, she consents to return. Meantime, the boy has been kidnapped by the Captain's orders, so that he has a hold over Madeline should she inform against him. Nick then pleads with her to explain to him the mystery that surrounds her, which, after a deal of coaxing, she does. He swears to run the Captain to earth, and rid himself of the monster.

In Inspector Lilson's office, in Act III., Nick Carter explains to his chief a scheme whereby he has hopes of ensnaring the Captain at the rendezvous of the gang, the Mulberry Tree Inn, kept by one of their members, Crowley. Here the Captain's first wife, whom he has discarded, is a drudge and kitchen wench, and is usually under the influence of liquor. Nick disguises himself, and, as previously arranged, relieves Timmins of his watch, &c. He then makes off, but is captured, and on being searched nothing is found on him. Crowley, however, after Nick has been released, produces the stolen articles from the lining of Nick's hat. Under a threat of handing him over to the authorities, Crowley extracts a promise from Nick to join the gang, as they are short-handed. After plentifully supplying him with liquor, he is handed a drugged tankard, and whilst his "new pals" are out of the room he sprinkles some upon the floor and his clothes to give an odour, and throws the remainder out of the window. The "medicine" has apparently done its work when the gang return, and they decide to make him the false scent should the police detect their scheme. They plan to rob the guard's van, in which is being despatched a safe with specie value £180,000. Whilst in the middle of their conversation an old member arrives, and by a mark on the sleeping man's clothes penetrates the disguise, and unfolds the person of Nick Carter. Nick receives a rough handling, and finally is bound, and a rope is passed round his neck; another, which would release a trap-door, is placed near a lighted candle, which, when burnt to a certain distance, would destroy the cord, release the trap, and hang Nick. Mr. Timmins, who has become an amateur detective, arrives on the scene and saves the situation, and averts the terrible death which would have befallen Nick. Whilst this is taking place Colson returns, and a terrific fight ensues, extending from the house-top, through a skylight into a stable. There, of course, Nick foils his pursuers, and gets away.

In the last act, which opens in the banker's office, Nick explains a conversation he has overheard in connection with the plot to rob the bullion van at a siding. He obtains the bank manager's consent to his plans, which will not only enable him to save the gold, but also his wife and child, who are in the power of the Captain. To the driver of the train, who is none other than George Slade, Bessie's fiancé, he gives instructions to come to his help if required. The Captain's gang, who are at a disused hut near the siding, where Madeline and Cyril are prisoners, leave to make final preparations for their coup, when Madeline escapes, and runs to the "points," pulls the lever over, and thus shunts the train on the wrong line. The bullion van, which has been detached, is left behind, and the gang proceed to plunder it; but are surprised to find, on opening the safe-door, Nick Carter instead of money. In the fight which ensues Nick is wounded and placed on the metals. Madeline, while reversing the lever, is fired at by the Captain. The two shots had been the signal given by Nick Carter to the driver, Slade, who, with police and railway men, comes to his relief and captures Nero and his accomplices.

As Nick Carter Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gives a forceful rendering of the detective, his acting being most powerful and refined. The crafty subtleness of Eustace Lee, *alias* Captain Nero, was admirably depicted by Mr. Raymond Thomas, as also is that of his tool, Crowley, as enacted by Mr. William Burgess. Mr. Reginald Turner does well as the ticket-of-leave man, Bill Colson, and is ably supported by Mr. Richard Nugent as Bud Mason. Mr. Harry C. Momber extracts a large amount of fun from the part of Timmins, his scenes with his wife, as played by Miss Nellie Fern, being very humorous. They receive valuable assistance from Miss Nancy Lawrance as Bessie and Mr. Will Ellythorne as George Slade. Miss Nellie Shirley enacted the decoy, Stephanie, to a nicety. The Nancy of Miss Nellie Waddington was a capital study of a difficult part; Little Hilda Vokes was charming as Cyril Carter; and Miss Helena Walbran as Madeline was delightful.

Mr. Eric Williams, the well-known elocutionist, is continuing his successful series of recitals in the Concert Room of the Cliftonville Hotel, Margate, before large and appreciative audiences. The recitals will continue throughout the season.

"MARGARET CATCHPOLE."

Costume Drama of Real Life, in Twelve Scenes, by Walter Frith, Produced at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, on Saturday, July 30.

John Luff ..... Mr. Laurence Irving
William Laud ..... Mr. Frank Esmond
Jim Cook ..... Mr. A. Field Fisher
Jack Barry ..... Mr. Rupert Harvey
Edward Barry ..... Mr. Henry Elmore
Lieut. Blount, R.N. ..... Mr. Cyril Cattley
Ripshaw ..... Mr. J. Arnold
Lord Chief Baron Macdonald .. Mr. Jas. Skea
Mr. Wake ..... Mr. William Barnet
Dr. Stebbing ..... Mr. Charles Seymour
Will Rickes ..... Mr. James Woodhouse
Philip ..... Mr. William Fane
Captain McCutcheon ..... Mr. J. P. Carter
Gaffer Wilkins ..... Mr. Charles Roberts
Woolly Jim ..... Mr. Albert Dodd
Landlord ..... Mr. P. Simmonds
Mrs. Clayton ..... Miss Beatrice Swanton
Kate ..... Miss Enid Stoller
Sarah Barker ..... Miss Alice Inman
Mrs. Palmer ..... Miss Katherine Herbert
Polly ..... Miss Vera Wallace
Susan ..... Miss Lola Norman
Granny Russell ..... Miss Nora Carter
Margaret Catchpole ..... Miss Mabel Hackney

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Margaret Catchpole is a story of real life, having been dramatised by Mr. Walter Frith from Mr. Cobbold's chronicle published under the same title. At the close of the first performance Mr. Laurence Irving intimated that people expressed surprise when he and his wife went on the music halls, but the money requisite for that production had been earned by himself and Miss Hackney on the halls, and it remained to be seen whether he would lose that money. The character of the Suffolk heroine is potentially great in a dramatic sense, but Mr. Frith's great fault is lack of unity. He calls it a costume drama, but could have styled it pure unadulterated melodrama. The redeeming feature is that the acting, as would be expected from the principal names on the programme, is much better than one is accustomed to see in melodrama of this character.

At the Priory Farm, near Ipswich, at a sheep-rearing feast we are introduced to Jack Barry, the brother of the local Preventive Officer. Jack, in response to the demand for a toast, declares his love for Margaret, and his admiration for her constancy to her smuggler lover, Will Laud. Later Margaret admits her folly to Jack but protests her inability to let her good sense control her affections. Jack leaves her, and the evil genius of the piece, the leader of the smuggling gang, and the sworn and secret enemy of Margaret herself, the crafty-looking John Luff, enters with a present from Laud. Luff adds that he is anxious to have a good look at the pretty Margaret, who is constantly spoken of by Will. Upon his departure Margaret examines the present, and is in high spirits when her lover enters. Margaret, after vainly endeavouring to persuade him to give up his evil ways, is lured to Nacton Creek to see a cargo "run"—a most effective scene. Old Luff and a confederate are seated at the foot of a rock. Luff relates the story of how he was once shot and lamed by the father of Margaret Catchpole, now dead. Her brothers had left the country, and nothing remains but to take revenge out of the girl. His villainy is apparent, and we are prepared for the attempted abduction of Margaret when she appears. But Jack Barry, always a faithful suitor, arrives at the convenient moment, and there is a struggle for possession of the girl. Laud fires his pistol, and Barry drops wounded. The smugglers clear off as the Preventive Officer and his men rush forward. Barry, for Margaret's sake, tells his brother he does not know who shot him.

In Scene 3 Jack has recovered from his injury, and receives Luff, who announces that Will Laud has been drowned. Jack breaks the news to Margaret, and again vows his love for her. Mrs. Clayton, an Ipswich lady, arrives, and engages Margaret to undertake domestic service; but before the curtain falls Margaret decides to view the bodies on the beach, and see for herself whether Will is a victim of the boating accident. But we soon find that Will is not dead, for outside the Gates of Orwell Park Old Luff once more is attempting to turn Will against Margaret with his fictitious stories of her unfaithfulness; but the adventurer is obstinate, and quarrels with the old villain. Will is a daring sailor, upon whom depends the success of all Luff's smuggling adventures, and he schemes successfully to get him pressed for the Navy. Will is taken by the Press-gang to the naval vessel when he is planning to run away with Margaret. After a time in the Navy Will returns with his guineas to royster at the Salutation Inn, but here again he is reminded of Margaret by the inevitable Luff, who is still intent on the most diabolical scheme of revenge.

To test Margaret's fidelity Will visits the Claytons, but Margaret refuses to see him, not knowing his identity, and he leaves an insulting message for her. Jack Barry also pays a visit, and seeks her love. He leaves a Bible and £50 in notes on the table, and Margaret hands the money to Mrs. Clayton to keep for her. Her peace is short-lived, for she is again confronted by Old Luff, and being anxious to see Will again she is easily bluffed. He persuades her to "borrow" her master's best horse to follow Will to London, whither Luff pretends that he has gone by coach. Margaret is captured on the way, brought back, and finally condemned to death for horse-stealing. The Assize scene is greatly exaggerated and ineffective. Limelight is thrown full on Miss Hackney's face, while others in the scene are almost in darkness, and only her clever acting saves the situation. After Margaret's reprieve and five years in gaol, there follows her meeting with Laud, and her escape with his connivance. They make for the shore (a pretty scene), but she is captured by the Excise officer, brought to the scene by the ubiquitous Luff just in the nick of time to prevent her being murdered by Laud, who is killed by a bullet from the Preventive officer's pistol.

Luff, however, is not done with. Margaret is reprieved once more, but transported to Botany Bay. After a time she receives a free pardon through the good offices of Jack Barry, now a prosperous Colonist. A few minutes after her arrival at Barry's house, Barry himself being on his way from Sydney with the free pardon, Luff arrives, all the viciousness of his character embittered by three years in the penal colony. His plan is to kill Barry and steal his money for the purpose of making his escape. Finding Margaret he schemes to make her an instrument of his design, and then to kill her, leaving her dead with a stained record. This is, of course, frustrated by an arrow from the unerring bow of "Woolly Jim," a black servant, and Margaret is left to live happily with Jack Barry.

There are twenty-four actors in the play, but Mr. Irving as Luff and Miss Hackney as Margaret are, of course, the most prominent. Both give convincing representations of their respective characters. Mr. Irving's study of the old, scheming smuggler is superb, being in no way exaggerated, as no doubt it would be in the hands of a less experienced actor. Miss Hackney's part is a trying one, but she is equal to all demands, whether in emotional or natural situations. Of the remainder of the company, considerable praise is due to Mr. Frank Esmond (Will Laud) and Mr. Rupert Harvey (Jack Barry), who rendered admirable support.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Aug. 4.—An utter dearth of novelties has marked the past week. The theatres are, with few exceptions, open, and by no means ill attended, for Berlin is full of visitors and foreigners, as is the usual custom at this season of the year. The managers, however, knowing that their regular audiences are absent from town, contenting themselves with repeating the bill of last season for the benefit of country cousins. A remarkable number of new plays will be produced as soon as the coming season commences, which will be in about five weeks' time. The Royal Schauspielhaus intends reviving Molière's *Tartuffe*, with new scenery and costumes. The translation used will be that of Dr. Ludwig Fulda, one of the best of that eminent writer's works. Herr Staegemann will give the title-rôle, Frau Nascha Butze the Dorine, Fräulein von Mayburg the Elmire, while Herr Krausneck is cast for the part of Orgon, and this forms a quartette of excellence that cannot well be surpassed. A novelty of great interest is the latest drama of the Dutch playwright Herr Hermann Heijermans, which bears the title *Die neus Sonne* (the new sun). This is the first time that any piece of his has been produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus. Herr Heijermans, who has been a resident for many years in Berlin, writes his plays in German as well as in his native language, and they are usually performed simultaneously in this city and Amsterdam.

"Der Kampus" is another new play announced for early performance at our Royal theatre. Hermann Bahr, the well-known Viennese writer, is the author. The two leading rôles are to be given by Frau Butze and the admirable comedian Herr Vollmer. The novelty which is arousing the most interest in managerial circles, however, is a three-act comedy by Paul Ernst, which, under the title of *Der Hulla*, will first see the footlights at the Royal Schauspielhaus, with Herr Kainz in the chief character. The best of things are reported of the work: it is said to be full of graceful wit and fantastic in the extreme. It is an intrigue comedy in the style of the Spanish. Haroun al Raschid, the famous calif of the "Thousand and One Nights," and Mustapha, a poet, are the principal figures of the play.

At the Hebbel Theatre a one-act conversational comedy, *Ein Kuss auf der Redoute*, by the Austrian playwright and publicist Herr Raoul Auernheimer, was put in the bill last night as a curtain-raiser to *Wem gehört Helene?* the risky farce that is so long holding the boards. There is very little to be said in praise of the piece except its brevity. It was acted so briskly that it took away the breath of the audience, and seemed ended before it had commenced.

Two old friends are still running here—*Charley's Aunt*, at the Thalia, where it recently celebrated its 800th Berlin performance, and *Alt-Heidelberg*, which has begun a successful revival at the Volks Oper. Both have been attracting large summer audiences. The Thalia is about to produce a new farce entitled *Polnische Wirthschaft*, and the house will be closed for several nights before.

The Berliner Theatre has made a tremendous hit with the four-act play *Taifun*, by Melchior Lengyel. It has passed its 150th performance, and is still proving an attraction. The rôles of the Japanese doctors are remarkably well played, and the success of the piece is well merited.

The Berlin *Lokalanzeiger* has been publishing some highly-interesting details regarding Frederick the Great's autocratic sway in the realm of art, whereby it is seen that the monarch was as strict in the management of his theatres as he was in military matters, and we now know whence the present Emperor got his amiable despotism. The great King had no opinion of German histrionic art or that of any country but one. French authors and actors were alone worthy of his consideration, and he took no notice of anything else. An extract from one of the many dictatorial letters His Majesty wrote to Baron Arnim (the director of the Royal Theatres) is entertaining. Referring to the then famous prima donna, La Mara, he wrote: "She must sing the arias as I wish to have them sung and drop her obstinancy, unless she wants to share the fate of her husband. He, by the way, is to remain under arrest until further orders. On the other hand, do not overstep your own authority: remember you are not vested with monarchical power. All you have to do is to obey my commands, and that considerably better than you have done lately." That the King, nevertheless, could be on occasion very careful of his artists' feelings is shown by his treatment of the handsome French-Italian dancer, La Barberina, who was a special favourite of his. One of his letters to the lady runs: "I have given my director orders, Mademoiselle, in no wise to overburden you. I would merely request you to be so very kind as to dance when the opera ballet requires it. Regarding comedies, the decision is left entirely to yourself whether you care to dance or not." La Barberina received a fixed salary of £1,000 as Court dancer, but there were many and very remunerative perquisites, for the King was generous enough when it pleased him to be so.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, August 2. Present—Mr. Robson Paige, in the chair; Messrs. Langford Reed, Henry Pettitt, Chris Walker, Basil Dean, Murri Moncrieff, C. F. Collings, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

In reply to a letter pointing out that a member was advertising for pupils and using the address of the Association, the secretary was instructed to say that such a practice was contrary to the rules of the Association, and that the Council strongly disapproved of it. It was further decided that a letter be written to the member referred to, drawing attention to the fact that she was breaking the rules of the Association, and asking her to be good enough to discontinue the advertisement.

Dr. F. H. Howitt, of Manor Park, Ilford, was unanimously elected an honorary medical officer of the Association.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Pereira and adopted.

Mr. Robson Paige was re-elected signatory at the bank.

The hon. solicitor reported on three cases.

It was resolved that, subject to Mr. Mote's advice, all cases of bogus management be submitted to the different managerial associations, so that united action might be taken.

It was agreed that all resolutions passed by the Council remain in force for six months, unless subsequently it be the unanimous opinion of the sitting Council that any resolution pased is prejudicial.

Elections.—Janet Hope, Rita Salvage, Agnes Thornton, Herbert Lester.

The secretary reported eight engagements through the agency. Miss Pereira suggested that scribbling paper be placed in the boxes in the writing room, and the attention of the members be drawn to the great waste in notepaper, which could be easily avoided if care were exercised. Miss Pereira also suggested the advisability of sending the illustrated papers monthly to the Charing Cross Hospital, or other institutions which extend their favour to the profession in general.

One of the leading "man dressmakers" of Paris, who designs for many of the French theatres, says that black, reds, and browns detract from a woman's height, while pink, white, and the lighter shades of green considerably add to it.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Rinking at Brighton.

Just now rinking is very popular in Brighton. The Olympia Rink, Church-street, is in tip-top condition, and even on a hot day a twenty minutes' spin over the floor of the "coolest rink in England" is quite invigorating. The Grand Skating Rink, West-street, which has been converted into the "Pop" Winter Gardens for the summer months, makes an excellent place for lunch, afternoon tea or dinner; and there is an excellent band in attendance.

Fun on Rollers.

The skating rink at Tynemouth Palace was crowded to the utmost capacity on the evening of the 27th ult., the occasion being a masked fancy dress and confetti carnival. Much of the success was due to the excellent state of the floor, the Richardson skates, the beautiful sea view, the bright and breezy music, the magnificent coloured limelight effects, and last, but not least, the untiring efforts of the courteous and affable manager, Mr. Knox, who was responsible for the admirable arrangements. The judges were Major Hunter, Mr. R. G. Elder, Mr. Van Gelderen, and Mr. R. Carling. Mr. T. R. Knox acted as M.C., and the prizes were presented by Mrs. Hunter, of Tynemouth. The prize-winners were:—Graceful Skating—Miss Smart, North Shields, and Mr. J. O. Miller, Tynemouth; Two-step Competition—Miss L. Garrick and Mr. J. Boocock, North Shields; Waltzing Competition—Miss McNamee, North Shields, and Mr. J. Boocock; Two-step (backwards) (gentlemen)—Mr. R. Noble, Tynemouth; Barn Dance—Miss Jolcey, Gateshead, and Mr. J. Miller, Tynemouth; Humorous Costume—Mr. M. Sager, Newcastle; Trade Costume—Mr. H. Tagar, Consett; Fancy Costume—Miss Oliver, Gateshead; Mechanical Invention Costume—Mr. A. Allan, Tynemouth; Costume representing a Variety Artist—Mrs. Bates, Tynemouth (Kitty Grey); Costume advertising Tynemouth Palace—Miss Robson, North Shields; Costume representing Tynemouth, Whitley, or Cullercoats—Miss Donkin, Cullercoats.

Skating Championship Race.

The race promoted by the proprietors of the Strand Rink, Grimsby, and held recently, for the mile championship of the district, proved one of the most attractive events ever held at this centre, crowds gathering to witness the competition. It was between T. Crome and W. Appleyard, of Grimsby, and the brothers A. and C. Lofthouse, of Hull, the quartette representing the fastest racers in the two centres. In the first heat T. Crome was drawn against A. Lofthouse, and after allowing the Hull man to make the pace for seven of the twelve laps, the Grimsby representative took the lead and maintained it with ease, winning a good race in 3min. 36sec. In the second heat, W. Appleyard got away on the first two laps, but then C. Lofthouse went to the front, and without ever being really challenged got first past the tape without any great effort in 3min. 38 4-5sec. The final produced a grand race, though from the start the Hull man took the lead, setting a fast pace. Crome kept close behind, and up to the tenth lap there was never more than five or six yards between them. Once only had Crome a chance to get to the front, but he did not take it, and on the eleventh lap C. Lofthouse opened out with a good eight yards to the good, his win being unchallenged to the end, when he led by fully five yards. His time was 3min. 32 2-5sec.

Carnival at Whitley Bay.

A masked and costume carnival was held on the 25th ult. at the Whitley Bay Skating Rink. Messrs. Wallace Bruce and Fred Hardy, both of Monkseaton, officiated as judges, and there was a large entry. Prizes were allotted as follow:—Most effective lady's costume, Miss Lightfoot (snake charmer); most original lady's costume, Mrs. Nicholson (fashions for all); most effective gentleman's costume, Mr. Little (representing Dr. Cook); most grotesque gentleman's costume, Mr. Roddham (organ grinder); best girl's costume (under 15), Miss Mona Elderton (Robinson Crusoe); best boy's costume (under 15), Master John Veitch (jockey). The judges considered Miss Dorothy Hardy, daughter of the rink manager, to have the most effective costume for girls under 15, but she was ineligible for a prize from the rink. Accordingly Mrs. Bruce presented her with a box of chocolates.

Fancy Dress Carnival at Portrush Rink.

A fancy dress carnival possessing many features of attractiveness was held on the Portrush Skating Rink on the evening of the 28th ult., and attracted a large assemblage of spectators. When the electric light flooded the building the scene was charming, the effect of the various costumes being most picturesque. The judge, Mr. Fred Jones, floor manager, had no easy task in deciding the prize winners. After about an hour's skating there was a grand march of the skaters, the prizes being awarded as follow:—Most effective lady's costume, Miss Adams, Rospherine, Strandtown, Belfast, whose costume was of red, white, and blue studded with tiny Union Jacks; most effective gentleman's costume, Mr. H. Benson, Ballymoney, who was dressed as a Viking chief; most original lady's costume, Miss Marjorie MacLaughlin, Breezemount, Coleraine, whose shoes were only visible to the spectators as she cleverly skated inside the case of a grandfather clock; most original gentleman's costume, Mr. David G. Christie, Fountainville, Coleraine, who presented himself in a mass of bandages, wore an eye shield, and propelled himself with a crutch, the whole make-up being in harmony with the wording, displayed on a large card on his back, "The Enthusiastic Beginner." Prior to the carnival a challenge skating race took place between Messrs. A. E. Anderson, Spring-gardens, Coleraine, and P. J. Mains, Lodge-road, Coleraine, Mr. Anderson proving an easy winner.

Rinking at Darlington.

In delightful weather, which, however, could hardly be described as in keeping with the event, the skating rink was on the 27th ult. reopened in Darlington with civic ceremony. Olympia, as the Mayor (Councillar P. Prior) remarked, is a very useful and welcome addition to the pleasures of Darlington, which hitherto has not been too well blessed in that direction, and by the great crowd of fashionably dressed ladies and gentlemen who attended the reopening, and afterwards circled the floor on rollers to the strains of the ladies' orchestra, roller-skating has "caught on" in the Quaker borough, and is likely to be renewed with additional zeal during the coming winter.

Norwich Rinkeries.

The proprietors have closed the old Spring Gardens, Norwich, and resumed roller skating at the Rinkeries, Rose-lane. There are three sessions daily, morning, afternoon, and evening, and notwithstanding the warmness of the weather each session has been well patronised.

Rinkology at Widnes.

On Saturday evening last, the Borough Rink, Widnes, the proprietor of which is Mr. Gar Kiddie, was reopened to the public after the summer vacation. Evidently the popularity of the pastime has not waned in Widnes, for since the inauguration night satisfactory patronage has been bestowed on the "Borough." Visitors had the pleasure of witnessing a most exciting hockey match, in which the Borough beat Halstown Rink Hockey Club by four goals to nil. The Widnes Empire Rink is also doing good business, and, like the Borough, relies for its chief attractions on hockey matches.

"THE KING OF PALESTINE."

Episode of Prophecy, by George Wells and another, Produced at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, Aug. 1.

Mischa Malaki .....John Lawson
Laban de Denmar .....A. Royston
The Lord Mayor .....J. H. Clyndes
General Hitchener .....A. Fitzmaurice
General Hergovitch .....C. Stafford
Muriel de Denmar .....Miss Lucille Sidney

One is always prepared for something out of the ordinary in a new sketch with which the name of John Lawson is associated, and his latest production, *The King of Palestine*—an episode of prophecy, written by George Wells and a "well-known journalist"—is no exception to the rule. A fantasy with many dramatic moments and a stage setting such as has seldom, if ever, been seen on the variety boards, it held the attention of the audience throughout its presentation, and there can be little doubt that it will take its place with the many remarkable successes in Mr. Lawson's répertoire. At the rising of the curtain—time, some years hence—we witness an international congress of the Powers, a number of foreign representatives gloating over the imminent downfall of the British Empire. Great Britain, we gather, is practically in the hands of the enemy, London being left to the mercy of the Boy Scouts. Australia and South Africa are in danger of being taken; and our Dreadnoughts are nearly all disabled. In allotting different portions of the British Empire, the delegates disagree considerably as to who is to have England, no one seeming particularly anxious to possess Ireland or Scotland.

Then enters Mischa Malaki, a Jew, and President of the New Zion State. The Jews, after years of oppression, have found a home and friends in England, and as a consequence they are now rich and powerful, and out of gratitude the eloquent Israelite proposes to do all in his power to help Britain in her hour of need. The other representatives soon after depart, after sneering at Malaki, calling him a dog of a Jew, and generally insulting him. The spirit of great Disraeli then appears, and approves of the plan of action of the President, whom we next see returning to his home in Palestine. Here he meets with much opposition from Laban de Denmar, a Servian married to Malaki's daughter Muriel. Laban is an apostate from the faith. He is ambitious, and if he can get his father-in-law to abdicate he proposes to take his place as president. Malaki, however, is determined to help the "maimed lion," and after a powerful scene between the two men the Israelite gives instructions to a small army of secretaries as to the disposition of various troops, the airship fleet, and a large amount of money. Laban apparently repents, and is entrusted by his father-in-law with an important cypher message. This he reads, intending to telegraph it through to Britain's enemies. The traitor's plan, however, is frustrated by his wife, who cuts the wire and who eventually—"for Zion"—stabs her husband dead. In the last scene, the interior of the Guildhall, peace is declared, Britain having completely vanquished her enemies, and the Lord Mayor, in the unavoidable absence of England's monarch, after thanking Malaki for his timely assistance, crowns him King of Palestine!

Mr. Lawson made an impressive and dignified figure of Malaki, his impassioned delivery of his speeches and his impersonation throughout being a very effective one. The traitorous Laban de Denmar was admirably portrayed by Mr. A. Royston; and Miss Lucille Sidney made a sympathetic and charming figure of the young wife Muriel, especially good being her acting in the final episodes with her husband. The other parts were all capably undertaken. The "episode" was magnificently mounted, the Guildhall scene, with the splendid uniforms and ladies' costumes, being a very brilliant picture.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1¼; London Pavilion (5), 2⅜; London Pavilion Preferred (5), 4⅜; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empires (5), 4; Oxford (5), 6⅜; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 20s.; Tivoli, New (5), 6xd.

Charles Henry Smith, aged thirty-four, of 20, Winch-place, Deacon-street, Walworth, was charged on remand, on Thursday, before Mr. Fordham, at West London, with stealing £20 belonging to Exhibitions (Limited), Japan-British Exhibition, Shepherd's Bush. Defendant, it appeared, was employed as stileman at the "Witching Waves" Show, Japan-British Exhibition, and on Bank Holiday left to get his tea as usual, and never returned. He had with him the takings, which, the prosecution averred, amounted to £20. The police were communicated with, and the defendant was arrested on the following day.

When taken into custody by Detective Cameron, he said he was just off to the Isle of Wight to spend a holiday. A sum of nearly £5 was found in his possession, and he declared that that was the only money he took away from the exhibition. Detective Cameron informed the magistrate that the man had hitherto borne a good character, and left the army with a very good sheet. Mr. Fordham observed that, considering the number of men employed in a similar capacity at the exhibition, it was necessary to pass a sentence which should deter others from committing a breach of trust. He sentenced the defendant to four months' imprisonment in the second division.

The rendezvous of W. J. Churchill's famous minstrels at Llandudno might well be termed the natural amphitheatre, though the thousands of visitors to the neighbourhood of the Great and Little Orme call it the Happy Valley. Nature and Art were surely never more felicitously allied; and vast audiences drink in the fine air of the North Welsh hills and listen to sweetest melody at the same time. Mr. Churchill's popularity with visitors and residents alike is not a thing of mushroom growth, and he needs no greater testimonial than the fine audiences drawn daily to the charmed half-circle of artists, who combine so well clean fun and harmony. Mr. Churchill's season ends on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The head office staff and managers of the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., are having their annual outing on Sunday, the 14th. They will leave Paddington by the 10.35 for Windsor, where they will board the magnificent steam launch Britannia for a forty miles river trip through beautiful Thames scenery.

The party will consist of gentlemen only, and will be limited to 100. Friends desirous of joining the merry throng are cordially invited to make early application to the manager of any hall controlled by the company, or to Mr. C. Adams and Mr. Stevenson at the head offices, 39, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

The 669th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday, when the following were present:—Fred Herbert (chairman), Arthur Gallimore, Alf Herald, T. C. Callaghan, Jack Straw, W. E. Gillin, and C. Douglas Stuart. The weekly statement showed an increase of forty new members and receipts of £44 4s. 6d. Last week was a record one for business at the London office, sixty-one vouchers being issued and 753 concessions being secured. Mr. E. Seymour, of the Bell Hotel, Aberystwyth, was appointed agent, and the agency at Weston-super-Mare was transferred to Mr. W. Norman, of the Victoria Hotel, Weston-super-Mare.

"MYSTERY OF A HANSOM CAB."

New and Condensed Version of the Well-Known Play, Produced at the Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, on Monday, Aug. 1.

Brian Fitzgerald ....Mr. E. Howard Templeton
Mark Fretleby .....Mr. H. Gray Dolby
Roger Moreland .....Mr. C. C. Calvert
Mr. Calton .....Mr. Charles Daly
Oliver Whyte .....Mr. Jack Collinson
Kilsip .....Mr. Henry Rivers
Madge Fretleby .....Miss Gladys H. Walton
Rocanna Moore .....Miss Brenda Wilton
Mother Guttersnipe .....Mrs. Charles Daly
Sal Rawlins.....Miss Louisa Peach

(from our own correspondent.)

It is a good many years now since a young and unknown Australian suddenly leapt into fame as the author of an exciting novel, which immediately caught the fancy of the reading public of the whole English-speaking world. "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," without claiming to be a work of genius, or even of any particular merit as a literary effort, was just one of those books that appeal instantly to that vast section of the reading public who do not yearn so much after instruction in the fiction they devour as for the pleasant excitement of following the straightforward story containing a well-preserved mystery right up to the concluding chapters. The nearest approach to the success and popularity of Fergus Hume's book that readers of two decades ago will call to mind was Florence Warden's "House on the Marsh." But, while the latter did not readily lend itself to dramatic adaptation, the Australian novelist's work was recognised at once as containing all the elements of a popular stage-play. This honour was soon accorded to it: "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab" was dramatised, produced at the Princess's Theatre, and has kept the stage ever since.

"The drama's laws the drama's patrons give," and the patrons of the "regular" drama having accepted *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab* as an abiding dish, it was quite in the natural order of things that the patrons of the variety stage should demand a condensed version of the dainty. Thanks to the enterprise of Miss Louisa Peach, the condensation process has been applied to the play, and the result was presented before a Bank Holiday audience, which immediately set its mark of hearty approval on the venture. It is not stated who is responsible for the new adaptation, but whoever did it has done it well and truly. The well-known story is followed faithfully, all the salient points have been admirably retained, and the plot moves straight away from start to finish without a pause or so much as a false step. Relieved of all the "realistic" effects which are only possible in a play intended to form a whole evening's entertainment, the plot moves quickly but surely to the dénouement, and might even be taken as a model of how such work should be done.

Miss Louisa Peach has been fortunate in gathering around her a company admirably selected to do justice to the author's intention. Miss Peach herself appears as the "slum girl," Sal Rawlins, and adds to her long list of dramatic successes one of the greatest of all. She simply abandons herself to the vulgarity and noble-heartedness of the poor outcast, but her vulgarity—if, indeed, that be the right expression—is never allowed to approach within measurable distance of the offensive. The audience take this heroine of the slums to their hearts on her first appearance, and hold her there till the fall of the curtain. Miss Louisa Peach has never done anything better. Mr. E. Howard Templeton is a fine, manly Brian Fitzgerald, acting with quiet but convincing force and greatly helping to keep up the tone of every scene in which he appears. Mr. H. Gray Dolby is duly stiff and starchy as Mark Fretleby; the Roger Moreland of Mr. C. C. Calvert is a study of quiet and incisive villainy—cool, collected, and heartless. Oliver Whyte has a good representative in Mr. Jack Collinson; and Mr. Henry Rivers is unobtrusive as Kilsip. Miss Gladys H. Walton is bright and agreeable as Madge Fretleby, speaking her lines with admirable clearness. In her one painful scene as Rosanna Moore Miss Brenda Wilton makes a great impression, her delivery of the dying woman's somewhat lengthy speeches never being allowed to become wearisome. Perhaps the most perfectly artistic performances of the evening are supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Daly. These sound actors belong to a good old school—a school which taught its pupils to fill in every moment with appropriate by-play, to enunciate every syllable with its due weight and emphasis. Mr. Daly's performance of the old solicitor, Mr. Calton, is an object-lesson to the younger generation of players. Mrs. Daly's Mother Guttersnipe is perfect; the maudlin drunkenness of the besotted old hag is splendidly realistic, while kept within artistic limits. If it be possible to admire a female, even on the stage, dying of *delirium tremens*, Mrs. Daly is the actress to force our admiration. The play is admirably put on the stage.

Encouraged by the success of the new pavilion recently built on the promenade at Westbrook, the Margate Town Council have unanimously decided to build a much more commodious undercliff pavilion and winter garden, abutting on to their new promenade which has been constructed under the cliff at the Fort. It is proposed to cut the cliff back nearly to the present band-stand on the Fort, and to utilise the roof of the Pavilion as a continuation of the promenade. The plans show a hall 150ft. long by 80ft. wide, giving a floor area of 12,000 superficial feet, less the amount of space taken up by the stage, and the height of the room will be 30ft. The approach to the hall and winter garden from the Fort will be by a wide road at a gentle incline, and the entrance for pedestrians will be by this road or by terraces. The estimated cost is £20,000. The Westbrook pavilion has been built and many other improvements have been effected out of the surplus from the municipal entertainments, in addition to which £2,000 has gone direct to the relief of the rates, and it is anticipated that this new pavilion will add materially to the Corporation's profits. The scheme is to be completed by next season.

Mr. George Robey has been retailing to a Liverpool paper a few stories which relate to his fondness for practical joking. Thus: "It was at Liverpool that the idea of a practical joke occurred to me. Another member of the company and myself were going to London by a train that was usually crowded, so I determined to try and get a compartment to ourselves by frightening everyone else away. We got to the station early, chose our seats, and then I stuck winkle heads all over my face with spirit gum, and wrapped a dirty towel round my head. Everyone who came along shunned me like the plague, and several who got in without noticing me made every conceivable excuse to get out again. One old gentleman, having arranged all his bags, rugs, and other impedimenta, almost had a fit when at last he put on his glasses and saw me.

"He was bound for London like ourselves, but, to escape, pretended to have got into the wrong train, and my friend helped to bundle him, rugs, bags, and all, into one on the other side of the platform, which started before he could get out again, and which was not due to stop till goodness knows where! Evidently complaints were made to the stationmaster, for when we stopped at Leicester the fever cart was on the platform and frantic officials rushed up and down trying to find the plague-stricken individual of whose presence they had no doubt been warned by wire. Fortunately, I had 'cleaned' up meanwhile, so their search was fruitless."

NEW HERNE BAY PIER PAVILION.

The Lord Mayor of London, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Sheriffs Rolls and Slazenger, visited Herne Bay on Wednesday to open the new Pier Pavilion. Among those present were Alderman H. E. Davis, Mayor of Gravesend (proprietor of the Gaiety, Chatham), and other Kentish Mayors. The visitors were met on arrival by Mr. E. H. Ramsey, chairman of the local council, who told the history of the pier. He said that the first pier was opened in 1832, and that it was an important factor in the conveyance of passengers from London to Canterbury and other parts of Kent. When the railway was constructed, however, the pier was allowed to fall into disuse. It was pulled down in 1872. It was replaced and opened in 1873 by the then Lord Mayor of London. In 1895 a new company was formed to construct a longer pier. That was commenced in 1896. The company had varying fortunes, and in 1908 the Council acquired it under Act of Parliament for £6,000—a small sum. The council were going to endeavour to show that under municipal control success could be achieved. The pavilion about to be opened had cost just over £5,000, and was part of an expenditure on the pier of £26,000.

Before declaring the pavilion open the Lord Mayor inspected about a score of Army and Navy veterans who are living at Herne Bay, and also several troops of Boy Scouts who are camping in the neighbourhood. The veterans he praised for the services which they had rendered to their country, and pointed to them as examples which the boys should be proud to follow. Cheers were given for his lordship, and the guests moved towards the new pavilion. But the boys were not satisfied; they wanted a further inspection and more speeches, and so the Lord Mayor told them that he was glad to see so many well-set-up boys, and urged them to do with earnestness and thoroughness every task they commenced.

Then the boys demanded a speech from the Lady Mayoress, and after some hesitation her ladyship consented. Boys were such funny things, she said, that she hardly knew what to say. She would tell them a story. A class was being inspected, and a Scottish boy was asked the meaning of the word "regenerated." "Born again," he replied. "Would you like to be born again?" asked the inspector. "No," was the emphatic answer. "Why not?" For some moments the boy hesitated uneasily. "I might be born a wee lassie," he said at last.

After formally opening the pavilion with a golden key, handed to him by Mr. Percy Waldram, one of the architects, the Lord Mayor attended a luncheon presided over by Mr. Ramsey, the popular comedian Mr. Charles Coborn delighting all with his singing of "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo."

The building provides a spacious and lofty auditorium with an exterior of simple but pleasing design. The general construction consists of a steel framework securely bolted to the pier substructure framed in with timber and covered externally with wood and with plaster inside. The main proportions were largely governed by the necessity of selecting a general cross section of particularly strong form, and the necessity of providing against severe wind pressures upon every part has considerably affected the details. Fortunately, as is not infrequently the case, it was found that the exact dependence of the material of the frame to do its work in the most efficient manner has resulted in general lines which give an impression of not ungraceful strength.

The auditorium is 133ft. long and 94ft. 6in. wide, the main columns being 75ft. apart, and is 35ft. high to the centre of the ceiling. The floor is to be covered with rock maple for roller skating. The stage, 50ft. by 26ft., will accommodate a large operatic company, and ample provision is made for artists, including no fewer than six private rooms for principal artists—an important point in securing high-class musical and theatrical talent. The sides of the auditorium are partly closed with collapsible screens, which in fine weather will be opened, and in the remaining parts of the walls eight wide double emergency doors are provided, in addition to the four large main entrance doors.

The auditorium will seat an audience of 2,000, and the stage being raised somewhat higher than usual, obviates as far as possible the disadvantage of a necessarily level floor. A large ventilation trunk will be constructed in the roof, exhausting the air through four large ceiling openings to the large central turret, which forms the chief external feature. Considerable attention has been given to the ceiling curves with a view to securing the best acoustic properties.

A buffet and tea-room, 25ft. by 25ft., are arranged on each side of the entrance vestibule, approached from the pier through entrance lobbies. Sculleries and accommodation for gas-cooking are arranged in connection. Turrets are formed in the roof to thoroughly ventilate these, and the cloak-rooms and lavatories, and are made prominent features in the external design.

A wide promenade has been formed all round the building, with wide staircases to the pier and the auditorium lobbies, and with ample space for sheltered seats.

The design was selected in public competition, the assessor, appointed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, being Mr. E. T. Hall. Mr. Percy J. Waldram, F.S.I., and Messrs. Mascrop-Young and Glanfield are the joint architects.

The entertainment manager is the experienced Mr. Arthur J. Barclay.

Investigation was made by the Watford Bench on Tuesday into the sensational train incident which occurred at Bushey on July 6 last. A man named John Burke, aged 22, of Govan, was found in a first-class carriage of a train from Euston with his throat cut, after having been requested to leave another compartment owing to complaints made against him by Miss Jessie Templeton, who was travelling to Bushey to visit some friends. The accused was committed for trial.

An anonymous writer to a Glasgow paper denounced the methods of training animals adopted here by many "smiling foreigners" armed with huge whips. On behalf of the Volpi Italian Circus, Mr. Edwin Gilley at once took up the cudgels and showed that cruelty was no part of the training adopted by the Bros. Volpi in the training of their dogs, monkeys, &c., as could be seen by anyone who cared to attend their daily rehearsals.

The directors of Moss' Empires, Ltd., have resolved to pay an interim dividend on the ordinary shares for the half-year to June 30, 1910, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. The transfer books were closed on Thursday, and will remain so up till and including Aug. 12.

Mr. Ernest Clifford returns to town on Aug. 15, and opens at the Standard (ninth visit) and the Paragon with new songs, which have proved a big hit in the provinces.

Reginald Payne, one of the most versatile actors we possess, opened at the Hastings Hippodrome last week as the King in Mr. Frank Elliston's excellent costume sketch, *Long Live the King*, and showed a deep knowledge of stagecraft and technique in his portrayal.

Mr. Arthur Verne, who from October of last year to May of this was an in-patient of the National Hospital, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, and was afterwards progressing so favourably during a stay at the seaside, has, we regret to hear, had a relapse, and is again compelled to keep his bed

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

July.

2nd.—Last night of *The Lyons Mail* at the Queen's.
5th.—Theatrical Sports at Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham. Miss Violet Vanbrugh presented the prizes.
6th.—Fête and Gala at Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, in aid of Music Hall Benevolent Institution.
11th.—Opening of the new Britannia Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth.
12th.—Report of the sub-committee of the Theatres Alliance on the Censorship Committee's Report adopted by the Alliance at a general meeting.
13th.—Annual general meeting Music Hall Sick Fund, Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, Mr. Wm. Bailey presiding.
14th.—Laying of foundation-stone of the new Royal Academy of Music in Marylebone-road by Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.
16th.—Marriage of Mr. Frank B. O'Neill and Miss Mary Vincent at Hampstead.
17th.—Water Rats' third annual motor run to Brighton.
18th.—Inquest at the Islington Coroner's Court on the remains of Mrs. Crippen (Belle Elmore).
19th.—Annual meeting of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music at the Royal Society's Rooms, Burlington House.
19th.—Inquest on the body of T. Weldon Anderson (Weldon Atherstone), mysteriously murdered in the back garden of a flat at Battersea on July 16.
21st.—Music Hall Sports in aid of Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham.
22nd.—A meeting of actors, variety artists, musicians, and theatre employees, held at Terry's Theatre under the auspices of the Sunday Defence Committee, passed a resolution urging the prohibition of the opening of theatres by way of trade on Sundays.
23rd.—Mr. Forbes Robertson addressed a meeting at Cardiff in support of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre.
25th.—Marriage of Mr. Frank Curzon and Miss Isabel Jay at St. Dionis', S.W.
25th.—Opening of New Theatre Royal, Barry Dock.
25th.—Opening of Shakespeare Summer Festival at Stratford-on-Avon. Mr. F. R. Benson presented with the Freedom of the Borough.
26th.—Bill to amend and consolidate the law of copyright introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Sydney Buxton.
27th.—Nineteenth annual meeting of the New Tivoli, Ltd., at the Tivoli, Strand, Mr. Henry Tozer presiding.
29th.—Judgment was delivered for the plaintiffs in an action brought by Mrs. Barrasford (as executrix for her late husband) and Mr. F. Macnaghten, lessees of the Britannia Music Hall, Hoxton, against Mr. George Gray to recover £130 as liquidated damages for alleged breach of agreement to appear at the Britannia during the week commencing Dec. 3, 1906.
30th.—Last night of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the New Theatre.
30th.—Last night of Opera season at Covent Garden and of the Beecham season of opera comique at His Majesty's.
31st.—Miss Mary Rorke read a paper on "The Artistic Side of Woman's Life" at the Roman Catholic Congress at Leeds.
31st.—Arrest of "Dr. Crippen" on board the s.s. Montrose off Father Point for the alleged murder of his wife.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.

The unique entertainment given at the perfectly-equipped St. George's Hall by Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant can always be relied upon to interest and amuse, and the programme presented at the reopening on Monday was quite up to the usual standard, being pleasantly varied and entirely enjoyable. Mr. Owen Clark, a clever conjurer, presents a series of magical problems, among which may be mentioned a clever hat trick, a mystifying plate-smashing and restoring feat, some particularly clean coin manipulation, and other novel and bewildering experiments. In the second part of the programme Mr. Clarke gives a selection from Mr. Devant's répertoire of illusions and mysteries, including the "Cones of Confusion," "The Little Chantecler," "The Mascot Moth," and "Beau Brocade," the latter an especially well-worked and perplexing illusion. Not the least enjoyable feature of Mr. Clark's entertaining interlude is the running fire of humorous remarks which accompany the performance, and his clever contributions to the programme are loudly applauded. Memora, the "human encyclopædia," answers rapidly the numerous and difficult questions put to him by members of the audience, and is seldom caught tripping, and he certainly appears to have the world's history at the tip of his tongue. His novel and interesting turn is keenly appreciated.

Mr. Maskelyne is reintroducing his famous automaton "Psycho," claimed to be the most wonderful and scientific android ever constructed, and such a marvellous mechanical figure should certainly prove a big attraction. "Psycho" puzzled London audiences something over thirty years ago, and Mr. Maskelyne asserts that it still remains a scientific problem. Many imitations were forthcoming when it was first presented to the public, but they were soon exposed, and in one instance a diminutive human being was discovered in the "mechanical" figure. "Psycho," however, is open to close inspection, and the sceptic is permitted to gaze through his body and examine the glass cylinder and plinth on which the head and bust of the Indian figure rest. Three gentlemen from the audience were invited on the night of our visit to join him in a hand at whist, and "Psycho" manipulated his cards quite by himself, always putting down the correct one, skilfully smoking a cigarette and gazing with Oriental indifference at the play of his human partner and opponents. Certainly a most wonderful and puzzling figure.

A delightful quarter of an hour is spent in the company of Mr. Archie Naish, the clever and resourceful humorist at the piano. A droll impersonation of a waiter who had previously been a cabby; a skit on the classical pianist and his "audience"; and a screamingly funny mock melodrama are but a few of the items in a most enjoyable interlude, and the audience showed their appreciation by generous applause. Animated pictures are also a much-appreciated item.

The programme concludes with the magical farce *The Scarab*, the many mysterious and laughable incidents which happen in Sandiman's private museum at Hampstead to all those who for the time being possess the scarab being most mirth-provoking. It may be mentioned that the scarab is a large emerald gem taken from the neck of an Egyptian mummy, the owner of which has only to wish for a thing and it is granted. Particularly funny is the incident where Harriett, the maidservant, holding the jewel in her hand, longs to be dressed like a lady, and in the twinkling of an eye a complete transformation in her appearance takes place. The coming to life of the mummy, the sudden appearance of the safe and its evil-looking occupant, and many other wonderful doings are all executed with marvellous rapidity and smartness, and the farce is capitally played by the clever little company responsible for its presentation, Messrs. W. Mayne, E. Arnold Mussett, E. Morehen, Charles Glenrose, A. Booth, and Miss Ida De Verrell all enacting their parts admirably. The evening's enjoyment is also contributed to considerably by the selections of the excellent little orchestra under the direction of Mr. F. Cramer.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 8.

Alone in London.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Angel of His Dreams.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Another Man's Wife.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Arcadians (N.).—Blackpool.
Arcadians (S.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T. R., Whitehaven.
At the World's Mercy.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—County T., Kingston.
Beggar Princess.—T. R., Bradford.
Best People, The.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Black Mask.—T. R., Leeds.
Booth, Junius.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Brass Bottle, The.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Bulmer, Mr.—T. R., South Shields.
Candida.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Pier, Hastings.
Charley's Aunt.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Christian, The (Draper).—T. R., Lincoln.
Cingalee (A.).—Lytham and Colwyn Bay.
Compton Comedy Co.—Buxton and Doncaster.
Country Girl, A.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
Country Girl in London.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Dairymaids, The.—Aberystwyth and Llandrindod Wells.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Daughter of the Sea.—West Stanley.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—Grand T., Fulham.
Dear Little Denmark.—Tunbridge Wells and Folkestone.
Diana of Dobson's.—T. R., Morecambe.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes').—O. H., Harrogate.
Dolly Reforming Herself.—T. R., Hanley.
D'Oyly Carte.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Draycott, Chas.—Bedford Leigh.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
Earl and the Girl.—Borough T., Stratford.
East Lynne (Watt).—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Eve of Her Wedding.—P.O.W., Mexborough.
Every Inch a Man.—Empire T., Oldham.
Facing the World Alone.—P. T., Preston.
Fast Life.—Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Marlborough T., N.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—T. R., Exeter.
Fighting Chance.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Florodora (Constant).—Broadway T., Stratford, E.
For Love and the King.—Crown T., Eccles.
For Old Times' Sake.—Star T., Swansea.
For Wife and Home.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
From Convent to Throne.—Bristol.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Girl's Cross Roads.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Girl Who Went Astray.—T. R., South Shields.
Glossop-Harris.—Bury St. Edmunds.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Havana.—Worthing and Weymouth.
Her Fatal Marriage.—T. R., Worcester.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—P. T., Portsmouth.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Dublin.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Worcester.
Her Nameless Child.—Palace T., Gloucester.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Chatham.
His Indian Wife.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
House Opposite, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Irving, Laurence.—Warrington and Buxton.
King and the Unknown Woman.—Accrington.
King of Cadonia.—Hastings and Folkestone.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Strabane and Portadown.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Londonderry.
Love of the Princess.—King's T., Manchester.
Lucky Durham.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Lucky Liza.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Man to Man.—T. R., Bury.
Marsh, Alexander.—Empire T., Swindon.
Maude, Winifred.—Palace T., Porth.
Merry Widow (Edwardes).—T. R., Plymouth.
Merry Widow (3).—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
Message From Mars.—O. H., Cork.
Midnight Mail.—Wolverhampton.
Miss Hook of Holland.—T. R., Worthing.
Miss Tommy.—Spa T., Scarborough.
Monte Cristo.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Mountaineers, The.—Londesborough T., Scarboro'.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
My Lady Bellamy.—O. H., Wakefield.
Naked Truth, The.—Grand T., Southampton.
New Boy.—Colosseum, Aberystwyth.
Nick Carter.—Palace T., Bordesley.
No Man's Land.—T. R., Sunderland.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Court T., Wigan.
Old Folks at Home.—T. R., Ashton.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Grand T., Douglas.
Our Miss Gibbs.—T. R., Margate.
Outcast of the Family.—T. R., Castleford.
Power of the King.—T. R., Sheffield.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Leeds.
Prodigal Parson.—Hippodrome, Keighley.
Proof.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Belfast.
Sexton Blake.—Grand T., Nelson.
Silver King.—T. R., Barry.
Smith (S.).—Eastbourne and Ramsgate.
Speckled Band, The.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Still Alarm.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Tantalizing Tommy.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Temptation.—T. R., Stockport.
Terry, Edward.—Eastbourne and Littlehampton.
Through the Divorce Court.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Alex. T., Widnes.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—O. H., Leicester.
Under the Iron Heel.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Under Two Flags.—King's T., Glasgow.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.
What the Butler Saw.—W. G., New Brighton.
When It Was Dark.—Met. T., Birmingham.
When Knights were Bold.—O. H., Blackpool.
When Knights Were Bold (S.).—Dalston T., N.E.
When London Sleeps.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
When Woman Hates.—T. R., South Shields.
Where is William?—Ventnor and Westgate.
Wilkie, Allen.—Whitby and Saltburn.
Woman of Two Lives.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Wrongs of Women.—Gaiety T., Worksop.

Rutherglen Skating Pavilion.

That well-built, commodious Pavilion known as the Rutherglen Skating Rink, situated at East Main-street, Rutherglen, is to be offered for sale by the auctioneers, J. and R. Edmiston, within the Faculty Hall, St. George's Place, Glasgow, on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The building was only erected about six months ago at a cost of over £3000, and is admirably adapted for the business of a rink or for cinematograph entertainments, being very centrally situated in a well-populated district. The subjects are held on lease, and the ground rent is £80 per annum. The low upset price is £1500.

West Stanley Rink.

The skating rink for West Stanley is still well patronised, each session being largely attended. Dancing competitions have been held during this week.

Bolton Magistrates and the Cinematograph.

The Bolton Borough Licensing Justices recently, in granting music licences to new cinematograph theatres now being built, said great care should be taken over the kind of pictures thrown upon the screen. They thought that the pictures ought to be of an elevating character, and they hoped that the Electric Theatres and other places where there were cinematograph exhibitions would not show the films of the recent fight in America or of any other fights. They hoped the proprietors would take note of the desire of the Bench, and if they acted accordingly it would be pleasing not only to the Bench but to the public.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

Anxious to Know.—*We will endeavour to ascertain, and let you know next week.*

Stanhope.—*We have no record of such a production in Paris, but will inquire, and endeavour to answer you more fully next week.*

A Regular Reader.—(1) *You might communicate with the lady through her agent, Mr. Tom Shaw, 18, Adam-street, Adelphi.* (2) *We do not know, and possibly he does not.*

M. Lowe.—*What Happened to Jones was produced on July 12, 1898, at the Strand Theatre. Of its American production we have no particulars in our Almanack of the year.*

Vocalist (Chesterfield).—*We know you are right as to the singer of "Tommy, make room for your uncle," but are not certain about the second. We will make inquiries.*

Della Ray.—*There have been many artists by the name of Ray. Music-hall nomenclature is very confusing and misleading to the uninitiated, and imitation is often adopted. There is no remedy.*

A. J. (Watford).—*L'Aventurière was adapted by Tom Robertson under the title of* Home, *of which the dramatic rights are at the disposal of Samuel French, Limited, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.*

A. H.—(1) *A licence is still necessary.* (2) *You should register at Stationers' Hall.* (3) *No time is needed. We should advise you to consult "Story's Dramatic and Musical Law" (price 5s.), published at this office, on the important questions raised.*

Percy H. Vernon.—*A Woman's Way was produced by amateurs at the Public Hall, Redditch, on Feb. 14, 1901; but there is no record of it beyond the mere mention of the title, which later was used for two sketches and a three-act comedy, produced for copyright at the Haymarket, April 14, 1909.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Sears.—On Friday, July 22, 1910, at 26, Lord-street, Southport, the wife of Harry Sears of a son. Both doing excellent.

MARRIAGES.

Barrett—Attewell.—July 28, at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, by the Rev. Hugh Chapman, George Barrett to Dorothy Florence Attewell.

Gordon—Huntly.—At Norwich, July 13, by special licence, Bert Gordon, son of Frank Lynne, to Violet Huntly. Thank everybody for good wishes.

DEATHS.

Estall.—George Estall (G. Ransford), of the late Ray and Ransford, passed away Aug. 1, after a short illness. Interment Aug. 8, from his residence, 49, Redclyffe-road, Upton Park. Mourned for by his wife and children.

Haines.—On Aug. 3, Mrs. William Haines (Amber Austa) passed peacefully away at 191, Lavender-hill, S.W. R.I.P.

Henry.—Aug. 1, Charles Henry (Frank), coloured comedian.

Hunter.—On July 30, at the home of her friend Mrs. Alec Romer, Ada Lillah Hunter, professionally known as Lillah Price, wife of W. Parke Hunter (Mays and Hunter). American papers please copy.

Plant.—On Tuesday, July 26, at his residence, Llwynymapsis, Oswestry, John James Plant, the beloved father of J. Lawrence Plant, aged 75.

Ross.—Aug. 3, at Liverpool, Mrs. Ross, professionally known as Amy Sivroni (of the Sivronis), aged 39.

In Memoriam.

Drescher.—Mother of Cleopatra and Bonita, who passed away Aug. 8, 1904, at Johannesburg, of enteric fever.

Six years have passed, and how we miss her!
Friends may think the wound is healed;
But they little know the sorrow
That is in our heart concealed.
She is gone but not forgotten,
Never shall her memory fade;
Fondest thoughts shall ever linger
Around the spot where mother's laid.

Haslam, Albert Anderton.—In loving memory of our dear father, who suddenly fell to sleep Aug. 5, 1909, at Sidmouth, Devon.

No eye to see
No hand to help;
Nor could he bid us all farewell,
But hope to meet in the glorious realm.

Still to memory dear.—Loved by Martha and grandchildren, Mary, Elizabeth, Albert, and George. Peace be his.

Hughes.—In loving memory of Richard Hughes, professionally known as Dick Cromwell, who died at Rotterdam, Aug. 9, 1906. Never forgotten by his wife and son. "He was one of the best." God bless his memory.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Frederick Wright, sen.—Saturday, Aug. 6.
Patricia Connaughton—Saturday, Aug. 6.
Billie Burke—Sunday, Aug. 7.
Huntley Wright—Sunday, Aug. 7.
Mrs. Cecil Raleigh—Monday, Aug. 8.
Barton McGuckin—Monday, Aug. 8.
Louis Karpe—Monday, Aug. 8.
Sydney Barraclough—Tuesday, Aug. 9.
Otho Stuart—Tuesday, Aug. 9.
Richard Vane—Wednesday, Aug. 10.
H. W. Royce—Thursday, Aug. 11.
Jessie Bateman—Friday, Aug. 12.

Mr. Thompson Carruthers will reproduce the comedy novelty *Up the Pole* at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, on Monday.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Ameta
Anderson, Miss Mary
Aoki Troupe
Arliss, Mr. George
Arntes, The
Ashley, Mr. F.
Barker, Mrs. G.
Barygo, Mr. M.
Bastow, Mr. Geo.
Beecham, Mr. Chas.
Birteno, Mr. T. J.
Blair, Mr. R.
Borello, Carl
Brown, Miss F.
Burgess, Mr. Arthur
Burleigh, Mr. Bertram
Bute, Mr. Henry
Cain, Mr. J. J.
Carlos, Mr. M.
Carne, Mr. Joseph
Carter, Mr. D.
Chalmers, Mr. K.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Chippendall, Mr. A. A
Collisson, Mr. C. H.
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Cook, Mr. Albert
Cook, Mr. C. E.
Cotton, Mr. Wilfred
Crawford, Miss Alice
Cronin, Mr. M. F.
Dagmar, Miss V.
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Dalton, Mr. Richard
Daly, Mr. Mark.
Danvers, Mr. Fred
d'Arbour, Mr. H. F.
Davis, Miss Bella.
Delroys, The
Douglas, Mr. George
Elton, Mr. Fred
Epitaux, Mr. Fred.
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fanning, Mr. H.
Finucane, Miss M.
Foley and Francis
Forbes, Miss Mary
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Chas.
Friedman, Mr. H.
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. A. F.
George, Mr. Chandos
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glenney, Mr. Charles
Glyn, Miss Ruby
Goddard, Mr. A.
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Gray, Mr. Cecil
Grayson, Miss Ethel
Grey, Mr. Vaughan
Grosvenor, Miss B.
Grundy, Mr. S.
Hare, Miss W.
Hartley, Miss Jessie
Healy, Mr. Robert
Hicks, Mr. A. J.
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Holt, Madam
Howard, Mrs. George
Howard, Mr. W.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Hetty
Kingston, Miss G.
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirk and Neil
La Dor Troupe
Landon, Mr. J.
Latham, Mrs. Jean
Lecard Brothers
Lennox, Miss Lottie
Leno, Miss G.
Leon, Mr. Chas.
Lesborough, Miss Violet
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Lestrade, Mr. Sid
Levey and Cardwell
Lloyd, Mr. James
Lopez, Mr. Stephen
Loraine, Mr. Robert
Lovell, Mr. and Mrs.
Luck, Mr. E.
Lukushima Troupe
Lupino, Mr. George
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Marshall, Miss M.
Martens, Mr. Hugo
Masco Twins
McDermott, Miss Ouida
McMerry, Miss
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Milner Trio, Prince
Morgan, Mr. C.
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Nero, Mr. M.
Neville, Mr. Harry
Nord, Miss Serene
Norman, Miss Lizzie
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Payne, Mr. Walter
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Prince, Mr. Sidney
Raymond, Miss Alice
Reed, Mr. Wilton
Reno, Mr. T. H.
Richmond, Mr. Arthur
Ridge, Mr. Pett
Rigby, Mr. Arthur
Rogers, Mr. Charles
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Romanos Trio
Roy, Miss Elsie
Russell, Miss Freda
Russell, Miss Helen
Russell, Mr. Sidney T.
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Sargeant, Mr. Herbert
Saxiones, The
Sauteron Wonders
Schofield, Mrs.
Seddons, The
Seymour, Miss Maude
Sivado, Mr. C.
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Standing, Mr. C. W.
St. Clair, Mr. Kent
Stapley, Mr. Kenneth G.
Stevenson, Mr. James
Steyton, Mr. Frank
Thattle, Mrs.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Thornton, Mr. R.
Van Dyck, Miss A.
Vernon, Mrs. G.
Waller, Mrs. Lewis
Watson, Miss Mabel
Zaida, Miss Florence

Blackmore's Theatrical Agency, 11, Garrick-street, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London." C. St. John Denton, Dramatic and Musical Agent, English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond

BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

The fourth annual excursion of the Belfast Royal Hippodrome staff took place last Sunday to Garron Tower, and a delightful day was spent. Close on one hundred made the journey. The arrangements for the "outing" were in the capable hands of Messrs. George Dobler (assistant-manager of the Hippodrome) and J. Robinson. In addition to the staff, amongst those present were Mr. Henry T. Downs (general-manager), Mrs. Downs, the Misses Downs, and Mr. T. Downs, Mr. Fred Wilby (stage-manager), Mr. Edgar Haines (chef d'orchestre), Mr. Arthur Charles (Charles and Russell), as well as Mr. Dobler. Other friends present were Mr. Will White (general-manager New Alhambra Theatre), Mrs. White and Miss Mabel White, Mr. Herbert Rogers (general-manager St. George's Hall, Belfast), Mr. Dave Simpson, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. Sam Landa, &c. Mr. Chas. W. Henderson (chairman of the directors), who motored from Belfast to be present at the dinner at Garron Tower, made a speech which was warmly received. A memorable day was spent.

In the action of Curzon *v.* Carlile, in the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Parker, Mr. Maughan moved on behalf of the plaintiff for an injunction to restrain defendant from producing and acting in a play or sketch called *King of the Road*, which was performed at the Surrey Vaudeville and the Bedford, Camden Town, on the ground that certain of the characters and incidents were identical with those in *Beau Brocade*, by the authoress of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

It had been performed in the provinces, and it was apprehended that this short and abbreviated form would be very injurious to the prospects of plaintiff's play. Defendant, who appeared in person, said that he had not adapted his sketch from plaintiff's play, but from the book. Mr. Maugham explained that what he asked for was a perpetual injunction, and for the payment of costs, which had been agreed. Defendant had asked as a concession that he might be allowed to continue his performance for two days, so as to complete, and plaintiff agreed to that. The injunction asked for was granted.

Miss Ghita Corri is making a big success this week at the Royal Court, Warrington, where she is topping the bill, as usual.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"*I'll swear upon that bottle.*"—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S

BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the Natural method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,

BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Mabie Rose Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK

ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1225 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE

SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.

THE ERA IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA" IN PARIS.

ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Apply or Address,
O. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 324-00.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening at 9.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"Alias JIMMY VALENTINE."
a New Play in Three Acts by Paul Armstrong.
The cast includes
GERALD DU MAURIER.
At 8.30, NINA GORDON at a Piano.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45; Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Aug. 8, at 7.45, Matinée Wednesday, at 2.30,
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous success of "FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
SCHICHTL'S MARIONETTES, THE UESSEMS,
HENRY HELME, OLYMPIA DESVALL, THORA,
THE ROYAL COLIBRIS, JURY'S PICTURES,
"ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
"HULLO! PEOPLE,"
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
Geo. Mozart, Emerson and Baldwin, Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson Clark, &c. Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Regina Badet, Myrma, Kauffmann Troupe, Nat M. Wills, Redford and Winchester, Bert Levy, Merian's Canine Actors, Goodwood Races on Bioscope, and Kinemacolour, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinées, full programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—MARIE LLOYD (9.45),
JOE ELVIN, in "W(h)ines and Spirits" (9.5), Chirgwin (10.30), King and Benson (8.5), Victoria Monks (8.40), Warsaw Bros., Daisy Dormer, Herbert Shelley, W. S. Wyndham, Kitts and Windrum, Milt Wood, Barney Armstrong, Queenie Essex, Tom Woottwell, Harry Grey, Talbot and Pearce, Edna Latona, Lotto Troupe, Devon and Earle, Ida Barr, Bioscope. Open 7.15; Sat. mat. at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
LITTLE TICH, THE TWO BOBS, T. ROY BARNES and BESSIE CRAWFORD, Tom Clare, Dutch Daly, Sam Mayo, May Moore Duprez, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane in "Buskers," Max Waldon, Anita Bartling, Queenie Essex, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Larola, Minnie Mace, Jose Collins, and THE TEN-KA TROUPE. Open 7.40. Saturday matinées 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Mark Leslie, Mabel Sinclair, Bros. Horne, Bessie Slaughter, Guy Rider, Marie Lloyd, Albert Mackelvin, The Selbinis, Cole and Rags, Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Horace Hunter and Co., in "Under Suspicion," Hammon and Wyatt, Daunton-Shaw Troupe of Cyclists, Mark Leslie, Olga Doré, Peter Kelly, Young and Evans, Cissie Thompson, Ruffell's Bioscope, Margaret Parker and Co., in "Her 21st Birthday."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Harry P. Selwyn's Company present "The Flood Tide." Bioscope, Albert St. Clair, Dott Moss, Conan and Doyle, Jack Warman, Nelly Taylor, Four Clares, Arthur Gallimore Trio, Randolph King. Artists must forward Bill Matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Aug. 8.
Ethel Grahame and Company, Pender's Cachous, Stan. and Stella Atkins, Cooper and Preston, Four Albertos, Nora Emerald, The Melbas, Bioscope, Ida Barr, Lena Fields, &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Aug. 8. Tarro Miyake, Chas. Whittle, Three Romas, David Noble and Co., Annie Schuberth, Lloyd Archer and Co., Gracie Lawn, Thompson Carruthers and Co., Syd Crossley, Four Sparks, Frank Jester, Nellie Nestle, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30; Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries.
Mr. MASKELYNE will introduce his famous Automaton, "PSYCHO," and prove that for 36 years it has remained a scientific and unsolved problem. "The Scarab," new magical farce, &c. Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1546 Mayfair.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
SECOND LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£ s. d.
Tree, Sir Herbert Beerbohm	50 0 0
Hawtrey, Charles	25 0 0
Maude, Cyril	25 0 0
Terry, Miss Ellen	20 0 0
Jay, Miss Isabel	10 10 0
Lilford, Lord	10 0 0
Spalding, A. F. M.	5 0 0
Howard J. Bannister	3 3 0
Wright, Huntley	3 3 0
Carew, James	3 0 0
Farrington, Rutland	2 2 0
Fredericks, Mrs.	2 2 0
Gladwin, H. Fane	2 2 0
Hallard, C. M.	2 2 0
White, J. Fisher	2 2 0
Shakespearean Festival, per Sir Herbert Tree	1 18 6
Addison, Miss Carlotta	1 5 0
Ainley, Henry	1 1 0
Bellamy, George E.	1 1 0
Burnett, Miss Gertrude	1 1 0
Goodrich, Louis	1 1 0
Haviland, Wm.	1 1 0
King, W. R.	1 1 0
King, Cecil	1 1 0
La Trobe, Chester	1 1 0
McCarthy, Justin Huntly	1 1 0
Paxton, Sydney	1 1 0
Sass, Edward	1 1 0
Syms, Algernon	1 1 0
Whelen, Frederick	1 1 0
Bell, Stanley	0 10 6
Braithwaite, J. W.	0 10 6
Green, Miss Dorothy	0 10 6
Murielle, Miss Grace	0 10 6
Schmid, Adolf	0 10 6
Weghelin, T.	0 10
Weston, Arthur	0 10
Addison, Miss Victoria	0 10 0
Anden, Arthur C., per W. W. Kelly, Esq.	0 10
Barry, Shiel	0 10 0
Berkeley, Henry	0 10
Carter, Hubert	0 10 0
Egerton, Lady A.	0 10 0
Lee, Miss Auriel	0 10 0
Lifton, Mrs. Keith	0 10
Morrell, H.	0 10 0
Playfair, Nigel	0 10 0
Shaw, Jules	0 10 0
Two Stratford Playgoers	0 10 0

BOX COLLECTIONS, BENEFITS, &c.

	£ s. d.
Benefit at Criterion Theatre	213 17 9
Electric Theatres	45 3 10
Matinée at St. James's Theatre, per the Rt. Hon. The Bishop of Ripon	25 0 0
The Star Sunday Evening Services, Swansea, per Wm. Coutts, Esq.	5 5 0
Messrs. Rayne's Date Book	5 0 0
" per "The Era"	3 0 3
Fulham Theatre	4 16 0
Borough Theatre, Stratford	4 0 0
Sunderland Charity Carnival	3 0 0
Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames	2 17 0
Daly Brotherhood, per Daly's Theatre	0 11 6
Moody-Manners Opera Co. Sports Club	1 11 0
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield	1 7 6
Theatre Royal, Brighton	1 1 0
Surplus, Lyric Theatre Wreath	0 9 6

SUMS UNDER TEN SHILLINGS:—
Anonymous, A. Bellew, Arthur Cleave, A. Scott Craven, Frank Esmond, Miss Helen Ferrers, W. G. Fay, Miss Elinor Foster, Green Room (His Majesty's Theatre), Wilson Gunning, Clifford Heatherley, Miss Marie Hemingway, H. C. Hewitt, F. James, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Maude Phillips, John Robertson, Claude Rains, Rooms 14 and 21 (His Majesty's Theatre), Eric R. Ward.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East,
and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Kiraka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as
the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. Vacant Oct. 3, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, onwards. Address, Charles Revill, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra.
Only Vacancy this year, Oct. 24.
No. 1 Companies only.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Now booking Autumn Dates for this year and Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD.
Corporation Theatre.
Lessees, Messrs. Henson and Davis.
The interior entirely reconstructed and redecorated. Comfortable Cloak Rooms, Lounges, and Smoke Rooms, &c., cost over £2,000. Tip-up chairs and upholstered seats in every part. The best equipped Theatre in the District.
Past business no criterion for the future.
Raked floor and new ventilating scheme. Leased solely to Messrs. Henson and Davis.
Vacancies Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and 20.
Re dates, apply W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 31.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant Spring Dates.
Sept. 5, 12, 19, and onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the
TOWN HALL THEATRE
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-19 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Nov. 7, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Address, William Morton.
ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
Charlotte-street, Hull.
The Melodramatic House
also under the management of Wm. Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Sept. 22, 23, 24, Sept. 26, 27, 28,
Oct. 3, 4, 5, Oct. 24 (six nights).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
March 27, April 10, 17 (Easter), 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 25.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and 21,
first-class attractions only.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Vacant
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 13, March 13 onwards.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
6, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

Price 5s., 8vo, Cloth. By Post, 5s. 4d.
THIRD EDITION.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain.

By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX. Pages.

Accidents, Compensation for 53, 209
Act of Paris 119
Actor, Illness of 11
" Incompetence of 16
Adaptations, Copyright in 110
Agents 129
" Award as to 131
" Commission 129
Apprentices 36
Arbitrator's Awards 219
Austria-Hungary, Copyright with 116
Author, Who is the 87
Awards, Arbitrator's 219
Ballets 66
Band Music 101
Barring Clause 41
Berlin Convention 119, 186
Berne Convention 116, 177
Bill Matter, Clause as to 34
"Book," Meaning of 85
Booth 65
Children on the Stage 60
Cinematograph, Rules of the L.C.C. as to 73, 238
Cinematographic Performances and Copyright 101
Compensation for Accidents 53, 209
Consideration for Contract 1
Contract 1
" Damages for Breach of 43
" Determination of 3
" Made by Letters 2
" Meaning of 1
" Music Hall 34
" Stamp on 3
" Theatrical 4
" Variation of Written 2
" With Infant 36
Copyright 83
" Assignment of 87
" Colonial 124
" Dramatic 83
" Essentials for 85
" in Adaptations 110
" in "Gag" 100
" in Situations 98
" in United States 120, 194
" International 1
" Licence to Perform 88
" Musical 84, 160
" None in Titles 90
" not Infringed by Cinematograph 101
" Performance 92
" under Berne Convention 116, 177
" Registration of 86
" Remedies for Infringement of 105
" Term of 89
Copyright Act, Dramatic, 1833 147
" " 1842 149
" " International, 1844 167
" " International, 1886 ..... 118, 170
" " (Musical Compositions), 1882 ..... 108, 160
" " (Musical Compositions), 1888 ..... 107, 162
" " Musical, 1902 ..... 114, 163
" " Musical, 1906 ..... 114, 165
County Council, Granting Licences 77
" " Regulations of London 234
Criticism 46, 125
Crowds may be a nuisance 50
Custom of the Profession 21
Damages for Breach of Contract 43
Dance, Performing Right in 100
Dancing, Licence for 74
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897 144
Disorderly Conduct in Theatre 46
Distance, how determined 42
Dramatic Piece? What is a 93
Dramatisation of Novels 102
Drunkenness no Excuse 16
Duologue, When a Stage Play 68
Excise Licences 80
Exits 234
Fines 17
Fraud in Contracts 3
Garnisheeing Salary 35
Hire, defined 71
Hissing in Theatres 46
Illness of Actor 11
Incompetence of Actor 16
Infants 36
Infringement of Copyright, Remedies for 105
Injunctions 37
International Copyright 116
Letters, Contracts made by 2
Libel 127
Licence, Excise 80
" for Children 60
" for Cinematograph 73
" Music and Dancing 74
" Lord Chamberlain's 70
" Provisional 70
" Stage Play 70
" Theatrical 64
Liquidated Damages 40
London County Council, Regulations of 234
Lord Chamberlain, Extent of Authority 68
" " Regulations of 232
" " Stage Play Licence 70
" " Stage Play Licence, Fees of 71
Management and Audience 46
Mechanical Instruments, Infringement of Copyright by 112
Misrepresentation in Contract 3
Mistake in Contract 3
Music, Copyright in 107
" Licence for 74
" and Dancing Licence 74
Musical Compositions Act, 1882 ..... 108, 160
Musical Compositions Act, 1888 ..... 107, 162
Musical Copyright Act, 1902 ..... 114, 163
Musical Copyright Act, 1906 ..... 114, 165
"No Play, No Pay," Meaning of 29
Novels, Dramatization of 102
Nuisance caused by Crowds 50
Opera, Copyright in 111
Owner of Unlicenced Premises Liable 64
Payment and no room 48
Penalties 71
" for unlicenced Music and Dancing 79
" for unlicenced Plays 71
" for sale of Intoxicating Liquors without Licence 82
" on unstamped Agreement 3
Performing Right 84
" " Term of 89
" " Registration of 86
Piracy 111
Plans of Music Halls 77
Plans of Theatres 68
Plays, Similar 97
Posters, when a Libel 127
Preferential Payment to Artists 35
Public Entertainment Act, 1875 142
Public Health Act, 1890 74
Public House 77
Public Performance 65
Public Place 65, 96
Publication, Meaning of 90
Representation, Right of 84
Retaining a Seat 51
Riots in Theatres 46
Room, Performance in a 65
Salary, Garnisheeing 35
"Season," Meaning of 25
Seat, Retaining 51
Seat, Sold twice over 51
Sketches, Agreement as to 67
Society of Authors 104
Song, When a Dramatic Piece 93
Song, When a Musical Composition 94
Sunday, Performing on 19, 73
Stage Play, Meaning of 66
"Starring" 34
Stationers' Hall 86
Theatres Act, 1843 135
Theatres, Closing of 27
" Patent 64
" Unlicenced 4
Title, Rights in 90
Translations 119
Troupe, Performance by 31
United States, Copyright in 120, 194
Workmen's Compensation 53, 209

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices.
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1910.

DEATH AND THE DRAMA.

Death has been prominently brought before the profession of late. The cheerful philosophy of the actor and actress makes them disinclined to dwell unnecessarily on the inevitable end of all, though when it comes they meet it with commendable courage and calmness. A striking example of this bright philosophy is the recorded reply of Charles Mathews, who, as he lay dying, accidentally drank the contents of a bottle of ink in mistake for medicine. When the error was explained to him, he enquired if he should also swallow a piece of blotting-paper. The training of the dramatic artist in self-control was shown by the behaviour of the young man who some years back at the Novelty Theatre was fatally stabbed by mistake in a scene in which one of the characters was killed by another in the play. The actor, urged by his companion, carried out the mimic death till the curtain fell, and passed away afterwards in the green-room. Mr. Birrell has sneered at meeting the King of Terrors in make-up and motley; but there seems no good reason why the uniform of one calling should be less fitted to die in than that of another. At any rate, the number of actors who have been called away while exercising their profession is considerable. The first instance on record is that of Molière, who was acting in his own play of *Le Malade Imaginaire* in 1673. At the fourth representation, in which he was performing the principal character, whilst engaged in the burlesque ceremony of receiving the doctorate, as he held up his hand to say the word *juro*—"I swear"—he fell down in a fit of apoplexy, and was carried off the boards senseless, to die within a few days without recovery of consciousness. The most noted instance is that of poor Palmer, in 1798, at Liverpool. The story of Palmer's death is usually told thus: He was acting the part of the Stranger at Liverpool in 1798, when, on uttering the words "There is another and a better world," he dropped dead on the boards. The version is not quite correct. A short while before he had lost his wife and his favourite son. This preyed on his mind, and he said to some friends that he thought his troubles would soon bring him to the grave. On the morning of the day of his death he was much dejected, and all the efforts of his friends could not rouse him from melancholy. In the evening he appeared in the character of the Stranger in Kotzebue's drama, and in the first two acts exerted himself with great effect. In the third he displayed evident marks of dejection, and as he was about to reply to the question of Baron Steinfort, relative to the Stranger's children, he became deeply affected, and made an effort to proceed, but broke down, overcome by his emotion. Then he fell on his back, heaved a sigh, immediately expired without a groan. The great actor Betterton was persuaded, when old and suffering from gout, to appear at the Opera House in the Haymarket in *The Maid's Tragedy*, by Beaumont and Fletcher, which was given for his benefit. He took the leading part—that of Melanthus. But he had suffered so greatly that in order to enable himself to appear he used violent medicines to reduce the swelling in his feet. This drove the gout to his head, and he dropped on the boards, to be carried out and die three days later on April 28, 1710.

William Bond, in 1735, also appeared on a benefit night as Zara in the great hall of the York Buildings, when he played the part of Lusignan, and as he was in the act of blessing his children—dramatically—he sank, was taken home on his chair, and died next morning. James Spillen, a clever comedian, was seized with an apoplectic fit whilst performing on the stage in *The Rape of Proserpine* on Jan. 31, 1730, and never recovered consciousness. On Jan. 21, 1741, *All's Well that Ends Well* was being enacted at Drury Lane, with Peg Woffington in the rôle of Helena. She suddenly fainted as she stood in the wings, ready to come on in the first act, and her part had to be read. The actor Milward, who played the King's part, became very ill, but was obliged to struggle through, after which he returned to his bed, and the piece was not put on the boards again till Feb. 10, when Peg Woffington had recovered and Milward was convalescent. Unfortunately he was put into a suit that proved too tight for him and had not been properly aired. He was seized with a shivering fit, and, seeing how ill he was, someone asked him what ailed him. He answered pleasantly, "How is it possible to be sick when I have such a physician as Mrs. Woffington?" The attack, however, proved fatal. In 1759, Patterson was enacting the Duke in *Measure for Measure*, and when he said:

Be absolute for death; either death or life shall
thereby be the sweeter:
Reason thus with life:— If I do lose thee,
I do lose a thing that none but fools would keep:
A breath thou art—

he sank into his fellow-actor Moody's arms and expired. In 1776 an actress, Mrs. Jefferson, looking on at a rehearsal, fell into the arms of the same actor, Moody, and with a sigh was gone. In 1794 Baddeley was dressed for Moses, and was preparing to come on when he was taken ill, and shortly after died. In 1799 Chickenham burst a blood-vessel whilst performing in Monk Lewis's play of *The Castle Spectre*. In 1817 Canning was playing in that favourite drama of Rowe's, *Jane Shore*. As he uttered the words "May such befall me at my latest hour" he reeled, dropped on the stage, and expired. The most famous instance is that of Edmund Kean. In 1883 he was acting the part of Othello. He had uttered the words, "Othello's occupation's gone," when he fell in his son's arms, and had just strength enough to whisper, "I am dying. Speak to them for me!" In 1850 Mrs. Glover took her last benefit, but was almost unconscious all the time she was on the stage, and died three days later. In 1858 Harley, whilst playing Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, was struck with paralysis immediately after having uttered the words, "I have an exposition of sleep come upon me." He had to be carried off the boards, and died within a few hours.

In 1861 James Bland was standing at the stage-door, prepared to come on in his part, at the old Strand Theatre, when he dropped down dead. In 1863 James Rogers, who had for some time been ailing, but had battled manfully with his disorder, and had evoked roars of laughter by his humour in a burlesque at St. James's Theatre, staggered off the stage, sank in an armchair, and gasped for his wife, who ran to him. He took her hand, and, looking lovingly into her face, quoted Mr. E. C. Blanchard's line, "The little ruffle is o'er," and was dead. In 1865 Miss Cotterell was seized with a fit whilst at a rehearsal, and expired. In 1872 Henry Barrett, after playing in a farce, expired in a cab.

Of late years these stage deaths have been rare, though it is a question whether the more lingering departure which is general is to be preferred to "dying in harness" in the earnest exercise of one's calling. There is something fine in the spirit which nerves the actor to struggle to the last, and to only yield up his vocation with his latest breath; and one of the finest instances of this heroism is the sudden death of Henry Irving at Bradford in 1905, soon after speaking on the stage the last words of Becket in Tennyson's play: "Into Thy hands, O Lord! Into Thy hands!"

A POPULAR THEATRICAL WEDDING.

Mr. George Barrett and Miss Betty Rutherford were fortunate in having a lovely day for their wedding, which was celebrated on Thursday, 28th ult., at the Chapel Royal, Savoy. The Rev. Hugh Chapman officiated and gave an address. The bride looked charming in a dress of soft white satin, with an overdress of chiffon bordered with pearl and crystal trimming of fringe. She wore a wreath of orange blossom and white heather, with an old Limerick lace veil, and carried a sheaf of Madonna lilies. Miss Dora Fraser, of Daly's Theatre, was the only bridesmaid, in the unavoidable absence of Miss Molly Seymour. She was arrayed in a dress of pale pink ninon and a large black hat, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations, the gift of the bridegroom, who also gave her a brooch. Mr. Jack McArdle was the best man, and Mr. R. Lindo, of Drury Lane Theatre, gave the bride away. Mr. Lauri de Frece acted as groomsman.

The reception at the Waldorf Hotel was numerously attended, and the handsome presents were much admired. Among them were gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Collins, silver tea service; Mr. Richard Lindo, pair silver entrée dishes; Mr. Harry Preston, manager of the Albion Hotel, Brighton, silver soup tureen; Dr. and Mrs. Laver (bride's sister), cheque; Mr. Paul Rubens, a pair of silver candlesticks; Mr. and Mrs. Davy Bell, a handsome Sheraton cabinet with silver tantalus and cut glasses; Mr. and Mrs. James Farmiloe, silver kettle and spirit lamp; Mr. J. A. Kennedy, silver sugar bowl and sifter; Mr. W. H. Garrett, canteen of silver; Mr. Walter Speed, case of four silver salt cellars; Mr. Alfred Turner, decanter; Mr. Harold Jennings, case of fish knives and forks; Mr. Alfred Sawyer, silver soda water stand; Mr. and Mrs. Forester, massive cut glass rose bowl on gilt stand; Mr. George Gill, cut glass vases; Mrs. and Miss Carter, pair of silver soda water stands; Mr. W. Howlett, silver inkstand; Mr. Jack McArdle, motor punt; Mr. and Mrs. Newsham, silver cheese stand; Mr. and Mrs. Collings, old silver shoe; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rickards, silver breakfast tureen; Mrs. Arthur Attewell (bride's mother), household linen; Miss Fanny Brough, pair of silver jam jars; Miss Nancy Price, gilt scent bottle; Mr. Charles Rock, silver soda water stand; Mr. Vincent Clive, pictures; Mr. and Mrs. Basil Gill, silver cigarette box; Mr. Lauri de Frece, case of silver spoons; Mr. Danny Maher, silver cigar box, inscribed to the trainer of the "Whip"; Mr. Herbert Lyndon, oil painting; Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Brook-street, Dresden china clock; Mrs. Henton, silver photo frames; Miss Davies, four silver serviette rings; Miss Fraser and Miss Seymour, pair of silver vases; Miss Grenfell and Miss Sinclair, of Daly's, pair of silver candlesticks; Mr. Paul Arthur, gold snuff-box; Men Dressers of Drury Lane, Sheraton clock; jockeys and stable boys, Drury Lane, silver horseshoe.

THE OPERA SEASON.

The grand opera season of 1910 at Covent Garden closed on Saturday night, July 30, with a brilliant performance of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. In the past season only one novelty was forthcoming, M. Laparra's *Habanera*, but in the welcome revival of Delibes's sparkling opera *Lakmé* a valuable addition was made to the répertoire. Early in the season the illness of Dr. Richter prevented him conducting the second cycle of the *Ring*, and by the sad death of King Edward, a great patron of the Opera, all hopes of a brilliant season at Covent Garden were ended. In spite, however, of these drawbacks the Syndicate have given us magnificent performances of the older operas and very artistic revivals of modern works such as Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande* and Charpentier's *Louise*, the scenery and mounting of which were triumphs of stage-management. *Aida*, with new scenes, was a splendid spectacle, and its performance has never been surpassed at Covent Garden. Saint-Saëns's *Samson et Dalila* continues its hold on popular esteem, and the revival of Verdi's fine opera *Otello* was a particularly interesting feature of the past season, as well as the same composer's *Gli Ugonotti*, given with a magnificent cast. As regards the operas, twelve have been given in Italian, six in French, and five in German. Two cycles of Wagner's *Ring* and two performances of *Tristan und Isolde* were given. *Traviata* has been heard seven times. *Bohème*, *Samson et Dalila*, and *Barbiere di Siviglia* six each, *Lakmé*, *Rigoletto*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Faust*, and *Aida* five times, *Louise* four, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Tosca*, *Tess*, and *Gli Ugonotti* three each, *Habanera*, *La Sonnambula*, and *Manon Lescaut* twice, and *Otello* once. At the head of a long and distinguished list of artists, which includes many English singers, Mme. Tetrazzini, Mme. Melba, Mlle. Destinn, and Mme. Kirkby Lunn have sung superbly throughout the season. Mme. Edvina has greatly advanced her position, and excellent work has been accomplished by Mme. Saltzmann-Stevens and Mme. Kousnietzoff. The past season has been rich in tenors. Mr. Riccardo Martin, an American artist, sang grandly in *Aida*, and created a most favourable impression in other operas. Signor Zerola, M. Dalmorès, Signor Rostowsky, and M. Franz have each greatly distinguished themselves; while among the baritones excellent impersonations have been given by Signor Sammarco, the Russian artist, M. Baklanoff, Signor Scotti, and the English-speaking vocalists Mr. Edmund Burke and Mr. Murray Davey. Other singers who have achieved success are Mr. John McCormack, Signor Mercoux, Mlle. Symiane, Signor Malatesta, Signor Zucchi, M. Morin, Mme. Bérat, that fine artist Herr Van Rooy, M. Crabbe, and our native vocalists, Mr. D'Oisly, Mme. Edna Thornton, Miss Elizabeth Amsden, Mr. Sydney Russell, Miss Amy Evans, &c. The conductors were Dr. Hans Richter, Signor Campanini, Herr Von Schuch, M. Frigara, and Signor Panizza. Congratulations for the success of the past season must also be extended to the general-manager, Mr. Neil Forsyth, the musical-director Mr. Percy Pitt, the stage-manager M. Fernand Almanz, and the scenic artist Mr. Harry Brooke.

THE BEECHAM SEASON.

The highly successful season of comic opera at His Majesty's Theatre organised by Mr. Thomas Beecham concluded on Saturday night with a spirited performance of *Tales of Hoffmann*, and lovers of music have to thank Mr. Thomas Beecham for the enterprise he has shown in producing new operas and giving interesting revivals of Mozart's and Johann Strauss's earlier works. The Mozart Festival, which included *Il Seraglio* and *Così fan Tutti* was a distinct success. Twelve operas were sung in English, but only two, unfortunately, composed by native musicians, Sir Charles V. Stanford's *Shamus O'Brien* and Mr. Clutsam's *A Summer Night*. The beautiful scenery and artistic attention to every detail in *Tales of Hoffmann*, *Muguette*, and *Die Fledermaus* aroused general admiration; while an important feature of the operatic performances at His Majesty's has been the large number of talented British artists in the principal parts. Since the commencement of the season on May 12 *Tales of Hoffmann* has been performed thirty-four times, *Muguette* and *The Marriage of Figaro* eight times, Johann Strauss's delightful opera *Die Fledermaus* was given seven times, and *Feuersnot* five. *Il Seraglio* had four performances, and *Così fan Tutte* three, while *Werther* and *Impresario* were only heard once. Besides Mr. Thomas Beecham, the conductors were Messrs. Cuthbert Hawley, Hubert Bath, Hamish MacCunn, Frank Mummery, and Emil Krautz. The orchestra and chorus were excellent, and among other artists who have greatly distinguished themselves in the past season may be mentioned Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, John Bardsley, Alfred Heather, Charles McGrath, and Frederick Ranalow, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Caroline Hatchard, Mme. Zelie de Lussan, Miss Ruth Vincent, and Miss Beatrice La Palme, also Messrs. John Coates and Walter Hyde.

"LAUGHING 'LIZA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am about to produce a new play with the above title, and I beg through the medium of your valuable columns to inquire if any of your numerous readers can advise me of this title being used before. It will be obvious that it would be detrimental to my interest to use a title on which anyone else has a claim, hence my request for this information.—Yours faithfully,

FLORENCE BAINES.

Metropole, Devonport, Aug. 2.

The French Palace of Arts and Industries to be erected in the Strand will boast a bijou theatre capable of accommodating an audience of 800 persons. The theatre, which will be situated in the left wing, will contain a Royal box, approached from a Royal entrance on the boulevards. It is the intention of the Palace syndicate to present some of the finest products of French dramatists, portrayed by well-known French actors and actresses.

The race for Doggett's Coat and Badge, the possession of which is keenly contested annually on the Thames, was duly decided on Wednesday, when six young watermen "out of their time within the year past" competed for the trophy. Tom Doggett, it may be repeated, was one of the most famous comedians of the early days of the eighteenth century, and established his position at Drury Lane and other London theatres. The event, which has the distinction of enjoying the longest continuous history of any in the world, was instituted by the comedian on Aug. 1, 1716, to commemorate the Accession of his Majesty King George I. Mr. Doggett took a warm interest in watermen, and by his will left a sum of money in trust, invested in land, in the charge of the Fishmongers' Company, who now carry on the race.

The course stretches from London Bridge to Chelsea, and the race was rowed in very rough water. The six competitors were Richard Pocock, of Eton; Robert Charles Bland, of East Greenwich; Henry Thomas Gibson, of Putney; Alfred Stephen Jeffries, of Erith; Joseph Lee Beckett, of Fulham; and John Clasper Rough, of Putney. Pocock, who started favourite, took the lead at once, and retained it to the end, his time being 5sec. short of half an hour. Jeffries finished second, Gibson third, Beckett fourth, Rough fifth, and Bland last. Each competitor received a money prize, the gift of the company.

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG WOMAN."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Nita Rae, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, on Monday, Aug. 1.

Harold Montfort ..... Mr. Charles Kean
Stephen Ormroyd ..... Mr. Leslie Vyner
Doctor Chard ..... Mr. James Somerville
Charlie Armstrong ..... Mr. Ted Mooney
Bob Sparks ..... Little Bella Reid
James Smith ..... Mr. Alexander Brown
John Patch ..... Mr. Charles McGregor Gow
Tom Blow ..... Mr. Bernard Morris
Marcella Ormroyd ..... Miss Kitty Thomas
Beatrice del Sylvia ..... Miss Violet Delmaine
Mrs. Poppermore ..... Miss Lizzie Taylor
Letty Armstrong ..... Miss Clarise Jenner
Margaret (alias Marcella) Montfort
Miss Dora Hammersley

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Miss Nita Rae, who has had considerable experience as a playwright, being the authoress of several very successful dramas, has produced a most interesting play. The drama is cleverly written, the dialogue containing some really excellent passages, while the interest from rise to fall of curtain is poignant, thrilling, and intense. It deals with the temptation of a girl, who, thinking her sister dead, marries her sister's betrothed. The scene opens on board the Magnolia. Harold Montfort is returning to England after seven years in the gold diggings of Australia, where he has struck a rich find. On landing, he mistakes Margaret Beaumont for his affianced wife, Marcella Beaumont. Margaret, thinking her sister dead, determines to keep up the deception and marry Harold herself. Shortly after the wedding the supposed dead sister, Marcella, calls upon Margaret. It transpires that the account of her death was false, and she has married Stephen Ormroyd, a gambler and roué. Henceforth Margaret's life is one of fear lest her secret should become known to her husband. She befriends her sister by supplying her with money, and it is during one of these secret visits that she is met by Charlie Armstrong, who thinks she is visiting the house for the sake of gambling. He quite casually discloses the fact to Dr. Chard, a friend of the Montforts, but he is discreet enough not to mention it to Montfort. His suspicions, however, are aroused by hearing Mrs. Armstrong refer to these secret visits of his wife to Stephen Ormroyd's gambling den, and furthermore by certain insinuations made by Beatrice del Sylvia, a Spanish signora, whose acquaintance he had formed on board the Magnolia. She, being in love with Harold herself, accuses Margaret of having been the mistress of Stephen Ormroyd in Paris and of still having secret meetings with him. Harold, blinded by the apparent proofs of his wife's perfidy, casts her off and volunteers for active service. Margaret follows, in order to be near him in the hour of danger; but Harold again mistakes her constancy and good intentions on seeing her in the chance company of Stephen Ormroyd, who has also come out to the front. Stephen Ormroyd next murders a drummer boy—Bob Sparks—who is entrusted with valuable dispatches. He is arrested, escapes, and is befriended by Margaret because he is her sister's husband. Harold comes suddenly upon the scene, and again seeing Ormroyd, casts her off once more. So great is her despair that she goes mad. Harold has her taken to his home in England and cared for by a Mrs. Starling, who is none other than Beatrice del Sylvia disguised as a nurse. She is slowly poisoning Margaret, but is herself disposed of by Stephen Ormroyd after an altercation. He then attempts the life of Harold, but is thwarted by the timely presence of Dr. Chard and handed over to justice for the murder of the boy Bob Sparks. Marcella's reappearance is the signal for a reconciliation between Margaret and Harold, who discovers all the time that he has been "married to the wrong woman."

The company responsible for the initial performance (Miss Dora Hammersley's celebrated stock company, under the personal supervision and direction of Mr. Charles Kean) is a particularly powerful one, each member of which must be heartily congratulated on their work. The drama was received with emphatic expressions of approval on the part of the large and thoroughly interested house on Monday evening. Its success on the road may be safely predicted. The part of Margaret Montfort called for much deeply-emotional acting, and Miss Dora Hammersley represented the character with sincerity, and completely won the hearts of the audience by a touchingly sympathetic and charmingly picturesque performance of the rôle. The mad scene was carried through with artistic restraint, and the intensity of her acting held the audience in thrall, her sterling performance being loudly cheered by a discriminating house. She was ably supported by Mr. Charles Kean, whose fine appearance and crisp and distinct utterance of his lines were exactly suited to the part of Harold Montfort, which it would be difficult to imagine more effectively enacted. Mr. Leslie Vyner essayed the rôle of the callous Stephen Ormroyd with a degree of studied villainy quite fascinating in its intensity; Doctor Chard was portrayed with suitable dignity by Mr. James Somerville; Miss Kitty Thomas was excellent as Marcella Ormroyd, and instilled the necessary pathos and dramatic feeling into the character; Beatrice del Sylvia was distinctly well played by Miss Violet Delmaine; Miss Lizzie Taylor as Mrs. Poppermore caused much merriment by her persistent and untiring efforts to capture the heart of Doctor Chard at the price of much physical discomfort; and the comedy relief was capably provided by Mr. Ted Mooney as Charlie Armstrong, who contributed a humorous interpretation of the part, being ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Clarise Jenner as Letty Armstrong. A special word of praise is due to little Bella Reid for her intelligent rendering of the part of the drummer-boy, Bob Sparks. Messrs. Alexander Brown, Charles McGregor Gow, and Bernard Morris were alike excellent in minor parts. The drama was well mounted and artistically dressed.

The New Brighton Tower palatial amusement resort, with its many shows and novelties, was visited by upwards of 50,000 people last Monday. Never since the Tower's inception has such a vast crowd been within its grounds. One feature of the day's programme was the 45 seconds train service on the Scenic Railway, which resulted in all records on this fascinating railroad being broken. To-day there will be a brass band contest in the Tower Athletic Grounds in aid of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala Fund. £250 are offered in prizes.

At the St. Helens Police Court on Monday Wilfred Armitage made an application for a licence for two girls (twins) of twelve and a half years named Lily and Nelly Armitage, whose stage names were Tiny and Mite, to appear in a performance at the Hippodrome. The Chief Constable said that applicant had written from Ilford, London, for a licence, and on the 21st ult. another application came in from Pudsey, Yorkshire, from a Mrs. Mary Jane Payne, the aunt and legal guardian of the children, to whom the licence was granted.

At a meeting of creditors held under a receiving order made against Edward Alfred Tupper, described as of Walter House, Strand, it was reported that the debtor, in the course of a varied career, had managed a music hall, sung on the stage, travelled extensively, and seen active service with the army in South Africa and elsewhere.

"BROTHERS;
OR, WHY WOMEN WEEP."

Drama, in Five Acts, by Mr. John Barrett, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Leigh, on Monday, Aug. 1.

John Gray ..... Mr. Harry Cullenford
Dr. Clinton ..... Mr. R. H. Brookes
Guy Royston ..... Mr. Herbert de Ville
Tony Ray ..... Mr. Fred Carroll
Frank Foster ..... Mr. J. H. Lowe
Attendant at Asylum ..... Mr. T. Barrett
Warder ..... Mr. L. Dennis
May Clinton ..... Miss Violet Prescott
Mary Gray ..... Miss Lena Valli
Bessie Gray ..... Miss Esmai Ellys
Maria ..... Miss C. Elling

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

All the essentials of popular melodrama are to be found in Mr. John Barrett's new play—tentatively performed at the Public Hall, Hastingden, on July 30—which is well written, and affords excellent opportunities for acting. The comedy is clever and the dialogue sound and attractive. The action of the play opens on the farm of John Gray, his real name being John Clinton, he having had to leave his home in England in disgrace, the real culprit being his brother Jonathan. He is happy with his devoted wife Mary and his only daughter Bessie, a pretty, unsophisticated girl. In the opening scene Bessie confesses to her mother her love for a stranger, Guy Royston, who has been visiting in the neighbourhood during the absence of John Gray, away in New York. Upon his return she asks her father's consent to marry Guy Royston, but this Gray refuses to give until he has seen her lover. Bessie then asks her father about his adventures in New York, and he forthwith relates an exciting incident in the Bowery, in which he rescues a poor starving woman from the brutality of her husband. He gives the scoundrel a good thrashing, and afterwards collects a substantial amount from the crowd to provide for her destitution. Guy Royston appears on the scene, and upon being introduced to John Gray by Bessie as her future husband, her father is horrified to find in Guy Royston the persecutor of the poor woman he rescued in the Bowery. He ignores him and enters the house with his wife. Royston endeavours to persuade Bessie to elope with him, but she refuses. He then drugs her, and with the assistance of Tony Ray, abducts her to New York, where he is supposed to marry her. The shock kills her mother, and old John Gray swears he will find Royston and have a bitter reckoning.

In the second act (twelve months are supposed to elapse) we are introduced to Dr. Clinton, who is medical adviser at an asylum in New York. Hero Royston apears, having deserted Bessie and her child. He holds a mortgage on Clinton's place, and informs him if he does not consent to his marriage with his daughter May, he will foreclose. Clinton, not wishing to see the business it has taken all his life to build up ruined, consents on condition that May is willing. May is a dutiful child, and although in love with Frank Foster, the governor of the asylum, she agrees to marry Royston to save her father. Bessie is befriended by May, who finds her work, and whilst on a visit to her May extracts the story from Bessie regarding her missing husband, whom Bessie believes has met with an accident and been killed. Royston overhears their conversation and decides to get rid of her. In the next scene he breaks open Bessie's desk, and whilst in the act of trying to destroy their marriage certificate is confronted with Bessie, who now sees him in his true colours. He strikes her in the back with a dagger, leaving her for dead.

In searching for his daughter Bessie in the streets of New York, John Gray is found by Tony Ray, who takes him to his rooms, which adjoin Bessie's. Upon hearing Bessie's scream, he rushes in and finds her lying unconscious. Royston soon after returns, and he is seized by Gray and shot in the arm during the struggle. Ultimately Royston swears Gray is mad, and he is conveyed to the asylum, but the governor, Frank Foster, has heard Gray's story and believes him to be perfectly sane. He expostulates with Dr. Clinton regarding the matter, but Clinton, fearing Royston, declares he is mistaken. However, at Foster's instigation, he agrees to see Gray again, and upon being confronted with him is astounded to find his long-lost brother, whom he had last seen in England twenty years ago. He then decides to give Gray his liberty, and upon learning that Royston has previously gone through a form of marriage with Bessie, declares that he shall not wed May. Finally Royston accidentally shoots himself. Foster is betrothed to May, and all ends happily.

Miss Esmai Ellys played Bessie in a pathetic and convincing manner; Miss Violet Prescott gave a charming portrayal of May Clinton, and Miss Lena Valli made the most of her oportunities as Mary Gray. Mr. Harry Cullenford merits praise for his clever study of old John Gray; Mr. J. H. Lowe made a manly exponent in the part of Frank Foster, and Mr. Herbert de Ville acted effectively in the rôle of the villainous Guy Royston. Mr. R. H. Brooks interpreted Dr. Clinton in a careful and conscientious manner; and Mr. Fred Carroll as Tony Ray, and Miss C. Elling, as Maria, kept the audience in roars of laughter by their humorous impersonations.

THE THEATRES ALLIANCE AND LICENSING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Permit me to correct two slight errors in your excellent leading article of last week, "Committee and Sub-Committee." Mr. Mulholland is not the present president of the Theatres Alliance. It was a distinct feature of the Suburban Theatre Managers' Association, from which the Alliance sprang, that its proceedings and methods should not run the risk of being stereotyped by permanency of chairmanship or other offices, and the president is elected annually, the present holder of that office being Mr. Wentworth Croke, with Mr. Ernest Stevens as vice-president.

Later on you say, "With regard to the Censorship Committee's opinion that the licensing of the forty theatres which are now in the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain should be transferred to the London County Council the Theatres Alliance considers it is not desirable that this jurisdiction should be enlarged." The wording of your article is here a little ambiguous, and might lead to the impression that the Alliance object to the enlargement of the London County Council's jurisdiction.

The Censorship Committee's report advised the abolition of the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction by placing the control of the West End and other theatres under the London County Council. To this the West End managers, it is understood, object. The alternative, it seemed to the members of the Alliance, if the present anomaly of dual control is to be abolished, would be the extension of the Lord Chamberlain's jurisdiction by giving to him the powers now exercised by the County Council, and it is this that is objected to.

The modern method appears to be either to shelve matters after a lengthy and expensive inquiry or to ignore entirely the wishes and recommendations of those interested or specially informed. It is earnestly to be desired that in the present case something different may be done, and the Alliance welcomes your assistance and suggestion.—Yours faithfully,

J. MOVERLEY SHARP, Hon. Sec.
The Theatres Alliance, Criterion Chambers,
10 and 11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
Aug. 4, 1910.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Our English authorities are not so slow after all. The agitation for adequate protection of music by copyright, we read, only began in the closing years of the reign of Good Queen Bess. Three hundred years afterwards Mr. T. P. O'Connor succeeded in getting the Musical Copyright Bill through.

Mr. Fred Trussell, manager of the London Hippodrome, commences his vacation this week-end. With Mrs. Trussell he will lead the simple life on the Norfolk Broads, yachting and fishing, a delightful way of renewing health and vigour that has been followed by Mr. Bertie Shelton, recently returned to Cranbourn-mansions from Wroxham.

Mr. Seymour Hicks has arranged for Miss Dare to produce and appear in a new musical sketch by him, entitled *The Model and the Man*. Miss Dare will play this for one week at Southsea, on the 15th, after which she comes to the Hippodrome for an extended period. The lyrics of *The Model and the Man* are by C. H. Bovill, and the music by Frank Tours.

Edmund Gerson, the New York manager who is directing Miss Robson at Terry's Theatre, has not lost time on this side. Associated with Mark L. Stone, a prominent American manager, he has arranged to open in London next summer a grand temple of pleasure on the lines of Luna Park and Dreamland, Coney Island, and will present performances and amusements entirely new in this country.

The christening of Joseph Henry, the latest addition to the Chirgwin family, is fixed for to-morrow (Sunday). Amongst those who are expected to be present are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Masters (Joe and Harry being the prospective godfathers), Mr. Wal Pink, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tate, Mr., Mrs., and Master Lotto, Miss Clifford, Mr. and Mrs. A. Boissett, Mr. Chas. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Austin, and others.

Miss Margaret Halstan, supported by Mr. Dawson Milward and company, will appear in a sketch by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, authoress of *The Likeness of the Night*, entitled *A Supreme Moment*, at the Coliseum on Monday. The little piece was written in 1900, before the production of the four-act play mentioned at the St. James's revealed the fact that Mrs. Clifford was a promising dramatist. Another notable newcomer to the Coliseum is the cheery Miss Millie Hylton with new songs.

Miss Annie Hughes has acquired the entire rights of *The Fourth Kiss* by W. Douglas Newton, a sketch which achieved a great success when played at the Empress, Brixton, quite recently. Miss Hughes will appear in this in conjunction with Mr. Mayne Lynton when her present tour with *Miss Tommy* finishes. Miss Hughes is achieving quite a triumph, since she is to appear two consecutive weeks in Manchester, Nov. 21, as Sans-Gêne in *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, and the following in *The Fourth Kiss*. It is seldom that the same artist tops a variety bill two weeks in succession at the same hall.

The new theatre at Wimbledon is proceeding apace, and the magnificent block of buildings is already a landmark, although portions of the tower and the dome have yet to be added. Architecturally the theatre is notable, and, with the Assembly Hall, Turkish baths, offices, &c., embraced in Mr. Mulholland's scheme, it will without doubt be by far the most imposing public building in the district. In providing for a holding capacity of nearly 4,000 persons, the variety season to be given during a part of the year has of course been borne in mind; but the feature of the auditorium is that, while very large, it looks but medium-sized and cosy. The opening will probably take place in September.

"A Boy's Proposal," the comedietta by Arthur Eckersley which was produced at the Adelphi on March 29 last year, was produced on Monday, for the first time on the variety stage, at the London Hippodrome, where it is admirably played by Miss May Chevalier, Mr. Hubert Druce, and Master Hobbs.

Mr. Dick Knowles, like Mr. George Robey, is a very keen collector of curios, especially those which have a literary connection. With great delight he exhibits a most interesting relic—the original Burns mug, which he obtained from the Kirkpatrick family near Dumfries. Incidentally we may explain that this "mug" is not a portrait, but a vessel from which the immortal "Rabbie" himself often used to drink from on his visits to their house. It is made of stout teak wood bound with heavy brass stays, and weighs three pounds, and will hold nearly a quart.

Soon after Mr. Knowles had installed it in his home in New York it was stolen. He at once offered a substantial reward for its recovery. The delinquents, being frightened by this action, and finding it almost impossible to dispose of the article, sent it back by a district messenger boy to the police-station. The worthy constable who received it, evidently obsessed with the idea of the "Black Hand" and similar terrorist organisations, took it for a bomb, and carefully placed it in a bucket of water until it was eventually claimed.

Loved during a busy life by his comrades, Charles Wilson is still remembered, and to honour his memory a stone has been erected over the grave where he sleeps in a corner of Highgate Cemetery. On Thursday afternoon, the memorial was unveiled in the presence of a few of Charlie's old chums. These included Mr. Bertie Shelton, manager of the Stage Department of the Moss and Stoll Empires, Mr. B. G. MacLachlan, manager of the theatrical side at Cranbourn-mansions; Mr. E. A. Pickering, formerly with Mr. Wilson at the Alhambra, and now acting-manager at the Palace; Mr. Philip Howden, scene-painter, who illustrated so many of Charlie's successful ballets; Mr. L. Gustave, of Long Acre, and Mr. Prior, of the *Times*, both close personal friends; and Mr. Joseph Vine, of Milward's, Ltd., who was responsible for the work.

The Rev. J. T. Bingley, the chaplain of Highgate Cemetery, conducted a short service at the unveiling, and when the covering was removed by Mr. Vine, admiration was generally expressed for the design. The emblems of faith and hope are typified in the polished cross and the unpolished rugged-looking anchor chained to it—both being cut out of a solid block of Aberdeen granite. The neat curb is of the same stone, and a small urn of Sicilian marble is placed on the grave in the midst of a profusion of flowers. A wreath, tied with purple ribbon, with the words "Not Forgotten" attached, was placed on the tomb.

The inscription at the base of the cross and plinth is as follows:—

"To the Memory of
Charles Wilson,
Who passed away 25th July, 1909, in his forty-ninth year. This Memorial is erected by some of his friends as a tribute of their esteem. A devoted husband and father, deeply mourned by his wife and children. Resting until the day break."

The Birmingham Hippodrome was reopened on Monday evening. Mr. Ben de Frece, who comes from Colchester, is in charge.

A company has been registered under the title of the New Birmingham Hippodrome, Limited, with a nominal capital of £5,000 in £1 shares, in which new company the Variety Theatres Controlling Company hold a large interest, practically running the concern. The Controlling Company are doing their utmost to take over all contracts, and to give other dates in cases of lost engagements through the closure, though they claim they are not legally compelled to do so.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Ross, professionally known as Amy Sivroni (of the Sivronis), who passed away at 2 a.m. on Wednesday. The deceased lady was only 39.

The Margate Corporation is pushing ahead with its big scheme for undercliff gardens, sea promenades, and a large pavilion, or kursaal, for orchestral concerts and entertainments. The new pavilion is not intended to be in any sense a theatre or music hall, but will continue to provide on a more elaborate scale the outdoor entertainments that have been so successful.

It will be just above the promenade, at the base of the cliffs, and in fine weather will be open to the sunshine and sea breezes. It will accommodate 1,500 to 2,000 people, and the scheme is estimated to cost about £20,000. During the eight years the outdoor entertainments have been under the control of the Corporation there has been a surplus of £14,000.

We learn on the best authority that Mr. T. Allan Edwardes has sold the Grand Theatre, Derby, and his lease of the Hippodrome, Nottingham, to a London syndicate, the principals of which include Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Walter Gibbons, and Mr. Walter de Frece.

During his association with Derby, Mr. Edwardes has brought to the town many of the leading lights of the theatrical world, and it is to be regretted that the support extended to his enterprise on various occasions has not been of the character to which it was entitled. The great majority of Derby playgoers will, we feel sure, recall many features of his management with the liveliest feelings of gratitude.

The friends of Mr. P. C. Rowe, manager of Swansea Empire, will be pleased to hear that he has recovered from his recent illness, and that Mr. Stoll has kindly granted him leave of absence until the end of the year to enable him to take a trip to the Mediterranean to complete his convalescence.

An outbreak of fire occurred on Thursday night in the new Pavilion of the pier at Herne Bay. It originated in the fusing of an electric wire, and smoke rolling in at the entrance to the pavilion caused many of the audience to hurriedly start from their seats in the middle of a performance by the band of the Northumberland Fusiliers ("The Fighting Fifth.")

A stampede was, however, averted by the coolness of the conductor, Lieut. Cooper, who proceeded with his music as if nothing had happened, and the bandsmen's undisturbed demeanour had its effect upon the audience, the majority of whom remained in their seats. The fire was soon extinguished and the audience gave a round of cheers to Lieutenant Cooper and his bandsmen.

A large number of influential people have promised their patronage for the two concerts to be given at the Colston Hall, Bristol, as a testimonial benefit to Mr. Horace Livermore, amongst them being the Lord Mayor and Sheriff, and other leading gentlemen of the city. It will especially interest his many Bristol friends and admirers to learn that "Chocolate" (Mr. G. H. Elliott) has signified his pleasure to take part in the benefit performances and to do all he can to assist to make them successful.

The annual Liverpool theatrical gala attained its jubilee on Tuesday, when the twenty-first gathering was held on the grounds of the Liverpool Football Club. Since the gala was started the sum of over £15,000 has been raised for local medical charities and several of the theatrical institutions. During one year George Robey himself collected £400, and on another occasion nearly almost as much was realised by Miss Ada Reeve.

On Tuesday the gathering was a great success, scores of artists engaged in and about Liverpool kindly coming forward to give their support to the good cause. One special feature was a two hours entertainment on the ground, when over £200 was realised from that source alone. In connection with the movement a brass band contest is to be held to-day at New Brighton; a sacred concert is announced for to-morrow at the Hippodrome, a matinée on Tuesday at the Empire, &c.

The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd., has been formed with a capital of £15,000, divided into 7,500 5 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each, 6,900 ordinary shares of £1 each, and 600 deferred shares of £1 each. There will also be a first mortgage of £1,500 at 4 per cent., and 8,500 first debentures at 5 per cent. The preference and ordinary shares are now offered for subscription at par. The company acquires a freehold site in Hallgate and Silver-street, Doncaster, containing 1,780 square yards, and including the freehold fully-licensed premises known as the Young Union Inn, and will erect thereon a theatre of varieties.

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, who is back with his old governors, Messrs. Thorton and Allen, being now at the South Shields Empire, was one of the happy crowd at the staff outing of that house on Sunday. They were accompanied by Mr. Wells, manager, Empire, Newcastle; Mr. Thompson, manager, West Hartlepool; Mr. Lauder, manager, Avenue, Sunderland; Mr. Kilgour, assistant-manager, Newcastle Empire; and other old friends. Mr. Bridgen was associated with the New Cross Empire for five years, and was also at Walham Green.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Joseph Duffy, Mayor of Wallsend-on-Tyne, who died on Friday, the 29th ult. Mr. Duffy, it will be remembered by many of our readers, was responsible for the erection of the new and handsome Borough Theatre of Varieties in Wallsend last year. Mr. Hugh Duffy, son of deceased, is the present proprietor and manager of that popular resort, which will shortly reopen. The remains were interred with civic honours on Tuesday, and at the requiem mass at St. Columba's Church, Wallsend, the Mayor and Borough Councillors were present. On the way to the cemetery the band played Chopin's "Funeral March," and at the graveside the service was conducted by the Rev. Father Downey. A large number of floral tributes of affection were placed upon the grave. A tribute was paid to the value of Mr. Duffy as a public man at the Borough Police Court by Alderman Matthew Murray on Monday. Councillor M. W. Swinburne also referred to the loss suffered by the Bench, and on behalf of the solicitors practising at the court Mr. J. McIlvenna expressed sympathy with the family.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association advertises for the addresses of the following members: Martin Henry, Cole and Rags, The Lumieres, May Newall, and Friscary.

Barnes and West left yesterday (Friday) for Australia, to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Harry Rickards, arranged through the agency of the ever-alert Mr. Tom Pacey.

Datas, the living almanack and marvellous diarist, is delighted with his experiences in Australia, and will stay down under until October, leaving Melbourne for England about the 19th of that month, arriving in London about Nov. 27.

Miss Josie Delaine, a popular comedienne and dancer, who "makes good" everywhere, is scoring a gratifying success with her new song, entitled "Dialect Studies," which she produced three weeks since at the London Pavilion.

Variety artists are recommended to keep their permanent address cards in the alphabetical advertisement pages of *The Era*. Managers, agents, secretaries, and friends are in frequent want of your current addresses.

We are pleased to be able to inform the many friends of Mrs. Richard Winslow (Miss Evelyn Shaw) that the serious operation which she had to undergo this week was quite successful, and she is getting over it most satisfactorily.

Don Juan A. Caicedo, the wonder on the wire, after a remarkable success in America, sailed from New York on Wednesday on board the Caronia, and will reach London on Thursday next. He will be starring at the Shrewsbury Gala on the 17th and 18th.

Mr. Joseph Davis has been appointed successor to the late Mr. Henri Gros as chairman of the music-hall interests with which the latter was associated. Mr. Davis has, since the death of the late Mr. Payne, occupied the position of joint managing director with Mr. Gros.

Mr. Charles Coborn, hon. sec. of the Music Hall Sports, writes:—"Will you allow me, through the medium of your columns, to ask all those to whom tickets have been sent for the Sports to be so kind as to send in their accounts as soon as possible, if they have not already done so, as the committee wishes to issue a balance-sheet as quickly as possible."

Elaborate preparations are being made at the Palace Theatre for the reception of Mlle. Myrma, the Parisian swimmer and diver. An oval-shaped tank, measuring 18ft. by 12ft., with a depth of 8ft., and carrying 11,500 gallons of water, has been sunk into the stage.

To accomplish this no fewer than fifty men have been employed for over a month in working out an ingenious invention of the stage-carpenter, whereby the main joists has been cut so as to be taken away in a few minutes, and then replaced after the artist's appearance. The initial cost of preparing for Mlle. Myrma's engagement is said to be a record for a single "act." She will appear at the Palace on Monday next.

The London County Council (General Powers) Bill having passed through all its Parliamentary stages, received the Royal Assent on Wednesday, and forthwith becomes law. Within one month after the Council has given public notice, all existing agents must apply for the licence which they will be required to hold on and after Jan. 1 next.

On returning from the provinces next week the Stavordale Quintette open on Monday at the Granville, Walham Green, to be followed by the Empress, Brixton, after which they return to the provinces for a few weeks prior to their Continental tour, which commences at The Hague on Oct. 1 and ends next March, when they return to London.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay has a record as an entertainment manager, having inaugurated no fewer than four amusement ventures, viz., the Granville, Walham Green, the Palace, Walthamstow, the Palace, East Ham, and the Pavilion, Herne Bay, which was opened on Wednesday with great éclat. Mr. Barclay is familiar with every phase of the entertainment world, both behind and before the footlights.

Mr. Charles S. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum produced for the first time in London at the Chelsea Palace and Oxford on Monday their absurdly incongruous tabloid comedy *What a Night!* At both halls it met with an enthusiastic reception, and was universally pronounced an instantaneous success. These admirable artists are ably supported by Miss Dot Seilby and Mr. Edward Mervyn.

Dr. Crippen and Miss Le Neve were arrested on Sunday on board the Montrose on the arrival of that vessel at Father Point, near Quebec. Among the principal witnesses whose sworn statements have been taken for the purposes of extradition are Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti and Mr. and Mrs. John E. Nash (Miss Lil Hawthorne). All four were great friends of the murdered woman, Belle Elmore.

In the scheme proposed for the flotation of the Middlesex Empire, the capital of the company is to be £50,020, divided into 50,000 ordinary shares of £1 each and 400 deferred shares of 1s. each. The ordinary shares carry a preferential dividend of 10 per cent. The object of the company is to acquire "a valuable freehold site situated in Drury-lane, London," at an approximate cost of £32,000. Upon this site it is proposed to erect a new theatre of varieties at a cost of a further £32,500. The Middlesex Theatre of Varieties is fully licensed. Mr. Oswald Stoll's name is mentioned in connection with the venture.

Mr. E. W. Hancorne James has resigned his position as manager of the Balham Hippodrome, having been appointed acting-manager of the New Cross Empire, of which fine Moss and Stoll hall he takes charge on Monday next. Mr. James is one of the oldest of Mr. Gibbons' managers, having been with him for upwards of six years. He began at the Grand, Clapham Junction, but was soon after transferred to Balham. Thence he went to Ealing to open the local Hippodrome, and, having worked that up into a substantial success, returned to Balham, where he is greatly popular.

An incident at the Euston in January, 1907, in which Dr. Crippen, his wife, Belle Elmore, and Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone, the victim of the Battersea flat tragedy, figured, is described by Mr. H. M. Holles. It was the time of the strike, and the performers were received with whistles, shrieks, and cat-calls.

"One lady," Mr. Holles states, "was particularly distressed. She had just retired amid a storm of hisses after vainly endeavouring to sing. The leading actor in a sketch that was to be played was extremely indignant at the rude treatment she had received, and expressed the deepest sympathy with her. Shortly afterwards her husband, who appeared greatly concerned, led her away. The distressed lady was Belle Elmore, the murdered woman; the husband was Dr. H. H. Crippen; and the actor who sympathised with her was Mr. Atherstone."

The usual monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund Committee will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon next.

Mr. Fred Barnes is continually being asked for permission to sing his numbers, and desires it to be known that all the songs he sings are his exclusively, and that he cannot possibly give permission.

The Four Netherlands, who have been responsible for the "Stocking Dance" novelty on the variety stage, are now introducing the Lancashire Witches dance, which promises to be a still greater success.

The lucky shareholders of the Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd., received a 20 per cent. dividend in 1909, and they will rejoice to learn that the directors have recommended an interim payment at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum in respect of the current year.

Miss Vera Saunders is scoring heavily at the Queen's, Poplar, and Hippodrome, Peckham, this week with her new chorus number "Billy," which looks like being the foremost pantomime number of the year. This rising young artist will be seen at Ilford next week.

The Tivoli announces the exclusive engagement of Roy Barnes and Miss Bessie Crawford, two popular American comedians, in a farcical skit entitled *The Patent Fakir and the Lady*, which is to be seen for the first time in London on Monday.

In consequence of Mr. Fred Epitaux being under contract with Mr. John Hart, he is shortly seceding from his position as acting-manager at the New Cross Empire. During Mr. Epitaux's stay at New Cross he was very popular, both with patrons and staff.

Mlle. Regina Badet, première danseuse at the Paris Opéra Comique, will appear on Monday at the Palace Theatre in Berardi's music poem entitled "The Secret of Myrto." Aided by great personal charms, beautiful scenery, and melodious music, it is anticipated that Mr. Butt's latest attraction will be a great London success.

We regret to announce the death, at the early age of thirty-two, of Ada Zillah Hunter, professionally known as Zillah Price, wife of Mr. W. Parke-Hunter, of Mays and Hunter, the well-known banjoists, who made such a success at the Alhambra, Tivoli, &c., some few years ago. Mrs. Hunter passed away at the home of her friend Mrs. Alec Romer, who has done everything to try to alleviate her sufferings and comfort her.

Mrs. Romer, on behalf of the late Mrs. Hunter, wishes to thank Mrs. Kittie Carson, Ladies' Theatrical Guild, Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and Mrs. Harold Pounds for their kindly assistance and sympathy; also Miss Melinda May, Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Carl Hamlin and Mr. Robert Lecardo (Lecardo Brothers) were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Fred Hooper, W.T., assisted by Terrier Russell Brandow, V.T. Terrier Russell Brandow officiated as organist.

Messrs. Gilbert Rogers, Frank Peskett, Charles Grantley, and H. A. Moore have successfully passed the ballot for membership of the Terriers' Association.

The following are the elected officers for the month of August:—W.T., Terrier Russell Brandow; V.T., Terrier W. Kloof. The result of draw for biscuit box and portmantau is as follows:—Terrier Arthur Were, portmanteau; Terrier Fred Hooper (biscuit box). Do not forget that brakes start at 10 o'clock sharp for cricket from headquarters, Three Stags Hotel. No meeting Sunday night, Aug. 7.

The recent marriage at Norwich of Mr. Bert Gordon, son of Mr. Frank Lynne, the proprietor of the Madcaps, now performing at Thorpe Gardens, Norwich, to Miss Violet Huntly, one of the company, was celebrated last Saturday night by a récherché supper, to which the company and several friends were invited. Some very handsome presents were presented to the happy pair amidst the hearty congratulations of all present.

Miss Dorma Morgan, with her husband, Mr. Herbert Raymond, general-manager of the Regent Theatre, Salford, has been having a good time holidaying in the States, and returns to work at the Palace, London, on the 22nd inst., with new songs, including "Devonshire Mary," "Won't you come and tease me?" &c.

The Great Lester, who has arrived in London, is to make his English début at the Hippodrome on Monday. He is said to strike a new note in the ventriloquial line. Carrying his jay figure into the auditorium, he at the same time causes it to continue its amusing patter, exercising his art to such good effect that the words seem, even to those who are quite close to the ventriloquist, to come from the mouth of the dummy. The Great Lester, who was born in Poland, is a descendant, four generations removed of the famous composer Tschaikowsky.

Mr. Graham Falcon has entered into a special arrangement with Mr. Albert Leigh for the Royal County Theatre, Bedford, to be run as a permanent variety theatre, and, judging from the reception given to the artists on Monday night, when the place was reopened, the success of the undertaking is well assured.

The artists included the Maningoes, whose balancing feats are truly marvellous; Lucy Coventry, who sings and dances very cleverly; Clive Watts, who in addition to singing a good comic song and reeling off a deal of patter, gives some clever dances; and Andre Romanoff, the famous gipsy violinist, who was encored thrice; Howard Ward and Louie Davis are very funny in their musical-comedy skit, *Wanted, a Typist*; and Daisy Hicks is a comedienne with a charming manner and a pleasing voice. The lariat and lasso manipulation by the Four Mexicans was enthusiastically received.

In connection with the affairs of the Amusements Development Syndicate (Ltd.) the Official Receiver reports that it was registered on June 9, 1909, with a nominal capital of £5000, and was formed to acquire places of entertainment, theatres, concert-halls, or public gardens. It was promoted by Humphrey Brammall, who is an undischarged bankrupt, and William Alfred Beale. On Oct. 21, 1909, the company entered into an agreement for the tenancy of the Britannia Theatre and the Britannia Tavern, Hoxton.

Possession of the theatre was given to the company, but the tavern was never handed over, and the directors state that the company has, in consequence, suffered considerable damage, which is returned at £1000. They attribute the failure to this cause. The theatre was opened on Dec. 27 with the pantomime *Dick Whittington*, which ran for seven weeks. The enterprise was a financial failure, the takings being insufficient to pay the artists' salaries. The statement of affairs shows liabilities £3764, of which £2467 is returned as unsecured, and assets £512 10s., with a deficiency as regard contributories amounting to £4714 10s. The liquidation remains in the official receiver's hands.

On Monday next a turn of a distinctly novel and mystifying nature will be introduced, for the first time in England, by Mr. Frank Glenister at the London Pavilion. It comes direct from Berlin, where it has created one of the biggest variety successes known in that city.

The act opens with Mlle. Durga, in Salome costume, executing a charming but mystic dance, eventually exerting her mystic powers on a lady seated playing a piano. The apparent result of this influence is to cause, without interrupting the playing, both the lady and the piano to rise and fly to and fro in the air and turn a complete somersault before it gently descends to the floor again.

Other well-known names in Mr. Glenister's programme include Wish Wynne (who returns to make an enormous success with her quaint comedy studies); Violet Loraine; the ever-mirthful T. E. Dunville; May Henderson, the Dusky Comedy Queen; the Five Cliftons; Ada Oxley and company, in a farcical sketch entitled *Peggy*; Alice Hollander; and Annie Abbott, the Little Georgia Magnet, who made such a sensation some years since at the Alhambra, remains in the bill.

Those clever little entertainers, Beatie and Babs, after fulfilling a four weeks' starring engagement at Munich, where they were one of the greatest successes known, open at the Palais D'Eté, Brussels.

Owing to the success of Miss Daisy James at the Holborn and Kilburn Empires Mr. Walter Gibbons has re-engaged her for a further week, commencing next Monday, at both these halls. Her latest success is a song "The squeegee dress."

At Scarborough County Court on Wednesday his Honour Judge Dodd, K.C., gave judgment against the Scarborough Corporation in an action brought against them by the Scarborough Olympia Picture Palace and Aero Exhibition (Limited), for damages for having wrongfully entered on the Olympia premises, which the Corporation own, and obliterated the word "Olympia," which the plaintiffs (the lessees) had had painted on the roof in large white letters.

The defendants contended that by painting the word the plaintiffs had infringed a clause in the lease, and also that as the rent exceeded £700 per annum the jurisdiction of the County Court was ousted. The Judge: It would be a pity for the Corporation to be baulked of more expensive litigation if they want it. The Town Clerk, who appeared for the Corporation, said he would waive the point of jurisdiction.

The Judge held that the clauses of the lease did not support the Corporation, and they would therefore have to pay damages. No doubt the lessees could paint the word back when they liked. He entered judgment for the plaintiffs for £5 5s. to repair what the defendants had done, and £1 15s. for the loss of the advertisement.

Mr. Ben Woodger, Secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank Mrs. O'Brien (Rule's, Maiden-lane) for box collection of £1 5s.; W. T. Simmons (Palace, Reading), for box collection of £1 1s. 6d.; also Jack Woolf, Wonderland, Whitechapel, donation of £2 2s.; and Walter O'Brien for kindly sending the inmates a parcel of books. The general meeting and presentations will take place on Thursday, Sept. 1, at the Terriers' Headquarters, 69, Kennington-road, S.E.

A year ago one of the coal-passers on the "Mauretania" jumped overboard, and the first-class passengers arranged a concert on behalf of his widow and children. In helping to draw up the programme, writes the New York correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph*, one of the officers, probably through the ship's doctor, heard that a girl of 20 named Bessie McGlynn, in the second cabin, had an unusual voice, and would gladly sing at the benefit.

She did, and her rendering of the old ballads of Scotland and Ireland delighted everybody. Upon landing she obtained employment as a chambermaid at the Ansonia apartment house, on Upper Broadway, and a few weeks ago one of the tenants, Mrs. Sharley Cobarn, who had happened to be on the "Mauretania," and heard the girl sing while she was making the beds, recognised her, with the result that Bessie is to be given a chance to cultivate a remarkable contralto voice.

She is an orphan, born in Co. Longford, sang in a parochial school of suburban Glasgow, and, with sister Kate, saved up enough money, like thousands of brave Irish girls, to try her fortunes across the Atlantic. When questioned by a New York musical critic as to the extent of her range, she answered, "The only range I know anything about is the gas range in Ansonia. I sing because I love to, and because I can't help it; but your talk about pitch and range and keys is double Dutch to me."

Last week at the Birmingham Empire Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas proved a greater success than ever, Mrs. Lucas reciving during the week no less than nine bouquets, of which she is specially proud. One of the oldest temperance speakers in the Midlands, an octogenarian, who had not previously entered a music-hall, came specially to the Birmingham Empire to see their characters from "Pickwick," afterwards asking permission to come to their dressing-room to compliment them on their act. Next week they commence a month's holiday at their bungalow, "Mush Mush," Laleham-on-Thames.

Miss Melinda May, Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Miss Billy Merson, donation, 7s. 6d.; Miss Kate Toole, donation, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Paul Courtney (collection at Hastings last week), 2s.; Mrs. Ernest Collins, useful parcel of clothing; Mrs. Herbert Shelley, babies' new clothing; Mrs. Gintaro, gentlemen's boots; Miss Flo Banks, ladies' hats and blouse, gentleman's hat.

Please note that a prize will be given to anyone, in or out of the profession, collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months commencing from Nov. 4 last. Will anyone make an offer for the fifteen large sized band books given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Could anyone help us with Mrs. Arthur Hatton's address? She holds the winning ticket, No. 50, for the handsome portière curtain. Will subscribers please make all cheques and postal orders payable to Music Hall Ladies' Guild?

The grand new Circus Bech-Olsen, which was opened at Copenhagen on Wednesday, is an event in the world of the arena, and the fine building, due to the admirable enterprise of the gentleman whose name it bears, was crowded at the inauguration. The first programme has an international significance; but art, as we all know, is cosmopolitan, and it is evident that the best artists only of each country are good enough for the new house. The all-star programme includes those graceful and intrepid ladies the Three Ohmys, in their world-famous jockey act; Miss Guttenberg; the Three Marionos; Wally von John; Mr. Batty, in a *haute école* act; the Meteors, gymnasts; Toscana; Fritz and Brasso; the Six Kaytons; Eugen and Narion, and others—a great aggregation of talent.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. FRANK CASS at Croydon has been creating nightly a great impression by his fine rendering of that sterling song "'Tis a faded picture." Much has been heard of this song, and very much more will be heard of it when the time arrives for Harlequin once more to wield his "bat." Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of the number.

MR. TOM E. FINGLASS, at the London Coliseum, has been scoring with some new material, and once again has the vast audiences with him during his artistic rendition of "Will you ride with me across the moonlit prairie?" a song that has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE, who with her "Sammy played the saxophone" has been charming her numerous admirers throughout her successful current tour, has acquired from Messrs. Murphy and Liston a song of great merit entitled "Jones." Messrs. Francis and Day are issuing both items.

AT the London Tivoli and elsewhere that mistress of refined vocalisation Miss Queenie Essex has been singing "Goo-goo Land" with the archness and point inseparable from all she does. The song, which is by Fred W. Leigh and C. W. Murphy, is issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm are bringing out in sheet music form a pretty song entitled "Queen of the sea," written and composed by J. Wright and sung by Miss Connie Gilbert.

MR. WILL GODWIN has disposed of the latest child of his brain—a charming ditty entitled "You and I"—to Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

HENRY E. PETHER, who is enjoying a vacation at Margate, has just set to music a remarkably pretty lyric by Leonard Cooke, which has been secured for the purpose of publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is entitled "With all my heart."

T. W. THURBAN (of "Brooklyn Cakewalk" fame) has evolved a distinct novelty in the shape of a ragtime reel entitled "Gee whiz!" Messrs. Francis and Day are issuing the same.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE has been making an enormous hit this week at the Palace, Bath, with a song from the pens of those able writers, Murphy and Lipton, entitled "Jones." This number is in the hands of Francis and Day, and promises to be one of the hits of the year. We shall certainly expect it to be heard in every pantomime at Christmas. In such capable hands as Miss Gallimore's, it is bound to become the rage.

AMONG numerous other recent acquisitions about to be published by Messrs. Francis and Day there may be mentioned—"Oh, mother (that's why I came home in the morning)," a song sung by Miss Vera Wootton, written and composed by J. P. Harrington and Maurice Scott; "There's a ship sailing in the morning" (sung by Mr. Frank Harwood), by Harry Gifford and Leonard Cooke; and "A plain cotton gown," by Harry Castling and Henry E. Pether.

A GREAT impression was made by Mr. Gordon Stretton on the audiences at the Argyle, Birkenhead, recently whilst singing those admired songs "It may be true what you say, Mr. Coon," by Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, and "Somebody's sweetheart," by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford, both of which are published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The same success attended Mr. Stretton's efforts to please at Dundee and Glasgow, and Mr. Clark, of the Birkenhead Argyle, instantly secured his services for a long time ahead. His new song, by Mellor and Gifford, "There's a brown girl in Old Dahomey" is a fine specimen of the art of the well-known pair of writers for the variety stage.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR has again achieved a triumph in song-writing in "Mary from Tipperary." This song is the property of Mr. Fred Barnes, with whom it is a huge success, and it is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MR. EUGENE STRATTON'S new song, "I may be a millionaire," by Fred Godfrey and Charles Collins, has entranced its multitudinous hearers at great houses during the week now ending at the New Cross Empire, and during the forthcoming week the denizens of Stratford will have their turn. The song, which will be issued immediately by Messrs. Francis and Day, will be embellished with a fine portrait of Mr. Stratton in character in Sidney Kent's best and most admired style.

THE well-known phrase "Came, saw, and conquered" fitly applies to Miss Florrie Forde's triumphs during the past few days at Derby Castle, Isle of Man. The all-pervading strain of "Flanagan" is everywhere to the fore, and the greatest exponent of chorus songs of the time has been nightly the recipient from delighted thousands of the applause which is rightly her due. The demand for copies of the song is great, but there has been no delay in supply, Messrs. Francis and Day having prepared for all emergencies. Miss Forde's other songs, including "Rip Van Winkle" and "I haven't had my licence cancelled yet," are also in much request. These likewise are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, at the Nottingham Empire, has not only been lauded to the skies by audiences during the past week for his admired new numbers, such as "Mr. Owl" and "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," but has had to yield to imperative calls for those old favourites of the populace, "I want to go to Idaho" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," both of which are also Messrs. Francis and Day's publications. Mr. Elliott, who is in great form just now, is set down to appear at that fine house, the Empire, Bradford, next week.

THAT charming artist Miss Lil Hawthorne has been during the week a big factor towards the enjoyment of visitors to Manxland, and at the Palace, Douglas, has in new and old songs maintained easily her assured position as a foremost artist. "Little maid of Monte Carlo" and "Don't cry, little girl," both of which are published by Messrs. Francis and Day, have been greatly enjoyed, not only by the enthusiastic Glasgow visitors to the island, but by Miss Hawthorne's faithful and admiring adherents of the white rose and the red.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY'S list of sixpenny popular editions is growing portentously lengthy, and will shortly include no fewer than 650 items. Among the latest additions may be mentioned the following:—"Keep on walking," "My little moon-boat," "In the old Dutch dairy," "We're all waiting for a girl," "Come into the garden, John," "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," "Moonshine," "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland," "Sam," "When Father was Mother for a day," "La-la-la-la, sing this chorus with me," "'Tis a faded picture," "Follow me, girls," "She's a London lass is Lucy," "And just then he fell out of bed," "Don't do away with the Peers (piers)," "There's a little black Cupid in the Moon," "All hands on deck," "You must hear all and say nowt," "Will ye no' come back again?" and "My orchard is short of a peach like you."

(Continued on page 22.)

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE TIVOLI.

The cosy theatre in the Strand presents a Bank Holiday programme that witches away the summer nights in fun and harmony and pleasantry. Mr. Joe Wilson being absent on his holiday, Mr. James Howell, the popular treasurer and acting-manager, is directing the entertainment, which has as one of its chief attractions a duologue, or comedy sketch, written by George Grossmith, jun., and entitled

"A NIGHT OF THE GARTER."

Fred .....MR. BEN WEBSTER
Muriel .....MISS MONA HARRISON

The trifle is chiefly noticeable for the fact that it has been chosen for the variety début of Mr. Ben Webster. The incidents presented in the course of the little piece have been made quite familiar to music-hall audiences through a production known as *My Burglar*, played with considerable success by Thorpe and Coe at the London Pavilion and other houses, and therefore Mr. George Grossmith, jun., can claim little originality for his work. Fred, the husband, has in Muriel a musical wife, who bores him by her continued piano-playing; and she is rather surprised that he should have any objection to her fantasias and sonatas, because he had offered so much encouragement to his mother-in-law, who was continually singing on her last visit. He explains that he induced mamma to sing in order to stop her talking. The conversation turns on the subject of dress allowance, and Fred is astounded at the bill run up for lingerie by Muriel; and his curiosity is aroused when he notes as one of the items a jewelled garter, twenty guineas. He has not seen it, and wishes to do so. As Muriel is wearing it she refuses to show it. The subject of burglary crops up in connection with the report of a robbery in the neighbourhood, and Muriel deprecates the conduct of the lady, who has been bound and gagged by the two cracksmen. Without a hint as to his intentions Fred departs, only to return disguised as a burglar. The frightened Muriel accedes to his demand for the expensive dress off her back, and, helpless in camisole and jupon, she has to remove the garter. When the swag attains respectable proportions, Fred bags it and departs. Muriel throws the furniture into confusion, and on his return tells tarradiddles as to the terrible struggle she has had with armed ruffians, who have torn the dress from off her back, &c. We take it that Muriel will hand down the jewelled garter as a family heirloom, without any chronicle of her silly adventure. Mr. Ben Webster was of course more than equal to the slight responsibilities of the rôle of Fred; and Miss Mona Harrison, a graceful and clever comedienne, showed us that she can play the piano with taste, and looked particularly charming. In her treatment of the disrobing scene her daintiness and refinement were particularly marked.

The chief comic star of the bill is Little Tich, who has returned with a capital number, "The Territorial," in which he gives a capital mock-tragic recitation. His older numbers, "The Gas Inspector" and "The Bargee," are as popular as ever. There is a warm welcome for the American boys, Bob Adams and Bob Alden (the Two Bobs), who, in the expressive vernacular of the States, have "won home" at this house by their extremely clever exposition of American characteristic songs and dances. We have many good turns from "the other side," and the Two Bobs are among the "top notchers." The Ten-Ka Japanese troupe are making their first appearance at the Tivoli, and their entertainment seems to sound the last word in ingenious deception; and another remarkable turn is presented by Larola, an equilibrist of remarkable capacity, invention, and skill. Early in the evening Miss Anita Bartling, a graceful jongleuse, proves that she has studied to some advantage in the best of all schools—the Cinquevalli; Miss Violet Lloyd and Mr. Horace Lane are responsible for a merry *quarts d'heure* with their amusing duologue *Tonie*, which comes for the second time to the Tivoli. Other returns include Tom Clare, a piano-humorist of the first rank, whose work is always funny, always artistic, and always refined. "Cynthia" and "The night the old cow died" are two capital songs. Dale and O'Malley have a very bright show; Dutch Daly's patter and concertina playing catch on; Miss May Moore Duprez as a Dutch girl gives a very good reproduction of the style of Happy Fanny Fields; Miss Bessie Slaughter sings in forcible style; Miss Minnie Mace dances in spirited fashion; and Max Waldron's female impersonations are decidedly clever. Other turns include Sam Mayo, José Collins, and Queenie Essex. The entertainment concludes with some up-to-date pictures on Ruffell's Bioscope.

THE COLISEUM.

The flowing tide of success is greatly in evidence at the fine house in St. Martin's-lane, and standing-room only has been the order of the days and nights. Master Edward Garratt, in the new comedy sketch, entitled *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, is responsible for shouts of laughter, and receives ablest assistance from the other members of Bellew and Stock's company—two ladies and a gentleman whose names do not figure on the programme. The scene is the interior of a boarding-school where a precocious child is momentarily expected, its guardian's letter to the schoolmistress stating that the boy is more like a middle-aged man in his habits than an infant of five, and instructing her to garb him in dress suitable to his tender years. Presently there arrives on the scene Mr. Mortimer Magnus, a diminutive M.P., who, to escape the attention of a number of suffragettes, takes shelter with his private secretary in the drawing-room of the school, being carried in in a large valise by the zealous secretary. This gentleman departs to see if the coast is clear, and the pompous little M.P. is then taken by the schoolmistress to be the expected precocious youngster, and the fun that follows—especially when the indignant little man is forced to don the bib and short frock of a baby—is better imagined than described.

Mr. Tom E. Finglass is splendidly received for his excellent rendition of his new song, "My Baby," in which he sings of his pride and joy at being the father of a bouncing boy who is as black as himself, and the song, which has a most captivating refrain, is one likely to become annexed by the man in the street, and a like reception was accorded his "Will you ride across the moonlit prairie with me?" the dance that follows, in which the cowboy coon has the help of a lady, being given with the dash and vehemence for which Mr. Finglass is noted. Miss Ada Reeve has a great welcome, and, with songs that are well contrasted, evokes continuous applause, her numbers including "Please play me something that's dreamy," "Nobody knows, nobody cares," "When Richard the First sat on the Throne," and "Foolish questions." Even then Miss Reeve is not allowed to depart till she has given the Oliver Twists in front "Love me just a little, Sue." Little Elise Craven, assisted by Master Bert Clerc, enchants beholders by her clever dancing, and Montgomery and Moore are as smart a pair of cross-talkers, singers, and dancers as America has yet sent us, the gentleman of the twain being an astonishing fine pianoforte player. The altercation at the end of their act, in which each strives to have the last word (with the usual result), being one of the funniest things heard on a stage. The entertainment includes, also, such well-known favourites as Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, Goodfellow and Gregson, the Brothers O'Brien on the bars, Lily Flexmore, the Five Mowatts, and the Bioscope. Mr. Louis La Rondelle's orchestra gives a spirited rendering of H. Fragson's "La Parisienne" march, and, also, later in the evening, a selection from "Iolanthe" that is much to the taste of visitors.

THE OXFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 1, Production of a new Sketch by Wal Pink, entitled

"WHINES AND SPIRITS."

Potty Porter .....MR. JOE ELVIN
Professor Swankey .....MR. GEORGE DENHAM
Blaber .....MR. KENNETH ALTAMONT
Mrs. Swankey .....MISS LUCIE EVELYN
Maud .....MISS GRACIE VICAT
Mrs Porter .....MISS ROSE CASTELLI

For the purposes of his latest comic sketch Mr. Wal Pink has evoked the spirits. He has been bold enough to make fun of spiritualism, or rather of those who profess to be able to hold communication with the spirits of the departed. But we are inclined to believe that even the ardent believer in spiritualism would not be able to forbear from laughing at the harmless skit produced for the first time at the Oxford on Monday evening. Professor Swankey, his wife, and daughter, are impostors; they take advantage of the credulity of a large number of men and women, and they make it pay, though Maud, the daughter, is rather disposed to rebel aginst taking part in the trickery. Blaber, the attendant, is also inclined to express in unmistakable terms his opinion of so-called spiritualism. The fun begins with the appearance on the scene of Potty Porter, who has come to see "the bogies." He is introduced by the Professor to his wife and daughter Maud, and the charms of the younger lady evidently make an impression on the susceptible Potty. A séance is arranged, and when the lights are turned down the visitor to Swankey's abode sees on the walls hideous skulls grinning at him. However, he pays the fee of two guineas, and hopes to have his money's worth in the shape of spiritualistic manifestations. He expresses a wish to hold communication with his old pal, "Bloggy," who while on earth was a bookmaker, and when Potty's desire has been fulfilled and knocks on the table signify that the spirit is responsive to the medium's appeal, he asks for a tip for the Cambridgeshire, and further suggests that "Bloggy" should send along the trifling loan that has never been repaid. Potty next requests that he should be placed in communication with his wife, and the mysterious knocks are again heard. Thereupon the investigator into the mysteries of spiritualism denounces the whole thing as a fraud, because his wife is alive. He receives a shock, however, when what is said to be the spirit of his wife appears and proceeds to interrogate him respecting a certain lady who is in the milk business. It turns out that the supposed spirit is his own wife, who preceded him on a visit to the Professor. Mr. Joe Elvin in the character of Potty Porter was as amusing as ever, his funny allusions and effective facial expression being the cause of great merriment. Mr. George Denham as the Professor, Miss Lucie Evelyn as Mrs. Swankey, and Miss Grace Vicat as Maud gave valuable assistance. Mr. Kenneth Altamont was amusing as the aged attendant, Blaber, and Miss Rose Castelli gave an excellent portrayal of Mrs. Porter.

Miss Marie Lloyd received a hearty greeting on Monday evening, but since then indisposition has prevented her from appearing, and her place on the programme has been taken by Dale and O'Malley, humorous patter comedians. Mr. Tom Woottwell has scored in the character of a rag and bone merchant, and he introduces many laughable jokes having reference to the goods in which he deals. Mr. George Chirgwin, the White-eyed Kaffir, finds no difficulty in maintaining his popularity as an eccentric comedian and vocalist. Talbot and Pearce, in their pretty and refined Irish song scena "Over the Garden Wall," sing duets in charming style, and conclude with a spirited Irish jig. Mr. Milt Wood, who comes from America, excels as a wooden shoe dancer. Miss Victoria Monks meets with a flattering reception, as does also Miss Queenie Essex. Mr. Hubert Shelley scores with his Irish songs and comical stories, and Kitts and Windrum do well in "What a Night!" The Sisters Reeve, duettists and dancers, are pleasing young artists; King and Benson, comedians, find favour, and so, too, do Devon and Earle as clever dancers. Other successful turns are given by Mr. W. S. Wyndham, comedian; Mr. Barney Armstrong, comedian; Mr. Harry Grey, the "Australian nugget"; the Warsaw Brothers, in a comedy musical act; Miss Edna Latona, male impersonator; and Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, trick cyclists. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is also an attraction.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

One of the rare specimens of the successful adaptation of a four-act play to the limitations of a music-hall sketch is provided in *Her Luck in London*, which occupies a prominent position in the South London bill. The piece has been touring the provinces prosperously for some years, and seems likely to renew its popularity at the variety theatre. The pith of the play has been preserved, and renders quite clear the story of Nell Harborne, who, tired of the monotony of country life and the strict puritanism of her father, resolves to try her luck in the great metropolis. Here she falls a victim to the wiles of Richard Lenowen, the keeper of a gambling den, and is soon relegated to the position of decoy. In this capacity she meets the Hon. Gerald O'Connor, who offers her his hand in marriage. Afraid to tell him by word of mouth the story of her shame, she eventually puts it into the form of a letter, and hands it to one of her companions to post; but that unscrupulous lady pockets the epistle, and in conjunction with Lenowen uses it for blackmailing purposes after Nell and O'Connor are married. When O'Connor learns of his wife's past life he upbraids her for bringing disgrace on his name, and bids her leave his house, but the lady so bitterly reproaches him that he takes her back to his heart.

The burden of the playlet falls upon Miss Mary Neil, who sustained the chief rôle on the first production. She depicts the wayward country girl with much charm, but her dramatic and emotional powers are revealed in the strong concluding scene, Nell's despair at the thought of leaving her husband and her bitter denunciation of conventionalities of life being quite thrilling. Miss Neil created a great impression, and was repeatedly recalled. Mr. Stuart Cleveland gives a sound and finished rendering of the stern and inflexible father, his lines being marked by admirable elocution. As Gerald O'Connor Mr. Herbert Standing, the bearer of a name familiar in the theatrical world, is meritorious; Mr. Jack Haddon makes the wickedness of Richard Lenowen palpable, and receives adequate support from Miss Marie Ranier as a discreditable frequenter of the Hilarity Lounge; and Miss Marie Auckland is a sufficiently cold and callous Lilian Harborne. The scenery is elaborate and picturesque, no expense having been spared in its provision.

Sketches abound in Mr. William Payne's programme, which includes *The Biter Bit*, by the Brothers Horne, which still retains its power to amuse. The young lady who sings and dances is much applauded. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard appear in their comedy act, *Coming Home*; Reg Bolton has some funny things to say and sing in his scena, *The Editor's Imp*; and the Smythsons, in the comedietta *Love Germs*, also make for merriment and secure it. A popular contributor to the programme is Miss Queenie Leighton, who scores especially in her chorus song "Paradise Alley"; and a welcome interlude is supplied by Miss Maud Courtney, who sings a song to which apt replies are interjected by a gentleman in a private box, the effusion being cleverly written and artistically worked. Others in the entertaining programme are Mr. C., who "sings and talks"; Mr. Fred Hastings, comedian; and Ruffell's Bioscope, on which up-to-date events are portrayed. Mr. William Payne is always alert and efficient as manager, and has an obliging assistant in Mr. William Lynch.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

An excellent bill was presented on Monday to the delighted holiday audience, who received it with unstinted applause. The inimitable Eugene Stratton is always a big favourite, and his artistic method, tuneful songs, and fine dancing are as enjoyable as ever. His latest success, "I may be a millionaire," and his other contributions were all loudly applauded. Miss Olga Dorè made a big hit with her cleverly-rendered operatic selections; Hans and Lux, the ever-popular comedians, earned hearty laughter by their really funny patter and humorous performance; the Grassis are particularly agile acrobats, and also prove themselves clever novelty musicians.

Tom Haig and Millie Novel win applause for their comedy acrobatic turn; Carl Howard is successful in pleasing the audience with his unique concoction of comedy and magic; Albert Whelan has a warm and well-deserved reception for his interesting entertainment; clever Miss Bertha Winder once more delighted all with her wonderful and varied dancing; Carter Livesey's new sketch entitled *An Amateur Anarchist* amused everybody. The popular comedian gave a richly humorous performance of the character of Adam Armstrong, a Yorkshire porter, and he was well supported by Miss Lilian Rosebery and Mr. Leo Minster. Pictures concluded the entertainment. Mr. Fred Epitaux is the courteous acting-manager and Mr. Will Horsfield his able lieutenant. Mr. Walter Smith is the capable stage-manager, and Mr. Forbes Russell the popular director of the orchestra.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The above hall of amusement is realising our prediction at its opening, and each week the bookings have been eminently satisfactory. *Under the White Ensign*, at the top of the bill, is a realistic naval playlet, admirably presented by Miss Edith Lewis and company. The scenery and costumes are very effective and greatly enhance the production. Another excellent sketch is presented by Mr. Sydney Mason and Miss Theresa Moore, entitled *The Usurer*, a dramatic episode brimful of exciting incidents and cleverly played by the artists engaged.

Cruikshank, styled "the fool of the family," is a very droll clown, and his irresistible wit and quaint songs are quite to the liking of the house. A pretty vocal comedy scena in a dainty setting is *The Scarecrow and the Stars*, given

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

by Miss Maud Hillman and Mr. Maurice Russell, who introduce some excellent singing. Eileen Northe, the Cullercoats fisher-lass, is the possessor of a rich contralto voice, and she is the recipient of unstinted applause for her sweet singing of Tosti's "Good-bye" and an encore song. Athas and Collins are popular, and cause endless merriment with their duologue and sand-dance. Cyrus Dare, vocal illusionist and child impersonator, comes in for a warm reception, his singing of "My sweetheart when a boy" being a special number. Daisy Mayer, presenting character studies, gives a clever rendering of her monologue song, "Ain't you going to let me say good-bye?" Her dancing and witticisms also find much favour. Other excellent turns are the Westbrooks in their novelty dancing scena, and the Sisters Casselli, speciality dancers, whose high kicking is a special feature. The orchestra, under the musical direction of Mr. Adolphe Wolff, renders excellent music, and is quite a feature of the performance.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

A popular holiday programme is put forward by Mr. Chas. Beresford, who is well rewarded for his efforts. That comic sketch, *My Pal Jerry*, which is at the top of the bill, is proving as big a draw as ever. Lew Lake as Nobbler and Bob Morris as Jerry keep the house in continual delight, and the Court scene, which has been improved since we last saw it, causes screams of laughter. La Belle Linda is a charming lady cyclist, who performs many clever tricks in a finished and graceful fashion, and with an ease that makes the most difficult appear simple. An amusing ventriloquial entertainment is given by Gillin, who has quite a comical lot of chatter with his little assistant.

The Lyric Mummers present a novel vocal scena, which is much appreciated, and they give some very pretty numbers, the male partner especially singing "Genevieve" in fine style and with great taste. Freddy French is a lively comedian, who first appears as a Suffragette and delivers a comic speech on this pressing subject, finally coming to blows with a policeman, and getting into serious trouble. He next sings of the different styles of dancing, and gives clever examples, which score a big hit. Ruby Roya has a bright number, "Ain't none of you got no home?" which she makes the most of, and afterwards gives a neat dance. Sibb and Sibb accomplish a wonderful aerial gymnastic display, and are much applauded for their efforts.

Mimicry is always popular, and Miss Rosie Archer is rapidly making her way as an exponent of the art, for her impersonations are most lifelike, especially those of Margaret Cooper, Vesta Tilley, Vesta Victoria, and Gertie Gitana. She manages to catch the voice especially well, and she has to respond to two encores. A novel idea is that of *Dolls Alive*, as presented by the Barnard family. The scene is a doll shop, with a little stage at the back, where the dolls give a comic scene, which is worked on marionette lines, and is most diverting. Miss Maud Wilton, the dainty comedienne, and the Bioscope, with some fine flying pictures, conclude.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

On the evening of our visit to this favourite house there was a bumping attendance, without doubt due to the general excellence of the programme submitted by the enterprising management. Kloof and Ramsey, the popular comedy duo, gave an exceptionally smart musical turn, their "Tea-table" act being specially selected for applause; Mr. W. B. Raby rendered to an appreciative audience in characteristic style his song "Sleep"; Dower and Denville, the comedians with the educated feet, dance well, and were rewarded with hearty plaudits; Miss Lillie Sprightly has a catchy song in "I want you all to come with me," the swinging chorus of which was taken up by the "gods"; and Mr. Paul Pelham received well-earned approbation for his rendering of "Two little drummer boys" as a descriptive song.

It is not often that one sees on the variety stage such a powerful one-act dramatic play as that presented by Mr. Cecil Gray and company, entitled *To-morrow's Dawn*, and during the thirty minutes the company occupies the stage it is safe to say the audience are held spellbound by the dramatic realism. The scene is laid in the lounge hall in Norton Castle. Miss Dora Eastlake as Natalie admirably portrayed the adventuress who has sworn to revenge herself against the house of Norton, and to gain her object becomes Countess of Norton. Mr. Frank Dale as Capt. Francis Vivian, the willing accomplice of the adventurous Countess, played his part well, as did also Mr. Eric Norman as Tony Fowler. Mr. John Manners left nothing to be desired as Capt. the Hon. Jack Granby; Mr. Cecil Gray displayed fine dramatic fervour as Dorian, who believes he has killed his brother in a quarrel over his wife's honour; and the play was well staged. The enthusiastic greeting from the house was well merited, and thrice Mr. Gray had to come before the curtain.

Miss Eileen Douglas has two good songs in "Miss Lollipop" and "I'll show you how to paddle your canoe." At the close of her second number she tripped the light fantastic in good style. Francis has some very smart juggling tricks. His manipulation of the cannon balls is exceptionally clever, and deserved the loud applause given. Mr. George Newburn, the inimitable mimic, is ever a favourite, and delights the audience with his impersonations of well-known artists. Tilley Wagner and company provoke lots of laughter with their breezy, farcical skit entitled *A Call to Arms*. The Bioscope pictures depicting Mr. Cody's accident at Aldershot are well reproduced. The genial manager, Mr. Fred T. Murray, is ever busy looking after the interests of the house and the comfort of the patrons.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

This week the management have secured a first-rate company. A big favourite is Chung-Ling-Soo, the world-famous Oriental conjurer, with his varied and clever entertainment. Will Musgrave is a dapper comedian, his songs "Not to-night, Josephine, not to-night" and "Father says he's seen a lot of it" being very funny. Esme Gordon's song "Never look for trouble" goes well, and her final dance shows much skill. Gladys Soman has a sweet and powerful soprano voice, and uses it to the best advantage, especially in "Star of my life."

The Brennons (Will and May) are really clever dancers. The gentleman, who is the holder of the World's Championship Belt, "foots" it merrily on the glass cube with lights beneath. The Oakes Duo have an extremely funny act, *Making a Man of Her*. After some grotesque business, the man proceeds, while the lady is singing, to dress her in male attire and "make-up." Marie Hurley is a smart comedienne, and advises all girls in her song to "Take your guide-book with you," whilst she also pleases greatly with "Love is like a balloon."

Hunt and Thomas in their latest skit, *Her Birthday*, are very good. The lady, weary of waiting for her husband on her birthday whiles away the time by singing. She then discovers a telegram, and decides to open it. Mistaking the meaning of it, she goes into a paroxysm of rage and temper, all the while congratulating herself that she is calm and self-possessed. Her husband enters, and then the fun commences. The poor fellow cannot get in a word edgeways, and in his endeavours to get away from her a case falls from his pocket. She pounces upon it and opens it, disclosing a jewelled garter. Explanations are useless. She still rails on, until at last he tells her the wire was sent for her and the garter is a birthday gift. The excellent Bioscope films are greatly appreciated.

"ON THE SANDS."

"A Frolic," in One Scene, Music Composed, Selected, and Arranged by George W. Byng, Produced at the Alhambra on Monday, Aug. 1.

Eton Boy French Dancer	Miss Elise Clerc
A Young Lady Visitor	Miss Pet Lindell
Her Sweetheart	Miss Daisy Rogers
A Runaway Schoolgirl	Miss Rita Leggiero
Her Father	Mr. R. Vallis
Her Mother	Miss N. Brown
Her Governess	Miss F. Mansell
Gipsies	Misses Gina Cormani and Lillie Lauri
Boatman	Mr. Tom Coventry
Detective French Dancer	M. Emile Agoust

A suggestion of the seaside that is very fresh and welcome is provided in the holiday programme at the Alhambra, of which the new "frolic" *On the Sands* is a feature. All the gaiety, life, and movement and the effective combinations of colour that one associates with the popular home of ballet are present in the production, which represents the sands of a favourite watering-place with amazing fidelity, the breakers rolling in in quite natural style, the pierhead rearing itself realistically in the near distance, and bathing tents lining the beach.

The story is of the usual slender type, but lends itself to the introduction of picturesque groups innumerable. A neat sailor drill is followed by the arrival of a number of schoolgirls to indulge in their morning dip, but hardly have they entered the water than a group of irrepressible schoolboys arrive, and after a game at leapfrog conceive the fiendish idea of purloining and dressing-up in the clothes of the young ladies who are disporting in the waves. The dismay of the girls on finding their clothes missing from their tents, however, is dissipated by the return of the lads, who, in a series of dances, transfer the costumes to their rightful owners. Meanwhile, one of their smaller companions has been stolen by a gipsy band, and re-enters habited in Russian garb—an opportunity not to be missed of giving one of the lively dances characteristic of that nationality. The arrival of an accomplished Parisienne and her equally clever companion brings a delightful burlesque of Mlle. Pavlova and Mr. Mordkin, and the end of the "frolic" is reached by a series of mazy evolutions, in which ribbons of red, white, and blue are wound and unwound round the pillar of a beacon light which is erected on the beach.

The principals and corps de ballet work untiringly to secure the success obtained. Mme. Elise Clerc is a comely Eton boy, and acts with the animation and spontaneity that one expects of the ringleader of a troop of schoolboys. Her best work, of course, is reserved for the impersonation of the French dancuse, an exquisitely dainty assumption. She is now paired by M. Emile Agoust, a newcomer to the Alhambra, who should long remain, and her *pas de deux* with that gentleman is distinguished by the grace and finish that mark the clever artist. Miss Rita Leggiero plays the runaway schoolgirl, and her experiness, both in her step-dance and in her Russian evolutions, excites once again the admiration of all. The Misses Gina Cormani and Lillie Lauri make handsome gipsies, and lead their revels agreeably; and Mr. Tom Coventry realises the old boatman quaintly. The rest of the characters combine to form a familiar picture of life on the sands, and attain perfection in the duties allotted to them. Mr. George W. Byng's music is melodious and sparkling, and appropriate to every occasion. It would hardly have been complete without the introduction of Miss Madge Temple's popular song "On the silvery sands," which serves as an excellent selection to "ring up" with, and is again introduced in the course of the ballet. Mr. E. H. Ryan has achieved another triumph in the setting of the new work.

Interest is aroused in the first appearance in England of Olympia Desvall and her trained ponies and dogs, who do in combination many of the tricks usually undertaken by those animals separately. One clever fox-terrier throws a backward somersault from the horse which is attached to madame's elegant go-cart, on to the shoulders of monsieur, who is standing by her side, and various other tricks are accomplished, which give every satisfaction to the sightseer.

The spectacular magnificence of *Femina*, the beautiful and eloquent pantomime of Mlle. Leonora, and the terpsichorean graces of Mlle. Britta, continue to arouse thunderous applause. The wonderful nerve and skill of the Uessems induce thrills of admiration; the Schichtl marionettes gain repeated cheers for their marvellous work; Merlin's conjuring is of a completely baffling character; Henry Helme wins merited approbation for his fine singing; and the generous programme, which is started by the Royal Colibris in their comic act *The Baby, the Nurse, and the Corporal*, is concluded by Jury's Imperial pictures, which depict the very latest events. Mr. Alfred Moul has supplied a holiday entertainment that cannot fail to attract.

Miss Mina Green will produce at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday next, a new and original song-scena, "In the Land of the Cingalee," which has been written and composed for her by J. F. Lambe and Alf. J. Lawrence. The same lady has in preparation another scena dealing with an Egyptian love romance, written by the same author and set to music by Fred Elton, of "On board an ocean liner" fame.

Miss Daisy Rhyl has procured some charming song slides for J. F. Lambe and Denham Harrison's pretty Irish song "Won't you wear your old knee-breeches?" which she will sing at Leicester next week. The same young lady has been scoring all along the line in "Won't you come to Madeira with me?" which is also the work of J. F. Lambe, and is published by the National Publishing Company.

"THE FIGHTING PARSON" JUDGMENT.

Judgment was delivered in the King's Bench Division on Tuesday by Mr. Justice Phillimore in the case of Barrasford and another *v.* Gray, in which damages were claimed from Mr. George Gray for breach of an agreement to appear for one week, from Dec. 3, 1906, at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, in his dramatic sketch *The Fighting Parson*.

Mr. Hume-Williams, K.C., and Mr. Martin O'Connor (instructed by Messrs. Amery Parkes, Macklin, and Co.) appeared for plaintiffs; and Mr. M. Shearman, K.C., and Mr. Storry Deans (instructed by Messrs. Morris and Rickards) were for defendant.

The claim, his lordship said, was for £130, liquidated damages, or, in the alternative, for general damages. Various defences had been set up, such as that the contract had been made with Mr. Barrasford alone, that Mr. Barrasford did not give authority for the action, and that the sum sued for was a penalty, and not liquidated damages. On all these points his decision was against defendant. With regard to the point that this was a penalty, his lordship said that where, in a contract, there was a clause purporting to stipulate that one particular sum of money should be paid for any breach of that contract, large or small, so that for some breaches the sum would be so excessive that it could not be supposed to have been contemplated, that would be a penalty. In this case defendant was to give a week's performances at four different halls in the provinces for £150 in each, and a week's performances at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, for £130; and it was stipulated that if he failed to fulfil any one of these engagements he should forfeit the amount which he would otherwise have received for the week's performances. If he appeared on five nights and did not appear on the sixth, or if he did not appear at all, it would equally be a failure to fulfil the engagement; and therefore the defence contended that this was a penalty. His lordship was satisfied, however, that he would be going far beyond the authorities if he held that this was a penalty, and there would be judgment for the plaintiffs for £130 damages, with costs.

Mr. Shearman said he presumed that the usual time would be allowed for payment of the money into court, with a view to an appeal, and his lordship assented.

Mr. Harry Barclay, comedian, has now settled down in Leigh as manager at the Assembly Rooms.

Miss Nancy Thornton, charming comedienne, sails from Southampton on Aug. 13 for South Africa. She returns for panto. to play principal girl at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE
Miss Dorothy Ward	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page* 21.)

Mr. John P. Harrington, whose visit to Mr. Geo. Lashwood in South Wales was chronicled in this column last week, is finding all the enjoyment that he expected. He writes Messrs. Feldman and Co. re "Mister Pat O'Hare," that the great "George" is making a tremendous hit in this song, and the general opinion is that it will be a terrific pantomime winner. He also sends the Arthur-street firm most satisfactory news re their ballad "Beautiful Garden of Roses," in which Miss Alice Kingsley is gaining golden opinions.

Miss Nellie Neil is still the recipient of congratulations on her rendering of "Ev'rytime the clock goes tick-tock." She has been singing this song regularly since she first produced it at the Hippodrome, Yarmouth, in March last, and writes Messrs. Feldman and Co. that it seems to grow in popularity each town that she visits.

Mr. Arthur Aldridge, "the Pavilion tenor," is going great guns this week at the Pavilion with Feldman's new march song entitled "Mary, you're a big girl now." This number promises to become one of the Feldman hits in coming pantomimes.

Two more Feldman numbers which are enthusiastically received nightly have been produced by Miss May Lilian Levey. They are entitled "Rain, rain, go away," written and composed by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and "Oh! boys, I've seen you there," from the pen of John P. Harrington and John Neat. The irresistible choruses will soon be heard everywhere.

From all over the country news comes to hand of the success of "Marie Louise," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford. This is a number which lends itself to effects, and should be a prime favourite with all the best pierrot troupes in the country. This song is published by Messrs. Feldman and Co., who predict for it a popularity equal to "I like your old French bonnet."

"Let's have a little bit of Sunshine" and "What's the matter with father?" are creating something like a furore at Maidstone this week. The numbers are sung by Mr. Fred Barnes, and published by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

Miss May Mars is just now paying a welcome return visit to the Isle of Man, where she last year made herself and "Charlie Brown" immensely popular. On the present occasion Miss Mars is singing two songs by the same authors (A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott), "Ship ahoy!" and the chorus ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." Both songs are tremendously successful, but the last-named has taken Douglas by storm. It is played, sung, and whistled in every part of the island. The Star Music Co. find it necessary to warn artists that this is not a free song. Written permission must be obtained.

Ernest D'Almaine has become a firm favourite with visitors to Douglas Head, where Charles Dare's famous minstrels delight thousands each day. At each performance Mr. D'Almaine creates a furore with his rendering of Mona's favourite ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." Next week Mr. D'Almaine sings this number at the Empire (Mr. Dare's cosy little theatre), where beautiful coloured slides will serve to add a new interest to this charming song.

Miss Maud Mortimer is this week delighting patrons of the Palace Theatre, Blackburn, with Mills and Scott's ubiquitous ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes," and flattering reports are also to hand from Dublin and Cardiff, where it is being sung respectively by Miss Nellie Wigley and Kitty Clinton. Londoners have not been neglected, for Miss Marie Blythe has been winning unstinted applause and many recalls with the same song at the Bedford. The Star Music Co. are already receiving applications for pantomime rights.

Whit Cunliffe has found another great winner in his latest comedy song "He's all right." This is by Alf Ellerton, R. P. Weston, and Maurice Scott. The Star Co. have the number in the press.

George Lashwood, who is at present on the Stoll tour, is making an enormous success with his new chorus song "The Moonlight Promenade," by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. To hear the genial George in this number is a revelation. His original method of cajoling the different sections of the audience to sing the chorus is provocative of much spontaneous laughter, and gets home every time. This is another Star Co. winner.

All Coventry, where Ernie Mayne is starring, is singing "Pork and rabbit" this week, and he is holding the stage for upwards of half an hour. He produced with instantaneous success there on Tuesday a burlesque vocal scena, *Pawning a Shirt*, written and composed by J. P. Long.

Mr. Edgar Graham has secured from Mr. F. V. St. Clair a new scena for his Living Marionettes entitled "The Music-Hall Parliament."

Mr. St. Clair has scored with a great chorus song, which should be heard in the pantomimes. It is named "I love to see them when they're working in the mills." The refrain is very catchy. Wee Georgie Wood has been scoring at the Oxford with one of Mr. St. Clair's humorous readings.

Miss Amy Clevere's tuneful new number "Black Belle (I'm sorry you're a coon)," is from the same pen that furnished the talented lady with her fine "Ain't you got a black moon?" and G. A. Stevens has published this later number also with Messrs. Francis and Day.

OPENING OF CROYDON HIPPODROME.

This latest addition to the Moss and Stoll circuit was opened on the twice-nightly principle on Monday, and the auditorium was packed at both performances. There was no special ceremony to mark the inauguration, but a ready passport to the favour of the Croydon folk was found in the fine programme arranged by Mr. Oswald Stoll, who has for resident-manager Mr. Stanley Hope (formerly of Jersey). The district-manager is Mr. J. Christie, the stage-manager Mr. D. Horace Harcourt, and the musical-director Mr. H. Kattray, who has been promoted to this position from a leadership at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. The building does honour to the genius of Frank Matcham, who designed it. The old Theatre Royal, on the site of which the Hippodrome is built, was run for many years by Messrs. Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett. On Monday, Harry Simms, light comedian, had the honour of being the first to tread the stage. A great ovation awaited Vesta Tilley, who gave of her best. The Three Meers brought down the house in their comedy wire act; and Jen Latona's comedy songs were encored. Bert Coote and company were immensely popular in the sketch *A Lamb on Wall-street*; Leonard Charburn's Young Stars gave a pleasing turn; Siems, a clever card and coin manipulator, did well; O'Gust's quaint mimicry caught on; and the Bioscope pictures were worth seeing.

Miss Marie Hall leaves Southampton to-day in the Kenilworth Castle for South Africa. The celebrated violinist will open her world's tour in Durban, and will play in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Miss Hall has also engagements in China, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand, and will return to this country via Canada.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

[By Americus.]

The American steamers have been a little slack during the past week, relative to the importations of vaudeville artists. The average this week is much lower than any previous week. However, the few that came into port and opened have met with splendid success. The Palace Theatre and the Coliseum both received their share of the new importations.

Montgomery and Moore.

The matinée on Monday at the Coliseum saw for the first time the act known as the "Real Vaudevillians," Montgomery and Moore, two high-class American entertainers, with twenty-five minutes of real fun and laughter. In fact, this couple made such an impression with the audience right from the start, that there was no question as to them becoming real favourites in London. They are both artists in their line, and the English patrons were quick to appreciate their efforts.

Five Mowatts.

These clever fellows from Chicago have been seen in London before, with their premier club juggling act. Closing the big bill at the Coliseum, they proved themselves to be masters of the position, and won unlimited applause throughout for their fine exhibition of skill.

The Great Lester Coming Soon.

The Great Lester is due in London to-day or the first of next week. This clever performer sailed on the Kronprinz from New York last week. He may pay a visit to Berlin before coming into London, where he is booked for an appearance in September.

American Toe Dancer.

Bessie Clayton arives in Paris to-day, where she will remain for three months, returning to America in October. Miss Clayton is making the trip for a vacation and rest, and will spend some few weeks in London before returning to the States.

Miss Gussie Holl Returns.

Miss Gussie Holl, the German imitator, comes to London for a few days, after which she will return for the winter to Berlin, where she is booked on the Continent for a lengthy period.

Harry Corson Clarke and Margaret Dale Owen.

Sailing this month from New York will be Harry Corson Clarke and Margaret Dale Owen, who closed their season some few weeks ago in the States, and will spend their summer and a couple of the fall months in London and on the Continent. Whether the couple will play any time in London has not been decided up to date.

Mr. Passpart in London.

The European representative of the Great Orpheum Circuit, Mr. Passpart, arrived in the City from the Continent on Tuesday night, and was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Merrian at the German Club on Wednesday evening. Mr. Passpart came over for a week's stay to attend to some business in addition to paying a little visit to his sister and his daughter, who is with the Merrian act at the Palace Theatre.

London Favourite Signed for the Orpheum Circuit.

I was informed on Monday evening by one who knows that one of the most popular vaudeville artists has signed for Orpheum. When I saw the price that the Orpheum was paying for this act, I chuckled to myself that American managers consider England's best at most any price. The lady who is getting this tremendously big salary is playing London this week. I promised not to mention any names. I may tell you later.

McIntosh Here.

Hughie McIntosh, the Australian promoter of big boxing matches, arrived early in the week from America, and sails back either to-day or Wednesday. All I can say, relative to this busy fellow, is that he has a big boxing treat in store for the lovers of the hit-and-get-away game, in addition to a number of theatrical and vaudeville novelties, which he has gathered during his last trip round the world, and which he will present during the coming fall here in England.

Jimmie Britt.

The clever little lightweight, Jimmie Britt, has had a number of good offers from music-hall agents to do a sketch or monologue in the halls. Jimmie says, "If I could get eight or ten minutes of good stuff I would not mind; but before I do, you can bet I will have a good number, or I don't appear."

Diving Lessons.

The Board of Control of the American Bachelors' Club met last Thursday night. The principal topic before the Board for consideration was: Does Chuck intend to continue taking diving lessons at Brighton, and why is it he is infatuated with this sport? Also, who is the fellow who is trying to outdo Bolo in full dress, and who claims to be a good Bachelor?

Nat Wills' Big Motor.

Standing behind the stage door of the Palace most every day is a big motor. I inquired of Frank Damar the owner, and he replied, "It belongs to a tramp." I thought it funny that a tramp could own such a fine machine. After inquiry I was told that the wealthiest tramp in the world, who was also an actor, was the real owner. Of course, then he told me his name, and I purchased some soda-water!

Bert Levy Booked for Continent.

Bert Levy, who is playing at the Palace, will shortly play a tour of the Continental theatres.

Six American Dancers.

Some dancing will be seen at the Palace, commencing on Monday night. The Six American Dancers will make all kinds of music with their feet, and do it in all kinds of different ways. Three girls and three boys, who are past masters in their particular line, and who present a pretty and skilful dancing act of the highest class.

The Good-Night Club.

America has organised a Good-night Club. Some of the foremost in its organisation are Dr. Cook, Jimmie Jeffries, vaudeville hypnotists and the Agency Law. As Walter Kellys would often say, "Kiss yourself good-bye!"

Gerrard and Gardner Here.

Mingled among the throng of the American artists every evening, one can notice performer after performer going over and shaking hands with a quiet little couple, and exchanging greetings. The team is Gerard and Gardner, who have been in London for a little, and who have been known in America as two of the foremost entertainers the States have produced. After a stay here, they will return to the other side for the beginning of the seasoin in vaudeville.

HELEN TRIX.
Still in Big Type at the Hippodrome.

SPISSEL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER. NEXT WEEK—HIPPO., ROCHDALE. Vacant—Aug. 22.

RITTER and FOSTER.
Those Eccentric Singers and Dancers.

STALEY'S TRANSFORMATION ACT.
Doing the Changes at HIPPODROME. The Big Headliner for any Bill.

BERT LEVY. A STANDARD NOVELTY ALL OVER THE WORLD.
At the PALACE as usual.

VARDON, PERRY, and WILBUR.
Those Three Boys. That's All.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
Still at the Empire

McLALLEN and CARSON.
Permanent Address, "VARIETY," WALTER HOUSE, STRAND.

M. D. Waxman.
The Anglo-American Revolutionist.

RUSSELL and HELD.
THE LEADING SINGING & DANCING ACT.

SAM STERN. THE ORIGINAL INDIAN JEW. ALSO ITALIAN CHARACTER.
PAUL MURRAY, Manager.

EARLE REYNOLDS AND NELLIE DONEGAN.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
At PALACE Theatre.

THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
Playing ENGLAND and the CONTINENT.

Mooney and Holbein.

The senior member of the act has been putting on an act at the Bedford during the past week. The team is thinking seriously of returning to America, where they have been offered a tour. But Mooney says, "I like London, and I rather hate to leave the big city."

Heavy Correspondence.

Eddie Emerson is going to buy a typewriter. The American mail is bringing Eddie so many lovely letters that he is afraid he will get behind with his correspondence.

Geo. Cohan Offered £2,000 a Week.

The New York papers printed an account last week where Marcus Loew had offered Geo. M. Cohan ten thousand dollars for one week at the opening of one of his new theatres. This is some money, isn't it? Suppose George had accepted this offer! I am afraid Marcus Loew would have been the victim of a joke. In fact, the joke would have been on Marcus. Still, he got away with it all right, and got plenty of advertising for his opening. So what's the diff.?

Mindel Kingston a Big Success.

John World stands around the stage of the Follies in New York and says, "I told you." The act up to this summer was known as World and Kingston. But John was so deeply interested in mines that he found it was an effort to play so many engagements with so little rest, so he decided to let Miss Kingston do the act alone. The result is she has been a big winner, and now demands a big price. The act is booked for England after the Follies engagement.

Tournament of Club Jugglers.

Emerson and Baldwin, the Five Mowatts, and another high-class club juggling act are booked for Blackpool the week of August 15. Clubs will be some conversation during the time so many experts line up together.

At Burnley.

McLallen and Carson open at Burnley next week on the Macnaughton tour. The act is thinking seriously of going back to America for a short stay, returning to England to play for some time to come.

Nellie Donegan Much Better.

Nellie Donegan, who has been at Miss Fowler's private nursing hospital in Beaumont-street for the past four weeks, is getting along fine, and will be able to be out by this time next week. Dr. Richards has advised her that she must not attempt to work before September first at least.

Next Week at Leeds.

Helen Trix will be out of London next week, playing at Leeds, after which she returns for a tour of the Stoll houses in and around London.

Miss Held's Mother Very Ill.

I regret to hear of a cable received last Wednesday night by Russell and Held, notifying them of the serious illness of Miss Held's mother in the States. The act is at the Paragon this week.

Martin Beck Gets English Star.

I was quietly told on Tuesday evening by one who knows that Martin Beck had succeeded in getting Ada Reeve's name to a contract for twenty-four weeks. I was also informed that the salary was way up in four figures, and as great as any artist from this side has received for an American appearance. I, personally, am glad to say that I think Miss Reeve is what we call a big find in America, for I don't know when I have sat and enjoyed a single act more than I did this lady's early in the week at the Coliseum. Here is one great artist who is going to be a sensation in America immediately after she makes her appearance.

Berlin Variety Theatre a Sure Thing.

There have been many rumours of the building of a variety theatre in the heart of the city of Berlin by Martin Beck, Meyerfield, and Mr. Alfred Butt, and there have been just as many contradictions of the rumour. I was informed Tuesday night that the Berlin theatre is an assured thing, and that the combination have all agreed to the plans, and that the final articles of agreement will be signed next week by those interested. The plans show that the seating capacity will be 2,000, with a large foyer running around the first balcony.

President Meyerfield Arrives Tuesday.

President Meyerfield, of the Orpheum circuit, will arrive in London on Tuesday. Mr. Meyerfield has been taking a slight tour of the Continent, and enjoying a good vacation in addition to looking after the details of some business relative to the Orpheum circuit.

"Lucky" Baldwin.

"Lucky" Baldwin, of the team of Emerson and Baldwin, advises me that upon his arrival in New York he will not make the jump to Kansas City, Mo., with his partner, but will spend some little time with his parents and friends during the few weeks' vacation the team will take after their arrival home. The team have been rebooked here, after their American time is played.

Great Diver.

The big tank is in at the Palace, and Devine Myrma will start splashing next week.

"Ginger Girl and Sister."

The Doherty Sisters, known as the "ginger girl and her sister," American singing and dancing comedians, are at the Hippodrome. The team arrived last week from a long tour on the Orpheum circuit.

The Strong Man.

Gerard, the strong man, with his act, arrived a few days ago from a tour over the Sullivan and Considine circuit. Mr. Gerard is rebooked over the circuit for next year, and as soon as his Continental time is played will return for a long stay in America.

Magnates' Day in Variety.

Wednesday was a big day in London. There were a number of meetings held between the big men of the vaudeville world. I am convinced of one thing, and that is the Messrs. Butt, Meyerfield, Beck and De Frece combination is a strong one.

Cafés Booker Coming.

Jennie Wagner, of the Hurtig and Seaman's office, who books a number of cafés in the West, including the Portolo Café, 'Frisco, which plays big acts sometimes four months, sails for London next month to look up some good novelties for these cafés.

A Good American Sketch Writer in Town.

Mr. C. Mitchell, of the team of Quinn and Mitchell, who have met with fine success year after year in the States in their own sketches, arrive in London from Carlsbad Wednesday night. Last season the boys played *The Real Estate Agent*, which proved another big winner for them. Mr. Mitchell sails for New York Saturday, and will open with his act at Atlantic City Aug. 15, and then go direct on the Orpheum tour for thirty weeks, opening in Kansas City.

Waxman in Manchester.

M. D. Waxman plays Manchester next week. This clever actor has made arrangements for New York time, and will produce his big success, *Captain Dreyfus*, next season with close on to 100 people in the sketch, which will be about the largest cast ever presented in a variety theatre in America.

For Australia.

Harry Rickards has on his books for his tour in Australia the comedy acrobatic pantomime act, Spissell Brothers and Mack. The boys will leave for Australia as soon as they finish their English engagements.

Staley Feeling Much Better.

Andy Staley, who was somewhat under the weather for a few days last week, was around the headquarters a few nights ago, and says he is beginning to feel like himself once again. A slight attack of indigestion was the cause of all the trouble.

Jolson in Town.

Harry Jolson, who did so fine at the Hippodrome recently, and who will shortly appear at the Coliseum, is back in London for a day or so. Mr. Jolson is playing the Stoll tour.

Nat Wills at the Palace.

Nat Wills opened at the Palace Monday afternoon, and got by fine. The tramp comedian was a little bit nervous at the start, but soon got his audience in nice shape, and from that time on he had no trouble in making them laugh at his jokes and parodies every second.

Grace Foster Looking Fine.

"The trip across the water to good old Milwaukee," says Miss Grace Foster, "was one grand trip for me, and I really enjoyed the little vacation immensely." Ritter and Foster will get back in harness about the 15th of this month.

THE NEW COPYRIGHT BILL.

The following is the text of the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to copyright :—

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

PART I.

IMPERIAL COPYRIGHT.

Rights.

1.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, copyright shall subsist throughout the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends for the term hereinafter mentioned in every original literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic work the author whereof was at the date of the making of the work a British subject or a resident within such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid :

Provided that if any work in which copyright subsists is first published elsewhere than in the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends, then, except as otherwise provided by this Act, the copyright in the work shall cease on such publication.

(2) For the purposes of this Act "copyright" means the sole right to produce or reproduce the work or any substantial part thereof in any material form whatsoever and in any language; to perform, or, in the case of a lecture, to deliver, the work or any substantial part thereof in public; if the work is unpublished, to publish the work; and shall include the sole right,—

(*a*) in the case of a dramatic work, to convert it into a novel or other non-dramatic work;

(*b*) in the case of a novel or other non-dramatic work, to convert it into a dramatic work, either by way of multiplication of copies or by way of performance in public;

(*c*) in the case of a literary, dramatic, or musical work, to make any record, perforated roll, or other contrivance by means of which the work may be mechanically performed;

and to authorise any such acts as aforesaid :

Provided that—

(i.) copyright shall not be infringed by making for private use an abridgment or a translation of a literary or dramatic work, or an adaptation, transposition, arrangement, or setting of a musical work, or studies or sketches from an artistic work, or by making fair extracts from, or otherwise fairly dealing with, the contents of any such work for the purposes of criticism or review;

(ii.) nothing in this Act shall prevent the author of an artistic work who is not the owner of the copyright therein from using any mould, cast, sketches, or studies made by him for the purpose of the work, provided that he does not thereby repeat or imitate the main design of the work;

(iii.) copyright in a work of sculpture or artistic craftsmanship, if situate in a public place or building, and copyright in an architectural work of art, shall not be infringed by making paintings, drawings, engravings, or photographs thereof;

(iv.) copyright in a lecture delivered in public shall not be infringed by a report of the lecture in a newspaper unless the report is prohibited by notice given either—

(*a*) orally, at the beginning of the lecture, or, if the lecture is one of a series of lectures given by the same lecturer on the same subject at the same place, at the beginning of the first lecture of the series; or

(*b*) by a written or printed notice affixed, before the lecture, or the first lecture of the series, is given, on the entrance doors of the building in which the lecture or series of lectures is given, or in a conspicuous place near the lecturer, in letters not less than an inch in height.

TERM OF COPYRIGHT.

2.—(1) Subject to the provision of this Act the term for which copyright shall subsist shall be the life of the author and a period of *fifty* years after his death :

Provided that if at any time after the death of the author of a work which has been published or performed in public a petition is presented by any person interested to the Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks alleging that, by reason of the withholding of the work from the public or of the price charged for copies of the work or for the right to perform the work in public, the reasonable requirements of the public with respect to the work are not satisfied, and praying for the grant of a licence to reproduce the work or perform the work in public, the Comptroller shall consider the petition, and if, after inquiry, he is satisfied that the allegations contained therein are correct, may grant to the petitioner a licence to reproduce or perform the work in public on such terms as respects price and payment of royalties to the owner of the copyright in the work, and otherwise, as he may think fit.

(2) Any decision of the Comptroller under this section shall be subject to appeal to a judge of the High Court, and the decision of that judge shall be final.

(3) A licence granted by the Comptroller under this section shall not apply to any self-governing dominion, but the provisions of this Act with respect to the grant of licences shall apply to every self-governing dominion to which this Act extends, subject to such necessary modifications as the Legislature of that dominion may determine.

OWNERSHIP OF COPYRIGHT, &c.

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the first owner of the copyright in any work shall be the author of the work :

Provided that—

(*a*) where the work was ordered by some other person and was made for valuable consideration in pursuance of that order, then, in the absence of any agreement in writing to the contrary, the person by whom the work was ordered shall be the first owner of the copyright, unless the work is an architectural work of art, or is an artistic work intended for a public place or building, in which case the author shall be the first owner of the copyright, but shall not be entitled to make, or authorise the making of, reproductions of the work except with the consent of that other person, and that other person shall be entitled to the same remedies in respect of the infringement of the copyright in the work as if he were the owner of the copyright; and

(*b*) where the author was in the employment of some other person and the work was made in the course of his employment by that person, the first owner of the copyright shall, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, be the person by whom the author was employed.

(2) The transfer on sale or otherwise of an artistic work, other than an engraving or photograph, by the owner of the copyright therein shall, in the absence of an express agreement to the contrary, be deemed to transfer the copyright in the work in any case where the transferor is not the author of the work.

(3) The owner of the copyright in any work may assign the right, either wholly or partially, and either generally or subject to limitations to any particular country or place, and either for the whole term of the copyright or any part thereof, and may grant any interest in the right by licence, but subject to the foregoing provisions of this section as to the effect of the transfers of certain works, any such assignment or grant shall not be valid unless it is in writing signed by the owner of the right in respect of which the assignment or grant is made, or by his duly authorised agent.

CIVIL REMEDIES.

RIGHTS OF OWNER AGAINST PERSONS POSSESSING OR DEALING WITH PIRATED COPIES, &c.

4.—In addition to any remedies otherwise conferred by law, the owner of the copyright in any work shall have the same remedies against a person having in his possession for sale or dealing with any pirated copies of the work, or any plate used or intended to be used for the production of pirated copies of the work, as if the copies or plate were his property, and accordingly may take proceedings for the recovery of the possession thereof or in respect of the conversion thereof.

INFRINGEMENT BY SALE, &c.

5.—Copyright in a work shall be deemed to be infringed by any person who sells or lets for hire, or exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale or hire, or distributes or exhibits in public, or imports for sale or hire into any part of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends any work which to his knowledge infringes copyright or would infringe copyright if it had been made within such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid.

EXEMPTION OF INNOCENT INFRINGER FROM LIABILITY TO PAY DAMAGES, &c.

6.—Where proceedings are taken in respect of the infringement of the copyright in any work and the defendant in his defence alleges that he was not aware of the existence of the copyright in the work, the plaintiff shall not be entitled to any remedy other than an injunction or interdict in respect of the infringement if the defendant proves that at the date of the infringement he was not aware and had not reasonable means of making himself aware that copyright subsisted in the work :

Provided that if the proper particulars were before the date of the infringement correctly entered in a register established under this Act, or, in the case of a work first published in, or the author whereof was a resident in, a British possession under the law of which a register has been established within that possession, if similar particulars have been correctly entered in that register, the defendant shall be deemed to have had means of making himself aware that copyright subsisted in the work.

REMEDIES IN THE CASE OF ARCHITECTURE.

7.—(1) Where the copyright in any work is infringed by the construction of a building or other structure, the owner of the copyright shall not be entitled to obtain an injunction or interdict to restrain the construction of such other building or structure or to order its demolition when constructed.

(2) Such of the other provisions of this Act as confer on the owner of the copyright in any work the same remedies against a person having in his possession for sale or dealing with a pirated copy of the work as if it were his property, or as impose summary penalties, shall not apply in any case to which this section applies.

LIMITATION OF ACTIONS.

8.—An action in respect of infringement of copyright shall not be commenced after the expiration of twelve months next after the infringement.

SUMMARY REMEDIES.

PENALTIES FOR DEALING WITH PIRATED COPIES, &c.

9.—(1) If any person commits any of the following offences

(*a*) makes for sale any pirated copy of a work in which copyright subsists; or

(*b*) sells or lets for hire, or exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale or hire any pirated copy of any such work; or

(*c*) distributes or exhibits in public any pirated copy of any such work; or

(*d*) imports into the United Kingdom any pirated copy of any such work :

he shall, unless he proves that he acted innocently, be guilty of an offence under this Act and be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding *forty shillings* for every copy dealt with in contravention of this section, but not exceeding *fifty pounds* in respect of the same transaction :

Provided that a person convicted of an offence under paragraph (*b*) of this subsection who has not been previously convicted of any such offence, and who proves that the copies of the work in respect of which the offence was committed had printed or marked thereon in some conspicuous place, a name and address purporting to be that of the printer or publisher, shall not be liable to any penalty under this section unless it is proved that the copies were to his knowledge pirated copies.

(2) If any person makes or has in his possession any plate for the purpose of making pirated copies of any work in which copyright subsists, he shall, unless he proves that he acted innocently, be guilty of an offence under this Act, and be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

(3) The court before which any such proceedings are taken may in addition order that all copies of the work or all plates in the possession of the offender, which appear to it to be pirated copies or plates for the purpose of making pirated copies, be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright.

SEARCH WARRANT AND HAWKING OF PIRATED COPIES OF WORKS

10.—A court of summary jurisdiction upon the application of the apparent owner of the copyright in any work may act as follows :—

(*a*) if satisfied by evidence that there is reasonable ground for believing that pirated copies of the work are being hawked, carried about, sold, or offered for sale, may by order authorise a constable to seize the copies without warrant and to bring them before the court, and, on proof that the copies are pirated, may order that they be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright :

(*b*) if satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for believing that an offence under this Act is being committed on any premises, may grant a search warrant authorising the constable named therein to enter the premises between the hours of six of the clock in the morning and nine of the clock in the evening (and, if necessary, to use force in making such entry, whether by breaking open doors or otherwise) and to seize any copies of any work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that an offence under this Act is being committed, and may, on proof that the copies or plates brought before the court in pursuance of the warrant are pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the purpose of making pirated copies, order that they be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright.

POWER TO SEIZE COPIES OF WORKS ON HAWKERS.

11.—(1) A constable may, without warrant, on the request in writing of the apparent owner of the copyright in a work, or of his agent thereto authorised in writing, and at the risk of that owner, seize any pirated copy of the work which is being hawked, carried about, sold, or offered for sale.

(2) Every copy so seized shall be conveyed by the constable before a court of summary jurisdiction, and, on proof that it is a pirated copy, shall be destroyed or delivered up to the owner of the copyright.

POWER TO ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT PERSONS SELLING, &c.

12.—(1) Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who in any street or public place sells or exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated copies of any such work as may be specified in any general written authority addressed to the chief officer of police, and signed by the apparent owner of the copyright in such work or his agent thereto authorised in writing, requesting the arrest, at the risk of such owner, of all persons found committing offences under this Act in respect to such work, or who offers for sale any pirated copies of any such specified work by personal canvass or by personally delivering advertisements or circulars.

PIRATED COPIES OF WORKS.

(2) A copy of every written authority addressed to a chief officer of police under this section shall be open to inspection at all reasonable hours by any person without payment of any fee, and any person may take copies of or make extracts from any such authority.

(3) For the purposes of this section the expression "chief officer of police"—

(*a*) with respect to the City of London, means the Commissioner of City Police;

(*b*) elsewhere in England has the same meaning as in the Police Act, 1890;

(*c*) in Scotland has the same meaning as in the Police (Scotland) Act, 1890;

(*d*) in the police district of Dublin metropolis means either of the Commissioners of Police for the said district;

(*e*) elsewhere in Ireland means the District Inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary.

APPEALS TO QUARTER SESSIONS.

13.—Any person aggrieved by a summary conviction in England or Ireland of an offence under the foregoing provisions of this Act may appeal to a court of quarter sessions.

EXTENT OF PROVISIONS AS TO SUMMARY REMEDIES.

14.—The provisions of this Act with respect to summary remedies shall extend only to the United Kingdom.

IMPORTATION OF COPIES.

15.—(1) Copies made out of the United Kingdom of any work in which copyright subsists as to which the owner of the copyright gives notice in writing by himself or his agent to the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, that he is desirous that such copies should not be imported into the United Kingdom, shall not be so imported, and shall, subject to the provisions of this section, be deemed to be included in the table of prohibitions and restrictions contained in section forty-two of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876, and that section shall apply accordingly.

(2) Before detaining any such copies or taking any further proceedings with a view to the forfeiture thereof under the law relating to the Customs, the Commissioners of Customs and Excise may require the regulations under this section, whether as to information, conditions, or other matters, to be complied with, and may satisfy themselves in accordance with those regulations that the copies are such as are prohibited by this section to be imported.

(3) The Commissioners of Customs and Excise may make regulations, either general or special, respecting the detention and forfeiture of copies the importation of which is prohibited by this section, and the conditions, if any, to be fulfilled before such detention and forfeiture, and may by such regulations determine the information, notices, and security to be given, and the evidence requisite for any of the purposes of this section, and the mode of verification of such evidence.

(4) The regulations may apply to copies of all works the importation of which is prohibited by this section, or different regulations may be made respecting different classes of such works.

(5) The regulations may provide for the informant reimbursing the Commissioners of Customs and Excise all expenses and damages incurred in respect of any detention made on this information, and of any proceedings consequent on such detention.

(6) The foregoing provisions of this section shall have effect as if they were part of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876.

(7) This section shall, with the necessary modifications, apply to the importation into a British possession to which this Act extends of copies of works made out of that possession.

DELIVERY OF BOOKS TO LIBRARIES.

16.—(1) The publisher of every book published in the United Kingdom shall, within one month after the publication, deliver, at his own expense, a copy of the book to the trustees of the British Museum, who shall give a written receipt for it.

(2) He shall also, after written demand if made within three months after publication, deliver, within one month after receipt of that written demand, to some depôt in London named in the demand a copy of the book for, or in accordance with the directions of, the authority having the control of each of the following libraries, namely : the Bodleian Library, Oxford; the University Library, Cambridge; the Library of the Faculty of Advocates at Edinburgh; and the Library of Trinity College, Dublin.

(3) The copy delivered to the trustees of the British Museum shall be a copy of the whole book, with all maps and illustrations belonging thereto, finished and coloured in the same manner as the best copies of the book are published, and shall be bound, sewed, or stitched together, and on the best paper on which the book is printed.

(4) The copy delivered for the other authorities mentioned in this section shall be on the paper on which the largest number of copies of the book is printed for sale, and shall be in the like condition as the books prepared for sale.

(5) If a publisher fails to comply with this section, he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding *five pounds* and the value of the book, and the fine shall be paid to the trustees or authority to whom the book ought to have been delivered.

(6) For the purposes of this section the expression "book" includes every part or division of a book, pamphlet, sheet of letterpress, sheet of music, map, plan, chart, or table relative to geography, topography, or science.

REGISTRATION.

17.—(1) There shall be kept in the Hall of the Stationers' Company by an officer (hereinafter called the registrar) to be appointed by the Stationers' Company, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade, such one or more registers as may be prescribed, in which shall be entered the names or titles of works and the names of authors, and such other particulars as may be prescribed.

(2) The author or publisher of, or the owner of, or other person interested in the copyright in, any work may at any time cause the particulars respecting the work to be entered in the register, but it shall not be obligatory on him to do so.

(3) In the case of an encyclopædia, newspaper, review, magazine, or other periodical work or work published in a series of books or parts, it shall not be necessary to make a separate entry for each number or part, but a single entry for the whole work shall suffice.

(4) There shall also be kept in the Hall of the Stationers Company by the registrar such indexes of the registers established under this section as may be prescribed.

(5) The registers and indexes established under this section shall be in the prescribed form, and shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection, and any person shall be entitled to take copies of or make extracts from any such register, and the registrar shall, if so required, give a copy of any entry in any such register certified by him to be a true copy, and any such certificate shall be *prima facie* evidence of the matters thereby certified.

(6) There shall be charged in respect of entries in registers, the inspection of registers, taking copies of or making extracts from registers, and certificates by the registrar under this section, such fees as may be prescribed.

(7) The Stationers' Company shall annually render to the Board of Trade such accounts of their receipts and expenditure under this section as may be prescribed.

(8) The Board of Trade may make regulations prescribing any matters which under this section are to be prescribed, and generally for carrying this section into effect, and any such regulations may require that, in the case of an artistic work desired to be registered, there shall be furnished a representation of the work sufficient for the identification thereof.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS AS TO CERTAIN WORKS.

18.—In the case of a literary, dramatic, or musical work or engraving not published, nor, in the case of a dramatic or musical work, performed in public, nor, in the case of a lecture, delivered in public, in the lifetime of the author, copyright shall, subject to the provisions of this Act as to first publication elsewhere than in the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends, subsist till publication, or performance or delivery in public, whichever may first happen, and for a term of *fifty* years thereafter.

WORKS OF JOINT AUTHORS.

19.—(1) In the case of a work of joint authorship copyright shall subsist during the life of the author who first dies and for a term of *fifty* years after his death, or during the life of the author who dies last, whichever period is the longer.

(2) Where in the case of a work of joint authorship some one or more of the joint authors do not satisfy the conditions conferring copyright laid down by this Act, the work shall be treated for the purposes of this Act as if the other author or authors had been the sole author or authors thereof.

COLLECTIVE WORKS.

20.—Where the work of an author is first published as an article or other contribution in a collective work (that is to say) :—

(*a*) an encyclopædia, dictionary, year book, or similar work;

(*b*) a newspaper, review, magazine, or other similar periodical;

(*c*) a work written in distinct parts by different authors;

and the proprietor of the collective work is not by virtue of this Act or any assignment thereunder the owner of the copyright in the article or contribution, then, subject to any agreement to the contrary, the owner of the copyright in each article or contribution shall retain his copyright therein, but the proprietor of the collective work shall at all times have the right of reproducing and authorising the reproduction of the work as a whole, and for a period of *fifty* years from the date of first publication of the collective work shall have the sole right of reproducing and authorising the reproduction of the work as a whole, and shall be entitled to the same remedies in respect of the infringement of the copyright in any part of the work as if he were the owner of the copyright.

PROVISIONS AS TO NEWSPAPERS.

21.—Notwithstanding anything in this Act, an article, not being a tale or serial story, first published in a newspaper, may be reproduced in another newspaper if notice expressly forbidding reproduction is not published in some conspicuous part of the newspaper in which it is so first published, and if the source from which it is taken is acknowledged in such other newspaper.

PROVISIONS AS TO PHOTOGRAPHS.

22.—The person who superintends and directs the taking of a photograph shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be the author of the photograph.

PROVISIONS AS TO DESIGNS REGISTRABLE UNDER 7 EDW. 7. C. 29.

23.—(1) This Act shall not apply to designs capable of being registered under the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, except designs which, though capable of being so registered, are not used or intended to be used as models or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process.

(2) General rules under section eighty-six of the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, may be made for determining the conditions under which a design shall be deemed to be used for such purposes as aforesaid.

EXISTING WORKS.

24.—(1) Where any person is immediately before the commencement of this Act entitled to any right in any work specified in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act, or to any interest in such a right, he shall as from that date be entitled to the corresponding right set forth in the second column of that Schedule, or to the same interest in such a corresponding right, and to no other right or interest, and such corresponding right shall subsist for the term for which it would have subsisted if this Act had been in force at the date when the work was made, and the work had been one entitled to copyright thereunder :

Provided that—

(*a*) if the author of any work in which any right specified in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act subsists at the commencement of this Act has before that date assigned the right or granted any interest therein for the whole term of the right, then at the date when but for the passing of this Act the right would have expired the corresponding right conferred by this section shall, in the absence of express agreement, pass to the author of the work, and any interest therein created before the commencement of this Act and then subsisting shall determine; but the person who immediately before the date at which the right would so have expired was the owner of the right or interest shall be entitled at his option (to be signified in writing not more than one year nor less than six months before the last-mentioned date) either—

(i) to an assignment of the right or the grant of a similar interest therein for the remainder of the term of the right for such consideration as, failing agreement, may be determined by arbitration; or

(ii) without any such assignment or grant, to continue to reproduce or perform the work in like manner as theretofore on the payment of such royalties to the author as, failing agreement, may be determined by arbitration :

(*b*) nothing in this section shall affect anything done before the commencement of this Act :

(*c*) where any person has, before the *twenty-sixth day of July, nineteen hundred and ten*, taken any action or incurred any expenditure for the purpose of or with a view to the reproduction or performance of a work at a time when such reproduction or performance would, but for the passing of this Act, have been lawful, nothing in this section shall diminish or prejudice any rights or interest arising from or in connection with such action or expenditure which are subsisting and valuable at the said date, unless the person who by virtue of this section becomes entitled to restrain such reproduction or performance agrees to pay such compensation as, failing agreement, may be determined by arbitration :

(*d*) the sole right of making and authorising the making of records, perforated rolls, or other contrivances by means of which literary, dramatic, or musical works may be mechanically performed shall not be enjoyed by the

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE PALACE STAFF OUTING.

Group of the Staff Annual Outing at Warkworth, Northumberland, taken by the Bioscope Operator.

owner of the copyright in any literary, dramatic, or musical work for the mechanical performance of which any such contrivances have been lawfully made within the parts of His Maesty's dominions to which this Act extends by any person before the *twenty-sixth day of July, nineteen hundred and ten.*

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act as to copyright under the Copyright Act, 1775, copyright shall not subsist in any work made before the commencement of this Act, otherwise than under and in accordance with the provisions of this section.

APPLICATION TO BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

25.—(1) This Act, except such of the provisions thereof as are expressly restricted to the United Kingdom, shall extend throughout His Majesty's dominions: Provided that it shall not extend to a self-governing Dominion, unless declared by the Legislature of that Dominion to be in force therein either without any modifications or additions, or with such modifications and additions relating exclusively to procedure and remedies or necessary to adapt this Act to the circumstances of the Dominion as may be enacted by such Legislature.

(2) If the Secretary of State certifies by notice published in the London Gazette that any self-governing Dominion has passed legislation substantially identical with this Act, except for the omission of any provisions which are expressly restricted to the United Kingdom, or for such modifications as are verbal only, or are necessary to adapt the Act to the circumstances of the Dominion, or relate exclusively to procedure or remedies or to works first published within or the authors whereof are residents in the Dominion, then, whilst such legislation continues in force, the Dominion shall for the purposes of the rights conferred by this Act be treated as if it were a Dominion to which this Act extends.

LEGISLATIVE POWERS OF SELF-GOVERNING DOMINIONS.

26.—(1) The Legislature of any self-governing Dominion may at any time repeal all or any of the enactments relating to copyright passed by Parliament (including this Act) so far as they are operative within that Dominion: Provided that no such repeal shall prejudicially affect any legal rights existing at the time of the repeal.

(2) In any self-governing Dominion to which this Act does not extend, the enactments repealed by this Act shall, so far as they are operative in that Dominion, continue in force until repealed by the Legislature of that Dominion.

(3) Where His Majesty in Council is satisfied that the law of a self-governing Dominion to which this Act does not extend, and which has not passed legislation substantially identical with this Act, provides adequate protection within the Dominion for the works of authors who at the time of the making of the work were British subjects resident elsewhere than in that Dominion, or who, not being British subjects, were at such time residents within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends, His Majesty may, by Order in Council, direct that this Act, except such parts (if any) thereof as may be specified in the Order, and subject to any conditions contained therein, shall, within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends, apply to works the authors whereof were at the time of the making of the work residents within the first-mentioned Dominion, and that copyright subsisting by virtue of this Act in any work shall not cease by reason of the work being first published in that Dominion; but, save as provided by such an order, works the authors whereof were residents in a Dominion to which this Act does not extend, and which has not passed legislation substantially identical with this Act, shall not, whether they are British subjects or not, be entitled to any protection under this Act:

Provided that no such Order shall confer any rights within a self-governing Dominion, but the Governor in Council of any self-governing Dominion to which this Act extends, may by Order, confer within that Dominion the like rights as His Majesty in Council is under the foregoing provision of this subsection authorised to confer within other parts of His Majesty's dominions.

POWER OF LEGISLATURES OF BRITISH POSSESSIONS TO PASS SUPPLEMENTAL LEGISLATION.

27.—The Legislature of any British possession to which this Act extends may modify or add to any of the provisions of this Act in its application to the possession, but, except so far as such modifications and additions relate to procedure and remedies, they shall aply only to works the authors whereof were at the time of the making of the work residents in the possession and to works first published in the possession.

APPLICATION TO PROTECTORATES.

28.—His Majesty may by Order in Council extend this Act to any territories under his protection and to Cyprus, and on the making of any such Order this Act shall have effect as if the territories to which it applies or Cyprus were part of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends.

PART II.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

29.—(1) His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that this Act (except such parts, if any, thereof as may be specified in the order) shall apply—

(*a*) to literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, or any class thereof, the authors whereof were at the time of the making of the work subjects or citizens of a foreign country to which the order relates, in like manner as if the authors were British subjects; and

(*b*) in respect of residence in a foreign country to which the Order relates in like manner as if such residence were residence in the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends; and

(*c*) to works first published in a foreign country to which the Order relates, in like manner as if they were first published within the parts of His Majesty's dominions; to which this Act extends;

and thereupon, subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, and of the Order, this Act shall apply accordingly:

Provided that—

(i.) before making an Order in Council under this section in respect of any foreign country His Majesty shall be satisfied that that foreign country has made, or has undertaken to make, such provisions, if any, as it appears to His Majesty expedient to require for the protection of persons entitled to copyright under the provisions of Part I. of this Act:

(ii.) the Order in Council may provide that the term of copyright within such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid shall not exceed that conferred by the law of the country to which the Order relates:

(iii.) the provisions of this Act as to the delivery of copies of books shall not apply to works first published in such country, except so far as is provided by the Order:

(iv.) the Order in Council may provide that the enjoyment of the rights conferred by this Act shall be subject to the accomplishment of such conditions and formalities (if any) as may be prescribed by the Order:

(v.) in applying the provisions of this Act as to existing works the Order in Council may make such modifications as appear necessary, and may provide that nothing in those provisions as so applied shall be construed as reviving any right of preventing the production or importation of any translation in any case where the right has ceased by virtue of section five of the International Copyright Act, 1886.

(2) An Order in Council under this section may extend to all the several countries named or described therein.

EVIDENCE OF FOREIGN COPYRIGHT.

30. Where it is necessary to prove the existence in a foreign country to which an Order in Council under this Part of this Act applies of the copyright in any work, or the ownership of such right, an extract from a register, or a certificate, or other document stating the existence of such right, or the person who is the owner of such right, if authenticated by the official seal of a Minister of State of the said foreign country, or by the official seal or the signature of a British diplomatic or consular officer acting in such country, shall be admissible as evidence of the facts named therein, and all courts shall take judicial notice of every such official seal and signature as is in this section mentioned, and shall admit in evidence, without proof, the documents authenticated by it.

APPLICATION OF PART II. TO BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

31.—(1) An Order in Council under this Part of this Act shall apply to all His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends except self-governing Dominions and any other possession specified in the order with respect to which it appears to His Majesty expedient that the Order should not apply.

(2) The Governor in Council of any self-governing Dominion to which this Act extends may, as respects that Dominion, make the like orders as under this Part of this Act His Majesty in Council is authorised to make with respect to His Majesty's dominions other than self-governing Dominions, and the provisions of this Part of this Act shall, with the necessary modifications, apply accordingly.

(3) Where it appears to His Majesty expedient to except from the provisions of any order any part of his dominions not being a self-governing Dominion it shall be lawful for His Majesty by the same or any other Order in Council to declare that such order and this Part of this Act shall not, and the same shall not, apply to such part, except so far as is necessary for preventing any prejudice to any rights acquired previously to the date of such Order.

PART III.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

ABROGATION OF COMMON LAW RIGHTS.

32. No person shall be entitled to copyright or any similar right in any literary, dramatic, musical, or artistic work otherwise than under and in accordance with the provisions of this Act, or of any other statutory enactment for the time being in force.

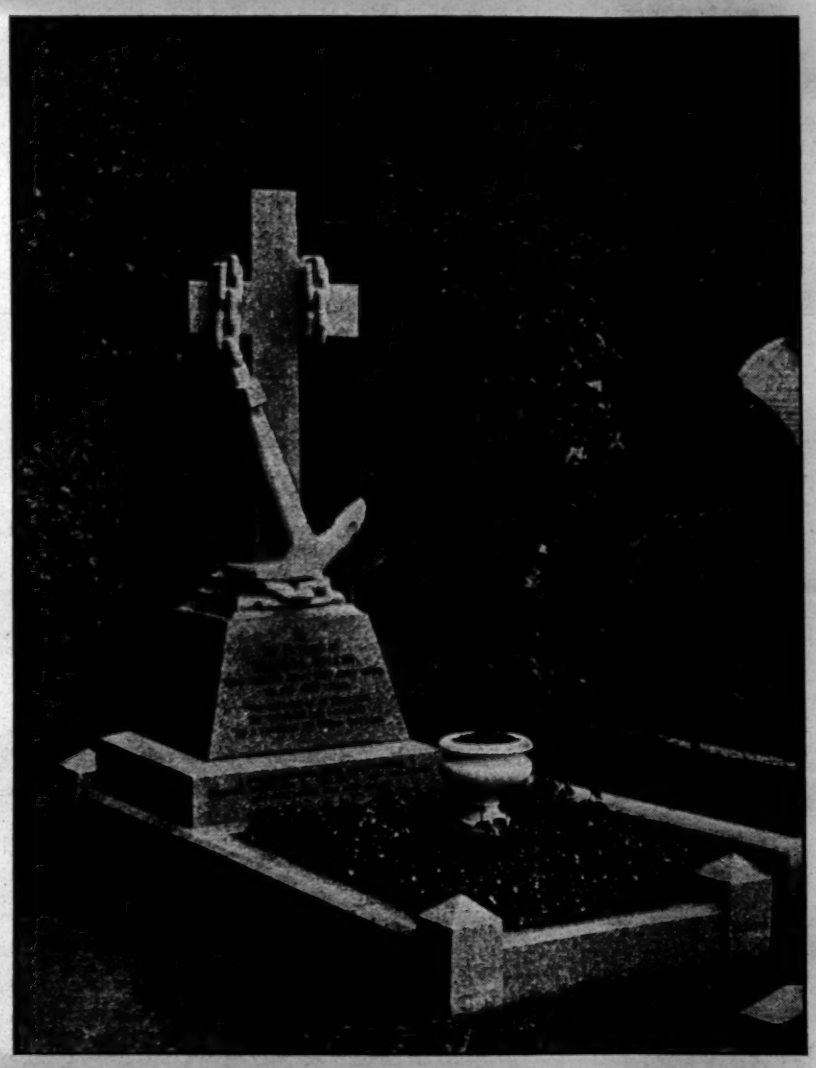

THE CHARLES WILSON MEMORIAL AT HIGHGATE CEMETERY, UNVEILED ON THURSDAY, AUG. 4.

PROVISIONS AS TO ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

33.—(1) His Majesty in Council may make Orders for altering, revoking, or varying any Order in Council made under this Act, or under any enactments repealed by this Act, but any Order made under this section shall not affect prejudicially any rights or interests acquired or accrued at the date when the Order comes into operation, and shall provide for the protection of such rights and interests.

(2) Every Order in Council made under this Act shall be published in the *London Gazette* and shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as may be after it is made, and shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

SAVING OF UNIVERSITY COPYRIGHT.

34.—Nothing in this Act shall deprive any of the universities and colleges mentioned in the Copyright Act, 1775, of any copyright they already possess or may hereafter acquire under that Act, but the remedies and penalties for infringement of any such copyright shall be under this Act and not under that Act.

SAVING OF COMPENSATION TO CERTAIN LIBRARIES.

35.—There shall continue to be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom such annual compensation as is at the commencement of this Act payable in pursuance of any Act as compensation to a library for the loss of the right to receive gratuitous copies of books:

Provided that this compensation shall not be paid to a library in any year unless the Treasury are satisfied that the compensation for the previous year has been applied in the purchase of books for the use of and to be preserved in the library.

INTERPRETATION.

36.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

"Literary work" includes maps, charts, plans, and tables relative to geography, topography, and science;

"Dramatic work" includes any piece for recitation, choreographic work or entertainment in dumb show the scenic arrangement or acting form of which is fixed in writing or otherwise, and any cinematograph production where the arrangement or acting form or the combination of incidents represented give the work an original character;

"Literary work," "dramatic work," and "musical work" include records, perforated rolls, or other contrivances intended for use in connexion with, or to form part of, instruments by means of which a work may be mechanically performed;

"Artistic work" includes works of painting, drawing, sculpture and artistic craftsmanship, and architectural works of art and engravings and photographs;

"Architectural work of art" means any building or structure having an artistic character or design, in respect of such character or design, but not in respect of the processes or methods of its construction;

"Engravings" include etchings, lithographs, wood-cuts, prints, and other similar works, not being photographs;

"Photograph" includes photo-litograph and any work produced by any process analogous to photography;

"Cinematograph" includes any work produced by any process analogous to cinematography;

"Pirated," when applied to a copy of a work in which copyright subsists, means any copy made without the consent or acquiescence of the owner of the copyright, or imported in contravention of the provisions of this Act;

"Publication" means the issue of copies to the public and does not include the performance in public of a dramatic or musical work, the exhibition of an artistic work, or the construction of a work of architecture;

"Performance" means any acoustic representation of a work and any visual representation of any dramatic action in a work, including such a representation made by means of any mechanical instrument;

"Delivery," in relation to a lecture, includes delivery by means of any mechanical instrument;

"Plate" includes any stereotype or other plate, stone, matrix, transfer, or negative used or intended to be used for printing or reproducing copies of any work, and any matrix or other appliance by which records, perforated rolls, or other contrivances for the acoustic representation of the work are or are intended to be made;

"Lecture" includes address, speech, and sermon;

"Self-governing dominion" means the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and Newfoundland.

(2) For the purposes of this Act (other than those relating to infringements of copyright), a work shall not be deemed to be published or performed in public, and a lecture shall not be deemed to be delivered in public, if published, performed in public, or delivered in public, without the consent or acquiescence of the person entitled to authorise its publication, performance in public, or delivery in public.

(3) For the purposes of this Act a work shall be deemed to be first published within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends, notwithstanding that it has been published simultaneously in some other place, unless the publication in such parts of His Majesty's dominions as aforesaid is colourable only, and is not intended to satisfy the reasonable requirements of the public, and a work shall be deemed to be published simultaneously in two countries if the time between the publication in one such country and the publication in the other country does not exceed fourteen days.

(4) Where the making of a work has extended over a considerable period the conditions of this Act conferring copyright shall be deemed to have been complied with if the author was during any substantial part of that period a British subject or a resident within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends.

(5) For the purposes of the provisions of this Act as to residence, an author of a work shall be deemed to be a resident in the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends if he is domiciled within any such part.

REPEAL.

37. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the enactments mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that schedule.

SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT.

38.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Copyright Act, 1910.

(*a*) in the United Kingdom, on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and twelve, or such earlier date as may be fixed by Order in Council;

(*b*) in a self-governing Dominion to which this Act extends, at such date as may be fixed by the Legislature of that Dominion;

(*c*) in any other British possession to which this Act extends, on the proclamation thereof within the possession by the Governor.

FILM GOSSIP.

The Cinematograph and Charity.

CINEMATOGRAPH pictures illustrating the good work that is being done by the Middlesex Hospital are now being shown at the Foresters' Music Hall, Mile End, every evening. During the exhibition a collection is made in aid of Prince Francis of Teck's fund to relieve the Middlesex Hospital of the existing heavy debt.

New Picture Hall in Bristol.

THE exceedingly handsome new Bristol picture hall, known as the King's Hall, Old Market-street, was opened on the 28th ult. The King's Hall is the property of Mr. J. E. H. Moneypenny, who also owns the Queen's Hall, situated in Peter-street. No expense has been spared in erecting a building which is a credit to all concerned. The decorative work is very artistic, and is a most effective combination of white and gold. Mr. C. Grant, who has managed the Queen's Hall so admirably, will also have the King's Hall under his control. The following was the capital programme of films shown:—Red Man's Way (dramatic), The Entombed Balkan Woman (dramatic), The Nurse's Trunk (comic), The Conqueror (dramatic), Two Bears (comic), Tontolini as a Ballet Girl (comic), The Persistent Lover (comic), and John the Usher (dramatic).

The Animatophone.

THE Animatophone is the latest thing in the entertainment line. It is a combination of the cinematograph and the gramophone. By its means you may hear the music of the finest opera and watch at the same time the movements in dumb show of the principal singers on the stage. During last week at the Cinematograph Theatre in Great Windmill-street, Piccadilly Circus, a private animatophone exhibition was held, when some selections were given (in English) from Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. The acoustic properties of the theatre are excellent, and it was possible to follow every word of the opera.

Presentation to Mr. Harry Tindell.

MR. HARRY TINDELL, who has been manager at the People's Palace, Portsmouth, for Jury's Imperial Pictures, Ltd., since the opening, and who leaves to take up another appointment with the firm in London, was the recipient of several handsome presents from the staff, &c., including gold mounted umbrella, silver-mounted walking-stick, and pipe and tobacco pouch, suitably inscribed. Mr. Tindell during his stay in Portsmouth has made many friends.

Hunstanton Picture Palace.

THE Picture Palace at Hunstanton maintains its popularity under the management of Mr. S. W. Barkham. The fine selection of films for this week includes The Converts, Sugar Industry, Coaching Marathon, The Imps, and a number of excellent comics.

Arthur Hickman's New Appointment.

MR. ARTHUR HICKMAN has been appointed district-manager for the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., with headquarters at Birmingham, whilst Mr. James S. De Vine succeeds that gentleman as resident-manager at the same company's house at Wolverhampton.

Sheffield Picture Palace.

SHEFFIELD has this week added to its list of amusement resorts by the opening on Bank Holiday of the Sheffield Picture Palace, occupying a central situation in Union-street. It is a handsome white building, the general design, both exterior and interior, being pleasing and elaborate. It has a seating capacity of about 1,000, all the seats being of the convenient tip-up type, and commanding an uninterrupted view of the stage. The safety of the public has been kept in mind, the entire building being constructed of fire-resisting material. There are five emergency exits, and powerful hydrants are distributed throughout. The building has been erected by a local firm, Messrs. G. Longden, Limited, from designs by Messrs. Benton and Roberts. The proprietors are the Sheffield Picture Palace, Limited. Mr. Leonard Shaw is resident-manager and Mr. Horton operator.

New Picture Theatre at Sheffield.

THE latest addition to Sheffield's new picture theatres (now numbering five) is the Picture Palace, which was successfully opened on Bank Holiday. The building is centrally situated in Union-street, a few feet from the old Alhambra Palace and nearly opposite the Empire stage-door. The site, which was formerly occupied by English's Royal Cirque, is in the heart of the new local theatreland, and close to the new Town Hall. The white elevation, with its well-modelled portico, arches, alcoves, and pilasters, looks charming, and it is an architectural addition of no mean order to the street. The auditorium is about 180ft. long by about 45ft. wide, and its construction is on up-to-date lines.

Admirably Equipped Throughout.

THE visitors to the long and well-raked saloon and the luxuriously furnished balcony have a perfect view of the stage without any fear of their enjoyment being spoiled by the matinée-hat problem. The operating chamber is entirely cut off from the auditorium, and it is fitted with the latest machinery, including the Vivaphone and the Auxeto gramophone. There is a commodious and well-appointed stage with comfortable dressing rooms attached, and, in fact, every convenience for the comfort and safety of public, artists, and electrical staff. The theatre is artistically decorated throughout, and the house, being perfectly isolated, is well provided with direct exits. All the seats are of the latest tip-up pattern. The place is licensed for music, singing, and dancing. The proprietors are the Sheffield Picture Palace Co., Ltd., and Mr. Leonard Shaw, the acting-manager, is their smart and courteous representative.

Two New Picture Houses for Leicester.

LEICESTER is being well provided with picture houses, two additional ones having been completed, and are now opened to the public.

Grand Electric Palace.

THE Grand Electric Palace in Silver-street is within a very few yards of the Royal Opera House, and is the enterprise of the Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd., who have the sole rights in the Midlands for the Kinemacolor films. The building is a handsome structure, both inside and externally, and has elicited the admiration of its patrons. It will accommodate 600 people, the whole of the seating being tip-up chairs. It is unquestionably the prettiest picture hall at present opened in Leicester, the upholstering, decorations, &c., being of a most lavish and artistic kind, the colour scheme blending in a harmonious manner, and the hall can truly be called "The Palace of Beauty," as is depicted in gold lettering on the outside front of the building. There is a double set of machines, which are driven by motor, and the pictures shown are to be altered twice a week, and will include the very latest released, including the Kinemacolor pictures. Mr. Joseph Eke is the courteous local manager for the company, and bids fair to make many friends at Leicester.

Boulevard Electric Theatre.

THE other hall opened is the Boulevard Electric Theatre, which runs alongside the Boulevard Rink, being a little distance from the centre of the town, and will cater for a large district in the West End. The decorations and scenery have been done by that clever theatrical scenic artist Mr. C. D. Leigh, who was for many years at the Royal Opera House under Colonel Winstanley. The colour scheme is pale green and carnation, and the building presents a really charming appearance. It will seat 600 people, the whole of the seating being tip-up chairs. The stage is a regulation one, as it is intended to make a break in the picture entertainment by engaging talent. A very fine list of films are shown this week, and are to be changed twice weekly. The managing-director of the company is Mr. J. Noble, a gentleman well known in the town. The Hamoril Concert Party are this week's additional attraction.

Reno Pictures Prohibited.

THE Gateshead Council on Wednesday night, by sixteen votes to nine, expressed disapproval at the Johnson-Jeffries fight pictures being exhibited in the town. The Free Church Council sent a letter on the subject, expressing the hope that the pictures would not be allowed.

Life-Motion Floral Scenes.

THAT the scope of natural-colour kinematography is practically illimitable is to be amply proven on Monday evening next, when there is to be included in the "Kinemacolor" exhibition at the Palace Theatre a series of life-motion floral scenes. In no instance has the camera taken less than two whole days and nights to record the flowering of a single bud. Yet these normal effects will now be presented with such dramatic suddenness that the development of forty-eight hours is disclosed in two minutes.

Minden Day.

ADDITIONAL subjects to be shown in animation and nature's tints at the Palace include "Minden Day," trooping the colours by the Lancashire Fusiliers at Tidworth on the anniversary of the great day when seven infantry battalions met and repelled the combined French cavalry at Minden. A third reel will introduce the cream of the canine world, or the prize-winners at the many dog shows of the season at the Botanic Gardens.

Hastings Picture Palaces.

AT the Public Hall, Hastings, the People's Picture Palace Company, directed by Mr. F. R. Griffiths, who was the pioneer of this class of entertainment locally, reopened on Monday for the season under the management of Mr. Bert Forss, and presented a powerful programme of pictures, which included The Highlander's Defiance, a dramatic war picture, and Conscience, or The Baker's Boy. The pictures are varied by a clever mimical performance by Miss Rubie Zethus. The Pelham Hall Electric Theatre, managed by Mr. T. C. Daly, has secured a large share of patronage, and presents continuous performances. The American Palace Pier Company offer two performances daily to its patrons in the Pier Pavilion. At the Electric Theatre in Wellington-place continuous performances of highly interesting pictures give pleasure to many of the numerous holiday-makers.

No Sunday Pictures.

DEALING with a number of applications for renewal of cinematograph licences, the Wrexham Corporation, on the 29th ult., declined to allow entertainments to be given on Sundays, and accordingly granted in each case a six days' licence only.

Birmingham Electric Theatre.

THIS new cinematograph theatre, one of the many belonging to the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., Charing Cross-road, London, was successfully opened on Saturday, July 30. The decorative scheme is green, gold, and white. The architects are Messrs. Ward and Ball, Colmore-road, Birmingham. Mr. Reynolds-Benjamin, the manager and chief of staff, was responsible for the excellent organisation, of which the attention to detail was a marked feature. Messrs. Dallows and Messrs. Dean, of Birmingham, were responsible for the building and decoration. The opening passed off without a hitch, and is another success to be added to the astute manager's already heavy list.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

THIS week's film-programme at this luxurious picture palace has included A Roller Skating Club (Pathé), Tilly the Tom-Boy Plays Truant (Hepworth), Gipsy Justice (Lux), Sensational Logging (Essanay), Billy's Bulldog (Creeks and Martin), The Forest Ranger's Daughter (Imp.), Calino Takes New Lodgings (Gaumont), and Way Out West (Essanay).

Fratton Electric Theatre.

AND yet another fine exhibition of animated pictures opened its doors to the public on Saturday afternoon, July 30. In shape and size capitally adapted for the purpose, with accommodation for some 250 "gazers," on richly-upholstered tip-up seats, the Fratton Electric Theatre, brilliantly illuminated as its name implies with electric light, in close proximity to Fratton Railway Station, if there is room for additional houses of entertainment this latest erection should command success.

Stafford Picture Palace.

THE Electric Picture Palace, Stafford, was opened on Saturday. The building, which is of corrugated iron, and lined inside with fireproof asbestos slate, has been built on the Foregate. It is 70ft. by 45ft., and is capable of holding about 600 people. There are six exits 5ft. in width, in addition to two entrances.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

The Amended Moveable Dwellings Bill.

We are glad to be in a position to set before our readers the text of the new Bill. It will be found in a special article on this page. It is hardly possible to over-estimate the importance of the various amendments inserted by the Select Committee.

As the measure leaves the Select Committee to go before the Committee of the whole House it is a complete vindication and proof that the slanderous charges brought by fanatics and faddists against the domestic and health conditions of showpeople were without foundation. Showpeople as a class are now fully exonerated. We have to thank the members of the Select Committee for their frank acceptance of the evidence for the showmen's claim to be good and lawful members of the community, not needing special and invidious legislation for either morals or health. It is a great triumph for the organised showmen, and it will be a matter for profound satisfaction for the noble band of Guild workers who have carried on the splendid work of vindication of show life. With regard to the trade and business of the showman, there are points in the new Bill that will need careful consideration and amendment. These matters are pointed out in the special article, to which we now draw our readers' attention.

Settlement of the Oldham Dispute.

A somewhat serious dispute between the Oldham Corporation and the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union has, we are officially informed, been amicably settled.

The dispute arose over the important point, in these days of combination and trade organisation, of the right of collective bargaining and representative negotiations. The Corporation for a time refused to acknowledge the agent and secretary of the trade union as the representative of the members. The showmen and roundabouts owners had grievances to lay before the Borough Council with regard to the Oldham Wakes. The Corporation refused to acknowledge either the society or its secretary. This high-handed proceeding has, we rejoice to learn, been now abandoned; better counsels have prevailed, and Oldham now takes its stand with other progressive towns in recognising the advantage of dealing with the organised showmen for the maintenance and betterment of its fairs.

We understand the friendly feeling that now happily prevails has led to the redress of grievances with regard to tolls and the order and arrangement of the fair-ground. We congratulate Mr. Hurst and his colleagues in the union on the peaceful termination of the dispute.

Manchester Holiday Fairs.

This year the famous wakes at Longsight—a populous suburb of the city—coincided with the August Bank Holiday, the consequence being that many of the show concerns usually found at this fair were not able to attend it. This, however, made but little difference, for, as far as space permitted, the wakes-ground was crowded with high-class machines, shows, throwing games, pannum, and other stalls in goodly array. The principal amusement caterers were: James Norman, with cinematograph theatre; T. Hurst, with racing birds; J. Green, with motor-cars; J. H. Geoghegan, with galloping horses; Wm. Mitchell, with steam yachts; Ling, with houp-la circle and games; Gunthorpe, with photo booth; Passagno, with refreshment tent and ice-cream stalls; J. Royle, Mrs. Marsden, and Mrs. Jewell, with shooting ranges; Jennings, with gingerbread stalls; and coker-sheets, houp-la frames, football penalties, watch-la stalls, dart boards, and games by Messrs. C. Wright, J. White, Murphy Brothers, J. Jones, Jennings Brothers, Brennan, J. Leonard, Stott, Butterworth, A. Marsden, and others.

On another pitch were located E. Holland's motor-car and galloping horses sets, and Messrs. Beckett, J. Jones, and Cordwell Brothers, with houp-las and variety frames.

Alexandra's Circus on Tour.

Alexandra's Circus has just visited the Gaol Ground, Salisbury. It is the first time they have occupied this new site. We are glad to see they still retain the good old circus procession, with its triumphal cars, &c., which, after parading the city, returned to the spacious two-pole tent, with its comfortable seating arrangements and splendid lighting effects. Mr. M. Corbett, the leader of the band, deserves praise for the musical portion of the show, which was much appreciated. A most varied programme was presented, including the Bros. Zeena with one of the best horizontal bar turns we have seen. Mr. John Yelding gave two fine equestrian acts; Kurio, the contortionist, astonished the audience with the easy and graceful manner in which he performed apparently impossible feats; Mlle. Hettie, a juvenile rider, gave a pleasing turn; Hyatt introduced some wonderful juggling, and concluded by a fine display of lighted torches, which he manipulated at lightning speed whilst blindfolded and enveloped in a sack; Bess, a highly-trained mare, was introduced with much success. One of the principal attractions was that provided by the Lo-lo and May Trio of gymnaste and trapezists, which fairly brought down the house. Their turn showed skilful training, some fine tricks being given whilst being suspended by the teeth to a trapeze, and caused a perfect furore. The clowns were in much demand, Hairpin being highly amusing, and his jokes were eagerly looked for and much appreciated. He was supported by Funny Freddy and Chicken. Maccau's performing dogs provided a well-trained animal turn, and came in for a great reception. The spectacle "Raisuli" concluded an enjoyable evening's entertainment. Mr. D. Taylor, jun., is a most courteous manager, and is to be congratulated on the smartly-worked programme.

Holiday Fair and Amusements at Hastings.

For the August holidays Messrs. Gilbey and Davison have brought to the Central Cricket and Recreation Ground a big array of machine novelties and variety stalls, and holiday-makers have largely availed themselves of the galloping horses, overboats, shooting ranges, swings, houplas, and other games. The Borough Entertainments Association also have organised a series of al-fresco entertainments and fêtes. On Tuesday an illuminated concert was held in the St. Leonards Gardens. Herr Simon Wurm directed the Viennese Band, whose excerpts were varied by the Male Voice Quartet of the Westminster Singers. On Thursday a Children's Fête in the Alexandra Park was a popular function. For the maypole, fancy, and other dances the children had been well trained by Miss Muriel Jukes. Other features were Mr. Philip Goepel's School Children's Orchestra of sixty performers; a military and gymnastic display by a section of the Imperial Scouts and the Emmanuel Naval Brigade; Wallet Scott's variety company, and Wallis Arthur's popular company of comedians, the grounds being illuminated, and the Red Hungarian Band supplying music for dancing in a large enclosure on the lawn. A week of Olympic Games has included, on separate days, cycling, running, swimming, sailing and boating, bowls and quoits, a fishing competition, and a Fire Brigade tournament, to which events the Borough Member, Mr. Alfred du Cros, has contributed prizes.

Crecraft's Coliseum at Llanelly.

The very grand new show just opened here by Mrs. Crecraft, the oldest travelling show proprietress on the road, with its very elaborately carved front and its most comfortable and well-decorated interior, is really one of the finest travelling. In addition to the pictures, varieties are given nightly by Lloyd and Lewis, funny comedians; and a very clever show by Restill, the Yorkshire collier, and his daughter, Myra, thought readers.

"Rise, Sir Harry Wright, Knight."

Harry Wright was talking to some friends on Thursday in the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, when Lord George Sanger entered. Harry said: "Good morning, Mr. Sanger." He said: "Let me see, who is it?" "Harry Wright" was the reply. Lord George remarked: "Why, of course. How are you? I think you should be called Sir Harry Wright." Harry remarked: "But I have never been knighted." Lord George said: "Then you shall be. Bend the knee." Harry did so, and to the delight of all present Lord George raised his walking-cane, struck Harry Wright on the shoulder, and said: "Rise, Sir Harry, now we both have titles."

The White City, Manchester.

Saturday, July 30, was the occasion of the second annual brass band contest at the White City, Old Trafford, Manchester, for the permanent silver shield and seven cash prizes. The test piece was an arrangement of the works of Weber, and all the bands gave splendid renditions of it, and the judging had to be carefully considered where all were so very good. First prize and the shield were awarded to Perfection Soap Works, and others in order to Foden's Motor Works, Pendleton Old, Gossage's Soap Works, Wingates Temperance, Hebden Bridge, and Kirkby-in-Ashfield Prize.

Next Saturday, the 13th, the Boiler Makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society will hold a demonstration and picinc at the White City, when several M.P.'s will address the crowds, and five bands will furnish music for the day, including the regular band, the Black Watch, and also the pipers of the same regiment.

The annual excursion of the White City staff will be made to New Brighton on Sunday, the 21st, and promises to be a big one. On Monday last the officials and staff of the White City presented to Mr. Joseph Samuel Robinson a handsome gold Waltham watch as a token of esteem and friendship. Mr. Robinson has been cashier of the White City for the past three years, and by his uniform courtesy and consideration has won the real affection of all his co-workers. Mr. Calvin Brown, proprietor of the White City, is building a Magic City Park in Paris, and, as it will cost about £400,000, he is anxious to have only tried men on the job, and has promoted Mr. Robinson to the post of cashier in Paris, for which city he leaves at once. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are now motoring to the French capital from Manchester, and will visit en route London and Brussels. Mr. Brown has only just returned from a trip to America, where he secured a number of novel devices for installation in his Parks in Manchester and Paris.

Guild Service at Longsight.

The annual service for showpeople and their friends and neighbours at the Wakes was this year held in Norman's Cinematograph Theatre. The show was crowded to its fullest capacity. The service was marked with the utmost feeling of reverent attention and interest. The Rector of the parish (the Rev. H. Norburn, the senior hon. local chaplain of the Guild) has provided a service at the Wakes time for the past sixteen years, and is much loved of the showpeople. The Rector took the service, the Rev. T. Horne read the lesson and preached, and the choir from the parish church and the church workers sustained the singing. The Rector at the close of the service thanked the proprietor of the show, Mr. James Norman, for the use of the booth, and all the showmen helpers who undertook the obvious labour of love in preparing the show for its Sunday use and in seating the congregation. He knew how ready the showpeople were to further the great and good work of the Guild. He spoke of his own long connection with the Showmen's Guild, and referred in warm terms to the religious and educational value of the organising chaplain's ministry. The Guild had, in his opinion, entirely changed the view of the general public with regard to show life. Showpeople were no longer subject to prejudice and suspicion, but were recognised as fulfilling a very necessary and useful work for the community. Parliament now considered and referred to the opinion of the Guild before sanctioning legislation that might be oppressive to showpeople. All this was good, and its effect was not only seen in the great improvement visible amongst showpeople as a class, but it had its good for the whole body of the people. For example, he maintained that that service was good for his parish workers, good for the congregation of his own people. It was a practical demonstration of Christian fellowship, and showed how the Church might effectively minister in his parish to the strangers within their boundary. He prayed God's blessing on the great work of the Showmen's Guild.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

By Mr. S. Mercer: S. Mercer, 10s. 6d.; L. Boss, 5s.; and four others at 5s. each. By the Guild Secretary: Clark Bros., £1 1s.; John Crighton, £1 1s.; J. Passagno, 5s.; J. Ford, 5s.; E. Boss, 5s.; J. Flanagan, 10s.

Mitcham Fair Dispute.

The Rev. T. Horne and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift have been working with a view of furthering a peaceful and permanent settlement of this controversy. Their work has borne fruit in the fact that one great obstacle to a settlement has been overcome. The three Mitcham gentlemen who for the past three years have held the Fair rights have now transferred them to the Board of Mitcham Conservators. This is an immense step forward, for nothing of a practical nature was possible in the way of settlement until the Board became the actual possessors of the Fair rights. The people of Mitcham, as users of the common, will now have a right to petition the Conservators for a public-spirited settlement of the dispute—one that will be acceptable to public sentiment and consonant with the often expressed wishes of the people who really value and use the Fair. The showmen also will now have a public body (amenable by the very terms of its creation to public opinion) to deal with, and not a group of private individuals, who, however zealous for their own ideas of what was really good for Mitcham, did not represent the overwhelming weight of public opinion on this matter. It is—we again state it—an immense step forward to know that at last the franchise of the Fair is in the hands of the Conservators. The next step will be to approach the Board and to submit a well-considered scheme for the transference of the Fair, with all its ancient rights and privileges, to a larger and better site on the commons.

Guild Meeting at Mitcham.

A meeting of the London showmen is called by the Rev. T. Horne to be held in Ball's Show on Wednesday next, Aug. 10, at 3 in the afternoon. The business will be to consider the present aspect of the Mitcham Fair question, and to confer upon the new Movable Dwellings Bill.

THE MOVEABLE DWELLINGS BILL (1910).

The Select Committee of the House of Lords dealing with the above measure have completed their labours. The immediate result is seen in the amended text of the Bill printed by authority of Parliament. We reproduce it for the information of our readers interested in the question, and for purposes of reference and comparison we also give the Bill as it was when referred to the Committee.

The Bill as it went into Committee.

A BILL
INTITULED

An Act to provide for the registration and regulation of Moveable Dwellings.

Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. After the commencement of this Act a moveable dwelling shall not be used as a place of abode unless it has been registered with a registration authority in accordance with this Act:

If a moveable dwelling is used as a place of abode in contravention of this Act, the occupier and the owner shall each be guilty of an offence under this Act provided that the owner of a moveable dwelling, in respect of which an offence under this section has been proved to have been committed, shall in every case be deemed to have committed the offence, and shall be liable to pay the fine unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court before which any proceeding is instituted to recover such fine that he has used due diligence to comply with and to enforce the execution of this section and that the offence in question was committed without his knowledge, consent, or connivance.

2. The Local Government Board shall make regulations—

(1) For the registration of moveable dwellings, including regulations as to certificates of registration and as to the fees in connection with registration; and for the renewal of registration from time to time; and

(2) For the lettering, marking, and numbering of moveable dwellings; and

(3) For fixing the number of persons with reference to their age and sex for whose use as a place of abode a moveable dwelling may be registered, having regard to cubic space, ventilation, provision for the separation of the sexes, and general healthiness, and to the subsidiary accommodation afforded by tents or other structures registered for use with them; and

(4) For promoting cleanliness in and providing for the habitable condition of moveable dwellings; and

(5) For preventing nuisances, fire, and the spread of infectious disease in and in connection with moveable dwellings.

3. For the purpose of the registration of moveable dwellings the registration authorities shall be the county and county borough councils.

4.—(1) The occupier of any moveable dwelling shall produce the certificate of registry thereof when demanded by a police constable, and any such person failing so to do shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

(2) If any person illegally detains the certificate of registry of a moveable dwelling, he may, on summary conviction, be directed to deliver up such certificate, and shall, in addition thereto, be guilty of an offence under this Act, and the court may direct any part of any fine inflicted for the offence to be paid to the person injured by the detention of such certificate.

5. Where it appears to any registration **authority that the presence of moveable dwellings on any specified place or places within their area would be dangerous to the public health, or constitute a nuisance to the neighbourhood, the registration authority may by by-law prohibit such moveable dwellings being on such specified place or places;** and any person acting in contravention of any by-law made under this section shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

6. It shall be the duty of the sanitary authority having jurisdiction in the place where a moveable dwelling is for the time being situate to assist any registration authority concerned in carrying out the objects of this Act by giving information and otherwise.

7. Any expenses incurred by a local authority in carrying into effect the provisions of this Act, or any by-law made thereunder, shall be defrayed, in the case of a county out of the county fund, and in the case of a borough out of the borough fund or borough rate, and in the case of any other urban district or of a rural district out of any rate or fund applicable for defraying expenses incurred in the execution of the Public Health Acts.

8. Every registration authority under this Act shall, not later than the thirty-first day of January in every year, make a report to the Local Government Board as to the execution of this Act within their area.

9. A person guilty of a breach of any by-law or regulation made under this Act, or of any other offence under this Act, may on summary conviction be punished by a fine not exceeding forty shillings, and, in the case of a continuing offence under Section One of the Act, may further be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty shillings for every day during which the said offence continues. Offenders under this Act may be prosecuted and fines under this Act may be recovered by the sanitary authority or the registration authority within whose area the offence was committed or by the authority with which the moveable dwelling in respect of which the offence was committed was registered on summary conviction before two justices.

10. Nothing in this Act shall apply to any moveable dwelling used by any portion of His Majesty's naval or military forces, or to any encampment which may be certified as under proper supervision by the Territorial Force Association of a county.

11. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

The expression "moveable dwelling" includes tents and other structures capable of being moved from place to place, and also vans, carts, carriages, wagons, and other vehicles which shall be used for purposes of abode or residence, excepting vehicles temporarily used by shepherds, labourers, or other persons for farming, agricultural, or other like purposes, or for the service of local authorities:

The expression "occupier" in relation to a moveable dwelling means the person occupying or having for the time being control or charge of a moveable dwelling:

Nothing in this Act shall be taken to apply to canal boats or other boats.

12. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and ten.

13. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

14. This Act may be cited as the Moveable Dwellings Act, 1909.

All That Remains of the Old Bill.

We show in the heavy or black type all that remains of the original proposals in Lord Clifford of Chudleigh's Bill. The objectionable and invidious proposals with regard to registration, licence, numbering, and inspection of moveable dwellings are swept away by the amendments of the Select Committee. Clauses 1, 2, 3, and 4 are not seen at all in the amended Bill, and the only material proposal that touches show life is Clause 5 of the old Bill. That clause has been modified and divided into two parts, and excellent safeguards provided to limit their application and to exempt their application to lawful fairs and markets.

The Opposition to the Bill Justified.

The facts touching showlife put before the Committee by the Showmen's Guild have borne magnificent results in the new clauses with regard to sanitation, and the reference to the Local Government Board in order that the interests of travelling showmen or entertainers may be taken into consideration so as to secure that they shall not be hampered in the exercise of the legitimate business of their calling.

Further than that, it is altogether good to find what the showmen have all along pleaded for—an exemption clause; Clause 8 in the new Bill—that *nothing in the Act shall affect the rights or privileges of any person in respect of any lawful fair or market.*

The New or Amended Bill.

A BILL [AS AMENDED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE] INTITULED AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

POWER TO PROHIBIT ENCAMPMENT.

1. Where it appears to any county council that the presence of moveable dwellings on any specified place or places within the county would be dangerous to the public health, the council may by byelaw prohibit any moveable dwelling from being on such specified place or places.

PROVISION OF CAMPING GROUNDS BY COUNTY COUNCIL.

2.—(1) A county council may, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board by agreement, purchase or take on lease land to be used for the purpose of camping grounds under such conditions as to area, situation, water supply, and otherwise, as may be approved by the Local Government Board.

(2) Before signifying approval of the purchase or taking on lease by a county council of any land under this section, the Local Government Board shall, inter alia, take into consideration—

(*a*) the general interests of the public and the neighbourhood in relation to the proposal;

(*b*) the ability of the occupiers of moveable dwellings to comply with the provisions of this section having regard in particular to the distance between and area of camping-grounds in the county; and

(*c*) **the interests of travelling showmen or entertainers so as to secure that they shall not be hampered in the exercise of the legitimate business of their calling.**

(3) Where a county council has, with the approval of the Local Government Board, provided sufficient land for camping grounds under this section—

(*a*) the occupier of a moveable dwelling may encamp upon any such ground upon payment of the authorised fee;

(*b*) the occupier of a moveable dwelling shall not encamp within the county—

(i) upon any common or roadside waste without the permission in writing of the county council or their authorised officer, provided that such permission shall not affect the rights of any person interested in the land whose consent is requisite to render such user lawful; or

(ii) upon any land in private occupation without the permission of the occupier of such land;

and if any person acts in contravention hereof he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act, and it shall be the duty of the police to remove such offender;

(*c*) where it appears to the county council that the presence of moveable dwellings upon any specified place or places within the county would constitute an annoyance to the neighbourhood, the council may by bye-law prohibit or limit the number of moveable dwellings at any one time on such specified place or places; and it shall be the duty of the police to remove any person acting in contravention of this provision;

(*d*) the county council may, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, make regulations respecting the use of the camping-grounds, and such regulations may inter alia prescribe fees to be taken from the occupier of any moveable dwelling for such use.

AMENDMENT OF HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1885. 48 and 49 Vict. c. 72.

3. The powers and duties of sanitary authorities under section nine of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885 (which relates to tents, vans, sheds, and other structures used for human habitation), shall, so far as they relate to moveable dwellings, be transferred to county councils, and that section shall have effect as if references therein to the sanitary authority included references to the county council.

SANITARY AUTHORITY TO ASSIST.

4. It shall be the duty of the sanitary authority having jurisdiction in the place where a moveable dwelling is for the time being situate to assist any county council concerned in carrying out the objects of this Act by giving information and otherwise.

EXPENSES.

5.—(1) Any expenses incurred by a county council in carrying into effect the provisions of this Act, or any byelaw made thereunder, shall be defrayed out of the county fund.

(2) A county council may borrow money for the purposes of the provisions of this Act relating to the provision of land for camping grounds in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1888, or, if the council of a county borough, in accordance with the Public Health Acts.

PENALTIES.

6.—(1) A person guilty of a breach of any byelaw or regulation made under this Act, or of any other offence under this Act, shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding forty shillings, and, in the case of a continuing offence under sections one or two of this Act, shall further be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty shillings for every day during which the said offence continues.

(2) Offences under this Act may be prosecuted by the council of the county within which the offence was committed.

NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES.

7. Nothing in this Act shall apply to any moveable dwelling used by any portion of His Majesty's naval or military forces, or to any encampment which may be certified as under proper supervision by the territorial force association of a county.

SAVING FOR FAIRS AND MARKETS.

8. **Nothing in this Act shall affect the rights or privileges of any person in respect of any lawful fair or market.**

DEFINITIONS.

9. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

The expression "moveable dwelling" includes tents and other structures capable of being moved from place to place, and also vans, carts, carriages, wagons, and other vehicles which shall be used for purposes of abode or residence, excepting vehicles temporarily used by shepherds, labourers, or other persons for farming, agricultural, or other like purposes, or for the service of local authorities:

The expression "occupier" in relation to a moveable dwelling means the person occupying or having for the time being control or charge of a moveable dwelling:

The expression "county council" shall include the council of a county borough, and, in its application to a county borough, the expression "county fund" shall mean the borough fund or borough rate.

Nothing in this Act shall be taken to apply to canal boats or other boats.

COMMENCEMENT OF ACT.

10. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

EXTENT OF ACT.

11. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

SHORT TITLE.

12. This Act may be cited as the Moveable Dwellings Act, 1910.

Matters for Serious Consideration.

The showmen of England will recognise and fully acknowledge the splendid work of the Select Committee as shown in the Bill now before us. We have no hesitation in praising it as a fine example of constructive statesmanship. The provision by County Councils of camping grounds at convenient places will be a great boon to legitimate gipsies, hawkers, and others using movable dwellings yet not following the fairs. The wise simplification of the sanitary laws by making the county the unit of administration will be a boon to showmen, and save them the constantly recurring irritation of over-inspection and unnecessary official visits. The exemption clause for lawful fairs and markets is a step in the right direction, but it leaves untouched the increasingly important question of private show pitches in the winter and the enterprise of opening up new centres for fairs. These faults in the Bill may be dealt with when it is in Committee of the whole House. It is quite possible that Lord Clifford of Chudleigh may accept amendments on these points when he realises their necessity to make his Bill really perfect.

The Future Action of the Guild.

During the Parliamentary recess, the Executive Committee of the Showmen's Guild will have ample time and opportunity to consider the further amendments of the Bill. Between now and Nov. 15, when Parliament reassembles, there will be important meetings of Guild members in all parts of the country—at Mitcham for the London district, Ayr for the Scotch Circuit, Hull for the Yorkshire and Northern Circuit, Oldham for Lancashire and Cheshire Circuits, Nottingham for the Midlands, and Gloucester for the West of England and Wales. Having cleared the ground of so much debatable matter and banished for ever so many deeply-rooted prejudices against show life, we can now devote our powers to the work of safeguarding our trading and business interests, so far as new legislation may threaten them. The good already obtained by combination and by Parliamentary defence work will be a grand incentive to all showpeople to strengthen and maintain the beneficent endeavour of the Guild Executive Council to vindicate and to uplift the show business and to preserve the open-air amusements of the people.

Gorton Brook Fair.

On this popular fair-ground were John Whiting's grand set of Japanese rolling cars, and various shows, games, and stalls.

Queen's Road Fair.

The greatest of all the Manchester Bank Holiday fairs is that held on Albert Croft, Queen's-road, North Manchester. The spacious ground admits of a good display, and this year's fair was especially noticable for the grand galaxy of high-class shows, machines, and other novelties. John Collins, the enterprising lessee of the ground, exhibited a fine selection from his many concerns. This included motor-cars, galloping horses, steam yachts, razzle-dazzle, cake-walk, and haunted castle. The other machine exhibits were H. Hibbert's racing birds, Wallis and Sons' bicycles, J. Plinston's looping the loop, Brierley's gem horses and swings, Starkie's overboats, gem and juvenile motors; horses, Teddy bears, &c., by Messrs. Mercer, Ford, and Thwaits; shooting ranges and bottle batteries by Messrs. Burton, Fletcher, Ford, Hughes and Martin, Humphreys, and Starkie. There were long avenues of games, stalls, and variety frames. These included houplas, penalty frames, dolly stalls, coker shies, pannum and other stalls, supplied by Messrs. S. Mercer, Clayton, Boss Brothers, Fletcher Colver, Day, Clough, Ingham, Whalmose and Sons, Horton, Bettany, Lee, Mulhearne, Black, Lynch, Ingham-Scott, Camfield, Worthington, R. Dixon, and many others.

Holiday Fairs and Amusements at Bath.

As usual about this period of the year, West of England showmen are busy attending the many flower shows, political fêtes, and galas that are held near Bath. On Bank Holiday Jennings' world's fair proved a big attraction at Frome, where also Mr. Carl Fredericks and his Les Vivandieres Costume Concert Party were also much in request with their songs, dances, and sketches. On Wednesday Marshall Hill's galloping horses and other amusements attended the popular Badminton show.

Jacob Studt's grand motor track and orchestraphone were at Ashton Gate Fair-ground last Saturday. Jennings' steam roundabouts also were due at Horningsham on Thursday, and several others, with their side attractions, have accompanied the larger shows on their rounds.

At Sydney Gardens on Monday the usual fête and gala, under Mr. Carl Fredericks' direction, was held in charming weather. Large crowds enjoyed the many and varied attractions provided. For the remainder of the week a capital lot of entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Fred Valentine, are providing gaiety for the patrons, but the importunate stormy weather has been all against good attendances.

Showman's Letter-box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* Office: Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, Biddall Bros., H. Fossett, T. Fossett, and J. Studt.

With a small capital you can earn £60 or more a month! Anyone can make huge profits with the new and fascinating game of Boxball, the finest amusement and most attractive novelty ever offered to the public. Young and old find it irresistible; in every town Boxball is becoming the rage. Those first in the field are reaping vast cash returns. One Boxball alley, costing £45, took in £103 in the first fifty-one days. Two others, costing £72, took in £273 12s. 4d. in five months. Piers, seaside resorts, kursaals, pleasure gardens, skating rinks, hotels, clubs, vacant shop premises—these are the places where Boxball is coining money. No assistants needed. Alleys work automatically. Read the following:—"Your four alleys opened Saturday, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool; instantaneous success; shall want more alleys." "Without a doubt these alleys are the premier attraction. The week we opened we took £25, second week £30, third week £33, and last week £40," says the manager, St. Leonards Pier. "Opened the alley, and have found it very satisfactory," Exhibition Hall, Spanish City, Whitley Bay. Other places with four alleys are earning from £30 to £35 weekly. Further particulars will be found in our advertisement columns.

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

We are confident that Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball's many friends in Showland will sympathise with them in this hour of calamitous loss. The destruction of the costly and beautiful Electric Lyceum by fire at Tilbury Docks recently will be a shock to many people, and its consequences terrible to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. It is no exaggeration to say that the hard work and well-won savings of a lifetime were spent upon the show, and now comes calamity and loss, not by any neglect on their part, but in the mysterious providence of events, struck by lightning and fired. On the Metropolitan circuit of fairs, where Ball's show is a household word, and where Alf. Ball ranks as a leader and champion of Showland, the consternation and grief will be widespread, and the sympathy most personal and real. We trust that response for contributions to the Ball Show Fire Fund will be both immediate and adequate. We strongly commend this matter to the ever generous heart of Showland.

Mr. Frank Bostock writes:—

"Enclosed please find cheque value £5 5s. for the Alf. Ball Subscription Fund. I am indeed sorry to hear of his misfortune."

In a letter, under date July 9, enclosing a cheque for £5, Mr. Frank Turner, of the Agricultural Hall and Liverpool-road, Islington, writes:—

"Herewith my small contribution to list for Alf. Ball. I am sure every showman will sympathise with a man who was always ready to help others, and I trust you will get a good list.—Yours faithfully, FRANK TURNER."

Writing to Mr. Ball, Messrs. Chiappa and Sons, the show organ builders, of London, say:—

"Dear Sir,—We regret very much to hear of your sad loss, and beg your acceptance of the enclosed cheque for £10, being our small subscription to the fund now being raised, and sincerely trust that the other travellers will all do their best to assist you, and that the fund will raise a good substantial amount. Assuring you of our sympathy and desire to assist you at all times.—Yours faithfully, "CHIAPPA AND SONS.

"London, E.C., July 18, 1910."

Mr. Richard Dooner writes:—

"Your letter to hand re Alf. Ball Fund, and have enclosed cheque for £2 2s. Kindly place this to list. Deeply regret that I cannot afford more for such a deserving cause. Kindly accept my deepest sympathy. Trusting that you will be rewarded for your noble work."

Mr. Tom Norman says:—

"Herewith please find one guinea—my small subscription for the Alf. Ball Fund. I am truly sorry that present circumstances will not permit me making it more, for, if ever there was a case deserving of something a great deal more than sympathy, but the financial assistance of us all, it is this one."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Patrick Collins	10	0	0
Messrs. Chiappa and Sons	10	0	0
Frank Bostock	5	5	0
John Collins	5	5	0
Lord George Sanger	5	0	0
E. H. Bostock	5	0	0
Jury's Imperial Bioscope Co., Ltd.	5	0	0
Frank Turner	5	0	0
Andrew Purchase	2	10	0
C. B. Cochran	2	2	0
Richard Dooner	2	2	0
Robert Fossett	2	0	0
Joseph Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. E. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. J. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. Denio	1	10	0
J. Bibby and Co.	1	1	0
Tom Norman	1	1	0
Mrs. J. Whiting	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Holmes	1	0	0
Mr. Harry Cox	1	0	0
Mrs. Mitchell	0	10	0
"Princess Pauline" (Midget)	0	10	0
T. S. Whiting (Oxford)	0	7	6
C. H. Horton	0	2	6

COLLECTED BY MR. CHARLES THURSTON.

Mr. Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Mr. William Taylor	5	5	0
Mr. J. H. Norman	0	10	0
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	0
Mr. Suett	0	10	0
Mr. Lewis	0	10	0
Mr. W. Westrop	0	5	0
Mr. E. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. W. Harris	0	5	0
Mr. H. Shaw	0	5	0
Mr. C. Summers	0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. John Harris	0	5	0
Mrs. T. Hearn	0	2	6
Mrs. T. W. Bond	0	2	0
Mrs. T. Essam	0	2	0
Mr. Joe Irish	0	2	0
Mr. A. Miller	0	1	0
Mr. P. Rolfe	0	1	0
Mr. E. Brown	0	1	0
Mr. T. Bridgeman	0	1	0
Mr. J. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. E. N. Parkis	0	1	0
Mr. A. Johnson	0	1	0
Mrs. Parkins	0	1	0
Total	£14	16	6

COLLECTED AT HORSHAM FAIR.

Mr. W. Biddall's subscription list of funds for the assistance to Mr. Alfred Ball in his serious loss by fire:

Mr. W. Biddall	1	1	0
Mr. W. Hastings	1	1	0
Mr. C. Andrews	1	1	0
Mr. S. Mayne	1	0	0
Mr. E. Hussey	0	10	0
Mr. Alf. Bond	0	10	0
Mr. W. Bedford	0	7	6
Mr. J. Biddall	0	5	0
Mr. G. Biddall	0	3	0
Mr. C. Biddall	0	2	6
Mr. J. Freeman	0	2	0
Mr. J. Matthews	0	2	0
Mr. T. Smith	0	2	0
Mr. Castle	0	2	0
A. Bond, jun.	0	2	0
A. Taylor	0	2	0
Total	£6	13	0

COLLECTED BY MR. WM. BEACH.

Wm. Beach	5	0	0
W. Beach, jun.	0	10	0
Beach's employees	0	8	6
Mrs. T. Edwards	0	5	0
Miss S. Beach	0	5	0
Miss J. Beach	0	3	0
Totals	£6	11	6

COLLECTED BY J. MANNING, OF MANNING BROS.

Mr. John Manning	0	10	0
Mr. W. Manning, sen.	0	5	0
Mr. W. Manning, jun.	0	5	0
Mr. Joe Manning	0	5	0
Mr. Charles Manning	0	2	6
Total	1	7	6
Estimated proceeds of local fund and benefit at Tilbury Docks	60	0	0
Benefit performance at Grays	9	0	0
Mrs. Bird	0	10	0
Mrs. Tyler	0	5	0

Additional subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Podgrift, *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter ..... 6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year ..... 13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year ..... 26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, 16, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Jan. 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Oct. 10.
Musical Comedy preferred.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies, DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Grand Re-opening date, Aug. 15.
Vacant later, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 21 (3 nights with Cambridge), Oct. 3 (3), 17, and various onwards.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and good printing. Twice Nightly, Sept. 5, on. Must state lowest terms.
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND THEATRE, W. HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10 (no Dramas).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 29 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 8 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Aug. 8. Wire.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Sept. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5; 13, 14, 15; 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Nov. 7, 14, 28,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards. Communications, C. A. SEBOLD.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Oct. 3.
Address, CHARLES REVILL,
T. R., Stockport.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
All Must Play Twice Nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing Director.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, 31,
onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, a First-class Attraction, Sept. 5,
for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Royal, Halifax, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 21, 28;
Royal, Bury, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, Dec. 5;
Royal, Rochdale, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5;
Royal, Dewsbury, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, 28.
OTTO C. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 23, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Aug. 15, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16, March 27, April 3, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 19, 26.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Nov. 7, 14.
Pantomimes both Theatres January and February.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions for Autumn, 1910, Smart Pantomimes for 1911, and powerful Musical or Dramatic Attractions. This theatre is now being redecorated, restaged, and recasted in the most up-to-date manner, regardless of expense, and will be under the personal direction and supervision of Mr. Arthur C. Moody.
Touring Managers may be assured thereby that no effort will be spared to make it a huge financial success.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.

Wanted, Strong Company, for
Aug. 8, Aug. 8, Aug. 8, 1910,
also
First-class Companies for 1911 (with a few exceptions.
All communications,
ARTHUR C. MOODY, T. R., Blyth-by-Sea.
(Silence a polite negative.)

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
Lessees and Managers, JAY and MANN.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedy preferred, for Sept. 12 and 19. This Theatre plays to very fine business in Aug. and Sept., and holds £100 at popular prices.
Address,
HERBERT JAY, Wyndham's Theatre, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 29, possibly Oct. 3, Dec. 12, 19.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

RUGBY.—NEW PALACE THEATRE.
Proprietor and Manager, FRANK LANGLEY.
An up-to-date Brick and Stone Building.
Stage 36ft. deep, 54ft. wide. Stage, floor to grid, 40ft. Proscenium opening, 27ft. Seating accommodation for over 1,000. Electric lighting.
Architects, Messrs. Franklin and Newman, Rugby.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy Jan. 16. A good week's business assured. Also Vac. March 6, 13, 20, April 3, 10, and on. All coms, FRANK LANGLEY, New Palace Theatre, Rugby.

PALACE THEATRE,
TYNEMOUTH.
One of the Finest Theatres in the North, with a seating capacity of 2,600.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
October and onwards.
Good Companies Cannot Fail to do Big Business.

Write or wire,
HAROLD ARNOLD,

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 19 (?), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28 (?), Xmas Panto. (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Aug. 29, Sept. 12.
H. MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, unexpectedly, Sept. 5, three nights, First-class Musical Show or really good Comedy. Wire or write, MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Good Drama or Musical Comedy, Aug. 15. Wire, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, Good Companies, for Aug. 22, Sept. 1, 8, 12, 15. Wire, Aug. 22.
PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, on. E. B. GOULDEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 8 and 15, Sept. 19. A. D. VERNON.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. F. HUGHES, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Oct. 10, 24.
Apply, Mr. JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 15 (6 nights), 22 (3). W. E. PORTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, High-class Companies,
Aug. 22 (3), Sept. 1 (3), and 5 (3).
W. E. PORTS, Theatre Royal, Dunfermline.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, 26, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

LINCOLN THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, and 31.

GAINSBOROUGH, KING'S THEATRE.
Vacant Oct. 3 and 24 (three nights).

NEWARK NEW THEATRE.
Various dates vacant from Oct. 3.

LONDONDERRY OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Feb. 27, March 6.

DUMFRIES & HAWICK.
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 6, 16, and 23.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Sept. 8, 9, 10, and 12, 13, 14.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Sept. 8, 9, 10; Sept. 12, 13, 14 (?).
Sept. 22, 23, 24, and various dates, onwards.
Apply G. HAYES, The Pier, Eastbourne.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, owing to alteration in opening arrangements, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
Aug. 15, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
Aug. 29, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
For these and other Autumn Vacancies at Coatbridge, Falkirk, Motherwell, Ayr, Leith, &c., apply R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 15 (Race week); must be a First-class Attraction.
Absolutely One of the Best Weeks in the Year.
Also Sept. 5, 26,
Oct. 3 and 10.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
WANTED, Aug. 22,
Sept. 5,
and Nov. 28.
All communications re Opera House to be addressed there;
others to J. CHAS. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 5, 6, 7, 22, 23, 24. W. PAYNE.
Silence a polite negative.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 19, Xmas on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 8, 15, 22, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, through obliging, Musical Comedies, Sept. 25, week, Nov. 7, on. Stage enlarged, new dressing-rooms; electric light; re-seated and decorated throughout. ANDREWS, New Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 22, 29, and on, also Musical Attraction for Christmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, on, Grand Chorley; also Aug. 22, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 24, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, KENDAL.
WANTED (to oblige a Manager), High-class Company (not Drama), for Sept. 22, 23, and 24, Show Week. J. W. BUTLER.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, through change of arrangements, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 22 and 29; also Vacant, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.

WANTED, good Attractions, Musical and Dramatic, most dates vacant this year and onwards owing to change of management.

All communications,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court.

WANTED, Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness; open Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS

WANTED, good Companies, Drama, Musical Comedy or Variety, Aug. 22 and 29. Lowest sharing terms to G. H. SHAW, Olympia Theatre, Coalville.

WANTED, Company, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 11 and 18, 3 nights each. Vacant unexpected. Wire, MANAGER, Lyric Theatre, Dinnington, Yorks.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred,
Sept 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17,
Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.

PUBLIC HALL THEATRE, STIRLING,
and
TOWN HALL THEATRE, HOWICK.
WANTED, for New Year's Week, Big Musical Play or Pantomime.
Must be first-class.
MACDONALD, 24, The Crescent, Wimbledon Park, S.W.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
Vacant Aug. 29.
Vacant Aug. 29.
Vacant Aug. 29.
Vacant Aug. 29.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Wanted, First-class Attraction,
Wanted, First-class Attraction,
Aug. 29,
Aug. 29,
Aug. 29,
Wire, HARRIS FINBERG.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 3.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Sept. 12, 26.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK,
Aug. 22, Sept. 12.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, THE PENNINGTON ESTATE CO., LTD.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book, First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Good Companies.
Vacant Sept. 12, 19.
Vacant Sept. 12, 19.
First-class Attractions only.
Write, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
Also Palaces at Barry Dock, Kettering, Loughborough, Neath, Bradford, Rugby, Exmouth, &c.
The above entirely New Theatre will open about the middle of August. Lighted throughout with Electric Light, Seating Capacity about 1,600, situated in the centre of a densely-populated district. Neath has been waiting for a theatre for years, and business is bound to be most excellent.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedy and Dramatic Companies. No vacant dates this year. Jan 9 on, with exceptions. All communications re dates, with copy of day bill, to WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Vacant Dates, for First-class Attraction, from Sept. 5, onwards.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 5 and 19 (Newcastle), also Sept. 5 (London).
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 15, for T. R., Aston, and T. R., Smethwick. Wire,
DAN BARNARD, Elephant and Castle, S.E.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS
ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Vaudeville Combinations for Sept. 12 and 19.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

WALTER MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 19.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6, 13.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 7, on.
Big Company.
Chorus. Specialities.
Special Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Opera House, Leicester (fourth visit).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS" (No. 1 Company), Oct. 17 (?),
(North or Midland),
April 17 at Big Theatre.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for
Sept. 19 (North),
Oct. 17 and 24 (Midlands or South).
Address, CECIL BARTH, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED Sept. 19 (?),
Oct. 3 (?), 17, 31.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Admitted by Press and Public to be One of the Biggest Successes Touring.
Wire for Sept. 19. Wire.
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14, North or Midlands.
J. B. HOWARD, 15, Clifford's-inn, E.C.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, through obliging, Oct. 3 (Lancs. or Yorks.),
HORACE STANLEY, Grand, Nottingham;
next, T. R., WEXFORD.

WANTED, for E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "King and the Unknown Woman," Oct. 14.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, c/o "The Era."

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell. Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 5, 12, 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Sept. 19, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 10, Dec. 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
By Messrs. Sims and Shirley.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Own Company
in New Play
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."

The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 5 (to follow Torquay), Sept. 12, Oct. 3.

Ernest E. Norris,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Enormous Reception this week.
Star Theatre, Swansea (return visit).
Refer Wm. Coutts, Esq.
WANTED, Sept. 12 (three nights), Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Xmas, onwards.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
Big Success in the Broadhead Theatres.
Vacant Oct. 17, 24.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 24.
Wanted, for New Production, Xmas, and onwards.
All once or twice nightly. Change of Bill if desired.
Wires, Star Theatre, Swansea.
Letters, Hippodrome, Salford, Manchester.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights), Nov. 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address,
Frank M. Thorne, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

CHARLES WINDERMERE & COMPANY in
the Funniest Play of the Day,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, and 26 (3 nights),
Nov. 14 and 21, between Blackpool
and Barrow.
Aug. 8, Ventnor and Westgate-on-Sea.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
for "The Prodigal Parson,"
Sept. 5 and 19.
Mr. W. V. Garrod, Hippo., Keighley.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (between Glasgow and Doncaster). New Production shortly.
"THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT."
Wire, Geo. A. De Gray, Pal., Newcastle.
Monday, Metropole, Glasgow.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.,
Presenting Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success,
"TEMPTATION."
Tuesday pounds better than Monday,
Wednesday beat Monday.
This week, Ashton. Refer Charles Revill, Esq.
WANTED, good Dramatic Theatres,
Sept. 12, 19, 26,
Oct. 10 and 31.

Martin Comstock, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19. Enormous reception at the Hippodrome, Stoke. Hundreds turned away on Tuesday night. Please refer Manager Jackson.
Dickie Clark, Empire, Fleetwood (third visit).

MR. AND MRS. O. SILVERSTONE AND HENRY WRIGHT'S CO.,
"THE NIHILIST; OR, A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
Undoubtedly the hit of Sheffield this Holiday Week.
Our return date an unqualified success.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 19 (through change of Lessceship), Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Xmas, on. Wires,
Silverstone, T. R., Sheffield; next, T. R., Leicester.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Aug. 29 (3 nights), Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2.
Haldane Crichton, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

WANTED, Big Theatre for Xmas, 6 or 7 nights, for the Enormous Success, "His Real Wife," including Miss Ward and her Star Cast. Address, T. E. Ward, Star T., Liverpool.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell, Esq.).
Refer W. W. Kelly, Esq., Percy Broadhead, Esq., or any other Manager visited re Printing, Scenery, Company, and Business done.
WANTED, Oct. 17 and 24, and Xmas Week.

Oswald Cray, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"LADY OF OSTEND."
"LADY OF OSTEND."
WANTED, Aug. 29, Week in First-class House.
Also Oct. 3, 17.
Lawrence Brough,
Hippodrome, Preston.

J. PITT HARDACRE,
in "EASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 22, and on.
Theatre Royal, Bradford.

J. FORBES KNOWLES and HARRY MASTERMAN'S COMPANIES.
"NICK CARTER,"
by Shirley and Landeck,
is a Success.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, and on, Theatres, with Large Stages preferred.
J. Forbes Knowles,
Palace Theatre, Bordesley.

"UNDER THE IRON HEEL."
Mr. WILSON HOWARD and CO.,
including MISS CARLOTTA ANSON.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 28, Xmas, Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 27, March 27, and Easter, for this First-class Military Drama. Superb Production in every respect. Refer F. M. Watson, Esq., Q. T., Dublin.
Wilson Howard, Her Majesty's T., Carlisle

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26,
Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this Great Attraction,
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17,
and later.
"A HOT NIGHT,"
Musical Comedy, Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers 30.
Wanted, good Theatres, Oct. 3, onwards, with exceptions.
PANTOMIMES, "BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted Good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re Dates, A. R. Feather, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Read Copy of Letter from Mr. Collingwood:—
Dear Mr. Kimberley,—
Your production of "The Power of the King" is deserving of the greatest praise. The uniforms, scenery, and general effects are calculated to ensure you good business and return dates everywhere. All good wishes and regards.—Very truly yours,
Lester Collingwood.
Managers specially invited to witness this gorgeous production. Refer L. Collingwood, Esq., re business this week. Business gone up nightly. Refer. Vacant Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 21. Only Vacant Dates this year.

"HER SECRET LOVER."
Guaranteed one of the Finest Moneymakers on the road to-day. Special Cast, including Laura Walker.
Vacant (through transferring) Sept. 12, Oct. 3.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 3.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 10, 17,
Special Band to Parade.
Wire for above shows to
Alex. Theatre, Birmingham, this week;
next, T. R., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever. As to business, this week refer Chas. G. Elphinstone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley.
The Staffordshire Sentinel, Aug. 2, 1910.—At the Royal (Hanley) on Monday night the piece again attracted an immense audience, gallery, upper circle, and pit being crowded out. . . . Miss Ida Heron (as Lady Isabel) rises to considerable histrionic heights. . . . The P.C. Bullock of Mr. Joe Rowland kept the audience in the merriest of merry moods. . . . Mr. John J. Hooker as Francis Levison and Captain Thorne plays with confidence and alertness. . . . Mr. Frank Beresford is throughout quite admirable as Archibald Carlyle. A better performance it would be difficult to realise.

Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28, and on, with exceptions.
Managers requiring a sound attraction and sure money-maker write or wire,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Aug. 8, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
WANTED, good Theatres,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED,"
Sept. 5, unexpectedly vacant, Nov. 7 (?), and various Spring.
"LAUGHING 'LIZA."
a New Musical Farce, by the author of
"Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Vacant Jan. 9, to follow Wigan; Jan. 23, to precede Warrington; Feb. 13, to follow St. Helens; Feb. 27, to precede Halifax; March 27, to follow Bury; and various on. Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Clarence T., Pontypridd.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE,
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address, Charles Gibson,
T. R., Edinburgh.

WANTED Aug. 15 (wire),
(week or three nights),
Aug. 29
(to oblige Otto Culling, Esq.),
for the John Leopold Pantomimic Comedy Productions,
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY,"
preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
Two Big Attractions. New Songs and Dances.
Big Company. Printing and Agent in readiness.
Wire for Aug. 15.
Charles Goff, Sole Director.
This, Queen's Theatre, Longton (refer);
next, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

Mr. GASTON MAYER'S COMPANY.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Sept. 1 (3 nights), 26, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7. Coms., Walter D. Nicoll,
106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, through Luton Theatre turning to Variety, Sept. 12, also Xmas, onwards, for T. Edward Ward's Attractions, "His Real Wife" and other plays. Big success at Middlesbrough.
Address, T. E. Ward, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

Mr. FRANK BERTRAM'S CO'S.
WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 28, for
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."

Oct. 10 and 17 for
"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN,"
with John Child as O'Lyn.

Address, A. Bertram, Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, 26,
Jan. 9, and various onwards.

Jerrold Heather as Zaco.

Hilda Shirley as Myra.

Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

JOHN BARRETT'S CO. "WHY WOMEN WEEP."
WANTED, Theatres, from Aug. 15, on. Thanks A. Carlton, Esq., F. Stuart, Esq., G Levaine, Esq., T. Shaw, Esq., for letters and offers. Wire or write, Sager, T. R., Leigh; next, Town Hall, Winsford, Cheshire.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls for
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Jan. 30, Feb. 13, and onwards.

"CINDERELLA."
Feb. 13, and onwards.
Can play once or twice nightly.
Address, Thos. Swinton,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

THEATRES WANTED.

THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous Success of First British Tour.
Records Broken Everywhere.

The Biggest, Brightest, Most Elaborate, and Costly Magical Performance ever Toured. Five completely different two-hour Programmes. Gorgeous Stage Settings of Gold, Silver, Silk, and Plush. Special Scenery. Magnificent electrical effects. The finest variety of five-colour Lithographic Posters in the World, all sizes.
Thirty People. Twenty Tons of Equipment.
Creating a Positive Furore Everywhere.

Weekly Press Verdicts:—
The finest performance ever seen in the town. He is the most natural performer in the world. Such an entertainment has never been seen before.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Live Wide-awake Managers of First-class Properly-equipped Theatres, Music Halls, and Piers having open time.
Only a Few Summer Dates Vacant.
ALL COMMUNICATIONS,
MAURICE F. RAYMOND,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
En route, or care of "The Era."
Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the BREAKING OF RECORDS.
Enormous success of First British Tour.
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
THE GREAT RAYMOND,
Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 12,
Oct. 3, 10, 17, open.
Wire, Palace Theatre, Oldham.
Aug. 8, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Aug. 15, and on, to follow Chatham, for "Caste." G. W. Anson as Eccles.
Anson, 3, Gloucester-road, Kensington.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
T. ELDER HEARN,
First-class Theatres or Music Halls, and Star Artists only. Lowest terms, immediate time.
This week, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
Next week, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

WANTED, Theatres and Halls for Sept. 5, 19, and on, with exceptions.
The De Lands Variety Company of Star Artists, including
THE DE LANDS,
the Original American Illusionists, in their bewildering act of American Illusions, including The Oven Mystery.
DE LANDS AMERICAN TRAVESTY BAND.
Also
DE LAND and His AEROPLANE,
which he demonstrates nightly on the stage.
Large and gorgeous stock of Pictorial Printing. Supported by a company of first-class artists. This act is a money magnet. Book it at once if you want to make money. Write to
V. St. Clair, Manager for the De Lands,
65A, Atlantic-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, for Variety Combination,
Aug. 22, onwards.
Address, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"A HOT NIGHT."
WANTED, for Musical Comedy, First-class Leading Lady, tall, good voice and appearance, to sing; two smart Light Comedy Juvenile Gents; good Comedy Character Old Man; Robust Character Comedian, to play fiery, jealous Naval Captain; good Dame Comedian; Eccentric Comedian for Professor; two smart Soubrettes; first-class Producer; Male and Female Choristers. Terms, refs., and photos (important) to
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Important.—Give permanent address.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists for New Production; rehearse in London, Sept. 26. State lowest terms, also parts played recently, and address,
W. E. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, at Once, for High-class Dramatic Sketch (trial week, London), following Gentlemen: Heavy Lead, Juvenile, and Responsible. All must be tall. Costumes found. Long engagement if suitable. State lowest terms, height, age, references. Box 8,089, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Light Comedian, for Frank Feather, to combine Stage-Management; Chambermaid, young, bright, for Bessie Betts, "Driving a Girl to Destruction." Rehearse at once. Address, Morton Powell, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Principals for First-class Tour. Preference given to those willing to take financial interest in same. Exceptional opportunity. Fullest particulars to Manager, Box 8,100, "The Era."

WANTED, Child Actress, one week, Rehearse Aug. 9, over fourteen, look young. Particulars, Beaudyn, T. R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Short, Robust Actor, for Uncle Gregory in "A Pair of Spectacles" (Fit-up Tour); must be able to speak Yorkshire. Rehearse West Kirby, Wednesday next. Open following Wednesday. Absolute lowest terms, photos. (or no notice taken), &c., to Mr. Arthur Hare, G.P.O., West Kirby.

MR. GEORGE MUNRO'S TOUR.
WANTED, Thoroughly Experienced Shakespearean Artists for the above Tour; also Good Advance Agent and Wardrobe Mistress. Photos, References, and Lowest Terms for Long Tour. Apply, 9, Thorncliffe-road, Oxford.

WANTED, a Gentleman for Responsible Parts, and Gentleman for Small Parts. Full particulars, Norman V. Norman, Prince's T., Bristol.

WANTED, Americans, for Shorty, Andy, and Pete, in "A White Man." Address, with photos., A. Bertram, Garrick Theatre, W.C.

"TRILBY" SKETCH CO.
WANTED, Short Artistic Juvenile for Little Billee. Must be refined. One who knows piece preferred. Rehearse 9th inst. Photo and terms to Torrance, 31, Park-avenue, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, exceptionally Smart and Attractive Chorus Ladies, with good voices, for First-class Tour; West-End Management. A few Amateurs willing to be trained might be accepted. Fullest particulars to
H., Box 8,102, c/o "The Era."

"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN,"
Romantic Irish Comedy-Drama with Music.
WANTED, good Soprano and Baritone Vocalists, for Juvenile parts; open Sept. 5, rehearse in London week previous.
Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

WANTED, immediately, Lady with Brilliant Voice; must be good Actress, and able play piano. Apply, letter only, stating particulars and terms,
8A, Victoria-house, South Lambeth-road, S.W.

WANTED, Classical Danseuse of the Maud Allan type, for West End Private Work; must be able to interpret Salome, &c. Reply for interview, Dramatic Conservatoire, 92, Victoria-street, Westminster, London.

WANTED, Two Experienced Dancers, Step, Acrobatic, and Fancy Dancing. Height 5ft. 2in., age 16 to 19. Send all particulars to Box 8,074, "The Era."

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady Dissolving Partnership with well-known Sister Act will be at Liberty after September to join recognised refined Musical Act, or Musical Sketch, &c.; Brilliant Pianist, Banjoist, and Vocalist. An artist of recognised abilities; refined and good appearance. Communications, Miss R., 31, Devonshire-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by good Powerful Soprano, Engagements, Sundays. Emilne, 36, Elsham-road, Kensington, London, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy for Robin Hood, also Principal Girl for Maid Marion. Terms, references, and photos. to
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazenau-street, Liverpool.
Important.—Give permanent address.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Principals, Comedians, Knockabouts, Sisters, Male Choristers, Ladies for Chorus and Ballet, Artists in all Lines for Pantomime, 1910-1911.
Send Photos, References, and say where can be seen working for the next four weeks, to
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

JAZON'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy (Crusoe), good voice and plenty of dash. Also funny Comedian (Atkins), Pair Knockabouts, Second Boys, &c. Chorus Ladies, with good figures and voices. Lowest terms, E. C. Jazon, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.

WANTED, some Smart Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes. Long Tours.
Not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, references to
E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Producer or Conductor, for Panto; experienced and reliable; own script if required, any subject. Box 8,058, "Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Emp., Smethwick, Scenic Artist, own brushes; Window Billers, Fly Posters; also Porter Writer who can use brush. B. Kennedy.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by Davies Massee, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, High-class work only, at Liberty Aug. 8.
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Responsible Gentleman with Small Capital (as guarantee),
for Assistant Management
Provincial Theatre.
Reply, in first instance,
Box 8,098, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Circus Agent, open at once. Those known to me wire or write. Terms, &c., Frank Harris, c/o Poole and Bosco, Post Office, Athlone, Ireland.

WANTED, experienced Press Agent, for High-class Comedy, used to No. 1 towns. Terms, recent references, Mark Blow, King's Head, Holywell.

WANTED, Smart Bill Inspector, used to Pictures, not afraid of opposition. State age, experience, wages. Manager, Pictures, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Clever Poster Writers for Music Hall Streamers; change weekly. Terms, contract. Manager, c/o Box 8,079, "The Era."

WANTED, steady, reliable Property Man, to make himself useful. Apply with refs., terms, and age, to Box 8,092, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady as Box-Office Keeper for Suburban Theatre. Must be thoroughly experienced in the duties. Apply, age, testimonials, terms, to Box 8,093, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman desires Pavilion managership or development new resort, now or next season. At present in berth as Acting-Manager to known company. Trustworthy, capable, experience all kinds entertainments, fêtes, also repairs, decorations, construction, advertising. All-round man. Box 8,099, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman (27) wishes to assist Manager, not Tour, and thoroughly learn Management; small salary. Box 8,075, "The Era."

WANTED, by Smart Stage Manager, Re-engagement, used to twice-nightly varieties, London experience. Would combine bill inspection. Barry, 702, Holloway-road.

WANTED, Engagement, smart Business-Manager, experienced, at Liberty Aug. 8; can produce if required. Interview in London. Manager, 18, Comeragh-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Props., Baggage, &c., highest refs. and exp., industrious, willing, abstainer, used to mus. comedies and dram. business, can open at once, any dis. Wire or write, Read, 98, Springfield-road, Southborough, Kent.

WANTED, Known, a Youth wishes to enter a West-End Theatre or Music Hall Box Office or something connected with the above. Age 17. Very ambitious. Box 8,073, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director, for Theatre in Scotland. Permanency if suitable. Send full particulars, lowest terms, and references, to R. C. Buchanan, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, Leaders, for Glasgow Empire, Edinburgh Empire, and Hackney Empire; must be First-class Violinists, with all-round experience. Apply by letter, stating last terms, with references and experience to M., Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, combine other instrument. Lowest terms, references,
Sante, Radcliffe.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Leader, capable and reliable, First-class Varieties.
Age, experience, &c., to Mundell, M.D.

EMPIRE, NUNEATON.
WANTED, First Violin, used to Variety. Open Monday. Wire lowest,
Manager, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, for High-class Concert, Engagement, First-class Violin and Solo Clarionet.
Conductor, 44, West End-road, Morecambe.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Good Smart Solo Cornet; must be experienced and strictly attentive.
Age, refs., and lowest terms for permanency, to
J. Melville Gillies, Musical Director.

WANTED, immediately, Solo Cornet, 32s. 6d. weekly. Wire, Swallow's Circus, Saturday, Fraserburgh; Monday, New Pitsligo, N.B.

WANTED, Cornet Player, First Violin, to Tour.
Address, Varieties Hippodrome, Oban, Argyllshire.

WANTED, First Violin.
Open Monday.
Wire, Hippodrome, Buxton.

WANTED, Cornet, E flat Bass and Drums, open Monday. Long engagement with Touring Co. Terms, 30s. Wire B. M., 135, Queen's-road, Croydon.

WANTED, First-class Bass Player, for Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama, to open at Gloucester, Thursday, Aug. 11; must assist with fittings when travelling. Age and refs. to Fred Mann, 60, Falkner-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, for Biddall's Circus, Touring Scotland, a good sober Slide Trombone Player; must be young and reliable; a good shop for the right man. State lowest price and particulars to Bandmaster, Biddall's Circus, New Pitsligo, Scotland.

WANTED, for five weeks, Open Aug. 8, Trombone 32s.; Musical Comedy.
Wire, Wood, Theatre Royal, Margate.

WANTED at Once, Trombone; must be steady. Wire, Swallow's Circus, Saturday, Fraserburgh. Monday, New Pit, Sligo, N.B.

WANTED, Wanted, 'Cellist,
between the age of 20 and 25,
to Enlist in a Good Line Band.
Excellent opportunities.
Bonus.
Apply at once to
146, c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Pianist;
must be First-class Musician,
and used to the Picture Business.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars, to
Peter Mooney, Public Hall, Carlisle.

WANTED, immediately, for Paisley Hippodrome, good Pianist for Pictures, two weeks, then Variety. Address, Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, at once, Experienced Double Drummer, Glocken. and Xylophone. Jolley write please. None but steady man need apply, military band. Signor La Camera, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

WANTED, at once, by the Weston-super-Mare Town Band, competent Double Drummer, through disappointment, 30s. per week, for the season. Address, W. Pfaff, Bandmaster.

WANTED, Double Drummer, to commence Monday. Drums found. Apply, Bandmaster, Blenheim House, Copse-rd., Clevedon, Som.

WANTED, Musicians, to complete Band, for Canadian Flagship (Colonial Service), good First Violin, Second Violin, and 'Cello; must be double-handed; also Solo Cornet and French Horn. Ex-Naval and Military Musicians preferred. Age limit 45 years; pay, 3s. 5d. a day; free kit and rations. Copies of references, also re conditions of service, &c., Naval Musical Agency, 696, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth.

WANTED, for Zoo Circus, Glasgow, to open Aug. 29, Solo Cornet, as Leader, to supply music; must be used to Circus Business; also First Cornet, First and Second Violin, Clarionet, Trombone, Double Bass, Piano, and Drums. Must be experienced and reliable men.
Address, with terms, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, for the Paisley Hippodrome, to complete Orchestra, good Solo Cornet, Trombone, Double Drums, Double Bass, Violin, Flute, and Pianist; must be experienced and reliable men. To open Aug. 22.
Address, with terms, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, First-class Military Bands, Ladies' Orchestras, and other Musical Entertainers. State lowest terms, when Darlington last, Geo. Scott, General-Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Musicians, for Palace of Varieties and Rink, Clacton-on-Sea, twice daily (Sundays if required). Wire or write lowest terms,
Musical Director,
Palace, Clacton.

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists, to complete a military band, long tour, rehearsals begin London 20th inst., engagement following week. No reply, polite negative. Apply, Box 8,088, "The Era" Offices.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners.
Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to
Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at once, First Violin, Solo Cornet, and Pianist, variety, two houses nightly. None but competent men need apply. Send refs. and lowest terms to Musical Director, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First Violin, Flute, Clarionet, Trombone, and Drums, for five weeks, open Thursday, Aug. 11; must be reliable and experienced musical comedy. Lowest terms and refs. to Chas P. Fox, Musical Director, The Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, Pianist, Cornet, and Drums, sober, reliable, and well up in variety. Open Aug. 29. Terms, 32s. 6d. References. Millar, Conductor, Hippo., Hamilton, Glasgow.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. Williams, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-st., W.C.
C. Jesson, Secretary.

Business men appreciate business methods.
Read the following from the M.D., Palace, Reading:—
"My band is now complete with A.M.U. musicians. You have helped me beyond measure. Convey my thanks to Mr. Jesson, who has dealt most kindly with me. I truly appreciate the business workings of the society."
WANTED, First Violin, Second, Viola, 'Cello, and Second Clarionet, Aug. 18 to Sept. 10, for Buxton. Apply, with Branch Secretary's references, to the General Office.
Wanted, 'Cello, to combine Cornet, for Grimsby, Variety and Rink, two shows a day. Also Viola for the North, one show a night and Sunday concert, open at once. Apply, with Branch Secretary's references, to the General Office.
Wanted, Drummer for Ferndale. Apply, Rhondda Branch Secretary.
Wanted, good First Cornet, for Glasgow and district. Apply Glasgow Branch Secretary.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years, Clarionet players preferred; also good Flute. Height, age, &c., to BANDMASTER, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, that Mr. Joseph B. Williams, General-Secretary, A.M.U., engaged a splendid Double-handed Band for the Strand Rink and Variety Theatre, Park-street, Grimsby. All being Professional Musicians and members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, giving entire satisfaction to the Proprietor, T. H. Rushton, Esq., and his patrons. JOSEF PELZER, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 117, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Musical Director (composer and arranger), experienced in every line. Address, CONDUCTOR, 6, Gloucester-crescent, N.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Musical Director, at Liberty, theatre or music hall, experienced. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 8, Albion-row, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Musical-Director, Engagement, Variety Theatre, London or Suburbs; first-class offers only. Box 8,006, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Musical-Director, either Theatre or Variety. State terms to Box 8,034, "The Era."

WANTED, by Music Hall Conductor, Engagement; library of Up-to-date Music; late of Moss's Empire; highest refs. Box 8,076, "Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, or Pianist-Conductor, any Business; well experienced; can open immediately. ROBERTS, 371D, Mile End-road, E.

WANTED, Engagement. Late Conductor Hampstead Skating Palace could provide small Military or Orchestral Band, Rink, Pictures, or otherwise. Scarlet uniforms. High references. 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor-Pianist, Orchestral Pianist, or Double Bass, seaside hotel preferred. ROWLAND CLARK, 23, Lebanon-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor (violin), up-to-date Library of Music. Leaving Alexandra, Pontefract, through new Management. Can open at once. Write or wire, BROWNE, Musical Director, Theatre of Varieties, Pontefract, Yorks.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Bandmaster Eskdale, L.R.A.M.,
Open to Engagement.
Splendid references, &c. Teacher and Lecturer.
6, Doune-terrace, Gourock.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin (Leader), Flute, Clarionet, 'Cello, Piano, Trombone, together or separate, any business, sober, experienced, reliable, good refs. MUSICIAN,, 145, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, Few Weeks' Holiday Engagement by well-known (young) Violinist, any business. Free from Aug. 20. First-rate soloist. Big répertoire.—Box 8,077, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, permanency, experienced all lines, good refs., open Aug. 15. STEVENSON, Gaiety T., Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, first or second, young, sober, and attentive, excellent refs. H. COPESTICK, 31, London-road, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Cornet; thoroughly experienced, Theatre or Variety; near London preferred. Address, CORNET, 11, Borthwick-road, West Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, any Business. Address, SHARP, Cornet, 94, York-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, any Business; young, experienced, abstainer. Write, CORNET, 171, Shelbourne-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, steady and reliable, good refs., London preferred. G. WHITE, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by G. Harrison, Clarionet. Eight years last shop. Experienced in all lines. Address, 2, Kingsley-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Double Bass, seven years Moss and Stoll, two years Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy. WALTER BYE, 17, Mountjoy-place, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon, Theatre or Music Hall preferred; excellent refs.
Box 7,989, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty, any business, good references.
Box 8,082, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Orchestral Euphonium, in consequence of Palace Pier Orchestra being disbanded. 7, Shepherd-st., St. Leonards.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist, Composer, Arranger, &c.; qualified take charge; Military Band preferred. MADDOCK, SEN., Municipal Band, Rotherham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, any business, thoroughly reliable.
HARRY WOODAGE, 9, Northfield-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, Theatre or Variety preferred, good references from Opera and Concert Orchestra (Johann Strauss); also Second and Fourth French Horn player. Address, W. DOCKL, 44, Fitzalan-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Oboeist, theatre or music hall, excellent refs. GREENWOOD, 4, Rose Hill-road, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced, Reliable Flute and Piccolo, age 27, good refs. FLAUTIST, 20, St. Mathias-place, Kirkstall-rd., Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, thoroughly experienced Orchestral Pianist, unexpectedly Disengaged Summer Season; Hotel or Café. FANNY GROSSMAN, 365, High-road, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Re-engagement, experienced, Orch., Variety; good refs. ELLIS, 111, Grayshott-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Picture Pianist in Electric Theatre or Palace; good répertoire; now Disengaged. HAROLD JONES, 4, Wyre-grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, and Xylophone, &c., Engagement or Deputising. Now at Liberty. Address, Box 8,072, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, by Competent Double Drummer and Tympanist, in Factory or Corporation Band, any light work, perm., own drums, good refs. Box 8,081, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, immediately, Double Drums, any business, experienced, reliable, good refs. Wire, LASKEY, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Pony Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, smart uniform, now booking Autumn. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 677 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth consecutive season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere (Messrs. Spiers, Pond, Ltd.). Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. Communications, THOS. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Re-engagement by the Excelsior Military Band of 12 or more performers, in scarlet and gold uniform; Seaside or Rink; finishing at Walton-on-Naze end of August. J. RIES, Conductor, Bandstand, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Military Band, all competent musicians. Up-to-date Library. Liberty shortly. Eight Performers, upwards. Attentive to business terms. Bandmaster, W. CYRUS, The Cornet King, 124, Welford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Small Orchestra, Rink, Pictures, or Varieties, now playing Buxton's Rinkeries, Douglas, I.O.M., smart uniforms, latest music. Address, CONDUCTOR.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Stud Groom, sobriety absolutely indispensable. Wire terms, SWALLOW'S CIRCUS, Saturday, Fraserburgh; Monday, New Pitsligo, N.B.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent., aerial stage trapeze act, free Aug. 8, 15, Sept., on. Wire, 23, Duncan-st., Oldfield-rd., Salford. Tom Fossett send route.

WANTED, Frank Stephenson to wire route to 40, Wellington-square, Hastings.
Important business.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply,
MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, doubles doing singles, August, and on. Lowest terms, H. W. LARCHER, Manager, Lofthouse Park, Wakefield. Punch and Judy and Portable Marionette Show write.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday next, on. Full particulars, first instance, to HENRY CARLTON, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 22, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

EMPIRE VARIETIES, DUDLEY.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists in all Lines, for Aug. 15. State absolute lowest terms to BAINTON, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Doubles doing Single. Send full list Bookings and Vacancies, and where can be seen.
HARRY WARD,
140A, Shaftesbury-avenue. 13,136 Central.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.,
Established 1888.
WANTED, for Seasons 1910-11, Artists in all Lines, Good Specialities, Funny Comedians, Soprano and contralto, baritone (interlocutor), and Sisters. Full particulars, lowest terms first letter, to J. H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists and Specialities, all Lines. Immediate work waiting. Send vacancies, terms, and permanent. RAWES and CLARANCE, Central Variety Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SIGNOR PEPI'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for several Halls in the North. Good tops can be fixed immediately; the bigger the better.
Salary no object.
Address, Signor PEPI, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties,
Aug. 15, onwards. Must state lowest, Bookings, &c. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 15, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Big Tops required. Aug. 15 and onward.
After Sunday.
Hippodrome, Rochdale.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Comedy Acts. Send bookings, lithos., terms, &c.,
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston Leeds.
'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

VERNO'S AGENCY.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 15, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, for Palace, Morley, and other towns North, Artists, in all Lines (Morley small stage). Full bookings, permanent address, and absolute lowest terms first instance,
TOM DIACOFF'S Agency, 56, Albion-street, Morley.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday next, and onwards, for Pontefract, Leeds, Birmingham, Hull, and numerous other towns. Bigger the better. Send us full particulars, lithos., &c., we can book you. MAURICE FRITZ'S Variety Agency, Derby. Telegrams, "Fritz, Derby-chambers." 'Phone 850.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 22 and 29, onwards. Lowest combination terms to LI-CHANG-HI, Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. Coms., 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines.
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southend, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SILEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for Aug. 15 and onward, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
CADLE'S Agency,
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, Variety Turns; all weeks after Aug. 8. Vacancies and terms, JOHN R. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts for Britain and Continent.
Sole Agency for latter only entertained.
Also Panto. Principals for Best Theatres.

WANTED, for Small Picture Halls, Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
Musical and Juvenile Acts and others.
W. DALTON,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, Big Speciality Act, three weeks, commencing Aug. 22. Lowest terms. J. W. Poole, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Aug. 22, and on,
First-class Speciality Acts.
Address, with lowest terms, to
MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for Town Hall, Consett, Immediate and Future Dates. ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-st., Consett.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Big Spectacular Acts, and anything Novel and Original, for Aug. 15, 22, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates, First-class Novelties of every description. Nothing too big. Full particulars with specimen posters and absolute lowest terms, to HARRY EDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Please mark envelopes "Avenue."

DARLINGTON.
ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, High-class Variety Combinations, or can entertain really Big Tops, on salary or shares, but must be big and new to Darlington.
Vacant Aug. 22,
Sept. 12, 19, &c.
JAMES BELL.

BUFFALO PALACE
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities, all Lines, Aug. 15, on.
Apply, LAMB.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill,
For Monday next,
For Monday next,
Also for Aug. 8, 15,
Also for Aug. 8, 15,
Artists, all Lines, for
Rochdale, Newcastle, Hyde,
Hanley, Gateshead, Sunderland,
Wanted, Big Speciality Acts, Sisters,
Troupes of Ladies for France,
for First-class Establishments.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Aeroplane." 'Phone 2,349 Royal.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Aug. 15.
Nothing Too Big.
Also Acts in all Lines.
Send full particulars immediately.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, a Big Comedy Top with a name for Aug. 22, for New Brighton. Big Novelties required for immediate dates for the principal halls throughout the provinces. Lowest terms, full list of bookings, lithos, &c. WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for First-class Combination Works, Really Big Tops willing to share.
Immediate bookings for odd dates or tour.
Must be Sensational and Attractive.
Also few Musical and Comedy Specialities.
Useful Acts can have plenty of work.
Letters only. No interviews without appointment.
Particulars, terms, full list of bookings.
ASHBURN'S Agency, 296, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, High-class Variety Entertainers. State lowest terms, when Darlington last, GEO. SCOTT, General-Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, for well-known Double Comedy Acrobatic Act, a First-class Artist, weight not over 9st; must be funny, good tumbler, and used to Comedy Acrobatic business as Top Mounter. Write, stating age, height, weight, tricks, if married, and all particulars in first letter, to Box 8,095, "The Era."

WANTED, for Well-known Act, smart Youth, about fifteen or sixteen years old, small stature, for comedy; must have a knowledge of tumbling. Address, Box 8,087, "The Era."

WANTED Tumbler and Mounter for First-class Comedy Show. Write at once, OLRAC, 59A, Strathleven-road, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, two boys, Apprentices, 14½ years of age, that can juggle a little.
F. L., 267, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to open at once, a really First-class Operator, must be reliable and competent in all things pertaining to own particular line of business. Letters only, marked "OPERATOR," Andrews' Pictures, Ltd., Entertainment Department, 5, New Compton-street, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Original Australian Nightingale, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co., thanks the management of the Hippo., Nottingham, for permission to play the King's, Nottingham; also thanks Frank Macnaghten, Esq., for further contracts. Rotherham News says:—No finer songstress than Madame Payne has been heard in a music hall in Rotherham. Re-booked three dates at the Hippo., Rotherham, at proportionate increase. To-day, Palace, North Shields (starring); next, Empire, Middlesbrough.

VERA DE ASTRA,
the Celebrated Andalusian Beauty,
in Her Sensational Original Creation,
"A SHEPHERD'S DREAM OF THE YEAR,"
a Refined Combination of Classical Dances and Picturesque Visions.
Supported by the Famous Dancer,
Mlle. WANDA BARANOFF,
and the Great Premier Dancer,
M. OLAVE FRITCHOFF,
from the Royal Opera House, Copenhagen.
Magnificent Scenery and Lighting Effects.
A Triumph of Grace and Beauty.
WANTED, Immediately, Dates for this Big Topliner.
Letters to A. LASERNO, Manager,
1, Litchfield-street, W.C.

WANTED, Aug. 8, onwards, through Theatres closing. Babs Lloyd, Comedienne, Expert Dancer. Top of the Bill. Talk of the Town. Pavilion, Belper. After Saturday, 62, Upper Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged Aug. 15 and 22. Address, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, 22nd, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, original Copyright Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures, successfully toping bill, Palace, Methil, Fifeshire. Next, Hippodrome, Hamilton, 15th Edinburgh. Communications en route.

WANTED, Lucknow, Refined Comedy Musical and Patter Comedian, success everywhere, Liberty Aug. 15, 22, 29. Monday next, Town Hall, Aylesbury.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 15, by Joe Henderson, Comedian and Raconteur, Halls North. This, King's. All coms., 141, Sycamore-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Harry Hardy, Sept. 5, in his Eccentric Dutch Act and Ventriloquial Act, "Pimple the Page." Pav., Silloth.

WANTED, by Sam Ello, Quaint Comedian and Dancer, Aug. 22 and 29. D.C. lithos. and photo frames. This week and next, Palace, Guernsey, C.I.

WANTED, Monday next, Aug. 8, also 15th, by Ryder Davis, Comedian. Wire till Saturday, Empire, Melton Mowbray. After, 11, The Grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Aug. 15, onwards, Comical Jake, in his Comedy Gymnastic Act.
34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the famous World's Bantam-weight Wrestling Champion. £100 challenge, &c. Vacant Aug. 29 (precede Hartlepool), Sept. 12, 19, 26 to follow. This, Lye Palace, Stourbridge; next, E., Aberdare.

WANTED, next week and following, Jean Seul, the Indian Mystery.
Empire, Hyde.

WANTED, Known, Joe Frankford, Comedian, and Cissie Maine, Versatile Burlesque Artist. The real live comedy and harmony couple.
Liberty Aug. 8, 29, and Sept. 12.
Offers invited from Managers and Agents.
14, Caird-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes. Novel Electric Show. Second week Pavilion, Wardown Park. Save time. 121, Park-street, Luton.

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida will be known in future from this date, July 16, 1910, as
LES NOELS.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, the Vocal Comedy Duo Stars, in their line. Success. Wire, Vic. Theatre, Stanley, Durham. Aug. 15, Workington.

WANTED, Aug. 15 and 22, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Act and Champion Somersault Dog "Jack." Own scenery, splendid lithos. Success everywhere. Mon., Hip., Nelson.

WANTED, Known, Douglas and Gordon, Vacant Sept. 19, onward.
Beach Pavilion, Leven, N.B.

WANTED, Aug. 8, on, the Girl in the Hoop, Marvellous Balancing Act. This, His Majesty's, Carlisle. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Aug. 15, 22, and 29,
Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare. Tremendous Success at Dalbeattie Sports, Scotland, July 30; also Zoological Gardens, Bristol, Bank Holiday, in their great Aerial Ladder Act. For dates, WILDERS, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 8, on, the Four Flying Orenius's (two ladies, two gents.), Stage, Aerial. Offers invited for Halls or Galas.
67, Walcot-square, S.E. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic Seaside Scene. Wire for Monday to Fête and Gala, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Rohde and Roche, Novelty Comedy Pot-pourri Act, the Chameleon, Artist and It. Enormous success, King's Hall, Exmouth. Re-engaged for all Vint's Palaces Tour. Aug. 8, Palace, Barry Dock. Vacant Sept. 5, on.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, prior to our return to the Continent.
JOHN OLRAC'S COMEDY FIVE
in ACROBATICAL FUNNIOSITIES.
Screams and yells. Funnier than a Pantomime.
A Sure Draw. Share or Certainty.

Address, 5, Chester-st., Horton-lane, Bradford.
Will Henry Studt, Esq., please send address.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female Novelty Acrobats, Three Acts. Good Bearer wanted. Post Office, Fraserburgh, Scotland.

WANTED, 15th and 22nd by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe (3 Ladies and 2 Gents.). The Top of Every Bill. Box-office Record Breakers. Acknowledged greatest of all Athletic and Posing Acts of all Time.
Conclude Pav., Leicester; Monday, Pal., Bradford.

WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, by
Rich Taylor,
the Whistling Ventriloquist.
Halls, Piers, &c.
Don't miss this Successful Novelty.
This, Empire, Swansea.
Next, Empire, Newport.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent., and Conj., wants Oct. 24, follow Sheffield. This, big hit. Palace, Cardiff; next, Pal., Warrington.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Offers invited. Pavilion, Mountain Ash.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

"THE SCAPEGRACE."
WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5 (?), 19, onwards, with exceptions.
Another enormous reception here. Tuesday's receipts just a few shillings worse than Monday. Refer Mr. Dewhirst, also Fred W. Warden, Esq., Belfast, re this attraction.
Immediately booked by every manager witnessing show. Come and see it. Your expenses paid.
Re vacant dates, wire or write.
JOHN LEVEY,
Hippo., Todmorden; next, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, John Beech and Norman Aveling (late of Gaiety, Manchester) present the Latest Dramatic Episode, "Money's Power." Produced Tivoli, Manchester. Seen and immediately booked Macnaghten Tour. This, P., Southampton; next, P., Lincoln. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Aug. 8, "Daughter of the Regiment," five artists, thirty minutes, three distinct operatic sketches if required. Wire, GITTINS, King's, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Early Bookings, Liston and Lumley's 15 to 30 minutes "Merry Moments." Sketches, Songs. Return Yarmouth, 1911. Pier, Skegness, next.

WANTED, Known, Beatrice Bonnie Company, wonderful Stairaphone Dancers. Topping, Hippo., St. Helens. Vac. Aug. 8, 15. Also Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggling Effects.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Refined Lion Show, Vacant Aug. 15.
Only Vacant Date this year.
All coms.,
Vryhied Villa, Ripley-road, West Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes Al. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Big success this week at Wigan. Aug. 8, Aquarium, Scarborough. Wanted 15th, also September, on.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act; big success everywhere. Wanted, Sept. 5 and on, with exceptions. Big Act for Pictures. Address, Aq., Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy Somersaulting, and Football Cyclists. A Sure Success. Vac. 15, Sept. 5, 12. Next, Hippo., Nelson. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Known, Lib. Ga'as, Two Acts, Rodin, Eccentric Cycle Act. Concluded tenth Gala at Mansfield. 3, Sefton-sq., High Park-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hearne, good Tumbler. Liberty to join Troupe last week in Aug. Empire, York; after Saturday, 68, Fentiman-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Engagements, by Hand-to-Hand Balancer and Jumper, weight 9st.
All coms., B. S., 68, Talbot-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Zasma's Alhambra Bioscopes. Operators, with complete outfits sent out on the shortest notice. Apply, H. PEARSON, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe. Permanent address, 66, Alver-road, Portsmouth.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

ELECTRIC ENTERTAINERS, COLWYN BAY, 1910.
WANTED, for "A" Company, Artists in all Lines, seven weeks' season. Vocalists (those who play piano any so), Comedians, Humorists, Ladies and gentlemen of education and refinement only. Fullest particulars, age, répertoire, &c., ELECTRIC ENTERTAINERS, 19, Fairmount, Colwyn (Old), N. Wales.

WANTED, for Dates, Aug. 15, onward, High-class Concert Parties, with Good and Popular Répertoire Concerteds, Single Numbers and Comedy Sketches, to play the entire evening. Lowest terms, certainty or share, to JOHN HALPIN, 87, Talbot-road, Bayswater, W., stating where can be seen.

WANTED, Gentleman (versatile), Act, Sing, Dance, &c., Light or Al-Fresco Comedian would suit; also Legmania Artist, able to Knock about or do Splits, &c. Vaulters and Tumblers also wanted. A Good Engagement to Good Artists. Drunkards quickly fired out. Stilt-walkers write C. FURNISS, c/o G.P.O., Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

WANTED, Tenor, Young, used to Concerteds; Useful People all Lines. Terms low, place small. HARKER, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, at once, for
Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen.
Mr. Whittingham please send address.

WANTED, Attractive Quick-showing Novelty, good flash, for small shop best position sea front. Thousands pass. Shares. Open immediate. Wire, SARDON, 4, Roman-bank, Skegness.

WANTED, immediately, Sensational Drawing Novelties for Seaside Pleasure Gardens. No sharing nor rental. Particulars, with lowest terms, week or season. J. HALPIN, 87, Talbot-road, Bayswater, W.

WANTED, Novelty Side-show, shares or rent; main street, Folkestone; also Wire Jewellery, Handkerchiefs, &c. MANAGER, Amusement Promenade, 49, Tontine-street.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, Lady Palmist, Marionettes, and other High-class Side Shows, share terms; Spaces to Let for Wireworker. Glass Blower, Sketch Artist, Engraving, and other Novelties.
Prospectus, GEO. SCOTT, General-Manager.
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Lady Palmist and Novelties, for Automatic Arcade.
Fairyland, 1, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 8, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, R. G. Knowles, Ferry Corway, The Great Lester, Sisters Doherty, Mezettis, Animated Pictures, Willy Pantzer and Co., Jules Moy, Cedar and Elgar, Little Sophie.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m for:—
Dan Lipton's "Songland," Walter Wade, Chris Van Bern, Matthews and Cowper, James Stewart, Winifred Hare, Three Merrills, Lancashire Lasses, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ernest Shand, Arden and Abel, Bioscope, La Scala Opera Co., Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Gwennie Hasto, Tom E. Hughes, Hermann Melot, Chas. Norton.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Callaghan and St. George, Bioscope, Laurence Barclay, Drew and Alders, Duncan's Collies, Ted E. Box, Musical McGregors, Sisters Jerome, Peter Davey's Co., Ernie Lotinga and Co. in "Her Husband."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Poluskis, Herbert Lloyd, Alf. Chester, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Ruby and Laws, Hunt and Thomas, A. G. Spry, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Zanettos.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Carrie Moore, Willie Gardner, Andos Japs, Kirbys, Dan Crawley, Signor Barbalonga, Orpheus, Lillian, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Carney and Co., Rosa Loader, Bioscope, Camplins, Comedy Meisters, Blessings, Hesse and Mariette, Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Leslie Bros.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
J. Forbes Knowles's Co. in "Nick Carter."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Wilkie Bard, Eily Adair, France and Stewart, Fred Earle, Syd May, McConnell Trio, Ricardo and Salving, Hanid Alexander, Bioscope, Anna Chandler.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Courtice Pounds and Co., Phil Parsons, J. C. Scatter, Lillian Dundas, Rauschle, Celestas, Dacey and Lewis, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
John Lawson and Co. in "The Monkey's Paw," Kitty Wager, Bert Weston, Fred Poplar, Peggy Pryde, Miss Marquis's Ponies, Conn and Conrad, Hilda Jacobsen, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Anartos.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Zigeuner Quartette, Albert Letine, Harry Bedford, Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Burt Shepard, Goltz Trio, Sam Stern, Phillips and Merritt, Bioscope, Lil Hawthorne.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mike S. Whalley, Australian Woodcutters, Sisters Reeve, Maxey and Pete, Lily Flexmore, Martineks, Claff and Tremaine, Billie Burford, Bioscope, Bogannys.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Geo. Bastow, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Avolos, Bert Williams, Frank Seeley, Kisbey, Excellos, Goodfellow and Gregson, "Drummed Out."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bella and Bijou, Cavalotti Bros., Teo Tell, J. J. Dallas, Verno and Voyce, Bea Albert, Edie Gray and Boys, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Phil Ray, Staley's Transformation, Violas, Ethel Newman, Belles of the Kitchen, Ike and Will Scott, Du Gros Trio, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Ella Retford.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
C. Constant's Co. in "Florodora."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Eugene Stratton, Bertha Winder, Haig and Novel, Grassis, Hans and Lux, Harry Simms, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery, Albert Whelan.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Margaret Halstan and Co., Chris Richards, Rawsons, Holden's Mannikins, Millie Hylton, Rossi Ashton, John Macauley, Bioscope, Elise Craven and Co., Montgomery and Moore, Piccolinis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Formby, G. H. Elliott, Fielding and Hull, Carl Howard, Bros. Durant, Lena Verdi, Wyndham and Kitty, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Tom Foy and Co. in "First of April," Marco Bellt, Haytors, Cissie Curlette, King's College Boys, Harry Herbert, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Howard and Harris.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Robey, Bioscope, Jock Mills, Lillie Lassah, Lottie Lennox, Griff, Lux's Dogs, Alexandre and Hughes, Tom Edwards.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Jock Whiteford, Gothams, Garden City Four, Rich Taylor, Will Johnson, Johnny Fuller, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Harvey's Boys and Girls.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Horace Goldin, Katie Moss, Alice Kingsley, Roze and Calvert, Jack Lane, Tom Costello, Glenroy Troupe, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Ernie Mayne.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fred Kitchen and Co. in "Private Potts," Bugler Carr, Arthur Slater, Gwennie Llewellyn, Findens, Lily Burnand, Three Belle Belles, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Guyer and Valle.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Harry Tate and Co. in "Flying," Jennie Hartley, Pat Rafferty, Mitchell and Cain, Florence Smithers, Tate and Tate, Brull and Hemsley, Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Jackson Family of Cyclists.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Harry Lauder, Woodhouse and Wells, Staig's Steeplejacks, Roma and Romani, F. V. St. Clair, Cull Pitt, Hugh Barclay, Bioscope, H. O. Wills, Helen Trix.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Raymond Phillips' Airship, Leonards, Harry Nelson, Sioms, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Tom Parker, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Rinaldo.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Le Roy Talma and Boscoe, Marconis, Tom Moore, Northern Troupe, Sybil St. Elmo, Aida Martine, Bioscope, Burley and Burley, Sable Fern and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Quaint Q's, Vera Rochdale, Frank Melvin, Hardinis, Louis Alvarez, Jock Birrill, Pictures, Esta Stella.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bensons, Bioscope, Frank Lynne, Bert Harrow, Three Laurels.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Twelve Fezzans, J. H. Milburn, Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, Nina Wood, Bioscope, Geo. Antill, Victor's Juveniles.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ameta, Harry Marte, Shirley and Ransome, Lupino Lane, Ethel Ra Leslie, Scholley and Scholley, Bella White, Helma, Pictures, Bros. Miller.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Will Evans, Mary Ambrose, Maisie Dene, Fred Curran, Rosie Fitzgerald, Mackintosh and Royal, Pictures, New Macs.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
George Lashwood, Jessie Albini, Bioscope, Alcide Capitaine, Harry Jolson, Nelson Jackson, Sutcliffe Family, Binns and Binns, Spissell Bros. and Mack.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, AUG. 8.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Gladys and Alber, Walter King, Goggin and Davis, Mollie Doon, Vaudeville Trio, Doody and Wright, Webb and Branston, Zanfrellas, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Chung Ling Soo, May De Rowse, Ellerslie Pyne, Three Delaries, Harry Martell, Ruby Lester, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Ada Fawn, May Knight, Daisie Rhyl, Gene Morelle, Adderley Howard and Co., in "Convict 99" and "The Right to Live," Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
May Poulton, Haines and Borthwick, John Donald, Raymond and Ivy, Doris Drace, "The Whips," Campbell and Barber, Vera Mayne, Palace Perfection Pictures, F. A. Martell, Lucy Gillette.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Rezarelis, Redcar Trio, Pictures, "Satan," Harry Brettel, Cissie Sylvester, Norah Noble, "White Ensign," Daisy Silcott.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Ernest Rees, Sisters St. Julian, Harley and Melton, Norah Desmond, Cairo Trio, Walter Stanley, "The Flood Tide," Morton Duo, Harry Moore.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Shrillo, Kitty Upton, Pete and Juno, Three Diamonds, Atlas and Vulcana, "Plumbers," Rose and Jeanette, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Hurman and Arthur, Marion Scott, Creagh and Co., Hymack, Tom Garland, Bert Anderson, Empire Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Dolly Ross, Cosgrove and Burns, George Wood, Tom Gott, Lancashire Lads, Ragius, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Asra, Latonas, Rousby and Rene, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, Burt Ward, Leo and Roland, Three Van Dammes, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Animated Pictures, Miss Josephine Crooke in Illustrated Songs, "Saved from the Sea," Ronald Bayne, J. F. Fraynor, Harry McClarren, Herbert Lewis, Conrad Clerk, C. E. Manning, Archie Grant, Annie Travers, Con Allister, Miss Billie Doyle, Sanderson Muffett.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Four Figaros, Juno Salmo, Edith Chantler, Dick and Dorothy, Addie Dorina, Ted Percival, McLallen Carson Duo, Palace Perfection Pictures, The Vays.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Colbert, Allsop and Bekwith, Jack Hamilton, The Simms, Harold and Hardy, Julian Mack, Garricks, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Giovanni Daruso.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Cumminger and Colonna, Damerell and Rutland, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, De Breans, Beech and Aveling, Mars Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Five Bombays, Fred Ward, Bros. Victor, Danvers and Rosslyn, Susie and Protti, "33 to 1 Chance," Palace Perfection Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Gordon Wildes, Jack Warman, Royston Deane, "Gretna Green," Chas. R. Whittle, Billy Marsden, Friend and Downing, Rosie Gaston, Bernard Mervyn and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Frank Boyce, Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
T. C. Jaques, Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"The Scapegrace."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Marcel and Boris, L'Incognita, Arthur Stacey, The Hulls, Lee and Parkinson, Walter Read, Steuart and Morgan, Reid and Stevens, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Will Lytton, Little Vestas, Clarke and Mostol, Flo Burnett, Baby Woolf, 1920, Edwards and Dacre, Hunter and Bob, Roegin's Cockatoos, Sisters Allen.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

RUTHERGLEN ROLLER SKATING PAVILION.

FOR SALE
within the
FACULTY HALL,
ST. GEORGE'S PLACE, GLASGOW,
on
WEDNESDAY, Aug. 17, 1910,
at 2.0 o'clock Afternoon,

That well-built, commodious Pavilion known as the RUTHERGLEN SKATING RINK, situated at East Main-street, Rutherglen. The building was only erected about six months ago at a cost of over £3000, and is constructed with brick dado walls up to floor level, the outer wall of wood standards and runners covered on outside with fibre plaster; the main roof is constructed with steel couples with wood purlins covered with sarking and patent roofing felt, the lean-to roofs of passages, and offices of spars and sarking, covered with felt as before, and all roofs are carried on substantial steel beams and stanchions.

The approximate measurements of the building are 190ft. by 88ft., and the building contains large skating surface of 1140 superficial yards floored with best maple flooring, two cloak rooms, two lavatories, manager's room, skate rooms, staff rooms, and spare rooms; tea terrace, kitchen, spectators' balcony, band stand, and band room; terracing on ground floor, pay-box, &c.

The building has an artistic appearance, and is admirably adapted for the business of a Rink or for Cinematograph Entertainments, and is very centrally situated in a well-populated district.

The subjects are held on lease, and the ground rent is £80 per annum.

Low upset price, £1500.

For further particulars apply to James P. Lewis, C.A., 116, Hope-street, Glasgow; W. B. Galbraith, C.A., 87, St. Vincent-street, Glasgow; or to A. C. Baird and Co., writers, 102, Bath-street, Glasgow, who have the Articles of Roup.

J. and R. EDMISTON,
Auctioneers.

Leading Always.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.
NEW LITHOS and POSTERS.
Boxing, Aeroplaning, etc.
Netherfield Date Book, 1911-12, post-free 1/1.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's. Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

BOROUGH OF CAMBERWELL.

LICENSED PUBLIC HALLS,
WINTER LETTINGS

CAMBERWELL GREEN MUNICIPAL HALL,
Licenced for 1,250 persons.
OLD KENT ROAD, GRAND HALL,
Licensed for 1,104 persons.
DULWICH MUNICIPAL HALL,
Licensed for 1,168 persons.

The Council are prepared to let the vacant dates at these large halls, fully licensed for dancing, whist drives, bazaars, shows, &c., during the next winter season (October, 1910, to April, 1911). Tenders for the hire for a series of dates in advance should be upon forms which, with all particulars, can be obtained from the undersigned. Tenders must be delivered at the Town Hall, Camberwell, addressed to the Baths Committee, and marked "Tender for Hire of Hall," not later than Aug. 15, 1910. Ordinary bookings and terms can be arranged at any time upon application to the undersigned.

C. WILLIAM TAGG, Town Clerk.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS,
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6369 Gerrard.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 30s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—123, Kennington-road. One or two bed-sitting rooms, also one large drawing-room will be vacant for following dates, Sunday, August 7 and 14. Mrs. Gatehouse.

LONDON, S.W.—Brixton. Well-furnished Apartments; bath (h. and c.), piano, good cooking, attendance; large gardens, cycle house. Winchester Lodge, 10, Effra-road.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior apartments, comprising large front bedroom and sitting-room; bath, new piano, tennis, good cooking, attendance. Terms moderate. 145, Brixton-road.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s; combined ditto, and suites; bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

RHYL.—Mrs. Canton, 4, Bridge-st. Professional Apartments. Moderate terms. Highly recommended.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

TO LET.—Well-furnished bedroom and Sitting-room; electric light, piano, bath (h. and c. water); opposite Oxford Music Hall. 57, High-street, Bloomsbury (Flat B).

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.
My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in this book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES AND CARNIVALS,
FOR AUGUST.

ENGLAND.

6. Baslow (1,000)
6. Calow (611)
6. Calver (374)
6. Clay Cross (8,587)
6. Curbar (794)
6. Froggatt (84)
6. Greenhill (525)
6. Heywood (25,000)
6. Longton (35,815)
6. Marple (5,595)
6. Milnrow (5,100)
6. Royton (14,881)
6. Swadlincote (18,000)
6. Tanhill (8,200)
6. Wessington (614)
6. Whitefield (11,500)
8. Crabb's Cross (4,560)
8. Drypool (Hull) (32,000)
8. Featherston (12,082)
8. Horncastle (4,000)
8. Lindfield (2,336)
8. Manningham (45,051)
8. Silsden (4,304)
8. Stanningley (6,706)
10. Denholm (2,913)
11. Brighouse (21,375)
11. Earlestown (9,020)
11. Queensbury (6,416)
12. Mitcham (14,903)
12. Sowerby Bridge (11,477)
12. York (77,793)
13. Astwood Bank (1,462)
13. Barlow (1,110)
13. Bolsover (6,844)
13. Cheetham Hill (35,000)
13. Cowhill Wakes
13. Denton (14,934)
13. Highworth (2,500)
13. Hazel Grove (6,000)
13. Littleboro' (11,166)
13. Littleboro' (Notts.) (53)
13. Stockport (78,871)
13. Whitwell (3,380)
15. Rowling (27,500)
15. Eccleshill (8,500)
15. Kirkstall (4,000)
15. Leland (1,719)
15. Morley (23,688)
15. Rawdon (3,110)
16. Lowmoor (2,178)
17. Birstall (6,750)
18. Gildersome (3,073)
19. Barnsley (41,083)
19. Paignton (8,385)
20. Ashton-under-Lyne (43,890)
20. Ashbourne (4,750)
20. Bracknell (2,482)
20. Gloseop (5,000)
20. Droylesden (11,687)
20. Great Harwood (11,000)
20. Hartlepool (22,800)
20. Mottram (3,128)
20. Newton Heath (31,748)
20. Rochdale (83,112)
20. Saddleworth (12,319)
20. Shaw (5,000)
20. Whittington (9,416)
22. Beeston (19,301)
22. Crediton (3,974)
22. Guiseley (4,558)
22. Horsforth (7,785)
22. Ipswich (66,600)
22. Long Eaton (13,100)
22. Yeadon (7,059)
23. Skipton (11,986)
24. First Lea Fair
25. Cleckheaton (12,523)
26. Bakewell (2,850)
26. Hinckley (11,300)
26. Hooley Hill
26. Irlams-o'-th'-Height (5,000)
26. Shrewsbury (28,396)
26. Strood (12,519)
27. Bradford-on-Avon (4,957)
27. Darlaston (15,391)
27. Darley (804)
27. Dartmouth (6,579)
27. Delph (5,000)
27. Eccles (35,000)
27. Eyam (1,423)
27. Hatton (916)
27. Middleton (25,178)
27. Oldham (137,238)
27. Poynton (2,400)
27. Prestwich (12,830)
27. Romsey (4,365)
27. St. John's Chapel (1,525)
27. Westhoughton (9,356)
29. Bingley (18,438)
29. Farsley (5,500)
29. Halton Feast (2,200)
29. Pudsey (14,907)
29. Watchet (1,881)
31. Ilminster (2,287)

SCOTLAND.

8. Paisley (79,355)
10. Alloa (16,858)
12. Hawick (15,000)
18. Irvine (9,603)
19. Dumbarton (15,046)

WALES.

6. Swansea (94,514)
16. Malpas (1,189)

CARL OUTEGAN,
with his Mystic Stocks,
the Draw of a Record Attendance to the ILKLEY HOSPITAL CARNIVAL.
WANTED, Aug. 15, onward, offers for Galas, &c., invited, or any Agency. Address, 50, Headingley-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.
N.B.—Handcuff Diving Act for Water Carnivals arranged.

WANTED, Known, to Museum Proprietors and others, the Human Bear, the 20th Century Wonder, is at Liberty for 8th. Send at once, 34, Douglas-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Engagements, Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, gas or hot air, best attraction for fêtes and gains. Apply, Newell, Nelson-road, Harrow.

WANTED, by Gale's Royal Punch and Judy, Fêtes, &c.
Permanent, 9, First-avenue, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.
Apply,
P. Collins,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell,
a Pullman Living Carriage,
19ft. long, 7ft. 6in. wide,
Cost £150.
Price £60 net cash.
F. Coombe, Crown Inn, Dorchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Sale Van, Tent, Piano; fitted with scenery, lamps, &c., three King pole tent. Address, Specialist, 49, Frodsham-street, Chester.

WANTED, to Sell, Orchestrion, handsome instrument by F. and S. Mukle. 12ft. high by 8ft. wide, in splendid condition. Originally cost £1,200. What offer? Full particulars from J. J. Allen, Ltd., Bournemouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Gold-framed Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, X-rays, latest sensation, for Automatic Machines. Catalogue illustrated. Meurice, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines, several Single-drawer card machines, soiled, latest action, 15s.; Punch Ball, 85s.; &c. Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, the Hindoo Spirit Writer, splendid money-getter, sure living anywhere. Cost £8; sacrifice 50s, Jackson, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Spirit Picture Act, £10 10s. complete. Enormous Attraction Side-shows. Present owner no time. Same money returned results not perfect. Box 8104, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Fair Goods, Rifle Range Supplies. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham, supply everything, Guns, Cartridges, Flare Lamps.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Microscope Side Show, 14 microscopes, on table, 6ft. by 2ft, mirrors, objects, complete, £3; 2 Gem Air Guns, 2 Bell Targets, splendid condition, 20s.
Marker, 19 Royal-arcade, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, knowing Best Position in Scotland for Waxwork Exhibition or Panopticon, will submit on commission. Box 8,096, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Management of Continental Rink, by gentleman, knows good Sites, had previous Continental experience. Eric Carr, 16, Hyde-road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Managers, Coming Season. If you want your rink to be the success it ought to be, I am your man. Box 8,078, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Henry J. Court is at Liberty to Open in September, for Management of Small Rinks; good refs.; experienced. Offers invited. Address, Court's Roller Skating Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Smart Business Man, Engagement, Rinks, Trades, Exhibitions, Pictures. Manager, Advance; large experience. Box 8,090, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov.,
must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, Rinks, Halls, Trades Exhibitions, 7 to 10 days, Oct., onwards. Terms, size, Box 8,091, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, to Close a Trust, a Modern Theatre,
in first-class state of repair,
situated in the heart of a
prosperous Midland town;
at present Let on Lease, with about three years to run, to a reliable Syndicate.
Can be sold to show a good return on rental value.
Apply, principals or solicitors only, to Box 8,066, "The Era."

King's Funeral Film.
WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,009, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

FILMS FOR SALE.
WANTED, to Sell, excellent subjects, by leading makers, from 4s.
Lists post free.
Reed, Brown, and Co., 148, Westgate-rd., Newcastle.

WANTED, to Sell,
Complete Pantomime,
"MOTHER GOOSE."
Produced last year Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
Ran Six Weeks.
Five Weeks' Tour.
Most Successful Pantomime ever produced at Cardiff.
Can be seen any time by appointment at Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Five full Sets and numerous Cloths. Dresses for 40 in Choruses and Specialities.
Will accept low price to make room for new subject this year.
Apply, A. Jackson Withers,
Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, immediately, cheap, complete Scenery and Wardrobe of First-class Musical Comedy. Millington, 39, Fairlawn-mansions, New Cross Gate.

WANTED, to Sell, Powerful Xylophones, for bands, orchestras, or stage purposes; Tubular Bells, Marimbas, Glockenspiels. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Chimes, complete, plated set, polished folding stand, 5ft. high, suit drama, orchestra, &c. Conductor, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Marquee, 75 by 30, new this season, stage, chairs, seating complete, or separate, bargain. Seen standing. Allnutt, Pavilion, Burnham, Somersetshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Fox Terrier Dog, Basket and Clown Dog, eight tricks, £3.
C. Dickel, 14, Penny-fields, Poplar.

WANTED, to Sell, King Charles Dog, short-faced, handsome, £5, full champion pedigree. Photo, Mrs. Wilkinson, Toll End-road, Tipton.

WANTED, to Sell, 200 Iron Tip-up Seat Standards, will do for either seating or chairs, price 2s. each, new last year. T. C. Rawes, Palace, Durham.

WANTED, to Sell, several Dobson Hampers, P.O. fittings, good condition.
Apply, Box, c/o "Stage."

WANTED, to Sell, Something New and Original in Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus. Sensational, novel. Maker, 212, Kennington-road.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, immediately complete Fit-up, in good condition, pros. opening not less than 20ft., with battens and floats. Scenery immaterial. Must be in good condition. State particulars, hire or purchase. Must be cheap. Dramatic Conservatoire, 92, Victoria-st., Westminster, London.

WANTED, to buy, Scenery for "Forty Thieves" Panto., and any large Cloths for repainting. Also twenty white Court Wigs, ten tie, ten ladies. Still, 16, Orchard-street, Londonderry.

WANTED, Scenery, several Good Cloths, including Forest, River, Garden, Foreign, Street, Landscape, Palace Arches, Boat Piece, &c. Fullest particulars, size, condition, and lowest price, together or separately, to Box 8,095, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Small Animal, cheap, for outside stage parade, sheep, goat, not monkey or cat. Particulars, Box 8,080, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Midget Pony, or any other Novelty, for Side Show.
On approval, or useless.
Scotto, 9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Commodious Stores and Paint Frame; lease or purchase; immediate possession. Letters, F. G., 38, Cranbourn-st., W.C.

SONGS WANTED.
WANTED, good Funny Singing Songs. Returned immediately if unsuitable.
Tatten Hall, Whitecot, Carshalton, Surrey.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let on Lease, a Beautiful Modern Theatre.
Strictest Investigations and Reasons.
Apply Box 8,103, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GROSVENOR HALL, 200, Buckingham Palace-rd., S.W. Ball, Refreshment, and other Rooms.
WANTED, to Let on Mondays and Wednesdays, season 1910-1911, for Public or Private Subscription Dances, Whist Drives, Concerts, At Homes, Wedding Receptions. For terms apply to Secretary.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Lease, or Sell, Large Fireproof Building, suitable for Electric Theatre or Cinematograph, Bio-Variety or Good Concert Co.; size 70ft. long by 64ft. wide by 36ft. high; ground floor, main thoroughfare. Options, concessions, and extensions to genuine business companies. Principals only dealt with. Pop. 29,000. Rent £5 5s. weekly. Established 12 years. Licensed for Music and Dancing, &c. Apply, C. E. Martin, Proprietor, Albert Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 46ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Ray Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Furnished Flat, very large (central),
66, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, the Rights of Advertising Curtain of the Camberwell Empire, the Most Popular Hall in the South-Eastern District. Cissie Lawson, The Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other Large Halls in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to Box 8,014, "The Era."

WANTED, Theatre, to Rent or Lease, near to Manchester, holding 800 to 1,000. State all particulars. Strictly confidential. Principals only. Ross, Monor, Elm-road, Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, Theatre; must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity and full particulars. James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

WANTED, Skating Rink or any Large Building for a Complete Circus for Winter Season. Advertiser is prepared to find complete Circus on an elaborate scale. Change weekly.
Advertiser, 14, Edith-street, West Bromwich.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £800, for splendidly equipped Picture and Variety Hall,
West England.
Ready to Open.
Lawrence Glenn, 133, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Partner, to Finance First-class Tours. Every investigation courted. Active or sleeping interest entertained.
Fullest particulars to
K., Box 8,101, "The Era."

WANTED, Working Partner, with Small Capital, to Organise and Tour Juvenile Troupes; must be good musician, and thoroughly qualified to train same. Advertiser in good position to book and do business management. Apply, with full particulars, to Box 8,097, "The Era."

WANTED, Management Picture Show or Partnership, or will finance smart Variety Turn. Address, Manager, 24, Regent-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Partner, play Street Arab's part in Sketch on Halls; must have some cash. Letters, C., Pinky House, Clapham-road.

WANTED, to join Partner, by Comedy Acrobat. Address,
Box 8,094, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady (Soprano) to join another, as Double Turn for the Variety Halls. Write or apply, Monday and Tuesday, 2 to 5 o'clock, 11, Birchington-road, Kilburn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 15, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos, from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Typewriting, good, cheap, Sketches, including duplicate and parts, 7s. Special low rates for Pantomime books. Parker, 49, Athelstan-road, Margate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
if you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus. The Council regret they cannot utilise the Funds of the Association for non-members.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Known, Author of First-class Lyrical Play (capital story) would like to hear from Manager or good Composer, view production. Box 8,083, "The Era."

WANTED, Peckham Fat Boy's address.
Write,
C. R.,
c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Arthur C. Campbell wishes to thank Gentlemen who wrote re Pianist and Biller. Vacancies now filled.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes. Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE
ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS, Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents,
NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd., Scarborough.

"THE ERA"
IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS.

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.,

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

RUFFELL'S
FILMS
FOR HIRE.
NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.
Call or write,
RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)
Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

THE "EXCELSIOR"
HALF-SOVEREIGN
TIP-UP CHAIRS

Write for Lists of Leading Lines for Theatres, Cinematograph Halls, &c.

AL-FRESCO SEATS AND CHAIRS.

from 24/- per doz.
Write for New Season's List.
Tele. Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three. London Wall.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

CRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.
The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.
RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.
Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	Tray Bottom	G.P.O. Rollers on
24	14	14	8/10	3/2	3/0	2/0
26	16	16	7/9	3/6	3/0	2/3
28	18	18	8/9	4/0	3/3	2/6
30	20	20	10/6	4/6	3/6	2/6
33	21	21	12/6	5/3	4/0	3/0
36	22	22	14/6	6/0	4/6	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.
Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.
LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.
Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.
T. CRAVEN & SONS
T. Dept. 115 Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of "THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5 Tavistock-street Strand, W.C.

WITH A SMALL CAPITAL YOU CAN EARN £60 OR MORE A MONTH!

THE GRAND NEW BOWLING GAME OF BOXBALL.

Anyone can make huge profits with the new and fascinating game of BOXBALL, the finest amusement and most attractive novelty ever offered to the public. Young and old find it irresistible; in every town BOXBALL is becoming the rage. Those first in the field are reaping vast cash returns. One BOXBALL ALLEY costing £45 took in £103 in the first fifty-one days. Two others costing £72 took in £273 12s. 4d. in five months. Piers, Seaside Resorts, Kursaals, Pleasure Gardens, Skating Rinks Hotels, Clubs, Vacant Shop Premises—these are the places where BOXBALL is coining money. No assistants needed. Alleys work automatically. Read the following:—"Your four Alleys opened Saturday, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool, instantaneous success, shall want more Alleys." "Without a doubt these Alleys are the premier attraction. The week we opened we took £25, second week £30, third week £33, and last week £40," says the Manager, St. Leonard's Pier. "Opened the Alley and have found it very satisfactory," Exhibition Hall, Spanish City, Whitley Bay. Other places with four Alleys are earning from £30 to £35 weekly.

Send To-day for Free Booklet to
ANGLO-AMERICAN BOWLING ALLEY CO.,
9, Southampton St., Bloomsbury, London, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE.—Lessees, The Aberdare Public Hall, Theatre, and Billposting Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Messrs. Jay and Mann's company is here in *The Truants*. In the part of Bill Chetwood, Mr. T. A. Shannon acted in excellent fashion. He was ably assisted by Miss Molly Tremaine, whose Freda Saville was a charming performance. Mr. O. Powis Griffiths acquitted himself well as Dick Chetwood; Miss Elmie Kemp eminently suited the rôle of Pamela Gray; and excellent support is given by Miss Rita Trekelle as Mrs. Collins, Mr. Mackenzie Rogan as the Rev. Philip Preston, Miss Marie Scharning as Bent, and Mr. F. Danby as Lord Strelland.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Are You a Mason?* is giving universal satisfaction. The company, under the direction of Messrs. Williams and Dunn, do full justice to the irresistibly funny situations of the play. Mr. William Lockhart as Amos Bloodgood is a capable exponent of the part; Mr. Stanley Arthur as Hamilton Travers is droll in the extreme; Mr. Howard L. Tracy as the son-in-law of Amos makes a capital characterisation; and Mr. Archie Selwyn as George Fisher and Mr. Edward J. Hinge as John Halton sustain their parts cleverly; Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood is in the able hands of Miss Agnes Maude; the three daughters are represented by Miss Denbeigh-Russell, Miss L'Estrade, and Miss Townshend in pleasing fashion; and Miss Eva Holt, Miss Mary Dane, and Miss Yeoman play the parts assigned them with graceful effect.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. — Mr. Fred Lindsay gives a unique exhibition as an Australian Bushman and expert stock-whip manipulist; the Ten Loonies present "a mad musical sketch by mad musicians" with method in the madness; James Haro and company give a humorous sketch with rare dramatic effect; Rose Elliot sings well; Harry Taft whistles himself into the good graces of his hearers; the Floradora Girls display marked ability in their sketch, *Two's Company, Three's None*; and the Smarte Brothers are accomplished acrobats.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—W. C. Fields is a juggling expert of no ordinary capacity; Mr. Dick Tubb is a capital comedian with an infinite capacity for facial expression; Charles Leighton gives a good display of various types of life; Williams and Warden are overflowing with amusing quips and cranks; Laurie and Leslie dance and sing well; Mlle. Da Silva proves herself to be a talented contralto; and Ina Lorimer sings and dances with charm and vivacity.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Mr. J. F. Preston's company are here this week with *Nell* Gwynne. The principal parts are well played by Mr. J. F. Preston as Belicose Betterton, an actor; Mr. Howard Barlow as Duke of York; Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Nell Gwynne; and Miss Lillie Pearce as the Duchess of Portsmouth.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—A splendid series of pictures are on show here this week. On Thursday night a benefit concert was announced to be given in aid of the Newport Hospital.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—This theatre reopened on Monday, after the usual summer vacation, with Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's play, *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Miss Violet Carlyle depicts Zora in an admirable manner; Mr. James Stillwell gives a powerful rendering of Prince Loris; Mr. Walter Clifford acts with vigour and resource as Prince Menski; and the important character of General Platz has an excellent representative in Mr. W. R. Winning. Mr. Cyril Harrison is a bright and effective Captain Gara; Miss Adeline Raby gives a capital reading of Countess Melvitch; Miss Ella Sennett submits a clever portraiture of Else, and Little Prudence Ayrton was quite satisfactory as Cascar. Mr. Willie Hicks, a most amusing Corporal Stack, was ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Anema Walton as Schnapps.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—A capital programme was given here on Monday. Minola Hurst, with her miniature marvels, introducing the smallest comedians in the world, holds the premier position, and has a most gratifying reception. Torti, the Italian tenor, receives an ovation; Everhart, the hoop expert, manipulates hoops with amazing dexterity; Wilman, instrumentalist, is popular; Harry Friskey is a comedy juggler whose feats are enthusiastically applauded; Elton and Elma, in a triple-bar act, are amusing; Hal and Lal, in a ventriloquial and musical act, prove entertaining, and the Bioscope pictures conclude.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Judging by the full houses which are the order here at two performances nightly, the advent of drama this week in place of variety is a highly-appreciated change. Praise is due to Mr. H. Lester's capable company for its able interpretation of *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Lester himself contributes a fine conception of Don Leon, and he receives good assistance from the other talented members of his company as follows:—Miss Beatrice Anderson (Eulalie), Miss Dorothy Riddell (Kate), Miss Marie Ault (Nancy), Miss Winnie Warden (Venetta), Messrs. Hugh Travers (Pedro), Paul Neville (Kit Oswald), Fred Yarnold (Tim), and Wilfred Carr (Sheriff). The drama is effectively staged. Mr. Sidney C. Hill is business manager to the company.

ALFRESCO CONCERT.—The Merry Magnets are giving a good programme at their well-arranged pitch.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Heading the Empire bill is the Royal Banzai Family, the wonderful Japanese troupe of acrobatic and balancing artists. Others in the bill are Frances Hanlon, chic comedienne and dancer; Michael Madden, in diverting song and dance; Milner and Storey, clever comedy entertainers; Alice Edwards, expert male impersonator; Tennyson and Wallis, good in song and patter; and Angelina, a clever lady juggler. *Olga's* Oath, a capital sketch, is submitted by the popular actor and actress Mr. J. G. Grahame and Miss Zerlina Harrington and company.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—A varied series of pictures is shown here.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—Miss Lillie Le Niam is the star turn here, and charms all with her Lilliputian act and her vocalism. Good animated pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Acting-Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—A good programme of pictures and variety is presented. Joey Sterling, a young comedian, sings pleasingly.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—This theatre reopened for the season on Monday, when Mr. Edwin T. Hey's company appeared in *Candida*. In the title-rôle Miss Maire O'Neill, a recruit from the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and an actress of exquisite beauty and freshness, played with simplicity and naturalness, not the least charming feature of her rendering being her sweet, rich voice. Mr. Ian Maclaren portrayed the Rev. James Morell with every satisfaction; Mr. Leonard Mudie as Eugene Marchbanks was seen to advantage in a difficult part; Mr. Burgess was acted by Mr. Francis Hope, Prosperine Garnett by Miss Muriel Pratt, the Rev. Alexander Mill by Mr. Frank Darch, all praiseworthy performances.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Walters.—The Dunlops, the famous comedy trick cyclists and skaters, and Lilian Sivardo, the charming and daring lady gymnast, are big attractions here this week. A number of pictures are shown, and the programme throughout is good.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—The bill here is headed by Jan Rudenyi, the eminent violinist, and his company, who produce a pretty playlet *The Storm*; Miss Alice Craven, the Lancashire lass, sings sweetly; Walt Moor, in topical effusions, goes well; the Three Pirmans give a good comic bar show; and Miss Helen Guest, Barrie and Wood, and Williams and Parker do good work; the Creo Bros. are fine comedy acrobats; and Weisker's Biograph pictures conclude.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — THE ROYALTY.—A good variety bill with two shows nightly is doing good business. The Sarnthalers in Tyrolean song and dance head the bill; the Codys are clever in cowboy work; the duologue of Milton Ray in *The Puzzled Coroner* is very funny; Harrison Brothers are again well received. Rosie Bard, comedienne, Otto Crusino, bass-baritone, Friscary, clever juggler, Geo. Shurley, comedian and dancer, and Arthur Milton, versatile comedian, complete a pleasing programme.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—The Villagers are still drawing large audiences, and with their varied programmes are adding to their already well-earned popularity.

THE TIVOLI.—La Milo is drawing packed houses with her refined, artistic poses, which are interspersed by lightning cartoons by Cruikshank; the Gascoigns, comedy jugglers, are the funniest seen here for some time. Other turns are Selvidge and Holland, sketch artists; J. H. Ellis; Harold Heath, dancer; the Skating Videos; and Fatmah Diard, the American singer. All are greatly enjoyed. Vernon's Bioscope, as usual, is excellent.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Fred Newman is still providing good pictures and variety for his appreciative patrons.

BARRY DOCK.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Tours, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. A. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Bure.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. Polini and Melford's company, in *The Silver King*. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke cleverly portrays Wilfred Denver, while Miss Mildred Surrey proves an able actress as Nellie Denver. The Spider has a capable exponent in Mr. St. Geo. Lowther; Mr. Edward J. George is well fitted for the part of Daniel Jaikes. The parts of Corkett and Coombe are admirably filled by Messrs. Ralph Leon and Arthur Wright.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—Topping the bill here are the Veroniques, a couple of clever comedy and musical artists; Rhode and Roche are good singers, dancers, and contortionists; while Geo. Niliard as a comedian is amusing. The pictures are popular.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Charles Schuberth.—Wee Georgie Wood is deservedly the big letter artist this week. Another youthful turn is William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads, whose singing and dancing arouse much enthusiasm; a new comedy juggler is Raglus, who is justly acclaimed a big success; Tom Gott is a quaint comedian, and Dolly Ross a pleasing comedienne and dancer; an amusing pair are Cosgrove and Burns; and the pictures include a stirring and passionate film entitled Temptation of the Goldfields.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The latest and perhaps one of the best all-round costume concert parties that have appeared in Bath this summer are "The Nonentities," amongst whom are Mr. Dan Everald, who is an absurdly comic, but laughter-provoking, lady impersonator; Mr. Oscar Mills, the well-known humorist; Mr. Comber, baritone; Mr. Frank Melville, light comedian and dancer; and two charming lady vocalists, Miss May Pitcairn (contralto), and Miss Marianna Carozzi (soprano), together with Mr. Johnson, pianist.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Licensee, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The variety programme here this week is again excellent. The Venetians do a clever and novel turn; Miss Lallie Brooke scores with her song-scena, "The old-fashioned girl"; Crawford and Johnson are smart coloured instrumentalists and dancers; Mat Lynton and company present the dramatic episode *The Tempter*; De Lilo and Metz do some good juggling and ball-bouncing; Claude Gardner makes a favourable impression with his comic songs; the songs and dances of Maurice Lee's Militaire Brigade are also much appreciated; and the Bioscope concludes.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company opened here on Monday in *A Royal Divorce*. In the rôle of the Empress Josephine Miss Edith Cole achieved a decided success; as Napoleon Mr. Keith Fraser shared the honours of the representation with his clever acting; the rôle of the scheming Talleyrand was done full justice to by Mr. J. H. Roberts; and Mr. Charles Hartopp was convincing as Marquis de Beaumont. Miss Dorothy Garth was charming as Stéphanie de Beauharnais, and Miss Winnie Tempest appeared to advantage as Marie Louise. As General Augereau Mr. Ernest Plumpton lent able support, and much merriment was created by Mr. George Hudson in his treatment of the rôle of Grimaud. Miss Dorothy Hudson earned high encomiums for her impersonation of the little King of Rome, and Miss Helen Meadows was good as Mother Lomas. Mr. Alfred Grenville admirably sustained the part of Marshal Murat, and other rôles were efficiently presented by Miss Marie Johns, Miss Loyal Frere, Miss F. Cudlip, Miss Julia Wren, and Messrs. W. Robins, E. Longford, Lawton Orme, C. Jackson, P. Morris, &c. Last night (Friday), a complimentary benefit was accorded to Miss Edith Cole.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is *Beneath the Stars*, produced by Miss Eunice Udall's company. Mr. J. Nelson Turner acquitted himself with distinction as Stephen Harcourt, and the rôle of Major Blonson was skilfully portrayed by Mr. Terry Davies. Miss Eunice Udall deserves to be congratulated on her clever impersonation of Becky Wiggins, and Mr. Coleman Davies was very humorous as Jemmy Hopblossom. The rôle of the lawyer Silas Clipper was convincingly played by Mr. Arthur Gribben, and Miss Madge Trevelyan is to be complimented on her finished portrayal of Angel Marsden. Miss Kitty Clifton is worthy of a mead of praise for her impersonation of Pauline Petrowski, and other rôles were in the capable hands of Messrs. B. Halley, C. Richards, and H. Shaw.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is supplied by George Ali and company, who produce with great success their comedy sketch, *Papa's Day Off*, in which Mr. Ali gives his remarkable impersonation of the dog Sport; Ferguson and Mack delight all with their smart comedy act; and the Bijou Juveniles are accorded a big reception for their entertainment entitled *Pansy's Birthday*. An old Belfast favourite, Mr. J. A. Wilson, appears with success, which is enhanced by the performance of his clever dog Private Towser; Tennis and Laune, duettists, sing and dance well; and the Melbournes, *The Soldier and the Maid*, speedily make themselves favourites. Mr. Dan Whiteley, eccentric comedian, knows how to amuse an audience; and also appearing are the Brothers Lavelle, comedy acrobats, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The favourite comedian Mr. Will Evans tops the bill here, and makes a hit; the New Macs return with their comical act, in which their patter is so distinctly amusing; and the dancing act of Mackintosh and Royal is the acme of excellence. Miss Mary Ambrose is a good vocalist, and her violin selections have been loudly applauded; and Mr. Fred Curran's parodies, sung with such drollery, create roars of laughter. Miss Rosie Fitzgerald is aptly described as a charming little soubrette; and others appearing are Miss Bella White, comedienne, whose Irish songs have been appreciated; and the Bioscope, with film, Recent Pageant of Irish Industries.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some capital pictures are being exhibited here this week, including Sunshine to Shadow, Cupid's Loaf, Man Who Thought He Was Poisoned, Sisters, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Lawsons in their clever mimicry act, and Bob King, comedian.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of the popular manager some beautiful films are being presented here, including In the Border States, Faust, The Horse Show at Olympia, 1910, A Brother's Devotion, &c. The Sisters Aindow's attractive musical act finds universal favour.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—The programme of pictures shown here includes The Mistaken Bandit, The Alpine Guide, Blind Man's Dog, Jane Eyre, &c.

BILSTON.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A capital variety company here includes Maud Beaumont, chorus vocalist; Steinort, handbalancer and jumper; Dolly Brough, comedienne and wooden-shoe dancer. The President's Special and The Spy are included in this week's pictures.

BIRKENHEAD. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King. — Mr. Bruce Warwick's company appear twice nightly in the drama *In the Shadow of the Night* to the entire satisfaction of large audiences. Mr. Edward Fletcher gives a manly interpretation of the hero; Miss Irene Arundel is an admirable heroine; Mr. Roland Douglas is effective as Clifford Yorke; Mr. Forbes Carrington is an excellent Squire; Mr. William Hayward, Mr. Harry Emerson, Mr. Harold Greaves, and Miss Kitty Johnston also accord important aid, and the humour of the piece is capitally sustained by Mr. Jack White and Miss Kitty Rose. The scenic effects are realistic.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Charles Austin and his capable combination are appearing in the sketch *Parker P.C.*, with gratifying and well-merited success. Sandford and Lyons, the clever patterers and simultaneous dancers, are on a welcome return visit; and Mr. Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian, is again a leading attraction here. Miss Irene Rose, a talented comedienne; Monty Walker, Lancashire comedian; Miss Lily Eyton, a pleasing comedienne; Harry Knox, comedian; the Westwoods, in a smart bicycle act; and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company in *The Bellringer* are doing good business. Mr. Charles Freeman gives a powerful performance of James Pengarth; Allan Chesney is well embodied by Mr. Stanley Gordon; and Miss Nina Vaughton is irreproachable in the dual rôles of Brenda Chesney and Felicia Trewella. Mr. H. Hesselgrave, R. Seath Innes, Geoff Sutherland, Arthur Byron, and Miss Lillian Redbourn are also prominent in the course of the piece, and the scenic effects are on a liberal scale.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Malcolm Scott, the popular comedian. A strong company also includes Jack Barker, Master Charles Bray, Ned B. Merry, Miss Violet English, and Miss Maud Hughes. Miss Theresa Foote is pianist.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway. Closed summer vacation.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Visitors this week are enjoying a good laugh, provided by *Fanny and the Servant Problem*; Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's four-act play, played by Mr. Horace Lingard and Miss Beatrice Moreau and their company. It is a delightful little farce, and the acting is quite adequate. Chief honours go to Miss Beatrice Moreau in the name part. She has a charming personality, and is pretty and vivacious; Mr. Lingard, as the psalm-singing butler is excellent; Miss Miriam Holt and Miss Denise Dirome caricature the aunts splendidly; and Mr. Wilfrid Compton, as George Newte, a theatrical manager gives a fine study. The play is preceded by a bright curtain-raiser, *A Nautical Breeze*. On Thursday and Friday Sardou's *Divorcons* was played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Miss Renee Glendower is always a popular performer in Birmingham, and this week she is drawing crowds of people in the society play *What a Man Made Her*. Miss Glendower in the leading character adds to her long list of successes, and she is supported by a powerful company. Mr. Frederick Freeman undertakes a difficult part as Mark Havar, and Mr. W. J. Butler earns praise for his interpretation of Rupert Wogan Danescombe.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Drama of a sensational character occupies the boards this week, Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and Mr. Harry Masterman's company presenting the popular detective story *Nick Carter*. Most praiseworthy is the work of Miss Helena Walbran in the character of Madeline Carter, the detective's wife. Mr. Forbes Knowles as Nick Carter earns a big share of the honours, and the part of Captain Nero is well portrayed by Mr. Raymond Thomas.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor,—Mr. Oswald Cray's company, in a dramatised version of the sensational novel, *When It Was Dark*, is attracting good audiences to this theatre. It is some years since the drama was last seen in the city, and to many it is entirely new. The struggle between the powers of good and evil is of an enthralling nature. The part of Constantine Schwabe is capably presented by Mr. C. Wordley Hulse; and Mr. Oswald Cray is a striking figure as the Rev. Basil Gortre; Miss Lillian Herries gives a charming portrayal of Gertude Hunt; M. Vincent W. Carlyle, Mr. Walter Manfree, Mr. Sydney Claydon, and Miss Madaline Grand are also prominent.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—A charming story is told in the drama *The Old Folks at Home*, which is presented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Mr. Cecil Mannering in the part of Lord Kenilworth is an important factor in the success, and Mr. Frank Liston in the rôle of Andrew Ross earns warm applause. Mr. Cecil Renton gives a capital portrayal as Hugh Lovel, and Miss Alice Greenwood gives a clever impersonation as Patricia Bathurst. Miss Dora Parry, Miss Maud Warburton, Miss Pollie Denville, Miss Addie Liddon, Mr. Hugh Brady, and Mr. Henry Sainsbury are also prominent in the cast.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—There is a well-varied and entertaining programme headed by Mr. George Carney and company, in a humorous sketch, entitled *The Fool of the Force*. As Officer Mudd, Mr. Carney is distinctly funny, and the whole show is exceptionally good. Leslie Brothers are big favourites here, and their musical act is a strong item on the bill; novel and artistic dances are introduced by Hasse and Mariette; the Comedy Meisters are responsible for several pleasing numbers; Rosa Loader gives a bright performance at the piano; the Camplins, comedy duo, are smart entertainers in an act described *A Dressing-room Interlude*; Harry Bancroft has some attractive chorus songs; and Miss Emmie Ames is a bright, vivacious comedienne.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Wilkie Bard is amusing crowded audiences with his new songs and patter, and he is enjoying flattering receptions; an entertainment thoroughly enjoyed is that provided by Anna Chandler, the latest comedienne from America; France and Stewart are responsible for a merry little sketch entitled *The Little Puritan*; Syd May gives a smart exhibition of "mimicry of famous mummers"; Fred Earle highly delights with his humorous songs; the McConnell Trio present a lively musical act; Ricardo and Salving are wonderfully clever contortionists; and others who contribute to a strong bill are Hamid Alexander and Eily Adair.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Jack Lorimer, "the Highland Laddie," is making audiences laugh over his pawky humour; Carl Lynn, the famous animal imitator, mimics the cries of all kinds of animals; a comedy cycling turn of unusual excellence is provided by the Narow Brothers; and Florence Esdaile, "the Australian nightingale," charms everyone with her singing. Walter Barrett is also conspicuous for his vocal abilities; Stella Stahl is a dashing soubrette; the Hannaway Brothers are clever comedians; Percy Johnston creates merriment; and Little Dora Conway is a distinct success.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Hippodrome, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mme. Dinauber, "the balloon girl," heads the bill, and her performance is novel and extremely interesting. A bright farcical tabloid musical comedy, entitled *The Brigands of Tarragona*, is presented by Herbert Darnley's strong company; Marie Santot and her company are warmly praised for their pretty musical Japanese scena; Maurice performs some wonderful card tricks; and other contributors to the programme are Charles Craston, eccentric comedian; Cissie Lupino, a graceful dancer; the Sisters Brenton, duettist and dancers; Leo Fields, a burlesque comedian; Bonetti and Corrie, clever jugglers; and Maggie Remmer, comedienne and dancer.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—At the top of an attractive bill is Miss Frances Letty, who appears in a high-class vocal scena, the setting of which is on a lavish scale. Her catchy chornses are heartily taken up, and she is ably assisted by Mr. James Sutton (accompanist). Also prominent are Mr. Fred Winn and company in a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Light at the Window*. A warm welcome is accorded to Sid Cotterell and company, who reappear in their amusing absurdity *The Substitute*; Alfred Guest and Dorothy Newlyn create laughter with Hebrew humour; Les Atans excel in gymnastic feats; Dorothy Sephton sings pleasingly; the Sisters Cora are clever singers and dancers; and good comedy is provided by Addie Lennard and Jolly Jimmy Walker.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—New subjects representing the latest achievements in animated photography appear on this week's programme. A coloured film depicting the principal incidents from the opera *Faust* is a popular feature and an interesting historical picture is entitled Marie Antoinette. Pathé's gazette of the week illustrates all the topics of the day on "the magic screen," and the singing of Miss Lily Skett, of J. W. Turner's opera company, is much enjoyed.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Dr. Walford Bodie is being well received here. His turn is truly a remarkable one. J. Johnson is very good; and Jack Diamond is a champion trick dancer; Bella Skene sings well, as does also Dolly Robson; La Belle Electra is a pleasing turn; and Bi-Bo-Bi is thoroughly worthy of his hearty reception in his musical act; Reid and Walker do well in their comedy act, *The Chambermaid*; and the Hipposcope concludes a good bill.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. James Welch and company are reaping still another rich harvest here this week with *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Welch's Guy de Vere is undoubtedly a masterpiece in the way of expert comedy, whilst Miss Audrey Ford ably depicts the romantic Lady Rowena. Mr. Arthur Grenville as Isaac Isaacson and Mr. Guy Lane as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, D.D., render valuable assistance by their meritorious efforts. *Millie's Mother* is the title of a capital curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A big attraction is here this week in the shape of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Walter Passmore is again the ideal Simplicitas and Mr. Oliver Round's impersonation of Peter Doody is well night faultless. Miss Veronica Brady repeats her splendid representation of Mrs. Smith, whilst Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra and Miss Billee Sinclair as Eileen was also responsible for clever acting and singing. Jack Meadows finds a most capable exponent in Mr. H. E. Pearce and a full and tuneful chorus is under the skilful direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Fred Karnos' company is making a big success here this week with *Perkins, M.P.* Charles T. Aldrich is a big draw, as also are Pipifax and Panlo 'n their "Humpsti-Bumsti" act. Cassie Walmer is a favourite comedienne, Heeley and Meeley shine as knockabout artists, John Dixon is a capable comedian, and Jewel St. Ledger a pleasing vocalist.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—At the top of the bill this week appears Rapoli in an artistic and refined impersonation act. Camilla Feo, comedienne and dancer, Almyr Vane, caricaturist, H. Mirrlees, Scotch character comedian; the Two Kays, Dora Martini, Flo Raymond, Brothers Matthews, Norman Holt, and the Gat Trio all contribute entertaining items.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—An excellent display of up-to-date pictorials are shown at the above.

THE HIPPODROME.—An excellent programme has been shown at the "Drome."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company is this week presenting the drama *Night and Morning*, Mr. Stanley Carlton and Miss Rubie Maude appearing with great success as Richard Sefton and Alice Wylford respectively. Much praise is due to Miss Marian Holly for her excellent delineation of Selina, a "drudge." Other characters are well taken by Messrs. Bertram Damer, David Curtis, John Croudace, W. H. Vernon, James Hart, Miss Jenny Bostock, and little Gertie Renaud. The drama is well staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A welcome return visit is this week being made by the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs. A good variety company includes Lisbon and Barker, topical comedians; Millie Howell, character vocalist; Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, in a smart and clever musical, singing, and dancing act; Miss Josie Delaine, comedienne; Miss Eva Lumley and company, in a comedy sketch; Canard, comedy contortionist; Kendrick and Laura, in a comedy and eccentric dancing act; Joe Reichen's clever dog troupe; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The following excellent turns are appearing here:—Edward Crosland's Melody Makers, in a musical phantasy, *The Burglar's Dream*; the Bros. Egbert, "the happy dustmen," in their comedy act *Hurry Up, Walter*; Watson and Naylor, comedians and dancers; J. W. Greener, comedian; the Honors Trio, in a clever and sensational gymnastic act; My Fancy, classical and fantastic dancer; J. W. Gallagher, comedian; Joe and Hettie Waldron, comedy duo; Herbert Sleath's company, in *Her Ladyship's Guest*; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. D. Adams.—The Muncaster Stock Company, under the capable management of Mr. A. D. Adams, is entertaining crowded houses in the sensational drama, *For Love of a Woman*. The piece is excellently staged, and the leading parts are ably presented by Mr. A. D. Adams, Mr. Douglas Watson, Mr. Tom Robertson, Mr. J. W. Evelyn, Mr. Fred L. Conynghame, Mr. C. Vivian Charles, Mr. Rob Gore, Mr. J. Wood, Miss Mattie Crawford, Miss Louie Heathfield, Miss Sassie Evelyn, and Miss Marguerite Trevospe.

WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Sydney James's Royal Strolling Players have been retained for a further six nights, and are still drawing large houses. Mr. Steve Buckingham continues to delight the audiences, as also does Mr. Gilbert Fernie. Mr. Victor Wallace is well received; Miss Maidie Harrison displays exceptional talent as a comedienne and dancer; Miss Lena Lawton and Miss Clara Pierse are equally attractive in their different styles; and Miss Daisy James's contributions complete the strong programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Dunbar.—Mr. Mouillot's No. 1 company is giving performances of *The Geisha* and *A Greek Slave*, and opened on Monday night with the former. Miss Aimée Grey as Mimosa sang acceptably; Miss Adela Crispin was a dainty Molly Seamour; Mr. Edmund Sherras has a fine voice, and acted well as Reginald Fairfax. Other parts were taken by Mr. Colin Coop as the Marquis, Mr. Edward Carlton as Wun Hi, and Mr. Herbert Uzielli as Captain Katana. Mr. Albert Chevalier was well received here on Tuesday at a flying matinée, at which he gave some of his well-known songs.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Under the title of *Easily Led* Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre presented his adaptation of *L'Assommoir* on Monday, and in a vivid performance of Coupeau he was well supported by Mr. Jerrold Ord as Lantier, Mr. Frank Hudspeth as Mes Bottes, Miss Georgie Hall as Gervaise, and Miss Georgie De Lara as Virginie.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy's romantic drama *The Beggar Princess* holds the boards here this week, and the authoress herself gives an interesting performance of the part of the heroine, being capitally supported by Mr. Cassidy as the Irish officer, the Hon. Algernon Pitzhugh; Miss Ada Roscoe in the strong part of Olga; and the other members of a capable company who make the most of their excellent opportunities. The strong interest in the piece is well sustained, and it is well staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Comedy reigns supreme here this week. George Formby, the eccentric comedian, is responsible for roars of laughter; and Nellie Wallace is irresistible with her broad humour; Carl Howard (assisted by Lily Foy) gives a funny exposition of conjuring and thought-reading; G. H. Elliott, "the chocolate-coloured coon, on a return visit, is as popular as ever; Frank Gough's comic "patter" is amusing; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull are diverting in a song-scena "Mixed Bathing"; Lena Verdi is a charming comedienne who introduces good mimicry; Wyndham and Kitty give a smart speciality performance on the tight wire; and "the aerial navigators," the Brothers Durant, are amusing and expert acrobats.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—A remarkable performance is presented here this week by those perfect examples of physical development, viz., Atlas, Vulcana, the Sisters Atlas, and Little Gus, the feats of strength so gracefully submitted eliciting great applause; and the other members of this week's excellent company are Shrillo, an expert whistler; Kitty Upton, vocal comedienne; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and expert dancers; Rose and Jeanette; Sinclair's Three Diamonds, vocalists, skaters, and excellent dancers; and Tom Taylor and company in a screamingly funny sketch, *The Plumbers*. The Palace Perfection Pictures complete.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—For the first half of the week we have had Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and his company in *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*. Mr. Stewart gives a finely-conceived portrayal of Lord Lumley; Mr. Lancelot Lowder as Giuseppi submits a realistic performance; and Mr. Lewis Mannering is equally effective as the rascally D'Orelli; while Mr. P. Hunt-Lewis makes the most of his part as Lord Ronalds. Miss A. Bruce-Joy gives a fine rendering of the part of

Set" are still drawing big houses to the Grand Pavilion.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—A crowded audience welcomed back Herr Julian Kandt on Sunday evening, when he again took up the bâton, after his week's special engagement at the Cowes Regatta. This week Miss Marie Stiven is delighting with her well-rendered contralto songs, and that talented young artist Miss Annie Croft gives songs and dances which are always re-demanded. Adeler and Sutton's clever company of Pierrots have soon established themselves in favour. The two ladies, Miss Violet Romaine and Miss Moore are charming vocalists, and Will Blackwell scores with his banjo solos. Frankland Grey, Frank Arnold and Archie Graham, in songs and sketches, are clever artiste, and the comedy sketches by the company are well played. Mr. Arthur Roby, the pianist, contributes some amusing musical sketches.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton.—Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The "Waterloos" are drawing big houses nightly to their popular resort, and the programmes are capitally rendered.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here this week with *Her Road to Ruin*. Mr. J. Spence submits an excellent character study as Tom Wells; Mr. Charles Dickens gives a fine portrayal of Frank Temple; Mr. Knox Orde is highly successful in his impersonation of the villainous Philip Hardy; Miss Doris Gilham makes a delightful Jess Willoughby; Miss Gerturde Tate is a charming May Willoughby; Miss Margaret McClellan is admirably suited as Mary Dawson; much amusement is afforded by Mr. C. H. Brooke as Billy Boots, and Miss Grace Emery as Jenny Crackling; Mr. Dane Clarke is dignified as the Bishop; Mr. R. Leigh Ellis is very effective as Charles Chetmondeley ;and the remaining characters are in able hands.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Kloof and Ramsey are a capital musical comedy duo; the Musical Myths are pleasing singers; the Herald Comedy Four are well received; Jack Madden's somersaults while blindfolded are clever performances; Nellie Dalwood is a capital comedienne and dancer; Mlle. Sylvesto and her comedian, Rumbo, are warmly applauded in a contortion turn; Olive Myrtle sings and dances in neat style; Willie Benn and Freddie French's company appear with success in the sketch, *King of Sleepland*; Tony Cooper is a good chorus comedian; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is very interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Mary Law is an accomplished violinist; Eli Hudson and Olga and Elga submit a very artistic musical turn; the Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian dancers, vocalists, and instrumentalists win hearty applause; Herbert Clifton is a pleasing falsetto singer; Sterling and Love are effective in their "humorous rhapsody in two flats"; Dave Carter, the Irish tenor, sings admirably; Chas. Vincent is a diverting comedian; Rhoda Paul is an effective male impersonator; and Stacey and Williams sing and dance admirably.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week, with *Don*. Mr. Gordon Bailey gives a masterly impersonation of Stephen Bonnington; Mr. Charles Harley's Albert Thompsett is a clever character study; Miss Emma Hutchison is finely suited as Mrs. Bonnington; Mr. Arthur Willoughby's Canon Bonnington is well played; Miss Violet Harley makes a pleasing Elizabeth Thompsett; and other parts are ably enacted by Mr. Charles Tyrel, Miss Celia Gordon, and Miss Viola Garland.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company opened here on Monday, with *A Country Girl*. Miss May Rawlinson made a charming and dainty Marjorie Joy; Miss Dorothy Craske achieved distinct success with her enactment of Nan; Mr. R. F. Matthews was admirably suited as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Coningsby Brierley proved highly diverting as Barry; Mr. St. John Hamund's Rajah of Bhong and Miss May Baskerville's Princess Melaneh were ably played; and others who were seen to advantage included Mr. Tom Sheridan (Gran'fer Mummery) and Mr. Percy Everard (Sir Joseph Verity).

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—A very attractive series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The Sheriff's Sacrifice is a splendid drama full of exciting incidents, and other films of a dramatic character include The Abyss and Fruits of Vengeance; while the comics include The New Park Keeper, A Bolt from the Blue, and Off for the Holidays. Mr. Osland Denner, a fine baritone, is warmly applauded for his illustrated songs; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs accompanies the pictures on the pianoforte with descriptive skill.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—Crowded houses here testify to the excellence of the animated pictures exhibited this week. Dramatic stories are conveyed by An Abyss, Billy's Bulldog, and The Greatest of These is Charity; the comics include Poto Toto, Mamma's Angel Child, The Awkward Recruit, and Billy's Serenade. The march of the Territorials into Brighton and their reception by the Mayor is a picture of great local interest.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is the attraction for this week. The comedy is effectively staged, and it is well played by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company. Mr. Norman acts capitally as Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Beatrice Wilson is a charming exponent of Kitty; Miss Agnes Thornton presents a good character study of Mme. de Semiano; Mr. F. Lock Whitlaker does admirably as the solicitor, John Travers; Miss Betty Stannard is pleasing as the French maid, Rosalie; and Messrs. C. Snaith and Norman Leslie are satisfactory as Hampton and Norbury. The performance commences with a duologue, *A Little Misunderstanding*, in which Miss Betty Stannard and Mr. Norman Leslie do admirably.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*From Convent to Throne* is being well played here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Miss Valeria Crispin acts charmingly as the Princess Maritza, afterwards Queen of Danubia; Mr. Aidan Lovett presents a fine and convincing study of Lieut. Ernest von Hapsburg; Mr. Courtney Robinson makes a fine soldierlike General von Hapsburg; Mr. A. F. Stuart and Mr. Wm. J. Miller are both excellent in this respective parts of Maurice, Prince of Carpathia, and Baron Strelsau, Prime Minister of Danubia; and other important parts are capitally taken by Mr. T. G. Vane, Miss Lissa Young, and Miss Maudie Grayson. The play is elaborately staged and dressed.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—*Chanteclair* is successfully presented here by Messrs. Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company. The fantasy, in three scenes, is elaborately staged; the real-feathered bird-costumes are by Willie Clarkson, the music is pretty, and the singing is much above the average. Viviana and company present a very pretty and expert dancing turn; Diamond and Miss Beatrice are clever performers on the harp and saxophone; Dora Barrington, assisted by Miss Lesley Grey, successfully presents an operatic song-scena; Phil Bransby, comedian, is appreciated; Rich and Rich, patter comedians, do a good turn; Arabella Allen is successful with impersonations from Dickens; and Sam Williams, vocal comedian, obtains applause.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Pender's Giants amuse with their knockabout absurdity; the Ellesmeres do a very clever trick cycle act; the Broadway Boys are smart song and dance artists; Johnny Danvers, character comedian, is amusing; Jules Charmette, Anglo-French vocalist, is appreciated; the Brothers Krard excel in their comedy musical act; Kitty Crowther is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Butterflies do an exceptionally clever gymnastic pot-pourri act. A good selection of animated pictures concludes the entertainment.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Five Mowatts, in clever club throwing and juggling evoke tremendous applause; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins give a delightfully varied turn of fun and vocal music; whilst Neville and Mors please with operatic selections; Ethel Thomas shows the power of a beautiful voice with "Il Bacio"; and the remarkable shadowgraphy of Mr. C. Torbay is interesting; A. W. Scott, coon singer, and Ray Ford, a pretty comedienne, are good, and the Empire Theatrescope is interesting.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe. — The McLallen Carson Duo present a clever roller skating novelty, which is neatly executed; the Four Figaros are a captivating quartette of dancers and vocalists; and Juno Salmo gives an extraordinary contortion performance; Addie Devina takes a high place with quick-changes in *Dr. Spot's Patients*; and the Vays, in a street urchin sketch, infuse plenty of humour; Edith Chantler is a pleasing soprano, and Ted Percival a good baritone vocalist: Song and dance is provided by the Dick and Dorothy trio; and The Skating Carnival is shown by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—A wonderful exhibition of wrestling is given by Mr. G. de Pelwyskew, who challenges local athletes; a most amusing sketch by the well-known comedian, Chas. Collette, assisted by Miss Joan Derry, causes much laughter; Jessie Starr, Jessie Shepherd, and Queenie Morris contribute some good songs in capital style; Trevor and Ware are an extremely funny pair; the Two Letties are responsible for an original and clever dancing act; and King Leo is a skilful ventriloquist; the Operascope pictures are excellent.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—This theatre opened auspiciously on the 4th inst., when the Castellano Grand Opera company presented *Carmen* to a large audience, which included Miss Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier. Signor Barbato, who appeared as Don José, displayed a powerful voice to good effect, and Signor Catini (Escamillo) scored a distinct success in the famous Toreador song. Signora Goretta Castellano, uniting the dual charm of a beautiful voice with talented acting, was beyond reproach in the title-rôle, Signora Licette singing sweetly as Micaela. *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were also given. A presentation of *Il Trovatore*, in which Signora Castellano and Signora Delfral shared chief honours with Signor Barbato and Signor Vail, concluded an opening week upon which the management are to be warmly congratulated.

BUXTON. — Opera House. — Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. Edward Compton opened his annual visit on Monday evening with *School for Scandal* to an enthusiastic audience. Mr. Compton's Charles Surface is still the same delightful masterpiece, and his support is of the best. Mr. Henry Crocker still gives us his fine impersonation of Sir Peter Teazle, and Mr. Charles Stone returns to the fold as Sir Oliver Surface; Mr. Frank Royd's Joseph Surface was admirably played, and Mr. J. W. Austin was a capable Crabtree; Mr. Clifford Marquand acted ably as Sir Benjamin Backbite; Mr. Edward Hoile was suitably placed as Careless, and Mr. Keith Graham's Rowley was traditional. Miss Rita Sponte was most successful as Lady Speerwell, and Miss Marie Hassell excellent as Mrs. Candour. Miss Nell Compton's Lady Teazle was admirably carried through. Included in the répertoire were *The Rivals*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Davy Garrick*. For the remainder of the week we had Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney, in *Margaret Catchpole*.

Palace and Hippodrome. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—Mme. Adelaide Waldorf tops the bill, and in addition we have the Maros and several good turns and fine pictures.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's talented company is presenting *The Cingalee* to crowded houses. Irresistibly funny is Mr. Jack Crichton as the Baboo Lawyer; Miss Ida Ernest makes a bewitching Peggy Sabine; Mr. Cyril Dane's Hon. Harry Vereker is another good impersonation, Mr. Dane's powerful voice being heard to distinct advantage in the numbers allotted him; as the noble of Kandy, Boobhamba, Mr. Milroy Cooper is capital; the dignified attitude of the great potentate under the most ludicrous circumstances being effectively sustained; the peppery and amorous Sir Peter Loftus finds a capable exponent in Mr. F. W. Ford, who gets every ounce of merriment out of the rôle; Bobby Warren is quite safe with Mr. Scott Cuilen, who played the frank and irrespressible plantation overseer to a nicety; Nanoya, charmingly played by Miss Mollie Woolstenhulme, whose strong, pleasing voice is heard effectively; Miss Pauline Hague's rendition of Lady Patricia Vane is dainty and clever. There is a bevy of pretty dancers, with Miss Trissie March at their head.

St. Margaret's Hall Electric Picture Palace.—The management are exercising a wise discretion in the selection of their films, and every night sees the Palace crowded.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Tantalising Tommy* is attracting large audiences here as presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company. Miss Nellie Lonnen, in the chief rôle of Tommy, gives a most bewitching portrayal; Mr. Hastings Lynn as James Cottenham is responsible for a particularly diverting characterisation; Mr. Ambrose Flower's Harry Killick is of exceptional merit; Mr. Ernest R. Holloway makes a delightful Mr. Pepper; Eustace Tathem is sufficiently dignified and brusque as portrayed by Mr. A. V. Bramble; Miss Eva Brickwell is successful as Bertha; and Mr. George Denys (Lord Enderby), Mr. Olaf Hytten (Jennings), and Miss Margaret Stuart (Elsie Tathem) are prominent in the cast. The piece is preceded each evening by Miss Eileen Terence in songs and stories.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Crowded houses have been the rule nightly at the Empire this week, George Robey, the popular comedian, proving, as usual, a tremendous draw; another great favourite is Tom Edwards, the huntsman-ventriloquist, whose performance is the acme of artistic polyphony; the scena, The Troubles of a Father, being intensely amusing and particularly clever; Alexandre and Hughes are two good patter comedians; a decided hit is made by Lottie Lennox, popular chorus comedienne; Griff, the jesting juggler, is full of fun and ability; Lillie Lassah is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Jock Mills, Scotch comedian, receives considerable approbation for his clever dancing; Lux and his dogs give a good show.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—A capital sketch, entitled *A 33 to 1 Chance* is proving an unusual success at the Palace this week, owing to the sporting character of the act. Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company presents the scene, which winds up with a boxing display between Ben Jordon and young Sullivan. Second position on the excellent programme is occupied by Susie and Grotti, who present their original continental dancing creation with much success; Danvers and Rosslyn are prominent in a vocal burlesque piano duologue, entitled *A Pantomime Boy*; and Fred Ward, the popular comedian; the Victor Bros., herculean equilibrists; and the Five Bombays, in a smart singing and dancing act, complete.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Courtice.—*Under the Iron Heel* is presented here this week by Mr. Wilson Howard and a capable company. Mr. Howard as the hero gives a sound and telling performance, and is well supported by Miss Carlotta Anson, who, as the heroine, shows marked ability as an emotional and sympathetic actress. The rest of the cast is in excellent hands.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Chung Ling Soo again tops the bill here, and, with several new tricks and the best of the old ones, keeps his audience interested, amused, and mystified. A novel setting and clever gymnastic work make the Three Delaries distinctly popular; an impressive dramatic sketch *Too Late*, is contributed by Ellerslie Pyne; May De Rowse has a charming style, and scores heavily as a comedienne; Harry Martell as a wooden shoe dancer excels; Ruby Lester gives an attractive turn; and some fine pictures are included.

CARMARTHEN. — Assembly Rooms.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Miss Inez Howard's talented company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell) presented *The Old Home*. Mr. Sidney Rennef gave a powerful and realistic interpretation of Daddy Dean; Miss Gertrude Bonser was excellent as Hazel Dean; Mr. John Blake gave a clever and finished portrayal of the Rev. Eric Armstrong; Miss Harriette Loydall was seen to great advantage in her realistic interpretation of Bridget; Mr. Alec Finlayson was capital as Sam Adams; Mr. George Steel cleverly impersonated Lord Avondale; Mr. Edward Johnson was very good as Timothy Twaddle; Miss Coralie de Waner was admirable as Polly Poff; Mr. Wilfred Martin was a typical Dr. Warburton; and the same may be said of Messrs. E. H. Hughes and Tom Gain as Fishermen. The play was adequately staged. Mr. Robert Macdonald's excellent company has also presented *The Dairymaids*. Lady Brudenell was capitally portrayed by Miss Margaret Carter; Lieut. Sam Brudenell by Mr. Donald Price Evans; and Lieut. Frank Meredith by Mr. Algernon W. Lee; Dr. O'Byrne was excellently impersonated by Mr. Bernard Vaughan; Mr. J. H. Bernard was good as Tapers, as was Mr. S. M. L. Dawn as Lieut. Brereton; Mr. Norman Bowyer as Joe Mivens kept the audience convulsed with laughter; and Miss Ruby Louis as Eliza was equally successful; Miss Eva Ellis gave a charming impersonation of Peggy, her singing and acting being delightful; Miss Florence Bradfield was a captivating Winifred; Miss Phyllis Desmond merits high praise for her representation of Helen; Miss Alice Drummond was successful as Miss Penelope Pyechase; and Miss Florence Wynne as Lady Hyde was very good.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.).—*The Outcast of the Family*, by Mrs. Wybert Clive, occupies the boards here this week. In the leading part of Harry Thorne Mr. Jack McCaig makes a good impression, as also does Miss Elsie Shelton as Ruth, his wife; Mr. Wybert Clive as the Squire acts well; Mr. Bert Oates gives a clever portrayal of Richard Martin.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managers, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—The Three Comerfords supply an amusing and appreciated turn; Aidee Mellor's (the Lancashire singing mill girl) singing meets with approval; the Royal Quintette of international pipers and dancers are charming singers and expert dancers; Lenaro's unique comedy turn causes amusement; the Sisters Lylle give a turn which delights the audience; Les Henries perform some clever acrobatic feats; and Mlle. Rosini, with her cleverly trained dogs, contributes an interesting turn. Animated pictures conclude.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—A large and enthusiastic audience assembled on Monday to welcome Miss Cora Anson's company in *Caste*. Mr. G. W. Anson is the Eccles, and is most successful in the part; Mr. T. A. Shannon makes a very popular Hon. George D'Alroy; Miss Cora Anson's Polly Eccles is a merry performance; Miss Lydia's Busch is notable for some excellent work as Esther Eccles.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Here we have Mart and Pep, who do marvellous acrobatic feats; Will H. Fox, the clever and original piano player; the Milstead Bell Trio, in their highly amusing comedietta, *Three Sharps in a Flat*; Miss Monie Mine, with smart songs and neat dances; Fred Hallam, comedian; Miss Lily Wood, assisted by Fred Fyne, in *The Flower Girl*; and Mabelle Mignon, comedienne.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—The Seven Wulfrunas top the bill, with their laughter-provoking sketch, *Fun in a Café*; Amy Saville is a dainty comedienne of merit; O'Gariston Bros. give a clever speciality dancing act; and Musical Silvo proves himself a skilful soloist on the musical glasses. Williams' Original Welsh Minstrels, in gems of Welsh melodies, are most acceptable, and worthy of great praise for the tuneful rendering of Cambria's songs. The remaining items of a good bill are the Belmoir Sisters, smart comediennes and dancers; and the famous Carpos Bros., with their marvellous acrobatic novelties. Biographic pictures conclude.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Thomas Butt; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. S. Whitcher.—The bill here is topped by Frank Danby and J. O. Piddock, who present the musical comedy playlet *Cupid's Arms* with great success. Harry Pleon, comedian, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Les Marsumas perform thrilling tricks on cycles; Frank Hemming and Marie Free are clever in their duologue; Dolly Denton sings and dances charmingly; Metz and Metz provide a fund of humour; Venie Clements is a clever young comedienne and dancer; and Ruffell's Bioscope shows some entertaining films.

West Cliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell and Bentley.—This popular place of entertainment is crowded nightly. The turns this week include Walter Montague, the famous musical raconteur; James Davis, tenor; Ethel Kemish, soprano; Fred Pardo, impersonator; Bert Graham, humorist and monologist; Bernard Russell, comedian; Will Bentley, comedian; and Cyril Weller at the piano.

Operetta House.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Jury; Manager, Mr. Chas. F. Meadows.—The films here include the pictures Valendam, The Way of the World, and A Case of Identity. Mr. J. Hortin, an old Clacton favourite, has returned, and is well received in illustrated songs.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—A crowded house assembled on Monday to witness *The Bad Girl of the Family*, by Mr. Fredk. Melville's company. Miss Alice Esther Belmore portrayed the part of Gladys in clever fashion; Miss Florrie Kelsey was a popular heroine in the title-rôle; Mr. Barnet Lando was always funny as Barney Gordon; whilst two very acceptable characters were those of Sammy and Jerry, depicted by Mr. Geo. Asquin and Mr. John Hignett respectively. Mr. R. Marius St. John made a good figure in the rôle of Richard Marsh; and Mr. Sydney Lynn was painstaking as Harry Gordon. Miss Edith Evans displayed cleverness as Honour Moore; and as the "trier" Sally Smithers Miss Nellie James was always in the picture.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leslie.—Vonetta, danseuse, chameleon artist, conjurer, and mystifier, tops the bill this week; Edward Cranston and Mrs. Bennett's company in *The Jaws of Death* present a dramatic sketch of human interest; Elsie Ellis shows wonderful cleverness in two character songs; Chas. Lilburn, on a return, goes well; Les Unites give a good exhibition of tumbling and somersaulting; Sisters Towers are an entertaining pair of artists; and Zenora, the upside-down equilibrist, gives a clever exhibition.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Kioto and Esa are topping the bill here with a clever and sensational five ladder trick; Little Violet, vocalist and dancer, scores a success; Charles Chard's songs and patter keep the house in roars; and the Musical Keiths contribute to the success of a capital programme.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Dancing Paceys in a vocal and terpsichorean act head the bill; The Tymes have a capital song-scena, "The Enchanted Clock"; Pip Pawson amuses as a character vocalist; and excellent pictures are shown.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. F. Mouillot's principal company opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West as Horace Parker played exceptionally well; Miss Josephine Midleton as Minnie Templar was successful; Miss Aubrey Ashton as Miss Parker gave an impressive rendering of the part; Mr. William H. Brougham as the Messenger filled the rôle with marked ability; and Mr. Norman Clarke as the Tramp was well fitted for the part.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—An enjoyable programme is put before the patrons of the above place this week. The principal attraction is Harry Roxbury and company in the sketch *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. The sketch keeps the house in a constant roar of laughter. A remarkable turn is given by the Marriotts. Mme. Marriott is blindfolded, and describes everything accurately that her husband touches. Little Zola is an exceedingly funny character comedian; Doris and Gladys, duettists and dancers, give a capital turn; Norah Stockall is a good comedienne; and Leslie Harris and the Hargreaves Trio also entertain.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Six Bros. Luck keep the house agog with merriment in the burlesque pantomime *H.M.S. Perhaps*; the Bros. Redmond are first-rate acrobatic comedians; Queenie Leighton is an enchanting comedienne; George Mozart, comedian, is as whimsical as ever; Arthur Reece is popular; Thos. Bentley gives a rich dramatic treat in his impersonations from Dickens; and other items of the bill are Herbert Rule, comedian; Mabel Thorne, vocal comedienne; Teddy Denham, comedian; Gladys Mavius, Canadian girl; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; and Bioscope films.

New Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope. —George Lashwood, vocal comedian, is here and causing a furore; Spissell Bros. and Mack are smart American knockabouts; Harry Joison is a humorous black comedian; Alcide Capitaine is a clever gymnast; Jessie Albini, character comedienne, is well received; Nelson Jackson is an excellent entertainer; the Sutcliffe Family are talented pipers, acrobats, and dancers; Binns and Binns, musical vagabonds, are irresistible; and the American Bioscope pictures are interesting.

Electric Theatre.—Mr. W. H. Richards still creditably looks after the welfare of this popular house, and the pictures are entertaining and up to date. The holiday attendance has been well maintained.

Queen's Hall.—A capital programme of animated pictures continues to fill this comfortable hall. Mr. Dicks, the courteous manager, still pins his faith to singing operatic pictures, and with satisfactory results. Comic subjects form a welcome contrast.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The Manangos give a very attractive performance in head and hand balancing; George B. Doughty and Miss Molly Laney, in their scena *A Woman's Way*, are entertaining; Sid Murry is a neat dancer and a clever card-manipulator; Tom Bass, comedian, sings his songs with much humour; Daisy Mead sings sweetly; Bertina gives a first-rate musical turn; the Original Clifton gets a big reception for his clever feats on the wheel; the Three Langfords, in their artistic turn, are up to the mark; and King Edward's funeral procession is shown on the Darloscope.

Palace (late Hippodrome), Ltd.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—A capital combination is headed by Mr. Fred Karno's company in *The Mumming Birds* and *The Early Birds*, thorough laughter-makers. Mr. Frank O'Neal as the drunken swell is irresistible in the first comedy, and shows his abilities in the dissimilar part of the Bully, in *The Early Birds*; Bob Lewis is good as the Saucy Boy. As an aquatic turn, Kirk and Saraski are marvellous. Other turns are Percy Lorraine, animal mimic; Geo. Gulliver, ventriloquist; Harry Leybourne, the nervous lady; Lilla Wheelwright, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope, with latest pictures.

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Pictures of Sophia (Bulgaria), The Two Brothers, His Chum, and Interrupted Honeymoon are well shown. Montina, novelty juggler, is smart, and V. M. Kisielowski is an amusing comedian.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—The principal attraction here is a playlet, entitled *Long Live the King*, produced by Frank Elliston and company. The piece is distinctly successful, and the various characters are all well portrayed; the Jees with their Musical Smithy is as cordially received as ever; Belford and Mars, a novel comedy duo, are smart; Smit and Smit, comedy bar performers, submit a clever turn; Fred Evans, in his novel absurdity "Dreamland," creates much merriment; Daisy Taylor, a pleasing Scottish comedienne, takes well; Chris. Baker is a lively comedian; and Marquis and Truly, acrobatic eccentrics, keep their audience in a good humour. The Bioscope contributes a capital film.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Pratee.—Dent and Dent head the bill in a mélange entitled *The Indian Bottle*, which proves popular; the Soho Trio introduce some attractive singing and dancing into a number in which any amount of energy is infused; Rowland Hill has an amusing song and some first-rate patter; Edgar Budden's agility as a skate dancer is marvellous; the Three Cunards execute some clever dancing with clockwork precision; the Natt Wilkinson Trio amuse in *What Every Woman Wants*; and Henriette and Selina conclude the entertainment. Bioscope pictures are also included in the programme.

Metropole.—Manager Mr. G. S. King.—Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*, proves a strong attraction, and is admirably presented by a company directed by Mr. Arthur Leigh. Mr. Edmund Kennedy in the part of John Durham plays with ability; Mr. Arthur Leigh works hard as Reggie; Mr. Wm. Calvert is well placed as Lord Mountfallon; and Mr. W. F. Clithero is at home in the part of Ben Verstein. Miss Nellie Bonser is responsible for much of the success of the piece as Mrs. Durham; and Miss Dorothy Turner is a capable Hon. Margaret Steignton.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company in *A Woman's Past* is being produced twice nightly, and is well acted and staged. The part of Bessie is played in a sympathetic manner by Miss Dora Pass; Mr. Clifford Hamilton is an effective Uriah Craven, and is ably assisted by Miss Phyllis Elton as Clara Darrell; Mr. Charles Locke is well suited to the part of Frank Dellannoy; Miss Cherry Veheyne is successful as Dorothy Heath; Mr. Percy Dawsone presents an interesting study of David Heath; Mr. Alexander Knight, in the rôle of Clement Harper is popular.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—An interesting act is submitted by Hall and Wilson, "Man versus Motor," on a miniature track, and receives a hearty reception; Ada and Gert are a couple of smart juvenile singers and dancers; Durazcoe and Azella appear in a daring equilibristic performance; the humorous patter of Harry Herd is enjoyed; the Albano Girls, in a musical act, are pleasing; Sophie Knight has an excellent soprano voice; and the Bioscope completes.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of the bill is Fred Conquest and company in a farcical absurdity *Something for Nothing*, which proved to be very amusing; the singing and patter of G. W. Hunter wins hearty recognition; Leslie Reid is a popular comedian; Little Agnes Tina is a gifted impersonator and mimic; Curtis Leo, assisted by Little Noblesse, in *Fun in a Drawing-room*, introduce some smart conjuring; Johnson and De Vere submit clever trick cycling and wire-walking; the Four Netherlands, comediennes and barefoot dancers, are appreciated; as also are the Rowntrees, comedy couple, and the Palascope films.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The inimitable Mr. Arthur Roberts and an excellent company attracted a crowded house here on Monday. Messrs. Harry J. Worth, F. Johnson, and Misses Beatrice Hodson, Ida Furneaux, Nellie Lamport, and Ruby Celeste cleverly assisted the head of the combination in the funny playlet, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; Alice Milne is an admirable Scotch ventriloquist, and alert and clever in foot-craft; Mr. Wilson Blackledge and a piano come in for much appreciation; and the love story, *Vain Regrets*, also pleased immensely.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—This week *Smith* has attracted large audiences here, presented by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. Montagu Love, Miss Eleanora Delaporte, and Miss Jessica Thorne sustain the chief characters cleverly.

The Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. George Dance's company is here this week in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Jessie Lonnen is Mary Gibbs to the life, giving to her characterisation the necessary humour; the French modeste, Mme. Jeanne, is sweetly personified by Miss Ellaline Thorne; Mr. Theodore Leonard as the irrepressible Yorkshire rustic is very quaint; Mr. Eustace Burnaby is excellent as the Hon. Hugh Pierpoint; as Slithers Mr. John Leopola, jun., is excellent. Other characters are all well played.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Miss Vesta Tilley is a big draw here this week; the Harvey Boys present an amusing turn; Miss Queenie Finnis made a success; and other clever people who appeared were Alec Kendal and May Mars. Mr. Walter Lawley, assisted by Miss Nellie Gallafent, excited interest in a clever interlude; Paul Corrix is an athletic marvel; and Vernon's Bioscope goes as well as ever. There is, of course, dancing to the enticing strains of Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra. A fancy dress carnival was announced for Thursday. The rolling-skating rink is also doing well, as are Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—Miss Florrie Forde continues to be very popular here; the Three Sisters Trapnell and Brother George are quaint; the Havanna Troupe are clever; and other turns which are appreciated are given by Mr. Lloyd Morgan, who is a quaint comedian; Farr and Farland, clever people; Miss Annie Braddan, a piquant comedienne; and the Douglas Male Choristers, under the direction of Mr. Noah Moore. At Derby Castle there also obtains dancing and competitions.

The Circus.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Connor.—Large audiences are attracted here by the splendid fare presented. The Spanish Bull Fight act is quite funny; Spiridion, described as a juggling celebrity, is clever; Fredrico and Edgardo are eccentric acrobatic comedians; Stanley and Oakfield are expert dancers; Karl Cynski supplied an appreciated turn; Mr. George Madigan and his perfectly-trained fox terriers gain much applause; and Mona and Douglas Connor repeat their previous successes as daring and graceful riders. The Clowns are funny.

Other amusements in Douglas are Mr. Fred Buxton's enterprise on our principal promenade; this contains Pierrots, a picturedrome, roller-skating and billiard rooms. Mr. Charles Davis, Empire Theatre, with two shows nightly; the Cinetographe, with the latest pictures, also varieties. Also the Onchans, at Douglas Head, which Mr. Collier Cubbon exploits. There are comedians, Charley Harvey and Alfred Maynall; that fine bass singer, Mr. J. H. Scotland; a Nellie Farrenesque comedienne, Miss Elsie Steadman; and a tenor with beautiful voice, Mr. Alexander Webster. Last week this enterprising entrepreneur engaged Miss Jean Grace Crocker, the entertainer, who made a decided success.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Robert MacDonald's company, in *The Dairymaids*, opened here on Monday night to a large audience. Mr. Edwin Dodds causes much laughter as Joe Mivens; Miss Dorothy Grassdorf wins hearty applause for her clever impersonation of Peggy, Mr. Harry Scadden scores successfully as Dr. O'Byrne; Miss Marjorie Manners looks and acts charmingly as Winifred. The parts of Lieutenants Sam

refined drawing-room act, prove themselves expert musicians; Bros. St. Clair perform astonishing feats on cycles in a very amusing manner; Martinetti and Wallace are clever novelty musicians; and a reproduction of the Johnson-Burns fight is shown on the Kingscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—Miss Dora Hammersley's stock company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Kean, entered upon the last week of its season here on Monday, when *A Girl Redeemed From Sin* was presented. Miss Dora Hammersley excited the sympathies of the audience by the genuine art of her impersonation of Nancy Lee; Mr. Charles Kean's Will May was an admirable piece of work; the unscrupulous Ernest Sylveston was ably rendered by Mr. James Sommerville; Mr. Leslie Vyner contributed contributed a fine character study of Sam Lee; Mr. Ted Mooney revelled in the comedy part of Jim Jakes, being cleverly assisted by Miss Clarise Jenner, a lively Peggy Grey; Miss Kitty Thomas and Miss Lizzie Taylor did well in their respective parts; and the other rôles were in capable hands.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Some capital films, both grave and gay, are exhibited here, and prove to be quite to the taste of the large audiences.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—The pictures shown here are of the latest and best, and good houses continue to be the rule.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Edward Terry and company opened a three-nights visit on Monday with *The Magistrate*. Mr. Edward Terry was in fine form as Mr. Posket, repeating with immense success a performance he has made peculiarly his own. That sound and experienced actor Mr. Robert Pateman was a tower of strength as Colonel Lukyn; and Mr. Christopher Steele rendered admirable support as Capt. Horace Vale. Mr. Percival Madgewick's Cis Farringdon was an impersonation meriting the highest commendation, and the remaining male parts were sketched to perfection by Messrs. Percy Bell, J. Stansfield, R. Francis, B. Consitt, F. Pearson, William Dexter, C. Macmanus, and George Byrne. Miss Adah Barton undertook the rôle of Agatha Posket with the consummate skill of a thorough artist; Misses Dorothy Radford and Christine Rayner were in every respect excellent in the respective parts of Charlotte and Beattie Tomlinson; and Miss Ella Dixon suitably completed the cast. *Sweet Lavender*, *Fiander's Widow*, and *Liberty Hall* were the other attractions of an all too short visit. *The Merry Widow* holds the boards for the latter part of the week.

PIER THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. Hayes.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's London company, including Miss Cicely Stuckey (a clever young actress of local associations, who contributed an altogether ideal interpretation of the name-part) and Mr. Robert Minster (particulary excellent as the outspoken, sham-hating Tom Freeman) commenced a three-nights engagement on Monday in *Smith*. The support afforded the two leading artists was of a thoroughly adequate kind, Mr. H. Douglas Greet in particular scoring a big hit as the somewhat inane tame cat Algie Peppercorn, and Mr. F. G. Thurstan adding yet another to his already formidable list of local successes with a richly amusing portrayal of Mr. Dallas-Baker, K.C. Miss Ethel Hodgkins was quite admirably cast as Mrs. Dallas-Baker, the hysterical outburst towards the close of the play being a veritable artistic triumph. Miss Pauline Strauss fully deserved the applause bestowed upon her in the trying rôle of Emily Chapman, and Miss Ethel Wellesley proved herself a fairly acceptable representative of Mrs. Otto Rosenberg, Mr. J. Child completing the cast with a real characterisation of Fletcher. Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon are presenting their principal company in *The Girls of Gottenberg* for the last three nights of the week. Chirgwin, the white-eyed Kaffir, was the centre of attraction at a special matinée on Tuesday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Elise Loubert heads the bill this week, and scores a decided success with her artistic treatment of a number of familiar songs, to the admirably played pianoforte accompaniments of Mr. Harold Scott; Donavon and Arnold evoke roars of laughter in their up-to-date success *Doing Well, Thank You*; the Claymore Trio are expert club manipulators; the Four Marzipans, a clever and hard-working song and dance troupe, are warmly applauded; and acceptable turns are those of Parks and Price (in an excellent musical entertainment), Eva Danton, a dainty song and dance artist, and Jack Payton, comedian. The Hippodrome pictures conclude.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—On Monday the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company began the second week of their visit with *The Gondoliers*, of which an admirable performance was given. Mr. Henry A. Lytton revelled in the eccentricities of the part of the Duke of Plaza Toro; Mr. Fred Billington was at his best as the Grand Inquisitor; and the other characters were rendered with dramatic effect and humour and with conspicious vocal ability by Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Miss Louie Rene, Miss Marjorie Stone, and Miss Edith Holmes. *Patience* was played on Tuesday before an audience which filled the theatre from pit to gallery. The opera, with its charming music and clever libretto, is still, despite the lapse of time, a delightful and attractive work, and it received a splendid rendering by the members of the company. Miss Marjorie Stone was an ideal representative of the title-rôle, acting with winsome grace and singing with great taste; Miss Beatrice Boorer as Lady Angela and Miss Anna Bethell as Lady Saphir entered thoroughly into the spirit of the piece, and sang with feeling; and Miss Louie Rene played to perfection the part of the massive Lady Jane. Mr. Lytton made an amusing Bunthorne; Mr. Tunks was exceedingly happy as Grosvenor, and sang well; and the three Cavalry officers were excellently acted by Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Allen Morris (a capital comedian), and Mr. Strafford Moss (a good tenor singer). The chorus work was worthy of the company's reputation, and the entire performance was marked by extreme sparkle and brightness. The programme has comprised *Princess Ida*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *The Mikado*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The best traditions of good melodrama are well preserved in *Alone in London*, which Mr. Charles Gibbons' touring company have brought here this week. To the dual rôle of Annie Meadows and Nan the Flower Girl Miss Nellie Clyde gave emotional earnestness and pleasing conviction; and Mr. Gibbon himself was excellent in the part of Dick Redcliffe. As Jenkinson, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson afforded the audience many diverting moments with the exhilarating philosophy of the old thief; Spriggins was happily played by Mr. Wallace Dunlop; Tom Chickweed had a very good representative in Miss Ethel F. Green; and little Miss Hetty Hornsby made a most favourable impression as Nan's child Paul. The cast all round was a capable one, and the production provided an enjoyable and interesting entertainment.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Mr. Dave Samuels, the quaint and original Hebrew comedian, is one of the principal attractions here, and his droll songs and patter, and dances are loudly and deservedly applauded. Sinclair and Whiteford contribute an amusing duologue, in which the actors display dramatic ability and versatility; the Permane Brothers are equally good as gymnasts and as whistlers in their clever act. *The Nightingale's Courtship*; and the Gilberts, attired in full highland costume, give a dashing and very clever performance on the tight wire. Vocal selections are numerous and excellent, entertaining turns being given by Miss Minne d'Aubyn, chorus vocalist; Miss May Favre, a talented comedienne; and Miss Cissie Dorell, who is also a capital dancer. The Four Sidney Girls, charming singers and dancers, are enthusiastically recalled; and an outstanding performance is provided by Mr. Richard Walby, an exceptionally smart and graceful juggler.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The week's bill was headed by Severus Schaffer, whose feats as a juggler and equilibrist were performed with wonderful skill and dexterity. A kindred turn was also supplied by Chris Van Bern, who introduced not a few clever and startling novelties into a pleasant conjuring séance. The trick and comedy cycling of the Three Merrills, was full of thrills as well as amusement; and a bevy of Six Lancashire Lasses sang and danced themselves into favour with the audience. Matthews and Cowper produced much merriment with the sketch *When the Clock Went Wrong*, which proved vastly entertaining; two very delightful vocal turns were contributed respectively by Iva Voyce and Winifred Hare, each of these gifted artists being cordially received; and Walter Wade was successful in his new monologue, *Sandy McGregor*. Dan Lipton's company and James Stewart had places in the programme, but owing to unexpected circumstances neither of these items was presented on Monday evening. American bioscope pictures completed the list of attractions.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The Planter's Wife; Michael Strogoff, depicting incidents from Jules Verne's well-known story; Outwitted by a Child; and Scenes Illustrative of Buffalo-hunting, give variety and life to the programme at this house. The humorous films are, as usual, numerous and good.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A Bolt from the Blue and The Boss of Bar X. Ranch are two dramatic pictures in the bill here; and several other effective films of a serious and humorous nature are shown. Mr. Jack Hayworth, eccentric comedian, and Morrisey, musician and balancer, contribute agreeable turns to the programme.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars continues here for another week, and the admirable manner in which the players render selections of classical and popular music is much appreciated by the audiences. In the concert hall, The Dandies, under the direction of Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald, give a capital entertainment; and additional attractions include the Three Comedy Chanters, and John Cronow, in impersonations of past and present celebrities. The skating rink, the billiard hall, the Somali village, and other popular shows have their usual share of patronage.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Rich and Rare provide capital entertainment as comedy duettists; Edie Le May is a comedienne of distinction; Geo. Kavanagh contributes an enjoyable turn; Daisy Devenport, as a comedienne and dancer, is pleasing; as a baritone singer Ford Williams can hold his own; R. C. Note is funny as a comedian; and interesting animated pictures add to an enjoyable programme.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Percy Williams' company in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton as Howard Wilson and Miss Violet Keand as the much-wronged wife sustain these characters with grace and dignity. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh in the repulsive part of the adventuress plays with artistic skill, and Mr. Alexander Wills in the character of Robert Curtis is sinister and cool. Little Miss Dot Jefferies as Jessie, the little mother, portrays the child in a most natural manner.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical-Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—The Tom Davis Trio top the bill here in a thrilling and sensational motor-cycle act, which is greeted with well-deserved applause; another excellent item is Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies, under the direction of Miss Lily Vine; Mr. R. Dunning in a clever ventriloquial sketch meets with an excellent reception; Addi Adell, a comedienne with a tuneful voice, has to respond to encores; Arthur F. Ward quite justifies his claim as a "somewhat different" juggler; Kahn and Kahn appear in a smart and clever second sight act; and Clem Collins, comedian, speedily gets on good terms with his audience.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—This popular little house was reopened after a short close season on Monday night, and the boards have been occupied throughout the week by Miss Lole Esmond and company in the musical absurdity *The Love Birds*. Mr. Edward Neville gives an artistic portrayal of Colonel Fritters; Mr. Jay D. Russell is very funny as Ferdinand Fluff; Mr. Fred Alberts makes a successful Pupkins; Miss Blanche Courtenay sings and acts well as Agnes Fritters; and Miss Cecily Bayne is an ideal old maid as Philomena Fritters. As Araminta Hawkins Miss Loie Edmonds is responsible for a vivacious and humorous performance.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, H. J. Snelson.—Following on the huge success of *The Cingalee* last week, Mr. Dickie Clare's company is doing great busines in the musical comedy *Lucky 'Liza*. Miss Vesta Brownie, in the title-rôle, gives an excellent exhibition in every way; Mr. Dickie Clare is a comedian of the first water in the Court scene; Miss Rosie Coyne is a smart Virginia; Messrs. T. W. Benson and Harry George, as the Barristers, are both excellent; Mr. Leonard Maitland acquits himself extremely well in the difficult part of Paul Pettitoe; Mr. J. W. Forrest is good as the unfortunate Gardener; Mr. George Minto is most amusing as P.C. M'Guke; Miss Evelyn Wood uses a fine voice to the best advantage; Miss Helen Douglas is good as Mary Pettitoe; and several smart dances are given by the Desmond Trio—Misses Kittie Daly, Cissie Bates, and Maudie Clarke.

FOLKESTONE.—THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The management here still retain the ever-popular Gipsies and their Jester, and their entertainment is greatly appreciated by the numerous visitors. The Jester (Mr. Will Gane) is an original comedian, and Miss Marie West sings many popular songs charmingly. Miss Ella McIntosh is recalled for her singing and dancing. Mr. Evelyn Wood is deservedly appreciated for his well-rendered numbers. Mr. Edgar Berte's recitations, delivered in realistic manner, also please.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. J. Reece.—This theatre is now in the hands of Messrs. Payne, Seddon, and Pope, and advantage has been taken of the summer vacation to have the place thoroughly cleaned and redecorated. The Resident-Manager is Mr. F. J. Reece, and the dramatic season opens on Aug. 29. In the meantime a good selection of pictures is being exhibited, and this week the variety turns consist of The Balzens (Japanese jugglers), Miss Gertrude Blanche (comedienne and dancer), the Wymans, and Sid Hermann.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer. A comedian who can always rely upon a flattering welcome here is Syd Walker, who this week has amused some large audiences; Amy Anderson and company, in the scena *The Banana Queen*, give us the fun fast and furious; a most charming comedienne is Lily Edwards; Rozel, with aerial acrobatics, pays a return visit; Spry and Austin are entertaining comedy artists; Frank H. Fox and Harry Harvey, comedians, and the Kingscope which depicts the Johnson-Burns Fight are other entertaining items on a solid bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—*Home, Sweet Home* is being presented here this week by Mr. Frank Lindo's company. Mr. Norton Shields gives a capital impersonation of Stephen Armitage; Mr. Tom E. Lewis is happy in the rôle of David Armitage; Lucas Lyle is rendered sufficiently villainous by Mr. Leonard Laurence; Mr. Fric Crowther is seen to advantage as Dick Redmayne; Miss Marion Wakeford is a charming Joan; and Little Queenie Barratt presents an excellent Dora. Other parts are in well-trained hands, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired.

GLASGOW.—KING'S.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is paying its first visit to this theatre in *Under Two Flags*, and a large audience followed the interesting story with evident appreciation. Mr. Wernham Ryott as Bertie Royellieu acted with fine effect throughout; Miss Agnes Verity played Cigarette in powerfully dramatic style; Mr. Harry Benson infused humour into the play as Rake, introducing several clever songs and dances, one in conjunction with Miss Tina Langlois, who made a lively waiting-maid; Mr. David Hawthorne gave a notable performance as Lord Rockingham, and young Berklie Royellieu was cleverly acted by Mr. Wilfred Jesson; Mr. Charles Brooke as Lord Royellieu, Mr. Charles E. Johnson as Colonel Chateauroy, Mr. Arthur Redmond as Captain Chanrellon, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as Marshal of France, and Mr. Horace Stewart as a moneylender, all gave able performances. Miss O'Neill made a charming Princess Venetia; Miss Ethel Gordon acted well as Lady Beatrice; and Miss Angela Stewart as Countess Olga completed an able cast. The play was staged with excellent effect.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Weldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Robert Foulkner and company is presenting *For Wife and Home*. As Roland St. Pierre Mr. Faulkner acts with his accustomed spirit and abandon, and in the rôle of Rosette Legrand, Miss Marion Ryder gives a sweet and touching picture of the blind girl; Le Farge, a mesmerist, as presented by Mr. Edwin Maydew, is a weird and telling figure, his accomplice, Henri St. Pierre, being capitally represented by Mr. Wilton Llewellyn; while the sinister trio is ably completed by the Celeste Legrand of Miss Mysie Monte. The Abbé Latouche is played with fine dignity by Mr. Edward De Vere. Amusing interludes are supplied by Mr. George Harvey as Picole and Miss Fanny Harvey as Naneen, other well-filled parts being the old sailor, Legrand, of Mr. Frederick Lisle and the Countess of Miss Alice Bradshaw.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Messrs. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman's company is presenting *The Angel of His Dreams*, which is effectively staged. Mr. George De Gray acts the Rev. Christian Esdaile with dramatic power, and Miss Amy Dalby gives a charmingly natural impersonation of Milly St. Anstell. The difficult character of Hilda Revelle is well sustained by Miss Effie Bartlett, whose rendering of a dipsomaniac is realistic; Mr. Wallace Campbell as the callous and unprincipled Major Dudley Ferrars brings the part into due prominence; Mr. Robert Hall doubles the characters of Roy Ferrars and Detective Smart, and is equally successful in each; Mr. Charles Arnold portrays Sir Francis Tregarthen in fine style; Mr. Macintosh Clyde as Sam Tippett and Miss Etta Turner as Bessie Sparkles extract plenty of humour from their parts. Miss Doris Brereton gives a good reading of Lulu.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Resident Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—For the opening of the new season the management of this house have selected the ever-popular Scottish drama *Jeanie Deans*, which is excellently played by Miss Kate Clinton's combination. In the title-rôle, Miss Kate Clinton gives a striking representation, and proves herself an actress of great power and resource; as Effie Deans Miss Mary Campbell gives a quiet but effective rendering; as Madge Wildfire Miss Nancy Blackwood excels, while as Margery Murdockson Miss Ray Parry cleverly interprets the characteristics of the wicked gipsy. As the Laird o' Dumbiedykes Mr. P. P. Miller gives a spirited portrayal of the eccentricities of the unsuccessful wooer, and the David Deans of Mr. Fawcett Lomax is a clever conception of the heart-broken old farmer. In the hands of Mr. Gilbert E. Colona the character of Reuben Butler is admirably sustained. Counsel for the Crown and for the defence are in the capable hands of Mr. Bernhardt Turner and Mr. Neal Fitzwilliam respectively; as Geordie Robertson Mr. Ernest Lodge gives a vigorous representation of the daring outlaw, while as James Ratcliffe Mr. Frank James supplies a creditable performance. The drama is excellently staged.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The top position is filled by Ernest Shand, the pink of comic smartness, whose reception was extremely cordial and well-merited. Another popular comedian is Charles Norton, with his mimetic monologue *Pros. at the Races*. Hermann Melot is aptly described the marvel of deftness in conjuring; the La Scala Opera Company, in a scene from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, evoke rounds of applause. Other artists in a good programme are Gwennie Hasto, a pleasing comedienne and expert dancer; Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. Geo. Abel, in the playlet *Town Hall To-night*; Miles-Stavordale Quintette of banjoists; and Tom E. Hughes, a smart comedian, in addition to a pleasing display of pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Williams' Jubilee Singers, a clever coloured octette, give a number of finely-harmonised songs, and are well received; Carlisle and Wellmon give a number of piano duets, interspersed with dancing and patter. The Child Trio of juvenile musicians play well in piano, violin, and viola selections; Leick and Keith are two American instrumentalists, their cornet playing being specially fine. An amusing comedy, entitled *Compensation*, is cleverly played, the parts of the injured labourer and his wife being particularly well done by Mr. H. W. Perrette and Mme. Gheralda. Another playlet of a more serious type is entitled *Boy*, and the two parts in this are taken by Baron and Baroness de Nevers with powerful effect. Augustus and Hartley, barrel jumpers of much ability, Bruce Green, a clever "dame" comedian, and Lil Elfreda, in imitations of music hall stars, all do well.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—That popular artist Jenny Johns heads the bill here, and has several good songs with catchy choruses; Menotti, the Stockholm wire-walker, gives a new and daring act, including shooting feats, and roller-skating and cycling on the running wire; Aggie Nolan proves herself a clever comedienne and expert dancer, and her reception is extremely hearty; George Collins as an eccentric comedian is a great favourite; Irene Meldon, a vocalist and dancer of special merit, contributes a most enjoyable turn; Frank Maura again shows his dexterity in foot equilibrism; the Olympian team of cyclists are clever in their trick cycling and football match on wheels; Maestro and Oretto, Jugglers, and Phillips and Bristow, expert dancers, complete a good programme.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Callahan and St. George, in their well-known Irish study, *The Old Neighbourhood*, meet with a cordial reception; Ernie Lotinga, with a capable company, puts forward a very clever sketch, entitled *Her Husband*. Mr. Lotinga, in the part of Jimmy Josser, keeps his audience in the best of humour. Drew and Alders prove popular in *The Coastguards*; Peter Davey, with a selected company, is responsible for a farmyard fantasy, introducing an abundance of Chanticleer work. The various "birds" do well, and certainly amuse. Duncan's Scotch collies are a wonderful pack and are thoroughly trained; the Musical McGregors are a smart trio, who receive well-merited applause for their xylophone and concertina selections; the Sisters Jerome are dainty duettists and dancers; Ted E. Box and Laurence Barclay are two favourite comedians; and the Bioscope films are very enjoyable.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Attractive picture programmes still draw good houses twice nightly. The talking and singing picture is very popular, this week's being entitled Hush.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—Pat O'Connor makes a hit with his neat dancing; Phil Terris keeps the house amused with his quaint songs and droll patter; Annie Freedman, a clever child comedienne, is deservingly popular; Rose Leaf sings in fine style; the Bioscope is up-to-date.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. H. Milne.—Large audiences continue the rule, the pictures being very entertaining. Capital variety contributions are given by Miss Ethel Roy, vocalist; Frank Newbury, comedian and whistling mimic; and Raynor and Esto, a pair of clever equilibrists and contortionists. There are, in addition, selections on the Auxeto Gramophone.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Guss Lazenberg; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Mr. George Maston, a Yorkshire mimic, is recalled again and again; the Creedons please with a comedy sporting act; Alfonso is an up-to-date equilibrist; and Will and Nell are a clever pair of juvenile vocalists and dancers. The pictures are constantly changed.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—Signor Luigi Volpi wins high honours with his wonderful monkey, Fasolin; Jumbo Junior (the baby elephant) is also responsible for an excellent turn. Another clever exhibition is put forward by Jardini, a pony, also trained by Signor Volpi, whose stud further includes Piccolo, a retrieving pony. Signor F. Trufelli and Signor Cembrani have each excellently trained animals, including goats, ponies, monkeys, and dogs. Many comic interludes are provided by Bishop, Winkles, and Dan Gregory. Besides the Circus, the Zoo proves an unending attraction.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company, in *Her Nameless Child* is here. Arthur Ford is well impersonated by Mr. F. E. North, as is Anthony Ford by Mr. Arthur Keand; Mr. Leonard Aardale as the villain, Lord Henry Woodville, acts capitally; and Lady Sybil Arundale has a good representative in Miss Dora Weber; Mr. George Francis as the lesser villain Mongrole, fills the rôle excellently; Mr. L. Clements is good as Tom Rivers; and the other characters are capably sustained.

KING'S HALL.—Messrs. Poolee' Theatres, Ltd.—In addition to a capital Bioscopic exhibition, the following variety turns appear: Manik Shah, Hindoo illusionist; Howard and Wallace, in sketch, *Taming a Wife*; and Miss Kitty Woodford, illustrated songstress.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. G. Boultwood.—A capital anmiated picture show is given here.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—Good houses continue to be attracted here, the picture and vaudeville programme being of the most up-to-date character. Dolly Withers, comedienne, provides a pleasing turn; Storey and Hughes, in comedy duo, are much appreciated; the Two Zets, vocalists and dancers, are highly successful; Leo Clyo, comedian, is highly amusing; Wee Wullie, is a clever juvenile Scotch comedian and Edward Stream, comedian is also successful.

GOSPORT.—THEATRE.—Good audiences are noticeable here, and warmly applaud Merry May Mack, a diverting comedienne and dancer, and William Kingsley, handbell manipulator. The films Through the Darkness, In the great Northwest, and A Daring Performance are interesting.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—At the top of the bill here are Miss Grace Lester and company in the dramatic episode *A Ruined Life*, which is a realistic sketch thoroughly well enacted; Lily Vane does well in her high and low comedy performance; the Czar Royal Russian troupe give a fine exhibition of national dances and songs; Charles Conway presents some capital impersonations of Dickens's characters; Dandy Dick with his trick comedy and calculating dogs is voted extremely good; and Lauri Lyndon is a comedienne whose singing and dancing are both admirable. The Edisonograph has all the latest pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—The engagement of Messrs. Wray and Hurgin's company, in *Two Merry Monarchs*, is proving a big draw. Mr. Hayden Coffin as Prince Charmis scores a big success; Mr. E. Statham Staples creates a lot of fun as the Postmaster-General; Mr. Tom Shelford as King of Utopia and Mr. Mark Lester as the other Monarch are irresistibly funny; Miss Gladys Beach is charming as Iris, and Miss Marjorie Moore gives grace and piquancy to her part.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Ernest Benham's company are appearing here this week in *Old Heidelberg*. Mr. Owen Nares displays marked ability as Karl Heinrick; Mr. Ernest Bodkin gives an excellent portrayal of Dr. Juttner; Miss Kitty Ricimer invests the part of Kathie with much charm and grace; Mr. Sydney Hamilton plays well as Lutz; Mr. Alex Onslow is a breezy Graf Von Asterberg; Mr. Ian Will gives an amusing and clever character sketch of Kellerman; Mr. Percy Crawford is good as Ruder; and Miss Constance Graves plays with delightful comedy vein the part of Frau Droffea.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalza.—The first-class standard of programmes at this popular establishment is being well maintained. The Tally Ho spectacle is increasing in its attractiveness and popularity; Captain Taylor is paying a welcome return visit with his marvellously-trained elephants; the Brooklyn Quartette score with their songs; Aerian and Ostara give a daring performance on the trapeze; Miss Ada Gatley is a graceful wire performer; Leicester Cooke's horsemanship is much admired; and the irresistible Doodles makes fun every time he enters the arena.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Lazera mystifies and amuses the audience with some exceptionally clever tricks; Mr. Arthur Croxon is a first-rate entertainer; Bessie Knight is very popular with her singing and dancing; George Payne's Wanderers appear with conspicuous success in a clever and artistic scena; Ray and Calden score with their comedy act; Lillie Luraine is an expert instrumentalist; and Poole and Maguire are very entertaining.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—The Grotesques' Concert Party are presenting an attractive programme, and Mr. Sidney Gandy and Miss Ingleñeld are appearing in their very popular entertainment.

THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr. Mr. Cyrus Dare is a first-rate humorist and raconteur; Mr. Edmund Casselli gives a clever performance on the banjo; and Mr. Allan Murray as the Messenger Boy is a good clog dancer. The pictures include Capitalist and Labour and Over Silent Paths.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—An admirable series of pictures is exhibited here. Saved by Boscoe conveys a very powerful drama, and stirring incidents are depicted by The New Boss of Bar X. Ranche, Rubber and Pepper Growing in the Malay Archipelago is a picturesque film; and those of an amusing character include The Little Doctor of the Foothills, His Little Son, and The Bottle of Milk.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*When London Sleeps* is receiving an excellent welcome here, after an absence of a few years. Mr. Geo. B. Daiper, both in appearance and manner, admirably realises the athlete, David Engleheart; Miss Mabel Scudamore fills the part of Queenie Carruthers with pleasing charm; Mr. Kenneth Norbury as Captain Rodney Haynes gives a vigorous representation of the scheming adventurer; Miss Cissie St. Elmo is excellent as Hilda Carrode; Mr. Harry Cooke causes much amusement as Sammy Blythe; Mr. Charles Rogers also acts with pleasing humour as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead; Miss Christine Middleton does well as Maudie de Frere; Miss Lottie Lonsdale gives a clever character study of Signorina Jonesio; and Miss Mabel Tremere gives a vivacious portrayal of Carrie Jones.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—The Musical Elliott Savonas are always welcome here, and this week they are presenting their latest specialities, and the great variety of instruments, cleverly played, and elaborate stage setting, make it a brilliant turn; Miss Rose Atherton presents *Murphy's Affinity*, a really amusing absurdity of original type; Clarke and Hayden have an entertaining vocal duologue, *By Appointment*; Miss Minnie Leslie and Mr. Edgar Stevens also sing and act well in *Love Levels All*; the Three Brothers Huxter are clever acrobats, their somersaulting being especially smart; Taree, the musical Australian bushman, provides an interesting act; and Joe Conway, comedian, has good business.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures are again the attraction here. Some of the best films are Two Brothers, Catherine of Guisa, The Silent Path, and The Haunted Chamber. The popular manager gives a capital humorous sketch, and performs some excellent sleight-of-hand tricks. Capital variety turns are presented by the Leopards and the Kellys, clever acrobatic experts. *The Arcadians* is promised for the end of the week.

CANDIE GARDENS.—Mr. Harold Montague and his vagabond players are drawing immense business.

THE PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines.—Miss Susie Durnford Stuart, comedienne, is here, and Sam Ello is retained for another week.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company is here with *Her Path of Sorrow*. Mr. J. Davidson makes a manly Richard Burfield; as Guy Lowther Mr. H. Sinclair is excellent; Mr. Frank Etheridge appears to advantage as Lionel Heathcote; Mr. W. Saunders makes a good P.C. Bridge; Miss Nellie Freeland gives an interesting portrayal of Lucille; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne is well suited to the part of Nellie Rayne; Miss Florence Melrose-Millet is capital as Pauline; and Miss Daisy Carlton (Polly Green) and Mr. Will Hook (Tommy Onions) both do well in the comedy part.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Amongst a good selection of pictures The Falls of Imatra, a scenic picture; The New Reporter and A Modern Messenger Boy, humorous, meet with warm approval. The Northcotes (Madge and May) are two good vocal duettists. *The Altar of Duty* is exceedingly well played by Miss Diana Hope, Mr. Monte Bayly, and Mr. E. W. Richards.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Zanfrellas present a novel, graceful, and daring performance on a high pedestal, 8in. in diameter; Doody and Wright (Sid and Edie), Australian comedy artists, give a turn of genuine humour; Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, are popular; Gladys and Alber are a good turn, the male partner doing some wonderful tumbling; Mollie Doon is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Vardeville Trio are clever solo and simultaneous dancers; and Goggin and Davis, comedians and acrobats; and Walter King, comedian, complete the bill.

HANLEY.—ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone.—*Dolly Reforming Herself* is excellently acted here by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company. Miss Dorothy Giles is a charming Dolly; Miss Florence Steventon as Mrs. Sturgess is admirable throughout; Miss Sylvia Jones is a good Peters; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards plays Harry with plenty of spirit; Mr. Frank Stoney as Dolly's father submits a clever study; Mr. Hanworth Browning is well suited as Dolly's cousin; Mr. Russell Barry as Professor Sturgess is good; Mr. Richard Symons as the Rev. James Pilcher as clever; and Mr. Reginald Dauncey acts well as Criddle. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* precedes.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Norman Williams, basso profundo, sings well; the Garden of Twelve Girls are very clever; Elise, Walf, and Waldorf, in *After the Football Match*, are smart gymnasts; Beattie Bloom, comedienne, sings well; Wisper, a comedy juggler, is an amusing patterer; Mark Sheridan, the popular comedian, stars, and makes his usual hit; Avon and Crest, comedy artists are successful; Argo, mimic, is clever.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazelwood.—The chief films here are The Flower of the Ranch, Western Justice, The Minstrel, and The Ranchman's wooing. Ida Idriss, comedienne, supplies the vaudeville items.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Plenty of mirth is caused by the laughable sketch, *Three of a Kind*, played by Miss Ethel Arden and company. Miss Mildred Bryan sings ballads in cultured style; Burns and Bentley are a pair of nimble and expert dancers. A musical scena introduces Miss Bertha Ward, a cultured young soprano; Selbo juggles with clubs in a most skilful manner; Hughes and Elliot appear in song and dance; the Norman Leonard Trio present a very artistic and refined musical turn; the pictures complete.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Frank and Jen Latona present their humorous and musical medley with marked success; Rousby and Rene appear in a bright little comedy study, *Fine Feathers;* Wallace Whitney, comedian, has two good songs; Miss Beattie Foster, comedienne, sings pleasantly; Leo and Roland do some remarkable things in the way of equilibrism; the three Van Dammes are smart acrobats; the Palace pictures make up the programme.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The first provincial performance of *The House Opposite* took place on Monday, Mr. H. Neilson's company presenting the same, the chief character falling into the efficient hands of Miss Amy Sangster, who played the part of the politician's wife with fine effect. Mr. Neilson contrived to add to his credit with a reading of Cardayne. Mr. J. F. Fox made a fine study of the Permanent Secretary. Mr. Lemnon Warde was a good exponent of the ex-Home Secretary. Miss Dorothy Blackader was one of the successes of the evening as Marie, and Miss E. L. Hunt was a satisfactory Miss Calthorpe.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—The play this week is the thrilling drama *Another Man's Wife*, which made a return visit. Miss Ruby Loncraine plays the heroine with some skill; Miss Hazel Head was a good Inez de Castro; Paul Bernstorff was finely realised by Mr. Fred Granville. The rest of the company gave adequate support.

The Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Mr. Harry Tate, in his latest success, *Flying*, is the essence of drollery, his efforts gaining vociferous applause; the Jackson Family of clever trick cyclists perform their feats with wonderful dexterity; Pat Rafferty was immensely popular both as a Chelsea pensioner and sailor; Mitchell and Cane are a really funny pair of comedians; Elsa Brull and Arthur Helmsley present a neat skit entitled *Fun in a Music Shop;* an amusing sketch is staged by Florence Smithers, ably supported by Owen Dacroy and company, entitled *Our Mary Jane*, the fun being fast and furious; Tate and Tate are clever and amusing acrobats; Jennie Hartley, attractive comedienne, and Sylvia Du Barry, refined vocalist, in charming song-scenas, complete.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—An attractive combination comprises the Four Eugenes, who gain unstinted approbation for their gymnastic feats; the Godfreys, musicians and comedians, make themselves great favourites; acceptable variety turns are also supplied by Master George Doonan, Hand and Hart, Little Ivy Terriss, Mlle. Bartinelli, Ena Corelli, Merry Marie Liston, and the Bioscope pictures complete.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—The Little Lillys create a favourable impression with their clever equilibristic and acrobatic act; P. Pherman and company, in *The Last of the Desmonds*, are warmly complimented; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning elicit hearty applause with their comedy duologue, "Our Wedding Anniversary"; Phil Herman, Tyrolean character vocalist, has an enthusiastic reception; Tom and Neil, grotesque comedians, keep the audience in good humour; and others who contribute to an enjoyable programme are Harry Vardon, humorous ventriloquist; W. G. Webber, baritone singer; and Lily Esplin, charming comedienne.

ILKESTON.—Colisrum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Harry Tate's *Motoring* company gain a decided success; Messrs. Leonard Robson and company present a cleverly-written sketch, *An Indian Romance*, which they play with more than ordinary ability; Miss Burley and the Funny Little Man, Continental speciality artists, provide amusement; Kennedy and Ryan, in song and dance, are highly esteemed; and the Three Veras, vocalists and dancers, Gladys Whitton, comedienne, and Ted Saunders, mimic, are all successful.

IPSWICH. — Hippodrome. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The full variety programme is resumed here, and an excellent bill is drawing full houses. The Tan Kwai Chinese troupe of acrobats occupies first place, and their performance from end to end is a marvellous exhibition of skill; Dan Hendy is an eccentric and agile comedian; Mlle. Marjutti is a very clever contortionist; Marshall and Parr have both excellent voices, and give a refined entertainment; Renie Graham is a clever male impersonator; Ess and Hoey are very active and skilful on roller and other skates and Canadian ski shoes; Park's Eton Boys have a somewhat novel scena; and the Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—The variety company here includes J. H. Hawtrey, an excellent vocalist; Massona, the eccentric juggler; Chas. Grantley, comedian, who is well received; Ryan and Hall, in their own speciality; Will Willis, comedian; Mlle. De Rose, the lady Foli, who is ably assisted by Miss Hilda Claremont, the charming girl soprano; and the Spanish Juanitos, acrobats.

Palace.—Lessees, Jarrow Palace Co.; Business-Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—Mr. Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer, is well received, and Moneta and Searle, speciality artists, and R. F. Forde, comedian, vary the picture show.

Gem Picture Hall.—Lessees and Managers, J. Tweddle and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Rabey.—Two excellent variety turns here are Captain Alex. Fox, ventriloquist, and Bertram Hovary, in illustrated songs.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwardes.—*The Arcadians* have come here for the Gala week and opened to a crowded house. Mr. Harry Rignold as Simplicitas is laughable; Mr. Percy Cahill scores a hit as Peter Dooley; and Mr. Max Wakeham appears as Jack Meadows. Miss Moyna Hill is a pleasing Eileen Cavanagh and dances daintily; Miss Maidie Riversdale plays the part of Mrs. Smith; Miss Beatrice West works hard as Sombra; and Miss Dorothy Clancy is a taking Chrysea.

Royal Hall.—Mr. J. T. West's pictures include some fine films of the Italian Lakes.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Leopold.—The Dutch Drolls and the Ladies' Cremona Orchestra are still here.

Triangle Park.—Mr. Wilson James's Euterpeans remain here for another week.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—Amongst new electric films here is an amusing one entitled The Manufacture of a Parisian Doll. Miss Francis Daintrey is still a success.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Mr. Edward Mansell's Life in the King's Service is a capital entertainment, and fresh subjects are depicted weekly. Mr. Dick Bert gives a display on the bones.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company is presenting *The Prodigal Parson* here. Mr. W. V. Garrod gives a clever interpretation of the Rev. Tom Godley, his acting being powerful and effective; excellent comedy is supplied by Mr. Owen Remonde as Phil Driver; the villain, Enoch Jaggins, is capitally enacted by Mr. Ernest Vaughan; Mr. Carthage Coldcleugh submits a clever exposition of Ben Jaggins; Miss Bertah Kingston, in the part of the heroine, is excellent; and Miss Madge Douglas fits the part of Gretchen to perfection. Songs and dances are introduced with good effect.

KIDDERMINSTER. — New Opera House. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Mr. W. N. Garrod's company in *A Country Girl in London* is here this week. Mr. Fred Wilberforce ably portrays the part of Mr. John Hamilton; Mr. Chas. Halling is good as Frank Gordon; Messrs. Scott Leighton and Frank Dallas do well respectively as Godfrey Clinton and Shenrick Oppenheim; Wilberforce Puddyphat is in the capable hands of Mr. Seymour Perry. Mesdames Elsie Marriot Watson, Alice Clarke, and Maude Merrick, in the rôles of Gwendoline Gordon, Adelaide Puddyphat, and Marjorie Hamilton, play their parts admirably.

LANCASTER. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—A drama, *The Brothers; or, Why Women Weep*, is the attraction this week, and is presented by Mr. John Barrett's company. The bulk of the work rests with Mr. Harry Cullenford, who, as old John Grey, the tramp, acquits himself admirably. Other members render able support.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Millar.—*Charley's Aunt* is attracting good houses. Mr. W. Hargreaves is very droll in his impersonation of Mr. Cattermole. Mr. James Hussey as the Rev. Robert keeps the house amused; Mr. Kendal Chalmers, Mr. Arthur Claremont, and Miss Cicely Wade are also successful.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—F. Marriott Watson's and James Usher's company in *The Black Mask* is appearing here. Miss Florence E. Florence, Mr. F. Marriott Watson, and Mr. Willis Elton ably sustain the leading rôles.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; General-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Packed houses are greeting Harry Lauder. The company suporting him include Helen Trix, H. O. Wills, Woodhouse and Wells, Staig's Steeplejack Cyclists, Roma and Romani, F. V. St. Clair, Cull Pitt, and Hugh Barclay.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Herbert Sleath's company appear in a sensational episode, *The Trap;* M. Footgers is a versatile French comedian; Wild, Willie, and West give a funny and clever acrobatic act; the Menzies are favourites in a comedy act, *The Suffragettes;* Frank Hartley is a smart juggler; Phyllis Seymour dances prettily; Gus Harris receives a warm welcome; and Harry Levaine, Leonard Teel and Ethel Loftus also hit the popular fancy. Maud Lordy's troupe of dogs complete a good programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—George D'Albert is a big favourite here, and following close in popularity is Ryder Slone, who has some excellent songs; Fred S. Howard, the artist entertainer, in "London Life," is well received; Pasquali Bros., tumblers and acrobats, Primrose Quartette, Ross and Lewis, Natalia and Diana, and Little Pam are included in an attractive programme.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—Jack Pleasants is singing four songs at each house. The Whittakers appear in a very clever comedy sketch, *Dick Whittington;* Athelda, a lady athlete, Ted Gill, the Lynches, and Jules Kiaro complete the bill.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—We have as this week's attraction Mr. Charles Harrington's well-known combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which is staged in an effective and attractive style, the plantation festival scene being especially noteworthy. In this specialities are introduced by Rich and Moore, Shorty May, The Tennesseans, James Hodges, Reg. Kloof, L. Alle, H. G. Burt, and Kidd Love. The part of Uncle Tom is delineated in capital style by Mr. J. H. Boehm; Mr. Charles Harrington is a typical Phineas Fletcher; Miss Norah Bretton deserves praise as Little Eva; and George Harris and his wife are impersonated in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Eric Williams and Miss Sylvia Harrington.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—A first visit is being paid here this week by Mr. and Mrs. O. Silverstone and Mr. H. Wright's company, in *The Nihilist*. Prominent among other well-played parts are Mr. O. Silverstone as Prince Alexander, Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart, and Mr. George Mitchell as Ivan. The play is admirably staged.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Bucclench.—Heading another enjoyable programme this week is Courtice Pounds and company in *Charles His Friend*, a most enjoyable and exhilarating item. Miss Lilian Dundas and company are making a hit in the dramatic episode, *Convict Nance*. Miss Dundas is conspicuously successful as Nance Arden, and others rendering excellent assistance are Miss Grace Lester, Miss Ruby Warneford, and Mr. Victor Borgetti. The Alex. Piccad Company of pantomimists are smart and humorous in the absurdity *The Burglars of New York*. The Celestas are an entertaining and successful comedy quartette; Rauschle's impersonations of various notabilities are good; Miss Dorothy Dainty, Leicester's phenomenal girl vocalist, is a popular deputy for Phil Parsons, light comedian, also a native of that town; May B. Brilliant is an attractive and chic comedienne and dancer; J. C. Scatter, the Tyneside comedian, and Dacey and Lewis, in a mélange of song, dance, and acrobatics are also entertaining with success. The Bioscope still remains a feature.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Mr. Adderley Howard's company is the leading feature here. Another popular sketch is presented by Miss Dorothy Mullord, entitled *The Right to Live*, in which she is assisted by Mr. Geo R. Wood. Gene Morelle, the ragged virtuoso, is a most entertaining artist; Ada Fawn, a clever burlesque artist, is making a hit; and others giving good shows are Daisy Rhyl American songstress, and May Knight, chorus comedienne.

Grand Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—The leading film this week is the Kinemacolor picture of the London Zoological Gardens.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The two big pictures this week are The Gambler's Fate, or the House of Cards, and In Little Italy. Other very attractive ones are A Clown's Crime, Grandeur and Decadence, Love the Conqueror, A Dream of Paradise, The Lady Detective, &c. Tom Beresford, female impersonator and dancer, is the additional attraction this week.

LEIGH.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—A change to drama is being supplied here by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company in a répertoire of plays, *The Octoroon* being selected for Monday. Mr. Draycott submitted a capital impersonation of Salem; Mr. Clinton Baddeley gave a realistic portrayal of Jacob McCloskey; Mr. St. John Stuart appeared with success as George Peyton; Mrs. Chas. Draycott gave a clever rendition of Zoe, the Octoroon; Miss Shirley Dalton scored as Dora Sunnyside; Miss Louise Millward was an effective Mrs. Peyton; and Mr. J. Dobson Clyde gave a clever character study of Wah-no-Tee. *The Colleen Bawn, The Modern Adventuress*, and *A Stolen Birthright* are among other plays billed.

Assembly Rooms and Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—Good business is being done at this popular house of entertainment. the programme of pictures being popular with all classes. Wee Vesta Henry, juvenile mimic and dancer, finds much favour.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The attractive drama, *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, has been staged here with great completeness by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company. Mr. Wilson Coleman was conspicuous in a powerful rendering of the central rôle of Felix Beverley, and he received excellent support from a strong cast. The part of Geoffrey Langdon received effective interpretation at the hands of Mr. Reginald Brown; and Mr. Cyril Grier, with Mr. Edward E. Louis, made the most of Colonel Miles and Jack Sterling respectively; while in the leading feminine rôle of Mary, the virtuous wife, Miss Kathleen Magee was eminently successful; and Miss Lelia Drummond made a good appearance as the Hon. Mrs. Sands. Sweet Nancy found a suitable representative in Miss Minnie Goepel; Mr. W. Annesley and Mr. Harlands did useful work as Arthur Bellairs and Detective Banks; and the less exacting parts of Thomas, Charles, and Inspector Frost were carefully handled by Messrs. Percy Brown, Alfred G. Raymond, and Charles Drew.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. Marcus D. Draper is presenting *The Christian* this week. Mr. Marcus Draper's John Storm is a strong and earnest impersonation, and Miss Gladys Purnell is a sympathetic and effective Glory Quayle. Polly Love finds a dramatic exponent in Miss Maisie Richardson, Mrs. Callander is excellently interpreted by Miss Rosa Burgess, and Mr. Stephen T. Ewart brings real art to his Lord Robert Ure. Father Lamplugh has a dignified exponent in Mr. Edwin Ling, Mr. Aylmer Williams gives a careful reading of Archdeacon Wealthy, and the other characters are well enacted.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—The De Breans head a strong bill here, in which also appear the Mars Trio, Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna, Harry Keeble, Beech and Aveling company in *Money's Power*, Gladys Wells, and Damerell and Rutland.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Good business was done last week with *The Speckled Band*, which is putting in another six nights.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we have Mr. Tom Watt's company in the "Bullock" version of *East Lynne*, which still possesses attractive powers. Mr. Frank Beresford handles the rôle of Carlyle with tact; Bullock is made particularly funny by Mr. Joe Rowland; Miss Ida Heron pleases everybody with her well-finished portrait of Lady Isobel; and good work also comes from Messrs. John J. Hooker (Francis Levison), Tom Watt (Lord Montsevern), Jerrold Manville (Justice Hare), Eric Lugg (Richard Hare), Miss Eva Morton (Barbara), and Miss Isabel Singleton (Cornelia).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*His Real Wife* is being given here this week by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company. Foremost is Mr. Clifford Rean as the young barrister, Herbert Barton, a part which he presents with much finish and force; Mr. Albert Sember, well-known in Liverpool, handles the rôle of Martin Avondale in fine style; Mr. Frank Lyndon does every justice to the character of General Barton; Mr. Charles Yorke makes a strong Colombe; Mr. T. Edward Ward causes much fun with his Simon Bletherell; Miss Ward earns great recognition for her able Rose Avondale; Miss Clarrie Yandell is a neat Betty Tuttlebee; and Miss Gabrielle Romero fills the role of Lady Welton with credit.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—The attraction is Walter Melville's *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* presented by a worthy company, under the control of Mr. Douglas Bruce. The drama is put on in capital style; Mr. Charles Ashwell shows high talent as the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Charles Sparrow makes a manly Jack England, and speaks his lines with effect; Miss Letitia Rushforth portrays Marian Franklyn in strong manner; the Captain Caversham submitted by Mr. Herbert Morgan affords much satisfaction; Mr. Walter Kellson handles the rôle of James Sutton with credit; Miss Lorraine Stevens earns commendation for her Molly Vernon; and Miss Dorothy Thayer pleases as Rose Seymour.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Karno's latest, *Jimmy, the Fearless*, was billed to appear, but Mike S. Whallen is deputising. Principal this week is the famous Zigeuner Quartet of musical artists, whose excellent entertainment gains for them rounds of applause; the popular Lil Hawthorne appears after her American tour, and has a cordial greeting from many admirers; the Hebrew character songs and stories of Sam Stern prove diverting; Burt Shepard at the piano is particularly rich; a wonderful globe and wire act comes from the Goltz Trio; Harry Bedford is exceedingly popular with his latest, including "Crissie was crossed in love," and his legmania dance; Albert Letine has some clever female character studies; and Phillips and Merritt are a couple of able society entertainers.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—*A Woman of Two Lives* is being played here twice nightly by Miss Hilda Beverley's company, and is receiving considerable patronage. Miss Beverley, in the dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton, acts with much judgment and tact; Miss Mary Brammer handles the part of Lares in capital style; as Lieutenant Tremaine Mr. Jack Armitage stands out prominently; Miss Louise Gilmore pleases generally in the part of Lady Arabella; Mr. Herbert Pearson affords every satisfaction with his Captain West; and others who do well are Messrs. James Jarrett (Garda Khan) and E. Hall Eldon (Dick Smarter), and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande (Lottie London).

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The big line here this week is Dr. Wilmar's smart show, entitled "Spirit Paintings," which is interesting; Jay Laurier, the popular comedian, brings his latest; as dancers, vocalists, and trick pianists, the Jaxon Troupe still hold their own; the comedy work. "On the Links." by the Four Burnells, proves immensely funny; Keen and Waller have a particularly eccentric act; Max Sterling presents several clever illusions; Robb Gilmore, comedian, is exceedingly humorous; and also in the list are the Bartholomew Sisters, duettists and dancers; and La Belle Greta, comedienne and dancer.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here this week are submitting *Straight from the Heart*, a capital melodrama. The principal rôles are held by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Dr. Walton), Sydney Grant (Ventry Fox), R. Seath Innes Brigadier Delmore), Cecil Ravenswood (Captain Nugent), E. D. Allen (Fraser Fry), Leo Montgomery (Louis Raymond), Tom H. Solly (Hawkskawe Dixon), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Harold Nugent), and Miss Florence Cameron (Lolette). Brown's Bioscope shows The New Hotel Sign.

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—His many friends are welcoming the return of Mike S. Whallen, who brings a number of new yarns; Jackson and McLaren are here as tree fellers, their achievements with the axe being regarded with surprise; Joe Boganny's lunatic bakers go through a lively and amusing show; the Martineks have a novel entertainment known as "The Rag Doll"; Harry Claff and Alice Tremaine present *The Demon and the Fairy*, a smart pantomime burlesque; Lily Flexmore shows remarkable powers as a dancer; the comedy and trick cycling of Maxey and Pete is a treat; and contributions also come from Miss Billie Burford, chorus vocalist; and the Sisters Reeve, vocal duettists.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of the bill here this week is the popular Miss Stella Gastelle, who, in conjunction with Mr. Leva Simkin, is delighting everybody with an interesting scena from *La Poupee;* Morny Cash comes with his newest songs; Edwin Garth proves as funny as ever; the Schafer Four are capital comedy musical entertainers, and deserve the rounds of applause they receive; the Four Athos go through a smart show as ball manipulators and novelty acrobats; a remarkable juggling act is presented by the Cromwells; and also in the list are Victoria Dagmar and comedy assistant, in a pleasing and artistic display; and Bert Rayburn, comedian.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's company opened here on Monday for three nights in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Cyril Thompson, as Henri, Marquis de Corneville, did well both in song and action; Mr. E. St. Alban, as Gaspard, was a miser to the manner born; Mr. Arthur Geary as Grenricheaux, displayed the possession of a rich baritone voice; Mr. Fred Dark, as the Bailie, and Mr. Alfred Selby as Gobo, provided excellent humour throughout; Miss Ethel Negretti's singing as Germaine was generously applauded; and Miss Dolly Castles made a dainty and captivating personage of Serpolette. The chorus is excellently balanced, and Mr. Knight Pearce is to be congratulated upon his control of the orchestra. The scenic effects are all that could be wished for.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Pierrots continue to draw crowded audiences, and with the inimitable Mr. C. Reekie as the star turn, the fun is fast and furious. Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe contributes some new songs, and all the other members of the troupe are well up in the art of entertaining.

LLANELLY.—Haggar's Theatre (late Royalty).—Proprietor, Mr. W. Haggar; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—Pictures and varieties are given here this week with much success. The artists include Louie and Wally, clever comedy duettists and burlesque artists; John King and May Rene, in the novel vocal scena, entitled *A Loyal Old Soldier;* and Miss Saxon Devon, a good operatic soprano. The pictures are good.

Picturedrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Samuel; Manager, Mr. H. Stedford.—The pictures shown here are of the best, as usual, and include good ones of the German Zoo. Mr. Levi Harries still entertains as a vocalist.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Doyle and Gibson, comedians, appear in a smart turn this week; the Saxones, musicians, and Tommy Clifford, ventriloquist, also contributing to the general success. The star pictures are Hunting Chamois in the Alps (an excellent film), In the Season of Buds, The Tongue of Scandal, Child of the Ghetto, &c.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The World in Motion entertainment this week has an excellent set of pictures, including The Sheriff's Sacrifice, The Call of the Heart, A Mistake, and other highly-diverting films. The artists are Watson and McQue, who give an entertaining patter and dancing turn, and Annie Blanchard, comedienne.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company are doing excellent business on their initial visit in *The Brass Bottle*. The acting throughout is admirable, and the efforts of the company are well received. Mr. Holman Clark makes a big success as the Genie, and Horace Ventimore finds a capable exponent in Mr. Langhorne Burton. Mr. Percy Marshall does fine work as the Professor, and Mr. Rudge Harding, in his original rôle as Spencer Pringle, is highly meritorious. Miss Mary Brough is distinctly successful as Mrs. Rapkin, and equal praise must be accorded Miss Marjorie Chard (Sylvia) and Miss Edith Hunter (Mrs. Futvoye). *Brewster's Millions* is announced for next week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—In addition to a fine pictorial play the current bill includes Gibbon and Bell, in their sketch, *Wanted, a Partner;* the Canworths, double banjo act; and Chas. Erard at the piano. A skit on the recent big fight, *Black v. White*, affords much amusement.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—The programme here this week includes the Royal Italian Court Opera Trio. Daisy Hicks is a charming comedienne with sweet voice; and the dancing of Clive Watts is clever. Three sketches presented by Courtney and Wilton, Ward and Davis, and Ada Tilley and company are included in the good programme.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Miss Augusta Tullock and her company are appearing in *Judith*. Miss Tullock gives a powerful study of the adventuress, Judus Satoris; Miss D. Vivian is pleasing and sympathetic as Hester Norris; Miss R. Watson submits an excellent study of Lill Scamp; Miss Amy Osborne is amusing as Maude Green; and Miss D. Dainton makes a pleasing Blind Meg. Mr. A. Young gives a capital portrayal of the part of Jack Carrington, while Silas Norris receives an excellent impersonation from Mr. C. H. Hughes. Mr. E. Vivian is conspicuous as Eugene Darville; Mr. Wm. De Lacy as Percy Hogg and Mr. E. King as Sergeant Jones furnishing able representations.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Thos. J. Everton.—The chief films shown here are A Treacherous Maid, The Bitter Bit, Fits and Misfits, A Spanish Romance, Two Little Runaways, Emigrants in Canada, and Baby Pet.

MAESTEG.—Olympic Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Ebley.—*The Daughter of the Million* was played to a full house on Monday. Mr. E. Ebley gave a clever portrayal of Adam Dale, and Miss E. Maitland was seen at her best as Tress. Other members of the company also did well.

Picture Palace.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—An excellent series of pictures is given here. Varieties are furnished by E. J. Sheldon, comedian; and Dome, comedy clay man.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The top turn here is Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and her Posing Ladies, who gain applause for a series of classical art poses, with special scenery and effects; a most amusing turn is given by Ling and Long, who, while doing clever business as jugglers, introduce musical and humorous elements; Victor Courtney at the piano imitates all kinds of musical instruments; Victor Newman gives some fine impersonations of well-known actors; Everard Denton is interesting as an illusionist; Hugo and Smit as horizontal bar comedians cause a deal of laughter; Chas. Sloman, comedian, and Elsie Denby, comedienne, also appear; and the Electric pictures are well received.

MANCHESTER.—Prince's Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. H. P. Towers' company is here in *The Best People*, a smart and entertaining comedy. Quite the best thing in the performance is the Lord Ensworth of Mr. Henry Renouf; good also is the Hon. Mrs. Bayle of Miss Evelyn Summers, an impersonation well supplemented by Miss Irene Lavington as Lady Ensworth. Mr. Frederick Meads is efficient as the Hon. Gerald Bayle; and the other parts are well handled by Mr. Claude Haviland and Messrs. E. J. Trollope and Edward Nimmo. The piece is preceded by an effective duo episode, entitled *Some Showers*, by Pett Ridge, excellently interpreted by Mr. Edward Nimmo and Miss Sylvia Dawson.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Poprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, Mr. J. A. Campbell's latest play, is the attraction here, continuing its initial success.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—Mr. M. D. Waxman and his company are appearing here in a series of Jewish plays.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company occupies the stage here in Charles Clarke's popular drama *A Broken Heart*, which receives an excellent rendering twice nightly. Mr. John L. Millward plays John Barnard, the blacksmith, in forcible style; and Miss Dorothy Haigh is excellent as Mary, his wife. Miss Mamie Thorpe as Grace Fanshaw gives a tactful impersonation; good work is added by Miss Daisy Rochefort as Little May; and valuable assistance is rendered by Mr. Newton Pearce and Miss Nancy Mitchell in light rôles.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—*The Way Women Love* is the attraction here. The play is sensational and very well rendered. Mr. Fred W. Goddard gives a smart and effective depiction of Captain Tremayne, the explorer; and Miss Lily Vaughan acts with due cleverness and sympathy as Violet. Mr. C. Clifford as Leslie Lamont well sustains the sinister interest, powerfully assisted by Mrs. Frank Bateman as Verena Alabra; while Mr. Percy Shaw as Dick Palmer, the whistling comedian, is one of the chief successes of the evening.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—The programme here includes a revival of *Cupid and the Styx*, and the Balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, admirably rendered by Mr. Esmé Percy and Miss Isabel Roland.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The big turns here are Elise Southgate, assisted by James Coward, in her refined violin playing; Terry and Lambert, the American burlesque duo; and Haley's Juveniles, who give a highly-trained performance in song and dance. Other capital items are the Russian dancers, Mlle. Wiszmiakowa and M. Tschoukoff; Arthur Woodville, light comedian and dancer; Ernie Myers, comedian; Friend and Downing, Hebrew comedians; and Lily Lonsdale, an accomplished vocalist.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Meek.—Max Goldberg's successful drama, *Through the Divorce Court*, seen previously by local audiences, is drawing good houses here. Miss Hettie Chattell as Lady Dolores Penarth has the principal opportunities, of which she makes the best possible use; while Mr. Riddell Robinson plays with marked talent as Lord Robert Penarth. Mr. Henry C. Cooper and Miss Edith Cruikshanks have also good parts; and much humour is introduced by Mr. Jack Denton as the Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice and Miss Marcella Hudson as Dinah.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The Polnski Brothers, the patter comedians; Herbert Lloyd, the versatile burlesque artist; and the Royal Zanettos, Japanese jugglers, are the star attractions here. In addition, we have Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas in a capital sketch; Phil Rees' Stable Lads, singers and dancers; Alf. Chester, comedian; Ruby and Laws, in a pleasing romantic quick-change act; A. G. Spry, comedian and dancer; and Amy Marsden, the low-comedy girl.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Miss Carrie Moore, the charming musical comedy artist, is topping the bill here with great success, her topical song being particularly well received. The Seven Perezoffs are remarkably clever in their juggling scena; the Andos Happy Little Japs are as accomplished as ever; Leipzig, deputising for Dan Crawley, indisposed, mystifies with clever tricks; Signor Barbalonga, an Italian baritone, has a pleasing voice; Orpheus is a capable musician; the Kirbys present a really funny comedy act; Willie Gardner cleverly dances on roller and ice skates; and Lillian charms with her cycle act. The Bioscope completes.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—*Venus Up to Date*, a pocket musical comedy presented by Ernest Sivroni, is a very amusing piece; a delightful turn is offered by Bertha Stuart, who is charming and clever as a character vocalist; very winsome is Winnie Winn, comedienne; Edie Coolville sings nicely and dances neatly; Johnny Cecil scores as a light comedian; Dort and Leonard are smart comedy acrobats; Cash and Clair dance exceptionally well; and the bioscope pictures, as usual, are good.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Mr. O. Watson Mill's company is here in *The Love of a Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad makes a capital hero, and is well matched by Miss May Beatrice as Princess Idalia. Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews as Count Danillo supplies a strong contrasting part. Miss Mary Churchill plays Lady Irene in charming style; Mr. John Burton's depiction of Josef, the King of Ilarnia, is a praiseworthy effort; and Mr. F. Palliser Acock acquits himself well in the semi-humorous rôle of Duke Scarfe, a wealthy parvenu.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—An excellent turn is provided by those smart entertainers Jack and Evelyn, who score a big success in their latest skit *Introductions;* Edie Veno makes a hit as an eccentric comedienne; *The Red Man's Home*, presented by S. B. Sanders, American actor-vocalist, ably assisted by Bertha Jones, is greatly enjoyed; Albert Le Fre is a capital comedian; whilst other good turns are provided by Wyll

and Child of the Sea, supported by humorous films.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Mr. H. Armitage's drama *The Greater Love* occupies the boards this week. As the hero Paul Penfold Mr. Campbell Goldsmidt is seen to distinct advantage, and the villainous part of Jack May is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Stanley Bedwell. The other characters are in competent hands.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Carbin's Dogs give a truly wonderful show, and the act is thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by large audiences nightly; Miss Lillie Soutter, a highly-valued comedienne here, is as successful as on former visits to Ironopolis; Miss Agnes Molteno, whose operatic successes on Teesside are remembered with pleasure, gives "An old-time story" with telling effect, the living tableaux introduced adding much to her success; Mme Adah Payne, operatic vocalist, the Aiskarno Trio of risley comedians, Mlle. Aglaia, contortionist, Stewart and Lorraine, in a novel act, George Melvin, Scotch comedian, and the Empire pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Large audiences nightly witness a capital picture show, and a very entertaining speciality turn is given by Royal Togo, whose daring feat of ascending a slanting rope is much applauded.

MUSSELBURGH.—EMPIRE.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Graham Arthurs and J. W. Logan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Bentley.—The old Gaiety under its new name, and also under new management, opened on Aug. 8 with a variety programme. For the first three nights the playlet, *The Soul that Sinneth*, was given, and for the remainder of the week the comedietta *Uncle Jerry* occupied chief place on the bill. Various structural alterations and a scheme of redecoration have been carried out by the new management during the close period, and it is their intention to bring touring companies later in the season.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The production for the first time in Newcastle of a play in one act by Mr. George Keston Malloch, *A Nicht wi' Burns*, attracted an interested audience here on Monday evening. A fine character-study of the poet by Mr. Dickson Moffatt, and the naturalness of Miss Ivy Moss as Jean Armour were the chief features of the production. In the principal piece, *Dan'l Druce*, W. S. Gilbert's romantic drama, Mr. Dickson Moffatt achieves distinction in the title-rôle, and the other characters are effectively portrayed by Miss Mildred Hodson, Mr. Henry Earlesmere, Mr. Sidney Bland, Mr. Norman E. Parnell, Mr. E. Stuart Vinden, Mr. C. Edwardes Horobin, Mr. J. H. Cooper, and Mr. Ernest Harrison.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—The successful drama, *The Stepmother*, made a welcome re-appearance here this week, and on Monday a capital audience followed the play, which is admirably staged and acted. Mr. Wm. Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman play the principal parts, and are well supported by other members of the company.

TYNE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. F. Sutcliffe.—The management here have introduced vaudeville for a season, and on Monday a large and enthusiastic house welcomed the innovation. T. Elder Hearn, the lazy juggler, heads a capital bill, and proves as amusing and entertaining as ever; Gaston Chevallier and Etoil Le Noir, in a scena from a low French café, are responsible for a stirring sketch, in which a Voyan Dance is most effectively carried out. Wallace Galoin is a prestidigitator of special ability, Phil Percival an able pianist with an amusing burlesque, Dulcie King-Lloyd a pleasing vocalist, and May Lilian Levey, Earle and Melville, Lady Gordon Stuart, Henry and Tyler, comedy cyclists, the Three Sisters Sprightly, and May Gilder and George Fay all contribute capital turns.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells.—That weird playlet, *The Monkey's Paw*, is at the head of a fine bill this week. Mr. John Lawson himself is with the company, and is well supported. The Two Anartos are responsible for a turn, in which the patter is unusually bright, whilst Fred Poplar has hit upon a clever idea. He turns the House of Commons into Liberty Hall, and every celebrity "does his little bit." Up to date in all things, Conn and Conrad are abreast of the times in their aviation sketch; Kitty Wager sings in charming style; and Miss Marquis' ponies, Hilda Jacobsen, musical comedy actress, Little Keeno, and Bert Weston are all responsible for clever and entertaining items.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—An excellent programme of pictures is presented here, the most notable being A Plucky Russian Maid, The Cowboy's Sweetheart, Adventures in the Golden Valley, and The Unchanging Sea. The illustrated songs furnished this week by Miss Zanazzi are The Song that Finds an Echo in My Heart and I Wonder if it's True.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The pictures here are good and amusing. A Trip in the Mediterranean is a pretty travel picture and The Resurrection of Lazarus instructive, whilst excellent dramatic subjects are found in After Many Years, The Boss of Bar X Ranch, Brother, Sister, and Cowpuncher, and The President's Special.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Some capital pictures are shown here this week, including The Gold-seekers, Baradello, The Lost Trail, His Last Game, &c.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Grace Warner and her company opened here on Monday with *The Wages of Sin*. As Ruth Hope Miss Warner displayed considerable ability; Mr. George Gordon acquitted himself admirably as the Rev. George Brand; Mr. Frank Esmonde made a capital Steven Marler; Mr. Roy Rinde scored as Harry Wentworth; Mr. Frank Hertie was successful as Josiah Deane; and Ned Drummond was in the safe hands of Mr. Louis Nanton; Miss LaHah Price was good as Barbara Dale; Miss Florence M. Daly made a hit as Jemima Bloggs; and Miss Lizzie Palmer made good use of her opportunities as Julianna Bloggs. *East Lynne* is also billed.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The Five Musical Marvels vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists, are much appreciated here; the Three Sisters Eston are smart trapezists; Eugene is an accomplished lady baritone vocalist; Jack Holland, eccentric comedian, presents an attractive turn; the Rimmels are clever hand balancers; and others who appear successfully are Jennie Roberts, comedienne and dancer; and the Singing Box-makers, vocalists. The pictures are, as usual, greatly enjoyed.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company are staying another week, and are playing *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Fox enacted Jack with dramatic force; Farmer Garth is played with telling effect by Mr. C. Hallett, and Miss Evie Green as his wife displayed much ability. Mr. Whitmore Ledger gives a finished picture of the villainous Duncan Bly, and Miss Mabel Phillips' portrayal of Lillian Garth secures the sympathies of the audience. The Bioscope pictures are popular.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—On Thursday and Friday a performance of *His Excellency the Governor* was given by several ladies and gentlemen in aid of the funds of the Norfolk County Cricket Club, organised by Mrs. Ailwyn Fellowes.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Foreman and Fannan, the mad millionaires, create much laughter; Fred Land, eccentric comedian, is popular; Miss Maggie Walsh, the original Lancashire singing mill girl, gets a good reception for her pleasing turn; Mlle. Dalmere's novel table circus, with performing rabbits, cats, dogs, &c., exhibits marvellous animal training; the Hartley Wonders perform some extraordinary jumping feats; the Tissots, as living marionettes, are clever; Les Davenports display some real conjuring tricks; the Three Rochesters appear in a pleasing drawing-room act, introducing Babs, the smallest barefoot sand-dancer; whilst the pictures on the Hippo. Bio are interesting.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs. Goodman Brothers; Manager, Mr. Syd Goodman.—The Premier Pierrots are having a most successful season. Miss Effingham and Miss Cissie Scott are firm favourites, whilst Miss Delmore pleases greatly with her songs and 'cello solos. Mr. Jack Bonny (tenor), Mr. Lawrence Howard (baritone) and Mr. Leslie Sears (comedian), with Mr. Lockwood as accompanist, all contribute pleasing items.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynn's Madcaps take well here. Mr. Bert Gordon proves an excellent manager, and materially contributes to the programme. Mr. Sandy Lawson (Scotch) and Mr. Harry Cove (baritone) are also successful. Miss Vi Huntley secures favour. Miss Marjorie Cecil and Miss Chrissie Murray receive hearty greetings, whilst Mr. Will Hoppe's selections are cleverly rendered. On Tuesday Miss Cecil took her benefit, and a bumping response from her friends testified their appreciation of the strenuous efforts she had made to please during the season.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. James Willard's modern dramatic play *Paying the Price*, is here this week. Mr. Willard cleverly doubles the rôles of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman; Mr. Jackson Wilcox is responsible for a finished impersonation of Dick Clinton, and Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas is good as Hon. Cecil Dalrymple; Miss Gem Lloyd has a pretty appreciation of humour, and acts admirably as Lord Delemere's daughter. Nell Fortescue, the adventuress, has an able exponent in Miss Margaret Damer; Mr. Frank Medhurst as Vortoone does good work, and Messrs. William Douglas, John Farley, and Richie Bell all add to the success. Praise is also due to Misses Winnie Leslie and Edith Dale for their conscientious efforts, while Tiger, the trained dog actor, is also a valuable member of the company.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*A Sailor's Wedding* is here this week. Mr. Stanley Harrison is a manly Gordon Drake, Sir Victor Lascelles being carefully represented by Mr. Cecil Klein. Mr. Alfred Fisher as Count Bellini does good work, and Mr. J. H. Darnley as Ferici is excellent. Mr. Frank Bertram, an excellent comedian, is responsible for some very funny business. Miss Denny FitzHerbert as Polly does well, and the impersonation of Countess Bellini by Miss Daisy Gwynne is a very finished one. Miss Madge Monk makes a sympathetic Mary, and Miss Olive Warne as the adventuress and Miss Celestine Bertram as her maid play their parts well. Messrs. Kidger, Fawcett, Brandon, Douglas, and Coates complete a strong company.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The marvellous illusionist Horace Golden, assisted by Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli, nightly succeeds in mystifying and entertaining crowded houses; Ernie Mayne, the "simple comedian," is extremely funny; Katie Moss, vocalist and entertainer, presents an enjoyable turn; and Ethel Beech, a dainty comedienne, and Alice Kingsley, a sweet contralto, add considerably to the enjoyment of the audience. The Glenroy troupe of dancers are pleasing performers, and the singing of Tom Costello and the witticisms of Jack Lane are highly appreciated. Roze and Calvert as Captain Kettle and his mate, appeal to large sections of the house, and excellent films on the Bioscope complete.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The Six Veronas submit an interesting and clever cycling act; Sandy McNab is quaint and funny in the laughable sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*; Lillian French is a clever mimic, whilst Pat Lynch dances himself into instant favour. Russell and Held, in song and dance, present an appreciated turn, and Les Arabellas on the wire are clever. The Almas hold an enviable position as equilibrists and tumblers; T. W. Barrett is a funny comedian, and the eccentricies on skates of Milton Bros. are amusing and clever. The Bioscope pictures complete.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here in *Driven from Home*. Miss Ryder appears as Laura Raybrooke with success, and also plays well as Walter Hatherleigh, the younger; Mr. Felix Pitt is excellent as Anthony Raybrooke, and Mr. P. George Beresford as Walter Hatherleigh does good work; Mr. John B. Shinton is convincing as Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. E. Finlay acts cleverly as Dick Saunders; another successful impersonation is the Willie of Mr. Percy Dawsone; Miss Susie Beaven as Margaret Bailey is good, as is Miss A. Williams as Mrs. McCarthy; and Miss Emily Burnley is capital as Barbara Ashdown; Mr. Fred C. Imbert is a humorous John Anderson; and Mr. Howard Thornley as George Blissold is also good.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*Every Inch a Man* is being played here by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs and his company; Mr. Sidney Bayliss acts in manly fashion as Dick Barnet; Daniel Barnet is convincingly played by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs; Miss Mabel Elliott acts in a sympathetic manner as Vera Maxwell; Miss Mildred Eversleigh as Mrs. Edwards is excellent, and Miss Ada Bond, as her son Teddy, is highly diverting; Miss Molly Richardson as Martha is good; Mr. Ralph A. Armfield makes a capital Alderman Barnet, and Mr. Joe Barker a fine old soldier of Ben Brown; Mr. Arthur Jarvis is an amusing Marmaduke Poole Martin.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—The topliner is a fine dramatic film, From Shadow to Sunshine. Other dramas pictured are A Noble Forgiveness, A Sick Child, and The Tempting Collar, which are well worth seeing. Pathé's travel pictures are fine examples in colour photography, and the Pathé journal is also good. Laughter is caused by Tontoline as a Ballet Girl, Betty's Ball of String, and Juliet Wants to Marry. Mr. Robert Leach is very successful in his song "To the end of the world with you."

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The New Boss of Bar X Ranch is full of exciting incidents, and In Times of the Pharaohs held the audience enthralled. Some amusing pictures are also shown.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—The Minotaur is an excellent picture, and The Heart of a Heathen Chinee is another fine drama; A Victim of Jealousy is also good. Miss Chorley contributes an illustrated song.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm Brown.—Some good pictures are depicted here, An Act of Honesty being particularly interesting. Brown's Weekly News continues to be appreciated, and amongst the comedy films The Kids' Strike is enjoyed.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Milton Bode's variety season (manager for Milton Bode, Mr. W. L. Murray). For the second week of Milton Bode's season, a very excellent programme is presented, and, judging by the full houses at both shows, is fully appreciated. Among the most interesting items are Miss Elsie and her cousin Bob, who perform some wonderfully clever acrobatic tricks; Sisters Edwards, vocalists and dancers; Dennis and Morris, dancing experts; Colina May, comedienne; Fred Colley and Minnie Scott, are very amusing as comedy entertainers; while Tod Lowen has a most enthusiastic reception and is a general favourite with his "old melodies." The honours of the evening undoubtedly fall, quite deservedly to Charburn's Troupe of Young Stars in their scena *A Picnic Up the River*. They all sing in a most creditable style and are heartily encored for a really neat and clever turn.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Carr Loates' company is here on a return visit with *At the World's Mercy*. Included in the week's bill are also *A London Outcast* and *The Convict's Wife*. In the first-named play Mr. Carr Loates portrays Jabez Barber with his accustomed care and restraint; while Mr. Alfred Burrows gives a vigorous interpretation of Morris Goldstein; and Mr. F. Overton does well as Slouching Sam; as Charley Smart, Mr. W. H. Irving causes great merriment; and Mr. Fred Muntz makes an effective Captain Frank Manley; Miss Maggie Hobart makes an attractive heroine as Alice Lloyd; and Miss May Douglas easily wins the sympathy of her audience as Dot. Miss Cissie Milford repeats her well-known clever and versatile performance in the dual rôle of Skittles and Kitty Knott, and sustains both parts most creditably.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—This house of entertainment was opened on Monday after the summer vacation, during which period the interior was made singularly bright by being re-decorated. The play staged was *My Irish Molly*, and was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company. Mr. St. John Medley played excellently as Dennis O'Guire; Mr. Gordon Robey handled the part of Captain Vere with commendable success; as Father McGuire, Mr. Kenyon Gray gave a faithful delineation; Mr. Carl Edwards kept the fun well sustained in his humorous portrayal of Billy Slim; and clever assumptions were rendered by Mr. Edward Firth as Tim Dolan and Mr. Will Richards as Murphy Sullivan; Miss May Warden triumphed in the title-rôle, contributing a capital embodiment; Miss Elma C. Turner capably enacted the part of Lady Blanche; and meritorious were the performances of Misses Katie Norris, Rosie Kearns, and Yoonne Laing.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The picture shows continue to be a great attraction at this house and are the means of invariably filling the establishment at each performance. This week there is a splendid series of pictures, the most interesting being perhaps A Child of the Ghetto. In addition to the pictures, variety turns are provided by Nellie Langtry, contralto vocalist, in popular songs finely illustrated, and Tom N. Mills, in his up-to-date scena, *John Bull at Home*, both artists being heartily appluaded.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Barger; Business-Manager, Mr. Norman Barger.—Mr. James Stephens and his répertoire company continue, this week presenting *East Lynne* to good houses. Mr. Charles Conyers gives an admirable representation of Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Bryce Methuen does well as Archibald Carlyle; Francis Levison has an excellent exponent in Mr. J. Gordon Miller; Mr. A. Roote plays well as Richard Hare; Justice Hare is cleverly portrayed by Mr. James Stephens; Miss Nora Bedford well sustains the part of Lady Isabel; Miss Lucie Victor does well as Barbara Hare; Miss Agnes Stephens as Little Willie is decidedly good, and other rôles are all well placed.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, presented *The Old Home* here on Friday and Saturday last. Mr. Sidney Rennef played well as Daddy Dean; Mr. John Blake, as the Rev. Eric Armstrong, was impressive; Mr. Alec Finlayson was good as Sam Adams; Mr. George Steel was excellent as Lord Avondale; Miss Gertrude Bonser as Hazel Dean was charming; whilst Miss Harriette Loydall deserves praise for her exposition of Bridget Donaghan.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—The attraction here is Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *When Knights Were Bold*, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Howard. Mr. Sam Lysons as Sir Guy de Vere causes no end of amusement. Mr. Alec Forbes makes a good Isaac Isaacson, and Miss Hilda Waldorf is well placed as Miss Isaacson. Miss Elsie Roberts is charming as Lady Rowena, her acting being exceedingly good.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—This week marks the commencement of the theatrical season here, and on Monday Mr. Morton Powell presented his company in the realistic drama, *How Girls Are Brought to Ruin*. The theatre was well filled.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Merry Widow* is again delighting large audiences here. Miss Louie Pounds, in the title-rôle, gives a most fascinating portrayal; Mr. Lionel Victor keeps the house convulsed as Marsovia; Mr. Tom Redmond, as Nisch, fulfils all expectations; and Mr. John Williams works hard as Novikovitch; Mr. Basil Foster as Prince Danilo submits an admirable impersonation; Mr. Edward McKeon presents the part of Viscount de Jolidon with becoming reserve; Miss Victoria Sievers is delightfully fresh and unconventional as Natalie, and Miss Gwendoline Brogden executes a couple of dances cleverly.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Mr. George Leyton in *Lucknow* is a leading attraction, while ten local veterans with a brilliant array of medals add a fine touch of realism to the piece; Cornalla and Eddie are responsible for some real fun in a diverting tumbling and acrobatic act; the Bros. O'Brien perform several daring feats on the horizontal bar, which are applauded; the Six Manchester Lads contribute a first rate vocal and dancing number; Alice Blandford, described as the "Australian Nightingale," contributes a couple of popular numbers in pleasing style; Royston and Bradfield have an amusing sketch, *The Bailiff and the Actress*; and Tom Joy proves himself a popular comedian. The Bioscope depicts the recent fight between Johnson and Burns.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—Venturini, Continental illusionist, heads the bill, and gives a clever performance, "The disappearing lady in mid-air" and "The glass trunk mystery" being his chief illusions. Tom Forestier and company present a dramatic playlet, *A Society Sinner*; Escourt, mimic, humorist, and fantaisist, is responsible for a smart act; Percy Upton, character comedian, keeps the house amused; Stanley's art pictures of war scenes and facsimiles from famous masters is an elevating turn; Maudie Vere, comedienne, the Suttons, refined duettists, Colin Carlisle, comedian, and the Alexscope complete the programme.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Miss Florence Baines and company have made a big hit here with the musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, the houses being packed nightly. Miss Baines is exceptionally witty and lively as Mary Ellen Thompson; Mr. W. E. Passmore is a clever exponent of Moses Goldberg; Miss Mollie Shine is very pleasing as Eva Lancashire; and Miss Maud Locker is highly strung as Mrs. Thompson. Miss Frances Ferina is an austere Bertha; Mr. David Donaldson is very good as John Higgins, as also is Mr. Chas. Swinburne as Harry Higgins; Mr. Henry Lloyd and Mr. Joseph Burley are excellent as Grant, the butler, and Fox, the lawyer; Mr. Hubert Mitchell is commendable as George; and Mr. Payne Fletcher is a capable John Henry Thompson.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Miss Winifred Maude presents *The Sins of a City* here with great success. As Seaweed Miss Maude makes a hit, and Mr. Du Cane as Isaac Levi is very effective; as Sandy McDonald and Donald McIvor, Mr. William Vane and Mr. Harold Heath prove very capable actors; Mr. William Bradford as Ralph Blackwater, K.C., is agreeably conspicuous; and the dual part of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh is cleverly acted by Mr. Maurice Jones; Jenny is capably played by Miss Glad Maxwell; Miss Ethel Crauford gives a finished impersonation of Lesbia L'Estrange; Miss Mona Leslie, Miss Violet Hicks, Miss Annie Megson, and Miss Mabel Lane all are deserving of mention.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—The return visit of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's talented company with *The Arcadians* was welcomed by a large audience. Mr. Gus Oxley as Simplicitas and Smith is as mirth-provoking as ever, while Mr. Geo. Hestor's dry humour as Peter Doody convulses the audience. Vocal honours were scored by Miss Marion Edwardes as Sombra; Miss Gladys Silvain made a charming Chrysea; Miss Mysie Devine was a captivating Eileen Cavanagh; Mr. H. Nelson Hancock scores as Jack Meadows; Bobby, Sir Geo. Paddock, and Time are rôles well filled by Messrs. Freddie Bentley, H. Fairfax, and Berkeley Davies; and Miss Madge Haines humorously portrayed Mrs. Smith.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Agate.—A good company is this week presenting *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. Bonhote Wilson gives a capital rendering of George Maddison; Lucy, his wife, being charmingly impersonated by Miss Alice Bover. Mr. W. H. Porter makes a suitable villain, and is well aided by Miss Vera Grafton as Lady Lucretia; whilst Mr. T. Macdonald as Geoff Broughton and Miss K. Merrick as Petty Lovejoy provide the comedy relief.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain R. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss Alice Raymond successfully presents her scena, *A Night in Egypt*; Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, provides some good humour; the De Wynne Brothers score as skilled acrobats; Sid Bandon is an amusing character comedian; and other turns that please include Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne; Cromo and Hamilton, burlesque artists; and Barrett and Knowles, comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The big turn this week is provided by the Jewels, in their weird and fantastic production, *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*; the Four Amaranths, in their acrobatic dancing act, are seen to advantage; Tom Stuart cleverly burlesques vaudeville artists; the Harmony Four give an amusing musical knockabout turn; a wonderful exhibition of trick cycling is submitted by Minnie Kaufmann; Chinko (the young juggler), Du Foi Trio (agile dancers and vocalists), David Poole (ventriloquist), and Denaro Brothers (head and hand balancers) also supply entertaining turns.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Contributors to the entertainment here are Darracq, the Twelve Kennedy Girls, George French, Stephen Adeson and company in *The Housebreaker*, Willie Allen, the Brothers Schillinsky, Will Polusky, jun., Boden and Bell.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—On Monday the Cherniavski Trio of instrumentalists, together with Miss Byam Yates and Mr. Percival Driver, occupied the platform. On Thursday the Welsh Glee Society, assisted by Miss Leah Felissa and Mr. C. Walters, paid their first visit here. Friday (yesterday) Mr. Pélissier's company, the Follies, were announced, and on Sunday afternoon, Zacharewitch, the violinist, with Miss Marie Fromm (pianist) and Miss Jeanne Hugo (elocutionist) will be the entertainers.

CLARENCE PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Cuddy.—The Excelsiors (Misses Ona Ashton, Alice Singleton, Nora O'Malley, Messrs. Harker Holt, Frank M. Quinn, Frank Crawford, and Ernest Lord) crowd the Pavilion daily.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Alban Newton.—This house reopened for the season on Monday with Mr. Stephen Pritt's company in his own drama *Almost his Bride*, which was produced at this theatre some twelve months ago. Mr. Stephen Pritt has a part that suits him admirably in Simon Simson, a butler, and he meets with a hearty reception. Mr. Ridgwood Barrie makes an excellent Squire Rowland, whose son has a manly representative in Mr. Morris Maud; as the "villain of the piece" Mr. C. Quinton as Jasper Thorne makes a cool and calculating rogue; and Miss Lydia Donovan is excellent as the scheming adventuress, Myra Thorne. Mr. J. O. Stephenson is decidedly good as the Earl of Ullswater; Miss Mary Neilson as Emma Baxter adds to the comedy element in a vivacious manner, especially in her humorous interludes with Simon; Miss Sophie Rees as Ruth Gilchrist and Miss Kathleen Stewart as Moyna Gilchrist are good in their respective parts. The play is capitally staged.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Auguste Van Biene and company top the bill in a new and clever little sketch, *Karl's Luck*, in which the actor-musician has full scope for his abilities. He is well supported by Mr. Geo. H. Child and Miss Violet Vaughan. Lady Mansel's troupe of juveniles have a clever sketch, *A Concert Rehearsal*, wherein to display their specialities; Alick Lauder, a Scotch comedian has some catchy songs; the Columbia Comedy Trio combine music with comedy in a very clever manner; Clifton and Gibson are eccentric comedians; Bros. Curran, boxing comedians, who give a most amusing turn; Captain Ellis and Son are expert musicians. The Gold Seekers on the bioscope is a first-rate film.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company is here in *Facing the World Alone*. Mr. Royce Carlton plays with much dramatic power as Caleb Valentine; Mr. Chas. O'Connor has an unenviable part as Captain the Hon. Reginald Parkhurst, but plays it well; Mr. R. Wilton is a firm favourite as Bernard Avory; Mr. Guy P. Ellis gives a clever portrayal of the East End tough, Jim Moulder; Mr. Harold Forde is also good as the unscrupulous James Sudbury; Mr. William S. James is a capital Jeames; and Mr. Alfred Stannard causes much amusement as Constable Trapper. Mr. J. J. Broadbent is a typical example of official red tapeism as Warder Smart; Miss Nellie Garside gives a most touching rendering of Melia Burgess; Miss Flora Hastings makes a sympathetic Lady Cecilia Constantine; and Miss Ethel Van Praagh as the Duchess of Pimlico plays in a manner that calls for highest praise.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman. Large audiences were attracted on the first three evenings of the week by *The Arcadians*. The show was brilliantly presented. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson, in the dual rôle of James Smith and Simplicitas, was splendid; Mr. Alfred Beers was a big success as Peter Doody, "the mournful jockey"; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald was a capital Jack Meadows; and Mr. Wallace G. Court, Mr. John Montague, and Mr. Horace Nye were extremely good in their respective parts. The chief ladies' parts were charmingly filled by Miss Sybil Tancredi (Sombra), Miss Violet Roberts (Chrysea), Miss Gertryde Aylward (Mrs. Smith). On Thursday evening Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company commenced a three-nights engagement in Mr. Somerset Maugham's well-known comedy *Smith*.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Charles Price.—*The Girls of Gottenburg*, by Messrs. Wray and Hurgon's clever company, gave great satisfaction to Pavilion audiences on the first three days of the week. The part of the audacious valet Max (masquerading as a German officer of high degree) was filled in diverting fashion by "Smith," the comedian who was discovered in London a few months ago. Other chief male parts are handled with skill by Messrs. J. D. Douglas (Otto), R. Corry (Albert), Tom Foy (Britel), &c. Miss Dora Langham was a bewitching Mitzi, Miss Beryl Vaudrey a dainty Elsa, and Miss Gracie Desmond a vivacious Clementine. All the other characters were excellently interpreted, and the singing, dancing, and general *ensemble* were of the best. On Thursday evening Mr. George Dance's company commenced a three-nights engagement with *Our Miss Gibbs*.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. J. Attack.—Large houses have been the order at the Marina Theatre and Picturedrome this week. Manager Attack has submitted an interesting and up-to-date programme of animated pictures, and some really first-rate turns have been given by the Keppels, operatic vocalists, who have introduced into their drawing-room scena a highly-talented baritone, Stanley Keppel. Encores have been numerous.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Sutton Vane is presenting a stirring drama, entitled *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*, in admirable style this week. Miss Mabel Coleman as Nellie and Miss Florence Zillwood as Constance, the two sisters from Lancashire, both sustain their parts admirably; Mr. Robert Gilbert plays effectively as the unfortunate and wrongfully-accused inventor, John Edmunds; Mr. Caspar Middleton is an able representative of Jonas Dean; Mr. T. Dennis Byron is quite at home in the part of the Rev. Frank Selby; Mr. Tom Newell makes a typical Lancashire lad as Sam Hallett; Mr. Dan Mining as Jim Price, Mr. Frank Irwin as Ratty Gabbit, Miss Cissie Bellamy as Bessie Edmunds, Miss Rita Corri as Lucy, and Miss Doris Kelvey as the energetic coffee-shop proprietress all sustain their parts with ability, and the other parts are well filled. The play is elaborately and effectively mounted.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry.—Master Edward Garrett creates immense hilarity as a diminutive member of Parliament in the sketch *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, which is presented by Bellew and Stocks' company. The Famous Newmans, American trick cyclists, give a wonderfully clever show; Fred Maitland provides great fun in the farcical extravaganza *Roots, Rash Chemists*; the Brothers Weltman, acrobats and whirlwind dancers, give a capital performance; Charles Clifford is an accomplished solo harpist; and other good turns are supplied by Rose Camby, comedienne and burlesque artist; Fred Durban, light comedian; and the Darntons, harmony vocalists and soloists; and some good pictures are shown on the Bioscope. Mr. Clarke-Richardson, the new musical director, is acting very efficiently as orchestral conductor.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mrs. E. H. Knight is presenting the thrilling drama *The Lighthouse Robbery*, which drew a large house on Monday, when Miss Hilda Bayton was seen to advantage as Rosa Prescott. Mr. Percy Beresford ably sustained the part of Uncle Davie; Tom Manley was satisfactorily represented by Mr. G. H. Ingram; Baby Freda was a clever little exponent of the waif Little Nellie; Mr. T. H. Lawson as William Farren and Mr. F. H. Fortesque as James Hammond do good work; Mr. Rupert Talbot makes the most of the comical character of Sam Kidder; a capital Mrs. Manley is provided by Miss Alice Dent; and Miss Louise Carlton makes a charming Ruth Manley.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Ella Shields has some new songs, her clever singing of which cause much enthusiasm; *The System* is a cleverly-worked funny sketch by Blake and Granby; the Selbit Mystery is an amazing "spiritualistic" demonstration, and gets much applause; Andrews and Thompson sing well in *The Rube and the Romany*; Mamie Fenton gives some very pleasing Scotch songs; Hall Bert, the elastic comedian, keeps the audience in roars with his funny antics; Molly Maguire, the singing colleen, gets much praise; and pleasing turns also include Gwennie Morgan, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*For Honour and Revenge*, by A. McLeod Loder, is this week presented by Montague Beaudyn's company. Mr. G. M. Montanini makes Sir Gilbert Redville a thorough villain, and the foolish son Arthur Redville is well played by Mr. Howard Hardy. Mr. Herbert Woodin as Joe Reckitts and Miss Madge Palmer as Nancy O'Brien contribute to the comedy business. Miss Netta Mitchell is a charming Mary, and Miss Stella Carmichael forcibly presents Maude Desmond. James Galston is ably portrayed by Mr. Eric Turner. Mr. Charles Russell (Harry Travers) and the other members of the company also do excellent work.

OPERA HOUS

The Power of the King, was acted to a large audience on Monday, by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. The piece deals with exciting incidents in the imaginary central European country of Vallombrosa, and love and intrigue play their parts around the charming person of the Lady Anastasia, who has a distinguished representative in the talented author of the piece, Mr. Kimberley; Miss Lyndon is good as Lady Florina; and dramatic impersonations are the King of Mr. Charles Whitlock, the Prince Oscar of Mr. Arthur St. John, and the Capt. Fritz of Mr. Clavering Craig. The costumes, scenery, and decorations are admirable.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Still Alarm* is being played this week by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. Mr. Matthew Glenville acts with care and distinction as the gallant young fireman, Jack Manley; Mr. Wilton Reed was effective as a New York "man-about-town"; Mr. H. C. Gilpin made a humorous Doc Wilbur; Miss Minnie Willett was a ladylike and graceful Elinore Fordham; and other characters were well played by Miss Lydia Audrey, Miss Verlon, and Messrs. Edward Hobart, Mr. Gerald Shirley, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. George Owen, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. C. Barnard, and Mr. Edwards.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The welcome visits of that original and mirth-provoking comedian Mr. Fred Kitchen are eagerly anticipated here, and the entrance of the popular artist on Monday in his new and droll creation, Private Potts, in the laughable absurdity *Potts*, was the signal for rounds of hearty applause; Miss Lily Burnand, a pantomime favourite, sings with her accustomed dash, and dresses in resplendent costumes; Guyer and Valle are vivacious vocalists and dancers; and other performers are Miss Neily Farrell the "glittering star of Erin," with pleasing ditties; the pretty and accomplished Belle-Belles; the Two Findens, sketch artists; Mr. Arthur Slater, whistler; and Miss Gwennie Llewellyn, comedienne. The Bioscope concludes.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The top line attraction here is Mr. Fred Karno's new comic extravaganza, *Justice Perkins*, with the droll and amusing comedian Mr. Albert Bruno in the character of the magistrate, supported by a strong company. The smart coon vocalists and dancers Rastus and Banks are tremendous favourites with Hippodrome patrons; the Sisters Grovini are pretty, elegant, and daring lady gymnasts; and the Bros. Ashley, burlesque boxers, &c.; Dolly and Rosie, duettists; Miss Jessie Templeton, vocalist; the Four Royal Scots; the Heeseye, novelty performers; the Bioscope, with artistic films; and Mons. Yangar, in a clever illusionary entertainment.

The Picture Palace, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Shaw.—The new and up-to-date picture theatre has "caught on." Notable new films presented this week are A Trip on the Makong, a series of picturesque scenes, The Doctor of the Foothills; a pathetic film drama of Western life; The Bath-chair Attendant, a comic episode; and other interesting motion pictures.

SMETHWICK. — Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. R. Hewitson.—Mr. C. Carlton Wallace's company are here with *A Thief in the Night*. Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a fine study of the part of Alan Escombe; Michael Pagani is powerfully impersonated by Mr. Leyton Chancellor; Mr. Hugh Wallace is an efficient Lord Romily; Miss Florence Dalton plays the part of Joan Recombe in a convincing manner; and in the hands of Miss Beatrice Homer the part of Sonia Cleeve is effectively represented. The comedy element is entrusted to Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby; Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Crake; and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Happy Christmas, and they create much amusement. Other parts are well looked after by Messrs. Dean Cliffe (Richard Cleeve), Philip Crossley (Rev. Chas. Halkett), Robert Merrick (Detective Laxton), Henry Stanton (Police Inspector), Miss Ethel Watkins (Susan), and Little Doris (Little Joan). Special local pictures were shown on the Bioscope.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here in *The Naked Truth*. Mr. Stanley Logan is admirably suited to the part of Bunny; Mr. Townsend Whitling is excellent as James Darrell, the peppery uncle from India; Mr. E. Besley Beltram gives a natural study as Mr. Hayter; and Mr. Erskine Lang is amusing as Teddy. Miss Violet Ley scores a success as Mrs. Hayter; and Miss Kathleen Maude as Norah and Miss Dora Fellowes as Madame Favre are both excellent. *Feed the Brute* is a capital curtain raiser.

Hippodrome.—Managers, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. W. de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—The G. Osborne Burgoyne troupe of dancers are very successful in *Les Idolatres*; the Craggs are as popular as ever in their *Channel Queen* knockabout act; Hayman and Franklin create roars of laughter with their *Matrimonial Agency* sketch; and James Fawn is very popular. The juggling McBanns, the Vetter Brothers, and Chorley and Conner complete the bill.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—On Monday evening Mr. Albert Chevalier and his company appeared in a song recital, which was largely attended. On Tuesday and Wednesday the Brython (Welsh) Glee Society gave concerts, and the week-end attraction is provided by the Royal Korrie Entertainers, who submit a refined vaudeville and musical entertainment.

Philharmonic Hall and Empire Theatre.—These popular Walturdaw picture palaces continue to do good business. The films shown are excellent, and highly appreciated.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison present *Brewster's Millions*, which won great admiration from a large audience. Mr. Percy Hutchison created great enthusiasm by his clever and studious impersonation of Monty Brewster; Miss Lilias Earle was entirely successful in her portrayal of Mrs. Dan de Mille; Miss Dorothy Whitaker as Margaret Grey gave a pleasing and talented interpretation; and the Misses Marian Ripley as Janice Armstrong, Phyllis Stuckey as Barbara Drew, and May Seton as Trixie Clayton were capable exponents. Mr. Gordon Ash made a capital character of Charlie Harrison; Mr. A. P. Kaye was humorous as M. Bargie; and other successful impersonations were those of Messrs. Robert Forsyth, A. Andrews, Henry Hampson, Aubrey Mather, Arthur Bell, Andrew Wight, Otho Hazlewood, U. F. Plinge, and George Salver.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Pictures by the London Cinematograph Co. are varied and enjoyable. The artists are Miss Marguerite Worthem, clever solo violinist, and Miss Doris Perry, an entertaining comedienne.

The Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burg. — The Brothers Gerard sing and dance cleverly; Louise Zeitland is a vocalist with a beautifully clear voice; Spalding and Rego create roars of laughter in a comedy acrobatic performance; Jessie Berg is a violinist of high attainments; Kelly and Gillett introduce their remarkable jumping exploits on a billiard-table; Alf Brooks and Roland Martin sing good comic songs; Lottie Bellman and Boy Russell in *Bits of Vaudeville* are clever. The concluding turn is the dramatic episode *Exposure*, in which Mr. Geo. Stormont as the Count Bravani, Mr. Fred Harker as Frank Sherwood, Mr. Wilfred E. Shine as the able Lenotre, Claud Bigwood as an officer of police, Miss Leoni Pascal as Lucy, and Miss Nora Brocklebank as Viola, all do excellent work.

Luna Park and Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—The retention of Mr. Claude Ginnett and company in the equestrian spectacle *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* is popular; Mr. Ginnett is an able exponent of Dick Turpin. A clever comedy bar act is done by the Walonells; Miss Marjorie Ward's contralto singing is enjoyed; *Aunty's Visit* is well explained by Miss Amy Hunter and company; Gladys Clinton is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Dan Kennedy entertains as a comedian. Astley and Lorenzo's Circus are giving three daily performances; and the outdoor attractions, Figure Eight, Scenic and Miniature Railways, and the Joy Wheel all gain good patronage.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison.—Messrs. Alfred Panmier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company, in the romantic play *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, is fulfilling an engagement here this week. The rôle of Princess Monica was charmingly and effectively enacted by Miss Annie Saker; Mr. G. Mayor-Cook submits a capital impersonation of Prince Hildred; Mr. Ernest Cox is very successful in his portrayal of Prince Olaf; Prince Michael had a very capable representative in Mr. Lionel Gadsden; Miss Jessica Black is a commendable exponent of Viola; as Camiola Miss Flossie Hale Daviss gives a good account of herself; Captain Hector was well played by Mr. Fred D. Daviss; Mr. Charles V. Sandford gives a praiseworthy representation of Lieutenant Stromberg, and the minor characters are all ably depicted.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—The attraction here is *When Woman Hates*, presented by Mr. Bulmer's company. Mr. Richard Ferris makes a manly and impressive Lieut. Fred Rokeby; Mr. Austin Mortimer is good in the part of Godfrey Lawton; and the same may be said of Mr. Percy Folliss as Capt. Hiram Vanoutson. Miss Dorris Brookes as Cora Daintry enacts the part in a vigorous and resourceful style; Miss Ada Oakley makes a sympathetic Marie Rokeby; and the comedy element is adequately supplied by Miss Mary Dalby (Mrs. Sally Potts), Mr. Reg. Oldroyd (Alphonse Picolet), and Evan Roland (Patrick O'Brien).

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—A great reception is given to the Four Quaint Q's, who sing well, and cause no end of merriment; Esta Stella, the charming military maid, is a pretty dancer; the Hardinis, three violinists, contribute a refined musical act; Louis Alvarez, tenor, has a voice of good quality; and Jack Birrell, dancer, Vera Rochdale, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

Grand Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—Charming specimens of animated photography are shown here, assisted by the Great Burnetti, actor-vocalist, who has an excellent reception, and Corcoran Brothers, in a musical speciality and quick-change act.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is paying a return visit in *Secrets*. The piece is finely staged, and is appreciated by good houses. As Lieut. Markham Mr. Ernest Allen is successful; and Mr. John Richter as the Caliph of Balsora acts powerfully. Mr. Dan F. Roe as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondley makes a hit; Mr. F. Churchill ably undertakes the part of Alma Meleda; Mr. William Macready is good as Kara Mustapha; and Mr. Stanley Worden acts creditably as a mute. Miss Edna Godfrey Turner gives a fine rendition of Ismali Meleda; Miss A. Churchill as Thyrza Meleda and Miss Maud Kynnersley as Zulieka play their parts thoroughly. The Tivoli Troupe of Continental dancers are well applauded.

Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. Geo. Battle.—The variety performers here are Frank Stanert, comedian; Miss Flo Melville, comedienne; and Kanados, juggler, who appear successfully. The pictures of chief interest are Capital *v.* Labour, A Cowboy's Devotion, Davy Crockett, and Hidden Under the Camp Fire.

Arcadia.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Gowland; Manager, Mr. R. Fenny.—This new hall is well attended, and topping the bill is Harry Curwen, comedian, who is heartily applauded; Miss Edie Eudon is successful as a comedienne and dancer. Films of note include A Prince's Word of Honour, The Call, Elephants in India, and Ostrich Farming. The Animatophone renders popular songs.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry B. Johnson.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is presenting here this week *A Girl's Temptation*. Miss Lalla Stanhope, as the heroine, Kate Stirling, plays with much feeling; Guy Warren is taken in an appropriate manner by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Clifton Earle is a realistic Mark Klaw; Miss Winnie Donovan's Lady Constance Heathfield is quite a success. Humorous situations are sustained by Mr. Albert E. Mann as Sammy Sniggles and Miss Amy Corallie as Jemima Jossop; Mr. Charles Herbert is good as Basile Warren, as also is Mr. Gerald Nolan as Geoffrey Stirling.

Hippodrome.—Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots present a pleasing scena here this week; Winifred Ward has a capital reception on her return visit; La Freya's pictures are artistically beautiful; Chas. Santon's wonderful soprano voice is much admired; Maddison and Webb are amusing in their sketch; and Nash and Noel's patter is laughable. Dan Conroy, comedian, supplies a good turn also. An excellent picture concludes.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Temptation*, a drama, which is brimful of interesting incidents and exciting situations, is being capably presented by Miss Nora Carton's company, Mr. Charles H. Mortimer acts with manliness as Sir Charles Tremaine; Hubert Thorne is effectively portrayed by Norman A. Overton; Mr. Clifton Roystell looks and acts well the part of Mr. Blight; and Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders capitally supported by Madge Seymour as Emily, is most amusing; Miss Nora Carton acts with sympathetic grace as Hilda Dundonald, and Miss Lilla Wilde's impersonation of Ivra Blight is excellent.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Buttan Singh, the Hindoo wrestler, is displaying his prowess here, and in addition a combination of varied talent includes Tom Kelso and Edie George, in their laughable sketch *Yoicks and a Yokel*; Will Van Allen, a musician of ability; Maudie Forde, a delightful vocalist and dancer; the Romps, entertaining vocalists; Ernesto, a clever juggler and equilibrist; Sylvia Bond, a pleasing soprano; and Percy Farrimond, styled the "Lancashire Singing Collier," who is well received.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Raymond, the great illusionist, conjurer, and juggler, heads the bill here this week; he is wonderfully clever, and completely mystifies the audience. Les Grossi introduce the Apache and Vampire dances, and prove themselves graceful dancers; Fred Dunstone is an amusing comedian; Morris and Moore are clever expert dancers; Ryde and Beeman are smart acrobatic eccentrics; Luella Cross is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Little Sunbeam is a wonderful miniature comedienne.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — The Hippodrome. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—The military melodrama *The Scapegrace*, presented by Mr. John Levey's company, meets with approval here. Mr. Levey plays the part of Billy, the avenger, with much force, and other characters are well portrayed.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Miss Ida Millais' company is playing here this week in *No Man's Land*. Miss Marie Kildare submits a finished study of Mary Bathurst; Mr. Henry Herne does fine work as Harry Oaklands; and Mr. Fred Lillywhite acquits himself creditably in the dual rôle of Gilbert Bathurst and Capt. Norman Bathurst. Messrs. Edwin Bennet (Silas Moore) and Villiers Stanley (Mat Marsden) prove themselves capable exponents of villainy. The humour is in the capable hands of Misses Alice Steinberg and Lottie Pearce and Messrs. W. Mallaleau and Sammy Foster.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lauder.—Zeka and Zema are giving a clever and sensational equilibristic display here this week; Harry Hayton, comedian and dancer, is popular; The White Squaw, a fine dramatic incident, is the principal film.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—The Howard and Collinson Trio are here this week in an amusing scena, entitled *A Piece of Dresden China*; the Zaid Trio of Spanish Moors are winning favour; and Rawes and Dalton are having a good reception for their clever speciality act. The films are all excellent.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are heading the bill here this week, and are making a big hit with their astonishing illusions and sleight-of-hand tricks; Sable Fern and company are presenting a novel scena entitled *Boy Scouts at Camp* with great success; Burley and Burley's acrobatic display is skilful and humorous; the Marconis submit an entertaining act, demonstrating some of the wonders of electricity; the Great Northern Troupe of dancers execute some pretty and nimble work; Tom Moore, character comedian, has an excellent voice, and is well received; Sybil St. Elmo, soprano, is also responsible for some excellent vocalism; Aida Martine is a pleasing comedienne.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Alexander Marsh, Miss Carrie Baillie, and company, in their Shakespearean and classical repertoire, opened here on Monday with *Hamlet*. The title-rôle was played by Mr. Marsh with expression and power; Miss Baillie provided an excellent study of Ophelia; Mr. Edwin Beverley's rendering of the Ghost could scarcely be bettered; Mr. Ernest Digges made a dramatic Laertes; Claudius found an able exponent in Mr. Wilson Gunning; Mr. A. B. Walker supplied a clever impersonation of Polonius; Mr. James Gordon was successful as Horatio; Mr. Ian Fleming as First Gravedigger and Mr. James Edgar as Second Gravedigger were amusing; and Miss May Grimshaw gave a careful delineation of Gertrude. The smaller characters were good, and the staging artistic. During the week *Romeo and Juliet*, *David Garrick*, *The Sleigh Bells*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Othello* were produced.

County Electric Pavilion. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—An excellent set of pictures is on view here, including one of the local Juvenile Fête, held on Saturday last.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company opened here on Monday with *Greed of Gold*. Miss A. G. Earle sustained the rôle of Mrs. Maxwell with credit, and Mr. Jack Edwin deserves commendation for his fine acting as Harry Hood; Mr. A. Edwards was a capable Mr. Brightstone, K.C., and congratulations are due to Mr. W. Greensmith for his skilful handling of the rôle of Tom Welstead; Miss Amy Doris was a convincing Dora Hood; Cecil Hood was capably enacted by Master Bernard Fox. The humour of the piece was in the capable hands of Miss Violet Leyton as Patty Mayfield, and Mr. H. Leonards as Con Creamer, and Mr. Monson Thorpe presented a clever impersonation of Arthur Errol; Mr. F. Waller appeared to advantage as Cully Sing. *Jane Shore* and *East Lynne* are also announced.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Leedham Bantock and Fredk. Mouillot's company is here with *Those Terrible Twins*. Mr. Leedham Bantock is irresistibly funny in his orginal part of William, in which he is ably assisted by Mrs. Watt-Tanner as Maria. Mr. Cyril Delevanti as the Hon. Harry Scott; and Mr. Geoffrey Douglas as Charlie Pringle are both successful; Mr. Robert Rivers is well placed as Samuel Pringle; an amusing rôle is that of Minks, in the hands of Mr. Archie McCaig; Miss Enid Baird and Miss Nora Walker are both attractive as Violet and Lillie; and Miss Maud Adams is distinctly good as Mrs. Pringle.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Harry Leslie's "Comedy Cadets" are drawing crowded houses. Miss Lulu Fancourt renders her vocal numbers with considerable charm; Mr. George Curzon is also an artist of ability; Mr. Ernie Percival is proving himself to be a popular entertainer; Miss Rene Steadman is a fascinating soubrette; and Mr. Roland Bailey at the piano is decidedly good. Mr. Jimmie Pullin keeps the house in general hilarity with his quaint patter

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House. — Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Mr. Harry Tower's company in *Dear Little Denmark* has made a most successful visit to Tunbridge Wells this week, following a week's season by Mr. Edward Terry in répertoire, which excited the greatest local interest. In the present cast Miss Thelma Raye most successfully takes the part of Christine; while Miss Winifred Volt is a most amusing Ophelia; Miss Alice Waldie a charming exponent of the Duke's daughter; and Miss Nancy Rich equally so as the principal Genee girl. Mr. Cameron Carr gives a most spirited impersonation of Conrad; and Mr. Edward Thirlby a humorous study of the Duke; while Mr. Hartley Summers also makes a big hit of Hans Hansen, well supported by Mr. G. W. Ruff as Jones Jensen; while Mr. J. Davis is a stately Chamberlain. For the week-end Mr. Maxwell's company, in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, is appearing.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Alex. Maclean and company occupy the stage this week in the historical play *My Lady Bellamy*. Mr. Arthur Layland is seen to advantage as Lord Crawford; Mr. Eric Snowdon is good as Robert Tarfax, a spy; Mr. Geo. Lyttleton Holyoake makes a dignified King William III.; the parts of Sir George Barclay and Captain Von Hosler are well filled by Messrs. L. D. Arthur and F. H. De Quincey; and Mr. A. L. Burke is effective as Captain Oliley. Mr. Alex. Maclean gives a natural and convincing portrayal of the Jacobite Sir Gervaise Bellamy; Miss Mary Palmer is well placed as Queen Mary II.; Miss Muriel Eastney is admirable as Mrs. Bathsheba Hemming; Miss Viola March does well as Mrs. Machie; and Miss Laura Leigh gives a charming exposition in the title-rôle.

New Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. George Sheldon and company present a fine military sketch, *Before the Dawn*. The Keeley Brothers give a good display of ball-punching; Reg. Bolton, comedian, is funny as the Editor's Imp; the Wedburns, comedians and instrumentalists, provide a popular turn; Elsie Hulbert and her girls are capital dancers; Daisy and Dot are pleasing duettists and dancers; and Mr. Charles Rothwell is a versatile comedian.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Jackson and Marie, comedians, are clever in a comical turn; Miss Kitty Keyworth, comedienne, sings well; and Master Leonard Bedford, cornet soloist, displays talent; the remainder of the programme consists of excellent pictures on the bioscope.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—The greater part of this week's bill is taken up by pictures. The variety turns include the Bensons, in their vocal and musical comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*; the Three Laurels, a very clever combination; Frank Lynne, a good comedian; and Bert Harrow, who has an effective style.

The Imperial Hall.—The pictures here are a well-selected series, and several very exciting films are shown. The vocal items of Mr. C. France are appreciated; and Jack Wollaston, a local artist, does well as a comedian.

The People's Picture Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. D. Horton.—This is another new picture venture, but, unlike the others, is on the two-houses-a-night principle. A very fine picture, The Mended Lute is the chief film; while a dramatic picture entitled A Sailor's Honour is greatly appreciated.

The Electric Palace.—This up-to-date picture palace draws large audiences. The pictures are of a very varied description.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney are here this week in the new play from the pen of Mr. Walter Frith, *Margaret Catchpole*. The talented actor and actress had the honour of many recalls, and the play had a most favourable reception, though in many instances it might, with advantage, be curtailed. Mr. Irving submits a fine study of the cunningly-wicked smuggler Luff; Miss Mabel Hackney as Margaret has a most trying rôle, but she comes out with flying colours. In the emotional passages she portrays histrionic abilities of a very high order. As William Land Mr. Frank Esmond is well placed, and a manly representation of Jack Barry is submitted by Mr. Rupert Harvey; Mr. A. Field Fisher is amusing as Jim Cook; Miss Beatrice Swanton is good as Mrs. Clayton; and Miss Enid Stoller scores as Kate. The long list of characters are all in safe hands, and the play is mounted on a lavish scale.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Mr. Hymack heads the bill here this week, and the wonderful way in which he litters the stage with items of wearing apparel passes comprehension; a smart comedy juggling turn is that of Hurman and Arthur; Marion Scott is a dainty singer of naval and military songs; Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks score in the domestic sketch *Her Return*; the Eight Empire Girls go through many smart evolutions; Bert Anderson is a smart entertainer and conjurer; Tom Garland as a ventriloquist has plenty of patter; the pictures are good.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Harry Hilton is scoring well here this week, and his turn of magic is immensely popular; Annie Mascot is a chic comedienne and dancer; and the Two Rosses score well with good duets; Arthur Harris makes many friends with character songs. The pictures are entertaining.

Grand.—Proprietors, The Palatine Co.; Manager, Mr. Sydney Felton.—Capital business is being done here this week, and the popular manager has provided a capital series of pictures, including A Treacherous Maid, A Lesson of the Sea, The Black Peril, and The Rapids.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson; Chef d'Orchestre, Mr. Fred Lejous.—*The Drama of Life*, by Mr. Lingford Carson, is drawing crowded houses this week. Mr. Graham Wood's Harry Beech is capital; Mr. Archie Holsby scores as Walter Beech; Sir Dobson Wilde is in the safe hands of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston; Mr. Marshall Meade is capable as Jack Lawton; Mr. Vernon Daily plays Dave Crane with conspicuous ability; Mr. Jack Harrell makes a capital Richard Brinton; Mr. Russell Bogue merits praise as Count de Foi; Mr. George Shaw acts capably as William Harrison; Mr. Alf Kitson does well as John Walsh; Mr. Imm Selph gives a capital portrayal of Old Joe; Mr. Henry Miller gains approval as Timothy Lane; Messrs. J. Harold and Mortlake are capable as Timothy Tipps and Robert Lawton respectively; Miss Pattie Hastings is praiseworthy as Sylvia Beech; Miss Alice Oliver is seen to advantage as Lady Jane Wilde; Miss Beatrice Hudson is a success as Betty Black; whilst Miss Dolly Bogue scores as Master Robert Beech.

WATFORD. — Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—Jack Straw probably holds premier place in local affections this week, being closely run in the race for favour by the Woolhaffs, whose comedy act is certainly original and extremely droll; May Clark has been loudly recalled at every appearance. She has a beautiful voice of great range. Miss Rita Bell, "the Little Hollander," charms with her quiet, refined performance and clever dancing; the Five Broadway Belles provide an enjoyable turn, full of vim; and the Reays are acrobats whose cleverness will appeal to any audience. Ethel Eden gives promise of fulfilling her programme description as "the coming star"; Jack Harris tells tales in a pleasing manner; and Acton and Keen's company, in *A Sister's Honour*, complete a programme which is drawing good business.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—*The Face at the Window* is again seen here, presented by Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company. The rôle of Gouffett, the detective, is in the able hands of Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay as Lucio Delgardo plays excellently an arduous rôle; the parts of Henry de Brisson and Le Blanc are well sustained by Mr. James Chippendale; Miss Francis Day does well as Babette; Marie de Brisson has a capital exponent in Miss Constance Glenaboyn; and good work is done by Miss Marie Pemberton as La Pinau.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The Fezzans occupy a prominent position in the bill this week, and their clever and varied performance is loudly applauded; George Antill is a funny eccentric comedian; Nina Wood, in songs at the piano à la Fragson, supplies an entertaining turn; the skill and dexterity of the Rangers in a trick cycling act finds many admirers; an old favourite, J. H. Milburn, goes as well as ever; the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio introduce some smart dancing into their sketch, *Romps in a Drawing-Room*; and Victor's Juveniles, in imitations of stars, contribute a pleasing turn.

Palace.—Manager for Messrs. Black Bros., Mr. W. Ball.—An excellent display of pictures is shown here; Thompson Wood's Eight Tiny Stars give an exhibition of singing and dancing which is very attractive; and Little Frankie, designated the Highland Laddie, is a smart young artist.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. N. D. Nicoll, K. Rivington, and Geo. Howard's company is here in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Cecile E. Anson is artistic as Mrs. Wiggs; an exceptionally good impersonation of Miss Hazy is given by Miss Muriel Locking; Miss Edith Netting makes the most of Mrs. Eichorn; and Miss Elideth Tinniswood is successful as Mrs. Schultz. Miss Clara Earle is praiseworthy as Lovey Mary; Mr. Kenneth Rivington gives a fine interpretation of Mr. Stubbins; and Mr. Geo. Howard as Mr. Wiggs must be eulogised.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Haydee's Miniature Vaudeville Theatre tops the bill, and proves a very smart turn. The Four Janowskys are loudly applauded; the Luzellas excel as gymnasts; and Miss Dot Hardy is a turn much appreciated. Another good turn is Delafiore, xylophone expert; Stuart and Evans appear as comedians; and the Bros. Rees, in their act *Soldiers at Play*, are well received.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company in *A Daughter of the Sea* is fulfilling a six-night engagement here. Mr. Gilbert as Mark Glensdale and Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine are very capable; Mr. Ashmore Vincent is good as Ken Moreland, as is also Mr. H. C. Langeley as Captain Ben Morrison; Mr. W. Hellyer is a creditable Joe Banks; and Mr. Gordon Blyth does full justice to the part of Dan Glensdale. Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Billy and Miss Allyn Williams as Mollie keep the house in roars of laughter.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—Mr. Andrew McManus, versatile entertainer, heads the bill; Wragg and Wragg, Royal military athletes, in "Tit-bits from the Tournament," are well received; Gaertner and May, in their barrel-jumping act, are very clever; and the pictures are highly appreciated.

WEYMOUTH.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is paying a return visit with *The Merry Widow*. As Sonia Miss Mary Ridley, both in singing and acting is admirable; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter is a capital Baron Popoff; and Prince Danilo is well represented by Mr. Robert Needham. Miss Mabel Hope, Miss Neste Laurel, Miss Eileen Clanford, Miss Alice Humphreys, and Miss Nan Ainslie give graceful renderings of their respective parts. Mr. Ronald Pomeroy is successful as Viscomte Camile de Jolidon; as also Messrs. Harry Emeric as Nisch, Tom H. David as the Marquis de Cascada, Spencer Lloyd as M. de St. Brioche, Cecil Warwick as General Novikovitch, C. L. Steward as M. Khadja, and Clinton Reynald as the waiter. Miss Ethel Darsley, Miss Aline Winnington, Miss Madge Steward, Miss Beatrice Willis, and Miss Joan Allen as the girls at Maxim's are very charming. The piece is admirably staged, and the music capitally rendered.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Alex. Maclean, together with his excellent company, fulfilled an engagement for the first three nights of last week with *My Lady Bellamy*. The greatest interest and enthusiasm were displayed by those who witnessed the performance. Mr. Maclean as Sir Gervase Bellamy, Miss Laura Leigh, in the title-rôle, Miss Mary Palmer, Mr. Lyttleton-Holyoake, Mr. Layland, and others did ample justice to their parts. —On Monday last and the two following nights Mr. Allan Wilkie and company appeared to large and appreciative audiences in *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. On Thursday Messrs. Percy Tyler and Dudley Stuart's company occupied the boards in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Dudley Stuart was highly successful as Horace Parker, and Mr. W. R. Allington as the Messenger from Mars gave a powerful rendering of the part. Mr. Percy Tyler as a Tramp, Mr. R. F. Howard as Arthur Dicey, Mr. Frank W. Davies as Dr. Chapman, and Mr. E. Hands as Sir E. Vivian contributed largely to the success of the play; Miss Eileen Vivian as Miss Parker was excellent, and Miss Eily O'Dempsey was clever as Della; Miss Kathleen Camp as Polly, Miss Dorothy Camp as a Little Girl, Miss Amy Heron as Newsboy, and Mr. E. Tyrone as Joe ably sustained their respective rôles.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is engaged here in domestic drama, *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. Mr. Fred Emery is well cast as the Rev. John Aberry, and Mr. Percy St. Clair submits a spirited performance as Jack Walters; Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell as Farmer Walters and Miss Florence Delmar as Mrs. Walters give a pathetic portrayal of the aged couple; and Mr. H. Fuller is amusing as Timothy Slough. Miss Agnes Collier is good as Alice Waters, and Miss Lizzie Lennon is interesting as Nurse Von Gripp.

WHITLEY BAY.—Theatre Royal.—The Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve. — Heading the bill are the Markies in the quick-change sketch, *The Professor's Studio*; close up for favour comes Harry Ellison's company in a sketch, entitled *Aunt Matilda*, being a condensed *Charley's Aunt*, and chock full of fun and hilarity; quite an acquisition are the high-class vocalists, Marie D'Alcourt and John Wheelan, soprano and tenor operatic artists. Others calling for special attention include Maisie Dene, comedienne and dancer; Wal Langtry, comedian; Walker and May, colour comedians; Ching Ling Fee, Chinese magician (who remains from last week); Leonora, comedienne and dancer; and Florence Leonard, ballad vocalist.

Coliseum.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—Some excellent pictures are on view here, whilst diverting varieties are contributed by Horace Monto, speciality artists in song, story, and instrumentalism, and Cecelia Grace Moore, an entertaining pianist, vocalist, and dancer.

Baths Pavilion Electra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice. The leading variety item here is contributed by Little Alice, a dainty comedienne and dancer.

The Empire, Esplanade.—Resident-Manager, Mr. T. J. Gregson.—The living pictures are well diversified here by McAskell, the swell comedy juggler, and Eva Hope, a charming and pleasing vocalist.

Links Band Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Catlin. —The "free" crowds assemble here nightly for their promenade in the open-air on the splendid and invigorating links, and the chairs receive a fair percentage of support, whilst the programme submitted is greatly appreciated by both old and young.

**WIDN

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Drama entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

The attraction here is Mr. Percy Williams' company in *The Fatal Wedding*. The play has the essential qualities to suit the taste of Marlburians, there being an abundance of exciting incidents interspersed with excellent comedy. Mr. Hugh Montgomery is a capital lead, and gives an able reading of Howard Wilson. In the rôle of Mabel Wilson, the much-tried wife, Miss Ethel Kay handles a difficult part with discretion and tact; Mr. Royce Milton affords a clever study of the rascally man-about-town, Robert Curtis, playing with force and directness; as Cora Wilson Miss Leah Marlborough's rendering of the part is replete with artistic touches and appropriate byplay; little Susanne, a clever child actress, presents a neat sketch of "the little mother"; Mr. Sam Springson as Toto, Mr. Cyril Melton as Peter Schwartz, and Mr. Frank Ashley as O'Reilly all give droll character studies; and Miss Marie Harcourt submits a humorous portrayal of the Irish cook, Bridget. The singing and dancing introduced in Act 3 by children is much appreciated, the Sisters Wohlman, Gladys Kelly, Dorothy Pain, and Master Tom Grice calling for special mention.

THE CORONET.

On Wednesday, Aug. 10, T. W. Robertson's Comedy
"OURS."

Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. Eade Montefiore's season of Robertson revivals at the Notting Hill Gate theatre continues, and the spirit of Victorian comedy was admirably sustained on Wednesday, with the representation of *Ours*. This play is more like *Caste* than most of the others in its serious interest and its military flavour, though of course the characterisation is different, and there is more of the actual storm and stress of war. To appreciate the play thoroughly we must imagine ourselves living in those days and subject to their limitations. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is very manly, sincere, and natural as Angus MacAlister, the poor, but proud, young soldier. Mr. James Carew acts in a hearty, natural, and breezy fashion as the millionaire brewer, Hugh Chalcot, whose lament is that "money makes one bankrupt of friends, beggared of love"—until the right girl comes along. Miss Adeline Bourne acts with her customary effectiveness and impressiveness as Blanche Haye, though the part seems somewhat stilted to modern ideas; Miss Rose Begarnie once again shows her skill and deftness in light comedy as Mary Netley, and contributes a very bright and pleasant performance; Mr. O. B. Clarence as the Russian diplomatist Prince Perovsky is admirable as ever, though he does not have very much scope for his genius; the domestic bickerings of Sir Alexander and Lady Shendryn are amusingly portrayed by Mr. Fred Permain and Miss Maude Robertson; Mr. William Rokeby scores in the small part of Sergeant Jones, the proud possessor of the twins; and Mr. Leslie Palmer completes the cast as Captain Samprey.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Drama, by G. R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, entitled,
"THE LIGHTS OF HOME."

That highly exciting drama, by Mr. G. R. Sims and Mr. R. Buchanan, *The Lights of Home*, has been presented at the Kennington Theatre during the present week, and throughout the five acts and nine scenes has enthralled the attention of the large audiences which have assembled nightly. The Kennington répertoire company have acquitted themselves during this production with credit, and the staging has been well done, the burning of the Northern Star being a particularly fine scene, while Maryland was a brightly painted set. Mr. Walter Gay was very good as Philip Carrington, falsely accused of the murder of Arthur Tredgold, making an ideal sailor lover of Sybil Garfield. In the latter rôle Miss Jessie Winter looked as fresh and ingenuous a heroine as ever. Mr. Frank Crimp made an excellent Arthur Tredgold, and was seen at his best in the struggle with Dave Purvis, the fisherman, indignantly demanding reparation for the injury wrought his daughter. In the part of Dave Purvis Mr. George Cockburn was magnificent, enacting it with great dramatic force. Mr. Charles Danvers made a big hit in the low comedy rôle of Jim Chowne, the inquiry agent, and he had admirable support from Miss Nellie Burdette as Mrs. Widgeon, landlady of the Lobster Smack. Between them the pair caused a lot of fun, Miss Burdette always showing genuine humour. Miss Elsie Videau was bright and lively as Jack Stebbing, the amorous sailor boy. Miss Winifred White won further laurels by her clever impersonation of Tress Purvis, and the part of Mrs. Purvis, her mother, was capitally portrayed by Miss Marie Kilpack. Mr. J. W. Yeldham was deserving of praise as Captain Petherick, and the rôle of Mrs. Petherick was filled with great naturalness by Miss Peggy Hogan. Mr. G. P. Polson was well placed as Edgar Garfield, the finally relenting enemy of Philip Carrington, and Messrs. H. Thomas, Leblanc, and Sheridan creditably enacted the parts of fishermen. Mr. Horatio Baker doubled the characters of Sambo in the Maryland scene and of the Clergyman in the last act with considerable success.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Play entitled
"MONTE CRISTO."

A specially dramatised version of Alexander Dumas' famous novel is being presented here this week by a company under the direction of Mr. Otto Minster. The romantic adventures of the Count de Monte Cristo form the basis of a very interesting and entertaining play. The piece is admirably dressed and mounted, and evidently no pains have been spared to make the production in every way successful. The title-rôle is played by Mr. Otto Minster, who infuses plenty of dash and spirit into his impersonation, and secures a great reception. Mr. Geo. P. Lester contributes an excellent piece of acting as the dying Abbé Faria; and Mr. George Venning gives a praiseworthy performance of Fernand Mondego. Mr. Oswald Lingard is responsible for a well-thought-out characterisation of Baron Danglars; and Mr. J. M. Smart does well as M. Darien. Mr. Walter Grahame plays M. Noirtier in good style, and his quiet and easy acting is well in keeping with the rôle. Mr. Tom Tindall handles the part of the blackguard, M. Villefort, with much skill and restraint; and Mr. Elliston Bevens' delineation of Albert de Morcerf is sincere and impressive. That well-known comedian, Mr. William P. Sheen, is cast for the part of the drunken Caderousse, and enlivens the piece with his droll humour, causing considerable merriment. Mr. Arthur George is a satisfactory Gendarme. Miss V. St. Laurence appears as Mercedes, and makes a beautiful and strikingly pathetic figure, her conception of the character being thoroughly satisfactory. Miss Lucy Murray submits a clever study of La Carconte, and Miss Gloria Laurence charms the audience with a pretty song, which gains a well-deserved encore.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Drama, entitled
"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"

The initial production of the autumn dramatic season is *Can a Woman be Good?* presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. A large and appreciative house warmly received the play on Monday evening, and as it contains many exciting situations, there is little doubt of its success on tour. Mr. J. Millane is capital in the rôle of Manuel Errington, Mr. Harry C. Robinson very satisfactory as the villain, Herod Steinberg, Mr. Ernest St. John makes the most of Ostler Jim, and Mr. Wallis Clarke does well as Ralph Desmond. Mr. Syd. Benson is extremely good as Curley Dabbs. As the victims of Steinberg's villainy, Mr. J. G. Maine (who also admirably fulfils the duties of stage manager) and Mr. J. Archer are to be commended. Praise, too, is to be given to Mr. Fred L. Arthur as Jasper Mordaunt, and to Mr. H. Wells as James Widdicomb. Miss Winnie Barton is exceptionally good as Slithers, Miss Ethel Bickman makes a bright Molly Merrick, Miss Atice Thorne is admirable as Mrs. Errington, and Miss Norah Melton a clever representative of Magdalen Fawcett. Leila la Brunne is well depicted by Miss H. Graham Edwin, and Naomi Merrick and Esther Howard find ideal representatives in Miss Florence Hunt and Miss Mabel Rose. The play is nicely staged, and the production reflects credit on Mr. Tom H. Taylor.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Farce entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

Mr. James Welch's company is here with *When Knights were Bold*, and the house, which is filled with an appreciative audience every evening, rings with laughter. The scenery is admirably worked under the stage-management of Mr. Herbert Ranson. Sir Guy de Vere is represented by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce, who keeps the audience keenly amused. The actor goes through his trying part in a way that impresses onlookers with the idea that he is all the time thoroughly enjoying himself. Mr. Charles F. Lloyd's Isaac Isaacson is a creditable study of a thoroughly up-to-date Israelite, and Miss Violet Noel, as the Jew's daughter, gives an artistic representation. Mr. Percy R. Goodyer is decidedly "merry and bright" as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, imparting considerable "go" to several scenes; Mr. Colin Johnson's Rev. Peter Pottleberry, D.D., furnishes a careful study of quiet dignity and dry humour. Mr. Humphrey Warden struggles valiantly with the part of Sir Brian Ballymote. The Wittle of Mr. Lawrence Stevenson and the Barker of Mr. John Cecil are both capital character sketches. Miss Isla Glynne is a charming Lady Rowena Eggington, and Miss Lena Flowerdew, Miss Juliet Matheson, Miss Lee Lewis, and Miss Sadie Hope all appear to advantage. Miss Elspeth Oliphant acts with quite taking simplicity as Alice Barker, and Mr. Herbert Ranson does effective service as a Herald. The performance provides a delightful evening's entertainment, and Mr. W. R. King, the acting-manager for the theatre, is kept busy finding room for the numerous applicants for admission. The chief piece of the evening is preceded by a comedietta, by Frank Howell Evans, entitled *Milly's Mother*, in which the characters are ably sustained by Mr. Percy R. Goodyer, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Lena Flowerdew, and Miss Sadie Hope.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Musical Comedy entitled
"FLORODORA."

Musical plays are always popular here, and *Florodora* is drawing excellent houses. The members of Mr. Charles Constant's company do full justice to their parts, and the result is a very pleasing performance, all the well-known numbers receiving their full meed of applause. The scenery is fresh and pretty, the dresses are handsome and appropriate, and an attractive and tuneful chorus is a strong point of the production. Mr. Johnnie Schofield makes a success as Anthony Tweedlepunch; Mr. Stanley White scores heavily as Cyrus G. Gilfain; Mr. Courtier R. Dutton is a manly and clever Frank Abercoed; Mr. Johnnie Junior is a capital Captain Arthur Donegal, and Mr. Jack Parker is very good as Leandro. Miss Daisy Lake is a clever and charming Dolores, and Miss Florence Hersee a delightful Angela Gilfain. Miss Kate Leicester is a handsome Lady Holyrood, and plays the part admirably; Miss Louie Danby is a smart and vivacious Valleda, and Miss Lilian Mildred is good as Clarence Fitzclarence. Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. Johnnie Junior make a hit in La Danse des Apaches.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 8,
"HER SECRET LOVER."

This week Mrs. F. G. Kimberley has brought her No. 1 company here to play her latest drama *Her Secret Lover*, a play which has gained much favour. Mr. Stephen Langton as Gilbert Seymour makes a splendid villain; Jim Jones is well played by Mr. J. Newton-Cowling; Mr. Walter H. Wilson is seen to great advantage as the manly Capt. Darrell Rose; Mr. Alfred Stretton, in the strenuous part of John Strange, is very convincing; Billy Burley is as good as he is big, and finds an able exponent in Mr. Victor Vernon. Miss Lynn Darlington, in addition to her acting as the "eyes" of poor blind Ivy Seymour, manages to extract a deal of fun from her part of Jane Maria Wilkes; Ivy Seymour, as played by Miss Laura Walker, is an admirable portrayal. The wicked machinations of Alicia Royale are well brought out by Miss Flora Leslie. All the other characters are well enacted. Well mounted and dressed, the play was accorded an enthusiastic reception.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 8,
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

Beauty and the Barge is here this week, presented by Mr. Arthur Skelton's company. The principal parts are those of Capt. James Barley, in which Mr. Maitland Marler appears, and Ethel Smedley, in which Miss Hilda Vaughan delights everybody by her charming acting and unaffected manner. Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N., is well played by Mr. A. Russell-Davies, especially notable in the last act; the peppery Major Smedley is well placed in the hands of Mr. Gerald Carter, as also is the Herbert Manners of Mr. A. E. Jackson; Mr. Ivor Barnard is very funny as Augustus, "the third hand," his make-up and facial expression causing roars of laughter; Miss Marie Clayton is a sweet Lucy Dallas; Miss Mabyn Fay made the most of the part of Mrs. Smedley; and Mr. Fred Lake took every opportunity offered him as John Dibbs to make the part "go." All the remaining characters were in capable hands. The play is well mounted and dressed, and the scenery is excellent.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Drama entitled
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Like all the other creations of Mr. Melville, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* has been a powerful attraction at the Kingston playhouse this week, the house being thronged at each performance. A strong company is engaged in the representation of the play. Miss Muriel Dean wins universal approval for her impersonation of the beggar-girl, and Mr. Norman B. Cannon makes a most successful appearance as Jack Cunningham. Mr. William T. Riley plays the villain of the play with conspicuous ability, and Miss Ernestine Walker ably seconds his efforts in the part of Maud Villiers. Amongst other impersonations deserving of notice are the Elsie Cunningham of Miss Sybil Hare and Miss Linda Riley as the slavey. Valuable assistance in other parts is given by Messrs. Herbert Goddard, Charles Barclay, E. D. Carlyle, Wilford Bayley, Frank McClellan, and Fred Hodson. The piece is most effectually staged.

THE Follies finish their "flying" tour at Bexhill on Saturday, and open at the Apollo on the 27th. They will present a programme of novelties, chief of which will be a "Pageant of Follies," in which the craze for that form of entertainment is satirised. Three authors have assisted Mr. Pelissier with the book and lyrics, but the little company of nine will not need augmenting, even for the most spectacular scenes. The theatre is being redecorated.

MRS. ERNEST CARPENTER.

A matinée to be given at the Lyceum for the benefit of Mrs. Ernest Carpenter will be under the patronage of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and the following committee:—Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Hall Caine, Mr. Fred W. Carpenter, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Tom B. Davis, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. Geo. Edwardes, Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Neil Forsyth, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Chas. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Howard, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Justin H. McCarthy, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Walter Melville, Mr. Fredk. Melville, Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Herbert Trench, Mr. James Welch, Mr. C. Wentworth Croke, Mr. C. H. Workman, and Sir Charles Wyndham.

The house has been kindly lent for the occasion by Messrs. Melville, and the matinée is fixed for Tuesday, Sept. 20 (or 27). Mrs. Ernest Carpenter's late husband, owing to unfortunate speculations, left her and her little daughter almost totally unprovided for.

The benefit is under the direct patronage of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree and practically every London West End manager, by whose help it is expected that one of the very strongest programmes ever got together will be provided.

In connection with this matinée an appeal is made to all provincial managers to subscribe towards a testimonial to Mrs. Carpenter on their own account, and *The Era* will be glad to take charge of any money sent for the purpose, which should be addressed to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (treasurer of the fund).

It is hoped that Ernest Carpenter's great gifts and popularity will ensure the success of this appeal, as his totally unexpected death resulted in those near and dear to him being left in such sad circumstances.

[Photo by Daily Mirror Studios.

MRS. ERNEST CARPENTER AND DAUGHTER

MANAGERS' MEETINGS.

The committee of the Managers' Club met at 5, Wardour-street, W., on the 5th inst., when there were present:—Mr. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. Ralland, Mr. Croke, Mr. Weathersby, Mr. Norris, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Bertram, Mr. Maitland, Mr. Wallace, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). The following were elected members of the club:—Mr. R. Brandreth, Viscount Dangan, Mr. Edmund Gerson, Mr. Harry B. Brett, Mr. Frank A. Zeitlin, Mr. Richard Northcott, Mr. Martin Henry, Mr. Alfred Turner, Mr. F. Vernon Hartley, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. Christopher Marner, Mr. Edward Lauri, Mr. Tom Wright, Mr. M. Zassenheim, and Mr. George Parker. It was decided to keep the club open till 2 a.m., but should there not be four members on the club premises at 1 a.m. the steward be empowered to close the club. On Sundays the club is to be opened from 12 noon till 11 p.m.

The Touring Managers' Association Committee also met at the club on the same day. Present: Mr. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. Ralland, Mr. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Bertram, Mr. Norris, Mr. Brydon Phillips, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Weathersby, Mr. Maitland, and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). A letter from the Actors' Association, enclosing a proposed contract, was read, and the secretary was instructed to say that the proposed contract did not fall in with the views of the members of the Association.

A member reported an actor for breaking his agreement, and the secretary was instructed to send the correspondence to the solicitor and ask him to take proceedings against the actor concerned. A letter was received from the Sketch Association in reference to the question of one licence, and a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Leveaux, Mr. Bertram, and Mr. Ralland, was appointed to confer with a similar committee of the Sketch Association to consider the matter.

A FOLK festival, reproducing the rural pastimes of mediæval England, was celebrated on Wednesday in the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, in connection with the Shakespeare summer season. There were morris dances, folk songs, traditional English country dances, old jigs, and children's singing games, the performers being schoolchildren from most of the villages in South Warwickshire, all picturesquely attired, who sang and danced to the accompaniment of the fife and tabor.

A CONTINGENT came from places as distant as Hull. There was a capital display of Morris dancing confined to old Warwickshire tunes, the performers being the Ilmington young men who have twice given displays in London. The audience included quite a large number of American visitors, who were deeply interested in the novel sight, the display being unprecedented. The Hon. Mrs. Hodgson distributed the awards.

THE "Festal Theatre," which, with Signor D'Annunzio, is preparing to astonish and edify Paris, is so called because at every performance given there is intended to be a feast for the mind and eye. The edifice is to be entirely of iron, and will be planned like a Roman amphitheatre. In seven days it can be taken to pieces, packed up, and conveyed anywhere, and put up again in the same time. The building will be first set up in Paris on any space large enough, such as the Champ de Mars, on the Esplanade, and the first night is already announced for April 20 next. The first play performed will be a poetic fairy piece by the poet-dramatist himself.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE SPECKLED BAND" AT THE GLOBE.

Ever since the days of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, the most popular detective drama of mid-Victorian days, the stimulating effect of a human sleuth-hound on the stage has not been lost sight of by dramatists; but it was left to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to give us the most original criminal investigator—the invincible Sherlock Holmes, a scientist gifted with unerring instinct, serenely conscious of power, with unnerving coolness, and without a shadow of fear. We met him on the stage for the first time at the Lyceum, when Mr. W. H. Gillette from the States exactly realised his powerful personality in the play named after him. He cropped up again at the Adelphi early in the summer as the discoverer of the mysterious crime of the Anglo-Indian, Dr. Grimesby Ryloit, who for the sake of filthy lucre does to death an innocent young lady by the ghastly agency of a snake—which is distinguished as *The Speckled Band*, the title of the powerful piece which was transferred from the Adelphi to the Globe on Monday evening.

A finer study of melodramatic villainy than Mr. Lyn Harding's Dr. Grimesby Rylott we have not seen. The outbursts of ungovernable fury are absolutely terrifying, and especially are they so in the scene with Sherlock Holmes. At the inquest of the first act Mr. Harding suggests by many subtle touches the hysterical and "nervy" Doctor—subject to fits of dementia—a mental and moral degenerate. On Monday evening he repeated at the Globe his Adelphi triumphs, the large audience being profoundly impressed in every act.

Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who for so long played Sherlock Holmes in the provinces, has certainly made that character his own, and the drama reaches high-pressure point as soon as he appears on the scene. His "butler" of the third act is sufficiently well disguised in voice, gait, and gesture to deceive even the audience, and the final appearance of the snake and the retributive justice meted out to the wicked Doctor through its agency—thrills that would content even the most exacting of sensation-lovers—give both him and Mr. Lyn Harding opportunities for the most impressive acting.

Miss Christine Silver is sweetly pathetic in the inquest scene, and gently and quietly determined in the later portions of the drama, wherein the heroine discovers to her consternation the true character of her stepfather. Mr. A. S. Homewood's devoted old servitor Rodgers is another tribute to his power of individualising a part. Mr. Spencer Trevor's acting as Mr. Armitage is distinctly precious, the venom of the village grocer against the unspeakable Rylott being humorously emphasised; and Mr. J. J. Bartlett has quite the official manner and judicial air of a coroner as Mr. Longbrace. Mr. Claude King becomes quite a *persona grata* as Dr. Watson, a part that does not tax his powers; Mr. J. Ridley capably doubles the parts of the foreman of the jury and Mr. Milverton, the blackmailer; Mr. Wilton Ross is an inscrutable Ali; Mr. Arthur Burne does complete justice to the part of Mr. Scott Wilson; Miss Gwendolen Floyd submits a neat bit of character as Mrs. Soames; Miss Alice Beet's Mrs. Stainton is marked by artistic restraint; Master Cecil F. Lowrie is decidedly effective as Billy; Mr. A. G. Craig's Mr. Holt Loaming is quite a natural representative of the bookmaking fraternity; Mr. A. Corney Grain's thumb-nail sketch of Mr. James B. Montague argues considerable ability; and Mr. Geoffrey Hill and Mr. George Laundy complete the fine cast. Mr. Brigata Bucalossi has composed excellent music to the piece, which is finely produced. Miss Silver's dresses are the tasteful work of Miss Caleb Porter; the wigs are by the incomparable Clarkson; and the scenery by F. L. Schmitz. Mr. W. W. Keene's stage management is perfect; and the popular Mr. Oscar Barrett, jun., is in front.

LIVERPOOL THEATRICAL GALA.

Of the many efforts put forward to raise funds in aid of deserving charities, none are deserving of greater praise than the promoters of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala and Sports. Of late years variety entertainments have become so popular with theatregoers that this year it was decided to change the date from February to August, and the directors of the Liverpool Club once again very generously allowed the use of their ground for the gala and sports on the 2nd inst., Mr. J. McKenna (chairman of the directors) going to a lot of trouble in seeing that there was no hitch in the arrangements so far as the ground accommodation was concerned. This year the gala has had as its patrons the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman W. H. Williams, J.P.), the Mayor of Bootle (Councillor H. W. Carruthers, J.P.), and the Mayor of Birkenhead (Councillor A. H. Arkle). Mr. W. Watson Rutherford, M.P., is the president, while Mr. Lewis Peake, this year's chairman, has been a hard worker in connection with the gala ever since its inception, and with but few exceptions he has acted as chairman year after year. Of the other officials a special word of praise is due to Messrs. W. W. Kelly (vice-chairman), Thomas Wood (hon. treasurer), G. Dudley West (hon. secretary), and Mr. George Manners (pioneer of the special matinée at the Empire Music Hall and the sacred concert in the Hippodrome). Matinée and Entertainments Committee: Chairman, Mr. H. C. Arnold; vice-chairman, Mr. W. W. Kelly, T.C.; hon. secretary, Mr. Rex Dooley. Floral Sales Committee: Chairman, Mr. W. A. Crouch; vice-chairman, Mr. Geo. Stretch; hon. secretary, Mr. J. A. Ferns. Novelty Committee: Chairman, Mr. W. W. Kelly, T.C.; vice-chairman, Mr. P. Golightly; hon. secretary, Mr. R. Grant. Sports Committee: Chairman, Captain A. Rutherford, J.P.; vice-chairman, Mr. H. Coleman; hon. secretaries, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun., Mr. T. Roland Barratt, and Mrs. T. Blair. Press and Advertising Committee: Chairman, Mr. H. L. Golbourne. Band and Procession Committee: Chairman, Captain A. Rutherford, J.P.; vice-chairman, Mr. T. Swift; hon. secretary, Mr. W. Morrison. Ground Committee: Mr. J. McKenna and Mr. Tom Watson. Considering the weather, the attendance was very satisfactory, over 5,000 people paying for admission.

Amongst those present were the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman W. H. Williams, J.P.), the Mayor of Bootle (Canon H. W. Carruthers, J.P.), Mrs. and Miss Carruthers, and Mr. J. F. McKenna (Chairman of the Liverpool Football Club and the English League).

The sports programme was made up of no fewer than twenty-one events, and altogether prizes to the total value of £300 were offered, including five silver cups and a vase. It is expected that the profits will amount to considerably over £1,000.

THE old Prince of Wales' Theatre, Liverpool, the boards of which have been trodden by every actor of note in the mid-Victorian era, is to be turned to the purposes of an auctioneer's business. The old theatre has undergone many changes in adapting it to its new uses, but the old proscenium decorative border remains intact, and the green-room and dressing-rooms below, including the apartment which was occupied by Sir Henry Irving, have also survived.

THE new Palace Theatre, Rugby, which is in course of erection, will be substantially built of brick with stone dressings, having a frontage of 61ft. The auditorium will consist of boxes, orchestra stalls, pit stalls, pit, dress circle, family circle, and gallery. The stage will be 36ft. by 50ft. and will be fitted with a fireproof curtain. Electric light will be installed, and the house will be heated with water on the low-pressure system. The new theatre, of which the proprietor is Mr. Frank Langley, will open on Boxing Day with the pantomime *Aladdin*, produced by Mr. Fred Storey.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, JUNE 23.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—A crowded house assembled here on Saturday evening, when Mr. Oscar Asche presented Shakespeare's delightful comedy *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. It is many years since the comedy has been seen in Melbourne, and, consequently, the audience was a critical one; nevertheless, the verdict after the performance was entirely in favour of Mr. Asche and his capable company. As Sir John Falstaff Mr. Oscar Asche was seen at his best; he presented the fat knight just as we have pictured him through Shakespeare's description. Miss Brayton as Mistress Ford was admirable, and was ably supported by Miss Constance Robertson as Mistress Page. Their gaiety was infectious, and of the most exuberant and laughter compelling kind. As Master Ford Mr. Herbert Grimwood was seen at his best; Doctor Caius was well portrayed by Mr. Caleb Porter; Mr. Tripp Edgar made the most of the part of Sir Hugh Evans; Mr. Kay Souper was excellent as Slender; Miss Elfrida Clement dealt very sweetly and coquettishly with the rôle of Anne Page; while Miss Bessie Major has never been seen to better advantage than as Mistress Quickly. The comedy throughout is mounted on a lavish scale. At the close of the performance Miss Lily Brayton was the recipient of many handsome floral tributes.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—Another crowded house greeted William Anderson's new dramatic production *The Sailor's Wedding* on Saturday evening. The drama seems a most popular one, and apparently will enjoy a long run. The cast is excellent, and the scenery far above the average. The bioscope pictures of the late King's Funeral are also a strong attraction.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—A particularly strong programme is being presented here just now, and includes Miss Olive Lenton and her clever company of eight singers and dancers in the musical scena *Harvest Time*. The Falcons present an amusing comedy acrobatic act; the Raymond Trio give a clever musical turn; Fred Keeton convulses the house with his comic songs; and interesting turns are contributed by Albertas and Millar, the Three Dardinis, Tom Dawson, Bert Terrell, Will White, the Two Colliers, Ted Kalman, Vande and Verne, Eileen Lyons, Brown and Robinson, and many more.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—A complete change of programme served to draw a crowded house here on Saturday evening. Excellent items were furnished by Morris and Wilson (comedy acrobats), Gray and Graham (musical turn), Tim Howard (vocalist), Jessie Lee (balladist), Carlton and Sutton (sketch artists), Wally Ricardo, James Craydon, Linda Davis, Harry Rocka, Vera Kearns, and a host of others.

MANY hundreds were unable to gain admission to Tait's Pictures at the Athenæum Hall on Saturday, when the new programme was very well received.

WORTH'S Olympia was crowded on Saturday evening, when a complete change of programme was submitted by Spencer's Theatrescope Company.

WEST'S Picture Palace was filled to overflowing on Saturday evening, when an entire change of programme was made. West's Military Band supplied excellent music.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 8, the Musical Comedy
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is securing liberal patronage from lovers of musical comedy. The piece has been here often before, but with new numbers, pretty dresses, and, above all, a strong cast, it makes a bold bid for popularity. Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese, the pseudo Earl, forsakes the stereotyped methods of his predecessors in the part and presents a broadly comical impersonation of the dog-fancier which causes unlimited mirth, and during his occupancy of the stage a dull moment is impossible. Mr. Herbert St. John is a bright and bustling Dick Wargrave, and sings most acceptably. Mr. Lionel Scott is a genial representative of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Downham, the American solicitor, has all the necessary Yankee characteristics as impersonated by Mr. D. Fisher, jun.; Mr. Harry Courtin as the fire-eating Bunker Bliss plays in just the right vein; Mr. Jos. R. Tate is responsible for an unctuous performance as the Hebraic solicitor Mr. Talk; and the comfortably proportioned Mr. Hazel is appropriately played by Mr. A. Burgoyne. Miss Lily Gullick acts and sings very charmingly as Elphin Haye; and Daisy Fallowfield has a graceful representative in Miss Blanche Astley. Miss Edith Blande acts in the true spirit of burlesque as the strong lady, Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Virginia Bliss is safely entrusted to Miss Flora Gordon; and Miss Lina Hicks in the low-comedy part of 'Liza Shoddam, Jim Cheese's sweetheart, contributes a performance of considerable merit.

The "Chantecler" speciality introduced in the second act is decidedly novel and entertaining, the success of which is shared by Mr. Herbert St. John (Cock Bird), Miss Blanche Astley (Hen Pheasant), and Miss Lily Gullick (Guinea Fowl). The solo dance by Mr. Dutton Nicholls is also an enjoyable contribution. The very efficient chorus and augmented orchestra are under the baton of Mr. Bert J. Paterson, and the tour is under the direction of Mr. Chas. McLagan.

PRINCESS BARIATINSKY, the famous Russian actress who figured in the Afternoon Theatre performances at His Majesty's in the autumn of 1908, is looking forward to a return to London in November to recite the Arlésienne of Daudet in French to the accompaniment of Bizet's music.

THE Princess, whose stage name, it will be remembered is Lydia Yavorskaia, has been indicating to an interviewer of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, Russia's tastes in drama. "In Russia," she said, "Shakespeare and Ibsen are reverenced as prophets, and both are played frequently and well, for, before all things, we must have truth, and more truth. French plays are not tolerated; we will have none of them. If a play rings false we Russians will not listen to it. But though we love the masterpieces of dramatic art, we love good comedy also." After Shakespeare the Princess considered that Ibsen had affected Russian dramatic art most, and the German influence ranked next. The Russians are not in favour of long runs for any play; theirs is more the répertoire style of art.

MADAME has exalted ideals of the mission of the stage. "The theatre," she went on to say, "should be a great educator, a means of placing high ideals before the public and of teaching them all that is best and truest in art. The trend of the author's work, too, will follow the kind of plays presented. If the demand is for such plays as are realistic, and contain high ideals, authors will be found to supply the demand. Where plays are presented which fall short of true art principles the authors will be found to correspond. Shakespeare, it is true, belongs to the world, but you English have first claim on him; but it is seldom that we see Shakespeare acted in London, and yet the English public will allow many a rubbishy French play, which is bad because it is bad art."

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Charles Wyndham is enjoying the invigorating air of Aix-les-Bains, making his headquarters the Hotel de l'Europe. The popular resort has many visitors representative of the rank and fashion of the Continental capitals.

Sir Squire Bancroft has left for Marienbad. Lady Bancroft, who is now in much better health, will remain at Underlea, Sandgate.

Mr. H. B. Irving is also away holiday-making, and is spending a short vacation among the wooded environment of Faversham in Kent.

Miss Evelyn Millard has selected the none too new title of *The Crisis* for the adaptation by Rudolf Besier of Pierre Berton's play, *La Recontre*, which will be produced at the New on Wednesday, Aug. 31. One of the best-known pieces bearing the title mentioned was J. Albery's adaptation of Emile Augier's *Les Fourchambault*, produced at the Haymarket in 1878. In addition to Miss Millard the cast will include Miss Sarah Brooke, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Athol Stewart, Mr. Douglas Imbert, and Mr. Norman McKinnel.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith was the object of an enthusiastic demonstration on the occasion of the fiftieth performance of *Billy's Bargain* at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday. Mr. Grossmith takes leave of his London admirers this evening, being bound for America, where he will present *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, a play in which the popular comedian has one of his most effective roles. While wishing Mr. Grossmith all prosperity and success in the States, his supporters will eagerly await his return in a year's time, when the run of *Betty's Bargain*, thus prematurely cut short, will be resumed.

Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier have decided upon Saturday, September 3, as the date of the first performance of George Paston's new play, *Nobody's Daughter*, at Wyndham's Theatre.

Mr. Laurence Irving is desirous of pointing out that *The Unwritten Law*, the drama he has founded on Dostoievsky's novel "Crime and Punishment," and which he proposes to produce in Manchester next week, was first acted three years ago by Mr. E. H. Sothern in America, under a title of Mr. Sothern's choice. Several American papers characterised the play as dealing with the Unwritten Law problem, which then and there suggested to Mr. Irving the title which he has now adopted. Mr. Hall Caine has taken it also for the piece he has in hand, while the title was used by Mr. John Lawson for a sketch he produced at the Holborn Empire in the May of 1907.

Mr. Hall Caine has conceived the idea of transforming *The Eternal City*, which Sir Herbert Tree produced at His Majesty's in 1902, into an entirely new play, in which the question of divorce will be treated from the point of view of the recent Commission. The plot and characters of the original will be retained, though, of course, the dialogue will be entirely changed. The new version will be called *The Eternal Question*, and will form the autumn attraction at the Garrick, where it will be staged on Aug. 27.

The production will be managed by Mr. Ralph Hall Caine, the eldest son of the dramatist, who has recently been touring the halls with an excerpt from *The Eternal City*. Miss Tittell-Brune, the popular Australian actress, who made a favourable impression during the last fortnight of *The Woman in the Case*, in Miss Irene Vanbrugh's part, will play Roma. Mr. Guy Standing, recently acting in *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, will be the Bonelli; Mr. Vernon Steel will appear as David Rossi, the man of the people; and Mr. Halliwell Hobbes will take the part of the Pope.

Mr. Hall Caine's new play, *The Bishop's Son*, will be produced at Douglas, Isle of Man, for the first time on Monday night. In reply to a request from friends that he should play the part of the Bishop, Mr. Hall Caine has telegraphed:—"Would dearly like to play the beloved Bishop, but don't take it from Mr. Grant, who will give a far better performance. Nevertheless, will gladly be present on Monday night, all well, and do anything else audience desire on first production of our new Manx play."

The offspring of musical and dramatic celebrities were united in marriage on Monday, when Mr. Frank Cellier, only son of François Cellier, the famous Savoy conductor, and Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, the only daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris were wedded by special licence at Marylebone Registry office. It will be remembered that Miss Harris and Mr. Cellier have been playing leads together in Shakespearean répertoire on tour for the past four years.

Miss Glossop-Harris made her first appearance at Eastbourne in 1903 as Benedick's page in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and since then has fulfilled engagements with Mrs. Michael Gunn, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Norman V. Norman, and Mrs. Brown-Potter. Her Shakespearean parts have included Juliet, Beatrice, Desdemona, Portia, and Ophelia, in addition to Camille and Carmen. The newly-wedded pair are now busy rehearsing at Terry's Theatre for their autumn tour, which starts on Aug. 22.

An influential committee, including practically every West End manager, and headed by Sir Herbert Tree, has in hand the arrangements for the benefit matinée for Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, which was postponed in consequence of King Edward's death, and will take place at the Lyceum on Tuesday, Sept. 6. The theatre will be lent for the occasion by Messrs. Melville, and a programme of outstanding attractiveness is promised.

News of footlight favourites who have retired from the scene of their labours is always welcome. Miss Maud Jeffries, who was Wilson Barrett's leading lady and the original Mercia in *The Sign of the Cross*, left the stage several years ago on becoming the wife of a wealthy Australian wool king. This week's mail brings news of her emergence from retirement to play at a matinée in a Sydney theatre for the benefit of the Bush Nursing Scheme, initiated by the Countess of Dudley, wife of the Governor-General of the Commonwealth. The former popular actress appeared as the animated statue in Sir W. S. Gilbert's *Pygmalion and Galatea*, a part that her statuesque beauty should well fit her for. The theatre was densely crowded, and the net profit of the performance exceeded £700.

Mr. A. E. Matthews has achieved a triumph on his first visit to America, and his appearance at the Garrick Theatre, New York, as Theodore Sanders in Winchell Smith's version of Frank Anstey's farcical romance *Love Among the Lions* won a chorus of praise from the American critics, who regard him as a finished comedian and a decided acquisition to the American stage.

The many friends of Mr. Herbert Chenery, of the Duke of York's Theatre, will be pleased to have an opportunity of congratulating him. On Saturday last his wife presented him with a bonny girl.

Sir Herbert Tree will provide, in his production of *Henry VIII.* on Sept. 1, a spectacular sensation of which even His Majesty's will be proud. The banquet at Wolsey's palace will be bewildering with its costly splendour, golden nets, heaped with sweetmeats and gold coins, gliding along over the tables laden with luxuries. The Coronation in Westminster Abbey will be on no less magnificent a scale.

Sir Herbert's embodiment of Wolsey will represent him as one of the greatest Englishmen who ever lived. He will show him stout of girth in his cardinal's robe and a very Prince of the Church. Mr. Bourchier will not depict Henry at any particular age of his life, though he will indicate earlier youth at the beginning of the play. Later his arrogance and pride will be made prominent. Miss Violet Vanbrugh is sure to make the sweetest of Catherines; Mr. Henry Ainley will make a noble Duke of Buckingham; and for the Duke of Norfolk and the Duke of Surrey highly qualified representatives have been selected in Mr. A. E. George and Mr. Gerald Lawrence.

Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's clever four-act comedy, *Fanny and the Servant Problem*, will in future be known under its American title of *The New Lady Bantock*. Miss Beatrice Moreau and Mr. Horace Lingard, with this comedy and their répertoire, are meeting with much success in the provinces, and with the exception of two weeks are booked up to Jan. 23 of next year.

"Priscilla Runs Away" is still playing to record business at the Haymarket, where crowded houses are the rule. So exceptional is the demand that Mr. Trench finds it impossible to close for the usual summer vacation, and therefore, in order to give the company the opportunity of securing a little week-end relaxation ,and a relief from the strain of playing eight times weekly, he has decided to discontinue the Saturday evening performances for the present, beginning to-day. All other performances will, of course, take place as usual, including the Wednesday and Saturday matinées, the theatre being closed only this evening, and Saturdays, Aug. 20, 27, and Sept. 3.

One of the forthcoming autumn productions is to be a new one-act play called *The Secret*, by Mr. William le Queux, the popular novelist. The scene of Mr. le Queux's play is laid in the Prefecture of Police in Paris. Many *Secrets* have already appeared on the stage, the latest recorded being that divulged at the St. George's Hall in 1888.

Mr. Willie Clarkson is a man of resource, and nothing in the show line is beyond him. His Grace the Duke of Westminster wired for a bull and a dozen costumes for matadors and picadors, so that a mock bull-fight might be arranged for the delectation of His Majesty the King of Spain, who has been a guest of the Duke at Eaton Hall. Within two hours of receiving the request Mr. Clarkson had sent off the bull and costumes complete. The entertainment was highly successful, the amusing skit causing the King and audience to laugh heartily. Mr. Clarkson was complimented by his Grace the Duke of Westminster, and his Spanish Majesty expressed his entire appreciation of the entertainment.

Mr. Robert Loraine placed himself in the front rank of aviators on Wednesday, when he made a record over-sea flight, travelling in his Farman biplane from Blackpool to Rhos, between Colwyn Bay and Llandudno. Forty-eight miles of his sixty-mile journey were over water, and he thus broke the world's record made by the late Hon. C. S. Rolls on his double cross-Channel journey.

Starting from the Blackpool aerodrome soon after six in the morning, Mr. Loraine, who wore a lifebelt as a precautionary measure, flew across the sea to Wales, landing at Rhos-on-Sea golf links, near Llandudno, after a voyage of about sixty-five miles. Ascending again at 5.50 p.m., with the intention of going to Holyhead, he passed Llandudno, and was lost to view in a thick fog off Orme's Head. Great anxiety was felt as to his fate, but early the following morning it was learned that he had safely descended at Cemlyn, North Anglesey, after a difficult journey owing to the fog.

The actor-aviator has found a rival among the feminine members of the profession, Miss Olga Humphrey, a Californian actress, having decided to take up aeroplaning next month. Miss Humphrey is to be leading lady for Mr. Stanley Cooke, who reopens the Strand Theatre on Sept. 10 with *The Man from Mexico*, an American version of Gondinet and Bisson's farce *Le Voyage d'Agrément*. Recently he received a letter from the lady, in which she stated she proposed going from Munich to Oberammergau to witness the Passion Play, and that the first twenty-five miles would be accomplished in an airship and the remainder in a motor. Mr. Cooke wired begging Miss Humphrey not to attempt the flight; but she had already started, accompanied by five gentlemen. The voyage proved a success, and Mr. Cooke had a telegram announcing the safe arrival of the party.

A remarkably successful performance was given by Mr. Walter Pearce's Pastoral company on the evening of Friday, July 29, at Killerton Park, the beautiful Devonshire seat of Sir Thomas and Lady Dyke Acland. An ideal spot had been chosen, and the smooth, level turf made a fine stage, to which exquisite romance and glamour were lent by the surrounding woodland scenery. The grounds were a veritable fairyland. The company included Miss Ella Erskine, who is a connection of Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Miss Mabel Beardsley, sister of the celebrated artist, Miss Irene Clarke, Mr. W. R. Staveley, Mr. Richard Fielding, and Mr. C. H. Croker-King.

The programme was a very varied one, the principal item being an abridged version of Rostand's *Fantasticks*, in which Miss Ella Erskine and Mr. Walter Pearce appeared as the lovers, Sylvette and Percinet, which parts they played with a delightful daintiness, both looking as if they had stepped out of one of Watteau's pictures. Mr. C. H. Croker-King as Straforel and Mr. W. R. Staveley as Pasquin also gave excellent performances.

A very charming novelty was Miss Erskine's dramatisation of Mr. Kenneth Grahame's story *The Roman Road*. It was the first performance of a little play which should become very popular. In the parts of the artist and the boy Mr. C. H. Croker-King and Miss Irene Clarke scored a distinct success.

Another very popular item was Miss Erskine's "little comedy" *The Typist*, which she has arranged for pastoral purposes, and in which the authoress and Mr. Walter Pearce won many laughs and much applause. The "production" of the plays and the excellence of the performances reflected great credit upon Mr. Walter Pearce.

We regret to record the death, at Southport on the 2nd inst., at the early age of 23, of Mr. Ernest Hume, brother of Mr. Walter Hume, and recently a member of the Moody-Manners Opera company. The funeral took place on the 5th inst. at Southport.

Mr. Martin Harvey is passing some pleasant days in the Isle of Wight. Their pleasantness has been somewhat disturbed by the statement that he is likely to appear at the Palladium next December in a condensed version of *The Only Way*. Mr. Harvey requests us emphatically to deny his intention of doing so, and says in the course of a wire: "Announcement absolutely incorrect and impossible. Please contradict immediately."

Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss are in Scotland acquiring renewed energy for their separate autumn campaigns in London. Mr. Hicks will be seen at the Coliseum in his long-promised impersonation of *Richard III.*, and his accomplished wife will appear in a condensed version of *Bluebell in Fairyland* at the Hippodrome.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, back from his holiday in Cornwall, is growing a beard and moustache, in order that he may play all the more effectively the part of the King in Sir Herbert Tree's forthcoming production of Shakespeare's *King Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's. "Why not grow a beard?" queried the popular actor, after the sensation created among the company by his altered appearance had subsided. "We have heard of actors 'getting into the skin of a part,' why not into the beard?"

The betrothal is announced of Miss Katherine Corri Harris, daughter of a wealthy New York lawyer, and Mr. John Barrymore, the idolised American actor. Miss Harris's father, it is said, is opposed to the match because of his daughter's youth, but her mother favours it. A few months ago, it may be remembered, it was widely reported that Mr. Barrymore had been insured for a large sum against marriage.

The Bombay Parsee Theatrical Company is erecting a large temporary theatre in Madras to seat about 2,000 people. Included in the company's répertoire, it is interesting to learn, are plays of such purely English atmosphere as *Charlie's Aunt*, *A Country Girl*, and *East Lynne*.

Mr. Stanley Drewitt, whose performance of David Roberts, in *Strife*, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, met with such notable success, has been re-engaged for that successful repertory theatre. Mr. Drewitt, it may be added, recently completed a two years' engagement in America, playing Macbeth, Cassius, Prospero, and the Vicar (in *The Servant in the House*) among other parts.

During the Beecham season of opera, which commences on Oct. 1, we are promised several new operas, as well as many that have not been heard for years past in this country.

With the active support of the local Playgoers' Society, Mr. Robert Arthur proposes to give a short experimental season on genuine repertory lines during the coming autumn at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. Among the plays which will be given are Ibsen's *Doll's House* and *Rosmersholm*, Edmond Rostand's *Fantasticks*, and Maeterlinck's *The Death of Tantagiles*.

On Monday evening Mr. H. E. Loseby, the esteemed musical director of Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, began his twentieth year of service in that capacity. During that long period Mr. Loseby's orchestra has been a leading feature of this pretty playhouse, and we extend our congratulations to him and trust he may be long spared to fill his present position.

The Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, has been leased for seven years to Messrs. Murray King and Clarke. The house reopens on Monday with a week of grand opera by the Castellano company.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's *From Convent to Throne* production recommenced its successful tour last week at Newport amidst the hearty greetings of the local playgoers. Business throughout the week was enormous, as, indeed, it should be, for a more elaborate and well-appointed production it would be hard to find on tour.

Mr. Alfred Northway will shortly produce a romantic one-act play with a thrilling spectacular prologue, entitled *Disarmed*, in which ten artists will appear. The production will be on an elaborate scale.

Mr. Graham Morrison has been appointed business-manager of the Strand Theatre. Mr. Morrison's last engagement for Mr. Frohman was to manage for Miss Marie Tempest in *Penelope*. During his extensive career he has managed many of the best companies on the road, and controlled several provincial theatres, and, in addition, has served as acting-manager at two West End houses.

Mr. and Mrs. Montague Fowler, who are now in residence at the Castle, Ryde, I.W., are well known for their hospitality to members of the theatrical profession. Last week-end they numbered among their guests Miss Mary Forbes, who is now busy rehearsing in *The Speckled Band*, Mr. Norman Trevor, and Mr. Wilfred Fletcher.

Miss Horniman has secured the services of Mr. Juan Buonaparte to embody Napoleon in Bernard Shaw's piece *The Man of Destiny*, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, for the week beginning Sept 6. Mr. Buonaparte is a direct descendant of Napoleon, and his remarkable likeness to his great ancestor is an invaluable asset in his impersonation of the rôle.

Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart is on the look-out for a fishing companion to fish Loch Lomond during week commencing August 29. Expenses, boat and man, about ten shillings a day. Lake contains salmon, sea trout, and lake trout. Communications should be sent to Mr. Stewart at the Green Room Club, Leicester-square.

Mr. Monkton Hoffe takes the greatest interest in the company now touring in his play *The Little Damozel*, and recently when a literary club was started among the members he forwarded to the secretary a handsome donation which put the concern on a firm business basis.

Her late Majesty's servants, the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, have again secured the services of Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins, who rejoins this famous combination for their forthcoming 39th season. Mr. Gittins has been absent from the Carl Rosa Company for about eighteen months, during which time he has been running his own grand opera sketches in London and the provinces.

Mr. W. H. C. Nation, we learn, is once more to enter the arena of theatrical management, and will start a season in September at the Royalty, where he made his last essay in the autumn of 1908. His opening attraction will be the musical play *The Kingdom of Kennaquhair*, which was produced during the period named.

"Are You a Mason?" equipped with pretty new scenery and a strong cast, will run right on through the autumn, and is well booked for the spring of 1911. The comedy, which is of a class that will never die in the public favour, was another of Mr. Charles Frohman's productions, and was originally sent on tour under the joint management of that gentleman and Mr. George Edwardes.

The Hutchison management have secured an instantaneous success with *Smith*. The returns at Brighton and Eastbourne have eclipsed those of such great plays as *Penelope*, and *Mrs. Dot* and have fully justified Miss Emma and Percy Hutchison's opinion that the play would be a huge success in the provinces, with the result that two companies are now on tour, under the control of this astute management.

"A Royal Divorce," according to a communication received from Mr. W. W. Kelly, is doing better now on tour than ever in its career. At Belfast this week it is breaking records nightly. On Monday it will be at the Opera House, Southport, with the Queen's, Manchester, to follow, this making its fifty-eighth visit to Cottonopolis.

Mr. Kelly has booked Mr. H. P. Towers's company in the Wyndham's Theatre success, *The Best People*, for Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. The company includes Messrs. Henry Renouf, Claude Haviland, and Fredk. Meads.

Next week sees the last of the twice-nightly drama season at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal. With *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* the regular autumn drama season sets in. "Twice nightly, cheap prices, and smoking" has proved a big success at the Royal, and will probably be in vogue again next summer.

Mr. Charles Aldred, having concluded a ten weeks' Moss-Stoll tour with Mr. Rudolph De Cordova's *Organ Grinder* company, will resume his old part of Tigellinus in *The Sign of the Cross* at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Monday next.

Mr. Wingold Lawrence, who has been playing the leading parts in Mr. Walter Melville's répertoire in South Africa since April last, concludes his engagement at the end of August, and will arrive in England about the middle of September. He is engaged by Mr. Melville to create a part in a new production early in October.

Mr. H. G. Wells is now actively engaged in the South of Germany upon the construction of his promised first play. The new piece is to be a dramatisation of "Kipps," the most widely read of all his books, and the popular author will have the collaboration of Mr. Rudolph Besier, the author of the successful *Don* and the admirable *Virgin Goddess*.

Mr. Townsend Whitling, who is responsible for the production and stage direction of *The Naked Truth* touring company, also plays James Darrell (Mr. Arthur Playfair's part). The company will be at the Marlborough Theatre, this coming week.

Mr. Reginald Payne, who made a hit as the light-hearted Lieutenant in both Mr. Walter Howard's companies of the Lyceum success *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, will play the King in *Long Live the King* at the Nottingham Hippodrome next week. He has booked Mme. Adah Payne (late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company) for the same week at the King's Theatre, Nottingham, where she will submit her well-known renderings of Tosti's "Good-bye" and "Your eyes have told me so," a song she has made exceedingly popular.

As a result of the recent competition at the Trinity College of Music, London, the following scholarships, tenable at the College for one year, with a possible renewal thereof, have been awarded:—Pianoforte, Doris S. Fell, Patrick Thayer; singing, Alice E. Booth, Jennie Clarke, Edith E. Hillard; organ, Walter M. Witherick; violin, Margaret Bradfield, Samuel Kutcher, Evelyn M. Moore; oboe, Dorothy M. Beattie; violoncello, Giovanni B. Barbirolli. Free tuition for one year, with possible renewal, has been awarded to: Theory, Harry A. Gray and Eunice S. Lucas; singing, John S. Priestley. Also free tuition or a scholarship to: Singing, Wylde Leyland, Frederick E. Woodhouse. The following were highly commended:—Edie Marr (pianoforte), John A. Tatan and Leonard Gordon (organ), Nellie Simpson (violin), Sarah M. Adams, Olga S. Borsdorf, Dorothy M. Chambers, Ethel M. Harvey, Eveline Matthews, Ruby L. M. Shepherd, and Vera G. Steel (singing).

"His Real Wife," a domestic play, by Charles A. Clarke, will have its first London production at the Lyric, Hammersmith, on Monday. The piece, which was originally produced at the Court Theatre, Warrington, on Dec. 27 last, will be presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's No. 1 company, including the clever actress Miss Ward and Mr. Albert Sember.

Miss Edith Webber, who has recently been running her own répertoire company in the "smalls," playing the leads in *Ingomar*, *Lady of Lyons*, *Jane Shore*, *Caste*, *East Lynne*, and *The Little Witness*, a play written by her husband (Mr. Julian Bainbridge), has been engaged to play Sophie Blanchard in *The Grip of Iron* at the Brixton Theatre next week.

The last performance of *Alias Jimmy Valentine* was given at the Comedy Theatre on Friday. Mr. Charles Frohman is sending this play on a tour to the leading cities of Great Britain early next spring.

Mr. George Dance's company of *The Whip* will embark on a long tour of the principal theatres at the Grand Blackpool, next week. Mr. Dance has been lavish in his expenditure, and the scenery, properties, and effects will be an exact replica of the Drury Lane production. The cast is a powerful one. In order to ensure the representation of the great race and railway collision scenes with due realism, the whole production has been duplicated, so that where necessary the entire machinery will arrive in each town some days in advance for the requisite rehearsals, to make the Monday night's performance perfect in every detail.

Once again *The New Barmaid* is to visit London, having been booked by Mr. Robert Arthur for his attraction at the Fulham Theatre next week. Mr. Alexander Loftus will again appear as Bertie White, and Miss Violet Osmund, who has been having a long rest, will be the lady journalist.

Pastoral plays were given in the Kursaal Gardens, Harrogate, on Thursday, when Mr. Walter Pearce's company appeared in *As You Like It*. Mr. Walter Pearce made a manly Orlando, imparting a romantic air to Shakespeare's most interesting young lover. Mr. C. H. Croker-King made a hit as Touchstone, and Miss Ella Erskine's pretty and graceful Rosalind won all hearts by her delightful coquetry. Mr. Rathmell Wilson was good as the philosopher Jacques; and the other parts were well played. *The Roman Road*, by Miss Ella Erskine, and *The Typist*, by the same lady, were also in the bill. The entertainment concluded with *The Fantasticks*, translated from the French of Rostand by George Fleming. Miss Erskine was excellent as Sylvette; Mr. Walter Pearce did extremely well as Percinet; Mr. Croker-King as Straforel was very amusing; and Messrs. Wilson and Winston were good in their respective parts.

The management of the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, passes on Monday next into the hands of Mr. F. G. Kimberley. The house will remain closed for a week for redecorations, and will reopen on the 22nd inst. There is every prospect of Mr. Kimberley meeting with success in his new rôle, for not only are he and his talented wife extremely popular in Wolverhampton, where for a lengthy period they had a permanent home at The Scotlands, but his long experience of drama should enable him to know just what will suit his patrons. He is fast filling his date book, and has already secured several first-class attractions. Although Mr. Kimberley is again taking up his residence in Wolverhampton he will still keep a watchful eye on his various touring companies.

The German Emperor has been giving expression to his views on present-day plays and to a criticism of the working classes in their attitude towards the drama. He noted with great satisfaction that the grossly realistic modern dramas were going out of fashion, and that dramatists were turning their attention more and more to historical subjects.

"Sudermann has changed his medium," remarked the Kaiser to a representative of the *Frankfort Gazette*, in whose columns his interview with Fräulein Annie Wall, who lunched with the Emperor on the Imperial yacht at Bergen, is published. "His *Strandkinder* shows the beginning of a new epoch of his muse. Last winter I saw with pleasure the sound judgment in theatrical matters exhibited by our working classes. At the Royal Theatre in Berlin we have arranged special workmen's evenings, and the audiences liked nothing so much as the historical plays. Had we given them the sordidly realistic *Nachtasyl*, which deals with the unemployed problem, they would not have appreciated it. They want to see something cheerful, something which will lift them to higher things and make them forget their daily sorrows.

"Next winter we shall give them Hebbel's *Niebelungen*, nobly staged. I consider the Niebelungen lore the finest of all, and the Hebbel version is the best. It is a pity Wagner did not use Hebbel's text as the foundation of his trilogy; it would have been a very different work then. The best theatrical production and the finest acting I have seen," added his Majesty, "in recent times was the Moscow Theatre Company's performance of *Tsar Feodor* in Berlin. I have seen nothing nobler; it was grand—wonderful. I think that the Swedish Vasa Kings would form a fine subject for drama, but it would need a new Shakespeare to write them."

The Kaiser speaks with some authority on the subject of the drama, for he owns no fewer than six theatres. These comprise houses at Wiesbaden, Cassel, and Hanover, in addition to the Royal Opera, the Theatre Royal, and the Royal Operetta Theatre at Berlin. The Royal theatres are an heirloom of the King of Prussia, who receives a State grant for their maintenance, but has to make up the deficit out of his own pocket. For the Royal theatres in Berlin the Ministry of the Interior assigns yearly £125,000, which sum is made up to £147,500 out of the Privy Purse. The annual deficit on this total, however, is seldom less than £15,000, and this the Emperor has to make good as well. His other theatres, especially that at Wiesbaden, also cost the Emperor large sums.

At a little town in the south of France a performance of Shakespeare's *Tempest* was on Sunday interrupted by a strike of stage hands. The thunder and lightning did not crash and flash as arranged, and, when the manager went behind the stage, he found the men who should have been engaged in making the waves roll standing idle with their arms crossed. Remonstrances and cajoling were in vain. It was a question of arrears of wages. The matter was at length adjusted to the satisfaction of the strikers, and *The Tempest* was resumed.

Several improvements have been effected in the Opera House, Workington, during the recent closure. The stage has been relaid, and the whole of the dressing-rooms remounted, whilst a set of artistic forest borders enhance the appearance of the proscenium front. A hot-water apparatus for heating purposes has been installed and seven large radiators have been erected, which will effectually dispose of the complaints of cold, draughts, and chills during the winter. Seven rows of handsome red velvet tip-up chairs have been placed in the pit stalls and one row added to the grand circle. New carpets of the thick Wilton pile pattern have been laid in the pit stalls, and cocoa-nut fibre mats within the main entrances help to make the house comfortable.

Mr. Norman Trevor, who gave proof of his dramatic ability in Mr. Arthur Bourchier's production of *Glass Houses* at the Globe and in Sir Herbert Tree's Shakespearean Festival at His Majesty's, is an athlete as well as an actor. For ten years he was all-round amateur athletic champion of India, and holds the records there for 100 yards (10sec.), 120 yards hurdles (15⅖sec.), the quarter mile (50sec.), and high jump (5ft. 10in.) At Stamford Bridge in 1900 he represented India in the Amateur Athletic Association championships, and during the same year won the London Athletic Club's 100 yards, 120 yards hurdles, and quarter-mile championships. As a member of the English team he competed in Paris at the Olympic games.

As the result of a wager he accomplished a remarkable feat in India. He walked a mile, ran a mile, and rode a mile on horseback, all within nineteen minutes, the actual time, in fact, being 18min. 46sec. When the *Sands o' Dee* was produced at the Hippodrome Mr. Trevor played the sailor hero, in which the training he had in the Calcutta Light Horse and at polo stood him in good stead, for he had to ride into the foaming waves of the arena and rescue the heroine.

A remarkable tribute to the attractive powers of *Our Miss Gibbs* is made by the admission of a young girl, who lives near Putney, that she has visited the gallery of the Gaiety Theatre to see the same play on 111 occasions in a little over eighteen months. "I have been so often to see the play," the young lady confessed, "that the policeman who regulates the queue has grown to know me, and in the long waits if I should want a cup of tea he keeps my place until I return. One day I saw a girl in the queue whom I had observed very frequently, and she assured me she had seen *Miss Gibbs* 150 times. I now know the play by heart, and the first act I have written out from memory."

Inspired by the encouraging words of Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Ernest S. Cove, the enthusiastic advocate of the establishment of Welsh drama, has thought out a plan of campaign which he is preparing to place before those interested in the scheme. He is asking all who have made or wish to make attempts at writing plays, who wish to organise dramatic societies in Wales, who have taken part or wish to take part in Welsh plays written in either the English or Welsh language, or who are in any way interested, to send their names and addresses to him. This will enable him to call a meeting, before which he would lay his plans. Mr. Cove's address is 24, Herbert-street, Treorky.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

R. G. Knowles—Lion Tamer.

Dick Knowles has had many thrilling adventures, and there is one that will always be fresh in his memory. It occurred in South Africa. The light being almost perfect, he went out cycling at four o'clock in the morning, picking his way over the veldt and taking note of prominent landmarks in order that he might find his way back. He was riding along a narrow grove of trees when a full-grown lion, with his lady and a sample of the children, stepped on to the road in front of him. "Frankly, I felt frightened," said R. G., with commendable candour. "I wanted to stop and turn round, but somehow I kept on, although I noticed that my knees were shaking and that my front wheel was describing 'S's.' As I got nearer I began to wobble worse. The lion just stood one minute, blinked, and then turned and fled, followed by his connubial dependents. Almost too dazed to think, I made off as fast as I could. Probably the animal was frightened of my wobbling cycle, for I heard when I got back that the previous week it had dragged a horse down, almost killing it and its rider."

A Maturing Play.

An old Parisian playgoer, when he heard of Mesdames Brandès and Simone falling out over the chief woman's part in *Le Vieil Homme*, dived back into his reminiscences. He remembered a similar quarrel between Mesdames Réjane and Jeanne Granier over the same rôle something like eighteen or nineteen years ago. Boys have had time to grow up and out of their twenties and young men to grow middle-aged since first Mesdames Jeanne Granier and Réjane each tried to wrest from the other the heroine's part in the piece, which neither got. Everyone seems very much to doubt whether the play, which was projected by the author M. Georges de Porto Riche before the production of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, really will be performed next winter at the Renaissance. At the last moment the author may very likely consider that ten years or more of maturing will improve it. At any rate, we ought to feel thankful that we waited only seven years for *Chantecler*. One hopes there is nothing topical about M. de Porto Riche's *Old Adam*. The keen Parisian detected that even seven years had been enough to age some of the satire of *Chantecler*—in the third act, for example.

Criticism and Minor Melodrama.

A Mr. S. J. Luck writes to the *Morning Leader*: "The other evening I went to a suburban theatre to see a sensational drama. I was so disgusted with the usual plot—lovers, villain, servant girl, policeman, clergyman, revolvers, and poison—that I left after the second act. Is it not surprising that the critics do not say a word in condemnation of these cheap plays, which degrade the artistic and æsthetic tastes of their audiences? A play produced for the first time at a fashionable West End theatre is carefully and minutely analysed in all the newspapers the next day. Such analyses refine and polish the tastes of playgoers. Why should popular dramas not be treated in the same way? I appeal to the critics to sow the seed of criticism where it is most necessary, even though it may not be always appreciated." Can it be truly said that the melodrama in question was "in Luck's way"?

Playwright and Practical Joker.

M. Tristan Bernard, author of *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, writes our Paris correspondent, is fond of practical joking. His last exploit in that domain took place in a restaurant which he frequently honours with his presence. Having taken his seat at one of the little tables, the waiter brought him the bill of fare. M. Bernard studied the document long, and finally ordered a "potage Crécy." The waiter placed the smoking basin on the table, walked away, whereupon M. Bernard called him back and said: "I can't eat that soup!" "Will you try a Julienne?" asked the man. "Yes, bring me a Julienne," replied the playwright. The Julienne having been brought, the guest again shook his head and remarked: "I can't eat that." The waiter scratched his head and suggested a "Bisque." But it shared the same fate, M. Bernard declaring that he could not eat it, whereupon the terrified waiter fetched the proprietor. "What is the matter with our soups today, and why can't you eat them?" asked that gentleman. "Because you have forgotten to give me a spoon," replied M. Bernard, gravely.

Actors and the Provinces.

"Why is it that so many members of the theatrical profession have such a dread of leaving London?" asks the *Glasgow Daily Record*. "Unless a London actor is quite pre-eminent he appears to entertain the foolish idea that he is hiding himself by taking an engagement in the Provinces. Considering how many of our great actors have made their reputations outside of London, and have never been ungrateful or unappreciative of the fact, it is certainly a curious thing that there should be this reluctance on the part of clever young members of the profession to realise that the worshippers of dramatic art do not all live in London. I heard to-day of a well-known young actor who can command £15 a week from any London manager, but whose appearances on the boards here are spasmodic, yet who has refused offers of £10 a week in the provinces, preferring to 'rest' in the Metropolis to work elsewhere. And that his case is the rule and not the exception the advertisements of 'resting' actors in theatrical and other papers are ample evidence."

Perpetual Copyright.

Mr. Hall Caine, writing to the *Strand Magazine* with reference to the proposed Charles Dickens Testimonial, says:—"My own view has always been that copyright should be perpetual; that it is a natural right, not created by the State, but only ratified by it. I, therefore, feel that the legal heirs of Dickens ought still to be in the enjoyment of revenue from his works. I sympathise with such objections to perpetual copyright as Mr. Gladstone during his lifetime urged, but the basis of those objections has been removed by the great cheapening of books which now places nearly all forms of literature within the reach of the humblest of the people. That being so, the only persons who benefit by the lapse of copyright are the printers and publishers, and the continual competition between them reduces their advantage to a minimum without materially benefiting the masses of the people." The popular novelist says nothing about the many adaptations from Dickens which have held the stage for many years, for which fees are paid to "adaptors."

A Young Man from South America.

Sir Charles Wyndham recounts with interest his début on the dramatic stage. It was in Washington, and he had to say on his entrance, "I am drunk with love and enthusiasm." He entered, and said in jerky, nervous tones, "I am drunk"—pause—"I am drunk"—pause—then, being seized with violent stage fright, he rushed from the stage. The papers said next day, "A Mr. Wyndham represented a young man from South America. He had better go there!"

Those Children!

An actor wishing to study the part of Hamlet in great seclusion at a seaside town, went round looking for quiet rooms. "Are your rooms nice and quiet?" he asked of one landlady. "Oh! yes, only a music-teacher lives next door, but, bless you, you can't hear the piano because of the noise his twelve children make!"

MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS TALKS.

"In these days of inflated salaries I do a grim smile when I think of my first engagement," says Mr. Arthur Williams. "It was at the Theatre Royal, Gravesend, December, 1861, in *The Corsican Brothers*, where for the princely salary of 16s. weekly I doubled the parts of Martelli and the Woodcutter. This Christmas sees me complete my forty-ninth year on the stage.

Experientia Docet.

"Leaving Gravesend followed a varied career in booths, fit-ups, ghost shows—twelve to eighteen parts a week being nothing extraordinary. During the next seven years it was a case of provincial stock business—they call it repertory theatre nowadays—at Glasgow, Manchester, Nottingham, Norwich, Birmingham, Bradford, &c., supporting such stars as Phelps, Barry Sullivan, Chas. Mathews, Toole, Sothern, Benjamin Webster, Mme. Celeste, &c. My first London appearance was at the St. James's Theatre in 1868.

A Favourite Part.

"I have rather a record for playing in long runs—*Dorothy* over 1,000 times, *Chinese Honeymoon* 1,000 performances, *Shop Girl* eighteen months, *Circus Girl* twelve months, *Belle of Mayfair* thirteen months. Also while at the Avenue I played the Tramp with Charles Hawtrey in the *Message from Mars* for a year and a half. I must admit the playing of this character gave me more pleasure than any other. People ask me what is my particular hobby. Well, seeing that I have played over 1,000 parts, I'd better say acting, but I have indulged in a little writing, being responsible for the following plays, *Secret of a Life*, *Leave it to Me*, *Funnibone's Fix*, *Christmas Chimes*, &c.

Unique Experiences.

"I have also had one or two unique experiences. Here is one. On Whit Monday, 1870, I played at the Crystal Palace in *Turn Him Out*, at 1.30; Highbury Barn at 4.30; Fanfaronade in *Belphegor* with Charles Dillon at the Surrey, including the farce of *The Married Bachelor*, at seven; and the Richmond Theatre, Surrey, at 10.30. I have also played a farce in Bradford and the burlesque of *Aladdin*

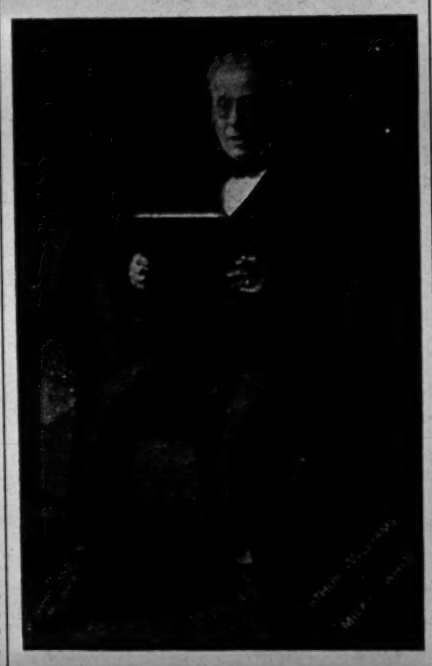

MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS AS MILKY WHITE.

in Halifax in one night. The other experience occurred when playing during the Agricultural Show week at Preston. The town was so packed with people who could not get away that we decided to give a midnight performance, consisting of two short farces and a variety show. We started at 12.30, finishing at 3.30, and were rewarded by a crowded house.

Look the Part.

"Do I believe in the old stock system? Why, certainly. To-day a London manager will tell an actor: 'My dear sir, I'm sorry, but I'm afraid you don't look the part. In the stock days you had to both look and act the part, or you were very soon dispensed with. Why, even in London at the Pavilion Theatre, in 1876, I played ninety-four parts in just over twelve months. That keeps you from getting rusty, I think.

The Great Mac.

"I remember in 1869 at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, the late G. H. Macdermott, who was an excellent actor, had made himself an enormous favourite both as a character actor and old man, had played an eccentric old king in the pantomime, and his song, entitled 'The Hallelujah Band,' was sung and whistled all over the city, and was the big success of the pantomime. On the occasion of his benefit he played Sir Peter Teazle in *School for Scandal*, and when he spoke his opening lines, 'When an old bachelor marries a young wife,' the gallery started whistling and singing 'The Hallelujah Band' and would not desist until he had put on his flap shoes and given them his song and dance. That having satisfied them, they allowed the play to go on."

Notoriety and the Stage.

Our readers will cordially agree with "The Father of Four Girls" who writes:—"It is stated that Miss Le Neve has been offered an American music hall engagement at a salary of £200 a week. It is an appalling sign of the times that, while the majority of the public would turn a deaf ear to an appeal for a few pence to reward or encourage a virtuous action, hundreds of pounds are offered to such persons to show themselves on the stage, although they may not possess the least qualification for the dramatic profession. Apart from the insult to really talented professional players, what sort of example is this for the honest and hard-working girl? This is, I suppose, a show-loving age, and managers do not see that they are only dishonouring themselves and their profession in encouraging such morbid curiosity."

Loraine—Actor and Aviator.

It is stimulating to a man in any position to find his opportunities suddenly and wonderfully widened. To one like Mr. Loraine, who has been chiefly engaged in work which is mainly mimetic, it must be extraordinarily fascinating. His situation (says the *Pall Mall Gazette*) is rather similar to that of a brilliant journalist who, having conspicuously proved his powers of grasping and dealing with public questions as a writer, is summoned from his desk to be the private secretary of a Cabinet Minister, and thence proceeds to be a member of the House of Commons, and in due course becomes a Minister himself. Such things have happened. A man is called from being a mere commentator to the position of a protagonist, and in a moment finds the whole horizon of his life immeasurably extended and the opportunities for displaying his powers superbly enlarged. Like the hero of Wordsworth's poem, he at last "Plays, in many games of life, that one, Where what he most doth value must be won." And, surely, to quote again from the same poem, "This is the happy warrior; this is he Whom every man in arms would wish to be."

THE SOWERS.

Play in a Prologue and Three Acts, Adapted by David Kimball and Montague S. Woolf from Seton Merriman's Novel of the same name, and Produced for the First Time at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, Aug. 8.

Herr Karl Steinmetz ....Mr. Clifton Alderson
Prince Paul Howard Alexis
Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson
Baron Claude de Chauxville..Mr. Charles Esdale
Vassili .....Mr. Hastings Batson
Mrs. Sydney Bamborough
Miss Kathleen Russell
Catrina Lanovitch .....Miss Jessie Lothian
Countess Lanovitch .....Miss Frances Davis
Miss Maggie Delafield ....Miss Maxine Hinton
Rurik Tuls .....Mr. F. Caffrey
Marya Nikolaevna .....Miss Emily Brown
Feodor Laski .....Mr. H. K. Ayliff
Elisabeth Petrovna .....Miss Laurie O'Neill
Aleksandr Aleksandrovitch..Mr. Oswald Tilson
Ivan Ivanovitch .....Mr. Ernest Marini
Boris .....Mr. Ernest Ryhl
Count Stepán Lanovitch ....Mr. H. K. Ayliff
Maid .....Miss D. Duncan

A liberal crop of exciting situations is produced by *The Sowers*, which was staged for the first time at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday. The harvest, however, is a little belated, and the thrilling situations do not appear till the play has well advanced, the prologue and first act being, to a large extent, conversational. The piece halts between the melodramatic and the purely romantic, and the characters, though unconventional, are not distinctly defined. Flashes of satirical humour are abundant in the dialogue, which is effective throughout, and if the action of the earlier part of the play were quickened and a more definite conclusion arrived at nothing should stand in the way of a brilliant future for the play.

The title, of course, is allegorical, and refers to the sacrifices made by Russian patriots for the ultimate amelioration of their countrymen. The name under which they are banded together is that of the Charity League, one of the chief members of which is Prince Paul Howard Alexis, who, disguised as a doctor from Moscow, had been performing works of mercy among the dwellers on his estate at Osterno. The Government having received information about the League, has sent some of its supporters to Siberia, and the prologue of the play finds Prince Paul flying from his estate, led by the faithful steward, Karl Steinmetz. The chief incident of the prologue is the finding on the rugged hillside of the dead body of a man whom Steinmetz recognises as an old acquaintance.

The play proper opens at a charity ball in Paris, at which the Prince and Steinmetz are visitors. Here also is Mrs. Sydney Bamborough, an Englishwoman, but widow of a Russian gentleman. In the space of a few minutes the widow receives two proposals of marriage—one from a crafty French diplomat named Baron Claude de Chauxville, which she rejects, and one from Prince Paul, which she accepts. The plot really begins to thicken at the end of the act, when Vassili, a member of the Russian Secret Service, recognises in Mrs. Bamborough the woman who had sold him the papers by which the Charity League had been betrayed. That information is made use of by the slighted Chauxville, who, in the second act, follows Prince Paul and his newly-made wife to Russia bent upon revenge. He incites the peasants at Osterno to attack the castle of the Prince, who, disguised in a false beard, goes about among his people dispensing food and medicine. In order to make the way clear for attack, Claude compels the Princess to promise to open a side-door for the entry of the peasants into the castle, under the threat of revealing to the Prince not only her share in the betrayal of the Charity League, but also the fact that her former husband still lives. The interview, however, is interrupted by Steinmetz, who rebuts the Baron's statement about her first husband by declaring that he himself had seen him lying dead in the forest. Steinmetz follows up this startling information by horsewhipping the Baron and kicking him out of the house, and then proceeds to inform the Prince of his wife's duplicity. The Prince confronts her with the accusation, but the only explanation she has to offer is that she yielded to the desire for money in a weak moment, and the Prince bids her leave his home and return to England. The noise of the attacking party is heard outside, and in an access of spite against her husband the Princess unfastens the side-door agreed upon, and lets in the angry mob. There is a fierce fight on the staircase, Steinmetz defending the passage with his revolver, until the Prince, as a last resort, quells the disturbance by revealing himself as the beloved Moscow doctor. The Baron has been shot dead in the mêlée, and the Princess, who repents of her rash act, apparently meets with the same fate.

Mr. J. E. Watson, who thus adds to his enterprises a promising production, has secured a strong array of dramatic talent. The moving spirit of the piece is Karl Steinmetz, and Mr. Clifton Alderson realised the stolid but sterling-hearted German admirably, his rich voice giving force to every line and his facial play being highly expressive. Mr. Alderson, we remember, won a success in a similar though less romantic part in a recent production of the Stage Society, and his selection for the present piece proved a distinctly happy one. The complex character of Mrs. Bamborough does not allow Miss Kathleen Russell full scope for her emotional abilities, but she made a fascinating exponent of the Englishwoman amid a Russian environment, and wore some beautiful dresses becomingly. Though at times inclined to be affected, she spoke her lines with her customary melodious intonation that well suited the part. Mr. Chas. Esdale is highly to be commended upon his impersonation of the unscrupulous French Baron, whom he realised completely, while his delivery was admirably clear and distinct. The extensive experience of Mr. Hastings Batson enabled him to make the colourless part of the police spy agreeably conspicuous, and he brought down the curtain on the first act effectively. Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson took the Prince rather too seriously, but he made a sincere lover, and his scene with the peasantry was amusing. A typical English girl who acts as companion to the Princess was played with piquant charm by Miss Maxine Hinton, a comely young actress with a pleasant method of delivery; and Miss Frances Davis brightened the piece considerably by her brief appearance as the light-headed wife of a Russian exile. The latter character was one of the best played in the piece, the hollow voice and depressed demeanour of the returned prisoner from Siberia being cleverly indicated by Mr. H. K. Ayliff, who skilfully doubled the rôle of a paid agitator. Catrina Lanovitch, whose presence in the play is none too well justified, but who figures in a thrilling scene at a meeting of the revolutionaries was invested with a large degree of intensity by Miss Jessie Lothian. Mr. F. Caffrey as a lazy, discontented peasant, and Miss Emily Brown as his wife contributed effective impersonations.

Nothing had been neglected in the mounting, the representation of the rugged Russian steppes with the wind howling through the trees being realistic. The hall of an old castle, with its quaint furniture, was also complete, the raising of part of the wainscotting allowing the fight on the staircase to be witnessed by the audience. There was much enthusiasm at the close of the performance, when the principal ladies were presented with bouquets. In response to cries for "Author," a bespectacled gentleman bowed his acknowledgments on behalf of himself and his collaborator; and Mr. Watson and Mr. Alderson also took a well deserved call as producers.

HERBERT BLACKMORE.

A CHARACTER SKETCH BY "ONE WHO KNOWS HIM."

The musical and dramatic agent is a necessary adjunct to the theatrical profession. The successful actor-manager who is his own "star" does not require him for himself, but he has plays to cast, and if he has not the exact artist in his mind—or the author has not, which amounts to the same thing—he falls back upon the agent. The qualifications required are fully set down, a huge ledger (the record of years) is turned up, and hey presto! the want is supplied.

To the artist seeking an engagement the agent appears in another light. Sitting amidst a crowd of others in an ante-room, he is about as hard a person to get hold of as a Prime Minister. How eagerly his ingress and egress are watched, how envious are the eyes cast upon the door "Manager's Entrance," and what are the feelings of those who have seen the gilded creatures walk right in to the royal sanctum will be easily understood by those whose fate has been to sit for hours waiting for the interview which, like the smile, very often does not "come off."

The agent is the least to blame of anyone in the matter. Managers want certain people—they don't want others. To all uniform courtesy is essential, the one not required to-day may be wanted to-morrow. If not this year, why next; and so the promise of being kept well in mind has to be made, and perhaps this necessary salve to human vanity and human feelings has to be looked upon as one of the main articles in the stock-in-trade of the successful agent.

The oldest agency in London is that labelled "Blackmore's," 11, Garrick-street, W.C. It dates back to 1868, and is controlled by Herbert Blackmore, assisted by his partner Mr. Lionel Wallace and an expert staff of assistants, including the ubiquitous all-round young gentleman, Mr. Nichols, who is equally at home "trying a voice" or apologising for the inability of either of the governors to grant interviews to clients. The offices contain hundreds of photographs of present-day footlight favourites, and in the

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. HERBERT BLACKMORE.

inner office is a group that will bring back pleasant memories to lovers of bygone stage heroes.

Since 1868 things theatrical, like everything else, have changed in manners, methods and requirements. Herbert Blackmore's father would be as much at sea nowadays as his son would be, could the latter but travel backwards. But each have filled with equal honour the position they have been placed in and in the periods in which they have lived.

The writer's first introduction to Herbert Blackmore can hardly be described. He was acting-manager at the time at the Princess's Theatre. He called upon him and knocked at the door of his office. A stentorian voice shouted "Come in." He did so, and faced the proprietor of the voice, and found he possessed a very fierce-looking moustache. Had the figure been as imposing as the voice and moustache, it would have touched the ceiling. The visitor stated his business, and received very curt replies. "Yes," "No," "Don't know," "Can't say," and was flabbergasted. He came away with no very great opinion of the gentleman. He knows him better now, and has found out there are many good qualities hidden behind a commodore's voice and a guardsman's moustache.

One of the first qualities of an agent is to discover budding talent; those who have "got there" can always be shopped; the thing is to find out what is "coming on." There are many discoveries to which Herbert Blackmore can lay credit. Another quality, and a scarce one, is to supply actually what is wanted, and not to land a manager with anyone he has on his books for the mere sake of commission. This is one of the qualities that Herbert Blackmore possesses, and has gained him the respect and confidence of most of the present "to the front" managers. His "business" friends are legion.

But to see Blackmore at his best is "on the river." A greater enthusiast for the Thames does not exist. Why, only this very week the writer was just paddling out of a lock with his skiff when an unmistakable voice hailed him. He turned; there was Herbert, bare-kneed and in regulation river clobber, pulling a one-pair outrigger. He had twenty miles in front of him before he reached his destination, and heaven only knows how far he had come then. As captain of the Twickenham Rowing Club, he has guided them many times to victory, and to see him coaching a crew from the bank, one can well understand how useful "the voice" comes in upon those occasions. He also in double-sculling is the holder of innumerable trophies. Henley knows him well, but although he has entered for the great goal of the amateur sculler, "The Diamonds," he has never yet had the luck to pull it off.

He is as much at home in a boat as a duck is on the water, and can practically make his boat do exactly what he requires. His fund of animal spirits is unending. Half a mile from a lock, or when his boat is to be housed, his approach is heralded by that resonant "voice." No one can get through a lock or be attended to quicker on the Thames from Teddington to Oxford. Should anyone try to steal a march on him by getting into or out of a lock before him, woe be to him. By a few strokes, peculiarly his own, the intruder is quietly put on one side, and while Herbert is safely gliding away upon his journey, is left struggling to get the nose of his boat to face the opening of the lock.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE KING OF DIAMONDS."

An American Drama, Produced for the First Time in England at the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham, on Monday, Aug. 8.

Sir Philip Garth .....Mr. Harry Aynsleigh
Richard Fenton .....Mr. George Keene
The Hon. Herbert Selby ..Mr. Walter Warren
Sir Richard Steel .....Mr. Aubrey Norton
Silas Craddock .....Mr. Ralph Maynard
Sir Charles Lockwood, K.C.
Mr. Wilson Lowther
Counsel for Prosecution .....Mr. Laurie Atkin
Judge .....Mr. Dennis Brook
Reginald Adolphus Garth ....Mr. Bert Sharp
Chief Inspector Jones .....Mr. Dan Walters
Warder .....Mr. Herbert Martin
Foreman of the Jury .....Mr. Paul Denton
Usher .....Mr. Wyatt Charles
Esther Craddock .....Miss Jeane Morrison
Sophonisba Garth .....Miss Katie Lawrence
Muriel Lockwood .....Miss Peggy Ross
Olive Vandell (known as Olive Howard)
Miss Camille Treherne

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The weird chronicles of a "Suicide Club" which existed in America a few years ago caused a great sensation when the facts were published and the general public read how seven persons met their deaths. It would be difficult to choose a more tragic subject for a drama, and consequently when the play, *The King of Diamonds*, the story of which was taken from the chronicles of the club, was first produced in America it scored an immediate success.

Instead of a "Suicide Club," the author, Mr. M. James, has woven the drama round the doings of a "Murder Club," the symbol of which is the Ace of Diamonds. The member drawing the King of Diamonds from a number of cards is appointed to commit murder. The drama opens whilst a draw is in progress, and Sir Philip Garth receives the fatal card. He chooses as his victim a woman whom he has betrayed, and who has tracked him from Australia. He lures her to a lonely common and shoots her, afterwards removing all traces of her identity and taking possession of a diamond ring. The crime, however, is witnessed by a mysterious woman, Olive Vandell, known as Olive Howard. Suspicion falls upon a young man named Richard Fenton, who was discovered holding the revolver by a brother of Sir Philip Garth. He endeavours to blackmail the young man, and after being ejected from the house he informs the police, and Fenton is arrested before the eyes of his sweetheart.

At his trial false evidence is given against him by the brothers Garth, and he is sentenced to death. The last act is of a most sensational character. There is another meeting of the "Murder Club," and the fatal card is drawn by the Hon. Herbert Selby, a wastrel who has fallen into Sir Philip Garth's clutches. The latter promises to release him from a heavy debt if he will select as his victim the woman Olive Vandell. He consents, and suddenly the meeting is interrupted by the father of the girl whom Garth murdered. At the point of the revolver he secures a written account of how the crime was committed. Garth endeavours to wreak a fiendish revenge upon Olive Vandell, who, he thinks, has betrayed him, and there is a terrible struggle between the two in which the interior of a drawing-room is wrecked. Garth is mortally injured by his intended victim, and then the truth comes out, and all ends happily.

The drama was played for the first time in England at the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, on Monday night last by Mr. Harry Aynsleigh's company. Mr. Aynsleigh has been a successful producer in America, South Africa, Australia, and India, and in his experienced hands the drama is exceptionally well organised. Mr. Aynsleigh plays the leading rôle as Sir Philip Garth, and his fine stage presence and power of expression go far towards ensuring the success of the drama. He has the support of a strong company, Miss Camille Treherne in the character of Olive Vandell being very conspicuous. There is none of the blatant sensational element about her acting, and she creates an excellent impression. Mr. George Keen makes an ideal hero, and has a good partner in Miss Peggy Ross, whose enunciation, however, is slightly lacking in forcefulness. Mr. Walter Warren deserves much praise for his clever impersonation of an intoxicated character, and, together with Miss Katie Lawrence and Mr. Bert Sharp he shares the honours in the comedy department.

With such a powerful theme, it will be readily recognised that the staging of the drama presents many obstacles. Mr. Aynsleigh's useful experience, however, has enabled him to overcome these in a most satisfactory manner, and events of a most exciting nature follow one another in a manner that fairly carries away the audience. Much praise is due to the able stage-manager, Mr. Aubrey Norton.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, August 9. Present: Mr. Langford Reed (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Chris Walker, Henry Pettitt, C. F. Collings, H. Le Grand, Clarence Derwent, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The hon. solicitor reported on four cases, and received instructions.

With reference to a letter *re* a bogus agency, the secretary was instructed to ask the writer to be good enough to send particulars of his complaint to the London County Council, and subsequently Mr. Derwent suggested that the information should be sent to Mr. Cecil Raleigh, who has expressed a wish for particulars of any cases of bogus agencies.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Portland Akerman *re* Parliamentary Bill and one licence. The following gentlemen were asked to serve as delegates:—Messrs. Cecil Raleigh, C. Derwent, C. F. Collings, Langford Reed, Hayden Coffin, and Richard A. Greene.

With reference to a manager's complaint against a member, a letter was read from the latter, and the secretary was instructed that the explanation contained therein be placed before the manager.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. C. F. Collings and adopted.

A suggestion by Mr. Derwent that a letter be sent to London managers asking them if they objected to paying a fee for rehearsals, was carried. Mr. Derwent promised to present a draft of the said letter for consideration and approval.

Miss Caroline Fenton was elected. The secretary reported ten engagements through the agency. The secretary was instructed to write to Mr. A. E. Drinkwater and ask him if he had any objection to being co-opted on the council in the event of a vacancy occurring.

Mr. Horace Stanley is on a return visit to the Theatre Royal, Wexford, and on Monday opened with *The Female Detective*. Mr. T. B. Brabazon gave a fine rendering of Colonel Heathcote; Mr. Ernest Fare made a manly Tom Heathcote; Mr. Charles Burdon presented a vivid character study of the thief and forger, Basil Vane; Mr. Sydney Fiennes made the most of the part of John Good; Mr. Horace Stanley as Tubby Philpotts kept the house thoroughly amused, his efforts being ably seconded by Miss Kate Kilpack as Emma Toogood; Little Minnie Halston as Dick quickly gained the sympathies of the audience; and Miss Violet Agnew was a convincing Nellie Danvers, the part of Myra Mayne, the female detective, being entrusted to Miss Bernice Fielding, who played well.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Rinking in India.

The Mussoorie Rink and Theatre has been doing record business lately, and in addition to skating the Warwick Major Comedy Company has been delighting crowded audiences. Before leaving Mussoorie Mr. Major and the members of his company gave Mr. George Leslie, the popular lessee and manager, a complimentary benefit, which was a big success. On this occasion Mr. Leslie was presented with a handsome gold cigarette case from Mr. Warwick Major, and a diamond pin from Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal (the only ruling lady in Asia).

Gymkhana on Skates.

A gymkhana on skates took place on July 19, and the various events were well contested. The ever-popular *Florodora* has also proved a big attraction here, and H.H. the Maharani of Tikari is organising a variety show on a large scale in aid of a local military charity. Mr. Leslie is to be congratulated on the success he has achieved in India.

Roller Skating in Berlin.

A complete transformation of the Rollschuh Bahn in Kurfürstendamm, Berlin, is now taking place. The large building—the largest on the Continent, and, next to Olympia, London, the largest in the world—will be unrecognisable when it reopens its doors to the public late in September. The entrance hall, instead of a bare passage, will become a foyer richly carpeted, with walls and ceiling tastefully decorated. Inside the main hall no bare walls, no iron roof, and no gaunt iron columns will be visible. Instead of a huge barrack, one will find a luxuriously-appointed hall, carpeted all over, with elegant loges flanking the skating surface. Walls and roof are being covered with silk of delicate shades, and the iron columns transformed into handsome marble pillars by means of their being encased in a structure of imitation marble. Dainty lamps with shades will find a place on the tables in the loges, and the huge unsightly arc lamps will be hidden by artistic glass shades with brass chains.

Ballet on Rollers.

Spectators will receive as much attention as skaters, an entertainment of a unique character being presented afternoon and evening. In addition to engaging the best procurable feature skating acts, Mr. C. B. Cochran, the new managing-director, is preparing a ballet on rollers, which will be presented at the reopening.

Hamburg Velodrome.

The magnificent Velodrome in Hamburg will commence its second roller-skating season under the direction of Mr. C. B. Cochrane, with Mr. Cornelius Wohlers as resident-manager. Great improvements have been made in the appearance of the building, the floor has been re-surfaced, and a complete new supply of Winslow skates installed. Part of the building is now opened as an Electric Theatre, to which access can be had from both the building and the street. A fine large motor garage is also a convenience which the patrons of the Velodrome take full advantage of. The best procurable skating acts are being engaged by Mr. Cochran, who will also procure other novel entertainments for the amusement of those who do not skate.

Hanover Rinking Palace.

The Rollschuh Palast, Hanover, opens on Sept. 2. The managing-director of the controlling company (The Hanover American Roller Rink Co.) is Mr. C. B. Cochran, and Mr. Guilio Fano is again the resident-manager. A feature of the season will be the presentation of the best skating acts.

The Strand Rink, Grimsby.

The Strand Rink, Grimsby, is being largely patronised, crowds thronging the spacious floor every evening. An innovation has been made by converting it into a kind of "two-house-a-night" entertainment. At 6.30 there is a bioscope picture exhibition, and at eight o'clock the rink is used for skating, which continues until eleven. Up to the present this feature has proved most popular, and it is the intention of the management to continue it through the coming winter. The rink is excellently managed, and it will be made still more attractive shortly by the further decoration of the walls.

Spennymoor Skating Rink.

The Pavilion Skating Rink, Spennymoor, has commenced for the season, and good houses are the rule. The management has recently introduced an electric organ, which adds additional interest to the pastime. Mr. Stockdale is officiating as manager.

Roller-skating at Hastings.

At the American Palace Pier, Hastings, roller-skating, with exhibitions by professionals, is carried on all day, and music is provided at the principal sessions. The rink is the largest in the district, and is well equipped in every respect, whilst its position, at the head of the pier, affords cool sea breezes and also shelter from the sun's rays.

Northampton Rinks Reopen.

The Castle Skating Rink and the George Skating Rink, Northampton, opened for the season on Monday last.

Aviation Meeting at a Skating Rink.

The aviation meeting held on the skating rink of the Ayr Pavilion, for miniature flying machines, proved a huge success. There were prizes for circular flight, point-to-point flight, and long-distance flight.

FILM GOSSIP.

Historic Film and Fresh Air Fund.

Mr. F. R. Griffiths, of the New Bioscope Trading Company, in a letter to the *Daily Express*, has offered to sell, on behalf of the Fresh Air Fund, a cinematograph film record of King Edward's Funeral. The film, a very fine one, is 1,250ft. in length, and has been specially treated so as to last twenty or thirty years. Mr. Griffiths suggests that at the end of that time it could be taken out of its case and exhibited, and again treated so as to make it imperishable for a further period. The pictures may be seen at the offices of the Company in Cecil Court, Charing Cross-road.

Mr. Griffiths' Generous Contribution.

Mr. Griffiths, whose fondness for the youngsters is well known, also kindly devoted the entire proceeds, without deducting expenses, of last Wednesday's performances at the Cinematograph shows at the West London Theatre; Grand Theatre, Forest Gate; Holloway Hall, Holloway-road; and the Public Hall, Peckham, to the Fresh Air Fund, "People's Picture Palace Day," when several thousand youngsters will get a glimpse of the country through Mr. Griffiths' kindly thought, will doubtless live long in their memories.

Cowes Regatta at Marble Arch.

An excellent picture of Cowes Regatta is being shown this week at the Electric Palace, Marble Arch. Other fine films presented are a really dramatic rendering of Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, and picture plays entitled The Special Agent, The Marked Time-table, and A Conflict between a Prince of Italy and the Pope" which results in the Sacking of Rome.

Territorial Manœuvres on the Screen.

Pictures of the Territorial manœuvres in the South of England are now being shown on the screen at the Empire, Leicester-square.

Rink Picture Palace, Limerick.

The success of this bijou Palace has long since been established. This week crowds are attracted nightly by that beautiful film The Passion Play, as well as the Vision of Balthassar, and the comic patrons are not neglected, for such humorous films as the Sleep-Walker, Muzzled, Incognito, and The Old Gamp are exhibited. The manager shows admirable censorship in his exhibits, and with Miss Boland O'Hartigan as vocalist and Miss May O'Connor as accompanist the future of the Picture Palace has been assured.

Sunday Cinematograph Shows in Bristol.

At Bristol on Tuesday the licensing justices refused to licence two new places of amusement for cinematograph pictures and music for more than a six days' week. One applicant said it was unfair to him, because a seven days' licence had been granted to similar halls near. The justices replied that if a mistake had been made in allowing other halls to open on Sundays, they did not propose to perpetuate it, and the whole subject would be reconsidered at the annual licensing sessions.

A Case of Identity.

A Case of Identity is a strong detective play recently screened at the Bath Electric Theatre. Hogarth, the detective, is seen sitting at midnight in his private room, smoking pensively. A knock at the door, and the main feature of the plot is introduced—a man dying, stabbed beneath the heart. He has just time to inform the detective that his daughter is in danger from another man, and enlists his services. The film goes on to show how the villain of the piece impersonates the girl's father to gain his ends, and how the detective follows him, eventually effects his arrest, and restores the girl to the arms of her lover. Another admirable set of pictures is a highly dramatic film entitled Conscience. The scenic film, Lachime Rapids, proves very beautiful, while some pictures entitled A Light Heart is better than Riches, depict in a most attractive manner that money does not always bring happiness with it. Her Golden Locks is a very funny film indeed, as is another showing the persistence of woman in love affairs.

Fine Films at Stoll's Panopticon, Cardiff.

Stoll's Panopticon participated in a remarkable degree in the rush of good business done by the Cardiff places of amusement last week, and the management provided for this week an unusually attractive entertainment. Starred on the bills are the Russian drama, The Girl in the Barracks, which tells a pretty love story full of vigour and emotion, and The Tongue of Scandal, a depiction of rustic life in a village, where the eavesdropper and the suspicious are ever ready to hear and see the faults of their neighbours. There is a pleasing variety of other pictures, whilst the vocal turns are also of a high order. Patrons of the Panopticon will welcome the reappearance of Mr. Bert Williams, whose abilities as an elocutionist are so well known to Cardiff audiences.

Finsbury Park Picture Palace.

The standard with which the Finsbury Park Cinematograph Theatre opened has been maintained, and attendances at this popular picture house are always large. The pictures which are shown are not only excellent for their subjects but admirable for the clearness and smoothness of their presentation. The lights which in the early days used to dart all over the screen and weary the eyes of the onlooker have now disappeared. The educational value of these shows is considerable. This week the serious subject is the newspaper, and the pictures show all the processes, from the tree in the forest to the paper at the breakfast table. The felling of the timber, the barking of the trees, the carrying to the mill are all vividly presented. The humorous side of the entertainment is always liberally supplied, and the laughter of both children and adults shows how much it is enjoyed.

More Picture Palaces in Nottingham.

The development of the cinematograph theatres is taking place throughout the Nottingham district as well as in the city itself, and Nottingham is likely to have six or seven of these theatres running during the coming winter. In a number of the small adjacent towns speculators have similar projects in hand.

Bournemouth Centenary Carnival Pictures.

Crowded houses continue the rule at the Empire Electric Theatre, Bournemouth, and on several occasions it has been difficult to find sufficient seating accommodation. The interesting series of pictures of the Bournemouth Centenary Carnival, Battle of Flowers, street decoration, and scenes are again shown, and evoke considerable interest, whilst the daring performances of the aviators at the Aerodrome at Southbourne are given with realistic effect. Other films relate to sport, travel, and the drama. A novel performance is that given by means of the Animatophone, which produces the grand opera *Faust*, with all the characters. This magnificent series of singing pictures should attract crowded houses.

Dublin Cinematograph Theatre.

The pictures shown at the Dublin Cinematograph Theatre last week included among other interesting films, The Boss of Bar X Ranch, Her Sweet Revenge, The Bandolero, His Little Son, The Poor Blind Boy, and The By-ways of Byron.

Theatre de Luxe, Strand.

The fine programme of films screened at the Theatre de Luxe, Strand, includes The Launch of H.M.S. Lion, A Vein of Gold, Fashoda, A Cannon Duel, The Bride of the Haunted Castle, Soap in His Eye, A Daring Performance, and Mugwump's Jealousy.

Western World Pictures.

Rugged scenery and interesting stories of the Western world are beautifully illustrated at the Victoria Opera House, Burnley, under the title of The Mexican's Revenge and Boss of Bar and Ranch. Buffalo Hunting is an attractive educational film, and pleasantly interspersed are many humorous pictures.

Irish Animated Picture Company.

The Irish Animated Picture Company commenced their second week at the Rotunda, Dublin, on Monday with a capital programme, which comprises all the latest pictures, in addition to which there are several good variety turns. The orchestral band of the Scots Fusiliers contributes many keenly-appreciated selections.

Forest Gate Electric Theatre.

This, one of the most elegantly appointed and up-to-date of the London and provincial group of picture halls, continues to meet with gratifying success. The pictures presented are always of a most entertaining description. During the holiday week special programmes were given, including some excellent colour films and singing pictures by the Animatophone. In addition to many amusing films some instructive and entertaining pictures such as Seal Catching off Tasmania and the Ordination of a Bonze have been given to large and appreciative audiences. The theatre is now under the management of Mr. W. S. Redfern, who is most ably assisted by Mr. Chas. Levick.

Picture Theatre for Gosport.

The electric picture craze has further extended to Gosport. Recently, on behalf of a small local syndicate Mr. V. E. G. Churcher at the Fareham Sessions successfully applied for a licence for a picture theatre in the Avenue-road. We hear also that Eastleigh, the seat of the L. and S.W. Railway works, is in a few weeks to be favoured with an electric theatre, an enterprising Portsmouth syndicate having the matter in hand.

Theatre de Luxe, Norwich.

This place of entertainment increases in popularity, and is deservedly well patronised. Some most interesting pictures are shown, and the courtesy of the manager, Mr. T. Halliscy, adds to the pleasure of the exhibition.

Electric Theatre for Durham.

An electric theatre is about to be erected in Durham City by Mr. T. F. McDonald, the pioneer of animated pictures on Tyneside, and his partner, Mr. R. Allan, of North Shields. An excellent site has been obtained in a central position. The plans are ready, and, subject to the approval of the local authorities, building will be commenced at once.

Mr. W. J. Wainratta, of wire-walking fame, arrived in London a few days ago from New York, where he has for some months been associated with the Vitagraph Company of America. As sole representative in Europe of the J. and J. Company, he has for disposal the exclusive rights of the Jefferies-Johnson fight pictures, taken in Reno, Nevada, U.S.A., on July 4 last. Mr. Wainratta is vice-president of the Music Hall Sick Fund, and attended the committee's monthly meeting held on Wednesday afternoon, when he received a hearty welcome home from his fellow members.

Ayr Picture Palace.

The pictures still maintain their popularity, and good houses have been the rule.

CINEMA HOUSE, OXFORD-STREET.

This building, which has just been erected by the London Cinematograph Company (1909), Ltd., at 225, Oxford-street, and which was inaugurated by Her Grace the Duchess of Portland on July 14, represents the last word in living-picture theatres, situated as it is opposite Peter Robinson's, within a stone's throw of Regent-street, in the heart of the West End.

The building has been erected by Messrs. J. Chessum and Sons, from designs by Mr. Melville S. Ward, F.R.I.B.A., has a frontage of Portland stone, while Hill's-place, which abuts on the side of the building, affords additional and convenient means of entry and egress. It is approached from Oxford-street by a vestibule. The interior of the theatre has been carried out in the Jacobean style, the auditorium (which has a depth of 87ft., with a width of 65ft., and a height of 25ft.) being panelled throughout in old oak (the work of Messrs. Elliott, of Newbury), relieved by a stone frieze below the ceiling, and scrollwork in plaster by Messrs. Clark and Co. The floor, which is laid on a bold rake, will seat over 500 persons, while the cantilever circle affords accommodation for some 100 more. Access to the circle is provided by a staircase, wainscoted in oak, leading up from the vestibule, and an additional staircase gives direct means of egress into Hill's-place.

The seats, which have been specially made by Mr. James Lyons, of Holborn, are upholstered in velvet of a Rose-du-Barri tint. The electrical installation is of the most complete description, and has been carried out by Messrs. Clements and Sons and Messrs. Vaughan's Engineering Installations Company, Ltd. The wrought steel electroliers and other metal fittings are by Messrs. Peyton and Peyton.

The upper part of the building contains a fine range of offices for the use of the company, and in addition a spacious restaurant, approached direct from Oxford-street, and now nearly completed.

The *Building News* of the 5th inst. has given an excellently illustrated article of the new Cinema Theatre, Oxford-street, W., by whose courtesy we are able to reproduce the accompanying views.

CINEMA THEATRE, OXFORD-STREET. FRONT ELEVATION.

CINEMA THEATRE, OXFORD-STREET. THE AUDITORIUM.

"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE"

The following is the type of testimonial we like to publish. Occasionally kind friends send us reports of abnormal tyres which have done their 10,000 miles or over. We keep these for our personal satisfaction only. Now and then a man lives to be a hundred; now and then a golfer holes out in one. These things are interesting, but not important. They are of no value to the actuary. In making our tyre we aim at a high average. In advertising it, we quote only facts bearing on that average.

Dear Sirs, June 29, 1910.
We have pleasure in giving you, after two years' trial, our matured opinion on the qualities of your tyres. We have used them on our own cars under all conditions of wear and surface, both in town and country, and they have maintained a remarkably high average of service from the beginning. We have had an indifferent example or two, but striking an average we have not yet found equal results from any other tyres that have come within our personal experience, and this opinion is reflected by practically every customer to whom we have recommended them. Yours faithfully,
SEALE & DE BECKER, Ltd.,
(Signed) L. A. DE BECKER, *Managing Director.*

To ensure the present limit of tyre service specify—

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 18.

Alone in London.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Angel of His Dreams.—Century T., Motherwell.
Another Man's Wife.—O. H., Wakefield.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Bolton.
Arcadians (N.).—Dublin.
Arcadians (S.).—Hastings and Folkestone.
Are You a Mason?—H. M. T., Dundee.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Atonement, The.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
At the World's Mercy.—New Hall, Bargoed.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Elephant & Castle, S.E.
Beggar Princess.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Best People, The.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Bishop's Son, The.—Grand T., Douglas.
Black Mask.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Booth, Junius.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Brass Bottle, The.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Brewster's Millions.—Lowestoft.
Bulmer, Mr.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Can a Woman be Good?—Broadway T., New Cross.
Candida.—Pier, Southport.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Charley's Aunt.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Chorus Lady.—T. R., Plymouth.
Christian, The (Draper).—Palace T., Gloucester.
Cingalee (A.).—Ilkley and Matlock.
Cingalee (B.).—T. R., Margate.
Compton Comedy Co.—Spa T., Scarborough.
Country Girl, A.—Victoria P., Ramsgate.
Country Girl in London.—T. R., Merthyr.
Criminal's Bride.—T. R., Sheffield.
Dairymaids, The.—Bognor and Wrexham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Chorley.
Daughter of the Sea.—T. R., North Shields.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—T. R., Brighton.
Dear Little Denmark.—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes') (N.).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Dollar Princess (S.).—Londesborough T., Scarborough.
Don.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
D'Oyly Carte.—King's T., Glasgow.
Draycott, Chas.—Star T., Liverpool.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—T. R., Stratford.
Earl and the Girl.—Eastbourne and Hastings.
Easily Led.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
East Lynne (Watt).—Junction T., Manchester.
Education of Elizabeth.—Southsea.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Every Inch a Man.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Boro' T., Stratford, E.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—T. R., Barry.
Female Detective.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Fighting Chance.—Grand T., Southampton.
Florodora (Constant).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
For Love and the King.—Metropole T., Manchester.
For Wife and Home.—Lyceum T., Govan.
For Wife and Kingdom.—County T., Reading.
From Convent to Throne.—Grand T., Swansea.
Geisha, The.—T. R., Worthing.
Geoffery Langden's Wife.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Girl's Cross Roads.—County T., Kingston.
Girl Who Lost Her Character.—G. T., Nottingham.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Glossop-Harris.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Great Awakening.—Empire T., Oldham.
Greater Love, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Greed of Gold.—Grand T., Nelson.
Grotesques, The.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Havana.—O. H., Torquay.
Heathen and the Christian.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Fatal Marriage.—T. R., Bristol.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—T. R., Colchester.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Scarborough.
Her Nameless Child.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Her Secret Lover.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
His Dishonoured Wife.—Met. T., Devonport.
His Indian Wife.—T. R., Woolwich.
His Real Wife.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Hush Money.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
In the Shadow of Night.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Irving, Laurence.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
King and the Unknown Woman.—T. R., St. Helens.
King of Cadonia.—Eastbourne & Tunbridge Wells.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Lurgan and Monaghan.
Lingard-Moreau Repertoire.—T. R., Preston.
Little Phil's Mother.—T. R., Rochdale.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Londonderry.
Love of the Princess.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Exeter.
Lucky 'Liza.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
Man to Man.—T. R., Castleford.
Married to the Wrong Man.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Marsh, Alexander.—O. H., Leicester.
Maude, Winifred.—New T., Aberdare.
Merry Widow (Edwardes').—Margate.
Merry Widow (S.).—T. R., Bath.
Message from Mars.—O. H., Belfast.
Midnight Mail.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—Palace T., Perth.
Miss Plaster—of Paris.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Miss Tommy.—Hastings and Westgate.
Mockery of Marriage.—T. R., Bury.
Mother's Sake.—T. R., Belfast.
Mountaineers, The.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—Prince's T., Bristol.
My Irish Molly.—Bishop Auckland.
My Lady Bellamy.—O. H., Coventry.
Nick Carter.—T. R., Smethwick.
Night of the Party.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Nihilist, The.—Queen's T., Longton.
No Man's Land.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Old Folks at Home.—T. R., Wednesbury.
Old Heidelberg.—P. O. W., Great Grimsby.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—Llandudno and Harrogate.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Outcast of the Family.—T. R., West Stanley.
Pitt, Stephen.—Court T., Warrington.
Private Secretary.—T. R., Newcastle.
Prodigal Parson.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Proof.—T. R., Hanley.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Southport.
Scarborough.—Central T., Northwich.
Secrets.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Send Him Victorious.—Birkenhead.
Sexton Blake.—Pavilion T., Mile End.
Sherlock Holmes.—K. T., Hammersmith.
Sign of the Cross.—T. R., Dublin.
Silver King.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Sins of a City.—New T., Aberdare.
Sir Walter Raleigh.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Smith (S.).—Jersey and Guernsey.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Edmonton.
Tantalising Tommy.—Castle T., Stockton-on-Tees.
Temptation.—T. R., Barnsley.
Terry, Edward.—Cromer and Keswick.
Thief in the Night.—T. R., Leeds.
Through the Divorce Court.—Court T., Wigan.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Worcester.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Lincoln.
Under Two Flags.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Halifax.
Was She to Blame.—P. T., Accrington.
What a Man Made Her.—T. R., Stockport.
What the Butler Saw.—Grand T., Leeds.
When It Was Dark.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
When Knights Were Bold.—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
When Knights Were Bold (S.).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Chatham.
Where is William?—Herne Bay.
Whip, The.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Wilkie, Allen.—T. R., Blackburn.
Woman of Two Lives.—O. H., Londonderry.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

July 1.—Mary Kitchen Cariss.
" 1.—Captain Robert Marshall, aged 47.
" 2.—Mary Isabella Morrison.
" 4.—Charles Milton Ashley.
" 8.—Augustus W. Dubourg, aged 80.
" 9.—Tom Williams.
" 11.—Alfred Edward Izard, aged 47.
" 14.—Richard Wightman Cooper.
" 15.—Simon Sawyer.
" 15.—Miss Wallis (Sabina), aged 83.
" 16.—Weldon Anderson (Atherstone).
" 18.—Mme. Alice Barth, aged 61.
" 22.—Hawes Craven, aged 73.
" 24.—Henri Gros, aged 60.
" 26.—John James Plant, aged 75.
" 28.—George Bown, aged 90.
" 30.—Lillah Price (Mrs. W. Parke Hunter).

Mr. Sydney T. Pelse, who has recently returned from India and the Far East, has decided to remain in England, and has been secured by Mr. Leonard Mortimer for the part of Dr. Angus Howard in his famous sketch, *The Man of Forty Faces*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anxious to Know.—*It depends upon the nature of the agreement you have with your proprietor.*
A. H.—*On all matters connected with Dramatic and Musical Law consult Mr. Albert Strong's work, published at this office, price 5s.*
H. S. (Central Markets).—*Miss Bessie Wentworth, the first of the successful British coon song-stresses, died on Jan. 6, 1901, aged 27 years.*
Enquirer.—*The copyright lasts for the life of the author and seven years after, or forty-two years from the date of production, whichever is longer.*
Fred Wallace.—*Mr. Finglass' song, "My baby," will be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day shortly. The other number of Mr. Finglass' is, we understand, not published.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.
As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Chenery.—On Saturday, Aug. 6, at 78, Addison-gardens, Kensington, W., the wife of Herbert Chenery, Duke of York's Theatre, of a daughter. Mother and babe doing well.
Francis-Clare.—On Thursday, Aug. 11, at Brixton, Crissie Cross, the wife of S. L. Francis-Clare (Sec. Agents' Association), of a son, Both doing fine.
Percival.—Aug. 7, the wife of Frank Percival, resident manager Black's Tivoli Picture Palace, South Shields, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Cellier—Glossop-Harris.—On Monday, Aug. 8, 1910, Frank Cellier, only son of Francois Cellier, to Florence Glossop-Harris, only daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris.

DEATHS.

Hume.—Aug. 2, at the residence of his mother, Stanley-street, Southport, Ernest Hume, of Moody-Manners Opera Company.
O'Shaughnessy.—Aug. 4, after a brief illness, Peter O'Shaughnessy, proprietor Court Theatre, Galway. R.I.P.
Walshe.—On Aug. 5 at Harrogate, William Sesnan Walshe, aged 60. Australian papers please copy.

In Memoriam.

Geretti.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Amelia Adelaide Geretti, who died Aug. 16, 1906. Never forgotten by her daughter Addie.
Haggar.—In loving memory of our dear mother (Mrs. W. Haggar, sen.), who left us at Carmarthen, Aug. 13, 1909. Gone, but will never be forgotten by her son and daughter, Jim and Kate.
Haggar.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Sarah Haggar, who fell asleep Aug. 13, 1909. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing son and daughter, Jenny and Will. "Her end was peace."

"A light is from our household gone,
One voice we loved so dear is still.
Her place is vacant in our home,
Which nothing on this earth can fill."

Jenner.—In sweet and ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Edwin Jenner, who passed away Aug. 11, 1909.—Hettie Jenner.
Lambert.—In loving memory of Winifred Mary, the beloved daughter of Edwin and Emily Lambert (Lambert and Hands), who passed away Aug. 13, 1906. God's will be done.
Purchase.—Andrew Purchase, Menagerie Proprietor, died Aug. 11, 1909. Gone but not forgotten by his loving sons and daughters.
Vast-Verinder.—In memory of Stephen Vast-Verinder, beloved husband of Marion Herbert, who passed away Aug. 11, 1906, age 39. Dearly remembered and regretted by his wife.

For Sympathy.

Hunter.—The relations and friends of the late Mrs. W. P. Hunter (Miss Lillah Price) desire to most earnestly thank and to express their deep gratitude to Mrs. Alec Romer (Miss Margaret Radcliffe) for her love, devotion, and nursing Mrs. W. P. Hunter during the last seven months of her life.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Louisa Peach—Saturday, Aug. 13.
Bransby Williams—Sunday, Aug. 14.
Ambrose Manning—Sunday, Aug. 14.
Phyllis Dare—Monday, Aug. 15.
Winifred Maude—Monday, Aug. 15.
Albert Ward—Monday, Aug. 15.
George Brooks—Tuesday, Aug. 16.
Ellen Lancaster-Wallis—Wednesday, Aug. 17.
J. H. Clyndes—Thursday, Aug. 18.
Edith Cruikshanks—Thursday, Aug. 18.

A VALUABLE LIGHT FOOD FOR BETWEEN THE ACTS.

BENGER'S

FOOD the most nutritious and digestible of light foods, is highly recommended as a nourishing and agreeable refreshment.

It blends readily with Tea, Coffee, or Cocoa, and these beverages, mixed half with Benger's Food instead of milk or cream, become more easily assimilated, and therefore more nourishing.

Benger's Food is prepared with fresh new milk, and possesses a delicate biscuit flavour which is delicious and always pleasing.

Benger's Food should be made strictly according to the directions contained upon each tin.

Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere. 264

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Adair, Mr. Frank
Anderson, Mr. Dallas
Aoki Troupe
Appleby, Mr. Cliff
Arliss, Mr. George
Arntes, The
Ashley, Mr. P.
Barker, Mrs. G.
Barrett, Mr. Chas.
Barygo, Mr. M.
Bastow, Mr. Geo.
Beecham, Mr. Chas.
Berry, Mr. James
Birkett, Mr. Harold F.
Birteno, Mr. T. J.
Black, Mr. Stuart
Blair, Mr. R.
Blake, Mr. Wilson
Brennan, Mr. James
Brooke, Mr. T. Gordon
Brown, Miss Fanny
Burleigh, Mr. Bertram
Burton, Mr. Bert
Cain, Mr. J. J.
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carne, Mr. Joseph
Castle, Mr. Clina.
Chalmers, Mr. K.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Chippendall, Mr. A. A
Clyndes, Miss A.
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Crawford, Miss Alice
Cronin, Mr. M. F.
Currie, Mr. Byden
Dagmar, Miss V.
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Dalton, Mr. Richard
Daly, Mr. Mark
d'Arbour, Mr. H. F.
Davis, Miss Bella.
Delroya, The
Doon, Miss Molly
Douglas, Mr. George
Edwards, Mr. S. S.
Elton, Mr. Fred
Epitaux, Mr. Fred.
Eugene, Mr. Tom
Farten, Mr. Wm.
Fawn, Miss Harriet.
Fields, Miss Fannie
Finucane, Miss M.
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Foley and Francis
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Chas.
Friedman, Mr. H.
Gaertner, Mr. A.
Gascoynes, The
George, Mr. Chandos
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glyn, Miss Ruby
Goddard, Mr. A.
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Gore, Mr. H. P.
Goregund, Miss D.
Grey, Mr. Vaughan
Grosvenor, Miss B.
Grundy, Mr. S.
Hardy, Miss Dot
Hare, Miss W.
Harrison, Mr. Denham
Hartley, Miss Jessie
Harwood, Mr. Frank
Hicks, Mr. A. J.
Hickish, Miss Anna
Hill, Miss Adria
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Holt, Madam
Howard, Mrs. George
Howard, Mr. W.
Hunter, Mr. G. W.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Jeffries, Mr. Edgar
Jellicman, Miss A.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kearns, Mr. Sid
King, Miss Hetty
Kingston, Miss G.
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirk and Nell
Landon, Mr. J.
Latham, Mrs. Jean
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Lennox, Miss Lottie
Leno, Miss G.
Lesborough, Miss Violet
Leslie, Mr. Howard
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Lewis, Miss Mabel
Lopes, Mr. Stephen
Lorraine, Mr. Robert
Lovell, Mr. and Mrs.
Lowther, Mr. Henry
Luck, Mr. E.
Lukushima Troupe
Lupino, Mr. George
Lynd, Miss Blanche
Lyons, Mr. Harry
Martens, Mr. Hugo
Masco Twins
McMerry, Miss
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Mehner, Mr. Ernest F.
Menvs, Mr. G.
Milner Trio, Prince
Morgan, Mr. C.
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Newburne, Mr. Geo.
Nord, Miss Serene
Norman, Miss Lizzie
Oakley, Miss Ada
Pareeze, Mr.
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Payne, Mr. Walter
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Raynor, Mr. Arthur L.
Redd, Mr. A. E.
Reno, Mr. T. H.
Restall, Mr. John
Ridgway, Miss Nellie
Rogers, Mr. Charles
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Romanos Trio
Russell, Miss Helen
Russell, Mr. Sidney T.
Samona, Prince
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Sargeant, Mr. Herbert
Saw, Miss Lilly
Saxionas, The
Sauteron Wonders
Scott, Mr. Bob
Seeley, Mr. W. B.
Seymour, Miss Maude
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Standing, Mr. C. W.
Stapley, Mr. Kenneth G.
Steyton, Mr. Frank
Swinbourne, Miss L.
Taylor, Capt.
Thattie, Mrs.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Thompson, Mr. Alec F.
Thornton, Mr. R.
Van Dyck, Miss A.
Vane, Miss Edith
Warren, Mr. Gwynne
Warwick, Mr. Bob
Watson, Miss Mabel
Wilson, Mr. Fred
Winter, Miss Elinor
Zaida, Miss Florence

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London." C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT, English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up £200,000.
Claims paid, £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 to £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1226 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act. II., Scene II.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2311 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Mary Rose Matheson.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C. PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS. TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES. ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN. SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
Will Stop Immediately an Attack of
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.
Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.
To avoid disappointment, insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.
The Original and Only Genuine.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM
OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK. H.W. No. 314,135.
Velvet Grip Compress
Registered Trade Mark No. 304004.
Abdominal Hose Supporter with BELT.
Made in England. (Patent No. 16388/09 and under Licence of Patent 24215/09.)
Original *Velvet Grip* Hose Supporter Rubber Button.
These Hose Supporters fit the form like a glove; they gently but firmly depress the abdomen, they are healthful and hygienic. The Support and Compress are always light, graceful, easy, natural, and comfortable. The latest and best form reducer and belt supporter.
They hold UP without dragging the figure DOWN.
Fitted with adjustment for keeping suspender in correct position. Entirely supported from the back of the wearer. Supersedes all others. Easy to take off.
C5.—1/6½ each. C15.—1/11½ each. C20.—2/6 each. Postage, 1d. extra.
If unable to obtain from your Draper, apply to the Manufactory, HACKNEY RD. WORKS, LONDON, E.2.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINÉE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

TERRY'S.
August 22.
Sole Prop., Edw. Terry. Lessee, L. S. Sire.
MAY ROBSON
and Original Company in
"THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY,"
by Anne Warner.
The Farcical Comedy Success,
as played 1240 performances in the United States.
Box-office open 10 to 5.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45; Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"THE NAKED TRUTH."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Aug. 15, at 7.45 Matinée Wednesday, at 2.30,
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood.
Assistant-Manager and Treasurer,
Mr. Ernest Archer.
Monday, Aug. 22, James Welch's Company,
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries.
Mr. MASKELYNE will introduce his famous Automaton, "PSYCHO," and prove that for 35 years it has remained a scientific and unsolved problem. "The Scarab," new magical farce, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1546 Mayfair.

QUEEN'S HALL
PROMENADE CONCERTS.
Aug. 13 to Oct. 22 (10 weeks).
Nightly at Eight.
THE QUEEN'S HALL ORCHESTRA.
Conductor, Mr. Henry J. Wood.
1s., 2s., 3s., 5s.; season tickets, 1, 3, 4½, 5 guineas, usual agents, Chappell's, Queen's Hall. Full programmes from Queen's Hall Orchestra (Ltd.), 320, Regent-street. ROBERT NEWMAN, Manager.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—MARIE LLOYD (10.10), JOE ELVIN, in "W(h)ines and Spirits" (8.50), King and Benson (8.25), Victoria Monks (9.20), Warsaw Bros., Daisy Dormer, Sam Mayo, Billy Merson, W. S. Wyndham, Kitts and Windram, Milt Wood, Barney Armstrong, Queenie Essex, Tom Woottwell, Harry Grey, Talbot and Pearce, Edna Latona, Lotto Troupe, Ida Barr, Bioscope. Open 7.20; Sat. mat. at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—Little Tich, The Two Bobs, T. Roy Barnes and Bessie Crawford, Tom Clare, Dutch Daly, Sam Mayo, May Moore Duprez, Max Waldon, Anita Bartling, Queenie Essex, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Larola, Minnie Mace, Jose Collins, and The Ten-ka Troupe.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Ted Cowen, Warsaw Bros., Edna Latonne, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Billy Merson Daisy Jerome, John Macauley, Russian Dancers, Evelyn Taylor, H. Pollock and Co., Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Victoria Monks, King and Benson, Cole and Rags, Dion Wade, Helena Miranda and Co. in "A Green Room Match," Sam Spira, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Ruffell's Bioscope, Charlie Dillon, May Moore Duprez.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Gertie Gitana, Three Orleans, The Cardowa, Ross and Lewis, Little Pam, Bio, Percy Dalton, Honor Bright, Diana Hope and Monte Bayly present "Altar of Duty," Arbas Ben Zair's Eight Moorish Acrobats. Artists must forward Bill Matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Aug. 15.
Louis Taylor's Co. "The Judgment Seat," Will Nosam, Two Farrens, Rosie Bartlett, Stan and Stella Atkins, The Cheers, Fyne and Wood, Bioscope, Donovan and Arnold, &c., &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Aug. 15.—Frank Fenton and Co., Walton and Lester, Florence Esdaile, Maurice Hoffmann and Co., Della Ray, Billy Marsden, Trevor and Ware, Ernest Clifford, "H.M.S. Flirt," Geo. Shurley, Gordon James, Ethel Donna, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30; Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
Enormous success of "FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
SCHICHTL'S MARIONETTES, THE UESSEMS,
HENRY HELME, OLYMPIA DESVALL, THORA,
THE ROYAL COLIBRIS, JURY'S PICTURES,
"ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
"HULLO! PEOPLE,"
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
Geo. Mozart, Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson Clark, Asra, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
The Famous Balalaika Orchestra, Regina Badet, Myrma, Nat M. Wills, Merian's Canine Actors, Kaufmann Troupe, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinées, full programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES,
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. Vacant Oct. 3, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, onwards. Address, Charles Revill, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Birch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre. Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For dates address, Jno. R. Huddleston, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful, luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly-lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End companies only wanted for the following dates, Sept. 25 and Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant dates this autumn, Sept. 19, 20, 21 and Dec. 12-17. Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Aug. 22, Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 31.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Sept. 5, also November.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE,, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Oct. 24 (6 nights), Oct. 31 (3).
Dec. 5 (6 nights), Dec. 12 (3).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — Correspondent required to supply Theatrical Reports Weekly. Address, Dramaticus, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Sept. 5, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
March 27, April 10, 17 (Easter), 24, May 1, 15, 22 29, June 26.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE.
ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 5.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Vacant Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and 21, first-class attractions only.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Vacant
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 13, March 13, onwards.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few vacant dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frdk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO and SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, the Publisher,
6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era," London.
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8468 Gerrard.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Austin and Cowan ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward ..... June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William ..... Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice ..... July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart ..... Aug. 6, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ..... March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted H. ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W. ..... April 30, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles ..... Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank ..... June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ..... March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ..... March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick ..... July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W. ..... July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian ..... June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ..... March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie ..... May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola ..... June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita ..... April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes ..... July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra ..... July 30, 1910
Dallas, Mr. J. J. ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J. ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice ..... June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W. ..... March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter ..... June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry ..... June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Ella ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward ..... March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary ..... July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert ..... May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W. ..... Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene ..... Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy ..... June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L. ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom ..... Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walter ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R. ..... May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri ..... July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R. ..... July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ..... Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H. ..... April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Bateson, Mr. J. ..... March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D. ..... April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland ..... May 28, 1910
Housley, Miss Edith ..... Aug. 7, 1909
Hughes, Miss Annie ..... June 18, 1910
Iling, Late Mme. Meta ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy ..... Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C. ..... June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H. ..... Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank ..... Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles ..... Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie ..... July 2, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude ..... July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom ..... May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J. ..... April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel ..... April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy ..... April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen ..... July 23, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred ..... Sept. 11, 1909
Montague, Little Constance ..... April 30, 1910
Morgan, Miss Dorma ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry ..... June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ..... Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank ..... July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W. ..... April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R. ..... Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ..... Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S. ..... July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ..... March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William ..... April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Reade, Mr. Randolfe ..... Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus ..... June 18, 1910
Rexos, The ..... Aug. 28, 1909
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ..... Jan. 1, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy ..... June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry ..... July 16, 1910
Robins, Miss Fanny ..... July 31, 1909
Russon, Mr. Harry ..... March 5, 1910
Salambos, The ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera ..... July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr ..... April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake ..... May 28, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney ..... April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert ..... July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ..... Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ..... Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C. ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A. ..... July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles ..... Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert ..... May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace ..... June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred ..... March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva ..... Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley ..... April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry ..... Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry ..... May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge ..... July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie ..... March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L. ..... April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H. ..... July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann ..... June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick ..... Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily ..... March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion ..... Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E. ..... Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles ..... Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn ..... May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ..... Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur ..... July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Whiting, Mr. Townsend ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember ..... June 18, 1910
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ..... Feb. 12, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne ..... July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7973 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1910.

MANAGERS AND PLAYS.

An article signed "Diogenes" recently appeared in the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, and was "featured" on the bill boards of that publication. In the form of an "open letter," it attacked Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER for not producing plays by unknown authors. "No one enjoys the pretty wit and humanity of such a past-master of his art as R. C. CARTON more than we do," wrote the writer of the article; "the theatrical ingenuity of Mr. H. A. JONES holds us spellbound; the pleasing fancy of Mr. MASON has titillated our senses; but where, oh! where, Mr. ALEXANDER, is the helping hand you should extend to the great untried, unacted, and unwept-for? We hold a brief for him. What have you done of late years to assist him?" The attack, of course, was both absurd and uncalled for. A theatre is not a philanthropic institution, and the business of a theatrical manager is to obtain and produce plays acceptable to his patrons. All manuscripts forwarded to the St. James's are read and dealt with on their merits; and we may be sure that if Mr. ALEXANDER discovered a genius in an unknown dramatist and that genius was capable of writing a play suitable for the actor-manager and his company, he would certainly produce it.

The writer of the article refers to the delay before the production of *Jim the Penman* and *The Walls of Jericho*. But a piece, good in itself, may travel round for years before it comes to the manager and the company whom it exactly fits. The success then achieved is the result of a complete combination of authorship and acting.

There have always been complaints of the want of enterprise of managers and of their inappreciation of unknown authors. There is an idea in the minds of many people that, in the dim background of the world of letters, there exist a number of young dramatists who only require an opportunity to show their talent. Opportunity, says the proverb, is everything; but the saying is absolutely false as far as playwriting is concerned. The born playwright, or poet, or artist is a fanatic. He does his work, not because he makes himself do it, but because he is impelled by an irresistible instinct and impulse. It is quite possible that there are weaker vessels who are prevented from writing plays on account of their foresight of the difficulties of production and the delay which must elapse before the attainment of success; and we no doubt lose, by our system of actor-management and by our deficiency in the technical, as opposed to the essential elements of acting, some fine and subtle work, which in other countries faces the footlights, but in England has to find its outlet in literature. But, after all, a school of art is, and always must be, what the national public make it. A play supposes an audience, a picture an exhibition, a book a circle of readers, or it practically does not exist. And if there is no demand, or only a very small demand, in the playgoing public for the more delicate qualities of dramatic art, for the exquisitely refined, the fancifully wire-drawn, the eccentric, and the dreadfully deep, it is better that plays possessing such qualities should be presented privately and to the minority which enjoys them.

The creation of a really good play is a sort of miracle. The form of the dramatic art is such an obstacle that it is only overcome by a happy chance; and the form at the present day is much more deterrent and difficult than it was in the time of SHAKESPEARE. The dramatist must divide his story into a certain number of acts, with the same scene for each, or, at any rate, very few tableaux. In the Shakespearean period it was possible to "hop from France into Spain, over the Alps and back again" all in one act; and, even in later times, the old system of "flats" and the indifference of the audience to elaborate "sets" made the dramatist's task much easier. When an author is born with all the qualities which make a novelist—the power of conceiving a plot and characters, of inventing a fine fable and developing it adequately, *and* with a consummate cleverness in stage construction—the birth may almost be called a "monstrous" one; and it is quite just that his labours should be highly paid. The mere technique of the stage can be learned; by taking thought a would-be dramatist can add a cubit, or indeed several, to his stature; but the power of thinking in the theatrical tongue, of selecting instinctively the theatrically suitable and rejecting with equally instinctive decision the theatrically ineffective is so rarely combined with the highest kind of imagination and insight that a fine dramatist is something to marvel at as well as to admire. Even SHAKESPEARE seems to have got what we may call his rough construction, his first scenario, done for him by playwrights far inferior to him in genius; and the success of the system of collaboration, which was formerly more in vogue than it is at present, proves that, for one man to combine the gifts of inspiration and construction is quite uncommon. And that is the reason why good dramatists are so rare.

At one time, indeed, it could be said that the unacted had cause for complaint. Their only method of getting a hearing was by means of a matinée, which cost at least £150. But at present, with the numerous societies devoted to the production of the work of unknown writers, it seems impossible that any really excellent work can fail to secure a hearing. It cannot be denied, however, that the disappointment and delay which are inseparable from the dramatist's career, and which contrast so painfully with the comparatively short probation and easy victory of the novelist, are discouraging to all but the bravest. But why blame managers for the inherent and the inevitable?

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

A popular programme has been arranged this week by the genial manager, Mr. Herbert H. Laidman. Maud Wilton is well known in Woolwich, and her songs are appreciated, especially "Will the congregation please stand up?" Oliver Martyn creates much fun in his rendering of his comedy monologue "The Boxing Contest"; the Ellimans are a clever pair in a novelty musical act, the gentleman being an expert exponent of 'cello, violin, and concertina, whilst the lady cleverly plays the concertina and piano, also singing tunefully "Somewhere" and "A medley."

Gertie Gitana, who tops the bill, is always a favourite, her songs "Sweet Caroline" and "Queen of the Cannibal Isles," accompanied with an eccentric dance, earning for her repeated plaudits, her third number, "You were going through the corn, Mollie dear," being delightfully rendered. Carta and Mirtziana are seen in novel gymnastic and equilibristic creations, Carta balancing tables, chairs, &c., on his chin, walking up and downstairs meanwhile. He also suspends Mlle. Mirtziana on a cycle by his teeth, she balancing a table and vase of flowers thereon on her chin.

Lee and Kingston have a very humorous skit, *The Resourceful Lover*; the Sisters Caselli are clever, their duets being well rendered and their dances and high kicking especially pleasing; Selby and Myers are smart patterers, singers, and dancers. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, very entertaining, the Adventures of Weary Willie being most funny. Harry P. Selwyn's company present a new dramatic episode, in three scenes, by Fraser Brunner, entitled *A Soldier of Fortune*, noticed in another column.

IN spite of an interim injunction granted by His Honour Judge Dodd, K.C., at Hull County Court on Monday to prevent the artists styled "Tom and Neil" appearing at the Hull Hippodrome this week, these artists came forward at both houses on Monday evening.

THEY did not appear, however, on Tuesday. An agreement was come to on the matter. The injunction was dissolved, and Tom and Neil agreed to pay the expenses of Mr. Harry Slingsby, manager of the Empire, Hull, who obtained the injunction.

FRANK HAWTHORNE, the Australian comedian, is leaving shortly for the "Sunny South." We wish this clever artist "bon voyage."

MR. BERT LLOYD is taking a sea voyage by the doctor's orders. He leaves on Saturday for Gibraltar and Madeira.

THOSE interested in cycling will have an opportunity of witnessing a unique display at the Palace Theatre next Monday, when the Kaufmann Troupe will make their début at that house. Another new turn will be provided by Delvin and Ellwood, American performers, who make their first appearance in this country in a new sketch.

CEDAR AND ELGAR had a somewhat disconcerting experience on Tuesday evening, when, on arriving at Edmonton Empire, they discovered they had left their band-books behind at the London Hippodrome. The difficulty, however, was soon overcome, thanks to the opportune assistance of the genial conductor, Mr. Asher, and his very capable orchestra, who most admirably saved the situation by playing the numbers from memory.

THE Manchester Hippodrome staff outing took place on Sunday last. The party of about fifty, under the generalship of Manager Nelson Barry, set off (after being photographed) in "ye olde tyme four-in-hand" for Mobberley, where Host Leigh, of the Roebuck Hotel, more than fulfilled expectations by entirely satisfying his hungry and right merry guests. Speeches were, by common consent, reduced to a minimum. "The King and the Royal Family," proposed by Nelson Barry, were toasted in the usual way, as were also "Mr. Oswald Stoll and Our Directors," proposed by Mr. Arthur G. Trussell (Assistant-Manager). "The Visitors" and "The Ladies" were proposed by Mr. H. Garnham (Advertising Manager) and Mr. H. E. Sawyer respectively, and Mr. Harry Hall (Manager, Ardwick Green Empire) replied.

AMONG the invited guests were Mr. Peter Lawton, Mr. Baron, Mr. Pinfold, Mr. Gardner, &c. After lunch the journey was continued to the Swan Hotel, Bollington. Here high tea was partaken of. Mr. Barry, in a humorous, concise speech, referred to his staff in most congratulatory terms, and delighted his hearers by his reference to many little episodes of their work his managerial eye had detected, but which they had thought possibly had passed unnoticed. A cordial vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Trussell to the organisers of the picnic—Messrs. Webb and Wainwright—and suitably acknowledged by both gentlemen. Manchester was reached about 9.30, and the curtain was rung down on the sixth annual outing with many calls of "Encore."

"A SUPREME MOMENT."

Dramatic Sketch, by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Produced at the Coliseum on Monday, Aug. 8.

Norman Lauriston ..... MR. DAWSON MILWARD
Sir Charles Campbell ..... MR. HARVEY BRABAN
Christine ..... MISS EMMA LOVETT
Madeleine Debray ..... MISS MARGARET HALSTAN

The advent of leading actresses to the variety stage has become a weekly occurrence, and the latest to make the plunge is Miss Margaret Halstan, a gifted player, whose work in the higher drama and in Shakespeare has been the theme of eulogy in these columns, ever since the afternoon she claimed recognition for a remarkable performance of the heroine of a Nihilist play at the Avenue. For her appearance at the Coliseum Miss Halstan is fortunate in securing a playlet from the pen of Mrs. W. K. Clifford, who is always equal to writing interesting dialogue, and has besides the instinct of the theatre. As Mrs. Clifford has chosen for the protagonist of her playlet a distinguished French actress, who has indulged in a *grande passion* for a young English diplomat, we are quite prepared for waywardness and inconsistency. When Norman Lauriston comes to say good-bye to Madeleine Debray, she rebels against the convention that to advance his career her lover must marry. He frankly confesses that he will have little love to offer to his grey-eyed cousin with a title. Long since—eight years—he gave his heart to Madeleine; but what would you? He must wed a patrician; besides, he had offered marriage to *la belle*, but had been refused. Madeleine begs for one last interview, and after considerable hesitation he consents. On his arrival in the evening Lauriston meets his friend, Sir Charles Campbell, who has just called on Madeleine. Campbell is at first unaware of the *liaison*; and is shocked when, at the moment of his departure, he discovers Lauriston's portrait, autographed and dated eight years ago. Madeleine has had time apparently to nurse her jealousy in the interval between the two interviews, and uses her most fascinating wiles to keep her lover; but though his reserve gives way to a temporay transport of affection, he remains firm. Madeleine then loses all control of herself, and taking a small pistol from a case declares she will shoot him. He asks for time to write a letter, and then, coolly facing her, tells her he is ready. But Madeleine's jealous fury is but fugitive; her deep love remains, and throwing away her weapon, the actress opens the door, and the lover passes out of her life, of which the incident is *The Supreme Moment*. Miss Halstan is beautiful enough to make one wonder at the defection of Madeleine's lover; and the caressing mood of the actress, her graciousness, and her unreasoning fury were all admirably depicted. Mr. Dawson Milward's rendering of Norman Lauriston was charged with all the patrician reserve that we may suppose belongs to the diplomatic service; but the note of passion in the final interview between the lovers was cleverly emphasised. Mr. Harvey Braban is decidedly good as Sir Charles Campbell; and Miss Emma Lovett does all that is necessary for the part of Christine. The piece is mounted with great care.

AN excellent photograph, 8¼in. by 6¼in., of the Terriers' jaunt last Sunday can be had from Messrs. Henry Lunt and Co., 29, Lambeth-road, for a charge of 1s. 6d.

MR. WALTER GRAHAM, the human marionette, has scored a big success at the Palace, Hammersmith, this week. Next Monday he opens at the Palace, Bradford, being his first return date on the Macnaghten tour.

MISS DOLLY HARMER is making a hit this week at the Tivoli, Dublin, with Maurice Scott and Fred. Barnes' song "No, for an answer"; also Will Hyden and Robson's song "The lady doctor."

SARAH BERNHARDT, who is to make her first variety appearance at the London Coliseum on the 19th of next month, has become a great-grandmother, a child having been born to the daughter of M. Maurice Bernhardt, her son.

THE Three Sisters Trapnell, fresh from their Australian tour, opened at the Derby Castle, Douglas, Isle of Man, on Monday last with an entirely new act. This novelty, consisting of terpsichorean and acrobatic art, is secured by the management of the Folies Begere, Paris, for September next, and will be seen afterwards at the London Pavilion.

MISS RONNA SHANARA has been a big attraction this week at the Aquarium, Scarborough, with the troupe of Thibet Mountain Deer Goats, which are claimed to be the only troupe in Europe. Full houses have been the rule at every performance, and the local Press and the visitors speak in the highest praise of a remarkable performance.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE," which J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman are now touring, has proved a big success. It is a heavy production and a large company, but Messrs. Knowles and Masterman are convinced they will get a good return for their enterprise.

THE Empire ballet, *The Dancing Master*, with its realistic pictures of the old world of the forties, has achieved a popularity worthy of this home of British dancing, and again proves the fact that there is always a great public for the higher form of a delightful art.

THE latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Athambra, 1⅞; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅞; ditto (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion, 2⅛; ditto pref., 4½; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empires, 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅛; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 20s.; Tivoli, New, 6xd.

MR. GEO. DICKENSON'S Merry Mascots have been such a success at the Marine Gardens, Portobello, that after a short extension of the original engagement they have been secured for the remainder of the season.

No turn at the Oxford is being more enjoyed than that contributed by Mr. Herbert Shelley, whose delightful Irish songs and stories take us back to the times of Pat Feeney, when the Hibernian vocalist held the place in public favour now occupied by the Scottish comedian.

MR. MASKELYNE'S "Psycho" was first presented to the public in January, 1875. The introduction was considered of sufficient importance to be recorded in Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates." Many absurd attempts have been made to imitate the android by palpable trickery, which greatly injured the reputation of the automaton. Mr. Maskelyne was therefore compelled to prove that the secret had not been discovered. The only way he could do this was to advertise in the principal newspapers throughout the world that he would pay £2,000 for an automaton that could produce the same movements under the same conditions.

THE construction of the automaton occupied two and a half years. Every bit of the machine, except the outer case, was made by Mr. Maskelyne's own hands. After giving 4,000 performances some of the delicate mechanism required renewing. It was not until January, 1909, that Mr. Maskelyne could spare the time necessary to execute the repairs. These have occupied him entirely from that date. "Psycho" is undoubtedly the most profound mechanical problem ever submitted for solution.

"RIA'S LUCK."

A Sketch, in One Scene, by Miss Clare Elstob, Produced for the First Time at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, Aug. 1.

'Ria Watson ..... MISS AGNESE DE LLANA
Jenny Wilson ..... MISS GERTRUDE DE BURGH
Florrie Dawson ..... MISS MAUD BLAYE
Aggie Brown ..... MISS CLARE ELSTOB
Bill Lawson ..... MR. ARTHUR ELDRED

Miss Clare Elstob has written a sketch of considerable merit, which contains both humorous and pathetic incidents appealing strongly to the audience. She has also been fortunate enough to secure a highly capable company to give representation to the piece. The story is simple, but none the less interesting. 'Ria Watson, a factory hand, is in love with a certain Bill Lawson, also of the factory, and their wedding having been arranged for the very near future, 'Ria's many acquaintances place their money together and buy her a present in anticipation of the happy union. Prior to the opening of the story Bill was dearly loved by Jenny Wilson, who, however, threw him over on account of a slight misunderstanding, and afterwards regretted the fact so much that she worried and made herself ill. She is invited as a guest at the giving of the present. She it is who has contributed most largely towards it, and who feels the most pain at the coming happiness of her former lover. Whilst 'Ria is out of the room Jenny speaks to Bill, and recalls to his mind many tender memories of the past, and although he knows it is right to be perfectly true to his future wife, he feels in his heart that it is the girl before him that he loves. 'Ria sees from the window all that is going on and exactly how matters stand, and renounces her claim on Bill so that he may be happy with the woman of his choice. Miss Agnese de Llana plays with power and skill as the finally-distressed 'Ria Watson, and Miss Gertrude de Burgh enacts the rôle of Jenny Wilson with intensity and feeling. Miss Clare Elstob gives great satisfaction in her impersonation of Aggie Brown; Miss Maud Blaye discharges her duties extremely well as Florrie Dawson; and Mr. Arthur Eldred is a suitable Bill Lawson.

THE LATE MR. W. H. HANNAN.

Theatrical and musical circles in Birmingham have sustained the loss of a well-known character in the person of Mr. William Henry Hannan, whose claim to be the oldest active musician in the country was never disputed. He died at his residence in the neighbourhood of Moseley-road, Birmingham, on Monday last at the ripe age of eighty-six.

Mr. Hannan for nearly fifty years played the bass trombone—one of the most difficult and certainly the most legitimate of musical instruments—in the orchestra at the Gaiety Music Hall, Birmingham.

A most interesting character, invariably attired in a frock coat and tall hat, Mr. Hannan was a familiar figure in the city streets during the day, and was well known to the patrons of the music hall with which he was so long associated. His life-story provides interesting reading. He first became associated with the stage, travelling with a stock company, after obtaining an introduction through the late Barry Sullivan, whose bag he carried nightly from the apartments to the theatre for the sum of sixpence per week. During his travels with the stock company he gave a song and hornpipe dance, and in his spare time learned to play the trombone and the violin.

Later he played in the orchestra at Hengler's Circus. Next he joined the orchestra at Uden's Concert Hall, Sheffield, and after a short time went over to the Theatre Royal in the same city. In 1860 he went to Holder's Concert Hall, Birmingham, which is now the Gaiety Theatre.

Holder's was the only music-hall in the town with the exception of a small place of entertainment in another district. Describing his experiences there a little while ago, he said: "The hall was very well conducted; in fact it was looked upon as an honour to be admitted. You could not get in unless you wore a silk hat, and no lady was allowed to enter unless accompanied by a gentleman.

"The chairman of the music hall was looked upon as a great personage. He kept order when it was necessary, and then sang in the quartette. He occupied a seat at a table by the front gallery, and later sat with his back to the orchestra, facing the audience."

Mr. Hannan did not solely confine his musical talents to the Gaiety Music Hall. During the last half-century he played at the leading concerts in the best orchestras in the Midlands and various parts of the United Kingdom, and he figured under the batons of all the leading conductors during that period.

THE annual outing of the staff and employees of the Cardiff Empire took place at Southerndown on the 7th. The party, which numbered about sixty-five, including several friends, made the journey in brakes, and at the luncheon and tea Mr. H. J. Taylor (the manager) presided, and he submitted the loyal toasts and the toast of "The Firm."

"RHYMING slang," says the *Sportsman*, "is so prevalent with many of the variety comedians that it is almost necessary for some one to publish a rhyming slang dictionary, more especially for the us of old ladies who let apartments, or 'professional digs,' to be correct. Fancy anyone foreign to the language understanding such a phrase as 'What birches have you to let?' This refers to birch brooms or rooms.

"THE next question may be, 'What's the Burton?' This is an abbreviation of Burton-on-Trent, and means rent. After settling terms, &c., many a young comedian (and a few old ones, too) will explain that he is rather late in arriving owing to the 'Christmas' telling him that the 'Andie' waited several minutes at the Junction, whereas it only waited two minutes, and that he was having a 'Jack and Rosie,' and off it went. This refers to 'Christmas card' (guard), 'Andie Caine' (train), 'Jack-the-Dandy' (brandy), 'Rosie Loader' (soda).

"HE will then probably tell the landlady that she need not light the 'Annie Maria' (fire), as it is getting much 'Daisy Dormer.' Asked about supper, he will suggest an 'Aristotle' of 'pig's ear' and anything they may have ready, and requests that they lay the 'Cain and Abel' quickly. 'Aristotle' means bottle. 'Pig's ear' means beer. He pulls his 'well I declare' (chair) up to the 'Cain and Abel,' and then the fun begins.

"HE has a 'bull' with the landlady, and says the 'Stockton' is so 'Wilkie' that he cannot get his 'Hampsteads' into it. Let us analyse it. 'Bull and Cow' (row), 'Stockton-on-Tees' (cheese), 'Wilkie Bard' (hard), and 'Hampstead Heath' (teeth). Then he complains that the 'Harry Nicholls' are too 'Malcolm.' This signifies that the pickles are rather 'Malcolm Scott' (hot). After this he goes up the 'apples' and puts on a clean 'Oxford,' changes his 'almonds,' brushes his 'Barnet,' and dons his 'turtles.' He then pays a visit to the 'rub-a-dub-dub.' This figures out at 'Oxford scholar' (collar, also used for dollar), 'apples and pears' (stairs), 'almond rock' (sock), 'Barnet Fair' (hair), 'turtle doves' (gloves), and 'rub-a-dub-dub' (pub.)."

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE."

A Dramatic Episode, in Three Scenes, by Fraser Brunner, Produced at the Woolwich Hippodrome on Monday, Aug. 8.

Count Ivan Karatoff ..... } MR. ALEC ALVES
Jack Deane ..... }
Capt. Sergius Romanoff ..... MR. ALFRED HARDING
George Gordon ..... MR. HERBERT H. YOUNG
Malakoff ..... MR. JACK MILLER
Harzoff ..... MR. A. BUCKNALL
Countess Helga Karatoff ..... MISS KITTIE LOFTING

Effective and realistic is this new and original episode of everyday Russian life as enacted by Harry P. Selwyn's company, and it is likely to enjoy a long run. The opening scene is a garden of a palace. Romanoff, who is in love with the Countess, who despises him, quarrels with her brother Ivan and forces him into a duel, despite the protests of the lad. Romanoff, who is a bully and noted duellist, offers to spare Ivan's life if his sister will consent to marry him. The Countess will not agree to this suggestion, and persuades her brother to disguise himself. Meantime an Englishman, Jack Deane, arrives in Russia, who bears a striking resemblance to Ivan. So great, indeed, is the likeness that the Countess mistakes Jack for her brother, and, discovering her error, implores him to impersonate Ivan. This Jack does, and hands the Countess papers, passport, &c., which will enable her brother to leave the country. Romanoff returns for his answer, and is confronted by the supposed Ivan, who accepts the challenge and fights the duel. Romanoff meets his match, for Jack Deane is as expert with the sword as himself, and the villain is wounded in the arm, Jack threatening that if Romanoff does not cease persecuting the Countess he will pierce his heart the next time. The baffled Romanoff swears he will be successful yet.

In the next scene Deane is walking in a street of St. Petersburg and meets Romanoff, who makes overtures of friendship which Deane refuses. On turning away Romanoff makes an attempt to shoot him, but is thwarted, Deane securing his revolver and departing. Malakoff then appears, to whom Romanoff unfolds a plan to inveigle the Countess to the meeting-place of the "Secret Six," a band of Nihilists, and there to force her to marry him under threat of exposing her as one of the band. Deane then meets Malakoff, from whom he receives various papers, Malakoff parting with them believing Deane to be Ivan. Deane holds him prisoner, and determines to impersonate him at the meeting of Nihilists.

In Scene III. Jack Deane has just arrived at the Nihilists' den and taken the place of the doorkeeper, Malakoff, when Romanoff demands admittance. On giving the signal the door is unbarred. He is shortly after followed by the Countess, blindfolded, in the custody of two of the ruffians. Romanoff removes the bandage and resumes his overtures, and failing a satisfactory reply threatens to throw her into a furnace. Remaining obdurate, she is then denounced by him to his comrades as a traitress and sentenced to death. This even the Countess prefers to such a marriage, and Romanoff is about to carry out his threat when Jack Deane throws off the disguise, shoots the two Nihilists, and forces Romanoff to fight another duel—to the death this time. Faced with a sword in Deane's hand and the Countess levelling a revolver at him, he has no alternative but to accept, and after an exciting bout falls pierced to the heart.

In the dual rôle of Count Ivan Karatoff and Jack Deane, Mr. Alec Alves was admirable. The villainous Romanoff was well played by Mr. Alfred Harding. Mr. Herbert H. Young was amusing in the part of George Gordon. Mr. Jack Miller was successful as the Nihilist tool of Romanoff's, Malakoff, and was ably supported by Mr. A. Bucknall as Harzoff. The Countess Helga was skilfully and effectively enacted by Miss Kittie Lofting. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

"WHAT A NIGHT!"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of last week I note Messrs. Kitts and Windrum have produced a tabloid comedy using above title, *What a Night!* Might I point out that as far back as July, 1905, I wrote and produced with great success at the Hippodrome, Coventry, a tabloid comedy with that title, and I have played it with my sketch company many times since, and am about shortly to reproduce it on a large scale, as I hold several contracts for same. I claim the right to the title, and ask you, sir, to publish this in fairness to myself and to avoid confusion.—Yours faithfully,

CHAS. M. DALY.

Men Were Deceivers Ever Co.,
Camden Hippodrome, Aug. 10.

IN the wrestling contest which took place at the Alhambra on Monday afternoon between Dr. Roller, the American surgeon athlete, and Gama, the "Lion of the Punjaub," the doctor was beaten.

AT the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, this week, Miss Maude May Murray is proving a big attraction. She appears in a series of fascinating dances and the electrical effects are beautiful. She is greeted at every performance with the heartiest applause and certainly holds the audience spellbound.

PIERROTS and concert parties are still among the most popular types of seaside entertainers (says Clive Holland in the *Pall Mall Magazine*), and in some cases the performers are well-known vocalists and comedians who, when engagements are scarce in town, boldly adopt the life of open-air entertainers, and many of them make quite large incomes by so doing. The leader of a well-known troupe, which has patronised the same south coast resort for several years past, recently told me that a fine summer would often mean he and his five companions picking up £50 or £80 each after all expenses had been paid in a season of from 14 to 16 weeks.

HE added: "The expenses are by no means inconsiderable. In our case we have to pay a rent of £60 for our pitch; 30s. a week for the hire of a decent piano (which we find better than buying the instrument outright); lodgings and board in a comfortable house, say, 30s. to 35s. a week each; expenses of music, £20 for the season, with perhaps another £30 for rights in specially-written songs used in addition to those one or two of our members themselves compose; wages of boy and hire and keep of donkey to pull piano on trolley, 25s. a week; incidentals, a couple of pounds a week; purchase of 150 deck chairs at 3s. apiece, £22 10s., less sale at end of season at 1s. apiece, £7 10s., and breakages, say twenty chairs.

"OUR collections—we often give four performances a day in the height of the season, one in the morning, one in the afternoon, and two in the evening—average on fine warm days as much as £10 or £12 a day—say, £65 a week. But cold or wet weather will lower our takings enormously. We generally reckon out of a 14 weeks' season that we have about four weeks of tip-top weather for our out-of-door work, and of the remaining ten weeks three will be bad and the rest what we call medium. During the latter our takings will perhaps average £40 a week."

A JAPANESE mimo-drama, entitled *Vengeance*, will be played at the Coliseum next Monday by Udagawa and Kawamoura, two actors well known in their own country. As the title suggests, the playlet is characterised by the restlessness under certain circumstances peculiar to the Far East.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Sir Edward and Lady Moss, and Mrs. Alec Tweedie were among the passengers on the P. and O. Company's cruising steamer Mantua, which sailed on Saturday for the Northern capitals and Russia.

The vicinity of Oxford Circus will have two fine variety houses in the near future. The Palladium, which is to be the chief Gibbons' house, will, it is understood, be opened early in December, an event originally announced for August Bank Holiday, 1909.

In opposition to this finely-equipped theatre now rapidly rising on the site of Hengler's Cirque, Argyll-street, we are to have the Princess's, which the genius of Wilson Barrett raised to the status of a first-class theatre. The control of the old and famous home of the drama was secured some years since by Mr. B. F. Keith, who will construct on the site a fine vaudeville house, which may become associated with the Stoll interests.

According to the *Referee*, the Palladium will be a building of extraordinary magnificence. Its marble work will be a marvellous thing in itself. There will be luxurious refreshment rooms—one of them will seat eight hundred patrons. The house will have a wonderful stage—to fit any kind of production, however huge. Martin Harvey *may* present a condensed version of *The Only Way*, and a big bathing act from across the pond will be an opening attraction.

The Lewisham Hippodrome will open about the same week as the Palladium. The Lewisham place will be an extraordinary building, quite unique. There is a fine arched entrance with a glass roof, and adjoining the house is a separate domed building, which will contain tea-rooms, waiting-room, and a stage for cinematograph and other shows.

The Grand Order of Water Rats' annual up-river outing is fixed for to-morrow (Sunday), after having been postponed from Aug. 7. A special train will leave Waterloo Station about 9 a.m. for Reading, and the party will then proceed by steam launch to Wallingford, returning by the same route. Lunch and tea will be served on board. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. W. H. McCarthy, Vaudeville Club.

The multitude of friends of Mr. and Mrs. Rollo Balmain will be pleased to learn that their son, Augustus Rollo, passed his first medical examination at the London University a few days ago. To keep his hand in with the profession, Mr. Balmain, jun., appeared last week in the John Lawson production of *The King of Palestine* as the Belgian Ambassador in the first scene, and received offers of engagements from three managements.

Mr. Bernard Armstrong, better known to his many friends as Barney, succeeds to the management of the City Varieties, Leeds, where he fills the position of Mr. Sam Jones, who finished his long engagement at that house on Saturday. In the eighties Barney, as one of the Brothers Armstrong, knockabouts, made his first London appearance at the Sebright, Hackney-road, a hall once run by Mr. George Belmont, then a pioneer of the twice-nightly entertainment, and now proprietor of the Marquis of Granby opposite the Palace Theatre. The brothers had a run of eighteen months at the Alhambra.

Later Barney appeared on his own as a comic singer, in which rôle he enjoyed considerable success. He became associated with T. J. Colquhoun in the proprietorship of the Queen's and Tivoli, Glasgow, two halls run in conjunction—gaining considerable experience and little else.

Mr. Tom Edwards, the popular ventriloquist, recently returned from his American triumphs, is at present starring on the Stoll tour with the identical baby that got him arrested on New York Broadway and obtained for him a record free advertisement. The modern Valentine Vox is indeed a suitable title for this clever performer.

Mr. Bransby Williams, who is to play Dan in Mr. Hall Caine's drama *The Bishop's Son* at the Garrick Theatre, has visited all the places of interest mentioned in the book "The Deemster," from which novel the play is drawn. He was received at the Bishop's Court, where Dan lived, and explored the Court and its surroundings. Further, the young actor was motored through the island by Mrs. Hall Caine during his two weeks' visit, and he was photographed on the steps of the famous Tynwald Hill, where Dan receives the awful sentence of banishment.

On his visit to Peel, where Dan mixed freely with the fishermen, Mr. Bransby Williams selected the oldest salt on the quay and conversed with him. He learned also the mending of nets; and, buying the old man's needle and shuttle—used by him as man and boy—he then secured 20ft. of net for the hut scene, so that all should be correct. On taking leave of the fisherman Mr. Williams shook hands with him, and on inquiring his name learned that it was *Caine!*

Miss Gertie Gitana, on concluding her engagement at the Granville, Walham Green, last Saturday, was presented with a magnificent bouquet by the manager, Mr. R. Duce, on behalf of the management and staff. Miss Gitana's success in London is just now phenomenal.

Mrs. W. K. Clifford has this week joined the ranks of the sketchmongers with *A Supreme Moment* at the Coliseum. Gifted novelist as she has been for years, Mrs. Clifford is no stranger to work for the theatre. It is, indeed, some years since Mr. and Mrs. Kendal staged her *The Likeness of the Night* at the St. James's—a powerful if sombre piece of work, in which Lady Tree played with Mrs. Kendal.

Mr. Charles Coborn desires it to be remembered by those concerned that there are still a large number of tickets for the Music Hall Sports yet to be accounted for by those to whom they were sent. He would esteem it a personal favour if the recipients would as soon as possible communicate to his private address, 40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

A committee meeting of the Music Hall Home will be held on Thursday next at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, at 12 noon. All committeemen are asked to kindly attend. The general meeting and presentation will take place on Thursday, Sept. 1, at 2 p.m., at the Three Stags. Mr. Benjamin Woodger (secretary) desires to thank Mr. Beart, of Graces-road, Camberwell, for parcel of books for the inmates of the Home.

Fred Karno has produced with considerable success at Tottenham Palace this week a new sketch, entitled *The Wow-Wows*, written by himself and Herbert Sydney. The production is well staged, and presented in three scenes, the first depicting "The Nook" up the river, the second the "preparing" room in the corridor of Brown's Club, and the third the interior of Brown's Clubhouse. The principal members of the cast are J. C. Piddock as the Hon. Archibald Binks, James Russell as Jimmy Bottles, Albert Darnley as Arthur Blazer, Jack Royal as Freddy Brunton, Miss Georgina Royal as Lady Margaret Binks, and Miss Vi Morrella as Lydia Scotch.

Chas. M. Daly's sketch company of *I Must Have It* fame has made a hit with the latest production *Men Were Deceivers Ever*. It is, in reality, a full three-act comedy in twenty minutes.

On Mr. Livermore's retirement from the local management of the Palace Theatre, Bristol, a place which by his own energy and tact he caused to be erected about eighteen years ago, a representative committee of influential citizens thought it a fitting opportunity to pay Mr. Livermore some compliment.

The large Colston Hall has been secured for Saturday, Aug. 27, when two complimentary concerts will be given (afternoon and evening) in his honour, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor and Sheriff of the city. During Mr. Livermore's residence in Bristol he has won golden opinions from all sorts and conditions of men and women, and his many acts of beneficence will not soon be forgotten.

Several variety stars, in addition to coming specially from a distance, have generously sent substantial cheques toward the proposed testimonial. Included in these we have pleasure in naming Miss Florrie Forde, Mr. G. H. Elliott, Mr. Scott Barrie, and others. Support is guaranteed from every theatre and variety hall in the city and district.

The professional friends of the popular beneficiare number thousands. Many no doubt would like to contribute towards the success of the testimonial. This they can easily do by forwarding their donations to Mr. Ernest Sheldon, director of the Palace Theatre Companies, Aberdeen and Dundee, whose private address is Ben Nevis, Kensington-hill, Brislington, Bristol.

On Sunday last the staffs employed at Daly's Hall, Consett, and Victoria Theatre, Stanley, of which Mr. John Cottrell is lessee, held their first annual outing. Motor char-à-bancs took the party to Amble, Northumberland (by way of Newcastle and Morpeth), where a capital dinner was served up at the White Lion Hotel to which full justice was done.

The afternoon was spent in rambling through some beautiful scenery and strolling on the beach, after which an excellent tea was partaken of at the same hostelry. Previous to returning hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Cottrell, who were most assiduous in attending to their guests, and had also provided the expenses for the whole affair.

The staff of the Walthamstow Palace had their annual outing on Sunday last. The party, numbering forty-two, and headed by Mr. Pièrre Cohen, the popular manager of the Palace, and Mr. E. Mann, the assistant-manager,, left Walthamstow about seven o'clock, and were driven in brakes to London Bridge Station. Here a special saloon had been reserved, and the merry company started on the second stage of their journey to Brighton. The dinner was served at the famous Old Ship, with Mr. Cohen in the chair and Mr. Mann as his energetic "vice." The usual congratulatory speeches were made.

After dinner the company dispersed as inclination led them to enjoy a few hours in the bracing breezes of the "Queen of Watering Places," and, as the longest day must come to an end, the merrymakers returned in due course to London (Victoria), and Walthamstow was safely reached some time in the "wee sma' hours ayont the twelve." Greatest praise is due to Mr. Joseph Grant, the stage-manager of the Palace, who carried out all the arrangements.

Members of the Birmingham Gaiety Music Hall staff and several friends spent a most enjoyable time last Sunday. Mr. Albert Bushell, the popular general-manager, is an expert on catering, and his arrangements for the picnic were excellent. The party assembled at Snow Hill Station at nine o'clock, and boarded a special saloon train for Worcester. Tracks were then made for the River Severn, and the trip on the waters in a special steamboat to Lower Lode was delightful.

An excellent dinner was served at the Lower Lode Hotel, after which there was an interesting angling contest and athletic sports. The return journey was commenced about six o'clock, and Birmingham was reached about eleven o'clock. Mr. Bushell was ably assisted by his lieutenant, Mr. Marshall.

Among the guests were Mr. Lester Collingwood (Alexandra), Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire), Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, Mr. H. Knock, and Mr. H. Gough. The orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Leake, played selections of music on the boat, and considerable amusement was caused by Mr. Carl Lynn, the well-known animal imitator.

Mr. Julian Clifford, musical director of the Kursaal, Harrogate, was on Friday, Aug. 5, awarded £70 damages and costs for libel in his action against William Walker and Sons, of Otley, in respect of newspaper comments reflecting on the management of that establishment. A stay of execution was asked for, pending an appeal, towards which his lordship could give no assistance personally.

Mr. R. V. Webb, of "Webb's Notions," is taking a first-class vaudeville combination company on tour, commencing at Peterborough on Aug. 29. The top of the bill consists of "Webb's Septette of Solists," in *Notions*, a remarkable electrical spectacular musical transformation act. Some idea of the elaborate nature of this turn may be gauged from the fact that Mr. Webb has spent considerably over £4,000 on this alone.

He will be supported by Miss Verona Philis, dainty comedienne and dancer; The Dandies, comedians and dancers; Tatten Hall, comedian; the Haydens, comedy sketch; the Sisters Lawler, one of whom, it will be remembered, was the unfortunate victim in the recent shooting outrage at Hammersmith; Arno, the human gorilla; and the Davies-Gledhill Trio, in their sensation, *Man v. Motor*. First-class theatres have been booked and a lengthy tour arranged.

An excellent turn in the bill at the Pavilion, Glasgow, this week, is a duologue presented by the Baron and Baroness de Nevers. It bears the title of *Boy*, and is concerned with the supposed discovery by a young man of wealth and position that he has been inveigled into marriage by an intriguing woman. There is no third person in the little drama, but the episode is so gracefully carried through, and the denouement so rapid and convincing, that the play would have reached its mark without the aid of the Baroness's excellent singing.

Considerable enthusiasm has been aroused at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, this week by Mr. Wm. Mollison's performance in *The Touch of the Child*, a one-act play, which has attracted much attention wherever he has played it. In all the large provincial centres visited by him both play and actor have caused quite a sensation, and he has not been allowed to leave the stage without addressing a few words of acknowledgment to the audience. Mr. Mollison is engaged to appear in the play at the Holborn Empire next week, and the opportunity of seeing him in such a powerful piece should not be missed.

Mr. G. H. Elliott is returning to London next week, after a long provincial tour, with a bunch of big pantomime songs.

Miss Marie Lloyd, quite recovered from her temporary indisposition, reappeared at the Oxford on Monday evening, when she had a warm reception from her legion of admirers.

At the 670th meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association on Wednesday, Mr. Fred Herbert (chairman of the committee) presided, and there were also present:—Messrs. Tom Packer, E. H. Lucas, T. C. Callaghan, William Welch, Arthur Gallimore, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Lieut. Albini.

An agency was fixed up in Loughborough, and Mr. Darville, of the Stag's Head Hotel, Ramsgate, was also appointed. The agency at Leeds was transferred from Mr. Sam Jones to Mr. Bernard Armstrong. Another agency appointment was that of Mrs. Downing, of the Grapes Hotel, Oxford.

Mr. Malcolm Scott has secured a new number in the shape of a character comedy skit, entitled "The Bolster Dress," written and composed by Huntley Trevor and T. W. Thurban. It will be produced on Mr. Scott's return to town at the Palace Theatre on Sept. 19.

Mr. James Stewart, tramp pianist, had to cancel this week's engagement at the Empire, Edinburgh, owing to the death of his mother.

Miss Jennie Steele wishes it to be known that she is not dead, as reported, but is alive and well, and now mine hostess of the Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, London.

Mr. J. C. Inman has just written some original patter for Brüll and Hemsley's production of *Fun in a Music Shop*, which is full of the clean humour always associated with this clever pair.

Mr. Neil Kenyon will sail for Australia on Sept. 19. As he lately impersonated an Oriental monarch whose motto was "absolutely," we may well call him "the Pasha of many tales." He is now taking a holiday.

Miss Mabel Mavis, the wonderful novelty musician, has been gaining fresh laurels at the Tynemouth Palace this week. As will be seen by our advertisement columns, the local Press is loud in praise of her unique entertainment.

"Roots, Rash Chemist," Mr. Fred Maitland's funny mixture, has been delighting our country cousins, and we may expect to see it again in town shortly, with several changes and improvements.

Miss Flora Cromer, of "Who'll buy my lavender?" fame, has been engaged by Mr. Harry Rickards for his Australian theatres through Tom Pacey's agency, and will sail for the Antipodes towards the end of the year.

"A Green Room Match" is the title of a new comedy, from the pen of Mr. Herbert Shelley, which is to be produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday. It will be played by Helena Miranda and company.

The King of the Belgians has awarded a medal for saving life from drowning to Little Elba, a son of Miss Ada Webb, and a member of her troupe, now performing in Brussels. The medal will be publicly presented shortly.

Mr. Ivan Berlyn, whose performance of the Fox in *Chantecler* has been a special feature of the travesty's success, has been reluctantly released by Mr. Peterman to allow him to accept an important part in the forthcoming production of *The Pigeon House*.

Miss Nellie Wigley, who rejoices in a contract to play principal boy at the Princess's, Glasgow, sails to-day for South Africa, returning in time for rehearsals. Her engagements have been secured through the agency of Tom Pacey.

Miss Louisa Peach's sketch *Mystery of a Hansom Cab* proved such a success last week at Mr. Raymond's hall at Walthamstow that it has been booked by Mr. Fred Baugh for the Palace, Bow, next week. She will be supported by the same excellent company.

William C. Chappell and James Edelsten (a third brother of Ernest and Willie Edelsten) have joined forces in the agency business. Mr. Edelsten, who recently returned from America, is booking a number of acts on the Inter-State and Sullivan and Considine Circuits. Mr. Chappell has been booking for several provincial halls.

Mr. Douglas Stuart leaves to-night (Saturday) by the 10.40 p.m. boat express from Waterloo for Southampton en route for St. Malo, and at the seaside resorts on the beautiful Brittany coast he hopes to obtain rest and recuperation after his strenuous work of the last few weeks. He will be away for a fortnight.

Miss Alicia Ramsay and Mr. Rudolph de Cordova will produce at the Brixton Empress on Monday a new sketch, written by the former, called *Her Guardian Angel*. The cast is as follows:—Mrs. Lorrimer, Miss Mildred Cottell; Mollie (her daughter), Miss Bella Terry; Hortense (her French maid), Miss Blanka Steuart; Edward Langton (a burglar), Mr. Paul Lovett.

Another example of Mr. George H. Elliott's business qualities is forthcoming in his latest poster, which has been published with the sanction of Messrs. Fry and Sons, the famous chocolate manufacturers of Bristol. Dressed in a white duck suit, the popular chocolate-coloured coon appears on the poster carrying a handbag, on which are the words "Fry's Chocolate."

Mr. J. A. Wilson and Private Towser, a wonderful performing dog, have been winning golden opinions in the land of the Tykes in *The Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant*, a fifteen minutes' comedy act, which never fails in good healthy fun, and creates immoderate laughter. Next week the happily-associated pair go to the Hippodrome, Croydon.

The return billiard match for the championship of the music hall profession and a gold medal will be played at the Loughborough Hotel, Loughborough-road, Brixton, on Wednesday next, when Mr. Charles Phydora, the holder, will endeavour to retain the title against Mr. Sam Mayo, by whom he has been challenged. The match commences at 2.15.

A few weeks ago the announcement appeared that the Surrey Theatre was to be entirely remodelled, and the work would be commenced immediately after the August Bank Holiday. With the exception of the outer wall, it was proposed to entirely reconstruct the theatre, thus providing more accommodation for the patrons of the "Old Surrey."

The manager of the house in an interview with the representative of a local journal now states that the plans have not been passed by the L.C.C., and would not be passed for some time, owing to the summer vacation. Rebuilding cannot be commenced without the authority of the Council, which has not yet been received.

Mr. Walter Graham, the human marionette, is likely to add to his fine entertainment shortly an impression of Stead in his great song "The perfect one."

The Six Ceylons, whose wonderful show, *A Dream in an Opium Den*, we fully described when first produced at the Euston, have secured unstinted approval all round the country, having never been idle a night since its production.

Miss Dora Healy, who has quite recovered from a slight operation, made her reappearance on Monday at the Granville, Walham Green, where her pleasing style and evident earnestness have secured for her many friends.

On Monday, Aug. 22, will be produced at the Palace, Bow, by E. D. Nicholls and company, another of Fred Moule's Dare-devil Dripping episodes, entitled *The Yellow Bird; or, Dare-devil Among the Canaries*. Also shortly will be produced a revised version of *Winkels*, entitled *The Commissionaire*.

Miss Mollie Seymour, that charming comedy artist and violinist, has had a very successful week at the Hammersmith Palace. This lady has signed contracts for three years for all the syndicate halls and the Macnaghten tour. We wish her every success, which she rightly deserves.

Harry Barford, the producer of the successful sketches *The Irony of Fate*, *Cottage or Palace*, and *The Bishop and the Thief*, will produce on Monday next at the Camden Hippodrome a new episode, by Albert Ward, entitled *A Noble Revenge*, with the author in the leading part. A strong cast has been engaged to support Mr. Ward.

The Crisps, of whose varied experiences we spoke a short time ago, have made quite a dash to the front. The provincial Press have eulogised their talents to the highest degree, and their services have been readily taken up by many important syndicates. They open at the Oxford on Sept. 5, where they recently scored a very big success in their novel turn, *The Little Deputy*.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon, when there were present:—Messrs. W. Bailey (in the chair), T. Carney, A. Drew, S. White, T. B. Brydge, W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), H. Jennings (trustee), Pat Carey (treasurer), and R. T. Baines (secretary).

Cissie Lawson will introduce on Monday next at the Camberwell Empire the latest illusion, "The Talking Poster," the very latest thing in scientific novelties. Briefly an ordinary six-sheet poster—brought from the stage to the audience—will answer any question put to it. Of course, it is well "postered" up in topics of the day. It is pleasing to note that Mrs. Lawson is a decided hustler.

Mr. William Henry Hannan, a trombonist, well known throughout Warwickshire, died at Birmingham on Tuesday. He played in the Birmingham Festival Choral Society's concerts for forty-two years, and was in demand for orchestral concerts all over England and Scotland. He played in the orchestra at the Gaiety, Birmingham, from 1860 to within a few months of his death. When he first went to the Gaiety it was known as Holder's Concert Hall, and no one was admitted unless he wore a silk hat.

A special "call" was made at the Balham Hippodrome on Saturday evening, when the staff from all parts of the house assembled on the stage after the second performance to take an affectionate farewell of Mr. E. W. Hancorne James, who has severed his connection with the Gibbons Circuit in order to take up the reins of management at the New Cross Empire. Advantage was taken of the occasion to give Mr. James a practical token of esteem by a presentation, which took the form of a handsome gold ring, gold sleeve links and studs, and a Gillette safety razor. The presentation was made by Mr. Jack Bolton, mine host of the George Hotel, which faces the hall, who felicitously referred to the esteem in which the recipient was held. They all felt they were losing a good man, and they joined in the sincere hope that in his new position Mr. James would be even more happy and successful than in Balham.

After musical honours had been rendered, led by Mr. Laurie Owen's orchestra, Mr. James, obviously much moved at so cordial an expression of goodwill, thanked the "boys and girls" for their handsome presents. He attributed the success which he had enjoyed at Balham to the loyal efforts of his staff—the best, he added, that any manager could be blessed with. The proceedings, which were very brief, in view of the near approach of Sunday, concluded with "Auld Lang Syne," sung by all present in the old familiar way.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 51, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May (secretary) begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mrs. Fred Kitchen (donation), 10s.; Master F. Kitchen (donation), 1s.; Miss A. Glanfield (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mme. Li-Chang-Hi (collection), 11s.; Mr. Mike Johnson, through the kindness of Mr. Endler (tailor), Sydney-street, Manchester, profit on trouser-stretchers, 5s.; Mrs. Charles Coborn (collected), 7s. 6d., towards which Mr. Murrans gave 2s. 6d. and Mr. Barclay and Mr. Cory Woodrow 1s. each; Mrs. Fred Kitchen, two boxes of very useful clothing; and Mrs. Ethel Arden-Abel, box of stage clothing.

Will anyone make an offer for the fifteen large-sized band books given by Messrs Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Could anyone help us with Mrs. Arthur Hatton's address? She holds the winning number (50) for the handsome portière curtain. The sum of £1 0s. 6d. was collected for the Music Hall Ladies' Guild as the result of the doings of an impromptu minstrel troupe at the German Club. The show was organised by Max Ritter and Mr. Paul Murray, and the following kindly took part:—Messrs. M. Ritter, Shaun Glenville, Earle Reynolds, Harry Jolson, Tommy Dawe, Myson Gilday, Jake Fox, Sydney Wood, Billy Montgomery, and Paul Murray (interlocutor).

While a number of people were engaged in having a bathe on Monday on the Aberdeen beach, an exciting incident took place, which, but for the gallantry of Mr. Fred Lindsay, the stock-whip expert, who is at present appearing at the Palace Theatre, might have resulted in the drowning of one of the gentlemen bathers—a representative of a Manchester firm named Mr. Martin, who is at present on holiday in the town.

Mr. Lindsay was swimming in about 14ft. of water when he heard cries of "Help!" coming from Mr. Martin, who was about twenty yards away from him. Mr. Martin had evidently got out too far, and was unable to swim back against the strong tide. Mr. Lindsay, who is a powerfully-built man, bravely went to the aid of the sinking bather, who threw his arms around the neck of his rescuer, and both went down. Very pluckily, Mr. Lindsay stuck to his task. The cries of the people on the shore attracted a large crowd to the scene of the incident. The Rescue by this time had set out to the aid of Mr. Lindsay, and the unfortunate bather was soon brought safely to shore, but in a very exhausted condition.

Will Norris, the youthful Lancashire tenor, who during the past season has scored heavily both in and out of London, has been secured by Hyman and Co., and sails to-day for South Africa. He is leaving with the joyful knowledge that he has a book full of contracts to play on his return. His namesake, Jimmy Norris, was a wonderful favourite in Johannesburg, and doubtless his protégé will be the same.

Mr. Frank Carlile, so long a member of the Britannia and Surrey companies, will produce on Monday a one-act play by himself, entitled *A Prairie Warning*, at the Grand Theatre, Forest Gate. This is the first London performance, although the playlet was produced under the title of *Miss Smith of Pine Ridge* on July 31 of last year at Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

At the Hippodrome, Poplar, on August 29, Mr. Albert Wyndham will produce the sequel to his popular Shakespearean sketch, *Prince Arthur*, viz., *Magna Charta; or, The Last Moments of Prince Arthur*. The scene is on the battlements of the Tower overlooking the Thames and Old London Bridge. The theme lends itself to most picturesque mounting, and Mr. Wyndham's undisputed ability as a producer will have full play.

"Gretna Green," originally written as a wrestling sketch, but produced as a "knuckle fight" episode, has scored a success at the Surrey this week, where excellent business has been the rule. Seldom has a Surrey audience been so enthusiastic as they were on Monday afternoon, when the village blacksmith knocked out the prize-fighter, and the lovers rode into the smithy, pillion fashion, after their runaway marriage at Gretna Green.

Mr. Tom Lowe some three years since commenced to travel as electrician with Mme. Henriette De Serris's company, presenting "Canova's Living Porcelain." When last heard of in January of this year he was with the company referred to at the Alhambra, Paris. The floods were on at the time, and his mother is very anxious as to his safety. If Mr. Lowe reads this, or if any friends know his address, will they please communicate with Mrs. J. Lowe, 41, Wellington-road, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston? Mme. Henriette De Serris's company is at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

A cricket match will be played to-morrow (Sunday) between Moss' Empires and Variety Agents, at Toley's Ground, Acton. Players and any friends can leave Paddington by the 2.30 train. Lunch and tea provided. Tickets may be had of Ernest Atling, of Messrs. Hyman, Ltd., 29, Leicester-square, W.

A triumph has been won by Mlle. Pauline Rivers with her new ballet *Our Children's Farmyard; or, Chantecler in Fairyland*, recently produced at the Tower, Blackpool. The ballet, which is enacted entirely by children, provides a novel and charming entertainment, replete with fun, frolic, and melody. An almost magical transformation of a modern ball-room into a typical English farm and landscape, with its green fields, festoons of golden grain, and scattered sheaves of straw, is first effected. The farmer's pretty children greet the sun in a dainty dance, and then arrives Chantecler, the pride of the farmyard. Miss Gertie Langley sings his praises in a dainty little lyric, "Cock-a-doodle-do." Chantecler making violent love to the farmer's daughter causes the liveliest fun, and an exquisite comedy scene ensues when the fickle Chantecler woos the pretty Hen Pheasant, whose real lover, the Cock Pheasant, pays marked attention to the Guinea Fowl, and there is jealousy amongst the courtiers.

A Ballet of Blooms delightfully varies the proceedings, the fairies of the flowers—lilies, daffodils, pansies, forget-me-nots, cornflowers, and roses—engaging in intricate movements, which present a kaleidoscopic scene of ever-changing variety. The sun shines out in all its glory, and the opportunity is taken to introduce a song of greeting by Miss Gertie Langley, "Good morning, Mr. Sunshine." The Pauline Sextette dance a lively fling, in which is introduced the clever toe dancing of Fairy Moonshine and Fairy Star. Another novel spectacle is a quarter-moon, bearing a little girl, which necessitates the singing of "Underneath the Bright Blue Moon," the chorus of which is taken up by the company.

A supers finale is furnished by the advent of eventide, with the rising of the moon and the appearance of the stars. The garlands and sheaves illuminate with a glow-worm effect, and the wisps of straw carried by the dancing children, complete a scene of glorious light and colour. The concluding triumph is the flight of Fairy Star on the Golden Pheasant, which, with brightly shining eyes, and red, gaping mouth, floats away to the skies with its pretty burden. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the children for their really excellent work, distinguished by the freshness and buoyancy of youth, and their singing is delightful throughout. Mlle. Pauline Rivers, who has invented, arranged, and produced the ballet, must feel proud of them. Distinct taste has been shown in the blending of the rich colours, and there is a note of originality in many of the dresses. The electrical effects give much brilliance to the performance.

The annual meeting of Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Ltd., was held on Aug. 4, in the Midland Hotel, Mr. Oswald Stoll, chairman and managing director, presiding. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, which disclosed a balance of £8,603 in profits, said he considered it a matter of congratulation that they were able to maintain their dividends, and at the same time write off a large and ample amount of depreciation and an increase in their carry-forward. Mr. R. W. Southern, a shareholder, said he noticed that they had appointed Mr. Walter Battle, of Leeds, a director. In 1907 they were told that at the next vacancy the board would consider the appointment of a local director. He attributed the success of their rival concern, the Palace, largely to the fact that they had local men on the board. The profits, he added, were £4,000 less than last year, and were the smallest since 1905, which was the first year they started to declare a profit. During the corresponding period the Palace had increased its profits by 28 per cent.

Mr. Stoll did not admit that the comparison made was a fair one. He had instanced the Palace Theatre. All that it had done was to rise to the stage that they had reached, namely, they were able to pay 10 per cent., and they were paying 10 per cent. for the first time in the history of the theatre. The Palace had a reserve fund equal to theirs, but they had built theirs up in a very short time as compared with the many years it had taken the Palace to build up theirs. As to the appointment of Mr. Battle, he thought that gentleman would be able to speak for himself. His experience was ripe, whether from the point of view of financial business, variety theatre business, or licensed victualler's business, and he was a very useful member of the board.

Mr. Battle mentioned that he had been a member of the Leeds City Council, and was connected with the London Coliseum and other music halls. His election was confirmed, whilst Dr. Broad, of Cardiff, who was re-elected a director, said that more money was held in Cardiff in this company than by the whole of the North of England. The dividend was also approved.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Some remarkably fine dance numbers have been recently acquired for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, including, as they do, "La Nuit de l'Eté," by Miss Violet King, a waltz of which report speaks highly.

A couple of dances greatly in favour when played by Mr. Archibald Joyce's fine band at the nobility's balls are being issued by Mr. Day's firm. They are "Cremona," waltz by Edwin Scarfe, and a novelty dance entitled "The Ghost Walk," by James M. Gallatly.

The "Viola" dance, invented by Miss Edith Bishop, B.A.T.D., with music by B. Farnhill, will be issued immediately by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Little Tich's latest screamer is a Territorial number, entitled "One of the Deathless Army," and is by Gilbert Wells, Will Terry, Virgil Gill, and T. W. Thurban. Messrs. Francis and Day have it in the press.

Mr. Joseph Tabrar, who ever and anon bursts out with a song that shows sucking Primrose Hills that Etna is still alive, has just sold to Mr. Harry Champion a number entitled "Have a drop of gin, Joe." The author-composer of "For months and months and months," has disposed of the ditty to Messrs. Francis and Day.

Mr. C. R. Whittle's newest song entitled "Have another one," has been acquired by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by those past-masters of their art, Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey.

Mr. Lester Barrett is enjoying a vacation at Bournemouth, and Mr. H. B. Pether is staying at Margate.

The song so finely sung by Charles Russell, the veteran soldier in Miss Sable Fern's *Boys in Camp*, and which is entitled "When the camp fires brightly burning," has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is from the pen of Mr. Frank Leo.

The composer of Miss Evie Greene's charming song, "The Corsican Maid," has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day a remarkably pretty waltz entitled "Twilight Bells."

Inquiries at Eastbourne were rife at every music dealers' a few days since consequent on Mr. Johnny Danvers having put on at the local place of entertainment a remarkably virile parody, entitled "Hip-I-addy-I-ay," written by Charles Wilmott. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers, and applications from coast entertainers for copies of the same are very much in evidence already.

Messrs. Francis and Day are bringing out in sheet music form Wal Bromby's admired "Valse Sympathie," an item which is being talked about by the cognoscenti. The firm have in the press also the "Gaiety Waltz," invented by J. B. McEwen, U.K.A., and composed by H. A. Dowson. At Derby Castle it is said to be the rage, and visitors thereat are keen judges of a dance.

Mr. Tom Finglass's admired song, "My Baby," has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule.

That "broth of a bhoy," Mr. Walter Munroe, was so struck with Frank V. St. Clair's song "Just remember me to Mary," when recently the gifted writer sang it over to him privately, that he persuaded the author to cede to him the rights he had himself retained in the number, and one knows not which to congratulate the more—Mr. St. Clair, who has given up a great number, or the genial Irishman, who would easily have robbed Cleopatra of her needle, had he not been part possessor by birth of an even more celebrated stone.

(*Continued on page 20.*)

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

A programme of outstanding merit, and one that is in keeping with the very high standard that is always maintained, is presented this week to the patrons of this very popular house. Lew Lake and his comedy company, in *My Pal Jerry*, top the bill, and receive a welcome that leaves no doubt whatever of their popularity. The fun of the opening sketch is of a boisterous knockabout sort, but it is very much to the liking of the audience, who literally shout at the remarks of the pals in the dock; the dramatic ending and the death scene in the snow provide a powerful contrast, and not a few of the audience had tear-filled eyes when they left. The bulk of the work falls on the shoulders of Lew Lake as Nobbler Nolan and Bob Morris as Jerry Jackson, but they are well supported by Harry Lavers, Kitty Wilmore, Fay Gurling, and Eunie Webb, and a large and well-drilled company. The mounting of the sketch is on the elaborate scale for which Mr. Lew Lake's productions are noted.

Gladys Huxley is a clever vocal comedienne who by her bright manner and finished style at once wins all hearts. She gives the impression of being remarkably glad to see her audience, and of thoroughly enjoying singing to them, and from the applause it was very evident that the audience were in quite the same frame of mind. Hampton and Bauman, character duettists, are a versatile couple, and provide an entertainment in which there is never a dull moment. Tom Yorke, a character comedian, sings well. Fred Russell and his inseparable pal, "Coster Joe," keep the audience in fits of laughter. It seems impossible that ventriloquial skill can go farther, and yet every time one sees Fred Russell he seems to improve.

Other items of the bill make an equally effective appeal to the popular taste. Tony Black, the Scottish comedian and dancer; Michel Bros., in their wonderful head-to-head balancing feats; George Newburn, the mimic; and Lily Hayes, a comedienne and dancer, all help to form a programme that more than satisfies the large audience that can always be relied on here. The Bioscope, with new films, is ever a popular feature, and a special word is due to the musical director for the excellent work done by the orchestra. Mr. Geo. H. White, the popular manager, is to be heartily congratulated on the success of his efforts at Putney.

Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, the veteran music hall manager and song-writer, who wrote "Tommy, make room for your uncle," is compiling a new composite picture, entitled "The World," with a background representing the two hemispheres, and would be pleased if all artists—English, American, and Continental—would kindly send on photos at once to his address, 53, St. James's-road, Southsea.

Mr. Sam Jones, the late manager of the popular Varieties at Leeds, who finished his long career there on Saturday, was presented on that evening with a substantial purse of gold by the staff and patrons. Mr. Jones, who had endeared himself to all by his courteous and businesslike habits, will be greatly missed.

Mr. Bransby Williams has just returned from the Isle of Man, where he has been gathering local colour and studying the part of Dan in *The Bishop's Son*, to be produced at the Garrick Theatre. Mr. Williams takes the same intense interest in Hall Caine's character, Dan, as he has always done in those of Charles Dickens. He is now resting at his seaside residence at Selsey, before his Coliseum engagement and rehearsals of the Isle of Man drama.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE HIPPODROME.

An acquisition to the already fine programme at the Hippodrome is the ventriloquial show of the "Great Lester," a clever exponent of the difficult art of polyphony whose amusing act has quickly "made good." The technique of Mr. Lester, who hails from America, is perfect, and his conversation with the boy figure he voices naturally carried out. Remarkably clever and amusing also is the telephone business, and his imitation of the boy breaking into convulsive sobs is very like the real thing. Such familiar tricks as talking whilst smoking a cigar or cigarette are apparently easy of accomplishment, Mr. Lester even managing to voice his figure whilst drinking a glass of wine. The dummy finally induces his "assistant" to carry him amongst the audience, talking or singing the whole time. There is much quiet humour in the show, and most of the dialogue is amusing, and there is little doubt that Mr. Lester's clever and novel interlude will long remain popular in London.

Another American whose contribution to the programme is heartily enjoyed is the popular comedian and raconteur, Mr. R. G. Knowles. Mr. Knowles rattles off in his old sweet way many funny remarks concerning love, the old-fashioned methods of courtship and the new, and sundry other topics. His gentle raillery at the expense of the orchestra likewise proves amusing. "£ s. d." and another humorous number are also included in an always appreciated turn. Something novel in the way of mimicry are the impersonations of a ballet master and an orchestral director by M. Jules Moy, a noted Parisian mimic of much versatility and sense of humour, his portrayals being delightfully funny character sketches; and Ferry Corwey, the musical clown, employs many ingenious and novel devices to raise a laugh, and always with success, his instrumental selections being loudly applauded.

Two distinguished grand opera singers, Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, are giving audiences here a rare musical treat. On the occasion of which we are writing Madame Moody sang with much artistic expression Tosti's "Good-bye" and "Killarney," the fine voice of Mr. Manners being admirably employed in the favourite old drinking song "In cellar cool" and "Here's a Health unto His Majesty." A reception of the heartiest was accorded both vocalists. Willy Pantzer and his company are appearing in an original acro-pantomimic interlude which they call *The Limit*, and the title is certainly warranted. To surpass their many indescribable and difficult feats in tumbling, hand and head balancing, &c., one would imagine impossible. The manner in which the head of the combination "juggles" with one of the youngsters is marvellous, and the entire show, in which there is plenty of comedy relief, is worked with a cleanness and finish which add considerably to its attractiveness.

The Doherty Sisters, singing and dancing comediennes, submit amusing impersonations of an American vocalist and other types, and their duet, "A Hundred Years Ago" is funny. An imitation of the Whirlwind Dance is also a clever and much-appreciated item of an attractive turn. The Mezettis, comedy gymnasts, submit their expert and smartly worked bar act, and meet with a flattering reception; Little Sophie, juvenile artist, sings "When the sun is shining bright" and a couple of other numbers acceptably, her dancing being particularly expert; and Cedar and Edgar are cross-talk comedians and vocalists with an original style and funny patter. Pathé's Animated Gazette of Current Events and the selection by the fine band must also be included in the numbers that count.

LONDON PAVILION.

The search for sensation is always a plank in the policy of hustling for the halls; but it is rarely that one lights upon so original an illusion as that presented by Mr. Frank Glenister for the first time on Monday at the popular hall in Piccadilly-circus. Durga, the lady who presents the new sensation, arrays her fine amplitude of figure in white skin tights, wearing also a shawl of tinselled pink gauze, which she waves in a sort of classical dance. But this introduction counts for little. It is when madame introduces a young and nameless pianist, and a couple of attendants move a heavy piano on to the stage, that interest in the act really begins to simmer. The young lady, apparently secured in the seat which is attached to the framework, plays a simple piece; madame makes a few passes, and the instrument slowly floats upwards towards the flies, and after turning a couple of complete circles as slowly floats down to the stage. "Voila tout!" The show will be much more effective when the obvious nervousness of the pianist is overcome.

Miss Wish Wynne has returned to this house, where she commenced her most successful career as an interpreter of character. We have not seen or heard anything so completely satisfying in an artistic sense as her "Misery Jane." Poor Jane is a slice from life. Grimly pathetic and appealing as the true annals of the poor always are, the sorrows of our slum children have never been more eloquently realised. "A Country Girl" is another delightful creation of Miss Wynne, who is again and again recalled to receive hearty compliments for her fine work.

Early in the evening Miss Alice Hollander sings the contralto part of the famous "Miserere" scene from *Trovatore*, the tenor portion of the duet being played by a good soloist in the orchestra. Verdi's melody is always acclaimed, and the popular approval of Miss Hollander's singing is enthusiastic. Mr. Arthur Melrose's whistling waiter reminds one of Mr. Snazelle's impersonation, and is decidedly original. The whistler also realises the incidents of quite a storyette of adventure by means of his gift, and he is quite successful. Miss Violet Loraine, whose fair beauty is particularly well set off in a pretty costume of pink silk and black lace, returns to the Pavilion with those successful songs "I want a sweetheart" and "In the park." Miss Loraine has a bewitching style, and should go far.

Miss Annie Abbott, "the little Georgia Magnet," defies the combined strength of ten men in her chair feat, and though only weighing seven stone can at her own sweet will prevent herself being lifted by two stalwarts invited on to the stage. The show of the fair Georgian, who looks but a little older than she did some fifteen years ago when she appeared at the Alhambra, excites much curiosity and amusement. Miss Ada Oxley is inclined to spoil her sketch *Peggy* by her extravagances as the Yorkshire girl; Miss May Henderson adopts the stale device of chaffing the band, which does not increase the value of her clever impersonations; Mr. T. E. Dunville's "Railway Guard" has a subtle knowledge of human nature; and Arthur Aldridge revives his old success "The Trumpeter," and is well suited with "Mary, you're a big girl now." A clever turn is the lightning painting of Vandinoff, who succeeds in "touching in" a bouquet of flowers on a surface while it is rapidly revolving. The Five Cliftons, acrobats, include a regular Hercules as the bearer, who is fitly partnered by a lady of prodigious strength, the two being the mainstay of an original and intrepid display. The Fitzroys are graceful society gymnasts; and the Howards, Mr. Harry Zetter, Mr. Carl Muller, and the Brothers Dean are other turns in a fine programme. Mr. Bond Sayers, the musical director, secures an excellent ensemble from his fine corps of instrumentalists.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Decorators have been busy at the popular Clapham Junction hall, which looks very bright in its new dress. The auditorium has been repainted, the prevailing colours being pure white and gold, with a delicate shade of blue worked into a pretty design. Other parts of the building have been similarly treated, and the place now makes a very attractive appearance. A big programme is being presented this week, and an audience in conformity with the talent provided was found in possession of the first house on Tuesday. Three stars head the bill, and each renews the popularity already enjoyed in the neighbourhood. Miss Queenie Leighton, who figured as principal boy in the pantomime at the theatre opposite, is in particularly high favour, and her reception is cordial in the extreme. Her comedy talent is well displayed in both her songs, especially in that of "Conversations," the humour of which is thoroughly brought out.

A leading light of the bill also is Mr. George Mozart, who hits off the peculiarities of the public once throughout, and is admirably enacted by Mr. Noble and his companions, the concluding episodes being especially well played. Another interesting little sketch that appealed successfully to the audience was *Pippin's Mother*, a playlet combining humour and pathos, capitally enacted by Miss Lloyd Archer and company. The head of the combination plays the honest paper boy, Pippin, in a vivacious, droll, and, when necessary, earnest manner quite in keeping with the part; and a clever and convincing portrayal of the sneak thief, Bob Marsh, is given by Mr. Frank Carlyle, Miss Travers ably impersonating Mrs. Marsh. Mr. Thompson Carruthers' company are responsible for the farcical sketch, *Up the Pole*, the many absurdities in which keep the audience vastly amused, particularly ludicrous being the incidents where the love-sick Baron von Blitzerburg allows himself to be so roughly treated by Tony Bounder. The quartette responsible for the presentation of the farce all work hard in the cause of laughter.

A reception of the heartiest is accorded the favourite comedian, Mr. Charles Whittle, who warbles in his usual quietly droll fashion "Can't you make room for a little one?" and also amuses greatly with a number new to us, "Fall in and follow me," a ditty with a taking melody and chorus which is sure to become popular. Another comedian who succeeds in keeping the audience amused is Mr. Syd Crossley. A droll rendering of "Right; good idea!" is succeeded by a really funny description in song of a meeting of public house politicians, which terminates in "ructions"—a ditty well written, capitally delivered, and loudly applauded. The Four Sparks are a quartette of smart damsels who contribute an agreeable interlude of vocalism and dancing; Miss Nellie Nestle employs an excellent voice in the popular song, "Your eyes have told me so" and another number; and Miss Gracie Lawn, looking well in a pretty principal boy's costume, sings "Isn't it a treat to be alive?" and "Don't stand there," concluding with a neatly-executed little dance.

The fine voice and cultured singing of Miss Annie Schuberth are admirably employed in the song-scena, "The Deputy," the lady's charming renderings of "Beautiful Garden of Roses" and "Star of Hope" being loudly applauded, and, on the night of our visit an encore was demanded and given. Miss Schuberth's delightful turn gave evident pleasure in all parts of the house. The Three Romas, clever acrobats and hand and head balancers, submit a smartly worked and really interesting show that was greatly appreciated by Monday night's audience; and the wrestling exhibition of the famed Japanese ju-jitsu expert, Tarro Miyake, created much enthusiasm, particularly his encounter with George May, an English wrestler, who withstood being thrown for close on seven minutes. Miyake quickly vanquished an Italian, and much diversion was caused by his demonstration of various locks, holds, &c., in ju-jitsu, with a gallery gentleman as a "subject." An interesting and well-varied series of animated pictures by the Edisonograph always forms an appreciated item in the entertainment here, and the programme, ably overseered by the courteous and capable manager, Mr. Maurice Veiny, also includes Mr. Frank Jester, comedian.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The programme at this popular hall is fully up to the high standard maintained by the management, and the audiences are large and enthusiastic in consequence. At the top of the bill is George Bastow, happily recovered from his long spell of indisposition. On the evening of our visit he gave three songs—"They won't know I come from the country," "Wire in, my lads," and a new number entitled "Captain Gingah, O.T." All of these were practically perfect character studies, and the latter, which is sung in the guise of a retired officer, is a clever song with a taking refrain, which was speedily taken up by the house. His success was very gratifying, the audience giving him a cordial welcome back to the footlights. Frank Seeley appears in a couple of songs, neither of which gives him any opportunities at all. Goodfellow and Gregson are making a big success. They are a very entertaining couple who work wonderfully well together, and their act was so much to the taste of the house that they had to give an additional item. Bert Williams is presenting his ventriloquial show, which contains some original business. A policeman who is introduced causes a great deal of amusement, and the final item, which takes the form of a song by Mr. Williams with an interpolated last line by the dummy, is clever. The turn gained plenty of well-earned applause. Kisbey, the call boy, appears in an act consisting of songs and patter.

The Nine Excelsos in a series of vocal and dancing scenas are making a successful bid for favour. The series of songs, each of which has a different mounting, are melodious, and the dancing is altogether excellent. The show is notable for the introduction of a coloured artist, who gives some remarkable exhibitions of dancing. Everything is accomplished without the suspicion of an effort, and the audience, quick to appreciate the cleverness of his exhibition, accorded him an undeniable encore. The Avoloe in a turn which consisted of somersaults, and other acrobatic feats from perpendicular poles, were conspicuously successful, the performance of the artist in the guise of a woman calling for special mention. Adey Spencer, who opens the programme, proves herself to be a clever pianist, vocalist, and dancer, and earned hearty applause for her act.

A. C. Lilly and company bottom the bill in *Drummed Out*. The abundance of the military element has doubtless had a deal to do with the long life of this sketch, a considerable number of auxiliaries being utilised in the current production. Mr. A. C. Lilly himself repeats his familiar performance of Sergeant Usher, and was supported by a large company, of whom Misses Gladys Rose Jones and Kitty Kirwan were successful. The Bioscope is, as usual, interesting, and Mr. Greco's capital orchestra opens the evening's entertainment with a spirited performance of the *Yeomen of the Guard* selection. Mr. Charles Marks, the popular manager here, is away searching for summer weather, and Mr. Cyril Percival, his assistant, is discharging the managerial duties with great courtesy.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Judging by the crowded condition of this beautiful variety hall on Monday evening, the holiday season would appear to have no prejudicial effect on the business done, and Mr. C. Foster Marner, the urbane and energetic manager, must be accordingly grateful. The programme is an exceedingly good one, and quite up to the expected standard of a Gibbons Hall. To open the entertainment the Sisters Burnett as a lady motorist and coster respectively sing of the glories of a motor-car and donkey-cart, and are followed by the Six Probies, a set of youthful singers and dancers, who are greatly appreciated.

In consequence of her great success, Miss Daisy James fulfils a second week's engagement, quite to the satisfaction of the large audiences, who are delighted with the efforts of this dainty and versatile comedienne. Her latest song, "The squeegee dress," amusingly depicts the troubles of the attenuated tube dress. Miss James's second song, "It's a fine night to take a walk," has a spirited chorus, which appeals to the audience, who take up the refrain with avidity. Success is attained by George Gilbey, the Lancashire comedian, in his songs, "Not to-day, or to-morrow, or the day after," and "How to be happy though married," in the latter of which he delivers most amusing patter, causing very hearty laughter. That excellent playlet *Pride of Regiment*, written by F. D. Bone, is again played with ability by Mr. Nerill Graham and company

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

The lady in particular proves herself to be a very capable actress. Mr. Sam Bean is very witty in a humorous song on "Home, sweet home."

Miss Daisy Stratton sings of "Tipperary Mary" pleasantly, and dances in good style. An admirable dancing turn is that of Harris Coome, a coloured vocalist and dancer, who earns well-deserved applause, and Mozetto, announced as one of the world's greatest jugglers, certainly falls very little short of that description. In a very spirited song entitled "There are no girls like ours," Mr. Steve McCarthy as a sailor is much appreciated, and the Westbrooks, in a Dutch dancing sketch, display skill.

Miss Marie Kendall discourses forcibly how "You can always tell when a fellow loves a girl by the silly, sloppy look in his eye," and creates applause. In her next song, however, Miss Kendall fairly captures the audience, who very reluctantly allow her to leave the stage without another song. It is called "Did your first wife ever do that?" and provokes unbounded laughter, and is certainly a prize-winner.

The new sketch, *King Nobbler*, presented by Mr. Lew Lake and company brings the long programme to a very merry termination. Our old friends Jerry and Nobbler alight from an airship on an island inhabited by cannibals, and Nobbler manages to be proclaimed King for a time. Comical situations abound, and ultimately, when Jerry and his pals are in dire straits, they are rescued by men from a British warship, amid much excitement. It is all excellent fooling, and creates hearty laughter. Mr. Horace Sheldon is in command of a talented orchestra.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. William Bailey's programme at the popular Edgware-road house this week is of a particularly alluring nature, pride of place being occupied by the queen of comediennes, Marie Lloyd. Charmingly costumed, Miss Lloyd first appears as a lady who has once occupied an insignificant position in "the chorus," but who now owns a town and a seaside mansion, in addition to motor-cars and diamonds, and is generally very affluent. Her friends, of course, are not kind in their surmises as to the change in her circumstances. But they do her an injustice. She has been "married to the man for years." Perhaps the best of Miss Lloyd's numbers on the night of our visit was a low comedy song, in which she impersonated a Cockney damsel, who, while on a pleasure trip, gets wrecked in Turkey, and narrowly escapes becoming one of the many wives of a greedy potentate. The Sultan makes an awful fuss of her, but she eventually gets safe home to "Bill." "Very nice, too," is the versatile comedienne's last number, all of which are given in her own inimitable style. Marie, needless to remark, was accorded a reception reserved for favourites. Guy Rider, "the regimental pet," appears as a smart little drummer-boy, his whistling solos especially appealing to his auditors. His expert bâton manipulation and drum-playing are other attractive features of a turn which greatly pleased the house.

The fine contralto voice of that cultured vocalist Miss Bessie Slaughter was admirably employed in "Your eyes have told me so" and "Killarney," and the enthusiasm of her reception proved once again the pleasure derived by music hall audiences from high-class vocalism; and Mr. Albert MacKelvin, Scotch monologuist, has a funny song in "I saw Sandy to his front street door," his humorous anecdotes also raising many a smile. The well-known Selbini Troupe of cyclists and acrobats still occupy a premier position in their line of business, the many difficult feats executed by the clever family all being accomplished with marvellous dexterity and apparent ease. Their concluding trick is that of a man and bicycle turning a complete somersault—a sensational one that called forth loud plaudits. Altogether a most attractive and unique show. The Brothers Horne are still presenting their funny and smartly-worked boxing skit, *The Biter Bit*, and judging by its reception and the continuous laughter it evoked, they are not likely to need new material for a long time. Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers, are amusing and clever, the ludicrous get-up and behaviour generally of the funny man of the duo creating much merriment.

An "extra" on Tuesday evening, Martin Adeson and partner, in the screamingly funny playlet, *The Lady Doctor*, was responsible, perhaps, for the heartiest laughter heard, the unctuous impersonation of the gasman who is mistaken for a wealthy patient by the lady doctor by Mr. Adeson being a very droll, finished, and easy one. Valuable assistance was given him by his partner, the couple working splendidly together, and the many humorous lines and absurd situations proved most mirth-provoking. Mr. Mark Leslie, coon artist and eccentric dancer, Miss Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope are also on the attractive programme.

EAST HAM PALACE.

Large and appreciative audiences are attending here this week to witness one of the most interesting and entertaining programmes to be obtained. Thanks to the astute and enterprising manager, Mr. Albert E. Hill, the Palace is rapidly growing in popularity. Karno's comedians are appearing in the pantomimical farce *Skating*, the company including Sid Chaplin, a well-known versatile comedian and fun-maker. The sketch simply teems with funny incidents, and roars of laughter are produced by the antics of the would-be rinkers. The company is undoubtedly one of Karno's best.

The combination known as the Seven Bramusas, juvenile musicians, in a brass band extravaganza entitled "Music Afloat," are accorded a very hearty reception. Their renderings of well-known overtures and solos are remarkably clever for juvenile artists, and the march "The Diplomat" is skilfully conducted by one of the boy musicians. "A Moonlight Trip on the Mississippi" is a descriptive piece in which they excel. Horace Pollock and company, in the brilliant comedy episode *Hester's Mystery*, are very popular, and the sketch abounds with much excellent humour. Les Alex. C. Carangeot, in the Continental dancing scena "The Demon, the Fairy, and the Dragon," give a wonderfully clever interpretation of Parisian dancing, which is heartily applauded. The scenic effects are very cleverly manipulated.

"Mr. C." keeps the audience in a merry mood by his many "yarns," told in typical Yankee fashion. Miss Maud Courtney, American comedienne, is well received, her two songs, "Father brings home something every day" and "Pet names," quite holding the audience.

The Brothers Bright submit a clever exhibition of lifting and balancing, their many feats being characterised by the utmost ease and grace. Other pleasing turns are Miss Jessie Stuart, vocal comedienne, and Arthur Clifton, swell comedian, the latter's song, "Girls, be careful what you do," being a very popular number. The performance concludes with some interesting films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. The assistant-managership is in the very capable hands of Mr. H. Wincote, who looks well after the comfort of the audience.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

An excellent start of this week's bill at Mr. Cohen's hall is made by Miss Lucia Collins, a daughter of the late Miss Lottie Collins. Here we have a decided case of hereditary talent. Miss Lucia Collins, from time to time, curiously reminds the older generation of playgoers of the famous singer of "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay." There are many of the little mannerisms, the unexpected jumps and nods, and the voice itself seems to be an echo of the past. On the occasion of our visit Miss Collins sang well a pretty song, "You are a flower," and followed this with one of her mother's successes, "A breach of promise case." The young and attractive artist is very warmly received. The Eight 'Varsity Girls, in gowns, hoods, and "mortar-boards," sing many good songs in admirable style, sometimes concerted and sometimes solo. That old and tried friend of the public, Tom Leamore, has a great reception, and sings firstly about a gentleman with an inordinately long name who was called "Dick" to save time, and follows this up with his serio-comic song-scena. "Gold, Gold, Gold," in which his impersonation of the aged miser is extremely clever. A turn eliciting unbounded applause is that supplied by the Royal Delomes, duettists and dancers. Their step-dancing is simply amazing, and their somewhat weird performance of "The Phantom Clogs," in which they occupy a darkened frame within which nothing is visible but two pairs of white clogs dancing "for all they are worth," is very clever.

Some of the loudest laughter and most persistent applause of the week rewards the mirth-provoking sayings and doings of Barney Armstrong and Kelly. To begin with, Barney's facial make-up in combination with the absolute stolidity of his humour goes a long way to raise the ready smile even before he opens his lips to speak or sing, but when he does speak and sing it is simply a case of "Laughter holding both its sides." The song, the patter, and the acting are all alike of the best. Of course, everybody there saw Kelly, and it seems as if nine-tenths of the audience would like to keep on seeing him for months and months and months at a stretch. The quaint little man—he is only a youth—has all the makings of a comedian in him, and it will be strange if he does not "achieve greatness" some of these days. He has an excellent preceptor and leader in Barney Armstrong, and he promises to make good use of his opportunities. Valazzi, "the supreme juggler," repeats a marvellous performance that has been seen on these boards before, but can hardly be seen too often. His feat of "sloping the slope" is truly marvellous, but not much more so than some of his other efforts. Miss Helen Martin's fine, well-trained voice is heard to great advantage in the rousing song, "Long Live the King," which is received with acclamation. The Calcots are very good in their wayside episode, *Rags and Tatters*, their singing and playing being alike excellent. Will E. Stopit is certainly an eccentric fellow, and his eccentricities are greatly enjoyed.

The solid item of the week's programme is the comedy dramatic episode, *Her Luck in London*, played by Miss Mary Neil and company. Miss Mary Neil depicts the heroine as a perfect "bundle of nerves"; Mr. Stuart Cleveland is duly fierce and domineering as Stephen Harborne, whose harshness drives his daughter away from home; Mr. Herbert Standing is manly and earnest as the Hon. Gerald, acting with great spirit and speaking with perfect intonation. As the villain, Richard Lenowen, Mr. Jack Haddon seems to revel in his own selfish brutality. Miss Marie Rainer is the very personification of a callous, vulgar, and utterly heartless woman as Mme. Gabrielle; while as Lilian Harborne, Nell's religious sister, Miss Mary Auckland is as cold and unbending as the part requires. The little piece is splendidly staged.

DEATH OF MISS AMBER AUSTA.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Amber Austa, the popular comedienne and dancer, at the early age of twenty-seven, of consumption. She passed away on Wednesday night, the 3rd inst., at 191, Lavender Hill, S.W., after twenty weeks' illness. The funeral took place on Monday, the 8th inst., leaving the Roman Catholic Chapel, Altenburg Gardens (after requiem Mass), the burial taking place at Morden Cemetery, Surrey. The funeral was quite a private and family one, among those present being Mr. Will E. Haines (husband), Mrs. J. Mullaney (mother), Nora Mullaney (sister), William Haines, sen. (father-in-law of the deceased), and Alfred and Nellie Haines.

THE LATE MISS AMBER AUSTA.

Miss Austa made her first real start on the stage by playing a waif part in a drama with Miss Agnes Hewitt at the early age of ten. Later she appeared in *The Dandy Doctor*, musical comedy, as a speciality dancer. At the age of fifteen she was with Mr. John Tiller in the *Gay Paree* company, and made her first appearance on the music hall stage at the Metropolitan, where the late Mr. Henri Gros gave her her first start two years later. The song that seems to have made her most popular was "Oysters and clams" (the ragtime oyster man). It is to be regretted that one so young and with such a promising career before her should pass away so early in life. Mr. Haines wishes to express his sincere thanks for the many beautiful wreaths sent and for letters of condolence from many friends.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Eugene Stratton, with a song scena new to Stratford, is giving of his best this week, which is saying much. His coon is the genuine article in appearance; his songs are peculiar to coons only, and his dancing should make the average coon impersonator change from black to green with envy. Consequently Eugene's latest, "I may be a millionaire," rendered with faultless diction, that not a word is missed, and being very admirably staged, creates quite a furore; the smiling artist having afterwards many times to bow his acknowledgments. Stratton's other numbers are "The coon that never told a lie," and the ever-popular and ear-haunting "I may be crazy." The Grassis, who possess very elaborate musical properties, are a clever and versatile duo, as alike as two peas. This enhances their illusionary mirror act, which is most clever. Some very adept tumbling also forms part of their turn, which is concluded with a musical entertainment which fairly brings down the house. Bertha Winder is a very expert step-dancer with a very modest manner, though when her terpsichorean efforts are confined to the limited space of an ordinary plate, the heartiness of the applause is unmistakable, and she is quite entitled to the appellation of "The Dancing Marvel"; Jennie Alexander is a juvenile mimic who essays to reproduce the efforts of such performers as Vesta Victoria, Marie Lloyd, and Victoria Monks, and selecting popular numbers associated with each, her success is unavoidable.

Albert Whelan, nonchalant and débonnair as customary, contributes an enjoyable act. His items at the piano include "The coon and the bear" and a "trombone" number, whilst his impersonations of Chevalier, Lauder, and especially Chirgwin, stamp him as a mimic with a very keen sense of perception and humour. The whistling solos with which he makes his entry and exit must also not be overlooked; and he is the recipient of some of the heartiest applause heard during the evening. Tom Haig and Millie Novel create much mirth with their comedy acrobatic scena; Harry Simms sings a light comedy number very acceptably; and Hans and Lux's contribution to the programme affords much pleasure. Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in *An Amateur Anarchist*, did not appear on the night of our visit owing to the indisposition of Miss Rosebery, and a special Bioscope picture replaced them. The overture, Parker's "Mignonette," is well performed by the excellent orchestra, under the guidance of Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus.Bac. and the comfort of those in front is well studied by Mr. E. J. Macdermott, the courteous acting-manager.

FELDMAN'S

SONGS AND SINGERS.

Harry Lauder	IT'S JUST LIKE BEING AT HOME.
George Lashwood	MISTER PAT O'HARE.
Miss Ada Reeve	NOBODY KNOWS, NOBODY CARES.
George Formby	PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST.
"	I PUT ON MY COAT AND WENT HOME.
G. H. Elliott	BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON.
"	MOON, MOON, MOON.
Miss Gertie Gitana	YOU WERE COMING THROUGH THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR.
Fred Barnes	I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE.
Miss Venie Clements	MARIE LOUISE.
Arthur Aldridge	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
Miss Alice Tremayne and Harry Claff	I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE
Miss Dorothy Ward	EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU.
Dave Carter	IRELAND, THE LAND OF THE SHAMROCK
Miss Ella Shields	COME BY THE DRUM IN THE BIG BRASS BAND.
"	IN THE ARMY.
Arthur Lennard	LET'S WAIT AND SEE THE PICTURES.
Miss Lottie Lennox	PUT ON YOUR OLD PLAID SHAWL.
Miss Lillian Haerlein	I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW.
Miss Clarice Mayne	I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME.
"	GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK.
Miss Annie Schuberth	BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF ROSES.
"	THOUGH YEARS GO ROLLING BY.
Miss May Lilian Levey	RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY.
"	OH! BOYS I'VE SEEN YOU THERE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 19.*)

At the Hippodrome, Croydon, this week, Mr. George Lashwood wins the suffrages of all hearers with his racy rendering of Benjamin Hopgood Burt's naive Irish-Turkish song, "Mister Pat O'Hare," one of the Feldman publications, which certainly seems to have its pantomime future well assured.

Miss Florence Esdaile, at the Gaiety, Birmingham, has been the recipient of encores for her singing of Dempsey and Schmid's ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," which she will be giving at all her turns. This already famous song is a well-known Feldman publication.

Miss May Poulton writes Messrs. Feldman and Co. most enthusiastically anent the success she has achieved at the Palace, Southampton, and her other turns with their tuneful comedy number "I wonder who's kissing her now."

Mr. Muir Muirell has made a pronounced success at Llandudno with Feldman's "Beautiful garden of roses," "Somewhere," and other ballads published by the Arthur-street firm.

At the Gaiety, Birmingham, Miss Irene Rose has won plaudits loud and long for Macdonald and Yates' "Dear little sunbonnet lady," a Feldman publication, which has an extensive vogue just now, and is hourly growing in popularity.

Messrs. C. and F. Renad are introducing Feldman's big military comedy number, "Every girl loves a military man," by Harrington, Godfrey, and Powell, into their new production, *The Merry Territorial*, which it fits like the proverbial glove, and great results are anticipated in the near future.

Mr. Bert Feldman, telegraphing his firm from the Isle of Man, where he is at present combining business with pleasure, records the fact that "Beautiful garden of roses" is the rage of Mona, a result confidently anticipated by all good judges of the public taste in the matter of the "songs of the people."

Miss Annie Schuberth has been scoring very heavily at the Standard, Pimlico, with "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmid, and "Though years go rolling by" ("My Star of Hope"), by James Wilson and Henrie Jaxon.

Rosie Gaston, the dainty character comedienne, is now singing her latest success, "Oranges," by Mills and Scott.

Miss May Mars continues to prove one of the big attractions at Douglas, I.O.M. This week she appears at the Palace, and her success with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's charming ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" is greater than ever. In addition to this big winner, and the bright and breezy "Ship ahoy!" Miss Mars has introduced another song by the same authors, having a local flavour. It is entitled "I met little Mary Ellen at th' Isle of Man." Needless to say this has brought down the house. The Star Music Co. are the lucky publishers of all three numbers.

George Lashwood has this week been appearing at the handsome new Hippodrome, Croydon, where packed houses have been the rule. It is a long time since the genial George visited Croydon, and old admirers flocked to see their favourite lion comique. They have not been disappointed, for George Lashwood has just now some excellent material. His big winner, "The moonlight promenade," with its melodious chorus and tricky couplets, was an intantaneous success. The authors are A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, and the publishers the Star Music Co.

Miss Maud Esmond, who is familiarly known as the "'Charlie Brown' girl," continues to feature this number to the evident satisfaction of all hearers. As the original singer of this popular ditty, Miss Esmond gets so many requests for it that she finds "Charlie Brown" a difficult chap to drop. The fair singer is meeting with her usual success at Collins's this week, where she also features "Ship ahoy!"—another Star Co. winner—by those prolific authors, A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott.

POPLAR HIPPODROME.

Resplendent with its fresh artistic decorations and new scenery, this hall can vie with the best for comfort, excellence of programme, and good management. Much of the success recorded here is, without doubt, due to the unfailing energy and courtesy of Manager Austin Anderson, who is ever to the fore in studying the comforts of his numerous patrons. Full houses this week are appreciating the varied bill. Zellini has a humorous juggling act. Heightened in effect by quaint fooling, and assisted by clever contrivances, the speciality causes much laughter. Victoria Monks is a host in herself. She has a tuneful number in "There's a girl in Berlin," a song with a swinging, haunting melody; whilst her second effusion, "What's yer gwine ter say on Judgment Day?" has a chorus which will surely become as popular as those of Victoria's other songs.

The Sisters Allen are a bright and cheery couple, their dancing and singing being quite good. Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are names to conjure with. These premier trick and comedy cyclists still prove as popular as ever. Their feats are accomplished with the ease and finish denoting the true artist. Merlin as a card manipulator is decidedly smart. In causing packs of cards to increase or decrease at will none were more mystified than the three gentlemen from the audience who "assisted" him. A humorous touch added appreciably to the entertainment. Disguised as an impossible "slavey," Elsie Robey gives several quaint impersonations of singing and dancing. Her burlesque of La Belle Otero is particularly clever, and her Dutch song and dance is heartily applauded.

Allan Holt and company present the dramatic sketch *A Society Woman*, which has now been before the public for some time, and still proves acceptable. Miss Mona Macdonald as Lady Phyllis Allerton works hard, and deals out the pathos liberally. Miss Kitty Grey as Jeannette is excellent, and the other members of the cast lend good support. As a child impersonator Wilson Hallett occupies a foremost position. His different humorous and pathetic impressions of children are greatly appreciated. Fred Hastings is successful in a funny monologue, *A Study in Courtship and Marriage*, funnily given. Harry Luck, comedian; and the Brothers Ralston, vocal comedians, are also in the bill, which includes a series of up-to-date pictures by the Bioscope. The orchestra, presided over by Mr. Smith, does excellent service.

"THE LADY AND THE BURGLAR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your notice of a new (?) sketch by George Grossmith, jun., produced at the Tivoli, Strand—viz., *A Night of the Garter*, you mention that the piece is similar to a sketch known as *My Burglar*. I should like to point out to you that I wrote a sketch, before either of the above, entitled *The Lady and the Burglar*, produced by me at the Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester, on Sept. 27, 1905, and noticed by you in your issue of Oct. 7, 1905. The incidents are precisely similar to Mr. Grossmith's playlet, and as I am reproducing it shortly I should not care to be accused of plagiarism.—Yours faithfully, FRED MONCKTON.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Bowling, on the Great Northern; Eccleshill, on the Great Northern; Kirkstall, on the Midland; Leiant, on the Great Western; Morley, on the London and North Western and Great Northern; Rawdon, on the Midland; Lowmoor, on the Great Northern; Birstall, on the London and North-Western; Gildersome, on the Great Northern; Barnsley, on the Great Central, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Midland; Paignton, on the Great Western; Ashton-under-Lyne, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ashbourne, on the London and North-Western and North Staffordshire; Bracknell, on the London and South-Western; Glossop, on the Great Central; Droylesden, on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Great Harwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hartlepool, on the North-Eastern; Mottram, on the Great Central and Great Northern; Newton Heath, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Rochdale, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Saddleworth, on the London and North-Western; Shaw, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Whittington, on the Midland; Irvine, on the Glasgow and South-Western; Dumbarton, on the North British; and Malpas, on the London and North-Western Railways.

Sir Robert Fossett and Sons' Circus on Tour.

THE original Sir Robert Fossett and Sons' Circus and Hippodrome, on tour, visited this week Hailsham, Bexhill, Rye, and other towns in the neighbourhood of Hastings, performing to good and appreciative audiences. This gratifying fact is not to be wondered at, seeing that the circus is excellently billed, admirably managed, and, with the horses and other animals all in fine condition, patrons of all classes are only too pleased to express their pleasure at the quality of the acts submitted. Of the equestrian acts, for which this well-known establishment holds a high reputation, Mlle. Emmie has a big reception for her admirable *haute école* act, in which, superbly mounted and habited on her beautiful horse Vanity, she thoroughly proves herself to be a most perfect and graceful horsewoman. Mr. Robert Fossett, jun., is responsible for a brilliant performance in his famous jockey act, an act to which he has yet added another sensational and daring feat, consisting of leaping from the arena to the back of his steed whilst going at full speed, encumbered with his feet in baskets, and also blindfolded, and his body enveloped in a sack—a remarkable feat of daring, which fairly brought down the house. Miss Hilda, who has wonderful control over her miniature pony, gives a most pleasing and popular exhibition of equine training. She is assisted by Mr. R. Fossett, sen. Miss E. Fossett introduces her wonderful educated calculating horse Diamond with marked success, who thoroughly mystifies by its rapidly-given and correct answers to the various questions put to it by its fair mistress. Master Thomas Fossett, known as Texas Tom, scores in his fine exhibition of equestrianism, which has earned him the proud title of the fastest and most expert rider known. Excellent numbers, which speak volumes for the patience of the trainers as well as the intelligence of their equine scholars, are shown in the wonderful accomplishments of the highly-trained horse Pasha and the mare Patience, which are introduced respectively by Mr. Robert Fossett, jun., and Master Thomas. The acme of horse training is seen, however, in the great fire horse Cæsar, who coolly stands alone at liberiy on the top of a platform, amidst a display of fireworks. The Three Graces charm in their novel hurdle act, in which they show themselves to be accomplished exponents of the art of equestrianism. The amusing pranks of Joey the Pony and of his two-legged companion Clown Winkle delighted both old and young. A great favourite is Topsy, the cake-walking elephant, who is introduced by Mr. Roberts; while another popular act is that of a performing Teddy bear. This establishment does not only rely upon splendid feats of horsemanship and animal training, but also on excellent and daring gymnastic and acrobatic turns. Very fine are Les Eschelles, in their highly-finished double ladder act. The Brothers Apine also prove themselves to be very clever "La Perche" artists. The Two Valtrines give a masterly performed novel trapeze act, which meets with the generous approval of the audience in the shape of hearty applause; whilst Mons. Otto gains well-deserved honours of a like order as a dexterous and talented equilibrist. The Four Zolas add yet another fine item to the programme with their splendidly-executed feats as acrobats and tumblers. A pleasing number is given by the Two Rennes, who in their skilfully-accomplished performance on the double wire show that they are equally at home in mid-air as they are on terra firma. There is an excellent number of amusing clowns, who include Otto, Spider, and Winkle, and the merriment is never allowed to slacken. Their energetic, resourceful, and capital work creates repeated laughter. During the performance some diverting entrées, including that of Funny Jacko and his troupe of comical skaters and Comic Otto, with his local acrobats, are keenly relished. The evening performances conclude with some fine bioscope films, which are clear and excellently shown. Mr. E. Cook, the musical-director, deserves a complimentary notice for his orchestra, which adds to the enjoyment of the performance. Amongst the band pieces is a well-rendered selection from Gounod's *Faust*. There is an interesting side show consisting of what is said to be the smallest cart-horse in the world, and two fine young lion cubs, recently purchased. Mr. Roberts acts as Sir Robert Fossett and Sons' stud groom. The customary mid-day parade through the streets, weather permitting, has been most favourably commented on from the large crowds which have congregated along the route, the elephant and camels, together with the condition of the horses and ponies, coming in for special notice.

Cupar, Fife, Fair, N.B.

THIS annual hiring fair was held here on Tuesday. Very bad weather prevailed, which had its effect on the attendance, business being very moderate all round. The following attractions were present:—Wilmot's racing motor-cars, Walter Wilmot's jumping horses, A. Riddal's Brooklyn cake-walk, Biddal's famous show, Manders' mammoth coliseum, Walter Wilmot's electric theatre, Chapman's performing birds and living pictures, A. Sedgwick's show, Brockley's novelty show, Lavin's boxing pavilion, Milo's mechanical exhibition, globe shooters and galleries by Dawson, Palmer, Freeman, Rostron, Gamble, and Strand, Emma, cokernut, loup-la and watch-la by Strand, Dawson, Knowles, Horn, Palmer, Gamble, Freeman, Martin, and Hughes, and a host of minor attractions completed the list.

Featherstone Feast.

FOLLOWING upon Knottingley there is a capital fair at Featherstone, in the heart of a coal-mining district. The shows, machines, &c., given above as being at Knottingley, went to Featherstone the week after Knottingley, the new-comers being Holdsworth, with flying pigs and waltzing balloons, and Messrs. Pullen, Crowther, Norman, Brogden, Barker, Arnold, and Johnson, with games, &c.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

S. MERCER, 10s. 6d.; John Boss, 10s.; H. Clayton, 5s.; R. H. Delaney, 5s. By Mr. Wm. Mitchell: Mr. T. Holcroft (hon. member), Bolton, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Thornley (hon. member), Bolton, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Etchells, 5s. By the Guild Secretary: H. Thurston, £5; G. Beach, £1 1s.; Robert Clasper, £1; T. Bolesworth, 10s.; W. Stockwood, 10s.

THE TRIUMPHANT VINDICATION OF THE TRAVELLING SHOWMAN.

Following upon the issue of the amended Movable Dwellings Bill, we have the Final Report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords to whom the Bill was referred.

The Marquis of Salisbury presided over the Committee, the other members of which were the Duke of Northumberland, Earl Russell, the Earl of Liverpool, Lord Zouche, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, and Lord Farrer. The Final Report, as well as the terms of the Bill, we put before our readers last week fully justifies all we have written during the past thirty years, in season and out of season, with regard to British show life. It is a veritable triumph for the Showmen's Guild and the case for the showman vandweller as presented to the Committee by the president and Council of the Guild in exhaustive special papers, and especially in the evidence of the Guild Chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne. The first paragraph of report referring to vandwellers says:

"Apart from a small number of persons who use moveable dwellings as a pastime, vandwellers are divided into two classes—the showman class and the gipsy class. As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of their Guild, told the Committee that there were some 4,000 showmen's vans travelling the country, and carrying a population of something like 12,000 souls. The trade is perfectly honest and respectable and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them, and it was represented to us that not only is no legislation necessary, but that existing legal restrictions occasionally involve a grievance upon their side. In certain cases it is said local bodies avail themselves of these restrictions, not with a view to prevent breaches of the law, but in order within the area of their jurisdiction altogether to put an end to the fairs where the showmen gain their living. Any further powers to make regulations, it is contended, would intensify this grievance. Without pronouncing as to whether there may not be a reasonable answer to these allegations, the Committee are certainly of opinion that, so far as the showmen are concerned, no legislation on the lines of this Bill is called for."

The End of Class Legislation Dealing with Show Life.

After numerous attempts (well meant or ill-meant) to stigmatise show-life as a danger to health and morals, this is the end of the matter, as found by the Committee:

The trade is perfectly honest and respectable, and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them, and it was represented to us that not only is no legislation necessary, but that existing legal restrictions occasionally involve a grievance upon their side.

The real friends of the showman have the supreme satisfaction of knowing that show-life is worthy of the good opinion all reasonable people have held of it—that the travelling showman or itinerant entertainer is a clean living, law-abiding citizen; no special powers are needed to induce him to better things; the ordinary moral and religious incentives, and the ordinary restraints of good living are ample for show-life. No special legislation is needed.

Sanitation and Health Conditions of Show Vans.

A clean bill of health for show-van life is the verdict of the Committee. The law, as at present, is adequate for show vans. In the special paper tendered by the Guild and accepted as evidence by the Select Committee, it was shown that in every town the showman visits he is immediately under the sanitary and health authorities, like all other house-dwellers.

Expert Witnesses Support the Case for Showmen.

Dealing with the existing law as it now governs all vandwellers, without distinction of class, the report says:

"It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that the existing law does not deal with the sanitary conditions of moveable dwellings. Mr. Monro, of the Local Government Board, dealt fully with this subject in his evidence. He said:—'The specific provisions are contained in section 9 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885. That section does three things: it applies the provisions of the Public Health Act (1875) with regard to nuisances, to nuisances in tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation which are in such a state as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, or so overcrowded as to be injurious to the health of the inmates, whether or not members of the same family. Next, it provides that Urban and Rural District Councils may make bye-laws, which are subject to confirmation by the Local Government Board, for promoting cleanliness in and the habitable condition of such structures, and for preventing nuisances and the spread of infectious disease in connection with them Then it also contains a provision authorising entrance by day to these dwellings by persons duly authorised by the sanitary authority or by a Justice of the Peace.' Further, he told the Committee that the Infectious Diseases Notification Act applies to these dwellings just as it applies to houses. It will be seen, therefore, that elaborate provisions of the law already exist."

The Report deals exhaustively with gipsy van-life and nomad-life. But that part of the subject does not concern us; our brief has been to vindicate showlife, and we welcome with both satisfaction and gratitude the triumphant vindication of showpeople as regards their avocation and their daily life.

Notes from Wales.

HAGGAR'S electric theatre occupies the showground, Pembroke Dock, on a short visit, displaying a capital all-round show of pictures, and a change of programme nightly. Miss Ivy Gallard and Mr. E. W. Selman, in song and humour, are highly appreciated. Good business is being experienced. Crecraft's Coliseum is still doing well at Llanelly.

Answers to Showmen Correspondents.

H. E.—We will bear in mind your request and let you know when we get news of the circus in question.

H. NELSON.—Your best plan will be to advertise for their addresses in our "Wanted to Know Column." We have no knowledge of their whereabouts. The same advice is given to Mr. Allen, of Gorton, Manchester.

To Showmen on the Yorkshire Round.

MR. CHARLES SHAW, manager for Tuby and Sons' Coliseum, is a Guild Committeeman empowered to enrol members.

Showman's Letter-box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* Office: Messrs. Biddall Bros., J. W. Chipperfield, H. Fossett, T. Fossett, and J. Studt.

MITCHAM FAIR, 1910.

A danger dreaded by all true friends and defenders of the historic fair at Mitcham has taken an acute form this year. We refer to the invasion of the Fair Green by gipsies, and other undesirable people, with racecourse games. Without wishing to apportion the responsibility and the blame for this undesirable development, we wish, on behalf of the legitimate showman and fairground amusement caterer, to disclaim all connection or sympathy with the invasion of the Fair Green by these undesirable people.

Without either knowledge or connivance of the showpeople, the Fair Green was rushed on Tuesday evening, two days before the usual time for occupying sites. We are given to understand that a reprehensible system of exacting blackmail from the showpeople was practised before the gipsies who had secured the ground would quit it. The unsettlement of the matter and its danger is owing to the policy during the last four years of the franchise owners refusing to regularise proceedings by accepting tolls and announcing their resolve year by year not to let sites on the Fair Green.

Our Great Hopes for the Future.

Now that the Mitcham Board of Conservators own the franchise of the fair, the chaotic state of affairs that mark Mitcham Fair, 1910, may reasonably be expected to cease. We sincerely hope that Mitcham people will ask the Conservators to settle the question upon broad and statesmanlike lines—that, while preserving the fair rights, the fair may in 1911 be found on a suitable site on another part of the common lands under the control of the Board. We realise fully this will not be an easy matter to arrange; but with public-spirited men on the Board (as at present constituted) it is not only possible, but from every point of view desirable. Removal of the fair will enable the Board to satisfy all those subscribers to the fund to purchase the fair rights with a view to impove the upper or Fair Green to obtain their object. Removal of the fair and its thorough local control will satisfy all the real friends of the people, who desire to preserve the fair yet wish it away from its present congested site. It is for the preservation of the people's fair, and with it the business rights of travelling showmen, that the Showmen's Guild have persistently and consistently struggled. The Guild does not defy the local authorities; it has never taken action of an aggressive or defiant character. It has advised its members that until the fair is legally abolished under the Abolition of Fairs Act they have a customary right to attend Mitcham on the fair days, and a claim to expect sites, subject to the payment of the usual tolls to the owners of the franchise.

The Public and the Press on the Question.

It is a common error, but, in the sympathetic state of public opinion, a pardonable one, to represent the amiable and cautious showman (taught by years of patient toil at a strenuous business) as a sort of reckless swashbuckler rushing to the battle of Mitcham Fair year after year. He is shown as pushing the police and the local authorities aside with cohorts of traction engines and boldly riding forth to victory. It is a dramatic picture, and to boom the fair and draw all London out to it it is a boon and a blessing to showmen. It is, however, not a true picture: the showman is wise enough to know his own limitations. He never flouts lawful authorities, and he is business man enough to find out the limitations of people who try to interfere with his business and mode of life.

The Essence of the Question in Dispute.

The showman is fighting a scheme to abolish Mitcham Fair. There is a lawful way of abolishing a fair. The abolitionists tried the lawful way, and failed. The next move on the part of the abolitionists was to try and hinder the showman by refusing to let sites on the Fair Green on the fair days. Their power to do this effectively was to proceed by injunction against every individual showman using the Green on the fair days. For two fairs in succession this was done—and done with the consent of the Board of Conservators. It was a manifest attempt to secure by injunction what the abolitionists had failed to get by order of the Home Office. Not a single showman has either flouted the lawful authorities or defied the order of the High Court when under injunction. The decision of the Board of Conservators not to proceed by way of further injunctions but to regularise all future action by insisting upon full possession of the fair rights creates a situation that at least is pregnant with hope for a wise settlement on public lines of the question. To this desirable end the Rev. T. Horne and Parish Councillor F. H. Pedgrift have laboured, and will still labour until the matter is brought to a peaceful issue. The Guild uses no defiant or illegal methods. We trust that both Press and public will grasp the technical details of the matter. Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., chairman of the Board of Conservators (whose action with regard to the question has been strictly impartial and inspired by the highest conception of public duty), has again and again stated his wish for a peaceful settlement. He has, further, carried his colleagues on the Board with him in his own view of the futility of proceeding by injunction to abolish the fair. You may deter individuals by injunction, but it is futile, in his opinion, to apply that method to a large class of people like travelling showmen.

What Mitcham People Must Do.

The rights of showmen are quite secondary and subservient to the rights of the people of Mitcham. The real battle is between the people and the abolitionists: it is for the people who still desire to maintain their grand old-time fair to approach the Board of Conservators and to represent in a proper way their desire to retain their fair. The vast majority of thoughtful people in Mitcham recognise the advisability of removing the fair to a better site for its maintenance under local control. Now that the Board owns the franchise of the fair this is, we confidently think, possible. Whatever there were to maintain until this desirable removal could be effected, the showmen have certainly helped the people to maintain and enjoy by attending year by year, either on the old green or on private pitches in its vicinity, with their shows and amusements. Let the people of Mitcham realise that the crisis is now shaping to an end. It is for them to convince the Conservators that removal, not abolition, is what Mitcham desires. The Home Office has already expressed a preference for removal rather than abolition. Let all friends of the fair work together for this wise and just settlement—the removal of the Charter Fair, with all its ancient rights and privileges, to a better site on the common and under local control.

Blackmoor Flower Show and Sports.

THIS capital open-air Fair was held on the estate of Lord Selborne. The amusements of the fairs were provided by R. Walls and Sons with galloping horses and racing birds, shooting gallery, park swings, houp-la, and other games, and stalls. With them was Mr. J. Matthews, with coker sheets, and other amusements. From Blackmoor the same concerns went to Borden Camp, and opened a pleasure fair that was well patronised.

Hunslet Feast, Leeds.

OUR reports of this excellent Feast and also that of Knottingley, Yorkshire, were crowded out in our last issue. At Hunslet, for the Bank Holiday, were Bailey's circus, Howden and Son's Picture Palace, Farrar and Tyler's Coliseum, and Mme. Howard, clairvoyant. The machine novelties were in magnificent order, and comprised the following sets: Murphy's motor-cars, Aspland's motors, P. Collins's Teddy Bears and cake-walk, Powell's bicycles, Redfearn's flying machines, Morley's steam swings, Powell's helter-skelter, and a juvenile set by Doubtfire. The shooting concerns were by Messrs. Seed and Jacques. Houp-las, throwing games, dolly stalls, and variety frames by Messrs. Cooper, Vanner, Redfearn, Daly, Joy, Burgin, Spencer, Williams, Doubtfire, Steward, Ashcroft, Priddlebrook, Holt, and others.

AT Knottingley Feast were Tuby's show and motors, Farrar and Tyler's show and scenic railway, Fisher's swings, Shaw's shooters and games; stalls and varieties by Messrs. Appleton, Dunkerley, Fisher, Vickers, Jones, Roberts, Rowbottom, and other stall-holders.

White City, Manchester.

NEXT Saturday, the 20th, the annual outing of the staff of the White City at Manchester will be held. This year the excursion will be made to New Brighton, where many of the staff have relatives and friends living, and where a fine day's enjoyment is confidently expected. Every member of the staff has subscribed, and Mr. Brown and the other officials have been liberal contributors to the holiday fund.

TO-DAY (Saturday) the White City will be given over to a great demonstration by labour men of Lancashire, the occasion being the annual outpouring of the Boiler Makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders of Manchester and district. A great meeting will be held in the grand concert room, and will be addressed by six Labour Members of Parliament as well as a number of other leaders. A procession will pass through the streets to the White City, and five bands of music will take part. Dinner, tea, and a picnic will help to make the day happy. The authorities have given a special licence for the day.

THE band of H.M. Royal Marines, of the Chatham station, are the concert attraction at the White City, and as this is one of the four best bands in His Majesty's service they are drawing large crowds every afternoon and evening to hear the well selected and rendered programmes offered. Mr. Brown will make arrangements to have some of the best of the military bands that have appeared at the White City visit Paris next summer and give concerts at his new Magic City Park, which is to be opened at Easter on a plot of ten acres on the banks of the Seine and in the heart of the city. No doubt the band of the Royal Marines will be one of the organisations selected for these engagements.

The Kino, Jarrow.

THE Kino opened on August Bank Holiday with a new building, and is doing excellent business. Some attractive pictures are being shown, including the following:—The Impalement, Killing the Lady Killer, A Child of the Squadron, Playing Truant, and several others. The comedy acrobats the Verdas are well received. There will be a fresh set of pictures for the latter part of the week.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

THE attractive programme of films shown here this week includes A Good Lesson (Urban), Not to be Blamed (Pathé), Where Can We Hang this Picture? (Itala), Artistic Impressions in Venice (Cines), Frightened Freddy, the Fearful Policeman (Clarendon), A Rose of the Philippines (Imp.), In the Good Old Days (Hepworth), The Brother, Sister, and Cowpuncher (Essanay), Launch of the Lion, the World's Largest Cruiser, at Devonport (Warwick), and Blackpool Aviation Meeting (Gaumont).

THE **Star Music Co., Ltd.,**

HAVE A MOST IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE NEXT WEEK.

Watch this Space.

MISS MAY MARS

Creates a Sensation in the Isle of Man with three great songs by A. J. MILLS and BENNETT SCOTT. The Rage of Douglas!

"I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES."
(I Wonder if You Care.)

"I MET MARY ELLEN AT TH' ISLE OF MAN."

AND

"SHIP AHOY!" (All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor.)

Watch this Space.

FOR A MOST IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT WEEK.

The Star Music Publishing Company, Ltd.,
19, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.
Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

[By Americus.]

One Grand Time.

Possibly not in the history of the American Vaudevillians in England did those present at the little scamper held in the basement of the German Club, back of the Queen's, enjoy themselves so hugely for three hours as they did on Saturday evening, commencing about half-past twelve. Had Mr. Alfred Butt or Mr. Oswald Stoll been there and seen some of the numbers presented I daresay either one of these magnates would have offered many hundreds of pounds for the entire show just as it was presented on Saturday night.

The evening was started with a California rag two-step, all dancing, there being some seventy all told, speeling around the floor in so many different shapes that Mme. Polaire would have been envious herself had she witnessed the new novelties introduced now and then in apache dancing.

The show finally got a good start, and the first act to open was a tournament of statue dancing. These numbers were really so funny that the show came very near being stopped right at the start. Shaun Glenville and Gilday (of Gilday and Fox) carried off the honours, amidst deafening roars of laughter and applause. If this American and Karno's principal comedian were to double up with this act, with Tommy Dawe to stage it, and Billy Montgomery, of Montgomery and Moore, at the piano, I would be forced to top the act on my largest bill, provided I owned and managed the best vaudeville house in the world.

A Quartette that Got the Money.

A quartette that got the money for a short time was next ushered out upon the crowd. These were Harry Jolson, Max Ritter, and Gilday and Fox. They made such an impression with the other seventy performers that they were showered with pennies for fully three minutes; in fact, they were so good that they were all harmonising in the key of R——? However, they were greatly appreciated, and did great good, for they turned all the pennies over to Mrs. Paul Murray for the benefit of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Tommy Dawe, Stage-Manager.

While the quartette were out singing, Tommy Dawe was busy staging *The Queen of Quebash*, a very pretty sketch, which proved another tremendous uproar of laughter. The cast was as follows:—

Queen of Quebash .....Shaun Glenville
King of Gaulash .....Paul Murray
The Villain .....Harry Jolson
The Hero .....Max Ritter
The King's Major Domo .....Gilday
The Queen's Bodyguard
Messrs. Fox and McLallen
The Lover .....Eddie Emerson

and a company of peasants, soldiers with billiard cues, &c. Music by Montgomery. Plot by Tommy Dawe. Costumes for the Queen: German Club tablecloths and Miss Grace Foster's "Merry Widow" hat.

The sketch ran fully five minutes in the middle of the dance floor, until the finale was reached by a break of one of the safety-pins in the Queen's gown, and pennies began to fly again, and then a shilling mingled in. This was one big success, and the act took fully forty bows before retiring.

Minstrel Show Next.

Paul Murray was a busy actor, for no sooner had the big sketch finished than he had out upon the floor a large minstrel company of fully thirty. Mr. Murray was the "interlocker," Gilday and Fox on the ends, while the line contained such noted vocalists as Harry Jolson, Max Ritter, Sidney Wood, S. and G. Auer, Willie Pantzer, Jack McLallen, Tommy Dawe, Shaun Glenville, the Five Mowatts, Emerson and Baldwin, Leo Dryden, Earle Reynolds, and Billy Montgomery. After some three minutes of patter, Harry Jolson sprang one of his new songs, which was a dandy. In a clear and pretty voice he made one of the hits of the evening. Gilday and Fox then favoured with the western "rag," "Grisly Bear," another hit, after which Gilday amused for fully five minutes with some clever parody songs that kept the house in an uproar.

Eddie Emerson and the Five Mowatts started a juggling act. There being no clubs on hand, they used hats, and some nice work was shown. A few straw hats got smashed, but that didn't matter.

The famous comedy dancers, Shaun Glenville, Montgomery and Gilday, showed a nice speciality in this act. Montgomery tied a few rope knots with his legs, while Shaun Glenville would be dancing yet had Tommy Dawe allowed him. Here is one clever entertainer who is of the Marathon type.

New Orleans rag "two-steps" by Montgomery were given on the piano, while everyone danced for fully an hour before the clock struck three.

It was one grand night of good fellowship and a congregation of American and English artists whose names you see in big type on the best bills in vaudeville. It reminded all of some of the real good White Rat scampers that are often held in the States, where fun and laughter reign.

A Loyal Member.

Mrs. Paul Murray was amused to see the pennies flying at the different acts. When they were all picked up she called for them to be put in a hat, and informed the boys that "pennies wouldn't be any use to them," and that they would go for a good worthy cause, the Ladies' Music Hall Guild. There were nearly one hundred in the hat, and after this remark 141 more were thrown at the actors, which made £1 0s. 1d. in pennies that were in the crowd. If anyone got out of there with a copper they must have had it hid in their shoe.

Some Piano Player.

Billy Montgomery, of Montgomery and Moore, sure can follow anything you can sing and play the accompaniment. He is a whole orchestra in himself, and the beauty of Billy is you don't need any rehearsal with him. Start to sing and dance and he is with you. Quite an art.

The Diver Splashes Successfully.

Divine Myrma opened at the Palace on Monday night. From the applause and the appreciation shown her it is quite evident she will spend some time at the Shaftesbury variety house.

Those Comedy Boys at Croydon.

Sissel Bros. and Mack, at Croydon this week, have been creating great fun and laughter for the patrons of the New Hippodrome.

Anna and Mike's Farewell.

On Saturday I witnessed at the Palace the farewell performance of those two great stars Pavlova and Mordkin, who sail for America next week. Standing room in the Palace was scarce, and the theatre was simply packed to cheer and applaud the two artists who have created a sensation.

The Great Lester's Act.

A new ventriloquist act in London opened at the Hippodrome on Monday. It was noticeable right from the start that the great Lester had landed safely in the good graces of the English audiences, and had made a splendid success. This act will remain over here for some little time, playing the Stoll tour.

Gilday a Booker.

Myron Gilday, of Gilday and Fox, is sure enough booking quite a few acts for the inter-State time. One of the latest to which he has given contracts is Mozetto, a straight and comedy juggler.

Big Reward Offer.

A sign is placed over the piano at the German Club which says, "A substantial reward for information relative to why The Two Shilling Boys, or better known as The Two Bobs, alias Bob Aiden and Bob Adams, have failed to make their appearance for some time among their friends."

H. B. Barnes Back.

Mr. H. B. Barnes (Operating Manager of the International Rink Operating Co., Ltd.) and Mrs. Barnes arrived home from a two weeks' Continental tour. During the trip they covered over 1,600 miles in Germany and France alone, making short visits to all places of interest. Mr. Barnes is making arrangements to open Holland Park and the other rinks of which he is managing-director in September. The big Olympia will not open until late in the fall.

The Diver's Sister to Enter Vaudeville.

The Divine Myrma, who is appearing at the Palace in a pretty diving act, has a sister of rare beauty and form who will shortly enter the fields of variety in a novelty different from anything yet seen upon the stage. Just what the offering is like I am unable to say just at present, but will mention it later.

American Vaudeville Club may be Formed.

I was approached the other evening by a few of the American artists who virtually make London their home now, and they all said there should be an American Vaudeville Club started here in London, and in the neighbourhood of Leicester-square. Each one of the artists was willing to take £100 worth of stock in the venture, while another one said he would be only too anxious to take £200 worth of stock. It will take fully £3,000 to open a good club, and all its equipment, including the fitting up of a nice room for scampers, &c. The shareholders would be sure to get fine dividends. The greatest difficulty would be in getting the place in a location in Leicester-square district. There are already three club at the back of the Queen's, and all seem to be doing land office business, but I guess there is room for one more which would cater for the American artists.

International Support Invited.

There should be an American grill, Budwiser beer, and a breakfast room also, where buckwheat cakes and real coffee could be had with real cream. Artists will pay good prices for good stuff, but it has got to be good stuff. So get together, you financial promoters of the American Vaudeville Club, and do the thing up right, like a real American should do it. Make it open for everyone who is connected with the music hall business. Within a month or two it will become famous through the entire British Isles, as well as the Continent, while every American act which comes across will make its headquarters at the club.

President Meyerfield, Jun., Sails.

The Kronprinz Cecile, sailing from Southampton on Wednesday, had on board President Meyerfield, jun., of the Orpheum Circuit. The big official made a quick run into London and out again. He arrived on Monday night at 7 p.m. and sailed on Wednesday morning, spending one day and two nights in the city. During his stay he jumped up to see a couple of agents, and also had a few minutes with Mr. Butt and others.

Passpart Also Goes Back to Berlin.

Mr. W. Passpart, after seeing Mr. Meyerfield off for America, came back to Leicester-square, packed his collar box, and took first boat to Berlin. Mr. Passpart was booked to go on Monday night, but remained over until Wednesday in order to converse with his chief on matters pertaining to the booking of a number of big actors for the Orpheum. Mr. Passpart has rented a fine house in Golder's Green, and will bring his family here about September 5, when the new London Orpheum offices open their doors.

De Frece houses get Montgomery and Moore for a number of weeks. The act goes to the Palace, Manchester, next week.

Barnes and Crawford at the Tivoli.

The comedy act of Barnes and Crawford, which opened at the Tivoli on Monday night, introduced some brand new stuff that made the house not only giggle but laugh out loud throughout their entire performance. The act, as a whole, got by nicely, and will be a feature on many big bills here in the halls.

Wonder Why?

I have been wondering why President Meyerfield, jun., is making such a quick trip back to the States. I was informed that something rather surprising was ready to be tapped soon as he returned. The report that Keith has ordered the bookings of the Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Louisville houses to come direct from the United office has caused a lot of gossip, and there are all kinds of rumours afloat relative to this move.

Bell a Busy Man.

Jarvis Bell, the secretary of the International Rinking Co., Ltd., is one busy man these days, and Broadmead House sees Mr. Bell there early and late getting things ready for the opening of all rinks of the International, which will be about the middle of September.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

The programme of pictures, farce, and illustrated songs provided by the management of the Alexandra Theatre continues to attract large audiences, who certainly cannot complain either of the length of the entertainment provided for their amusement or of its quality. *Whitebait at Greenwich*, which is being played during the current week, affords Mr. Fred Lyric many opportunities of scoring in the part of John Small, the waiter; Mr. J. J. Daly as Benjamin Buzzard gives another of his sound performances; Mr. Edward Bonfield makes the most of Glimmer; and as Sally and Lucretia Buzzard Miss May Hallatt and Miss Nellie Dade, both firmly-established favourites at the Alexandra, add to their former successes. The programme of films shown this week is quite up to the usual standard of variety and excellence, and Mr. Alfred Holt is generously applauded for his illustrated songs.

HELEN TRIX.
Still in Big Type at the Hippodrome.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS. IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
This Week, HIPPO., CROYDON. Next Week, HIPPO., BOLTON. VACANT AUG. 22.

RITTER and FOSTER.
Those Eccentric Singers and Dancers.

STALEY'S TRANSFORMATION ACT.
Playing STOLL TOUR. The Big Headliner for any Bill.

BERT LEVY.
A STANDARD NOVELTY ALL OVER THE WORLD.
Next Stop, WINTER GARTEN, BERLIN.

VARDON, PERRY, and WILBUR.
Those Three Boys. That's All.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
Aug. 15, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

McLALLEN and CARSON.
Permanent Address, "VARIETY," WALTER HOUSE, STRAND.

M. D. Waxman.
The Anglo-American Revolutionist.

RUSSELL and HELD.
THE LEADING SINGING & DANCING ACT.

SAM STERN.
THE ORIGINAL INDIAN JEW. ALSO ITALIAN CHARACTER.
PAUL MURRAY, Manager.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
Playing ENGLAND and the CONTINENT.

HARRY JOLSON.
STOLL TOUR.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

GILDAY and FOX.
HOLBORN EMPIRE, Next Week.

"THE KING OF SLEEPLAND."

Comedy Sketch, by Gilbert Wells, Freddie French, and Willie Benn, Produced at the Alhambra, Brighton, on Monday, Aug. 8.

Prof. William Pink .....MR. FREDDIE FRENCH
Buzziebazouka .....MR. A. H. WILSON
Jakey Inklestein .....MR. HARRY EGLINGTON
Levi Solomons .....MR. HARRY PHILLIPS
Fatima .....MISS MILLIE WARD
Mrs. Pink .....MISS MARIE LEA

The above sketch is a one-act burlesque of the humorous order, but has a connected plot. The scene is A Glade in Sleepland, an imaginary country in the Far East, and on the rise of the curtains Buzziebazouka, the high priest of the country, is discovered surrounded by a band of native warriors. Their king is dead, and a new king must be found. The high priest himself has aspirations to the throne, but these are upset by the arrival of a white stranger, Professor William Pink, of Park-lane, who is out on a butterfly-hunting expedition. Unknown to himself, the inhabitants select the professor for their new king, and, led by the high priest, they go to prepare for the coronation ceremony. There also arrive two anarchists from Petticoat-lane, who confide to the professor the fact that they have learned of a heathen kingdom possessing treasure-houses full of diamonds. Their mission is to secure those, but, first of all, the king must be killed. The professor is inveigled into the enterprise, and on the throw of the dice it falls to his lot to kill the monarch. Subsequently the professor is informed that he has been chosen king, and is in the awkward predicament of having to kill himself. He invokes the aid of Fatima, a princess of the land, who has fallen in love with him, but she stipulates that he must marry her. At this juncture the two anarchists are made captives by the natives, and the professor sees a way out of the difficulty—why not have three kings? The high priest agrees, to the discomfiture of the anarchists, who naturally do not wish to inflict the death penalty on themselves. The anointing ceremony is about to be proceeded with when Mrs. Willie (the professor's wife) enters and takes up the cudgels on her husband's behalf, suggesting that the professor (a diminutive man) shall wrestle with the high priest (a veritable giant). The priest is eventually overcome by the professor, who is acclaimed king, but abdicates in favour of the high priest on condition that the latter marries Fatima. The two anarchists are sent back to Petticoat-lane, and everything ends happily in the reunion of Professor Willie and his "lawful wedded wife."

The parts were excellently played by the members of Willie Benn and Freddie French's company, Mr. French being irresistibly amusing as the diminutive professor.

"I BELONGED to the Moore and Burgess Minstrels," pleaded John Douglas, a homeless man, who was accused at Woolwich on Saturday of singing in the streets, "but now I am getting old people do not want me." He was discharged.

MR. FRANK COYLE is not likely to forget his visit to Cleethorpes, where he experienced much kindness from Mr. Carter White and his manager, Mr. Johnnie Renson. The chief artists secured by Mr. White were engaged through Coyle's Agency, and both boss and manager are delighted with the turns.

DURING the performance on Tuesday night in the Palace Gardens at Dunoon, Firth of Clyde, a fire extinguisher exploded, and the audience, hearing the noise of the escaping liquid, concluded that there was a fire, and rushed for the doors. It was only when the Provost of the town shouted that there was no fire that the panic was stopped. Many of the audience were English visitors to the Clyde. But for the Provost's prompt assurance a disaster must have taken place.

EARLY on Saturday morning the little brown men who people the Japan-British Exhibition were able to spread their treasures before the eyes of the King and Queen and show their Majesties the rapid rise of the Japanese nation so graphically depicted at the Shepherd's Bush Exhibition. The Royal visit was practically a surprise to the exhibition authorities, for the intimation was not received in time to make any but the barest preparations. The King and Queen were accompanied by Prince Albert and Prince Arthur of Connaught.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

JULY.

Flyaway's Derby, farcical sketch, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, music by Edward Jones; Canterbury, July 4.

Spies of the ——? play, in one act, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare; Bedford, July 4.

For the Cause, Russian episode, by Sydney Blow and George Bellamy, Balham Hippodrome, July 4.

Hullo, People! renamed and revised version of the revue *Hullo, London!* Empire, July 4.

Sinners, dramatic playlet, in one scene; Battersea Palace, July 4.

The Battery, farcical sketch, by Mrs. Christie Murray; Standard, July 9.

Liza's Wedding Day, episode of coster life; Poplar Hippodrome, July 11.

Gretna Green, pugilistic playlet, in two scenes, by Fred Moule; Sadler's Wells, July 11.

Mr. Justice Perkins, sketch, in three scenes, by Herbert Sidney, Albert Bruno, and Fred Karno; Palace, Bristol, July 11.

An Indian Romance, scena; Queen's, Poplar, July 11.

The Fourth Kiss, dramatic episode, by Douglas Newton; Empress, Brixton, July 11.

Her Ladyship's Guest, sketch, by Harry M. Vernon; Hippodrome, Leeds, July 11.

Mr. Justice Perkins, farcical sketch, in three scenes; Metropolitan, July 18.

Reunited, sketch, by H. G. Brandon; Bow Palace, July 18.

The Organ Grinder, dramatic sketch, by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova; Coliseum, July 18.

An Artful Widow, farcical sketch, in one scene; Standard, July 23.

The Dancing Master, ballet divertissement, in one scene, by C. Wilhelm, music by Cuthbert Clarke; Empire, July 25.

Ned the Devil, sketch; Surrey, July 25.

The Siren's Call, sketch, by Angus Hamilton; Empress, Brixton, July 25.

The Devil's World, sketch; Chelsea Palace, July 25.

The King o' the Road, romantic episode, by C. Douglas Carlile; Bedford, July 25.

Beware of the Dog, comedy sketch, by H. E. Garden; Sadler's Wells Theatre, July 25.

Her Twenty-first Birthday, an "Inspiration," written by Margaret Parker; Euston, July 25.

PUBLIC displays of wrestling have now been added to the long list of things forbidden by the Berlin police. The reason of this new mandate is said to be the obviously prearranged nature of several "championship" contests which have recently taken place in Berlin.

VISITORS to the Crystal Palace to-day will have the unique opportunity of witnessing over fifty aero-models in competition. There are five classes of open events as well as competitions for boy scouts and youths. The meeting, which is under the auspices of the Aero Models' Association, is the largest of its kind ever organised.

A GOOD programme is submitted at the Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, this week. Some interesting pictures are shown, including The Three Musketeers, The Swashbuckler, and The Miller's Daughter. The Suttons are a clever pair of comedy duettists, Maudie de Vere quickly becomes a favourite, Mr. Raymond Synnott is a vocal comedian of merit.

AT the Tynemouth Palace of Varieties this week, Ethel Pender-Cudlip and Claude Anderson, on a welcome return visit in selections from *Il Trovatore*, are received with enthusiasm; James and Jennie Jees score in their unique wire act; Cestria, comedy juggler, is highly amusing; Les Andres are seen to advantage in their protean and terpsichorean act; Mabel Mavis, a delightful musical entertainer; and Mabel Watson, vocalist, also contribute.

A DERBYSHIRE miner has invented a new musical instrument which he calls a "pickophone." It has been constructed out of the ordinary colliery pick and shaft with which as a miner he has worked in the pit at Creswell. The instrument has only one string, and Mr. Lord (the inventor) has skilfully attached an old phonograph horn, without which the music would be scarcely heard. A mellow sound is given out by the instrument, and with a pianoforte accompaniment the effect is stated to be pleasing.

THE TERRIERS AT CRICKET.

Through the generosity of Terrier W. R. Dunkley, the Terriers had a most enjoyable outing on Sunday last. About sixty Terriers and the friends assembled at the Three Stags, Kennington, at ten a.m., and proceeded to Cranford Bridge by four-horse brakes. The party arrived at the Berkeley Arms Hotel, Cranford, at one o'clock, and an excellent luncheon was provided by Mr. E. E. Parlby.

The principal event of the day was a cricket match between the Terriers and a local club, The Nondescripts, and resulted in a victory for the Terriers, the scores being as follows: The Nondescripts, 67; Terriers, 99.

NONDESCRIPTS.—C. Hart, c E. Gallimore b E. Abel, 27; W. Spring, b T. Abel, 0; J. Southwell, c E. Gallimore b W. R. Dunkley, 2; R. Crossley, c D. M. H. Hoffman b E. Abel, 19; W. Whittington, b T. Packer, 6; D. Robans, st C. W. Kloof b E. Abel, 0; A. Whittington, c T. Abel b T. Packer, 3; W. Gillin, b E. Abel, 2; H. Bennett, b E. Abel, 0; F. Gibbons, not out, 3; E. Hart, b E. Abel, 3; extras, 2. Total, 67.

TERRIERS' ASSOCIATION.—D. M. H. Hoffman, b W. Spring, 0; A. Gallimore, b J. Southwell, 1; G. Cooper, b J. Southwell, 0; T. Abel, b E. Hart, 24; H. Conlin, b R. Crossley, 35; T. Packer, b J. Southwell, 3; E. Abel, b R. Crossley, 6; W. R. Dunkley, b R. Crossley, 1; C. W. Kloof, b W. Spring, 2; E. Gallimore, not out 10; A. Were, b R. Crossley, 5; extras, 12. Total, 99. Messrs. R. Abel and H. Bent acted as umpires.

After tea had been served and photographs of the party taken, Terrier Carl Hamlin arranged a musical programme, and the following artists contributed to same. Mrs. W. R. Dunkley, Miss Cooper, Miss Violet Murray, and Terriers W. R. Dunkley, Geo. Cooper, Harry Conlin, Harry Bent, C. C. Cornish, and Tom Packer. The outing was voted a great success, and Terrier Dunkley was overwhelmed with congratulations. The secretary, Arthur Were, has returned to town after his tour in the Ardennes.

THE TERRIERS' AT PLAY. [*Photo by H. Lunt and Co.*

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 12, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, 16, 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Comedy or Musical Comedy,
Sept. 8, 9, 10
(Sept. 5, three nights can be booked at Hastings Pier in conjunction),
Sept. 22, 23, 24
(three nights at Hastings in conjunction),
Sept. 26 (week),
and various dates onwards.
Apply G. HAYES, The Pier, Eastbourne.

PIER THEATRE, HASTINGS.
PIER THEATRE, HASTINGS.
WANTED, Companies, Three Nights and a Matinée only during the Season, the week may be completed at the Pier, Eastbourne.
Possibly Vacant Sept. 5, Sept. 22.
WALTER MAXWELL, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Oct. 10.
Musical Comedy preferred.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 29, possibly Dec. 12, 19.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON, as above.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5; 13, 14, 15; 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms, re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 19 (?), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28 (?), Xmas Panto. (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

DOUGLAS. GRAND THEATRE.
Owing to change of Date.
WANTED, a First-class Company, Sept. 12.
Address.
JAS. BUCK, Secretary, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
JAMES BELL.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, through change of arrangements, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Aug. 29; also Vacant, Nov. 7, 21, Dec. onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, good Companies, for Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Sept. 12, Dec. 12 and 19. R. FLANAGAN.

WANTED, Companies, Musical or Drama, with Change of Bill, Aug. 29, on, Pantomime for Christmas. Write, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Place of Amusement.
WANTED, Big Attractions, only vacant dates this year, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19. Now booking for 1911. Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred. Must be First-class. Address, MANAGERS.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19,
Address, R. G. BIBBY.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Sept. 12, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, 26, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
FALKIRK, Aug. 29, Oct. 24, 31, Dec. 5.
MOTHERWELL, Sept. 26, Nov. 7.
LEITH, Oct. 10, 24, Dec. 5 and 12.
AYR, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12.
COATBRIDGE, Dec. 12 and 19.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26 and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 26, Oct. 24,
Nov. 7, 21, 28 (no dramas).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 29 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (three nights), Sept. 8 (three nights).
Address, STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, High-class Attractions,
Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 10, and Nov. 7.
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Wanted, a good Company, Aug. 22 (wire), also Sept. 5 and Nov. 28.
Also good Musical Comedy, for Christmas and New Year's weeks.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Oct. 3.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 22 (3).
W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Sept. 12. Theatre Royal, Nottingham, unexpectedly open also Sept. 5, London. Apply MR. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. ROWE,
C/o A. F. HUGHES, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, York, through obliging Manager, First-class Company, musical preferred, for Sept. 12. WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 1, 2, 3, Sept. 15, 16, 17, Sept. 26 week, Nov. 28, 29, 30, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, onwards. Wire, MACDONA.

WANTED, Good Dramas, Musical Comedies, Pantos., and Variety Co.'s, Sept. 12, 19, and various later, big stage. SCOTT ALEXANDER, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, WHITLEY BAY.
The Premier Theatre of the East Coast.
Seating accommodation 2,000.
WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 19, Xmas on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 15, 22, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Wanted, Company,
Sept. 5,
Sept. 5,
Sept. 5,
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards.
Communications, C. A. SEEBOLD.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Company, Three Nights, commencing Thursday, Aug. 18. Wire, CARLTON, Worcester.

WANTED, for Xmas and New Year's Weeks, a First-class Attraction; good Pantomime or Musical Show, for one of the Finest Theatres in the North of England. Big Business can be done with the right thing. Four figures have been taken, and can be done again. First-class Companies Only need apply. HENRY DRAKE, 13, Iona-st., Halifax.

WANTED, Good Attractions, for Aug. 22, Sept. 8, 12, 15 (three nights). Wire, Aug. 22, PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Aug. 22 (3), Sept. 1 (3), and 5 (3).
W. E. POTTS, Theatre, Dunfermline.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company, for Oct. 10, through transfer. Copy of day-bill and particulars, to J. H. CURRY, as above.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug 29, Sept. 5 and 12. Apply, SHEAWOOD and Co.

COMPANIES WANTED.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Grand Re-opening date, Aug. 15.
Vacant later, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 21 (3 nights with Cambridge), Oct. 3 (3), 17, and various onwards.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

LINCOLN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 10 and 31.
GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.
Vacant Oct. 3 and 24.
CHESTERFIELD.—CORPORATION THEATRE.
Vacant Sept. 12 (three nights), Oct. 10 (last three), and 31 (first three).
NEWARK.—NEW THEATRE.
Wanted, Musical Comedy or Light Attraction, Oct. 17, 18, 19.
LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.
Vacant Oct. 17 (through transfer), March 6, and April 3.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 22, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, a First-class Attraction, Sept. 5, for the Grand Theatre, Oldham.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Dec. 19.
Write,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Sept. 19.
Address, RICH. WALDON.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
Also Palaces at Barry Dock, Llanelly, Bradford, Rugby, Neath, Kettering, Exmouth, Loughborough, &c.
The above entirely New Theatre opens Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light. Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 21 (?), Christmas Vacant. Certainty only. Only Vacant Dates this year, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, on, with exceptions. Easter. Certainty only.
Companies booked include: "Fatal Wedding," "Sign of the Cross," "Still Alarm," "Country Girl in London," "Her Secret Lover," "When It Was Dark," "The Sinner," "Eve of Her Wedding," "Life's Revenge," "Lucky 'Liza," Mr. F. R. Woulfe, "Nick Carter," "Life for a Life," "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," "Beggar Princess," "Driving a Girl to Destruction," "No Mother to Guide Her," &c., &c.
All communications re Dates to WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, THE PENNINGTON ESTATE CO., LTD.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book, First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and good printing. Twice Nightly, Sept. 19, on. Must state lowest terms.
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 26. Wire, VERNON.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

KING'S THEATRE, SHACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SHACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SHACOMBE.
The only Fully-licensed Theatre in Wirral.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for 1911.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

GAIETY THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, Attraction, Sept. 1, 2, and 3 (through misunderstanding).
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Companies, Touring Scotland, to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness; open Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, to play twice nightly, Oct. 3, on. Apply, with full particulars, FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C. Telegrams, "Cirvaumac, London."

WANTED, through breach contract, First-class Drama for Aug. 22, to follow "Still Alarm," and precede "Fatal Marriage." Wire, VAN BIENN, New Theatre Royal, Edmonton. 'Phone Tottenham 1762.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Real Attractions, Sept. 12, Oct. 17 24, on, Grand, Chorley.
Also Sept. 26, Oct. 24, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
Good Pantos. both Houses.
SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

HAGGAR'S T. (late Royalty), LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. HAGGAR, SEN. Manager, JAS. HAGGAR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedies, Comic Operas, &c.; also good Panto for Xmas week, or later. Good terms to good shows.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LIMITED.
WANTED, Wanted, Attractions, Various, 1911.
Bookings 1910-11 include the following managements' productions:—
Messrs. Fredk. Melville's, including his latest new play and *Bad Girl* (return), Andrew Melville's, Tom H. Taylor's, W. W. Kelly's, W. H. Hallatt's and Walter Howard's, Hill Mitchelson's, G. M. Polini's, Morton Powell's, Sutton Vane's, Glenville and Osmond's, Chas. Gibbon's, Fred Bulmer's, Harry Foxwell's, Travis, Green, and Hinton's, Edward Ward's, James Bell's, Frank M. Thorne's, Percy Brown's, Geo. A. De Gray and H. Masterman's, Henry Herne's, F. G. Kimberley's, Harry Glaze, F. B. Woulfe, Sam Duckworth, Chas. H. Lester, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Whitty, Mrs. Frank Bateman, Mrs. Wybert Clive, Miss Winifred Maude, Miss Olga Audre, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Whitty, and Miss Renee Glendower.
Various Vacancies 1911.
Open to arrange Big Panto. for 1911-12.
Communications, Arthur Jefferson.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

PALACE THEATRE, DARLINGTON. The Leading Theatre in the town, with a holding capacity superior to any other Theatre in Darlington.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical (not Dramatic), for a few Dates in Nov. and Dec., also good Pantomimes. Apply, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, unexpectedly, Sept. 5, three nights. First-class Musical Show or really good Comedy. Wire or write, Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

Walter Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, Dec. 5, 26.
Douglas Bruce,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA." All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD." Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. Barry, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 7, on.
Big Company.
Chorus. Specialities.
Special Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Lincoln; Royal, Nottingham, to follow.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12.
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
Wire (to-day), Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
Aug. 15, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for Sept. 19 (North), Oct. 17 and 24 (Midlands or South).
Address, Cecil Barth, Shakespeare T., Liverpool.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
WANTED, Xmas Date. All scenery carried. First-class Company. Also Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, onwards, 1911. Her M. Theatre, Dundee.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights). Nov. 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address,
Frank M. Thorne, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Theatres, all Oct., Dec. 5, 19, 26, and various, on, all carried, star cast. Miss Agnes Collier's T.O.P. Tour, "The Temptress of Paris," Vacant Xmas and on, with exceptions. T. R., Whitehaven; next, Grand, Lancaster.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10.
Ernest E. Norris,
South Parade Pier, Southsea.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. GREEN, and A. HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 17, and First-class Theatre for Xmas. Splendidly mounted. Exceptional cast. The acknowledged Financial Success. F. G. Kimberley. This, T. R., Sheffield; next, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER."
"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER."
By Nita Rae.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 24 and 31. The most successful drama touring.
Will Glaze, Court, Wigan; next, G., Mansfield.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY,
"THE SINS OF A CITY."
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19.
Victor Du Cane,
New Theatre, Aberdare.

J. PITT HARDACRE,
"EASILY LED."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 22. T. R., Bradford, to-day; Clarence T., Pontypridd.

WANTED, Known, "The Hindoo and the Maid," the finest Musical Show on the road, can be seen Aug. 15 at Leicester. All new Scenery and Effects, Beautiful Dresses, and a First-class Company. Vacant Sept. 19 (Lancs. or Yorks); also Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, Dec. 26. Wire, R. Nightingale, Proprietor, T. R., W. Bromwich.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 12, Oct. 10 (?), Christmas, onwards, for the greatest of all Domestic Dramas, "His Real Wife," including Miss Ward and Mr. Albert Sember. Coms., T. E. Ward, Lyric, Hammersmith, W.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 29 (?), Sept. 5, 12, and onwards, with exceptions. Refer any theatre visited. Rost. Faulkner, Lyceum, Govan.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 19, Oct. 3.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire for Sept. 19, Wire,
James Bell,
T. R., Darlington.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 5, 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 26.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Sept. 19, Nov. 14, 28.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 10, Dec. 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 16.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in New Play
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, Unexpectedly Vacant through theatre changing hands.
Also Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, Christmas,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, and various Spring and Autumn, 1911, including Easter and Whit.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Refer H. C. Arnold, Esq., A. Manners, Esq., A. Carlton, Esq., H. J. Worswick, Esq., John Hart, Esq., &c., &c., &c.
Wire or write, Arthur Hinton,
To-day, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.; Monday, T. R., Woolwich.

"THE SCAPEGRACE."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (Midlands), Sept. 26 (North), Oct. 10, and onwards, with exceptions. Managers may, if they desire, ask Fred W. Warden, Esq., of Belfast, R. Dewhirst, Todmorden, or Will A. Jackson, Esq., Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent (twice nightly) their opinion re the success of this play. Thanks F. G. Macdona, T. Morton Powell, and others re dates. The pay-box must, and shall be, the judge.
Wire or write, John Levey,
To-day, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent;
Next, Central Theatre, Northwich, Cheshire.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S SUCCESSES.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
WANTED, Sept. 12 (3 nights), Wanted, Sept. 12 (3 nights).
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
Big Success in the Broadhead Theatres.
Vacant Oct. 17, 24.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Vacant Oct. 31, to oblige F. Macnaghten, Esq.
New Production.
Wanted, Christmas and Spring, 1911.
All once, or twice nightly.
Wire, Hippodrome, Salford, Manchester.
Write, The Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

WANTED, to precede King's, Sunderland, Sept. 1, 2, and 3,
for "OLD HEIDELBERG,"
also Nov. 28 (week) to follow Grand, Swansea, and precede Marlborough, Holloway.
Only Vacant Dates this Autumn.
Thirty travelled. Production carried.
Apply, next week,
Ernest Benham,
P. O. W., Grimsby.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Always merry and bright.
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19.
Dickie Clare, Hippodrome, Wigan (return).

"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Theatres, possibly Vacant Sept. 19 (to oblige a Manager), Dec. 26 (?), Jan. 2, and few onwards. Henry L. Osmond, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA."
WANTED, Sept. 5, Sept. 5,
Sept. 5, Sept. 5,
Sept. 5, Sept. 5.
Wire, Gilbert, T. R., West Stanley; next, T. R., North Shields.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Nov. 14, Nov. 14,
Dec. 26 (can open Saturday previous).
Lewis Gilbert,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

CHARLES WINDERMERE and COMPANY,
in the Funniest Play of the Day,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Sept. 12, Sept. 12, Sept. 12, between Cromer and Sunderland.
Only Vacant Date.
Aug. 15, Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.

G. A. DE GRAY and H. MASTERMAN'S CO.
"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5 (between Glasgow and Doncaster). New Production shortly. "THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT." Wire, Geo. A. De Gray, Met., Glasgow; Monday, Century T., Motherwell.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES,"
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 24 (S. Wales), Nov. 7 (Midlands).
Hamilton Stewart, King's T., Hammersmith.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Sept. 12, follow Belfast and precede Fleetwood.
Horace Stanley, Queen's Dublin.

WANTED, Good Theatres for High-class Farcical Comedy, Sept. 26, onwards.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, for "Jane" and "Night of Party" Dates. Vacant Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 12, 26 (Xmas). Vacant 1911, Jan. 9, 30 (follow Scarbro' and Harrogate), Feb. 20, on. Gordon Smythe, Lyceum T., Edinburgh.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Sept. 12 and Dec. 26.
Edward Lloyd, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, Theatre, for Oct. 31, for "THE FIGHTING CHANCE."
Apply,
Popular Playhouses, Ltd., Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, for "Whom God Hath Joined," the Greatest of all Domestic Plays, Oct. 10 and Dec. 12. Stuart Lomath, 134, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Aug. 18, 22, 29, for "Caste." G. W. Anson as Eccles. Anson, T. R., Chatham; 15th, 3, Gloucester-road, Kensington.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2.
Haldane Crichton, Theatre Royal, Margate.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
The Premier Domestic Drama.
WANTED, Theatre, Vacant Aug. 29, Aug. 29, Aug. 29. Wire, Tilsury, Theatre, Ilfracombe. Write, Met., Devonport.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Sept. 1 (3 nights), Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7.
Coms., Walter D. Nicoll, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co., "King and the Unknown Woman," Oct. 10.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, c/o "The Era."

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this great Attraction, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and later.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, for this Colossal Production, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re dates, A. R. Feather, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, Sept. 12, Sept. 12.
This date vacant through transferring Bishop Auckland.
Play to be seen next week at Rotunda, Liverpool.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Guaranteed the most gorgeous production ever toured by Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley. Refer this week, T. R., Sheffield.
Vacant Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 21.
Only vacant dates this year.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Oct. 3, 10. Special Band to Parade.
Managers desirous of well-mounted, well-played, and money-taking dramas, book above.
F. G. Kimberley, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Fit-up rights to let or sell.

FRED GRANVILLE PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Sparkling Musical Comedy.
Screamingly Funny.
Gorgeously mounted and dressed.
30 Performers. 30.
WANTED good Theatres,
Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3,
Oct. 10, Oct. 10, Oct. 10,
and later.
Re dates,
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 5, 12, 19 (between Metropole, Glasgow, and Queen's, Dublin), Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), and Nov. 14.
Above are the only dates open.
Address, Charles Gibbon,
His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
The Romantic Military Drama.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
And Dickens' Masterpiece,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD"
(a sure draw for Friday night).
Printing specially cut for each play by Allen's.
WANTED, Theatres. First Vacant Date for either or all of these Plays, Oct. 17 and 24, and Christmas Week, Jan. 23, and on.
Oswald Cray, Metropole, Birmingham.
Next, Carlton, Birmingham.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

J. FORBES KNOWLES and HARRY MASTER MAN'S COMPANIES.
"NICK CARTER (DETECTIVE),"
by Shirley and Landeck.
This production is a huge success. Fine Printing by Allen's, New Scenery, from His Majesty's T. Aberdeen. Wardrobe by Benjamins. Absolutely fourteen artists appear.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2 (?), and on, with exceptions.
J. Forbes Knowles.
T. R., Smethwick.

"THE SOWERS."
Dramatised from Seton Merriman's Novel.
Enormous success at King's, Hammersmith, this week. Tour starts September.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only. Send Vacant Dates. J. E. Watson, Managers' Club.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Sept. 12 (between Manchester and Newcastle) and Nov. 21 and 28, and various Spring Dates, for
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."
Kennington Theatre,
Aug. 8, 1910.
Dear Mr. Bertram,—I have pleasure in stating that 11,897 persons paid for admission to see "The Sailor's Wedding" the week preceding the August Bank Holiday at above theatre.
(Signed) R. Brandreth.
Wanted, Oct. 17, and on, for Mr. John Child and Operatic Artists in
"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN."
Address,
A. Bertram, Garrick Theatre, London.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls, for
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Jan. 30, Feb. 13, and onwards.
"CINDERELLA,"
Feb. 13, and onwards.
Can play once or twice nightly.
Share or certainty.
Address,
Thos. Swinton, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Theatre or Hall, Feb. 13, Certainty or Share,
for "Dick Whittington," twice nightly.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Dates, Aug. 29, on, with exceptions for
CHARCOT'S COLOSSAL COMBINATION.
CHARCOT and his AUTOMATIC MAN.
Has topped the Biggest Bills over the Biggest Stars on the Gibbons, Barrasford, De Frece, and Syndicate Tours, and broken all Records everywhere. £594 odd taken in six nights at The Hippodrome, Nottingham.
All communications, Giles' Agency,
31, Goschen-bldgs, Henrietta-st., Strand, London.

Kelwyakow, World's Champion Wrestler, Greatest Show of its kind, Great Drawing Show, Special Nights Arranged. Presented with World's Champion Prize by H.M. Queen Alexandra, Records Broken Everywhere.
WANTED, Theatres for Combinations or own Act. Share or Certainty. This week, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent; next, c/o "Era." Offers invited.

WANTED, Good Theatre or Music Hall, Aug. 22, or on, to Share.
A Big £80 Top Liner,
supported by First-class Variety Company.
Or will take over any Manager's Variety Bookings up to £60 or £70.
Wire, "Aeroplane," Liverpool; or 'Phone, 2,349, Royal. Barnard's Agency, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever.
The Staffordshire Sentinel, Aug. 2, 1910:—A better performance it would be difficult to realise.
Liverpool Daily Post, Aug. 9, 1910:—Theatre filled to its utmost last night. Miss Ida Heron's personality suited the character of Lady Isabel to a nicety. Mr. Frank Beresford's emotional acting was well appreciated.
Liverpool Express, Aug. 9, 1910:—Mr. Tom Watt's talented company presented "East Lynne" to a delighted audience last night.
Only Dates Vacant this year, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 19 and 26.
Managers requiring a sound attraction and sure money-maker write or wire.
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Aug. 8, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26,
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Refer, Percy Broadhead, Esq., and Sam Fredericks, Esq., re Play, Company, and Drawing Powers.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Opera House, Londonderry.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
WANTED, Good Theatres for "MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED," Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 28, and Dec. 26.

"LAUGHING 'LIZA,"
A Musical Farce,
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited,"
Jan. 9, 16, 23, Feb. 20 (?), March 27, April 3, and Easter.
Address, Miss Florence Baines, Palace, Porth.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
Presenting Russell Vaun's Latest Dramatic Success, "TEMPTATION."
Splendid reception this week, T. R., Stockport. Refer Charles Revill, Esq., re Company, Play, and Production.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatres, for the few remaining Vacant Dates this year.
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 21, 28.
All coms., Martin Comstock, T. Royal, Barnsley.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, for First-class Variety Combinations.
Rent or share.
Harry Ward, 140a, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, for Harold Wardroper's High-class Costume Concert Company, The Reversibles, consisting of six first-class London artists, weeks Sept. 19, 26, and Oct. 3. Address, Harold Wardroper, The Lounge, Hunstanton.

Wide Awake Managers
book
WEBB'S NOTIONS.
Why?
Because not only is it the most Refined,
Artistic, and Sensational Triumph of Stagecraft;
but it is safe to state
the Drawing Card of the Whole Pack.
Webb's Septette of Soloists in
"NOTIONS"
(a wonderful spectacular transformation musical act), supported by
THE DANDIES,
VERONA PHILIS,
TATTON HALL,
SISTERS LAWLER,
THE HAYDONS,
ARNO,
THE DAVIES & GLEDHILL TRIO
(who, in their Man versus Motor Race, assure Good Houses
by virtue of their competitions).
General Manager, Mr. Sidney A. De Winton.
Press and Advance Manager, Mr. Arthur Simpson.
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19, to follow T. R., Darlington.
also a few later dates.
For dates and terms apply,
Moore and Bentz,
Adelphi-chambers, 7, John-street, Strand, London.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"A HOT NIGHT."
WANTED, for Musical Comedy, First-class Leading Lady, tall, good voice and appearance, to sing; two smart Light Comedy Juvenile Gents; good Comedy Character Old Man; Robust Character Comedian to play fiery, jealous Naval Captain; good Dame Comedian; Eccentric Comedian for Professor; two smart Soubrettes; first-class Conductor; Male and Female Choristers.
To rehearse Sept. 12.
Terms, refs., and photos. (important) to
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Important.—Give permanent address.

"THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT."
WANTED, Lady for Rachel Dobbins (sympathetic, middle-aged, lady companion part); also a Smart Young Man for Props. and Baggage, capable of playing small part. Terms, photos, refs., full particulars, Jack Denton, Court T., Wigan.

"THE GAY GODDESS" CO.
WANTED, Lady, for Title-rôle; must be good Vocalist, and have fine stage presence. Photo., &c., to Julian Graham, Manager, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, Gentlemen for Moriarty and Craigin; also Heavy Lady; all must be tall and distinguished. Letters only, with photographs and lowest terms, Hamilton Stewart, King's T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, a Gentleman, for St. Clair, Juvenile. Terms, age, height, particulars, references, photo., Charles Harrington, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, for Music Hall Sketches, Leading Lady, Character Old Woman, Heavy Lead (Lady and Gentleman), Character Comedian. Lowest terms, photo, Manager, 88, Holland Park-avenue, W.

WANTED, a good Heavy, capable playing Ghost in Strong Dramatic Sketch; must be tall, thin, and strong, deep voice; also Sympathetic Heroine; both willing go abroad. Ten weeks guaranteed. References. Apply by letter.
Dawson, 2, Bedford-road, Bedford Park, W.

WANTED, Gentleman Amateur, Small Part and Understudy, Long Tour, Known Manager. Premium required.
Address, Meredith, 51, Deacon-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Gentleman, must be very tall, to play Character Showman; also young, good-looking Lady, to play Newly-wed Wife. Both must be experienced, to join Music Hall Sketch at once. Lowest terms, refs., &c., to S. P. L., Box 3,110, "The Era."

WANTED, for First-class Sketch, Comedians, one short and stout, one tall, gentlemen; Character Actress for Comedy Cook; Comedienne for servant's part. Full particulars, terms. Letters only. Henry Belchambers, 13, St. Ann's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, one or two First-class Character Actors, for Richard Flanagan's Sketch Co's.
A. Jones, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Juvenile Man, Open Monday, Sketch.
Wire, Monti, Palace, Cardiff.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"MISS LANCASHIRE LIMITED."
WANTED, immediately good Singing Juvenile Gentleman, able to Act; also Choristers for Mixed Quartette capable of Parts. Terms, particulars, Miss Florence Baines, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, by Professional Lady, another, also two good men, to form Dramatic Sketch Party, each sharing equal preliminary expenses. Box 8,112, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Tenor and Soprano, for New Sketch. Amateurs invited. Letters only, stamp. McDonald, 43, Wrotham-road, N.W.

WANTED, Tenor, for Operatic Sketches; open Monday. Special fortnight, perhaps tour. State if know Kitchen Scene, "Martha." Wire terms, &c., Giffins, Theatre, Goole.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman might Invest in High-class Entertainment where his exceptional Talent and much experience as Monologist and Elocutionist would be utilised.
Dialect, Box 8,107, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, tall, good-looking Gentleman, to assist lady dancer in novel act, capable of pantomime and slight knowledge of dancing. Send full particulars, references, age, &c., Box 8,117, "The Era."

WANTED, good Lady Vocalists and Show Women of Attractive Appearance. Personal application necessary. Paul Valentine, 6, Dean-street, Soho.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

DANCING AND PHYSICAL CULTURE.
WANTED, Known, Miss D'Enéréaz Requires Articled Pupil, fourteen to eighteen years, September; thorough technical training, artistic dancing, interesting work. Letters only to 92, Victoria-street, Westminster.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, for Robin Hood.
Also, Principal Girl for Maid Marion.
Terms, references, and photos. to
A. R. Feather,
The Depository, Cazenau-street, Liverpool.
Important.—Give permanent address.

WANTED, some Smart Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes. Long Tours.
Not less 5ft. 7in. Photos, references to
E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Dancers, for Pantomime. Letters only,
Sydney T. Russell,
9, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, Chorus Ladies.
H. A. Jordison, 117, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Young Attractive Chorus, Extra Chorus, Utility Ladies and Girls over fourteen. Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Soho

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young, Vacant for Pantomime, Dame, and one of the best, last four seasons Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's Panto., "Cinderella," as the Baroness. Offers invited. Monday, Gaiety, Chatham.

WANTED, Engagement, Producer or Conductor, for Panto; experienced and reliable; own script if required, any subject. Box 8,068, "Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenery, Properties, Profile Boards.
Bernasconi's, Ltd., Scenic Artists,
41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. 732 Royal.

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, New or Secondhand, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates free. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by L. W. Hoge, Scenic Artist, Best Work, Quick, Vacant after long engagement in Liverpool; Engagement or Contract. Terms, &c., 87, Demains-st., Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, Tour or Contract, by Scenic Artist and Carpenter, combine. Clarkson and Aitken, Exhibition, Tontine-street, Folkestone.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Experienced Manager, for the Empire, Nuneaton; must have thorough knowledge of booking variety artists and take control of entire staff, good appearance, and expert advertiser. Photo., and last two references, which will be applied for, A. F. Cross, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, smart steady Manager, for Picture Hall. State business, experience, and references, also wages. Apply, Arthur Vasey, Town Hall, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Smart Young Acting-Manager (resident), also Working Advance Agent. Age, photo., height, and particulars, Scott Alexander, Hippodrome, Hoyland.

WANTED, Managers, Agents, Billers, and Effect Workers; must be experienced, sober, and reliable. Reply, with last two references, which will be applied for, to
Manager, Jury's, 142, Long Acre, W.C.

A 25% Commission.
WANTED, a First-class Agent, at once, for London, well-known in the Theatrical Profession, having a connection with all property masters and theatrical costumiers, to Sell a New Patented Line, which will be a great saving to the profession generally.
Apply, with full particulars, to
Midas, Ltd.,
73, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Young Gentleman (shorthand preferred), learn business management, &c. Fares first two months, then salary; no premium. Rost. Faulkner, Lyceum, Govan.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a good Practical Stage Carpenter, capable small part, willing go abroad; ten weeks guaranteed; good references required. Apply by letter.
Dawson, 2, Bedford-road, Bedford Park, W.

WANTED, Resident Stage Carpenter, to combine billing. Terms and refs. to
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, Carpenter (bench hand), willing to bill, &c., props, with wife to clean theatre. Terms, &c., Scott Alexander, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Bill Inspector, to Open in a fortnight's time. Terms and references indispensable. Apply to J. F. Ellison, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Smart, Experienced Bill Inspector, Opera House, Southport.
Full References to
Percy Hutchison, Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Good Biller, experienced, who can use the brush and not afraid of work.
Letters only, with latest references, to
F. W. Purcell,
35, Dalmeny-avenue, Tufnell Park, N.

WANTED, by Smart Manager, Re-engagement, Music Hall, Picture Palace, &c., experienced in all branches, sober, undeniable references, will accept low salary. Box 8,113, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, Re-engagement, Acting-Manager, Music Hall, active, 12 months 'experience. Highest refs. A. Bradley, 19, Conway-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman (27), wishes to assist Theatre Manager, not tour, and thoroughly learn management. Small salary. Box 8,106, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, in Box Office, by Lady speaking, French, German, and good English. Box 8,108, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, as useful Maid to Professional Lady; good references, domesticated, willing. Box 8,119, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director, with brains; pianist; experienced, thoroughly capable of arranging, composing, and rehearsing big musical numbers; must be sober, energetic gentleman, of good appearance; week's engagement on trial; exceptionally long, pleasant engagement if suitable. State salary required, full particulars, photo., first letter, The Great Raymond, Pavilion Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical-Director, for Variety Theatre in the Provinces.
State past experience, age, salary required, &c., to
Box 8,111, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Sub-Conductor (Violin), First and Second Cornet, Double Drummer, with own Tympani and Effects. Lowest terms and latest reference to Musical-Director, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, First-class Music Hall Conductor, Engagement, late Moss's Empires, can open at once. Address, M. D., 24, Woodford-rd., Watford, Herts.

WANTED, First-class Tenor Vocalist, able to conduct Orchestra, long engagement. None but really good singers need apply.
Box 8,118, "The Era."

WANTED, a competent Leader (Violin), for Tivoli, Dublin (twice nightly); sobriety essential. Send references. Terms, age, &c., to Musical-Director.

WANTED, to Open, Monday next, good reliable Leader. Must be smart and thoroughly experienced in Variety. Wire, Payne, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, to Open, Aug. 22, Good Leader and 'Cello. Terms, age, and references to Chas. Elphinstone, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, for Aug. 22, Good Sound Violinist, permanency to right man, touring. State age and refs., Niblett, Conductor, Italian Circus, The Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, to open Monday next, for six weeks.
Western Agency, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, and Drummer (double), with Tympanis and Full Effects. Apply, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Japan-British Exhibition, Sept. 19 week, Solo Cornet, brilliant performer, Army Journal. Lowest terms and references, letters only, silence polite negative. Marks, 42, Kenilworth-road, Kilburn.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, a Probationer Male Attendant, must be a Good Clarionet Player, able to read at sight, and used to string orchestra; wages to commence at £32, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year's service £2 increase, afterwards rising £1 annually up to £42; further increase according to ability as an Attendant.
The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
Applications to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, enclosing copy of one testimonial.

WANTED, Second Trombone, for Big Musical Act, Lady or Gentleman, must be of slight figure, height 5ft. 3in., young and adaptable to business. Apply to Moore and Bentz, Adelphi Chambers, 7, John-street Strand.

WANTED, good Trombone, to open Monday next, for four weeks.
Western Agency, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, for Llandudno Town and Promenade Band, a good E flat Horn Player, one used to pitching preferred. State terms. Apply,
P. Kohl, Bandmaster,
Llandudno Town Band.

WANTED, good Oboe Player, deputy, Cheltenham Opera House, for one month, commencing Aug. 22. Write, Oboe, 7, Radnor Park-crescent, Folkestone.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class 'Cello, to open Aug. 22. Permanency if suitable. References and absolutely lowest terms, W. E. Barnett, Opera House, Northampton.

THE PALACE, TOTTENHAM, N.
WANTED, 'Cello and First Violin, well up in variety business. Apply, with age, terms, and refs., to Wm. Burgess, Conductor.

WANTED, at Once, Lady 'Celloist, for Permanent Engagement in London.
Write to G. Boxhorn,
Musical Director, Cabin, Ltd., 198, Oxford-st., W.

WANTED, Good Flute and Viola, to open Aug. 29, permanency. Apply, with age, terms, and refs., Chas. Elphinstone, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, at Once, good competent Drummer, with Effects, for Poole's Picture Palace, Cheltenham. Permanency, lowest terms, and refs., to J. H. Dixon.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Double Drums. Terms, 30s. week.
Amlwch, Saturday; Llanddeusant, Monday; Holyhead, Tuesday and Wednesday; Anglesey.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First Violin, Cornet, Flute, Bass, Trombone, Pianist, and Double Drummer, with effects, to open Sept. 5. State lowest terms and references. T. Allan Edwardes.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. Williams, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-st., W.C.
C. Jesson, Secretary.

Business men appreciate business methods.
Read the following:—
"My band is now complete with A.M.U. musicians. You have helped me beyond measure. Convey my thanks to Mr. Jesson, who has dealt most kindly with me. I truly appreciate the business workings of the society."—M.D., Palace, Reading.
"The orchestra is now quite satisfactory, and is working splendidly."—Manager, Empire, Stockport.
"I think it is a splendid idea, advertising in 'The Era'" for the A.M.U. I have secured a good engagement. I don't always get the chance to see the Disengaged List when engaged where there is no branch, but I can always get to see 'The Era.'"—Edinburgh member.

WANTED, Trombone, for Buxton, Aug. 18 to Sept. 10. Apply, with Branch Secretary's references, to General Office.
Wanted, Deputy Trombone, for six or seven weeks, for Dewsbury. Apply, Branch Secretary.
Wanted, First Cornet and Tympanist, for Wigan. Apply, with Branch Secretary's references, to General Office.
Wanted, Drummer, for week, Sept. 5. Apply, Preston Branch Secretary.
Wanted, 'Cello, to combine Cornet, for Grimsby. Apply, with Branch Secretary's references, to General Office.
Wanted, Good Cornet, open Aug. 29. Apply, Rhondda Branch Secretary.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners.
Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First Cornet (Leader), Second Cornet, Euphonium, Bass, Drum, and Effects, Clarionet, and Piccolo, for immediate and permanent Engagement. Lowest terms and refs. to Manager,
Skating Rink, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years, Clarionet players preferred; also good Flute. Height, age, &c., to Bandmaster, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Second Violin, 'Cello, and Double Bass, for P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby. Terms, age, and refs. to J. R. Bingley, 34, Eleanor-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Horns, Flute, Tympani (Double Drummer, Flemming Attachment).
Write, Theo. Ward, Strand Theatre, Aldwych.

WANTED, Known.—Viola Players wanting Daytime Employment in Office of an Accountant, to give services in staff band, should apply to
Box 8,109, "The Era" Office.

State age (must be under thirty-five years of age). Residents in or near London preferred.

WANTED, Musicians who have not received the Pamphlet re the Associated Musical Faculty to please write for same without delay to
Oliver E. Fox-Adams,
137, George-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical Director (Violin), Disengaged Sept. 12, with or without orchestra, extensive library, highest references. Address, Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Musical-Director, Engagement, Variety Theatre, London or Suburbs; first-class offers only. Box 8,066, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, W. Bastow, Musical Director to Morecambe Corporation, is open for similar position October, fine library, uniforms if required, military or orchestral. 190, Westminster rd., Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor-Pianist, Orchestral Pianist, or Double Bass, seaside hotel preferred. Rowland Clark, 23, Lebanon-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Musical-Director, either Theatre or Variety. State terms to Box 8,084, "The Era."

WANTED, by Bandmaster, Appointment, Orchestral or Military.
Deputy Conductor to His Majesty the King when Prince of Wales, on the Canadian Tour.
Highest references.
Free Sept. 1.
J. Broster, Bandmaster,
Watts Naval Training School, Elmham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Situation as Leader and Cornet. First-class Répertoire of Latest Music, with Circus, Menagerie, Rink, &c. Commence at once. Abstainer. Address, Leader, G.P.O., Hythe.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, Hotel, Theatre, or Music Hall. Offers to Parisi, 31, Grafton-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader (Violin).
Salmon,
109, Hornby-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Second Violin or Viola (Lady); any Business; Disengaged 15th inst. Perm. address, Brady, 24, St. Brannocks-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Engagement, in Orchestra, First or Second Violin, steady and reliable, London or near preferred. H. Foreman, 20, Ilderton-rd., South Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin, young, experienced. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, through theatre closing, any business. Good refs. Terms, any offer. H., c/o 16, Loampit-vale, Lewisham.

WANTED, Berth, Good Cornet, First or Second, through disappointment. Fifteen years' experience. References; age 36; temperate. Cornet, 35, Brighton-avenue, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, any Business. Address, Sharp, Cornet, 94, York-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, first-class experience, orchestra, theatre or variety, highest references. Cornettist, 38, Upper Lewes-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, First or Second. Apply, Wm. Cutler, c/o Amer's Band, The Spa, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, experienced, any Business; can Open Monday. Disengaged through disappointment. Would deputise. Wire or write, 11, Smallwood-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Cornet, steady and reliable, good refs. Wire or write, F. Butler, Railway Cottage, Shelton, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet Player, any bus., experienced; good references; reliable; Disengaged 20th. Apply, H. Huggins, 2, Kingsley-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Solo or First, requires Engagement for a few weeks, at Liberty. Address, Clarionet, 102, Freehold-road, Ipswich.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Clarionet and Alto Saxophonist, abstainer, reliable, good refs. Address, Saxophonist, 164, Thorold-rd., Ilford, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, capable, reliable, age 45 years; Liberty Aug. 20. Address, Alfred Sunderland, 20, Borough-road, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable String Bass, refs., age 31, A.M.U. Bass, 21, Ropery-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bass, E flat, excellent. B.M.'s, why worry with holders? Baker, Military Band, S. P. Pier, Southsea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, experienced all Lines; now at Liberty.
Trombone, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone, in First-class Theatre or Music Hall. Strictly attentive and reliable. Box 8,121, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Orchestral, Military, or good Rink; Lib. middle of September. Best references. Anthony, 8, Old-street, Clevedon.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Orchestral Euphonium, through Palace Pier Orchestra disbanding. Good references. Howarth, 7, Shepherd-street, St. Leonards.

WANTED, by Euphoniumist, thorough musician, composer, arranger, band teacher, &c., wants any business, artist performer. Maddock, sen., Municipal Band, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, by 'Cellist (West-end references), few weeks' holiday engt., commencing 22nd, any business. Parker, 184, Blomfield-terrace, Paddington, W.

WANTED, by First-class 'Cello, Engagement, good Soloist. 'Cello, 83, Cambridge-road, Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, Disengaged Aug. 15. Address,
'Cellist, 32, Montrell-road, Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Harpist, C.H.T.C.L., solo, orchestra, or otherwise, excellent refs. Miss Hilda Woollatt, Mount Nebo, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, competent Lady Flute and Piccolo Player, any business.
Apply, Box 8,105, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty, any Business. Flautist, 46, Chatto-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement (string), used to varieties, &c., good refs., reliable. Flautist, 15, Treherne-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Situation by Wm. Boardman, Pianist, long experience in variety and dramatic. Refs. 26, Chesterfield-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Situation, by Pianist, experienced and reliable, rink or pictures. Walter Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-rd., Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Roper, Tympanist, Double Drums, at Liberty Aug. 25.
61, Cardington-st., Hampstead-rd.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Southport, Ramsgate Piers, Olympia, &c. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Ladies' Cremona Orchestra, including Vocalists, smart uniform, now booking Autumn. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-sq., Clapham, S.W. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere. Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. Thos. Bateson, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Excelsior Military Band of 12 or more performers, scarlet and gold uniform; Seaside or Rink; finishing Walton-on-Naze end of Aug. Ries, Conductor, Bandstand, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, Engagement, for First-class Military Band, seven performers, all competent musicians, up-to-date library; Liberty Aug. 22. Bandmaster, W. Cyrus, Cornet King, 124, Willford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Guy's Military Bands, Supply rinks, &c., with Bands, from six upwards. Terms reasonable. Apply, 99, Ashley-st., Birmingham.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Stephenson's Circus, Ireland, Useful People; also Agent. Wire or Write, lowest terms. Address, Stephenson, Columbia Circus, Adare, Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, Twenty for the Continent and twelve for England.
Apply Ada Webb, Kiralfy's Theatre, Brussels.

WANTED, for the Zoo Circus, Glasgow, to Open Aug. 29, Several Smart Ring Grooms, must be used to the business and strictly temperate.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cirque Pinder, France, few Grooms, at once. Fares advanced to join, return fares paid to England. Pinder, 72, Liverpool-rd., Islington.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, to Circus Proprietors, Hippodrome Managers, and Agents.
THE ROYAL OHMYS,
with the most up-to-date Acrobatic Riding Act in the World have made the Greatest Success ever heard of at the Opening of the Grand, Glittering, New Circus, Bech Olsen, Copenhagen.
Complimented by Everybody,
and Offered Longer Engagement after First Performance by the Director.
The Press and Public Declare
this is the Greatest Act ever seen in Denmark.

Look out for full particulars next week.

Address,
The Royal Ohmys,
Circus Bech Olsen,
Copenhagen,
Denmark.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Winter Season, Bros. Scott's Renowned Double and Triple Jockeys, with whole or part programme of sixteen First-class Numbers, own horses and motor car, for street advt., daybill submitted. Managers and Proprietors invited to see our Programme. Coms., c/o 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Wanted, Known,
DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
Success of Brussels Exhibition Season;
Success of Marine Gardens, Edinburgh;
Success of Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.;
Success of Prince's Court, Melbourne, Victoria;
Success of Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.;
Success of Crystal Palace, London;
Success for Any Management, 1911.
Who wants me? The Act That Draws.
Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E. (the Professional House).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED,

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 29, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities Double Turns, Comedians, Comediennes, Sisters, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.
Apply, Manager, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Single, Star Acts Every Description, Immediate and Future Dates.
Harry Ward and Co., 140a, Shaftesbury-avenue.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, in all Lines, to communicate immediately. Full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
Variety Bookings Agency,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C. Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates, for
Barnsley, Cleethorpes, Leeds, York, Wigan, &c. Send bookings, lithos., terms, and private address, 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists and Specialities, all Lines. Immediate work waiting. Send vacancies, terms, and permanent. Rawes and Clarance, Central Variety Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 29, on. Nothing too big for this Popular Place of Amusement.
All communications to D. Taylor, General Manager.
N.B.—Please state when last played Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sensational Acts (open air), Complete Concert Parties, Specialities, Comedy Musical Acts, &c. Full particulars and where can be seen working next few weeks. Ashley Beale's Agency, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines,
for immediate and future Dates,
for several Halls in the North.
Good Tops can be placed at once.
Address, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO., Established 1888.
WANTED, for Seasons 1910-11, commencing Sept., Artists, in all Lines, Good Specialities, Funny Comedians, Soprano, and Contralto, Baritone (interlocutor), and Sisters. Full particulars, lowest terms, first letter, to J. H. Tomkinson, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Artists for Palace, Greenwich, also Pantomimes (London). Write, or call immediately, Graham's, Variety Agents, 15a, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Speciality and Comedy Acts,
Aug. 22, onwards; must state lowest bookings, &c. First-class Principal Boys and Girl, for Panto.

Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central. When in Manchester, call at York Hotel, York-street, near General Post Office.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 22, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 22, on. 1a, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, for Aug. 22, and onward,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, Variety Turns; all weeks after Aug. 8. Vacancies and terms, John R. Poole, Oddfellows' Hall, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates.
Wanted, First-class Principal Boy.
Send photo. and lowest terms.
Contracts await.
Babusio Bros., Unites, Friscary please send address.

James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
Hamilton & Hughes, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent in all Lines, Tops, Middles, and Bottoms.
Nothing too Big. The Bigger the Better.
Send full list of bookings, lithos., &c.,
Henry V. Williamson, Variety Agent,
4, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Cranter-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts for Britain and Continent.
Sole Agency for latter only entertained.
Also Panto. Principals for Best Theatres.

PALACE THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Monday next, Big Acts for Top and Bottom of Bill;
also Artists, all Lines,
immediate and future dates. Coms. to H. G. Griffin, Palace T., Northampton.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for Town Hall, Consett; immediate and future dates.
Arthur C. Campbell, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, Aug. 22, on, Big and Small Acts, also Combinations. Lithos., bookings, lowest, Arthur Boyne, Burnett's Agency, 58, Bank-parade, Burnley. 'Phone 459.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds,
Acts of all Kinds.
Lowest and House Address,
Dalton's Agency,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Gala Acts, also for Gala, Derby, Aug. 20, Acrobats, Comedians, Punch Show, Conjurer, Vent. Wood, Caterer, Whitehall-rd., Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Acts, all Descriptions, Aug. 15, on. Will Stewart and Morgan, Dayton, Lascernos, Mastro and Orretta, James and Jenny Jee, Orpheus, Reid and Power, O'Gorman Bros., Margot and Lener, Pasquali Bros, Lily Langtry, and Mezzottis write? Dan Noble's Agency, 272, Liverpool-st., Salford.

WANTED, Specialit ...cts and Novelties, with drawing powers ...orth. Send Vacancies, Terms, and Permanent. Smith's Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

DARLINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, High-class Variety Combinations, Aug. 22, 29 (?),
Sept. 12, 19.
must have good printing.
James Bell.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS
ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Vaudeville Combinations for Sept. 12 and 19.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

BUFFALO PALACE.
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities, Aug. 22, Sept. 19, on. Lamb.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, New and Novel Top-liners (will travel any distance to see anything answering above). Artists, all Lines. Several dates vacant for Big Acts and Combinations on shares, Vocalists, Specialities, for Halls, Picture Shows (immediate dates). Permanent address, full bookings, and fresh bookings notified. 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes.

WANTED, for First-class Combination Work, Really Big Tops willing to share.
Immediate bookings, odd dates or tour.
Must be Sensational and Attractive.
Letters only. No interviews without appointment. Particulars, terms, full list of bookings imperative, Ashburn's Agency, 295, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Star Tops, and Small Acts, Aug. 22, 29, Hippodrome, Burton. Chappell and Edelsten Agency, 4, Garrick-st., W.C. 'Phone 4062 Gerrard.

D. BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Aeroplane." 'Phone 2,349 Royal.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Aug. 22, on Nothing Too Big.
Also Acts in all Lines.
Send full particulars immediately.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Sensational Specialities, Novel Musical Acts, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Pantomimical Sketches (with Trick Scenery preferred), anything with Magnetic Drawing Powers, for Aug. 22, 29, on. Lowest terms, samples of printing, to Manager.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers and Page Girl; must be young, pretty, exceptionally good figures. State height, age, weight, experience. Full particulars, photo, first letter, The Great Raymond, Pavilion Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Sensational Diving Act, Lady Preferred, tank provided, to commence immediately for four weeks, outside performance. Acts, all lines, Sept. 19, Leigh, and Sept. 26 New Brighton; Aug. 22, onwards, Wallsend and Ramsgate. Star Turns write. Will Lund, 24, Seymour street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Boy, over fourteen; must be clever Pianist, able to Dance a little, for first-class Act. Baxter, 29, Fentiman-rd., Clapham-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Trick Cyclists.
One able to play Bicycle Polo.
Will Barker write, Box 8,122, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Trick Cyclist, teetotal, to join at once.
Theatre Royal, Bradford. Hearn.

WANTED, to Open at Once, Smart Young Lady Trapeze Performer.
Apply, Orenius, 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, a few Smart Knockabout Comedians, for new Music Hall Sketch; also Variety Brass Instrumentalists, with own instruments. Apply, between 1 and 3 o'clock, 93, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Open Aug. 29, Tumblers, Contortionists. Must be young and good. Long engagements, with well-known troupe.
Address, Box 8,124, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Comedy Acrobat; must be reliable, and single. State height, age, and all in first letter. Steady employment for right party. Address,
Mr. Hanley, 29, Fentiman-rd., off Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, a Smart Tumbler, with Good Comedy Tricks and can do Butterflies round Stage. State age, height, tricks, and lowest terms in first letter.
Box 8,123, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Boy, between fourteen and fifteen years, to learn acrobatic business, one knowledge of tumbling preferred. State height and particulars, Josh. Clifton, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Smart 3-Bar Performer.
State full particulars.
Gymnast, 24, Regent-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Clever, Mysterious Act, Thought Reading, Concert Tour, Halls and Theatres. Send particulars to Mackenzie, 45, Bath-st., Rugby.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, Twenty for the Continent and Twelve for England.
Apply, Ada Webb, Kiralfy's Theatre, Brussels.

WANTED, Operators, used to Continuous and Alternating Current. Send lowest terms, age, references, &c., B. Kennedy, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, Operator-Electrician, for Hall doing Pictures and Variety, open Aug. 29. Terms, refs., Manager, Hippodrome, Hamilton, N.B.

WANTED, Competent Electrician-Operator, assist Billing.
Terms, references, Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19, by the I.D.K. Minstrel Troupe, seven artists, high-class programmes of gems of minstrelsy.
Apply, Manager, 26, Kingsway, Mortlake, S.W.

WANTED, a few Autumn and Spring Dates, for Edward Hope's No. 1 Eisteddfod Sextette. A vocal sextette of surpassing excellence in a bright and merry vocal scena, entitled "Mlle. Blarney," in a beautiful garden setting, carried. Address, Edward Hope, 3, Emmet-place, Cork.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Original Australian Nightingale, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co., thanks Messrs. Fred Rawes, Arthur Clarance, Reginald Payne, and Walter Carr for Contracts. Vacant Sept. 12 and 19. To-day, Empire, Middlesbrough; next, King's, Nottingham.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 28.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 15, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, R. G. Knowles, Jules Moy, Riogoku Family, Lola Patey, Sisters Doherty, Grassis, Legay Quartette, Garden City Four, Animated Pictures, Willy Pantzer and Co., The Great Lester.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Harry Tate in "Flying," Hardini Trio, Sisters Jerome, Azella Wilson, Ed. E. Ford, Fisher's Vocalesques, Laurence Barclay, Aida Martine, Bioscope, Marquis' Ponies.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Courtice Pounds, Three Merrills, Willie Gardner, Walter Wade, Doughty and Laney, James Stewart, Vincent, Bioscope, Winifred Hare, J. W. Rowley.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

George Carney and Co., G. S. Melvin, Sam Stern, Leslie Bros., Claff and Tremaine, Lancashire Lasses, Dacey and Lewis, Marie Braymen, Bioscope, Australian Woodcutters.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Closed for Summer Vacation.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Albert Letine, Comedy Meisters, Sable Fern and Co., Conn and Conrad, Arabella Allen, Camplins, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Miss Amy Augarde and Co., Mike S. Whallen, Hanid Alexander, J. J. Dallas, Miller Bros., Lily Flexmore, Phillips and Merritt, Bioscope, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, Bogannys.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

"The Devil's World," Johnny Walker, Florence Smithers, Ferry Corway, Tom Parker, Onetti Sisters, Frank and Free, May B. Brilliant, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Frodk. Bertram's Co. in "The Sailor's Wedding."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Pleasants, Billie Burford, Goltz Trio, Fullbrook and Co., Signor Barbalonga, George Brooks, Bioscope, Rose and Challoner, May Chevalier and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Le Roy, Talma, and Boscoe, Alf. Wood's Co., Frank Lynne, Pat Rafferty, H. O. Wills, Avolos, Roze and Calvert, Alice Kingsley, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Lillian, Bioscope, Roma and Romani, Tom Costello, May Mars, Chas. Lewis, Luis Alvarez, Ernie Mayne, Lottie Lennox.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Lauder, Rhoda Paul, Shirley and Ransome, Hermann Melot, Mitchell and Cain, Julia Reeve, Alf. Chester, Bioscope, La Scala Opera Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Herbert Lloyd, Musical McGregors, Will Musgrave, Ted E. Box, Duncan's Collies, Rawsons, Geo. Antill, Bioscope, Henry Bedford and Co., Lamberti.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Whit Cunliffe, G. H. Elliott, Leo Stormont, Helen Trix, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Nellie Wallace, Eadie and Ramsden, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Harry Roxbury and Co. in "The Prince of Monte Carlo."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Lilley and Co. in "Drummed Out," Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Alcide Capitaine, Frank Seeley, Kisbey, Goodfellow and Gregson, Binns and Binns, "Belles of the Kitchen," Little Zola.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Robey, Leo Tell, Sutcliffe Family, Edie Gray and Boys, Melford's "Non-Suited," Signor Persichini, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Ben Albert, Verno and Voyce.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Tom H. Taylor's Co. in "Can a Woman be Good?"

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Phil Ray, Staley's Transformation, Violas, Ethel Newman, Gordon Stretton, Ike and Will Scott, Du Gros Trio, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Ella Retford.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Ada Reeve, Margaret Halstan and Co., Olga Dore, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Heeley and Meeley, Cyril Clensy, Blessings, Elsie Roby, Johnny Fuller, Bioscope, Udagawa and Kawamoura, Rinaldo.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen in "Private Potts," Bioscope, Arthur Slater, Mezzettis, Marconis, Bugler Carr, Three Belle Belles, Lily Burnand, Findens.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Alexandre and Hughes, John Warren and Co., Lillie Lassah, Cavallotti Bros., Harry Jolson, Lux's Dogs, Jock Mills, Bioscope, Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Joe Peterman's "Chanteclair," Addie Dorina, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Three Laurels, Harry Herbert, Odeyne Spark, Phil Parsons, Bioscope, Gothams.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Tom Foy and Co., Griff, Marco Belli, Haytors, King's College Boys, Mina Denvil, Maudie Francis, Bioscope, Howard and Harris.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Stella Stahl, Eily Adair, Will Johnson, Kirbys, McConnell Trio, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, F. V. St. Clair, Andos Japs, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Orpheus, Sybil St. Elmo, Jack and Evelyn, Dan Crawley.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Ford, Poluskis, Frank Couch, Lena Verdi, Fielding and Hull, Gwennie Llewellyn, Bros. Durant, Carl Howard, Bioscope, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Formby, C. J. Johnson, Tate and Tate, Fred Earle, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Jennie Hartley, Brull and Hemsley, Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Bertha Winder, Haig and Novel, Bros. Egbert, Bert Williams, Hans and Lux, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery, Albert Whelan.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

W. C. Fields, Fred Poplar, Peggy Pryde, Woodhouse and Wells, Kitty Wager, De Wynne Bros., Bioscope, Zigeuner Quartette.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Van Biene and Co., Little Keeno, Hilda Jacobsen, Will Poluski, jun., Burley and Burley, Bert Weston, Pictures, Anartos.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Campbell and Barber, Bioscope, Harry Marie, France and Stewart, Ethel Beech, Ricardo and Salving.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Mowatts, Mlle. Eldee, Walter King, Russell Wallett, Bioscope, Sadie Simpson, Sisters Kilner, Wilson and Waring.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Will Evans, Mary Ambrose, Stevens and Rennior, Rosie Fitzgerald, Fred Curran, Elsie Kerry, Anna Hope, Maisie Dene, Pictures, New Macs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Fred Storey and Co., Tom E. Hughes, Gwennie Hasto, Chas. Norton, Lupino Lane, Ina Lorimer, Pictures, Northern Troupe.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Bella and Bijou, Anna Chandler, A. G. Spry, Will H. Fox, Sisters Reeve, Donaldson Bros., J. A. Wilson, Nora Emerald, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 8167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, AUG. 15.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Ten Dixie Girls, Chung Ling Soo, Nellie Farrell, Jack Hamilton, Geo. Edmunds, Palace Perfection Pictures, Giovanni Daruso.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Four Figaros, Mars Trio, Bros. St. Clair, Ten Loonies, Irene Meldon, Reed and Stevens, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Arthur Croxon, Sisters Hula, Daisy Taylor, Camard, Vanderbilts, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Chas. Vincent, Lancashire Lads, Clarice Mayne, Fred Ward, Walter Read, Colley and Scott, Lomas Duo, Palace Perfection Pictures, Charles Coborn.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Casey's Court," Horley and Melton, Rosie Gaston, Billy Marsden, Pictures, Walter Stanley, Terry and Tate, Gipsy Earle, "Mystery of the Hansom Cab."

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Beauty Competition, Wheeler and Wilson, Great Sodos, Flo Warner, Joe Archer, Norah Desmond, Flo Burnett, Walton and Williams, Bernard Mervyn and Co., Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Marcel and Boris, May De Rowse, Dick and Dorothy, Pat Lynch, Walter Grahame, Martell and Gillette, F. Winn and Co. in "Light in the Window," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Shrillo, Juno Salmo, Johnny Cecil, Rousby and Rene, Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, "Plumbers" Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Cumminger and Colonna, Cumberlands, Damerell and Rutland, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Rauschle, Queenie West, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Rizarellis, Recar Trio, Sages, "The Key," Susie and Protti, Westwoods. Palace Perfection Pictures, Mr. Roland Hill.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Man and Wife," Miss Francis Campbell, Ronald Bayne, Sanderson Moffatt, Miss Armstrong, Con Clarke, H. McCelland, Herbt. Lewis, Con. Allister, J. E. Manning, Archie Grant, Annie Travest, Lizzie Chambers. Animated Pictures, Illustrated Songs.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Doody and Wright, Hurman and Arthur, Mollie Doon, Latonas, Marion Scott, Ellerslie Pyne, George Wood, Cosgrove and Burns, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
"Candida."

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Leo and Roland, Tom Gott, Four Rosebuds, Cedrics, Vela, Van Dammes, Gene Morelle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Raglus, Rose and Jeanette, Maude Mortimer, Doris Druce, F. S. Peake and Co., Banzai Family, Palace Perfection Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Brian McCullough and Co., Sisters St. Julian, The Whelingtons, Pictures, Horace and Olga, Harry Desmond, Vera Mayne, "Far Away Calgary," James and Jennie Jee.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Hector Lorsine, T. C. Jaques, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Frank Boyce, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Adah Payne, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Night and Morning."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Beech and Aveling, Gladys and Alber, Four Garricks, Allsop and Beckwith, Ford Williams, Landix Trio, Edith Chantler, Danvers and Rosslyn, Frank H. Fox, Apollo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Wright Aitken and Co., Joseph Crooke, Harry Brittell, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, Pictures, Miss Colley Ashton, Leo, Jessie Starr, Satan.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

RUTHERGLEN ROLLER SKATING PAVILION.

FOR SALE

within the

FACULTY HALL,

ST. GEORGE'S PLACE, GLASGOW,

on

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 17, 1910,

at 2.0 o'clock Afternoon,

That well-built, commodious Pavilion known as the RUTHERGLEN SKATING RINK, situated at East Main-street, Rutherglen. The building was only erected about six months ago at a cost of over £3000, and is constructed with brick dado walls up to floor level, the outer wall of wood standards and runners covered on outside with fibre plaster; the main roof is constructed with steel couples with wood purlins covered with sarking and patent roofing felt, the lean-to roofs of passages, and offices of spars and sarking, covered with felt as before, and all roofs are carried on substantial steel beams and stanchions.

The approximate measurements of the building are 190ft. by 88ft., and the building contains large skating surface of 1140 superficial yards floored with best maple flooring, two cloak rooms, two lavatories, manager's room, skate rooms, staff rooms, and spare rooms; tea terrace, kitchen, spectators' balcony, band stand, and band room; terracing on ground floor, pay-box, &c.

The building has an artistic appearance, and is admirably adapted for the business of a Rink or for Cinematograph Entertainments, and is very centrally situated in a well-populated district.

The subjects are held on lease, and the ground rent is £80 per annum.

Low upset price, £1500.

For further particulars apply to James P. Lewis, C.A., 116, Hope-street, Glasgow; W. B. Galbraith, C.A., 87, St. Vincent-street, Glasgow; or to A. C. Baird and Co., writers, 102, Bath-street, Glasgow, who have the Articles of Roup.

J. and R. EDMISTON,
Auctioneers.

Leading Always.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.
NEW LITHOS and POSTERS.
Boxing, Aeroplaning, etc.
Netherfield Date Book, 1911-12, post-free 1/1.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's illustrations; also Cullifford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham."

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills,
and the general Run of Show Printing
at our usual Low Rates.
Ball Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

THE BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE ENTERTAINMENTS ASSOCIATION

are prepared to

RECEIVE TENDERS

for the supply of an efficient

MILITARY OR ORCHESTRAL BAND

of not less than 20 men and conductor, from the 12th day of September till the 2nd day of October, both days inclusive, the Contractor to receive all income from the hire of chairs, collections, sale of programmes, &c., in connection with the Band performances, at the East and West Cliff Band-stands, also the Band-stand in Ellington Park.

All chairs (both deck and iron), attendants, lighting (both gas and electric), billing, and programmes to be provided by the Association. Any further information can be obtained from the Chairman, Mr. Councillor T. S. Chayney, Crofton House, Ellington-road, Ramsgate, to whom tenders endorsed "Band" must be sent on or before the 24th of August, 1910.

LEAMINGTON SPA.

SUMMER CONCERTS

(under the direction of the Corporation).

CONCERT PARTIES, TROUPES, BANDS & ARTISTS.

APPLICATIONS

for Next Season (1911) to be addressed to—

H. PIERCY WATSON,
Manager for Music Committee,
Jephson Gardens,
Leamington Spa,

stating Terms (per week) and Vacant Dates.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house, Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 30s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, N.—Large front room, nicely furnished, moderate, good refs. and cooking, near music halls. Mrs. Dickens, 2, Florence-street.

LONDON, S.E.—Comfortable apartments; good cooking, attendance; reasonable terms; trams, 'bus, or Tube, 1d. to Strand. Mrs. James, 174, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.E.—One drawing-room and bedroom, also bed-sitting, and bedrooms, for Aug. 14 and 21. M. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-rd.

LONDON, S.W.—Brixton. Well-furnished Apartments; bath (h. and c.), piano, good cooking, attendance; large gardens, cycle house. Winchester Lodge, 10, Effra-road.

LONDON, S.W. — Battersea Park. —Apartments or Board; good cooking. Mrs. Sherwood. "Claremont." 40, Brynmaer-road.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

LONDON, W.—Large, furnished sitting-room and bedroom. Piano. Bath, 30s. per week. 75, Shirland-gardens, Maida Vale (six doors from Sutherland-avenue).

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s; combined ditto, and suites; bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer Villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments; bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano, near halls and theatre; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

ROKER-BY-SEA.—Hundreds of recommendations, printed list, picture p.c., and terms per return. E. BATTELL, North Cliff. Enclosed grounds.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

WALLSEND.—Large rooms; bath, Piano, Electric Light, indoor w.c., five doors from theatre. Mrs. Richardson, 95, Park-road.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.

In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.

We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—

I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.

That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.

Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.

Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, by Cora Corina, Character Comedienne and Vocalist. Wire, write, 67, St. James's-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Aug. 22, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Star Comedienne, Expert Dancer. Big success new songs. Monday, New Empire, Aberdare, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Beatrice Bonnie and Co., Dulcimer Dancers on the Stairaphone, Big Novelty. Aug. 15, City, Leeds. Vacant Aug. 22, 29.

WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Original and Only Famous Singing Boxmakers, three sisters. Address, Empress, Brixton.

WANTED, Monday and 22, by Barney Noble. Just a Performer. Wire, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, by Harry Hardy, Sept. 19, 25, in his Eccentric Dutch Act and Ventriloquial Act, "Pimple the Page." Pav., Silloth.

WANTED, Aug. 22, onward, by Billy Clithro, Comedian. Wire or write, Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring.

WANTED, Aug. 22 and Sept. 6 to precede and follow Northampton, by Will Penn, Comedian. Something attempted, something done. Wire or write, next, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, in all new songs, Liberty Monday next. Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Aug. 29, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Popular Collier Comedian, Original Copyrights, Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures, Recalled Nightly Hippodrome, Hamilton; next, Alhambra, Edinburgh; 22nd, Hippodrome, Airdrie, Scotland.

WANTED, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Jean Seul, Private Address, 64, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt was personally congratulated at Stourbridge for his Clean, Fair, and Clever Wrestling. This, packed houses, Aberdare; crowds turned away. The Big Draw Everywhere. Wire or write, Theatre, Llanelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, The Dunvilles, Comedy Instrumental, Vocal, Dance, and Patterists, Little Bits of This and That, an Unsurpassable Stage Setting. Address, Palace, Exmouth.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, Vacant Aug. 29. Wire offers to Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair commence third Moss and Stoll Tour, Grand, Birmingham, Dec. 12. Write for Vacant Dates, St. Clair, Morecambe.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Aug. 22 and 29, Sept. 5, 12. This, Palace, Oldham; next, Hippo., Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Lolo May Trio, Refined Gymnasts and Speciality Dance Artists, Magnificent Silver and Electric Apparatus, Costly Wardrobe, Press and Public unanimous in their praise. Perm. Address, Helen's Cottage, Mattishall Burgh, Norfolk.

WANTED, Sept. 5, onward, the Great Rohde and Roche. A real live original Novelty Comedy Pot-pourri Act, the Chameleon, Artist, and It. Enormous success, Palace, Barry Dock. Aug. 15, Palace, Rugby. Success guaranteed. Inquire.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, Aerial Gymnastic Wonders. Liberty Aug. 22, for Galas or Halls. Wilders, Great Francis-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all lady and gentleman Ariel Gymnastic Acts, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12. Wire, 23, Duncan-st., Oldfield-rd., Salford.

WANTED, Sept. 5, on, Bros. Almo, First-class Comedy 3-Bar Act. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Aug. 15, 22, the famous Attilla Bros., Grecian Gladiatorial Combat Scene; own scenery, lithos., for Big Draw. Wire, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Three Alskarnos, Risley Comedians, Vacant Aug. 29 and Sept. 5. Monday, Gaiety, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 22 to Sept. 17, the Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality, own scenery, splendid lithos., sure success. This week, Pal., Nelson; Mon., Emp., Nuneaton.

WANTED, Aug. 15, on, the Four Flying Orenius's, Stage Aerial, Halls or Galas. 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, by the Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic Seaside Scene, own scenery, posters, lithos. Next week, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female Novelty Acrobats, Three Acts. Good Bearer wanted. Post Office, Fraserburgh, Scotland.

WANTED, Aug. 15, 22, Bouncing Peps, Star Comedy Novelty, Theatres, Pictures, Galas, or Sports. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, by Rich. Taylor, The Whistling Ventriloquist, Piers, Halls, &c. A Huge Success Everywhere. This, Empire, Newport; next, Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare, where wire or write.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, and Oct. 3, by Gulliver, First-class Ventriloquial Comedy Act. Address, Olympia, Shoreditch.

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Offers invited. Hippo., Lowestoft.

"MONEY'S POWER."
WANTED, Aug. 22 and Sept. 5. Something right away from the ordinary dramatic episode. Produced Tivoli, Manchester. Seen and immediately booked Macnaghten Tour. Tremendous success. Refer. This, Lincoln; next, Blackburn. Re dates, Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, the Cyclinis, Comedy and Somersaulting Cyclists, Football on Wheels, sure success. Vacant Sept. 5, 12. Palace, Nelson; next, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Comic Cycle Speciality, Aug. 22, Sept. 5. Monday next, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Bros. St. Clair, Comedy Trick Cyclists and World's Champion Bicycle Footballers, Liberty Oct. 24, 31. Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Pauletti, Bicycle Acrobat. This, Grimsby and Loftus Galas. Next, Ilkley. Two great act, galas. Perm., 106, Bigland-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, to Music Hall Proprietors and Agents. Owing to Mr. Reano's indisposition the band is open to all bookings. This week, Oldham; next week, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Boy (15), willing to join recognised Cycle Troupe, clever cyclist, and has own plated trick cycle. For particulars, Nick, 5, Bold-square, Chester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up to date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Big Success this week, Aquarium, Scarborough. Wanted, 15th, also September. Aug. 22 and 29, Palace, Sunderland.

Miss Ronna Shanara's Thibet mountain goats, four in number, went through a remarkable performance. It is surely a novelty to have goats on the stage, but the intelligence which they displayed, and the possibilities of their training, disclosed by these animals at the Aquarium, makes one wonder that they have not been exploited before for the variety stage. Perhaps the most extraordinary of the things they did was the balancing by one of them on the bottom of a wine-glass turned upwards. It placed all four feet on the wineglass and stood there quite firmly, and with apparent comfort. This afforded an instructive instance of the sure-footedness of these mountain-dwelling creatures.—Scarborough Evening News, Aug. 9.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful and Only Troupe of Russian Poodles; clean, classic, clever, show, now on Tour. Splendid wardrobe and stage setting. First Vacancy Oct. 10. Com., Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Clown Inanda presents Bute, the marvellous educated canine wonder, refined speciality, humorous, clever, the only dog performing the Barrel Act; big success everywhere. Wanted, Aug. 15 (North). Wire, 5, Northstreet, Scarborough.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, to Augment present Company, a really clever Entertainer, who can dance and is used to real concerted items. K. Scott-Barrie, Pavilion, Leeds.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

To Exhibition Proprietors, Electric Theatre Managers, Crystal and Other Palace Directors, and High-class Showmen in General.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman has received Instructions from J. P. Sander, Esq., the owner, who is leaving England, to Offer for Sale by Private Treaty all that Beautiful High-class Exhibition known as the Stereorama (patented), the only one in this country. It is driven by clockwork motor; and it is impossible to explain here the fascinating and marvellous Drawing Powers of this Beautiful Scientific Exhibition. As a Money-taker it is far before the most high-class electric picture theatre. It can be fitted in any building of decent size, is practically new, and quite recently cost £250, weight about 2,250lb; pictures can be constantly changed; can be worked with very trifling expense; will be Sold, a Great Bargain. Can be seen built up in its entirety in London. There is a fortune in this for an enterprising person. For cards to view, apply to Tom Norman, Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London.

THE CAKE-WALK AND SEE-SAW SLIP MACHINES.
By Royal Letters Patent in all the Leading Countries of the World.
Providing for the Public a Sensational Ride and Thrilling Slip. Always on the Move. Quick Money-takers. Apply for full particulars to Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

THE IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION,
Agricultural Hall, Norwich.
Saturday, Oct. 8, to Saturday, Nov. 6.
Visited last year by 69,000 persons.

WANTED, for the Annexe, GOOD SIDE SHOWS, MINIATURE SWITCHBACKS, SHOOTING THE CHUTE, NOVELTY STANDS, GAMES, JUNGLES, &c., &c., must be good, clean, up-to-date money takers. Rent or Shares.

Address, with full particulars, Manager, Ideal Home Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards, in first letter, A. E. Pickard, American Museum.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties for Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh. Mons. Victor Beauté and Johnny Trundley please write.

WANTED, First-class Show, with good Flash, for best shop on the Beach, on Shares, to open Sunday. Wire, G. White, 168, Lower Esplanade, King's-road, Brighton.

WANTED, for Fête, Aug. 20, Saturday, Comedy Cyclist, ditto Jugglers, ditto Acrobats (on the flat), and any good comedy novelties, with drawing power. Send lithos and absolute lowest to the Poppies, Bijou Theatre, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, Lady Palmist, Marionettes, and other High-class Side Shows, share terms; Spaces to Let for Wireworker, Glass Blower, Sketch Artist, Engraving, and other Novelties. Prospectus, Geo. Scott, General-Manager. Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Ireland; smart and refined; commence on Aug. 15. Shares. Apply, Capt. Dando, Ballybunion, Kerry.

WANTED, Good Palmist, Lady Preferred. Share or Rental. Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Gentleman Phrenologist, also Lady Palmist, to work on shares. Apply, American Gem Photo. Company, Ballybunion, Kerry, Ireland.

WANTED, a Good Comedian and Planksman, to travel with auction mart; also a Good Sentimental Singer; must be useful during day. Edwards and Page, Pontardulais.

WANTED, Smart, Strong Young Man, used to Auction Tents. Horse and delivery. Also General Handy Man. Auction Pavilion, Ossett.

WANTED, Engagement, for Mons. Victor Beauté, the famous Fasting Champion. Once more at Liberty after his great success in Bristol. Rental, share or salary. The only fasting man who has been at University, Glasgow. For terms, write, Beaute, 37, Fitzhamon-embankment, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Phillips, the Lecturer and Doorsman with a style, Disengaged. 1, Conyngham-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, for "Salome," "She," "Galatea," "Two-headed Lady," Tesla Rays, &c., all High-class Side-shows, good positions. Green, 2, Montagu-street, S.S., Blackpool.

WANTED, Small Hall, or Suitable Premises, for Beauté, the Famous Fasting Man, rental or shares; must be in good position, size about 1,600 to 1,800 square feet. Letters to V. Beaute, 37, Fitzhamon-embankment, Cardiff.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

To Auctioneers, Showmen, &c.
WANTED, to Let, Blackpool Promenade, Farr's well-known Sale Rooms (established 1890). Full particulars on application.

WANTED, Known, Building, Best Position in Scotland, for High-class Waxworks, Exhibition, and Panopticon, will submit on com. Apply, Box 8,115, "The Era."

WANTED, Space in First-class Exhibition for High-class Toffee-making. Apply, Wantmore, 15, Severn-hill, Gloucester-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Unique Collection of Perfect Wild Beasts, grand specimens, all thoroughly acclimatised. Manager, Noah's Ark, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete, with living van, goes by rail, or let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-st., Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Orchestrion, handsome instrument by F. and S. Mukle, 12ft. high by 8ft. wide, in splendid condition. Originally cost £1,200. What offer? Full particulars from J. J. Allen, Ltd., Bournemouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 6s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 6, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, several Edison Phonographs, cheap, Mutoscopes, complete Picture Machines, Loops, Krack-shots, Strength Machines, with bells and lights; Vibrators and Electrics; also Electric Piano. Sports, 174, High-street, Shoreditch.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Freak of Nature, Calf, five legs, two tails, strong, healthy, 7 weeks old. Atyeo, Mission House, Middlezoy, Bridgwater.

WANTED, Portable Helter-Skelter, and other Side Show Attractions, on Sharing Terms. Aerial Flight please write.

WANTED, to Buy, Midget Pony, or any other Novelty, for Side Show. On approval, or useless. Scotto, 9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, to Buy, a Sensational Illusion or a Good Novelty, suitable for side show. Address, Box 8,114, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, for the Continent, Rink Managers, Floor Managers, and Instructors.
In writing state whether French or German spoken. Apply, C. B. Cochran, Kurfürstendamm 151, Berlin.

WANTED, September, First-class Floor Manager, capable of taking full charge; also First-class Instructor. Photo and full particulars to Kidd, Waterford Rink Ltd., Waterford.

WANTED, Floor Manager, for Skating Rink, holder of N.S.A. certificate preferred; also thoroughly competent Instructors and Instructresses. Write, stating previous appointments held and salary required in each instance, The Rink, adjoining station, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Rink Managership, by Gentleman (Blackpool). At present managing a business. Trustworthy, capable, experienced in all kinds of Entertainments, Carnivals, Floor Repairs, including Stopping, Buckling, Decorations, Advertisements. Not afraid of competition or work. A man that can tackle anything. A., c/o 32a, Bank Hey-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Manager wants Re-engagement as Floor-Manager, or Manager, or both combined, expert skater, three years' experience, age 25, height 5ft. 9in., excellent refs., understands everything. Please send offers to T. McDermott, Manager, Central Rink, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Known, Managers, Coming Season. If you want your rink to be the success it ought to be, I am your man. Box 8,078, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Henry J. Court is at Liberty to Open in September, for Management of Small Rinks; good refs.; experienced. Offers invited. Address, Court's Roller Skating Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, a Successful Manager will be Disengaged early in September, well up in every detail, highest references, good skater, abstainer, experienced in all kinds of amusements, to work in conjunction with rink, best possible results guaranteed. All particulars, M., 1, Lyncottages, Lynmouth, N. Devon.

WANTED, Known, Mr. L. Parry, now at Liberty to open for Management of Rink or Picture Theatre, London or Provinces. Experienced, and used to the show business. Highest References. Apply, 30, Sedlescombe-road, Earl's Court.

WANTED, Engagement, Floor Manager or Instructor, age 26; smart, gentlemanly appearance; good references. C. F. Dixon, 31, Burdett-av., Westcliff-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Floor Manager, or Instructor and Instructress, Re-engagement, singly or jointly; excellent references. Write, G. W. C., 3, Gladstone-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Position, Instructing Floor Manager, capable organiser, smart, unique exhibitions, undeniable testimonials. Write S., 33, Cranston-road Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, W. Arnold, late Manager Empress Rink, Gloucester, Disengaged, invites offers. Good references. Address, 136, St. Mark's-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Grace Doncaster, open to accept Position as Lady Instructor; 14 months at Olympia, Middlesbrough; excellent references. Address, 31, Oxford-road, Middlesbrough.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by Skate Mechanic, Situation; good refs. Tarling, 71, Peel-street, Kensington.

WANTED, to Let, from Aug. 15, Pontycymmer Roller Skating Rink, for Theatrical and Other Performances; seating accommodation over 1,000; electric light. Apply, Secretary, Roller Skating Co., Ltd., Pontycymmer.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, to Close a Trust, a Modern Theatre, in first-class state of repair, situated in the heart of a prosperous Midland town; at present Let on Lease, with about three years to run, to a reliable Syndicate. Can be sold to show a good return on rental value. Apply, principals or solicitors only, to Box 8,066, "The Era."

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft. Plan and particulars of Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

King's Funeral Film.
WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,009, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

FILMS FOR SALE.

WANTED, to Sell, excellent subjects, by leading makers, from 4s. Lists post free. Reed, Brown, and Co., 148, Westgate-rd., Newcastle.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, as supplied to the Grenadier Guards, Irish Guards, 2nd Life Guards, Royal Marine Artillery, Liverpool Police, and London County Council Bands; a splendid Distin Cornet, complete with case. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, set of Tubular Chimes, complete, standard key, powerful tone, longest tube 4ft. 3in., 50/- Approval. Newman, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, 2 20ft. gas cylinders, Oxygen and Hydrogen, 30s. the pair. Catherall, 22, Hartley-street, Bethnal Green, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture. Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, set of Chimes, good condition. Apply by letter, Dawson, 2, Bedford-road, Bedford Park, W.

WANTED, to Buy, Quantity Good Seating, Tip-ups and otherwise. Full particulars, lowest cash price, and where can be seen, Tom Little, Empire Theatre, Freshwater, I.O.W.

WANTED to Buy, Good Tip-up Seats, Carpets, Lino, and Pay Box. Address, Box 8,125, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, two Horse Ponies, height under 36in., age from three to six years. Write or wire particulars, Utteridge, 27, Park-rd., Wallsend.

To Authors.
WANTED, Original Farcical Comedies and Sketches. Script, with terms and particulars, to Beaumont, Manager, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Files of "The Era," 1860, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and onwards, to present time. Address, Librarian, "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer Months. Secretary, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

WANTED, in Oct., Nov., and Dec., Large Halls or First-class Theatres, in the West of England, Midlands, North of England, Scotland, Ireland, for the Election of Beauty Queens of the West of England, Midlands, North of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Rent or shares. Send fullest details to the International Association of Beauty Queens, Ltd., Folkestone.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other Large Halls in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to Box 8,014, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, Theatre; must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity and full particulars. James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partners or Shares, £500 to £1,000, build Electric Theatre and Vaudeville, 50,000 population, no other entertainment in district, splendid position; principals only. Box 8116 "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, with Capital, to Produce and Finance an Unique, Absolutely Original Romantic Drama, modern, powerful, great human interest. Write, Author (an ex-manager and experienced actor), 1, Lock-square, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, Partner, one willing to work up Acrobatic Act. State age and height. Send full particulars, &c., to Box 8,120, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner (Sleeping or Active) to take Share in Drama, Tour Fully Booked, Everything ready. References exchanged. Address, Meredith, 51, Deacon-street, London, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 23, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size Cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., 6, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known.—Why not save 60% on Hiring Films. Latest Subjects. Send for lists. Film Exchange, 63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Typewriting, good, cheap, Sketches, including duplicate and parts, 7s. Special low rates for Pantomime books. Parker, 49, Athelstan-road, Margate.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Special to Professionals, in return for a 6d. P.O. and stamp for postage we will send you twelve beautiful, highly-finished, permanent post-card photographs, from any photo. Rapidé Works, 7, Flaxman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand, W.C., If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c. This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Good Comic Songs, Original and Funny, for Anglo-French Comedian. Submit to Anglof, 18, Barnard-road, Clapham Junction, London.

MISSING, since 24th ult., large new THEATRICAL BASKET, two straps, marked on front "Addie Adell" in black letters. Contents: lady's wearing apparel, including white lace dress and some music. Please communicate with Supt. of the Line, S. E. and C. Railway, London Bridge Station, S.E.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronants to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE
ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS, Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces, on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents, NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd., Scarborough.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of THE Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any enquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Alone in London* is here. Miss Nellie Clyde as Nan, the flower-girl, is a distinct success, portraying the pathetic experiences of the part with impressive simplicity and charm. Mr. W. S. Stevenson gives a capital representation of the genial John Biddlecombe; Mr. Charles Gibbon makes a typical villain; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as "Old Jenkison" is piquantly philosophic; Mr. Bruce Lindley as Charles Johnson plays a good part; Miss Ethel Greene as Tom Chickweed gives a sympathetic rendering; Miss Evelyn Robson is a capital Mrs. Maloney; and Hetty Hornsby as Little Paul deservedly wins popular plaudits.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Callaghan and St. George, in a musical sketch, *The Old Neighbourhood*, scores a distinct success; the Enrico Martialo Trio are marvellous exponents of balancing feats; Mona Garrick enacts several scenes from popular plays; Carmen and Redwin delineate high class drawing-room life well; Sim Maree is a typical indiarubber merchant; Spry and Austin are clever entertainers; Sam Thomson makes a droll Scotch comedian; and Taree, the Australian bushman, is a musician of ability.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Williams Jubilee Singers are the especial features of this week's Tivoli entertainment. Their singing, individual, and concerted, is admirable in tone and quality. The three Borello Brothers are particularly expert gymnasts; Phillips and Bristow dance with graceful originality; Lily Palmer sings as well as she dances, which is saying a great deal; Winnie Warner is a true "Rubber Girl"; the Tintos give an amusing turn in "African Gambols"; Kenny Kay and "Drummer Boy Tommy" present a bewildering mix-up of real and lay figures; and Tom Cecil sings with his accustomed success.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—The attraction here this week is Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company in *Was She to Blame?* Miss Nancy Roberts plays in a graceful manner as Lillian Norman; Miss Helene Forest makes a handsome Kate Rossell; and Miss Ellen Beverley presents a good performance as Mary Norman; Mr. Charles March submits a natural portrayal of the broken-down actor, William Clark; Mr. J. A. Wilson ably sustains the rôle of Captain George Courtney; and a powerful impersonation comes from Mr. George Langdon, as Frank Rossell; Mr. Henry Rutland gives an admirable rendering of the old Vicar, John Norman; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., deserves credit as the mirth-provoking Timothy Swales; and as Sarah, Miss Nita Owen is praiseworthy.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Winifred Ward, the popular male impersonator, is proving a great success; the Five Vernons give an attractive musical entertainment; Nash and Noel, comedians, are accorded a hearty reception; Frank Maura, the barrel king, gains applause; The Lavelles, comedy acrobats, are amusing; Madison and Webb, in their comedy skit, are successful; and Hazel Glade is a charming comedienne.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Joe Collins and Howard Watson's company tops the excellent programme with the farcical comedy *Hello, Girls!* which contains many amusing scenes. Mr. F. Terry is a funny Gingerbread, his make-up being very droll; Mr. Leslie Ownes acts and sings smartly as Willie; and Mr. Louis Edmonde as the French secretary and Mr. Fred Smith as the irascible old father Colonel Pepperpot give effective performances. Miss Katie Yates is a captivating Patience, and Miss Middleton as the amorous mistress is diverting. The Newmans, Australian trick cyclists, are marvellous; Kenneth and Kane supply excellent comedy business; Geoffreys and Benson have an entertaining trifle; Mamie Roberts wins popularity with her singing; and the Imperial Quartette again favour in a terpsichorean mélange.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—Messrs. A. J. Golder and B. Sloman are maintaining their high reputation in supplying a good selection of pictures. Drink, copied from the sensational play of that name, is the special film, in which full houses become engrossed.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—Heading the bill here is Sam Elton, a comedian who is very diverting; Violet Rivers is an expert dancer, a tuneful vocalist, and skilful siffleuse; Dan Weldon, the popular singing newsboy, is also a very acceptable turn; Martin Conway is here again in eccentric song and patter; the Cromwells are smart jugglers; Jack Pardoe excels in wire-walking and eccentric dumbling; the Monckton (Fred and Lillie) appear in a most amusing sketch, *A Woman's Curiosity*; and Rutter's Comedy Football Dogs, in a football match, provide an exhibition of canine intelligence.

THE PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—Pictures continue to win favour here.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—In addition to the films the troupe of athletes, comedy acrobats, and balancers directed by Capt. Roberts appears.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, The Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Marks.—Attractive pictures are exhibited here. The vaudeville artist is the favourite comedian Geo. Leavern, in song and dance.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A most attractive programme of pictures is varied by turns given by the Hopes, comedy specialists, and Miss Dorothy Cliffe, chorus comedienne.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The high reputation of this popular house is maintained, and full houses are the rule. A pleasing vocal act is presented by Mr. William Whitlock, and bright selections are given by the Scarlet Band.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*The Love Birds* is the title of the musical absurdity which occupies the theatre this week. The company is Miss Loie Esmond's, and includes Mr. Edward Neville, who plays Col. Fritters, Mr. J. O. Russell (Ferdinand Fluff), Fred Alberto, Blanche Courtney, &c. Some clever dances are executed by Miss Esmond's Quartette, also by Miss Loie Esmond and Fred Alberto.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—Miss Alice Raymond and her players present a high-class programme of classical music here, which is well received. The Whittakers, in *Dick Whittington*, Stuart and Evans, the talking heads, Chris Van Bern, in a novel and pleasing act, Miss Ivy Voyce, who sings well, Messrs. Stevens and Brett, and the Milsted Bell Trio, in a smart and lively knockabout sketch, are all well received. Weisker's Bioscope terminates a bright and pleasing entertainment.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—*A Broken Heart* is presented by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, with Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mary Barnard, Mr. Denis Hogan as Stephen Rayiton, Mr. Jno. S. Millward as Jno. Barnard, together with Mr. Hewton Pearce as comedian. The drama is well rendered.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—This week will end the visit of the Villagers which has been deservedly most successful.

THE TIVOLI.—Ted Curtis and Co. are at the top of the bill, and the Three Pirmans are the bottom turn of a very pleasing programme. Slippere, the blind impersonator, the Sisters Harcourt, Beattie Bloom, Fayre and Manning, and Wisper, the juggler, are all very well received.

HIPPODROME. — Mr. Fred Newman continues to attract large crowds with his pictures and variety.

BARRY DOCK.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. A. Hamilton Worden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Bure.—Mr. Percy Williams presents *The Fatal Wedding* here this week. Howard Wilson is in the capable hands of Mr. Cecil A. Melton; while the "heavy" is strongly portrayed by Mr. Alexander Wills; Miss Violet Keand plays the pathetic part of Mabel Wilson skilfully; Miss Elaine Vanburgh gives a convincing study of the part of Cora Williams. Humour is supplied by Mr. Watson Hume (Joto) and Miss Blanche Huber (Bridget). In the third act specialities are introduced by Misses Myra Eaton, Mary Grice, Edith Dews, Sisters May, and Joe Grice. Miss Dot Jefferies sings delightfully.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—E. J. Sheldon is a capital comedian, and Morrell and Moore are entertaining burlesque musicians. Spry and Bentley, comedy artists, are well received. The pictures are up to the usual standard.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Swan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Merry Widow* for the fourth time locally has spread her charms and attracted the usual crowds to enjoy the tuneful melodies and laugh over the sallies of Baron Popoff, Nisch, and Prince Danilo. Mr. George Edwardes' company includes once again such favourites as Miss Louie Pounds, a bewitching Sonia; Mr. Lionel Victor, funner than ever as Popoff; and Mr. Tom Redmond, an unsurpassable Nisch. Others who are seen in their former rôles are Mr. Somers Bellamy as Cascada (and stage management); Mr. Grafton Williams, fussy as previously as General Novokovitch; and Miss Mary Morrison as the elderly but giddy Prascova. The newcomers include Mr. Basil S. Foster, who in the important character of Danilo is to be congratulated upon his success; Mr. Edward McKeown is by far the best Jolidon, both vocally and histrionically seen locally, his fine tenor voice being heard to the utmost advantage in the music that falls to his lot; Miss Victoria Sievers sings extremely well, and acts the part of Natalie with conviction; Miss Gwendoline Brogden fascinates the house by her dancing as Frou Frou, and is doubly recalled with Mr. Redmond for the Apache dance in the last act. The chorus is a large one, and the excellent orchestra is under the experienced direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The Cumberlands, the famous acrobatic cyclists, are creating their usual furore here; Frank Cumminger as a sand dancer remains unapproachable, and with his fair lady partner Colonna is loudly applauded; the impersonations by Rauschcke are well carried out and cordially received; Damerell and Rutland, a couple of comedians, quickly get on good terms with the audience, their chorus song being heartily taken up; Harry Keeble is a ventriloquist of merit; Gladys Wells, with her deep, rich contralto voice, sings "The Wolf" with no little effect; and Queenie West, comedienne and dancer, is popular.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—Mr. Hickman Smith's Royal Entertainers, under the management of Mr. Fred Everett, who is the humorist-in-chief, is here this week. The remainder of the happy little party comprise Mr. Samuel Woodlin, an excellent tenor; Mr. Arthur Vaughan, a comedian, who knows how to create merriment; Miss Hilda Elen, a bright and engaging vocalist; and Miss Dora Clare, who sings well and plays the piano admirably.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Licensee, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*An Indian Romance* is very cleverly performed by Mr. Leonard Robson and company; the Three Veros, vocalists and dancers, fully deserve the applause bestowed on them; George Norton is a smart comedian; Stewart and Lorraine skilfully perform on numerous instruments; the Brothers Ford help towards the success of the entertainment, as also do the Sisters Girard, with their singing and dancing; Miss Burley and the funny little man do some good acrobatic work; and Bioscope pictures are included.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with *A Message from Mars*. Mr. F. St. Barbe-West presented the rôle of Horace Parker with striking ability; Mr. William H. Brougham's fine voice is particularly adapted to the rôle of the Messenger; Miss Josephine Middleton is a delightful Minnie Templar; and the rôle of Arthur Dicey could scarcely be in better hands than those of Mr Maitland Barr. Mr. Norman Clark presents a capital impersonation of the Tramp; and Miss Magdalen Navarre is well suited to the rôle of Mrs. Clarence. Miss Aubrey Ashton plays the rôle of Miss Parker perfectly; and a good impersonation of Bella is presented by Miss Sybil Cuthbert.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is the four-act play, *For Mother's Sake*, presented by Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company. Miss Mabel Phillips is a convincing Jacqueline; Mr. B. M. Fox achieves success as Old Gloriot; a powerful impersonation of the iniquitous Luigi Ferroni is presented by Mr. Whitmore Ledger, a thoroughly capable actor; Mr. Herbert Leonards is happily cast as Louis Myers; and Miss Eva Grahame as Mathilde admirably sustains the rôle; Mr. Clarence Hallett does justice to the rôle of Henri Romaine; Mr. Percy Walters is all that can be desired as Bill Higgins; a dashing representative of Fifi Pasteur is found in Miss Hettie Jeffries and the cast is completed by Messrs. Alf Edwards, Fred Werrell, and Victor Howard.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is supplied by Miss Minola Hurst, a dashing and accomplished comedienne, who introduces her miniature marvels; Everhardt, the clever hoop expert, furnishes a fine performance; and Mr. Ernie Myers is a droll comedian. The famous Glenroy Troupe of dancers have won deserved success; and the Seven Bramusas speedily gain approval for their musical act; Messrs. Clarke and Pastor are capital vocalists and dancers; and the Martineks appear in *The Rag Doll*, a pleasing feature of the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Mr. Fred Story and his talented company head the bill with *Rip Van Winkle*. Mr. Story's impersonation of the title-rôle reflects much credit on that able actor. The Northern Troupe of international dancers furnish a fine exhibition; and a welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. Charles Norton, mimic. Miss Gwennie Hasto is undoubtedly a *danseuse* of considerable merit; and Miss Ina Lorrimer's Scotch songs and dances gain her well-merited encores. Mr. Lupino Lane, comedian, Mr. Tom E. Hughes, comedian, in his airship song, and the Bioscope complete.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—The twice-nightly season terminates this week with an excellent representation of the interesting play, *The Love of the Princess*, by Mr. C. Watson Mills' capable company. Miss May Beatrice as the Princess Idalio acquits herself to the entire satisfaction of large audiences; Mr. Frank Harvel, in the rôle of Prince Conrad Ramona, displays considerable histrionic ability; and Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews gives a forcible exposition of the scheming and unprincipled Count Nicholas Danilo. An efficient cast also includes Mr. J. Palliser Acock, Mr. Edgar Morgan, Mr. Charles O'Connor, Miss Maud Steeple, Miss Josephine Lee, and Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle. The regular dramatic season commences next week.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, John Keating.—A good, comprehensive company includes Blake and Granby, newcomers here, who appear in an amusing sketch, entitled *The System*, with pronounced success; Miss Josie Delanio, an exceptionally smart comedienne and dancer, and Jack Lane, the Yorkshire comedian, is always a favourite turn here; Foreman and Fannan, the "millionaires," are on a welcome return visit; and other leading attractions are Miss Gladys Mavius, a talented vocalist; Walter Ellis and company, in an entertaining sketch; Mr. Tom Collins, character comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Montague Beaudyn's company, in *Send Him Victorious*, commands extensive support. Mr. G. M. Montanini gives a graphic rendering of the un popular rôle of Colonel Kaufman; Mr. Edwin Turner is popular with a fine performance of Captain Allison; and Miss Lily Roselle plays the Countess von Mecklenberg with exceptional skill. Other parts are well filled by Messrs. Bert Woodin, Chas. Russell, Howard Hardy, Mesdames Madge Palmer and Nelta Mitchell, and the production is keenly enjoyed.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General Managers, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—A musical sketch, entitled *Old Virginia*, is the attraction here, and serves to introduce Mr. Kit Keen, Miss Minnie Leverentz, Mr. Lister Reekie, Mr Yorke Gray, Mr. Frank Lidington, Miss Helen Hastings, the Minima, and others.

BIRMINGHAM. — PRINCE OF WALES'. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone. — That charmingly-manipulated domestic drama *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is as attractive as ever. Mr. Gaston Mayer's talented company are responsible for the production, and the audiences are appreciative. Miss Lucy Beaumont, in her delineation of Mrs. Wiggs is excellent, her performance throughout revealing a high gift of comedy; Mr. Fred Forrest gives a truly humorous study of Mr. Stubbins, and he keeps the audience in merry mood; Miss Armine Grace is exceedingly funny as Miss Hazy, and Miss Winifred Murray deserves warm praise for her impersonation of Lovey Mary.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*Her Nameless Child* is the title of a powerful melodrama admirably played by Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company. Mr. Arthur Keand as Anthony Ford displays considerable ability; Mr. Leonard Aardale is prominent as Lord Woodville; Miss Jean Wigney gives a delightful portrayal of the character of Phyllis Ford; and Miss Dora Weber is an interesting Lady Woodville.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Frank Bertram and company are responsible for a delightful presentation of the play, *The Sailor's Wedding*. Miss Madge Monti earns appreciation for her clever work as the heroine, Mary Bellini, and Mr. Stanley Harrison is a conspicuous figure in the character of the naval Lieutenant, Gordon Drake. Mr. J. H. Darnley as Giovanni Ferici embodies all the qualities of the successful stage villain; Miss Olive Warne displays marked ability as Lenoie de Gresac, and the other characters are in capable hands.

METROPOLE. — Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Beggar Princess*, an exciting drama, is delighting audiences here. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is responsible for a very good production. Mr. Cassidy in the character of the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh is a popular figure, and as Seaweed Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy creates an excellent impression. They are warmly applauded in effective duets. Mr. J. Dalberta is responsible for the part of Duke Sergius Rubinoff, and others prominent in the cast are Mr. Alfred Boxhall, Mr. F. Norburn, Mr. C. Clarke, Miss Isabel Hunt, and Miss Ada Roscoe.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—A good reception is accorded to Mr. John Barrett's company in the new Lancashire drama, entitled *The Brothers; or, Why Women Weep*. Mr. Harry Cullenford, in the part of old John Gray, the tramp, provides an excellent character study, and Miss Esmai Ellys as the betrayed girl, Bessie Gray, acts with much feeling. Miss Lena Valli impersonates a lively American girl; Mr. H. de Ville gives a good portrayal as Guy Royston, an adventurer; and Mr. F. Carroll is clever as Toby Tossput.

CARLTON THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander. — *When It Was Dark*, presented by Mr. Oswald Cray, is proving very popular. Mr. Cray undertakes the onerous rôle of the Rev. Basil Gortre, and Mr. C. Wordley Hulse as Constantine Schwabe is responsible for a clever piece of acting. Miss Lillian Herries is well chosen as Gertrude Hunt; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle gives a good interpretation as Sir Robert Llewellyn; and other characters are well portrayed by Miss Queenie Williams, Mr. Sydney Claydon, and Mr. Walter Manfree.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—A sketch full of dramatic interest is *The Devil's World*, presented by Mr. Loring Fernie and his strong company. Mr. Fernie gives an excellent representation of a wastrel, and other members perform adequately; *The Burglars of New York* is an amusing pantomime knockabout turn given by Alex Picca and company; the Onetti Sisters give a clever and artistic gymnastic performance; Ferry Corwey is a musical clown with ideas; Florence Smithers is highly-amusing as *Our Mary Jane*; Tom Parker is happy and keeps his audience in similar mood; Johnny Walker is an up-to-date comedian; May B. Brilliant is a bright, vivacious entertainer; and Frank and Free are smart in a comedy act.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Jack Pleasants heads the bill, and while he occupies the stage there are roars of laughter. Franco Piper is repeatedly encored for his banjo selections; a brightly-written playlet is *A Boy's Proposal*, successfully presented by Mr. Fisher White's company; Signor Barbalonga, Italian baritone, renders his songs delightfully; and other turns include *Astronomy*, presented by Fullbrook and company; George Brooks, with some good humorous songs; Miss Billie Burford, a charming comedienne; Edward Rose and Dora Challoner, in a comedy act; and the Gelty Trio, who perform cleverly on the tight wire.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal attraction here is a sketch presented by Miss Mary Mayfren's company, entitled *The Yellow Fang*. It abounds in sensational incidents, and is a big draw. The Creo Brothers create merriment by their comedy acrobatic turn—the best seen here for many years; Rob Wilton, styled the "confidential" comedian, is an unqualified success; Ethel Stephenson renders Tosti's "Goodbye" delightfully; Wilbert and Leland present a clever gymnastic act; Billy Ross and his company appear to advantage in a sketch, entitled *The Hot Member*. Others on the bill are Master Edward Frisby, Tom Lee, the Three Alskarnos, and Yorke Wilson.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Altogether charming and graceful is the performance of Lalla Selbini, in a cycling and juggling turn; the Wolkowsky Troupe of Russians are a very strong feature, and they prove themselves accomplished dancers, musicians, and vocalists. The music extracted from the Balalaika is particularly pleasing; Herbert Clifton, the Jaxon Troupe, a versatile combination, the Twelve Kennedy Girls, who sing and dance cleverly, the Lacori Troupe of smart acrobats, Captain Kettle, with cards and coins, Stacey and Williams, and Hilda Light are also in the bill.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Those popular entertainers Radford and Valentine are enjoying a week of huge success in their mirth-provoking scena. A warm welcome is accorded to Jock Whiteford, the witty Scotch comedian; the Four Vagabons would be hard to beat in their vocal comedy; and Ted Waite, the spasmodic comedian, has the faculty of provoking hearty laughter. Spry and Monti, in miscellaneous comedy, are well received; the Caines are smart lady athletes; Rolando Martin fires off clever patter; and Charles Santon is possessed of a remarkable voice.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—Large audiences attend the performances here. Photographs of the latest flying events arouse great interest, and bring the programme right up to date. The coloured art picture, The Dance of Fire, is an attractive item, and there are many excellent humorous subjects. Mr. Charles Clifford contributes clever harp solos.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—The programme contains items of great pictorial interest. Clever vaudeville is furnished by Grice and Allen, the Eton boys. On Friday night great interest was taken in a wrestling match between Leslie Tabbiner, of Birmingham, and Jack Beeley, of Oldham. The Bijou Skating Rink enjoys great popularity with learners.

QUEEN'S HALL. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—A startling dramatic picture, entitled Electra, is the chief feature of an attractive programme at this popular hall of entertainment. The go-as-you-please competitions constitute a big attraction, and the Bros. Black, two clever local artists, are well received.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company is here in *My Irish Molly*. Mr. Karl Edwards keeps the house well amused as Billy the Cockney showman; Mr. St. John Medley is a clever Dennis; Miss Elma C. Turner a charming Lady Blanche; and as Sally, Miss Rosie Kearns does exceedingly well. The title-rôle is characteristically portrayed by Miss May Warden.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Packed houses are attending here nightly. La Milo being the special attraction. Mr. J. H. Ellis is a clever comedian; Little Ganty takes the house by storm; Kirk and Saraski give a skilled performance in the water; and Hicks and Hunter are highly successful skate and wooden shoe dancers; the Prince Milner's pot-pourri act is very exciting; and Baby Vi Davis sings remarkably well. Vernon's Bioscope shows good films.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The Adelphi Theatre company makes its first appearance here with *The House of Temperley*, and has met with an ovation nightly. The fighting bouts have been well carried out, and the enthusiasm has been unbounded. Mr. Murray Carson, as Sir John Hawker, gives us of his best, which is saying a great deal; and Mr. Leon M. Lion contributes a very fine sketch of Jakes, the bookmaker; Mr. Claude King does well as Captain Temperley; as Ginger Stubbs, Mr. Blake Adams is a big success; whilst Mr. D. Munroe makes a fairly good Tom Cribb; Miss Claire Pauncefort is duly dignified as Lady Temperley, and Miss Una Venning is charmingly winsome as Ethel Morley. The staging of the piece is irreproachable. The general manager of the company is Mr. Fred Pemberton, and Mr. L. Ashton-Jarry is business manager.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Under the most favourable conditions that the management could desire—the "house full" notice being posted outside the theatre—*The Whip* was cracked here on Monday night by Mr. George Dance's company, and met with an enthusiastic reception. All the difficulties of staging this gigantic production on a provincial stage have been overcome, and each night this week the complicated stage appliances have worked with remarkable smoothness. The utmost care has evidently been exercised in the selection of the artists, and the result is a big success. Mr. Fred Leicester plays the Rev. Verner Haslam in exactly the right spirit; and Mr. James Lindsay ably embodies the scheming Captain Sartorys; Mr. Eric Hudson's delineation of Joe Kelly, the bookmaker, is exceedingly good; Mr. Edwin Brett brings all the humour out of Tom Lambert; and Mr. Dallas Cairn, as the Earl of Brancaster, and Mr. Ernest Douglas as the Marquis of Beverley, call for favourable notice. Miss Vera Beringer as Mrs. D'Aquila, Miss Simeta Marsden as Mrs. Beamish, Miss Gwenda Wren as Lady Diana Sartorys, and Miss Stella Campbell as Myrtle Anson also perform their respective tasks with credit and distinction. On Monday night Mr. James M. Glover, of Drury Lane fame, conducted the orchestra, and had a hearty reception. The hunting suits and uniforms, looking very attractive, were supplied by John Hyman and Co.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Arthur Roberts tops a big bill here; and Chas. T. Aldrich is another popular star. Other contributors are Gintaro, a remarkably clever Japanese juggler; Maxey and Pete, trick cyclists; Barrett and Knowles, comedians; Casie Walmer, the eccentric contralto; Arthur Woodville, comedian; Jewel St. Ledger, a pleasing vocalist; and Russell Brandow, a smart comedian.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. H. Armitage's company is here, presenting *Leah Kleschna*. In the title-rôle Miss Marguerite Cellier gave a delightful performance; Mr. William Clayton was very successful as Kleschna; Mr. Austin Lee as Paul Sylvaine, Mr. H. Nunn as Raoul Berton, and Mr. Graham Pocket as Schramm rendered good performances.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—Good business is the rule at the above popular Picture Palace.

HIPPODROME.—The Edison Pictures are still running with success.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Will Casey's company is here in *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar gives a pathetic rendering of Marion, and Miss Doris Sorsby is touching in her part of Reggie. Other characters are in the hands of Messrs. E. St. Clair Forbes, L. Ernest, Arthur Cheeves, with Miss Ethel Spence as Elsie Langham. Humour is introduced by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer; Mr. Frank Masters as P.C. O'Runyin; and Miss Annie Mitchell as Carraway Crumpet.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Messrs. Bellew and Stock's company, including Master Edward Garrett ("The Little Stranger"), head a good bill with their comedy sketch, entitled *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.* Other turns are the Seven Wulfrunas, in a comedy acrobatic speciality, *Fun in a Café*; Tom and Neil, in a comedy boxing act; Miss Edie Anderson, comedienne; the Four Scoreys, in a musical mélange; Enzer and Miss Clarice, in a juggling and ju-jitsu exhibition; Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers; La Freya, in her artistic visions; Jack Hayton, quaint Lancashire comedian; Victor and Louis, in their vocal comedy act, *The Golfer and the Caddie*; and the Premier Imperial Pictures.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—This week's capital programme includes Miss Marie Kendall, vocal comedienne; Spissel Brothers and Mack, American eccentrics, in *A Quiet Little Supper*; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; Harry Taft, raconteur and whistler; the McLellan Carson Duo, in a scena, *Babes in Toyland*; the Kratons, in hoop rolling, &c.; Bertie Heron, in minstrel impersonations; George Collins, eccentric comedian; Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. Rawson Buckley's company, in the dramatic sketch, *Before the Dawn*; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington Estate Co.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred D. Adams.—Mr. Alfred D. Adams and an efficient stock company are appearing at the Muncaster Theatre this week in *The Omadhaun*. The leading parts are ably presented by Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Tom Robertson, Mr. Douglas B. Watson, Mr. C. Vivian Charles, Mr. Percy Boucher, Mr. Fred L. Conyngham, Mr. Robert Gore, Mr. J. W. Evelyn, Miss Louie Heathfield, Miss Marguerite Trevoeper, and Miss Mattie Crauford. The drama is followed by an interesting series of pictures.

WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint Managers, Mr. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—At the Winter Gardens this week the management presents Mr. Frank Weathersby's comedy company, under the direction of Mr. Eric H. Albury, in *Facing the Music*. Mr. Eric Bridgeman makes an excellent Rev. John Smith; Mr. Escott Robson, as the other Mr. Smith, fills his part to perfection; Mr. Eric H. Albury, as Dick Desmond, and Mr. Frank Dalton, as Colonel Duncan Smith, add to the general enjoyment; as also does Mr. Louis Palgrave as Sergeant Duffell; Miss Ida Chapman as Mable, and Miss B. Marsdene as Nora are excellent; and Miss Enid Ross, as Mrs. Ponting, and Miss Theo Hansard, as Miss Fotheringay, deserve credit.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—*The Brass Bottle*, presented by the capital all-round company of Mr. Gaston Mayer, is drawing good houses. The play is well mounted, and the illusions are perfect. Mr. Langhorne Burton is very effective in the part of Horace Ventimore; Mr. Percy Marshall as the Professor is all that could be desired; Mr. Holman Clark imparts the requisite weirdness to his interpretation of Aamash; Mr. Rudge Harding gives a clever study of Spencer Pringle; Mr. Robert Ayrton as Samuel Wackerbath is also good. Miss Edith Hunter as Mrs. Futvoye, Miss Marjorie Chard as Sylvia, Miss Mary Brough as Mrs. Rapkin, and Miss Hilda Sims as Mrs. Wackerbath all help towards the success of the piece.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Entertainment of the vaudeville type forms the present attraction here. The company is Mr. T. Elder Hearn's, and the programme contains "turns" of exceptional merit. As a quick-change artist Mr. Hearn is remarkably clever, and his humour (especially as "The Lazy Juggler") is delightful. In a dramatic sketch, *The Rat*, Gaston Chevallier and Etoil Le Noir are well supported, and they present very effectively the Voyou dance in a realistic scene of a vile French cellar café. The Three Gellinos submit a good turn as comedy acrobats; Lady Gordon Stuart recites with effect Kipling's "Gunga Din"; at the piano Wilson Blackledge is very diverting; the Three Sisters Sprightly are particularly amusing in their sketch *Fashions Past and Present* and a burlesque sketch; Lucy Lind is a good Lancashire dialect comedienne; some excellent trick cycling is accomplished by the Rangers; May Lilian Levey submits her male impersonations in a most convincing manner; and Wallace Galvin gives a performance in sleight-of-hand and card manipulating which is distinctly clever.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's strong drama, with its big percentage of thrilling incidents, viz., *The Power of the King*, holds the boards here this week. The company is a good one, and the piece is well staged. As the dashing hero, Captain Landgrave, Mr. Clavering Craig wins his audience; Mr. C. Whitlock is good as the noble King of Vallombrosa; Mr. A. St. John fills effectively the part of Prince Oscar, the traitor; Miss Conyers Radcliffe is excellent as Lady Annastasia; Miss Isa Lyndon plays with force the wicked Lady Florina; and Miss Stuart as Margot and Miss Ruby Kimberley as Phillippe are conspicuous in an excellent cast.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—As *Private Potts* that irresistible comedian Fred Kitchen, supported by Hubert Darnley's large and capable company, is making a welcome reappearance here and eliciting roars of laughter. Arthur Slater does some excellent whistling; the Mazettis, on the horizontal bar, are very expert and very entertaining; the Marconis again present their striking performance "The Wonders of Electricity"; with bayonets and bugle some clever things are accomplished by Bugler Carr; with verve and charm the Three Belles sing and dance; Lily Burnand, comedienne, is smart and vivacious; the Findens (Mr. and Mrs. Harold) present a sketch of amus

capitally as Widdicombe; Mr. Arthur Grenville's Isaacson was good; and Mr. Guy Lane was a clever Rev. Pottlebury. Mr. Cecil Kinnaird as Sir Bryan, Mr. Geo. Tully as Wittle, and Mr. Gordon Tomkins as Barker were all clever. The latter half of the week we have Dudley Benet and T. C. Wray's company in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

Grand Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. W. Payne Seddon's *Message from Mars* company paid a flying visit here, and was rewarded with a full house.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The symphony concerts continue to be a great attraction, and at the last one Miss Ivy Angora was the solo violinist. The crowded attendance at the promenade concerts testify to the popularity of Mr. Megone's municipal orchestra. Miss Edith Kirkwood is the vocalist this week, and her fine soprano voice is very pleasing to her audiences. Mr. Palmer is making a special feature of children's galas, at which the daylight fireworks by Pain and Sons give great delight.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Herr Julian Kandt and his band are drawing big crowds for the festival week, each of the musical programmes being specially devoted to works by the great composers—Wagner and Liszt at one concert, Sullivan and German at a second, and so on during the week. Miss Gertrude, soprano, is the vocalist, and Miss Annie Croft continues her pleasing performances of songs and dances. Wednesday was a gala night, with a confetti battle and fireworks by Brock and Co., and Friday is set apart for a water carnival and aquatic sports. Mr. Luxton is giving the patrons of this fashionable resort a full round of amusement and entertainment.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton.—Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Mr. Joe Bath (Johanna) had a good benefit, and in addition to numerous other presents this popular member of the "Waterloos" was presented by a number of his friends with a gold watch. The genial Charlie Danton was accorded a "bumper" at his special benefit on Friday, and this clever artist gave some of his best songs and dances. The laughable sketch *A Kiss in the Dark* was cleverly played on this occasion.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Howard and Paumier's company is here this week with *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a powerful representation of Paul Valmar, which is warmly appreciated; Miss Lilian Hallows imparts much grace and charm to her enactment of Princess Astrea; Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes submits a fine portrayal of Captain Rudolf von Scarsbruck; Mr. Stuart Black is highly successful as Lieutenant Eugene Strelsburg; Mr. Dalziel Haron is well placed as the Crown Prince; Miss Madge Raper makes an admirable Rozel, *alias* "Satanella"; and the humorous element is cleverly presented by Mr. Fred H. Constable. The comic element of the play affords a pleasing relief to the dramatic incidents, and the staging and dressing are excellent.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Tubby Edlin, supported by an excellent company, is delightfully amusing as P.C. Longfellow in *The Prince of Monte Carlo* and as Wiggs in *The Cowboy Millionaire*; Chris Harland's fairy scene, *The Enchanted Grotto*, introducing Miss Ruth Ashdowne and the Electric Girls, is very heartily appreciated; Nellie Gannon is highly successful with her descriptive songs; Lily Hayes is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Harry Wright, comedian, is very diverting; the Two Maynards, comedians, provide much fun with their cross-talk; the Two Lillies are well received in a dancing act; the Swift Duo appear in a capital comedy cycling act; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Charlier, French ventriloquist and quick-change artist, gives a novel and very enjoyable turn. Mdlle. Denarber, "the mysterious balloon girl," is brilliantly effective; Mdlle. Amelia de l'Enclos is a charming vocalist; Mason and Bart submit a clever gymnastic performance; Miss Violet King displays great ability as a violinist and as an entertainer at the piano; the Mohamed Troupe of Arabs, in whirling dances and somersaults, are enthusiastically appreciated; Cissie Lupino is an accomplished transformation dancer; Max Lambe, "the king of the whistlers," is distinctly clever; Maude Vera is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Kitty Upton is a pleasing vocal comedienne.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *Lady Frederick*. Miss Decima Moore, in the title-rôle, achieves distinct success with her charming acting; Mr. George Mudie gives an admirable impersonation of Paradise Fouldes; Mr. F. G. Thurstans acquits himself admirably as Admiral Carlisle; Mr. Gordon Ash is well placed as Lord Mereston; and Mr. Aubrey Mather is very successful as Captain Montgomery. The remaining characters are ably sustained.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company is here this week with *The Girls of Gottenberg*. The part of Max Moddelkopp is sustained in very amusing style by "Smith"; Miss Dora Langham makes a charming Mitzi; Mr. J. D. Douglas is an admirable Otto; Miss Beryl Vaudrey is a pleasing Elsa; Miss Grace Desmond is a lively Clementine; and the remaining characters are ably played. The full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Edmund Petersen.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent set of animated pictures is exhibited this week. The Impalment is a film replete with stirring and exciting incidents; Jepthah's Daughter and the Little Trumpeter convey dramatic stories; Buffalo Hunting in China and the South Coast Kennel Society's Dog Show are interesting; and the comics include Bill's New Suit, Betty and the Ball of String, and Compromised by a Key. Mr. Osland Denner contributes baritone songs, and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs is an able accompanist.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—Charming variety marks the exhibitions of animated pictures here. The programmes are entirely changed each Monday and Thursday, and crowded houses are the rule. A Daring Performance is highly interesting; Scenes in Fashoda are picturesque; the Brighton Cruising Club Regatta and the Welcome by the Mayor of Brighton to the Territorials are excellent pictures of recent local events; A Vein of Gold conveys a very dramatic story; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Mugwump's Jealousy, A Cannon Duel, and Soap in his Eye.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here with *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Mr. A. W. Barkcomb acts admirably as Hamilton Preedy; Miss Nella Powys makes a charming part of Joanna, Countess of Rushmere; Miss Ninon Dudley is effective as Harriet Budgen; Mr. John Nesbitt acts well as John Bounsall; Mr. Cecil Humphreys, Mr. Hamilton Deane, and Mr. J. D. Geddes are well placed as the Earl of Rushmere, Hon. Robert Jennerway, and Lord Kinslow; and the remaining parts are all carefully taken. The performance commences with the one-act play, *The Chance*, in which Miss Ninon Dudley, Mr. Cecil Humphreys, and Mr. J. D. Geddes distinguish themselves.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Mr. Travis Green's company. Mr. Jerrold Heather and Miss Hilda Shirley are both effective in their respective parts of Zaco Maletto *alias* Captain Vigo and Myra Maletto; Mr. Colin Heather does well as Wilfred Grey; Miss Winifred Rutland is pleasing as Lily, the White Angel; Mr. P. Morton Wright makes the most of Paul, the half-witted; and Miss Elsie Dene acts capitally as Dolly Dimple. Other parts are carefully taken by Mr. G. M. Hancock, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Lancelot Usher, Mr. Frank Shepherd, Mr. P. Laurence, and Mr. William George. The drama is effectively staged.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully cooling and refreshing during the summer after motoring, golfing, cycling, tennis, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Heat, and Irritation, and gives a resisting power to the skin surface in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, of all chemists and stores.—M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Darracq is here with his sensational act of "Whizzing the Wheel in a motor-car," the exploit being warmly applauded; Austin Rudd, comedian, has a good reception, his songs going well; The Calcotts dance neatly and play zither-banjoes; Harvey's American Boys and Girls please with their singing and dancing; Daisie Dennis has a pretty novelty song, "Teddy Bear"; Frank Victor is a successful vocalist; Fred Evans scores with his speciality, entitled *Dreaming*; Madge Bennett, comedienne, is appreciated; Fred Maitland and Pauline Walker amuse with their farcical extravaganza, *Roots, Rash Chemist*; and the Six Lads fra' Manchester do some excellent step-dancing. The performance concluded with The Cowboy and the Squaw, clearly projected by the Bioscope.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Assistant and Advertising-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—An interesting dramatic sketch, entitled *The Half-Caste*, is being excellently played here by Miss Evelyn Beresford and company; Bob Pender's Little Dandies present an expert dancing scena à la Russe, in which Little Doris Pender distinguishes herself, as also does one of the lads; the Hudson Trio of comedy artists do a good turn; the Five Bombays sing and dance well; Metz and Metz score as patter comedians and simultaneous dancers; the Four Albertos are charming expert lady gymnasts; the Video Trio are clever roller-skaters; Charles Erard, mimic and entertainer, at the piano, is successful; and Chummie La Mars has some taking songs, and is appreciated. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week the chief attraction here is Reano and his band. The selections given evoke storms of applause. Stewart and Morgan are encored for ducts, and Barney Stewart is a capable comedian. McEwen and Pollard in a pretty Georgian sketch go well, and J. C. Scatter, comedian, is funny. Henry A. Moore (mimic), Emice Harlow (entertainer), Elsie Denby (comedienne), and the Empire Theatrescope complete.

Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. C. Horner.—Saved by Her Dog, Redeemed, Tenderfoot's Triumph, and The King and Queen of Belgium in Paris are included in the programme of pictures shown here.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Wee Georgie Wood is at the head of a good programme. The turn is beautifully set and arranged, and the imitations of various artists calls forth loud applause. Frank and Jen Latona in a clever *pot-pourri* of song, piano, and violin solos are very successful; Sid Doody and Edie Wright have a turn full of fun; Hurman and Arthur, comic jugglers, are good; Cosgrove and Burns make a welcome reappearance in *The Singing Academy*; whilst Ellerslie Pyne makes a hit with excellent elocution in "Too Late." Molly Doon is a comedienne with a pleasing style, and Marion Scott is good in song. The Palace pictures are included.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—The original Leopolds in *The New Frivolity* are presented this week by Mr. Chas. Goff. The clever Leopold Trio—Messrs. Willie, Tom, and John Leopold, jun.—cause roars of laughter by their really good acting and droll antics. Mr. Harry Douglas (Oliver Buckwheat) and Mr. Chas. Goff (the Professor) are comedians of more than average ability. Miss Kathleen Kavanagh (Madame Cobweb) and Miss Amy Hall (Lucy) are capable artists. The U.S.A. Troupe give their famous dances.

BURY (Lancs.). — Royal. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company presents *The Mockery of Marriage* in creditable style. Mr. Ernest Wingfield as Dick Kenyon in the prologue and Sir Montague Jackson does excellent work. Other parts are well filled by Mr. J. Barker as Joseph Vernham; Mr. G. Porteous as Jack Stanley; Mr. Lowe McKenzie as Seth Pearse; Miss Lilian Beaumont as Alva Kenyon; Miss Jennie Clare as Mary Ann Barnicoat; Miss Amy Love as Nellie Kenyon; and Miss Violet Wingfield as Rose Vernham.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Good houses continue at this popular hall, and the excellent series of films are most entertaining. Variety is furnished by Chiny and Clancy, patter comedians, and Maggie Grimshaw, male impersonator.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—J. W. Hall, a popular comedian, repeats his former successes; the Florias are clever equilibrists and slack-wire artists; a distinctly pleasing musical act is that of Florence and Lillian; the Broadway Boys are smart simultaneous dancers; Anitta and Leona are graceful and charming lady gymnasts; the Lowells, in a speciality act; Victor and Vassey, in a novel comedy scena; and Otto and Olga, in a smart musical comedy act, are all popular.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—Miss Florence Tyrell's company is here in *The Woman in the Case*. Mr. Cecil Newton gives a manly impersonation of Julian Rolfe; Mr. Howard Brenan appears to advantage as the lawyer, Thompson; Louis Klauffsky and Walters are commendably played by Mr. C. Clark and Mr. Gerald Alexander; Mr. Sidney Porter being happily placed as Jimmy O'Neil. The title-rôle is strikingly played by Miss Florence Tyrell; Margaret Rolfe finds a winning exponent in Miss Winnie Ormonde; a clever little sketch of Miss Hughes comes from Miss Ethel Lodge; and Miss Evelyn Carter is successful as Elsie Brewster.

BUXTON. — Opera House. — Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—This week opened with a visit from Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Smith*. Mr. Montagu Love, as Tom Freeman, was exactly suited to the character; Miss Jessica Thorne was delightful in the title-rôle. A cleverly acted character was Mrs. Dallas Baker, by Miss Eleanor Delaporte; and Miss Kathryn Collier acted gracefully as Emily Chapman; Miss Eileen Atherley played admirably as Mrs. Otto Rosenberg. A capital piece of acting came from Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Algie Peppercorn; and Mr. Cecil Brooking was consistent as Mr. Dallas Baker, K.C. Mr. George Edwarde's company, in *The Merry Widow*, was here for the remainder of the week.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Those Terrible Twins* is presented with much success here this week by Messrs. Leedham Bantock and Frederick Mouillot's company. Mr. Bantock, the author, in the rôle of the butler, William, submits an impersonation which for clever fun-making would be difficult to surpass; Mr. Cyril Delevanti as the student Charlie Pringle, is responsible for an admirable portrayal; Mrs. Pringle is excellently enacted by Miss Maude Adams; Pringle pater is safely entrusted to Mr. Robert Rivers; and other characters are undertaken by Miss Enid Baird (Violet Fairfield), Miss Norah Walker (Lillie Leyton), Mrs. Watt Tanner (Maria), Mr. Archie McCaig (Minks), and Mr. Harold West (Harry Scott). *The Lady Burglar* precedes.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—A delightful change is made this week by the presentation of *Chanteclair* by Joe Peterman and Geo Rickett's company. The Gothams are Cardiff favourites; the Laurels are a trio of extraordinarily clever artists; the Miles-Stavordale quintette of banjoists give surprisingly sweet renditions of well-known tunes; Addie Dorina is a protean lady of considerable merit, her sketch *Dr. Spot's Patients* being exceedingly well conceived and carried out; Harry Herbert is a comedian who is bound to come to the front, and the same can be said of Phil Parsons, light comedian. Odeyne Spark, comedienne and dancer, is noteworthy for a wholesome and high-class number. The Bioscope brings the evening to a close.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Burton.—A striking performance is given here by the Royal Banzai Family. Japan's greatest entertainers; a hit is made by the popular comedienne, Maude Mortimer; F. S. Peake and company present a romantic sketch, entitled *The Gambler*; and Rose and Jeanette in an original singing and dancing act; Little Doris Druce, the clever juvenile mimic; and Raglus, a skilful comedy juggler, complete.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Courtice.—Tarro Miyake, the Japanese wrestler, heads a strong company, and large audiences show unmistakable appreciation of the excellent programme provided; Lionel Howard impersonates H. B. Irving in *The Bells* with fine dramatic effect, and also gives some clever imitations of popular comedians. With a charming presence and dainty style, Minnie Paget is a big favourite as a concertina player and vocalist; Royston and Bradfield, in a smart sketch, entitled *The Actress and the Bailiff*, keep the audience in roars of laughter; Fred White, a clever dancer; and Nat Selby a comedian with excellent style, meet with success. Something quite new in stage setting is introduced by Linn and Darius in their smart musical comedy act; Liane Marigny dances gracefully, and Stave gives a novel eccentric musical act.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew. — The Ten Loonies again top the bill here, and are funnier than ever. A capital sketch, full of humour, is played by Warden Reed and Jennie Stevens, two versatile and gifted artists. Some clever cycling, both trick and comedy, is done by the Bros. St. Clair; the Mars Trio are gymnasts of unusual skill and versatility; clever dancing and excellent singing by the Four Figaros is greatly appreciated; Irene Meldon, justly described as "the dainty dot," contributes a very popular turn, and some fine pictures complete the programme.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—*Man to Man*, under the direction of Messrs. Ed. Lloyd and Clifford Bown, is here this week. There is a good cast, including Mr. Clifford Bown as Billy Burke; Mr. A. Robinson as George Gordon; Mr. Chas. Etioling as Richard Ellerton; Mr. Ed. Lloyd as Rev. P. Gordon; and Mr. Bruce Williams as Samuel Plumtree; Miss Beatrice Hone is pleasing as Ethel Maythorne; Miss Francis May makes a capital gipsy maid; and Miss Phyllis Oakley acts admirably.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Will Netta's Jockeys gain well-merited applause with their fine singing, dancing, and whistling; Kinnard, the mystifier, keeps his audience highly interested; the Loraines supply a musical turn which is greatly appreciated; and the Animated Pictures find favour.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—The Five Jovers top the bill, and give a marvellous show of acrobatics and double-bar gymnastics; Colina May is an excellent burlesque comedienne and dancer; George Don gives a clever series of burlesque character songs; and Lalie Brooke presents her smart quick-change scena, entitled, *Girls Past and Present*. The other items of a good programme are: The George French Troupe of skilful trick cyclists; Calile and Walker, novel vocal and comedy entertainers; and the renowned Snow Family of expert and grotesque skaters. Biographic pictures conclude.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company in *Her Forbidden Marriage* opened here on Monday. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson did well as Geo. Maddison; Miss Vera Grafton was a powerful exponent of the part of Lady Lucretia; and as her accomplice in trickery, Chas. Devereux, Mr. W. H. Porter was good. Miss Alice Bowes was a charming Lucy, whilst as the Mother Superior Miss Rita Tomkins was a dignified figure. Mr. Fred Devere as Timothy and Miss Kitty Merrick as Patty infused much humour into their parts; and Mr. Frank Denis was good as Sir George.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leslie.—Syd Crossley, the long comic, has a great reception; Willie Benn and Freddie French's company, in *King of Sleepland*, provide an attractive turn; the Selbit Mystery give a good entertainment; Hugo and Smit, in a comedy bar act, are funny and clever; Harvey and Jesson, dancing duo, excel in some hurricane steps; Beatrice Allen, comedienne, sings a couple of good songs; and Tony Cooper is a popular comedian.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Heading a good bill here are the Juanitas, acrobats, whose see-saw act is loudly applauded. Mid Massona, eccentric juggler, is well appreciated; W. E. Hilton, ventriloquist, and V. Wakeman, mimic, provide capital turns. The pictures are of the usual excellence.

New Town Hall.—Proprietors, Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—This popular place of amusement was opened on Monday night by Mr. A. Campbell to crowded houses. Electric light has been newly installed and various improvements made. The programme submitted is of a high standard. The top position is allotted to Stylo, hoop manipulator, whose performance is deservedly applauded; Ryan and Hall, comedians, cause endless fun; and another good turn is Allen McAskell, comedy conjurer. Pictures conclude.

Daly's Hall.—Lssee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—Professor and Miss Cottrell, in a capital turn under water, are at the top of the bill; Andrew McManus, versatile entertainer, is well received, as is also Captain Ellis and Son in cornet playing, singing, dancing, &c. The pictures are interesting and amusing.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Mr. Robert MacDonald's company in *The Dairymaids* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Dorothy Grasdorff takes the leading rôle, and her singing and acting were most pleasing and appreciated; as Winnie Miss Mabel Couch scored an undoubted success, the numbers allotted to her being excellently sung; Mr. Edwin Dodds as Joe Mivens, A.B., supports the comic element with much success; Mr. H. W. Scadven as Dr. O'Byrne, R.N., filled the part capably; Miss Marie Rignold as Lady Brundenel gave an impressive and artistic rendering of the part; and Mr. William Spray as Lieutenant Sam Brudenell and Mr. Harry Clark as Lieutenant Frank Meredith were well fitted for those parts; and Miss Edie Martin as Eliza acted with vigour.

COVENTRY.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The star turn this week is a performance by Braatz's dogs, quite remarkable in the dog drama, *The Burglar's Fate*; Mr. Chas. R. Whittle provides a good turn; Mr. John Donald, the well-known Scotch baritone, presents a novel turn, entitled *A Scottish Exile's Dream*, and sings some Scotch airs with wonderful effect; Rex Fox gives a ventriloquial and musical act on a slack wire; Harry Russon, actor comedian, submits a good song and recitation; and the Albano Girls (in musical specialities), the Australian Girls, and The Kebbles (dancers) do well.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*My Lady Bellamy*, by Dorothea Moore, is being presented by Mr. Alexander Maclean's company. Sir Gervaise Bellamy is admirably played by Mr. Alexander Maclean; as my Lady Bellamy, the child wife, Miss Laura Leigh shows ability; Mr. George L. Holyoake cleverly impersonates the King; and Mr. Arthur Layland is seen to advantage as the bloodthirsty noble Lord Crawford.

CROYDON.—Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Lew Lake heads the bill with his humorous and dramatic sketch, *Five Years Later*; Deverez and Terries give their realistic Vampire dance; Queen and Le Brunn present their absurdity, *The Cockney Sportsman*; Tiny and Mite are smart juveniles; the Palace Girls are responsible for a capital turn; Chas. E. Robinson is a bright Irish comedian; the Sisters Paget are harmonising duettists; Zellini is a smart and artful juggler; Anna Schuberth enacts her song scena, *A Private Rehearsal*; J. W. Rickaby is a droll comedian; Sybil Montagu is a fine soprano; Russell Carr is a finished ventriloquist; Maidie Burker is a charming comedienne; and the Bioscope finishes off an excellent show.

New Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Holden's Mannikins give several smart turns, including "Salome"; Bella and Bijou make a great hit with *The Suffragette*; Anna Chandler is a talented comedienne; Will H. Fox is entertaining at the piano; Nora Emerald is a chic vocalist; A. G. Spry is a brisk comedian; the Donaldson Brothers give their clever and funny pantomimic sketch, *Sports in a Jungle*; the Sisters Reeve are neat vocal duettists; and the American Bioscope concludes a most interesting programme.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A varied programme is headed by the Kellinos, who are filling the house with their clever acrobatic sketch *On the Road*; Miss Florrie Gallimore is still to the front, and gets a hearty reception at each house. Other contributors are Joe Conway, quaint parodist; the Musical Polios; How and Ardie, comedians; Blanche Brooklyn, comedienne; Charles Leighton, studies in harmony; and the Carney Bros., comedy duettists, together with the Darloscope.

Palace.—Lessees, the East Coast Variety Halls Co.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Dr. Walford Bodie heads the bill, his electrical performance drawing crowded houses; the Humpsti-Bumsti act, by Pipifax and Panlo, is a fine show; Jack Diamond is a clever trick dancer; Farr and Farland, patter comedians, go well; and other turns are Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Maud Forde, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Frank Bostock's chimpanzee, Consul, makes its first appearance here, and gives a truly astonishing performance; Haley's Garden of Girls is a pretty and smartly executed vocal and dancing scena; Hanvaar and Lee provide a very good juggling and tumbling act; Happy Attwood's parodies and patter are always amusing; Renee Graham is a charming male impersonator; Dancit is a clever lady dancer; the Gallimore Trio of comedy artists create hearty laughter; and the Di Marco Bros. are pleasing Viennese mandolinists. The Bioscope concludes.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Pranel.—Albert and Edmund's company in the farcical absurdity, *The Tower of London*, are responsible for some hearty laughter; Cummin and Seaham, in *The Ragman and Postman*, prove as popular as ever; Phil Bransby renders coster songs in first-rate fashion; A. Moore furnishes a rare exhibition of roller skating; Dora Barrington and Miss L. Grey are heard to great advantage in some choice vocal numbers; Pueblo and Crop are a popular pair of coloured duettists; and Sam Williams provides the remaining number.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*The Blind Foundling* proves again popular. Miss Belle Tilbury makes Isabel a most unscrupulous adventuress, Mr. Alex. Alexander works hard to ensure success as the villain, Mr. A. Fry is a very popular hero, and Mr. Harry Tilbury is an excellent comedian.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's répertoire company is drawing good houses here this week, the plays produced being *Arrah-na-Pogue*, *East Lynne*, *The Sorrows of Satan*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and *The Shaughraun*. In *Arrah-na-Pogue* Mr. Draycott gives an interesting portrayal of Shaun; Fanny Power is in the capable hands of Mrs. Draycott; Miss Nana Flensburg as Arrah Meelish is responsible for a finished impersonation; Mr. Joseph Magrath is an excellent Michael Feeney; Mr. St. John Stewart an admirable Beamish McCoul; and Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Major Coffin is responsible for some fine acting. Colonel O'Grady being ably accounted for by Mr. Clinton Baddeley. Mr. Theo Balfour as the Sergeant, Mr. Robert Sawin (Oiny Farrell), and Miss Louise Millward (Katty Walsh) all do well.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—A programme of all-round excellence is provided here. The Two Lillys are par excellence in their daring and skilful acrobatic performance; Josh Clifton's Five X Rays are responsible for a fine comedy gymnastic display; a novel turn is furnished by the Two Redfearns, with Miss Kitty, champion child ball puncher; the patter and comicalities of Tennyson and Wallis evoke much laughter; Tom Kelso and Edie George present a good sporting comedy sketch; J. H. McCann is an excellent roller skate dancer; Richard Finberg submits interesting studies from famous plays; Gilbert Girard excels as an instrumental and animal mimic; and Harry Taylor, Lancashire comedian, is funny.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—The Three Favourites, who head the bill here, introduce some good singing and novelty dancing; John Cronow shows ability as a facial expert; the Lloyds, in an original act, *The Artiste and the Page*, are greatly enjoyed; Miss Marie Liston is an excellent burlesque vocalist; Little Ivy Terriss a clever juvenile musician; and the Animated Pictures are still a leading feature.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*In the Shadow of Night* is creating a great effect. John Allington is ably played by Mr. Forbes Carrington, and Mr. Randall Williams acts powerfully as Gordon Allington. Mr. Roland Douglas as Clifford Yorke sustains the part admirably; Mr. Jack Whitehouse makes a hit as Tom Nainby; Mr. William Hayward is excellent as Jake Grudgewell; and the representation of Bob secured laurels for Miss Kitty Johnstone. Misses Irene Arondel and Kitty Rose as Violet Kingston and Millie Woodstock respectively were both engaging and charmingly realistic.

DOUGLAS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—The dainty musical comedy, *The Mountaineers*, obtains at this popular playhouse this week. Mr. Harry P. Tower's company are all artists. Miss Aida Jenoure and Miss Marie Dainton sing with real musical talent and act with effectiveness; other members of the company are Mr. Fred Eastman, Mr. Frank Lawton, Mr. Claud Fleming, and Mr. Leo Sheffield, all in their different ways clever.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—There is a powerful attraction at the Palace again this week—Miss Vesta Tilley. Her turn is entirely delightful. Miss Annie Braddan is a clever comedienne. There is also at the Palace Paul Corrix, Australia's foremost Herculean equilibrist; Carl Lynn in his clever imitations of animals, is greatly applauded; the Three Gascoignes, in their eccentric juggling act, were successful; Howard Innes is an excellent society entertainer; Mr. Ernest Shand, the popular comedian, is a big favourite. There is also at the Palace Mr. Harry Wood's excellent orchestra, which impels dancing.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—This week Mr. Wilkie Bard appears here, and the attendance has been enormous. But this fine comedian is not the only attraction, for Miss Queenie Finnis proves an entertaining artist; Mr. Mike Cray and his dog Dooley command laughter; Mr. Walter Lawley, with whom is associated Miss Nellie Gallifent, presents an amusing comedietta, *A Chance Acquaintance*. Also appearing is Leipzig, a really marvellous conjurer; Mr. Harry Wood's Castle orchestra, dance competitions, carnivals, and various other attractions are provided here.

Buxton's Amusements.—Central Promenade.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Buxton.—Large audiences have assembled here. The Pierrots are really clever, the ladies can sing, and the comedians are funny.

The Circus.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. F. Connor.—This week the Circus has attracted large crowds by the engagement of the Great Olympian Team, who are the champion cyclists, and winners of £1,000 in prizes—their performance is excellent. The Spanish bullfight act is very amusing. Stanley and Cakefield are expert dancers and really funny comedians; Mr. Geo. Madigan gains much applause, and deserves it; the Brothers Leotard are unrivalled as hat throwers; Milton and Horton supply an appreciated turn; and Mona and Douglas Connor repeat their previous success as graceful petites riders.

The Onchans are still the rage of the island, and are this week playing in Charlie Harvey's funny farce, *The Broken Statue*, with well-deserved success. As an extra turn Miss Grace Jean Crocker is still reciting with success.

The Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Chas. Dare.—Large audiences are attracted here twice nightly by the animated pictures, supported by varieties by Mr. Ernest D'Almaine, a tenor, who has a good voice, also by Wee Harry, the Manx favourite.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*The Arcadians*, admirably presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's excellent company, is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Walter Passmore as James Smith and Simplicitas keeps the audience in continuous laughter, and Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra wins success with her graceful acting and singing. The part of the jockey Peter Doody is inimitably played by Mr. Oliver J. Round, and Miss Billie Sinclair submits a charming portrayal of Eileen Cavanagh. Mr. Harold E. Pearce is uncommonly good as Jack Meadows, and Miss Florence Ivy is delightful in the rôle of Chrysea. Miss Veronica Brady imparts humour to the character of Mrs. Smith, and Mr. Louis Victor as Bobby and Mr. Ivan Cleveland as Sir George Pollick also sustain their parts with credit. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton, is excellent, and the staging and scenery elaborate.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are presenting *The Female Detective*. Mr. Charles Burdon gives a praiseworthy conception of Basil Vane, and Miss Bernice Fielding as Myra Mayne acts with decided cleverness. Mr. Horace Stanley acquits himself creditably as Tubby Philpotts, and Miss Violet Agnew effectively portrays the rôle of Nellie Danvers. Mr. T. B. Brabazon is well placed as Colonel Heathcote, and Little Millie Halston shows much ability as Dick. Mr. Ernest J. Fare does full justice to the part of Tom Heathcote, and Miss Kate Kilpack does well as Emma Toogood.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross* is a great attraction here. The part of Marcus Superbus as played by Mr. W. Lawson Butt is a fine character study, and Miss Evelyn Hope acquits herself excellently as Mercia. Mr. Frank Wood is highly successful as Glabrio, and Miss Esme Lee makes an attractive Dacia. Mr. Bernard Elliott cleverly enacts the part of Nero, and Miss Dorothy Lart does exceedingly well as Berenice. Tigellinus is ably handled by Mr. Charles Aldred, and the rôle of Stephenus has an able exponent in Miss Winifred Delevanti. Licinius is well played by Mr. J. Wetherall, and Miss R. Chapman is seen to advantage as Melos.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A capital variety programme here is headed by the celebrated comedian Will Evans, who meets with a good reception. The New Macs are as popular as ever, and the musical act of Miss Mary Ambrose is deservedly applauded. Mr. Fred Curran's parodies cause hearty

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is paying a two nights' visit here in *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Edward Lewis revels in the part of Jim Cheese; Mr. Herbert St. John sings admirably and does fine work as Dick Wargrave; Crewe Boodle is successfully played by Mr. Lionel Scott; Mr. D. Fisher is a good Downham; and Mr. Harry Courtin's energy is used with excellent effect as Bunker Bliss; Mr. Jos. R. Tate displays ability in all he does as Talk; Miss Lily Cullick, merry and sparkling, sings and acts with conspicuous success as Elfin Haye; Miss Lina Hicks, in some highly-commendable character work, is an amusing Liza Shoddam; Miss Blanche Astley is an attractive Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Edith Blande, as the mock-tragic and majestic Mrs. Shimmering Black, contributes a commendable performance. On Wednesday afternoon and evening the Follies gave their well-known entertainment.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week are Guyer and Valle, whose sketch *Wait for the Finish* is full of amusing incidents. Miss Lydia Neilson and her boys and girls are a great success; the Haydons, too, present a sketch *Bertie and the Barmaid*, which has many laughter-making qualities; the Brothers Erard have a clever musical act, served up with plenty of comedy and novelty; Mr. Conn Colyer is both versatile and amusing; Miss Jennie Castelle earns hearty applause for her songs; the Sisters Selwyn are successful as singers and dancers; Mr. Will Smythe sings and cleverly dances; and new films are shown on the Bioscope.

ECCLES. — CROWN THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Frances Hanlon, comedienne and dancer, is smart; Angelina gives several juggling acts cleverly; Harrigan and Holt are funny; Ronald George is a fine instrumentalist; Bob Lloyd, comedian, is pleasing; Frances Waring and Milton C. Curtis in *A Passing Cloud* are repeatedly applauded; and the Bros. Walford have a good reception.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The Grotesques, a company of vaudeville entertainers, who are well-known on the variety stage, are appearing here. There are several clever artists in the company. Mr. Cecil Cook, who is stage director, is an accomplished pianist, and his work as accompanist is admirably done; Mr. James Watts, an excellent comedian, contributes greatly to the brightness of the programme; and the ladies, Miss Dorothy Doria, Miss Elsie English, and Miss Kathleen Severn, are capital singers and vivacious actresses. The travesty of a ballad concert gives the performers the opportunity for smart mimicry of the grand vocalist, the popular tenor, and the distinguished foreign instrumentalist, while the burlesque of a village concert, in which the principal share is taken by the vicar of the parish and his family, evokes genuine laughter and applause. The tour, which is arranged by Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., is under the direction of Mr. Philip Cunningham.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—*Under Two Flags*, toured by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, is playing to well-filled houses. Mr. Wernham Ryott gives a sound and effective rendering to the dual rôle of Bertie Royellieu and Louis Victor; and a strongly emotional and realistic study of Cigarette is supplied by Miss Agnes Verity; the Princess Corona finds a charming representative in Miss O'Neill; the remaining feminine characters of the cast being pleasingly filled by Miss Angela Stewart as Countess Olga, Miss Madoline Gordon as Lady Beatrice, and Miss Tita Langlois as Lavinia. Mr. Harry Benson, in the comedy rôle of Rake, affords genuine amusement; the stern and villainous Colonel Chateauroy is thoroughly well portrayed by Mr. Charles E. Johnson; Mr. Ernest Willoughby mises none of his chances as Ezra Baroni; Mr. Wilfred Jessop and Mr. David Hawthorne make the most of Berkeley Royellieu and Lord Rockingham; and the supplementary parts are capably filled.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Friend and Downing head the list with their briskly humorous performance as Rosenthal and Harrigan; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith give selections on the cornet with admirable effect; the drollery and beautiful part-singing of the Quaint Q's bring an enthusiastic recall; and The Æolians contribute an attractive vocal, comedy, and dancing turn; Henry and Tyler's trick cycling act is notable for originality and daring; Miss Elise Roy gained a well-merited encore for her pleasant singing; Miss Agnes Asher wins favour as a comedienne; Bert Bradford, comedian, is popular; and the King's Bioscope shows a fine series of films.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Harry Tate's droll skit *Flying* has the premier place in this week's programme. Mr. Tate is a comedian of undoubted comic power, and the sketch, introducing the wonderful machine, "The veri-ot-Tater-plane," goes to the accompaniment of loud laughter and applause; Miss Azella Wilson is a graceful and daring trapeze performer; the Hardini Trio are pleasing in an excellent musical act, the violin playing being especially good; Miss Marquis presents a stud of beautiful trained ponies, the performance of which is a revelation of animal intelligence; Mr. E. D. Ford, a comedian with a surprising command of the facial muscles, is heartily received; and Mr. Charles Fisher's Vocalesques contribute a delightful musical comedy sketch. The Sisters Jerome, clever vocalists and dancers; Miss Ada Martine, comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Lawrence Barclay, a capital comedian, are other artists who add to the attraction of an admirable bill.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A film entitled Gallagher, unfolds in a dramatic series of episodes a story of detective work, in which a newsboy figures largely. Billy's Bulldog and Off for the Holidays are funny pictures which keep the audience in good humour, and there are other films of a varied nature.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. George Edmunds.—Love's Awakening and Vein of Gold are the chief pictures in an excellent programme here. The vaudeville part of the entertainment is enlivened by Le Wist, a capable ventriloquist; and Dan Ashton, comedian.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars continues here to the delight of large audiences, and the players render with much skill and effect excerpts from the works of many popular composers. The programme in the concert hall is large, and excellently varied. Miss Nellie Ganthony, the clever entertainer, is received with enthusiasm nightly, and Mr. James A. Boyett, tenor, Mr. Robert Ganthony, in his humorous sketches, Miss Violet Elliott, a contralto who sings with much taste, Mr. Edgar Curtis, "the human marionette," and the Child Trio, three talented performers, contribute to the enjoyment of the evening. The Four Flying Orienuses, in a dashing trapeze act, are seen in the Amusement Court daily, and the out-of-door shows and Somali Village draw the customary crowds of visitors.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Bob White is exceedingly amusing as a comedian at the piano; Surrey and Carlton, comedy duettists, contribute a capital turn; as a comedienne Laura Loraine is most promising; Desmond and Dare are very funny in a comedy sketch, *The Waiter and the Dude*. Interesting are the Animated Pictures thrown upon the screen, the one worthy of special mention being that depicting various departments and employees leaving the works of the Mersey Ironworks, a local firm.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*, presented by Mr. Arthur Leigh's company, has attracted crowded and enthusiastic audiences. The staging of the play is artistic. The company is a powerful one, and wins deserved applause. As John Durham Mr. Edmund Kennedy proves himself a finished actor, and Mr. Arthur Leigh as Reggie portrays the part cleverly. Mr. W. F. Cletherow as a moneylender is realistic; marked talent characterises the acting of Miss Florence Tressilian as Helen Vallerton; and Miss Nelly Bonser well sustains the part of Mrs. Durham.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Edward Crossland's Melody Makers occupy the premier position, and score a well-merited success in their scena, *The Burglar's Dream*; a delightfully humorous sketch, entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, with Arnold Richardson in the principal part, causes roars of laughter; and the mirth-provoking possibilities of boy scouting are excellently featured by Victor Travers. Avrigny's trio of Japanese jugglers provide a clever and skilful item; the Sisters Edwards are vocalists and drummers of merit, as well as graceful dancers; Dan Hendy is a smart acrobatic comedian; and Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, contribute a popular number.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Walter A. Chetham's répertoire company appeared on Monday and Tuesday evenings in *Dan't Druce*. Mr. Dickson Moffatt appeared in the title-rôle, and the character was one in which he had excellent scope for his remarkable powers; the part of Sir Jasper Combe was fittingly undertaken by Mr. Henry Carlesmere; and that of Reuben Haimes was capitally portrayed by Mr. Sidney Bland, who brought out all the quaint qualities of the interesting character. Miss Mildred Hodson was a graceful and charming Dorothy. On Wednesday and Thursday the costume play *Admiral Guinea* was produced, and for Friday *Caste* was billed. To-night (Saturday) a repetition of *Dan't Druce* completes the week. A delightful curtain-raiser is the playlet *A Nicht Wi' Burns*.

FERNDALE. — NEW WORKMAN'S HALL AND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. Wm. James.—Decorators have been busy lately with this large and popular place of amusement, and have made it a handsome house for its patrons. This week Mr. Scott Alexander is present with his colossal combine entertainers. He introduces an effective playlet, entitled *Napoleon at Waterloo*, in which he undertakes the chief rôle, and carries it out in admirable fashion. Miss Kitty Aaen makes an admirable Kathleen O'Moore. A very pathetic scena is *The Cry of the Children*, which gains loud applause from an appreciative audience. Miss Ivy Cornwallis is a great success with her songs. Others who deserve mention are Freda and Frank, acrobatic dancers; Will Warren, the actor-vocalist; Sandy and Ramsay, patterers; Androcles and the Lion; and also "Whizzing the Whirl," which creates a deal of laughter.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—W. V. Gairod's company is here this week in *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. Garrod gives a powerful interpretation of the Vicar of Grassleigh, while Miss Bertha Kingston is excellent as the Parson's wife; Mr. E. Vaughan has a part well suited to him as Enoch Jiggins, the Churchwarden; Miss Madge Douglas distinguishes herself as Gretchen Van Crans. On Thursday night was produced, for the first time on any stage, a new play, *Atonement*.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Harry P. Tower's company in *Dear Little Denmark* is here for three nights this week. Miss Thelma Raye makes a charming Christine; Mr. Cameron Carr, a good baritone, gives a manly interpretation of Conrad Peterson; Mr. Hartley Summers, as Hans Hansen, is irresistibly droll; Miss Winifred Volt's bright and engaging performance of Ophelia wins for her many admirers; and Miss Alice Waldie is a capable representative of Zandra. Mr. Edward Thirlby is seen to advantage as the Duke Ernst Von Rasmussen, infusing a good deal of humour into the character; while Mr. Arthur Ballance sings well as his nephew Karl. Mr. Frank Lewis is well placed as Simon Jorgensen, and the remaining characters are in good hands. The singing of the chorus is excellent and the dresses and scenery are exceptionally brilliant. *The Arcadians* is billed for the latter part of the week.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE.—Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Mr. James Hare's company present *Wrong 'Uns*, which is rich in comedy and dramatic power. Mr. Hare is well supported by Mr. Edmond O'Grady as the Jew; Cestria is the quaintest of jugglers and acrobats; the Canworths are pleasing performers on the banjo; Chris Baker is a clever comedian, with some original quips; Gladys Re-Vell is a pleasing comedienne; Clara Coverdale's Dainty Dots are liberally rewarded in the matter of applause; Lil Elfreda, mimic, and the Kingscope are other interesting items on the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Boland; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Messrs. F. Marriott, Watson and James Usher's company is here in *The Black Mask*. Mr. Watson's acting in the rôle of Henry Le Noir is admirable; Philip Cunningham is efficiently portrayed by Mr. Willis Elton; Mr. Ed. E. Ashby is a praiseworthy Walter Blackmore; Miss Florence E. Florence is seen to great advantage as Nellie Cunningham; and Little Dot Forde acts cleverly in the rôle of Philip Le Noir.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is on a welcome return visit. For the opening performances *The Mikado* was submitted. In the title-rôle Mr. Leicester Tunks was imposing and sang his numbers well; as Nanki Poo Mr. Henry Herbert left nothing to be desired; Mr. Fred Billington is again the Pooh-Bah, a character has has made his own; Mr. Henry A. Lytton as Ko-Ko brought down the house, his polished comedy being greatly admired. Miss Marjorie Stone made a dainty and piquant Yum-Yum; Miss Myfanwy Newell was an attractive Peep-Bo; and Miss Beatrice Boarer acted charmingly as Pitti-Sing. Katisha was pleasingly presented by Miss Louie Rene; and Mr. Sydney Granville was well cast as Pish-Tush. Special mention must be made of the capital work done by the chorus under the direction of Mr. François Cellier. During the week *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, followed by *Trial by Jury* and *The Yeomen of the Guard* were presented.

ROYALTY.—Sub-lessees, The Scottish Playgoers Co. Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Humphreys.—The re-opening of the Repertory Theatre attracted an excellent audience on Monday, the play being the late Capt. Marshall's amusing comedy, *His Excellency the Governor*. Mr. Norman McKeown gave an extremely clever performance as Sir Montague Martin (the Governor); Mr. Perceval Clark acted with much animation as the young officer Captain Carew; while in amusing contrast was the grim secretary, Baverstock, cleverly played by Mr. Campbell Gullan; Miss Madge M'Intosh made a charming and attractive Stella de Gex; Miss Muriel Pope was also well suited as the bright and lively Ethel Carlton; and Miss Gwynneth Galton as Mrs. Bolingbroke made a typical chaperone. Mr. Frank Cochrane, acting as the pompous Colonial Secretary, was excellent; Mr. Leslie J. Casey and Mr. Walter Roy as military men, and Messrs. Arthur Raynor, George Tawde and Cyril Griffiths in other parts, completed a good cast. The play was staged most picturesquely, the one scene being painted by Mr. Leslie Casey. Miss Madge M'Intosh produced the play.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—This week the company from the Pavilion Theatre, London, under the direction of Mr. M. D. Waxman are presenting a series of Hebrew plays, and, as on previous occasions these are being largely patronised by the strong Yiddish colony which surrounds the Princess's. The programme includes *The Enraged Philosopher*, *Lost Paradise*, *Blind Musician*, *God, Man, and Devil*, *Dumb Man*, *Rabbinacel Student*, and *Wild Man*.

METROPOLE.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Miss Ida Millais' company is here with the well-known play, *No Man's Land*. Mr. Phil Harper represents the sailor hero, Oaklands, in fine style; Miss Marie Kildare gives a pointed and telling account of Mary Bathurst; the strong parts of Silas Moore (Mr. Edwin Bennett) and Mat Marsden (Mr. Villiers Stanley) are exceptionally well filled; good work is done by Mr. Fred Lillywhite as the two brothers, Bathurst; the Dr. Buxton of Mr. W. Mallalieu is a careful study; and some amusing interludes are provided by Mr. Sammy Foster as Solomon, and Miss Lottie Pearce as Bessie. The office boy is smartly played by Mr. Reginald J. Hamer; and Mrs. Mallalieu makes a characteristic Mrs. Poodle.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—To meet the demand for amusement at popular prices to suit a working-class constituency, Mr. Waldon has this week introduced drama twice nightly to his patrons, and the innovation is likely to prove a success. Messrs. John Power and Robert Faulkner's company in *For Wife and Home*, inaugurate the new system, and the play, which was given as a full night's programme last week at the Princess's, goes equally well in its more concentrated form.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Courtice Pounds, the favourite tenor, appears here in a clever protean sketch, *Charles His Friend*, in which he makes a decided hit, alike as regards singing and acting; J. W. Rowley, the veteran comedian, proves as big a favourite as ever, in several tuneful songs; Winifred Hare sings a number of songs with excellent taste, and is well received; the Three Merills present a comedy and trick cycling act which is extremely good, and their reception was hearty and well deserved; James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, gives his clever musical turn; Willie Gardner is a smart dancer in various styles including dancing on roller and ice skates; Geo. C. Doughty and Molly Laney take well in their clever comedy sketch, *A Woman's Way*; Walter Wade gives an amusing impersonation of eccentric Scotch character, and is heartily applauded; Vincent, the acrobatic table expert, completes an interesting array of talent.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The star attraction here is a lively musical play entitled *The Lady Bandits*, presented by Edward Lauri, May Beatty, and company, and lots of fun and catchy music make the piece very enjoyable. Terry and Lambert once more give their clever and amusing impersonations of various types of character, interspersed with tuneful songs; Dave Samuels is a smart Hebrew comedian, with several clever parodies and a lot of witty patter; Will Beanland's female impersonation is very good, and his chorus song goes well; Sinclair's Three Diamonds are expert young lady dancers, and they were accorded a most hearty recall; Norman Williams sings several bass songs with fine effect; Fred Arthur as an eccentric comedian and in dialect recitations takes equally well; Ritter and Foster are an extremely smart couple of dancers, and took well; Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese conjurer, contributes a number of clever tricks and illusions.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Florrie Forde, the popular comedienne and chorus singer, is the leading artist here, and her reception on the opening night was most enthusiastic. Her new songs are full of go, and she was repeatedly recalled. Another prominent figure on the bill is George D'Albert, comedian. Sinclair and Whiteford are seen to advantage in *Getting Even*. Other notable artists include the Argyle Troupe, international dancers; Arthur F. Ward, hoop manipulator and eccentric dancer; Dennis and Morris comedians and dancers; and Thiessen's acrobatic dogs.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—That interesting turn provided by Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, of log-cutting and tree felling, as practised in the Australian bush, once more evokes hearty commendation; George Carney (of Carney and Armstrong) presents a most amusing sketch, *The Fool of the Force*, in which his impersonation of a stupid policeman is intensely comic. He is well supported by an able company. Harry Claff and Alice Tremaine take well in their pantomime burlesque act, *The Demon and the Fairy*; Leslie Bros. make a decided hit with their clever and eccentric musical act; Sam Stern, in delineations of Hebrew and Italian characters, is well received for a novel turn; the Six Lancashire Lasses are smart and clever in all their items, and prove popular; Marie Braymen sings her chorus songs with excellent effect; G. S. Melvin is a Scotch comedian of much ability, his dancing and patter being specially good; Dacey and Lewis, song and dance artists, complete a varied programme.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Notable artists here include John Ryan, big boot dancer, who with the assistance of his well-trained dog, provides excellent entertainment; Billy Davis eccentric comedian, is also successful; Walter and Eva Grey are capable duettists; and Viva French contributes pleasing songs and clever dancing; the Bros. Long, comedians and dancers, are a pleasing feature of a good programme; and the Bioscope, as usual, is prominent.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The special feature of the picture show this week is a fine series of films of the Aviation Week at Lanark. Clever variety turns are contributed by the Hartleys, barrel jumpers and speciality artists; by Little Agnes Tina, a smart young comedienne and imitator; and by R. M'Millan, society entertainer and concertinist.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Guss Lazenberg; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandoa.—The Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats are fairly astounding the Partick folk with a wonderful display; Molly Augarde ably sustains her claim to be a singer of sensible songs; Lanaro contributes a novel and eccentric comedy act; a bright and breezy turn is provided by Andy Fagan, the favourite Irish comedian; and humorous and dramatic pictures complete.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—The Italian Circus, now in its closing week, has been a great success. The animal training exhibited is worth going a long way to see. Comic entrees are provided from time to time by Bishop, Winkles, and Dan Gregory.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week Mr. Marcus D. Draper presents *The Christian*, himself powerfully enacting the rôle of John Storm. Glory Quayle has an admirable exponent in Miss Gladys Purnell; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart proves an able actor in his rendition of Lord Robert Ure; and Archdeacon Wealthy is well played by Mr. Aylmer Williams. Miss Rosa Burgess is worthy of high praise as Mrs. Collander; and Miss Maisie Richardson is good as Polly Love. Father Lamplugh is effectively played by Mr. Edwin Ling; and Horatio Drake is noticeable in the hands of Mr. Burgess Barratt.

KING'S HALL.—Messrs. Pooles' Theatres, Ltd.—Variety and pictures continue here. A Romance of the Western Hills is a very fine picture. Messrs. Fisher and Fisher furnish a clever dancing and gymnastic act; Wun Hi Lung, the famous Chinese illusionist, appears successfully; and Miss Kitty Woodford, song illustrator, also appears.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —A packed audience greeted the reappearance here this week of Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Daisy Walace, in the title-rôle, sings and dances herself into popularity; Mr. J. Herbert Willis scores a success as Hughie Pierpoint; Mr. Vincent Erne is an amusing Timothy Gibbs; Mr. David Miller plays well as Mr. Beaver; and Mr. Gordon Begg is a dignified Earl of St. Ives; Mr. Douglas Lillyn ably fills the part of Lord Eynsford; Miss Florence Hylton is an excellent Mrs. Farquhar; and Miss Laura Hansen cleverly hits off the character of the Duchess of Minster.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Don* is the attraction here. Mr. Gordon Bailey gives a finished performance of Don; Miss Emma Hutchison is a big success as Mrs. Bonington; Mr. Charles Harley gives an interesting performance of Albert Thompsett; and Miss Violet Harley is excellent as Mrs. Thompsett.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The "Tally-ho" spectacle continues in popularity; and Lockhart's Elephants are repeating their success of last week; Doodles has introduced a new burlesque full of irrepressible fun; the singing of the Brooklyn Comedy Four is excellent; the Debreans contribute an artistic and pleasing turn; and Aerian and Ostara give a daring trapeze performance.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Large audiences are being attracted this week by the excellent programme that is being presented. The Four Athos score with their clever acrobatic act; Mr. Arthur Leslie is popular with his mimicry; Queenie Morris delights with her comedy turn; Cedar and Elgar are amusing in their sketch, *Ye Dayes of Olde*; the gymnastic display of Les Atans is pleasing; Nellie Merton and George Rydon create fun with their performance; and Nellie Lunelle receives well-merited applause for her dancing. Catlin's Royal Pierrots present an artistic and pleasing programme from 7.30 to 8.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—The Gaieties are paying a welcome return visit this week; Wilson James is popular with his clever contributions; Misses Ruby Wilson and Gertrude Hart are first-class vocalists; Messrs. F. Gregory and Thomas Howell contribute some pleasing items; and Bert Meredith is an excellent banjoist.

THE GEM.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. V. Barr. —Mr. Charles Lilburn is popular with his amusing songs; Daisy Grahame introduces some cleverly trained dogs and birds; Mr. Fred Leighton is singing several songs of his own composition; and Mr. Will Proctor is a first-rate vocalist. The pictures reach a high standard.

GREENOCK.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—On Tuesday evening, the occasion of the first anniversary of the opening of the Empire as a picture palace, the management presented each member of the audience with a souvenir, which took the form of a tastefully mounted photograph of the staff.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—This house of entertainment reopened on Monday after the summer vacation, and presented a bright and cheery appearance, having been entirely re-decorated in the interval. Foremost in the bill are those daring aerial gymnastic performers, the Four Eugenes, who meet with a rousing reception; Richard Walby, in a juggling act, submits a capital turn; Mary Fayre, comedienne, sings pleasingly; and others entertaining include Elsie Hulbert and her dainty Dutch girls, who excel as dancers; the Phœnix Trio, harmony singers and dancers; Williams and Warden, comedians; and the Alaskas, in an acrobatic act. Pictures on the Dromoscope are also included in the programme.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—This week there is the first visit of the romantic comedy, *Old Heidelberg*. Mr. Owen Nares gives a representation of Prince Karl Heinrich that is notable for its frankness and pleasing lack of affectation; Miss Kitty Ricimer acts with becoming daintiness as Kathie, and is good in the emotional scenes; Mr. Ernest Bodkin gives a splendid study of the fine character of Dr. Jutner; Mr. Percy Crawford is amusing as Ruder; Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will gives a quaint impersonaion of Kellerman; Mr. Frank Powell is excellent as Staatsminister Von Haugh; and Mr. Sidney Hamilton does well as the pompous Lutz.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Full of humorous situations and quaint burlesque, the farcical sketch, *Town Hall To-night*, is highly delighting the audiences. It is presented by George Abel, Ethel Arden, and company; Siems presents a capital series of novel conjuring feats; Johnnie Dwyer has scored a popular success, and has some good songs; Bromley and Fontein's absurdity, *The Man Behind the Music Stand*, creates much laughter; Miss Mildred Bryan is a pleasing balladist; Hughes and Elliott have an attractive vocal and dancing turn; and Miss Flo. Burris is a bright comedienne and dancer.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and varieties form the attraction here. Some excellent films are again shown. Miss Betty Blanche, soprano vocalist and comedienne, and the Schumanns, with well-rendered vocal and instrumental numbers, are the well-appreciated variety turns.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is at this house with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey gives a manly, vigorous rendering of John Strong; Little Gladys Brittain is a fascinating Harry Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter a good Captain Leo; Mr. Edwin Maydew's Jeremiah Parkins is an interesting study; Mr. Joe Hodson makes an excellent Billy Twig; Miss Nellie Sinclair an effective Martha Mopps; Miss Nellie Graham's Sal Parkins is well played; Miss C. Le Grande does well as Ruth Parkins; and Miss Maggie Edwards is an interesting Kate Strong.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Agnes Moreno and company appear in the scena *An Old Time Story*. The Two Britons are muscular and clever hand-balancers, and pictures complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Chung Ling Soo, illusionist, is proving a big draw here; Nellie Farrell, an Irish singer of Irish songs, is a warm favourite; George Edmunds, mimic, wins favour; Jack Hamilton, comedian, creates endless laughter; Giovanni Daruso, violinist, is much appreciated; and Carter's Ten Dixie Girls appear to advantage in a singing and dancing scena.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company are here this week in *Proof*. Mr. Francis Roberts plays Pierre Lorance with great dramatic power; Mr. George Roberts as Count de Laval is capital; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall enacts Chamberon with ability; Miss Elsie Goulding as Valentine is decidedly clever; Miss Nellie Hayes as Lulu is thoroughly effective; Mr. Alfred Wiltshire as the Duke plays well; Miss Hero Hathaway as Adrienne is admirable; Mme. Deprez is well played by Miss Phena Powell.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Percy Honri's *Concordia* is wonderfully clever; Lily Eyton is a charming comedienne; the Royal Tokio Troupe return and make a hit; D'Arc's Marionettes are smart; Cull Pitt and Mme. Adele do some clever tricks; Shirley Siggens and company introduce some capital business; Harry Tomps, comedian, is excellent; the Five May Girls are really clever; Billy French, dancer, is recalled time after time; Poole and Maguire do a novel act; and capital aviation pictures are shown by Tom Moore.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—Fine pictures here are The Kentucky Planter, Told in the Golden West, On the Border Line, Love Among the Roses, It Pays to Advertise, and Method in his Madness. Herr Halmann cleverly supplies the vaudeville items.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austin Huyon's company played *Two Merry Monarchs*. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin as Prince Charmis looked and sang well; Mr. Statham Staples was responsible for the comedy element as Rolandyl, and had an able foil in Mr. Mark Lester as King Paul; Mr. Tom Shelford as King Utops was merry and quaint; and Mr. Kelso Henderson played Helvanoise well. Miss Marjorie Moore was a pretty Princess Cynthia; and Miss Gladys Beech was smart as Iris. The smaller parts were well played. For the rest of the week Mr. Geo. Dance's company played *Our Miss Gibbs*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Miss Melville Iredale is the vocalist here this week. Mr. Harold Montague and his Vagabonds are favourites in Harrogate. Mischa Elman, the well-known violinist, is in the bill for Friday. On Saturday the Hon. Mrs. Julian Clifford, assisted by Mr. Watkin Mills, makes her only appearance here this season.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—The Sisters Brookland are established favourites, their singing and smart dancing never failing to please; clever and amusing comedy juggling is done by Peakman and Walsh; and Charles Rothwell is a popular comedian. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures contribute the remainder of the programme.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scott.—A return visit was made the first half of the week by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Gus Oxley was very humorous as Simplicitas, as was also Mr. Geo. Hestor as the woebegone jockey Peter Doody. Chrysea was pleasingly impersonated by Miss Gladys Silvani, and Miss Marion Edwardes as Sombra charmed the crowded house by her delightful singing. Miss Madge Haines made much merriment as Mrs. Smith. Good singing was contributed by Mr. Douglas Marrs (Astrophil), Mr. W. Dawson (Strophon), Miss Phyllis Taylor (Damœtas), and also by the chorus, which was under the direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett. Mr. H. Nelson Hancock acted with much spirit as Jack Meadows, and Miss Mysie Bentley as Bobby and Mr. H. Fairfax as Sir George Paddock were effective. For the remainder of the week Mr. Arthur F. Hardy's company in *The Speckled Band* was billed.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell.—Miss Annie Hughes and her company opened a three days' engagement here on Monday in the comedy drama *Miss Tommy*. In the principal rôle Miss Annie Hughes portrayed with keen insight the sterling qualities of Jane, and won the entire sympathies and admiration of her audience. Mr. Mayne Lynton gave an excellent impersonation of Peter Hope, and his manager, William Clodd, was well embodied by Mr. Fred A. Marston. Flipp, the office boy, was amusingly played by Mr. Ernest Kendrick; Mr. Henry Deas was convincing as Dick Danvers; Miss Winifred Pearson acted strongly her rôle as Mr. Morrison; and the cast was completed with Miss Vera Pole as Honor. On Thursday The Follies gave a special matinée performance. For the last three nights of the week *The Earl and the Girl* was announced.

ON THE HASTINGS PIER Mr. Fred Little's troupe of Spanish Serenaders gives four performances daily to large and appreciative audiences. Miss Bimbo Brandon is a pleasing soubrette; Miss Mabel O'Neil, a soprano vocalist, renders ballads pleasingly; Mr. Nicklin Williams is a fine baritone vocalist, and gains much applause; Mr. Garfield Barrett proves an efficient accompanist; and humorous songs are contributed by Messrs. Will May, Arthur Stevens, and Arthur Kino. On the Hastings Pier throughout the day are exhibited alternately in the pavilion and on the deck excellent animated pictures supplied by the New Film Hiring Company, which afford much pleasurable enjoyment to crowds which are thereby attracted. At the Public Hall, the People's Picture Palace Company, locally managed by Mr. A. Ashcroft, shows a fine film of The Life and Adventures of Marie Antoinette, and with the vivaphone gives the latest example of artistic reproductions in other subjects. The Pelham Hall Electric Theatre is well provided with interesting subjects, and under Mr. T. C. Daly's management proves a comfortable and up-to-date place of entertainment. At the Electric Theatre in Wellington Place the continuous performance proves acceptable to many holiday visitors.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—The company supplied by the Wallis Arthur Syndicate continue to attract numerous audiences. Miss Gladys Hill renders her ballads in excellent style; Miss Nellie Perryer is successful with her songs; Mr. Harry Kemp uses his voice with good effect; and in humorous songs Messrs. Oldbury Brough, Harold Vincent, and George Blackmore contribute to the merriment of the audience.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—Lessees, Rinkeries (1909), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. M. Leopold.—Mr. J. D.

in a funny playlet ably deputise for Bert Coote and company, who were unable to appear; Gwennie Llewellyn, a little lady with a wonderful voice, evokes rounds of applause; the Brothers Durant as "the aerial navigators," are amusing; Lena Verdi is an excellent mimic; Annie Fielding and Bert Hull are responsible for a merry little comedy entitled *Mixed Bathing;* Carl Howard (assisted by Lily Foy) creates merriment in a unique concoction of comedy and magic; Frank Couch is good in song and patter; and the bioscope completes.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—Rhobins and Kruso Trio are amusing crowded audiences with their funny skit, *Pastimes on the Island;* an entertainment thoroughly enjoyed is that provided by the Crown Trio, speciality vocalists; Dean and Dixon highly delight with their comedy act, *The New Page;* the Aerials are wonderfully clever gymnasts. Other contributors to the programme are George Rapley, popular comedian; Arthur Harris, actor vocalist; Ethel Raleslie, charming comedienne; and Len Hale, comedian, complete.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—An excellent programme is submitted here, a prominent attraction being a stirring sketch, entitled *The Cattle Thief,* ably presented by George A. Street and company; Baker and Balfe are always sure of a hearty reception; other popular items are provided by Bert Danson, Harold Batt and Mary Lynn, Belle Harcourt, Dare Austin, Minnie Stevens, and Tom Barry.

ILKESTON.—**Coliseum.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—Andre Romanoff is a clever violinist; Thomas Bentley, in a series of impersonations from Dickens, is popular; Ferguson and Mack, eccentrics, are funny; Cadwell and Verne, comedy duo, give a good show; and Les Henris, speciality artists, are duly appreciated. Alice Mahnur, serio and dancer, Millie Doris, comedienne, and the Bioscope complete.

IPSWICH.—**Lyceum Theatre.**—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery. — This house reopened on Monday for the autumn season with Signor Castellano's company in Italian grand opera. The initial performance was *Cavalleria Rusticana,* with Signora Defral in the part of Santuzza, Signora Rocco as Lola, Signora Surdicosco as Mamma Lucia; Signor Siroli played Turiddu, and Signor Vail as Alfio. This was followed by *I Pagliacci,* with Signora Defral as Nedda, Signor Barbato as Canio, Signor Vail as Tonio, Signor Antonini as Silvio, and Signor Barterra as Arlechino. The principals were supported by a well-balanced chorus, and accompanied by an excellent band under the conductorship of Signor Wehils. The performance was a good all-round one, and gave much pleasure to an enthusiastic audience. On Tuesday *Carmen* was given, with Signora Govetta Castellano in the title-part; and the remainder of the week is filled with *Il Barbiere de Siviglia, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, Lucia di Lammermoor,* and *Faust.*

Hippodrome—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mlle. Dalmere's novel table circus has secured popularity, and is a marvellous exhibition of the perfection to which animals can be trained. Les Piccoline's Midgets are a highly efficient troupe of acrobats, trick cyclists, wire-walkers, and rifle shooters; the Hartley Wonders give an extraordinary exhibition of agility; Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire singing girl, has a hearty welcome; Les Davenports are very clever conjurers; the Tissots give a smart turn as living marionettes; and Fred Land is a good eccentric comedian.

JARROW.—**Theatre Royal.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edwards Evans. Variety occupies this theatre. Mr. Harry Hayton is an eccentric comedian; the Dancing Paceys appear in some smart specialities; Hilton, magician and sleight-of-hand expert, does some marvellous feats; Tiny Willmott is a talented juvenile performer; and the programme also includes the Melbournes, comedy artists, the A1 Quartette of vocalists and comedy performers, and Alfredo Marschall, who performs wonderful feats of strength.

Palace.—Lessees, The Jarrow Palace Co.; Acting Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—This picture hall has a change of pictures. Zera and Zena, marvellous equilibrists, are well received, and the Raffo Brothers also do well.

Kino.—Proprietor, Mr. Dixon Scott; Manager, Mr. John R. Scott.—Large audiences are drawn by up-to-date pictures Perry Fritz is an effective Irish comedian.

Gem.—Lessees, John Tweddle and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Rabey.—This house still continues to draw very good audiences with pictures. The variety turn is Mr. Jock Barrie, a lively Scotsman.

JERSEY.—**Opera House.**—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwardes.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company commenced a three nights' engagement on Tuesday with *Smith.* Miss Beryl Hamilton was good in the name part, and was excellently supported by Mr. Robert Minster as Tom Freeman. Mr. H. Douglas Greet scores as Algy Peppercorn; Mr. F. G. Thurstan gives an amusing impersonation of Dallas-Baker, K.C.; and Mr. J. Child does well as Fletcher. The part of Mrs. Dallas-Baker was admirably undertaken by Miss Ethel Hodgkins, the Emily Chapman of Miss Pauline Straus was deserving of praise, and Miss Ethel Wellesley appeared as Mrs. Otto Rosenberg. During the rest of the week an excellent variety company occupied the boards, and some fine films were shown by Mr. Albany Ward.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—Mr. J. T. West, who is himself paying a flying visit here this week, has a fine show of electric pictures.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—A fine film is being shown here of the Pluviose Disaster. The new variety turn is Esaline Thorne, the lively spark.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Percy Leopold.—The fresh attraction here is The Whips, under the management of Mr. Frederick Yates, the principal feature of their entertainment being a sketch entitled *The Hunt Supper,* in which is introduced the "Champagne Waltz," composed by Mr. J. Michael Watson, one of the company.

Triangle Park.—The Euterpeans continue to be the chief attraction here.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Mr. C. W. Poole's Myriorama opened here on Monday night under the direction of Mr. John R. R. Poole.

KEIGHLEY. — **The Hippodrome.**—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Haley's Juveniles are favourites here, and this is their third engagement within a period of fifteen months. Mr. Adderley Howard presents a nautical sketch, *Black-Eyed Susan;* Athelda is a fine specimen of female strength, and her weight-lifting is clever; and Florence Creagh and Dick Cruickshank appear in a dramatic duologue *Her Return.*

KING'S LYNN.—**New Royal Theatre.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week an excellent variety show has been presented. The Two Kays were seen to advantage in *Uncle;* Bertini is clever in his musical act; Sid Murray presents some startling card manipulations; Samuel Marks shows much ability as a character impersonator; Maisie Reay is a dainty comedienne; and Rapoli, with his feats of strength and jugglery, completes a very strong programme.

LANCASTER. — **Grand Theatre.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*As Your Hair Grows Whiter* is ably presented by Mr. Herbert Fuller's company. Mr. Fred Emery in the heroic rôle of the Rev. John Alberry is capital, Miss Agnes Collier gives an excellent portrayal of Alice Walters, and Mr. Percy St. Clair makes a manly Jack Walters. Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell and Miss Florence Delmar play Farmer and Mrs. Walters to perfection. The comic element is in the safe hands of Mr. Fuller as Timothy Slough and Miss Lily Fuller as Diana Vanderbout. The staging is all that can be desired. *Trilby* was presented on Wednesday evening with Mr. Fuller as Svengali and Miss Agnes Collier as Trilby.

LEEDS.—**Grand Theatre.**—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Millar.—*What the Butler Saw* is being played here. Pink the butler is played by Mr. Lionel Rignold with his usual success, and the part of Miss Loden is capitally played by Miss Marie Daltra. Mrs. Barrington is ably taken by Miss Loe Gilfillan, whilst Mr. Charles Fawcett makes a capital Jack.

Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*A Thief in the Night* is being presented here. Miss Florence Dalton acts very effectively, and Mr. Leighton Cancellor plays the villain with much spirit. Mr. Alfred Goddard and Miss Beatrice Homer make the most of their parts; and the comic element is shared by Mr. Bert Atherton and Miss Jennie Hallworth.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—George Formby is still very popular; the Twelve Fezzans give a very clever exhibition of acrobatics; the Jackson Family of cyclists do some clever tricks; Sylvia du Barry has a nice song scena, "In Andalusia"; Brull and Helmsley appear in their success, *Fun in a Music Shop;* C. J. Johnson does a good cake-walking act; Jennie Hart is an attractive comedienne; and Otto Tate and Lola Tate, in an eccentric act, and Fred Earle are also included in a capital company.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Karno's *Mumming Birds* is highly appreciated here; Jay Laurier comes in for a good share of popularity; the Brothers Ashley are very smart in their comic boxing act; Coram and his wonderful "Jerry" are highly amusing; La Belle Greta is a very attractive comedienne; Mary Law, an accomplished violinist, is applauded; and capable turns are those of Charles Penrose, George Lawrence, Robb Gilmore, and Keen and Waller.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Belle Davis is a favourite here; Atlas and Vulcana win popularity; Viviana and company are very amusing in a *Toyshop* sketch; the Sisters Grovini are talented acrobats; and the Hendersons, Jimmy Shields, and Victoria Glenn are included in an excellent company.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Booking-Manager, Mr. Johnny Whiteman.—The capable all-round company includes Clara Reid and John Power, A. W. Scott, Mamie Fenton, Harry Knox, Beatrice Bonnie and company, and Barrie and Wood.

LEEK.—**Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.**—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.—This popular place of amusement was reopened for the season on Monday evening with a most attractive programme. George the 1st, the wonderful cycling ape, trained and introduced by Dandy George, creates great amusement by its ludicrous antics and caricature of an old gentleman at dinner; Cyrus Dare, entertainer and humorist, shows much ability in his wonderful imitations of children; and other good turns were provided by Charles Creston, comic singer; Lily Simmons, comedienne, impersonator of Victoria Monks and Marie Lloyd; Will Sullivan, comedian; Dewson, at the piano; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer; and a fine display of pictures complete the show.

LEICESTER.—**Royal Opera House.**—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—A week of classical drama is being given here by Mr. Alexander Marsh's company, which opened on Monday with *Merchant of Venice.* Shylock and Portia were admirably played by Mr. Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie, who were supported in capital style by Mr. Wilson Gunning as Bassanio, Mr. A. E. Walker as Antonio, Miss May Grimshaw as Nerissa, Mr. Ian Fleming as Lancelot Gobo, and Miss Kathleen Clanchy as Jessica. On Tuesday evening *Othello, Romeo and Juliet, Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It,* and *Hamlet* are also billed.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. R. Nightingale's company, in the musical comedy absurdity, *The Hindoo and the Maid,* supplies a welcome change from the ordinary drama. Some entertaining speciality dances are introduced by Les Berlin Belles.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—Topping an excellent bill are Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, in a thoroughly clever and entertaining résumé of magic and mirth; Maidie Scott, an exceptionally smart comedienne, is making a deservedly big hit; H. O. Wills, is a front-rank comedian, who gives a very popular turn; the Avolos score a success with a novel and smart gymnastic act; Rose and Calvert are very amusing in *Captain Kettle and His Charming Mate;* Alf Wood's company are good in a well-played farcical episode; Frank Lynne, comedian, raises much merriment; Alice Kingsley, contralto, is entertaining; and Pat Rafferty is also in the bill. The Bioscope shows the recent motor races at Brighton.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—At the head of the bill is Arthur Croxon, in dialect Yorkshire entertainment in some clever and popular songs, stories, and burlesque impersonations; Canard is a good novelty comedian; Daisy Taylor's songs are well received; the Sisters Hula are entertaining duettists and dancers; Frank Boyce is an excellent actor-vocalist with good songs. Pictures are now playing a prominent part in the programme here.

Grand Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—This beautiful new picture palace has caught on, and the Kinemacolour pictures evoke great admiration.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—Mr. F. R. Griffiths well maintains the reputation of his Leicester house for pictures, this week's programme including some sterling films. A return visit is being paid by George Love, comedian.

Boulevard Electric Theatre.—Managing-Director Mr. J. Noble.—Two changes of pictures are shown here weekly, and the live management are well to the front in securing the latest and most attractive black and white and coloured films. The Magnet Concert Party are also an additional attraction.

LEIGH.—**Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.**—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—A good all-round programme is headed by the Columbia Comedy Trio, whose vocalism evokes rounds of applause; the Three Clarkes in a ball-punching act are clever; Lanhurst submits a pleasing ventriloquial turn; Miss Alice Craven, comedienne, makes a hit with her Lancashire songs; Witty Watty Walton, comedian, also scores; Mitchell and Stott, comedy gymnasts, find much favour; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, are heard to advantage; and the Bros. Curran, comedians, and the Hipposcope pictures complete.

LEITH.—**New Gaiety Theatre.**—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*Way Out West* is here this week. Mr. Junius Booth undertakes the part of Jack Hamlin, which he plays with much effect; Miss Alice West appears to advantage as Helen Masterton; Miss Lilian Deans contributes local colour in the rôle of Paquita; and as Arethusa Byers Miss Daisy Hill emphasises the comic element amusingly. Mr. Millar Anderson perpetrates the villainies allotted to Jim Harkins with all requisite vigour, and his associates in robbery, Monte Pete and Manuel Garcia, are well represented by Mr. C. W. Smith and Mr. Walter Jarvis. Successful character studies are shown in the Abner Byers of Mr. John Sanger, the Sheriff Masterton of Mr. Henry Bannister, the Col. Culpepper Starbottle of Mr. Charles B. Baker, the Yuba Bill of Mr. W. Huron, and the Harry Slynn of Mr. Fred Lodge; and Mr. J. H. Brandon creates diversion by the tricks of Ah Foo, a Chinese laundryman.

LINCOLN.—**Royal.**—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—This week we have a return visit of the ever-popular drama *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* now condensed to a twice nightly version. Mr. Charles Harrington reappears in his old part of Phineas Fletcher and Mr. J. H. Boehm is an excellent Tom. Mr. T. Bowson is an effective Legree, Mr. Eric Williams is a strong George Harris, and much praise must be given to Miss Annie Watson as Topsy and to Miss Norah Bretton as Little Eva. Miss Sylvia Harrington is a pathetic Eliza and Mr. Reginald Kloof extracts much fun out of the rôle of the lawyer. The singing of the coloured chorus is effective.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Gené Morelle's clever burlesque musical turn is greatly appreciated; the Van Dammes have an entertaining comedy acrobatic act; and Tom Gott's Yorkshire comedy turn is amusing. The Four Rosebuds sing and dance delightfully; and Leo and Roland give a good athletic show. Vela, on the wire, the Cedrics, and Palace Perfection Pictures complete.

LIVERPOOL.—**Shakespeare Theatre.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Charley's Aunt* is here this week with Mr. Brandon Thomas' company, all of whom do justice to the evergreen comedy. Mr. Hugh Wakefield brings out all the funny points of the spurious aunt, being well supported by Messrs. Robert Burnett (Wykeham) and Francis Drake (Chesney); Donna Lucia is capitally presented by Miss Audrey Stafford; Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart is well placed as the Colonel; and other rôles are held by Messrs. Henry Hare (Spettigue) and Sydney Compton Brasset), and the Misses Phyllis Back (Amy Spettigue) and Ruth Henton (Kitty). *The Lancashire Sailor* is the curtain-raiser.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company are submitting *Her Secret Lover.* Mr. Stephen Langton plays Gilbert Seymour in a powerful manner, and richly earns the applause he receives; Miss Laura Walker gains the full sympathies of her audience by reason of a carefully presented portrait of Ivy Seymour; Mr. Walter H. Wilson makes a capital Captain Rose; Mr. Alfred Stretton handles the rôle of John Strange with care and discretion; Miss Flora Leslie deserves credit for her Alicia Royale; and other parts are carefully undertaken by Messrs. Frank Wheatley (Murfield), Victor Vernon (Billy Burley), and Miss Lynn Darlington (Jane Wilkes).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Her Path of Sorrow,* from the pen of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, is here for the first time in Liverpool. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott send a capital all-round company, who do every justice to the ingeniously constructed drama. Mr. John Davidson proves a manly Richard Burfield, his efforts gaining for him rounds of applause; Mr. Horatio Sinclair is a sufficiently wicked Guy Lowther; Mr. Frank Etheridge deserves thanks for his earnest work as Lionel Heathcote; a deal of comedy comes from Mr. Wilson Saunders (P.C. Bridge), Mr. Will Hook (Tommy Onions), and Miss Daisy Carlton (Polly Green); Miss Nellie Freeland pleases as Lucille; the rôle of Nellie Rayne is carefully undertaken by Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne; and Miss Florence Meirose-Millet delights everybody with her Pauline Ferrars.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*The Best People,* presented by Mr. Harry P. Towers' company, is affording much satisfaction to good audiences this week. Foremost is Mr. Henry Renouf, who scores exceedingly in the part of Lord Emsworth; Mr. Frederick Meads exhibits high talent as Gerald Bayle; Mr. Claude Haviland proves a really capital Lord Wynlea; good support comes from Messrs. Edward Nimmo (Spofforth) and E. J. Tallope (Jackson); Miss Irene Lavington acts capitally as Lady Emsworth; and Miss Evelyn Summers is an agreeable Mrs. Bayle. The comedy is preceded by *Some Showers,* in which Mr. Edward Nimmo and Miss Sylvia Dawson appear with credit.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Harry Lauder is here this week, and enjoys hearty receptions. He brings his latest songs, such as "Beautiful Sunday" and "Welcome Home to Bonnie Scotland," all of which are heartily enjoyed. The La Scala Opera Company afford much genuine pleasure by reason of their admirable selections, the vocalists including Mrs. Arthur Rousbey, Miss Hilda Vaughan, Mr. Albert Chapman, and Mr. Edward Arthur. Mitchell and Cain are a capital pair of comedians, who raise endless laughter with their "That's going some, ain't it?"; some astonishing conjuring is provided by Hermann Melot; Shirley and Ransome have a smart episode *Jim's Pal,* the male impersonations of Rhoda Paul gain for that able artist much appreciation; and also in the list are Julia Reeve (comedienne) and Alf Chester (comedian).

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The twice-nightly drama here is doing well. This week we are having *A Life for a Life* by Mr. Charles Lester's company. In the rôle of Don Leon Mr. Lester acts with much dramatic strength; Miss Beatrice Anderson does well as Eulalie; Wee Winnie Warden proves exceedingly popular in the part of Venetta, her singing bringing down the house; Mr. Hugh Travers is a powerful Pedro; and worthy support also comes from Mr. Paul Neville (Kit Oswald), Mr. Erno Astor (Tim McCarthy), Miss Marie Ault (Nancy Dorn), and Miss Dorothy Riddell (Kate Evelyn).

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week is Mr. Herbert Darnley's comedy company with *The Brigands of Tarragona,* with Mr. Charles H. Bell as the funny waiter Pepo. The merry piece is being tremendously enjoyed. Wild, Willie, and West are here again with their screamingly comical acrobatic act; Gus Harris, Hebrew character delineator, has a cordial reception for his "Palestine"; Maud Lordy's clever troupe of dog actors and acrobats are a smart show; Ethel Loftus meets with a rousing reception for her song; Lillian French gains great approval for her numbers and mimicry; the Menzies have a laughable duologue *The Suffragettes;* the Sisters Brenton are neat duettists and dancers; and Phyllis Seymour finds general approval for her singing and dancing.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here are this week giving *The Spider and the Fly,* by Sutton Vane and Arthur Shirley. Among the principal artists are Messrs. Harry Tresham (Cyril Girdlestone), Sydney Grant (Welby Girdlestone), R. Seath Innes (Blatchett), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Edith McAllister), Miss Lina Nazeby (Lola Gray), and Miss Florence Cameron (Molly Blake). The Bioscope showed Black and White, a skit on the Johnson-Jeffries' contest.

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Included in the company here this week is Lamberti, whose impersonations of principal composers are remarkable for their finish; Herbert Lloyd pleases immensely with his *King of Diamonds;* Ted E. Box proves as amusing as ever; the Rawsons have a smart all-round entertainment; *The Bottom Dog* is a neat and well-presented sketch, given by Henry Bedford and company; Duncan's Royal Scotch collies are remarkable canine actors; and others who appear include the Musical McGregors, who play on the xylophone, cornet, and concertina; Will Musgrave, comedian; and George Antill, eccentric comedian.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The big attraction here this week is Raymond, who on his previous visit did good business. His clever conjuring and illusions are most bewildering. Leo Grossi, with their Apache and Vampire dances, prove interesting; Morris and Moore are a couple of excellent dancers; Ryde and Beeman make merry as acrobatic eccentrics; as a comedienne and vocalist Luella Cross meets with approval; and the programme also contains the names of Fred Dunstone, comedian, and Little Sunbeam, a clever child vocalist.

LLANDUDNO.—**Grand Theatre.**—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. George Dance's company occupied the boards the first three nights of the week, producing *Our Miss Gibbs* to enormous audiences, the "standing room only" boards being conspicuous long before the rise of the curtain. Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint appeared with credit in an amusing part; Mr. Ernest Darrell as the Earl of St. Ives faithfully portrayed the autocratic father; Mr. John Leopold, jun., was a polished Slithers; Mr. Campbell Brown as Mr. Toplady did all that was required; Mr. Montague Syrett as Lord Eynsford was a persistent wooer; Mr. Reginald Weighill represented the legal Mr. Beavis in good style; and Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs was excellent, his drolleries causing roars of laughter. Miss Lillian Birtles was a pleasing Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss Ellaline Thorne as Madame Jeanne was versatile and natural; Miss Helen Langton made a typical aristocrat of the Duchess of Minster; Miss Nellie Cozens as Mrs. Farquhar acted ably; and Miss Jessie Lonnen in the title-rôle was exceptionally smart in song, dance, and action. Mr. Hayden Coffin is announced for the latter half of the week in *Two Merry Monarchs.*

LONDONDERRY.—**Opera House.**—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager Mr. J. Mitchell.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company, in *A Woman of Two Lives,* is here this week. Miss Beverley played the title-rôle with much ability; Mr. Herbert Pearson enacted Captain West with cleverness; while Mr. James Jarrett and Mr. Jack Armitage as Garda Khan and Lieutenant Tremaine respectively were all that could be desired. Mr. E. Hall Eldon West (servant) and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande (lady's maid) capitally filled humorous rôles.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — **Vint's Electric Hippodrome.**—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Mr. Vint's entertainments are still drawing crowded houses twice nightly, the variety turns this week being provided by Maxford and O'Neill (comedians), the Barrington Trio of vocalists, harpists, and dancers, and Stirling and Cashen, in a military duo.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Welsker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The World in Motion entertainments are also well patronised, the pictures still maintaining their high standard. Wee Vesta Henry gives a clever singing and dancing turn, and Carlos Menard is frequently recalled for his violin-playing.

LOWESTOFT.—**Marina.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*Brewster's Millions* is attracting splendid business this week on its initial visit locally. The company are thoroughly capable, and the dressing and mounting—particularly the well-known yacht scene—is cleverly done. Mr. Percy Hutchison scores a decided success as Monty Brewster, and is deservedly applauded for a decidedly clever and amusing assumption. Mr. Hutchison is supported by a strong cast.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The variety bill this week includes Ada Gatley, in a juggling act; Luigi Salvino, musical prodigy; De Lil, conjuror and illusionist; and Hulbert, a smart ventriloquist. The pictures are both clever and amusing, and form a strong feature of the programme.

LUTON.—**Grand Theatre.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; General-Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—The programme presented here this week includes Geo. Carncross and company in an adaptation of the late Sir Henry Irving's masterpiece, *Sleigh Bells,* the acting of which is admirable; Crawford and Johnson, coloured entertainers, are a success in their dancing and saxophone; Les Supriskis are graceful gymnasts; and Rose Cambry is a favourite with her songs. Gladys Ray is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, in *Romps in a Drawing-Room,* are clever. Claude Gardner sustains his reputation as a comedian, and the Bioscope concludes.

MACCLESFIELD.—**Theatre Royal.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—*Driven From Home* is being presented here by Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Mr. P. G. Beresford is an excellent Walter Hatherleigh, Mr. J. B. Shinton a powerful Geoffrey Waring, and Anthony Raybrook is carefully handled by Mr. Felix Pitt. Mr. F. C. Imbert is well suited to the part of John Anderson; Mr. P. Dawsone as Willie and Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas give clever representations; Miss Ada M. Ryder as Laura Raybrook is sympathetic; and Miss Susie Beran makes a capital Margaret Bailey.

MAIDSTONE.—**Palace.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—At the head of the bill are Ross and Grayson, who are received with much favour; Flora Cromer has a choice selection of popular songs; Clark and Mostel as songsters and dancers score nightly; Wyndham and Kitty are clever on the tight wire, Eugene supplying amusing comedy as an eccentric butler; the Simms also do well in song and dance; and Jennie Wood, comedienne, gets a hearty reception.

MANCHESTER. — **Prince's Theatre, Ltd.;** Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*The Speckled Band* attracted a good house here on Monday. The action was followed throughout with the closest interest, a deep impression being produced by Mr. C. W. Somerset's weird embodiment of the Anglo-Indian surgeon Grimesby Rylott—an exacting to fill. Mr. Julian Royce presented in excellent style all the well-known characteristics of Sherlock Holmes, a cool and effective contrast to the violence of his quarry. The third important figure, that of Enid Stonor, was charmingly and pathetically supplied by Miss Alice Leigh. Mr. Herbert Vyvyan's depiction of Rogers, the old butler, was finely done; Mr. E. H. Paterson was capital as Armitage, the village grocer; and other effective impersonations were given by Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Staunton, Mr. Gerald Rogers as Ali, Mr. Alfred Beaumont as the Coroner, Master James Woodings as Billy the page, and Mr. Bellenden Clark as Dr. Watson.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Poprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The Way Women Love,* played successfully at the Junction Theatre last week, is the attraction here.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—The attraction here is *The Master of the Mill,* an effective and elaborate drama of mill life, adapted from a story of the same name by Henry St. John Cooper. The acting and staging are excellent.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are appearing here in *For Love and the King.* Mr. C. Watson Mill gives an excellent impersonation of Gerald Meredith, the soldier of fortune, and the rôle of Obrenovic, the miser, is strongly rendered by Mr. Alfred Maurice. Miss Rosa Mervyn plays cleverly as Edith Meredith; Miss Kitty Melville adds an effective delineation of Grazia Obrenovic; and Miss Joan Ellis is pleasing as the peasant girl Natila, other parts being in good hands. Mr. Oscar Power as Carl Oppenheim has most of the humour in hand.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Tom Watt's company is playing here in the "Bullock" version of *East Lynne.* Mr. Frank Beresford as Archibald Carlyle and Miss Ida Heron as Lady Isabel powerfully sustain the central interest of the story, and Mr. John J. Hooker is equally well placed as Francis Levison, while good impersonations are added by Miss Eva Morton as Barbara Hare, Mr. Eric Lugg as Richard Hare, and Miss Alice Moseley as Little Willie. Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock gets every ounce of fun out of this conspicuous and noteworthy part. The company is, in fact, an entirely capable one, much appreciated by good houses.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney and company are here, playing *The Unwritten Law,* a notice of which appears in another column. *Margaret Catchpole,* recently produced, is also in the bill.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter; Assistant-Secretary, Mr. J. Hewitt.—Harry Randall, the famous comedian, scores as of yore; Montgomery and Moore, American vaudeville entertainers, make a big hit; the Achmed Ibrahim troupe of Ten Bedouin Arabs go through their marvellous acrobatic tumbling act; Curtis Leo is entertaining in *Fun in a Drawing Room;* the American Dancers (six in number) are exponents *par excellence* of the Terpsichorean art; the Brothers Bradshaw are vastly funny as acrobatic eccentrics; and other good and well-received turns are those of Little Sophie, a clever juvenile; Ida Kessanly's Terriers, in a unique act; and the Forrest Combination of comedy sketch artists. Pictures complete.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Meek.—A popular turn here is Morny Cash, the Lancashire comedian, who tops the bill; Edie Veno, eccentric comedian, is also prominent and amusing; while *The Airship,* a sensational episode of the times, is well presented by a company under the direction of the Pollard Bros. Other entertaining items are provided by the Lovelaces, American song illustrators; Michael Madden, queen of dames; Jock McNeil, Scotch comedian and dancer; and Wyllie, the tramp musician.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Fred Karno's latest, *Jimmy the Fearless,* is the prime attraction here, and proves highly amusing; Severus Schaffer, the juggler and equilibrist, also occupies a prominent place; Sable Fern and company present *Boy Scouts in Camp* with success; Arabella Allen, the "Dickens girl," is popular; the Comedy Meisters are melodious and amusing; and other smart turns are Albert Letine, in female character studies; Conn and Conrad, the comic aviators; and the Camplins, musical comedy duo.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—An excellent programme here includes four turns of outstanding importance, namely, Amy Augarde and company in *The Sicilians;* Mike S. Whallen, the popular comedian and raconteur; Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, in their comic episode *A Man of Spirit;* and Joe Boganny's troupe of lunatic bakers. In addition, we have the capital comedy of J. J. Dallas, in song impersonations; Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers; Hanid Alexander, a charming entertainer at the piano; Lily Flexmore, a really wonderful dancer; and the Miller Bros., acrobatic comedians and burlesque wrestlers.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Nellie Hodson and company (presented by Charles Macdona) are capital in a smartly written comedy sketch, *An Old Maid's Baby.* Excellent, also, are James Willard and company, in a military episode. *The Devil's Box of Bricks;* Mysticus is decidedly smart in his eye-deceiving quick changes; Dr. Metzler, in his marvellous act "Spirit Photographs," is interesting; Zeta Russell, a nice singer and graceful dancer, is well received; Lily Farrar is a dainty singer and dancer; Ben Jackson is clever with his banjo; Molly Maguire, a charming character comedian, takes well; and George Porter, comedian, with songs and patter, completes.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington, ably assisted, score a big success in a thrilling episode, *Olga's Oath.* Cecilia Dare and Conrad Heywood are good in an excerpt from *The Lady of Lyons;* Baby Wolff is a talented juvenile; Johnson and Hart give a smart hoop-rolling and juggling act; A. de Bessell is an excellent clay-modeller; and Eric and Nora are good in a bright and brisk musical act. The Bridegroom's Joke and A Lesson in Domestic Economy are capital films.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Stella Gastelle, the charming musical-comedy actress, ably assisted by Leon Simkin, is well received here in a scena from *La Poupée;* Villiers de Caston's illusions are exceedingly well done, his whole performance being mystifying; Daisy Irvine and company are greatly enjoyed in an amusing sketch, *The Two-o'Clock Edition,* Master Joseph Cox as a printer's boy being particularly good; Ada Fawn, the popular comedienne, scores as usual; Helene and Emilon, Continental gymnasts, go through a highly-finished performance; and other good turns are offered by Johnny Chipperdale, comedian, and Alf Warner, swell comedian and instrumentalist. Pictures complete.

Rusholme Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—An all-round excellent programme is offered here by Arthur Randall's Middies and Maids, including that popular comedian Dick Tubb; Ken Worth,

HEATH.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The pictures are remarkably good. Excellent varieties are provided by George Millard, comedian; the Frohmans, musical entertainers; and Roy and Penton, musical speciality act.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas. — A house crowded in every part gave a hearty reception to the brilliant revival of the charming comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, as presented by the company organised by Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart. The principal characters are undertaken by Mr. Cyril Thompson (Marquis), Mr. E. St. Alban (Gaspard), Mr. Arthur Geary (Greincheux), Mr. F. Dark (Baillie), Mr. Alfred Selby (Gobo), Miss Ethel Negretti (Germaine), and Miss Dolly Castles (Serpolette). All are excellent, whilst scenery and costumes are beautiful, and a special feature of the revival is the large and strong chorus and a really magnificent band under the bâton of Mr. Knight Pearce.

TOWER. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—In the theatre some excellent films are shown which appeal to all tastes. The variety items are supplied by the Lynches, vocalists; Messrs. Jones and Estelle, character entertainers; and Miss Annie Martin, refined singer. The grounds contain many side-shows, and there is plenty of enjoyment for the tripper.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—A very good show is provided here this week, including Mr. Malcolm Scott, Signor Torti, Mr. Charles Coverdale, Mr. D. McDougal, Mlle. Laura de Choska, Miss Dorothy Watson, and the Covent Garden Trio. Mr. Scott is a great favourite, and Mr. Coverdale gains much laughter. All the items are very satisfactory, and the audience is enthusiastic.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham. — Mr. Eugene Stafford's company, in *The Private Secretary*, is paying a welcome visit this week. Mr. Jno. Hussey plays the curate to perfection and keeps the house in roars; Mr. W. Hargreaves scores a big success as the irascible Cattermole; Mr. Arthur Claremont makes the most of his opportunities as Douglas; and Mr. Kendal Chalmers fills the rôle of Gibson with ability. Mr. Marsland is in the capable hands of Mr. William Carriden, and Harry Marsland finds an apt exponent in Mr. Horace George. Miss Elsie Blythe and Miss Mary Mallalieu are charming as Eva and Edith, the two winsome girls; Miss Estelle Despa is successful as Miss Ashford; whilst Miss Cecily Wade is well placed as Mrs. Stead. The comedy is preceded by *The Captain's Wife*.

TYNE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe. — *East Lynne* is the attraction here. Archibald Carlyle has an admirable exponent in Mr. Edmund Tearle, and Mr. Edmund Grogan acquits himself admirably as Sir Francis Levison. Mr. Ernest Lodge is effective as Justice Hare, and Richard Hare is cleverly interpreted by Mr. P. P. Miller. Miss Francis Trevalyon makes a capital study of Willie Carlyle, and Miss Nancy Blackwood as Cornelia Carlyle also supplies an excellent portrayal. Miss Constantia Brooks is a captivating Barbara, and Miss Mary Campbell makes the most of her opportunities as Joyce. Miss Kate Clinton gives a refined and pathetic impersonation of Lady Isabel.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is paying a return visit. Mr. Wilson Coleman in the part of Felix Beverley contributes a notable impersonation, and Mr. Edward B. Louis is an admirable Jack Sterling. Mr. Reginald Brown infuses power into the rôle of Geoffrey Langdon; Messrs. Percy Brown and Albert G. Raymond, as Thomas and Charles, cause much mirth; Mr. W. Annesley is amusing as Arthur Bellairs; the Hon. Mrs. Sands finds an apt exponent in Miss Lidia Drummond; and Miss Minnie Goepel is a charming Sweet Nancy. Miss Kathleen Mayce infuses passion into the rôle of Mary Langdon.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Horace Goldin heads the bill, and is an illusionist of unusual ability; Ernie Mayne, the droll comedian, receives a flattering reception; Tom Costello has a budget of new songs, which he sings in excellent style; Lottie Lennox, comedienne, brings down the house; Lillian proves herself to be a trick cyclist of exceptional ability; Roma and Romani score in their musical mélange. Other turns well received are: May Mars, songstress; Chass Lewis, in a novel ventriloquial novelty; Luis Alvarey, a tenor vocalist of more than usual ability; and the Bioscope.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Pavilion, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—The chief attraction here this week is an original sketch of *Trilby*. The Svengali of Mr. Tom Atkinson could not well be improved upon, and Mrs. Tom Atkinson's Trilby is also capital; as Mme. Vinard Mme. Norman Snowball is excellent. The Four Royal Scots score heavily in their unique musical act; M. Foot-Gers, French comedian, is amusing; Lottie Bellman, comedienne, is responsible for a capital turn, and is ably assisted by Bay Russell; Aggie Nolan is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Four Burnells, comedy artists, keep the audience amused in their clever act, *On the Links*; and Arley's Trio, comedy cyclists, &c., Harold Heath, coon comedian and dancer, Bruce Green, comedian, also contribute acceptable turns. Animated pictures conclude.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, F. W. Balam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder. — Smit and Smit, knockabouts, and the Musical Keiths are appearing here this week, and there is an excellent show of pictures.

BRINKBURN ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. McHary; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Rosa and Johnston, comedians and dancers, are the chief attraction at this new hall. The pictures fill in the remainder of the programme.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Excellent business is being done this week at popular prices, the attraction being *The Silver King*, followed by capital Bioscope pictures.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical Director, Mr. C. Bye.—At the top of the bill here is Tom Foy and company, in *The First of April*; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris present a lively little duologue depicting the adventures of a happy tramp; Les Marco Belli, described as Continental comedy conjurers, contribute excellent entertainment; King's College Boys add to the enjoyment with a musical pot-pourri; the Haytors, in a comedy sketch, *The Electrician*, supply another capital turn; whilst Griff, the spoof juggler, with his delightfully quaint patter, secures a torrent of applause. Other contributors are Maude Francis and Mira Denvil.

TREDEGAR HALL.—Here we have an excellent programme of pictures and variety. The Bros. Rees, in the scena *Soldiers at Play* display excellent skill as manipulators and balancers with shells, guns, and cannon balls; Maurice Marks, in illustrated songs, and Olive Merton also contribute entertaining items.

STOW HILL RINK.—A. M. Austin's company, The Brigands, opened here on Monday night, and are doing capital business. The company consist of Howard Laurence, tenor and humorist; Alfred Jaggard, comedian and monologuist; James Dickson, patter comedian; Jennie Hughes, light comedienne; Albert Mackelvin, Scotch humorist; and Harry Law, pianist and accompanist.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. G. Skempton; Resident-Manager for Andrew's Pictures, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A fine series of films is shown here. Illustrated songs are given by Miss Zanazzi.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The chief pictures here are May and December, a good comic, The Lost Trail, The Marked Time-table, Robinson Crusoe, and London Sights and Customs.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The programme here includes The Common Enemy, Paid in Full, Red Eagle's Love Affair, and The Closed Door all excellent dramatic subjects.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is being presented by Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company here this week. As Sunshine Miss Florrie Green gives a clever impersonation of the character; Mr. Lewis Gilbert appears as Mark Glensdale, and acquits himself admirably; Mr. Ashmore Vincent merits high praise as Ken Moreland; Mr. H. C. Lanceley gives a good interpretation of Captain Ben Morrison; Mr. T. Gordon Blyth ably portrays the part of Dan Glensdale; Mr. W. Hellyer is successful as Joe Banks; and some capital comedy is provided by Mr. Jo. Monkhouse (Billy) and Miss Allyce Wyllyams (Mollie).

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The top line attraction here is the Markies, in their vocal, instrumental, comedy, and quick-change act, *The Professor's Studio*, which has been cordially greeted; Paul Langtry, English, Irish, and Scotch comedian, causes much laughter; Sira Flemine, one-legged acrobat, is clever; the Edmunds, speciality artists, are loudly applauded; and other acceptable items include the Sisters Leo, pleasing comediennes and dancers; Escort, speciality artist; Stanley's Art Pictures; and the Palace Pictures.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Mr. John Levey's company is here this week in *The Scapegrace*. Jack Fanshaw has a manly representative in Mr. A. T. Cresswell, and the part of Margaret Marsden is filled with sympathetic grace by Miss Beatrice Western. Captain Harry Fanshaw is capitally enacted by Mr. W. A. Buckstone; Mr. Harry Ives as the Irishman Larry is very funny; and is ably seconded by Miss Maudie Lambert as Mary. Dick, the outcast, is effectively delineated by Miss Maud Western; Mr. John Levey plays Bill Burke convincingly; and Nellie Burke finds an excellent interpreter in Miss Nellie Lambert. Other characters are ably filled. On Friday night *The Dumb Man from Manchester* was given. The Bioscope pictures are extra this week.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Charles Graham's company is here this week in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Mr. Arthur Poole excellently rendered the part of Capt. Harry Peyton; Mr. Graham Phillips appeared successfully as Major John Colden; Mr. Cecil Clayton as Mr. Valentine deserves mention; Miss Olive Noble acted charmingly as Miss Elizabeth Philipse; whilst Miss Leonora Braham was good as Mistress Sarah Williams.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Councillor F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme this week is headed by James A. and Herbert B. Jewel's spectacular protean production, *Change; or, The Haunted Castle*. Carl and Mary Ohms' animal circus of trained ponies, dogs, and monkeys is an attractive turn; Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is much appreciated; Eric Dalvere and Phil Wallace create laughter; Cavalli is a clever ventriloquist; R. A. Speedwell, the wizard painter, wins applause; the Delafiores are entertaining as vocalists, bâton spinners, and xylophonists; and the pictures are good.

THE NEST, ROSARY-ROAD. — Messrs. Goodman's Premier Pierrots continue their success and are well patronised.

THORPE GARDENS.—The Madcaps are doing well. On Tuesday evening Miss Vic Huntly took her benefit, and had a packed house.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—Perceval Landon's play, *The House Opposite* is being presented here by Mr. Harold V. Neilson, who himself plays the part of Richard Cardyne in a thoroughly convincing manner; Miss Amy Sangster, an actress of great ability and experience, appears as the Hon. Mrs. Rivers; and Mr. W. Lemmon Warde is painstaking in the rôle of Henry Rivers. Mr. J. F. Fox does good work as Sir Edward Harrowby, and a successful character study is the Stuart Fillerby of Mr. Alfred Hilliard. Messrs. Arthur Maturin and Donald Gow are both well suited to their parts; and great praise is attributable to Miss Effie Leigh Hunt as Mrs. Calthorpe.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Walter Melville's drama, *The Girl Who Lost* — is here this week. Mr. Charles Ashwell, in the rôle of Rev. Robert Everton shows that he is a sterling actor, and he is ably assisted by Miss Lorraine Stevens as Molly Vernon; Mr. Charles Sparrow gives a careful study of the disowned son; and Mr. Allan Carruthers is responsible for good work as Dick. Miss Dorothy Thayer looks charming as Rose Seymour; Miss Millie Whyatt does well in a small part; Mr. John Wilson makes up well as a countryman; and Mr. Herbert Morgan puts in a lot of good work as Capt. Caversham. Mr. Digby Hayes as a detective; and Mr. Walter Kellson as James Sutton are deserving of mention.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—George Lashwood is gratified by his usual hearty reception here this week; Stella Stahl dances well; and the singing and dancing of Daisy Martell show no deterioration from former appearances. Jack Lorimer amuses; Will Johnson is a humorist of the boisterous type; and the sketches presented by the Kirbys and the McConnell Trio go excellently. Eily Adair sings Irish ballads in a sympathetic manner; and most amusing and at the same time distinctly clever is the comic juggling pantomime, *An Evening in a Parisian Café*, presented by the Seven Perezoffs.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Frank Elliston and company are delighting large houses nightly with *Long Live the King*, a masque depicting an incident in the reign of Charles II. The celebrated tenor Julius Walther sings some beautiful numbers in excellent style; a farcical playlet, *The Collar Stud*, is admirably presented by the Muir-Bartlett company; and the Ramlos demonstrate their possession both of skill and humour; Kitty Kearns sings and dances in a gratifying manner; Jack Sheridan adds to the general success by his sparkling appearances; the Olmars, in a statuary act, and the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers, are responsible for good turns; and the Sisters Herbert are singers and dancers of merit. The usual Bioscope pictures are shown.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. Wilson Benge and company opened here on Monday on a return visit with *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Benge, in the part of George Tremaine, afterwards known as Nemo, acted with his usual care; Miss Pauline Nanton as Marvis Leverton played charmingly; Miss Mona Gray as Renie de Telle made a capital adventuress; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Dean Clifton was a smart villain; Miss Dora Olga a dainty Edith Trevanion; and Miss Nora Mason as Gwendoline Younger and Mr. Jay Kay as Rudolph Earle caused much laughter; Mr. Benn Carr as Squire Leverton was very good; Mr. C. Digby made an effective Dick Leverton.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Great Awakening* is staged here this week by Miss Olga Andre and company. Miss Andre as Lola Selby acted in a forcible manner; Mr. Harold West as James Selby gave a fine portrayal; Mr. W. Hilbert as Jack Merton played cleverly; Mr. Charles Chandler as Capt. Harry Lambart made a fine soldier; and Mr. Tom Wells was fully equal to the part of Guy Logan. Mr. Ernest Keith as Billy Brass and Miss Dorothy Oswald as Selina Worts caused much amusement. Miss Evie Conway was a sweet and sympathetic Molly Merton, and Mr. Harry Hoyland did well as Richard Wilson.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—An excellent programme is provided this week. The Lost Trail is a picture of dramatic intensity, and A Fair Duellist is another picture well worth seeing.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas. Milton Bode's variety season. A good programme is provided here this week, among the items being Amy Savile, comedienne; Francis O'Flynn, who gives a clever turn with the banjo; Belmoir Sisters, comediennes and dancers; and David Poole, who has an enthusiastic reception for his entertaining ventriloquial sketch. Bessie Butt achieves success as a male impersonator; Fred Lloyd is a favourite with just a "turn"; and Sahib Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir, introduces some marvellous illusions, and all his tricks are neatly accomplished. The Imperial Bioscope concludes.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—A variety programme is presented here this week. The principal turns include the Great Hassan, fun maker and wonder worker; Sisters Thomas, dancers; Rob Grieve, ventriloquist; Oak and Elm, comedians; Lily Hardy, comedienne; and Charles Wilburn, comedian.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Barger; Business-Manager, Mr. Norman Barger.—Mr. James Stephens and his répertoire company still continue to do good business. The programme for the week comprises *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *Lady Audley's Secret*, and *Under the British Flag*.

HAGGAR'S ELECTRIC THEATRE is still going strong at Pembroke Dock.

PENZANCE.—ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—Miss Lily Pritchard's "Queer Quakers" have become very popular here. Their repertory seems inexhaustible, and on Friday evening, the 12th inst., the occasion of Miss Pritchard's benefit, an excellent programme was provided, several new features being introduced. Miss Evelyn Heighton contributed amusing songs at the piano, and was repeatedly recalled. Miss Pritchard and Mr. Edward W. Pritchard were successful in the duet "The Barbarous Barbaress." The new canvas awning has added materially to the comfort of the audiences in wet weather, and a most enjoyable evening can be spent at these grounds.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—This week Miss Marion Wakeford and company occupy the boards here in *Home, Sweet Home*.

PETERBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Signor Aryl presents his scientific and artistic mystery, "Les Metables," and proves a great draw; Bert Bowden, comedian, is popular; Warren and Granville in comedy, *His Brother's Fiancé*, are successful; Royd Robie, child mimic and ventriloquist, wins applause; George Ambler, whistler, is good; Bu Val, the happy Dutchman, gives a clever turn; Connie Isca, chorus vocalist, does well; and Mr. Max Montesole, in *Even Money, the Garter*, is amusing. The Karnascope completes with new pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. William Mollison's company with *The Chorus Lady* provides a capital attraction. As Patricia O'Brien Miss Rita Carlyle gives an excellent portrayal, and well sustained her reputation as a genuine humorist; Mr John Sims-Woolley makes a fine manly Dan Mallory; Mr. Henry Ludlow has a by-no-means inviting part as Dick Crawford, but treats it tactfully; Miss Josephine Woodward is a first-rate Irishwoman as Mrs. O'Brien; Miss Elsie Vron-Neville works hard as the impetuous Nora O'Brien; and Miss Agnese D'Aragun has an effective make-up and style as the bibulous Georgie Adams Coote.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Chirgwins renews old associations; the Tom Davies' Trio perform some wonderful feats of daring, passing and repassing one another on motr-bicycles on a suspended track; Rich and Rich are an entertaining pair of comedians; the Jackley Trio do skilful feats, and the comedian goes far to ensure the popularity of the turn; Hilda De Grey is an accomplished vocalist; Mark Harbury is a hard-working comedian; and Eddie and Ethel are really good entertainers. Jury's Bioscope has an interesting film entitled *His Last Burglary*.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—An excellent bill of fare is presented here this week. Rosie Ring appears in an entertaining production, introducing Mlle. Dorina, Russian dancer—her programme consists of stories, songs, and dances; Collins and Irene are smart exponents of second sight, mental telegraphy, and silent thought transmission; Karl Antonini and Ragna Dehn delight the audience with a dramatic and musical sketch entitled *The Romance of a Violin*; Jack Rae is a clever juggling gymnast; Lizzie Round appears as a male impersonator; and other turns are Sam Griesley, comedian; Violet Gerald, a singer of sensible songs; May Day, comedienne; and the Alexscope.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—This week Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre and company present *Easily Lead*. The parts are all well sustained.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is presented here by Miss Florence Baines and company. As Mary Ellen Thompson Miss Baines is particularly smart and witty, her sayings causing roars of laughter; Mr. D. Donaldson is capital as John Higgins; Mr. Sinclair Holden is at home in the part of Harry Higgins; Bertha is played effectively by Miss Mary Collier; Miss Mollie SShire is seen to especial advantage as Eva Lancashire; Moses Goldberg has a clever exponent in Mr. W. E. Passmore.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—*Sir Walter Raleigh*, presented by Mr. Cyril Maude's company, including the highly-accomplished Miss Winifred Emery and Mr. Lynn Harding, opened its tour here on Monday. The production is staged on a lavish scale, but slight effort being required to imagine oneself in the Elizabethan period. The varying moods of the imperious Queen were depicted with artistic ability by Miss Emery, and the gallant patriot Ralegh has seldom had a better counterfeit than Mr. Harding. The Spanish Ambassador, Mendoza, was realistically presented by Mr. Percy Rhodes; a winsome Bessie Throgmorton was seen in Miss Nell Carter, and Ann Charnock and Jim Longbowe were humorously presented by Miss Laura Holtston and Mr. Powis Pinder; the Innkeeper and Puritan Minister were capably impersonated by Messrs. J. Frederick and W. H. Garbois. The duel between Ralegh and John Savage (W. E. Holloway) was very thrilling, and the secret meetings of the Babbington Conspiracy were conducted with an effective air of realism.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—A good company presents *Her Road to Ruin*. Mr. Charles Dickens is a clever exponent of the curate Frank Temple, and is well aided by Miss Doris Gilham as Jess Willoughby; Mr. Knox Orde makes an impressive villain as Philip Hardy; Miss Margaret McClellan gives a clever impersonation of Mary Dawson; and Mr. Henry Powell provokes laughter as Dicky Gerald.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt. — The Boissets provoke a continuous peal of laughter in their comical pantomime *The Bricklayers*; Mr. Hymack possesses the art of changing his gloves and ties with lightning rapidity; Paul Cavalli performs marvellous feats of strength; capital humour is provided by William Penn as "the jockey"; Webb and Branston are talented operatic duettists; Tom Joy is a quaint comedian; and Trixie de Lal, the little Dutch girl, and Diss and Desmond, duettists, are deserving of praise.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—One of the most laughable farces that has been seen here is *Fred Perkins, M.P.*, with Tom Nelson as the irrepressible M.P., his proceedings in the House convulsing the audience; Señor Blanco and company, in the playlet *Music the Conqueror*, afforded opportunity to the violinist of the party; *A Matrimonial Agency* is the cause of merriment in the hands of Hayman and Franklin; the Four Ascots win loud applause for their wooden-shoe dancing; the acrobatic skill of the Six Ceylons is appreciated; Ruth Davenport's cultured voice is admired; the Three Romas are fine athletes: Harry Bedford, comedian, Flo Cecil, singer and dancer, and an amusing film, Called to the Bar, minister to the pleasure of crowded houses.

KING'S. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. I. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The *pièce de résistance* attracting crowded houses at every performance is Mr. Seymour Hicks's new musical play, *The Model and the Maid*, a report of which will be found on another page. A refined vocal and musical act is provided by Dennis Creedon and Jennie Broughton; the Four Kasraes in their comedy acrobatic scena *Buffet-de-Falls* evoke laughter; clever fun-makers are Karr and Kooney; the Bartholomew Girls are a bright turn; Jessie Templeton sings with expression; the Hassans attract attention with their wire act; the Bros. Laurence dance and sing; and G. W. Foster is an amusing comedian.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—M. Zacharewitch (violin) and Mme. Marie Fromm (piano) delight a cultured audience with their artistic and expressive playing at Sunday's matinée. Mr. E. Norris and company are presenting *John Glayde's Honour* this week.

CLARENCE PIER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. Cuddy.—Mr. Stewart Alexander and his "So-and-so's" (Misses Maud White, Pathé Biddulph, Madge White, Alma, Messrs. Harry Twiningborough, Harry Leslie) are the attractions in the Pavilion.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—*Fanny and the Servant Problem*, as interpreted by Mr. Horace Lingard's company, is here this week. Mr. Lingard plays cleverly as Martin Bennett; Miss Beatrice Moreau is admirably suited as Fanny; Mr. Rayson Cousens is good as Lord Bantock; Mr. Edward Ray gives an excellent character sketch of Dr. Freemantle; Mr. Wilfred Compton is good as George Newte; Miss Hilda Lane and Miss Fanny Lane as Jane and Honoria Bennett respectively are excellent, as is also Mr. W. B. Bevil as Ernest Bennett. Mention must be made of the clever presentation as the twin Maiden Aunts, the Misses Wetherell, by Miss Marie Saville and Miss Denise Dironic; while Miss Mary Wilson gives a spirited portrayal of *Our Empire*. *A Nautical Breeze* is the curtain-raiser, and during the week *Is Marriage a Failure* and *Divorçons* will be staged.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Ch

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Laurence Brough and company top the bill this week with the amusing sketch *No. 9*; the Woodwards give a clever and novel balancing ladder act; Miss Victoria Dagmar gives a clever display on the horizontal bar; Monahan and Sheehan, American instrumentalists and vocalists, give a clever turn; Alice Edwards is a clever male impersonator; Albert Le Fre is a versatile and popular comedian; Milner and Storey in their interludes *Tickets* and *The Breach of Promise* cause hearty laughter. Through the Darkness on the Bio concludes.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles B. Clarkson.—Variety is again in evidence here this week, with a strong bill, topped by that clever comedy, music, and juggling trio, Seeley, West, and Rhodesia. Elsie Jezzard is a clever comedienne and dancer; Harry Cooke is a comedian with funny patter; the Sisters Robertson (Elsie and Gaye) in song and harmony give an acceptable item; Mostol is an instrumentalist of talent; Effie Deans has some capital chorus songs; the Sprees, in a comedy, *A Day at Twickenham Ferry*, cause amusement; Irere Velma's speciality dancing scene is novel and good; Clark and Glenny have a funny sketch in *The Haunted House*; and some excellent films are also shown.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. Geo. T. Gante; Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Harwood's Juveniles, a number of well-trained children, acceptably entertain by singing and dancing; Les Rallis's clever absurdity, with his man monkey, causes much laughter; Wal Owen does some clever fooling; Marlo is a wonderful juggler; Jimmy Hoffman is a comedian who makes many laughs; and Jelda is clever on musical instruments.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—*Married to the Wrong Man*, played by Mr. Frederick Melville's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as Jack Gladwin is excellent; Capt. Deering finds a fitting representative in Mr. George Arthur; Miss Mary Pemberton makes a pathetic heroine; and Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Jasper Skinner submits an admirable impersonation. Mr. Hyland O'Shea and Mr. Pemberton also deserve mention. On Tuesday the Follies gave a flying matinée.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment Manager, Mr. C. Price.—*A Country Girl* was here for the first three evenings of the week. Mr. Coningsby Brierly as Barry scored a big success; Miss Dorothy Craske made a delightful Country Girl; and Mr. St. John Hammond did admirably as the Rajah of Bhong. The other parts were handled with skill. On Thursday a three-nights' engagement of *The Girl on the Boat* company was commenced, with Mr. Chas. McNaughton as the comic deck steward.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The picture shows here are attracting large audiences. The films cover a wide range of subjects. Fields and Lewis, in their admirable comedy act, have been warmly applauded.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's No. 1 London company is here this week with *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Reginald T. Fox gives an excellent rendering of Capt. Max Lubeck; Mr. Albert Guyon plays powerfully as the secret agent, Baron Maurice Breslau; Mr. Frank Sutherland is effective as General Von Nestolde; Mr. Fred Osmond scores as Karl Ludhayr; Miss Hettie Zillwood gives a splendid impersonation of the Grand Duchess Marie; Miss Margaret R. Frame is excellent as Camille Von Nestolde; and the other parts are in capable hands.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry.—A most startling and mysterious exhibition is presented by Mr. P. T. Selbit in Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings; the Flying Hanlons perform clever feats on the horizontal bars; Welda and Wynne do some smart juggling; the Sisters Adair Trio are adept dancers and comediennes; Eddie Comet is a droll patter comedian; Rosie Lloyd is a smart and attractive comedienne; the Crisps introduce their dancing scena, "The Little Deputy," successfully; and an amusing film is shown on the Bioscope.

VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Some capital films are being shown here this week, including some good "snaps" of local street scenes and the Working Men's Regatta.

WEST'S PICTURE PALACE.—Among the scenes exhibited here are The Bellringer's Daughter, A Modern George Washington, Marie's Swan Song, An Indian Girl's Romance, and some good comic films.

THE READING ZOO.—A capital exhibition of wild beasts, &c., is being shown under this designation.

RHYL.—NEW PAVILIONS AND GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. J. Mellard.—An excellent entertainment is given here by the Nomads, a comedy costume party; the various solos and concerted items are well rendered, and never fail to please; Herr Stanislaus Wurm's White Viennese Band draws large audiences to both afternoon and evening concerts. On Thursday evening Mischa Elman, the celebrated young violinist, gave a concert, and was heartily welcomed.

TOWN HALL.—Messrs. Charles Roadnight and Edward Robbin's company were here for the first half of the week with *Havana*. The principal parts were well played by Mr. William Pringle, Miss Josephine Sullivan, Mr. Alfred Lenville, and Miss Ada Davidson. The remaining members of the company are good, and the piece is well mounted and splendidly dressed.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale.—Mona Vivian, the Rhyl favourite, is paying a return visit, and receives a warm welcome; Bert Byrne, another old favourite, is also heartily greeted; Clifford Grey, comedian; Maud Hughes, soprano; Douglas Campbell, comedian and dancer; Jock Hughes, the popular basso; Archie Glen; and Miss Driver at the piano complete an excellent company.

PIER AMPHITHEATRE.—The Brownies, musical comedy entertainers, are the attraction here. The company is a strong one, and includes Misses Maidie Field, Beatrice Willey, and Dorothy Webb, Messrs. Charles Heslop, Alec Clunes, Harvey Brinton, and Vivian Stafford.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, The Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—The programme of pictures here this week is excellent. Amongst the films shown are The Man, The Gas Inspector, A Woman's Strategy, Foolshead at the Ball, Saved from the Tide, &c. The variety portion of the programme is contributed to by Elvyn and Chip, comedians and pedestal dancers.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is a good attraction. The hero, Fergus Lovinsky is well presented by Mr. A. B. Mackay; Mr. H. Daneville makes a typical villain of General Borinski; Roma Pauloff is charmingly portrayed by Miss Lillie Lewis; Miss Ida Mackay as Katerini, Mr. C. W. Black as Bertie Scribbles, and Mr. L. Newman as Peter Popples keep the comedy well to the front. For Thursday and Friday *The Beginning and the End* was announced.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—An excellent programme is headed by Frances Letty, assisted by James Sutton and Little Tommy Shanley, in a beautiful song-scena. The Grandee's Pavilion; Leonie Brewer, the Irish colleen, fairly captures the house; the Romps, Bellew and Stocks, a clever combination of young ladies with good voices and smart manœuvres, get much applause; the Fitzroys are smart society gymnasts; Burnetti gives clever quick-change impersonations of Van Biene, Chirgwin, and Dutch Daly with their favourite instruments. Other appreciated turns are Loyall Leeder, comedian; Three Krakes, in *The Electric-car Conductor*; Reg. Beauchamp, eccentric comedian; Nora Stockelle, comedienne; and Charles Grantley, comic.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, gives a very creditable performance. Mr. Guy Hastings is an excellent Derek Mason. A charming heroine is Audrey Melrose, as presented by Miss Gertrude F. Godart; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis gives a fine character study of the coastguard, John Melrose; Mr. Gerald Jordan cleverly represents the villainous Philip Marchant; Mr. Finn Doyle makes the most of his opportunities as the comic handy-man; Miss Janice Deane, Miss Babs Stuart, and Mr. Douglas Tremayne also do well. The staging is extremely good.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—His New Appointment and The Enchanted Dragoon are a couple of comical pictures among a varied list.

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars Road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Company.—Raymond pictures prove attractive. Mr. Will Oakley's songs lend pleasing variety.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (Pendleton).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiteley.—Excellent films are shown to good houses.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Dollar Princess* is presented here by Mr. George Edwardes's company. Mr. Fred Leslie admirably fills the rôle of Harry Conder; Mr. Alec Worcester acts and sings well as Freddy Fairfax; Miss Kathleen Courtney, in the title-rôle, leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Madeline Seymour and Miss Daisy Elliston excellently fill the rôles of Olga and Daisy respectively; and Mr. George Millner is exceedingly funny as Bulger. The other characters are all ably represented, the chorus is good, and the scenery and dresses are magnificent.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—Mr. Edward Compton and company opened here on Monday in *Davy Garrick*. In the title-rôle Mr. Compton did excellently; Mr. Henry Crocker was very good as Alderman Gresham; Miss Rita Sponti made an attractive Violet; Mr. Frank Royde was very effective as the Hon Tom Tallyhaut; Miss Marie Hassell and Miss Agnes Williams were well suited to the parts of Mrs. Rumbelow and Selina Sowerberry respectively; and the amusing characters of Simkins, Sowerberry, and Rumbelow were in the capable hands of Mr. C. Margreand, Mr. J. W. Austin, and Mr. Charles Stone. The plays for the rest of the week are *The Rivals*, *The Road to Ruin*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The School for Scandal*.

NEW FLORAL HALL.—Proprietors, Scarborough Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Chas. Cardow.—In addition to Cardow's Comedy Company, the attractions for the early part of the week included Miss Florence Bostock, soprano vocalist, and H.M. Band of the Coldstream Guards. Excellent programmes were rendered in first-class style twice each day.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Messrs. W. H. Hallett and Walter Howard's company is here in *Her Love against the World*. Miss Ellen Snow fills the rôle of the Princess, Mr. Roy Fortesque is Prince of Ravensburg, Mr. Fred Emery the Earl of Strathmere, Mr. W. H. Hallett Prince Othmar, and Miss Rosie St. John Lionel.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Miss Hetty King occupies premier position here and enjoys a good reception; Walter Bird's company appears successfully in the sketch *Her Husband*; Leolin gives a good exhibition of novelty juggling; the Jackson Family are clever musicians; and other good turns are provided by the Carlo Maie Trio in comedy wire act, the Westbrooks, dancers, and Martin Henderson, the blind musician.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The variety programme here includes Wallace Selkirk's Juvenile spectacle, *The Boy Scouts*; Nellie Neal, comedienne and dancer; Barney Murphy, comedian; Les Zeloras, acrobats; Charles Hatch, character comedian; the Three Warringtons, Herculean equilibrists; Tom Moore, comedian; and Florence Yaymen, coon vocalist and caricaturist. Other attractions are the Palace Pierrots, who provide capital entertainments three times daily, the Skating Rink, and the Troupe of Swimmers.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is here this week with *Diana of Dobson's*. The title-rôle is vigorously played by Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, and Mrs. Cantelupe is a clever piece of character-acting by Miss Hilda Francks. Mr. Thomas Pauncefort gives a well-studied impersonation of the parvenu Sir Jabez; Captain Bretherton is well played by Mr. Brisco Owen; and the other characters are in capable hands. *Out West* is the curtain-raiser.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Harry Lynn and company in *Dead to the World* are here this week; the Maxims, jugglers and equilibrists, are smart; the performance of Will Avis is mystifying; Glen and Earle, in their vocal and dancing act, are much admired; and other pleasing numbers are contributed by Jennie Lynn, comedienne; Miss Martini, gymnast; and Jess, comedian.

BANDSTAND ENCLOSURE.—Manager, Mr. T. Bingham-Sedgewick.—Rob. S. Williams' Al Fresco Entertainers continue to provide an appreciated entertainment. Mr. Ernest Penfold, the operatic tenor, gives a cultured rendering of selections from familiar operas.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. George Edwardes's company began a return visit on Monday in this delightful and beautifully mounted musical play *The Dollar Princess*. All the popular artists who figured in the cast were heartily welcomed by a crowded audience. Miss Nora Barry in the title-rôle and Mr. Lewis Bradfield again distinguished themselves, and Mr. Leonard Mackay's sympathetic singing as the manly young aristocrat was loudly applauded. The clever young German artist, Miss Emmy Wehlen, was a great success in the part of Olga, and Miss Mabel Russell, Mr. W. H. Rawlins, and the other performers acted with the requisite vivacity. There was the usual well-dressed and intelligent chorus, and Mr. Ernest Irving was an admirable conductor.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The new sporting and sensational drama *A Criminal's Bride*, written by Edward Marris, is being played to appreciative audiences.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*Secrets of the Harem*, originally produced at the City Theatre, Sheffield, on Dec. 26, 1896, is again interesting good houses. The company includes Miss A. Churchill, Mr. John Ricter, and Mr. Dan. F. Roe.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Very interesting demonstrations have been given of the wireless controlled airship by the inventor, Mr. Raymond Phillips. The variety company includes the following clever performers: Mr. Dan Crawley, a laughter-provoking comedian; Jack and Evelyn, a diverting couple in a lively skit; the Little Japs and Ando, equilibrists, &c; Phil Rees' Stable Lads; Miss Sybil St. Elmo, a good vocalist; Orpheus, instrumentalist; Miss Amy Marsden, comedienne; and the old and ever-welcome local favourite, Mr. F. V. St. Clair, author and vocalist, with new and catchy songs.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A programme of artistic merit was submitted here on Monday. Miss Elsie Southgate's finely-rendered solos on the violin were deservedly applauded; Miss Marie Santoi and her company, in the pretty and refined musical trifle *A Night in Japan*, were again received with applause, and the other performers were Mr. J. W. Gallagher, eccentric comedian; Robins and Collier, comedians; Max Sterling, the Hahn Orchestra, with "The Hungarian Rhapsodie"; Barrs and Bentley, two smart artists; Southgate and Collins, clever musical artists; Mr. Frank Hartley, juggling expert; the Three Dixon Girls, vocalists, dancers, and banjoists; Mr. Harry Levaine, a droll comic singer; Mr. Harry Lamore, burlesque juggler, &c.; and Mr. Max Sterling, a clever illusionist; and the Bioscope with artistic films.

THE PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Arnold Shaw.—A splendid bioscopic action play, founded on Shakespeare's *King Lear*, is the *pièce de résistance* this week. A pathetic film drama is The Factory Girl. The programme is all that is artistic and up-to-date in the moving-picture world.

The Grand, the Imperial, the Hillsborough Palace, the Central, and the Surrey still rely on animated pictures, and the results appear satisfactory to managers nad patrons.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baugh.—The entertaining and clever Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean Alpine singers and dancers in national costume, occupy the boards here this week, giving a varied and pleasing show. Mr. Arthur Milton is a capital vocal comedian, reciter, and raconteur; Miss Gracie Bard is a tuneful and bright comedienne; Bert Anderson is a skilful conjurer; the Whitworth Trio of trick cyclists perform some truly marvellous feats with precision, skill, and daring; Friscury's top-hat manipulation was very smart; Tom Garland, an accomplished mimic and voice-thrower, appeared with success; Geo. Shirley, a lively and amusing comedian and light-footed dancer, was applauded; and Mr. Milton Roy's finale, *The Puzzled Coroner*, with Mr. E. Millins acting with conspicuous success as Dionysius Dogberry, the coroner, successfully closed a capital bill.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Nick Carter*, a detective drama of considerable merit, was well received here. Mr. Forbes Knowles displays real ability in the rôle of the energetic detective; Mr. Raymond Thomas makes a heartless Captain Nero; Dave Crowley is capably portrayed by Mr. William Burgess; and Mr. Reg. Turner is good as Bill Colson. The humorous element is kept well to the front by Mr. Harry C. Momber as Horatio Timmins, Mr. Will Ellythorne as George Slade, Miss Nellie Fern as Matilda Timmins, and Miss Nancy Lawrence as Bessie Timmins. Miss Helena Walbran's interpretation of Madeline Carter reaches a high standard of merit; and Miss Nellie Shirley as Stephanie, a decoy, admirably sustains her part. Others who performed creditably were Mr. Joe Rockley, Mr. Richard Nugent, Mr. J. Turnbull, Miss Nellie Waddington, and little Hilda Vokes. The staging is appropriate.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—*The Fighting Chance*, a stirring drama, teeming with tensely dramatic situations, is proving a great attraction. Mr. Austin Milroy gives a fine exposition of Stephen Blanchard, and Mr. Sydney Vautier (Jim Blanchard), Miss Marie Duncan (Ethel Hardy), and Mr. Arthur Elwyn (Captain Rivers) are praiseworthy. The scenery and effects are admirable.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Yardley.—Kate Carney, with *All the Fun of the Fair*, is the top-line attraction, and the fun waxes fast and furious during the presentation of the sketch. Jack Smiles is as popular as ever, and Tom Stuart scores with his life-like imitations of celebrities. Talberto and Douglas, Edith Haley, the Sistora Towers, and the Soho Trio all successfully appear.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—The Gems are shining brightly, and their entertainment is unanimously voted one of the best of the season. The artists comprise Miss Nessie Walker, soprano; Miss Olive Mortimer, contralto; Mr. Ernest Attwell, baritone; Mr. David W. Norton, solo pianist; Mr. Wallace Kennedy, tenor and director of the company; and Mr. Victor Kahn, a versatile comedian and siffleur.

THE PHILHARMONIC HALL AND EMPIRE THEATRE.—Both these picture palaces are attracting good houses, the films, serious and comic, being exceedingly clear.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—*The Arcadians*, presented here by arrangement with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, for this week, forms a popular attraction. The company is a powerful one, and the performance is applauded. Mr. Charles A. Stephenson is a capable exponent of Simplicitas, whose mannerisms throughout win great favour. Mr. Alfred Beers impersonates the jockey Peter with cleverness and drollery; Mr. Arthur Macdonald as Jael Meadows is well suited, his acting and singing are appreciated; Miss Sybil Taverede is delightful as Sunbra, and her fine voice is heard to advantage; Miss Mollie McIntyre sings well, and makes a pleasing Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Gertrude Aylward as Mrs. Smith is both humorous and popular; Messrs. Cyril Love as Bobby and Wallace G. Court as Sir George Paddock alike give creditable portrayals; and Miss Violet Roberts impersonates Crysea with success.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burg.—The programme here this week includes the name of Billy Tucker, a clever ball puncher; Miss Irene May, a vocalist of high order; Hampton and Bauman; Darktown Entertainers; Herbert Sleath's company, in a pretty little play, *Her Ladyship's Guest*; the Six Cowboy Girls, fine dancers; the Harmony Four, clever vocalists; Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian; and Elise Wulf and Waldoff, acrobats of no mean order.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—A particularly pleasing and novel turn here is that given by Elroy, the armless wonder, who sketches, paints, renders a cornet solo, shoots, extinguishes a candle, and takes refreshments in an easy manner. Mr. D. W. Watson is a talented player of cornet and posthorn, and gains hearty appreciation. Tamamoto, a smart Japanese rope performer, is applauded, as is also the aerial trapeze act by Madeline Roselle; Lloyd and Barwick, comedy artists; The Woellhafs, in an up-to-date vaudeville act; Miss Fay Liberty, comedienne; and Mr. Charles Bates, vocalist and comedian, offer their respective turns with success. Dancing and Astley and Lorenzo's Circus are other indoor attractions which obtain good patronage.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Another good series of pictures is this week shown by the London Cinematograph Company, and supply a delightful entertainment. *Dandy Dick* and his exceptionally well-trained dogs give a pleasing and enjoyable performance, and the songs by Miss Doris Perry are popular. On Friday, the evening of the 12th inst., the well-known lessee presented a lengthy programme on the occasion of his annual benefit, which was contributed to by Mr. Finlay Dunn's "Dandies," the smart entertainers (by permission of Mr. Ballard Brown); Mr. Howard V. Cropton, Miss Olive Smith, Miss Jessie Hope, Miss Doris Perry, and Dandy Dick's clever performing dogs.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is on a return visit here in *A Royal Divorce*, capitally enacted and staged. Miss Edith Cole is an admirable and distinctly successful Josephine; Mr. Keith Fraser depicted the characteristics of Napoleon with realistic effect which left nothing to be desired; Miss Dorothy Garth is a charming and vivacious representative of Stephanie de Beauharnais; the rôle of Marie Louise had a commendable exponent in Miss Winnie Tempest; the wily Talleyrand was extremely well played by Mr. J. H. Roberts; Mr. Charles Hartopp makes an excellent Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. Ernest Plumpton lent good assistance as General Augereau; the little King of Rome was very ably sustained by Miss Dorothy Hudson; Mr. George Hudson is a humorous and clever impersonator of Grimaud; Mr. Alfred Grenville represented Marshal Murat acceptably; Mother Lomas was well played by Miss Helen Meadows; and the remaining characters were ably depicted.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*The Stepmother* is being played by Miss Nannie Goldman's No. 1 company to good houses. Bob Bristow is well accounted for by Mr. William Holles; Miss Lucy Roberts is good as Amy Bristow. Villainy is capably represented by Mr. Henry C. Ward as Abraham Wiggins and Miss Patricia Bostock as Anna Vickers, a part which is forcefully delineated; Miss Nannie Goldman as Danny enlists the sympathies of the audience by her fine portrayal; Mr. H. P. Owen contributes some clever characterisation as Luke Trizell, a tramp. The comedy parts are well played by Mr. Teddy Miles as Timothy Yapp and Miss Edith Bruce as Johanna. Miss Elsie Walton Hemming is good as Clara. Minor parts are ably depicted, and the play is well staged.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief attraction here is Auguste Van Biene and company, in a sketch entitled *Karl's Luck*, during which Mr. Van Biene introduces some good 'cello solos, and has a warm reception. A couple of clever jokers are the Two Arnatos. Some good acrobatic comedy is contributed by Burley and Burley; Bert Weston, comedian, is very funny. Other good items are Will Poluski, jun., in song and dance; Hilda Jacobson, musical comedienne; Little Keeno, boy comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—Craig, Rose, and Craig, dental athletes, contribute a sensational gymnastic act, which is much appreciated. A good reception was also awarded the Miles Trio in their eccentric juggling act, their Indian club juggling being especially good. The remaining part of the entertainment is composed of animated pictures of pathos, comedy, travel, and drama.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Bulmer and company present *The Girl Who Went Astray* to large houses. Mr. Richard Ferris makes a capital Captain Frank Julian, and Mr. Austin Mortimer admirably sustains the character of Rupert Murdock. Mr. Evan Poland as Adolphus Boomer is very entertaining, and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd makes a capital James Yellowsocks. Miss Doris Brookes, a skilled actress, gives a fascinating rendering of Madge Harvey and Zara L'Estrange; and Miss Ada Oakley supplies a careful study of Violet Harvey. Miss Mary Dalby as Molly Smart is popular; and the secondary parts are in able hands.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Gowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Fenny.—Good pictures are on view here. The variety turn of Verto and Venita, in a musical mélange, is appreciated.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. Geo. Battle.—Heading a strong programme here is Little Dixie, a juvenile impersonator, who scores; in a musical speciality Sharon is very good; George Battle supplies some fine songs; and among the pictures is the Durham Miners' Gala, taken last Saturday.

STAFFORD.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—A capital programme is this week presented by Sydney James's Royal Strolling Players. Steve Buckingham and Victor Walland work hard and meet with great applause; Gilbert Fernis is an amusing comedian; Maidie Harrison captivates with her dancing; Clara Pierso is a fine contralto; and Lena Lawton is an appreciated comedienne.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*The King and the Unknown Woman* is being presented here this week by Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's company. Prince Loris is admirably undertaken by Mr. James Stillwell; Violet Carlyle plays powerfully as Zora; the Prince Monski of Mr. Walter T. Clifford is a careful study; and Mr. W. R. Winning is an excellent General Platz. Miss Adeline Raby does well as Countess Melvitch, and Miss Ella Sennett is quite a captivating Else. Mr. Willie Hicks (Corporal Stack) and Miss Anena Walton (Schnapps) extract much fun from their impersonations, and Mr. Cyril Harrison is admirable as Captain Gara. Little Prudence Auston is capital as Cascar.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Sandy McNab and company receive a capital reception on their return visit, and *The Egyptian Mummy* is funnier than ever; Fred Elton is applauded for his songs at the piano; Dot Hardy makes a hit with her funny songs; and Elton and Elma's work on the bars is both amusing and clever. Moon and Morris entertain with patter and dance, and Will Rhodes, comedian, gives a good turn. Coverdale and Huxley's Bijou Juveniles give a pleasing scena, which is appreciated.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A capital attraction for the Wakes holidays is *What a Man Made Her*, which has thoroughly interested large audiences. Mr. Frederick W. Freeman makes a dignified Dr. Mark Haven; Mr. W. J. Butley acts effectively in the rôle of the villainous Rupert Wogan Danescombe; very humorous is Mr. Max Copland as Lewis Gunnerstein; and Mr. Charles K. Francis gives a creditable portrayal of Sir Ernest Cavendish. Miss Renée Glendower acts charmingly as Janet McAllister; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst is delightful as Deborah; and Miss Beatrice Shirley acts with skill and ability as Lady Thora Danescombe.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Crowded audiences have patronised the excellent entertainment here. Venturini has mystified everyone with his clever illusions; the Three Hodginis contribute a smart aerial gymnastic performance; Harry Friskey is an amusing comedy juggler; Sid Bedford and Co. in a farcical comedy, *The Second Mrs. Chester*, provoke abundant laughter; Millie Howell is a pleasing character vocalist; Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, musicians, vocalists, and dancers, are highly entertaining; and Curwen and Belle, burlesque artists, and Drury and Lane, speciality dancers, are very successful.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Sidney Cooper present their best company in the highly-amusing play *Tantalising Tommy*. Miss Nellie Lonnen, in the title-rôle, is a pleasing success; Mr. Hastings Lynn makes a capital James Cottenham. Other artists of repute who appear in the cast are Mr. Ambrose Flower, Mr. Roy Byford, and Miss Eva Brickwell. The performance is preceded each evening by Miss Eileen Terence, in songs and stories.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Harry Weldon is capital in his character songs, "Stiffy the goalkeeper," and "Dick Turpin," and delights large audiences. Another excellent turn is provided by Francini, Olloms, and Page, jugglers, acrobats, and comedy tumblers; Mr. Richard Flanagan and company play a sketch, entitled *Compensation*; Daisy and Dot are clever duettists and dancers; Mr. Charles Wakeman's Five Singing Gipsies are excellent; Miss Maud Desmond is a dainty comedienne; and Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland give a musical absurdity.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Harry Nelson, the popular Tyneside comedian, is warmly received here; Will Douglas' Troupe of Five Jolly Bakers make a hit; Dolly Golden is a dainty speciality dancer; Walker's Geldarts give a novel act in a joiners' shop; Vesta Dawson is a clever male impersonator; Mlle. de Rose is a good baritone vocalist and pianist; and Patsy Haley and Ped Cowley are champion boxers.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company present *Night and Morning*. The parts of hero and heroine are capitally filled by Mr. Carlton and Miss Rubie Maude, and an outstanding feature of the production is the fine acting of Miss Marion Holly in the low comedy part of Selina, the drudge. The old showman is played in a bright and breezy manner by Mr. W. H. Vernon.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE, AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Will Owen receives nightly recalls for his smart song and patter; Baby Parkinson is a transformation dancer of ability; Jacks and Chaol, comedy acrobats, convulse the audiences; Miss Lillian Lowe possesses a sweet voice and has some good songs; the Two Walonells give a clever show on the triple bars; and the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here this week in *A Girl's Temptation*. Miss Lalla Stanhope does excellent work as Kate Stirling, as also does Miss Blanche Lee as Annie Brown; Mr. Frank V. Fenn gives a good account of himself as Guy Warren, and Mr. Fred J. Mace is capital as Jim Judd; Messrs. Chas. Herbert (Basil Warren), Gerald Nolan (Geoffrey Stirling), and Tom Handley (Hon. Chas. Clam) all do good work; Mr. Clifton Earle as Mark Klaw proves himself a capable exponent of villainy; and Miss Winnie Donovan is equally good as Lady Heathfield. The comedy is in the capable hands of Miss Amy Corallie and Mr. Albert E. Mann.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lauder.—This week the Danbys are here with a funny knockabout act and some capital songs; Little Ella is popular with her impersonations of music hall artists. The pictures are excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—A capital programme is given here this week. The Havana Troupe of grotesque acrobats are clever; Irene and Morton give a capital speciality dancing act; and the Three Delaries do some sensational work in their scena, *The Demon's Grotto*. The pictures are excellent.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Five Mowatts are astounding audiences here this week with their lightning juggling turn; The Zigurner quartette contribute a refined musical item, comprising good vocal work, also 'cello, violin, and piano; the De Wynne Bros. do some admirable acrobatic work; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians, and Fred Poplar contribute popular turns; Kitty Wager is a pleasing comedienne; the Three Sisters Killiner are nimble acrobatic dancers; and Peggy Pryde, the favourite comedienne, is always sure of a hearty welcome.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Frederick Melville's drama, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, is attracting large houses this week. Mr. R. Marius St. John admirably plays Lieut. Richard Marsh; Mr. Sydney Lynn is successful as Harry Gordon; Lord Erskine is ably depicted by Mr. Percy Baverstock; Mr. Geo. H. Asquin causes much amusement as Sammy Snozzle; Mr. Barnet Lando impersonates Barney Gordon to perfection; Mr. Walter Walmsley makes a satisfactory Jerry Holmes; Gladys Erskine finds a charming exponent in Miss Alice Esther Belmore; Miss Gladys Newcombe is seen to advantage as Mrs. Moore; Miss Edith Evans is effective as Honour Moore; Sally Smithers is well taken by Miss Nellie James; and Miss Florrie Kelsey gives a finished portrayal of the title-rôle Bess Moore.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—An interesting collection of pictures is exhibited here. The films After Many Years and The President's Special are of exceptional dramatic power, and others worthy of mention are The Boss of Bar X Ranch, His Little Son, The Watchman's Daughter, Never Again, and Brother, Sister, and Cowpuncher. Madame Florrie Conolly is warmly applauded for her illustrated songs.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard D

round excellent bill this week, being closely run in popular favour by Herbert Shelley, whose polished style and refreshing songs and humour delights everyone; Merrie Maie Dillon is an alto-gether charming turn; Harry Vardon gives an original and talented ventriloquial performance; and Joe Belmont's unique Bird Act is capital. Mabel Woods displays the remarkable range of her voice in two good songs; the Sisters Saxony work hard and thoroughly well, their display being of the brightest; Hammon and Wyatt ("the Australian Sandow girls") sing well, act intelligently, and provide another good number in this bright programme.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is presenting *The Shadow of the Cross*. Miss Irene Munroe is a charming and captivating Erminilda; Mr. Beaudyn as Edgar Blest presents a striking study; and Miss Muriel Inglis as Merebode, Miss Phylis Rae as Calade, and Miss Cora Patey as Edelgitha are also admirable.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ted Leamar.—Messrs. Harry Aynsleigh and Percy Thaw's company is this week presenting a thrilling drama, entitled *The King of Diamonds*. Miss Camille Treherne has a striking part as Olive Vandell, to which she does full justice; and Mr. Aynsleigh as Sir Philip Garth provides a fine study.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—*Mother* is presented here by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Miss Sheila Walsh, the authoress of the play, does justice to the rôle of Nellie Fairweather, a character which calls for the exercise of much dramatic intensity; Mr. J. O. Stewart proves himself a thorough artist in the rôle of Duncan Fairweather; and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland strikingly portrays the character of Frank Rodney; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond makes a great hit as Tommy Noblets, and Miss Phillis Vaughan is charmingly vivacious as Polly Crumpet. Too much can scarcely be said in praise of Miss Emile Entwistle as Little May; Miss Amy Wood makes the most of the part of Martha. Scenic effects are especially good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—W. C. Fields is a clever comedy juggler; Mabel Mavis, in her manipulation of the glassophone, delights all; Russell Wollett retains his popularity as "the lady in black"; a clever and amusing musical mélange is introduced by Wilson and Waring; the dolefulness of the inimitable Walter King is the cause of much hilarity; poses representing many nationalities are artistically done by Mlle. Eldee; Sadie Simpson, comedienne and dancer, is graceful and neat.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company is here once again in a round of plays they have made so popular in this town. On Monday *The Marriage of Kitty* was staged. Mr. Norman V. Norman's Sir Reginald Belsize is a highly finished piece of acting; Miss Beatrice Wilson, handsome as ever, is delightful as Kitty; Mr. F. Lock-Whittaker is artistic as John Travers; and Mr. Norman Leslie is very successful as Norbury. Miss Agnes Thornton is entitled to much praise as Mme. de Semiano, and Miss Betty Stannard (Rosalie) and Mr. W. R. F. Dillon Hampton are both entitled to eulogy.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Rich. Taylor, the whistling ventriloquist, is making a big hit this week; O'Malley and Brown evoke much laughter with their sketch *You're Still a Friend of Mine;* the Five Musical Tritons are clever artists; Henriette and Selina give a very fine show; Hearne and Palmer excel as acrobats; Howard and Wallace appear in a duologue, *Taming a Wife;* and Miss Dulcie King-Lloyd, comedienne, is well received. Herr Victor Vorzanger's Blue Viennese Band commenced a three weeks' engagement on Sunday

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Linden.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive and company are here with *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. Wybert Clive in the rôle of Sir Henry Thorne is entirely satisfactory; Mr. Jack McCaig as Harry Thorne and Mr. Bert Oates as Richard Martin are very good; Mr. Edward W. Cudd renders efficient aid as Abraham Wasper; Mr. Tom Roydan as Stephen Barry is clever; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd is an excellent Grace Redburn; as Nancy Bray Miss Freda Beckett is attractive; and Miss Elsie Shelton is well placed as Ruth.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—Mr. J. H. Milburn heads the bill here, and is received with enthusiasm; Maud Lorette, mimic and impersonator, goes well; Stelfano is mystifying in her magic; and some excellent pictures are shown.

WEYMOUTH.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—*Havana*, performed by Mr. Alexander Leghton's principal company, met with a hearty welcome here. Mr. Reg. Edwards was very successful as Reginald Brown, and Mr. John R. Vat as Nix convulsed the house. Mr. Savill White was capital as Jackson Villiers, and Miss Hebe Bliss was charming as Consuelo, her singing being much admired. Miss Winnie Brown was rapturously encored as Amita, her dancing being especially good. Mr. J. Bryan Ridout as the Hon. Frank Charteris, Mr. Cyril K. Percival as Don Adolpho, Mr. Lawrence Lisle as Diego, and Miss Edith Barwell as Isabelita were all admirable.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—*The Little Damozel* was staged before crowded houses on Monday and two following nights. On Thursday Mr. Edward Terry, who is an old favourite here, made his appearance in *Liberty Hall*, the various parts of which were sustained by an efficient company. Mr. Terry holds the record for the largest attendance at this theatre, and on the occasion of his last visit many persons were unable to gain admission.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. L. Booker is a powerful Hildred; the brothers Michael and Olaf have excellent representatives in Mr. Victor Rae and Mr. Henry Hallatt; Mr. Herbert Burton makes a manly Captain Hector; and Mr. Stafford Dickens is droll as Carl. Mr. W. S. Hardy makes the most of his opportunities as Colonel Wellenberg; Mr. Frank Brunnell is good as the dumb servant; Miss Violette May is a pleasing Camiola; and Miss Mona Hall is natural in the girlish character of Viola. Miss Viola Holland as the Princess submits an interesting performance; and the scenery and general mounting are much appreciated.

WHITLEY BAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—The Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penleve.—With the summer season in full swing, excellent business is the rule of this popular resort. In the commodious Theatre Royal an exhilarating programme is submitted by the Schafer Four, with a good musical répertoire. Thompson Wood's Tiny Slavs pay a welcome return visit; Ethel Bourne is a pleasing contralto vocalist; the Gilberts are expert wire performers; Carr and Rose are a couple of amusing comedians; Florence Leonard is an acceptable ballad singer; and Maisie Dene excels as an exponent of terpsichorean art. In addition, the members of the stock company are still in favour, and there is an excellent show of animated pictures. The various side shows and attractions are all being well patronised.

COLISEUM. — General-Manager, Mr. William Smolt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—The principal pictures on view are the interesting series On the Border States, and welcome interludes are supplied in the way of variety by Little Eileen, a dainty juvenile comedienne, and Tiny Ashton, the boy vocalist and impersonator.

PAVILION ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessee and Manger, Mr. R. L. Grice.—In addition to some up-to-date films, there are shown some dramatic stories of Indian life and Longfellow's realistic poem "Hiawatha." The variety element is supplied by Nosilla, billed as England's paper-tearer, and Master Vivian, the silver-toned boy tenor.

EMPIRE.—Resident Manager, Mr. T. J. Greyson.—Living pictures form the chief attraction here, but pleasant diversion is provided by Royal Tago, a clever Japanese entertainer, and J. P. Carroll, tambourinist.

TORREADOR'S ENCLOSURE, PROMENADE. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles Elderton.—This popular enclosure continues to draw crowds of visitors, and the members of the manager's company are always sure of warm marks of approval.

LINK'S BAND, PAVILION.—Manager and Lessee, Mr. William Catlin.—Catlin's Pierrots are too well known to need comment at great length, as many favourites of the "halls" have graduated or "dwelt" for a summer's season at this favourite "open" resort. In fine weather great crowds throng the "chair" enclosure and on the rising ground facing the stand.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—*Through the Divorce Court* is being presented here by Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company. Lady Penarth is powerfully delineated by Miss Hettie Chattell; Miss Marcella Hudson scores well as Dinah; Miss Constance Dagmar makes a charming Sybil; Mr. Jack Denton is conspicuous as the Hon. Algy; while the part of Lord Robert Penarth is in the capable hands of Mr. Riddell Robinson.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Dickie Clare presents his musical absurdity, *Lucky 'Liza*, here this week. Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim, the judge, and the French waiter, gives a capital exposition; Mr. Leonard Maitland as Paul Pettitoe causes endless laughter; Miss Madge Brownie finds favour with the whole house as Eliza Bird; Miss Rosie Coyne as Vergina Blotherwick and Miss Evelyn Wood as Sodie Potts receive much applause for their singing; the Jesmond Trio also dance themselves into favour.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mlle. Venetta holds premier position in the bill, and appears not only in a protean act but also as a conjurer, classical dancer and poseuse; the popularity of Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls is as pronounced as ever; the woes of Leonard Teel cause immense amusement; the daring act of the Almas, equilibrists and tumblers, elicits much applause; Maisie Dene is a charming comedienne and dancer; Dolly and Rosie, duettists and dancers, are particularly good; and Bonetti Corri provides an entertaining comedy juggling act.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hickman; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. S. De Vine.—A strong dramatic picture, The Abyss, is the chief item in the programme; Pathé Frères' Gazette is as up-to-date as ever; I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside is the singing picture; and The Cat

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The pictures here are entertaining. A Child's Message From Heaven is a pretty subject, and A Tramp's Story and An Elopement are splendid dramatic pictures. Petro and Leon and the Le Bruns give a good variety turn.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The first visit to this city of *Lights Out*, presented by Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's company, had been anticipated with much pleasure by local playgoers, and, notwithstanding the sultry weather, a large house welcomed the play on Monday night. Miss Pauline Emerie as Klara Volkhardt displays much ability and charm in an exacting rôle; Mr. Frank Cariello as Lieutenant von Lauffen is deserving of high commendation; Mr. Robt. Noble impersonates Sergeant Volkhardt with much skill and power; as Corporal Quiess Mr. Arthur T. Barugh quite captures the approbation of the house; Mr. Herbert Lugg acts with dignity as Lieutenant von Howan; Mr. G. W. Barnes is amusing as Private Michael; and as Major Paschke Mr. Francis J. Bithell acts powerfully. The curtain-raiser is *Good for Nothing*, in which Miss Jessie Jay is seen to great advantage.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The clever Norman and Leonard Trio are making a big hit; the wonderful tumbling of Archie Royer is applauded; the Brothers De Hais are club jugglers of more than ordinary merit; and Tom Lloyd sings himself into immediate favour; Ambrose Thorne is also a popular item; and the Sisters Terry return again to the scene of their many successes; the coloured blind comedian, C. W. Walker, assisted by Miss Ida May, presents a popular turn; and the sketch, *Who Did It?* played by Milo T. Ellwanger is remarkably neat.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The following films are shown this week: The Vicinity of Laos States, The Range Riders, and A Helping Hand, whilst the Animatophone is a distinct acquisition.

VICTORIA HALL.—Lessee and Director Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—The speciality introduced by Davis and Welsh has

ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD, PICNIC

The annual picnic of the numerous staff, numbering nearly sixty, of the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, took place on Saturday last, when Chester was visited. At the Hop Pole Hotel an early dinner was served. After dinner the party made their way to the Groves, where electric launches were in waiting to convey them for fourteen miles up the river to a spot where a programme of sports, with handsome prizes, presented by generous friends, was carried out. There were threading-the-needle race and flat race for the ladies, a tug-of-war, flat race, a boot-scramble race, and a cigarette race for the gentlemen, as well as mixed events, all being under the able direction of Mr. Herbert M. King, the acting-manager of the Royal, in association with Mr. Reginald Grant, formerly acting-manager of the Royal, and now acting in that capacity at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. Mr. A. W. Kelly officiated as referee. Upon the completion of the programme the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Miss Isabelle Morris, the hon. secretary and treasurer of the picnic committee.

On the return of the party, and after tea at the Hop Pole, Mr. Reginald Grant proposed the health of their president (Mr. Kelly), to whom, with Mrs. Kelly, they were all very grateful for the warm interest which they had shown in the day's outing. They all sincerely regretted Mrs. Kelly's absence. He gave them "Long life, health, and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Kelly."

The toast was very warmly seconded by Mr. Peter Griffiths, and was drunk with enthusiasm and to the singing of "For they are jolly good fellows."

Mr. Kelly, in reply, thanked them from the bottom of his heart for their remarkable display of enthusiasm, which he knew to be sincere; and not least was he grateful to them for their tribute to his charming wife, who was greatly disappointed not to be able to be with them at their annual reunion. She had asked him to apologise for her enforced absence. He had always felt that those annual picnics were a great advantage in many ways. They all returned to their work with renewed energy and vigour, and in a spirit of harmony and good-fellowship which was essential to the success of any undertaking. It was always a pleasure for him to come amongst them, for he believed that it was well that employer and employed should be associated in such festivities as they had enjoyed that day; and he should like to say that he did not think there was any man in England connected with theatres who was blessed with a better staff than he had. He felt that most sincerely with regard to every single employee, from his manager (Mr. King) down to the call-boy. In conclusion, Mr. Kelly expressed his indebtedness to his colleagues on the Town Council (Mr. T. T. Baines and Mr. W. Mark Furnival), whose genial presence and useful services in connection with the sports had undoubtedly enhanced the pleasure of their outing.

Mr. Reginald Grant next proposed the health of the manager (Mr. H. M. King), which was given with musical honours.

Mr. King, in returning thanks, bore warm testimony to the personal qualities of Mr. Kelly as a "guv'nor." During his experience of theatrical life, which began at the early age of ten years, he had never met a principal who commanded and gained greater respect than did Mr. Kelly.

The party broke up in the best of spirits, and thoroughly agreed that it had been one of the best picnics in the history of the Royal.

MISS MILLIE HYLTON.

The above illustration represents that versatile actress Miss Millie Hylton in her scena *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, in which a pure-souled girl of an East End slum outlines with eloquent emphasis the historiette of a valetudinarian who finds in the gospel of unshaken hope and invincible cheeriness an antidote to grim despair and suicidal thoughts. The impersonation has enabled Miss Hylton, always one of our brightest and best burlesque boys, to show that Thalia does not claim her sole allegiance. She can be in pathetic mood, and powerfully bring home by declamation and song the lesson contained in Mrs. Frances Hodgson-Burnett's popular play, recently seen at the Garrick and Duke of York's Theatres.

In deference, however, to the wishes of the authoress, the scena has been withdrawn. Songs written on play-titles are by no means new. We can well remember "A Woman of No Importance," the title of Oscar Wilde's play, as sung by Miss Lily Napier. Then the inimitable Jenny Hill gave us, still earlier in the last century, that fine descriptive song "Masks and Faces" (the title of Tom Taylor's comedy) and, coming to our own day, we have yet to discover that Sir Herbert Tree objects to Mr. Leo Dryden singing "False Gods," or that Mr. Lewis Waller or Mr. Herbert Sleath takes exception to the same descriptive vocalist's choice of the title of "A White Man" for a successful number. Neither do we anticipate any trouble from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle when Mr. Dryden produces his latest play-title song, "The Speckled Band."

NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the New Theatre (Cambridge) Co., Ltd., was held at that house on Friday, the 12th inst. Mr. G. Swannell presided, in the absence of Mr. J. W. Clark (chairman of the Directors), and others present were Mr. W. B. Redfern (managing-director), Messrs. A. G. Swannell, J. F. Jackson, D. J. Scott, W. H. Legge, H. Slater, and H. Hall (secretaries).

At the commencement of the meeting, Mr. Redfern referred in sympathetic terms to the illness which had prevented the Chairman of Directors from being present. Later Mr. Redfern suggested that the meeting should send an expression of sympathy to Mr. Clark, and this was agreed to.

The profit and loss account showed the amount on the credit side to be £12,700 6s. 5½d., this sum including: by receipts, £12,205 7s. 1½d., and rents £368 10s. The expenses left a net profit on this amount of £672 16s. 3d.

Mr. Redfern proposed the re-election of Mr. G. Swannell as a director, saying that he and Mr. Clark had given him great assistance in conducting the business of the theatre.

Mr. Scott seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Chairman then proposed that the report and accounts be received.

Mr. Tyler, in seconding, said he thought the shareholders had every reason to feel gratified that in these hard times they were in such a satisfactory position. Considering the various circumstances, he thought they might congratulate themselves and the managers of the Theatre on the result of the year's working.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Tyler proposed a vote of thanks to the directors for their services during the year, and proposed also that the sum of £30 be voted to them. They knew that all the directors did their best for the interests of the company.

Mr. Scott seconded, and the proposition was carried.

Mr. A. G. Swannell then proposed a vote of thanks to the managing-director, Mr. Redfern, for his services during the past year. He was sure the bookings during the year had been excellent, and the results were most satisfactory when they considered that the theatre had to be closed during the week when the Moody-Manners Company was to have visited it. Mr. Redfern was to be congratulated on the splendid productions he had been able to secure for the town.

Mr. Jackson seconded.

Mr. Redfern, replying, said that, considering elections and one cause and another, he thought they had done very well, and might congratulate themselves on the year's work. During the week when the Moody-Manners Company was to have come, they lost seven evening performances and three matinées. That was a serious matter, for it would have been the busiest week of the season, and had the theatre been open they would certainly have been able to show a much larger balance on their account. Still, they had had a very fair season, and the bookings during the season proved, he thought, that they had done the right thing. He had obtained very excellent bookings for the ensuing season, so that they ought again to do very well. The management of a theatre like that entailed a good deal of anxiety, with a public which often had no mercy if one made mistakes, and very little praise if one made successes. Still, they had got a very good paying dividend all round. Among other duties he had often had to go to London to see new pieces, and had had opportunities of seeing the bookings of some of the "touring" theatres in London and the class of pieces provided for patrons. The managers there had only to provide one piece for each week, whereas he had nearly always to provide two, which added greatly to the difficulties of his position. He was certain that the pieces brought to Cambridge were, as a rule, superior to those seen at these London theatres. Yet he was afraid their patrons did not always appreciate that fact. Just the same companies were coming here for three nights a week and a matinée as were going to these London theatres for six nights. He was certain that they had, as a rule, number one companies at Cambridge, in spite of what certain outside Press notices said in criticising them. As a matter of fact, they had the same pieces in Cambridge as were put on in the larger centres. Of course, it would be possible to run the theatre on cheaper lines, but that would not appeal to their educated audiences, and therefore he thought it would be a mistake. They ran the theatre in as economical a manner as possible, but they must run a theatre like that on tolerably liberal lines. He hoped that patrons during the ensuing season would appreciate that, and would give them the support they had endeavoured to deserve. In concluding, Mr. Redfern expressed his thanks to Mr. Slater, Mr. Hall, Mr. Briggs, and the whole of the theatre staff for the assistance they had given him during the year.

Mr. C. F. Charlton was re-elected auditor for the ensuing year, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Redfern.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE P. HAWTREY.

Mr. George P. Hawtrey, the well-known pageant master, died suddenly on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at his residence, 96, Clarence Gate-mansions, from heart failure. Mr. Hawtrey, who was a brother of Mr. Charles Hawtrey, the actor, was pageant master at Chester this year, at Cardiff last year, and at Cheltenham in 1908. He was the son of the Rev. John William Hawtrey, master of Alden House School at Slough, and was educated at Eton and Pembroke College, Oxford. After leaving the University he devoted himself to literature and the stage. *The Pickpocket*, produced on April 24, 1886, at the old Globe Theatre in Newcastle-street, Strand, was adapted by him from Von Moser's comedy *Mit Vernugen*. In this piece the deceased gentleman's brother, Charles, scored one of his early successes in the part of Osmond Hewett. Others in the cast included W. J. Hill, W. S. Penley, E. J. Henley, Miss Cissy Grahame, Mrs. Leigh Murray, and Miss Vane Featherston.

In conjunction with the late Edward Solomon, he wrote a musical version of *The Area Belle*, which was produced at the Comedy on May 9, 1889, at a matinée, when Dan Leno made one of his rare appearances at the theatres in the part of Pitcher, Mr. Rutland Barrington being the Tosser, and Mr. George Hawtrey the Walker Chalks.

Among the comedies in which the deceased gentleman appeared were *The New Wing*, at the Strand in 1892, in which he played General Singleside; *Niobe*, Strand, 1892, in which he was responsible for the part of Hamilton Tompkins; *The Late Lamented*, at the Strand, 1891, in which he played Mr. Fawcett; and *The Prisoner of Zenda*, at the St. James's, in 1896. In this adaptation of Anthony Hope's story he was the Franz Teppich.

Mr. G. P. Hawtrey was twice married, his first wife being Miss Eda Strahan. He leaves a widow, who was Miss Gertrude Jessie Rolls Harcourt, and three children, one son and two daughters. The funeral will take place at Broxbourne on Monday.

THE Leeds musical festival will this year take place on Oct. 12 and three following days in the Leeds Town Hall. Three new works are included in the programme:—"A Sea Symphony," for soli, orchestra, and chorus, by Mr. Vaughan Williams; a new symphony, by Mr. Rachmaninoff; and "Songs of the Fleet," by Sir C. V. Stanford. The conductor will be Sir C. V. Stanford, and Dr. H. Walford Davies will be at the piano. Among the soloists will be Mme. Clara Butt, Mme. Ada Crossley, and Mr. Kennerley Rumford.

---

who Changed into a Woman and King of the Beggars complete.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—Mrs. E. H. Knight's company are here this week with *The Lighthouse Robbery*. The piece is excellently staged, and all the parts adequately filled. Baby Freda as Little Nelly won many admirers, and Miss Hilda Baynton as Rose Prescott played her part in a charming manner.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred W. Kitto.—The pictures this week are excellent. Chant and Chant and the Delmores are all very successful.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—*The Geisha* was presented here the first half of the week by the excellent company directed by Mr. Mouillot. The famous musical comedy was exceptionally well dressed and staged, and was enthusiastically received. Miss Aimee Grey was most pleasing as O Mimosa San, and the part of Molly Seamour was filled with much credit by Miss Adela Crispen. O Juliette Diamante found a capable exponent in Miss Renee Reel, and as Lady Constance Wynn Miss Edith Jeffries was satisfactory. The rôle of Wun Hi was in the capable hands of Mr. Edward Carlton, who was simply irresistible. Mr. Colin Coop was a delightful Marquis Imari, and Mr. Edmund Sherras in the rôle of Reginald Fairfax was all that could be desired. The chorus was a most efficient one, and the musical director was Mr. Ernest Hartman. *A Greek Slave* was announced for the remainder of the week.

KURSAAL GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold.—Large audiences continue to testify to the popularity of the Comedy Comets, who are in possession here with many new numbers.

ST. JAMES' HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Scott and Mansfield.—The vaudeville party, the Queries, continue to find favour. On Wednesday evening Mr. Fisher Jones took a benefit, when a mammoth programme was presented.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—The singing and pattering of that clever and versatile comedian Tom Hulme is greeted with much laughter; Elsie Kedwards is a dainty singer and dancer; and Will Lento is responsible for some excellent songs. The pictures are very attractive.

been well received, whilst the more popular pictures are One of the Best, On Panther Creek, and the Wild Man from Borneo.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE'S company has been most successful at the Blackburn Theatre Royal with *The Cardinal*, *Twelfth Night*, and *The Sleigh Bells*. Mr. Louis N. Parker's drama was performed on Monday, and Mr. Wilkie gave an admirable performance in the title-part, and won unlimited applause; Mr. Sinclair Neill did remarkably well as the Justice of Rome; and the Strozzi of Mr. Henry Hargreaves was excellent. Valuable assistance was given by Messrs. Philip Gordon, John Paley, H. Meharry, Rex. Barrington, H. Mansfield, F. Mayes, H. Brough, and G. E. Dunston. Miss F. Hunter Watts played Filiberta cleverly; and good impersonations were given by the Misses Mary Lovett, H. Plowwright, A. Miller, and M. Dallas.

AT the New Prince's Theatre, Blackburn, Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company have been winning applause in *Facing the World Alone*.

AT the Alexandra Theatre, Washington, Miss Grace Manners and company have been presenting *The Scarlet Clue*, *The Wages of Sin*, *East Lynne*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*. Miss Warner as Ruth Hope was completely successful; in George Bland Mr. George Gordon showed his great skill and ability; Mr. Frank Esmond was capable Stephen Marlet; Harry Wentworth was in the capable hands of Mr. Roy Rhind; Mr. Frank Hertu was well received as Josiah Deane; Mr. Louis Nanton's parody on "Somewhere" was much to the liking of the natives; Mr. C. Williams was encored for his singing; Misses Florence M. Daly and Lizzie Palmer as Jemima and Juliana respectively caused much fun; Miss Lalla Price scored as Barbara Dale; Master Willie Taylor and Miss Rita Corri were extremely clever as the two children.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

AT the Rose Theatre, Berlin, the melodrama *Ein Seltener Fall*, the German version of "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," has been revived with a good deal of success. It was produced some four or five years ago, and ran for six months on and off. The acting is adequate, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed having its nerves screwed up to high pressure. "Oh's!" and "Ach's!" were plentifully breathed at the most thrilling moments, and applause followed applause at the end of the acts as soon as the spectators had got their breath again.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 8,
"HOODMAN BLIND."

Mr. Robert Arthur could hardly have selected a more suitable drama for the close of his summer stock season at the Kennington Theatre than that masterpiece from the pen of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones entitled *Hoodman Blind*. It is a long time since this powerful play has been seen on the suburban stage in London, and Mr. H. B. Brandreth, who has been responsible for the whole of the productions at the Kennington during the fifteen weeks of the dramatic revivals, is to be congratulated upon the admirable way in which the play was presented. *Hoodman Blind* is a work which appeals to all those engaged in its performance to put forth their best efforts, and that this was done by the Kennington company goes without saying.

Miss Jessie Winter in the dual parts of Nance Yeulett and Jess, her sister, the waif, made a bigger hit than in any previous effort. The opportunity was one which enabled her to show to advantage the great dramatic ability which she possesses, and she enacted both rôles with real vim and vigour. Mr. Walter Gay was excellent as Jack Yeulett, sketching the character with much force and power; Mark Lezzard was ably presented by Mr. G. P. Polson; and Mr. Landen was finely portrayed by Mr. Tom Mowbray. Mr. G. W. Cockburn gave a graphic sketch of Tom Latiker; Miss Nellie Burdette enacted Liz with a good deal of vivacity, and was distinctly amusing as Mrs. Chawner; Mr. Alfred Terris did good work as Ben Chibbles, and faithfully reproduced the North Country mannerisms and dialect; Mr. Tom Carlin was admirable as Jim Dadge; and Mr. Charles Danver was exceedingly good as Noah Quodling. Mr. Frank R. Crimp was at home in his favourite rôle of the detective, his representation of Inspector Jermin being careful and clever; Miss Dolly Elliston was excellent as Tomtit, giving a pathetic sketch of the crippled waif; Miss Elsie Videan cleverly portrayed Kit; Miss Maggie Hogan and Miss Mary Kilpack filled the rôles of village women with fidelity; and Miss Winifred Whyte was bright and happy as Polly Chibbles. Mr. Oswald Lingard gave a fine study of Kridge, and Mr. H. Baker showed dramatic ability as Mad Willy. The remaining characters were equally well sustained, particularly those of the footman (Mr. J. Miller), Nipper (Mr. E. Day), and Joe Swirrup (Mr. G. Elliston).

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Farcical Comedy,
"THE NAKED TRUTH."

North London has the privilege and the pleasure of having the first visit to the suburbs of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *The Naked Truth*, which has had such a triumphal career at Wyndham's Theatre. Its popularity was again demonstrated on Monday, when a full house followed the ingenious story of the "magnificent liar" being compelled to speak the "naked truth" in spite of himself whilst wearing a certain magic ring. Every member of the company is capable and hard-working. Mr. Stanley Logan gives an amusing and clever representation of the part of Bernard Dunell, the "magnificent liar"; as James Darrell, the uncle from India, Mr. Townsend Whitling adequately realises the part, and his performance is meritorious; Mr. W. Besley Beltran is admirably suited as Mr. Hayter, and makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Laurence Arthur presents a good assumption of Dr. Masters. Mr. Erskine Lang is very amusing as Teddy Lestrange; and Mr. James Heddon renders excellent support by his admirable impersonation of Prosser. Miss Kathleen Maude is a winsome and perfectly delightful Norah Creighton; and Mrs. Darrell is artistically treated by Miss Ormonde Wynne. Miss Violet Ley achieves a success as Mrs. Hayter; Miss Dora Fellowes gives an interesting portrayal of Mme. Rosalie Favre; and Miss Violet Temple (Mrs. Duckett), Miss Lillian M. Russell (Hammond), Mr. Horace Sinclair (Mr. Sawyer), and Mr. Cyril P. Rous (Mr. Freeman) all sustain their respective characters with becoming fitness. The stage-management is in the capable hands of Mr. Townsend Whitling. The amusing comedietta *Feed the Brute* precedes, and is well received.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Farce, in Three Acts, entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

After a long run of successful dramas, the change this week to lighter fare is proving very acceptable, and laughter has reigned supreme throughout each performance of the record-breaking farce *When Knights Were Bold*. Excellently acted by Mr. James Welch's company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Whittaker, the play goes with a swing, and the witty dialogue and humorous situations keep the audience in almost uncontrollable mirth. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Sir Guy de Vere is the life and soul of the piece, and in an arduous and exacting rôle scores a veritable triumph. Acting throughout with admirable verve and *sang froid*, he extracts the utmost humour from the droll situations in which he is placed, and compels uproarious laughter. Mr. Charles F. Lloyd gives an excellent delineation of Isaac Isaacson, cleverly assuming the mannerisms of the character. Mr. Percy R. Goodyer is amusing as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; and Mr. Colin Johnston contributes a delightful rendering of the part of the Rev. Peter Pottleberry. The arrogant Sir Brian Ballymote is well portrayed by Mr. Humphrey Warden; and Mr. Lawrence Stevenson as Wittle and Mr. John Cecil as Barker render valuable assistance. Miss Isla Glynne is an attractive Lady Rowena Eggington, and acts with stately grace; Miss Lena Flowerdew is a dignified Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave; Miss Elspeth Oliphant is a pert Alice Barker; and Miss Sadie Hope as Lady Millicent, Miss Lee Lewes as Lady Marjorie, and Miss Juliet Matheson as Kate Pottleberry invest their parts with girlish charm and naïveté. The play is preceded by an amusing comedietta, *Milly's Mother*, the characters being excellently sustained by Miss Sadie Hope, Miss Lena Flowerdew, Mr. Percy R. Goodyer, and Mr. John Cecil.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"FLORODORA."

The members of Mr. Charles Constant's company, who are appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in the musical comedy *Florodora*, provide an attractive evening's amusement. The original story, which bears the name of the late Owen Hall, gives the comedians in the cast plenty of opportunity to arouse the audience to mirth; the lyrics by Boyd Jones and Paul Rubens quite take the fancy of listeners; and Leslie Stuart's music includes some delightful numbers. The greater proportion of fun is provided by Mr. Johnnie Schofield, who, as Anthony Tweedlepunch, phrenologist, keeps his hearers in roars of laughter with his jokes and eccentric antics. Mr. Courtier R. Dutton as Frank Abercoed, manager for the proprietor of the celebrated perfume, "Florodora," and also of the island of that name, acts with freshness and vigour, and he renders the somewhat trying song, "In the shade of the sheltering palm," with care and effect, the reward of his effort being a spontaneous encore. Mr. Johnnie Junior as Captain Arthur Donegal, 4th Royal Life Guards, seems to enjoy the part; he sings "I want to be a military man" as if he really meant it; and, subsequently, with Miss Florence Hersee (who plays Angela Gilfain), he joins in the Parisian dance, "La Dans des Apaches." Mr. Jack Parker as Leandro, overseer at the Florodora farms, is a prominent personage in the cast. The Lady Holyrood of Miss Kate Leicester is a decidedly pleasing performance. She assumes the style of a society lady quite naturally, and her song "Tact" prompts the audience to clamour for encore verses. Miss Ida Hendrie is a pleasing Xenia Dilton; Miss Lilian Mildred is Clarence Fitzclarence; and Mr. E. Foster does well as Tennyson Sims. Miss Louie Danby is Talleda, maid to Lady Holyrood; Miss Daisy Lake appears as Dolores; and Mr. S. Richardson makes an imposing-looking footman. Cyrus G. Gilfain has a vigorous representative in Mr. Stanley White, who also undertakes, and very ably, the important duties of stage-manager. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Neale, do good work.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Drama entitled
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Mr. Walter Melville's full London company is paying a return visit here with that popular play *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*. Although so well known to the public here, the play seems to lose none of its freshness, and the action is followed throughout with the keenness and expectation almost of a first night. Mr. Norman B. Cannon makes an exceptionally good hero as Jack Cunningham; Mr. Charles Barclay does well as the mad Dr. Millbank; Mr. Fred Hodson shows himself to be a comedian of no mean order in the part of Dicky Storm, finding a capital helpmate in Miss Daisy Meynard, who simply revels in the part of Tina Torkington. Mr. Frank McClellan is the good fellow to the life as Norman Marsh; the villainies of Gilbert Lindsay find an able exponent in Mr. William T. Kelly; Mr. Wilford Bailey is the drunken Joe Webster; and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as his pal, the Dodger, fully realises the possibilities of the part. Mr. Herbert Goddard makes a good character of the level-headed lawyer Robert Grimshaw; Miss Ernestine Walter is the adventuress Maud Villiers, and is aptly described as a fascinating society lady; Miss Sybil Hare is an engaging Alice Cunningham. As the beggar girl Bessie Webster Miss Muriel Dean is winsome and interesting.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Drama, Written by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE GRIP OF IRON."

This well-known play, as great a favourite with South London playgoers as with provincial audiences, drew a large and enthusiastic house on Monday at this popular theatre, Mr. Fred Powell repeating his powerful and grim impersonation of Jagon, *alias* Simmonet. Mr. Powell's acting again made a deep impression on those present, and with the help of a good all-round company, a capital interpretation of Mr. Arthur Shirley's evergreen drama was given. Mr. Otto Minster did some clever acting as Paul Blanchard; Mr. W. Stack was a capital representative of Lorentz de Ribas; and Mr. Julian Bainbridge was admirable as Alphonso. Mr. W. P. Sheen is highly to be praised for his impersonation of Loustalot; Mr. H. Playfair was a good Dodot; Mr. J. Walters made the most of Captain Guerin; and Mr. Herbert Lee, the Governor of the Prison; and Mr. R. E. Bevens and Mr. Chas. Frowde did justice to their respective parts. That clever actress, Miss East-Robertson, found in Cora Simmonet a part that suits her admirably, and to which she did every justice. Miss Norah Layton was very good as Babette, as was also Miss Violet Eldon as Mlle. Delany. Miss Florrie Lyndon made an admirable Marie Guerin; and Miss Edith Weber portrayed Sophie Blanchard with skill. *The Grip of Iron* was nicely mounted. Charming entr'actes and incidental music were well played by the orchestra under the skilful bâton of Mr. W. T. Gliddon. Mr. Newman Maurice, after his many successful low-comedy impersonations during the remarkably successful stock season, has now resumed his duties as acting-manager for Mr. Fredk. Melville, and he admirably fills this responsible position.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the One-Act Drama,
"AN EYE FOR AN EYE."

Miss Esther Phillips and her clever company gave an extremely painstaking and meritorious rendering of the well-written playlet *An Eye for an Eye*. The piece, being full of tragical emotion and dramatic intensity, naturally appealed strongly to West Londoners, for in Marylebone they dearly love to see the villain meet with his just deserts. As Margaret Marston Miss Esther Phillips played with just that convincing force and passion that the part demanded, and her acting was justly applauded; Miss Millie Phillips portrayed Helen Grantham with skilful effect; Mr. Wyn Weaver was urbane and debonair as the unscrupulous Henry Caston; and Mr. Charles Ross typically sustained the footman Simpson.

A great feature here weekly is the series of pictures, some of the best in London being always screened. In Mr. W. H. Nugent, Mr. F. R. Griffiths, the astute manager of the New-Bio Trading Co., Ltd., has certainly got the right man for the position as acting-manager. The band, under Mr. Ward Bailey's direction, renders several appropriate numbers perfectly.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Drama, by Emma Litchfield, entitled
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

This week Messrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green have brought their talented company here with this new and romantic drama, produced a fortnight ago at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. In the title-part Miss Leila Zillwood gives a powerful rendering of the Indian girl, Wild Rose, the part suiting her admirably. The authoress herself creates the part of Lady Kingsley. Misses Nellie Richmond and Laura Wright extract a large amount of comedy from their rôles of Jeannette and Black Duck, being assisted by Mr. Tod Squires as Billy; Mr. Arthur Hinton pleases by his manly impersonation of Hubert Ainsworth; the villainous treachery of Wolfsfang, as depicted by Mr. Graham Winsford, evokes rounds of hisses; Mr. Travis Green, as the faithful Redskin Lone Star, was excellent, and well he deserved the applause accorded him; Mr. Gerald Byrne was good as the tribal chief, White Eagle. The remaining characters were in capable hands, and full justice was done to them by the artists to whom they were entrusted. Well mounted and staged, the play was a decided success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Melodrama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

This, the second of Mr. Melville's plays that has been produced at the Kingston playhouse within the past fortnight, is, like its predecessor, attracting good houses this week, and a most favourable reception has been given to the play. An exceptionally strong company is taking part in it, chief amongst whom are Miss Nell Oliver, who plays the part of Barbara Wade, and Mr. Edward Valentine, who appears as Farmer Meadows. Both parts are presented with conspicuous ability, and the audiences are not slow to recognise it. Miss Doris Whyte makes a most creditable appearance as Constance Carnell; whilst the part of Nellie Meadows is ably filled by Miss A. Rothwell. The lighter side of the drama is in the hands of Mr. Willie Scott as Toby Turvey and Miss Amy Rudd as Tilly Vain, each of whom renders yeoman service. Mr. Karl F. Kerzo, Mr. F. Rivers, Mr. Leslie Nolan, and Mr. K. Milson also give good accounts of themselves in their respective parts.

The Follies appeared at a matinée performance at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday afternoon, and presented a varied and interesting programme from their extensive répertoire before a crowded house.

MISS FLORENCE IMESON.

"THE GEISHA" AT OPERA HOUSE, CAPE TOWN.

MESSRS. GEORGE EDWARDES' AND F. B. WHEELER'S COMPANY.

If an audience of Cape Town theatregoers never before saw a triumphant success achieved by the genius of one lady they saw it last night at the Opera House when Miss Florence Imeson tripped on to the stage and gave life to the revival of Sidney Jones's famous work, *The Geisha*. . . . Miss Imeson came on for the Toy Duet. She had not sung half a dozen bars when the whole position changed as if by the touch of a fairy wand, with Miss Imeson as the fairy. She entered into the spirit of Molly Seamore as if her artistic reputation depended on it. Coy, roguish, winning, she sang and danced as she has not sung and danced before in Cape Town, and before she tripped off (nearly carrying a "wall" with her) she had established a chord of sympathy between the house and the stage—the *rapport* without which no performance can count on success. What was the magic of Miss Imeson? It was that indefinable thing we call the instinct of the artist. The lady put her heart and soul in the part of Molly Seamore; she left nothing to chance. Every note of every song, every step of every dance, every word, every gesture was the work of an

[*Photo by Sydney.*

MISS FLORENCE IMESON.

artist to the tip of her dainty fingers. The revival of *The Geisha* was a triumph for Miss Imeson.

Miss Imeson's rendering of Molly has already been referred to, and it only remains to be added that "The Interfering Parrot" has never been more cleverly given in South Africa.—*South African News*, July 19, 1910.

THE LATE W. S. WALSHE.

We briefly recorded last week the death of Mr. William Sesnan Walshe, a talented actor and accomplished musician, who passed away at Harrogate on Aug. 5 at the age of fifty. An Australian by birth, Mr. Walshe was born at Coogee, New South Wales, and was for some years in the Civil Service. He won distinction in concert and oratorio work, gaining the gold medal for conducting in the Sydney Philharmonic Society. He entered the dramatic profession in 1885, his first engagement being as principal tenor with Miss Emily Melville, as the War Correspondent in *Falka*. Subsequently he toured Australia, New Zealand, India, China, and Japan as principal tenor with Messrs. Williams, Martin Simonsen, and his own opera companies.

Mr. Walshe came to England in 1895. His first

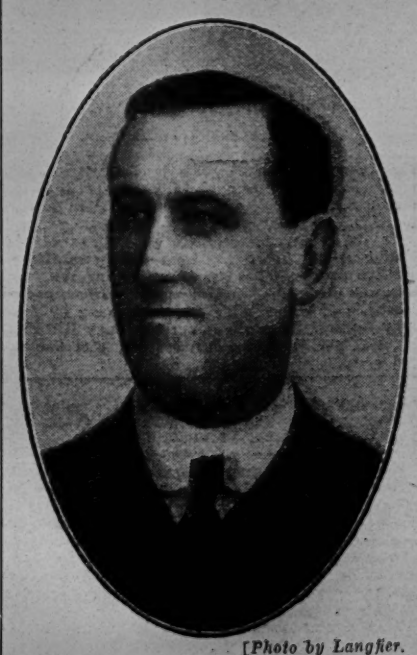

[*Photo by Langfier.*

THE LATE MR. W. S. WALSHE.

engagement was with Mr. Henry Lowenfeld, as Basilique in the production of *La Poupée* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre in the spring of 1897. Two years later he went to South Africa as principal tenor with the Arthur Rousby Opera Company, and there met with great success. In recent years he has figured in *The Toreador* at the Gaiety, in *The White Man* at the Lyric, and with Miss Ellen Terry in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, the play by George Bernard Shaw, which that distinguished actress produced at the Court in 1906, and subsequently took on tour. The deceased actor, who had been ill since last November, sought relief at St. Mary's Nursing Home, Harrogate, but eventually succumbed to diabetic coma. He was buried at Kensal Green Cemetery on Aug. 10, deeply regretted and mourned by his wife and many friends.

Marshall P. Wilder, the American humorist, who some time ago was stated to be dying, has written to an American contemporary as follows:—"I had a very close call, but my nurse was so ugly I had to get well in self-defence." As a brand of American humour, this is Wilder than usual, and avoids any claim to good taste. It is something like a man saved from drowning objecting to the snub nose of his gallant rescuer.

"A KING'S ROMANCE."

Play, in Four Acts, by E. Vivian Edmonds, Produced for the First Time in London at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Prince Andreas ..... Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds
Baron Cavonia ..... Mr. Arthur Estcourt
Count Bavantia ..... Mr. William Manning
Colonel Ventigue ..... Mr. Charles Wharton
Captain Berg ..... Mr. Cecil Calmers
Alderman Stene ..... Mr. Thomas V. King
Major Bartoy ..... Mr. Ernest C. Edwards
Gerantegne ..... Mr. Frank Eastly
Vera Navairre ..... Miss Haidee Gunn
Paul Navairre ..... Mr. William H. Dewhurst
The Cure ..... Mr. Leslie Lingham
Michel Vacurat ..... Mr. John Dunbar
Lizette ..... Miss Ethel Vinroy
Mme. Pomeroy ..... Miss Bella Power
Jean Pomeroy ..... Mr. George Toft
Fragot ..... Mr. Arthur A. Valentine

Regal honours have been rendered to the King's Theatre this week by the visit in state of another monarch, who very properly made Hammersmith his headquarters on his first visit to London. *A King's Romance* was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, last Easter Monday, and recalls in a vivid degree a particularly atrocious crime which deprived a neighbouring kingdom of its head. The scenes and incidents are such as appeal powerfully to a popular audience, and the struggles between duty and love, and the triumph of the latter have won unlimited approval from patrons of the handsome house at Hammersmith. The plot was fully detailed on the original production of the play, but its leading episodes may be recalled.

A younger Prince of Venetia, a mythical European monarchy, has wedded a village maiden, named Vera, little thinking that he will be called upon to ascend the throne. Andreas, however, has reckoned without the Anarchists; and after a year spent in his village home, where he passes as an artist, visiting the city at intervals, his happiness is disturbed by the assassination of his father and the Crown Prince, leaving the young husband to undertake the responsibilities of kingship and his wife without a name. The man who perpetrated the dastardly deed was no other than Paul, Vera's brother, who, escaping from the crowd, seeks refuge with his sister. Andreas arrives to participate in the festivities consequent upon his boy's first birthday, and Paul is hidden in an adjoining room, having first enjoined his sister to declare that he had been in the house all night. Much against her will, Vera obeys the injunction; but when the new king throws open the door he finds not Paul, but Michel Vacurat, an avowed enemy of the King, and the organiser of the revolt.

Convinced of Vera's unfaithfulness the King goes to his duties at the Palace, and is shortly betrothed to a Princess of a neighbouring State. Paul has, meanwhile, been captured, together with Vacurat, who turns "King's evidence," and supplies proof of Paul's guilt. Vera obtains admission to the King to plead for her brother's life, but the latter succumbs to the effects of torture, not, however, before he has testified to his sister's innocence.

The Royal betrothal duly takes place, and the wedding ceremony is fixed for the morrow. Vera is about to depart for England, but receives a visit from Vacurat, who persuades her to remain. Vera pretends to consent to his proposals, and wins from him the details of a plot to assassinate the King while he is at prayer. Andreas comes to see his child, and Baron Cavonia, his faithful minister, enveloped in his cloak, goes to take his place in the chapel. There is an explosion, and the King is thought to be dead; but Vacurat finds out his mistake to his cost, for he is confronted by Andreas, who forces him to fight a duel, in which the villain is despatched. The revolution is successful, and Andreas, seeing the cause of the Monarchists is hopeless, decides to relinquish his kingdom and go to England with Vera.

The play was effectively interpreted by the author's company, though the action was taken in rather deliberate fashion, which resulted in a late ending on Monday. Mr. Edmonds himself acted his hero with unflagging spirits, entering heartily into every phase of the part, whether as the mercurial prince-lover, the doting father, the despairing husband, or the despondent King. He had a charming partner in Miss Haidee Gunn, a young actress whose ability we have frequently had occasion to praise. Her portrayal of Vera was marked by much charm and vivacity in the earlier scenes; while in the later episodes, when the hapless wife finds herself deserted and dishonoured, Miss Gunn exercised a poignant effect. She has, too, a particularly pleasing voice, her management of which indicated rare elocutionary skill. Another finished performance was that of Mr. John Dunbar, an experienced actor, who contrived to embody in the part of the villainous Vacurat all the malice and cunning possible. Mr. William H. Dewhurst was a highly effective Paul Navairre, suggesting the effects of the rack very realistically, and is also to be credited with the duties of stage-management. Mr. Arthur Estcourt was a soldierly and impressive Baron Cavonia; and the relentless Count Bavantia was thoroughly enacted by Mr. William Manning. A large share in the piece is taken by Lizette, Vera's maid, a part acted with sustained animation by Miss Ethel Vinroy, a refined and well-spoken actress. Mr. Ernest C. Edwards rendered valuable aid, both in the dramatic and humorous scenes as Major Bartroy, his gallantry towards Lizette, to whom he is eventually betrothed, being well assumed, and the sacrifices of dignity in his attitude towards the illiterate Mme. Pomeroy being drolly made. The last-mentioned lady was invested with comic characteristics by Miss Bella Power; and as Jean, a stuttering yokel, Mr. George Toft made every use of his opportunities; Mr. Arthur A. Valentine made a gruff and burly countryman of Fragot; and Mr. Leslie Lingham was a venerable Priest.

The picturesque nature of the scenes was admirably maintained, and the dresses were quite in keeping with the production, the King's uniforms being rich and elaborate; while the appurtenances of State were faithfully observed. The approbation of the audience was frequently displayed, the principals being recalled at each curtain.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Drama, entitled
"THE THIEF."

This week Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company is here in the above play. Miss Diana Cloud is simply charming as Marise Chelford, and in the second act rises to a high level in the scene with Richard Chelford, who is magnificently portrayed by Mr. Bernard Limpus, each mood being splendidly depicted. Miss Mary Forrester made the most of her part of Isabel Leyton, the second wife of Raymond Leyton, the latter character being capably rendered by Mr. F. Morland. The youthful Harry Leyton was played by Mr. Carl W. Lindsay, his scenes with Mrs. Chelford being never overdone. The detective, Protheroe, had an able exponent in Mr. W. Somerset, who not only played the part well, but looked it. Well placed also was Mr. Robert Ashby as the manservant. Excellently dressed and mounted and well acted, the drama was cordially received.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"HIS REAL WIFE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles A. Clarke, Played for the First Time in London at the Lyric, Hammersmith, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Herbert Barton ..... Mr. Clifford Rean
General Barton ..... Mr. Frank Lyndon
Randal Meredith ..... Mr. Herbert Vere
Martin Avondale ..... Mr. Albert Sember
Colombe ..... Mr. Charles Yorke
Alf. Snickers ..... Mr. Harwood Roberts
Simon Bletherley ..... Mr. T. Edward Ward
Mr. Hackett, K.C. ..... Mr. Jno. Waddington
Inspector Marston ..... Mr. Eric Yandall
Clerk of the Court ..... Mr. A. Austin
Usher of the Court ..... Mr. Eric Rogers
Mrs. Creele ..... Miss Grace Rosemond
Betty Tuttlebee ..... Miss Clarrie Yandall
Lady Sybil Welton ..... Miss Gabrielle Romero
Rose Avondale ..... Miss Ward

All the essentials necessary for drama beloved by a popular audience, are to be found in *His Real Wife*, produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, on Dec. 27 last—exciting situations and effective lines and curtains, plenty of "heart interest," and the necessary leavening of comic relief. Its reception on Monday at Mr. Wentworth Croke's people's playhouse at Hammersmith was most cordial, the attention of the audience being held throughout. Their sympathy very early in the play went out to the long-suffering heroine, Rose Avondale, who, loving not wisely but too well, leaves her devoted old father, a ruined yeoman farmer, and runs away with Herbert Barton, a young barrister, who promises to marry her. Herbert's intentions are sincere, but his selfish old father, General Barton, has decided that he shall wed Lady Sybil Welton, a wealthy beauty, and thus relieve the General of his pecuniary embarrassments. Lady Sybil, witnessing an interview between Herbert and Rose, determines that the young man shall marry her within a week, and tells his father so, and although Herbert has no affection for her, he is evidently too weak to oppose his father's wishes, and thus sacrifices his own happiness and that of the devoted Rose. When Martin Avondale learns that his daughter has left him, he curses both her and her lover; but further trouble is in store for him, for he is accused of stealing a quantity of plate from Barton Towers. The real thief is a foreigner named Colombe, an ex-convict, who has masqueraded as the Marquis de Trouville. The conclusion of the act sees old Avondale stricken with sudden blindness—a very effective and powerful scene.

In the first scene of the second act, A Villa at Twickenham, we see Rose eagerly awaiting the coming of Herbert, to whom she believes she is married. She is the proud mother of a bonny boy, and is anxious that Herbert shall see him. When Barton comes she learns that his father is dead, and she then imagines that there will be no further necessity to keep their marriage a secret. Herbert has not the courage to tell her the truth, especially as he hopes to soon divorce Lady Sybil, on the plea that she is not responsible for her actions, for he then means to marry Rose. While Herbert is absent from the house a motor accident occurs outside, and Lady Sybil is brought in. She refuses to see a doctor, and quickly recognises Rose. Later on, learning the relations which exist between her and her husband, there is a very powerful scene between the two women, in which the half-mad Lady Sybil attempts to murder Rose. When Herbert returns he also narrowly escapes being killed by his wife. Rose, on hearing that she is not married to Herbert, determines to leave the place, and go back with the child to her father, of whose terrible affliction she has been kept in ignorance. Straying into a lodging-house, she asks to be directed the way. The kindly landlady, Mrs. Creele, gives her a cup of tea; but the rascally Colombe drugs her, takes her baby away, and replaces it with a dead one. Later, when the poor, worn-out woman sinks down by a tree, he plunges the body of the babe into the stream, and, calling the police, Rose is charged with infanticide. A very effective curtain is here secured, when the despairing mother suddenly cries out, "That is not my child!" In the next scene we see Herbert, anxious to repair the past, befriending Rose's father; and later there is an affecting interview between the imprisoned woman and her father, who does not know her identity. In the Assize Court she is found guilty of child murder, the Judge who tries the case being the father of her babe. There is an impassioned appeal for mercy by Randal Meredith, a young counsel, and the Judge is about to assume the black cap, but falls in a fit ere he is able to complete the sentence of death. In the last act Colombe's accomplice, Alf. Snickers, turns King's evidence, and Rose is released. She is restored to her sightless father; and Herbert, whose wife has died, is eventually forgiven by his "real wife" on being able to produce her stolen child.

The success of the drama was largely due to its admirable all-round representation by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, the arduous part of the suffering Rose Avondale being entrusted to Miss Ward, who is to be complimented on her convincing and pathetic portrayal throughout. Particularly harrowing was the scene in the Assize Court, where she recognises in the Judge the man who has betrayed her, and still remains loyal to him, and her performance throughout was a very intense and impressive one. Lady Sybil Welton, an unsympathetic part, had a convincing representation from Miss Gabrielle Romero, the actress skilfully depicting the "hell-fire cat's" mad passion in the scene where she realises that her husband is Rose's lover; and Miss Clarrie Yandall was an amusing and attractive Betty Tuttlebee. Simon Bletherley, who eventually marries the irrepressible Betty, was undertaken in a quietly droll fashion by Mr. T. Edward Ward, and the scenes between this happily-associated pair were hugely enjoyed on Monday. Mr. Harwood Roberts also created much merriment by his quaint depiction of Alf. Snickers, Colombe's "tool," that rascally alien being forcibly undertaken by Mr. Charles Yorke, who also imparted some grimly humorous touches to his clever delineation of the part. Martin Avondale, the stricken farmer, was powerfully and pathetically portrayed by Mr. Albert Sember, the many admirably-delivered and telling speeches of the part frequently calling forth loud applause; and another finely-played character was that of Randal Meredith by Mr. Herbert Vere, the actor's delivery of the young counsel's speech pleading for mercy being an admirable piece of elocution. Mr. Clifford Rean, in the rather unconvincing character of Herbert Barton submitted an easy and finished impersonation throughout, and in the later scenes of the play effectively realised the anguish of the man who had so cruelly wronged Rose, his acting in the difficult Assize Court scene also being admirable. Mr. Frank Lyndon submitted a capital study of the selfish General Barton, and the other parts were all capably undertaken. The play was dressed and mounted in excellent style.

Thursday, Aug. 11, being the 50th night of *My Lady Bellamy* under the management of Mr. Alex. Maclean, each member of the company, which was appearing at the Opera House, Wakefield, was the recipient of a useful souvenir of the occasion.

Presentation.—Mr. R. Hogg, assistant-manager at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, was on Saturday last presented by the staff with a handsome gold ruby ring and scarf pin as a mark of their appreciation on his having completed eleven years' service.

FILM GOSSIP.

Mr. Griffiths and the Children.

MR. F. R. GRIFFITHS, of the New Bioscope Trading Company, Limited, who gave performances last week at his theatres in aid of the Fresh Air Fund, has written to the *Daily Express* enclosing a cheque for £40 10s., which will pay for a day in the country for 1,000 children, with the necessary attendants. Mr. Griffiths has also announced his intention of giving further performances in aid of the F.A.F., and has sent along the preserved film of the Funeral of King Edward, which is to be sold to benefit this most deserving object.

Film of the Outing.

MR. GRIFFITHS hopes to be able to take a film of the youngsters at play in the country and exhibit it at his theatres, and offers to give his patrons an opportunity of contributing to the fund by means of collecting boxes.

Death of Mr. Frank Gethro.

WIDESPREAD sorrow was caused in Watford by the tragically sudden death on Wednesday of last week of Frank Gethro, who has for several years been amongst the most prominent pianists in connection with picture shows in various parts of the country. On the Tuesday evening he asked to be excused from his duties at Messrs. Jeapes's picture show at the Watford Conservative Hall, complaining of slight throat and ear trouble. A doctor was summoned on Wednesday morning, unconsciousness quickly ensued, and death took place at six o'clock on Wednesday evening, as the result of acute meningitis. Deceased, who was a resident of Dartford, leaves a widow and five children. On Saturday the staffs of both the picture shows in the town and also at the Palace Theatre raised a sum of money which they forwarded to the widow. Deceased was a particularly adaptive and versatile accompanist, and was widely respected at Watford. The funeral took place at Watford on Saturday last.

Novelties at the Picture Palaces.

The Kensington Picture Theatre is putting on an attractive picture programme this week. Giovanni Medici, a fine historical production; In the Border States, an American biograph story; Buffalo Hunting in Indo-China, and The Cowpuncher's Ward are prominent films, and the latest comics are greatly enjoyed. Muggsey's First Sweetheart (biograph film), which will be shown at the leading picture houses during the week, should cause roars of laughter. For picturesque scenery and wealth of exciting incidents the Wild West pictures are in the first rank. The Range Riders (Selig film) is a particularly fine specimen of this class.

Film Works to Employ over 200 Men.

MR. W. HOGBEN, the works manager of the new company in process of formation for carrying on the celluloid works at Port Talbot, recently completed arrangements in connection with this undertaking. Mr. Hogben has great faith in the future of the film industry, and the proposed new company, the British Non-Inflammable Film and Celluloid Company, will be the pioneers in this country as film manufacturers. It is estimated that when the works at Port Talbot are fully established employment will be provided for between 200 and 300 workmen. The new company will have a capital of £300,000, of which £170,000 will be allocated for working capital. Mr. Richard Cory, J.P., of Cardiff, has already agreed to join the Board, which has been further strengthened by the addition of the Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., director of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank.

Singing Pictures at Bournemouth.

AT the Empire Electric Theatre, Bournemouth, the cosy, well equipped, and well managed place of entertainment in the Bournemouth-square, the principal attraction in last week's programme was the reproduction of grand opera by means of animated pictures in conjunction with the gramophone. *Faust* was the opera chosen, and its production marks the latest achievement in the development of this scientific phase of entertaining. Such is the precision with which the films and the musical records are jointly secured that in reproduction the pictures and the music synchronise perfectly, and so realistic is the effect that one almost listens for the clink of Mephistopheles' sword or expect to hear the warriors "taking breath" in the "Soldiers' Chorus." The story is re-acted in a series of eight scenes, and the corresponding vocal numbers from Gounod's music are very clearly rendered. Particularly good was the record of the duel scene and the singing of the trio in the prison scene. The opera occupies about forty minutes.

Sensational Film Prohibited.

MR. BURGHER, Deputy-Commissioner of Police for New York, has prohibited the display of moving pictures depicting the shooting of Mayor Gaynor. No actual pictures, of course, were taken of the attack, but a set which has been widely advertised was cleverly faked, and the proprietors anticipated profitable results from their exhibition. Mr. Burgher's action is strongly commended in New York, for there are rather too many "sensational" picture shows in America, and many judges have denounced them for the deplorable effect they have on juvenile audiences.

Theatre de Luxe, Norwich.

THE pictures projected at the Norwich Theatre de Luxe this week are very interesting, and include The Power of the Press, The Tea Industry, The End of a Tyrant, Foolshead Receives, Oh, the Crocodile, and others, all meeting with warm approbation.

New Cinema Theatre at Bolton.

THE Bolton Electric Theatre was opened for the first time to the public on Saturday last. It is situated at the corner of Deansgate and Bridge-street, and occupies an excellent position in the town. The front to Deansgate is in pure white, and has a charming effect when lighted up at night. There is an atmosphere of luxury about the place, handsome carpets and draperies, tip-up chairs, and uniformed attendants showing that no expense has been spared by the management to ensure the comfort of their patrons. Seating accomodation is provided for nearly 600. The pictures are shown continuously from three o'clock until eleven. An entire change of programme is made twice a week. On Friday, the 12th, an invitation display was given, which was attended by the élite of Bolton and district, many excellent films being exhibited. The general-manager for the lessees, the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., is Mr. W. Reynolds Benjamin.

Jersey Battle of Flowers.

THE magnificent official film of the Jersey Battle of Flowers, taken by Mr. Clements, the Opera House operator, has been included in the excellent series of pictures screened by Mr. Albany Ward during the latter half of the week at the Opera House, Jersey.

"Miss Bioscope" at a Hospital Carnival.

THE operator of the Southend Picture Palace, Mr. Victor Moody, hit upon a smart and original costume for an entry in the Hospital Carnival in aid of the Victoria Hospital, Southend, which was held on the 10th inst. He made a model of a bioscope lantern body, and entered the competition for a gentleman's original costume, calling the model "Miss Bioscope." The design was exceedingly smart and effective, and well deserved the prize with which Mr. Moody's efforts were rewarded.

(For other "Film Gossip" see page 23.)

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS BEATRICE VON BRUNNER.

Mr. George Edwardes is continually recruiting the ranks of musical comedy with youth, beauty, and talent. The latest addition to *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's is Miss Beatrice von Brunner, one of those brilliantly pretty young ladies whom America has contributed to our stage in such abundance during the last few years. Miss Beatrice von Brunner has that beautiful colouring of complexion and of hair which comes from that admixture of German or Scandinavian blood with the Anglo-Saxon or Celt in the population of America. Masses of hair as fair and almost as yellow as the ripe corn in the field surround a face with soft large blue eyes and features that have the archness of the young girl still full of the joy of life.

Though still in the first bloom of girlhood—she is slightly over twenty—Miss Von Brunner has already had abundant experience, after years of struggle and of study. Daughter of a Presbyterian clergyman, and born in a small provincial town in Iowa, she first began her studies in her father's

MISS BEATRICE VON BRUNNER.

church, and soon showed such marked musical talents that she was sent to the local school of music, after a thorough grounding by her mother. Brought up in all the strictness of her parson father's home, she was long before she could turn her thoughts to the stage. But nature will out. Her musical talents were added to by a natural aptitude for dancing, an art also to which she has devoted years of study and practice. Fate found her when Mr. Dilingham, the well-known American manager, saw her. He realised her talent, and offered her an engagement. She naturally turned to musical comedy, but she has also appeared as a danseuse in the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, and the Boston Opera House in Boston. Then, after hesitation between the stage and social allurements—for she was reigning belle in Boston, to which city the family had moved—she followed her natural bent, and now is one of the members of the company of Mr. George Edwardes in *The Dollar Princess*.

She brings to her profession, apart from her great beauty, natural musical gifts, ambition, and great love of hard work. She is, indeed, so devoted to her profession that she thinks of little else, leads a somewhat recluse life, and spends most of her free time at one or another of the various arts that make up the trained artist. She laughs at the reports which constantly appear in the columns of American journals, and which describe her in advance as the fiancée of this or that well-known young American millionaire. But the desire for success and perfection in her own art occupies her whole thought.

THE many friends of Miss Bertha De Pas will be glad to learn that she has quite recovered from her recent serious operation and illness, and that she will commence her tour of the North of England on the 29th. Her first appearance will be at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Crosshaven Skating Rink.

THE Crosshaven rink was again well patronised on Wednesday, the 10th, and besides the large number who disported themselves upon wheels, a good array of spectators were present. Indeed, the onlookers seemed to enjoy the proceedings quite as much as those who ventured on the "floor." Rinking has become very popular in Crosshaven, and the little ones, as well as their elders, are getting more in evidence each evening. It was a happy forethought that prompted the erection of the Pavilion, as a more healthy or pleasing pastime it would be difficult to provide. Excellent management, an unbeatable floor, a first-class string orchestra, daintily arranged tables, where refreshments are served, are the chief characteristics of Crosshaven Rink, and the excellent patronage accorded it speaks volumes for its popularity. Not many came in fancy costumes, and the prizes were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Joyce and Master O'Brien.

An Elephant on Skates.

A NOVEL and diverting attraction has been added to the Palace Skating Rink, Blackpool, and its success was so immediate and marked that the management intend to present the feature every afternoon and evening. The novelty, which takes the form of "the only elephant on skates," is the suggestion of Mr. Lal Wright, one of the Palace instructors, and is practically the revival of a comedy feature popular on the Blackpool rink of twenty years ago. The "elephant," a capital piece of animal "property," is given life by two of the Palace skate boys, Woods and Westhead, and the manner in which the trainer, Lal Wright, puts it through the grand march, barn dance, Dutch roll, rocking step, waltz, figure 8, inside and outside edge, walking the barrel, performing on the tub, and various styles of two-steps, makes up a very clever and highly-amusing "turn." The "wonder" has been christened "Roosevelt"—no doubt after the eminent hunter of its kind.

Rink Hockey at Blackpool.

A SHORT time ago the Blackpool South Shore Ladies played Bury Trafalgar Ladies, at Accrington, for the championship. A friendly match between the teams took place at the Pleasure Beach Rink, Blackpool, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., and the game proved to be one of the best the ladies have yet had at South Shore. The homesters were rather the quicker team, but they were met by a strong defence, who frustrated several good attempts. Bury by no means left the home goal unattended, and on two occasions it looked as if the citadel must fall. The interval arrived with the score-sheet blank. Resuming, the homesters played rather better. Miss G. Siddall raced away, and within two minutes of the restart South Shore took the lead. This success made things lively. Ere many minutes had passed the same player put South Shore two ahead. Play became vigorous, and many attempts were made on both sides to score, but the defence held out till the close. Result:—South Shore, 2; Bury Trafalgar, 0.

Carnival at Cleethorpes Rink.

AT the Fancy Dress Carnival at the Cleethorpes Skating Rink on Thursday, the 11th inst., the prize for the most effective lady's costume was awarded to Miss Hilda Cook, who represented "Electra"—not the heroine of Strauss' new opera, but the allegorical presiding genius of the science of electricity. Her costume was of blue (possibly electric blue), and was studded with miniature electric lamps, which flashed up brilliantly whenever Miss Cook operated the controlling switch. The effect was especially pretty when the rink lights were lowered, and the skater, with her costume fully aglow, glided round the floor. The award was a decidedly popular one. A prize had been offered for the best lady's burlesque costume, but there were no competitors in this department. The prize was, therefore, awarded, as a sort of consolation prize, for the next best effective costume, and Miss Celia Lidgitt, as "Goldfish," was the winner. Mr. P. Spencer, who appeared as a particularly ferocious-looking "Indian Chief," in full war-paint, was the winner of the prize for the most effective gentleman's costume. The children's prize was won by Master Freddy Boston as "Bubbles." A clever exhibition of fancy and trick skating was given by a lady and gentleman of the Rink staff, a series of intricate movements being accomplished, whilst they also gracefully performed the "Merry Widow" waltz, this being one of the features of the evening.

THE COMING OF AGE OF ALBERT EDWARD BODIE.

Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie gave a banquet at their rooms at Darlington last Monday, the occasion being the coming-of-age of their eldest son, Albert Edward Bodie. Mr. Bodie has been training for the legal profession, and has served six years with Mr. J. J. George, solicitor and Town Clerk, Macduff. At the request of his father, Dr. Bodie, he has given up the law, and will follow in his father's footsteps. Mr. Bodie is an accomplished linguist, an excellent ventriloquist, illusionist, and conjurer, and a gifted actor, having played the leading parts in several pieces produced by the Macduff Amateur Dramatic Society, of which he was president. He is also an accomplished artist, and has painted most of the scenery for the various plays produced by the society. He is an enthusiastic Freemason, his father being a Royal Arch Mason. Mr. Bodie was initiated when only eighteen years old, and since then he has taken a deep interest in Masonry, and his mother lodge, No. 653 St. James, Macduff. He holds the position

MR. ALBERT EDWARD BODIE.

of Senior Warden, and would have been elected to the chair this year, but had to resign to join his father. He is the youngest office-bearer in Scotland. The last performance he gave was at the Town Hall, Huntly, in aid of the local band, when he occupied the stage for over an hour with his two turns, ventriloquism and conjuring. He commences his duties on Monday next as general manager for Dr. Bodie's tours and enterprises, and will also do a turn on the stage with the Doctor's No. 1 company.

The Doctor will commence a six months' tour of Scotland with his own company on Monday, under the management and control of his son, and is going to teach Mr. Bodie the whole of his business as an electrical expert, bloodless surgeon, and hypnotist.

Dr. Bodie has presented his son with the beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, which was only built about seven years ago, and Mr. Bodie was also the recipient of many beautiful and costly presents, including also from his father a valuable gold watch, set with his monogram in diamonds. The watch, which weighs nearly 6oz., has 98 diamonds in the monogram, and was lately the property of the late Abington Baird, the millionaire. From his mother he received a handsome jewelled walking-stick, set with over 300 precious stones. It was originally the property of the late Marquis of Anglesey, and was bought from the collection at Anglesey Castle. His mother also presented him with a beautiful travelling bag and dressing case, the fittings being heavily mounted with solid silver. From Miss Edyth Garden came a solid silver casket, containing a set of safety razors and appliances; from Miss Bella Skene, a solid silver cigar case; from Mr. William Skene Henry, a set of razors in handsome case; Mrs. William Henry, a gold match-box; from his brother, Samuel Walford Bodie, a handsome single stone diamond ring; from Miss Loo Henry, a solid silver corkscrew; from Miss Kitty Henry, a set of gold evening dress buttons, set with small diamonds in centre; from Miss Nan Skene Henry, a beautiful gold appendage; from his grandmother, a beautiful diamond horseshoe scarf-pin; from the members of Dr. Bodie's company, a solid gold jewelled combination sovereign purse and match-box; and from Mr. and Mrs. Tom Norman Mills (the real John Bull), a handsome gold-mounted umbrella, and many other presents.

Dr. Bodie presided at the banquet, which was attended by the whole of the members of his company and several friends and relations. After a pleasant evening of dancing, song, and story, the company broke up in the small hours. Miss Loo Henry, the Doctor's musical conductress, ably presided at the piano.

To celebrate the occasion at Macduff, a grand supper and dance were given at the Manor House to Dr. Bodie's tenantry and several friends. Mr. Bodie now becomes heir to all Dr. and Mrs. Bodie's heritable properties, including his whole estate in the North, also the three principal hotels in Macduff, the Fife Arms Hotel, the Commercial Hotel, and the Bay View Hotel. Dr. Bodie has only two sons; he lost his only daughter last year. His youngest son, Sam, is studying medicine.

SHREWSBURY FLORAL FETE.

The Shrewsbury Floral and Musical Fête this year has been a success, especially the variety entertainment. On Wednesday and Thursday the famous Caicedo walked, ran, and leaped on the high wire in his customary daring and skilful manner, justifying his proud claim to be called "King of the Wire"; Mlle. Pollo, a remarkably skilful and graceful trapeze artist, merited high praise for her finished performance; De Lilo and Metz, in their pedestal-bending act, did an exceedingly smart and agile turn; the fixed low wire act of Les Arabellas was a very fine one; the Lafaille Troupe of acrobats proved a hard-working and clever band of artists; the Brothers O'Brien gave a good display on the three bars; the Olrac Comedy Troupe of acrobats supplied a meritorious and attractive exhibition; a turn of especial interest was that of the Tan Kwai Troupe of Chinese acrobats, typical Orientals, whose extraordinary feats were warmly applauded; the performance of the Aurora Troupe of cyclists was wonderful; the Two Butterflies contributed a most pleasing and talented aerial act; and the Denaro Brothers, juvenile acrobats, were quick, clever, and admirably trained. In the evening the combined bands of H.M. Coldstream Guards and H.M. Royal Artillery (Woolwich), numbering 112 performers (conductors—Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan, M.V.O., Hon. R.A.M., Lieutenant Coldstream Guards, and Mr. E. C. Stretton, R.A.M.) gave a truly delightful military promenade concert, the programme being as under:—Suite, "Neapolitan Scenes"; "Entry of the Gods into Valhalla"; Suite No. 1 from the music to *Peer Gynt*; tone poem, "Finlandia"; "March Solennelle"; "Norwegischer Kunstler Carneval"; overture, *Rienzi*; and morceau, "The Nigger's Birthday." Mr. Thos. James's orchestral band (of Wolverhampton) played appropriate music for the stage and other performances; and Mr. E. R. Hollier was, as usual, happy and at home in his post as stage-manager. Messrs. Anger and Bauer were the agents for the performers; and Messrs. Adnitt and Naunton, the hon. secretaries to the fête, carried out their multitudinous duties with their usual thoroughness and success.

"RANDVOLL HOUSE" OUTING.

The head office staff, managers, and acting managers of the London Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., accompanied by their friends, left Paddington on Sunday last for Windsor, for their first annual outing. To the strains of a select orchestra they boarded the magnificent launch Britannia for a voyage of many miles of beautiful Thames scenery.

The company landed at Marlow, where they spent an hour ashore, returning at 5 o'clock. A most enjoyable lunch and tea were served on board. Arriving at Windsor at 8 o'clock, the party boarded the special train which was waiting to convey them back to home, sweet home.

The office staff were represented by Messrs. Gulliver, Brown, Humphreys, Barwood, and Stevenson; the halls by nearly all the managers and acting-managers. Among the friends of both were Messrs. Horley, Tom Pacey, Sam Richards, and many others. Mr. L. Maloney, of the Willesden Hippodrome, on the return journey obliged the company with a few well-selected songs.

At the conclusion of the trip a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hayden for the able manner in which he had arranged and conducted a most enjoyable day's outing.

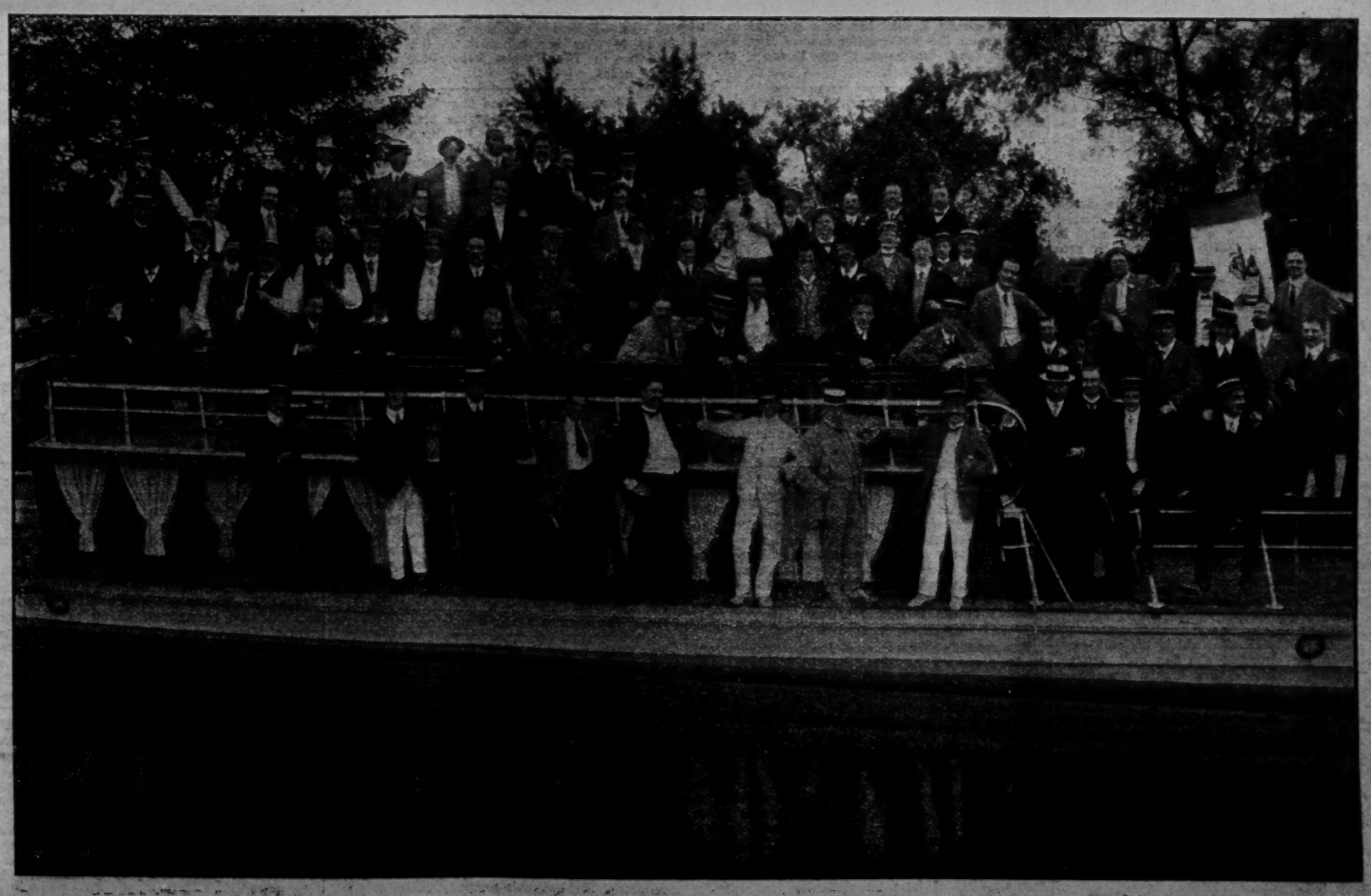

WALTER GIBBONS' MANAGERS' OUTING, SUNDAY, AUGUST. 14.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree, in order to assist the critics in the performance of their duties, announces that the curtain will rise on the forthcoming production of *Henry VIII.*, at His Majesty's, at seven o'clock, and it is hoped that the performance may be concluded by 9.45. With reference to the production Sir Herbert says: "There will be nothing in the shape of symbolism. Our endeavour is to present an exact picture of the period as it was; let no one attempt to read into the scenes a deeper or subtler significance than each obviously contains."

The cast of *Henry VIII.* runs to nearly three dozen, and each character will be depicted by an experienced artist, the full list revealing some well-known names. In addition to Sir Herbert Tree as Wolsey, Mr. Arthur Bourchier as Henry VIII., Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Queen Katharine, and Mr. Henry Ainley as Buckingham, there will be Mr. A. E. George as Norfolk, Mr. Gerald Laurence as Surrey, Mr. Edward Sass as Lord Chamberlain, Mr. Edmund Gurney as Porter, Mr. Edward O'Neill as Suffolk, Mr. Acton Bond as Surveyor, and Mrs. Charles Calvert as an Old Lady. The cast will also comprise Messrs. S. A. Cookson, Francis Chamier, Charles Fuller, William Burchill, Clarence Derwent, Walter R. Creighton, James Smythson, Henry C. Hewitt, Charles James, Reginald Owen, Henry Morrell, Cyril Sworder, Charles Howard, Claude Edmonds, Clifford Heatherley, Arthur Gaskill, W. B. Abingdon, Charles Baker, Frederick Weston, Ernest Freeman, and Ross Shore, Miss Laura Cowie and Miss Lila Barclay.

Sir Herbert, having noticed an attack which has been publicly made by a brother manager on the forthcoming revival of *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's, will briefly deal with the matter in the pages of a pamphlet which will shortly be published. The "attack" referred to is presumably contained in Mr. Herbert Trench's article which appeared in the *Saturday Review* last week under the title of "Shakespeare and Modern Staging."

The following are the passages which may be taken as having reference to Sir Herbert's methods of mounting:—"Presently we shall have upon us an avalanche of Shakespearian upholstery. There will be the familiar glitter of stage-crowds, betinselled cavalcades, 'built-up' palaces and chapels, of coronations modelled upon fancy balls. The cloth of gold in these will cost fabulous sums, and the lace and velvet robes of the cardinals will later furnish forth valuable dining-room curtains for illustrious actor-managers. Pictures galore there will be, in blazes of electric light so fierce that facial play is extinguished and grease-paint unmistakable."

"All Shakespeare's plays lend themselves of course to treatment by symbolic scenery; his own peculiar virtue lying in a supreme poetry or felicity of expression, which carries (as it were) the scenery half-implicit in the language, plainly all true Shakespeare lovers will adopt that style of stage-management in which the poetry and the beauty of language is thrown into sharpest salience and relief. To that all other virtues of staging, however puissant and legitimate in themselves, must, in this case, be subordinated.

"The eye must not be sodden and satiated in vulgar profusions of loud glaring colours, trumpet-notes of satins, rich textures, and spangled stuffs, ballet dances, or farcical ceremonies—in which courtiers are ever prancing about in their best. The stage must not be, as it always is nowadays, a fierce blaze of evenly-shed unflickering and merciless electric light. Packed and innumerable crowds, such as those of the Dagon Temple at a Covent Garden opera, are totally unnecessary for Shakespearian performances.

"Crowds may be indicated by modest numbers, bright with intelligence and active in movement, as at the Théâtre Français; and a whole army can be suggested by a group of spears behind a wall. In a word, the Shakespearian stage should lend itself, by a studious sobriety and reserve in colours, to the higher delights of the ear and the intelligence. This symbolic scenery was as the poet himself wished it to be."

We should not have referred to these differences of opinion had not Sir Herbert announced his intention of answering Mr. Trench in print. Sir Herbert is quite capable of fighting his own battle, and the controversy is certain to be both interesting and piquant.

Mr. Laurence Irving's tour is proving so successful that he has decided to extend it beyond the ten weeks originally intended. The reception accorded to his play *The Unwritten Law*, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last was most enthusiastic, and *Margaret Catchpole* has also proved a great success wherever it has been played. Mr. Sydney Paxton is Mr. Laurence Irving's general-manager.

Mr. Martin Harvey's advocacy—always a strong and very real one—of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre scheme is to find an outlet in a very arduous and interesting manner. He proposes, commencing next week, to begin a crusade, with the object of endeavouring to interest the provincial public in the need of such an institution. Mr. Harvey, who opens his provincial tour at the Opera House, Harrogate, on Monday, intends to give, practically in every city that he visits, a lecture for the purpose of explaining the details of the ideals of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre scheme, and of inviting subscriptions towards the fund for the building and endowment thereof. The first lecture will be given at Harrogate on Thursday. The Mayor of the town will preside, and Mr. Harvey will have the support of a strong and influential body of representative ladies and gentlemen of the North, together with the aid of the local committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre.

The manager of the Harrogate Opera House, Mr. Peacock, and his directors, have very kindly placed the theatre at Mr. Harvey's disposal for his lecture, and Mr. Robert Arthur has also promised to lend the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Mrs. Charles Sugden has secured a melodrama by Mrs. T. Morton Powell which the authoress considers is the strongest she has ever written. One situation, which is of a highly sensational character, came under Mrs. Powell's own observation when she was travelling in India. Mr. Powell has repeatedly refused offers for the drama, because she recognised the difficulty of finding an actress with the strength and pathos to play the leading part, and she was delighted at the opportunity of offering Mrs. Sugden the piece. The scenery, which is to be very elaborate, is almost completed. Mr. T. Morton Powell is booking the tour for Mrs. Sugden, which commences in October, and so anxious have been provincial managers to secure Mrs. Sugden in a "real live" melodrama that there are only a few vacant dates for the autumn of 1911.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to become the Patron of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

The benefit matinée to Mrs. Carpenter at the Lyceum has been finally fixed for Tuesday, Sept. 27, in order to meet the convenience of some of the prominent artists who have promised to take part. Contributions to the programme will be made by many of the leading artists.

Viscount Althorp (the Hon. Robert Spencer), who, by the death of Earl Spencer, has succeeded to the peerage, has been Lord Chamberlain to Her Majesty since 1905, and has filled the office to the satisfaction of everyone, including the London theatrical managers.

Miss Decima Moore concludes her special engagement as "Lady Frederick" at Brighton this week. On Monday a large number of seats were taken by the Women's Social and Political Union to welcome Miss Moore, and the Union presented her with a large horseshoe of purple, white, and green flowers, the colours of the Union.

Mr. "Willie" Clarkson's lion, which represented the might and majesty of Britannia's Realm at the recent Naval and Military Tournament at Olympia, met with an ignominious fate on the Embankment on Tuesday last. It appears that a van belonging to Mr. J. Sullivan, a cartage contractor, of Covent Garden, was engaged in taking the lion from the premises of Mr. W. Clarkson, the well-known theatrical costumier, to a firm of tea merchants in Tooley-street. Besides the lion, the occupants were the driver (Alfred Goodwin) and two employees of Mr. Clarkson.

When going under Hungerford Bridge the horse apparently took fright at a train passing overhead and bolted, Goodwin being thrown off the box and sustaining bruises and cuts on the hip and the other two men falling out of the back of the cart. The horse, having a clear road, ran towards Waterloo Bridge, amidst considerable excitement, a policeman vainly trying to stop it. The tram employee on duty at the end of the tunnel saw the danger, and stopped a tram from coming out, otherwise there would have been a nasty accident.

As it was, the horse crossed the line and the vehicle collided violently with the refuge underneath Waterloo Bridge. The van was overturned, the front carriage, with a pair of wheels, being broken off, and the shafts and other parts damaged. The horse sustained little injury. The spectators were considerably startled to see the full-sized lion come tumbling out into the roadway, but when they found it was harmless a big crowd gathered. The lion was subsequently taken to its destination.

A son and heir was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Haviland on Tuesday. The advent of the little stranger accounts for the fact that Mrs. Haviland (Miss Edyth Latimer) is not announced to play in the West End at present, and is the reason of her having had to refuse two offers to appear in leading parts next month. As mother and child are both flourishing, however, Miss Latimer's early return to the stage is anticipated.

Mr. William Haviland goes on tour with Mr. Lewis Waller shortly, and will not be seen in London till after Christmas.

Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton have scored a big success with their new production *His Indian Wife*, which played to enormous business at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and could easily have run for six weeks. Mr. Barnard has arranged for Messrs. Green and Hinton's next production to run for one month in the autumn of 1911 at the Elephant.

Mr. Dan Rolyat, who has been absent from the cast of *The Arcadians*, at the Shaftesbury, for several weeks, returns to play his part of Simplicitas this evening.

The Ipswich Lyceum Theatre, which is one of the best-appointed of the smaller theatres in the provinces, has been under the management since its opening in 1891 of the local directors, but is now, as we announced last week, leased for a period of seven years to Messrs. Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savery. The new lessees have already given practical evidence of their intention to popularise the theatre by making a reduction all round in the prices of admission, which is sure to be appreciated by the public. The programme for the autumn is excellent.

Mr. Leonard Pagden has been engaged to play Tompson in the forthcoming tour of *The Woman in the Case*, commencing on Monday at the Shakespeare, Clapham.

Miss Gabrielle Ray returned to Daly's Theatre on Monday, after her Continental holiday, resuming her original part of Daisy in *The Dollar Princess*.

Mr. Lawson Lambert, who has been representing Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton at the Garrick Theatre since the commencement of their tenancy, will again act as their business-manager when the theatre reopens on the 27th inst. with Hall Caine's new play, *The Eternal Question*.

Mr. Walter Melville, in a talk with the *Daily Chronicle* representative, warmly defended his plays and their purpose. "Our dramas," said he, "are not mere sensationalism. They are moral sermons, which to be effective, vital, and healthily stimulating, must be realistic. You cannot point to a single one, from *The Worst Woman in London* onward, in which vice is not represented as meeting with its just and terrible retribution. I have received letters from clergymen thanking us for the good effect of our dramas, and, I may add, of our posters, which tell the same tale.

"As to the action of the Nottingham Watch Committee in striking out the words 'Her Character,' it appears to me merely prurient. As the play and its title stand, I am proud to be connected with them. But, frankly, I should be ashamed to be responsible for anything so needlessly suggestive as *The Girl Who Lost*——. The truth is, that it is all part of the officiousness and tyranny of the provincial police."

The special performances of Italian Grand Opera to be given at the Kingsway Theatre will commence on Thursday, Sept. 1, with Rossini's *Barbière di Seviglia*. Following the custom adopted by his celebrated countryman Mr. A. Toscanini, Mr. de Macchi will not only conduct the opera without score, but will also stage it. Mr. de Macchi has conducted in such important theatres as the Costanzi of Rome, San Carlo of Naples, Comunele of Trieste, &c. The cast is as follows:—Rosina, Miss Isabella de Frate; Almaviva, Signor Franco de Gregorio; Figaro, Signor Gaetano Rebonato; Don Bartolo, Signor F. Talamanca; and Basilio, Signor Luigi Lucenti. The costumes and scenery, which are entirely new and historically accurate, have been specially made by the costumiers and scenic artists of La Scala, Milan.

Mr. Charles Manners' United Empire Grand Opera scheme is being warmly taken up, large numbers of shares having already been applied for. Mr. Manners proposes to give addresses on the subject of his scheme at various places in and out of the Metropolis, from which practical results may be expected.

Messrs. John Hyman and Co., the well-known theatrical costumiers, have dressed, amongst hundreds of famous plays, the celebrated *The Speckled Band*, have made the hunting suits for *The Whip* at Drury Lane, and have supplied the whole of the uniforms for the Japan-British Exhibition. They also did the dresses for that great success, *The Bad Girl of the Family*.

Mr. Murray King, during the early summer months, toured for a few weeks *Our Flat*, one of the funniest of farcial comedies. The resulting business was so wonderfully good, and the play went with such screams of laughter, that Murray King and Clark have now determined, by arrangement with Miss Daisy Atherton, to send their company on a long autumn tour. A new plant of pictorial printing will be used, and the dressing and mounting will have special care.

We have to record the death of Dr. Fred Courtenay, second son of the late Lindo Courtenay (formerly lessee of Wolverhampton, Chester, Oldham, and Liverpool theatres). Dr. Courteney for the last ten years resided in Eccles, and practised in the town. During the last twelve months he had had much illness, and for the benefit of his health made a trip to the Canary Isles. On the return voyage he had a heart seizure, and on reaching Liverpool was taken by ambulance from the vessel to the Southern Hospital, where his death took place from aortic aneurism. The interment took place in the family vault at Toxteth Park on Wednesday, Aug. 10.

Mr. Ernest Wright, who has served in various capacities with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham during the past twelve or thirteen years, and who was acting-manager at the Royalty, Glasgow, lately, has been appointed business-manager at the New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

"The Man from Mexico" will be preceded at the Strand Theatre on Sept. 10 by *His Living Image*, a little Dutch comedy written by Mr. Stanley Cooke, with music by Mr. Arthur Wood, which won approbation on its production at the Coronet in the November of 1908. The leading part of Gretchen will be played by Miss Amy Francis, who in private life is Mrs. Stanley Cooke.

During the absence of Miss Gertie Millar from the cast of *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety Theatre the part of Lady Betty has been charmingly played by Miss Enid Leslie, one of Mr. George Edwardes' "finds."

"The Little Damozel" still continues her triumphant tour of the seaside resorts. At Bridlington last week, despite glorious weather and a host of outdoor amusements, Mr. Monkton Hoffe's delightful play drew the best houses seen there this season. Return dates have been offered at every town visited.

In the "C" section of the L.C.C. bands, a xylophone made by Mr. H. Lisle, xylophone maker, of Camberwell, was introduced on Thursday evening last, and was greatly admired. This instrument appears to be in great demand just now, Mr. Lisle having recently supplied it to Liverpool Police Band, Grenadier Guards, Irish Guards, Royal Marine Artillery, 2nd Life Guards, and others.

The Carl Rosa Opera Company's tour will commence on Aug. 29 at the Kennington Theatre, followed by a week at the Marlborough, Holloway, and one at the Broadway, New Cross. Londoners will have the opportunity of hearing for the first time Goldmark's opera *The Queen of Sheba*, which has been so successful in the provinces, and Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*, which was performed in the sixties in Italian, but has never yet been heard in English. *La Forza del Destino* was produced in St. Petersburg in 1862. When it was performed in Milan in 1868, Verdi wrote a new trio finale.

Other novelties in contemplation are *The Bartered Bride*, by Smetana, and revivals of *Der Freischutz*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Magic Flute*. In the company are Miss Doris Woodall, Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, Miss Ina Hill, and Miss Beatrice Miranda. Newcomers are Miss Annie van Dyck, a young Dutch lady, who sings equally well in five languages, Miss Phyllis Archibald, a young mezzo-soprano, and a young Lancashire soprano, Miss Hilda Morris. Mr. Walter Van Noorden's colleague in the conductor's chair is Mr. Eugene Goossens.

Miss Margherita Gordon, who has been lately playing Mrs. Mackay during the initial tour of *My Lady Bellamy*, will rejoin Mr. Auguste Van Biene to play her old part of the Hon. Mrs. Spinaker in *The Broken Melody*—her eighth re-engagement.

Mr. Wilfrid Compton and Miss Miriam Holt are playing this autumn under the management of Miss Beatrice Moreau and Mr. Horace Lingard. Mr. Compton will register his fiftieth performance as George Newte in *Fanny and the Servant Problem* at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, on Monday, and on Aug. 29, at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, Miss Holt appears for the fiftieth time as Miss Wetherall in the same play under its American title, *The New Lady Bantock*.

We record with regret the death of Mrs. Arthur Dale, professionally known as Gertie Monti, actress and vocalist, who passed away on the 11th inst. at the age of forty-five. She leaves her husband and six little ones to mourn her loss. The deceased was buried at Brookwood Cemetery on Tuesday. Wreaths and expressions of sympathy were sent by Mrs. Arthur Stratton, Miss Daisy de Roy, the Sisters Richmond, Mr. Arthur Stratton, Mr. Carl Ostend, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Paulo, and others.

Mr. Frank Bertram has entered into an agreement with Mr. George N. Ballanger to send on tour in September the well-known American scout Young Buffalo in the Western drama *King of the Wild West*. This play has been most successful in the States, and Mr. Ballanger will bring over a full company—real Sioux Indians, Mexican ponies, a cowboy band, and a complete production. It was originally intended to open at a West End theatre, but none is available. So the company and production will arrive in Liverpool and will tour for a few weeks until the London arrangements are completed.

The Shakespeare Summer Celebration at Stratford-on-Avon was brought to a close on Saturday amid much enthusiasm, the festival having been a pronounced success. A repetition of the prize play, *The Piper*, was given in the afternoon, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* filled the hall at night, crowded audiences assembling on both occasions. Some hundreds of school teachers have spent their holidays at Stratford in order to take part in the proceedings, and, besides witnessing a series of Shakespeare's plays, have gained instruction in folklore, singing, and old-fashioned dancing, which they will teach in their schools when the holidays are over. After the performances on Saturday night bouquets and wreaths and presents of various kinds were handed to all the members of Mr. Benson's company.

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, at the Queen's Theatre, on Sept. 20 will present Mr. William J. Locke's new play, *The Man from the Sea*, in which Miss Cecilia Loftus was to have played the principal part. Miss Loftus, however, has been prevented from doing so by having to undergo an operation, and Miss Nina Boucicault has been engaged to fill the vacancy thus created. Mr. Robert Loraine, the actor-aviator, will play a celebrated traveller.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's charming theatre at Grantham will shortly emerge from the decorators' hands, the building having been for the second time renovated. The second and dress circles also have been entirely reseated. Under careful and popular administration the Grantham Theatre has won the confidence of touring managers, and is visited by the best companies.

The Women's Imperial Health Association of Great Britain, of which Muriel Viscountess Helmsley is the president, will send off the first caravan of the campaign to-day from the Botanic Gardens. This caravan is to be named the Aurora (signifying the dawn of a new era), and will be christened by Miss Lena Ashwell with a flask of pure water.

Mr. Morton Powell will produce at the Pavilion Theatre on Monday a new drama from the pen of Mrs. Morton Powell, entitled *From Mill Girl to Millionairess*. The scenery has been specially built at Mr. Morton Powell's scenic factory. A powerful cast has been engaged, and Mr. Powell feels confident the play will prove to be the most successful of the many dramas written by his wife.

The second week of the Promenade Concert season at the Queen's Hall starts on Monday with the usual Wagner concert, at which a number of familiar items will be given. Amongst the vocalists for the week are Miss Esta d'Argo, Mr. Gerald Zalsman, Miss Julia Caroli, Mr. Thorpe Bates, Miss Caroline Hatchard, Mr. Julien Henry, Miss Sarah Crook, Mr. James Hay, Miss Maud Santley, and Mr. Morgan Kingston. The list of selections is a most attractive one.

"Are You a Mason?" is again having a long tour of success. Its tour started last Christmas, and extends well into 1911. This speaks well for this evergreen farcical comedy, so well done under the auspices of General Productions, Ltd.

"A Royal Divorce" concludes a very successful visit at the Opera House, Southport, to-night. The feature of the week has been the remarkably enthusiastic receptions accorded to Miss Edith Cole. On Monday Mr. W. W. Kelly's famous play commences its fifty-eighth visit to Manchester, which city it has visited more frequently than any other.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's booking of Mr. H. P. Towers's company this week at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, playing *The Best People*, has induced large numbers of "the best people" of Liverpool to visit Mr. Kelly's handsome house in Paradise-street, where the clever play, capitally acted in a theatre which is the acme of comfort, and where the prices are of low dimensions, has been most successful.

Mr. Arthur C. Moody, the popular lessee and manager of the new Theatre Royal, Blyth, and Miners' Theatre, Ashington, who is an enthusiastic motorist, owning two large cars, has just got plans passed to build a large motor garage in one of the principal streets of Blyth capable of holding over thirty cars.

Mr. Russell Norrie begins his fourth tour next month with a répertoire of high-class modern pieces. The attractions on which he will chiefly depend are Mr. Walter Reynolds' play *Mr. Smith*, and a new romantic play, in four acts, entitled *Her King of Men*. The last-mentioned deals chiefly with the remarkable resemblance between two men, one a scamp the other a *preux chevalier*. Mr. Russell Norrie will, of course, play the dual rôle.

Miss Alexandra Carlisle has been selected to play the leading part in Messrs. Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's new play *A Woman's Way*, by Mr. Thompson Buchanan, at the Comedy Theatre next month.

Mr. George Dance's tour of *The Whip* was inaugurated at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Monday, with the most gratifying results. Early in the day every available seat in the theatre had been secured, and long queues for the unreserved parts of the house awaited the opening of the doors. The evening's performance was a triumph for all concerned, the enormous difficulties that had to be contended with in presenting the Railway Collision and the Race for the Two Thousand Guineas being successfully surmounted. Mr. "Jimmy" Glover, who occupied the conductor's chair, was the recipient of an ovation.

A picture, valued both for its literary and artistic associations, has mysteriously disappeared from Anderton's Hotel, which has for some time past been the headquarters of the Urban Club. The missing treasure is an oil-painting by Mr. W. Maw Egley, measuring 50in. by 18in., which contains the portraits of no fewer than forty-nine members of the club, including the late Sir Henry Irving, Sir J. Crichton Browne, M.D., and Mr. W. Frith. The picture has been ruthlessly cut from its frame in the club room. A description of the missing picture has been circulated by Scotland Yard.

The autumn season may be said to start on Monday, when Miss May Robson makes her eagerly-awaited appearance at Terry's Theatre as Aunt Mary Watkins in *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*, in which she has scored wonderfully in America. The artists supporting Miss Robson will be:—Mr. Jack Storey, Mr. Paul Decker, Mr. Arthur Deering, Mr. John McMahon, Mr. C. C. Gwyne, Mr. Geo. F. Hall, Mr. Lester Wallace, Mr. Harry Jones, Mr. Faye Cusick, Miss Nana Saville, Miss Lillian Westner, Miss Lotta Blake, and Miss Rose Fantusz.

Mr Henry Doughty will tour in the spring with a répertoire including *Geoffrey Stirling*, *The Dead Heart* (which has not been seen since Sir Henry Irving's revival at the Lyceum), a new society drama, *Broken Wings*, by Chas. James and E. J. Malyon, and a new play by a well-known novelist.

Miss Lilian Fawn, who plays Valida in *Florida*, was called upon at a moment's notice on Tuesday last at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, to take up the part of Angela, owing to the indisposition of Miss Hersee. She made a success, and was congratulated by the manager, Mr. Charles Constant.

At the New Theatre Royal, Blackburn, on Monday last, Mr. Allan Wilkie added further to his répertoire with the production of Louis N. Parker's famous romantic drama *The Cardinal*. This play had never been seen in Blackburn before, and it speaks well for Mr. Wilkie's masterly interpretation of the title-rôle and the general excellence of the production that, in spite of the hot weather, it had a most enthusiastic reception from a large audience on the opening night, and drew a still larger house on the second night of its performance at Blackburn. Mr. Wilkie has arranged to place the play permanently in his répertoire.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark will produce on Monday, at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, *A Bedouin Beauty*, a romantic light opera by Talbot Hughes, and composed by Frederick Rosse and Raymond King. A strong cast, headed by Mr. King, will present the opera, which will be mounted on a very lavish scale, and subsequently taken on tour.

Mr. Walter Gay finishes to-night his engagement as leading man with Mr. Robert Arthur's company at the Kennington Theatre. The season has been such a successful one that it has extended over fourteen weeks, during which full houses have testified to the popularity of the enterprise. Mr. Gay has played the lead in *The Romany Rye*, *Lights of London*, *In the Ranks*, *Harbour Lights*, *English Rose*, *Hoodman Blind*, *The Silver King*, and other popular specimens of Adelphi drama. He has not yet concluded his arrangements for the autumn.

"Merry Maisie" is the title of the latest musical comedy which is about to be toured by Messrs. Cyril James and Thomas, with a strong representative cast of well-known musical comedy artists. The book is by W. T. Ivory, and the light and original music by Eugene Coppo. It will be sent on tour early in September, and several first-class dates have been secured.

Mr. Charles Gibson resumed his tour of *Alone in London* at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, last week, when, in spite of the hot weather, crowds were turned away nightly. A local patron, seeing the enormous queues waiting for admission, exclaimed, "It's like pantomime." Business is even better this week at Aberdeen.

Miss Winifred Pearson is playing *Meg the Mobswoman*, a dramatic episode, by M. Leon M. Lion, as a curtain-raiser to *Miss Tommy* on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln. Miss Pearson is also playing Vivian Morrison, the adventuress, in Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's play, a part in which she had the good fortune to be personally complimented by the author.

As Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pearce (Miss Ella Erskine) were coming down Park-lane on Tuesday evening in a taxi the vehicle went over the kerb into a lamp-post. Mr. Pearce's face was cut, and Miss Erskine's nose suffered considerably—so much so, that immediate medical attendance was necessary. No serious results are anticipated, and the injured pair were able to play on Friday at Worcester in a pastoral play.

Prince Nicholas, of the Royal Family of Montenegro, has officially opened a theatre at Cettigne, the first in the principality. The play selected for the occasion was entitled *The Empress of the Balkans*, the author of which was discovered to be Prince Nicholas himself.

Mrs. Lewis Waller figured in an amusing case at Chichester County Court on the 10th inst., when Messrs. Screech and Co., tailors, of Bognor, made a claim for £7 16s. 6d., in respect of work done. Plaintiffs' counsel said Mrs. Waller lived at Flansham, near Bognor. Mr. Screech had done work for Mrs. Waller for many years, but when her last bill was sent in she raised objection to several items. The items in dispute resolved themselves into about four pieces of work. A violet skirt, it was objected, was one inch too large in the waist and the hang of it was upset; a mole skirt-band was too tight; a purple costume was stated to have one sleeve cut differently from the other; and a grey costume was described as hopeless, and quite unwearable. Plaintiffs' counsel contended that the things were made correctly to order.

At the request of the Judge, Mrs. Waller put on the grey costume, the Court adjourning for ten minutes while the lady was conducted to a private room. Upon the Court resuming Mrs. Waller appeared in the grey costume, and, giving evidence, said she had had considerable experience of dressmakers and ladies' tailors in London and elsewhere. The costume she was then wearing was to have been a copy of a blue one. Mr. Screech took her measurements, and the coat was left with him to copy. When she was fitted she told Mr. Screech it would have to be altered. The collar was very bad, the back did not fit, the sleeves were not put in properly, and the skirt was not like the copy. She therefore returned it. Mr. Screech was permitted to test the fitting of the costume before his Honour, and at first he said there was nothing the matter with it. The wrinkles in the back, he said, were due to the costume having been in the box. They could be taken out by re-fitting the collar. It did want that alteration. It was not more than an hour's work to put it right. "Mr. Screech says he can make it right in an hour. What do you say about that?" defendant was asked by her counsel. "I don't think a lifetime devoted to it would make much difference," replied Mrs. Waller, amid laughter.

A ladies' tailor, of Chichester, examined the grey costume while it was still being worn by Mrs. Waller, and said it was not far wrong, and could very easily be altered. It was too tight, but that was a trifling matter, as the buttons could soon be put back. It would not take a skilled man more than three hours to put it right. The skirt, he agreed, was not like the blue one, of which it was supposed to be a copy, but it was not a bad fit.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said the defendant had satisfied him that her reason for rejecting the grey costume was a good and sufficient one. He did not accept plaintiff's evidence that these defects were trifling ones, which could be altered in a very short time. It seemed to him, not only by the evidence of the witnesses, but from his own eyes, that the defects were very serious, and the costume certainly did not correspond in any substantial or essential way with the model given to plaintiff to copy. He thought under the circumstances defendant was entitled to reject the costume. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for £2 3s., and allowed him no costs for witnesses.

Mr. James Berry, we are sorry to hear, is lying seriously indisposed at a nursing home at 18, Holland-road, Hove, Brighton, and in consequence all his plans for the immediate future must be abandoned.

The Adelphi will be reopened by Mr. George Edwardes in October with *The Quaker Girl*, a new musical play by Messrs. Tanner and Monckton. Meanwhile the theatre will undergo extensive alterations and improvements. The vestibule is being carried back three times the distance to which it used to extend, and will be rebuilt in marble and oak. The staircases at present leading from the centre of the hall to the dress circle and upper circle are being removed. A separate entrance for the upper circle will be provided from the Strand, and for the dress circle, foyer, and boxes, a handsome staircase leading from the further end of the vestibule will take the place of the old and narrow ascent. A semi-circle of boxes will be built round the back of the dress circle, and the stalls will be provided with luxurious chairs upholstered in rose-pink. A new curtain, new velvet hangings, and private boxes enlarged, lined with silk, are among the alterations in progress.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

No More Roof Gardens

One of the features of this peculiar summer is the passing of the roof-garden from New York. Two years ago every theatre there was going to have a roof-garden. Some were built, more or less elaborately. One new theatre was constructed with a sliding roof, so as to become an open-air house at a day's notice, and this theatre was the first to close on account of the heat. The only theatre roof-garden open this year is on the New York Theatre, but that has been transformed into a place for all-the-year-round entertainments.

A Dramatist who Outlived Himself.

"None of the late Mr. Bronson Howard's plays keeps the stage now," says Mr. Stephen Fiske in *Sports of the Times;* "outside of a small circle he is forgotten; but he was the greatest American dramatist of his era and the first to win the hearts of the British public. He was equally facile in comedy and drama—in *Saratoga* and *Young Mrs. Winthrop*, in *The Henrietta* and *Shenandoah*. Originally a newspaper man on the *Free Press* of Detroit, his native city, he came to New York as a reporter on the *Tribune*, and during four years devoted all his leisure time to writing plays that managers would not take the trouble to read or to return. This is the heartbreaking story of almost every dramatist, and we are told that it is good for him—it develops genius. But before he was twenty-eight fame and fortune smiled upon him in his *Saratoga*, played in England by his brother-in-law, now Sir Charles Wyndham, at Brighton. Success followed success, averaging a new play every two years. But meanwhile the dramatists whom he had inspired had passed beyond him. His latest plays, superior in literary ability, lacked the dramatic touch. As a playwright he had outlived himself. But as a man he was more charming and delightful than ever, and he should have lived long to enjoy his pecuniary competency and his international reputation."

Garrick's Villa.

The same writer tells us that Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan is called upon by *Town Topics* to purchase Garrick's Villa, and present it to the Actors' Fund of New York. The argument is that, as Mr. Morgan cannot get the King John's Cup from King's Lynn for $250,000, and will not buy the crown of Great Britain on account of a doubt about the genuineness of the jewels, he must want to purchase something English. Why not the Garrick Villa? It is urged that the fittings and furnishings will appeal to his artistic taste, and this is very true. The canvased walls painted with Chinese subjects are unique.

"But should Mr. Morgan buy the villa, he ought not," says Mr. Fiske, "to present it to the Actors' Fund, which has no use for it, and could not afford to maintain it as a museum for relics of the Garrick era. The Actors' Association of England would be the proper beneficiary. "Still," says Mr. Fiske, "I hold to the original proposition that the villa be bought and endowed by international subscriptions and benefits, and that Mr. George Alexander, on behalf of the West End Managers' Association, appoint a committee to raise the necessary funds. If I were in London the matter could be settled in a few hours. But there is some hitch about the negotiations that I cannot unravel at this distance."

Mr. Frohman's New Plays.

An analysis of the forty new plays to be produced by Mr. Charles Frohman shows that 40 per cent. are by English authors, over 30 per cent. by French, and only 15 per cent. by American. Mr. Frohman says frankly, "The American authors are not producing the goods. Sixteen English plays, thirteen French, and only seven American—the native dramatist, for whom we have all laboured so hard, needs prodding and protecting again."

Garrick's Henry VIII.

"Sir Herbert Tree," says the *Westminster Gazette*, "is by this time fully alive to the criticism which, in advance, is certain to be passed upon his promised presentation of *Henry VIII.* next month at His Majesty's. He will assuredly be told that he has overdone the spectacle, and that, although Sir Henry Irving set him in this respect an ill example, he will have gone beyond what any other leading actor-manager has ever dreamed of. Yet, when there is held forth the expectation of a magnificent setting at His Majesty's of the scene of the coronation of Anne Boleyn in Westminster Abbey, Sir Herbert Tree may plead that, in the long ago, when Garrick—no inconsiderable person in our theatrical history—was the principal figure at Drury Lane, and this very play was given, spectacle was obviously a large part of the production. 'For the Entertainment of the Tripoline Embassador,' there was given in October, 1759, a performance of *Henry VIII.* at that house, with Moody as the King, Mrs. Pritchard as Queen Katherine, and Miss Young as 'Patience (with a proper Song)'; and there was promised 'an exact Representation of the Coronation, and the Ceremony of the Champion in Westminster Hall.' The bill was completed with 'a Pantomime Entertainment call'd "Harlequin Ranger," to conclude with a Dance of Millers'; and 'No Persons can be admitted behind the Scenes,' it was carefully added, though a similar announcement had then been accustomed to be made for many years."

Interest in the Stage.

After all, says the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, with the majority of English people as at present constituted, apart from an occasional fleeting interest in a murder case, the stage is the only thing that really matters, and the news that Mr. Arthur Bourchier has grown a real beard in which to appear as Henry VIII. will bring brightness to many an eye which remains unresponsive to matters of minor national concern.

A Novelty in Hats.

Miss Violet Halls, an American actress, who was well known in comic opera in the States and later in London, has, says the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, prepared a novel costume to wear when she resumes her engagement at the St. Petersburg music halls next season. She is having a hat made with a brim twelve feet in diameter. When the curtain goes up she stands with her head bent forward, so that the audience sees nothing but the flower-bedecked top of the hat, which acts as a screen, hiding her completely. Then she lifts her head, revealing herself in a "stunning" costume, with the enormous hat brim behind as a background. She expects to make the Russians sit up and stare at her even more than they have in the past, which is saying a good deal.

Censorship and Police.

"I think," said Mr. Laurence Irving recently to an interviewer, "there should be no censorship; it should be with plays as it is with books, for the police to take up. No three men could differ as to what is obscene, and I think there would be very few manifestly indecent plays. Anyone taking down one of Wycherley's plays knows he is reading a dirty play, and one which is not fit for production on the modern stage. But when one finds the ban extended to Tolstoy, Bernard Shaw, and Maeterlinck, three of the finest teachers of morality—not, perhaps, of conventional morality—I think it is time the system was changed." When asked if he thought police intervention would be the more dignified course, Mr. Irving retorted, "That is the way with books."

"THE ISLANDER" OFF TO NEW ZEALAND.

A CHAT WITH NEIL KENYON.

The inimitable Scotch comedian Mr. Neil Kenyon, who has only recently concluded a very successful engagement at the Apollo Theatre in *The Islander* as Mirza Mark Ali Khan, the pasha of the island "somewhere in the Persian Gulf," sailed yesterday by the R.M.S. Corinthic for New Zealand, the trip being undertaken on the advice of his medical man. He was offered the part he created, and played with such "pawky" humour, in the production of *The Islander* by Mr. J. C. Williamson in Australia, but, we understand, his English booking prevented his acceptance. He proposes to make an extended tour, and 1911 will be well advanced ere he again sets foot upon his native heath.

"I hope to be back in time to fulfil my bookings at the West End halls on March 6," he remarked in a chat with an *Era* representative. "I have had to refuse several good offers for pantomime, as the state of my health prevents me making any arrangements just at present." Other engagements of a lucrative nature cannot be settled for the same reason. Mr. Kenyon wishes to thank Messrs. Oswald Stoll, D. J. Clarke, F. Wilmott, G. Dottridge, the directors of the Syndicate halls, anad others for their kindness in postponing dates.

The stage first called Kenyon at the early age of eighteen, when he joined Messrs. Howard and Wyndham to play in *The Lady of the Lake*. After that production, for nine years he enacted every kind of part in every class of play and in all kinds of theatres, even booths and circuses. But—and this is an important point, in his mind—he always played under the best of producers in the particular branch of work he happened to be doing. In this way he gained an all-round experience of stage-craft and a thorough understanding of the theatrical business—hence his versatility and ability as a character actor and his conscientious attention to detail, whether playing in vaudeville or at the theatres.

His managers have included such splendid theatre craftsmen as Messrs. J. B. Howard, Rich

[Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.

MR. NEIL KENYON.

Waldon, Louis Calvert, Robert Courtneidge, Arthur Collins, and William Mollison, the last-named of whom, by the way, is just now appearing at the Holborn Empire in that powerful playlet *The Touch of a Child*. As a very young beginner Kenyon also gained experience under the late William Terries and Wilson Barrett.

His first pantomime engagement was as Tammie Tourietap at the Princess's, Glasgow. With this part he introduced an innovation, giving to the audience, possibly for the first time, a portrait of the homely and simple Scot in *Peter Wilkins*. It is worthy of note that since Kenyon proved to a Glasgow audience how really amusing the quiet humour of the Glasgow suburban man in the street could be numerous books and character studies of the same type have become world-wide favourites.

This pantomime was, undoubtedly, the turning-point in his career, and since then he has added to his artistic successes in the following pantomimes: MacStinger, in *Robinson Crusoe*, at the Prince's, Manchester (the last pantomime, by the way, that that fine animal impersonator poor Charlie Lauri played in); Tim Toddlebonnie, in *Mother Hubbard*, at the Princess's, Glasgow; the Baron, in *Cinderella*, at Stoke Newington; the King, in *Sleeping Beauty*, at Prince's, Manchester; the Widow Twankey, in *Aladdin*, at the Royal, Newcastle; the Baroness, in *The Babes in the Wood*, at Drury Lane; and Mother Goose, at the Grand, Glasgow. It will be seen from the above record that even in pantomime Neil has shown a remarkable versatility in the art of character portrayal. Indeed, "Be versatile" would appear to be his watchword.

His experiences on the legitimate stage also are many and varied, and include, in rapid succession, Joshua Gillibrand, in *The Arabian Nights;* Young Marlow, in *She Stoops to Conquer;* Svengali, in *Trilby;* the Laird of Dumbiedykes, in *Jeanie Deans;* Wilfred Denver, in *The Silver King*, and Iago! What a range of parts!

"I should be very sorry to do it now," he smilingly remarks, referring to his record. "It must have been appalling." Of his music-hall career little need be said. From the London Pavilion, where he was given his first real chance by that fine judge of talent Mr. Frank Glenister, although a very young star, he has played in practically all the well-known halls, including the Moss and Stoll tours. He is booked for years ahead, with the exception of a few months left free for pantomime, or, as he quaintly says, "at the disposal of theatrical managers, should they be prepared to allow me to 'gag' in some play or other." In addition to his already well-known character sketches, such as the Pedlar, the Postie of Dunrobin (a clever study that stamped him as the first Scottish comedian of the day), the Poacher, the No'er-do-well, the Fishwife, &c., he has some new portraits in readiness, amongst them being the Bailie, the Knife-grinder, and the Trainer, and he has converted his well-known "Doch-au-Doris" chorus into a colonial scena of a Scotsman "down under."

At the moment of writing he has just received a telegram from Dr. Neil Munro, the well-known Scottish author, giving him the Australasian rights of *MacPherson*, the play which made such a success at the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow.

"One thing I particularly wish you to say," remarked Mr. Kenyon, in bidding us good-bye, "and that is how grateful I am to the Press. They have been awfully kind to me."

Mr. Kenyon's many friends in the profession and out will join us in the hope that his trip will be a most enjoyable one, and that he will return completely restored to health.

"THE UNWRITTEN LAW."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Laurence Irving, Produced, for the First Time in England, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Kashkin ..... Mr. Frank Esmond
Zosimoff ..... Mr. W. Fane
Nastasia ..... Miss Katherine Herbert
Rodion Raskolnikoff .... Mr. Laurence Irving
Sonia Martinova ..... Miss Mabel Hackney
Gromoff ..... Mr. Edward Chester
Doonia ..... Miss Margaret Omar
Pulcheria ..... Miss Alice Inman
Katya ..... Miss Mabel Nelson
Ivan ..... Mr. W. Barnett
Keller ..... Mr. Cyril Cattley
Koltzoff ..... Mr. Charles Seymour
Dmitri ..... Mr. Rupert Harvey
Mikolka ..... Mr. A. Field Fisher
Bezak ..... Mr. James Skea
Boolitch ..... Mr. C. Roberts
Zorn ..... Mr. A. Dodd
Platoff ..... Mr. P. Simmonds
Levitzki ..... Mr. J. Woodhouse
Goobchitz ..... Mr. Clive Terrance
Zimmerman ..... Miss Beatrice Swanton
Doordina ..... Miss Norman
Olkina ..... Miss Siggers
Karpova ..... Miss Yearsley
Lobko ..... Mr. I. Jones
Policeman ..... Mr. J. Arnold
Solski ..... Mr. Henry Elmore
Marshenka ..... Miss Ellen Ketley

(from our own correspondent.)

Mr. Laurence Irving's dramatisation of Dostoieffski's novel "Crime and Punishment," under the title of *The Unwritten Law*, is in the main a powerful piece of work, and provides him with a part which brings out his dramatic abilities to advantage. The rôle chosen for himself is the central one of Rodion Raskolnikoff, a student of the University of St. Petersburg, whose views on "Progress and Homicide" are destined to be put to a tragic illustration. It is necessary in the beginning to understand the character of the man by means of an argument upon these views, and the argument is entered upon by Kashkin, a student, and Zosimoff, a young doctor, who have sought him out in friendship; but the argument is, dramatically, too long and a shade too general in terms. His contention is, however, fairly clear—that a man may justifiably commit murder if the victim is a menace to the moral welfare of the race, and that murder is a logical and reasonable condition of progress. Now it happens that in an upper room of the house (to take one of Raskolnikoff's examples) lives a girl named Sonia Martinova and her two young sisters. Sonia's father has been lured to drink and untimely death by their landlord, Gromoff, who has designs upon Sonia, designs which are the condition of the latter's continued tenancy of the room at a time when no other alternative exists but starvation and the streets. Sonia's experiences of men have been, so far, shocking to her innocent and religious nature; but at a convenient moment she does not hesitate to come down to Rodion's room and confide her troubles to him, in the hope that he may be able to help her. Rodion, wasted, brooding, and feverish with too much study of his ideas, listens sympathetically, drawn to the girl as she is to him; and gradually his blood rises up against the bestial Gromoff, and he swears that the old rascal shall do her no harm that night. Gromoff comes upon the landing shortly after, and Raskolnikoff calls him in to discuss this matter of Sonia. Gromoff's attitude, however, only serves to inflame him the more, the landlord going up to his own room full of resentment and threats. Rodion's principles are working busily in his mind. A servant some time previously has left a long axe in the room. With this he arms himself, hiding the weapon under his overcoat, and steals his way quietly in the dusk to settle the matter in his own way. In the early morning Raskolnikoff lies nervous and exhausted on his couch by the window, fully dressed. A cut across the fingers of his left hand, and the condition of his overcoat, which it behoves him to conceal, are the only signs, beyond his state of mind, of what has taken place. The rest of the play deals with the detection of the murderer by Bezak, an examining magistrate. It has been imagined that two workmen, one of whom is in possession of an incriminating necklace, or bracelet (which Rodion had accidentally dropped upon the landing), are responsible for the crime. They are arrested and brought past Rodion's window. He sees them, and, overwrought, faints. The student's attempt to clear the workmen, who are in a pitiable state of grief and despair, takes the form of a statement that he saw them upon a scaffold from his window at the time the murder was committed. Bezak ridicules and disproves the statement. He has all ready for his design of reconstructing the crime for Raskolnikoff's imagination. Step by step, with a cool and fiendish suggestiveness, he drags his victim, body and mind, nearer and nearer to the unbearable moment when the confession must come out of him. Confession is what he wants and will have, and by slow degrees of excitement and nervousness, Raskolnikoff's repulsion is broken down. At a given moment the workmen are to be brought in, that the murderer may be confronted with two other of his victims. In they come; the confession is on Raskolnikoff's lips; but suddenly one of the workmen, unmarried, goes on his knees and frantically confesses that it is he, he alone, who did it, so that he may save his innocent companion, who has a wife and children to leave behind him. Bezak is staggered; the whole terrible rebuilding of the crime is shattered in a moment; and Raskolnikoff, suddenly recovering, goes out laughing hysterically. A fine scene, excellently done. The sequel is in Sonia's room. The passport cannot be used; she will not go with this man who has done murder and who would have an innocent man to take his chance of doom until some remedy could be found. Religion herein enters, and Rodion scoffs at the idea of a merciful God who can be found nowhere on earth. He would go alone, and take with him one of Sonia's young sisters, who is also something of a Pagan; but Sonia, with the other little child at her bosom, prays, adjuring the child to pray with her. Thus sentiment defeats the thinker at the end, for Raskolnikoff, standing bareheaded, tells the other child to join in the prayer, and at the end makes bold announcement that he will give himself up. This he does, and the curtain falls on Sonia's assurance that she will wait for him, and Bezak's comforting surmise that she will probably have to wait no longer than three years.

Mr. Irving's depiction of Raskolnikoff, clever always, though a little unconvincing to begin with, reached a high level in his excitable moments, and especially in the scene with Bezak, in Gromoff's sinister chamber, he produced a deep and memorable impression. As Sonia Miss Mabel Hackney played with a gentleness and charm that provided a striking and restful contrast to the turbulent and unhappy spirit of her lover. Mr. James Skea's delineation of Bezak, the criminal expert, was another quiet and admirable piece of work, well-studied and tremendously effective in the many crucial moments of the scene of inquiry in Gromoff's room. Prominent among the remainder of a long cast was Mr. Frank Esmond, who played Kashkin acceptably; Mr. W. Fane, who gave an effective rendering of Zosimoff; Mr. Edward Chester as the uncouth and brutal Gromoff; Miss Margaret Omar, in a lively rendering of Doonia, Raskolnikoff's sister; Miss Mabel Nelson as the pert little Katya; Mr. Cyril Cattley as the dishonourable district attorney, Keller; and Miss Alice Inman as Pulcheria, the inoffensive mother of Raskolnikoff. In the matter of staging the play has elaborate assistance, and there seems no reason why the success achieved in America should not be continued here.

TWENTY YEARS' TOURING.

A CHAT WITH MR. E. VIVIAN EDMONDS.

Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, the well-known touring actor-manager, who is appearing this week at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, in a new romantic drama from his own pen, entitled *A King's Romance*, completes his twentieth year of touring management at Christmas—a fact which it is difficult to believe when one contemplates his youthful appearance and generally juvenile manner. The strenuous life evidently agrees with him, and twenty years' hard work and worry, travelling from town to town, playing the principal parts in his own companies, generally supervising the entire production, and writing plays in his "spare time," find him without a grey hair. He has had as many as three companies on tour at the same time, and frequently spends best part of the day in front of a type-writing machine.

Our "youngest-oldest" touring manager, as Mr. Edmonds believes himself to be, took to the profession very early in life, making his first appearance on the stage when he was only six years old, under the management of John Coleman. A long vacation followed, not in his instance owing to theatrical depression, but in order that he might complete his studies at the Mechanics' Institute, Manchester. He then played a small part with Miss Mary Anderson at the Lyceum; also appearing across the way at the Gaiety Theatre in 1884, in *Very Little Hamlet*. Engagements at the Princess's, Glasgow, and the Comedy Theatre, Manchester, followed, and in 1887 he was secured by Sir Augustus Harris for *The Armada* at Drury Lane. In 1888 he was with Mr. J. M. Chute in pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol; and this was followed by a long and happy tour in *The Lights of London*, with Mr. Henry C. Arnold, one of the kindest and best of managers; then to the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, with J. Pitt Hardacre, in the Princess's production, *Siberia*.

Mr. Edmonds went into partnership at Easter, 1890, with Mr. Arthur Carlton, and later on toured in conjunction with his wife (Miss Mary Austin) in Arthur Shirley's drama *Passion's Power*. G. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett's fine play, *The Golden Ladder;* Frank Harvey's great success, *The Cotton*

[Photo by Bacon and Sons.

MR. E. VIVIAN EDMONDS.

Spinner; Woman and Wine, For He's a Jolly Good Fellow, and a number of other well-known and popular plays have been included in the répertoire of Mr. Edmonds and his accomplished wife.

In a brief talk with an *Era* representative, Mr. Edmonds, referring to his youthful appearance, remarked that it had more than once been a handicap, and occasionally embarrassing. "One very amusing incident happened not long since at Weston. I had been taking a stroll along the front with my eighteen-year-old daughter, who is at a boarding-school there. The incident was evidently reported, for on her return she was severely reproved by the Head for walking out with a 'boy'!" One can imagine "pa's" indignation. Mr. Edmonds admits to an excitable temperament, and on one occasion at a rehearsal of *Woman and Wine*, he was endeavouring to rouse up a crowd of revellers whose business didn't exactly meet with his approval. "Now then, garçon, garçon," yelled the manager, in his most agitated manner. "Beg pardon, sir, it can't be done," calmly replied the gentleman who looked after the illuminations; "we've only got electric light." Mr. Edmonds has written several plays, one of which, *The Wedding Morn*, he anticipates will soon be seen at a West-End theatre. *The Ways of Men, He's a Jolly Good Fellow* (in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Shirley), and the piece he is at present touring, *A King's Romance*, are also from his busy pen.

Mr. Edmonds is very gratified at his success, at Mr. Mulholland's fine Hammersmith playhouse, of *The King's Romance*, business being excellent. He has already let the Australian and American rights, and is writing the play in novel form, collaborating with Mr. F. Reynolds Squire, M.A., the book being accepted by publishers.

"I thoroughly believe in giving the public Glitter, Glamour, Bright Uniforms, and, above all, Romance—something right out of their everyday lives. The Starving Heroine in a garret with a candle in a bottle is a thing of the past. One of the most important aids to success is short waits. Oh those weary entr'actes! I saw a play last week with a twenty-five minutes' wait between the acts."

Having discovered the elixir of youth, we may express the hope that Mr. Edmonds will discreetly continue its use. If enthusiasm, experience, and real hard work secure success, the future for this enterprising young manager should be prosperous. When he can possibly snatch an hour or so for recreation, Mr. Edmonds enjoys a game of golf.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Tuesday, Aug. 16. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Edward Morgan, C. F. Collings, Leonard Shepherd, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. Robson Paige (acting secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Mote consented to draft a letter to be forwarded to the Actors' Society in New York re the Robert Hilton's season at the Strand. Letters were read from Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, and Mr. Richard A. Greene, promising to serve on the One-Licence Conference.

The finance committee's report was read by Miss Chester and adopted. The hon. solicitor's report was adopted. Mr. Ivor Bernard was nominated, and a nomination was rejected, owing to the short experience of the applicant.

It was decided that a notice be placed on the board that the socials be resumed at an early date, and that members be invited to send in their names to serve on that committee.

"THE BISHOP'S SON."

Play, in Four Acts, Written by Hall Caine, Produced at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Gilchrist Mylrea ..... Mr. W. F. Grant
Daniel Mylrea ..... Mr. Derwent Hall Caine
Thorkell Mylrea ..... Mr. Julian Cross
Ewan Mylrea ..... Mr. Matthew Boulton
Davy Fayle ..... Mr. George Mudie, jun.
Hommy-beg ..... Mr. E. W. Thomas
Father Dalby ..... Mr. Herbert Winton
Quayle, the Gyke ..... Mr. A. W. Munro
Billy Quilleagh ..... Mr. W. Nixon
Phil ..... Mr. Fred Blackwell
First Officer ..... Mr. George Lacey
Second Officer ..... Mr. P. W. Stevens
Choristers ..... Messrs. Lawrence, Carne, Young, and Nicholls
Kerry ..... Miss Agnes Knights
'Liza ..... Miss Dorothy Radcliff
Mally Crennel ..... Miss Lilian Wilson
Mona Mylrea ..... Miss Verita Vivien

(from our own correspondent.)

Hall Caine's latest variant of his novel "The Deemster," now christened *The Bishop's Son*, was produced with decided success at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, on Monday evening, the performance being a triumph for all concerned. The play closely follows the lines of the novel, only departing from it when Hall Caine's maturer judgment suggested that motif and incident were capable of being knit closer together. The play is in four acts and eight scenes.

The opening deals with Dan Mylrea, the son of the Bishop, his love for his cousin Mona, his recklessness, which is only the protest of young blood against cold convention; his anger at being falsely accused by his uncle, the Deemster, and his cousin, Ewan Mylrea, of sinning with his sweetheart, daughter of one, sister to the other; the quarrel, the fight, the death of Ewan Mylrea. This act ends with a most powerful situation—the rough fishermen, Dan Mylrea's boon companions, wish to carry the corpse out to sea and bury it. But the man's soul leaps to life in the boy's heart, and he says, "No; you shall not! You shall take it home. When a man has done wrong, the thing he has got to do next is to stand up to it. That's what I am going to do whatever it may cost me."

Act II. shows how Dan faces the Deemster and his sweetheart; and, hardest of all, his father, the Bishop. There is splendid humanity in this act, for the Bishop is one of the most beautiful characters Hall Caine has ever contemplated. The struggle between the upright judge and the loving father is wrought out with true craftsmanship. And here Mr. Hall Caine materialises one of the quaint old-fashioned customs which still linger in the Arcadian land. It is that the Bishop in the Isle of Man formerly held (and perhaps still holds) certain rights of separate judicature, whereby he was entitled to take a felon who was a tenant of his barony out of the hands of the Civil Judge, and try and sentence the criminal himself. This the Bishop does. He saves his only son from the Deemster, but he sentences him to eternal banishment. Act III. shows how the plague comes to the island, and Dan in his exile, and how he is called to his task and his atonement. Act IV. expands Hall Caine's value as a dramatist. In it he reaches a higher plane of simple and direct pathos than he has previously touched, and the final curtain, when the man and the woman, after passing through Sorrow's Gates, go home—"Home at last by right of God's law and man's law"—tempts one to consider that Hall Caine has in him "the large stride of the elder race."

The reception accorded to the play was most enthusiastic. The audience were not only generous, but they were discriminating. Much interest was evidenced in the fact that Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, the author's second son, created Dan Mylrea, and his work made a very favourable impression. There is more than accomplishment in his performance. There is temperament, there is emotion, and complete understanding. Mr. W. F. Grant as Gilchrist Mylrea was a tower of strength, his fine elocution contributing valuably to an excellent all-round performance. Mr. Julian Cross, an actor of experience, was well suited as the Deemster; Mr. Matthew Boulton had few opportunities, but he endowed Ewan Mylrea with conviction; Mr. George Mudie, jun., made a clever little Phil May sketch of Davy Fayle; and Mr. E. W. Thomas, a comedian of ripe and unctuous humour, was really funny as Hommy-beg. Mr. Herbert Winton, Mr. A. W. Munro, and Mr. W. Nixon were adequately placed. Miss Agnes Knights made Kerry stand out; and Miss Verita Vivien's Mona Mylrea was pathetic. In fact, the members of Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's combination all worked loyally. The play was well mounted and produced with intelligence.

Racy Reminiscences.

Mr. H. H. Vincent, who has retired, after thirty-six years in the profession as actor and business-manager, to Bath, has been telling a representative of the *Bath Herald* some amusing anecdotes. Many years ago, when training a ballet, he had with him a girl who could not be taught to hold herself erect. After repeated attempts to remedy the fault, he called her on one side and asked her what she would do if he doubled her salary. Altogether unexpected was the young lady's reply. He fully expected her to promise to do her best to improve, but instead of that he got this: 'I would drop down dead, sir.' Whether the young lady's fears were realised, Mr. Vincent did not say.

An Old Melodrama.

"Over forty years ago Mr. Vincent was a member of the dramatic company at the Amphitheatre in Leeds. They were playing *The Flowers of the Forest*, with H. M. Pitt as Hugh Laverock, himself as Alfred, and Miss Effie Macdonald as the Gipsy boy Lemuel. All playgoers are aware that Hugh and Alfred fight a duel at the end of the second act, during which Lemuel, the gipsy, shoots Hugh, and Alfred is accused, arrested, and tried for the murder.

A Misfire.

"Unfortunately, at the critical moment Lemuel found that the gun would not go off. The property man's customary double was tried, but that also missed fire. The property man's assistant came up with yet another gun, but still there was no success. There were triggers snapping all round the stage; the stage-manager was distracted; Pitt, Miss Macdonald, and the author of the story were in an agony of perspiration, wondering how on earth they could reach a climax and bring the curtain down. No report was there; and without the death of Hugh the whole plot would be destroyed, and Lemuel's great after scenes would count for nothing.

An Ingenious Explanation.

"It was a terrible time, and it was Harry Pitt who pulled them through. He threw up his arms, gasped, spluttered, and then he yelled in a voice of thunder: 'Treachery! treachery, Alfred! I have been shot by an *air-gun*.' The piece was saved, and the curtain descended amid tumultuous applause. There were few among the audience who realised that air-guns had not been invented in the time depicted before them."

"Dramatic and Musical Law." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

A CELEBRATED SONG AND ITS WRITER.

Among the most frequent queries that we have to reply to in our "Answers to Correspondents" is "Who was the author of 'Tommy make room for your uncle'?" a song that was all over the town in the 'seventies. Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, the writer, himself gives an amusing account of its inception and of its subsequent popularity.

"I remember," writes Mr. Lonsdale, "thirty-three years ago my mother said to me—I was then quite a boy, though the proud author of a song, entitled "Not Before the Boy," which the late J. L. Toole complimented me on—'Tommy, your uncle is coming here to-night. You will have to make room for him.' I thought then what a capital idea for a song, and I sat down and wrote it off at once. A tune seemed to jingle in my head, so I rushed off to a friend who put tunes down from the voice, and, when the melody was completed, I submitted it in succession to the 'Great Vance,' Leybourne, Clarke, Stead, and many others, at that time popular stars of the day; but the answer invariably was, 'Declined with thanks,' the fact being that they were all 'Hunt' mad. G. W. Hunt was the man who supplied nearly all the songs then, and it was difficult indeed for an outside author to 'get in' with the stars.

"At last, in despair, I gave it to an amateur to sing, and it proved immensely successful on the first night. The accompanist happened to be E. Solomon, the composer of 'Billee Taylor,' and he informed his friend, W. B. Fair, of the possibilities of this catchy song. Fair wrote and asked me what I would take for it, and we agreed upon £2 and half publishing rights. Fair first sang 'Tommy, make room for your uncle' at the Surrey Gardens as a single turn. He afterwards introduced it in the burlesque *Man Friday*. Fair sang the three verses, and the audiences joined in the chorus with gusto. The world then went 'Tommy, make room for your uncle' mad."

As time progressed all the singers who had originally refused "Tommy," &c., wanted songs from the now popular song-writer, and he quickly supplied George Leybourne with "Oh, the Fairies," and "The man in the moon is looking, love," the former selling in thousands. Vance accepted "How do you like London?" which also became a popular catchword, and the rage; T. W. Barrett had the successful "We are a merry family"; Arthur Lloyd, "How did you

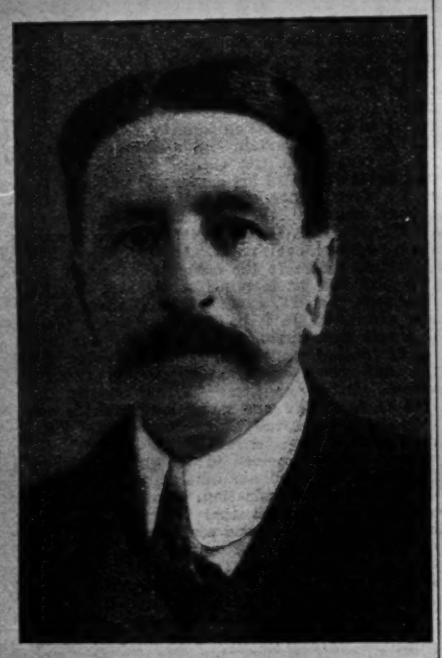

MR. T. S. LONSDALE.

leave the pigs, Sammy?"; and Macdermott, Jenny Hill, Dan Leno, Kate Vaughan, Herbert Campbell, Nellie Power, Frank Coyne, Connie Gilchrist—who afterwards became Countess of Orkney—Vesta Tilley, Chrigwin, and others have been pleased to render songs by the author of "Tommy," &c.

Henri Clarke created enormous success with "Just as you are for ninepence," which is still a catchword, and used by many performers. For Arthur Roberts he wrote, "If I were only long enough"—also "Mabel, sweet Mabel," "Timid little maid," and many other popular songs, including "Give me a cab-fare, ducky," which Arthur Roberts sang by special request before his late Majesty the King, then Prince of Wales, at a private concert.

Mr. T. S. Lonsdale recently composed a new pantomime song for Miss Frances Kapstowne, the principal girl in *The Sleeping Beauty* pantomime, at Portsmouth, entitled "We hear they want more," the music being composed by Mr. George Goodfellow and orchestrated by Mr. Ernest G. Oram, the musical-director of the King's Theatre, Portsmouth.

Mr. Lonsdale is the compiler of the composite photographs "Faces Past and Present" and "Find Whom You Know," and now has in hand an International picture, called "the World; Are You in This?" The portrait we reproduce of Mr. Lonsdale was taken only this week, and does not represent him as a "Rip Van Winkle" or a "lean and slippered pantaloon," as the description of veteran which was recently given to him would seem to imply. Mr. Lonsdale is apparently as youthful and vigorous as ever, and good for any quantity of work, either in the song-writing or any other line.

"A PRAIRIE WOOING."

Playlet, by Ivan Patrick Gore, Presented for the First Time in London at the Grand, Forest Gate, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Jem Grayston .....Mr. Frank Carlile
Nebraska Joe .....Mr. J. G. McHahon
A Mail Guard .....Mr. Fred Hughes
A Patrol Officer .....Mr. Harry Lovel
Nancy Smith .....Miss Mildred Sylvester

In this sketch, which was originally produced at the Palace, Aberdeen, on July 31, 1909, under the title of *Miss Smith of Pine Ridge*, Nancy Smith, a postmistress in the Wild West, is visited by Nebraska Joe, a desperado and horse thief. He burgles the office safe, and then snatches away Nancy's locket. Opening it and finding his own portrait within, he realises that Nancy is his daughter. She, however, refuses to harbour him, and he threatens to shoot her, and fires at her lover, Jem Grayston, when the latter appears on the scene. The desperado is finally despatched by a patrol officer. Mr. J. G. McHahon was picturesque and powerful as Nebraska Joe; Mr. Frank Carlile was strong and natural as Jem Grayston; and Miss Mildred Sylvester was an agreeable Nancy Smith.

"Men were Deceivers Ever" is doing big business at the Olympia, Shoreditch, this week. On Friday and Saturday Mr. Charles M. Daly and company deputised for Joe Elvin at the Empire, Islington, creating another success.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE OUTING.

The annual outing of the staff of the Shepherd's Bush Empire was held on Sunday last week, under the presidency of the popular manager, Mr. Lewis Vincent, and took the form of a river trip to Cookham. The party met at the Empire at 9.30 a.m., whence they drove to Paddington, catching the ten o'clock train for Windsor. Arriving in the Royal borough about eleven o'clock, they immediately embarked at Bridge Wharf on the steam launch Queen of England, and commenced their ten-mile trip over what is generally considered to be the most beautiful part of the Thames. Splendid weather favoured the company, which numbered about thirty, and an extremely enjoyable day was spent. Light refreshments and an excellent cold luncheon were served on board, and on arrival at Cookham some amusing sports were held. The principal events were a race for the ladies and a race for the gentlemen, for the former of which Mrs. Lewis Vincent gave as a prize a chatelaine bag, and for the latter Mr. Vincent gave a case of pipes. After leaving Cookham tea was served, and the return down the river in the cool of the evening was possibly even more enjoyable than the journey up, the delightful Cliveden Reach looking particularly beautiful. The return train left Windsor at 8.40, and the party arrived back at Shepherd's Bush about ten o'clock. Social events of this kind are to be encouraged, for they do much to create a feeling of good fellowship and make the wheels of business run smoothly. In the present instance the thanks of the party were in great measure due to Mr. Eric Smith, the genial stage-manager at Shepherd's Bush, for he was responsible for the whole of the admirable arrangements.

Miss Sybil Arundale will, we hear, shortly be seen at the Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, news which will be gratifying to the clever lady's hosts of admirers.

Madame Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, late of the Moody-Manners' principal opera company, will pay a return visit to Dewsbury's handsome new Empire next week. Madame Payne has this week, by special request of the management, featured "Killarney" at the King's Theatre, Nottingham, and has scored an immediate success with this evergreen favourite.

"A NOBLE REVENGE."

A Dramatic Episode, by Albert Ward, Produced at the Camden Hippodrome, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Richard Tremayne .....Mr. Albert Ward
John Beresford .....Mr. George Ingleton
Beatrice Beresford .....Miss Sheila More

This new one-act play, which is being presented by Mr. Harry Barford, is indeed a most striking work, and Mr. Albert Ward, who is playing the leading character in his own play, has written a most dramatic and convincing little piece, which is as telling as it is brief, and it should have a most successful future in store for it. The story is that of an author, and in his poor lodging he has written play after play without much success. However, he finally has produced a masterpiece, which is really the story of his own life, and tells how he has been deserted by his wife, who has gone abroad and married again, and left him in despair. John Beresford, theatrical manager from the Colonies, comes to see Tremayne and arrange terms for taking his play, which he is so struck with, and with him comes Beatrice, his wife, who is to play the leading part. In Beatrice, Tremayne finds his lost wife, and though she at first does not recognise Tremayne, he soon brings back the past to her; and while they are supposed to be reading the play they are in actual conversation, which Beresford does not notice, and thinks it is the play, and is delighted with the strength of the story. Tremayne wonders whether he shall tell Beresford the truth, and under pretence of discussing the finish to the play he gets Beresford to decide what should happen in such a case. Tremayne accepts his decision, and handing Beatrice the last act of his play, with the happy ending he had written, he falls back dead. It is a very strong play, and Mr. Albert Ward gives a most finished and dramatic embodiment of Tremayne. Mr. George Ingleton is capital as the large-hearted Beresford; while Miss Sheila More creates a good impression as Beatrice.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Athambra, 1 7-16; Empire (15s.) paid, 1⅞; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion (5), 2⅝; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 4⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires (5), 3⅛; Oxford (5), 6⅛; Palace Theatre (2s. paid), 20s.; Tivoli, New (5), 6xd.

THE SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE ANNUAL STAFF OUTING. [*Photo by Pearson and Co.*

THE BRISTOL EMPIRE ANNUAL OUTING.

BRISTOL EMPIRE OUTING.

The staff of the Empire and Hippodrome, Bristol, held their third annual outing on the 14th inst. Motor char-à-bancs conveyed the party over the Mendips and through the Cheddar Gorge, one of the most delightful drives in England, to the Cliff Hotel, where a sumptuous dinner was served at 1.30. A handsome souvenir booklet, giving the menu and list of sports, with photographs of Mr. B. Pearce Lucas (president) and Mr. G. Rhodes Parry (vice president) were handed to each of the party seated at the table.

After dinner the fun of the day commenced on the lawn of the beautiful hotel, with its waterfall, little trout brook, and vista of sheltering trees. Various sports, including 100 yards race, sack race, long jump, high jump, egg and spoon, jug and bottle, wheelbarrow race, three-legged race, blindfold race, cock-fighting competition, veterans' race, visitors' race, etc., were indulged in. The judge was Mr. David Crombie and the starter Mr. G. Rhodes Parry (manager). He was most indefatigable in his work, and presented the prizes.

After the sports high tea was served in the large hall at 6.30. The toasts included the health of Mr. B. Pearce Lucas (managing director) and family, and Mr. Harry Day (general manager), and "Success to the Empire." Mr. Sid Macaire proposed the health of Mr. G. Rhodes Parry (manager), and a vote of thanks was passed to him for the way in which he had carried the outing through. The company after a most enjoyable day returned at 8 o'clock, reaching the Empire at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Kennedy Russell, from the Paragon, has been appointed musical-director of the Walthamstow Palace.

Miss Cissie Lawson is likely in a week or two to introduce a startling innovation into the orchestra of her house, the Empire, Camberwell.

Although engaged too late to be placed on the regular bills of the Aquarium, Scarborough, Clown Inanda and his clever dog Bute, the canine barrel act performer, have attracted great attention. When standing erect on its hind legs, the little animal jumps into and out of barrels as tall as itself, and turns twelve somersaults out of a barrel, a concluding feat that brings down the house.

MUSIC-HALL CELEBRITIES.

LINN AND DARIUS.

With their novel and original musical and vocal scena the above-mentioned artists have become great favourites. Miss Linn is the daughter of the well-known performers, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Phillips (Miss Nellie Wilson), and commenced her professional career at an early age with her sister. Under the name of the Sheldon Sisters the couple appeared with great success, and were acknowledged at that time to be one of the smartest pairs of harmonising vocalists on the variety stage. Miss Linn afterwards dissolved partnership with her sister, and worked four weeks at the old Royal, Holborn, and several dates at the Palace, Croydon, Middlesex, Paragon, Metropolitan, Canterbury, &c. She was seen to advantage in pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, under the management of Mr. Weldon Watts. Afterwards she toured Australia and New Zealand with Harry Rickards' companies. Returning to England she played principal girl at the Elephant and Castle Theatre in the year 1900, and was at the Brixton Theatre in 1908, having meanwhile distinguished herself in many provincial pantomimes. Miss Linn is a sprightly little lady, very fond of her work, and an artist to her finger-tips. She is the possessor of a charming mezzo-soprano voice and a talented pianist.

Mr. Darius was born in Yorkshire, and started his studies at the early age of four years under his father, a well-known violinist, afterwards having tuition from Professor A. Chidzey, C.V., F.C.L., and Professor R. Wood. The latter quickly detected the boy's wonderful abilities, and gave him the bâton to conduct an orchestra of thirty professional musicians at the age of fourteen years, rendering well-known overtures, such as "The Mistress," "Oberon," "Well of Love" (*Le Puits d'Amour*), and "Poet and Peasant." At the age of sixteen years the youthful musician began to combine his talents on the violin, violoncello, and piano, with an acrobatic act on the variety stage; but later found that gymnastic work did not coincide with his musical abilities. Whilst appearing in a northern provincial town with his present partner, the pair were secured by Mr. George Peel, of the well-known variety agency, to appear in London, and made their *début* at the Camden Theatre in their musical and vocal scena, and were immediately engaged to appear the following week at the Holborn Empire, with the London Pavilion and other principal London halls to follow, receiving also offers for America. The couple are now booked many years ahead.

Photo by Laird.

LINN AND DARIUS.

EMPIRE, EDMONTON, OUTING.

The first annual outing of the Edmonton Empire staff took place on Sunday last, the locale chosen being Southend-on-Sea. At 9.35, the merry party, marshalled by their popular manager Mr. Fred Alexander, boarded the train at South Tottenham Station, arriving at Southend by 11.15, when they proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where a sumptuous dinner was provided.

Mr. Harry Bawn, managing-director of the Edmonton Empire, occupied the chair, supported by Mr. Henry Balding, a director of the company, and Mr. Angelo A. Asher, musical-director. After grace Mr. Bawn, in felicitous terms, proposed the Royal toast, after which the vice-chairman, Mr. Henry Balding, proposed "The Firm—Mr. and Mrs. Bawn (My Fancy)." The announcement of this toast was the signal for loud and prolonged applause. Mr. Bawn responded in his happiest and wittiest vein, remarking that he considered his staff and orchestra deserved the greatest praise for the loyal way in which they performed their duties. He much regretted the absence of Mrs. Bawn, but her heart was with them, and he knew how delighted she would be to learn that the staff were passing the day so happily.

Mr. Angelo Asher proposed "The Vice-Chairman," and incidentally remarked that the cordial relations existing between the staff and orchestra of the establishment were quite unique. Mr. David Weston gracefully responded for the visitors. After dinner the company indulged in boating, drives, and other salubrious pastimes, returning to the Royal Hotel at six o'clock, when they partook of a substantial tea. At 8.20 the merry party started on the return journey, loud in praise of Mr. Fred Alexander's perfect organisation.

Frame, the Flying Scotchman, now touring Bonnie Scotland with his vaudeville company, is meeting with much success. This evening he appears in the Land o' Burns—the auld toon o' Ayr—"wham ne'er surpasses for honest men and bonnie lassies." So said Rabbie.

Miss Eva Chidwick, the charming versatile comedienne, has been for some time compulsorily resting on account of sore throat, but her friends will be glad to learn that she is commencing work again, with several new songs, on Monday next, the 22nd inst., at the Palace, Glasgow.

Among the applicants to the Stratford Justices on Monday was a lady who asked for a licence to allow her daughter, aged twelve years, to perform at the Ilford Hippodrome. Mr. J. R. Roberts (the chairman): Has she been licensed before? The Mother: Oh, yes, many times. She gives a display of toe-dancing. You are a French lady, are you not?—Yes. Have you any more daughters like this one? The Mother (laughing): Yes; but they are all married. All of them?—With the exception of one who is not old enough; but I have some grandchildren. Mr. Roberts: You look young to have grandchildren. Is your husband a Frenchman?—No; he is an Englishman, and that is where the mischief comes in. The licence was granted.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 22.

Alone in London.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Angel of His Dreams.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Another Man's Wife.—T. R., York.
An Unwedded Wife.—Queen's T., Longton.
Apple of Eden.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Arcadians (N.).—Dublin.
Arcadians (S.).—Buxton and Llandudno.
Are You a Mason?—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Prince's T., Preston.
At the World's Mercy.—Grand T., Aberavon.
Bedouin Beauty.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—T. R., Hanley.
Best People, The.—T. R., Nottingham.
Bishop's Son, The.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Black Mask.—West Hartlepool.
Booth, Junius.—T. R., Barnsley.
Brass Bottle, The.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Bulmer, Mr.—Royalty T., Chester.
Can a Woman be Good?—Alexandra T., Hull.
Castellano's Opera Co.—O. H., Harrogate.
Charley's Aunt.—Ilkley and Matlock.
Chinese Honeymoon.—O. H., Coventry.
Christian, The (Draper).—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Cingalee (A.).—Barry Dock.
Compton Comedy Co.—Whitby and Ilkley.
Country Girl, A.—T. R., Margate.
Country Girl in London.—New Hall, Bargoed.
Criminal's Bride.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Crisis, The.—Pier T., Eastbourne.
Dairymaids, The.—Llangollen and St. Annes.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—County T., Reading.
Daughter of the Sea.—Pardoe's T., Middleton.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—T. R., Norwich.
Dear Little Denmark.—Empire T., Southend.
Diana of Dobson's.—Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes') (N.).—T. R., Dublin.
Dollar Princess (S.).—King's T., Sunderland.
Don.—Lowestoft and King's Lynn.
D'Oyly Carte.—King's T., Glasgow.
Draycott, Chas.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Earl and the Girl.—O. H., Cheltenham.
East Lynne (Watt).—T. R., Preston.
Education of Elizabeth.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Every Inch a Man.—P. O. W., Salford.
Facing the World Alone.—Crown T., Eccles.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—T. R., Woolwich.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
Female Detective.—T. R., Kilkenny.
Fighting Chance.—Grand T., Brighton.
Fishers, The.—Clarence P., Portsmouth.
Flag Lieutenant.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Florodora (Constant).—Herne Bay and Ramsgate.
For Love and the King.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
For Old Times' Sake.—O. H., Merthyr.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Palace T., Maidstone.
From Convent to Throne.—Gloucester.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—Pavilion, Mile End.
Gay Gordons.—Pavilion, Ramsgate.
Geisha, The.—Pier T., Eastbourne.
Geoffrey Langden's Wife.—T. R., Crook.
Girl on the Boat.—T. R., Colchester.
Girl's Cross Roads.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Girls of Gottenburg.—T. R., Worthing.
Girl Who Lost Her Character.—Birkenhead.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Royalty T., Chester.
Glossop-Harris.—Deal and Herne Bay.
Greater Love, The.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Grotesques, The.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Harvey, Martin.—O. H., Harrogate.
Havana.—Grand T., Southampton.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Court T., Wigan.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Jarrow.
Her Nameless Child.—Alexandra T., Stourbridge.
Her Path of Sorrow.—G. T., Nottingham.
Her Road to Ruin.—Marlborough T.
Her Secret Lover.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
His Indian Wife.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
His Real Wife.—T. R., Stratford.
House of Temperley.—Grand T., Douglas.
How Girls are Brought to Ruin.—Glasgow.
Irving, Laurence.—New T., Cardiff.
King and the Unknown Woman.—T. R., South Shields.
King of Cadonia.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Newry and Cootehill.
Lighthouse Robbery.—Empire T., Oldham.
Lingard-Moreau Repertoire.—T. R., Bradford.
Little Phil's Mother.—O. H., Perth.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Grand T., Chorley.
Love of the Princess.—Grand T., Radcliff.
Lucky Durham.—Ilfracombe.
Lucky 'Liza.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Major, The.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Man to Man.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Marsh, Alexander.—Junction T., Manchester.
Merry Widow (Edwardes').—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Merry Widow (S.).—O. H., Southport.
Message from Mars.—T. R., Blackburn.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Llandudno and Buxton.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—T. R. Bristol.
Mockery of Marriage.—P. O. W., Salford.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—Pavilion T., Weymouth.
Mountaineers, The.—T. R., York.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—T. R., Worcester.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—O. H., Torquay.
My Irish Molly.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
My Lady Bellamy.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
New Frivolity.—T. R., Stockport.
Nick Carter.—T. R., Aston.
Night and Morning.—T. R., Leicester.
Nihilist, The.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
No Man's Land.—Gaiety T., Leith.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Old Folks at Home.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Old Heidelberg.—Grand T., Hull.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—T. R., Brighton.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—Tunbridge Wells.
Outcast of the Family.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Power of the King.—T. R., Leeds.
Pritt, Stephen.—O. H., St. Helens.
Private Secretary.—T. R., Glasgow.
Prodigal Parson.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Proof.—Hippodrome, Keighley.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—O. H., Workington.
Royal Divorce.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Sexton Blake.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand T., Belfast.
Silver King.—Grand T., Swansea.
Sir Walter Raleigh.—W. G. T., Blackpool.
Smith (S.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
Speckled Band.—P. T., Bristol.
Stepmother, The.—T. R., Smethwick.
Still Alarm.—Grand T., Fulham.
Tantalising Tommy.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Temptation.—Central T., Northwich.
Terry, Edward.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
Thief in the Night.—P. T., Bradford.
Thief, The.—Cromer and Morecambe.
Through the Divorce Court.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Truants, The.—Palace T., Gloucester.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Nottingham.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., Castleford.
Under Two Flags.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Bury.
Was She to Blame?—Palace T., Bordesley.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Manchester.
When it Was Dark.—New T., Aberdare.
When Knights Were Bold.—Scarborough.
When Knights Were Bold (S.).—Grand T., Croydon.
When Woman Hates.—Royalty T., Chester.
Where is William?—Pier, Southsea.
Whip, The.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Wilkie Allan.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Woman in the Case.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Woman of Two Lives.—T. R., Belfast.
Wrongs of Women.—T. R., Sunderland.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.56 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.59 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 15 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 7 6

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

A Concert Artist.—*Arthur C. Roberts, secretary, 9 and 10, Pancras-lane, Queen-street, E.C.*

J. Green.—*Write to Mr. C. I. Coltson, Actors' Benevolent Fund, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.*

D. H.—*Write to the business-manager of the St. James's Theatre. He will be able to inform you on all points.*

Peter Higgins.—*W. H. McCarthy, 98, Charing Cross-road, fills the office, we believe. The word "secretary" is not used. The officer in question is called "Scribe Rat."*

F. and O.—*There is a suggestion for registration of agents, and though it has not actually become law, it will probably soon become so. Then there is the Arbitrator's award on agents. Consult Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," price 5s., published at this office.*

H. Usher.—*It would be scarcely possible to answer your question accurately. The date probably would be late in the seventies—thirty years ago—and many changes have been made in Huddersfield halls since then. The editor of a local paper might be able to tell you, or an old music-hall frequenter in the town, who may remember the days of the old free and easies.*

G. R. King (Romford).—*Address Mr. Arthur Collins, at Drury Lane Theatre, London, W.C. He has not been knighted as yet. It was Queen Victoria who conferred that distinction on his predecessor, Sir Augustus Harris. Mr. F. R. Benson, the famous Shakespearean actor and scholar, may be written to, care of 11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., or Green Room Club, Leicester-square, W.C.*

Knox.—*Mr. J. W. Rowley was the original singer of "Hang up your hat behind the door that leads into the shop," written and composed by John Stamford, who also composed "Jeremiah, blow the fire." Mr. Rowley published it about 1874, and it was also sung in the Gaiety burlesque* Forty Thieves. *Copies, adorned by a fine portrait of Mr. Rowley in character from Alfred Concanen's pencil, may still be had at Messrs. Francis and Day's, the original publishers of the number when Messrs. Francis Bros. and Day.*

Duncan G. MacCallum.—*Misses Jennie Lee (Jo), Alma Stanley, Letty Lind, Sylvia Grey, and Marion Hood are still living. We have not the dates of their births. James Rogers died April 15, 1863; Paul Meritt, July 7, 1895; Henry Pettitt, Dec. 24, 1893; William Holland, Dec. 29, 1895; the Great Unsworth, Feb. 21, 1875; Washington Irving Bishop, May 14, 1889; Kate Vaughan, Feb. 21, 1903; Harry Boleno, Jan. 25, 1875; Robert Heller, Nov. 27, 1878. We can get no particulars concerning Alfred Davis, Fred Belton, or Charles Bernard. Mr. Walter Bentley is living.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Almero.—On the 18th, wife of Walter Almero, of a fine daughter. Mother and child doing well. 84, St. Peter's-road, Great Yarmouth.

Haviland.—Aug. 15, at 14, Lanark-mansions, W., to Mr. and Mrs. William Haviland (Miss Edyth Latimer)—a son.

DEATHS.

Courtenay.—On Aug. 5, at Liverpool, Dr. Fred Courtenay (second son of the late Lindo Courtenay), from aortic aneurism. Interred in the family vault Aug. 9.

Dale.—Aug. 11, Mrs. Harry Dale, professionally known as Gerti Monti, aged 46.

Hawtrey.—Aug. 12, at 96, Clarence-gate-gardens, W., suddenly, of heart failure, George Procter, eldest son of the late Rev. John William Hawtrey, of Aldin House, Slough, and Westgate-on-Sea, aged 64.

Postlethwaite.—Aug. 15, Charles Francis Postlethwaite (Frank Postlethwaite), variety agent, of London and Hastings, aged 37.

Stevens.—Aug. 15, at 27, Cambria-road, Camberwell, Clara (Mrs. C. E. Stevens), the dear sister of Avis, Emma, and Robert Grahame. An irreparable loss to her loving children.

In Memoriam.

White.—In loving memory of my dear governor, Tom White, who departed this life Aug. 17, 1900. Gone, but never forgotten by his faithful servant, "Pimple." R.I.P.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marie Collins—Sat., Aug. 20.
Maitland Marler—Sat., Aug. 20.
Henry Ainley—Sun., Aug. 21.
Sir A. C. Mackenzie—Mon., Aug. 22.
Dr. Cummings—Mon., Aug. 22.
W. J. Churchill—Mon., Aug. 22.
Louise Moodie—Tues., Aug. 23.
Frank Beresford—Tues., Aug. 23.
Beatrice Annersley—Wed., Aug. 24.
Charles Whittle—Wed., Aug. 24.
Leonard Robson—Thurs., Aug. 25.
Denise Orme—Fri., Aug. 26.
J. L. Graydon—Fri., Aug. 26.
Miriam Holt—Fri., Aug. 26.
Fred Earle—Fri., Aug. 26.
C. A. Wenlock Brown—Fri., Aug. 26.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert H. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Alves, Mr. Alec
Ameda, Mlle.
Anderson, Mr. Dallas
Aoki Troupe
Appleby, Mr. Cliff
Arntes, The
Ashley, Mr. F
Barrett, Mr. Chas.
Barygo, Mr. M.
Bastow, Mr. Geo.
Beecham, Mr. Chas.
Behrens, Mr. Nat
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bellis, Mr. F. A.
Berzac, Mr. Clifton
Birkett, Mr. Harold F.
Birteno, Mr. T. J.
Blair, Mr. R.
Blake, Mr. Wilson
Brennan, Mr. James
Brown, Miss Fanny
Brune, Miss L.
Burleigh, Mr. Bertram
Cain, Mr. J. J.
Callan, Mr. John
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carlos
Carne, Mr. Joseph
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Charles, Miss Helen
Chippendall, Mr. A. A
Clyo, Mr. Leo.
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Crawford, Miss Alice
Currie, Mr. Byden
Dainton, Miss Marie
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Dalton, Mr. Richard
d'Arbour, Mr. H. F.
Darnley, Mr. Herbert
Deering, Miss Joan
Doran, Mr. John
Duggan, Miss Maggie
Earle, Miss Victor
Edwards, Mr. S. S.
Elton, Mr. Fred
Epitaux, Mr. Fred.
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fawn, Miss Harriet.
Fields, Miss Fannie
Fitzgerald, Mr. Dan
Flemming, Mr. Claude
Francis, Mr. C.
Franks, Mr. Chas.
Freeman, Mr. C. W.
Garbois, Mr. William
George, Mr. Chandos
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Goddard, Mr. A.
Goldin, Mr. Horace
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Goregund, Miss D.
Grayson, Miss Ethel
Grey, Mr. Vaughan
Grossi, Mr. G.
Grosvenor, Miss B.
Grundy, Mr. S.
Hardy, Miss Dot
Hare, Miss W.
Harris, Miss B.
Harrison, Mr. Denham
Hartley, Miss Jessie
Harwood, Mr. Frank
Healy, Mr. Robert
Hickish, Miss Anna
Hill, Miss Adria
Hilliard, Mr. H. L.
Holt, Madam
Howard, Mrs. George
Howard, Mr. W.
Hunter, Mr. G. W.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Jeffries, Mr. Edgar
Jelliman, Miss A.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Kearns, Mr. Sid
Kelly and Gillette
King, Miss Hetty
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirk and Neil
Landon, Mr. J.
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Leno, Miss G.
Lesborough, Miss Violet
Leslie, Mr. Howard
Leslie, Mrs. R.
Lewis, Miss Mabel
Lopez, Mr. Stephen
Loraine, Mr. Robert
Lowther, Mr. Henry
Luck, Mr. R.
Lupino, Mr. Barry
Lupino, Mr. George
Lyons, Mr. Harry
Mackinder, Mr. L.
Marshall, Mrs. C. R.
Masco Twins
May, Mr. Henry W.
McCaffney, Mr. Thos.
McMerry, Miss
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Menva, Mr. G.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Morton, Mr. James
Murray, Mr. G. E.
Newburne, Mr. Geo.
Nord, Miss Serene
Norman, Miss Lizzie
Oakley, Miss Ada
Pareeze, Mr.
Parker, Mr. Louis N.
Paul, Miss Mab
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Payne, Mr. Walter
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Raynor, Mr. Arthur L.
Reano, Mr. T. Haydn
Redd, Mr. A. E.
Reed, Mrs.
Restall, Mr. John
Rezene, Mr. Chas.
Richardson, Mr. Harry
Ridgway, Miss Nellie
Rogers, Mr. Charles
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Samona, Prince
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Saw, Miss Lilly
Saxionas, The
Sauteron Wonders
Scott, Mr. Bob
Seeley, Mr. W. R.
Seymour, Miss Maude
Shields, Miss Ella
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Standing, Mr. C. W.
Stephens, Mr. Billy
Stevens, Mr. R.
Stevton, Mr. Frank
Swinbourne, Miss L.
Taylor, Capt.
Thattle, Mrs.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Thompson, Mr. Alec F.
Thornton, Mr. R.
Van Dyck, Miss A.
Vane, Miss Edith
Von Etta, Madam
Watson, Miss Mabel
Wilson, Mr. Fred
Young, Mr. Harry
Zalda, Miss Florence

Blackmore's Theatrical Agency, 11, Garrick-street, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London." C. St. John Denton, Dramatic and Musical Agent, English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
Breaking Records for Big Business Everywhere.

A great many artists in the music-hall world, as well as a very large number of others resident at Watford, Dover, Darwen, and Dartford—which latter place he made his home—will be greatly shocked to learn of the sudden death, which occurred at Watford, of Frank Kethro, whose splendid gifts as a pianist were known to so many, both in the professional world and those who knew him only as listeners and friends.

Upon completing an engagement at Darwen three months ago, Frank Kethro returned to Dartford, and after resting a few weeks, went to Watford to take an engagement under Mr. George Howard, manager for Messrs. Jeapes, in which town he was so well known through a previous engagement, covering a period of at least two years. He was in the best of health, but in the early part of last week was taken suddenly ill, and died within forty-eight hours, to the grief of a host of friends. The cause of death was acute meningitis. The widow was telegraphed for, and arrived just in time to see her husband die.

Mr. Kethro leaves a widow and four children—little mites—and when this notice appears they will no doubt have extended to them the sincere sympathy of many members of a warm-hearted profession. The Woolhafs, who were at the Palace Theatre, Watford, last week, and accordingly learnt of the death of poor Kethro in that town, have written to the widow from Southend, enclosing a small sum of money they themselves collected, and referring in most sympathetic terms of their knowledge of the geniality and ability of deceased, extending over a number of years.

"Rayne's Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S
BRONCHIAL
TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Maria Rose Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S
MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Barton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1225 Brixton.

Bureau de Change
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION.
THE ERA
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THE ERA"
IN PARIS.
ERCOLE THEATRICAL EXCHANGE
(Established 1885),
22, CHAUSSEE D'ANTIN, PARIS.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Apply or Address,
O. M. ERCOLE.
Cable Address, "Ercole, Paris." Telephone 334-09.

"THE ERA"
IN AUSTRALIA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.
MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.
Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager,
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

TERRY'S.
Sole Prop., Edw. Terry. Lessee, L. S. Sire.
Evenings, 8.30. Mats. Weds. and Sats. 2.30.
MAY ROBSON
and Original Company in
"THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY,"
by Anne Warner.
The Farcical Comedy Success,
as played 1240 performances in the United States.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45; Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Aug. 22, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday, at 2.30,
"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Monday, Aug. 22, James Welch's Company,
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE. "POMPEII."
"POMPEII" at 8.30 p.m., presented by Messrs. J. Pain and Sons.
"POMPEII," 500 artists. Most Magnificent of Open-air Ballets. Aerial Flights every Tuesday (weather permitting). Tues. next, Mr. E. T. Willows and his Dirigible. Vaudeville Artists 3.15 and 6.30. Daily, Organ, Bands, Archipelago. 200 acres of Lovely Gardens. Return Rail and Admission, 1s. 6d. from all stations.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES,
St. George's Hall, W.
DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New and Startling Mysteries.
Mr. MASKELYNE will introduce his famous Automaton, "PSYCHO," and prove that for 35 years it has remained a scientific and unsolved problem. "The Scarab," new magical farce, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

QUEEN'S HALL.
PROMENADE CONCERTS.
Aug. 13 to Oct. 22 (10 weeks).
Nightly at Eight.
THE QUEEN'S HALL ORCHESTRA.
Conductor, Mr. Henry J. Wood.
1s., 2s., 3s., 5s.; season tickets, 1, 3, 4½, 5 guineas, usual agents, Chappell's, Queen's Hall. Full programmes from Queen's Hall Orchestra (Ltd.), 320, Regent-street. ROBERT NEWMAN, Manager.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—MARIE LLOYD (10.10),
JOE ELVIN, in "W(h)ines and Spirits" (8.40), King and Benson (9.25), Victoria Monks (9), Warsaw Bros., Daisy Dormer, Sam Mayo, Billy Merson, W. S. Wyndham, Kitts and Windrum, Milt Wood, Queenie Essex, Tom Woottwell, Harry Grey, Edna Latona, Ida Barr, Harvey Boys, Mozzeth, Bioscope. Open 7.25; Sat. mat. at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.—
Little Tich, The Two Bobs, Herbert Shelley, Jack Marks, Tom Clare, Dutch Daly, Sam Mayo, May Moore Duprez, Max Waldon, Anita Bartling, Queenie Essex, Dale and O'Malley, Bessie Slaughter, Larola, Minnie Mace, Jose Collins, and The Ten-ka Troupe.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Fred Land, Kitts and Windrum, Harry Taft, Les Alex Carangeots, Tom Clare, Queenie Leighton, G. R. Sims' Sketch, Ida Barr, Walker and Lake, Cornella and Eddie, Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Mary Neil and Co. in "Her Luck in London," Tom Leamore, Bessie Slaughter, Francis and Alfred, Cliff Eyland, Mooney and Holbein, Edna Latonne, The Royal Delomes, May Fayre, Ruffell's Bioscope, T. E. Dunville.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Albert and Edmunds' Co. present "Tower of London," Dale and O'Malley, Griffiths and Carmen, Watts and Co., Lynn and Darius, Fred Durban, Minnie Love, Harvey and Jesson, Three Coopers, Bio. Artists must forward Bill Matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Aug. 22,
Grand Variety Co.,
as booked.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Aug. 22. Charcot and his Automatic Man, Chas. Collette and Co., The Lannone, Sisters Allen, Grimson, Dailley and Co., Victorine and Manelli, Gordon Stretton, Brian Rochford, Laurie and Hisle, Syd Penna, Nina Whitmore, Ernie Westo, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Open 7.30; Saturday 7 o'clock, with augmented programme. Tele., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Man., Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
INDIAN WRESTLERS, THE UESSEMS,
HENRY HELME, OLYMPIA DESVALL, THORA,
THE ROYAL COLIBRIS, JURY'S PICTURES,
"ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
"HULLO! PEOPLE."
VALLI VALLI, J. F. McARDLE, &c.
Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, Johnson Clark, Asra, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
THE FAMOUS BALALAIKA ORCHESTRA,
REGINA BADET, MYRMA, NAT. M. WILLS,
MERIAN'S CANINE ACTORS, KAUFMANN TROUPE, SIX AMERICAN DANCERS, BIOSCOPE, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East,
and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Kabaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. Vacant Oct. 3, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, onwards. Address, Charles Revill, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End companies only wanted for the following dates, Sept. 26 and Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only vacant date this autumn, Dec. 12-17.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 31.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, James Bell.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Sept. 5, Oct. 17, also November.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-19 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Annie Hughes in "The Chorus Lady," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Miss Marie Studholme and Co., Zena Dare in "The Dashing Little Duke," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane; H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Nov. 7, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Address, William Morton.
ALEXANDRA THEATRE,
Charlotte-street, Hull.
The Melodramatic House
also under the management of Wm. Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Oct. 24 (6 nights), Oct. 31 (3),
Nov. 10 (3), Dec. 5 (6), Dec. 12 (3).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
March 27, April 10, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 25, Sept. 5.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE.
ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Only vacancies this year, Oct. 10 and Nov. 21.
First-class Attractions only.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
Vacant
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 13, March 13, onwards.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best Companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few Vacant Dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width, 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

To Music Hall Proprietors and Others.
WHEREAS certain unauthorised performances have been given of a Sketch entitled "The Dawn of a To-morrow," NOTICE is hereby given that proceedings will be instituted against any person or persons who shall perform or be concerned in performing any Sketch bearing this Title or in any way infringing the Rights of the undersigned, the Author and Owners of the Play of the same Title.
Frances Hodgson Burnett, Author.
Liebler and Co., Proprietors of the Performing Rights.
J. D. Langton and Passmore, Solicitors,
2, Paper-buildings, Temple, London, E.C.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Casolli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	Sept. 4, 1909
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Erskine, Miss Elia	Sept. 18, 1909
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Feb. 12, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Foster, Mr. Edward	Aug. 28, 1909
Franklin, Miss Irene	Aug. 14, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walter	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Iring, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenney, Late Mr. Chas. H.	Sept. 25, 1909
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lilburn, Mr. Charles	Sept. 4, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Mellon, Late Mrs. Alfred	Sept. 11, 1909
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Simms, Rose and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred O.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin,
Specially Woven for
the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes,
kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights,
Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose,
Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of
Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD,
LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1910.

THE MILLIONAIRES' THEATRE.

The richly endowed New Theatre, in Central Park West, New York, commonly called *The Millionaires' Theatre*, which was opened on Nov. 6 last year, has now been working for a sufficiently long time for an estimate to be formed of its efficiency. In sumptuousness and splendour the playhouse left little to be desired. In the conformation of the building the architects followed the style of the Wagner Theatre at Bayreuth, making it narrow and broad like an outstretched fan. The auditorium, with its red draperies and massive marble columns, is brilliantly illuminated by the massed lights of a great central chandelier, and for the decoration of the foyer Mr. W. K. VANDERBILT, the president of the New Theatre, has contributed from the ceiling of his private ballroom three paintings by BAUDRY, whose work in the Paris Opera House foyer made him famous.

The house was opened on the date mentioned with great pomp and ceremony. When the orchestra had played "The Dedication of the House," by BEETHOVEN, the curtains were drawn aside, disclosing the guests of honour seated on the stage, conspicuous among whom were Governor HUGHES and Mr. J. PIERPONT MORGAN. In the group around them were Chancellors, Ambassadors, professors, authors, and eminent dramatic critics. The builder of the theatre began the ceremonies by presenting the silver keys of the house to the architect. The latter, in turn, handed them to Mr. J. PIERPONT MORGAN, who represented the founders. Mr. MORGAN made a suitable acknowledgment, and in declaring the New Theatre open, said, "I dedicate it to the services of the drama and the citizens of New York." Then followed the singing of the following choral ode, written by PERCY MACKAYE:—

Awake, awake, awake,
Spirits of Aspiration!
And hasten to renew
Your ministering vows;
For lo! the Prince of Faëry
Returns within your walls,
Back from his ancient bright dominions.
Awake, awake, awake,
For he is crowned again.

The opening performance was a dress rehearsal, amounting to a public performance, of SHAKESPEARE'S *Antony and Cleopatra*. Although the prospectus of the house shrewdly pointed out the evils of the star system, the theatre (says the author of an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*) opened with a star play, if ever there was one, and engaged for the two star parts Mr. SOTHERN and Miss MARLOWE, "for a limited period." Those in charge of the New Theatre were so habituated to the popular estimate of a name (and a novelty) that they called in two prominent stars and chose a play long disused, to give their theatre this dubious advantage, in defiance of the repertory-company idea. After *Antony and Cleopatra* the management put on *The Cottage in the Air*, an adaptation apparently of the novel from which *Why Priscilla Ran Away* was taken—surely a strange choice for an "advanced" theatre!

On Nov. 17 Mr. JOHN GALSWORTHY'S strong drama *Strife* was presented. It was, we are told, "superbly acted" by the New Theatre company. On Dec. 4 a piece called *The Nigger* was produced. The author was a Mr. EDWARD SHELDON, a youthful dramatist. In *The Nigger* he tried to set forth the tragedy of a high-spirited and high-minded Southerner—the governor of a State—who finds suddenly that his blood is tainted by ancestral miscegenation, and renounces all he has held most dear, to go down and labour among his black kind. Here, says the *Atlantic*, was a big, vital theme, an honest attempt at significant native drama.

The next of the dramatic productions was a revival of *The School for Scandal*, which took place on Dec. 16. Then, on Dec. 30, came a one-act play, called *Liz, the Mother*, which had but a single performance, and RUDOLPH BESIER'S *Don*, which was such a success at our Haymarket. On Jan. 26, 1910, *Twelfth Night* was revived. On Feb. 14 *The Witch*, a play adapted by HERMANN HAGEDORN from the Scandinavian of H. WIERS-JENSSEN, was given. It was described as gloomy, unreal, stilted, and theatrical, dull as well as false. On March 14 Act 4 of IBSEN'S *Brand* (condensed) was performed; and also MAETERLINCK'S *Sister Beatrice*, the title-part beautifully acted by Miss MATTHISON, and supplied with one of the most exquisite settings ever shown on a New York stage. On March 28 *The Winter's Tale* was revived, with scenery in the Elizabethan manner. We are told that the presence of Miss MATTHISON in the cast and the interest of the archaic setting and the complete and coherent text, combined to make the production well worth while.

The New Theatre, New York, then, has made in its first season of twenty-four weeks eleven dramatic productions with its own company, four of them classics. Thus one-third of the repertory was classic; of the remaining seven plays, only two were original works by American authors, and only one of them was a treatment of American characters and conditions.

The experiment of the Millionaires' Theatre can neither be said to have entirely succeeded or entirely failed. Certainly *Strife*, *Sister Beatrice*, and the fourth act of *Brand* would not have been presented to the American public without the aid of the New Theatre endowment; and probably the same may be said of *The Nigger*. In London, with enterprising and electic managers like Sir HERBERT TREE, Mr. HERBERT TRENCH, and Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN, we do not need an endowment to ensure the presentation of *Beethoven*—which was promised, but never performed at the New Theatre, New York—but it is different in America, where, we are authoritatively assured, it is difficult to secure production for a native play with no star part; and doubly difficult to secure production for a poetic play, or one with sectional appeal, or one that might conceivably offend this, that, or the other class. It is difficult, also, to secure production for a "literary drama" or an intellectual farce or a satire, and it is almost impossible to secure production for a tragedy. Native plays of all these descriptions the New Theatre should—and doubtless will—welcome.

The experiment of the Millionaires' Theatre was worth trying, because for a long time past it has been asked why in England some rich man or men did not come forward and endow a theatre to be devoted to uncommercial art. The thing has actually been done in America, and it cannot be denied that the caution of the English capitalists has been to a certain extent justified. Up to the present the returns on the expenditure of capital by the American millionaires may not appear to justify either its investment or the flourish of trumpets with which the house was opened; but these are early days, and we must give time for the tree to grow and for its fruit to ripen. As we have already pointed out, the great difficulty in running an art theatre, an intellectual theatre, or a national theatre is the supply of plays. Two thousand pieces were sent in to the reading committee of the Millionaires' Theatre, and out of these only one, *The Nigger*, could be accepted. But a National Theatre cannot be established, any more than its building can be erected, in a day; and at any rate, thanks to the endowment, the American experiment can be continued. It is still possible that the "Prince of Faery" may inhabit the building, and the Spirits of Aspiration awake in the hearts of American playwrights.

EXTENSIVE alterations and improvements have been carried out at the Crook Theatre during a few months' closure. The auditorium has been entirely redecorated and private boxes introduced, greatly adding to the pleasing appearance of the building. An important addition has also been made to the theatre in the shape of an operating chamber, so that cinematograph pictures may be shown at any time.

THE Nottingham Watch Committee has distinguished itself of late in the censoring of theatre posters. Last week Mr. Walter Melville's drama, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, had the two last words obliterated. A little while ago *The Girl Who Went Astray* was billed as *The Girl Who Went;* and but recently a dagger in the *Monte Cristo* bills and a pistol in *The Silver King* posters had to be pasted out. The Committee also decline to allow posters to be sent out on which policemen are depicted.

THE chairman of the Nottingham Watch Committee, Sir J. T. M'Craith, interviewed on Saturday in regard to the censoring of theatre posters in that city, states that during the last three years not a single theatre poster had been brought to their notice. A few years ago many complaints were made of sensational and suggestive pictures and offensive titles which appeared, and the committee then gave a general instruction to the Chief Constable to exercise his discretion, so that nothing of which people could reasonably complain should appear on the hoardings. About that time a picture of a man throwing himself under a steam roller appeared, and simultaneously an affair of that kind occurred in the city. With regard to posters of policemen, Sir J. T. M'Craith declared that the question of refusing to allow them had never been mentioned, and he saw no reason for any such prohibition.

THE chief constable, Mr. Philip S. Clay, who has just returned from a holiday, said the general policy which has been adopted is to censor highly sensational posters representing the taking of human life—shooting with revolvers, tying down to railway tracks, throwing under steam tracks, stabbing, &c., which it is considered act as incitement. He agreed that the substitution of dashes for obliterated words makes matters worse. Mr. Clay added that the only posters of policemen which they object to are those holding the police up to ridicule.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Aug. 11.—M. Tristan Bernard, one of our wittiest playwrights, is the author of many highly amusing plays, among which *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, the shriekingly funny story of a Frenchman who acts as interpreter for an English gentleman and does not know a word of English. A few weeks ago a Spanish review outlined the biography of some of the leading French men of letters, and, somewhat to his surprise M. Tristan Bernard saw himself described therein as a "professor of languages." As it happens, "languages" are not M. Bernard's strong point, and, almost needless to say, this mistake on the part of our Spanish confrère aroused much laughter in Paris. As to M. Bernard, he is all the more convinced that the thing was intended as a practical joke as he himself is the greatest practical joker in the whole of France.

MME. LINA CAVALIERI, the charming prima donna, whose marriage was announced in these columns some time ago, has fallen seriously ill from a severe attack of appendicitis. The operation, however, having been very successfully performed, Mme. Cavalieri will soon be able to start for her villa near Trouville.

TOWARDS the 17th of this month the Vaudeville will give a revival of *Les Deux Ecoles*, originally brought out at the Variétés. As will be remembered, the second act of M. Capus' amusing comedy plays in a restaurant. This time much care has been bestowed on this tableau, which will be an exact reproduction of one of our fashionable restaurants. M. Lucien Prad will interpret the rôle created by M. Albert Brasseur, and that of M. Joulin will be held by M. Laurent.

IT is supposed to be a great honour to belong to the Comédie-Française, and the young members of the "profession" try all they can to be allowed to enter the "House." Once within the sacred walls (and whilst they are still "pensionnaires") they strictly attend to their duties, but things change the moment they have been raised to the rank of "Sociétaire." Their position then is perfectly safe, and they begin to take things easy—so easy, in fact, that they neglect the interests of the house. Thus, the other day M. Mounet-Sully convened nine Sociétaires to an important committee meeting. These nine Sociétaires were: MM. Silvain, de Féraudy, Albert Lambert fils, Paul Mounet, Berr, Truffier, Leitner, Dufios, and Dehelly. Do you know how many replied to the call? Exactly *two*: MM. Paul Mounet and Dufios. The others were either resting on their laurels or "starring" in the provinces. Yet the before-mentioned artists form, with M. Le Bargy (likewise absent), the élite of the company, and, as I said before, there were several important questions to be settled. And as, according to the rules, a quorum consists of at least four members, the meeting had to be postponed.

M. CHABRIER'S *Gwendoline* has now been added to the répertoire of our Opéra, and the work will be produced there in March.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Upon arriving at the Queen's Hall last Saturday at eight o'clock people were streaming out of the vestibule looking very disappointed at receiving the announcement that not even standing room could be found within the hall. There was a closely-packed audience in the arena, which from above presented a wonderful spectacle. There was not a vacant seat to be found in the upper part of the hall.

The hearty welcome Mr. H. J. Wood received when he came on to the platform can only testify to the earnestness and enthusiasm of the music-loving public. It is with wonder we see the popularity of these Promenade Concerts grow more and more every year, and it is a work which reflects great credit on the management, and calls forth the greatest praise upon Mr. H. J. Wood, the conductor, for the beauty of his tone is bewitching, the purity of his intonation is excellent, and the orchestral discipline truly remarkable; in fact, in the fullest sense of the word, his work is excellent.

After the performance of the National Anthem, the concert began with Elgar's "Cockaigne" overture, which was interpreted with the utmost verve, and showed that the orchestra was in excellent form. A most graceful rendering was given of Mendelssohn's scherzo from "A Midsummer Night's Dream." It would be impossible to imagine a nearer approach to a perfect blend of tone between the wood, wind, and strings, than obtained on this occasion. The other performances included "Ballet Music," Moszkowski; Suite for Flute and Orchestra, B. Godard, with Mr. Albert Fransella as soloist; overture, "William Tell," Rossini; symphonic poem, "Danze Macabre," Saint-Saëns; "Danze Piemontese," Leone Sinigaglia; overture, "1812," Tschaikowsky; "Fantasia on Scottish Melodies," Henry J. Wood, the sword dance being played by Pipe-Major H. MacLennan; and "Marche Hongroise" (*Faust*), Berlioz.

Owing to Miss Edith Evans suffering from a sudden indisposition, her place was taken by Miss Esta d'Argo, who sang the scena "Ernani Involami," by Verdi, and in the second part Sullivan's "Where the bee sucks," from his music to *The Tempest*.

Mr. Robert Burnett, who chose an unusual song in Moussorgsky's "A Song of the Flea," a setting from Goethe's *Faust*, sang with a delightful humour, and a second rendering was demanded by the audience. The song was orchestrated by Mr. H. J. Wood.

The programme for this, the sixteenth season of the Promenade Concerts, are very interesting, and include many novelties. Out of sixteen new works to be performed, no less than twelve are by native composers. This will give little opportunity to blame Mr. Wood for the scanty attention he has given to English music. The concerts are nightly at eight o'clock, and continue until Oct. 22, 1910.

On Monday the programme, mainly devoted to selections from Wagner's great music dramas, attracted a large audience to Queen's Hall. The Prelude to *Lohengrin* was played with refinement, and Mr. Wood's orchestra gave a capital performance of the Introduction to Act III., Dance of Apprentices, Procession of Masters, and Homage to Sachs, from *Die Meistersinger*. Siegfried's Journey (*Götterdämmerung*) and the Prelude to Act III. (*Tristan*) were also excellent interpretations; but the Song of the Rhine-Daughters, from *Götterdämmerung*, owing to the absence of voices, was not entirely satisfactory. An impressive account of Entrance of the Gods (*Rheingold*) was given by the orchestra; and the programme included Goldmark's Overture "In Italien" and "Krakowiak (Moszkowski). Miss Edith Evans sang the music of Brunhilde, in the last scene of *Götterdämmerung*, with ability, but hardly sufficient vocal power. In "Rienzi's Prayer" Mr. Morgan Kingston greatly distinguished himself; and mention should be made of Mr. McDonagh's fine cornet solo in the Prelude from *Tristan*.

SIGNOR LEONCAVALLO is at work at present in his Swiss summer home—a beautiful villa at Brissago, on the upper end of Lake Maggiore—"creating" the music for his new opera, which he has already christened *La Foscarina*. The libretto is being written by a Swiss, M. Angelo Nessi, of Locarno, and an Italian, Signor G. Macchi, of Milan. Leoncavallo hopes that the opera will be ready by early spring, to be played at Genoa by the Coramba Scognamiglio troupe, and afterwards in London.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"POLNISCHE WIRTSCHAFT."
Musical Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Kraatz and Okonkowsky.
Produced at the Thalia Theatre, August 9.

Mangelsdorff	HERR SONDERMANN
Gabriele	FRAU JUNKER-SCHATZ
Erika	FRAULEIN BALLOT
Von Beltenius	HERR KETTNER
Hegewaldt	HERR BECHERT
Marga	FRAULEIN DELLA-DONNA
Fiedler	HERR RIECK
Count Casimir	HERR STOLZENBERG
Maruschka	FRAULEIN URY
Petruschka	FRAULEIN BRUSENDORF
Saluschka	FRAULEIN ENDTREFFER
Annuschka	FRAULEIN TUDANDT
Fritz Sperling	HERR JUNKERMANN
Minchen	FRAULEIN REINKE
Stemjowski	HERR ERFURT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, AUG. 11.—This is one of the wild burlesque farces to which we are accustomed at the Thalia, and it may at once be stated that it was a success in every way. The audience greeted old favourites, such as the capital comedians Herren Sondermann and Junkermann, the ever-popular Frau Junker-Schatz, and the very charming Helene Ballot with the greatest enthusiasm, and altogether the new season has opened under the best auspices. To describe the plot is an impossible task: as a matter of fact, there is no plot at all. The scenes are loose and scarcely connected; to excite the risible faculties seems to be the authors' sole aim, and it must be admitted they have succeeded. The "milieu" is Polish—a thing in itself to afford amusement. A gentleman farmer named Hegewaldt has had the misfortune—as he considers it—to marry a Polish girl. Marga—that is the girl-wife's name—is certainly a handful; she is pretty, of course, and full of whims and fancies; she insists on keeping her husband in a state of adoration, and orders him to drink champagne out of her shoe. All these vagaries convince him that his wife is too "Polish," and he attempts to get a separation. Just before the legal proceedings are ended—Hegewaldt has even a second bride in prospect—he begins to yearn for his own little Polish wife, and after some difficulty he regains possession of her. That he is willing to drink from her slipper or perform any other abject service is a matter of course. The fun—as I have said—is in loosely-connected scenes, and not the least funny is the advent of Count Kasimir Schofinsky, with four nieces, whose names all terminate in the customary Polish "uschka." The broken German and the amusing couplets, to say nothing of the capital dances, made up a good entertainment for an average summer audience. The acting was extremely good, and costumes and scenery are adequately effective. Herr Gilbert has supplied the music, which is bright and melodious.

AT the Luisen Theatre a new play was produced on the same evening. It is entitled *Auf der Goldwage*, and has been adapted by Ernst Ritterfeld from a novel of the same name that recently ran in a well-known daily paper here, the authoress being Marie Stahl. It met with a cordial reception.

THE Lessing company has returned from its successful provincial tour, and opened the new season with Bahr's comedy *Das Konzert*, the piece which ran so well during last season. Hauptmann's *Versunkene Glocke* and Ibsen's *Gespenster* are also in this week's bill. Until the end of the month so-called "summer prices" prevail. Dr. Geyer's company—who occupied the stage during Dr. Brahms' absence—have removed to the Neues, taking their popular military play *Kasernenluft* with them.

ANOTHER admirable performance of *Lohengrin* was given at the Gura Opera last night, with Frau Gura-Hummel in the rôle of Elsa, one which suits her better than almost any other. An artist new to Berlin sang the name-part, and achieved a great and well-merited triumph. It was Dr. von Barth, from the Dresden Royal Opera, and he fully justified his reputation of being one of the best living exponents of Wagner. His voice is quite beautiful, ringing, yet delicately musical, and his dramatic and convincing impersonation of the Knight of the Swan was well-nigh faultless. It would be an acquisition for our own Royal Opera if the Dresden artist could be prevailed upon to exchange with a Berlin tenor or two.

A NEW three-act comedy by MM. Leo Stein and Heller is to be produced at the Royal Playhouse at Munich next week. The title is *Der heilige Aloysius*, and the piece is said to be extremely amusing.

PAVILION THEATRE, E.

On Monday, Aug. 15, the Play, entitled
"SEXTON BLAKE."

The detective drama *Sexton Blake* is drawing large audiences. Mr. Murray Yorke represents Sexton Blake with great ability; Mr. Edward McLean as Roger Blackburn is cheered by all parts of the house; Miss Elizabeth Watkins as the heroine is a great success; Mr. Millar Wilson is really funny, especially in his scenes with Euphemia Pattacake, cleverly delineated by Miss Dinah Wright; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as Randolph Lovell makes a typical villain; Miss Lydia Mannington as Philadelphia Kate greatly amuses the audience with her eccentricities. The remaining parts are played by able artists.

THE Chief of Police of Berlin has issued an edict that will probably shake that excellent body the "Freie Volksbühne" (Independent Theatre) to its foundations. Herr von Jagow has decided that the Association has assumed such dimensions that existing conditions can no longer prevail in the interest of the public safety. The "Freie Volksbühne," having hitherto registered as a "Verein" (association), was subject to no red-tapeism in the matter of censorship and other disadvantages. Another similar "Verein," that of the "New Freie Volksbühne," is equally threatened, and both are making an appeal to a higher tribunal, which—in the interest of the masses—it is hoped will be successful.

ON his return to Cambo, in the Pyrenees, M. Edmond Rostand has been paid a fresh compliment by the little Basque town, of which he is the chief ornament. The municipality has decreed that one of its thoroughfares will henceforth be known as Rue Chantecler. Cambo already has a Cyrano-avenue. Such an example could well be followed in London, where the names of plays would serve as a fruitful source of street nomenclature. *Smith*-streets we have in abundance, but *Hamlet*-road, *Society*-square, *Our Boys*-avenue, *Penelope*-parade, and such celebrated specimens of dramatic penmanship are manifestly available to adorn the thoroughfares of the metropolis.

A RATHER funny incident occurred at the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, this week. Mr. Frank Bertram, who is playing Jack Hawkins in his company of *The Sailor's Wedding*, has to explain the quandary he is in, and how he has to marry a girl named Polly because he has a figure of a girl and a name tattooed on his chest. On coming out after the matinée on Wednesday, he was accosted by a seafaring man, who said: "Say, mate, excuse me speaking to you, but I was in this afternoon, and felt jolly sorry for you having to marry that girl. If you want the tattoo removed, there's a man lives in the High-street here, just below the theatre—you can't miss it—it's a barber's shop. He'll take it out for you for a shilling a square inch." Mr. Bertram thanked the sailor for his kindness, and said he would "think it over."

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP

Terry's Theatre.

MR. CHRIS PORTER will be the master carpenter, Mr. R. J. Carter the electrician, and Mr. Frank West the property master at Terry's Theatre for the season beginning on Tuesday next.

Australian Society of Stage Employees.

MR. JAMES CONWAY, a member of His Majesty's Theatre staff, Sydney, Australia, has come to London to see an eye specialist and for a holiday, part of which he has already spent in Paris. On Wednesday evening he met the committee of the General Staff Branch, National Association of Theatrical Employees, and, as a member of the Sydney Stage Employees' Association, desired to exchange views for the mutual benefit of both organisations.

MR. CONWAY furnished documents relating to the Australian Society of Stage Employees, from which the following particulars are given: The Sydney Branch of the Australian organisation has a large club-room for the convenience of its members, with billiard tables, &c. It has its law agent, and is affiliated with the Sydney Labour Council. All members of the stage staff of the Sydney theatres and music halls are members of the society. The society has a schedule of minimum rates of pay for its members.

THE union undertakes that all men supplied or recommended to managers shall be properly-qualified men; that mechanics shall be skilled carpenters able to make as well as work scenery; that property-men shall be qualified to make properties; and the electricians able to carry out the Fire Underwriters' Association rules in respect of wiring and management of electric current generally. One curious paragraph in the rules is as follows:—"No member of this Association shall accept employment from any management, knowing same management to be producing plays without the authority of the managers who are paying royalty or royalties on such plays." One would think this was more a matter for the actors and the authors.

ONE advantage which the stage employees of Australia enjoy over those of their craft employed in other countries is that they can appeal to the Wages Board established by law to fix or revise any of the rates of pay, and when wages are so fixed can enforce them by process of law. An agreement between the society and the managers endorsed by the Wages Board is so enforcable, and remains in operation until revised or set aside by authority of the Wages Board.

Stop all Sunday Entertainments if Necessary.

A MEETING of the Sunday Defence Committee was held on Thursday, when matters arising out of the meeting held in Terry's Theatre and in connection with the forthcoming Trade Union Congress were considered. Members present: Messrs. W. H. Clemart (presiding), J. B. Williams, C. Jesson, L.C.C., and William Johnson (secretary). With reference to the statements of Mr. Broughton, then president of the Cinematograph Defence League, at Terry's Theatre meeting, Mr. J. B. Williams informed the committee that the Musicians' Union, while having taken measures to protect the interests of its members, and being forced to enter into competition to do so, were prepared to support action to stop all Sunday entertainments rather than face the general opening on Sunday of places of amusement. Allusion was also made to the many misrepresentations regarding the Sunday Defence Committee which have been published in the cinematograph trade Press. In one journal it was stated that the Sunday Defence Committee had been formed by the theatre and music hall proprietors and managers, and that the meeting at Terry's Theatre was comprised of theatrical managers. These statements are, of course, devoid of any foundation. The Sunday Defence Committee was founded, and is conducted, by artists, musicians, and employees, and is solely responsible for its action, and is entirely dependent for its income, upon the Variety Artists' Federation, the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees.

Not Out of Any Ill-Will.

THE cinematograph trade Press evidently cannot understand that the Sunday Defence Committee regards the Sunday question from a general point of view affecting the entertainment business as a whole. The picture theatres are in this field competitors of the music hall and the theatres devoted to dramatic performances, and, as stated so pointedly by Mr. Mulholland, it is unfair that one section of entertainers should have facilities denied to the other two sections. The Sunday Defence Committe must, therefore, resist the Sunday opening, or be prepared to have a general opening of all theatres and music halls. It is not out of any illwill towards the picture theatres, as the committee has repeatedly stated, but with a desire to avert the general opening of all places of amusement on Sunday. In the provinces Sunday opening is not permitted, with few exceptions, and it is probable that the Cinematograph Defence League wish their provincial supporters to believe that once the fight is won in London success is assured for the provincial picture theatres. The Sunday Defence Committee have not by any means taken all the steps open to them to resist those who are opening on Sundays, and if a settlement is not arrived at before the winter sets in drastic measures will be adopted.

COMPLAINT is made at Stratford-on-Avon of the irreverent behaviour of a certain class of American visitors who attend the services in the parish church with the object of visiting Shakespeare's tomb in the chancel and not for the purpose of Divine worship. This practice is becoming so general that on Sunday, immediately after the service, a card is placed across the west end of the choir, "Shakespeare's tomb is not shown on Sundays." Further complaint against a section of Americans is that they have been seen to go through their purchases of pictorial postcards and actually to address them during the time of service.

A TRIBUTE to the memory of Richard Wagner is being prepared at Leipzig. An imposing memorial of polished granite, designed and executed by a Berlin sculptor, is now being erected over the graves of two of his ancestors. One is that in the cemetery of St. John of Johanna Rosina Geyer, the widow of Richard Wagner's father, the State actuary, Wilhelm Wagner, who died in 1813, the year of the great composer's birth. She was born on Sept. 19, 1778, at Weissenfels, and after the death of her first husband, Wilhelm Wagner, she married the well-known actor and painter, Ludwig Geyer. This union lasted for thirty-five years, until her death, which took place at Leipzig on Jan. 9, 1848. The other grave holds the remains of Richard Wagner's eldest sister, Johanna Rosalie, who married the well-known savant, Dr. Marbach, but died within a year of her wedding, at the age of thirty-four.

A WELL-KNOWN manager found a new member of his company a very bad study. He had great difficulty in memorising the lines. The manager therefore procured a phonograph, and made a record of the part causing the trouble. He then invited his "fluffy" comrade to his house, when the phonograph was kept busy with the new record for a couple of hours. At the end of that time, without any effort, the part was rehearsed "dead letter perfect."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

We regret to hear that Miss Cecilia Loftus, who underwent an operation at the conclusion of her engagement at the Coliseum, will be unable to play the heroine in *The Man from the Sea*, by W. J. Locke, to be produced at the Queen's Theatre shortly.

The new Finsbury Park Empire, the latest suburban enterprise of the Moss and Stoll amalgamation, is to open on Monday, Sept. 5. An army of workmen are busy on the interior of the fine house, which will be luxuriously fitted and furnished.

The site is an admirable one, and is of such extent that Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co. have been enabled to provide private roads at the side and rear, thus completely isolating the building, situated at the corners of St. Thomas-road and Prah-road.

Miss Adele Levey on Monday appeared at Hampshire House, Hammersmith, where her stories and monologues were much appreciated. On Wednesday the clever artist was at the Irish Club, where she had a very hearty welcome.

Mr. Arthur Williams, supported by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor, will appear in *The Prize Winner*, a new sketch by Herbert C. Sargent, part author with W. W. Jacobs of *The Changeling* and *The Boatswain's Mate*, to be produced at the Coliseum on Monday. The production will be under the direction of Mr. Whyte, who was so successful in *Feed the Brute!* at the Tivoli.

By special permission of His Imperial Majesty the Czar of Russia, W. W. Andreef's Balalaika Court Orchestra, which is maintained and controlled by the Crown, will reappear at the Coliseum next Monday. The permission to re-visit the Coliseum was given by the Czar last December after the two Royal commands to Windsor Castle and Sandringham, the latter command being at the express request of Queen Alexandra.

It is good to hear that Mr. Russell Wallett has regained his health, after a serious illness. He will be at the Hackney Empire on Monday next. "The lady in black" is well known and popular in the north and north-east of London, and his work in the pantomime at the Marlborough a year or two back is not forgotten by his staunch suburban admirers, who will be giving him an earnest of their sympathy and appreciation by a cordial welcome on his reappearance.

Datas, the memory man, had an exciting experience at Murrarundi, in New South Wales, where he was performing with Wirth's Circus. While Marco, the lion tamer, was giving his show, some of the animals escaped into the arena and thence into the main streets. Datas, on stepping out of his carriage, was confronted by one of the four-footed wanderers. We have no record of the conduct of the human almanack, but we take it that he did not stop to put the usual question—"Am I right, sir?"

Mr. W. L. Courtney's dramatic sketch, *A Woman's Revolt*, which when seen at a Maud Allan matinée at the Palace Theatre on July 7 last year, proved to be a failure, will be reproduced at the same house on Monday, Aug. 29, with Miss Ada Webster again playing the part of Gabrielle. The Colonel Routledge will be Mr. C. Croker-King; and the Lancelot Wrayne Mr. Walter Pearce. The scene is laid in a flat in Victoria-street. We are given to understand that the sketch has been overhauled, and in parts rewritten.

"Biddy," the mascot of the Shepherd's Bush Empire, is a bulldog, and is well known throughout the music-hall profession. An *Era* representative was chatting to its owner (Mr. Eric Smith, the Shepherd's Bush stage-manager) the other evening, and, inquiring for the dog, learnt that it had been missing since last Sunday morning. The dog was a great favourite with the staff and with many variety artists, and, although the circumstances of its disappearance point to its having been stolen, it is to be hoped that it may quickly be restored to its owner.

The annual river excursion of the Water Rats on Sunday last was by train from Waterloo to Reading, and thence by launch, through miles of glorious riparian scenery, to Wallingford, which was reached at 3.30. Here games and sports were enjoyed. During the return journey Messrs. Dave O'Toole, Seth Egbert, Fred Maple, Will Oliver ("My father's face"), Eugene Stratton, Dusty Rhodes, and others entertained. Mr. W. H. McCarthy, the energetic organiser, may be congratulated on the excellent arrangements made.

To his numerous friends in England Neil Kenyon has said *au revoir*. As stated in another column, he departed yesterday for New Zealand, taking the sea trip on the advice of his doctor. He has had an offer to play his part of the Scotch pastor in *The Islander* in Australia, but the acceptance of the offer will depend entirely upon his health. Australia will be visited, and on the return journey Mr. Kenyon will make a short stay in the States, where he is booked to open on the Percy Williams circuit. Towards the end of February he is due at the London Pavilion, where he made his first appearance on the metropolitan variety boards.

"The wholesome corn in the music hall is plain enough to-day to unprejudiced persons," says Mr. P. P. Howe in the *Socialist Review*. "Any amount of artistic ability is being exerted there, and—a thing that can't be said of all the arts—the positions do generally seem to be held according to the ability. When one comes to think it over, fewer prominent and affluent incapables occur to one's mind in the music hall than in any other of the professions. It must be the test of the possession of a power to hold audiences, a very useful test, which in the music hall brings the right people to the top."

We have had Japanese tragedy before in London, both at the theatres and halls; and the clever little people from the land of the chrysanthemum offer a curious and interesting study in temperament. Especially is this the case in the mimodrame entitled *Vengeance*, one of the new features in the Coliseum bill, which is presented by Udagawa and Kawamoura, both of them players of renown in their own country. Udagawa impersonates no fewer than three characters—the Father, the Assassin, and the Servant, his comrade Kawamoura representing the son, who revenges the murder of his father.

The two are on a journey, and the old man, while seeking shelter from the heat beneath the umbrageous shade of a tree, incautiously places a bag of gold by his side. The villain steals upon the stage, and ferociously does the old man to death. The son, too, is seemingly throttled, but, feigning death, disguises himself as a girl, and despatches the family servitor with a message to the Assassin that a fascinating lady awaits his presence. The murderer is lured to the "lady's" side, and a combat of remarkable ferocity ensues. It is quite in the spirit of a Grand Guignol thrill, with an extra shudder, perhaps, at the ruthless way both actors handle swords and daggers.

Mr. Albert Chevalier, assisted by Miss Tresilian Davy, paid a flying visit to Margate on Tuesday, and gave an afternoon recital at the Hippodrome. There was a large and appreciative audience.

The proprietor of the Alexandra Palace, Morley, Mr. Tom Diacoff, has taken up his residence in the town, and has already gained a large circle of friends. His autumn and winter bookings include some of the best "turns" in vaudeville, and with the assistance of his popular manager (Mr. Arthur Izon), good fare will be provided.

"A Woman's Way," which has met with gratifying success since its production at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on July 20, 1908, by Mr. George C. Doughty and Miss Molly Laney, has been booked by Mr. Alfred Butt to make its first West-end appearance at the Palace Theatre the week of Sept. 12 next.

Mr. Sam Lloyd, late manager of the Coliseum, Glasgow, has been presented by the employees of that house on his leaving with a magnificent solid leather attaché case and wallet. The gift to Mme. Lloyd was a lady's beautiful bag and purse. Mr. Lloyd is taking up the position of managing-director at the proposed Olympia Theatre, Glasgow.

The many friends of Mr. Mark Lorne, who recently took over the reins of management at the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham, will be pleased to hear that he has been the recipient of numerous letters of congratulation on his appointment. Amongst them was a message from the Duchess of Portland, of Welbeck Abbey, wishing him "every success, hearty congratulations, and good luck."

It was, indeed, a happy and jovial band of ladies and gentlemen connected with the theatrical world of Birmingham which, with Mr. Edward Foster, the ever-popular manager of the Grand Theatre, at its head, took train on Sunday last for Evesham, on the occasion of the third annual staff outing of that variety house. There were Mr. Lester Collingwood from the Alexandra, Mr. Bushell from the Gaiety, Mr. J. Whitaker, the conductor of the Grand orchestra, Mr. A. W. Matcham, and other managers of Birmingham houses.

The weather was all that could be desired, and under the warm smiles of Old Sol (we have not seen him smiling any too much this summer), sports, games of cricket, excursions up the river, and rambles among the glorious scenery which abounds in the district of Evesham were keenly enjoyed. A first-class lunch was provided at the Crown Hotel, at which Mr. Edward Foster occupied the chair.

Mr. Marooney, late stage manager at the Keighley Hippodrome, was the recipient of several handsome presents last Saturday evening. Mr. Barrasford made the presentation, and delivered an appropriate speech, expressing regret at losing the services of Mr. Marooney, who has accepted a position as stage manager at Rochdale Hippodrome. A gentleman's dressing-case and gold-mounted umbrella were given by the staff, Major Cass presented a silver-mounted pipe, and Captain Pawson a silver-mounted tobacco pouch.

Dr. Walford Bodie is breaking fresh records all along the line. At Seacombe and Bishop Auckland he has been playing to holding capacity. His new and up-to-date act is creating quite a furore wherever he appears. Recent events and the success of his publications have brought his name to the front, and he is now one of the best-known men in the country. Many flock to the theatres and halls to see this man of many parts. Over 50,000 copies of the "Bodie Book" have already been sold, and over 40,000 copies of "Stage Stories" have also been sold.

"A most enjoyable day," was the opinion of everyone who took part in the annual outing of the staff of the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham. The objective was Bewdley, and leaving Birmingham early on Sunday morning, it was reached in good time. In the unavoidable absence of the manager, Mr. Mark Lorne, Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, who a few weeks ago relinquished the reins of office, was regarded as leader. He was ably supported by Mr. W. J. Reynolds, of the Gaiety Theatre, who carried out the arrangements, and other friends.

A good percentage of the theatre staff are enthusiastic fishermen, and they were able to indulge in a long day's sport. None of them, however, experienced good luck, and a good many retired "water-whacked." A drive to Stourport was much enjoyed during the morning, and helped to create a good appetite for dinner, which was taken at the George Hotel.

At the Harbour Inn, Arley, the party were greeted by Mr. Lester Collingwood, the genial proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, who had motored over from Evesham. Tea was partaken of, and in the course of a little speech Mr. Collingwood paid a happy tribute to the useful services which Mr. Woodward has rendered at the Bordesley Palace and amongst theatrical circles in Birmingham. At his request three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Woodward. The return journey to Bewdley was a pleasant one, and the excursionists had ample time in which to catch the 7.30 p.m. train back to Birmingham.

Mr. Carl Hamlin, the popular conductor of the Surrey, has received (per John Henderson) the official badge, in silver, of the Queen's Own Rifles semi-centennial reunion as a memento of the historical pageant produced at the Exhibition Park, Toronto, Canada, in June last, under the auspices of Colonel Sir Henry M. Pellatt, Kt., A.D.C., Commandant Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. Mr. Hamlin arranged the vocal music which was played by the massed bands, and scored a decided success.

Miss Elsie Kerry, who has been appearing this week at the Empire, Dublin, was accorded a most enthusiastic reception in her native city, where she has scored an unprecedented success. All the more credit is due to Miss Kerry, as she was selected to follow the artist who topped the bill. Her welcome was so warm that she was compelled to sing no fewer than four songs and an encore verse nightly, and even then the audience was reluctant to allow this favourite comedienne to retire. Miss Kerry reopens at the Belfast Empire next week, and fulfils an engagement on the following week at the Palace, Cork.

The Seven Sisters Matthews, who were quite kiddies when they made a hit in the Pavilion, Mile End, pantomime and at the Paragon, in a musical and an acrobatic turn, were the daughters of Mr. Billy Matthews, a famous clown of palmy days of pantomime at the house named. Billy, who played clown there for fourteen consecutive seasons, has now completed his eightieth year, and the hale and hearty veteran has been the recipient of numerous congratulations—none more welcome than those from Lord George Sanger, who has presented Mr. Matthews with a horse as a souvenir of his early days with the King of Showmen's circus.

Mrs. Isa Lowe writes to inform us that she has heard from her son, who on reading the paragraph concerning him in our "Variety Gossip" columns last week immediately set his mother's anxiety at rest.

Cleo de Merode, the famous Parisian actress and beauty, has been engaged by Mr. Stoll to appear at the London Hippodrome on Monday, the 29th inst. She will give excerpts from her large répertoire.

Miss Zena Dare will appear at the Hippodrome on Monday in a sketch, by Mr. Seymour Hicks, entitled *The Model and the Man*. Miss Dare will be supported by Frank Wilson and Ivy St. Hillier. The music is by Frank Tours and the lyrics by C. H. Bovill.

The famous Craggs commenced an engagement at the South London Palace last Monday night. It is over thirty-one years since their last engagement at the same hall. It was on June 2, 1879, that they commenced a nine weeks' engagement. On Monday they opened for six nights only.

Mr. Charles Collette, after a short and most successful tour, reopens in London on Monday at the Royal Standard, supported by Miss Joan Derry, the clever boy impersonator, in H. C. Sargent's farce-duologue *Pyjamas*.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, will start on a fortnight's holiday to-day (Saturday). Miss May feels the need of complete rest, after the anxiety and worry caused by Miss Belle Elmore's death. Miss Elmore took up all Miss May's duties during her absence last year.

Mr. Geo. R. Sims has written a powerful miniature drama, entitled *Nanon Lafarge*, for Miss Mildred Blanchard, in which she will appear at the principal music halls, supported by a specially selected company of West-end artists. The production takes place on Monday at the Metropolitan, under the personal direction of the author.

A committee meeting of the Music Hall Home will be held at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, on Thursday next, Aug. 25, at 12 noon. The general meeting is fixed for Thursday, Sept. 1, at 2 p.m., at the same place. The secretary, Ben Woodger, would be pleased to receive any men's old clothes for the use of the inmates of the home, if sent to 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

Miss Lily Langtry, now enjoying the best of health in Australia, rejoices in the fact that she has been over nineteen weeks at one hall, singing all her own songs.

Happy Fanny Fields is enjoying her rest in sunny Folkestone. She will resume work on the 29th at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, and goes to the Court, Liverpool, at Christmas for *The Forty Thieves*, in which she will be associated with an old pantomime comrade, Malcolm Scott.

Mr. Walter Norman, who has been managing the Merrythought Concert Party at the Corn Exchange, Ross, was recently presented by Mr. Stanley Hughes and Miss Iris Damon with a gold scarf pin and enlarged signed photograph of the company for the way he had worked for the success of the company. Mr. Norman is in town again.

Mr. Charles S. Kitts (of Kitts and Windrum) writes from the Managers' Club:—"In reply to your correspondent of last week, and his claim to the title of our little comedy *What a Night!* now running so successfully at the Oxford and Euston theatres, I am rather surprised he has not called my attention to this fact before, as it has been favourably noticed and advertised in the London and provincial Press for some time. However, I shall feel favoured if your correspondent can prove that he was the original person to hold the right of the title on the date of his said production in 1905.

"The play's the thing," so Shakespeare said,
But the issue isn't vital.
Some people say, "the play to-day
Is nothing—it's the title."

On behalf of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., Miss Melinda May (secretary) gratefully thanks the following:—Mrs. Fox (The Foxes), donation, 2s. 6d.; Miss Rosie Coleman (Mrs. Conlin), collecting 5s.

The following is a copy of a letter received from Queen Alexandra:—

"Home Office, Whitehall, July 30, 1910.

"Madam,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to inform you that the message of condolence of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild on the death of his late Majesty King Edward the Seventh has been laid before Queen Alexandra, whose thanks I am to convey to you.

"I am, Madam, your obedient servant,
"Edward Troup.

"The Secretary, Music Hall Ladies' Guild,
"Albion House, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C."

There was a big company on Wednesday afternoon to watch Sam Mayo and Chas. Phydora, the well-known music hall entertainers, play 750 up for the billiard championship of the music hall profession, and a trophy presented by Mr. D. Shuter, proprietor of the Loughborough Hotel, Brixton, the scene of the match. Mayo won by 117 points, his best breaks being 27 (twice), 26, 32, 39, 46, 36, 28, 34, and 29. Phydora made 24, 34, 27, 32, 24, 35, and 28. The final scores were: Mayo, 750; Phydora, 633.

Barney Armstrong writes:—"The report in *The Era* mentioning me as successor to Sam Jones as manager of the City Varieties, Leeds, has brought me quite a number of letters congratulating me on the appointment. As I have no intention of going into management again, I shall be pleased if you will contradict this statement. I am appearing at the Oxford with great success, and am negotiating returns with the directors of the Syndicate for 1911-12. I am also on the point of fixing up a contract to visit Australia. Please convey to those who wrote me my sincere thanks. I am quite content to be on the boards."

A match was played on Sunday last, at Toley's Ground, Acton, between Cranbourn (Moss' Empires, Ltd.) and the Variety Agents. Cranbourn won the toss, and started to bat on an easy wicket, but were out for 67, Mr. Bert MacLachlan making top score of 14. Mr. Davies (of Wieland's) took seven wickets for 22 runs. The teams and visitors, numbering about fifty, adjourned to the Leamington Hotel, where an excellent lunch was awaiting them. The Agents then went in to bat, and, thanks to some very safe hitting by Mr. Winton (Wieland's), the score rose to 60 for nine. Mr. Baldwin (Will Collins) and Mr. W. Edelstein knocked off the eight runs necessary to win the match, amid great excitement.

The second innings was evidently not taken seriously by the Agents, as all the players were given a trial with the ball, and Moss' Empires were quick to avail themselves of the opportunity to have some practice. Stumps were drawn at 5.30, and the party, now numbering a hundred, had tea, and arrived back at Paddington after a most enjoyable day. Thanks must be extended to Mr. Ernest Aplin for his excellent arrangements. We understand that a return match is to be played in a fortnight's time.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten, head of the Macnaghten Circuit, which controls Sadler's Wells, was summoned at Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday by Frederick George for having, from July 25 to July 28, unlawfully performed stage plays, *The Devil's Elbow* and *Beware of the Dog*. Each piece, it was stated, lasted about twenty minutes.

Mr. Blackwell, for the defence, said that this was the oldest theatre in London, but it had allowed its licence to lapse in July. It had since been renewed. Frederick George said that his only object in prosecuting was to obtain publicity and to ridicule the state of the law in this matter. He knew of the arrangements whereby sketches were allowed in music halls by theatre managers if they had no more than six speaking parts and took no longer than thirty minutes.

Mr. Bros, the magistrate, said that it was a bad plan to bring a prosecution to "ridicule an Act," but as long as the Act stood he had to administer it. He imposed a fine of 40s., with 2s. costs.

Mr. H. Naylor Grimson has secured a capital little sketch in *Knocked Out*, which will in future be known as *The Knock Out*. It was recently played with wonderful success at the Camberwell Empire. He is appearing in it at the Standard next week.

Miss Madge Temple's most successful engagements have been interrupted by a disagreeable touch of influenza, but the charming singer of "On the silvery sands," who has received many messages of inquiry and sympathy, is quite her bright self once more.

Mr. Ernest Shand has been delighting the Edinburgh by his various impersonations and his songs and patter, and "Standing Room Only" was the legend displayed outside the local Empire during his stay. He is now in Douglas, where the warm-hearted Manx folk are just as appreciative.

Miss Jessie Albini, who has been taking a holiday this week at Hastings, resumes business on Monday at the Hulme Hippodrome. This charming comedienne will shortly produce an original number, entitled "Mum, mum mum is the word," written by Kenneth Morrison and Maurice Scott.

Miss Vera Saunders scored an instantaneous success this week at the Palace, Clacton, being personally complimented by the management. This clever little artist has two new numbers in active rehearsal for her return to the Tivoli, and will shortly introduce a new work from the pen of the author of "Come over to Hanover."

The space formerly occupied by the Bostock Menagerie at the Brussels Exhibition presents a most lamentable spectacle, having been shockingly devastated by the flames. Of all the animals composing the menagerie the elephant alone was rescued, and a frightful smell of grilled flesh emanates from the wreckage.

Messrs. Henri Bekker, Harry Luck, Frank Peskett, W. B. Raby, and Alan Rand were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Russell Brandow, W.T., assisted by Terrier Billy Kloof, V.T. Terrier Arthur Were officiated as organist. Four of these new Terriers were proposed by Terrier Billy Kloof. Messrs. George Ernest Aplin, Billy French, Griff Hodson, W. H. Kirby, A. Marconi, and Jack Straw have successfully passed the ballot as candidates for membership of the association.

Terrier Tom Packer has been presented with a handsome gold scarf pin by Terrier Arthur Were in recognition of the able manner in which he acted as secretary, *pro tem.*

A Terriers' Cricket Club has been formed, with Terrier W. R. Dunkley as captain, and Terrier Ted Karno, vice-captain. All Terriers desirous of joining the club are requested to communicate with the hon. secretary, Terrier Tom Packer. Terrier Dunkley has presented the club with a complete kit, consisting of bag, bats, gloves, pads, stumps, &c. Photographs of the river outing (2s. 6d. each) and the cricket match groups (1s. 6d. each) may be obtained from the secretary.

A hearty welcome was accorded the secretary, Arthur Were, and Terriers R. Abel, T. C. Callaghan, C. McGovan, J. Ross Elvio, W. Welsh, and S. W. Wyndham upon their reappearance in the Kennel on Sunday last.

Playgoers, as distinct from music-hall habitués, have been enjoying a rare innings this week at the Walthamstow Palace. For the first time since its opening, the handsome variety theatre, now under the management of Mr. Pierre Cohen, has had a week's dramatic season. The play chosen is *The Bad Girl of the Family*, played by Mr. Frederick Melville's company, headed by Miss Violet Crossley as Bess Moore.

Notwithstanding the necessary increase in the prices of admission, the Palace has been literally besieged every night, "standing room only" being the common order. For the more expensive seats the advance booking began immediately the announcement appeared, a fortnight beforehand, and continued with unabated zeal until every purchasable box and stall had been secured, while from the other parts of the house money has been turned away nightly as soon as the doors were opened.

When application was made at Croydon on Monday for permission for Nellie and Lillie Bennett, twin sisters, aged twelve and a half years, to appear for a week at the Croydon Empire Palace Theatre of Varieties as "Tiny and Mite, talented juvenile dancers," Chief-Inspector Mackay interposed by direction of the Commissioner of Police.

He said that the children had no parents living. When their mother died they were placed in the care of an aunt, Mrs. Payne, of Pudsey. They had since drifted into the care of a half-brother, a young lad (the present applicant), and the aunt objected to the lad making a living out of the children. Mr. Eustace H. Jay, manager of the Croydon Empire Palace, said that from what he could gather the children would have to go to the workhouse if they did not earn their living on the stage. The application was granted.

The members of the Gaiety, Chatham, staff had their outing on Sunday. Leaving the Gaiety in a motor char-a-banc at 8.40 in the morning they proceeded, by way of Sittingbourne and Faversham, to Canterbury, where they stayed for lunch. Their next call was at Birchington, and their destination Pegwell Bay, where they arrived at 12.45. Dinner was served at the Belle Vue Hotel, and at the close a trio of toasts were proposed. That of "The King" was submitted by Mr. G. Humphries, the genial manager, who presided. Mr. Harry H. Braham, the stage-manager, who occupied the vice-chair, proposed "The Health of Captain H. E. Davis. The merry party left Pegwell Bay at 3.30, and motored via Minster, where a short halt was made, to Herne Bay, where they had tea at Wiffen's Hotel. The return journey was commenced at 6.30, and with another rest at Canterbury, the party arrived back at Chatham at ten o'clock, after a most enjoyable day.

Mr. Wilfrid Harvey is conducting the Grand Pavilion orchestra, Weston-super-Mare, the popular Bristol Channel seaside resort, accompanying the high-class vaudeville entertainment, which is given from 6.45 to 9 o'clock every evening.

The Four Scorsys, with their novel musical mélange, made their fifth appearance in Northampton on Aug. 1, and introduced Palmyra, who is correctly described as "the elastic lady."

Mr. Ivan Berlyn finishes his engagement to-night with the music hall play *Chantecler*, in which he created the Fox. The clever young character actor makes a natural transition to *The Pigeon House*, the new play by Lord Yarmouth.

Mr. Charles Francis (Frank) Postlethwaite, variety agent, of London and Hastings, who died on Monday, Aug. 15, at the age of thirty-seven, was interested in the Empire, Camberwell, as a director. He was buried at Nunhead on Friday (yesterday).

The price of sheet music will from Sept. 5 be raised in Birmingham, and while it will be possible to buy a popular song or waltz for 1s. 6d., all oratorios, foreign editions, and most of the book publications will not be subject to discount.

Wolverhampton and Walsall music dealers have joined with Birmingham in advancing the prices, and it is expected that Coventry and Leicester will follow. The reason given is that the margin of profit is so small.

Mr. W. Fraser-Brunner writes:—"In your notice of sketch produced at Woolwich Hippodrome, Aug. 8, you say, *A Soldier of Fortune*, by Fraser-Brunner. This should read, *A Soldier of Fortune*, by Alec Forbes and William Fraser-Brunner, produced by William Fraser-Brunner. Trusting you can find room for this correction."

Controversy has arisen as to who was the first singer of that popular song, "The Zuyder Zee." It was Miss Millie Hylton who first sang the song on one of the Stoll tours. It was also Miss Hylton who created such a success with "Anglesey's Isle" at the Empire, Holloway.

A new song has been written for Miss Hylton by F. Thompson and Orlando Powell. It is entitled "For a Woman's Honour," and will be produced with full scenic effects at the Empire, Holloway, next week. Miss Hylton's striking success as "The Last of the Dandies" has prompted her to produce at one of the West End halls "A Dollar Princess," a song scena with a collection of dances which have been arranged by Mr. Fred Farren.

Report has it that Miss Fanny Dango, the youngest sister of Miss Millie Hylton, who has been under the Williamson management for three years, is engaged to be married to a very wealthy Australian squatter.

It is on the cards that Mr. Harry Rickards will secure Miss Hylton's services for Australia. It will be seen that the vivacious lady is again in the heyday of success, Coliseum audiences recognising the clever comedy of her two numbers, "Puff! puff! out went the moon," and "I couldn't help being a lady," a number which gives capital opportunities for arousing laughter.

On Sunday last the staff of the Empire, Nottingham, took their annual outing. The river trip last year to Newark was so much appreciated that the Trent was again chosen, but the party went up stream instead of down. Blessed with ideal weather, the crowd started before 9 a.m. from Wilford-road Bridge on board steam yachts. At Shardlow, which was reached at noon, an excellent dinner was served, after which a river trip back to Trent Lock and up the Soar towards Normanton was much enjoyed. At Trent Lock the party took tea, and Nottingham was reached shortly before ten. Mr. Albert C. Duncan (the manager) was accompanied by Mr. Howard Finney (of the Theatre Royal), Mr. H. Upton (assistant-manager), and Mr. Joe Winfield (advertisement manager), who was responsible for the perfect arrangements.

Mrs. Cissie Lawson is this week presenting at her comfortable hall of amusement, the Camberwell Empire, a distinct novelty in the shape of singing pictures painted on canvas and framed in the usual manner. It is so rare nowadays that we see anything fresh on the halls worthy of special attention that a new item of this description deserves particular mention. The pictures themselves are merely painted portraits of different music-hall artists with a small hole in the mouth, and the construction of the frame—in fact, the whole thing—is so simple that it would be impossible for any mechanism of any description to be concealed in any part of it. It is claimed that neither gramophones, ventriloquism, or telephones are used in the working. Indeed, it is what it appears, a complete mystery which completely baffles the closest observer.

The various pictures sing, talk, and play a bugle, not only on the stage, but also in the midst of the audience in various parts of the house, and anyone thoroughly examining and listening closely at the mouth can obtain clear proof that the claims of the promoters of this mystery are quite correct regarding ventriloquism or hidden machinery not being employed.

Our correspondent was given the opportunity of a close inspection and a private performance, and nothing whatever could be deducted from this beyond that its mystery is probably a clever invention, the existence of which is not yet generally known. This attraction would be an acquisition to the programme at St. George's Hall, and without a doubt it should cause a considerable stir in scientific circles and secure many important and successful bookings.

The annual outing of the staff of the Hippodrome, Sheffield, took place on Sunday last. The party, numbering upwards of sixty, and including the genial manager, Mr. Frank Poole, and Mrs. Poole, Mr. J. G. Hahn (musical-director) and Mrs. Hahn, and a few private friends, left Sheffield soon after eight in the morning by Midland train for Hope, where carriages were in waiting to convey the company, via Castleton, through charming Derbyshire scenery, to Buxton, where luncheon was served. The health of the directors (who, with some of the Hippodrome patrons, had, as usual, subscribed towards the cost of the outing) was proposed by Mr. Poole, and heartily responded to.

The occasion was also taken advantage of to present to Mr. Frank Poole a handsome pipe in case and a tobacco pouch as a mark of the high esteem in which that gentleman is held, not only by the staff, but by the patrons of the Hippodrome, and also as a souvenir of Mr. Poole's first year of management, which has been so successful. The presentation was made by Mr. Frank Gummer, and supported in felicitous terms by Mr. J. G. Hahn and Mr. E. K. Smith. Mr. Poole briefly responded. After several hours had been spent in looking round the famous health resort, the carriages were again requisitioned, and the journey continued to Tideswell, where an excellent tea was provided. The party then returned to Hope, where train was taken to Sheffield, which was reached about 9.30. Fine weather and admirable arrangements made the outing a thorough success.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford are jointly responsible for many present-day successes, but probably the finest song they have written recently is Tom Costello's great chorus song "I don't mind leaving the dear Homeland." A furore on the music halls, pantomime managers should secure this song immediately. It is published by Francis, Day and Hunter, and is free for pantomime.

Glasgow has been in the next heaven to the sixth during the current week, for at the Palace Miss Florrie Forde is the bright particular star, and with "Flanagan" and other admired numbers from her extensive budget has, as was but to be expected, delighted huge audiences at Mr. Richard Waldon's house. No pantomime, it is estimated, will be complete at Christmastide without this, the song of the year, and Messrs. Francis and Day are having a great demand for the item in sheet-music form.

At the Palace, Douglas, Miss Vesta Tilley has with her new song "It isn't the Isle of Man any longer," by Worton David and C. W. Murphy, had her hearers in the hollow of her hand, and the song—which fits her, like her male apparel, to perfection—has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A veritable tornado of welcome greeted Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, when he faced the huge house at the Hackney Empire on Monday evening last, and but a few moments later and he had them joining in the refrain of "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski's tuneful song, which though entirely new to the denizens of North-East London, was seized on with the same avidity as were the identical two writers' "Sue, Sue, Sue (I'm very much in love with you)" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," Mr. Elliott's enormous prior hits. He concluded with Alf. J. Lawrance's melodious and haunting song "Mister Owl," which, like "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," is also published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and was only allowed to retire after four "curtains."

Mr. Johnny Danvers at Bristol has been causing the same hearty merriment as he did at Eastbourne with his new parody, from the pen of Charles Wilmott, entitled "Hip-I-addy-I-ay," which he renders with the unctuous humour for which he has so long been famed. Messrs Francis and Day are the publishers of the parody.

Mr. Tom E. Finglass, both at the Canterbury and the Granville Theatre, Walham Green, has nightly been the recipient of welcomes of which he must be proud, and his renderings of "My Baby" and "Across the moonlit prairie" leave nothing to be desired. It is a marvel on Monday night during his wild, exultant dance after the latter song that the cowboy coon did not hurl himself into the stalls at the latter house, the stage of the Granville being, as is well known, several sizes smaller than that of the Coliseum, where he had executed the same dance recently. Messrs. Francis and Day publish both his songs.

Herbert Rule, who is nothing if not tuneful, has, in conjunction with Thomas McGhee and Paul Pelham, fitted Miss Victoria Monks with a song entitled "Never turn your back upon a fellow," in which the composer of "Good morning, Mr. Postman" and "My dear little Yiddisher boy" is again at his best. The song has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Leonard Cooke has again written one of those lyrics in the ballad line for which he is becoming more and more noted, and it has been set to music by Charles Collins, a composer who has given London during the past ten years or more many of its most popular airs. The new ballad is entitled "The best love of all," and it has been purchased by Messrs. Francis and Day.

Worton David and C. W. Murphy's newest song "Come down Regent-street" is a worthy example of the work of one of the best writers and one of the most renowned composers for the variety stage of the present day. It is in the press, having been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It will be featured by those well-known artists Miss Daisy James and Miss Winifred Ward.

Dainty Miss Ella Retford at the Stratford Empire has during the week been specially featured on the bills for her well-known song "Hi! Hi! Mr. McKie!" and the effect of a big audience singing the chorus of this song of Messrs. Francis and Day is great. The French of Stratford-atte-Bow was once derided, but the Scotch during Miss Retford's stay is bonny.

It is not improbable that many pantomime managers this coming season will especially arrange for a beach or seaside scene the better to give effect to the song that is bound to shine in the annuals at the foremost houses—to wit, "On the silvery sands," by Arthur Findon and H. E Darewski. From coast resorts everywhere come glowing accounts of the manner in which Miss Madge Temple's song has caught on with the myriads of amusement-seekers; and, better still in a way, the music-sellers' order sheets tell all the same unvarnished tale of demands for copies. At the London Alhambra it can be said to be almost a leading *motif* of *On the Sands*, and its inclusion in Mr. John Tiller's magnificent production, *Lovely Lucerne*, at the Winter Garden Pavilion, Blackpool, is a further striking testimony to a deserved success.

(*Continued on page* 22.)

The committee of the Islington Lifeboat Saturday Fund have now closed the accounts of the recent matinée held in support of the funds at Collins's Music Hall. The balance-sheet, which has been duly audited by Messrs. J. W. Hancox and A. V. Young, shows that the total receipts of the matinée were £57 5s. 10d., and that printing, &c., cost £7 5s. 7d., leaving a balance to be handed to the fund of £50 0s. 3d. The committee take the opportunity of thanking the proprietors for granting the free use of their hall, the artists and stewards for their services, and the proprietors of the *News of the World* for gratuitously providing the programmes, handbills, &c. Mr. Frank Hallam, the energetic secretary of the Fund, hopes to be able to announce shortly that his committee have arranged a further function for the benefit of the Islington Branch during the coming winter.

Mr. Bertie Ralland, the manager of the Holloway Empire, has written to the *Islington Daily Gazette* a letter in reply to a correspondent who stated that he did not remember seeing published the amount realised at the Holloway Empire at the recent concert given there in aid of the Fund. Mr. Ralland severely comments on the conduct of the "chronic grumbler," who himself never helps the cause of charity. "No wonder," remarks Mr. Ralland, "we find so few good people to work on behalf of good causes, and fewer to subscribe to such, when inveterate grumblers trot out ridiculous complaints months after the thing is over." He informs the correspondent that a full balance sheet was published in one of the local papers, and the accounts were duly audited, and that he holds a receipt for the payment of the balance of £61 to the Mayor of Islington's Fund. Mr. Ralland's reproof to the inveterate grumbler is well timed, and should have a good effect.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Pavlova and Mordkin have returned to the land of their birth, but Russia, if not represented by art dancers, asserts her claims musically in another speciality—the Balalaika Orchestra, under the direction of M. Victor Abaza—a delightful combination of players, who manipulate the instrument of the peasantry—a kind of mandoline—in a way that is quite enchanting. The *rubato* effects and the light and shade are eloquent of the perfect control of the conductor, who, in choosing characteristic Russian melodies for the chief pieces of his répertoire, imparts freshness and piquancy to the turn which is extremely popular.

A most agreeable novelty in the early portion of the programme is *The Girl from Yonkers*, presented by Devlin and Ellwood. The mere man of the trifle is as susceptible to feminine charm as the incorrigible Bob Sackett in *Brighton*, and readily falls in love with a fascinating cracks-woman, who, on the pretence that she has come to the wrong flat by mistake, annexes all portable articles of any value. "I pinch what I love," says the larcenous lady, as she nips her victim's cheek and departs with his suit-case holding the swag. Devlin and Ellwood play admirably together, and the actress is a capital comedienne.

Myrma, the diving Hebe, is another attraction from across the waters. This delightful maiad displays her various methods of entering the water, and each seems to be more difficult than the last. Mr. Nat M. Wills is the latest joker from the States, and cannot complain, as so many Americans have done, that Britishers do not understand American humour. The laughter is continuous while he is dilating on the wonderful proportions of a lady. Humorous exaggeration could scarcely be more effective. The tramp get-up is a little bit out of date, and Wills, who has quite a way with him, would be just as effective in evening dress. He sings some capital parodies, and in doing so displays a voice that might have been trained for grand opera, but, fortunately for him, wasn't.

America sends us, too, the Kaufmann Troupe of bicyclists, who are a graceful crowd of pretty wheelwomen dressed in white, whose evolutions are very interesting to watch. The crowd has been trained by Nick Kaufmann, one of our earliest trick riders; and the laddie who displays so much cleverness is a promising youngster. Paris sends us Henrietta de Serris, whose reproductions of pictures and bas-reliefs are perfect; and from the same artistic capital comes Regina Badet, a poetic interpreter of "The Secret of Myrto," a dream dance, made significant and impressive by the artistic gifts of a beautiful woman.

Professor Morian and his amazing troupe of canine actors present a dog drama that is as funny as it is ingenious; and in the early evening Miss Dorothy Gould, a charming comedienne, Miss Dolly Denton, and Mr. Mark Leslie entertain.

A particularly interesting feature of the Palace programme just now arises from a further development in coloured photography, by means of which the Kinemacolor exhibition reveals the bursting of flowers into blossom. No more charming display than this could be imagined. Mr. Charles Urban selected for his first demonstration of the kind roses, lilies, carnations, gladioli, pelargoniums, and iris, and in no instance did the camera take less than two whole days and nights to record the flowering of a single bud. But, by a scientific system of speed magnification, the development of forty-eight hours is disclosed in a couple of minutes. By thus simplifying the intricate processes of Nature some very novel and charming effects are produced.

THE EUSTON.

The chief novelty of the current programme, presented under the direction of Manager Fred McAvoy, is the sketch presented by Fred Karno's picked company of comedians, written by that gentleman in collaboration with Mr. Herbert Sidney, and entitled *The Wow-Wows*. The following is the cast:—

Hon. Archibald Binks .....Mr. Syd Chaplin
Jimmy Bottles .....Mr. Jimmy Russell
Arthur Blazer .....Mr. Albert Darnley
Freddy Brunton .....Mr. Jack Royal
Lady Margaret Binks ....Miss Georgina Royal
Lydia Scotch .....Miss Vi Morrella

There is an underlying funny idea in this sketch, but the superstructure of farce raised upon it does not argue much in favour of the ingenuity of the authors. At the Nook up the river, a number of the "boys" are camping out, and some of them, in rowing shorts, are evidently training for a local regatta. Breakfast is being prepared in the way beloved of farce writers from the earliest times; and Archibald Binks comes upon the scene with an inquiry as to the nature of the menu. "Ham and eggs" is the reply. The eggs are of the usual stage type, and one of them is pocketed by Archibald, who, apparently, smashes it while making a declaration of love on his knees to one of the lady visitors. She inquires of Archie whether he has enjoyed his bathe, and whether the water came up to his expectations. "No; it only reached my knees," is the reply. This is a fair specimen of the humour of the piece.

Archibald has shown a degree of meanness, both in regard to the necessary work of the campers as well as his payments, and the other boys are resolved to serve him out. Conversing together loudly of country-house parties, yachting at Cowes, and other society functions, all of which are to cost nothing, they rouse the curiosity of Archibald, who eagerly nibbles. He is informed that the social delights set forth can only be enjoyed by the fraternity of Wow-Wows, of which they are members. Archibald will, of course, join.

Before he is ushered into the mysterious chamber he is blindfolded and interviewed by one of the "Wow-Wows" dressed as a witch, and when before the council the action of applying a hot iron to his seat of honour is gone through before the crowning act of initiation—the kissing of a stale haddock—is reached. There is other refined (?) business, with the alleged witch putting on a pair of stays, which are drawn up over the legs. Mr. Sydney Chaplin, jun., who plays Archibald, shows a fund of quiet humour, which should serve him in good stead in productions written on more legitimate lines than *The Wow-Wows*.

Mr. Joe Elvin and his company present another farcical interlude in Mr. Wal Pink's latest concoction, *W(h)ines and Spirits*, which we noticed at the Oxford on its first production. We have seen the droll Elvin in parts that fit him far better than that of Potty Porter, who discovers the secret of Professor Swanky's "spiritual" impostures, and finishes up his communications with the "bogies" by denouncing the medium and his crowd. The only Joe is, of course, the head and front of the fun.

An uproarious reception is given to Kitts and Windrum, in their lively farcette *What a Night!* The gentleman plays the scion of nobility to whom is let the identical bedroom occupied by his future fiancée. He reads of an escaped lady lunatic who imagines herself to be the Queen of Sheba, and when, from behind a screen, he sees the other girl let down her hair and remove her dress, he makes the usual farcical mistake as to her identity; but after the excitement has been sufficiently worked up by a boarding-house keeper, with reminiscences of his mother, and a maid of all work, the usual explanations bring down the curtain. *What a Night!* is played by all concerned with plenty of spirit and a real sense of the exigencies of farcical fun.

To the variety programme Mr. Walter Munroe, a favourite Irish comedian, contributes a tuneful ballad "Mary Moore," which is heartily taken up by the "gods"; Miss Gwen Lindon sings "The angel of my dreams," a favourite selection of Miss Millie Lindon; Messrs. Walker and Lake raise shouts of laughter by "Bumps," a satire on phrenology; Les Frasettis present a refined musical turn, of which a xylophone duet forms a spirited finale; and other turns include Guy Ryder, Josie Mooney, Queenie Essex, and Harry Grey, the Australian comedy merchant, whose burlesque ballad singing is heartily applauded. Ruffell's Bioscope presents the latest pictures.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

Mr. Cecil Paget's programme at this popular South London house this week is well up to the usual standard of excellence. After a well-rendered overture by the band, under the able direction of Mr. Julian Goldsmid, Mr. Alick Lauder, brother to the famous comedian Harry Lauder, opens the entertainment with some amusing ditties redolent of the "land o' cakes." Mr. Arthur Dome proves himself a clever clay modeller, and he perpetrates facial representations in clay of such widely-divergent individuals as Shakespeare, Crippen, Harry Lauder, mother-in-law, and a mysterious personage called "Kelly." Mooney and Holbein are two smart performers evidently from across "the pond." The gentleman is a most agile dancer, while the lady sings with much spirit. Their turn is accorded a favourable reception.

Miss Ada Oxley and company appear in a comedy sketch, *Peggy*, which serves to illustrate Miss Oxley's humour and cleverness in impersonating an heiress and a Lancashire mill girl. A lady and gentleman whose names are not on the programme render Miss Oxley most efficient assistance, and the piece is well received. Miss Ida Barr is a shapely young lady whose item "I don't care if I don't get home all night" it well rendered. Baines and Reed are marvellously clever comedy acrobats, and one of the pair possesses a delightful sense of humour. They are excellently assisted by Miss Wiarda, an accomplished Russian dancer. The trio are deservedly accorded a hearty reception.

A notable item in the bill is Fred Karno's latest nautical production, *Wontdetainia*. The sketch is splendidly mounted, and the third scene, representing the grand saloon of an ocean liner, realistically moving in a storm, is wonderfully effective. Mr. Shaun Glenville scores well as the ingenious Irishman Patsy O'Flynn; Mr. Eric Campbell's long experience in the legitimate drama stands him in good stead as Captain Nelson; Mr. Harold Wellesley is amusing as Percy Dart; and Miss Elsie Skillings makes a stately adventuress as Maude De Vere. Mr. James Howitt does well as the swell cracksman, Desmond Marsh. The sketch is well up to the high level of all Mr. Karno's productions, and is received with rapturous applause.

Miss Nellie Coleman is very amusing in her two comedy male impersonations of an old Jew pedlar and a red-haired low comedian who sings of one "Selina." Mr. Mark Leslie is a chocolate-coloured coon who dances nimbly and sings melodiously "A little bit is better than nothing at all." Mr. Herbert La Martine also scores a decided success in song and dance. The bright bill concludes with an interesting series of films on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Mr. Lewis Vincent has a remarkably fine programme at the popular hall on Shepherd's Bush Green this week, and, in spite of the excellent weather, good houses have been the rule. The bill is headed by Mr. Eugene Stratton, who contributes three songs—the first, "I'm good"; the second, his latest success, "I may be a millionaire"; and the third, an old favourite, "I may be crazy, but I love you." Mr. Stratton has for many years now been one of the most popular artists on the halls, and the delight which he is able to afford audiences seems to be as great as ever. His quaint and various methods of singing coon songs, his delicate and highly individual dancing, and the general grace and ease of his performances all show his work to be that of a genuine artist.

Bert Williams, the ventriloquist, and his "cheeky, chatty companion" Ted, provide much amusement; and Miss Bertha Winder does some wonderful dancing, as might be expected of the owner of the ladies' championship belt. The Brothers Egbert contribute their well-known and splendidly funny turn as the two dustmen, receiving rounds of applause; and Hans and Lux do well as two argumentative college chums.

The names of Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery at once bring to mind that most amusing sketch *The Would-be Actors*, but this week they are to be seen in a new playlet, entitled *An Amateur Anarchist*, written by George Arthurs. In this little comedy Miss Rosebery plays the part of Olga Petrovitch, a Nihilist; and Mr. Livesey that of Adam Armstrong, a Yorkshire porter in the employ of the Lightning Express Co.; whilst there is a third part, the Count (Olga's accomplice), well played by Mr. Leo Minster. The action takes place in a room in Olga's flat at Richmond-on-Thames, and Mr. Arthurs has been very successful in supplying Miss Rosebery and Mr. Livesey with parts which give them plenty of scope for the exercise of their conspicuous ability. The sketch, which is handsomely mounted, causes great merriment.

A smart and entertaining turn is that given by Tom Haig and Millie Novel, an acrobatic comedy couple. The singing and dancing of Miss Novel and the humorous business and clever tumbling of Mr. Haig were all of a high order of merit. A really good turn. Harry Simms finds considerable favour with a song entitled "The very first girl I see," quite a good number, which he sings in excellent style.

Another splendid turn is that provided by Mr. Albert Whelan, the famous Australian entertainer. Mr. Whelan occupies the stage for more than twenty minutes, but even then the audience is very loth to let him go. His whistling, his singing, his piano-playing, and his mimicking are all really fine. The programme includes, as always, the American Bioscope, which is showing some most interesting pictures.

Mr. Lewis Vincent is as keen and attentive as ever "in front," and in Mr. Herbert Mack has an admirable assistant.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Miss Edie King is "down west" this week, and, with her character songs and dances is one of the most attractive items in Mr. J. A. Molloy's bill of fare. Miss Edie has four turns to her credit, "Dances wild and weird," "Out West," an Indian song, "Music of Spain," associated with a Bolero of Old Catalonia, and "The Music of Dreams," and in all this clever comedienne gives excellent terpsichorean and vocal expression of the diverse characters she presents. With a well-staged scena, a quartette of dainty costumes, and an effective colour-lighting scheme, Miss King, with her song dances and pretty toes, scores all along the line.

Mr. Ernest Montefiore's company is presenting *The Little Colonel*, with Miss Ivy Laurel in the name part, while the producer fills the rôle of Captain Burton, and Miss Belle Vickers is the Nurse. This pathetic episode of the South African War brings tears to the eyes of many. The news of a mother's death has to be broken to "Dear Daddy," and the child, with a winsome way and sweet singing, tries to fortify the man for the blow that is to follow. "Sing me the song that mother loves," cries the soldier; but, sad-hearted, her voice fails her, and, picking up a newspaper, the worst is known to him. With curtain fall we see the father, with his "Little Colonel" in command, calling him to attention.

Velanche's Football Dogs must be seen to be believed in. In the match Brentford versus the Rangers some fine sport is shown, and what the goal-keeping doggie of the latter team doesn't know about keeping the ball out of the home preserves is not worth knowing. The canines appear to enjoy the show as much as the audience, which is saying a lot. Athas and Collins are always sure laughter-makers with their comedy duo "How they do it on the stage." The gentleman's pantomimic dancing is pure fun from end to end, while his vivacious partner seconds all his efforts to create laughter both loud and long.

Mr. Burt Shepard applies the pot-boiling condenser unsparingly in his "potted plays and poetry at the piano." With iconoclastic wit he attacks "The Village Blacksmith" and "The Halls of Tara," with which he deals with deadly vigour, while there is much that is good in his "Budget" song. Miss Daisy Morrell, a chocolate-tinted cooness in a boy's dress, sings sadly of the "White man who stole his wife." Miss Kate Rozner's turn with violin and Lachenal's latest English concertina comes as a welcome interlude betwixt roars of laughter and sadness, and her instrumentation is much appreciated by music-lovers. Sam Richards's Six White Boys, synchronous dancing experts, come along with their twelve pattering feet, giving great joy to others besides gallery boys, who are always very critical in these matters. Miss Queenie May sings of the "Friends of days gone by" and "One day an old man was sitting at the door." While Mr. Tony Black, as a raconteur, has some goods that are not all "chestnuts." As a vocalist he sings of "McSwankey Ho!" He is also clever with his feet. During his absence on a well-earned holiday Mr. J. A. Molloy has had his lieutenant, Mr. Harry Wentworth, in command, and needless to say, in his hands, the good direction which distinguishes the Hippodrome has been maintained.

The suggestion that the taxi-cab is not sufficiently numerous in London is repudiated by the drivers of that vehicle, who maintain that the supply is sufficient, if not more than sufficient, to meet all demands. They declare that the shortage only exists in the theatre area of the West End during a small part of the evening, when the audiences are leaving, and that this is due to the fact that many of them are not allowed to get into the area by the police at the hour when they are most required. They quite realise that the traffic must be regulated at a time when the streets are naturally congested, but think that some allowances could be made in their case without any inconvenience.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 21.*)

One of the greatest successes of modern times has been made by Miss Ada Reeve at the London Coliseum, where her two great Feldman songs, "Foolish questions" and "Nobody knows—nobody cares," have daily and nightly been applauded to the echo. Our contemporary the *Referee* last Sunday referred to songs and singer in the following highly-eulogistic terms: "Nothing finer in the way of song presentation is to be found than Miss Reeve's rendering of the pathetic ballad, 'Nobody knows—nobody cares,' and 'Foolish questions.' The latter is a gem of lyric writing."

Miss Lulu Russel, the Californian singer, following her successes in the Moss-Stoll halls and at Morecambe Winter Gardens, where she topped the bill, has taken a trip to the Continent. At the Orpheum Theatre, Carlsbad, she sang with great success Feldman's winner, "Beautiful garden of roses." So popular did this number become that ere her engagement had ceased she had requests from the different orchestras in the town to play it. The music was copied, and the melody—arranged with a 'cello first part—became instantly popular in that cosmopolitan resort. Miss Russel, who has been engaged to play principal boy in England at Christmas, is now engaged at the Apollo, Berlin, where "Beautiful garden of roses" is one of her most appealing efforts, the fact that the song is being sung in English to Germans and Austrians saying much for the musical power of the melody.

That charming burlesque actress and vocalist Miss Dorothy Ward has been received with every token of delight by overflowing audiences, both at the Holborn and Kilburn Empires, for her enchanting rendering of Chas. K. Harris's great new ballad, "Yesterday," published by B. Feldman and Co., and a big future may confidently be predicted for this beautiful number from the talented pen that gave "Somewhere" to the world.

One of the greatest successes at present being played by Herr Julian Kandt's orchestra at the Royal Yacht Squadron Castle, Cowes, is a delightful interlude, composed by Jas. W. Tate, "Come over the garden wall," published by Feldman and Co. At an early date Herr Kandt also purposes introducing the now famous "Beautiful garden of roses" waltz, published by the same firm, into his répertoire.

The Lovelaces (Jack and Marie), the famous American "song illustrators," writing to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., report the pleasing fact that last week at the Winter Gardens, Morecambe, the beautiful ballad "Beautiful garden of roses" was enthusiastically received by close on 7,000 people at each performance. They return there again next week, when they will repeat this song, which they declare is a bigger success than "Somewhere" was with them.

Miss Alice Kingsley, at the Palace, Leicester, is creating a veritable nightly furore with Feldman's great ballad hit, "Beautiful garden of roses." This truly ubiquitous song is being sung east, west, north, and south of these islands just now, strong testimony to the merits of any number, in all conscience.

Miss Violet Romaine is enormously successful at the Spa, Bridlington, with "Beautiful garden of roses," and when she opens at the London Hippodrome, on October 3, will specially feature the same great Feldman success thereat.

At Douglas, in the various alfresco and other troupes, Feldman's "Beautiful garden of roses" is being sung by vocalists innumerable, amongst whom we may mention the following:—Messrs. Jack Truman, Colwyn Thomas, Ernest D'Almaine, and Will Fisher.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, at Derby Castle and the Palace, Douglas, has been and will be for the next two weeks charming her hearers with Feldman's "Come by the drum in the big brass band," by William Hargreaves, while Miss Lola Patey, at the Palace, is correspondingly successful with the same firm's "I wonder who's kissing her now."

Reports from Blackpool report the fact that Messrs. John P. Harrington and John Neat's clever song "Cock-a-doodle-do in the morning," the principal vocal offering in Mlle. Pauline Rivers's sketch, *Chanteclair*, at the local Tower, is veritably the rage of Blackpool, and the publishers of this decidedly novel morceau, Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., have been simply inundated with trade orders for copies of same in consequence.

(*Continued on page 23.*)

"SHIP AHOY!"

A New Comedy Nautical Playlet, Produced at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Jack Breese .....Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman
Cyrus Merryweather .....Mr. Tom Fibyr
Henry Taylor .....Mr. O. Youlno
Lucy Merryweather .....Miss Ethel King

Lucy is a "lass that loves a sailor." His name is Jack Breese, and, after a voyage, he turns up at the farmhouse, the owner and occupier of which is Cyrus Merryweather, Lucy's guardian. Jack would be bold enough in the presence of the foe, but when he meets the girl he loves he is as timid and bashful as a village yokel. The expectant maiden has to wait quite a long time before the sailor can summon up the pluck to make her an offer of marriage, and then he bungles it terribly; and even after the lady has accepted him fails at first to act on her hint that she expects him to kiss her. All sailors are not so bashful and backward as Jack in the presence of the fair sex. On the approach of Lucy's guardian, Lucy, aware that he disapproves of her sailor suitor, makes Jack beat a hasty retreat into the garden. Mr. Merryweather then has a serious talk with Lucy. He thinks it is time that she married, and says he has found for her a suitable partner for life, one Henry Taylor, who hails from Lancashire, and is quite prepared to wed Lucy, who, by the way, is an heiress. Of course, the girl raises an objection to marrying the "Lancashire lad," and her guardian makes a shrewd guess that it is the sailor who has won Lucy's heart. He informs her that if she marries without his consent she will be penniless, but Lucy is not the kind of girl to give up her sailor lover for the sake of filthy lucre. At this critical state of affairs a ring at the bell announces the arrival of another visitor; and Henry Taylor, "from Lancashire," is ushered in. He is bearded, wears glasses, and speaks with a strong Lancashire accent. The young lady treats her uncouth suitor with disdain, but Henry attributes her behaviour to shyness, and opines that she "will come round presently." He is a man of business, and, having no time for courting, proposes, to Lucy's horror and disgust, that the wedding shall take place in a couple of days; but suddenly the supposed Henry pulls off his spectacles and his wig and beard, and the delighted Lucy beholds her sailor lad ready to claim her as his betrothed. It may be taken for granted that the old gentleman will offer no further objection to the match, for surely Jack has fairly won his charming bride.

Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman acted well as the sailor and the supposed suitor from Lancashire; Mr. Tom Fibyr was excellent as Cyrus Merryweather; and Miss Ethel King proved to be a bright and winsome representative of Lucy. The new sketch deservedly met with a favourable reception.

MR KENDALL ROBINSON.

A well-known figure in dramatic and music hall circles, Mr. Kendall Robinson has now decided to devote his abilities entirely to the picture theatre, of which he will undertake the construction and management. Mr. Robinson is indebted to so good a judge as Mr. Alfred Butt, the manager of the Palace Theatre, for his realisation of the great possibilities of the picture theatre, and a visit to France and a wider acquaintance with the technical side of the business convinced him that there was a great future for the moving picture. When Mr. Butt organised Provincial Palaces, Ltd., Mr.

MR. KENDALL ROBINSON.

Robinson became associated with the enterprise, and later formed the Surrey and Sussex Picture Palaces, Ltd. The company is to have Mr. Robinson's services as manager for a period of ten years, and of the success of the venture he is confident. The first of the theatres to be erected will be opened shortly at Kingston-on-Thames, where the company's offices are situated. Here the local manager is Mr. Cecil Frere, whose wide experience should prove invaluable. Operations have also been commenced at Merton, and at Richmond Bridge a freehold site has been acquired on which it is proposed to erect a picture theatre, together with various shops. Mr. Robinson hopes to have seven theatres open shortly, and has formed great expectations of their success.

Of the future of the industry Mr. Robinson is highly optimistic. The picture theatre, he maintains, is the newspaper of the future, and instances the *Daily Mirror* and the *Daily Sketch* as evidences of the success of the picture newspaper, which he is convinced has certainly come to stay, though it can never do so much as the picture theatre. The man in the street will throng in ever-increasing numbers to see the world's daily events paraded before his eyes, and thus, to a large extent, the place of the daily newspaper will be usurped by the picture theatre. Mr. Robinson is determined to provide the public with the best the cinematograph can offer. It is his intention to place his houses at the disposal of schools and colleges to serve educational purposes and in any way to promote the best interests of the business.

The subject of this interview is also a prominent personality in journalism. He began his career at the age of fourteen as a printer's "devil," and two years later found him sub-editor of the *Newcastle Chronicle*. Before he was twenty-one he had edited a weekly newspaper for three years. Subsequently he went to Australia, and joined the staff of the *Melbourne Age*, making a speciality of crime work, and following up many sensational cases. Returning to England, he became a descriptive reporter on the *Evening News*, with which paper he remained for three years. The desire for fresh adventures, however, was strong upon him, and later we find Mr. Robinson fulfilling the position of mining editor of the *Standard and Diggers' News*, at Johannesburg. Here he remained for some time, but eventually returned home and joined the staff of the *Financial News*. In 1902 he again went to South Africa to represent both the *Daily Express* and his own paper during the Boer War. With the declaration of peace he returned to his native shores, and accepted the post of financial editor of the *Globe*, adding to this appointment the financial work of the *People*, the *Liverpool Journal of Commerce*, and other papers, including the Paris *Financial News* and *La Liberté*. For the space of eight years Mr. Robinson remained with the *Globe*, until he resigned that post, together with his other appointments, for the amusement business.

Appearing with success at the Palace, Blackburn, are Apollo, the Landix Trio, Gladys and Alber, the Garricks, Edith Chantler, Frank H. Fox, Ford Williams, Alsopp and Beckwith, Beech, Aveling, and Reekie, and Jimmie Danvers and Eva Rosslyn.

Emerson and Baldwin, with the American club juggling act that has just completed a successful run at the Empire, London, have been fixed for a twenty weeks' tour in Australia with Mr. Harry Rickards, through the agency of Mr. Will Collins.

BERT FELDMAN'S HOLIDAY.

Re-invigorated by his three weeks' sojourn in the Isle of Man, Mr. Bert Feldman returned to London on Monday last, accompanied by his

MISS FLORRIE FORDE, MR. BERT FELDMAN, MR. LAURIE BARNETT.

great friend, Mr. Laurie Barnett (Miss Florrie Forde's husband), the genial head of the Arthur-street publishing firm, and gives some incidents connected with his recent visit to Mona which may prove of interest to our readers.

"You will readily guess," remarked Mr. Feldman, chatting to an interviewer, with a smile, "that my little holiday, albeit a delightful recuperative after what I may term the 'strenuosity' of my early summer campaign, was not entirely unallied with the interests and welfare of my firm. Mona, of late years, has become an unerring index to the 'song of the season.' To put it plainly, the number that takes the Isle of Man by storm is that which will later on be *en evidence* in every pantomime in the kingdom. And unhesitatingly I aver I have already found that number!

"Towering head and shoulders above everything of the ballad order throughout the length and breadth of Manxland, listened to in rapt delight by 5,000 people nightly, while 2,000 people daily and nightly waltz to its dreamy measure, Dempsey and Schmid's entrancing ballad, 'Beautiful garden of roses,' has already proven itself to be unmistakably the song of the year.

"That great chorus singer Miss Florrie Forde who has made so many songs popular in her time, opened at Douglas with 'Beautiful garden of roses,' and achieved an instantaneous success that will long live in the annals of Derby Castle. Her thousands of auditors sat simply spellbound, entranced, carried away by the beauty, refinement, yet withal intensely human sentiment of the words and music of this latest and greatest of ballads which America has given us. Again and again vociferous applause was rained upon the smiling and gratified artist. Holiday-makers and Manxmen alike took the new song to their bosoms, and hugged it close and would not let it go. Now every alfresco troupe makes 'Beautiful garden of roses' the *bonne bouche* of their entertainments; in every ballroom and dancing-room the glorious melody is played incessantly; indeed, Mr. Harry Wood, the genial musical-director of Derby Castle and the Palace, not only plays his audiences in with it, but out again also. Every good judge who has had the felicity of hearing the song predicts that it will assuredly be 'IT' this year in every Christmas annual throughout the Empire.

"As was the case last year, everybody again did all they could to make my stay in the island thoroughly enjoyable. Mr. Charles Fox, the manager of all Douglas's principal places of amusement proved as of yore more than kind; Mr. Chas Dare, of Dare's Minstrels, who is making a special feature of the Feldman catalogue at every performance given by his talented troupe; Mr. Fred Buxton, of Buxton's Pierrots, who also features a great number of our songs; Mr. Harry Wood, to whose efforts 'Beautiful garden of roses' owes a great deal of its popularity in the island, as he has played the waltz connected with that song incessantly ever since it first came to Mona; and last, but not least, Councillor Marsden, of the Douglas Head Hotel, whose innumerable courtesies tended to make my stay in the island altogether enjoyable and delightful: each and all vied in doing me personal kindnesses.

"The subjoined little snapshot of Miss Florrie Forde, Mr. Laurie Barnett, and myself may be of some slight interest to your many readers. It was taken in a 'beautiful garden of roses' what time the voices of hundreds were singing the song of that title on every hand.

"There are other songs *ad infinitum* of our firm which are also very popular in Mona, but to mention them seriatum would take up far too much of your valuable space. Suffice it to say that I am more than satisfied with the song outlook so far as my firm and the Isle of Man are concerned this year.

"I finished up my all-too-brief holiday with a truly delightful motor tour through some of the familiar villages of my native Yorkshire, with my old friend Mr. Stead, of Leeds, and so back to London—and work! I can, however, work with renewed vigour, a veritable 'giant refreshed' by the knowledge that once again, *sans* contradiction, it is in my power to assert that in 'Beautiful garden of roses' my firm this year possesses a number destined to equal and probably eclipse the success and phenomenal sales of last year's world's record-breaker, 'Somewhere,' truly a consummation to be devoutly wished, so far as the firm of B. Feldman and Co. is concerned."

"A GREEN ROOM MATCH."

Sketch, by Herbert Shelley, Presented at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, Aug. 15.

Millie Martini .....Miss Helen Miranda
Sammy Silver .....Mr. Wenlock Brown

Some Shakespeare, a bit of aviation, a sly reference to Dr. Crippen, and a whole lot of amusing nonsense—these are the things which go to make up *A Green Room Match*, which has been given a cordial reception at Chelsea this week. The sketch has undoubted merit. The underlying idea is not a strikingly original one, but the treatment of it is new, and success should attend the production. The story is that of an actress (Millie Martini), who has engaged with an actor to play a scene from *Macbeth* before the officers at Colchester. She is young and enthusiastic, and is full of delightful anticipations at the impression she is to make upon the "soldier boys." But there comes a wire from her actor partner crying off, and she is in despair, until suddenly Sammy Silver, her devoted admirer, arrives in his airship.

Sammy is ready to do anything for her, but he blinks when told he must fill in the rôle of the missing actor. His protests that he "can't Macbeth" are unavailing, and then and there he has to don a wig many sizes too large for him and be put through his paces. An agony of acting follows. Sammy spoke the truth when he said he "couldn't Macbeth," but love urges him on, and Shakespeare has certainly never been treated in such amusingly serio-comic fashion before. They are both almost heartbroken at ridiculous failure when a wire arrives announcing to Sammy that he has come into a fortune, and they decide to return to London by the most up-to-date method of transit, by airship, and get married, as the best way out of the difficulty.

The impression left on the mind by Monday's presentation was that both the principals are capable of making a greater success of the sketch. Miss Miranda was not wholly convincing at all times, and both her enthusiasm and despair would benefit from toning down. Mr. Brown, too, is capable of extracting more spontaneous fun from the part of Sammy Silver. The sketch is excellently staged, and proved immensely popular with a large audience.

It is rare that one sees such a well-balanced company, even at the Chelsea Palace, as has appeared this week. There are mirth and laughter, good jokes, bright songs, and clever dancing from start to finish. The names will show: Victoria Monks, King and Benson, May Moore Duprez, Charlie Dillon, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Cole and Rags, Sam Spira, and Dion Wade. And, as usual, Ruffell's Bioscope is a special feature of the show, while Mr. Aves's orchestra has its own large share in providing the pleasure of the evening's entertainment.

Under the managership of Mr. Ben de Frece, the Birmingham Hippodrome is doing wonderfully improved business, and the performances have been greatly improved. Behind the scenes Mr. G. Houghton controls affairs. Mr. Houghton, who is a stage manager of considerable experience, came to Birmingham from Glasgow when the Hippodrome was reopened a month ago. Mr. Houghton is very popular among the performers.

FLORRIE FORDE'S TRIUMPH

AT DOUGLAS.

GARDEN OF ROSES

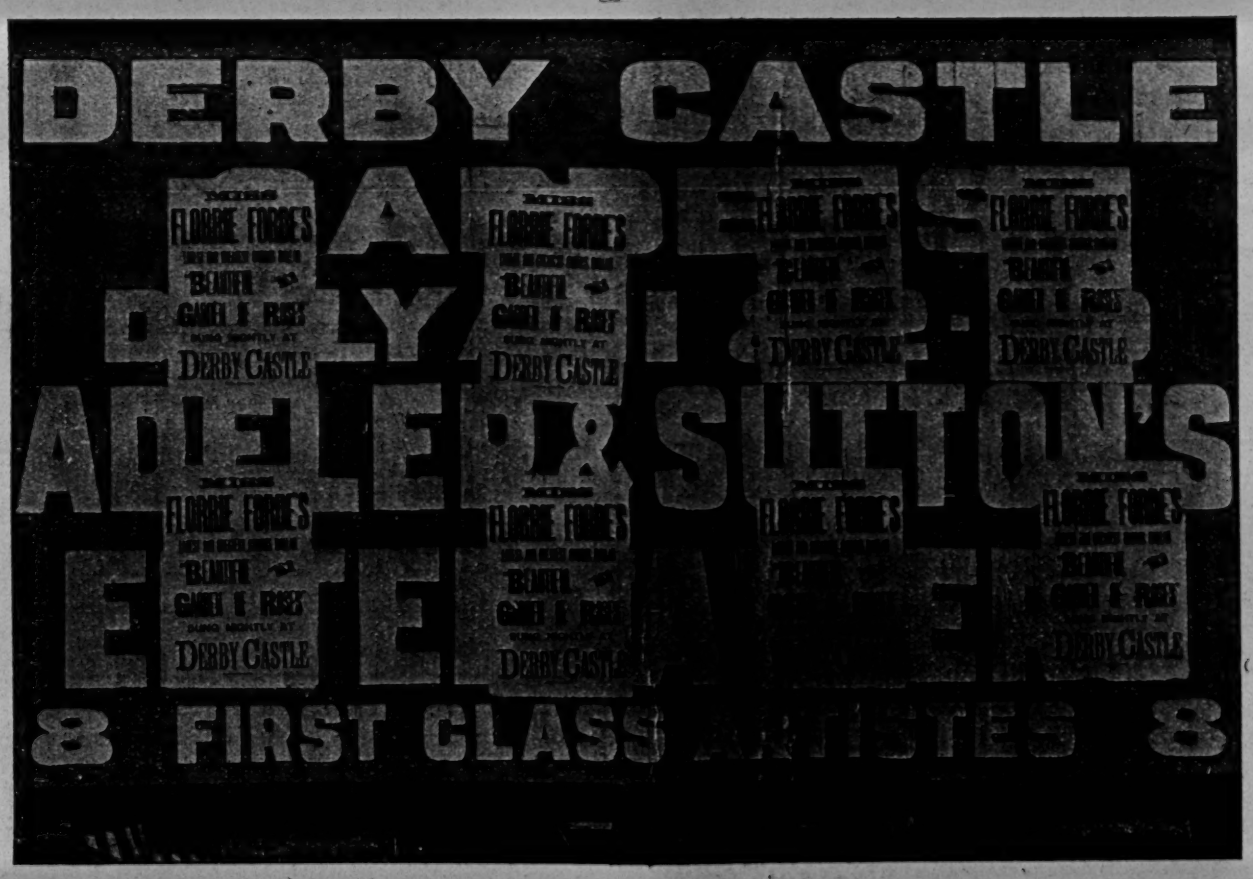

THE SONG THAT WILL

ECLIPSE

ALL OUR PAST SUCCESSES.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 22.)

MISS DOROTHY WARD, who is an undoubted acquisition to the music hall, has been appearing during the week at the Holborn and Kilburn Empire. Her charming personality and cultured voice have had their due effect on the critical patrons of these temples of variety, where she has been recalled again and again for her artistic rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's two songs, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" and "Cheer up, my Highland lassie." The refrains of both numbers have been chorused in no uncertain way. The Star Music Co. publish both numbers.

MISS CHUMMIE LA MARA, ever bright and sparkling, has been captivating Camberwellites at the local Empire by her delightful rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's latest Irish song "Mona" (I'm an Irish Spanish toreador). This number strikes a welcome note of originality, and is entirely melodious. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS MARIE LLOYD, though suffering from a cold, has been scoring tremendously at the Oxford, the persistent and determined applause at the conclusion of her turn reminding old habitués of the happy days gone by, when popular favourites had to "oblige" again and again. This is as it should be, for Marie is still our Queen o' Comedy. Just now Miss Lloyd has some excellent material, a special favourite being a new song by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, "When I take my morning promenade." This goes with a bang. Miss Rosie Lloyd is duplicating her sister's success with the same number in the provinces. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

PHIL PARSONS, the rapidly-rising light comedy star, is just now doing the trick on the Stoll tour. He has secured the exclusive rights of the great American song "My wife's gone to the country," and is everywhere triumphant with this catchy number. The Star Music Co. have made arrangements to handle this big winner jointly with the Ted Snyder Co.

CHARLES WHITTLE continues to make increasingly evident the fact that so far as popular choruses go he is a power to be reckoned with. It is not only that he shows excellent judgment in selecting songs, but he has a method of handling them which is peculiarly effective. At present Mr. Whittle's big winner, "Fall in and follow me," by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, is taking provincial audiences by storm. The Star Music Co. publish the song.

G. H. ELLIOTT returned to London on Monday after a triumphant provincial tour. At the Hackney Empire, where he is always a warm favourite, the people have greeted him with overwhelming applause. His new song, "Loo Sue," by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, was an instantaneous hit. Though the title conveys little, the song itself is not only exceedingly melodious, but the idea is refreshingly original, and the method of telling the story reveals the hand of a past-master in the art of lyric writing. G. H. Elliott's "Loo Sue" is destined to become one of the important songs of the year. The Star Music Co. will issue the numbers forthwith.

"A LESSON IN RINKING."

Sketch, in One Act, by Lewis T. Dalrymple, Produced at the Public Hall, Birchington-on-Sea, on Saturday, Aug. 13.

Mrs. Pride ..... MME. ISABEL BERESFORD
Trixy Pride ..... MISS DOROTHY GREIG
Algy Pride ..... MR. CLAUDE CASEY
Reuben Brown ..... MR. ERNEST DEANS

The scene of this little sketch, which overflows with mirth-provoking situations and crisp and humorous dialogue, is laid at Mr. Reuben Brown's private rinking establishment. Mr. Brown has received a letter from a Mrs. Pride, who wishes her daughter and son to take lessons in roller-skating, and he has an intuition that this is the same lady who had objected to his engagement to her daughter. In order to conceal his identity he adopts a disguise, and poses as a professional instructor. The arrival of Mrs. Pride and Trixie confirms his suspicions, and he makes up his mind that, as he was thrown over, he, with a bit of luck and the aid of the skates, will get a bit of his own back. Algy Pride is a "dude," and the fun with him on skates waxes fast and furious, the many falls of the pupils and the screamingly funny antics Algy is compelled to cut being artfully contrived and assisted by the pseudo-instructor. Trixie at last gets an inkling of her lover's identity, a flirtation follows, and the pair, who have come to an understanding, are caught in a very loverlike attitude by the mater. Explanations ensue, Brown apologises for having deceived them, and a reconciliation takes place.

Mr. Claude Casey as Algy played his part remarkably well, and, being a clever skater, made the most of a particularly amusing rôle. Mr. Ernest Deans was extremely good as Reuben Brown, and sustained the part with great vivacity. Mme. Isabel Beresford did excellently as the deaf and punctilious Mrs. Pride; and Miss Dorothy Greig made a charming Trixy. Miss Dorothy Greig introduced a very pretty dance which added to the effectiveness of the production. The sketch was briskly played throughout, and the applause bestowed at frequent intervals and the hearty laughter evoked indicated that the performance gave both pleasure and amusement to the audience, who demanded the appearance of the author.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

This popular hall has again a most attractive bill, which is headed by the Six Brothers Luck in their side-splitting burlesque *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which simply brings down the house. The lady who impersonates the suffragette has a lively time, and adds considerably to the fun, the whole skit being a screamer. Harry Luck, a comedian who is clever enough to write his own songs, &c., is a huge success. His numbers include "Stick it, Jerry," and "Not a-goin' to work any more."

Gladys Huxley, vocal comedienne, is heard to advantage in "Come to Colombo with me." Ted Cowan, comedian, does not run on the old lines nor crack any chestnuts. The clever Barnard Family bring an up-to-date novelty in their marionette show, entitled "Dolls Alive," and finish up their act with a golliwog song and dance which is really clever. The Eight 'Varsity Girls are excellent, their singing and dancing being everything that could possibly be desired. One of their number possesses a phenomenal baritone voice. Sibb and Sibb are in the first flight of trapeze experts, their act being quite amazing, and requiring great strength and skill. The Sisters Burnett are distinctly good, their first number, "Ancient and Modern Dress," being perhaps their best. George Newburn is a remarkable mimic, his impersonation of Harry Lauder singing "Wedding of Sandy McNab" being particularly good. Miss Mabel Thorne, who is always a favourite, scored a success, her first song, "Come out on the briny," having a bright, breezy little melody. In her second number, "The 'Chanticleer' hat," arrayed in a "confection" representing a Dorking cockerel, with resplendent tail, &c., she took the house by storm, and had several calls. The Bioscope has a series of new films, Elephants at Work Among the Logs in India being very fine indeed.

"HER GUARDIAN ANGEL."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Alicia Ramsey, Produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Mrs. Lorrimer ..... MISS MILDRED COTTELL
Mollie ..... MISS BELLA TERRY
Hortense ..... MISS BLANKA STEWART
Edward Langton ..... MR. PAUL LOVETT

Angels' visits to this mundane sphere are proverbially few and far between, but the heroine of the sketch above named, which is produced by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova's company at the Empress this week, is able apparently to summon them at will. A dainty children's story is provided in the little piece, which shews how the cunningly laid plot of a French maid in an English household to steal her mistress's diamonds is frustrated by the simple faith and artlessness of a little child. Hortense, maid to Mrs. Lorrimer, has arranged with her lover, a burglar by profession, to hide in a wardrobe in the nursery, and take her mistress's jewels from the safe after the owner's absence has been secured by means of a forged telegram. Mrs. Lorrimer is preparing to attend a ball, and at her daughter Mollie's request, finishes her toilet in the nursery, while the youngster goes into raptures over the diamonds, with which she obtains permission to adorn herself. An urgent telegram comes saying that Mrs. Lorrimer's baby, which has been taken away for a change of air, is seriously ill at Chorley, and the mother rushes off with her maid, Mollie declaring she has no fear of being left alone, as she is sure her guardian angel will protect her from harm. The child, still wearing the diamonds, gets into bed with her "Teddy-bear," and the burglar duly enters. After a fruitless search in the safe, he discovers the jewels upon Mollie, who is awakened by his efforts to remove the rings from her fingers. The burglar is touched by the child's resemblance to his dead sister, to whom in happier days he was devoted, but determines at all costs to have the diamonds, and is handling the girl roughly when over the head of the bed appears the figure of a lady with wings and every semblance of a celestial visitant. The burglar, thoroughly converted, releases the youngster, gives up the stolen diamonds, and takes his departure, begging the child to say a prayer for him.

The effect of the playlet was due to the charm exercised by its principal exponent, Miss Bella Terry, who, it will be remembered, achieved so conspicuous a success in *Where Children Rule* at the Garrick, and is making a temporary appearance on the variety stage previous to joining *The Blue Bird*. Petite, graceful, and dainty, Bella is one of the most engaging little actresses who have recently brightened the stage, and in the part of Mollie she has a rôle that enables her to display her accomplishments to advantage. The sound of her sweet voice, which preceded her entry, at once prepossessed her in the favour of the audience, and her vivacity, animation, and ingenuousness throughout the portrayal of an exacting part compelled the admiration of all. She gave a delightful performance, marked by intelligence and care remarkable in so youthful a comedienne. Mr. Paul Lovett was a typical burglar, with a menacing but by no means repellent countenance, thus quite justifying Mollie's partiality for him at the beginning. Miss Mildred Cottell was a refined and ladylike Mrs. Lorrimer, and the French accent and mannerisms of the designing Hortense were well assumed by Miss Blanka Stewart, an actress of considerable dramatic gifts. The little piece was thoroughly mounted in every detail, and its effect on the audience was such as to justify the highest hopes of its success.

"THE TOUCH OF THE CHILD."

Play, in One Act, Dramatised by Leon M. Lion from the Story of the Same Name by Tom Gallon, Produced for the First Time in London at the Holborn Empire, on Monday, Aug. 15

Colonel James Fullard.. MR. WILLIAM MOLLISON
Captain Godfrey Steen MR. ARCHIE W. CHAPPELL
Winnie ..... MISS JEANNIE FITZGERALD
Mrs. Fullard ..... MISS EVELYN MCNAY

Nothing finer in the way of playlets is to be seen on the London stage at present than this powerful and engrossing little piece, and, perfectly played as it was by the well-known actor Mr. William Mollison and his companions, it from the outset gripped the attention of a large audience on the night of our visit, and held it throughout, its success being most pronounced. The scene is the house of Colonel James Fullard, D.S.O. The Colonel and Captain Godfred Steen, V.C., have been warm friends for some eleven years, and at the rising of the curtain Godfrey is expected on a visit. On his arrival, the two old chums and Fullard's wife discuss old times, and refer to Godfrey's approaching marriage. In drinking health and prosperity to Godfrey and his future wife, and a continuation of the old friendship, Fullard's glass is broken, and this he looks upon as an ill omen He has appeared depressed and generally out of sorts, and his wife asks Godfrey to try to persuade him to disclose any trouble he may have. Previously to this, it must be mentioned, Fullard's little girl had managed to get hold of a loaded pistol Fullard had carelessly left about; and when the two men are alone Godfrey prevails on Fullard to tell him the tragic story of his brother's death, hitherto unknown to anyone but Fullard. Many years ago, in Mexico, the Colonel's loved young brother had been found shot, and Fullard had vowed over his grave to revenge him.

Believing in fatalism, the Colonel is quite convinced that the man will one day cross his path as surely as a fly comes to the web of a spider, and then he will force a duel on him. The loaded pistols found when his brother was killed he has kept ever since. Eventually, it transpires that Godfrey was the man who killed young Fullard but was unaware of his identity. There is a very tense situation when each man realises the awful truth. Godfrey explains that the affair was the outcome of a quarrel at cards; that the duel was practically forced on him; that he fired in the air; was wounded; and that his opponent insisted on a second encounter, in which, shooting blindly, Godfrey had killed his adversary. Fullard, however, is bent on carrying out his revenge. "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," and the duel shall take place with the loaded pistols then and there.

Godfrey absolutely refuses to fight his old friend. Fullard may kill him as he stands, if he will, but he will not consent to a duel. The Colonel's little daughter Winnie is then heard outside waiting to say "good-night" to her father and Godfrey; and finally Fullard says the child shall decide who shall live. She is fondly attached to both her father and Godfrey, and the first one she touches on entering the room shall take his own life within an hour. Godfrey reluctantly consents, and, the two, seating themselves on a couch, the youngster is called in. Silently they sit, whilst the perplexed Winnie questions them. Is it a new game? Won't they tell her what she has to do? Still not a word. "Oh, do tell me what it is?" implores the youngster, throwing her arms simultaneously round the neck of each. A pause; the chums grip hands, and the curtain falls. Mr. William Mollison, as the pale, determined Colonel James Fullard, so bent on revenging his brother's death, submitted a most intense and finished portrayal; and Captain Godfrey Steen was also convincingly and cleverly enacted by Mr. Archie W. Chappell. Miss Evelyn McNay skilfully indicated the anxiety of Mrs. Fullard, and was admirable throughout; and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald was a delightfully natural Winnie, the concluding incident being particularly well enacted.

There are many other entertaining items in Mr. Leslie Conroy's programme at this popular house, prominent among which is Fred Karno's company in their latest "screamer" *Mr. Justice Perkins*, recently noticed in these columns. Since its production, Mr. Albert Bruno, who so humorously plays the "hero," has added many funny little bits of business, and the impersonation is now a particularly droll one. Praise is also due to the other principals and the "crowd," who all contribute valuably to the merry and bright absurdity. Miss Lil Hawthorne, who clothes a charming personality in a handsome costume, sings "Little maid of Monte Carlo" to the delight of all; Gilday and Fox, American Hebrew comedians, submit a funny interlude, *Cohen's Ward*, and introduce some amusing snatches of parody and a quaint song, "Yiddisher Love," their turn being loudly applauded; the Picquays contribute a particularly attractive and clever acrobatic and contortion act; and Geo. Wilson, a nigger responsible for much mirth, has a funny laughing song and some amusing patter.

That always welcome Irish comedian and raconteur, Mr. Joe O'Gorman, has many racy tales and "tuneful trifles," including "Top of the morning" and a couple of other amusing ditties, and is accorded a most flattering reception; Mr. Launceston Elliott, the British Hercules, demonstrates his wonderful strength by lifting and supporting a number of men in various positions, his most sensational feat being the swinging round rapidly of a couple of darkies on bicycles yoked to his shoulders; Charles Mildare scores in decided fashion with his realistic reproductions of the notes of the skylark and other songbirds; Tambo and Tambo, speciality artists, do some wonderful tambourine spinning and other novel tricks; Dorothy Ward, the well-known musical comedy artist and a most delightfully natural boy, vocalises effectively; and Ridiculous Recco, burlesque acrobat, Jack Marks, boy raconteur, the Two Brilliants, clever lady xylophonists, and the Bioscope are also in the prodigious programme given twice nightly.

AN important feature of the Musicians' Union Sunday Concerts is their desire to meet the demand that has been created for Sunday amusements without compelling musicians and all others engaged in the entertainment profession to work seven days per week. As a result of the propaganda of Sunday amusements by people not connected with the profession, a compulsory seven days' week has been forced upon musicians in nearly all their summer engagements, and the object of the Union in giving concerts is to prevent a similar state of things in their winter business by supplying the public demand for Sunday concerts on a co-operative and non-compulsory basis. The musicians are paid a fixed fee for their services at these concerts, and any balance at the end of the season is placed to the credit of the A.M.U. Benevolent Funds. Under this arrangement every member is free to please him or herself whether they play or not. The members naturally take a keen pride in their own concerts, and the *esprit de corps* and enthusiasm which is always a feature of the concerts is transferred to their audiences.

The STAR MUSIC Co., Ltd.,

AGAIN REMOVE TO LARGER PREMISES,

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

ALL THE BIG WINNERS!

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES
(I WONDER IF YOU CARE).
"THE" Chorus Ballad of the Year.

MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY! — PHIL PARSONS' BIG WINNER.
UP SHE GOES. — WHIT CUNLIFFE'S BIG WINNER.
CHEER UP, MY HIGHLAND LASSIE. — NELLIE WIGLEY'S BIG WINNER.
THE MOONLIGHT PROMENADE. — GEORGE LASHWOOD'S BIG WINNER.
GIRLS, BEWARE OF THE BARE-FACED MEN. — FLORRIE FORDE'S BIG WINNER.
IT'S MY NIGHT OUT TO-NIGHT. — HAL FORDE'S BIG WINNER.

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S BIG WINNER.

ARE YOU ANYBODY'S GIRLIE IN PARTICULAR? — EDWARD LAURI'S BIG WINNER.
LOVE IS LIKE A BALLOON. — HARRY BANCROFT'S BIG WINNER.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH LONDON? — GEORGE LEYTON'S BIG WINNER.
SHE WAS A GIRL IN WHITE. — EDNA LATONNE'S BIG WINNER.
THA' COMES FRA' LANCASHIRE. — FLORRIE GALLIMORE'S BIG WINNER.
I MET MARY ELLEN AT TH' ISLE OF MAN. — ELLA RETFORD'S BIG WINNER.

LOO SUE MARY DINAH, &c.,
G. H. ELLIOTT'S BIG WINNER.

PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH.
Applicants must state whether Required for Music Halls, Theatres, or Concert Work, &c.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS
51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8416 GERRARD.

LOOK OUT FOR THE "CORONATION LANCERS," TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY.

FILM GOSSIP.

(For other "Film Gossip" see page 15.)

Cinema Picture Palace, Devonport.

THE Cinema Picture Palace in St. Aubyn-street, Devonport, is being exceedingly well patronised. The programme provided this week is full of interest and well varied. Some beautiful films are shown of the Italian lakes, and Dogs of All Nations is entertaining and instructive. Over Silent Paths and The Sweets of Forgiveness are two of the best dramatic series, and whilst Four Little Tailors, The Wild Man from Borneo, and Rustos in Zululand are being shown the audiences are in roars of laughter. The excellent pictures of the launch of the cruiser Lion are again being placed on the screen at the desire of many frequenters of the Cinema.

Presentation to Mr. George R. Beaumont.

A FAREWELL dinner was given on Monday evening at the Woolpack Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Mr. Geo. R. Beaumont on his relinquishing the management of the Northern Depôt, New Bioscope Trading Co., Ltd., to take up an important South Country appointment with the same firm. Mr. J. Woods occupied the chair, and after an admirable dinner had been discussed, in presenting Mr. Beaumont with a handsome gold watch, made a neat little speech, in which he referred to Mr. Beaumont as a gentleman and a sportsman. Mr. T. Harry Ward, who succeeds to the management, seconded the resolution, and in the course of his remarks said the only consolation that he as a loyal servant could find was that Mr. Beaumont's valuable services were not to be lost to the firm. The inscription in the watch reads: "Presented to Geo. R. Beaumont, with sincere good wishes from a few Newcastle friends."

Andrew's Pictures, Limited.

THE Andrew's Pictures, Ltd., who have secured a long lease of the Temperance Hall, Northampton, intend reseating it throughout with the latest and best velvet tip-up chairs, and to instal a perfect system of ventilation by means of the famous Blackman electrical fans. A new and up-to-date operating chamber will be built. These improvements, with the redecoration, are estimated to cost £1,000.

Brussels Exhibition Cinema Palace not Burnt.

THE Cinematograph Palace at the Brussels Exhibition—the only picture theatre in the Exhibition grounds—was, fortunately, not burnt in the disastrous fire of last Sunday, and was opened on Tuesday as usual. The proprietors of the Palace are the London Cinematograph Co., Ltd., 20, Bedford-street, Strand, and they are to be congratulated on such a handsome and luxurious picture palace. First-class films only are screened, including the pick of the best English, Continental, and American pictures.

"Kinemacolor."

THE withdrawal of "Kinemacolor" after a long and highly successful season at the Palace Theatre may be taken by an appreciative public as being only the first step towards a more ambitious presentation of the Urban-Smith art of natural-colour kinematography in London in the not distant future. It had long been agreed that it was impossible within the limits of a twenty-minute "turn" to do justice to the aim and scope of so fascinating a subject as life-motion scenes in Nature's veritable hues; but the future arrangements, when announced in the Press, will, it is believed, be deemed worthy of this popularised science, by which knowledge is presented attractively, simply, and chromatically.

THE FORESTERS.

Inspired by the success of the recent Folkestone Beauty Competition, the principals of this popular East End establishment have inaugurated for this week a similar function, which is proving quite a success. Many entries have been received, and on the evening of our visit two of the competitors were selected to appear in the final at the end of the week. A special setting has been made, each aspirant for the premier honour displaying her head in a frame, which is brilliantly illuminated. The arrangements have been well carried through, and much credit is due to Mr. Charles Hale, who is the manager *pro tem.*

Mr. Joe Archer, one of our most popular comedians, sings "Kelly's gone to kingdom come"—not a particularly happy selection. His second item—viz., "What a conjure! what a cop!" is much the better. His gags are greatly enjoyed. Miss Norah Desmond, with the aid of illustrated pictures displayed on the Bioscope, sings extremely well two well-written songs—"The wreck of the good ship Love" and "Daddy, don't go down the mine." Each has a tuneful melody, and the sweet voice of the artist is appreciated. Walton and Williams, a smart pair of comedians, indulge in some witty repartee, which is quite good, their dancing also being a feature. The Great Sados, billed as the world's greatest juggler—a rather tall phrase—performs several ordinary feats, which are helped by stage effects, his principal item being the balancing of a table on four billiard cues on his head.

Miss Flo Burnett, a lady with good appearance and a delightful voice, renders admirably two capital songs—"Soon, Eileen," and "Your eyes have told me so." Miss Flo Warner has a powerful voice, and is heard to advantage in "I wonder if it's someone I know"; and Wheeler and Wilson, cross-talk comedians, also score well.

Bernard Mervyn and company are appearing in a new and original miniature play, in one scene, entitled *The Devil's Elbow*, by John F. Traynor. The scene is the drawing-room of a Canadian farm, owned by Harry Allerton, whose wife is expressing her dislike for the lonely life she is leading. Ralph Morgan, whom the husband regards as his only friend, has plotted to take the wife away with him to England, the meeting-place being the "Devil's Elbow." Soon after the wife has left the servants enter and inform the master of an accident which has happened. He orders them to bring in the sufferers, who, to his surprise, are his wife and her lover. In a scene, which is carried through in silence, the husband hands the culprit a revolver, himself taking one. Two shots are fired, and the husband re-enters, so we gather that the wrong-doer has been killed. The little piece is well played, Mr. Mervyn's character of the loving husband being a fine study. He is ably supported by Miss Eugene Magnus as the wife, Mr. John F. Traynor acts well the friend Ralph. Interesting films are displayed on the Bioscope.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at THE *Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. ROWLAND HILL has created a record this week at the Palace, Huddersfield, with his chorus number, "Why does Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" which is from the pen of Tom B. Newsome. On Monday night, after the first chorus, the audience sang it like one man, and at the end of the song would not let Mr. Hill retire until he had taken four calls and made a speech in front of the curtain. This number should be a winner for pantomime comedians.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

[By Americus.]

Frost.
Our little blow-out last Saturday night was a cold proposition. In other words, it didn't get by at all; it was the flattest show I have been interested in for some time. In fact, whenever a booking agent blows in with some of the real actors there is a quietness everywhere. Everybody last Saturday night down in the basement of the German Club were afraid to cut loose with any of their laugh stuff. All on account of a good-looking booker who happened to be the guest of one of the real ones for the evening. Next time a booker wants to come into our society I am going to put him in a closet with glass holes, so he can see the whole show, and will not let him out until after the show is over. Then Africa will get some real acts that will make the Boers set up and laugh in all kinds of ways. If this same booker had been there the Saturday previous and been under cover there wouldn't have been an actor around Lisle-street for some time to come, for he would have booked the entire show at any old price.

The Live One.
Rinaldo was the only one who held the show up: in fact, he was the life of the evening.

Marathon Actress.
You have all heard of the Marathon actor, dancer, and runners of the masculine type; but there was a real Marathon actress who showed her skill Saturday night. She could sing, dance, and talk with any of them. In fact, she was so good she was kept in the middle of the floor for the majority of the time during the entire evening. Seventy-five bows after each number was nothing, and a lightning calculator registered over a hundred numbers she did during the evening. I didn't get her real name.

Gilday and Fox.
Gilday and Fox, the two Hebrew comedians, opened at the Holborn Empire on Monday evening, and from the start the boys got them a-going, and never let up until they put the finishing touches on with some good parodies on "Rings on her fingers."

Heely and Meely.
Although this act has been on this side for many years, these boys still uphold their reputation, and favoured with a fine entertainment at the Coliseum during the past week.

Kennedy and Ryan Doing Fine.
Kennedy and Ryan, who formed a partnership some time ago, were at the Coliseum, Ilkeston, this week, and from the Press reports and the applause the boys have been getting all the week the act has been a fine success, and will prove a valuable addition to most any bill.

Donavan and Arnold.
The Bedford Music Hall has had the act known as Donavan and Arnold all this week, and this team have made a decided hit at the little West End hall, and have proved a big drawing card.

Blackpool Gets the Tournament.
The Club Jugglers are all at Blackpool this week. I was informed that an organisation known as the American Club Jugglers would be formed this week. There will be a great contest when it comes to electing a president of this organisation. Ginger Mowatt looks like holding the winning hand, for he will demand the support of his quintette, and their votes should about elect him, unless Emerson rings in a few unknowns in the ballot-box. Ginger will likely be the first president.

American Dancers Go Big.
The Palace, Manchester, witnessed one of the best combination dancing acts America has ever sent to this side this week, and the Press and public were not slow in appreciating their efforts. The dancers come to the Palace next week, and London will have an opportunity of seeing some real stunts of various kinds pattered out on the maple dancing mat by these great dancers. Walter de Frece, who saw their opening Monday, told me they were what you call "a real knock-out."

Olympia Desvall's Artistic Performance.
While passing the Alhambra the other evening I dropped in for a few minutes' stay, and instead of staying a few minutes as I had intended, I made it a few hours' stay. Olympia Desvall, who has recently returned from America, showed her beautiful and artistic horse act shortly after nine. The Alhambra patrons applauded her clever performance throughout, and it was evident she is just as big a hit here as she was in America. Miss Desvall returns to America next season to play another twenty weeks' engagement at the New York Hippodrome.

Ritter and Foster Away.
Ritter and Foster packed their collar boxes and baskets and took the Scotland fast train out last Sunday night to commence a tour of the provinces, opening at Glasgow. After this tour they will go to the Continent for the winter season, where they are booked for six months.

Will Return.
Mayuz-Maizette, who have been at the Empire for some time, will return to America to play some thirty weeks, booked on the United time, as soon as their English and Continental engagements are finished.

Gilday Making Fuss.
Myron Gilday is making fuss over here by trying to engage all the acts in London for the Inter-State time. Papa making fuss, Rosali making fuss. Theatres will have some good shows when Myron gets through with his work.

Ziegfeld, Jun., in Paris.
Florence Ziegfeld, jun., arrived in Paris last week, and remains in the French metropolis for a few weeks, returning to America via London, where he will spend a few days with Earle Reynolds looking over a few novelties for musical comedy Reynolds has written him to book.

Mrs. Fred Ginnett's Letter.
I had the pleasure of seeing a letter written by Mrs. Fred Ginnett, who is at Roselle, New Jersey. Mrs. Ginnett was instrumental in identifying Dr. Crippen, and was also one of the leaders to detect that there was something wrong in the disappearance of Belle Elmore.

White Rats in England.
I will be pleased if every White Rat who is now in London or any part of England, Scotland, or Ireland, will send me by postal card their permanent address. Please do this just as soon as you read this; do not wait until Monday or Tuesday; but send it to me at once. Want your address on this side of the water, also so on the other side.

Constance Spissell's Father Ill.
I regret to note the serious illness of Mr. Tom Fowler, father of Constance Spissell, who is with her husband now in America. I am advised that Mr. Fowler is on his death-bed as this goes to press.

HELEN TRIX.
Character Comedienne and Siffleuse.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS, IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
This Week, HIPPO., BOLTON. VACANT AUG. 22.

RITTER and FOSTER.
Those Eccentric Singers and Dancers.

STALEY'S TRANSFORMATION ACT.
Playing STOLL TOUR. The Big Headliner for any Bill.

BERT LEVY.
A STANDARD NOVELTY ALL OVER THE WORLD.
Next Stop, WINTER GARTEN, BERLIN.

VARDON, PERRY, and WILBUR.
Those Three Boys. That's All.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

McLALLEN and CARSON.
Permanent Address, "VARIETY," WALTER HOUSE, STRAND.

M. D. Waxman.
The Anglo-American Revolutionist.

RUSSELL and HELD.
THE LEADING SINGING & DANCING ACT.

SAM STERN.
THE ORIGINAL INDIAN JEW.
ALSO ITALIAN CHARACTER.
PAUL MURRAY, Manager.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
Playing ENGLAND and the CONTINENT.

HARRY JOLSON.
STOLL TOUR.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

GILDAY and FOX.
HOLBORN EMPIRE, This Week.

Nellie Donegan at Brighton.
Nellie Donegan, who has been in a private hospital in Beaumont-street, W., for the past six weeks, has recovered, and went to Brighton yesterday, where her husband, Earle Reynolds, engaged apartments on Marine-parade. The team will remain at Brighton until Miss Donegan gets perfectly strong enough to return to work, when the act will play a couple of weeks at the Palace before commencing their tour of the Continent, opening at Wintergarten, Berlin.

Friend and Downing.
Friend and Downing are out of London playing the provincial theatres. They will come back into London for a few weeks in September, when Al Friend will make his office with Chuck. Friend writes for the *Player* and Chuck writes for the *Variety*. I have been invited to take a desk also and I may accept.

Monohan at Camberwell.
The Great Monohan put on his music-hall skating performance at Camberwell this week. George has introduced a clown into his act, in addition to a dummy woman, whom he does a neat little waltz with. Monohan has accepted a few months in the German rinks, and leaves for the Continent in a few weeks.

Brilliant Lights.
Shaftesbury-avenue is well lit up during the engagement at the Palace of Nat Wills. Not only can one see at the stage-door a mammoth 100 horse-power motor, with its ever-penetrating searchlights in front; but the rear seat of the car, after the show is over, is one maze of sparklets, which resembles the northern skies in the vicinity of the Midnight Sun.

Hard to Get Back.
About the hardest proposition one can run up against just at present is the steamship companies. They are booked up solid, and if anyone can get passage on any of the big boats, why, he is a dandy. Many acts who have neglected booking their passage back will be compelled to go back steerage. Two acts I know are going on a transport to-day in order to get back in time to open their tour.

Murray's Resignation.
Paul Murray, the ever-popular booker and European representative of the William Morris Agency here in London, recently sent in his resignation to the independent king of vaudeville in America. Up to the present writing, the resignation has not been accepted, and rumour has it William Morris will sail for London about the 1st of September to induce Murray to remain in charge of his London office for another year at least.

Chuck Goes Home To-day.
London is too speedy for Chuck. In fact, Mrs. "Sime," Chuck's sister, is of the same opinion, and has called him back home to New York. Brother Jesse will pass Brother Chuck in mid-ocean, and they will exchange their brotherly greetings by wireless. Chuck chuckled and said, "I have my wireless already written. It reads, 'I am homeward bound. Keys with Britt. We are now in latitude 23, longitude 32. Figures go both ways. All's well.'"

Nick Kaufman, formerly from Rochester, N.Y., has his big troupe of expert lady cyclists at the Palace Theatre, and the act is doing great.

Herman Finck and his thirty-five expert melody producers would look fine in those gold chairs on the Palace stage.

Callahan and St. George sailed this week for America.

Barnes and Crawford sail the coming week for the States, to open on the Orpheum tour, providing they can secure passage.

The two vaudevillians, Montgomery and Moore, are playing a few weeks on the De Frece circuit.

McLallen and Carson go to Australia for twelve weeks next season.

"THE MODEL AND THE MAN."

Musical Sketch, by Seymour Hicks, Music by Frank Tours, Lyrics by C. H. Bovill, Produced at the King's Theatre, Southsea, on Monday, Aug. 15.

Miriam Vandeleur .....Miss Zena Dare
Maggie .....Miss Ivy St. Helier
Etienne .....Mr. Frank Wilson.

(from our own correspondent.)

A house, packed from floor to ceiling, enthusiastically welcomed the latest production of Mr. Hicks, under whose personal supervision and the stage-management of Mr. Roland Chester the new play went with a swing from start to finish. The bright and tuneful music of Mr. Frank Tours, who conducted the orchestra, contributed greatly to the success of the piece. The scene is laid in the Studio of Etienne, the sculptor, and the opening discloses his latest work—a statue modelled from Miriam Vandeleur, with whom the sculptor has become enamoured. Etienne's servant, Maggie, is in love with her master; but magnanimously decides to help him in his wooing. Miriam enters the studio, and Maggie, satisfied that her master's love is returned by Miriam, informs her that the carriers who had come to transport the statue to the exhibition had smashed it. Learning from Maggie of the grief the loss of the statue would cause her master, Miriam decides to pose as the figure, and to test and, if possible, evoke a declaration of love on the part of Etienne. The latter, unaware of the trick being played on him, and imagining his soliloquies are addressed to stone, makes his declaration of love, when the supposed statue descends from the pedestal, and an explanation ensues with happy result.

Miss Zena Dare's captivating personality was employed to advantage in the character of the model. Her singing and dancing were both admirable, her principal song "If I were only a boy" being rendered in fascinating style. The Maid was played with conspicuous ability by Miss Ivy St. Helier, who shone both in humour and pathos and in singing. To Mr. Frank Wilson's fine voice and artistic impersonation of the artist lover the play owed much of its success. Miss Esther Fleming as a Model was attractive. At the conclusion of the play the curtain was raised several times in response to repeated plaudits.

Catlin's Royal Pierrots, at Great Yarmouth, are going stronger than ever, and drawing crowded houses at every performance. The concerted items are a special feature. Charles Kay continues a popular favourite, and has now added Madge Temple's "silvery lands" to his repertoire, with marked success; Will Harris is a funny comedian; T. Braham-Fox an accomplished dancer; and Reg. Belmont, an excellent accompanist, is also a brilliant soloist. Robert Turley (tenor), W. E. Rouselle (baritone), and Leslie Harold (light comedian) make up an excellent all-round company.

SPECIAL!!!

SITES required for

JOY WHEEL

THE SENSATION OF THE SEASON.
AMERICA'S VERY LATEST AMUSEMENT FURORE.
ALL PREVIOUS MONEY-MAKING DEVICES ECLIPSED.

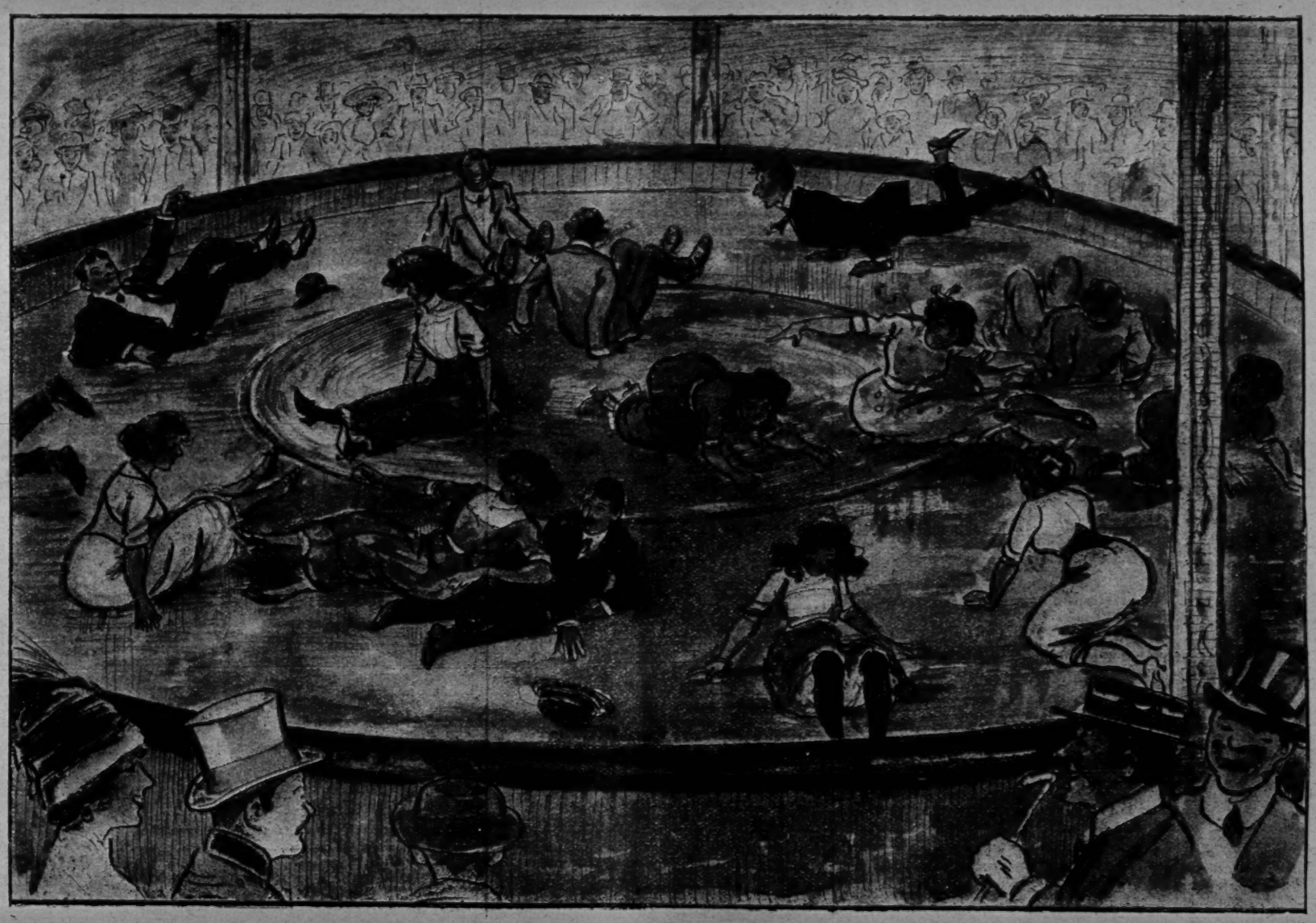

"All other attractions of the Exhibition pale their ineffectual fires before the JOY WHEEL; it is one long shriek of laughter. . . . We were never so much amused."—*The Bystander.*

"And I have been on the JOY WHEEL. Before I went I had not lived. I had not drawn back the veil which secretes true happiness. To go on the JOY WHEEL is to be born again, born in gaiety and baptised in the waters of irresponsibility."—*Manchester Chronicle.*

BRUSSELS EXPOSITION.
PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.

CONTRACTING NOW for SEASON 1911. . . . SHARE or CERTAINTY.

Address for full particulars, E. A. FELDER, Sole Concessionaire, The Joy Wheel, Exposition, Brussels.

APPLICATIONS DEALT WITH IN ORDER RECEIVED.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead till the end of the month are:—Buston, on the Great Northern; Crediton, on the London and South-Western; Guisley, on the Midland; Horsforth, on the North-Eastern; Ipswich, on the Great Eastern; Long Eaton, on the Midland; Yeadon, on the Midland; Skipton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Midland; First Lea Fair; Cleckheaton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Bakewell, on the Midland; Hinckley, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Hooley Hill; Irlams-o'-the-Height, on the Cheshire Lines; Shrewsbury, on the London and North-Western; Strood, on the London, Chatham, and Dover and South-Eastern; Bradford-on-Avon, on the Great Western; Darlaston, on the London and North-Western; Darley, on the Midland and Great Northern; Dartmouth, on the Great Western; Delph, on the London and North-Western; Eccles, on the London and North-Western; Eyam, on the Midland; Hatton, on the North-Eastern; Middleton, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Midland, and Great Northern; Oldham, on the Great Central and London and North-Western; Poynton, on the London and North-Western and Great Central; Prestwich, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Romsey, on the London and South-Western; St. John's Chapel, on the North-Eastern; Westhoughton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Bingley, on the Midland; Farsley, on the Great Northern; Hatton, on the North-Eastern; Pudsey, on the Great Northern; Watchet, on the Great Western; and Ilminster, on the Great Western Railways.

Big Display of Shows and Machines at Mitcham Fair.

What would our fathers have said to the amazing growth of Lavenderland Fair at Mitcham? Less than fifty years ago it would have taken half the available shows in all England to have made anything like the display that was seen at the historic fair in the present year. Without counting the large number of show concerns that had to go away on account of paucity of space, or the horde of "pirates" and undesirable providers of doubtful games, who were either bought out or came too late, the invasion of showland into Mitcham has been an amazing spectacle. A certain class of undesirable "bogus" and "blackleg" entertainers, who have no connection or interest in the legitimate business of the fair ground, men who would be tabooed by any decent showman, and not permitted to join the Showmen's Guild, rushed the various pitches on the Green, to the disgust of all well-wishers of the fair. We are given to understand that the lamentable shooting affray was the outcome of an unsuccessful attempt to extort money for surrendering a pitch. Despite all these regrettable events, the Fair was bigger and better provided with up-to-date amusements than ever before—two big shows, six small ones, ten big roundabouts and machine novelties, seven smaller ones, three sets of park swings, twenty houp-la frames, fifty stalls and refreshment barrows, every shop around the Fair catering, as well as the itinerant traders, for the enjoyment and feeding of the crowds. Over half a million people visited the Fair, and the weather conditions were perfect. It was a demonstration in force that not only Mitcham and the immediate neighbourhood, but also South London, enjoys Mitcham Fair.

On the Old Fair Green.

The Fair Green still remains the centre of attraction. Here were set out the machines of Messrs. William Wilson, John Beach and George Holmes, a bike circle, a set of swings, a bottle battery, two or three sets of Gem roundabouts, and several circular houp-la frames. The Green was, as usual, girdled with stalls, toy and other bazaars, and the refreshment stands of local traders. On the triangle of the Fair Green that forms the junction of Croydon and London-roads, on the direct tram route, were located Manders' roundabout, Gray's similar machine, and the razzle-dazzle of the White City Amusement Syndicate, Bretts' swings, several sets of Gem swings and horses, Biddall's Royal Bioscope and Variety Empire, Bedford's miniature menagerie and abnormal show, and two boxing booths, with stalls and games fixed on every inch of available space.

Shows, &c., on Private Pitches.

In the Laundry Field were located as usual the celebrated aggregation of fairground novelties controlled by H. Thurston and Sons, the chief attraction being the magnificent set of Gordon-Bennett motor-cars. Here were also Sol Elliott's school of boxers, shooting ranges by Andrews and Harris, houp-la frames by Messrs. J. Biddall, H. Barnard, and others, stalls, &c., by Andrew Harris and local traders. On the excellent private ground on the London-road Messrs. Alf. Ball and Sons pitched their tent. This year it was in very truth "pitching a tent," for next to nothing remains of the spacious show pavilion that for several years past Alf. Ball, Mitcham's favourite showman, brought to delight his patrons at the fair; the magnificent organ front, built to Messrs. Ball and Sons' order by M. Gavioli and Cie, of Paris and London, was destroyed by fire recently at Tilbury. The undaunted showman-hero of Mitcham was overwhelmed with manifestations of public sympathy. With Mr. Ball were several of the injuncted amusement caterers, amongst whom were Messrs. S. Mayne, William Manning, Joseph and John Manning. A few of the other injuncted ones were located on odd bits of ground adjoining the Fair Green. It is a sad commentary on the scheme to abolish the Fair by prohibition and injunction that highly respectable showmen, honoured and esteemed by the people, are under an injunction and the "pirates" and "undesirable" class escape unpunished.

Guild Service at Mitcham Fair.

A pleasing feature of the fair was the Guild Service held in Ball's Show (kindly lent for the occasion by the proprietor) on Sunday night. It was timed to commence at 8.20, after evensong at the Church of St. Mark's (the show being in St. Mark's parish). The curate (the Rev. Lough Fargan) read the lesson, and at the close of the service, at the request of the Guild Chaplain, addressed a few earnest words of exhortation to the congregation. The Rev. T. Horne conducted the service, and preached. The show was well filled. A large number of showpeople were present, and great satisfaction was expressed with the service, both by showpeople and their friends and neighbours for the fairtime at Mitcham. Mr. Lough Fargan was invited to become hon. local chaplain to the Guild.

Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie at Dundee.

This famous show, larger and better than ever, concluded a four days visit to Dundee on Monday. The menagerie was located on the new Esplanade, and drew large audiences at each of the performances. The collection is a magnificent one, and contains excellent specimens of birds and beasts from the jungle, forest, prairie, and desert. The display of lions, tigers, and leopards is an unusually large one. A unique exhibit which proved of much interest to lovers of natural history was Romeo, half lion and half tiger, the value of which is about £1,000. He is a magnificent animal. Exciting performances were given by Captain Wombwell and Don Carlos. The former put a troupe of six lions through a number of clever tricks, and concluded his daring display by putting his head in a lion's jaw; while Don Carlos gave a clever show with a number of bears, the great hulking brutes showing much intelligence in obeying the commands of their trainer. The elephants Lill and Jenny were huge favourites with the younger members of the audience, who continuously fed them with snaps, biscuits, and other delicacies. The zoo is a comprehensive one, and all the animals are in the best of health. One of the most striking and pleasing features was the cleanliness of the whole establishment.

Notes from Wales.

Carmarthen August Pleasure Fair was held on the Corporation Fair Ground on Friday, but business was not good, owing to the countryfolk being busy with the hay harvest, and the attendance of young people at the fair was consequently meagre. In the evening, however, the attendance of townspeople was very large, and the various shows did a splendid business. The chief attraction was Wadbrook's Variety and Picture Palace, the pictures shown being up to date and of a humorous as well as interesting character. The variety turns were also of a high character. Olonzo Brown, the champion sand dancer, gave excellent exhibitions of dancing, while the Bohemians, in their musical entertainment, showed exceptional musical abilities, and were well received at each entertainment. Messrs. Alf North and Hill's juvenile roundabouts, Boswell's shooting saloons and coker-nut shies, Thomas Hill's coker-nut shies and swings, hoop-las, &c., were also among the other amusements, and were equally well patronised in the evening.

Notes from Yorkshire.

At South Elmsall Feast were the excellent show and machines of Messrs. G. T. Tuby and Sons, Hodson's theatre of varieties, Hague's school of boxers, Fisher's shooter and swings, and throwing games, stalls, and varieties by Messrs. Lloyd, Campfield, Percival, Silverwood, Johnson, Jones, and other caterers.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

H. Thurston and Sons, £5; John Beach, £2; George Beach, £1 1s.; Robert Clasper, £1; James Guest, 10s. 6d.; F. Rawlins, 10s. 6d.; A. Bunn, 10s. 6d.; T. Bolesworth, 10s.; W. Stackwood, 10s.; J. Flanaan, 10s.; Sol Elliott, 10s.; T. Andrews, 10s.; H. Brett, 10s.; H. Peters, jun., 7s. 6d.; B. Pickard, 7s. 6d.; J. Manning, 5s.; Alfred Holmes, 5s.; Wm. Spencer, 5s.; A. Harvey, jun., 5s.; Joseph Manning, 5s.; William Manning, 5s.; W. Manning, jun., 5s.; Henry Rowe, 5s.; George Bolesworth, 5s.; Wm. Harris, 5s.; Wm. Bedford, 5s.; Herbert Barnard, 5s.; Fred Sully, 5s.; George Biddall, 5s.; Charles Biddall, 5s.; Elias Harris, 5s.; Holder Barnard, 5s.; W. Desnos, 5s.; G. Rawlings, 5s.; and John Biddall, 5s.

Answers to Showmen Correspondents.

Robert Moy.—No. We have no reliable figures to give you.

Vindex.—The obvious meaning of the amended Movable Dwellings is to deal with objectionable gipsy and other squatters on commons and waste lands by giving the police powers to move them on at once. The present law is that the landowner must take action by way of ejectment or injunction. Under the new Bill it is proposed to give the police power to move them off without waiting for the landowner to take action. Another point (and a novel one) is that the moving off common or waste land cannot take place until the county has provided a sufficient number of camping grounds. From the report it is obvious that only the more difficult and objectionable classes of gipsy and other campers are meant to be forced into the county camping grounds. The Bill in no way proposes to interfere with the existing right of property owners to let their land to individual tenants for camping purposes.

Showmen's Letter Box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. Biddall Bros., H. Fossett, and J. Studt.

DASTARDLY ATTACK ON SHOWMEN AT MITCHAM FAIR.

Arising out of the invasion of Mitcham Fair Green by "pirate" showmen and gipsies—two days before the customary time—disputes arose as to the amount of compensation to be paid to the invaders to quit their holdings or to rearrange their pitches that the bigger shows and roundabouts might build on their usual ground. Henry Harris (who is quite a recent comer on the London suburban fair grounds) owns an houp-la stall. This he claimed a right to build up on the roundabout pitch occupied last year by Mr. Fred Gray, a well-known showman of the metropolitan circuit.

Mr. Gray recognised that on the principle of "first come first served" he would have to compensate the man who had stolen a march upon him and was in possession of the ground. According to the statement of Mr. Gray, it was arranged between them that Harris should move his stall and let the roundabout be built up, and that when this was done there would still be room for the houp-la stall to be erected in proximity to the roundabout. Harris was not being squeezed out by the bigger concern; he would still be able to fix up and open. The night before the fair all this had been talked out and without any apparent bad blood on either side. A sum was mentioned and agreed upon to compensate Harris for his trouble or prospective business loss. In the early hours of the opening day of the fair, when Gray's son asked Harris to remove his things and to let the roundabout be built up, Harris refused unless he was paid more money. When Mr. Gray heard of this new demand he decided not to pay it, and told his son not to build up at all. Harris a little later accosted Gray and renewed his demand for increased payment. With Mr. Gray were his son Harry and two or three showmen. Determined to give Harris no chance to create a scene, Mr. Gray and his friends moved away from Harris. It was at this point, and with hardly a word, that Harris fired four or more shots in rapid succession.

Both Gray and his son were wounded, and fell to the ground. Maria Herrick, Harry Gray's sister-in-law, rushed up to Harris and pluckily wrested the revolver from him, and the crowd, led by a policeman, seized Harris.

At the first examination of the prisoner at the Croydon County Court on the following day, Detective-Inspector Williams said that he went to Dr. Bentley's surgery, where he saw the two injured men. Frederick Gray was shot in the chest, the bullet having struck the breat bone. Harry Gray had been shot twice in the hip, the wounds being about 1½in. apart. The story of the scene at the fair was told by Constable Abbott, who said he was on duty at the Fair Green, Mitcham, when he heard the report of a firearm. On looking round he saw the prisoner with a revolver in his hand. He heard another report, and saw Mr. Gray, jun., fall to the ground. The witness rushed at the prisoner, who was about nine yards away, but before he could reach him he fired another shot. He was then seized by the crowd and thrown to the ground.

The prisoner reserved his defence. The case was remanded until Saturday, Aug. 20.

The Guild Chaplain visited the wounded men in Guy's Hospital, and found them rapidly mending, and quite cheerful. Hundreds of letters and telegrams of anxious inquiry have reached the Grays from all parts of the Showman World. Mrs. Gray (although anxious to deal separately with the great mass of correspondence) asks us to communicate, through the medium of our columns, her husband's and her own heartfelt gratitude for all the kind expressions of sympathy. We gladly do so. Mr. Strong, the London hon. Guild solicitor, has also visited the Grays at Guy's Hospital. Mr. Strong will ask the magistrates to adjourn the case for another week, as both father and son are not yet fit to attend the Court.

THE SHOWMAN'S GUILD AND MITCHAM FAIR.

The Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, has compiled a concise statement of the history of this question during the past five years. It is cast in the form of a short catechism, and gives in "Question and Answer" the salient points of the controversy.—

Q.—What claim has Mitcham to a fair?

A.—From the spacious days of Queen Elizabeth, by Charter and by custom, Mitcham has held a fair for the people on Aug. 12 and two following days.

Q.—Who has tried to abolish the Fair?

A.—A limited number of local gentlemen, who, having failed to convince the Home Secretary of the justice of their petition for abolition, have since endeavoured by prohibition and by injunction of the High Court to deter showmen from attending the Fair.

Q.—What say the people of Mitcham to the abolitionists?

A.—That they want to retain the Fair. This the people have repeatedly done—in open public meetings, in duly convened parish meetings, by petitions to the Home Office, and by returning at the last Parish Council election members distinctly pledged to preserve the Fair for the people.

Q.—What is the present position of the question?

A.—A general agreement that the best way to preserve the Fair is to remove it to a better place on the common lands. This suggestion is favoured at the Home Office and meets all the reasonable demands of those who desire to beautify the old Fair Green, and also recognises the increasing objections to a fair in the centre of the village.

Q.—What local authority can deal effectively with a scheme to remove the Fair?

A.—The Board of Conservators, (1) as being the guardians in the public interests of the common lands, and (2) as now being the owners of the Franchise of the Fair.

Q.—What rights have the showmen in the matter?

A.—They have a statutory right of petition and appeal to the Home Secretary whenever attempts are made to abolish fairs. They carry on a business that is recognised as serving a public need. Their interests as a class of entertainers and traders are perfectly legitimate. They will suffer loss and damage, hence their claim to be heard and considered in the settlement of the question.

Q.—What have showmen tried to do to preserve their own interests?

A.—They have repeatedly endeavoured to effect a wise and just settlement of the matter. Through their trade society, or Guild, they petitioned the Home Office, organised protest meetings, made representations to all the local authorities, they repeatedly tried to come to terms with the Franchise owners, and, finally, to test public Councillors, one of whom, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, is an officer of the Guild, and entered the Council mainly in order to help forward a peaceful settlement of this question.

Q.—What are the advantages of a wise and peaceful settlement of the question and what is the best way?

A.—Undoubtedly, the best thing to do is to remove the Fair, say, to the Three Kings Common. It would on that admirable site still remain a fair primarily for the people of Mitcham. Besides all that the site would be large enough to set out a fair on the best modern lines. Still further, like the holiday fairs under the London County Council, it would supply the reasonable requirements for open-air amusement to the workers in the South London suburbs fast crowding over the Surrey border.

Q.—What would be the advantages to local ratepayers?

A.—The revenue from tolls taken every year from the showmen and stallholders would be—as the Fair grew in popularity and extent—an income that the Conservators would find useful in the upkeep and improvement of the commons under their control.

Q.—In what way can the people save their Fair?

A.—By properly approaching the Board of Conservators in a petition that will show the overwhelming number of those who desire a wise settlement—a petition that will ask the Board to take steps to remove the Fair to a new and better site. Now that at last the Conservators own the Fair Rights, it is possible for them to take action. It is for the people of Mitcham to show that wise removal and not abolition is what they desire.

It is well to reiterate what is the official attitude of the Showmen's Guild with regard to Mitcham Fair. The Guild Executive Council in 1907 clearly defined its policy. In the report for that year it is set out as follows:—

"Carefully avoiding any reference of the questions at issue to the Law Courts, your committee have rendered every possible assistance to the showmen tenants of Mitcham Fair by organising a monster public petition against the abolition of the fair, and presenting it to the Home Secretary, by organising and conducting public meetings in Mitcham itself, and by advising the showmen tenants to keep well within the authority of the Charter governing the fair, by scrupulously observing peaceful methods and by negotiating with the Board of Conservators, by petitioning the local governing bodies interested, and by endeavouring to bring about a reasonable compromise, in advocating the removal of the fair from its present congested site to a larger and better ground on Mitcham Common. The action of the Guild Executive in this important matter has been throughout of a pacific and advisory character, and your committee have been careful at all times to differentiate between the appeal to public sympathy and any reference of the matter to the arbitrament of the Law Courts."

Only so far as the question was of importance to the general interests of showmen in all parts of the United Kingdom did the Guild interest itself in the matter. Clearly the Guild was interested in preventing, by all legitimate means possible, the abolition of a fair of great popularity locally without the consent of the people, and also without the sanction of the Home Secretary as provided by statute. The Guild, acting for the whole body of organised showmen, has a clear case in this respect for action.

The London Committee of the Guild.

The Guild is a democratically governed body, with district committees to deal with local matters. Questions of local importance only are naturally dealt with by these committees. The London District Committee, so far as the Mitcham Fair defence work is a local matter, has done all the work and has provided the money to do it. The London Committee has no power to pledge the Guild or to spend its funds for purely local objects. London showmen have generously supported the Mitcham Fair Defence Fund. Every year for three years now the defence has been financed by London showmen, the general funds of the trade society only being drawn upon for work of importance to the whole fairground industry, and to Mitcham only as a part of that work.

Three years ago the Special Fund was started and every year since it has received generous support. A largely-attended meeting of the London Committee was held in Ball and Son's show, Mitcham, on Monday, Aug. 15, the last day of the fair. Mr. Alf. Ball presided. The Rev. T. Horne, in speaking of a visit he had paid to Guy's Hospital to see their two wounded members, Fred Gray and his son, Harry Gray, referred in feeling terms to the horror and detestation of the dastardly shooting affray that had laid up their two unfortunate Guildsmen in hospital. There was no single instance on record where a genuine showman had attempted such a crime. He had made inquiries, and had spoken on the matter to both the wounded men. Their statements supported the evidence of all showmen that the man who did the murderous deed was not a showman. For a year or two past he had attended fairs with throwing games, carrying on his own business in Bermondsey as a coal dealer in the winter months and visiting a few suburban fairs in the summer with a hoop-la frame. Whatever punishment was meted out to the man, he wanted it to be understood that the whole body of showpeople indignantly repudiated him as belonging in any real sense to Showland. To Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Harry Gray their sympathy went out in fullest measure. Providentially, both the father and son were progressing favourably, and he trusted that they would soon be out of the surgeon's hands and at home again.

Emphatic Condemnation of the Crime.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. James Manders, and seconded by Mr. William Wilson:—"That this meeting of showmen present at Mitcham expresses its horror and detestation of the wounding outrage on the fairground. We also emphatically deny that the man who did the crime is in any sense recognised by us as a showman." The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Guild Chaplain undertook, at the earnest request of the committee, to seek an interview with the Home Secretary and personally convey the expression of the showmen's detestation of the outrage and their utter repudiation of the man as a fellow-showman.

The Mitcham Fair Defence Fund.

In making his now annual appeal to London showmen to support the Mitcham Fair Defence Fund the Rev. T. Horne said that the detestable crime that had marred this year's fair would probably do their defence work great harm and injury. His labour and the toil of others to make friends for the travelling showmen would be thrown back, or at least materially prejudiced, by the regrettable events of the fair—first the invasion of the Green by "pirate showmen" and gipsies, eager to take advantage of the liberty of action in seizing pitches on the fairground that the unfortunate slow-moving stages of the dispute had brought about. Prohibition of the fair by the cumbersome, expensive, and ineffective method of High Court injunction was mainly, in his opinion, the creator of the present undesirable state of affairs. It gave all the advantages to the "pirate" and penalised the legitimate showman. It was but poor consolation to them to point out that year by year they had warned the abolitionists of the growing seriousness of the risk to good rule and government by the unwise action of the franchise owners to prevent the fair and to defy public sentiment. He trusted that now the fair rights were in the hands of the Conservators before another year the Charter Fair, with all its ancient rights and privileges, would be removed by the sanction of the Home Secretary to a better site, under new conditions and under full local control. For this object he and Mr. Pedgrift, with others, had been labouring, and would still labour. Their members, who claimed a lawful right to frequent the fair, dissociated themselves entirely from the "pirates." They had been obliged to make the best of the unfortunate state of affairs, and some of their members had summonses for unlawful trespass on the Green before the customary time. It was a regrettable necessity, and they would frankly admit it. The evil was accentuated by the fact that many of the real first invaders used their advantage—made their market—with the later comers, the legitimate showmen, and cleared out before the names were taken for summonses. He still had faith, despite the deeply unfortunate events of the present fair, that the sound sense and justice of the Board of Conservators and all the better elements of public opinion would find a way out of the trouble, and that the next fair would be a joyous celebration of settled peace. He commended the Mitcham Fair Defence Fund to their renewed support.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift was carried with acclamation, and the following subscriptions were then received:—

Mitcham Fair Defence Fund Subscriptions, 1910.

H. Thurston and Sons, £5 5s.; Fred Gray and Son, £5 5s.; Forrest Brothers, £5; William Wilson, £5; James Manders, £5; William Biddall, £2 2s.; Swales Bolesworth, £2 2s.; Edward Elliott, £2; Robert Clasper, £1 1s.; William Harris, £1 1s.; T. Bolesworth, £1 1s.; Elias Harris, £1 1s.; George Saunders, £1 1s.; Walter Harris, £1; William Bedford, 10s. 6d.; Henry Rowe, 10s. 6d.; Fred Sully, 10s. 6d.; George Bolesworth, 10s. 6d.; Herbert Barnard, 10s. 6d.; Edward Hussey, 10s. 6d.; John Manning, 10s. 6d.; Sam Mayne, 10s. 6d.; T. Emms, 10s. 6d.; Henry Brett, 10s.; George Taylor, 10s.; J. Edwards, 10s.; W. Stackwood, 10s.; Sol. Elliott, 5s.; G. Biddall, 5s.; J. Biddall, 5s.; C. Biddall, 5s.; Joseph Manning, 5s.; A. Bunn, 5s.; J. Guest, 5s.; A. Harvey, jun., 5s.; B. Pickard, 5s.; Mrs. Edwards, 5s.; J. Manning, 5s.; F. Rawlings, 5s.; W. Manning, 5s.; H. Peters, 2s. 6d.; A. Burgess, 2s.

An Octogenarian Clown.

Living in retirement and, like his grand old chief, George Sanger, Mr. Wm. Matthews, the famous circus clown and circus performer, has just celebrated his eightieth birthday. Mr. Matthews, who is as hale and hearty as ever, may often be seen out riding near Liverpool, and both he and his wife, Lauretta, are an example of what hard work and plenty of open-air exercise can do. "Billy" Matthews was one of Sanger's principal artists in the old days, travelled through America with the Barnum show, was fourteen consecutive seasons at the Pavilion Theatre as clown, and has toured all over the world with his own company. Himself a fine old performer, he is father of seven daughters, of whom the following are well-known to-day:—Mme. Frasetti, Mrs. Tom Foy, Mme. Haydee, and Mme. Canze (La Foy), all of them well known in the variety world. He is still seen riding out on "old Joe," a present from Lord George Sanger to his old friend "Billy" Matthews.

Another Surrey Fair Threatened.

Haslemere Fair, which, like Mitcham Fair, dates from the spacious days of Good Queen Bess, is again threatened with abolition. The Hambledon Rural District Council is moving in the matter, with a view to petitioning the Home Secretary, under the provisions of the Abolition of Fairs Act. A similar attempt was made thirteen years ago, but it failed. The Showmen's Guild will fully consider the matter, and, if advisable, petition against the proposed abolition.

Jacob Studt's Coliseum on Tour.

This colossal show, with the switchback motor-car track and the galloping horses set of the same proprietor, are at Trowbridge this week for the flower show. Mr. Peters' new steam roundabouts, shooter, swing boats, and variety games are located on the Cattle Market, Ledbury; Scott's gallopers and amusements at at Radford; Herbert's similar concerns at Bexley, and Strickland's roundabouts, &c., are at Much Marcle, on the same circuit.

DESTRUCTION OF FRANK BOSTOCK'S MANAGERIE.

Only the other day Frank Bostock, the animal king, sent a message of sympathy and a generous donation to a brother showman whose show, struck by lightning, was burnt down. To-day Frank Bostock himself is a sufferer from a calamitous fire, the information to hand indicating the almost total destruction of one of the finest menageries ever brought together. The hundreds of thousands of visitors who visited the famous jungle at Earl's Court and at other centres in the provinces will realise the enormous loss such a priceless collection of rare animals must be. The trained animals especially can hardly ever be replaced. The world-famous show has been located at the Brussels exhibition. Together with the whole of the Luna Park shows Bostock's jungle was destroyed by the calamitous fire. A Press correspondent the day after the fire wrote:—

"The burning of Bostock's menagerie in the Kermesse was the most terrible incident of the conflagration.

"When it was seen that there was no hope of preventing the flames from spreading to this quarter, orders were given to the employees that they were on no account to attempt to save the large collection of wild animals which Mr. Bostock had on exhibition. It was feared that in any attempt to rescue them some might break loose, and an even greater panic be created among the escaping crowds.

"When the menagerie caught fire and the animals began to howl with pain, someone ordered the soldiers to shoot them one by one. Commandant Houziaux, however, noticed the danger of such a proceeding, and pointed out that there was the strongest probability of some of the crowd being hit by the bullets. He thereupon countermanded the order, and the animals were left to perish in the flames.

"Several magnificent lions, a couple of tigers, a giraffe, and several zebras were destroyed. Their screams of pain as the flames caught them could be heard all over the Exhibition, even above the roar of the flames.

"Only a single elephant and a few white asses remain out of the splendid collection. The site of the menagerie presents a terrible spectacle to-day.

"There were stories of all the beasts in the menagerie having been loosed and of lions roaming at large among the crowds. No tale was too wild to be rejected, and it is no exaggeration to say that between midnight and two o'clock in the morning three-fourths of the adult population of Brussels were in the streets heading in the direction of the Exhibition."

A later report gave some saddening details:—

"In the midst of the raging fire a number of monkeys in the menagerie found a way of escape from their cage, and one by one they crawled out of the smoke and bolted for some neighbouring trees. One gorilla returned to-day to the scene of the fire, as if trying to find its former home, but nothing has been seen of any of the others."

"Danger from fire and falling débris was slight compared with that incurred by the British officials from the animals in Bostock's menagerie, which was situated to the north-west of the British section. In it were confined several lions, tigers, panthers, a number of cobras, and a camel. As the fire ate its way towards the menagerie the fiendish roaring of the terrified beasts added another note of horror to the scene. As some of the British officials told me to-day, at every moment while they were busy fighting the fire they expected that their savage neighbours would succeed in breaking loose, and would be upon them. One tiger did break away, and, as panic mad as any of the human throng that had fought so madly to escape, dashed wildly round the fire-free portion of the grounds. Luckily it was shot in time by a party of soldiers. A camel alone was saved. The calcined remains of the other captives in the menagerie may still be seen where a lingering death overtook them."

The fire demon was indeed fully glutted at this awful fire. To Mr. Frank Bostock we tender our sincere sympathy. We know that the heart of showland is sore with grief at the thought of the dread calamity that has overtaken one of the best of showmen—a king amongst men, a veritable prince of real good fellows, as well as king of the animal world. We anxiously await further news, and trust that some of the horror of the calamity may have been exaggerated.

As we go to press, we have a message from Frank Bostock confirming the worst news of the disaster. One elephant and a monkey are all that remain of the menagerie.

SPACES TO LET.

GREAT

BRUSSELS EXHIBITION

Now in the very height of its success, season continues away into November. The recent fire completely destroyed

LUNA PARK

Amusement Section, therefore its spacious grounds are now available for amusements and attractions of a superior kind.

Address immediately,

BOSTOCK, Exposition, BRUSSELS.

MILITARY BANDS and ORCHESTRIONS

In Greatest Variety, from

£20 to £2000

Inspection invited. Every information and advice given at our

NEW SHOW ROOMS,

2, Newman Street, Oxford St., London, W.

THE NEW POLYPHON SUPPLY CO., LTD.

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

We are confident that Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Ball's many friends in Showland will sympathise with them in this hour of calamitous loss. The destruction of the costly and beautiful Electric Lyceum by fire at Tilbury Docks recently will be a shock to many people, and its consequences terrible to Mr. and Mrs. Ball and family. It is no exaggeration to say that the hard work and well-won savings of a lifetime were spent upon the show, and now comes calamity and loss, not by any neglect on their part, but in the mysterious providence of events, struck by lightning and fired. On the Metropolitan circuit of fairs, where Ball's show is a household word, and where Alf. Ball ranks as a leader and champion of Showland, the consternation and grief will be widespread, and the sympathy most personal and real. We trust that response for contributions to the Ball Show Fire Fund will be both immediate and adequate. We strongly commend this matter to the ever generous heart of Showland.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Received from Treasurer of the local fund at Tilbury Docks....	40	0	0
Collected by Mr. Charles Thurston	14	15	6
Patrick Collins	10	0	0
Messrs. Chiappa and Sons	10	0	0
Collected at Horsham by Mr. Wm. Biddall	6	13	0
Collected by Mr. W. Beach	6	11	6
Frank Bostock	5	5	0
John Collins	5	5	0
Lord George Sanger	5	0	0
E. H. Bostock	5	0	0
Jury's Imperial Bioscope Co., Ltd.	5	0	0
Frank Turner	5	0	0
Andrew Purchase	2	10	0
C. B. Cochran	2	2	0
Richard Dooner	2	2	0
Robert Fossett	2	0	0
Joseph Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. E. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. J. Ball	2	0	0
Mrs. Denio	1	10	0
Collected by Mr. J. Manning	1	7	6
J. Holden	1	1	0
J. Bibby and Co.	1	1	0
Tom Norman	1	1	0
Mrs. J. Whiting	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Holmes	1	0	0
Mr. Harry Cox	1	0	0
Mrs. Mitchell	0	10	0
"Princess Pauline" (Midget)	0	10	0
Mrs. Bird	0	10	0
T. S. Whiting (Oxford)	0	7	6
Mrs. Tyler	0	5	0
C. H. Horton	0	2	6

THE LATE MISS BELLE ELMORE.

The inquest on the remains of the late Miss Belle Elmore, found beneath the cellar of the house, No. 39, Hilldrop-crescent, was reopened on Monday by Mr. Walter Schroder, the acting coroner.

After the jury had been discharged they were resworn, and viewed the remains a second time. "I must say at once," Mr. Schroder informed them, "that the probabilities are that this inquiry will be somewhat protracted. A great deal of evidence will be called."

There were three new witnesses. The first was Miss Melinda May, the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, who stated that Mrs. Crippen was honorary treasurer of the guild.

"I last saw her alive on January 26," she said. "She was then at the rooms of the guild, and we were together some hours. She was then beautiful and bonny, and very bright—quite healthy and well."

"Had she made any complaint about illness?" inquired the coroner.

"Yes, about Christmas," replied Miss May. "She then said she had been ill during the night and had a suffocating and strangling feeling in the throat. She told me that she asked her husband to get up, and said to him, 'Peter, send for the police. I am going to die.'

"On February 2," Miss May continued, "Miss Le Neve came to the office of the guild at twenty minutes to one. Our meetings began at one. She brought me a parcel, a pass book, a cheque book, and a letter which was supposed to be from Mrs. Crippen.

"I recognised the writing as that of Dr. Crippen. The letter stated that she would be away for a few months, and asked us to elect a treasurer while she was absent."

"Have you since received any information from her?" the coroner asked.

"None whatever," was the reply.

Superintendent Froest informed the coroner that Dr. Crippen and Miss Le Neve would probably reach London in about three weeks' time, and Mr. Schroder suggested that the inquest should be adjourned for that time. Mr. Arthur Newton asked, however, that the adjournment should be for a month.

This course was agreed to, and Mr. Schroder fixed the adjourned inquest for Monday, Sept. 12.

Mr. Edwin Crouette is engaged as equestrian director for the opening of Mr. E. H. Bostock's Zoo Circus, Glasgow, on Aug. 29.

The recent fire at the Brussels Exhibition completely destroyed Luna Park Amusement Section, and its spacious grounds are therefore available for amusements and attractions of a superior kind. The exhibition is now in the very height of its success, and applications for spaces rendered vacant by the conflagration should be made immediately to Bostock, Exposition, Brussels.

In celebration of the first anniversary of the opening of the New Olympia Skating Rink, Darlington, the proprietors held a pierrot bladder fight and confetti battle on Thursday, the 11th inst. Some 200 rinkers of both sexes took the floor, whilst over 2,000 spectators visited the rink during the evening. Mr. Weldon, of West Hartlepool, succeeded in winning a handsome silver-mounted stick after a keen and amusing contest in the bladder fight. The ladies' orchestra, under Miss Handel, played choice selections of music during the evening, and the new floor manager, Mr. Percy Harrison, very capably looked after the comfort of the skaters. The management are to be congratulated on this highly-successful anniversary fête.

Lovers of music will be interested in the announcement that the Crystal Palace management have arranged with Mr. Percy Harrison for the appearance of Madame Tetrazzini at the Crystal Palace on Sept. 24, when a grand concert will be given by Madame Tetrazzini, supported by a company of well-known artists. On several occasions this gifted artist has expressed her desire to sing at the Crystal Palace, and this fact is not surprising, for the huge auditorium of the centre transept will suit her magnificent voice to perfection.

The eleventh annual National Band Festival will be held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, Oct. 1, when bands of all descriptions and from all over the country will be competing for trophies and cash prizes of the value of £2,000. The festival was instituted by the late Sir Arthur Sullivan and Mr. J. Henry Iles in 1900, when forty-seven bands entered. It is confidently expected that at least 200 bands will take part in this year's festival, hailing from all parts of the United Kingdom. All through the day the competitions will be held in various parts of the Palace and grounds.

SONG PIRACY.

At Guildhall, on Friday, the 12th, before Mr. Alderman Cooper, there was a prosecution which, although of a grave nature, provoked a good deal of merriment from the intermingling of the words of popular songs—comic and sentimental—with legal phraseology. The accused, who are charged with conspiring together between May 1 and June 28 to print and publish for the purpose of sale the words of copyright songs, with intent to injure and prejudice the owners of the copyright, were:—

Albert Bowden, 29, of 11, Middlesex-street, coffee-house keeper;

Abraham Kinzett, 55, bookseller, Wick-road, Hackney;

Philip Fleming Bokenham, 32, printer, Howson-road, Brockley; and

John Wesley Puddefoot, 51, printer, of the Milton Press, Milton House, East End-road, Finchley.

Mr. Oddie was counsel for the prosecution; Mr. Harry Myers appeared for Bowden, Bokenham, and Kinzett, and Mr. Ralph Raphael for Puddefoot.

In opening the case, Mr. Oddie said the accused were charged with conspiring to print and publish, and have in their possession for the purpose of sale, the words of copyright songs without authority. The proprietors of the songs in question were Messrs. Boosey, Messrs. Chappell, Von Tilzer and Co. (Ltd.), and Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, who had licensed Messrs. McGlennon and Co., Ltd., to publish the works, the latter firm, of course, paying a consideration for the right.

For some time past Messrs. McGlennon and Co. had been aware that large quantities of pirated versions of these songs had been sold in the streets of London and elsewhere, and as the result of inquiries had discovered that there was a systematic and organised conspiracy by the four accused to produce pirated copies of these songs. The sheets were printed by Puddefoot and Bokenham in large numbers, and despatched to 8, Hutchinson-street, Aldgate, where Kinzett rented a room, which was a sort of central store or warehouse.

Witnesses were called to prove the copyright of various songs. "Let's all go down the Strand," "The Girl in the Clogs and Shawl," and "Sweet Caroline" were the first dealt with, the proceedings becoming at once more lively.

Mr. Raphael suggested that prosecuting counsel, to vary the monotony, might sing these songs.

Mr. Myers: With instrumental accompaniment.

Mr. Oddie: My friends can do either if they please in cross-examination.

Proceeding to examine a witness, Mr. Oddie continued, "I wish I lived next door to you."

Mr. Oddie: I am not stating that as a fact, but I am directing the witness's attention to a song bearing that title.

Mr. Savill (Chief Clerk): What about "Yip-i-addy-i-ay"?

Mr. Oddie: That's coming; but now I'm on "I should like to be by the seaside."

Mr. Savill (to the Magistrate): Would you like to go through these songs, sir?

Alderman Cooper (modestly): No, thank you.

Mr. Myers: Perhaps his worship would prefer to do so in a more suitable place.

"Yip-i-addy-i-ay" came next.

Mr. Oddie: Now you're all right, Mr. Savill.

The clerk, however, had some difficulty in recording the title on the depositions, the combination of syllables being rather uncommon.

Mr. Felix McGlennon, managing-director of McGlennon and Co., Ltd., told the Court that the infringement of their rights by pirated copies of songs being sold had involved them in a loss of well over £500 a year.

The case was adjourned.

It should be mentioned that the accused were recently prosecuted for conspiring to sell pirated copies of Oscar Wilde's "De Profundis," and were convicted. Bowden now appears on a summons, the others having been brought up from Wormwood Scrubs on an order of the Home Secretary. Bail was allowed.

The company entitled the Margate Palace, Ltd., has approached the Corporation of the town with a view to their carrying out, at the Council's own cost, works of foreshore reclamation between the stone pier and the Kursaal property, so as to give an entrance to the property of the Margate Palace, Ltd. In consideration of this, the company proposed to give up a portion of the triangular piece of land in front of Bankside, already reclaimed, and grant a right of way to the public over the sea-wall in front of their property.

The company also made the suggestion that steps should be constructed from Fort Point to the promenade below, and that an exchange of a small portion of Fort Green should be made for a portion of the Kursaal property, including a strip of land, being part of the site on which the two shops in Fort-road, belonging to the company, are now built.

The proposal had been considered by the Works Committee, which was unable to recommend the Council to acquiesce. The Works Committee also reported that the notice given to the owners of the Kursaal property to put the bridge leading from the jetty to the Kursaal site and structure at Fort Point into a proper state of repair or remove same had not been complied with. A letter was subsequently received from Messrs. Lumley and Lumley to the effect that Mr. Kellett was arranging for the repair of the bridge. It was decided to adjourn the consideration of the matter for two months.

Alderman Hermitage, chairman of the Works Committee, explained at a recent meeting that the Committee felt great responsibility over the proposal from the Margate Palace, Ltd. If carried out, the work would undoubtedly be a great improvement, but they could not recommend acceptance of the proposal because it would land them into the expenditure of some thousands of pounds. Part of the offer was also illegal because they could not extend the land. They hoped, however, something might be done to improve this black spot on their coast.

Earlier in the meeting a petition was read from twenty-one occupiers in Fort Crescent, asking for the removal of a hoarding which had been erected on the cliffs at the Fort by the Margate Palace, Ltd., as it "seriously interfered with their view and their living." It was decided to consider the matter in the Works Committee.

Miss Dora Hammersley and Mr. Charles Kean, who have just completed a successful dramatic stock season at the Gaiety, Dundee, were accorded a farewell benefit at the Foresters' Hall on Monday evening, when two immense audiences at both houses testified to the popularity of these artists. The programme was a varied and very enjoyable one. A dramatic episode, entitled *The Ways of Women*, by Mr. Charles Kean, was much applauded, as was also a clever comedy duologue, *Kiss Your Manager*, also from the versatile pen of Mr. Kean. Enjoyable items were contributed by Johnson and Petrie, instrumentalists; Mr. Pat Bell, Irish comedian; Miss Clarise Jenner, soubrette and mandolinist; Mr. William Miller, baritone; Mr. Ted Mooney, comedian; Miss Bridget McGann, vocalist; the Two Farrells, in song and dance; Mr. Johnny Beveridge, society entertainer; the Twin Sisters McKenzie, dontiste and dancers; and Master George Bryan, international dancer.

COMPANIES WANTED.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Oct. 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Comedy or Musical Comedy,
Sept. 8, 9, 10
(Sept. 5, three nights can be booked at Hastings Pier in conjunction),
Sept. 22, 23, 24
(three nights at Hastings in conjunction),
Sept. 26 (week),
and various dates onwards.
Apply G. Hayes, The Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for week of Jan. 9.
Musical Comedy preferred.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Company, Aug. 29.
Address, Harry Yorke, Managing-Director.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 14, 28, and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19.
Also Good Pantomime, Jan. 2.
Address, R. G. Elder.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Nov. 7, Musical or Other High-class Attraction.
W. Morton.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 5 (?), 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17 (?), Nov. 21, 28 (?), Xmas Panto. (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED First-class Attractions Sept. 12, 19, 26.
James Bell

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Real Attractions (musical preferred), Sept. 12, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21, on; Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 3, 24, 31, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, Sante, Radcliffe.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5; 13, 14, 15; 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

WANTED, for Scarborough, First-class Companies, Oct. 3, 4, 5, Oct. 10, 11, 12 Oct. 24, 25, 26. Address, Waddington, Stonegate, York.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 29, Oct. 10 and 24.
Apply, James Kiernan.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Aug. 29 (6 nights), Sept. 8 and 19 (3 nights).
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 1, 2, 3, Sept. 8, 9, 10, Sept. 26 (week). Wire, Macdona.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, big Attraction, for reopening Date, Sept. 26 or Oct. 3, Share or Certainty; also later dates. Letters only (no wires), Arthur Talbots, T. R., Edinburgh.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Oct. 31, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
This magnificent Theatre now nearing completion. Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 37. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.
Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Oct. 3 and 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 5 and 12.
Vacant for High-class and Musical Companies.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Vacant, also Christmas and New Year's weeks, for a First-class Musical Comedy. All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough. Sept. 12, open at King's Theatre, Sunderland, for a Big Attraction.
Address, S. F. Davidson, as above.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, Leon Vint.
The above entirely New Theatre opens Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light.
Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, good Musical Comedies, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, on, with exceptions; Easter; certainty only.
Companies booked include: "Fatal Wedding," "Sign of the Cross," "Still Alarm," "Country Girl in London," "Her Secret Lover," "When It Was Dark," "The Sinner," "Eve of Her Wedding," "Life's Revenge," "Lucky 'Liza," Mr. F. B. Woulfe, "Nick Carter," "Life for a Life," "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," "Beggar Princess," "Driving a Girl to Destruction," "No Mother to Guide Her," &c., &c.
All communications re Dates to
William Minto, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Henry C. Arnold, Managing-Director.

METHIL THEATRE, FIFESHIRE.
9 mile radius. Electric trams pass door.
9mile radius. Electric trams pass door.
WANTED, Sept. 6 (6 nights).
Wanted, Oct. 3 (4 nights).
Wanted, Oct. 17 (6 nights).
Wanted, Dec. 26 (6 nights).
Pantomimes, Musical Comedy, or Good Drama. Share or certainty.
J. D. Swanston, Kirkcaldy.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
Rushworth and Son, Proprietors.

HAGGAR'S T. (late Royalty), LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. Haggar, sen.
Manager, Jas. Haggar.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedies, Comic Operas, good Panto. for Xmas week, or later. Good terms to good shows.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
PALACE THEATRE, PORTH.
Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson.
Both houses doing well.
WANTED, for Porth, good Companies, Oct. 10, and later; also Xmas week. Wanted, for Gloucester, good Companies, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, and later; also Xmas week. All communications, Smithson, Empire, Barnsley. Note.—The name of Smithson assures good business in Wales.

WANTED, for Xmas and New Year's Weeks, a First-class Attraction; good Pantomime or Musical Show, for one of the Finest Theatres in the North of England. Big Business can be done with the right thing. Four figures have been taken, and can be done again. First-class Companies only. Henry Drake, 13, Iona-st, Halifax.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 1 (3), 5 (3), and 22(3).
W. E. Potts, Theatre, Dunfermline.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
One of the Prettiest Theatres on the South Coast. Rebuilt and enlarged. Holding £100.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates till end of September, and onwards.
Communications, C. A. Seebold.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Nov. 7, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions. Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 12, and 19. Address E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Aug. 26, Sept. 19, 26.
Wire, Vernon.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions Sept. 5 and 12.
Apply, Sherwood and Co.

WANTED, good Companies, for Sept. 9, 12, 15 (3 nights), Oct. 3, 4, onwards.
D. Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, Attractions, Nov. 3 (3 nights), Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 26.
All communications,
Managing-Director, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, Good Dramas, Musical Comedies, Pantos., Variety Companies, Sept. 12, 19, on, for Hippo., Hoyland, Yorks. Fullest particulars, Scottie, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Company, Aug. 29 (three nights). Bookings include "Cingalee," Norman V. Norman, "Hook of Holland," "Charley's Aunt," "Follies," "Where is William?" "Miss Tommy," &c. Lennon, Theatre, Westgate-on-Sea.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, 26, Jan. 2, 16, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Monillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Sept. 19, Oct. 17, 31, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
All the Leading Attractions Secured.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Grand Re-opening date, Aug. 15.
Vacant later, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, 21 (3 nights with Cambridge), Oct. 3 (3), 17, and various onwards.
Apply for all above.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for London, Sept. 19 and Oct. 10.
Newcastle, Oct. 10, Nov. 7 and 14.
Edinburgh, Nov. 21 and 28.
Aberdeen, Dec. 5.
Dundee, Dec. 12 and 19.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND T., WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Sept. 19, 26.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Aug. 29 (3 nights), Oct. 26 (3 nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Aug. 22 (3 nights), Sept. 8 (3 nights), Oct. 17 (3 nights).
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 14 and 28, Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
FALKIRK, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 5.
MOTHERWELL, Sept. 26, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12.
LEITH, Oct. 10, 24, Dec. 5 and 12.
AYR, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26 and onwards
Apply, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, good Company, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Dec. 19.
Write, F. G. Kimberley.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, The Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book, First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Derby, strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, with own Scenery and good printing, twice nightly, Oct. 3 on; must state lowest, share or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, 1910.
Sept. 19 (three nights at each place, six nights in all), Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12.
1911.
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Several Strong Pantomimes, First-class Productions only.
All communications to
Arthur C. Moody, Blyth-by-Sea.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. Rowe,
C/o A. F. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

OPERA HOUSE DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Comedies, Dramas, and Varieties, complete, Aug. 22 (3).
W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, A1 Dramas, Sept. 26, Oct. 10 (?), 17, 24 (?), Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 19, 26.
Pantomimes, January and February.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, for T. R., Leigh, Lancashire, First-class Drama and Musical Comedy Companies. Will Managers holding Contracts for above Theatre kindly communicate re confirmation, &c.? Fred Gould, Lessee.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights (Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Whitson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, First-class Variety Combinations, for one or two weeks, commencing Aug. 29. Wire or address, full company, to Horner, Empire, Burnley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN,
Oct. 24 (Saturday night excepted).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 3, 4, 5 (?), Oct. 6, 7, 8.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Sept. 12.
OPERA HOUSE, CORK.
Sept. 12.
Apply, F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent-Garden, W.C.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 19, Xmas on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Aug. 22, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on. Alfred Manners.

WANTED, T. R., Margate, Sept. 12, 13, 14, Oct. 10, 24, 31, on (weeks).
Apply, Weatherbby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

Walter Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, Dec. 26.
Douglas Bruce,
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA." All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. Barry, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The most successful play of the century, which has just played in Dublin to £900, and in Belfast last week to over £650 during the hottest fortnight ever known in Ireland.
WANTED, Weeks of Oct. 3 and Nov. 21.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly.
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 7, on.
Big Company. Chorus. Specialities.
Special Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Lincoln; Royal, Sheffield; Royal, Nottingham, to follow.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, Sept. 12,
Oct. 10 (three nights).
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
Aug. 22, County Theatre, Reading.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker,
Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for
Oct. 17 (Midlands or South).
Oct. 24 (Midlands or South).
Address, Cecil Barth,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 19, precede Hammersmith (R),
Oct. 3, follow Hammersmith.
Admitted to be one of the biggest successes touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire for Sept. 19, Wire,
James Bell,
T. R., Darlington.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Theatre, with big holding capacity, for Dec. 26, Christmas week, Dec. 26,
South Wales or Midlands.

"LAUGHING 'LIZA."
A Two-Act Musical Farce,
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Vacant Feb. 20 (?), April 3 and 17.
Address,
Miss Florence Baines, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

CHARLES WINDERMERE and CO., in the Funniest Play of the Day,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 29 (3 nights, South), Sept. 12, between Cromer and Sunderland.
Aug. 22, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, a big Theatre,
Sept. 19,
through T. R., Rotherham, running Pictures.
The greatest Play of the day.
A clear Stage only required.
Harry Foxwell, 230, Central-drive, Blackpool.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
Present the Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION,"
by Russell Vaun (part-author of "The Great Awakening").
Company, Play, and Production Second to None.
Please refer A. C. Mitchell, Esq., T. R., Barnsley, this week.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatres. Only Vacant Dates this year, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, and 26. All coms., Martin Comstock, Central Theatre, Northwich.

WANTED, for "Every Inch a Man," dates Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 10, also Dec. 26; powerful Company. Refer E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham. Managers invited.
Re dates, W. Graham Arthurs, P. O. W., Salford.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL" CO.
WANTED, Good Theatre, Oct. 31.
North or Midlands.
Bannister Howard, 15, Cliffords-inn, E.C.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28 Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2.
Haldane Crichton, New Theatre, Barry Dock.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."

WANTED, Sept. 12, to follow Belfast and precede Fleetwood.
Horace Stanley, this, Queen's, Dublin; next, ROYAL, KILKENNY.

"HARBOUR LIGHTS,"
by Geo. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt.
WANTED, Theatre, Christmas week, for above; also Jan. 16, 1911. Address,
G. Brydon Phillips, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, only Vacant Date for above. Produced Boxing Day at New Theatre, Oxford. Address, Brydon-Phillips, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Christmas, four weeks, for First-class Production; must be theatre capable of Big Takings; to precede Pavilion Theatre, Mile End (first in). Address, G. Brydon-Phillips, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Theatre, for "The Fighting Chance," Oct. 31. Apply
Popular Playhouses, Ltd., Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 5, 12.
Morton Powell, Pavilion Theatre, London, E.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 26,
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Nov. 14, 28, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Production,
Monday next, Aug. 22,
Pavilion Theatre, London, E.
Vacant Oct. 10 (?), Dec. 12.
Morton Powell, Pavilion Theatre, London, E.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in "THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 17, 24, 31.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully selected Company, including
MISS NELLIE CLYDE
as NAN, THE FLOWER GIRL.
Sept. 12, 19 (to precede Queen's, Dublin),
Oct. 3, 17, and Nov. 14.
Above are the only Dates open.
Address, Charles Gibbon,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, for "The Mockery of Marriage," Sept. 19 (to precede St. Helens), also vacant Oct. 10, 17, and Xmas. Refer W. Morton, Hull. Big printing by David Allen and Moody Bros.

Re dates, W. Graham Arthurs, P. O. W., Salford.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.

"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, Sept. 12, Oct. 3,
Sept. 12, Oct. 3.
Excellent Co.; refer this week Rotunda, Liverpool.

"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Wanted, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21.
Wanted, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21.
Refer Francis Laidler, Esq.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Oct. 10, 17, 24.
Excellent band; refer this week T. R., Worcester. Wire,
F. G. Kimberley, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 17, Christmas, Christmas, Christmas. Magnificently mounted. Exceptional cast.
F. G. Kimberley, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 31.
M. Beaudyn,
Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Sept. 19 and Dec. 26
Edward Lloyd, Alexandra T., Sheffield.

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
WANTED, Theatres, for the above,
Once or Twice Nightly,
Sept. 19, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 10, for
"The King and the Unknown Woman" Co.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, c/o "The Era."

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights), Nov. 28, Jan. 2 and 30.
Address,
Frank M. Thorne, Opera House, Perth.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA."
WANTED, Sept. 5, Sept. 5.
Sept. 5, Sept. 5.
Sept. 5, Sept. 5.
Wire, Gilbert, T. R., North Shields; next, Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Oct. 17
Nov. 14, Nov. 14, Nov. 14,
Dec. 26 (can open Saturday previous).
Lewis Gilbert,
Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

WANTED, for "Are You a Mason?" Dates. All scenery, props, &c., carried.
Vacant: 1910, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, Xmas, Dec. 26; 1911, Vacant, Jan. 9, 30, March 6, 13, April 3, on. This, Dundee; next, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Sept. 1 (3 nights), Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7.
Coms., Walter D. Nicoll, 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre or Hall, Feb. 13, Certainty or Share,
for "Dick Whittington," twice nightly.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Dates, for "The Barrister" and "A Scrap of Paper."
Doughty, 23, Hugh-street, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 25, to precede Greenock, Sept. 5, 12, and on, for
"CASTE." G. W. Anson as Eccles.
Cora Anson, 3, Gloucester-road, Kensington, W.

THE ITALIAN GRAND OPERA CO.
WANTED, Sept. 26 and Nov. 28 (North).
Frank Yeardsley, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, good Theatres, for High-class Farcical Comedy, Sept. 26, onwards. Apply,
Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."

The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 8, 9, 10 (between Weston and Douglas),
Sept. 19, Oct. 10.
Ernest E. Norris,
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

"THE SOWERS,"
Dramatised from Seton Merriman's Novel.
Enormous success at King's, Hammersmith, last week. Tour starts September.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Send Vacant Dates. J. E. Watson, Managers' Club.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck. Turned hundreds away by 7.15 last Saturday night, Bordesley. Refer. Absolutely Fourteen Artists appear. A Great Play with a Known Title.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2 (?), 9, Feb. 6, and on. J. Forbes Knowles, T. R., Aston.

WANTED, for the great success, "His Real Wife," Sept. 12, Xmas, and onwards.
Address, T. E. Ward, T. R., Stratford, E.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, for this phenomenally Successful Domestic Drama, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Wanted, for this great Attraction,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26.
Also Vacant, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re dates, A. R. Feather, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Sparkling Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 3, Oct. 10, and later.
Re dates, A. R. Feather,
The Depositories, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
Vacant Oct. 10, Xmas.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer,
Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26,
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Thanks Arthur Jefferson, Esq., for contract, and Milton Bode, Esq., for offer.
Miss Hilda Beverley, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
The Romantic Military Drama.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
And Dickens' Masterpiece,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD"
(a sure draw for Friday night).
Printing specially cut for each play by Allen's.
WANTED, Theatres. First Vacant Date for either or all of these Plays, Oct. 17 and 24, and Christmas Week, Jan. 23, and on.
Oswald Cray,
Next week, New Theatre, Aberdare.

LAURENCE IRVING & MABEL HACKNEY
and CO. in
"THE UNWRITTEN LAW" and "MARGARET CATCHPOLE."
Immediate Success of both Plays.
WANTED, Dates, Oct. 10, and onwards.
Address, Sydney Paxton,
General-Manager for Mr. Irving,
New Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Sept. 5, Sept. 5, Sept. 5 (between Scotland and Doncaster). Refer T. W. Rowe, Esq., re business on return visit to Palace, Newcastle; also Arthur Jefferson, Esq., re quality of show, and business last week at Metropole, Glasgow. Wire for Sept. 5. Geo. A. De Gray, today, Century T., Motherwell; next, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, Unexpectedly Vacant through theatre changing hands.
Also Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, Christmas,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, and various Spring and Autumn, 1911, including Easter and Whit.

JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.

Refer H. C. Arnold, Esq., A. Manners, Esq., A. Carlton, Esq., H. J. Worswick, Esq., John Hart, Esq., &c., &c., &c.
Wire or write,
Arthur Hinton, to-day, T. R., Woolwich; Monday, Lyric, Hammersmith.

THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 19 and 26, and certain Spring dates.
Managers requiring a sound attraction and sure money-maker write or wire,
Tom Watt, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Aug. 22, Theatre Royal, Preston.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Always merry and bright.
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19.
Dickie Clare, Alex., Widnes (third visit).

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
WANTED, Sept. 12 (3 nights), Oct. 17.
M. Beaudyn,
Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, for "An Unwedded Wife," by J. Edward Whitty, through transfer, Sept. 12 and 19, also Dec. 5. Will Casey, to-day, T. R., Bolton; next, Queen's, Longton.

WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly, for Rose Moncrieff's Pantomime, "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," by Newman Maurice, as produced at Brixton Theatre, London, 1909-10. Vacant Jan. 23, Feb. 6 and 20.
Address, Brixton Theatre.

WANTED, Good Theatre or Music Hall, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, on.
A big £80 Star Top Liner, supported by First-class Variety Company. Will take over Manager's Variety Bookings £60 to £70. Thanks for 25 wires received re Aug. 22. Date settled North. We have the attractions, and must have equitable terms. All Theatre Managers have made good profits where this attraction has appeared. Only in England for a Limited Tour; returns shortly to American dates. Wire, "Aeroplane, Liverpool"; or 'Phone 2349 Royal. Barnard's Agency, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatres and Halls, by the Premier Combination of first-class Artists, including Li-Chang-Hi, greatest Chinese Conjurer. Special printing. Address, Theatre, Uddingston, N.B. Refer enormous business at Farnworth and Radcliffe.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms,
the Best Theatres in England.
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in number,
The Sure Draw. Big Business Everywhere.
Really refined and clever Company besides the above. Splendid printing lithos., &c.
This week, Tremendous Business, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexborough; Aug. 22, HIPPO., TODMORDEN.
Vacant Aug. 29, Sept. 19, to follow Bristol.
Oct. 3 and 10, to follow Exeter.
Booking us means sure money;
no risk, no worry.

WEBB'S NOTIONS.
Strongest Combination Touring.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 19,
Sept. 19,
to follow Hippodrome, Wigan.
Wire, Webb, 38, Denbigh-street, Belgravia.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. GEORGE N. BALLANGER
presents
The American Scout,
YOUNG BUFFALO,
in his Romantic Western Play,
"KING OF THE WILD WEST,"
by
CHARLES E. BLANEY,
under the Direction of Mr. Frank Bertram.
As played for five years in America.

"KING OF THE WILD WEST" is probably the most successful and best-known of the Western American plays, and will be produced here on the same elaborate scale with the original scenery, Indians, Cowboys, and Mexican Horses.

Company of thirty-one

Cowboy Band of ten.

Real Indians (Sioux Tribe), Bucks, Squaws, and a Papoose.

Three Mexican Horses.

Seven loads of Scenery and Properties.

Street Parade daily with Cowboy Band, Indian Horses, &c., headed by
YOUNG BUFFALO, in Scout Costume.

The Company will arrive in Liverpool middle of September, and will tour for a few weeks prior to the West-end production. Owing to the expense, two weeks in each town preferred.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
For vacant dates and particulars address,
Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London.
Wires, "Breather, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Theatres, Music Halls, Hippodromes, for one of the Very Best All-round Vaudeville Companies Travelling, which includes
the Famous FRAGAMA FAMILY (7 in number), the World-renowned Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats, Tumblers, and Sensational High Ladder and Perch Experts.
KAIL STERN,
the Colombo Coon and Speciality Dancer.
HILDA DE GRAY,
the Charming Vocalist and Burlesque Actress.
PROF. ROBERTS,
the Famous High Diver, and Champion All-round Swimmer of the World, assisted by Miss Alicia Roberts, in their Beautiful Electric Tank Act.
Diving Competitions Nightly.
The Eastern Marvel,
"DAHMAH???"
"The Demon of Darkness,"
Assisted by Princess Voleta, in his Weird and Wonderful Eastern Illusions, including the Great Snake Dance, with Live Indian Silver Snakes.
BERT ALDEN,
Eccentric Comedian and Patterer.
MARTIN and YESSEN
(ALBERT) (MARIE)
in their Novel Singing Patter, and Acrobatic Dancing Speciality.
THE DORIAS
(MAY and FRED)
Elegant Equilibrists on their Silver Trapeze.
DENIS LYNDON and CO.,
in their Screaming Farcical Comedy,
"BUNKERED."
(Six Recognised Artists.
Starts with a Ripple, and ends with a Wave of Laughter.
SISTERS STUART,
Dainty Duettists and Expert Dancers.
First-class Acts Every One. Plenty of Attractive Printing.
The GREAT DAHMA will drive through the town daily (weather permitting) in his carriage and pair distributing his souvenirs.
Vacant Oct. 3 (?), 10, on, with exceptions.
Share or salary. The latter within the reach of any manager who wants a sure drawing card. The most expensive and up-to-date vaudeville company touring. Twenty Artists, and all Real Performers. Wire or write for Oct. 3 (?), 10, 17 (Midlands preferred). Denis Lyndon, Bus. Manager, this, Central Pier, Morecambe.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Empire Comedy Company, Ladies and Gentlemen, important parts, "Shaughraun," "Colleen Bawn," "East Lynne," and répertoire. Good Pianist. Open near Norwich, Sept. 5. Fit-up. Comfortable shop. Tom Green, 19, Leath-rd., Lordship-lane, Wood Green, N.

WANTED, Artists, E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co. First-class Leading Man, tall, good appearance. Photos, references, &c.
E. Hill-Mitchelson,
T. R., South Shields.

"A HOT NIGHT."

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Quartette of Dancers, two smart Light Comedy Juvenile Gents, good Comedy Character Old Man, Robust Character Comedian (to play fiery, jealous Naval Captain), good Dame Comedian, first-class Producer; to rehearse Sept. 12. Terms, refs., and photos. (important) to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Young Ladies and Gentlemen to take part in Amateur Performance of "Florodora" at the Royal Court Theatre. Good voices essential. Free voice trials daily, ten to six.
Stedman's, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

ROYAL CARL ROSA OPERA CO.
WANTED, Known, Vacancies for one First and one Second Tenor, for forthcoming tour.
Apply, Walter van Noorden,
The Athenæum, High-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Full Dramatic Co.; rehearse at once. Long tour. Full particulars, terms, &c., K. Lambert, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Chorus, Ladies and Gentlemen, with Répertoire of Grand Opera. Full particulars, terms, Manager, Castellano's Opera Company, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

WANTED, well educated Ladies and Gentlemen, to complete Company for Autumn; must be good studies, used to répertoire work, and have first-class modern wardrobe. Box 8,149, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies, Small Parts, Chorus for London and Provinces. Write or call.
Universal Theatrical Bureau, 49, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, to Rehearse at once, "Life for Life" Tour, First-class Juvenile Lady, through sudden illness. Terms, photos, references, Chas. H. Lester, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool. Monday, Royal, Rochdale.

"FROM CONVENT TO THRONE."
WANTED, Powerful Robust Actor for Military General and Stage Management. Must be alert, reliable artist. State height, build, age, lowest terms and references to
J. A. Campbell, T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, Tall, Well-built Character Actor, good voice, for Kara in "Secrets — — —." Photos and full particulars to Dan F. Roe, Grand Theatre, Lancaster.

WANTED, Light Comedian (Teddy, "The Naked Truth"). Terms, height, and references, Mark Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park.

WANTED, to rehearse in London, Aug. 29, for Musical Comedy Sketch.
Singing Light Comedy Juvenile Man.
Character Old Woman (Schoolmistress), must be very tall, strong speaking voice.
Aristocratic Old Man.
Musical Conductor, who can understudy parts.
Chorus Ladies, good voices and appearance.
Letters only, G. Howard Watson,
Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Gentleman, must be very tall, to play Character Showman; also young, good-looking Lady, to play Newly-wed Wife. Both must be experienced, to join Music Hall Sketch at once.
Lowest terms, refs., &c., to
Box 8,110, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Australia, for Musical Comedy, First-class Male Dancer, capable of Small Parts; must be able to do a Burlesque Scotch Reel. Apply C. St. John Denton, 34, Malden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Girls, immediately. Apply daily, 11 to 4, Jones, 190, Euston-road. Every style of Dancing taught; children's tuition a Speciality.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Comedienne, Engagement, Small Part and Understudy (London); can Sing and Dance; good Elocutionist, nice appearance; willing to invest £25. Box 8,138, "The Era."

WANTED, Known Beatrice Bonnie Company, wonderful Stairaphone Dancers. Topping, City Varieties, Leeds. Vac. next week. Also Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggling, effects.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, for Robin Hood, Principal Girl for Maid Marion, clever Troupe of Juveniles. Terms, references, and photos to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Important.—Give permanent address.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Pantomime, 1910-1911.
WANTED, Smart Youth, used to Animal Parts, for Dog. State height, terms, references, to Rich. Waldon.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime; not less than 5ft. 7in. References, terms, to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dainty Vena Valma is open for Pantomime. Last season Principal Girl with J. F. Elliston. Terrific success this week, Central Pier, Morecambe. All coms. to 31, Holker-street, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young, vacant for Pantomime, Dame and one of best, last four seasons, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan's Panto., "Cinderella," as the Baroness. Offers invited. Monday next, Palace, Oldham.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Denby and Dent, Principal Comedy Parts. Thanks to the following for offers and inquiries: Lester Collingwood, Esq., James Kiddie, Esq., George Burton, Esq., Chas. M. Daly, Esq., Fred Granville, Esq., A. R. Feather, Esq., Edgar Stebbings, Esq. Still free. Coms., Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconis, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Properties, Stage Fittings; good work at moderate charges. Estimates free. L. W. Hogg, 18, Leazes-crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, R. W. Miller, Scenic Artist (late Gaiety, Dundee), at Liberty. Pantomime Scenery a Speciality. Permanent address, 3, Churchill-place, Broughty Ferry, near Dundee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by Mr. Raynor, to hear from Authors of High-class (produced) Plays, or Managers owning rights in same, with a view to production, during Repertory Seasons in Manchester. Address, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Pantomime, 1910-1911.
WANTED, an experienced Stage-Manager, capable of producing Pantomime, exceptional references.
Address terms and particulars to Rich. Waldon.

WANTED, Assistant Manager for Hippodrome, Nottingham, must be smart and of good appearance, with first-class testimonials; fidelity guarantee essential. Applicants must state age, height, experience, and salary required, and enclose photo with stamped envelope for return, or applications will not be attended to. Letters only. T. A. Edwardes, Temple House, Derby.

WANTED, Good Responsible Man to combine A.A.M., smart appearance; also Carpenter (able to play small parts). Last two references. Photos, particulars. Millar Anderson, T. R., Barnsley.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Smart Stage Manager, must be Electrician. Send lowest terms and copies of references to Chas. Owen, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Three Young Energetic Reliable Stage Managers, to combine Dayman and Bill Inspector for Picturedromes. Must wear uniforms whilst billing. Sobriety indispensable. First offence, "Instant Dismissal." Age, height, refs., lowest terms, endorsed "Stage Manager." Address, Daly and Reynolds, Cyprus Chambers, 176a, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, for the Empire, Smethwick, Assistant Young Manager, used keeping books, shorthand writer, with own typewriter preferred. Photo, lowest salary. B. Kennedy.

WANTED, Advance Manager.
Apply personally,
Moore and Bentz, 7, John-street, Strand.

WANTED, Carpenter, Bench-hand, willing to Bill, Props, with Wife to clean theatre.
Manager, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Strong Assistant Carpenter, Baggage-man, Fit-up Tour. Open at once.
Percy Tyler, Music Hall, Peterhead.

WANTED, Smart Lantern Operator, Expert Electrician, for Electrical Dance Act; tall and gentlemanly appearance. Maude Murray, 127, Lilford-road, Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a tall fair, beautiful Model,
for trying-on gowns.
Good salary.
Apply, Lucile, Ltd.,
23, Hanover-square, W.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, 27, wishes to assist Theatre Manager—not Tour—and thoroughly learn management. Small salary. Box 8,131, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Props, Baggage, &c. Highest refs., 5ft. 8in. Refer Harry Benet, Henry Chattell, A. Carlton (2 tours). Robt. Barchan, 98, Springfield-road, Southborough, Kent.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director, with brains; pianist; experienced, thoroughly capable of arranging, composing, and rehearsing big musical numbers; must be sober, energetic gentleman, of good appearance; week's engagement on trial; exceptionally long, pleasant engagement if suitable. State salary required, full particulars, photo., addressed envelope for reply, first letter, The Great Raymond, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, good Baritone Vocalist, able to Conduct Orchestra; good voice and appearance essential. Full particulars to Box 8,145, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Leader, Violinist. Can open immediately. Only reliable and experienced men need apply. Address, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, good Leader and Second Violin. State age and references.
Manager, Pavilion Theatre, Liverpool.

Mr. GEORGE MALLIN'S PANTOMIME TOURS.
WANTED, First-class First Violin, used to répertoire; rehearse Aug. 31, Athlone. Wire or write, Halstead, this, Grand Theatre, Chorley; next, County T., Reading.

WANTED, Good Cornet for Permanent Picture Palace, Cheltenham, to open Aug. 29. Lowest terms and refs. to J. H. Dixon.

WANTED, Cornet Player, open Sept. 1, Long Engagement, Oswestry Skating Rink; must be good. Apply, G. H. Jones, Bandmaster, Oswestry.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Rink abroad, end of month. Age, measurements, and particulars, Conductor, 1, Grove-houses, Bath Side, Harwich.

WANTED, Aug. 29, good First Violin. Permanency. Age, refs., &c., to E. G. Summerfield, Empire, Dewsbury.

WANTED, for Southend Town Band, Cornet and E flat Bass. Terms, shares.
Mr. Gifford, 4, Richmond-av., High-st., Southend.

WANTED, for King's Theatre, Greenock, to open Aug. 29, really good Solo Cornet, also Flute. Apply G. F. Hughes, Empire Palace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Cornet Player. Apply
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Trombone Player, deputise three weeks, P. O. W. T., Grimsby, commencing Monday next. Apply, A. Boardman, Pier, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

WANTED, Aug. 22, for three nights, Trombone or Euphonium, and Drums. Wire terms, including fare from London, Lennon, Theatre, Westgate-on-Sea.

WANTED, 'Cello and Oboe, open Aug. 22. Only First-class players apply.
Wire, Conductor, New Empire, Kilburn, N.W.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Harpist, with Concert Experience, to combine another instrument if possible. Apply Joseph Sainton, Musical Director to the Brighton Corporation.

WANTED, October, for my First-class Orchestra, now in fourth year Continental Tour, Clever Young Flautist (Boehm); must be steady, well-behaved, really musical, good execution, good sight-reader, unmarried. Permanent engagement for suitable player. Send photo, references lowest terms, age, Hunt, Café Suisse, Nymegen, Holland.

WANTED, a good Pianist and First Cornet, to open Monday, Sept. 5, must be good, reliable, sober, and thoroughly used to Variety business.

Apply, stating age and references, to
Conductor, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Pianist, for Picture Hall; thoroughly experienced; total abstainer. Letters only, with latest references, to
F. W. Purcell,
"Southside," Dalmeny-avenue,
Tufnell Park, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Double Drummer (Tymps), also Good Clarionet, Variety and Drama, Sobriety, permanency to capable men. Age, copy of references. Dobing, Musical Director.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, for above, to commence at once, good Drummer.
Wire, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners.
Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to
Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Infantry Regiment has Vacancies for Bandsmen between the ages of 18 and 25 years; ex-soldiers eligible up to 30 years, Clarionet players preferred; also good Flute. Height, age, &c., to Bandmaster, Royal Sussex Regiment, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Musicians, for Flagship Canadian Navy; capable performers; preference to Army and Naval pensioners; limit 45 years; good Bombardon and Euphonium, both combine String; also Solo Cornet. Good pay, excellent prospects, free kit. Particulars, apply, Naval Musical Agency, 596, Commercial-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Amateur Violin, Flute, 'Cello, to play Easy Solos; remuneration for performances; rehearse in S.W. London. Address, Box 8,141, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Good Cornets and Euphonium, for Rink (open Sept. 9). Apply, references and terms to Rawston, 30, Chattan-rd., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Pianist, Violin, and Cornet, to complete Orchestra. Permanency. Fullest particulars, Manager, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Lady Pianist-Vocalist, and all Instruments.
Write, Conductress, Box 8,152, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Brass Band Musicians, for Sketch Play; both Stage and Parade. State age, height, salary, and experience, Manager, 9, Great Colmore-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. The Standard Press, Blackburn.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class
Lady Musicians,

Brass,
String,
and Reed.

Long Engagement.

17, Angell-road, Brixton,
London, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS, Reg. No. 1398, T.U.
WANTED, Fully-qualified Musicians to join the above Protective Society, which is out to effect a Consolidation of the whole Musical Profession of the United Kingdom; to maintain the status of ability of the Musician, and to promote a system of fair and equitable dealing between its members and their employers.
Owing to the reliable efficiency of its members its popularity among managers and musical directors is rapidly increasing. Vacancies for certain instruments. Employers send along wants. Efficiency always guaranteed, as two-jobbers and unqualified musicians are not supplied by this Society.
Wire, "Orchestra," Manchester. For pamphlets, entrance forms, &c., or musicians, apply to the most convenient of the following offices:
Manchester: S. Broley, 1, Upper Kent-rd., Victoria Park.
Oldham: E. H. Goddard, 6, Crown-street.
London: Chris. J. Hoggett, 26, Wardour-st., W.
Glasgow: Fred Young, 71, Scott-street, Garnethill.
General Secretary: Joseph Ball, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme.

WANTED, Musician Attendants at the Surrey County Asylum, Netherne, Merstham, for the following instruments: First Cornet, B flat Clarionet or Baritone. No previous experience necessary as attendants; preference given to ex-Army or Navy Men. Applicants must be single and of good character. Salary, £30 a year, rising £1 annually to £35, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Bandsmen receive extra pay amounting to about £3 per year, with prospects of promotion, which carries higher rates of salary. Appointments are subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
Apply, Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bandmaster, Appointment, Orchestral or Military.
Deputy Conductor to His Majesty the King when Prince of Wales, on the Canadian Tour.
Highest references.
Free Sept. 1.
J. Broster, Bandmaster,
Watts Naval Training School, Elmham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Known, Variety Conductor seeks engagement, late with Barrasford. Young, smart, reliable. Excellent references. Big library. Lancaster, 2, Rochester House, Brixton, Oval.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class experienced Music Hall Conductor. Can open at once. Highest references. Box 8,153, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Conductor, experienced all lines, termination season. Apply, Conductor, Olympia, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor, Brilliant Pianist, Disengaged shortly; excellent references; fine orchestral library. Conductor, c/o Jackson, 9, South Woodside-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical Director (Violin), Disengaged Sept. 12, with or without orchestra, extensive library, highest references. Address, Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by well-known Musical-Director, Engagement, Varieties, London or Suburbs; first-class offers only. Box 8,140, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Theatre or Music Hall. Just finishing most successful season as Musical Director, Morecambe Corporation. Bastow, 190, Westminster-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger. Any business. Highest refs. M. D., c/o Halliwell, 122, Twist-lane, Leigh.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, brilliant performer. Offers to A. Parisi, 31, Grafton-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, in Orchestra, as First or Second Violin, any Business; steady and reliable. H. Foreman, 20, Ilderton-rd., South Bermondsey.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist; abstainer; good refs.; library if required. F. H. Postill, Park-avenue, Bridlington.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, First or Second, any business; experienced; refs.
Holmes, Port-and-st., East Kirkby, Notts.

WANTED, by First Violin, Engagement or Deputising, experienced. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-st., Regent's Park-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced in all Lines, Opera, Theatre, or Music Hall; Transposer. Box 8,135, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, Baritone Vocalist, with Troupe preferred; would take Leader of Rink, &c. Cornetist, P.O., Broadstairs. Monday.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, First-class Experience. Orchestra, Theatre, or Variety. Highest reference. Cornet, 38, Upper Lewis-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any Business; excellent references; at Liberty Sept. 5. Address, Box 8,136, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Clarionette, just concluding season as Solo Clarionette and Deputy Conductor. Address, Garner, Municipal Military Band, Morecambe.

BRIGHTON MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, to commence on Aug. 30, First-class Contra Bass, if possible to combine Tuba; also good Violinist. Concert experience absolutely necessary. Apply, Joseph Sainton, Musical-Director to the Corporation, Brighton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, eighteen years' experience all lines. Reliable permanency. Basso, 216, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable String Bass; reference; age 31. Wire or write, Ferrente, 21, Ropery-street, Grimsby, Lincs.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, at Liberty Sept. 11. Good reader. Ladies' Orchestra preferred. Miss Bet Berry, Royal Arcadian Orchestra, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement by E Flat Bass. Experienced and reliable. Any business. Apply, G. Heath, 8, Sloane-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, through disappointment; experienced, reliable. Theatre, Hall, or Touring; commence at once. S. Smith, 24, Stanley-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, experienced all Lines, now at Liberty. Address, Trombone, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone Player, combine Euphonium if required. Experienced Theatre, Variety, Military. Apply, W. Penn, trombone, Pier Theatre, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty any Business (London experience); attentive and reliable; abstainer. Address, Box 8,146, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium Player, Ocean Liners preferred; all discharges V.G. Late Castle Liners. S. Finney, Hampton Hill, Middlesex.

WANTED, by Euphoniumist, thorough musician, composer, arranger, band teacher, &c., wants any business, artist performer. Maddock, sen., Municipal Band, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Good Bombardon, Experienced Man, wishes engagement, Skating Rink in or near London. Black, 14, Warwick-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Alto Saxophone, Autumn and Winter Seasons; well experienced and reliable; excellent refs. Sax, 24, Fairfield-road, Bow.

WANTED, Military or Orchestral Engagement, by two splendid Saxophone Clarionet and Oboe Players. Saxophonists, 164, Thoroid-rd., Ilford, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cello; any Business, experienced; refs.
Holland, Stanley-road, Teddington, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class 'Cello, well experienced in Concert work. 'Cello, 83, Cambridge-road, Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Oboeist, at Liberty, experienced all lines. Excellent references. Steady, reliable. London preferred. 685, Finchley-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Harpist, C.H.T.C.L., solo, orchestra, or otherwise, excellent refs. Miss Hilda Woollatt, Mount Nebo, Taunton.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute, or Deputising, London, Suburb, or South of England. Good references. Flautist, 656, High-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Maud Hummerston, Solo Pianist, Accompanist, good Sight-reader, MSS., &c. C/o Ted Hopkins, Entertainers, Aberayron, Wales.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist-Vocalist (robust Tenor), near London or short season away with refined concert party. Sight-reader, transposer, &c. Good diploma and experience. Clifford, 2, De Crespigny-villas, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, experienced and reliable; Rink or Pictures. W. Parratt, 17, Woodhall Dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, 28, Disengaged; 12 years' experience; Vaudeville Pictures, Electric Rinks; Brilliant Library. 403, Richmond-road, East Twickenham, Surrey.

WANTED, by competent Pianist, Engagement in Electric Picture Palace, London or Provinces; good répertoire. Harold Jones, 4, Wyre grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement in London, by smart Young Lady Pianist, in any capacity. Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Engagement, immediately, Double Drums and effects, any business, long experience. Reliable. Good refs. Wire, Laskey, 40, Hamilton-street, Belfast.

WANTED, an Engagement for Double Drums permanency preferred. At Liberty Sept. 5 through close of season. Tom Burt, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Drums and Effects, London or near; highest refs.; age 30. Drums, 28, Church-road, Southall.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Tympanist, Double Drummer, Engagement in First-class Theatre or Music Hall. Roper, 61, Carlington-street, Hampstead-road.

WANTED, Engagement, as Tympanist and Double Drums. First-class experience; highest references, reliable. Box 8,142, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies Orchestras, smart uniform, now playing Olympia, Jersey, Cromer, Westgate, Folkestone, &c. Now booking autumn. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8 Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Ladies' Band, Lib. Rink Pictures, Varieties, Uniform Dress. Excellent library music. Cooper, 39, Castle Mona-avenue, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere, Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. Thos. Bateson, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, September, Scarlet Zingari Band, Rinking, any Number; splendid uniform; répertoire. Prof. Mitchell, Oates-square, St. Mark's-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director (violin) with excellent Variety Band (8—20 performers), splendid répertoire, good refs. Disengaged Sept. 10. Offers invited. Variety, Pictures, or Rink. Wilfrid Harvey, Musical Director, Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement by Military Band Seven Competent Musicians, for Rink. Good up-to-date library. Liberty Aug. 29. Bandmaster Cornet King W. Cyrus, 124, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Smart Rink Band, six to ten performers. Vac. Sept. 3. Uniforms up-to-date library of music. Conductor, 116 Shirebrook-rd, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Small Orchestra, Rink Pictures, or Varieties, playing Buxton's Rinkeries, Douglas, Isle of Man. Smart uniform, latest music. Terms mod. Conductor.

WANTED, Engagements by Hungarian Orchestra, four to any number, for Restaurants, Garden Parties, &c. Viveni, 163, Norwood-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Agent who can book Engagements for First-class Orchestral and Military Band; England or abroad. Box 8,139, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to Open Aug. 22, Luna Park Circus, Southend, Circus Artists in all Lines, Riders, Clowns, and Everything that can be Done in a Circus Ring. Address, Fred Astley and Lorenzo. Please wire.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,

DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
Success of Brussels Exhibition Season;
Success of Marine Gardens, Edinburgh;
Success of Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.;
Success of Prince's Court, Melbourne, Victoria;
Success of Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.;
Success of Crystal Palace, London;
Success for Any Management, 1911.
Who wants me? The Act That Draws.

Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E. (the Professional House).

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

Omnes Veniant.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.

WANTED, Engagement for the Winter Season. Proprietors or Managers of Circuses, Skating Rinks, Zoo Gardens, or any Large Halls, please note: We can supply a first-class company of riders, specialities, clowns, and acts of every description. An incomparable stud of horses and ponies which, without exaggeration, will compare favourably with the best Continental studs. Arrangements may be made for our own family only, or for a complete Circus, with constant changes, supernumeries, and attendants in livery. An unequalled plant of effective lithographic printing. We have acquired the services of Mr. Joe Hastings, late manager of the West Bromwich Hippodrome and Crystal Palace Circus, as Equestrian Director. Modern spectacles produced, augmented by the engagement of some of the best riders in Europe if necessary. The time is ripe for a first-class circus on modern principles. Ancient methods superseded by the requirements of our time.

All communications
to
J. H. Scott,
9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Variety Artists in all Lines.
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians.
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists,
BLACK'S PICTURE CIRCUIT,
North Shields, Gateshead, West Hartlepool.
The Very Best of Pantomimic Sketches, Animal Acts, Spectacular Items, or anything big, with own scenery and lithos. State when last in towns; also Smaller Acts of every Description, for High Shields and Sunderland. Send list of dates, vacancies, lowest terms, A. Black, 47, North Bridge-street, Sunderland

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Double Turns, Comedians, Comediennes, Sisters, Dancers, &c., now and onwards.

Apply, Manager, as above.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all lines. Immediate dates, onwards. Absolute lowest. List of Bookings, &c. Leaton's Agency, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday, Sept. 5, and onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Stars and good Specialities. Particulars, Kitchingman, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Serio, capable Principal Boy, Ladies (dancers) to form Quartette for Tour. Scottie, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, in all Lines, to communicate immediately. Full particulars, terms, and dates. Nothing too big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
Variety Bookings Agency,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists and Specialities, all Lines. Immediate work waiting. Send vacancies, terms, and permanent. Rawes and Clarance, Central Variety Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 29, on. 1a, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future Dates, for several Halls in the North.
Good Strong Tops can be placed at once.
Apply, Signor Pepi,
Palace, Darlington.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 29, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

WILLIE BURNETT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Turns in all Lines, suitable for Raymond's Picture Halls. Address, with full particulars, Willie Burnett, sole booking agent, Hippodrome Buildings, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telephone 7,264 Central.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, Variety Turns; all weeks after Aug. 8. Vacancies and terms, John R. Poole, Oddfellows' Hall, Jersey, C.I.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Dare. Man., Mr. Jas. Carr.
WANTED, good, smart, refined Turns, single and double. Terms must be low; Hall small. Single weeks only.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
Hamilton & Hughes, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

Wires, "Danolds, Liverpool."
WANTED, Stars, Specialities, Novelties, Artists all Lines, for every Hall of Note in the British Isles; also Turns suitable for Picture Palaces, Aug. 29, onwards.
Absolute Sole Bookings for Londonderry, Hawick, Selkirk, Galashiels, Dumfries, Gainsborough, Chesterfield, Newark, Rugby, Ulverston, Clitheroe, Dalton-in-Furness, Stanley, Liverpool, Atherstone, &c., &c. Not promises here, but actual bookings. The right acts can be guaranteed six months' work right away. This office is not barred anywhere. Fullest particulars (full date list, or useless), very lowest terms. Contracts follow to the right turns. Address, Daly and Reynolds (Agency Dept.), Cyprus-chambers, 176a, London-road, Liverpool.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, for Aug. 29, and onward,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds,
Acts of all Kinds.

Lowest and House Address,

Dalton's Agency,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for Town Hall, Consett; immediate and future dates.
Arthur C. Campbell, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, Comedy Act, Aug. 29, new to Ton-y Pandy. Lowest terms, Percy Honri. Wire, Grand, Hanley; write Pav., Abertillery.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, First-class Juvenile Troupes, Sensational Specialities, and anything both novel and original, for Aug. 29, Sept. 5, onwards. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.
WANTED, good Attractions and Star Acts, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, and later dates. Always an opening for Big Attractions.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill
Sensational Acts,
Comedy Acts,
Novelty Acts,
Refined Sister Acts.
Big Musical Comedy Productions.
Price no object,
for Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19,
for Rochdale, Hyde, Bolton, Hanley.
Comedy Acts wire for 29th.
Jewell St. Ledger wire
Cliquot's Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Aeroplane." 'Phone 2349 Royal.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Aug. 29, on.
Nothing Too Big.
Also Acts in all Lines.
Send full particulars immediately.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Top, Aug. 29, not singing; also Novelties, Comedy Acts, &c., later on. Bookings, terms, lithos., and private address, to 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes.

WANTED, Tops, for immediate dates, in Provinces, also good Comedy Acts for Eastbourne, Dover, and Wales, suitable Acts can have seven weeks. Fullest particulars and booking to exclusive Agents,
Egbert's Agency, Piccadilly-mansions,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.
Telegraphic address, "Egbertency, London."
Telephone, 6519 Gerrard.

WANTED, Aug. 27, High Wire Act, for Fête, Aug. 29, onwards, Variety, Speciality Acts. Full bookings imperative. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, to open Sept. 5 onward, good Tumblers, Contortionists, Comedy Acrobats, must be young and smart, long, comfortable Engagements to workers. Address, Box 8,147, "The Era."

JAMAICA.—THE NEW RIVIERA.
THE COLONIAL AMUSEMENT SNDICATE.

Lessees, PLEASURE GARDENS AND THEATRE, KINGSTON.

WANTED, first-class Lady Vocalists and Dancers, Serios, Small Troupe; also Young Lady Pianist, and Electrician-Cinematograph Operator (electric and lime).

Address, with full particulars to
Box 8,143, "The Era."

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers and Page Girl; must be young, pretty, exceptionally good figures. State height, age, weight, experience. Full particulars, photo., first letter. Addressed envelope for reply. The Great Raymond, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Vocalist and Dancer, with own band parts and costumes. Apply, 94, Westmoreland-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at once.

WANTED, Young Lady Singer, for Tour, starting Sept. 12; splendid occasion for beginner. Particulars, photo., Zanfi, Marine Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Young Lady Dancers, Vocalists, and Instrumentalists. Amateurs and Juveniles also write. Page, 462, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Lady, All-round Dancer, one who can do Acrobatic Tricks preferred; must be young and pretty. Box 8,127, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Sisters, alike in appearance and build; also several other Young Ladies, for Illusion Show and Great Ballet, Dancers preferred. Long tour. Call 12-1: Arizona, 12, Fitzroy-street (first floor), W.

WANTED, smart Lady, Single Trapeze Performer, to open Monday. Wire or write, with terms, &c., Orrnius, Marine Gardens, Portobello, Edinburgh.

WANTED, a young Knockabout Comedian, (short), able to speak. Write full particulars to 392, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Alfresco, Straight Man for Sketches, with Turn.
Also Pianist. Open Monday.
Terms low; money sure.
Wire, Kriss, Pavilion, Fraserburgh, N.B.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Original Australian Nightingale, late of Moody-Manners Principal Opera Co., at Liberty Sept. 19. 26. Salary or share (latter preferred). To-day, King's, Nottingham; next, New Empire, Dewsbury (return at increase of salary).

WANTED, Aug. 29, on, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Expert Dancer; also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist. E., Aberdare. Monday, Empire, Dudley.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS.
SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 22, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Zena Dare and Co., Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, R. G. Knowles, Lux's Dogs, Animated Pictures, Legay Trio, Sisters Doherty, Riogoku Family, Great Lester, Jules Moy, Willy Pantzer and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Courtice Pounds, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Luis Alvarez, Hilda Jacobsen, Burley and Burley, Peggy Pryde, Bert Weston, Australian Woodcutters, Anartos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Joe Peterman's "Chanteclair," Graeme Goring, Ed. E. Ford, Bertie Herron, Geo. Antill, Ward and Davis, Azella Wilson, Bioscope, Great Lumars.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Flying," Hardini Trio, J. H. Milburn, May Mars, Fisher's Vocalesques, Lupino Lane, Madge Brownie, Bioscope, Marquis's Ponies.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Musical McGregors, Daras, Duncan's Collies, Florence Smithers, Alice Kingsley, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Doris Trevelyan.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Margaret Halstan and Co., Eight College Girls, Fred Earle, Leslie Bros., My Fancy, Shirley and Ransome, Bioscope, Schichtl's Marionettes, Will Musgrave.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Bastow, La Scala Opera Co., Sisters Pine, Chas. Banks, George D'Albert, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Williams and Warden, Gladys Williams, Bioscope, Herbert Lloyd.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

F. G. Kimberley's Company in "Was She to Blame?"

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Lauder, Leonards, Satanella Trio, Cumberlands, Grassis, Lestree, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Tom Foy and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

George Carney and Co., Gustave Fasola, Bertha Winder, Woodhouse and Wells, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Gothams, De Wynne Bros.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Wilkie Bard, Ethel Beech, Bert Harrow, Ferry Corway, Matthews and Cowper, Will Poluski, jun., Goltz Trio, Ada Martine, Bioscope, Laurie's Kindergarten.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Harry Randall, Sisters Jerome, Fred Curran, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Severus Schaffer, O'Gust, Cavalotti Bros., Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, Three Merrills.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Le Roy, Talma, and Boscoe, Nina Wood, Arabella Allen, New Macs, Briff, Braff, and Broff, Doughty and Laney, Bioscope, Will Evans, Ray Espinosa.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Wyndham and Kitty, Persichini, Cissie Curlette, Russell Wallett, King's College Boys, Brull and Hemsley, Lulu Williams, Bioscope, Phil Ray.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Leo Stormont, Eadie and Ramsden, Bogannys, Millie Hylton, Bert Williams, Musical Sylvo, Bioscope, Harry Roxbury and Co. in "The Prince of Monte Carlo."

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Whit Cunliffe, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Talbot and Pearce, Alcide Capitaine, Frank Seeley, Kisbey, Binns and Binns, Goodfellow and Gregson, A. C. Lilley and Co.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Walter Melville's Company in "A Girl's Cross-Roads."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bella and Bijou, Leo Tell, Bioscope, Sutcliffe Family, Verno and Voyce, Melford's "Non-Suited," Edie Gray and Boys, Lola Patey, Ben Albert, Helen Trix.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Russian Balalaika Orchestra, George Rae, Bioscope, Geo. W. Cooper, Pick, Tholl, and Taylor, Mabel Berra, Excellos, Arthur Williams and Co., Harry Lamore, Rinaldo, Bransby Williams, Udagawa and Kawamoura.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Mme. Ella Russell, Amy Marsden, Orpheus, Lily Flexmore, Jock Whiteford, Griff, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Bioscope, Dan Crawley.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Edward Davies, Horace Hunter and Co., Phil Parsons, Addie Dorina, Three Laurels, Holdens' Mannikins, Odeyne Spark, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Raymond Phillips' Airship, Mina Denvil, Adam Tomlinson, Musical Jees, Lillian Dundas, Haig and Novel, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Howard and Harris.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Tom Edwards, Alexandre and Hughes, Sybil St. Elmo, Jock Mills, Lillie Lassah, Bioscope, Gintaro, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Rosa Loader, J. J. Dallas, Jackson Family, Alf. Agoust, Tom Parker, Five Vernons, Maude Vera, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Formby, May B. Brilliant, Peter Bermingham, Syd May, Kirbys, Garden City Four, Phillips and Merritt, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Arden and Abel, Piccad Troupe.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Fred Kitchen and Co., Bioscope, Arthur Slater, Mezzettis, Marconis, Baby Boden, Three Belle Belles, Lily Burnand, Findens.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

George Robey, Carl Howard, J. C. Scatter, Perezoffs, Bros. Durant, Fielding and Hull, Lena Verdi, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Poluskis.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Ada Reeve, Mike Nono, Belles of the Kitchen, Ella Retford, Ethel Newman, Ike and Will Scott, Violas; Du Gros Trio, Bioscope, Stanley's Transformation.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Jack Pleasants, Sylvia Barry, F. V. St. Clair, McConnell Trio, Mona Vivian, Elly Adair, Bioscope, Wilson and Waring.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Ziguener Quartette, Kitty Wager, Chas. Lewis, Fred Poplar, Roma and Romani, Lillian, Pictures, Tom Costello.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Jack Lorimer, Bioscope, Frank and Free, Les Marco Belli, Katie Moss, Stella Stahl, Avolos.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

La Milo, Bugler Carr, Jack Sheridan, Roze and Calvert, Ernie Mayne, Bioscope, Elsie Roby, Rich and Rich.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Fred Storey, Lillie Farrer, Tom E. Hughes, Gwennie Hasto, Rauschle, Northern Troupe, Ina Lorimer, Athlone and Sinclair, Pictures, Chas. Norton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Mlle. Ameta, Annie Braddon, Elsie Kerry, Walter Wade, Great Vincent, Stephens and Rennoir, Pictures, James Stewart.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Gladys Hooley, Onetti Sisters, Bensons, Wallace Lupino, Cyril Clensy, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Ada Colley.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, AUG. 22.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Incognita, Rousby and Rene, D. Cruikshanks and Co., Arthur Croxon, Pat Lynch, Colley and Scott, Three Delaries, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Hurman and Arthur, Scottish Meisters, Six Lancashire Lasses, Ives, Geo. Wood, Cosgrove and Burns, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
T. C. Jaques, Colbert, Nellie Neil, Doris Druce, "Plumbers," Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Mlle. de Verneuil's Poses, Jessie Wilton, Leo and Roland, Billy Elliott, Sissie Brand, H. P. Selwyn, "Flood Tide," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, Vera Mayne, Harry Milton, Two Little Vestas, Daisy Taylor, Wheeler and Wilson, E. D. Nicholls, Courier of Lyons, Evelyn and Chip, Buster Browns.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Bros. Lawrence, The Belmonts, Three Comerfords, Guy Rider, John Henderson and Co., Will Lytton, Arnold Bell and Co., Josephine Crooke, Minnie Wheaton, The Wagners.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Ten Dixie Girls, Mars Trio, Allsop and Beckwith, Wat Tyler, Chris Baker, May Rowe, A. Howard and Co., "Black-Eyed Susan," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Gladys and Alber, Marcel and Boris, Edith Chantler, Crown Trio, Reed and Stevens, Westwoods, Fagan and Mahone, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Chas. Vincent, F. S. Peake and Co., Cedrics, Vela, Fred Ward, Danvers and Roselyn, Charburn's Juveniles, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Raglus, Juno Salmo, Maurin's Fountains, Dick and Dorothy Trio, Four Figaros, Dick Tubb, Jessie Buckle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Chung Ling Soo, Four Garricks, Nellie Farrell, Shrillo, Ford Williams, Three Diamonds, Pit Brow Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Stewart and Morgan, Henri Cazman, Julia Reeve, Tom Gott, Chas. Parker, Lomas Duo, Dulcets, Alice Craven, Pier Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Frank Boyce, Chas. Hera, Broughton and Creedon, Mollie Doon, The Hulls, Sisters Hula, Susie and Protti, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Cumminger and Colonna, Four Rosebuds, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, William's Singers, Three Van Dammes, Walter Reed, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Marie Altino, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
May de Rowse, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Ellerslie Pyne and Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Captain Jack."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Haines and Borthwick, Kitty Upton, Geni Family, Johnny Cecil, Brothers St. Clair, Marion Scott, Jack Hamilton, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Her Wedding Day."

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Tennis and Laune, Joe Archer, Walter Stanley, Stewart and Lorraine, Daisy Silcott, Bouncing Dillons, Hunter and Bob, Miss Lois Du Cane, Battle of Life.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Nellie Lunelle, Flo Warner, Ena Compton, Arthur Breton and Co., "Devil's Elbow," The Lenfords, Norah Desmond, Ernest Rees, Beauty Competition.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE ENTERTAINMENTS ASSOCIATION

are prepared to

RECEIVE TENDERS

for the supply of an efficient

MILITARY OR ORCHESTRAL BAND

of not less than 20 men and conductor, from the 12th day of September till the 2nd day of October, both days inclusive, the Contractor to receive all income from the hire of chairs, collections, sale of programmes, &c., in connection with the Band performances, at the East and West Cliff Bandstands, also the Band-stand in Ellington Park.

All chairs (both deck and iron), attendants, lighting (both gas and electric), billing, and programmes to be provided by the Association. Any further information can be obtained from the Chairman, Mr. Councillor T. S. Chayney, Crofton House, Ellington-road, Ramsgate, to whom tenders endorsed "Band" must be sent on or before the 24th of August, 1910.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, *Ltd.*, place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any enquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street. Strand

Leading Always.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.
NEW LITHOS and POSTERS.
Boxing, Aeroplaning, etc.
Netherfield Date Book, 1911-12, post-free 1/1.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 30s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. Ashley, 20, Greek-street, off London-road. Bedrooms, sitting-rooms, combined. Highly recommended. Bath piano. Very central. Vacant Sunday.

LONDON, N.W.—Bed and sitting-room vacant; good cooking and attendance. Mrs. Minter, 25, Lyme-street, Camden-road (late of 44, Camden-road).

LONDON, S.E.—One or two large bed-sitting-rooms, also bedrooms, for Aug. 21 and 28. M. Gatehouse, 123, Kennington-road, S.E.

LONDON, S.W.—Brixton. Well-furnished Apartments; bath (h. and c.), piano, good cooking, attendance; 3 minutes to Empress or theatre. Winchester Lodge, 10, Effra-road.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

LONDON, W.—Mrs. Lilley, 53, Canterbury-terrace, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale; sitt. and large bedroom, 16s.; bed-sitting, 10s. 6d.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-street. Superior apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; two minutes from hall and theatres.

NEATH.—Furnished apartments. Mrs. Thomas, 103, Briton Ferry-road.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both staions; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

SHEFFIELD.—Mrs. Jago. 51, Havelock-square. Two bedrooms, sitting-room, bath, piano, &c.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

To the Elite of the Profession.
CHARMING APARTMENTS, with every convenience and comfort, with detached house; close to sea and golf links; highly recommended. W., Danehurst, Herne Bay.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor,

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.
My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.
Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in number.
The Sure Draw. No risk no worry.
Vacant Aug. 29. En route for Plymouth.
And vacant Sept. 19, to follow Bristol, Oct. 3, to follow Exeter. Certainty or share. Sharing terms with own company preferred. This week, Tremendous Business, P. O. W. T., Mexborough. Aug. 22, H., Todmorden, Own Company. P.S.—Engagement on sharing terms we accept only direct.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in Themselves, and Great Hit Everywhere. At Lib. Aug. 29, Sept. 5. Add. this week, E., York. Aug. 22, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday, also 29th, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Singing Boxmakers. Add., till Saturday night, Empress, Brixton; after, 3, Wood-terrace, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, the Popular Comedy Chorus Song, "How are yer? How are yer?" (the rage of Salisbury Plain) was written and composed (and now being sung everywhere, with enormous success) by Jack Judge, the versatile Author-Comedian, who strictly reserves sole singing rights of this song for himself.
This week, King's Hall, Wednesbury.
Ask about me.
For sole rights or part rights of real good songs (of every description), apply, Judge and Williams, Comedians and Songwriters, Oldbury, Birmingham.
See London Military Mail (Aug. 5), re Enormously Successful Song, "The King."

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-Round Dancer. Starring Britannia, Glasgow. Offers Mon. and on. 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Sabino, Merry Musical Monarch, Monday, now meeting with my usual success Palace, Biddulph, Staffs. All letters, 2, Wharf-rd.

WANTED, Monday, by Harry Moore, Newsboy Comedian and World's Greatest Paper Tearer. Wire, 27, West-square, London, S.E. Hip., Devonport, to follow.

WANTED, by Barney Stuart, Character Actor Vocalist, and Mimic, Monday next; also 22nd and 29th. Coms., 8, Bankhouse-st., Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian Champion All-round Dancer. Liberty Aug. 22. Wire, 17, Newcastle-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 4, exceptions, Dan Ashton Empire's Collier Comedian. Original Copyrights, Songs, Sketches, Extraordinary Colliery Pictures. Alhambra, Edinburgh. Next, Hippodrome, Airdrie.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt World's undefeated Bantam-weight Champion. Startling 6-sheet lithos ready. Drawing crowds, T., Llanelly. Coms., 34, Margaret-street Liverpool.

WANTED, Aug. 22 and Sept. 5, by Jean Seul The Indian Mystery.
2, Grosvenor-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, that The Seddons will shortly be producing a New Act, and will be known as
ALVIRA, Lady Athlete,
and Her Assistant,
The GOLLIWOG BOY.
Proceedings will be taken against copyists.
Agent, Cadle.

WANTED, Engagement, Sept. 9, on, Harry Hellis, Pianist, Comedian; Grace Buckingham's Performing Dogs, introducing her Hybric Wolf. Alice Vernon, Vocalist, Dancer, Horn and Cornet Soloist. Cauliflower Hotel, Ilford.

WANTED, Aug. 29, onwards, with exceptions to top, by Ragna Dehn, the Double-Voiced Actress-Vocalist, and Karl Antonini, Bohemian Violinist, in their 20 minutes' powerful, dramatic Musical Sketch, "The Romance of a Violin." Another addition to the Tops. This, Alexandra Pontefract; to bottom next, Royal Bijou, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Lizzie Round, Male Impersonator, and Sam Griesley, Versatile Vocal Comedian, Monday next. Encored nightly. Wire Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 12, 19, The Dunvilles, Latest Comedy Musical Vocal Spectacular Pot-Pourri Act. Palace, Exmouth.

WANTED, Sept. 12, on, by the Great Rohde and Roche, in their novelty episode, "A STRANGE MEETING."
The Chameleon, Artist, and IT. Secure this novelty. Do it now. We guarantee you a success on any bill. This, starring, enormous success Palace, Rugby. Aug. 22, Palace of Var., Kettering

WANTED, Monday next, and Aug. 29, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Act, and Champion Somersault Dog, "Jack." Own scenery Splendid lithos. Wire, Emp., Nuneaton. After Saturday, 40, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 29, on (exceptions), by Naye and Bray, "The Juvenile Jesters." Managers requiring brilliant comedy act write. Palace, Neath.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson, Coloured Singing Duo, Vac. Aug. 22, 29. Coms., 4, Queen's-place, Carmarthen; after Sat., 19, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. Vacant Aug. 29. Offers to Palace, Bath. Two Acts if required.

WANTED, Aug. 29, by Avrigny Trio, Great Jap Juggling Pot-Pourri. Most Versatile Act before the Public. T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, and on, by the Unique Equilibristic Gymnasts, Phineas and Ada.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts. Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12.
This, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, at Liberty Aug. 29, with their Great Aerial Act, the Revolving Breakaway Ladder. The Sensation of the Age. Enormous Success, Bloxwich Galas, 3 days. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green; or Wilder, Great Frances-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 5, one week, Bros. Almo, the Great Comedy Three-Bar Act. Next Vacancy, Whit Monday, 1911. 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, The Ostlers, Flying Rings Performers, at Liberty for Halls or Galas. Address, 5, Trafalgar-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, Aug 22, Sept. 5, Bouncing Peps, Star Gymnastic Novelty. Wire, Palace, Northampton. Perm., 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 5 and on, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female. Novelty Acrobats, Three Acts. Thanks proprietors for offers. Co-operative Hall, Cambuslang.

WANTED, Sept. 5, on, by the Four Flying Oreniuses (2 ladies, 2 gentlemen), the most Sensational Aerial Act in Vaudeville. This week (until Sept. 3), enormous success at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh. Offers invited for Halls, outdoor, &c. Any distance.

WANTED, Aug. 29, through Transfer, by Gulliver, the Great Comedy Ventriloquist. Wire, Monday, Hippo., Hastings.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, 22nd, also 29th, Sept. 5, by RICH TAYLOR,
the Whistling Ventriloquist,
Halls, Piers, &c., that are not barred by Moss-Stoll Tour.
Wire till Saturday night, Pier, Weston-super-Mare. Then, Low Moor, Clitheroe.

WANTED, Known, Trillo, Ventriloquist, Liberty Monday, Great Drawing Act. Tremendous Success at Cosy Corner, Romford. Success guaranteed. Wire, "Romford, Essex."

WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 19, 26, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. The Palace, Gorleston.

WANTED, Known, the Talk of Weston-super-Mare, Mazeppa and Zilla, the Greatest of all Second Sight Artists. Now playing to record Business for the tenth successive week at the Old Pier, Weston-super-Mare. "Two minds with but a single thought." Tests invited. Not a copied act, but one of the Originals. MAZEPPA holds record for Empire, Hull. Refer H. Slingsby, Lessee, as to Drawing Powers. Vacant Sept. 26, on. All offers invited. MAZEPPA. Old Pier, Weston-super-Mare. Don't want the earth, only a share.

WANTED, Sept. 5 and 12, "That Brute Simmons," late Palace Theatre and Stoll Tours. Wire, Geo. Elliston, Vaudeville Theatre, Strand.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up to date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Big Success this week, Aquarium, Scarborough. Wanted, Sept. 5, and on. Open for Pantomime. Aug. 22 and 29, Palace, Sunderland. Much interest was evoked by Ronna Shanara's Thibet mountain goats, which tried hard not to "act the goat." Altogether the performance was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience.—York Post.

WANTED, by Inanda, presents "Bute," Marvellous Educated Canine Wonder. Refined Speciality. Clever, Humorous, the only dog performing the Barrel Act, Halls or Pictures. For open dates, address, 18, Carter-st., Sunderland.
Great Novelty for Pantomime.
Inanda and "Bute," in other words, a clown and his fox terrier, was a notable turn. There are few animals which manifest such cleverness and perfection of training as this little fox terrier.—Scarborough News.

WANTED, Known, Lorenzos, World's Renowned Performing Dogs, will shortly be at Liberty for Halls, Circuses, Pictures, &c., now at Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, where can be seen working. Agent wanted. Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 3, 17, Chard's Dog Circus, including four of the highest leaping dogs. A Challenge to the World.
Chard, 136, Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Somersaulting and Football Cyclists. Always a Success. Empire, Nuneaton; next, Gala, Grimsby. Vac. Sept. 5, 12, 19. Agent, Stebbings.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Brothers St. Clair. Comedy Trick Cyclists and Bicycle Footballers. Write, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Brothers St. Clair, Brothers St. Clair, Comedy Trick Cyclists; good Top for any Bill. See Card.

WANTED, Pauletti, the Novel Acrobatic Somersaulting Cyclist, Ilkley; next, Blackpool. Per., 106, Bigland-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Trainer, Dogs, Baboons, or large Monkeys. Capt. Grahame (late trainer of Bostock's Baboons), 110, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Marionette Fit-up, Aug. 29, onward; everything up-to-date. Duckworthy, 20, New Bond-street, Douglas.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

JEPHSON GARDENS, LEAMINGTON SPA.

SUMMER CONCERTS.

under the direction of the Corporation.

WANTED, for week commencing Sept. 5, First-class Costume Concert Party, two performances every day, afternoons 1½ hours, evenings 2 hours. Address, H. Piercy Watson, Manager for Music Committee, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Monday, for Boscombe Beach, good Pianist-Humorist and good Comedian. Lowest terms, Wm. Syrett, 35, Ashley-road, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

WANTED, to Let, Al Fresco Pitch, centre of town, use of Hall when wet; good business to Oct. Manager, Assembly Rooms, Broadstairs.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Important Notice.
WANTED, Known, re my Advertisement in last week's "Era,"
Stereorama
for Disposal,
that this Beautiful Exhibition, which is patented, and the only one of its kind in this country, can be seen working in its entirety at the residence of the owner any time.
For cards to view,
apply, Tom Norman,
Auctioneer, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, London.

THE ROLLING MOTOR TRACK
RIDING MACHINE,
like the Cake-walk and See-saw Slip.
is
Always on the Move, and a Quick Money-taker.
Apply for full particulars to
Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties, 94 Farncombe-street, and 98, Bermondsey-wall, London, S.E. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Rifle Range Supplies and Fair Goods, Specialists, British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham. Guns, Cartridges, Flare Lamps, &c.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties for Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh. Mons. Victor Beauté and Johnny Trundley please write.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter,
A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Novelty Promenade, Folkestone, Tattooist, Side-show, Phrenologist, Wireworker, &c. Share or rent. Urgent. 49, Tontine-street.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, Lady Palmist, Marionettes, and other High-class Side Shows, share terms; Spaces to Let for Wireworker, Glass Blower, Sketch Artist, Engraving, and other Novelties. Prospectus, Geo. Scott, General-Manager. Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, a Respectable Young Man wishes to join First-class Show as Doorman or Attendant. Height 7ft, big build.—Write, Dyson Vezille, Grosvenor-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, space in First-class Exhibition for High-class Toffee-making. Apply, Wantmore, 15, Severn-hill, Gloucester-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Caravan, by Orton, double roof, living room and one bedroom, fittings include wardrobe, sideboard, overmantel, Hostess stove, length 13ft. 6in., width 7ft., height 7ft. 6in, weight 32cwt; cost £200, price £65 cash.
Lazenberg, Star Palace, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £800, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.
Apply,
P. Collins,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete with Living Van, goes by rail, or let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-st, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Marionette Show, complete, with full working instructions; £10. Write, Props, Station Stores, Staplehurst-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Quantity of Wax, an Illusion, and several Automatic Machines, cheap. Arnold, 41, High-street, Southend.

WANTED, to Sell, alternating 100 volt Fairy Floss Machine (American), 70s.; two ditto Arc Lamps, cost £11, 50s. Sea View Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
all Kinds of Skating Acts.
Apply, Sherek and Braff,
17, Lisle-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, Instructor and Instructress; smart, excellent Skaters; tall. Letters; photo., which will be returned. Catford Rink, London, S.E.

WANTED, Floor Manager, Instructors, Lady Instructor, for Skating Rink on the Continent. Write, stating full particulars of previous experience to Box 8,144, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Lady Instructress, on good-class Rink; Exhibition Skater. Excellent tesimonials. Apply, Box 8,128, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Prof. and Master Eric Butterworth, England's Premier Boy Skater and Gold Medallist. This, Garden Rink, Bridlington; next, Grand Rink, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman's Son (young) seeks instructor's berth. Smart, expert skater, waltzer, &c. Good references. H., Queenwood, Cheam-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Henry J. Court is at Liberty to Open in September, for Management of Small Rinks; good refs.; experienced. Offers invited. Address, Court's Roller Skating Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Floor Manager, or Instructor and Instructress, Re-engagement, singly or jointly; excellent references. Write, G. W. C., 3, Gladstone-street, Leicester.

WANTED, to Sell, 100 pair Phillips Skates, 100 pair Barney and Berry's Skates; only used 3 months, and practically new; also 14 10ft. Oak Seats, Skate Boxes, Announcement Board, &c. Building sold to company. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, Burnette, Argyle Rink, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

Skates.
WANTED, 100 pair Secondhand Richardson Skates. Write, price and condition, Becker, Rink, Hereford.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, to Close a Trust, a Modern Theatre, in first-class state of repair, situated in the heart of a prosperous Midland town; at present Let on Lease, with about three years to run, to a reliable Syndicate. Can be sold to show a good return on rental value. Apply, principals or solicitors only, to Box 8,150, "The Era."

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, as a Going Concern, The Electric Empire, Coalville.
Apply,
C. E. Crane, Solicitor, Coalville.

King's Funeral Film.
WANTED, to Sell, several Copies of the Above, about 600ft., splendid condition, hardly used. What offers? Apply, Box 8,009, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Pantomime, Scenery and Properties, almost new, and in excellent condition. Apply, Box 8,130, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

ARMY PAGEANT, 1910.
WANTED, to Sell,
Costumes, Armour, and Weapons,
Costumes, Armour, and Weapons,
at
903, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Singing Picture Act (dates booked), and all Accessories; £100 cash. Apply, Box 8,126, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Orchestrophone, fitted with drum, cymbals, bells, triangle, &c., equal to small band, weight about 5cwt. Large quantity of high-class paper music. Also fitted with 1d. slot action. Cost nearly £40; take £8. Suit Rink. Lessee, Bijou, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Xylophones for Bands, Orchestras or Stage, Tubular Bells, Gongs, Marimbas, Sleigh Bells. Lisle, 209 Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, set of Tubular Bells, beautiful tone, folding stand 5ft. high. Bargain, £3 10s. Newman, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Weird Electric Battery Effect for Theatricals, perfect condition; £3. Appointments only. 51 Nassau-rd, Barnes, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, effective Chanticler Costume, complete, bargain. Seen at 1, Litchfield-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Double Half Hoop Ring, pledged £4; three Five-stone Brilliant Rings, £3, £3 10s. £4; Single Stone, £2; lot cost 30 guineas. Sacrifice vouchers, 30s. Beta, 102, Gayford-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, two handsome crossed Yorkshire-Skye Terriers, bitch 4lb., dog 5lb. weight; year old. Chard, Sheffield Arms-yard, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Sell, several New and Original Stage Illusions and Conjuring Apparatus, to clear. Bargains. Illusions, 212, Kennington road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Fireplace, Overmantel, and Cradle. All portable for travelling, cheap. Carr, 55, New-street, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid Musical Comedy Sketch, by Harry Roxbury, with scenery and music; reason for selling, owner unable to give it personal attention owing to own bookings.
A splendid opportunity.
Write, F. M., 8, Wilmot-place, N.W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, Large Quantity Tip-ups, good condition. Full description, cash price, and where can be seen, Manager, King's T., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Miramba, perfect condition. Write,
Hearn, Castle Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, to buy, Cabinet, Handcuffs, Fakes, or anything suitable. Must be cheap or useless. Theo. Mauritus, 29, Albert-st., South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Secondhand or New Band or Soldier Uniforms.
Manager, 9, Great Colmore-street, Birmingham.

TO SKETCH AUTHORS.
WANTED (on royalty, or to buy outright, latter preferred), Good Dramatic (not Melodramatic) Sketches, with powerful Leading Lady part and plenty of scope for mounting and dressing; also really funny comedy stuff. All scripts carefully read and promptly returned if not suitable.
Edith Lewis, c/o Roy Cochrane, Surrey Theatre.

WANTED, Really Funny Comedy Sketch, Original. Letters only. No MSS. in first instance. Full particulars, Nevill Graham, Empire, Islington.

WANTED, Good, Original Sketch, homely interest, Pathetic, with touches of Comedy, happy finale; nothing morbid or sensational. Letters only. No MSS. in first instance.
Nevill Graham, Empire, Islington.

WANTED to Buy, Musical Comedy Sketch, must possess Good Comedy. Catchy, Original Music; must be really good. Letters only in first instance. Nevill Graham, Empire, Islington.

WANTED, a Good Ballad Song, Catchy Melody and Sensible Words. Also a Coon number. Songs not approved of returned within two days.
Marie Rose, Pavilion, Fraserburgh, N.B.

WANTED, Files of "The Era," 1860, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and onwards, to present time. Address, Librarian, "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-st., W.C.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, on sharing terms, fine Bioscope Hall, only recognised Managers dealt with. Box 8,134, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let (off Westminster Bridge-rd.), 18, Hercules-road. Well-positioned shop, good living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent. Edwards, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Yard, in Centre of Town, Two Acres in Extent. Good supply of water. Reasonable terms.
Apply, G. R. S. Brown, Auctioneer, High Wycombe.

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtains and Programmes, at Five up-to-date Variety and Picture Theatres. Cash down. First decent offer will close. Reputed advertising firms only. Endorse applications "Curtains." Address, Daly and Reynolds, Cypress Chambers, 175a, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by the Management of a High-class Vaudeville Theatre offers for Advertising Concessions on Curtain and Programmes.
Box 8,132, "Era."

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Rights of Programme for the Hippodrome T., Sheerness. Best offer to B. Parrezer, Marina T., Lowestoft.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Successful Play, with scenery (small cast), Musical Comedy, easily staged. Central Agency, 453, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Four-Act Drama, "Who Was the Woman?"
By Nita Rae.
Address, Theatre Royal, Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Let, No. 2 and Fit-up Rights, "Earl and the Girl." Commencing Dec. 26. Good Tour can be Booked.
Howard, 15, Clifford's-inn, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, First-class Pantomime Production. Dates could possibly be arranged. Box 8,151, "The Era."

WANTED, to Lease, Theatre or Picture Hall, or will entertain Partnership with Management. Address first instance, Box 8,137, "The Era."

WANTED, to Lease, good Theatre or Hall; also to Purchase, Shares in Sound Concerns.
Philip Bennett, 82, Cleethorpe-road, Grimsby.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Public Halls, Skating Rinks, Music Halls, and Theatres. Rent or long lease. State all particulars in first letter. Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Hire or Buy, if cheap, Fit-up Scenery of all kinds. Chamber cloths, Kitchen cloths, Proscenium wings, Landscape cloths and wings, must be cheap. Endorse envelopes "Scenery," Daly and Reynolds, Cyprus-chambers, 175a, London-road, Liverpool.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, well known Manager offers Partnership in First-class Pantomime, tour fully booked; half share £200, fourth share £100; last three years show a clear profit of over £600 each tour. Books, contracts, returns, &c., shown. Every investigation courted. Bankers' references exchanged. Box 8,148, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, to make one of three, willing to invest in an up-to-date Picture Show, own machines. Manager, G. H., 35, Handford-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Partner by Star, with Strong Play. Unique Opportunity.
Address, Box 8,133, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Carriage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. 'Phone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for Free Samples. Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, every Member of the Profession to go to
LYNN and HARDING,
Savoy House, Strand, W.C.,
If you wish to place Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c., or to Purchase Songs, Plays, Sketches, &c.
This quarter's Clients for whom we have done business include:—
Messrs. Herbert Fordwych, Mark Melford, John S. Egan, Max Cardiff, H. E. Garden, R. Findlay, B. Beir, W. Hart, Bert Cramer, A. Harding, A. Lewis, T. Dalrymple, Robert Ayrton, A. Jennings, A. Wyndham, A. Mitchell, The Misses D'Alroy, Milner Rowna, Noel, Kersey, Carroll, Mignonne, &c., &c.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Good Comic Songs, Original and Funny, for Anglo-French Comedian. Submit to Anglof, 18, Barnard-road, Clapham Junction, London.

WANTED, Known, Songs and Music, Patter and Sketches supplied; Manuscripts read, revised, and placed. Call or write,
The Authors' Bureau,
28, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, to Know, Present Address of Miss Isabelle Dillon, late of Bradford.
Address, Box 8,129, "The Era."

WANTED, the Gentlemen who answered advt. in last "Era" to accept my thanks. Vacancies filled. J. R. Bingley, 34, Eleanor-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Elliston, of Bolton, thanks the 324 applicants for the position of Bill Inspector, but the appointment is now filled.

CHIMPANZEE.—A Young Male, suitable for training for the Music Hall Stage, just imported from West Africa, for sale.
Apply,
Harris and Reed, 14, Coventry-street, W.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE
ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS, Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces, on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents,
NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd., Scarborough.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. John Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—The Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats, in their speciality, "Fun in a Café," cause much laughter; Maud St. Malo and Harry Coombs in their song scena are well received; and Sam Williams, singing comedian, meets with success.

ABERDARE. — NEW THEATRE.—Lessees, The Aberdare Public Hall, Theatre, and Billposting Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Oswald Cray's company is here in *When it was Dark*. Mr. Oswald Cray undertakes the rôle of the Rev. Basil Gortre with marked success; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse plays admirably as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle capably represents Sir Robert Llewellyn; as the Rev. Mr. Byars Mr. Walter Manfree is good and the same can be said of Mr. Sydney Claydon as Charlie Gayfly; Miss Lilian Herries is an excellent Gertrude Hunt, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Helena Byars is decidedly good.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor W. Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—At the top of the bill here are the Whitworth Trio, expert trick cyclists, who are highly appreciated; Bertha McHamdon in her speciality musical act deserves praise; Phil Kaufman, refined coon singer and dancer, wins applause; Miss Jennie Alexander, child mimic, is also very good; and the pictures shown are interesting.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Messrs. Chappell and Company, Ltd., present "The Grotesques" at His Majesty's Theatre this week. The entertainment provided is of a delightful and refreshing nature. The company includes Messrs. Cecil Cook, James Watts, Hugh Bayly, Harry Harmer, Maurice Besly, and Misses Dorothy Doria, Elsie English, and Kathleen Severn. *A Village Concert* is one of the principal features of the entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallaghan.—Amy Anderson and her entertainers are features of this week's Palace show. They present *The Banana Queen*. The Permane Brothers give an inimitable representation of a "Nightingale's Courtship"; Fatmah Diard, an American vocalist, sings well; McLallen and Carson give a clever display of dancing and roller skating; Gladys Revell, as a musical comedienne, pleases grave and gay; Syd Walker is irresistibly funny as an unfortunate debt collector; and Josh Dixon as "The North Explorer" and "The Promoted Policeman" is a distinct success.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Kellinos are acrobatic artists of more than ordinary excellence. The sketch which they introduce, *On the Road*, is cleverly executed; Big Jock Sinclair and Wee Grace Whiteford present *Getting Even*; Martinette and Wallace are coloured instrumentalists of ability; Marjory Lawrence sings and dances with skill; the Daimlers are comedians and dancers of marked power; Lily Eaton sings well; Jack Rae's comic juggling is attractive; and Mr. J. W. Gallager, with quip and crank, and general buffoonery, proves a prime favourite.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Price.—Mr. Percy Honri and his colossal combine in the musical scenic phantasy *Concordia* attracted a crowded house on Monday. The company also includes: Five May Girls, vocalists and dancers; Harry Tomp, the popular comedian; Sisters Mafrey, rag-time dancers; Tom Lee, chorus comedian; Ada Galley, lady juggler on the silver wire; Stanley Waller, Buttons at the piano; Kitty Leon, comedienne and dancer; and Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are here in a capital selection of Shakespearean and standard plays. *The Merchant of Venice* was staged on the opening night, when Mr. Wilkie as Shylock gave a portrayal marked by power and energy. As Portia, Miss F. Hunter Watts was charming, admirably combining grace and dignity; Miss May Dallas as Nerissa was excellent; and Miss Hilda Plowright gave a good representation of Jessica. Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves played Bassanio in capital style; Mr. Philip Gordon was most amusing as Lancelot Gobbo; Mr. Herbert Mansfield's portrayal of Antonio was a complete success; Gratiano found an excellent exponent in Mr. Sinclair Neill; Mr. John Paley made a careful and dignified Prince of Morocco; Mr. Houston Meharry presented a fine study of the Duke of Venice; and Mr. F. Sullivan was all that could be desired as Old Gobbo. *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Sleigh Bells*, with *The King and the Miller*, and *Othello* are also in the bill.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Tom Davis Trio, in their marvellous and sensational cycling act, "Motoring in Mid-Air," top the bill here, and are successful in arousing the greatest enthusiasm; the Four Vagabonds contribute one of the best turns of the evening, as humorous vocalists; the Two Countees are amusing in comedy and pleasing in harmony; Spry and Monti receive deserved appreciation in a mirth-provoking skit entitled *The Erratic Songwriter*; Rolando Martin is a comedian of merit; Clare and Pastor are refined speciality artists; and Dot Hardy, character comedienne, creates much laughter.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The Great Raymond, American fun maker and magician, tops the bill with two excellent performances. Included in his first turn is a series of original mystical surprises and comic conjuring effects, Japanese magic, fancy bon-bons, an extraordinary sharp-shooting act, a humorous lesson in cooking, the Witch's Cavern, introducing "Zeenah, the girl from Nowhere," and the Boy Scout's Dream. Each and everyone of these items shows the remarkable skill of Mr. Raymond, who is vociferously applauded. In his second performance Mr. Raymond presents "The Hand of Fate," and many other equally clever and mystifying items. Les Grossi, Continental dancers, delight the audience with "La danse des Apaches." Little Sunbeam, styled as Marie Lloyd in miniature, provokes applause for her singing and dancing; Morris and Moore provide a clever dancing turn; Fred Dunstone as a comedian does well; Luella Cross, comedienne and vocalist, is a great favourite, whilst Ryde and Breeman, acrobatic eccentrics, are clever.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—For the Wakes holidays Mr. Revill has secured a play by Mr. Charles Darrell entitled *What a Man Made Her*, and the company producing it is Miss Renee Glendower's. Miss Glendower, as the heroine, brings to her interpretation of Janet McAllister a sweetness and a naturalness of manner which are extremely winning; Mr. Frederick W. Freeman is manly and dignified as Dr. Mark Haven, subsequently the Earl of Saxon Royal; Mr. Chas. K. Francis scores as Sir Ernest Cavendish; in stage villainy of the frock-coated order Mr. W. J. Butler excels; Mr. Max Copland imparts eccentric humour to the story as the rich Jew usurer; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst as Deborah is spirited, sweet, and winning, and Miss Nora Kingsley as the Dowager Countess interprets admirably the manners of the society woman; Miss Beatrice Shirley as Lady Thora has some tragic passages, to which she does complete justice.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Mr. H. Foxwell's company has possession of the Empire stage this week, and is drawing holiday audiences with the stirring drama, *A Broken Heart*. Miss Dorothy Haigh and Mr. Jno. L. Millward sustain with dramatic power and distinctive skill prominent characters in the piece, the latter as John Barnard, a master-blacksmith, and the former as Mary, his wife; Mr. Denis Hogan scores as Stephen Raylton; Mr. Newton Pearce as Tony Tibbets gives a clever study of eccentric humour; Mr. Vernon Travers as Gash Gills is, as described, a social terror; and Mr. Eric Vayne acts with characteristic energy the part of a village curate; Miss Nelly Hope is matronly and sympathetic as Mrs. Barnard, and Miss Nancy Mitchell makes a good Sally Travner; Miss Daisy Rochefort is interesting as the child, and Miss Mamy Thorpe, as Grace Fanshaw, shows ability.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company is presenting *The Outcast of the Family*. In the title-rôle Mr. Jack McCaig displays considerable talent; and as the scheming cousin Mr. Bert Oates plays a difficult part with credit. Mr. Wybert Clive, Mr. Tom Roydon, Mr. Tom Armitage, and Mr. Edward W. Cudd are worthy of mention; and the three ladies of the company—Miss Elsie Shelton, Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd, and Miss Freda Beckett—play their respective parts with success.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton. Mr. Bannister Howard's company has presented *When Knights Were Bold* here for two evenings before large and highly appreciative audiences; Mr. Sam Lyson's pranks and whimsicalities kept the house in continuous laughter; Mr. Alec Forbes as Isaacson depicted the scheming Jew with forceful effect, being ably backed up by Mr. C. Monde as Sir Brian; Mr. Bannister Howard, jun., made a favourable impression as the ubiquitous Whittle; Mr. C. Gifford and Mr. G. E. Hall contributed in no small measure to the general success; quite a spirited performance of Lady Rowena was given by Miss Elsie Roberts; Miss Nelly Murray and Miss May Romayne depicted with vivacity the irresponsible schoolgirls; and Miss Alice M. Maude's Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave showed dignity and feeling.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is here in *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Maitland Marler as Captain Barley gives a capital portrayal; Mr. Russell Davies is admirable as Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N.; Miss Hilda Vaughan as Ethel Smedley gives a charming portrayal; Mr. Frank Lilliput as Porter, Miss Ethel Stalman as Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Henry Renouf as Mrs. Baldwin, Mr. Fred Lake as John Dibbs, Mr. Ivor Bernard as Adolphus, and Mr. Gerald Carter as Major Smedley, and the remainder of the cast leave nothing to be desired.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Blue Myths, society entertainers, are here for a short season. A bright and exceedingly clever programme of songs, choruses, opera scenes, and recitations is given.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Tarro Miyake, the ju-jitsu wrestler, is the attraction here this week. Miss Jennie Johns, James Curwell, Dan Daley, O'Garison Brothers, Lucy Lind, and Vernon's Bioscope are also on the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's picture and variety company are still drawing good houses here.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure. —*The Cingalee* is presented here this week by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company. Mr. HyHon Warde is a success as Chambuddy Ram; Miss Isa Bowman played the part of Nanoya admirably; while Miss Florrie Greensmith was a charming Peggy. Miss Ray Anderson, a favourite here, played the part of Lady Patricia Vane with credit; Mr. Frank Lennard makes an imposing Boomhamba; Mr. Frank Barclay does well as the Hon. Harry Vereker; Mr. Herbert Franklen is a typical Bobby Warren; and Mr. Hillier Le Maistre in the rôle of Sir Peter Loftus is all that could be desired. Miss Winifred Stone in her dances is remarkably clever. Her "Pas Seul" deserves special notice.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—A strong programme is presented by Mr. Vint this week. Bonar and Jess are a pair of clever quick-change artists; Renz Brothers are smart acrobats; while Tommy Clifford, as a ventriloquist, gives a good show. Mint and Mart are successful speciality artists and comedy cyclists. The pictures please.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The romantic sketch *The Gambler* was played here on Monday by F. S. Peake, Miss Dora Davies, and two gentlemen whose names are not given. Leonard Charburn's Young Stars (twelve in number), under the direction of R. L. Griffiths, appear in a vocal scena *A Picnic up the River*; Danvers and Rosslyn have a vocal burlesque piano duologue *A Pantomime Boy*, which is full of racy humour; the Cedrics submit an entertaining comedy and juggling act "Chish and Fips"; and two comedians, Chas. Vincent and Fred Ward, each have plenty of supporters to enjoy their ditties; Vela, comedy wire performer, is amusing.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The Queen's Courtiers, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Dickeson, are the latest concert costume party to visit Bath, and in their endeavour to amuse can successfully challenge comparison with any troupe that has previously appeared locally.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Licensee, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Large houses are the rule here. Fred Russell and Lilian Held, vaudeville entertainers, are a smart turn; Archie Pitt's messenger boy song is productive of much merriment; Les Surpriskis, a couple of lady trapeze artists, come in for a deal of applause; and Rose Cambrey and Millie Doris contribute some excellent songs; Nellie Denver is a clever juvenile artist; and Mr. George Carncross and company appear in *Sleigh Bells*. The Bioscope concludes.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. William Greet's company opened here on Monday with *The Sign of the Cross*, Mr. W. Lawson Butt, who has a fine stage presence, admirably sustained the rôle of Marcus Superbus; Miss Evelyn Hope depicts the self-sacrificing Mercia with undoubted skill; Mr. Bernard Elliott is effective as Nero; and a powerful interpretation of the part of Tigellinus is submitted by Mr. Charles Aldred. Some humour is infused into the rôle of Glabrio by Mr. Frank Wood; and Stephanus is capably sustained by Miss Winifred Delevante. Mr. Walter Fleets does well as Favius; and Miss Mabel Cooke is all that could possibly be desired as Poppæa. Miss Dorothy Lart creditably sustains the rôle of Berenice; and Miss Esme Lee is good as Dacia.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the original melodrama entitled *A Woman of Two Lives*, produced by Miss Hilda Beverley and company. Miss Beverley herself plays the dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton with consummate skill; and Mr. Herbert Pearson appears to advantage as Captain Hon. Travers West. In the difficult rôle of Drampardi Lares Miss Mary Brammer is effective; Mr. Jack Armitage furnishes a capital impersonation of Lieutenant Lord Billy Tremaine; Miss Louis Gilmore is deserving of praise for her clever interpretation of Lady Arabella Mountphayton; and Mr. James Jarrett handles the rôle of Garda Khan with credit. Mr. E. Hall Eldon is an amusing Dick Smarter; and a vivacious representative of Lottie London is found in Miss Dorothy Hildebrande. Mr. Arthur Swaine is well suited as Colonel St. Aubrey Fenton.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The leading feature here is the farcical episode entitled *A Man of Spirit*, presented, with undeniable success, by Daley Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait; Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the accomplished comedienne, makes a big hit with her songs, so charmingly rendered, and up-to-date patter; and the feats of the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs have created quite a sensation. Muir and Bartlett evoke unbounded merriment with their well-acted sketch *The Collar Stud*; Mr. Will Rhodes is aptly described as a droll comedian; and the dancing of Mr. Billy French is certainly very smart. Also here are Karl Cynaki, one-man band; Les Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists; Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here this week is the celebrated dancer Ameta, presented by Richard Klegin, whose wonderful terpsichorean display has aroused much enthusiasm; a welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, whose act is one of the features of the programme; Mount Stephens and Harry Rennior, smart comedians, are also clever dancers; and Miss Elsie Kerry, a fascinating comedienne, sings some catchy chorus songs, especially "T'pperary," which meet with a great reception; Mr. Walter Wade presents his new monologue *Sandy McGregor*; and also appearing are Miss Annie Braddan, the Manx girl; Vincent, acrobatic table expert; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—A fine series of pictures are being exhibited here this week, including The Face at the Window, The Stuff That Americans Are Made Of, True to His Duty, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Nicholsons, comedy couple, and Mr. Dan Derry, an exceedingly humorous Irish ventriloquist.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of the courteous manager, who knows what pleases his ever-increasing clientèle, some beautiful films have been shown here, including The Girl in the Barracks, The Call of the Heart, The Fruit of Vengeance, &c. Miss Mary Golding's illustrated songs command much success.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—Among many interesting films produced here may be mentioned The Silversmith of King Louis XI., The Trail, Marco's Swan Song, &c. Messrs. Murray and Forsyth, comedians, appear nightly, and afford every satisfaction.

BILSTON. — ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Appearing here this week are De Lilo and Metz, comedy jugglers, and the Rurals, in their clever musical scena.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—During the summer months this theatre has been run on the twice-nightly system. The regular autumn season of single performances commenced on Monday with Mr. Douglas Bruce's company in *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, which was received with many marks of approval. Rose Seymour has an admirable representative in Miss Dorothy Thayer; and Miss Letitia Rushforth enacts the difficult and unpopular rôle of Marion Franklyn with much artistic skill. The evil genius of the piece, Captain Caversham, is capitally played by Mr. Herbert Morgan; and Mr. Charles Sparrow is well suited as Jack Johnson. Other prominent characters are adequately filled by Mr. Walter Kellson, Mr. Charles Ashwell, Mr. Allan Carruthers, and Miss Lillian Drake; and the production has every assistance in the way of scenic effect.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—A capital combination includes Miss Maidie Scott, a talented comedienne, and an established favourite here; Mr. Charles R. Whittle, the popular comedian; the Brothers Horne, in an amusing boxing sketch; the Seven Bramusas, a clever troupe of instrumentalists; Mr. Fred Barnes, a talented vocalist; Alfred Wood and company, in the farcical episode *Ten Minutes*; Hughes and Elliott, good song-and-dance artists; Mr. George Lambton, an excellent light comedian; Mr. Ted Waite, a versatile comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Overflowing houses are attracted twice nightly.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Kimberley's company in *Her Secret Lover* constitute a strong attraction. Miss Laura Walker is prominent with an excellent portrayal of Ivy Seymour; Mr. Stephen Langton as Gilbert Seymour acquits himself with distinction; Mr. Alfred Stretton accords valuable assistance as John Strange; and a fine cast also includes Mr. Walter H. Wilson, Miss Flora Leslie, and Miss Lynn Darlington.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Managers, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—Mr. Kennedy Allen, the popular comedian, heads the company, which also includes Mr. Martin Pitts, Mr. Albert Royle, Miss Felicia Firmin, Miss Ivy Broadfoot, Mr. Tim O'Connor, and Mr. H. Robinson.

BIRMINGHAM. — PRINCE OF WALES'. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. F. Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Johnston.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, in the merry farce *The Naked Truth*, is enjoying a successful week's stay. Mr. Stanley Logan as Bunny is the shining light, and he carries a weight of responsibility with wonderful credit. He comes in for a good share of applause. Miss Violet Ley as Mrs. Hayter creates an excellent impression; and Miss Kathleen Maude is well to the fore in the character of Norah. Mr. Whitling, Mr. Erskine Lang, Miss Ormonde Wynne, and Miss Dora Fellowes are also good. The play is preceded by a bright little sketch, entitled *Feed the Brute*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—In a répertoire of dramatic plays, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company draws crowded houses. On Monday and Tuesday evenings *A Modern Adventuress* was staged; on Wednesday matinée and evening performances of *The Colleen Bawn* were greatly appreciated; Thursday and Saturday evenings were devoted to *The Shaughraun*; and on Friday the company presented *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. and Mrs. Draycott are responsible for a wonderful amount of clever work, and they have the support of a capable combination, including Mr. St. John Stuart, Mr. Clinton Baddeley, Mr. Joseph Magrath, Mr. J. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Theo Balfour, Miss Nana Flensberg, and Miss Shirley Dalton.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—A strong melodrama, entitled *Was She to Blame?* is proving a very effective draw this week. It has a delightful country setting, and there are all the conventional figures that go to make up a successful piece. Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company is responsible for the production. Miss Nancy Roberts is a popular figure in the character of the vicar's daughter; and Miss Helene Forest portrays a striking part cleverly as Mrs. Kate Roselle. Mr. Charles Marsh as William Clark and Mr. J. A. Wilson as Captain George Courtney also take leading parts.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Stirring drama is provided by Mr. John F. Preston's powerful company in *Soldiers of the Queen*. A feature of the piece are the clever tableaux which conclude each act. The principal characters are very capably portrayed. Mr. Preston undertakes an onerous rôle as Jack Willoughby, and is a big favourite; Miss Mabelle F. Barlow scores a triumph in a difficult dual rôle; Mr. W. Howard Barlow as Hans Muller is also noteworthy; Mr. Francis Everard shines in a double part; and other clever persons in the cast are Mr. Arthur P. Leo, Mr. F. C. Clark, Mr. E. G. Cove, Miss Rose Beryl, Miss Dolly Wright, and Miss Lily Pearce.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—The adventures of Nick Carter, the great detective, are nightly thrilling large audiences at this theatre. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company have arranged a production of the kind that appeals to all shades of theatre-goers, and the piece is meeting with deserved success. Mr. Knowles proves himself a resourceful actor in the title rôle; Miss Helena Walbran provides many clever touches as Madeline, his wife; Mr. Raymond Thomas as Eustace Lee, the head of a gang of criminals, deserves much praise; and he is ably supported by Miss Nelly Shirley. Rich comedy is furnished by Miss Nellie Fern and Mr. Harry E. Mowber.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Exciting incidents follow one another in whirlwind fashion in *The Wicked City*, a romantic melodrama, produced by Messrs. Glenville and Elliston. Almost every phase of villainy of the melodramatic order is represented, and the greatest praise is due to the clever portrayals of Miss Amber Wyville (Cora Despard) and Mr. Harold Holloway (Paul Desmond). Miss Doris Grant as the heroine, Doris Grant, earns hearty appreciation for her emotional powers; and Mr. G. Edwards Clive appears as Harold Vereker. Miss Katie Norris, Miss F. Halton, Mr. J. H. Manley, and Mr. Henry Egilington are also prominent.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—George Bastow, in his latest successes, heads a capital bill, and earns the applause of good houses. He is particularly effective in his impersonation of Captain Ginjah Ot; Herbert Lloyd, the King of Diamonds, literally sparkles with gems of humour, and his "imitations" are well received; Loheawirth and Cohan are inimitable in their "pidgin English," and it is impossible to preserve a straight face whilst they occupy the stage; George D'Albert is another notable visitor; the La Scala Opera Company, in a selection from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, delight their hearers; Vesta and Minnie Pine are amusing in a golfing skit; Williams and Warden are up-to-date; and Charles Banks and Gladys Williams also contribute acceptably.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—The announcement of Harry Lauder's appearance this week resulted in practically all the principal seats in the theatre being booked in advance; Tom Foy, in his laughable sketch, *The First of April*, is another very welcome visitor; the Sakanella Trio are the smartest acrobatic dancers seen in Birmingham for some time; the Leonards present a clever and original comedy act, entitled *An Interview*; Kathleen Gray is a popular comedienne; the Cumberlands are adept trick cyclists; Lestree performs smart juggling feats; and the Grassis are talented instrumentalists.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—In sculpture, singing, and painting, the Venetians, who head the bill this week, are artists of a unique standard; in a series of high-class poses they score particularly well, and they earn warm plaudits. Harry Pleon satirises melodrama very effectively in "The Bad Girl of the Family Journal"; the Brothers Huxter display great cleverness in a difficult acrobatic performance, described as *Languid Energy*; the Six Manchester Lads are bright singers and dancers; Queenie Finnis is a pleasing, refined comedienne; the New York Nippers earn appreciation for smart work; Little Rosie Lee is a popular juvenile artist; and Nellie Martell is a pleasing comedienne and dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—John Terry and Mabel Lambert provide audiences with an entertaining idea of what various types of English people appear like from an outsider's point of view. Their turn is very sparkling. A big success is scored by Lottie Bellman and Bay Russell in a racy item, "Bits of Vaudeville." Their merriment is keenly enjoyed, and the turn thoroughly deserves its popularity. A pantomimic ballet scena, entitled *Les Idolatres*, provides a novel and very pleasing spectacle; the Schelwsky Bros. are very smart hand-balancers; Syd Crossley is an amusing eccentric; Metz and Metz are responsible for clever comedy and dancing; Karr and Kooney, comedians; Harry Rogerson, comedian; Boden and Belle, duettists and dancers; and Marie Braymen also earn applause.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Friend and Downing, the popular Irish and Hebrew combination, introduce some new and attractive business; the Lukushimas, a clever troupe of Japanese entertainers, are applauded for many clever feats; the Fijon Juvenile Troupe appear successfully in a refined musical scena; Hardwick and Garratt, in a high-class vocal turn entitled "The Battle Eve," merit appreciation; Richard Finberg scores well in a series of talented impersonations; Madison and Webb present a smart sketch, *My Husband*; Eva Barrie is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Nellie Nora is a bright and talented little instrumentalist; and the pictures also arouse interest.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—Events from all over the world are shown in pictorial form in "Pathé's Gazette of the Week," which is highly appreciated. The disastrous fire at the Brussels Exhibition is the latest addition to the list, and a popular item with the ladies is the Paris Fashions series. An elaborate reproduction of the Shakespearean comedy *Twelfth Night* excites considerable interest, and amongst the other subjects there is a good dramatic story-picture entitled "A Lesson by the Sea." Mr. William Kingsley entertains audiences by an excellent performance with hand and silver bells.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Pictures of the Brussels Exhibition fire are featured strongly at this hall, and are attracting many interested sightseers. The programme also includes many good dramatic and comedy subjects, and the vaudeville contributions are greatly appreciated.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The Queen's Hall well maintains its position among the picture halls of the city. Agreeable variety is imparted to the entertainment by clever contributions from local artists.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—The well-known drama *Leah Kleschna* is this week occupying the boards. Mr. William Clayton was accorded a rousing reception as Kleschna; Leah Kleschna was well taken by Miss Marguerite Cellier, and Mr. Cyril Austin Lee was responsible for Paul Sylvaine, the hero.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company is here this week with *Sir Walter Raleigh*, and meeting with a very warm reception. As Queen Elizabeth Miss Winifred Emery is exactly suited; whilst the title-rôle finds an exponent of unquestionable ability in Mr. Lyn Harding. Miss Nell Carter thoroughly idealises Elizabeth Throgmorton; and Mr. Percy Rhodes is good as Don Bernardine de Mendoza. The numerous minor parts are also in the hands of capable artists, and the staging and dresses are irreproachable.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*Two Merry Monarchs*, played by Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company, is this week's attraction here. Mr. Hayden Coffin acts and sings as well as ever in the part of Prince Charmis; whilst Mr. E. Statham Staples is the chief funprovider as Rolandyl. Mr. Mark Lester as King Paul and Miss Marjorie Moore as Princess Cynthia also satisfy all requirements. The staging is admirable.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A welcome return visit is being paid here this week by Harry Weldon, a very popular comedian; Winifred Ward is a charming impersonator of youthful male characters; Coram shines as a ventriloquist; the Banzai Family are a remarkable troupe of Japanese entertainers; Arthur Woodville is a smart light comedian; Sandford and Lyons, patterers and dancers, are well received; George S. Melvin finds favour as a Scotch comedian; the Stowe Brothers are clever boy equilibrists; and Irene Rose, a chic comedienne.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is presenting *The Beggar Princess*. The principal characters are in the hands of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, who appears as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh and Mrs. Cassidy as Seaweed, afterwards Princess Henri of Slavonia. Other parts are well played by the company, which is above the average. The drama is capitally staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The top turn here is provided by Dr. Wilmar's Spiritualistic paintings presented by Mr. T. P. Selbit. The programme also contains turns by Will Walton, Lancashire comedian, assisted by his two children in a sketch; Marie Kay, dainty soubrette and dancer; Alpho, the sleping ventriloquist; the Fitzroys (Fred and Lily), society gymnasts; Burt Shepard, in potted plays and poetry; the Three Comedy Chanters, in humour and harmony; Alice Maude, male impersonator; Mr. Culpitt, assisted by Adele, in tricks, talk, travesty, and topic; Sid Doody and Edie Wright, comedians, &c.; and the Premier Imperial pictures.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—*The Belle of the Orient* is being admired by large audiences. Other turns are Edith St. Clare, comedienne; Frank White, comedian; Spalding and Rego, in a comedy horizontal-bar novelty; Little Ganty, eccentric comedian; Hyde and Cody Trio of eccentric acrobats in "Insane Tricks"; Mr. and Mrs. Manning, comedy duologue artists; Victor Courtney, the boots at the piano; and Foreman and Fannan, popular comedians, together with the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington Estate Co.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred D. Adams.—The Muncaster stock company score another success this week in the sensational drama *The Poor Must Live*. The leading parts are ably presented by Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. C. Vivian Charles, Mr. J. W. Evelyn, Mr. Douglas B. Watson, Mr. Fred L. Conynghame, Mr. James Wood, Mr. Robert Gore, Miss Mattie Crawford, Miss Marguerite Trevosper, Miss Louie Heathfield, and Miss Sassie Evelyn.

WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint Managing-Directors, Mr. B. Allandale and Mr. L. Blattner; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—The Sylvester Trio of speciality dancers and vocalists are loudly applauded; Miss Jeanne Jeune, the popular prima donna, has a flattering reception; Mr. Wilfred Burnand displays exceptional talent as a character actor and mimic; and Laurie Leyton creates an excellent impression as a ventriloquist. A strong programme is completed by Val Brodo, tenor, Miss Flora Driver, and Miss Eva Dickson. On Tuesday evening, before a crowded house, Malcolm Scott appeared.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—A good company, a good play, and a good audience all combined to make *Smith*, which opened here for the week with Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, a distinct success. Mr. Robert Minster is fitted with a part which he admirably sustains in that of Tom Freeman; Miss Cicely Stuckley acts with the requisite finish in the title-rôle; and Algy is effectively portrayed by Mr. H. Douglas Greet. Mr. F. G. Thurstans capitally represents Mr. Dallas-Baker; Miss Ethel Hodgkins displays power as Mrs. Dallas-Baker; and Emily Chapman and Mrs. Otto Rosenberg have satisfactory representatives in Miss Pauline Straus and Miss Ethel Wellesley. Mr. George Child doing everything necessary in theh part of Fletcher.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Supported by a capable company, that excellent comedian Mr. Horace Lingard is appearing in Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's clever comedy *Fanny and the Servant Girl Problem*. As the worried Lady Bantock Miss Beatrice Moreau is winning a huge success with her charming acting; Mr. Lingard's assumption of the exacting butler Martin Bennett is very clever; Mr. E. Rayson Cousens is fairly convincing as Lord Bantock; as Dr. Freemantle Mr. Edward Ray is amusing; Mr. W. Compton is good as George Newte; the Misses Wetherell are quaintly represented by Miss Margaret Saville; and

exquisite vocalism of the gifted soprano Mme. Ella Russell, who is the bright particular star here this week. Orpheus makes a welcome reappearance, playing many instruments with rare skill; Griff is also here again, jesting and juggling as cleverly as ever; Dan Crawley's broad humour and make-up elicit much laughter; Lily Flexmore, comedienne, exhibits wonderful elasticity of limb in her acrobatic dances; Jock Whiteford is a remarkably agile and humorous Scottish comedian; and a good programme is made up with Amy Marsden, low-comedy comedienne, Phil Rees' Stable Lads in a variety turn, and the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—The great attraction here this week is *Black-Eyed Susan*, and interest centres in the reappearance of the esteemed manager Mr. Edward Harrison in his excellent impersonation of Admiral Burgoyne; Miss Dorothy Mullord is the charming heroine; Mr. A. Howard very effectively fills the part of William, A.B.; Chris Baker is amusing with capital songs; the Ten Dixie Girls dance and sing with spirit and charm in their scena *The Silver Coon*; May Rowe, vocalist, contributes acceptably; the Mars Trio of gymnasts give a clever and affective military display; Allsop and Beckwith submit a capital comedy act; Wat Tyler's character vocalism is good; and the Palace Perfection pictures interest.

BRIDLINGTON.—Spa Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in that charming musical play *The Merry Widow* opened to a crowded house on Monday night. The play is beautifully staged and the dressing most gorgeous. The company gave a finished performance. The Sonia of Miss Mary Ridley was an admirable performance; Miss Mabel Hope shone in the part of Natalia, as did Miss Ethel Darnley as Frou, especially in her dances with Nisch. Mr. Robert Needham's acting as Prince Danilo was very good; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter kept the house merry with his Baron Popoff; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy was capable as de Jolidon; and the part of Nisch gave Mr. Harry Emeric opportunities for showing his agility as an eccentric dancer. For the end of the week Miss Annie Hughes is billed with her company in *Miss Tommy*.

Grand Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss E. Dexter and Mr. Harold C. Lloyd's company in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* drew a full house here on Monday. Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Miss Jeannie Thomas as the landlady, Miss Elizabeth Dexter as Vivian, Mr. W. O. Billington as the old bachelor, and Miss Katharine Morris as the servant.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Grand Pavilion has crowded houses, a special feature this week being the visit of that popular artist Miss Yesta Tilley, who still retains her great reputation as the most marvellous male impersonator of the day.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The special festival week of Herr Julian Kandt and his band concluded on Sunday. This week we have an additional attraction in Mr. Thornley Dodge, entertainer. Miss Annie Croft continues to make hosts of admirers.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—This popular resort is drawing crowded audiences nightly to the capital and amusing entertainments provided. At the benefit performance to the genial manager, Mr. Charles Beanland, the house was so crowded that hundreds were unable to obtain admission. The programme included the best items by members of the company and a special show by Mr. Walter George's "Smart Set" concert party.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*The Fighting Chance* is attracting good houses here. Mr. Austen Milroy submits a very fine impersonation of the oppressed Stephen Blanchard; Miss Marie Duncan is thoroughly artistic as Ethel Hardy; Mr. Sidney Vautier is realistic in his enactment of Captain Jim Blanchard; Mr. Arthur Elwyn is highly successful in his portrayal of the villainous Captain Philip Rivers; Mr. Charles B. Bedells is a very effective Izra Mahomed Khan; and the remaining parts are ably sustained.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Captain Spaulding submits a novel turn, in which he swallows molten lead, eats liquid hot sealing-wax, and explodes gunpowder on his hand; the Alberto troupe of lady equilibrists are warmly applauded; Fred Hastings is a popular comedian; Herbert La Martine is a clever eccentric dancer; the Three Welsh Girls are charming vocalists; Mike Heman is a quaint Hebrew delineator; the Baynhams appear in a capital musical act; the Sisters Burnett are pleasing comediennes; Emily Delmere, comedienne, achieves much success; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Walter Bird's company afford great amusement with the sketch *Her Husband;* Hetty King, male impersonator, is enthusiastically applauded for her songs; Maria Racko and company give a smart acrobatic entertainment; Arnold Richardson and company are very diverting in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law;* Daisy Wood is a very attractive comedienne; the Three Cape Girls sing and dance themselves into favour; Webb and Branston are good operatic duettists; the Hassan Duo appear in a novel wire act; and the Sisters Brenton are effective duettists and dancers.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is achieving great success here with *Brewster's Millions*. Mr. Percy Hutchison gives a masterly portrayal of Monty Brewster; Miss Lilias Earle makes an admirable Mrs. Dan de Mille; Miss Dorothy Whittaker is a pleasing Margaret Grey; Mr. Gordon Ash merits warm praise for his impersonation of Charlie Harrison; Mr. A. P. Kaye affords amusement as M. Bargie; Miss Phyllis Stuckey's Barbara Drew is well played; and the remaining characters of the heavy cast are in very capable hands.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is here with *The King of Cadonia*. Mr. John Morley gives an admirable impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Alice Venning makes a charming and graceful Princess Marie; Mr. Arthur Staples is diverting as the Duke of Alasia; Mr. Robert Selby achieves great success as General Bonski; Mr. Lawrence Robbins is an excellent Captain Laski; Mr. Alfred Clark is distinctly effective as Bran; and Miss Joan Penrose makes an attractive Melitza. The piece is elaborately staged.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The admirable series of animated pictures exhibited here attracts good houses. Mr. Ostand Denner's illustrated songs are warmly appreciated.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Cousens.—The animated pictures here continue to attract large houses. They are marked by pleasing variety, and fresh programmes are submitted each Monday and Thursday.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute. — *The Speckled Band* is being played here to good houses. The play is well staged, and Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is a very capable one. Mr. C. W. Somerset presents a highly creditable and, in many ways, a remarkable exposition of Dr. Grimesby Rylott; he retains a very firm grip of the character throughout, and the restraint he puts upon his outbursts of passion is really telling. Mr. Julian Royce is an ideal Sherlock Holmes; he looks the part admirably, is always resourceful, cool, and collected, and ably displays the power essential to the character. Miss Alice Leigh acts cleverly as Enid Stonor, fully realising the state of uncertainty in which she is living; Miss Adelaide Grace presents a good study of the shady housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton; Mr. Bellenden Clarke makes the most of and is very earnest as Dr. Watson; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan is effective as the nervous butler, Rodgers; Mr. Gerald Rogers successfully imparts a certain mystic air to his impersonation of Ali, the Indian valet; Master James Woodings is pert and sharp as Sherlock Holmes's page, Billy; and Mr. E. H. Paterson presents a capital character study of the Wesleyan grocer, Mr. Armitage. The remaining parts are all most carefully taken, and the play was followed with much interest on Monday evening.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—The musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is being well-played here by Miss Florence Baines's company, and it is proving attractive, though out of the ordinary run of plays appreciated at this theatre. Miss Baines is really clever and most amusing as Mary Ellen Thompson, she is also a charming vocalist, her "Home sweet home" being an exquisite treat, and her other songs are all cleverly rendered; Miss Mollie Shine acts pleasingly as Eva Lancashire, and scores with her pretty song and dance.; Mr. David Donaldson, Mr. Charles Swinburne, and Miss Frances Ferina are effective as John, Harry, and Bertha Higgins; Mr. Joseph Burley is too funny as Herbert Fox, the lawyer; Mr. Payne Fletcher and Miss Maud Locker make good comedy parts of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Thompson; Mr. W. E. Passmore does well as the American Jew, Moses Goldberg; and Mr. Henry Lloyd and Mr. Hubert Mitchell make the most of Grant, the butler, and George Hart, the coachman. The one scene, representing the drawing-room in John Higgins's house, London, is effective.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Radford and Valentine are eccentric skilful jugglers, and their comic business is highly diverting; Wilson Hallett, child impersonator, presents a clever turn; Mark Hanbury, comedian, is appreciated; Hilda De Grey, comedienne, is a pleasing and successful vocalist; the Darntons are tuneful harmony vocalists; Ada Cerito, comedienne, is always appreciated in Bristol; the Jackley Trio score with a comedy speciality; Lotto, Lilo and Otto are exceptionally expert trick cyclists; and interesting animated pictures are projected by Jury's Bioscope.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Assistant and Advertising-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—George Ali and company amuse with their comedy sketch, *Papa's Day Off*. Mr. Ali's bulldog, Sport, being a remarkably clever animal study; Bambusio Brothers excel as head balancers; Amy Savile is a pleasing comedienne; Geoffreys and Benson please with their comedy duologue; Edie Anderson is a smart comedienne and dancer; Donovan and Arnol amuse with their speciality, *Doing Well, Thank You;* Harry Russon, actor comedian, is appreciated; and Ritter and Foster score with their eccentric comedy and dancing speciality; amusing animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The last week of pictures previous to reopening with "the legitimate" is drawing excellent houses.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A meritorious programme is attracting good business here. Everhart presents a smart turn of hoop manipulation and Minola Hurst and her miniature artists are delightfully novel; the Havana Troupe are a set of clever comedy acrobats; and as dancers, Drury and Lane perform some excellent steps; Stanley and Vandyke are responsible for screams of laughter in their comedy act; Marion Adelaide is a sweet soprano; Torti is possessed of a powerful tenor voice; clever concertina-playing is executed by Albano; and Barney Murphy amuses with songs and dance; All's Well that Ends Well is the concluding item by the Empire Theatrescope.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Chung Ling Soo is the chief attraction here, and his wonderful illusions call forth great admiration; the Four Garricks are delightful in a dainty drawing-room pot pourri; and Sinclair's Three Diamonds are a pretty trio of dancers; Stockdale and Marginson have excellent voices, which are fully displayed in sweet duets; and Ford Williams is a good baritone vocalist; Nellie Farrell, comedienne, is vivacious; and Shrillo, an excellent whistler. The Palace pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Mr. John Warren, in a dramatic illusion entitled "The Conjurer at Home" and also a Military Mystery, appears with the greatest success, receiving valuable assistance from Miss Mollie Winter (lady whistler), Messrs. Frank Morton, F. G. Fenn, and Alfred Potte; Miss Cissie Williams gives a dainty and pleasing turn, singing sweetly; Silverstone, the mimic, meets with great applause; Mr. Geo. Rapley is well received in song and patter; a pleasing little turn is given by Royston and Bradfield; and Foy and Staples in a comedy scena entitled *Pinched for Life*, show marked ability.

BURY (Lancs.). — Royal. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*The Village Blacksmith*, presented by Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, opened here on Monday, and proved as popular as ever. Mr. Sam Livesey's performance as John Strong is well known, and he has a flattering reception; Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Leo is excellent. The wrestling match between the two is very cleverly worked. Miss Maggie Edwards is a sympathetic Kate Strong, and plays well throughout. Others prominent in a good cast are Mr. J. Milne Taylor as Lucas Marler; Mr. J. H. Langford as St. John Harman; Mr. Joe Hodson as Billy Twigg; Mr. Edwin Maydew as Jeremiah Parkins; Miss Nellie Graham as Sal Parkins; Miss Cissie Le Grande as Ruth Parkins; and Miss Nellie Sinclair as Martha Mopps.

Circus of Varieties.—Another capital series of films is on view this week, and two good turns are provided in Dan Frazer, Scotch comedian, and Wagner and Ward, in vocal and musical act.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Morny Cash is the star turn, and laughter is continuous during his stay; Tom and Eileen Melbourne are very successful in a sketch, *A Sentry-box, a Soldier, and a Maid;* Edwin Garth is a versatile comedian; *Dick Whittington* is a clever comedy skit, ably presented by the Whittakers; Adeline Yohle and company in a musical interlude, entitled "Difficulties"; Wyllie, a tramp musician; and the Mackinnon Family, refined vocalists and speciality dancers, are all capital turns.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—Mr. Alex. Maclean is presenting *My Lady Bellamy* to appreciative audiences. Mr. Maclean is to be complimented on a vigorous portrayal of Sir Gervase Bellamy. He is supported by a powerful cast, in which Mr. Geo. Lyttleton Holyoake as William III. and Mr. Arthur Layland (Lord Crawford) figure prominently, other excellent work coming from Mr. Eric Snowden as Tarfax and Mr. A. L. Burke (Captain Ottley). Miss Laura Leigh is wholly bewitching as Lady Bellamy; Queen Mary II. finds a graceful representative in Miss Mary Palmer; and Miss Viola Marsh makes an excellent Mrs. Mackie. Praise is due to the faultless mounting of the play.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Cardiffians are favoured this week by a welcome visit to the city of Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney and company, in two new plays. On Monday *Margaret Catchpole* was staged, and was accorded an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Laurence Irving gave a truly realistic rendition of the exacting character of John Luff. His impersonation will be long treasured in the memory of his admirers, his make-up alone being quite a triumph. Miss Mabel Hackney appeared in the title-rôle, and submitted a remarkably powerful performance, completely winning the sympathies of her audience. An excellent study is that of Mr. Frank Esmond's William Land, who brings out the strong points of a difficult rôle to the best effect. Quite as successful, and exceedingly natural, is the portrayal of Jim Cook by Mr. A. Field Fisher, who won much applause for his clever acting. A great deal of praise is due to Mr. Rupert Harvey for his quiet yet effective representation of Jack Barry; and Mr. Henry Elmore as Edward Barry created a favourable impression; Mr. James Woodhouse as Philip did well; and the same can be said of Miss Katherine Herbert as the nurserymaid Kate. The whole company combined artistically, whilst the picturesque mounting added considerably to the success. On Tuesday and Friday evenings Mr. Irving staged his stirring play *The Unwritten Law, Margaret Catchpole* being billed for the other evenings.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—The principal item of the programme was a wonderful aerial display by Mr. Raymond Phillips' airship, a marvellous invention, controlled entirely from the stage by wireless electricity; a particularly dramatic episode is that presented by Miss Lilian Dundas and company, entitled *Convict Nance;* Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris have a smart turn; the Musical Jees are more popular than ever; Harry Simms presents a catchy song in excellent style; while other contributors are Tom Haig and Millie Novel, in a comedy acrobatic number; Mina Denvil, a charming vocalist; and Adam Tomlinson, a comedian from the Tyneside.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Burton.—Good business prevails here nightly. Williams's Jubilee Singers head the bill, and their harmonising vocalism proves most acceptable; the Three Van Dammes gain hearty applause for their skilful acrobatic act; the Four Rosebuds prove expert dancers; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna provide another clever exhibition of dancing; and Walter Read, a gifted banjoist; Harry, a clever and amusing ventriloquist; and Gladys Wells, a contralto comedienne, are others who add to the success of the programme.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the lawn tennis tournament week, the ever enterprising manager has secured a strong attraction in Madame Albani, the celebrated operatic and classical vocalist whose delightful rendering of popular ballads and excerpts from famous composers never fails to create enthusiasm. Madame Albani is supported by a strong company, including Witty Wattie Walton, who contributes comic patter and amusing songs and business; Liane Marigny is giving her graceful dances with success; Victor Newman, a clever actor, impersonates Irving in *The Bells* with dramatic effect; Ching Ling Fee is a smart illusionist; Mr. Henry Fransella is a flautist of recognised ability; the Brothers Hunnaway cross-talk and dance to everyone's delight; Rosie Solman, an entertaining comedienne and dancer; and Fame and Fortune, distinctly quaint and humorous, complete an enjoyable entertainment.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Wee Georgie Wood, the child comedian and mimic, is here in a pretty scena entitled *The Nursery*, and finds ample scope for a display of his abilities; the Scottish Meisters, the Six Lancashire Lasses, and the Ives are as popular as ever; Cosgrove and Burns contribute an amusing sketch, *The Singing Academy;* Hurman and Arthur, in a comedy juggling act, are clever. Excellent pictures complete a popular programme.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P. — Mr. Wilson Howard's company is here in *Under the Iron Heel*. Mr. Howard as Rene de Maupassant gives an admirable performance; the resentment of the audience is vigorously aroused by the villainies of Otto Marx as portrayed by Mr. Robertson Foulas; Miss Carlotta Anson as Germaine manifests grace and tenderness; Mr. Austin H. Longford is a capital Sergt. Bleucher, and shows exceptional talent; Mr. Gerald Smythe as Michel Bomet has much of the true comic vein; the part of Colonel Muller is filled with effect by Mr. R. Merring; Mr. J. P. Sallen ably sustains the character of Father Mirbleau; Miss J. Douglas Hicks is a capital Maman Gouffe; Lieut. Songy is well played by Mr. Fred M. Best; and Andre finds a clever exponent in Miss Marie Angus.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—An attractive programme is presented here by the Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures. In the way of variety Master Leonard Bedford is to be complimented on his expertness with the cornet; and Kirk and Saraski give a graceful aquatic display.

CHATHAM.—Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Miss Annie Schuberth delights her hearers with her song-scena, entitled "The Deputy; or, A Private Rehearsal"; the Cheers introduce some well-trained cats; Syd Cupp scores with a burlesque coon song and eccentric dance; Flora Cromer has a highly-flattering reception nightly; the Maples present a very amusing turn under the title of *Hamper-ed*. Others appearing are Ida Brophy, comedienne, and S. Osada, Japanese equilibrist; while the films projected by the Edisonograph are well up to the mark.

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This theatre reopened on Monday with Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese and Miss Lina Hicks as 'Liza are very clever; Mr. Herbert St. John and Miss Lily Gullick act and sing pleasantly as the youthful hero and heroine, Miss Gullick's "In Zanzibar," and Mr. St. John's "Cosy Corner," scoring a success. Miss Blanche Astley as Daisy Fallowfield sings prettily; the energetic group in pursuit of the Earl are capably represented by Messrs. D. Fisher, Harry Courtin, James R. Tate, and Miss Edith Blande. Mr. Lionel Scott as Crewe Boodle; Mr. A. Burgoyne as the innkeeper; and Miss Flora Gordon as the Lady of the Hall do well. The solo in the military scena is sung excellently by Mr. F. D. Fraser; and Mr. J. Dutton Nicholls performs a clever eccentric dance in the second act. The "Chantecler" trio, in which Mr. Herbert St. John and Misses Lily Gullick and Blanche Astley score heavily, caused quite a mild sensation.

Montpellier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The March Hares gave place to The Dandies on Monday. Mr. Wensley Russell's light humour is irresistible; and Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald is no whit less capable; Mr. Anthony Gordon's classic baritone singing reached double encores; Miss Josephine Gordon is a charming soprano and amusing comedienne; and Miss Ruby Lingard's contralto singing was enjoyed. The pianist is Mr. Charles Matthews, completing a strong and talented sextette, who should enjoy a successful engagement.

Winter Garden Electric Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill Smith.—This place is still growing in popularity. The pictures are pleasantly varied to suit all tastes, the *pièce de résistance* being Through the Darkness. Miss Alice Forbes' singing is popular.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. E. B. Shinton.—The varieties here are a show in themselves. Dome is a clever comedy clay modeller; the Matt Winkinson Trio appear in a laughable farce, *The Registry Office;* Miss Violet Beatrice renders a good song and step dance; and the Vocophone gives a popular ditty. The pictures are capital, The Hindoo's Treachery rousing the audience to a high pitch of excitement.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Mr. Bulmer's company is presenting *When Woman Hates* to full houses. Lieut. Rokeby, the hero, is well sustained by Mr. Richard Ferris; and Mr. Austin Mortimer does full justice to the part of the villain, Godfrey Lawton. Mr. B. H. Davis makes a dignified Sir Henry Rokeby; Messrs. Reg. Oldroyd and Evan Roland are excellent mirth-provokers as Alphonse Picolot and Patrick O'Brien; Miss Ada Oakley is a sympathetic Marie Rokeby; and the difficult part of Edith Rokeby is pathetically acted by Miss Jean Scott. Miss Doris Brookes plays the adventuress Cora Daintry, "the fiend with the angel face," with great power and thoroughness.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — The Chorlton Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, the Chorlton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—The season opened here on the 18th inst., when Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's company presented *The Sleeping Beauty*. Wee Georgie Harris proved a host in himself and sang his songs effectively; Miss Olive Purcell was an excellent Fairy, and Miss Daisy Wood a charming Prince Florizel; Miss Evelyn Major as the Prince's valet acted with plenty of go; Miss Kitty Rafferty, in the part of the Princess, won favour; Mr. Jack Harrison as the King of Shoeland, and the Bros. Armstrong as Queen Adelaide and Asbestos, kept the comedy well to the fore. The dresses were excellent.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Messrs. E. Lockwood and Harry W. Lumley's company in *The Girl in the Boat* is here for six nights. Mr. Chas. McNaughton as Potts is throughout a source of humour; Miss Irene Verona works successfully as Mrs. Hope; Miss Ruby Vivyan looks a charming Clementa; and as Miss Isobel Miss May Garstang wins high encomiums; Mr. Henry Agnes causes heaps of fun as Admiral Weber; Mr. Frederick Hobbs sings powerfully as Sir Walter, and Mr. Lockwood Philpott makes an efficient Stephano.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leslie.—The top-liner this week is *A 33 to 1 Chance*, very capably staged, with two well-known pugilists, Ben Jordan and Young Sullivan. Gwilym T. Evans, the South African tenor, establishes himself immediately as a high-class artist; the Due For Trio of dancers are excellent exponents; Cissie Thompson sings with dramatic intuition; Billy Rex gives his versatile show in good style. Florence Wix appears to advantage in comedy songs, and the films are high class.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The French Troupe of trick cyclists present a marvellous performance on wheels; Williams and Parker give an entertaining turn in song and story; a clever and neat turn is submitted by Hilton, magician; the Snow Family, grotesque skaters, elicit laughter. Up-to-date pictures complete.

New Town Hall.—Proprietors, Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—T. W.'s Tiny Stars are an attraction here in a charming song and dance scena; Mae Merlin, "the Crocodile," is well received; a good turn is Florence Raymond, ventriloquist. The pictures continue to be of a high standard.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Primrose Quartette, in comedy vocalism are much appreciated; Flo Melville is a dainty comedienne; and as jugglers, equilibrists, &c., Kavados score a big success. Pictures are also shown.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—The Irish Animated Picture Company opened a week's engagement with scenic, comic, and historic subjects. The pictures were good and much appreciated. The varieties were capital, and include the Sisters Colley, child entertainers, the Welsh Ladies' Orchestra, and Ralph Goggin, vocalist.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The bill of fare here is a capital one. Mike S. Whallen keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Ann Hope possesses a sweet contralto; Harry Vardon, ventriloquist, is very entertaining; the juggling performance of Halma is clever and difficult; the Broadway Belles present a singing and dancing act, which is heartily applauded; Frances Boyle, comedienne and quick-change artist, is very successful; Marcus Boyle, comedian, sings in a pleasing fashion; the Croisit Trio of French acrobats give a turn of high-class merit; and the Palascope pictures are enjoyable.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A very attractive piece is *A Chinese Honeymoon*, and under the direction of Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennet it is excellently staged. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fi-Fi keeps the audience continually amused; Miss Gladys Ivery, who possesses a pleasing voice, is successful as Princess Soo-Soo; Miss Gertrude Melville is very active as Mrs. Pineapple; Mr. Will Harman is intensely funny as Mr. Pineapple; Mr. Rudolph Kloss does full justice to the part of the Emperor; Mr. Frank J. Crimp makes a typical Englishman as Tom Hatherton; Mr. Colin Bryce is a good Lord Chancellor; and Mr. Leonard May ably takes the part of the Admiral.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. E. Wright.—The Five Mowatts, lightning jugglers, head the bill, and very much astonish the audience; Mason and Moore appear in a dramatic episode entitled *The Usurer;* Bromley and Fontein have a humorous musical turn; the Sisters St. Julien are smart duettists and dancers; and Sammy Shields is a racy Scottish comedian. Neski and Neski, grotesque gymnasts; Gillin, ventriloquial humorist; and Guyer and Vale, eccentric humorists, complete an exceedingly good programme.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—This house reopened on Monday for the autumn season with Mr. James Welch's well-organised company in *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. H. Langdon Brice has closely studied the part of Sir Guy de Vere; Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd would be hard to improve upon as Isaac Isaacson; Mr. Percy R. Goodyer hits off to a nicety the part of the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; Mr. Colin Johnson submits a scholarly rendering of the Rev. Peter Pottleberry; Mr. Humphrey Warden has a real grip of the character of Sir Brian Ballymote; and Mr. Lawrence Stevenson and Mr. John Cecil are all that can be desired in the parts of Wittle and Barker. Miss Isla Glynne sustains with dignity the rôle of Lady Rowena Eggington; Miss Violet Noel is seen to advantage as Miss Sarah Isaacson; Miss Lena Flowerdew is equal to the responsibilities of the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave; Miss Sadie Hope is brisk as Lady Millicent Eggington, and Miss Elspeth Oliphant is dainty as Alice Barker. The farce is preceded by a comedietta entitled *Milly's Mother*, acted by Messrs. Percy R. Goodyer and John Cecil and Misses Sadie Hope and Lena Flowerdew.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's company in the sketch *The Wow-Wows* is here this week. Ram Bhuj is a smart and diverting conjuror; Esta Stella is a neat comedienne; Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *East Lynne* is well received; Dorothy Ward is a pleasing musical artist; Conan and Doyle are original comedians and dancers; W. B. Raby is a diverting songster; Newman and Knight give a first-rate juggling act; the Bros. Ralston are finished vocalists; Vera Saunders makes a lively comedienne; Tony Black is a ludicrous Scot; the Harvey Boys and Girls present a clever speciality; Harry Brown is a happy coloured comedian; and the Bioscope concludes.

New Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Horace Goldin heads the bill this week with his astounding series of illusions, assisted by Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli; Miss Ada Colley, the primadonna, renders splendidly several selections, including "L'Oiseau d'Amour"; Wallace Lupino is a really smart youthful dancer; the Onetti Sisters give a striking gymnastic performance; the Bensons are diverting duettists; Ugo Nap at the piano is accomplished; Cyril Clensy gives some well thought out impersonations; Gladys Hooley performs well on the violin; and the American Bioscope concludes an interesting programme.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Variety is headed by Mr. Chris Harland's fairy transformation, "The Enchanted Grotto," a pretty entertainment; Mr. Max Montesole, supported by Miss Lucie Cane and Mr. Riston Haines, cause a good laugh in the sketch, *Even Money the Garter;* the Avrigny Trio are clever jugglers; Bu-Val, the happy Dutchman, with his concertina, is up to date; and other turns include Dorothy Jocelyn, comedienne and dancer; the Sprees, in musical comedy scena; Fame and Fortune, comedians; Connie Isca, with catchy chorus numbers; and the Darlascope pictures.

Palace.—The East Coast Variety Hall, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholl.—Tom and Marie Motramo fetch the house as musical and comedy artists; Ted Curtis and company are a fine troupe with their dancing and vocal comedy act; Gilbert Girard, animal and instrumental mimic, evokes loud applause; Wal Langtry, dialect comedian, is capital; and the bill includes Beatie and Blanche, duettists; the Millwards, in vaudeville; Les Luzellas, in a wire act; and the Bioscope.

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Varieties are supplied by the Birkenhead Family in a musical interlude, "Her Boy's Birthday," and Horace Monto, versatile entertainer.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—The Elliott Savonas are paying a welcome return visit here this week, and judging by their reception on Monday night, are more popular than ever; Sid Bedford and company's playlet, *The Second Mrs. Chester*, abounds with amusing situations, and causes much hearty laughter; another very amusing turn is that of Hadley Harman, whose clever parody of "Kelly" fairly convulses the house; Zasma is to be commended on his novel gymnastic act; Becketow Bros. as the eccentric butler and the dude are clever knockabout comedians; Sisters Wingrove are pleasing duettists and graceful dancers; the Milfords provide some clever dancing, and Maxwell and Francis are entertaining in their comedy scena. A humorous film on the Bioscope concludes a very satisfactory bill.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. France.—An almost human turn is provided by Dandy George's chimpanzee; Tom E. Finglass, the cowboy coon, proves a fine acquisition to the bill; Ted Karno and company, in their sketch *The Hotel de Quick*, are amusement caterers of the first order; Miss Florence Esdaile, vocalist, gave the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* in a manner deserving the highest commendation; Fred Evans has an interesting number, in which reminiscences of Dickens are introduced; and the Sisters Edwards execute a pretty little kettledrum duet.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Harry Tilbury's company are on a return visit with *The Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. A. G. Foy ably impersonates Frank Lindon; Miss Belle Tilbury is a success as the wife; Messrs. Alex Alexander and Edwin Browne make a fine pair of villains as Tom Redman and Lord Devant respectively; and the humorous business is well done by Mr. Harry Tilbury as Micky Doolan.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Fred Granville's productions, Ltd., is producing the drama *Another Man's Wife* twice nightly. It is exceedingly well-mounted and staged. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe gives a fine portrayal of Carlos de Vergas, his acting leaving nothing to be desired; the part of Lucia de Vergas is in the able hands of Miss Ruby Loncraine; the villainy of Paul Bernstoff is fully illustrated by Mr. Fred Beverly, and is ably assisted in his work by Miss Hazel Head as Inez de Castro; capital comedy is supplied by Mr. Willie Reid, who, as Sam Smiles, keeps the audience in constant laughter; Miss Marian Mayne as Tibby and Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer are also responsible for quaint humour; Miss Dorothy Love as Lucy proves a clever child artist; Mr. Henry Carlisle is excellent as Gilbert Eardsley.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—At the head of a very attractive programme are the Bellong Bros., cycle equilibrists, who are applauded for some very clever and daring feats; Miss Gertrude Bibby proves herself to be an exceedingly fine actress in her quick-change drama *Bonnie Prince Charlie*, in which she enacts all the five characters; the singing of Mme. Adah Payne receives the heartiest recognition; Goggin and Davis evoke much laughter in their acrobatic act, which is both clever and funny; much success is achieved by the Rosses, in a unique dancing act; Reno is a comedy cyclist much above the average; the Prince Milner Trio astonish and please everybody with hoop manipulating and wire-walking; R. G. Fry is a quaint comedian; and good films are shown on the Palascope.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon.—The Tissots appear in a smart turn of living marionettes; the McGregors, comedy entertainers, are tuneful and humorous; Mabel Roberts has a good voice, and her songs are beautifully illustrated; Jack Holland is a quaint comedian; some good singing and dancing is introduced by the Sisters Lyle; and the Royal Quintette, in a series of international dances, are greatly appreciated; an excellent display of animated pictures is a pleasing feature of the programme.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The variety combination here this week is replete with smart and popular turns. The Jackson Family (three brothers and two sisters) cause the audience to "enthuse" at their brilliancy as musical experts; Daisy Devonport, an able danseuse and clever comedienne, pleases; R. C. Note, comedian, is versatile; and the Rowntrees, comedy duo; *The Spider and the Fly*, a pretty little operetta

George Edwarde's company in *The Dollar Princess*. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield plays with conspicuous ability the part of Harry Q. Conder; and the rôle of Alice has a charming representative in Miss Norah Barry. Mr. Leonard Mackay ably undertakes the part of Freddy Fairfax; and Miss Emmy Wehlen is admirably suited as Olga. Mr. W. H. Rawlins acquits himself well as Mr. Bulger; and Miss Mabel Russell as Daisy is greatly appreciated. Mr. Howard Cridland as Dick, Mr. Paul Plunket as the Earl of Quorn, Mr. Martin Rosse as Lieutenant Grant, and Mr. Alfred Newell as Sir Anthony are all satisfactory in their respective parts; and the Misses Mabel Hayden and Roma June are exceedingly good as Dulcie du Cros and Sadie von Tromp. The play is well staged, the dresses splendid, and the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Irving, excellent.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Mr. Fred Storey and his company, in *Rip Van Winkle*, are accorded a hearty reception here; the Northern Troupe of International Dancers scores a success; and Mr. Charles Norton, mimic is recalled nightly. Gwennie Hasto dances skilfully; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is a favourite; and Miss Ina Lorrimer's Scotch songs are well received. Rauschle, in his clever impersonations of celebrities, is applauded; and Athlone and Sinclair, sketch artists, Lilian Farrar, and the Empire pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Four Ascots are at the head of a capital bill here this week, which also includes the Mackays, juvenile duettists and dancers; Walter Emerson, comedian; Dort and Leonard, comedy acrobats; the Martineks, in *The Rag Doll*; Charles Santon, double-voiced vocalist; Marie Magnus, vocalist and raconteuse; Harrison Brothers, patter purveyors; and the Bioscope.

ABBEY THEATRE.—This popular establishment opened its doors on Monday night for the Horse Show week, when a well-filled house heartily enjoyed the excellent programme provided. The triple bill included *Hyacinth Halvey*, by Lady Gregory; *The Cross Roads*, by S. L. Robinson; and *The Rising of the Moon*, by Lady Gregory. All the artists appearing displayed their usual abilities in their respective parts.

ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Co., ever up to date, is showing this week a fine picture of the Johnson-Jeffries fight.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, Sprengel Bros.—Ruby Castelle, ballad vocalist; Harry Dunn, eccentric comedian; the Lemartons, sketch artists; Kitty Lee, comedienne; and Arthur Prustin, comedian, are appearing here this week.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Herr Fericescu's Viennese Band is still here, and gives a musical treat to full houses daily.

ARCADIA, BRAY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The constant change of programme by the Arcadian company, together with the reappearance of the popular manager here, continues to attract large audiences nightly.

DUDLEY.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. James Bainton.—The Walonells have had a rousing reception for their clever triple bar performance and good comedy business; another excellent turn is provided by the Saxones, in a vocal comedy and instrumental act; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, original singing cardboard-box makers are also well received; Steinort, hand balancer and jumper, neatly executes many clever tricks; Babs Lloyd is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and other good turns are given by Dardan and Irish, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; and Dan Arthur, comedian.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*Alone in London*, admirably enacted by Mr. Charles Gibbon's powerful company, is playing to good business. Miss Nellie Clyde scores a success as Nan, her acting being characterised by skill and restraint; the heartless villainy of Dick Redcliffe is neatly hit off by Mr. Charles Gibbon; a clever and amusing study of Old Jenkinson is contributed by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson; Mr. Wallace Dunlop does well as Spriggins; Miss Ethel F. Greene must be warmly congratulated on her Tom Chickweed; Miss Evelyn Robson is a lovable and humorous Mrs. Maloney; Ruth Clifton has a charming representative in Miss Joan Harcourt; Mr. Gilbert Elvin as Mr. Burnaby is excellent; Mr. Robert Grey plays carefully and well as Walter Burnaby; and Mr. W. S. Stevenson acts with much vigour as John Biddlecombe. The comedy relief is well looked after by Mr. Bruce Lindley, an exceedingly droll Charlie Johnson, and Miss Carrie Young, who infuses much vivacity into the part of Liz Jenkinson. A word of praise must be accorded to pretty little Hetty Hornsby for a natural and finished rendering of Little Paul.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Pride of place on an attractive bill is shared by the Five Faludys, Hungarian acrobats, who give a daring and exceptionally clever display, and Rowland Hill, "ye dame and historical humorist," who makes a great hit; Dalmere's Circus, comprising fifty dogs, cats, doves, &c., provides a remarkable entertainment; Spry and Austin contribute a bright and breezy turn; Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots display exceptional talent as singers and dancers in a pretty scena, *The Gypsies' Revels*; Mona Garrick, in dramatic impersonations, is well received; Curtis Leo, ably assisted by Little Noblesse, gives a neat and clever conjuring show; Dora Lyric is a great success with chorus songs; a pleasing musical turn is given by Taree; and the Kingscope pictures are, as usual, excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Excellent pictures are shown here.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—A fine series of films gives much satisfaction to large audiences. A pleasing item is the singing picture by the Cinephone.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—A fine selection of films is exhibited here. The singing pictures on the Cinephone lend pleasant variety to the well-arranged and smartly-worked programme.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—A strong bill is headed by Florrie Gallimore, who is rapturously received; the Five Jolly Bakers are clever and amusing in the Risley act. *The Baker's Beano*; the Royal Diamonds, one-legged acrobats and jumpers, create quite a sensation; and Jackson and May are well applauded for daring cycling feats; Ted and Artis are expert banjoists, and give a pleasing entertainment; and Annie Lang is a capital dancer. The Cathedoscope shows The Little Doctor of the Foot Hills and A Cloud.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—On Monday evening a new romantic light opera, entitled *A Bedouin Beauty*, was produced here with all the signs of a very successful first night. *The Speckled Band* is billed for the last three evenings of the week.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Mouillot's No. 1 company appeared here for the first part of the week in *The Geisha*. Miss Aimee Grey, as O Mimosa San, used a fine voice with excellent results; Molly Seamore had an interesting representative in Miss Adela Crispin, who was dainty and charming throughout; Miss Rennee Reel was a chic and smart Juliette; and Miss Edith Jeffries, handsome and dignified, did good work as Lady Constance. Mr. Edward Carlton was the life and soul of the play as Wun Hi; Mr. Colin Coop extracted much fun from the part of the Marquis Imari; Mr. Edmund Sherras was a popular Reginald Fairfax, his vocal efforts meeting with hearty applause; Mr. Herbert Uzielli made the most of a clear tenor voice as Captain Katana; and Mr. Harry Reynolds lent efficient aid as Takemine. On Thursday evening Miss Evelyn Millard and company are billed to appear in the new play, *The Crisis*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill this week are Lennie and Hast, whose pretty musical sketch, *The Maid of Polaria*, with special scenery, is pleasing and bright; the Musical Marve's have a vocal and instrumental turn which deserves high praise; Miss Louise Zetland sings in an artistic manner; Miss Jessie Burg is skilled in the art of violin playing; the Videos are a trio of fine skaters; Mr. Cecil Bray, as a comedian, has a funny style; Miss Kitty Crowther is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and new pictures are shown.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A company under the direction of Messrs. Williams and Dunn is playing *Are You a Mason?* at the Lyceum. There is much vitality in the piece, and acted by an all-round clever cast, it is received with shouts of laughter and hearty applause from start to finish. Mr. William Lockhart, an exceedingly capable comedian, is admirable in the part of Amos Bloodgood, and he is well supported by Mr. Howard L. Tracy, who gives an excellent bit of comedy acting as Frank Perry; Mr. Archie Selwyn is very amusing as George Fisher, and his scene as the French modiste evokes uproarious merriment; Mr. Stanley Arthur's impersonation of Hamilton Travers, of the Folly Theatre, is an able character sketch; Mr. Edward J. Hinge is entertaining as the farmer, John Halton, and Mr. Andrew Buck is easy and natural as Ernest Morrison. Miss Agnes Maude is stately and incisive as the domineering Mrs. Bloodgood, and her three daughters, Eva, Lulu, and Annie, are played with much grace and charm by Miss Grace Denbeigh Russell, Miss Renee de L'Estrange, and Miss Claire Townshend; Miss Peggy B. Yeoman acts with humour and force as Lottie, and displays versatility as Mrs. Halton. The play is preceded by J. B. Buckstone's funny old farce, *A Kiss in the Dark*, renamed *My Wife's Friend* in the playbill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, Miss Kate Clinton, and company are on their annual visit, and opened on Monday with *The Three Musketeers*. Mr. Tearle's D'Artagnan is one of his best and most convincing impersonations, and the popular actor repeated his former success; Miss Clinton considerably strengthened the cast by her acting in the rôle of Miladi; Athos, Porthos, and Aramis found suitable representatives in Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. Edmund Grogan, and Mr. Gilbert E. Colona; the humour of the lighter scenes was pleasingly developed by the Boniface of Mr. Fawcett Lomax; Mr. Bernhardt Turner made a good impression as the Duke of Buckingham; and Mr. Horace Price appeared effectively as Cardinal Richelieu. The feminine rôles of the Queen and her tire-woman Constance were well interpreted by Miss Mary Campbell and Miss Constantia Brookes. *East Lynne* and *Macbeth* found places in the week's bill. Mr. Tearle's rendering of the Thane of Cawdor deserves more than a passing word of praise. It is a singularly impressive, intelligent, and tragic conception, admirably carried out in all its phases.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The foremost position on a well-varied and attractive bill has been assigned to Miss Alice Hollander, whose artistic rendering of operatic and other selections obtained very flattering recognition. Miss Aggie Nolan danced herself into favour; Miss Alice Golding gained popularity by her chorus songs; and a third lively comedienne turn was contributed by Miss Viva French, whose specialities included terpsichorean gymnastics. The calm method of the Lauri Brothers made their clever acrobatic feats very entertaining; and Mr. Arthur F. Ward's juggling with hoops "and other descriptions" combined novelty with dexterity. In *The Maid and the Artist* Wadham and Sterling supplied a somewhat weird and complex turn, introducing much that was new—and all of which was interesting and clever—in the way of painting, singing, and dancing; Mr. Charles M. Daly's company appeared with success in an acceptable miniature comedy entitled *Men Were Deceivers Ever*; and some excellent pictures were shown by the King's Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Courtice Pounds and company hold first position with the smart playlet, *Charles, His Friend*, in which Mr. Pounds again proves his abilities as a comedian and his talent as a singer. Miss Gladys Ivery and Miss Mary Sheridan are graceful actresses, and Mr. J. Cook Beresford is capital as Peter Ward. A vivid and picturesque performance, heightened by excellent bioscopic views, is carried through by Jackson and McLaren, champion tree fellers of Australia; Miss Hilda Jacobsen sings with effect and feeling two pathetic ballads, and Mr. Luis Alvarez, a Spanish tenor, gifted with a capital voice, is recalled for his masterly rendering of selections. Mr. Bert Weston contributes a droll turn of songs and patter, in which he shows an excellent mimetic faculty. Two turns of more than average merit are furnished by the Anartos, smart comedians and pleasing instrumentalists, and by Burley and Burley, amusing and dexterous acrobats, and the programme is further enlivened by the work of Miss Peggy Pryde, comedienne, and Little Keeno, a clever dancer. An amusing film, A Smoked Husband, completes the bill.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—An attractive programme at this house includes The Gold Seekers, an exciting film, and views of the Military Tournament, admirably depicted.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A Thousand Pounds Reward is the principal picture in the bill here. It is only one of many films, pathetic and humorous, which appeal both to the serious and lighter sides of human nature. Jim Crow and Cliff Vanstone contribute to an excellent variety programme.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars are proving favourites at this seaside resort at Portobello. In the concert hall a variety programme of much interest and excellence is presented. Mr. Leslie Harris, that notably clever performer at the piano, gives humorous extracts from his large repertory; Mr. Fred Pardoe, in his entertainment, "Poses and Impressions," contributes an enjoyable turn; the Child Trio continue for another week their admirable musical performance; Mr. Louis Nikola, conjurer, submits a series of deft sleight-of-hand feats, and Mr. Humphrey Bishop, baritone, proves himself to be a capital singer.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The boards this week are occupied by Boswell's Royal Circus, the two performances each evening being well patronised.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—An excellent programme is headed by Fred Conquest and company, in the mirth-proviking absurdity *Something for Nothing*; another screamingly funny item is provided by Fred Karno's production *Perkins, M.P.*, with Tom Nelson at the top of his form in the title-rôle; Lola and Otti Tate are clever acrobats; the Carina Sisters contribute a unique and popular instrumental turn; while Alf. Brookes is a comedian who evokes well-deserved applause; Puello and Cropp excel as dancers; and Freda Fern is quite pleasing.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—What proved a source of much attraction and enjoyment to a crowded house on Monday evening was the melodrama by Mr. Geo. A. De Gray's company, namely, *The Angel of His Dreams*. It is a drama of the sensational type, with a fine blending of pathos and humour, and its production was much enhanced by the manner in which it was mounted and dressed. The title-rôle was capably sustained by the author, while Miss Effie Bartlett played the part of "the woman who came between." A good deal of the life and vitality of the piece is left to Sam Tippett, a part which is undertaken by Mr. McIntosh Clyde (a son, by the way, of the famous actor John Clyde), who bids fair to become one of the best of the Scottish comedians. The part of Milly is sweetly taken by Miss Amy Daly; Mr. Wallace Campbell as Major Dudley Ferrars is a callous enough villain. The piece holds the boards all the week, and big houses are the order.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Rowland.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company, in the new sensational play, *The Speckled Band*, opened for three nights to an overflowing house on Monday. Mr. O. P. Heggie submitted a clever study of that ever-interesting character, Sherlock Holmes, and was very ably supported by Mr. Bassett Roe, who gave a skilful portrayal of Dr. Grimesby Rylott, the villainous Anglo-Indian surgeon. Miss Mary Forbes at once attracted the sympathies of the audience by the natural and charming way in which she delineated the part of the persecuted step-daughter, and her acting throughout deserved unstinted praise. Miss Lilian Brennard as the martinet housekeeper was exceptionally good, as also was Mr. Frank Vyvyan, who, as Ali, the Indian valet, exercised a weird effect; Mr. R. H. Brooke's sketch of Armitage, the irrepressible Methodist juryman was a good character impersonation; and the Coroner was ably portrayed by Mr. S. J. Warmington. A special word of praise must be given Mr. Talbot Homewood, who was "Dr. Watson" to life; Mr. H. Asheton Tonge also distinguished himself as the broken down old butler. Master Phillip Tonge as Billy, the alert page boy, gave evidence of his remarkable ability. Miss Lilian Rogers, Mr. R. Lumley, Mr. R. Jukes, and Mr. A. Bransgrove ably sustained the minor parts.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester continue to be very popular, and draw excellent houses at every performance.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sidney B. Stringer.—Viviana and company present an original dancing act here; Robb Wilton, a confiding comedian, pleases all parts of the house; Randolph King, described as the one-man programme, is an accomplished artist; Will Atom and his company score heavily with the farcical trifle *Wiggles*; Yetta, on the single wire, shows uncommon ability; and Sylvo, comedy juggler, Minnie D'Aubyn, comedienne, and the Kingscope furnish other attractive items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Miss Grace Warner and company are here in *The Wages of Sin* and *The Scarlet Clue*. In the former drama Miss Warner realistically depicts Ruth Hope; Mr. George Gordon faithfully portrays George Brand; Stephen Marler is well regresented by Mr. Frank Esmonde; and Miss Lallah Price is a capital Barbara.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—The second week of the D'Oyly Carte company's stay here was ushered in by a repeat performance of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and again to a crowded house. Miss Louie Rene was again the Dame Carruthers, Mr. Fred Billington the grimly humorous Wilfred Shadbolt, and Mr. Henry A. Lytton the quaintly pathetic jester Jack Point. Misses Marjorie Stone, Beatrice Boarer, and Miss Hilda Cross as Elsie, Phœbe, and Kate respectively, made heaps of friends. Others whose operatic efforts were frequently rewarded were Mr. Sydney Granville as Sir Richard Cholmondeley, Mr. Stafford Moss as Colonel Fairfax, Mr. Leicester Tunks as Sergeant Meryll, and Mr. Henry Herbert as Leonard Meryll. Recalls were numerous and imperative. The chorus got through their exacting work in excellent style. Mr. Francois Celbier conducted. For the remainder of the week *Patience*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Princess Ida*, *Gondoliers*, and *Mikado* are billed.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—After the summer vacation this house reopened on Monday, when Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company presented *The Private Secretary* to a well-filled house. Mr. James Hussey is exceedingly funny as the Rev. Robert Spalding, giving point to the various amusing situations; a better Mr. Cattermole than Mr. William Hargreaves would be hard to find, his performance being most amusing; Mr. Horace George and Mr. Arthur Claremont do justice to their parts, the former as Harry Marsland and the latter as Douglas Cattermole; Miss Mary Malahieu is an attractive Edith Marsland; and the Eva Webster of Miss Elsie Blythe is a well-acted study. Mr. Kendal Chalmers satisfactorily portrays the part of Sidney Gibson; Miss Estelle Despa is quite at home as Mrs. Stead; and Mr. William Carriden does good work as Mr. Marsland. The comedy is preceded by *The Captain's Wife*, admirably played.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Humphrys.—*His Excellency the Governor* has proved a welcome addition to the Repertory company's long list of plays, and the witty dialogue and amusing situations are heartily enjoyed. On Monday a new farce, entitled *How Cottle Fell From Grace*, was produced for the first time, and is noticed elsewhere.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—This handsome theatre reopened on Monday, and a complete change of entertainment has been introduced. A stock company has been engaged, and will each week revive one or other of the famous old rollicking farces so popular in days gone by. The remainder of the programme consists of films, grave and gay, tragic and humorous. The farce selected for the opening week is *My Turn Next*, and it goes extremely well. Mr. Alex. Keith plays the village apothecary, and is well supported by Misses Elsa Brettingham, Margaret Zaidia, and Jane Howgate, and by Messrs. Byron Douglas, H. Wyngate, and Austin Ray.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. M. D. Waxman continues his season of Yiddish plays, and this week is giving *King Lear*, *Sulamita*, *The Broken Hearts*, *Kohl Nidra*, *Bar Kochba*, and *Ureal Akosta*.

METROPOLE.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Capital houses are being drawn by Mr. Morton Powell's company in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*. Miss Alice Defoe gives a touching portrayal of the leading character, Jessie Burton; the sailor lover Harry Hailing being interpreted to the life by Mr. Harry Scott; as the villain, Edge, Mr. Richard Vane is particularly good; and the authoress, Mrs. Morton Powell, plays Winnie Waters most effectively. Mr. Sydney Bryant does good work as Jossie; the hypocrite Sleek of Mr. Alaric Burton is an amusing study; Mrs. Burton is represented in pointed style by Miss Kathryne; Miss Jeannie Risley gives character to the part of Lucy Lawton; clever sketches being also submitted by Miss Addie Adair as Mrs. Slutt and Mr. W. Blunton as Sparkle.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Under the new two-house arrangement this week we have Miss Ada Wallis and company in *The Major*, an amusing piece, with lots of irresponsible fun. Mr. T. C. McQuire is very funny as Major O'Neale and Mr. J. W. Groves equally so as Jeremiah. Miss Ada Wallis makes a bright and lively Clara; Miss Ethel Tooney as Mrs. Gampney, Miss Mercia Davis as her daughter, and Miss Annie Frayle as Hilda give clever renderings. Mr. Emlyn Davis as Goodman, Mr. Arthur Douglas as a waiter, and Messrs. Fred Draper and George Hicks are all responsible for helping the fun along.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The Empire patrons have this week quite a change in *Chanteclair, or Hi-Cockalorum*, a feathered farmyard phantasy. The brightly-coloured plumage, combined with the light effects, lends greatly to the spectacular side of the play, while much amusement is caused by Messrs. Ernest Sefton and Jas. Learmouth as the Boosy Rooster and Cat respectively. Mr. Jack Martin makes a capital Chanteclair, and Miss Madoline Rees is pretty in the part of the wayward hen pheasant. The whole is excellently staged and worthy of Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts, who are responsible for its production. A very clever acrobatic act is given by the Great Lumars, who introduce the living electric horizontal bar; Howard Ward and Louie Davis are well received in a musical comedy duologue, "Wanted, a Typist"; Ed. E. Ford, the Australian Sundowner, keeps his audiences lively with his facial expressions; and Geo. Antill proves an eccentric comedian of more than average ability. Miss Bertie Herron is responsible for quite an amusing turn with her minstrel business; while Azella Wilson is a graceful gymnast. Mr. Graeme Goring, the well-known elocutionist, submits capital recitations from his extensive repertoire in most pleasing fashion; and the Bioscope is interesting.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Miss Constance Collier, who has often been in Glasgow in dramatic work, is appearing in a vaudeville programme. Her contribution is Henry Hamilton's powerful recitation, "The Relief of Lucknow," and Miss Collier gives it with striking effect; Frances Letty appears in several cleverly arranged scenas, in which she gives a touch of Scotch comedy, Irish humour, and a sketch of coon life; the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese give a daring show; Joe Reichen's trained dog show is one of the best of its kind; Rose Elliott once again carries the audience with her in the tuneful choruses of her "sensible songs"; the Quaint Q's give a comedy quartette turn full of eccentric humour, and introduce some enjoyable singing; Foot Gers, the French comedian, takes well in his imitations of Fregeon and other stars; Estcourt is a novel entertainer, juggler, &c., and is well received; and Kenny Kay's ventriloquial turn causes roars of laughter.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Gilday and Fox, a couple of Hebrew comedians new to this country, have proved a great success; Graham Moffat and company cause roars of laughter with their Scottish farce, *The Concealed Bed*; Alice Hughes dances and sings with lively effect in the sketch, *Star of the Bazaar*, and is ably seconded by the members of her company; the Ellesmeres give a neat and clever cycling turn; Walter King, the doleful one, again causes hearty laughter; the Four Eugenes give a very smart aerial gymnastic act; Eva Chadwick is the possessor of a good voice; and Goodall and Knox, knockabout comedians, are well received.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—An attractive programme is drawing large audiences. A good leading turn is furnished by Harry Tate in *Flying in His Veri'ot Tater Plane*, which is exceedingly funny, and pleased the audience immensely; Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques are an artistic combination in comedy, burlesque, and harmony; and Miss Marquis's stud of wonderfully trained ponies are an example of equine intelligence. Other notable items include the Hardini Trio of violinists; J. H. Milburn, topical vocalist; Madge Brownie, Dutch impersonator; Lupino Lane, comedian and eccentric dancer; May Mars, in a pleasing vocal scena, "A Persian Garden"; and an interesting display on the Bioscope.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Olive and Vera, duettists and dancers, give a smart turn; Serron and Sunken are a couple of clever jugglers and conjurors; Mlle. Bartenelli takes well as a contortionist and gymnast; and Mary Vernon's items are very enjoyable. An excellent series of films forms the remainder of the programme.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dickinson.—In addition to pictures a couple of good variety turns are introduced, Sam Elvery, Hebrew delineator, tickling the fancy of the audience with his song "Abraham," and Celia Vernon contributing a fine illustrated song. The talking and singing picture is entitled "I'm Shy, Mary Ellen."

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—At the head of affairs are Les Tripellos Trio, who are responsible for a high-class musical entertainment; Retta Halkett, a dainty little artist, sings several Scotch songs well, and dances smartly; and the singing and dancing of the little Sisters Ormond, a couple of clever juveniles, is greatly appreciated. The Bioscope films are many and varied.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Gus Lazenberg; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Durazcoe and Azella display wonderful talent in their equilibristic and pyramid act; the Moxon Trio mystify with their juggling and dancing; Wills and Warlock have very amusing patter; and Jack Morth proves a clever comedian. The pictures are of a high order of merit.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—This is the last week of Volpi's Italian Circus here, and business is still good. In the Zoo many new animals have been added. Interest centres now in the daring performance of Mme. Vera Schuzzler with a group of "raw" lions, and, considering the short time she has had them in hand, her control over the animals is marvellous.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—After being closed for several months, this theatre was reopened on Monday, when Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Spenser's répertoire company presented *My Sweetheart* to a crowded house. In the title-rôle Miss Lizzie Hall was charming and vivacious, her singing and dancing being delightful; Mr. Sydney Spenser gave an effective portrayal of Joe Shotwell; Mr. Arthur L. Read was a vigorous Harold Bartlett; Mr. Harry S. Butler made an effeminate Dudley Harcourt; Mr. A. W. Thompson was an able Dr. Oliver; Mr. Edwin Rawlinson was very effective as Tony, his singing and dancing being excellent; Miss Gipsy Alexander as the wily Mrs. Fleeter shone to advantage; Miss Belle Russell was a distinctive Mrs. Haizell; Peck-a-Boo, Christie, and Emmeline were nicely represented by Miss Hilda Eyre, Miss Elsie Heap, and Miss Violet Hethering-ton respectively. *A Wonderful Woman*, *Fritz*, and *Peggy* occupied the boards for the remainder of the week.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Messrs. Jay and Mann's company in *The Truants* is here. Miss Molly Tremaine contributes a capital impersonation of Freda Saville; and Bill Chetwood is in the capable hands of Mr. T. A. Shannon; Dick Chetwood being well played by Mr. O. Powis Griffiths. Mr. Mackenzie Rogan is good as the Rev. Philip Preston; and Miss Elmie Kemp an excellent Pamela Gray. Lord Strelland is adequately represented by Mr. Frank Danby; as is Lady Darnaway by Miss Mildred Orme. Miss Dorothy Booth is interesting as Jack Carstair; and Miss Rita Trekelle as Mrs. Collins is very prominent. The character of Checkley is effectively rendered by Mr. E. Compton Coutts; and Bent is suitably enacted by Miss Stewart Dawson. Mr. Geo. Martley as Peglar also deserves notice.

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles' Theatres Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—A splendid travel film, In the Pyrenees, is shown; and The Mystery of Temple Court is a good dramatic subject. The Deroneys give a smart comedy wire act; J. P. Durney, a champion skater and rolling globe performer, provides an attractive turn; the Vocaphone puts on two good selections; Miss Kitty Woodford is well received for her illustrated songs; and Hearne and Palmer, in *The Hebrew and the Barman*, have a novel acrobatic act.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.—This charming little building, with its new system of ventilation, is liberally partonised, and the pictures are well up to standard.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—*The Merry Widow* company opened here on Monday to a house packed in every part. In the title-rôle Miss Phyllys le Grand appeared with great success; Mr. J. Warren Forster displayed fine artistic instinct as the Prince; Mr. Edward D'Arcy was excellent as Baron Popoff; Mr. Fred Fowler's Nisch was a delightful piece of comedy; Mr. Ripley Evans sang well as Viscount de Jolidon; and Miss Ada Thome was excellent as Natalie.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—The attraction here is *The Little Damozel*, capitally interpreted by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Miss Emilie Polini displays marked ability as the Little Damozel; Mr. Alick Chumley plays well as Recklaw Poole; Mr. William Matthews is an ideal proprietor of the Café Angelique; Captain Gambier gives a clever character-sketch of Papa Batholdy; Mr. Guy Newall is very amusing as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; and Mr. George Brandon is good as Captain Neil Partington.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The "Boy Scouts'" spectacle has been produced here with great success; Albos appears in a sensational wire act; the *Tally-Ho* spectacle is still very popular; Gicardo is a juggler of remarkable dexterity; Liugu Salvino is a musician of first-rate ability; and Doodles, with his original antics, delights the audiences.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Mr. Harold Nuttall's company, in *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, are topping the bill, the principal part being excellently portrayed by Mr. Martyn Roland. Mr. Tom Garland is a clever exponent of ventriloquism; the Three Rochesters' speciality act receives well-merited applause; Chummie La Mara is very popular with her excellent songs; Mr. Tom Moore is a first-rate character comedian; Morelli and Moore are very amusing and clever musicians; the Spanish Goldini troupe perform some remarkable acrobatic feats; and Mr. Bert Anderson gives a clever legerdemain turn.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—The Fantastics concert party is appearing here.

GREENOCK.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—A good programme is contributed by the Columbia Comedy Trio; Charles Prelle's bijou circus, in a smart show; Florence Cora and Sam Thompson in their well-known burlesque; Haidee St. George, a refined vocalist and pianist; Henry and Tyler, a couple of remarkably clever trick cyclists; the Sisters Cora, vocalists; Dennis and Morris, simultaneous dancers; and the Dromoscope, with up-to-date pictures.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The excellent quality of the B. B. pictures ensures, as usual, full houses this week. The pictures include An Indian Girl's Romance, Two Sides of a Story, The Forest Ranger's Daughter, The Marked Time-table, Away Out West, and Tilly the Tomboy.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Greater Love* is arousing much interest. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid acts with singular force as Paul Penfold, admirably realising the pathetic suggestion of the part; Miss Francesca Strickland does very well in the difficult rôle of Mary; Miss Marion Fawcett shows emotional power as Mrs. May; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks plays the interesting character of the Rev. Arthur Warren in an earnest manner; Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives an impressive portrayal of Jack May; Mr. Wentworth Lawson is amusing as P.C. Drayton; and Mr. Dennis Bryan is excellent as Andrew Isted.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Much fun is contained in the bright miniature farce *Three of a Kind*, and it is smartly acted; Miss Gwen. Lindon's attractive style and pleasing voice are much admired; Phil Percival has a fund of burlesque comedy that is decidedly entertaining; Maud Marshall and Fred Parr appear in a vocal act with much success; the W. T. Thompson Trio cause much laughter with *Watch the Chalk*; Len Hale is a clever dancer, especially on roller skates; and Lulu Lord has a variety of good songs which she sings well.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company provides here a delightful treat in *Smith*. Mr. Robert Minster as Tom Freeman merits warm praise; Mr. H. Douglass Greet capably undertakes the rôle of Algy Peppercorn; Mr. F. G. Thurston is suitably cast as Dallas Baker, K.C.; and Mr. J. Child is of excellent service as Fletcher. Miss Ethel Hodgkins displays histrionic ability as Mrs. Dallas Baker; Miss Pauline Straus gives a well-studied performance of Emily Chapman; and Miss Ethel Wellesley enacts Mrs. Rosenberg with conscientious care. The week is filled in with electric pictures and excellent variety turns.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—The attraction here is supplied by the Whips, under the direction of Mr. Fr

next week. A short descriptive account appears in another column. On Thursday and Friday *The Geisha* and on Saturday *A Greek Slave* were billed for production by Mr. F. Monillot's company.

American Palace Pier.—Lessees, Rinkeries (1909), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. J. D. Hunter and his company continue their season here, and have this week reproduced the farcical comedy *The Guv'nor*. A children's grand fancy dress carnival was held last Saturday. Alfresco concerts are given daily on the deck by the troupe of comedians, and roller-skating is followed with interest by many spectators in the open air skating rink, enlivened by Mr. J. Vince's military band. A fancy dress fête was held on Wednesday.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—The concerts here instituted by Mr. Wallace Arthur continue an attractive item in the borough's entertainments.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Ainsley and H. Hall.—This week Mr. Ernest Dottridge's vaudeville company is here. Harwood's Juveniles top the bill in the scena *Christmas Eve*; Jimmy Hoffman, quaint comedian; and Wal Owen, in his funniosities, are both good, and the Marblesque Trio give a realistic performance of living pictures; Zelda is a charming and clever instrumentalist; Mario juggler, meets with success; and the Three Eltons bar comedians, give an excellent turn. The Girl Pierrots meet with much approval; and Les Rallis score heavily in the clever sketch, *The Artist and His Monkey*; Mr. James Rallis gives a capital impersonation of the monkey.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—An enjoyable programme is being submitted at this place of amusement this week. Special films include Over Silent Paths, The Red Man's Way and Canine Sagacity.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Miss Sable Fern and her company are the chief attraction with the new scena, *Boy Scouts in Camp*. Also in the bill are Agnese and Arthur Lynch, in illustrated songs; the Blessings, a pair of clever equilibrists; Heeley and Meeley, tramp acrobats; Rubee and Renee, lady vocalists; Fred Elton, a breezy entertainer at the piano; and Neville Delmar, light comedian and whistler. The pictures supply an amusing finish to the programme.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The artists here are Juno Salmo, in his weird feats of contortionism; Maurin's Fairy Fountains; the Dick and Dorothy Trio of singers and dancers; the Four Figaros, character impersonators; Dick Tubb, comedian; Miss Jessie Buckle, comedienne; and Ruglus, an expert and amusing comedy juggler. The pictures complete the bill.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The return of *Old Heidleberg* is very welcome. Mr. Benham's company have fully justified the interest shown in them. A newcomer to the city is Miss K. Ricimer, who has proved herself a fine performer, and realises the rôle of Kathie in every phase; Carl Heinrich is capitally placed in the hands of Mr. Owen Nares, whose work created a very favourable impression; the Kellerman of Mr. O. Wells was an excellent foil to the sadder side of the play; Mr. Sydney Hamilton was an able Lutz, the innkeeper; and Mr. Percy Crawford is an interesting picture. The student scenes were very well done.

Alexandra.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Can a Woman be Good?* produced by T. H. Taylor's company, is drawing good houses. Mr. H. C. Robinson is the chief of the heavy brigade, and fills his rôle well; Mr. J. Millane is a safe Manuel Errington, and works well; Miss Mabel Rose plays the rôle of the heroine with conspicuous credit; and Miss Norah Melton and Miss Florence Hunt give pleasing impersonations.

ILKESTON.—Coliseum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Leigh.—The chief item on the programme is J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington's company, in *Olga's Oath*, the latter artist displaying acting ability of a high order. The Hesses are accorded a hearty reception, their musical entertainment being quite a treat; Pete and Juno, in song and dance, are old favourites; Will and Rose, in *Fun in a Café*, prove clever performers; Claude Gardner, comedian, Sisters Robertson, song and dance artists, and the Bioscope complete.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savery.—Miss Florence Tyrrell's company is here with *The Woman in the Case*. Claire Foster in the hands of Miss Tyrrell is a clever piece of acting; Miss Mabel Ormonde shows power in the part of Margaret Rolfe; the Julian Rolfe of Mr. Cecil Newton is excellent, and Mr. Howard Brenan makes an interesting Thompson; Mr. Sidney Porter is a good Jimmy O'Neil and Louis Klauffsky is well played by Mr. Charles Clarke; Mr. Gerald Alexander is a good Walters, and Miss Ethel Lodge is the irrepressible Mrs. Hughes; and Miss Evelyn Carleton a capital Elsie Brewster.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Messrs. Spissell Brothers and Mack, American eccentrics, have an amusing turn entitled *A Quiet Little Supper*; Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is a clever show; Delvers and Wallace have a good turn with laughter and song; R. A. Speedwell is extremely clever with his lightning sketches; a novel ventriloquial act is given by Cavalli; the Delafoire's are expert baton spinners and xylophonists; Ohm's trained ponies dogs, and monkeys are very clever, and the Bioscope, with some special films concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—*Her Love Against the World* is pleasing patrons here. Mr. Fred Emery gives an excellent rendering of Eric, the Earl of Strathmere; Miss Rossie St. John does full justice to the part of Lionel; and Mr. Roy Fortescue plays with force and skill as Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallett does full justice to the rôle of Prince Othmar; and that of Prince Maurice is carefully handled by Mr. Arthur Chisholm; as Iris, Princess Idalia, Miss Ellen Snow is seen to perfection; Mr. John Mill and Mr. Fred Acton as Fritz and Heinrick cause much amusement, and are ably assisted by Miss Winifred Acton and Miss Hetty Ferguson as Katinka and Gretchen, and the mounting is excellent.

Palace.—The Jarrow Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—This place of amusement continues to draw good houses and some excellent pictures are shown. Sira, one-legged acrobat, introduces extraordinary feats; Lil Garrick, comedienne and dancer, is well received; and Tom Casey, the singing newsboy and champion march whistler, is popular.

The Kino.—Proprietor, Mr. Dixon Scott; Manager, Mr. John R. Scott.—This new picture hall is receiving liberal support. The Royal Kino Juveniles do well.

The Gem.—Lessees, Messrs. John Tweddle and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Rabey.—This picture hall is showing some excellent films. Mr. Hyman Long, speciality artist, and Master Stobart, the juvenile Patti, are popular.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwardes.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is paying a return visit with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. E. Russell as Mr. Hook is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Cuthbert Hardy acquits himself creditably as Captain Adrian Paap; Mr. Sam Lockridge still appears as the conceited Bandmaster; Mr. Wilson Blake takes the part of Schnapps; and Mr. Reginald Hunter is amusing as Simon Slinks. Miss Kathleen Starling is a pretty and taking Miss Hook; whilst the part of Mina is still inimitably played by Miss Muff Carew.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—The new electric films here this week are The Mule Driver, Tontolini as Nero, and A Bolt from the Blue.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Ponlain.—Some excellent pictures are being shown here, and Miss Esaline Thorne is making herself a great favourite.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Percy Leopold.—The Vivandières are getting quite a good reception here this week.

Triangle Park.—Mr. Wilson James's Enterpeans continue to be the attraction here.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Mr. Charles W. Poole's Myriorama is here, and, as usual, the variety turns are excellent, and include Inez and Pim, unique gymnasts; W. L. Rowland, fun furnisher; Harry Raymond, dancing extraordinary; the Jerome Duo, quaint jugglers; the Ettenason, the Globe, and Amasis, the Egyptian mystery man.

KEIGHLEY.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Tom Barrasford.—Mr. Wm. Maclaren's company is here in *Proof*. Mr. Francis Roberts is a good Pierre Lorance; Mr. George Roberts's Count de Laval is a noteworthy performance; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is a humorous Chamboran; Miss Hero Hathaway is a charming Adrienne; Miss Phena Powell scores as Madame Deprets; and Miss Millicent James is well placed as the Duchess. Mr. Herbert Stone, the musical-director, must be complimented on the meritorious performance of the orchestra.

KETTERING.—Victoria Theatre.—Managers, Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co.—The Balzens, jugglers; the Sisters Roze, duettists and dancers; and the Vernon and Mars Trio contribute variety turns here.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint.—Sandwiched with up-to-date pictures are pleasing turns by Roche and Roche, Welda and Wynne, and Stirling and Cashen.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—We have a visit this week from Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Edward Bertici ably portrays the part of General Kingsley, and Mr. Frank Austin that of Captain Frank Carsdale. Messrs. Polsen Turner and Chas. Oakley are respectively good as Captain Geo. Darrell and Lieut. Allen Kingsley. Mesdames Violet Langley, Ada Champion, and Patricia Connaughton are good in their various rôles. The play is well staged.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company has presented the fascinating comedy *Smith*. Mr. Montagu Love as Tom Freeman shows ability; as Algie Peppercorn Mr. Vivian Gilbert is excellent; as Mr. Dallas Baker Mr. Cecil Brooking faithfully interprets the part; Miss Eleanor Delaporte makes a striking Mrs. Dallas Baker; and as Smith Miss Jessica Thorne is charming.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre—Licensee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson have been here in *Henry of Navarre*. Mr. Terry's magnificent performance was a triumphant success from start to finish. Miss Julia Neilson's Marguerite de Valois was a most impressive performance. Mr. Philip Merivale ably impersonated Henry (Duc de Guise), and Mr. H. H. Wright capitally played Henry Duc D'Anjou; Mr. Horace Hodges, in the part of the Astrologer, gave an excellent interpretation; Miss Eileen Beatrice as Marie Bellefont was suggestive of much charm and vivacity; and Miss Phyllis Manners ably depicted the Queen-Mother.

Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—*The Power of the King* is being played here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, Mr. Clavering Craig, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Mr. Arthur St. John, Miss Marie Franklyn, and Miss Isa Lyndon being highly successful in the principal rôles.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—George Robey successfully heads the bill here; the Seven Perezoffs are very smart in a juggling entertainment, Lena Verdi excels in mimicry, and other good turns include those of Carl Howard, J. G. Scatter, Annie Fielding and Bert Hull, Bros Durant, the Poluskis, and Frank Couch.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Bellew and Stock's company, which includes Master Edward Garratt, presents *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, here. It is an amusing comedy sketch. The Jaxon Troupe excel in step dancing, Ernie Myers is a favourite comedian, Lily Lonsdale's fine voice is much admired, Harold Heath is a coon singer and dancer, Jessie Templeton wins popularity in some smart songs, the Three Dixons do a nice banjo and dancing act, and the Four Burnells and Lilian French are included in an excellent programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Consul is the principal attraction here; the Five X Rays provide an amusing item; the Days appear in a clever telepathy act; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene present a sparkling comedietta, *My Lady's Chamber*; Maudie Ford and Marie Glenn are favourite vocalists; and Cestria is a good comedy juggler.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Booking-Manager, Mr. Johnnie Whiteman.—Marguerite Ismay and Girls provide a bright vocal and dancing scena here, Beale and Broadway are clever singers and dancers, Monty Walker and Bert Rayburn are favourite comedians, and other turns include those of Maclaine and Mac, and McBride and Logie.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—*A Woman Worth Winning* is presented here by Mr. Percy Norman's company, under the direction of the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay, to large and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. R. Jerrold Ord ably impersonates the character of General Borinski; Mr. A. B. Mackay acts with ability as Fergus Lovinsky; Mr. Graham Hamlyn gives a powerful portrayal of Ivan Bardoff; Peter Popples is exceedingly funny as played by Mr. L. Newman; Mr. C. W. Black makes a pleasing Bertie Scribbles, and Miss Lillie Lewis acts with sympathy and feeling as Roma Pauloff. Other parts are well played. *The Beginning and the End*, by the same author, will be staged on Thursday. Mr. Barry Bond, the newly-appointed manager of the theatre, took over the management on Monday.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company is here this week in the romantic play, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Those in prominent parts who should be singled out for special commendation are Miss Miriam Pritchett (Monica), Miss Jessica Black (Viola), Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke (Prince Hildred of Sylvania), Mr. Lionel Gadsden (Prince Michael), and Mr. Ernest Cox (Prince Olaf). Other parts are in safe hands.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—This week's attraction is provided by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company in *Night and Morning*, in which Mr. Stanley Carlton, Miss Rubie Maude, Miss Marion Holiy, and Mr. W. H. Vernon play their parts admirably.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne.—Now that the redecorating and refurnishing of this handsome and palatial vaudeville theatre have been completed, the beautiful and artistic appearance of the hall is the theme and admiration of its many thousands of patrons. The principal turn in this week's programme is George Carney, who is creating endless merriment in the sketch, *The Fool of the Force*—Mr. Carney is supported by a capital company; the Great Fasola bewilders the audience with the rapidity of his illusions; Franco Piper is aptly billed as the maestro of the spinning, tossing, and swinging banjos; the Gothams, the harmonising and comedy vocalists, are as popular as ever; the De Wynne Brothers, who introduce two well-trained dogs, give a remarkable exhibition of hand-balancing feats in a sangfroid manner; Will Johnson is a laughter-compelling comedian; Woodhouse and Wells, pantomime favourites, are a pair of comedians and dancers who give an exhilarating turn; Bertha Winder excels in an exhibition of clog dancing; Daisy Martell is also a good dancer; and the Bioscope is still retained.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Tom Taylor, the popular comedian, and company is this week's chief attraction in the funny sketch, *The Plumbers*, in which Mr. Taylor is conspicuous with a portrayal that keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter—the other characters are capably enacted; Colbert is a smart club juggler and hoop roller; Doris Druce is a juvenile comedienne who should make a name with her imitations of various artists; and others in the programme are Nellie Neil, comedienne and dancer; T. C. Jacques, a versatile comedian; and Ernest Howard, a local light comedian. A fine picture programme of star subjects is also shown.

Grand Electric Picture Palace.—Proprietors, the Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—The dominant feature of this hall is the very latest released pictures, changed twice weekly. The Kinemacolour films prove exceptionally attractive, and this week the audiences are being delighted with a magnificent one of the River Seine, and a series of various Spring Flowers.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The usual liberal programme of pictures is again in evidence here this week, the two principal films being The Cowboy Millionaire and The Spanish Girl, which are supported by Foolshead Preaches Temperance, Her Sister's Sin, True Love Never Runs Smooth, Western Chivalry, The Love of Lady Irma, and many others. Connie Ruby, a smart songstress, is the additional attraction.

Boulevard Electric Theatre.—Managing-Director Mr. John Noble.—Audiences here are greatly pleased with the first-class pictures shown. In addition the entertainment is varied by the Belmont Troupe of concert artists.

LEIGH.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—Heading the bill here are Haley's Juveniles, whose singing and dancing are deserving of high praise; Dix and Dox present quite a novel musical turn; Regan and Ryan, eccentric comedians, provide an excellent item; the Gilberts submit a clean and clever tight-wire act; Jock McNeil, Scotch comedian and dancer, is successful; Nobby, boy comedian, comes in for much applause; the Three Alskarnos present a smart tumbling act, and the Hipposcope pictures complete.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Miss Ada Millais' company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, have been performing *No Man's Land* to full houses here this week, the realistic scenes of the play and the methods of the players being evidently irresistibly attractive to Leith theatre-goers. Mr. Edwin Bennett and Mr. Villiers Stanley are prominent in their vigorous renderings of the villainy rôles of Silas Moore and Mat Marsden; Mr. Fred Lillywhite successfully doubles the parts of Gilbert and Norman Bathurst; and the Owen Rushton of Mr. Edward Adams deserves special mention; Mr. Phil Harper as Harry Oaklands does heroic deeds with happy effect; but herein he is eclipsed by Miss Marie Kildare, who, in the rôle of Mary Bathurst, jumps from a bridge into a river of real water and rescues Bessie Poodle (otherwise Lottie Pearce) from a watery grave. Comedy scenes are exploited in popular fashion by Mr. and Mrs. William Mallalieu as Dr. and Mrs. Buxton, by Mr. Reginald D. Hamer and Mr. Dan Matthews as Thompson Poodle and Ikey Moss; and last, but not by any means least, by Mr. Sammy Foster, who hugely delights his legions of local friends and admirers.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. G. W. Bowes presented *The Sign of the Cross* on the first three evenings of the week, and it was welcomed by big houses. Mr. Leonard Yorke as Marcus, Miss Pearla Gardner as Mercia, and Miss Effie Dane as Stephanus scored the chief successes. On Thursday Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy were due to open with their juvenile company in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Jessie Broughton, a brilliant contralto, and Dennis Creedon, a fine baritone, present an effective singing and instrumental act, which is deservedly appreciated; Hera is an original and clever juggler, and Susie and Protti offer a particularly dainty dancing act; the Sisters Hula, Frank Boyce, Mollie Doon, and the Hulls also score, as do the Palace Pictures.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—After its production at Douglas last week *The Bishop's Son* was on Monday evening presented at this theatre for a six-nights' run. The audience, a critical one, was not great in point of numbers, and the play did not receive as large a measure of enthusiasm as one might expect, considering the popularity of Mr. Hall Caine, the author. However, the manner in which it was put upon the stage, and the excellence of the work of the chief actors, compensated in some degree for the lack of interest which the drama showed at several points. Undoubtedly the finest character was that of the Bishop, undertaken by the talented Mr. W. F. Grant; Mr. Derwent Hall Caine did not at times seem to grasp the opportunities afforded by such a strong rôle as that of Daniel Mylrea; Mr. Julian Cross did the most with the part of the Deemster; Miss Verita Vivien proved a sympathetic Mona, playing with much tack and restraint; Mr. Matthew Boulton was an excellent Ewan Mylrea; the menservants, Fayle and Hommy-beg, were capably handled by Messrs. George Mudie, junior, and E. W. Thomas; Miss Agnes Knights carefully undertook the character of the blind housekeeper Kerry; Miss Dorothy Radcliffe was a neat Liza; and Mr. Herbert Winton did all that was necessary with Father Dalby.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—A well-written play, *Through the Divorce Court*, is being presented here this week by Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company. Miss Hettie Chattell acts with much effect as Lady Penarth, and earns warm approval; Mr. Riddell Robinson shows a deal of ability in the part of Lord Penarth; Mr. Jack Denton stands out well as the Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice; in the rôle of Sybil little Constance Dagmar pleases generally; and other worthy supporters are Messrs. Henry C. Cooper (Mendoza), George F. Leicester (Peter Pettigrew), Harry Colbeck (Patsy), Miss Nellie Sheffield (Dinah), and Miss Edith Cruikshanks (Lady Hilda). The play is being well received on its first visit to Liverpool.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Another play new to this city, *The Master of the Mill*, is being put forward at this popular resort by the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd. Mr. Algernon Syms handles the character of John Greenfield with tact and discretion; Mr. Paul Beckett and Mr. Ernest E. Imeson thoroughly grasp the rôles of the nephews, Tom Bolton and Julian Croft; Mr. Danell Greene plays Adam Davenport with power; Miss Nair Jonghmans pathetically enacts Kate Rigby; Miss Valerie Russell makes a pleasing Isabel Ware; and Miss Enid Edoni shows much spirit as Nancy. The drama is put on in good style.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Large houses are the rule here this week on account of Mr. C. Watson Mill's fine drama *For Love and the King*. In the rôle of Gerald Meredith, the soldier of fortune, Mr. Mill plays with considerable dramatic strength; Mr. Alfred Morris is impressive as the miser Obrenovic; Miss Rosa Mervyn makes a sweet Edith Meredith; Grazia Obrenovic is capitally handled by Miss Kitty Melville; Natila is daintily presented by Miss Joan Ellis. A deal of humour comes from Mr. Oscar Power as Oppenheim; and other supporters are Messrs. John C. Carlyle (Vladimir), C. W. Spencer (King Kara), and Beckett Bould (Prince Uros).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The popular Harry Randall is top here this week, delighting everybody with his latest; as trick cyclists the three Merrills show surprising cleverness, and earn rounds of applause; that particularly able mimic, O'Gust, finds great favour; Severus Schaffer goes through one of the best turns of the evening, his juggling being exceptionally able; the Arthur Lloyd Trio have a neat drawing-room playlet, *Little Charlie; or, the Twin Sisters*, which affords a deal of amusement; Fred Curran brings some of his newest sayings and parodies; as duettists and dancers the Sisters Jerome gain loud applause; the Cavalotti Brothers submit a really excellent musical turn; and Mary Ambrose sings and plays the violin to everyone's satisfaction.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre, Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The attraction here this week is *The Prodigal Parson*, played twice nightly by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company. Mr. Garrod gives a powerful impersonation of the Rev. Tom Godley, his work being watched with close interest; Mr. Ernest Vaughan thoroughly understands the character of Enoch Jaggins, which he presents in effective manner; Miss Bertha Kingston shows much talent as Fern Godley; Miss Madge Douglas is capital in the part of Gretchen; and good work is also done by Messrs. Carthage Caldcleugh (Ben Jaggins), Walter Vincent (Ned Kettlepin), Owen Remonde (Phil Drive), Miss Celia Barnard (Myrtle Godley), and Miss E. Fredericks (Pomeray).

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—A big line here is Mephisto, with very clever illusions, which are mystifying; Miss Elsie Southgate and James Coward provide a choice and talented musical turn, which affords general delight; Robins and Collier are as amusing as ever; Harry Levaine affords satisfaction with his latest funny songs; some really able juggling is shown by young Frank Hartley; Osborn and Brooks have some funny songs and sayings, which keep their audience in excellent humour; as comedians and dancers Stacey and Williams prove a capital turn; and contributions also come from Charles Penrose, eccentric comedian, and George Lawrence, light comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*An Abandoned Woman* is being played here this week by the stock company. Mr. Harry Tresham makes a manly Captain Seaton; Mr. Sydney Grant proves a strong Phillippe Malvoisan; Mr. R. Seath Innes does himself credit as Robert Saunders; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood carefully handles the character of Sir Marmaduke; Miss Lina Nazeby acquits herself as the scheming Minon Malvoisan; Miss Gertrude Entwistle earns much favour as Eleanor Deane; and good work also comes from Messrs. E. D. Allen (Jean), Tom H. Solly (Paddy Boyle), Leo Montgomery (Sammy Sharp), and Miss Florence Cameron (Sally).

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Foremost here this week are the renowned conjurors and illusionists, Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, whose work is attracting much attention; Will Evans has a screaming burlesque on the French play *Chantecler*; the New Macs are particularly amusing with their cross-talk, and dance in finished style; Arabella Allen affords every pleasure with her character studies from the works of Charles Dickens; Nina Wood has some neat little songs at the piano; roars of laughter follow the acrobatic act *The Original Tumbling Waiter*, shown by Briff, Braff, and Broff; Ray Espinosa presents several well-finished specialty dances; and *A Woman's Way* is an attractive trifle acted by George C. Doughty and Molly Laney.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—The popular Irish comedian Joe O'Gorman is here this week with his latest songs; Sam Elton is as droll as ever; a clever show is given by Villiers de Gaston, illusionist; Alice Raymond and company present their pretty spectacle *A Night in Egypt*; Edie Veno is a very amusing comedienne, and keeps her audience in shouts of laughter; Sydney Brandon, a young character portrayer, is a good turn; the Brothers Walford have a merry entertainment as comedians, comedy jugglers, and paper manipulators, for which they earn great applause; and Michael Madden, "Queen of Dames," also appears. The Girl in the Barracks is on the Bioscope.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. George Dance's company appeared the first three nights of this week in *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Alfred Wellesley as Mr. Hook was the cause of hilarity from start to finish; Mr. Arthur Wood Mansey as Captain Adrian Paap made an excellent military man; Mr. Mansell Strainger as Bandmaster Van Vuyt was well placed; Mr. Charles Ross as Ludwig Schnapps did well; Mr. Charles Stanley made an amusing Simon Slinks; Miss Maud Denny as Mina was encored nightly; and Miss Dorothy Southgate made an attractive Sally. *The Arcadians* was announced for the remainder of the week.

LONDONDERRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager Mr. J. Mitchell.—The attraction this week is Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck's pathetic play, *For Mother's Sake*, which is well staged by Messrs. Fox and Leonards' company twice nightly before crowded houses. Mr. B. M. Fox takes the part of old Goriat with marked success, and the rôles of Luigi Ferroni and Louis Myers, the villains, were well filled by Mr. Scott Fitzgerald and Mr. Herbert Leonards respectively. Miss Mabel Phillips gives an artistic interpretation of the heroine, Jacqueline, and Mr. Whitemore Ledgar's Henri Romaine, her sweetheart, is admirable. The other parts were capably sustained by Miss Evie Grahame, Mr. Ernest Waters, Miss Hetty Jeffries, Mr. Alf. Edwards, and Mr. Fred Werrell.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Continued success attends Vint's entertainments, the Hippodrome being packed nightly. The Elite Harmony Boys appear as midshipmen in a good vocal and dancing turn; the Three Behans are smart quick-change artists; and Little Doris, child vocalist and dancer, also appears. The pictures are highly appreciated.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The Northcotes, operatic duettists, and Le Hurst, ventriloquist, supply the vaudeville turns here, and the films maintain their high standard.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—For the first three nights this week the well-known comedy *Don* was presented by a capable company, under the direction of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison. Mr. Gordon Bailey scored successfully as Stephen Barington; Miss Emma Hutchison being equally praiseworthy as Mrs. Bonington, for which she was warmly applauded. Mr. Chas. Harley (Albert Thompsett) and Miss Violet Harley (Elizabeth Thompsett) also added to the general success. For the latter part of the week we had the first local presentation of *The House of Temperley*, while for next week, which is the annual Lowestoft regatta and yachting week, *The Flag Lieutenant* is announced.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—A big attraction here is Lockhart's performing elephants, under Captain Taylor, which are on a welcome return visit. The whole performance is decidedly smart and clever. The De Breans are also making a welcome reappearance in their Japanese act; and Florence Leonard is heard to advantage in several pleasing vocal numbers. The pictorial portion of the bill is, as usual, a strong feature, some fine travel subjects being shown, to the evident appreciation of the large audiences.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Ferguson and Mack, the American eccentrics, top the bill here, and keep the house in roars of laughter; Andre Romanoff, the Gipsy violinist, is a great favourite; Maud Esmond suits the audience down to the ground, and May Hall is rightly encored for her singing and dancing; Paul Cavalli does some marvellous feats of strength; T. P. Carroll is a popular comedian, and Grace Lester and company stage an up-to-date drama, *A Ruined Life*, with excellent effect. The Bioscope concludes.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—*A Fast Life* is presented here by Mr. Walter Steele's company. Mr. Steele as John Dixon is deserving of high commendation; Sir Oliver Franklin is capitally acted by Mr. F. Garratt; Mr. C. Taylor plays with ability as Harris Goldberg; and Mr. Willie Barratt is very amusing as Tommy Burke. Miss Lillian Ross cleverly delineates Mrs. Dixon; as Lady Franklin Miss Lillian Burns is very successful; and Miss Maud Ryder brightly portrays Juliana.

MAESTEG.—Picture Palace.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—The chief attraction here is the appearance of Ap Thomas's trio of Welsh instrumentalists, who are local people, and received quite an ovation. Petro and Leon, gymnasts, are clever; the Two Le Bums, comedy equilibrists, are smart and funny. Some excellent pictures on the bioscope conclude an excellent programme.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The boards here are occupied by Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmonde's company in *For Wife and Kingdom*. As the Grand Duchess Marie Miss Hettie Zillwood plays effectively; Mr. Reginald Fox is a smart Capt. Max Lubeck; Mr. Albert Guyon as the wily Baron Breslaw is capable; Mr. Frank Sutherland portrays the General Von Nestolde; Mr. Fred Osmonde imparts rich humour to the rôle of Karl Ludvayr; and Mr. C. Gallier does well as Sergeant Offenbeck. As Camille Miss Margaret Frame is successful; Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt and Miss Audrey Canning as Ottilie Schwartz play brightly; and Miss Lilian Malvern as Esther is good. The effects are realistic.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—This theatre reopened on Monday with the engagement of Mr. Lionel Rignold and his company in the popular farcical comedy, *What the Butler Saw*, which has always been a favourite here. Mr. Rignold, in his old part of Pink, the butler, is a great force, as usual; and Miss Marie Daltra is cleverly equal to the many demands upon her ability as Miss Foden; Mr. Charles Fawcett's Jack Barrington is a familiar and welcome figure, easy and enjoyable; Miss Zoe Gilfillan plays Mrs. Barrington with smartness and distinction; while among others Mr. Harry H. Rignold scores as Weinstein and Mr. Raymond Dudley is good as Sir Chas. Foden. The remaining parts are well handled, and the staging is on an elaborate scale.

Prince's Theatre, Ltd.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Messrs. Leedham Bantock and Fredk. Mouillot's company are the attraction here in a farcical comedy, *Those Terrible Twins*, a very amusing piece. Mr. Leedham Bantock, who is also the author, causes endless laughter as William, the butler; and Mr. Cyril Delevanti works hard, and is seen to advantage as Charlie Pringle; the company is strong throughout, including, as it does, Mr. Robert Rivers, a fine comedian; Miss Maud Adams, Mr. Archie McCaig, Mr. Chas. Hanbury, Mrs. Watt-Tanner, Miss Enid Baird, and Miss Norah Walker. The farce is well staged, and is greatly enjoyed. *The Lady Burglar* precedes.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, played by Mr. Wilson Benge and his company, is the attraction here. There is picturesque and sensational interest in it, and the leading rôle of George Tremayne is capitally played by Mr. Wilson Benge himself. Miss Pauline Nanton as Mavis Leverton makes a pleasing heroine, and the sinister interest is well sustained by Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Dean Clifton and Miss Mona Gray as Renie de Telle; while Mr. Jay Kay and Miss Nora Mason are responsible for the humour as Rudolph Earle and Kinkie respectively.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—*The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, Mr. J. A. Campbell's latest success, is the fare here, and is still drawing good houses.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and company are doing good work here in Shakespearean drama, which is well appreciated. The plays chosen are *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet*, and *Othello*.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—This week sees here a revival of Arnold Bennett's play, *Cupid and Commonsense*. The piece, though in many respects unnatural and unpleasing, was made interesting by the cleverness with which it was rendered on Monday night. Miss Hilda Davies as Emily Boothroyd was perhaps the most engaging, though Miss Marie Leonhart as Alice (this being her first appearance in the company, by the way) ran her close. Mr. Whitford Kane as Eli

nent of Princess Melaneh, receiving a well-deserved encore for her rendering of "Under the Deodar." An entertaining bit of comedy was contributed by Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity; and his son, Douglas Verity, was amusingly played by Mr. C. B. Hargreaves. As Sophie Miss Hilda Darrell gained a host of friends by her piquaint style and skilful vocalisation; Mr. Coningsby Brierly, a clever comedian, as the irrepressible Barry played, sang, and danced with untiring energy; Miss Florence Linton made a charming Mrs. St. Quinton, Miss Sylvia de Lacey a stately Lady Anchester, and Miss Vi Small and Miss Nancy Vaughan a pleasing Lady Arnot and nurse respectively. Appropriate scenery, tasteful dresses, and new songs and dances added to the success of the production.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—Kate Carney, the popular comedienne, and her company are here in her new sketch, *The Fun of the Fair*, which is provocative of great hilarity throughout. Miss Carney as Carmen, the Gipsy Queen, acts and sings with her accustomed vivacity; Willie Phillips as a rascally lawyer, Albert Mason as a dude, Fred Malcolm as Jim (a Romany), and G. M. Marriott as Hogar, the witch, are all excellent. Another capital sketch is presented by Bert Coote, entitled *A Lamb on Wall Street*, in which Mr. Coote is supported with great success by J. C. Aubrey and Ada Russell. Other contributors to the programme are the Sisters Towers, duettiste and dancers; Ling and Long, clever eccentric juggling entertainers; L. B. Athol, comedian; and Irene May, soprano vocalist. The Three Thieves and Love in a Mining Camp are excellent pictures.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the sole Management of Mr. Charles Evans.—Charles Coborn and Walter Munroe, billed "Two of the Bhoys," are both cordially received. Charles Coborn has a new song on a visit to the planets by aeroplane, and he also sings his old favourite, "The coster's friendly lead," with great success. Walter Munroe has two new Irish chorus songs, "She'll be seventeen on Sunday" and "Just remember me to Mary," both of which are taken up by the audience with enthusiasm. The Three Phydoras, in their ecentric musical act, give a clever performance; Merrie Messie Mills, comedienne and dancer, is especially successful; Charles Erard, pianist and mimic, secures a full share of applause; and Miss Josie Mooney, comedienne, is on the programme, which also includes illustrated vocal specialities and bioscope pictures. The ball each evening after the concert is largely attended.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson Withera—*For Old Times' Sake* is presented by Mr. Fred J. Webb's company. Miss Marie Danvers-Smith cleverly undertakes the rôle of Sareta Berkeley, and Phyllis Brookes is well played by Miss Mamie Stanton. Mr. Fred J. Webb presents an able study of Rupert Sydney, the character of Paul Sydney being well handled by Mr. Victor Raymond; Mr. Rolf Leslie as Jean Brooke made a favourable impression; Dr. Heathcote is well sustained by Mr. Dick Eckersley; and good work is also done by Mr. Victor Coleman as Jimmy Jepps, Mr. George Harvey as Frank Rivington, Mr. F. Cavannah as Evan Berkeley and Miss Dot Robins as Mrs. Hale and Miss Mary Robertson as Polly Pearson.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, the Merthyr Entertainment Co.—Will Netta's Singing Jockeys, who head the bill, have a good reception; Captain Devereux and his canine pets are a great acquisition; Sergt. Bert Powell in a pictorially illustrated chat presents his travels and experiences as a soldier; Cliny and Clancy, Scotch comedians, are highly diverting; and Ray and Douglas provide an amusing sketch in *The Postman and the Girl*.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Mr. and Mrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company are playing *The Nihilist*. Mr. O. Silverstone gives a vigorous portrayal of Prince Alexander; a dramatic interpretation of Ivan Nowasky is submitted by Mr. George Mitchell; Mr. Terence Nerrey plays forcefully the character of Carl Orloff; Mr. Morgan Dale is a typical example of official Russian tyranny as Sergt. Markoff; Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey plays capably as Father Gourko; Miss Edna Clarke presents a sympathetic portraiture of Alexina Orloff; a strikingly dramatic and forceful study of the Princess Olga is given by Miss Annie Hylton; and Mrs. O. Silverstone does well as Katrina.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The star pictures this week are: A Knot in the Plot, The Master Mechanic, Mistaken Identity, Billy's Bulldog, The Little Trumpeter, and Hunting in France.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—M. Auguste Van Biene, the actor-musician, in *The Broken Melody*, occupies the boards here this week. Paul Borinski is cleverly undertaken by M. Van Biene, and as the Duchesse de Vervier Miss Hilda Moore is also praiseworthy. The other characters are in competent hands.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—*The Drama of Life*, presented by Messrs. Sidney Cranston and Archie Helsby, occupies the stage here. Mr. Graham Woods ably takes the part of Harry Beech, and Sylvia Beech is admirably played by Miss Pattie Hastings; as Master Robert Beech Miss Dolly Bogue is a favourite, and Sir Dobson Wilde, as played by Mr. Sydney C. Cranston, is a very popular character.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—The Ten Juggling Geraldos are loudly applauded for their clever exhibition; the Four Mayors in their comedy skating create laughter, and the Milton Trio are also pleasing. Carr and Rose, comedy artists, Cummin and Seaham, acrobats, Daisy and Dot, duettists and dancers, Perry, Willier and Perrier, vocal and dancing act, Mark Leslie, coon artist and eccentric dancer, and the Empire Bioscope complete a successful programme.

HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwait.—Large audiences nightly witness the capital picture show, including The Lost Trial, a fine Vitagraph film. Entertaining turns are given by Fred Leslie, in illustrated songs, and Tiny Milmott, child artist.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—Walter A. Chetham's répertoire company is here in *Dan'l Druce, Admiral Guinea*, and *Caste*. On Monday *Dan'l Druce* was produced, with Mr. Dickson Moffat in the name-part, and excellent indeed was his interpretation of the part; Mr. Henry Earlesmere looked handsome and courtly, and acted with ease and grace the rôle of Sir Jasper; the Reuben Haines of Mr. Sydney Bland was a delightful piece of comedy acting; Mr. E. Stuart Vinden represented the stripling Geoffrey Wynyaard; and Miss Mildred Hodson was admirable as Sweet Mistress Dorothy.

NEATH.—NEW HIPPODROME.—This house, which was originally the Crown Skating Rink, has been closed for some time, during which period extensive structural alterations and improvements have been made in the interior. The seating accommodation is now arranged so that a full view of the stage can be obtained from any part of the auditorium. The decorations impart a cheerful and pleasing effect; and Mr. Leon Vint, the enterprising proprietor, has spared no expense in making everything comfortable for patrons. In Mr. Noice he has secured a manager who is most courteous to patrons. Miss Winifred Maude and her talented company, with *The Sins of a City*, had the honour of opening the new house, and drew crowded attendances. Miss Maude is admirably suited to the rôle of Seaweed; Miss Ethel Crawford is an austere Lesbia L'Estrange; as Jenny, a Scotch fisherwoman, Miss Glad Maxwell is successful; Miss Annie Megson as Midge keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Mabel Lane is a typical Mrs. Muggs; Mr. William Vane is a dignified Sandy Macdonald; Mr. Harold Heath a good Donald McIvor; Mr. Maurice Jones ably impersonates Joe Woodley, horse trainer, and Jasper Woodley, a miser; as Ralph Blackwater, K.C., Mr. Reginald Green is a villain of the first water; Mr. Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi is very amusing; and great laughter is also caused by the courtship of Midge (Miss Annie Megson) and Jonathan Blyne (Mr. George Bogue). Without in any way interfering with the existing arrangements of the theatre an operating chamber for Bioscope pictures has been installed.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Some very interesting pictures are shown here this week to good houses. Maye and Bray, in a comedy duo, secure applause; Andrews and Thompson, operatic artists, are very popular; Dennis and Morris, comedians and dancers, also successfully contribute to a good programme.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglas.—High-class vaudeville is submitted here. Business is most satisfactory. Great success attends the efforts of Mr. Johnny Danvers, the Four Maisanos, the Hargreaves Trio, the Rawsons, the Claymore Trio, Mr. Walter Barrett, Miss Florrie Elliston, the Pimans, and Miss Lila Vesta. The animated pictures are interesting and instructive.

TOWER. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Good films and variety turns constitute the bill; Yera and Zena, equilibrists; Miss Winnie Darrill, comedienne; and Mr. Tom Ellis, eccentric comedian, all give satisfaction.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—*The Stage Adventures of Miss Brown* is well acted by Mr. Eric H. Albury, Mr. L. Palgrave, Mr. F. Dalton, Mr. E. Robson, Mr. E. Bridgeman, Miss Ida Chapman, and Miss E. Ross.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*The House Opposite* is this week paying its first visit to Tyneside. Mr. Harold V. Neilson as Cardyne gives a powerful interpretation, and the Hon. Mrs. Rivers is in the capable hands of Miss Amy Sangster; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde makes the most of his opportunities as the Hon. Henry Rivers; whilst Messrs. J. F. Fox, Alfred Hilliard, and H. S. Heynam fill their respective parts with distinction. Miss Dorothy Blackader's impersonation of the French mind is lifelike, and the loquacious Mrs. Calthorpe is delightfully portrayed by Miss Effie Leigh Hunt.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—Mr. James Willard's drama *Paying the Price* is drawing crowded houses here. Lord Delemere is played with distinction by Mr. James Willard, who also impersonates Paul Hartmann; the scheming Nell Fortescue is in the able hands of Miss Margaret Damer; Mr. Jackson Wilcock makes a manly Captain Dick Clinton, and Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas as the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple causes much mirth. The dual rôles of Hal and Jan Vortnone are capably filled by Mr. Frank Medhurst; Miss Gem Lloyd makes a charming Doris Delemere; and the remaining parts are all ably filled, the mastiff dog Tiger showing careful training.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Frank Lindo's romantic drama *Love the Conqueror* is here, and Miss Marion Wakeford fills the important rôle of Beatrice Mortimer in a convincing fashion; as Brian Norval Mr. Leonard Laurence has ample scope to show his talent; and Count Leon finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Norton Shields. The William of Orange of Mr. Eric S. Crowther is a capital study, whilst Mr. Sidney Dench is a distinct success as Sir John Mortimer. Mr. Tom E. Lewis is seen to advantage as Captain Rupert Armadale, and Mr. Arthur Trail is a clever Andrew Albertree. Mr. Bert Dench is amusing as Peter, and is ably assisted by Miss Liza Coleman as Nicholas. Miss May Barrett is successful as Brian's mother.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Wilkie Bard is paying a welcome visit here this week with a stock of humour as fresh as ever, his items "The Man from Frightley's" and his inimitable version of "Hail, smiling morn," being received with great enthusiasm. Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, a clever juvenile troupe of singers and dancers, are paying a welcome return visit; Matthews and Cowper are responsible for an amusing sketch, *When the Clock Went Wrong*; the Goltz Trio score in a clever globe and wire act; Ethel Beech is a dainty comedienne; Bert Harrow, comedian, scores in his various items; Ferry Corwey, the musical clown, is entertaining; Will Poluski, jun., is very popular; Aida Martine is a comedienne and dancer of considerable ability. Pictures conclude.

PAVILION.—Resident-Director, Mr. N. Wilkinson; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Barclay Gammon is paying a welcome visit at this popular hall, and his items at the piano are heartily appreciated; the Wolkowsky troupe of Russian dancers and instrumentalists provide an excellent turn; Marie Santoi and her company score a success in the scena *A Night in Japan*; Dave Samuels, Hebrew comedian, proves a most diverting turn; the Bros. Ashley are responsible for a clever comedy boxing sketch, *Next, Please*; the Almas are clever equilibrists and tumblers; La Belle Greta comedienne, is a graceful dancer and charming singer; Rosie Lloyd, comedienne, has a number of catchy songs. Josie Delaine, a versatile lady, and the pictures complete.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder.—The programme here this week is an excellent one. Royal Togo is a Japanese artist, performing many wonderful feats, which are heartily applauded; Bertha Stuart, comedienne, contributes another enjoyable turn; and there is a strong picture programme.

BRINKBURN PICTURE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edwinson.—Fred Horsfall, humorist and mimic, is here this week, and the usual excellent show of animated pictures is greatly appreciated.

NORTHAMPTON.—THE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. G. Griffin; Musical Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—A veritable vocal treat is furnished by the Herald Comedy Four, in a scena, entitled "The Hawkers"; Sylvesto and Rumbo, in a comedy act, are amusing, the lady displaying both elegance and skill on the silver rings; Gus Barra gives a good rendering of the "Poet and Peasant" overture on the English concertina; the Woolhafe vocalists and dancers, gain unqualified applause; Lily Hartley is a pleasing serio and dancer; Jack Renee is amusing in a dame song; and Mr. Frank Hardie, in a sketch, *The Great Green Diamond*, and the Palace pictures complete.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The Launch of the Battleship Lion is a grand subject well displayed. Miss Leslie Moyser pleases with illustrated songs.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's capable company, with *Mother*, has attracted large audiences. Mr. J. O. Stewart in the rôle of Duncan Fairweather is deserving of high commendation; Mr. Alexander J. Haviland displays much ability as Frank Rodney; Mr. Leonard Harrison makes the most of Stephen Carrington; and Tommy Noblets has a capital representative in Mr. Cecil H. Raymond. As Nellie Fairweather Miss N. Thorne Hallam sustains the part in admirable style; Miss Emilie Entwistle as Little May proves herself to be a clever actress; Miss Amy Wood makes a satisfactory Martha; and Miss Phillis Vaughan as Polly Crumpet is worthy of the highest praise.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland, in their musical absurdity *A Dotted Crochet*, have had a hearty reception from large audiences here; the Four Breens present a marvellous juggling act; the Sisters Kay, in their musical scena win much favour; Marie French, burlesque actress, is popular; Francesca, assisted by Frances Haskol in their picture songs, are greatly enjoyed; Charles Leighton, in "A Tramp Study in Harmony," is very funny; and the Bioscope concludes.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress Miss S. Golden.—Miss Nora Carton's company is here with the striking drama entitled *Temptation*. Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is a powerful Sir Charles Tremaine; Mr. George Wallace as Stephen Rowe presents a finished performance; Clifton Roystel as Mr. Blight is successful; Mr. Norman A. Overton as the villain Hubert Thorne does justice to the part; Mr. H. O. White is effective as the Tramp, and Mr. Clarmont Gaskell is well suited to the part of Jacob Single. Mr. Frank Ayrton is a humorous Bob Saunders, being ably assisted by Miss Madge Seymour as Araminta and Emily; Miss Lilla Wilde is clever as the adventuress; Miss Anna Beaumont is deserving of praise for her Mrs. Oxen; Miss Kathleen Cranston displays power as Agnes Rowe, and Miss Nora Carton's Hilda Dundonald secures sympathy.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton present *The Dawn of a To-morrow* here. Mr. Frederick Victor admirably impersonates Sir Oliver Holt; Mr. Charles King is good as Mr. Oliver Holt; Mr. Murray Hathorn does well as Dr. Heath; Mr. Chas. E. Dering, Mr. James Williams, and Mr. Paul Wynter are successful in their respective parts; Miss Marie Polini charmingly enacts Glad, winning favour all round; Miss Alice Dorie deserves praise as Bet, as does Miss Dora E. Clements as Polly; Miss Iris Rutherford is very good as Mimi; and so is Miss Doris Digby as Madge Delorme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—An up-to-date programme is presented, at the head of which is Harry Tate's No. 1 company in their latest success, *Flying*, which evokes much merriment; Miss Mabel Thorne is given hearty greetings for her popular songs; Mr. Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice provide a pleasing musical turn; Rose and Lewis create much laughter; Cedar and Elgar are popular comedians; Venie Clements is a smart comedienne and dancer; Rosie Bartlett is a clever male impersonator; Little Pam, child comedian and dancer, and the Hippo Bio completes a pleasing entertainment.

THE NEST, ROSARY ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's Premier Pierrots continue their success. On Friday last Mr. Leslie Sears took his benefit, and was heartily supported by his numerous friends.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Best People* is here played by Mr. H. P. Towers's company. Mr. Henry Renouf's sterling work as Lord Emsworth is heartily recognised, and Miss Irene Lavington capitally depicts Lady Emsworth; as Gerald Bayle Mr. Frederick Meads acts in an admirable style, and Miss Evelyn Summers contributes an excellent portrayal of Mrs. Bayle; Mr. Claude Haviland gives a careful study of Lord Wynlea; and Mr. Edward Nimmo (Spofforth) and Mr. E. I. Trollope (Jackson) are successful in their parts. Miss Sylvia Dawson and Mr. Edward Nimmo give smart performances in *Some Showers*, by Mr. Pett Ridge.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company is giving excellent representations of *Her Path of Sorrow* here. Mr. John Davidson supplies a strong and virile performance of Richard Burfield, and Mr. Horatio Sinclair boldly enacts Guy Lowther; the Lionel Heathcote of Mr. Frank Etheridge is capital; and Markham Ferrars is effectively depicted by Mr. Harry Harrald; Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne depicts Nellie Rayne in sympathetic fashion; and Miss Florence Melrose-Millett earns distinction as Pauline Ferrars. The humorous element is well supplied by Miss Daisy Carlton and Mr. Will Hook.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Fred Karno's new sketch, *Jimmy the Fearless* is capitally played here by an excellent company; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery provide fun in their playlet, *An Amateur Anarchist*; fine exponents of trick cycling are the Jackson Family, who deserve high praise; an expert juggling turn is done by Monsieur and Madame Agonot; and a pleasing entertainment at the piano by Rosa Loader is well appreciated; Tom Parker's vivacity is as great as ever; J. J. Dallas adds another to his list of successful songs, entitled "In his mind"; and the programme includes the names of the Vernons (xylophonists) and Maude Vera (comedienne).

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The marvellous acrobatic feats of the Juanitos are received with great enthusiasm here; an original and thoroughly interesting "turn" is done by G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellmon, who play and sing their own compositions to the evident satisfaction of the audience; a charmingly artistic series of tableaux is presented by Alice Hoodless; Leroux's monkeys manage their little bicycles with intelligence and expertness; the Three Clarks juggle and ball-punch in animated fashion; Tiny Arnold dances cleverly; and items are contributed by Leo Fields (comedian), Mabel Florence (vocalist), Leonard Teele (comedian), and the Bioscope.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *Driving a Girl to Destruction* proves very acceptable; Miss Maud M. Powell acts in a most sympathetic manner and receives much appreciation as Ruby Wright; her cousin Ruth is played by Miss Marie Robson in capital style; Miss Ana Corri as Madame de Meral and Miss Eva Norman as Ned Chipples are excellent; Miss Lilla Nordon is a lively Bessie Betts, Mr. L. Austin is a manly Robert Ray, and Mr. Walter Clarke makes Lucas List quite capable of all manner of crime. Mr. F. Yarnold as Billy Broad and Mr. Frank E. Lester as Bobby, his son, cause much laughter, and Mr. Wm. Clements as Freddy Feather is also amusing. Mr. J. Marshall Kerr is a capital Rev. Christopher Lovett, and Mr. Henry Scratchard is very good as Octavius Screw.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mrs. E. H. Knight's company in *The Lighthouse Robbery* is the attraction here. Miss Hilda Baynton as Rosa Prescott acts in a dainty and charming manner; Mr. H. Gordon Ingham is well fitted as Tom Manley; Mr. Percy Beresford as David Morris, acts capitally; Baby Freda as Little Nellie won much admiration; Mr. J. T. Lawson as William Farren, and Mr. S. Fortesque as James, his son, were a pair of villainous schemers; Miss Louis Carlton as Ruth and Mr. Rupert Talbot as Sam Kidder were very amusing.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital array of pictures is presented, and Mr. R. Leech sings with success.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King. The pictures shown here are very good. Mr. King contributes an illustrated song.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—An excellent picture programme is provided here.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—Popular pictures are presented, and songs are given on the new Auxeto Grand.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Milton Bode's variety season (Manager for Milton Bode, Mr. W. L. Murray).—An exceptionally good all-round programme is provided here this week, every turn being very worthily presented, which on Monday was fully appreciated by good houses. Jack and Willie, equilibrists, carry off high honour with a very neat and clever performance; Beatty Bros. as character comedians have a good reception; and W. H. Downs, the coloured ballad vocalist, is a decided acquisition and a great success. Double-bar gymnastics has a set of splendid exponents of the art in the Five Jovers; George Don, eccentric comedian, is very funny, and succeeds in tickling the house with laughter; while Lalie Brooke, in her little sketch *The Old-Fashioned Girl*, parodies the "modern" girl with exquisite taste, and commands general admiration. The Melody Makers, in their phantom scena "The Burglar's Dream," add distinction to an excellent programme, all their musical numbers being rendered in fine style. The performance concludes with a series of amusing pictures from the Imperial Bioscope.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Varieties hold these boards this week with a very full and smart set of turns. Miss Marcelle Eirl and Twinkling Stars are a great success; Jimmie Grant (Scotch comedian), Jessie Bayes (descriptive vocalist), Marco (sleight-of-hand expert) are all well received; Maggie Strachan is deservedly encored for her exceptionally clever performance at the piano and zither-harp; while Kitty Corri, comedienne, and Maisie Ray, comedienne, are also successful. Samuel Marks, the kerbstone genius, presents a series of smart impersonations; Mark Hall, eccentric comedian, is amusing; and Jose G. Levey's company terminate the programme with a comedy sketch, *The Triumph of Art*.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Frank Adair and company are in possession with *The Heathen and the Christian*. As Li Mr. Frank Adair is responsible for a telling impersonation; Mr. Herbert Sydney as Chang Lu acts capably; Lung Hi is well interpreted by Mr. Fred Withers; Mr. Claude Seaton plays with effect the rôle of Lieut. Lord Allendale; as Admiral Freebold Mr. Gerald Turner submits a clever enactment; Mr. Fred Waring makes a capital Joshua Sampson; Mr. Dudley Wynton gives a good portrayal of George Berresford; Miss Louie Adair submits a capital embodiment of Mira Sampson; as May Berresford Miss Stanley Burt acts admirably; and Miss Connie Meadows is very funny in her delineation of Becky Fibbins.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—This popular place of entertainment was reopened for the season on Monday night, when a company of undoubted excellence provided the entertainment. Heading the bill was Edward Lauri, May Beatty, and company in a magical comedy play, *The Lady Bandits*, which is full of merriment; Kate Butler, a clever comedienne, scored immensely in her two songs; Park's Eton Boys, assisted by the Girton Girls, contributed a novel musical scena; the Martialo Trio submitted an original and sensational equilibristic act; Baby Wolff, styled "the dandy little dancing kid," was applauded for her singing and dancing; a highly amusing comedy sketch, *The Chambermaid*, was provided by Clara Reid and John Power; Dacey and Lewis proved themselves versatile entertainers; and the Hippodrome Bioscope was instructive and humorous.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Crowded and enthusiastic audiences welcomed, on Tuesday and Wednesday evening last, the first visit here of Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Norah Dwyer was most successful in the title-part, her numbers being rendered with ability and repeatedly encored; and in the rôle of Lady Elizabeth Thanet, Miss Daisy Manning gave a good performance; Miss Maude Nicholls made an excellent Mme. Jeanne, and as Mrs. Farquhar and the Duchess, Miss Maud Andrews and Miss Ruby Wyndham scored complete successes; as Norah and Sheilah Miss Florence Fowler and Miss Ruby Bradfield were most natural; the chief laughter-maker, Mr. Claude Cameron, who undertook the part of Timothy, was good; Mr. Reginald Reslie as the Hon. Hughie was exceedingly clever; Lord Eynsford was ably represented by Mr. Leslie Winter; and Mr. Wilfred Norman as Slikes, and Mr. Arthur Collins-Rolfe as the Earl of St. Ives were excellent. The piece was well staged, under the direction of Mr. Frank Manger, who also appeared as Mr. Beavis.

PETERBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's company in *Lights Out* attracted a large audience here on Monday. Miss Pauline Emeric as Klara Volkhardt played the part to perfection; Mr. Frank Cariello appeared with great success as Lieutenant Von Lauffen; Mr. Robert Noble filled the rôle of Sergeant Volkhardt in clever style; Mr. Arthur T. Barugh was exceedingly good as Corporal Quiess; and Mr. Philip Renouf acted admirably as Corporal Helbig. Mr. Herbert Lugg as Lieutenant Von Howan and Mr. Reginald Weston as Captain Von B. Bannewitz added to the success. Other characters were in capable hands.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's *The Dairymaids* is on a third visit here. As Peggy Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is a pronounced success; Miss Edie Martin is a genuine comedienne as Eliza; Miss Marjory Mannera is a fascinating and attractive Winnie; as Joe Mivens Mr. Edwin Dodds is very funny; Mr. William Spray is a characteristic naval officer as Sam Brudenell, and Mr. Harry Scaddan is a first-rate Hibernian in the rôle of Dr. O'Brien.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Iwan Tschernoff's sporting dogs and musical ponies are one of the best entertainments touring this particular business; Valazzi furnishes a first-rate exhibition of juggling; Austin Rudd is a popular comedian; the Werd Bros. are an excellent pair of acrobats; the Calcotts have a first-rate pot-pourri number; Rose and Chaloner maintain their popularity as entertainers, and Madge Beresford is an attractive comedienne.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Mr. Marcus D. Draper and company present here this week *The Christian* to crowded houses. Mr. Draper's impersonation of John Storm is masterly throughout; Miss Gladys Purnell is a pleasing Glory Quayle; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is good as Lord Robert Ure, as also is Mr. W. Burgess Barratt as Horatio Drake; Mr. Edwin Ling makes a capital Father Lampingh; and we have an excellent Archdeacon Wealthy in Mr. Aylmer Williams. Mr. Geo. F. Weir is very good as Brother Paul; Miss Rosa Burgess is a capital Mrs. Callander, and Miss Maisie Richardson does well as Polly Love.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. J. A. Campbell and company are appearing here in *From Convent to Throne*. As the Princess Maritza, afterwards Queen of Danubia, Miss Valerie Crespin is charming; Mr. Aidan Lovett makes a convincing Lieutenant Ernest Von Hapsburg; Mr. Courtney Robinson an interesting General Von Hapsburg; Maurice, Prince of Carpathia, and Baron Strelsau, Prime Minister, are well acted respectively by Mr. A. F. Stuart and Mr. Wm. J. Miller.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—A great treat is provided by Mr. Gaston Mayer's Vaudeville company in F. Anstey's extravagant farce, *The Brass Bottle*. Memories of Arabian Nights Tales are vividly recalled with the enchanting scenes so splendidly stage-managed by Mr. Alfred Rivers. The Genie Fakrash-el-Amash of Mr. Holman Clark is as clever as it is original; Mr. Langhorne Burton capably fills the part of Horace Ventimore; Spencer Pringle is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Rudge Harding; Mr. Percy Marshall has much to do as the Professor, and does it well; both Messrs. R. Ayrton and Harry Paulton, jun., as Samuel Wackertath and Rapkins make the most of their opportunities; Miss Mary Brough is amusing as the worried Mrs. Rapkins; Sylvia Futvoye has a pleasing exponent in Miss Marjorie Chard; and Miss Edith Hunter is effective as Mrs. Futvoye. The dancing girls, with Zobeida (Miss Irene Wells) as their chief, are a pretty combination in the Oriental scene.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*The Great Awakening* is the title of the drama which is proving itself an immense success here. Miss Olga Andre, of *Worst Woman in London* fame, makes a most interesting Lola Selby; Mr. Herbert Barrs is well adapted to the rôle of James Selby; Guy Logan finds a capital counterpart in Mr. Tom Arkenstall, and Mr. Edwin Keith provides much amusement as Billy Brass.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss May Henderson, coon comedienne, is doing well here; the Twelve Fezzans perform extraordinary acrobatic feats with unequalled agility; Frank Lister and company are successful in a pathetic sketch entitled *The Sundowner*; Billy Hobbs scores in an original eten dance; Harry Bancroft is a pleasing actor-vocalist; Emmie Ames causes much merriment with her "Christmas Tree"; and the Cecilias, in their musical act, and Staffo, the juggling butcher boy, are turns deserving praise.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Novelty has its exponent in Mlle. Denarber, a chic comedienne, who hovers over the stalls in a captive balloon, the house being in darkness; Miss Anna Chandler sings with verve "Hynotise me" and the "Yiddisher Rag"; Herbert Sleath's company (Mary Griffiths, W. F. Sterling, and Mervyn Rentoul) are very successful in *Her Ladyship's Guest*; Harry and Fanny Dent renew our amusement with the "Indian Bottle," &c.; Sam Stern's character impersonations are appreciated; the Five Whiteleys are entertaining; Hebraic patter is provided by Young and Evans; singing and dancing by the Solo Trio and Ivy Aberdare and Nick Carter, Detective, depicted by the Bioscope, completes.

KING'S. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. I. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—The big attraction here is Fred Karno's spectacular production *Wondetainia*, with Shaun Glenville as Patsy O'Flynn, and Miss Elsie Skillings as Maude de Vere. Mlle. de L'Enclos possesses a voice of exceptional range and a grand stage presence; Max Laube is a powerful whistler; Cissie Lupino's smart character dancing finds much favour; the Hadji Mohammed-Ben Medain Tumbling Troupe rivet attention; Blake and Granby, with their duologue, "The System," provide plenty of fun; the Sisters Collins are graceful dancers and duettists; and Tod Lowen, comedian is amusing.

GOSPORT THEATRE.—Buster Brown, though indisposition, was unable to appear so Tatten Hall will deputise latter part of week. Madge Souter keeps the audience in good humour, and on Monday evening Lazern, the mystic, supplied an emergency turn. The Face at the Window, British Lives on Credit, and The Animated Gazette are capital pictures.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Tom Watt's company, in the Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*, is here. Mr. Frank Beresford is powerful as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. John J. Hooker is well cast as Francis Levison; Messrs. Jerrold Manville and Eric Lugg, in the respective parts of Justice Hare and Richard Hare, are capital; Mr. Joe Rowland as P.C. Bullock is inimitable; and Miss Isabel Singleton is an excellent Cornelia; Miss Beryl Forbes a great favourite as Barbara, and Miss Alice Seymour a capital Joyce; little Willie and little Isabel are cleverly portrayed by Miss Alice Moseley and Miss Ethel Ray; while the part of Lady Isabel is really most excellently rendered in an exceedingly sympathetic manner by Miss Ida Heron.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Arthur Roberts tops the bill here this week in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, and succeeds in convulsing the audience; Ada Fawn is a favourite, and comes in for a large share of applause for her capital contributions; Willie Gardner is one of the cleverest dancers on roller and ice skates ever seen here, and wins loud applause; Eric and Nora contribute a bright and novel musical act, which is deservedly well received; Lucy Gillett does an exceedingly clever acrobatic and juggling act, her various feats being cleanly and dexterously executed; F. A. Martell gives a most wonderful exhibition of difficult feats; Merton and Rydon (George and Lillie) are a clever musical comedy duo.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—*As Your Hair Grows Whiter,

and Morris, dancers; and Albert Le Fre. On Thursday afternoon Miss Vesta Tilley paid a flying visit.

The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The programme here includes Fred Maitland and Miss Pauline Walker in *Roots, Rash Chemists;* Vesta Dawson, impersonator; Fox and Melville, song illustrators; Frank Lynne, comedian; the Zaid Trio; Hilda Mascott, comedienne and dancer; the Forsyths, in musical comedy speciality; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in vocal comedy sketch, *The Piano Tuner;* the Palace Pierrots; and the troupe of lady swimmers.

BEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Jas. Kiernan.—Packed houses are here this week with Mr. William Mollison's company in *The Chorus Lady.* Mr. John Sims-Woolley gets in some earnest and natural acting as Dan Mallory, and Mr. Henry Ludlow, as the villain, Dick Crawford, scores effectively; Mr. C. A. R. Shum gives a good study of Patrick O'Brien and Miss Josephine Woodward as Mrs. O'Brien places the character strongly *en evidence.* Miss Agnese D'Aragan presents an amusing Georgie Adams Coote, and the ladies of the chorus are excellent in their respective rôles; Miss Rita Carlyle as Patricia O'Brien imparts piquancy and naturalness to the character.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Willerby.—The first three nights of the week *The Arcadians* formed a popular attraction. Miss Sybil Tancredi in the part of Sombra was greatly appreciated; Miss Violet Roberts as Chrysea acted capitally; Mr. Charles Stephenson as Simplicitas utilised to the full his opportunities for mirth-producing; Mr. Alfred Beers as Peter Doody was very amusing; Miss Gertrude Aylward as Mrs. Smith caused hearty laughter; Miss Mollie McIntyre as Eileen Cavanagh was excellent, and as Jack Meadows Mr. Arthur Macdonald acted well; Mr. Cyril Lane was capital as Bobby; Mr. Wallace G. Court was a masterful Sir George Paddock, and Mr. John Montague as Astrophel and Mr. Charles Henry as Strephon acted ably; Mr. Horace Nye as Father Time is also worthy of notice. *The Cingalee* occupies the boards for the remainder of the week.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company opened on Monday in *The Education of Elizabeth.* Mr. Ernest E. Norris communicated to the audience the thorough enjoyment he evidently felt in the humorous situations he was placed in as Harry, during the evolution of Elizabeth, a character represented by Miss May Norris with considerable charm and dramatic ability. Other parts were cleverly played by Miss Emily Stevens, Miss Una Erle, Mr. Herbert Garthorne, &c.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—That old favourite, *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* is again receiving a cordial welcome here, and the white and coloured members of Mr. Charles Harrington's combination all work together with a will. Miss Norah Bretton is a pretty and pathetic little Eva, and Mr. J. H. Boehm acts with dignity and feeling as Uncle Tom.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—William Bourne's successful drama, *Man to Man,* is as popular as ever. Interest is attached to the fact that Mr. Clifford Bown is again playing his original part of Bill Berkley, a serio-comic creation, which would make many a worse play a success. Mr. Arthur Robinson acts with the requisite force as George Gordon; Mr. Edward Lloyd is good as Philip Ormond; Mr. Charles Sterling earns applause in the shape of hisses as the dispicable villain, Ellerton; Miss Beatrice Hone makes a graceful heroine as Ethel Maythorne; and other well-played characters are Miss May's Gipsy Madge, Miss Parera's Lavinia Dove, Miss Oakley's Ned Doyle, Miss Bradshaw's Mary Grey, Mr. H. Halland's Matthew Ellerton, Mr. Bruce Williams's Plumtree, and Mr. F. C. Roper's Roger Gammer.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. George Formby is a comic with a style of his own, who is always popular in Sheffield; Mr. Syd May, the mimic, is another clever artist and a deserved favourite; the Picard pantomime troupe are well received in the comic ballet, *The Burglars of New York;* and others who successfully entertain this week are the Garden Quartet, in *The Wreck of the Hesperus;* the Three Sisters Kilner, dancers, &c.; Miss May B. Brilliant, vocalist and dancer; Phillips and Merritt, variety artists; Ethel Arden and George Abel in a diverting absurdity, *Town Hall—To Night!* and Mr. Peter Birmingham, Scotch comedian. The Bioscope concludes.

The Hippodrome, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Frank Poole. The Middleton and Speilmeyer dramatic company, in the splendidly staged one-act drama of Western life, *A Texas Wedding,* is the *pièce-de-résistance* here, supplemented by the following clever performers: The Twelve Kennedy Girls, dancers; the Menzies, in *The Suffragettes;* Miss Violet King, Miss Ethel Loftus, Miss Maud Lordy's dog actors, Miss Phyllis Seymour, Wild, Willie and West, in their agile and laughable comic acrobatic sketch, *The Bouncing Nawvies,* and the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, all the numbers being heartily applauded.

The Picture Palace, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Shaw.—This luxurious and perfectly appointed bioscope theatre is a great success, and the selection of films—dramatic, topical, scenic, and humorous—is kept up to a high standard of excellence.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company was here for the first three nights of the week, playing *Diana of Dobson's,* with the dramatic episode, *Out West,* as the curtain-raiser. In the first-mentioned play Miss Eva Leonard Boyne undertook the title-rôle capitally; Mr. Brisco Owen acted with conspicuous ability the part of Captain the Hon. Victor Bretherton; Miss Nannie Hume; Miss Edith Robey, Miss Cicely Oates, and Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe each merited praise for the excellent manner in which they filled their respective parts as assistants at Dobson's; Miss Marie Lake as Miss Pringle played creditably; Miss Hilda Francks was amusing and capable as Mrs. Canteloupe; Miss Mary Crewe merited encomiums as Mrs. Whyte-Fraser; Miss Nannie Hume did well in the character part of an old woman; Mr. Leslie Crowther was a typical London policeman; Mr. Thos. Pauncefort as Sir Jabez Grinlay made the best use of his opportunities; and Mr. R. F. Beach made a satisfactory waiter.

SMETHWICK. — Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Stepmother* is admirably enacted by Miss Nannie Goldman's company. Miss Goldman as Danny and Mr. William Holles as Captain Bristow are prominent; Mr. Herbert J. Walton is a typical stage detective; Mr. Henry C. Ward as Abraham Wiggins is a convincing villain. Mr. H. P. Owen successfully interprets Luke Trizel. a tramp; Mr. Teddy Myles and Miss Edith Bruce provide plenty of comic relief as Anna Vickers; the Stepmother of Miss Patricia Bostock is admirable, and Miss Walton Hemming as Clara, her child, makes a good impression. Other parts are well sustained by Misses Lucy Burrows and Amy Bristow and Mr. Ronald Roberts as Zeke, a verger. The Bioscope pictures are decidedly good.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—On Monday Mr. Harry P. Tower's company, by arrangement with Mr. Frank Curzon, commenced a week's engagement in *Dear Little Denmark.* Mr. Leonard Hornesy ably directed the music and orchestra, while the individual singing was particularly pleasing; as also was the unaccompanied song by eight male members. The ballet troupe with the clever Miss Nancy Rich as principal, were accorded well-deserved appreciation; Miss Thelma Raye gave a talented characterisation of Christine; Miss Winifred Volt, too, gained singing honours, and was eminently suited as Ophelia; Mr. Cameron Carr as Conrad Petersen, and Mr. Hartley Summers as Hans Hansen were successful; Mr. Edward Thirley proved an amusing and capable exponent of the Duke; Mr. Arthur Ballance as Karl sang with pleasing effect; and Miss Alice Waldie was suited as Xandra.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Southend Hippodrome; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—The artists here this week are Doris and Frances, duettists and dancers; Haley's Garden of Girls; Maud Courtney, in song and dance; Hayman and Franklin, in the matrimonial agency; Mary Law, violinist; Lalla Selbini, the American bathing beauty; "Mr. C.," in song and story; and Mr. R. A. Roberts, in *Ringing the Changes.*

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson. — Mr. George Edwardes' company is paying a return visit in the popular musical play *The Merry Widow.* The magnificent costumes and brilliant stage setting are in keeping with the excellence associated with Mr. Edwardes's productions, and the efforts of the artists are highly appreciated by large and enthusiastic audiences. Miss Louie Pounds in the title-rôle captivates the audience by her clever acting, vocalism, and charming personality; Prince Danilo is exceedingly well played by Mr. Basil S. Foster, who sustained the part with commendable effect; Mr. Lionel Victor creates any amount of merriment by his humorous and fantastic impersonation of Baron Popoff; Mr. Tom Redmond is very comical in the part of Nisch; Miss Victoria Sievers is a pleasing and capable representative of Natalie, her vocal numbers being artistically rendered; Miss Gwendoline Brogden as Frou Frou is to be credited with some expert dancing, especially the Apache dance with Mr. Tom Redmond; Mr. Edward McKeown effectively portrays the part of the Vicomte de Jolidon, his tenor voice being heard to great advantage; the Marquis de Cascada has a very acceptable representative in Mr. Somers Bellamy; Mr. Grafton Williams is very good as the fussy General Novakovitch; and Mr. Bert Edwards efficiently represents the waiter at Maxim's. Under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden the increased orchestra greatly contributes to the success of the play.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's company presents *The King and the Unknown Woman* to good audiences. Miss Violet Carlyle creates a strong impression in her portrayal of Zora; Miss Adeline Raby as the Countess and Miss Ella Sennett as Elsie prove able exponents of the characters; Mr. James Stillwell makes a capital hero; and Prince Menski has a good delineator in Mr. Walter T. Clifford; General Platz is ably interpreted by Mr. W. R. Winning and Mr. Cyril Harrison is excellent as Corporal Gara. The comedy element is well brought out by Mr. Willie Hicks (Corporal Stack) and Miss Anena Walton (Schnapps). Cascar is capitally portrayed by little Prudence Auston.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—A refined and artistic musical turn is provided by the Ziguener Quartette; another good musical item is contributed by Roma and Romani; an old Shields favourite is Tom Costello; Lilian is a graceful lady cyclist who does astounding feats; Charles Lewis, society ventriloquist; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Fred Poplar, and the Bioscope are also in the bill.

Grand Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—This house continues to be highly popular with an entire change of pictures every Monday and Thursday. Kioto and Estea, Japanese marvels, delight the audience with their wonderful feats.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company, under the supervision of Mr. Karl Edwards, is here in *My Irish Molly.* The title-rôle was cleverly portrayed by Miss May Warden; Mr. Karl Edwards as Billy Slim was very good; Mr. St. John Medley gave a capital sketch of Dennis; Mr. Gordon Robey as Captain Vere acted convincingly; Mr. Hodson Pointon, in the part of Tim Dolan, was successful; and Mr. Kenyon Gray as Father McGuire showed ability. Miss Rosie Kearns in the rôle of Sally became a great favourite; and as Lady Blanche Miss Elma C. Turner proved popular.

Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; General-Manager, Mr. George Battle.—Heading the bill of fare at this hall are the Dancing Paceys, in their smart vocal and Terpsichorean speciality; Andrew McManus is a versatile entertainer.

Arcadia.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred J. Gowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Fening.—A couple of successful comedians top the programme here in Clifton and Gibson, late of the Newcastle pantomime. Some fine pictures add to the enjoyment of audiences.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—*Almost His Bride,* produced by Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, is here. Mr. Pritt appears in the character of Simon Simson, an impersonation that is greatly enjoyed; the scenes with Emma Baxter (Miss May Neilson) being especially amusing; Philip Rowland is portrayed in an entirely satisfactory manner by Mr. Morris Maud; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford's Jasper Thorne is a creditable performance; and Mr. J. O. Stevenson is good as the Earl of Ullswater; Miss Sophie Reiss makes a sweet-looking Ruth; and Miss Kathleen Stewart a charming Mona; as Myra Thorne Miss Lydia Donovan is all that can be desired.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Kio-Tani's ju-jitsu wrestlers, Adam King, and Joe Osgood are giving interesting and exciting exhibitions of their art; Frank Mouira, the barrel king, is much applauded; the Quality Quartette are pleasing in their items; and Dan Whitley proves himself amusing; Addie Lennard gives a delightful song and dance; and Syd Bandon, character comedian, gives a good turn.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The familiar entertainment of the Leopolds in *Frivolity* has genuinely entertained large audiences here this week. Mr. Harry Douglas makes a capital Oliver Buckwheat; as Jules Vermiglio Mr. Tom Leopold is very amusing; and Mr. Willie Leopold as Samuel causes plenty of laughter. Miss Kathleen Kavanagh acts pleasingly, and the U.S.A. Girls are a clever troupe of dancers.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Standing out promiently as the one great attraction here is John Lawson in *Humanity,* the celebrated Hebrew actor being accorded a gratifying reception. Enzer and Miss Clarice, sword experts, jugglers, and ju-jitsu champions, present a very smart performance; Ethel Thomas, soprano, delights everyone with her vocalism; James and Jenny Jee are exceedingly clever on the revolving wire; Amie Jumel, vocalist, whistler, instrumentalist, and dancer, is pleasing; and Bonnetti and Corrie are a pair of amusing jugglers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — Castle Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. T. Elder Hearn is here this week, with a full London company. The one-act drama, *The Romance of a Studio,* in which Mr. Hearn took six characters in two scenes, was a fine piece of quick-change work. The lively one-act farce, *An Evening at Home,* was also given, in which the Sisters Sprightly took the parts of the stage-struck servants; also *The Rat,* a dramatic episode of Parisian life where the "Dance des Voyous" was cleverly performed by Gaston Chevallier and Mlle. Etoil le Noir.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The musical comedietta, *Happy Holland,* is successfully presented by Jake Friedman and company, including a chorus of thirty voices; Beatrice English is a good Australian soprano; the Daintees are clever vocalists and dancers; Farr and Farland are good comedians; Little Zola, comedienne is amusing; Stylo is a marvellous hoop expert and juggler; and David Poole is a novelty ventriloquist.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Waltert Batty.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company is paying a return visit here and present the romantic drama, *The Bellringer.* Mr. Stanley Gordon portrayed the rôle of Allan Chesney to perfection; Mr. Chas. Freeman appears with distinction as Jas. Pengarth (the bellringer); Miss Nina Vaughton was capital in the dual characters of Brenda Chesney and Felicia Trewella.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—This theatre has been reopened this week by Mr. George Edwarde's company in *The Dollar Princess,* and crowded houses are the rule. Mr. Abe Worcester gives a capital performance as Freddy Fairfax, and his vocal work is admirable; Mr. Fred Leslie makes an excellent Harry Conder; Mr. George Miller as Bulger is an endless source of laughter; Mr. Hugh Henson is also good as Dick; Mr. W. J. Douglas and Mr. Willie Ward, jun., acquit themselves creditably as the Earl of Quorn and Sir James McGregor; Miss Kathleen Courtney makes an excellent Alice, the DoNar Princess her acting and vocalism both being of the highest quality; Miss Daisy Elliston acts with much verve as Daisy; and Miss Madeline Seymour as Olga excellently imbues the part with a piquancy and charm which are delightful to witness. The piece is elaborately staged.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company is playing here in *The Wrongs of Woman.* Miss Lowe Dare does strong work as Miriam Cronshaw; Miss Ada Hender also does well as Mrs. Helmstone; Miss Eva Brashier is good as Nellie Trulett; Mr. Ernest Dare gives a fine delineation of Paul Desmore; Mr. Chas. F. Johnson is a masterly Colonel Cronshaw; and Mr. Hubert Helliwell gives a meritorious performance as Comer Helmstone. Mr. Fred Garret as Sir Herbert Comerford proves himself to be an able exponent of villainy. The humour is in the good hands of Miss Lilian Bates (Kitty Maynard) and Mr. Fred Luard (Tom Drewitt), both of whom do good work.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden.—Sarah Ellen is being well received here with her popular numbers; Elly Adair is a pleasing Irish comedienne. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—George Sheldon and company are scoring here with their clever rendering of *Before the Dawn;* Leon and Tee cause much laughter with their novel act *The Musical Farm;* and Miss Ronna Shanara's Thibet mountain deer goats give evidence of careful training. The pictures are all good, the principal item being The Closed Door.

Empire Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The pleasantries of Jack Pleasants are as much in demand as ever, and he is having a most flattering reception; Keen and Waller are also popular with their amusing acrobatic work; the comedy mélange of Wilson and Waring is novel and funny; F. V. St. Clair scores with some smart extempore work; Beatrice Bonnie and company win much favour with their skilful dancing act, as also do the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, in their vocal terpsichorean scena; Mona Vivian scores in song and dance; and the McConnell Trio are eminently successful in their smart musical comedietta, entitled *The Invalid.*

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company, in *The Midnight Wedding,* is here. Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes fills the rôle of Paul Valmar to perfection; Mr. Dalziel Heron is a capable exponent of the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Malcolm Tearle is satisfactory as Lieut. Von Strelsburg; Mr. Stuart Black carefully enacts Captain Von Scarsbruck; Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo are amusingly represented by Messrs. Fred H. Constable, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding respectively; Kathie is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Phyllis Hume; Miss Madge Rapee is well placed as Rozell; and Miss Lilian Hallows excels in her impersonation of Princess Astrea.

County Electric Pavilion. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne.—A varied list of films is presented here in addition to the popular song pictures of Mme. Florrie Conolly.

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhurst.—Mr. O. Mans Dayton's No. 1 Company of vaudeville artists are here this week. The Dayton Family top the bill with a smart acrobatic and risley performance, entitled *Le Rendezvous;* Miss Ivy Gallard is a clever comedienne and dancer; E. W. Selman, with his song "When I'm dreaming"; the Three Milfords give a smart trapeze act; the Adams are amusing in their cycling act; Dott and Williams are awarded an enthusiastic reception; Three Spanish Armadas give a daring tight-rope performance; Miss Dora Campbell is popular in her illustrated song-scena; and Professor Thornbury is an effective lightning painter and entertainer.

Olympia Picture Palace.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—An excellent programme is given this week to good houses. Forgiveness is a fine A.B. film; The Angel of Delaim and Road Agent are two other dramas of merit. Mr. Chas. Tyers is appreciated in his song-scenas.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Walter D. Nicoll, Kenneth Rivington, and George Howard's company, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch,* opened here on Thursday for three nights. The character of Mrs. Wiggs was taken in excellent style by Miss Cecile E. Anson, and Miss Muriel Locking presented a capital study of Miss Hazy. Mr. Kenneth Rivington was droll as Mr. Stubbins, and the Mr. Wiggs of Mr. George Howard was distinctly good. Miss Ivy Shepherd gave considerable pleasure as Europena, and the part of Lovey Mary was successfully taken by Miss Clara Earle.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The regatta attraction here this week is Mr. Harry Leslie's *Gay Lieutenants,* who are doing good business. Mr. Arthur Holland is a popular light comedian, and Mr. Eric Thornber also gives satisfaction in coon songs. Miss Nan Taylor has a powerful soprano voice; Miss Cis O'Shea dances gracefully; Mr. Alec Rubinoff is a baritone of great range, and renders his numbers with acceptance; whilst Mr. Fred Shepherd, at the piano, is a talented instrumentalist; and Mr. Griff Hodson is energetic as a comedian, and deserves the applause which greets his efforts.

VENTNOR.—Pier Pavilion.—"The Georgians" are paying a return visit this week. On Monday they performed to a full house. Mr. Robert Carr, under whose able direction the company is, was highly appreciated, being recalled again and again; Miss Roma Castille and Miss Ida Freeman were excellent in their respective parts; and Mr. John Doran proved himself a favourite with his comic songs. Another highly interesting feature was the realistic imitation and memory feats of Mr. Sydney Locklynne, and Mr. Bertram Banks proved himself such a clever artist in "living marionettes," that in the end he had to refuse additional encores.

WAKEFIELD. — Opera House. — Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—*Hush Money* is here. Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney gives a strong portrayal of Sexton Blake; Mr. Martin Sands does good work as Mr. John Shand; Mr. Robert Barton is commendable as the Earl of Montressor; Mr Thomas Brooklyn is successful as Lord Walgrave; Mr. J. Litchfield is well placed as Bill Jakes; and Mr. Harry Hartley is good as Tinker. The part of Nathan Finch is creditably filled by Mr. John Lowther. Miss Agnes Paulton scores as Euphemia Patacake; Miss Theresa Osborne fills with taste the rôle of Lady Montressor; Miss Lizzie White does well as Mary Woodford; and Miss Annie Wilden ably depicts the part of Annie Crooks.

New Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Richard Flanagan's company creates immense hilarity in a funny sketch, *Compensation* Mr. John S. Leick and Miss Mabel Keith contribute a fine musical turn; Smith and Gibbs are clever equilibrists; Miss Ethel Bourne sings ballads with artistic effect; Little Hilda Marion, vocalist and dancer, is attractive; W. H. Dawson, whistler is smart; and Jack Warman is an amusing comedian.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—In addition to a capital picture show the following artists appear: The Sisters Terry, duettists and dancers; Miss Sophie Knight, ballad vocalist, who sings sweetly; and Harry Hird, comedian, is popular.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—Borough Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Michael Welsh, comedian, receives a cordial reception on Monday night; Mattie Lund, operatic soprano, is here for another week; Graham's Marionette entertainment causes much mirth; Ida Dorrie is a dainty comedienne; the Units score in their comedy act; Leo Carle is a quick-change artist of more than average ability; Bob King scores with his clever patter; the Bros. Bradshaw, in their acrobatic act, Adele Varcoe, illustrted songstress, and Matthews and Haming, in comedy act, complete the programme.

Premier Electric Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald. — Fred Pybus, comedian, is the chief attraction at this popular hall, and is supported by an excellent picture programme. The well-rendered selections on the piano by Mr. Marshall Dryden are appreciated.

Tyne Picture Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—Excellent business is being done here. The new gallery, now completed, holds about 400 persons. The Leonas score a success in their novelty musical act. There is also a strong picture programme.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint-Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Jack Lorimer is to the front here this week; the Avolos are a pair of clever tumblers; an amusing duo, Frank and Free, are responsible for hearty laughter; Katie Moss is a greatly-appreciated violinist and entertainer at the piano; Les Marco Belli, comedy conjurers and illusionists, are distinctly good; Stella Stahl is a smart young lady who sings and dances well; and some fine pictures complete.

Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Electric Picture Palace (Midlands), Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Stanley Marks; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. W. Robinson.—Charming variety marks the exhibition of animated pictures here. There is a complete change of programme each Monday and Thursday, and packed houses are the rule. A very striking production, The Tyrant of Jerusalem—one of the best examples of Pathé coloured films—is greatly applauded; a very fine religious picture is The Resurrection of Lazarus; and The Amateur Grocer's Assistant keeps the audience in a roar of laughter. Other pictures worthy of mention are The Blacksmith's Daughter, Nick Winter's Smart Method, and Father Buys a Chimney-pot—a most laughable picture.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Warburton.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here in the evergreen play *Driven from Home.* Mr. Felix Pitts submits a powerful portrayal of Anthony Raybrook, and Mr. P. George Beresford makes Walter Hatherleigh a manly personage; distinction is gained by Mr. Howard Thornby as George Clissold; Mr. J. B. Shinton infuses dramatic force into the character of Geoffery Waring; a clever character sketch is that of Mr. Percy Danson as Willie, an outcast; Mr. Edward A. Finlay scores as Dick Saunders; the humorous element is in the safe hands of Mr. Fred C. Imbert as John Anderson and Miss Susie Bevan as Margaret Bailey; Miss Ada M. Ryder plays gracefully as Laura Raybrook and subsequently as Walter Hatherleigh; Miss A. Williams as Mrs. McCarthy and Miss Emily Burnley as Barbara Ashdown are seen to advantage. The scenery is very effective, and the setting of the Foundling Hospital and Saw Mill scenes are fine specimens of stagecraft.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Marcell and Bevis are astonishing large houses here with their remarkable equilibristic feats; the Westwoods are a very clever cycling duo, and their act is as dainty as it is daring; Reed and Stevens score in the sketch *Married or Photographed;* Gladys and Alber are amusing in a turn which is noted for fine tumbling; Edith Chantler is the possessor of a rich soprano voice, and her songs are well received; the Crown Trio are delightful entertainers; Fagan and Mahone are seen to advantage in a decidedly novel turn. The pictures are good.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. J. Waters.—Miss Fanny Robins is doing well here in burlesque business, singing a medley of songs in fine style; Billie Bint is a smart comedian; Hal Bert is a skilful contortionist; Lillian Rose's songs are encored; and Florence Cooper scores well. The pictures are very entertaining.

Grand.—Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. Smyley.—Some delightful pictures are being shown here, the films depicting The Flower of the Ranch and The Stolen Heir being very good. The gramophone selections are much enjoyed. Mr. Smyley, who enters upon management here, is an old Warrington favourite.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—Messrs. Gower and Faulkner's domestic drama, *For Wife and Home,* is being presented here. Mr. Robert Faulkner's acting in the rôle of Roland St. Pierre is admirable; Mr. Wilton Llewellyn as Henri St. Pierre is capable; the part of Gaspard Le Farge is cleverly played by Mr. Edwin Maydew; the Abbé Latouche is capitally delineated by Mr. Edward De Vere; Mr. Bruce Williams is excellent as Cicard Picole; Mr. Frederick Lisle shows ability as Jean Legraud; Miss Nina Harding is smart as Naneen; and Miss Alice Bradshaw well sustains the part of Miladi.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—*The Black Mask* is the attraction here this week. The title-rôle is in the hands of the author, Mr. F. Marriott Watson, who interprets it in a very masterly manner; Miss Florence E. Florence is an actress of ability, her portrayal of the character of Nellie Cunningham being a very powerful one; Miss Dot Forde capitally sustains the rôle of Philip, the child; Mr. Edward E. Ashby does well as Walter Blackmore; and others who ably sustain important rôles are Mr. Willis Elton, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Mr. Elton Morgan, Miss Mabel Holland, Miss Hettie Senior, and Miss Flo Norman.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—An artistic treat is this week provided by La Milo, who makes her first appearance here. Her exhibition of statuesque posing is thoroughly appreciated. Variety is added to the performance by the caricatures of Cruickshank; Ernie Mayne, the funny comedian, was responsible for much laughter; Jack Sheridan does well; in a pretty song scena, "In Andalusia," Sylvia Du Barry is successful; Rich and Rich retain their popularity for smart patter and comedy; Roze and Calvert are also popular in their sketch, *Captain Kettle and His Mate;* Elsie Roby appears as "The Slavey at the Piano"; and Bugler Carr does some clever equilibristic feats whilst playing cornets, &c.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Miss Inez Howard's company is here in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid.* Mr. Alfred Brandon's impersonation of Prince Hildred is excellent; Mr. William J. Rea makes the most of Prince Michael; Mr. Chas. A. Baker is successful as Prince Olaf; Miss Ethel Savill proves herself a thorough artist as Monica; Miss Gladys Moss-Wright is chic as Viola; Miss Jessie Yatman is decidedly good as Camiola.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Arthur Watson and company are well received in their sketch, *H.M.S. Victory;* Talberto and Douglas, knockabouts, submit an excellent turn; Rosa Neilson, comedienne, and Allen and Austin, comedians and dancers, are applauded; and Fred Dyer, Welsh baritone, Twm Jones, patter comedian; and Will Nosam are well received. Pictures are shown on the Bioscope by Mr. Lambert.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Linden.—Miss Winifred Chalmers and company are presenting *Miss Plaster—of Paris.* Mr. Charles Tolcher as Numskull Nubbs is good; as Tom Flubbs Mr. Frank Bellamy goes well; Mr. Harry Ed. Ray as Alexander and Mr. Sid Dean as Mr. Nubbs keep the house in roars the whole time they are on the stage; Miss Winifred Chalmers makes a most attractive Media Hamilton; and as Eliza Plaster Miss Nellie Harcourt is very pleasing. Specialities are introduced by the Sisters Holman, Miss Jean Ferguson, and Miss Nellie Harcourt.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—Some excellent variety turns are being given here this week. Smit and Smit, bar performers, top the bill; and in addition there are Walter and Eva Grey in musical scena entitled *Cook's Excursion;* and Gus Gauntlett, club swinger. The Sheriff's Sacrifice and Mario's Swan Song are two very fine pictures.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—During the first half of the week the boards were occupied by Mr. Edward Compton's company in *Davy Garrick, She Stoops to Conquer,* and *The School for Scandal,* good houses being present upon each occasion. Mr. Edward Compton had a hearty reception, and was supported by a company of exceptional merit. On Thursday Mr. George Edwardes' company presented *The Merry Widow* to excellent houses.

Waterloo Electric Theatre.—Capital attractions are supplied, films of exceptional merit being shown.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Whitley Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlève.—Menotti, the clever cyclist, in his creation, "The Twentieth Century Cycle Track"; Edie Haley, a versatile comedienne; Dale and Leigh, in an operatic sketch from *The Bohemian Girl;* the Four Netherlands comediennes and bare-footed dancers; the Three Veros, singers and dancers; and Craig, Roze, and Craig, dental athletes, all submit attractive items. Others contributing include Dollie Hook, comedienne; Reuben Hill, actor vocalist; Elsie Arnell, mimic and soubrette; Albert Hinton, comedian; and Harry Dunco, comedian.

Coliseum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—The main attraction here is animated pictures, of which there is an interesting display. In addition, Mlle. Le Breton gives a smart gymnastic exhibition, and Hayman and Houten are amusing comedians.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie and Frank Bray.—Mr. Dickie Clare's excellent company of comedians, with that estimable gentleman at the head, is staging that well-known musical farcical absurdity *Lucky 'Liza.* Mr. Clare as the judge, Silas Slim, and the French waiter scores an unqualified success; Miss Vesta Brownie is charming in the title-rôle; Messrs. T. W. Benson and Harry George are typical barristers; Miss Rosie Coyne is a captivating Vergina; Miss Helen Douglas is an equally charming Mary Pettitoe; Miss Evelyn Wood, in the rôle of Sadie Potts, displays a fine singing voice to advantage; and the Jesmond Trio are clever dancers.

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Mr. Harry Frisky, the American juggler and dancer, occupies pride of place here this week. He is well supported by Mr. Gus Hindell, refined humorist; Messrs. Roberts and Chambers, styled the "simple singers"; and the Misses Lily and Elsie Meynard, vocalists and dancers.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company is here this week in *Her Forbidden Marriage.* Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson gives a powerful impersonation of George Maddison; Mr. Frank Denis is eminently successful as Sir George Lancaster; Charles Bevereux is excellently portrayed by Mr. W. H. Porter; Miss Alice Bowes makes a charming Lucy; the character of Lady Lucretia

WEDDING GIFTS.

BY TOM CRAVEN.

"By the way, has it ever struck you how extremely puzzling it is to know exactly what you ought to give as a wedding gift? I've had some, so I know. I don't mean to say I've had many wedding gifts, but I've had acres of experience. All I got on my wedding was a summons and an old shoe. The summons was served in my right hand and the shoe was served in my left ear. Oh! and I had some rice—oh! tons of rice—some of it was made up into puddings. Now, rice puddings are very tasty in the mouth, but not quite so pleasant in the nape of your neck. I've also had several things presented to me by my wife—since marriage, of course. No one can give black looks or black eyes better than my 'old bit of trouble.' However, that's neither here nor there. Where was I? Oh, I know! I was talking to you. Well, to return to wedding presents. Isn't it funny what a sameness there is in most of the gifts? There seems to be a run on one particular article for domestic use and a lamentable slump in everything else. A cousin of mine had thirty-eight cruets given her, mostly of a similar pattern. Her house presents an extraordinary sight—there were cruets on the sideboard, on the overmantel, on the staircase, on the landing, on the bed, under the bed, in the pantry, in the sponge rack, and up the pole. She used to get periodically hard up, and so pawned a cruet about once a year. It took her just on forty years to lumber the lot. Another female relative of mine had sixty-two pairs of silver nut-crackers given to her. She dared not insult her friends by selling or giving them away, so, being of an economical turn of mind, she made the best possible use of them. For every meal she put nut-crackers on the table instead of forks or spoons. Fancy having to eat soup with a pair of nut-crackers! Fancy stirring up your tea with 'em! She used them, too, as ornaments in the drawing-room, and when she had a card party she made them serve as counters. One pair happened to be exceptionally large. These she turned into fire-tongs, and another pair she taught herself to tune the piano with. Some people seem to absolutely go out of their way in selecting the most useless gifts conceivable. An old schoolfellow of mine had a perfect passion for giving some unfortunate married pair what they did *not* want. If they detested books he'd give them the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' If they had electric light all over their house he'd give them gas fittings. If they had no garden at all to their residence he'd present them with a garden-roller or lawn-mower. If the bridegroom was a non-smoker he'd give him a pipe-stand; should he be a teetotaler he'd give him a 'Tantalus.' If they had gas stoves over the entire establishment he'd send them a ton of coals, with their monogram on each lump. But even *he* wasn't half so bad as an old uncle of mine. When my youngest sister did a silly thing and got married, she took a little, tiny villa about the size of a diminutive cabman's shelter. My uncle gave her a sideboard, with an intimation that if she ever parted with it he would slice her out of his will—he'd got any amount of filthy lucre, and she wasn't going to miss any chances. She accepted the sideboard with gracefully-assumed gratitude, but she little thought what it was going to cost her. Her dining-room must have been designed for 'Little Tich.' If you sat down near one side of it you nearly put your toes through the other. Now, the sideboard would have looked imposing in the Banqueting Room at the Mansion House. It was a colossal structure—it reminded me of a cathedral organ—it was so spacious, so roomy—so loud—so impressive! My sister christened it 'the Barracks.' Well, I'm sure it held more stuff than any ordinary canteen. We didn't half have to manœuvre to get the bally thing into the house. We tried the front door first—but we might as well have tried to get an elephant into a jampot. We succeeded in getting its off-side leg in, and the remainder spread its enormous proportions across the narrow street and stopped a steam-roller from proceeding on its cumbersome way. The sideboard insisted on remaining in this exasperating position for precisely two days and a half. All callers and tradespeople had to fulfil their respective missions through the bay window. People who wanted to pass along the street had to hire ladders, borrow alpenstocks, and do a little amateur mountaineering over the sideboard, which they for ever afterwards referred to as the 'Alps.' In the furious struggle for supremacy that ensued, not one of the 'movers' escaped without losing their knuckle-bones, knee-caps, and tempers. No less than three ambulances were employed to remove the injured. For exactly sixty hours that veritable Chang of sideboards bored us by putting on side and defied us all. We shoved it, bruised it, banged it, scratched it, kicked it, swore at it, but it wouldn't budge the tenth part of an inch. At last we sent for the builder from whom my sister had built her jerry-built villa. His tact was wonderful. He simply put his shoulder against the party-wall, and, with no perceptible effort, pushed down the side of the house. We gave a wild, but somewhat hysterical, cheer, and coaxed our white elephant into the hall, only to find that it wouldn't go through the dining-room door. So we retraced our weary steps and had a pop at the front bay window. We took the windows out of the casings and removed a foot or two of brickwork either side. Then, with a long, long pull, and a strong, strong push, we at last succeeded in getting the leviathan into the dining-room, only to find that it was some inches higher than the ceiling, which it promptly pushed up, going bang through the flooring of the bedroom above. This made us peevish. We flew at the destructive monster and pulled downwards with all our might. Crash, biff—bang—down it went into the cellar below, dragging us with it. I don't remember any more for some weeks, but when I regained consciousness in the hospital I was told how it all ended. My sister had had to pull her house down and build another one in its place to *fit the sideboard.*"

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues. Published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

WE sat five aside in the suburban train (writes a correspondent to the *Manchester Guardian*), and none of us had spoken to the others. The silence was broken without warning by the man in the opposite corner. Taking his greasy bowler in both hands, he first put it across his cranium sideways, and then bunching up his shoulders until they enveloped his neck, and contracting his brows into a deep frown, his arms folded across his breast, he snapped in a perk, Cockney voice: "Napowleon crossing the Elps." My neighbour smiled and tapped his head significantly.

THE moment afterwards our lunatic companion, for so we thought him, discarding his hat, adjusted his forelock, and looking portentously solemn, announced "The Earl of Beaconsfield after the Berlin Conference, Peace with Honour!" We thought he was going to follow it up with a verse of the "red, white, and blue," but instead of bursting into song he gummed a little wisp of white hair to his chin, and asked us to admire "Earl Roberts, Field Marshal—Little Bobs."

BY this time our minds were made up, and he stood fully committed at the next station. But when it came we found that we had judged too hastily. As the train slowed down for the first stop he disclosed himself as a distressed mummer. "Now, gentlemen," he said, passing round his bowler, "kindly spare a copper for a pore artist; absolutely stoney, s'elp me."

"SHAV" ON THE STAGE.

In its Philosophy of a Don series, the *New Age* recently printed an amusing "skit" on Mr. Bernard Shaw's opinions on the modern stage. G. B. S. is alluded as "Shav." We quote from where "Shav," in conversation with the author, the "Don" of the title, says:—

"I have often told you that the sole excuse for speaking should be that the speaker has something to say. Actually, his whole concern is to produce something that will pay. That applies to all classes of English speakers, and to no class more emphatically than to the one which speaks from the stage. In the circumstances, isn't it rather trifling to criticise the pulpit when the preacher himself is beneath criticism?"

"Ye-es," I said, doubtfully. "But are you quite sure that the preacher is what you describe him?"

"Bless the man!" Shav brought his stick down on the pavement with a violence that would have utterly disconcerted anyone less phlegmatic or less accustomed to his judicial methods. "Have you ever known me to be anything but quite sure of what I say?"

"Never!" I assented, fervently.

"Well, then, listen, and I will sketch out for you a so-called dramatic author's career. For some reason or other—usually because he has failed in every other trade—a man decides to earn a living by writing plays. The decision taken, he sets about to discover what sort of plays are in fashion. He finds that a certain class of subject and a certain manner of treatment are in great demand. To that class and manner he applies himself with such industry, intelligence, and insincerity as are in him, without any reference to his own predilections. In fact, a play-maker, like a dress-maker, to succeed, must have no predilections of his own. He must implicitly obey the prevailing taste. The prevailing taste happens to be vicious—so are the plays. The prevailing taste is for the cheap, the shoddy, the paltry, and the pretentious—the plays are cheap, shoddy, paltry, and pretentious. The supply naturally tallies with the demand. The Englishman who spends his day making money, in the evening is only anxious to squander it. So he first goes to a restaurant where he eats a hearty dinner, and then he goes to a theatre to digest it. Naturally he prefers the play which best assists him in that interesting function. The playwright knows his public, and, as a matter of course, panders to its insensate and insatiable appetite for trash. Like a ballet-dancer, a juggler, or a buffoon, he feels it his business to be, above all things, entertaining. He is a caterer for customers who care much for pleasure and nothing at all for truth. Haven't you noticed that people never ask whether a new play is true or not, but always whether it is smart or amusing."

"I suppose they take its truth for granted," I ventured.

"There is no harm in supposing," said Shav, with a grim smile.

"Anyhow," I pursued, "truth alone is not enough to make any work of art acceptable. I question whether it has ever been. If you want to instruct your fellow-creatures you must begin by amusing them. A child will take any pills without demur provided they are sufficiently sugared, and I know dozens of grow-up men and women who have learnt all the history they know from Walter Scott, Harrison Ainsworth, Bulwer Lytton, Thomas Macaulay, and other writers of the same sort."

"Truth, naked and unblushing Truth, should be the first recommendation of every work of art!" Shav declared, vehemently. "I want every play, every picture, every book, every building—in short everything that man makes—to be a confession of faith, or of unfaith; but in any case to be a frank and full confession of what the maker conceives to be the truth. Speak the whole truth, or not at all—that is my maxim."

"You are too literal, too direct, and too uncompromising, my dear Shav. The theatre, you must remember, is a place of relaxation, not of edification."

"I want it to be a place of revelation! I have no objection to clever trifles in themselves. It is natural to be entertained by frivolous pleasantries, to be interested in ingenious plots, to seek amusement wherever it may be found. I don't think that unreasonable or reprehensible. But, good heavens! what shall we say when we see a great nation not only liking but doting on these trifles, and that to such an extent as to leave no room in their minds or taste in their palates for other things—the things that really matter—the serious realities and sorrows of life; how shall we call this, my friend? Shall we not say that such a nation is a desperately stupid nation?"

"The mission of the theatre is not to aggravate but to mitigate the sorrows of life."

"You don't mitigate a disease by concealing it. What would you yourself think of a doctor who, instead of trying to cure his patient, only sent him to sleep? Soporifics may bring a momentary oblivion of pain: they don't abolish it."

"I am no authority on social therapeutics," said I. "But, speaking for myself, I would much rather be driven to sleep by an insipid comedy than to suicide by an inexorable tragedy. The introduction of distressing topics on the stage can only be justified by the elaborate success of the result, and hardly even then. The end of dramatic art is, as Corneille formulated it long ago, 'de plaire aux spectateurs.'"

"Of all pestilential fallacies, my boy, none is more fatal than that. The end of dramatic art is not to please the spectators, but to purge them by showing to them life as it really is. Corneille's formula is the formula of the pastry cook, not of the prophet, or even of the mere priest. It is a mean and vile conception which has been discarded even by the nation which conceived it. In France you now get plays alive with reality and vibrating with conviction. And so the modern French stage is a school for thought, whereas ours remains a school for stupid self-complacency. That is not surprising: the French public is willing to pay something for being made to think; the English public would pay anything to be spared thinking."

"Why, then, blame our playwrights for not giving us sincere and thought-stimulating plays, since, according to you, our playgoers do not want them? By your own showing, if an English dramatist ventured upon an honest study of the world as it appears to him his work would have no chance at all. If it was accepted by the managers it would be pronounced by the public 'depressing'; the critics would damn it, and audiences would stay away. After all, even a playwright must live."

"I don't see the necessity. But let that pass. The playwright's unreasoning attachment to life does not make matters better for us. It makes them worse. Our dramatists, by their sordid subservience to the depraved standards of their public, perpetuate its stupidity. What else could you expect from creatures that live and creep and work in the artificial world of the theatre, instead of in the real outer world? Their sympathies are cribbed and confined by the back wall of the stage. Their minds are warmed not by God's glorious sunshine, but by the glare of the footlights. The air they breathe is not the free and pure air of heaven, but the stuffy, polluted atmosphere of the green room. Consequently, the life they depict is not the real life of the present, but a conventional shadow-life of stage characters created by dramatists dead and gone. The upshot of it all is that, instead of rational human beings, we get on our stage a crowd of drapers' lay figures, talking and behaving as no decent drapers' lay figures have ever talked or behaved. Instead of dialogue, we pay genuine silver to listen to hollow, premosaic platitudes in which no one believes. Instead of an exhilarating exposition of the incongruous we are treated to ponderous exercises in hippopotamian humour. The audience gets what it deserves—like people like preachers. The English stage no longer needs a critic, but a cardinal armed with candle, bell, and book, and an ocean or two of holy water."

"I doubt whether they order these things better abroad," said I. "Look at the plays imported into this country from the Continent. Most of them, you will agree, are mere French indecencies, purged of their Gallic salt, or unexpurgated Flemish puerilities and Norwegian nightmares, full of the sempiternal pseudo-analysis of character, of the mental unequilibrium, and of the wordy inanities which form the stock-in-trade of the dramatic paradoxologist. These things, to my mind, are far more offensive than the innocuous insipidities of our own poor playwrights."

"You must not judge the Continental theatre by our own clumsy adaptations of its products. Continental dramatists of the first rank are realists in the loftiest acceptation of the term."

"Are they? Look at some of the most famous of foreign dramas in their original form. Look at Ibsen's plays. No plays, a short time ago, held a Continental audience as these did. And what are they? Neurasthenic obsessions copied, one would think, from some madman's dreams. The author seems to conceive his plots in dyspepsia and to deliver himself in delirium tremens. His men and women are placed in houses, churches, or monasteries of stone, brick, and mortar, like those we actually see in real life. But are they actual people such as we know in real life? Not a bit of it. They are miserable monomaniacs, contemplating, dissecting, analysing their own sick interiors to discover the imaginary disease they are pleased to call their soul. And the audience, after one of these performances, leaves the theatre, not purged or edified, or even humbly amused, but racked with self-questionings, tortured with regret, puzzled, bewildered, discontented, impotently enraged."

"Even rage is preferable to stagnation," said Shav, in his most superior manner.

"You may think so. For my part I think that better than rage is reticence—which means a sense of decency."

"Reticence is the excuse of the insensible and the refuge of the inarticulate. Have you noticed how remarkably reticent our cats and dogs are? I have a spaniel at home, and he has never yet uttered a word about his feelings. I suppose he considers it bad form."

This shaft produced no impression whatever upon the impenetrable panoply of my composure, and Shav, perceiving his failure, changed his tone.

"You were boasting the other day of the State," he said. "Why does not the State justify its existence by endowing the stage as it endows the Church, the Navy, and the Army?"

"If it did you would be the first to denounce it. I can see you leading a crusade for the disestablishment of the stage. I can hear you protesting against theatrical subsidies as a form of servitude——"

"I dare say I should," Shav laughed. "Thalia and Melpomene harnessed with red tape in the chariot of Departmental Dullness is not an inspiring spectacle. But I would almost endure even that humiliation if it rescued the drama from its present dependence upon the lowest intellectual elements. Any dictatorship, even that of a Government, would be better than the dictatorship of Mrs. Grundy."

"The change, I am afraid, would only be a change of chains. The capricious tyranny of the many would be replaced by the canonised tyranny of the few. For the spontaneous stupidity and timidity of the middle-class Pharisees, you would have the deliberate cant and pompous dogmatism of a board of official scribes—a hierarchy of highly-placed, highly-paid hypocrites. That being so, why strain after a revolution which would miss the one thing that makes revolutions at all tolerable—reformation?"

"I am sick of the whole business," he said, after a few minutes' silence. "This dramatic degradation going on year after year, without restraint, remorse, or remission, will force me to go to America or go mad."

"Why don't you put yourself at the head of a reforming movement?"

"I mean to do so. I think I will write a real play one of these days."

THE WHEELER EDWARDS' GAIETY COMPANY. (NOW TOURING SOUTH AFRICA.)

Names of artists:—Guy Buckland, E. W. Laceby, Geoffrey Allsopp, Miss Ena Garrick, Miss Hyde, Miss Nellie Barnard, Two Sisters Baum, Miss Louie Smythe, Mr. Adam Gordon, Mr. Stirtz, Mr. Cannot, musician, Mrs. Russell, Miss Renée, Mr. Coulthard, Miss Eva Cross, Miss Imeson, Mr. Reginald Kenneth, Miss Daisy Revett, Mr. Hurman, Miss Trevor, Mr. A. H. Burgon, Mr. Woodman (manager), and musician, Mr. Melville Florance, Mr. William Everard, Miss Doris Greville, four musicians, Miss Dibley, Mr. Russell, Miss May Glen, Mr. Austin McNeilon, Miss Scott, Miss Nellie Hodson, and Miss Nettie Wheeler.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, AUG. 17.—*The Brass Bottle*, a romantic comedy, in four acts, by Frank Anstey, was performed at the Lyceum Theatre on the 11th inst. Mr. Charles Frohman had engaged an excellent company for this play, and the performance was in every respect successful and praiseworthy. If laughter and applause count for anything, Mr. Anstey's whimsical play will continue to amuse large audiences for some time to come. The story is certainly ingenious and novel. In fact, one can hardly remember having seen such a fantastic comedy before. It must be admitted that it dragged a little towards the close, lacking as it did the touch-and-go quality to which American audiences are accustomed. But the surprises and quick changes, and the interesting characters, more than made up for that, and hearty enjoyment prevailed. Mr. Edwin Stevens played the part of the Genie with a sly humour that was very effective, and was the most successful member of the cast. Mr. Richard Bennett made the most of his opportunities as the architect, Horace Ventimore, and others who distinguished themselves in prominent rôles were Miss Irene Fenwick, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Miss Thomas Whiffen, Mr. Louis Massen, and Miss Carrie Perkins.

A MUSICAL version of *Trilby* is to be produced by the Shuberts, with Miss Fritzi Scheff in the title-rôle. Mr. Victor Herbert will compose the music, and Mr. Joseph Herbert will write the libretto.

MR. LOUIS MANN has made a success at the Lyric Theatre in a three-act play called *The Cheater*. Originally a German farce entitled *Der Doppelmensch*, by Wilhelm Jacoby and Arthur Lipschutz, it was adapted by Mr. Mann for his own use, and he appears as Senator Godfried Plittersdorf, who has projected a great reform movement, directed against disreputable dance halls and other places of a low character. Dame Fortune refuses to take the Senator seriously, however, for he inherits from his step-brother a notorious resort known as the Orpheum, at which the nightly receipts run into four figures. He keeps his wife in ignorance of the legacy, and his strange conduct causes her to fear that he may be suffering from an attack of lunacy. In order to attend a masquerade at the Orpheum, Plittersdorf disguises himself as a burglar, and Leokadia decides that he has turned housebreaker because he is financially embarrassed. The discovery of some money and jewels in a drawer confirms her worst fears, and Plittersdorf is even suspected of murder. Explanations are forthcoming in due course, however, and after disposing of the Orpheum for a goodly sum, Plittersdorf reassumes his former respectability.

Mr. Mann's Plittersdorf provokes no end of laughter. He is very, very funny. Mme. Mathilde Cottrelly's Leokadia is a fine example of finished acting; and the other rôles are in good hands.

MISS CLARA LIPMAN began an engagement at the Hackett Theatre last Monday, appearing in *The Marriage of a Star*, a comedy in three acts, from the French of Alexandre Bisson and Georges Thurner. *Le Marriage d'une Etoile*, the original play, had a long run in Paris. A French actress comes to New York to study English after leaving her husband, a puritanical Bostonian, who was at first fascinated by her unconventional ways, and then found them distasteful to him. They have a daughter, a girl of eighteen, whom they both love, and their interest in her welfare often brings them together. The daughter is like her father, and when he chooses a husband for her she accepts him. In rehearsing a play in which she is to make her début in an English-speaking part, the mother gives the rôle of her lover to her daughter's intended, and he wins her approval by the sincerity and ardour of his acting. She dominates every scene with her coquetry and charm, and when they go through the final love scene acting becomes a reality, for the young man suddenly proclaims his disloyalty and begs the actress to run away with him. Thus the second act has a dramatic ending; but the third reverts to comedy, and the final scenes are laughable.

Miss Lipman appeared as the French actress, Simone La Fee, and her performance was frequently applauded. In the stirring scene at the end of the second act her work was particularly effective, and aroused much enthusiasm.

"THE COMMUTERS," a farcical comedy, by James Forbes, who wrote *The Chorus Lady* and *The Travelling Salesman*, was produced at the Criterion Theatre last Monday, and was well received. In his new play the author illustrates some of the humours of suburban life. Larry and Hetty Brice, a devoted young couple, live at Auburn Manor, a suburb of New York. Larry's chum, Sammy Fletcher, is a typical bachelor with a strong dislike for country life. Known only by name and reputation to Hetty, he is the object of her particular aversion, as she holds him responsible for her husband's innocent but none the less annoying deviation from the accepted standards of suburban respectability. Larry invites Sammy to spend a day at Auburn Manor in order that he may revel in the real joys of a "commuter." His unexpected visit causes a breach between the young married pair, and Sammy, in trying to repair the damage, only succeeds in bringing down upon his head the wrath of both husband and wife. After a series of complications, in which an amusing group of suburbanites are involved, Sammy succeeds in straightening out the tangle.

Staged under the personal direction of the author, the piece proved highly diverting. The humorous possibilities of the theme could hardly be exhausted in one play, but Mr. Forbes has used up quite a number of them, and the characters are a mirth-provoking lot. The cast includes Miss May de Sousa, Miss Georgie Lawrence, Mr. Orrin Johnson, Mr. Taylor Holmes, and Mr. E. Y. Backus.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

THE new dramatic season in New York has made a good start, and the fact has been demonstrated that theatres can be filled even in midsummer when the plays are attractive. The interval between one season and another seems to be growing less every year. Although the country and the seaside and the open-air amusements near at hand deplete the resident population considerably, the presence of thousands of visitors in town insures the theatres against lack of patronage.

MR. ALFRED HURLEY, a member of the Bognor company of Pierrot, Limited, has been defending the Pierrot entertainers as a class against the accusations of impropriety which have been made against them of late. "It is a cruel shame," he said to an "Express" representative, "and if the critics had only known the serious harm they have done to a large body of men and women who are striving to make life at the seaside merrier they would probably have hesitated before making such false accusations. People imagine that we are happy-go-lucky strolling minstrels who live a hand-to-mouth existence. That is a thing of the past. The pierrot of to-day, although his life is still one of romance, can command a comfortable salary. A good funny man who is not vulgar can earn a salary of £15 a week; and I know a man who this year refused an offer of £18 a week because he earned more by working independently."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Play entitled

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

A warm welcome awaited Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in this play founded on Ouida's famous novel, on Monday evening. *Under Two Flags* has now been touring for many years, but it has always had a certain fascination for playgoers who have read the book—one of Ouida's best—and whoever is responsible for the authorship of the play can be complimented on having constructed a thoroughly interesting drama, which is seldom the case with plays adapted from novels. The circumstances attending Bertie Royellieu's exit from the Guards and enlistment in the French foreign legion, together with Cigarette's ill-fated love-story, are exceedingly well told, and create sustained interest throughout. As Bertie Cecil Royellieu Mr. Wernham Ryott has all the appearance of a Guardsman, and his acting is impassioned or reserved, as occasion requires; Mr. Wilfred Jessop represents Berklie Cecil Royellieu in incisive fashion; and Mr. Charles Brooke is sufficiently strong as Lord Royellieu. A very manly performance is that of Mr. David Hawthorne as Lord Rockingham, and it meets with deserved approval; Mr. Harry Benson as the faithful valet Rake is highly successful, and is amusing in a couple of songs and a dance; the tyrannical Colonel Chateauroy (Black Hawk) is skilfully rendered by Mr. Charles E. Johnson, quite deserving the resentment of the audience; Ezra Baroni, a moneylender, is typically impersonated by Mr. Horace Stewart; and Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as Marshal of France wins praise, particularly where he informs Black Hawk that he must consider himself under arrest; Mr. Fred Hilliard as the Arab Chief plays consistently; and Mr. Arthur Redmond is a soldierly Captain Claude de Chaurellon. As Cigarette Miss Agnes Verity acts with much charm and vivacity, and the scenes of her ride to Algiers and her death arouse the audience to real enthusiasm; Miss O'Neil as the Princess Venetia Corona is distinctly good; and the Lady Beatrice Guinevere is daintily played by Miss Ethel Gordon. Very amusing and bright is Miss Tina Langlois as the maid Lavinia. The scenery is picturesque, and the military costumes are attractive.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Drama, in Four Acts,

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Mr. Fredk. Melville's company is here this week with *Her Road to Ruin*. This play has already won a host of friends on a previous visit, and certainly it does not lack qualities to commend it to a popular audience. The scenery throughout is a prominent feature of the production, the Bishop's Palace, the Bishop's Garden, and the Savoy Hotel all being worthy of special mention. Mr. Charles Dickens in the part of Frank Temple gives a performance of outstanding merit. As the outspoken Curate his lines are delivered with true manly ring, and his acting throughout is vigorous and effective. In the character of Tom Wells Mr. Albert Grenville gives a breezy and manly exposition. Mr. Knox Orde as the villain, Philip Hardy, invests his part with malevolence and a quiet incisiveness. Mr. Dane Clark's abilities are admirably employed as the Bishop. Miss Doris Gilham gives an effective presentment of the much-tried Jess Willoughby. The part of May Willoughby suits Miss Gertrude Tate to a nicety, and Miss Margaret McClellan depicts the much-wronged Mary Dawson in a capable manner. Mr. R. Leigh Ellis is successful as Charles Cholmondeley, one of the ne'er-do-wells, and Messrs. William Wood as Sir John Lewis and Mr. Guy Ruth as Mr. Derwent contribute valuable assistance. Mr. Henry Powell and Miss Grace Emery create amusement as Dickey Gerald and Jenny Crickling, and the numerous other parts have suitable exponents.

THE CORONET.

On Tuesday, Aug. 23, the Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled

"DAVID GARRICK."

The eighth production of Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. Eade Montefiore's season of Robertson revivals took place on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., in the shape of *David Garrick*, so long associated among latter-day playgoers with the names and fame of Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore. A careful and painstaking performance was given by the clever Coronet company, and their endeavours were very much to the taste of the audience, judging by the applause. Two newcomers to the company enacted the principal parts. Miss Viva Birkett, as Ada Ingot, the romantic, stage-struck, and lovelorn city merchant's daughter, acted with gracious tenderness and womanly sweetness, and looked the part to perfection. Mr. Frederick Sargent endowed the part of David Garrick with much youthful charm and earnestness, and indeed came out with flying colours in his determined tackling of this exacting rôle. A little more latent strength perhaps is required, but this may easily come with closer acquaintance with the part. Mr. Fred Permain made an excellent Squire Chivy, and thoroughly entered into the spirit of this Tony Lumpkinish character; Mr. O. B. Clarence is a dear old Simon Ingot; instinct with paternal love and solicitude; and as the motley gathering of city nonentities Miss Agnes Imlay as Mrs. Smith, Miss Rose Begarnie as Araminta Brown, and Messrs. Henry Kitts, William Rokeby, and James Gelderd as Smith, Brown, and Jones materially contribute to the fun of their entertainment. The *pièce de résistance* is followed by Buckstone's *Good for Nothing*, in which Miss Rose Begarnie as Nan of the title-rôle acts with archness and vivacity, and in very taking fashion suggests the happy-go-lucky nature of the girl. As her foster-fathers, Tom Dibbles the choleric and Harry Collier the philosophic, Mr. William Rokeby and Mr. Leslie Palmer are remarkably good, and cause much merriment. Mr. Montague Wigan as Charley, Mr. James Gelderd as Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Albert Upton as a footman are all well in the picture. The classical selections from Gounod by the Chamber Quartet, under the direction of Mr. W. Meyer are much appreciated.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Drama entitled

"THE STILL ALARM."

Messrs. Matthew Glenville and Fred Osman's company is presenting *The Still Alarm* at the above theatre this week to large and enthusiastic audiences. That ever-popular drama never fails to supply the necessary thrills so dearly loved by the patrons of the theatre. The fire station scene, with the famous pair of trained horses, was greatly appreciated, and won well-merited applause from a delighted audience. Mr. Mathew Glenville enacted the part of the hero Jack Manley with great power, his natural delivery, accompanied by a true sense of humour, meeting with well-deserved success. Mr. Wilton Reed admirably portrayed the calculated villainies of John Bird alias Gormon, speaking his telling lines with great effect. Willie Manley had an excellent exponent in Mr. Edward Hobart, his hard work being worthy of praise. Mr. Lewis Gordon adequately realised the part of Franklyn Fordham. Mr. Henry Gilpin gave an excellent character sketch of Doc Wilber, the broken-down clerk, formerly in the employ of Fordham and Bird. Mr. Gerald Shirley as Joe Jones, the old New York fireman, compelled uproarious laughter by his droll antics; Mr. Monty Partridge was successful as Jenkins, servant to Fordham; Miss Minnie Willett enacted the heroine, Elinor Fordham, with great feeling and sympathy; Miss Mabel Veriton appealed straight to the hearts of the audience by her excellent performance as Mrs. Manley, the mother of the boys; Carrie Wilber, affectionately nicknamed Cad, found an able exponent in Miss Lydia Audre, whose song and dance in the second act was much appreciated; the Central Fire Brigade quartette sang several pleasant ditties which proved very acceptable; Mr. Henry Smith was good as Hal Sleeper; and the part of Charlie White was made the most of by Mr. George Owen. Mr. T. Varney was an excellent Bill Noozle. The parts of the firemen, Bob Stevens, Sid Perkins, Bill Foote, and William Blaisdale, were in the safe hands of Messrs. W. Edwards, E. Tudor, H. Johnson, and G. Francis. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Alfred Moon, played melodious selections during the entr'actes.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the American comedy, entitled

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

The quaint humour, the human touches, the pathos, and the American mannerisms of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* have lost none of their grip upon the theatre-going public, and on Monday night Kennington Theatre was turning away money when Mr. Gaston Mayer's company opened a successful week's engagement there with this great play. The piece is splendidly produced under the supervision of Mr. Kenneth Rivington, with Mr. R. Shiells as stage-manager. In the title-rôle Miss Lucy Beaumont wins fresh laurels, captivating everyone by her gentle sympathy and never-failing humour. Fred Forrest, as Mr. Stubbins, plays the part for all it is worth, which is saying a good deal. Miss Armine Grace is intensely amusing as Miss Hazy; and the weird figures of Miss Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz could not have been better sketched than by Miss Sybil Brooke and Miss Violet Vivian. Miss Winifred Murray makes a sweet and engaging Lovey Mary; and Billy Wiggs is played with much boyish impulsiveness by Mr. Walter Hicks. Chris Hazy, the cripple, is impersonated with considerable success by Mr. Bailey Hicks; and Deacon Bagsley is graphically portrayed by Mr. Alfred Fisher. Mr. Harry J. Wright, who is favourably remembered by the Kennington audience from the summer stock season in which he participated, is an excellent Hunkerdunkus Jones, his natural fund of humour being turned to advantage as the matrimonial agent. Mr. Ernest Gray is distinctly good as the errant Mr. Wiggs; and Mr. R. Shiells forcibly impersonates the Sheriff. As the children. Miss Doris Murray, Miss Dolly Shiells, Miss Doris Beeton, Miss V. Holmes, Master H. Lindsay, Miss Gladys Noble, and Master H. Jeffries were all admirably taken. Miss Ethel O'Brien was a graceful Miss Lucy; and Mr. R. Neilance adequately filled the rôle of Mr. Bob.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Play in Four Acts, entitled,

"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

Mr. Louis Meyer's company, travelling with the entire original production from the Garrick Theatre of *The Woman in the Case*, commenced, on Monday evening, a six-days' visit here. Miss Florence Lloyd's Claire Forster was a well-studied embodiment, the various changes from gay frivolity to passionate outbursts being realistically assumed. Miss Mabel Trevor created a great impression as Margaret Rolfe, the pent-up feelings of the outraged wife fighting for her husband's life being admirably shown. The great scene with Claire Forster in the third act was especially well rendered, and reflected great credit on both artists. Mr. Leonard Pagden distinguished himself by a clever delineation of the lawyer; and Mr. Clayton Greene gave a polished and convincing portrayal of Julian Rolfe. Mr. F. Clive Ross was effective as Louis Klauffsky; and Mr. Richard Fielding capably enacted the rôle of Jimmy O'Neill. Walters had a capable exponent in Mr. Lambert Plummer; and Mr. Reginald Maurice did all that was possible as Inspector Williams. Miss Sophie Lingwood, as Mrs. Hughes, acted in true light comedy style; and the unconscious humour of the character caused considerable laughter. Miss Madge Russell, Miss Esther Whitehouse, and Miss Grete Hahn were charming representatives of the three young ladies, Elsie Brewster, Dora Miller, and Louie Mane. The piece was preceded by an original monologue, "Yes, Papa," written and played by Miss Grete Hahn, who is to be complimented on her performance.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Drama entitled

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

The members of Mr. Fredk. Melville's own company are at the Dalston Theatre this week, giving representations of that author's drama *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Mr. Richard Lane has a popular part to play as Lieut. Richard Marsh, R.N., a character which at once appeals to the sympathies of the audience, as does also that of Gladys Erskine, daughter of Lord Erskine, a rôle gracefully sustained by Miss Daisie Cook. Mr. James C. Taylor acts with commendable ease as Lord Erskine; Barney Gordon, a wealthy Jack-of-all-trades, is played with a keen appreciation of the humour of the part by Mr. Luke Forster, who arouses roars of laughter; Harry Gordon has an efficient representative in Mr. Alexander Bradley; Mr. George Belmore supplies all necessary colouring in sustaining the character of Jerry Holmes; Mr. Tom May is Sammy Snozzle; Mr. Edwin Lever's John Moore is a creditable piece of character acting; and Miss Dulcie O'Mull Conry is sufficiently docile as Mrs. Moore. Mr. James Selwin is the Rev. Mr. Evans; and Mr. Fred Carr, who appears as a railway porter, also undertakes the duties of stage-manager. Miss Catherine Carew impersonates Honour Moore with well-sustained precision; the title-rôle, Bess Moore, is admirably undertaken by Miss Violet Crossley, who is the recipient of round after round of hearty applause.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Drama entitled

"SEXTON BLAKE, DETECTIVE."

The production of this detective-drama has aroused keen interest in playgoing circles in Brixton, and capital houses have followed with delight the doings of the sleuth-hound Sexton Blake, his famous bloodhound "Pedro," and—Tinker. In the title-rôle Mr. Murray Yorke displayed great ability, and his clever manœuvring of villainy was greeted with vociferous cheers; Mr. Edward McLean, too, was a huge favourite as Roger Blackburn; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers brought out well the scoundrelism of Randolph Lovell; Mr. A. J. Harding was a characteristic representative of Squire Lovell; as Tinker Mr. Millar Wilson was very comical, and in the low comedy scenes with Euphemia Pattacake, delightfully played by Miss Dinah Wright, caused roars of laughter; Mr. Victor C. Rolfe was a typical Farmer Blackburn; and Mr. Sydney Barnes well impersonates the burglar, Simon Faggot. Miss Elizabeth Watkins made a charming heroine as Marjorie Lovell, displaying genuine ability; Miss Lydia Mannington was most amusing as the eccentric Philadelphia Kate; Miss Ruth Woodhouse (Sally Brill) and Miss Alice Jameson (as a homeless woman) are well cast. Pedro (the pedigree bloodhound), impersonated by "himself," proved a popular favourite with the audience. *Sexton Blake* was capitally staged, many of the scenes being noteworthy, while the stage management was praiseworthy. It is presented by the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd. Next week the Lyceum Tours, Ltd., will produce *The Fighting Chance*.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Play entitled

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

Messrs. Travis, Green, and Arthur Hinton's company is arousing the enthusiasm of the Lyric audiences, the play, the acting, and the scenery appealing strongly to the sympathies of the patrons. Mr. Arthur Hinton is strong and impressive as Hubert Ainsworth, being particularly good in the scene where Lady Grace Kingsley (passionately interpreted by Miss Emma Litchfield) endeavours to lure him from the path of virtue. The part of White Rose is superbly handled by Miss Leila Zillwood, who is admirably suited by nature and accomplishment for the rôle. Miss Laura Wright is humorous as Black Duck; and Miss Nellie Richmond is piquant and sprightly as Jeannette, the French maid. Lagune, an Indian woman, is entrusted to Miss Maud Evans; Mr. Ardan Barne is good as the servant at Ainsworth Hall; and Mr. Harry Sidney adequately plays Lynx. Mr. J. D. Hennessy submits a studied reading of Dakuta; Master Max Gumpert as Little Lennie plays smartly; Mr. Tod Squires is buoyant and fresh as Billy Twiggle, the comedian. As Lonely Star, Mr. Travis Hinton is popular; and Mr. Graham Winsford portrays Wolfsfang, the heavy lead, with pronounced success. White Eagle is well represented by Mr. Gerald Byrne; and the dignified Sir Walter Kingsley could not be in better hands than those of Mr. G. Moreton Williams.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Drama entitled

"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Percy Williams's company is drawing big houses with *The Fatal Wedding*, the drawing powers of which are as great as ever. Mr. Hugh Montgomery appears as Howard Wilson to distinct advantage; Mr. Royce Milton is a typical stage villain, and his companion in crime, Cora Wilson, is cleverly enacted by Miss Leah Marlborough; Miss Ethel Kay is a sympathetic Mabel Wilson, and gains great favour. Little Lussanne takes the house by storm with her rendering of Jessie, "the little mother," whose brother Frank is well played by Miss Edith Dews. The comic element is supplied by Miss Marie Harcourt as Bridget the cook, and Messrs. Sam Sprigson and Frank Ashby as Toto and O'Reilly. In the third act several specialities are introduced by the children, and very clever indeed they are. The talented youngsters consist of Little Lily Wohlmann, Little Lussanne, Gladys Kelly, Sisters Wohlmann, Sunny Sarah Hicks, Margot Domican, Rosie Sanders, Tom Grice, and Dorothy Pain. The play is well mounted and capably played throughout.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Musical Comedy, entitled

"THE NEW BARMAID."

Miss Violet Osmund's company is appearing here in a revised version of *The New Barmaid*, under the direction of Mr. Alexander Loftus. Crowded houses nightly have been the rule. As the New Barmaid, Ethel Joy, Miss Madge Prior is everything that could be desired, her songs and dances being executed with great taste; Brenda Louth is admirably sustained by Miss May Hawthorne; Miss Beatrice May is well placed as the aristocratic Lady Moulton; so also was Miss Betty Dalmany as the maid, Mary. Miss Murielle Mascot, besides being a most capable actress, as witnessed by her portrayal of Mabel, is also a clever composer, the duet "Good-bye," sung in the first act, being from her pen. Miss Maud Stead is smart as Braddy. Miss Violet Osmund is distinctly good as the lady journalist, her singing and dancing being beyond the average. Mr. Alexander Loftus as Bertie White stands out as the most prominent figure, his ready wit and jocular manner keeping the house in good humour. He is ably assisted by Mr. Chas. Adeson as Willie White. Mr. W. Granger is well placed as the peppery Colonel Claymore. Mr. Geo. Fox is a fine, manly Captain Loveday, and his powerful baritone voice is heard to advantage. The remaining characters are filled by duly-qualified artists. The dresses and scenery are superb and the effects well carried out.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 22, the Melodrama, by Frederick Melville, entitled

"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN."

This, the third Melville melodrama produced at the Royal County Theatre during the past three weeks, has been, like the other two, drawing crowded audiences at each of the performances this week. At the head of a strong company is Miss Mary Pemberton, who plays Ruth with great ability, and has entirely won the sympathy and admiration of Kingston audiences by her fine acting. The part of Jack Gladwyn is in the hands of Mr. Henry Lonsdale, who gives a fine soldierly impersonation of it. Mr. George Arthur makes an excellent Captain Deering; and a capital study is furnished by Mr. W. Pemberton as Sergeant Manners. Others in the company who acquit themselves well are Miss Clara Milvain as Rose O'Connor, Mr. Basil Lynn as Dr. Bird, Mr. Basil Thackeray as Jasper Skinner, whilst valuable assistance in lighter vein is rendered by Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea and Miss May Day. Like all Mr. Melville's productions, the play is admirably mounted in every particular, the scene representing the interior of the Central Criminal Court being particularly admired.

All good actors and true visiting London (says the *New York Dramatic Mirror*) journey to two shrines. One is to the strange old church as to walls, like most London landmarks, white as a sepulchre in spots, in other spots black as the worst of the city's fogs, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, the nearest neighbour of the National Gallery. Beneath the chancel of this ancient church sleeps the one-time orange girl whose name Henrietta Crosman made a household word with us a few seasons ago. Nell Gwynn rests there by the desire expressed in her will: "I desire I may be buried in the chancel of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; that Dr. Tennyson may preach my funeral sermon; that there may be a decent pulpit cloth and cushion given to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; that he (the Duke) would give one hundred pounds for the use of the poor of the said St. Martin's to be given into the hands of the said Dr. Tennyson to be disposed of at his discretion for taking any poor debtors of the said parish out of prison, and for clothes this winter and other necessaries as he shall find most fit." This is "the last request of Ellen Gwinn to His Grace the Duke of St. Albans" (her son).

The visitor to this chancel tomb of the merry, loving soul for whom the last words of England's king and his best words, one of his judges said, were: "Don't let poor Nelly starve!" goes from the queer old church of mottled appearance, down Pall Mall, the little street with the National Gallery at its head and the Post Office at its foot, to No. 79, where the star of Old Drury lived. It is a handsome house even for London, and to-day a white, four-storied stone house with large windows and two small porticoes. The home where poor Nelly lived now houses the Baldwin Club.

The other of the actor shrines is the tomb of Sir Henry Irving, whose example, I recall, six actors in America told me had not only led them to the stage, but had led them upon a plane of higher and kindlier living. To Westminster Abbey go these reverent ones of the stage, one of whom told me with a burst of indignation that careful search of the Abbey had not revealed Sir Henry's resting place until a warder dislodged two fat women who were sitting on a bench munching their halfpenny buttered scones. The removal of the women and the bench disclosed the slab on which was simply engraved "Sir Henry Irving," with the dates of his birth and death.

In connection with the Kennington Theatre stock season, the success that was attained in the stage management and production of *Hoodman Blind* was due to Mr. George Elliston, who was specially engaged to stage manage and produce the play.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."

A New Drama, in Four Acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell, Produced at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Lina Lee ..... Miss Isla Garnet Vayne
Liz Lee ..... Miss Alice N. Livesey
Granny Lee ..... Mrs. Sidney Halling
Muriel Marsh ..... Miss Yhda Moores
Tilly Tyndesley ..... Miss Lizzie Lennon
Our Mary Ellen ..... Miss Gertie Moody
Dr. Lace Levallie ..... Mr. Charles Vivian
Laurence Langdale ..... Mr. Douglas Murray
Mathew Marsh ..... Mr. J. A. Hybert
Sam Swaddle ..... Mr. Richard Webb
Tommy Turnbull ..... Mr. Victor G. Vayne
Dr. Druce Cloud ..... Mr. Gilbert Hall
Gabriel Grunt ..... Mr. E. R. Shrewd
Dick Dale ..... Mr. Albert Sangar
Telegraph Boy ..... Master G. Blaze
P.C. Floode ..... Mr. Phillip Clay
Betty Bobbin ..... Miss Arnie May
Sally Spindle ..... Miss Lucy Lauder
Wardress Crooke ..... Miss Marion Mason

According to a note on the programme, Mrs. Morton Powell's new drama "is founded on actual facts." *From Mill Girl to Millionairess* is quite an excellent specimen of the class of play to which it belongs, and is a success. The thread of the story is woven with neatness and skill; and there are scenes which make a direct appeal to the audience. There was evidence of this on Monday evening in the excited exclamations and spontaneous remarks of members of the audience at certain points in the play. The mill girl is Lina Lee, who is living with her blind grandmother in a modest little cottage. There has been a lock-out, the result being that Lina and the other millhands are without work. Then enters upon the scene the villain of the piece, Dr. Lace Levallie, who has wicked designs upon pretty, fair-haired Lina. He sees his opportunity. The rent of the cottage has not been paid, and the poor blind old lady receives notice to quit. It is then that the designing Doctor comes forward and offers Lina a cheque to pay the rent, at the same time pointing out that any shock to her aged and feeble grandmother is likely to prove fatal. However, the offer is refused; and the villain finds himself face to face with angry Laurence Langdale, Lina's manly young sweetheart, who is employed as engineer at the mill. In the first scene also appeared Liz Lee and the man she lives with, Sam Swaddle, a drunken travelling hawker. The woman passes as the mother of Lina, but by her own admission we learn that the girl is the daughter of Mathew Marsh, the mill-owner and millionaire, and that the young woman known as Muriel Marsh is the child of Liz Lee, she, while acting as nurse, having effected a change when the two girls were infants. Muriel reveals her true character very early in the play by her refusal to accede to the pitiful appeal of Lina for her intercession to prevent the blind old lady being turned out of her cottage. When Muriel learns that Laurence Langdale is really the son of the Earl of Eldon, she determines to throw over her lover, Dr. Levallie, and scheme to become the wife of the heir to an earldom. Granny Lee, to all appearance, dies suddenly from the shock caused by the news that she is to be turned out of her home, but Dr. Levallie informs Lina that it is a case of catalepsy, and if she will consent to marry him at once he will restore her grandmother to life. Eventually Lina agrees to sacrifice herself, and when young Langdale arrives he discovers that she has fled, leaving behind a parting message for him.

The first scene of the second act is Dr. Levallie's villa at Hampstead, to which the villain has brought his supposed bride. Langdale has traced Lina to her new home, and is under the belief that she has fled with the Doctor as his mistress, but the girl undeceives him by showing him her wedding ring and marriage certificate. After his departure Lina overhears a conversation between Levallie and Sam Swaddle, who is in his pay, whereby she learns that her marriage with the Doctor was a mock one. She fiercely denounces him as the villain he is, and then escapes from the house. Returning to her home, she discovers that her grandmother is dead, and naturally she is distracted with grief. Dr. Levallie certifies that Lina is mad, and she is removed to an asylum. Here she is placed under the charge of a brutal wardress, who does not hesitate to resort to personal violence, and also permits the girl Muriel to savagely attack the unhappy girl whom she hates as her rival. Lina is in danger of being driven actually mad; but happily Tilly Tyndesley, a good-hearted Lancashire lass, and her sweetheart, Tommy Turnbull, come to her rescue. They obtain from Swaddle (who is employed at the asylum in the interests of Levallie) the key of the door leading into the grounds, and Lina is enabled to make her escape. In the meantime, Laurence Langdale learns that his father is dead, and that he has succeeded to the title. Under the belief that Lina can never become his wife, Laurence promises to wed Muriel, little dreaming that she has been the mistress of Dr. Levallie. The third act concludes in sensational fashion with the murder of Liz Lee by the wicked Doctor; and in the last act there is another sensation in the form of a fight in a burning house. The end of the story may be readily guessed. Muriel's plan fails at the last moment, and evidence is forthcoming that the mill girl is no other than the daughter of the millionaire, Mathew Marsh, and is free to wed the man of her choice, Laurence Langdale, now Earl of Eldon.

Miss Isla Garnet Vayne, a young actress of charming appearance and real ability, proved to be quite an ideal heroine. She played the part of the mill-girl with genuine feeling, and aroused the warm sympathy of the audience in a manner that testified to the excellence of her acting. Her performance contributed in no small degree to the favourable reception of the play. Very good, too, was Mr. Douglas Murray's embodiment of the hero, Laurence Langdale. The manly qualities of the young engineer were duly emphasised, and there was the ring of sincerity in his passionate appeals to the girl he loves. Mr. Charles Vivian gave a powerful portrayal of Dr. Levallie, skilfully bringing into prominence the man's evil, treacherous nature. Miss Alice N. Livesey was successful in her impersonation of Liz Lee, whose love for her own daughter was very naturally expressed; Miss Yhda Moores gave an attractive representation of Muriel Marsh, and carefully accentuated all the repulsive features in the character of the female villain. The rôle of the mill-owner, Mathew Marsh, was well played by Mr. J. A. Hybert; Mrs. Sidney Halling presented a pathetic picture of the blind helpless old woman, Granny Lee; Miss Lizzie Lennon scored as the Lancashire lass, Tilly Tyndesley, who is ever ready to make free use both of her tongue and her fists in defence of her friends; and Miss Gertie Moody was bright as Tilly's younger sister, Mary Ellen; Mr. Richard Webb made good use of his opportunities as Sam Swaddle, the hawker who becomes gatekeeper at the asylum, but has a strong objection to the company of lunatics; Mr. Victor G. Vayne was a capital exponent of the part of Tommy Turnbull, a millhand who becomes a "tiger" in the service of the millionaire, and is Tilly's young man; Miss Marion Mason, in the rôle of Wardress Crooke, gained unpopularity by her realistic sketch of a cruel, heartless woman; and Mr. Gilbert Hall rendered good service as the Doctor at the asylum. In minor characters Messrs. E. R. Shrewd, Albert Sanger, Phillip Clay, Master G. Blaze, and the Misses Arnie May and Lucy Lauder acquitted themselves satisfactorily. The new drama was rehearsed and produced by Mr. Morton Powell, and the scenery was specially painted by Mr. W. H. Leigh and assistants.

"THE APPLE OF EDEN."

Play in Four Acts, by G. Carlton Wallace, Produced or the First Time at the Elephant and Castle Theatre on Monday, Aug. 22.

King Ferdinand of Slavonia ..... Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan
Prince Nicola ..... Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood
Julian Hanbury ..... Mr. Lauderdale Maitland
Robert Bertram ..... Mr. Bertie White
General Pavlos ..... Mr. John F. Traynor
Colonel Ferat ..... Mr. Henry Chalmers
Vassili ..... Mr. C. W. Grahame
Zlatan ..... Mr. Chas. Parker
Stefan ..... Mr. Francis James
A Sentry ..... Mr. F. G. Marler
Queen Margaret ..... Miss Janet Alexander
Lady Hanbury ..... Miss M. Hayden
Winifred Creason ..... Miss Tessa Myers
Anna ..... Miss Mysie Monte

Forbidden fruit is the theme of the newest effort from the pen of Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, the author of a number of touring successes, including *The Village Blacksmith*, and there is quite an air of the problem play about it, the solution, however, being arrived at in the conventional melodramatic way. The piece is admirably written, and though some parts of the dialogue are a little plainspoken, it is as a rule neatly pointed and the sentiments expressed coincide exactly with the views of a popular audience.

Attention is claimed at the outset by a mysterious lady who moves about with a queenly air at Ragusa, the "dream of the City of the Adriatic," and fascinates a young Englishman named Julian Hanbury, who, with his mother, Lady Hanbury, and his fiancée, Winifred Crèsson, is staying in the City. The lady is indeed a royalty, being no other than the Queen of Slavonia, who has fled from her kingdom, where she is known as the "Well-Beloved," to escape the ignominy thrust upon her by her husband, King Ferdinand, surnamed the "Ever-hated One," a profligate monarch, who makes his court the resort of bad characters. The King soon comes in pursuit, in company with his cousin and Prime Minister, Prince Nicola, and his commander-in-chief, General Pavlos. The King demands that the Queen shall return to Slavonia, but she resolutely refuses. Meanwhile, Julian's infatuation has not escaped the notice of Winifred, who is by no means upset at the turn of events, as she has transferred her affections to Julian's friend, Robert Bertram, a "Johnnie" of the most pronounced type, and see in Julian's infatuation an opportunity to break off her match with him. She receives unexpected help from General Pavlos, who is deeply attached to the Queen, and would fain see her back on the throne with the King deposed and a stalwart like Julian as her consort. He therefore induces the Queen to invite Julian, who has already given proof of his devotion, to her rooms at the hotel where the King keeps her practically a prisoner. Here the Queen makes passionate love to Julian, who is embracing her when a loud knocking is heard at the doors and the King demands admittance. There is nothing for it but flight, and the pair make off in Julian's motor-car, which stands in readiness outside.

A snug little cottage situated in the mountains serves as a residence for the runaways for a few days, until Julian receives a letter from his mother inviting him to return home with his bride. Julian is as yet unaware of the identity of the Queen, and imagined her to be unattached; but the truth is revealed to him by Prince Nicola, who tracks the Queen once more, and ruthlessly declares that Margaret is not only the King's wife, but that she had fled to gratify her own desires. In vain the Queen pleads that she has been a wife only in name to the King. Julian has a keen sense of righteousness, and bids her go back to her court.

To Slavonia accordingly the Queen returns, only to find the country in the throes of a revolution. Bandits have attacked the imperial troops, and are already at the gates of the capital. The secret of their success lies in the fact that Prince Nicola, who himself aspires to the throne, is in collusion with the insurgent leader, and makes him acquainted with the plans of General Pavlos, whose troops are constantly defeated. Meanwhile Julian, in his mountain home, is recovering from fever, and learns that Margaret has shown her love by leaving her soldiery to protect him from danger. Receiving a message from Pavlos informing him that the Queen is in peril, he determines to go to her aid. He finds her in the toils of the insurgents and suffering insults at the hands of Prince Nicola. Julian immediately attacks his Highness, and, after an exciting duel, disarms him and floors him with a blow from his fist. The bandit leader arrives with his men; but General Pavlos has grown suspicious of Nicola, and delivers an attack several hours earlier than was arranged, with the result that the rebels are routed. Nicola, who has established himself Regent, the King having become insane, calls a cabinet council at which to depose the Queen, bringing the King on the scene for the purpose. His Majesty, however, gives ample evidence of madness, going so far as to assume Julian's cloak and hat in order to look like an English gentleman and thus gain the Queen's love. That act is his undoing, for as a last resort Prince Nicola brings the bandit chief to assassinate Julian, and, mistaking the King for the young Englishman, shoots him dead. The way is thus open for the union of the Queen with Julian, who is to share the throne with her.

With a cast such as that enumerated above, a finished performance of the play was inevitable. The leading parts were in the hands of tried West-end players. Miss Janet Alexander won a complete triumph as Margaret, making a commanding appearance, and thoroughly impressing all with her dignity and power. She looked very handsome in several becoming costumes, and exercised her fascinations effectively, her emotional gifts, too, being admirably employed in the poignant scene in which the Queen is separated from Julian. The rôle of that chivalrous young man was entrusted to Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, who was a great favourite of the Lyceum, and has been seen recently in a sketch at the variety theatres with Miss Alexander. Mr. Maitland was perfect in appearance, speech, and action, and when the opportunity for dramatic intensity presented itself, took advantage of it artistically. The scheming Prince Nicola was in the experienced hands of Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood, who brought out cleverly the sinister side of the character, emphasising by many skilful touches the utter depravity of the man. A striking study of King Ferdinand was submitted by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, who, with thin red hair and beard, suggested the debauched monarch in make-up, manner, and expression. Mr. John F. Traynor was a vigorous and virile exponent of General Pavlos, whose breezy manner made him a general favourite. Excellent comedy was provided by Mr. Bertie White, whose absurdities as a "chappie," created much laughter, and by Miss Tessa Myers, who was bright and vivacious, as his sweetheart, and scored in every line. Miss M. Hayden acted with gentle motherliness as Lady Hanbury, and Miss Mysie Monte was dainty and refined as the Queen's maid. The faithful Stefan was portrayed with every effect by Mr. Francis James; Mr. C. W. Grahame made a duly ferocious brigand; and the minor parts were ably rendered. Every scene was completely realised, the City of Ragusa and the mountain cottage being particularly picturesque. Calls were numerous at each curtain, Miss Alexander was made the recipient of handsome bouquets, and at the end the author was summoned and warmly commended.

The part of Sadie Von Tromp, the Californian girl in *The Dollar Princess* at Daly's, is now being played by that charming young American actress, Miss Beatrice von Brunner.

"THE THIRD DEGREE."

A Play, in One Act, by Harry M. Vernon, Produced, for the First Time on any Stage, at the Palace, Manchester, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Inspector Robinson .....MR. CHARLES A. EAST
Night Watchman .....MR. E. BEVENS ROGERS
Sergeant .....MR. JOHN BELL
Jim Casey .....MR. GERALD VALENTINE
Mrs. Van Hudson .....MISS EAST ROBERTSON

The scene in which this episode of American police methods is portrayed is stated to be an exact replica of the Chief Inspector of Detectives' room at the police headquarters in New York City. Among its features is a cabinet containing photographs of criminals, called "The Rogues' Gallery," which is also an exact copy; and one may take it that the episode itself, which has been written from the author's personal experience, is as nearly life-like in its procedure as can be. It is well known that there is a strong objection of the public to the system known as "The Third Degree," whereby prisoners are so tortured, bodily and mentally, that even innocent men will confess to crime rather than endure the punishment, nothing but an admission of guilt being acceptable to the police, yet the method is still resorted to. The present example shows how cruelly it may bear upon an innocent man. Jim Casey, a previous offender, is in custody on suspicion of being concerned in a bank robbery to the tune of 10,000 dollars, in the stealing of which the night watchman of the bank had been attacked from behind, and left unconscious. Inspector Robinson, questioning him upon his uncertain knowledge of the matter, shows him the photograph of Casey, suggesting that the latter is the culprit. The night watchman cannot, and will not, swear to the identity of a man whom he did not see, and indignantly repudiates the wheedling persuasions of the inspector. Casey is afterwards brought in, and protests his innocence. He has been starved and otherwise brutally maltreated because he will not confess to the crime, but apparently nothing can shake his determination to adhere to his word. He is threatened with increase of torture, but at this point Casey becomes desperate, and swears to retaliate if he is ill-used any more. Nevertheless, on the inspector's orders, he is taken out for punishment. The inspector now has a call from one Mrs. Van Hudson, who tells how, a few nights ago, she was called from the theatre to find her house on fire. Going up the stairs, she had met a man, who had already rescued her child, but who disappeared before she had time to thank him. Now she wants to find the man, and asks the inspector's assistance for the purpose. It may here be mentioned that Casey's hand is bound up, but he has refused to explain how it came to be injured. While the inspector's back is turned to her for a moment Mrs. Van Hudson's attention is caught by the photo of Casey on the desk, and she at once recognises Casey as the heroic saviour of her child. This puts a new aspect on the matter, but the inspector does not admit anything at first, assuring Mrs. Hudson that the picture is that of a man who is in custody for burglary and violence. The lady persists, however, and in fact the occasions tally with each other. Thus Casey is cleared. When the inspector asks him why he did not explain his injury, Casey answers bitterly that his explanation would not have been believed. The sequel is that the inspector orders all records against Casey to be destroyed, and otherwise shows that it is the system, and not always the administrators of it, that is so seriously at fault.

As Casey Mr. Gerald Valentine gave a powerful and appealing depiction; and a very convincing sketch of the inspector was added by Mr. Chas. A. East. Miss East Robertson played well also as Mrs. Van Hudson; a vigorous impersonation of the night watchman was supplied by Mr. E. Bevens Rogers; and Mr. John Bell played the Sergeant efficiently.

The piece was an undoubted success.

PASTORAL PLAYS AT WORCESTER.

Thanks to the enterprise of Mr. Arthur Carlton, the popular lessee of the Worcester Theatre Royal, arrangements were made for two outdoor dramatic performances in the grounds of Barbourne College, Worcester, on Friday last, the 19th inst., by Mr. A. Walter Pearce's company. As, however, the weather was not propitious, the morning performance was given in the Theatre Royal and in the evening at the Empire. The programme opened with scenes from *As You Like It*, in which Mr. Walter Pearce, as Orlando, gave a fine impersonation. Mr. C. H. Croker-King was remarkably good as Touchstone; and Miss Ella Erskine was a fascinating and graceful Rosalind. Jacques found an able exponent in Mr. Rathmell Wilson; and the other rôles were well sustained by Mr. Alfred Bristowe (William), Miss Ella Stead (Audrey), a daughter of Mr. W. T. Stead, who made a hit, Miss Irene Clark (Celia), and Mr. James M. Buchan (Corin). *The Roman Road*, by Miss Ella Erskine, was also in the programme, and Mr. Croker-King found it well suited to his fine elocutionary powers; and Miss Irene Clark was a delightful boy. This was followed by *The Typist*, a very pleasing sketch, written by Miss Ella Erskine, and ably performed by her, Mr. Walter Pearce and Mr. Rathmell Wilson. The entertainment concluded with *The Fantastics*, translated from the French of Rostand by George Fleming, the respective rôles being well sustained by Miss Erskine, Mr. Walter Pearce, Mr. Croker-King, Mr Wilson, and Mr. Winston.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WELLINGTON.—MONDAY, July 11.—OPERA HOUSE.—Messrs. Clarke and Meynell's company opened at this theatre on Monday last with *Pete*. It has completely conquered the local public. The stars, Mr. Harry Roberts and Miss Beatrice Day, appear as Pete and Kate Quilliam. As is usual with Messrs. Clarke and Meynell the piece is put on exceedingly well. Philip Christian is played with a very refreshng amount of fire and sincerity by Mr. Conway Wingfield; and Miss Mary Laing-Meeson is good in a subsidiary part. The repértoire contains *The Hypocrites* and *The Case of Rebellious Susan*.

MOVING pictures are to be seen at His Majesty's and The King's Theatres, and also at Messrs. Fuller's vaudeville house, the Royal, where, in addition, there is an attractive variety programme.

MR. WILLIAM FARREN writes:—"The American 'trust' system: what are its guiding principles? In effect, restriction of trade at its very worst. The American theatre trust assumed to itself the power to beat down opposition by every unfair means; the power to say to competing managers, 'Join with us, or we break you'; the power to command the actors to 'take our terms or starve'; and the power to order the theatre-going public to 'come to us or go without amusement.'

"THERE are many signs in America to-day that the tyranny of the trust system is to be fought against, that its unjust reign is to end. It is the American public that will in future call the tune, having hitherto only been allowed to pay the piper. The American 'trust' system will, fortunately, never succeed in England. The type of man in management on our side is very different. Managers and actors have the good sense to realise that to-day, as in Garrick's time, 'the drama's laws the drama's patrons give.' The American trust system might embark all its millions of dollars over here, it might buy up our theatres, shoulder out our managers, corner our authors, and dictate its terms to our actors, but it would find in the English public a master, not a servant; and it is well to give the American trust operators a timely and friendly hint."

"THE CRISIS."

Play, in Four Acts, an Adaptation by Rudolf Besier of *La Rencontre*, by Pierre Berton. Produced at the Hastings Pier Pavilion Theatre on Monday, Aug. 22.

Camille de Lançay .....MISS EVELYN MILLARD
Renée Serval .....MISS SARAH BROOKE
A Maid .....MISS E. MARTHÈZE
Canuche .....MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Raymond de Brévannes ....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Armand Vivien.....MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Adrien Serval .....MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

To the frivolous all is folly; to the earnest mind this play affords a fine example of the discipline of life. Herein a great soul is contrasted with a frivolous, ignoble nature, and we have presented to us a love that purifies, elevates, and ennobles. The action opens at the Servals' house in Paris. Renée and Adrien have been married four years. She, of patrician family, despises her husband for being of bourgeois parentage, but values the influence of the political position he has attained. Their friend, Raymond de Brévannes, draws caricatures of Adrien, and is a secret opponent, and also seeks his dishonour. Camille de Lançay renews a girlhood friendship with Renée, and consults Adrien professionally in regard to her lawsuit. It is in pressing her to disclose the motives of her actions in regard thereto that he is attracted by her noble disinterestedness, and strongly emotional scenes of absorbing interest distinguish the remaining acts, which occur within a period of seven months.

The third act shows events after a fortnight has elapsed. This is a scene between Renée and Camille. The former reproaches Camille with having taken her husband from her. "For the loss of the man I care not; the loss of the husband I shall prevent." Camille at last confesses that it was Renée's perfidy to her husband that forced the avowal from her lips, and then insists that Renée herself must confess all to her husband, or Camille will. Renée hands Camille an incriminating letter. Adrien enters, and notices their agitation; but Camille says the letter is to summon her from Paris, and she secretly returns it to Renée.

The events of the fourth act take place six months later. Adrien has recovered more than his former political prestige, and, being suspicious of the *liaison* between his wife and Raymond, he has sent for Camille, secretly hoping to discover proof of his doubts concerning them. The discovery ends the play.

Miss Evelyn Millard acted very finely as Camille de Lançay. Swayed by powerful and conflicting emotions, the woman's mental struggles were naturally conveyed. She was the recipient of a splendid bouquet at the end of the third act, and an ovation from a house crowded in every part. Mr. Norman McKinnel had a rôle difficult to portray, but he successfully accomplished the task. Miss Sarah Brooke as Renée Serval, a frivolous woman, greedy of admiration, yet holding tenaciously to outward decorum, was responsible for a charming conception of a somewhat complex rôle, and her denunciation of Camille in the third act was powerful and well delivered. Mr. Lennox Pawle made an excellent creation of Canuche, a type of character requiring much art to keep it from silliness. His artless avowals of the tender passion thoroughly amused his audience, roars of laughter greeting his description of the way in which his wife married him against his will. Mr. Athol Stewart as Raymond de Brévannes acted convincingly as the unscrupulous man of fashion; and Mr. Douglas Imbert as Armand Vivien, and Miss E. Marthèze as a maid, were effective in small rôles.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

This popular house reopened its doors on Monday last under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Although only closed for a week, wonders have been done in the way of redecoration, both inside and out, and the handsome theatre looked as clean as the proverbial new pin. The old scheme of decoration has been followed, whilst special attention has been given to the lighting of the stage, which is a vast improvement on the old order of things. Despite the fact that "the free list was suspended," there was a crowded house, and the hearty welcome that greeted both Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley must have gone far to assure them of the future success of their new enterprise. Mr. Lester Collingwood, the genial lessee of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, motored over to add his congratulations, and there were also present Mr. Charles Darrell, the author, and Mr. Day, of the old Day's Music Hall, Birmingham; whilst numerous telegrams wishing good-luck were received from Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's many friends in the theatrical profession.

Mr. Kimberley made a short, but terse, speech, in which he promised his patrons the best of dramatic fare. He then brought on Mrs. Kimberley, and a handsome bouquet of roses was presented to her amongst deafening cheers, which were again repeated when she made her appearance in the managerial box.

Mr. Lester Collingwood's company, in *When London Sleeps*, started the theatre on its new career, and the audience were not slow to show their appreciation of the successful and realistic play. Mr. Geo. B. Daiper as David Engleheart was all that could be desired; Mr. Kenneth Norbury succeeded in earning the execrations of the audience; Bob Jones had an able representative in Mr. F. E. Thomas; and Mr. Harry Cooke made the most of his opportunities as Sammy Blyth. Miss Mabel Scudamore acquitted herself admirably as Queenie Carruthers; Miss Cissie St. Elmo gave a powerful portrayal of Hilda Carode; Miss Mabel Tremere was full of vim and go as Carrie Jones; Miss Lottie Lonsdale caused plenty of merriment as Signorina Robertio Jonesio; and Miss Ida Lovett made a pathetic little Lelia.

ONE of the prettiest routes available by the River Severn was chosen by the staff of the Aston Theatre Royal for their ninth annual outing on Sunday, and the excursion proved a delightful one in every way. Leaving New Street Station at 8.45 a.m., they journeyed to the ancient cathedral town of Worcester, and it was a pleasant walk through the quiet old-fashioned streets to the river bridge, where the pleasure steamboat Lady Alwyne was in waiting to convey the party down the river to Holt Fleet, Tewkesbury. The river winds its way through green fields and wooded slopes, providing many scenic attractions, and everyone on board was in high spirits, and full of appreciation of the delightful surroundings.

LOWER LODE was reached about 1 p.m., and this gave the visitors a brief period in which to look round before sitting down to dinner at the Lower Lode Hotel. They numbered about fifty ladies and gentlemen, and included a few friends, the enterprising manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman, acting as leader. In the afternoon the principal feature was a programme of sports, in which there were several exciting events. The 100 yards race for ladies attracted a good entry; but two of the competitors fell "at the first hurdle." Youth told its tale at the finish, the winner being Miss Daisy Reed.

THE staff challenged the visitors to try conclusions in a tug-of-war contest, and had to admit defeat. The pretty walks in the neighbourhood were appreciated by those who sought quietude, and at 4.30 p.m. there was a second muster at the Lower Lode Hotel for tea. There were many regrets as the homeward journey was commenced, but it proved a very pleasant one, Birmingham being reached about 10 p.m., after a full day of genuine enjoyment.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MME. ANNIE MOLLER.

Manchester for the last few years has claimed Mme. Annie Möller for its own. Comfortably married and settled, with a country house, her dogs, her horses, her hunting seasons, in which she was always well in the front of the crowd, she had attained what many a hard-worked actress would have thought a position that no one could possibly wish to leave. Her penchant for the stage could always be gratified by appearing with many of the amateur societies of the district, to whom she was a tower of strength, for not only did she play the principal parts, but could help the various amateur stage-managers in a manner they thoroughly appreciated. One of the most brilliant and enjoyable of conversationalists, she was ever ready with an anecdote redolent of the time she spent with her first love, the stage.

At a very early age she extemporised a stage of her own by drawing a chalk line across the floor of one of the rooms in the house of her parents. Her audience consisted of all the chairs she could put one side of the line; on the other she placed her company—all her dolls. Suitably attired in a sofa blanket, with a tea cosy for a head-dress, and armed with a toy sword, she made a dramatic entrance, crying, "How dare you? How dare you? Villain! Monster! Leave my presence at once!" Unfortunately, at the crucial moment her baby sister entered the room, yelled with fear at the apparition, and would not be appeased. Her screams brought the members of the household hurrying towards the apartment, and fearful of consequences our heroine hurried

[*Photo by Warwick Brookes.*

MADAME ANNIE MOLLER.

to the bath-room, and, jumping into the empty bath, pulled the wooden covering over her. Baby's terror brought on convulsions, and it was decided to give her a hot bath. For this purpose the lid was raised, and the cause of all the trouble was discovered—a rather better dramatic ending than she herself could have planned.

On the loss of her husband, poor Victor Möller, beloved of everybody, she consoled herself with her pen, from which flowed many short stories and one long serial dealing with life behind the scenes. For this purpose she adopted the *nom-de-plume* of "Rhona." About three months ago Mr. Pitt Hardacre produced a one-act play from her pen entitled *The Prodigal's Welcome*. It was most favourably received, and will be heard of again. Mme. Möller herself created the principal part. Her forte has always been considered to be "juvenile lead," but in this play she displayed a surprising amount of tragic force.

QUITE a number of stage celebrities have been sojourning at Herne Bay recently, including the Misses Phyllis and Zena Dare, who have a house there, Miss Mabel Russell, Miss Mollie Lowell, Mrs. Bernard Beere, Mr. Fred Wright, and Mr. Lawrence Grossmith.

TWO special matinées organised by the Shakespeare Memorial Committee in furtherance of its project for a National Theatre will be given in October at West End theatres. The programme will comprise Mrs. Lyttelton's *The Masque of Shakespeare*, a short play specially written by Mr. Bernard Shaw, and a new play written by Miss Diana Cholmondeley. Leading representatives of the stage have consented to take part in the performance, among them being Lady Tree, Miss Ellen Terry, and Miss Lillah McCarthy.

ON Oct. 1 a new law will come into force in Berlin respecting the regulations of the agency fees for theatres and other entertainments. Hitherto no actual limit has prevailed one way or another. Many agents entitled to 10 per cent. from variety theatre managers have, it is stated, only received half, while others have made a good living. Everything will be henceforth placed under strict control to mutual advantage. Some dissatisfied agents, it is true, have expressed their determination to arrange their contracts abroad. Such a proceeding, however, is illegal when such contracts show any advantage over those made this side the frontier.

MR. HALL CAINE'S new play, *The Eternal Question*, which is to be produced at the Garrick Theatre to-night, has for its central motive the woman question, and is intended to deal with the relative rights and responsibilities of the sexes in the eyes of God and man. "Is it true or is it not true," Mr. Caine says, "that while, according to the laws of Nature, there may be many women for a man, there can be only one man for a woman? If it is true, there is a kind of hard and terrible justice in the way—the terrible way—in which human law in all ages has treated woman in relation to man. But if it is not true, then the whole course of human law and social custom has been a line of iniquities from the earliest ages of the world.

"IN writing the play I have merely presented the views of widely different classes, and stood aside as a more or less impartial witness. Thus into the mouth of the Baron Bonelli I have tried to put the opinions of the people who hold that woman is not in any sense a separate being, but the helpmeet (perhaps the chattel) of man; whilst into the mouth of David Rossi I have put the opinions of those who claim for woman at all points an absolute equality with the other sex, and in the person of Roma Roselli, one of the women about whom our problem revolves, I have tried to show the frightful odds at which woman stands by reason of the law of her sex, the blind alley into which she seems to me to walk the moment she is parted from the man to whom she first belongs—whether by the call of her own higher nature, by the whim of the man's lower nature, by legal separation, or by divorce."

FATHER OF THE LIVERPOOL THEATRE.

Strange as it may seem, yet few people could honestly say to whom belongs the honour of establishing the drama in Liverpool, says the *Liverpool Post*. Very little mention is made by the majority of local historians of the very interesting though little known figure who made theatrical history for this town. This man was William Gibson, who first came to the local Drury Lane Theatre during the summer in the early 'fifties of the eighteenth century. Gibson was a member of the London Covent Garden Theatre Company, and his principal performers came from that theatre. He continued to supply the dramatic fare each summer right up to the time of his death. It was during one of his visits that George Farren (father of Elizabeth Farren, afterwards Countess of Derby), who had just arrived in Liverpool, applied to Gibson for a position in his company. Lee Lewes, in his "Memoirs," gives the following amusing account of this meeting:—"'Our company, friend,' said Gibson, 'being formed and full ere we left London, cannot possibly admit of any addition. Thou has told me, friend, that thou hast never tried thy talents on the stage, and it is an unalterable maxim with me to reject all superfluities of any kind. I will not entertain more cats than will kill mice; and, therefore, as by thy own confession thou art not practised in the business of an actor, the most prudent course for thee would be to push thyself into some other way of life which may support thee better. Whatever thy vain hope may flatter thee with, expect not to keep up long the flashy appearance thou now dost make, should'st thou engage with any travelling company of comedians. But lest, peradventure, thou should'st lack wherewithal to answer for a bed and supper, I make thee a present of this half-crown; thou dost look most pitifully lank, young man, but this may, if properly used by thee, prevent thy growing thinner for a short space of time.' The exordium to this puritanical speech made poor Farren look blank; he thought proper, however, being in want of half a crown, to pocket the affront, and, making his best bow to his monitor, he went back to his lodging." Gibson, it is interesting to note, had been brought up a Quaker, though when nearly thirty had joined the Church of England.

The earliest recorded date of his company's appearance at the local theatre is in May, 1756, when they announced that they would perform "during the months of June, July, and August next." The first play they gave of which there is any authentic proof was *The Constant Couple*, performed on June 4, 1756. So successful was Gibson that in 1768 he applied to the Liverpool Corporation for their support in his petition to Parliament for permission to build a new theatre in Liverpool, to which Letters Patent would be granted. By doing this he hoped to raise the standard of the Liverpool Theatre to an established position in the theatrical world. This application was granted by the Corporation, and a petition was sent to the Houses of Parliament in 1769. This petition was passed by the House of Commons; but, unfortunately, the House of Lords rejected it. However, Gibson was not disheartened, and another petition was prepared and sent to London. This time it was passed, and the Royal Letters Patent passed the Great Seal in 1771, allowing Gibson to establish a theatre and form and govern a company of comedians for his Majesty's service in Liverpool. Such was the esteem felt for Gibson in Liverpool, that when he asked for money to build his theatre, the whole of the sum was subscribed in less than an hour after the list was opened. The shares were thirty in number, being equal shares of £200. This theatre was the Theatre Royal, Williamson-square, which was opened in 1772, afterwards rebuilt in 1803, and now converted into a cold storage. Gibson, unfortunately, did not live to see his ambitions realised, as he died on Aug. 21, 1771, at his residence in Everton. He was buried in Walton Churchyard on Aug. 25, where a fine tombstone was erected to his memory. The inscription, said to have been written by David Garrick, on a white marble medallion, is not now decipherable, owing to the ravages of time. It is, however, with many other interesting details of his life, contained in Broadbent's "Annals of the Liverpool Stage," and runs as follows:—"To the memory of William Gibson, late patentee of the Theatre Royal, in Liverpool, who died Aug. 21, 1771, aged 58. If Judgment and Industry in his Profession, if a Steady Uprightness of Heart, if an Invariable Attachment to Truth, Honour, and Friendship desire the praises of Mankind, no one ever had a more just title to them than he whose remains are here interr'd.

"A Wit's a feather and a chief's a rod,
An Honest Man the Noblest Work of God."

CRICKET.

DOLLAR PRINCESS COMPANY V. SUNDERLAND.

Played at Sunderland on Wednesday.

The Sunderland team had county men on their side, so much credit is due to the *Dollar Princess* company for their gallant efforts against what must be considered a superior team. The theatricals gave the home team a capital game, which came to an exciting close one minute before time. Scores:—

"DOLLAR PRINCESS" COMPANY.—J. A. Castle, b Newburn, 52; H. A. Henson, c Priestley, b C. Brooks, 11; D. Knowles, b H. Brooks, 10; W. J. Douglas, c Priestley, b C. Brooks, 11; J. Walker, c Patterson, b C. Brooks, 9; T. Wendt, c Horan, b C. Brooks, 5; J. W. Beverley, b C. Brooks, 4; C. Hamilton, b C. Brooks, 0; E. Millar, not out, 1; J. Bates, c Priestley, 11; extras, 20; total, 134.

SUNDERLAND.—C. W. M. Potts, b Knowles, 27; M. Story, b Beverley, 6; C. Brooks, c Bates, b Knowles, 42; H. Brooks, retired, 28; W. Piper, b Castle, 8; N. F. Patterson, run out, 0; H. Tait, b Knowles, 7; R. Horan, not out, 16; D. B. Newburn, not out, 10; extras, 4; total, 148.

"SEVEN DAYS," produced at the Astor Theatre, New York, last November, was not withdrawn during the summer, and is still going strong. *The Summer Widowers*, with Lew Fields and Irene Franklin, is enjoying a prosperous run at the Broadway Theatre. At the Casino, famous for its summer attractions, Eddie Foy, in a musical revue called *Up and Down Broadway*, is one of the best of the Shubert productions. Four roof-gardens are flourishing. Hammerstein's and the American being devoted to high-class vaudeville, while a musical play called *Girlies*, produced by Frederic Thompson, is the bill at the New Amsterdam; and *The Follies of 1910* is the attraction at the Jardin de Paris, on the roof of the New York Theatre.

UNDER a winding-up order of the High Court of Justice, a meeting of creditors was held at Merthyr last week of the Cambrian Theatre (Limited), Birkbeck Bank-chambers, London. Mr. W. Ormiston, deputy official receiver of Pontypridd, presided. Among the losses included in the statement of affairs was a loss on a lease of the Cardiff Theatre Royal of £2000. The nominal capital of the company was £5000. Two thousand shares were issued as fully paid, and the amount called up was £1 per share on 452 shares. The gross deficiency was thus brought up to £3662. It was resolved by a majority vote that the official receiver should apply to the Court to appoint Mr. H. Nesbit Price, chartered accountant, High Holborn, the liquidator, which Mr. J. G. Williams, on behalf of some creditors, who desired the official receiver to act, said would be opposed when the application was made.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, JULY 12.—J. M. Barrie's homely lesson *What Every Woman Knows* has been cordially received at the Theatre Royal. Miss Nellie Stewart was warmly welcomed back to her native city, and her impersonation of Maggie Wylie, the devoted and self-effacing wife, was a delightfully natural one. The theatre was crowded on the 9th, and cheers and flowers competed in doing the favourite honour. Mr. Harcourt Beatty's portraiture of John Shand was a clever impersonation; and Mr. Eardley Turner gave us an exact Alick Wylie. His son David could not have been entrusted to better care than that of Mr. J. B. Atholwood; and James Wylie had Mr. Gregan McMahon as his sponsor, and he created a deal of laughter. Miss Gwen. Burroughs was Lady Sybil, handsome and wilful; and a charming impersonation of a French countess was that of Miss Madeleine Meredith. The cast was completed by Mr. Norman Campbell, who contributed an admirable portrayal. The direction of the play was entrusted to Mr. Gaston Mervale; and the J. C. Williamson firm staged the play capitally.

"A KNIGHT FOR A DAY," at the other Williamson theatre, Her Majesty's, has caught on with playgoers who love to laugh. It is by Messrs. Robert B. Smith (book and lyrics), Laymond Hubbell, and Fritz B. Hart, who supply the music. The scenery is by Messrs. John Gordon and Little. Miss Toby Claude made her first Australian appearance, and established herself as a dainty and clever little comedienne. Miss Emma Temple had one of her favourite parts as Mme. Woodbury, head of a ladies' seminary; and Miss Grace Edmond made the most of her opportunities as Muriel. Mr. Bert Gilbert played Jeremy Joy in his usual humorous fashion; and the fun was ably helped by Mr. W. S. Percy. As Marcelin Mr. Frank Green acted and sang well as Emile Sheldon; and the Sir Anthony Oliver of Mr. Pat Bathurst was also a capital performance. Miss Minnie Hooper was responsible for the charming ballets.

THE Criterion is still occupied by *The Third Floor Back*. Mr. Matheson Lang's quiet acting and rich voice make his performance a very enjoyable one; and Miss Hutin Britton wins much sympathy as the boarding-house slavey. On the 22nd *The Third Floor Back* will make way for Clarke and Meynell's production of *The Arcadians*, with Miss Maie Sydney as Ombra, and a new and enlarged cast.

MDLLE. ANTONIA DOLORES, the popular soprano, has made such a decided success on this visit that her director, Mr. H. N. Southwell, has arranged for more concerts. Mr. John Prouse, the basso, is also a fine vocalist. Mr. J. Edward Sykes and Mr. Christian Hellemann play the pianoforte accompaniments.

THE Tivoli received Pip Powell and Kate Vesey, in their comic sketch *A Perfect Woman*, with rapturous applause. Another new turn was supplied by Miss Leane De Lyle and M. Brunnier, who do wonderful work under the guise of a game at billiards. Billy Williams, Lillie Langtry, Fanny Powers, Lieutenant Frank Travis, Dorothy Swift, Con. Moreni, the Dardinis, and others are still at the Tivoli.

WEST'S PICTURES, at the Palace, and Spencer's Theatrescope show capital picture programmes.

"LOVE AMONG THE LIONS."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

Love Among the Lions, a "farcical romance" in four acts by Winchell Smith, was the very successful opening production at the Garrick Theatre, New York, on the 8th inst. Founded on Frank Anstey's novel, the story runs that young Theodore Sanders has long loved the dashing Lorana de Castro from afar, though he could never make up his mind to confess his love for her. One day, however, summoning all his courage, he calls at the house of Lorana's stepfather, Professor Charles Polkinson, a teacher of elocution, and decides to take a course in the professor's wonderful system of learning how to speak properly. Lorana enters the room whilst he is waiting for the Professor, and, summoning all his courage, he declares his passion. Much to his surprise, Lorana accepts him, but stipulates that the wedding ceremony shall take place in a lion's cage. Two friends of hers have been married in that way, and she, tired of a humdrum existence, yearns for fame. Her one idea of happiness is to be talked about from one end of the country to the other for some startling exploit. Theodore is at first dazed by her request, but he is so enraptured at the thought of her becoming his wife that he agrees to the condition she imposes. Out of her presence, however, he begins to realise the danger of her plan. With delightful naïvete and ingenuity he tries to circumvent her, only to be defeated at every turn by the artful Lorana. They are to be married at the Agricultural Hall, and finally the day of the wedding arrives. The announcement of the unique ceremony attracts a big crowd. The lions are in fine fettle, and Lorana hears with glee that they are more than usually peevish and irritable. Theodore has a hard time of it in screwing up his courage for the awful ordeal. As he starts for the cage he is totally unnerved as he hears the roars of the savage beasts, and falls in a faint. The audience has been promised a wedding in the cage, however, and there will be a riot if it fails to take place. Chevalier Niono, the lion tamer, has conceived a passion for Lorana, and has played on the fears of her intended husband. Relying on his failure to stand up before the lions, Niono has obtained a marriage licence for himself and Lorana. So he takes Theodore's place, and is apparently married to Lorana. Theodore, when he recovers from his faint, is utterly miserable, but it turns out that Mlle. Leonie, whom Niono has wished to abandon, has tricked the lion-tamer into marrying her by veiling herself and impersonating Lorana. Theodore and his sweetheart are immensely relieved when they learn the facts and renew their love-making; but nothing more is said about a wedding in a lion's cage.

Mr. A. E. Matthews, who came over from London to play the part of Theodore, made an instantaneous hit, and kept the audience in roars of laughter. Mr. Matthews makes his points in a quiet, natural way, and never over-acts. His success on this side is fully assured. Miss May Blayney (Mrs. A. E. Matthews), by no mean a stranger here, maintained the popularity she had won during her previous visits by giving a delightful portrayal of the lion-tamer's partner, Mlle. Leonie. Mr. Ernest Stallard, who appeared as Prof. Charles Polkinson, father of Lorana, and Mr. Clarence Handyside, as Hannibal Sawkins, a blustering ringmaster, contributed clever character studies. Miss Jane Oaker as Lorana De Castro, played the part to perfection.

SOME interesting details are to hand respecting the fees paid to foremost artists in Vienna for making gramophone records. Fräulein Selma Kurz, the prima donna of the Imperial Court Opera, receives 2,000 crowns (£83) for singing into the instrument, and a commission of one crown (10d.) for every record sold. On an average the diva sings ten arias a year for this purpose. Next comes the celebrated tenor Herr Slezak, who is guaranteed £333 for fifteen songs, and 5d. a record commission or royalty, and his colleague, Herr Schmedes, receives about £16 a song, besides a commission on sales.

MISS MINA LE BERT, who went to South Africa to play lead with Messrs. Herbert Fleming and De Jong, is returning to England on the Kinfauns Castle, and is expected to arrive at Southampton to-day. She hopes to stay in London for a month or so.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

We are glad to hear that the slight friction between Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Herbert Trench with respect to the latter's "trenchant" article in the *Saturday Review* has been allayed. Mr. Trench, who is holiday-making on the Continent, has sent the following telegram to Sir Herbert: "Quite amazed you should take first paragraph in *Saturday Review* article as referring to your approaching production, of which I know nothing and hope everything. Reference to Cardinal's robes based on actual recent incident. Article purely general in intention. Least of all should I repay your most friendly courtesy by smallest attack or even reference, especially as I admire your *Midsummer Night, Cæsar,* and *Richard II.* more than any other revival. Sincerest regrets for misunderstanding."

It must be admitted, however, that certain passages in the article amply justified Sir Herbert in thinking that his coming production was alluded to. The allusions to the "avalanche of Shakespearean upholstery," with its "palaces, chapels, and coronations modelled upon fancy balls," and the "lace and velvet robes of the Cardinals," were doubtless not aimed at the production of *Henry VIII.*, but could easily have been imagined to do so by those unaware of their general intention. We hope Mr. Tree will still publish his promised pamphlet on the subject of Shakespearean mounting.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, who has been spending his holiday at Bushey, will sail from Liverpool on Sept. 17, and will open his tour with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* at Toronto on the 26th of that month. On Oct. 3 he will return to the Maxine Elliott Theatre, New York, and after visiting many American cities will end the tour about the end of May. Mr. Forbes Robertson has organised a second company, composed entirely of English actors, to appear in Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's play in the smaller American towns. Mr. Ian Robertson is the manager of this company.

Mr. James M. Glover is about to enter into the holy bonds of matrimony, and this morning, at the Westminster Catholic Cathedral, will espouse Miss Kathleen Collins, daughter of Mrs. R. Gratz Collins, of Montreal. Besides being the popular musical conductor at Drury Lane, Mr. Glover is director of entertainments at the Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea, of which favourite resort he has served as Mayor and Municipal Councillor.

By Mr. Glover's special desire not a note of music is to be heard at the wedding or at the reception afterwards. Only four friends will accompany the couple to the cathedral, but a large number will be asked to meet the bride and bridegroom afterwards.

Miss Lena Ashwell was the central figure at a gathering in the grounds of the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, on Saturday, when she inaugurated a crusade organised by the Women's Imperial Health Association of Great Britain, of the executive of which her husband, Dr. Simson, is a member. A feature of the crusade is the tour of the caravan "Aurora," from which lectures on health will be given. Miss Ashwell said she hoped that just as Florence Nightingale had revolutionised the nursing world, this new departure might revolutionise the condition of the children of England, so that they might grow up brave, strong, and happy, and that they might make the homes of England bright, the mothers wise, and their future children healthy and happy.

The funeral took place, at Wormley Church, Herts, on Saturday, of Mr. George Proctor Hawtrey, who died suddenly on the 17th inst. at the age of 64. In addition to the plays mentioned by us last week, he collaborated with Mr. A. Hjorvers, of Brecon, in writing a legitimate comic opera, entitled *The Grenadier*, which was nearly completed, and which it was intended to produce shortly after Christmas. The two gentlemen had just finished a comic opera, entitled *Jokes*.

Mr. Hawtrey was also the author of *Caramella*, and for some time stage-managed at His Majesty's Theatre, and some years back revived the Greek plays at Bradfield and Cheltenham. He was specially interested in pageants, and at the end of July managed the City Pageant at Chester, where he had a large number of friends. Last year he managed the National Pageant of Wales at Cardiff, and two years back that at Cheltenham.

Amongst those present at the funeral were Mrs. Hawtrey (widow), the Misses Hawtrey (daughters), Mr. and Mrs. E. Hawtrey, Mr. J. Hawtrey, Mr. G. Harcourt, Mrs. Gleig, Miss Proctor, Mrs. Hartopp Nash, Mrs. Fabian Brackenbury, the Misses Mabel, Mildred, and Gabrielle Hawtrey, Mr. and Mrs. Haldane Macfall, Mr. A. Hunt, J. N. Hunt, Mr. A. Hjorvers, Father Dunford, Mr. Christy, and Mr. E. L. Hewitt (Mayor of Chester, representing the citizens and the Pageant executive managers).

The large number of handsome floral tributes included those from his sorrowing wife (a wreath of roses, his favourite flowers), daughters, son, brothers, sisters, and other members of the family; "The Dilettanti" Theatrical Co., Mr. Frank Curzon, the Chester Pageant Committee, the Band of the Royal Marines of Portsmouth (which accompanied Mr. G. Hawtrey in his Pageants), Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wyld (Chester), E. Baring (Cheltenham), Capt. and Mrs. Durand.

The son of the deceased, Ralph (who is in the Treasury), being in America, and Mr. Charles Hawtrey, being abroad, could not be present. The obsequies were conducted by the Rev. Bernard Nash, of the Good Shepherd Mission, Birmingham, and a nephew of the deceased, assisted by the Rev. P. Wilson, vicar of the parish. The hymns sung were "King of love my Shepherd is" and "Abide with Me," Miss Perks presiding at the organ. The grave was choicely lined with foliage, evergreens, and white flowers.

Mr. Stanley Cooke is the latest actor-manager, and will inaugurate his new enterprise by the production at the Strand Theatre on Saturday, Sept. 10, of *The Man from Mexico*, a three-act farce by Mr. H. A. du Souchet, preceded by *His Living Image*, a little Dutch play written by himself, with music by Mr. Arthur Wood, in which Miss Amy Francis (Mrs. Stanley Cooke) will play the leading rôle. In the first-named piece Mr. Cooke will be supported by Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Cecil A. Collins, Mr. Harry Parker, Mr. Kinsey Peile, Mr. King Fordham, Mr. Eric Leighton, Mr. Eldrett Gulson, Mr. Arthur G. Leigh, Mr. Tom Tindall, Miss Ola Humphrey, Miss Jean Harkness, Miss Faith Celli, and Miss Gladys Archbutt. The first and third acts of *The Man from Mexico* take place in a New York drawing-room, and the second is laid in the Warden's Office at Blackwell's Island Gaol.

By the will of the late Captain Robert Marshall, he left personal estate valued at £22,259. The rights in thirteen of his plays are valued at only 6s. each, yet one week's royalty due by Mr. Charles Frohman for performances of *His Excellency the Governor* amounts to £13 18s. 9d.

Mr. Thomas Beecham's preparations for the season of grand opera that is to open at Covent Garden on Oct. 1 are steadily proceeding. The official list from which the operas will be selected is as follows:—Wagner: *Tristan und Isolde, Die Meistersinger, Flying Dutchman, Tannhäuser,* and *Löhengrin.* Strauss: *Salome, Electra, Feuersnot,* and *Guntram.* Mozart: *Don Giovanni, The Magic Flute, Il Seraglio,* and *Le Nozze di Figaro.* Verdi: *Otello, Aida,* and *Falstaff.* Puccini: *Madame Butterfly* and *La Bohème.* Gounod: *Romeo and Juliet* and *Faust.* Massenet: *Werther* and *Manon.* d'Albert: *Tiefland* (first performance). Beethoven: *Fidelio.* Tschaikowsky: *Pique Dame.* Dukas: *Ariane et Barbe-Bleu.* Leroux: *Le Chemineau.* Bizet: *Carmen.* Smetana: *The Bartered Bride.* Ambroise Thomas: *Hamlet.* Rossini: *Il Barbière.* Goring Thomas: *Esmeralda.* Delius: *Koanga.* Sullivan: *Ivanhoe.* Holbrooke: *Dylan.* Humperdinck: *Hansel and Gretel.* Clutsam: *A Summer Night.* Offenbach: *Tales of Hoffmann.* Berlioz: *Les Troyens.*

Most of these operas will be sung in English, including the Wagner Cycles in November and December. The three novelties announced for October are d'Albert's opera *Tiefland*, the story of which is to all intents the story that we saw unfolded when a few months ago the Sicilian players produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre their sensational play *Feudalissmo;* the opera, by Leroux called *Le Chemineau*, which is based on the sory of Ragged Robin; and Tschaikowsky's opera *Pique Dame.* The season will open with *Tiefland.* We shall also hear in October revivals of *Hamlet, Fidelio, Don Giovanni,* and *The Magic Flute;* while *Elektra, Tristan und Isolde, Carmen,* and *Tales of Hoffmann* will be sung during the same month.

The list of artists includes such singers of distinction as Frau Anna Bahr-Mildenburg (of the Imperial Opera, Vienna), Edyth Walker (of the Opera House, Hamburg), Ruth Vincent, Agnes Nicholls, Marguerita Sylva (of the Metropolitan Opera, New York), Perceval Allen, Mignon Nevada (of the Costanzi Opera, Rome), Gleeson White, Maggie Teyte, Margaret Lémon (of the Metropolitan Opera, New York), Beatrice La Palme, Fräulein Petzl (of the Opera House, Hamburg), Zélie de Lussan, Edna Thornton, Muriel Terry, Blanche Hamilton-Fox, Herr Forchhammer (of the Opera House, Frankfort), John Coates, Walter Hyde, Joseph O'Mara, Frederic Austin, Allen Hinckley (of the Metropolitan Opera, New York), Robert Radford, Clarence Whitehill (of the Metropolitan Opera, New York), Lewys James, Harry Dearth, and Murray Davey. The conductors, in addition to Thomas Beecham, are Percy Pitt, Alfred Hertz, L. Camilieri, and Cuthbert Hawley—names that speak for themselves.

With reference to Strauss's world-famed opera *Salome*, of which so much has been said and written, there is now little likelihood that the Censor will refuse to sanction its performance, so that we may, with confidence, look forward to hearing and witnessing *Salome* early in November. Also we are promised in November several other novelties, namely, the opera, by Dukas, called *Ariane et Barbe-Bleu*, which is practically the story of Blue Beard; a Delius opera; and towards the end of the month we shall see the first production in this country of a Wagner opera that is new to most music-lovers. Mr. Beecham has increased the number of members in his orchestra to nearly a hundred, and his choruses number 120.

The 200th performance of that highly-successful and extremely funny play *Tantalising Tommy* will take place at the Playhouse on Wednesday. One or two members of the company who have been taking a short rest have returned, and the piece is presented with the entire original cast, which includes Cyril Maude, Kenneth Douglas, Maidie Hope, Fred Lewis, John Beauchamp, John Harwood, and Marie Löhr.

Mr. Oscar Asche is on his way back from Australia, where he and Miss Lily Brayton have secured such social and artistic success. The clever pair and their company are travelling by the Orient liner Orsova, which is due at Plymouth on Friday next.

Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged to make the Coronet Theatre a house for the production of new plays, abandoning in consequence the ordinary suburban system, with its weekly change of bill. The new arrangement will commence on Wednesday, Sept. 7, when an original play, entitled *Sister Anne*, by the well-known novelist Madame Albanesi, will be produced and put on for a run, just as at an ordinary West End theatre. The scenery, which is rural, will be painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley. The cast will include Miss Marion Terry, who will enact Sister Anne, Miss Ruth Bower, Miss Viva Birkett, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, and Miss Rosina Filippi. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith will play the leading male part, and others engaged are Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Frederic Sargent, Mr. Henry Kitts, and Mr. Arthur Cleave. *Sister Anne* will probably be followed by a romantic play called *Don Q.*, adapted by K. and Hesketh Pritchard from their novel "Don Q.'s Love Story."

The British Empire Shakespeare Society's ninth annual report shows a record of work which calls for congratulation. Not only are the individual centres making headway—a short report from the New Zealand branch is included—but the whole organisation shows solid achievement in the Shakespearean cause. The work is being carried on, or being inaugurated, all over the empire, so that the society may claim to be the largest of its kind ever instituted.

Miss Kate Flinn will resume lessons for the autumn in the first week in September. Two of her pupils have been most successful, one (Miss Daphne Glenne) having been specially engaged to play Alice in *The Dollar Princess* in America by Mr. Frohman, and the other (Miss Mabel Hope) having been re-engaged to enact Natalie in *The Merry Widow* in one of Mr. George Edwardes's provincial companies. Both are fine sopranos, and ought to do well, having had the advantage of Miss Flinn's excellent teaching.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has arranged with Mr. R. C. Carton to revive the latter's brilliant play, *Lord and Lady Algy*. Remembering the wonderfully successful run that the play had in London and the country, the revival, after a somewhat long rest, should be highly successful. Miss Beatrice Wilson will play Lady Algy, and Mr. Norman himself Lord Algy. Special scenery will be built for the production, and new dresses designed.

Mr. Alfred Hemming has been presented by the Committee of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala with a handsome "founder's" jewel to commemorate the coming of age of that movement. Twenty-one years ago Mr. Hemming, in conjunction with the late Mr. Albert Smith, a commission agent, founded the gala, which, during its existence, raised over £16,000, which yearly was distributed among local medical charities and charities connected with the theatrical profession.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's assumption of the management of the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, has naturally necessitated several alterations in the staff, and amongst those who have said "good-bye" are Mr. Fred Ball, the resident-manager, and Mr. Bradshaw, who has occupied the position of conductor at the Empire Palace and this theatre respectively for a period of nearly twelve years. Their many friends, however, were determined that they should not leave without something to remind them of the high esteem in which they were held, and on Saturday last Mr. Ball, who during his comparatively short stay in the town has made himself extremely popular by his unfailing courtesy to everyone before and behind the curtain, was the recipient of a handsome gold chain, whilst Mr. Bradshaw was presented with a purse of gold and case of pipes.

Mr. Hugh Fleming has completed a special engagement as advance-manager with Mr. Walter Maxwell's *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* company, and has joined Mr. George Dance's *Whip* company in the same capacity.

The Amalgamated Musicians' Union will hold their usual series of concerts at the Queen's Hall this year, commencing on Sept. 4, when Mr. Coleridge-Taylor will conduct his "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" with the British Symphony Orchestra and choir. Many well-known artists have been engaged.

Mr. H. Marsh Allen, who is now playing Mr. Hawtrey's part in *The Naked Truth* at Wyndham's Theatre, won his first race at Hurst Park last week with the four-year-old colt Andrew Smith. Mr. Allen's racing colours are blue and orange cap. Andrew Smith came out two furlongs from home and won in nice style by two lengths. He was bought in for 220 guineas.

Mr. Johnny Osborne, after a successful experience in many musical comedies in England, has gone to America for Mr. Chas. Frohman. Mr. Osborne has already travelled a great deal, having been to India and the Far East.

Patrons of the Royalty Theatre, Chester, will to-day (Saturday) present Mr. C. B. Fountaine with a handsome diamond ring as a token of their esteem, on the occasion of his vacating the position of business-manager at the Royalty Theatre, During the past five years Mr. Fountaine has endeared himself to residents of all ranks and conditions in the old city, and his departure will be keenly regretted by his many friends. He leaves for the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, where he will remain as business-manager until Christmas, and afterwards take up his duties in the same capacity at Messrs. Bode and Compton's Opera House, Northampton.

"The Merry Widow" is visiting Southport this week, and the popularity of the piece has not in the least abated. Mr. Percy Hutchison has secured Mr. George Edwardes' renowned company, including Mr. Lionel Victor, Mr. Basil S. Foster, and Miss Louie Pounds. Record business is being done, hundreds travelling from Patricroft, Oldham, Hollinwood, and Middleton, Kirkham, and Bolton to see this superb production.

The Crystal Palace Theatre will once more be opened for the autumn season on Sept. 26 under the able management of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, and Mr. J. E. Sharpe will resume his duties as resident-manager. The opening attraction will be D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, which will present some of its best and most popular selections.

The cast of Miss Evelyn Millard's new production, *The Crisis*, which had a trial performance at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings, on Monday includes Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Sarah Brooke, Miss E. Martheze, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Athol Stewart, Mr. Douglas Imbert, and Mr. Norman McKinnel.

Miss Hettie Gale, a native of Plymouth, won first prize at the beauty show held at New Brighton, Cheshire, on Saturday out of 500 competitors. The first prize consisted of a purse of gold, silver fruit and flower stand, gold pendant, and "the cake." Miss Gale has taken part in pantomimes at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, and at Devonport, and is now appearing in *Lucky 'Liza*. She has also been engaged to play a leading rôle in *The Right Mr. Wrong*.

Miss Celestine Bertram, who is at present playing in Mr. Frank Bertram's *Sailor's Wedding* company, will shortly bring out a book entitled "Dainty Dinners for Delayed Diners." It contains a series of dishes which can be ordered and not spoilt by "missing the connection and arriving two hours late," and also the recipes and modes of cooking hasty dishes of trifles so that if one has not settled rooms one can have a little more comfort than the usual "nothing in the house but eggs and cold meat" which so often greets one.

That clever and versatile actor Mr. Howard Brenan is playing Mr. Tompson in *The Woman in the Case*, and the reception given to him at the Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, has been particularly gratifying. The local Press are profuse in their praises, one of them stating that Mr. Brenan's performance was one of the finest that has been seen on the Lyceum stage for many a long day.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's production *From Convent to Throne* added yet one more to its many triumphs last week at Swansea. Business rose nightly. It is not too much to say that the production was the admiration of Swansea, the local Press being loud in their praises. On Saturday to a packed house Mr. Coutts publicly thanked the company, his audience, and Mr. Campbell.

Miss Annie Hughes has recently secured the provincial rights of *The Mobswoman*, by Leon M. Lion and W. Strange Hall, which was seen at the Playhouse in front of *A Sense of Humour* last year. Starting on Monday next at Lincoln, she is presenting it on her autumn tour of *Miss Tommy*, with Miss Winifred Pearson in the title-rôle.

Mr. Pelissier has postponed the production of the Follies' programme at the Apollo to Tuesday next, owing to the redecorating work not having been completed as early as he expected.

Mr. Robert R. Ashby has relinquished his engagement with Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' *Thief* company, after a most comfortable nine months tour.

Papers to hand by last week's mail from South Africa are high in their praises of Miss Nettie Wheeler on the occasion of her twentieth birthday. Miss Wheeler began her theatrical career in infancy, being carried on the stage while still in short clothes. She was born at Pietermaritzburg, in Natal, just twenty years ago. At ten years old she played a small part in *Zaza*, with Miss Mona K. Oram. At twelve she enacted Cissy Denver in *The Silver King*. With a previous Wheeler-Edwards Gaiety company she was in the chorus; unfortunately she was taken ill, and took a trip to England to recuperate. On recovering, she returned to the land of her birth, and toured with the Wheeler Juvenile company, playing leading parts, her favourite rôle being Lord Clanside in *In Town*, in which she made her first real success. With the present Gaiety company she again started in the chorus, but soon rose through the small parts, from Fifi in *A Waltz Dream* and Phyllis in *Dorothy*, to O Mimosa San in the *Geisha*. Miss Wheeler is anxious to get to England and make a start here.

The leading character of the *Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary* at Terry's does not require to be resplendent in rich dresses, but several of the ladies who adorn the stage are seen in striking costumes. One elaborate frock worn by Miss Westner is of a peculiar shade of pink, with a note of copper in it, and it is trimmed with chiffon of the same colour. The corsage is almost entirely composed of folds of chiffon drawn into a deep band embroidered in white and steel beads, pearls, sequins, and silk. A long tunic of chiffon almost covers the skirt, except where it opens at the right side, and at the bottom is introduced handsome motifs of the embroidery. At the back the corsage is arranged in the same way as in front, and from the waist fall two long tails of the chiffon finished with heavy gold tassels. An enormous black velvet hat, trimmed with two long feathers, makes a charming contrast to the gay colouring of the dress.

Miss Westner's second costume is quite simple, being made of dark blue serge. The skirt is arranged in pleats kept in place by three bands of plain cloth; and the plain jacket is braided with black, and is fitted with two pockets put in diagonally at the hips. The hat worn with this dress is of black straw trimmed with velvet, the latter arranged in a plain band and a large flat bow.

Simplicity is also the note of a dress of white satin worn by Miss Cusick. The corsage is decorated with a large motif, worked in silver sequins and bead embroidery, which practically forms the band. Folds of white chiffon drawn over the shoulders give a very soft and pretty finish to the corsage, and the tiny sleeves are also of white chiffon drawn and finished with a ruche of the same material.

A striking contrast is furnished by the pastel pink cloth costume which Miss Cusick wears in another act. The skirt is arranged at the back in two box pleats, while in front the material has the appearance of being cut in pointed pieces fitted into one another and fastened here and there with satin buttons. A chiffon blouse is worn over a white lace slip and is finished with a collar band of gold net. Over this dress is worn a very long coat of pink cloth wonderfully braided in silk. In front there are long lappels shaped in scollops, and these cross over and are fastened invisibly beneath the side pieces. A deep cape collar, heavily braided, is worn on the shoulders, and a large cloth-covered buckle holding straps of cloth marks the waist at the back. A particularly novel note is given to the coat by the arrangement of pleats at the back. These fall almost to the bottom of the coat in long sash-like tails, which are heavily embroidered at the ends. A black straw hat trimmed with a feather and large pale pink roses finishes the costume fittingly.

Mr. W. V. Garrod's new play, produced last week at Fleetwood, met with such an enthusiastic reception that he is organising a special company to tour with it early in 1911. Billed for Thursday and Friday nights, it was deemed advisable to play the new piece on Saturday, and a big house proved the wisdom of the change. A large plant of new pictorials will be put in hand at once, and a newly-painted production, furniture, &c., will be carried. The title, *Atonement*, having been already used, another will be chosen.

The Committee of Management of the London College of Music, in order to encourage students possessing ability and special talent in music, and to provide for their systematic training over a given period, now offer for public competition nine open scholarships, giving free tuition, suitable for a professional student, for two years at the College. These scholarships are available for persons residing in any part of the United Kingdom, being entirely free and open, and are without any restriction or reserve in regard to age or sex (except the singing scholarships, in which the voice is specified).

The nine scholarships will consist of four for singing, one for pianoforte playing, one for violin playing, one for viola playing, one for violoncello playing, and one for organ playing, as follows:—The Schubert Scholarship for singing (female voices), the Rossini Scholarship for singing (male voices), the Sullivan Scholarship for singing (especially for dramatic singing and opera—male or female voices), the Gounod Scholarship for singing (male or female voices), the Beethoven Scholarship for pianoforte playing, the Spöhr Scholarship for violin playing, the Berlioz Scholarship for viola playing, the Romberg Scholarship for violoncello playing, and the Bach Scholarship for organ playing.

Candidates must perform one solo of their own choice, and also be prepared to play (or vocal candidates to sing), if required, a study; also scales or arpeggios. All candidates must be prepared to read at sight, likewise to answer general questions on the rudiments of music should the board of examiners so desire. The competition will take place at the College on or about Sept. 9, 1910.

George Paston's new piece *Nobody's Daughter*, which Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier will produce at Wyndham's next Saturday, is a serious play, propounding a novel system of philosophy involving certain feminist theories. The scenery will be ultra-realistic.

The cast of *Nobody's Daughter* includes Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Miss Henrietta Watson, Mr. Ronald Squire, Miss Rosalie Toller, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Dorothy Bell, Mr. Leon Quartermaine, Mr. Marsh Allen, and Miss Mary Leslie.

Messrs Frank Curzon and Gerald du Maurier will produce at Wyndham's Theatre, after the run there of *Nobody's Daughter*, a costume play written by Mr. Leon M. Lion, and a popular actor. The period is that of Queen Anne, and amongst the characters are those of Marlborough and Bolingbroke.

Mr. Howard L. Tracy, owing to serious indisposition, was reluctantly compelled to relinquish his part of Frank Perry in *Are You a Mason?* (which he has sustained for over a thousand performances) on Tuesday of last week at Dundee to Mr. Andrew Buck, who successfully played the arduous rôle at very short notice. Mr. Tracy, though still under the doctor, pluckily resumed the rôle at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on Monday night.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison conclude their annual four weeks' season at the West Pier, Brighton, this evening, having beaten all previous records with the four London successes presented, namely: *Smith, Don, Lady Frederick,* and *Brewster's Millions*, in which Mr. Percy Hutchison appeared, and received a great ovation. The official enumeration of the numbers paying for admission (covering the four weeks' season) totalled just over 43,000 people, *Brewster's Millions* alone accounting for 13,000. The beautiful staging and dressing of the plays received eulogistic comment both from the huge audiences and the Brighton Press. Mr. Hutchison, under whose personal supervision and control all the plays are produced, is to be sincerely congratulated on the unbounded success which has rewarded his efforts.

Mr. Alexander Marsh will shortly add to his extensive répertoire of thirty-five plays, a production of *Much Ado About Nothing, Twelfth Night,* and *The Three Musketeers.* Mr. Marsh's tour in South Wales and the West of England has proved a great success, and his reception at the Opera House, Leicester, last week was extremely favourable. Mr. Frederick Mouillot, who controls the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Opera House, Cork, Grand Theatre, Southampton, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, was so impressed by Mr. Marsh's production of *Othello* at the Star Theatre, Swansea, recently, that he has arranged with Mr. Marsh to visit the theatres mentioned next year.

In Mr. Lewis Waller's production, at Birmingham on Monday, of Messrs. Henry Hamilton and Rafael Sabatini's romantic play *Bardelys the Magnificent* Mr. Waller will be supported by Mr. William Haviland, Mr. Herbert Jarman, Mr. Alec F. Thompson, Mrs. Tapping, Miss Dorothy Dix, and Miss Madge Titheradge.

Miss Lucy Beaumont has made a genuine success as Mrs. Wiggs in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, which has crowded the Kennington Theatre nightly this week, money being turned away on several occasions. Miss Beaumont has been the object of much enthusiasm, receiving three "star" calls at the end of each performance.

The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company will visit the Kennington Theatre next week for the first time for many years. On Monday will be produced, for the first time in London, *The Queen of Sheba*, which will be repeated at Thursday's matinée. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings will be devoted to *Tannhäuser, Carmen,* and *Il Trovatore,* and Friday will be made the occasion of another first production, namely, Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*

Mr. Sidney Cooper, of the Lyceum Theatre, Newport, who was nominated by the Conservative party, was elected as Town Councillor on Tuesday last, his majority being the largest ever known in the Caerau Ward, which Mr. Cooper now represents. This is an achievement which testifies to Mr. Cooper's popularity, especially in view of the fact that he was only prevailed upon to contest the ward on the 13th inst.—seven days after his opponent had started canvassing.

A summons for assault taken out by Harry O'Callaghan, musical director at the New Pavilion, Lodge-lane, against William George Evans, the drummer in the orchestra, was recently heard before Messrs. J. Kellit and H. G. Crosfield, at the Liverpool Police Court. On the 8th inst. defendant threatened the complainant, and on the 12th he committed a very violent assault upon him in the band-room without any provocation whatever, O'Callaghan's nose, eye, and lip being damaged. The Chairman (Mr. Kellit) said the Bench considered an assault had been committed, and defendant would have to pay a fine of 20s. and costs.

A table of returns for Paris theatres during the last sixty years, just published, shows that the total takings for 1909 reached the highest amount on record, namely, over £2,056,000, or more than sixteen times the total for 1850. Authors' net royalties increased proportionately, and in the year mentioned amounted in the aggregate to £240,000.

Mr. H. Chiswell-Billing, who terminates this week a special engagement as business-manager with Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's *Smith* North company, immediately commences his duties as advance representative to Mr. Herbert Trench's *The Blue Bird* tour, which opens at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on Sept. 5. It will be one of the largest companies ever sent into the provinces. Altogether there will be about ninety performers, and with staff and special orchestra a total of at least 120 people will be travelled.

The benefit matinée for Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, to be held (by kind permission of Messrs. Melville) at the Lyceum Theatre, is now definitely fixed for Tuesday, Oct. 4, when a programme of a most remarkable strength will be presented.

Mr. Charles Vane, who has recently returned to England, after an absence of some years, has been engaged by Miss Ethel Irving for her forthcoming tour of *Dame Nature.*

Mlle. Cora Katti-Lanner, having returned from Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, resumes her lessons in dancing and elocution on Sept. 1 at her academy, 40, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.

Miss Violet Vivian, of Mr. Ben Greet's company, is about to marry Mr. C. R. Hopkins, a native of Philadelphia. Though very wealthy, Mr. Hopkins became enamoured of the boards, and on leaving Yale two years since became a member of Mr. John Drew's *Jack Straw* company.

The friends of Miss Frances Wolviston (Mrs. Arthur Leigh) will be sorry to learn that her little Chinese dog Yum-Yum died suddenly last Saturday of heart failure. Yum-Yum had been Miss Wolviston's constant companion for over eight years, and was well known to many members of the profession.

At the Theatre Royal, Yarmouth, on the 13th inst., the part of Kathie, in *Old Heidelberg*, was taken up at a few hours' notice by Miss Florence Preddy.

"The Chocolate Soldier," which is to be produced by Mr. Alex. Henderson at the Lyric Theatre on the 10th of next month, is not an American production, and the entire company will be composed of English artists. The cast is now complete, and includes Miss Constance Drever, Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Elsie Spain, Mr. Roland Cunningham, Mr. Lemprière Pringle, Mr. Tom Shale, and Mr. C. H. Workman. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. J. Heuval.

The 100th performance of Mr Robert Arthur's Robertson revivals at the Coronet will be reached on Thursday, when the sunny idyll *School* will be staged. The cast will include Mr. James Carew, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. Fred Permain, Mr. Frederic Sargent, Miss Rosie Begarnie, and Miss Viva Birkett. Only a limited number of performances can be given, as the theatre will be wanted for Mr. Arthur's first autumn production.

Mr. A. C. Hardie undertook the part of Lord Beverley in *The Whip* at Drury Lane from the 10th inst., when Mr. Bucklaw left England, till the 19th.

An exhibition is to be held in the Whitechapel Art Gallery in October and November next with the object of interesting Londoners, and particularly those at the East End, in Shakespeare and his connection with the metropolis. The Shakespeare Memorial Committee, acting in conjunction with the directors of the Whitechapel Art Gallery, are gathering together a remarkable collection of Shakespeare relics, together with prints, costumes, and other objects illustrative of the growth and development of the drama and the theatre from Elizabethan times down to the present day. Amongst the most interesting of the exhibits will be miniatures of stages and stage settings as they appeared in different theatrical eras, together with the costumes worn by actors and actresses at the various periods.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The *Era* last week, writes our Parisian correspondent, related one of the recent exploits of our great national *farceur*, Tristan Bernard. But this gentleman is not the only practical joker in the French Republic. There is Dumoulin, the actor, and the trick he served his friend Mirande, the well-known draughtsman, is worth relating. Dumoulin, Mirande, and a young painter started off one morning to spend a pleasant day in the country. Dumoulin, the head of the party, took the tickets and selected a compartment where they were likely to remain undisturbed. Suddenly Dumoulin started investigating his pockets, and cried: "I've lost one of the tickets. I can only find two!" For a while the three travellers looked at one another in silence, and then Dumoulin exclaimed: "We'll soon arrange that. Mirande, who is a little chap, can hide below the seat, and when the ticket collector comes he'll not notice anything." It was a fair proposal, and Mirande squeezed himself in the best way he could. After a while, however, he began to lament. "Can't I get out?" he cried in a smothered voice, "it's so infernally hot and dirty here!" "Keep still, old chap," cried his companions, "the collector will be here in a minute." After a while the door of the compartment opened, and the dreaded collector made his appearance. "All tickets, please!" "Here they are!" "But, why do you two gentlemen travel with three tickets?" "No, sir, if you will kindly look underneath the seat you'll find the third traveller!"

A White Elephant.

Mr. Charles Barrett, of *The Brass Bottle* company, writes:—"On Tuesday last I attended the first house of the King's Theatre, Southsea, and found the place full to overflowing. I remarked to one of the attendants, 'The King's seems to be doing very good business now. It used to be a white elephant, didn't it?' Her answer was, 'Oh, no, sir; it has always been the King's Theatre.'"

"The Touch of a Child."

Mr. William Mollison, the celebrated Shakespearian actor and manager, sends the following verses:—

Hatred, passionate vengeance,
Brooding from day to day.
Seeking the cure'd assassin,
Vowing to make him pay.
Searching the world all over,
Every corner in vain.
God! will you ever give me
Solace to ease my pain?
God—my God, I thank thee,
Vengeance, at last, is mine.
But—ah!—what's that—that whisper?
"Vengeance is mine, not Thine."
Oh! God, don't stay my purpose,
'Tis justice, not vengeance wild;
And God in His wisdom stayed me,
But with the touch of a child.

A Born Mimic.

Miss Marie Dainton, who is touring with *The Mountaineers*, says she was "born a mimic."

Hours of Practice.

"I never present an imitation of any sort in public," she says, "till I feel positive that I can give it 'to the life.' I frequently spend hours before the looking-glass, endeavouring to get just the right expression and gesture of the subject I happen to be studying at the time. This lengthy practice is, I think, quite indispensable if you wish to be free from nervousness when you give a fresh imitation for the first time in public, for you know you positively can't feel humorous when you're nervous.

"As you may imagine, a mimic has many opportunities of having fun at other people's expense. I had a most amusing experience a year or two ago. I received at the stage door one evening a letter from a lady, in which she begged me very hard to grant her an interview, as there was a very great service I could do her. There was something so straightforward and touching in the way the request was made that I replied, asking her to call upon me at my flat the following afternoon.

"In due course she arrived, and confided to me across the tea-table that she had a very jealous husband, whom she wanted to teach a lesson. Her plan as to how this should be accomplished was so delightful that I fell in with it in a moment, just for the fun of the thing, and we there and then set about carrying it out.

A Surprise.

"A few days later Mr. P., as we will call him, arrived home one evening to find, much to his annoyance, a telegram from his wife stating that she would not be back till late, as she was spending the evening with her mother, who was not very well. Internally cursing all mothers-in-law and filled with doubt as to whether his wife was really there, Mr. P. was just on the point of going out to the club before going on to fetch her, when a very old family friend drove up, who announced that he had a box at the Pavilion, and asked Mr. P. to go.

His Wife's Voice.

"After dinner at the Trocadero the two men got to the Pavilion while I was on the stage, and they were still busily discussing my imitations after I had retired, when, to Mr. P.'s surprise, he heard his wife's voice in the next box. Apparently, she was in earnest conversation with a man who was speaking in a low, gruff voice. None of his words could be heard, but poor Mr. P. caught much of what his wife said. 'How simply ripping,' 'Bernard must not know,' 'Come on Friday afternoon, he won't be home till six,' and similar fragments drifted through the partition to him, till he was nearly beside himself. At length, hearing an expression of which his wife was very fond, and feeling all doubts thus set at rest, he rushed out of his box and burst violently into the next one, to find—your humble servant, who received him with a look of most utter surprise at such an intrusion!

That Poor Man's Face.

"I shall never forget that poor man's face. I think he guessed at once that a trick had been played upon him, for he went off without a word to his companion, and as I had a very happy letter from his wife shortly afterwards, in which she said they were on a 'honeymoon tour' on the Continent, I gathered that he had benefited by his lesson in faith."

Concentrated Lighting.

As for lighting, says Mr. Herbert Trench in an article on "Shakespeare and Modern Staging" in the *Saturday Review*, no attempt should be made to avail ourselves of the full physical capacity of a stage—or to make, say, the platform of the Garrick Theatre correspond in miniature with a brightly-lighted Trafalgar-square. The principle to be adopted should rather be that of the vignette. Light should not be shed abroad in an even steady glare, but concentrated only on that fragment of the stage where the passions are most intensely focussed—say, at the foot of the pillar where the two chief actors are talking. There only let the scenery become significant and telling, and at the edges be haloed away into obscurity, like an impressionist picture. At the focus of passion only should be high light. The faces of the actors should be intensely visible (for dimness of actors' faces merely irritates, like an indistinctness of speech). Garrick used to hang four lamps above his principal actor, and the principle is just. By a finely-graded concentration alone you can get the suggestion of sublimity and vastness outside the lighted ring.

"THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Anne Warner, Played for the First Time in England at Terry's Theatre on Monday, Aug. 22.

John Watkins, jun.	Mr. Jack Storey
Mitchell	Mr. Paul Decker
Robert Burnett	Mr. Arthur Deering
Clover	Mr. John McMahon
Joshua	Mr. C. C. Gwynne
James	Mr. George F. Hall
Mr. Stebbins	Mr. Lester Wallack
Messenger Boy	Mr. Harry Jones
Betty Burnett	Miss Faye Cusick
Lucinda	Miss Nina Saville
The Girl from Kalamazoo	Miss Lillian Westner
Mrs. Daisy Mullens	Miss Lotta Blake
Betty's Maid	Miss Rose Fantuzz
Ruth	By Herself
Aunt Mary Watkins	Miss May Robson

"God meant us all to be happy, only some of us don't just know how to do it—that's all." This is the keynote struck sharp and clear by Aunt Mary herself in the "tag" of the farcical comedy *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*, by Anne Warner, which has already been successful in America, and was presented by Mr. L. S. Sire at Terry's Theatre on Monday. Aunt Mary has a tremendous capacity for enjoyment of life—rollicking life, the life of the city, of crowds, of noise, light, and movement. Nevertheless, her existence has been passed in the quietest of quiet country homes. She is completely unaware that her discontent, her outbreaks of temper, the general crabbiness which overlays her genuine "heart of gold" are the results of an insufficient outlet for her superabundant vitality. Aunt Mary's capacity for loving is also very large, and there is a hint of an unconsummated love story in the past life of the old maid: "He never came back, my dear." For her delightful but somewhat graceless nephew, Jack, whom she has brought up, she keeps the warmest corner in her affections; the rest she expends on her cat, Ruth, and any poor battered thing that comes her way. Jack gets into scrapes many and varied. Aunt Mary storms, scolds, forgives, and pays up, until Jack is threatened with a breach of promise, when Aunt Mary becomes adamant. Jack is disowned, disinherited. He goes to New York, where he is taken in by a friend, Bob Burnett, with whose pretty sister Betty he falls very much in love.

For three weeks Aunt Mary holds out, then a decoy letter from one of Jack's chums brings her hot foot to New York, in the belief that her darling is "sick." She forgives the deception in her joy at the reunion, and Betty and the "boys" proceed to give her a "real good time." It is during this process that Aunt Mary becomes rejuvenated. On Betty and the boys she lavishes the surplus affection which had so long lacked a vent, and her excess of energy is expended on the pleasures of city life—motoring, theatres, dinners, and so on. It is a very different Aunt Mary who returns to her quiet home in New England at the end of three weeks' "racket" in New York. She has discovered that her temperament is not suited to the monotony of existence in a village. As she says, "she is not strong enough to live in the country," so she marries her hired man to her body-slave, Lucinda; gives them her house as a wedding present, and returns to her beloved city and to the more congenial society which she finds there.

As will be seen from the foregoing description, the plot is of the slightest; it serves merely as a background to throw up the vivid personality of a very delightful American actress, new to these shores, Miss May Robson. An American comedienne possesses in a superlative degree the art of swift transition "from grave to gay, from lively to severe." To verify this we have only to call to mind the prevailing features of the acting of Miss Rose Stahl, Miss Grace George, and Mrs. Madge Carr Cook. This art—we use the word with full sense of its significance—is even more obvious, though perhaps a little less subtle, in the case of Miss May Robson, who, though she was born of English parents in Australia, and educated in England, France, and Belgium, has all the characteristics of the American school. As she is dashing a flood of quick, angry words at some unfortunate offender, a sudden smile will flash over her features, transforming her in a second from a virago to a saint with a sense of humour; or the gladness will be struck from it with lightning-like effect by a few bars of haunting melody, instantaneously replacing sparkle and brilliancy by a wistfulness, a sadness which catches at one's throat. Miss Robson has the delicate touch of the true comedienne. The play is styled "farcical," but never for a moment does she descend to farce, her acting alone lifting the piece to the level of comedy. In appearance Miss Robson is plump and pleasing, with a face bubbling with fun and good temper. That she is a great favourite in her own country was evident from the enthusiastic greetings of her fellow-countrymen and countrywomen who formed a large proportion of the audience at Terry's, and who were no doubt responsible for many of the beautiful bouquets and baskets of flowers with which she was presented.

Miss Robson was supported by a loyal little company, who led up to her effects in a most natural and admirable manner. Foremost among them was Mr. Jack Storey, who made the scapegrace nephew a wholly lovable young man, and contributed a very pleasant and easy performance, whether wheedling Aunt Mary, making love to pretty Betty, singing love-songs in a fine baritone, or bully-ragging the long-suffering Lucinda. Miss Faye Cusick as the pretty Betty aforesaid had not much to do beyond looking charming and being very sweet, both of which she achieved without the least effort. Her one small outburst was well enough done to lead us to believe that she would be successful in a more exacting part. As Lucinda, the devoted and much-tried maid of Aunt Mary, Miss Nina Saville deserves high praise. Never once did the sour face relax or the rasping voice soften until in the last act Aunt Mary bestowed on Lucinda the house and the hand of Joshua, the hired man, when the bashful smile which crept over the maid's grim visage as she lays her head on his shoulder and blushingly murmured her willingness to take him was irresistible. Mr. Arthur Deering was bright and breezy as Robert Burnett; Mr. Paul Decker was very good as another of Jack's chums, Mitchell, "he with the wicked eye," who engages Aunt Mary in a desperate flirtation; and Mr. John McMahon as Clover, the fourth member of the quartette of friends, fitted well into the picture. Mr. C. C. Gwynne as Joshua and Mr. George F. Hall as James, the Burnetts' butler, gave interesting little sketches of types of American servants, and Mr. Lester Wallace was an alert and business-like lawyer. As the Girl from Kalamazoo, who threatens to wreck Jack's happiness, Miss Lillian Westner contrived with much cleverness to give a suggestion of underlying pathos to what is primarily an unsympathetic part. Miss Lotta Blake was good as one of the poor battered creatures befriended by Aunt Mary, and Miss Rose Fantuz was satisfactory as Betty's maid.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF ACTORS AND ACTRESSES.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. H. B. BRANDRETH.

Mr. H. B. Brandreth, the acting-manager at Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington Theatre, has been talking to a representative of *The Era* regarding the fifteen weeks' répertoire dramatic season which has been run there with such pronounced success during the present summer.

Asked if the season had been the means of bringing under the notice of the American and West End managers any promising artists, Mr. Brandreth said: "We hear a great deal from American managers and others who say there are few good English actors and actresses, and that the latter have got the price up to such a high standard that they cannot be engaged for America. Well, in regard to this I can only say that Mr. Robert Arthur has been running a stock season here for fifteen weeks, and during that time not a single manager of a West End theatre or a representative of an American syndicate has come into this place to see what sort of talent has been engaged in Mr. Arthur's productions. It certainly seems absurd to complain of the dearth of fresh talent when those responsible for the management of theatrical enterprises will not take the trouble to come and see the work of such an excellent company as that which Mr. Robert Arthur has had during the past season. Kennington Theatre is only an eight minutes' taxi-cab ride from the West End, and I should have thought that if anybody had been on the look-out for new artists they might have come across and seen what we had here. Theatrical managers are certainly not showing the same enterprise in this direction as music-hall agents. They go everywhere, and unearth good turns wherever they are to be found. That makes the music hall profession a very live thing indeed, and probably accounts for the way in which business is booming in that line."

"When the actor goes to a manager for an engagement," continued Mr. Brandreth, "he finds, as often as not, that the manager is not at all aware of what the actor's special qualities are. Consequently the manager says, 'Can you act? What are you doing? I should like to see you

[*Photo by Daily Mirror Studios.*

MR. H. B. BRANDRETH.

act.' The actor perforce has to answer him and say that he has been getting engagements for forty weeks or more per annum, and that he has been doing good work on the road, whilst he (the manager) has been sublimely unconscious of his existence, and he probably thinks to himself, 'If I were in a position for you to see me act I should probably not be applying for an engagement.' The company Mr. Robert Arthur engaged for the Kennington Theatre contained many excellent artists. I might mention Miss Jessie Winter, Miss Winifred White, Miss Nellie Burdette, Mr. Walter Gay, Mr. Fred Morgan, Mr. Maitland Marler, and Mr. George Cockburn, amongst others, whose performances are certainly worthy of being seen by any West End manager or American agent."

"Anyway," concluded Mr. Brandreth, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and Mr. Robert Arthur has had a record season."

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

At the concert at Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, Aug. 18, the first novelty of the present season was Mr. Easthope Martin's two Eastern dances. "Egyptian Bell Dance" is the title of the first, and "Snake Dance" the second. In both the young composer has written light and pleasing music for the orchestra of an appropriate Eastern character. The dances made a good impression, and the audience gave Mr. Martin a very cordial reception. In Grieg's Pianoforte Concerto in A minor Mr. Vernon Warner, the soloist, displayed considerable technical ability, and was warmly applauded. Miss Eleanor Felix and Mr. Thorpe Bates were the vocalists, and the orchestra gave excellent performances of Mozart's overture, *The Magic Flute*, Järnefelt's "Præludium," suite, "The Wand of Youth," No. 1 (Elgar), and the same composer's march, "Pomp and Circumstance," No. 4.

Saturday, Aug. 20, was a popular night at the Promenade Concerts, and a very large audience heartily applauded Mr. Wood's orchestra in a remarkably fine interpretation of Weber's *Oberon* overture and Grieg's "Peer Gynt" suite; admirable also was their playing of Tschaikowsky's "Capriccio Italien"; symphonic poem, "Finlandia" (Sibelius); and Sullivan's "Ouvertura di Ballo." Miss Auriol Jones was heard in a brilliant performance of Saint-Saëns's pianoforte fantasia "Africa"; while Mr. John Bardsley greatly pleased the audience by his able singing of "Oh! where has fled," from Tschaikowsky's opera *Eugene Onegin*. Miss Caroline Hatchard sang "Ah! fors' è lui," from *La Traviata*, neatly, but with hardly the emotional fervour such music requires. Saint-Saëns's "Le Déluge," and the Intermezzo from Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, were also included in the programme.

Catalini was once invited to meet Goethe at a dinner party and was taken in to dinner by him. The famous cantatrice knew nothing about the poet except that he had written *The Sorrows of Werther*, and she at once proceeded to make herself agreeable to him. "My compliments upon your *Werther*; it is perfectly adorable," she said, "I never laughed so much in all my life." "Laughed!" gasped Goethe; "laughed at my *Werther*?" "Yes, indeed," replied the fair Angelica, "in fact, I roared. It was quite too funny for anything." The poet felt as though one of them was demented, but a neighbour finally came to the rescue, and putting some leading questions to the diva discovered that it was a parody of *Werther* that she had witnessed in a Parisian theatre.

"A BEDOUIN BEAUTY."

A New Romantic Light Opera, in Two Acts, by Talbot Hughes, Composed by Frederick Rosse and Raymond King, Produced for the First Time at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Sidi ben Hamid	Mr. Murray King
Laila	Miss Flora Macdonald
Abdullah	Mr. Walter Brodie
Hippolyte, Comte de Lys	Mr. Tom Macfarlane
Raoul de St. Juste	Mr. Claude Hogg
Lucille, Comtesse de Lys	Miss Dulcie Garland
Denise	Miss Dora Lane
Henri de L'Orme	Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart
Jacques Beauregarde	Mr. Charles Cautley
Pierre Picquart	Mr. E. Delfosse
Valerie	Mr. Raynor Golden
Sidi ben Achmet	Mr. Ardene Linden
Hassan	Mr. Josef Klause
Marabut	Mr. Harry Hardy
Fatma	Miss Maie Hoey
Naila	Miss Nita Alexander
Aisha	Miss Marjorie Maxwell

(from our own correspondent.)

In this new light opera, the romantic story of a beautiful Bedouin woman is told with much originality and force; and although fun and merriment are liberally provided, there are moments of dramatic interest and intensity which grip the audience. Light, bright, and pleasing music has been cleverly arranged, but it is in the melody and sentiment of the love lyrics and in the more serious parts of the work that the composers have been particularly successful.

In Algeria is the beautiful Arab town of El-Kantara, where lives the prosperous Caid, Sidi ben Hamid. On the roof of his house lie, in indolent ease, his fourteen wives, and by a hidden chorus of male voices they are awakened from their noonday sleep to greet their lord and master. Sidi reminds them it is the anniversary of his birthday, and, according to his custom, he intends to celebrate the occasion by adding another wife to his already fine collection. But the demand for wives is greater than the supply, and the country has been searched in vain by Abdullah, the Secretary, for a suitable wife number fifteen. Chance, however, comes to the rescue, for a French family, consisting of the Comte de Lys, a savant and author, the Comtesse de Lys, and their beautiful daughter Denise, is staying in El-Kantara. Now, Denise is betrothed to a French officer, Henri de L'Orme; but the suspicious Comtesse has doubts of Henri's fidelity, and Denise, acting on a sudden impulse, quietly and secretly assumes the dress of an Arab girl in order to keep a watch on her lover. While dressed in this garb she is carried off by Abdullah to the house of Sidi as the required and suitable addition to the harem. Denise refuses to speak, and before she realises what has taken place, a few muttered words of a priest have made Denise the legal wife of Sidi. But hidden away in an alcove is a beautiful Arab girl, Aisha, the chief dancer of the Ouled Nail tribe of Bedouins. Denise, now fully understanding the dilemma into which she has been whirled, appeals for help to Aisha, the dancing girl. Denise implores her to find a means of escape, for she is already betrothed to a French officer in the Fifth Regiment of Spahis. Aisha lends a sympathetic ear, for she, too, has a soldier lover, an officer in the Fifth Regiment. The captain is the same in each case, for Henri de L'Orme has accepted the love of both girls; but Aisha, ignorant of this, at once helps Denise to escape from the house of Sidi, and, mounted on swift camels, the Arab girl and Denise travel quickly to the oasis of Djelfa, the home of the Arab tribe to which the dancing girl belongs.

The Comte and Comtesse de Lys have now lost their daughter Denise, Sidi has lost his latest wife, and Henri de L'Orme has lost his betrothed. A rapid pursuit is now organised, and next day all arrive at the oasis of Djelfa. Here Aisha finds that she and Denise are in love with the same man. Henri is bidden to choose between them, and when his choice falls upon Denise, the intense and passionate nature of the Arab girl breaks forth, and in bitter scorn and fury she denounces Henri, and as a fitting punishment for his duplicity he is condemned to be shot by members of her tribe. Denise makes an appeal that his life shall be spared, and Aisha grants this on condition that Denise shall go back to her lawful husband, the Arab Sidi ben Hamid. The Comte de Lys now seeks to set aside this marriage of his daughter by obtaining a divorce. A wise and wily old Sheikh of Djelfa, Sidi ben Achmet, demands very high fees to pronounce the divorce. The money is forthcoming, and Sidi ben Hamid is also not only willing but anxious to be divorced, for he has become enamoured of Fatma, a dancing girl. The only unwilling party to this arrangement is Denise herself, who now prefers to remain the wife of Sidi; and the Arab is unable to pronounce the divorce, for he has forgotten the name of his newly-found wife. However, he soon hears and recognises it, and, speaking the name Denise, he turns round three times, and Denise is his wife no longer. Henri, who really loves her, and her only, now asks for her love and forgiveness, and these she bestows upon him. Poor Aisha, sick at heart and despairing, gives way to uncontrollable grief, and the passionate and beautiful dancer, a sacrifice to unrequited love, falls to the ground and dies of a broken heart.

Miss Marjorie Maxwell was a conspicuous success as Aisha: beautiful of face, she had all the seductive daring and charm of the Arab lover; her sweet and pleasing voice was admirably used in the pretty songs she so daintily rendered, and her serious work in the second act was given with great earnestness and feeling. Miss Dora Lane acted and sang with great vivacity and charm of manner, and she was a refreshing Denise; Miss Dulcie Garland, clear and definite, gave a very good rendering of the part of Lucille, the Comtesse de Lys; Miss Maie Hoey, as Fatma, danced very gracefully, and delighted the audience; and Miss Nita Alexander made a perfectly satisfactory Naila. Mr. Murray King brought all his stock of fun and merriment into the part of Sidi ben Hamid, and in his well-known light and lively manner kept the audience in happy mood with song, dance, and quip. To Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart fell some exceedingly pretty numbers, which he rendered in very pleasing style, and he attained considerable success as the lover, Henri de L'Orme; Mr. Charles Cautley made the most of his opportunities as Jacques, and rendered his song skilfully and artistically; Mr. Tom Macfarlane evoked much laughter in his mock-serious work in his search for knowledge of ladies as the savant Comte de Lys; Mr. Claude was a restrained and satisfactory Raoul de St. Juste; Mr. Walter Brodie is a clever comedian, and he did with much point and effect all possible in the part of Abdullah; Mr. E. Delfosse, too, did cleverly all that fell to his lot as Picquart; and as his partner, Miss Raynor Golden was a smart and attractive Valerie. Mr. Ardene Linden supplied a full measure of humour in a droll way as Sidi ben Achmet; and good help was given by Messrs. Josef Klause and Harry Hardy as Hassan and Marabut.

Mr. Charles Frohman produced two new comedies in the Empire City last week, and public interest in the author of "Vice Versâ" was renewed by these offerings, both being founded on stories from his pen. In each instance the audience was large and appreciative. Several attractions whose popularity was by no means exhausted last season have been revived at the leading theatres, these including *The Arcadians*, with Miss Julia Sanderson and Miss Connie Ediss, at the Knickerbocker; *The Fortune Hunter*, with Mr. John Barrymore, at the Gaiety; *The Spendthrift*, with Mr. Edmund Breese, at the Hudson; and *Tillie's Nightmare*, with Miss Marie Dressler, at the Herald-square.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON'S EXPERIMENT AT THE LITTLE THEATRE.

By Our Special Commissioner.

When Thomas Coutts, banker, married Harriett Mellon, actress, who, as everyone knows, afterwards became the Duchess of St. Albans, he acquired a stage connection, but he little dreamt that a part of his bank, that most celebrated of all London banks, the Telison's of Charles Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities," would ever contain under its roof and inside its very walls a real theatre. But such is the case. Has New London come to the Old London, or vice versa? one is led to ask as one enters the portals of Miss Gertrude Kingston's new theatre in the Adelphi. Verily it looks like *Old* London, for here stand the extinguishers as used by the link-boys in Thomas Coutts's time—not the original ones, be it at once said—but their exact replica.

Very few of the thousands who pass by the Strand entrance of Coutts's Bank, now monopolised by the L.C.C., ever dream of what a wealth of antiquity lies close at hand. Passing down the steep hill by the Tivoli stage door is some of the very finest of the late Georgian architecture London possesses. Thomas Adam, the constructor of the Adelphi Terrace, and, in fact, the whole of what is known as the "Adelphi," was a man of no mean taste, as anyone who has seen the interior of some of the houses, with their splendid entrance halls and fine old staircases, and glancing upward view the beautiful ceilings, composed of what is even to-day known as Adams's plaster, will fail to grasp; while turning to the right along the narrow street and passing under the bridge for which the aforesaid Thomas Coutts procured a private Act of Parliament in 1799, and which was built to connect what may be called the Strand portion of the bank with the John-street portion, he will pass the very spot where the last private watchman in London had his watch-box, and until very recent years used to patrol the buildings to keep watch and ward over the treasures deposited in the strong rooms of the descendants of Thomas Coutts, by whom he was employed—a Jerry Cruncher in another capacity. Continuing towards John-street, he will pass through the emergency exit of the new theatre; but why any emergency exit is required for a building that will not hold more than 400 people at the very outside is one of those things no one can answer save a L.C.C. official. But there it is, and anyone who does not feel secure within the most solid walls possessed, perhaps, by any place of entertainment in London, can sustain themselves with the thought that there *is* an emergency exit.

The architects of the new theatre, Messrs. Hayward and Maynard, have done all that is possible to design their part of the work in thorough keeping with its surroundings. The vestibule is decorated with the aforementioned Adams's plaster, and further inside the foyer will be seen to be the same.

And now for the theatre itself. It is somewhat difficult to describe. Theatre Royal Drawing Room is about the best way to do it. It has never been my pleasure, or honour, to be present at a "command" performance at Windsor or Sandringham, but from what I have read I should say the dimensions are about the same. Many and many a time in my younger days, travelling with a fit-up, I have come across assembly rooms attached to the principal hotels in old-fashioned country towns that strongly reminded me of the new theatre. Unlike them, however, there is a very considerable rake in the floor, and none will have to crane their necks to get a view of the stage, which, like many of the modern theatres, is quite flat. Right at the back are a series of seven boxes, and all the seating accommodation combined will not more than reach 400 persons.

I believe Miss Kingston intends to open her season at the end of September or the beginning of October, and everything seems to be so advanced that there need be no fear of any postponement. The stage for so small a theatre seems ample, and I am told that, although there will not be room for elaborate scenic displays, Miss Kingston has certain ideas of her own which she intends to utilise in the way of backgrounds, while the lighting will be of the very latest and most approved methods.

Without doubt the visitors to the place will feel themselves of a family party, and the absence of orchestra will enable them to indulge in the luxury of conversation such as family parties delight in without being distracted by the sound of music, good or bad.

No doubt Miss Kingston has fully considered the fact that the acting will have to be of the "Art which conceals Art" character to the fullest. There will be no chance for broad dramatic effects. It will have to be of the "drawing room" order from first to last. Anything out of the picture would of necessity jar upon the hearers, who will have to view everything from the delicately-pencilled point of view. An opera glass in this theatre will be a thing unknown, and none can fail to hear the dialogue even should it be conducted in a whisper.

The whole scheme holds out the idea of extreme comfort to small and appreciative audiences. Those who love art for art's sake. And no doubt the innovation will come as a boon and a blessing to all those who do not care for the crushing and crowding which is a necessary adjunct to all big gatherings of people at any class of entertainment which come under the head of "enormous successes." May Miss Gertrude Kingston reap the reward her enterprise deserves!

The ladies of the profession who have the pleasure of appearing with Miss Kingston will have one consolation. Jewellery to any amount will be perfectly safe. The dressing-rooms are constructed from what have been in the past—the strong rooms of the bank.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Aug. 23. Present, Mr. Chris Walker (in the Chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (Hon. Solicitor), Messrs. Frederick Annerley, Leonard Shepherd, Edward Morgan, C. F. Collings, Clarence Derwent, J. Poole Kirkwood, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Joan Pereira, and Mr. Robson Paige (Acting-Secretary). The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. In consequnce of the Secretary being constantly rung up by managers for non-members, he was instructed to send the Year Book, which contains a list of members, to several well-known managers.

A member objected to pay the 5 per cent. commission charged by the Agency, and the Council upheld his objection, at the same time contending that the said member would not have obtained the engagement without the work of the Secretary. The Secretary reported three engagements through the Agency.

Sarah's Souplesse.

Mr. Chas. Dawbarn, in the *Pall Mall Magazine*, describes a luncheon which he had "chez Sarah Bernhardt." "You know I am old," said Madame very suddenly. The alert and expressive face, crowned with the aureole of Titian red hair, denied the truth of birthday books and other damaging publications; but, like bishops and judges, actresses have no age—especially illustrious actresses. "I have not lost my *souplesse*," she continued in a note of triumph; "I am constantly renewing myself by doing new things. That is the secret of youth; the secret of adventure. The artist must strike out into new paths, refusing to allow himself to be bound. He must not always play the same rôle."

THE SKETCH QUESTION AGAIN.

A satisfactory settlement of the "sketch question" seems as far off as ever, and the summonses taken out at the instance of a "common informer" against Mr. Frank Macnaghten in regard to sketches produced at Sadler's Wells and the Surrey constitute a bitter comment on the present makeshift arrangement. It will be remembered that, after years of prosecutions and penalties and much negotiation, an agreement was arrived at in 1907 between the Music Hall Proprietors and Directors and the Theatrical Managers' Association to the following effect:—

"(a) The time occupied in the performance of any sketch shall not exceed thirty minutes.

"(b) No sketch shall contain or consist of more than six speaking or singing parts altogether, exclusive of supernumeraries, auxiliaries, and chorus, the number of whom and of the scenes in such sketch shall be subject to no limit.

"(c) No sketch shall be taken or adapted from any stage play or dramatic entertainment which shall have been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, except after the expiration of fifteen years after the first public performance of such stage play or entertainment.

"(d) No more than one such sketch shall be presented in the course of such performance in any music hall except that, in addition to such sketch, there may be presented at the same performance either

(1) one short sketch, of one scene only, occupying fifteen minutes, with not more than four speaking or singing parts, with supernumeraries or auxiliaries; or, in the alternative,

(2) one operatic or musical sketch of one scene only, occupying not more than ten minutes in performance, but without being subject to the restriction imposed by clauses (b) and (c).

"No two sketches performed at the same performance to follow consecutively or be connected either in plot, story, character, or scenery with each other, or with any ballet at the same performance. The term 'stage play' shall be deemed not to include ballets which are performed without dialogue or singing (except two choruses, not occupying more than ten minutes together in any ballet)."

Unavailing attempts have been made to get the law altered by Bills, projects of this kind being connected with the names of Captain Jessel, the Entertainments Protection Association, and Mr. Robert Harcourt, whose Bill would have settled the sketch question by giving a single licence.

Last week "Mr. George," a "common informer," obtained the conviction at Clerkenwell Police Court of Mr. Frank Macnaghten, of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall, for performing two stage plays. "Mr. George" declared that he brought the case solely for the purpose of ridiculing the law; and Mr. Bros, the magistrate, had no option but to impose a fine of 40s., and 2s. costs.

After this "Mr. George" took out another summons against Mr. Macnaghten regarding alleged "stage plays" at the Surrey Theatre, which came on for hearing at the Tower Bridge Police Court on Thursday. Mr. Fred Baugh, Mr. Macnaghten's manager, communicated with the Sketch Association asking them to take steps to have this, as he considered, malicious persecution stopped. If it were not stopped he stated he would take out summonses against eleven London music halls which were transgressing the law in the same way.

MR. BAUGH PROTESTS.

"It is ridiculous," he said to a newspaper representative, "that we should be singled out for prosecutions of this sort. We keep within the terms of the compromise entered into with the theatrical managers, and unless this summons against the Surrey Theatre is withdrawn I shall immediately start eleven actions myself."

Mr. Fred Baugh was naturally extremely incensed at being singled out for these prosecutions. "Why," he asked, "should we be chosen for these attacks? We keep strictly to the terms of the compromise made between the theatres and music halls. I feel very bitter about it, and, although I shall be very sorry for the artists, I am going to fight to the finish.

"If the 'common informer' wants to ridicule the law I will help him to do it. It will be his fault, not mine, if music hall managers refuse in consequence of my action to put on any more sketches.

"There are about a dozen halls concerned at present, but the number of artists who will probably lose their employment will be between 500 and 600.

"I am not at all sure that it will not be necessary to withdraw all the sketches from our own programmes. The whole business is absurd, and I very much regret that I have been forced to take this action."

Mr. Baugh has no intention of instituting any proceedings in the provinces. "It is manifestly unfair that I should be attacked twice," he said, "and for that reason I propose to take out eleven summonses in order to bring the affair to a head. It is not fair to those who have invested millions of money in the properties that they should be harassed and annoyed at every turn by a common informer. The whole thing is absolutely iniquitous, and we shall see if we cannot bring it to a proper head. Eventually the matter will be settled by sketches being made legal—by giving to one house one licence to perform what the management likes. I have hopes that this crisis will result in a Bill being introduced next session into Parliament."

THE SKETCH ASSOCIATION'S ACTION.

The Sketch Association, which was formed to protect the interests of music hall sketch artists, held a three hours' meeting on Tuesday, at the Covent Garden Hotel, to consider the situation. Incidentally a prominent member of the Association took the opportunity of denying the suggestion that he had inspired "Mr. George" to take his course of action. The Association decided to organise a hunt for "Mr. George" and beg him, in the interests of the profession, to cease his prosecutions.

The following resolution was also passed on Tuesday:—"That this meeting of the Sketch Association regrets the action taken by a common informer against the management of Ye Old Sadler's Wells Theatre for producing two sketches without the licence of the Lord Chamberlain, which action resulted in a small fine, and instructs their solicitor to take any steps he may think proper to bring about a settlement of any pending summonses or any future prosecutions, the Association being of opinion that these prosecutions of sketches (produced within the terms of the compromise between the theatre and music hall managers) cause great injury and financial loss to the variety profession, and particularly to the members of this Association."

Mr. Arnold Bell, vice-president of the Sketch Association, said that if Mr. Baugh carried out his threat it would mean that not only hundreds of artists would immediately be thrown out of employment, but that thousands of pounds would be lost to music halls.

"In 'popular price' halls," he says, "sketches have become the feature of the programmes. To drop them would mean a loss of thousands of pounds a week. What it would mean to the artists I cannot imagine.

"Many of us have contracts, but these prosecutions would nullify them, and we should have no remedy."

A SERIOUS POSITION.

"It is a much more serious matter than the public think," said a South London manager. "In addition to the artists themselves—those with speaking parts—others who appear, the scenic artists, the electric light employees, and those engaged in the wardrobe section—all these will be thrown out of employment if common informers spring up everywhere, for no music hall manager is going to produce a sketch with the knowledge that he will be hauled up before a magistrate every week and fined. Of course a nominal fine is a small matter, but it is the precedent that concerns us."

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN SUMMONED.

At the Tower Bridge Police Court on Thursday, before Mr. Arthur Gill, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, head of the syndicate controlling the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, was summoned by Mr. Fredk. George, described as an actor, of Cranbourn-street, W.C., for keeping a house and place of public resort for the performance of stage plays in contravention of the Acts of 25 Geo. 2, chapter 96, and 6 and 7 Victoria chapter 63. Mr. Macnaghten was not present, but Mr. Charles Baugh, the manager of the house, appeared in his stead.

Mr. J. D. Cassels was counsel for the prosecution and Mr. P. T. Blackwell for the defence.

When the case was called on it was intimated that if a few minutes more were allowed for a conference between the parties his Worship might not be troubled with the case. A few minutes later Mr. Blackwell stated that the case must go on.

Mr. Cassels, opening the case for the prosecution, said the complainant took these proceedings against Mr. Macnaghten, the lessee of the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, for keeping that place of public entertainment for the production of stage plays, without having a licence as required by the Theatres Act of 1843. That Act required that all places of entertainment where stage plays were performed should have from the proper authority—in this case the Lord Chamberlain—a licence to perform them, and if stage plays were performed without that licence the persons responsible rendered themselves liable to a fine not exceeding £20 per day during the days upon which they allowed those stage plays to be performed. A stage play was defined in the 23rd section of the Act as including every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, or pantomime. The case before the Court that day concerned the performance of three stage plays in the course of the entertainment. He held in his hand the programme which gave the name of the first play as *Perkins, M.P.* That play concerned the adventures of a candidate for Parliament, with the introduction of the topical suffragette. Then the second play was one entitled *The King of the Road*, which was described as "A new and original romantic episode from the time of King Charles II." The third play was entitled *Ned the Devil*, which was described as a drama, and in which bar loafers and policemen appeared. Two of these plays occupied nearly half an hour each in the performance, and one of them about a quarter of an hour. That they were in fact stage plays he thought his Worship would have no difficulty in determining after hearing the evidence of Mr. George, who was a spectator.

The Magistrate here interposed with a remark that the summons did not seem to be in order, as it did not say "without the authority or without a licence from the Lord Chamberlain."

Mr. Blackwell: I do not take any point about that.

The Magistrate: Then I will amend it.

Mr. Cassels, proceeding, said these prosecutions were very rare nowadays, and perhaps rarer still to be undertaken by a member of the public, whom his learned friend would be quite entitled to describe as a common informer. But the Act must have contemplated proceedings such as these by a common informer, inasmuch as there was a section which provided for the distribution of the penalty. Moreover, the Act was for the protection to a certain extent of the public in regard to these theatre entertainments which were being given in unlicenced places, for the simple reason that a place which the Lord Chamberlain did not licence was a place over which he had no control. Therefore this gentleman was perfectly within his rights in taking these proceedings. There was another point which might be brought to his Worship's notice, and that was that these cases had, as a rule, been undertaken by the Theatrical Managers' Association. That body took out several summonses of this character against music hall managers, and as a result of somewhat prolonged litigation an arrangement was made between them, whereby these proceedings should not be taken if the sketches did not break through certain rules which the theatrical managers and the music hall proprietors agreed upon. These sketches had not broken that arrangement, but of course an Act of Parliament was not only to be observed by certain people who made arrangements, it was meant to be observed in the strict letter, and therefore this summons had been taken out against the lessee of the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre for the reason that he had undoubtedly broken this Act of Parliament, and continued to do so, and rendered himself liable to rather heavy fines.

Mr. Fredk. George, the complainant, was the only witness called. In reply to Mr. Cassels, he said he was by occupation a clerk, and at times an actor. He attended the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre on July 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. One of the items on the programme was called *Perkins, M.P., the Labour Candidate and Suffragette Pet.*

Mr. Cassels: What was the nature of that item?—The first scene was outside a works; one man was a candidate for Parliament. I think his name was Grubb. On came a gentleman who was called Perkins. He asked: "What's all this?" and they explained to him that the man was putting up for Parliament, and said it would be a good idea, as he was out of work, for him to put up for Parliament. Then we had comedy from other persons giving their views of Parliament, and a lady was introduced as a suffragette.

How long did that piece last?—About thirty minutes.

How many principals were there in it?—I should say seven.

Let us come to the next one—*The King of the Road.* Just tell us quite briefly what that was.—*The King of the Road*, otherwise *Dick Turpin.* Papers are stolen from a lady; Dick Turpin recovers them from the man who stole them, and they are handed back in the last scene to the rightful owner.

How many scenes are there in that piece?—Three.

And how many principal performers?—I should say about five.

The Magistrate: How long did that last?—About twenty-five minutes.

Mr. Cassels: Now we come to *Ned the Devil.* What is the nature of that?—*Ned the Devil* is in one scene. There is a sort of bar-parlour and a public-house. A gentleman is discovered sitting at a table, sort of semi-drunk I take it, and later on it is explained that this gentleman is a detective in search of a character called Ned the Devil. Ned the Devil's wife tries to get the detective, whom she does not know as a detective, out of the house before her husband returns. Eventually he comes and does the turning out himself.

How long did that last?—That lasted a matter of fifteen minutes.

And how many principal performers?—There were three only.

This is not the first summons you have taken out in this way?—I took one out last week against Sadler's Wells.

Mr. Blackwell: At what time of night were you there?—The first house.

I want to know the time, if you please?—About 6.30 to ten to nine.

You remained there during the whole of that time?—Certainly.

You swore last week that you were present at Sadler's Wells Theatre on the 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th days of July, didn't you?—Correct, sir.

What time were you at Sadler's Wells?—I got there about 9.15.

What part of the house were you in at Sadler's Wells?—I was in the pit and the circle.

And at the Surrey?—I was in the pit and the gallery.

You were at each of these theatres on the same nights?—Certainly.

I suppose your object in taking out this summons was the same as your object in taking out the summons in the case of Sadler's Wells?—Not quite, for the simple reason——

Mr. Blackwell: One minute.

Mr. Cassels: Let him explain.

Mr. Blackwell: He shall explain in a moment. Did not you tell me last week that your object in taking out the summons in connection with the Sadler's Wells was to bring the law into contempt?—Well?

Yes or no?—Yes.

Was your object in taking out the summons in connection with the Surrey Vaudeville the same?—No.

I understood you to say a little while ago it was partly the same?—That is correct.

It was partly to bring the law into contempt?—No. May I explain?

Certainly.—The opposing counsel last week put that question to me, and I said "Yes," although I did not fully understand. It got into print, and I will say I acquiesced in the remark, and therefore it must stand. I brought it to show the inconsistency of the Act under which music halls now work and with a view to bringing about an early repeal.

You remember I asked you what was your object in taking out the summons?—I think you did ask me something to that effect.

And was your answer to that "To bring the law into contempt"?—I do not remember the word "contempt" being used; I remember the word "ridicule" being used.

Substituted, if you please. Did not you volunteer the statement that your object was to bring the law into ridicule and contempt?—Those are the words, if I remember correctly, that you put to me.

No, no; you must be careful. And that is partly your object to-day in taking out this summons?—It is.

You are a clerk, are you, at the present time?—I have been a clerk.

Are you a clerk at the present time?—No, sir.

You were a clerk last week?—I was.

A clerk last week; and what are you now?—At the moment?

Yes.—Travelling for a wood firm.

You have been an actor, you were a clerk, and you are now traveller for a wood firm?—Yes.

You have been associated with Mr. Geo. Gray, haven't you?—I know Mr. George Gray.

Did he suggest to you taking out the summons?—Mr. George Gray has nothing to do with this summons.

That is not an answer.—Nor suggested it.

By the way, what is your name?—Frederick George.

Anything else?—I don't exactly know what you mean.

Is George your surname, or one of your Christian names?—George is the name I have been known by ever since I came to London.

And before you came to London what was your name?

Witness asked the magistrate if he was obliged to answer, and Mr. Blackwell, saying that if the witness did not wish to answer he would be satisfied, dropped the matter.

Mr. Blackwell next asked: Did you tell someone—I don't want to mention his name at present—did you tell him two or three weeks ago that you had been asked by George Gray to undertake this prosecution?—I did not.

You swear that?—I do.

I think you did say you did not want to press for any penalty in this matter?—Before I answer that, I ask your Worship if I am obliged to give conversations on this case.

Mr. Cassels: Answer the question.

Witness: I may have said I did not want to press the case.

Mr. Blackwell: None of these pieces lasted more than half an hour?—To my knowledge, no, sir.

None of them infringed the compromise between the Actors' and the Sketch Association?—I am not fully acquainted with the compromise, and that is why I do not stipulate any time. I do not think they played so long as half an hour.

You know there was an arrangement between the Theatrical Managers' Association and what is called the Sketch Association that the theatrical managers would not prosecute if certain conditions were observed?—I have heard something to that effect.

You knew it last week, didn't you, before Mr. Bros?—I think you asked me if I was aware that compromise existed between the two parties mentioned, and I said "Yes," which I certainly say now; but as to the exact workings of this compromise, I am not certain.

You know the Sketch Association and the Actors' and Managers' do not approve of this particular prosecution?—I have read reports that they do not.

Mr. Cassels: You took no part in this compromise yourself?—Certainly not.

Is "contempt" rather a stronger word than you would use yourself with regard to the object of these prosecutions?—It was my first appearance in Court, and my worthy opponent——

A little frightened you, perhaps?—He put those words forward, and before I exactly realised the full meaning of them I said "Yes."

This closed the case for the prosecution.

The Magistrate asked if the defendant was the responsible manager of the house.

Mr. Blackwell: No, as a matter of fact there are technical difficulties in the way if I wanted to put them. He is really the managing-director of a syndicate, and of course the syndicate, if anybody, is liable; but I will not take any objection on that ground.

The Magistrate: I must have an admission that he accepts responsibility.

Mr. Blackwell said he accepted responsibility on behalf of Mr. Macnaghten. His client was quite willing to admit that two of these things might be fairly described as stage plays. Those were *The King of the Road* and *Ned the Devil;* but if he thought the matter of any importance in this case he could call evidence to show that *Perkins, M.P.*, was not a play but was really a harlequinade. There was no speaking in it, only patter and that sort of thing.

Mr. Cassels: That is speaking.

Mr. Blackwell, proceeding, said the others clearly were stage plays, and therefore it would perhaps be wasting his Worship's time if he called evidence to substantiate what he said with regard to *Perkins, M.P.* Tere was no doubt that these things were played at this music hall, which he dare say his Worship would remember was the old Surrey Theatre, Conquest's house, the theatrical licence of which had been allowed to lapse. It was licensed, of course, under the County Council for music and dancing, and therefore one part of the object of the Act was met. The preamble of the Act was amusing, with its reference to the Act of 12 Queen Anne for reducing the laws relating to rogues and vagabonds, sturdy beggars and vagrants, to one Act of Parliament, and for sending these rogues, vagabonds, sturdy beggars and vagrants whither they ought to be sent. For some time there was a great contest between theatrical managers and what was called the Sketch Association—that was a number of persons—artists they were called—who were in the habit of giving these entertainments at various theatres and also at music halls. The theatrical managers first of all complained that their proper business had been cut into by these sketch artists, and a number of prosecutions were brought. Certain of the learned magistrates, including Mr. Paul Taylor and Mr. Cecil Chapman, suggested a compromise between these parties, and accordingly an arrangement was entered into by which it was undertaken by the Theatrical Managers' Association that so long as the sketches in music halls did not contravene certain limits—that was to say there were not more than six performers and the thing did not last more than thirty minutes—the Theatrical Managers' Association would not intervene, would not set the strict law in motion. In this case Mr. Macnaghten was the managing-director of a syndicate having control of thirty music halls, and throughout the length and breadth of London these music hall sketches were played without any protest on the part of the police, without any interference by the theatrical managers, and without interference on behalf of the Lord Chamberlain.

The Magistrate: And without objection by the music hall licensing authority?

Mr. Blackwell said that was so. No objection took place on the part of people who were interested, but they had in this case a Mr. Fredk. George, actor, clerk, and wood traveller, whose only motive that he could avow that day was to bring the law into ridicule and contempt. He (counsel) did not know whether his Worship thought that was a matter that should be supported from the Magisterial Bench. The only way in which such action could be checked was by taking care that the cost of the prosecution fell upon the men who instituted it. He called attention to Section 21 of the Act, and ventured to say that that was really the object in bringing this prosecution in the first instance. Section 21 provided that penalties for any offence against this Act should be paid and applied in the first instance towards defraying the expenses incurred by the prosecution, and the residue, if any, paid to the use of His Majesty, his heirs, and successors. He could not contend that there had not been here a technical breach of the law, the parties relying upon the arrangement made by the persons directly interested? Knowing that the police might intervene, that the County Council might intervene, to set this law in motion if it was desired, the parties—Mr. Macnaghten and others for whom he accepted responsibility—undoubtedly did perform or allow to be performed two stage plays on some of these occasions, and therefore it was for his Worship to say what he thought would meet the justice of the case. He submitted that the smallest penalty would be adequate. He only wanted to say this, and perhaps his Worship would desire to have evidence upon that point. There were lot of persons employed as sketch artists not only in London but throughout the country, and on the faith of the arrangement that had been come to they had been earning their living and had been doing it in a way that of course showed that they were respectable, or they would have come within the law relating to improper entertainments. If his Worship should think it necessary to inflict any substantial punishment, anything that showed, he thought, the defendant in this case was doing anything morally wrong, then he (counsel) need hardly point out that the effect would be that the persons who were conducting these music halls would at once suspend their operations and all these people who were contributing to the innocent amusement of society would have their occupations stopped. Of course, if there were any substantial wrong done that would be a consideration he would not venture to suggest, but in a case of this sort where the breach was merely technical he thought it was not unbecoming of him to address it to his Worship. He could give his Worship evidence, if he thought it desirable, that there had been two Royal Commissions on this matter, one recommending a change in the law in the direction of the compromise into which these two associations entered. The other reported only last year and he understood that the recommendation of that Commission was that there should be one licence for all entertainment houses, and that the distinctions between houses licensed by the Lord Chamberlain and by the justices in certain cases, or by the County Council in London, should be assimilated. There was a Bill actually before Parliament at the present time for the purpose of carrying that into effect. In the meantime music hall proprietors were carrying their business on in a way that did not contravene the suggestion made by the learned magistrates, and in the whole circumstances he asked his Worship, looking at the fact that any substantial penalty would go towards the cost of a very unmeritorious prosecution, to impose a very small penalty.

The Magistrate: What did Mr. Bros. do?

Mr. Blackwell: He inflicted on one summons a penalty of 40s. and 2s. costs.

Mr. Cassels: There have been previous convictions against the defendant in this case. In November, 1907, he was fined £30.

Mr. Blackwell: That was a prosecution by the Association. This is by a common informer who is really doing it for the sake of putting part of the penalty in his pocket.

The Magistrate said there would be a fine of 20s.

Mr. Cassels: Will that be spread over the whole period or for each day.

The Magistrate: I doubt if there is power to inflict more than one penalty on one summons.

Mr. Cassels applied for costs.

Mr. Blackwell: The costs come out of the penalty.

Mr. Cassels: Other magistrates have generally allowed some costs.

Mr. Blackwell: Mr. Bros allowed 2s. costs.

The Magistrate: Twenty shillings and 2s. costs.

Mr. Cassels: Will your Worship make any order in case of default? The last fine has not been paid yet. I don't know whether this will have the same experience.

The Magistrate: A distress warrant can be issued if it is not paid.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It is sincerely to be hoped that the action taken by a "common informer" will lead to the Metropolitan authorities (there are several, and all apparently muddle-headed) granting a double licence where reasonably applied for, as is already done in so many provincial towns.

Why it is withheld in London is no tribute to the good sense of those who hold control. The ridiculous position could in a great measure be relieved by a stroke of the pen. The first-class West End theatres do not want to put on varieties, but the time has come when those halls that need to mount a play or a playlet should not be hounded down. Legally, they can, and will be, until their fetters are struck off by a sleepy set of authorities.

It cannot be denied for a moment that the music-hall managements have not adhered to the compromise. Only this week a hall is prosecuted for giving three long sketches in one bill, whereas the compromise only allows one of thirty minutes and another of fifteen. Are there no sensible level-headed men on the Councils or at St. James's Palace who can do a public service by solving a problem that has got to be solved sooner or later? A little sense now exercised would help along the Act of Parliament so badly wanted.—Yours faithfully,

HURRY UP.

Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W.C.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue nine years ago of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition just published comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the New Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—*The Financier.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The programme at the Empire Theatre is full of variety during the coming week. It includes, besides the dainty and beautiful ballet *The Dancing Master*, with Mr. Fred Farren in the leading rôle, Mr. George Mozart in a number of caricatures and satires of topics of the day, Clarke and Hamilton, another of the most popular performances to be found in a variety theatre bill, Asra—the billiard expert, Smite and Smote, the Three Oxford Boys, and besides these attractions, Sybil Arundale, in a series of new songs, will make her farewell appearance before her forthcoming visit to Australia.

"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE"

The following is the type of testimonial we like to publish. Occasionally kind friends send us reports of abnormal tyres which have done their 10,000 miles or over. We keep these for our personal satisfaction only. Now and then a man lives to be a hundred; now and then a golfer holes out in one. These things are interesting, but not important. They are of no value to the actuary. In making our tyre we aim at a high **average**. In advertising it, we quote only facts bearing on that average.

Dear Sirs, *June* 29, 1910.

We have pleasure in giving you, after two years' trial, our matured opinion on the qualities of your tyres. We have used them on our own cars under all conditions of wear and surface, both in town and country, and they have maintained a remarkably high average of service from the beginning. We have had an indifferent example or two, but striking an average we have not yet found equal results from any other tyres that have come within our personal experience, and this opinion is reflected by practically every customer to whom we have recommended them. Yours faithfully,

SEALE & DE BECKER, Ltd.

(Signed) L. A. DE BECKER, *Managing Director.*

To ensure the present limit of tyre service specify—

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by
THE B.F. GOODRICH CO., LTD., 7, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 29.

Alone in London.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Angel of His Dreams.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Another Man's Wife.—T. R., York.
Apple of Eden.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Arcadians (N.).—Belfast.
Arcadians (S.).—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
Are You a Mason?—King's T., Glasgow.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Barnoldswick.
At the World's Mercy.—Workmen's H., Ferndale.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., South Shields.
Bedouin Beauty.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Boro' T., Stratford.
Best People, The.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Bishop's Son, The.—Grand T., Oldham.
Booth, Junius.—T. R., Leeds.
Brass Bottle, The.—Grand T., Southampton.
Brewster's Millions.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Broken Melody, The.—P. T., Bradford.
Bulmer, Mr.—T. R., Bolton.
Can a Woman be Good?—Grand T., Doncaster.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Caste.—King's T., Greenock.
Castellano's Opera Co.—O. H., Harrogate.
Charley's Aunt.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Christian, The (Draper).—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Cingalee (A.).—Aberystwyth and Shrewsbury.
Claudian.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Halifax.
Country Girl, A.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Country Girl in London.—New T., Aberdare.
Criminal's Bride.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Dairymaids, The.—Alhambra, Penrith.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Aldershot.
Daughter of the Sea.—T. R., Leicester.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Dear Little Denmark.—Pavilion T., Ramsgate.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes).—(N.).—T. R., Loamington.
Dollar Princess (S.).—Empress T., W. Hartlepool.
Don.—Bridlington and Whitby.
D'Oyly Carte.—King's T., Sunderland.
Draycott, Chas.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—R. T., Liverpool.
Earl and the Girl.—T. R., Bath.
East Lynne (Watt).—Palace T., Gloucester.
Education of Elizabeth.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Junction T., Manchester.
Every Inch a Man.—Star T., Liverpool.
Facing the World Alone.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Fast Life, A.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—O. H., Hammersmith.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—New T., Mountain Ash.
Female Detective.—O. H., Londonderry.
Fighting Chance.—Brixton Theatre.
Flag Lieutenant.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Florodora (Constant).—Worcester.
For Honour and Revenge.—T. R., Barnsley.
For Love and the King.—T. R., Birkenhead.
For Old Times' Sake.—New Hall, Bargoed.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Grand T., Brighton.
From Convent to Throne.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Gay Gordons.—T. R., Worthing.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Girl on the Boat.—Cromer and King's Lynn.
Girl Who Went Astray.—T. R., Bolton.
Glossop-Harris.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
Greater Love, The.—Palace T., Porth.
Grotesques, The.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—Queen's Park, Manchester.
Harvey, Martin.—Llandudno and Buxton.
Havana.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
Her Fatal Marriage.—T. R., Stratford.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Her Love Against the World.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Her Nameless Child.—T. R., Blyth.
Her Path of Sorrow.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Her Road to Ruin.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., West Stanley.
His Indian Wife.—T. R., Stratford.
His Real Wife.—Lyceum T., Newport.
House Opposite, The.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
House of Temperley.—New T., Cardiff.
How Girls are Brought to Ruin.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Irving, Laurence.—Grand T., Douglas.
King and the Unknown Woman.—O. H., Northampton.
King of Cadonia.—Buxton and Llandudno.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Drogheda and Balbriggan.
Laughing 'Liza.—T. R., Barry Dock.
Life of a Showman.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Lighthouse Robbery.—T. R., Castleford.
Lights Out.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Lingard-Moreau Repertoire.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Little Phil's Mother.—Gaiety T., Methil.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Morecambe.
Love of the Princess.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Lucky 'Liza.—Hippodrome, Neath.
Man to Man.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Marsh, Alexander.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Merry Widow (N.).—Grand T., Blackpool.
Merry Widow (Edwardes') (S.).—G. T., Douglas.
Message from Mars.—T. R., Manchester.
Midnight Mail.—Empire T., Oldham.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Folkestone & Eastbourne.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—T. R., Barrow.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—West Pier, Brighton.
Mountaineers, The.—W. G. T., Blackpool.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—Pier P., Hastings.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—T. R., Margate.
My Irish Molly.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
My Lady Bellamy.—Palace T., Maidstone.
New Frivolity.—T. R. Bury.
Nick Carter.—Court T., Wigan.
Night and Morning.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Nihilist, The.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
No Man's Land.—T. R., North Shields.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Old Folks at Home.—Star T., Swansea.
Old Heidelberg.—Spa T., Whitby.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—Eastbourne and Hastings.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—Weymouth and Weston-s-M.
Outcast of the Family.—Century T., Motherwell.
Power of the King.—Queen's T., Longton.
Pritt, Stephen.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Private Secretary.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Prodigal Parson.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Proof.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (N.).—Royalty T., Barrow.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (S.).—Oldham.
Raynor Repertory.—Empire T., Stockport.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Sexton Blake.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Sign of the Cross.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Sign of the Cross.—Mansfield and Long Eaton.
Silver King.—T. R., Sheffield
Sir Walter Raleigh.—Gt. Yarmouth.
Smith (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Still Alarm.—O. H., Coventry.
Tantalizing Tommy.—T. R., Plymouth.
Temptation.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Terry, Edward.—Spa T., Scarboro'.
Thief in the Night.—T. R., Sunderland.
Thief, The.—T. R., Preston.
Through the Divorce Court.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Tyldesley.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Nottingham.
Under the Iron Heel.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Under Two Flags.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Village Blacksmith.—O. H., Burnley.
Was She to Blame?—Alhambra, Manchester.
What the Butler Saw.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
When it Was Dark.—Weston-super-Mare.
When Knights Were Bold.—Grand T., Leeds.
When Knights Were Bold (S.).—O. H., Southport.
When Woman Hates.—T. R., Bolton.
Where is William?—Westgate and Deal.
Whip, The.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
White Man.—T. R., Bristol.
Wilkie, Allan.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Woman of Two Lives.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Woman Worth Winning.—King's T. Seacombe.
World, Flesh, and the Devil.—Hippo., Ealing.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Whitehaven.

Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company commenced its tour at the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent with the pretty little nautical drama, *Captain Jack*. The company engaged is a well-balanced one. Mr. Ernest Owtrim is a natural and manly hero, and Miss Nina Blake-Adams as his wife plays in a charming manner; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh fills the part of Anthony Cliversedge, the suave and villainous ship-owner, to the life; Mr. F. C. Leighton as Bary Trent, the wastrel, is well placed Able support is given by other members of the company.

"Children on the Stage." Managers, agents, entrepreneurs, and performers wishing to possess a copy of the complete Act (in a concise form) can do so by forwarding three stamps to the Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433. Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

Harry Wenburn.—*Yes; about thirty years ago.*

Oxo.—*For advice concerning theatrical contracts consult Mr. Albert Strong, 70, Gracechurch-street, E.C. See also his work on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at this office, post free, 5s. 4d.*

Baker's Boy (Walsall).—*The locale of Mr. Geo. Lashwood's song "O for a night in the West" is the West Australian bush. Messrs. Francis and Day publish the number, which is by E.-W. Rogers.*

J. H. (Chelsea).—*The gentleman you mention keeps the secret of the year of his birth from the curious. We are not so impolite as to ask him even to whisper it in our private ear. After all, it is quite his own business. He was born on March 29. See notice above.*

Sketch Artist.—(a) *The time occupied in the performance of any sketch shall not exceed thirty minutes.* (b) *No sketch shall contain or consist of more than six speaking or singing parts altogether, exclusive of supernumeraries, auxiliaries, and chorus, the number of whom and of the scenes in such sketch shall be subject to no limit.* (c) *No sketch shall be taken or adapted from any stage play or dramatic entertainment which shall have been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, except after the expiration of fifteen years after the first public performance of such stage play or entertainment.* (d) *No more than one such sketch shall be presented in the course of such performance in any music hall, except that, in addition to such sketch, there may be presented at the same performance either* (1) *one short sketch, of one scene only, occupying fifteen minutes, with not more than four speaking or singing parts, with supernumeraries or auxiliaries; or, in the alternative,* (2) *one operatic or musical sketch of one scene only, occupying not more than ten minutes in performance, but without being subject to the restriction imposed by clauses* (b) *and* (c). *No two sketches performed at the same performance to follow consecutively, or be connected either in plot, story, character, or scenery, with each other, or with any ballet at the same performance. The term "stage play" shall be deemed not to include ballets, which are performed without dialogue or singing (except two choruses not occupying more than ten minutes together in any ballet).*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Perry.—Aug. 17, at 4, Silver-street, Pontywain, Mon., the wife of Philip Perry, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Webb—Gunn.—Aug. 17, at St. Mary's, Holyhead, by the Rev. Father Corr, Henry Ambrose Webb, B.L., son of Mr. Chas. Webb, Park-place, Lashinney, Co. Longford, to Agnes, younger daughter of the late Michael Gunn, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, and Mrs. Michael Gunn, 60, Upper Mount-street, Dublin.

DEATHS.

Conway.—On Aug. 24, Bert Conway, dearly-beloved brother of Queenie and Edie Leighton. 14, Kingsgate-mansions, Red Lion-square.

Eugene.—At 161, Henderson-street, Kelvinbridge, Glasgow, on Aug. 20, dear wee Mysie, aged twelve years, after a brief illness, beloved and only daughter of Fred and Alice Eugene. Sadly missed by her sorrowing parents.

Kethro.—Aug. 10, at Watford, Frank Kethro, musical director.

Letters.—On Aug. 22, at West Kirby, suddenly, Will Letters, aged 33. Interred Thursday last, Yew Tree Cemetery, Liverpool. Sadly missed by his sorrowing wife and child.

Letters.—On Aug. 22, at West Kirby, suddenly, Will Letters, aged 33. Interred Thursday last Yew Tree Cemetery, Liverpool. Deeply regretted by his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Pugh, 45, Hannan-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

In Memoriam.

Hall.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Frederick Tudor Hall (Funny Fred Hall), who departed this life, Aug. 28, 1898. Not forgotten by his loving wife, Julia Hall.

Huntley.—In ever-loving remembrance of our darling, Margaret (Margie), who died Aug. 24, 1909. Never forgotten by "Rob" and her loving little daughter "Eileen."

For memory is the only friend
That grief can call its own.

Spencer.—In loving memory of George Spencer, who departed this life Aug. 18, 1907. Never forgotten by his loving wife and son. R.I.P.

Swallow.—In loving memory of William Charles Swallow, who died Aug. 23, 1900. Never forgotten by his loving mother, sisters, and brothers.

Not gone from memory, not gone from love,
But gone to his Father's home above.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Maurice De Frece—Saturday, Aug. 27.
Jack Pleasants—Saturday, Aug. 27.
Fred Keeton—Saturday, Aug. 27.
Lizzie Collier—Sunday, Aug. 28.
Nellie Christie—Sunday, Aug. 28.
Nina Blake Adams—Sunday, Aug. 28.
(Miss) N. De Silva—Sunday, Aug. 28.
James Doughty—Sunday, Aug. 28.
Kate Santley—Monday, Aug. 29.
Charles Dalton—Monday, Aug. 29.
Frank Lawton—Tuesday, Aug. 30.
Kitty Lofting—Wednesday, Aug. 31.
Harry Pleon—Wednesday, Aug. 31.
Freda Beckett—Thursday, Sept. 1.
George P. Lester—Thursday, Sept. 1.
Percy A. Gawthorn—Thursday, Sept. 1.
George R. Sims—Friday, Sept. 2.
Edna May—Friday, Sept. 2.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Mr. Fuller
Allen, Mr. George
Anderson, Mr. Dallas
Appleby, Mr. Cliff
Barrett, Mr. Chas.
Barygo, Mr. M.
Baxter, Mr. Bob
Beecham, Mr. Chas.
Behrens, Mr. Nat
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bellis, Mr. F. A.
Bersac, Mr. Clifton
Birkett, Mr. Harold F.
Branstone, Miss E.
Brennan, Mr. James
Brown, Miss Fanny
Brune, Miss L.
Burleigh, Mr. Bertram
Cain, Mr. J. J.
Callan, Mr. John
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carlos
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chippendall, Mr. A. A
Clyo, Mr. Leo.
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Cook, Mr. Chas. F.
Coolville, Miss Edie
Cordell, Miss Daisy
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Currie, Mr. Byden
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Darnley, Mr. Herbert
Dauncey, Mr.
Deering, Miss Joan
De Santely, Mr. Bernard
Donaldson, Miss Alice
Doran, Mr. John
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Duggan, Miss Maggie
Earle, Miss Clara
Earle, Miss Victor
Edwards, Mr. S. S.
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fasola, Mr. Gustave
Fawn, Miss Harriet.
Fields, Miss Fannie
Flemming, Mr. Claude
Freeman, Mr. C. W.
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Goregund, Miss D.
Grossi, Mr. G.
Grosvenor, Miss B.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Miss Madge
Hall, Mr. Tom
Hardy, Miss Dot
Harris, Miss B.
Harrison, Mr. Denham
Hartley, Miss Jessie
Hickish, Miss Anna
Hill, Miss Adria
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Holt, Madam
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Irving, Mr. K. Ernest
Jeffries, Mr. Edgar
Jelliman, Miss A.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Karr and Kooney
Kearns, Mr. Sid
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirk, Mrs. F.
Kirk, Mr. George
Kneller, Miss Hebe
Laudon, Mr. J.
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Lennard, Mr. Arthur
Leno, Miss G.
Leslie, Mr. Howard
Lewis, Miss Mabel
Lindo, Mr. Frank
Loraine, Mr. Robert
Lowther, Mr. Henry
Lupino, Mr. Barry
Lupino, Mr. George
Lyons, Mr. Harry
Lytton, Mr. Ed.
Mackinder, Mr. L.
Marshall, Mrs. C. R.
Maxwell, Mr.
McCaffney, Mr. Thos.
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Menva, Mr. G.
Moller, Miss Annie
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Moore, Miss Jessie
Morgan, Mr. C.
Morton, Mr. James
Newburn, Mr. Geo.
Nord, Miss Serene
Oakley, Miss Ada
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
Parker, Mr. Louis N.
Parry, Mr. Edward A.
Paul, Miss Mab
Payne, Mr. Gilbert
Payne, Mr. W.
Pedley, Mr. Dan
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Ralph, Miss Rene
Raynor, Mr. Arthur L.
Reano, Mr. T. Hayda
Reed, Mrs.
Renard, Mr. H.
Restall, Mr. John
Rezene, Mr. Chas.
Richardson, Mr. Harry
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Samona, Prince
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Santoi, Miss Marie
Saw, Miss Lilly
Saxionas, The
Scott, Mr. Bob
Sears, Mr.
Seeley, Mr. W. R.
Shelley, Col. J.
Shields, Miss Ella
Shirley, Mr. Arthur
Sidney, Mr. Thomas
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Steele, Mr. Ralph
Stephens, Mr. Billy
Stevens, Mr. R.
Steyton, Mr. Frank
Swinbourne, Miss L.
Symmons, Mr. Fred R.
Taylor, Capt.
Thattle, Mrs.
Thomson, Mr. Sam
Thompson, Mr. Alec F.
Trundle, Mr. Johnny
Vane, Mr. Chas.
Von Etta, Madam
Ward, Mr. M. S. C.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Watson, Miss Mabel
Wilson, Mr. Fred
Wyatt, Miss M.
Wynne, Miss Wish
Yates, Mr. F. A.
Young, Mr. Harry
Zola, Mr. Alf.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS of "THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
SICKNESS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up £200,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone,
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1283 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO.,
16, STRAND,
CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION,
LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Maria Rose Mapleson.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
Will Stop Immediately an Attack of
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.
Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.
To avoid disappointment, insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.
The Original and Only Genuine.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM
OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner

TRADE MARK J.M. No. 314139.
Kleet Grip
REGD. TRADE MARK No. 304604.
Stocking Supporters
The only "GRIP" that "GRIPS" SECURELY without Injury to the HOSE

			Single ends	Double ends
ALL THESE HAVE CLIP TOPS.	1¼in. wide,	Plain Cotton Elastic	No. 401 1/-	No. 601 1/-
	1¼in. "	Plain Silk "	No. 495 1/6	No. 382 2/-
	1¼in. "	Frilled Art Silk "	No. 607 1/-	No. 606 1/6
	1¼in. "	Frilled Best Silk "	No. 68 1/6	No. 40 2/6

By Post 1d. per pair extra.
If unable to obtain from your draper, write to—
The MANUFACTORY, Hackney Road Works, London, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8.
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINÉE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

TERRY'S.
Sole Prop., Edw. Terry. Lessee, L. S. Sire.
Evenings, 8.30. Mats. Weds. and Sats. 2.30.
MAY ROBSON
and Original Company in
"THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY,"
by Anne Warner.
The Farcical Comedy Success,
as played 1240 performances in the United States.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"A COUNTRY GIRL."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45; Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Aug. 29, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday, at 2.30.
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Monday, Aug. 29, Peter Davey and Douglas Gordon's Co., "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE. "POMPEII."
Tuesday, GRAND AERIAL FLIGHT by Mr. E. T. WILLOWS, 3 to 7 p.m., weather permitting.
"POMPEII," 8.30. Presented by Messrs. J. PAIN and SONS. "POMPEII," 500 Artists. A triumph in Splendour and Art. Vaudevilles Twice Daily. Organ. Bands. Lovely Gardens. Archipelago.
RETURN RAIL and ADMISSION, 1s. 6d., from ALL STATIONS.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W. DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New Holiday Programme.
"Psycho," Mr. Maskelyne's famous automaton. "The Scarab," New Magical Farce; Mr. Archie Naish, Humour at the Piano; Memora, the Human Encyclopædia; Mr. Owen Clark, with Novel Magical Problems, &c. Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—MARIE LLOYD (10.25), Joe Elvin, in "W(h)ines and Spirits" (9.15), King and Benson (10.10), Billy Merson, Chas. Austin as "Parker, P.C." (10.35), The Delomes (9.45), Victoria Monks (8), 'Varsity Girls, Sam Mayo, in "Drowsy Drolleries" (9.5), Chas. Hera, Lily Black, Mlle. la Freya, Queenie Finnis, The Two Fitzroys, Queenie Essex, Mozetto, Archie Royer, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.15; Saturday Matinées at 2.15. Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

TIVOLI.— Little Tich, The Two Bobs, Les Averinos, Geo. Lestocq and Co., Footgers, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Cissie Curlette, Mildred Byran, H. La Martine, Mooney and Holbein, Sam Mayo, Dale and O'Malley.
Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Tom Moore, Mabel Fairchild, T. E. Dunville, Annie Schuberth, Archie Royer, Jen Latona, Hariett Rose, Marie Pera and Co., Cissie Curlette, Mary Neil and Co. in "Her Luck in London," Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE, KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
The Famous Craggs in "Billy, the New Steward of the 'Channel Queen,'" Bellonini, Fred Russell, Queenie Essex, Willie Gardner, One Billy Farrell, Helen Martin, Tom Moore, Ruffell's Bioscope, Horace Pollock and Co. in "Hester's Mystery," by Sir A. W. Pinero.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES, POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Ada Colley, John G. Brandon presents "The Dragon's Claw," The Keppels, E. E. Howard and Co., present "The Fight in the Lighthouse," Bioscope, Clive Watts, Daisy Hicks, Three Flying Winskills, Pete and Juno, &c. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly (6.10 and 9.
Monday, Aug. 29,
Peterman and Ricketts' Co., in "Slaterstein, Ltd.," Davis and Dean, Vere and Royal, Lucerna Arena, Trevor and Ware, Cissie Dryden, The Alfredos, The Cheers, Batt and Glyn, Ravine and Elton, Bioscope, The Czar Russian Troupe, Hope and Bayly.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. (Half-time 9.30, except Saturdays and Holidays.)
Monday, Aug. 29: Mildred Blanchard and Co., in "Nanon Lafarge," by Geo. R. Sims, Vera Wootton, Juvenile Fellies, Harry Luck, Pueblo and Cropp, Sydney Mason and Co., in "The Usurer," Madge Osmond, Ray Espinosa, Callie and Walker, Doris and Gla[illegible], Stan and Stella Atkins, Erne Bewsey, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15, with augmented programme). Tele., Westminster 503. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
CARMEN TURIA,
MISS COOMBS, THORA, Emma and Victor, Fuji Japanese Troupe, OLYMPIA DESVALL, JURY'S PICTURES, "ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
Geo. Mozart, Sybil Arundale,
Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, Asra, Russian Divertissement, "Moscow," &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
THE FAMOUS BALALAIKA ORCHESTRA, MYRMA, NAT. M. WILLS, "A WOMAN'S REVOLT," KAUFMANN TROUPE, SIX AMERICAN DANCERS, LES TROMBETTA, BIOSCOPE, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE; PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE; TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY; TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY; TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE; PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

CAPE TOWN.—Correspondent required to Supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

JOHANNESBURG.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall News. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

MONTREAL.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON (now building).
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, 18, Walpole-road, Surbiton, Surrey. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End companies only wanted for the following dates, Sept. 26 and Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND, Always an Opening for anything really High-class. Price no object in reason.
All communications,
J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
Vacant Sept. 12 (?), Oct. 31.
Forward bookings and pencillings include: Mr. Martin Harvey, "Our Miss Gibbs," "The Arcadians," "Dollar Princess," "Dairymaids," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Little Damozel," Mr. Edward Compton, "The Naked Truth," "A White Man," "Tantalising Tommy."
Apply to R. J. Bell, Manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, James Bell.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Oct. 17, also November.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Oct. 24 (6 nights), Oct. 31 (3).
Nov. 10 (3), Dec. 5 (6), Dec. 12 (3).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Nov. 14, March 27, April 10, 24, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE. ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Dec. 5.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, John Coulson.
Only vacancies this year, Oct. 10 and Nov. 21.
First-class Attractions only.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best Companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few Vacant Dates in the Autumn.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width, 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Fire Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

STEDMAN'S ACTING CLASSES.
Conducted by MARSHALL MOORE (late Stage Director Drury Lane, &c.)
Public Performances given Monthly at the Royal Court Theatre.
A great opportunity for young professionals to play principal parts in musical and modern comedies, Shakespearean Plays, &c. Evening Rehearsals. For parts, apply Secretary, Windmill House, Gt. Windmill-street, Piccadilly Circus, W.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austin, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dare, Mr. Charles	Sept. 11, 1909
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Darling, Jessie	Oct. 2, 1909
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Aug. 20, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Ford, Late Mr. T. W.	Sept. 18, 1909
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Wilmer	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 2, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath, Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Ilma, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1910.

WHO WROTE HENRY VIII?

The exact authorship of the play of *Henry VIII.* is one of those debateable questions on which the "curious" have expended a vast amount of investigation and argument, without any fixed conclusion having been arrived at. It is interesting, however, to enumerate the arguments which successive commentators have brought forward respecting the concoction of the play. The difference between good and bad blank verse is as perceptible to the literary ear as is the gulf between good and bad music to the musical epicure; and the manifest inferiority of some of the verse in *Henry VIII.* first created suspicion as to the play having been entirely written by SHAKESPEARE. In 1758 a Mr. RODERICK, Fellow of Magdalen College, noted the defects in some of the blank verse; and in 1850 EMERSON instinctively objected to the theory that this historical drama was entirely written by SHAKESPEARE. "The first play," said EMERSON, in his "Representative Men," referring to the supposed drama on which SHAKESPEARE worked, "was written by a superior, thoughtful man with a vicious ear. I can mark his lines, and know well their cadence. See Wolsey's soliloquy, and the following scene with Cromwell, where, instead of the metre of SHAKESPEARE, whose secret is that the thought constructs the tune, so that reading for the sense will best bring out the rhythm—here the lines are constructed on a given tune, and the verse has even a trace of pulpit eloquence. But the play contains, through all its length, unmistakable traits of SHAKESPEARE'S hand; and some passages, as the account of the Coronation, are like autographs." SPEDDING felt convinced that at least two different hands, if not three, had been employed in the construction of *Henry VIII.*; and Mr. ARTHUR SYMONS, whose opinion on any literary question has great weight, felt certain that neither SHAKESPEARE, nor any single writer, wrote the whole of the play.

In a question of this sort, surmise is open to all. We may imagine, if we please, the circumstances in which SHAKESPEARE'S connection with the work occurred. We may suppose, with Mr. SPEDDING, that he was called in to assist in the hurried concoction of the drama for presentation at the Princess ELIZABETH'S marriage in 1612; but it is also allowable to opine that SHAKESPEARE followed his instincts and impulses in the matter, and not the orders and instructions of others.

It detracts in some measure from his sovereignty to imagine him as a fallible dramatist, sometimes blundering in his choice of a theme; but the evidence supporting that idea is too strong to be overlooked. How otherwise could he have undertaken to make a satisfactory drama out of *The Troublesome Raigne of John King of England?* The difficulties in the way were too much even for SHAKESPEARE. In vain did he, with the instinct of a popular playwright, alter the political motive of the old piece, and, to a certain extent, "whitewash" King JOHN by making the quarrel between him and his subjects turn more upon the question of his defective title to the throne than, as it really did, on his own detestable character. The attempt to represent John as an anti-Papal patriot soon fails when he is shown submitting to the Pope in order at any cost to obtain an ally against the rebellious barons. It looks as if SHAKESPEARE had been so much struck with the possibilities of such characters as Philip Faulconbridge, Arthur, Hubert, and Constance, that he attempted the impossible task of retaining a hateful rascal as his principal character and yet making his play successful and popular. King John, it should be mentioned, was produced at some time between 1595 and 1597.

In the case of *Henry VIII.*, SHAKESPEARE—and indeed any dramatist or playwright who attempted to deal with the subject—would be confronted with a similar difficulty, and the result, as in the case of King John, could only be a "compromise play," in which the sympathy, to use a common but expressive verb, would "wobble." In the case of *Henry VIII.* our sympathy is in a perpetual ebb and flow. In the Tudor time, the English had been so educated down to the idea of absolute rule that they did not think of questioning the right or wrong of royal actions. But most people nowadays, in spite of Mr. FROUDE'S ingenious apology for Henry, are convinced that he was a Royal Bluebeard, who added cant to the crime of wife-murder. The result is that we are not satisfied to see him represented without reprobation. If we are sorry for Queen KATHARINE, obviously we must hate the remorseless tyrant who divorced her that he might marry ANNE BOLEYN. It is certainly some satisfaction to see KATHARINE'S politic persecutor, WOLSEY, ruined; but the arch-criminal of the play is shown at the end of it happy and triumphant, and exulting with unctuous piety, over the birth of a child, the daughter of the wanton woman whom he was afterwards to behead for infidelity.

Of course, one sees SHAKESPEARE'S difficulty. That child was Queen ELIZABETH, and HENRY VIII. was her father. But one cannot believe that SHAKESPEARE had a sixteenth-century conscience or an absolute-monarchy intelligence. It is quite possible that he found himself, when required to collaborate in the authorship of *Henry VIII.*, wiser and more cautious than he was when he wrote *King John*, and that, on consideration, he refused to do more than to write up the situations in the old play which appealed to him. When SHAKESPEARE found a story that really pleased him he took great pains with his treatment of it.

If we did not know better (says BRANDER MATTHEWS in his "Study of the Drama"), we might well believe that Shakspere had first conceived Hamlet, and then cast about him for a story in which that character might be revealed. But we do know better; we are aware that this was not the case and that the plot of *Hamlet* had been constructed by an earlier playwright, possibly Kyd, who had seen fit to make a mere melodrama of it, a violent tragedy-of-blood, full of broad theatricalism, certain to please the strong-nerved playgoing public of those tumultuous days. This tragedy-of-blood Shakespeare took for his own, and made it his own, partly by purging away some of its grosser effect and partly by elevating the character of Hamlet to his own loftiest level. Apparently, he did not accomplish this all at once; finding the theme congenial, he returned to it again and again, as though it were a labour of love. He gave *Hamlet* revision after revision until he had put himself into it amply, and until he had so ennobled it that it was the richest expression of his genius. What he found a coarse melodrama, he left the most intellectual of tragedies—the play in which he seemed most abundantly to have voiced himself. He took over another man's invention and transfigured it by his own superb imagination.

Is it not reasonable to suppose that when SHAKESPEARE realised the unsuitability of the HENRY VIII. history for dramatic treatment, he should have shrunk from doing more than executing some of his marvellous literary variations of certain passages, declining to take the responsibility of producing what was certain to be unsatisfactory as a whole? We may add that *Henry VIII.* is a play which absolutely demands elaborate mounting. It is a spectacle of history, not a sympathetic drama with good and bad characters distinctly opposed; and the detachment which we feel in contemplating its personages and in watching its incidents permits and necessitates splendid stage-pictures.

AT the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, this week, Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, with Miss Edith Cole as Josephine, are doing capital business.

MR. KELSON TRUEMAN, opera, concert, and dramatic agent, of Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, wishes us to state that he represents Miss Marie Dainton solely and exclusively, and to him all matters *re* engagements should be addressed.

THE Grand Theatre, Oldham, reopens on Monday after being closed for some months. Mr. Harry Kilrow, acting-manager of the Royal Theatre, has been appointed to the same position at the Grand, Mr. Robert Leach filling the vacancy at the Royal.

MISS MAY YORK, who for the last few weeks has been engaged at one of the city restaurants of San Francisco to sing popular songs at lunch and dinner, was singing the pathetic song from *The Arcadians* "Bring me a rose" on Wednesday, and had reached the words "I'm so tired of violets; take them all away," when she stopped, and fell forward. It was found that she had been seized with partial paralysis. Her condition, however, is not dangerous.

MR. BASIL YOUNG writes:—"Will you permit me, without any desire to be ostentatious, to record in your columns that, being eighty-one years old to-day, I have lived in six reigns? My recollections date far back, as I saw Macready play *Werner*, and have a more distinct recollection of *Virginius*, probably because there was a murder in it, an incident that always appeals to the young. My contemporaries were Love, John Parry, and Woodin; while among my successors were Emma Stanley, Julia St. George, Valentine Vousden, Maccabe, and other platform celebrities.

THE staff of the Cambridge Theatre, Spenny moor, held their annual picnic on Sunday last, when a party of thirty journeyed by special saloon from Spennymoor to Redcar, a popular Yorkshire seaside resort. The dinner, which was partaken of at the North-Eastern Hotel, Redcar, was presided over by Mr. David Collins (resident-manager of the Cambridge), with Mr. Sidney Slade, of the North-Eastern Breweries, as vice-chairman. Mr. Collins proposed the health of Mr. Hugh Robertson, lessee and manager of the Spennymoor theatre. An enjoyable day was spent.

AT the Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is presenting the new romantic play, *For Love of the Princess*. At the head of the company is Mr. F. Harvey, who acts effectively as Prince Conrad, and is ably assisted in the leading work by Mr. C. H. Matthews; Mr. JJohn Burton acts well as Josef. Princess Idalia, an interesting character, has a good impersonator in Miss May Beatrice; and Miss Josephine Lee is seen to advantage as Constantia, sister of mercy.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, AUG. 18.—Actors are supposed to live to a ripe old age, but few can hope to celebrate their 91st anniversary in a good condition of health like M. Hadingue, the father of the beautiful Madame Jane Hading. He was a good, painstaking actor, and during many years was a great favourite with the public. It is to be hoped that after his death his heirs will find his memoirs, which ought to be excellent reading, considering he knew Miles. Mars, Dorval, and Georges, that he acted with Mlle. Rachel, and was an intimate friend of Frédérick Lemaitre, of Melingue, and Genneval. His daughter holds him in great esteem, and I remember her telling me that whenever she is playing she always thinks of her father's advice to her the moment she has to come on: "Remember who you are, whence you come, whither you are supposed to go!" One of our colleagues reproduces an old photograph representing M. Hadingue in the rôle of *Le Bossu*, holding in his arms, instead of the traditional cardboard doll, his three-year-old little daughter Jeannette. This was Madame Hading's début on the stage.

MLLE. JANE FASER has made a brilliant entrée at the Comédie Française as Madelon in *Les Précieuses Ridicules*. The new young pensionnaire is a pupil of the Conservatoire, where she studied in the class of M. Le Bargy. Having obtained an honourable mention in *La Mégère apprivoisée*, she tried to secure a first prize in *Le Malade imaginaire*, but she had the jury against her. Whilst still a pupil at the Conservatoire, she had appeared in a vaudeville at the Palais-Royal, an offence which the gentlemen who distributed the awards would not forgive. At once engaged at the Porte Saint Martin, Mlle. Faber soon left M. Coquelin to join the Odéon, where she appeared in *Le Légataire Universel*, *Tartuffe*, *Le Malade Imaginaire*, *Les Emigrants*, and *Petite Hollande*. Very talented and very beautiful, Mlle. Faber is sure to make a brilliant career in the House of Molière.

ON October prox., M. Jacques Rouché will take over the management of the Théâtre des Arts. The list of plays this gentleman intends to produce there is a long one, and many of the works will prove very interesting. The list comprises:—Rameau's ballet *Pygmaleon*; Alfred de Musset's *Fantasio*; *Le Sicilien*, by Molière, music by Lulli; *Anathema*, by Andreief; *Saint François d'Assise*, by A. Suarez; Gluck's *Hélène et Pâris*; *Le Carnaval des Enfants*, by Georges de Bouhélier; *Le Chagrin dans le Palais de Han*, a famous Chinese tragedy of the thirteenth century; *La Nave*, by d'Annunzio; *Les Frères Kramazov*, by Copeau; *La Lumière qui s' éteint* (*The Light that Failed*), by Kipling; *Le Pain*, by Henri Ghein; and *La Maternelle*, by Frapré. M. Rouché has also specially engaged Mr. Gordon Craig to superintend the rehearsals of *Hamlet*.

THE Théâtre de l'Œuvre, under M. Lugné-Poé's able management, will inaugurate the new season with *L'Amour de Késa*, a Japanese play, adapted by M. d'Humières, with Mme. Suzanne Desprès in the leading rôle.

PASSING OF AN OLD CONCERT HALL.

An interesting relic of a past generation is about to pass away in Birmingham in the old Midland Counties Concert Hall, which still stands, hidden from passers-by in the Bull Ring and Spiceal-street by the licensed premises of the Spread Eagle Tavern, which cover the frontage. Thirty-eight years ago its last manager, Mr. Wm. Barnes, ceased his connection with it, and the hall has been used as a warehouse and factory, and forgotten by all save the surviving relics of the generation which patronised the place in its palmy days. At that time it was considered a splendid hall, and its character may be judged from the fact that Mr. Barnes, who is still living in Birmingham—a venerable white-haired old gentleman—recalls that at one period no man was allowed in the audience unless he was wearing a tall hat.

The history of the founding of the Midland Counties Concert Hall is very interesting. In 1852 a grand dramatic performance was given by command of Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle. It was her Majesty's idea to have a play written by the highest literary talent in the land, and staged by the most eminent artists. So for this occasion Thackeray, Chas. Dickens, and Mark Lemon collaborated for the play, and the stage was painted by the eminent Royal Academicians Telbin, Roberts, and Stansfield. After the play, which was presented for its very evanescent existence before a most brilliant assembly, Mr. Herbert Hudson went up from Birmingham to Windsor, and, with the view of carrying out his project of becoming a concert hall proprietor, bought the stage and all the scenic effects, &c., for £500, and brought them to Birmingham, where they were duly installed for service when the hall was built in the Bull Ring. Thus the Midland Counties Music Hall was equipped with some of the finest scenery in the kingdom. Mr. Hudson showed great enterprise in his conduct of the hall, the performers of which included such names as Mackney, Mr. and Mrs. George Fredericks, Harvey and Conolly, Fred French, Stead (The Cure), McDermott, Vance, Maclagan, and many other leading artists of the time, not forgetting Mr. Hudson himself, a highly-gifted vocal comedian.

In course of time the occupancy of the hall passed from Mr. Hudson to Mr. Wm. Barnes, his relative, a very gifted local amateur actor and a tenor singer, who was also a nephew of Sims Reeves. Mr. Barnes achieved his greatest successes in the hall with some very fine amateur dramatic performances, in the course of which he unearthed some exceptionally high-class talent, who afterwards made names for themselves on the professional stage. Among the names of such may be recalled Osmund and Edmund Tearle, John Carter Edwards (afterwards with Mr. Wilson Barrett); Joseph Rainbow, who built the Smethwick Theatre; Robt. Hall, who built the Aston Theatre; T. McNatty, J. McNatty, R. Tolly, Medlicott, J. Fox, R. Rowe, Pat Feeney, McDermott, &c.

Mr. Barnes also recalls that soon after the great fight between Tom Sayers and Heenan, a benefit performance was given at the hall for Bob Brettell, the Birmingham champion, at which two men—Jack Grant and Mike Madden—met twice, and fought for no less than eleven hours. Simon Finnety, Morris Roberts, Peter Roberts, Tom Lane, Tom Sayers, and Brettell himself also took part in the proceedings.

After thirty-eight years of ignoble usage, the old hall is now passing into the hands of the house-wreckers, to give place to modern business premises, and its passing will awaken a few sighs and some pleasant recollections among not a few of the older generation in Birmingham.

What's in a Name?

"I was staying in a certain town," says Mr. Reggie Bolton in the *Bradford Daily Telegraph*, "when one evening I took home a friend after the theatre. The landlady came in with the doleful news that there was nothing for supper but cold meat and cocoa.

"'Never mind,' I said; 'this is Bohemia, you know.'

"Then, to our utter astonishment and amusement, she turned to my friend and said, 'Pleased to meet you, Mr. Bohemia.'"

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Aug. 18.—The Gura Opera season came to an end on Tuesday evening, after an eight weeks' triumph. For the closing performance the same opera was selected as for the opening one in June—*Die Meistersinger*. The house was crowded from floor to ceiling, and the New Royal Opera seats 1,600 persons. The audience came with the intention of expressing their goodwill towards the popular artist-manager in any case, and the excellent performance only increased the enthusiasm. Herr Soomer, from the Leipzig Opera, sang the rôle of Hans Sachs. He was new to Berlin, and created a tremendously favourable impression; his voice is not particularly powerful, but exceedingly sweet and sympathetic—a baritone such as was owned by a famous "Hans Sachs" now passed away, Herr Betz, of the Royal Berlin Opera. Herr Soomer was applauded with great warmth, and, contrary to all the rules, frequently by open stage. Another "guest" was the impersonator of Walter Stoltzing, Herr Urius, whose agreeable tenor was not quite adequate to the demands of the rôle. Frau Gura-Hummel sang the part of Eva, which does not suit her as well as many others; but she, too, came in for her share of applause. Other rôles were admirably taken by Frau Costa, Herren Wittekopf, Wiedemann, and Albert. The conductor was Kapellmeister Stransky, who was deserving of all praise, and the mounting, which had been arranged under the personal supervision of Herr Gura, left nothing to be desired. The company got an enthusiastic send-off, cries of "Auf Wiedersehen" resounding throughout the building. Many among the audience would have liked a speech from the manager; but Herr Gura did not come forward, and the crowd finally dispersed. The general wish is expressed in the Press and among the Berlin theatre-goers, that every year, during the holidays of the Royal Opera, the stage of the smaller house may be occupied by the very excellent company that Herr Gura understands so well to get together.

THE great musical event of the coming season will be the first production of Richard Strauss' new opera, *Der Rosenkavalier*, at the Royal Opera, Dresden. The composer is busy with the instrumentation of the last act in his villa at Garmisch, among the Bavarian Alps. It is, as has already been said, quite a new departure for Dr. Strauss, who says concerning the work: "I have followed this time the path of poetic yet wild merriment, which never oversteps the boundary of gracefulness. The second act closes with a genuine 'Vienna Waltz,' and the duet between 'maid' (Kämmerkätzchen) Oktaviane and the Baron Ochs in the 'chambre séparé' is entirely composed of waltz melodies." The plot of the new opera is briefly as follows:—In the dressing-room of the Princess Werdenberg—one of the ladies at the Court of Maria Theresa of Austria—a lovesick youth named Oktavian sighs at his mistress's eyebrow. Baron Ochs, an elderly, pompous cousin of the Princess, enters, and the youth, not to compromise his mistress, dresses up as a maid. The Baron informs his cousin in a lordly manner that he has betrothed himself, and asks her to procure him a "Rosenkavalier," that is, a youth who hands the future bride the "betrothal rose" in the name of the bridegroom—a custom of the period. Oktavian is selected for the mission, but the bride falls in love with the messenger, and has moreover, long sought to rid herself of Baron Ochs auf Lerchanau, which is his full title, whose impassioned love-making disgusts her. She and Oktavian plot together. The youth, in his becoming costume as Oktaviane the maid, begs the foolish old man to grant him a rendezvous; he, being ever a victim to a pretty face, agrees, is caught in the trap, and disgraced. Oktavian and the Baron's intended bride then form a happy pair. Herr Hugo von Hoffmannsthal, the author of the libretto of all Dr. Strauss' dramatic compositions, has this time written a delicate witty text, which the music exactly fits. Arrangements for the production of the opera at the Scala, Milan, in January, are completed. The Italian title is *Il Cavaliere delle Rose*.

A NEW one-act farce by Annie Neumann-Hofer met with a cordial reception at the Folies Caprice a day or two ago. The title is *Das alte Lied* (the old story); it is a risky story, told with some tact and a good deal of humour, but with little or no originality. A lady of "temperament" is discovered by her husband in circumstances that leave no doubt as to her relations to his best friend. Instead of losing his temper and turning the other man out of doors the injured spouse joins the hands of the lovers, and bids his friend arrange the divorce. The bright acting contributed to the favourable reception of the piece.

THE scheme of building a grand opera house in the West of Berlin has fallen through at the eleventh hour owing to technical and other difficulties. A number of first-rate artists had already been engaged, and will have to be compensated.

"SIMSON UND DELILA,"

Tragi-Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sven Lange, Produced at the Deutsches on Aug. 19.

Krumbak	HERR BIENSFELDT
Dagmar	FRAULEIN HOFLICH
Meyer	HERR KLEIN
Theaterdirektor	HERR TIEDTKE
Ducker	HERR BLUMNER
Lundberg	HERR LIEDIKE
Nagel	HERR BAUMANN
Fräulein Christiansen	FRAULEIN WEINHOLE
Mogensen	HERR FRIEDLANDER
Olfen	HERR KROTT
Schauspielerin	FRAULEIN ROTHE
Zweite Schauspielerin	FRAULEIN SCHMIDT
Laura	FRAULEIN KUHNBERG

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Aug. 25.—The translator's name does not appear in the bill, but it is a commendable piece of work, evidently doing full justice to the eminent Danish author's latest play. There is more of tragedy than comedy in the plot, and although it is of somewhat sensational kind it created a profound impression upon the large audience. Peter Krumbak is a writer of plays. He has just finished a drama which treats in verse of the ancient theme of Samson and Delilah (Simson it is termed in German), and his wife Dagmar, an actress by profession, is to give the rôle of the fair siren. Peter adores his wife and trusts her implicitly, while infidelity is, in reality, no name for her naughty doings. She changes her lovers like her gloves, and the latest addition is a wealthy tradesman named Meyer, who is a revoltingly low character. The first act is full of bright humour; the second shows us a rehearsal of Krumbak's piece—a scene that always takes with the average theatre-goer—and the tragic element commences. The attitude of Dagmar and Meyer leaves no possible doubt as to their relations to each other. Krumbak—nervous and irritable as authors are supposed to be at the rehearsals of their plays—is roused to desperation, but he cannot bring himself to follow his first inclination and slay the lovers then and there. He wanders off alone with his thoughts and misery, returning only on the night of the production. He finds the guilty pair together at supper, perfectly oblivious of him and his wretchedness. He pulls a revolver from his pocket with deadly intent. But he cannot murder—it is not his nature; and so he turns the weapon against himself, and falls dead at the faithless woman's feet. The acting was capital, although Herr Biensfeldt is always better in comedy than in tragedy. The reception was so cordial that a lengthy run may safely be predicted. The author was not present, but arrives at Berlin to-day to look on at his play.

MESSAGER'S operetta *Die kleinen Michus* is being given at the Schiller Theatre O., the stage of which during the holidays of the company is occupied by the Gottscheid Opera Company. The amusing work is, of course, well known in Berlin, and it was well received, despite the fact that the interpretation left a good deal to be desired. Fräulein Mizzi Will and Fräulein Tilly Feiner as Anne-Marie and Marie-Anne were laudable exceptions. The clever young artists sang and acted delightfully; in fact, the amount of success the operetta achieved was due entirely to their combined efforts.

A SERIES of prizes,—the highest of which is 3,000 marks and the lowest 1,000—is being offered by the famous newspaper proprietor August Scherl for German waltzes in the style of "The Blue Danube." Anyone may compete. Among the judges are the kapellmeister of the Royal Opera, Dr. Beier, and Johann Strauss, Imperial kapellmeister at Vienna.

AT the Komische Oper on Wednesday Lehar's romantic operetta *Zigeunerliebe* reached its fiftieth performance. Notwithstanding the warm temperature the house was well filled, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Applause was long and hearty, and the artists—who included Herr Mantler, who is leaving us all too soon for the Imperial Opera at Vienna—were deserving of every commendation. Herr Gregor had staged the pretty work himself, so that the best possible success in that respect was attained.

ON Sept. 1 *Manfred*, by Robert Schumann, will be given at the Royal Opera. It was in the bill some time ago on the occasion of the anniversary of the composer's birth, but, owing to the indisposition of more than one of the artists, was compelled to be postponed. Miss Geraldine Farrar will return to the Royal Opera next month for a season, giving a series of performances of well-known rôles. The charming American diva will have an enthusiastic welcome.

A SOUTH AFRICAN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of July 9 you were good enough to publish an appeal I sent you on behalf of Mr. Fred Bartlett, formerly of the managerial firm of Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett. By the mail which arrived here on Aug. 2 I received a letter for Mr. Bartlett from Mr. Quinton McPherson, 13, Bonneville-gardens, Clapham, who enclosed a P.O.O. for £5. Mr. Bartlett is writing to thank Mr. McPherson. Should any further letters for Mr. Bartlett come addressed to my care I shall advise you of their receipt.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER BAXTER.

Burg-street, Capetown,
Aug. 3, 1910.

MR. ROBERT LORAINE, the actor-airman, who was projecting a flight across the Irish Channel from Holyhead to Dublin, had his aeroplane smashed during a flight on the Island of Anglesey on the 12th inst., and narrowly escaped with his life. He was in the air at Bryn Goelcerth when the tail of his aeroplane broke, and it was dashed to earth. For two days he had been waiting for favourable weather to cross to Dublin. Six tugs were strung across the Channel on the Friday in preparation for a start during the day, but the wind was too high to admit of a flight.

AN eloquent appreciation of the qualities possessed by Mr. Robert Loraine, who did his early aviation exploits under the name of "Mr. Jones," is given by a contributor to the *Liverpool Daily Post*. "I consider myself fortunate," says the writer, "in having met Mr. Loraine, actor and aviator. I do not write of him for the purpose of advertising him, but because I, like everybody else who has had to do with him, in however slight a degree, have been impressed by an exceptional personality. I met him first soon after his arrival through the air from Blackpool on the Rhos-on-Sea Golf Links. He remained cool, calm, without affectation, unflurried. I do not think he gave the impression of being a particularly daring man. Rather his manner conveyed the idea that he was a mere dilettante, doing an easy thing easily.

"In the evening of that day, after a ten hours' rest, I saw him walk briskly to his aeroplane in the midst of a line of five men. He was transformed in manner and speech. His speech was quick, crisp, decisive, and he set the pace in walking. He was going into action, and he looked it. His step was free, strong, and quick, his head was held high, and his eyes sparkled.

"The crowd, as eager to see him off, pressed too closely for their own safety, and for over half an hour his assistants begged, implored, and commanded the people to leave the aviator a clear course. During that period I caught a glimpse of yet another phase of the man's character—that of determined patience. He sat immovable on his throne. He must have been burning with the desire to get away for Holyhead, for the sea mist was gathering densely in the direction he must take, and he had promised to be at Holyhead at a certain time. There was not a trace of impatience visible in his features or in his manner. He sat as immobile as the Sphinx.

"My next glimpse of Loraine was at Bryn Goelcerth, in the wilds of northern Anglesey, ten miles from any railway station. He had landed there the night before after a sea trip of over eighty miles since leaving Rhos-on-Sea, and then driven in a farmer's cart to Holyhead, sixteen miles away. He had just returned by motor, and I met him at eleven o'clock—brisk, keen, alert, and eager to make a start on the penultimate stage of his flight to Ireland. His mechanics had been tuning the machine up in readiness for his flight, and shortly afterwards announced that everything was ready, but he could not start. So Loraine controlled himself, and spent nine hours chatting in French to his mechanics, or lying on the grass apart, as if he were a mere spectator, and indifferent as to whether the aviator flew or stayed, and not once did he display any sign of impatience. At 7.30, as the weather showed no signs of improvement, he walked down from the hillside to where his 'plane stood ready for flight, and, quietly remarking to an acquaintance that he was sorry for everybody, he gave orders to have the 'plane anchored down for the night, and actively helped in the work. Then he had a lot of bedding brought out and spread under the machine, intending to pass the night in the open in readiness to take advantage of the slightest chance should one come in the early hours of the morning.

"He did not start next day till 1.10 p.m., and as he sat in the car he looked eager, bright, and determined. The very accident which led to a temporary adjournment of his flight to Holyhead was the outcome of two of his characteristics. Though on Friday night the weather was just as, if not more, unfavourable than it was on Thursday, he wished to gratify the people who had patiently waited in the open fields two days to see him fly. He, better than anyone, knew the terrible risk he ran. His 'plane lay on the slope of a hill over which a twenty-five-mile wind was streaming. As it passed over the hill it naturally shot downwards in the open, and would play heavily on his upper planes once he left the shelter of the hillside. Yet, in order to do a kindly thing, he took the risk, and dared all, and was, for the moment, beaten."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

At the moment of going to press we are told over the telephone by Mr. Fred Baugh that he will not take any action regarding sketches being presented at the halls until he has conferred with the members of the Sketch Association on Tuesday next, at 11.30, at the Covent Garden Hotel.

The marriage of Miss Evelyn Violet Iles (the original Irish colleen of Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten) and Mr. Roderick Gray Stoll (nephew of Mr. Oswald Stoll) will take place on Sept. 17, at St. Mark's Church, North Audley-street, W.

Mr. J. L. Graydon has decided to join the Board of the new Middlesex Theatre of Varieties with Mr. Oswald Stoll and two of that gentleman's co-directors, Mr. Walter Battle and Mr. Henry J. Thomas.

The new Middlesex will be a thoroughly commodious building, and with every possible modern equipment, and with a plentiful supply of the best talent. Linked up with a large circuit, its future should be assured.

The doyen of proprietors has spent upon the old Middlesex from time to time in alterations and additions enough to have rebuilt it entirely, an experience gone through by Sir Henry Irving before he left the Lyceum.

The site of the new Middlesex, which is freehold, will include several adjoining shops and houses. Mr. Graydon is heartily glad to be associated again with a place where he spent so many happy years.

Mr. Maurice de Frece will to-day celebrate his seventieth birthday. He has been associated from his youth up with variety enterprise and variety agency, and has a rich store of reminiscences. He desires to be remembered to his old friends.

The directors of the Palace Theatre recommend the payment of a dividend of 20 per cent. It is also proposed to write £4,000 off the extraordinary expenditure in connection with the London County Council alterations and improvements, to place the sum of £30,000 to reserve, and to carry forward £8,600 to next year's account.

Mr. Fred Trussell is making his headquarters at Winterton during his restful life on the Norfolk Broads; Mr. Joe Wilson has returned very fit and energetic from his thatched cottage at the delightful village by the sea, Chideock, Dorset; Mr. Alfred Butt is enjoying a motoring tour among the Lakes; and Mr. Douglas Stuart is having a good time at St. Malo and experiencing splendid weather.

The annual general meeting of the Music Hall Home and presentation of *The Era* medal to Miss Vesta Tilley will take place at the Three Stags Hotel on Thursday next, at 2 p.m. The president, Mr. Walter de Frece, will preside. All committeemen, subscribers, and the Press are respectfully invited to attend. Many thanks are due to Mr. Bert Chapman, the Lava Skating Rink, Denmark Hill, for parcel of men's useful underwear sent for the inmates.

In spite of statements to the contrary, Mr. Martin Harvey has been secured by Mr. Walter Gibbons as the leading attraction at the Palladium on Dec. 26. Mr. Harvey proposes to produce plays in which he has already appeared, with the possible exception of one new piece. The repertory will include *The Conspiracy* and possibly *The Tragedy of Truth*. Both plays were seen at the Adelphi during Mr. Harvey's seasons there in 1907 and 1908. The latter play was originally produced at Manchester, under the title of *The Spell*.

Mr. Bransby Williams returns to the Coliseum once more in impersonations, having added some clever touches to his character sketches of Montague Tidd and Wilkins Micawber. He is well advised to give in contrast to these personalities of the great novelist excerpts from *Hamlet* (the Ghost scene) and *The Merchant of Venice*. The noble Dane is dignified and impressive, and Shylock, in his most malignant mood, is certainly powerful.

Mr. Henri Gros, of 1, Taviton-street, Gordon-square, W.C., and of 16, Mark-lane, E.C., chairman and managing-director of the Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties (Limited), managing-director of United Varieties (Limited), and joint managing-director of Variety Theatres Consolidated (Limited), founder of several suburban music-halls, aged sixty-one years, left estate valued at £8,195 gross, with net personalty £4,428. He bequeathed £10 to his coachman, Wm. Hill, and £10 to Leon Zeitlin, in appreciation of his kindly conduct and faithful service

Mr. Gus Elen, the artist sportsman, has had a glorious time with the rod and gun in the North, catching no less than 300 sea-trout in the first week of his holiday and 150 in the second week. Two large pike weighing close on 30lb. were also caught. He has also been fortunate in securing good bags of duck, snipe, golden plover, curlew, &c. Mr. Elen evidently believes in taking plenty of holiday to keep him fit for his work, which he recommences on Monday, Sept. 5, at the Empire, Glasgow, after which London will claim his services. He appears at the Oxford on Sept. 12.

Mr. W. L. Courtney's one-act play, *A Woman's Revolt*, which will be reproduced at the Palace Theatre on Monday night, is, as its title would seem to imply, a play with a purpose. It was produced, it will be remembered, at one of Miss Maud Allan's special matinées about a year ago, when the audience consisted of at least 80 per cent. ladies. Miss Amy Webster will again undertake the rôle of Gabrielle, and Mr. C. Croker King that of Colonel Routledge. Mr. Walter Pearce, who will play the impetuous Lancelot Rayne, is a young actor who has done excellent work at the Criterion and other West End houses.

The six hundred officers and men of the Queen's Own Rifles, of Canada, who are expected to arrive per the Megantic at Liverpool to-day (Saturday), and who are coming to England for a month's training at Aldershot, their Colonel, Sir Henry Pellatt, bearing personally the expense of the journey, have already received invitations from the Alhambra, the Empire, the Palace, the Tivoli, the London Pavilion, Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant, Mme. Tussaud's, and the Crystal Palace, Sept. 13 to 16 being set apart for the London holiday of these troops of the Dominion. The temporary offices of the regiment are at Walter House, Bedford-street, Strand.

Realising that the variety theatre is the realm of laughter, Mr. George Lestocq (son of Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. Charles Frohman's London representative) has left the theatre for the time being in order to run merry musical comedies of a tabloid kind in the halls. On Monday next his *Very Much Engaged*, a miniature musical mélange, will be seen at the Tivoli, and with him will be four pretty girls, to dance with him and to help on the highly-amusing plot. In various plays, ranging from musical comedy to detective drama, Mr. Lestocq, the younger, has made his name both here and in America, but his experiences in the land of vaudeville make him strongly inclined to remain there.

The New Empire, Smethwick, will open on Monday, Sept. 5.

Miss Ella, with her lions, has left for the Continent on a six months' tour.

Communications from Port Said informs us that the Meymotts are having a right royal time on the good ship Osterley on this their second trip out to Melbourne.

Mr. Harry Bland, who is at the Bedford and the Hippodrome, Crouch End, this week, is making a success at both houses with his song "It never worries me."

Mr. Chas. A. White, who has been stage-manager at Coventry Hippodrome, Pavilion, Greenock, Rothesay, Edinburgh, and Sadler's Wells, has been appointed stage-manager at the Birmingham Hippodrome.

Lee and Arden, owing to their great success at the Beach Pavilion, Leven (N.B.) this season, have secured a lease of the place for five years. They have also acquired a site at Largo, three miles distant, which they will work in conjunction

The Italian Circus of the Bros. Volpi concludes a successful engagement at the Scottish Zoo and Circus, Glasgow, this week. The future bookings and arrangements for the Circus will be controlled by Mr. E. H. Bostock himself, and with his extensive knowledge of the business, the citizens of Glasgow may be assured of first-class fare.

Mr. Harry Burdette, who recently relinquished his position as manager of the Coliseum, Glasgow, to take up the general management of the Govan Cross Picture Palace Co., Ltd., is this week enjoying a well-earned holiday at breezy Blackpool, where his many friends in the profession are giving him a right royal time.

At the Tivoli on Monday Les Averinos, a Spanish turn, will be making their first appearance in England. Averino turns a complete somersault in the air from one foot, and what is quite as extraordinary, achieves the same from his knees. He is assisted by a charming lady partner. Averino in Spain is nicknamed "the band of steel."

Niblo's talking-birds Cuckoo and Laura, are once again the talk of the West End, where they are appearing nightly at the London Pavilion with a big success. Mr. Niblo, the trainer, has made a vast improvement in his show. He now presents an Australian bird—quite a comedian—who is called Kelly. Kelly causes roars of laughter with his cockney accent in his arguments with Mr. Niblo.

Mr. Herbert Darnley has made two important "captures." He has engaged a little dapper South American comedian, who combines knockabout business with clear enunciation in his songs and patter on the stage. Herbert's latest will shortly appear in a sketch on tour. Darnley's Dots will shortly be before the public again, the star Dot being a wonderful child dancer, who scored a big success at a leading West End theatre last winter.

It was a real Scotch night at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, on Wednesday, when members and friends of the Birmingham Burns Club to the number of 350 visited the hall to give a hearty welcome to Harry Lauder. The famous Scotch comedian had an immense ovation when he stepped on to the stage.

After singing three numbers, Lauder, in the course of a short speech, said: "I must thank the Burns Society for their attendance to-night. I am pleased to be an hon. member of that society in Birmingham, and I always feel pleased when I come to your great city. I feel gratified when I meet my fellow-members, and I thank you for the compliment you have paid me." There were further demands for more songs, and Lauder sang "Auld lang syne," the audience joining in the refrain. He had to speak again, and finally concluded by singing "Bonnie, bonnie Scotland."

The many friends of Mr. Harry Stuart will regret to hear the news of his death at Edinburgh last week at the comparatively early age of fifty-two years. Harry Stuart was a well-known pantomimist as a younger man. He retired from the profession, and adopted a business career in Edinburgh, being subsequently stage-manager for some time at the Empire Palace Theatre there. He was attacked by that insidious trouble, cancer, and, after much suffering, passed away at the Royal Infirmary, into which beneficent institution he had entered in the hope of alleviating the pain of the disease. He was buried on Sunday, the 21st inst., in Echo Bank Cemetery, where several brother professionals sleep well after life's fitful fever.

British laws and British customs puzzle Mr. T. Elder Hearn, the famous juggler appearing this week at the Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, in plays written round himself and company. He writes: "I received a wire from Mr. J. C. Imeson, of the Castle Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, asking me to travel after the show last Saturday from Bradford. As it was impossible to telegraph (there being no delivery in most provincial places after 9 p.m.), and I naturally thought that Mr. Imeson would never meet the 5 a.m. train on Sunday, I decided to take my own special, getting in at 8 p.m., but Mr. Imeson was up to meet the 5 a.m.

"Arriving at my hotel, I was surrounded by Mr. Imeson, a few detectives, lawyers, &c., to inform me that I should not be permitted to give a vaudeville performance at the Castle Theatre, Stockton. After about one hour I told them there was no need to worry. I would write a play and give it in on Monday. It was then about 10 p.m., and I had not had anything to eat all day (I never take breakfast). It is evidently a crime to eat in England on Sunday; not even in Leeds were the refreshment rooms open, and when they are few things are fit to eat.

"I was up till 3.30 a.m. on Monday, writing the play. It is no easy matter to write round half a dozen people. Round one or two it is perhaps simpler, but as I haven't reached the J. M. Barrie stage yet I found it a difficult task. But my thanks are due to the Three Sisters Sprightly, Wallace Galvin, Gwendoline Coates, Wilson Blackledge, Lady Gordon Stuart, Montague Alcorn, and May Lilian Levey, for the indefatigable way in which they stuck to their parts in order to get the thing through on Monday night.

"Now, sir, is it fair that one theatre should be permitted to play dramas, vaudeville, opera, musical comedy, &c., whereas the other is not allowed to play vaudeville, the only difference being that the former house is allowed smoking and the latter drinking? The latter could easily forgo the drinking when vaudeville is played if permitted to smoke. Let us have the one licence. Why can't the vaudeville artist invade the theatres as the actors do the vaudeville? There is a new field for us if the prices are reduced, and I see a sixteen weeks' summer tour looming in the near future at the best theatres in Great Britain."

Mr. Hermann E. Darewski is enjoying a holiday at Herne Bay, and obtaining inspiration for new melodies "on the silvery sands."

At the Empire, Camberwell, will be presented on Monday a new musical farcical comedy in three scenes, entitled *The First Night; or, The Trials and Tribulations of a Poor Stage Manager*, written by Tom E. Conover.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who is making an exceptional success at the Tivoli this week in a series of Irish songs and characteristic stories of Hibernian life, is busy preparing a new protean comedy for production at the Hippodrome, Croydon, next week.

Mr. Charles Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum to-night conclude their London season at the Oxford and Metropolitan, where they have met with much success with their farcical absurdity, *What a Night!* They open with Mr. Stoll at the Grand, Birmingham, on Monday.

Miss Hetty King will play the title-rôle in *Aladdin* at the Kennington Theatre this Christmas, when Mr. Robert Arthur's production of the Oriental legend on extravaganza lines will challenge comparison with famous productions in former years at the same house.

At the funeral of the late Mr. Frank Postlethwaite on Friday (19th) at Nunhead Cemetery, his father, his wife, and his son were the mourners. The Terriers' Association was represented by Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, W. Nutt, and Walter Norman, and the Music Hall Home by Mr. Ben Woodger, the Secretary.

Miss Violet Lloyd has had to discontinue work for a fortnight through indisposition, but she returns with her husband (Mr. Horace Lane) to the Tivoli on Monday to play their new act, which has been so successful in the provinces and suburbs, *Buskers*, in which they introduce an amusing skit entitled "The Hobble Dance."

Miss Mildred Blanchard has achieved a great success with *Nanon Lafarge*, the strong sketch by George R. Sims, which she produced at the Metropolitan on Monday. Miss Blanchard has won warm praise for her performance of the title-rôle, and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings was the recipient of baskets of beautiful roses, violets, and orchids.

Mr. Lawrence Brough, who is responsible for the presentation in the halls of *No. 9*, one of the funniest farcelets in variety, has produced this week at the Hulme Hippodrome another amusing piece, *Confusion*, of which we hear glowing accounts. It is a shortened version of Joseph Derrick's comedy produced in the 'eighties at the Vaudeville Theatre, Strand. We hope to see this piece in London shortly.

Mr. Bay Russell, who is Miss Lottie Bellman's partner on the variety stage in the act "Bits of Vaudeville," had the misfortune to damage his left eye last week. He was sharpening a pencil, when a splinter flew into the eye. Specialists say that Mr. Russell had a narrow escape from losing his sight, but, despite the great pain and inconvenience, he has continued to perform with his usual success.

Mr. Henry Kemble's *The Gay Countess* company of twenty-six artists scored an enormous success last week at Camden Hippodrome, and is acknowledged by managers and agents to be one of the finest and best-dressed sketches on the road. Miss Josie Farrington in the title-rôle made a decided hit, and Mr. Harry Buss, who caused roars of laughter as Marmaduke, proved himself to be a comedian of the first water.

Miss Millicent Le Hay, the clever daughter of John Le Hay, has scored a big success with Robert Cunningham in the latter's operatic burlesque, *The Tenor and the Maid*, at Walham Green. Her singing and comic acting caused quite a furore, and brought her many offers for immediate dates, which she is obliged to refuse, owing to her engagement to Mr. Geo. Edwardes for his *Merry Widow* tour, which opens at Blackpool next week and closes Dec. 3.

The action brought by T. P. Selbit, demonstrator of Dr. Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, against S. A. Mysticus to restrain the latter from presenting Dr. Metzler's Spirit Photographs was heard in the Supreme Court of Judicature before Vacation Judge the Hon. Sir Samuel Evans on Wednesday, the 17th, with the result that the injunction was dissolved. The plaintiff, T. P. Selbit, ultimately wholly discontinued his action, agreeing to pay all damages. The solicitors for the plaintiff were Messrs. Judge and Priestly, and for the defendant Mr. Alfred De Frece.

That beautiful and famous Parisienne, Mlle. Cleo de Merode, will appear for the first time at the London Hippodrome on Monday next. Mademoiselle, who is noted for her exquisite grace and for her Dresden china-like appearance, will submit a series of solo dances, including a Greek dance, a novel Gavotte, and a very effective dance of Normandy. On the Continent Mlle. Merode is recognised as a high authority on the art of the danseuse. At the age of seven she began to study at the Opera, Paris, and her natural abilities quickly marked her out for promotion, and for a long time the lovely girl was the rage of Europe.

Tom Woottwell writes:—"What a contrast! A few years ago we did three turns a night, with horse 'buses and underground railway; and most of the halls were within a mile or two of Charing Cross. Last week I did Watford and the Oxford—twenty miles apart—and Watford twice a night. This week Edmonton, the Oxford, and back to Edmonton! When John Gilpin went to Edmonton it was considered such a great feat that Cowper wrote a poem about it. The Palace is over a mile beyond 'The Bell,' and yet I hear of no poems being written about me! Oh, when will these flying machines be perfect?"

A number of music-hall artists who are appearing at the Opera House and Hippodrome, Scarborough, this week, have had a narrow escape from drowning. On Wednesday morning Mr. Albert Le Fre (comedian), Mr. Leonard of the Norman and Leonard Trio, instrumentalists), Mr. C. W. Walker (the blind coon vocalist, of Walker and May), and Mr. Bentinck (Mr. Walker's assistant), chartered a coble and set off on a fishing expedition.

Heedless of any danger, the party, which also included the boatman and a boy, were attending to their fishing lines, and failed to notice the approach of a steam trawler until it was too late to prevent a collision. The trawler, the Clyde, of Banff, struck the coble with great force, but not sufficiently to cause much damage. The little craft heeled over, however, to such an extent that she was practically full of water, and for a few minutes she was in imminent danger of sinking. The boatman and other occupants of the boat, however, showed great presence of mind, and by dint of rapid baling operations saved themselves from being precipitated into the sea. No member of the party was injured, but they were all wet to the waist. Why the accident happened is a mystery. The men on the trawler did not appear to notice the presence of the coble, and the occupants of the latter were entirely ignorant of the trawler being in the vicinity until the collision occurred.

Mr. William S. Hobbs (Billy Hobbs) has successfully passed the ballot as candidate for membership of the Terriers' Association.

Terrier W. E. Gillin was elected Y.B., and Terrier Arthur Gallimore W.D., upon Sunday last. Terriers Jesse Sparrow and Ben Woodger, Walter Norman, and W. Nutt represented the Association at the funeral of the late Terrier Frank Postlethwaite. The election of officers for September will be held upon Sunday next.

Miss Gertie Gitana has played twenty-two weeks in London this year. She concludes to-night at Walthamstow and Tottenham, where crowded houses nightly have given her enormous receptions. She commences her provincial tour at Glasgow on Monday next, returning to London at Christmas.

The famous Spanish chanteuse, Senorita Carmen Turia, will make her first public appearance in this country at the Alhambra on Monday. A clever songstress, with a voice of remarkable dramatic power, Senorita Carmen Turia will appear in a variety of Spanish songs in costume, and will follow with one or two English ballads.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild beg gratefully to thank the following for donations and gifts:—Miss Lottie Albert, box of useful clothing; Miss Ruby Dahl, 2s. 6d.; Mr. O. H. Berwitz, 1s. As Miss Melinda May, the secretary, is absent on a well-earned holiday, the offices for the next week will be open to transact important business only.

Mr. Hermann Darewski, the composer of that charming coon impression "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," visited the Granville, Walham Green, last week, expressly to hear the Stavordale Quintette render his masterpiece. He afterwards described the famous quintette's performance as "perfect," while he and his wife, Madge Temple, "sat and listened absolutely spellbound."

Beatie and Babs have returned from the Continent after making one of the greatest successes ever known by any British or foreign artists. While away they have had offers for China, Japan, India, and America. They return to the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday.

At the Alhambra during the week Mr. Alfred Moul has provided well for his sport-loving patrons, who are being given one of the best wrestling shows it has been our good fortune to witness. The wrestlers are picked men from our Indian Empire, and Gama is the leading lutteur, who challenges the world. A study of Gama, who has entered for the great Stadium contest, has appeared in our up-to-date contemporary *John Bull*.

George Fuller Golden, the founder of the White Rats of America, is suffering from consumption, and is slowly dying in a sanatorium in California. His resources are exhausted; and his wife—of whom he wrote so poetically and with such touching affection as "the Little Gold Lady" in his book, "My Lady Vaudeville and Her White Rats"—is without means to support herself and her children. In these sad circumstances, Mr. Harry Mountford, secretary to the Board of Directors of the White Rats, has made an appeal on his behalf—an appeal which should be largely responded to in this country as well as the States.

It will be remembered that George Golden, when first seen on the English variety stage, had succeeded the late Mr. Sweeney as partner with Cliff Ryland. Then he sought histrionic fame, and went through a rough time, to find himself eventually a most successful jester at the Palace Theatre. Unfortunately, this great success could not be followed up. The illness from which the poor invalid cannot recover began to show itself, and the most favoured American comedian, as he was at the time, returned to his native land a stricken man.

In writing of himself in the book to which we have referred, Golden has told us that "his early environment moulded him into a vagabond. His youth was spent among bootblacks and newsboys, and before he was fourteen he knew every lure and trick of the nether world, and at this age he ran away from home and became a tramp, a mountebank. He joined circuses, became a circus clown, a leaper and tumbler, made the announcements in the ring; performed in the concerts; became a negro minstrel, an actor in plays, and before he was twenty years of age gained some reputation on the variety stage with a little partner named Quigg.

Golden deserves well of his fellows, and the most generous of professions will see to it that his last days are not beset with anxiety for those near and dear to him. The American colony of performers, headed by Mr. Claude Bartram, have already started subscriptions; and their English brothers and sisters will speedily follow suit, remembering the old motto, "He gives twice who gives quickly."

At the termination of the engagement of Mr. Charles Clifford, the favourite harpist and entertainer, at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, on Saturday night last, after a triple encore, Mr. Waller Jeffs presented Mr. Clifford with a very rare volume on the history of the harp, with numerous engravings, in token of the great appreciation of Mr. Clifford's abilities and personal kindness during his several engagements at the Curzon Hall and other halls under his management. Mr. Clifford thanked the donor, amid tremendous cheering from the large audience present.

At the Coliseum Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor have been winning applause and laughter during the week in a sketch full of quaint bucolic comedy so beloved of playgoers. It is called *The Prize Winner*, and is from the pen of Herbert C. Sargent, who has collaborated with W. W. Jacobs in *The Changeling* and other forepieces.

According to information obtained by the postmaster, a lady of severe maturity, unimpeachable respectability, plain of speech as well as of face, is thought to have won a prize of £200. As he is married "the man of letters" cannot woo, but he can urge his friend the farmer to do so. The latter agrees, also giving his word that the postmaster shall have for his commission a pig on the day of the betrothal and another on the day of the wedding. Everybody would be quite happy, but for the surprising news that after all it is the lady's niece who has won the prize. Such clever comedians as Mr. Arthur Williams and Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., make the most of a couple of character sketches, and the uncompromising female is admirably impersonated by Miss E. Nolan O'Connor.

Miss Millie Hylton made a sensational success at the Empire, Holloway, on Thursday with a new song called "For a woman's honour." The idea is very dramatic. Jim, a burglar's sweetheart, is threatened by a "swell" that he will inform the police of Jim's connection with a burglary unless the girl will sacrifice her honour. Jim enters, and, after a struggle, kills the "blackmailer." The trial which follows is very powerfully described by the girl in the second verse; and in the last she reads in the paper of Jim's reprieve. "The great Judge of all has judged between the slayer and the slain" are the concluding lines of the chorus. The full title of the song is "A woman's honour, a cry from the gutter, a tragedy of slum life." The author and composer are Messrs. Fred Thompson and Powell.

Miss Donna Morgan, handsome of face and figure, is captivating audiences at the Palace Theatre in her song "Little Blue Bird." Miss Morgan looks particularly well in doublet and hose, and should figure to advantage as a principal boy in pantomime.

Mr. Leonard Rosson, with his sketch *An Indian Romance*, has been a big attraction at the Camberwell Empire this week, both managers and agents being loud in praise. Several return dates have been booked.

The latest addition to the palatial houses of entertainment belonging to Moss' Empires, Ltd., is the new Finsbury Park Empire, which is to be opened to the public on Monday, Sept. 5. It is situated in a very prominent position at the junction of St. Thomas's-road and Prah-road, facing the Finsbury Park Great Northern Station and the Piccadilly and Brompton and City and Great Northern tube railways, and is also close to the trams for High Barnet, Finchley, Enfield, Wheistone, Edgware, Waltham Cross, Edmonton, and all outlying districts in the north of London.

This new home of variety in North London has taken nearly a year to erect, and everything that architectural skill and a lavish supply of money could secure has been employed to ensure the new theatre being not only one of the most luxuriant, but at the same time one of the largest and most comfortable first-class variety theatres in London. In fact, no less a sum than £45,000 has been expended on the construction and decoration of the house.

On entering the theatre there are two lobbies, one each side of the booking-office, which open into an Old English hall, carried out in quaint design. The walls are divided out in flat oak, half-timbered work, filled in with white plaster. The floors are covered with parquet flooring, and the staircases are all of oak. The box-office is designed to correspond with the rest of the work, and has the appearance of an old-fashioned shop front. The auditorium is divided into stalls, pit, grand circle or balcony, upper circle, and gallery. The fine, bold lines of the decorations with the rich gold introduced, and tier upon tier of luxurious tip-up seats, with wide, graceful sweeps, the tasteful red and pink draperies, the beautiful box facades, all combine to give an appearance of grandeur which would be difficult to surpass.

The building is entirely isolated, and, consequently, an exceptional number of exits have been provided. It is fireproof, and is erected on the cantilever system, giving everyone a clear and uninterrupted view of the stage. The house has been erected from the designs and under the supervision of Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., the well-known architects.

The artists for the vaudeville entertainments at the Crystal Palace, which are given twice daily in the Centre Transept, include, for the week commencing 29th inst., Miss Kessanly's Dogs, La Dor Troupe, wonderful gymnasts and acrobats; the Aeriale, in their marvellous aerial flights; Mlle. Hortense, tight-wire artist; &c.

When Mme. Sarah Bernhardt appears at the Coliseum on Sept. 19, she will present the second act of Rostand's famous play, *L'Aiglon*, during the first week of her engagement. The cast will be:—Le Duc de Reichstadt, Mme. Sarah Bernhardt; Flambeau, M. Decoeur; Metternich, M. Denenbourg; Marmont, M. Piron; Prokech, M. Barry; and Therese, Mlle. Seylor. Mme. Bernhardt will bring her own scenery.

It is with much regret that we announce the death of Mr. Will Letters (song writer), which took place on Monday at 3.15 p.m., in his thirty-seventh year. The poor fellow collapsed in Alexandra-road, West Kirby, on Thursday, the 18th, owing to a bloodvessel bursting in the head. He lingered on until Monday, when he passed away at the Cottage Hospital at Hoylake. The local papers comment very severely on the fact that the stricken man was allowed to remain in the rain for almost an hour before the arrival of a doctor. It appears that the telephone was responsible for part of the delay: the number of the lodge where the ambulance is kept was unknown.

A Glasgow man, Will Letters was the possessor of a powerful voice, and formerly made descriptive songs his speciality, and speedily became a great favourite in the concert-rooms of the North of England, but subsequently he developed a latent gift of low comedy, and was successfully engaged in a number of pantomimes in England, Ireland, and Scotland. He for a time played Sergeant Lightning in Mr. Fred Karno's *Dandy Thieves*, and also appeared, in succession to Fred Kitchen, as John Willie Jaggs in *Saturday to Monday*. Following upon several years' approved appearances, he had been re-engaged as chief comedian in one of the Birmingham pantomimes next season.

As a song-writer he excelled, and a list of his ditties would be a very lengthy one. Mr. Wilkie Bard's enormous pantomime hit "Put me on an island where the girls are few" was from his pen, and at the time of his death he was at the very zenith of success, his song "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" written in conjunction with C. W. Murphy, having made his name almost a household word throughout Great Britain and America, and the present great song craze "Flanagan" completes the tale of deserved success. He was, in addition to a song commissioned by Eugene Stratton, engaged on other numbers at the time of his sudden and fatal indisposition.

He was buried at Yew Tree Cemetery, Knotty Ash, Liverpool, on Thursday. Among the mourners were Mrs. Will Letters (wife), Mr. and Mrs. Pugh (cousins), Mr. Arthur Pugh (cousin), Messrs. Will Hatton, Willie Burnett, Fred Curran (representing Variety Artists' Federation), Will Fisher, Lloyd Campkin, Ernest Price (Adeler and Sutton), Mr. and Mrs. De Silva, Mr. Will Kearns, Mrs. Perrin, Mrs. Thyer, Mrs. Alf. Birchall and daughter, Mr. C. W. Jones, Mr. J. McCarthy, and Mr. Dooley.

Wreaths were sent by Mrs. Will Letters and Little Irene (wife and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. Pugh (cousins), Mr. Arthur Pugh (cousin), Mr. Will Murphy, Miss Ella Retford, Mr. Will Hatton, Mr. Frank Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Fred Curran, and the New Macs, Girls of Will Letters company, Boys of Will Letters company, Artists and Staff, Pavilion, West Kirby, Artists and Staff, Pavilion, Douglas Head, Dare's Minstrel company, Douglas Head, and "Brother and Sister Artists in Douglas."

Mr. Walter de Frece has been confiding to the *Referee* some opinions on present-day variety entertainments. He says: "I thoroughly agree that owing to the number of turns or acts now packed into programmes, they have not sufficient time apiece, not only to give their full act, but even to show what they really can do." I have seen many an excellent programme robbed of fifty per cent. of its value by the insane and wasteful curtailment of acts. Many a good, acceptable turn has been murdered to supply room for a fifth-rate, thirty minutes' sketch. It is always the bright, brief and useful turns that are compelled to cut—the most lengthy and tedious of sketches are allowed to play as long as they wish. The public is yearning once more for real artists, but, under the present system, we are developing a never-ending list of living yet hopeless automatons.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Various hollow-sounding "excursions and alarums" and "knockings at the gate" have already been ventured upon by the camp followers of pantomime, who yet struggle aimlessly in their last year's tracks, and as feebly as fitfully seek to cajole before the proper time the wary leaders and captains into cumbering themselves with munitions of war that will be obsolete and "scrap" long before Boxing Night. But just as the War Office knows where to find Kynoch's, so do the Kitcheners of the entertainment world know where Francis and Day's establishment is situate when pantomime songs are wanted, and so bide content awhile. As during the past quarter-century and prior, the songs that will be the telling factors in the forthcoming pantomime successes of 1910-11 will emanate from the house from which such have ever been expected, and always obtained.

Mr. Max Dreyfus, of the New York firm of T. B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter, accompanied by Mrs. Dreyfus, is just now sojourning in London. The itinerary of their European visit will also include Paris, Berlin, and Vienna.

At the Holloway Empire Mr. G. H. Elliott has been evoking thunderous applause nightly for his magnificent renditions of "There's a little Black Cupid in the moon" and "Mister Owl." For both these numbers of Messrs. Francis and Day's a set scene and full stage is in evidence, which helps to set forth their superlative excellences in no small degree.

Mr. George Lashwood, at the Hackney Empire, has been reserving each evening to the last as a *bonne bouche* his great chorus song "O blow the scenery on the railway!" the chorus of which has been greatly to the liking of wonderful audiences. The special scenery and effects from the Coliseum, where the song was first produced, are the talk of North-East London, and the item, which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, is in great request.

Miss Ella Retford's great chorus song "Hi! Hi! Mr. McKie!" with which the vivacious little lady is regaling the habitués of the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week, has caught on tremendously at the Isle of Man, and is, indeed, one of the rages of Douglas. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A song, entitled "Artful Alliterations," written and composed by that well-known humorous writer Alf Ellerton, has been secured by Mr. Ben Albert, whose "What's the use of sighing?" and "My inventive kiddy"—the latter also from Ellerton's pen—have been eulogised everywhere as real comic songs. Messrs. Francis and Day will issue this latest number, and have already placed the earlier two on the market.

Large editions of that superlatively fine ballad "If I had the world to give you" succeed one another with monotonous regularity, thanks largely to the fine singing of Mr. Dave Carter, who is rapturously applauded for his artistic rendering of it everywhere. Musical Silvo introduces it with splendid effect also in his refined and musicianly entertainment on the silver bells and musical glasses. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A new song of Miss Gertie Gitana's is ever an item to which importance attaches, and Messrs. Francis and Day, who recently issued her pretty number "Sweet Caroline," have just secured the talented little lady's newest ballad, a song entitled "Lola Lee." It is by Huntley Trevor, a writer who is fast making a name for himself, and T. W. Thurban, of "Brooklyn Cake Walk" fame, and for a number of years the leader of the Oxford orchestra, is responsible for the music. The twain have just written a ballad for Mr. Charles King (of King and Benson), which is entitled "You made me care."

Miss Maidie Scott, who has in study H. F. Greenfield's laughable song "Our Martha Jane can't read," has acquired from Charles Ridgwell and G. A. Stevens a humorous number entitled "Dear, kind Poppa." Messrs. Francis and Day have both in the press.

Miss Gladys Mavius's admired chorus number, "Go through Welcome Avenue," has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long.

Mr. Gordon Stretton, "the ideal coon," has in his latest number, "There's a little brown girl in Dahomey," a notable addition to his fast-growing répertoire, and it is an item worthy of the author and composer, Harry Gifford and Tom Mellor. At the Royal Standard Music Hall it has been greatly admired and applauded during the week now ending.

By arrangement with Miss Florrie Forde, Messrs. Francis and Day have transferred to Mr. Frank Cass the music hall rights of the song "'Tis a faded picture." Mr. Cass has been creating a furore with the number during the week both at the Camberwell Palace and the Clapham Grand.

(*Continued on page 22.*)

MASONS AT WORK.

Chelsea Lodge 3098 held the regular meeting on Friday last at the Chelsea Town Hall, when a heavy agenda of business was presented to the members. In the absence of Mr. Harry Bawn (the Master), the meeting was presided over by Mr. W. H. Hitch, the I.P.M., who was supported by Mr. W. H. K. Walton, S.W., Mr. G. Dybal, J.W., Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R.A.G.P. (treasurer), Chas. J. Doughty (secretary), Monte Bayly, acting S.D., E. J. Lester, J.D., H. J. Nicklen, I.G., Angelo Asher, organist, and Felino, steward. The order of the business had to be varied in consequence of Mr. Will Johnson, who attended to complete the formalities of being made a Freemason, having to return to Nottingham in time to attend his professional engagements. The W.M., immediately after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, performed the ceremony in due form. The chair was then occupied by Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, who initiated Messrs. Thomas Finglass and Amandus Linden (Amandus) into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Mr. Hitch delivered the address to the candidates connected therewith, and again resuming the Master's chair, advanced Messrs. Bert Marsden and Chas. Stirling. Mr. John Worth, P.A.G.P., being present as a visitor, was invited by the presiding Master to complete the ceremony with Messrs. Elvio, O'Malley, and Mackay, which he performed with masterly ability, making a very deep impression on the candidates. A vote of sympathy and condolence with the family of the late Mr. Henri Gros, who was a founder of the Lodge, was proposed by Mr. Lyon, seconded by Mr. Frank Hardie, and carried unanimously, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. There was a large attendance of the members and their friends, who at the conclusion of the business adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel for refreshments, where opportunity was taken, amidst expressions of love and respect, to wish a very pleasant time to Mr. C. J. Doughty, the indefatigable secretary, who was leaving that evening for the Isle of Man to spend a well-earned holiday.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

There has been considerable controversy in theatrical circles in America regarding the stage Jew—generally presented by the melodramatist as an avaricious and heartless rogue. The writer of the sketch *The Silver Medal*, which was produced on Monday at the London Pavilion, outlines a character much more human, and therefore much more natural. Abraham Cohen is his name, and when he enters the bare unfurnished room of a London lad, whose father is in "orsepital" with a broken arm, he is determined to have his rent. Ten weeks are owing, and there is not the slightest prospect of payment. The diminutive representative of the debtor deplores the fact, but cannot promise any certainty as to future instalments. Suddenly he thinks of his silver medal. That may fetch something. He brings it, and is induced to tell the story of how he won it. It was for conspicuous bravery in jumping in and saving from drowning a little Jew boy. "Vat's his name?" demands the now excited and interested Cohen. "Ikey," is the reply. It is his own son. There is no more talk of rent owing. The generous Jew gives the boy a bank-note for his father and a gold piece for himself. Mr. Martin Henry presents an interesting study of the Hebrew—presumably from the Czar's dominions; and Miss Irene Ross in the alternating pathos and humour of the boy makes every use of her opportunities. The sketch sounds a sympathetic note, and is cordially received.

The other turns on Mr. Frank Glenister's variety programme, presented during that gentleman's absence on his holiday by Mr. William Cobbett, are much the same as were recently noticed by us. A novelty is introduced, however, in Mr. Wal Pink's burlesque of *tableau vivants* under the title of *Tableaux We Want*, a number which is really a parody of the illustrated song. The jokes are occasionally far-fetched, as, for instance, when "The sailor standing on the quay" is represented by a man-of-war's man astride a gigantic doorkey; but there is some spontaneous humour, which is not spoiled by the vocalist attempting to be funny. The scene-painter assists the fun nobly.

The talking birds of Mr. Victor Niblo are particularly interesting as ornithological conversationalists. Both birds are of the parrot tribe, the parrakeet being the more erudite of the trio, being able to respond "Oui, oui" to the question "Parlez-vous français?" and also to speak just a little German. This is Coo-Coo. Laura, a gayer specimen of her kind, is equal to some smart answers and to a very hearty laugh. "The bird in the gilded cage" is also a satirist in speech, and the turn throughout excites considerable interest and curiosity, especially when one of the feathered talkers is brought down by its trainer to converse with some of the occupants of the stalls.

Miss Esme Culverdale chooses "Land of hope and glory" as one of her contributions, and displays culture in her singing. Mr. Arthur Aldridge is as popular as ever with tenor songs; and a warm reception awaits Mr. Fred Russell's ventriloquial humour, so cleverly and ingeniously presented. Mr. Arthur Leslie introduces a couple of clever imitations in his impressions of Wilkie Bard and Mark Sheridan; and the Three Dreadnoughts make a welcome return as expert rifle shots. Mr. Bond Sayers ably directs a fine orchestra.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. P. Lucas is putting forward a capital programme for this week's bill, and excellent business is the result. The chief place is held by Mr. J. G. Brandon and company, who present *The Dragon's Claw*, a most dramatic sketch dealing with life in Chinatown, New York, and the lives led in the opium dens. The play is evidently based on a good knowledge of the dens, for it is most realistic and capitally played, notably by Mr. J. G. Brandon, whose picture of the leader of a rough gang is most telling; while Mr. G. A. Lloyd makes a hit as the old Chinese keeper of the den. A clever sketch of Mad Mag, an old opium slave, is given by Miss Mary Bronton.

Harry Bland, comedian, is diverting with "It never troubles me"; a dainty comedienne is Nellie Tone, who has a captivating manner, and sings a catchy song, "Go home," after which she gives a song illustrating the various ways of saying "Good-bye," which is cleverly done, and this bright little lady has a most rousing reception. The Flying Winskills give a fine display of flying trapeze work, and execute many clever feats. The small boy of the troupe especially is to be commended for his work, which is so neatly done. Comedy cycling is safe in the hands of Bert Woodward, whose feats are extremely clever, and also amusing.

The Half-Caste is as thrilling as the most fastidious could wish for, introducing, as it does, a live Indian python. The story of the devotion of a half-caste woman to an English officer and the rescue of the garrison is full of military detail, a success as usual, and the appreciation won by his efforts is fully deserved. The Eight Colonial Girls appear in song and dance, and their turn is decidedly pretty and effective. Their singing is tuneful, and their dancing performed with neatness and precision. Miss Kitty Clinton has a good song in "I wonder if you miss me," which she renders with skill, and is deservedly applauded. The great Bertisch performs many wonderful feats of strength with considerable ease. Heavy barbells he lifts with little apparent effort, and in addition he supports the weight of several men without any noticeable difficulty. His poses show beyond all doubt the highly-developed condition of the muscles all over his body.

Miss Clarice Mayne is accorded a most enthusiastic reception, and at the conclusion of her performance is called again and again. She has some excellent numbers, which she presents in fine style, and her impersonations of various music-hall artists are extremely lifelike and wonderfully good. She is assisted at the piano by Mr. J. W. Tate, who is quite a host in himself. Some highly pleasing music is provided by Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson. Their instruments are the piccolo and the flute, and the wonderful manner in which they play these in combination with the human voice is very tasteful, and is much appreciated. Mr. Harry Grey, a comedian with curious methods, makes a startling entrance in his flying machine, which collapses and lets him down. He is particularly amusing. Ferriss and May, a comedy couple, have a humorous duologue in *Two's Company, Three's——*, out of which they squeeze every atom of fun.

Nevill Graham and company appear with conspicuous success in the sketch *Pride of Regiment*. The piece was fully detailed in our columns a short time ago, and it is still going as strongly as ever. Mr. Nevill Graham plays the proud and indignant father with distinction, Mr. Arthur Leslie is well placed as the son, and the part of the mother receives capable handling from Miss Nellie Lauraine. The pictures shown by the Bioscope are of the best. The entertainment is brought to a happy conclusion by an amusing item in the shape of an amateur carnival. In this appear several amateur performers who fancy themselves adapted to the stage. Some are good, some indifferent, and others particularly funny.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

The enterprise of the management here in providing an all-round excellent bill is telling its own story; on the occasion of our visit the pretty Thames-side theatre was packed by an enthusiastic and delighted audience. There appears to be little in the equilibristic line that Carta and Mirtziana cannot do; nothing comes amiss to this clever couple, who balance tables, chairs, bicycles, and each other with particular smartness. For patter of the droll type Reg. Beauchamp wins favour. Attired in feminine costume, he sings with considerable energy, and is voted hugely funny from pit to gallery. Always welcome, Chrissie Lennard vocalises charmingly, and quite excellent is her dainty contribution "I wonder." "Are there any girls there?" is the puzzling query thrown out in her second song.

A Moving Picture, from the versatile pen of G. R. Sims, is admirably enacted by Henri de Vries and his clever company. As Jenny Hoffman Miss Dorothy Drake plays with much intelligence and pathos; Mr. Douglas Vigors displays dramatic force as Max Goldstein; Mr. F. Derek Powell does much with slender possibilities. With Henri de Vries' marvellous quick-change all playgoers are familiar. In this particular sketch the talented actor represents no less than five characters, and endows each rôle with some touch of his wonderful versatility. Always a favourite here, Sam Mayo's dismal joy finds immense appreciation; the audience shrieks with merriment at his recital of "Wallaperoo," and the applause is an indication of the amusement afforded by the efforts of the immobile one.

Liza's Wedding Day proves another incident in the annals of Cockaigne. It is splendidly played by Swan and Stanley; in a programme bristling with good things it is fair to add *Liza's Wedding Day* was easily among the winners of the evening. Banjo melody finds able exponents in Stanley and Greenop, whose selection of Suppé's "Poet and Peasant" is delightful throughout, and is excellently given by these two well-trained musicians.

A big reception is deservedly accorded to Clarice Mayne, who invests her contributions with artistic naïveté; she sang charmingly "Put on your hat, little girlie," and gives imitations of popular artists, including Marie Lloyd and Vesta Victoria. At the piano is Mr. J. W. Tate, who also enhances the performance by his clever facial business. The orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. E. W. Eyre, who did such good work at Walthamstow Palace. Mr. David C. James retains the managerial reins, and should be proud of his team.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER M'KIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

COBORN AND LEADERSHIP.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—With your permission I am about to commit myself to a public statement, of the serious nature of which I am well aware. It is my statement of claim to be regarded as the leading man of the music-hall business—from the performers' standpoint—if there be such an individual. If my claim be admitted, we will quickly get to business; but if any man be inclined to dispute it, let him do so. Let him do so boldly, frankly, and fearlessly, whether on his own behalf or on that of any other man. I can honestly say that I do not know of any man who could successfully dispute my position. My chief reason for writing this letter at all, after very long and full consideration, is that I feel that there never was a time in the history of the variety stage when a leader who is able and willing to act and lead was so greatly needed: there is so very much to be done, not talked, for the improvement and adjustment of our conditions of work and life. It is true that Mr. Clemart is the leader of the Variety Artists' Federation, and I know no man in our business so admirably fitted for the work he has to do. I wish every worthy member of our profession was also a member of the V.A.F., but there are many who, for various reasons, at present are not. However that may be, there is a clear necessity for, and a possibility of, a greater unity between all those who go to form our great and powerful community. It is serving no useful purpose to be content that we should be known simply as V.A.F. and non-V.A.F. There are plenty of matters upon which the majority are of one opinion, however much they may differ on certain subjects and points.

Let no man suppose that I want to throw any firebrands about or preach crusades or holy wars. I have lived and worked in the business quite long enough to know that managers, agents, and others have rights quite as true and insistent as those of any of my brother and sister performers, and there are many ways and means whereby they could all combine and work together for the general good.

I don't know how your readers feel about one matter in particular: I mean the fact that managers and artists both are being hindered and cramped in their work by the way the "sketch question" is treated by our legal authorities, pushed on by unscrupulous and interested rivals in trade. I know we are not all sketch artists—I am not one myself; but an enemy to one branch of our business would as readily attack any other if he had the chance and the power. Some time ago a very important manager wanted to give a music-hall entertainment at a theatre which he had acquired; but trade rivals succeeded in preventing him from doing so. Thus another door was, for a time at least, barred against variety artists. This kind of thing ought not to be allowed, and would not be allowed by a self-respecting body of men when by combination and action they could easily stop it. It is because they don't move to stop it that it is allowed to go on, and the magistrates seem powerless, except to convict. There are many other things which need attention and action.

I have not spent thirty-five years in this business with my eyes shut. If any of my younger confrères need any explanation as to my past record of work for the good of our business, the older ones can tell them that I started the first protection association we ever had over twenty-five years ago—the M.H.A.A.—after that the Music Halls Protection, and later the Music Hall League. Let me again, and finally, say that if there is another man deemed more worthy and fit for the leadership, let him be named and let him act. If none, then I shall ask to be supported in my claim.—Yours truly,

CHARLES COBORN.

"POOR AUNTIE."

A new Farcical Comedy Sketch by Victor Rolfe, Produced at the Peckham Hippodrome on Monday, Aug. 22.

Uncle Jim ..... Mr. Wilfrid E. Shine
John ..... Mr. Geoffery Guise
Marjorie Austin ..... Miss Aimee Procter
Auntie ..... Miss Lillie Forsythe

This is an amusing little sketch which agreeably fills up a quarter of an hour. John is a young painter who is eagerly expecting his *fiancée*, Marjorie Austin, to visit him in his studio. Marjorie has, however, told him she would on no account come unless he provided a *chaperone*. The young fellow is in despair until the fortunate arrival of his good-natured Uncle Tim furnishes a way out of the difficulty. After much persuasion Uncle Tim consents to impersonate Auntie, and play propriety for the young people. In order to do so he is obliged to don the necessary feminine garments, which belong to some model in the studio Uncle, however, naturally makes a somewhat masculine Auntie, and soon rouses his nephew's anger by his repeated requests to Marjorie to "Kiss your Auntie, dear!" Eventually Marjorie's aunt arrives, and, owing to a dispute between the real and the false the fun soon becomes fast and furious. At last, however, Uncle finds he has had enough of his awkward position, and, throwing off his female attire, he appears as Uncle Tim again. Everybody is finally satisfied except "poor Auntie," who is greatly scandalized by the whole proceedings. Mr. Wilfrid E. Shine brings his long experience as a comedian to bear with much effect upon the rôle of Uncle-Tim, and is completely successful in the part; Miss Aimée Procter is very bright and engaging as Marjorie; Mr. Geoffrey Guise acts excellently as John; and Miss Lillie Forsythe is very well suited to the part of Auntie. The piece was heartily received.

Mr. Horton, Sir.—In your notice of the variety show at the Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, last week, you state that the Two Kays were seen to advantage in *Uncle*. This is a mistake, as that turn was not there; and the act played was *Uncle's Coat*, by, yours truly, Mundell and Mayne.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

At the Empire, Hackney, this week Mr. George Lashwood is making a pronounced success with Benjamin Hapgood Burt's magnificent Irish comedy song "Mr Pat O'Hare," which may safely be earmarked as a big potential pantomime winner.

Miss Ada Reeve, at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, is this week duplicating her phenomenal Coliseum success with Feldman's two big numbers, "Nobody knows, nobody cares," and "Foolish questions," which are nightly received with acclaim by her many delighted hearers.

Miss Ray Ford, who recently made such a hit at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, with Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford's dainty French laundress number "Marie Louise," is repeating the same popular song at all her other turns for some time to come. She also has several other Feldman numbers in study.

Miss May Lilian Levey is going "great guns" in the provinces just now with two Feldman numbers, "Rain, rain, go away," by Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford, and "Oh, boys I've seen you there," by Harrington and Neat, both of which songs should stand this gifted comedienne in good stead when she appears in pantomime with Mr. Robert Arthur at Glasgow next Christmas.

Miss Irene May has been cheered to the echo at the Hippodrome, Margate, this week for her rendering of Feldman's ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmid.

At the Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen, Ray and Ross have been eminently successful with many of the Feldman publications, particularly "My sweet garden queen," "Put on your old plaid shawl," "D O U with G H spells dough," and "Have you seen Charley Digby?"

(*Continued on page 23.*)

"THE ROBBERY OF THE MAIL."

A Dramatic Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Arthur Rose, Presented for the First Time at the Bow Palace on Monday, Aug. 22.

Joseph Lesurgues / Dubosc ..... Arthur Rose
Jerome Lesurques ..... J. H. Clyndes
Daubenton ..... Philip Calvey
Joliquet ..... Fred J. Lane
Jeanne ..... Violet Lytton

There have been other adaptations from the French *Le Courrier de Lyon*, most notably that of *The Lyons Mail*, but this is the first occasion on which the story in tabloid form has appeared on the music hall stage. It may be said that in the main the author has closely followed the various important incidents, as arranged in *The Lyons Mail*, with good effect. We see the exterior of Jerome Lesurque's inn at St. Mara and the robbery of the mail, the mistaken identification of Dubosc by the old innkeeper, the room at Joseph Lesurgues' house where the magisterial inquiry is made, the arrest of Joseph for the murder of the mail driver on the evidence of Joliquet, and finally a garret where Dubosc is waiting and watching for the execution of the man who has been wrongly condemned. This is a very strong scene, and splendidly enacted by Mr. Arthur Rose, who has a very heavy task in the dual rôle.

The material is certainly all that is required for a successful dramatic sketch, and, with the capable arrangement of incidents by the author, the story and plot run easily and are quickly discerned. It is certainly one of the best dramatic sketches seen on the variety stage for some time, and should certainly have a long and prosperous life. As already remarked, Mr. Arthur Rose has provided himself with a part which dominates the sketch and is well suited to his histrionic powers. He is intensely convincing in his portrayal of the reckless, abandoned criminal Dubosc; whilst into the rôle of Joseph Lesurgues he infused much pathos and strength. Mr. Philip Calvey's sketch of Daubenton was a humorous one; whilst the Jerome Lesurques of Mr. J. H. Clyndes was excellent in every respect; and good presentations of Joliquet and Jeanne were given by Mr. Fred J. Lane and Miss Violet Lytton respectively.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows: Alhambra 1 7-16; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 2¼; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 4½; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss' Empires (5), 3½; Oxford (5), 6¾; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), 20s.; Tivoli, New (5), 6xd.

Four Indian wrestlers, Gama, the Indian champion, who recently defeated Dr. Roller, the American, Imam Bux, champion of Lahore, Ahmud Bukeh, champion of Amritsar, and Gamu, champion of Jullundhur, gave exhibitions of wrestling in the catch-as-catch-can style at the Alhambra on Monday evening. Gama threw all his fellow Indians twice in a quarter of an hour, and succeeded in overturning Peter Bannon, an Englishman, in less than five minutes.

Now that the music pirates have been exterminated, another source of trouble has arisen for the publishers of popular songs, in the shape of a pirate of "words," against whom a crusade has been begun. It seems that the publishers grant rights of reproduction to certain firms to set out the words of popular songs in sheet form and sell them.

For this privilege the firms pay the publisher a large annual fee, and so the loss on sales is balanced. As soon as the "official" sheet is published, it is pounced upon by the pirate, who, with very slight alteration, reprints it. The hawkers buy these sheets for about 5d. a dozen, and, as they fetch a penny each, sellers are easily found.

Apart from the harm which is done to the firms who pay their fees, much injury is done to publisher, writer, and composer. If a song becomes popular the music is easily picked up, and when the words can be bought for a penny the sales of the published song are bound to diminish. Energetic steps are to be taken by the publishers to stamp out an evil which threatens to rival the "music piracy."

Beauty contests are popular events at New Brighton Tower. Winsome young ladies are not too timid to display their charms before a critical audience of three or four thousand persons, and visitors and residents alike are every ready to crowd the auditorium in order to pay homage to those who by the popular vote are enthroned as queens of beauty. The feature of the competition held last Saturday evening was the difficulty in selecting the first winner in the Blondes. Miss Jean Alexander and Miss Hettie Gale were equally warm favourites, and for each the applause of approval was loud and sustained.

Finally Miss Gale won the open contest, and her success was very popular, as she has become a warm favourite during the time she has been performing with Fred Alkin's Pom-Poms, and a large number of people visited the show on Monday for the purpose of seeing this Queen of Beauty. In the Brunette section of the competition the first prize was won by Miss Annie Martin, the well-known soprano vocalist. Early in the evening it was evident that Miss Martin was going to be a formidable opponent to any in the Brunette section, and her charming manner and sweet face fairly captivated the audience, who, in awarding her the first prize, cheered her to the echo.

"THE MODEL AND THE MAN."

A Musical Sketch, by Seymour Hicks, Music by Frank E. Tours, Lyrics by C. H. Bovill, Produced at the London Hippodrome on Monday, Aug. 22.

Miriam Vandeleur ..... Miss Zena Dare
Etienne de Rosenay ..... Mr. Frank Wilson
Marguerita ..... Miss Ivy St. Helier
A Model ..... Miss Fleming
Students
Misses Du Barry, Macintyre, Aufrere, and Bissett

The Model and the Man is for the most part pretty and amusing, and is only let down to a level of banality when Mr. Seymour Hicks, the librettist, descends to political references—entirely unfunny and without the least excuse for their introduction. He has founded the plot of his piece on the Pygmalion and Galatea legend. A beautiful and rich American heiress, Miriam Vandeleur, poses as a model for a statue of Galatea with which Etienne de Rosenay, a young English sculptor following his art in Rome, hopes to win a prize that for him means fame and fortune. He can then tell Miriam of his love; but for the present undistinguished namelessness and impecuniosity close his lips. The promptings of his heart lead him to sing to the beautiful creation of his own genius, which he also apostrophises in speech. But the goddess Artemis invoked by Pygmalion does not intervene in favour of Etienne, and the statue's lips do not speak, as Galatea did, until Miriam, who returns the ardent love of the young sculptor, is persuaded by an Italian serving-maid from Saffron Hill to take the place of the statue, carelessly broken in its removal. Hastily donning her classic garments, Miriam poses on the pedestal, from which she eventually descends. The situations remind one alternately of the old farce *Chiselling* and of *Niobe* (All Smiles). In the result Miriam falls into the arms of Etienne. Miss Zena Dare is quite bright in the scene as the statue, becoming natural and dropping her sing-song delivery. Mr. Frank Wilson sings with fine expression a pretty love lilt, with a waltz refrain, which will no doubt find popularity in our drawing-rooms, and is quite a pleasant representative of the sculptor Etienne; but the hit of the performance is made by Miss Ivy St. Heller, a clever delineator of low comedy, who plays the part of Marguerita, the faithful Italian maid from Saffron Hill, who nurses a hopeless passion for her master, the sculptor. The part is what may be called, in theatrical parlance, a Louie Freear part, and, like Mary Jane, immortalised by that favourite actress, Miss St. Helier has a top note, with a well-trained voice to support it. Miss Fleming makes a graceful model, and the students find charming interpreters in Misses Du Barry, Macintyre, Aufrere, and Bissett. With a liberal cutting of the political references and some puerile dialogue, the sketch, which is admirably mounted, should easily be worked into a conspicuous success.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"NANON LAFARGE."

Dramatic Sketch, by George R. Sims, Produced at the Metropolitan on Monday, Aug. 22.

Jean Lafarge ..... Mr. Raymond Wood
Jacques Laramie ..... Mr. Geo. Lake-Grange
Sergeant Halkett ..... Mr. A. E. Mayne
Wa Gush ..... Mr. Henry Ainsworth
Nanon Lafarge ..... Miss Mildred Blanchard

A new sketch from the busy pen of Mr. George R. Sims was produced at the Metropolitan on Monday last—a thrilling and intense little melodramatic episode, directly told, that held the attention of the audience throughout. The scene is a log cabin near a trading post, Hudson's Bay, the home of Jean Lafarge, a French Canadian trapper. Jean is about to start off to dispose of a number of skins to a Scotch factor, when Sergeant Halkett, of the Royal North-West Mounted Police, arrives, in search of a trapper named Jacques Laramie, a half-caste. Laramie has committed robbery and murder, and Halkett thinks Jean's wife, Nanon, also a half-caste, with whom Laramie was known to have been in love before she married Lafarge, might know something of his whereabouts. Lafarge scorns the idea that Nanon ever loved Laramie and that she would be likely to shield him, and Halkett eventually leaves to search the woods for the murderer. When Nanon comes in, Lafarge bids her good-bye ere he starts on his journey, at the same time telling her of Laramie's crime and leaving his gun behind in case it is needed.

Nanon, left alone, laments that one of her race should have been guilty of such an outrage, the disclosure of which has left her nervous and distraught. Busying herself with household duties, she consoles herself with the thought that her husband will soon be back. In a brief absence from the cabin, Wa Gush, an Indian, and an accomplice of Laramie's, enters and takes the gun. Laramie also comes in, and tells Wa Gush to go outside and await the return of Lafarge, and when he is near give the signal. He himself means to stay in the cabin. Lafarge robbed him of Nanon, and he will now have his revenge, and also kill Lafarge. When Nanon returns, she is horrified at seeing Laramie in the hut, and also at his proposals. She pleads with the desperate man not to bring disgrace on their people, but he is obdurate, and in order to gain time and to save her husband's life she acknowledges that she did love him once, and agrees to go away with him. Plying him with drink, the worn-out, hunted man sinks down on the floor, and Nanon, after singing a love song, finds him asleep, and looks for means of escape. Laramie, however, is aroused by the signal that Lafarge is at hand, and he is soon inside the cabin, and led to believe that his wife is Laramie's lover. Jean is secured by Wa Gush, and hustled into an adjoining room, and the half-drunken Laramie, sinking on a couch, bids Nanon come to him. The distraught girl, seeing a knife on the table, plunges it into his heart, and draws the curtains, and when Sergeant Halkett arrives and Lafarge set free, also comes on the scene, reveals Jacques' dead body. Thus has she saved her husband's life and her own honour.

The sketch was admirably acted throughout by Miss Mildred Blanchard and her company, the head of the combination skilfully realising the anguish and terror of Nanon in the distressing situation in which she is placed, and acting effectively throughout. Mr. Raymond Wood gave a convincing and quite satisfactory portrayal of Jean Lafarge; and a powerful performance of the desperate Laramie was submitted by Mr. Geo. Lake-Grange, the scenes between Nanon and Jacques being skilfully handled. Mr. A. E. Mayne and Mr. Henry Ainsworth also contributed valuably to the success of the sketch by capital impersonations of a police sergeant and an Indian. The playlet was mounted and dressed with evident attention to detail, and, announced as being produced under the personal direction of the author, went very smoothly for a first performance.

Billie Bint, one of the boys, is going particularly strong this week at the Theatre Royal, Warrington. Next week he is at the Winter Gardens, Morecambe. Billie sends kind remembrances and best wishes to all good old pals.

Harry Leslie's seventh annual benefit at the Rusholme Pavilion, Manchester, on the 17th inst., was a record artistically and financially. Twenty stars, three hours' performance, and an audience of nearly 2,000, hundreds being turned away, made the evening a memorable one

After a long provincial tour the Milton Bros. will be playing in London for a short season with their well-known skating act, opening at the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, next week. In conjunction with their turn they will be running a competition.

King and Benson were unfortunately unable to appear last Saturday at the Palace, Chelsea, owing to indisposition, but Mr. Berlin was fortunate in securing the services of the Stavordale Quintette, who were working Walham Green, to deputise. After the performance, the Chelsea management not only warmly congratulated the Stavordales on the excellence of their act, but also personally thanked Mr. R. Duce, of the Granville, for sending them such a first-rate deputy.

The audience at the Palace on Saturday evening were quite enthusiastic at the reproduction of the launch of H.M.S. Orion at Portsmouth, and followed with evident interest the swimming match which took place on the same afternoon in the Thames. Notwithstanding obvious difficulties, the operators have been able to photograph the various phases of Mr. Moisant's flight from Paris to England and to observe also the havoc caused by the conflagration at the Brussels Exhibition. Indeed, it might now be said that, owing to Mr. Butt's enterprise, the public will be almost enabled to view the current day's events by means of animated pictures.

FLORRIE FORDE'S TRIUMPH

AT DOUGLAS.

GARDEN OF ROSES

THE SONG THAT WILL

ECLIPSE

ALL OUR PAST SUCCESSES.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

RINKING GOSSIP.

The Great Monohan.

The Great Monohan, the accomplished roller-skater, whose exhibitions are always such an attractive feature wherever presented, is astonishing visitors to the Alexandra Rink, Derby, this week. The difficult steps and movements accomplished by Monohan are proving highly interesting, and his reception nightly is very gratifying. From Sept. 2 to 15 he will be performing at the American Roller Skate Palace, Hanover, Germany.

Olympia Rink, Brighton.

The Olympia Rink, Brighton, is open and doing nice business, the floor being well crowded with skaters three sessions a day. The rink is being managed by Mr. A. Hedges; while the general-manager of both the West-street Rink and the Olympia is Mr. F. Reed. The Olympia will close during the month of September and the West-street Rink will open. An exhibition has been booked for the Olympia during that month.

Brighton has Many Good Skaters.

Earle Reynolds, who is making Brighton his home for a few weeks, is loud in his praise of the fine skating to be seen at the Olympia Rink. About half of the patrons of the rink, he declares, are fine waltzers, and anyone that can't do the drop-three ice waltz isn't in it. Miss Marie Ratcliffe is the lady instructor at the Olympia, and a great many of the gentlemen skaters owe their pretty waltz movements to this clever lady, who has for the past two years been teaching the art here in Brighton, while the ladies owe their accomplishment in this particular line to Messrs. B. Seggie, the floor-manager, and his able staff, Messrs. Cooper and Hearst. The former gives promise of becoming a most expert figure-skator.

Earle Reynolds and His Wife at Brighton.

The well-known American skaters and dancers Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donegan are spending a few weeks at Brighton. Miss Donegan has been quite ill for the past seven weeks in London, and came to Brighton recently for a few weeks' rest before opening at the Palace Theatre about Sept. 12.

Gymrinka at Crosshaven.

Another large number of visitors were present at the Crosshaven Skating Rink on the 17th inst., and it is pleasing to note the success enjoyed by this sporting rink. The usual competitions were organised, and these in themselves provided any amount of enjoyment for the spectators as well as for the performers. The bladder fight created a good deal of fun, and after a fine effort Mr. Victor Johnson secured the prize. In the hockey match Crosshaven v. Rinking Club, the former, after a spirited tussle, were awarded the match, the score being Crosshaven, 1 goal; Rinking Club, nil.

Tug-of-War on Rollers.

A new feature was introduced at the Darlington Skating Rink on the 18th inst. in the shape of a tug-of-war on roller skates. Twenty rinkers entered the competition, and after a keen contest, Messrs. C. B. Coulson, W. Tose, Wilfred Young, T. White, and Syd. Collinson proved the victors. Afterwards the large number of skaters present, and the spectators, joined in a confetti battle, which afforded much amusement.

Miss Adelaide D'Vorak.

Miss Adelaide D'Vorak, the famous American lady skater, has been engaged by Mr. C. B. Cochran for the opening of the Velodrom, Hamburg, on Sept. 1. Leaving New York last Wednesday, the 24th inst., Miss D'Vorak is due to arrive at Bremen on the 30th, and will make her English début two days later.

Opening of the Hanover Rink.

The Great Monohan and Charlotte, the little queen of roller skaters, will appear at the opening of the Hanover (Germany) Rollschuh Palast on Friday next, Sept. 2. The managing-director, Mr. C. B. Cochran, has made a number of engagements with other artists to appear later in the season at this rink.

"THE YELLOW BIRDS."

A Further Episode in the Life of "Dare-Devil Dripping," Written by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls, and Presented for the First Time, at the Bow Palace, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Duchess Balmiceda ..... Miss Ada Frank
Queen Makihasti ..... Miss Julie Markham
Princess Kissieme ..... Miss Ada Lucelle
Doctor Macodie ..... Mr. Arthur Stratton
Brian the Brave ..... Mr. Harry Lewis
Dare-Devil Dripping ..... Mr. E. D. Nicholls

Of legitimate story there is but little in this potpourri of comedy, mock drama, pantomime, and broad farce, the idea of the joint authors evidently being to provide a genuine mirth-provoker for some thirty minutes or so. This has assuredly been duly accomplished, if the manner in which the sketch was received is to be any criterion. Many of the lines, and much of the business, is genuinely funny, and the audience literally rocked with laughter at the merry nonsense.

Dripping has just returned from his honeymoon, and, being tired of connubial bliss, gets the doctor to suggest illness, and an aeroplane trip as a recuperative, the wife and mother-in-law of course to be left behind. This suits the doctor, as, by bribing the captain of the aeroplane, he hopes to bring about an accident, the death of Dripping, and ultimately his marriage with the Duchess. However, the plans of the bold, bad doctor go astray, for our heroes, Dripping and Brian the Brave, alight at the first station. This proves to be Canary Land, where no man exists. They are soon discovered by some of the "canaries," and are in turn taken for birds, animals, and such-like. However, the Queen then arrives, and, knowing them to be men, informs her daughters that the unhappiness of the women of the isles can be appeased by the procuration of the happy shirt which a man visitor shall wear. Dripping only has a "dickey," but that has to do; he loses his "happy shirt," the women regain their happiness, they all eventually meet at Balmiceda's Reception Room, and everything ends happily.

As we have already mentioned, the sketch does not rely upon its story for success, but upon the clever lines and their droll presentation. Mr. E. D Nicholls was particularly good as Dripping, and, together with Miss Ada Frank as the Duchess Balmiceda, shared the honours of the production. The remainder of the cast lent ample aid.

A new use for the cinematograph film picture has been found by Miss Irene Fenwick, the actress. According to the New York *Daily Express*, in order to see whether her acting is as perfect as she can make it, Miss Fenwick has picture records made of her acting at rehearsals at home. The moving pictures, after being developed, are thrown on a screen, and Miss Fenwick is thus able to sit and watch a moving reproduction of her own acting, with every gesture and movement faithfully recorded.

A new picture theatre, making the third in the town, was opened at Kingtson-on-Thames on Monday by the Mayor (Councillor G. Huckle), who was presented with a suitably inscribed silver salver as a memento of the occasion. The new theatre, which is situated near the railway station, has been erected by the Surrey and Sussex Picture Palaces, Ltd., and is light and ornamental in appearance. Every precaution has been taken against fire, and eight emergency exits have been provided. Mr. Walter Phillip was the architect, and Mr. Cecil Frere is acting as manager.

STAR MUSIC CO.'S NEW PREMISES

A CHAT WITH BENNETT SCOTT.

The progress of the Star Music Company, Limited, has been sure but not slow, for 51, High-street, New Oxford-street, W.C., is their third address in less than four years. The firm started operations at 9, Charing Cross-road, in the autumn of 1906, moving from there to Cecil-court. So rapidly has their business advanced, however, that larger premises were necessary for the comfortable conduct thereof, and another shift had to be made.

An *Era* representative calling on Mr. Bennett Scott, the energetic and enterprising managing-director, on Wednesday, was shown over the comfortable and commodious quarters that will house the staff and many "winners." Extensive alterations have been carried out at 51, High-street, New Oxford-street, W.C., conducing greatly to the comfort of artists, managers, and others who will doubtless take advantage of the welcome extended by this enterprising firm. On the ground floor, beyond the shop and trade counter, a cosy reception-room has been arranged, comfortably furnished, with the walls adorned with photographs of many a prominent music hall and pantomime favourite. Passing through this room, a corridor leads to the professional department, presided over by Mr. Ernest Leigh, and to the clerks' and

MR. BENNETT SCOTT.

cashiers' offices. Below are large basements, where extensive racks contain the firm's many publications. Here busy hands are packing and despatching parcels to all parts of the United Kingdom and the Colonies.

Returning to the "upper regions," one ascends the staircase to the *sanctum sanctorum*, where Mr. Bennett Scott interviews the ever-increasing stream of clients who wish to be fitted with songs, &c. This is a handsome apartment, where the scheme of furnishing and decoration combines artistic elegance with business-like utility. Here Mr. A. J. Mills, Mr. Scott's well-known collaborator and co-director, will also be found; and doubtless in this inspiring retreat these arch-conspirators will devise many new ditties to haunt an unsuspecting public. On the floor above, a large room is available for rehearsals, &c., and here the musical editor and his assistant have ample room to carry out their important duties. The premises are, indeed, excellently appointed throughout.

"Yes; this is our third address in less than four years," replied Mr. Scott, in answer to a question as to the frequency of "moving days," "and I sincerely hope we shall not have another for a long time to come. When we removed from Charing Cross-road to Cecil-court I had no idea we should find it necessary to take other premises so soon; but man proposes, and—here we are.

MR. A. J. MILLS.

The business has grown by leaps and bounds, and it became practically impossible to do ourselves justice in our rather cramped quarters. I have a very loyal staff, but they want elbow-room, and they were simply pushing each other over at Cecil-court.

"Mr. Mills and I have written a large number of songs since Christmas, and I honestly believe we have the best aggregation of popular numbers we have ever had. First and foremost I must put 'I wonder if you miss me sometimes' (or, as we had it at first, 'I wonder if you care'). This song, which is only about three or four months old, seems to have got 'right home' from the start. Several well-known artists are singing it on various tours and circuits, and the report is practically the same all along the line—a certain winner. One and all are convinced that it is 'the' chorus ballad of the year. Judging by the number of managers and artists who have already asked permission to introduce it into pantomime, it looks like being the biggest hit we have ever had.

"But, as you say, pantomime is a good way off, and in the meantime we are congratulating ourselves on the splendid success of our summer songs. Our 'Ship Ahoy!' ('All the nice girls love a sailor,' a very catchy number) is to be heard at every seaside resort in the kingdom, and always goes big; and amongst other numbers popular with al-fresco entertainers I may mention 'Are you anybody's girlie in particular,' 'I met Mary Ellen at th' Isle of Man,' 'I can't reach that top note,' and 'I can picture Polly hanging up the holly.'" And there are others.

Amongst the songs recently written by this accomplished and happily associated pair for star artists are "The Moonlight Promenade," for George Lashwood; "Up she goes" (Whit Cunliffe); "Fall in and follow me," a particularly catchy number which is capitally given by the popular comedian, Mr. Charles Whittle, at all his engagements; "She was a Dollar Princess," which is admirably placed in the hands of that accomplished artist, Miss Millie Hylton; "Come under my big hat" (Miss Daisy Dormer), "Lou, Sue, Mary, Dinah" (G. H. Elliott), "Where, oh! where is my Mary Ellen" (Miss Maud Mortimer), "Mary, you don't come from Spain" (Miss Ella Retford), "The Sunday morning walk" (Miss Hetty King), and "Tha' comes fra' Lancashire" (Miss Florrie Gallimore).

"And I think we have a few more which we are keeping 'up our sleeve.' With regard to our policy as publishers, we by no means confine our efforts to our own numbers, but are open to buy anything suitable—and boom it! Altogether, we are looking to the future with every confidence, and for the benefit of those who are interested in the financial results, I may say the Star Music Co., Ltd., have paid dividends of 10% and 20%. Not so bad for a baby firm, eh?"

On Thursday an informal reception and "house warming" was held, and a number of friends entertained, amongst whom were the following:—Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. Squire, Mr. and Mrs. Will Goldston, Miss M. Scott, Miss Dorothy Gould, Miss Cora Casselli, Miss Ella Retford, Miss Cressie Leonard, Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, Messrs. R. P. Weston, James Tate, C. W. Murphy, Julien Wilson, Herbert Mocatta, Charles Warren, Fred Day, George Arthurs, Terry Sullivan, Worton David, Frank W. Carter, Fred Godfrey, Bert Feldman, G. H. Elliott, and Max Dreyfus.

"A BATH CURE."

Comedy Playlet, by Arthur Falkland, Produced at the Holborn Empire on Monday, Aug. 22.

A Bath Cure, an amusing "episode in a bathroom," contains many funny lines and situations, and, capitally presented by Mr. Henry J. Corner and company, kept the audience almost continually on the smile on the evening of our visit. A lady coming to an hotel after being out in a severe storm decides that a boiling-hot bath is necessary to prevent her taking a chill. After giving a few directions to a French maid, she retires to an adjoining apartment. Then enters a gentleman. He is soaked to the skin, and comes to the conclusion that he, too, must have a hot bath at once. He is in luck's way, for at the back of the room there it is, all in readiness for him. Calling in the "boots," he instructs him to bring his dress clothes in half an hour, tries to secure the door, but discovers something is wrong with the lock and then draws a screen before the bath ere he disrobes.

Then, of course, the fair damsel again comes on the scene, and, sitting down at a dressing-table, proceeds to unloose her tresses and make other preparations for her bath. She receives a severe shock when a pair of trousers, thrown from the other side of the screen, alight near her dainty self, and tries to leave the apartment. But the door has somehow locked itself, and she is a prisoner. And there is a man in the bath! He, of course, is equally embarrassed at the situation, and, unseen behind the screen, tries to think of some way out of the difficulty and to console the unknown charmer. He would willingly oblige her by vanishing down the waste-pipe, but his ample proportions make this quite out of the question.

"THE TENOR AND THE MAID."

Operatic Burlesque, by Robert Cunningham, Produced at the Granville Theatre of Varieties on Monday, Aug. 22.

The Signor .....MR. ROBERT CUNNINGHAM
Blossom .....MISS MILLICENT LE HAY

Grand opera and low comedy are effectively allied in the duologue above referred to, which has the added advantage of bringing a distinguished representative of the lyric stage to the variety theatre. Mr. Robert Cunningham, who graduated with honours in the Carl Rosa company, and has figured so prominently in Savoy opera and musical comedy, has the part of an Italian primo tenore of Covent Garden, who includes among his devotees Blossom, the servant-maid at the hotel where he is staying. That individual has spent all her earnings in visiting the opera especially to hear the tenor, and in fact knows the airs of the leading operas by heart. She has a particular contempt for the "prima donna absolutely," as she terms her, who resides in the flat below, and to whom the Signor pays court. To prove her vocal ability the "slavey" indulges in the "Miserere" excerpt from *Il Trovatore*, and an immediate response is heard from the Signor, who takes up his share of the duet in an adjoining room. Under the impression that it is the prima donna below who is singing, the tenor despatches his card to the lady, and again breaks into song, addressing her in the impassioned "Questa o quella" from *Rigoletto*. There is, however, no answer, and the servant comes back to say the Signora has not yet arrived, and to declare that it was she who had intoned the duet. The Signor laughs her to scorn, but when the maid has given further proof of her vocal accomplishments with the "Ah fors e lui" from *Traviata*, he is won over, and after predicting for her a brilliant career, joins her in a medley comprising flashes of melody, amid which are heard the Kermesse scene from *Faust*, a duet from *Tannhäuser*, the "Gipsy" duet from *Il Trovatore*, and the Prison Scene from *Faust*. The selections are the most melodious taken from the most popular works, and, sung as they are by such cultured vocalists, delight the ear and awaken a keen desire for more.

Mr. Cunningham represented the Italian primo tenore in typical fashion, affecting the foreign accent capitally, and rendered many funny lines with every possible effect. His voice retains all its accustomed power and purity, and his singing was listened to with rapture and enthusiastically applauded. Miss Millicent Le Hay, the daughter of an artist equally renowned in musical comedy, pluckily sacrificed her good looks to the demands of the part of the "slavey," and found her reward in much hearty laughter. She sang well, too, in the various excerpts which fell to her, surmounting the difficulties of the music in artistic style. The little piece is "just the thing wanted" for the variety stage, and presented by such talented interpreters, is fit to grace the bill at any hall. Its success at the Granville was complete.

THEO. S. LE GAR'S company in *Music the Conqueror*, introducing the famous violinist Angel Blanco, heads the bill at the Palace, Tynemouth, this week; Signor Arvi scores in his scientific and artistic mystery "The Metablescope"; Norman Telma is highly amusing; Mlle. de Rose is a phenomenal lady baritone vocalist; and Miss Hilda Claremont is a sweet and cultured soprano. Almasio and Yamina in a juggling and tumbling act, Fred Arthur, mimic, J. H. Hawtrey, vocalist, Hugo and Smit, in comedy bar act, and a good selection of animated pictures conclude.

The STAR MUSIC Co., Ltd.,

AGAIN REMOVE TO LARGER PREMISES,

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

ALL THE BIG WINNERS!

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES
(I WONDER IF YOU CARE).
"THE" Chorus Ballad of the Year.

MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY, HOORAY!
PHIL PARSONS' BIG WINNER.

UP SHE GOES.
WHIT CUNLIFFE'S BIG WINNER.

CHEER UP, MY HIGHLAND LASSIE
DOROTHY WARD'S BIG WINNER.

THE MOONLIGHT PROMENADE.
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S BIG WINNER.

GIRLS, BEWARE OF THE BARE-FACED MEN.
FLORRIE FORDE'S BIG WINNER.

IT'S MY NIGHT OUT TO-NIGHT.
HAL FORDE'S BIG WINNER.

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S BIG WINNER.

ARE YOU ANYBODY'S GIRLIE IN PARTICULAR?
EDWARD LAURI'S BIG WINNER.

LOVE IS LIKE A BALLOON.
HARRY BANCROFT'S BIG WINNER.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH LONDON?
GEORGE LEYTON'S BIG WINNER.

SHE WAS A GIRL IN WHITE.
EDNA LATONNE'S BIG WINNER.

THA' COMES FRA' LANCASHIRE.
FLORRIE GALLIMORE'S BIG WINNER.

I MET MARY ELLEN AT TH' ISLE OF MAN.
ELLA RETFORD'S BIG WINNER.

LOO SUE MARY DINAH, &c.,
G. H. ELLIOTT'S BIG WINNER.

PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d EACH.
Applicants must state whether Required for Music Halls, Theatres, or Concert Work, &c.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

LOOK OUT FOR THE "CORONATION LANCERS," TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY.

THE Olympia Music Hall, Paris, was opened for the autumn season a few nights ago, when there was a crowded audience. The grand ballet, in three scenes, *Le Papillon d'Or*, or *Golden Butterfly*, was an immediate success. In this ballet, in the guise of exquisite exotic insects of every hue, are to be seen some of the prettiest dancers in the capital. These include Yetta Rianza; Ettore Cansi, from La Scala of Milan; Adelina Fernando; Santini, from the London Alhambra; Lilian Graham, from the Casino, New York; and Farembach, of the Opéra Comique. Besides these stars are Bianca Aurora, the Italian singer; Kandella, the mystic dancer, who unwinds her veils over tongues of flame; Harry de Coë; the Four Harveys; and Gaudeschmidts, acrobats, gymnasts, and clowns; the famous troupe of Bob Ker Arabs; and Prince Charles.

THE Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra has in fifteen years developed out of a small pier band into a model provincial orchestra. Under the authority of the municipality a sixty-three page pamphlet has just been issued, giving the history and results of the undertaking. The full orchestra plays now about twice daily throughout the year, and in the course of each year gives sixty special symphony concerts.

THE British composer has, it is said, been more fully represented there than anywhere else. The Winter Gardens manager and conductor is Mr. Dan Godfrey, who bears a name well known to the musical and general public. The undertaking has been almost entirely self-supporting.

Eventually, by an ingenious manipulation of the screen by the couple, the male, attired in a bath towel—and little else—manages to open the door. His charming captive, after the screen has again been adroitly arranged, may now leave. She has not seen him, but she is sure he is a good sort. She must thank him for the clever way he has managed things and his treatment of the situation generally, and she hopes to see more of him—on some future occasion.

When she has departed enter "boots," who evidently "knows something," but the promise of a handsome tip will prevent it getting abroad that a lady visitor has been in the bath chamber. So much for the beauty, now for the bath, and the male prepares to enjoy his plunge once more. But the French maid, thinking the lady is in the room, comes on the scene, and the shock proves too much for her, for she collapses in a chair.

The names of the characters and their interpreters are not given on the programme, but the two principals acted cleverly together, skilfully managing the screen business and delivering their many amusing lines admirably. A charming picture of beauty in distress was given by the lady, and the gentleman secured applause for his expressive singing of "Two eyes of grey." The "boots" and the maid were also impersonations that contributed to the merriment of the trifle.

IT may be interesting to note that Mr. Harry Nicholls was on Wednesday obligated and invested at the Guildhall as Reuter Warden of the Worshipful Company of Joiners of the City of London.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. A. J. MILLS, who is feeling "bright and breezy" after his holiday on the South Coast, could not escape one song no matter where he went. From Dover to Herne Bay everybody was whistling or humming "All the nice girls love a sailor (Ship ahoy!)." Still he had the consolation of knowing Bennett Scott, the composer, was suffering the same "torture" at the Isle of Man. The Star Music Co. are having a record sale for this fine nautical ditty.

THE Star Music Co. have issued some very fine songs during their brilliant career in the publishing world, but there is not a doubt "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" (I wonder if you care), A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's pretty ballad, will be the most popular number they have ever published. Miss Kitty Clinton and Miss Maud Mortimer are both making a huge hit in town this week with this, while several of the pantomime producers who have secured it say it cannot help being the song of the year.

MR. FRED BARNES (that brilliant light comedy gentleman) informs the Star Music Co. "Tell 'em that I'm your uncle" (A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's quaint chorus ditty) is a huge success everywhere he sings it, which is very gratifying to everybody concerned.

AT the Hippodrome, Dover, Mr. Frank Harwood is scoring heavily with Fred d'Albert and Maurice Scott's smart chorus ditty "Can't you make room for a little one," and he will make a special feature of this song in his forthcoming Australian tour. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

EVER since A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott wrote "There's a girl wanted there" for George Lashwood they have been longing to fit him with another song that would be as popular. "The moonlight promenade," which "Uncle George" is warbling with wonderful success at the Empire, Hackney, this week, is by those famous writers, and, judging by the way the audience help Mr. Lashwood with the chorus, it looks like being the best song they have ever written for him.

"WHAT D'YER SAY, MOLLY MOLLOY?" which May Mars, Lloyd Morgan, and Ella Retford are producing immediately, is an Irish ditty by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, and with its catchy lilt and quaint words it is certain to be one of the biggest successes on the Star Music Co.'s catalogue.

MISS DOROTHY WARD, the dashing pantomime favourite, is delighting large audiences at the Hippodrome, Balham, and Empire, Croydon, this week with her splendid singing. Her principal item, "Cheer up, my Highland lassie" (where she has the assistance of two tiny mites at the finale), is enthusiastically recalled. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott are the writers, and the Star Music Co. are to be congratulated upon this fine number.

ONE of the sweetest singers of Mills and Scott's beautiful ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" is Miss Florrie Cooper, and it is proving her trump card everywhere. Miss Ethel Dunford is also making a hit with this on the Adeler and Sutton tour.

MISS ROSIE BARTLETT scored a success with her new number "Ninety in the shade" at the Bedford and Crouch End last week, and she is featuring it with gratifying results at the Norwich Hippodrome this week. The number is the work of Messrs. Wilfred Chandler and John McColl.

ALLEGED MUSICAL PIRACY.

At Guildhall, before Mr. Alderman Cooper, on Tuesday, Albert Bowden, a coffee-house keeper; Abraham Kinzett, a bookseller; and Phillip Fleming Bokenham, and John Wesley Puddefoot, printers, were further examined on a charge of conspiring to print and publish certain editions of the words of copyright songs, with intent to defraud.

Messrs. McGlennon and Co. (Ltd.), the well-known music publishers, were prosecutors. The piracy of these songs has involved them in an annual loss of about £500.

Detective-inspector Thompson said he had on several occasions kept observation on 11, Middlesex-street, Bowden's coffee-house (alleged by the prosecution to be the "distributing centre" for these pirated works), and had seen both Bowden and Kinzett serve out song sheets to hawkers. In a back room on the second floor of 8, Hutchison-street (rented by Kinzett), he found 2052 song sheets. At 70, Leather-lane, where Bokenham carried on the business of a printer as F. Wilson and Co., he found 15,000 song sheets, and two stereos for printing them. These latter were actually on the machine. There were also two stereos for printing other sheets. At the premises of the Milton Press, in the occupation of Puddefoot, he found fourteen stereos for printing songs that were the subject of this charge. In the basement of Bowden's coffee-house, 11, Middlesex-street, were found 3400 song sheets.

As to the alleged distribution of the pirated songs from Bowden's coffee-house, evidence was given by Mr. Arthur Preston, an agent employed by the Musical Publishers' Association, Queen's Hall. On June 25, he said, he saw Bowden himself "serve two hawkers" with song sheets and budgets. As far back as July 11, when he gave evidence in the previous case, he knew of this distribution of song sheets.

The hearing was brought to a conclusion by the defendants pleading not guilty and reserving their defence. Bail was fixed for each of them in the sum of £100. Bowden and Puddefoot were already on bail, but the sentences on Kinzett and Bokenham do not expire till Sept. 8 and 6 respectively, till which dates they remain in custody.

"HOW COTTLE FELL FROM GRACE."

A Comedietta, in One Act, by George J. Hamlen, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Amos Cottle .....MR. ARNOLD REYNOR
Mrs. Cottle .....MISS LOLA DUNCAN
Mrs. Fullalove .....MISS WINIFRED GUNN
Dr. Pringle .....MR. WALTER ROY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is the latest original play given by the repertory company at Glasgow, and is by the author of their successful comedy *Barbara Grows Up*. The scene opens in the parlour of a workingman's home, with spring cleaning on, and we find that Cottle had "slept in" that morning, and did not go to work, with the result that his wife made full use of his services in laying carpets, &c. The unaccustomed toil has rather tired poor Cottle, and when the rector's wife, Mrs. Fullalove, drops in and discovers symptoms of half a dozen serious ailments in his appearance, he succumbs to the temptation to do a bit of malingering, and allows himself to be wrapped up on a couch, while the doctor is sent for. Dr. Pringle soon sees through the sham of Cottle's illness, and asks for a large basin so that he may bleed the patient. But the preparations prove too much for Cottle's nerves, and he jumps from the couch, and soon demonstrates that his troubles are purely imaginary. The little piece was cleverly played, and the fun heartily enjoyed by the audience. The four parts were well acted by the cast given above, and Miss Madge McIntosh was responsible for producing the play.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN LONDON.

[By Americus.]

Winona Winter.

I have received a letter from Banks Winters, the man who wrote "White Wings," and the father of that very clever little American artist Winona Winters. Papa Winters says Winona will not come to England this season, as they had previously planned, but would remain in America and play the season for the Shuberts as leading lady in Sam Bernard's new musical show. Consequently English variety halls will not see the little golden girl this season. Winona Winters is about the daintiest little artist America has produced for some time. The American critics have christened her "the little cheer-up girl," and she has been most successful with her little musical comedy offering in the American vaudeville theatres the past season.

Gene Green Coming Next Season.

Upon my arrival in London this season I told Alfred Butt that I thought that Gene Green, if he could sell his theatres in Chicago, would come to England for a few months and appear in vaudeville. I received word from Gene that he would come over next season. His turn is rather a novelty in the single-man entertainment, and I want to go on record as saying I am sure the patrons of vaudeville on this side will like the clever Windy City coon singer and general entertainer, and that he will be a valuable addition to most any bill if he can be induced to come over.

Felix and Barry.

George Felix and Lyda Barry were to have come over this season, but the serious illness of Miss Barry put a damper on their European trip. The Palace offered this team of comedy four weeks for next season, and they will in all probability accept. If Felix comes over, we will have to get up a good baseball game, for George is some player in the States.

Six American Dancers.

I "called the turn" last season when I said that this sextette would put it over in good style. If you don't think they can dance some, visit the Palace and take a bird's-eye view of some of the stunts they pull off, and they are doing something on the stage, besides stalling every minute.

Stepp Messenger and King.

Stepp Messenger and King, of Casey Jones fame in the States, come to this side in the spring. The trio are now on the Orpheum circuit, and as soon as the time is played will come to London, where they are booked in one of the West End halls for six weeks.

Harry Fox and Millership Sisters.

I met Harry Fox just before I sailed, and he told me that he would come over next year for the summer season. I have always said that this act would be something of a novelty for the West End halls, and I still think that when they make their appearance here they will be greatly appreciated. Fox is one best bet when it comes to a clever comedian, and the two pretty girls, who are, by the way, formerly from Birmingham, England, assist him greatly in his peculiar style in putting the laughs over.

Jennie Jacobs Coming.

You all know Jennie, the little booker of the Pat Casey office, Long-acre Building, Times-square, New York. Well, Jennie has written me that she has engaged first-class passage over on the Mauretania next April, and is going to spend her vacation over on this side and the big part of the summer here in England. Hettie King has promised to take her to Brighton and show her the waves and the beach, while Alice Lloyd will see that her friends show Jennie Shepherd's Bush Exhibition, the Palace Theatre, and the Coliseum, while I have taken upon myself to escort her to the German Club and take her skating to Holland Park, so I guess Jennie will be well entertained during her stay here in London.

Organiser of the White Rats.

George Fuller Golden and family are living in Los Angeles, Cal. The first president of the White Rats and its organiser came to Los Angeles last April, during my engagement at the Orpheum, from El Paso, where he had been in search of health for some months. I am informed the climate at Los Angeles is quite agreeable to him, that he is on the mend, and that he looks better than he has for some time. The informant also advises me that Jeffries is back to his home, and is at his saloon every day, and seems to be very much downcast over his defeat, but smiles now and then when the big amount of money is mentioned. The American newspaper men and the public demanded that Jeff should come to life after being dead for so many years, and if that was their wish Jeff made it good and plain that he must be well paid for his trouble, and from the looks of the money he has invested in Los Angeles real estate, he must have got quite a lot more out of the fight than the Press have given him credit for getting. What's the diff? He got licked and got the money at the same time. Many a fellow has got a worse licking and got nothing for it, so it's not a bad business after all.

That Big Motor Again.

Nat Wills had Frank Damar out the other day in the big car, and when they came back Damar couldn't speak. All he could say was, "That big engine could climb a mountain?" It took Frank two hours to tell Chas. Cheeseman and Blake all about it. Nat tried to take Frank up the side of some big building with it.

Eugene Stratton.

Mike Shea told me on June 13, when I was going to leave Buffalo to sail for England, that if I saw Eugene Stratton to tell him that the old home place is just the same, and quietly tip Eugene off that he, Michael, would like very much to book the black-faced comedian for a few weeks in case he found time to pay the old home a visit.

Willie Pantzer and Co.

Willie Pantzer, who has been in America for so long, and who took out his citizenship papers a year ago, is going as good as ever at the Hippodrome, with his cleverest of clever equilibristic acts. There is plenty of comedy mingled in with some of the most sensational feats, which force the public to appreciate one thing in particular—that the trio are all artists of the highest degree. It is an acrobatic act which is a headliner on any bill.

Passpart's Golder's Green Home.

Willie Passpart will be back in London the latter part of next week, when he will open the new Orpheum offices at Randvoll House. Just before Mr. Passpart left for Berlin he leased a house at Golder's Green, and will make London his home for some time to come. Willie has ordered one of the rooms fitted up in loud colours for Martin Beck, so when the general manager of the Orpheum circuit comes to London he will have a cheerful place to hang his hat up.

"I Don't Care."

That is the name of a song that Eva Tanguay has made her name with in the States, and from the way one of the Doherty Sisters put it over at the Hippodrome last week it looks as though it was going to make a mighty big name for her. I am under the impression she sings it as good as the original. The audiences like it very much, and it leads me to think that Eva Tanguay will be some card in case she comes to this side. The Doherty Sisters have a nice little offering, and it seems like one of the Broadway houses to hear those familiar airs they hand over the footlights each evening.

The Great Lester.

The Hippodrome is seeing a really great ventriloquist the past few weeks, an American gentleman who passes through the audiences to give the public an opportunity of detecting his mode of throwing his voice without a quiver of the lips. When you consider the performance of the Great Lester, you must say that his work is something out of the ordinary in this line, and a show par excellence. He is making quite a name for himself in London, where he is engaged on the Stoll tour.

Ada Reeve for America.

Some weeks ago I mentioned that the clever English comedienne Miss Ada Reeve would go to America for a tour. I notice that some of the provincial critics have called me on this point, and seem to think I don't know what I am talking about. I also said I called her a find for the American halls, and that she would be one of the best successes, and please the American patrons of variety to a "T." I am informed by one who knows that Miss Reeve will go to America, and that her salary will be away up in four figures, and that she has been offered thirty weeks for musical comedy as soon as she completes her vaudeville tour, at a much larger salary than has ever been paid a foreign artist, with the probable exception of Melba or Calvé. See if I am not right!

Big Hit.

Blake and Amber, the clever American entertainers, who went to South Africa on the Hyman Circuit, have made a fine hit. The act will in all probability be rebooked next year for return engagement.

The Mysterious Skater.

Something outside of the ordinary has been advertised for the past year over in the States in the skating rinks, and the billing has always read "The Mysterious Skater." It seems that now we have the same idea in another form, known as "The Mysterious Dancer," and that she is a society woman of Boston, who refuses to give her name or be known on the stage. The American booking agents are evidently trying to have her open here in London. It looks like they are picking a hard place for her to fall. London has had the mysterious dancer before; Le Domino, La Rouge, and others have played the masked game off the boards; still, it may be rejuvenated.

Mitchell and Caine.

These clever cross-talking entertainers have been booked by Bert Howell for a South African tour, opening in December.

Walter Kelly on Boat for Australia.

I received a letter a few days ago from Walter Kelly dated some weeks ago, which said he was going to sail for Australia from Vancouver via Honolulu the middle of this month, and would play the Harry Rickards' Circuit and then break the jump back to England by spending some time on the Hyman Circuit in South Africa. Kelly is making a round-the-world trip.

Those Eyes for Africa.

Bert Howell tells me that Lillian Herlein goes to Johannesburg for Sidney Hyman. Miss Herlein is the artist with the Anna Held eyes who has met with splendid success everywhere.

Long Tour Next Year

Barnes and Crawford, who were at the Tivoli for a short time, and who had to return home to fulfil their American Orpheum engagements, have been booked for a long tour next season by Bert Howell. Their route will include England, South Africa, and Australia.

Brother Jesse Arrives Wednesday.

Jesse Freeman, who is a brother of the ever-popular Chuck, will arrive in England on Wednesday from America, and will take up his old post at the variety office in the Strand.

Jimmy Britt Studying Hard.

The famous little light-weight Jimmy Britt is studying his part in the new sketch which has been written for him. Jimmy has engaged the best actors to instruct him in all the different poses of real acting, and I believe that the knight of the boxing world will give the music halls an offering worth their while with his sketch.

Hetty King for America.

Manager Brown, of the Brighton Hippodrome, has a corking good show this week, with Hetty King at the top of the bill and Ernie Lotinga holding the star position at the bottom. Hetty King after this season will return to America for a trip over the Orpheum circuit booked by Jennie Jacobs, of the Pat Casey Agency.

The Pierrots on the Pier.

One of the best troupes of Merryfolks I have seen out in the open air are on the East-end Pier, at Brighton. There are six all told, and they offer an hour's entertainment which is greatly appreciated by the patrons. One comedian of the type of Geo. Robey is exceptionally clever, and one of the ladies has an excellent voice which she uses well in many pretty songs.

Off for Brussels.

The Harmony Four left yesterday for Brussels, where the boys are booked for fifteen days at the Palais d'Eté. After this they go to Copenhagen for another fortnight's stay, when they will commence their tour of the Continent in earnest.

Devlin and Elwood at Palace.

Although on early for an act of this kind, this American team has been doing exceptionally well the past week with their little comedy sketch, which we criticised in our variety notices last week.

Herman Finck Vacation.

This excellent composer and leader of the Palace orchestra has had at least a dozen invitations to go to America for his summer vacation with his expenses all paid. But somehow or other he doesn't like to get over a few hours away from London. Mr. Finck is quite a feature at the Palace, and his charming music has gained for him and his orchestra a prestige over the entire world.

The Stock Whip.

Mr. Fred Lindsay, the stockwhip expert, who a few weeks ago returned from the States where he has been for the past two years playing the United and Orpheum Circuits, is taking a week's holiday at Brighton with his wife and family. Mr. Lindsay will return to America next year under the Pat Casey management for another tour.

Toocarlyonthebill Disease.

One of the most serious cases of illness that often baffles some of our managers in America is the disease known as Toocarlyonthebill, and in nine out of ten cases the sick artist has a doctor's certificate which settles the matter. The source of the disease is generally traced to what is known in variety as early peck at the bill. I call it a disease, for I know of cases where artists after getting a glimpse of the programme which had them on first or second would simply collapse.

Nervous System Affected.

In fact, their nervous system would become so affected that they really made themselves ill. I was informed on Wednesday that one of the music halls in the West End had one of these cases on Monday, and that the artist, after getting a peck, worried over his position on the bill to such an extent that he became very ill. He had worked hard for the booking in the hall and had spent hours in getting his performance so finished that he was certain of a fine success provided he got a good position. He had figured this was the opportunity of his career to show his worth, but, unfortunately, the betting was against him, and the disease nailed him the moment he saw the programme. He started right in to fight the disease, and after consulting a doctor he was informed that the only cure would be a medical certificate. It's pretty tough to get an early position on your first appearance, but someone has to go there, and I have been the someone once or twice myself ,and know what it is.

At Brighton.

Mrs. E. B. Barnes, the talented American pianist, is spending a few days on Marine Parade, Brighton, the guest of Nellie Donegan.

"CONFUSION."

A Farce, by Joseph Derrick, produced at the Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Harry Mortimer .....Mr. Lawrence Brough
Christopher Blizzard ....Mr. Alfred Hemming
James .....Mr. Douglas Payne
Miss Lucretia Mortimer..Miss Bessie Harrison
Maria .....Miss Rosa Bennett
Rose .....Miss Olga Esme

(from our own correspondent.)

The task of boiling down *Confusion*, which enjoyed such a long run on its production at the Vaudeville in 1883, into a one-act farce, has been successfully accomplished, and proved on its production at the Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday last, by Mr. Lawrence Brough, to be one of the smartest and most entertaining playlets. The dialogue is absolutely apt throughout, every exchange helping on and elaborating the fun. We may refresh our readers' memory by giving a resumé of the plot. The scene is the drawing-room at Jersey Lodge, Richmond, late on a September afternoon. The action begins with the appearance of James, the butler, and Maria, the housekeeper, who have a secret, namely, that they are married; and the trouble is that their baby, which is out to nurse somewhere, is ill, and must be sent to them. How to keep their secret in these circumstances is the problem. Their young master, Harry Mortimer, catches them canoodling, and the duplicity that is going on naturally takes a comic aspect in James's endeavours to cover up the indiscretion. But for the persent all ends well. Now it happens that Harry's wife (only three months married) has a desire for a bull pup; but Harry has no desire at all that his house should be turned into a menagerie, nor that there should be any danger of hydrophobia in the family; and therefore he declines to entertain her request. Unfortunately, however, Rose has gone too far in the matter, having already arranged, with her uncle's connivance, for the dog to be sent. This she does not tell her husband. Christopher Blizzard, the uncle, is amorously attracted to Harry's aunt, Lucretia, which, considering their years, and the eaves-dropping interpolations of Harry, is a comic episode in itself. Then comes a telegram, announcing that the dog is to arrive at a certain time. Immediately another telegram comes to James and Maria, informing them that the baby is worse and may be expected at any hour. The latter James accidentally drops on the floor; and Aunt Lucretia, who has observed a telegram in Christopher's hand, picks it up, thinking it is his. Her curiosity prompts her to read it, and of course she is horrified when she learns, apparently, that her lover has a baby, which is being sent to him. When the elderly couple meet next, Lucretia announces that she knows all. Christopher, thinking that she refers to the smuggling in of the dog, is pleased; but he begins to think that she is mad when she raves about his profligacy, and indignantly refuses to look at "the little beauty." The dog has meanwhile been hidden in a cabinet. After this the baby arrives, snugly laid (like the dog) in a basket; and the frightened and perplexed parents, being disturbed in their confidences over it, are obliged for the present to deposit the child in another cabinet. The baby cries while James is covering up the act from his master's observation, but the incident passes, and then Harry picks up a written confession from his wife. The confession, which refers quite appropriately to the dog, reads exactly like the confession of an erring wife. She tells him of "its" existence, of her uncle's complicity, of how he (Harry) will get used to it and love it as if it were his own, and so on; and a pretty state of mind the deluded husband gets into, as may be supposed. He discovers the baby (where he is told to look) in the cabinet, going of course to the cabinet at which he had observed the curious actions of James. The latter entering, Harry and he engage upon a discussion of the matter, the former supposing that James knows all about it, while James thinks that he and his wife are found out, and is full of pleading that it may be looked over. Christopher Blizzard comes in for wild treatment at the hands of Harry, and from this point the aspect of affairs becomes more and more lunatic in the eyes of the bewildered uncle. Not a possible variation of the theme is unexploited, in fact, and at length there is nothing for it, to ameliorate the state of affairs and to induce order in the home, but the secret drowning of the dog. The suggestion to do this, made by Christopher to Rose, is, however, overheard by Harry, who thereupon makes frantic preparations to prevent the projected murder and catch the guilty parties in the act. A policeman is called in, and after some comic fiascos the arrest is made, Christopher being seized and bound with the tell-tale basket in his possession. At this point Maria enters with the baby in her arms, having previously regained possession of it; and the parents confess that they can no longer keep their secret, having nowhere to put the child. Light begins to dawn after a few words more, and the dog is then produced from the basket. Even the explanation is made humorous, and to the very last laughter hangs upon every word.

Mr. Lawrence Brough is quite at home in the rôle of Harry, and he is capitally supported by Mr. Alfred Hemming as the amorous and victimised Uncle Christopher. Mr. Douglas Payne adds a very smart delineation of James; Miss Bessie Harrison as Aunt Lucretia assists the fun considerably; a nice impersonation of Rose is given by Miss Olga Esme; and Miss Rosa Bennett as Maria, capably completes an excellent cast. The piece is undoubtedly a success.

Alec Payne, the "doyen" of skaters, has only nine nights free this year. Proprietors of rinks requiring a sterling attraction on Sept. 2 or 6 should please note. He concludes these months at Blackpool.

RINALDO.

WILLY PANTZER & CO.,
STOLL TOUR.

KENNEDY & RYAN.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS, IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
Aug. 29 to Sept. 24, TOWER, BLACKPOOL. A FEW VACANT DATES.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.

THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
Playing ENGLAND and the CONTINENT.

HARRY JOLSON.
STOLL TOUR.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

GILDAY and FOX.
HOLBORN EMPIRE,

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR SEPTEMBER.

ENGLAND.

1. Southgate (15,000)
2. Woodley (246)
3. Aldborough (2,000)
3. Barnet (7,876)
3. Bicester (3,023)
3. Chorley (26,850)
3. Churwell (2,013)
3. Crewkerne (4,226)
3. Gorton (26,564)
3. Hucknall-with-Huthwaite (5 000)
3. Hyde Wakes (32,765)
3. Killamarsh (3,644)
3. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
3. Wilmslow (7,952)
5. Alverthorpe (3,372)
5. Armley (24,714)
5. Farnley (2,600)
5. Great Horton (33,000)
5. Oldbury (25,200)
5. Oxford (49,400)
6. Barnoldswick (7,141)
6. Wednesbury (26,500)
7. Fakenham (2,912)
8. Exeter (46,940)
8. Maldon (5,600)
8. Wareham (2,000)
9. Blandford (3,649)
9. Chapel Town (7,749)
9. Openshaw (24,500)
9. Swinton and Pendlebury (19,000)
9. Witton (1,673)
10. Congresbury (1,219)
10. Cromford (1,066)
10. Matlock (7,300)
10. Meltham (1,200)
10. Northwich (17,609)
10. Wirksworth (3,807)
10. Woodthorpe (882)
12. Ardsley (6,226)
12. Barnstaple (14,137)
12. Brentford (15,171)
12. Buxton (10,181)
12. Glastonbury (4,016)
12. Glossop (21,500)
12. Holbeck (18,997)
12. Holme-on-Spalding Moor (1,825)
12. Morchard Bishop (1,100)
14. Broadway (Somerset) (365)
15. Boston (15,677)
15. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
16. Alford (2,500)
16. Llangwith (363)
17. Batley (30,321)
17. Blackheath (Staffs.) (9,553)
17. Bury (58,038)
17. Pateley Bridge (3,200)
19. Amersham (3,209)
19. Atherstone (5,248)
19. Beaminster (2,000)
19. Farnworth (25,000)
19. Hemel Hempstead (11,300)
19. Honley (4,904)
19. Ilkley (7,755)
19. Newcastle (Staffs) (19,914)
19. Rushden (12,500)
19. Sidmouth (4,201)
19. Staines (6,700)
19. Swindon (44,906)
19. Worcester (46,623)
20. Ashby-de-la-Zouche (4,700)
20. Ware (5,573)
21. Backwell (958)
21. Lewes (11,249)
21. Longtown (630)
21. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
21. Reading (72,214)
22. Bude (1,367)
22. Over (Cheshire) (7,000)
23. Bowdon (4,629)
23. Bugsworth (4,467)
23. Idle Feast (7,500)
23. Iron Acton (1,069)
23. Stevenage (3,957)
24. Bridgwater (15,200)
24. Brierley Hill (12,040)
24. Cambridge (38,939)
24. Hartland (1,746)
24. Haslemere (1,311)
24. Hayfield (2,864)
24. Heyford (813)
24. Huddersfield (95,008)
24. Morton (982)
24. New Mills (6,253)
24. Pickering (3,500)
24. Ratcliffe (137)
24. Tyldesley (14,843)
24. Wootton-under-Edge (3,200)
26. Belford (1,280)
26. Dudley (48,809)
26. Dunstable (5,147)
26. High Wycombe (17,682)
26. March (7,600)
26. Uttoxeter (5,132)
27. Kenilworth (4,544)
27. Spalding (12,293)
28. Chesham (7,245)
28. Gloucester (47,943)
28. Lewes (11,249)
28. Solihull (4,000)
28. Studley (2,765)
29. Alton (5,479)
29. Ampthill (2,200)
29. Birmingham (522,182)
29. Cranbrooke (3,949)
29. Dorchester (9,500)
29. Frome (11,066)
29. Hanbury (1,000)
29. Todmorden (25,400)
29. Uxbridge (8,600)
29. Wallingford (2,808)
30. Eleven Lane Ends Feast
30. Long Stratton (600)

SCOTLAND.

8. Ayr (28,684)
16. Johnstone (10,502)
17. Moss of Balloch (612)
19. Aberdeen (153,108)
20. Castle Douglas (3,039)
24. Hawick (15,000)
27. Dumfries (17,079)
28. Frazerburgh (8,998)
30. Haddington (3,796)
30. Sinclair Town

WALES.

5. Aberavon (7,000)
8. Neath (13,732)
12. Blaenavon (10,864)
17. Brynmawr (6,534)
20. Llanfyllin (1,627)
20. Tredegar (18,574)
24. Abergavenny (7,795)
24. Cowbridge (1,292)
26. Pontardawe (3,327)
30. Llanelly (25,617)

The Showmen's Guild in Suffolk.

In pursuance of the Guild chaplain's plan to open out new centres of work, and to interest the local showmen in the advantages of trade combination, the chaplain will visit Aldeburgh-on-Sea for the Regatta Fair this week-end. The Guild has already obtained recognition in the town, through the excellent work of Miss Anita Welton, of Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge, hon. secretary for the Diocese of Norwich. The Vicar of Aldeburgh, the Rev. G. D. Goldsmith, is an hon. local chaplain, and at the last fair endeared himself to his showmen parishioners by his earnest care for their spiritual and material welfare. The Rev. T. Horne, invited by the Vicar of Aldeburgh, will preach in the parish church at Evensong, and also at the Guild service in Charles Thurston's vaudeville theatre on the Fairground on Sunday (to-morrow), Aug. 28. The Guild chaplain will also address the showpeople in the same show at 3.30 in the afternoon. Subject, "The New Moveable Dwellings Bill."

Alf. Ball Subscription Fund.

We shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions to this truly deserving fund. New subscribers' names will be duly acknowledged in our columns. The treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, is anxious that the help given shall not only be generous, but that it shall be immediately available.

Amount acknowledged in *The Era* up to date: £145 8s. 6d.

CAUTION.

Certain Arc Lamps, purporting to be **EXCELLO LAMPS**, and emanating from Manchester or Nottingham, have recently been offered for sale.

In order to protect purchasers from misrepresentation, we give notice that all genuine **EXCELLO ARC LAMPS** can be distinguished by:—

(a) **The individual lamp number, stamped on the plate above the patent economiser.**

(b) **The series test-room number, on a nickelled plate, close to one cable inlet.**

(c) **The black-and-brass license plate close to the opposite cable inlet.**

All lamps which do not carry these, as originally attached, should be refused, as they are probably fraudulent imitations which may involve buyers and sellers in heavy penalties.

Full information as to genuine lamps and authorised agents on application to:—

Union Electric Co. Ltd.
PARK ST. SOUTHWARK. LONDON. S.E.

THE MITCHAM FAIR DISPUTE.

It is no exaggeration to state that, in the light of recent events, this question has reached a most serious point. We have numerous letters and suggestions from showmen and others interested in the dispute. In the interest of all parties concerned in the dispute and its possible settlement on permanent and peaceful lines we beg our numerous correspondents to refrain at present from making statements in the Press that might embitter the amicable terms on which the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift are being met by the Board of Conservators. Some of our correspondents, naturally indignant at the refusal to set out the fair and to accept the tolls, attribute the blame for the whole of the resultant evils to the Board of Conservators. This is both a hasty and an unjust conclusion. The Board of Conservators are not to blame for the mistaken policy of the past four years. The blame rests with the abolitionists, who used the power of the purse to get rid of the fair by unconstitutional means. Up to a certain point in 1906 to 1908 the authority of the Board was used in the interests of the abolitionists. We have to acknowledge, and we do it gladly, that the present Chairman of the Board, Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., since he came upon the Board has done all that was possible to set right the admittedly irregular action of the Board in taking joint action with Franchise owners against the showmen before it actually became possessed of the Fair Rights. As the chairman of a public body, Mr. Mallaby Deeley took the highest view of his individual responsibilities, and rightly advised the Board not to continue to seek injunction, or to really consider, or to formulate any policy of action, until the owners of the franchise transferred an admitted public trust to the Board. Whether a mistaken policy or not had marked the action of his predecessor in office, he, as chairman, refused to do anything against the fair until the Board became trustees of the Fair Rights. We are extremely anxious to set out the matter clearly, for there is a great amount of anxiety and doubt concerning the real facts of the dispute.

The Board and the Guild Worked for the Same Object.

The executive officials of the Guild have known all along that no real progress was possible so long as the Board of Conservators were not the actual holders of the Fair Rights. All their public work at Mitcham—the return of two candidates at the last Parish Council election, the persistent keeping of the showmen's rights and the people's rights to the front by legitimate means, all the slow and difficult negotiations of the past four years—all this, and more, of time and patient toil has been given to bring the dispute to the stage it reached a week before the fair.

Every scheme for a peaceful settlement, no matter from what quarter it came, was blocked by the cruel fact that the then owners of the franchise (persistent in their scheme to abolish the fair) were holding out for guarantees that their will would prevail over the will of the people. The road was open again, when at last the franchise owners surrendered their trust to the Board. Only a few days before the fair both the Guild chaplain and Mr. Pedgrift approached the clerk to the Board of Conservators, and at once, in the interests of peace and public order, opened up negotiations. As the Board will not meet for the next two months, nothing material could be attempted. As far as possible all was done to put matters in train for a wise and full consideration, and possible settlement. Beyond that neither side could go, with the fair actually upon them.

The Action of the Board Wise and Conciliatory.

A great deal of misapprehension has arisen in the public mind over the action of the Board in issuing each year the official notice that no sites would be let to showmen to hold the fair on the Fairgreen. To understand this action it must be borne in mind that injunctions were obtained against certain showmen, and a policy of exclusion by injunction was inherited by the present Board from its predecessor. Whilst the present Board refused to continue the policy of killing the fair by injunctions, it would not lose whatever advantage in arriving at a full settlement of the question the series of injunctions against the old tenants of the fair gave it. Here, again, we must acknowledge the wisdom of the present chairman's advice to the Board—"not to take action until the Fair Rights were in their possession." This wise decision of necessity meant the automatic repetition each fair of the previous year's notice. We quite realise the legal soundness of this attitude. We therefore agree that right up to the surrender of the Fair Rights to the Board we have been actually working for (along our own lines) the same object—the peaceful and just conclusion of the dispute.

Such a settlement is now possible. The Board of Conservators possess all the necessary legal powers to approach the Home Office and the Board of Agriculture, and to submit a scheme for sanction that will meet all the necessities of the situation. We ask all our showmen readers to still leave the negotiations with those who, for four years past, have endeavoured by all lawful means to save the fair for both people and showmen.

Some Serious Considerations.

It will be asked us how far do we think the deeply-regrettable incidents of crime and lawlessness that marked the past fair prejudice the hope for a peaceful settlement? We admit at once that many half-hearted friends of the fair may now become enemies, and that the enemies who have been working in secret will now come out into the open. Our work for peace will be more difficult on that account. Having carried on with great success our crusade to save the fair for Mitcham, we do not mean now to relinquish our efforts, but, rather, we feel that our work must be pursued with increased vigour.

We see now—alas, too realistically—that in the interests of peace and order it is imperatively necessary to remove and to control the fair. We see, in actual fact, the danger we have always dreaded of public agitation for popular rights. Our perfectly justifiable resistance to the assumed authority of the late franchise owners to deny us access to the Fairgreen on the lawful days of the fair has opened the gate to lawlessness on the part of others in rushing the Green and seizing pitches before the customary time. We have also witnessed how greed of gain will incite brutal passions and crime of murderous intention. All this only confirms us in our crusade to save the fair from its enemies—the people who would if they could, abolish it, and the lawless gang who, heedless of the future, rush to Mitcham to seize a present advantage by force and fraud.

What the Men of Peace Aim at.

First of all to save the fair for the people of Mitcham; to see that lawlessness and anarchy are put down and punished; and to secure the full and complete local control of the fair. This is the object before us. The first stage has been reached after several years of hard work. The policy of drift pursued by the late franchise owners in their controversy with the Board has had lamentable results. Delay has bred danger. It is now possible to move forward.

In accordance with the request of the Mitcham showmen's meeting held on Aug. 15, the Rev. T. Horne has left at the Home Office a copy of the resolution denouncing the crime. The Chaplain was most courteously received, and his statements concerning the dangers arising from rushing the green for pitches received particular attention.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE NEW MOVEABLE DWELLINGS BILL.

The Era was the first paper to place before the public the provisions of the Moveable Dwellings Bill, 1910, as amended by the Select Committee of the House of Lords. Naturally *The Era*, as the age-long friend and champion of the travelling showman (as well as the champion of all sorts and conditions of showmen) brought its expert knowledge and experience to bear on the new Bill. With the text of the Bill we gave a comparison of it with the earlier measure of 1910. We indicated clearly that even in its amended shape Clause 5 of the old bill still remained a menace and a danger to the show business. We recognised and fully praised the painstaking labours of the Select Committee, and we were the first in the field to acknowledge the enormous debt of gratitude the showman owed the Select Committee. The amendments of the Bill, all manifestly in the interests of justice and liberty, were conceived and carried out in the very best form of constructive statesmanship. We said so at the time, and we still adhere to our judgment.

The Grounds for Our Opinion.

Let it be remembered we praised and welcomed the amended Bill a week before the Final Report of the Select Committee appeared. When the report was hailed with a chorus of approval by the Press of the country it was to us but the long-expected confirmation of views we have advocated for many years past. We expected that the Committee, in its final report, would exonerate the daily work and the domestic life of the showpeople. We knew, from the weight of expert evidence tendered by the Showmen's Guild, that at last justice would be done to the showman's claim for equal treatment as a citizen of the commonwealth and a loyal son of the Empire. We demanded this, and nothing less than this, for showpeople as a class. The report of the Select Committee admits the justice of the claim when it says:—

"Apart from a small number of persons who use moveable dwellings as a pastime, vandwellers are divided into two classes—the showman class and the gipsy class. As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of their Guild, told the Committee that there were some 4,000 showmen's vans travelling the country ,and carrying a population of something like 12,000 souls.

"The trade is perfectly honest and respectable, and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them, and it was represented to us that not only is no legislation necessary, but that existing legal restrictions occasionally involve a grievance upon their side."

Press Opinions on the Final Report.

The "Manchester Guardian" said:—"The showmen are fighting all along the line for their respectability. What galls them is that "the landed gentry" in many parts still regard them with traditional hostility as wanderers on the face of the earth. That they are, but they remind you that they are often very well-to-do wanderers. The old notion of a showman's caravan is quite out of date. "A millionaire could not caravan in more style," a friend of showmen said, and he described the vans upholstered by a West End firm, with gilt-edged mirrors all round and settees with crimson cushions. One famous showman is said to have a piano in his six-foot square 'parlour.' Another recent victory of showmen has to do with the Moveable Dwellings Bill. As at first framed, the Bill came down very severely on showmen, who found themselves classed with altogether unrespectable vagabonds. Their spokesmen at the Committee of the House of Lords have redressed their grievance, and the Act as amended is, says the showmen's organ in the Press, a 'complete vindication' against the 'slanderous charges of fanatics and faddists.'"

The "Sheffield Independent," in an appreciative leader, had the following reference:—"Our reference to the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Moveable Dwellings Bill in yesterday's edition had a special interest for the people of Rotherham and the miners of South Yorkshire. The Rev. Thomas Horne, chaplain of the Showman's Guild, was formerly curate at Whiston, and during the time of what is known as the "great strike" he said some plain words in advocacy of the miners. He has since almost regularly visited the Rotherham Fair Ground. His evidence seems to have had great weght with the Select Committee, who reported that as regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. It is rather remarkable, nevertheless, that the House of Lords should have shown such breadth of sympathy for a nomad class which pitches its tents in the open. For the Lords, as a class, are land lords, and the bias of the landlord is in favour of the enclosure of common lands and the exclusion of common people."

The "Glasgow Evening Times" dealt very kindly with the van-dwellers in the following terms:—"Showmen and gipsies, the two classes most particularly interested in the Moveable Dwellings Bill, both receive favourable testimonials to their good conduct in the report just issued by the Special Committee of the House of Lords on that measure. Not that such testimonials were needed. The modern showman is quite as respectable nowadays as anyone else, though the authorities of villages may still meet them with the traditional hostility as wanderers on the face of the earth. The present Bill, to a certain extent, is a notable victory for those whose caravans are welcome visitants all over the country. As at first framed the Bill classed showmen among altogether unrespectable vagabondage, those responsible apparently failing to recognise that the modern showmen are quite a new class from many of those who in former days were regarded as merely akin to 'gangrel buddies.'"

All the London and the great provincial papers gave the report of the Select Committee in a slightly condensed form, and with one voice praised the Committee for its manifest care and impartiality. Its chief value to showmen lies in the fact that a tribunal that carries Parliamentary sanction and powers has settled once and for all time the real status of the travelling showman. The showman has come into his own at last. The tribunal created by the mistaken energy of the zealots red-hot to reform the van-dweller off the face of the earth has, by the overwhelming force of the case for the showman's life and character, pronounced utterly in his favour. His trade and mode of life is declared to be

"Honest and respectable," and that, "as regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required."

The Triumph of the Guild Work.

Twenty-one years of hard work have resulted in clearing the ground of the great mass of prejudice, based upon ignorance chiefly, against show life. The status of the travelling showman is now admitted beyond all cavil and dispute. The proof is found in a Parliamentary report of the greatest value—a report that exonerates the showman from the cruel allegations formerly brought against his moral and domestic life, and the equally fallacious charges against his avocation as catering for the amusement of the people. For that vindication, for that immense stride forward, we have to thank primarily the noble band of workers who for over twenty years past have devoted time, talent, and means to uplift show life. It has been our pride and joy to have a share in that work. We rejoice in it to the full. We have now one, and only one, clear issue before us, and that is to obtain amendments in the Bill when it comes before Parliament that will prevent it being used as an instrument of oppression by local authorities against show life. With those amendments the Showmen's Guild will now proceed, confident of success. Having cleared away all the moral and hygienic misapprehensions, it will be comparatively easy work to obtain from Parliament security against interference with a business admittedly lawful and honest. We shall deal in future articles with the necessary amendments to secure this object.

Important Point for Showmen.

A summons was heard on Aug. 19, at High Wycombe, which was issued under Section 90 of the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, at the instance of the Superintendent of Police against Mr. W. Wilson for using the Royal Arms in connection with his business.

Mr. Arthur Bolden (Messrs. Strong, Buckmaster and Bolden) defended.

It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Wilson had eighteen Coats of Arms on his roundabout, each about 18in. in diameter. Sixteen of the Arms were those of various countries, and two were the Royal Arms.

The Act says:—

"If any person without the authority of His Majesty uses in connection with any business, trade calling, or profession the Royal Arms (or Arms so nearly resembling them as to be calculated to deceive) in such manner as to be calculated to lead to the belief that he is duly authorised to use the Royal Arms, he shall be liable on conviction under the Summary Jurisdiction Act to a fine not exceeding £20."

It was admitted by the witnesses for the prosecution that the Royal Arms being on the roundabout did not lead them to believe that the roundabout proprietor was a Royal Warrant holder. It was submitted for the defence that merely using the Royal Arms without authority was not prohibited by the section; that what was prohibited was pretending that he had authority; that there was nothing to suggest that the Arms were used by authority of His Majesty, also that the Royal Warrant was only granted to shopkeepers and tradesmen for supplying goods, and that in no event could a proprietor of a roundabout, as such, obtain a Royal Warrant; that therefore there could be no suggestion in any way that the Royal Arms were used under the authority of His Majesty, or that the defendant was a Royal Warrant holder. It was also pointed out that in the case of Cameron v. Kennedy (64 J.P. 41) it was held that it was a mere question of fact whether the Royal Arms had been used in such manner as to be calculated to lead other persons to believe that the trader was carrying on his trade by or under the authority of His Majesty.

The Bench, however, took the view that the mere fact of putting the Royal Arms on the roundabout constituted an offence, but after some argument dismissed the summons upon payment of costs.

Beeston Feast, Leeds.

Here for the feast were Farrar and Tyler's picture palace, Redfern's roundabouts, Mme. Ali's side-show, and numerous throwing games, hooplas, football nets, cokers, and variety stalls.

Barnsley Feast.

The chief attractions were Tuby and Son's coliseum of light and illustration, Farrar and Tyler's similar concern, Tuby's motors and the four-abreast gallopers, Farrar and Tyler's gigantic set, the scenic railway, Amos's steam swings, variety frames, hoop-la circles, throwing games, &c., by Messrs. Doubtfire, Spooner, Norman, Barraclough, Hepworth, Davies, Sedgwick, Hellier, Nolan, Curran, Bradley, Gledhill, Wilburn, Posty, Marshall, Hobson, and Halstead.

Hospital Fête at Llanelly.

Mr. Henry Studt, on Friday and Saturday of last week, held his annual fête and gala on Stradey Park, Llanelly, in aid of the Llanelly Hospital. After the formal opening, Mr. Studt and a distinguished company were entertained in a pavilion by Mr. David John, of Felinfoel. Mr. Studt had on the ground his two gigantic machines, the four-abreast zoo, and the Venetian gondolas. Messrs. David Boswell, George Roberts, Prof. Lloyd, and numerous others had shooters, hoop-las, and other games.

The variety artists who performed on a large stage were the Five Sisters Warwick, very clever and charming trick cyclists; the Olracs, marvellous acrobats, who added unadulterated comedy to their clever business; the Sylvanas, graceful and clever trapezists, one of these young ladies being exceptionally clever in the work; and Mlle. Hengleur, with her wonderful troupe of performing dogs. All drew hearty plaudits from the large crowd present.

Important Showman Meetings at Oldham.

We direct our readers' attention to the important meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, to be held at Oldham on Tuesday next, Aug. 30. Advantage will also be taken of this gathering of showmen to hold a joint committee of the Union and the Showmen's Guild (and it is hoped of the executive of the Lancashire and Cheshire Stallholders' Federation) to consider the amendments to the new Moveable Dwellings Bill. This joint committee will follow after the Union meeting. The Rev. T. Horne will attend and explain the new Bill and discuss amendments.

White City, Manchester.

The well-known Band of H.M. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers commenced a fortnight's engagement on Monday, and are giving much pleasure by their programmes. The firework displays on Saturdays are very much appreciated. The annual feasts (or wakes as they are called in Lancashire) are bringing large numbers of people to Manchester, who find their way to the White City, and keep the various amusing devices in constant working every day.

New Electric Theatre at Falkirk.

The opening ceremony of the Electric Theatre, Falkirk, was performed on Monday evening by Bailie Dillon in presence of a large and representative gathering. The building, which was formerly a church, has been internally reconstructed and converted into a beautiful and compact theatre, in which the special attraction will be pictures, with an occasional variety turn. After the opening ceremony an attractive programme of pictures was shown, the audience being highly delighted. Illustrated songs were also given by Mr. J. C. Powell. The building is lighted throughout with electricity, and above the stage are a couple of electric fans, which keep the atmosphere cool. The front seats are plush tip-up chairs, the second seats are also well upholstered, and in all the other parts of the house the comfort of the patrons has been well considered.

National Service League.

The National Service League has inaugurated a series of Bioscope lectures, with the object of awakening public interest in the question of National Service. The lectures are to be given in various parts of the country, and the pictures will illustrate National Service and Defence.

Mr. Gunn, of Bombay.

Mr. J. A. Gunn, the manager of the Novelty Theatre for the Excelsior Kinematograph Company, Bombay, who has been making a holiday in England for the past six months, returned to Bombay per s.s. Persia on Thursday last via Marseilles. During his holiday Mrs. Gunn has presented her husband with a bouncing boy.

FILM GOSSIP.

Fresh-Air Fund Film.

At the Holloway Town Hall, Holloway-road, N., Mr. F. R. Griffiths is this week having shown a film specially taken on the occasion of the F.A.F. outing on the proceeds of his recent performances in aid of that most deserving cause. The film is a delightful picture of happy children, transferred for a few hours from the slums of London to the wooded glades of Epping Forest. The audience is given an opportunity of subscribing to the Fresh-Air Fund. Mr. Griffiths intends sending this film to his other London halls, and will then hand it over to the *Daily Express*, which will be prepared to lend it to picture theatre proprietors.

Brussels Exhibition Fire.

A particularly interesting film in the always attractive series screened at the luxurious Kensington Picture Theatre last week was the Brussels Exhibition Fire (Gaumont), some finely photographed and wonderful pictures depicting the terrible destruction wrought by the fire demon. In the programme also were the amusing Giles's First Trip to London (Wrench), Wild Animals (Cricks and Martin), The Planter's Wife (A. B.), Poor Luck's Dream (Hepworth), Tide of Fortune (Imp.), a beautiful travel film, Trip through Sweden (Urban), Betty Goes from Bad to Worse (Pathé), and The Bandit's Wife (Essanay). There is a complete change of programme here every Monday and Thursday.

Adventures of "Mr. Pictures."

The missing "Mr. Pictures, of Pringle's Picture Palace, Edinburgh," had some narrow escapes in the course of his wanderings. On Prince's-street he was accosted by a man with an impediment in his speech, who addressed him thus:—"Are y-y-y-you Mi-Mi-Mi-Mister——" but the rest of the sentence was lost in air as the missing man went on his way. Another man asked him if he was "Mr. Pringle," to which of course he replied, denying the honour. He was ultimately run to earth by a newsboy at the top of the Waverley steps, who was presented with the £4 10s. offered in the Picture Palace, Grove-street.

Church Door for Cinematograph Screen.

A large crowd assembled in the churchyard of Shoreditch Parish Church recently to watch a novel experiment on the part of the Rev. Mr. Hardy, one of the curates. For over an hour he held the attention of the gathering by means of a series of pictures of the drinking habits of England from early days, illustrated by cinematograph views. An interesting feature was the utilisation of the ancient church door, on which was placed the screen for the showing of the pictures.

Picture Palace Fire.

An outbreak of fire occurred during a performance at Vint's Picture Palace, Kettering, last Saturday evening. While an acrobatic display was in progress a screen composed of wood and felt at the back of the gallery suddenly burst into flames. The presence of mind of the pianist, who continued to play, and a reassuring shout from the manager to the audience to keep their seats prevented a serious panic. Some women fainted and were carried through the dense smoke into safety.

Operator's Narrow Escape.

The operator, Horace Nicholson, ensconced in the iron cinematograph box, had a narrow escape. After switching off the current he gathered together his films and, rushing through the flames, carried them into safety by clinging to the balcony in front of the building, from which position he was safely rescued. Many members of the audience constituted themselves into a fire brigade and passed up buckets of water. The flames had been got under when the Fire Brigade arrived. The outbreak is supposed to have been caused by a lighted cigarette dropped near the screen, which was a temporary erection during alterations to the seating accommodation.

Not Caused by Cinematograph.

The machinery connected with the cinematograph pictures and the electrical connections for the same had nothing whatever to do with the outbreak, and were found intact after the fire was subdued. By a quarter to eight the last spark had been extinguished, and the damage done, apart from the ravages of smoke and water, was not extensive.

Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

The provision of afternoon tea to patrons in the stalls and grand circle at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, has added greatly to the popularity of the matinée performances at this popular picture house. Mr. Waller Jeffs, the exhibitor of the New Century Pictures, is to be congratulated upon successfully carrying out an enterprising idea.

Presentation to Mr. W. S. Redfern.

An interesting ceremony took place at the Forest Gate Electric Theatre on Wednesday of last week, the event being a presentation to Mr. W. S. Redfern, resident-manager to the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., prior to his departure to Birmingham as acting-manager at the new electric palace recently erected there. The presentation, which consisted of a handsome wallet subscribed for by the members of the staff, was made by Mr. Chas. Levick, seconded by Mr. J. B. Stephenson, each wishing the recipient every success in his new appointment.

Good Business at the Forest Gate House.

During the past few weeks exceptionally bright business has been done, and the programmes submitted have merited the unstinted praise of appreciative audiences. The theatre is now under the joint managership of Mr. Chas. Levick and Mr. J. B. Stephenson, whose particular care is to see to the comfort of their patrons and the maintenance of the high standard of entertainment provided.

Dublin and the Johnson-Jeffries Films.

Dublin is the first city in Europe in which pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight have been exhibited. Films of the contest were shown at the Rotunda, Dublin, on Saturday night, and, despite warnings from the police authorities and protests from the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin

WANTED.

A MIDGET

From 32in. to 36in. high.

A long and comfortable engagement.

Apply, with full particulars—letter only—to:
"MIDGET," c/o Will Collins,
Broadmead House,
Panton Street, Haymarket, S.W.

(Dr. Walsh) and others, three exhibitions were given, and drew crowded houses.

Mr. Jameson and the Police.

During Saturday afternoon, at the instance of the Lord Mayor, a warning was conveyed by the police to the manager of the show, Mr. J. T. Jameson, that he would be acting illegally in exhibiting the pictures without a licence. He replied that he had no licence as yet, but that in that respect he was in the same position as the proprietors of other cinematograph exhibitions. Moreover, he added, a licence was not necessary, as he was using non-inflammatory materials. He invited the police to test the films themselves, which, he says, they did, and found that his statement was correct.

Licence Granted.

A licence has since been granted to the proprietor of the pictures on behalf of the Dublin Corporation, all the necessary regulations having been complied with. The pictures are said to be of excellent quality, and give a comprehensive view of the fight and the scenes both before and after.

Cinematograph and Caravan Health Crusade.

Miss Lena Ashwell (Mrs. H. J. F. Simson), the well-known actress, on Saturday last, at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, inaugurated the first caravan of the Women's Imperial Health Association for Great Britain. "To make the homes of England bright, the mothers, wives, and children happy, I name thee 'Aurora,'" said Miss Ashwell, in christening the caravan by breaking a flagon of clear water over the wheel. The caravaners will visit various towns and villages in the South-West, and hope to educate the people on the necessity for healthy homes and the best way to secure them. This will be done by means of cinematograph and lantern displays, lectures, and leaflets. Non-inflammable films will be used.

Empire Electric Theatre, Exeter.

The Empire Electric Theatre, situate in High-street, Exeter, and in the centre of the city, was opened on Thursday, when a delightful series of cinematograph pictures were shown. The building is admirably adapted for the purpose, and, judging by the large attendances, it seems as though the new venture will meet with success. The intention of the management is to present the latest pictures of public events, with an entire change of programme on Mondays and Thursdays.

Panic at a Cinematograph Show.

A panic occurred at a cinematograph entertainment at Newport (I.W.) on Monday night, the audience erroneously believing that an explosion had taken place. There were shouts of "Fire!" and the hall was quickly cleared of its occupants, none of whom was hurt.

Paisley's Third Picture Theatre.

Paisley has this week opened its third picture theatre. The latest is organised by the Scottish Moving Picture Co., who have transformed a large church into a veritable luxurious place of entertainment. The area is seated with an eye to the comfort of patrons, whilst the balcony and dress circle provide first-class accommodation, the latter especially being handsomely seated. The management aim at a high-class show, and this week's opening series of pictures is a most interesting one. A local picture—one of the great thread works ceasing work—naturally takes precedence. Undoubtedly the pictures have made a good start. Mr. Arthur Vivian is the managing-director, and Mr. George Parnell is undertaking the duties of acting-manager. To mark the occasion of the opening, the proceeds of the first house on Monday night were devoted to the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, in the town, the directors of that institution being well represented at the initial performance.

Limerick Electric Picture Palace.

The electric picture palace attached to the roller skating rink continues to draw crowded and appreciative audiences. This week Pathé's Animated Gazette is the *pièce de résistance* for all patrons of sport, fashion, and spectacle; whilst the humorous advocates have The Old Maid's Valentine, A Day in the Country, and Hot Pickles. The double turns of the well-known mimic Mr. Willie Lee are very entertaining, and his recitals give much satisfaction. Director Kidd personally superintends the film section, so as to cater for his many well-wishers, and, with the assistnce of a first-class operator in Mr. Potts, of Walturdaw fame, a clever pianist in Miss May O'Connor, and a most energetic secretary in Mr. Ledger, the continued success of the Palace is not to be wondered at.

Bath Electric Theatre

The crowds that daily attend the Bath Electric Theatre grow larger and larger as the evenings draw in, and the management is to be congratulated upon the way it supplies the very latest films placed upon the market.

Wide World Pictures at Aldershot.

An excellent selection of films is being shown twice nightly this week at Messrs. Golder and Sloman's establishment in Station-road, Aldershot, where full houses continue to be the order. The special subject is Drink, taken from the sensational play of that title, in which the late Charles Warner made so great a name. It is interesting to note that the film is 2,500ft. long, and takes three-quarters of an hour to show. Another good picture is that representing some of the experiences of the famous detective Nick Carter; whilst amongst other dramatic, humorous, and instructive films is A Tramp's Daughter, which is proving a great favourite.

"The Way of the World."

During the week the programme at Poole's Picture Palace, Ipswich, will be headed by The Way of the World, a lesson in Christian charity, in which a young priest leaves the mission house to see the ways of mankind in the outer world. He obtains work in the fields, goes to dance assemblies, but his entreaties to the multitude to seek righteousness are of no avail. He rescues an unfortunate young woman from a howling mob, and tries to find a place of healthy safety for her, but again the world shows its un-Christian spirit by refusing to receive her. Hopeless, the young man makes his way back to the mission. He has hardly arrived when the young woman appears and prostrates herself before the Father and the young priest to ask prayers for God's grace. The old Father turns to the young priest and exclaims, "Not in vain if one soul is saved." The pictures were taken at the actual spot, the historic San Gabriel Mission, California.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

This week's programme here has included the following interesting films:—Jones Buys a Bird Cage (Urban), The Bridal Dress (Eclair), The Light that Failed (Clarendon), A Difficult Capture (Eclair), The Purgation (A. B.), The Byeways of Byron, Funeral of Miss Florence Nightingale, Scenes in Devon, and The Warwick Animated Chronicle, with all the latest news.

Dublin Horse Show Pictures.

Animated photographers have been particularly busy at the Dublin Horse Show during the past few days, and corps of operators organised by Mr. Alfred Butt have been particularly fortunate in being the first to submit a full and comprehensive series of pictures showing every scene and incident of the fixture up-to-date. These pictures were presented for the first time at the Palace on Thursday evening.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Oct. 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 16 on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Sept. 5 and 12.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Sept. 22 (three nights),
Sept. 25 (week),
Oct. 10,
and various dates onward.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
PIER PAVILION,
HASTINGS,
may be booked in conjunction with
Pier, Eastbourne.

Possible Vacancies,
Sept. 22, Oct. 10.

Walter Maxwell,
New Theatre, London.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rebuilt at a cost of £15,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Nov. 7, 14, 28,
and various onwards.
Address,
F. W. Marriott Watson, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 14 and 28,
Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
BLACKBURN.
The Most Magnificent Theatre in East Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 28 and Dec. 12.
Address, Harry Yorke, Managing-Director.

WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Dec. 26 and week, Musical Comedy preferred; also First-class Attractions (not Melodrama) for Nov. 14, 21, and onwards. Apply, Secretary, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 5 and 19 (last three only each week). Theatre just been entirely redecorated inside and out; circles reseated.
Apply, J. A. Campbell.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Henry C. Arnold, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Companies, for Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, brilliant success of reopening. Many thanks to numerous friends, managers, Artists who so kindly wired us. Mrs. Kimberley also wishes to thank Lester Collingwood, Esq., Chas. Darrell, Esq., for most handsome bouquets.

Only vacant dates, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Dec. 19, few Spring.

Write, F. G. Kimberley, T. R., Wolverhampton.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 6, 7, 8 (?), 10 (?), 31 (?), Nov. 7, 21, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms, re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17 (?), 24. Xmas Panto (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

WANTED, for Palace, Derby, strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, with own Scenery and good printing, twice nightly. Oct. 3, on; must state lowest, share or certainty. Allan Edwardes.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to
R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company for Dec. 19 and, possibly, for Nov. 7. First-class Attraction only for latter date. Apply, J. H. Curry, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 36. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, April 3, 10, 17, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," "The Dairymaids," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

IMPORTANT SOUTH COAST CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Companies
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 3 (3), 17 (?), and various onwards.
Apply for all above.
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 31, Nov. 14, 28 and Dec. 5, first three nights.
NEW THEATRE, NEWARK.
Vacant Sept. 12, 13, 14, Oct. 17, 18, 19, Jan. 9, and on, first three nights.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16 and 30.
THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Sept. 8, 9, 10, and 22, 23, 24.
CORPORATION THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Vacant Sept. 12, 13, 14, Oct. 17, 18, 19, Jan. 16, and on.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The leading theatre of the town and district. The smart theatre that draws the smart audience. The theatre that does the business.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Apply, Calvert Routledge.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND T., WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
Sept. 19 and 26.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Aug. 29 (three nights), wire, Oct. 20 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
Oct. 17 (three nights).
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Sept. 12,
Re-opening of Dramatic Season.
Also Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17.
James Bell.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Oct. 3, Great Success of Twice Nightly Performances.
Address, Rich Waldon, as above.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 19, Xmas on. Also Variety Combinations. Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on. Alfred Manners.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Manager, C. Burgess.

WANTED, Good Companies for following Theatres: T. R., Chatham, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 19; T. R., Smethwick, Sept. 26, Dec. 12 and 19; T. R., Woolwich, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and 19; T. R., Aston, Dec. 12 and 19.
Write,
Dan Barnard, Elephant and Castle Theatre.

WANTED, Known, Companies Touring South Wales should not fail to Book New Theatre, Pontnewydd. For Vacant Dates, apply, A. B. Mackay, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only fully licensed Theatre in Wirral.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for 1911.
Apply, James Kiernan.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 12, 19, and 26. Address, E. B. Goulden.

OPERA HOUSE DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 5 (3 nights), 22nd (3), 26th (3), Oct. 3 (Holiday 3). W. E. Potts.

WANTED, Companies, Sept. 8 and 19 (three nights each), and dates on, three night bookings preferred. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 1, 2, 3, Sept. 8, 9, 10, Sept. 26 (week). Wire, Macdona.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Sept. 19 and Oct. 3 and 10. Apply, Managing-Director, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, for Gaiety Theatre, Worksop, Attraction, Sept. 1, 2, and 3; certainty will be given. Apply, S. Goodman, 21, Gordon-street, Gordon-square, London, W.C.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Sept. 12 and Oct. 17. Apply, Sherwood and Co.

ABERYSTWYTH ROYAL PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, J. H. Rowe,
C/o A. F. Hughes, Town Clerk, Aberystwyth.

HAGGAR'S T. (late Royalty), LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. Haggar, sen.
Manager, Jas. Haggar.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedies, Comic Operas, good Panto. for Xmas week, or later. Good terms to good shows.

COMPANIES WANTED.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.

WANTED, Plays for the People, various Autumn 1911 (few only), and Spring, 1912.

IS THE DRAMA DECLINING?

THE MET.'S ANSWER TO ITS PESSIMISTIC CRITICS.

July and August, 1910.

Mr. F. B. Woulfe Répertoire (return), end of July, £450 in two weeks (summer prices).
George A. De Gray, "Angel of His Dreams" (very fine weather), £200 (Aug.).
Miss Millais and Henry Herne's "No Man's Land," Aug. (return), £230, finishing to eighty-odd pounds (Saturday last) (summer prices); Morton Powell's "Brought to Ruin" (return), £100 in two nights, Monday and Tuesday last.
The Drama is the "oak" in the forest of the "people's" lives, deeply rooted and entwined in their hearts, and, properly tended—i.e., intelligently written—evidencing a keen compassionate knowledge of their domestic conditions, hopes, ambitions, joys, and sorrows, coupled with artistic portrayal, close attention to realism in mounting, dressing, and detail—of which there are many notable examples—and the virile, sympathetic co-operation of theatre management, will thrive and justify its ancient title, "Monarch of the Forest," years after the ephemeral bloom has fallen from the branches of its deciduous rivals.

No finer list of Autumn and Spring Attractions ever presented in the City.

28, Park-circus,
Glasgow.

Dear Mr. Jefferson,—
It gives Lady Bilsland and myself much pleasure to send you our signed photographs. We shall always cherish a most grateful recollection of your valued influence in raising funds for the relieving of distress in the City through want of employment.
With all good wishes,
Yours most truly,
Wm. Bilsland,
Ex-Lord Provost of Glasgow.

Under its capable management the Metropole, with its comfortable and well-kept auditorium, cosy smoking lounge, and elegantly decorated interiors, bids fair to become one of the most effectively active civilising agencies in the central district of our city.—Evening News.

Coms. re dates, Arthur Jefferson. On all matters affecting the visit, printing, plots, daybill, "booming," &c., Gordon Jefferson.

Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
FALKIRK, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 5.
MOTHERWELL, Sept. 26, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12.
LEITH, Oct. 10, 24, Dec. 5 and 12.
AYR, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26 and onwards
Apply, R. C. Buchanan,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, 21.
onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, The Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book, First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, Leon Vint.
The above entirely New Theatre opened Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light.
Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, good Musical Comedies, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, on, with exceptions; Easter; certainty only.
Companies booked include: "Fatal Wedding," Sign of the Cross," "Still Alarm," "Country Girl in London," "Her Secret Lover," "When It Was Dark," "The Sinner," "Eve of Her Wedding," "Life's Revenge," "Lucky 'Liza," Mr. F. B. Woulfe, "Nick Carter," "Life for a Life," "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," "Beggar Princess," "Driving a Girl to Destruction," "No Mother to Guide Her," &c., &c.
All communications re Dates to
William Minto, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
WANTED, First-class Money Magnets.
Vacant
Sept. 12, Oct. 24 (?), Nov. 7.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Oct. 10, London and Newcastle,
and Dec. 19, Dundee.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur,
24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, High-class Companies,
Sept. 1 (3), 5 (3), and 22(3).
W. E. Potts, Theatre, Dunfermline.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17,
Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
Rushworth and Son, Proprietors.

DRILL HALL, WINSFORD, CHESHIRE.
WANTED, to fill Season's Programme, Good Musical Comedy or Drama,
Sept. 27,
Nov. 8,
Dec. 6.
Williams, Printer, Winsford.

HIPPODROME, HOYLAND, YORKSHIRE.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, Pantomimes, &c., Sept. 12, on. Apply, Scott Alexander.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WINTER GARDENS, BOOTLE.
Messrs. ADELER, SUTTON, and ALLANDALE.
WANTED, Good Comedy and Musical Comedy Companies, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and on, with exceptions.
Apply, Charles Boult, Manager.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Panto., to Open Boxing Day, for three weeks. Good show will take Big Money. Full particulars, Pacey's Agency, 179, Brixton-road. Telegrams, "Pacey's, London." 'Phone, Brixton 87.

WANTED, good Attractions, for Sept. 12, 15, Oct. 3, 4 (two nights), 6, 7, 8, onwards.
Phillips, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, for Oct. 3, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy Preferred; also Dec. 5 and 12, and Feb. 20 and 27, 1911.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19; also Christmas and New Year's Weeks.
Open for a First-class Musical Comedy.
All communications re Grand Opera House, to be addressed there; all others to J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate, Sept. 12, 13, 14, Oct. 24-31 (week's). Now Booking Season Dates, 1911. Apply, Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Nov. 7, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 7. Wallace Davidson, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec., on, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec., on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, "Sante," Radcliffe.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

Walter Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, Dec. 5.
Douglas Bruce.
Norwood, 20, Wentworth-rd., Harborne, B'ham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Jan. 30.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. Barry, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The most successful play of the century, which has just played in Dublin to £900, and in Belfast last week to over £650 during the hottest fortnight ever known in Ireland.
WANTED, Weeks of Nov. 14 and 21.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly.
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, onwards.
Big Company, Chorus, Specialities,
Special Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Nottingham (return).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, Oct. 10 (three nights), Dec. 12.

All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
Aug. 29, Theatre Royal, Aldershot (fifth visit).

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for
Oct. 17 (Midlands or South).
Oct. 24 (Midlands or South).
Address, Cecil Barth,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights), Nov. 21 (three nights), 28, Jan. 2 and Feb. 6.
Address,
Frank M. Thorne, Gaiety T., Methil, Fife.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
MAITLAND MARLER as CAPN. BAILEY.
Entire Production Travelled.
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 26, Midlands.
Shelton, T. R., South Shields

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for High-class Farcical Comedy,
Sept. 25, Oct. 10, onwards.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur,
24a, Regent-street, S.W.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
Once or Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, 19, Oct, with exceptions onwards.
Managers' Opinions:—
A moneymaker.—Fred Warden, Belfast. A pay-box attraction.—H. Sheriff Howard, Longton. A beautiful drama.—E. H. Page, Preston. Splendid.—J. Turnbull, New Washington. A return date? Certainly.—Percy Broadhead, Manchester. Refer Refer Refer
Any Theatres Visited. Re dates address,
Robert Faulkner, O. H., Wakefield.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck. Turned hundreds away by 7.15 last Saturday night, Smethwick. Refer. Absolutely Fourteen Artists appear. A Great Play with a Known Title.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2 (?), 9, Feb. 6, and on. J. Forbes Knowles.
Aug. 29, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, Theatre, for Oct. 31, for "The Fighting Chance." Apply, Popular Playhouses, Ltd., Lyceum Theatre, Strand, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
Vacant Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Vacant Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. Also Vacant, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The most successful Drama Touring.
WANTED, Sept. 19, wire,
Wanted, Sept. 19, wire.
Wanted, Sept. 19, wire.
Also Sept. 26.
Playing to enormous business everywhere.
Refer Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds.
Tom Sherwood, Esq., Opera House, Wakefield.
Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland.
Harris Pineberg, Esq., Star Theatre, Liverpool.
W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead.
J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull; &c., &c.
Re dates address, A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Sparkling Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3,
Oct. 10, Oct. 10, Oct. 10,
and later.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER, The Depositories, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17,
Oct. 17,
unexpectedly vacant through theatre changing hands.
Also Vacant,
Dec. 12 (3 nights, to precede Cambridge), Dec. 19, Christmas, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and various Spring and Autumn, 1911, including Easter and Whit.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON, to-day, Lyric, Hammersmith, W.; Monday, T. R., Stratford.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 17. Christmas, Christmas, The Financial Success.
Splendid reception and business this week at Bordesley. Refer, refer.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"LIGHTS OUT," as produced by H. B. Irving at the Waldorf and Savoy Theatres. Refer T. R., Exeter; Opera House, Torquay; T. R., York. Return dates booked everywhere. Managers say: Cast and production is perfect.
WANTED, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and various onwards. Address, J. W. LINDSAY ELLIS, this, T. R., Peterboro'; next, Opera House, Kidderminster.

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
WANTED, Theatres, for the above, Once or Twice Nightly,
Sept. 19, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Address, B. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THE WILSON BARRETT ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION).
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28
Dec. 19 and 26, and on with exceptions.
Managers requiring a sound attraction and sure money-maker write or wire,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Aug. 29, Palace, Gloucester.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19
Wanted, Sept. 12 and 19.
Wanted, Sept. 12 and 19.
Wires, Alexandra, Widnes (third visit).
Letters, New Hippodrome, Neath.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.,
presenting the Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION,"
by Russell Vaun, part author of "The Great Awakening." Played, Staged, and Advertised. Please refer. Thanks Hugh Robertson, Esq., Arthur Carlton, Esq., A. C. Moody, Esq.
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates this year, Oct. 10, precede Bishop Auckland; Nov. 21, follow Ramsgate; Nov. 28, Dec. 5, precede St. Helens; Dec. 26, precede Star, Swansea. Now Booking Spring 1911. MARTIN COMSTOCK, G. T., Lancaster.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Known, Vacant through transfer, Oct. 3, North or Midlands, Nov. 7, 28.
"LAUGHING 'LIZA,"
a New Musical Farce,
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Only Vacancies,
Jan. 16, Feb. 20, and Easter Week.
Address,
MISS FLORENCE BAINES,
Theatre Royal, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Van Biene, the Actor-Musician, "The Broken Melody," now approaching the 6,000th performance.
Wanted, Good Theatre for Christmas, 1910, also Jan. 30, Feb. 26.
Address, AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, Prince's, Bradford.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."
WANTED, for J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, including Mr. Edward Lewis, good Theatres, Midlands or North, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED.—Mr. Leonard Boyne has a few dates vacant in Oct. and Nov., for himself and his Company in "Raffles," South or Midlands preferable. Address, 9, St. Martin's-court, London, W.C.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 19,
Sept. 19,
Oct. 3, 17.
Miss Annie Bell as
Flare-Flare.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

LAURENCE IRVING and MABEL HACKNEY.
Full Company and Two Entire Productions.
Everything Carried.
WANTED, Oct. 24 (South), Nov. 21 and 28, and Dec. 5 (South to Midlands).
Also Special Dates for Great Attractions, Christmas Week and onwards.
"THE UNWRITTEN LAW" and "MARGARET CATCHPOLE." Immediate Success of both Plays.
Address, SYDNEY PAYTON, Manager for Mr. Laurence Irving, Grand Theatre, Douglas.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Produced on Monday
at the
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Held the Huge House
Held the Huge House
Held the Huge House
from
Start to Finish.
Sensation on Sensation.
Sensation on Sensation.
The Curtain Falling
midst
a
Scene
of
Tremendous Enthusiasm.
Tremendous Enthusiasm.
The Greatest Success
of the Year.
A Scenic Production
of
Unequalled Splendour.
A
Company of
Exceptional Merit.
A
Drama to Draw
Drama to Draw
everywhere.
Figures Speak.
Pavilion Theatre.
Monday, Splendid Opening.
Receipts
Receipts
Gone Up each Night
Gone Up each Night
Gone Up each Night
The Drury Lane of the East
The Drury Lane of the East
The Drury Lane of the East
has
in
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
a
Drury Lane Drama
Drury Lane Drama
equalling
The Greatest of all the Great Successes.
This the Expressed Opinion
of the
Management
Management
and
of
the Paying Public.
the Paying Public.
Refer, Refer, Refer.
J. W. Rosenthal, Esq., Managing-Director,
J. W. Rosenthal, Esq., Managing-Director.
Refer,
F. Brown, Esq., Manager.
F. Brown, Esq., Manager.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
The
Sensational Success.
Playing to
tremendous business.
and
Receipts still going up
each night.
Managers
cordially invited to witness the play
this week,
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Next week, Grand Theatre, Fulham.
The Scenery
a Triumph of Scenic Art.
Brilliant Colouring, Beautiful Staging.
Company
one of the Strongest Touring.
Play
the Greatest of all Mrs. Powell's Dramas.
and
the Receipts
the Receipts
the Receipts
jump up nightly.
jump up nightly.
jump up nightly.
Hundreds waiting at Early Doors
Hundreds waiting at Early Doors
each night
at the
Pavilion Theatre.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Another Brilliant Success.
Another Brilliant Success.
Another Brilliant Success.
Produced on Monday
at the
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Scored a Triumph.
Scored a Triumph.
A
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Vacant,
Oct. 10 (?), Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23 (?), Feb. 6, March 27, April 10, May 1, 15, only vacant dates till Oct., 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Brilliant Reception
Monday,
on its return visit
to
Manager Arthur Jefferson's
Popular Metropole, Glasgow.
Received by a packed house
with
unbounded enthusiasm.
Morton Powell
offers his sincere thanks to
Arthur Jefferson, Esq.,
for his unsolicited and complimentary telegram,
recording the
brilliant reception accorded
to the Play on its return to
Glasgow,
testifying to the fact that
the great
Metropole Theatre
was packed to overflowing
on Monday night,
on Tuesday night,
and prophesying like results for
each night of the week.
Morton Powell
sincerely appreciates
the generous expressions of goodwill
expressed by
Arthur Jefferson, Esq.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
In spite of various
imitations,
still stands alone.
One of the Greatest Draws Touring.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 9, 30, March 20,
April 3, 24, May 15, 22, June 6.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
A Great Drama.
A Great Draw.
Managers
who have not booked this play,
who have not seen this play,
are invited
to
witness it,
and to
enquire at any Theatre played.
Big Pantomime business
has been done again and again.
Managers can be supplied with particulars.
Vacant,
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 16, 23, Feb. 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
This Strong Human Story
is one of the most certain
Money Attractions Touring
Mounted, Acted, and Advertised
in the well-known
Morton Powell manner.
Nothing spared.
A Great Popular Play.
A Great Popular Play.
Vacant,
Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 12, 26.
Jan. 2, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 19, Oct. 17.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10.
Vacant Oct. 10.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Theatre Royal, Bolton.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 10, for
"The King and the Unknown Woman" Co.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, c/o "The Era."

CHARLES WINDERMERE
and his Company, in
the Three-Act Farce,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
Eleventh Month of Tour.
WANTED, Wanted, Sept. 12, Sept. 12.
Between Cromer and Sunderland.
Aug. 29, GLOBE THEATRE, DEAL.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Sept. 26,
to follow Blackburn.
HORACE STANLEY, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, for "The Angel of His Dreams." Enormous business last week at Motherwell. Glasgow and Motherwell's verdict endorsed by Falkirk last night. The huge house packed from floor to ceiling. Unprecedented reception of company and play. Insistent calls after each act. Thanks the seven Managers who offered Sept. 5. Date fixed at Methil (return). New Production shortly, "The Forbidden Fruit." All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, Grand T., Falkirk; next, T. R., Coatbridge.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
WANTED, Xmas Date, All Scenery Carried, First-class Company; also Vacant Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, onwards, 1911. King's Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE SOWERS."
Dramatised from Seton Merriman's Novel.
Enormous success at King's, Hammersmith, last week. Tour starts September.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Send Vacant Dates. J. E. WATSON, Managers' Club.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 26, for the Standard Successes, "A Woman Worth Winning" and "The Beginning and the End." A. B. MACKAY, King's Theatre, Seacombe.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 21.
Can play one or two weeks.
WILSON BENGE, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates for Pantomime in Theatres where Big Money can be taken, to communicate at earliest with J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Refer Francis Laidler, Esq., re business at Leeds.
Vacant Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, 16, only vacant dates until Autumn, 1911.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Vacant Oct. 3, Oct. 3.
Refer re huge bus. this week, Hippo., Birkenhead.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 17 (Midlands), Special Band to Parade. Refer Arthur Carlton, Esq., re enormous business at Worcester.
Wire,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully Selected Company, including
Miss Nellie Clyde
as Nan, the Flower Girl,
Sept. 19 (between Preston and Dublin),
Oct. 3 (?),
Oct. 17 (between Birmingham and London).
Above are the only dates open till Autumn, 1911.
Address,
CHARLES GIBSON, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
The Romantic Military Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
And Dickens' Masterpiece,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD"
(a sure draw for Friday night).
Printing specially cut for each play by Allen's.
WANTED, Theatres, First Vacant Date for either or all of these Plays, Oct. 17 and 24, and Christmas Week, Jan. 23, and on.
OSWALD CRAY,
Next week, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Specially booked, Queen's, Dublin,
For Horse Show Week.
Enormous success;
Refer F. Marriott Watson, Esq.
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 24,
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
The play of intense human interest.
Wanted, Oct. 24, Dec. 26.
New Christmas Production.
A Powerful Human Play.
Wanted, Jan. 9, 16, 30.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
To-day, Queen's, Dublin; next, T. R., Barnsley.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
DRAMA, CIRCUS, VAUDEVILLE.
WANTED, Oct. 24 (through Theatre changing hands),
Dec. 26, and on, with exceptions.
Big unique show.
Address,
SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26,
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Thanks Arthur Jefferson, Esq., for contract, and Milton Bode, Esq., for offer.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR.
"A FAST LIFE."
Twenty-seventh Week of Continuous Tour.
The Great Drama that is Beating
the Big Money-makers.
WANTED, Oct. 10 (South Wales), 24, and Nov. 14.
WALTER STEELE, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S PANTOMIME.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
WANTED, Jan. 9 and 23, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly
Address, Palace, Dover.

EDWARD MARRIS'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Dec. 26, onwards, for "Dick Whittington," once or twice nightly; also Jan. 23, onwards, for "Crusoe," "Red Riding Hood," and "Aladdin," once or twice nightly; all perfect productions.
EDWARD MARRIS, 39, Prince's-place, W.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, and on, for "Caste," G. W. Anson as Eccles. ANSON, 3, Gloucester-road, Kensington. 29th, King's T., Greenock.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 (North). Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the "Havana" No. 1 Company a Good Theatre in the South or Midlands, Oct. 31. WILFRED ESMOND, Palace Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 16.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre, Bognor.

WANTED, Sept. 12, and Christmas, for "His Real Wife," the Great Money-making Domestic Play, with Star Company. Address, T. E. WARD, Lyceum, Mon.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 12 (?), Christmas, Jan. 9 (?), onward, for "His Real Wife." Address, T. E. Ward, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, the Best Theatres in England.
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in number.
The Sure Draw. Big Business Everywhere.
Really refined and clever company besides the above. Splendid Printing, Lithos, &c. This week Big Business, Hippodrome, Todmorden. Monday, Aug. 29, Empire, Burnley, sixth return. Vacant Sept. 19, to follow Bristol; Oct. 3 and 10, to follow Exeter; Nov. 14, to follow West Hartlepool. Booking us Means Sure Money. No Risk, no Worry.

WANTED, Theatre or Hall, Feb. 13, Certainty or Share,
for "Dick Whittington," twice nightly.
Address, B. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

SOUTH AFRICA.
SOUTH AFRICA.
LEONARD RAYNE.
LEONARD RAYNE.
WANTED, to sail about Feb. next, Dramatic and Comedy Artists.
Write, stating full particulars, to GEORGE RAYNE, Portugal House, Portugal-st., London, W.C.
Envelopes must be marked "South Africa," or will not receive attention.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
WANTED, Known, a few vacancies in the Cast. Photographs and full particulars,
ARTHUR SHELTON,
Theatre Royal, South Shields.

"A HOT NIGHT."
WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Quartette of Dancers; good Comedy Character Old Man; Robust Character Comedian, to play fiery, jealous Naval Captain; good Dame Comedian; Pair Sisters, with Speciality for Soubrette Parts; First-class Producer. To Rehearse Sept. 12. Terms, refs., and photos (important) to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, to Rehearse at Glasgow, Tuesday next, Robust Actor for Biddicombe; must have power and pathos. Character Actress for Biddy Maloney, must have good Irish brogue. Reply, stating height, lowest terms, and recent refs.; also photos, CHARLES GIBSON, Metropole T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Ladies for Small Parts and Chorus, none under 5ft. 6in. Photos, terms, and references indispensable. All Coms., J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Actor and Actress, must be First-class, with powerful voices. Lowest terms. THOMPSON, 166, Colwick-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, to rehearse shortly, First-class Heavy Lady and Gentleman. Full particulars, apply Box 8,178, "The Era."

WANTED, Soubrette, with good voice, capable of single turn; also clever Child Actress, with big voice. SCOTTIE, Queen's Theatre, Pembroke Dock.

STOCKPORT GARRICK SOCIETY.
WANTED, a Coach and Stage-Manager for "Julius Cæsar," Jan. and Feb.
Address, with terms,
G. L. TURNER, Garrick Chambers, Stockport.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
WANTED, a Gentleman to play good Responsible Parts; must be tall. Also a Gentleman to play Small Parts; also a Gentleman as Assistant Acting-Manager. J. SMITH-NEILL, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Character Actor, short, thick set, elderly, to play Jolly Wright (the book maker), in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back."
Apply to
Mr. HAROLD LLOYD, 108, New Bond-street, Tuesday morning.

WANTED, Rehearse Tuesday, Juvenile Gentleman, 5ft. 9in, slight, One Week, longer if suitable. Particulars and Photos, FRED MOULE, Leyton.

America. Sketch.
WANTED, immediately, Robust Cockney Character Comedian. Full particulars, FRANCES DELAVAL, 61, Crescent-road, Ramsgate. Mr. Millins communicate.

CONWAY WOOD COMPANIES.
"THE TRAINER'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman, for Captain Holcroft, not less than 5ft. 9in. (through disappointment), for South Fit-up Tour. Rehearse immediately, open Sept. 1. Photos., reference, and lowest terms, Town Hall, Bridgwater, Somerset.

WANTED, Irish Comedian or Comedian with good Irish brogue, Myles, "Colleen Bawn," Sept. 5, London. Apply, BLACKMORE'S Agency.

WANTED, for "The Thief," Gentleman to understudy and A.S.M.
Photo and Lowest Terms,
A. LIMPUS, T. R., Preston.

WANTED, Gentleman, must be very tall, to play Character Showman; also young, good-looking Lady, to play Newly-wed Wife. Both must be experienced, to join Music Hall Sketch at once. Lowest terms, refs., &c., to Box 8,110, "The Era."

WANTED, Soprano Soloist, for Trio, on the Halls (two gents., one lady, evening dress). State age, height, experience, photo. (if possible), to 15, St. Silas-road, Blackburn.

WANTED, Boys, with good falsetto or soprano voices, age 15 to 21, must be smart and not above 5ft. 6in., to play girls' part.
Address, Box 8,180, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Girls, immediately. Apply daily, 11 to 4, JONES, 190, Euston-road. Every style of Dancing taught; children's tuition a Speciality.

"THE FATAL WEDDING" TOUR.
WANTED, for above, a few Smart Children, with some experience and capable of doing a turn. Apply, 12 noon, Tuesday next, at the Lyric Opera House Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, First-class Sketch Combination, with own Special Scenery, Costumes and Music, playing Répertoire of good Dramatic and Comedy Sketches. Full particulars to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Mark envelopes "Sketch."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Basso Vocalist, compass of voice B to F, a thoroughly experienced and reliable artiste. Extensive Répertoire, Quick Study, &c. Offers invited. 10, Gipton-view, Leeds.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, for Robin Hood. Principal Girl for Maid Marion, also smart Troupe of Juveniles. Terms, refs., and photos to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Important.—Give permanent address.

FRED J. LITTLE'S
MUSICAL, DRAMATIC, & VARIETY AGENCY,
4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.
'Phone, 1626 Gerrard. Tele. address, "Wontlod."
WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, for First-class Theatres and Touring Companies, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, good Baritones for Demon Kings, &c., funny Comedians, Knockabouts, Specialities. Full particulars, with photos, latest references, absolute terms, and where can be seen working imperative. Address all communications FRED J. LITTLE, as above.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime; not less than 5ft. 7in. References, terms, to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

A. AUSTIN'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Pair of Robbers, must be exceptionally funny and good knockabouts. Photos., references, terms, and where can be seen next four weeks. A. AUSTIN, 105, Toothill-road, Loughboro'.

WANTED, a Comedian of Reputation for Pantomime. Terms and full particulars required. Also a first-class musical-director for same.
Address, B. DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, few Local Dancers, good voices,
preferably over 14, for Christmas Productions.
Apply, Aug. 30, 5 p.m., Gaiety T., Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime, Principal Comedy Parts,
Thoroughly Experienced.
Coms., Theatre Royal, Warrington.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Assistant Scenic Artist, Two or Three Weeks. Lowest Terms. T. C. DALY, Hinckley-st, Bradford, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconis, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Shortly, Engagement or Contract, High-class Work only.
Davies Massey, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; References, &c., address 25, Elgin-terrace, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, First-class Work Guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Properties, Stage Fittings, good work at moderate charges. Estimates free. L. W. Hogg, 18, Leazes-crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by First-class Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, completing Exhibition work, Sept. 3. Artist, 10, Emerald-st., London, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, competent, experienced, capable of producing pantomime, exceptional references.
Terms, particulars, to
Rich. Waldon,
Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Assistant Manager, must be young and smart, one able to do shorthand and typewriting preferred. Photo. and lowest salary to The Manager, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Immediately, Assitant-Manager, to make himself generally useful, to help with billing, props, &c., and to assist manager in the front of the house; some knowledge of accounts required. One used to twice nightly preferred. Routledge, H.M.T., Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Manager for Electric Theatre in North-West London; must be smart, capable, and up to date, and have held similar position; Security required. Application not considered unless full details sent. Apply, Box 8,181, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Manager, for Bargoed Electric Theatre, to be Opened in about five weeks. State salary required, age, experience, and copies of references,
A. Iorwerth Clark,
Bank-chambers, Bargoed, Glam.

WANTED, reliable Agent, capable of arranging Tour for established Concert Party.
Write, Box 8,160, "The Era."

WANTED, Clever Scenic Artist; also Good Practical Carpenter; must be able to make stuff, and have own box of tools; both to start immediately, London; exceptional references absolutely essential in each case. Apply The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., 21, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. Telephone, City, 2431.

WANTED, First-class Carpenter for Resident and Tour, with John Lawson's Sketches. One able to take charge. Sobriety essential. Wires, until Sat. night, Empire Theatre, Stockport; after, V. C. Newman, The Empire Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Experienced Billposter and Windowbiller, who understands circus work and horse, can join at once. Col. Baker, Alexandra's Circus, Post Office, Ramsgate.

WANTED, man to act as Property Man and be generally useful, must be smart and able to make props if required.
V. C. Newman, The Empire Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Thomas J. Hanlon, Advance Representative, Original Irish Animated Picture Co. The First Company to Produce the Jeffries-Johnson Fight Pictures in Europe, Rotunda, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, as Master Carpenter, tour or local; excellent references. Address, Carpenter, c/o Smith, 5, Grosvenor-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Props., Baggage, &c., highest refs. Refer Messrs. G. Dance, Fred Little, Chas. Macdona, &c.; can join at once, any dis. Read, 5, Magor-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, a Youth wishes to enter Theatre or Music Hall Box Office, or as Call Boy. Box 8,154, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, experienced Costumier and Wardrobe Mistress, cut, fit, any design; good refs. Write, A., 53, Church-street, Kensington.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director (Violin), with band of seven, for Theatre in the North, Permanent Engagement from Monday, Sept. 19. Apply, Managing-Director, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, good Leader (Violinist); only reliable and experienced men need apply.
Address, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

GEO. MALLINS' REPERTOIRE PANTO CO.'S. WANTED, through disappointment, Good First Violin, rehearse immediately at Athlone, long and comfortable tour to right man. Wire lowest terms and refs., Halstead, Mus.-Dir., this, County, Reading; next, P. O., Athlone. N.B.—Those who wrote last week write again.

WANTED, to Open Sept. 5, Good, First Violin and 'cello, Permanent. Terms, age, and references to Chas. Elgininstone, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, good Violinist, for Picture Palace Band of three, begin at once. Terms and references, Horace Teague, Park-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Violinist, Cornet, and Drummer, for small Variety Theatre. Full particulars to Roland Allen, Musical-Director, Palace, Dover.

PALACE, READING.
WANTED, Good Cornet, Permanency. Age, terms, and two latest Refs.
Apply, Musical Director.

WANTED, Cornet, Drums, Experienced in Drama and Variety, for Londonderry.
Terms and Recent References,
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and Drums.
W. Durrant, A.M.U.,
Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, four weeks, open Aug. 29. Wire terms and references,
Ford, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Experienced Double Bass, Commencing Oct. 1 at Milano, Italy. Apply, Stockham's Grecian Orchestra, Reichshof, Hannover. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, for Production shortly, First-class Trombonist, with deep bass voice, to sing bottom line, Quartette. Letters only, Rembrandt, Queen's, Leeds.

WANTED, Trombone Player for Monday next. Permanency to suitable man. Lowest terms to L. Beard, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, Solo Euphonium. Address, Mills, Sat., Douglas; Monday, Moffatt; Tues., Lockerbie.

WANTED, for the Ceylon and American Palace Skating Rink Band, good Bombardon Player. Terms, Secretary, Castle Hotel, Tunbridge Wells.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, for Hippodrome, Boscombe, First-class 'Cellist, to open Monday next, Aug. 29. State age, terms, references, to Amos Parker, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, for Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, open Sept. 5. Apply, stating lowest terms, age, and references, to W. J. Andrews, Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Good 'Cellist, Open Monday next. Apply, Sherwood and Co.

WANTED, Second Oboe (flat pitch) to Commence Immediately. Apply P. Tas, conductor, Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, open Sept. 5, First-class Flute. State age and last reference. Good Musicians send permanent addresses. Conductor, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Experienced Flautist and Clarionet for Theatre Orchestra, commence Monday next. Terms, &c., wire Horner, Burnley.

WANTED, Pianist for Picture Hall, Must be Experienced.
Those in London need only apply.
Address, with latest references (letters only) to F. W. Purcell,
Southside, Dalmeny-avenue, Tufnell Park, N.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Ipswich, Pianist; must be smart and thoroughly experienced in variety. Terms, refs., to H. Payne, Musical-Director.

WANTED immediately, First-class Pianist, Al Fresco, young, good appearance, for Folkestone. Wire, Teel, Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, good Pianist, for Orchestra, four weeks, open Aug. 29. Wire terms and references, Ford, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Smart Picture Pianist, used to Variety, for Permanent Theatre in Ireland. Open Sept. 19. Pictures, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Smart Double Drummer, with own Tymps, to open Empire, Croydon, Monday, 22nd. Apply, Axford, Mus. Dir.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. Williams, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-street, W.C.
C. Jesson, Secretary.

Business men appreciate business methods.
Read the following:—
"My band is now complete with A.M.U. musicians. You have helped me beyond measure. Convey my thanks to Mr. Jesson, who has dealt most kindly with me. I truly appreciate the business workings of the society."—M.D., Palace, Reading.
"The orchestra is now quite satisfactory, and is working splendidly."—Manager, Empire, Stockport.
"I think it is a splendid idea, advertising in 'The Era' for the A.M.U. I have secured a good engagement. I don't always get the chance to see the Disengaged List when engaged where there is no branch, but I can always get to see 'The Era.'"
—Edinburgh member.

WANTED, Drummer for Theatre. Apply, Rhondda Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Pianist to combine Second Violin. Apply, Warrington Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Drummer for Rink. Apply, Cardiff Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Violin Conductor. Apply, Birmingham Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Cornet and Pianist. Apply, Glasgow Branch Secretary.
Wanted, Piano Accompanist to Travel. Apply, General Office.
Wanted, Bass for Belfast. Apply, Manchester Branch Secretary.

WANTED, Musicians to Know that owing to the great success of the A.M.U. Season Band at Worthing, the Union has been asked to quote for several summer resorts for 1911. A contract has also been concluded with the Folkestone Amusement Association to send the present Worthing Band, under the direction of Mr. W. Davin, to Folkestone, on Sept. 21 next, until the end of the season.

Members of the A.M.U. will be pleased to know that the season of Sunday Evening Concerts, by the London Branch, commences at the Queen's Hall on Sunday, Sept. 4, when Mr. Coleridge-Taylor will conduct his "Hiawatha's Wedding-Feast," with the "British Symphony Orchestra and Choir." On Sept. 11 there will be a Grand Ballad and Instrumental Concert. Sept. 18 Mr. Franco Leoni will conduct the "British Symphony Orchestra and Choir," when the conductor's work "The Gate of Life," will be given. On the 26th the ever-popular "British Imperial Military Band" will give a Sullivan-Tschaikowsky programme.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS, Reg. No. 1398, T.U.
WANTED, Fully-qualified Musicians to join the above Protective Society, which is out to effect a Consolidation of the whole Musical Profession of the United Kingdom; to maintain the status of ability of the Musician, and to promote a system of fair and equitable dealing between its members and their employers.
Owing to the reliable efficiency of its members its popularity among managers and musical directors is rapidly increasing. Vacancies for certain instruments. Employers send along wants. Efficiency always guaranteed, as two-jobbers and unqualified musicians are not supplied by this society.
Wire, "Orchestra," Manchester. For pamphlets, entrance forms, &c., or musicians, apply to the most convenient of the following offices:
Manchester: S. Brolly, 1, Upper Kent-rd., Victoria Park.
Oldham: E. H. Goddard, 6, Crown-street.
London: Chris. J. Hoggett, 26, Wardour-st., W.
Glasgow: Fred Young, 71, Scott-street, Garnethill.
General Secretary: Joseph Ball, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Lady Musicians.
Brass,
String,
and Reed.
Long Engagement.
17, Angell-road, Brixton.
London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners.
Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Age, references, lowest terms,
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Musicians, Seaside Engagement, till end of season. Write, stating lowest terms, age, references, Box 8,172, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. The Standard Press, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical-Director (Violin), Disengaged shortly, with or without Orchestra, any business; extensive library; highest references. Address, 13, Camden-square, or Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director (violin), with excellent Variety Band (8-20 performers), splendid repertoire, good refs., disengaged Sept. 10. Offers invited, Variety, Pictures, or Rink. Wilfrid Harvey, Musical Director, Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by well-known Musical-Director, Engagement, Varieties, London or Suburbs; first-class offers only. Box 8,140, "The Era."

WANTED, by one of the Principal Conductors of Moss's Empires, Engagement in First-class Music Hall; highest refs. Box 8,174, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement (Resident), Conductor (Violin), First-class Theatre or Varieties; extensive library; highest credentials. H. Harrison, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Conductor (Violinist), Varieties preferred; excellent references, at Liberty Sept. 5. W. Bradshaw, 1 Cherry-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Variety Conductor seeks engagement, late with Barrasford. Young, smart, reliable. Excellent references. Big library. Lancaster, 2, Rochester House, Brixton Oval.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor, Brilliant Pianist, Disengaged shortly; excellent references; fine orchestral library. Conductor, c/o Jackson, 9, South Woodside-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, London Engagement, by Lady Violinist and Pianist, equally capable either instrument; fully experienced, any work. Box 8,159, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for Leader or First Violin, Second, Viola, Contra Bass, Flute, and Trombone, together or separate, any business. Just finishing season. Heap, Grand T., Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin, Deputy or Permanent, London or near, steady and reliable. H. Foreman, 20, Ilderton-rd, S. Bermondsey, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Violin, any business, Variety preferred, Disengaged Sept. 12, through closing. Harry Clare, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Violinist, abstainer, good refs., library if required. Apply, Postill, Park-avenue, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement as Violinist, experienced in Dramatic or Variety business; good refs. Apply, Violinist, 30, Eastfield-road, St. Denys, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, any Business, young, experienced; abstainer. Write, Cornet, 171, Shelbourne-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, just finishing Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth, London preferred. Frank Clarke, 39, New Fillebrook-road, Leytonstone, N.E.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, sober, reliable, Disengaged Sept. 5, Mil. or String. Hill, Municipal Band, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any Business; excellent references; at Liberty Sept. 5. Address, Box 8,136, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, steady and reliable; good refs. George White, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Clarionettist, Military or String, at Liberty Sept. 2. Address, Garner, Solo Clarionetist, Municipal Military Band, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, D Bass, any business. At Liberty Sept. 10. Miss Georgie Vernon, Olympian Gardens, Lowestoft.

WANTED, by First-class Bass Player (four-string), good Engagements, combine Trombone. Van, 13, College-street, York-road, Waterloo, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass, competent, experienced, reliable, good references, Liberty now. Alfred Sunderland, 5, Ebenezer-place, Great Horton, Bradford.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Re-engagement, any business; highest references. Bassoonist, Municipal Band, Wellington Pier, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass and Alto Saxophone, young, experienced, any business. Address, Court, 2, Christina-terrace, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable String Bass; reference; age 31. Wire or write, Ferrenti, 21, Ropery-street, Grimsby, Lincs.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass and Violin, together or separate, experienced all lines, sober, reliable. Address, Lucas, Madoc House, Pwllheli, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement by Bassoon, Eleven Years' Experience, Sober, Reliable, Member A.M.U., Theatre or Music Hall preferred. Address, Hully, 83, Joseph-street, Elswick, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Eng. as Trombone, thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable, Theatre, Music Hall, any Business. S. Smith, 24, Stanley street, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, competent and reliable Trombonist, experienced in Theatre and Variety, any business. Bleackley, 262, Waterloo-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Winter Engagement as Trombonist, any business, at Liberty Sept. 18; abstainer. Trombone, Casino Orchestra, Tower, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone Player, experienced Opera, Variety, Military, last engagement Pier Theatre, Eastbourne. Apply Penn, 25, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium or Baritone, Military or Orchestral, late Band-Sergt., well known L.C.C., and wide experience; seaside preferred. Address, M. Collins, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Orchestral, Military, or good Rink, Liberty Sept. 10; good references. Anthony, 8, Old-street, Clevedon.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, thoroughly experienced in Orchestra, Military; highest refs.; second season with Edward Holland, the Municipal Orchestra, Gt. Yarmouth; Liberty Sept. 5. J. W. Roberts, Winter Gardens.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business.
W. A. Pattison, 23, Hartismere-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by lady 'celloist, Re-engagement, Finishes Present Engagement Shortly. Good Soloist, experienced, good reader. Celloist, Royal Arcadia, Scarborough.

WANTED, by good Flute, Engagement or Deputising; good references; London or near. Flautist, 656, High-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, any business, experienced all lines; sober, reliable. Address, Flautist, Madoc House, Pwllheli, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced and Reliable Flautist. Concluding Season Sept. 6. Any business. Flautist, Fern Bank, Gwiach-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, excellent accompanist, requires post to Professional Vocalist or Instrumentalist. E., 3, Sydney-villas, Fifth Cross-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, by Refined Pianist, Engagement, Orch. or Variety; ex. sight reader, MSS.; experienced. Ellis, 111, Grayshott-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, Sop. Vocalist, exper, Var., Pictures; wishing to gain experience with Ladies' Orchestra. Box 8,176, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in London, by smart Young Lady Pianist, in any capacity.
Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon

WANTED, Engagement as Experienced Double Drummer, &c., can commence Monday. Pablo, 120, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Drums, Own Tymps and Bells. Disengaged Nov. 1. Box 8,170, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Cremona Ladies' Orchestras, smart uniform, now playing Olympia, Jersey, Cromer, Westgate, &c., booking autumn. D. Vincent, 8 Grafton-sq., Clapham. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentaliste, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere, Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. Thos. Bateson, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, offers, Sept., onwards, Lyric Ladies' Orchestra, now Crescent Gardens, Filey, great success; brilliant soloists, smart uniform, any business. Agnes Newton, 3, St. Alban's-place, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
THE BRITISH EMPIRE BAND,
of 30 solo performers from all th erecognised bands in England.
Conducted by the celebrated commander of orchestras, Mr. Vincent Vincent,
Will make their first appearance on Aug. 29, 1910, at THE HIPPODROME, HULME, MANCHESTER.
Everybody is courteously invited to witness their performance.
First vacancy Oct. 17. 1910.
All communications re terms and dates to my sole and exclusive business manager,
Mr. Charles Dertrich,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
Signed, Vincent Vincent.

Band of the Legion of Frontiersmen (Yorks Command),
Lieut. G. B. Robinson, Conductor.
WANTED, Known, at Liberty after Sept. 11. Splendid Military Band.
Unique and Picturesque Uniform.
Lieut. G. B. Robinson,
Musical-Director,
Pleasure Gardens,
Saltburn, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagements by a First-class Military Band, six or any number, for Rinks, &c., Good, Up-to-date Library and Uniforms, Competent Musicians. Terms, W. Hodges, bandmaster, 8, Belper-road, Hyson Green, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. Carter, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED Known, Skating Rink Proprietors and others wishing to secure the services of a thoroughly good little brass band, should write at once to Leader, Post Office, Harwich, Essex. Splendid Répertoire; Terms Moderate.

WANTED, Known, Rink Band vacant, six excellent performers, up-to-date music. Terms reasonable for sessions required. Bandmaster Ward, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by small Orchestra, Rink, Pictures, or Varieties, smart uniform, latest music. Terms moderate. Conductor, Buxton's Rinkeries, Douglas, I.O.M.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

To Circus Proprietors.
WANTED, for Winter Season, Three First-class Circus Companies, complete, for three of best towns in England. Will Sir Robert Fossett and Harry Fossett write?
P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

Omnes Veniant.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.

WANTED, Engagement for the Winter Season. Proprietors or Managers of Circuses Skating Rinks, Zoo Gardens, or any Large Halls, please note: We can supply a first-class company of riders, specialities, clowns, and acts of every description. An incomparable stud of horses and ponies which, without exaggeration, will compare favourably with the best Continental studs.

Arrangements may be made for our own family only, or for a complete Circus, with constant changes, supernumaries, and attendants in livery. An unequalled plant of effective lithographic printing. We have acquired the services of Mr. Joe Hastings, late manager of the West Bromwich Hippodrome and Crystal Palace Circus, as Equestrian Director. Modern spectacles produced, augmented by the engagement of some of the best riders in Europe if necessary. The time is ripe for a first-class circus on modern principles. Ancient methods superseded by the requirements of our time.

All communications
to
J. H. Scott,
9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Skating Rinks, Circus, or Large Buildings, for the following Company:—
ASTLEY and LORENZO'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.
No. 1. Overture by the Circus Band.
No. 2. Black Prince (introduced by Fred Astley).
No. 3. Comic Entree, Old Joe Ghost, by the Three Motleys, Harry Romeo, and Whimmy Walker.
No. 4. Sloper, the Champion Bucking Mule, introduced by Fred Astley.
No. 5. Bob Yelding, in a screaming Comedy Act, the Frolic Clown Whimsical Walker.
No. 6. Great Riding Machine. The boy making the best attempt standing on the Pony will compete in the Final on Friday night for a handsome clock.
No. 7. Comic Boxing Act by the Brothers Harry and Romeo Missouri.
No. 8. Whimsical Walker will introduce his two apprentices, Harold the Mule and Clarence the Ass.
No. 9. The Great Spinning Table, introducing Sheep, Dog, and Circus Girl; the Fastest Pony in the World, and is open to gallop any pony in England for £100. Grand Competition for Boys. Prize: Cruet Stand. Will be given away next Friday.
No. 10. The Original Leopold Troupe, in their great Acrobatic Act.
No. 11. Bob Yelding, in his great riding act on his Barebacked Horse Polly.
No. 12. Baby, the Trick Mule.
No. 13. Miss Scott, the Queen of the Telephone Wire.
No. 14. Joey Pony, introduced by Fred Astley. Clown Harry Missouri.
No. 15. Vaulting over Mr. Astley's Stud of Ponies by the great Leopold Troupe.
THE KING.
Manager for Mr. Astley, Romeo Missouri.
Entire Change of Programme every Week.
Stud of Thirty Ponies, Horses, and Mules. Grand Street Parade.
For Vacancies, address, Fred Astley,
Luna Park, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
DARE-DEVIL DIVING CORMACK.
Success of Brussels Exhibition Season;
Success of Marine Gardens, Edinburgh;
Success of Wonderland City, Bondi, N.S.W.;
Success of Prince's Court, Melbourne, Victoria;
Success of Christchurch Exhibition, N.Z.;
Success of Crystal Palace, London;
Success for Any Management, 1911.
Who wants me? The Act That Draws.
Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E. (the Professional House).

At Liberty for Continent or England.
WANTED, Known, THE TAYLOR FAMILY (four sisters and brother), High and Fancy Divers and Scientific Swimmers, the most beautiful act extant. All coms to Harry Taylor, Perm. Add., 40, Woodbine-street, Dewsbury. Thanks to Ada Webb, Sidney Jones, Mr. Houghton, Leonard F. Durell, and Bessie Jones for offers for the services of my sisters (not vacant to join troupes). Most successful troupe at the Aquarium, Scarborough. Greatest aquatic success ever known at Mr. Gilbert's Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Variety Artists in all Lines.
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.
Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, and PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Variety Artists Coming North can have Two Weeks at the above.
Good Sound Specialities,
Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians,
Comediennes, Dancers.
Lowest Terms, Lithos, &c.,
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Monday next on, Big Stars and Novelties, and Good Small Turns Write. State where can be seen working. Send full list of bookings. Particulars, and terms, to Henry Carlton, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Variety Artists coming North to send list of vacant dates and terms.
Jas. Anderson, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

EMPIRE, SMETHWICK.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, also for Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton, Sept., and onwards. Lowest. B. Kennedy.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, in all Lines, to communicate immediately. Full particulars, terms, and dates. Nothing too big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
Variety Bookings Agency,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland.
J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 5, on 14, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 5, onwards. Lowest terms. Willie Stern, Manager Gem Picture Co., Public Hall, Wisbech.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Artists in All Lines for Several Halls in the North.
Good Strong Tops can be Placed Immediately.
Apply,
Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Artists, Acrobats, Tumblers, Postures, &c., for Long Engagement if suitable. Good Salaries paid. Apply by letter only; none but First-class Artists need apply. Address, Jos Boganny and George Holloway, 14, Raleigh Lodge, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 5, onwards.
Telegrams: "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

EXCELSIOR PICTURE CO.

WANTED, First-class Artists, Doubles doing Singles, for Immediate and Future Dates. Write MANAGER, Town Hall, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Artists of every Description, for immediate and future dates.
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety Agent,
64, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 5 and 19. Lithos and all particulars to LI-CHANG-HI, Opera House, Dunfermline, N.B.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

NEW EMPIRE AND TEMPERANCE HALL, MERTHYR.
Proprietors, The Merthyr Entertainments Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, all Artists holding Dates at above hall must send their billing matter 21 days before opening, to Dan Noble's Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford, or contracts cancelled. Signed, ALF. BAVERSTOCK, Secretary.

WANTED, Big Starring Attractions, New to London. Fullest particulars to EGBERT'S Agency, Piccadilly Mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, Variety Turns; all weeks after Aug. 8. Vacancies and terms, JOHN R. POOLE, Oddfellows' Hall, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, Good Refined Turns, Suitable to Pictures; Chorus Songs, with slides preferred. Terms must be low. Alicia Llewellyn write in. WOOD, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns, with own Combination; also Star Acts, on Shares, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, &c. RESIDENT-MANAGER, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorkshire.

Monday next, onwards,
I require acts of every description.
Head Liners,
Drawing Cards.
Nothing Too Big.
Price no Object to Suitable Artists.
WANTED, Known, I must have Talent Immediately to cope with Enormous Demands.
Always great call for "Monday next"
Vacancies.
This Office Seldom Fails.
HARRY BURNS,
Musical, Pantomime, Variety, and Dramatic Agent.
Send Full List of Vacancies, with
Lowest Terms, in First Instance.
Letters, HARRY BURNS,
Welburn House,
Hartlepool.
Wires, "Chosen."
'Phone, 231.
Hartlepool.
N.B.—I book for every hall and tour of note in Europe.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. George Bernard send address. JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni," Liverpool. Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, for Darlington Exhibition, First-class Musical Turns, Electric Fit-up preferred. Write quick.
GEO. SCOTT, General Manager,
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, Acts of all Kinds.
Lowest and House Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for Town Hall, Consett; immediate and future dates.
ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, big Comedy Acts, Juvenile Troupes, and anything Novel and Original, Sept. 19, onwards. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, immediately First-class Comedy Singing, Dancing, Talking, and Musical Acts, Comedians, and other good Front Cloth Novelty Acts. Full particulars, lowest terms for long pleasant engagement, photos, &c. The Great Raymond, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Acts, all Lines, for Hippo., Wallsend, Sept. 5, on., also for all the Principal Music Halls in the Provinces, Big Acts for Immediate Dates. List of Bookings necessary and Lowest Terms. WILL LUND'S Agency, Seymour-st., Liverpool. 'Phone 682, Royal. Wires, "Comedy," Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Big Acts, for Best Establishments, October onwards.
Lowest Terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c.,
GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency,
Honor Oak,
London, S.E.

WANTED, Specialities and Star Artists all Lines, immediately, run of several weeks to right Acts. Send at once with permanent, to RAWES and CLARANCE, Central Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ASHBURN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Sept. 5, onwards, for First-class Combination work only. Really big Tops of Bills willing to Share, for own Act, or with full Company; must be sensational and attractive; new to Provinces preferred, but not essential. Also few useful Artists in all Lines, new to Ton-y-Pandy, Shrewsbury, Nuneaton, Kettering, Peterborough, King's Lynn, Grantham, York, &c.
Particulars, full list of bookings, and absolute lowest terms in first letter imperative.
No interviews without appointment.
295, Kennington-rd., S.E. 'Phone 5467 Central.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Novel Attraction, for Topping Bill, Sept. 5, must be real Top Liner, also Sensational or Novel Specialities, big Comedy Acts, Spectacular Productions, big Musical Acts, Juvenile Troupes, &c., for Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10, on. Lowest terms, samples of printing, to MANAGER.

EGBERT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, Nothing too Big, for Immediate Dates; also Good Comedy Acts New to Eastbourne and Dover. Send Full List of Booking, Permanent Address, Terms, Lithos, &c., to Exclusive Agents for the undermentioned halls:—
ROYAL HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.
ROYAL HIPPODROME, DOVER.
TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE.
NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
NEW HIPPODROME, MAESTEG.
HIPPODROME, DOWLAIS.
EGBERT'S Agency,
Piccadilly Mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Telephone, 6519 Gerrard. Telegrams: "Egbertency, London."

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, New and Novel Top-liners (will travel any distance to see anything answering above). Artists, all Lines. Several dates vacant for Big Acts and Combinations on shares, Vocalists, Specialities, for Halls, Picture Shows (immediate dates). Permanent address, full bookings, and fresh bookings notified, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Aug. 29, on, Big Tops, also Artists, Dumb Acts, Picture Halls, &c. ARTHUR BOYNE, EGERTON BURNETT'S Agency, 58, Bankparade, Burnley. 'Phone 459.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Big Star Tops for Sept. 5, 12, 19,
Artists, all Lines,
Big Comedy Acts. Wire Quick,
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

ROYALLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, good Sisters, Comedian, Speciality, for Combination, Sept. 19, for rest of year. Full particulars and lithos. Also Artists in all Lines, working London or near, where show can be seen.
14, Hauteville-court, Stamford Brook, W.

WANTED, Comediennes, Comedy Acts, and Variety Artists of every description. Terms, lithos., &c., LEATON'S Agency, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

ANDREWS' PICTURES, LTD.
WANTED, immediately, First-class Lady Illustrated Song Vocalists; also a really good Baritone and Lecturer. We want Artists, others please save time and trouble. ENTERTAINMENT DEPT., Andrews' Pictures, Ltd., 5, New Compton-st., W.C.

WANTED, good all-round Acrobatic Dancers, able to do Splits, Bends, High Kicking. Lowest terms, particulars to LA BELLE, P. O. W., Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Smart Girls, for well-known Troupe, height about 5ft., age 18 to 20, Sing and Dance; also smart Youth, about 19. Box 8,175, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, two Young Ladies, Acrobatic Dancers, for a New Act; good salary. Address, Box 8,162, "The Era."

WANTED, Girl Dancer, for Welsh Maid's Choir. Long Tour. Lowest terms. Live in. Photo and particulars, WALFORD, 16, Essex-road, Basingstoke.

WANTED, Young Lady Singer, for Tour, starting Sept. 12; splendid occasion for beginner. Particulars, photo., ZANFI, Marine Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Juggler (Comedy), that can sing. State salary, height, and what you can juggle. MANAGER, 9, Great Colmore-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady (trapeze and bending) to open at once. Write, with terms, photos, &c., ORENIUS, Marine Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED, immediately, Top Mounter, for Comedy Acrobatic Act, good all-round Tumbler, small figure; good money for the right man. Address, Box 8,161, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Bearer, good. Amateurs need not apply. Immediate. No fancy men. ACROBAT, 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham, Putney Bridge, London.

WANTED, Coloured Performer, must be Smart Tumbler, Butterflies essential. Open immediately, long engagement. State terms, &c., SPRY AND MONTI, Canterbury Music Hall, London.

WANTED, Known. I want a friend who will do another friend (not me) a turn for his benefit at the seaside next Wednesday, Aug. 31, for the bare expenses incurred. The affair will not justify more, but a suitable turn would most likely secure an engagement. I did it, and booked two dates from it. Address, CHARLES COBORN, 40, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Assistant for Graham's Marionettes Smart, Sober, Single Man, strong speaking voice, age 25 to 30, must be good carpenter and props. Permanent job to a good man. Wages £8 month. Apply by letter, full particulars,
28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

WANTED, thoroughly Competent Operator, Permanency to Right Man. State full particulars and lowest salary, RALPH PRINGLE, 12, Watson-street, Glasgow. Envelopes marked "Operator."

WANTED, Good Operator, with Machine and Outfit (electric), with or without films, Permanent Theatre, Ireland. Salary or Shares, or will entertain Partnership. Pictures, 13, Westfield-terr., Sheffield.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in Number.
The Sure Draw. No risk. No Worry.
Vacant Sept. 19 to follow Bristol.
Oct. 3 and 10, to follow Exeter; Nov. 14, to follow West Hartlepool. This week big business H., Todmorden. Aug. 29, return Empire, Burnley, with own company. Certainty or share. Sharing terms with complete company preferred. Engagements on Sharing Terms we accept direct only.

LA VALTI.
LA VALTI.
The most beautiful and sensational Act on the Vaudeville Stage. Who is La Valti? Did she pack the Theatre Royal, Leamington, last week? Ask John Halifax (Gentleman), Manager for Messrs. Dottridge and Longden.
WANTED, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 24, to precede Barrow-in-Furness, with or without full Star Variety Company. A. HAINES, 136, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Sept. 12, on, for Gabrielle Hope's Novelty Musical Act, the largest and handsomest in the business; the only lady playing Organ Chimes unassisted and Sleigh Bells with own piano accompaniment; Marimbaphone, Spielophone, and Piano Solos. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co. At Lib. Oct. 10 and 31. To-day, Middle of Bill at New Empire, Dewsbury (return at increase). Next, Regent, Salford (fourth visit, at increase).

WANTED, Known, JESSIE WILTON.
Vacant Sept. 5 and 12.
Aug. 22, Palace, Southampton.
Aug. 29, Palace, Bath.
Panto. settled, Principal Boy, Dalston Theatre.

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd, Comedienne, Expert Dancer; also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist, Catchy Songs. Wire, Empire, Dudley; or, 14, Lower-street.

WANTED, by Florence Leonard, mezzo-soprano, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, 10, 17. Offers. Hippodrome, Lowestoft. Next, Palace, Gorleston-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Gwen Francis, the Dainty Comedienne, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, unexpectedly vacant. Offers invited. 26, Bernard-st., London, W.C., or telephone 15112 Central.

WANTED, Known, Terry Sisters, an Entertainment in themselves. Great Hit Everywhere, at Lib. Sept. 5 and 26. Add., this week, Hippo., Wakefield; Aug. 29, Palace, Morley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Singing Boxmakers. Add., till Saturday night, Emp., Dudley; after, 3, Wood-terrace, Worcester.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, Three Van-Earles, Original Quick-change Speciality, Beautiful Harmony, Topical Comedy, Extraordinary Clog Dancing, Two Acts. Thanking Arthur Brogden, Leslie Beaufort, &c., for Contracts. Palace, New Bolsover. Monday, Empire, Shirebrook.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 19 and 26, Phil Terriss, Patter Comedian, with a "Kosher" voice. This, Palace, New Brighton; Monday, King's, Farnworth.

WANTED, Sept. 5, and onwards, by Kidd-Love, American Coloured Artist. Good Agent wanted. This, Royal, Sheffield; next, Royal, Nottingham.

WANTED, Oct. 3, onwards, by Herr Schuler, World's Greatest Saxophonist, in his Original Elite Musical Speciality, Magnificent Fit-up. Address, SCHULER, 53, Shelley-road, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19, Jean Seul. Aug. 29, Hippo., Heywood; Sept. 5, Palace, Sale, Lancs.

WANTED, by Mark Lemon, the Champion Challenge Card Manipulator of the World, Sept. 19, onward. Full stage Act, and a draw. 61, Argyle-street, Hull.

WANTED, Sept. 5, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, Copyright Songs, Sketches, Extraordinary Colliery Pictures. Encored nightly, Hippo., Airdrie. Next, Alexandra, Washington, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Wilton Warton, Magician, Aug. 29, Empire, Southport (return); Sept. 5 vacant; Sept. 12, Co-operative Hall, Widnes (return). An entertaining Act.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, last week at Llanelly Record broken, in spite of great opposition, refer J. Haggar, Esq. Good Halls, Theatres, Hippodromes, Rinks wanted, self or including Company, good printing. From the Llanelly Mercury, Aug. 18: There has been enormous crowds at the theatre this week. Undoubtedly Little Hackenschmidt has been the great attraction. Vac. Sept. 12, 19. This, fifth visit, Merthyr; next, Pavilion, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, 26,
Wanted, Sept. 12, 19, 26,
for
The Popular Comedian, The Talented Actress,
GILBERT ETHYL
and
PAYNE ERROL
in the Latest, Greatest, and Funniest of Episodes.
(Fully Protected). "3 A.M." (Fully Protected).
(Fully Protected). "3 A.M." (Fully Protected).
A Laugh! A Scream! A Yell!
And a Draw.
Beautifully Staged and Dressed.
A Strong Top-Liner for any Bill.
Wire or write for this Novelty to
GILBERT PAYNE, White Coons, Carnoustie, N.B.
(seventh season).

WANTED, Known, Mushrooms and so-called Second Sight Acts when bluffing appear to forget the Premiers of that Act are still in existence. The Wonderful Howards were performers of Second Sight before many of the so-called Second Sight Acts of the present day were born. They return from America Oct. For vacant dates communicate, 70, Renfrew-street, Glasgow. This Act requires no bluffing, but we must speak sometimes.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors, Managers, Agents, and all whom it may concern,
Renson and Waite
(Johnny and Rose),
when they commence their Autumn Season, will be known as
Mr. and Mrs. Wynner,
the Yorkshire Comedy Pair.
Signed,
JOHNNIE RENSON, Manager.
Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 7, 14, and on, by the Unique Equilibristic Marvels, PHINEAS and ADA.
On Tour.
Perm., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells the Celebrated Yorkshire Contralto. Mon., Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, and 26, and Dec. 5 and 12, by Foiay and Francis, the Extraordinary Comedians. Address, The Palace, Ramsey, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, Vacant Monday.
Wire, Palace, Bath. Two Acts if Required.

WANTED, Sept. 5 and 12, The Carlsens, Comedy Trampoline Speciality; also Champion Somersault Dog, "Jack," Own Scenery, Splendid Lithos, Comic Competition if required, Sure Success. Hip., Redditch.

WANTED, Sept. 5, by Avrigny Trio, Great Jap Juggling Pot-Pourri. Most Versatile Act before the Public. T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Act, Sept. 5, 19, 26.
Address, Hippo., Bilston.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol Dare, at Liberty Aug. 29 on, with their Great Aerial Ladder Act, Big Success, Tutbury Castle Gala. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept 12, onward, The Great Rohde and Roche, Starring, Enormous Success, Palace, Kettering. Aug. 29, Hippodrome, Loughborough.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts. Sept. 5, 12, 19.
303, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Lolo and Mays Trio, Refined Ladies, Gymnast and Speciality Dance Artists, magnificent silver and electric apparatus, costly wardrobe. C/o Helen's Cottages, Mattershall, Burgh, Norfolk.

WANTED, Known, Owing to Enormous Success for the last two weeks at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh, the Flying Orenius's (Stage Aerial à la Hegelmann) are re-engaged for another week. Can fix on small stage or anywhere. Vacant Sept. 5, on. If required, grand flying competition arranged. Always a good Top for any Bill. No reasonable offer refused, so be quick in securing this novelty.

WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19, by The Three Original Hodginis, Aerial Gymnastic Wonders. This, Crystal Palace, London; next, Luna Park Palace, Southend.

WANTED, Sept. 5 12. Northampton Chronicle: The Bouncing Pepe give an extraordinary acrobatic show. In fact, they might more correctly be dubbed the human balls. "Era," "Stage," Managers, Public, and Artists all say very smart act, a star novelty, sure success. Monday, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Oct. 24, and on, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female Novelty Acrobats. Next week, Crystal Palace, London (second return).

WANTED, Sept. 5, also 19, by Rich. Taylor, the Whistling Ventriloquist.
An Enormous Success Everywhere.
An Act Replete with Novel Items.
Wanted, Halls, Piers, &c., not barred by Moss-Stoll Halls.
Next Week, Palace, Burnley. Wire or Write.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent. and Conjurer, vacant Monday next between this and Birmingham. This, terrific success, New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Charles Valvo, Society Ventriloquist, Sept. 5, 12, and other dates, a Genuine, Experienced Star Act. Caxton House, Cardiff-grove, Luton.

WANTED, Sept. 12, and various dates on, for "The New Butler," screaming Musical Absurdity, including Couth Griffith, Lulu Langley, and James Law, the Entertainer at the Piano, Singles, Doubles, &c.; 15 minutes to an hour. Coms., Liv, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, by Billy Ross and Co., Great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act, London Halls, Competitions nightly if required. Wire, 22, Geneva-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up to date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Big Success, Aquarium, Scarborough. Wanted, Sept. 5, and on. Open for Pantomime. Aug. 22 and 29, Palace, Sunderland. Miss Ronna Shanara's Tibet deergoats are a genuine novelty, and go through a clever and pleasing performance. —Northern Echo.

WANTED, by Inanda, presents "Bute," Marvellous Educated Canine Wonder. Refined Speciality, Clever, Humorous, the only dog performing the Barrel Act, Halls or Pictures. For open dates, address, 18, Carter-st., Sunderland.
Inanda and "Bute," in other words, a clown and his fox terrier, was a notable turn. There are few animals which manifest such cleverness and perfection of training as this little fox terrier.—Scarborough News. Wanted, Sept. 5, and some on.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Beautiful and only Troupe of Russian Poodles, Splendid Stage Setting and Wardrobe, Acknowledged Cleanest and Smartest in the Profession, Booked for America. Coms. re Dates, Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Irish Terriers and Leaping Dogs.
Vac. Sept. 5, 12.
Wire, Alexandra's Circus, Newhaven.

WANTED, Known, Daisy Graham's Educated Birds and Baby Dog, Liberty Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10. Coms., 17, Rugby-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Sept. 12-19, Oct. 3, the Smartest and most Sensational Animal Act ever seen, Clean and Clever. Chard's Dog Circus, 136 Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, by the Great and only BROTHERS ST. CLAIR,
Comedy Trick Cyclists,
World's Champion Bicycle Footballers.
Packing the house nightly.
PAL., BLACKBURN; next, PAV., SOUTHPORT.
Liberty Oct. 3, 24, 31. Wire quick.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Comedy Cycling Speciality, Sept. 5, 12, conclude to-night Theatre Royal, Deal. Monday next, Poole's Palace, Ynyshir, S. Wales.

WANTED, Paulette, Somersaulting Cycle Acrobat. Vacancies Sept. 5 and 12, Novelty for Skating Rink. 105, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

NOTICE.
NOTICE.
NOTICE.
WARNING.
WARNING.
WARNING.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Public are hereby informed that the Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship is protected by Letters Patent in Great Britain and Abroad, under which the Sole and Exclusive Right to Self-propelled Air-vessels or Ships controlled by Wireless Electric Waves is covered, and that the use of any such apparatus by others will be an infringement of the patent against which Legal Proceedings will be at once instituted.
For terms, &c., apply to the Inventor,
T. E. RAYMOND PHILLIPS,
15, Nicander-road,
Sefton Park,
Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Meux's Marionettes at Liberty Sept. 19, onwards; also L'Etoile, in Living Statuary. Panto settled. Next week, Kursaal, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Small Knockabout Comedian. Next week working Surrey. Constable Flatfoot, in Burglar sketch. At Lib. Sept. 5. P. A. 3, Dalby-road, East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (19) wishes to join Sketch or Troupe, slight knowledge of dancing, beginner. P. L., 24a Radbourne-road, Balham.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, by Leonard Harcourt, Light Comedian, Vacant for Panto, Dame. All Coms., c/o Medley Barrett's Royal Nomads, Donaghadee, Co. Down, Ireland.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, Vacant Monday, al fresco or anything. Wire, GRAPHS AND JACKSON'S Pierrots, Northampton.

WANTED, immediately, for Jersey, Guernsey, &c., First-class Concert Parties, five or more Artists, must be able to leave Southampton Saturday night. Lowest certainty terms, and where can be seen working, to BEALE'S Agency, Kennington-road, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important,
that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Market Hotel, Oldham,
on Tuesday next, Aug. 30, at 2.30 p.m.
A good muster of Members is requested.
Signed, THOS. HURST, Sec.

THE ROLLING MOTOR TRACK RIDING MACHINE,
like the Cake-walk and See-saw Slip.
is
Always on the Move, and a Quick Money-taker.
Apply for full particulars to
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties. New address, Kingsley Works, Grange-road, Willesden Green, London, W. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Gipsy Queens are Money-getters, latest and greatest fortune device, messages are written mysteriously by an unseen hand, they cost 70/-, or with mechanical eyes, 90/- each; workers get their money back in a week. They are a "flash" in themselves. Note, our latest machines bring up the writing as quick as lightning. LESTER and Co., Morgan-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Money-taking Games of every Description, Suitable for Exhibitions, &c. Send full particulars and lowest prices. Box 8,167, "The Era."

WANTED, Anything Smart and New for Darlington Exhibition. Write quick.
GEO. SCOTT, General Manager,
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks for Side Shows, for immediate and future dates. Particulars, HENRY SILVANI, 16, Amelia-st., Belfast.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, Lady Palmist, Marionettes, and other High-class Side Shows, share terms; Spaces to Let for Wireworker, Glass Blower, Sketch Artist, Engraving, and other Novelties. Prospectus, GEO. SCOTT, General-Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, a Lady Palmist, also good Novelties for Automatic Arcade; best positions in the town. FAIRYLAND, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

WANTED, for Hancock's Picture Coliseum, Two Acrobatic Knockabouts, to Open on Sept. 12 for three weeks; those used to fair business preferred; no travelling expenses after joined, can join at Barnstaple. Apply, HANCOCK'S World Fair, St. Thomas, Exeter, from Saturday, Aug. 27, until Saturday, Sept. 3.

WANTED, Planksman and Comedian, wage 30s. to commence, reliable, smart, good vocalist, permanent situation. GREENWOOD, auctioneer, Everton-rd., Longsight, Manchester.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Yard, in Centre of Town, two acres in extent.
Good supply of water. Reasonable terms.
Apply, G. R. S. BROWN, Auctioneer, High Wycombe.

WANTED, to Let on Lease, Land in centre of a perfect gold mine, for something big; also Stands for Shows, Bloom's Fair Grounds, West Stanley, and Annfield Plain, Co. Durham. Apply, STACEY, Front-street, West Stanley.

WANTED, to Hire, for Darlington Exhibition, Quantity Automatic Machines. Terms to GEO. SCOTT, General Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Front Wagons, for Show, cost £600, by Orton, five years ago, travel by rail, in good condition.
Apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED to Sell, Immediately, Part of No. 2 Smart 2 flat top lorries, and back van, Orton's make, condition excellent, together or separate. Exchange Blanchard lamps or rail living van. Auction Pavilion, Ossett, Yorks.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny-in-slot Piano, by Keith Prowse, cost £48, one barrel, ten tunes. Take £18. THOMAS, Queen's Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, a Distorting Mirror, in travelling case, 60s.
H., 56, Worcester-street, Stourbridge.

WANTED, to Purchase, Trumpet Organ or Orchestrophone, suitable for rink or exhibition. Particulars to HENRY SILVANI, 16, Amelia-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, several First-class Instructors and Skate Mechanic.
Send references, photo, and state salary.
MANAGER,
Westover Garden Rink, Bournemouth.

PRINCESS RINK, NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, Floor Manager, Instructors, Lady and Gentlemen, must be able to open Sept. 3. Apply, giving height, age, wage, photo., refs., and full particulars in first letter, INCE, Waverley Villa, Johnson-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, for Small Provincial Rink, Sept., Floor Manager, Capable of taking Full Charge; also Young Lady Instructress.
Full particulars previous experience.
Box 8,179, "The Era."

WANTED, Rink Managership, by Gentleman (Blackpool), at present managing a business. Trustworthy, capable, experienced in all kinds of Entertainments, Carnivals, Floor Repairs, including Stopping, Buckling, Decorations, Advertisements. Not afraid of competition or work. A man that can tackle anything.
A., c/o 32a, Bank Hey-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Henry J. Court is at Liberty to Open in September, for Management of Small Rinks; good refs.; experienced. Offers invited. Address, COURT'S Roller Skating Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor for a First-class Establishment, thorough experience, smart appearance, and best of references; vacant shortly through season terminating. Address, Box 8,156, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, position as Floor-Manager of High-class Rink; thoroughly experienced; highest possible references. Address, Box 8,157, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced Instructor, Skating. References. Photo.
F., 32, Carnarvon-road, Boscombe.

WANTED, Known, First-class Skater, Requires Engagement for the coming season, as Floor Manager or Instructor. Two Years' Experience. J. A. T., 115 Auckland-hill, West Norwood, S.E.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 32.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — WORKING IN CONJUNCTION — (Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS — Capital £2,086,000. — Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 29, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Zena Dare & Co., Cleo de Merode, Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Riogoku Family, Lockhart's Elephants, Jackson Family of Musicians, Daisy Goldsack, Animated Pictures, Jules Moy, The Great Lester, Legay Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Wilkie Bard, Kitty Wager, May Mars, Tom Costello, Goltz Trio, Fred Poplar, Lillian, Bioscope, Ferry Corway.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Willy Pantzer and Co., Herbert Lloyd, Bert Weston, Hilda Jacobsen, Sisters Doherty, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Marjorie Lawrence, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Anartos.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Eugene Stratton, Luis Alvarez, Lily Shaw, Satanella Trio, Chass Lewis, Burley and Burley, Peggy Pryde, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohen.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Will Evans, Australian Woodcutters, Northern Troupe, Lumars, George D'Albert, Ethel Newman, Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, Arden and Abel.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Jack Pleasants, Tom Edwards, Fred Curran, Bertie Herron, Percival, New Macs, Nina Wood, Bioscope, Three Merrills, Margaret Halstan and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Phil Ray, Barton and Ashley, Aida Martine, Harry Conlin, Shirley and Ransome, Herman Melot, Borellis, Cavalotti Brothers, Bioscope, Winifred Ward.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:
C. Draycott's Co. in "Her Path of Sorrows."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Violas, Conan and Doyle, Harry Brown, Kitts and Windrum, Drew and Alders, Rhoda Paul, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Loring Fernie and Co. in "The Devil's World," Sylvia Du Barry, Bioscope, Carl Howard, Jock Mills, Nellie Wallace, Jackson Family, Du Gros Trio, Walter King, Harry Ford.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Ella Shields, Will Johnson, Ricardo and Salving, Campbell and Barber, Harry Weldon, Rosa Loader, Bioscope, Daisy Martell, Poluskis.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, Tom E. Hughes, Gwennie Hasto, Chas. Norton, Creedon and Broughton, Doris Trevelyan, Azella Wilson, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Carney and Co., Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, F. V. St. Clair, Fred Elton, Alice Hollander, Sable Fern and Co., Daras, Madge Brown, Bioscope, Leslie Brothers.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Miss Constance Collier, "Belles of the Kitchen," Howard and Harris, Kirbys, May Henderson, Stephens and Rennior, Garden City Four, Bioscope, George Rae, Staley's Transformation.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Wyndham and Kitty, Jennie Alexander, Griff, Brull and Helmsley, Dan Hendy, Bioscope, Russell Wallett, King's College Boys.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Leo Stormont, Eadie and Ramsden, France and Stewart, Claire Romaine, Bert Williams, Musical Sylvo, Bioscope, Harry Roxbury and Co., Tom Clare.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Frederick Melville's Co. in "The Bad Girl of the Family."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Gladys Hooley, Talbot and Pearce, Frank Seeley, Kisbey, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Goodfellow and Gregson, A. C. Lilly's Co. in "Drummed Out."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Balalaika Court Orchestra, George French, Hadj-Mohammed Arabs, Wilson and Waring, Horace Hunter and Co., Onetti Sisters, Matthews and Cowper, Bioscope, Les Aubin Leonel, Marie Huette, Gintaro, Excellos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Jimmy the Fearless," Sisters Kilner, Phillips and Merritt, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Monsieur and Madame Alf. Agoust, Lupino Lane, Helen Donald, Bioscope, Mike S. Whallen.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Leyton and Co. in "The Roll Call," Bert Maddison, Haig and Novel, Avolos, Musical Jees, Keene and Adams, Mina Denvil, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Lillian Dundas and Co.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Kate Carney and Co., Frank H. Fox, De Wynne Brothers, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Hans and Lux, Mike Nono, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Bioscope, Phil Parsons, Addie Dorina, Three Laurels, Odeyne Spark, Harry Drew, Nelson Jackson, Udagawa and Kawamoura.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Raymond Phillips' Airship, Cull Putt, Mitchell and Cain, Ella Retford, Bros. Durant, Kathleen Gray, Bioscope, Tom Foy and Co., Geo. Wilson.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Robey, Roma and Romani, Joe Boganny's Bakers, Duncan's Collies, Mona Vivian, Johnny Walker, Musical McGregors, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Formby, Sybil St. Elmo, Orpheus, Jock Whiteford, Andos' Japs, Phil Rees' Stablelads, Maples, Amy Marsden, Bioscope, Dan Crawley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Flying," Bugler Carr, Arthur Slater, Lily Burnand, Findens, Pat Rafferty, Mezzettis, Marconis, Bioscope, Harry Jolson.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Bella and Bijou, Lola Patey, Leo Tell, Melford's "Non-Suited," Sutcliffe Family, Millie Hylton, Verno and Voyce, Edie Gray and Boys, Bioscope, Ben Albert, Fanny Fields.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Gothams, Lena Verdi, Perezoffs, My Fancy, Bert Harrow, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Marquis' Ponies.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Laurie's Kindergarten, Albert Letine, Ethel Beech, Ernie Mayne, McConnell Trio, Eily Adair, Pictures, Guyer and Valle.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Piccad Troupe, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, Leonards, Bioscope, Jack Lane.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mr. George Edwardes's Co. in "The Dollar Princess."

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Carmos, Annie Braddon, Swarte Bros., Devereux's Dogs, Walter Wade, Great Vincent, Pictures, James Stewart.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Daisy Jerome, Fielding and Hull, Lillie Farrar, Rauschle, Athlone and Sinclair, Little Sunbeam, Pictures, Tom Bryce.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Fred Lindsay, Larola, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Helen Trix, George Adams, Gwennie Llewellyn, Frank Lynne, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, Bellew and Stock's Co., including Master Edward Garrett, in "Mortimer Magnus, M.P."

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: Miss AMY ROBINSON.

General Business Manager for the Circuit: Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager: Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, AUG. 29.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Hurman and Arthur, Rose and Jeanette, Williams' Singers, "Plumbers," Lomas Duo, Chris. Baker, Reed and Stevens, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Johnny Cecil, Dick and Dorothy, Matthews and Co., Verneuil's Poses, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, May Rowe.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Juno Salmo, Cumberlands, Allsop and Bekwith, Rousby and Rene, Three Diamonds, Wat Tyler, John Macauley, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Cumminger and Colonna, Marcel and Boris, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Vesta Nixon, Ellerslie Pyne, Hymack, F. S. Peake and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Vera Mayne, Yangar, J. Henderson and Co., The Days, Myrtle Grove, The Three Comerfords, Nell Deny, Beauty Show, The Lenfords, Jessie Starr, Leo, Pictures.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Florence Yayman, Tennis and Layne, Nellie Lunelle, Two Vestas, Owen Hall, Evelyn and Chip, "Coward and the Flag," The Dillons, Edith Lewis and Co., Josephine Crook, Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Four Garricks, Sydney Girls, Colbert, 3 Van Dammes, Julia Reeve, The Crisps, Hull, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Ten Dixie Girls, Ford Williams, Poole and Maquire, Atlas and Vulcana, Rizarellis and Recar, Palace and Hippodrome Perfection Pictures, Rhoda Ring.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Four Rosebuds, Dene and Dixon, Friend and Downing, Jessie Wilton, Tod Lowen, Sisters Caine, Gene Morelle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Bros. Redmond, Haines and Borthwick, Frank Boyce, Kitty Upton, 6 Lancashire Lasses, Jack Hamilton, Doody and Wright, McLellen, Carson Duo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Westwoods, Gladys and Elber, Nellie Neil, "Compensation Sketch," Giovanni Daruso, Palace Perfection Pictures, Danvers and Rosslyn, Bros. Egbert, Richardson Taylor.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Mars Trio, May De Rowse, Pat Lynch, Nellie Nora, Walter Barrett, Scottish Chiefs, Damerell and Rutland, Bros. St. Clair, Mlle. Haydee, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Cosgrove and Burns, T. C. Jaques, Geo. Wood, Vaudeville Trio, Merrions, Three Delaries, Ruby Lester, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Mollie Doon, Alice Craven, Guest and Newlyn, Barrie and Wood, Charburn's Juveniles, Selwyn's "Flood Tide," Palace Perfection Pictures, Billy Elliott.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Walter Reed, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Chas. Draycott's Repertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Doris Druce, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"A Woman's Past."

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Chung Ling Soo, Kirk and Saraski, Nellie Farrell, Shrillo, Morissey, Clark and Mostol, Northcotes, Palace Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
London Actress.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Eva Compton, Bros. Lawrence, Morton Duo, Elvio, Ross, and Elvio, Albert St. Clair, Harry Anderson, Leoni De Lausanne, "Robbery of the Mail," Flo Warner, Louis Taylor's Co., Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Norah Desmond, Lottie Lennox, Harry Milton, Joe Archer, The Belmonts, Wheeler and Wilson, Arnold Bell and Co., Merry May Mae, Joe Belmont, Pictures.

London District and Booking Manager: Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

Leading Always.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.
NEW LITHOS and POSTERS.
Boxing, Aeroplaning, etc.
Netherfield Date Book, 1911-12, post-free 1/1.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, *Chartered Accountant.*
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.
All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.
"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers" by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.
PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS
with Individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of THE Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

FOR SALE.
The Entire WARDROBE, specially made by Baruch and Co., Berlin—London, for English Theatre Meta Illing in Germany, comprising complete Costumes for "THE RIVALS" (17), "SHE STOOPS" (20), "CANDIDA" (4), "TRAGEDY OF NAN" (16), "FLORENTINE TRAGEDY" (5). For sale in one lot, or for each Play complete. Particulars, apply, Dr. ZIEMSSEN, Berlin, N.W. 6.

NURSING HOME.
On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-road, N.

CLAPHAM PARK (best part).—Freehold Detached House, charming grounds, 1¼ acres, tennis court, shaded carriage-drive, 400yds. of shaded paths and beautiful surroundings, 6 bed, 2 dressing, 3 large reception rooms, marble bath, 3 lavatories, up-to-date in every way, first-class offices, fireproof landings and staircases, electric light, perfectly built, cost £4,000; owner will accept £2,500, or close offer. Caretaker on premises, 114, King's-avenue, Clapham Park, or plan and particulars, L. L. LEEDER, 96, High-road, Chiswick.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m.
Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BIRKENHEAD.
Mrs. Howell,
44, Claughton-road.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DA COSTA, Proprietor.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—Theatre Royal Hotel. Professional boarding establishment, good table. Terms 25s. Mrs. DOWSON

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

HERNE BAY.—Charming Apartments, with every convenience and comfort; detached house; close to sea and golf links; highly recommended. W., Danehurst.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 30s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—Clean, comf. aparts., nicely furnished; best street here; quiet; 1 min. all bridges; terms mod.—Dkn., 42 Gladstone-st., London-road.

LONDON, S.E.—Kennington-rd. (116). Sitting, single, or double-bedded rooms. Vac. Sunday. Good cooking and attendance. Recommended V. A. F. Mrs. Pearson.

LONDON, S.E.—E. and M. Dyer (formerly Mrs. Gatehouse), 123, Kennington-road; few rooms vacant for Aug. 28 and Sept. 4.

LONDON, W.—12, Soho-street, Oxford-street (near Tube). Furnished rooms, bed-sitting rooms, gas and water. Mrs. Bowman.

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s.; combined ditto, and suites; bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-st. Superior apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; two minutes halls and theatres.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temperance Hotel and Restaurant, delightfully situated between both stations; good cooking; moderate.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.
Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor,

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.
My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.
Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, by A. H. Lee, late General-Manager Ilkley, Yorks, First-class offers; large Rink preferred. 23, Well-close Mount, Carlton Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, by Skating Instructor, Situation, plain or fancy; best references as to character and ability. London or Provinces. D. Ellis, 21, Archway-road, Upper Holloway, N.

WANTED, Management of Continental Rink, by gentleman, knows good Sites, had previous Continental experience. Eric Carr, 16, Hyde-road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Sept. 2, three nights or week; Sept. 6, week; only vacancy this year. Alec Payne, the Skater. Wire, Pleasure Beach Rink, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Expert Trick and Exhibition Skater, Bookings, England or Continent. Box 8,163, "The Era."

WANTED, Position, by Lady Instructress, Continent or New Rink, Oct. or Nov.; good Skater, two-step, &c.; speaks French, German. Miss Tate, 19, Bd. Flandrin, Paris.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

To Rink Managers and others.
WANTED, 130 pairs of entirely new and about 450 pairs of nearly new Winslow Skates, assorted sizes, for Disposal; all in good condition and ready for use; also quantity of repair parts. Open to Offers.
Apply, Wm. Cottier Cubbin, Proprietor, Winter Gardens, Onchan Head, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, for cash, 300 pairs Winslow or Richardson skates, must be in good condition and rock bottom price. Brown, 242, Green-lane, Walsall.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, to Close a Trust, a Modern Theatre, in first-class state of repair, situated in the heart of a prosperous Midland town; at present Let on Lease, with about three years to run, to a reliable Syndicate. Can be sold to show a good return on rental value. Apply, principals or solicitors only, to Box 8,150, "The Era."

CITY OF EXETER
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft. Plan and particulars of Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Young Lioness, Llama, Civet, Bear, Wolf, Serval, Yak, Buffalo, Marboa, Jackal, Coatimundi, Vyscacha, Giant Rat, Badger, 12 Monkeys, perfect and healthy. Noah's Ark, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED to Sell, Small, Live Teddy Bear, about four months old, still takes the bottle, very quiet. Arthur James, c/o Mr. McCabe, High-street, Bracknell, Berks.

WANTED, to Sell, Neat Acrobatic Monkey Act, very docile monkey.
Also Model Aeroplane, with full Electric Equipment for flight, a pretty act. Apply, J. P. Moore, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Troupe of Performing Dogs and Props, Football, &c., now working. Clackson, Reading Zoo, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Fox-terriers (dog and bitch), good somersaults, basket, and clowning, cheap. C. Dickel, 14, Pennyfields, Poplar.

WANTED, to Sell, a Pure White Bull Terrier, no vice, good tempered, age 23 months, 50s. Thomas, Queen's Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Suit, fit young man about 5ft. 6in., almost new, cost 35s., sell 10s.; Banjo, cost £3, sell 14s. Barratt, 31, Victoria-road, Dukinfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Powerful Xylophones, Gongs, Glockenspiels, Tubular Bells, Marimbas, Rattles, Organ Chimes, Sleigh Bells. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, some Juggling Clubs, all sizes and weights. Box 8,165, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, good Protean Sketch, seven Characters. R. A. Roberts' opinion: Very good. Apply, M., 168, Hammersmith-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, one-act Melodrama, suitable Halls; small cast, excellent Heavy Lead. Write, Walter Macqueen-Pope, 143, Stapleton Hall-road, Stroud Green, N.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Sketches, Playlets, Musical Plays (Pastoral, Comical, Historical, Tragical), own ideas written up. Bird, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, "The Theatre," from Vol. 1 to Vol. 30, many portraits, handsomely bound in half calf, 30 vols. for £5 5s. Y. N., 18B, The Parade, Golder's Green.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, Provincial Theatres.
Address, with full particulars, Private Syndicate, Box 8,182, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture. Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, 200 Tip-up Seats. State price and where can be seen, also when for disposal. Box 8,177, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Dynamo, 65 volts and about 100 amps.
Full particulars and lowest price to E. Tilney, Abertillery.

WANTED, Costumes, Principals and Chorus, for "Dick Whittington" Pantomime, must be in good condition. Box 8,168, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Stage Dress, latest fashion, good condition. Letters only, Miss M., 6, Osborne-house, St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington.

WANTED, Motor Generator or Converter for Continous Current, 30-40 amperes. Reply Manager, Picture Palace, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Rolling Globe, state size; also Juggling Knives. Box 8,164, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Secondhand Bass Drum and Pair 12in. or 13in. Cymbals. J. Hinchliffe, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Buy, good Tumbling Felt, 20ft. Letters, Wadbrook, Milford Haven.

WANTED to Buy, Cheap, good Bioscope. State make and absolute lowest. Bliss, Pier, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, to Buy, Smart, Clever Trick Dogs, Black Poodles preferred; must be good and novel tricks; for cash. Coms., Steadman, 19, High-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, by experienced Actress, recognised Author, to write Sketch round own ideas, immediately, four people. Lowest terms; no MSS. Box 8,173, "The Era."

WANTED, Files of "The Era," 1860, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and onwards, to present time. Address, Librarian, "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-st., W.C.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, from September to Easter, the Pavilion at Lofthouse Park, for Pierrot Troupe or Picture Show, with Variety Turns most suitable. For further particulars, apply Secretary, Belle Isle, Wakefield.

WANTED, to Let (off Westminster Bridge-rd.), 18, Hercules-road. Well-positioned shop, good living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent. Edwards, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, Private Rehearsal Rooms, finest accommodation in London, from 6d. per hour. Manchester House Academy, 295, Kennington-road. 'Phone 5467 Central.

WANTED, to Lease, Entirely New and Powerful Melodrama, by Two Successful Authors, New Plant of specially-cut Pictorial Posters Ready, Splendid Title for Provinces, Excellent Comedy, Short Cast, Easy Scenery. Box 8,171, "The Era."

WANTED to Let, a Four-act Drama, "THE OTHER WOMAN," By Nita Rae. Address, Opera House, Southend.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, the Successful Drama, "The Love of a Life," with or without Uniforms and Scenery. Music, Printing. Shinton, 44a, Morat-street, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Advert. Curtain, 26 by 16. Apply, Manager, Picture Palace, Sale, near Manchester. Reliable Firms only apply.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other Large Halls in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to Box 8,155, "The Era."

WANTED, to Lease Theatre or Picture Hall, or would Entertain Partnership with Management. Address, first instance, Box 8,166, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Lease, Theatre, must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity, fullest particulars, James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Public Halls, Skating Rinks, Music Halls, and Theatres. Rent or long lease. State all particulars in first letter. Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Lease, good Theatre or Hall, also to Purchase Shares in sound concerns. Philip Bennett, 52, Cleethorpe-road, Grimsby.

WANTED to Hire, for Darlington Exhibition, First-class Cinematograph and Films, change weekly. State make and Terms. Geo. Scott, General Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser wishes to join another in Partnership, to Tour Ladies' Choir, Combinations, with Pictures, twice nightly Dramas, &c., to work small towns. Principals only knowing provinces please communicate with Box 8,169, "The Era" Office.

100% on a small outlay assured.
WANTED, Known, gentleman with keen up-to-date experience in the Cinematograph business seeks gentleman or lady anxious to open a Picture Show anywhere. Capital under own control, and all profits go to its repayment. Kindly enclose private card when writing for appointment to Opportunity, Box 8,158, "The Era."

Golden Opportunity to get on the Stage.
WANTED, Lady or Gentleman with small capital, to produce High-class Magical Sketch. Apply, Blackmore, 45, Kingston-road, Ilford, E.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman to make one of three Willing to Invest in an Up-to-date Picture Show, own machine. G. H., Manager, 35, Handford-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Female Partner, or two or three Girls that can Sing and Dance, must live near. Violet, 180, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone, 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. 'Phone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples, Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. Artistic Printing Co., Dover-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. Heath, Ltd., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Artists to Oblige by Sending on Photos for Lounge to H. Bawn, Empire, Lower Edmonton, London, N.

WANTED, Known, the Plans are now passed for the King's Royal Picture Hall, Annfield Plain, holding over 1,400, for Bloom, of Sunderland.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,

55a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd., 45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N., Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS, Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents, NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd., Scarborough.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.
— NOTICE —
TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.
ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBCRIPTIONS
are received through Messrs.
J. ROLAND KAY & CO.,
TEUTONIC BUILDINGS, 172, WASHINGTON STREET, CHICAGO, U.S.A.,
from whom terms and full particulars may be obtained.
American Artistes visiting England use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.
MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.
SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.
Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.
Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET
PERTH—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.
DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,
SUCCESSORS TO
A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM
Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham.
Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.
Why do DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.
Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.
1. PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY. Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO. Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH. Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA. Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN. Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD. Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON. Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM. Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST. Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Complete Re-upholstering.
12. NEW THEATRE, BILSTON. Complete Re-upholstering.
13. SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES, for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH. Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON. Complete Reseating.
17. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA. Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. NEW HIPPODROME, YORK. Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. HIPPODROME, COVENTRY. Reseating &c.
23. CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS. Reseating, &c.
24. NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON. Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET. The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA. Complete Seating, &c.
31. NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON. Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD. Complete Seating.
40. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN. Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON. Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON. Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON. Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. Refurnishings.
48. PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN. Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE. Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE. Complete Seating, &c.
52. ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING. Reseating, &c., &c.
54. ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD. Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.
57. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.
58. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.
59. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
60. HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS. Tip-up Chairs.
61. RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW. Reseating, &c.
62. RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY. Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. MECHANICS' INSTITUTE. Complete Seating.
66. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR. The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW. Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL. Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM, The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE. Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM. Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY. Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON. New Tip-up Chairs.
77. NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations for Theatres, Halls, Electric Theatres, Skating Rinks, etc., etc.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Invite all who are interested in Picture Theatres to see their work just finished at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch.
Will be pleased for their artists to get out schemes for Decorations free of all charge.
Write for Dean's New Catalogue of Tip-up Chairs and Seatings of every description.
Good Serviceable Tip-up Chair from 4/11, delivered and fixed free.
Good Upholstered Tip-up Chair in Velvet or Pegamoid from 5/11 to 27/-
Good Serviceable Upholstered Running Seats from 2/6 per foot fixed.
Good Linoleum from 2/- square yard laid.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Supply Fibrous Plaster and other Decorations, Tip-up Chairs, Carpets, Curtains, etc., far cheaper and better than any other house in the trade. Samples sent free.
Advise all who think of seating or reseating their Halls to write for their Catalogue, select the samples they would like to see, and compare same with those of their competitors. DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., will, in nineteen cases out of twenty, obtain the contract.
Still retain the services of MR. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, MR. BARDELL as Manager of the Decoration Department, MR. L. BECK as Manager of the Factory and Works.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD., BIRMINGHAM.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. Tebbitt.—Williams and Warden, Irish comedians, in their latest success, *Mr. Dooley*, top the bill; Tom Clifford, ventriloquist, gains favour; the Le Bruns, eccentric jugglers, introducing Little Edie, the child artist, have a hearty reception. The pictures are new and good.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—*A Country Girl in London* is being ably interpreted by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company. Miss Maude Merrick is successful in the rôle of Marjorie Hamilton, which she depicts in an effective and earnest manner; Mr. Chas. Halling sustains the part of Frank Gordon with power; Mr. Fred Wilberforce is good as Mr. John Hamilton; Mr. Scott Leighton displays ability as Godfrey Clinton; Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson plays Gwendoline Gordon in a convincing manner; Mr. Frank Dallas is to be credited with a capital impersonation of Henrich Oppenheim; Job Smithers has a good representative in Mr. Sutton Pateman; whilst Mr. Seymour Perry as Wilberforce Puddyphat and Miss Alice Clarke as Adelaide Puddyphat cause much laughter.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Victor W. Rowe; Resident-Manager, Arthur Norton.—Keppel and Williams, crosstalk comedians and dancers, are a good turn; Nellie Deil is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Kytye has a unique speciality act; and Ada Tilley and Harold Wagner and company, in their farcical sketch, entitled *The Lodger*, supported by Mr. Jack White as Bill Grunley, create roars of laughter. The high standard of the pictures is maintained.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. James Millard and his talented company of players occupy the boards this week with the inspiring drama, *Paying the Price*. The play centres around the stirring events of the South African War. Mr. Millard makes a favourable impression as Lord Delemere; Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Captain Dick Clinton is the typical high-spirited British officer; Miss Margaret Damer represents well the part of the scheming adventuress Lady Delemere; Miss Gem Lloyd as Doris Delemere is winsome and vivacious; Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas is an impressive journalist of the aristocratic type, and plays the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple to perfection; and Mr. Frank Medhurst gives a good representation of the Boer farmer.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—The Five Faludys are acrobats of more than ordinary agility and grace; Captain Kettle manipulates cards and other things with amazing dexterity; Nine Dainty Dots dance and sing with charming childish abandon; Randolph King proves himself to be an actor of resource; H. O. Wills, "the water rat," gives a highly original display; and Miss Dora Lyric proves herself to be possessed of musical abilities of an attractive nature.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—*Happy Holland* is portrayed in the Tivoli this week in a most engaging manner; Jack Friedmann takes the leading part in a company of thirty, all of whom contribute to the enjoyable features of the presentation; the Royal Tokio Troupe display their well-known acrobatic dexterity; Curtis Leo and Little Noblesse give a mystifying display of juggling; Dan Daly is a burlesque singer of accomplished parts; Mildred Parr sings and acts with attractive grace; Goodall and Knox are comedians of a rich versatile character; and Miss Millie Howard sings with rare spirit and success.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, E. Price.—The star turns this week are Six Brothers Luck in *Lift 'Ems, Ltd.*, and *The Demon of the Cellar*, both of which cause roars of laughter. Included in the bill are Walter Stanley, a novel comedian; Hazel Ellis, novel lady conjurer; Gordon Stretton, coloured comedian and dancer; and Leon Dixon, comedian.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is the attraction here in *Secrets*. Mr. Ernest R. Allen gives a manly and convincing performance as Lieut. Herbert Markham; as the villainous Noureddin Ali Mr. John Richter is effective; Mr. Dan F. Roe is seen to advantage as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Mr. F. Churchill is capable as Alma Meleda; Mr. Arthur Hartley ably depicts the character of the slave dealer; and Mr. William Macready is very successful as Kara. Miss Marie Barrett acquits herself with distinction as Ismalia; Miss Maud Kynnersley makes the most of her opportunities as Zulieka; Miss A. Churchill makes a capital Thyrza; Miss Lucie Glenville merits praise as Kassi; Miss Jenny Hackett is a delightful exponent of Winnie Wilkins, and receives capital support in creating laughter from Mr. George Scully as Peter.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The lively Dan Whitley is a big favourite here; Coverdale's and Huxley's Bijou Juveniles present a refined musical scena; Perrier introduces a novel ventriloquial turn; Bromley and Fontein, comedy duo, are very entertaining; the Sisters Hall are a pair of charming vocalists; the Beckett-ow Bros. provide a clever comedy acrobatic act; Moon and Morris sing and dance themselves into favour; Edith Chantler is a dainty comedienne; and the Bioscope proves interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—An acceptable change from the variety programme is that of Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Fred W. Graham's continual run of humorous sayings and doings as Silas makes him most popular, and he is ably seconded by Miss Florence Corri as Judith. Miss May Otto uses a well-trained voice to great advantage as Dorothy; whilst a dashing Ruth is contributed by Miss Margaret Forbes. Mr. Walter Ashley looks the typical soldier as Captain George Fielding; Mr. James Morath sustains the necessary villainy of the plot with vigour, and as an accomplice he has Mr. Edward Aldworth as Hawkins. Amusing situations are introduced by Messrs. Geoffrey Berwick (Featherstone), and Wm. H. Troutbeck (Smith); whilst the Sisters Iris and Lillie Elvido, with several cleverly executed dances, help materially to the success.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—A good selection of pictures is presented by Messrs. Golder and Sloman this week. A dramatic picture is entitled The Brave Action of a Girl. The chief comic film is Pulling Dad's Leg.

ASHINGTON.—BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—Mr. J. H. Milburn, vocal comedian, is highly appreciated; Miss Fanny Humber contributes largely to the success with her singing, dancing, &c.; and the pictures are of the usual high order.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stoker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Mr. Gus Hindell, character comedian, is a great success; Sim Maree, the indiarubber Mohammedan, is a marvellous contortionist; and Mr. Tom Bassett, Shakespearean comedy artist, is also good.

MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Campbell Browne.—Mr. H. Armitage's company, in *Leah Kleschna*, reopened the above theatre on Monday. Mr. William Clayton made a powerful Kleschna; as Paul Sylvaine, Mr. Cyril Austen Lee displayed ability; Mr. Henry Nunn as Raoul Berton was excellent; Mr. Graham Pockett did well as Schram; in the parts of General Burton and Valentine Faure Mr. Henry Wren was particularly good; and in the title-rôle Miss Marguerite Cellier played in a natural and charming manner.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren's company is visiting Ashton this week with *Proof*, the romantic costume play. Mr. Francis Roberts enacts the French soldier, Pierre Lorance, investing the rôle with the requisite passion and pathos; Mr. George Roberts invests the scoundrel Lazare with the needful vindictive ferocity and cunning; Mr. T. E. Marshall as Chamboran introduces an element of humour that relieves the sombreness of the story; Mr. Alfred Wiltshire is a dignified and soldierly Count D'Aubterre; Mr. Hubert B. Hine as Victor plays the lover with tenderness and ardour; Miss Hero Hathaway, in the dual rôles of Madeline and Adrienne, shows grace and power; Miss Elsie Goulding as Valentine is vigorous and passionate; Miss Millicent James as Mme. D'Aubterre reflects a motherly nature and kindly disposition.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—The bill for the week at the Empire is variety. Several of the artists are old favourites. Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, for example, sings some new ditties and introduces some new "business," which adds to his popularity; the cat king, Leoni Clarke, is also here again with his educated cats, canaries, monkeys, rabbits, &c. A very pleasing show is afforded by Mr. Clarke's pets. The Broadway Boys combine good vocalism with expert dancing; Sydney Brandon gives an original turn in character portrayal; the Sisters Brooklands are very dainty artists in dance and song; a nice, novel act of the musical order is given by Eric and Nora; Philip Levard scores as a society illusionist and a conjurer, assisted by Miss Lily Gene; two favourites of the halls—Edie Veno, eccentric comedienne, and Ada Fawn, comedy and burlesque actress—are prominent in their specialities of song and patter and pretty posing and eccentric diversion.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A fine selection of pictures, embracing drama, travel, and comedy, is being given here, and full houses are the rule. Interested and appreciated turns are given by Miss Elva O'Neill, burlesque comedienne; and Mr. Will Peplow, vocalist and trick instrumentalist.

PICTURE PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The Ironworkers' Strike is the headliner here, and proves to be a thrilling and highly dramatic picture. Mr. Henri Albano, expert concertinist, gives enjoyable selections.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*Her Love Against the World* has been presented here by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company. Mr. Fred Emery and Miss Ellen Snow, in the respective parts of Earl Strathmere and Princess Iris, act with excellent effect; Mr. Roy Fortescue is a great success as the villain, and his portrayal of the part of Prince Ulric is a feature of the performance. Others worthy of mention are Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Prince Othmar, Mr. Arthur Chisholm as Prince Maurice, Mr. C. R. Hann as General Gessler, Mr. Fred Acton, and Mr. John Mill; Miss Blanche Stelle as Shula and Miss Rossie St. John as Nello.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Walter Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is here. Miss Viola Holland as Monico is both dignified and humorous, and Mr. Henry Hallett is a manly Prince Olaf. Mr. Victor Ray is a pathetic Prince Michael, and Mr. Leonard Booker a malignant Prince Hildred. Mr. W. S. Hardy does well as Colonel Wellenberg, and Mr. H. Burton is seen to advantage as Captain Hector; while Mr. S. Dickens is a humorous Lieutenant Stromberg. Miss Violet May is a sweet Camiola, and Miss Mona Hall an effective Viola.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Blue Myths are still here with a highly-varied entertainment.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The chief item here this week is "Les Milabies," a series of living models of well-known pictures and statues introduced by Signor Arvi. Mrs. Victor's Juveniles submit a pleasing turn in songs, choruses, and dances; Johnson and Hart are smart and clever in a hoop-manipulating and juggling entertainment; Andre Romanoff gives appreciated violin selections; Baby Vi Davis; Dolly Ross, comedienne; and Bert Bowden, comedian, also appear.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's British Empire Picture and Variety Company are giving an excellent entertainment this week.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—Miss Florence Baines is appearing in the musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.* Miss Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson is a remarkably clever and versatile artist, keeping the house in roars from start to finish: Miss Mollie Shine acts delightfully as Eva Lancashire; Miss Francis Ferina makes a stately Bertha; John Higgins is cleverly portrayed by Mr. David Donaldson; Mr. Charles Swinburne does well as Harry; Messrs. Henry Lloyd and Joseph Burley as Grant and Herbert Fox respectively are very amusing; Mr. Payne Fletcher (John Thompson) and Miss Maud Locker (Mrs. Thompson) both do well; and Mr. W. E. Passmore gives an excellent character-study of Moses Goldberg. The piece is prettily staged.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—The Celestas are a quartette of comedy singers with exceptionally good voices; the Sisters Henderson give an excellent display of their skill as musicians and dancers; while Dennis and Morris are a pair of clever comedians and dancers; and the pictures are of the usual popular kind.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The regular autumn season commenced on Monday, when Mr. Bannister Howard's excellent company began a return visit in *The Earl and the Girl*, and which served to introduce Bath's own musical comedy actress, Miss Lillie Gullick, to the local boards, after her severe illness, in the character of Elphin Haye. The popular little lady has met with a splendid reception nightly. She is capitally supported by Mr. Herbert St. John as Dick Wargrave and Miss Blanche Astley as Daisy Fallowfield. "Chantecler" dresses by Clarkson create much interest and amusement. The star of the company is that sound comedian, Mr. Edward Lewis, who fairly revels in the character of Jim Cheese; 'Liza Shoddam being once again impersonated by Mr. Lina Hicks. In several ways Miss Edith Blande is strong in ability and presence as Mrs. Shimmering Black, her three companions in pursuit of Wargrave finding good representations in Mr. D. Fisher, jun. (Downham), Mr. Harry Courtin (Bliss), and Mr. Jos. R. Tate (Talk). Mr. Lionel Scott does well as the Hon. Crewe Boodle.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Friend and Downing, the American cross-talk comedians, score a legitimate success here by their refinement and wit; Gene Morelle, the ragged virtuoso, is another turn to the liking of the audience; the Caines are two ladies who juggle the Indian clubs well, but the tit-bit is the wonderful ball-punching of the elder partner. Tod Lowen is recalled again and again for his rendering of old melodies with new words; and others who win favour by their smart work are the Four Rosebuds, vocalists and dancers, Dene and Dixon, comedy duo, and Jessie Wilton, comedienne.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Thomas Bentley celebrated Dickensian character actor, comes in for rounds of applause for his clever impersonations. He is assisted by little Doris Walker, who undertakes the part of Little Nell; Paul Cavalli performs some marvellous feats of strength, at one time supporting a full-sized piano and a pianist on his chest; some clever instrumental work is done by Parks and Price; Maud Esmond sings with much gusto "Ship ahoy!" and her other song is well rendered; Grace Lester and company present a short drama *A Ruined Life*; and other turns are those of the Sisters Robertson, duettists and dancers; and Charles Moore, comedian. The Bioscope concludes.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company opened here on Monday with *The Arcadians*. The cast is a powerful one, and includes Mr. Walter Passmore, who as James Smith achieved a pronounced success, being irresistibly funny. Mr. Oliver J. Round was inimitable as Peter Doody, his songs, especially "Always Merry and Bright," affording great pleasure. Miss Ethel Erskine was delightful as Sombra, her fine voice being heard to advantage in several songs; and Miss Billie Sinclair was a fascinating Eileen Cavanagh. Mr. Harold E. Pearce was excellent as Jack Meadows, and Miss Veronica Brady deserved a special word of praise for her droll impersonation of Mrs. Smith. Mr. Ivan Cleveland was very good as Sir George Paddock, and Mr. Louis Victor rendered able assistance as Bobby. Miss Florence Ivy as Chrysea was in every sense capable; and other rôles were ably sustained by Miss I. Powell, Miss B. Craigie, Miss L. Clarke, Miss M. Powell, Miss E. Drayson, and Messrs. Dalton Murray, Ivan Leslie, H. Percival, and G. H. Adams. The chorus and augmented orchestra were under the skilful direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*What a Man Made Her* is being presented here by Miss Renee Glendower and company. Miss Glendower fills the leading rôle of Janet McAllister in a clever manner, her speeches being loudly acclaimed; Mr. Charles K. Franks was admirable as Sir Ernest Cavendish, and Mr. W. J. Butler furnished a powerful impersonation of Rupert Danescombe. The rôle of Doctor Mark Haven was cleverly interpreted by Mr. Frederick W. Freeman; and humour was infused into the performance of that of Lewis Emmanuel Gunnerstein by Mr. Harry Ugar. Miss Dorothy Dewhurst was charming as Deborah; and Miss Nora Kingsley and Miss Beatrice Shirley were equal to the requirements of the rôles of Elfrida and Lady Thora Danescombe. Other parts were adequately presented by Miss K. Murgatroyd, Miss V. Thomas, and Messrs. Pat Erson and J. Lindsay.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is the droll clown Cruickshank, whose patter and musical selections have been received with enthusiasm. Lauri and Beatty and company appear to advantage in their sketch entitled *The Lady Bandits*, and Grant and Grant please all with their negro songs and dances. The Four Vagabonds are an exceedingly talented vocal quartette, and gain deserved encores; Leick and Keith's cornet solos are an agreeable feature of the entertainment; Mr. Charles Santon, male soprano, has a wonderful voice; and also engaged are Miss Lila Vesta, comedienne; Dacey and Lewes, a speciality comedy couple, and the Hipposcope, with "film" dogs of all nations.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Miss Daisy Jerome tops the bill here, and has achieved a pronounced success; Mr. Tom Bryce appears in a musical comedy sketch *The Dudes' Wooing*; and Mlle. De Shara presents Little Sunbeam, a good comedienne and dancer. Fielding and Hull appear in their tabloid musical comedy entitled *Mixed Bathing*; and Rauschle faithfully impersonates celebrities, past and present, including Salisbury, Gladstone, Roosevelt, John Burns, and many others. Athlone and Sinclair produce their speciality act entitled *Mary's Ideal Man*; and also engaged is Miss Lillie Farrar, who appears in her attractive scena "Bubbles." The Bioscope completes.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some attractive films have been produced here, including Hague *v.* Langford, Johnson *v.* Ketchell, The Special Agent, The Tragic Hour, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Godfreys in their clever musical act and the Ives in their ball-punching performance.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Among many beautiful pictures exhibited here may be mentioned Ramona, The Princess and the Peasant, Two Sides to a Story, Are You John Brown? &c. The Maynards Comedy Duo appear at each performance with decided success, also Mr. Fred Buckley, eccentric comedian.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—A fine series of pictures is being exhibited here this week, including The Marked Time Table, The Indiscretions of Betty, The Worker's Wife. Mr. Dan Derry, ventriloquist, appears, and creates roars of laughter.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, W. J. Tunstall.—Jadoo Wallah, the Egyptian wonder-worker, occupies a prominent place in the programme this week; Ariel and Astarte appear in a gymnastic potpourri; and Ernest Montefiore and company present a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Little Colonel*.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hebert M. King.—Mr. C. Watson Mills and his capable company, in *For Love and the King*, are delighting large audiences. Mr. C. Watson Mills gives a finished and incisive rendering of Gerald Meredith, and is ably seconded by Miss Joan Ellis, who enacts the rôle of Natila with conspicuous ability; Mr. Alfred Morris gives a good character-sketch of Michael Obrenovic; and Mr. John C. Carlyle, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Geoffrey Chate, and Mr. Oscar Power are also prominent in the cast, which is most efficient throughout. The staging of the play is really excellent.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Mark Sheridan, the popular comedian, is on a welcome return visit, and is scoring his accustomed success; Mr. Albert Whelan, the talented Australian entertainer, is an established favourite here; and Olga, Elga, and Eli Hudson, expert instrumentalists and vocalists, have made a decided hit: the Bensons, in their musical comedy act *The Page and the Maid*; Tony Black, a good Scotch comedian; Miss Elsie Roby, musical comedienne; Rich and Rich, comedians and patterers; the Brothers Miller, comedy gymnasts; Miss Jennie Hartley, a pleasing soubrette; and Brown's Royal Bioscope accord valuable assistance, and business is simply enormous.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, in a condensed version of *East Lynne*, give every satisfaction twice nightly. Miss Lydia Donovan presents a careful and effective study of Lady Isabel; Mr. Morris Maud is a fine Archibald Carlyle; Captain Levison is well embodied by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; Miss Kathleen Stewart is well placed as Barbara Hare; and remaining characters are in able hands.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Manager, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—A strong company comprises Mr. Alex. Chentrens (Anglo-French chanteur), Mr. McDougal (Scotch comedian), Mr. Bernard Davies, Miss Miri De Freece, Billy Moran, Mr. Douglas Campbell, Mr. Davis Jenkins, and Miss Mabel Warwick.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Lewis Waller, supported by his company from the Lyric Theatre, is producing the new play *Bardelys the Magnificent* before crowded houses. A special report of the production will be found on another page.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessees, Rodgers, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Johnston.—Good houses are being delighted with the production by Mr. Robert Courtneidge and Mr. H. M. Thompson's company of *The Dairymaids*. Miss Ethel Colaman as Peggy displays excellence in every department, and Miss Marjorie Manners makes a dainty Winifred and sings with artistic feeling. The comedy element is in the hands of a capable party of comedians, conspicuous amongst whom are Mr. William Spray and Mr. Edwin Dodds. There is a full and powerful chorus, and the dances are effectively executed.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*From Convent to Throne* is creating a very favourable impression, the romantic love-story never flagging in interest. Mr. J. A. Campbell presents a very capable company, at the head of which is Mr. Aidan Levett as Lieutenant von Hapsburg, and Miss Valerie Crespin as the Princess—afterwards the Queen—Maritza. They make an admirable pair. Mr. William J. Miller is clever in the character of a scheming Minister, and Mr. A. F. Stuart is also good in a prominent part. The humour is well sustained, and the drama moves with refreshing briskness.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*Her Path of Sorrow* is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company. The piece is cleverly treated, and it holds the attention of the audience securely throughout. The cast is a strong one, Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne being a conspicuous figure as Nellie Rayne, the betrayed and deserted girl. Other clever artists are Mr. John Davidson, Mr. Frank Etheridge, Mr. Horatio Sinclair, Mr. H. Harrald, Miss Florence Melrose, Millett, and Miss Daisy Carlton. The dramatic situations are well balanced by pleasing light comedy, and the production is meeting with deserved success.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company is achieving marked success in a revival of *A Life's Revenge*. The cast has been carefully selected, and the play is very cleverly handled, auguring well for a successful future. A sensational situation is the duel between Princess Vanda Ivylia (Miss Millie Ford) and Marcia Vittoria (Miss Amy Ellam). Mr. Wilton J. Richards ably undertakes the heavy rôle as Prince Boris Strogoroff, and Mr. Edward E. Louis as Paul Starovitch is fully equal to his part. Miss Nellie Hook fills a comedy part with vivacity, and the remaining characters are very capably represented.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Miss Nannie Goldman's company presents with great success *The Stepmother*. Miss Goldman in the character of Danny has many opportunities to display her emotional powers, and she is never found wanting. Mr. William Holles as Captain Bristow is conspicuous in a very capable company, and Miss Patricia Bostock plays the title-rôle convincingly. The comedy parts are ably sustained by Miss Edith Bruce (Johanna Jones) and Mr. Teddy Myles (Timothy Yapp).

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—A revival of *The New Magdalen* is ably undertaken by Mr. James Alexander's company. The cast includes two or three names that were very prominent in the stock company playing here during the summer, and the production is thus an increased attraction. Miss Yoxa Summer, who scored many triumphs here a short time ago, distinguishes herself in the character of Mercy Merrick, and displays a wonderful power of expression. She is well supported by Mr. Norman Tracy in the part of Julian Gray, and Miss Margaret Thorne is well chosen as Lady Janet Roy. Other prominent artists are Miss Ethel Matthews and Mr. Frederick Harker. The play is evidently destined for a long and successful run.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—There have been many regrets over the non-appearance of the popular comedian Phil Ray, which, we learn, is due to indisposition. His place, however, is taken by Kitts and Windrum, from the Grand Theatre, and the mirth which they provoke in a farcical sketch, *The Cuckoo*, provides good compensation. Barton and Ashley, the American comedy couple, introduce plenty of humour in their farcical creation, *Adam the Second*; Winifred Ward is appropriately termed "the Immaculate Boy"; Herman Melot is a skilful conjurer; Harry Conlin receives a warm welcome; Signor and Mme. Corelli provoke laughter by their amusing duets; the Cavalotti Brothers are talented musicians; Shirley and Ransome appear in a good sketch; and Aida Martine is a pleasing comedienne.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Miss Ada Reeve, a warm favourite in Birmingham, has ample scope for displaying her great talents in a number of very popular songs, each of which is an entertainment in itself. Severus Schaffer, a clever juggler, occupies a conspicuous place in the programme, his performance concluding with some remarkable feats of strength. Kitts and Windrum present a very amusing sketch, entitled *The Cuckoo*, and Drew and Alders, two smart burlesque comedians, have a great reception. Harry Brown is a quaint coloured comedian; Rhoda Paul a talented male impersonator; Conan and Doyle are appreciated in patter and song; the Violas mystify audiences in a thought-reading performance; and Georgina Leno is popular.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—A hearty reception is accorded to Carl Junor, whose pianoforte playing in a sketch entitled *The Spirit of Music* excites admiration. The ever-popular Ferguson and Mac keep audiences laughing with their quaint comedy business; and the miniature circus, comprising ponies, monkeys, and dogs, presented by Carl and Mary Ohm, is also an attractive feature. The Four Maisanos appear in an eccentric musical act; Bert Brantford is a clever comedian; Dunn and Reano are well received in a comedy act; Bert Beecham is an up-to-date light comedian; and Rosa Tilley is a bright burlesque actress.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—With Fred Karno's latest creation, *Perkins, M.P.*, at the head of the bill it is not surprising that the theatre is crowded each evening. Tom Nelson makes a great hit as the entertaining Perkins, and he is well supported. Ernie Myers keeps the ball rolling with his funny patter and new songs; Keen and Waller are an amusing pair of comedy acrobats; Harry Levaine is a comedian of considerable ability; a pleasing sketch, *The Suffragettes*, is provided by the Menzies; Webb and Branston are pleasing operatic duettists; Lily Lonsdale scores a great success in a popular song; and Roma Raie is a comedienne with a taking style.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Fasola, the mysterious Indian fakir, is responsible for the chief turn in an excellent bill. His tricks apparently baffle detection, and they are very highly appreciated. A jumping speciality is provided by the Hartley Wonders, whose agility is displayed to good effect; Clare and Pastor in a Dutch song and dance earn warm applause; L. W. Harris is a light comedian with a pleasing style; Frank Maura is correctly described as "the Mexican Wonder"; Patty Yole sings and dances well; Regan and Ryan are clever eccentrics; and Miss Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl, is deservedly popular. The Hipposcope pictures are a good feature.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The pictures illustrating beauty spots in Europe appear very much to the liking of audiences. Scenes on the Rhine at Heidelberg and Berne, are of a very interesting character, and they are quite seasonable. The classical story of Pygmalion and Galatea is cleverly reproduced in picture form, and there are numerous other films. The Sisters Sligo are applauded in a pleasing musical turn.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy. — There are many up-to-date features in an enjoyable programme of animated pictures, chief amongst which is a film illustrating the story of "Jane Eyre." Belle Laurier, a talented comedienne, provides an acceptable turn. Wrestling matches are proving popular.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore. — The picture programme is proving a very effective draw. The variety turns add interest to the entertainment.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company is presenting *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* here. Mr. Wilson Coleman gives a thrilling portrayal of Felix Beverley; Mr. Edward F. Louis is fine as Jack Stirling; and Mr. Cyril Grier is a clever Colonel Mills; Miss Kathleen Magee charmingly depicts the title-part; and Miss Lelia Drummond handles with masterly effect the Hon. Mrs. Sands; Miss Minnie Goepel is a winning Sweet Nancy; and Mr. W. Annesley (Arthur Bellairs), Mr. Reginald Brown (Geoffrey Langdon), Mr. Joe Redfern (Thomas), Mr. Alfred G. T. Raymond (Charles) play their respective rôles splendidly.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland) Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Another capital bill is being provided here, at the top of which appears Dick Tubb. He is a masterly comedian, and his songs are sung in fine style. Kioto and Esa are wonderful equilibrists, and their turn is most thrilling; Sira, one-legged acrobat, is very good; and Maudie Ford is a clever song and dance artist; Jessie Buckle, vocalist comedienne, does well; Tate and Tate, in their novel comedy act, are good; and David Poole is a pleasing ventriloquist. The Hipposcope pictures show interesting films.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Harry P. Tower's company is here this week with *The Mountaineers*. Mr. Fred Eastman as Pierre scores a complete success, and laughter reigns supreme whenever he is on the stage; as the rival lovers, Fritz and Conrad, Messrs. Claude Flemming and Edgar Marsden respectively act and sing with excellent effect; whilst Mr. Frank Lawton has in Gustave a part that gives him opportunities for the display of his wonderful talent as a whistler; and Mr. Leo Sheffield is well suited to the character of Sergeant Frederico; Miss Marie Dainton makes the most delightful Clarice, and her singing is a rich treat; Miss Ida Stratham as Annette and Miss Aida Jenoure as Miss Spinifex also play their parts with credit and distinction. Mr. Reginald Somerville, the composer is in charge of a very fine orchestra.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Merry Widow* is again drawing huge audiences here this week. The personnel is little changed since the last visit, and the old favourites receive the most cordial reception nightly. Mr. Eric Thorne carries all before him as Baron Popoff; Mr. W. Talleur Andrews is fine as Vicomte Camille; Mr. George Grundy possesses all the attributes necessary for a correct portrayal of Prince Danilo; and Miss Gertrude Lester is the fascinating Sonia; Mr. Robert Nainby as Nisch, Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Marquis de Cascada, Mr. Stratton Mills as General Novokovitch, and Miss Daphne Hope as Natalie also lend excellent assistance and prove their fitness to be members of a George Edwardes's company.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Fragson tops the bill here this week, and is favourably received; Alexandra Dagmar is also a fine turn; and Coram is one of the best of ventriloquists; George S. Melvin is a smart comedian; the Millwards are diverting comedy gymnasts; Harry Nelson provides a humorous turn; the Four Athos are marvellous ball manipulators; Bertha Winder dances remarkably well; and the Jackley Trio of vaudeville entertainers are very amusing.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Bulmer's company is here with *When Woman Hates*. Mr. B. H. Davis is dignified as General Rokeby; Mr. Richard Ferris is dashing as Lieutenant Fred Rokeby, R.N.; Mr. Austin Mortimer acts well as Godfrey Lawton; Mr. Evan Roland is very humorous as Patrick O'Brien; Mr. Reg. Oldroyd is good as Alphonse Picolet; Miss Doris Brookes displays skill as Cora Daintry; Miss Ada Rokeby is a pleasing Marie Rokeby; and Miss Marie Dalby displays much humour as Mrs. Sally Potts.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. Laurence Brough, comedian, heads the bill here with *No. 9*. Other turns on the programme are the Eight College Girls, in their vocal and dancing act, *Schoolgirls at Play*; Barney Murphy, comedian; Bert and Dora, comedy artists; Arthur Woodville, versatile comedian; May Fairclough, in selections from Shakespeare, &c.; Siems, card and coin manipulator; Sterling and Love, in *Discord and Harmony*; Eileen Douglas, musical comedy gir

The chief attraction here is Bert Byrne, who keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter; Miss Rene Retford and Miss Celia Retford are successful; Miss Ennis Parkes creates an excellent impression; Mr. Charles Calvert and Mr. Victor Crawford are very amusing; and a whistling solo by Mr. J. Walker is well received.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Gerald Spencer.—Arthur Lennard, vocal comedian, receives rounds of applause here; the Boisset Troupe, in *The Bricklayers*, are successful; Victor Newman, character actor, is much appreciated; the Soho Trio are clever in song and dance; Little Sophie, phenomenal juvenile artist, receives applause; the Forrest Combination, in *My Friend the Enemy*, and Chas. Sloman, comedian, also contribute.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. George Edwardes presented *Our Miss Gibbs* to a packed house on Monday. Miss Carrie Moore was charming in the title-rôle, and scored heavily with her songs, "Mary" and "We don't do that in Yorkshire." Laughter was very hearty during the time Mr. George Gregory was on the stage as the quaint Yorkshireman Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Frank Hector was very funny as the Hon. Pierpoint; Miss Nancy Hervyn was chic and charming as Mme. Jeanne; Miss Olive Moore as Lady Elizabeth Thanet, Miss Grace Weston as the stately Duchess of Minster, and Miss Kitty Cavendish as Mrs. Farquhar submitted admirable impersonations; and Mr. H. V. Cropton's Lord Eynsford, Mr. Myles Clifton's Earl of St. Ives, Mr. Leslie Gaze's Slithers, and Mr. Ernest Mahar's Mr. Topiady were respectively excellent efforts. Miss Florence Phillips won applause for a charming solo dance.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Broken Melody* is staged here this week, with Auguste Van Biene in his well-known impersonation of Paul Borinski, and the fine 'cello solos are, as usual, loudly applauded. Mr. Van Biene is admirably supported by Miss Peggy Tighe as Mabel, Miss Rose Ralph as the Duchess, Mr. T. P. Hayes as Mortimer, and Mr. G. Child as Dr. McGrath.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—The Fred Karno combination of comedians are here in *The Boy 'Ero*, and as Jimmy the Fearless Mr. Karno elicits roars of laughter. He is capitally supported. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette, with banjos and harp, give a delightful performance; as comedy jugglers Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust are smart and entertaining; Phillips and Merritt dance cleverly in their bright turn as society entertainers; and the Three Sisters Kilner are dainty in their dancing. Mike S. Whallen is as amusing as ever as a comedian and raconteur; Helene Donald's songs are well rendered and prettily illustrated; and amusing pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Well-blended music and comedy are leading features in a capital songscena by the Four Garricks; much originality is shown by the Three Van Dammes in their acrobatic display; Colbert is a clever club juggler; some exceedingly smart dancing is given by the Four Sidney Girls, and by the Crisps in their comedy scena; the Hulls, in a musical act and burlesque opera, are entertaining; Julia Reeve, with daintily rendered humorous songs, wins much applause; and the Perfection Pictures are appreciated.

BRIDLINGTON.—Spa Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's London company opened here on Monday in *Don*. Mrs. Hutchison played the part of Mrs. Bonington with charming effect; Miss Dorothy Gordon as Mrs. Sinclair, and Miss Viola Garland as the daughter, were excellently fitted to their characters; and Miss Violet Harley as Mrs. Thompsett and Miss Mamie Mathers as Fanny rendered valuable aid to the play. Mr. Gordon Bailey gave good effect to the character of Stephen Bonington; Mr. Arthur Willoughby was a fine Canon Bonington; Mr. Charles Tyrel presented the part of General Sinclair with the requisite "fire"; and Mr. Charles Harley was wonderfully realistic as the fanatic Thompsett.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The great event of this week was the benefit accorded to the popular manager on Monday evening in the Grand Pavilion. Mr. Palmer was rewarded for his great and successful catering for the entertainment of the visitors to this popular resort, by a crowded audience, and a big programme was provided. Miss Mary Palmer, soprano; Mr. Robert Charlesworth, baritone; Mr. Charles Beanland, the favourite humorist of the "Waterloo's"; and Mr. Walter Curtis, the Yorkshire humorist, were all heartily received. Miss Dolly Palmer, the clever little daughter of the manager, excelled all previous performances by her vocalism and dancing; and she also contributed to the success of the new fairy fantasy performed by the "Smart Set," entitled *The Dream*. The municipal orchestra, under Mr. Norfolk Megone's conductorship, gave some of their choice selections.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The popularity of Herr Julian Kandt and his combination of talented musicians is testified by the crowded audiences which assemble nightly under the glass dome.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The chief item here this week, in addition to the finely rendered variety programme, is that most amusing absurdity, *Fun at the Baths*, specially produced by that talented member of the company, Mr. H. B. Casla. Mr. George Hyam, whose work as a comedian is always highly appreciated, was accorded a full house at his benefit concert, when a special programme was contributed to by a host of talent.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here this week with *For Wife and Kingdom*. Mr. Reginald T. Fox gives a very fine portrayal of Captain Max Lubeck; Miss Hettie Zillwood is graceful and refined as the Grand Duchess Marie of Gotsberg; the villainous Baron Breslaw has a powerful exponent in Mr. Albert Guyon; Miss Margaret Frame is admirably suited as Camillie von Nestolde. The remaining characters are ably sustained, and the drama is splendidly staged.

Alhambra. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Mr. Henry Kemble's company achieves great success in the comedy sketch *The Gay Countess*. Miss Josie Farrington in the title-rôle, Mr. Gus Danby as Charlie Chappell, and Mr. Harry Buss as Marmaduke being especially effective; Coverdale, comedian, is delightfully entertaining; Margo is clever in legerdemain; Marie Blythe is a pleasing contralto vocalist; Ford and Ford are well received in a musical speciality act; the Sisters Oswald appear in a new and novel act; Vi Laurie is a dainty comedienne; Harry Waldon is a capital comedian; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Evie Green wins enthusiastic applause for her charmingly rendered songs; Dutch Daly's concertina solos and patter are, as usual, warmly appreciated; Walter and Bailey are distinctly effective in an acrobatic turn; E. Merian's troupe of dogs display splendid training in the tragic comedy *A Faithless Wife*; Harry and Fanny Dent appear with great success in their novel mélange *The Indian Bottle*; Lottie Bellman, assisted by Bay Russell, is seen to marked advantage in *Bits of Vaudeville*; Tom Woottwell is a very quaint comedian; and admirable turns are submitted by the Hesseys, in a musical act; the Bartholomew Sisters, duettists and dancers; and the Three Orleans, vocalists and dancers.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—The Moody-Manners Opera company are attracting crowded houses here this week. On Monday evening Gounod's *Faust* was performed. Miss Rosa O'Farrell sang and acted charmingly as Marguerite; Mr. Frank Christian was thoroughly artistic as Faust; Mr. Graham Marr's Valentine merits high praise; Mr. Harry H. Brindle as Mephistopheles achieved great success; Miss Bessie Weir was an excellent Siebel; and Miss Alexander was admirably suited as Martha. The choruses were well sung, and the duties of conductor were in the able hands of Mr. Harrison Frewin. The week's programme also included *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *Samson and Delilah*, and *Lohengrin*.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Mr. Alexander Leighton's company is doing excellent business here this week with *Havana*. Mr. Reg. Edwards as Reginald Brown and Mr. John R. Val as Nix make a capital couple of British tars; Mr. Oliver Rogers as Jackson Villers, and Mr. Cyril K. Percival as Don Adolpho are well placed; and Miss Hebe Bliss is a charming Consuelo. The musical comedy is admirably staged and mounted, and the singing and dancing excellent.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. A very stirring drama is conveyed by The Conspirators; The Forest Ranger's Daughter is a charming love story; and Burly Bill is dramatic; Flowers that Bloom in the Spring depicts the flower trade from garden to market; and the amusing films include Tilly Plays Truant, Calino Takes New Lodgings, and Shine, Sir.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. H. Cousens.—Good houses continue to patronise this exhibition of animated pictures here. Very interesting stories are presented by A Sailor's Sacrifice, Through the Darkness, Cart Building in Sicily is instructive, Trebizonde is a picturesque film, and much amusement afforded by The Big Drum, Henpeck's Goodbye, Corn Doctor, and Tanglefoot Family.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The amusing comedy *Smith* is being well played here by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Miss Cicely Stuckey is in every respect charming in the title-rôle, her pleasing, unaffected style making the little parlourmaid most attractive; Mr. Robert Minster acts cleverly as Tom Freeman, his manly, straightforward style being very convincing; Miss Ethel Hodgkins does excellently as Mrs. Dallas-Baker; Mr. F. G. Thurstan plays Mr. Dallas-Baker, K.C., in a typical, easy-going manner; Mr. H. Douglas Greet presents a fine study of Algy Peppercorn; Miss Pauline Straus is really effective, with a touch of pathos, as Emily Chapman; Miss Ethel Wellesley does well as Mrs. Otto Rosenberg; and Mr. George Child avails himself of his opportunities as Fletcher. The comedy is nicely staged, and the ladies' dresses are stylish.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is here with *A White Man*. Mr. Frank Petley acts in a manly and effective style as Captain James Wynnegate; Mr. Charles Maunsell does excellently as the Earl of Kerhill; Miss Enid Sass is in every way pleasing as the Countess of Kerhill; Miss Gertrude Price makes a stately Dowager Lady Kerhill; Mr. Lewis Sealy is a business-like solicitor; Mr. Charles A. Forster is a typical cleric as the Dean of Trantham; Mr. John East acts admirably as Big Bill; Mr. Frank Mayo is sufficiently rough and uncompromising as Cash Hawkins; Mr. Oswald Lingard makes a stately and impressive Tab-y-wena; Mr. James Jolly is effective as the interpreter; the county sheriff, Bud Hardy, has an imposing representative in Mr. J. E. Page; Mr. Henry Du Val makes a good part of the barkeeper; Miss Nora Nagle acts prettily as Little Hal; Miss Dorothy Edwards presents a good study of Nat-u-Rich; and Miss Elsie Buller is pleasing as Lady Mabel Wynnegate. The play is staged in picturesque style, is appropriately dressed, and is acted admirably throughout.

Palace.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—"George the First," a very cleverly trained chimpanzee, is introduced by Dandy George, and does some remarkable acts. The Four Royal Scots present a charming musical act; Werds Brothers perform some smart acrobatics; Rose and Challoner amuse with song and patter; Cash and Clair excel as American singers and dancers; Harry Cooke, comedian, is appreciated; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins please with their vocal comedy sketch *The Piano Tuner*; and interesting animated pictures are projected by Jury's Bioscope.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Assistant and Advertising-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Frank Elliston and company are successfully presenting a fine dramatic sketch, entitled *Long Live the King*, an episode in the life of Charles II., which is appropriately staged and capitally acted. Athas and Collins score with their comedy duologue and dancing; Baker and Balfe, xylophonists, present a pleasing musical act; Will Smythe excels as an acrobatic buck dancer; Everard Denton has some good magical illusions, and does sleight-of-hand tricks neatly; the Whitworth Trio are expert trick cyclists; Elsie Athas is pleasing in song and dance; Harry Bland, eccentric comedian, is appreciated; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Village Blacksmith* is presented here to enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Sam Livesey cleverly interprets the rôle of John Strong; and Captain Leo is acted with intensity by Mr. Joseph Carter. Miss Maggie Edwards is sympathetic as Kate Strong; and Miss Gladys Britain is a delightful little Harry. Great excitement prevails at the wrestling match which concludes the play.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Big audiences here are thoroughly enjoying the programme submitted, which includes the Dayton troupe of Risley acrobats, whose remarkable performance is executed with precision and neatness. The Three Spanish Armadas are very interesting in a performance on the tight-rope; and the Adams, comedy cyclists, present a turn both skilful and funny. T. Hulbert is a clever ventriloquist; Sophie Knight has a sweet soprano voice; Louise Dott and Jack Williams are good in song and dance; Mons. de Lil is a smart illusionist; Harry Head, comedian, does well; and the Empire Theatrescope is extremely interesting.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—A pleasant and interesting playlet, *Compensations*, is presented here by Mr. Richard Flanagan's well-chosen company, in which Mr. W. H. Perette makes a success. The Egbert Brothers are again delighting everyone with their boisterous humour and clever tumbling; and Richard Taylor is a ventriloquist with a fund of humour. Giovanni Daruso, violinist, gives a novel entertainment; and the Westwoods are clever cyclists. Danvers and Rosslyn are funny in a burlesque; and Gladys and Alber are very good with patter and acrobatics. Nellie Neil, comedienne, and the pictures complete the bill.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Vera De Astra heads the programme here this week in her sensational and artistic poses; Mlle. Wanda Barandoff and M'lave Fritchott add lustre to the various scenes depicted in their cleverly-executed dances. Other artists are Violet Beatrice, a dainty and pleasing boy impersonator; and Aldro Lukos, a Japanese mimic, who wins hearty applause; the Matt Wilkinson Trio, in an absurdity, entitled *What Every Woman Wants*; Kitty Corri, who sings and dances in good style; and Topaz, Oriental juggler, whose clever tricks are well worth seeing. The Operascope still gives pleasure.

BURY (Lancs.). — Royal. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. Charles Goff presents the world-famed Leopolds in *The New Frivolity*. Prominent in the cast are Mr. Harry Douglas as Oliver Buckwheat, Mr. John Leopold, jun., as Daniel Teething; Mr. Tom Leopold as Jules Vermiglio, Mr. Willie Leopold as Samuel Vermiglio, Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat, Miss Rosie Claire as Vinnie Moore, Miss Winnie Leopold as Maud, and Miss Kathleen Kavanagh as Mme. Cobweb.

Circus of Varieties.—Pictures are still the main attraction here, and two excellent turns are given by Bessie Hardman, Yorkshire vocalist, and Stuart and Evans, comedians.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Principal place in the bill is occupied by James A. and Herbert B. Jewel's spectacular production, entitled *Change*, introducing clever trick scenery and properties. Mr. James A. Jewel as the Miser and Herbert B. Jewel as Joe Dunn give excellent impersonations; Michael Madden is a dame with some clever and original patter; Colley and Scott provide a smart comedy turn; Martin Conway is a popular comedian; Alice Edwards is a sparkling male impersonator, and is deservedly encored; a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Airship*, is submitted under the direction of the Pollard Bros.; and the Warsaw Bros. are a diverting and clever couple of musical comedians.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Company, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. Frank Curzon's company, in *The King of Cadonia*. The piece was enthusiastically received, and was played by an excellent company. Mr. Bertram Wallis scored a great success in the title-rôle, and received a call each evening; whilst Mr. Arthur Staples was very funny as the Duke of Alasia, the heir to the Cadonian throne; and Mr. Alfred Clark as Braw was most humorous. Capital work was done by Mr. Robert Selby as General Bonski and Mr. Lawrence Robbins as Captain Laski. Miss Joan Penrose was a very dainty Militza; and Miss Alice Venning was successful as Princess Marie. The setting and dressing were exceptionally fine, and the chorus was good. For the end of the week Mr. Martin Harvey occupied the boards with *The Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, *The Breed of the Treshams*, and *The Only Way*.

Palace and Hippodrome. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Adam Milton.—Included in a heavy programme at this popular house this week are Leonard and Leslie, singers and dancers; Harry Vardon, a ventriloquist; and The Cyclinis, two clever cyclists; and a host of pleasing pictures.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The House of Temperley* drew a packed house on Monday. Mr. Stratton Rodney gives a natural impersonation of Sir Charles Temperley, handling the character with infinite skill, and Mr. Rodney well deserved the great ovation accorded him. The forcible rendition of Sir John Hawker by Mr. Murray Carson also gained unstinted praise. Mr. Claude King as Captain Jack Temperley gave a careful impersonation, appearing to particular effect in the Ring scene. The Jakes of Mr. Leon M. Lion could not have been improved upon, and Mr. Blake Adams did well as Ginger Stubbs, his fight also being realistically carried through. Miss Ana Venning pleased everyone with her graceful interpretation of Ethel Morley; Miss Claire Pauncefort in the small rôle of Lady Temperley left nothing to be desired; and the comedy of Miss Pollie Emery as Lucy was good. Mention should also be made of Mr. Douglas Munro (Tom Cribb), Mr. Reg. Davis (Gloster Dick), and Mr. A. S. Homewood (Duke of Broadwater and Joe Berks).

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Large audiences have been attracted by the popular comedienne Kate Carney, who appears with a large company in her latest success *Fun of the Fair*. Miss Carney as Carmen, the Gipsy Queen, makes a great hit, while her prominent supporters are Mr. Geo. Marriott as the Witch, Mr. Willie Phillips as the Lawyer, Mr. Albert Mason as the Dude, and Mr. Fred Malcolm as the Romany. Another decided success is Maidie Scott, a captivating comedienne. The De Wynne Bros., the sang-froid athletes, with their canine comedians, also gain hearty applause. Binns and Binns, the musical vagabonds, are always acceptable; Miss Alcide Capitaine, the graceful gymnast, renews her popularity; and Hans and Lux, two argumentative college chums, Frank H. Fox, comedian, and Mike Nono, Irish comedian, are others on the bill.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Burton.—Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company heads the bill in a military and dramatic episode from the Drury Lane drama, *The Flood Tide*, which arouses much excitement and interest. Leonard Charburn's Young Stars, under the direction of Mr. R. L. Griffiths, do remarkably well in a pretty vocal scena entitled *A Picnic up the River*; Barrie and Wood are a pleasing duo, who certainly know how to step dance; Mollie Doon is another skilful dancer; Alfred Guest and Dorothy Newlyn, the Hebrew and the soubrette; Alice Craven in a bit o' Lancashire; and Silly Billy Elliott, a quaint comedian, are the remaining contributors to the programme.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Consul, the wonderful performing ape, is the star attraction, and his intelligence and ability is really amazing; the sketch *The Sun Bath* is brightly played by Charles Sewell and Sara Dudley, the pretty staging adding much to its attractiveness; a novel turn is contributed by Amandus, who, with very little aid, impersonates celebrities; Vanbert does some smart work as an illusionist and painter; Miss Ray Randall, a charming serio with excellent songs; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls, in song and dance; and Sylvesto and Rumbo, in a pleasing act, complete.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The Cumberlands, big favourites here, met with a most enthusiastic reception on Monday; a weird and wonderful act is given by Juno Salmo, described as "the Devil Dandy"; Allsopp and Beckwith give a smart little comedy sketch; and John Macauley is a character ballad vocalist of ability. One of the best tenor vocalists heard here is Julius Walthers; Sinclair's Three Diamonds, clever juvenile singers, skaters, and dancers, are favourites; and Wat Tyler, character vocalist, meets with success.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman, J.P.—The attraction for the current week is Mrs. E. H. Knight's company in *The Lighthouse Robbery*. Mrs. H. Gordon Ingham is a consistent and natural Tom Manly; Miss Hilda Baynton, with a charming manner, secures sympathy as Rosa Prescott; James Hammond has a capital exponent in Mr. F. H. Fortescue; Mr. J. T. Lawton undertakes the rôle of James Farren with success; Mr. Rupert Talbot is an amusing Sam Kidder; and Miss Louis Carlton keeps the fun going merrily as Ruth Manly; Baby Freda acts intelligently as Little Nellie; and Miss Alice Dent handles the part of Mrs. Manly with discretion.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—The management here, ever on the alert for novelty, has secured Raymond, with his latest creations, *The Witches' Cabinet* and *The Boy Scout's Dream*, clever conjuring effect and mystical surprises. All the better seats are booked, and hundreds are being turned away. Fred Dunstone creates considerable laughter; Little Sunbeam gives a very charming dancing act; Luella Croes, with lovely frocks, wins genuine approval; Ryde and Beeman, as eccentric acrobats, are a couple on whom praise may be well bestowed; Les Grossi, in La Danse des Apaches, make a decided hit; and Morris and Moore contribute clever singing and dancing.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Laurie and Elsy, harmonising vocalists and dancers; Donovan and Arnold, a couple of quaint American comedy artists; Kitty Leon, soubrette; Bert Errol, a smart female impersonator; Cromo and Hamilton, who are great favourites here; Clifford Marle and Josephine Colonna present with great success the naval phantasy *Nelson*; while Lacy's Erascope has an amusing film entitled High Game.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—G. W. Blyth's vocal scena *The Follers* is giving every satisfaction here. The Sisters Herbert have a flattering reception; Tom and Neil create plenty of fun; the Corcoran Brothers give a musical scena with a neatly-worked quick change; Barney Armstrong and Kelly make the hit of the evening. The remaining turns are the Brothers Erard, acrobatic musical comedians, and Cissie Thompson, comedienne.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Sutton Vane's excellent company, in *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*, occupies the boards this week. The title-rôles are powerfully portrayed by Miss Mabel Coleman as Nell and Miss Florence Zillwood as Constance. Mr. Robert Gilbert plays John Edmunds to perfection; and Mr. Caspar Middleton does full justice to the exacting part of Jonas Dean; the Rev. Frank Selby of Mr. T. Dennis Byron is a capable performance; and Mr. Tom Newell gives a typical character sketch of the lad from Lancashire. The remaining parts are all admirably sustained, and the drama throughout is well staged.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — Theatre and Winter Gardens.—On Monday, the Mercury Animated Picture Company opened their season here. The films, The Little Cripple, Mr. Stubborn, and Life of a Chick, were vigorously applauded. Mr. Fred E. Storer sang coon songs; Miss Jennie Elsinore danced prettily; and Messrs. Hughes and Allen kept up a brisk fire of cross-talk.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — Palace of Varieties. — Managing-Director, Mr. H. R. D. Hooper; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Butt.—The bill here this week is headed by the Ten Loonies, who present their screaming sketch *Dotty*; Tom Stuart makes a hit with his dramatic and burlesque impressions; Ivy Proudfoote is a clever and graceful comedienne; and Florence Venning has a magnificent contralto voice, and is heard to advantage. E. B. Ford as the President of the Face Trust creates much laughter; Rose Hamilton and company are great in the sketch *Woman versus Man*; Sam Spira is an entertaining artist; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some excellent films.

Operetta House.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Jury; Manager, Mr. Chas. F. Meadows.—This popular picture show is attracting full houses nightly. The dramatic items, Daddy and Mammy, His Chum, Stolen Heir, and Miner's Child, are splendid; and the humorous films, Calino Plays Billiards, Rosanna's Stratagem, and The Telegraph Boy's Revenge, keep the audiences in roars of laughter. Mr. J. W. Hortin, vocalist, renders the two illustrated songs, "Down where the yellow corn" and "Daylight," very effectively.

West Cliff Gardens. — Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley. At this popular place of entertainment record business is being done. The following artists supply an excellent entertainment:—Fred Vallance, conjurer and ventriloquist; Lilian Barnes, soprano; Lloyd Shakespeare, boy cornet soloist; Bert Graham, humorist and monologist; Bernard Russell, comedian; and Will Bentley, comedian.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham-Macdona.—Mr. George Edwardes's *Merry Widow* company opened to an enormous house on Monday, and repeated its former triumphs. In the title-rôle Miss Phyllis le Grand played and sang with delightful pathos and gaiety alternately; whilst as Danilo Mr. J. Warren Forster was characteristically true. The pleasing tenor voice of Mr. Ripley Evans as De Jolidon was much admired; a similar tribute being paid Miss Ada Thomas as Natalie. Mr. Edward D'Arcy as Popoff and Mr. Fred Fowler as Nisch again stood out as really high-class comedians, their antics causing unbounded merriment; Miss Katie May danced with a delightful abandon as Frou-Frou, and was encored vociferously. The chorus scored throughout, and the dresses were greatly admired.

Hippodrome.—Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leslie.—Oswald Williams, who is topping here, has a marvellous act; Miss Irene May, the Lancashire nightingale, scores a triumph, her deeper notes being melodious in the extreme; Benson and Rose, in the duologue *Elizabeth and the Baby* present a smartly-written act; Cadwall and Verne in *Early Closing Day*, and Drum and Major in *A Broker's Man*, entertain ably; Cavalli, ventriloquist, makes a big hit; Chas. Dillon ("the lamb") repeats his former success; and the pictures conclude.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—At the head of an attractive programme are the Royal Diamonds, who receive much approbation for their novel pot-pourri act, *Gentlemen at Practice*. Rappo and Ella, gymnasts, deserve praise, as do also the Bros. Freeman, in a capital musical turn. Royal Togo, in his sensational "Slide for Life," is a favourite. Electra and The Grocer's Assistant are two good pictures.

New Town Hall.—Proprietors, Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell. Capt. Permane and performing bears top the bill here. Stelfane, lady magician, is smart; J. H. Greener, singing pit lad, scores a success; excellent pictures are shown, among the best being His Last Game and Buffalo Hunting.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—Smit and Smit are smart comedy bar performers; a good exhibition of club-swinging is given by Gus Gauntlett; Walter and Eva Grey's singing, dancing, &c., is received with applause. Up-to-date pictures are shown, including Tongue of Scandal and Love's Stratagem.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—The Abbey Theatre company opened a week's engagement here this week, and on Monday night presented the late Mr. Synge's play *The Playboy of the Western World* and *Deirdre*, by Mr. W. B. Yeats. In the first-named piece, which was well received, Miss Maire O'Neill as Pegeen Mike was captivating; Miss Sarah Allgood as Widow Quin was a great favourite; Fred O'Donovan took the part of Christopher Maher; Mr. Arthur Sinclair was capital as Michael Flaherty; Sara Tansey was filled by Miss Eileen O'Doherty; and Susan Brady by Miss Sheila O'Sullivan. In *Deirdre* Miss Sara Allgood, in the title-rôle, filled the part admirably; Miss O'Neill was first musician, Miss Eithne Magee second musician, and Miss Sheila O'Sullivan third musician; Mr. J. M. Kerrigan was good as Fergus; Mr. Sydney J. Morgan made a fine messenger; and Mr. Arthur Sinclair was good as Concobar.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Holden's Original Mannikins succeed in pleasing here; Merrie Maie Dillon rendered a few good songs; Harrison Brothers are a smart pair of patter artists; Frank Hartley is a juggler of merit; Miss Elsie Kerry, comedienne, is accorded an excellent reception; the Rawsons, two juvenile performers in singing, whistling, and piano, were entertaining; the Four Ascotts are clever dancers. The Palascope pictures are capital.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Still Alarm* is commanding excellent support. The company is under the direction of Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. Mr. Glenville as Jack Manley, the fireman, is all that could be wished for; Mr. Wilton Reed is very successful as the unscrupulous John Bird; Mr. Henry C. Gilpin does exceedingly well as Doc Wilber; and Mr. Gerald Shirley is very amusing as Joe Jones; Miss Minnie Willett is a charming Elinor Fordham, and makes a great success; Miss Lydia Andre is a very lively Carrie Wilber.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Heading the bill is May Moore Duprez, the jolly little Dutch girl, who delighted the audience with her quaint singing and dancing; Grassy Bros., musicians and acrobats, give a very good turn, including an illusionary mirror; the Alberto troupe, lady equilibrists, execute many difficult feats; Pepper's comedy company have a very novel sketch, entitled *Ghostland*; Gilbert Girard is a clever imitator of animals of every kind. Other artists include Arthur Ferrier, character comedian; Roze and Calvert, in a laughable sketch as Captain Kettle and his mate; and Iva Voyce, contralto singer.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. Davey and Gordon's company, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Mr. Douglas Gordon gives a consistent performance as John Worthing; Mr. Hugh Ardale exactly fits the part of Algernon Moncrieff; Mr. Fred Cremlin does full justice to the rôle of the Rev. Canon Chasuble; Mr. James West is effective as Merriman; and Mr. Buckstone Clair is capable as Lane; Miss Phyllis Relph gives an accomplished performance of the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax; Mrs. Peter Davey ably sustains the character of Lady Bracknell; Miss Barbara Hannay is seen to advantage as Cecily Cardew; and Miss Mildred Gilbert gives a sound rendering of Miss Prism. This is followed by the up-to-date burlesque on *Chantecler*, entitled *Cock-a-doodle-do*. The feathered parts are free-and-easily enacted by Mr. Lazard as Roosterfeldt; Miss M. Sadie as Christabel, the Hen; and Miss Cissie Clarke as Arabella, the Duck; Miss Nellie Lomas gracefully sings and dances through the part of Daisy.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Marie Lloyd is the star turn here, with her latest up-to-date songs, sung in her usual taking style; Mr. Cecil Gray powerfully plays the mad and drunken husband in the drama *To-Morrow's Dawn*, the other characters being well depicted by John Manners, Frank Dale, Eric Norman, and Miss Dora Eastlake; Geo. Newburn does some well-studied mimicry of popular stars; Henry J. Corner is extremely funny in the scena, *A Bath Cure*; Estelle Collette is pleasing with her violin; Bains and company enact their absurdity, *Humpsti Bumsti* with the assistance of Miss Wearda, a graceful Russian dancer; the Wedburns are untiring comedians and instrumentalists; Bessie Knight is a refined comedienne; Alix Lukos is a talented character vocalist; the Brennons do a refined dancing act; Angus Strong is an expressive baritone; Burt Shepard is very droll with his piano; and the bioscope concludes the entertainment.

New Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Bellew and Stock's company head the bill here this week in *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, the name-part being skilfully played by Master Edward Garratt, ably backed up by Mr. Harry Norton, Miss Vere Gerald, and Miss Olivia Glynn; Fred Lindsay, the stock-whip wonder, gives a skilful exhibition; Helen Trix is a smart American comedienne and sifleuse; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are remarkably daring in their trick cycling act; Frank Lynne is a capable comedian; Gwennie Llewellyn renders numbers from her répertoire expressively; Larola is a really quaint comedy acrobat; and the American bioscope completes.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. T. Elder Hearn tops here, and as a vaudeville artist is hard to beat. In his quick-change act, *The Romance of a Studio*, he is marvellous, and as the lazy juggler he fills the house with laughter with his quaint humour. In the sketch *The Rat* he is again seen to great advantage, assisted by Miss Fisie Le Noir. The rest of the bill is filled by Wallace Galvin, clever with his hands; Wilson Blackledge, with a piano; Lady Gordon Stuart, recitations; and the Three Sisters Sprightly.

Palace.—East Coast Variety Halls, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Another excellent programme fills the houses nightly, headed by Everhart, the hoop expert. Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels are a great treat; Witty Wattie Walton keeps the audience in a good humour with his comedy; Stanley and Vandyke give a laughable comedy act; the Great Four, glee vocalists; Torti, Italian tenor; the Shaffers, four comedy musicians; Hal and Lal, ventriloquists; and the Bioscope conclude.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—The premier attraction here this week is Mary Rayfren's company, in a thrilling sketch, entitled *The Yellow Fang*. The acting is of all-round excellence, and the playlet is watched with interest throughout. Leroux's cleverly-trained bicycle monkeys occupy the bottom turn, and their performance meets with every approval; Albas is responsible for a clever and sensational wire act, for which he receives loud recognition; Ted Karno and company prove themselves capital mirth-provokers in the absurdity, *Hotel de Quick*; Kitty Kearns is a dainty singer and dancer; Rolando Martin, comedian, creates much merriment; Len Hale is an amusing comedian and clever ragtime dancer; and the Sisters Florencie are entertaining duettists and dancers. The bioscope adds a good film of the Brussels Exhibition fire.

DEVONPORT. — Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—M

entertainment that goes with a swing. The Picturedrome is also a sure draw, enhanced as it is by varieties. Another attraction is the skating rink.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred J. Connor.—A novel item here is a performing Welsh pony, trained and introduced by Mr. George Madigan, which gives a very pretty exhibition. *Brown, the Butcher*, also new, is a quaint sketch, played by the full strength of the company; Antonio, another fresh comer, presents a clever equestrian travesty act, which possesses humour; Miss Mona Connor and her young brother, Master Douglas Connor, maintain their high reputation as exponents of real circus riding; and the final and most popular number on the programme, "Football on Wheels Competition," has money prizes. The clowns also are "keeping their ends up."

THE EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Dare; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Carr.—Phenomenal attendances are being secured at the little Empire Theatre. In addition to the cinematograph Mr. Bert Rolfe, a broadly humorous comedian, appears; Miss Florence Nightingale, a juvenile soprano, has a remarkable voice, and secures great applause.

MR. CHARLES DARE'S White Minstrels on the head attract enormous audiences with a fine show.

THE ONCHANS.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Collier Cubbin.—The attendance here has been quite remarkable for weeks in spite of dire weather. The comedians, Mr. Charley Harvey and Mr. Maynall, have the artistic quality in the direction which makes for laughter; Mr. J. H. Scotland scores both in his operatic renditions and his dialect ballads of rustic England; Miss Elsie Steadman is an accomplished comedienne; Mr. Alex. Webster is a delightful tenor; and Miss Jean Grace Crocker, an elocutionist who sways her audience both in humorous and serious selections; Miss Edna Lyall, a charming soprano known as the Yorkshire nightingale, made her first appearance in Douglas at the Onchans on Monday evening, and secured success.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's excellent company is here in *Two Merry Monarchs*, which was heartily enjoyed by a crowded house on Monday. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin is the principal throughout, and his part, Prince Charmis, suits him admirably. He sang in highly finished manner. Miss Marjorie Moore made a prepossessing and attractive Princess Cynthia, and sang and danced artistically. Mr. Hugh Weybrance was quite at home as Helvanoise, and his capital voice was heard to great advantage; Miss Gladys Beach gave a very pleasing and effective rendition of the rôle of Iris; the Rolandyl of Mr. E. Statham Staples was highly amusing; and another humorous character, King Paul, was exceedingly well presented by Mr. Mark Lester; Mr. Tom Shelford played cleverly in the part of King Utops; the choruses were admirably sung, and the dresses, costumes, and scenery very artistic.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Miss Hilda Beverley and company opened here on Monday with *A Woman of Two Lives*. Miss Beverley gave a skilful interpretation of the dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton, and Captain the Hon. Travers West was presented in good style by Mr. Herbert Pearson. Miss Mary Brammer as Drampardi Lares gave a capital rendering; and Mr. James Jarrett made the most of the part of Garda Khan. Mr. Jack Armitage was successful as Lieut. Lord Billy Tremaine; and Miss Louis Gilmore was excellent as Lady Arabella Mountphayton. Mr. E. Hal Eldon as Dick Smarter, and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande as Lottie London supplied the humour; and Mr. Arthur Swaine gave a good performance of Colonel St. Aubrey Fenton.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company, with *The Dollar Princess*, entered on its second week on Monday before a very large audience. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield presented a really clever impersonation of Harry Q. Conder; and as his sister, Miss Norah Barry gave a charming and graceful performance. Miss Mabel Russell was a pleasing and artistic Daisy; Mr. Leonard Mackay was most efficient as Freddy Fairfax; and Mr. W. H. Rawlins acted Mr. Bulger in a clever and humorous manner. Miss Emmy Wehlen being unavoidably absent, Miss Winifred Vyvyan filled the part of Olga with great satisfaction. The remaining rôles were excellently sustained.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The Carmos, described as Australia's greatest Herculean jugglers, give a performance of exceptional merit; Miss Bella White's songs and dances are warmly applauded; Mr. James Stewart gives a clever and entertaining turn as the Tramp at the Piano; Devereux's troupe of dogs are amusing, and execute some smart tricks; the Great Vincent does several astonishing acrobatic feats; Walter Wade, in his monologue *Sandy McGregor*, is very successful; the Smarte Brothers and Miss Annie Braddon also appear; and the Empire Pictures prove enjoyable.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Messrs. Alan Holt and company, in their dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*, are applauded; the Bouncing Peps do a smart comedy gymnastic act; Monahan and Sheehan are a pair of highly accomplished musicians; the Floradoras accomplish a pleasing and effective singing and dancing performance, Annie Martin, comedienne; Bros. Sefton, eccentric comedians; Billy French, champion wooden shoe dancer; Monty Walker, Lancashire comedian; Millie and Arthur, the light comedy couple; and the bioscope, are also on the programme.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Picture Company continue to score; and the Johnson and Jeffries Fight is attracting large houses.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sprengel Bros.—The Two Melfords are a capital pair of comedy duettists; Miss Amy Bayne sings descriptive songs in a pleasing manner; Henri Harty does some novel and clever conjuring tricks; Harry Dunn scores as an eccentric comedian; Jolly Jack Murray is a good character comedian; and the cinematograph displays up-to-date pictures.

THE PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Herr Fericeson's Viennese Band concluded a successful engagement here. The programme this week is varied by the appearance of Miss Elise Kahn, whose vocalism evoked tremendous applause. The pictures are very interesting.

ARCADIA, BRAY.—Proprietor, Mr. Jack MacDermott.—This popular place of amusement is enjoying a very successful run, an excellent and attractive programme being provided.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. John W. Tilley.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is here in *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Charles Ashwell acts forcibly as the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Charles Sparrow as Jack England (Private Johnson) is powerful, and has a smart military bearing; as Captain Geoffrey Caversham Mr. Herbert Morgan gives a good rendering; and Mr. Walter Kelleon as James Sutton supplies a smart study. In the title-part, Miss Lorraine Stevens as Molly Vernon acts charmingly and with abandon and pathos; Miss Dorothy Thayer is a ladylike Rose Seymour; and Miss Letitia Rushforth is thoroughly successful as Maria Franklyn. The comedy portion is well supplied by Mr. Allan Carruthers as Dick Punch and Miss Millie Whyatt as Lucy Vere.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—The Grotesques are creating quite a furore here this week with their refined and brilliant entertainment. The company includes Misses Dorothy Doria, Elsie English, Kathleen Severn, and Messrs. James Watts, Hugh Bayly, Harry Harmer, Maurice Besly, and Cecil Cook, each artist being a thorough musician. Their singing is really excellent, while the enjoyment is much enhanced by their perfect articulation. The leading items on the programme are "Some Impressions of a Ballad Concert" and "A Village Concert, usually known as Our Annual Entertainment," at which Mr. Cecil Cook presides in most diverting fashion as the Vicar.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—The go-ahead management of this beautiful house have a trump card here in the feathered farmyard phantasy, *Chantecler, or Hi-Cockalorum*, Ernest Sefton and James Learmouth creating much diversion as the Boosy Rooster and Cat respectively, while Madoline Rees is exceedingly graceful as the wayward Hen Pheasant, and Jack Martin plays well as Chanteclair; Viviana and company win much favour with their novel dancing act, *The Toy Shop*; Gladys Revell sings several catchy songs in taking style and good voice; Buzer, the soldier juggler, gives a remarkably clever show, while his lady partner Clarice gives an interesting display of ju-jitsu; Reichen's Dogs display unusual intelligence; Fatmah Diard's contributions afford a treat to lovers of good music; and The Corsican Bandit is shown by Jury's Bioscope.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—Alice Hoodless, in tableaux of beautiful pictures, is greatly admired; Sebbo gives a remarkable show of club and plate juggling; and the music and eccentricities of Gus Barra are hugely enjoyed; Harry Harvey, in Tyneside song and patter, creates merriment; Henry Hylton mystifies the audience with clever tricks; and Massona, comedy juggler, is popular. The Cathedoscope shows The Awakening of Bess and A Hero in Spite of Himself.

DURRINGTON (Yorks.).—LYRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—*The Man of Her Choice* (Mr. E. R. Abbott's company) occupied the boards here on Monday. It is a pretty little play by Miss Ada Abbott, who, with the greatest vivacity, fills the principal part—Babs; Mr. John Lester makes a good Squire Hilderson, whose three sons were portrayed in true and original fashion by Mr. E. R. Abbott, Mr. Stephen Crossley, and Mr. Edward Custon; Mr. Abbott's portrayal of the whisky drinker and his ultimate reform for love of Babs being very fine indeed; Miss Marjorie Tennant made a typical housekeeper, and her love-passages with the butler (Mr. Edwin Keene) were very quaint indeed; Miss Florrie North was excellent as the "slavey"; Miss Ethel Tinsley played her part well as the mistress of the house. *Sapho* was played to a crowded house on Wednesday.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Mr. George Dance's company is attracting crowded houses here with *Our Miss Gibbs*. Mr. Theodore Leonard is an ever-flowing fountain of fun, for as Timothy Gibbs he sings, dances, and acts in true comedy style; Mr. Eustace Burnaby cleverly extracts much hilarity from the part of Hughie Pierpoint; Mr. Ernest Darrell is a polished and refined Earl of St. Ives; Mr. John Leopold, quick, smart, and energetic, does full justice to the rôle of Slithers; Mr. Campbell Brown is a sleek and well-groomed Mr. Toplady; Mr. Montague Syrett is an easy, natural Lord Eynsford; Mr. Albert Cavendish is a realistic cockney cabby; Mr. Reginald Weighill is a satisfactory Mr. Beavis; Miss Jessie Lonnen, frank and unaffected, is an attractive and charming Mary Gibbs; Miss Nellie Cozens plays with delightful breeziness as Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Lilian Birtles ably sings and acts as the romantic Lady Elizabeth; Miss Ellaline Thorne in voice, appearance, and gesture is a perfect Madame Jeanne; Miss Helen Langton is a dignified and emphatic Duchess of Minster. *Miss Hook of Holland* is staged for the last part of the week.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in *Brewster's Millions*. Mr. Percy Hutchison carries on his shoulders the main responsibility of the great success of this play, and as Monty Brewster he works hard and very cleverly; Mr. Henry Hampson is a cheery and natural Archie Golding; Mr. Aubery Mather displays irresistible humour and ability as McLeod; Mr. Gordon Ash is an earnest, effective Charlie Harrison; Mr. Robert Forsyth plays the part of Mr. Grant with distinction and refinement; Mr. A. Andrews does good work as Colonel Drew; Mr. Arthur Bell as Frank, Mr. Andrew Wight as Horace, and Mr. Otto Hazlewood as Tommy Smith all help with eminent satisfaction; while Mr. Frank Hill has a fund of sly humour as Rawles. Miss Dorothy Whitaker is a delightfully girlish and animated Margaret Grey; Miss Lilias Earle repeats a pleasing performance as Mrs. Dan; Miss Marion Ripley plays with ability and judgment as Miss Armstrong; Miss Phyllis Stucky is a bright, attractive Barbara Drew; Miss May Seton is a distinct and individual Trixie Clayton, and Miss Florence Hillder a capable Miss Beynton. Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is billed to appear in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* for the last three evenings of the week.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—At the head of the bill here this week is Miss Daisy James, in new songs and handsome dresses; the Three Cape Girls are a trio of clever and agile dancers; Miss Nita Crystal and Mr. Geoffrey Saville return with their dainty dancing and clever work in the sketch *Jack's Jacket*; Mr. Frank Harwood quickly becomes popular as a smart bright comedian; Mr. Arthur Pier is an actor-vocalist of ability; Miss Adelaide Waldorf sings with taste; Miss Madge Price is a successful comedienne; and Mr. Fred Hallam a funny comedian.

EDINBURGH. — ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here this week with *The Private Secretary*, which seems to go with unabated freshness and vigour. Mr. W. Hargreaves in the part of Mr. Cattermole, from India, gives a specimen of sound humorous acting. Mr. Hargreaves gains his effects without any suggestion of effort, and the impersonation must rank as a notable example of broad comedy. Mr. Jas. Hussey is admirable on conventional lines as the Rev. Robert Spalding; and Mr. Kendal Chalmers as Mr. Sidney Gibson makes the most of his opportunities, his drunken scene being admirably worked out; Mr. Arthur Claremont made an excellent Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Horace George is good as Henry Marsland; and Mr. William Corriden played with much success the character of Mr. Marsland. Miss Estelle Despa acts cleverly and effectively as Miss Ashford, with a leaning towards spiritualism; and the girls Eva Webster and Edith Marsland are brightly and buoyantly played by Miss Elsie Blythe and Miss Mary Mallalieu; while a capital character sketch is contributed by Miss Cicely Wade as the elderly landlady. *The Captain's Wife* was the curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A revival of *The Sign of the Cross*, by Mr. William Greet's company, has brought large audiences to the Royal during the current week. Mr. Lawson Butt's Marcus Superbus was a vigorous and convincing study; and Miss Evelyn Hope gave a notable performance as Mercia. Nero found adequate characterisation at the hands of Mr. Bernard Elliott; Miss Mabel Cooke made a sufficiently imperious Poppæa; and Glabrio was portrayed on sound traditional lines by Mr. Frank Wood. An acceptable performance was given by Miss Winifred Deleventi, who played Stephanus. The remaining rôles were suitably filled; and the piece was effectively mounted.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Darracq and his sensational motor-car evolutions formed the leading attraction this week; Richard Corbin and his dogs gave a very smart and pleasing exhibition of what can be accomplished in the way of animal training; and Sergeant Mumford, assisted by Mlle. Florence, contributed a clever speciality in a military wire act, entitled *The Soldier in the Air*. The Columbia Comedy Trio of grotesquely-dressed singers with good voices produced an amusing burlesque of the Prison scene from *Faust*; Estcourt introduced into his interesting entertainment some humoristic conjuring and some novel feats of dexterity; and Joe O'Gorman pleased all with selections from his repertory of popular songs. Other acceptable vocal turns were supplied by Miss Cecilia Maude, who sang very sweetly, and by Miss Rose Elliott; and eccentric comedy was well exploited by the Hyde and Cody Trio; the King's Bioscope pictures concluding a good bill. Two houses nightly were tried this week, with gratifying success.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Mr. Wilkie Bard brings several new songs here, all exceedingly funny, and the droll rendering of his selections, the inimitable quaintness of his patter, and the peculiar yet effectively quiet method of the comedian creates uproarious laughter; Mr. Tom Costello, happy alike in grave and gay selections, evokes loud applause; and Mr. Ferry Corwey, musical clown, gives proof of great ability both as a humorist and a player of musical instruments. Miss May Mars, a gifted comedienne, wins her way at once to the favour of her audiences by her charming rendering of two ballads; and Miss Kitty Wager contributes an excellent turn. Lilian, a prepossessing cyclist, is seen in a dainty, daring act, which seems easy only because of the art and grace of the performer; the Goltz Trio present a dashing globe and wire performance, which is received with vehement expressions of approval; and Bioscope pictures conclude a most excellent programme.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A remarkably effective picture, entitled The Way of the Word, forms the chief feature in an excellent programme here; and A Case of Identity is another dramatic subject admirably displayed. The humorous films are varied and good.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A liberal bill of fare at this house includes three strong subjects—The Cowboy's Devotion, The Detective's Dog, and Wings of Love—which are capital specimens of the amount of care and the expense which are lavished upon the production of Bioscope films. The musical programme comprises capital turns of illustrated songs by Miss Daisy Ryll, and other items.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—This place of entertainment has had hard luck lately from the clerk of the weather, but the management has never swerved from the effort to provide a programme of an excellent kind. Herr Many's Orchestra, an admirable body of players, gives delightful selections in the concert hall; performances of a high-class character are contributed by Mr. Chas. Parker's Æolians, a party of musicians whose work is received with gratifying applause; and Mr. Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist, is a remarkably clever artist. The band of the Royal Piedmont Hussars remains to cheer visitors to the grounds; and the daring performance of the Oranniuses attracts admiring crowds. The Merry Mascots' programmes are capitally rendered; and the rink and other shows are well attended.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Olga Audre's company in *The Great Awakening* opened here on Monday. As Lola Selby Miss Audre proved herself an actress of talent; and Mr. Herbert Barne as James Selby gave a realistic portrayal of the escaped convict. Mr. Tom Arkenstall was well adapted to the rôle of Guy Logan; Mr. Edwin Kersh was clever and amusing as Billy Brass; and Miss Dorothy Oswald did exceedingly well as Selina Worts.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—Mahatma, who is assisted by Professor C. N. Steen, is a lady of much wit, and makes her clever turn very entertaining. The other items are attractive, particularly the performance of R. Cardigan and company, in the musical and humorous sketch *The Distinguished Visitor*; Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist, who deservedly enjoys an enviable reputation; Ruth Lyton, Scotch comedienne, sings well; and Cissie Lupino is a dainty character dancer and most popular. There is some clever step-dancing in the act, *Jerks the Butler*, by Vasey and Ramsey.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company, in the musical comedy *Miss Plaster of Paris*, has occupied the boards during the whole week. Mr. Harry Ed. Ray works a tremendous amount of fun into the part of Alexander, the melancholy waiter. In conjunction with Mr. Johnny McElroy as Numskull Nubs and Mr. Sid Dean as Mrs. Nubbs he keeps the audience on the grin throughout. Miss Nellie Harcourt as Eliza Plaster is a host in herself, her dancing being especially clever. Miss Winifred Chalmers in the part of Medea Hamilton contributes no small share to that success.

FELIXSTOWE.—FELIX HALL.—Mr. Frederick Mantell's Bric-à-Brac Entertainers are drawing good houses here. Mr. Mantell and Miss E. Maynard's laughable sketch *The New Domestic* causes continuous applause; Miss Sylvia Mortlake is a pleasing and efficient pianiste, and her choice of music to illustrate the London Bioscope Co.'s A B C Pictures is very judicious. The films shown this week include The Gipsy's Model (dramatic), How they made a Man of Billy Brown, Yachting on the Solent, Italian Cavalry in Mountain Drill, Our Uncle from America, Involuntary Hurry, Professional Skaters, Two College Chums, A Dramatic Carnival, Kelly is Curious, and An Old Chorister (with singing and organ effects).

FERNDALE.—NEW WORKMEN'S HALL AND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—*When Knights Were Bold* was presented to the Ferndale public for the first time on the last three nights of last week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. On Monday week Mr. Carr Loates presented his musical drama, entitled *At the World's Mercy*. As Jabez Barber, the solicitor, Mr. Loates is deserving the highest recommendation; Captain Manley is ably acted by Mr. Fred Muntz; Miss Cissie Milford scores a success both as Skittles and Kitty Knott, with Mr. Will H. Irving as Charley Smart; Miss May White is a winsome Dot and Miss Maggie Hobart a successful Alice Lloyd.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. George Dance's principal company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, played to crowded houses for three nights and matinée. Mr. Alfred Wellesley's Mr. Hook was a veritable triumph, and fully merited the hearty applause given; as also did the clever performance of Mr. Harry Brayne as Slinks. The little-rôle was gracefully portrayed by Miss Dorothy Southgate, whose sweet voice was heard to advantage. Mr. M. Stringer, an ideal bandmaster, sang in approved style; Miss Clarie Hardy made a hit as Gretchen; Mr. A. Wood Mansey and Mr. Lacey Mills acted well and looked manly as officers of the Garrison Artillery; and the minor parts were well filled. *The Fires of Fate* is billed for remainder of week.

THE LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester, who occupy the boards at this unique place of entertainment, are keeping up a high standard of excellence, and their stock of humour is as fresh as ever.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and E. Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece. — The dramatic season opened on Monday with two excellent houses, the attraction being Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company in *The Wrongs of Woman*. The drama was effectively staged and the characters well played. Miss Ada Hender was powerful as Mrs. Helmstone; Miss Cicely Cardon a charming Miriam Cronshaw; Mr. Chas. F. Johnson excellent as the Colonel; and the comedy element was well represented by Mr. Fred Luard and Miss Lilian Bates. The other characters were capably played by Messrs. F. Garrett, Hubert Helliwell, L. Calthorpe, &c., and Misses Eva Brashier and Alice Redmond. Mr. and Mrs. Levy and J. E. Cordwell's *Sleeping Beauty* company is billed for the latter part of the week.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatre, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sidney B. Stringer.—An excellent dramatic sketch, *When Swords are Drawn*, depicting a naval episode, is being played here this week with much success by Mr. James Willard's company, including Miss Margaret Tueski as Alice Chetwyn; the Brothers O'Brien present a horizontal-bar act, the equal of which has not been seen here; a delightful turn is that of Messrs. Ferguson and Ellen's Four Quaint Q's, comedians and vocalists; Harry Lowther, Hulo Hodgson, and company have a most laughable farce, named *Barmaids*, which is well received; Lily Esplin is an accomplished comedienne; Jack McNeil, Scotch comedian, the Sisters Du Cane, and the Kingscope are other excellent items.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is presenting a refreshing drama, named *Mother*, at this house. Mr. J. O. Stewart makes an admirable Duncan Fairweather; Mr. Alex. J. Haviland ably fills the rôle of Frank Rodney; the part of Tommy Noblets gives Mr. Cecil H. Raymond an opportunity of showing his excellent humorous qualities; Miss N. Thorne Haslam in the part of Nellie Fairweather merits all the prise lavished upon her; and an amusing Polly Crumpet is done by Miss Phillis Vaughan.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—A version of *East Lynne* is being given here this week by Mr. Edmund Tearle and company, the part of Archibald Carlyle being played with convincing effect by Mr. Tearle. Miss Kate Clinton makes a dramatic Lady Isabel; as Levison Mr. Edmund Grogan is duly insidious and wily; Miss Constantia Brooks acts well as Barbara Hare; Miss Nancy Blackwood gives clever effect to the eccentricities of the good-hearted Cornelia Carlyle; Mr. Ernest Lodge as Justice Hare, Mr. Horace Price as Lawyer Dill, and Mr. Fawcett Lomax as Lord Mountsevern respectively all supply excellent renderings of their parts; Miss Frances Trevalyon makes a pathetic Little Willie; the humour of Mr. Bernhardt Turner as Carrots adds a touch of relief to the play. On Friday *Three Musketeers* was given, with Mr. Tearle as D'Artagnan.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—*Are You a Mason?* is here. The company is exceptionally strong, Mr. William Lockhart fills the part of Amos Bloodgood, and his conception of it leaves nothing to be desired. Supporting him is Mr. Howard L. Tracy as the son-in-law, another good character excellently acted. Other notable parts are taken by Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell as Mrs. Perry, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Edward J. Hinge, Mr. Andrews Buck, Mr. Stanley Arthur, and Miss Agnes Maude as Mrs. Bloodgood. The production is preceded by a one-act farce, *My Wife's Friend*, in which Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell and Mr. Stanley Arthur are the principals. Mr. Thos. F. Dunn has painted the scenery.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys.—On Monday the Repertory Company gave an excellent performance of *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Norman McKeown as Captain Mowbray was well suited, and acted with notable effect; Miss Muriel Pope made a charming Mrs. Gorringe, and her impersonation of the frivolous society lady was a finished study; Mr. P. Perceval Clark as the weak and vacillating David Cairns and Miss Jean Cadell as Isabel gave clever renderings of their parts; Mr. Campbell Gullan as old Colonel Jardine and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as the shrewish wife imparted the necessary humorous touch with clever effect; Mr. Walter Roy as a detective, Miss Lola Duncan as Miss Potts, and Miss Eve Titheradge as Vicky Jardine ably completed the cast. The play was produced by Miss Madge McIntosh, and was well received.

GRAND.—District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—This is the second week of the Grand's new form of entertainment, and the venture promises well. There was a large audience on the opening night of this week. The pictures displayed are well chosen, Convict 796 being a particularly good specimen, and quite above the ordinary run in this class. Francesca di Rimini, a beautifully coloured film, is another dramatic success, dealing with a scene in Dante's "Divine Comedy"; the Bridal Dress is also worthy of mention. In the humorous class, Two Cowards, How Billy got Promotion, and Music Hath Charms are productive of much merriment. Perhaps the most interesting film of the evening was The Regatta on the Mekong in colours. Variety is added by the Grand Stock Company, who appear in the farce *The Area Belle*, and meet with a most cordial reception. Mr. Alex Keith, who is responsible for this production, makes a capital Pitcher; and Mr. J. Wyngate as the milkman and Mr. Byron Douglas as the soldier are capable representatives of their respective rôles; Miss Elsa Brettingham makes a gay Penelope, and the other parts are in good hands. Annette Hayward, a Glasgow favourite vocalist, has a cordial reception for her rendering of a couple of illustrated songs.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Stanley Carlton and his company are appearing here with much success in *Night and Morning*. The rôle of Richard Sefton provides Mr. Carlton with a fine romantic part well suited to his talents, Alice Wyiford being played with considerable charm by Miss Rubie Maude; Mr. Bertram Damer gives a forcible rendering of the part of Mildmay, the secondary villains, Gilmour and Hardshore, having efficient exponents in Mr. David Curtis and Mr. John Croudace; good character work is seen in Showman of Mr. Willie H. Vernon; the Captain Shark of Mr. James Fielding and the Muggins of Mr. James Hart are clever sketches; as Selina Miss Marion Holly is comic and pathetic by turns; Little Gertie Lenaud is promising as Charlie; the Mrs. Barleycorn of Miss Jenny Bostock is a pleasing performance; and Miss Nora Bond is good as Mary.

METROPOLE.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*Alone in London* is again drawing large and enthusiastic audiences here. The company on this occasion is under the direction of Mr. Charles Gibbon. All the members work well together, and the drama has the advantage of being very well staged. Mr. Charles Gibbon's impersonation of Richard Redcliffe displays an amount of observation and careful study that merits much praise; Miss Nellie Clyde acts with feeling as Nan, and quickly gains the sympathy of her hearers; Mr. W. S. Stevenson's John Biddlecombe is a fine character study; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is very powerful in his treatment of Old Jenkinson; and Mr. Wallace Dunlop is equal to the demands made upon him as Spriggins; Miss Ethel F. Greene as Tom Chickweed gives a performance that is able and skilful; Liza Jenkinson has an able representative in Miss Carrie Young; and Miss Hetty Hornsby plays effectively as Little Paul; Mr. Bruce Lindley makes the part of Charlie Johnson amusing.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is here. As Marie Simpson Miss Louie Adair showed strong histrionic power; Miss Stanley Burt as Mary Barresford acquitted herself with great credit; and Miss Conny Meadow as Reeky Fittim was very clever with her songs and dances, and provided the comical element. Mr. Frank Adair, who figured as the vengeful Chinaman, gave a realistic study of the part.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Ever popular is Herbert Lloyd, the King of Diamonds, and this week the crowds have been further bestowing their patronage on him. His work is at all times funny, and his many burlesque impersonations never fail to produce genuine mirth. The Two Anartos are responsible for the good humour of the audience—their cross talk is smart, and the general eccentricities of "The Talkative Postman," combined with a capital musical turn, supply exactly what is required; in an original acro-pantomimic sketch Willy Pantzer and company appear with much acceptance—their tumbling leaves little to be desired, and their juvenile member is an exceedingly smart youngster; Miss Hilda Jacobson sings a couple of good songs in her own fascinating style, and, being in good voice, these are thoroughly enjoyed; the Sisters Doherty are clever in all they do, and meet with a most cordial reception; the Arthur Lloyd Trio present a playlet, entitled *Little Charlie*, in which scope is given the artists to appear at their best; Marjorie Lawrence, in a Dutch song and dance, makes herself a favourite; and Little Keeno, in Highland garb, gets through his turn in a business-like fashion; Bert Weston, comedian, is responsible for a lengthy turn, which might considerably benefit by an application of the "blue pencil." The Bioscope films, as usual, are up to date, and form an enjoyable ending to a good all-round programme.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian singers, dancers, and musicians have proved a big success here, the playing of the Balalaika Band in particular arousing much enthusiasm; that clever little couple, Beatie and Babs, again make a hit with their smart comedy, &c., in *A Pavement Rehearsal*; Foreman and Fannan are very amusing in their patter and cross-talk, and take well; a most enjoyable ventriloquial turn is given by Johnson Clark, with a lot of new business; J. P. Ling is a marvellous imitator of the sounds of various instruments, and is heartily applauded; Barclay Gammon (at the piano) is a clever comedian-musician, and his jokes and playing are equally well received; Haley's Juveniles contribute an enjoyable turn with costume and maypole dances and clever songs; Farr and Farrland are amusing in their comedy turn.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Gertie Gitana has won many encores here, and her reception is very flattering; another popular artist is Dave Samuels; Spry and Austin are old favourites, and have been heartily welcomed on a return visit; Cullen and Carthy are likewise revisiting, and the introduction of Little Cluley in their latest creation causes a considerable amount of jollity; in a most original and funny cycling act Henry and Tyler are capitally received, their many new tricks bringing forth the applause of the audience; a dainty little turn is that put forward by Dolly and Elsie, whose singing and dancing are good; and the Crown Trio of speciality vocalists perform splendidly; J. W. Gallacher and Julian Ross are comedians who get through their work smartly, and are well received. The Palacescope pictures are a fitting termination to a capital show.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Eugene Stratton is delighting large audiences here with his coon songs, especially as he is reviving several of the old favourites, in addition to giving his latest ditties; Loenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are as great favourites as before in their tuneful songs and eccentric talk; Peggy Pryde, in several clever examples of low comedy, fairly carries the audience with her, and is given a great reception; Chass Lewis is a smart and ingenious ventriloquist; Burley and Burley, for their very clever acrobatic work and the originality of their comedy business, well deserve the hearty applause they receive; Luis Alvarez, Spanish tenor, sings several operatic solos in good style; the Satanella Trio contribute some acrobatic dances which take well; Lily Shaw, juvenile comedian, completes a good programme.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—The Brothers Aitch's amusing patter causes much mirth, and they gain an ovation; George Westland sings two very humorous dance songs; Violet Ellesmere, a ballad singer, is much admired; and Kitty Lavigne shows talent as a comedienne and dancer; Dudley Dale proves popular, evoking much laughter. The Bioscope is again to the front with a series of fine pictures.

GAIETY.—General Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The picture programme arranged here for the week is up to the usual high standard, and attracted large audiences on the opening night. The special subjects depicted include an interesting scene of the military romance Bootles' Baby, Scenes in London, A Central American Romance, Dottynob at it Again, Wings of Love, A Window to Let, and numerous other interesting and amusing films. There is, in addition, a vaudeville entertainment, which is well supplied by Hector Donald, comedian, and Winnie Retford, comedienne and dancer.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Clever variety items are done here by George Rapley, comedian; Little Dolly Marney, a smart young male impersonator; and by Cecilia Vernon, in illustrated songs. The pictures comprise a wide range of subjects, grave and gay.

STAR.—General-Manager, Mr. Gus Lazenberg; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—This week, in addition to an attractive selection of films (outstanding among which is the aquatic spectacle, entitled The Regatta on the Mekong"), the Angelina Trio contribute a fine comedy and abrobatic juggling act, which fully merits the favour bestowed; Francis Halon, comedian and dancer, is well received; and Joe Humphreys, who sings some rare songs; variety is introduced by Polo and Florence with a great show of weight-balancing.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—Mr. Bostock this week has introduced an entirely new company in the Zoo Circus to fill the place of the Royal Italian Circus. The D'Vorak Family's work is clever and daring, and they are capitally received; an attractive acrobatic performance is that given by the Brothers Renz, who are making their début in this country—their tur

and John Irvin, in a foot-balancing speciality act, is well received; while the clowns keep the fun going throughout. The zoological collection is still proving an attraction.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Messrs. Sidney C. Cranston and Archie Helsby are presenting *The Drama of Life* to good houses. Mr. Graham Woods is excellent in the character of Harry Beech; Miss Patti Hastings ably portrays that of Sylvia Beech; Miss Dolly Bogue is a favourite as Master Robert Beech; Mr. Sydney C. Cranston capitally plays the part of Sir Dobson Wilde; Mr. Marshall Meade scores as Jack Lawton; and Miss Alice Oliver is a humorous Lady Jane Wilde. The piece is well mounted, and calls forth great praise.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea. — The evergreen *East Lynne* is played by Mr. Tom Watt's company. Mr. Frank Beresford is a very able Archibald Carlyle; and Miss Ida Heron is powerful as Lady Isabel. Mr. John J. Hooker as Francis Levison displays great ability; Mr. Tom Watt is good as Lord Mountesevern; and Justice Hare is well played by Mr. Jerrold Manville. Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle gives a really capital impersonation; Mr. Joe Rowland, a comedian of repute, plays P.C. Bullock capitally; and Lawyer Dill is prominent in the hands of Mr. Clifford Clifford. The children, Little Willie and Isabel, are entrusted to Misses May Courtenay and Ethel Ray; Richard Hare has a good exponent in Mr. Eric Lugg; as has Barbara Hare in Miss Georgie Hall. Miss Alice Mosley as Susanne, Miss Laura A. Pardy as Joyce are noticeable, and the remainder of the cast is efficient.

King's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles' Theatres Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Stewart.—An entertaining list of dramatic, comic, and travel pictures are supported by Esmann, a clever juggler; Montague Biggs, female impersonator; Miss Kitty Woodford, song illustrator; the Vocaphone, &c.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.—The principal picture is an excellent demonstration of colour anima-photography, entitled The Ruins of Old Delhi. Comedy films, with interesting drama pictures, assist in keeping the numerous patrons well entertained.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—Deservedly popular are J. Wright Aitken and company, in their sketch *Beneath a Mask*, which tops the bill here. The same combination also produces a comedy sketch, entitled *How to be Happy though Married*. Both productions are thoroughly well enacted, and give conclusive proof of the quality and versatility of the combination, Mr. Aitken himself being voted particularly talented. Alice Maple, comedienne and dancer, is an old favourite here; Howard and Jess Thorn, in their comedy sketch *Mary Anne*, evoke much applause; Carney Bros., vocal comedians, are a good turn; Madge O'Neill proves herself a capital songstress; and the Sisters Brenton, dancing experts, are particularly clever with the skipping-rope. The Erascope is well worth seeing.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —One of the best attractions of the season is provided in *Sir Walter Ralegh* by Mr. Cyril Maude's company. Miss Winifred Emery as Queen Elizabeth scores a great triumph, her acting captivating the audience; Mr. Lyn Harding finds full scope for his great histrionic abilities in the part of Sir Walter Ralegh; Mr. Percy Rhodes makes an excellent Don Rimardino de Mendoza; Mr. W. H. Garbois plays well as Jeremiah Lightfoot; Miss Nell Carter is a winsome Elizabeth Throgmorton; Mr. Fred Benton ably portrays the Governor of the Tower; and Mr. Powis Pinder is amusing as James Longbowe. The play is beautifully mounted.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company, in Somerset Maugham's delightful comedy *Smith* is the attraction here. Miss Jessica Thorne displays great ability as Smith; Mr. Montagu Love gives a clever rendering of the part of Tom Freeman; Miss Eleanor Dilaporte is a delightful Mrs. Dallas Baker and Mr. Cecil Brooking an excellent Mr. Dallas Baker. The stage-management of Mr. Lancelot Lowder is praiseworthy.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Tally-ho spectacle now in its fifth week is still very popular; the Geni family of acrobats are creating quite a furore with their remarkable feats; Almero is a clever gymnast; Marie Racho gives a graceful athletic performance; Mr. Leicester Cooke's horsemanship is much admired; and Doodles, with new drolleries, causes much merriment.

The Gem.—Managing-Directors, E. V. Barr.—In addition to a series of first-class pictures Mr. Tom Taylor's song scenas are very popular; Master Harry Clarke is a clever juvenile comedian; Mr. Billy Moss is an amusing comedian; and the Sisters Kersley give a pleasing musical turn.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Mr. Charles Bignell is immensely popular, having to sing several songs; Mr. Frank and Millie Forsyth score with their sketch *The Doll and the College Boy*; Mr. Gus Blake and Miss Maud Granby cause a lot of merriment with their duologue; Mr. Kenney Kay is a first-rate ventriloquist; the Three Krakes are very amusing in their sketch, *The Electric Car Conductor*; Mr. Henri Bekker mystifies his audience with some clever card tricks; and Mr. Harry Helmsley is a capital mimic.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Arthur Cash.—"The Tatlers" are paying their second visit this season. Mr. Burney and Miss Dora Dolaro receive well merited applause for their coster sketch; Miss Christine Roy's ballad singing is an attractive feature. In addition to "The Tatlers," the Misses E. and M. Williams render some excellent songs; and Mr. Ernest Hastings is a first-rate entertainer.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—After the usual summer vacation, this premier theatre reopened its doors on Monday evening, when a really first-rate performance of *Caste* was given by Miss Cora Anson's company. Mr. G. W. Anson appears in the all-important part of Eccles and a finer portrayal of the rôle could not be imagined; Mr. Douglas Vigors was praiseworthy as the Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr. Fred Annerley ably represents Captain Hawtree; and Mr. Spencer Peach causes much merriment as Sam Gerridge. Miss Ida Phillips was particularly well suited with her part of Esther Eccles; Polly Eccles had a capital representative in Miss Lydia Busch; and Miss Helen Vicary was a dignified Marquise. *A Quiet Evening* formed the curtain-raiser.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Miss Frances Letty, ably assisted by Mr. James Sutton at the piano, occupies a prominent position here this week, and meets with an enthusiastic reception; in a musical absurdity Bob Selvidge figures prominently; Albert Rees, in a drawing-room act, is deservedly applauded; and other good turns are Arthur F. Wood, hoop manipulator; the Marzelos, horizontal-bar performers; Mabel Moss, chorus vocalist; Maisie Dene, comedienne; and the Lamons, pedestal dancers.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is presenting *The Sailor's Wedding*. Mr. Stanley Harrison is an imposing figure as the British naval officer, Gordon Drake; Miss Madge Monte nicely presents the girlish charm of Mary; Mr. J. H. Darnley infuses suitable fire into his portrayal of Giovanni Ferici; Miss Olive Warne acts with intensity as the adventuress, Lenore de Gresac; Miss Daisy Gwynne is excellent as the Countess Bellini; Mr. Cecil Klein gives a polished rendering of Sir Victor Lascelles; Mr. Frank Betram is responsible for genuinely quaint humour as Jack Hawkins, a man-o'-war's man; and others responsible for good work are Mr. Alfred Fisher as Count Bellini, Mr. Frank Kidger as Bill Burns, Mr. Alfred Holles as Giacomo Ferrara, Miss Celestine Bertram as Ninette, and Miss Denny Fitz-Herbert as Polly Clarke.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Charles R. Whittle is making a welcome reappearance in Grimsby, and his budget of new songs, effectively presented, is highly popular; Ike and Will Scott are also scoring another success with new comedy specialties; Harry Claff and Miss Alice Tremayne present a diverting pantomime burlesque; Agnes Molteno and company are very pleasing in the vocal scena *A Dolly and a Coach*; Clifton and Bingham have some capital comedy business; Dot Hardy is a comedienne with plenty of dash, and her dancing is good; and Jules Kiaro gives an expert equilibristic exhibition.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Messrs. Bennett and Wray's company are here with *Miss Hook of Holland*. Sally is brightly impersonated by Miss Kathleen Starling; Mr. E. Russell dispenses an abundant supply of humour as Mr. Hook; while the drollery of Simon is well sustained by Mr. R. Hunter. Mr. Sam Lockeridge capitally enacts Van Vuyt; and Mr. Cuthbert Hardy as Captain Adrian and Mr. Wilson Blake as Schnapps are quite satisfactory. Miss Muff Carew is admirably suited as Mina. The week is filled in with Albany Ward's electric pictures and varieties.

St. George's Hall.—Secretary, Mr. E. O. Cohn.—A pleasing programme is being presented here this week by Les Vivandieres under the direction of Mr. Carl Fredericks.

Candie Gardens.—A clever and entertaining concert party, The Georgians, are doing good business here.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Edward Compton has been playing to packed houses this week in *Dary Garrick*, *The Rivals*, *The Road to Ruin*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The School for Scandal*. In *Dary Garrick* Mr. Compton gave his usual brilliant rendering of the name-part, Miss Rita Sponti playing sympathetically as Violet. The artists include Messrs. Henry Crocker, Frank Royde, Chas. Stone, J. W. Austin, Clifford Marquand, Edward Hoile, Keith Graham, and R. St. John, Misses Marie Hassall, Agnes Williams, Vivien Marriott, and Nell Compton. In *The Rivals* Mr. Compton again gave a fine portrayal of Bob Acres.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Sisters Page have beautiful voices; Edward Seigel and Will Fields give an entertaining turn.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Williams' Jubilee Singers are a talented octette of lady and gentlemen vocalists; Tom Taylor and company provide an excellent entertainment in *The Plumbers*; Rose and Stevens have a smartly-written and humorous sketch, *Married or Photographed? The Birthday Teddy Bear* gives the Lomas Duo an excellent opportunity to display their talents; Hermann and Arthur, comedy jugglers, won the audience at once; Chris Baker, character comedian, is a good turn; Rose and Jeanette, soubrette and girl baritone, and some good pictures complete.

HAMILTON (N.B.).—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Millar.—Mr. Graham Moffat and company are appearing here in one of the most amusing of Scotch sketches, *The Concealed Bed*, and are awarded a hearty and deserved welcome. Katie Butler is a big favourite, her Lancashire dialect songs going extremely well; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are excellent in their scena, *Speech Day at Eton*; Josh Dixon is a quaint and amusing little chap; Baby Wolff sings a couple of songs and dances; the Mantialo Trio do some smart juggling; Clara Reid and John Power are amusing in their comedy sketch *The Chambermaid*; and Alfonzo, upside down feet equilibrist, and the bioscope conclude.

HANLEY. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone. — Messrs. Milton Bode's and John Hart's opera company is presenting *Les Cloches de Corneville*. There is an augmented orchestra and a powerful chorus conducted by Mr. Knight Pearce. Mr. Cyril Thompson as the Marquis sings and acts brilliantly; Mr. Arthur Geary as Grenicheux is admirable; Miss Kitty Dale as Germaine is highly successful; Miss Dolly Castles as Serpolette is most fascinating; Mr. Fred Dark as the Bailie is good; and the Gobo of Mr. Alfred Selby is quaint. Mr. E. St. Albans as Gaspard is powerful, and Miss Lucy Kipling as Christophe is commendable.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—This week's bill is headed by Alexandre and Hughes, whose patter is smart; *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, a clever sketch, is well played by Mr. Harold Nuttall's company; Ted E. Box, eccentric comedian and whistler, is recalled; Percy Walton sings and dances cleverly; the Three Grovini Sisters present a fine acrobatic performance; Barrett and Knowles are irresistibly funny; the Gilberts are a smart couple; and Jean Wallace is a charming comedienne.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The show this week is headed by a fine film entitled The Clay Baker, which is wonderfully thrilling. The Victims of Fate is also fine. Denny Monaghan, the boy tenor, supplies the vaudeville item.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—This week Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company has been here. On Monday *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were in the bill. Signora Deferal was prima donna in each play and sang beautifully. The orchestra was under the bâton of Signor Wehils. *Faust*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Il Troratore*, and *Carmen* were also performed.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Miss Celia Claud was in the bill here for the first two nights of the week, and her classical dances were a great feature of the entertainment. For the rest of the week Mr. R. A. Roberts, the wonderful Protean actor, appeared in his clever sketches, *Dick Turpin* and *Cruel Coppinger*.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—After undergoing considerable structural alterations which add considerably to the comfort of the audience and the holding capacity of the building, this comfortable place was reopened on Monday, with a programme consisting of capital variety. Elmo and Rego, knockabout comedians, give a clever performance; Daisy and Dot, duettists and dancers, provide an exceptionally clever turn; Beattie St. Clair is a dainty soubrette; and pictures are shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram, Ltd., have organised a capable company, which on Monday opened a three-days' visit in *The Fires of Fate*. Mr. Lewis Fielder as Colonel Egerton entirely won sympathy; Miss Aimee de Burgh made an excellent impression by her clever impersonation of Miss Sadie Adams; the Rev. Samuel Roden was impressively played by Mr. Gilbert Yorke, the doctor being well presented by Mr. George F. Ide. Mr. A. C. Holmes, who stage-managed, gave a breezy presentment as Captain Jack Archer; Miss Marie Darbyshire as Miss Adams made an excellent chaperone. On Thursday Mr. George Dance's company paid a return visit in *Our Miss Gibbs*.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell.—For the first half of the week Mr. Walter Maxwell's company played the amusing farce *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* to large audiences. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb as Preedy thoroughly realised the modest, chivalrous, kindly-natured little man; Miss Nelia Powys was a graceful and well-bred Countess; Mr. John Nesbitt was well placed as John Bounsall; Mr. Shirley Lea supplied an excellent farcical sketch of Bilson; and the many humorous situations were well supported respectively by Mr. Cecil Humphreys as the Earl, Mr. J. D. Geddes as Lord Kinslow, Mr. Hamilton Deane as the Hon. Robert, Mr. J. McClintock Clive as Reginald Saunders, and Miss Ninon Dudley as Harriet Budgen. Miss Mary O'Farrell acted with much charm as Emma Sidgrave. Mr. Haldane Crichton's company was billed for Thursday in *The Cingalee*.

American Palace Pier.—Manager, Mr. Leopold.—Mr. J. D. Hunter, supported by his company, has revived for this week's entertainment the famous old comedy *Betsy*. Dick Talbot is finely impersonated by Mr. Frank Growcott; Miss Blanche Bayley plays with all her accustomed success in the name-rôle; Mr. J. D. Hunter as Mr. Dawson endows the character with many whimsical and humorous mannerisms; Mr. and Mrs. Birkett are finely presented by Mr. Entwistle; and Miss Eva Bayley has a good exponent in Mr. Herbert Moule. Miss Vera Dudley acts capably as Madame Polenta, and Mr. C. Herman Pullen is well placed as Captain McMenus. On Tuesday, at a matinée, a men's beauty show was held.

Alexandra Park.—The Wallis Arthur Concert Party continue the daily al-fresco concerts here. On Wednesday a grand fête was organised by Messrs. Keith Prowse. Among the attractions were performances by the D'Amato Neapolitan Singers; Verlini, the Japanese juggler; Joe Fuller and his living marionettes; Herr Simon Wurm's Viennese band; maypole and fancy dances by children trained by Miss Muriel Jukes; followed by dancing on the lawn and a special firework display.

HEREFORD.—Drill Hall.—Mr. J. Bannister-Howard's *Silver King* company has been here. The Wilfred Denver of Mr. Horace E. Herbert was a very clever rendering; Mr. Oswald Cray as the Spider was capital; and credit must be given to Mr. Ralph Leo as Corict. Elijah Coombe was ably played by Mr. Wm. Dempsey; and the Geoffrey Ware of Mr. Laurie Hunter was equally meritorious. The pathos of Percy Foster as Jaikes went home to the audience; and as Baxter Mr. Alex Begbie was excellent. As Nellie Denver Miss B. Doyle won all hearts by her sympathetic touches; and frequent applause greeted Miss Dorothea Blake as Olive Skinner.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — Gaiety. — Following an enjoyable visit from Mr. Ernest Doddridge's vaudeville company, Miss Grace Warner, supported by Mr. George Gordon, appeared with much success on Monday night in the drama, *Wages of Sin*. In the character of Ruth Hope, Miss Warner gave a realistic reading; and Mr. George Jordon, in the portrayal of Michael Stanton, secured approval. *The Scarlet Cloth* is being played during the remainder of the week, Miss Grace Warner undertaking the part of Sal Scarlet.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—This week the reproduction of Durham Miners' Demonstration is meeting with approval. Other interesting films are The White Squaw, The Awakening of Bess, The Princess and the Peasant.

HOYLAND. — Hippodrome. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting- and Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Firth.—The above theatre opened on Monday night with Mr. John Levy and company in *The Scapegrace*. Mr. A. T. Cresswell is a manly Jack Fanshaw; and as Captain Harry Fanshaw Mr. W. A. Buckstone is all that can be desired. Mr. John Levy gives a characteristic rendering of Bill Burke; and Mr. F. Dudley is an aristocratic Sir John Fanshaw. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. Harry Ives as Larry McGehan, ably assisted by Miss Maudie Lambert as Mary. In the rôle of Margaret Marsden Miss Beatrice Western is excellent; Miss Nellie Lambert is a sympathetic Nellie Burke; and Miss Maude Western as Dick is very good.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Miss Florrie Gallimore is starring here, singing her latest chorus songs with much success; also in the bill are Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers; the Lukushimas troupe of real Japanese equilibrists; G. C. Doughty and Miss Molly Laney, in a brightly-played duologue; Hall and Earle, entertainers; the Elite Harmony Boys, in songs, concerted numbers, and dancing; and Jackson and Marte, comedians. The pictures include a fine representation of Logging in Canada.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Excellent fare is provided by the McLallen-Carson Duo, who present their graceful and clever act on roller skates; Haines and Borthwick, in a funny sketch, *Half-a-Dollar*; Jack Hamilton, a refined and versatile comedian; Brothers Redmond, a pair of nimble acrobatic comedians; the Six Lancashire Lasses, in some well-arranged songs and dances; Frank Boyce, character vocalist; Miss Kitty Upton, comedienne; Sid Doody and Miss Edie Wright, burlesque artists. The Palace pictures complete the show.

HULL.—Grand Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The house has been crowded every night, the reason being the visit of Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry. The opening play was the ever-welcome *Scarlet Pimpernel*. Mr. Terry was seen at his best in the title-rôle; Miss Neilson was heartily welcomed as Lady Blakeney; and with Mr. Horace Hodges as the French Envoy, we had a trio *par excellence*. Amongst the company are to be found such well-known names as those of Mr. Carter Edwards and Mr. Malcolm Cherry. On Wednesday and Thursday *Henry of Navarre* gave the opportunity to both Miss Neilson as Margaret de Valois and Mr. Terry as the King.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Prodigal Parson* is enjoying a big success. Mr. W. V. Garrod directs the fortunes of the company, and at the same time takes the rôle of the parson. Miss Bertha Kingston plays the parson's wife to perfection, and wins the approbation of the house. Miss Celia Barnard is a very commendable Myrtle Godley; Miss Amy Shaw provides a very good picture of Fräulein Korale, the Biergarten dancer; and the rest of the company work hard.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—George Formby, the eccentric comedian, is responsible for roars of laughter; and Dan Crawley, the "glad-eyed dame," is irresistible with a collection of new songs; Andos, happy little Japs, a talented troupe, excel as equilibrists and jugglers; Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian, has an abundance of good humour; Phil Rees' Stable Lads win approbation for their novel racing act; an item much enjoyed is the turn provided by Orpheus, the melodist, and as an operatic vocalist Miss Sybil St. Elmo gained distinction. Other enjoyable turns include the Maples, in a smart comedy act, who are also responsible for some clever knockabout business; Amy Marsden, the low comedy girl; and an interesting series of Bioscope pictures.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—A number of exceptionally good turns are exploited here, among which are the Claymore Trio, who excel as jugglers, vocalists, and humorists; Irene and Morton please immensely with their comedy; Reg. Bolton, in his comedy scena, is very droll; Miss Flossie Elliston, versatile vocalist; Three Coopers, in song and dance; Hunter and Bob, acrobats and jugglers; and May Knight, comedienne, all win approbation.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—An excellent programme here is headed by Monsieur E. La Vigne and company, who present the Eight Daughters of Eve in a charming series of tableaux vivants, each item being loudly applauded; Rowland Hill, comedian, wins admiration; Keene and Adams, refined singers and dancers; and Bert Woodward, the cycling coon, were much appreciated. Other interesting items include Jack Evans and Tich Pike in duet, "Sing, sweet bird"; Lace and Leno, patterers and eccentric dancers; Ina Lorimer, charming comedienne; and Tom Banny, comedian, completes.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery. — Mr. Ernest Leicester's company occupies the house this week with *East Lynne*, with Miss Kathleen Russell in the difficult part of Lady Isabel, of which she gave a very clever interpretation. Miss Dora Heritage was a spirited Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Gwen Stewart was a graceful Barbara Hare; and Miss Hermione Lester played William Carlyle. Mr. Ernest Leicester gave a fine rendering of Archibald Carlyle, and the Francis Levison of Mr. Herbert Hewetson was to the point. The comic village postman was capably represented by Mr. Herbert Willis.

Hippodrome —Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. Harry Tate's No. 1 company is here this week, and his latest success—a burlesque on aviation entitled *Flying*—creates roars of laughter throughout; Diamond and Beatrice with the harp and saxophone are old favourites here, and had a good welcome back; Miss Venie Clements s a clever and vivacious comedienne; Ross and Lewis, the so-called "laughter looseners," are well named; Little Pam is a clever child-actor; Cedar and Elgar have a funny turn entitled "Days of Olde"; Dorris and Francis are agile dancers; and the Bioscope concludes a strong bill.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lesley Edwards.—Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austin Hurgon's company is presenting *The Girls of Gottenberg* here this week. "Smith," who is a great favourite here, keeps the audience convulsed with merriment as Max Modelkopf; Mr. Jack Douglas creditably impersonates the dandified Prince Otto; Mr. Eddie Foy is a quaintly eccentric Brittlbottl; and Mr. Tom Squires is good as Adolf. Miss Grace Desmond is a delightfully buxom Clementine; Miss Dora Langham is charming as the mischievous Mitzi; and Miss Beryl Vaudrey is a fascinating Elsa. The orchestra is under the able bâton of Mr. Edmund Peterson, a former director of the Worthing Theatre orchestra.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—Crowded houses are the order here, and the new variety turn, Mr. J. A. Maurice, gets a flattering reception.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks; Manager, Mr. Percy Leopold.—The turns here include La Valti, in electric dances; Edward Mortimer in sketches; whilst Dan Christie gives several amusing songs.

Triangle Park.—Mr. George Robins's Gay Gondoliers are the attraction here this week.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—One of the new films here this week is a sensational Mexican drama, entitled The Mule Drivers.

Royal Hall.—Mr. Charles W. Poole's popular Myriorama to-day concludes a very successful visit here.

KEIGHLEY. — The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Barrasford.—Walter Ellis and company are on a return visit in the humorous sketch, *The Sleepwalker*; the Arthur Gallimore Trio provide a very clever and amusing turn; La Vie, poseuse, presents a charming and artistic act; the Quality Quartette receive a hearty reception; Tom Burton scores heavily, his Yorkshire patter being to the liking of the audience; Ernest Clifford dances well; and Maudie Morris sings nicely.

KETTERING.—Victoria Theatre.—Managers, Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co.—The Walturdaw picture and variety company are still here. The specialities this week include Will and Roze in a comedy act, and Dale and Vale, who contribute an enjoyable turn.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's company is presenting the military play *Lights Out*. The company is good all round, and includes Miss Francis J. Bithell, Alfred C. Clark, Reginald Weston, Herbert Lugg, Frank Cariello, and Robert Noble. Miss Pauline Emeric as Kiara Volkhardt gives a clever and powerful performance. The dresses and mounting generally are first class.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For the latter three nights of last week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company presented *Don* here with great success. As Canon Bonington Mr. Arthur Willoughby was excellent; Mr. Gordon Bailey was quite at ease as Stephen Bonington; Mr. Charles Tyrel made a typical General Sinclair, and as Albert Thomsett Mr. Charles Harley was very natural. Miss Emma Hutchison made a most matronly Mrs. Bonington; Miss Viola Garland was charming as Ann Sinclair; and the pathos of the part of Elizabeth Thomsett was well interpreted by Miss Violet Harley.

New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For the first three nights this week excellent variety shows have been given here, some clever jugglery being presented by the Zados. Gene Grant is a good comedian; Lewis and Waller present speciality dancing act; Gladys Wilton has a fine contralto, which is heard to advantage in her songs; Jess is an excellent coon comedienne; Dora Martini is a daring gymnast; and Avis and Desbarre are clever wizards.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*Temptation*, played by Miss Nora Carton's company, is proving a big attraction this week. Mr. Charles H. Mortimer does full justice to the part of Sir Charles Tremaine; as Mr. Bright, the lawyer, Mr. Clifton Roystell is successful; and Mr. Norman A. Overton as the villain, Hubert Thorne, gives a clever study. Miss Nora Carton is an excellent Hilda Dundonald; Miss Madge Seymour also scores as an adventuress; and Messrs. Frank Ayrton and George Wallace appear to advantage as Bob Saunders and Stephen Rowe respectively.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John H. Longden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—The theatre has re-opened after the summer vacation, and Miss Lena Ashwell's company is having a hearty reception in *Diana of Dobson's*. Miss Eva Leonard Boyne plays Diana with great skill and power; Mr. Brisco Owen is commendable as the impecunious Captain Bretherton; whilst Mr. Thomas Pauncefort's Sir Jabez Grimlay is a clever study; Miss Hilda Francks is a typical match-making aunt in the rôle of Mrs. Cantelupe; and Miss Marie Lake is successful as the detestable forewoman at Dobson's; Mr. Leslie Crowther makes an admirable policeman; whilst other characters calling for much praise are undertaken by Miss Nanny Hume, Miss Edith Robey, Miss Cicely Oates, Miss Winifred Trevor Lowe, and Miss Mary Crewe. The piece is preceded by a clever one-act play *Out West*, in which Mr. W. Crowther, Mr. T. Pauncefort, Mr. Brisco Owens, and Miss Mary Crewe appear with distinction.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*When Knights were Bold*, with Mr. James Welch, is drawing good houses. Miss Audrey Ford gives a clever impersonation of Lady Rowena, and Mr. Henry J. Ford is amusing in the character of the fop.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*Way Out West* is the attraction here this week, the author, Junius Booth, playing the leading part of Jack Hamlin admirably.

Empire.—District Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Harry Tate makes a welcome reappearance here in his new sketch *Flying*; Lily Burnand is a big favourite, and has several new songs; the Findons, in their clever sketch *The Other Man*, are highly successful; Harry Jolson is a comedian of ability; the Mezzettes are very smart as horizontal-bar performers; and Bugler Carr, Arthur Slater, Pat Rafferty, and the Marconis complete a capital company.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Herbert Darnley's company in the *Brigands of Tarragona*, which includes that very funny comedian, Charles H. Bell, and a host of clever artists, are well received here; a rich musical treat is provided by Elsie Southgate on the violin; Robins and Collier are excellent in a new act; Stacey and Williams are very funny comedians; Mason and Bart, in a comedy gymnastic act, give a good show; Dollie and Rosie, in a dancing act, are favourites;; the Sylvester Trio, in a drawing-room entertainment, and Victor Courtney, at the piano, also do good turns.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe top the bill here; Tennyson and Wallis are clever comedians; excellent singing turns are done by Mdlle. De Rose and Hilda Claremont; Curwen and Belle, J. H. Hawtry, and the Three Comedy Chanters, and the Two Lees, in a musical act, and Charlie Carr, comedian and dancer, are also talented artists.

Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Booking-Manager, Mr. Johnny Whiteman.—Fred Maitland and company appear here in a screaming absurdity, *Roots, Rash Chemists*; the Three Royal Temples give a fine singing act; Tom Spott is a favourite here; and the O'Gorman Brothers are successful; Gaertner and May and Bertha De Pas also contribute satisfactorily.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—An excellent variety entertainment is proving a big attraction. At the top of the bill are the Milsted-Bell Trio, in their comedy sketch *Three Sharps in A Flat*, who are highly appreciated; Godfrey, society illusionist and necromancer, gives a clever performance; the marvellous gymnastic feats of the Voltoens are received with great enthusiasm. The company also includes Carmen Barrie, dainty comedienne and dancer; Watson and McQue, comedy couple and dancers; Bob King, the man who talks; and Willie Allan, Scotch comedian and amusing eccentric dancer. Latest pictures conclude.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is here this week in the romantic drama *The King's Romance*. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, the author-manager, distinguishes himself in a conspicuous manner as Prince Andreas; and Miss Haidee Gunn as Vera Navairre is deserving of the highest commendation. Others who render good service are Mr. Arthur Estcourt, Mr. Cecil Calmere, Miss Ethel Vinroy, and Miss Bella Power.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company in the interesting play *A Daughter of the Sea*, in which Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine and Mr. Lewis Gilbert as Mark Glenside enact the two principal parts in a commendable manner.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. L. Seally.—The leading feature in another first-class programme this week is Loring Fernie and company in Tom Gallon's dramatic sketch *Devil's World*. Mr. Loring Fernie is very good as the wastrel Paul Harman; and as the roué, Blake Latimer, Mr. Cyril Vernon is also excellent. Mr. Douglas Imbert as Ashley Vernon and Mr. Cecil Calvert as a waiter are deserving of praise. Harry Ford, an amusing comedian, gives a popular turn; a remarkable cycle performance by the Jackson Family arouses unstinted approbation; Nellie Wallace is a comedy artist with methods entirely her own; the Du Gros Trio of comedy acrobats and bar-performers are prominent; Sylvia Du Barry renders a couple of songs in excellent style; Walter King creates continuous merriment; Jock Mills is an excellent Scotch character comedian and dancer; Carl Howard's concoction of comedy and magic is also entertaining. The Bioscope is still a feature.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Leading here this week is Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil and her posing ladies, in a series of reproductions of studies from the world's greatest picture galleries; Miss Daisy Colenzo, vocalist, accompanies the turn. Another excellent feature is Cameron Matthews and company, including Miss Jessamine Newcombe, in the thrilling dramatic incident *No Other Way*; Dick and Dorothy Trio are good in harmony, music, and dance; Johnny Cecil is a capital comedian; Mary Rowe sings in good style. Pictures play a prominent part here, and this week a fine programme is given, including Robinson Crusoe, Betty Goes from Bad to Worse, The Winning Punch, Wanted, a Bath Chair Attendant, and A Trip to Laos, Indo-China.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The reputation of this picture house is well maintained, and Mr. F. R. Griffiths continues to give his patrons at this popular hall programmes of sterling merit and variety. The two big pictures this week are The Sm

Way, Mr. Harvey impersonated The Rat in his usual impressive and finished style, and his reception was most cordial; Mr. Charles Glenney as the Hon. Clement Hungerford was excellent throughout; Mr. Edward Combermere as Captain Stanhope faithfully portrayed a villainous part; Mr. Cowley Wright as the Hon. Francis Tresham was throughout admirable; Miss Brenda Gibson as the Hon. Margaret performed in a most captivating manner; whilst Miss N. de Silva as Batty added to her already long list of successes as a typical supporter of the roughly-used Rat. *The King of Cadonia* was announced for the remainder of the week.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Vaudeville Entertainers appeared here for the week in *The Gay River*. Mr. Bobbie Allendale as the Hon. Bobbie causes much mirth; and Mr. Horace Jones as Bienkinsop largely added to the fun; Miss Harrie Fawn sings excellently; and Miss Marie Wilson's dancing is greatly admired.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Large audiences have gathered to witness *The Whip* and admire its effective setting, while Mr. George Dance's able company have afforded every satisfaction. As Captain Sartoris Mr. James Lindsay plays with judgment and tact; Mr. Eric Hudson stands out prominently with his excellent character study of Joe Kelly; Mr. Dallas Cairn proves a convincing Earl of Brancaster; a humorous Tom Lambert is submitted in able style by Mr. Edwin Brett; Mr. Horace Kenney acquits himself creditably as the honest little jockey Harry Anson; Miss Gwenda Wren pleases as Lady Diana; Miss Stella Campbell gives a neat character study of Myrtle Anson; Miss Simeta Marsden is effective as Mrs. Beamish; Miss Vera Beringer plays well as Mrs. D'Aquilla; and worthy supporters are Messrs. Ernest Douglas (Marquis of Beverley) and Fred Leister (Rev. Haslam).

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* is presented by Mr. Morton Powell's company. As the wretched Ruby Wright Miss Maud M. Powell plays with tact and gains much favour; Miss Marie Robson's Ruth Wright finds a deal of appreciation; Mr. Walter Clarke handles the heavy part of Lucas List in capital style; the heroic character of Robert Ray is well presented by Mr. J. Edward Fletcher; some good comedy comes from Messrs. Edward Swinton (Billy Broad), Frank C. Lester (Bobby Broad), and Arnold Allen (Freddy Feather), and Miss Effie Macintosh (Bessie Betts); and other parts are held by Miss Ana Corri (Madame Meral), Miss Eva Norman (Ned Chipples), Mr. J. Marshall Kerr (Rev. C. Lovett), and Mr. Henry Scratchard (Octavius Screwe).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—For the first time in Liverpool, *Every Inch a Man* is being given here by Mr. W. Graham Arthurs and company. Mr. Sidney Baylis makes a good heroic Dick Barnet; Miss Ada Band, as the mischievous Teddy Edwards, causes endless laughter; an attractive Vera Maxwell comes from Miss Mabel Elliott; Miss Mildred Eversleigh pleases with her Mrs. Edwards; Mr. W. Graham Arthurs plays the villainous Daniel Barnet in strong manner; and Mr. Joe Barker is a satisfactory Ben Brown.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Here this week the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., are submitting *Sexton Blake*. Mr. Murray Yorke is seen to much advantage in the title rôle; Mr. Victor C. Rolfe capably holds the part of Farmer Blackburn; Mr. Millar Wilson creates great fun as Tinker, along with Miss Dinah Wright in the character of Euphemia Pattacake; Mr. Edward McLean finds a deal of favour as Roger Blackburn; Mr. Sydney Barner plays Simon Faggas in excellent manner; Miss Elizabeth Watkins makes a sweet Marjorie Lovell; Miss Lydia Mannington arouses laughter as the eccentric Philadelphia Kate; and others who help greatly are Mr. A. J. Harding (Squire Lovell), Mr. Paul Barry Lewers (Randolph Lovell), and Miss Alice Jameson (A. Homeless Woman).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top here this week is Horace Goldin, the able illusionist and conjurer, assisted by Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli and company; his work is mystifying large audiences. The popular Ernest Shand is having a hearty welcome, and delights everybody with his latest songs and sayings; Dennis Creedon and Jessie Broughton present an excellent vocal and musical act; Doris Trevelyan is a vocal comedienne of ability; Charles Norton repeats his smart monologue *Pros At the Races;* Gwennie Hasto sings and dances neatly; and also in the list are Tom E. Hughes (comedian) and Azella Wilson (graceful lady gymnast).

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Drama twice nightly continues to find favour here. *Captain Jack* is nicely put on and well presented. The well-known and popular actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, affords the utmost satisfaction with her able portrait of Mary Lee; Mr. Ernest Owtrim proves a breezy Captain Jack, into which character he infuses a deal of spirit; Mr. F. C. Leighton makes a powerful Barry Trent; and good work also comes from Messrs. Herbert Bentone (Andrew Lee), H. Ryeland-Leigh (Anthony Cliversedge), Harry Creamer (Billy Bowster), Miss Ada Arnott (Ginge), and Miss Betty Manners (Winnie Trent).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—A second edition of Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* is top of the bill here, and finds general favour; some particularly smart work as acrobats and hand balancers is performed by Avalys and Freydo; the Twelve Kennedy Girls earn considerable applause for their vocal and dancing act, including the ju-jitsu dance; Walter Emmerson proves immensely droll; Herbert Clifton sings songs in capital style; Mary Law is an accomplished young violinist; Josie Delaine shows herself to be a most versatile lady; Karr and Kooney are a counle of smart patterers; the Three Pirmans go through a taking pot-pourri entertainment; and Hilda Light is an appreciated speciality dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—A departure from the customary style of dramatic fare is being made here this week with a well-arranged production of *Hamlet*. To condense the Bard's work for a two-houses-a-night performance requires a deal of care, but Mr. E. D. Allen, the stage manager, has certainly succeeded in knitting together all the strong points so as to make an effective and continuous narrative. Mr. R. Seath Innes is to be congratulated upon his able handling of the title part; Mr. Harry Tresham is excellent as Laertes; Mr. Sidney Grant plays powerfully in the character of the King; as Horatio Mr. Leo Montgomery deserves every praise; Miss Gertrude Entwistle presents Ophelia in a sweet and sympathetic manner; and other principals are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (Polonius and the Ghost), E. D. Allen and Tom H. Solly (grave diggers), and Miss Lina Nazeby (Queen). Large audiences are giving the experiment cordial recognition.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—George Carney and company are causing endless fun with their sketch *The Fool of the Force*, Mr. Carney having the part of Officer Mudd. Daley Cooper and Mabel Tait make merry with their farcical trifle *A Man of Spirit;* the Leslie Bros. are here again, as bright as ever, and creating much merriment with their *Music Mad;* some delightful singing comes from Miss Alice Hollander; Fred Elton pleases with his scena *On Board an Ocean Liner;* Sable Fern and Co. gain loud applause for their boy scouts' sketch; Daras performs some clever conjuring tricks and gives smart impersonations of great composers; F. V. St. Clair affords satisfaction with his songs; and Madge Brownie is a dainty comedy artist and Dutch impersonator.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Prominent here are George Ali and company in the funny sketch *Papa's Day Off*, which is richly enjoyed; Harrigan and Holt create great laughter with *The Inspector and Policeman;* a smart illusory act is submitted by the Four Khans; the Kyasyas are excellent athletic entertainers; Jack Pardoe offers a neat show of wire walking and tumbling; some dainty singing, dancing, and whistling are performed by Violet Rivers; Daisy Irvine and Co. are seen in the sketch *Five O'Clock Edition;* and Jessie Albini, comedienne, appears in her latest Chantecler uccess, *Cock-a-doodle-do.*

LLANELLY.—HAGGAR'S THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Haggar, sen.; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—After several weeks of pictures and variety, we are glad to welcome drama here once more, and this week we have Mr. Marcus Draper's company here, *The Christian* doing record business. Miss Gladys Purnell gives a charming and impressive portrayal of Glory Quayle; John Storm is ably portrayed by Mr. Draper himself, the impersonation being excellent; Mr. Benson Norte as Lord Robert Ure is also very good; and Mr. W. Burgess Barrat as Horatio Drake is highly commendable; Mr. Edwin Lang and Mr. George Wier as Father Lamplugh and Brother Paul respectively are very good; as is also Mr. Aylmer Williams as Archdeacon Wealthy. In the part of Polly Love Miss Maisie Richardson is capital; and Miss Rosa Burgess is capable as Mrs. Callander. Other parts are well undertaken by the Misses Ina Rozant, Alex. Lisle, Maggie Woolfender, Dollie Wilmer, and Winnie Palmer. The piece is elaborately mounted and dressed.

PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Samuel; Manager, Mr. H. Stedford.—This week the pictures shown here include A Romance of the Western Hills, The Roman, In the Mirror, and The Stolen Jewel.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. J. Mitchell.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company is here with *A Female Detective*. Mr. T. Brabazon impersonated the retired army colonel in a manner which won admiration; and Mr. Ernest J. Fare as the son was very good; Mr. Chas. Burden was an effective villain; and Mr. Stanley was masterly in the humorous rôle of Tubby Philpotts; Little Minnie Halstan infused pathos into her impersonation of a street arab; and the other parts were successfully filled by Miss Kate Kilpack, Miss Violet Agnew, and Miss Bernice Fielding.

ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The winter season was most successfully opened on Monday with *The Plumber*, the parts being sustained by such well-known artists as Tim Bond, John Maxwell, Charles Magilton, Miss Maddie Magilton, Mrs. Lillie Williams, Miss Lena Weir, and Miss Nellie Clifford. Mr. Williams scored a splendid success with his opening programme.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—Excellent pictures are exhibited here, and crowded houses are still being obtained. Rohde and Roche appear in an original "pot-pourri" act, introducing some clever contortions and patter; Tom Hayton and his Six Manchester Lads give a good exposition of dancing.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—This is the anniversary week of the World in Motion entertainments, which have had a continuous year's run. Variety is provided by Ena Correlli (the Mighty Atom), in a good dancing and quick-change turn, and Cliff Dacre (baritone). A fine range of dramatic, travel, and comic pictures completes the programme.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is proving a strong attraction for the annual regatta week. The piece is carefully staged, every novel detail being given with wonderful correctness. In the name-part Mr. Edgar Kent gives a clever performance, for which he is deservedly applauded. Others equally noteworthy are Messrs. Edward Harrison (in the rôle of the Admiral) and H. A. V. Bramble (William Thesiger), and the Misses Dorothy Ripley (Lady Hermoine) and Clarissa Selwynne (Mrs. Cameron).

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The current bill includes Wallace Selkirk's Boy Scouts; Speedwell, a clever painter; and Alpe Barbour, in characters from Dickens' works. The pictures are thoroughly enjoyable.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Bruce Warwick's company is here in *In the Shadow of Night*. Mr. R. Degarge undertakes the rôle of Gordon Allington, and adapts himself admirably to it; Clifford Yorke is well depicted by Mr. R. F. Stacey; Mr. F. Carrington is well suited to the part of John Allington; Mr. Jack Whitehouse is an excellent Tom Nainby; Mr. W. Hayward is a capable exponent of Jake Grudgewell; Mr. H. Greaves as Joe Jackson, Mr. H. Emmerson as James Woodstock, and Mr. C. Parry as Inspector Manners are responsible for clever impersonations; Miss Lily Prescot gives a clever rendering of Violet Kingston; Miss Kittie Roze's Mollie Woodstock is a good portrayal; and Miss Kittie Johnstone is successful as Bob.

MAESTEG.—PICTURE PALACE.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. F. G. Knowles.—Notable new films presented this week are:—Brooklyn Naval Dockyard, Oliver Twist, A Child's Forgiveness, Young Redskins and the Unexpected Shower Bath. Varieties are supplied by Allan McAskall, comedy conjurer, and the Bros. Weyman, wooden shoe dancers.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—*My Lady Bellamy*, presented by Mr. Alex. Maclean's talented company, has drawn large and enthusiastic houses. Mr. Maclean in the leading rôle is a striking personality, and his able delineation of the part gives great pleasure; Mr. G. Lyttleton Holyoake is a stately King William III., and deserves the hearty reception accorded him; Mr. A. Layland submits a clever study of the part of Lord Crawford; Mr. Eric Snowdon is good as the villain, Robert Tarfax; Mr. F. H. De Quincey is a capital Captain Van Hesler; Miss Laura Leigh makes a delightful Lady Bellamy, playing the exacting rôle of the child wife of Sir Gervase Bellamy with great effect; and Miss Mary Palmer is creditable as Queen Mary II.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Fred Mouillot's principal company are occupying the stage here in *A Message from Mars*. The popularity of this well-known comedy drama has been long established, and its entertaining quality is unimpaired. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West submits a capital impersonation of Horace Parker; Mr. William H. Brougham is remarkably effective as the Messenger from Mars; the Tramp is played well by Mr. Norman Clark; and Mr. Alfred Lugg's sketch of the American, Arthur Dicey, is cleverly drawn. Miss Aubrey Ashton fills the rôle of Miss Parker with distinction; Miss Josephine Middleton is very pleasing as Minnie Templar; and other parts are well handled by the remaining members of the cast. The staging is a feature of the production.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Capital entertainment is here in the shape of *The New Lady Bantock*, Jerome's popular comedy, which is presented by Mr. Horace Lingard's strong company. Nothing more exhilarating and delightful could be desired than the Fanny of Miss Beatrice Moreau, whose talents and unaffected personality are greatly to the liking of the audience; Mr. Horace Lingard's depiction of the prim old butler, Martin Bennet, is also a sterling and effective piece of work; Dr. Freemantle is well impersonated by Mr. Edward Ray; a good depiction of George Newte is added by Mr. Wilfrid Compton; and the Misses Wetherell have able exponents in Miss Marie Saville and Miss Denise Dirome; while as Lord Bantock Mr. Rayson-Cousens acquits himself in admirable style. The week's programme includes *Is Marriage a Failure?* and *Divorcons*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*Facing the World Alone*, played by Mr. J. Edward Whitty and Miss Ethel van Praagh's company, is doing good business here. The proprietors of the company have the chief parts in hand, and they are well supported, the play being an established favourite.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Ida Barr is the leading turn here this week, and is very well received; the Cromwells, in their juggling act, are also a popular item; and Milner and Storey add a clever comedy entertainment. Other enjoyable acts are Beattie Foster, comedienne; Harry Hutin, legmania comedian; Phillips and Bristow, expert dancers; Wallace Whitney, a smart character comedian; and Harry Russon, actor comedian.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, played by Mr. Wilson Benge and his talented company, is the fare here.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—*Dealing in Futures*, by Harold Brighouse, was played here on Monday for the first time in Manchester, the occasion being the opening of the autumn season. The play was worthily chosen, for it has extraordinary virility, beside its value as the embodiment of an industrial problem, while the characters are well conceived and pointedly contrasted. Miss Horniman's company can rise to great heights with good material in their hands, and this play, despite inevitable comparison with Mr. Galsworthy's *Strife*, furnished excellent entertainment. Mr. Charles Bibby figured very prominently as the soulless Jabez Thompson, overpowering the timid and dependent Bunting, J.P., who was well impersonated by Mr. Henry Austin; Mr. Milton Rosmer demonstrated his sound ability in the rôle of the young agitator Charlie Bunting; and another newcomer, Miss Irene Rooke, played Rosie Thompson in excellent style. Mr. J. V. Bryant's Dr. Clavering was a clean and well-cut piece of work, and other subsidiary rôles were correspondingly well handled by the remainder of the cast. The play, which was very well received, was preceded by a new one-act piece called *Effie*, by Basil Dean, a notice of which appears elsewhere.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The big attraction here is Harry Lauder, who entertained a packed house on Monday with a répertoire of new and amusing songs. Supplementing him are the Permane Bros. in their unique entertainment "The Nightingale's Courtship"; Spalding and Reno, in acrobatic novelties; Maud Courtney, the American comedienne; the Heriot Trio in *Father's Footsteps;* Mr. C., who sings and talks; the Denaro Bros., very clever juvenile head and hand balancers; and Ling and Long, in a juggling entertainment.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, who have been doing good business at local theatres in Mr. Campbell's latest success, *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, are adding to their laurels here this week.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A finely varied programme is headed by Will Evans, the popular comedian, who makes a big success in his *Chantecler* burlesque, and Lamberti, a wonderfully clever and entertaining musician and impersonator; while at the bottom of the bill Arden and Abel furnish a most amusing turn in their playlet *Town Hall To-night*. Smart items are added by the Great Northern Troupe of speciality dancers; the Lumars, acrobats; George D'Albert, comedian; Ethel Newman in *Her Wedding Day;* and Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Miss Margaret Halstan and company, now including Mr. Harcourt Williams, remain a second week in *A Supreme Moment*. Jack Pleasants, the "shy" comedian, is highly amusing; Jackson and McLaren, of tree-felling fame, provide an interesting turn; the Three Merrills are smart trick cyclists; Phil Percival, comedian at the piano, made a decided hit with clever business; whilst other good turns are offered by Bertie Horron, the minstrel miss; Fred Curran, parody comedian; Nina Wood, in songs at the piano; and the New Macs, capital in patter and dance. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Alice Raymond and her players in *A Night in Egypt*, a novel spectacular musical act of great merit, appear with usual success; Margo, the lady of mystery, is seen in a surprising series of illusions; May Fayre, vocal soubrette, sings taking songs; Barbara Evangeline scores as a chorus comedienne; Niagara and Falls are smart acrobats and tumblers; the Sisters Harcourt dance neatly; and enjoyable turns are also contributed by Lola Milton, vocalist, and Albert Hall, comedian. Ruffell's Bioscope pictures complete.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—The attraction here is *Hush Money*, a Sexton Blake drama. Mr. S. Leigh-Courtney sustains the rôle of the detective in good style, and he is capably assisted by Mr. Harry Hartley as Tinker, supplemented by the bloodhound Pedro. The remainder of the cast is efficient, and the drama is enjoyed by large audiences.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—In *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown* Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore have a capital medium for their talents. As Captain Charles Courtney Mr. Lovel is admirably suited, and Miss Kenmore is quite at home as the runaway Angela. The company supporting them is in every way adequate, and pleased houses are the rule.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—The first appearance of the All-British Empire Band is to be recorded here. The band is under the able conductorship of Vincent, and the selections are all well rendered. Billy Watson and company are deservedly well received in a funny sporting sketch, *A Losing Winner;* Edwin Garth, comedian, makes a hit; Adeline Yohle and company, including James Kurry, are good in a musical interlude entitled *Difficulties;* Forbes Guilbert, the great character portrayer, is very clever; and other smart turns are contributed by Merton and Rydon, musical comedy duo; the Lowells in a neat speciality act; and the Bros. Curran in an uproariously funny boxing act.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Alexander Lee's Gay Birds are the attraction here, and include, besides Mr. Lee himself, Doris Langdon, comedienne and dancer; Rose Alderman, soprano vocalist; Frederick Park, comedian; Jessy Cliffe, contralto vocalist; Vivian Munro, light comedian; and Harry Taylor, solo pianist.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—*The Sign of the Cross* is presented here by Mr. G. W. Bowes's company. The part of Marcus is in the capable keeping of Mr. Leonard Yorke; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice is a powerful Nero; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle portrays Tigellinus excellently; Mr. Duncan Gilmour is exceedingly good as Licinius, as is Mr. W. Facer in the part of Viturius; Mr. Donald McAdam as Glabrio and Mr. Austin Dean as Philodemus are amusing in those parts; Miss Effie Dane is interesting as Stephanus; and Miss Perla Gardner plays Mercia with pathos.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company presented *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* the first half of the week. Miss Lucy Beaumont was all that could be wished in the title-rôle; Miss Armine Grace made a quaint Miss Hazy; Miss Winifred Murray sweetly enacted the rôle of Lovey Mary; and the Misses Doris Murray, Molly Shiells, and Doris Boeton were lively and bright as Asia, Europena, and Australia. Miss Ethene O'Brien made a charming Miss Lucy; and Miss Sybil Brooke and Miss Violet Vivian as Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz were excellent; Mr. Fred Forrest gave a whimsical sketch of Mr. Stubbins; Mr. Ernest Gray did remarkably well as Mr. Wiggs; Mr. Alfred Fisher scored as Deacon Bagsby; and Mr. Harry G. Wright and Mr. Robin Shiells were very good as H. Hunkerdunkus Jones and the Sheriff. For Thursday and the remainder of the week Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company was booked in *The Naked Truth*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—Packed audiences are the rule. Queenie Leighton is accorded a very flattering reception, her contributions being vociferously encored; Daisy Wood's vivacious and piquant style has made her a great favourite, her songs, with their taking choruses, being applauded to the echo; Haley's Girls, in a vocal and dancing scena, have a pretty and effective production; the Two Butterflies give a clever and daring aerial gymnastic act; and Hilda de Grey, versatile vocalist and the Phœnix Trio, harmonising vocalists and dancers, also contribute good turns. Herbert Sleath's company present with great success *The Third Degree*, which is stated to represent police methods in America. The sketch is well staged and well acted, the three principal characters being played by Mr. Chas. A. East, Mr. Gerald Valentine, and Miss East Robertson.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans.—The programme here includes Horace White, in a refined ventriloquial and musical act; Cliff Ryland, talking and singing comedian; Mr. George Belrose, bass, and Miss Maude De Velin, soprano, duettists; Emmie Ames, in her latest success, "Emmie's Christmas tree"; Harry Bancroft, actor and chorus vocalist; and Ruby Emmerson, comedienne. Bioscope pictures and illustrated vocal specialities are also interesting items. The afternoon and evening entertainments have been remarkably well attended, and the ball each evening attracts a large number of dancers.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson-Withers.—*The Truants* is presented by Messrs. Jay and Mann's company. Miss Molly Tremaine as Freda, and Mr. T. A. Shannon as Bill, are highly successful in the leading rôles. Excellent support is rendered by Misses Elmie Kemp, Marie Scharning, Dorothy

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham.} Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
77. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decorations for Theatres, Halls, Electric Theatres, Skating Rinks, etc., etc.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Invite all who are interested in Picture Theatres to see their work just finished at the Electric Theatre, Marble Arch.

Will be pleased for their artists to get out schemes for Decorations free of

Booth, Mildred Orme, Kita Trekelle, and Messrs. Frank Danby, Mackenzie Kogan, C. B. Benjamin, O. Powis Griffiths, and H. Thomas.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, the Merthyr Entertainment Co.—George Prince, the crazy comedian, on a return visit; the Brothers Hannaway are a quaint pair of humorists; John Beech and Norman Aveling, supported by Miss Emma Keekie, furnish a well-acted sketch entitled *Money's Power*; and Knoto, contortionist; Miss Lily Hill, soprano; Pearce and Ward; and Fred Tenby, also successfully contribute.

METHIL.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—The season was opened here on Monday by Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company with *Little Phil's Mother*. The part of Frank Towers was ably taken by Mr. Herbert Evelyn; Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Sam Perkels was successful; Mr. David McFarlane gave a good study of Oscar Titherton; Phil (a cripple boy) was well performed by Little Daisy Rochefort; Miss Maud Russell was seen to advantage as Ruth Towers; and Miss Katie Blair as Elspeth contributed largely to the success.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Assistant-Manager, Mr. Goodison.—Messrs. Mr. Harry Aynsleigh gives a powerful portrayal this week presenting *The King of Diamonds* here. Mr. Harry Aynsleigh gives a powerful portrayal of Sir Philip Garth; Richard Fenton is played with quiet dignity by Mr. George Keene; Mr. Walter Warren is capable as Herbert Selby; Mr. Bert Sharp submits a clever character study as Reginald Garth. Mr. Wilson Lowther does well as Sir Charles Lockwood; Miss Camille Treherne plays with striking dramatic force as Olive Vandell; and Miss Peggy Ross is graceful and pleasing as Muriel Lockwood.

Picture Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The star pictures here this week are:—Ramona, Blind Man and His Dog, Sheriff's Sacrifice, Fashoda, and Redman's Way.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson's company is presenting *The House Opposite*. Miss Amy Sangster cleverly portrays the Hon. Mrs. Rivers; as Mrs. Calthorpe Miss Effie Leigh Hunt is successful; Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn capably delineates Lady Muriel Wentworth; and Miss Dorothy Blackader is worthy of praise as Marie. In the part of Richard Cordyne Mr. Neilson is seen to distinct advantage; and the other rôles are in competent hands.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Tom Morton Powell's company, in *A Girl's Temptation*, is the attraction at the Royal. Miss Lalla Stanhope is entrusted with the part of Kate Stirling, and she does full justice to it; Mr. Frank V. Fenn plays Guy Warren well; and the numerous other characters have been placed with care. The piece is well staged.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Mephisto prevents his illusions with success; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in addition to *Ye Squire's Dance*, give a very enjoyable musical enterainment; Lennie and Hast, in *The Maid of Polaria*, give satisfaction; Miss Ethel Bourne, contralto; Miss Gertie Martini, comedienne; Will McIvor, vocalist; Ted Curtis and pigs, in a novel show; and the Empire pictures all meet with approval.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—A capital programme of pictures, which include one depicting the Funeral of Miss Florence Nightingale and a capital coloured film, entitled The Defeat of Satan, is much appreciated. The Vaudevilles, in a sketch, and Frank Stanert, musical comedian, are well received.

MORLEY.—Alexandra Palace.—Proprietor, Tom Diacoff; Manager, Arthur Izon.—An all-star company this week is headed by the Sisters Terry, clever vocalists, dancers, and baby mimics; Violet Gerald is a charming comedienne; Brook and Bond, in a burlesque military act, *A Raw Recruit*, introduce a capital display of boxing, fencing, &c.; and Carlton and Hill, comedy acrobats, do well as tumbling specialists.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is here this week in *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. Jack McCaig is good in the name-part; Mr. Bert Oates plays the villainous nephew in a manner that earns for him the hearty hisses of the gallery, his companion in villainy being ably impersonated by Miss Maud Leslie Cudd, who appears as Grace Redburn. Mr. Edward W. Cudd is an amusing Wosper, and Mr. Tom Roydan certainly looks the part of the Blacksmith. Ruth finds a sympathetic exponent in Miss Elsie Shelton, Nancy Bray being prettily played by Miss Freda Beckett.

NEATH.—New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice; Musical Directors, Mr. G. T. Hutchins and Mr. A. T. Robinson.—Mr. Dickie Clare's musical comedy company in *Lucky 'Liza* is drawing good houses this week. Miss Vesta Brownie as Lucky 'Liza is a success; Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim, the Judge and the French Waiter, keeps the house in roars of laughter; Messrs. T. W. Benson and Mr. Harry George are excellent in their respective parts as barristers; Miss Rosie Coyne admirably sustains Verginia Blatherwick; Miss Helen Douglas delightfully represents Mary Pettitoe; and the fine singing of Miss Evelyn Wood in the character of Sadie Potts is loudly applauded. The Jesmond Trio give a clever display in acrobatic dancing.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—An interesting picture, Italian Cavalry, wins applause, and an exciting subject, The Eagle and Eaglette, is well received, followed by an amusing series—Dr. Growquick's Powders, The Deputy Barber, Soap, and Bubbles of Truth. Field and Lewis are popular comedians, and the Australian Bush Boys are smart singers and dancers. Mr. Chas. Thorne is responsible for musical selections.

NELSON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Mr. C. H. Lester's *Life for a Life* company is here this week. The company includes Mr. Paul Neville as Kit Oswald, and Mr. Hugh Travers in the rôle of Pedro Li Colei, both of whom give convincing impersonations. Miss Dorothy Riddell makes a charming Kate Evelyn, and Miss Beatrice Anderson faithfully portrays the sufferings of Eulalie. Wee Winnie Warden is exceedingly smart as Venette. Some powerful acting is done by Mr. Lester as Don Leon Fernandez, and the humour of the play is admirably sustained by Mr. Sam Roberts and Miss Marie Ault.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—The programme here is headed by Roxbury's musical mélange in three scenes, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. There is a full comic opera chorus, and in the rôle of P.C. Longfellow Mr. Tubby Edlin causes constant hilarity. The one-act play *Olga's Oath* is presented by a powerful company, which includes the talented actress Miss Zerlina Harrington. In Maurin's marvellous fountains 20,000 gallons of water pour on the stage under powerful electric lights, and some beautiful effects are produced. Molly Watson is a comedienne with a good voice; Ambrose Barker, in his sketch, "Impressions of a Piano," sings and plays with ability; and McBride and Logie, as Canadian lumbermen, do some clever acrobatic work.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—This week the theatre is packed to witness the production of *The Walls of Jericho*, played by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's No. 1 company, which includes Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, Mr. Russell Barry, Mr. F. Stoney, Mr. H. Browning, Miss Gwendoline Hay, Miss Florence Steventon, and Miss Hilda Barita in the principal parts.

Tower.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—There was a large audience at the Sunday concert, when Cavalier Rabottini and his band appeared. This week animated pictures and some variety turns are submitted. Lyn and Leslie are funny in a sketch, *The Insurance Agent*. Vic. Land and the Lawsons also appear each afternoon and evening and give every satisfaction.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—Variety is submitted and the artists include Mr. Jack Hylton, Mr. Frank Weaver, the Lysando Brothers, Mr. Barney Stuart, Messrs. Lytton and De Sylva, Messrs. Kendrick and Laura, and others.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. Teale Lingham.—Miss Horniman's company is here this week, and on Monday Bernard Shaw's *Candida* was staged. Mr. Ian Maclaren gives a particularly strong rendition of the difficult rôle of the Rev. James Mavor Morell; Miss Rosalind Ivan in the title-rôle has a captivating and graceful style; Marchbanks is in the capable hands of Mr. Leonard Mudie; Mr. Ernest C. Cassel makes the most of his opportunities as the Rev. Alexander Hill; and Mr. Whitford Kane is well placed as Burgess. Miss Louise Holbrook is amusing in her capital study of Proserpine Garnett. The piece is preceded by a one-act play, entitled *The Troth*. Mr. Arnold Bennett's play, *Cupid and Commonsense*, was staged on Tuesday before a crowded house.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*The Best People*, by Mr. Frederick Lonsdale, is paying its first visit to Tyneside, and, judging by its reception, seems to have met with public approval. Lord Emsworth is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Henry Renouf; Mr. Frederick Meads is vigorous as the Hon. Gerald Bayle; Miss Evelyn Summers is an interesting Mrs. Bayle; Miss Irene Lavington makes a refined and charming Lady Emsworth. Mr. Claude Haviland makes the most of his opportunities as Lord Wynlea, and Messrs. E. J. Trollope and Edward Nimmo capably depict their respective parts. The piece is preceded by an amusing sketch entitled *Some Showers*, by Pett Ridge.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Will Glaze's company, *No Mother to Guide Her*, is the attraction here. Mr. William Heilbron is a capable Rev. Tom Pelham; Mr. Bernard J. Lieli infuses considerable power into the rôle of Felix Campbell; Mr. Frederick Biron gives a capital character study as Bill Bunce; the Bob Coleman of Mr. Will Glaze could scarcely be improved upon; Mr. George Gormley is a pleasing William Saxby; and Mr. Charles Addison plays effectively as John Smart. Miss Roma Pendrous is a refined Millicent Saxby; Miss Betty Seymour an excellent Nan; and Miss Georgette Thierry acts the difficult part of Julia Patterson in capital style.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—A prominent position here is allotted to the popular comedienne, Ella Shields, whose appearance on the stage is the signal for a storm of applause. *Charles his Friend* is the title of a capital sketch, presented by Courtice Pounds and company; the Poluskis, comedians, cause much mirth; Campbell and Barber are clever acrobatic comedy cyclists; Ricardo and Salving score in a novelty acrobatic act; Rosa Loader is responsible for an amusing musical sketch (written by herself); Daisy Martell, comedienne, is a dainty singer of dainty songs; Harry Weldon, comedian, has some good songs; and Will Johnson, comedian, and the Bioscope conclude.

Pavilion.—Proprietors The Pavilion (Newcastle), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—The place of honour is this week held by Dr. Wilmar's Spirit Paintings, which, as presented by Mr. P. T. Selbit, are quite an uncanny attraction; Chas. Preile's Bijou Circus is an original performing dog act; the Three Dixons prove themselves to be vocalists and dancers of exceptional ability; Herbert Sheath's company is seen to advantage in an entertaining sketch, entitled *Her Ladyship's Guest*; Burns and Bentley are capital comedians and dancers; Hanid Alexander, an entertainer at the piano, receives a cordial welcome; Carlotta Levey is appearing in her latest successes, including "Dear Old Pals"; the Friscos, musical mimics, are amusing; Gwilym T. Evans is a tenor of considerable ability; and Julian Mack, the talkative dame, and pictures complete.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Linney.—The management have this week adopted the two-shows-a-night system, and the entertainment provided appears to be much appreciated. Rozel gives a sensational rope-walking act; George Sheldon's company is seen to advantage in a sketch entitled *Before the Dawn*. The pictures, as usual, form an important part of the programme.

Olympia.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—This hall now ranks as one of the best picture theatres in the North of England, and excellent programmes are being submitted weekly.

Brinkburn Electric Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—The Leonas are appearing here in their gorgeous electrical musical act. There are also the usual up-to-date pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Samson and McNeil, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. G. Griffin.—Lily Belle is applauded for her clever and pretty barefoot dancing, and the Six Spanish Juanitos return with their smart and novel acrobatic feats. Other items are furnished by Amy Lloyd, a smart young serio; Nash and Nash, comedians; Bert Elmore and Amy Evans in a comedy duo; Will Penn, a comedian with a good style; the Saxones in a musical act; Lardan and Iris, vocalists and smart dancers; the Palace pictures; and Mr. H. G. Brandon and company in the dramatic episode *Thrown on the World*.

Temperance Hall.—Andrews's Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The Pathe Journal shadows forth a good idea, The Folkestone Beauty Show, and the rest of the pictures are good. Miss Leslie Moyser sings sweetly songs illustrated with appropriate slides.

The County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—This theatre is keeping up its reputation for good films.—The Forest Rangers and The Gold Rose are first among the dramatics whilst Pearl Fishing and Harvesting in Canada are highly instructive.

Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley.—The programme here includes The Boss of Bar Z Ranch, The Lust of Gold, and Love's Stratagem, which are well received. There are also some good comics.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Ida Millais's company with *No Man's Land* has been heartily greeted here this week. As Harry Oaklands Mr. Phil Harper presents an excellent study of the character; Mr. Edwin Bennett gives a clever performance of Silas Moore; Mat Marsden finds a capital exponent in Mr. Villiers Stanley; Mr. Fred Lillywhite is seen to advantage in the dual rôle of Gilbert and Norman Bathurst; Mr. W. Mallanieu is well suited as Dr. Buxton; Mr. Edward Adams ably impersonates Owen Rushton; and Mr. Reginald J. Hamer makes the most of the part of Thompson Poodle. As Mary Bathurst Miss Marie Kildare wins general approval; Mrs. William Mallanieu is good as Mrs. Poodle; and Mr. Sammy Foster as Solomon Jacobs and Miss Lottie Pearce as Bessie Poodle are responsible for much hearty laughter.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Nellie Coleman, the female comedian, tops the bill here, and comes in for a hearty reception; the Craggs present a smart gymnastic act; Les Napiers are clever Continental entertainers; Clive and Vera in their speciality act, *The Squire and the Dairymaid*, receive quite an ovation; May Simmonds is a pleasing comedienne; Sassy and Wally, duettists and dancers, are much enjoyed; Fagan and Mahone are loudly applauded for their novelty act; and the Bioscope, with some interesting pictures, complete the programme.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Manageress Miss S. Golden.—The attraction this week is Mr. Graham Arthur's company in *The Mockery of Marriage*. Dick Kenyon, in the hands of Mr. Ernest Wingfield, is an interesting performance; Jack Stanley as presented by Mr. G. Porteous is a manly presentation; Mr. Lowe Mackenzie does full justice to the villainies of Seth Pearse; and Mr. Joe Barker is a typical nigger as Old Pete. The characters of Mary Ann Barnicot and Toby Jones are the essence of humour as depicted by Miss Jennie Clare and Mr. Dal Phillips respectively; Miss Violet Wingfield is a natural and fascinating Rose Verham; and the Alva Kenyon of Miss Lilian Beaumont is pre-eminent.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, playing *The Merry Widow*, with Miss Phyllys le Grand in the title-rôle, is billed for the latter half of the week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Jan Rudenyi, the famous actor-violinist, supported by Mr. Drew Mackintosh and Miss Hilda Stewart, in a one-act play entitled *A Storm*, heads the bill and is much appreciated; Miss Kitty Collier, clever comedienne and expert dancer, is well received; Mlle. Sarema and her wonderful trained troupe of monkeys, dogs, and cats give a pleasing performance; Florence Esdaile is heartily greeted for her excellent singing; Stevens and Brett are capital burlesque entertainers; Austen Temple, assisted by Irene Vincent, present some mystifying tricks; Stella Austral, in a refined drawing-room entertainment, is well received; Don Wade, as a droll comedian and mimic, creates much fun; and the pictures complete an excellent programme.

The Nest, Rosary Road.—On Friday last Miss Cissie Scott took her benefit, and received hearty support from numerous friends. Messrs. Goodman's Premier Pierrots have established themselves in favour.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Charles Harrington's combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is here. Mr. J. H. Boem plays Uncle Tom in quiet style; Mr. Harrington acts the kindly Phineas Fletcher with good effect; as Legree Mr. Tom Bowron is amply cruel and vindictive; Mr. Frank Lynne interprets St. Clair with taste; and Eric Williams makes an energetic George Harris. A sympathetic embodiment of Eva is supplied by Miss Norah Bretton; Miss Annie Watson is vastly amusing as Topsy; and good work is done by Miss Sylvia Harrington (Eliza Harris), Miss Ethel Vernon (Aunt Ophelia), and Miss Hetty Johnson (Cassy).

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—An excellent company, under the auspices of Mr. Tom H. Taylor, presents here *A Criminal's Bride*. Mr. Frank Robertson submits a charming picture of an English gentleman as Sir Harry Felstead, and Miss Maud Tremaine is a winsome Kitty Felstead; Mr. Annesley Hely is thoroughly villainous as Austin Deepdale, and Mr. Harry T. Butler puts in good work as Archie Ravenscourt; Mr. Grayson Bancroft possesses histrionic gifts which he uses to the full extent as David Loseby, and the study of a Scotland Yard detective by Mr. J. Templar Ellis is commendable. Miss Emmie Barton is seen to advantage as Lavinia Loseby, and Miss Ella Willmer is to be congratulated on her representation of an Italian girl. Mr. Herbert Belmore is also happy in his conception of an Italian; while Mr. George Brentwood and Mr. Harvey Walton both deserve the success they achieve.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Mr. Raymond Phillips's airship is the centre of interest here, the marvellous invention keeping audiences deeply interested. A screamingly funny sketch, *The First of April*, is presented by Tom Foy and his company; the versatile talent of Cull Pitt brings him hearty applause; Mitchell and Cain patter themselves into favour; the comedy specialty of the Brothers Durant is highly amusing; the vivacity of Ella Retford makes her many friends; Kathleen Gray sings pleasantly; and the comicalities of George Wilson are rewarded.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Mysticus presents a really mysterious performance of conjuring, spirit photography, &c., which is distinctly novel and interesting; a capital musical entertainment by the Seven Bramusas is received with marked approval; the fooling of Syd Walker creates spontaneous laughter; Robb Gilmore's acrobatic feats deserve warm praise; an amusing playlet, *Next Please*, is given by the Brothers Ashley; Maxwell and Frances, in a vocal scena, are keenly appreciated; and items are also introduced by Lily Palmer, dancer; The Unites, trampoline performers; and Marguerite Ismay and girls in a vocal and dancing interlude.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The animated pictures retain their popularity here, and songs are brightly rendered by Little Doris Druce and Mr. F. L. Hearnshaw.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. C. Watson Mills's company is presenting *The Lore of a Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey makes a dashing Prince Conrad; Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews is a powerful Count Danilo; Mr. John Burton gives a clever portrayal of King Josef; Mr. Oscar Power acquits himself well as Prince Regent of Narava; Mr. Francis Searle as Duke Scarfe creates plenty of amusement; Mr. Edgar Morgan is good as Boris; Miss May Beatrice plays in the title-rôle with great success; Miss Maud Steeple is charming as Lady Irene; and Miss Josephine Lee effectively portrays Constantia.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—This theatre has reopened after being closed for a long vacation, the holiday attraction being Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company in *The Bishop's Son*. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine as Daniel Mylrea had a capital reception; Mr. Julian Cross as Deemster Mylrea acted forcibly; and Mr. W. F. Grant as Gilchrist Mylrea, the Bishop, gave a fine portrayal. Mr. Matthew Boulton as the passionate Ewan did well; Miss Verita Vivien played Mona in a charming manner; and Miss Agnes Knights as Kerry was excellent. Mr. George Mudie, jun., acted cleverly as Davy Fayle; and Mr. E. W. Thomas as Hommy-beg was amusing.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—A fine holiday attraction has been provided this week by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Miss Miriam Prichett plays Monica in a charming manner; Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke is an interesting Prince Hildred; Mr. Lionel Gadsden a satisfactory Prince Michael; and Mr. Ernest Cox an excellent Prince Olaf. Mr. F. D. Davies made a manly Captain Hector; Miss Jessica Black was a fascinating Viola; Miss F. Hale-Daviss a good Camolia; Mr. Adam Alexander acted well as the Bishop; and Mr. C. V. Sandford was smart as Lieut. Carl Stromberg. Mr. Fred Upton being effective as the dumb servant Nathan.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Midnight Mail*, played by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, has been much enjoyed. Mr. George Harvard made the most of his part of Harry Steyne; and Mary Steyne was played in a capital manner by Miss Trissie Humphreys. Mr. Henry W. Hatchman as Leonard Royle was satisfactory; Mr. Frank S. Strickland made a good Hassan Padisha; Mr. Fred G. Evison as Billy Brewer was highly amusing; and Miss Mildred Carr did well as Nancy Brewer. Miss Jennie Weston made an effective Lady Phyllis.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—A capital bill is shown here, The Secret of the Glaciers being a fine dramatic picture. Bootle's Baby is a charming love story, and is much enjoyed. Scenes and Sights of London are depicted most realistic, and are well worth seeing. Not to be Hoodwinked and Oh! That Tonic are most amusing. Other pictures are shown. Mr. R. Leach sings "Anchored."

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—Another Wild West is the top-liner, The Range Riders, and is full of dramatic episodes. A Child's Impulse is also very good. Pathé's Journal is very interesting. The comedy films include Foolshead as a Chauffeur and A Quiet Boarding House. Mr. King contributes an illustrated song.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This is the fifth week of Milton Bode's variety season here, and so successful has it been that on Monday night hundreds were unable to gain admission. The programme again is first-class, with not a weak turn in it. Harry Tate's company, in the screaming absurdity *Motoring*, heads the bill, and other most successful turns are contributed by Belle Gorton, a most charming American comedienne; Happy Attwood, very droll and amusing in songs and stories; the Emsons, a pair of fascinating comediennes and dancers; Bennett and Martell, very funny in their eccentricity *Shipwrecked Mariners*; Johnny Fuller, in his clever cat act on the wire; and Bert Davis, a capital ballad vocalist. The Premier Imperial Bioscope Pictures conclude a programme that meets with universal approval. Mr. W. L. Murray is very popular here as Mr. Bode's manager.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Messrs. Glenville and Elliston's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here with *The Wicked City*. Mr. Harwood Cooper enacts the rôle of Harold Vereker with considerable verve; while Mr. Fellows Bassett is a typical villain as Paul Desmond, and is ably assisted by Mr. J. H. Manley as Silas Sefton. Mr. Tait does well as Dr. Strangways; and Mr. Clements is very quaint and amusing as Charlie Chance. Miss E. Wallace sustains Cora Despard most creditably; and Miss Lorna Treherne is sympathetic as Doris Grant. Miss Katie Norris is a very sprightly Clementina Spikes, and in conjunction with Silas keeps the audience in merry mood; while Miss F. Halton is a decided acquisition as Victoria McCleary.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The ever-popular *Charley's Aunt* is proving a great draw, being well presented by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Hugh Wakefield as Lord Fancourt Babberley is extremely funny, especially in his interpretation of the "aunt." Mr. Francis Drake makes a breezy Jack Cheesney; as Charles Wykeham Mr. Robert Burnett affords the utmost satisfaction; Mr. Theo McCausland Stewart gains deserved favour as Col. Sir Francis Chesney; Stephen Spettigue is admirably portrayed by Mr. Henry Hare; and Mr. Sydney Compton gives a distinctive rendering of Brassett; Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty Verdun plays sweetly; as does also Miss Phyllis Back as Amy Spettigue. Miss Audrey Stafford makes an excellent Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; and Miss Janet Gillette successfully fills the part of Ela Delahay. The comedy is preceded by *The Lancashire Sailor*.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The management here have made a decided hit by securing Cavalier Rabottini, the renowned Italian composer and conductor, with his international band of thirty skilled musicians, who furnish an exceedingly attractive turn. A comedy skit, *Dick Whittington*, by The Whittakers, is one of the best things in the programme; F. W. Nash and T. H. Noel, versatile comedians, meet with instantaneous approval; Amy Anderson and company submit their hilarious comedy scena, *Black and White*; Edwards and Edwards give a smart dancing and musical entertainment; R. C. Note scores as a light comedian and chorus singer; an up-to-date comedian, with good songs, Charles Rothwell provides merriment; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, with a series of new pictures, completes the bill.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Barger; Business-Manager, Mr. Norman Barger.—Scottie and his variety combine are here this week. The programme includes the military episode *Napoleon at Waterloo*, in which Mr. Scott-Alexander makes up well as the Man of Destiny. Freda and Frank give a good exhibition of acrobatic dancing and club swinging; Miss Lena Lewis sings well, and is a great favourite; Sandy and Ramsay are successful with their patter and dancing; Jean Kram, comic juggler, proves a capital fun-maker; the sporting novelty, Whizzing the Whirl, is a great attraction; Will Warren, the soldier vocalist, is the possessor of a good voice; and an excellent programme is much enhanced by the summer pantomime, *Androcles and the Lion*, and Scottie's operatic ballet troupe in *The Cry of the Children*.

PENTRE.—Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—An attractive picture programme is given, which results in good business.

Workmen's Hall.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—Crowded audiences attended here on Monday, to celebrate the reopening of this popular house of entertainment. The handsome sum of £676 has been handed over to local charities by the management since the first opening.

PENZANCE.—St. John's Hall.—A large and appreciative audience awaited a fine programme here on Friday, the 26th ult., the particular attraction being Mr. Albert Chevalier, who is renewing a popularity already well established in this neighbourhood. In addition to some of his well-known songs and sketches, Mr. Chevalier sang two new numbers, "Right as ninepence" and "The Mile End-road," in his inimitable style, both being enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Chevalier was assisted by Miss Tresilian Davy, who has a charming voice, and Mr. J. C. Holliday, an excellent accompanist, who also played several of his own clever compositions. On Monday evening Mr. Joseph Poole's myriorama and entertainers opened a fortnight's engagement here before a crowded house, and it is quite customary for packed houses to extend over the fortnight. The entertainment is one of the best of its kind ever seen here, and the house on Monday applauded from start to finish. In addition to the splendid pictorial representations Wun-Hi-Lung, the wizard of the Orient, gave a marvellous display; the Victas were clever in their barrel jumping feats; Les Wartanas are good lady jugglers; the Bros. Graham are responsible for some excellent hand-balancing; Eileen, May, and Little Francesca appear in their musical and dancing speciality, for which they are applauded; Johnny O'Rourke is amusing; Miss Fredrica's terriers and cake-walking pony are well trained; Bert Danson sings funny songs, which are appreciated. A number of splendid films show discretion and good taste on the part of the management. Mr. H. G. Berry makes a capital guide, and the orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. W. A. Abbey.

Alexandra Grounds.—The Queer Quakers are doing good business here. On Tuesday evening Mr. McCall Chambers, their humorist, took his benefit and a capital programme was gone through. He is a great favourite here. Miss Lily Pritchard was most successful, especially so in her number "Julia."

PETERBOROUGH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The principal attraction here this week is R. V. Webb's septette of soloists in "Notions," in which a musical treat is accompanied by most elaborate electrical effects and setting. The Two Dandies are clever dancers; Verona Phillis, vocalist and dancer, is warmly greeted; the Sisters Lawler, duettists and dancers, are loudly applauded; Tanten Hall, comedian, scores well; Arno, the humorist chimpanzee, does a clever turn; and the Haydons, in their screaming success, *Bertie and the Barmaid*, create much laughter. The Karnoscope completes the programme.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Tantalizing Tommy* is here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Nellie Lonnen is the life and soul of the piece, and adds considerably to her reputation by her captivating performance; as James Cottenham Mr. Hastings Lynn is responsible for a realistic representation of a Government official; Mr. Ambrose Flower gives a clever version of the part of the self-satisfied and egotistical artist, Harry Killick; Mr. Roy Byford is genuinely amusing as the hale and hearty Thomas H. Pepper; and Mr. E. R. Hollway correctly delineates the reserved "chief." Eustace Jathem. Miss Eva Brickwell is admirable as the servant, Bertha. The curtain-raiser is *Collaborators*, in which the honours are shared by Miss Margaret Stuart and Mr. Olaf Hytten.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Harvey Boys are on a return visit here, and their patter and general business are very amusing; Mr. Wilson Hallett is realistic in some character-sketches; Miss Amelie de l'Enclos provides a high-class vocal number; the Three Warmingtons showed wonderful agility in a turn brimful of smartness; the Rangers entertain with some clever trick cycling; Mr. Fred Hastings provides a diverting matrimonial number; and the Darntons are a couple of pleasing vocalists. Jury's Bioscope films are as good as ever.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—The patrons here are delighted with Joan Deering, the Gainsborough Girl, a speciality vocalist and violinist; Mr. A. de Bessel is an excellent clay modeller; Tom Herman presents a naval and military spectacle, *For King and Country*, in which fifty local children appear; Alice Gill, contralto and Tyrolean vocalist, finds favour with her selections; J. H. McCann, acrobatic roller-skate dancer, pays a return visit; Wee Madge is a charming Scotch comedienne and dancer; Mons. Eugeneo is a clever trapeze equilibrist and balancer; and other turns are the Whimsical Warners, in a musical entertainment; Vi Maylott, comedienne; and the Alexscope.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—*Greater Love* is presented by Mr. H. Armitage; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid plays Paul Penfold, the martyr; Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives an able study of Jack May; and Mr. Dennis Bryan is responsible for good work as Andrew Isted. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks in the rôle of the Rev. A. Warren proves himself a sterling actor; and Mr. Wentworth Lawson puts in good work as Constable Drayton. Mr. Albert Campbell as Ned Stubbs deserves special mention; Mrs. May is carefully delineated by Miss Marion Fawcett; and Mary May finds an excellent exponent in Miss Francesca Strickland. Miss Ethel Russell as Sarah Higgs is very funny.

PORTSMOUTH.—Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—*The Dawn of a To-morrow*, presented by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company, is on its first visit here. The cheery Glad is a conspicuous success as impersonated by Miss Marie Polini; Bet is ably characterised by Miss Alice Dorie; and the fallen Polly has a capable exponent in Miss Dora Clements. Mr. Fred Victor successfully realises the nerve-stricken capitalist, Sir Oliver Holt; his debased nephew Oliver being well played by Mr. Charles King. Mr. W. Kershaw displays ability as Dandy; a likely Jem is seen in Mr. Henry Compton; Mr. George West does well as the butler Powell; and the three specialists are portrayed by Messrs. Chas. Dering, Murray Hathorn, and James Williams with skill. Mr. Paul Wynter is an effective Lord Tommy Dartmore.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*When London Sleeps* is being produced this week by Lester Collingwood's company. Mr. Geo. B. Dalper makes a suitable David Engleheart, and is well aided by Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queenie Carruthers. Miss Cissie St. Elmo is an impressive Hilda Carode, and an excellent Mrs. Joncsio is Miss Lottie Lonsdale. The part of Captain Rodney Haynes is well taken by Mr. Kenneth Norbury; and much humour is provided by Mr. Harry Cooke as Sammy Blythe.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—John Lawson successfully presents his sensational sketch Humanity; Carl Lynn is a clever animal imitator; Jack Smiles amuses in song and dance; Cassie Walmer is a charming contralto; Percy Farrimond does well as the singing collier; the Bioscope portrays an excellent film; and other good turns include René, little lady juggler; Maud Vera, comedienne; and the Sisters St. Aubyn, duettists and dancers.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. I. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Miss Clarice Mayne, in conjunction with her clever accompanist, makes a hit with favourite songs; Arnold Richardson and company in *Ferdie's Main-Law* make us laugh; Flora Cromer sings with taste and originality; Harry Lamore's versatility as conjurer, juggler, and wire walker is great; Victor's Juveniles are clever mimics and dancers; a refined acrobatic act is supported by the Picquays; an amusing sporting absurdity, *The Cockney Huntsman*, is presented by Queen and Le Brun and company; humorous acrobatic comedians are Cummin and Seaham; and the Sisters Tower are pretty songstresses and dancers.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr.

company commenced a three-nights' engagement in Jerome K. Jerome's comedy drama *Miss Tommy*, with Miss Hughes as Jane.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Charles Price.—Mr. Henry P. Towers' company have been producing *Dear Little Denmark* here this week. Miss Thelma Raye makes a charming Christine; Miss Winifred Vo.t plays the part of the Burgomaster's quaint servant in humorous style; Miss Alice Waldie is captivating as the duke's daughter; much fun is extracted from the rôle of Hans Hansen by Mr. Tom Payne; while Conrad Petersen has an excellent representative in Mr. Cameron Carr. Other parts handled with skill are those of Mr. Edward Thirlby (the Duke) and Mr. George W. Ruff (Jonas Jensen). The singing of Mr. Arthur Ballance is warmly applauded.

MARINA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—The animated pictures displayed here retain their popularity, while the contributions of Will Nosam, coon vocalist, are applauded. Mr. Attack takes a benefit on Thursday, Sept. 8.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Louis Meyer's company is appearing this week in the Garrick Theatre production *The Woman in the Case*, with well-merited success. The play is excellently staged, and the costumes are exceedingly smart and of the latest modes. Miss Florence Lloyd gives a most artistic rendering of the part of Claire Forster; Miss Mabel Trevor is excellent as Margaret; Mr. Clayton Greene acts powerfully as Julian Rolfe; Mr. Leonard Pagden is well suited for the part of Tompson; Mr. Richard Fielding is a good Jimmy O'Neill; Mr. F. Clive Ross gives a good character impersonation of Louis Klauffsky; Mr. Lambert Plummer as Walters and Mr. Reginald Maurice as Inspector Williams take their parts well; Miss S. Lingwood as Mrs. Hughes, Miss Madge Rossall as Elsie Brewster, Miss Esther Whitehouse as Dora Miller, and Miss Grete Hahn as Louise Mane all act with ability. The play is preceded by a clever monologue, entitled "Yes, Papa," which is written and acted by Miss Grete Hahn.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry.—Another excellent programme is presented this week. Laffen B. Jolly is aptly designated, and creates great hilarity; Helene and Emilion perform some astonishing gymnastic feats; Fred Terry is a funny comedian; Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy, a youthful performer, displays his great muscular development in some extraordinary feats of strength; Dolly Harmer, the popular character comedienne, provides an acceptable turn; Tom E. Finglass, the original cowboy coon, presents some of his latest successes, including his song, "My Baby," his dancing is also very effective; Messrs. Willie Benn and Freddie French's company are very diverting in their comedy sketch, *The King of Sleepland*; and the Palace Bioscope completes the show.

RHYL.—NEW PAVILION AND GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. J. Millard.—The Stingarees appear here twice daily in "Round the Camp Fire"; and Herr Stanislaus Wurm's White Viennese Band gives some agreeable concerts.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allendale.—*The Cruise of the Loosertanner* is presented here again, after an interval of a few weeks, and scores a success. The principal parts are undertaken by Messrs. Kennedy, Allen, Martin Pitts, Tim O'Connor, and Albert Royle, and Misses Ivy Proudfoot and Felicia Firmin. Mr. Herbert Robinson presides at the piano.

PIER AMPHITHEATRE.—The strong company here includes Morton and Bowman, comedy duettists; Jeanne Jeune, soprano; Charlie Bray, a clever boy comedian and dancer; Vladimir Brodo, tenor; and F. Hulme Sharpe, comedian. Terese Poote is an able accompanist.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Cheetham.—The Silvograph is as popular as ever, and several good pictures are on view.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Chester and Lee's Marionettes give performances here daily, and are well supported.

QUEEN'S SKATING RINK.—Skating is in full swing here, and on Wednesday evening a fancy dress carnival attracted large crowds.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. J. F. Preston and his able company are presenting *Jane Shore*, and he plays Richard Duke of Gloster in finished style. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow in the title-rôle adds to her reputation as a painstaking actress; Lord Hastings is carefully sustained by Mr. Arthur P. Leo; Mr. Philip Newman does well as Catesby; Mr. W. Howard Barlow makes an excellent Anthony Yeast; Mr. Ernest G. Cove (the Rev. Murdock) and Mr. Frank C. Clark (Quintin Scarsdale) contribute to the humorous incidents. Miss Lillie Pearce also does well as Elizabeth.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—This week's bill is headed by Fezzan's Arabs, who do some wonderful tumbling, and gain much applause; some very smart dancing is done by the Society Quartette, who are deservedly well received; Heeley and Meely, the lucky tramps, very cleverly amuse with their knockabout business; Rachel Lowe has some songs which take well; Alice Maude, a clever young male impersonator, Frank Melvin, parodist, Mme. Adah Payne, operatic vocalist, and Alec Kendal, comedian, also give acceptable turns.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—*The Way Women Love* drew a good house on Monday, when Mrs. Frank Bateman ably sustained the part of Verene Alabra. The hero Captain Howard was well presented by Mr. Fred W. Goddard; Miss Lily Vaughan was a charming Violet Tremaine; Mr. C. Clifford made an excellent villain of Leslie Lamont; the comedy business was in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Shaw as Dick Palmer, ably assisted by Miss Mattie Everett as Lottie Gray. *Sapho*, with Mrs. Bateman in the title-rôle, is announced for Friday and Saturday evenings.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Bandits' Waterloo is a very powerful subject; Jim Has No Shoes is a regular screamer. Among the other films are: Does She Love Him? The Plans of the Fortress; and Pathé's Weekly Gazette of interesting events.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBORO' THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Gus Orley is successful in the double rôle of Smith and Simplicitas; Miss Marion Edwardes acts and sings well as Sombra; Mr. George Hestor gives a clever and exceedingly amusing representation of Peter Boody; Miss Madge Haines scores well as Mr. Smith; and Mr. Nelson Hancock makes the most of Jack Meadows. The minor parts are in excellent hands, and the play is splendidly mounted.

THE SPA.—Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. T. Chambers.—In addition to an excellent display of pictures, Mr. C. H. Allan's orchestra supplies a very pleasing musical programme in the Electric Theatre. Mr. Edward Terry's company opened here on Monday night with *Sweet Lavender*, in which Mr. Terry appeared as Dick Phenyl. Miss Christian Rayner as Lavender, Miss Kathleen Leigh as Minnie, Miss Eugenie Vernie as Mrs. Gillilian, Mr. Templar Powell as Horace Bream, Mr. Percival Madgewick as Clement Hale, and Miss Adah Barton as Ruth Rolt. Plays for the rest of the week are *The Magistrate*, *Liberty Hall*, and *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*The Midnight Wedding* is the attraction here, in which Miss Lilian Hallows fills the rôle of the Princess Astrea. Mr. Balziel Heron impersonates Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck, Mr. Malcolm Tearle the Crown Prince Leopold, Mr. Fred Constable Sergeant Max, Mr. St. George Frere Corporal Otto, Mr. Algie Spalding Private Bobs, Miss Phyllis Hume Kathie, and Mr. Alfred Paumier Paul Valmer.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—The programme here includes L'Incognita, who occupies the premier position; Sandy McNab, in the sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*; Jack Sheridan, comedian; Bruce Green, dame comedian; Clown Paulo and performing pony; Dan Fraser, Scotch comedian; Lucy Lynd, Lancashire character comedienne; Rais Walters and Little Eileen, comedienne and dancer.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—A. N. Mackinnon and his Scottish Minstrels top the bill. Others included are Tom Child, tenor vocalist; Abel and Welsh, eccentric comedians; Leon and Lee, in *The Musical Farm*; Jack Holland, comedian; Jessie Lee, comedienne and dancer; Will Douglas, Yorkshire humorist; the Haytors, in comedy skit, *The Electrician*; and the Palace Pierrots.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is here this week with *A Woman Worth Winning* and *Trilby*. In the first-named Mr. A. B. Mackay gets in good solid work as Fergus Lovinsky; and Mr. R. Jerrold Ord as General Borinski succeeds admirably. Mr. Graham Hamlyn makes a leading feature of the strenuous rôle of Ivan Bardoff, which he plays with great power; Mr. W. C. Black and Mr. Louis Newman supply comic relief in acceptable fashion as Bertie Scribbles and Peter Popples; and Miss Lillie plays powerfully as Roma Pauloff.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*What the Butler Saw* is again here. Mr. Lionel Rignold as the butler plays up to the reputation he gained years ago as a droll comedian in farce, comic opera, and Drury Lane drama, and he is ably backed up by those local favourites Miss Marie D'Alton, Mr. Charles Faucitt, and the other members of a clever company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Silver King* is again being acted to crowded houses by Messrs. Polini and Melford's company. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is a powerful and impressive representative of Wilfred Denver; and the sympathetic character of Nellie is excellently portrayed by Miss Mildred Surrey. Mr. Edward J. George repeats his genial reading of the part of Jaikes; and the strongly-contrasted quartette of rogues, the Spider, the Duke of New York, Father Christmas, and Cripps, are played on traditional lines by Messrs. L. St. George Lowther, Ralph Leon, Arthur Wright, and Fred May respectively. Mr. W. L. Ellis is good as Geoffrey Ware; Mr. A. H. Warburton is a smart Sam Baxter; and Miss Evelyn Grey as Olive, Miss Rooke as Tabitha, Miss Serjeant as Susan, Mr. Percy Storr as Mr. Parkin, Mr. C. Birch as Selwyn, Miss Hilda Bateman as Cissy Denver, and Mr. Lionel Sisley as the tipsy passenger all submitted capital impersonations.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company began a return visit on Monday in *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Principal characters were cleverly played by Messrs. H. B. Wilson, W. H. Porter, T. Macdonald, Joe Wells, Conrad Stratford, Gordon Bland, Vincent Lorraine, Fred De Vere, F. Denis, Alfred East, Miss Alice Bowes, Miss Kitty Merrick, Miss Vera Grafton, Little Lucy, and Miss Rita Tomkins. The piece was mounted in the usual luxurious and effective Melville style, and delighted a large audience.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. George Robey, the mirth-provoking and original humorist, is the star this week, the other talented performers being Miss Lillian Rosebery and Mr. Carter Livesey, in an amusing comic skit; Roma and Romani, two skilled instrumentalists; Boganny's tumbling bakers, Duncan's collies, the Musical Macgregors, Mr. Frank Couch, Miss Mona Vivian, Mr. Johnny Walker, &c. Some artistic pictures conclude.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A good all-round company is here this week, including the clever Jaxon troupe of vocalists and dancers; the Motramos (Tom and Marie), in their diverting absurdity, *The Lady and the Dude*; Mr. Charles Penrose, Mr. George Lawrence; the Juggling McBanns; the Bioscope, with splendid new films; Boden and Bell; Terry and Lambert, clever transatlantic character impersonators, vocalists, and sketch artists; Beatty and Blanche, two pleasing performers; and Mr. Leo Fields.

PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Shaw.—This luxurious and up-to-date picture theatre is doing good business with the latest Bioscope novelties.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Harry Tilbury and company are paying a return visit in his drama *His Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. A. George Fry as Frank Lindon, the village blacksmith, is seen to advantage; Mr. Fred Owen as Noel Locksley, of Scotland Yard, makes a capital stage detective; Mr. Alex. Alexander as Lord Devant completely identifies himself with the character; Mr. Edwin Brown as Tom Redman is good; Mr. Harry Tilbury as Micky Doolan and Miss Etta Spalding as Araminta Dustpan are excellent in the comedy parts; Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Lindon makes the most of her opportunities.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company are doing good business on their initial visit in *The Brass Bottle*. Mr. Holman Clark scores a success as the Genie, and Horace Ventimore finds a capital exponent in Mr. Langhorne Burton; Mr. Percy Marshall does excellent work as the Professor and Mr. Rudge Harding as Spencer Pringle is also good; Miss Mary Brough is distinctly successful as Mrs. Rapkin; Miss Marjorie Chard (Sylvia) and Miss Edith Hunter (Mrs. Futvoye) are both praiseworthy.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—H. P. Selwyn's company top the list with *A 33 to 1 Chance*, in which Ben Jordan and Young Sullivan give a capital exhibition of boxing; the Three Romas are seen to advantage in an acrobatic act; the Six Ceylons appear in an entertaining interlude; Ben Lewin, a smart character actor, the Spanish Goldini troupe, Shirley Liggins and company, in a vocal dancing scena, and Chas. Grantley, comedian, also contribute to the programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Mr. John Ridding and his grand opera company are paying their first visit here. On Monday *Maritana* was presented with great success, and other operas given during the week include *Faust*, *Lily of Killarney*, *Il Trovatore*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company gave on Monday evening a successful portrayal of *The Little Damozel*. Miss Emilie Polini was seen to great advantage in her studious and powerful impersonation of the title-rôle; Mr. Alick Chumley gave a masterly characterisation of Recklaw Poole; Mr. Guy Newall provided amusement as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock; Mr. Geo. A. Brandram gave a capital exposition of Captain Neil Partington; Mr. Wm. Matthews as Walter Angel was well suited; and Miss Marion Lockie was pleasing as Sybil Craven. Captain Gambier, Messrs. H. Ravenscroft, Frank Roy, and Arthur Redmond sustained their respective characters creditably. The curtain-raiser in the one-act comedietta, entitled *Curing a Selfish Husband*, was admirably enacted by Miss Maud Rivers, Mr. Guy Newall (the author), and Mr. G. A. Brandram.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Edwards.—A sensational display on a revolving breakaway ladder, by the Three Original Hodginis, is heartily applauded; Mr. Preston Holmes entertains with satisfaction in a musical speciality; the Three Phydoras, in an eccentric novelty act, are clever artists well received; the Three Marlows maintain their popularity as comedy vocalists and dancers; Barn and Barnell as new style comedians create merriment; Ryder Davis, in both song and monologue, proves entertaining; Amy Bathurst is pleasing in Scotch songs, and dances well; and Daisy Silcott is a delightful comedienne. On Wednesday the Ladies' Beauty Show made a popular counter-attraction.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis Le Burgh.—The programme includes Chas. Stevens, comedian; Almas, a clever tumbler; Four Burnells, with their fiery dumbbells; La Belle Nello; O'Gust; Violet King, violinist; the Zanfrellas, American equilibrists; and La Milo, the human Venus.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—An excellent entertainment of pictures by the London Cinematograph Co. is given twice daily. Dandy Dick's well-trained and clever dogs give pleasing performances; and Miss Doris Perry entertainer and vocalist, wins continued favour.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—The farcical comedy *When Knights were Bold* is being presented here this week by Mr. James Welch's capable company, who received a cordial reception on Monday evening from a large audience, who thoroughly enjoyed the quaint humour of the play. Mr. H. Langton Bruce is highly diverting in the rôle of Sir Guy de Vere, and was responsible for most of the merriment; Miss Isla Glynne presents an artistic and dignified study in the part of Lady Rowena Eggington; Isaac Isaacson, the Jew, had a characteristic and clever representative in Mr. Charles F. Lloyd; Mr. Percy R. Goodyem did some commendable work as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; Mr. Colin Johnson sustained the part of the Rev. Peter Pottleberry with great credit; Sir Brian Ballymote was effectively portrayed by Mr. Humphrey Warden; Whittle and Barker had both good representatives in Mr. Lawrence Stevenson and Mr. John Cecil; Miss V. Noel was well placed as Sarah Isaacson; and Miss Lena Flowerdew, Miss Sadie Hope, and Miss Elspeth Oliphant appear to advantage in their respective parts.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company present *Beauty and the Barge* to good houses. The play is admirably staged, and all the parts are well performed. Mr. Maitland Marier is seen to advantage as Captain James Barley; Mr. Russell Davis makes a capital hero as Lieut. Boyle, R.N.; the Major Smedley of Mr. Gerald Carter is a good portrayal; Mr. Herbert Russell is excellent as Tom Codd, and is ably assisted in the comedy by Mr. Frank Norman (Augustus), Mr. Fred Lake (John Dibbs), Mr. Frank Lilliput (George Porter), Mrs. Henry Renouf (Mrs. Balwin), and Miss Ethel Stalman (Mrs. Porter). Miss Hilda Vaughan is charming as Ethel Smedley. The curtain-raiser is *Borrowed Plumage*.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Carrié Laurie's kindergarten turn is much appreciated; clever comedy and excellent dancing is introduced by Guyer and Valli; the McConnell Trio appear in a cleverly-written sketch, *The Invalid*; Ernie Mayne is a quaint comedian who has a flattering reception; Elly Adair, Irish comedienne and dancer, Ethel Beech, comedienne, Chas. Coll, light comedian, and the Bioscope complete a good programme.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—The Zaid Trio of Oriental artists are paying a visit here, and marvellous gymnastic feats are performed on rings. Animated pictures of travel, drama, and comedy are a prominent feature.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*How Girls are Brought to Ruin* is the title of the drama presented here this week by Mr. Morton Powell's company. The piece is admirably staged and mounted, and the proceedings are most enjoyable. Miss Alice Defoe is a capital Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott presents Harry Harling in a capable manner; Mr. Richard Vane in the heavy part of Philip Edge plays extremely well; Mr. Alaric Burton takes the part of Solomon Sleek successfully; Mr. Sydney Bryant as Jack Jessie plays cleverly; Mrs. Morton Powell as Minnie Waters creates a favourable impression; Miss Addie Adair is seen to advantage as Mrs. Statt; Miss Kathryne Eckhart as Mrs. Annie Burton is good; and Miss Jeannie Risley as Lucy Lawton is a success.

TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vasey and E. W. Dodshon; Manager, Mr. Alf. Burrows.—After having been renovated and improved, this hall was reopened by the Excelsior Picture Company on Monday evening, before a large audience, with a first-class programme. The star artists were Miss Vennie Weldon, male impersonator and dancer, and J. P. Carroll, an expert tambourinist.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Gowland; Manager, Mr. Robert Penny.—The variety turns here include Frank Solbey and Will Willis, comedians; the Percys, duettists and dancers; and Dolly Golden, speciality dancer; and some excellent films also appear.

TIVOLI PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. George Battle.—The programme here is topped by the Glenisters, who are vocalists that are appreciated; Miss Maude Lorette is a charming impersonator; and Horace Monto is a fine versatile artist; and some capital subjects are produced by the A.B. Picture Company.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company make a return visit here in *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt is again successful in the character of Anthony Raybrook; and Miss Ada M. Ryder shows much emotional power in the impersonation of his daughter Laura. Mr. P. George Beresford is well placed as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. John B. Shinton gives a clever reading of Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. Harry Cornwall's sketch of the old servant Jabez is capital. Miss Emily Burnley is good as Barbara Ashdown; some excellent humorous work is done by Mr. Fred C. Imbert (John Anderson) and Miss Susie Beavan (Margaret Bailey); and Mr. Percy Dawsone's Willie is admirable. Some capital scenery is displayed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Tom Davies' Trio are creating much excitement by their daring motoring in mid-air; the sketch *Wrong 'Uns* is effectively acted by James Hare and company; Carmen and Redwin are very entertaining in their musical efforts; and Francis and Alfred are smart and amusing jugglers. Richard Fineberg is excellent in character study; Bert Rayburn is funny and much applauded; and the Zelorss' acrobatic feats are much appreciated.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Married to the Wrong Man* has been played here this week. Mr. Henry Lonsdale makes a manly Jack Gladwin; in the character of Captain Deering Mr. George Arthur acts effectively; Sergeant Manners has a capable representative in Mr. W. Pemberton; and Jasper Skinner is ably portrayed by Mr. Leonard Thackeray. Miss Mary Pemberton acts with marked ability and power as Ruth and Miss Clara Milrain is most successful as Rose O'Connor.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Mr. Raynor and his excellent company have had a gratifying welcome upon their first visit here, their capital representations of *Jim the Penman* being followed with interest by large audiences. Mr. Milton C. Curtis impersonates James Ralston with much skill; Mr. Joseph B. Montague displays merit as Baron Hartzfeldt; Louis Percival is admirably portrayed by Mr. Charles Brandon; and Captain Redwood is ably presented by Mr. Raynor. Miss Cecilia Dare acts with grace and charm as Nina Ralston, and Miss Dora Dench makes a charming Agnes Ralston.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Leedham Bantock and Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company is here with the amusing farce *These Terrible Twins*. Mr. Bantock is capital in his original part, William, and is well supported. The farce is preceded each evening by *The Lady Burglar*.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The Kellinos head the bill here with their rieley production, entitled *On the Road*. The Keebles give a pretty novelty act; Harry Leybourne is a capital study in feminine foibles; De Vere and Ward have a good comedy act; Dixie Dee is a dainty comedienne; Smith and Gibbs are fine equilibrists; and Jack Warman, comedian, also contributes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. M. Montgomery starts his second week here with the drama *The Lion's Heart*. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon makes an excellent Rizardo; Mr. Geoff Sutherland plays the part of Dick Lorimore to advantage; and Miss Nina Vaughton is a charming Marian.

STOKE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will. A. Jackson.—*A Woman's Past*, presented by Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Chas. Locke's company is proving a popular attraction. The acting of Mr. Chas. Locke as Frank Delaunoy is a feature of the production; Miss Dora Pass is pleasing as Bessie; and all in the cast work hard to make the piece a success.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Dnoe, or the Mysterious Bedroom, a mystifying illusion, heads the bill. Les Wambas are quite smart; Clarence Turner is a comedian of great merit; Venturini does some clever conjuring tricks; the Mosaics, in a capital sketch called *Wallpaper*, keep the audience in roars of laughter; La Belle Lily and Albert are experts on the trapeze. The pictures are well chosen and clearly projected.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is here, and the house is crowded each evening. On Monday night *The Mikado* was played with great success. Mr. Fred Billington surpassed himself as Poo-Bah, and his quaint humour was keenly enjoyed. Mr. Henry Herbert was excellent as Nanki-Poo, and Ko-Ko was ably done by Mr. Henry A. Lytton. A capital portrayal of the Mikado was given by Mr. Leicester Tunks; Miss Marjorie Stone was a charming and captivating Yum-Yum; and Miss Beatrice Boarer gave a pretty rendering of Pitti-Sing. Miss Myfanwy was a capable Peep-Bo; Miss Louie Rene gave a fitting portrayal of Katisha; and Messrs. Fred Drawater and Sydney Granville did meritorious work as Go-to and Pish-Tush respectively. *Patience* was played on Tuesday night. The opera with its charming music is still a delightful and attractive work. Miss Marjorie Stour was an ideal representative of the title-rôle, acting with much charm and excelling in vocalism. Miss Beatrice Boarer as Lady Angela and Miss Anna Bethel as Lady Saphir both acted well and sang with feeling; and Miss Louie Reene played Lady Jane to the life. Mr. Hy. A. Lytton made an amusing Bunthorne, and Mr. Leicester Tunks as Grosvenor sang well. The three cavalry officers were ably represented by Messrs. Sydney Granville, Alan Morris, and Stratford Moss; and Miss Hilda Cross was excellent as Lady Ella. The members of the chorus acquitted themselves admirably. *The Gondoliers*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, and *Yeomen of the Guard* are also in the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallan's company is playing here this week in *A Thief in the Night*. Miss Florence Dalton gives a finished rendering of the exacting rôle of Joan Escombe; Little Doris shows much promise as Little Joan; and Miss Edith Watkins is good as Susan. Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a masterly performance of Alan Escombe. Villainy is capably portrayed by Miss Beatrice Nomer (Sonia Cleeve), Messrs. Leyton Cancellor (Michael Pagani) and C. Alan Nineson (Crake), all of whom do justice to their parts. The humour is in the excellent hands of Mr. Bert Atherton and Miss Jennie Hallworth, who create considerable amusement.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Hy. Esden.—The Brothers Diavolezz are making a huge hit here with some clever trick cycling; Bob King, comedian and whistler, is also popular. The principal film is a fine dramatic item entitled Apache Gold.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—Yamamoti and Koyoshi are giving a brilliant equilibristic act here with much success. Manda presents "Bute," the sagacious canine wonder; and another excellent item is that of Geo. Payne's Wanderers in a pretty caravan scena. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Gothams, humorous quartette, are giving great pleasure here with their ever-popular harmonious item; the stud of ponies of Miss Marquis give evidence of much careful training; Bert Harrow's humour suits the public taste, and earns for him enthusiastic applause; My Fancy makes a tremendous hit in her original dancing scena; the Seven Perezoffs are popular with their comic juggling pantomime; Harry Marte wins favour with his song and dance; and Lena Verdi scores in song and mimicry.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The fantastic comedy *Niobe* is successfully staged here by Mr. C. Macdona's company. Mr. Macdona is humorous to a degree as Peter Dunn; Mr. C. Steuart gives a natural performance of Cornelius Griffin; Mr. C. T. Chapman well represents Phillip Innings; Hamilton Tompkins is capably portrayed by Mr. C. L. Delph; Miss R. Beresford is a satisfactory Caroline Dunn; Miss C. Fenton enacts Helen Griffin to prefection; Hattie is pleasingly rendered by Miss J. Southern; Miss G. Hardinge is admirably suited to the part of Beatrice Sillocks; and Niobe is cleverly depicted by Miss K. Connaught.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The programme includes films of Industries of Cochin China, The Bandit's Wife, The Range Riders, The Soap Bubbles of Truth, Secret of the Glacier, in addition to the song-pictures.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Miss Augusta Tullock's company opened here on Monday with *Judith*. Miss Tullock played the title-part with consummate skill; Mr. Alec Young appeared to advantage as Jack Carrington; Mr. Ed. Vivian was an effective Eugene Darville; Mr. L. Hugh handled the rôle of Silas Norris creditably; Mr. Wm. De Lacy was an amusing Percy Hogg; Miss Rose Watson a good Bill Scamp; Miss Dorothea Vivian an interesting Hester Norris; and Maudie Green was ably enacted by Miss Amy Osbourne.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—The bill here includes Indian Blood and a fine detective story, entitled A Scarlet Clue. Paymaster is another drama, and Champion Wrestlers appeals to the sporting fraternity. Mr. Chas. Tyers's illustrated songs command success.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company is here in *Lucky Durham*. Mr. E. Kennedy is capitally suited as John Durham; the Lord Mountfallon of Mr. W. Calvert is a convincing study; Mr. A. Leigh is exquisitely droll as the Hon. Reggie Steighton; the Mrs. Durham of Miss Nellie Bonser merits high praise; Miss Florence Tresillian acts with great sympathy, and makes a winsome Helen Vallerton.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. D. Taylor.—Heading a strong bill here is G. de Relwyskow, light-weight champion wrestler; the Four Mayos are clever comedy skaters; the Carlo Maie Trio provide great fun on the lawn; Bu Val, the happy Dutchman, is well received; Albert Silverstone, Connie Isca, Foy and Staples, and Clarice Sefton all contribute successful items. The leading picture is The Two Brothers.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. Young.—Easily first here comes Percy Honri, in his colossal combine "Concordia," which proves an excellent attraction; Armand Penston, assisted by Miss San Go, is a master of mysteries; the Five Olracs are quaint yet clever acrobats; the Five May Girls, Lytton and Bland, the Sisters McFrey, and Harry Tomps meet with pleasing receptions.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris is this week presenting *The Education of Elizabeth*, which is drawing large houses. Miss May Norris as Elizabeth portrays considerable charm in her handling of the part; Miss Emily Stevens does excellently as Blanche; and Miss Una Earle is also acceptable as Lucy Middleton. Mr. Herbert Garthorne appears as Harry Fairfax with success; whilst Mr. Fred Castleman makes a sinister Mr. Whitby. Mr. Ernest E. Norris is very amusing as Reggie Hankey.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Wilson James's company, "The Euterpeans," are the attraction here this week, under the direction of Mr. Percy Watson. Miss Edith Payne possesses considerable charm as a soprano; Miss Margery Barrass, in giving some light songs at the piano, is also a favourite; Mr. Alfred Wood is a ventriloquist of ability; Mr. Herbert Spalding is decidedly funny; and Mr. Percy Watson is a delightful tenor.

TYLDESLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Brierley.—Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company, in *Two Little Drummer Boys*, is a popular attraction here. Mr. Edward Bikker gives an excellent portrayal of General Kingsley; a finished study of Captain Frank Carsdale is submitted by Mr. T. Arthur Ellis; Mr. Polson Turner as Captain George Darrell provides a realistic piece of acting; Mr. Alfred Edwards shows ability in the part of Lieut. Allen Kingsley; Mr. Will Percy and Mr. A. Selwood as privates in the Warwicks are responsible for a great deal of merriment; Miss Maudie Douglas and Miss Maggie are worthy of praise as the Little Drummer Boys; Miss Violet Langley wins favour by her rendering of Alma Kingsley; Margaret Rivers is interpreted in a powerful manner by Miss Ada Champion; and Miss Patricia Connaughton is a lively Molly Meadows.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE.—Proprietors, Tynemouth Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Ethel Arden and George Abel's comedy company is here this week in *Three of a Kind*. A novel and entertaining turn is contributed by Paul Vandy; Dora Barrington, assisted by Lesley Gray, presents an operatic song scena; Henriette and Selina are talented instrumentalists; W. G. Webber proves himself to be a bass of exceptional ability; Marco Duo, acrobats, perform some clever feats; and Frank White, coon singer, and the Pictures conclude.

VENTNOR.—PIER PAVILION.—This week The Queen's Courtiers are here. Miss Isabel Oliver gives some fine renderings of choice songs; and Mr. Hugh Stanhope has a sweet tenor voice which he uses with ability. Mr. Herbert Dickson and Miss Violet Lytton delighted the audience with their duets; and Mr. H. Heath is heartily applauded for his humorous items. Mr. Joe Cuningham officiates ably at the piano, and sings some clever songs.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE

company headed by Miss Kate Graham-Beck, who undertakes the parts of Juno and Black Domino. Mr. Lionel Yeoman as Timothy Twinkle is very funny; Miss Annie Brunette as Mrs. Marie Strong is good; and Miss Beatrice Earle as Lettie Stimson has a part admirably suited to her.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Seaward.—*A Royal Divorce* has been played here on many occasions prior to this week, but lacks nothing in popularity. On Monday evening it had a capital reception. To say that Miss Edith Cole retains the rôle of Josephine is equivalent to saying that the character could not be better played. Her acting in the stronger parts is very effective. A realistic portrayal of the Emperor Napoleon is presented by Mr. Frank Bradley.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Packed houses are assembling nightly to witness the performance of *The Dollar Princess* by Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company. The stage of the Empire is admirably adapted for this class of work, and the setting of the comedy calls forth the highest eulogiums nightly from delighted audiences. Mr. Fred. Leslie, so well remembered here for his excellent acting in the rôle of Danilo, is the Harry O'Conder, and in part fully maintains his reputation as an ideal musical comedy artist; Freddy Fairfax, who is responsible for some of the principal vocal numbers, is played by Mr. Alex. Worcester, and is repeatedly encored, especially for his duets with Alice, so charmingly played by Miss Kathleen Courtney; Olga has a capital representative in Miss Madeline Seymour. The "fun of the fair" is in the hands of Mr. Geo. Miller as Mr. Bulger; Miss Daisy Elliston is charmingly sweet in all she does as Daisy; Mr. W. Johnstone Douglas well sustains the rôle of John, Earl of Quorn; and Mr. Hugh Henson gives a good account of himself in the part of Dick.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Oswald Cray's powerful company is here this week in *When it was Dark*. As the Rev. Basil Gortre Mr. Oswald Cray gives an interpretation that is artistic and dramatic; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse shows histrionic ability as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle is sufficiently villainous as Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Walter Manfree as the Rev. Mr. Byars is entitled to encomiums; and very praiseworthy is Mr. Halston Cummins as Mr. Ommaney; Mr. Hall Howells is richly humorous as the Hon. Charlie Gayfly; Miss Lilian Herries gives a very praiseworthy impersonation of Gertrude Hunt; whilst Miss Rosalie Astrelle is equally successful as Helena Byars; Miss Madeline Grande is chic as Gracie Goldeye.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Mr. Arthur Watson's company, in *The Prince of the Dandies*, is here for another week. Mr. Arthur Watson and Miss Flo Stanley are favourites as Sprouts and Daisy Highclass; Susie and Prottie are marvellous in their terpsichorean efforts; Judge's performing cockatoos are vociferously applauded; the Frohmans give an exceptionally good musical entertainment; the Rowntrees are clever comedy artists; and the Sisters La Blanche excel as duettists and dancers; another good turn is Mons. Jules Charmettes; Mr. Lambert shows some excellent pictures on the Bioscope.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kimberley's company is here with *Her Secret Lover*. As Gilbert Seymour Mr. Harry T. Wood is exceptionally good; as Capt. Darrell Rose Mr. Walter H. Wilson is well placed; John Strange is in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Stretton; Mr. Frank Wheatley does full justice to the part of Mr. Murfield; and Mr. Victor Vernon as Billy Berly and Miss Lynn Darlington as Jane Maria Wilkes are responsible for the comedy element. Miss Flora Leslie is an effective Alicia Royale; and as Ivy Seymour Miss Laura Walker is the recipient of well-deserved applause.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—The variety artists engaged here this week are Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers; Willard's Original Merry Mannikins, and the Dancing Paceys, in a novel vocal and terpsichorean act.

WEYMOUTH.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company is here in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Mr. Vincent Erne gave a fine representation of Timothy Gibbs, and created roars of laughter; Mr. J. Herbert Willis carefully sustained the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierpoint; Mr. J. S. Durant was very successful as Slithers; Miss Daisy Wallace was a delightful and charming Mary Gibbs; Miss Nan Stuart as Lady Betty gave a careful rendering of the part; and Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Louie Beckmann, Mr. A. Gordon Begg, Mr. Frank Sealey, Mr. Douglas Phillips, Mr. David Miller, Mr. Eric A. Boyd, and Mr. Harry Dench, all contributed to the success of the performance.

WHITBY. — Spa Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon. — Mr. Ernest Benham's company were here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in the comedy, *Old Heidelberg*, and had good houses. Mr. Owen Nares is successful as Karl Heinrich; and the rôle of Staalminister von Haugh is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Powell. Mr. Walton supplies a clever portrayal of the rôle of Hofmarschall Frieherr von Passarge; Miss Florence Preddy as Frau Ruder and Miss Constance Groves as Frau Dorffell are successful; and Miss Kitty Recimer as Kathie portrays the rôle in a highly appreciative manner. All the remaining parts are in capable hands. On Thursday Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 London company occupied the boards in *Don*.

The Electric Theatre has been well patronised during the week, some fine films being shown.

WHITEHAVEN.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here in *A Wrecker of Men*. Mr. A. S. Pitt appears to advantage as Jem Murley; and Mr. R. Bosco is good as Railton. Mr. Maurice Jones acts creditably as Isaacs; and Mr. Arthur Robinson makes a manly Guise. Mr. W. Medger is impressive as the Egyptian; and Mr. T. Carruthers makes the most of the part of Eric Melville. Miss Winifred Williard is pleasing as Doris; and Miss Ruth Zillwood is seen to advantage in the character of Risca Mallinson.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlevé.—In the Theatre Royal an interesting and well diversified bill includes The Ramlos, in a triple bar act; George Casselli, comedian; Dale and Leigh, high-class vocalists; The Four Netherlands, comediennes and bare-foot dancers; Melda and Wynne, comedy jugglers and dancers; Minnie D'Aubyn, chorus vocalist; Else and Bob, American gymnasts; Dollie Hook, comedienne; Reuben Hill, actor-vocalist; Elsa Arnell, mimic; Albert Hinton, comedian; and Harry Dunco, comedian. Among various attractions in the grounds are the Joy Wheel, which is causing much amusement.

Coliseum.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—In addition to an excellent and well-shown lot of films, we have appearing The Two Castles, who are favourably received; The Alexanders (Charlie and Harry) in the amusing episode, *The Lady in White and the Page*; and Phitt and Phuny, the musical duos.

Empire.—Manager, Mr. T. J. Greyson.—Some of the latest films are being shown here. Variety is contributed by Gude Burnett, descriptive vocalist; and Cora Chrene, character vocalist.

Baths Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—This popular bioscope house holds its own effectively. Variety is this week furnished by Cyril Murray, who is entertaining at the piano.

Band (Links) Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Catlin.—This combination attracts goodly crowds at each performance.

Toreador Enclosure (Promenade). — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Elderton.—The newest of the many attractions here has nothing to complain of in the way of attendances, and the well-diversified bill is evidently highly appreciated by the crowd who flock to this resort on the cliffs promenade.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie and Frank Bray.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his able company are here in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Wilkie appeared as Shylock, and gave a faithful and realistic portrayal; Miss F. Hunter Watts was a sweet and charming Portia, lending necessary grace and dignity to the rôle; Miss May Dallas was excellent as Nerissa; and Miss Hilda Plowright represented Jessica in a manner deserving of praise. Mr. Henry Hargreaves was a capital Bassanio; and as Gratiano Mr. Sinclair Neill was excellent. The Prince of Morocco was capably portrayed by Mr. John Paley; as was also Antonio by Mr. Herbert Mansfield. Launcelot Gobbo was in the experienced hands of Mr. Phillip Gordon; and Mr. H. McNarry presented a lifelike study of the Duke of Venice.

Co-operative Hall.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Messrs. Harry and Eugene Leotard, brilliant and clever hat throwers, provide top turn here, and are ably supported by Emily and Tom Custance in the pleasing duologue, *A Game for Two*. Miss Sadie Lundy is a clever juvenile prima donna; and Mr. Tom Collins is a refined humorist. The animated pictures are good.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' company is here in *Nick Carter, Detective*. In the title-rôle Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gives a powerful portrayal; Mr. Raymond Thomas capably impersonates Eustace Lee; Miss Helena Walbran makes a charming Madeline; the part of Cyril is ably filled by Little Hilda Vokes; the humorous characters are well sustained by Mr. H. C. Momber as Theophilus Timmins, Mr. W. Ellythorne as George Slade, Miss Nellie Fern as Matilda, and Miss Nancy Lawrence as Bessie.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—The management have engaged this week Miss Florrie Forde, who receives a great ovation for her songs; an excellent performance is given by Slippere, the blind entertainer, who is loudly applauded; Elton and Elma give a smart display on the triple bars; and Mint and Mart, in a comedy act and as paper manipulators, are well received. Baby Bowden is a good child entertainer; and Ike Bradley is a skilful comedy cyclist. A return visit is paid by the Eight Lancashire Lads, who again dance themselves into favour; Cestria is a clever comedy juggler; and the Lovelaces, song illustrators, are greatly appreciated.

WISHAW (N.B.).—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Corman's Juveniles, in a pretty vocal scena, *The Waif*, are topping the bill here this week; Elsie Hubbert and her girls, in a really pretty act, introduce some clever sabot, sand, and clog dancing; Faree, the Australian Bushman, in his musical act, goes exceptionally well; The Smalleys, in a burlesque triple bar act, are smart and entertaining; and the Tripello Trio, in musical speciality act, contribute an excellent turn.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company is here this week with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay rouses the audience to a high pitch of excitement by his satanical portrayal of Lucio Delgado; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe admirably sustains the rôle of the fearless detective, Paul Gouffet; Mr. James Chippendale doubles the parts of Henri de Brisson and Dr. Le Blanc, in both of which he is excellent; Mr. Richard Oliver is well suited as Lucien Cortier; and Mr. Arthur Clibdurn presents a clever character study as Jean Barbeton. Miss Marie Tennant is good as La Pinau; and Miss Constance Glenabyn as Marie de Brisson is a pleasing heroine.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Joe Peterman and George Rickett's company, in *The Belle of the Orient*, is the premier attraction here and is a big success. The Five Vernons' classical and topical selections on xylophones create loud applause; the Vetter Brothers present a spectacular gymnastic sketch, *A Page's Recreation*; Stewart and Morris, comedians and dancers, score well; and other items in the bill are Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer; Carr and Rose, comedy duo; and Cedric Percival, comedian and dancer.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton.—Crowded houses have this week welcomed a return visit of *Florodora*, which Mr. Chas. Constant's company is presenting in first-class style. Admirably staged and costumed, this delightful musical production loses none of the charm which it exercised in the early days of its production. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Tweedlepunch has a fund of humorous eccentricities which are irresistible; Miss Daisy Lake is a dainty Dolores, and sings with exquisite taste; and Mr. Cautier R. Dutton is an admirable Frank Abercoed. Miss Florence Hersee is a delightful Angela Gilfain, singing and dancing with exceptional charm; and Mr. Johnnie Junior as Capt. Donegal joins her in the Apache dance. Miss Kate Leicester is well suited as Lady Holyrood; and Mr. Stanley White finds a congenial task in the presentation of Cyrus Gilfain. Mr. Jack Parker is good as Leandro; and under the direction of Mr. W. Neal, an augmented orchestra and the chorus work admirably.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. Kitto.—For the last three nights of the week, Messrs. Dudley Bennett's and T. C. Wray's company is presenting *Miss Hook of Holland*.

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Fredk. Kitto.—The Royal Quintette and the Sisters Lyle provide excellent entertainment. The pictures are of a high-class order.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Acting-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—Seymour Hicks's production *The Gay Gordons* was staged here for the first time on Monday evening. The company included Mr. Frank Lincoln, a capital Angus Græme, and Miss May Yates, who played the part of Peggy Quainton in fascinating style. Mr. Harry Stowe took the part of Nervy Nat; and the rôle of Andrew Quainton was filled by Mr. Charles Benson. Miss Edie Adeson was a pleasing Victoria Siddons.

WREXHAM. — Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. J. Scott.—Another strong company is here this week, headed by Jack Belton, comedian, and Minnie Osborne, vocalist, whose Irish and Scotch "tit-bits" provide fun for the patrons of this comfortable place of entertainment. Nellie Gannon, a descriptive contralto singer, has made herself a great favourite with her illustrated songs; and Harry Wright, an excellent vocal comedian, has done especially well with "King Edward, the World's Peacemaker." The pictures include several beautiful coloured ones.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—The pictures here still attract crowded houses. The Cinephone has beautiful illustrated songs; and Saint Malo and Coombs present a good comedy sketch. The Swift Duo has some good cycling tricks.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington: Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—That vivid drama, *Another Man's Wife*, is capitally played here by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Carlos de Vergas was in every way excellent, and gave a manly and forcible rendering of a popular rôle. The part of Lucia was charmingly played by Miss Ruby Loucraine, an actress of great merit; Miss Hazel Head gave a distinctly powerful rendering of Quez de Castro: the part of Paul Bernstoff was in the safe and experienced hands of Mr. Edward H. Heanley; and the acting of Mr. Willie Reid as Sam Smiles was clever.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Vardon, Perry, and Wilber, instrumentalists and dancers, head the bill; the Newmans introduce novelty in the way of trick cycling; Albert Le Fre delights all by his smart and up-to-date performance; Fred Arthur is particularly neat in his turn; and Mamie Fenton, the Scotch Girl at the Piano, attracts attention. Dorothy Sephton, vocalist, and Queenie May, vocalist, speedily find favour. Harry Taylor sings two quaint songs; and the bioscopic pictures are up to date.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—This popular hall grows in favour nightly, the pictures shown being of great excellence. The Secret of the Glacier is intensely interesting, as is also King Edward VII. Funeral Day in Australia.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—Great success is attending the efforts of the manager of this hall, and large audiences are the rule. What the Daisy Said and Out of the Past are grand films; and Mostel, in a musical novelty of much merit, appears with success.

The striking melodrama *Through the Divorce Court* has been attracting large audiences to the Pavilion, Mile End, during the week. On the night of our visit the play was accorded a warm reception, and the interest evinced in the easily-followed yet interesting plot was plainly visible to a keen observer. As the hero, Lord Robt. Penarth, Mr. Riddell Robinson gave a fine performance, and was much applauded. Mr. Henry C. Cooper made a typical stage villain, and as the heroine Miss Hettie Chatell proved very successful. The remaining characters were all in capable hands, and the play was well staged.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ROSABEL DODD.

Born in Birmingham, Miss Rosabel Dodd, who in private life is Mrs. T. Renaud Lockwood, was taken to America when two years old, and lived there till she was fifteen, having crossed the Atlantic several times before she reached that age. While still at school, she studied acting and elocution under Mr. Edwin Gordon Laurence, of New York. Returning to England, it was when playing in *Through the World* early in 1901 that Miss Rosabel Dodd met Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood, to whom she was married a few months later, and since that time they have generally played together, having appeared in the leading parts in *The Shaughraun*, *The Unknown*, *All that Glitters*, Mr. Charles Herrick's company, *The Triumph of Truth* and *The Price of Sin*, and Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's companies, *Revenge* and *Death or Glory Boys*. Following these engagements, Miss Dodd played heavy lead in Mr. Frederick Melville's *Ugliest Woman on Earth*, the two leading parts in her husband's company, *The Sword's Point*, better known as *A Sister's Sacrifice*, the star part in *Bigamy*, the heavy part in *Under False Colours*, and as Cora in *The Grip of Iron*.

For eighteen months subsequently she was with

[*Photo by Mme. Peste.*

MISS ROSABEL DODD.

Messrs. Armitage and Leigh, and with the late Mr. Wilson Barrett's company of *Lucky Durham*, and afterwards appeared as Antoinette de Mauban in *The Prisoner of Zenda*. A recent assumption was that of Marion Thornton in the Lyceum production, *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Dodd is a sister of the well-known "musical tramp," Will Van Allen.

MR. GEORGE LESLIE.

A native of Glasgow, Mr. George Leslie was educated at the Glasgow Academy and Dulwich College, London. He started his theatrical career at the Crystal Palace in the pantomime of *Cinderella*, produced under the direction of Mr. Oscar Barrett. Mr. Leslie's experience has been chiefly confined to India, where he is well known as a theatrical manager, he at present being the joint lessee of the rink and theatre in the Queen of Hill stations, Mussoorie. Mr. Leslie was the proprietor of the London Comedy company which toured India, Burmah, and Ceylon in 1904-5, during

[*Photo by London Photo Co.*

MR. GEORGE LESLIE.

which he had the privilege of receiving the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein and of Lord Roberts.

An important share in the revolution in seating which has been effected in our theatres and halls has been taken by Messrs. H. Lazarus and Son, of Great Eastern-street, E.C., who are experts of thirty years' standing, and a glance at their new catalogue will show that a decided advance has been made even on their already high standard. Elegance, luxury, and convenience are combined in their patent tip-up seats, of which every variety is to be found in their collection. Attention is specially directed to a new leading line in tip-up seats and chairs, designed for cinematograph theatres and halls. A serviceable tip-up seat, aptly named the "Champion," may thus be obtained for less than 5s., while the "Marvel" tip-up is offered at 6s. 6d. per sitting. A comprehensive choice of seats is available, from the 9s. 6d. polished wood to the sumptuous "Sheraton," with mahogany inlaid backs and velvet upholstery, at 55s. There are also the movable tip-up seats, which do not require fixing to the floor, and range in price from 6s. per sitting upwards. A large assortment of movable seats and folding chairs are also submitted, and among numerous embellishments to the auditorium which the catalogue reveals are rich tableaux curtains, handsome vases and tables, settees, and conductors' desks, in all of which elegance and fitness are combined.

THE KEANS AND SHAKESPEARE.

"Both Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, as was the custom in the days of the forties and fifties, took themselves very seriously," says the late Mr. Clement Scott in his most interesting book 'The Drama of Yesterday.' "'Ellen,' as her husband used to call his clever wife, with a slightly nasal accent, the original Ellen Tree, was, of course, an admirable and experienced actress; but she never wholly divested herself of the air of a tragedy queen. Mrs. Charles Kean, like Mrs. Alfred Wigan, was incessantly acting on and off the stage; Mrs. Kean priding herself on her histrionic career; Mrs. Wigan on her aristocratic relations and her Court friendships, on which she was accustomed to dilate when she honoured the green-room with her presence, to the disgust of good old Mrs. Winstanley, an excellent actress, and the original editress of *Bow Bells*, who had a witty tongue, and made very short work of the aristocratic affectations of Mrs. A. Wigan. Society of that day had not greatly patronised the actor and actress, and certainly the Keans and the Wigans made the very most of their social opportunity.

"And yet, if good stories are to be believed, Macready was also of the 'aloof' order. I have been told that, putting on an air of dignity, he always pretended that he could not recollect Charles Kean's name, and invariably alluded to him, cultured gentleman and Eton scholar as he was, as 'that young man with the clever father.'

"But this is a good example of Mrs. Charles Kean's serious and tragic air. Charles Kean, I have always understood, was in early days a charming and amusing companion, full of good stories and green-room gossip, a chip of the old block, who used to frequent the Wrekin (in Broad-court) and the Harp, under the shadow of Drury Lane—a veritable Bohemian as his father was almost to the last. But 'Ellen' changed all that, and a certain dignity had to be assumed with the office of the 'Master of the Revels,' to say nothing of Court and Society patronage.

"Charles Kean was playing Hamlet in the provinces on one occasion, and was of course very punctilious about the detail of the stage, which was his mania. A rising young actor who was cast for Horatio discovered to his horror that his tights had not arrived as expected. He knew that Charles Kean's eagle eye would be upon him, as all the scenes of Horatio are with Hamlet. In his distress he was obliged to have recourse to a pair of old patched and darned *scarlet* worsted tights, a sorry contrast to the 'trappings and suits of woe' of his friend the Prince of Denmark. Frightened out of his life, he repaired in fear and trembling to see Charles Kean and explain matters. He knocked nervously at the door, and to his horror Mrs. Charles Kean answered it. With tragic air, finger to lip, and walking on tiptoe, fearful of disturbing her nervous and sensitive partner.

"'What do you want, sir?'

"'To see Mr. Charles Kean.'

"Whereupon Mrs. Kean made a stately and mysterious exit. She returned, still imploring silence by dramatic gesture.

"'What might be your business be?' she solemnly asked.

"Horatio explained as well as he could the dilemma of the scarlet tights.

"'Could Mr. Charles Kean possibly forgive him?'

"Again a tragic exit on the part of Mrs. Kean. Once more she reappeared with a serene and seraphic countenance.

"'Mr. Kean will pardon you. But' (pointing ecstatically to heaven) 'will you be forgiven *there?*'

"It was in 1850 that Charles Kean, with his popular partner Bob Keeley, took over the management of the Princess's Theatre under a two years' lease. Both names were dear to the public; Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, apart from anything else, were a certain 'draw'; Mrs. Charles Kean, who had vast experience, was known to be a first-class stage directress; both managers had capital; both families were highly esteemed in Society and at Court; Her Majesty the Queen, to show her interest in the venture, took a box for the season, and the company was carefully selected.

"In addition to the actor-managers, there were Harley, one of the best low comedians of his time; Bartley, an excellent actor; Alfred Wigan, then supposed to be, in the snobbish cant of the day, 'one of the only gentlemen on the stage'; Drinkwater Meadows, a splendid old man; John Ryder, the stalwart outspoken actor, rough, but sound in his heart, who had graduated under 'old Mac,' as Macready was called; David Fisher, a capital comedian, who 'played the fiddle like an angel'; J. F. Cathcart, Kean's right-hand man; old Addison, the father of Carlotta Addison [now playing in *The Blue Bird*]; Flexmore, one of the best clowns and dancing masters since the days of Grimaldi; whilst, in addition to Mrs Charles Kean and Mrs. Keeley, there were on the staff Mrs. Winstanley, a witty woman and admirable actress, who possessed literary as well as stage talent; Mrs. Alfred Wigan, an artist of pronounced skill; Carlotta Leclercq, then the loveliest of girls, and the sweetest Perdita in *The Winter's Tale* ever seen; Agnes Robertson (Mrs. Dion Boucicault); Miss Murray, who in after years was wedded to Samuel Brandram, the elocutionist and reciter; and Mary Keeley, who became the wife of the genial entertainer and novelist, Albert Smith.

"It may be interesting to note what was done in the first season of the Kean and Keeley management, whose success was crowned by the first of all the National Exhibitions, the Exhibition of 1851 in Hyde Park, that gathered to London representatives of all nations in the world. The triumph indeed of the Princess's venture was so pronounced that Keeley was able to retire from management, leaving Charles Kean in sole charge.

"Here at any rate is an idea of the excellent work they did together.

"During the first season, the Shakespearean plays represented were as follows: *Hamlet*, fourteen times; *Twelfth Night*, forty; *As You Like It*, four; *The Merchant of Venice*, twelve; and *Henry the Fourth*, Part I., twenty-two; *The Wife's Secret* commanded twenty-six repetitions; *The Gamester*, fourteen; *The Prisoner of War*, thirteen; *The Stranger*, seven; and *Town and Country*, four. The principal novelties were *The Templar* and *The Duke's Wager*, by Mr. Slous; *Love in a Maze*, by Mr. Boucicault; and a romantic drama in the melodramatic line, of a very peculiar character, skilfully adapted from the French by Mr. John Oxenford, entitled *Pauline*.

"In the latter the powerful acting of Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean, in two well-contrasted original parts, elicited universal approbation. There were also six light farces, namely, *Platonic Attachments*, *A Model of a Wife*, *Sent to the Tower*, *Betsy Baker*, *To Parents and Guardians*, and *Apartments to Let*; with the pantomime of *Alonso the Brave*, by Mr. Fitzball; and the burlesque spectacle of *The Alhambra*, by Mr. Albert Smith, produced at Easter and continued without interruption to the close of the season. The total number of pieces acted amounted to twenty-seven, of which twelve were entirely new."

A party of about thirty, comprising the staff of the Theatre Royal, Altercliffe, and a few private friends, had their annual outing on Sunday, the 21st ult. Liverpool was the place selected, but the majority of the party continued the journey to New Brighton, where a very enjoyable time was spent. The weather was fine, and the party returned in excellent spirits.

IN A TRAMCAR;
or, PASSING REMARKS.

By Tom Craven.

I love to hear men in a car talking all together,
About the current topics, stocks, shares, or else the weather;
Some "thick" divorce in high life, or
Cause *célèbre* that's naughty;
Of racing, golf, or hunting, and other subjects "sporty,"
All of 'em are much discussed by people up to forty.

Chatter on—in the car,
Chatter on till "Yer dunno where yer are."
Never cease the senseless chatter,
If it's wrong what does it matter?—
Chatter—chatter—in the car.

Says a man, "Our army's rotten, sir,
It's all red tape and bragging;
Our officers can't hold a gun, and only study 'ragging.'
It took us all *our* time to lick a 'Boer farmer' army;
Britannia said, 'I rule the waves, no race on earth can harm me';
The War Office is up the pole, our leaders all seem 'barmy.'"

Chatter on—in the car,
Chatter on till "Yer dunno where yer are."
If of brains we would be fuller,
We must get another Buller—
Chatter—chatter—in the car.

"They've built a ship of such great length it will be hard to beat her,
If you'd go from stem to stern you hire a taximeter.
On board she carries everything, from Turkish baths to 'rations';
She's telephones, marconigrams, to all the foreign nations;
She's tubes, electric tram cars, and several railway stations."

Chatter on—in the car,
Chatter on till "Yer dunno where yer are."
"She speeds, when at full power,
At ten million knots an hour"—
Chatter—chatter—in the car.

"They're going soon to close the 'pubs,' and make us all tea-teers,
We've got to take to Nestlé's Milk and give up rum and beers.
We must order special Epsom salts,
Small waters, or split cocoas.
We're all to give up smoking, too, or language light or 'jocose,'
And men will do hard labour if they've pimples on their 'bokos.'"

Chatter on—in the car,
Chatter on till "Yer dunno where yer are."
"For the poor a drink's unhealthy,
It's different for the wealthy"—
Chatter—chatter—in the car.

"A working man may drive a 'lot' to earn an honest meal;
If *he* runs down a passerby he's *soon* laid by the heel.
The magistrate will swear he's drunk,
And vote his conduct vile,
Altho' his horse in half a day
Could not do half a mile,
But the motorist can kill a
Kid, and get off with a smile."

Chatter on—in the car,
Chatter on till "Yer dunno where yer are."
"Let us have some quick sharpshooters,
To bust their tyres and hooters"—
Chatter—chatter—in the car.

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues. Published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd. Price 1s.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY AT HARROGATE.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who was appearing in Harrogate last week, lectured at the Grand Opera House, Harrogate, on the 25th ult., on the proposed Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. The Mayor of Harrogate (Captain A. Boyd Carpenter) presided, and there was a large attendance.

Mr. Harvey said that he was present that day to plead for their help to rear a noble and monumental institution to the memory of their greatest Englishman—not Nelson, whom we had already honoured with countless and greatly-deserved monuments all over the British Isles, but to Shakespeare himself. To the head of naval warfare we had built obelisks, memorials, statues innumerable, but it had taken us 300 years to rear a worthy memorial to the great head of letters, and "the pen is mightier than the sword." He did not despair of playing his part to heedless ears, but it had been played for many years to ears that were deaf and unresponsive by the late Sir Henry Irving. However, things had moved rapidly of late, and Sir Henry's voice, which not so long ago was as one "crying in the wilderness," was now echoing through the breadth of the land. He had, at all events, the joy of seeing his hope crystallised into substantial shape before he died, and into a form which was nearest to his heart—that of a National Memorial Theatre. Had he lived he would have seen to-day on the committee the names of Peers and poets, leaders of fashion, Cabinet Ministers and professors, members of the great universities and of every seat of learning throughout the country, journalists, dramatic authors, scientists, and representative men from all the learned professions and art, united in their determination that this old neglect should no longer be a reproach with their country and their Empire.

In 1916 it would be three hundred years since there died in this country the most amazing giant in the literature of the world—an Englishman. What had they done to honour him, to express their pride of their fellow-countryman, their gratitude for the boundless wealth of beauty of thought, of pleasure, and of wisdom which the whole civilised world had rendered homage to? A trivial and unregarded little statue, erected above a fountain which trickled a small jet of water into a basin in Leicester-square! That was the sole monument to their great poet which was pointed out to the amazed foreigner when he visited the land of Shakespeare's birth and labour. The scheme which was at present proposed was the outcome of two separate movements now happily united. The first was the desire to erect a living and worthy memorial to Shakespeare in connection with his approaching tercentenary, in 1916; and the second was the desire to enlarge, enrich, and elevate the standard of dramatic art by the establishment of a permanent endowed national theatre. The amount to be raised was £500,000, which would include a sum of £100,000 estimated to be necessary for a suitable site, £150,000 for the theatre buildings and equipment, and the remaining £250,000 for a permanent endowment which would provide an annual revenue of £10,000. The main object would be to keep the plays of Shakespeare in its répertoire.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Martin Harvey, on the motion of the Rev. D. S. Guy, seconded by Captain Shaw.

At the conclusion of the meeting several donations were promised, including £5 from the Bishop of Ripon and £5 from the Mayor of Harrogate.

MR. BEECHAM'S OPERA SEASON.

Mr. Thomas Beecham, in a retrospective survey of his opera season, says he considers "it was in a way quite a remarkable one, and that it should prove an object-lesson to the British public, and to the music-loving public the world over. It is no light matter to take a theatre that has none, or that has, at any rate, only very few of the facilities of a regular opera house, and to produce in it a large number of works in a really modern way, especially with so many artists who, until they had appeared at His Majesty's, had not had any experience to speak of in operatic work, which is so different from concert work and from ordinary acting.

"But in spite of that, I have no intention of apologising for any of the shortcomings that have been noticeable in some, or possibly in all, of my productions. For the things that were at times lacking are to be found wanting from time to time in any opera house in any country, and this is unavoidable when one is endeavouring to get through an enormous amount of new work that is unfamiliar alike to artists and to the public. A point I want to emphasise is that the summer season was throughout an English season, with all-English artists and an all-English chorus, with the exception, I think, of two members. Of this I really was—I am still—a little proud. For I received many communications with regard to our performances from the most celebrated musicians on the Continent, and from many among the oldest and most critical of operatic habitués.

"Those communications were all couched in terms of very great praise. French people who had seen *Il Seraglio*, for instance, revived at the Grand Opera in Paris, declared with considerable emphasis that they preferred our version. In addition, I have received letters from musicians who came over from Munich and from Vienna to see our operas, and they write in the same strain concerning our other Mozart performances. Mme. Carré, for instance, who came over from Paris in order to be present at the first performance of *Muguette*, was enthusiastic about it, and declared to me that it had never been done so well before; and exactly the same has been said to me many times with regard to our production of *The Tales of Hoffmann*.

"One still hears a great deal said in praise of foreign artists in a tone that is meant to imply that an artist to be in the front rank must necessarily be of foreign birth, or, if not that, then at least of foreign extraction. I do not agree with that at all. I have maintained from the beginning, and I maintain still, that the day has long gone by for talking of British artists in a semi-apologetic tone because they happen to be British-born. Apart from the personnel of my company, which is very capable, I contend that there are in the United Kingdom a great number of men and women who possess remarkable talent, and I use the word 'talent' here in its broadest sense.

"Concerning the future of British artists as a whole, the great trouble is that there are no opera institutions in this country besides Covent Garden, and now my own opera schemes. In none of the provincial cities, even the biggest among them, is there an opera. How different this is from other countries! Take Italy, for example. Rarely indeed in Italy do young singers make their début at the Scala, Milan, or San Carlo, Naples, theatres, or in other of the famous houses. No, they make their début in one of the smaller towns—say, Modena, Bologna, or Parma—and then gradually work their way up until finally they appear in one of the great houses. And the same system applies to Germany.

"But now, where in Great Britain will you find any house out of London at which it is of advantage for a would-be operatic artist to make his or her début, or where he or she can obtain real experience in operatic work and be afforded a chance of becoming in a few years' time really well equipped? It has long been my hope to see established in some of the more important of our provincial cities small opera houses—exactly similar to those in Italy, Germany, and elsewhere on the Continent—at which those among our young singers who possess true talent would be able to gain practical experience in operatic work."

THE MINERS' THEATRE.

The Miners' Theatre, Ashington, opened its doors to the public on Monday night, after having been closed for some months owing to expiration of lease and the large amount of alterations which have been made by the new lessee, Mr. A. C. Moody, the popular lessee and manager of the New Theatre Royal, Blyth-by-the-Sea. The alterations and renovations of the building have cost nearly £2,000, and everything has been done to make the theatre attractive, comfortable, and safe. The whole of the interior of the building has been overhauled, and its artistic appearance immeasurably enhanced. The stalls are fitted with red plush tip-up chairs on blue carpet, while the circle is fitted with rich old gold tip-up chairs on red carpet, the dress circle being the same, with the exception that the chairs are of a heavier pattern. The stage has been enlarged, and is adapted to provide for the setting of the largest productions touring. All the scenery and properties are entirely new, as also is the lighting installation, which has been supervised throughout by Mr. Fred Hazlehurst. The mechanical effects and the interior building alterations were carried out by Mr. Edward Henderson, of Blyth. The contract for the seating, &c., has been carried out by Messrs. Wilkins and Co., of Liverpool, under the supervision of Mr. Cope. Mr. A. C. Moody is to be highly complimented on the fine appearance the theatre now presents, and there is no doubt that he will meet with the success he deserves. Mr. T. Campbell Browne, late of the Hippodrome, London, has been engaged as resident-manager, and promises to be most popular with his patrons.

CRICKET.

TERRIERS C.C. v. STEPHENS AND RENNIOR XI.

The above cricket match took place on Tuesday, Aug. 30, at Peckham Rye Park, and resulted in a win for Stephens and Rennior XI. by 60 runs.

STEPHENS AND RENNIOR XI.—H. J. Rennior, run out, 57; Young, c A. Marshall, b Dunkley, 0; Harvey, run out, 1; Lizard, lbw, b A. Marshall, 2; Clements, b A. Marshall, 3; Kerley, b A. Marshall, 2; Peters, c C. Marshall, b A. Marshall, 11; Gailey, c and b A. Marshall, 6; Curnew, c and b A. Marshall, 1; Boyle, b C. Marshall, 15; Casey, not out, 3; byes, 6; wide, 1; total 107.

TERRIERS XI.—Fossey, c Lizard, b Clements, 7; M. D. H. Hoffman, b Boyle, 0; C. Marshall, b Boyle, 4; Alan Marshall, not out, 30; Tom Packer, c Boyle, b Clements, 0; H. Bennett, c Peters, b Clements, 0; W. R. Dunkley, s, b Clements, 0; Bert Marsden, s, b Clements, 1; Billy Kloof, b Clements, 1; Otto, lbw, b Clements, 0; H. Packer, s, b Clements, 0; byes, 3; wide, 1; total 47.

For the Terriers, Alan Marshall took six wickets for 32 runs. For Stephens and Rennior XI., Clements took eight wickets for 16 runs. A most enjoyable day was spent. At 2 o'clock a capital luncheon was supplied by Harry Rennior (who had arranged the match), and who was heartily thanked for a splendid day's outing. A return match has been arranged for Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Peckham Rye Park. Match starts 11.30. On Tuesday next the Terriers C.C. play Hammersmith Palace XI. at Shepherd's Bush. Match starts 12.30 sharp. Full particulars can be obtained of Terrier Tom Packer, hon. secretary Terriers' Cricket Club.

PHYDORA—GLOBE-TROTTER.

SOME FUGITIVE IMPRESSIONS.

"Our theatrical wanderings in this country are remembered not as so much mileage but simply as a journey—from one place to another," writes Mr. Harry Phydora from Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney. "For instance, you may travel double the mileage of a previous journey and yet not feel half the effect of it, even if the said journey runs into days, and includes both train and boat.

"I had a journey once in Africa when we were practically five weeks on a train, playing up the line from Cape Town to Buluwayo; but the journey was so relieved by novel incidents, that instead of boring one it was full of interest from start to finish. Of course, the reason of this was that the date of the aforesaid journey was 1902, the fag-end of the last Boer War. Now, I don't think I ever felt as tired on any part of that trip as I have felt on a journey, say, from London to Edinburgh.

"Take one of our recent journeys here in Australia—Brisbane to Perth—Queensland to the West—a matter of four days in the train and four days at sea, across the world-famous Australian Bight, passing the Leeuwin Light, almost over the identical spot where the ill-fated Pericles a few weeks back struck an unchartered rock and foundered. The distance from Brisbane to Perth is about 3,000 miles, rather more than less, and our season in Perth is two weeks, then a day's journey to the goldfields—Kalgoorlie, from there starting at 6 a.m. after the night's show to travel to Adelaide for two more weeks, and our next appearance is in Auckland, New Zealand, starting with a train journey from Adelaide to Melbourne, 483 miles, Melbourne to Sydney 576 miles, and Sydney to Auckland; and yet, what with the various incidents of the road, or water, the ship's concerts, sports, &c., the journey, as I said before, is more in the nature of a holiday, with occasional experiences that may well thrill one.

Late one evening, while we were travelling from Kalgoorlie to Adelaide, we were aroused from our reveries by a strident voice on the platform shouting 'Southern Cross. Ten minutes for refreshments. Southern Cross!'—the place where Deeming, the man who murdered his wife and buried her in cement beneath the hearthstone of the kitchen at Rainhill (Liverpool, England), was arrested, and until he duplicated his crime here and was hung in Melbourne, the way he behaved himself secured for him the respect of the inhabitants, who, of course, could not possibly connect him with the inhuman deeds he had committed.

"At this same Southern Cross there is a shanty by the station absolutely typical of the old mining days. The sort of place where you would be shot if you had a drink without asking the crowd, and you would be shot if you didn't have a drink when the crowd asked you. Here occurred what will be always remembered by me as the 'Champagne Incident.' The shanty was well stocked with bottles—every kind of whisky on the market was apparently there, every variety of gin, brandy, liqueurs, beer galore, lager, imported and local. Dear, dear, one would have thought this is the 'Cecil' of the locality. In we walked, and were confronted by the landlord, who had apparently stepped out of the pages of *Comic Cuts*.

Before we were allowed to ask for drink, he insisted on playing some ear-tearing melodies on a tin whistle. On the conclusion of this entertainment we asked for drinks. Well, the oldest inhabitant brisked up to the bar and asked 'What'll yer 'ave?' 'Two brandies and sodas and a bottle of lager' was the order. Leaning confidentially over the bar, he whispered, 'I've only got one bottle of whisky and one bottle of sherry; all them bottles (pointing to the shelves) are empty, and I'm leaving here to-morrow; but I'll tell yer what I 'ave got—a bottle of Heideck. I've had it myself fer twenty years, and you can 'ave it for 25s.'

"Well, Campbell and myself thought it would be a good proposition to take it along for dinner, but not at that price, so the comedy started. It's not much of a tale, but the way we battled for that bottle of wine, the way we whispered to ourselves—why it must be worth at least £2; the way we offered 6s. and offered to toss him 10s. or nothing; the way he refused; the way we scrambled on the train without it; and the way we scrambled back and offered him 8s., which he immediately took; the way we sat round it as Campbell tried to start the cork; the way he started it; the way we listened for the 'pop'; and when the cork eventually left the neck of the bottle, amidst a dead silence, talk about the 'Burial of Sir Thomas Moore,' not a sound was heard, but the deep breathing of the 'Syndicate' and 'Sarson's Virgin' was concentrated sweetness by comparison."

DEATH OF TEDDY CAMPBELL.

Very few people remember the Royal Theatrical Home for Decayed Actors at Woking, which was opened with a great flourish of trumpets many years ago, and which, through mismanagement or other causes, sank into decay. A lot of money subscribed at the time was frittered away, and at the finish the scheme went to pieces. To become an inmate was to show at once an actor had led a cleanly life and was respected by his fellows. Amongst others who ended their days there was Andrew Leonard Campbell, an actor of some repute at the old Grecian Theatre in the City-road, and also at Sadler's Wells. He had several children, of whom only one followed his father's calling, and he, too, has now passed away in a public institution.

On Monday last died Edmund Voullaire, known better as Teddy, Campbell. In his boyhood he was contemporary with George Conquest, father of the present George Conquest, whose mother taught both boys, with many others, the art of stage dancing. Later on he joined Anthony Geovanelli, at Highbury Barn, another name almost forgotten. Then for a long time he was with Isaac de Frece, uncle of Walter de Frece, at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool. About 1878 he joined Mr. Pitt Hardacre, and was with that gentleman until he gave up the Comedy Theatre, Manchester, in 1902. He became almost factotum to that gentleman. For a long time he toured as Bullock and managed his *East Lynne* company. For a short time he was resident-manager at the Theatre Royal, Darwen, and ultimately settled down in Manchester in a general management of Mr. Pitt Hardacre's many enterprises, with his headquarters at the Comedy Theatre in that city. Besides keeping an eye on things in general he would play low comedy when any stock business was on, and a very fine low comedian he was too. He was always ready to be dispatched at any time when anyone was ill in any of his governor's travelling companies, and would play anything and everything, and at Christmas he always indulged in clown, he being one of the last of the Grimaldi school. In company he was renowned as one of the most jovial of men, but when Mr. Pitt Hardacre gave up the Comedy Theatre he felt his "occupation gone," and became a prey to melancholia.

After an unsuccessful attempt upon his life, he was put under restraint—a restraint so gentle that it could hardly be called such—and in this condition he lingered until Monday last, when he peacefully passed away. Soon after its formation he became a member of the Manchester Dramatic Lodge, and remained an active member until the occurrence referred to above took place. He had many friends and few enemies, and was of an open and generous disposition. His age was 75.

FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE AND EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

CHAT WITH LEOLYN HART AND SON.

An attraction that should entice crowds throughout next summer to the Crystal Palace will be the Festival of Empire and Empire Exhibition, an official portion of the Coronation festivities. A very prominent feature in this will be a realisation of various scenes and important buildings in our principal Colonies, and life therein. Some fifty acres of the grounds will be utilised in this ambitious scheme, and the train journey around will be two miles.

The well-known firm of scenic artists and theatrical contractors, Messrs. Leolyn Hart and Co., will be responsible for the whole of the constructional, spectacular, and decorative work in connection with the Festival, and, through the kindness of Mr. Leolyn Hart, jun., who explained to us a model in the making in his workshop at the Palace, we were enabled to get a very comprehensive idea of what the real thing will be like when revealed to the public next May.

The trip through the Colonies will be undertaken by means of the Kearney high-speed mono-rail, and passengers will be allowed to alight at different points and view the various buildings, &c. The All-Red route starts at the Pageant Station, and there will be "halts" all along the terrace for passengers. The first place of interest will be Newfoundland, where the process of paper manufacturing will be fully demonstrated, and the natives will also be seen whaling and fishing. Canada will next be visited, with its orchards, farming, ploughing, and all the industries in progress, with real cattle—in fact, actual life in the Dominion.

A very interesting section will be India, with a full-sized reproduction of the Tazmahal, 220ft. in height to top of the crescent, showing the

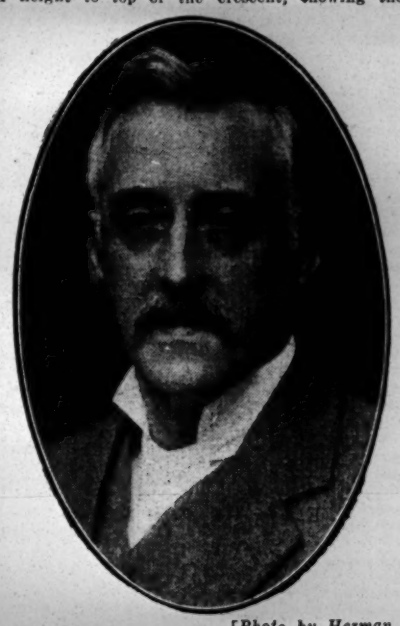

[*Photo by Herman.*

MR. LEOLYN HART, SEN.

famous screen and tombs inlaid with wonderful mosaics and jewels. Also an Indian bazaar, and jungle with live animals. A fine illustration of Sydney Harbour by moonlight, with the town illuminated in the distance, will be sure to call forth much admiration. All the industries of Australia will be shown on "landing." A family of settlers will be seen, and their progress through fifteen years of toil. Then the result—the prosperous homestead, with the sheep-shearing, sheep-dipping, up-to-date dairy in full work. Silver and copper mining, &c., will also be depicted.

Next, New Zealand, with its hot-water springs; then an ocean voyage, a storm at sea, with various realistic effects, till finally Cape Town Harbour is reached. In the South African section the Kimberley diamond mines in work will be a realistic reproduction; and a big-tree forest and pigmy dwelling will also be interesting features. The Crown Colonies, the Malay Federal States, Jamaica, and other places of interest will also be pictured.

Mr. Hart is receiving every assistance from the Colonies in the way of photographs, sketches,, and in many other directions The Imperial Bandstand will be a fine structure, and here all the principal bands of the Empire will in turn perform. The grounds will be beautifully illuminated, a special electric plant being laid of 600 arcs and about half a million lights.

This gigantic undertaking is by no means the first work of the kind undertaken by the firm, for

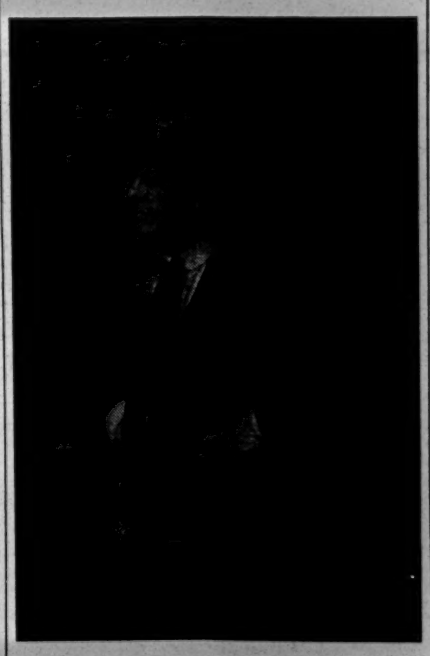

MR. LEOLYN HART, JUN.

they were responsible for the scenic and constructural portions of the Toronto Exhibition; the Toronto Pageant of 1897, with a representation of the Diamond Jubilee Procession from Buckingham Palace to St. Paul's, with fine reproductions of each building; the Last Days of Pompeii, this year's attraction at the Palace, built and painted in the incredibly short time of three weeks; the Fisheries, Health, Inventions, Indian, Naval, and other Earl's Court Exhibitions; and many other shows of a similar nature at Paris, St. Louis, Chicago, and elsewhere. Many of these young Mr. Hart has personally superintended.

Mr. Leolyn Hart, sen., was for twenty-five years with the well-known firm of Greaves, latterly as partner. Messrs. Greaves and Hart were the first to do open-air spectacles on a large scale—at the Aston Lower Grounds, Birmingham. Leaving most of the arrangements of the Pageant and Exhibition work to his son, Mr. Hart, sen., himself a very clever artist, looks after the extensive scenic works in Latona-road, Old Kent-road. A visit to the factory, with its huge scene-painting room, and the artists in distemper working on cloths, &c., is interesting and instructive. The firm have a very extensive connection, and supply all the best-known London and provincial theatres and managers with scenery. Dramatic clubs and operatic societies also make big demands on their stores, a large and varied assortment of scenery always being in stock. Every requisite for theatrical performances can be provided. Write, or 'phone 1544 Hop, and all your wants will be supplied—expeditiously and thoroughly.

The energetic and enthusiastic Mr. Hart, jun., has little time or thought just at present for anything but the Festival Exhibition, and is hard at work daily and nightly at the big Sydenham glass-house. Talking of scenery elsewhere, however, he expressed the view that variety halls might, with advantage, change their scenery a little oftener.

"The manager," he says, "insists that a change of turn is the secret of success in vaudeville houses, and I consider that audiences generally would also appreciate a change of stage surroundings. To me it seems absurd that an interior scene should be used in one portion for an intensely dramatic playlet and a few minutes later for an acrobatic or burlesque sketch. And then the same street-corner is always used for the comic singer. We are prepared to place before a manager a scheme which will enable him to give his patrons a complete change of scenery every three months." The idea certainly seems a good one.

"EFFIE."

A "Study in Suburban Characters," in One Act, by Basil Dean, Produced for the First Time at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Geraldine Marsden .....MISS ISABEL ROLAND
Effie Marsden .....MISS HILDA BRUCE POTTER
Mrs. Marsden .....MISS MURIEL PRATT
A Servant .....MISS MARY OLIVER
Kenneth Vye .....MR. ESME PERCY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

As "a study in suburban characters" Mr. Basil Dean's new play *Effie* is interesting, and one may concede that the environment of people does affect their thoughts and their doings; but the prime requirement of an audience is that interest shall lie chiefly in the doings of the persons represented, and therefore, for dramatic purposes, the story ought to be of the first importance. The situation is the drawing-room of a suburban London residence in the late afternoon of a summer's day. There are sunny lawns visible through the window, and the whole scene is pervaded with that restful sense of immunity from the cares of the world which makes for passive contentment, if one can only be satisfied with the limits of the horizon. One of the characters, Effie herself, however, is not satisfied with the narrow and empty life she has been living. Love has entered as an element of dissatisfaction, for she has quarrelled with Kenneth Vye because the young man in question is carrying on a distinctly suburban flirtation with Effie's young sister, Geraldine, whom he kisses in public, and with whom he plays croquet while Effie reads her books and eats her heart out with chagrin. Geraldine is an unkind sort of sister, for she annoys Effie very much by allusions to Kenneth's choice of herself in preference to the elder girl. Her taunts and teasings, in fact, combined with Effie's resentment, lead to a natural but undignified quarrel, the honours of the fight going to Geraldine, who is the bigger and stronger of the two. Mrs. Marsden, their mother, interrupts this exhibition, and for some time, while Geraldine is out, Effie and her mother discuss the general situation. Mrs. Marsden's pleasure in the apparent prospect of Kenneth Vye's engagement to Geraldine does not improve Effie's state of mind. Kenneth Vye protests his innocence of serious intentions in regard to Geraldine, and in the course of the argument shows signs of being less suburban in his temperament than Effie thought him to be; but all the same she cuts him short at last, and sends him away to resume his croquet with Geraldine. In two minutes, however, she has repented, and, as if by instinct, Kenneth comes back, and they fall into each other's arms. To be just, the lovers' dialogue is of a fairly good quality, but, having reached their climax, it is a case of sweetness far too long drawn out. A somewhat excessive ardour on the young man's part tends also to produce an atmosphere of the cheap novelette.

Miss Hilda Bruce Potter succeeded in depicting the moods of Effie as probably the author intended them to appear, but the part was not too gracious for an actress so light and charming and clever. As Geraldine Miss Isabel Roland was sufficiently pert and disagreeable, and Miss Muriel Pratt did all that was requisite in the colourless rôle of Mrs. Marsden. Mr. Esmé Percy played Kenneth Vye in his usual spirited style.

PASTORAL PLAYS IN MARGATE.

The Borough of Margate Entertainment Committee, of which Mr. John E. Saxby is the secretary, may be heartily congratulated on the success which attended their renewal of the production of pastoral plays in their lovely Dane Park, which, with its pretty, well-lit stage, in the centre of a beautifully-wooded landscape, is admirably adapted for these performances.

Shakespeare's delightful play, *The Taming of the Shrew*, was the piece chosen for the matinée and evening performance on Wednesday last, and crowded audiences at each performance testified to the appreciation of the inhabitants of their efforts. Mr. Clive Currie and his company from the Court Theatre, London, were engaged for this special performance. The actors and actresses showed that the management had chosen adequate and clever representatives for each character; indeed it would have been difficult to have had a better cast. All the minor parts were well played. Especial mention may, however, be made of Mr. Ivor Smith's Grumio and Mr. Lewis Calton's Tailor, the stuttering being very naturally rendered. Mr. W. A. MacKersy's Baptista was a well-balanced and sound rendition of the perplexed father, dignified and refined throughout. Mr. Lane Crawford was Hortensio; his fine voice and handsome presence were well employed in the delineation of this strong character. The same may be said of Mr. Dennis Cleugh's Lucentio; in addition, he was exceedingly graceful in his love scenes with Bianca, the latter character being prettily played by Miss Letty Paxton. It would be difficult to find in the profession two better representatives of Petruchio and Katharina than Mr. Clive Currie and Miss Helena Millais; the parts could not have been better filled, and their joint efforts carried the play along with an *élan* that was quite irresistible. In the early scenes Miss Helena Millais carried the audience with her, where she was the Shrew to the life, making a fine contrast to her sweet and beautiful rendering of the later scenes, where her clear diction and dignified acting showed th etrue Shakespearean scholar. Indeed, it is not often that the residents in Margate have had such an opportunity of seeing such finished acting, and the enthusiastic applause testified to the delight of the packed assembly. Altogether it was a production that the Town Council may be proud of.

Pastoral plays ought to become an established thing in this go-ahead town of Margate.

FATHER AND SON.

"It is an old axiom that circumstances alter cases," writes Austin Brereton in the *Windsor Magazine*. "Thus, in the world of commerce, it is the custom for a son to succeed his father and to carry on the traditions of the house. But on the stage, as in literature and art, the conditions are so peculiar that a son who inherits a great name is possessed of a blessing which has certain disadvantages. To inquire into those conditions and disadvantages would be to inquire too curiously and somewhat needlessly. The ordeal of constant comparison is, however, one of the trials of an artist placed in such a position; and to emerge with credit from such comparison is one of the ambitions of an actor. Many people, no doubt, since the death of Sir Henry Irving in 1905, went to see his elder son partly out of curiosity. It is, however, but bare justice to Mr. H. B. Irving to recall that he had won much popularity in his early career in the provinces by his acting of such prominent characters as Hamlet, Othello, Romeo, Benedick, Orlando, Charles Surface, Young Marlow, and Claude Melnotte. Moreover, some years before the decease of his father, he had made his mark in London. On Oct. 25, 1897, to be precise, he created an impression which augured well for his future on the stage by his impersonation of the cynical Loftus Roupell in *The Tree of Knowledge* at the St. James's Theatre. There, quite unconsciously, without premeditation, he was following in his father's footsteps, for, as Miss Carlotta Addison, who had played with Henry Irving on the same stage in 1867, and was now playing with the son, avouched, he recalled his father's acting as Rawdon Scudamore in *Hunted Down* of thirty years before. Indeed, if a son inherits certain of the characteristics of his father, it is difficult to avoid resemblance. Nor is there any valid reason why he should endeavour to do so. Moreover, in the present instance, be it noted, Mr. Irving has his own individuality, an individuality largely composed of charm, and this enables him, in playing parts closely identified with his father, to give another complexion to certain phases of the characters.

"In using the word 'charm' in connection with Mr. Irving's acting, I do so as the result of frequent observation and upon due consideration. Perhaps the best instance which I can give of this personal characteristic is to note the difference between father and son in regard to speech-making before the public. We all know that for many years before his death it was a habit of the public to demand speeches from Henry Irving upon all and every occasion—and many times without occasion save for the real love of the man. His speeches at first and last nights at the Lyceum, in the old days, were part and parcel of the evening's entertainment. And admirable speeches they were, too! But to get the exact parallel between father and son in this respect, it is necessary to refer to the more impromptu speeches of recent times, those few words of graciousness which were made night after night in the provinces. They had their charm, of course, but it was the charm of the conqueror. Irving the First stood before the audience calm, deliberate, unmoved. He impressed by his magnetism, by his dominant will-power, by the air of the man who has accomplished his purpose. His smile on these occasions was rare and beautiful. But it was very rare. On the other hand, Irving the Second comes rapidly, almost breathlessly, before the curtain. There is little or no premeditation in his remarks. He says what he feels, quickly, thankfully, graciously. He has inherited his father's beautiful smile, but he is lavish of it. He is, in fact, electrical in his expression, where his father was, with design, quite deliberate. This individuality lends its charm to his performances, and enables him, together with his capacity for thinking for himself, to re-create the characters in which other actors have excelled.

"Take him, for instance, as Hamlet, which he acted for the first time in London on April 4, 1905. Here he had to follow, not only his father, but a long line of Hamlets, of all sorts and conditions—for the Prince of Denmark is the ambition of all actors or serious intent—from Shakespeare's day to our own. It was but natural that the younger Irving should be compared with his father in the character, although many of the latter-day public and critics had been debarred from witnessing that triumphant impersonation, as Henry Irving, reluctant to spoil the impression which his interpretation had created, would not act the part in his later years. But the memory of it lingered. And many of us recalled its depth of feeling, its intensity, its occasional flash of passion, and that quality which we call princeliness. But the Hamlet of the father had an intense loneliness. He was a veritable prince in the sense that he was a man apart, one raised above his fellows by his courtly air, his position, his aloofness. Albeit he was very human, he impressed by his air of separation from his fellow-men. The scenes with Ophelia were extremely beautiful in their tenderness, and his treatment of Horatio was marked by deep feeling. Above all, he was profoundly melancholy. That, at least, is the impression which is uppermost in my mind when I think of Irving's Hamlet—profoundly melancholy, infinitely sad, piteous in its separation from sympathy, yet entirely sympathetic. It is we who are Hamlet, says Hazlitt, and it was the Hamlet within him, his own loneliness, which dominated the impersonation of the father.

"The Hamlet of the son recalls that of the father in many important respects. It, too, is full of fine feeling, it has its passionate note—as in the celebrated Play scene—it has intensity of an order which, by comparison, is subdued; it has great tenderness for Ophelia. It is a much more youthful Hamlet than, I imagine, his father's ever was. And it is certainly extremely lovable. The Hamlet of the Irving of our day has two paramount features, youth and lovableness. It has not the profound melancholy of the father, but it is a most engaging picture. Hamlet can be interpreted in divers ways, and by actors of varying personality. Discussion on this or that point will last until the crack of doom. But so long as the actor brings home to us something of the nature of Hamlet, something of his distinction, something of that fine nature overburdened with a terror sufficient to unseat the reason and impair the soul, we must be grateful. Irving the First did this by, above and beyond other means, his deep-seated melancholy. The son impresses us and draws us to him by the lovableness which dominates his Hamlet. This quality, manifest in his earlier performance, had developed in February, 1909, when he acted the character at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Indeed, one of the most valuable gifts which the second Irving inherits from his father is the capacity for taking infinite pains, for developing that which was already good. He is never content to rest upon his laurels. Again, he can think for himself, and in adopting, in the second act, the sequence of scenes according to the early quarto of 1603, he made a most effective change in the acting version, and one whereby he made a considerable improvement on accepted renderings of the tragedy."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—*The Financier.*

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at The Era Offices, 9, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KINGSWAY THEATRE.

A season of Italian grand opera by Mr. Mapleson, and under the direction of Signor De Macchi, opened on Thursday night at the Kingsway Theatre, Great Queen-street, with a performance of Rossini's opera *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. New and effective scenery was provided by Soriani (Milan), and pretty costumes by Zamperoni (Milan). Without being a record performance of Rossini's opera, the Italian company were experienced and intelligent, while the performance had certainly life and vigour. Italian artists always will sing to the audience and come out of their parts to bow in response to applause, and the present company were no exception to this irritating habit. Signorina Isabella de Frate appeared as Rosina, and although there was no special vocal charm in her voice she sang the florid music with much flexibility, and won enthusiastic applause both in the second act and in Proch's difficult variations on the "Carnival de Venice," which Signorina de Frate sang in the Lesson Scene. Her acting also was clever and full of vivacity, and, being quite young, she looked the part admirably. As Figaro, Signor Gaetano Rebonato was excellent, singing and acting well and with great spirit. Signor Franco de Gregorio as the Count displayed a somewhat hard, thin voice, but his acting was not without merit. The part of Berta, for which Miss Marion Broom was originally announced, was undertaken with good results by Miss Florence Von Etlinger. Signor F. Talamanca made a capital and really humorous Don Bartolo, and the Basilio of Signor Luigi Lucenti was not impossibly grotesque, and the artist sang admirably, and, strange as it may seem in such a part, with considerable dramatic power, in the second act. Signor N. Da Prato and Signor Amati filled the parts of Fiorello and an Officer with ability. A small but efficient orchestra, under Signor C. de Macchi, rendered the familiar music with good effect.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Musical Comedy, entitled

"A COUNTRY GIRL."

After a prolonged absence, the King's has been visited this week by Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company in that charming and ever-popular musical comedy, *A Country Girl*, one of the most successful of the early Daly productions. The music of Mr. Lionel Monckton has always been a material factor in the success of the comedy, and on Monday evening the large audience gave emphatic evidence of the pleasure derived by repeatedly encoring the principal numbers. Messrs. Bennett and Wray deserve every credit for the manner in which they have launched the production, artists, costumes, and scenery being of the highest class. Mr. R. F. Matthews gives an excellent portrayal of the Naval officer, Geoffrey Challoner, both as singer and actor, and is quite satisfactory. A dry and humorous impersonation of Mr. Raikes (the Rajah of Bhong) is that of Mr. St. John Hammond, his rendering of the songs being exceedingly clear and leading to many repetitions. Mr. Percy Everard is a quaint Sir Joseph Verity, and Douglas Verity is in the sufficiently capable hands of Mr. H. B. Hargreaves. Mr. Norman Howard is good as Lord Anchester (the Minister of Fine Arts), and Granfér Mummery is amusingly presented by Mr. Tom Sheridan. The life and soul of the piece is, of course, Barry (Challoner's servant), and this can be said literally of Mr. Coningsby Brierley. His energy and resource are unequalled, and his efforts meet with unequivocal success. Miss May Rawlinson (who made herself a favourite in the last pantomime here) pleased everybody with her delightful embodiment of Marjorie Joy, her beautiful voice being heard to much advantage. Miss Ethel Negretti is a handsome Princess Melaneh, her rendering of "Under the Deodar" being very expressive. A distinct triumph is earned by Miss Hilda Darrell in the part of Sophie, her acting and singing being worthy of the highest praise. Mrs. St. Quinton and Lady Winchester are capably played by Miss Florence Linton and Miss Sylvia de Lacy. Marked ability is shown by Miss Dorothy Craske as Nan, her lively acting and splendid energy ensuring for her the loudest applause. The chorus is excellent, and the augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Evelyn Barker, perform their duties skilfully.

THE CORONET.

On Thursday, Sept. 1, the Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, entitled

"SCHOOL."

School was again presented as the last of the Robertson revivals by Mr. Robert Arthur, under Mr. Eade Montefiore's direction, prior to the great happenings at this theatre. Mr. Frederick Sargent makes a handsome, well set-up Lord Beaufoy, and acts with earnestness and sincerity. Miss Viva Birkett is a very lovable and attractive Bella, and Miss Agnes Imlay as Mrs. Sutcliffe and Mr. Fred Permain as Dr. Sutcliffe do well in the parts, and act with a sense of character and proportion. The other parts are virtually sustained by the same cast as some weeks ago. Mr. James Carew is delightful as Jack Poyntz, Mr. O. B. Clarence excels at Beau Farintosh, Mr. William Rokeby is first-rate as Krux, and Miss Rose Begarnie delightfully vivacious as Naomi Tighe. Other small parts are well filled by Miss Beatrice Ainley, May Haysack, and others.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Play entitled

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Of the many important bookings made this season for this handsome theatre, none have secured a warmer reception than that accorded *Under Two Flags* on Monday night. The play, as everyone knows, is an adaptation of Ouida's famous novel, and the clever acting version of the story affords ample scope for the display of histrionic talent. Miss Agnes Verity seems to throw herself wholly into the character of Cigarette, acting with lightness, and at times with power and passion; Miss Verity's performance wins her an ovation; Mr. Wernham Ryott makes a fine, manly Bertie Cecil Royellieu, and his skilful treatment of the part would be hard to improve upon; the Lord Royellieu of Mr. Charles Brooke is most effective, and bears evidence of careful study; and Mr. Wilfred Jessop does all that is possible with the unthankful part of Berklie; Mr. David Hawthorne gives a thoroughly manly, and at times, vigorous impersonation of Lord Rockingham. His elocution is excellent and his manner refined. The comedy part of Rake, the valet, as sustained by Mr. Harry Benson, goes a long way to ensure the success of the piece. The clever comedian arouses roars of laughter. Princess Venetia Corona has a very attractive representative in Miss O'Neill, her performance being instinct with charm and grace; Miss Angela Stewart as Countess Olga and Miss Madoline Gordon as Lady Beatrice Guinevere sustain their respective characters ably; Mr. Charles E. Johnson as Colonel Chateauroy, the Black Hawk, shows that he has made a conscientious study of the part; Mr. Arthur Redmond as Captain Claude de Chanrelion, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as Marshal of France, and Mr. Lawrence Dew as Ezra Baroni are all satisfactory; Miss Tina Langlois shows ability in the rôle of Lavinia, and the remaining parts are well played. To Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson as stage-manager high praise is due.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Drama, entitled

"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."

This drama, successfully produced during the Smith-Carpenter *régime* of the Lyceum Theatre, is revived here. It is presented with every sign of success by the Popular Playhouses, Ltd., and is especially well mounted and dressed. Mr. Austen Milroy gives a manly and spirited impersonation of the sorely-tried Stephen Blanchard; while Mr. Arthur Elwyn realistically depicts the villainous Captain Philip Rivers. Mr. Sidney Vautier artistically plays Captain Jim Blanchard; and Mr. Charles B. Bedells is most effective as Syra Mahomed Khan. Mr. Fred J. Waller realises capitally the part of General Sir Christopher Blanchard; Mr. Terence O'Brien is a typical Dr. John Vorland; and Mr. Jas. Wilson (Colonel Paget), and Mr. Roland Daniel (Captain Frazer) put in good work. Mr. Charles Leverton, who admirably fulfils the duties of stage-manager, is excellent as Larry O'Brien; Mr. Alfred Wood does well as the Maharajah of Daultapore; and Mr. A. B. Stanton is impressive as Lal Chandra. Miss Marie Duncan is very successful as Ethel Hardy; Miss Helen Newton plays remarkably well as Marjorie Vorland; Miss Mary Campbell is entirely satisfactory as Joan Fielding; Miss Annie Barclay is good as Mrs. Mackintosh; and Miss Amy Venimore makes a capable Mrs. Vanstart. The staging is elaborate, and the whole production is deserving of warm praise.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Emma Litchfield, entitled

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."

New to Stratford, *His Indian Wife* created a highly favourable impression on Monday night at the Theatre Royal, the large audience following the interesting story with close attention and freely bestowing applause upon play and players. The piece lends itself to much picturesque treatment in the way of dressing and staging, and of this full advantage has been taken, while its interpretation by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is in every way satisfactory. Wild Rose, the Indian maiden who becomes the wife of Hubert Ainsworth, has in Miss Zeila Zillwood a charming, artistic, and natural representative; and as the wiry young English husband Mr. Arthur Hinton (for the nonce forsaking sinister rôles) supplies a popular and convincing performance. The covetous Wolfsfang is graphically delineated by Mr. Graham Winsford; the kindly Lonely Star is portrayed with breadth and feeling by Mr. Travis Green; and White Eagle, the Indian chief, has a dignified and impressive exponent in Mr. Gerald Byrne. Sir Walter Kingsley is portrayed on sound lines by Mr. G. Moreton Williams, and the faithless Lady Kingsley is delineated with much skill by Miss Emma Litchfield. Mr. Tod Squires is a very droll Billy Twiggle; as the rotund negress Black Duck Miss Laura Wright plays in jovial vein; and Miss Maud Evans makes a chic Jeannette.

ROYAL ARTILLERY, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 29, for the First Time in London, the Romantic Light Opera, in Two Acts, by Talbot Hughes, composed by Frederick Rosse and Raymond King, entitled

"A BEDOUIN BEAUTY."

Sidi ben Hamid	Mr. Murray King
Laila	Miss Flora Macdonald
Abdullah	Mr. Walter Brodie
Hippolyte, Comte de Lys	Mr. Tom Macfarlane
Raoul de St. Juste	Mr. Claude Hogg
Lucille, Comtesse de Lys	Miss Dulcie Garland
Denise	Miss Dora Lane
Henri de L'Orme	Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart
Jacques Beauregarde	Mr. Charles Cautley
Pierre Picquart	Mr. E. Delfosse
Valérie	Miss Raynor Golden
Sidi ben Achmet	Mr. Ardene Linden
Hassan	Mr. Josef Klause
Marabout	Mr. Harry Hardy
Fatma	Miss Maie Hoey
Naila	Miss Nita Alexander
Aisha	Miss Marjorie Maxwell

Messrs. Murray King and Clark have brought their brand-new production, *A Bedouin Beauty*, to Woolwich, following on its production last week at Eastbourne. The music is of a distinctive character, melodiously written, and full of light and shade. Our local correspondent gave a detailed account of the plot last week, and it is not therefore necessary to repeat it here. It may be recalled, however, that it is a story of the loves of an Arab girl and of a romantic European lady for a French officer, the Oriental splendour of the piece being realistically reproduced. The piece is intensely dramatic at times, but there is a liberal infusion of comic episodes.

As Aisha, Miss Marjorie Maxwell is a typical Arab maiden, and the singing and dancing are exquisite. Miss Dora Lane as Denise sings beautifully, and acts equally so. The Valerie of Miss Raynor Golden is very vivacious; Miss Maie Hoey dances delightfully as Fatma, and is heartily encored. Miss Dulcie Garland is extremely good as Comtesse de Lys, her spouse being funnily played by Mr. Tom Macfarlane. Mr. Walter Brodie as Abdullah causes screams of laughter; Mr. Claude Hogg is well placed as the Administrator; as is also Mr. E. Delfosse as Corporal Pierre. Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart has a capital baritone voice, and uses it effectively in his part of Capt. L'Orme, especially in the long and trying duet in the first act. Mr. Chas. Cautley sings very well indeed, and his acting is also praiseworthy. From Mr. Murray King of course the bulk of the fun is derived, his interpretation of the Kaid being ludicrous in the extreme. The other characters are played by experienced artists, who all add to their reputation. The scenery and dresses are remarkably elaborate, being perfect in every detail. The concerted numbers are well sung, the voices blending beautifully together. Taken altogether, the show is very fine indeed, and well merited the applause accorded it by a packed house.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Drama, by Walter Melville, entitled

"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Melvillean melodrama holds the boards at the Borough Theatre this week, and the popular parts of this commodious suburban playhouse are being liberally patronised. The piece is very adequately staged, and is interpreted by an excellent cast. Mr. Norman B. Cannon is virile and convincing as Jack Cunningham, and Miss Muriel Dean as Bessie Webster, the Beggar Girl, portrays the requisite blend of pathos and sweetness with great success. Mr. William T. Riley depicts the scheming Gilbert Lindsay very forcibly, and the adventuress, Maud Villiers, is duly alluring and callous in the hands of Miss Ernestine Walters. A highly-coloured portrait of the ruffianly Joe Webster is supplied by Mr. Wilfred Bailey, and as the Dodger Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle is effective. Mr. Fred Hodson, in the prominent comedy part of Dicky Storm, is amusing and entertaining, much of his good work being in conjunction with Miss Daisy Meynard, who scores well with her humorous embodiment of Tina Torkington; while Miss Linda Riley is a quaintly grotesque Lizzie. Mr. Herbert Goddard is decidedly good as Robert Grimshaw; Mr. Charles Barclay fulfils all requirements as Doctor Milbank; Mr. Frank McClellan makes a fairly satisfactory Norman Marsh; and Miss Sybil Hare plays Elsie Cunningham gracefully. Minor parts are in quite competent hands.

THE BROADWAY.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred Melville, entitled

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

Crowded houses are following with great interest the story of *The Bad Girl of the Family*, so graphically told by Mr. Fred Melville. Mr. Melville has been fortunate in engaging such an attractive and clever actress as Miss Violet Crossley for the title-part. She wins all hearts and holds them firmly to the end. Miss Mona Hungerford is a delightful Sally Smithers; Miss Daisie is a charming and sympathetic Gladys Erskine; and Miss Alice Lewis does her best with the part of Mrs. Moore. The male rôles are all well acted. First honours fall to Mr. Luke Foster for a very natural and artistic performance of the part of Barney Gordon; Harry Gordon has a capital representative in Mr. Alexander Bradley; Lieutenant Richard Marsh is played very naturally by Mr. Richard Lane. Breezy, manly, and earnest, he looks and acts admirably. Lord Erskine has a dignified and effective representative in Mr. James C. Taylor; Mr. Tom May is a richly humorous Sammy Snozzle; and Mr. George Belmore's Jerry Holmes is excellent in every way.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Musical Comedy, entitled

"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

The cosy and ornate little Kingston playhouse has been packed all this week with audiences anxious to renew acquaintance with one of the most popular of musical plays on tour, *A Chinese Honeymoon*. On each of its previous appearances in Kingston the play had a most flattering reception, and the admiration of playgoers has not cooled since its last visit. Captained by Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, the company engaged in its production is of exceptional strength, dramatically and vocally, and nothing but praise can be said of the scenery, effects, and costumes. Miss Gwennie Harcourt is appearing as the amusing waitress Fi-Fi, which she has impersonated close upon 2,000 times, and makes a great hit in the part; Miss Gladys Ivery fills the rôle of Princess Loo-Loo with great charm, and Mr. Frank H. Crimp discloses the possession of a fine baritone in the part of Tom Hatherton; Mr. Will Harman makes an acceptable Mr. Pineapple; and a most comical picture of Hi Lung is presented by Mr. Leonard May. Other artists deserving of particular notice are Miss Gertrude Melville as Mrs. Pineapple, whose singing is particularly pleasing; Mr. Rudolph Gloss as the Emperor of Ylang-Ylang, and Mr. Colin Bryce as the Lord Chancellor. The numerous chorus is exceptionally well trained. The augmented orchestra, which is under the direction of Mr. Clement Locknane, renders valuable assistance.

"THE QUEEN OF SHEBA."

Opera, in Four Acts, by Carl Goldmark, Played for the First Time in London at the Kennington Theatre on Monday, Aug. 29.

King Solomon	Mr. Arthur Winckworth
Assad	Mr. Walter Wheatley
High Priest	Mr. Alexander Richard
Baal-Hanan	Mr. George M. Reid
Sulamith	Miss Beatrice Miranda
Astaroth	Miss Annie Van Dyck
The Queen of Sheba	Miss Doris Woodall

At the Kennington Theatre on Monday night Goldmark's opera, *Die Königen von Saba* ("The Queen of Sheba"), was successfully performed for the first time in London by the Carl Rosa Opera Company, and had a very hearty welcome. Like *Samson and Delila* of Saint-Saëns, Goldmark's opera had a long delay owing to its Biblical subject, and although *Die Königen von Saba* was originally produced on March 10, 1875, at the Hofoper, Vienna, opera-goers had in this country to wait until August, 1910, before hearing the famous work. *The Queen of Sheba* is scriptural only in relation to the visit of the Queen to King Solomon, as Mosenthal's libretto introduces Assad, who is betrothed to Sulamith, and with these two characters the plot is chiefly concerned. In the story, Assad, a favourite of King Solomon, is engaged to Sulamith, daughter of the High Priest. Assad, sent by the King to meet the Queen of Sheba, happens to see a beautiful woman, with whom he falls deeply in love. When the Queen arrives Assad at once recognises her as the handsome woman. Justly indignant, the haughty Queen repudiates all knowledge of Assad. Sulamith, loving Assad, is quite willing to forgive, and the marriage ceremony, by the King's desire, takes place; but Assad, at the sight of the Queen, who comes with a present to Sulamith, cannot control his passion, and the ceremony is broken off. For this infidelity Assad is condemned to death. The Queen and Sulamith intercede for him with Solomon, and instead of death he is banished to the desert. The Queen secretly is influenced by Assad's love, and even goes to him in the desert; but Assad, at last seeing his folly, repulses her, and his wish is now only that he may see Sulamith again before he dies. The devoted Sulamith at last finds her lover in the desert, but only just in time, as life is fast ebbing away, and Assad dies forgiven in her arms. In such a plot all one's sympathies are for Sulamith and not for the Queen heroine, who seems quite willing to have two lovers, the King and Assad. Carl Goldmark, who was born at Weszthely, in Hungary, in 1830, is the author of several quartets for strings, orchestral, and pianoforte works. His overture "Sakuntala" and symphony "Ländliche Hochzeit" met with a most favourable reception, and the composer has devoted years of study to his first opera, *Die Königen von Saba*.

The Queen of Sheba is in four acts, and the Carl Rosa company have shown great enterprise in its production. The scenery of Mr. Fred W. Walmsley is picturesque and very effective. In the first act the reception of the Queen by Solomon provides fine stage pictures, only surpassed by the splendid Temple scene in the second act, with the quaintly artistic dresses of the priests performing sacred rites at the altar. The handsome costumes are by Miss T. Harwood, and the dress of the Queen is what the ladies would call a perfect dream of lovely colour. Sulamith also has a charming costume, while the crown and white and gold robes of Solomon were superb in this scene. Musically, Goldmark's opera is strong and on many occasions highly dramatic. There are no airs, as the vocal music is chiefly declaimed after the German method; but the principal beauty of Goldmark's music lies in the orchestral score and several delightful choruses, while few operas show greater mastery of stagecraft or the combination of musical and dramatic features. Much of the libretto is spoken, and here, as in some of the solos, it is a matter of regret that our native or English-speaking artists are not more perfect in the matter of clear enunciation. The performance was in many respects excellent. Miss Doris Woodall as the Queen acted and sang with much ability, and her long solo in the garden scene of the second act was warmly applauded. Sulamith's music was sung with charming effect by Miss Beatrice Miranda; and Mr. Arthur Winckworth made a dignified King Solomon, alike excellent in voice and acting. The High Priest was ably undertaken by Mr. Alexander Richard; and Mr. Walter Wheatley sang well as Assad. Mr. George M. Reid appeared as Baal-Hanan and Miss Aimée Van Dyck as Astaroth. The chorus singing was capital, and the orchestra, under the skilful direction of Mr. Eugene Goossens, greatly distinguished themselves.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"A WOMAN AND TWO MEN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Patrick Barnard and John Buckley, Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Jack Maxwell	Mr. Harold B. Lewis
Phillip Collister	Mr. Stephen Langton
Guy Maynard	Mr. J. H. Vyvyan
Jim Briton	Mr. Fred Cherry
Saunders	Mr. James Fox
Postman	Mr. John Kiverton
Detective Dobson	Mr. Bernard Shannon
Sybil Maynard	Miss Maud Kirwan
Vivienne Verney	Miss Grace Jones
Elsie Warner	Miss Phillis Spalding
Madeline Morden	Miss Geraldine Montrose

Although a story of everyday life, the above play has some unique situations, and is full of thrilling incidents, with numerous comic interludes to relieve the tension. Madeline is left in charge of Eisie, by the latter's father, who died abroad. Before his demise he sent Madeline written instructions that she is to take every care of his daughter, who has been blind from birth and requires constant attention. Phillip Collister intercepts the letter, opens it, and realises the fact that the child mentioned stands between him and a fortune of £50,000. He has an accomplice in Vivienne Verney, who had contracted a bigamous marriage with Guy Maynard, but shortly after forsook him, and is believed to be dead by Guy, who marries his former sweetheart Sybil. On the return home from the honeymoon Guy is confronted by Vivienne.

The second act opens in Guy Maynard's house. Guy is being blackmailed by Vivienne, who has almost ruined him. Jack Maxwell, who is in love with Madeline, enters with the child, having rescued her from the lake into which she has been thrown by Phillips, who accuses Jack of the deed, but is thwarted by Jim Briton, Jack's devoted friend. An attempt is made by Phillip to get possession of Elsie, who is being taken to London by Madeline. Jim takes the child's place under the cloak, whilst he (Jack) takes the child. Phillip appears, and demands that the child be given up to him. Throwing the mantle open he is confronted by Jim, who, with a revolver, keeps him at bay until the engine whistles, which denotes that Madeline, Jack, and the child are safe in the train.

In Jack's bedroom, which he has placed at the disposal of Madeline and Elsie, they are safe for a time. Phillip, however, has engaged a detective to trace the whereabouts of the fugitives, but Jim has also followed, and puts them on their guard. There is loud knocking at the door, and Madeline, disguised as an old hag, lets Phillip and the detective in, but Jack places the child in the grandfather clock just as they enter, to find Jack apparently asleep in his chair. Phillip and the detective search the house, but find nothing. Later Madeline, under Jack's instructions, informs Phillip that if he will go to the back entrance he will find what he wants by climbing a ladder. Phillip falls into the trap, enters, and makes his way to the bed. Madeline has followed up the ladder, and the child is handed to her by Jack, and Phillip removes the coverlet only to find Jim instead of Elsie.

The third act opens in Phillip's house, in which Jim has obtained a situation. Jack and Madeline disguised enter, and in the absence of Phillip, search for the missing letter, Jim also filling his pockets with papers. Vivienne arrives, and is followed by Guy, who is further persecuted by her. Sybil enters, and demands from Guy an explanation of Vivienne's relationship to him. Guy, failing to respond, Vivienne declares that she is his wife. Guy is in great distress at the trouble he has brought upon Sybil, and attempts suicide, but in the nick of time Jack enters with Sybil and stays the rash act. Sybil, who is befriended by Madeline, re-enters with Elsie, and is met by Phillip and Vivienne, and while the former engages her in conversation, the latter chloroforms the child and carries her away. Madeline learns that the child has been stolen, and asks for paper to send a note to the police. Jim produces a paper, which he hands to Jack who, on examination, finds that it is a marriage certificate of Vivienne and Phillip, dated 1900, thus proving that Sybil is his lawful wife.

The last act opens in Vivienne's room, where gambling takes place. Sybil and the child are prisoners in the house. Vivienne comes in, and Phillip produces a box of chocolates, one of which is poisoned, and extracts a promise from her to give them to Elsie. The child offers Vivienne a sweet, but she refuses it, and Elsie is about to eat it when Vivienne snatches it from her, much to the wonderment of the child. Phillip returns and notes the fatal chocolate has not been eaten, and accuses Vivienne of cowardice, to which she replies that she will do his dirty work no longer. This so enrages Phillip that he strangles her and hides her body behind a screen. Madeline enters disguised as a youth, which Philip penetrates. A terrific struggle ensues. There is a heavy thunderstorm meanwhile, and during the progress of the fight Phillip is struck dead by lightning.

Miss G. Montrose has a most able company, not a weak point to be discerned anywhere. As Jack Maxwell Mr. Harold B. Lewis is very fine, and lightens the part at times with a tinge of light comedy that adds to its effect; Mr. J. H. Vyvyan is well placed as Guy Maynard; for cold-blooded villainy commend us to Mr. Stephen Langton's Phillip Collister; his scenes with Miss Grace Jones as Vivienne Verney, his tool and accomplice, were most powerful; the lady, too, was admirable in the last act with the blind child. Mr. Fred Cherry infuses a large amount of fun into his rendering of Jim Briton; most pathetic is the part of the blind Elsie, and little Miss Phillis Spalding gained the hearts of the audience with her acting; Sybil Maynard was finely acted by Miss Maud Kirwan; Miss Geraldine Montrose as Madeline Morden plays admirably in a difficult rôle, made more so by the many disguises involved in the impersonation; Saunders is well played by Mr. James Fox, who, in addition is also manager and producer of the play. Other capable artists do full justice to the rôles allotted them. The incidental music is composed and arranged by Mr. Graham Dunstan. The drama is well dressed and mounted, and received a hearty reception from a full "house."

A PROPOSITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I, through the medium of your widely-circulated paper, ask the managers of provincial theatres a question?

The present system of touring as regards plays, not musical comedies, is, I think, acknowledged to be not so very satisfactory. Would they, therefore, be open to book a thoroughly efficient company of players, each member a qualified artist, no amateurs, presenting a répertoire of plays, *including* possibly those by authors of not yet acknowledged position, but whose plays have been read and "passed" by a competent reading committee?

Modern plays, or plays by acknowledged present day authors, do not inevitably "draw" on tour, and there are not wanting people who say that London successes are not necessarily required on tour, particularly in seaside towns and health resorts, the theatre-going population of which is composed the greater part of the year of visitors.

Will any manager to whom my suggestion appeals be good enough to write to me, as my scheme and system could be put in operation by me within a very short space of time.—Yours faithfully, J. HENRY TWYFORD.

22A, Craven-hill Gardens, Lancaster Gate, W.

[*Photo by Pearson and Co.*

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE STAFF OF THE LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH, AT WINDSOR, ON SUNDAY, AUG. 28.

The annual outing of the staff of the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, took place on Sunday, Aug. 28. The party (staff and friends), numbering sixty-seven, met at Paddington at 10 a.m., special saloons being reserved by the Great Western Railway Co, and the party joined the steam launch Britannia at Windsor. Here they were met by Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth Croke, who motored from town. Lunch was served on board. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Croke was proposed by Mr. Fred S. Jennings, the general-manager of the Lyric (who was accompanied by his son Godfrey). The toast was heartily received. The party landed for an hour at Marlow, and sports were indulged in. The tug-of-war Front *versus* Stage Staff resulted in a victory for the former. The ladies' egg-and-spoon race was won by Miss Roworth, who received as prize a pair of silver hair brushes, presented by Mrs. Wentworth Croke. Other events brought forward suitable prizes, and the party returned to the launch, where high tea was served, and Windsor was reached about eight o'clock, the party returning by special train to Paddington after a most happy and enjoyable day.

COLONIAL GOSSIP.

Melville Melodramas in Johannesburg.
THE Melville melodramas are still doing great business at Johannesburg. Mr. Alf. Wyburd, Mr. Frank Wheeler's tireless lieutenant, ascribes their success to the fact that they are well-written, presenting the life of all classes in an authentic up-to-date style. The story is always coherent, carrying you swiftly from grave to gay, but never losing grip. Each play has four acts, and some thirteen or fourteen scenes, and these are changed in the twinkle of an eyelid. The stage is darkened for a trice, and hey presto! you have "planed" from Bermondsey to Bayswater! Outward bound the Melville company went straight from London to Kimberley, so that for once the City of Diamonds enjoyed the thrills of a real first night.

Cromwell's "Cropper."
MR. WILLIAM CROMWELL, who makes his entrance in *The Arcadians* by falling from an aeroplane, had a rather exciting experience while practising this fall at Ballarat recently. The aeroplane strikes the tree, and, canting forward, projects the comedian on to a grassy hillock, down which he rolls, into the group of Arcadians. The machine, on this occasion, had too much impetus on, and Mr. Cromwell was thrown against the side of the hill, rebounding into the pool of real water on the stage. The audience did laugh!

"The Whip" in Australia.
SOME idea of the preliminary preparations which are required for the Australian production of *The Whip* by J. C. Williamson may be gauged by the fact that for the galloping machines alone, of which eight are required to accommodate all the horses that take part in the big race, for each machine no less than 600ft. of timber (Australian spotted gum), 900 bolts and nuts, 100ft. of special hair belting, 200 steel wheels, 200 axles, and 800 fibre washers are used. The work is under the supervision of Mr. Rocke Phillips, of Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney.

South African Vesta Tilley.
TINY Miss Bertha Chiefitz, a talented youngster not yet ten years old, has already won a gold medal for violin playing, and in Johannesburg leads a three-fold existence as a midget star of polite vaudeville, a school-child, and a music-student. Thus early Bertha wears a little mannish evening suit, an opera hat, and a Vesta Tilley smile, and sings with intensity about "coming home with the milk," and other mid-Victorian delights. From her fifth year Bertha has, according to the *Cape Argus Weekly*, graced the stage, both with the Wheeler and Rayne managements, and the only Leonard christened her the "South African Vesta Tilley." She is a sweet child, and very clever; and may accomplish much if she doesn't decide to retire on her laurels at fifteen.

World's Great Stars for Johannesburg.
MR. ARTHUR DE JONG, of the well-known Johannesburg firm, De Jong and Black, intends to give South Africans a chance of hearing the world's great stars. He has engaged Miss Marie Hall, the celebrated violiniste, and Paderewski may also be induced to visit Johannesburg and other S.A. towns. Mr. De Jong, chatting to a *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg) representative, said it was due to his father's influence with the great musical artists of the day that he had induced some of them to agree to appear in South Africa. His father was the pioneer of popular concerts in the North of England.

Memorial to Late Alfred Dampier.
THERE is a movement on foot in Sydney to erect a memorial to the late Mr. Alfred Dampier, over his grave in Waverley Cemetery. Many thousands of Australians, young and old, will recall with pleasure the parts which Mr. Dampier played during a long stage career. Both on and off the stage he was a gifted and charming man.

Julius Knight's Supper Parties.
THE announcement in Sydney that Mr. Julius Knight was making his farewell appearance there in *Henry of Navarre*, and that after his season in the West and Melbourne he would return to London, was the signal for remarkable activity on the part of Sydney hostesses. A series of supper parties was hastily organised, and invitations to the popular actor became so numerous that he found himself embarrassed with five for his last Saturday in Sydney. The fact that they were all to be held at the one hotel did not help to lighten the perplexity of the invited guest at this social problem.

"THE NAKED TRUTH."

That exceedingly humorous and successful comedy *The Naked Truth* has found a new home at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, having been transferred to that house from Wyndham's Theatre last Monday night. Mr. Charles Hawtrey returned to the cast after a short, well-earned rest, and had an enthusiastic reception from a highly appreciative audience. As Bunny Darrell, Mr. Hawtrey has a part that fits him like the proverbial glove, and he plays it to a continual accompaniment of merriment. The humorous situations arising from the peculiar properties possessed by the magic ring, which forces its wearer to speak the "naked truth," still evoke roars of laughter. Mr. Arthur Playfair as James Darrell, Bunny's uncle, is in his happiest vein, and hits off the character to the life. The Mr. Hayter of Mr. Eric Lewis is a delightful piece of pure comedy, and his fine performance is greatly appreciated. Mr. George Bellamy gives a most humorous impersonation of Prosser, Bernard Darrell's secretary. Mr. Ernest Thesiger makes an excellent Teddie Lestrange; and Mr. Lyle's performance of the quack, Dr. Masters, is a clever impersonation. Miss Frances Wetherall furnishes a natural and telling rendering of the rôle of Bunny's mother, Mrs. Darrell; as the fascinating Mrs. Hayter Miss Maud Cressall supplies a thoroughly sound performance; Miss Phyllis Embury charmingly portrays the youthful heroine, Norah Creighton; and Miss Vera Maitland does well as the French woman, Mme. Favre. Miss Clare Greet makes an excellent Mrs. Duckett; the Hammond of Miss Kate Doxford is a meritorious performance; and Messrs. Holliday Atilay and Lionel Williams, in the parts of Mr. Sawyer and Mr. Freeman, of the Syrian Cement Co., do useful work. *The Naked Truth* is preceded by that clever little piece, *The Wiles of a Widow*, which is an acceptable prelude to the comedy.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Bert Conway, brother of Queenie and Edie Leighton, who passed away, after a short illness, at the St. Thomas's Home, on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at the early age of forty-two. Mr. Conway was for seven years stage-manager for Mr. Wentworth Croke's *The Christian* company. The funeral took place at the Earlsfield Cemetery on Saturday last. Floral tokens of respect were sent by Miss Valli Valli, Miss Margaret Dutton, Miss Eva Jones, Miss Dorothy Clifton, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brandon Bedells, Mr. and Mrs. J. De Saxe, Mr. and Mrs. Bobbie Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Scott (Dolly Harmer), the staff of the Putney Hippodrome, Mr. A. Collins, Mr. M. Leveaux, Mr. G. H. White, Mr. F. C. Cockerill, Mr. N. Spencer, and all the members of the family. The Misses Leighton wish to thank all friends for the very kind letters and expressions of sympathy.

IN our issue of Aug. 27 we stated that Miss Hettie Gale was then appearing in the *Lucky Lisa* company. Miss Gale's engagement with that company finished on June 25.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB.

The members of the Managers' Club are settling down comfortably in their new quarters at 5, Wardour-street, whither they removed at the end of June. The new premises are right in the centre of Theatreland, almost overlooking Leicester-square, and within sight of two tubes—the Bakerloo and the Hampstead. They are far superior to the old premises in Savoy Mansions in respect of lightness, brightness, and general convenience, and present advantages impossible in the former.

The premises secured by the club embrace three floors, with two rooms on each. The first to be reached is the reception-room, an elegantly-furnished lounge, with piano, armchairs, and settees, and snugly carpeted floor. Adorning the walls are half-a-dozen engravings of scenes from Shakespeare, presented to the club by Mr. Rollo Balmain, and from the ceiling depend handsome electroliers, which give a powerful light. A large selection of newspapers and illustrated magazines of a very comprehensive character are taken, including, of course, the professional journals, music hall as well as theatrical. Adjoining is the admirably-appointed buffet, where luncheon, tea, and dinner are served, meals being obtainable between the hours of 12 and 10. The prices are low, table d'hôte being available at 1s. 6d., while a light lunch, consisting of cut from the joint and two vegetables, is served for 1s. Two stewards, in smart livery, attend to the wants of members.

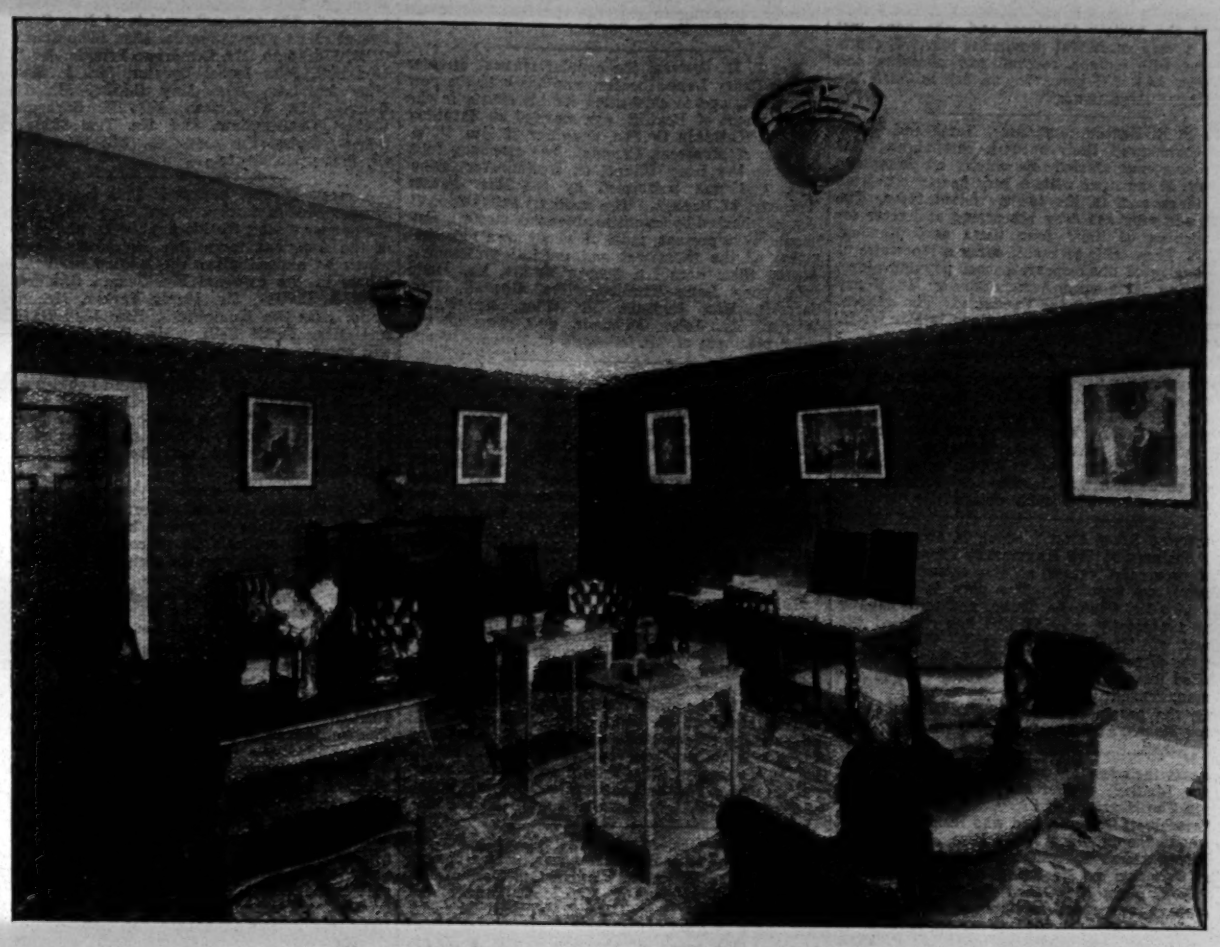

THE MANAGERS' CLUB—THE RECEPTION ROOM. [*Photo by Brookman.*

Higher up one reaches the "silence room," a conveniently fitted apartment devoted to writing. Here are tables and writing materials in any quantity, each table being furnished with a reading lamp. The portrait of Sir Herbert Tree is conspicuous on the walls, which are also decorated with rare old prints of the celebrated G. V. Brooke, presented to the club by Mr. William Giffard. Cupboards are in course of erection where members may keep their dress clothes in readiness for the theatre and store other articles whenever desired. Next is the card room, where provision is made for games in abundance. The pictures in this room, as well as the clock, are the gift of Mr. Wentworth Croke.

The billiard room, that indispensable adjunct of a social club, is found on the fourth floor. In the old premises billiards were practically impossible owing to the defective light, but here the sun reaches every corner of the room, while at night electricity is the illuminant. A full-sized match-board is provided, and a "marker" is always in attendance. A telephone to the steward is fitted here as well as in the card-room. The general telephone is also at the disposal of members.

An "exit in case of fire" leads up to the roof, whereon it is proposed to cultivate a garden. The elements have not been encouraging to open-air resorts, but it is hoped to get the roof in order for next summer, when it should prove a decided acquisition to the attractions of the institution.

The Managers' Club, it may be added, exists for the purpose of bringing touring and resident managers, proprietors, and all interested in theatrical enterprise into touch with each other. Theatrical and music hall managers, acting-managers, and box-office managers are all eligible, and so rapidly is the membership increasing that it is intended shortly to fix an entrance fee. The annual subscription is two guineas, the financial year beginning April 1, but members joining in October pay a half-year.

Touring managers find the club especially useful, as it furnishes a rendezvous while they are in town, and while they are travelling the secretary follows the tour and re-addresses all communications. Mr. M. V. Leveaux is chairman, and the hon. treasurer Mr. J. Bannister Howard, while the committee includes Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Edward Terry. The secretary is Mr. M. Martin, who has held office since 1907, and whose experience in a similar capacity elsewhere has much to do with the prosperity of the club.

COMPOSITIONS from the pen of Paganini will shortly be published for the first time. The famous violinist wrote some quartets for violin, viola, guitar, and 'cello, six of which have been for some time in the possession of Mr. Alfred Burnett, the MSS. being apparently in Paganini's own handwriting. Movements from these quartets have now been arranged for violin and pianoforte by Mr. Henry Tolhurst, and are being published for the first time by Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew. The six pieces now being published are Adagio in D major, Adagio in C major, Larghetto in D flat major, Largo in G flat major, Moto Perpetuo in A major, and Adagio Cantabile in D major.

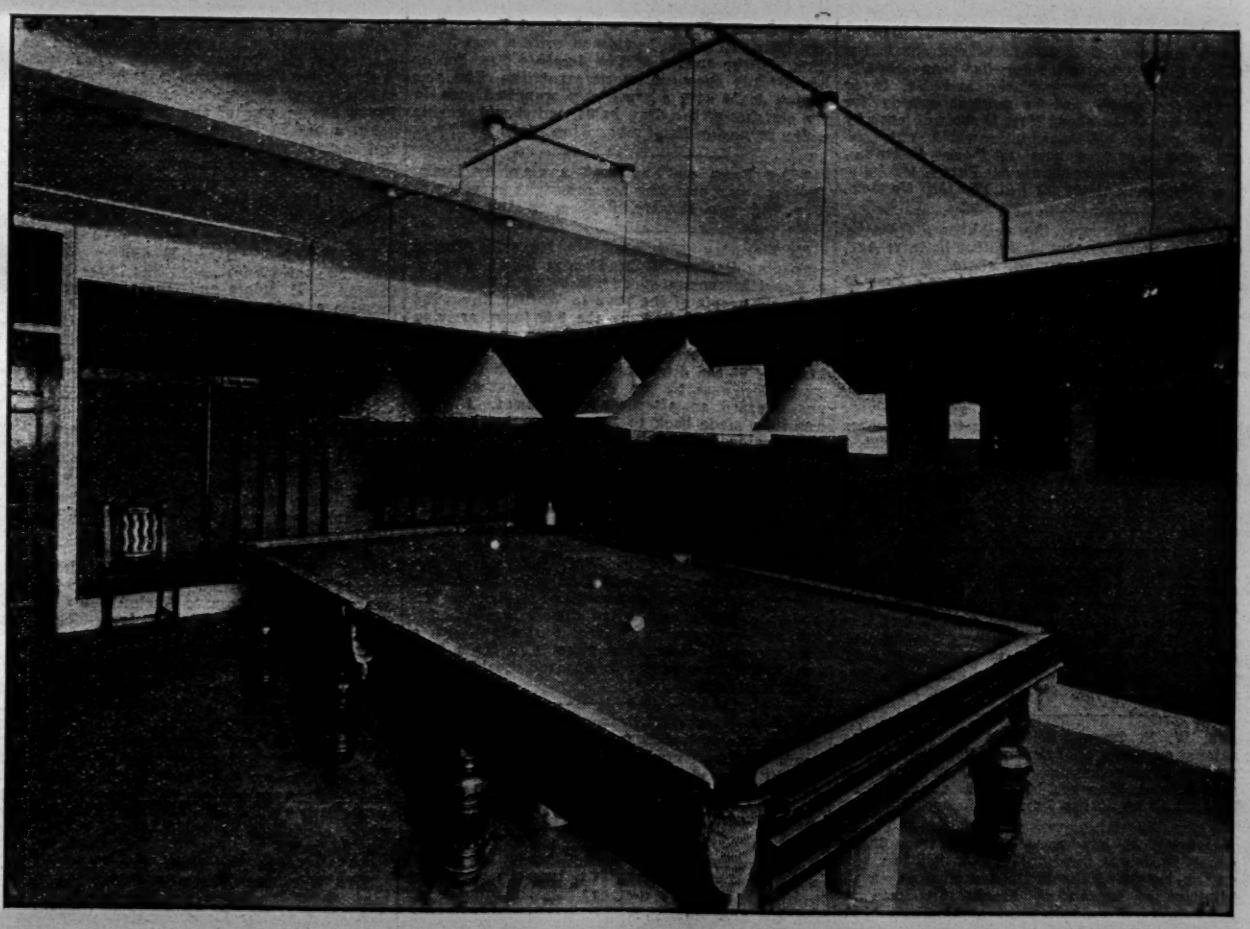

THE MANAGERS' CLUB—THE BILLIARD ROOM. [*Photo by Brookman.*

PIERROTS AND PAGEANTRY.

A happy reunion was effected on Tuesday when the Follies returned to the Apollo Theatre—resplendent in a new coat of white and gold—and received a hearty welcome from a brilliant house, crowded to the doors. Mr. Pelissier obtained an affectionate greeting, and for Mr. Lewis Sydney, Miss Gwennie Mars, and the rest of the merry troupe welcome scarcely less hearty was waiting. Every artist was in the best form, and the various items of the programme were rendered with the smartness characteristic of the troupe. The entertainment was fresh and sparkling throughout, and there was scarcely a moment's cessation of laughter, the feminine portion of the audience, indeed, growing quite hysterical.

Amid a set scene of characteristic black and white proceedings began, an exhilarating opening chorus being followed by selections by the various members of the troupe—dainty songs by the lady Follies, droll stories by Mr. Lewis Sydney, a whimsical Arcadian shepherd impersonation by Mr. Pélissier, and marvellous imitations of leading actors by Mr. Morris Harvey. Gastronomic quartets "for six voices" provided food for mirth, a missionary being cooked by cannibals before the eyes of the audience, and Mr. Pélissier figuring as a Scotch Jew in a realisation of "Haggis." "A Voice Trial," in which the efforts of aspirants for Folly fame were burlesqued, also proved a severe test of the risible faculties.

A wealth of comic surprises was furnished in "Pélissier's Potted Pageant," in which the craze for pageantry is satirised amid a scene representing a mediæval castle and surrounding lands, some amazing effects of perspective being gained. The pageant is opened by a deliciously droll speech by the Mayor, and resolves itself into a veritable comic history of England, kings and queens disporting themselves in ludicrous fashion. Godiva's ride through Coventry is represented with the lady hidden entirely by a huge screen, in deference to the objections raised by local societies. The last episode shows ladies and cavaliers enjoying a "Cinderella" or "Small and Early" dance, when they are disturbed by Oliver Cromwell and his Apaches. The castle is stormed amid a downpour of real rain, the performers, in an advanced stage of dejection, vainly trying to shelter themselves under umbrellas.

"BARDELYS THE MAGNIFICENT."

A Romantic Play, in Three Acts, by Henry Hamilton and Rafael Sabatini, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Louis XIII. .....MR. HERBERT JARMAN
Marcel de St. Pol .....MR. LEWIS WALLER
Phillipe .....MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND
Regnier de Suffren .....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Eugen de la Fosse .....MR. DION TITHERADGE
Leon de Mironsac .....MR. LESLIE REA
Captain Casalet .....MR. LEWIS BROUGHTON
De Mortemar .....MR. JACK NAPIER
De Calonne .....MR. CATON WOODVILLE
Vicomte de Lavedan .....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Rene de Lesperon .....MR. CRONIN WILSON
Laurent Chevalier de St. Armand .....MR. REGINALD DANE
Hector de Marsac.....MR. CRONIN WILSON
Baron de Penthievre....MR. FREDERIC MORENA
Captain de Crosne .....MR. NICHOLAS JOY
Pierre Rodenard .....MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON
St. Yves .....MR. FREDERICK MORENA
Anatole .....MR. ERNEST BAXENDELL
Isabeau .....MRS. A. B. TAPPING
Roxalanne de Lavedan.MISS MADGE TITHERADGE
Andree de Marsac .....MISS DOROTHY DIX
Paquette .....MISS GABRIELLE DE WILDEN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

It would be no exaggeration to say that Mr. Lewis Waller has never filled a character which fits him better than that of the Marquis de Bardelys in *Bardelys the Magnificent*. First of all, the atmosphere of the drama is of the kind that he revels in; he has full scope for the play of all the emotions, and he is provided with an opportunity of displaying his talents in a humorous vein, an opportunity which he uses to distinct advantage. Then again, the piece—making allowances, of course, for the clipping and patching which a new production must inevitably undergo—is worthy of his skill; and thus there is an incentive for him to give of his best. He should soon place the part of Marcel de St. Pol, Marquis de Bardelys, on the same pinnacle of assured success as that delightful character Monsieur de Beaucaire.

The play, the period of which is the reign of Louis XIII., opens with the scene of a supper at the Palace de Bardelys, where Marcel de St. Pol, the Marquis, a courtier with a high sense of honour, a gentleman to his finger-tips, and who is in high favour with the King for gaiety and gallantry, is entertaining his friends. His amours are the talk of Paris, and he is the hero of an admiring circle of friends. In the same way the Comte de Castleroux, who is numbered amongst his guests, is the butt of many a jest for his failure to woo the fair Roxalanne, the daughter of the Vicomte de Lavedan, a task which has been set him by Louis XIII. The King's wrath and exile threaten him, and, stung by the taunts of his companions, he flings in the face of Bardelys a challenge to succeed in the wooing of Roxalanne where he has failed. The entrance of the King defers matters for a while, and when the challenge is again mentioned the King forbids its acceptance. His Majesty listens to the pleadings of Bardelys on behalf of Castelroux, upon whom he bestows an "honourable banishment," making him Chief Commissioner of Toulouse. He listens in jest to a proposal by Bardelys that he should play the part of the Sultan Haroun al Raschid now and again for the benefit of his subjects. There is an effective scene when Bardelys, on a point of honour, refuses to obey the commands of Louis in connection with the wager, and the latter retires, threatening all sorts of dire calamities to those who oppose his will. The curtain descends upon a final toast, proposed by Bardelys, to "Roxalanne de Lavedan: that is, Roxalanne de Bardelys that shall be."

Bardelys, without loss of time, departs on his way to woo and win. He meets with many adventures on the way, and in a deserted barn discovers an Orleanist, Rene de Lesperon, mortally wounded, who entrusts to his care some love-letters and a locket to be given to his betrothed. It is a very affecting death-scene, and hardly has De Lesperon breathed his last when a troop of soldiers arrive seeking to arrest him. In a cleverly-contrived scene they mistake Bardelys for De Lesperon, and *vice versa*. Pursued and wounded, Bardelys at length reaches sanctuary by climbing the ivy up to an open window from which light is streaming. It is the room of Roxalanne, and the meeting is as romantic as anyone could desire. It is a case of love at first sight, but the Marquis, though he conceals his identity, is a little staggered to find that Roxalanne holds Bardelys in utter contempt on hearsay evidence. The wounded man is cared for by the girl's parents, in the meanwhile impersonating the dead Orleanist. For ten days he remains their guest at Toulouse, and a perfect love idyl between he and Roxalanne is disturbed only by the whimpering jealousy of a weakling dandy, Roxalanne's cousin. It provides a pretty situation, which is abruptly changed by the arrival of Castelroux, who seeks to arrest De Lesperon. Then events pass swiftly. The dead Orleanist is sought after by his sweetheart, and there are heart-searchings when she encounters Roxalanne. The latter, in a fit of jealous madness, betrays her lover, whom Castelroux, for his own ends, professes to believe is De Lesperon.

Then comes the most striking act of all, where all the dramatic elements gather themselves together for a startling *dénouement*. It opens with Bardelys in prison at Toulouse and Roxalanne, no longer in ignorance of his identity, pleading for his life with Castelroux. It is of no avail, however, and in the subsequent Court scene—which, by the way, provides a curious comparison with our modern methods of justice—Bardelys, unable to prove his identity, is condemned to the block. Then just as he has made his final futile appeal, and declares that the King could identify him, there is a stir at the back of the populace, and the tall figure of Louis XIII. stalks into the centre of the Court with the startling effect of a perfect melodrama. It provides the supreme finishing touch, and the play terminates with the reward of the sorely-tried pair and the unravelling of a very tangled tale of love.

In such a brief and inadequate summary it is impossible to convey the charm and distinction that pervades the play. It is full of the spirit of historical romance, and there are many pretty scenes possessing colour and movement. The play was received with the utmost warmth on the opening night at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, and Mr. Waller was evidently very embarrassed by repeated calls. The acting of the entire company was excellent throughout. Miss Madge Titheradge, one of the most promising of our younger leading ladies, plays the part of Roxalanne with delicacy and feeling. She makes the character an intelligent one, albeit perhaps a trifle heavy once or twice. Her chief triumphs are scored in the love scenes.

Mr. Herbert Jarman provided a fine dignified study as Louis XIII., and Mr. William Haviland displayed a finish in his portrayal of the Comte de Castelroux that sufficiently proved his ability. Mrs. A. B. Tapping was perfectly at home in the rôle of the Vicomtesse de Lavedan, and her study was very well executed. Mr. Alec F. Thompson embodied all the qualities of a successful page.

The play is beautifully mounted, and the dresses have been designed with elegant taste by Mr. Tom Haslewood. Mr. Waller has been ably assisted in the work of production by Mr. Herbert Jarman.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to become a patroness of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

Sir Herbert Tree's little book on "Henry VIII. and His Court," which has been published by Cassell and Co., Ltd., is interesting even to those familiar with the literature on the subject. At intervals there peeps out in the text an expression of individuality, of personal and original opinion; and the glimpse it gives of Sir Herbert's character is deeply interesting. His quotations are never hackneyed, and are always of value, notably his inclusion of Brewer's pithy note on the "mystery" in which King Harry veiled his intentions and opinions.

Very pithy, too, are the remarks on Wolsey's diplomatic schemes; and, for his brief biographies of Anne Boleyn and Katharine Sir Herbert has culled many dainty points from his authorities. Sir Herbert is, perhaps, inclined in describing the success of Henry's anti-Papal action, to lay too much stress on the cleverness of the King's tactics, and too little on the facts that the majority of his subjects were on his side, and that the strength and prosperity which they had regained after the exhausting Wars of the Roses had made England justly feared on the Continent.

But the cream of the pamphlet is the extenuation of Sir Herbert's methods in producing Shakespeare, "which have been assailed in a recent article," writes Sir Herbert, "with almost equal brilliancy and vehemence. The writer tells us that there are two different kinds of plays, the realistic and the symbolic. Shakespeare's plays, we are assured, belong to the latter category. 'The scenery,' it is insisted, 'not only may, but should be imperfect.'

"This seems an extraordinary doctrine," says Sir Herbert, and he proceeds to attack it with satire. Referring to the demand made in the article for "symbolism," he says in a footnote:—"Personally, I have been a sentimental adherent of symbolism since my first Noah's Ark. Ever since I first beheld the generous curves of Mrs. Noah, and first tasted the insidious carmine of her lips, have I regarded the wife of Noah as symbolical of the supreme type of womanhood.

"I have learnt that the symbolists, when painting a meadow, regard purple as symbolical of bright green; but we live in a realistic age and have not yet overtaken the *art nouveau* of the pale future. It is difficult to deal seriously with so much earnestness. I am forced into symbolic parable. Artemus Ward, when delivering a lecture on his great moral panorama, pointed with his wand to a blur on the horizon, and said: 'Ladies and gentlemen, that is a horse—the artist who painted that picture called on me yesterday with tears in his eyes, and said he would disguise that fact from me no longer!' He, too, was a symbolist."

"It is the painter, not the frame-maker," says Sir Herbert, "who upholds the art of painting; it is the poet, not the book-binder, who carries the torch of poetry.

"There are plays in which symbolism is appropriate—those of Maeterlinck, for instance. But if, as has been said, Maeterlinck resembles Shakespeare, Shakespeare does not resemble Maeterlinck. Let us remember that Shakespeare was a humanist, not a symbolist." A spirited little controversy like this is a good thing for Shakespeare, and not at all a bad thing for Maeterlinck.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, after his long vacation spent with his wife (Gertrude Elliott) and children at Miss Maxine Elliott's charming country residence at Bushey Heath, in England, will—as mentioned by us last week—return by the s.s. Laurentic, leaving Liverpool on Sept. 17, to resume the run of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* in America, and reopening for a week at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, on Monday, Sept. 26, in consequence of the curtailment of his visit there in May on account of King Edward's death.

On Oct. 3 Mr. Forbes Robertson and his London company return to Maxine Elliott's Theatre, New York, where the record run of Jerome's phenomenally successful play was only interrupted by reason of an official invitation from the Governor-General of Canada for him to play there prior to his return to England. He will, however, only be able to remain here a fortnight, and then adjourns to the Majestic, Brooklyn, and the New Circle Theatre, New York City, for successive weeks, subsequently visiting the Adelphi, Philadelphia, Belasco, Washington, and Auditorium, Baltimore.

After further single weeks at the Shubert, Brooklyn, and West End Theatre, New York City, Mr. Forbes Robertson will be seen for three nights each at New Haven, Hartford, Providence, and Albany, arriving at Boston (New Shubert Theatre) just before Christmas for a season limited to one month, and towards the end of January makes his welcome appearance at the Garrick Theatre, Chicago. There, no doubt, he could remain for the rest of the season, but for contracts to appear in February at Minneapolis, followed by personal visits to the New Shubert Theatres in St. Paul and Kansas City, after which he will be seen at the Garrick, St. Louis, the Masonic, Louisville, Milwaukee (Alhambra), Cincinnati (Lyric), Indianapolis (New Murat), Pittsburg (Alvin), Cleveland (Colonial), for single weeks. Then come three nights each at the Garrick Theatre, Detroit, Rochester, and Syracuse, in which neighbourhood he will terminate his second American season towards the end of May.

Mr. Forbes Robertson will rely throughout on *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, which will attain its 1,000th performance in America and England in the course of this comprehensive tour, more than 500 performances having been given in New York and London, England, alone.

"E. F. S.," in the *Westminster Gazette*, in criticising our leading article of Aug. 13, admits the accuracy of our statements, but objects to our deduction. The only "deduction" we made was to point out the existing circumstance, *i.e.*, that practically "one act one scene" is the rule nowadays for dramatic authors. But the modern playwright who knows his business seems, both here and in France, to be able to overcome the difficulties of a single scene for each act. And we fancy that if a really strong historical play were written, a manager would be found able to meet the case by expedients.

In connection with the benefit to Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, a special appeal to "all prominently connected with the theatrical world, and all having at heart the interests of the stage," is being made in a letter bearing the autograph signature of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who is, with his usual kindness, taking a great interest in the success of this benefit, and will himself appear at the Lyceum on Oct. 4. Contributions may be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, at the office of *The Era*.

Mr. Percy Hutchison, with his Wyndham's Theatre company and production of *Brewster's Millions*, eclipsed all records for the Pier Theatre, Eastbourne, on opening there last Monday evening. The increased prices charged for this visit made no difference to the enormous demand for seats, and long before the curtain rose hundreds had been turned away, unable to secure even standing room.

The Savoy Theatre will reopen on Monday, Sept. 12, with Messrs. Chappell's clever company, "The Grotesques," who have made themselves favourites in London at the Small Queen's Hall and at the variety theatres, and who have just ended a very successful provincial tour. The programme will include several new sketches and numbers, and will conclude, as before, with the diverting *Village Concert*.

The F. R. Benson companies, North and South, have commenced their autumn campaign. The South company started operations at Gravesend on Aug. 22, meeting with a very hearty reception both there and in the towns visited later. The North company are busy rehearsing at Exeter for the opening of their tour there next Monday, Sept. 5. They will, as usual, carry a répertoire of some twelve of Shakespeare's most popular plays, the leading parts again being taken by Mr. Henry Herbert and Miss Gladys Vanderzee. The general manager of these two organisations is Mr. W. H. Savery.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark are having a record season at their charming little Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. "House full" boards are the rule, and many hundreds turned away nearly every night. A novel idea (initiated by these managers) of having day bills printed in French as well as English, has become very popular with the large number of French visitors.

"Priscilla Runs Away," which is doing phenomenal business at the Haymarket Theatre, starts on its provincial career at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Sept. 26. The play is being rehearsed by Mr. Chas. La Trobe, and the company has been carefully selected and has received the approval of Mr. Herbert Trench. The tour is under the direction of Mr. J. E. Watson, who was connected for a number of years with the Hutchison management, and who has recently been touring the provinces with his *The New Boy*, *A Country Mouse*, and *The Sowers* companies.

The cast includes the well-known names of Miss Beatrice Lindley, who created such a success as Kitty in *The Marriage of Kitty*, and as Suzanne in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, and who recently starred throughout the provinces with Miss Maud Allan; Mr. Clifton Alderson, fresh from his recent success at the Criterion as Sir Brian in *When Knights Were Bold*, plays the Grand Duke. The dresses and scenery are exact replicas of those at the Haymarket. With such a play, company, and production, a long and successful tour for *Priscilla Runs Away* may confidently be predicted.

Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. Cowen are sending out a short tour of the new farce, *Looking for Trouble*, by Hélène Gingold and Laurence Cowen, starting at Reading on Sept. 12. The company includes Miss Gillian Scaife, Miss Rhoda Beresford, Miss Ruth Shepherd, Miss Barbara Huntley; and Messrs. Warburton Gamble, Fred Grove, Charles Fancourt, Frank Tennant, Frank Attree, and George Ingleton.

Captain Basil Hood has been to Ischl, and has there submitted his adaptation of *The Count of Luxembourg*, which will eventually be seen at Daly's Theatre, to Dr. Willner and Mr. Lehar, the author and composer, who are quite satisfied with Captain Hood's clever additions and alterations.

Miss Florence Imeson, who has scored unprecedented triumphs in South Africa, and has had two unique experiences there—she opened the first theatre ever erected in Rhodesia, and she had a gold mine christened after her—has been specially engaged by Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell for entire lead in musical comedy for Australasia. On or about Nov. 19 she will leave by ss. Rotorua for Melbourne, in which city she will make her first bow to "our Australian cousins" on Boxing Night as Peggy Quainton (Miss Ellaline Terriss's part) in *The Gay Gordons*.

Mr. Charles Darrell, the well-known dramatic author, has gone to that delightful little village, Codsall, near Wolverhampton, where he is busily engaged on his new play, *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, which is to be produced by Mrs. Frank Bateman at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, on the 19th inst.

The Theatre Royal, Limerick, was put up for public auction at the Mart on the 16th ult. by the Brothers Ebrill, auctioneers, and after very close bidding was knocked down to Mr. George Victor Fogerty, son of the late popular proprietor, Mr. Robert Fogerty, at the high figure of £1,500. Offers of £1,000 came from several well-known speculators, the secretary of the Operatic Society going as far as £1,100. The new manager is very popular.

The Theatre Royal, Birmingham, has reopened under triumphant auspices, after a long summer vacation, on Monday, a romantic play, *Bardelys the Magnificent*, being produced for the first time on any stage by Mr. Lewis Waller's London company. The auditorium presents an attractive appearance after the renovations, which have been carried out on a very artistic scheme.

Mr. W. F. Crowe, the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter's manager at Brighton, Bristol, and the Lyceum, London, has left the Lyceum Theatre in order to undertake the business-management for Mr. Hall Caine at the Garrick Theatre.

A wreath of bay-leaves gathered from Shakespeare's garden at Stratford-on-Avon has just been sent, on behalf of the birthplace trustees, to the birthplace of Goethe at Frankfort-on-Main, to commemorate the anniversary of Goethe's birthday. The wreath bore the following quotation from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: "For everlasting bond of fellowship." An exchange of wreaths between the birthplace of Shakespeare and the birthplace of Goethe has been the custom for some years.

The phenomenal success of *Tantalising Tommy* at the Playhouse, where it has now passed its two hundredth performance, may justly be attributed to the remarkable way in which the piece has been acted. It is an example of light material dignified by artistic treatment; of comedy acting of the finest sort applied to farcical situations and to light though pleasing characters. Mr. Cyril Maude's James Cottenham is a *tour de force* of delicate drollery; and the loveliness of Miss Marie Löhr, and her vivacious simplicity, are irresistible. These gifted artists are admirably supported by Mr. Kenneth Douglas as Harry Killick, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. John Beauchamp, and Miss Maidee Hope.

Mr. Robert Arthur, on Wednesday, at the Coronet Theatre, will present Miss Marion Terry in Mme. Albanesi's play *Sister Anne*, with a cast including Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Frederic Sargent, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Henry Kitts, Mr. Arthur Cleave, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Ruth Bower, Miss Viva Birkett, Miss Winifred Beech, Miss Marion Ashworth, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, and Miss Marion Terry.

A pretty wedding took place at St. Elvan's Church, Aberdare, on Thursday, the contracting parties being Mr. Charles Halling, general manager for Mr. W. V. Garrod's *A Country Girl in London* company, and Miss Maude Merrick, the leading lady. Mr. Fred Wilberforce gave the bride away, and Mr. Frank Dallas acted as best man. Thus we have another instance of actor and actress repeating in real life the felicitous scenes enacted before the footlights.

Mr. J. M. Glover, the popular musical director of the Drury Lane Theatre, who has held the post since 1897, and is celebrated for his efforts in the development of Bexhill, was married on Saturday to Miss Kathleen Collins, daughter of Mrs. R. G. Collins, of Montreal, Canada. The ceremony took place in the Lady Chapel at Westminster Cathedral, and was performed by the Rev. Father Kennedy, of Bexhill. The wedding was, curiously enough, marked by an entire absence of music. Few people were present, most of whom were representative of the theatrical and musical professions. Among them were Mr. George Mozart, Mr. Lindo (of Drury Lane Theatre), Mrs. Goodall, Mrs. Sartoris, Miss Jackson, Mr. Olley, Mr. Harry Wilson, Mr. John O'Connor, and some of the chief members of Mr. Glover's orchestra.

The bridegroom walked to the Cathedral, accompanied by his best man, Mr. Jno. O'Connor, M.P. The bride, who drove up in a taxicab, wore a dress of white crêpe de chine, with ninon tunic, and a "flower-pot" hat with tall white osprey feather trimming. She was accompanied by her mother, and was met at the west door by Mr. Harry Wilson, solicitor, who led her up the nave and gave her away. A reception was held at the Waldorf Hotel, and later in the day the happy pair left for Ostend, where they are spending the honeymoon.

Mr. George Edwardes, before reopening the Adelphi Theatre, will make some important alterations and improvements in the house. The broad staircase leading to the dress circle will be removed to allow of the introduction of a large and comfortable lounge. A new refreshment room will be added to the stalls, and a semi-circle of boxes will be put over the dress circle. The house will be entirely redecorated in rose, gold, and grey, and a new act drop will be painted. A lift will be behind to convey the artists to their dressing-rooms; and a new and commodious property room, and an electric light installation will be added.

The intention is, of course, to make the Adelphi a thoroughly up-to-date playhouse, fit for the reception of Mr. Edwardes's production there of *The Quaker Girl*, written by Mr. J. T. Tanner and composed by Mr. Lionel Monckton, with lyrics by Mr. Adrian Ross, Mr. Percy Greenbank, and others. The scene of the first act is a simple country picture, and the remaining two acts take place in Paris. Miss Gertie Millar and Mr. Joseph Coyne will sustain the leading characters.

Mr. Walter Joyce, the veteran reciter, with whom the delivery of the famous "Charge of the Light Brigade" is chiefly associated, entered on his seventy-fifth year on Thursday. His many friends in the country and abroad will rejoice to learn that he is enjoying good health at his residence at Putney.

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne will commence his season at the Queen's Theatre on the 20th inst., with Mr. William J. Locke's four-act play, *The Man from the Sea*. The cast will include Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Arthur Lewis, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. A. Vane Tempest, Mr. Gerald Mirrielees, Mr. Jules Shaw, Mr. Edward Y. Rae, Mr. Frederick Worlock, Miss Nina Boucicault, Miss Beryl Faber, Miss Gwladys Gaynor, and Miss Olivia Eltone.

Mr Croker King has commissioned Gaston Gervex (Mrs. Montagu Fowler) to write a sketch for him. As the author of *The Accolade* Mrs. Fowler has already shown dramatic capability. The new sketch deals with a sensitively organised man in the clutches of the drug habit, and should provide a fine scope for Mr. Croker King's talents.

"The Price of Freedom," a play, by Deane Ballyan, was produced for copyright purposes at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, on Aug. 27.

On Thursday (25th ult.), Mr. Mark H. Lindon, managing-director of the Theatre Royal, Stanley, repeated his annual outing to between thirty and forty old people of the town to Whitley Bay. The party left Shield Row by the 9.40 train, arriving 11.15 at Whitley Bay, where dinner was provided for them at Poresi's Restaurant. Through the kindness of the directors of the Spanish City, the party were met by Mr. A. A. Penleve, manager, and afforded an afternoon's enjoyment. A move was then made back to the restaurant, where tea was provided, after which a stroll along the sands was indulged in, the party finally leaving by the 7.15 train, and arriving home about 9.15, after a delightful day's outing.

Mr. Frank Gerald has scored a big success in Nat Gould's play, *The Chance of a Lifetime*, which was produced by Wm. Anderson at the King's Theatre, Melbourne, on July 16, and is playing nightly to the capacity of the house. Mr. Anderson has mounted the drama lavishly, and the company, almost entirely Australian, give a fine, all-round show. The piece is in for a long run, and when produced in England should have a successful career.

The first provincial tour of the Haymarket success, Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, begins at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on Sept. 5. It will then visit the Court Theatre, Liverpool, and the other towns included in its flight are Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Sheffield, Manchester, Nottingham, Southport, and Birmingham—ten towns in all—and the tour is to run for three months. The company travels 120 strong, and carries with it many more tons of scenery and properties than any company that has left London for the past twenty years.

The company will travel by its own special train right through the tour, and carry their own rolling stock with them all the time. All the costly and elaborate scenery used in the Haymarket production will be used, as well as all the properties and costumes. Each theatre visited is being fitted with a special electrical installation, in order that the wonderful lighting effects may be the same, and the play seen exactly as it was in London; and at each theatre visited the orchestra will be greatly enlarged, in order to do justice to the music, which is one of the features of the production. In connection with the tour, Mr. Trench has issued a charming booklet, printed in colours and copiously illustrated, setting forth the story of the play in a graphic and picturesque style. The booklets will be supplied free of charge on application at the box-office of the theatre in the various towns included in the tour, and should prove an attractive souvenir.

The attraction at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, next week will be a revised version of *The Mountaineers*, by Guy Eden, and the music by Reginald Somerville. This is its first appearance in the suburbs, and the cast arranged by Mr. Harry P. Towers includes Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Aida Jenoure, Miss Ida Stratham, Mr. Claude Flemming, Mr. Leo Sheffield, Mr. Edgar Maraden, Mr. Frank Lawton, and Mr. Fred Eastman. The chorus numbers thirty, and for this week the opera will be conducted by Mr. Reginald Somerville, the composer. The company comes to Hammersmith from Blackpool, where it has done excellent business.

"The Chocolate Soldier" will make his first salute at the Lyric on Saturday next. The piece is officially described as "an Englished version of Bernauer and Jacobson's parody of a well-known comedy." The full cast consists of Miss Constance Drever, Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Elsie Spain, Mr. C. H. Workman, Mr. Lempriere Pringle, Mr. Murri Moncrieff, Miss Isobel Lydster, Mr. A. Harding, Miss Morrison, Miss May Clarke, Mr. Harold Dennie, Mr. W. Ketran, Miss M. Burnege, Mr. Roland Cunningham, and Mr. Tom Shale. Mr. Oscar Strauss, the composer, will be present at the first performance.

A clash of first nights is thus inevitable, Mr. Stanley Cooke having some time since selected the same evening for his production at the Strand of the American farce, *The Man from Mexico*, in which he himself plays the leading part. Among others in the cast are Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Cecil A. Collins, Mr. Harry Parker, Mr. Kinsey Peile, Miss Ola Humphreys, Miss Jean Harkness, and Miss Faith Celli. Mr. Cooke's production will possess considerable interest for the ladies, as the dresses, designed by Reville and Rossiter, of Hanover Square, will enable them to obtain a good idea of the coming autumn fashions. Mr. Reville has just returned from Paris, where he has been in consultation with other artists, the result being that something novel may be expected in the costumes.

Miss Georgie Corlass appeared in Bombay on Aug. 1 after three and and a half years' absence, and had an enthusiastic welcome from all parts of the house. She was the recipient of lovely presents of jewelry and flowers, and was compelled to sing many times before she was allowed to leave the stage.

Mr. Stanley Drewitt will play the part of Laurence Dale, a fanatical idealist, in the remarkable new play to be shortly produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. It was originally entitled *Laurence Dale*, but is now to be called *The Gentlemen of the Press*.

On Friday night, the 26th ult., at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, Mrs. Morton Powell, the authoress of *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*, which was paying a return visit, was presented by Mr. Arthur Jefferson, the resident manager, with a handsome mirror from the members of her company, and a magnificent bouquet from the Metropole management. In a well-chosen speech to a crowded audience, he mentioned that all records had been broken, and complimented Mrs. Powell on the play, the company, and the enormous houses that had been drawn. On Saturday night the theatre was filled to its utmost holding capacity before 7.15, and hundreds were turned away.

Mr. J. Gar Kiddie, one of the popular managers of the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, and noted for his ingenuity in theatrical and all entertainment affairs, has composed a captivating musical piece called "Borough Chimes." On Monday the piece was rendered by the orchestra at his popular theatre, and at the conclusion everyone voted Mr. Kiddie's début as a composer of music a success.

Mr. C. Emlyn Jones begs to thank all friends and acquaintances for their kindnesses and sympathy during his long and protracted illness. He is now quite well again, and is prepared to accept engagements for the coming season. His new address is Brighton Hall, 3, 4, and 5, Cartwright-gardens, Russell-square, W.C.

In the interview with Mr. H. B. Brandreth, acting-manager at Kennington Theatre, on the results of Mr. Robert Arthur's stock season at that theatre, which appeared in *The Era* last week, it should have been mentioned that Mr. Frank Crimp, one of the principals in the company, appeared for the entire fifteen weeks' run, and enacted many of the leading rôles with great success. He was particularly good in the detective parts. Prior to going to Kennington, Mr. Crimp was Bandmaster Van Voight in a long run with *Miss Hook of Holland*.

The Victoria Theatre, Broughton, will be reopened on the 5th inst. with *The Three Musketeers*. Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn also promise a series of plays, including *A Beautiful Fiend*, *The Days of Cromwell*, *A Traitor Prince*, *Send Him Victorious*, and several others, with their pantomime *Dick Whittington* on Boxing Day.

Mr. Fred Gould, who has been for upwards of fifty years associated with the theatrical profession, and who till recently was lessee of the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, has taken a long lease of the Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancashire. The theatre is at present being modernised, redecorated, and reseated, under Mr. Bilsborough, theatrical architect, of Leeds.

Miss Marie Dainton will make her first appearance in London at the King's, Hammersmith, next week, since her return to England, in the part of Clarice in *The Mountaineers*, for which she has been specially engaged.

Miss Gertrude Kingston will not be able to open her "Little Theatre," erected on the site of Coutts's Bank in the Strand, by Tuesday, Oct. 4, as expected, as it will not be out of the hands of the builders and decorators until a fortnight later. The opening programme will contain two plays, the longer an adaptation of a comedy by Aristophanes, period B.C. 411, and the shorter a piece dealing with radio-telegraphy as a detector of crime, the action of which is laid in the present year of grace.

Miss Gertrude Kingston wishes us to state that she does not intend to produce a new piece each week at The Little Theatre. What she proposes to do is to put up a new piece on the first Tuesday in each month. If it be found acceptable, it will be played on the remaining Tuesdays of that month; but this will not in any way involve the withdrawal of any other piece which may be enjoying a successful run.

We record with regret the death of Mr. Allan Macbeth, a well-known Glasgow musician, who passed away in that city on the 25th ult. A son of Mr. Norman Macbeth, R.S.A., the deceased musician was born in Greenock in 1856. He studied music in Germany and in Edinburgh. His connection with Glasgow began in 1880, when he became conductor of the Glasgow Choral Union. In 1890 he was appointed principal of the Athenæum School of Music, a position which he held till 1902, when he started the Glasgow College of Music. Mr. Macbeth was most successful in the production of opera in connection with his music school, and was a composer of considerable repute.

The successful run of *A White Man* at the Lyceum comes to a close on Saturday, Sept. 10, to give way to the autumn production of an entirely new drama by Walter Melville. Several important newcomers will be added to the Lyceum company, and the mounting will be elaborate.

"Our Boys," with a strong company, is billed for next week at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames; and Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing-director, has arranged for Miss Kitty Darling, who won the first prize in the International beauty contest at Folkestone, to appear with Mr. Jack Humphries in the farce *Ancient Britons*.

Mr. Norman V. Norman gave a special performance of *David Garrick* at the New Theatre, Westgate-on-Sea, on Saturday last, almost every reserved seat being booked in advance.

"House full" boards are now nightly exposed outside the Aldwych Theatre, where *The Bad Girl of the Family* has entered into the fourth century of her successful run.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. A. Hornby Warburton, late of Mr. G. M. Polini's *Silver King* company. He had been ailing for some considerable period, but struggled very hard to get through his duties under extreme difficulties. On the recent visit of the company to Swansea the poor fellow suddenly collapsed, and had to be removed to the hospital, where he lingered between life and death for a week, and finally passed peacefully away on Wednesday night.

Mr. Warburton was a talented and earnest actor, and figured in several of Mr. Richard Flanagan's well-known revivals at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. He was loved and respected by all who knew him, and his death has cast a sad gloom on his brother and sister colleagues of the *Silver King* company, who deeply regret his absence from their midst.

Miss Winifred Pearson made a success on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, as Meg the Mobswoman, in a dramatic episode in one act by Leon M. Lion. Miss Pearson will probably be seen in it later on tour halls under the management of Miss Annie Hughes.

Mr. Arthur Collins has invited Danny Maher, William Griggs, B. Dillon, Walter Griggs, J. H. Martin, and F. Wootton to ride in the race scene on Monday, Sept. 12, and all these leading jockeys have agreed to the proposal.

At the Vaudeville, during the recent absence of Miss Phyllis Dare, her part of the girl in the train has been filled successfully by her understudy, the clever and rising young actress, Miss Daisy Burrell.

Mr. T. P. Haynes (Tippy) had a tempting offer from Mr. Walter Melville to create the character comedy part in his forthcoming new production at the Lyceum Theatre, but owing to a special week's engagement at Dublin, from which he could not get released, was reluctantly compelled to decline.

"Why Did She Run Away?" a play in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, was produced for copyright purposes at the Queen's Theatre, Longton, on Wednesday.

Mr. Allan Jeayes, who has recently been playing Major Petkoff in *Arms and the Man* and Finch McComas in *You Never Can Tell*, will enact Baron Osteman in *Priscilla Runs Away* at the Haymarket on Monday night and onwards.

There have been exceedingly large houses at the Royal, Worthing, during the past month, but all records in the history of the theatre were broken last week-end, when the attraction was *Our Miss Gibbs*. Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, the popular lessee, has further booked some excellent attractions, and these include *Smith*, *Fires of Fate*, *David Garrick*, *My Lady Bellamy*, *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, *When Knights were Bold*, *Diana of Dobson's*, *Queen of the Fairies*, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, *The Woman in the Case*, and *The Beauty and the Barge*.

Helene Gingold and Laurence Cowen have also written a one-act drama, entitled *Two Men and a Woman*, which will be played for the first time at the County Theatre, Reading, in front of their farce, *Looking for Trouble*. It is a peculiar coincidence that a four-act melodrama with the same title inverted, viz., *A Woman and Two Men*, was produced this week at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

Whilst Miss Celestine Bertram is away touring in Mr. Frank Bertram's *The Sailor's Wedding* company, her little daughter Nancy is paying a visit to Mr. Arthur Bertram at Killarney, Lewisham. The child was out with her nurse a few weeks ago, when the maid was stopped and questioned by a gentleman, who turned out to be "Maurice," the great child portrait painter. He obtained her name and address, and wrote to Mr. Arthur Bertram, asking if he would allow the child to sit for him. The result has been excellent, and Mr. Maurice is entering it at the forthcoming exhibition.

"There are a lot of girls who go to Paris to study music," says the *New York Herald*, "who are not in a mental condition to undertake the work. No American girl ought to attempt such a thing unless she has studied over here. Paris is a finishing school. It is not a place for beginners. . . . The first thing you know they are lost—absolutely wiped off the face of the earth.

"At the same time you meet everywhere wonderful exceptions to the general run, and there are some teachers over there that are doing great work for deserving American girls without charge. But the girls who go to the Latin Quarter to live on the score of cheapness and to learn French make a great mistake. They get into houses that are fearful from a sanitary standpoint, and there are so many girls and so little French spoken by those they meet that it is next to impossible for them to learn the language.

"Most of the girls I met came from little places, where they sang in the church choir. Some admiring friends said to them: 'Why, Pauline, dearie, how lovely you sing! You ought to go to Paris to study grand opera.' The result was that the ladies' aid society gave a festival, or a private subscription was taken up, $1,000 was raised, and Pauline was started out for Paris. With lessons at $5 and $10, it doesn't take long to exhaust Pauline's funds, and sometimes it takes a long time to acquire a musical education.

"The number of Paulines who become objects of charity is appalling. I know of a wealthy San Francisco woman who is in Paris with her two daughters, who are studying singing. The two girls found at the same studio where they took lessons several girls who were without means, and they were so sympathetic that each gives the larger part of her personal income to help these along."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Glover's Adventures.

MR. JAMES GLOVER, whose marriage on Saturday we note elsewhere, began his musical experiences early. The grandson of a musician, he made his first public appearance on the Dublin stage as a boy, and later travelled with his grandfather, providing vocal illustrations to the latter's lectures on "Ancient Irish Music." Then he was apprenticed to a chemist, but making music was more to his taste than compounding drugs; and for a time he exercised his talents as an organist in Dublin.

How He Became a Conductor.

He once gave an amusing account of how he became a conductor. A lady sleight-of-hand performer advertised for a pianist, and he got the job at 36s. a week—to lose it again because he did not polish his boots. He had been billed, however, as "musical director," and that gave him an idea, which he was not slow to act on. "When I found myself stranded I returned to London with a stock of handbills with my name on them as musical director, and promptly wrote to every manager for free seats. The manager of the Prince of Wales's, now the Scala, instead of sending me tickets, offered me an engagement as musical director with Mr. Charles Collette, on tour, at £3 a week, and that started the ball rolling."

Blow, bugles, blow!

MR. JAMES MILNE, in an article in the September number of the *Fortnightly Review* on "The Personality of America," tells the following two stories about Henry Irving:—"A bugle sounds half an hour before breakfast on an Atlantic steamer. A young bugler was accustomed to make his first blast just where Irving's cabin-suite happened to be. The 'drowsy morn' had twice been waked in this fashion for the famous actor, who was in no special hurry to greet it. On the third morning a poetic head, which streamed down into a long, lank figure and a dressing-gown, came out of the cabin-door and exclaimed, 'Dear bugler boy, you blow beautifully and I love your music. But I should love it still better if you would blow at the other end of the ship.' The head disappeared, and so did the bugler, richer by a particular word from Henry Irving."

He Saved the Whisky.

The second anecdote refers to a remark made by Irving on a liner which was having rough weather and jumping about a bit. He had been dining in his sitting-room, where suddenly a special heave of the vessel caused a tumult. Somebody ran in, and there lay crockery and dinner on the floor, with Irving standing over the disaster. He had a bottle in his hand, and he said, triumphantly, "Anyhow, I have saved the Scotch whisky."

Mr. Mathews on "Bustle."

MR. A. E. MATHEWS, in an interview in the *New York Times*, has registered a mild protest against the American habit of "bustling." He says:—"Your American stage is really as different from the English as it is from the French and German, in a way even more so. You have what we call 'tempo' behind the footlights. This 'tempo' you see both in the plays and the acting. What we turn into light comedy you often treat as a farce, pure and simple. And why not? Speed is in the air. The audiences want a thing done quickly, and, presto, it is! An American audience will kill a wordy drama quicker than any other audience in the world. Your requirements are different over here from anywhere else in the world. So when I hear, for instance, that they used *The Mollusc* as a farce over here I'm not surprised. Though a month ago I would have been shocked.

Speeding Up.

"My new play, *Love Among the Lions*, is another example. In England we would go slower, make it more comedy. Here you speed up. And bless me if I don't enjoy it. You really get excited in your part. Now hear my old friends back in England laugh. Getting excited in comedy! The idea is absurd, ridiculous! Honestly, they think it is; fun is leisurely to them. But over here—why, if I ever get any of the proverbial American riches I'm going to endow a fund for a course at Coney Island for the education of my friends. You beat the French.

The Sedate English.

"The actors, too, have this 'bustle.' You go behind the scenes at London rehearsals, and if the setting were proper you would imagine that you were at a midsummer garden party. Everyone is leisurely. Here you are all on your toes. Even I'm on my toes—and have been since my second or third day in the city. And, hang it! I don't know but that I just as lief be on my toes.

The Danger of "Bustling."

"Still, there is a danger for the actor in this spirit of 'bustle.' He is likely to overdraw on his strength. I've met many of your older actors. And while it would not be courteous to indicate whom I meant, I must say that they show their age far more than an English actor of similar years does. We have more old actors than you have—and the reason is, I think, that when an English actor reaches the half-century mark he doesn't look more than forty, while the American looks his full age, and perhaps a bit more. I know a score of actors in England over fifty who still play youthful romantic parts. Where, with you, may I find any approach to that number? American actors should keep a close gauge of their health, for it is so easy to overdo."

American Theatres.

"Americans," says Mr. Forbes Robertson, in an interview in the *Daily News*, "go much more to the theatre than we do here. With them it is a habit. And theatres are larger." When Mr. Robertson closed the Alexandra Theatre for two days at the time of King Edward's death (the Alexandra, by the way, was the only theatre closed in America) he returned 5,000 dollars of ticket money. "The acoustics of American theatres are admirable. Maxine Elliott's theatre in New York is on a smaller scale—about as large as the St. James's, and excellently appointed. The American native-born drama grows by leaps and bounds. Progress in the last few years has been quite extraordinary. There is Eugene Walters's *Paid in Full*, there is Winchell Smith's *Fortune Hunter* (with, by the way, a part just made for Cyril Maude), there is Augustus Thomas's *Way Down East*, there is Percy McKay, there is Moody, a really first-class man (you know his *Great Divide*), and, lastly, and the most promising of all, there is young Sheldon, the author of *The Nigger*, quite a boy, and destined, I am sure, to make a great name for himself. You cannot judge of a nation by its exports. Nor can English people, unfamiliar as they are with American life, judge whether a play is tomboy farce or stern realism."

General Matrimony.

"Charley's Aunt" was being played by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company at the Paisley Theatre on Monday evening, and as the tangle of the play was in process of being unravelled a lady in the pit, realising the inevitable outcome, unconsciously gave expression to her thoughts by exclaiming quite audibly: "Oh, they are all getting married!" The large audience was hushed to silence at the time, but the exclamation, heard distinctly throughout the house, set the audience into a fit of laughter, in which the artists on the stage had perforce to join.

"HENRY VIII." AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

On Thursday, Sept. 1, Revival of Shakespeare's Play.

King Henry VIII. ....MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Cardinal Wolsey .....SIR HERBERT TREE
Cardinal Campeius .....MR. S. A. COOKSON
Cranmer .....MR. CHARLES FULLER
Duke of Norfolk .....MR. A. E. GEORGE
Duke of Buckingham .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Duke of Suffolk .....MR. EDWARD O'NEILL
Earl of Surrey .....MR. GERALD LAWRENCE
Lord Chamberlain .....MR. EDWARD SASS
Gardiner .....MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL
Lord Abergavenny.....MR. CLARENCE DERWENT
Lord Sands .....MR. WALTER R. CREIGHTON
Sir Henry Guildford ....MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Sir Thomas Lovell ....MR. HENRY C. HEWITT
Sir Nicholas Vaux .....MR. CHARLES JAMES
Thomas Cromwell .....MR. REGINALD OWEN
Griffith .....MR. HENRY MORRELL
1st Gentleman .....MR. CYRIL SWORDER
2nd Gentleman .....MR. CHARLES HOWARD
Garter King at Arms..MR. CLIFFORD HEATHERLEY
Surveyor to the Duke of Buckingham
MR. ACTON BOND
Sergeant-at-Arms .....MR. ARTHUR GASKILL
Servant .....MR. W. B. ABINGDON
A Crier .....MR. EDMUND GOLDING
A Scribe .....MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER
Jester .....MR. ROSS SHORE
Queen Katharine .....MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH
Anne Bullen .....MISS LAURA COWIE
An Old Lady .....MRS. CHARLES CALVERT
Patience .....MISS LILA BARCLAY

Henry VIII. has a long stage history. The first recorded performance of the play, which took place at the Globe Theatre on Bankside on June 29, 1613, is connected with a conflagration. By the careless discharge of a piece of ordnance the thatch was set on fire and the building burnt to the ground. The prologue is interesting to managers as containing a reference to the price of admission and the time of performance, the careless playgoer being told that he may "see away his shilling in two short hours." *Henry VIII.* has always been looked upon as an opportunity for gorgeous pageantry. Pepys, who gave it at the Duke's House in 1663, spoke of the "shows and processions." Betterton made a great success as Henry, when the play was done at the Haymarket in 1707 by a company of actors from Drury Lane, Colley Cibber playing Surrey. Booth was the King in a revival at Drury Lane in the May of 1722; and Quin enacted Henry in a representation at Lincoln's Inn Fields in the October of the same year. At Drury Lane in 1727 there was added a grand spectacle of the Coronation of Anne Boleyn, to which Cibber referred when pleading his own case in Chancery against Sir Richard Steele as "a spectacle that for forty days together has brought more money to the house than the best play that ever was writ." There was another revival at Drury Lane in 1734, and Mrs. Prichard played Anne Bullen in a performance of *Henry VIII.* at the same theatre in 1740. In 1744 the piece was given at Covent Garden, and then for twenty years it was laid on the shelf, other performances taking place at Covent Garden in 1772 and the Haymarket in 1777.

Mrs. Siddons was the Katharine at a Drury Lane revival of the play on Nov. 25, 1788; and the part became a favourite with her. Philip Kemble's acting version was presented at Covent Garden in the April of 1806, Kemble playing Wolsey, the rôle which Kean sustained at Drury Lane in 1822, Macready at Covent Garden in 1823, and Phelps at Sadler's Wells in 1845. On the walls of the Garrick Club hangs a fine picture which Mr. Forbes-Robertson painted of Phelps in the rôle of Wolsey. A costly and memorable production of the play was that by Charles Kean at the Princess's in the May of 1855. It included a "moving panorama" in the last act. Much previously omitted text was restored, and Mrs. Charles Kean's Queen Katharine was a very fine performance, Miss Heath, afterwards Mrs. Wilson Barrett, being the Anne Bullen. A later revival of the play was that by Mr. Wyndham at Edinburgh in 1855, in which the late John Lawrence Toole enacted Lord Sands. The most celebrated revival of all, however, was that by the late Henry Irving at the Lyceum on Jan. 5, 1892. It had two hundred and three performances, and earned sixty-six thousand pounds, Irving's Wolsey being a magnificent performance, and Miss Ellen Terry's Katharine astonishing her warmest admirers. Mr. Edward German's music had much to do with the success of the revival, and greatly increased the young composer's reputation.

One of the revivals above mentioned supplies us with an apt estimate of *Henry VIII.* It is not so much a drama as a moving panorama of a period. We are shown Henry, "a mass of humanity profusely mixed of good and evil," exercising absolute power, putting one man up and another down, scorning popular opinion, and yet, through it all, managing by his strength and sagacity to crush all opposition, defy the Pope, and quell every attempt at rebellion in his subjects. Henry's defects and qualities are depicted with impartiality; and the same may be said of Wolsey, the "apology" for whose "life" is so well made by Griffith in the fourth act of the play. These two characters, and that of Queen Katharine, stand out on the stage as they do in the pages of history. The spirit in which the piece is written is rather that of remorseless modern realism than of the customary selection and arrangement. The author, or authors, give us no inkling of their feelings or opinions. There is no exaggeration to hint that Henry's scruples as to the righteousness of his marriage with Katharine were spurious; the personages and their actions are described with absolute simplicity, and treated in a spirit of cynical fatality. The ruined Wolsey owns the justice of his fate, the nobles play the great game boldly and go to the block with resignation, and the whole drama is characteristic of the Tudor time, so full of the exuberant energy and recklessness of the Renaissance. If not a good play, as judged by ordinary standards, *Henry VIII.* is undoubtedly a very interesting "slice of life."

The performance at His Majesty's on Thursday was as superbly complete as might have been expected from the strength of the cast and from its very judicious selection. Mr. Arthur Bourchier gave a really magnificent impersonation of King Henry VIII. Mr. Bourchier has all the physical requisites of the character, and he suggested the characteristics of Henry—his burly, overbearing energy, and his bluff abruptness, splendidly. His byplay in the dance with Anne Bullen, in the banqueting-hall of Wolsey's palace, was remarkably fine. Sir Herbert Tree's Cardinal Wolsey was a performance which will be ever retained in the recollection of London playgoers. Never has Sir Herbert presented a finer or more distinguished appearance. The clerical unction and overbearing pride of the crafty and ambitious churchman were depicted with grand elevation and in a lofty and dignified style which endowed the embodiment with rare superiority and high and distinguished individuality. Sir Herbert's appearance in the extensive robes of the Cardinal was very picturesque, and his bearing was appropriately bold and exalted. Mr. Henry Ainley gave a very fine and remarkably mature performance as the Duke of Buckingham, speaking his farewell address to the people most expressively and with deep artistic feeling; and Mr. Henry Morrell showed real ability and employed excellent elocution in his rendering of the lines allotted to Griffith. Miss Violet Vanbrugh's Queen Katharine was a performance which could hardly be overpraised. The eloquent indignation of the persecuted Queen was expressed with a strenuous intensity which moved the audience to the warmest sympathy. The noble nature of Katharine was shown with striking power and delicate sensitiveness; and in the Death scene Miss Vanbrugh rose to a high pitch of pathos and deeply affected her hearers. Miss Laura Cowie gave a piquant and keenly interestingly embodiment of Anne Bullen—winsome, shy, and sweet, but coquette to her dainty finger-tips—her appearance being very appropriate to the part. *Henry VIII.* contains a large number of well-defined characters of the second order, which present few opportunities, and these were filled with Sir Herbert's customary care for effect and completeness. Mr. S. A. Cookson was excellent as Campeius; the rôle of Cranmer had a clever and capable exponent in Mr. Charles Fuller; and Mr. A. E. George as Duke of Norfolk, Mr. Edward O'Neill as the Duke of Suffolk, Mr. Clarence Derwent as Lord Abergavenny, Mr. Gerald Lawrence as the Earl of Surrey, and Mr. Walter R. Creighton as Lord Sands, gave well-defined and cleverly-individualised impersonations of the leading nobles of Henry's Court; Mr. Edward Sass being good as the Lord Chamberlain, and Mr. William Burchill meritorious as Gardiner. Mr. Edmund Gurney gave a sound and careful rendering of Sir Henry Guildford; Mr. Acton Bond supplied a sound, clear, and satisfactory performance of the part of the Surveyor, his excellent elocution and bold bearing being conspicuous; Mr. Henry C. Hewitt was meritorious as Lovell; and Mr. Charles James made a good Vaux. The rôle of Cromwell was judiciously allotted to Mr. Reginald Owen, who gave a praiseworthy reading of it; and Mr. Cyril Sworder and Mr. Charles Howard were good as the First and Second Gentlemen. Mr. Clifford Heatherley as Garter merited favourable mention; Mr. Arthur Gaskill was efficient as the Sergeant-at-Arms; and Mr. W. B. Abingdon was easily excellent as a Servant; Mr. Edward Golding as a Crier, Mr. Francis Chamier as a Scribe, and Mr. Ross Shore as a Jester all doing useful and careful work. That very distinct and piquant personage, the Old Lady, had in Mrs. Charles Calvert an exponent who, by her ripe experience and genuine talent, was capable of giving the part its fullest and sharpest significance; and Miss Lila Barclay was praiseworthy as Patience.

To do justice to the glories of the scenery and costumes would require a column in itself; indeed, description is inadequate to give an idea of the production which Sir Herbert Tree and Louis N. Parker have presented to the public. Amongst a scenic plot which is simply overpowering in its grandeur and beauty stands out the glorious *coup d'œil* of the spectacle in Westminster Abbey. The detailed truth, the marvellous variety and the archæological arrangement of this extraordinary reproduction of sixteenth-century life beggar description, and Mr. Joseph Harker must be warmly congratulated on the way in which he has done his work. Although less elaborate than others, perhaps the first scene, The Cloisters, is as effective as any; while from the artistic point of view nothing can exceed the exquisite colouring, the subdued minor tone of Scene 1, Act II, The River Gate, in which Buckingham goes to his fate. There is also a strikingly beautiful effect in Queen Katharine's Death scene, in which we see with the eyes of the dying Queen the flight of angels ready to sing her to her rest. The dances were agreeably arranged by Miss Margaret Morris. The costumes, designed by Mr. Percy Macquoid, were marvellously detailed and often gorgeously splendid. The overture, entr'actes, and incidental airs were selected from the original music of Mr. Edward German, by whom several new incidental numbers were composed for the production; and the part song, "Pastime and good company," introduced in the first act, was written and composed by King Henry VIII.

In response to tumultuous applause and a demand for a speech at the conclusion, Sir Herbert remarked that he had cut two scenes out of his production, but this did not seem to have detracted from its success. He wished specially to thank his very kind friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bourchier, for their assistance. It had been a great pleasure to work with them during the rehearsal. Sir Herbert also acknowledged his indebtedness to Mr. Louis Parker and Mr. Percy Macquoid. The revival had the enthusiastic reception it so well deserved.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Two novelties were included in the programme of the Promenade Concert at Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, Aug. 25. Mr. Albert Mack's "The Song of the Shulamite," with orchestral accompaniment by Mr. Henry Wood, came first. Mr. Mack's song proved to be a dramatic scena, in which much of the interest was due to Mr. Wood's excellent and effective orchestral scoring, although the vocal music was melodious and expressive. The new production was beautifully sung by Mrs. Foster Salmond, and with considerable fervour, while the audience gave both vocalist and the song a very enthusiastic reception. Mr. Arthur Foote, who like Mr. Mack is an American composer, was the author of the second novelty, a Suite in E major for strings, a sound and musicianly composition, pleasing in character and most ably scored for the stringed orchestra. There are three movements in Mr. Foote's Suite, a Prelude, Pizzicato and Adagietto, and Fugue. The first movement, although short, is full of charming melody and strong effective contrasts, while the Pizzicato and Fugue are alike interesting and artistic. Admirably played, the Suite met with a very hearty reception. The programme also contained Beethoven's "Fidelio" Overture, the "1812" Overture, Tschaikowsky's Elegy from Serenade for Strings, and Sullivan's "In Memoriam" Overture. Mr. Gerald Zalsman gave a very striking and forcible rendering of Henschel's song, with orchestra, "Jung Dieterich," and Mr. Alfred Kastner's brilliant harp solos were quite a feature of the concert.

On Saturday, Aug. 27, there was a large audience at Queen's Hall. The programme commenced with the "Tannhäuser" Overture, which was followed by Mozart's exquisite Minuet in D for Strings and two horns, capitally performed by members of the orchestra. A first performance in England was given of a Fantasie Concertante for viola and orchestra by Mr. J. Rogister. The Fantasie contains four sections, Allegro, Andantino, Minuet, and Finale, the Andantino being the most successful movement. Mr. S. L. Wertheim gave an excellent interpretation of the solo part. Miss Maud Santley's fine voice was heard to great advantage in Leroux's Aria "Le Nil," and Mr. Morgan Kingston gave a spirited version of Handel's Aria, "When warlike ensigns wave on high." The orchestra played Ballet Music, "Hulda" (César Franck), Bantock's Overture, "The Pierrot of the Minute," Mackenzie's "Britannia" Overture, and Tschaikowsky's popular "Casse-Noisette" Suite.

With the object of making known in the Old Country the advantages of Australia, and thus attract desirable immigrants, the Commonwealth has just voted £4,000 a year towards a Colonial drama to be acted throughout the English provinces. The play is to be written by an old-time Australian, Mr. Nat Gould, and performed by Australian artists.

"THE CRISIS."

An Adaptation, in Three Acts, of Pierre Berton's *La Rencontre*, by Rudolf Besier, Produced at the New Theatre on Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Camille de Lançay .....MISS EVELYN MILLARD
Renée Serval .....MISS SARAH BROOKE
A Maid .....MISS B. MARTHEZE
Canuche .....MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Raymond de Brévannes ....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Armand Vivien .....MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Adrien Serval .....MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL

Mr. Rudolf Besier's version of Pierre Berton's play has been curtailed since its production at the Hastings Pier Pavilion last week, where it was presented in four acts. The adapter has also made other improvements in order to better fit the French plot to the taste of an English audience—an almost impossible task, and the piece is supplied with bright dialogue and effective situations of the sort in which the skilled Parisian playwright excels.

"What is the use of being a pretty woman if you don't make the man fall in love with you?" asks pretty Renée Serval of her friend Camille de Lançay. Renée has successfully exploited her own charms to her great personal advantage; they have gained her a husband, a successful lawyer of humble origin—whom she despises—of immense wealth, in which she delights, and of a social position which she values very highly. It is for his position and his money that she has condescended to marry him. She loves him not at all, nor does she pretend to do so, for Renée's heart is the cold, calculating organ of the *mondaine*. Her liaison with Raymond de Brévannes serves rather to gratify her vanity than her senses; and Raymond is a bird of the same feather, a *bon viveur* whose outlook on life is one of undiluted materialism. To the home of Renée comes an old school friend, Camille de Lançay. The friends have not met for six years, and during that time both have married. Camille's marriage has ended disastrously. We gather that her husband has been an "unmitigated brute" (fortunately we are spared details). Camille is a lovely, sympathetic woman; Serval is one of the "strong, silent men" of the newspaper feuilleton. The inevitable happens. At their first meeting (is this La Rencontre of the original title?) we see a mutual attraction dawning. In the fortnight which elapses between Acts I. and II. they have fallen madly in love with one another. Serval is strong, but not quite so silent. He confesses his love, and Camille reduces him to silence again. They are to be friends—nothing more; she will leave his house in the morning. Serval goes off to Paris that night, and the moment he is safely out of the way Raymond enters clandestinely, and Camille is the unseen spectator of passionate embraces between him and Renée. As the pair retire to Renée's room Camille emerges from her hiding place to confront Serval, who has returned unexpectedly. Camille at first believes that he also has been a spectator of the lovers' meeting; but she finds that she is wrong—he is entirely unsuspicious of any deception on the part of his wife. In an agony of apprehension Camille sees him going towards the door of his wife's room, and to prevent this she falls back on a last resource. As she stands on the threshold she utters a frantic cry. He turns; she holds out her arms to him. She loves him, she is his; and he catches her in his arms.

The best scene in the play occurs in the last act. Camille and Serval have agreed to pass the sponge of oblivion over the episode between them, but Renée discovers that her lover is on the eve of marriage with an heiress, and her wounded vanity turns her into a Fury. A chance word awakens her suspicions that there is more than friendship between Camille and her husband. She cannot satisfy her desire for vengeance on Raymond, as to do so would be to defy the only god she worships—conventionality; but someone must pay for her bedraggled pride. If Camille and her husband are guilty they shall be the victims of her wrath. So she sets a poor tool of hers to spy on them. His report confirms her suspicions, and, in a blind rage, she accuses Camille, who has posed as her high-minded, noble friend, of having stolen her husband from her. She heaps scathing scorn and vitriolic abuse on Camille's head until the worm turns, and Renée is in her turn annihilated by the knowledge that Camille is aware of her liaison with Raymond, and that she has only to communicate it to Serval for the altar at which Renée worships to be demolished. But Camille's nobility of character is so great that she will sacrifice her own happiness, and incidentally Serval's, for the sake of her friend. As he enters she goes slowly and sadly away; and as she goes she conveys to his wife that there will be no exposure and that the secret will be kept.

The Crisis is scarcely satisfactory to English tastes. The motives actuating the characters appear inadequate and unreasonable. For instance, it is difficult if not impossible to imagine that a woman of Camille's character would give herself to Serval in order to save her friend from discovery when she has successfully resisted the appeal of his love. Such situations are theatrically effective, but will not bear the test of reflection. And as Anglicised, at least, the characters appear stilted, inconsistent, and unnatural. The deficiencies of the piece, however, are largely covered by the admirable acting of the performers. Miss Evelyn Millard returns to the London stage after far too long an absence, looking, if possible, more beautiful than ever—"a daughter of the gods, divinely tall and most divinely fair"—in her soft-flowing, faintly-tinted, and exquisitely-fashioned gowns. Miss Millard's elocution is as faultless as ever—a rare treat to an appreciative ear nowadays when so much is sacrificed to temperamental effects. She makes Camille a gracious, sympathetic figure, and more than reconciles us to the inconsistencies of the part. She is particularly good in the last act, when, at last, Renée exhausts Camille's patience, and the latter turns a quivering face on her former friend, and crushes her with a reference to her guilt. As Serval's wife, Renée, Miss Sarah Brooke was admirably suited, and played with genuine power and feeling. Miss Brooke's touch in comedy is always of the daintiest and lightest description, and her appearance is of the most *chic*; but when she is swept by a gust of passion the real art of the actress is shown at its best. Mr. Norman McKinnel can do nothing which is not interesting, and whenever he is on the stage he holds his audience without effort. In the part of Adrien Serval his powers were given but scant scope, but he did the best he could with his material, and his best was very good. But one has only to think of Mr. McKinnel's magnificent impersonation of King Lear, or his wonderful study of the embodiment of Capital, Sir Anthony, in *Strife*, to realise how inadequately his art is called upon in his present performance. Mr. Athol Stewart gave a very easy rendering of the *bon viveur* Raymond de Brévannes, and managed to infuse a flavour of heartlessness which was very effective. As the "poor tool" in love with Serval's wife, who uses him as a spy, Mr. Lennox Pawle was not very well cast, and it is therefore all the more to his credit that he gave the part of Canuche a reality which, in the hands of a less capable exponent, it would certainly have lacked. As Armand Vivien Mr. Douglas Imbert was more than efficient, and Miss E. Matheze was good as a maid.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LES DEUX ECOLES."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by M. A. Capus, Revived at the Vaudeville on Aug. 26.

Henriette .....MLLE. DE BERR
Estelle .....MLLE. PERRET
Mme. Joulin .....MME. BEAUVAL
Mme. Breneuil .....MME. GLIGNEUR
Clémence .....MLLE. MERTE
Le Hautois .....M. A. DUBOSC
Edouard .....M. PRAD
Joulin .....M. LORRAIN
Brévannes .....M. BERGER
Berguigny .....M. WEILL
Molitor .....M. CHARTRETTES
Le Gérant .....M. WILLIAM

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 1.—Brought out in 1902 at the Variétés, where it met with a tremendous success, M. Alfred Capus's *Les deux Ecoles* has now been revived at the Vaudeville, and received an excellent reception. The author has made no alteration in the plot, but has added a few touches so as to keep it up to date. Briefly told the story is as follows: Edouard Maubrun, a young barrister, is the husband of Henriette, the daughter of M. and Mme. Joulin, retired shopkeepers. Edouard is a charming fellow, a favourite with everybody, but he cannot resist temptation—especially in the shape of a petticoat—whereupon Henriette, sick of being deceived by him, resolves to apply for a divorce, unheeding the advice of Mme. Joulin, her mother, who tries to prove to her that in matrimony, if a woman wants to be really happy, she must be able to "ignore" certain things. Henriette, however, refuses to "ignore," and she obtains her divorce. Several months elapse. Edouard consoles himself with Estelle, a flighty damsel, also on the eve of a divorce, whilst Henriette is engaged to M. Le Hautois, a State Councillor. One night Edouard dines with Estelle at a fashionable restaurant, and chance has it that at a table near them are seated Henriette, her fiancé, and her parents. Edouard, of course, takes no notice of his ex-wife, but the waiter having, by mistake, handed him the bill intended for M. Joulin, an explanation ensues which brings him face to face with Henriette, who does not seem displeased at meeting the scapegrace. As to M. and Mme. Joulin, they always were fond of their former son-in-law, whom they welcome with undisguised joy. This rapprochement is not to the taste of the austere M. Le Hautois; for, being Henriette's fiancé, he considers that she has no right to converse with Edouard, and he remonstrates gently with Henriette. The latter receives his remarks with rather an ill grace, but his grave mien deeply impresses Estelle, who would, if she could, throw Edouard overboard to be taken in hand by the pompous State Councillor. Estelle succeeds in making Le Hautois' acquaintance, and in obtaining his permission to lay her divorce affair before him. Estelle calls on him, and Henriette enters the room at the very moment Le Hautois is kissing Estelle. Henriette is indignant. She refuses to forgive Le Hautois for having "wanted" to deceive her, and she pardons Edouard who has deceived her all along. Moreover, Henriette knows that she has never ceased to love Edouard, and she is equally certain that he, too, is fond of her. Under these conditions she does not hesitate. She will return to her good-tempered, jovial Edouard, and will "ignore" what had better be "ignored." When it is remembered that *Les Deux Ecoles* was originally played by famous artists like Mme. Jeanne Granier, Mlle. Lavallière, Mme. Magnier, M. Baron, M. Brasseur, and M. Guy, it can be understood that the new cast had an arduous task before them. They acquitted themselves, however, well of their work.

He is not going to leave us! He has altered his mind and intends to stay—until further notice. Who is *he*? *He* is M. Le Bargy, who, on several occasions, has not only threatened to turn his back on the Comédie-Française, but not long ago actually sent in his resignation. M. Le Bargy is an excellent artist. He can ill be spared, and, unfortunately he knows this only too well. The result is that he takes things somewhat easy, so easy in fact, that he absents himself frequently, and replies to all remonstrances by a threat to "leave the house." Seven years ago he "resigned," and informed all the journalists who interviewed him—and they were numerous—that he had decided to shake the dust off the House of Molière. When, however, he assisted at the reading of M. Hervieu's *Le Dédale*, he shook off no dust so as to secure a rôle in the new play. This time we witness a similar symptom. M. Henry Bernstein's comedy *Après Moi* is about to be launched at the Comédie-Française, and our exuberant friend at once shakes hands with M. Claretie and buries the hatchet.

Dranem—the great Dranem of music-hall renown—has, it is said, been engaged by M. Antoine to play the rôle of Sganarelle in Molière's *Le Médecin malgré lui*. From the Alcazar to the classical Odéon is a far cry, but everything is possible, although, despite M. Dranem's attentions, many people think it is only a hoax.

I am sorry to have to chronicle the death of M. Léon Marx, the former manager of the Cluny Theatre, whom I often have had occasion to mention in these columns. He was a wag in his way, except when troubled by indigestion, which befell him only too often. I remember calling on him one day when he was paying the penalty for having eaten lobster the day before. "Look at me!" he said, with a pitiful smile, "when I was young I had a tremendous appetite, but no money to buy food. To-day I have money, but I cannot buy an appetite. What's the good of money if you can't eat!" Poor Marx! He worked like a slave at Cluny and amassed a nice little fortune with which he retired. But somehow or other he could not remain idle, and in an evil hour he invested his savings in the Concert Européen, which proved a failure. Ruined and worn out with care, he had a stroke of paralysis, and has now passed away in his sixty-second year.

I also learn the death of Dambrine, who for many years sang in opera-bouffe at the Variétés in the Bouffes Parisiens. Dambrine was only forty-two.

Arthur Coquard, the well-known composer, has also departed this life. A pupil of César Franck, his works always bore a Wagnerian stamps, and in his criticisms—for he also wrote musical criticisms—he remained faithful to the first impressons of his youth, an attitude which frequently brought him into conflict with the adherents of the so-called advanced school. Besides many songs and orchestral pieces, Coquard produced several operas that had a certain success: *L'Epée du Roi*, *Le Mari d'un jour*, and *La Jacqueria*, of which Lalo had written a first act. He also leaves a lyric drama which the Opéra-Comique intends to produce in the course of the coming season. It is called *Isdronning*, and the libretto, founded on a Swedish legend, has been compiled by his daughter.

About ten thousand persons witnessed a most successful Venetian Fête, which was held last Wednesday evening at St. Aubyn's, Jersey. The first prize for illuminated boats was won by a dainty, bright crimson gondola, and amongst numerous excellent exhibits was Cleopatra on her historic journey to Mark Antony, the big wheel at Earl's Court, and a Roman interior. A display of aquatic fireworks was given by Messrs. C. T. Brock. There was a Battle of Confetti, and the band of the Jersey Musical Union played during the entire evening, whilst the piers and adjoining houses were lit up with ten thousand coloured lamps and some thousands of Chinese lanterns.

MACREADY'S ACTING.

For subtlety, intellectuality, and vigour (says John Coleman in "Fifty Years of An Actor's Life") Macready's Macbeth has never been approached in our time; and he was the only possible Lear I have ever seen. He galvanised the dull and dreary abortion of Werner into life; while his Virginius—— But words are feeble to describe this matchless creation. In Edinburgh he wore a bald wig, which made him hideous; in Bristol he wore his own beautiful and abundant iron-grey hair curled, and certainly looked superbly handsome. His Lord Townly appeared to me affected, lachrymose, and tedious; but his Henry IV. was of the highest order of excellence. His Othello, which I saw him act in Edinburgh, was to me the least satisfactory and impressive of his Shakespearean performances. I may here remark that he was the only actor I ever saw "make up" for the Moor with an entirely black face—a face, in fact, black as a Christy minstrel. Possibly his comparative failure in Othello may have arisen from the fact that he never liked the part—so, at least, he assured me.

Actors are not always just to each other; but Vandenhoff once said to me, "Except Macbeth and Iago, I never cared for 'Mac' in Shakespeare. But I have acted Richelieu and Virginius hundreds of times; I have seen others—good actors, too—try their hands on them; but in these two parts we are none of us in the same century with him."

T. P. Cooke also said to me, "I hate him! D——n him! I detest the growling beast! But he can act, and no mistake! Kean tried to play Virginius after him, but he couldn't touch Mac, and threw up the part. I saw him once play Ruthven in a play on the subject of Mary Stuart, and the fellow positively so curdled my blood that I was glad to get out of the theatre!"

To me the most remarkable thing about Macready, more remarkable even than his marvellous ability, was that, with all his knowledge, his skill, his culture, his accomplishments, he had never been able to eradicate his native awkwardness and angularity. To the last he could not walk or stand gracefully. It was not from lack of trying to overmaster the defect, for Phelps informed me that, after long and fatiguing rehearsals of *Henry V.* at Drury Lane, "Mac" devoted hours to walking about the stage with "his cuisses on his thighs," but all to no avail, for at night he tossed and tumbled about literally like a hog in armour. When he came to anchor and stood quite still, from the front point of view his right leg and knee invariably described the acute section of an angle; but if seen from the sides, his head was thrown back till it was fully six inches out of plumb with his heels. As to fencing, he handled a foil like a pitchfork; but the glamour of his genius blinded his auditors to these blemishes, and, in spite of them all, he was the greatest actor of his time!

The Othello was a triumph for me. I was proud then—I am prouder now to remember that I was permitted to try my prentice hand beside such an Iago. What a masterpiece that Iago was! what a revelation of subtle, poetic, vigorous, manly, many-minded devilry!

The audience were more than usually kind to me. After I had got my first plunge over, I took heart of grace, and by the time I had reached the third act I forgot that he was anything more than "mine ancient"; I remembered only that I was Othello.

Neither then nor now could I act with gloves on my hands. I had removed, as I thought, all traces of the pigment with which I had "made up" from the palms of my hands, but, as my excitement increased, the wretched stuff seemed to ooze out of my very pores. When I came to the famous speech,

"Villain, be sure you prove my love," &c.,

I sprang upon Iago and seized him by the throat. I remembered nothing more until I found that I had literally flung him bodily down upon the stage and was standing above him, erect and quivering with wrath. On his part, he growled like an angry lion. The incident was as unprecedented as it was unpremeditated, and its effect upon the audience was electrical. They got up and cheered, and for some time the progress of the play was interrupted. This gave me time to collect myself, when, to my horror, I perceived that, in my ungovernable rage, I had torn open Iago's vest, and, worse still, left the black marks of my fingers on his beautiful white cashmere dress. When we came off the stage he glared at me and growled, "Err—well, sir, what have you to say?"

"I'm very sorry, sir!"

"Err—sorry, sir. By ——! you sprang upon me more like a young tiger than a human being."

"I was so carried away by the passion of the scene that I forgot myself; I must ask you to remember the novelty of the position in my being permitted to attempt so great a part beside so distinguished an actor as yourself."

"Don't humbug me, sir!"

"I scorn to attempt it; nevertheless, the honour you have done me to-night might well have turned an older head than mine. Pray, sir, make some allowance for my excitement."

At this he relaxed into a grim smile, and growled "Say no more—say no more; only remember, the next time you play this part with me confine your excitement to your mind and leave your muscles to take care of themselves!"

Although his plays were done from night to night, they were admirably acted. Needless to say, had not the company been both numerous and efficient they could not have been done at all.

It was not until he had finished his engagement at Bath that I ventured to reveal myself. There had been a hitch in the last scene of *Lear*, which I had the presence of mind to avert by taking it up and covering it. When the play was over a message came requesting me to step round to his room. I expected a bullying for having dared to tamper with the text. To my astonishment he came forward, and, taking me by the hand, said, "Thank you; you—err—err—saved the—err—end of the—err—play. Err—we—err—have met before, I—err—think?"

"Yes, in Edinburgh, on the night of the Forrest row."

"Err—yes—a miserable business; but—err—we had met before that?"

"Yes, in the saloon of Drury Lane."

"Err—I thought so! You were the boy with the—err—chubby cheeks and the—err—long hair, and the—err—blue frock, and the—err—camlet cloak? I thought so!"

"Did you, sir, really?"

"Yes, really. Now listen to words of wisdom. I fear the poetic drama is dead; if it were alive, your possibilities might be considerable. Do you known the difference between—err—talent and—err—genius?"

"Not clearly."

"Then listen! Genius is a misnomer. Look! That's the difference between the—err—one and the—err—other," and he made two horizontal marks one above the other with his thumb-nail on the painted wall. "The lower line is—err—talent; the higher—err—is the same quality cultivated to the highest standard of—err—perfection; then it becomes—err—genius. You have reached the—err—one, but you have a long way to go before you reach the—err—other. Now, remember the whole law and the prophets lie in Sir Joshua Reynolds' well-known axiom, 'Excellence was never granted to—err—man but as a reward of—err—labour.' Err—err—can I do anything to help you?"

"Yes; I should like to go to Edinburgh for the leading business."

"Very well; call on me to-morrow at one o'clock, and I'll give you a letter to—err—Murray."

A SPIRIT OF MIRTH.

It is refreshing in these days of pessimistic novels to read a story which contains as much cheerfulness as Miss Peggy Webling's "Spirit of Mirth," which has just been published by Messrs. Methuen and Co., Ltd. The authoress of "The Story of Virginia Perfect" has related the life history of a young girl named Euphrosyne Moore, the daughter of a contortionist who calls himself "The Human Eel." Her journey through life, her success as a dancer, and her happy and finally prosperous union with the man of her heart are described in the most pleasant and agreeable style; and the characters introduced—a villainous adventurer, a free and easy actress, and other individuals connected with the career of "Phosie" are admirably drawn. One of the brightest passages in the book is that which deals with Euphrosyne's rehearsal of a dance:

"The scheme of the sketch was as light as thistledown, for it dealt with the adventures of a banished fairy, alone by moonlight in the garden of a mortal.

"All the stage accessories were necessarily absent—the moon, the owl, the bat, the flowers—but Addison had described them before she began, and the fairy herself was a fairy in mufti, half a fairy and half a girl.

"Her grass-green frock was of silk chiffon, a sparkling girdle clasped her supple waist, her little satin shoes were tied round the ankles with silver cord, her wreath of flowers had not been sent home from the costumier's, and her hair, instead of floating free, was closely twisted into a thick plait.

"Her cheeks were flushed with excitement, and her eyes sought Addison as she tripped into the room. Talling played an alluring waltz, and Phosie, with outspread arms, danced her first dance with exact and finished skill on the tips of her toes.

"Addison was rewarded for the hours he had spent in teaching her, but he realised that the charm in all she did depended on her own personality. The idea, the steps, the gestures were his, but the peculiar joyousness of her beauty—an evasive, expressive beauty not only in face, but in figure—turned his little sketch into a masterpiece.

"Fleet was the word to describe her. She moved as quickly as a bird skimming over water, as lightly as a leaf blown before the wind, as gaily as a bubble floating on the air."

The triumph of the young dancer culminates on the production of the sketch:

"The spacious entrance to the hall was ablaze with lights and gay-coloured posters. Big men, in chocolate and fawn livery, stood at the swing doors, while the attendance within the building was divided between powdered footmen and black-gowned, white-aproned programme girls.

"The much-frequented bar was discreetly placed at the rear of the hall. A thick cord was stretched between the lounge and the stalls. When the performance began, at eight o'clock, only the cheap parts of the house, the upper circle and gallery, were filled.

"Phosie's sketch was announced by a specially-printed slip inserted in the programme, Addison's name having saved her from appearing simply as 'Extra Turn.'

"The curtain rose on the dim, soft light of a garden beneath the moon.

"Hewett Addison, standing in the wings, was satisfied with the stage effect, and Hewett was very hard to satisfy.

"Mr. Quizzical Quilter, puffing his cigar in the front row of the circle, started a faint, but encouraging, little burst of applause.

"'Charmin'! Quite charmin'!' said Quizzy to the unknown gentlemen on either side of him.

"Phosie appeared. Her bright brown hair rippled and curled to her waist, and she wore a wreath of great white blossoms. Her slender arms were outspread, and she hovered over the ground as lightly as a butterfly over a meadow.

"The smile which had captivated Hewett Addison, when he first saw her dance in Miss Sapio's drawing-room, played about her mouth. She seemed to be possessed by happy thoughts, unconscious of the audience, dancing for sheer joy."

There is not a dull page in the book, which is written in a spirit of easy humour—and good humour, and will please all readers, in the profession and outside it.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

AUGUST.

LONDON.

A Woman of Two Lives, mystical melodrama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Aug. 1.

A Criminal's Bride, sporting drama, in four acts, by Edward Marris (originally produced at Grand Theatre, Brighton, July 25, 1910); Pavilion, Mile End.

His Indian Wife, drama, in four acts, by Emma Litchfield; Elephant and Castle, Aug. 1.

Nick Carter, Detective, drama in four acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Aug. 1.

The Sowers, play, in a prologue and three acts, adapted by David Kimball and Montague S. Woolf from Seton Merriman's novel of the same name; King's Theatre, Hammersmith, Aug. 8.

A King's Romance, play, in four acts, by E. Vivian Edmonds; King's Theatre, Hammersmith, Aug. 15.

His Real Wife, drama, in four acts, by Charles A. Clarke; Lyric, Hammersmith, Aug. 15.

From Mill Girl to Millionairess, drama, in four acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell; Pavilion, Mile End, Aug. 22.

The Apple of Eden, play, in four acts, by G. Carlton Wallace; Elephant and Castle, Aug. 22.

The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary, comedy, in three acts, by Anne Warner, originally produced in America; Terry's, Aug. 22.

The Eternal Question, play, in four acts, by Hall Caine; Garrick, Aug. 27.

The Queen of Sheba, opera, in four acts, by Carl Goldmark, produced in English by the Carl Rosa Opera Company; Kennington Theatre, Aug. 29.

A Bedouin Beauty, romantic light opera in two acts, by Talbot Hughes, composed by Frederick Rosse and Raymond King (originally produced at Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, Aug. 22, 1910); Opera House, Woodwic, Aug. 29.

The Naked Truth, transferred from Wyndham's to Prince of Wales's, Aug. 29.

A Woman and Two Men, drama in four acts, by Patrick Barnard and John Buckley; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Aug. 29.

The Crisis, play, in four acts, an adaptation by Rudolf Besier of *La Recontre*, by Pierre Berton (Hastings, Pier Pavilion Theatre, Aug. 22, 1910) (Miss Evelyn Millard's season); New Theatre, Aug. 31.

PROVINCES.

Married to the Wrong Woman, drama, in four acts, by Nita Rae; Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, Aug. 1.

Brothers; or, Why Women Weep, drama, in five acts, by John Barrett; Theatre Royal, Leigh, Aug. 1.

The King of Diamonds, American drama; Carlton Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham, Aug. 8.

The Unwritten Law, play, in four acts, by Laurence Irving; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Aug. 15.

The Bishop's Son, play, in four acts, by Hall Caine; Grand Theatre, Douglas, Aug. 15.

The Crisis, play, in four acts, an adaptation by Rudolf Besier of *La Recontre*, by Pierre Berton; Hastings, Pier Pavilion Theatre, Aug. 22.

A Bedouin Beauty, romantic light opera, in two acts, by Talbot Hughes, composed by Frederick Rosse and Raymond King; Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, Aug. 22.

How Cottle Fell from Grace, comedietta, by George J. Hamlen; Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, Aug. 22.

Bardelys the Magnificent, romantic play, by Henry Hamilton and Raphael Sabatini; Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Aug. 29.

Effie, play, in one act, by Basil Dean; Gaiety, Manchester, Aug. 29.

Why Did She Run Away? play, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (produced for copyright purposes); Queen's, Longton, Aug. 31.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

Aug. 1. George Estall (G. Ransford)
" 1. Charles Henry.
" 2. Ernest Hume.
" 3. Amber Austa (Mrs. William Haines).
" 3. Amy Sivroni (Mrs. Ross), aged 39.
" 4. Peter O'Shaughnessy.
" 5. William Sesnan Walshe, aged 50.
" 5. Dr. Fred Courtenay.
" 10. Frank Kethro.
" 11. Gerti Monti (Mrs. Harry Dale), aged 45.
" 15. Charles Francis (Frank) Postlethwaite, aged 37.
" 15. Mrs. C. E. Stevens.
" 17. George Procter Hawtrey, aged 64.
" 20. Mysie Eugene, aged 12.
" 22. Will Letters, aged 33.
" 24. Bert Conway.
" 25. Allan Macbeth, aged 25.
" 27. H. D. Anderson, aged 63.
" 27. George Winn.
" 29. Harry Jennings.
" 29. Edmund Voullaire Campbell, aged 75.
" 31. A. Hornby Warburton.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

Aug. 1.—Opening new Hippodrome, Croydon.
Aug. 2.—General meeting Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.
Aug. 2.—Liverpool Theatrical Gala.
Aug. 3.—Mr. Robert Loraine made a record sea flight in a Farman biplane, travelling from Blackpool to Rhos, between Colwyn Bay and Llandudno, a distance of sixty miles.
Aug. 3.—Opening by the Lord Mayor of London of the new Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.
Aug. 3.—Race for Doggett's Coat and Badge in the Thames from London Bridge to Chelsea.
Aug. 3.—Royal assent given to the London County Council (General Powers) Bill, requiring agents to hold licences.
Aug. 6.—Transfer of *The Speckled Band* from the Adelphi to the Globe.
Aug. 6.—Last performance of *The Islanders* at the Apollo.
Aug. 8.—Marriage of Mr Frank Cellier and Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Marylebone Registry Office.
Aug. 12.—Annual meeting, New Theatre (Cambridge) Co., Ltd.
Aug. 13.—Close of Shakespeare summer season at Stratford-on-Avon.
Aug. 13.—16th season Promenade Concerts opened Queen's Hall.
Aug. 17.—Billiard championship of the music hall profession won by Mr. Sam Mayo, who beat Mr. Chas. Phydora by 117 points in a match of 750 up at the Loughborough Hotel, Brixton.
Aug. 18.—Mr. Frank Macnaghten fined 40s. at the Clerkenwell Police-court at the instance of "the common informer" for producing stage plays at Sadler's Wells.
Aug. 22.—Opening new Hippodrome, Neath.
Aug. 25.—Mr. Martin Harvey delivered at the Opera House, Harrogate, the first of a series of lectures in favour of the proposed Shakespeare National Theatre.
Aug. 27.—Marriage of Mr. J. M. Glover and Miss Kathleen Collins at Westminster Cathedral.
Aug. 29.—Transfer of *The Naked Truth* from Wyndham's to the Prince of Wales's.
Aug. 29.—300th performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, St. James's.
Aug. 29.—"Dr." Crippen and Miss Le Neve brought up at Bow-street Police-court in connection with the murder of Mrs. Crippen (Belle Elmore), and remanded for eight days.
Aug. 30.—Reopening of the Apollo, re-decorated, and return thereto of the Follies.
Aug. 31.—200th performance of *Tantalizing Tommy* at the Playhouse.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Play, entitled "THE COAL KING."

The realistic drama above named is presented this week at the Dalston Theatre by members of Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company. The hardships and perilous adventures of those who earn a livelihood in coal mines is always an interesting subject for readers of books and patrons of the drama, and in this play the lot of those who labour in the bowels of the earth is vividly portrayed. Mr. A. W. Norman, who undertakes the title-rôle as Coal King, otherwise Sir Reginald Hartford, J.P., plays the part with due regard to the importance of the personage represented. In his hands, too, the stage-management of the piece is safe. The coal owner's son is one of those out-and-out villains who stick at nothing, even attempting to murder his own mother. This undesirable personage is conscientiously portrayed by Mr. Sydney C. Kearns, who is faithful to every detail of the part. The hero, Tom Roberts, finds an earnest exponent in Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse. Characteristic humour is supplied by Mr. Frank Caffrey as Jim Williams, a pit hand, whose never-failing zeal as a candidate for an appointment in the constabulary is particularly amusing. Mr. Frank Dalton as the sub-manager of the mines well sustains a trying part; Miss Winifred Love makes the best of the popular character of Grace Shirley; Miss Lottie Caffrey makes a pert parlourmaid; and Miss Emily Levettez provides a clever, though pitiful, character-sketch as Mad Ann. The cast also includes Mr. H. K. Williamson, Mr. Angus Hall, Mr. Albert E. Hendley, Mr. Edward Fortune, Mr. Frederick Wade, and Mr. Robert Derwent. As is customary at the Dalston, the members of the orchestra provide excellent selections between the acts, and the incidental music is also well rendered.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee.*

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (*Era* Offices, W.C.), has gone into a third edition, which would seem to prove its usefulness.—*Sportsman*, May 14, 1910.

TOTTENHAM STAFF OUTING.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE STAFF OF THE PALACE, TOTTENHAM, TO CLACTON, ON AUGUST 28.

One of the happiest events in the history of the Tottenham Palace took place on Sunday last, when the staff held their second annual outing, the venue being Clacton-on-Sea. At 8.50 a.m. the party, to the number of sixty foregathered at Liverpool-street, and speedily filled the two spacious saloons provided for them, and promptly at nine o'clock the train, with its happy burden, steamed from the station, arriving at Clacton after an easy run of one hour and fifty-two minutes. At twelve noon, dinner awaited the party at Swann's Brunswick Hotel, among those present being Mr. Leon Zeitlin, representing the directors, Messrs. T. S. Mayne (the popular manager of the Tottenham Palace), H. Nuttall (acting-manager), W. Burgess (musical director), Councillor D. Weston, M.C.C., and other Tottenham celebrities. Justice having been done to the excellent five-course dinner provided, and the toast of "The King and Royal Family" having been duly honoured, the Palace Bijou Orchestra dispensed sweet melodies, under the able directorship of Mr. J. Finlan.

At the King's Arms, St. Osyths, the party were posed for a photograph at the adjacent entrance to the Priory. Returning to the King's Arms an excellent tea was waiting upon the lawn at the rear, to which everyone did full justice. Mr. Leon Zeitlin surprised many present by an impromptu exhibition of his ability on the violin, Mr. Burgess offering him a five years' engagement in his orchestra, but Mr. Zeitlin has other aspirations, and respectfully declined. At 8.35 p.m. the journey home commenced, London being reached after a day which, for real pleasure, will live long in the memory of all who participated in it.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, July 27.—Her Majesty's.—The J. C. Williamson firm, now a limited liability company, presented *The Brass Bottle* on the 23rd inst., with a company which included Miss Dora Rignold. This weird conceit was admirably staged, all the effects being most cleverly produced, and every part capitally acted. The lion's share of the work fell to Mr. Leslie Holland, who was the Horace Ventimore; he did it admirably. Mr. Evelyn Vernon made Fakrash a very droll personage; Mr. Kenyon Musgrave was amusing as Professor Futvoye. The part of Spencer Pringle was allotted to Mr. Arthur W. Soames, a wise selection. Miss Dora Rignold, heartily welcomed on her return, did all that was required as Sylvia Futvoye, and the mother was well represented by Miss Augusta Haviland. As the auctioneer Samuel Wackerbath Mr. Herbert Greville was seen in a congenial rôle. Uproarious fun was created by Miss Sinna St. Clair as Mrs. Rapkin, and Mr. Fred Cambourne as her husband; Miss Lily Douglas (Mrs. Wackerbath), Miss Maud Wingfield (Jessie), and Miss Elsie Stevenson (Zobeide) ably filled in the picture. Mr. Claude Vernon produced the play and Mr. Maurice Dudley stage-managed it. The ballet of houris was arranged by Miss Minnie Hooper, and the scenery came from Coleman, Board, and Upward.

Royal.—Miss Nellie Stewart and her companions, in *What Every Woman Knows*, keep up the interest here, and Miss Stewart adds another triumph to her long list. *Trilby* follows on the 30th, when Miss Nellie Stewart will play the name-part for the first time, and Mr. Gaston Mervale will appear as Svengali.

Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton finished their season of *Pete* and *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* at the Criterion on the 22nd, when a crowded house demanded a speech from the boarding-house missionary. Mr. Lang, after acknowledging Sydney's kindness, promised, amid cheers, to pay Australia another visit ere long. Messrs. Clarke and Meynell promise to bring over *The Arcadians* company, with the Sydney actress, Miss Maie Sydney, as Sombra.

The Tivoli has welcomed back the McLean children, known as the Australian Dartos and the Littlest Tich. They do the Apache Dance with fine abandon. Lieutenant Travis and Miss Marjorie Dean present a clever sketch called *Transformations* with marked success. Con Moreni and the Dardinis are in their last week, and Mr. Harry Rickards's picked vaudevillians keep his patrons fully entertained.

West's Journal of Events at the Palace presents current local occurrences, including the recent great railway disaster in Victoria.

Spencer's Theatrescope at the Lyceum changes its bill every week, giving very latest items.

MELBOURNE, July 30.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. J. B. Montrie.—The last four nights of Mr. George Willoughby's company's season, in *What Happened to Jones*, are announced. To-day the final matinée will be given.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The Royal Comic Opera Company are "saying good-bye" to well-filled houses. *The Orchid* gives place on Saturday next to *The Girls of Gottenburg*.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton are bringing their phenomenally successful season to a conclusion here with a series of Shakespearean revivals. On Saturday evening *Othello* was staged, and drew a crowded house. Mr. Asche repeated his clever impersonation of the Moor, and Miss Brayton again appeared as Portia. The rest of the company did full justice to their various rôles. To-night *The Merchant of Venice* will be staged, and Thursday and Friday nights will see a special revival of *The Taming of the Shrew*. On Saturday evening next Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton will make their first appearance in Melbourne in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Chance of a Lifetime* has drawn crowded houses here. Miss Eugenie Duggan, Mr. Roy Redgrave, and the rest of a strong company never allow the interest to flag, and special scenery has been painted for the production.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The star attraction here at present is the remarkable Kremo Family of acrobats, who give a finished performance, and are undoubtedly clever. Other good items on the programme at present are the Raymond Trio, Ted Kalmon, the Falcons, Tom Dawson, Brown and Robinson, Mendel (the blind pianist), Irving Sayles, Les Warton, Bert Terrell, the Two Colliers, Eileen Lyons, and Vaude and Verne.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—Here on Saturday evening Gardner, Rankin, and Griffin made their first appearance in a clever musical act, and met with instant approval. Armstrong and Verne presented an amusing sketch, entitled *The Battle of Too Soon*. Lily Vockler sang several ballads in pleasing style; J. M. West gives a clever hand-balancing act; and excellent items were presented by Maud Perman, Wally Ricardo, James Craydon, Jack Kearns, P. J. Knowles, and Chas. Moody, and a host of others. New pictures were shown by the Miorama.

West's Pictures at West's Picture Palace, Spencer's Theatrescope at Olympia, and Tait's Pictures at the Athenæum Hall serve to provide enjoyment for large audiences nightly.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Drama entitled "THE FATAL WEDDING."

This piece always does well here, and draws crowded houses, and the management are running two special matinées at reduced prices on Wednesdays and Saturdays. As Howard Wilson Mr. Hugh Montgomerie is effective, his work being clear-cut and highly finished. Mr. Royce Milton sustains the part of Robert Curtis with considerable power; Mr. Sam Springson is excellent at Toto, the French butler, and elicits roars of laughter; the part of Peter Schwartz at the hands of Mr. Cyril Melton receives sympathetic and genial treatment; and Mr. Frank Ashley's reading of O'Reilly is particularly happy and well acted. Mr. J. Newton undertakes the part of the Rev. Dr. Lanceford, clergyman; Miss Ethel Kay's personal charm and elocution and her convincing acting make the rôle of Mabel Wilson one to be remembered; Miss Leah Marlborough skilfully plays Cora Wilson; Miss Marie Harcourt is well cast for Bridget, the lady cook, a rôle she sustains with pronounced success; and Jessie, "the little mother," is delightfully played by little Lusanne.

In the third act, which always appeals to Hammersmith audiences, Miss Lily Wohlmann sang well the opening song of "Yankee Doodle," and little Lusanne distinguished herself by rendering "Apples" very happily. Gladys Kelly deserved high praise for her smart Scotch reel and Highland fling. The Sisters Wohlmann contributed "Pride of the prairie"; and Lena Smidt was enacted by Sunny Sarah Hicks with her usual success. The same artist sustained the chief part in "Monkeyland" at the finish. Margot Domican sang "The Sun-bonnet Lady" very well; and Tom Grice, the youngest champion Lancashire clog-dancer, proved his title to fame, while Dorothy Pain sang very sweetly one or two selections from her répertoire, her wonderful soprano voice captivating the house.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 5.

ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Gaiety T., Methil.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Barnsley.
APPLE OF EDEN.—T. R., Woolwich.
ARCADIANS (N.).—O. H., Cork.
ARCADIANS (S.).—Royalty T., Chester.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—P. O. W., Mexboro'
BEECHAM OPERA CO.—O. H., Blackpool.
BEDOUIN BEAUTY.—Grand T., Croydon.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Exeter.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Ventnor, Newport, and Cowes.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
BISHOP'S SON, THE.—O. H., Leicester.
BLUE BIRD, THE.—Grand T., Leeds.
BOOTH, JUNIUS.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—T. R., Brighton.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
BROKEN HEART.—Star T., Swansea.
BULMER, MR.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Prince's T., Blackburn.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
CASSIDY J. RICE.—O. H., St. Helens.
CASTE.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—T. R., Birmingham.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Motherwell and Ayr.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—New T., Barry.
CINGALEE (A.).—Mansfield.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Leeds.
COAL KING.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—O. H., Southport.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Hippodrome, Neath.
CRIMINAL'S BRIDE.—Prince's T., Preston.
DAME NATURE.—T. R., Bournemouth.
DARE DEVIL DOROTHY.—Grand T., Fulham.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—O. H., Coventry.
DAWN OF A TO-MORROW.—Prince's T., Bristol.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Buxton and Harrogate.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—T. R., Great Yarmouth.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (EDWARDES) (N.).—O. H., Belfast.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (S.).—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
DON.—Spa T., Scarborough.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Prince's T., Preston.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—T. R., Chesterfield.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—Junction Theatre, Manchester.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—T. R., Portsmouth.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—County T., Reading.
EVE OF HER WEDDING.—Empire T., Oldham.
EVERY INCH A MAN.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
FACING THE WORLD ALONE.—T. R., Sheffield.
FAST LIFE, A.—Gainsboro' and Lincoln.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—New T., Ferndale.
FEMALE DETECTIVE.—T. R., Belfast.
FIGHTING CHANCE.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
FLAG LIEUTENANT.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—T. R., Dewsbury.
GAY GORDONS.—King's Hall, Ilkley.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Amble.
GIRL ON THE BOAT.—T. R., Blackburn.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS.—Kursaal, Bexhill.
GREATER LOVE, THE.—New Hall, Bargoed.
GROTESQUES, THE.—T. R., Newcastle.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Crown T., Eccles.
HARVEY, MARTIN.—T. R., Nottingham.
HAVANA.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—T. R., Worcester.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Gaiety T., Leith.
HER NAMELESS CHILD.—Palace T., Newcastle.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Stratford.
HER ROAD TO RUIN.—T. R., Bristol.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Houghton-le-Spring.
HINDOO AND THE MAID.—Grand T., Nelson.
HIS INDIAN WIFE.—T. R., Smethwick.
HOUSE OPPOSITE, THE.—T. R., Blyth.
HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY.—T. R., Dublin.
HUSH MONEY.—T. R., Bolton.
IDOL OF PARIS.—T. R., Scarborough.
IRVING, LAURENCE.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—P, T., Bordesley.
KING OF CADONIA.—Grand T., Doncaster.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Dundalk and Cavan.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—T. R., Hanley.
LIGHTHOUSE ROBBERY.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
LINGARD-MORRAU REPERTOIRE.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Pavilion, Ramsgate.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Lancaster.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—King's T., Sutton.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—Stafford and Chesterfield.
MAN TO MAN.—Grand T., Walsall.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
MAUDE WINIFRED.—Metropole T., Devonport.
MERRY WIDOW (N.).—King's T., Glasgow.
MERRY WIDOW (EDWARDES) (S.).—T. R., York.
MERRY WIDOW (3).—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Liverpool.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND. — Tunbridge Wells and Hastings.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED.—Grand T., Fulham.
MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS.—T. R., Crook.
MISS TOMMY.—Bury St. Edmunds.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—Hippo., Portsmouth.
MOUNTAINEERS, THE.—King's T., Hammersmith.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—O. H., Jersey.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—O. H., Kidderminster.
MY IRISH MOLLY.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
MY LADY BELLAMY.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
NAKED TRUTH.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
NEW BARMAID.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
NEW FRIVOLITY.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
NICK CARTER.—Grand T., Nottingham.
NIGHT AND MORNING.—Lyceum T., Govan.
NIHILIST, THE.—H. M. T., Barrow.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—T. R., North Shields.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Merthyr Tydvil.
OLD HEIDELBERG.—King's T., Sunderland.
OUR MISS GIBBS (N.).—Folkestone and Southend.
OUR MISS GIBBS (S.).—T. R., Torquay.
OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY.—T. R., Coatbridge.
PAYING THE PRICE.—H. M. T., Dundee.
PIGEON HOUSE.—T. R., Plymouth.
POWER OF THE KING.—O. H., Porth.
PRITT, STEPHEN.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Palace T., Derby.
PROOF.—T. R., Stockport.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR-MAID (N.).—T. R., Sunderland.
QUEEN OF THE FAIR.—Empire T., Swindon.
RAYNOR REPERTORY.—T. R., Rochdale.
RIDDING'S OPERA.—Portsmouth.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
SAILOR'S WEDDING.—Prince's T., Accrington.
SEND HIM VICTORIOUS.—Empire T., Oldham.
SEXTON BLAKE.—T. R., Leicester.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Glasgow.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Peterboro' and King's Lynn.
SILVER KING.—T. R., Bury.
SINNER, THE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
SIR WALTER RALEGH.—T. R., Bradford.
SMITH (N.).—Worthing and Tunbridge Wells.
SMITH (S.).—Harrogate and Llandudno.
SPECKLED BAND, THE.—Grand T., Southampton.
STILL ALARM.—T. R., Aston.
TANTALIZING TOMMY.—O. H., Cheltenham.
TEMPTATION.—Paisley T., Paisley.
TERRY EDWARD.—Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Queen's T., Longton.
THOSE TERRIBLE TWINS.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Grand T., Brighton.
TRUANTS, THE.—T. R., Bath.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Alexandra T., Hull.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—O. H., Northampton.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Grand T., Leek.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Birkenhead.
WALLER, LEWIS.—Court T., Liverpool.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Star T., Liverpool.
WEBB'S VAUDEVILLE.—T. R., Darlington.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Grand T., Hull.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Alexandra T., Ilfracombe.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—Prince's T., M'chester.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD (S.).—Palace T., Brighton.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Cromer.
WHIP, THE.—Borough Theatre, S.E.
WILKIE, ALLAN.—Court T., Wigan.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—T. R., Huddersfield.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—New T., Washington.
WOMAN'S PAST, A.—Openshaw, Manchester.
WORLD, FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—Hippo., Richmond.
WRECKER OF MEN.—O. H., Workington.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

INQUISITIVE.—*Yes, quite free. Score to be had at French's, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.*

GORDON CAMERON.—*The lady was scarcely well known enough for any record of her doings; and your question involves too much search.*

EXPLOIT.—*You will find an article on the subject in a back number of the* Wide World *Magazine. Apply at Southampton-street, Strand.*

SIRI.—*Possibly the three named are on their holiday. Nos. 1 and 3 may be addressed care of Green Room Club, Leicester-square, W.C. No. 2 may be addressed care of* THE ERA.

H. K. S. (Caledonian-road).—*Miss Marie Lloyd was born Feb. 12, 1870; appeared as Little Marie when about twelve at Raglan Music Hall, and when about fifteen at the Grecian. Mr. Harry Randall commenced stage career about 1881. James Fawn was on the theatrical stage (1870) before he appeared in variety, about 1876. Chirgwin and Dutch Daly appeared about the same time. We do not inquire the age of performers.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ALLEN.—Aug. 29, at Sarratt Green House, Sarratt, Herts, the wife of S. C. Allen, Belfast, of a son.

BEAUMONT.—Aug. 27, at 63, Plumstead-road, Norwich, the wife of Hy. "Curly" Beaumont, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BLACK—GIBSON.—At St. George's Presbyterian Church, Sunderland, Monday, Aug. 29, Geo. Black (eldest son of the late Geo. Black, Black's Superb Life-motion Pictures), to May Gibson, of Fulwell, Sunderland.

HALLING—MERRICK.—On Sept. 1, at St. Elvan's Church, Aberdare, Maude M. Merrick to Charles H. Halling, both of "A Country Girl in London" company.

PRIEST—HAYWARD.—On Monday, Aug. 29, at the old Parish Church, Felixstowe, Miss Norah Hayward (Fisher), only daughter of Mr. George J. Fisher, of Lenton, Nottingham, to Mr. George Priest (one of the proprietors of the "Ten Loonies"). The Rev. S. R. Cambie officiated.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON.—Aug. 27, at his residence, 44, Stamford-street, Old Trafford, Manchester, "A. D.," in his 64th year, after a long suffering patiently borne.

CAMPBELL.—Aug. 29, in an asylum at Prestwich, Edmund Vouillaire Campbell, retired actor.

JENNINGS.—Aug. 29, at the Bristol General Hospital, Harry Jennings, comic singer and clog-dancer.

MACBETH.—Aug. 25, at Glasgow, Allan Macbeth, musical conductor and composer, aged 54.

MARSHALL.—On Sept. 1, at South Shields, Thomas William Marshall, the dearly beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Marshall, brother of Pauline Garside and Lillie Le Breton. Sleep on, dear one.

STANTON.—Aug. 28, at Greenock, Francis Stanton, age 4½ months, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Stanton (professionally known as Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clements). "Suffer little children to come unto Me."

WINN.—Aug. 27, at 156, Oxford-road, Manchester, George, father of Ethyl Arnold. Deeply regretted by his wife and children.

WARBURTON.—Aug. 31, at Swansea Hospital, A. Hornby Warburton, of Mr. G. M. Polini's *Silver King* company.

IN MEMORIAM.

ALDRIDGE.—In loving memory of Carrie Aldridge, the darling, beloved wife of Frank Aldridge, resident manager of Perth Theatre, who fell asleep Aug. 30, 1907, aged 34.
Thy sweetness, Thy Beauty, Thy Goodness,
Made life so bright and light;
An Angel Thou, God took Thee back,
Now all is dark as night.

CROWSON.—In loving memory of Will Crowson, the beloved husband of Cissie Conyers, who died at Barmouth, Sept. 3, 1905.

FELIX.—In ever-loving memory of my dear wife, Adeline Mary (Mrs. Toney Felix), who departed Aug. 31, 1908. Gone, but never forgotten.

FELIX.—In ever-affectionate remembrance of my darling mother. Rest in peace, dear mother.—GLADYS.

FORD.—In loving memory of Thomas W. Ford, who passed from this world on Sept. 6, 1909. Asleep in God's acre. Deeply missed by his daughter MARY and granddaughter GLADYS MARY HOWITT.

KING.—In loving memory of my dear husband, James King, who departed this life Sept. 9, 1909, in his eighty-second year. Never forgotten by his sorrowing wife, JEMIMA KING.

MONTAGUE.—In loving memory of Herbert J. Montague, who died Sept. 6, 1907.—F. M.

PREECE.—In loving memory of dear "Jo" (Josephine Preece), daughter of Fred and Emily Terriss, who died Sept. 1, 1909. At rest.

TEARLE.—In affectionate remembrance of George Osmond Tearle.—E. T.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Dorothy Craske—Saturday, Sept. 3.
Mike S. Whalien—Saturday, Sept. 3.
Ellis Carlyle—Saturday, Sep. 3.
Johnny Alexander—Sunday, Sept. 4.
Kate Forster—Sunday, Sept. 4.
Fred Bulmer—Sunday, Sept. 4.
Esmé Beringer—Monday, Sept. 5.
Lester Collingwood—Monday, Sept. 5.
Madge McCalla—Friday, Sept. 9.

"RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK." Price 1s. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Adair, Mr. Frank
Allen, Mr. Fuller
Allen, Mr. George
Anderson, Mr. Dallas
Appleby, Mr. Cliff
Ault, Miss Marie
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Baldwin, Mr. Lawrence
Barrett, Mr. Chas.
Barry, Mr. Shiel
Battersby, Mr. Harry
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur
Baxter, Mr. Bob
Behrens, Mr. Nat
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bellis, Mr. F. A.
Berkeley, Mr. F. J.
Berzac, Mr. Clifton
Birkett, Mr. Harold F.
Bishop, Mr. Geo.
Bosco, Mr. Irving
Branstone, Miss E.
Brennan, Mr. James
Briff, Mr. Joseph
Brown, Miss Fanny
Brune, Miss L.
Buckland, Miss Alice
Burnette, Mr. T.
Cain, Mr. J. J.
Callan, Mr. John
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carlos
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Cato, Mr. G. P.
Chanti
Clark, Mr. E. H.
Clyo, Mr. Leo.
Columbus, Mr. Lasser
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Cordell, Miss Daisy
Croke, Mrs. Wentworth
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Currie, Miss Lilly
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Dashwood, Mr.
Dauncey, Mr.
Davey, Mr. H.
Davies, Mrs. Tilly
Davies, Mr. Tom
Deering, Miss Joan
De Santely, Mr. Bernard
Donaldson, Miss Alice
Doran, Mr. John
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Earle, Miss Victor
Eckersley, Mr. Dick
Edwards, Mr. S. S.
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fawn, Miss Harriet.
Fields, Miss Fannie
Flemming, Mr. Claude
Fraser, Mr. Keith
Golden, Mr. Horace
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Goregund, Miss D.
Greville, Miss Helen
Grey, Miss Marion
Grossi, Mr. G.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hall, Miss Madge
Hall, Mr. Tom
Harris, Miss B.
Harrison, Mr. Denham
Haywood, Miss Hettie
Hickish, Miss Anna
Hill, Miss Adria
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Howard, Mrs. Geo.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Irving, Mr. K. Ernest
Jelliman, Miss A.
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Karr and Kooney
Kearns, Mr. Sid
Kirk, Mr. George
Kneller, Miss Hebe
Ladora, Miss M.
Laudon, Mr. J.
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Lennard, Mr. Arthur
Lewis, Miss Mabel
Lindo, Mr. Frank
Lowther, Mr. Henry
Lupino, Mr. Barry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lyndon, Mr. F.
Lyons, Mr. Harry
Lytton, Mr. Ed.
Mackinder, Mr. L.
Mansfield, Mrs. Alice
Mark, Mr. John
Marshall, Mrs. C. B.
Martens, Mr. H.
Manning, Mr. W. J.
Maxwell, Mr.
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Menva, Mr. G.
Moller, Miss Annie
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Moore, Miss Jessie
Morris, Mr. Ben
Morton, Mr. James
Newburn, Mr. Geo.
Nord, Miss Serene
Oakley, Miss Ada
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
Oxberry, Mr. Harry
Parker, Mr. Louis N.
Parry, Mr. Edward A.
Paul, Miss Mab
Payne, Mr. W.
Pedley, Mr. Dan
Porter, Mr. Sidney
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Ray, Miss Belle
Raynor, Mr. Arthur L.
Reano, Mr. T. Haydn
Reed, Mrs.
Restall, Mr. John
Rezene, Mr. Chas.
Richards, Miss Marion
Richardson, Mr. Harold
Richardson, Mr. Harry
Rignold, Mrs. Lionel
Roberts, Mr. Francis
Rogers, Mr. Harry
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Samona, Prince
Santoi, Miss Marie
Saw, Miss Lilly
Sears, Mr.
Seeley, Mr. W. R.
Seymour, Miss Maud
Sharman, Mr. J.
Shelley, Col. J.
Shields, Miss Ella
Shirley, Mr. Arthur
Shrapnel, Mr. L.
Sidney, Mr. Thomas
Sivado, Mr. C.
Smith, Mr. Hickman
Somers, Mr. J. J.
Steele, Mr. Ralph
Stephens, Mr. Billy
Stevens, Mr. R.
Steyton, Mr. Frank
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Swinbourne, Miss L.
Taylor, Capt.
Thompson, Mr. Alec F.
Trevosper, Miss M.
Von Etta, Madam
Ward, Mr. M. S. C.
Wilson, Mr. Fred
Wyatt, Miss M.
Wynne, Miss Wish
Yates, Mr. F. A.

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

"THE ERA" IN AMERICA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS.

NEW YORK.

"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.,
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-

ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 462, NEW YORK CITY.

American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London.")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Barton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.
HANDS and CO., 16, STRAND, CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. 3s. 6d. *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers" by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
MATINEE (both Plays), EVERY WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

TERRY'S.
Sole Prop., Edw. Terry. Lessee, L. S. Sire.
Evenings, 8.30. Mats. Weds. and Sats. 2.30.
MAY ROBSON
and Original Company in
"THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY,"
by Anne Warner.
The Farcical Comedy Success,
as played 1240 performances in the United States.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"THE MOUNTAINEERS."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nightly, 7.45; Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Sept. 5, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday, at 2.30.
"OUR BOYS."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Sept. 5, Murray King and Clark's Co. in a new light opera, entitled
"A BEDOUIN BEAUTY."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
"POMPEII."
Tuesday, Grand Aerial Flight, 3 to 7, weather permitting.
Messrs. J. Pain and Sons present at 8.30 "Pompeii." "Pompeii," 500 Artists. A Wondrous Spectacle of Beauty. Fairy Archipelago, Organ, Bands, Lovely Gardens, &c. Thursday and Friday, Grand Floral Exhibition of Dahlias. Return Rail and Admission, 1s. 6d. from all Stations.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W. DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New Holiday Programme.
"Psycho," Mr. Maskelyne's famous automaton. "The Scarab," New Magical Farce; Mr. Archie Naish, Humour at the Piano; Memora, the Human Encyclopædia; Mr. Owen Clark, with Novel Magical Problems, &c. Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—JOE ELVIN and CO. in "W(h)ines and Spirits," 9.10; Venie Clements, Sam Mayo, 9; Chas. Austin as Parker, P.C., 10.45; Boganny's Lunatic Bakers, 9.45; Billy Merson, 9.30; The Crisps, 8.45; Jack and Evelyn, 10.25; Millie Payne, 10.15; Chas. Hera, Rich and Rich, Queenie Finnis, The Fitzroys, Mlle. la Freya, Archie Royer, Ruth Lytton, Lily Black, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.25. Saturday Matinées at 2.15. Manager, Mr. Blyth-Pratt.

TIVOLI.—Little Tich, The Two Bobs, Les Averinos, Geo. Lestocq and Co., Footgers, Sam Mayo, Jennie Hartley, Josie Delaine, Arcadia, Spalding and Riego, Mildred Bryan, H. La Martine, Dale and O'Malley. Open 7.40. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Helen Martin, Henri Bekker, Alick Lauder, "Yap Yaps," James Fawn, Joe Elvin and Co., Clara Beck, Willie Gardner, S. and G. Auer, Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Carlotta De Yonson and Co. in "The Red Triangle," Rider Stone, Ada Oxley and Co. in "Peggy," Mlle. Yetta, Jack Marks, Dollie Denton, Ted Cowan, Harriet Rose, Ruffell's Bioscope and Les Alex Carangeot in Dancing Scena, "La Fiancée du Dragon."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Chas. Austin in "Parker, P.C.," Bioscope, Damascus Trio, Hunter and Bobs, Ethel Stevenson, Emsley and Ambrose, Harry Harris, Albert Letine, Ray and Calden, Frank Armstrong, &c. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. (Half-time 9.30, except Saturdays and Holidays.) Monday, Sept. 5.—T. E. Dunville, Albert Whelan, Alice Hollander, Cliff Ryland, Four Louberts, Maud Elliston and Co., Three Favourites, Harvey and Jesson, Mark Hall, Dott Moss, The Hamiltons, Ruby Royal, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock). Commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15, with augmented programme). Tele., Westminster 603. Assist.-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA, FAICO, BRITTA,
CARMEN TURIA,
MISS COOMBS, THORA, Emma and Victor, Fuji Japanese Troupe, OLYMPIA DESVALL, JURY'S PICTURES, "ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
Geo. Mozart, Sybil Arundale,
Clark and Hamilton, Smite and Smote, Tally Ho Trio, The Perezoffs, Asra, Russian Divertissement, "Moscow," &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Margaret Cooper, Nat M. Wills, "A Woman's Revolt," Mary Gray, Kauffmann Troupe, Six American Dancers, Les Trombettis, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Kakaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350. A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

CAPE TOWN.—Correspondent required to Supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

JOHANNESBURG.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall News. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

TORONTO.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Variety News. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
Autumn Dramatic Season commences Sept. 19.
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End companies only wanted for the following dates, Sept. 26 and Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND. Always an Opening for anything really High-class. Price no object in reason. All communications, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
No Vacant Dates this Year.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply, R. J. Bell, Manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, James Bell.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Oct. 17, also November.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HERNE BAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
All applications for Shares or rental of the TOWN HALL THEATRE,
PIER PAVILION THEATRE, and various Al-fresco Sites, &c., to be made to the Entertainment-Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courteneidge's "The Arcadians," Julia Neilson, Fred Terry, and New Theatre Co. in "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "Henry of Navarre," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Conan Doyle's Plays: "The House of Temperley" and "The Speckled Band," Miss Ethel Irving and Co. in "Dame Nature," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane, H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant, Grand Theatre, Nov. 7, or Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address, William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant for First-class Attractions,
Oct. 31 (3).
Nov. 10 (3), Dec. 12 (3), 19th (3).
Address, Ernest Dottridge, EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
Nov. 14, March 27, April 10, 24, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Unexpectedly Vacant, Nov. 14, also Dec. 5.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best Companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
A few Vacant Dates in the Autumn.

WINDSOR.—THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width, 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

STEDMAN'S ACTING CLASSES.
Conducted by MARSHALL MOORE (late Stage Director Drury Lane, &c.)
Public Performances given Monthly at the Royal Court Theatre.
A great opportunity for young professionals to play principal parts in musical and modern comedies, Shakespearean Plays, &c. Evening Rehearsals. For parts, apply Secretary, Windmill House, Gt. Windmill-street, Piccadilly Circus, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, New Oxford-street, W.C.
Principals, CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
President, George Edwardes, Esq.
Autumn Term begins Monday, Sept. 26.
George Edwardes Open Scholarship Examination, Sept 23. Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art and Characterisation, Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Fencing, Opera and Musical Comedy, Singing, Voice Production, Choral and Sight Singing, &c.
Special Complete Course of Studies for the Dramatic and Musical Profession.
Pupils have secured engagements with the following managers:—Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Robert Arthur, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Sydney Blow, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Robert Courteneidge, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. George Dance, Mr. St. John Denton, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mrs. Langtry, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Charles Macdona, Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ian Robertson, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Arthur Whittaker, Mr. Frank Wheeler, &c., and at the Empire, Hippodrome, Coliseum, &c.
Apply Secretary, Tel. Central 4287.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
6, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colyson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albery, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Diamond, Master Cliff	Oct. 23, 1909
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Aug. 20, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walter	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hales, Late Mrs. Martha	Oct. 9, 1909
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings-Bateon, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Illing, Late Mme. Meta	Jan. 1, 1910
Jerome, Miss Daisy	Nov. 13, 1909
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leon, late Mr. Frank	Nov. 6, 1909
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Miss Dorma	Dec. 25, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle	Oct. 30, 1909
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard	Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R.	Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F.	Dec. 18, 1909
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Jan. 1, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Russon, Mr. Harry	March 5, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Simms, Rose and Kitty	Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr. Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva	Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry	Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr. Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick	Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wakeford, Miss Marion	Feb. 26, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles	Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H.	Feb. 12, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1910.

THE COMMON INFORMER.

Though the conclusion of the case in which Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN was summoned by Mr. FREDK. GEORGE at the Tower Bridge Police Court last week is an irritating example of the unsatisfactory condition of affairs with respect to the performance of sketches at music halls, it is at any rate satisfactory to know that we shall not be subjected to a resumption of the "sketch" war. Mr. GEORGE has undertaken to cease to "inform," and Mr. FRED BAUGH, we understand, is not going to carry out the threat which he made of taking out summonses against eleven other music halls for performing sketches. Mr. BAUGH is satisfied, we imagine, that the smallness of the penalty inflicted on Mr. MACNAGHTEN will discourage other common informers from making mischief.

The common informer is, of course, "no new thing"; but he has hitherto been openly acknowledged as the instrument of opposing interests. The sketch difficulty and the informer have long existed, but how sketches came to be tolerated at music halls is briefly described by the late Mr. CHARLES MORTON, as quoted by Messrs. W. H. MORTON and H. CHANCE NEWTON in "Sixty Years' Stage Service": "In 1872," said the veteran, "I offered the public a selection of *Chilperic* at the Philharmonic, Islington, and got myself rapped over the managerial knuckles for daring to do so. Still, the thin end of the wedge had been introduced into the breach, and as time gradually wore on theatrical managers, either from laziness or complacency, ceased to trouble themselves about our doings. And thus, eventually, the 'sketch' established itself upon the music-hall stage. Of course, it had no legal right to be there at all. The law resolutely refused to recognise its existence, and it only wanted some informer to call attention to its presence to have it immediately suppressed. But the public viewed the newcomer with favour, and little by little it grew in importance. Don't imagine for one moment that we, its sponsors, ever deceived ourselves as to the true position of affairs. We knew all along that the bantling was there purely on sufferance, and that at any instant its life might be brought to an untimely close."

The penalties inflicted in those days were sometimes serious, Mr. Justice DENMAN fining Mr. MORTON and the Palace licence holder, Mr. ERNEST POLDEN, as representing the Palace Company, £10 for each of the few performances given of a piece called *La Toledad*, making £50 in all. At one period in the eighties two well-known theatrical managers were in the habit of setting a common informer to work; but by a curious stroke of fate one of them afterwards appeared at a central variety theatre in a sketch. We need not repeat the unpleasant history of the various proceedings taken by the Theatrical Managers' Association, of the protracted and troublesome negotiations between the theatrical and music-hall managers, which resulted in the compromise which though, of course, most unsatisfactory as a logical settlement of the difficulty, was undoubtedly the best and only immediate method of avoiding recurrent prosecutions. We should be the last to make any of the "compromising references" to the Sketch Association which are referred to by Mr. GEORGE GRAY, the president, in a letter to a contemporary; and the object of the Association—to obtain free trade in amusements by the introduction of one licence for all places of public entertainment—is an excellent one. But we should like to know who is the "highest authority" alluded to by Mr. GRAY in his letter as assuring the Association that the report of the Joint Committee of Lords and Commons recommending a Single Licence is to be made law. It seems almost too much to hope, in the present condition of Parliament and politics, that any private Bill of this kind will be passed. In the meantime, our suggestion of a double licence still appears to be the only prompt and easy way out of the maze.

The worst of a mysterious prosecution like that in the MACNAGHTEN case is that it creates so much suspicion of treachery and secret animosity. The common informer becomes, in the imagination of many, a successor of the bravos who were hired by the nobles in the Italian republics to assassinate their enemies. The hidden power which puts him in motion is variously attributed, and the concealed employer is indicated without the least proof of the individual mentioned being implicated in the attack. In the MACNAGHTEN case, Mr. FREDK. GEORGE, actor, clerk, and wood traveller, stated on oath that his only motive in taking out the summons was to "bring the law into contempt"—in other words, to hasten on the reform of an existing abuse, by making its action inconveniently unpleasant. Mr. GEORGE, it seems to us, attacked the problem but feebly. His remedy was too homœopathic. A single prosecution would have no effect as an object-lesson. The Government is not to be influenced by a couple of police-court cases. If Mr. GEORGE and those who sympathise with him had organised a kind of Sicilian Vespers or St. Bartholomew's Day of sketch prosecutions; if they had simultaneously proceeded against every hall producing sketches, the hum of the resultant uproar of protest might have reached St. Stephen's. But the selection, on grounds professedly of public interest and deep policy, of two variety theatres for doing what is being done all over London looked, at first sight, invidious. *The Era* had some experience of the difficulty of getting a private measure, even if obviously demanded by justice, through Parliament when Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR was labouring to secure the passing of the Musical Copyright Bill. It was not until the "offence was so rank" that the man in the street realised what musical piracy meant that, after many delays and difficulties, the Bill was made law. If we cannot get the authorities to grant the Double Licence which we have proposed, there appears to be nothing for it—pending the possibly remote passing of a Single Licence Bill—but to pay the fines and trust to the good sense of the London magistrates to discourage the "common informer" by inflicting low penalties. This need not prevent us from continuing to agitate, protest, and push on licensing reform.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Aug. 30. Present:—Mr. C. F. Collings (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Richard A. Green, J. Poole Kirkwood, Frederick Annerley, Misses Joan Pereira, Mildred Cottell, Vita Spencer, Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd ult., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same. The chairman read a letter making a complaint *re* a dressing-room, and it was proposed that the manager be written to in the first instance and the substance of the complaint be included in the letter. The secretary read letters from Messrs. Herbert Trench, C. T. H. Hemsley, G. M. Polini, Morely and Lancely, and received instructions as to replies.

With reference to Mr. William C. Marsden's letter to extend the advertisements in the Year Book, it was proposed by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Annerley, that Mr. Marsden's offer be accepted. The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. C. F. Collings and adopted. The hon. solicitors reported on three cases.

Miss Vita Spencer gave notice of motion "That members accepting engagements with known bogus managers whose names had been posted the solicitor be debarred from taking action on their behalf." Mr. Poole Kirkwood gave notice of motion, on behalf of Mr. Walker, *re* music hall golf club, and the secretary was instructed to have a notice posted in the rooms. Mr. Ivor Bernard was elected. The secretary was instructed to see that certain repairs necessary to the door of the silence-room be attended to in due course.

Stage Frenchmen.

"It was the fashion, a very few years ago," says a writer in the *Academy*, "to include in our musical comedies a couple of imitation Frenchmen, exceedingly spruce, voluble, and acrobatic; they would prance about the stage, slim of leg and swift, execute profound, sweeping bows with the tallest of hats and with arms interlaced, and their language was surely never spoken in any country but stage-land. A Gallic visitor, witnessing one of these humorous travesties, once remarked laughingly to his neighbour, 'You must excuse me, but I am so infinitely amused at your stage Frenchmen. I only wish we possessed a few people like that in France—we should be even more gay than you think we are!'

The "Anglais" in Paris.

"It must be admitted that our friends across the Channel balance the account fairly evenly with us by their stage presentment of the Englishman. If an Englishman is necessary to a farce or a comedy—and it seems that very often he is, even at the present day—the French theatrical manager clothes him almost invariably in a large check knickerbocker suit, not quite as 'loud' as the famous legendary check which required two suits to show the pattern, but approaching that ideal. He is then provided with a stick, an eyeglass, and a cap of extravagantly sporting cut, and he stalks about the boards in the approved wooden-jointed manner, ejaculating occasionally the brief expletive which, according to accepted opinion among untravelled French people, forms the Englishman's only relief in times of stress. Recently, however, a dark-clothed, square-shouldered type of Englishman has been personified on the French stage, who delivers long speeches in French—but with an accent which renders them almost so much gibberish, greatly to the joy of the audience.

Strange Brogues.

"If for a moment it is convenient to consider the Irishman as a foreigner (happily he is in reality nothing of the kind), it will be interesting to note the opinion of a cosmopolitan native of the Emerald Isle upon his kinsman who is so freely impersonated in our farces. In a letter recently received occurs the following passage: 'Once, in Liverpool, I sat with a lady at a play in which an Irish maiden supposed to come from County Donegal had a considerable part. My companion turned to me and said, "Do they really talk like that at home?" I was highly indignant; but, of course, she meant no offence by her innocent remark.'"

"THE ETERNAL QUESTION."

Play, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, Music specially Composed by Pietro Mascagni, Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Saturday, Aug. 27.

Baron Bonelli ..... MR. GUY STANDING
David Rossi ..... MR. VERNON STEEL
Pope Pius XI. ..... MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
Bruno Rocco ..... MR. OSCAR ADYE
Commendatore Angelelli ..MR. EDWARD SORLEY
General Morra ..... MR. RIDGWELL CULLUM
Major Doria ..... MR. WALTER RINGHAM
Colonel Cavalli ..... MR. EDWARD DURRANT
Charles Minghelli ..... MR. WILFRED E. PAYNE
Felice ..... MR. GEORGE ROWLANDS
Father Pifferi ..... MR. ORLANDO BARNETT
Maestro de Camera ..... MR. RICHARD NEVILLE
Joseph ..... MISS ANNA CUKA
Secretary of the Court..MR. BERNARD A. LESLIE
Donna Roma Volonna ....MISS TITTELL-BRUNE
Elena ..... MISS MARIE HOUSLEY
Nattalina ..... MISS RITA CARR

Mr. Hall Caine's author's note to his latest play, produced with great success at the Garrick, outlines his purpose very clearly. He says:—

"*The Eternal Question* is an attempt to present the general features of two problems of life which have come into prominence since I wrote my novel 'The Eternal City.' The first of these is the problem of Socialism. Although Pope Leo XIII. had already published his encyclical on Christian Socialism, the world-wide appeal of the subject had not then been realised, and I have attempted, as far as the limits of a stage play will permit, to indicate the recent trend of the Socialistic movement, the forces it has to meet, and the risks it has still to run.

"But the central motive of *The Eternal Question* is the woman question, and the play is intended to deal with the relative rights and responsibilities of the sexes in the eye of God and man. I think this is the problem that lies at the back of the whole woman movement, of which the 'vote' is only a part, and I have attempted to deal with it in its most intimate aspect—the aspect which concerns the sexual relations of man and woman.

"Is it true, or is it not true, that while, according to the laws of nature, there may be many women for a man, there can only be one man for a woman? If it is true, there is a kind of hard and terrible justice in the way, the painful way, in which human law in all ages has treated woman in relation to man. But if it is not true, then the whole course of human law and social custom has been a line of iniquities from the earliest ages of the world."

Having thus laid down his thesis, the author carries on his arguments, pro and con, principally by means of three characters—David Rossi, Baron Bonelli, and Donna Roma Volonna, and he does so powerfully and interestingly. The play, indeed, as a piece of theatrical work shows that the author has advanced much as a stage craftsman. His incidents are presented vividly; his situations are strong; his ensemble, if we may use the word, is picturesque; and his dialogue always good, if occasionally too didactic. It certainly needs no polemics on the stage to prove that the attitude of the world towards the repentant Magdalen is governed more by the severity of Mosaic law than by the message of the grand Exemplar of Love and Faith—"She hath done what she could"; but in the polemics of Hall Caine the public are particularly interested just now, and if future audiences at the Garrick will scarcely be filled with admiration at his character drawing, they will be able to listen to a play that always holds the attention and is never dull.

The early meeting between David Rossi and Donna Roma, sculptress, is in the loggia of her protector, Baron Bonelli's palace—the scene of the first act—from which she hears the young Socialist Deputy addressing the populace and denouncing the ruling classes: "We have two sovereigns in Rome, brothers, a great State and a great Church, but a perishing people. We have soldiers enough to kill us, and priests enough to tell us how to die, but no one to tell us how to live." (Shouts of "Corruption!") "Corruption, indeed, brothers, and who is there among us to whom the corruption of our rulers is unknown? Who cannot point to the Ministers who allow their mistresses to meddle in public affairs, and to enrich themselves by the ruin of the poor?"

Roma is furious at this outburst, and to the impassive Bonelli she says, "Leave the man to me. Within a month, within a week, he shall lie as tamely to my hand as a ripe apple on a wall. With his angel face he shall sit to me—he shall sit for Judas among the figures about my fountain." In their first interview Roma lies to Rossi. She says: "I am a sculptor, and I have nothing but what my work brings me"; but at the end of the first act it is made quite clear that hero and heroine are destined for mutual love and self-sacrifice. The love confession comes in the second act, when Roma says nothing of her past life, accepting with some misgiving Rossi's description of their happiness: "Our sky is blue, our sun is shining, and we can laugh at everything."

Retribution comes swiftly, however. Bruno Rocco, Rossi's friend, takes his little son, Joseph, to the procession of the people going up to the Coliseum. Bonelli has given instructions to the police to disperse the crowd, if needs be, by means of the soldiers, who fire and kill the child. Bruno Rocco is arrested, and rather than betray his leader, Rossi, he stabs himself with a dagger.

The influence of the Pope is brought to bear on Roma, in order to make her betray Rossi, who has freely spoken of his past life to the woman he so implicitly trusts. She alone knows of his connection with a so-called political crime committed by him when passing under the name of his father, Leone, who is now the sovereign Pontiff. The lovers meet again in the first scene of the fourth act, and in the hearing of Bonelli Roma explains her apparent treachery to the distracted Rossi, saying that her action was due to her love for him. The Prime Minister stigmatises Roma's statement as a lie. Rossi then learns for the first time of the relations that have existed between Bonelli and Roma, who is at length denounced as a harlot by her fiercely jealous paramour. This is too much for Rossi, who strikes the Baron. The latter draws his revolver, and in the struggle for its possession the weapon is discharged, and Bonelli is killed. Rossi departs with a volley of curses hurled at Roma's head; the police rush in; and to the question "Who killed his Excellency?" Roma replies "I did. In the final scene—the Prison—Rossi comes to Roma in the disguise of a friar. The chivalrous young Socialist is ready to take her with her life behind her. They are in a blind alley; but there is a way out. He says: "We will let the law of man do what it will with us. And if we may not seek to unite our lives in this world we will do so in the next!" They go out to their trial together, and the play ends.

Of Donna Roma Miss Titteli Brune, the favourite Australian actress, makes a commanding and interesting figure. In the first act, as the petted mistress of the Prime Minister, Roma's furious denunciation of Rossi was particularly powerful; and in excellent contrast was the cajoling diplomacy of the woman in the first interview with the man she is fated to love. The fierce despair of the Magdalen, who feels the hopelessness of her endeavour to find a way out, is the keynote of the later portion of the play, and the sorrowing penitent of the prison was a very pathetic figure. Mr. Vernon Steel's virility and earnestness were never in doubt in the part of Rossi, and the trying long speeches were delivered with much fire and energy. The dignity of the Socialist Deputy and his revived faith in the woman who has so wronged him, made a strong appeal in the final act. Mr. Guy Standing's Bonelli was officially irreproachable, and the cutting sarcasm of the Prime Minister's speeches at the expense of Socialism was most effectively suggested. As Bruno Rocco Mr. Oscar Adye made a hit in the scene of the suicide of the sculptor's model, and the actor did his utmost with the gleams of comedy that illumine the proud father's scenes with little Joseph. Miss Marie Housley delineated the motherly affection and despair of Elena with a sure touch; and Nattalina was adequately presented by Miss Rita Carr. An impersonation that stood out by its impressive dignity was the Pope of Mr. Halliwell Hobbes. The adjective "perfect" can be rarely applied to the actor's art, but in this case it is the only word. Mr. Hobbes seemed to live the part. Mr. Edward Sorley as Commendatore Angeletti, Mr. Ridgwell Cullum as General Morra, Mr. Walter Ringham as Major Doria, and Mr. Edward Durrant as Colonel Cavalli, fully met all the requirements of those parts; and Mr. Wilfred E. Payne realised the quiet and subtle villainy of the police spy, Minghelli. Mr. Orlando Barnett's Father Pifferi being also an impersonation showing the careful finish of a conscientious artist. Felice (major-domo to Bonelli), the maestro di camera, Joseph, and the Secretary of the Court are small parts effectively handled by Mr. George Rowlands, Mr. Richard Neville, Miss Anna Cuka, and Mr. Bernard A. Leslie. The play has been very carefully produced by Mr. Creagh Henry, and it is illustrated by some excellent scenery from the brush of Mr. J. T. Bull and Mr. W. T. Hemsley.

The entire production is under the direction of Mr. G. Ralph Hall Caine, Managing-director of "The Eternal Question, Ltd.," for which company Mr. W. F. Crowe is business-manager and Mr. Frank Collins the stage-director. The business-manager for Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton is Mr. Lawson Lambert.

"MEG THE MOBSWOMAN."

Play, in One Act, by Leon M. Lion and W. Strange Hall, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Sir Pierce ..... MR. FRED A. MARSTON
George ..... MR. MAYNE LYNTON
Netta Ellerton ..... MISS VERA POLE
Margaret Ellerton ....MISS WINIFRED PEARSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story is interesting, and thoroughly well told. Into the home of the Ellertons enters, on a darkened stage, at curtain rise Margaret, who examines, in the light of a bull's-eye lantern, a quantity of jewellery, which she then conceals in a box in the window. Someone calls her name, and, flinging back the curtains, she admits the morning sunlight. Enter, then, her younger sister, Netta, who stares wonderingly at the wearied-looking woman, and elicits that Margaret has been up since four o'clock in the morning. Her cloak is wet and her shoes are muddy. To them come shortly George, eager for a chat with Netta, his fiancée, and Sir Pierce, his uncle, who is keen on amateur detective work. Sir Pierce has news. The house of a big family in the immediate neighbourhood has during the night been burgled, a variety of valuable jewellery stolen, and the watch-dog poisoned with prussic acid. He thinks the circumstances very like those associated with the deeds of the once famous Jim Seely and Meg the Mobswoman in America, and proceeds to describe how he saw Seely executed in the electrocution chair. A cry from Margaret interrupts him, and he apologises for the vividness of his description. Later a smell of prussic acid in the room arouses his attention, he observes the wet state of Margaret's cloak as it hangs over a chair-back, and finds in the pocket a loaded revolver. These and other circumstances lead him to confront Margaret, and, after a feeble defence, she admits herself to be the notorious Mobswoman. Sir Pierce's impulse is to give her up, but she pleads for her sister to marry his nephew and let her be forgotten. Sir Pierce agrees to allow the marriage to go on on condition that Margaret disappears for ever. Interpreting this—her own suggestion—literally, Margaret seizes the revolver and is about to destroy herself, when Sir Pierce seizes her hand and prevents it. "You're a plucky woman," he says, "and I'll say nothing." Upon this the curtain falls.

On the first night the play went with wonderful smoothness. Miss Winifred Pearson's Margaret was dramatic and intense, and she held the audience throughout. Mr. Fred A. Marston's Sir Pierce was full of grip and power, and Mr. Mayne Lynton and Miss Vera Pole were an interesting pair of lovers. The piece will prove an excellent curtain-raiser for Miss Annie Hughes' *Miss Tommy*.

In Chase of an Engagement.

MISS PAULINE CHASE has been telling the *Lady's World* representative that she was born in Washington twenty-five years ago, and at a very early age felt a keen desire to show up behind the footlights. She left the Convent School in New York at the age of fourteen, and at once set about the task of procuring her first theatrical engagement.

A Wanderer.

"I HAD not much idea of how to go about it," she says, "and wandered about the city for two whole months before I hit upon the proper way. Then I saw George Lederer, the well-known manager, who brought Edna May over to England in *The Belle of New York*, and he engaged me to appear in *The Rounders*, a musical piece that became popular in this country under the name of *Kitty Grey*. Here at the outset I'm afraid I was guilty of a mild deception, for I had to proclaim myself sixteen—the minimum age limit—or be refused the chance to take part in the play; an alternative which I could not think to entertain.

Valuable Photos.

"RECENTLY I paid a flying visit to New York to sell autographed photographs, chiefly of stage celebrities, at the American Actors' Fair, got up for the purpose of raising 250,000 dollars in aid of their Benevolent Fund. For Mr. Roosevelt's I had to go to Paris, where the ex-President was then making a brief stay.

She Wants to Fly.

"I HAD hoped to return from France by aeroplane, but the Fates were unpropitious. Still, I mean at least to fly over London before I leave for America, and Mr. Grahame White, whom I have known for some years, has promised to give me the opportunity of accomplishing my object."

A Tardy Christening.

"WHAT persuaded you to get baptised so late in life?" asked the interviewer. It was four years ago; Miss Chase was twenty-one at the time. "I had not been baptised till then. It was not long after I came to England, and I got engaged to a gentleman who seemed to wish me to go through the ceremony. So I was baptised in the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Mr. J. M. Barrie acting as my godfather, and Miss Ellen Terry and another friend as my godmothers."

A Threatening Letter.

As Peter Pan Miss Chase has received countless letters—many from children who have delighted in seeing the play—highly complimentary of her talent and charm. But one letter was of a very different order. It said: "If you do not send me £50 by to-morrow, there will be sudden and mysterious death for Pauline Chase." So for some time after the young lady was constantly shadowed by detectives. Nothing unpleasant, however, took place, and the threatened victim now laughs over the affair as an amusing episode in her career.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA."

Opera, in One Act, by Pietro Mascagni, Revived at the Royal Opera, Aug. 29.

Santuzza ..... FRAULEIN EASTON
Turiddu ..... HERR MACLENNAN
Lucia ..... FRAU VON SCHEELE-MULLER
Alfio ..... HERR BISCHOFF
Lola ..... FRAULEIN PARBS
Bauerin ..... FRAULEIN HONSCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Sept. 1.—The most interesting feature of this revival was the fact of Mr. and Mrs. Maclennan—the latter still sings under her maiden name of Florence Easton—appearing again together in the rôles that suit them so well. Mrs. Maclennan became ill soon after her appearance in the American opera *Pola* at the close of last season. She was, in fact, very unwell while singing the name-part, although the audience noticed nothing wrong. Shortly afterwards the doctors pronounced the illness appendicitis, and to the anxiety of her husband and friends an operation was undergone, which left her very weak for some time. Happily the popular artist has completely recovered her strength, and on her reappearance at the Royal Opera she met with an enthusiastic welcome. The performance of Mascagni's ever-welcome work was an excellent all-round one. The house was crowded, and the audience applauded with great heartiness. Leoncavallo's *Bajacci* followed the shorter opera with a capital cast. The conductor of the evening was Dr. Besl. To-morrow Schumann's opera *Manfred* will be produced, Mrs. McLennan giving one of the chief rôles.

ONE of the Berlin independent theatres, the Newe Freie Volksbühne, hitherto merely an "association," has now joined the number of recognised theatres, under the name of the New Volks Theater. For some time past the association has been collecting funds for the undertaking and looking out for a suitable house. The theatre in the east of the city—in the Köpnicker Strasse—which has passed through many hands, and was last known as the Gastspiel Theatre, has been leased and beautified for its new owners. It opened last night to an invited audience consisting of the Press and all those immediately interested, to witness a dress rehearsal of Ibsen's *Stützen der Gesellschaft*, with which the new season will be inaugurated to-night. The company is a first-class one, composed of experienced artists, most of whom are well-known to Berlin. The acting was admirable, and the mounting, under the personal supervision of Herr Licho, thoroughly satisfactory. As the house, I am told, is "sold out" for the first public performance, the new undertaking is beginning under the best of auspices.

THE Gottscheid Opera gave a capital performance of Nessler's three act opera, *Der Trompeter von Säkkingen*, last Monday. The delightful little work, which deserves to be better known in other countries, was received with the utmost cordiality, notwithstanding the fact that the interpretation might easily have been better. The best renderings were those of Herr Wiesendanger and Fräulein Raden, in the rôles of Werner Kirchhofer and Maria, both of which were very warmly applauded.

FRAULEIN HANSI NIESE begins a season to-night at the Berliner Theatre. The clever Viennese artist—in private life Frau Josef Jarno, wife of the well-known actor-author-manager—is bringing her own company with her, and opens with a vaudeville-operetta new to Berlin, entitled *Das Musikantenmädel*. Fräulein Niese is enormously popular here, as she well deserves to be, and the booking has been brisk for days.

THE season just beginning bidd fair to be unusually rich in the matter of novelties at the principal theatres. To commence with the Deutsche, which, under the refined and experienced direction of Professor Reinhardt, takes the lead in artistic mounting and acting, two new plays by Maeterlinck, and others by Eulenberg, Sudermann, Gorky, and Strindberg are announced. An interesting wordless play, by Schnitzler, entitled *Der Schleier der Pierette*, with music by Dohnanyi, Thomas Mann's *Fiorenza*, and Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* are also in the bill of the near future. Of classical plays to be revived there is an abundance; they include *Julius Cæsar*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and the second part of Goethe's *Faust*, a stupendous part as regards the *mise-en-scène*. Professor Reinhardt's other theatre—the Deutsches Chamber Playhouse—is equally rich in the promise of new and interesting pieces.

THE Lessing Theatre will produce as a novelty for Berlin Björnson's comedy, *Wenn der junge Wein blüht* (When the young vine blossoms), which has already been given on several provincial stages. A couple of new plays that were announced for last season will finally make their first appearance at the Lessing—*Die Ratten*, by Gerhart Hauptmann, and *Das Zweite Leben*, by Georg Hirschfeld. Arthur Schnitzler's latest play *Das weite Land* and Hermann Bahr's new comedy, *Die Kinder*, have also been accepted by Dr. Brahm for performance this season.

AMONG the novelties at the Kleines are Wedekind's farce *Der Liebestrank*, *Studentenliebe*, by the Russian author Andrejeff, and some pieces from the French

ARTISTS UNSEEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I, through your columns, thank Mr. Brandreth (thanks which I feel sure will be reiterated by my fellow-workers in the provinces) for his championship of the cause of provincial artists, who, though doing good work and appearing in the suburbs, find it impossible to get a West End manager or his representative to see them?

Have I not suffered time after time from the casual question, "What have you done?" and have I not left the managerial office with all ambition crushed, feeling a perfect worm, and wondering if it would not be better and more profitable for me to turn my attention to scrubbing floors and leave acting to the members of the various dramatic schools?

I only hope Mr. Brandreth's article will have the desired effect of bringing us under the notice of dramatists, West End and American managers, who are always bemoaning the lack of fresh talent, which they would soon discover by the aid of "the eightpenny taxi" to the suburban theatres and a little time and trouble spent in the highways and byways of the provinces.—Yours faithfully, DORIS GILHAM,

Mr. Fredk. Melville's *Her Road to Ruin* Co. Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, Aug. 29.

MRS. MORTON POWELL wishes to thank Arthur Jefferson, Esq., for all his kindness and courtesy during her visit to the Metropole, Glasgow, last week; also for most beautiful bouquet. And will all members of *Brought to Ruin* company please accept her very best thanks for their presentation of a very handsome mirror.—Sept. 5, T. R., Consett.

THE winner of the recent International Beauty Contest at Folkestone, Miss Kitty Darling, will appear at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday next. This beautiful Plymouth girl was adjudged an easy winner in competition with ladies from practically every European country. Miss Darling will appear with Mr. J. Humphries in his farce *Ancient Britons*, which will be played as an after-piece to *Our Boys*.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. George Robey, who is appearing this week at the Empire, Sheffield, took upon himself an entirely new rôle on Monday last, by performing the opening ceremony in connection with the Wadsley (Sheffield) Flower Show. In declaring the show open, Mr. Robey (who was accompanied by Mrs. Robey) made a humorous speech, and at the finish was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Mr. Clarence Sounes' handsome new Empire at Kingston-on-Thames is rapidly approaching completion, and we understand is to be ready for opening in October. It is from the designs of Mr. Bertie Crewe, who has put his very best work into this, the latest addition to suburban London's variety palaces, and his client is so pleased with the result that he considers it perhaps "the last word" in modern theatre construction.

It will seat nearly 2,000 people, each one of whom will get a clear and uninterrupted view of the stage. The decorations are by De Jong and Co., and furniture by Deans. We hope in a future issue to give a more detailed notice of the house, which is to be run with varieties, twice nightly, for which a number of important bookings have already been made.

Mr. Tom J. Morton and Miss Maggie Bowman have just signed contracts with the Syndicate Halls until 1914, and also have three years booked at the London Pavilion.

"Why should not Dranem, of the Paris Eldorado, act Molière's *Médecin Malgré Lui* at the Odéon? Why not Vilbert, of the Scala, Molière's *Monsieur de Pourceaugnac*, also the second Théâtre Français?" writes the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*. "To carry the question across the Channel, why not cast Gus Elen for Malvolio, for instance, or Harry Randall for Falstaff, or Wilkie Bard for Touchstone, or Miss Marie Lloyd for Beatrice, with T. E. Dunville as Benedick?

"On the French side M. Antoine, the pioneer of the Théâtre Libre, asks: 'Why not, indeed?' for he holds that 'café-concert artists are the true possessors of the genuine comic tradition,' and has engaged both Dranem and Vilbert, usually applauded as funny idiots, or limits in eccentricity on Paris music-hall stages, to act in Molière's farces at the Odéon. He is persuaded that Dranem 'will be delicious in the *Médecin Malgré Lui*.'

"Dranem seems to agree. He considers, for one thing, that: 'It is much easier to succeed in a theatre than in a music hall. In the latter good average talent won't do. You have to be original, and do something out of the common. The words one has to sing are generally senseless. It is the actor who has to make them interesting. In "legitimate," on the contrary, with ingenious situations, clever dialogue, and surrounded by other actors, who give you your cue, and put you at once in the proper atmosphere of the thing, it is easy enough to be successful. Audiences little know what it is for a singer to have to go on alone with just five songs to sing and no situation, no support, no scenery.'

"In fact, Dranem's wonder is that an actor in the legitimate ever is bad, and that, barring a few geniuses, music-hall artists are ever passable. He seems to be something of a psychologist: 'To make the public laugh one must be serious; one must never be gay. One of my best hits is to look sadly round when the public laugh, and seem to be trying to understand what they are laughing at. Just say, "Dear me, how silly!" The public titters. Add "And yet you stop here listening"—the public roars. Finish up with "Aren't we idiotic?" The public is convulsed.'"

Our stars are quite ready to agree with Dranem. But would it not be an interesting experiment to put on *The School for Scandal* for a matinée—let us say, in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund—with a cast consisting entirely of well-known music hall stars. The experiment would be fraught with interest, and if the project was ever seriously taken in hand, we feel sure the theatre and the actor-director of the performance could readily be found.

The Palace Theatre has had another most successful year, as the directors at the forthcoming meeting, propose to recommend the payment of a dividend of 20 per cent. It is also proposed to write £4,000 off the extraordinary expenditure in connection with the London County Council alterations and improvements to the place, the sum of £30,000 to reserve, and carry forward the substantial balance of £8,600 to next year's account.

Mr. Alfred Butt and his co-directors may be heartily congratulated on the continued success of their admirably conducted house, in which the artesian well initiated by Mr. Butt is now successfully working. The Metropolitan Water Board's charges will no longer appear in future balance-sheets, the Palace's own supply of limpid crystal water costing a sum which does not reach three figures. At the seventeenth annual general meeting of the shareholders on Thursday next, something should surely be said in praise of the initiation of a far-seeing policy that results in such a substantial saving in the expenses of working.

Mr. George Mozart was one of the guests at the popular Jimmy Glover's wedding on Saturday morning. Jimmy, so universally known, is a *persona grata* in a Bohemia that is not limited by a theatrical circle, but extends its boundaries into variety. He has held the position of conductor of Drury Lane for many years, and has composed the music for Alhambra ballet. No one has a warmer appreciation of the value of the people's tunes than he, though he gave strict injunctions that there was to be no music at his wedding. As a Mayor of Bexhill, old Drury's favourite conductor did much for entertainments and entertainers, and the Kursaal at the beautiful Sussex resort owes a great deal to his enterprise and foresight.

The Finsbury Park Empire will open twice nightly on Monday with the following company: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners (Miss Fanny Moody), George Rae, May Henderson, Siems, the Motramos, the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, the Kirbys, and the Poluskis. There will be no special ceremony beyond the playing of "The King" at the opening.

With the opening of the Finsbury Park Empire, the Holloway Empire will be given over to pictures and tabloid drama, the change being carried out under the direction of the present manager, Mr. Bertie Ralland, whose local popularity should contribute to the success of the experiment. Next week's dramatic fare will consist of *The Area Belle*, with Stephen Adeson and May Hallett in the principal parts. There will be only one house a night.

Mr. John Lawson writes: "I produced a one act playlet, bearing the title of *The Unwritten Law*, at the Holborn Empire, on May 6, 1907, and it was duly licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, entered at Stationers' Hall, and noticed in *The Era*. Mr. Lawrence Irving produced, during the week of Aug. 15, in Manchester, a play entitled *The Unwritten Law*, and Mr. Hall Caine states, in an interview published in the *Referee*, that he will produce a play with the same title. To save complications I wish it to be noted that the title of *The Unwritten Law* is the sole property of John Lawson."

Mr. Charles Evans takes his annual benefit at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, on Wednesday next.

At the recent first half-yearly meeting of Southend Hippodrome, Ltd., an interim dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum was declared.

The local authorities have again refused to put the Portsmouth Hippodrome on the same level as other places of amusement in the town, and has again refused the liquor licence, for which Mr. Walter De Frece has long been seeking.

Miss Adele Levey, at the Pier, Skegness, on Wednesday evening, yarned and recited to the delight of her hearers, who were regaled with no fewer than eighteen little tales, four pieces, and a monologue.

Since it has been re-written and re-constructed, the dramatic sketch *The Airship* has been seen by three managers at Manchester, and booked right away for eight weeks. It is now under the direction of Fred and Edward Pollard.

The proprietor of the Palace at Morley (Mr. Arthur Izon) has resigned his position, much to the regret of his many friends in that town, and the courteous proprietor (Mr. Diacoff) is allowing him a farewell benefit night on the 15th inst.

Mrs. Price writes from Leeds under date Sept. 1: "My sister's son, W. G. Letters, was born on Sept. 4, 1877, at Edinburgh, and was reared and educated in that city. He therefore would have been thirty-three years of age had he lived till Sunday, the 4th."

Mr. W. W. Austin, who was connected with the Empire Theatre, Nottingham (Moss' Empires, Ltd.) for two and a half years as assistant-manager, has been appointed by Mr. T. Allan Edwardes to a similar position at the Hippodrome, Nottingham. He commences his duties on Monday next.

After a most successful summer picture season the Hamilton Hippodrome re-opened on Monday as a first-class variety house. Mr. Rene Clayton still officiates as Mr. Bostock's general-manager. The Wishaw Pavilion, another of Mr. Bostock's enterprises, has also re-opened for the season, Mr. Fred Nimso being resident-manager.

Mr. James Doughty, the oldest clown in England still before the public, celebrated his ninety-second birthday by a benefit performance on Saturday with his troupe of trained dogs on the West Pier, Brighton. He made his first appearance as a clown at the Devonport Theatre in 1835, and appeared at Drury Lane for the first time in 1849 in the pantomime of *Queen Bess*. It is thirty-five years since he started giving performances with his dogs at Brighton, and he has many times appeared before Royalty. Last month he was the recipient of a donation of £3 from the King, to whom he had written.

A pleasing little function took place at the Empire Theatre and Music Hall, Nuneaton, last Saturday evening, on the occasion of the building being closed down for a short time for extensive and elaborate alterations. Mr. J. H. Tomkinson, who has retired from the general-managership, and has gone out on tour, was asked by Mr. Cross, the managing-director, to accept, as a token of respect, a handsome case, containing two pipes and a tobacco pouch from himself, and from the staff a pair of silver candlesticks and inkstand, together with a fountain pen.

Mr. Cross, in the course of a short speech, thanked Mr. Tomkinson for the excellent way in which he had assisted him in bringing the Empire up to its present state of popularity. Mr. Tomkinson, in responding, said it had been a great pleasure for him to work with Mr. Cross, and thanked the staff for the able way in which they had assisted him. Mr. Clamp spoke on behalf of the staff. Mr. Cross then asked Mr. Chas. Poole to accept a silver cigarette case from himself, suitably inscribed, and said he, too, like Mr. Tomkinson, had done his best to assist him in the business. Mr. Poole, in returning thanks, said the presentation would always serve to remind him of the happy times he had spent in Nuneaton.

After directing the fortunes of the Palace Theatre, Bristol, for a period extending over many years, Mr. Horace Livermore has been appointed district superintendent of the halls embraced by the syndicate governing the Palace. The appointment was made and announced a short time ago, and in order to mark the esteem in which the popular manager is held, it was promptly agreed to give a benefit performance.

The Colston Hall was secured for morning and evening concerts, and the demand for seats at both was large. Among the first of the artists to promise their services were Miss Florrie Forde, Mr. G. H. Elliott, and Mr. K. Scott-Barrie, each of whom are established variety favourites in Bristol. It was hoped at first that Miss Forde would be able to appear at both performances, but this was found impossible as the date drew near, for "Kelly's" immortaliser was due to leave London for the far north country early on Sunday, and had perforce to return to town from Bristol during the afternoon.

"Chocolate" (Mr. G. H. Elliott) arrived in Bristol at mid-day, and somewhat startled those who met him by announcing that he would have to leave Temple Meads shortly after three o'clock the same afternoon, in order to answer his "call" at a London hall early in the evening. Thus it was a quarter of an hour before time that Mr. Elliott appeared on the stage at the Colston Hall to be recognised and welcomed by those who were fortunate enough to be in their places.

The orchestra, combining musicians from the Prince's Theatre, Theatre Royal, Empire, and the Palace, and directed by Messrs. G. Chapman, Jacobs, Fey, and H. B. Hatley, were all but ready, but "Chocolate" proceeded, and his "I used to sigh for a silvery moon" went splendidly. He was brought back again and again, and then, lest he should succumb to the temptation, fled from the hall to a waiting taxi-cab, which hurried him off to the station. Miss Florrie Forde sang "Flanagan," and was vociferously cheered. The audience, which had in the meantime grown much larger, demanded a return, and she treated them to the ever-popular "Kelly."

During the evening Mr. Horace Livermore, whose appearance on the stage was the signal for a big outburst of cheering, in a few simple, but evidently keenly-felt words, said he wished to express his thanks to all those kind friends in the profession and out of it who had worked so hard to make those concerts so successful. He thanked the artists who had so kindly assisted, and said he was led again to realise that he had many friends in the profession. He thanked the managements of the various theatres and halls for their co-operation on that occasion, and the members of the orchestra who had so willingly given their services. To the committee, its officers, and hon. secretary he owed a deep debt of gratitude for all they had done, and the public he heartily thanked for attending the concerts in such large numbers.

Mr. Myron Gilday (of Gilday and Fox) will shortly produce in town a playlet, entitled *The Hebrew Jockeys*.

Graham, the human marionette, has had to take a rest this week in consequence of dental trouble, which has been successfully overcome by a skilful operator.

Edgar Bateman, who once wrote of "Folkestone for the Day," is staying for a fortnight at the famous Kentish resort. Mr. T. W. Thurban is likewise sojourning there.

S. W. Wyndham, the unique comedian, who made such a hit on the syndicate tour, is in the provinces until Oct. 17, when he returns to play London Pavilion for four weeks and the syndicate halls.

Mr. Percy Ford, who recently filled the position of acting-manager at the Empire Theatre, Camberwell, has succeeded Mr. Frank Rothsay in a similar position at the Borough Theatre, Stratford.

Mr. Nelson Francis, the genial manager of the Empress, Brixton, will be accorded a complimentary benefit on Friday, Oct. 7, on which occasion he will be supported by many of the most popular artists then in town.

Mr. Alfred Butt has arranged to produce at the Palace Theatre shortly a new farcical sketch in which Mr. George Graves will sustain the leading rôle. This will be the first appearance of Mr. Graves on the variety stage in a regular engagement.

Owing to the confusion caused by so many Hemsleys in the business, Hemsley and Ambrose, of *The Fatal Rehearsal* fame, are changing the title of their duo to their Christian names, and in future will be known as Belle and Austin, the ideal couple.

Mr. Richard Winslow, the energetic stage-manager of the London Hippodrome, is at present enjoying a well-earned holiday at Brockenhurst, in the New Forest. He is accompanied by Mrs. Winslow (Miss Evelyn Shaw), who is rapidly gaining health and strength after her late serious operation.

Business at the London Hippodrome, especially at the evening performances, is excellent, and we found Mr. Fred Trussell on Friday looking bronzed and bright after his experience as one of the "villagers" at Winterton, on the Norfolk Broads. During his absence Mr. Thomas Miller has been ably deputising in front.

Miss Gertie Gitana, after rendering one of her latest and greatest successes, viz., "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," at Walthamstow Palace last Saturday, was presented, by Mr. Pierre Cohen (manager), with a beautiful bouquet of corn and poppies, amidst tremendous enthusiasm from a crowded house.

The *Daily Chronicle* reports that a mob of hooligans in Bermondsey made a cowardly attack on the Six Brothers Luck, the well-known music hall performers, in Rotherhithe New-road, on Thursday evening. The artists are appearing at the Peckham and Rotherhithe Hippodromes, and on their way to the latter hall their motor-bus broke down. A crowd assembled, and the "brothers" were set upon by a gang of young roughs, who pelted them with pieces of flint and granite. Nearly all the performers were hit, and several of the company sustained injuries which prevented them from appearing at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome.

Dan Wetherall, one of the leading artists, was seriously cut behind the ear. One of the stones lacerated his neck, and he was picked up unconscious. William Britten, another artist, received a gaping wound in the head, and Bernard Hall was terribly cut about the head and hand. The injured performers were a pathetic sight as they lay on the floor, blood flowing freely from their wounds.

A young man named Robert Winter, who happened to be passing at the time, was able to render first aid before the injured artists were driven to Guy's Hospital, where Wetherall was detained. The roughs ran off immediately after the assault, and were quickly lost down one of the dark turnings off Rotherhithe New-road. The police are searching the district.

One of the Brothers Luck said: "It seemed to be a well-organised attempt to interfere with our performance, and each night as we passed through Rotherhithe New-road we were assailed with missiles. On Tuesday the roughs threw sand at us, and on Wednesday night a stone narrowly missed one of the artists. They used to lie in wait until they heard us come along, and would then dart out and pelt us. They seemed to be youths about eighteen years of age."

Mr. Charles Grantley and Mr. Jack Merritt were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order upon Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Russell Brandow, W.T., assisted by Terrier Billy Kloof, V.T. Arthur Were was the Organist Terrier. Messrs. G. W. Sykes-Blythe, Albert Heath, and Phil Rees, candidates for membership of the Association, have successfully passed the ballot.

The election of officers for September resulted as follows: Terrier Billy Kloof, W.T.; Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman, V.T.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; Terrier Arthur Were, Organist. Terrier Arthur Gallimore was the W.D., and Terrier Bert Marsden the Y.B.

The P.W.T. jewel was presented to Terrier Russell Brandow, who was overwhelmed with congratulations upon the able manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the office during the past month.

A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers President Griff, Phil Bransby, Martin Henderson, Percy Madden, and Fred Neiman, upon their re-appearance in the kennel upon Sunday last. Terrier Barend Jansen is requested to forward his present address to the secretary.

Among the new-comers in the Alhambra programme this week is Senorita Carmen Turia, a famous Spanish chanteuse, who is making her first public appearance in England. Not only a clever songstress with a voice of remarkable dramatic power, Senorita Carmen Turia is also a beautiful woman, and has come to England to learn the language and to add some English ballads to her répertoire. She appears in a variety of Spanish songs in costume, and sings Tosti's "Good-bye" with a slight accent that is not at all unpleasing, and will follow with one or two English ballads.

In July, 1908, when visiting England privately, she sang before King Edward at Lord Lonsdale's London house. Of the other new items, the Fuji Japanese troupe of six clever acrobats, equilibrists, and contortionists also make their first English appearance, and will introduce a number of novel acts. Emma and Victor, acrobatic dancers, and Miss Coombe, vocalist, are also included in the bill. The grand ballet *Femina*, with Leonora and Britta in the principal rôles, is still crowding the Alhambra stalls. *On the Sands*, the seaside frolic recently produced, and a number of clever variety turns, make up the balance of a most attractive programme.

We are glad to learn that Miss Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealand travelling girl, is recovering from her severe nervous collapse. She has been under the special treatment of her eminent physician, Dr. J. Dodson-Hessey, of Hastings, for many weeks.

Owing to the success of the Saxony Sisters while with the Consul Variety Co., Mr. Harry Rickards, who witnessed their act, has engaged them for his Australian tour through Messrs. Neiman and Benn's Agency.

Professor Ainsworth, with his interesting and amusing exhibition of "Black Magic," is in his twelfth week at the Aquarium, Scarborough, and has been re-engaged until the 17th in consequence of his popularity.

Miss Louisa Peach will be at the Foresters' next week with her American episode, *The Settler's Daughter*, and special scenery and effects. She will be supported by Mr. E. H. Dobell (in his original part of the settler), Mr. C. C. Calvert, and Mr. E. Lester.

The Crisps return to town on Monday, and appear at the Oxford, going from there to the London Pavilion and Empress. These graceful and clever artists are sure of a welcome at the Oxford, where they recently made a very big success.

After a tour in the South of France, Mr. Harry Fragson returns to the Hippodrome on Monday, when he will give a number of entirely new songs, including a honeymoon ditty, a very humorous item, "The other department, please," a popular "patriotic" ballad to march time, a nigger banjo song, and one song in French.

Miss Nannie Pritchard, who has just turned fourteen, was among the winners at the recent competition at the Kilburn Empire. She obtained the fourth prize and the manager's prize for imitations at the piano. Her imitations included Geo. Robey, Vesta Tilley, Margaret Cooper, and Vesta Victoria. She also dances well.

The War Office has awarded Mr. H. Harrington, the fireman at the Gaiety Music Hall, Chatham, the sum of £10 in recognition of his pluck, at some personal injury, in stopping two runaway horses of the Army Service Corps in a crowded street at Chatham. Harrington's prompt and courageous action averted a serious accident.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild beg to gratefully thank the following for gifts, viz., Mrs. Reid (through Mrs. E. Colling), trunk and useful clothing; Miss Lillian Rosebery (collecting box), 11s.; also many friends for letters and good wishes. Boots and clothing urgently needed.

Miss Daisy James has just finished a three weeks' engagement at Margate, Dover, and Eastbourne, and at each place has met with an enthusiastic reception. At Eastbourne she had to do four songs in each house. This talented artist opens on Monday next at Hammersmith and Clapham with her latest successes, including the "Squeegee dress."

We have all become interested in *Parker, P.C.*, as presented by Mr. Charles Austin; and therefore there was a warm welcome at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday for a further instalment of Parker's doings under the title of *Parker's Progress*, which is from the pens of Charles Ridgwell and Charles Austin himself, who in the go-as-you-please part of the constable keeps the house in roars.

Ernest Heathcote writes:—"Close on twelve months ago I visited Douglas, Isle of Man, for the first time. On the Sunday evening a number of professional and Glasgow commercial friends were congregated in the smoke-room at a big boarding-house on the front. The conversation turned from Hall Caine and the customs of the island to song-writers and other people we knew.

"At this juncture the waiter took me solemnly to a corner of the room, and, pointing to an arm-chair, said, 'That's the very chair where Will Letters wrote "Has anybody here seen Kelly?"'

"Gone were the thoughts of problem writers, gone was the interest in the customs of the island! The man of the chorus was the man of the moment. A Glasgow friend produced a bottle of special 'cream,' all the way from Sauchiehall-street, and we drank to the absent one, and duly christened 'The Chair of Kelly.'

"I told poor Will Letters of the incident the next time I saw him in town, and the idea of a special chair made a great 'hit' with him. We promised ourselves a visit to Douglas this year, to see if there was a possibility of having a silver tablet suitably inscribed placed upon the chair, but poor Will has gone to the 'undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns.'"

Miss Mary Neil, so well known for the excellence of her travelling companies, has deserted the theatre for the music hall, and, up to the present, she certainly has no cause to regret the bold step she took. Her twenty-eight-minute comedy drama, *Her Luck in London*, is so well written, played, and mounted, that it has been an emphatic success wherever it has been seen.

At the Metropolitan this week Miss Neil and her company have made such a hit with this human playlet in three scenes that they have been engaged to appear next week at both the Holborn and the Canterbury, with the Euston to follow. The play throughout is punctuated with hearty applause and laughter.

"The Wily Widow," with Miss Marie Pera in the title-rôle, a bright and amusing trifle, has been presented during the week at the Metropolitan. The widow is Mme. Vera, costumier to the smart set, whose clients are very tardy in settling their accounts. She is, consequently, in needy circumstances. By an ingenious ruse she meets an inane swell with plenty of rhino, and gets him to propose.

Miss Florence Smithers has been meeting with most gratifying receptions on the Moss-Stoll tour, and the success of her sketch *Our Mary Jane* has been equally marked at all other halls visited. Her bookings are extremely good, and she returns to the Lyceum, London, for pantomime for one of the principal parts. We hope she may repeat her success, and become as popular as she was last season.

Mr. Cliff Ryland's youngest son, Sidney, fourteen years of age, made his first appearance on the stage last Monday night in Dan Thomas's new sketch *The First Night*, in the part of Call Boy, and did exceedingly well. The youngster quite deserved the compliments that were showered upon him by the company and others concerned, for he played the part as though it had been written for him.

The 673rd meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, with Mr. Jack Straw in the chair. There were also present Messrs. T. C. Callaghan, F. W. Millis, J. W. Cragg, Tom Packer, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The weekly financial statement showed forty-eight new members and a cash total of £49 0s. 6d. This was passed, and the meeting adjourned.

Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company, is this week paying her annual visit to the Regent, Salford, where she is always sure of a hearty reception, and to which this visit is proving no exception.

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution will be held on Thursday next, Sept. 8, at 2 o'clock, at 18, Charing Cross-road, when Mr. Joe Elvin will preside. All members of the committee in town are requested to attend.

Mr. Frank J. Smith, at one time musical chief of the Royal—now the Holborn Empire—has held the position of orchestral conductor of the Tivoli, Manchester, for the past eight and a half years. To the regret of many friends he has resigned his appointment.

Mr. G. H. Chirgwin is by way of publishing his reminiscences, and it is hardly necessary to state how welcome to our readers will be an abstract and brief chronicle of his career and experiences. Mr. Charlie Osborne and Mr. F. H. Farrar will collaborate in the work.

Miss Mabel Mavis, the famous glassophone soloist, who plays her own pianoforte accompaniment to her solos, has been adding to her high reputation by her playing of the maremba, a new instrument which has created quite a sensation on tour.

In view of the approaching general meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, all holders of "Bricks" are requested to have same opened in the presence of two artists and forward postal-order for amount contained to the hon. secretaries. A new "Brick" will be supplied if desired.

The death is announced, at the Bristol General Hospital, of Mr. Harry Jennings, who was born at Sheffield and has for thirty years been on the stage as a comic singer and clog dancer. It is stated that his heart was seriously injured through the strain of clog dancing. These facts open up an interesting question: Do clog-dancers invariably die young?

On Tuesday evening a great sensation was caused at Nelson, Lancashire, by the receipt of intelligence from San José, California, of the death of a lady vocalist of great promise, and well known in North-East Lancashire, Miss Hilda Duckworth, who left Nelson five weeks ago to join her relatives in California. The information was that a fortnight ago Miss Duckworth, in alighting from a street-car, was pitched on her head, and died soon after from concussion of the brain.

Mr. Martin Adeson, together with Clara Bernard, is scoring all along the line with their screaming absurdity, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*, by Herbert Darnley. They open at the London Pavilion on Monday next, and are rebooked at the Oxford and Tivoli for a number of dates during the next two years; also next year again at the Pavilion, and on the Gibbons' tour and Syndicate halls. Mr. Adeson has left time out for pantomime, and by his record in first-class theatres as a comedian should be soon snapped up.

Reano, the modern "Svengali," who has conducted his famous band with great success through the United Kingdom, is desirous of expressing his keenest gratitude and heartfelt thanks to those proprietors and managers who have so kindly released him from his present engagements, to enable him to act on the advice of his doctor and take a complete rest for a short while, and at the same time inform them that he is now rapidly getting well and strong again, and hopes to commence his next tour early in October. He wishes it to be distinctly understood that he has no connection whatever with any band or bands other than the one which he personally directs and conducts himself.

Miss Elsie Kerry, who has scored a huge success in the Empire halls at Dublin and Belfast, finishes her Irish tour at the Palace Theatre, Cork, this evening. In anticipation of the demands which Irish audiences invariably make upon Miss Kerry's repertory, she refrained from introducing some new songs while in London previous to her departure. These include a characteristically Irish ditty, "Miss Killarney," and "Love is just like a balloon," the latter dealing with a widely different theme. Both songs were enthusiastically received by Miss Kerry's audiences; but her old numbers, "Dear old Tipperary" and "Molly Bawn" were also in request, and had to be repeated. Press exchanges from Ireland pass high encomiums on Miss Kerry's performance in the three leading cities.

Developments are in progress which should hasten a satisfactory solution of the sketch question, interest in which was recently revived by the action taken by the "common informer" against Mr. Frank Macnaghten. The Sketch Association have adopted a resolution to write to the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Entertainments Protection Association, the Actors' Association, the Variety Artists' Federation, and kindred societies, inviting them to form a joint committee of delegates from each society to take any steps considered necessary to further the carrying into law of the Majority Report of the recent Parliamentary Commission on Licensing, thus securing the legislation of sketches in the halls. A representative body thus formed would have considerable weight with the Parliamentary authorities, and hopes are entertained that a Bill would be quickly promoted and passed.

"We cannot follow the example of another section of the community and go scaling roofs and clambering down air-shafts in order to enforce our demands," said Mr. Portland Akerman, the secretary of the Sketch Association, "but with a representative committee such as that suggested much could be done, and possibly, if the Joint Committee, when constituted, thought it necessary to shed blood, in order to expedite the legitimate desire of the sketch artists to be actors, and not vagrants, as they are at present by law, the gore would be forthcoming."

Moreover, we have it on the authority of Mr. Akerman, that Mr. Frederick George, at whose instance the action against Mr. Macnaghten was begun, has pledged his word that he will institute no further proceedings. The prosecutor only began the action on principle, and not for private gain, and having vindicated that principle, has no desire to continue the fight. The necessity for Mr. Frederic Baugh to carry out his resolve to prosecute a number of music-hall managers for producing sketches seems therefore to disappear.

The matter duly came up at the Sketch Association's committee meeting on Tuesday, when the secretary stated that in reference to Mr. Baugh's expressed intention of conferring with the committee he had written to him saying that if he desired to meet the executive, and would write to the secretary, formulating any grievance he might have against any member of the Association, it would be considered in the ordinary way. No reply was received from Mr. Baugh up to the time of the meeting, doubtless owing to the fact that he had been, within the knowledge of the secretary, out of town. Mr. Akerman added that his Association admired the way in which Mr. Baugh had fought the prosecution, the result of which they thought would go far to deter the "common informer" from similar action.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

FRANK BROCKETT'S waltz, "Le dernier adieu," one of the most sought after items of the day, is being played nightly at the Playhouse, where on Wednesday *Tantalising Tommy* was given for the 200th time. Mr. John Ansell's orchestra is certainly one of the best in London, and its performance of this fine waltz of Messrs. Francis and Day is marked by real taste and musicianly feeling.

MISS SYBIL ARUNDALE is ever welcome on the variety stage, and her return to the Empire on Monday evening was the signal for an outburst of loud applause and a handsome bouquet. Her strong song is "On the silvery sands," a number which Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are putting much faith in. Miss Arundale shares with Miss Madge Temple the burden of making it whistled in London.

THAT bright young artist Miss Lillian French has during the week at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, as elsewhere on the Barrasford tour, been winning encomiums both by her rendering of her own vocal numbers and by her mimicry of well-known stars. Her pretty song, by Percy Edgar, "When the summer sun is dying, Rose Marie," is a huge success, and has been placed upon the market by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate coloured coon who at the New Cross Empire has been the recipient nightly of vociferous plaudits, had an extremely busy day's work on Saturday last. He appeared at 2.45 p.m. at the Colston Hall, Bristol, on the occasion of Mr. Horace Livermore's benefit, at 7 p.m. he was on at the Empire, Holloway, from thence going to the Croydon Hippodrome, where he appeared at 8.30, and, after playing the second house there, finished up at Holloway as serene as ever. His two songs, "There's a little black cupid in the moon" and "Mister owl," both Messrs. Francis and Day's publications, are in great demand.

MR. HARRY CHAMPION'S comical new song entitled "I'm Henery the Eighth, I am," by Fred Murray and R. P. Weston, has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and is a fine specimen of the work of two of the foremost writers of the day.

MR. GORDON STRETTON, the ideal coon, has, at Aberfeldy, been charming all and sundry with his new song by Tom Mellor and Harry Gifford, entitled "There's a little brown girl in Dahomey," which Messrs. Francis and Day have in the press, and with a song from his own pen named "Estrella," and his other favourite number, "If I was a girl like you." Mr. Stretton opens at Dublin on Monday.

LEONARD COOKE and Charles Collins have again collaborated in a ballad, the title of which is "The garden of memory." It has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication.

MR. BILLY MERSON'S song "The lighthouse keeper," which is from his own pen, is being placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day, who some time back published the same singer's "I'm setting the village on fire."

WILL HYDE has just disposed of to Messrs. Francis and Day the publishing rights of his new song for Mr. W. B. Raby, entitled "With my little pail and shovel in my hand." The item possesses novelty, being without a chorus of any kind. Mr. S. W. Wyndham, the rising comedian, has also secured a Will Hyde song entitled "And then I blew my trumpet."

FRED W. LEIGH, whose quaint song for Mr. George Bastow, "They won't know Oi coom from the country," is commanding a ready sale consequent on the ripe comedian's return to the stage, has supplied Mr. George Lashwood with new songs entitled "Give me something to remember you by" and "M-a-t-r-i-m-o-n-y." These last are likely to be issued presently by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. WILL BENTLEY, of Graham, Russell, and Bentley, has been scoring at Clacton with a new humorous song entitled "What would a gentleman do?" It is by George Arthurs and R. P. Weston, and will be published immediately by Messrs. Francis and Day.

AMONG new dance music just ready to see the light, and which will, when issued, bear the imprint of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, is a new "flying dance" by J. Follit, entitled "Aeroplane," and a charming two-step by Ernest Reeves named "Nightshade."

(*Continued on page 24.*)

COLLINS'S.

This cosy little "Hall on the Green" has, for the present, reverted to the two-houses-a-night system, and good business appears to have resulted therefrom. On the night of our visit the *pièce de résistance* of the bill—Charcot and his automatic man—was unfortunately absent, owing to indisposition, but, nevertheless, a very enjoyable programme had been arranged for the delectation of visitors. Miss Marie Collins, who bottoms the bill, is a great favourite here, and her songs, which go with a swing from start to finish, are highly appreciated. Sidney Fernee's Model Maids present a novelty vaudeville scene, wherein some eight fair young ladies contribute some pleasing songs and dances.

Miss Chummie La Mara puts plenty of "go" into her song entitled "The Irish-Spanish Toreador," and also tells, in song, how the ubiquitous Kelly has gone to "kingdom come." Ward and Davis are responsible for a smart little musical comedy duologue entitled *Wanted, a Typist*. The lady, who is a song and dance artist, answers an advertisement, and, by mistake, enters the offices of the gentleman who has advertised for a typist. Obviously, of course, the gentleman does not seriously object, and indeed has some very humorous remarks to make. The lady, for her part, sings and dances gracefully, and gains hearty applause.

The popular Walker and May are, of course, the recipients of much applause for their vocal and terpsichorean efforts, the song entitled "Down among the sugar canes" being especially noteworthy. Tiny Arnold, the "world's smallest star comedienne," scores decidedly in both song and dance, her efforts being signally approved. Mr. Harry Bent displays considerable versatility in his imitations of well-known stage celebrities, which he presents with considerable success. The Seymons show us something novel in the way of equilibrium; and the Vernon and Mars Trio also give some original acrobatic and other feats. Harry Luck, comedian, Rosie Lee, juvenile comedienne, and Hal Chapter, quaint comedian, complete the bill.

Mr. A. L. Williams is the general-manager, and Mr. W. R. Cowley acts as stage-manager. The courteous proprietor, Mr. H. Sprake, is usually to be found in the front of the house. Mr. Alf. Peterson looks after the well-conducted orchestra.

THE alfresco amusements on Hastings Pier continue very attractive. Large numbers gather round Mr. Fred Little's troupe of Spanish Serenaders at each of their four daily sessions and the New Film Hiring Company's animated pictures are also well attended. The new building to accommodate box bowls is also now open and is well patronised.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

The run of the revue at the Empire has been temporarily suspended in favour of a revival of a past success, and Monday last saw the reproduction, under the title of *Moscow*, of the Russian divertissement from the ballet *Round the World*, which for so long formed an attraction at the Leicester-square house. The scene is one of the most picturesque of the series, and full advantage is taken by Mr. F. Harker of the opportunities for display presented in a National Fête in the ancient Muscovite city. The dramatic incident of the divertissement, it will be remembered, is the exhibition of pluck shown by an English chauffeur, who now figures as a tourist, and champions the cause of a gipsy dancing girl, administering a sound thrashing to the brutal proprietor of the troupe. Miss Eva Macfarlane makes an exquisitely pathetic figure of the Romany girl, who is compelled to dance in spite of an injured foot, and executes a tzigane with bewitching grace. Mr. B. Ford invests the plucky young tourist with a droll sense of humour, while his step-dance is a marvel of experitness and skill. Miss F. Martell is a comely and dignified Grand Duke; Mr. L. Hunter makes a properly forbidding gipsy; as the boy, Dmitri, Miss Janette Michaels proves herself a skilful dancer; and Miss A. Courtland as a Cossack officer and Mr. Jameson as a Sergeant of Police represent those characters with fidelity. Sleigh-bell dances and military manœuvres serve to create continuous animation, glitter, and melody, which keep the eye and ear agreeably employed. Mr. C. Wilhelm, the designer, Mr. Fred Farren, the producer, and Mr. Cuthbert Clarke, the personation of the dainty débutante. Mr. Fred Farren again dominates the scene with his quaint impersonation of the *maître-de-ballet* and his whimsical dancing, and Miss F. Martell, Signor Rosi, Miss Beatrice Collier, Miss Daisy Pavor, and other talented artists all add their share in the provision of a delicious terpsichorean feast. Mr. H. J. Hitchins is highly to be congratulated on the attractiveness of his present programme, and Mr. A. Aldin, the able acting-manager, on the crowded houses he is called upon to supervise.

THE TIVOLI.

Mr. Joseph Wilson, looking bronzed after leading the simple life on the coast of Dorset, is by way of opening his autumn campaign with novelties which well sustain the reputation of the cosy Strand house. First place in this week's fresh numbers is demanded by Mr. George Lestocq, who is presenting *Very, Very Much Engaged*, a farcical medium for exploiting his very evident ability that is certainly not overloaded with opportunity. But it serves to introduce one to a very agreeable and clever young actor—the son of Mr. W. Lestocq, a veteran—quite a young veteran, *bien entendu*—whom we remember in the original cast of *Our Boys*. There is a decided echo of *Brighton*, the late Bronson Howard's comedy, in the trifle. A commercial traveller, now married, has become "very much engaged" to various young ladies "beside the seaside." On his arrival with his wife at a London hotel he meets Fanny from Folkestone, Maggie from Margate, Dora from Dover, and others. Each claims his allegiance, and to each he has to tell tarradiddles. He is cornered, of course, and it is evident that the lady who is gags; and Cissie Curlette, well termed a quaint vocalist, gets away from the well worn rut of the comedienne in her old maid's song, "What you've never had you never miss," and is quite refreshing in her dress of the Mid-Victorian era. Herbert Shelley rejoices in a rich fund of humour, and his Irish songs and anecdotes are racy of the soil. Herbert La Martine is a fine dancer; Mooney and Holbein are among the best of Hebrew comedians; and others announced on the bill are Sam Mayo, Queenie Essex, and Foot-Gers. Raffell's Bioscope is a permanent attraction.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The bill is headed here by Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale. Her powerful voice is effective in the "Valse Song" and "Dear Heart." A popular turn is given by the Keppels. The male member possesses a fine baritone voice, and his rendering of "My old shako" is admirable. In "Down the vale," given as a duet, the high soprano of the lady is heard to decided advantage. In response to the plaudits of the audience they sang "Till dawn."

A powerful sketch, presented by J. C. Brandon and company is

THE DRAGON'S CLAW.

Quong Ming ..... MR. A. LLOYD
Lo Yen Sunbloom ..... MISS STELLA VERNON
Ah Hoe ..... MR. E. C. CARLIN
Mad Hag ..... MISS MARY BRONTON
Policeman Kelly ..... MR. GEORGE FAIRHURST
Jim Dorgan ..... MR. JOHN C. BRANDON

The scene opens at Quong Ming's opium den in the quarter of China Town, New York, where Jim has gone for his share of a "pigeon's" plucking. Quong is not over keen on parting up, but Jim

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

composer, are alike to be complimented upon a tasteful production which won the approbation of a large audience.

New importations to the bill bring to the Empire some of the oldest-established favourites of the halls. As the seedy individual and the American belle, Clark and Hamilton arouse endless laughter with their scene at a restaurant. Mr. George Mozart also touches the springs of mirth with the most effective selections from his répertoire of drolleries, and the representation of a cinematograph picture comes as a complete novelty. An acknowledged favourite at the Empire is seen in Miss Sybil Arundale, who has chosen for her selections a song of humorous tendencies, in which the "days gone by" and the present are contrasted, and the popular "Silvery, silvery sands," which she renders in a bathing-dress of ebony hue, incidentally making a remarkable likeness to Shakespeare's Hamlet. It is only in the costume that the resemblance exists, for Miss Arundale sings with a vivacity and charm which wins all hearts.

Grotesque effects are created by the Tally-Ho Trio, who are most diverting in their snatches of melody, the comic business being entirely unforced. Knockabout fun is supplied by Smite and Smote, to an accompaniment of laughter, and the Royal Oxfords, a trio of clever youths, dance with wonderful precision. Billiards extraordinary are indulged in by Asra, who brings off losing hazards on a billiard-board with the pockets hung around him, and his forehead as a supplementary "cush," whereon he plays a popular melody. The delights of *The Dancing Master* are retained in the bill, Miss Phyllis Bedells bringing the fragrance and freshness of youth and the accomplishments of the practised dancerine to bear in her impersonation of the dainty maid, who legitimately his has the whip hand of him. The disappointed ones take things quite in a lively fashion, and dance in turn with the faithless one. Mr. Lestocq has quite an alert style, and is always buoyant, amusing, and bright. The ladies supporting him are pretty and engaging.

Another turn new to London is presented by Les Averinos, from sunny Spain. The lady sings agreeably, and shows her versatility by wire-walking. The mere man of the duo is a clown endowed with humour and with considerable agility as an acrobat, being responsible for a remarkable exhibition of somersaulting. Mr. Horace Lane and Miss Violet Lloyd present a capital new sketch in *Busking*, which is imbued with the spirit of raillery when the "hobble" skirt dance is given. When the skirt is removed a pretty figure is displayed. Both Mr. Lane, as the unemployed actor, who joins forces with the lady busker, and Miss Lloyd, who plays that part, are particularly smart and clever, and their popularity is well won. The Two Bobs, who have so rapidly advanced to the front rank of favourite American comedians in London, are a couple of artists whose dancing and acting are, in the language of the States, "high-grade goods." Tivolians recognise their finesse and their real sense of character in their dances and sketches, and are delighted.

Little Tich as "The Territorial" is quite up to date, and fires off spasms of patter that are very smart. His "bargee" is redolent of W. W. Jacobs, and it is a character in which he shows to considerable advantage. That he is an enormous favourite goes without saying. Jack Marks is a promising youngster; Dale and O'Malley, with a style that is decidedly original and amusing, would be well advised to get some new warns him of the consequences if he fails to pay over the share. The Mad Hag then enters, and having no money begs for a pipe of opium, which Quong refuses. However, Jim gives the woman some money and receives her thanks, and an assurance that she never forgets a kindness, and that it will be repaid in due time. After Jim has gone Quong and his assistant arrange to get rid of him on his return for the money. The girl Lo Yen overhears the conspiracy, and determines to warn Jim. Her presence is discovered. She admits having heard all, and, refusing to keep silent, she is gagged and bound. Jim's whistle is then heard, the place is darkened, and as Quong opens the door Jim is immediately attacked and stunned by Ah Hoe. As policeman Kelly is on his rounds the inanimate form of Jim is placed in a box and nailed up. Kelly hears a piercing scream, which Quong informs him is that of the old woman. Brought from the opium den, she vows it was not her. Kelly tells her to lie down, covers her with a rug, and departs. Soon sounds are heard proceeding from the box. The old hag starts up and wrenches the lid from the box. Dragging Jim to the spot where she was sleeping she covers him with the rug and goes to fetch the police. Meanwhile, Quong is dealing with the girl Lo Yen, and her terrible screams bring Jim to his senses; he staggers blindly to the door, rescues the girl from her would-be murderers, and shoots Quong just as Policeman Kelly arrives with the old hag.

The sketch, although somewhat gruesome in theme, certainly grips, and the long applause at its finish was ample testimony to its popularity. All the cast work well and deserve praise.

Female humorists are few and far between, and Daisy Hicks is one of the few. Her methods are quite refreshing, and she raises many laughs with her songs, "I wish I could let those rooms" and "If I hadn't got the dinner on the hob." Pete and Juno, the two coloured boys, are very amusing. Their simultaneous saand dance is quite good and heartily applauded. The lengthy programme also included Clive Watts, comedian and dancer; Elsie Diane, comedienne; the three Flying Winskills, trapeze artists; and E. E. Howard and company in *The Fight in the Lighthouse*. The stage is resplendent with a most gorgeous drop scene of quite original design and colouring. Mr. W. Hinkinson is the capable musical director, and Mr. Morris Abrahams the general manager.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

Mr. Charles Beresford, the genial manager at this fine hall, reported business excellent when we called in on Monday evening, and small wonder when two such top-liners as Harry Champion and Houdini are billed. The quick-fire comedian, Harry Champion, was in his best vein, and reeled off three songs at his usual velocity, and his reception was immense. His first number, "The natty little patch behind," caused general amusement; while another, "Ginger, you're balmy," was even more popular, as it gave the gallery an opportunity to help in the chorus, which they did with heart and voice.

Cressie Lennard, a sprightly comedienne, looks most fetching in her boy's costume, in which she sings "I wonder if you miss me?" in a very taking style. Wilman, the Australian instrumentalist, gives some finely-rendered cornet solos, his playing of "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," by Fred Clay, being a rare treat and greatly appreciated. Another good comedian on the programme is G. W. Foster, who has a catchy policeman song in "I blew my whistle," while his "Author" number is very humorous, with its thrilling descriptions, which caused roars of laughter.

Houdini, fresh from his triumphs abroad, comes back to increase his reputation, and his escape from the strait-jacket was indeed a wonderful feat, performed, too, as it is, in full sight of his audience. Then he presented his marvellous act of escaping from an air-tight iron can, filled with water and securely padlocked, and it was done in a mysterious way, his reception at the finish being tremendous.

Those capital piano duettists and singers, Carlish and Wellman, provide a most popular turn; their playing of the two pianos with such marked precision must be the result of careful study and assiduous practice, the effect being decidedly pleasing. They also sing some melodious songs, and score a big success. The Three Rochesters, clever young people, sing and dance cleverly, and introduce the smallest barefoot sand dancer in the world. Blanche Vincent, a singer with a fine voice, sings a pretty medley of Ireland's popular songs, and afterwards gives a really artistic rendering of "Cigarette." Elsie Malpass, a very young lady, hits off Gertie Gitana to the life in her impersonation of that popular artist, and also sings a bright number, finishing up with a clever dance and making a big hit.

Rose Atherton and company present an amusing sketch, *Murphy's Affinity*, which is capitally played, and gives general amusement. The story of the old curiosity dealer who meets with such extraordinary adventures with an old Egyptian vase he has secured is quaintly ludicrous, and the most is made of the opportunities for fun-making. The Bioscope, with new films, concludes a most pleasant evening. Mr. Beresford has every reason to be proud of the success that is attending his energies at this place of amusement.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A programme of the most attractive sort is submitted at this popular hall, and patronage is of a very liberal order. The Brasques in a comedy playlet, *My Lancashire Wife*, make a good impression, the lady sustaining the Lancashire dialect in excellent style. The conclusion of the playlet is weak, and it wants generally smartening up. They were very cordially greeted. The Four Paulastos, lively waiters, in a comedy act, give a smart show, which exhibits both strength and skill. Plenty of humour is introduced, and they score a decided success. The Caselli Sisters, in song and dance, do very well, especially in their sensational concluding dance, which is enthusiastically received.

Frank Lister, who is appearing in *No. 99*, an American dramatic sketch, scores one of the hits of the evening. The plot of the playlet is interesting and well developed, and it has the additional advantage of being capitally acted by every member of the company. Mr. Lister himself, who has a big local reputation, contrived, within the small period of about fifteen minutes, to work his performance up to a degree of great intensity, and he gained quite an ovation at the fall of the curtain. A word is due to the gentlemen who play the Doctor and Judge respectively, and also the little girl, each of whom rendered excellent support.

Marie Kendall is making herself a great favourite, and is singing two songs, "You can always tell when a fellow loves a girl" and "Did your first wife ever do that?" The latter song is very amusing. Miss Kendall, who sings it in the guise of the second wife, makes every point tell, and the audience express their approbation with no uncertain sound. Ada Cerito sings one song with great acceptance, and induces the gallery to chant the chorus with her, and is well received. Steve McCarthy, who opens the programme, contributes a number in the guise of a sailor, and puts any amount of "go" into it. He gains a hearty call.

Alec Hurley, who is appearing as a single turn, is a popular contributor to the bill. On the evening of our visit he sang three songs, the first and second of a domestic type, and the last a very clever and original sort of number entitled "My particular business." What that happens to be one never actually finds out, though from the costume one might be inclined to hazard a guess. It certainly suited the artist admirably, and fully interested and amused the house. Needless to say he was received with acclamation.

Another very popular feature of the bill is Miss Wish Wynne, who goes very far towards realising her programme description as "the most versatile comedienne of the day." On the evening of our visit three songs were submitted—the first entitled "Swank," the second "I was afraid," a rustic dialect study, and the third a study of a London schoolgirl. These three items comprise in themselves a pretty severe test of versatility, and it has to be recorded that the artist scored a complete triumph, the applause at the end of her second item making an encore inevitable. We believe that Miss Wynne is concluding her present engagements in this country, but it is to be hoped that London will soon have the opportunity of welcoming back so gifted a lady.

Another feature of the bill is Lew Lake and company in *Old Chinas in China*. This proves to be a bustling knockabout show, with a good stage setting, and a large company. The audience appeared to derive the utmost enjoyment from many of the situations, and Messrs. Lew Lake, Bob Morris, and Dave Bentley specially distinguish themselves. The show had a hearty reception. Ada Oxley and company are also in the bill with *Peggy*. The Bioscope is very entertaining, and Mr. T. Gray's orchestra render yeoman service during the evening. Mr. B. Adams, the popular manager, is courteous and attentive in the front of the house.

MR. EDITOR,—We notice in your report for the Richmond Hippodrome in your last issue, you state that '*Lisa's Wedding Day* was played by Swan and Stanley. This was an error, as it was played by yours faithfully, Swan and Vesta, authors and sole proprietors.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

On Monday Mr. Arthur Aldridge produced the beautiful new Feldman ballad "All in a day," by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves, which was keenly enjoyed by the vocalist's many auditors. In this new ballad Messrs. Feldman and Co. have a worthy companion to their better-known and highly-popular ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," which Mr. Aldridge is also singing at the London Pavilion.

Undoubtedly the comedy chorus song of the hour is Benjamin Hapgood Burt's quaint Irish number "Mister Pat O'Hare," which Mr. George Lashwood renders with such vivacity and point at the Holloway Empire nightly, to an accompaniment of applause which must be very gratifying to the ears of this accomplished artist. Messrs. Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on the possession of so typical a Hibernian number.

That delightful recruit from the musical comedy world, Miss Dorothy Ward, is immensely successful, both at the Richmond and Hammersmith houses, where she is this week performing, with Chas. K. Harris's latest ballad gem "Yesterday," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. publish, and which proves greatly to the liking of patrons of both houses.

Miss Ethel Ra Leslie is specially featuring Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's delightful Irish number, "Connemara," with scenic effects, &c., appropriate to the song, and the publishers, Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., wish it to be understood that Miss Ra Leslie holds prior rights of this song, and no other artists must sing it on the variety stage without permission first being obtained direct from them.

At the London Pavilion Miss Jose Collins has been received with acclaim in her dainty rendering of Williams and Van Alstyne's cowboy song "Santa Fe," yet another of the popular Feldman publications.

Miss Ailsa Douglas has been making a marked success at the Palace Theatre, Buxton, with Feldman's ballad "I'm trying so hard to forget you," and on Monday next will also produce Feldman's biggest "winner," "Beautiful garden of roses," at the Empire, Rochdale.

Miss Georgie Corlass, writing from Bombay, records the marvellous success that has attended her rendering of E. W. Rogers and John Neat's dainty ditty, "Pretty little girl from nowhere," and "I do like to be beside the seaside," by John A. Glover-Kind. Both of these are well-known Feldman publications.

Miss Nina Carlton, a prominent member of Mr. Oscar Mills' company, *The Nonentities*, is highly successful at the Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake, this week, with "Marie Louise," "It's the Alpine dress you're wearing," both by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and "Come over the garden wall," by Macdonald and Tate. All three are published by Feldman and Co.

Miss Cissie Dryden, at the Bedford this week, is immensely successful with Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's song "Keep the fire in, Marie," published by Feldman and Co., and will sing the same song next week at the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

"A WOMAN'S REVOLT."

Sketch, by W. L. Courtney, Reproduced at the Palace Theatre on Monday, Aug. 29.

Gabrielle ..... Miss Ada Webster
Colonel Rentledge ..... Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm
Launcelot Wrayne ..... Mr. Walter Pearce
Servant ..... Mr. Cecil Burt

After all, the "revolt" is nothing more serious than a flash-in-the-pan form of indignation, and, considering all things, "she" has really nothing to complain about. We may as well mention that "she" is a musical comedy actress of experience, named Gabrielle, who has won the affections of Launcelot Wrayne—a real good chap, who has not developed any awkward curiosity concerning his inamorata's past. When we first see the happy couple she plays snatches of Grieg's *Peer Gynt* to him, and illustrates on the piano the versatility of the genius that opportunity may one day enable her to display as Medea or Medusa, or, we may add, Electra or Clytemnestra. As the song says, "the happy moments fly all too fast," and the time comes for Gabrielle to depart for the theatre. Launcelot's half-hour nap on the sofa is interrupted by the arrival of Colonel Rentledge, his guardian, and the owner of the flat. He has arrived in town unexpectedly. On noticing that supper is laid for two, the Colonel's observations lead up to an acknowledgment from Wrayne of his attachment and of his determination to marry the girl. The older man regards the situation as serious when a young man is bent on taking a woman's past, present, and future under his wing. Is Wrayne quite certain of her affection? He has his "doots," and arranges a little scheme whereby the Colonel can sound Gabrielle on the point.

In the succeeding interview Rentledge discovers that Gabrielle's mother was a dear friend, and he becomes paternal. He had regarded with somewhat mixed feelings her probable marriage to Wrayne, but now he is quite glad. While in the act of giving her a fatherly kiss Wrayne bursts into the room, misinterprets the attitude of the Colonel, and strikes him. Further assault is only prevented by the intervention of the woman, who works herself up into a state of indignation, and in wild and whirling words condemns man's treatment of woman, who he either haloes as a saint or tolerates as a toy. Cannot she be allowed a personality and independence? Both men are silent—wisely so, perhaps; and Gabrielle is departing, when a nervous collapse brings her back. On her recovery she mutters the name of "Launcelot," and that young man, brought by a stimulating process that we cannot explain to a proper sense of his own unfitness for such an earthly blessing, falls into her arms. Mr. Walter Pearce, who was making his first appearance on the variety stage, played with force and feeling the part of Launcelot Wrayne; Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm was scarcely well suited in the rôle of the Colonel; and Miss Ada Webster was at her best in the less strenuous passages of the sketch, which was somewhat coldly received.

The Six American dancers—three ladies and three gentlemen—make their step-dancing a very much appreciated feature of the fine entertainment, not only by the real skill of their performance, but by the fascination of it, and by the clever way the act is dressed and presented. Miss Dorma Morgan, an American comedienne with a chic style, is a douce lassie, and, possessing a fine figure, wears the doublet and hose as if to the manner born. Charlier, a French ventriloquist, who is particularly clever with his walking figures, and shows versatility in his dances with a dummy; Les Trombettas—*dans leurs œuvres et créations*—always popular at the Palace, where they return time after time to renew their triumphs; the great Kaufmann Troupe of lady bicyclists; the Bekepi Sisters, international dancers; Henriette de Serris, with well-known works of art; the famous Victor Abaza Balalaika Orchestra; Nat M. Wills, American tramp comedian; Myrma, the diving Venus; and the Palace Bioscope pictures are other attractions.

"THE FIRST NIGHT."

A Burlesque, by Tom Conover, Produced for the First Time at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Jimmy Welch ..... Mr. Dan Thomas
Wilkins ..... Mr. Len Lewis
Bertie ..... Mr. Hampton Gordon
Liz ..... Miss Nora Layton
Phyllis ..... Miss Isa Bell
Jack ..... Master Cliff Ryland

The story of this playlet, which has a rich vein of humour running through it, is written round the fortunes and misfortunes of a certain theatrical manager named Wilkins. He is on the point of producing a new piece, but, being particularly short of money, a feeling of discontent exists amongst the members of his company. The leading lady, Phyllis, has found favour in the eyes of Bertie, a dude, and the manager suggests that she shall endeavour to persuade him to put a little money into the concern. Bertie is eventually entrapped, and given a part.

Jimmy Welch, a bookmaker and a friend of the manager, is also approached for a little cash, and in exchange for this he too is handed a part to play. Jimmy's young lady, Liz, has a great liking for the stage, but has never yet been on, and as still another female is required to complete the cast, she is engaged, and handed a costume in a parcel about the size of a match-box and told to go and dress. After much excitement in the dressing-room the play starts in real earnest. The scene represents the exterior of the Castle of Castero, and in the unfolding of the plot many humorous mistakes are made and much fun is caused in every direction. At the final, where Jimmy Welch is supposed to blow up the bridge, the explosive is evidently a little too strong, for not only does the bridge disappear, but the scenery falls on every side, making a very fitting conclusion to a funny play.

Mr. Dan Thomas as Jimmy Welch takes full advantage of every opportunity offered in his part, and supplies a particularly droll delineation of the bookmaker; Mr. Len Lewis makes a business-like theatrical manager, Wilkins, and works hard throughout; the rôle of the dude, Bertie, is ably undertaken by Mr. Hampton Gordon, whose efforts are much appreciated; Miss Nora Layton supplies a spirited portrayal of Liz; Miss Isa Bell is well suited to the rôle of Phyllis; and Master Cliff Ryland shows considerable ability and plays extremely well as Jack, the call-boy.

Mr. George Lashwood purposes producing at the Empire, Holloway, his new character comedy number, "Just you leave it to the guard," specially written and composed for him by John P. Harrington and Fred Eplett. Miss Ethel Fink (Mrs. George Lashwood) will also shortly produce a new number by Messrs. Harrington and Eplett, entitled "Wouldn't you like to meet her? Rather!"

MISS MILLIE HYLTON.

No higher compliment could be paid this talented artist than that of an enthusiastic habitué of the Shepherd's Bush Empire the other evening, when, at the conclusion of her turn, he declared that "an artist so versatile had not been seen on the vaudeville stage since the days of the inimitable Jenny Hill."

Miss Hylton's present répertoire of songs is, indeed, a varied one, and gives her every opportunity for the display of her well-known abilities. There is a delightful ditty, "Puff, puff, out went the moon"; and her low-comedy item, "I couldn't help being a lady," a drolly-rendered

[Photo by Ellis and Walery.
MISS MILLIE HYLTON.

song, always elicits shrieks of laughter. A fine dramatic scena, "For a Woman's Sake," with special scenery and effects, is also a much-appreciated item; and "The Last of the Dandies" and "A Dollar Princess," introducing some specially arranged dances, are other attractive numbers. In deference to the wishes of the authoress of "The Dawn of a To-morrow," Mrs. Frances Hodgson-Burnett, Miss Hylton has withdrawn her scena of the same title.

In a brief chat with the charming artist at the conclusion of her turn, she informed us that she was equally at home in either grave or gay business, and that a due appreciation of the contemporaneous requirements of the public influenced her in staging a versatile act.

"The public nowadays," said Miss Hylton, "are continually asking for novelty and change. The day has passed when they will tolerate a performer submitting three or four similar numbers in one turn. Each number must be distinct in itself, and should be sufficiently strong in words and music to grip the attention. With my present act I have now been several weeks on the Moss-Stoll tour, and am proud to be able to state that both Press and public have been most kind and appreciative. Audiences are not over-demonstrative to-day, so that I must consider myself extra fortunate in receiving three, four, and even more calls at every performance." Happy is the artist who can awaken such real enthusiasm.

In the important matter of costumes no lady spends more time and money than Miss Hylton, and the most indifferent eye can at once discern the admirable taste and judgment exercised in the selection of the choicest Parisian models, in which the lady always clothes a charming personality.

Miss Hylton has long been recognised as one of the finest principal boys in the kingdom, her fine presence considerably enhancing her value in this rôle. Through a misunderstanding, she is unexpectedly disengaged for pantomime, but there is little doubt, when the fact becomes known, many offers will be made for her services.

Miss Hylton's future arrangements—following the termination of the Moss-Stoll tour about March next—are at the moment somewhat in abeyance. She may be starred on tour in a new and original musical comedy, and has many plans and offers now before her.

Mr. Mat Melrose, the manager of the Comedy Comets, who have been entertaining audiences at the Kursaal Gardens, Worthing, during the season was, on the occasion of his benefit last week, presented with a silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, by the other members of the company. Mr. Melrose has been exceedingly popular since his arrival at Worthing, and this can be seen when it is mentioned that nearly fifteen hundred people paid for admission on the occasion of his benefit.

The Vaudeville Party, the Queries, who have been performing at St. James's Hall, Worthing, were required to give up possession on Wednesday, owing to its being wanted for a concert by Mark Hambourg. They, however, conceived the happy idea of giving their patrons a treat in the shape of a sports meeting, and this was held in Beach House Park, which was frequently visited by King Edward during his visits to Worthing. There were numerous entries, and fine prizes. In the evening dancing took place to the Town Band supplying the necessary music.

FELDMAN'S GREATEST TRIUMPH

GARDEN OF ROSES

CREATED BY

ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

THE ASSURED HIT

OF THE YEAR.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

LOIE FULLER ON DANCING.

"Both dancing and the attitude of the public toward dancing have changed with the last eighteen years," writes Miss Loïe Fuller, discoursing on "Eighteen Years of Dancing" in the (American) Green Room Book Album.

"The Serpentine Dance was invented, or invented itself, in New York. I had returned here in 1891 after a season at the Gaiety in London, and was playing in a farce-comedy called *Quack, M.D.*, in which there was an hypnotic scene. Before leaving London, England, to fill this engagement, I received a box covered with eastern labels, and found it to contain a thin silk robe of snowy whiteness and of a delicacy of texture such as I had never before seen. It had been sent to me by a man whom I met in London once, on the eve of his sailing for India.

"One night in my room, wholly by chance, I threw the silk robe over my head and shoulders and moved and swayed it about. The effect of the whirling movement on the flowing silk was graceful and pleasing, and I practiced different steps until nearly daylight. It seemed to me that it might be turned to account, and I finally introduced it in the hypnotic scene of *Quack, M.D.*, with great success. The colour effects came afterward, only one colour at a time being employed at first.

"The blending of the lights that made my dance so beautiful was also the result of an accident. The dance was supposed to be illumined by two lights of the same colour, one at each side. The electrician one night had partaken of the cup that cheers and inebriates at the same time, and he mixed the lights, producing the most beautiful effects. All that I have accomplished since is due to an idea given me accidentally by an intoxicated electrician.

"I suppose I am the only person, whose claim to recognition is as a dancer, that has a personal preference for science. I am really more interested in science than I am in dancing. It is the great scheme of my life. I was led to it by my researches in the field of light and colour. In Paris I have a laboratory where I employ six men. Every penny I earn goes to that. I do not save for my old age. I do not care what happens then. Everything goes to my laboratory.

"I have had some success, for I have invented a process for treating cloth with phosphorescent salts. Scientists in Paris worked with me, but it was reserved for me to discover that by striping a fabric with the stiff salts I could produce a strong and beautiful glow at an expense of about 600 dols. per pound. Part of my hair was blown off in an explosion while I was experimenting in my laboratory, and it made a great sensation in the neighbourhood. The people called me a witch, a sorcière. My hair will not all grow again, but I do not care.

"I have been asked to say something about the celebrities with whom I have been brought into contact in eighteen years of dancing.

"Perhaps the greatest man I have ever known was Alexander Dumas, though one may only say of any great man that he was great in his own way. There has never been a greater idealist nor a greater realist than Dumas. Of course, I am speaking of Dumas the younger, the Dumas of 'La Dame aux Camelias,' not the Dumas of 'Monte Cristo'—which it is well enough to explain, since many of the present generation confound father and son.

"I was introduced to the eminent litterateur by a mutual friend, a Haytian—a man of polished manners and broad culture, as are the educated Haytians—whose father had been a great friend of the elder Dumas.

"I was taken to a breakfast at the Dumas villa at Marly le Roi on a Sunday, and of twenty or thirty men and women at the table, I was the only one who could not speak the language of the country—for that was when I first went to Paris, in 1893. I had, however, been coached in the pronunciation in French of the words: 'I am proud to take the hand of Alexander Dumas,' but, overcome by something like awe in his presence, as well as being embarrassed by the number of people at the table, what I really did say sounded as if I had said that I would be proud to take the watch of Alexander Dumas, 'main' and 'montre' sounding something alike as I pronounced them. I was surprised, therefore, when he offered to present his watch to me, and my Haytian friend had to explain matters. I tried my French again during the breakfast, and brought down the table, for in my ignorance of the use of the genders I referred to my host as 'she.' Dumas, who was a very masculine person, assured us that it was the first time he had ever been taken for a lady. Although Dumas the elder was a mulatto, his son was fair, with blue eyes.

"He made many aphorisms after I knew him better and began to understand the language. I remember once, as he was driving two little black Arabian ponies he had purchased for his grandson, he said to me as they started to run up a hill: 'They are like young people; they want to get their troubles over.'

"Another time he remarked dryly, when someone in a group of friends had been abusing an absent acquaintance:

"'If we find a man in whom we believe there is nothing good, it is often that the fault is ours.'"

Captain Spaulding's Puzzling Performance.

Last week at the Alhambra, Brighton, I had the pleasure of seeing Captain Spaulding's performance, which I have heard so much about. I also saw his performance at the Canterbury a few nights ago. It is a puzzle to me how this man accomplishes his marvellous tricks. He was the talk of all Brighton last week, and proved undoubtedly a big draw for the Alhambra. Spaulding gets to work just as soon as the curtain is raised, and goes out in the audience and shows his work down the aisles as well as on the stage. Biting off red-hot carbons, chewing up hot lead, and blowing gunpowder off in his hand are just a few of the daring tricks this American is showing. His act is away from all acts of this kind, and there is no stalling or lost time, but right to business immediately. Spaulding is proving a big card on all bills he plays.

Where is Emerson?

Mr. Emerson is a club juggler who can handle the sticks with anyone, and often takes the lover's part in drama. Last heard of at Blackpool in company with a dark-haired, good-looking gentleman, who is a sort of Beau Brummel, and who is known professionally as Lucky Baldwin. Has anybody seen Eddie?

Miss Doris Trevelyan was most successful last week at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, and also deputised during the week at the Hippodrome. This was only her second week on the halls, and she is well booked into 1916.

Can any reader please inform Mr. Harry Liston where to obtain a copy of "Juvenia Valse" (by Victor Stevens (?), published some time ago for, he believes, the Juvenia Soap Co. Address, Harry Liston, St. George's Hall, London, W.

Miss Sybil Arundale, who before she made her great success in the title-rôle of *My Lady Molly*, had appeared as Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, has been engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson as principal boy for his next Australian pantomime. Miss Dorothy Firmin, who played the part of Prince Arthur with Mr. Albert Wyndham, the Shakespearean actor and producer in the halls, is to be the principal girl; and among others engaged are Sam Elton, the Sisters Doherty, and the Pantzer Troupe. The pantomime will start at Christmas.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

THE ESDALE BROTHERS.

Those two young and clever artists the Esdale Brothers (Fred and Will) are the only turn of that name in the profession. They first entered into the vocation which was calling them—the Cinderella of the arts—fifteen years ago; and they have played in all the leading halls of the British Isles, including those of Moss and Stoll, Barrasford, Macnaghten, and Broadhead. They appeal, with their original work, to a vast community, and have a considerable following. Mr. Fred Esdale hails from Cottonopolis, and is the son of "Johnny" Watson, conductor for over thirty years of the People's Concert Hall, Manchester. Fred is not only a comedian of considerable resource and capacity, but an expert silfleur, and could have gained a name as such.

The "alter ego" Will is essentially a dramatic artist, and is full of forcefulness and talent. A man from the Midlands, he commenced his career

FRED ESDALE.

as an impersonator of the characters which Dickens has immortalised—Uriah Heep, Sydney Carton, Peggotty, Little Nell's Grandfather, Fagin, Montague Tigg. He also gives a really tragic impersonation of Mathias in *The Bells*, Irvingesque without slavish imitation, impressive and convincing.

The combination of these two young and ambitious actors results in very felicitous happenings. Their latest thumbnail sketch, *Hawkshaw the Detective*, is screamingly funny. It enables them to introduce an artistic travesty of robust melodramatic acting of the old school, who ladled it out, and the smart patter which characterises the newer generation. It is quite original, and affords them an opportunity of singing with effectiveness. The Esdale Brothers, who are just concluding a twenty weeks' engagement with Mr. Charles Dare at the Empire Theatre, Douglas, have

WILL ESDALE.

a long, and, it may be hazarded, a brilliant future before them. They have established themselves great favourites with visitors to the Isle of Man.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Prominent among the many excellent features in the current bill at this popular resort is the remarkably adroit and novel acrobatic pantomime exhibition entitled *The Tramps' Picnic*, given by the Arthur Breton Troupe. Their display is one of the most enjoyable of its kind. A novel entertainment is that provided by the Great Kenna Bros., who perform some very clever feats on a pole balanced on a loose hanging trapeze. It is a smart and interesting gymnastic display, which is quite out of the ordinary, and meets with conspicuous success. Jessie Berg proves a skilful violinist, and her rendering of a Scotch fantasia is greeted with unstinted applause. Curzon and Annesley, with their farcical sketch, *An Artful Widow*, supply one of the chief items of the programme, and are very funny, greatly amusing their audience.

Laurie and Leslie present a laughable cross-talk act, their patter and business being refined and fresh, and they fully merit the applause they receive. Millie Denham makes a hit with her catchy chorus song, "Find a dear little girl," which she sings with skill. Warm applause also greets Harry Wedburn, a really comical comedian, who causes many laughs. His two songs, "How did you get in?" and "The Terror" are real hits, and merriment runs high. He concludes his last song with a clever eccentric dance. Edgar Budden is another excellent entertainer, and his bone solo and dances on roller skates can scarcely be excelled. A cordial reception was given Marie Goodwin, a charming comedienne, who delighted the house with "I'd rather polka" and "Every little bit," a lively dance concluding her very acceptable turn. The Three Favourites are very successful in their comedy singing and dancing act, and well reserve the favour they obtain.

The sketch of the programme is given by Hope, Bayly, and company, and is entitled *The Altar of Duty*. It is a romantic and interesting little playlet, much in advance of the usual sensational trifle, and the parts are carefully and effectively undertaken. Admirably mounted and dressed, it is listened to with attention and loudly acclaimed. The programme is particularly strong in lady artists, high in favour being Miss Lily Arthur, a smart little comedienne and dancer, whose ability is quickly recognised and applauded. Mr. Joseph Baker conducts his capital orchestra with skill, and Mr. Frederick Phelps is very assiduous in his duties in front.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

After a delay as vexatious as it was uncalled for, the Finsbury Park Empire, on the fringe of Northern London, has become *un fait accompli*, and a very fine building—another triumph of the genius of Frank Matcham—rears its head at the junction of two roads in close proximity to the Finsbury Park Great Northern and Tubes Stations and within a few yards of the trams for Barnet, Finchley, Enfield, Whetstone, Edgware, Waltham Cross, Edmonton, and outlying districts in the North of London. It will therefore be seen that the new house will command patronage from a wide area. At a private view on Thursday afternoon, a large crowd of invited guests expressed their admiration of the many beauties of the new establishment.

The new home of variety has taken nearly a twelvemonth to erect, and the first thought of the visitor on entering the vestibule is its solid British comfort and unpretentious elegance. The quiet tones that prevail everywhere harmonise with the oak fittings which predominate everywhere; but for an accurate description of this most beautiful and spacious house we may well quote the architect:

The principal elevation faces towards the Seven Sisters-road, the centre façade being of terra-cotta, and contains the principal entrances and advance booking-office. Over-columns are carried up supporting bold entablatures, and in the centre is a large circular-headed opening, with an open balcony approached from the grand circle foyer, and on the right a large square tower, with a tall roof, supporting a revolving sign, which can be seen from a very considerable distance. The side elevations are plainly but boldly treated.

On entering the building there are two lobbies, one on each side of the booking-office, which open into an Old English hall, carried out in quaint design, the walls being divided out with flat oak half-timbered work, filled in with white plaster. The staircases and doors are all of polished oak. The box-office is deserving of special notice.

The two staircases from the vestibule are wide and roomy. One leads down to the stalls foyer—a very cosy apartment with its comfortable lounges—and from here short corridors conduct the visitor to each side of the stalls. The other staircase, on the left, leads up to a large and lofty foyer, where a buffet has been provided; and the whole is in keeping with the entrance vestibule. From here the grand circle is approached.

The upper circle, approached on the right of the façade, contains a wide fireproof staircase, from which no fewer than four short corridors conduct the patrons to their seats. The pit is approached from the left of the building, the gallery from the right.

The fine, bold lines of the decorations—which, by the way, are of the Renaissance period—with the rich gold introduced, and tier upon tier of luxurious tip-up seats, the graceful red and pink draperies, the beautiful box façades, all combine to give to the theatre an appearance of grandeur that would be difficult to surpass. The general tone of the decoration is a happy combination of French cream and gold, with a warm crimson introduced that gives the whole interior an appearance of comfort and cosiness.

The ceiling—one of the largest ever made in fibrous plaster—is very boldly treated, rising in graceful curves from the main cornice up to the sliding roof, with enriched ribs, beams, panels, cartouches, swags, and pendants, the panels, being filled in with open-work, affording ample means of ventilation as well as giving a graceful sense of lightness and airiness.

Below the main cornice runs a deep frieze, panelled out with heavily-enriched mouldings and swags over pilasters, and finished at the ends next to the gallery with coffered panels and moulded and enriched trusses. In the centre panel of this frieze, on both sides of the house, is a finely-moulded centrepiece with oval shield and Cupids resting on a moulded base. The panels in the angles over the boxes are filled in with modelled dolphins.

The proscenium is spanned by a massive arch of an unusually effective character, the ends being scrolled and finished with swags and circular panels. The whole is surmounted by a tympanum, with large shield and reclining figures on either side, forming a very fine piece of moulded work.

A special feature has been made of the façades to the boxes. The stage-boxes have moulded and panelled fronts supported on curved trusses, and the fronts to the grand circle, balcony, and gallery are carried out in keeping with the general scheme of ornamentation.

Ample seating accommodation has been provided, the firm of H. Lazarus being responsible, and over a thousand tip-up chairs of the latest type have been fixed, the backs, being of polished satinwood colour upholstered in ruby velvet, imparting a warm and glowing effect. This famous firm have also supplied the luxurious settees, and their seating and furnishing throughout once more is a testimonial to their taste and resource. There are fifteen rows of stalls and nine rows of tip-up seats in the grand circle. So many exits and entrances have been provided that the ingoing patrons will in no way be inconvenienced by those leaving the building at the conclusion of the first performance. One advantage of booking in advance is the fact that double doors have been reserved at the front of the house for those who have booked their seats that they can enter without the disadvantages of waiting.

The building is fireproof throughout, erected on the cantilever system, and gives everyone a clear and uninterrupted view of the stage, in fact, everyone will be able to see clearly even from the most remote corner of the gallery. Hot-water heating has been introduced throughout, so that it will be seen that the safety and comfort of the audience has been considered in every way. The lighting of the interior is effected by hundreds of small electric bulbs and by massive brass electroliers suspended from the roof. The stage is an exceptionally large one, and is fitted with all the very latest machinery and requirements. The opening performance will be given on Monday.

Mr. William Ward, of the Press Bureau, Moss' Empires, was here, there, and everywhere on Thursday afternoon at the private view, to give information concerning the magnificent new house; and Mr. Ernest Wighton, the manager, was also extremely busy. Sir Edward and Lady Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, and Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. Battle, and other people prominent in the Moss-Stoll amalgamation, were present. Mr. F. Camp directed the orchestra of the new house, and enlivened the proceedings with some well-played selections.

MR. LEONARD SHEPHERD is appearing again next week in character-studies from his répertoire at East Ham, including impersonations of Richard III., Hamlet, and Shylock.

"MAGNA CHARTA."

A Historical Dramatic Interlude, Produced for the First Time at the Poplar Hippodrome, on Monday, Aug. 29.

Hubert de Burgh .....MR. ALBERT WYNDHAM
Lieutenant of the Tower ....MR. CHAS. WHITLEY
Guard .....MR. L. DEVEREIDGE
Sentinel .....MR. ARTHUR PAGE
Prince Arthur .....MISS MONA SHEPARD

In *Magna Charta* Mr. Albert Wyndham has a very powerful sequel to his popular sketch *Prince Arthur*, and there is no reason why it should not prove to be every whit as successful. The adaptor has furnished a story full of dramatic incidents, with a strong vein of pathos throughout. The interest is well sustained, and works up to a capital finale. The sketch was given a warm reception on Monday evening.

The scene opens at the entrance to the Traitors' Gate of the Tower of London, where the Lieutenant of the Tower, who acts as King John's secret guard over the Prince, is hatching a plot for his removal. Hubert, disguised as a monk, and with the little Prince, are seen walking on the battlements. Hubert has resolved that the boy's eyes are not to be destroyed, and urges him to make good his escape, giving him a bag of gold for the purpose. The Lieutenant arrives with soldiers, and demands the arrest of the Prince, but Hubert throws off his disguise, and, revealing his identity, commands the men to depart. The Prince then manages to escape. Baulked in his intentions, the Lieutenant then turns on Hubert, and they fight a duel, in which the Lieutenant is mortally wounded. Soldiers appear bearing a stretcher, on which lies the young Prince, who, in his endeavour to escape, has fallen from a tower and is dying. With pathetic care Hubert lifts the boy from his position and calls his name. The young Prince recognises Hubert's voice and then passes away.

In the part of Prince Arthur Miss Mona Shepard acts with great skill, and the audience were not slow to appreciate her good work; Mr. Chas. Whitley is excellent as the Lieutenant of the Tower; and the sentinel has a capable exponent in Mr. Arthur Page; Mr. Albert Wyndham is seen to decided advantage as Hubert de Bergh, a part in which his dramatic powers have ample scope.

STAGE NOMENCLATURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a new artist bearing the name of "Hylton" who has recently appeared on the music hall stage. In order to endeavour to avoid misapprehensions on the part of the public, and misunderstandings by managers and others connected with the profession, I am writing to inform you that this particular performer is not in any way connected with my sisters or myself, my sisters being respectively known as Letty Lind, Adelaide Astor (now Mrs. George Grossmith, jun.), Lydia Flopp, and Fanny Dango (at present playing in Australia under the the management of J. C. Williamson).

It seems a thousand pities that new-comers do not seek and adopt fresh and distinctive names or titles, and so obviate clashing.—Yours faithfully,

MILLIE HYLTON.

Shepherd's Bush Empire, W., Aug. 30.

GULLIVER and the doll with the laugh, the successful ventriloquial act, are in town again on the Gibbons Circuit for a month, opening on Monday at Willesden.

STAR MUSIC CO., LTD.

AGAIN REMOVE TO LARGER PREMISES,

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

THIS IS "IT."

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES
(I WONDER IF YOU CARE).

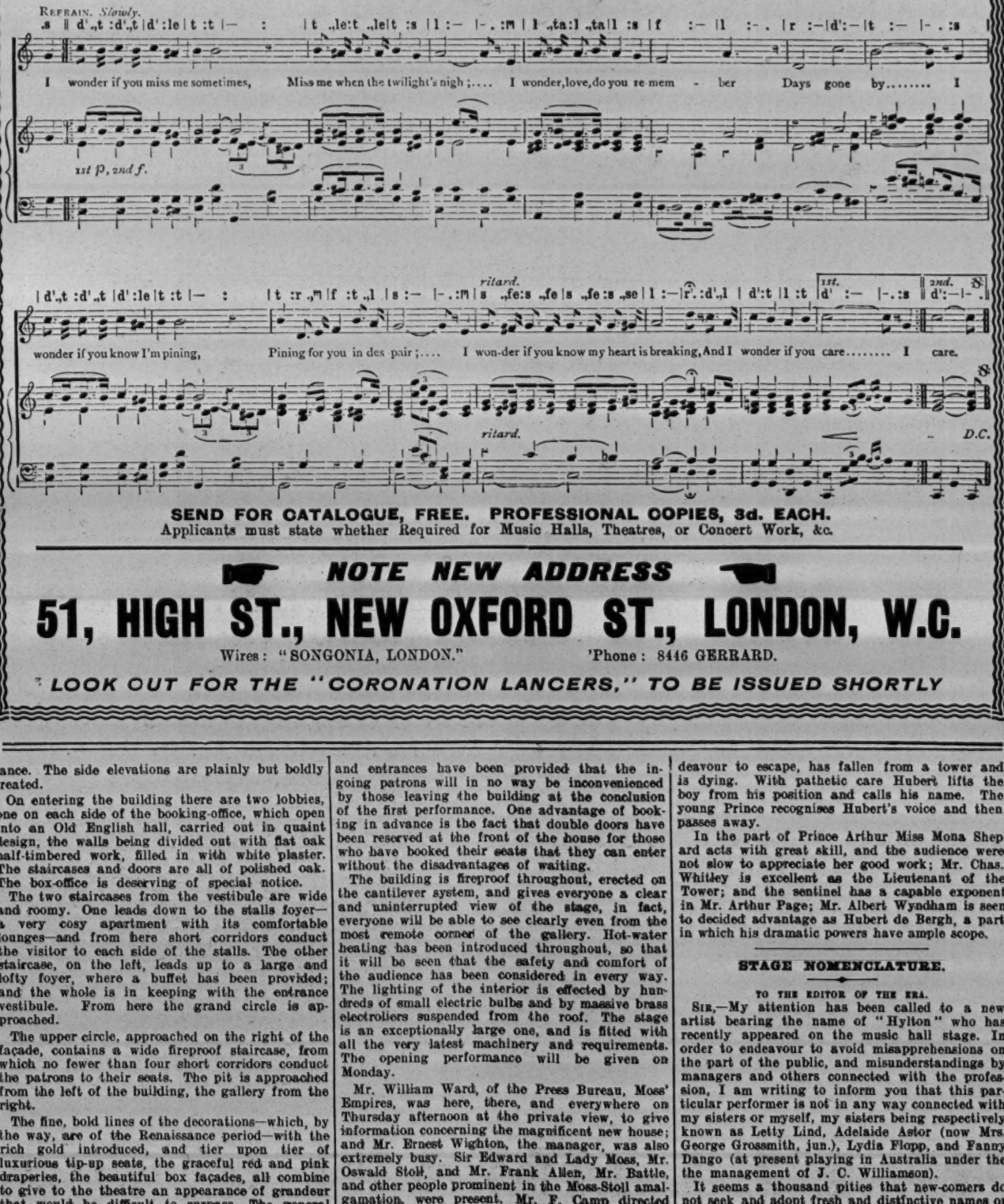

SEND FOR CATALOGUE, FREE. PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH.
Applicants must state whether Required for Music Halls, Theatres, or Concert Work, &c.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

LOOK OUT FOR THE "CORONATION LANCERS," TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AT the Star Music Co.'s reception last week, on the occasion of the formal opening of their new premises, one of the most pleasing items of the entertainment was the musical treat provided by Mr. J. H. Squire, whose handling of the 'cello proved him to be a master of that delightful instrument. He was accompanied most effectively by his charming wife. The latter also obliged with a most artistic rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's pretty ballad, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." G. H. Elliott, without his chocolate colour, sang his latest success (by the same authors), "Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah," and in response to an unanimous encore, gave the old favourite, "By the blue lagoon." To wind up, Mr. A. J. Mills gave an impersonation of Charles Whittle in the bright and lilty "Fall in and follow me."

SHOALS of telegrams were received during the day from artists, managers, and other friends. Miss Marie Lloyd, who was unavoidably absent, sent a very handsome gift in the form of a tray containing ornamental receptacles for cigars, cigarettes, &c.—a useful present, which was greatly appreciated.

MISS CRISSIE LEONARD has captivated the hearts of the Camden Theatre audience during the past week by her sympathetic rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's delightful number, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." The authors and publishers are to be congratulated on having such a charming exponent for their song. Miss Leonard has another Star Company number in active preparation.

MISS ELLA RETFORD has the privilege of being the first to introduce to London audiences one of the best songs ever written by those accomplished writers, A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" is different to other Irish songs, it is so delightfully natural. There is no attempt to manufacture humour at the expense of reason. The melody is one that seems to literally "tickle the ear." All who have heard the song regard it as one of the most likely hits of the year. Needless to say, the Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS LOLA PATEY has secured from A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott the prior rights of a new Dutch song, entitled "Oh! Miss Wilhelmina." There are great possibilities in this ditty, and Miss Patey anticipates a terrific success for it. It will certainly not lose anything in such capable hands. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS EDNA LATONNE has just concluded a phenomenally successful engagement at the Oxford, where she has been featuring A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's popular songs, "Homeland, goodbye" and "She was a girl in white." This week the clever little lady is at the Palace, Tottenham, where she is making a huge hit with the same authors, "What's the matter with London?" The audience take up the refrain "as one man," and reward the singer with enthusiastic recalls. The Star Music Co. have this new winner in the press.

REG. BEAUCHAMP is a new star who is likely to become a "fixed star," judging by the tremendous reception accorded him at the Tivoli and other London halls. Mr. Beauchamp's method is broad comedy, but he is the possessor of a really excellent tenor voice, which he uses with great effect in exploiting A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's fine number, "I want to be more than a friend." The Star Music Co. are the publishers of this "dark horse."

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

AUGUST.

Mystery of a Hansom Cab, condensed version of the play of the same name; Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, Aug. 1.

The King of Palestine, episode of prophecy, by George Wells and another; Shoreditch Olympia, Aug. 1

A Night of the Garter, comedy sketch, by George Grossmith, jun.; Tivoli, Aug. 1.

W(h)ines and Spirits, sketch, by Wal Pink; Oxford, Aug. 1.

On the Sands, a "frolic," in one scene, music composed, selected, and arranged by George W. Byng; Alhambra, Aug. 1.

Ria's Luck, sketch, by Miss Clare Elstob; Camberwell Empire, Aug. 1.

A Supreme Moment, dramatic sketch, by Mrs. W. K. Clifford; Coliseum, Aug. 8.

A Soldier of Fortune, dramatic episode, in three scenes, by Fraser Brunner; Woolwich Hippodrome, Aug. 8

The King of Sleepland, comedy sketch, by Gilbert Walls, Freddie French, and Willie Benn; Alhambra, Brighton, Aug. 8.

A Noble Revenge, dramatic episode, by Albert Ward; Camden Hippodrome, Aug. 15.

A Prairie Wooing, playlet, by Ivan Patrick Gore; Grand Hall, Forest Gate, Aug. 15.

The Wow-Wows, by Fred Karno and Herbert Sidney; Euston, Aug. 15.

The Girl from Yonkers, American duologue; Palace Theatre, Aug. 15.

Ship Ahoy! comedy nautical playlet; Standard, Pimlico, Aug. 15.

A Green Room Match, sketch, by Herbert Shelley; Chelsea Palace, Aug. 15.

Her Guardian Angel, sketch, by Alicia Ramsey; Empress, Brixton, Aug. 15.

The Touch of the Child, play, in one act, dramatised by Leon M. Lion from Tom Gallon's story of the same name; Holborn Empire, Aug. 15.

A Lesson in Rinking, sketch, by Lewis T. Dalrymple; Public Hall, Birchington-on-Sea, Aug. 15.

Poor Auntie, farcical comedy sketch, by Victor Rolfe; Peckham Hippodrome, Aug. 22.

The Third Degree, duologue; London Pavilion, Aug. 22.

The Robbery of the Mail, dramatic sketch, in three scenes, by Arthur Rose; Bow Palace, Aug. 22.

The Model and the Man, musical sketch, by Seymour Hicks, music by Frank E. Tours, lyrics by C. H. Bovill; London Hippodrome, Aug. 22.

Nanon Lafarge, dramatic sketch, by George R. Sims; Metropolitan, Aug. 22.

The Yellow Birds, a further episode in the life of "Dare-Devil Dripping," by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls; Bow Palace, Aug. 22.

A Bath Cure, playlet, by Arthur Falkland; Holborn, Aug. 22.

The Tenor and the Maid, operatic burlesque, by Robert Cunningham; Granville, Walham Green, Aug. 22.

Confusion, farce, by Joseph Derrick; Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester, Aug. 22.

The Third Degree, play, in one act, by Harry M. Vernon; Palace, Manchester, Aug. 22.

A Woman's Revolt, play, in one act, by W. L. Courtney; Palace Theatre, Aug. 29.

The First Night, burlesque, in three scenes, by Tom E. Conover; Camberwell Empire, Aug. 29.

The King's Reserve, military scena, written and composed by Will Godwin; Empress, Brixton, Aug. 29.

Magna Charta, historical dramatic interlude; Poplar Hippodrome, Aug. 29.

The Wily Widow, comedy sketch; Metropolitan, Aug. 29.

Parker's Progress, absurdity, by Charles Ridgwell and Charles Austin; Shoreditch Olympia, Aug. 29.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN ENGLAND AND ELSEWHERE.

[By Americus.]

Gone to Continent.
The Five Mowatts left for the Continent last Tuesday, to open on Thursday in Dresden. They are booked for close on to a year on the other side of the Channel, but will return here to fulfil some engagements next summer.

Herman at Brighton.
I had the pleasure of meeting the Quaker City manager, Mr. Herman, who is the managing-director of the Theatre Royal, Brighton. Mr. Herman says he may go back to Philadelphia to see how the old town looks some time next summer. "You see," says Mr. Herman, "I have been in England so long now, and I am so well settled here, that it is hard for me to think of the land of the free just yet awhile. I suppose I will stay here until the curtain rings down for the finale of my career in the show business." Manager Herman has been in England for many years, and is booking some of the best London productions at his Theatre Royal. *Our Miss Gibbs* was the attraction last week, and the place was packed at every performance.

Miss Herron Doing Fine.
Miss Bertie Herron, known all over the American continent as "the Minstrel Miss," is now making a tour of the Stoll houses. She was at the Empire, Glasgow, last week, and from reports made a splendid success right from the start. Miss Herron will return to America some time in the spring, after her English time is all played.

Going Strong.
The clever Hebrew comedians, Gilday and Fox, have made more than good over on this side, and are now a big attraction on every bill they play on. They are at the Paragon this week, and, as usual, going great. Their funny parody singing gets the crowd, and there was not much applause left after they had finished their turn on Thursday night.

Russell and Held at Bedford.
Russell and Held are topping the bill at the Bedford Music Hall this week, and Russell tells me that, from the way the audiences appreciate their efforts at every performance, the couple must be creating some talk in that district. Which means big business.

Leeds Applauded Jolson.
Harry Jolson was some success at Leeds Empire Palace this week. They not only appreciated his comedy, but his voice rang out through the auditorium in melodies that were sweet to the ear, and it looked as though he would have to make his usual speech.

American Acts Galore at Glasgow.
With Willie Pantzer, the Doherty Sisters, Herbert Loyd, the patrons of the Glasgow Empire are seeing a pretty much American programme this week. All acts, according to Willie, are doing fine, and great houses.

Cyclists at Leicester.
The Palace Theatre, Leicester, have the famous Jackson Family of expert cyclists. The act has proved a huge success right along throughout the Stoll tour, and is being greatly appreciated.

Mabel Berra Next Week.
The Palace, Manchester, will have the pleasure of hearing a very clever artist in Miss Mabel Berra, the talented American singer, who will make her first appearance at the Palace, Manchester, next week. Miss Berra was booked by Will Collins, of the Broadmead house, Leicester-square.

Great Lafayette Coming Back.
Will Collins advised me that he had placed the Great Lafayette for a number of weeks here in England, and that he would return as soon as his Continental engagements were finished to play the Stoll tour.

"Back from Reno" Coming.
Jack McAuliffe, the former champion lightweight boxer of the world, is a full-fledged actor, and has been so for some time. Jack has a clever offering in the shape of a monologue which he has been presenting in America, *Called Back from Reno*, which has been a big winner for the former champion, and which he wishes to bring over to London. Will Collins will arrange the time.

Keene and Adams.
This clever American team opened at Swansea on the Stoll tour on Monday, and met with good success. The team have been booked for many weeks by Will Collins, of the Broadmead house.

Still Doing Great.
S. and G. Auer, who are doing splendid in the Syndicate halls, are anchored over for some time. They are pretty well booked ahead, and have become quite English since their long sojourn on this side. Both can say "Fawncy" nicely now.

Dancing at the Palace.
The Six American dancers are going great guns at the Palace, and their clever work is well appreciated by the patrons of this select variety house.

Guyer and Valle.
The originator of the beer-keg revelry, Billy Guyer, which was such a good success in many musical comedy shows in America, and which was afterwards put into vaudeville, is playing at South Shields Empire this week, and meeting with splendid appreciation.

"American Musician."
The *American Musician* is now devoting many columns to variety turns and performers of all classes. New York is well supplied with amusement journals now. The new *Musician* looks like a winner from the start, with its pretty cover and many pages of good live news.

Alf Reeves.
Alf. Reeves, who is manager of Fred Karno's American company, *Jimmy Fearless*, is at the Empire, Bradford, this week, and Alf says it's a corking, jolly good show. Mr. Reeves is one of the big boys in the White Rat organisation in America, and is the 29th past the 1,000 mark, there being over 3,000 now.

Bert Coote Coming into London.
Bert Coote will open at the Hippodrome on Monday in his laughing sketch *A Lamb on Wall-street*. The American papers have Bert opening at the Colonial Theatre, New York, next week. Bert says, "I don't see how I will make it, unless I take a flying machine across the sea."

Mr. Butt in Paris.
In fact no one can just tell where Mr. Butt is "all the time," although they might guess where he is "part of the time." The manager of the Palace is in Paris this week, and may be down some place in the southern part of Spain to-day. You have all heard the song "Father brings home something every day." So it is with Manager Butt, who it's dollars to cents will bring home some big novelties for the Palace bill. He makes these jumps now and then. The last jump he made was to bring back to the Palace the Russian dancers Pavlova and Mordkin.

Montgomery and Moore back.
The Coliseum will see the two vaudevillians again next week, and will have an opportunity to hear Miss Moore spring some fast talk.

Six Americans for Australia.
Miss Lovenburg, of the Six American Dancers, told me that the act had been booked for Australia, and would sail from London about Nov. 12 on the Orient line. Another good act for Mr. H. R.

Harry Jolson also.
The Coliseum has a pretty well-balanced American bill next week. In addition to the other American acts Harry Jolson will lend his hand towards entertaining the patrons of this beautiful house.

Lottie Bellman.
The clever comedienne Lottie Bellman was one star act at the Hippodrome, Brighton, during the week. Miss Bellman is assisted by Mr. Bay Russell, and from the amount of applause the act was one continuous hit all during the week. Miss Bellman still features her original style of graceful dancing, and the finish of the act shows a whirlwind coster dance which brings the audience to their feet every time.

Manager Brown's Funny Number Men.
The management of the Hippodrome, Brighton, always has something to amuse the audience, even for a second between the acts. The two card men do a funny turn by running in a comical way from the middle to the ends in placing the cards. They do a little racing stunt. One has the resemblance of an American, while the other shows clearly that he is from Yorkshire, and, as usual, the Yorkshire fellow wins and the patrons yell with laughter. It is a novel addition to a vaudeville bill, and leaves the audience in splendid mood for the opening of the next act.

Mr. Snyder here.
Bud Snyder, the cyclist, came in from South America during the week, and will sail for America in a short time.

Nick Kaufman for London.
I had a talk with Nick Kaufman the other night, and he says: "I am going to buy a home right on the outskirts of London and make this my future home. There is no question but what London is the place for me. I like it here, and it is the place for a man that has so many troupes. He is in a position to handle them so much better." Kaufman has his cycle troupe at the Palace, and they are doing great. The girls look pretty, and their work is exceptionally artistic, while the solo rider Wally Kaufman is one of the top notchers in the trick riding game, and is applauded throughout for his many good tricks.

La Belle Titcomb Next Week.
La Belle Titcomb will open at the Coliseum next Monday. The singer will use a few of her latest songs, and will sing them from the stage, and not from the beautiful white horse which she has gained so much prestige in America with. Miss Titcomb in place of the steed will show some of her latest creations in dress, and it is said that her gowns will be something beautiful in the way of fashion.

Miss Passpart at Brighton.
Miss Passpart is from Missouri, United States of America, and she has the English end of the Merian dogs act which played at the Hippodrome, Brighton, this week, and which goes to the Southsea house the coming week. Miss Passpart right from the start handled the act fine, and Mr. Merian, her uncle, left for the Continent on Tuesday to open at Dresden with the Continental end of the act, leaving her in full charge.

"Punch" and Nat Wills.
Nat Wills has been re-engaged at the Palace, and will be one of the leading attractions there for a few more weeks at least. It is quite funny how a "punch" or a knock sometimes gets an artist engagements. But Wills claims it does do it sometimes. But everyone is entitled to their opinion, says Nat. The American tramp comedian is a great big success here, and his parodies hand the patrons of the Palace many good laughs each night.

RINALDO.

WILLY PANTZER & CO.,
STOLL TOUR.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS, IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
Aug. 29 to Sept. 24, TOWER, BLACKPOOL. A FEW VACANT DATES.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
at PALACE THEATRE, LONDON.

THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
DRESDEN, GERMANY.

HARRY JOLSON.
COLISEUM, LONDON.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

GILDAY and FOX.
Re-engaged for another Week, PARAGON.

NAT WILLS.
Re-engaged at PALACE, LONDON.

MISS MABEL BERRA,
PALACE, MANCHESTER.

SAM STERN. NOT AN INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS, BUT GROWING POPULAR.
COLISEUM. Week Sept. 12.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Skating Carnival at Lowestoft.
An attractive fancy-dress carnival and an interesting series of sports took place at the Skating Rink, Lowestoft, on Thursday, the 25th ult. There was a big attendance of skaters and spectators, and an enjoyable programme was most satisfactorily carried out. There was a good sprinkling of fancy dresses amongst the many skaters, some of the costumes being of an up-to-date and well-designed character. A feature of the sports events was the championship two miles race, in which the rink mechanic, Mr. A. Spillings, defeated the Eastern Counties champion, Mr. C. Foulger, with a good deal more than his allowance (100 yds.) to spare. The fancy dress prize winners were:—Gent's character or original costume: 1, F. W. Mummery (Olden Days); 2, W. Clare (Chinaman). Ladies' character or original costume: 1, Miss Fredman (Telegraph Pole); 2, Miss Hayward (Orange Girl); 3, Miss Ida Page (Harvest Girl). Gent's comic costume: 1, G. Bagot (Nigger); 2, G. Forke (School Boy). Ladies' comic costume: 1, Miss Doris Rushmore (Dutchman).

American Roller Rink, Cardiff, Reopens.
It will be welcome news to many to learn that the American Roller Rink in Westgate-street, Cardiff, reopens this week. The rink will be under the able management of Mr. George Thomas, who has already proved himself an expert and genial supervisor. The space previously devoted to the café has been greatly enlarged, luxurious lounges have been provided, and for the future this department, which will be in charge of Mrs. Gray, of the Conservative Club, will have all the attractions of a high-class café. Old patrons of the rink will be glad to learn that Mr. Evans will again be in charge of the floor—an area, by the bye, of 1,800 square ft. (the largest rinking space outside London), and which has been thoroughly renovated. Bandmaster Matthews and his efficient colleagues will again be responsible for the music. The afternoon sessions will be from 2.30 to 6, and one of the additional attractions will be the facilities afforded for rink hockey.

Mr. W. H. Barringer's Benefit.
Mr. W. H. Barringer, the popular manager of the Olympic Rink, Littlehampton, takes his benefit on Friday, Sept. 9, under the patronage of the Duchess of Norfolk. Several of the leading skaters will give exhibitions during the evening.

Fancy Dress Carnival at West Stanley.
On Wednesday, the 24th ult., a highly successful fancy-dress carnival and confetti battle was held at the West Stanley Skating Rink, several valuable prizes being offered for various events. The prize-winners were:—For the gentleman with the largest bow, Mr. J. Biddy. Gent's advertising costume: Mr. J. Jackson as "Lifebuoy Soap." Most humorous costume: Mr. J. Nicholson as "Scarecrow." Best fancy dress: Mr. W. Robinson, "Indian Chief." Ladies' fancy dress: Miss Hall, the prize in this case being a week at Blackpool (railway fare to and from and board and lodging there). The lady with the largest hat: Miss Gray. Ladies' advertising costume: Miss Clarke, as "Edward's Harlene." Most original costume: Miss Robinson, "A Basket of Roses." The rink is now closed for a month, opening again in October.

Reading Rink Reopened.
The Central Skating Rink, West-street, was reopened for the season on Monday evening. Mr. Wood-Winstanley, who gained universal popularity last season by his courtesy and attention, has been retained as manager. Carnivals and other attractions are being arranged for, and the tearoom will again be a special feature of this popular rendezvous.

Derby Alexandra Rink Reopened.
After an interval of variety entertainment, broken only by a few days' skating interlude during Bank Holiday week, the management of the Derby Alexandra Skating Rink reopened their premises last week as a skating rink pure and simple for the ensuing season. The building has been completely renovated and now presents a most attractive appearance. The floor has been re-surfaced, and new and pleasing decorations have been utilised. The interior has been painted throughout in chocolate, blue, and white, whilst a special feature has been made of the café, where every arrangement has been made for the comfort and entertainment of visitors, who "rolled up" in full force last week. The managerial post is again admirably filled by Mr. W. H. Innes. There is an excellent band.

Monohan the Big Attraction.
To signalise the reopening the management engaged Mr. G. S. Monohan, whose performances amply justified his claim to distinction by the title of "the Great." He has been called the "American Wizard on Rollers," and this, again, is an apt description, for no tricks seem impossible to him. Some of his tricks are simply marvellous. His kettledrum trick, in which he accurately imitates the roll and beat of the kettledrum by tapping with his feet on the floor, is perfect. One of his most difficult feats is the barrel trick, in the course of which he balances himself on one foot on the barrel and uses the other to propel the barrel round the rink. Another wonderful feat is threading the maze, in which he has sixteen lighted candles on the floor, and skates in and out of them simply on his toes, causing scarcely a flicker of the lights. It is wonderful to see him jump over rows of chairs, and his imitation of an American express train, with bell, whistle, and the rattle of the wheels, is another brilliant effort. Monohan also gave an exhibition of fancy skating.

Carnival at Tynemouth Palace Rink.
A grand summer attire carnival took place at the Tynemouth Palace Skating Rink on Wednesday, the 24th ult., and proved to be a highly successful and enjoyable function. There was a good crowd of spectators, whilst a large number of skaters disported themselves merrily in summer attire upon the huge and commodious rink. A selection of valuable prizes were presented by the judges, Councillor Harold Arnold and Mr. Brownhill, to the successful competitors in the interesting and most keen events, viz:—Two-step (partners), Miss Joyce (Gateshead) and Mr. Boocock (North Shields); promenade two-step (partners), Miss Stall (Jarrow) and Mr. R. Burdon (North Shields); barn dance (partners), Miss M. Gitterman (Newcastle) and Mr. Gillespie (Tynemouth); two-step (gentlemen only), Mr. R. Wallace (North Shields); waltzing (partners), Miss M. Gitterman and Mr. J. Boocock. Special prizes were awarded for the smartest couple on the rink, which were won by Miss E. Rutter (North Shields) and Mr. George Kyles (North Shields). The rink was delightfully illuminated with electric lights of various colours, whilst the floor and the Richardson skates were in perfect condition. The whole of the arrangements were admirably carried out by the ever-courteous rink manager, Mr. T. R. Knox, who is never-tiring in his zeal to make his patrons comfortable. A grand gymkhana is now being arranged to take place on the above rink on Sept. 21.

MUSIC HALL HOME.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PRESENTATIONS

The annual general meeting of the Music Hall Home and presentations to those who had collected the largest amounts for *The Era* Shilling Fund in aid of this most deserving charity, was held at the Terriers' Headquarters, the Three Stags, Kennington-road, on Thursday afternoon, Mr. WALTER DE FRECE, the president of the Home, being in the chair. Amongst those present were Miss Vesta Tilley, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Neiman, Mr. Harry Barnard, Mr. Fred Neiman, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, Mr. Ernest Giles, Mr. Arthur Were, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, Mr. Horace Wheatley, Mr. Cecil Newman, Mr. Walter Norman, Mr. C. C. Manning, Mr. A. Simmons, Mr. S. N. Salter, Mr. Hans Droitz, Mr. H. de Frece, and Mr. E. Madden.

After the CHAIRMAN had called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of the last general meeting, which it was proposed and carried should be signed, and the annual report and balance-sheet had been approved and passed, he said:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It affords me very great pleasure to preside at this, the annual meeting of the Music Hall Home, and to welcome, on behalf of the committee, the many sympathisers and friends of this deserving institution. I regret that during the time I have had the honour of being president of the Home I have not been able to attend as many of the committee meetings as I could wish, but it is exceedingly gratifying for me to voice the general feeling I am sure exists at this meeting, as to the value of the work done by the members of the committee, and to express to those gentlemen, and the officials, how very highly their endeavours are appreciated by those present, and the music hall profession in general.

While it is far from my intention to criticise any effort that may be made to alleviate the distress that in our profession, as in all others, must arise when the members of that profession reach old age, and have had little opportunity to provide for themselves and their dependents in that inevitable end, when your committee honoured me by their invitation to become President of the Music Hall Home, I was very glad to accept, principally to show my personal appreciation of the manner in which the finance of the Home has been attended to. As you know, all the gentlemen connected give their valuable time and assistance without payment, and through the courtesy of *The Era* and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift receive an enormous amount of free publicity, which cannot help but keep the good work being done well before those who should, and I am glad to say do, do something to keep the finances of the Home in a condition to proceed, even if the subscriptions, apart from *The Era* Shilling Fund, do not amount to what they should, taking into consideration how vitally the success of the Home affects the members of our profession.

I speak feelingly, for some years back I was chairman of the committee of the now defunct Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and I venture to say that had the same business acumen been displayed in the management of funds, finances, and affairs as is shown in connection with this Home, that Fund might still be doing useful work. One of the reasons for the failure of the old Fund was undoubtedly the expenses incurred in running the show, and I only make the comparison to further emphasise the economy which your committee are exercising in distributing the funds you entrust to their care, as shown by the published statement of accounts.

Another matter I wish to mention. As you all know, a scheme has been placed before the music hall profession, the promoters of which are anxious to revive, on a sound basis, the Benevolent Fund. I feel it would be a great pity if the parties interested lost sight of the fact that *this* Home is in existence, and is and has been for years doing a great and good work. It speaks more for the good hearts of the promoters of the scheme than for their grasp of existing conditions when they propose, with the assistance of the profession and their friends, to erect a commodious home for the accommodation of the aged of our profession. Bearing in mind how very little your committee are able to do, owing to the limited amount of money they receive from subscribers each year, bearing in mind that such an institution as is proposed will naturally be expensive to run, also that the paid official must of a certainty be brought in when such a home is completed, it appears to me that the profession would appreciate the amalgamation of the scheme, in so far as it refers to the erection of an expensive building, and the handing over of the funds already collected and the promises of further donations to this institution of ours, which has such a splendid record of good work, carried on at actual bare expense. I make this suggestion simply as an individual expression of opinion, feeling that it will best attain the object we have in view—the care of those of our profession who are unable to take care of themselves; and if it should prove acceptable to those concerned I shall be most happy to give all the financial assistance in my power and use my best endeavours to persuade those managers with whom I am associated to do likewise. In conclusion, I would like to pay a tribute to your late president. I feel sure his loss is a great blow to the Music Hall Home which time will only serve to intensify. His cheery presence and oft expressed sympathy with the objects of this Home will indeed be hard to replace.

Mr. DE FRECE then announced that the next business was the election of a president for the ensuing year, and it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Mr. de Frece be again elected. In returning thanks, Mr. de Frece said he would do all in his power for the future of the Home. He then proposed the re-election of the vice-presidents and committee *en bloc*.

Mr. JESSE SPARROW said he thought that those who had omitted to make one attendance at the meetings—as some had done—should not be put up for re-election. He was making no reflections on these individuals, as many were away in the provinces and unable to attend, but in the circumstances it was, he thought, unwise to re-elect them.

Mr. NEIMAN remarked that although a committeeman did not put in an appearance at the meetings, he might still be doing much good work for the Home, looking after the collecting boxes, and in various other ways giving valuable assistance.

Eventually it was proposed and carried that the vice-presidents and committee be re-elected *en bloc*, subject to confirmation at a later meeting. Mr. Arthur Were, the hard-working secretary of the Terriers' Association, and Mr. Tom Branson, of Hastings, were also elected as vice-presidents.

MR. ARTHUR WERE returned thanks for his election, and promised to do all in his power for the Fund, and with the re-election of the hon. treasurer and hon. solicitor, Mr. Harry Barnard and Mr. G. P. R. Burgess, the business portion of the meeting terminated.

PRESENTATIONS FOR THE LARGEST COLLECTIONS

FOR "THE ERA" SHILLING FUND.

Under the stimulating influence of Miss Vesta Tilley and Miss Kitty Colyer, aided by many kind-hearted friends of the profession, *The Era* Shilling Fund this year reached the record, £372 14s. 6d. being the total amount collected.

In making the presentation of *The Era* gold medal and chain to the collector of the largest amount—Miss Vesta Tilley, who was responsible for the handsome sum of £100—Mr. HARRY BARNARD said it was a very pleasing duty and privilege he had to perform. When the committee sent a letter to Miss Tilley asking her to be their Fairy Godmother they all prayed that she would give her consent. She was one of the first ladies in the land for the Home, and in handing her the medal he wished her every prosperity and long life to enjoy it. They were all very grateful to her for her efforts on behalf of the Fund and the splendid result she had achieved.

Miss TILLEY, in returning thanks, said what a very great pleasure it was to her to be of service to the Fund. She was proud to beat the record, and hoped that next year she would be able to collect an even larger amount.

Mr. WALTER DE FRECE then referred to the splendid collection of another lady who was responsible for a large amount—Miss Kitty Colyer, who collected £63 13s. The ladies, he said, always came out with flying colours. He hoped that next

[*Photo by Bacon.*

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

year she would top the list, for the benefit of the Home and all concerned. On behalf of the committee he had much pleasure in handing to her deputy, in her absence, a handsome gold medal.

Presentations were also made of framed certificates signed by the president, vice-president, &c., returning thanks for the great interest they had taken in the Home and its welfare and so zealously using their endeavours to add to its funds, to the following: Mrs. O'Brien, My Fancy, Gus Elen, Harry Conlin, Ted E. Box, Ernest Lepard, Walter Hassan, Ted and May Hopkins, Dick Tubb, Roy Cochrane, Beresford Hope, George Gulliver, Fred Alexander, and Walter de Frece.

Mrs. O'BRIEN said what a great pleasure it had been to her to work for the Fund and how interested she was in its good work. She had pleasure in presenting to the Fund a pair of pictures, by Stanley Berkeley, "Athara" and "Omdurman." They could be sold or otherwise disposed of in the best way to benefit the Home.

Mr. DE FRECE thanked Mrs. O'Brien for her generous gift, and certificates were then presented to Mr. Fred Neiman and Mr. Walter de Frece.

Mr. DE FRECE then proposed a vote of thanks to the subscribers, mentioning *The Era*, which had always thrown open its columns to give publicity to the Home and its work in connection with the Shilling Fund, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, to whom they were very, very grateful for all his good work. Mr. Gus Elen, who so kindly added one shilling to every collecting card, they must also thank.

Votes of thanks to the president, Mr. Harry Barnard, the committee and vice-presidents, the Press, and Mr. Ben Woodger, the secretary, concluded the proceedings.

The Era medal, which is in circular form, and surrounded by a laurel wreath worked in gold, bore on one side the following inscription:—

MUSIC HALL HOME SHILLING FUND.
Presented by
THE ERA
To MISS VESTA TILLEY
For collecting the largest amount
For the Home,
This year, 1910.

The other side bore the words,
"The greatest of these is Charity."

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Music Hall Home (founded 1896), 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

President: Walter de Frece, Esq. Vice-Presidents: Harry Barnard, Harry Bawn, Leon Bassett, W. S. Bassett, Ted E. Box; G. P. R. Burgess, Jas. E. Dunedin, Percy Ford, Harry Gage, Walter Hassan, Fred Neiman, F. H. Pedgrift, C. J. Bartlett Perry, Jesse Sparrow, C. Douglas Stuart, Chas. Weldon, Douglas White. Treasurer: Harry Barnard. Hon. Solicitor: G. P. R. Burgess.

OBJECTS OF THE HOME.

To afford shelter to deserving members of the variety profession who have been stricken with poverty or illness in their declining years, or who have in other ways fallen on evil times. The Home has for several years been largely supported by those who contribute to *The Era* New Year Shilling Fund, which is organised and carried on by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*.

The committee have the pleasure to present the annual report and balance-sheet of the Music Hall Home for the year ending April 30, 1910.

It is gratifying to note that the financial position of the Home is a very satisfactory one, thanks to the continued generosity of its supporters.

During the past year the committee have been able to maintain in comfortable circumstances ten or twelve necessitous and aged members of the variety profession.

Great interest continues to be taken in the welfare of the Home, and it is hoped that through the future liberality of generous donors the committee will be in a position to extend their aid to other equally deserving artists who are in need of some haven of refuge such as the Home affords.

The committee desire to place on record their grateful appreciation of the generous support rendered by the following subscribers:—

Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (*The Era*), Miss Vesta Tilley (whose untiring energy has resulted in a record collection for *The Era* Fund, the President, Mr. Walter de Frece, Miss Kitty Colyer, Mr. Harry Day, Mr. H. C. Arnold and the Committee of the Liverpool Theatre Gala, Messrs. H. and M. Raynes (profits upon the sale of their Little Date Book), the M.H.A.R.A., the V.A. Benevolent Fund, Mr. Joe Elvin, Mr. Ted E. Box, Mr. Ernest Lepard, Mr. Roy Cochrane, Mrs. O'Brien (Rules), Mr. Jack Woolf, Mr. Arthur R. Welchman (Hon. Auditor), and Mr. Gus Elen, for so kindly adding the sum of one shilling to every collecting card.

They also desire to express their gratitude to numerous other ladies and gentlemen for their kindness in presenting the Home with parcels of clothes, books, fruit, tobacco, &c., such gifts being always very acceptable.

HARRY BARNARD (Chairman).

Committee meetings are held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington-road, first and third Thursdays in the month, at twelve o'clock noon.

Matron: Mrs. J. J. Fruin. Secretary: Benj. Woodger.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1910.

EXPENDITURE.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Housekeeping, including Rent	299 6 10	
,, Laundry	1 4 0	
,, Linen	1 4 0	
,, Printing and Stationery	6 7 9	
,, Advertising	19 13 6	
,, Postages and Telegrams	7 0 5½	
,, Insurance	0 12 9	
,, Travelling and Miscellaneous Expenses	6 15 7½	
,, Collecting Boxes	1 10 0	
,, Interest and Commission	0 4 8	
,, Bank Charges	0 5 0	
,, Salaries (Secretary and Assistant)	55 13 0	
,, Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ending April 30, 1910	168 9 5	
		£578 7 0

INCOME.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Donations—		
,, *The Era* Shilling Fund, 1908-9	257 8 3	
,, *The Era* Shilling Fund, on account of 1909-10	100 0 0	
,, H. and M. Raynes (Little Date Book), per F. H. Pedgrift, Esq., *The Era*	11 16 0	
,, Terriers' River Outing, per Berry Hope	1 15 8½	
,, Liverpool Theatrical Gala, per H. C. Arnold	40 0 0	
,, Music Hall Artists' Railway Association	25 0 0	
,, Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund	21 15 0	
,, Birmingham Charity Sports	5 0 0	
,, *The Encore*, Ltd.	0 10 6	
,, Jack Woolf, Wonderland	4 2 0	
,, Atlas and Vulcana	1 1 0	

,, "Dekarro"	2 17 0	
,, Percy Williams	3 0 0	
,, Nat Emmett	0 10 0	
,, Hasberry and Harman	1 2 0	
,, H. Wheatley (late *Era* cards)	0 9 0	
,, E. Mayne (late *Era* cards)	0 6 0	
,, Cole and Rags (late *Era* cards)	0 7 0	
,, Milner Trio (late *Era* cards)	0 6 0	
,, C. C. Mannering	1 1 0	
,, Bob Gates	1 2 0	
,, "Athol"	1 2 0	
,, Beattie	0 15 0	
,, Edwin Barwick	0 5 0	
,, The Dayton Family	0 5 0	
,, George Weldon, Hippodrome, Dewsbury	0 3 0	
,, Austin Rudd	0 5 0	
,, Box Collections	92 17 6½	
		575 1 0
,, Interest on Deposit		3 6 0
		£578 7 0

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance as at April 30, 1909	74 2 10	
Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ending April 30, 1910	168 9 5	
		242 12 3
		£242 12 3

ASSETS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash at Bank—		
On Deposit Account	200 0 0	
,, Current do.	38 18 7	
		238 18 7
Cash in Hand		3 16 8
		£242 12 3

I have examined the above Income and Expenditure Account, with the books and vouchers of the Home, and certify same to show the true and correct position at the above date, Aug. 8, 1910.

ARTHUR R. WELCHMAN, A.C.A.,
Chartered Accountant.
9, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C.

BOX COLLECTIONS.

From 1st May, 1909, to 30th April, 1910.

	£ s. d.
Ernest Lepard, Canterbury Music Hall, London	10 7 6
Mrs. W. O'Brien, "Rules," Maiden Lane	7 11 3
Vivian Evans' Empire Palace Co., Wolverhampton	5 14 2
Samuel Lloyd, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow	5 4 6
Empire, Swansea (per Ted E. Box), P. C. Rowe	4 16 0
Percy Ford, Empire, Camberwell	3 18 4
Roy Cochrane, Surrey Theatre, London	3 18 7½
"Regent," Salford (per Fred Neiman), H. Raymond	3 14 0
Nelson Barry (per A. Trussell), Hippodrome, Manchester	3 11 0
George Manners, Empire, Liverpool	3 3 8
T. H. Dunford, Hippodrome, Leeds	3 3 0
George Weldon, Hippodrome, Dewsbury	3 2 0
Percival Craig, Empire Theatre, Bradford	3 1 0
Harry Bawn (per Fred Alexander), Empire, Edmonton	2 13 5
Nelson Francis, "Empress," Brixton	2 10 0
Walter Hassan, Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool	2 10 0
A. H. Burdett, Hippodrome, Boscombe	2 1 8
H. Yardley, Hippodrome, Southampton	1 16 0
H. C. Arnold, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool	1 15 5
R. W. Duce, Granville, Walham Green	1 14 0
Arthur Burton (per Will A. Jackson), Palace and Hippodrome, Cardiff	1 12 6
Geo. H. Marsh, Empire Palace Theatre, Dublin	1 5 8
Mr. A. W. Deer, Palace, Camberwell	1 2 4
Miss L. Bayliss, Victoria Hall, Waterloo Road	1 1 0
C. Finch-Hatton (per Ted E. Box), Palace, Leicester	1 0 6
"Joiners' Arms" (F. H. Kohler), Denmark Hill	0 17 6
W. H. Boardman, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0 17 0
H. Slingsby, Empire Theatre, Hull	0 16 6
Lewis de Burgh, Hippodrome, Southend	0 15 3
Rosalyn Stuart, Brixton-road	0 14 0
P. Draco, Palace, Reading	0 13 6
R. Davy, "Tower," New Brighton	0 13 0
Arthur Burton, Hippodrome, Stoke	0 12 0
Walter Norman, King's Theatre, Gainsborough	0 12 0
David Hart (variety agent), Brixton Road	0 10 6
Roberts, Seyd, and Co. (per Alfred Appleyard), Regent-street, London	0 9 6
Capt. Slingsby, M.H.A.R. Asso. Office, Manchester	0 9 0
Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham	0 9 0
Arthur R. Harrison, Hippodrome, Bolton	0 8 6
A. J. Carter, Palace of Varieties, Manchester	0 6 0
Chas. M. Jones, Tivoli, Dublin	0 5 4
Mr. Hughes, "Artichoke," Peckham-road	0 5 3
Alex. Galley, Empire Palace, Leeds	0 4 6
Sam Jones, City of Varieties, Leeds	0 4 0
"Athenæum," Camberwell New-road	9 2 7½
"Equestrian," Blackfriars-road	0 2 6
H. Wood, Tivoli Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness	0 2 6
Mrs. Ebdon, "Tankard," Kennington-road	0 1 0
Other amounts	0 0 6½
	£92 17 6½

THE SMETHWICK EMPIRE.

Smethwick has yet another place of amusement. Messrs. G. Bowden and Sons, Cape Hill, Smethwick, are the architects who have prepared the plans of the new Empire, and Messrs. J. Dallow and Sons, Blackheath, are the contractors.

Situated in St. Paul's-road, at the corner of St. Alban's-road, the house provides a striking architectural feature. It is an imposing structure, built to hold about 1,500 people. The elevation to St. Paul's-road is carried out in the free Renaissance style of architecture, and is in red brick, with stone enrichments. The frontage to this road is 72ft., while the building in its principal features is about 40ft. high. There is a frontage to St. Alban's-road of about 100ft., and on this side are entrances to the stalls and emergency exits from the pit.

There are the usual parts to the house, the pit (which it is proposed shall accommodate over 700), the stalls, the circle, private boxes, and the gallery. There is admirable provision for dressing rooms and artists' apartments. The stage is capacious, and suitable for all forms of amusement, while the orchestra provides accommodation for a full band of performers. Provision is made for very convenient seating accommodation in all parts of the auditorium. The house is brilliantly lighted with electricity, and is heated with hot-air radiators.

It is interesting to note that the Empire has been designed to comply with the regulations contained in the Cinematograph Act of 1909, which provides especially for the safety of the public. The conditions laid down are particularly stringent, but the architects have been materially assisted in this matter from the fact that the building is situated at the corner of two roads, this offering exceptional facilities for meeting those emergencies which a somewhat drastic Act was framed to meet. The promoters feel that there has been a demand for a hall of this character in Smethwick, and judging from the success which has attended similar enterprises in other towns, they have done well to strike out in this line in the borough.

line in the borough. The character of the entertainments will be along entirely new lines, so far as Smethwick is concerned, so that the present institutions will not come into direct competition with it. They will take the form of a cinematograph entertainment with a number of variety turns.

The proprietors are Messrs. Kennedy and Adams. Mr. B. Kennedy (who will be the managing director) has won a high reputation in connection with similar undertakings in Birmingham—at the King's Hall and the Queen's Hall—and in other Midland towns. Mr. W. H. Adams will be the secretary. They have spared neither trouble or expense in making it one of the most up-to-date places of amusement in the Midlands.

The opening performance takes place on Monday next, Sept. 5, and the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and other prominent persons have promised their patronage.

STAFF OUTING OF THE EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):—Mr. and Mrs. Hulin, Mrs. Charles, Mr. W. Welton, Mrs. Welton, Mrs. Linton, Mr. J. Linton (stage-manager), Mr. C. Bye (conductor), Mr. Percy Wilde (assistant-manager), Mrs. Bye.
SECOND ROW.—Mrs. and Mr. Hilman, Mr. and Mrs. Renouf, C. Leach, Mrs. and Mr. Webb, Mrs. and Mr. Nott, Mr. J. O. Neil, and Chas. Warrington.
THIRD ROW.—Mrs. Oakley, Mrs. May, Messrs. Davis, Beer, Phillips, Marney, Twigg, Harvey, Davis, Cromwell, Wright, Desmond.
TOP ROW.—Messrs. Gay, May, Oakedene, M. Jones, Cynon, Langdon, Packer, Newton, Lester, Richardson.

Brilliant weather favoured the Newport (Mon.) Empire staff on the occasion of their annual outing on the 21st ult., the rendezvous being Porthcawl. Accompanying the party, which numbered over forty, were Mr. Percy Wilde (assistant-manager), Mr. Charles Bye, Mr. John Linton, and Mr. William Beer. Luncheon being over, Mr. Percy Wilde, in responding to the toast of "The Management," regretted the unavoidable absence of their genial manager, Major Gallagher, who was prevented from making the journey through the illness of his daughter. He had, however, instructed Mr. Wilde to thank the staff for the excellent manner in which they had performed their duties. Mr. Charles Bye (orchestra conductor) toasted "The Firm," and Mr. John Linton, in responding, spoke of the generous manner in which the firm had supported their annual outing. He thought the local staff were greatly indebted to Mr. Gordon for making the excellent train arrangements. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. John Linton, who was responsible for the other arrangements in connection with the trip. Tea over, and a photograph of the group having been taken, the party entrained, reaching Newport about 9.30 p.m., the general opinion being that it was one of the finest outings ever indulged in by the staff.

THE London Choral Society includes in its prospectus for the forthcoming season two new works for chorus and orchestra by Miss Ethel Smyth, and also two short cantatas by Mr. Bertram Shapleigh. It is intended to repeat Mr. Granville Bantock's "Omar Khayyam" (Parts 2 and 3), and Verdi's Requiem is also announced for performance, as well as Parts 1 and 2 of Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha."

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Proposed Abolition of Haslemere Fair.

The Home Secretary gives notice in the *London Gazette* that a representation has been made to him by the Rural District Council of Hambledon to the effect that it would be for the convenience and advantage of the public that the fair, which has been held annually at Haslemere, Surrey, should be abolished.

The Secretary of State will consider such representation on Sept. 26 next, and any person who may desire to object to the abolition of the fair should intimate his objections to the Secretary of State before that day.

It will be seen that there is (under the Abolition of Fairs Act) ample time for the traders and entertainers frequenting this fair to state their objections to its proposed abolition. Members of the Showmen's Guild attending Haslemere Fair are requested to communicate at once with the Guild secretary at this office.

The Rev. H. Norburn on Shows and Showmen.

One of the first hon. local Chaplains and earnest colleagues of the senior Guild Chaplain has the following interesting appreciation of the showman's work and worth in his Parish Magazine for September. Mr. Norburn is rector of St. Agnes' Church, Longsight, Manchester, and in his populous suburban parish one of the best fairs in the Manchester circuit takes place every year. Speaking of the wakes, he says:—

"Once again we have had the annual fair or, as we in Lancashire name it, 'The Wakes.' On account of the restricted area of unoccupied land, this year some of the roundabouts were placed near the Crown Inn, bringing a great crowd of people once more into the main street, Stockport-road. The time was when these van-dwellers were considered a nuisance, and the employees no better than gipsies or tramps. But things have changed greatly of late years. The van-dwellers are now regarded as fellow-Christians, attending to the lighter and merrier side of poor human nature. As some men toil in the dark mine for us, and some labour in the cotton mill to bedeck our noble bodies, and other feed our hungry minds with books or newspapers, &c., so these merry mortals provide a laugh, excite our sense of wonder, puzzle our brain with mystery or miracle, and attract the self-forgetting interest of crowds of their fellow-men. We must have change; our dull days of toil must have relaxation; and our jaded spirits must be lightened with harmless mirth.

"But the rector of a parish, while he shares in the diversions of his people, never forgets that for the week of their visit he has something extra to care for, viz., their souls, and these parishioners of a few days have claims upon him.

"Fortunately, as for many years past, the van-dwellers' kindly Chaplain came to our help and preached at St. Agnes's on the Sunday morning a very able and inspiring sermon from the epistle for the day, on "Differences of administration, but the same Spirit." We were all glad to have him again with us. After the evening service, upon the invitation of the rector, many of the congregation, including the choir and organist, assembled in a large tent provided by the wakes people, and a beautiful helpful service was held by the Rev. Thomas Horne, assisted by the rector. Much interest was shown by the employees and much help given by them in making the arrangements, and gratitude was shown in many ways that they were recognised by the Church as her children. Since, at Mr. Horne's request, the rector became honorary chaplain over fifty other clergymen in different centres have been added as chaplains. Friends, therefore, are at hand in any part of the country wherever the fair may be held."

Speaking of the Report of the Committee of the House of Lords on the Movable Dwellings Bill, Mr. Norburn makes the following wise observation:—

"Never did the influence of our National Church show itself in more unmistakable terms. The recognition by the clergy of their duty to care for these occasional parishioners has slowly changed the status of the van-dwellers, and caused the people in authority to agree to give them fair play to ply their trade and get their honest living.

"The Committee of the House of Lords finds that no restrictions are required for the 4,000 vans and 12,000 van-dwellers. They say the trade is perfectly honest and respectable, and its members well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. The evidence, they say, is that the van-dwellers are healthier than the average, infectious diseases rare among them, and scarcely ever traced to them. 'The policy of driving them off the face of the earth does not commend itself to the Committee.'

"The Committee was, on the whole, against registration (as in the case of motor-cars) for vans and tents. It points out that most gipsies already evade the order to have name-plates on their carts by carrying spare name-plates which can be changed as required. Further, it would be absurd to register a piece of tarpaulin on a couple of sticks. 'Conditions of cubic space applied to shelters which check the free air of heaven almost as little as does an umbrella are,' says the report, 'altogether incongruous.'

"We must give the credit of this favourable report to the labour, evidence, and special knowledge of the Rev. Thomas Horne, the well-known and able Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild. With him we must join the loving labours of the fifty clergymen in various parts of England, who have turned the minds of the best people in England towards an endeavour to raise the poor showmen in the social scale and touch them by religious influence. This great change in the public estimation began sixteen years ago in Longsight by the co-operation of our rector with the Guild Chaplain, both of whom have been spared to witness this great change in the public mind towards the itinerant showmen, who themselves have responded in better lives. However poor, they are men and brethren, and have rights and privileges like all good citizens."

Oldham Wakes.

This famous centre of the cotton trade industry held its annual wakes on the historic Tommyfield the Corporation fairground, where the greater part of the shows and machines were located, and on Mr. William Holmes's fairground, adjoining the Corporation ground. The leading shows were those of Colonel Claske's exors. the famous palace of picture and light, Captain Tom Payne with coliseum and bioscope, George Proctor with London circus, and John Collins with haunted castle. The machines were those of Messrs. Wm. Mitchell, B. Mitchell, W. Mitchell, jun., John Collins, John Green, P. Collins, J. Geoghegan, Wm. Holmes, and Helm. The novelty of the fair was John Collins fun wheel. The shooting concerns were those of Messrs. George Cornwell, Jewell, Addi, and Hughes and Martin; juvenile sets of horses and cars by Messrs. S. Mellor and J. Thwaite; overboats by Platt Bros.; and houp-las, throwing games, and stalls by White Bros., Brennan, Culver, Ling, E. Boss, S. Mercer, Harrington Bros., Doran, and many others.

THE NEW MOVEABLE DWELLINGS BILL.

As announced in our last issue, an important meeting of the representatives of the trade societies in showland took place at Oldham on Tuesday, Aug. 30. The meeting followed immediately after the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union had finished their business. Mr. T. Hurst, hon. secretary of the Guild and general secretary of the Union, was unanimously voted to the Chair. Amongst those at the meeting were Messrs. Wm. Mitchell, J. H. Geoghegan, George Proctor, S. Mellor, Frank Mellor, Wm. Mitchell, jun., John Green, John Collins, George Cornwell, and others. Messrs. Whattam, Thornley, and Orton, representing the allied trades and professions. The object of the meeting was to consider the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords and the Amended Bill as reported to Parliament. The Chairman, Mr. Hurst, went straight to the heart of the matter in his opening speech. In his characteristically direct manner, he said, we don't want to be in the Bill at all. The exemption clauses to safeguard showmen are good in their way; but why, he asked, are exemption clauses needed? As a body we have received justice in the Report. Why trouble about us in the Bill?

If the measure be as its makers say it is, a Gipsy Encampment Bill, why not clear away all doubts by saying so? Let the promoters of all such legislation make out clearly who they are dealing with. Nothing short of that would satisfy him. Their chaplain, Mr. Horne, would deal fully with the Bill, and move a resolution.

The Guild Chaplain's View of the Bill.

With regard to future action, Mr. Horne said that his view was identical with that of the Chairman. Short of a clearly-worded permissive character of the Bill. It was a consolation to know that very few counties would be likely to put it into force. In the crowded industrial areas where the showman found his best market the local authorities hardly suffered at all from the gipsy trouble. These counties were not likely to purchase valuable sites for gipsy encampments, and unless such camping-grounds were provided the whole Act was inoperative. There were other elements to be considered at the present time. The question of the Lords Veto overshadowed Parliament; the chances of any contentious legislation passing both Houses were extremely problematical. All opposed legislation would be hung up until the deadlock now existing had been removed. He had little doubt that any reasonable amendment on their part would be accepted by the promoters of the new Bill. Anyhow, they would formulate such necessary amendments and test the genuine desire of Lord Clifford and his friends as to whether they intend to carry out the intention of their own report, and entirely clear showpeople using moveable dwellings from its scope and power. If the present Bill is to go through, it must be amended along the lines this meeting and others to follow at all the great centres of show-life indicate. In Clause 1 it must say that it refers to encampments of vandwellers other than showmen. Clause 2 must ensure that bye-laws, before official confirmation at the Local Government Board, shall be duly notified in the *London Gazette*. Clause 3 must exempt show-van and showmen from the penal clauses of the Act. If the Select Committee of the House of Lords had sought expert advice as well as expert evidence, the Guild would have assisted them in the drafting of a Bill that would have safeguarded the showman's interest, and still left the Bill an effective instrument for its obvious purpose. He had every confidence that Parliament would exemption clause making it impossible for local authorities to use the Act to penalise the show business, there could be neither justice nor safety for showpeople. He thought that the splendid vindication of show life in the Report ought to be acknowledged in the preamble of the Bill. He would suggest a more definite title. It ought to be named, "A Bill for providing camping-grounds for gipsies and squatters on common or waste lands." Clause 8 should read: "This Act does not apply to showmen, roundabout owners, and amusement caterers using moveable dwellings as part of their working plant." The Report of the Committee implies this concession. There is a similar clause applying to moveable dwellings used by the Crown. Why not showmen?

The Good Work of the Lords' Committee.

The Bill as it went before the Committee and the Bill that left it are two different things. This the Chaplain illustrated by showing a copy of the old Bill with all the clauses but one—Clause 5—blotted out. The old Bill was dead, and the new one was the strongest testimony to the soundness of their claim that no special or class legislation was necessary for show life. He pointed out that the present Bill had no chance whatever of passing until full justice was done to the travelling showman. As the Chairman had wisely said, there must be no doubt about it. It is a gipsy Bill; let it be clearly set out as such.

He had every confidence that, having proved their claim so fully as honest traders and entertainers, Parliament would take care that the ambiguous terms of the Bill were amended.

The Future Work of the Guild.

The Guild chaplain, in conclusion, drew attention to the limited nature and the adoptive or remedy the defects of the measure. Anyhow, the Guild, having taken the matter so far, would persevere to the end.

He moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting of showmen and vandwellers located at Oldham Wakes on Aug. 30 resolves: That whilst recognising the valuable Report and amendments of the Moveable Dwellings Bill, it considers that it will need further amendments to set out clearly that it is a Gipsy Encampment Bill, and that, as in the terms of the Report, it does not apply to showpeople using moveable dwellings in the pursuit of their trade and business."

This was seconded by Mr. Mitchell, and passed unanimously.

The Rev. T. Horne, in answer to various questions, and after discussion, fully explained the Parliamentary procedure, the main point being that Parliament had still to discuss and to pass the Bill. The meeting terminated with the usual complimentary votes.

Carlisle's Great Fair.

Carlisle's "great fair" was held Tuesday, and the fact, according to ancient custom, was duly proclaimed at eight o'clock at the old cross in the Market Place by Mr. Webster, of the Town Clerk's office.

Rain came down in torrents at the time. The Mayor, in official robes, and accompanied by the sword and mace bearers, and the Mayoress were present. Owing to the inclement weather the ceremony was shorn of much of its usual public glory. The Pleasure Fair was attended by the principal borderland and Scottish showmen.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN SUFFOLK.

The Guild Chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, had a very busy and successful week-end at Aldeburgh Fair amongst the Suffolk showpeople. The afternoon conference on Guild business and for the enrolment of members was one of the most successful and enthusiastic gatherings of the year. Everybody on the ground was present, men and women. Considering the fact that Aldeburgh is only a small fair, the enrolment of twenty-one members, many of them being new ones, is a gratifying result. Amongst those present in Thurston's show at the conference were: Messrs. John Barker (who presided), Wm. Barker, Stocks Brothers, Summer and Sons, Gray Brothers, T. Manning, Baldwin Smith, J. Osborne, R. Keeble, A. Holmes, W. Barker and Sons, F. Hawkes, J. Westrop, Parkin, F. H. Bossom, George Bugg, P. Tann, and others; Mesdames Barker, Bond, Manning, B. Smith, Gray, Keeble, Abbott, Hall, Wm. Barker, jun., Parkin, Chapman, Holmes, Summers, Osborne, Tann, and others.

There were also present a large number of the employees of the fair, the show being one-third full. The greatest interest and enthusiasm prevailed. A great deal of the success attending the opening-up of the Guild work in the diocese of Norwich is due to the unflagging enterprise of the hon. local secretary, Miss Anita Welton, of Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge, who has, with great expenditure of time, ability, and no little money, interested herself in promoting the well-being of showpeople in the diocese. For example, all the forward arrangements, the co-operation of the local clergy, the correspondence with the leading showmen attending the fair, the issue of bills announcing the meeting and service—all those details that ensure ultimate success in any movement—were carried through by Miss Welton, who deserved the warm vote of thanks accorded her at the close of the conference.

The Organising Chaplain on the Guild.

Introduced by the chairman, Mr. John Barker, the chaplain delivered an address lasting nearly an hour. He told the story so well known to our showman readers of the rise and progress of the Vandwellers Society, now known as the Showmen's Guild. He paid a tribute of warm admiration to the late John Barker, of Norwich, one of the pioneers and founders of the society. He was proud of the fact that the sons of so great and good a showman were present at that conference (one of them occupied the chair), and that it was in the show of his married daughter, Mrs. Charles Thurston, he was then speaking. For over twenty years the Guild had safeguarded the trade and business of the fairground. It had done more. The Guild had vindicated the showman's character against slander and calumny, prejudice, abuse, and misrepresentation. It entered the field against a Moveable Dwelling Bill in 1888. After five years' strenuous work (and at a cost of over £2,000) that Bill was defeated, and the showmen were cleared of the vile aspersions cast upon their moral and domestic life. Having learnt the value of combination for trade defence, the Guild turned its attention to Bye-laws and Private Bill legislation, with the grand result that since they began Parliamentary work, over sixty Corporations had been prevented obtaining excessive restrictive powers against the show business. Two years ago Lord Clifford of Chudleigh introduced a new Moveable Dwellings Bill, obviously intended to deal with the wandering and sometimes predatory and insanitary gipsy and squatter on commons and waste lands. This Bill came under their scrutiny. It was so drafted that no difference was made in the classes of people using moveable dwellings. As showpeople are far and away the largest users of such dwellings, it was their duty to obtain protection from the drastic proposals of the new Bill. The action the Guild executive took, and the success of their defence and vindication work was seen in the terms of the Report of the Select Committee dealing with the Bill.

The Chaplain's Appeal for Support.

He detailed the points of the evidence submitted by the Guild, and fully explained the enormous benefits the whole showman world had received from the faithful work of the Guild. He submitted that it was the least thing every showman, every stall-holder could do, to support by generous contribution the good work of trade defence. Here was a matter, he urged, that united them—that made them realise that the many can help the few—the poor man's five shillings and the rich man's five pounds thrown into the Guild treasury was an insurance for their trade and business. It was more, for the Guild stood for all that was best in showland. It stood for the highest ideals of show life; to give the best of their ability and talent for the people, and to improve and to uplift the fairs, feasts, and wakes of their motherland.

Mr. John Barker, in an earnest and all too brief speech, expressed the hope that all present would see the necessity of helping forward so good a work. He, and those for whom he spoke, were glad to have Mr. Horne at their fairs, and to tell them, as no other man could better do, the real concerns of their business, and how to uplift and improve it. He and his brother would be glad to start the subscription with £2, although the firm with which he was identified had already paid its annual subscription to the Guild funds.

Enrolment of Members.

John and Wm. Barker, £2; Stock Brothers, £1; P. Tann, 10s.; Mrs. Abbott and Sons, 10s.; G. Summers, 5s.; G. Summers, jun., 5s.; A. Holmes, 5s.; Mrs. P. Chapman, 5s.; F. Hawkes, 5s.; Mrs. J. Hall, 5s.; A. Summers, 5s.; K. Gray, 5s.; A. Gray, 5s.; B. Gray, 5s.; J. Osborne, 5s.; R. Keeble, 5s.; Mrs. Bond, 5s.; F. H. Bossom, 5s.; Baldwin Smith, 5s.; George Bugg, 5s.; J. Westrop, sen., 5s.; and R. Gray, 5s.

On the proposition of Mr. John Barker and Mr. T. Westrop, hearty votes of thanks were given to the chaplain and to the hon. local secretary.

Guild Service on the Fairground.

Despite a deterrent storm of wind and rain the spacious show pavilion of Mr. Charles Thurston was well filled for the Guild service at 8.15 on the Sunday evening of the fair. The hon. local chaplain, the Rev. S. W. Goldsmith (Vicar of Aldeburgh) intoned the service, which was sung throughout by the church choir and mission band of the local detachment of the Church Army. Miss Allen, the organist of the parish church, was at the harmonium. The service was most hearty and devout. The Guild Chaplain preached on the theme suggested by the collect for the day, "Faith, Hope, and Charity." (Prior to the service in the show booth, the chaplain was the special preacher at the parish church.) After the departure of the general congregation, the Vicar, in response to a vote of thanks, told the showpeople how gladly he co-operated in the good work of the Guild, and how proud he was of the honour they had done him in making him one of their hon. chaplains. At their fair he would readily help them all that was in his power. He referred to the great pleasure it had been to himself and his ready helpers in the matter, to turn the church house into a showmen's hostel for the days of the fair. For the two married couples and the eighteen or twenty young men, mostly the employees of the fair, who could not find lodgings in the usual way, he had done his best to provide temporary lodgings at the church house. That, and all else within his powers, he did gladly for them. For that he needed no vote of thanks. He concluded with a short and exceedingly telling exhortation to so live their lives that each year made them better for the work attempted, the work in God's grace done. He hoped that the chaplain would visit Aldeburgh again. He and his people would gladly welcome him, and all that they could do to help the work of the Guild would be readily done.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

George Reynolds, 5s.; John Black, 5s.; Mrs. Grace Fletcher, 5s.

Mitcham Fair Defence Fund.

"The Era," Ltd., £5 5s.

"Rambles in Many Lands."

The inception of Mr. John Mackenzie's interesting little book "Rambles in Many Lands," which has been published by the Northern Counties Newspaper and Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., is explained in the dedication, in which Mr. Mackenzie says: "These Rambles are inscribed to Charles Urban, Esq., F.Z.S., at whose instance they were undertaken." The "Rambles" are not the work of a skilled literary craftsman or a professional journalist; but rather the impressions of a busy traveller whose province is the making of pictures by photography, not by words. What Mr. J. Mackenzie has striven to do, for almost ten years past, has been to become a trained observer, transcribing on almost countless miles of photographic film the impressions of light and shadow, and, later, since the introduction, by Mr. Urban, of "Kinemacolor," the varied tints and hues of Nature, as these are found in some of the famous and beautiful places of the old and new world. The articles include descriptions of visits to Triest, Cattaro, Montenegro, Herzegovina, Bosnia, Servia, Bulgaria, Madeira, India, America, Germany, and Algeria. The essays are full of information, and there is a large amount of condensed interest in the vivid descriptions which Mr. Mackenzie gives of the many places he has seen in his travels.

REANO

The Modern "SVENGALI"

AND HIS

FAMOUS BAND.

.. NOTICE ..

I, T. Hayden Reano, the sole proprietor, conductor, and controller of the above world-renowned band, am desirous of expressing my keenest gratitude and heartfelt thanks to those proprietors and managers who have so kindly released me of my present engagements to enable me to act on the advice of my doctor and take a complete rest for a short while, and at the same time inform them that I am now rapidly getting well and strong again and hope to commence my next tour early in October, which will include: Empire, Finsbury Park; Empire, New Cross; Hippodrome, Croydon; Palace, Leicester; Ardwick Green Empire, Manchester; Empire, Liverpool; Empire, Stratford; Empire, Birmingham; Empire, Edinburgh; Empire, Glasgow; Empire, Newcastle; Empire, Sheffield; Empire, Nottingham; Hippodrome, Wigan; Empire, Hackney; Empire, Shepherd's Bush; Empire, Bradford; Palace, Hull; Empire, Leeds; Hippodrome, Belfast; Empire, Cardiff; Empire, Newport; Empire, Swansea; Her Majesty's, Walsall; Palace, Bristol; &c., &c., &c.

N.B.—Dame Rumour has set it forth that I am interested in other bands that are endeavouring to book the Music Halls. Now, I wish it to be distinctly understood that I have no connection whatever with any band or bands other than the one which I personally direct and conduct myself, and which has appeared with such great success at every hall of any importance in Great Britain.

I have a legal action pending against a gentleman who is copying my name and business.

"He that stealeth my purse stealeth trash, but he that taketh my good name," &c., &c.

THE DOGS BARK, BUT THE CARAVAN PASSES.

Address: c/o THE ERA OFFICE.

ENGLAND'S PLEASURE BEACH.

A SECOND CONEY ISLAND.

Breezy Blackpool and pleasure are synonymous terms. Nobody can visit Blackpool and feel dull. The finest cure for melancholy is provided, and that is why the thousands of people flock to Blackpool. They can obtain the purest and most exhilarating sea-air and the cheapest forms of amusement of the very best quality. The town has become world-famed for its indoor entertainments at popular prices, and during the past two years its popularity has increased as a result of the efforts of those gentlemen who have provided outdoor attractions of the most novel and up-to-date description. The directors of the Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ltd., have not been idle, and the public have not been behind in showing their keen appreciation of the energetic and enterprising schemes which have been evolved for their benefit.

A few years ago the splendid stretch of sands at South Shore, situated at the lower end of the finest seaside promenade in the United Kingdom, attracted a few of the visitors, because there the gipsies, who styled themselves "fortune-tellers," drew sixpences and shillings for a study of the hands of their respective clients. The people liked this district; it was open, bright, and cheerful, and the waves washed up within a few yards of the levelled sands. It was not equalled, from a health point of view, by any other situation in the town. The directors of the Pleasure Beach, Ltd., saw these advantages, and also realised the growing demand for simple and entertaining attractions; but the hundreds of thousands of visitors to Blackpool like value for their money, and the caterers had to be careful and see that no "fake" show crept upon their ground. They exercised the most vigilant supervision, with the result that they have now earned the confidence of the public, and the wonderful and varied forms of entertainment are meeting with the enormous patronage they deserve. American visitors declare that this Pleasure Beach is more attractive and up to date than their own Coney Island because every show is genuine, and no risk is run. Not a single attraction on the shore affords any danger to the public; and this is a most commendable feature in these days of hustle and recklessness. Apart from this, there is ample to amuse the youngsters, and ample to entertain and interest the grown-ups. A visitor to an ordinary fair ground departs with the thought that he has spent his money on simple, childish delights, and that he has had a good time; but a visitor to the Blackpool Pleasure Beach carries away thoughts he must express to friends, because there are sights before his eyes which he cannot at a day's notice obliterate.

Take the latest attraction as an illustration. The Spectatorium was opened at the beginning of this season. It is a beautiful building, erected on the dome principle, with prominent architectural features which make it stand out—a striking and imposing structure—amidst a collection of more flimsy and unattractive arrangements, such as scenic railways, water chutes, and side shows. The Spectatorium stands on its own—a distinct attraction. Its grey walls are those of a fort, the parapet of which bristles with grim cannon; and, together with the naval devices on each side of the entrance, over which appear the words "Monitor" and "Merrimac" in golden letters, indicate the character of the entertainment given within. Some 800 spectators may sit in comfort inside, and, no matter where the seat, one is always assured of an excellent viewpoint; and then before one's astonished gaze is gradually enacted, in such a faithful manner as to be thrilling, one of the most important naval battles, not only in the history of America, but in the history of the world. It is the historical battle in which the ships Monitor and Merrimac played such an important part. As the delightful views and incidents are depicted in panoramic fashion the gentleman in charge relates the story of the battle in a manner which gives more pleasure than that provided by a leading politician. Of realistic reproduction of actuality, with beautiful and faithful effects of Nature, the battle of the Monitor and Merrimac is a masterpiece. And this is not all. A scene comes into view with which British eyes are familiar. We are taken, as it were, from the shores of Virginia to the South Coast of England, with all the chief points of interest along the coast accurately represented. The Channel Squadron, of which Britain is justly proud, sails into view off Spithead, and, after firing salutes, drops anchor to the accompaniment of the loud applause of the delighted audience. The people who are fortunate enough to visit the Spectatorium are living advertisements. They are given something to talk about, and they talk in praiseworthy terms, because they cannot help themselves.

And the thousands who are daily taking a trip on the Joy Wheel are doing more than talk; they are laughing. If you see the work of the Joy Wheel, you cannot help but laugh. And there are other shows, too numerous to describe in detail, and there is an amazing collection of them They are, however, all up to date, and reflect considerable credit upon the Pleasure Beach, Ltd. The Pleasure Beach continues to grow, and next season will see more novelties. Success is assured. There are no obstacles. Nature assists with the sands and the sea; visitors have money in their pockets, and they are happy. And the directors are happy. What more is desired?

Lord John Sanger's Circus at Penzance.

RECREATION GROUND.—Lord John Sanger's Circus, Hippodrome, and Menagerie opened a two-days' engagement here on Saturday, and at midday the procession through the main streets was watched by thousands of people who expressed appreciation at the excellent condition of the cattle. All performances were well attended, and at each an excellent programme was submitted; in fact, a better all-round programme of its kind has never been seen here. Zampas and clown, the elastic bounders, were clever; and Coleman and Co., in their grand elephant and horse tableau act, were applauded, the elephants being well trained. In their wire act, La Belle Fondants were quite up-to-date, and were ably assisted by Comical Pimpo. The Austins did some good riding; and The Airlees, in their top-story act, were successful. Pimpo's Football Dogs were well trained; Miss Lina and her horse Hawcombe were both clever; and excitement ran high when a motor-car laden with people was driven over Cyclo's body. The Elephant-Dentist caused great amusement, but no jaws were broken. The Tragedy of a Taxicab proved very funny; and Hoffman's thought-reading pony came in for great applause. Pimpo and his Teddy Bear was a really good turn; the Marlo Troupe; Balloon Polo; and *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* concluded an excellent evening's entertainment. Mr. Drake is the secretary and manager.

Paisley.

SKATING RINK.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Preparatory to this place of amusement being opened for rinking, Mr. Bostock is housing the Royal Italian Circus for a fortnight. A full-size ring has been laid down in the centre of the rink, and convenient elevations erected. There are over two hundred performing animals, and over most of them is to be seen the marvellous power possessed by Signor Luigi Volpi. Signor Trufelli and Signor Cembrani also display their abilities in this respect; and Bishop and Winkles, and Dan Gregory, keep the fun well sustained by their comic entrées and clowning. The Bros. Volpi are the equestrian directors; while Mr. Edwin Gilley is responsible for the general management.

IMPORTANT WARNING TO TRAVELLING AUCTIONEERS.

Mr. Bloom, the well-known auctioneer, whose splendid auction vans are famous all over the circuit he travels, sends us a letter of the gravest possible moment and interest to the large class of traders using private pitches to carry on their business.

RE SHOP HOURS AMENDMENT ACT.
Haughton-le-Skerne, Darlington.

DEAR SIR,—Having amongst your numerous patrons many travelling auctioneers which the above Bill will completely shut up if it becomes law, would you mind inserting this in your valuable paper, and pointing out to all interested that immediate action should be taken, and the injustice of one or two clauses in the same should be brought to the notice of their respective representatives in Parliament?

Once passed into law it means the closing chapter of this particular business, as well as adding to the ranks of the unemployed hundreds of (at present) well-paid and satisfied employees, whose light labours, combined with good pay and short hours, makes them also anxious that these unjust clauses should be modified.

A copy of the Bill can be obtained from *The Era* offices, price 2½d.—I am, yours faithfully,
R. J. W. BLOOM.

Mr. Bloom advertises in our columns a warning message to his confrères in business, and asks them to communicate with him. We on our part, recognising the serious nature of the danger, will gladly do all in our power to assist the whole body of travelling auctioneers in any Parliamentary action necessary.

The Bill itself seeks to deal with the manifest injustice of long hours and sweated labour in shops and business houses. It is in Part II. of the proposed Act that, in safeguarding the interests of shop assistants, that serious injury may be done to the considerable number of people employed in the auctioneering business.

We give the material clauses that threaten the business in full:—

"Application of Part II.

"10. Subject to any provisions contained in a closing order it shall not be lawful in any locality to carry on in any place not being a shop, retail trade or business of any class, on any day or at any time when it would be unlawful in that locality to keep a shop open for the purposes of retail trade or business of that class, and this Act shall apply as if the person who carried on such trade or business were the occupier of a shop:

"Provided that—

"(*a*) this prohibition shall not apply where the retail trade or business is carried on in a place, not being a shop, merely as auxiliary or incidental to some other business (not being retail trade or business) and does not form a substantial part of that business; and

"(*b*) nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a barber or hairdresser from attending a customer in the customer's residence, or the holding of an auction sale in a private dwelling-house.

"11. Where a shop is exempted from any of the provisions of this part of this Act or a closing order made thereunder on the ground that it is a shop in which a trade or business mentioned in the second schedule to this Act is carried on, and other trades or businesses to which the exemption does not apply are carried on in the same shop, the exemption shall not extend to such other trades and businesses, and shall be subject to such conditions as may be imposed by regulations made by the Secretary of State or by the closing order.

"12. So much of any local Act or byelaws as regulates the hours for holding markets and as is inconsistent with the provisions of this part of this Act shall cease to have effect."

There is a saving clause exempting fairs lawfully held, so that the Bill as at present drafted excludes both markets and fairs. It is private business that is threatened.

Alf. Ball Subscription Fund.

We shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions to this truly deserving fund. New subscribers' names will be duly acknowledged in our columns. The treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, is anxious that the help given shall not only be generous, but that it shall be immediately available.

AMOUNT acknowledged in *The Era* up to date: £145 8s. 6d.

IN answer to our appeal for this fund last week we have received the following letters and subscriptions:—

MR HENRY THURSTON writes:—

"Mr. PEDGRIFT,

"Dear Sir,—With reference to our friend Ball's great and heavy loss and most serious trouble, myself and friends, in all sympathy, send the enclosed cheque for £12 1s. to the fund."

H. Thurston, sen.	£10 10 0
Mrs. H. Thurston, sen.	1 1 0
Mr. J. Brown	0 5 0
Mr. Sattackelt	0 5 0
	£12 1 0

MR. TITCOMB, saddler, of Witney, writes:—

"DEAR SIR,—I have pleasure in enclosing cheque for £1 16s. towards the Alf. Ball fund. I wish I could have sent more. Many can help one where one cannot help many."

T. H. Titcomb	£0 2 6
T. S. Gibbons	0 2 6
F. M. Green	0 2 6
F. Middleton	0 2 6
J. Wilsdon	0 2 0
"A Friend"	0 2 0
T. M. Cook	0 2 0
W. J. Hobbs	0 2 0
Mr. Sharpe	0 2 0
B. L. Hieatt	0 2 0
W. G. E.	0 2 0
A. Titcomb	0 1 0
R. W.	0 1 0
W. J. Felton	0 1 0
H. Harris	0 1 0
H.	0 1 0
T. W. J. M. B.	0 1 0
J. P.	0 1 0
J. V.	0 1 0
H. C.	0 1 0
A. E. Horne	0 1 0
H. Dobretty	0 1 0
L. Oldham	0 0 6
J. S	0 0 6
	£1 16 0
Thos. Holden	1 1 0
Wm. Sweetingham	1 0 0
C. Simpson (Eggware)	0 5 0
Mrs. J. Pettigrove	0 5 0

Barrow Palace Rink.

ROLLER SKATING enthusiasts will be pleased to learn that the Palace Rink, Abbey-road, Barrow-in-Furness, reopened for the season on Thursday. The floor has received careful attention, and rinkers will find it in first-class condition. There will be three sessions daily, and a first-class orchestra has been engaged. Several improvements in the seating accommodation has been made, and the bandstand has been removed to the railway end of the building. The management generously set apart the proceeds of the opening night for the Hospital Saturday parade.

THE SHOOTING AFFRAY AT MITCHAM FAIR.

The showmen, Frederick Gray and his son, Henry Gray, who are alleged to have been shot by Henry Harris, a coal-dealer, Kabul-road, Battersea, were able to attend the court on Friday, Aug. 26, when the Croydon county magistrates resumed the hearing of the case.

It was stated at the previous hearing that a quarrel arose between the three men at Mitcham Fair on the 12th ult., and that the younger Gray was shot in the hip and his father received a bullet in the breast-bone. Both were removed to Guy's Hospital, where the bullets were extracted.

Harris when charged said: "Frederick Gray had threatened to shoot me, and Harry Gray struck me."

Mr. A. A. Strong, opening the case for the prosecution, said that it was customary for the showmen to take up their positions on the Thursday before the fair, and those who were members of the Showmen's Guild were in the habit of having their places allotted by the Guild, so that everything should be done in order. This year, on reaching Mitcham, the showmen found that owing to the notoriety the fair had gained through the action of the local conservators, the ground was occupied by gipsies.

On the Wednesday before the fair the Grays found the site they usually occupied was in Harris's possession. Harris had been known to the prosecutors for some years. Occasionally he had gone with shows and the Grays had helped him.

Negotiating for a Site.

The elder Gray, knowing he had no legal claim to the site, negotiated with Harris, asking how much he would let him have the ground for. Harris asked for £10 and Gray offered £5. After further negotiation he came down to £8, and Gray offered £6.

On the Friday, the first day of the fair, they had not yet come to an agreement, counsel added, and on the afternoon of that day Harris shot the Grays with a revolver, and was at once arrested.

The police evidence given at the first hearing having been read over, Harris said it was untrue that he told the constable he hoped both the men were dead. What he did say was: "They have taken my bread."

Showman's Evidence.

Frederick Gray, whose right arm was in a sling, was allowed to sit in front of the witness box. Asked by Mr. Strong if Harris was a showman, he replied: "I thank God to say he is not a showman."

Describing the negotiations for the ground, he stated there was no heated feeling between them.

On the Thursday night he was under the impression that the bargain was settled, and that Harris had agreed to accept £6 and a use of a portion of the ground. Accordingly, he gave instructions for his roundabouts to be erected early on Friday morning, but on getting to the ground found that this had not been done, and that Harris was still in possession.

Asked if he had run back from his bargain, Harris replied: "I won't take less than £8." The witness remarked: "Then I've done with it," and walked away. About mid-day Harris met him again and asked him what he was going to do. He stated: "I've finished," and Harris retorted: "I haven't finished with you." Seeing that the man was trying to cause a row, the witness walked away. Harris followed, but said nothing more, and continued watching the witness and those with him.

The Attack.

Between 1.30 and 2 o'clock, the witness continued, as he and his son were walking round the ground, Harris ran in front of them and without a word pointed a revolver at them from a distance of eight or nine paces, and fired several shots. The witness felt the shot in the chest, and saw his son fall. Harris backed away, and a girl named Herrick, who was in Gray's employment, jumped on his arm. Recovering themselves, the witness and his son ran at Harris, and jumped on him, and they fell to the ground.

Gray added that Harris "had the cheek to say 'Don't hurt me.'" After being treated by a local doctor, the witness and his son were taken to hospital, remaining until Wednesday last.

Harris (cross-examining).—Did you put a revolver up on Thursday evening?—The Witness: No; certainly not. I never had a revolver in my life.

Did you see your son strike me on Friday afternoon?—No.

Did you see him pull my truck from the ground?—No.

Did you, after your son had struck me, take a revolver out of your pocket?—No; nothing of the sort happened.

Son's Story.

Harry Gray, the son, who was very lame, and had to be assisted into court, denied that he struck Harris, or that his father threatened him. Describing the shooting, he said he suddenly saw Harris in front of him pointing a revolver. His father was shot, and then he saw the weapon pointed at himself. He turned and received a bullet in his thigh.

Dr. Evans, house surgeon at Guy's Hospital, said that if the bullet in the elder Gray had penetrated another half-inch, the man would probably have lost his life. The son's wound was not at all dangerous.

A Brave Woman.

Maria Herrick said she heard shots and saw Gray, her employer, and his son running away. Harris was hurrying after them, with a revolver in his hand. He shot the son, who fell.

Mr. Strong:—What happened next?—The Witness:—I saw him standing over Harry Gray, with a revolver pointed at his head, and he was just going to fire when I got hold of him. I got hold of the revolver and took it out of his hand, and held it until the policeman asked for it.

Mr. Strong:—You are to be complimented on the plucky way in which you took the revolver from him.

The Chairman:—I think the Court must join in that expression of admiration. It might have been a tragedy of the worst degree if it had not been for your plucky conduct.

W. Forrest, a showman, said that when the elder Gray said he had done with the matter of the ground, Harris replied, "If you have, I haven't. If you think I'm done with it, you must think me the biggest can in the fair."

For the benefit of the Bench, the witness explained that "can" meant fool.

Harris, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial at the Guildford Assizes.

Halton Feast, Leeds.

THIS excellent suburban fair had for its entertainment Bailey's circus of varieties, Vallo's Indian magic, Gal Hague's boxing saloon, Hale's "topsyturveydom," Waddington's motor-cars, Redfearn's flying machines, Marshall's gallopers, Waddington's steam yachts and racing porkers, Marshall's bikes, Morley's gondolas, Johnson's steam swings, highfliers by Riley and Johnson, and houp-la circles and frames, throwing games, and variety stalls by Messrs. Steward, Doubtfire, Cooper, Turner, Rhodes, Townend, Burgin, Ackroyd, Williams, and Redfearn.

"HUMOROUS AND TRAGIC STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Talking Pictures.

THE New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* states that Mr. Edison recently gave a practical demonstration of his kinetophone, by means of which moving pictures are made to talk. A picture was thrown on the screen, and the invention, which synchronises the automatic movements of photograph and phonograph records, spoke for itself. The kinetophone is not yet perfect, but in a few weeks it will be so far perfect, according to friends of the great inventor, that music halls everywhere will be clamouring for its possession. The lips of the people in the picture move in unison with the words of the phonograph. A picture of a man thrown on the screen dropped a cricket ball, and its impact sounded instantly from the floor. The man pounded the table with a hammer, and every blow was perfect. He dropped a plate, and as the pieces flew the crack resounded. Finally, a motor-car horn tootled, and the demonstration ended. Electric wires control the mechanism of the photograph and phonograph, and the records for eye and ear are made simultaneously. Mr. Edison proposes to make the personalities and voices of the world's great people familiar to everybody.

Marriage of Mr. George Black.

MR. GEORGE BLACK, the eldest son of the late Mr. George Black, of Black's superb life motion pictures, and connected with a number of provincial cinematograph houses, was on Monday, Aug. 29 married to Miss May Gibson, of Fulwell, Sunderland. The wedding took place at St. George's Presbyterian Church, Sunderland. Congratulations.

Johnson-Jeffries Films for London

MR. W. J. WAINRATTA, of the Vitagraph Company of America, has stated that the cinematograph pictures of the Jeffries-Johnson fight will be exhibited in London in the course of the next week or two. The company bought the rights for £52,000, and Mr. W. J. Wainratta, the European agent, was not in a position to settle arrangements with the various London cinematograph theatre companies until the present time. The film takes an hour and a half to exhibit.

Fight Films in Canada.

"THE opponents of the Jeffries-Johnson fight pictures have not relaxed their efforts to secure the prohibition of cinematograph exhibitions of the Reno contest throughout the Dominion, but except in Ontario they have not been entirely successful," says the Montreal correspondent of the Liverpool *Daily Courier*. "The films have been exhibited in this city, and an application by the Montreal Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Walsh, for an injunction was refused by Judge Lanctot. The judge declared that so far as he could see no legal case could be made out, and that providing the exhibitions were given in properly licensed places he could not interfere."

Colston Hall, Bristol.

MR. RALPH PRINGLE has commenced his autumn season here. The animated pictures embrace every variety of subject, both serious and comic, and they are clearly defined. There was a large attendance on Monday evening, the pictures obtaining enthusiastic appreciation. The variety company includes Charles Leighton, comedian and trick pianist, and Dix and Dox, burlesque musicians.

A Flourishing Dundee Picture Palace.

TREMENDOUS business is being done at the Empire Theatre, Dundee, where all that is latest and best in animated photography is unfolded twice nightly to packed and delighted audiences. Two different programmes are submitted weekly. The manager here is Mr. R. W. Austin, who, by his courtesy and attention to the comfort of his patrons, is a warm favourite with frequenters of this cosy house.

Pictures at Hastings.

THE People's Picture Palace Company present an excellent choice of subjects at the Public Hall, Hastings, this week, among them being The Planter's Wife, On the Border-line, a good drama, and Her First Appearance. They also have the credit of introducing to Hastings the latest in singing pictures—the Vivaphone—of which the synchronisation is excellent. At the Pelham Hall Electric Theatre new and up-to-date films are shown, among those exhibited being Father's Busy, The Wrong Man, Indian Tribes, Flossie's Theft, Twisted Trail, and Five Minutes to Twelve. An attractive programme of pictures is also screened at the Wellington-place Electric Theatre. The continuous performances are frequently so crowded there is only standing room.

Another Beautiful Picture Palace Opened at Leicester.

THE London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd., of Charing Cross-road, London, are to be congratulated on their enterprise in erecting in High-street, Leicester, another beautiful Cinema Theatre, which has evoked the admiration of thousands since the opening on Saturday last. The whole of the interior of the building, which seats 720 persons, is completed in a most artistic scheme of decoration, the predominant feature of which is white and gold, which is relieved with green panelling in the auditorium. The ceilings both in the hall and vestibule, which is handsomely furnished, present a most charming appearance, and when lit up the whole building is a triumph of splendour and cosiness.

A. R. Dean's Seating and Furnishing.

To A. R. Dean and Sons, of Corporation-street, Birmingham, great praise is due for the splendid manner in which they have completed the furnishing and seating, which reflects the highest credit upon this renowned firm and their staff. The theatre is all on one floor, and is entered from High-street, one of the main thoroughfares in the town, and makes the ninth hall opened by this company. There are plenty of exists, and the management have done everything in their power to secure the safety of their patrons, who promise to be very numerous. In addition, this is the only cinematograph theatre in the town where the music is supplied by an orchestra.

Mr. Reynolds-Benjamin's Good Work.

WE offer our congratulations to Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin, the general-manager and chief of staff, who has been assiduous in forwarding the interests of the proprietors and in starting the theatre on a sound business basis. A great feature is the electric lighting all over the building, which has been admirably carried out by Johnson and Phillips, of Victoria-road, Charlton, S.E., and Union-court, Old Broad-street, S.E., under the supervision of Mr. W. H. Price

Mr. Kingstone Trollope, Manager.

MR. KINGSTONE TROLLOPE has been appointed the resident-manager. He is a gentleman well known, having been on the road as actor stage-manager of the Empire, Liverpool, and late of Miss Horniman's company, of the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, and bids fair to make many friends in Leicester by his urbanity and courtesy. Messrs. Herbert and Sons, of Leicester, were the contractors for the building, and have carried out their work in a most satisfactory manner.

Limerick Electric Picture Palace.

THE picture novelty doesn't seem to wear away in the slightest, and this week's animated bill of fare has been highly appreciated by the crowds of patrons who go to the Palace nightly. The Pathé-Frères' series are very popular films, the Gazette of Current Events being an attraction in itself. The Gold Seekers, Sudden Wealth, The Steeplejack, End of the World, and that pretty humorous film, Mascot, gave great satisfaction, whilst for a farcical "stop-gap" Operator Potts put on Our German Cousin, with much amusement. The popular managing-director, Mr. Edward Kidd, also put in as an adjunct a delightful gramophone, with the latest and the most up-to-date records, and the special engagement of Miss Ada Whitton and Mr. Marcus Boyle in their comedy turns give a lively and a pleasing stimulus to the evening's amusement.

The Picture House, Manchester.

THIS new picture palace of the Manchester Picture House Company in Market-street, was opened to the public on Tuesday, when the whole of the day's proceedings were given to the Ancoats Hospital. The house is a very luxurious and perfectly equipped one; the precautions against fire are complete; and the pictures shown the best produced, selections from operas and other popular numbers being given on the Cinematophone.

An Auspicious Opening at Paisley.

THE Paisley Picture Palace, now in its third season, opened on Saturday. The success which has attended this place of entertainment—the home of pictures in Paisley—has been remarkable, and if Saturday was any indication of what is to follow, the ensuing season at the Picture Palace bids fair to be as thoroughly successful as the two preceding ones. There were films shown of an instructive, emotional, and humorous character. Mr. Stafford Grafton, who has managed the Palace since its inception, is still the controlling director, and proves himself an acceptable caterer to the Paisley public.

Wanted to Sell, "BABS."

Small male Elephant, five years old and about 60 inches high.
In good condition and quiet.

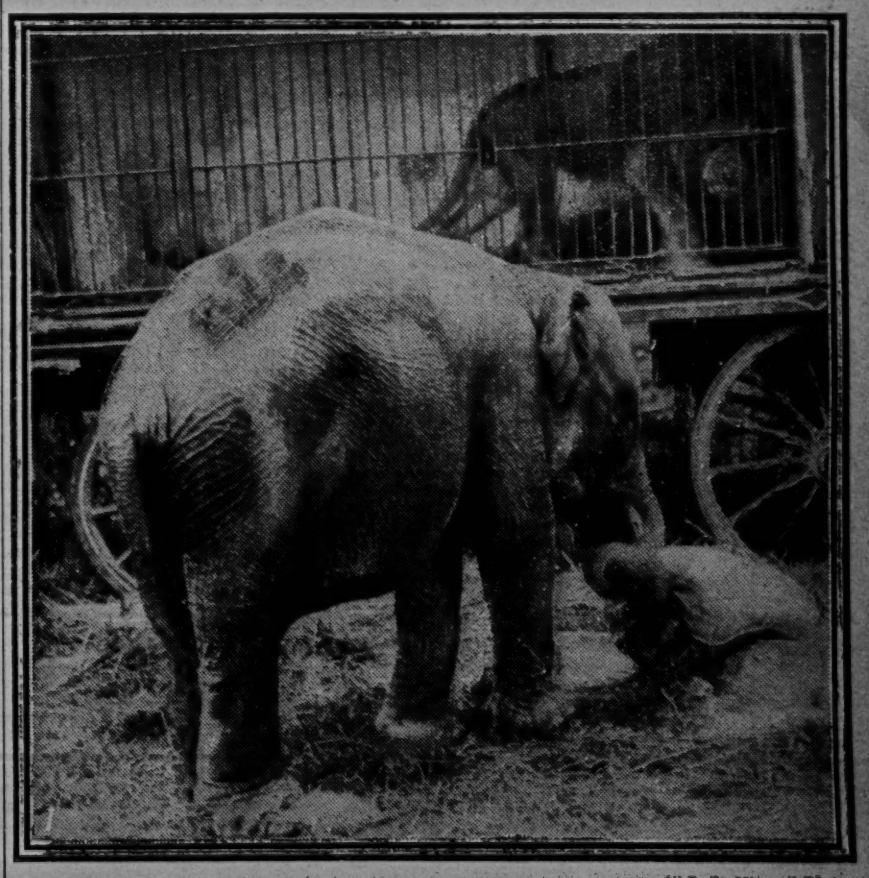

Recently purchased at the Crystal Palace Sale. ["Daily Mirror" Photo.
Reason for selling, owing to change of plans.

Address, BERZAC, 13, Union Street, Smethwick, Birmingham.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP

A MEETING of the Cinematograph Operators was held on Tuesday, Mr. Mason, vice-president, in the chair. A number of applications for membership were granted. Several inquiries about the Association by operators were reported. It was decided to hold the general monthly meeting of members on Tuesday next at 11 o'clock a.m. in the Musicians' Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C., when all members in London are invited to be present.

THE Executive Committee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees held a meeting on Friday and again on Tuesday to deal with several important items and routine business. The relations of the Association with the Sunday Defence Committee and the position of the employees in regard to Sunday entertainments were fully considered. The committee heartily approve the objects of the Sunday Defence Committee and the mutual undertakings of the three societies forming that committee, but pending a better state of affairs as to the reduction, or abolition, of Sunday Entertainments of any kind they have decided to issue to all promoters of Sunday entertainments, concerts, or moving picture exhibitions, a scale of pay which they think ought to be paid to those employed on Sunday in their various capacities as under:—Stage managers, master carpenters, or electricians in charge at any West End hall or theatre, £1 1s. each per night; at any hall or theatre outside the West End area, 15s. each per night; assistant electricians, West End, 10s. 6d. per night, outside the West End, 7s. 6d. per night; daymen employed in any stage department, employed to arrange the stage for the evening entertainment, a minimum of 4s. per man with 1s. per hour for any period of time exceeding four hours; stagemen employed in any stage department during the entertainment 4s. per man per night; attendants employed in any capacity in front of the house, 4s. each per night; cinematograph operators, 10s. 6d. per concert; those employed giving continuous shows on Sunday a minimum of 10s. 6d., with 2s. 6d. per hour for any period of time exceeding four hours, no operator to be employed more than 4½ hours on Sunday. The committee take the view that as the promoters of the concert or other entertainment are responsible, and not the licensee, to the L.C.C., for the employment of any person on Sundays they should see that every employee required is properly paid.

As there is no association which attendants, dressers, supers, and others can join for protective purposes the N.A.T.E. has decided to form a London branch open to any employee, man or woman, employed in a theatre, music hall, or electric theatre, not eligible to join one of the existing London branches of this Association. Anyone interested is invited to communicate with Mr. Wm. Johnson at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

A MEETING of cinematograph operators will be held under the auspices of the N.A.C.O. on Sept. 13 at 2 p.m. in Purves' Café, Clayton-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Non-members in the district are invited to attend this meeting.

THE A.M.U. will give their first concert at Queen's Hall on Sunday evening next. A number of members of the N.A.T.E. will act as attendants.

THE N.A.T.E. desire to bring the following resolutions to the notice of branches and members:—Resolved: That branches be informed that the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (United States, Canada, and British Columbia) only agree to recognise our card of membership subject to any member of ours going to the countries under the jurisdiction of the Alliance observing the Alliance working rules and receiving the Alliance pay, which for touring master carpenters is forty dollars a week. Any member of this union going to America must therefore produce his contract for the inspection of the General Secretary, otherwise the E.C. will inform the American Alliance that such a member has not complied with the instructions of this association.

SCALE of wages.—American Alliance minimum rates of pay for touring men: Master machinist, not less than 40 dollars per week; assistant machinist, not less than 30 dollars per week; flyman, not less than 30 dollars per week; master propertyman, not less than 30 dollars per week; assistant propertyman, not less than 25 dollars per week; electrician, 30 dollars per week; assistant electrician, 25 dollars per week; all extra men, 25 dollars per week.

"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT" will visit the Kennington Theatre next week. On Monday evening a souvenir of the play will be presented to every lady paying for admission.

Rinking Festival at Hastings.

A RINKING festival and skating competition was held on Wednesday in the skating pavilion of the American Palace Pier, Hastings. Three prizes were awarded by the management for the best lady's fancy dress, and three prizes for the best gentleman's fancy dress; special prizes for a half-mile ladies' race, and for half-mile and one mile gentlemen's race. There was also a competition for graceful skating, and an exhibition of novel sports on skates.

Aldeburgh Regatta Fair.

SITUATED on an excellent fairground at the end of the esplanade, this fair grows in popularity and importance. Being held on the regatta days it is a local holiday, and crowds of country people flock into the quaint old town to enjoy the combined delights of the regatta and carnival fair. The centre of attraction was Charles Thurston's cinematograph Theatre (the No. 2 show). The splendid display of up-to-date films drew big audiences. The machine list included Charles Thurston's racing motors, Stock's zoological roundabouts, overboats, and park swings, with gem sets of horses and motors by W. Barker and Sons and T. Manning. There were two or three side shows of the freak variety and avenues of stalls. The shooting ranges, bottle and egg batteries were provided by Messrs. Barker and Sons, Parkin, Keeble, Gray Bros., and Abbott; the hoop-la circles and frames were by Messrs. Summer and Sons, T. Manning, Parkin, P. Tann, Wm. Barker and Sons, and others; and the coker-sheets and throwing games, toy, and gingerbread stalls were provided by Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Abbott, P. Tann, B. Gray, G. Bugg, W. Barker, A. Summers, G. Summers, and a host of local caterers.

White City, Manchester, Arrangements.

DURING the coming fortnight the daily concert music at the White City will be furnished by the band of H.M. 18th Hussars, which holds an enviable reputation as a musical organisation in His Majesty's service, and the visit to Manchester of this favourite band will be a welcome one. Should the weather at any afternoon or evening hour for the concerts be inclement, then they will be given under the cover of the Restaurant, where there is ample accommodation for all listeners. With Monday begins the last four weeks of the season of 1910 at the White City, and after Oct. 1 the Park will be closed till next spring, and the water chutes, scenic railway, and the many other attractions of the place will cease to give pleasure and amusement to the crowds. For the season of 1911, which will begin early in May next, a number of new rides and shows will be put in as an addition to those that have done so much to popularise the White City.

FRANK BOSTOCK ON THE GREAT FIRE.

Our Brussels correspondent sends the following interesting account under date Aug. 30:—It is now sixteen days since the terrible fire that destroyed a good part of the Brussels Exhibition; and to-morrow (Wednesday) one of the parts which suffered the most, viz., Bruxelles-Kermesse, reopens its doors officially; in fact, more attractions have been got up, and the lively crowd has already invaded the old streets, hastily rebuilt. Towering above, the untouched Chien Vert enlivens the place with its thousands of various-coloured lights as of yore. "Luna Park," under the direction of Mr. Frank Bostock, will again offer its countless attractions to the many pleasure-seekers, who seem to have already forgotten that fateful night of Aug. 14.

Interviewed on the subject, Mr. Frank Bostock describes thus the occurrence:—

"It was towards 9 p.m. when I caught sight of the first flare; there were, at that time, from 20,000 to 30,000 people on our grounds. The arena (where my animals were then performing) was crowded with an appreciative audience. I saw the danger at once. I gave orders to my men to announce at once an entr'acte of thirty minutes. The public then coming out in perfect order were only cognisant of the fire when well out of my premises. This allowed them to leave through side exits; and this explains why no accident to persons was to be deplored. In the meantime, I had rallied all my people, and most of the takings at the different shows had been collected. By this time the fire, fanned by a rather strong wind, had veered towards us, and I could see then there would be no escape for my poor animals—about a hundred of them I had on show. To save the wild animals was a dangerous undertaking in the circumstances. As for the others, we managed to get a few of them away, a big elephant and a maki—the biggest and the smalles of the collection. I had hesitated about the elephant at first, as that huge beast, a male chap weighing four tons, had never been out of the building since the opening of the Exhibition, for security sake, as the streets of Old Brussels were partly covered with tiles over clay ground, which would certainly have given way under such a weight. I was under the apprehension that the animal, scared by the fire, might get unruly when we would get him out; however, as it pained me to leave such a valuable animal behind, doomed to a certain death, I risked it, and happily all went well, and he was taken to a safer place, along with the others, that is, a llama, a sacred white ass, a zebu, a sacred red river hog, and a sacred bull. This last one was a favourite with the numerous Indians who frequented the pleasure grounds, and they used to have him in great respect, and 'salaamed' to him.

"Now the soldiers were on the spot to keep order. An officer took position with his men in front of my show, and guessing what he was up to, I asked him:

"'What are you going to do?

"'Shoot the animals.'

"'No; you won't do that!'

"'But I have received orders.'

"'My orders to you are to leave them alone!' and I explained to him that as they had to be sacrificed, it was less dangerous to leave them to their fate, the more so that they would be suffocated before getting burnt; besides, could he vouch for the accuracy of his men, and, if not, what would be the consequences? He yielded to my entreaties, and I had the arena double doors shut. I was not to see any of them again alive. In fact, a few minutes later nothing remained of my 180ft. square building; and my arena cage, a steel mass six metres high by 50ft. across, was reduced to a nondescript all-twisted wire net.

"Strange to say, the bandstand, which was in front of my building, was never touched by fire, not even the little flags round its roof. I have lost all my performing animals: lions, tigers, leopards, &c., who were performing in groups (what you call happy family groups). They were all insured, and some of them heavily. Now I intend to show the few that have been saved from destruction, but I cannot start a regular performance with them.

"I really never saw such a blazing and roaring fire: the noise was so great, and you could hear now and then loud reports (gas meters exploding, no doubt), it sounded as on a battlefield. Though living only 50ft. from the grounds, we did not suffer from it. Our trees were simply a little scorched. Of course, long before that I had sent away my family.

"This is my second experience of a fire. The last time—nine years ago—it was at Baltimore, and we also saved the biggest and the smallest of our collection—nine years ago, the year of Queen Victoria's death; and now, strange coincidence, this is the year of poor King Edward's death."

Mr. Frank Bostock intends staying at the Exhibition to the end, that is, until November; after that he has no definite plans. He may return to America, or perhaps to England, having received several propositions; in fact, they want him in Rome, in Turin, Roubaix, and London (Earl's Court) under an American management.

Cambridge Roller Skating Club.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Cambridge Roller Skating Club, which is run in connection with the National Skating Association (Fen Department), was held at the club's headquarters, the University and Town Roller Skating Rink recently, Dr. Geo. Cunningham presiding. The hon. treasurer reported that the financial position of the club was very satisfactory, there being a small credit balance to carry forward. A sub-committee was formed to consider various details with respect to the arrangements for the coming season and to report their recommendations and suggestions to the full committee at an early date. The hon. secretary and other members stated that much general interest was being shown by members and many inquiries were being made by those who were not at present members. Altogether an exceptionally successful future for the club was predicted.

Carnival at Weston-super-Mare Rink.

A VERY successful summer carnival was held at the Victoria Hall, Weston-super-Mare, on Thursday, the 25th ult., one of the most enjoyable, indeed, in the history of the rink. The excellent arrangements made reflected great credit on Mr. W. N. Race and the whole of the staff. There was a large attendance, and a considerable proportion were skaters, the majority of whom were in fancy dress.

Mr. H. Holmshaw's Clever Display.

ONE of the most interesting portions of the programme was Mr. Percy H. Holmshaw's exhibition of fancy skating. He introduced the effective and pretty "fairy maze" between lights placed 15 inches apart in various positions on the floor. Through these Mr. Holmshaw adroitly zig-zagged on toe-skates only, changing to a waltz-rhythm, and afterwards tracing the growth of grape vines between the lights as they lay in diamond shape on the floor. It was a smart performance, and evoked most enthusiastic applause.

Stamford Hill Skating Palace.

THE Stamford Hill Skating Palace reopened for the season on Thursday, the 25th ult. Mr. E. Collini's band, under his conductorship, which gave such great satisfaction last season, has been re-engaged for this.

THE TWO SMITHS.

A remarkably enterprising and versatile Australian has passed away in the person of Dr. L. L. Smith, of Melbourne, says the *Westminster Gazette*. He was a son of the E. T. Smith who was a well-known figure in the theatrical London of the early Victorian era. Dr. Smith started life by taking part in the 1848 revolutionary street-fighting in Paris, where he was at the time a medical student. After practising for a few years in London (he was associated with the Westminster Hospital), he emigrated to Melbourne, where for upwards of half a century he enjoyed a large practice and published a medical almanac.

Inheriting his father's love of manifold activities, "L. L.," as he was always called in Melbourne, built a Polytechnic Hall and lectured in it; edited a weekly journal, the *Times and Mines*, and a monthly magazine, the *Australian Journal*; became a pioneer of the Australian wine industry; was a prominent figure on the Turf; sat in the Victorian Parliament for many years, and was a member of the Government. He revisited London last summer and looked wonderfully keen and active for a man of eighty. His "perennial juvenility" was a proverb in Melbourne.

"Dr. Smith's father, Edward Tyrrell Smith, was quite a character in the fifties and sixties, and, in spite of his recklessness and dare-devil nature, was a man universally liked by his friends and the public. He was everything by turns, and nothing long," wrote the late Mr. Clement Scott; "but if any theatrical speculation was in the air, E. T. Smith was bound to be in it.

"He was born on the 26th of August, 1804, and was the eldest son of Admiral E. T. Smith. He was appointed midshipman in Lord Cochrane's ship, but motherly affection fetched him back the night before the ship sailed. He was at first in the Metropolitan Constabulary, and subsequently an auctioneer. E. T. Smith was essentially a man given to speculation. The first of his schemes was connected with what used to be Crockford's gaming-house in St. James's Street, which he was instrumental in turning into a fashionable restaurant, known as the Wellington, and afterwards the Devonshire Club.

"E. T. Smith was a speculator with Vauxhall Gardens in the days of their decadence; but his connection with theatres may be said to have begun in 1850, when he took the Marylebone, which he held for two years, and then, most rashly as some thought, entered on the lesseeship of Drury Lane Theatre. The house was in dreadfully bad odour, and had been in the market for a considerable time, and was considered to be such a bad speculation that the ground lessee, the Duke of Bedford, actually contemplated its immediate destruction.

"On the 27th of December, 1852, he opened the house with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and *Harlequin Hudibras; or, The Droll Days of the Merry Monarch* (E. L. Blanchard's pantomime), and introduced morning performances. He was the founder of the matinée. He spared no expense in engaging the best artists. He had Beverley for his scene-painter; and during his tenancy of Drury Lane, Charles Mathews, G. V. Brooke, the Charles Keans, and some of the best stars made their appearance on the boards. He was also one of the first to recognise provincial talent and bring it to London. He was the founder of the Alhambra in Leicester Square, known previous to that as the Panopticon, and opened it as a circus on the 7th of February, 1858.

"He was lessee of Her Majesty's; and in Italian opera, Titiens, Piccolomini, and Giuglini appeared under him. He leased Cremorne Gardens from 1861 to 1869. From 1867 he was lessee of the Lyceum for two years. From 1863 he was lessee of Astley's, which he ran for some years. Commencing in October, 1870, he ran the Surrey for a short season. In 1871 he took Highbury Barn; and, not very long afterwards, became the proprietor of the Regent Music Hall, Westminster.

"This indefatigable man then appears to have turned his attention again to restaurant catering, and opened a dining hall under the vaults of the Royal Exchange, which was a conspicuous failure. For this venture he engaged as a barmaid Alice Rhodes, who, in my presence, was condemned to death by Mr. Justice Hawkins for the terribly sensational Penge murder, but was subsequently freely pardoned. Years before he started the Radnor, at the Holborn corner of Chancery Lane, and opened a refreshment room in Leicester Square known as the Cremorne Supper Rooms.

"The *Sunday Times* became his property in 1856 for a short time, and he also started the *Bedfordshire Independent*, with a view of entering Parliament; but not obtaining sufficient support, he very shortly gave up both these journals. He made many friends, who were always ready to assist him in his various speculations, and though these did not always turn out profitable to the investors, it should be mentioned that his friendships were lasting; his perfect faith and honesty of purpose were never for an instant doubted. He was a noted character in his day: he liked to see his name in print as a generous supporter of any form of charity; and, though it has been imputed to him that he did this for the sake of advertisement, there were numerous exceptions to the rule, and a great many of his acts emanated from genuine kindness. He died on the 26th of November, 1877, and was buried at Brompton Cemetery."

IN the Vacation Court (Chancery Division) on Wednesday, before Sir Samuel Evans, on behalf of Miss Ada Reeve, an ex parte motion, Cotton *v.* West, was made to his lordship, asking for an injunction against Saronies' Picture Palace, Birkenhead.

COUNSEL said that plaintiff, Mrs. Cotton, known professionally as Miss Ada Reeve, wished to restrain defendants from publishing posters which made it appear that Miss Reeve was performing at the Picture Palace. Miss Reeve, said counsel, did not appear at places of that description. The advertisements were drawn in such a way as to give the impression that there was a vaudeville entertainment as well as a biograph. It announced "Miss Ada Reeve in catchy illustrated songs."

HIS LORDSHIP: How does it hurt Miss Reeve? Counsel: The prices charged for admission vary from 2d. to 8d. That is a ground of objection. In her affidavit, read by counsel, Miss Reeve said she was appearing at Birmingham at £200 a week. His lordship at first refused, but on a subsequent application granted an interim injunction until and over Wednesday next, with leave to serve notice of motion for that day.

"THE MAN YOU KNOW" and Scotland's arch humorist—Frame—is touring the North with his own vaudeville crowd. He is amusing the multitude this week in the Cumberland Lake District.

WITH the exception of the Russian Balalaika Orchestra, which, by the way, is proving a tremendous success, and Binaldo, the wandering violinist, who enters on the last week of his engagement, the entire programme at the Coliseum is composed of newcomers. The principal new arrivals will be Montgomery and Moore, the well-known American comedy artists, who have been re-engaged owing to their recent big success at this same house on their first visit to England. La Belle Titcombe, the famous Parisian actress and vocalist; Harry Jolson, American operatic black-faced comedian; Dutch Daly, musical comedian; Drew and Alders, comedians; Cumminger and Colonna, expert sand dancers; Lydia and Amelys, in French character dances; the Fisteddfod Sextette, male prize vocalists; and Addie Darling, the protean lady artist.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Oct. 31, Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 6, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Feb. 6, 13, 27, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
Oct. 3, 10, 17 (twice nightly).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Sept. 19 (?), and 26 (?), Oct. 10.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Oct. 10, Oct. 20 (three nights).
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN,
Oct. 3, Oct. 17 (3 nights).
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 27, May 1, onwards.
Re dates address,
C. F. WRIGHT.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 6, 7, 8 (?), 10 (?), 31 (?), Nov. 7, 21, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives,
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17 (?), 24, Nov. 28 (?), Jan. 2, 9, or 16, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Xmas Panto (four weeks). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION, RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Councillor CHARLES PRICE.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for next season's dates, July, Aug., and Sept.
All communications re Bookings,
WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Feb. 6, 13, March 20, 27, April 3, 10. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Oct. 3, on, with own scenery, good printing, twice nightly; must state lowest. T. A. EDWARDES.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Big Drama or Strong Play, Oct. 10, Jan. 30 also vacant.
SIDNEY COOPER.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies Touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, C. BURGESS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Sept. 26,
Nov. 7, 28.
JAMES BELL.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Nov. 7, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 7. WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 12 and 19. Address E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Sept. 26, Oct. 17.
A. D. VERNON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, nothing too big, for Nov. 14, Dec. 5, and Jan. 9, 16.
Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Margate, Sept. 12, 13, 14, Oct. 24, 31 (weeks). WARNIMONT'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 13, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 16, 30, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 35. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 16, April 3, 10. onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," "The Dairymaids," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 31, Nov. 14 and 28, first three nights.

NEW THEATRE, NEWARK.
Vacant Oct. 17, 18, 19, Jan. 9, and on (first three nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16 and 30.
Bookings include "The Arcadians," "Gay Gordons," "Merry Widow," "Havanah," "Girl's Cross Road," F. R. Benson, Horace Lingard, &c.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Sept. 8, 9, 10, and 12, 13, 14.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted, good Dramas, twice nightly, Oct. 31 Nov. 7, Dec. 12, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, High-class Company, for Oct. 3, Musical Comedy preferred;
also Dec. 5 and 12 and Feb. 20 and 27, 1911.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, also Christmas and New Year weeks, for First-class Musical Comedy. All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 29, Oct. 3, three nights each; also Oct. 31, onwards, full weeks or three nights. Communications to C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

WANTED, Companies,
Wanted, Oct. 17,
Nov. 28,
Dec. 5,
Jan. 23, onwards.
For High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, &c.
Certainties will be given if desired.
Good companies do great business.
Bookings include "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "The Truants," "Gay Gordons," &c.
Apply, A. J. WITHERS, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal and Opera House, Leigh, Lancs., First-class Musical Comedy and Dramas, for Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10 (?), 24, 31, on, with exceptions. FRED GOULD, Lessee.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, for Reopening Date, Oct. 3, Big Attraction. Share or certainty. Wire, TALBOYS, Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, on, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
SANTE, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Companies,
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and few later dates.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 19, and Xmas. During the vacation this theatre has been redecorated and re-seated. Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

WANTED, Companies, Musical or Dramatic, Sept. 19 (3 nights), Oct. 3, onwards, 3 nights' booking preferred. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 3 and 10.
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER, DEAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, vacant Sept. 15, Oct. 6 (three nights each week).
Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Variety Companies, Sept. 12, 19, and onward. SCOTT ALEXANDER, Proprietor, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorkshire.

WANTED, for Sept. 23, 24, 30, Oct. 1, First-class Fit-up Company. This week, "When Knights Were Bold." J. SYKES, Victoria Hall, Abercarne, Mon.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only fully licensed Theatre in Wirral.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for 1911.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

OPERA HOUSE DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 5 (3 nights), 22nd (3), 26th (3), Oct. 3 (Holiday 3). W. E. POTTS.

HAGGAR'S T. (late Royalty), LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. HAGGAR, sen.
Manager, JAS. HAGGAR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedies, Comic Operas, good Panto. for Xmas week, or later. Good terms to good shows.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.

WANTED, for the Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough, First-class Company, Oct. 3, 3 or 6 nights. Apply MANAGING, Theatre Royal, York.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for the
THEATRE ROYAL, LIMERICK
THEATRE ROYAL, LIMERICK
THEATRE ROYAL, LIMERICK
(under new management).

This popularly-established playhouse is the only theatre in the City, and for years back has been patronised by the best Companies on the road, whose receipts amply testify to the large financial and appreciative houses that were nightly attracted by the productions. The position of the theatre enhances its value considerably—Henry-street being in the heart of the City proper, and is the most-frequented thoroughfare, from a palatial, collegiate, and commercial standpoint. It is well to state that, whilst Legitimate Drama, Shakespearean Répertoire, Light and Grand Opera have an exceptionally large following with playgoers, Old English and Musical Comedy attract considerably large houses, and a goodly percentage of the population favour in the Burlesque and Opera Bouffe. Since the amalgamation of the railways here, greater facilities are afforded for the conveyance of properties, and as to the City's popularity, it has always been considered by old managers as the most attractive "three nights" hit in Ireland, being so nicely situated between Dublin, Cork, and Waterford. Innovations are being carried out gradually, and the main building is still being overhauled. Direct all communications to Managing-Director (G. V. FOGERTY), Theatre Royal, Limerick.

Telegrams, "Fogerty, Limerick."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 24 (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 6 (3), 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Vacant Sept. 12, Oct. 3 (3), Nov. 14 (3), 21, 28 (?), Dec. 5.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
MOTHERWELL, Sept. 26, Dec. 5 and 12.
AYR, Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 12.
LEITH, Oct. 10, 24, Dec. 5 and 12.
FALKIRK, Oct. 17, 24, and 31.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26, and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
Oct. 24 (?), Nov. 7 (?), Dec. 5, 12, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 14, 21, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

CORPORATION THEATRE
(Late Stephenson Memorial Hall),
CHESTERFIELD.
Lessees and Managers, Messrs. HENSON and DAVIS. Re-decorated and re-renovated. Opens Sept. 5 with "The Thief." New Seating, new Ventilation. Beautiful refreshment bars, lounges, and cloak rooms. Full licences. The finest theatre of its size in the Midlands.
Bookings include:—
"Merry Widow" (third visit), "Arcadians," "Leah Kleschna," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," J. W. Turner's Opera Co., "The Dairymaids," "The Gay Gordons," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED, Light Attractions, Oct. 17, 18, 19, Dec. 12 and 19, Jan. 9, 16, and 30.
Re dates, apply W. PAYNE SEDDON,
The Spa, Whitby.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
The above entirely New Theatre opened Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light. Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedies, Xmas, Certainty only.
Feb. 6, on, &c. Easter, certainty only.
Neath played last week to over £260 gross, with "Sins of a City" and "Stowaway."
No. 1 Managements only dealt with.
All communications re Dates to
WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Dec. 5, 19, Xmas, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on, with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Oct. 3 and 17. Refer visiting Managers re business; all delighted. Address, J. H. OAKDEN, as above.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Company, Oct. 10.
R. G. ELDER.

WANTED, a Good Company, for the Public Hall, Exmouth, for two nights (Xmas date), Dec. 26 and 27. Drama or Musical Comedy. Pictures and varieties not required. Best date in the year. Apply, LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

Walter Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 12, Dec. 26, and Dates in Jan.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Theatre Royal, Chatham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA," All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," all dates filled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of Nov. 14 and 21. Recently played to £900 at Dublin, £653 11s. 6d. at Belfast, and on Saturday last closed our 58th visit to Manchester to a £137 house, being the biggest Saturday night's takings for a dramatic show in over twelve months.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, onwards. Big Company, Chorus, Specialities, Special Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Opera House, Northampton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
Magnificent reception at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Visited nightly by the 2nd Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.
WANTED, Oct. 10 (three nights), Dec. 12.
All communications,
J. W. CORDINER, Sept. 5, Fulham T., Fulham, S.W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, for
Oct. 17 (Midlands or South).
Oct. 24 (Midlands or South).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY,"
by
Elizabeth Arnim.
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
First-class Company. Approved by Herbert Trench. The Company Rehearsed and Production Superintended by Mr. Charles La Trobe, Stage-Manager, Haymarket Theatre.
Cast includes:
Miss Beatrice Lindley as Priscilla.
Mr. Clifton Alderson as the Grand Duke.
Mr. J. Edward Pearce as the Tutor.
Entire Production Carried.
Tour starts Sept. 26, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
For Vacant Dates apply
Mr. JOHN E. WATSON,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and Xmas, for Mr. Oswald Cray's Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(by arrangement by Mr. T. Morton Powell).
The Romantic Military Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
and Dickens's Masterpiece,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD."
Can play all three pieces in one week if so desired.
Each Play a complete Production.
Printing specially cut by Allen.
OSWALD CRAY, Alexandra Theatre, Ilfracombe.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
present Russell Vaun's Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
Played, Staged, and Advertised. Please refer.
WANTED, Known, only vacant dates this year, Oct. 10, Nov. 21 and 28, Dec. 26 (precede Star, Swansea), Jan. 23 (precede Alex., Hull), Feb. 20 (precede Met., Devonport), March 13 (follow Grand, Brighton).
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Theatre, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 23, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON; Pier, Hastings.

"THE COAL KING."
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, and Nov. 14, only vacant dates.
ALDERSON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

A. and B. LIMPUS' No. 1 CO.
"THE THIEF"
(by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander).
Entire Production carried.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 11, 12, Oct. 17 (?), Oct. 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28. Bookings include Scarboro', Harrogate, Yarmouth, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Brighton, Folkestone, Eastbourne, &c.
A. LIMPUS, Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Nov. 21, and Christmas.
EDWARD LLOYD, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, for the Great Success, "His Real Wife," Xmas (?), Jan. 9, 16, 23, onwards. Best theatres only. Add., T. E. WARD, Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, Sept. 5 (three or six nights, to precede Sunderland), 19, 26, and on, for "Caste." G. W. Anson as Eccles. Wire, BUSCH, King's Theatre, Greenock; Sept. 5, King's Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Theatre, for "The Fighting Chance," for Oct. 31. Apply, POPULAR PLAYHOUSES, LTD., Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

The New Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 20, 27, all March. HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., Crook.

MR. J. W. LINDSAY ELLIS presents
"LIGHTS OUT."
Produced by H. B. Irving at the Waldorf and Savoy Theatres.
Return dates booked everywhere.
Refer T. R., Exeter; Opera T., Torquay; T. R., York, &c.
Splendid Pictorial Printing. Magnificent Uniforms.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 7 (North). This, Opera H., Kidderminster. Next, T. R., Leamington.

WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates for Pantomime in Theatres where Big Money can be taken, to communicate at earliest with J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 10, for
"The King and the Unknown Woman" Co.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, c/o "The Era."

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Produced at the
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Held the Huge House
Held the Huge House
Held the Huge House
from
Start to Finish.
Sensation on Sensation.
Sensation on Sensation.
The Curtain Falling
midst
a
Scene
of
Tremendous Enthusiasm.
Tremendous Enthusiasm.
The Greatest Success
of the Year.
A Scenic Production
of
Unequalled Splendour.
A
Company of
Exceptional Merit.
A
Drama to Draw
Drama to Draw
everywhere.
Figures Speak.
Pavilion Theatre.
Splendid Opening.
Receipts
Receipts
Gone Up each Night
Gone Up each Night
Gone Up each Night
The Drury Lane of the East
The Drury Lane of the East
The Drury Lane of the East
has
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
a
Drury Lane Drama
Drury Lane Drama
equalling
The Greatest of all the Great Successes.
This the Expressed Opinion
of the
Management
Management
and
of
the Paying Public.
the Paying Public.
Refer, Refer, Refer.
J. W. Rosenthal, Esq., Managing-Director,
J. W. Rosenthal, Esq., Managing-Director.
Refer,
F. Brown, Esq., Manager.
F. Brown, Esq., Manager.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Another
Sensational Success.
This week at Grand Theatre Fulham.
This week at Grand Theatre Fulham.
Receipts still going up
each night.
Managers
cordially invited to witness the play
This week, Grand Theatre, Fulham.
The Scenery
a Triumph of Scenic Art.
Brilliant Colouring, Beautiful Staging.
Company
one of the Strongest Touring.
Play
the Greatest of all Mrs. Powell's Dramas,
and
the Receipts
the Receipts
the Receipts
jump up nightly.
jump up nightly.
jump up nightly.
Success at Pavilion.
Success at Pavilion.
Success at Fulham.
Success at Fulham.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Another Brilliant Success.
Another Brilliant Success.
Another Brilliant Success.
Refer,
Robert Arthur, Esq.,
or,
Fred Merer, Esq.
Scored a Triumph.
Scored a Triumph.
A
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Vacant;
Oct. 10 (?), Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23 (?), Feb. 6, March 27, April 10, May 1, 15, only vacant dates till Oct., 1911.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Brilliant Success
on its
Return Visit
to
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
The Great Building
Packed Nightly.
Hundreds unable to gain admission.
For confirmation
refer
Arthur Jefferson, Esq.
Vacant
Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 9, 30, March 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
A Great Drama.
Never Fails.
Vacant Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Tremendous Success
at the
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Cheered to the Echo.
Business splendid.
Refer
M. Montgomery, Esq.
Oct. 17, Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10.
Vacant Oct. 10.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Oct. 3, 17,
Oct. 3, 17,
MISS ANNIE BELL
as Flare-Flare.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17,
Oct. 17,
unexpectedly vacant through theatre changing hands.
Also Vacant,
Dec. 19, Christmas, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and various Spring and Autumn, 1911, including Easter and Whit.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
Wire or write, ARTHUR HINTON,
to-day, T. R., Stratford, E.;
Monday, T. R., Smethwick.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21 (?), Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, March 6, April 17, and on. Refer Messrs. Barnard, J. Worswick, and Mark Lorne, Bordesley.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Grand T., Nottingham.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Refer F. Weston, Esq., re play and big business at Birkenhead. The play that is without doubt one of the greatest draws on the road.
Vacant Oct. 3, 10.
Vacant Oct. 3, 10.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Refer T. R., Leeds, re business last week. Absolutely guaranteed to be one of the Most Superb Productions ever toured.
Vacant Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21. Jan. 2 vacant.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, Oct. 17, 24.
Special Band to Parade.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN, AND HINTON'S CO.
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 17, and First-class Theatre for Christmas, Christmas, Christmas.
The Financial Success.
Closed to splendid house, Bordesley.
Opened magnificently here, Alhambra, Manchester. 3,839 persons paid for admission Monday.
Refer. Refer.
Wire for these dates,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.
All other communications, GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

MR. STEPHEN PRITT'S CO.
"ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
Unique Detective Drama.
WANTED, Wire for Sept. 12, 19 (3 nights), 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21.
MORRIS MAUD, Queen's, Farnworth, near Bolton.

The Great Unique Attraction,
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
Three Shows in One,
Drama, Circus, and Vaudeville.
WANTED, Oct. 24,
Nov. 14,
(both vacant through transfer)
Dec. 26, and on, with exceptions.
Apply, GEORGE TESTO SANTE,
To-day, G., Radcliffe; next, Carlton, Birmingham.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Undoubtedly this Great Authoress's Finest Play.
A revelation in clean, domestic drama.
WANTED, Oct. 24, 24, 24, Nov. 7, 7, 7.
Only Vacant Dates till Jan. 16.
Every scene and property carried.
A superb production.
HARRY LYNDON, Queen's, Longton;
next, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Theatres, G. A. De Gray and H. Masterman's Co., "The Angel of His Dreams." Refer A. Jefferson, Esq., as to business at Met., Glasgow, in spite of tropical weather. Refer R. C. Buchanan, Esq., re the business we are doing on his circuit. Enthusiastic reception nightly here.
Oct. 31 (?), Jan. 2.
New production shortly, "The Forbidden Fruit."
All coms., GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, T. R., Coatbridge; Monday, Gaiety T., Methil.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
Vacant Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26; also Vacant, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The most successful Drama Touring.
WANTED, Sept. 26, wire.
Wanted, Sept. 26. Wire.
Wanted, Sept. 26. Wire.
Also Oct. 3.
Playing to enormous business everywhere.
Refer Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds.
Tom Sherwood, Esq., Opera House, Wakefield.
Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland.
Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star Theatre, Liverpool.
W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead.
J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull; &c., &c.
Re dates address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Sparkling Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3,
Oct. 10, Oct. 10, Oct. 10,
and later.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depositories, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully Selected Company, including
Miss Nellie Clyde
as Nan, the Flower Girl.
Sept. 19 (between Preston and Dublin).
Oct. 17 (between Birmingham and London).
Above are the only dates open till Autumn, 1911.
Address,
CHARLES GIBSON, Castle T., Stockton.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Oct. 17, 24,
Oct. 10, to follow Margate.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Always the same verdict.
Really excellent.
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Oct. 17.
Wanted, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct. 31.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
The Play of Intense Human Interest.
Wanted, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Oct. 17.
NEW XMAS PRODUCTION.
Vacant Jan. 2, 16.
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Gorgeous Revival.
Vacant Feb. 13 27.
All Once or Twice Nightly.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN.
To-day, T. R., Barnsley; next, Empire, Oldham.

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
WANTED, Theatres, for the above, Once or Twice Nightly,
Sept. 19, Nov. 7, 21.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Sept. 26, to follow Blackburn.
HORACE STANLEY,
To-day, Londonderry; next, Royal, Belfast.

THE WILSON BARRETT
ORIGINAL VERSION
of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE"
(BULLOCK VERSION),
by arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY-SELECTED CO.
A Greater Success than Ever.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Sept. 26, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 19 and 26, and on, with exceptions.
Managers requiring a Sound Attraction and sure Money-maker, write or wire.
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Sept. 5, County Theatre, Reading.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES' COMPANIES.
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, Known, Vacant through transfer, Oct. 3, North or Midlands, Nov. 7, 28.
"LAUGHING 'LIZA,"
a New Musical Farce,
by the Author of "Miss Lancashire, Limited."
Only Vacancies,
Jan. 16, Feb. 20, and Easter Week.
Address,
MISS FLORENCE BAINES,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 21.
Can play one or two weeks.
WILSON BENGE, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights), Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and March 13.
Address,
FRANK M. THORNE, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 (North).
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Oct. 3 (between Longton and Alex., Hull), Oct. 17 (between Hull and Alex., Birmingham), for "Facing the World Alone" or "The Eyes of the World." Address, J. EDWARD WHITTY, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Always Merry and Bright.
WANTED, Oct. 3, Three Nights.
DICKIE CLARE, Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, for Capt. Jack (cast includes Miss Nina Blake-Adams, Messrs. Ernest Owtrim and H. Ryeland-Leigh), Big Theatres. Vacant Sept. 12 (first 3), Sept. 19, Oct. 24, 31 (?), Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12, 26, and a few open weeks, Spring, 1911. F. CYRIL LEIGHTON, this, Lyric, Liverpool; next, Artillery, Woolwich.

"RED RIDING HOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Feb. 6, once or twice nightly.
Address, FRED J. LITTLE,
4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, good Theatres and Halls, for First-class Variety Combination, vacant Sept. 12, 19, 26, and various onwards. All particulars, WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, London, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, March 6, 13.
Enormous Success at Dublin.
Refer. Refer.
Miss Hilda Beverley,
ALEX. T., NEW WASHINGTON.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, the Best Theatres in England,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
THE DAYTON FAMILY.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in number.
The Sure Draw. Big Business Everywhere.
Really refined and clever Company besides the above. Splendid printing, lithos., &c.

This week, Empire, Burnley (sixth visit);
Sept. 5, Palace, Plymouth (fifth visit).
Vacant, Sept. 19 (to follow Bristol),
Oct. 3 and 10 (to follow Exeter).

Booking us means sure money. No risk, no worry.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Powerful Heavy Man, Juvenile Light Comedy Lady (young, dress well, rehearse at once); also Character Comedy Old Man (small). Terms, refs., photos., &c., to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-stre.t, Liverpool.

"WHO IS SHE?" CO.
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady and Leading Man, rehearse Sept. 25. Photos., references, and two weeks' address.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Theatre, Bordesley.

WANTED, for Mr. Norman V. Norman's Co., Lady and Gentleman, to play small parts and understudy, &c.; must be tall. Particulars, Smith-Neill, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

WANTED, Ladies for Small Parts and Chorus, none under 5ft. 6in. Photos, terms, and references indispensable. All Coms., J. F. Ellistov, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, for Tour, Robust Irish Chambermaid ,also Robust Character Comedy Old Man, good Juvenile Gent, also Heavy Gent. All must be artists of experience. State experience, lowest terms, enclose photo, to Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, W.

WANTED, Young Ladies, must be smart, good voices absolutely essential, Contraltos, Sopranos, baritone, &c.; also Smart Soubrette, with singing voice, for eccentric comedy part, in new production. Letters and photos to E. Sivroni, Hippodrome, Boscombe.

WANTED, for Sketch, Tall Lady, handsome appearance, for Russian Countess; also Tall Gentleman, Russian Officer. References, photos., age, height, lowest terms, to J. G. Graham, Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Refined Lady Amateur, of good appearance, for small parts and understudies in old-established West-End Répertoire Company, to join at once. Full particulars, &c., to Box 8,210, "The Era."

"UNDER SUSPICION."
Now playing London Coliseum.
WANTED, through releasing, tall, gentlemanly Heavy, 6ft. or over, good swordsman; tall dark Leading Lady, not less than 5ft. 8in., for Countess, handsome, good figure, sympathetic part, must dress well.
Miss Lily Hammersley's "Rough Justice" Co. Wanted, tall, heavy gentleman (small part), and A.S.M.; also tall Gentleman for American Romantic Lead, good strong voice; also Baggage and Lines. Apply to-day or Monday, 3, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Robust Juvenile Leading Actor, must possess Good Appearance, Clear Delivery, and capable of Power and Pathos.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
WANTED, Gentleman for Responsibles, to understudy and A.S.M., height about 5ft. 8in.; rehearse Barrow-in-Furness Sept. 12. Full particulars, Martin Comstock, Theatre, Paisley, Scotland.

"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

WANTED, immediately, a Gentleman to play Klauffsky (Comedy Jew) and combine acting management. Apply, with references, photo, lowest terms, Florence Tyrrell, Palace Theatre, Maidstone.

WANTED, Bass, Tenor, height 5ft. 8in, also Smart Comedian, several Ladies (Contraltos, Soprance). Reply, first instance letter, enclosing photo, references. Manager, 54, Monkton-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Children for Autumn Production. Owing to numerous demands, Miss Lila Field will take Pupils for Stage Training. Engagements found for Pupils. Appointments by letter only. Miss Field, 9a, Gloucester-place, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant First-class Tenor, young; Disengaged Sept. 10, Quartette or Concert Party. Apply, First Tenor, Aquarium, Scarborough.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, for Robin Hood; Principal Girl for Maid Marion, also smart Troupe of Juveniles. Terms, refs., and photos to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Important.—Give permanent address.

WANTED, a Comedian of Reputation for Pantomime. Terms and full particulars required. Also a first-class musical-director for same.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime; not less than 5ft. 7in. References, terms, to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Principal Boys, Principal Girls, also Pair of Sisters. Full particulars with photos, lowest terms, and where working, to
Andie Caine, Filey, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, including two excellent Knockabout Comedians (capable of playing good part), Chorus, &c. All particulars, terms, &c., to William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, Chorus, &c. Send full particulars, photo., and lowest terms for London and provinces, to
Kelson Trueman's Agency,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, First-class Comedians, for Fitzwarren, Idle Jack, Abanazar, Ali Baba, Dames, &c., also Demon Kings, must have good voices. Full particulars to Fred J. Little's Agency, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

MURRAY KING AND CLARK'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Robin Hood (Principal Boy), for "Babes," also Dick and Emperor (tall lady), for "Whittington." Coms., King, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by The Finckens, Pantomime Comedy Acrobatic Knockabout Comedians. Perm. address, Shakespeare Hotel, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Bob Pender's Little Dandies (five boys and one girl), at Liberty for Pantomime, in their Great Speciality, entitled "Dances à la Russe," including Little Doris Pender, the Graceful Little Danseuse, Top and Bottom Bills wherever they appear. Without doubt the Greatest Juvenile Turn now on the Boards. Can be seen working this week at Barnard's, Chatham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Scenic Artist Carpenter. Full particulars, names, addresses last two references, lowest terms. Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

SCENERY.
WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, Pantomimes, Dramas, Sketches, &c.
Reasonable terms. Estimates free.
Townsend and Co., Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; References, &c., address 25, Elgin-terrace, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconis, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Shortly, Engagement or Contract, High-class Work only.
Davies Massey, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery First-class Work Guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contracts for every description of Scenery and Properties. Good work at reasonable terms. Estimates and models free. Apply, Hancock and Co., 20, Manbey Park, Stratford, London, E.; Painting Rooms, Station-street. Fit-ups for Sale or Hire. Established 1889.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a First-class Managing Clerk of good address and thoroughly experienced, for Concert and Variety Agency. Write, in first instance, with full particulars as to ability, &c. All letters treated confidentially. C. Emlyn Jones, 3, 4, and 5, Cartwright-gardens, Russell-square, London, W.C.

WANTED, reliable Agent, capable of arranging Tour for established Concert Party.
Write, Box 8,160, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Carpenter and assist generally. Strict sobriety essential. Salary 25s. Latest references to Mr. Dunsford, Manager, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, good Practical Carpenter. Open at once. Refs., terms, &c.
Feather, Depository, Cazneau-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Bill Inspector, wife as Cleaner, lowest joint wages; photos. and last two refs.; also Stage Carpenter and Wife. A. Carlton, T. R., Worcester.

WANTED, Billposter, also Wife for cleaning, six rooms, including large bath-room, taxes and water free, must be highly respectable people. Particulars and salary expected, Managers, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

WANTED, Window-Billers for Plymouth; Manager, also Billers, for South of England. Letters only, H. N. Phillips, British Animated Pictures, Albion House, New Oxford-street, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Smart Young Man, for Props. and Billposting. State age, lowest terms, last reference, to James Bell.

WANTED, Young Man, permanent if suitable, experienced in Stage Work and Touching-up Scenery; willing to assist on Stage or Front. Walton, Viola House, Redditch.

WANTED, Assistant for Graham's Marionettes Smart, Sober, Single Man, strong speaking voice, age 25 to 30, must be good carpenter and props. Permanent job to a good man. Wages £8 month. Apply by letter, full particulars,
28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Energetic Manager, Vacant 10th, desires re-engagement, practical experience in every kind of entertainment work, including rinks, picture, palaces, &c. Highest refs., good clerical scholar, abstainer. All particulars, X., c/o Lane, 8, The Avenue, Ealing, W.

WANTED, Known.—Well-known Manager is willing to invest in up-to-date Production of "Aladdin," for coming Christmas; must be good production, and bear strict investigation. Principals only. Dean, 159, Sherwood-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Hector, late Manager London, Collins's, Palace, Hammersmith, and Queen's, Disengaged for Variety, Good-class Picture Palace, Pier Pavilion, or Touring; seventeen years' London experience.
I know every detail and branch of the business thoroughly.
Address, 33, Cumberland-road, Plaistow, E.

WANTED, Known, a Real Live Manager Disengaged Sept. 10, first-class London and Provincial experience; can ensure success of any Rink. Offers,
W. B., 23, New-road, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Known, does anyone require a Manager for a Picture Show? If so, please communicate with Will Thompson, many years with the late G. H. Macdermott, late of the Variety Theatre, Hoxton. Present address,
4, Newington Green-mansions, N.

WANTED, Engagement as Property Master, Resident or Touring; five years' Provincial experience. P. W., 140, Queen's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Props. and Baggage, highest refs. Abstainer. Refer Arthur Carlton, two tours, &c. Can join at once. Wire or write, Read, 98, Springfield-rd., Southborough, Kent.

WANTED, Known, a Youth wishes to enter Theatre or Music Hall Box Office, or as Call Boy. Box 8,154, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-class Wardrobe Mistress, Disengaged, good renovator, good references. 42, Geneva-road, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director (violin) for twice nightly picture and variety theatre in the North-East. Permanent engagement from Monday, Sept. 19. Also wanted, 'Cello, Piano, Cornet, and Drum (5 in band). Apply Rex Co., 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED, an Experienced Musician to organise and take charge of a small Brass Band for street parade. State instruments and lowest terms to
Advertiser, Box 8,212, "The Era."

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, thoroughly Experienced Leader (Violin), to open Sept. 12.
Lowest terms and references.
Address, Henry Bowman, Resident-Manager.

WANTED, good reliable Leader (Violinist); can open immediately; also First-class Solo Cornet. Only reliable, experienced men need apply. Robertshaw, Musical-Director, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Leader, for White Star Mediterranean Service, Sept. 16, until Dec. Terms and conditions apply Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Leader to Finish Season, must be brilliant Violinist, Solos, &c. State age and salary (lowest) to A. Collinson, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, immediately, First and Second Cornet and Trombone, must be steady. Swallow's Circus, Saturday, Inverurie; Monday, Banchory; Tuesday, Stonehaven; Wednesday, Bervie, N.B.

WANTED, First Cornet, for the Empire Palace, Edinburgh, also First Violin; must be first-class players. Apply, stating terms, with references, to M., Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-st., W.C.

WANTED, good Cornet, also Euphonium, open Sept. 12; comfortable show, for Buff Bill's Circus. Address, Bainbridge, 63, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Cornet, to open Sept. 12. Coms., Scott's Circus. Saturday, Abbeyfeale. Monday, Listowel, Kerry, Ireland.

WANTED, at once, Solo Cornet, Tenting, 32s. 6d. Wire, Richards, Fossett's Circus, Goole (Saturday), Selby, Yorks (Monday). Probably winter shop to follow.

WANTED, Clarionets and Drums, must be good. Other Military Instruments can write in. Sobriety indispensible. Amati, Pavilion, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal Menagerie, through disappointment, Solo Euphonium. Mills, Sat., Carlisle; Sunday and Monday, Penrith; Tuesday, Appleby.

WANTED, for Tenting, commence at once, Bombardon, sober, or otherwise useless. Apply, terms, M. Corbett, Alexandra's Circus, Sat., Ashford, Kent; Mon., Deal, Kent.

WANTED, until Oct. 1, First-class E Saxophone. Apply,
W. Rimmer, Corporation Band, Southport.

WANTED, Viola, Variety. Apply,
T. Stevens, M.D., 35, Torrington-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, for Pavilion Variety Theatre, Glasgow. Commence Sept. 19. Sobriety absolutely essential. Apply, with recent references, to Howard Galpin, Musical Director.

WANTED, at Once, First-rate 'Cellist. References, which will be enquired into, to Alfred Carpenter, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Flautist, to open Monday week; must be well experienced in Variety.
Apply, with references,
Manager, Hippodrome, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, for Works Band, a Flute Player, constant work for suitable person; married man preferred. Berry, Bandmaster, Griffithstown, Mon.

WANTED, to open Sept. 5, Palace, Carlisle, a First-class Pianist; must be experienced and well used to Variety. Age, terms, references, to
Musical-Director.

WANTED, Pianist and Vocalist, for Pictures. Age, references, lowest terms. Photo.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for Jamaica, First-class Young Lady Pianist. Return fare paid.
Address, Box 8,203, "The Era."

WANTED, for Skating Rink, a Good Pianist, also Violinist. Permanent.
Apply, J., 85, Oliphant-street, Queen's Park, W.

WANTED, smart Picture Pianist, used to Variety, for permanent Theatre, must read music thoroughly; join at once. Cottrell, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Picture Pianist. Must possess large library. Open Monday week. Refs. and salary, Mr. Walker, Picturedrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, open Sept. 5, experienced Pianist, must be thoroughly acquainted with Picture business. State lowest terms, permanency. Percy B. Milsom, Poole's Perfect Pictures, Cowes.

WANTED, Double Drummer, to open Monday next, three weeks, possibly four. Wire lowest terms to Dowson, Grand Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Wanted, Drummer.
Open at once.
W. Durrant, A.M.U., Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, for Rink, Cornets, Horn, String Bass, Double Drums; must live near Hammersmith; only best-class men. State lowest salary; three sessions; no Sunday; late Regt. Refs. Box 8,194, "The Era."

WANTED, for Mediterranean Yachting, Piano, 'Cello, Violin, Cornet, and Bass. Must be thoroughly reliable, sober, steady, respectable, and experienced. Full particulars, Box 8,197, "The Era."

WANTED, Leader, Violins, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Oboe, Clarionet, Bassoon, Horns, Cornets, Trombone, Euphonium, Tympani, for Season, Winter Engagement to follow. Terms, references, Box 8,199, "The Era."

WANTED, to Open at Taunton, Sept. 12, First Violin, Cornet, Double Drums, and all Effects, Flautist.
Must wear evening dress.
Apply, Charles Poole, jun.,
London Hotel, Taunton

WANTED, good Musicians, for Gay's Celebrated Bands, England and the Continent. Apply, lowest terms and refs. Write, American Rink, Merton, London, S.W.

WANTED, for about five weeks, Two Cornets, Trombone, Euphonium, Bass, open Monday, Sept. 5. Terms 35/- Wire, Gleeson, Rink, Warrenpoint, Ireland.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, Probationer Attendants, must be good Violin or Clarionet Players, able to read at sight, and used to String Orchestra; wages to commence at £32, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year's service £2 increase, afterwards rising £1 annually up to £42; further increase according to ability as an Attendant. The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Applications to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, enclosing copy of one testimonial.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.
Gen. Office, 135, Moss-lane East, Manchester.
J. B. Williams, General Secretary.
London Office, Trafalgar House, 9, Gt. Newport-street, W.C.
C. Jesson, Secretary.

Business men appreciate business methods.
Read the following:—
"My band is now complete with A.M.U. musicians. You have helped me beyond measure. Convey my thanks to Mr. Jesson, who has dealt most kindly with me. I truly appreciate the business workings of the society."—M.D., Palace, Reading.
"The orchestra is now quite satisfactory, and is working splendidly."—Manager, Empire, Stockport.
"I think it is a splendid idea, advertising in 'The Era' for the A.M.U. I have secured a good engagement. I don't always get the chance to see the Disengaged List when engaged where there is no branch, but I can always get to see 'The Era.'"
—Edinburgh member.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and 'Cello, to combine Cornet, for Grimsby. Apply, General Office. Also Leader and Drummer, Middlesbrough; Flute and First Violin, Manchester; Conductor, combine Piano and Violin, Stockport; First Violin, Blackburn; Drummer and Leader, Stockton; Leader, Dundee; and Leader, Tynemouth.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS, Reg. No. 1398, T.U.
WANTED, Fully-qualified Musicians to join the above Protective Society, which is out to effect a Consolidation of the whole Musical Profession of the United Kingdom; to maintain the status of ability of the Musician, and to promote a system of fair and equitable dealing between its members and their employers.
Owing to the reliable efficiency of its members its popularity among managers and musical directors is rapidly increasing. Vacancies for certain instruments. Employers send along wants. Efficiency always guaranteed, as two-jobbers and unqualified musicians are not supplied by this Society.
Wire, "Orchestra," Manchester. For pamphlets, entrance forms, &c., or musicians, apply to the most convenient of the following offices:
Manchester: S. Brolly, 1, Upper Kent-rd., Victoria Park.
Oldham: E. H. Goddard, 6, Crown-street.
London: Chris. J. Hoggett, 26, Wardour-st., W.
Glasgow: Fred Young, 71, Scott-street, Garnethill.
General Secretary: Joseph Ball, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme.

WANTED, for Morecambe, open Monday, experienced Lady Violinist and Lady Cornet; also Flute and Piccolo, lady or gentleman. Wire, Newton, 4, Marriner's-terrace, Filey.

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. The Standard Press, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, H. A. Dowson, Musical-Director (Piano), Disengaged Oct. 2, for Musical Comedy, Varieties, &c., Composer and Arranger; experienced; highest refs. First-class offers only. Grand Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical-Director (Violin); Disengaged Sept. 19, with or without Orchestra; any business; extensive library; highest references. Address, 13, Camden-square, or Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical Director, permanent. Music Hall or Theatre. Thoroughly experienced. Box 8,192, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Steele, Pianist, Conductor, and Competent Orchestra, liberty after Sept. 10. Now terminating second season. Alhambra Palace, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, First-class experienced Music Hall Conductor requires Engagement; splendid up-to-date library of music; highest references. 164, Caversham-road, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Variety Conductor, late with Barrasford; excellent references; big library. Lancaster, 4, Rosslyn-house, Brixton Oval, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Eplett, Conductor, Composer, and Arranger, is open to accept engagement. Address, 38, St. Mary's-square, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Conductor, Theatre or Variety, long experience, thoroughly reliable, excellent refs., good library. Disengaged Sept. 10. Offers.
Musical Director,
Ipswich Villa, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement, Smart Violin Conductor, termination season Olympia. Highest refs. Conductor, 21, Prospect-place, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader, to open in three weeks' time. Thoroughly experienced. Offers to Parisi, 4, Adam-st., Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, any business; excellent refs. Lissington, Violinist, Goode's Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement; at Liberty shortly to accept Engagement in London; finishing season as Leader; young, and reliable; best London refs. Box 8,167, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Violinist, to open Sept. 12. Café or Theatre preferred. 39, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement in Orchestra, First or Second Violin, deputy or permanent. London or near. Steady and reliable. H. Foreman, 20, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, engagement as Violinist, experienced in Dramatic or Variety Business. Good refs. Apply Violinist, 30, Eastfield-road, St. Denys, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Violinist and 'Cellist (ladies). Disengaged Sept. 5. Address Miss L. Matthews, 230, Croxted-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced, reliable Violinist, Leader or First; finishing Grand T., Douglas; after Saturday, Jas. Heap, 55, Cog-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement, any business. R. Gundlach, Orchestra, New Cross Empire, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist (Leader) and Pianist-Vocalist, Lady and Gent., Engagement; Picture Show preferred. G. Quinn, 219, Maxey-road, Woolwich, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced First Violinist. Steady, reliable. Near London preferred. Excellent references. Herbert Butcher, Grand Theatre, Llandudno, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Violinist (lady), Disengaged, London preferred. Experienced, soloist. Address, Box 8,205, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business; good refs.
2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement. Will terminate season shortly, Pavilion, Ramsgate. Experienced all lines. Good refs. Kaye, 14, Meeting-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, First or Second, any business; can open at once. J. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business. Address, Cornet, 52, Fortune Gate-road, Harlesden, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced Variety, reliable, any other business, well-known player. Thomas E. Collier, 106, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Disengaged Sept. 3.
W. A., 213, Portnall-road, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Cornet, at Liberty Sept. 19, any business.
Sid Channing, Minstrel Arena, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Second Cornet or First, Re-engagement, any business; just finishing season, Pavilion, Ramsgate. Turner, 50, Hertford-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, experienced in Variety, steady and reliable, good references. Moderate terms. Walters, Cornet, Olympia, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Clarionettist, Theatre or Music Hall; at present Solo Clarionet, Morecambe Municipal Band. Garner, 15, Skipton-street.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist; can open Sept. 19, any Business; young; good refs. Atkinson, c/o 2, Fank-terrace, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business; good refs.; steady and reliable. George White, 9, Culford-grove, Kingsland, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, First-class Performer, Liberty Sept. 19. Experienced. Any business. Good refs. Steady, attentive, respectable. Address, Box 8,209, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, well-experienced Clarionet desires change; 6 years present shop; steady and reliable; open Sept. 19. Address, first instance, Box 8,186, "The Era."

WANTED, by Clarionettist just finishing season, Engagement, reliable; good references. Henry Baker, Alberta, Copse-rd., Clevedon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Double Bass, any business, at Liberty Sept. 10. Miss Georgie Vernon, Olympian Gardens, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass and Violin, together or separate, experienced all lines, sober, reliable. Address, Lucas, Madoc House, Pwllheli, North Wales.

WANTED, Known, good Bassoonist, at Liberty Sept. 12, high or low pitch; excellent refs. Apply, W. Bates, Ashworth-terrace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, competent, experienced, reliable, good references, Liberty now. Alfred Sunderland, 5, Ebenezer-place, Great Horton, Bradford.

WANTED, engagement as Trombone, thoroughly experienced, steady and reliable, Theatre, Music Hall, Touring, any business. S. Smith, 24, Stanley-street, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, experienced in all lines. Now at liberty.
Address Musician, 11, Leyland-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Trombone, Strong, Steady, Reliable. Excellent Refs. Brown, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by good Trombonist, permanency; could combine 'Cello; at Liberty Sept. 3. Tromb. and 'Cello, A.M.U., Winter Gardens Orchestra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, fully experienced, any bus.; finishing Herr Wurm's Orchestra, Hastings, Sept. 10. Sampson, Prince's Hotel, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by thorough experienced Trombone, through termination of season. E. Stocker, 56, Penrose-street, Walworth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Euphonium, any Business, Disengaged Sept. 10. G. Cowland, Trevor House, Sisson-street, Rhyl, North Wales.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium or Violin, at Liberty Sept. 12; reliable, abstainer. Address, Euphonium, 4, Woodland-terrace, Matlock Bath, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Bombardon, any business. Address, Henry Woodage, 2, Grove-crescent-road, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, after Oct. 1, by experienced Bombardon, any business. Address, Chas. S. Turner, Orchestra, South Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement as E Flat Bombardon, combine String Bass; good references.
Apply, Basso, 23, Hunter-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced, reliable Bombardon; first-class references.
E. Lazzari, Belmont, Sisson-street, Rhyl, N. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, Open BB Bombardon, just finished Season Engagement, Rink or any business. Harman, 22, Fraser-street, Bedminster, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement by a Good Bombardon Player. Excellent refs. Wire or write, Moody, 38, Kimberley-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Stanley E. Angless, 'Cellist, Queen's Hotel, Cliftonville, Margate. Disengaged Sept. 30.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, young, experienced; good refs.; any business; finish season Sept. 15. Gent, 21, South-rd., Gorleston, near Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and reliable Flautist, any Business, Variety preferred; good refs. Flautist, 22, Almorah-road, Victoria Park, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty, any Business; reliable.
Flautist, 46, Chatto-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Flautist, Disengaged after Sept. 10.
Miss Bessie Pratt, Olympia, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Can open Monday. Present engagement two years. Thoroughly experienced in variety ,theatrical work. Loder, 13, Marlborough-road, Watford.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Clark, Piano, Euphonium, Trombone, at Liberty Sept. 19. 57, Mayville-avenue, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, experienced and reliable, Rink or Pictures. W. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Professional Accompanist, Sight Reader, will accompany Singer or Violinist's practice at 2s. 6d. per hour, At Homes, Concerts, &c. Miss Gainsborough, 165, Kennington Park-road, Kennington, S.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Competent Pianist, Engagement in Electric Picture Palace, London or Provinces; good répertoire. HAROLD JONES, 4, Wyregrove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Lady Pianist, Solo and Orchestral. Highest refs. Box 8,208, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Drums, in First-class Theatre or Music Hall.
GRIFFITHS, 12, Osborne-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras, smart uniform, now playing Olympia, Jersey, Cromer, Westgate, Folkestone, &c. Booking Autumn. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, C.apham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers, by the Swastika Ladies' Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, &c., Sept. 19, and onwards. Address, LORRAINE, 90, Netherwood-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth consecutive season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere, Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. THOS. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement by Zingari Band, splendid uniform and répertoire. Any number. Terms, Prof. MITCHELL, Oates-square, St. Marks-street, Leeds.

TRADES EXHIBITION, DEVONPORT.
WANTED, Engagement, by the Celebrated Bohemian Orchestra. Six Performers, all Soloists; fully experienced, any Business; Hotel or Café preferred; Pianist, Flautist, First Violin, Second Violin, Cornet, Bass. Apply, LU DELVA.

WANTED, Known, to Skating Rink Proprietors, &c., the Anglo-Bavarian Military Band is open for Engagements, good up-to-date Library and Uniforms. Terms moderate. Apply, GROOF, Bandmaster, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagements, Rinks, Picture Palaces, for Collini's Celebrated Military Orchestra Bands, smart men, music, style; opened Stamford Hill Rink Aug. 25, second season, greatest success here.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by a first-class Brass Band of seven and up; uniform, latest music; used to the business. Terms reasonable. Box 8,195, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, good small Military Band, late Hampstead Skating Palace, scarlet uniforms, references, photos., small Orchestra for Pictures. BANDMASTER, 11, Inver-road, C.apton.

WANTED, Known, Smart Rink Band, Five or more, now vacant. Latest music. Fine uniform. Terms moderate. CONDUCTOR, Buxton's Rinkeries, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement by Small Orchestra, Five or Six Performers, Rink or Pictures. Smart Uniform. Latest Music. CONDUCTOR, 116, Shirebrook-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Smart Trio, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano, engagement London or Suburbs. Latest music and refs. MUSICUS, 516, Kingston-road, Raynes Park.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, the very best of Equestrian Profession in general for coming winter season.
Apply TALBOT WILLIAM COOKE, Manager,
John Henry Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Circus Artists in all Lines, for America.
Acrobats, Tumblers, Knockabouts, Risley Performers, &c.

Apply by letter only
to the Twentieth Century Agents,
JOE BOGANNY and GEORGE HOLLOWAY,
1A, Raleigh Lodge, Brixton Hill, London, S.W

'Phone, 648 Brixton.

WANTED, really good Tumbling Agouste, for Zoo Circus, Glasgow, to open at once.
Address, BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Young Man that can Tumble a little, used to Comedy. Wire or write, NIMBLE NIP, Bostock's Circus, Saturday and Sunday, Barrow-in-Furness; Monday, Dalton-in-Furness; Tuesday, Ulverston; after, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.

General-Manager, G. H. SCOTT.

Equestrian-Director, Mr. JOE HASTINGS.

WANTED, Engagement for Winter Season. Twenty-five years ago the Circus reigned pre-eminently paramount. Why not to-day? That colossal genius, Oswald Stoll, raised many of the present Hippodromes from the ashes of the pot-house.

Theatre proprietors, Skating Rink proprietors,

THE TIME IS RIPE.

If your present business is on the wane, try a modern Circus. John Scott's Royal Circus will supply the up-to-date Programme. We can give you Horsemanship, Clowns, Specialities, Music Hall Artists, and Spectacles. A constant change weekly, and so on ad infinitum. We can supply the accessories, ring fence, and the necessary paraphernalia. Managers who contemplate running a Circus do not take the advice of interested persons seeking self-aggrandisement; you may interview us. We will supply our route. Reflect before doing business elsewhere. Many a reputation was ruined in the Boer War. It may be the same in the Entertainment World. We will undertake to run the whole concern even to the advertising section. Thanks to the following gentlemen for letters: T. E. Read, Esq., Agricultural Hall; P. Collins, Esq., and the members of Managers' Club, London.

Communications, G. H. SCOTT,
9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Oct. 17, and on, by The Finckens, Comedy Acrobats and Trick Donkey Act. Permanent address, Shakespeare Hotel, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
Death
Defying,
Danger
Deriding,
Dare-
Devil
Diving
Cormack.

At Liberty Oct. 3, on.
Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E.
(the Professional House),
or, American Park, Brussels.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, The Stephenson Equestrian Family will be at Liberty for Winter Season (Continental engagement preferred), plenty of good Acts, Harry Stephenson, the greatest of all Jockey Riders, style, appearance, and ability superior to all others. Address, STEPHENSON EQUESTRIAN FAMILY, 40, Wellington-square, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Etherdo, Pugh, and Olrac, free December next. Mail, c/o SANGER'S Hippodrome, Horley, Surrey.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK,
and
PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Known, Variety Artists passing North can have two weeks at the above.

Good Sound Specialities,
Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers.

Lowest terms, lithos., &c.

A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

EMPIRE, TAUNTON.
WANTED, Variety Artists to send Vacant Dates (those doing Double Turns preferable), for Picture Hall; must be new to Taunton; good combinations entertained. Apply, CHARLES POOLE, JUN., London Hotel, Taunton.

WANTED, Variety Artists coming North to send list of Vacant Dates and Terms to JAS. ANDERSON, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, in all Lines, to communicate immediately. Full particulars, terms, and dates. Nothing too big.
Tops, Bottoms, and Suitable Acts can be placed at once.
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY,
12 and 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tel., "Twopence, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 7623.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts, Novelties,
Sept. 12, onwards. Terms, Bookings, &c.,
Pantomime Artists all Lines.
Nothing too Big or Small if good.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland.
J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Sept. 12, on. FRED COLLINS, 21, Barclay-street, Springburn, Glasgow; or, to save time, Beach Pavilion, Kinghorn, N.B.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 12, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artist, new to Newark, Doubles doing Singles. Absolute lowest. Hall small. Also complete companies. Share or rental. LE CLAIR, 38, Castlegate, Newark.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines,
for Halls in the North.
Good Strong Tops can be placed at once.
Apply, Signor PEPI,
Palace, Darlington

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Communicate, with lowest combination terms and complete list of bookings, to
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Palace, Plymouth.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.

VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 12, onwards.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, early and late dates, London and Provinces. LORD GEO. AYTOUN, 25, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E. Pantomime Artists write.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Smart up-to-date Novelty Turn, for Brixton, Sept. 12 (seven shows), must be strong act. No vacancies for Sketches, Vocalists, or Dancers. Full particulars, with lithos, to J. W. CORDINER, Fulham Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, Good Refined Turns, Suitable to Pictures; Chorus Songs, with slides preferred. Terms must be low. Alicia Llewellyn write in. WOOD, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Palaces, Variety Turns; all weeks after Aug. 8. Vacancies and terms to J. R. POOLE, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, C.I.

WANTED, for Darlington, Exhibition, First-class Musical Turns
Electric Fit-up preferred. Write quick.
GEO. SCOTT, General Manager,
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

Monday next, onwards,
I require acts of every description.
Head Liners,
Drawing Cards.
Nothing Too Big.
Price no Object to Suitable Artists.
WANTED, Known, I must have Talent Immediately to cope with Enormous Demands.
Always great call for "Monday next"
Vacancies.
This Office Seldom Fails.
HARRY BURNS,
Musical, Pantomime, Variety, and Dramatic Agent.
Send Full List of Vacancies, with
Lowest Terms, in First Instance.
Letters, HARRY BURNS,
Welburn House,
Hartlepool.
Wires, "Chosen."
'Phone, 231.
Hartlepool.
N.B.—I book for every hall and tour of note in Europe.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds,
Acts of all Kinds.

Lowest and House Address,

DALTON'S AGENCY,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for Town Hall, Consett; immediate and future dates.
ARTHUR C. CAMPBELL, 30, George-street, Consett.

WANTED, Big Acts, with drawing powers, for Stanley, Consett, Thornley, Murton, and other Northern towns. SMITH'S Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Big Variety Acts, with own Combinations and Star Top Lines, on shares, Sept. 12, onward. Resident-Manager, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorkshire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

CHAS. DEETRICH AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, all the Biggest Acts in the Market, for immediate dates. Send absolute lowest terms, full particulars first instance.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession to send full bookings, terms, lithos. The man you know. Prof. AINSWORTH, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Specialities and Star Artists all Lines, immediately, run of several weeks to right Acts. Send at once with permanent, to RAWES and CLARANCE, Central Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BUFFALO PALACE,
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities, all Lines, Sept. 19, on, with exceptions.
LAMB.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Sensational Specialities, big Comedy Acts, Eccentric Acrobatical Troupes, big Novelty Acts, &c., for Sept. 12, 19, 26, onward, must be real Top Liners. Address, with lowest terms, samp.es of printing, &c., to MANAGER.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
and Strong Attractions of all Description.

'Phone 2349 Royal. Tele., "Aeroplane, Liverpool."

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 26, Sept. 26, Sept. 26,
a First-class Top, share or certainty,
or Full Company.
All coms. to WALTER BATTY, Baltic Hotel.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top-Liner Novelties, Britain and Continent.
(For Continent Sole Agency only entertained.)
Also Panto. Principals for best houses.
Particulars re previous Pantos. and lowest terms.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Top-Liners, Artists all Lines. Acts free Sept. 12, send immediately.
Contracts this week for: Three Orros, La Valti, Albert Winckler, Wisper, Beattie Bloom, Four Mayos, Winifred Ray, Lauri Bros., Ida Dorrie, Wambas, &c., &c.
48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Sept. 12, onwards, for First-class Combination work only, really big Tops of Bills, willing to share, for own Act, or with Full Company, must be sensational and attractive, new to Provinces preferred, but not essential, capable of following the Great Raymond, Gustave Fasoia, Consul, Tarro Miyake, &c., &c.; plenty of work for suitable Artists that are a draw; must be financially sound. Particulars, full list of Bookings (past and future), and specimen lithos., bill matter in first letter. Interviews by appointment.

ASHBURN'S Agency,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

'Phone 5467 Central. Tele., "Hippotomy, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Immediately,
Big Tops. Bottoms, Sept. 5, onwards, Big Acts with odd weeks out, North. Can fix immediately. Good double Lady and Gent Comedy Duo required for Monday next. Wanted, acts all lines for immediate dates, for Wallsend, and principal Provincial Halls. Lowest terms, list of bookings, &c. WILL LUND, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone, 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy."

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill, also Variety Artists in all Lines and good Turns suitable for Picture Halls, for Sept. 12, 19, and later.

List of Bookings and lowest terms to
ADAMS' Agency,
Hippodrome, Scarborough.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, and Acts all Lines, immediate and future dates. Send full particulars. LEATON'S Agency, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Top Liners, for Immediate Dates. Full list and lowest terms. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 272, Liverpool-street, Salford.

HIPPODROME, NOTTINGHAM, AND GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Big Drawing Tops of Bill, with good printing, for immediate dates. Price no object if goods can get the money in. Letters only. T. ALLAN EDWARDES, Derby.

WANTED, Big Star Tops
for Sept. 5, 12, 19,
Artists, all Lines,
Big Comedy Acts. Wire Quick,
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Head-liners, at once, Big Comedy Acts, and Novel Attractions, also Artists in every Line.
Lithos., terms, bookings, and house address,
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Varieties, Sept. 19, new to Hoyland, Yorks.
CRAIG, Palace Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Complete Picture and Variety Co., on shares. Change pictures twice weekly. Particulars, LE CLAIR, 38, Castlegate, Newark.

JAMAICA.
THE COLONIAL AMUSEMENT SYNDICATE.
WANTED, First-class Lady Vocalists and Dancers,
and Small Troupe.
Also Young Lady Pianist and Vocalist.
Return fares paid.
Journey takes two weeks.

Address, with full particulars, to
Box 8,202, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, two Young Ladies, Acrobatic Dancers, for a New Act; good salary. Address, Box 8,162, "The Era."

WANTED, smart well-behaved Boys, turned 14, able to dance. Full particulars, height, and age, to NEW YORK NIPPERS, New Hotel, Victoria-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Comedian, also Musical Act, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, North. Four Watsons send address. MCASKELL, Theatre, Aberaman.

WANTED, for Tour with a Drama, two Young Acrobats for Small Parts and Specialities. State experience, enclose photo.
BERTRAM, Rupert-court, W.

WANTED, a Good Strong Catcher, one used to Comedy. State height, weight, and lowest terms in first letter. Address, ACROBAT, Box 8,205, "The Era."

WANTED, Lilliputians desiring to visit Australia. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Thumb write. WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, a Vocalist-Lecturer for Pictures. Must have first-class references and abstainer. Full particulars, terms, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, as Assistant to Illusionist; must be able to use tools. State age, height, salary, &c., to Box 8,190, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine and Films, Sept. 19, Gas or Electric; thirty minutes' show, Yorks. F. NAPIER, c/o Woods, 12, Park-road, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known.
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in Number.
The sure draw. No risk. No worry.
Vacant Sept. 19 (to follow Bristol), Oct. 3 and 10 (to follow Exeter).
This week, Empire, Burnley. Own Company. Sixth visit to Burnley.
Sept. 5, Palace, Plymouth. Fifth Visit.
Certainty or share. Sharing terms with complete company preferred. Engagements on sharing terms we accept direct only.

WANTED, Known, Madame Adah Payne, the Australian Prima Donna, late of Moody-Manners' Principal Opera Co.; at Lib. Oct. 10. To-day, Regent, Salford (fourth visit at increase); next week, New Alhambra, Openshaw (return at increase). All coms. to REGINALD PAYNE, Hippo., Norwich.

WANTED, Sept. 12, on, for Gabrielle Hope's Novelty Musical Act, the largest and handsomest in the business; only lady playing Organ Chimes unassisted, Sleigh Bells with own piano accompaniment; Marimbaphone, Spielophone, Piano Solos. 1, Norfolk House-rd., Streatham.

WANTED, Sept. 12, Dot Mellon, Illustrated Songstress, own slides, only 14, with the voice of a woman. 82, Booth-street West, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Patricia Lind, Refined Vocal Comedienne, at Liberty Sept. 19. Best offers invited. Halls. Sketch. Concert Party, &c. Good Pianist, Concerteds. Also Vacant Panto., Soubrette or Low Comedy. "MASQUERADERS," Fraserburgh, Scotland.

WANTED, Sept. 12, also Panto., by Cambo and Casteile, Musical Monkey Act.
Address, Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, Sept. 12 and 19, by Tom Casey, the Newsboy Vocalist and Whistler. Next, Victoria Theatre, Sacriston; or, SMITH'S Agency, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Fred Hadley. Comedian and Dancer. A Great Success here; Four Songs in Each House. Vacant Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion Dancer. At Liberty. 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clive Watts, Refined Comedian and Great Dancer. Wire, 34, Gowlett-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 5, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton's (Copyrights) Collier's Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. Alexandra, Washington; next, R. Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Monday next, Midlands preferred, also Sept. 19, by Mons. Savaro, Bird Mimic; also as Agouste, Equilibrist. Wire offers, Palace, High Wycombe, Bucks.

The greatest Egyptian Illusionist.—Vide O. Stoll.
PHAROS,
WANTED, Dates, Oct. and Nov., for this Great Draw. The Most Startling Magical Act ever presented to the Public.
"A splendid programme included Pharos. This wonderful performer gave a most weird and clever entertainment, and received a great reception at the close. Pharos must be seen to be properly appreciated."—Leamington Chronicle. Beautifully staged and dressed. A strong Top-liner for any Bill. Per., 25, Osbourne-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Wilton Warton, Magician wants Sept. 19. Success, Empire, Southport; next, St. James's Hall, Harrogate; Sept. 12, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Known, Great Excitement at Merthyr, Little Hackenschmidt, Fifth Visit, and booked to return again shortly. Now drawing big crowds, Pavilion, Mountain Ash. Vacant 12th 19th. Wire quick. Coms., Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Sept. 5 and 12, by Van Rook, Premier South African Athlete. This week, Empire, Hyde. Manager GRAHAME, 53, George-st. Dukinfield.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins Living Marionettes (Harry and Maud). Novel Electric Show. Second visit here, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, the Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, are Vacant, Sept. 12, 19 Next week, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; also Gladys Wells, the Celebrated Yorkshire Contralto. Mon. Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, 26, by St. Malo and Coombs (Maude and Harry), in rép. of Vocal Comedy Acts. This and next, Poole's Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Monday, by the Roses, in Laughable Comedy Episode, "The Ma'jah," and Single Comedian, two good acts. Wire, Queen's Hall, Darlaston, Staffs.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, The Dunvilles, Latest Unrivalled Spectacular Comedy Instrumental Vocal Dance and Patter Act, "Little Bits of This and That." Address, New Palace, Rugby.

WANTED, Known, Frankford and Maine, The Real Life Comedy Couple.
Return, Sept. 5. Palace, Tranmere, Liverpool.
Thanks to Mr. Arthur Brogden, General Manager Vint's Electric Palaces, for 9 weeks' engagement.
Liberty Sept. 12 only.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, vacant Sept. 19 and 26. This, New Empire, Merthyr; next, P., Lincoln. Wire offers.

WANTED, Known, Cumberlands, free Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1910. Letters, "The Era," or 28, Haytor-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Hector and Lauraine, Comedians and Upside-down Boxers, Sept. 5, 12, 22, Newbold-road, Chesterfield; after Sat., 10, Clifford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Danbys (Charles and Arthur), Comedians, Knockabouts, and Dancing Experts, Liberty for Pantomime. Coms., 20, Lothair-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, onward, by Rohde and Roche, in their Novelty Episode, "The Chameleon Artist and It." Hippodrome, Loughborough. Sept. 5, Picturedrome, Long Eaton.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Sept. 12, 19, 26, and Oct. 3.
Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 7, 14, and on, by the Unique Equilibristic Marvels,
PHINEAS and ADA.
On Tour.
Perm., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, and Clown Rumbo, Comedy Pot-Pourri Contortionist, Sept. 5, between Carlisle and Aberaman. Wire, H. M. T., Carlisle.

WANTED, by Maro Duo, Quaintest and Funniest Three-bar Act, Sept. 12, This, Pal., Tynemouth. Monday, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, owing to enormous success for weeks commencing Aug. 15 and 22, at Marine Gardens, Edinburgh, The Flying Oreniuses (Flying Trapeze à la Hegelmann) have been re-engaged for this week; can fix on small stage or anywhere; vacant Sept. 5, 12, on. A good Top. Per. add., 67, Walcot-square, London, S.E. No reasonable offer refused. Secure this Novelty. Wire for Monday, wire.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 19, Northampton Chronicle: The Bouncing Peps give an extraordinary Acrobatic Show. In fact, they might more correctly be dubbed the human balls. Era, Stage-Managers, Public, and Artists, all say very smart act. A Star Novelty. Sure Success. Monday, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

NOTICE.
NOTICE.
NOTICE.

WARNING.
WARNING.
WARNING.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Public are hereby informed that the Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship is protected by Letters Patent in Great Britain and Abroad, under which the Sole and Exclusive Right to Self-propelled Air-vessels or Ships controlled by Wireless Electric Waves is covered, and that the use of any such apparatus by others will be an infringement of the patent against which Legal Proceedings will be at once instituted.

For terms, &c., apply to the Inventor,

T. E. RAYMOND PHILLIPS,
15, Nicander-road,
Sefton Park,
Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, by Billy Ross and Co., Great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act. Competitions nightly if required. Wire, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, by Charles Valvo, Sept. 12, and later dates. The Big Star Vent. Act. Book this act, and make sure of a big week. Address, Empire, Merthyr.

WANTED, Sept. 26 (precede Hip., Keighley), by Astor, the Real Novelty Ventriloquist. Add., Cremorne Hotel, Havelock-rd., Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, 17, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, Two Smart Acts. Offers invited. Palace, Hexham-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up to date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes All. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok, for dates. 18, Carter-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Hengleur's Wonderful Russian Poodles. The only troupe of its kind on the vaudeville stage. This lady is acknowledged to be the smartest and have the greatest variety of tricks in the profession. Proprietors, Managers, Agents requiring original and novel act secure Hengleur's Beautiful Russian Poodles. Vacant Sept. 19, Oct. 10. Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, Sept. 19 and 26, by
J. A. WILSON
and
PRIVATE TOWSER,
in "THE TROUBLES OF A RECRUITING SERGEANT."
Fifteen minutes' good clean comedy.

Wire or write,
WILSON, Comedian, Crosshill, Glasgow; or Agent, TOM SHAW, 18, Adam-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Known, Edith Tudora was presented on Friday last, Aug. 25,
with a Beautiful Bouquet
by her many admirers, in recognition of her splendid Animal Performance at the
Royal Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, by Inanda, presents "Bute," Marvellous Educated Canine Wonder. Refined Speciality, Clever, Humorous, the only dog performing the Barrel Act, Halls or Pictures. Free Oct. 4, Nov, on. Address, 18, Carter-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels, vacant Monday, also 12th, 19th. This, Hippo., Buxton; next, Derm., 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cycling Act, Sept. 12 and 19. Mon. next, Luna Park, Southend. Booked by AYTOUN.

WANTED, Known, Scott Brothers, great combination of Sixteen First-class Acts, including Auto-Mati, Motor Sensation. Liberty Dec., m. 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty home or abroad, BESSIE JONES and her Aquatic Marvels (five in number), High Divers and Under-water Performers, acknowledged by Press and Public to be the finest performance ever witnessed; now at, and eighth successive season, Aquarium, Scarboro'. Every one is an Artist; we lead, others follow. No bluff.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ROLLING MOTOR TRACK RIDING MACHINE,
like the Cake-walk and See-saw Slip.
is
Always on the Move, and a Quick Money-taker.
Apply for full particulars to
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties. New address, Kingsley Works, Grange-road, Willesden Green, W. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, our Autumn Tour of Exhibitions commences Oct. 1, Streatham. For particulars, apply, MANAGER, Exhibtion, Town Hall, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, we supply everything for the Fair and Rifle Ranges. Guns, cartridges, swing ropes. BRITISH Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

THE CARNIVAL,
PENMAN'S EMPIRE, COWDENBEATH, N.B.
WANTED, Side Shows of every description, Hoop-La, Games, &c., three weeks, Christmas and New Year; only the best need apply. MANAGER, Empire Rink, Cowdenbeath.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 5, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Zena Dare and Co., in "The Model and the Man," Cleo de Merode, Fragson, Riogoku Family, Jackson Family of Musicians, Lockhart's Elephants, Dixon and Lynde, Animated Pictures, Herbert Lloyd, Geo. Adams, Bert Coote and Co., Rhoda Paul.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Karno's "Football Match," Chase Lewis, Esta Stella, Ricardo and Salving, Laurie's Kindergarten, Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Ernie Mayne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Gus Elen, Bioscope, Lillian, Rawsons, Goltz Trio, Daras, Tom Costello, Bessie Butt, Alice Kingsley, Ferry Corwey.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Oswald Williams, Darracq, Fred Elton, Kitty Wager, Grant and Grant, Fred Poplar, Cornalla and Eddie, Bioscope, Peter Bermingham.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Arthur Lloyd Trio, Durant Bros., Onetti Bros., Lawrence Barclay, Guyer and Valle, Lily Shaw, Sisters Allen, Bioscope, George Bastow.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Flying," Millie Hylton, Leslie Harris, Sisters Doherty, Tom E. Hughes, Bugler Carr, Bioscope, Udagawa and Kawamoura, Willy Pantzer and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's Co., Culi Pift, My Fancy, Barrett and Knowles, Evelyn Stoll, Sammy Shields, Lupino Lane, Pender Troupe, Bioscope, Reid and Power.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:

E. Hill Mitchelson's Company in "The King and the Unknown Woman."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Happy Fanny Fields, Ruth Davenport, Melford's "Non-Suited," Staley's Transformation, Maude Vera, Walter King, Bros. Dean, Bioscope, Hadj-Mohammed Troupe.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Fred Lincoln, Roma and Romani, Findens, Great Vincent, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Evelyn Bingham, Tom Edwards, George French.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Randall, Gertie Gitana, Frank Couch, Roze and Calvert, Jackson Family of Cyclists, McConnell Trio, Lily Adair, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe, Harry Ford.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Wilkie Bard, James Stewart, Katie Moss, Ethel Newman, Satanella Troupe, Bioscope, Russell Carr, Winifred Hare, Walter Bellonini.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Formby, Bioscope, Lulu Williams, Bert Weston, Walter Wade, Elma Spyglass, May Mars, Sutcliffe Family, Alexandre and Hughes, Griffin and Ardel.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mme. Albani, Jack Pleasants, Jan Zakovsky, Legay Trio, France and Stewart, Harry Bedford, Ugo Nap, Odeyne Spark, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mme. Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, George Rae, May Henderson, Siems, Motramos, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Kirbys, Bioscope, Helen Trix, Bert Coote and Co.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Wyndham and Kitty, Bollingers, Dan Hendy, Brull and Hemsley, King's College Boys, Bioscope, Howard and Harris, Nellie Wallace, Russell Wallett.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Frederick Melville's Company in "The Bad Girl of the Family."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Harry Roxbury and Co., Leo Stormont, Wallace Lupino, Eadie and Ramsden, Belles of the Kitchen, Bert Williams, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Mitchell and Cain.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Balalaika Court Orchestra, Montgomery and Moore, Drew and Alders, Cumminger and Colonna, Harry Jolson, Dutch Daly, Lydia and Amelys, Eisteddfod Sextette, Addie Dorina, La Belle Titcomb, Rinaldo, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship, Johnny Walker, Musical McGregors, Nina Wood, Gothams, Winifred Ward, Duncan's Collies, Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Kate Carney and Co., Mike Nono, Binns and Binns, De Wynne Bros., Alcide Capitaine, Hans and Lux, Frank H. Fox, Bioscope, Maidie Scott.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Bella and Bijou, Marconis, Woodhouse and Wells, Verno and Voyce, Ben Albert, Cissie Curlette, Conn and Conrad, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Geo. Leyton, Harry Simms, Musical Jees, Avolos, Haig and Novel, Bert Maddison, Bioscope, Lillian Dundas and Co.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ada Reeve, Leonards, Edie Gray and Boys, Syd May, Mezzettis, Sylvia Du Barry, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Twelve Fezzans.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Carney and Co., Shirley and Ransome, Dumond Minstrels, Gustav Fasola, Three Laurels, Lena Verdi, New Mace, Harry Marie, Bioscope, Will Evans, Marie Brayman.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Mike S. Whalley, Phillips and Merritt, Garden City Four, Fred Curran, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Marquis' Ponies, Bert Marsden.

EMPIRE PALACE LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Great Lester, Australian Woodcutters, Amy Marsden, Orpheus, Andos Japs, Lancashire Lasses, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery, Dan Crawley.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

La Milo, Kisbey, Gladys Hooley, Talbot and Pearce, "Drummed Out," Goodfellow and Gregson, Frank Seeley, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Whit Cunliffe.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m.:—

Stock Company. Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Weldon, Will Johnson, Arthur Slater, Daisy Martell, Daisy and Dot, Bioscope, Three Merrills, Arden and Abel, Poluskis.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Frances Letty & Co., Cavallotti Bros., Bert Harrow, Lily Burnand, Tate and Tate, Rosa Loader, Pictures, Harry Nelson.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Grassis, Jock Mills, Violas, Azella Wilson, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Sanford and Lyons, Jack Warman.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, Tom Parker, Charles Norton, Maisie Hibbs, Bioscope, Cumberlands.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Daisy Jerome, Fielding and Hull, Annie Blanchard, Ed. E. Ford, Custances, Little Sunbeam, Pictures, Tom Bryce, &c., &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Carmos, Little Keeno, Fred Hallam, Peggy Pryde, Burley and Burley, Pictures, Anartos, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Co., Stevens and Rennior, Herbert Shelley, Beatrice and Bert, Niagara and Falls, George D'Albert, Carina Sisters, Bioscope, Tom Clare.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, SEPT. 5.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Frank and Jen Latona, The Westwoods, May Rowe, Danvers and Rossiyn, Frank Boyce, Sydney Girls, The Mars Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, May De Rowse.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Ford, Webb, and Co., in "The Spy," Mlle. Bartenelli, Cissie Carter, Clarke and Mostol, Leo and Roland, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
L'Incognita, Dick and Dorothy, Karr and Kooney, Morissey, Marie and Nellie, George Edmunds, "The Plumbers," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
E. D. Nicholls and Co., Four Rosebuds, Mona Garrick, Ethel Bourne, The Seddons, Fred Durban, Guest and Newlyn, Jessie Buckle, Dick Tubb, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
"Compensation," Guy Ryder, Gibbon and Bell, Four Figaros, Jack Hamilton, Zellini, Musical Marvels, Doris Druce, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Chung Ling Soo, Nellie Farrell, Pat Lynch, Lomas Duo, Edwin Garth, Bros. St. Clair, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Phil Ray, Corcoran Bros., Roy Beavis, Rene, Mollie Doon, Bros. Victor, Alice Craven, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
"The Yellow Fang," Herr Julius Walther, Poole and Maguire, Colbert, Four Maisanos, Loube Trio, Julia Reeve, John Donald, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
"The Key," The Hulls, Little Sophie, Edgar Forrest and Co., Kirk and Saraski, The De Breans, Mr. Fred Lindsay, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
The Garricks, Johnny Cecil, Sisters St. Julian, Hurnan and Arthur, Elroy, Sisters Caine, Ellerslie Pyne, Fred Ward, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Friend and Downing, Bardoff, Sisters Williams, Dene and Dixon, Daisy Hurdle, Nellie Neil, Jeff Martin Co., Vesta Nixon, Reed and Stevens, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Bros. Egbert, Ten Dixie Girls, Rizarellis, Juno Salmo, Recar Trio, Bertha Winder, Rousby and Rene, Doody and Wright, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.
THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Chas. Draycott's Répertoire Co.
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.
KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Billy Elliott, Picture Entertainment.
HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"The Lighthouse Robbery."
PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Sam Redfern, Two Manites, Gladys and Alber, Mollie Augarde, Chris Baker, Kitty Upton, The Millwards, Lizette Troupe, Florence Smithers and Co., Pavilion Perfection Pictures.
Special Matinées, Sept. 8 and 9.
"Hedda Gabler" and "The Master Builder."

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Bernard Mervyn and Co., Pictures, Lottie Lennox, Pete and Juno, Oliver Mostyn, Belmonts, Oswald and Lock, Morton Duo, Paynolas, "The Justice of Man," Flo Warner.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Drama, Twice Nightly.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, The Wedburns, Vera Mayne, Ted Karno and Co., Archie Pit, Reg. Beauchamp, The Days, Myrtle Grove, Arthur Rose and Co., Louisa Peach and Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Sidney Bach, Florence Yaymen, Victo, Phydoras, Pete and Minnie Lee, Ardell and Odell, Beauty Show, Norah Desmond, Ernest Rees, Carlotta De Yonson and Co.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Florence Yaymen, Norman Grant, John Henderson and Co., Bros. Lawrence, The Boriskis, Four Sparks, Tennis and Laune, The Cederics, Velda, Farr and Farland.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, and GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. Mr. E. GRAHAM FALCON is not responsible for any Contracts made for the above Theatres by Mr. Albert Leigh, who has no longer any connection with either theatre.—Signed, E. GRAHAM FALCON.

"MOTHER," "MOTHER" "MOTHER," and
WALTER EMERSON
Causing a Furore Nightly at the
Hippodrome, Liverpool.
The prevailing topic of conversation in Liverpool,
WALTER EMERSON
"and "Mother," "Mother," "Mother."
E. de VERE, Esq., Agent.

FOR **PRINTING**
We aim to give the best, and we solicit a trial.
We have thousands of
STOCK PICTORIALS.
See our Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingsburst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

HAMILTONS, LTD., COVENTRY, write
SMART COLOURED POSTERS,
30 by 40, 1s.; 40 by 60, 2s.; 80 by 60, 3s. 6d.
Any wording, per return.
LINEN BANNERS, COLOURS,
20 by 3, 15s.; 10 by 3, 7s. 6d..
Any size, 3d. square foot.
5% cash with order only.
Carriage paid.

We are 'Phone 6177
POSTER SPECIALISTS.
Try us.
Posters of all sizes, Daybills, Folders, Handbills, and all classes of Theatrical Printing, large or small.
HOLLOWAY and BIBLE, Cenral Printing Works, Weston-super-Mare.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 6, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PHOTOS
with Individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd., 22, Bedford-street, Strand

BROOKFIELD ESTATE, HIGHGATE.
BUILDING SITES.—Beautiful Surroundings, fine air and healthy situation, close to Parliament Hill Fields and Waterlow Park (extensive and picturesque open space in perpetuity), and adjoining the historic private estate of Holly Lodge, inside the four-mile radius from Charing Cross, with rapid and easy access to City and West End, and suitable for Villas and Houses of various sizes with gardens; moderate ground rents.
Apply,
THURGOOD and MARTIN, 27, Chancery-lane, W.C.; or, SALTER, REX, and Co., 311, Kentish Town-rd., N.W.

CLAPHAM PARK (best part).—Freehold Detached House, charming grounds, 1¼ acres, tennis court, shaded carriage-drive, 400yds. of shaded paths and beautiful surroundings, 6 bed, 2 dressing, 3 large reception rooms, marble bath, 3 lavatories, up-to-date in every way, first-class offices, fireproof landings and staircases, electric light, perfectly built, cost £4,000; owner will accept £2,500, or close offer. Caretaker on premises, 114, King's-avenue, Clapham Park, or plan and particulars, L. L. LEEDER, 96, High-road, Chiswick.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

NURSING HOME. On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-rd., N. 'Phone 327 Hornsey.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BLACKPOOL.—13, South Edward-st. Sitting and Bed rooms; comb. room; 2min. amusements; mod. terms. Davies. 14 years refers.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-sq.; 30s., inclusive. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. de Silva (Cossie Noel). Tel. 3938 Royal.

LONDON, S.E.—Kennington Park. Well furnished floor of 2 rooms, gas, central, 12s. 6d. 1d. West and Victoria. 208A, Hillingdon-street.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Dyer, 123, Kennington-road, has two bed-sitting, also bedrooms, vacant for Sept. 4 and 11.

LONDON, S.W.—Superior large front sitting and bedrooms, bathroom; good piano; large garden; excellent cooking and attendance.—145, Brixton-road.

LONDON, W.—Superior sitting-room, bedroom, 15s.; combined, from 8/6. No extras. Convenient. Miss Down, 129 Lancaster-rd, Ladbroke-grove.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Wood, 8, Grafton-street, Oxford-road, bedroom and sitting rooms combined; bath and piano; highly recommended. Home from Home.

MANCHESTER. — Mrs. Gray, 36, Booth-street East, Oxford-road, near Palace; 2 bedrooms, front sitting, front combined; bath; w.c. Highly recommended.

MANCHESTER. — 26, Grafton-street, Oxford-road. Mrs. Bouchier. Large front combined sitting and 2 bedrooms; bath, piano; widow, no children.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-st. Apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; two minutes halls and theatres.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

SCHOOL FOR DAUGHTERS OF ARTISTS and Professional Men. Warwick College, 71, Brixton-hill, S.W. Large house and garden, excellent education in all branches, home comforts. Terms strictly moderate. Apply, PRINCIPAL.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.
In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER,** or **ARTIST,** and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.
My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.
That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.
Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.
Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.
Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS,
FOR SEPTEMBER.

ENGLAND.

3. Aldborough (2,000)
3. Barnet (7,876)
3. Bicester (3,023)
3. Chorley (26,850)
3. Churwell (2,013)
3. Crewkerne (4,226)
3. Gorton (26,564)
3. Hucknall-with-Huthwaite (5 000)
3. Hyde Wakes (32,765)
3. Killamarsh (3,644)
3. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
3. Wilmslow (7,952)
5. Alverthorpe (3,372)
5. Armley (24,714)
5. Farnley (2,600)
5. Great Horton (33,000)
5. Oldbury (25,200)
5. Oxford (49,400)
6. Barnoldswick (7,141)
6. Wednesbury (26,500)
7. Fakenham (2,912)
8. Exeter (46,940)
8. Maldon (5,600)
8. Wareham (2,000)
9. Blandford (3,649)
9. Chapel Town (7,749)
9. Openshaw (24,500)
9. Swinton and Pendlebury (19,000)
9. Witton (1,673)
10. Congresbury (1,219)
10. Cromford (1,066)
10. Matlock (7,300)
10. Meltham (1,200)
10. Northwich (17,609)
10. Wirksworth (3,807)
10. Woodthorpe (882)
12. Ardsley (6,226)
12. Barnstaple (14,137)
12. Brentford (15,171)
12. Buxton (10,181)
12. Glastonbury (4,016)
12. Glossop (21,500)
12. Holbeck (18,997)
12. Holme-on-Spalding Moor (1,825)
12. Morchard Bishop (1,100)
14. Broadway (Somerset) (365)
15. Boston (15,677)
15. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
16. Alford (2,500)
16. Llangwith (363)
17. Batley (30,321)
17. Blackheath (Staffs.) (9,553)
17. Bury (58,038)
17. Pateley Bridge (3,200)
19. Amersham (3,209)
19. Atherstone (5,248)
19. Beaminster (2,000)
19. Farnworth (25,000)
19. Hemel Hempstead (11,300)
19. Honley (4,904)
19. Ilkley (7,756)
19. Newcastle (Staffs) (19,914)
19. Rushden (12,500)
19. Sidmouth (4,201)
19. Staines (6,700)
19. Swindon (44,906)
19. Worcester (46,623)
20. Ashby-de-la-Zouche (4,700)
20. Ware (5,573)
21. Backwell (958)
21. Lewes (11,249)
21. Longtown (630)
21. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
21. Reading (72,214)
22. Bude (1,367)
22. Over (Cheshire) (7,000)
23. Bowdon (4,629)
23. Bugsworth (4,467)
23. Idle Feast (7,500)
23. Iron Acton (1,069)
23. Stevenage (3,957)
24. Bridgwater (15,200)
24. Brierley Hill (12,040)
24. Cambridge (38,939)
24. Hartland (1,746)
24. Haslemere (1,311)
24. Hayfield (2,864)
24. Heyford (813)
24. Huddersfield (95,008)
24. Morton (982)
24. New Mills (6,253)
24. Pickering (3,500)
24. Ratcliffe (137)
24. Tyldesley (14,843)
24. Wootton-under-Edge (3,200)
26. Belford (1,280)
26. Dudley (48,809)
26. Dunstable (5,147)
26. High Wycombe (17,682)
26. March (7,600)
26. Uttoxeter (5,132)
27. Kenilworth (4,544)
27. Spalding (12,293)
28. Chesham (7,245)
28. Gloucester (47,943)
28. Lewes (11,249)
28. Solihull (4,000)
28. Studley (2,765)
29. Alton (5,479)
29. Ampthill (2,200)
29. Birmingham (522,182)
29. Cranbrooke (3,949)
29. Dorchester (9,500)
29. Frome (11,065)
29. Hanbury (1,000)
29. Todmorden (25,400)
29. Uxbridge (8,600)
29. Wallingford (2 608)
30. Eleven Lane Ends Feast
30. Long Stratton (600)

SCOTLAND.

8. Ayr (28,684)
16. Johnstone (10,502)
17. Moss of Balloch (612)
19. Aberdeen (153,108)
20. Castle Douglas (3,039)
24. Hawick (15,000)
27. Dumfries (17,079)
28. Frazerburgh (8,998)
30. Haddington (3,796)
30. Sinclair Town

WALES.

5. Aberavon (7,000)
8. Neath (13,732)
12. Blaenavon (10,864)
17. Brynmawr (6,534)
20. Llanfyllin (1,627)
20. Tredegar (18,574)
24. Abergavenny (7,795)
24. Cowbridge (1,292)
25. Pontardawe (3,327)
30. Llanelly (25,617)

WANTED, Anything Smart and New for Darlington Exhibition. Write quick.
GEO. SCOTT, General Manager,
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, for Large Shop, Barry Dock, Novelties, Tattooist, Automatics, Stalls and Games, &c. Address, NEMO, 23, Plough-terrace, Port Talbot.

LUNA PARK & PALACE, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. Unprecedented success under the new Management.

WANTED, for Winter Season, Illusions, Freaks, Novelties, and Sensational Attractions, for Shops in Arcade; rental or shares; weekly tenancy or longer if show suitable; must be up-to-date, or useless.
All communications,
T. W. HILTON, Luna Park, Southend.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. Full particulars, sample lithos., and post-cards in first letter, A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Darlington Great Exhibition, Sept. 19 to Oct. 8, Lady Palmist, Marionettes, and other High-class Side Shows, share terms; Spaces to Let for Wireworker, Glass Blower, Sketch Artist, Engraving, and other Novelties. Prospectus, GEO. SCOTT, General-Manager. Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, Planksman and Comedian, wage 30s. to commence, reliable, smart, good vocalist, permanent situation. GREENWOOD, auctioneer, Everton-rd., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, good Handseller and Stockkeeper combined; must be single and sober. State salary and ability to WHITE'S Auction Tent, Arundel-st., Portsmouth. Largest concern travelling

WANTED, Tattooer, Share or Rent. Work waiting. Also Fancy Stall and Wireworker. Side Shows. Amusement Promenade, 49 Tontine-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, smart Saleswoman, to manage Jewellery Stall in Exhibitions. Apply, letters only, MANAGER, Exhibition, Town Hall, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Young Man to help work up Local Exhibitions; must be used to calling upon tradesmen. Address, Box 8,196, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Temple, "Britain's Bearded Lady," who for the past five weeks has created a Sensation in Dublin. Visited by tremendous crowds daily. An Unequalled Success. Vacant Sept. 5, onwards. All coms. to James' Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, by David Long, Doorsman and Lecturer, after Sept. 3; thoroughly understands the business, height 6ft.; good delivery, &c.; distance no object. Address, C/o "The Era."

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Yard, in Centre of Town, two acres in extent.
Good supply of water. Reasonable terms.
Apply, G. R. S. BROWN, Auctioneer, High Wycombe.

WANTED, to Let, Bloom's Fair Ground, best position in the North, grand opening for large Iron Picture Hall. STACEY, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, to Hire for Six Months, or Hire-Purchase, Two Rail Living Waggons, must be in good condition. NORMAN, c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Hire, for Darlington Exhibition, Quantity Automatic Machines. Terms to GEO. SCOTT, General Manager, Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, Complete, with Living Van, goes by rail, or Let on terms. B. O., 66, Market-street, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Important,
To Roundabout Proprietors, Amusement Caterers, and Others.

WANTED, Known, that I have received Instructions to Offer for Immediate Sale by Private Treaty as a Going Concern a Beautiful Set of Three-abreast Gallopers which are undoubtedly Second to None in this country, Savage's make, comprising 40ft. centre truck, Savage's engine, splendid carved and gilt top centre and droppers, 14 carved and gilded rounding boards, cornice, and droppers, over 5ft. deep; carved and gilded drum; large ornamental mirrors; 36 carved horses, by Spooner; 2 motor cars, altogether carrying 74 persons; twisted brass rods; magnificent Gavioli organ; 10 Excello lamps; the whole packs on four loads, road or rail (Savage's trucks). Also 8 h.p. Burrell traction engine and dynamo, 14ft road Pullman living wagon, by Orton. All the above are in condition as new. This lot will be sold; worth the money, and can be seen working any time by appointment. For further particulars, price cards to view, &c., apply to TOM NORMAN, Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "Era" Office, London, N.B.—This is undoubtedly a very Special and First-class Lot.

WANTED, to Sell, Love Letters, Palmistry, Fair, Dark, Comic Cards, Eyes, Marriage, Liars' Licences. Illustrated Catalogue. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Special to Showmen, Biplane, winner of Daily Mail £1,000 prize, Michelin Trophy, &c., fine condition, has been used for exhibition. Best cash offer gets it by Sept. 10.
Seen, and full particulars,
Olympia, Scarboro'.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, Mechanical Exhibition, complete with hot-air engine; also complete fit-up, with stage, proscenium. Cheap.
CYPRUS CAFE, 114, Pembroke-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Purchase, Penny-in-the-Slot Machines, must be in good working order.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, the Address of Carl Hartley, Armless Midget Lady.
Post Office (till called for), Ashington.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Floor Managers and Instructors, not over 5ft. 4in.; also Known Professionals as Managers. Arthur West and Davidson please write. Box 8,188, "The Era."

WANTED, good Skating Instructor, to take charge of small Rink at Paisley, to open Sept. 12; must be fairly good Skater, and have some business qualification. Apply, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Open Sept. 25, two Good Instructors, one to combine skate mechanic. Lowest terms, height, photo., references, and full particulars, to S. REACH, West Suffolk Rink, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, smart experienced man as Manager, combine Floor, country, must be trustworthy, sober, and reliable. Age, height, salary, and copies last three refs. BIRD, c/o Hample's Agency, 166, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Floor Manager, to assist with general management. Lowest terms to W. E. POTTS, The Rink, Station-road, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Expert Lady or Gent., to give Exhibition at Central Rink, Glossop; must be Real Expert, or no use. Send vacant dates and terms to S. SPENSER, Central Rink, Glossop.

WANTED, smart and pretty Lady Instructress, for Provincial Rink. Age, height, salary, and recent photo., refs. BIRD, c/o Hample's Agency, 166, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, smart experienced Skate Mechanic, willing to be useful in Rink (Midlands). Fullest particulars, terms, and copies of last three refs. Box 8,125, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Skate Mechanic, one able to give instruction in spare time preferred, also make himself useful. Full particulars and terms to MANAGER, Royal Victoria Pavilion Skating Rink, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement for Oct., as Instructress on the Continent, speaks English, French, German, good Skater, two-step, &c.; photo. Letters only, Miss TATE, 19, Boulevard Flandrin, Paris.

WANTED, by Young Man, position as Floor-Manager of High-class Rink; thoroughly experienced; highest possible references. Address, Box 8,157, "The Era."

WANTED, by A. H. Lee, late General-Manager Ilkley, Yorks, First-class offers; large Rink preferred. 23, Well-close Mount, Carlton Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Management of Continental Rink, by gentleman, knows good Sites, had previous Continental experience. ERIC CARR, 16, Hyde-road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Floor Manager or Instructor for a First-class Establishment, thorough experience, smart appearance, and best of references; vacant shortly through season terminating. Box 8,156, "The Era."

WANTED, by Floor Manager or as Instructor, re-engagement, London or Provinces; good skater, waltzing, two-step, tall, good appearance, excellent references. Address, Box 8,185, "The Era."

WANTED, by Floor Manager, or Instructor and Instructress, Re-engagement, singly or jointly; excellent references. Write, G. W. C., 3, Gladstone-street, Leicester.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Known, an Exhibition Skater performing to thousands nightly in London Halls seeks Engagements or Management of Small Rink from September. Life experience in rink amusement catering. Box 8,193, "The Era."

WANTED, position as Floor Manager or Instructor, experienced Skater.
Box 8,184, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman's son, 21, seeks Instructor's berth. Smart, expert skater, waltzer, &c. References. Disengaged. H., Queenwood, Cheam-rd, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Rink, medium size, centre dense population, Midlands, to be Let or disposed of on extraordinary terms. Apply, TRAVERS, Tempest-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, quantities of Richardson's, Winslow's, and Brampton's Repair Parts. Address, W. E. POTTS, The Rink, Station-road, Dunfermline.

WANTED, to Buy, 100 pairs of secondhand Skates, in good condition, Richardson's Brampton's, or Winslow's.
Apply, STACEY and Co.,
High Wycombe.

To Rink Managers and Others.
WANTED, 130 pairs of entirely new and about 450 pairs of nearly new Winslow Skates, assorted sizes, for Disposal; all in good condition and ready for use; also quantity of repair parts. Open to Offers.
Apply, WM. COTTIER CURRIN,
Proprietor, Winter Gardens, Onchan Head,
Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Skates; must be in good condition. Send particulars to MANAGER, Royal Victoria Pavilion Skating Rink, Ramsgate.

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
LUCAS, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, Known, for Sale by Private Treaty, Lancashire, Rawtenstall, centre of the Rossendale Valley, population of over 100,000 to play upon, three tram lines terminate at the Theatre door; an up-to-date new Theatre, cost £14,000; seating capacity for over 2,000 persons, Market Hall and three shops included. In order to effect a speedy sale, £7,500 will be accepted, just about half cost. Chief rent only £70 a year.
Further particulars,
NASMITH, 40, Brazennose-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell or Let Hippodrome, Midlands. Dramatic licence, big population. Holds 2,500. Magnificent stage.
Box 8,204, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Theatre, seating capacity 600, on sale for £50, or would let.
ANTHONY O'HARA,
Golden Lion, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, wonderful Spotted Horse, about 15 hands. Broke for Ménage and Liberty Act, also goes for Bareback Act. Reason for selling, leaving country. BERZAC, 13, Union-street, Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Stage Illusions and Apparatus, something new, good; buy of maker, and save money. 212, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Double Oak Chamber, four doors, elegant corridor, suitable hotel, prison. Offers. Mrs. MARK KINGHORNE, 26, Dagmar-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, as supplied to the Grenadier Guards, 2nd Life Guards, Royal Marine Artillery, L.C.C., and Liverpool Police Bands,
also to the following Artists:
The Delafiores, The Wagners, The Three O'Connors, Eileen and May, The Albano Girls, Henriette and Selina, Miss Nellie Nora, Miss G. Hope, The Edison-Bell and Clarion Phonograph Cos., and to numerous Tympanists, including the American Band, at the White City. Tubular Bells, Organ Chimes, Rattles, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Sleigh Bells, &c. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-rd., London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Buyers for Solid Brass Van Hames.
Apply,
JOSEPH SIDAWAY, JUN.,
Hame Manufacturer, Old Hill, Staffordshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Kit Bag, 26in., grand condition, cheap for cash. Apply, J. H. BALSILLIE, Balass, Cupar, N.B. Wanted, a few small cheap Auto Card Delivery Slots.

WANTED, to Sell, two Baskets, trays, rollers, by Craven, practically new, 46in. by 26in. by 32in. and 48in. by 30in. by 32in.
LYNN and HARDING, Savoy House, Strand.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, handsome Lioness, Llama, Bear, Civet, Yak, Buffalo, Wolf, Jackal, Coatimundi, Badger, twelve Monkeys. Noah's Ark, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell as a Going Concern, Historical Playlet, complete with Scenery, Wardrobe, and all accessories. Dates booked. Big salary. Shows £1,000 a year profit. Star leads. References required and given. Principals (in confidence) only dealt with. Box 8,207, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Thirty-minutes' Comedy Sketch, in three scenes, by Leonard F. Durell, Author and Producer of "The Bailiff," "H.M.S. Perhaps," &c., &c. Address, DURELL, Comedy Producer and Aquatic Director, Kiralfy's Theatre, Boulevarde Jamar, Bruxelles.

WANTED, to Sell, most original Monologue, by known author, for Star Actress, good at changes, £4 a week assured irrespective of price received from managements. Price £50 entire rights; or £25 partnership.
Box 8,214, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. PEARSON, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Secondhand Bass Drum and Pair 12in. or 13in. Cymbals.
J. HINCHLIFFE, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Buy, a small well broken dog, one who is house broken, dog will have good home, as I wish a pet. State all tricks, also price and all particulars in first letter; must be as small as possible. Box 8,183, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Card Dog; must be young and cheap. State other tricks, age, &c.
THEO. MAURITUS, 29, Albert-street, S.S., Blackpool.

WANTED, to Buy, good Stage Illusions, Apparatus, for exportage; and others, new or otherwise. Particulars to Box 8,198, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap for cash, Iron House for Bioscope, also Sheet. J. STONE, 1, Woodhouse Hill-mount, Hunslet Carr, Leeds.

WANTED, to Buy, two Secondhand Travelling Baskets, in good condition.
SMITH-NEILL, South Parade Pier, Southsea.

WANTED, to Buy, Rolling Globe, about 36in. diameter; also two clever performing Black Poodles, and prop. hampers. HENGLEUR, Gynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Buy,
Good Cinematograph Tent,
New or Secondhand.
Address, Box 8,201, "The Era."

WANTED, a Good Pantomime Production, suitable to play twice nightly.
Send full particulars to
Box 8,211, "The Era."

WANTED, Files of "The Era," 1860, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and onwards, to present time. Address, LIBRARIAN, "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Buy, Military and Brass Band March Books, and Valses for Rinking. Lowest offer. Money down. Box 8,200, "The Era."

WANTED, by George Osborne, Good Humorous Songs, Monologues, &c., original character preferred. 141, Westgate, Gloucester.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Aug. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, from September to Easter, the Pavilion at Lofthouse Park, for Pierrot Troupe or Picture Show, with Variety Turns most suitable. For further particulars, apply SECRETARY, Belle Isle, Wakefield.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Freehold Building, fine floor for Skating Rink and seating for Cinematograph Show; also Cinematograph Box already fitted for use. Fully licensed, rent extremely low; premium £400. Fine opportunity for a man who understands his business. Box 8,216, "The Era."

Scenic Dock.
WANTED, to Let, Site, suitable for Scenic Dock, on ground lease, or building could be erected to suit tenant; approximate inside dimensions 100ft. long, 14ft. wide. Agent, 284, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Let (off Westminster Bridge-rd.), 18, Hercules-road. Well-positioned shop, good living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent.
EDWARDS, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and Programme, for the New Picturedrome, Long Eaton. Apply, LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, S. Devon.

WANTED, to Let, a Drama, in Four Acts, "The Way of Transgressors," by Nita Rae. Address,
Theatre Royal, Margate.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Public Halls, Skating Rinks, Music Halls, and Theatres. Rent or long lease.
State all particulars in first letter.
LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Lease Good Theatre or Hall, also to purchase Shares in Sound Concerns.
PHILIP BENNETT, 82, Clecthorpe-road, Grimsby.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other Large Halls in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to
Box 8,155, "The Era."

WANTED to Hire, for Darlington Exhibition, First-class Cinematograph and Films, change weekly. State make and Terms.
GEO. SCOTT, General Manager,
Exhibition Offices, Darlington.

WANTED, to Hire or Buy, a Really Good Production of "Aladdin," book, music, scenery, dresses, &c.; everything must be in real good condition. All particulars to
DEAN, 159, Sherwood-street, Nottingham.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Partner, with £200, to invest in Cinematograph Business.
Advertiser is at the Head of his Profession, and looks for a Partner of Theatrical Repute and Position, and of Sporting Tastes. Partner will be assured of an excellent profit, and salary.
Box 8,189, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, exceptionally Talented, Versatile, long experienced Monologist and Entertainer, might invest and take active part in proposed London Entertainment with eminently first class people. Box 8,191, "The Era."

WANTED, Top Mounter, for Hand-to-hand Balancing. State weight, &c., to EQUILIBRIST, 28, Bolingbroke-road, Battersea, London.

WANTED, good Tumbler, well up in Comedy Tricks, to join a First-class Performer.
Box 3,213, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone, 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2681 Central.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples, Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Dover-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Corrugated Iron Buildings for Cinematograph Theatres, Entertainment Halls, Pavilions, &c. Write for design, F. H. HEATH, LTD., Dept. E., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED.—Managers and others please Note.
MESSRS. LYNN AND HARDING,
SAVOY HOUSE, SAVOY-STREET, STRAND,
can supply
First-class experienced Artists all Lines.
Smart Men, Pretty Girls,
Talented and Refined Amateurs.
No inflated Salaries.
Plays typed, Productions arranged, Lowest charges.
Always safe to ring up 9907 Gerrard.
Australian Representatives for numerous London and Provincial Successes.
Several Plays and Sketches by well-known Authors for disposal.
We guarantee satisfaction.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus. The Council regret they cannot utilise the Funds of the Association for non-members.

WANTED, Known, we are prepared to Reorganise Rinks for an Entirely New Permanent Enterprise (not picture shows). SHAW, 5, North Church-side, Hull.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
if Helen Caunter
will call at Kelly's Library,
she will hear to her advantage.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.

Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

English Tour, 1910.
THE FAMOUS BAND OF THE
ROYAL ITALIAN PIEDMONDT HUSSARS
consisting of 40 FIRST-CLASS PERFORMERS,
Military Band and Orchestra (in Uniform).
THE ENGLISH TOUR OF THIS MOST FAMOUS BAND WILL COMMENCE ON SEPT. 12, 1910.
Open for Engagements in London or Provinces, on Sharing Terms or Certainties.
All Communications to the Sole Agents,
NORTHERN MUSICAL AGENCY, 111, Prospect-rd., Scarborough.

NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!
That
HERBERT A. BRADWELL
of Coney Island, U.S.A.,
is the ORIGINATOR of
ELECTRIC SCENIC ATTRACTIONS,
and has produced
JOHNSTOWN FLOOD,
CONEY ISLAND and ATLANTIC CITY, MILWAUKEE, INDIANAPOLIS, U.S.A., and LUNA PARK, PARIS, 1909.
MONT PELEE,
CONEY ISLAND, U.S.A.
MESSINA,
IMPERIAL EXHIBITION, SHEPHERD'S BUSH, 1909; EXPOSITION WEISBADEN, 1909.
THE DELUGE,
CONEY ISLAND, U.S.A., 1906, 1907, 1908.
GOLDEN WEST EXHIBITION, EARL'S COURT, 1909.
and
CREATION,
the Sensational Success of the Brussels Exhibition, 1910.
Estimates given for any of the above, with complete installation, and can be adapted to a stage of any size. For further particulars apply to HERBERT A. BRADWELL, "Creation" Building, Plaine des Attractions, Brussels Exhibition.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a
PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE
is installed at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

MR. HORACE GEORGE,
"Private Secretary" Co.
Sept. 12, His Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

MR. JOHN GERANT,
Disengaged.
49, Jenner-road, Stoke Newington, London, N.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON.
John Worthing, "Importance of Being Earnest." 198, Wymering-mans., Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. A. CARLAW GRAND,
Disengaged, Light Comedy, Stage-Manager.
Address, 29, Cromwell-av., King-st., Hammersmith.

MR. CLAUDE GRAVELEY,
Lead, in "A Child of the Streets."
Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN
as Fire in "The Blue Bird."
Sept. 12, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. FRED GROVE.
"Looking for Trouble."
County Theatre, Reading.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE,
Karl Stromberg, "Prince and Beggar Maid."
69, Huron-road, Balham, or A.A.

MR. & Mrs. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON
(Miss Grace Harlington), First-class offers invited for Oct. 40, Cross-street, Morecambe.

MR. HENRY HALLATT,
Olaf, in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid" (North Co.). New Theatre, Consett.

MR. AUGUSTUS HAMMOND.
MARIE FONTAINE.
"The Bishop's Son" Co. Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. W. S. HARDY,
Manager, North Company,
"The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

MR. HENRY HARGREAVES,
Leading Man with Alan Wilkie.
Sept. 12, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. REGINALD HARGREAVES,
Disengaged until Oct. 24. Boy's Parts and Juveniles. Wavertree, Wanstead-place, Wanstead.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER,
Disengaged two weeks.
Berkeley, Chester-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Albert Thompsett, "Don."
Sept. 12, Harrogate and Tunbridge Wells.

MR. W. T. HARRIS,
Sept. 12,
Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
Manager for Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co.
"King and Unknown Woman." T. R., Aston.

MR. STANLEY HARRISON.
Address,
32, Portland-road, W.

MR. RUPERT HARVEY and KATHARINE HERBERT, Mr. Laurence Irving's Co. Liverpool; next, Royal, Blackburn.

MR. JOHN HASTINGS-BATSON,
Disengaged.
Care of "The Era."

MR. & MRS. HENRY W. HATCHMAN
"Midnight Mail," Widnes, Sept. 12, six nights. Dis. 19th, special week, London only.

MR. MURRAY HATHORN,
"The Dawn of a To-morrow" Co.
Perm. address, Quedgeley, Gloucester.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY
2, York House, 49, George-street,
Richmond.

MR. T. P. HAYNES
Address
Letters, care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER and Miss HILDA SHIRLEY.
Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

MR. DALZIEL HERON,
"The Midnight Wedding" Co.,
Sept. 12, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

MR. DENIS J. HOGAN.
Sept. 12,
Perth.

MR. ARTHUR E. HOLLAND,
Special Juvenile or Character Business.
Add., c/o 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

MR. A. C. HOLMES,
Stage-management, "Fires of Fate."
Sept. 12, Tunbridge Wells (3), Margate (3).

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
Address,
Globe Theatre.

MR. CYRIL HOOD,
Disengaged, Char., Com., and Boy Parts.
Address, 11, Normandy-place, Brixton, S.W.

MR. FRANK HOWARD,
General-Manager, "Beggar Girl's Wedding,"
Walter Melville's Co. Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD
(Miss Carlotta Anson). Own Tour.
Palace Theatre, Derby.

MR. REGINALD A. HUNT,
Producer and S.M., "Dawn of a To-morrow." Sept. 12, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY.
Title-rôle, "The Private Secretary."
Sept. 12, H. M. Theatre, Dundee.

MR. RALPH W. HUTTON.
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

MR. and MRS. FRED C. IMBERT,
"Driven from Home" Co.
This, Wakefield; next, Mexborough.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
32, Wightman-road,
Finsbury Park, N.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES,
Stage Manager.
Lyceum Theatre.

MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL,
Special Lead, Heavies. "The Hearth,"
Roman-rd., Bedford Park, W. 'Phone, 333 Chiswick.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
5, Carlton-terrace, South Cliff, Scarborough.

MR. D'ARCY KELWAY,
Jerry, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MR. CLAUDE KING
as Captain Jack Temperley.
Sept. 12, Theatre Royal, Dublin.

MR. CHARLES S. KITTS,
Stoll Tour.
Managers' Club, Wardour-street.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE,
Character Comedian and Stage-Manager. 32 Regent-st., W. 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE,
Address,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price). Disengaged.
40, Glenthorne-road, Hammersmith.

MR. LEONARD LAURENCE,
On Tour.
Perm. add., 25, Richmond-road, Bayswater, W.

MR. GEO. F. LEICESTER,
Colonel Corri, "Flood Tide."
En Route, or 123, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. PHILIP LESLIE in America.
C/o LIEBLER and Co.,
2, West Thirty-eighth-street, New York.

MR. MARK LESTER,
King Paul, in "Two Merry Monarchs." Sept. 12, D.P., Eastbourne. 53, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

MR. ARTHUR LINAY,
Acting-Manager, "Geisha" Co.
12th, Hastings; 15th, Eastbourne.

MR. FRANK LISTER.
No. 99.
Empire, Tonypandy.

MR. and MRS. FRANK LISTON
(Maud Warburton), Star Leads, J. A. Campbell's Co. 12th, Metropole, Devonport.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY
(Miss Maggie Edwards).
"The Village Blacksmith," T. R., Chesterfield.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN.
Address, A.A., or,
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY.
All communications,
16, Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. J. G. LOWTHER, Business and Stage-Manager "Hush Money" Co. Dis. for Panto. Address., 10, St. Ann's-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
Playing Wm. Mollison's Part, Dick Crawford, in "The Chorus Lady." Address en route.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG.
Disengaged.
Craven House, Grove Park-road, Chiswick.

MR. and MRS. A. B. MACKAY,
"Beginning and the End" Co.
Sept. 12, Public Hall, Pontnewydd.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Own tour, "Rollicking Rory," "Wearin' o' the Green." En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
At Liberty for Pantomime.
Malvern (3), Leamington (3).

MR. PERCY MARMONT and MISS ELSIE DAVISON, Mr. Cyril Maude's Co., "Sir Walter Raleigh." Sept. 12, T. R., Newcastle.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Professor, in "Brass Bottle."
Sept. 12, Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN,
Advance Manager, "Les Cloches de Corneville" Co. Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. GEORGE MARTIN,
Stage- and Business-Manager.
Sept. 12, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

MR. H. SHERWOOD MARTIN,
General Manager, and Lorrimor,
"A Pair of Spectacles."

MR. WILLIAM MARTIN,
General Theatrical Agent. Tours booked.
415, Strand, W.C.

MR. CYPRIAN H. MATTHEWS,
Danillo, "Love of the Princess."
Sept. 12, Grand T., Mansfield.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS,
Walley Angel, "The Little Damozel."
Kennington Theatre, London.

MR. G. MAYOR-COOKE,
Manager, and as Hildred in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid" (South). P. O. W., Grimsby.

MR. HARRY McCLELLAND,
401, Albany-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Bulger, "The Dollar Princess."
Sept. 12, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. WILLIAM J. MILLER,
Leads, &c. Baron Strelsau, "Convent to Throne." Royal, Scarborough.

MR. G. M. MONTANINI.
Sept. 12, Palace, Maidstone.
Sept. 15, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HARCOURT, Star Lead, Comedy and Character. Empire Palace, Canning Town, E.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Messrs. Green and Hinton's Co.
Sept. 12, T. R., Sunderland.

MR. FREDERICK MOYES,
Supporting Mrs. Russ Whytal and S.-M.
Dalston Theatre, Dalston, N.E.

MR. SINCLAIR NEILL,
Allan Wilkie's Co. King ("Hamlet"), Baptista, Jos. Surface, &c. O. H., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. TOM D. NEWELL,
Leading Com. with Sutton Vane, Esq.
This, O. H., Burnley; next, Alexandra, Sheffield.

MR. and MRS. ALFRED NORTHWAY.
109, Cambridge-gardens, W.
Telephone, 2079 Western.

MR. ALEC ONSLOW,
Detlev von Asterberg, "Old Heidelberg."
Sept. 12, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

MR. & MRS. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
Miss Nora Carton's "Temptation" Co.
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. H. P. OWEN,
Miss Nannie Goldman's Co.
Sept. 12. Q.'s, Dublin; 19th, P., Glasgow.

MR. GUS OXLEY,
Simplicitas, "The Arcadians" Company.
Theatre Royal, Bury.

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON,
General-Manager, for Mr. Laurence Irving.
Sept. 12, Theatre Royal, Blackburn (6 nights).

MR. HERBERT PEARSON.
Address,
Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. SYDNEY T. PEASE,
Supporting Leonard Mortimer, Esq.
Sept. 12, Hippodrome, Peckham.

MR. PENNINGTON-GUSH,
Ibsen. Disengaged shortly.
Opera House, Perth.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
Miss Florence Le Clercq.
Address, 32, King-street, St. James's, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY.
"A White Man" Co.
Sept. 12, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. T. ARTHUR PLUMMER, CORA LINDA. Lead, "Girl Who Took Wrong Turning." Belmont, Kingsway, Coventry.

MR. SYDNEY PORTER,
as Jimmy O'Neil, "Woman in the Case" Co.
Next, Sheerness.

MR. OSCAR POWER,
Carl Oppenheim, "For Love and the King."
Sept. 12, Metropole, Birmingham.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR,
Business-Manager, "The Naked Truth" Co.
Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. GEORGE RELPH,
Orlando, Bassanio, Lucentio, Fenton, Rembouillet. Oscar Asche-Lily Brayton Co., Australia.

MR. SIDNEY RENNEF,
Productions, Stage-Man., Character Parts.
Hagley, Leighton-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

MR. ALFRED RIVERS,
Stage Manager "Brass Bottle" Co.
Sept. 12, Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON.
Own Sketch, "An Indian Romance."
Hippo., Rotherham.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all Communications,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY,
Exclusively Engaged by Moss Empires until 1913. Address, Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

MR. A. RUSSELL-DAVIS,
Juvenile Lead and S.-M., "Beauty and the Barge." Malvern (3), Leamington (3).

MR. WALTER SCHONBERG,
Disengaged. Late Stage-Manager "Sins of Society" Co. 10, Harvard-mns., Clapham Junction.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Walter Melville's "Girl's Cross Roads" Co.
Pantomime offers invited. 227, Hampstead-road.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
George Fisher in "Are You a Mason?"
Sept. 12, Empire Theatre, Fleetwood.

MR. FRANCIS SERLE,
Assistant Stage-Manager,
The New Theatre, London, W.C.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder), Leading Business.
44A, Morat-street, Brixton, S.W.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor. Engaged by Laurence Irving, Esq. Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (sixteenth year).
Royalty Theatre and Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY-GOFTON,
Disengaged.
Address, 206, High-road, Ilford. 'phone 738.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Business-Manager. At Liberty.
92, Rectory-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. RICHARD F. SYMONS.
Lyceum Theatre,
W.C.

MR. A. B. TAPPING,
At Liberty, Parts or Management.
28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Mr. Forbes Robertson's Part, "Passing Third Floor Back." A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager, "The Village Blacksmith" Co., Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE.
Permanent address,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Resident Man. for Messrs. Seddon and Pope.
New Theatre, Newark.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS
(Agnes Knights), "The Bishop's Son" Tour.
Sept. 12, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Lord Erskine, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Disengaged, Character Business or Old Men.
Address, 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. and MRS. A. W. TYRER, with Messrs. Clarke and Meynell Matheson Lang Tour "Pete," T. R., Melbourne, Australia.

MR. EDWARD VALENTINE,
Farmer Meadows and Management, "A Girl's Cross Roads" Co. Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Miss Ethel Irving's Company.
Sept. 12, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
Representing Mr. Edward Terry in London during his Autumn Tour. Terry's Theatre, Strand.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
"The Dawn of a To-morrow" Co.
Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont), as Mrs. Wiggs, No. 1 Co. D. V. Dis. 8, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith.

MR. T. W. VOLT.
Agents; or,
11, Osterley-avenue, Isleworth, W.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
"A Noble Revenge," by A. W.
Sept. 12, Palace, Bristol.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Principal Comedian, Chambhuddy Ram, "Cingalee" Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-road, Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE.
Sept. 12,
Preston.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand. 'Phone 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Mr. Hook, "Hook of Holland."
G., Hastings; next, T. R., Brighton.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
at Liberty to Produce, Management, &c.
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
Disengaged, Character Comedy, Old Men, or Stage-Manage. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
5, Grosvenor-street,
Blackpool.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). "Naked Truth."
Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. MONTAGUE WIGAN,
Disengaged, Stage-Management or Acting.
Juveniles, Light Comedy. Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
"Brewster's Millions."
Sept. 12, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. IAN OGILVIE WILL
as Kellermann in "Old Heidelberg."
Sept. 12, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

MR. ERIC WILLIAMS,
George Harris, Harrington's "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Next, 3 Peterborough, 3 Kettering.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Principal Comedian,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
Music Hall, Merthyr Tydvil.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
Arrangements complete.
5, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

MR. JOHN WILMER.
General-Manager,
43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, the London Hippodrome.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON,
Lead,
Mr. Walter Melville's Co., South Africa.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Musical and Farcical Comedy Character.
Disengaged. 147, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
The F. R. Benson (North) Co.
Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Disengaged. Parts or Management.
Address, 52, Eastbourne-terrace, Paddington, W.

MR. SIDNEY YOUNG.
Address,
132, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE MISS BELLA TERRY,
Principal Girl, "Blue Bird" Co.
Sept. 12, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

ENTERTAINERS.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Accompaniste,
Society Entertainer, Ladies' Orchestra, for Dances, Receptions, &c. 210, Edgware-road, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS,
Concert Party, Offers Oct. on, for Halls, Pavilions, &c. Agent Invited. GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MISS CISSIE HARCOURT, Mezzo-Soprano and Soubrette, as Dorothy, "Blue Myths" Tour. Coms., 47, Canterbury-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

MAIE HOEY,
Whose artistic dancing in the rôle of Fatma made one of the chief successes. Vide Press. "Bedouin Beauty" Co. Next week, Ramsgate.

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

THE LASCELLES ENTERTAINMENT.
Sole Proprietor, PHILIP LASCELLES. Till end Sept., The Nook, Wargrave-on-Thames; then, 21, Colville-ter., Bayswater. Tel. 1235 Western.

ADELE LEVEY.
in her Charming and Unique Little Tales, Recitations, and Monologues. Vac. Sept. 12, 19. Great Hit, Margate. Address, c/o "The Era."

ADELE LEVEY (Raconteuse) got a Great Reception, and made Big Success, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate. Vacant for London Panto. Address, c/o "The Era" Office.

MR. ERNEST LONGSTAFFE,
Humourist at Piano, Musical-Director, and Musical Comedy Composer, and MISS ENID HAMILTON, Dainty Light Comedy Songs.
Second Year with H. Flockton Foster, Esq.
Open for Winter Offers. PIER, ST. ANNE'S.

MISS KATE RICHARDS,
Pianist, Accompanist and Coach, &c.
Address, C/o Brinsmead Studios, Wigmore-st., W.

ARTHUR ROYCE, Entertainer at Piano; EDWINA BOYDE, Comedienne and Dancer. The Lawn Pavilion, Skegness. Telegrams, ROYCE, Comedian, London.

MISS NELLIE L. WEBBER, Soprano.
FRED T. DANIELS, Humorous Entertainer. Speciality, Humorous and Vocal Duets at the Piano.
33, Thurloe-place, South Kensington.
Telephone 3184 Kensington.

"DERWENT"
GAS-STEAM RADIATORS
For Heating Theatres.
JOBSON & CO.,
Derwent Foundry, DERBY

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by

ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music-halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music-halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and echnicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE FINANCIAL NEWS, June 13, 1910.

In view of the frequent litigation concerning theatrical matters there can be no doubt as to the usefulness of this little book to those whom it concerns, and, apart from its usefulness, it is really quite an interesting little volume, in saying which we are paying tribute to Mr. Strong's lucid methods of explaining the intricacies of the law. He has avoided legal terms as far as possible, and theatrical cases exemplifying legal principles he has given in full. To make this, the third, edition as complete and useful as possible, Acts of Parliament relating to theatrical matters and the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain and London County Council are set out in full in the appendix, with the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.

We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up-to-date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be **PROPRIETOR, MANAGER**, or **ARTIST**, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

To the Publisher.
1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, S.E.
15th June, 1910.

My Dear Sir,—
I have had an opportunity of looking into the third edition of Mr. Albert Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law," published from your office recently, and I have pleasure in testifying to the great value I have found the previous editions in my practice among ladies and gentlemen connected with the profession for which your valuable paper caters so admirably.

That Mr. Strong has had a wide experience in the matters with which he deals so ably in his book is evidenced by the lucid yet exhaustive manner in which he has treated the various subjects therein, and this last edition is eloquent testimony of the care and ability which he bestows upon his work.

Brought thoroughly up to date it will without doubt find a wide circle of usefulness among the profession whose contracts, Mr. Strong aptly remarks, are so fruitful a source of litigation.

Believe me,
Yours very faithfully,
W. H. ARMSTRONG.

Third Edition. Price 5/- Post free 5/4.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES, 5, Tavistock St., Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. Tebbitt.—Charles Lee, eccentric comedian and legmania dancer, is a good turn; McAskell, comedy conjurer and illusionist, gains favour; Talberto and Douglas, comedy acrobats and globe rollers, have a flattering reception. The pictures shown on the Bioscope are good.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—J. Bannister Howard's company is here in *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Sam Lysons as Sir Guy de Vere keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter; Mr. Alec Forbes as Isaac Isaacson, and Miss Hilda Waldorf as Miss Sarah Isaacson are good; Miss Elsie Roberts as Lady Rowena is earnest and effective; Mr. J. Bannister Howard, jun., enacted the part of Wittle in excellent style; Mr. Claude Aymonde plays well as Sir Bryan Ballymore; the parts of Jester by Mr. C. Gifford and the Dean by Mr. G. Edward Hall were ably sustained; and other good parts are in capable hands.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Kathleen O'Hanlon in her unique vocal and terpsichorean scena *Romps in a Drawing-Room* has a good reception; George Don, a quaint comedian, causes fun; Evie Daunton is a chic comedienne and dancer; and Beatty Brothers in their comical sketch, *The Earl and the Jockey*, cause laughter, and their dancing also deserves praise. The pictures on the Bioscope are interesting.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Private Secretary* is here, Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company producing the popular comedy in a manner worthy of its best traditions. Mr. James Hussey makes an irresistible Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. William Carriden is an effective Mr. Marsland; Mr. Cattermole is in the capable hands of Mr. W. Hargreaves; and Mr. Kendal Chalmers as Mr. Sidney Gibson is supremely real. Miss Estella Despa as Miss Ashford, Miss Cicely Wade as Mrs. Stead, Miss Elsie Blyth as Eva Webster, and Miss Mary Mallalieu as Edith Marsland portray those characters charmingly.

THE PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Callaghan.—*Chanteclair* fills the bill at the Palace this week, and does it effectively. Mr. Jack Martin as the "name-bird" is droll and clever; Nellie, the hen pheasant, is charmingly portrayed by Miss Madoline Rees; Mr. James Learmouth makes an effective Cat; Mr. Leonard Russell as Mother Goose sings and acts the part faithfully; Mr. Ivan Berlyn as the Sly Fox is quaintly attractive; Mr. Ernest Sefton as the Boosy Rooster is vastly amusing; and other inmates of the "kailyard" are delineated in captivating style and address. Reichen's dogs and Viviana and his company supply fascinating items.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week the Tivoli fare is of a varied and attractive form. Mme. Vonetta is the star attraction, and her rapid costume changes, her statuesque poses, and her dancing and conjuring tricks combine to make up a turn of unusual value and charm; Miss Rosie Lloyd sings and acts in a decidedly attractive manner; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane give a clever representation of "bunkers"; the Æolians present a drawing-room sketch in pleasing style; Griff and George, in "Funny Conceits," are drolly amusing; George Rapley is a singer and comedian of ability; Tom Franks gives a good ventriloquial exhibition; and Marie Beresford sings with evident taste and power.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, E. Price.—Mr. J. F. Preston and company are here this week in *The Man in the Iron Mask*. Gaston and Louis XIII. are well played by Mr. J. F. Preston and Mr. Neville May; Mr. W. Howard Barlow makes an excellent M. de St. Mars; the Duke d'Almada is capitally sustained by Mr. Arthur P. Leo; Mr. Francis Everard makes a convincing D'Artagnan; and Fouquet is admirably enacted by Mr. Alfred Wade. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow adds to her reputation as Marie de Nancini; Anne of Austria is excellently portrayed by Miss Lillie Pearce; and Miss Dolly Wright sustains the part of Glaudette quite satisfactorily. On Wednesday *Jane Shore* was played for the benefit of Miss Mabelle F. Barlow.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Frank Bertram's powerful company is successfully presenting *The Sailor's Wedding* here. Mr. Stanley Harrison gives a manly and convincing impersonation of Lieut. Gordon Drake; Mr. Cecil Klein ably sustains the character of Sir Victor Lascelles; Mr. Alfred Fisher gives a distinguished portrayal of Count Bellini; and a powerful and effective representation of Giovanni Ferici comes from Mr. J. H. Darnley. Mr. Frank Bertram presents a noteworthy performance as Jack Hawkins; Mr. Frank Kidger is all that could be desired as Bill Burns; and Mr. Alfred Holles as Giacomo Ferrara submits a forcible and impressive portrayal. Miss Madge Monte plays with reserve and delicacy as Mary; Miss Daisy Gwynne enacts Countess Bellini naturally; Miss Olive Warne is to be complimented for an exceedingly clever rendering of Lenore de Gresac; Miss Celestine Bertram is a capital Minette; and as Polly Clarke Miss Denny Fitzherbert makes the most of her opportunities.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Bros. Schichtl's original mechanical marionettes are the leading feature here, and provide a most entertaining turn. Tiny and Mite are talented juvenile vocalists and dancers; Witty Wattie Walton is an old favourite here; and Chas. Santon, double-voiced vocalist, is a pronounced success. A local comedy sketch is capitally introduced by Tom, Louie, and Clude. Jack Easy is a popular comedian, and A Child's Forgiveness, depicted on the Bioscope, is interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The Five Whiteleys top the bill with a clever acrobatic and wire-walking act which is well received; the Three Comerfords are smart acrobats and tumblers; Alix Luxos as a quick-change artist and mimic is capital; the Calcotts in a wayside episode, *Rags and Tatters*, in which they introduce instrumental duets, are decidedly good; the Sisters Condor, in banjo, song, and dance, do well; whilst Ruby Bijou is a graceful dancer. Bessie Benson in a sand dance is also successful.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Campbell Browne.—Mr. W. A. Cheetham's répertoire company is here this week in *Dan'l Druce, Admiral Guinea*, and *Caste*, and opened on Monday night with *Dan'l Druce*. Mr. Sydney Bland's impersonation of Dan'l Druce is impressive and finished; as Sir Jasper Combe Mr. Henry Earlesmere gives an able delineation of the part; Mr. E. Stuart Vinden as Geoffrey Wynyard is very good; as also is Mr. Donald Stuart as Reuben Haines. As Dorothy, Miss Mildred Hodson acts sweetly. *A Nicht wi' Burns* is given each night as a curtain-raiser, and is particularly well received. On Wednesday evening the performance was under the patronage of the local Burns Club.

PAVILION PALACE.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stoker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Miss Cora Roland, comedienne, is very pleasing in her singing and dancing; Ted and Artie, banjo monarchs, are well received; the Lannons, in their comedy turn, are clever; the pictures are excellent.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Business-Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—Hal and Lal, in their ventriloquial and musical turn, are excellent; Alfonzo is a very good foot equilibrist and tranka wonder; the pictures are entertaining.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*Married to the Wrong Man* is being performed here. Miss Mary Pemberton as Ruth sustains the rôle with a sweetness, a grace of manner, and a winning pathos, as well as a force, which touch the heights of tragic utterance; Mr. Henry Lonsdale enacts Jack Gladwin with a courageous and manly bearing and a dramatic force which command attention; Mr. Geo. Arthur's conception of Captain Deering is impressive; and the intelligence Mr. W. Pemberton brings to bear on the impersonation of Sergeant Manners is duly acknowledged. The rôle of Jasper Skinner is in the capable hands of Mr. Leonard Thackery; Miss Clara Milvain has in Rose O'Connor a character well suited to her. Successful interpretations are given of minor rôles in the drama by Misses Gladys Paget, Clara Santley, May Day, and Messrs. Johnstone, Slane, McMahon, Fielding, Bourne, O'Shea, Lynn Somerset, Wilding Aldridge, and Wood.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Atlas and Vulcana give performances here which excite the admiration and astonishment of the audience; the Sisters Atlas, strong girls, and the boy champion, Little Gus, also perform feats of strength in a graceful and expert manner; Kendrick and Laura, in harmony, humour, and eccentric dancing, also attract notice; the Brothers Curran, boxing comedians, do a good, enjoyable turn; Bob Lloyd, comedian, is successful in his endeavours to arouse a sense of the ludicrous in song and the nonsensical in patter; the Lowells challenge attention by a very clever speciality act; Villiers de Caston, African magician, is a really clever illusionist; and *The Red Man's Home* is a dramatic sketch, well produced by Mr. S. B. Sanders, American actor-vocalist. Jock Whiteford, "the smart Scot," fills the place of Blarney and Blandy, comedians.

THE NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. A. Sims.—Cinematograph picture entertainments still find favour here. The films supplied are from the best sources, including Pathé Frère's coloured photography, Gumont's American Vitagraph Co., &c.

THE PICTUREDROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—This cosy little theatre, well adapted for picture exhibitions, draws a full share of the public patronage. Very successful shows are given of animated photography, the subjects being well selected. The interlude artists for the week are Marjorie and Maud, dainty duettists and dancers.

THE ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Lessees, Ashton Entertainments Syndicate; Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marks.—This palace of varieties and pictures retains a hold on a section of the public which justifies the proprietors in securing the most up-to-date films and popular artists for interludes. Lily Dale sings "Daddy, don't go down the mine," illustrated song.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A diversified programme of pictures is being presented here this week, interspersed with pleasing variety turns.

PICTURE PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The leading picture in this week's admirable selection is Apache Red Indian's Gold, which is full of sensational incidents. Most pathetic is the series Mario's Swan Song; The Weekly Gazette is full of interest; and comedy is represented by Betty's Indiscretions and others. Mr. W. A. Guest's Scarlet Band accompanies the pictures admirably.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*Are You a Mason?* is here. Mr. Wm. Lockhart plays Amos Bloodgood, and Mr. Howard L. Tracy undertakes the part of Frank Perry. Mr. Archie Selwyn makes a capital George Fisher; Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell as Eva (Mrs. Perry) and Miss Agnes Maude as Mrs. Bloodgood acquit themselves creditably. The company also includes Messrs. E. J. Hinge, Andrew Buck, Stanley Arthur, Misses Holt, Dane, Yeoman, Townshend, L'Estrade, &c. During the last three nights of the week Mr. Brandon Thomas's company gave a capital performance of *Charley's Aunt*.

BACUP.—CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Glenville and Osmond.—The pictures shown here are all of fine quality, and full houses are the result. Laughter accompanies the running of Samaritan Courtship, Mrs. Jones's Lovers, Max Tries Ski-ing, and Henpeck's Good-bye. The dramatic side is well catered for, amongst the most successful being An Indian Girl's Romance, Queen of the Brigands, Ranch King's Daughter, and The Red Girl. Sam Ashworth renders several songs in a most praiseworthy style.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—We have here this week Mr. Fred Granville's company in *Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Carlos de Vergas is excellent; and Mr. Edward M. Heanley as Paul Bernstoff is very good. Miss Ruby Loncraine is all that can be desired as Lucia de Vergas; and as Inez de Castro Miss Hazel Head is worthy of mention.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. W. Johnson.—Harry Friskey, juggler, is very clever; Ethel Thomas, vocalist, has a nice voice, which she uses to advantage; Harry Morris, comedian, and Maude Kay are excellent; and excellent pictures fill the programme.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietary, Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—There is a capital programme here this week, headed by Harry Roxbury's company, including the old favourite Tubby Edlin, in *The Cowboy Millionaire*. Les Zeloves are neat and clever gymnasts; Arthur Croxon, comedian, is very pleasing, and receives the full extent of applause; other items include Bass and Guinness, comedians; the Rosses, dancers; Doc. Thomas, ventriloquist; Royston and Bradfield, in the "Bailiffe and Actress"; and the Bioscope, with a series of interesting pictures

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Mr. George Dance's company, under the direction of Miss Marie Beckenham, presented *Our Miss Gibbs* to crowded audiences on two nights. In the title-rôle Miss Norah Dwyer's acting was universally approved, and her vocal efforts were very pleasing. Miss Maud Nicholls as Mme. Jeanne enacted the vivacious modiste with charming effect; Miss Maud Andrews as the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar met with well-deserved approval; Miss Daisy Manning made a delightfully winsome Lady Betty; the Duchess was invested with the necessary dignity by Miss Ruby Wyndham; Timothy Gibbs was drolly played by Mr. Claude Carmeron, his unctuous humour keeping the audience in constant merriment; the criminal proclivities of the Hon. Hughie were given with excellent effect by Mr. Reginald Relsie, and his able tutor, Slithers, had a capital exponent in Mr. Wilfred Norman. Mr. Leslie Winter's vigorous portrayal of Lord Eynsford received well-merited applause. Mr. C. Arunel as Mr. Toplady and Mr. Arthur Collins-Rolfe as the Earl of St. Ives were successful in their respective parts.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is here. Opening with *Faust*, Mr. F. J. Hargrave in the title-rôle sang with much distinction, and Mr. Frank Clarke was a brilliant Valentine, acting impressively in the dying scene. Mr. William Anderson's fine voice was heard to advantage as Mephistopheles, and Miss Kitty Brownless made a charming Marguerite, Miss Beatrice Hill being an acceptable Martha. Other operas billed are *Il Trovatore, The Bohemian Girl, Lily of Killarney, Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana*.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Messrs. Silverstone and Wright's company in *The Nihilist* is here. Mr. George Mitchell gives a powerful rendering of Ivan Norosky, and Mr. Cowell Clark makes a capital Karl Orloff, Mr. O. Silverstone being admirable as Prince Alexander. Mr. C. Newton Buckland is excellent as Piertree. Miss Edna Clare is a distinguished Alexina Orloff, and Miss Annie Hylton is clever in a difficult part. Mr. H. Wright as Bobbie Smart and Mrs. O. Silverstone as Katrina Lindoff are humorous.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Musical Tritons are here this week and give an attractive musical turn: A. Marshall performs some extraordinary feats of strength; Victor and Vessey cause roars of laughter; Russell Brandon is very clever in his dancing; Tony Black is a droll Scotch comedian; Maudie Francis is a pleasing comedienne; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's British Empire Picture and Variety company are presenting a capital programme here this week.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—Mr. Marcus Draper's company in *The Christian* are playing to well-filled houses. Mr. Marcus Draper as John Storm acts with considerable power; Miss Gladys Purnel is seen to advantage as Glory Quayle; Mr. Benson North puts in good work as Robert Ure; Horatio Drake is ably sustained by Mr. W. Burgess Barrett; a great success is scored by Miss Maise Richardson as Polly Love; and other parts are admirably filled by Misses Rosa Burgess and Ina Rozart, and Messrs. Burton Yaldwin, Edward Ling, and Aylmer Williams.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—Topping a good bill is the Glenroy Troupe, expert dancers; Fields and Lewis are well appreciated in a clever comedy act; the Lashmars are smart acrobats; and the pictures are a popular feature.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—For the Horse Show week Messrs. Jay and Mann's company is appearing in the comedy *The Truants*. Miss Molly Tremaine grips the character of Freda Saville boldly; and in a very different style of acting Miss Elmie Kemp as the vivacious Pamela Gray is excellent. Mr. T. A. Shannon tackles the rôle of Bill Chetwood firmly and convincingly; his brother Dick is well impersonated by Mr. D. Powis Griffiths; and credit is due to Miss Tessie Parke for the admirable manner in which she enacts the child Jack. The remainder of the cast includes Miss Stewart Dawson as the maid Bent, Mr. Frank Danby (Lord Strelland), Mr. Mackenzie Rogan (Rev. Philip Preston), Miss Rita Trekelle (amusing as Mrs. Collins), and Miss Mildred Orme (Lady Darnaway). The duologue "Jerry and a Sunbeam," enacted by Miss Frances Titheradge and Mr. O. Powis Griffiths, makes a pleasing curtain-raiser.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth. — Mr. Phil Ray, the popular comedian, is a big favourite here this week; Mollie Doon, with her clear enunciation and dainty style, is well received in a couple of songs; the Bros. Victor execute with grace and humour some wonderful feats as equilibrists; Alice Craven, "a bit of Lancashire," has to oblige with three songs before being allowed to depart; a good musical brass instrument act is that of the Concoran Bros.; Roy Beavis conjures with the utmost sangfroid; and an exceedingly promising young lady juggler is Rene. The pictures include Gretna Green and A Lady's Train.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—In the Pavilion this week are the Whimsicals, in a truly bright and breezy entertainment.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Joe Collins and Howard Watson submit an entertaining musical comedy; Kate Gourlay dances and sings in good style; the Brothers Errard do some clever musical and acrobatic work; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville present a laughable turn *In Jack's Jacket*; the Sisters Hall sing some pretty songs; Ted Saunders gives clever impersonations of well-known singers; and the Boccaccio Minstrels, including Franci Boccaccio, the great mandolinist, are encored.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Edwardes' company opened here on Monday with *The Dollar Princess*. In the rôle of Alice, Miss Norah Barry was decidedly charming, her vocalism captivating all; and Mr. Leonard Mackay appeared as Freddy Fairfax, his fine voice being heard with pleasure in several numbers; Mr. W. H. Rawlins was amusing as Mr. Bulger, and there was not a dull moment when he occupied the stage; Mr. Leslie Stiles was cast for the rôle of Harry Q. Conder, which fitted him admirably; and praise must be accorded to Miss Madeline Seymour for her delightful impersonation of Olga, her singing and acting being excellent; Miss Mabel Russell, with an engaging stage presence, was a dainty Daisy; Mr. Paul Plunket was a capital Earl of Quorn; and Mr. Percy Davison was humorous as Sir James McGregor; Mr. Howard Cridland added to the enjoyment by his clever interpretation of Dick; and other rôles were efficiently sustained by Miss Mabel Hayden, Miss Roma June, and Messrs. E. J. Wood, Terence Kevin, and C. Barnes. The piece was beautifully staged, and the picturesque dresses were much admired. The fine chorus and augmented orchestra were under the skilful direction of Mr. Ernest Irving.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*Guilty Gold* has been presented here by Mr. Horace Stanley and company. Mr. Ernest J. Fare furnished a skilful impersonation of Martin Haldane; and a powerful interpretation of Ralph Bartlett was furnished by Mr. Charles Burdon; Miss Violet Agnew was charming as Hetty Hampton; and the rôle of John Hampton was in the safe hands of Mr. T. B. Brabazon; Mr. Arthur Francis supplied a humorous impersonation of Charlie Wragg; and he was ably assisted by Miss Ida Fane as Euphemia Wragg; Miss Bernice Fielding was good as Rhoda Hampton; Mr. Edwin Clarke's impersonation of Frank Seymour reflects much credit on him; and Miss Kate Kilpack was an excellent Selina Naggett. Other rôles were adequately presented by Messrs. George Barker, Fred Stephens, G. Jacques, Stanley Alderson, H. Loates, E. Griffiths, F. Stephens, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading position here is held by Alan Holt and company, who produce their dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*. Miss Hilda Jacobsen, a charming comedienne, sings some songs with great acceptance; and a welcome return visit is being paid by the Leslie Brothers, whose musical act is an acquisition to the programme; d'Arc's marionettes introduce vaudeville stars, this being one of the finest acts imaginable; Beattie and Babs, smart juveniles, are paying a welcome return visit; and also on the programme are the Seven Wulfrunas, in their acrobatic speciality; Elton and Elma, in their triple bar act; Francis and Alfred, jesting jugglers; Mr. Richard Finberg, popular actor; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The Carmos top the bill here, and their novelty juggling act has been enthusiastically received. The Anartos, the musical swell and talkative postman, provide a most pleasing and acceptable act; Miss Peggy Pryde is a capital comedienne, with good songs; and Burley and Burley, acrobatic comiques, prove a smart duo; Mr. Fred Hallam, comedian, has an enviable reception; and Chas. Chard, an old favourite here, also does well; Little Keeno is a smart comedian. The bill is completed by the bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some attractive pictures have been exhibited here, including The Lost Trail, Billy's Bulldog, The Sheriff's Sacrifice, &c. The vaudeville element is sustained by Capt. Devereux's amazingly clever dogs and Mr. George Arnott (comedian).

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Under the direction of the popular manager a capital series of pictures has been presented here, including scenes and notabilities at Bangor on aviation day, 27th ult.; 'Way Out West, The Impalement. Mr. Will Leslie, Scotch comedian, appears at each performance with much favour.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—A fine programme of pictures has been presented here, including 'Mid the Cannon's Roar, The Range Riders, &c. Messrs. Fred and Rose appear to great advantage in their screaming absurdity entitled *Buttons*.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—This week we have the Mysterious Irving; Tom Garland, mimic and ventriloquist; Elmore and Evans, comedy couple; Bert Anderson, a smart conjurer; and Amy Lloyd, refined comedienne. The pictures shown are excellent.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr G. Carlton Wallace's company is here with *The Village Blacksmith*, a piece with a favourable reputation in this town. Mr. Sam Livesey repeats a powerful rendering of the blacksmith, and is adequately supported by Miss Maggie Edmonds as the wife. Mr. Joseph Carter enacts the uphill character of Captain Leo with dramatic intensity, and the remaining parts are without exception in able hands. The piece is capitally staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Miss Victoria Monks is again a centre of attraction; the well-known and popular droll Cruikshank is scoring heavily; and the Eight Lancashire Lads, a clever combination of vocalists and dancers, are a pronounced success. Ross and Grayson, an admirable comedy couple, are a leading turn; and Baby Boden, a promising and talented juvenile artist. Miss Ada Fawn, a clever comedienne, L. W. Harris, a good light comedian, and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete an excellent combination.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company, in the interesting play *The Coal King*, furnishes an attractive entertainment. Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse scores heavily as Tom Roberts; Mr. A. W. Norman is a fair exponent of the title-rôle; and Mr. Sidney Kearns is a capable Walter Hartford. Miss Winifred Love acquits herself admirably as Grace Shirley, and Mr. Frank Dalton is a good Dick Shirley. The production is carefully staged.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Manager, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—A liberal programme is sustained by Mr. Wilfrid Burnand, mimic; Mr. Laurie Leyton, ventriloquist; Miss Jeannie Jeune, an accomplished vocalist; the Four Minims, in a musical act; Val Brodo, tenor vocalist; Mr. Barney Stuart, variety artist; and Miss Flora Driver, pianist.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Much interest attaches to the visit here this week of Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company. The operas have been splendidly patronised, and the performers have given every satisfaction. The selection of operas was well chosen, and the chorus and orchestra on each occasion were at their best. The week's programme reads: Monday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*; Tuesday, *Rigoletto*; Wednesday, *La Traviata*; Thursday matinée, *Il Barbiere de Siviglia*; Thursday evening, *Il Trovatore*; Friday, *Faust*; and Saturday, *Carmen*.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* has been revived here this week by Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's company. The piece is splendidly mounted, and the leaders are admirably assisted by a strong chorus. Mr. Cyril Thompson is excellent as the Marquis de Corneville, and renders his individual number most effectively; Gaspard is ably represented by Mr. E. St. Albans; Miss Kitty Dale distinguishes herself in the rôle of Germaine; Miss Dolly Castles makes a sprightly and fascinating Serpolette; Mr. Fred. Dark creates genuine laughter as the whimsical Bailie; Mr. Arthur Gewing is clever as Grenricheaux; and Mr. Alfred Selby scores as Gobo.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*The Girl Who Went Astray* is scoring a big success during this week. Miss Dora Brookes sustains the character, Madge Harvey, with conspicuous success, and is ably partnered by Mr. Austin Mortimer, who takes the character of Rupert Murdock. Miss Ada Oakley realistically portrays the part of Violet Harvey, and as Captain Frank Julian Mr. Richard Ferris is a great favourite.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here with *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Mr. James Stillwell gives a fine portrayal as Prince Loris, and Mr. W. R. Winning is a dashing figure as General Platy; as Prince Menski Mr. Walter T. Clifford is conspicuous, and he is ably assisted by Miss Adeline Raby in the part of the Countess Melvitch; Miss Violet Carlyle is applauded for clever acting as Zora, the spy, and the other characters are well played.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Arthur Shirley's stirring drama *The Stepmother* is here, the production being in hands of Miss Nannie Goldman's No. 1 company. Miss Patricia Bostock in the title-rôle fills a difficult part with distinction; Mr. William Holles is a bright personality as Bob Bristow; and as Danny Miss Nannie Goldman gives a very telling interpretation. Mr. Henry C. Ward gives a good portrayal as Abraham Wiggins; and humorous parts are well played by Miss Edith Bruce (Johanna Jones) and Mr. Teddy Myles (Timothy Yapp).

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—*The Still Alarm* is here, staged by Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company; and Mr. Glenville in the character of Jack Manley adds to his many triumphs. Miss Minnie Willett is well qualified for the part of Elinor Fordham; and Miss Lydia Andre makes a vivacious Carrie Wilber. As John Bird Mr. Wilton Reed proves himself a realistic actor; and Miss Mabel Veriton is popular as Mrs. Manley. Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, Mr. Edward Hobart, and Mr. Gerald Shirley are also very successful.

CARLTON THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Life of a Showman* is proving an effective draw this week. The Testo-Sante company, which comprises a large number of versatile artists, is responsible for a capital production. Mr. Frank Sante as Brien Leader, the circus proprietor, fully realises the responsibilities of his part, and is a big favourite; the Brothers Testo are eccentrics of a high order; Mr. J. R. C. Hamilton and Miss D. Price undertake the heavy characters with distinct success; and Miss E. Bamford makes a winsome heroine.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Crowded audiences are paying tribute to an exceptionally strong programme. Laughter reigns during the performance of Fred Karno's *Skating* sketch; Barrett and Knowles are prime pantomime favourites here, and enjoy a flattering reception; a strong feature of the bill is the versatile dancing act of My Fancy; Cull-Pitt mystifies with his conjuring tricks; Sammy Shields is in great form, and his work is very popular; Lupino Lane is a smart youth, with quaint songs and bewildering antics; the Bob Pender troupe are responsible for an amusing item, entitled *The Long and Short of It*; Reid and Power are up-to-date entertainers; and Evelyn Stoll is a bright and stylish comedienne.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Happy Fanny Fields is as merry as ever, and she delights large audiences with her singing, patter, and dancing; roars of laughter greet the sketch, *Non-suited*, presented by Miss Jackedaura Melford and company; wonderful feats of strength and agility are performed by the Hadj-Mohammed troupe of Arab acrobats; Walter King is in happy mood; Ruth Davenport possesses a fine voice, and is applauded for her songs; Staley's company are responsible for a bright and versatile musical act; Brothers Dean are clever dancers; and Maud Vera is a pretty and vivacious vocalist and dancer.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*The Man with the Forty Faces* is becoming quite a well-known music-hall character. This week Mr. Leonard Mortimer's No. 1 company is presenting a thrilling detective story in tabloid form, and the production is thoroughly enjoyed. The Norman Leonard trio appear successfully in a bright musical scena, "The Squire's Dance"; the Ten San Tan Girls are pleasing vocalists and dancers; and the Alberto troupe of lady equilibrists are conspicuous in feats, demanding strength and skill; the beautiful Zaida performs cleverly on the slack wire; Pongorila figures in a novel production, *The Man of the Woods*; Will Harmony is a successful mimic; and Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians, and Jenny Wood, comedienne and dancer, also contribute.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasfords', Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Seven Bramusas, a troupe of talented juvenile musicians, take the premier place here, and their performance is a much appreciated one; Gus Harris is a welcome visitor in his latest success, *Palestine*; Robins and Collier's comedy company is a genuine mirth-provoker; Captain Spaulding, who appears in the place of Wild Willie and West, gives a sensational "fire-eating" performance; and the Five Joveys, who are deputising for Ethel Loftus, are smart acrobats; Burns and Bentley are popular singers and dancers; Maud Lordy's dogs have been cleverly trained; and the Three Dixons are entertaining vocalists, banjoists, and dancers; other good turns are Robb Gilmore, eccentric comedian; Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians; and Jenny Wood.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Miss Harriett Vernon is a warm favourite with patrons of this house, and in a new and romantic scena is scoring further successes here. She also delights us with a few of her popular songs. The Child Trio of juvenile musicians are in the front rank of music-hall entertainers. They contribute fine solos on the violin, violoncello, and pianoforte, and the boy fairly brings down the house in conducting the orchestra. James Hare and company appear in a laughable sketch; the Four Ascots are talented wooden-shoe dancers; and the Quality Quartette render enjoyable part songs. Other good turns are provided by Leslie Race, Queenie May, and Len Teel.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—An interesting and instructive entertainment is provided in the pictures exhibited this week. A popular new feature is the representation in colours of the historical play *The Tyrant of Jerusalem*. A thrilling pictorial drama is entitled Love's Stratagem; and the travel series, which this week represents a tour through the fjords of Norway, is also well received. Pathé's Animated Gazette illustrates interesting happenings in various places; and Miss Olga Leipold contributes popular character songs.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—New items on the programme for this week bring the entertainment quite up to date. The principal films shown are entitled The Wild Man of Borneo, Mario's Swan Song, The New Boss of the Ranch, and The Officer's Double. Wee Babs Sinclair and Kingsley contribute good variety turns.

QUEEN'S HALL. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—The Bioscope exhibits many excellent pictures of a new type here this week, including very clever dramatic and comedy subjects.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and Jas. Ussher's company is here in *The Black Mask*. Mr. Edward R. Ashby, F. Marriott Watson, Willis Elton, and Elton Morgan, in their respective rôles of Walter Blackmore, Henri le Noir, Philip Cunninghame, and Jem Rudge, present same very satisfactorily; and Miss Florence E. Florence is a very winning Nellie Cunninghame; and the rôle of Philip le Noir is capably handled by Little Dot Forde.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The H

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Gerald Spencer.—Carl Hertz is paying another visit, with his mystifying performance, assisted by Miss Emeline D'Alton; he is heartily cheered. The Five Vernons entertain the audience with selections on the xylophone and are much appreciated; Doris and Francis are a pair of clever comediennes and dancers; Smarte Brothers give a skilful and amusing acrobatic turn; Dave Carter, the Irish tenor, receives an ovation; the Sivronis have a laughable sketch *In Psyche*; Chas. Grantley, comedian, keeps the house in roars of laughter with his funny stories; and the Hippo. pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—*Dame Nature* opened here on Monday night to a crowded house. The company, as a whole, is an admirable one, the fine acting of Miss Ethel Irving as Lolette coming in for special recognition. She is ably supported by Mr. Frank Cooper, who gives a sincere and skilful interpretation of Bertram; Mr. Norman Forbes gives a finished portrayal of the Prince; Miss Mabel Hunt is prominent as the Princess; Mr. Chas. Vane as Jas. Ridgeway, Mr. W. R. Staveley as Paul Garford, and Miss Florence Nelson as his wife, Mr. Alfred Drayton as Henry Greville and the other artists are all equally good in their respective parts.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson. — Mr. Cyril Maude's fine company is here in *Sir Walter Raleigh*. Miss Winifred Emery, who presented a striking figure as the imperious Queen Elizabeth, acted with great power and won repeated outbursts of applause; Mr. Lyn Harding in the title-rôle shared in the honours for a very convincing and clever performance; Miss Nell Carter gave a natural and charming performance of Elizabeth Frogmorton; Mr. Percy Rhodes as the arch-conspirator Don Bernardino de Mendoza was very effective; and excellent work was done by Mr. Percy Marmont as the Earl of Essex, Mr. Mark Paton as Father Ballard, Mr. W. E. Holloway as John Savage, Mr. Charles Francis as Francis Frogmorton, and Mr. Powis Pinder as James Longbowe.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Master of the Mill* is well received here this week. Mr. Algernon Syms as the mill master submits an able performance, and as Nancy, the mill lass, Miss Enid Edoni is dainty and attractive; Tom Bolton, her lover, is a manly impersonation by Mr. Paul Beckett; Julian Croft is effectively played by Mr Ernest E. Ineson; and Miss Valerie Russell appears to advantage as the heiress.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Considerable interest is manifested here this week in Mr. Raymond Phillips' wireless-controlled airship, which the clever inventor manœuvres in the auditorium amidst great applause; Ernest Shand's comic character sketches and humorous songs are a source of genuine amusement and hearty laughter; Duncan's wonderfully-trained Scotch collies are put through a performance which elicits great enthusiasm; the Harmonious Gothams are here again—grotesque as ever; with songs at the piano Nina Wood is bright and charming; the Musical McGregors give a clever performance with xylophones, concertinas, and cornets; in immaculate male attire and with considerable abandon and energy Winifred Ward wins applause with her songs; Mary Ambrose, an accomplished violinist, accompanies herself in her rendering of excellent songs; Johnny Walker's songs are funny; and some amusing pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Very attractive is the performance on musical instruments presented by the Musical Marvels here, and their vocalism is good; "Compensation," an amusing sketch by Richard Flanagan, is humorous and laughter-provoking to a degree; in *Wanted, a Partner*, Gibbon and Bell are versatile and entertaining; Jack Hamilton, with good comic songs and stories and capital instrumentalism and step-dancing, displays versatility; Little Doris Druce impersonates some popular celebrities cleverly; as a whistler Guy Ryder is clever; Zellini's comic juggling is diverting and smart; the Four Figaros in *Ten Minutes on the Continent* present some capital character vocalism and dancing; and the Perfection pictures are interesting.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company opened here on Monday with that successful play *The Walls of Jericho*, which was very finely staged and played. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards's admirable acting in the part of Jack Frobisher being the great feature in a fine all-round performance. The Lady Alethea of Miss Gwendoline Hay was also a carefully studied portrayal, and was played by this clever artist with full effect. Mr. Russell Barry was an excellent Hanky Bannister; the Lady Westerby of Miss Eileen Orby was very fine; Miss Florence Steventon was a capital Tiny; and Miss Macdonald was a praiseworthy Lady Lucy. For the second half of the week we have Mr. Seymour Hicks's company in *The Gay Gordons*.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The feature of the week here is the appearance of Mr. George Robey in the Grand Pavilion, where the "Smart Set" entertainers are still drawing large audiences. Mr. Walter George and his campany giving some capital programmes. Mr. Norfolk Megone and his fine orchestra are still a great attraction in the Floral Pavilion, and the vocalist this week, Miss May Sheridan, is heartily encored for her finely rendered soprano songs.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company is here with *Through the Divorce Court*. As Lord Robert Penarth Mr. Riddell Robinson gives an admirable portrayal; Miss Hettie Chattell submits a highly-effective impersonation of Lady Penarth; Mr. Henry C. Cooper cleverly enacts the scheming Guzman di Mendoza; Mr. John Campling's Leon di Valdiz is ably played; little Constance Dagmar makes a pleasing Sybil; Mr. Jack Denton as the Hon. Algy Fitzmaurice and Miss Nellie Sheffield as Dinah are a very amusing pair; and capable support is rendered by Mr. Harry Colbeck (Patsy), Miss Edith Cruikshanks (Lady Hilda), and Miss Lizzie Scobie (Miss Dobbins). The play is attracting crowded houses.

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Mr. R. E. Bewicke's company is delightfully entertaining in *Our Circus*; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning appear with great success in the comedy duologue *Our Wedding Anniversary*; Les Romanis give an excellent speciality musical turn; Ellis and Campbell are capital comedians; Renee de Vaux is a chic comedienne; La Petite Rosa appears in a graceful wire and globe walking act; Tom Hayes is an admirable comedian; George and Milo are good equilibrists; the Little Vestas are juvenile vocalists and dancers; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Clarice Mayne submits clever imitations of well-known comedy artists and sings admirably; the Six Cliftons are skilful comedy pantomimical acrobats; Syd Walker is a pleasing comedian; Cummin and Seaham are acrobatic eccentrics; Signor and Mme. Borelli provide a capital comedy entertainment; the Permane Brothers are warmly applauded for their comedy act; Josh Dixon is a diverting comedian; the Okedians submit a miniature musical comedy; Harry Zetter is a good comedian; Queen and Le Brun and company are effective in *The Cockney Sportsman*; and Curwen and Bell are burlesque artists.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with *The Geisha*. Miss Aimee Grey was a captivating O Mimosa San; Miss Adela Crispin made a delightful Molly; Mr. Edmund Sherras acquitted himself admirably as Reginald Fairfax; Mr. Herbert Uzielli made a stately Captain Katana; Mr. Edward Carlton afforded much fun as Wun Hi; Miss Renee Reel's Juliette was excellent; and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained. The programme for the week also included *A Greek Slave*. The choruses were well sung, and the duties of conductor were in the experienced hands of Mr. Ernest Hartmann.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred H. Kent.—Mr. James Welch's company is here with *When Knights were Bold*. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce gives a clever impersonation of Sir Guy de Vere; Miss Isla Glyn is thoroughly artistic as Lady Ravens Eggriton; Mr. Charles F. Lloyd's Isaacson is well played; Mr. Percy R. Goodyer's Hon. Charles Widdicombe and Mr. Humphrey Warden's Sir Brian Ballymote are good enactments; Miss Violet Noel is suited as Sarah Isaacson; and Miss Lena Flowerdew's Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave merits praise.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—An excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited here. The Closed Door conveys a highly-ramatic story, and A Victim of Jealousy is replete with stirring incidents. Picturesque Venice is a capital travel picture; Ada of Vernon is a charming love drama; and much amusement is afforded by a Quiet Boarding-house, Mugwump's Bank Notes, and Soap Bubbles of Truth.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Consens.—Crowded houses are the rule here, the animated pictures, changed each Monday and Thursday, being excellent. Burly Bill and Plucky Little Girl are intensely dramatic; Never Judge by Appearances and Without her Father's Consent are pleasing comedies; great fun is afforded by That Typist Again and Rejuvenating Father; and Sisal Industry is instructive.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*The Dawn of a To-morrow* is being played here by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company. Miss Marie Polini presents an admirable study of Glad; Mr. Frederick Victor is impressive as Sir Oliver Holt; Mr. Charles King acts effectively as Mr. Oliver Holt; Mr. Charles E. Dering does well as Sir Bowling Burford; Mr. William Kershaw presents an earnest study of Dandy; and all the remaining parts are carefully taken.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Fred Melville's company is here with *Her Road to Ruin*. Miss Doris Gilham and Mr. Charles Dickens act admirably their respective parts of Jess Willoughby and the Rev. Frank Temple; Mr. Knox Orde is effective as Philip Hardy; Miss Gertrude Tate does well as May Willoughby; Mr. Dane Clarke makes a dignified Bishop; and other parts are well played, notably Mary Dawson, by Miss Margaret McClellan; Tom Wells, by Mr. Albert Grenville; Charles Cholmondeley, by Mr. R. Leigh Ellis; Billy Boots, by Mr. C. H. Brooke; and Jenny Crackling, by Miss Grace Emery.

PALACE.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Señor Angel Blanco obtains much applause for his violin solos, introduced in an interesting dramatic playlet, entitled *Music the Conqueror*, well played and nicely staged; Larola does a smart turn, embracing some fine balancing, comic business, &c.; McLallen and Carson do a clever skating act and excel as novelty dancers, their turn being entitled "Babes in Toyland"; Little Ganty is an amusing comedian; Gladys Mavius is successful both in song and dance; Madge May is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; the Sages, vaudeville artists, are appreciated; Hicks and Hunter are smart dancers; and Rose Cabani scores with a pretty song and dance. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Assistant- and Advertising-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire. — Lil Hawthorne heads the programme with an admirable turn, all her songs being warmly appreciated; Arnold Bell and company, including Miss Frances Campbell, are successful with their dramatic episode entitled *The Summing Up*; Louis Wain's cat studies are very entertaining, the cats being cleverly trained; Dolly England, juvenile male impersonator, has a good voice, and is decidedly clever; Batt and Lynn score with their dancing speciality, "Boots and Shoes"; Flo Cecil, comedienne, is pleasing; Ike and Will Scott are successful with their new patter and dancing act; and Harry Wenburn, comedian, obtains appreciation. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

COLSTON HALL. — Ralph Pringle's animated pictures are proving successful here. The films are all remarkably clear, and include every variety of subject. There are a smart vaudeville company and a good band.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood. — This theatre was reopened on Monday, when a full house welcomed the performance of Herbert Skardon's adaptation of *The Three Musketeers*. Mr. Montague Beaudyn made an excellent D'Artagnan; and Gabrielle was charmingly presented by Miss Irene Munro. Miladi was a fine piece of work by Miss Muriel Inglis; the Cardinal Richelieu and his spy Rochefort were careful studies by Mr. Charles D. Pitt and Mr. Val Gully; Mr. Frank Dacre (Villiers), Mr. Dick Melvyn (Athos), Mr. Edward Benson (Porthos), Mr. George Overe (Aramis), Mr. A. A. Tomlin (Planchet), Miss Cora Patey (Queen), Miss Phyllis Rae (Julie), and Mr. Henry Woodford (Louis XIII.) also did good work.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane's company is here with *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*. Miss Mabel Coleman as Lillie presents a sympathetic and pleasing study and Miss Florence Zillwood is highly successful as Constance; Mr. Robert Gilbert makes a fine John Edmunds; and Mr. Caspar Middleton is convincing as Jonas Dean.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Joe and Jenny head the bill here with delightful numbers; Reno performs difficult cycling feats; and Sid Bedford and company excite merriment with a well-played comedy, *The Second Mrs. Chester*. Bertha Stuart pleases the audience with beautiful contralto songs, and excellent knockabout work is indulged in by the Bros. Becketon. The Sisters Cora are attractive with duets, and a ventriloquial act of a novel type is presented by Perrier. The Rock Climbers is shown by the Empire Theatrescope.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—An interesting playlet, *The Key*, is causing interest here, and is capitally presented by Miss Jessie Danvers and company. Mr. Fred Lindsay demonstrates his remarkable powers in the use of a whip, and the De Breans are a versatile couple introducing smart juggling and shadowgraphy. Little Sophie is a young comedienne with delightful mannerisms, whilst Miss Kirk and Miss Saraski give a pretty swimming display in a tank. The Hulls are an original pair of comedians with good voices, and Edgar Forrest and company in *My Friend the Enemy* provoke hearty laughter. Susan's Revenge is a funny film by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company, with *The Merry Widow*, is here this week. With her charming voice, graceful dancing, and bright personality Miss Phyllys le Grand is an ideal Sonia; Miss Ada Thomas sings and acts well as the dutiful wife; Mr. J. Warren Foster's Prince Danilo is a clever impersonation; the quaint humour of Mr. Edward d'Arcy as Baron Popoff convulses the audience; the numbers allotted to Vicomte de Jolidon are capitally given by Mr. Ripley Evans; Mr. Fred Fowler (Nisch) is a good comedian, and his dance with Frou-Frou (Miss Katie May) is an appreciated feature of the performance.

BURY (Lancs.). — ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr Otto G. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company opened here on Monday in *The Silver King*, and the support accorded is another proof of the wonderful popularity of this drama. All the parts are cleverly played, and Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is to be specially complimented upon his performance as Wilfred Denver; Mr. Edward J. George still plays the faithful Jaikes in his inimitable style; the villainies of the "Spider" are sufficiently marked by Mr. L. St. George Lowther; Mr. Ralph Leon is a capital Henry Corket; and Mr. Arthur Wright gives his usual clever study of Elijah Coombe. Miss Hilda Bateman shows distinct promise as Cissy, and the Nellie Denver of Miss Mildred Surrey is a finished performance. Other parts are in the capital hands of Mr. W. Leslie Ellis as Geoffrey Ware, Messrs. Bingham and Hatchway as Binks and Bronson respectively; Miss Evelyn Grey as Olive Skinner and Miss Aime Serjeant as Tabitha Durdan.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Another excellent series of pictures is on view, and variety turns are given by Jack Martin, vocalist, and the Sisters Drayeott, duettists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Jan Rudenyi, the actor violinist, occupies chief place in the bill, and presents his musical episode *The Power of Music*, supported by Mr. Drew Mackintosh and Miss Hilda Stewart. Jessie Wilton is a pleasing comedienne; some good songs are well rendered by Phil Herman, vocal comedian; Lawson and O'Dell are capital vocalists and dancers; the Rangers appear in a trick comedy cycling act; Harry Hutin is a clever legmania comedian; and Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters in comedy quartettes are thoroughly enjoyable.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Company, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. Harry P. Towers' company in *Dear Little Denmark*, occupied the above theatre for the first three nights this week. Mr. Edward Thirlby was successful as the Duke, and Mr. Cameron Carr made an excellent Conrad Petersen, Mr. George W. Ruff being commendable as Jonas Jensen; Mr. Tom Payne was responsible for most of the laughter, and Mr. Frank Lewis ably appeared as the Burgomaster; Miss Winifred Volt was fascinating as the servant girl Ophelia, and Miss Nancy Hambly successful as 'Xandra. In the principal part Miss Alice Waldie sang particularly well, and a ballet of dancers added greatly to the effect. *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* completes the week.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—Prominent amongst the turns in this week's programme should be mentioned Miss Lydia Neilson and her troupe of Six Youngsters, in song duets and cleverly-executed dances. Of the pictures shown, those attracting major attention were Billy's Bulldog and Tracking Moonshiners in the Porcupine Mountains.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A new experiment is being tried here this week. Mr. Arthur Hardy's company appearing in five playlets nightly. The first is a drama by Mrs. Herbert D. Cohen, entitled *The Chain*, which is followed by Anstey's amusing farce, *A Short Exposure*. Conan Doyle's *A Pot of Caviare* and *A Question of Diplomacy* come next, and *The Royal Flower* completes the bill. The two artists of prominence are Mrs. Russ Whytal and Mr. T. Percival Stevens, whose remarkable versatility and skill displayed in the various leading parts are enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Frederick Moyes, Mr. Harry Ashford, Mr. J. Plumpton Wilson, and Mr. Geoffrey Douglas also have important parts; and Miss Elly Malyon and Miss Dorothea Desmond are well to the fore with accomplished impersonations. The new venture seems to have achieved success in this city, and nothing but praise and satisfaction has been expressed on all sides.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Bella and Bijou, society entertainers, continue to make a hit with their screamingly funny and well-acted Suffragette skit; Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson have an artistic musical item, in which flute manipulation and sweet singing figure agreeably; Verno and Voyce's new vocal scena, "John Bull's Cash-Box," catches on tremendously; Cissie Curlette, comedienne, makes a favourable impression; Ben Albert is a clever comedian; Woodhouse and Wells' wholesome patter cause laughter; Conn and Conrad, in an up-to-date aviation number, are both skilful and humorous; and Wee Mona Vivian is a pleasing comedienne and clever dancer. The Marconis, electric wonders, and the Bioscope, add to the evening's enjoyment.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—A return visit is made by Friend and Downing, American comedians, who are as funny and entertaining as ever; Warden Reed and Jennie Stevens evoke abundant applause and laughter in their comedy sketch, *Married or Photographed*; Bardoff, the Russian strong boy, gives a marvellous exhibition of weight-lifting; and Jeff Martin, "the sport of a hundred years," organises a boxing bout between clever exponents of the noble art. Other very acceptable numbers are:—The Sisters Williams, in a song scena, "The Flower Girl"; Dene and Dixon, a clever comedy duo; Nellie Neil and Vesta Nixon, both pleasing comediennes and able dancers; Daisy Hurdle, taking comedienne; and the Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—T. Elder Hearn is scoring a huge success here this week with a protean sketch, entitled *The Romance of a Studio*, in which he impersonates no fewer than seven different characters. He is also very amusing as the lazy juggler. A dramatic sketch, entitled *The Rat*, is cleverly played by Gaston Chevallier's company, including Mlle. Etoil de Noir, and introducing the sensational new dance "Des Voyans"; the Three Sisters Sprightly cause roars of laughter with their clever skit on golf; Wallace Galvin does some very wonderful palming; Florrie Lewis is a comedienne of the quaint type and is appreciated; May Lillian Levey does admirably. Others who do well are Lady Gordon Stewart, reciter; Gwendoline Coates, violinist; and Wilson Blackledge, humorist.

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—L'Incognita is once again delighting us with her beautiful vocalism; Tom Taylor and company, in *The Plumbers* are very amusing; Karr and Kooney, cross-talkers and comedians, score a success; the Dick and Dorothy Trio submit a dancing act, for which they are loudly acclaimed; George Edmunds, at the piano, mimics some of our popular artists cleverly; Morrissey, balancer and instrumentalist, meet with approbation; and Marie and Nellie are a pair of dainty and graceful vocalists and dancers.

THE PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—The above hall, after being closed for a couple of weeks, was re-opened on Monday night. During the vacation it has been somewhat remodelled refurnished, and redecorated throughout. The front of the building is an elaborate piece of work in fibrous plaster. The balcony is now the best part of the house, having been fitted with new plush tip-up chairs, and the floor beautifully carpeted. The decorations are mostly in green and white. A large company assembled for the re-opening, including the Mayor and Mayoress, and the regular patrons of the entertainment expressed their warm appreciation of the improvements that had taken place. The programme submitted was quite up to that standard of excellence that has been maintained since the opening of the hall. Variety is introduced by the cinephone, and Mr. Fred Leslie, a capital vocalist, in illustrated songs.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is on a return visit with *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Prince Olaf finds a vigorous and manly exponent in Mr. Ernest Cox; Princess Monica is played with much feeling by Miss Mariam Pritchett; Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke portrays the consummate villainy of Prince Hildred realistically; Prince Michael is interpreted with excellent judgment and taste by Mr. Lionel Gadsden; Camolia is made a pathetic figure by Miss F. Hale-Daviss; Mr. Chas. V. Sandford throws a delightful amount of humour into his delineation of Lieut. Karl, and he is ably supported by Miss Jessica Black as the vivacious and mischievous Viola; as Captain Hector Mr. J. D. Daviss gives a pleasantly easy assumption; Mr. Adam Alexander is good as the Bishop; and Messrs. Hugh Selwyn, J. Chamberlain, and Arnold Cameron are capital in their respective parts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, the Castleford Queen's Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will. H. Emerson.—A series of amusing dramatic and pathetic animated pictures, by the Loyal Dominion Co., is drawing large audiences. Miss Gracie O'Neil, a clever dancer, with an excellent voice, is vigorously applauded; the Sisters Dudley are heard to advantage in operatic duets; and Dunn and Reano are proficient gymnasts.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Host Barnard has a long and strong bill, including Cooper and Preston, comedians and dancers; Ella Blair and her American Bowery Boys and Girls in a praiseworthy vocal and dancing scena; Stan and Stella Atkins in an entertaining comedy act; Rose Gower, a vocalist, whose choruses are readily taken up; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard in a farcical sketch, *True Blue*; the Winskills, a trio of smart gymnasts; Pender's Little Dandies in a spirited and well-arranged dancing scena; and Coverdale, a comedian who keeps his auditors in a continual roar of laughter.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. B. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Here we have Marie Stroud, comedienne; the Brothers Neill in a popular vocal act entitled *The Rivals*; Hilda Mascot a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Will Van Allen, the tramp musical comedian, who has a big reception; Minora, who has many admirers in her drawing-room act, *The Stavey's Rehearsal*, in which she introduces a well-trained dog, Jack; the Flying Harlons, who give with great success a neat and daring gymnastic act; and Herbert Rule, whose "I saw Esau" fairly "brings down the house."

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company opened here on Monday with *The Arcadians*. Mr. Gus Oxley was a big success in the double rôle of Smith and Simplicitas, his quaint antics provoking roars of laughter; Miss Marion Edwardes as the graceful Sombra was delightful, her fine voice being heard to great advantage; Mr. George Hestor as Peter Doody, the jockey, gave an amusing interpretation; Miss Madge Haines in the rôle of Mrs. Smith was very funny; and the Jack Meadows of Mr. Nelson Hancock was excellent; Miss Mysie Devine made a fascinating Eileen Cavanagh.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS.—The Mercury Animated Picture Co. present a good programme here this week of which the most enjoyable pictures are The Historic Medway, Napoleon: The Man of Destiny, and Lost in the Snow. Miss E. Grant, a clever little dancer; Mr. Kerry Feverel, a monologue artist; Miss Sheila, an Irish singer; and Fono, the human gramaphone and mimic, give acceptable turns.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Coast Development Corporation, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. Will C. Pepper.—The White Coons continue, by their refined entertainments, to draw good houses; Mr. Allan Thomas is encored for his song with banjo, "Your Alpine dress"; Mr. Wilfred Stacey is exceedingly funny in his humorous song, "The cricket man"; Miss Bessie Bowness charmingly renders "Soldier, take my heart," and is recalled; Mr. Bromley Carter is inimitable in his droll item, "Business Guide." Miss May Windsor's humorous song at the piano, "William, James, and 'Enery," is enthusiastically received; and Joe Morley renders some cleverly executed banjo items. The concerted items by the company are pleasing features of the entertainment.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. R. D. Hooper; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Butt.—The following strong bill is being presented here to crowded audiences. Wild, Willie and West, in their comedy acrobatic act; Cissie Thompson, comedienne; Sisters Gladwell, duettists and dancers; Ethel Loftus, comedienne; Cyrus Dare, imitator; Luis Hardt, in scena entitled *In Days of Old*; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

CLYDEBANK. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—This establishment reopened for the season this week. The bill includes Winona, champion rifle shot, assisted by Professor King; the Godfreys, in a splendid musical comedy act; the Bros. Ferguson, song and dance artists; Loveland, a clever female impersonator; and an excellent series of pictures on the Bioscope.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Stanley Cooke and London company opened a half-week engagement on Monday night with *The Man from Mexico*. As the Man Mr. Stanley Cooke was always in evidence, and there was a rich vein of humour running through his portrayal; Mr. Geo. Giddens was very amusing as the one "who fixed it"; Mr. Cecil A. Collins as the detective with the hat made a quaint figure; Miss Ola Humphrey was admirably suited to the part of Clementina; and Miss Jean Harkness was pretty as Sally. The farce was preceded by the little Dutch playlet *The Living Image*, in which Miss Amy Francis and Messrs. Wyn Weaver and Chris. Walker excelled.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Colchester Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King.—The inauguration of the new management was attended with every success. A capital bill is provided for the opening week, with Miss Adrienne Augarde, assisted by Mr. Victor Huntley, in *Dick's Sister* as the top line—a most efficient one. Arthur Ferriss, character comedian, scored heavily with both his songs; the Adams, cyclists, excelled in their attractive show; Ruhart, versatile burlesque artist, amused the house immensely; Walter Barrett, the Lancashire baritone, has a pleasing voice, and was greatly applauded; Gena Manon, soubrette, was welcomed by pit and gallery. The pictures conclude.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Morton Powell's company present *How Girls are Brought to Ruin* here this week. Miss Alice Defoe as Jessie Burton is responsible for some capital acting and is well appreciated; Miss Jeannie Risley and Miss Kathryne Eckhurt as Lucy Lawton and Mrs. Annie Burton respectively, are well suited; whilst Mrs. Morton Powell scores a big success as Miss Minnie Waters; Philip Edge is in the capable hands of Mr. Richard Vane, and as Harry Hailing Mr. Harry Scott makes a capital hero. The comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. Jas. Turner as P.C. Pride, and Mr. Allan Harvey as P.C. Dooley.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The artists appearing here this week are Gus Hindell, in song and story; Willard's marionettes; and Sharon, comedy musician. After Many Years and Convict 796 are two good pictures.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—A good all-round bill is provided here, including Maxford and O'Neill, comedy merchants; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing boxmakers, &c. Excellent pictures are shown.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—*The Arcadians* was presented here this week. Mr. Oliver J. Round as Peter Doody, the jockey, was capital; Mr. Walter Passmore in the dual parts of Mr. Smith, of London, and Simplicitas, created genuine fun; Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith is also brimful of merriment; the Jack Meadows of Mr. Harold E. Pearce and the Eileen Cavanagh of Miss Billie Sinclair are both admirably portrayed characters; Miss Ethel Erskine as the Arcadian Sombra is a pleasing actress, and possesses a sweet and well-trained voice; and Miss Florence Ivy as Chozsea dances well.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—There was a capital race-week bill provided here this week. Miss Alice Raymond and her players in *A Night in Egypt*, an attractive musical turn, was much appreciated; Rauschle, impersonator, gave some faithful impersonations of well-known characters; the Floradoras in a musical sketch, *Two's Company, Three's None*, created laughter; the Three Borolia Bros. gave a clever gymnastic turn; Roland Martin, comedian and patterer, proved very diverting; Regan and Ryan, eccentric comedians, and Dacy and Lewis, eccentric entertainers, provided good turns; and Annie Braddan, comedienne, sang catchy songs. The Palascope pictures were good.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A powerful attraction is provided in *A Daughter of the Sea*, as presented by Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company. Mr. Gilbert himself ably enacts the character of "the octogenarian scoundrel," Mark Glensdale; Miss Florrie Green wins golden opinions as a girl of the sea named Sunshine, who loves Ken Moreland, in the capable hands of Mr. Ashmore Vincent. Mr. Gordon Blythe makes an excellent study of Dan Glensdale; and the humorous side of the piece is capitally represented by Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Billy and Miss Allyce Wyleyams as Molly. A word of praise is due to the excellent staging of the piece.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Messrs. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, monarchs of magic, top the bill, their performance proving unique and mystifying, and also humorous; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls give a pretty scena, which is much enjoyed by the audience; the Lauri Brothers are first-class acrobats; Lalie Brooke gives an original quick-change number, illustrating girls past and present, in fine style; Jack Lane is a versatile comedian and clever mimic. Other good artists are J. K. Macfarlane, the quaint Scot; and Nellie Lunelle, soubrette and expert dancer. The Hipposcope pictures wind up a capital programme.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark's company is winning approval here in the romantic light opera *A Bedouin Beauty*. Miss Marjorie Maxwell sings and acts in charming style as Aisha; Miss Dora Lane is a captivating Densie; Miss Raynor Golden is a lively Valerie; Miss Flora Macdonald is pretty as Laila; and Miss Dulcie Gariand is quite suitable as Lucille. Mr. Murray King is in every way satisfactory in the rôle of Sidi Ben Hamid; Mr. Walter Brodie is a nimble and quaint Abdullah; Mr. Tom Macfarlane cuts a droll figure as Hippolyte; Mr. Claude Hogg is well placed as Raoul de St. Juste; Mr. P. Maxwell Stewart is in good voice in the rôle of Henri de l'Orme; Mr. Charles Cautley makes a pleasing impression as Jacques Beauregarde; and Mr. Ardene Linden is commendable as Sidi ben Achmet. Minor parts are in good hands.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Percy Honri and company receive quite an ovation in *Concordia*, which is full of mirth and melody; Miss Beaumont Collins and powerful company give a vivid rendering of the tragic sketch *The House of Terror*; Neville Graham's company cause amusement in the episode *The Top-side Dog*; George Collins is a quaint comedian; the Kasracs bring down the house in their acrobatic sketch; Coram is an exceptionally smart ventriloquist with his figure Jerry; and other entertaining turns are given by Cassie Walmer, comedienne; the Bartholomew Girls, duettists and dancers; Dale and O'Malley, comedians; Walton and Lester, comic wizards; Olive Dene, comedienne and dancer; Sid Bandon, comedian; and Bioscope pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week we have a powerful attraction here in Miss Ellaline Terriss and company in the musical sketch *The Pink of Perfection*. Miss Terriss wins all hearts with her bright and enchanting portrayal of Miss Middleton; Mr. Stanley Brett renders sterling services as the Hon. Herbert Fitzallen; Mr. Roland Chester is excellent as Sandy McPherson; and Miss Maie Ash is pretty as Mary. George D'Albert, comedian, is brisk and racy; Herbert Shelley, protean actor and singer, is clever in *Patsy's Courtship*; the Carina Sisters give a clever musical turn; Beatrice and Bert are interesting in a comedy musical act; Steph

DARWEN.—Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Norris.—In addition to the usual good films, Gesta and Hoe provide a capital act of singing and dancing, and Lennard and Leslie prove themselves masters of wooden-shoe dancing.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Lottie Bellman occupies the premier position here this week, and gives a delightful turn entitled *Bits of Vaudeville*, including singing, mimicry, and dancing, in which she is cleverly assisted by Ray Russell; Achmed Ibrahim's Troupe of Arabs submit a clever acrobatic show; the Clement Trio are hardworking flying trapezists; Alice Hoodless appears in a series of tableaux representing well-known English pictures; Louis J. Seymour wins the favour of his audience with cleverly rendered songs; Dot Hardy, a vivacious character comedienne, causes much amusement; Fayre and Manning, comedians and dancers, are altogether praiseworthy; and De Hais Brothers give a clever club juggling act. The Bioscope completes the programme with an amusing film.

Palace of Varieties.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—The dramatic season at this house opened on Monday, when Mr. W. V. Garrod and company presented *The Prodigal Parson*. In the title-rôle Mr. Garrod makes a distinct success, and Miss Bertha Kingston is to be complimented upon her assumption of Fern Godley; Mr. Ernest Vaughan makes a capital Enoch Jaggins, and Mr. Owen Redmonde as Phil Drive and Miss Madge Douglas as Gretchen Craus capably sustain the comedy element. An entertaining innovation is a series of Bioscope pictures during the intervals of the play.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—*The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory* is on a welcome return visit, the piece, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Arthur Watson as Jack Marlinspike, being one of the funniest seen for a considerable period. Some fire dancing is incidentally introduced by the Vera troupe of dancers; and Miss Flo Stanley makes a fascinating heiress; Tom Wootwell is a comedian of unquestionable ability, his three songs being excellent; the Four Mayos introduce some accomplished skating, humorous and otherwise; Dolly Golden is a first-rate speciality dancer; Barrie and Wood are the rising comedy duo, and work hard to ensure success; the Three Orleans are attractive vocalists and dancers; and Taree extracts some pleasant harmony from a tiny autoharp and mouth-organ.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The musical comedy-drama *The Stowaway* proves a popular draw. As Dick Dials, Mr. Victor Du Cane is effective, his songs being a feature of the performance; Mr. William Vane works hard as Tom Inglis; and Mr. Walter Ernest is very capable as Paul Inglis. Miss Winnifred Maude is quite at home in the exacting part of Althea Dale; and Miss Ethel Cranford is very successful as Florence Etherington.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *From Convent to Throne*, is doing good business. The play is elaborately staged, and the acting leaves nothing to be desired. As Princess Maritza, Miss Valerie Crespin is particularly good, and is warmly applauded; Mr. Aidan Lovett gives an interesting and impressive delineation of the hero, Lieutenant Von Hapsburg; Mr. W. J. Milner well exemplifies the heartlessness and villainy of Baron Streslau; the rôle of General Von Hapsburg is skilfully handled by Mr. Courtney Robinson, who is also responsible for the stage-management; Miss Lissa Young submits an excellent depiction of the bugler boy, Cæsar Jesson; Mr. A. F. Stuart gives a powerful portrayal of Prince Maurice; some excellent comedy is introduced by Mr. T. G. Vane and Miss Maudie Grayson as Lieutenant Otto Felson and Rosella; Miss Gwen Verschoyle (Mother Superior) and Miss Cicely Barcham (Lady Violetta) ably sustain their parts; some good acting is also shown by Mr. C. M. Davidson as Eugene Von Tarlitz and Mr. H. Maxwell as Michael Von Hanz; and as Count de Presthon Mr. Fred Hallo does well.

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Foremost on the capital programme is Mephisto, who is supported by capable assistants, and completely mystifies the audience with some marvellous illusions; a very amusing sketch, entitled *My Lady's Chamber*, is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Roystone-Dene and Miss Eileen Dartry, and they fully deserve the applause which is accorded them; Ritter and Foster are dancers and singers who are both clever and funny; Joe Archer's patter and singing cause roars of laughter; Margit and Lener, eccentric acrobats and contortionists, are popular; Tom Joy is a comedian of decided ability; Godfrey is an expert conjurer; Maidie Burker is a pleasing comedienne; and a display of animated pictures adds to the pleasure of the evening.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—An attractive programme is headed by Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels; the Mannikins are responsible for much fun; Everhart and his clever assistants receive unstinted applause for some remarkable feats in hoop manipulation; Amy Bellwood is a dainty singer and dancer; the Kahn trio, in a skilful second-sight act, go well; Queenie Mayor, the Lancashire fisher girl, uses her voice effectively; and a good reception is accorded Dunning, ventriloquist, as well as to Walter Ford, comedian. Animated pictures are a leading feature of the programme.

DINNINGTON (Yorks.).—Lyric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—In the early part of the week pictures occupied the bill and attracted good houses. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. John F. Preston's very capable company presented Mr. Max Goldberg's *Secrets*. Mr. E. R. Allen made a fine Lieutenant Markham, R.N.; Mr. Dan F. Roe as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley gave admirable support; the Tivoli troupe of Continental dancers were responsible for one or two good turns. In scene 2 specialities were introduced by Miss Jennie Hackett and Mr. Geo. Seally, assisted by the Tivoli troupe.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is presenting *The King of Cadonia* to packed houses. Mr. Bertram Wallis was excellent in every respect in the title-rôle, and was the recipient of warm applause; capital humour was supplied by Mr. Arthur Staples in his assumption of the Duke of Alasia; Messrs. Robert Selby, Lawrence Robbins, Francis Howard, Louis Russell, and C. H. Hobson were fine specimens of military men, and contributed a quintette which created a good impression; as Laborde, Mr. C. B. Williams gained popular favour; and Mr. Alec Buchanan treated the audience to an interesting portrayal of Panix; as Bran, Mr. Alfred Clark was seen at his best; Miss Lily Hodson won admiration as the Duchess of Alasia; and Miss Alice Venning portrayed Princess Maria with distinct credit; Miss Amy Preston proved herself an accomplished dancer and songstress.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. William Mollison's company in *The Chorus Lady* made a successful appearance at the Grand Theatre on Monday. The Patricia O'Brien of Miss Rita Carlyle was a revelation; Miss Elsie Vron Neville was quite clever as the young sister; Mr. John Sims Woolley was manly and effective as Dan Mallory; Mr. Henry Ludlow gave a striking characterisation of Dick Crawford; Mr. C. A. R. Shum was well suited as Patrick O'Brien; Miss Mabel Durrant was effective as the show girl. The other characters were well played.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—A very effective company, headed by Mr. C. Hayden Coffin and commanded by Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austin Hurgon, is here. As Prince Charmis Mr. Coffin's acting and singing were delightful. He sang with poetic intuition and played with finished grace. The Princess Cynthia of Miss Marjorie Moore was a dainty performance. Mr. Hugh Weybrance's resonant voice was heard to real advantage in the rôle of Hebranoise; Mr. E. Statham Staples, a comedian of many resources, was artistically funny as Rolandyl, and Mr. Mark Lester was quaint as King Paul. The other merry monarch was presented with Aristophanic humour by Mr. Tom Shelford. Miss Gladys Black looked as pretty as a picture in the rôle of Iris.

Palace.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Miss Hetty King is well received here this week; Herr Carl Muller is an expert dancer; the Napiers are smart eccentric jugglers; the Frazellis make violin, harp, and xylophone sing sweet music; Miss Maggie Carr is a piquant comedienne; Craig, Roze, and Craig are up to date gymnasts; Johnson and Bert introduce a novel act entitled *A Queer Customer*, which meets with cordial approval.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—To the variety programme here Mr. Walter Bird's combination, including Mr. Ernie Lotinga, contribute a really amusing sketch entitled *Her Husband*. Mr. Lotinga is artistically funny as a Gilbertian burglar. The playlet evokes laughter. The living marionettes which Mr. Edgar Curtis manipulates are a draw; Andre Romanoff, gipsy violinist, plays with abandon; Professor Thornbury's lightning sketches are very clever; the Zingaris' dancing is full of poetry; and Bert Errol is popular.

Connor's Grand Circus.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred J. Connor.—Mr. Fred J. Connor's popular circus show still continues to attract. The novel cycling competition, Football on Wheels, has caught on; the Spanish Bull Fight evokes shrieks of laughter; an amusing sketch entitled *Robertson the Hatter* is played by the full strength of the company; the Leopold Leclerc Troupe, six in number, throw sensational somersaults; Miss Mona Connor and her brother Douglas ride daringly and gracefully; Frederico and Pagardo are sensational tumblers; Mr. George Madigan's fox terriers, with their canine quaintness, increase the circle of their admirers; the Circuscope is up to date and the clowns are clever.

Dare's White Minstrels.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Dare.—Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels are very successful here. Mr. Fred Esdaile, a smart comedian, contributes a dainty melody with a fife solo; Mr. Harry Trellett sings with emphasis "I want no other girl for Sunday"; a sketch, *Boiled Beef and Carrots*, evokes laughter; Mr. Ernest D'Almaine's sweet tenor voice is heard to advantage in the tender lilt "What is the world to me?"; the Boston Twins are also amusing. But the gem of the show is Mr. Neville Landler in his Dickensian impersonation.

The Empire Theatre, which Mr. Charles Dare controls, makes a financial and artistic success by reason of the dramatic excellence of its pictures and the varieties introduced.

The Onchans.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. Cottier Cubbin.—The absolute success of this new enterprise must encourage our youngest of entrepreneurs. Mr. W. Cottier Cubbin. The artists, Mr. Charles Harvey, Mr. J. H. Scotland, Mr. Alfred Maynall, Mr. J. A. Lowe, Mr. Alexander Webster, are all in tune with our visitors' requirements, and Miss Grace Jean Crocker, society elecutionist, makes a real success. Other attractions at Onchan Head are roller skating on the largest open-air vehicle in the kingdom, dancing, fireworks, and side-shows.

Buxton's Amusements.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred Buxton.—The audiences here are large and well pleased. The Pierrots are up to date; they sing the latest songs in the most effective manner. Also the Picturedrome is a great attraction. The films are the most perfect yet presented to the public. Other mascots at Buxton's are roller skating and the billiard tables.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Auguste Van Biene, supported by a fine company, is here in *The Broken Melody*. Mr. Van Biene in the rôle of Paul Borinski displays his undoubted ability, his charming 'cello solos being deservedly applauded, and Miss Mabel Tighe is to be highly commended upon her excellent rendition of Mabel. The part of Mortimer has an able representative in Mr. T. P. Haynes, and Miss Rose Ralph is all that could be desired as the Duchess de Vervier. General Ivanoff is capitally portrayed by Mr. Joynsen Powell, and the rôle of Mrs. Dickson is admirably depicted by Miss Esther Foible.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—The boards are occupied by Miss Renee Glendower's company in *What a Man Made Her*. Mr. Frederick W. Freeman ably acquits himself in the rôle of Dr. Mark Haven, and the Janet McAllister of Miss Renee Glendower is a cleverly sustained performance. Mr. W. J. Butler is well placed as Rupert Wogan Danescombe, and Deborah has a pleasing representative in Miss Dorothy Dewhirst. Mr. Harry Ugar provides much humour as Lewis Gunnerstein, and Miss Beatrice Shirley makes a good impression as Lady Thora Danescombe. Sir Ernest Cavendish is capably portrayed by Mr. Charles K. Francis, and Miss Nora Kingsley makes an excellent Elfrida.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry. *The House of Temperley* is being played here to large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Murray Carson gives a very fine performance of the villain, Sir John Harker; Mr. Claude King distinguishes himself admirably as Captain Jack Temperley; and as Sir Charles Temperley Mr. Stratton Rodney gives an excellent reading of the part. Miss Una Venning is most effective as Ethel Morley, and Miss Claire Pauncefort gives a clever and finished portrayal of Lady Temperley. Mr. Blake Adams makes a capital Ginger Stubbs, and Jakes is ably played by Mr. Leon M. Lion.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Miss Daisy Jerome is a comedienne of charming style; the Constances in their comedietta *A Game for Two* create much laughter; Ed. E. Ford, the Australian Sundowner, scores a distinct success; Mr. Tom Bryce and Miss Ella Maynard, in a musical sketch entitled *The Dude's Wedding*, are warmly applauded; Mlle. De Shara presents Little Sunbeam, a clever comedienne and dancer; and other attractive turns are Gordon Stretton, coon vocalist, Fielding and Hull, in their musical comedy *Mixed Bathing*, Annie Blanchard, comedienne, and the Empire pictures.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Messrs. W. A. Haines and Allan Borthwick's company head the bill here, presenting a laughable sketch entitled *Half a Dollar*; the Markies in a vocal and instrumental act are well appreciated; Colley and Scott in comedy tit-bits are highly amusing; and the Tissots, living marionettes, meet with warm approval. Other interesting items are: Marie Taft, comedienne and speciality drummer; Fred Lloyd, actor-vocalist; *Sam Kee's Laundry*, presented by Mr. James Mooney; Bob Wilton, comedian; Miss Ena Compton, comedienne, and the Bioscope.

Round Room Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Picture Company have been giving an interesting programme here. The varieties include: The Mona Ladies' Orchestra, who contribute several well-appreciated musical and vocal items; Mr. P. J. Maloney, a good baritone vocalist; the Sisters Colley, juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Miss Yeardley, a charming soprano.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sprengel Brothers.—The following artists are appearing here: Jolly Jack Murray, character comedian; Henri Hertz, conjurer; the Two Welfords, comedy duettists; Miss Amy Bayne; and Jack Harrington, eccentric comedian. The pictures conclude.

Kingstown Pavilion.—The Fantastic répertoire company is the attraction here, and proves very entertaining. Miss Jose Leyton is an excellent siffleuse, and Miss Jessie Crone's agreeable contralto is heard to great advantage. Mr. Walter Dowling is a talented artist, and Mr. Alfred Daniel manipulates the banjo in capital style. Mr. Roland Green sings admirably, and Mr. Percival Mackenzie's lightning sketch performance is well received.

DUNDALK.—Town Hall Theatre.—Proprietors, Urban Council; Manager, Mr. M. Comerford.—Mr. Will L. Dobell's *La Comédie Anglaise* company is here this week, opening with *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Dobell appears in the important part of Stephen Armitage, and gives admirable portrayal of the rôle; Mr. Percy Dewhurst is responsible for a deal of quaint humour as the Hon. Percy; Mr. Thomson Whiett as Lucas Lyle is well suited to the part; David Armitage is impressively played by Mr. Horace Wright; Miss Nora Baker is powerful as Doris; Sybil Fay is safe in the hands of Miss Lillian Fenn; Little Nellie Melbourne enacts the part of Dora with girlish charm.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. James Willard's company is playing to good business here in *Paying the Price*. Mr. Willard acts earnestly and successfully as Lord Delemere, and also portrays Paul Hartmann with much dramatic power. Miss Margaret Damer interprets the character of Lady Delemere with excellent effect; a spirited and delightfully natural rendering of Doris Delamere is submitted by Miss Gem Lloyd, a particularly fine performance is that of Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Capt. Dick Clinton, V.C.; Mr. Frank Medhurst gives realistic representations of Hal and Jan Vortoone; Mr. H. Norton is responsible for an amusing impersonation of the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple; Mr. William Douglas does well as John Dent; and Miss Winnie Leslie is excellent as the servant. The play is nicely mounted.

King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S McIntosh.—Heading a fine array of talent here is Lamberti, a thorough musician, whose impersonations of various famous musicians meet with vociferous appreciation. H. O. Wills's wit and humour are both smart and up-to-date; the Sisters du Cane sing with taste, and are well received; Captain Kettle gives wonderful examples of sleight-of-hand; Fred Maitland and Pauline Walker draw roars of merriment with their farcical extravaganza, *Roots, Rash Chemist*; the Eight College Girls sing and dance with considerable skill and grace; Randolph King, a versatile artist, proves very entertaining; the Bros. O'Brian are thorough masters of the horizontal bar, their performance being of a very finished order; Ian Colquhoun uses his fine voice to advantage; and The Tramp's Story is related by Jury's Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—A splendid programme of pictures here includes a magnificent film, A Midnight Cupid. The Little Fiddler is another fine film; while Tale of Two Coats proves a "rib tickler."

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—The Winning Punch, an exciting sporting picture, is followed with interest here. The singing picture is always a popular item.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—Many beautiful films are exhibited here this week, including Apaches' Gold and The Soldier and the Marchioness.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—For the first three nights of the week Dickson's Scottish National pictures have been presented for the first time here, and proved highly popular and successful.

DURHAM.—The Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—George French's Troupe of trick cyclists top the bill, and are much appreciated; Alice Hughes and company in the sketch *The Star of the Bazaar* are warmly applauded; Payne's Wanderers give an enjoyable entertainment, including song and dance; the Snow Family are expert skaters, and create a deal of merriment; Wisper, with comedy juggling and patter, is a popular turn; and Beattie Bloom is a successful comedienne. The Cathedoscope continues to be of great interest.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company appeared the first three nights of the week in *The Naked Truth*. Mr. Stanley Logan as Bunny won praise for his artistic and genuinely funny work; Mr. Townsend Whitling was excellently suited as the bombastic James Darrell; Mr. E. Besley Beltran was a distinct, individual, and well-defined Mr. Hayter; Mr. Horace Sinclair was eminently successful as Teddy Lestrange; Mr. Laurence Arthur was an admirable Doctor Masters; and Mr. James Heddon worked well as Prosser. Miss Violet Ley was a tall, handsome, and clever Mrs. Hayter; Miss Ormonde Wynne, a natural, easy Mrs. Darrell; Miss Kathleen Maude played in a charmingly frank and girlish manner as Norah; Miss Dora Fellowes was full of brightness and vivacity as Madame Favre; Miss Violet Temple ably helps as Mrs. Hammond; and Miss L. M. Russell was a satisfactory Hammond. *The House of Temperley* is billed for the latter part of the week.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Alexander Leighton's principal company opened the week with *Havana*. Mr. Oliver Rogers was a capable and interesting Jack Villiers; Mr. J. Brian Ridout, a bright, energetic, and hard-working Frank Charteris; Mr. Laurie Lisle played in excellent dramatic style as Diego; Mr. Cyril K. Percival displayed much fun and cleverness as the dude Adolfo; Mr. Arthur Wingrove did good work as Bombito; and Mr. Reg. Edwards as Brown the Yacht's Boy and Mr. J. R. Val as Nix the Bo'sun kept the laughter going continuously, the former singing, dancing, and acting with enthusiasm, while the latter was very droll in his serious indolence. Miss Winnie Browne's gaiety and vivacity make her efforts as Anita an unqualified success; Miss Hebe Bliss was an attractive and hard-working Consuelo; and Miss Winnie Milne a very pretty Teresa. A good and powerful chorus was under the directorship of Mr. J. H. Yorke. Mr. Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's company appeared later in the week in *Lady Frederick*.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here is the elaborate sketch *The Gay Countess*, in which Miss Josie Farrington, Mr. Harry Buss, and Mr. Gus Danby are the bright stars of twenty-six performers; Miss Bessie Slaughter's rich contralto voice is admirably used, and she is quite a favourite; the Stavordale Quintette of clever banjoists and harpist contribute one of the great successes of the evening; Miss Lily Arthur, bright and pleasing, sings and dances well; Miss Nellie Eglen and Mr. W. Percival play smartly in their sketch, *Called for the Rent*; Mr. Fred Costen is a successful comedian; and Miss Vic Laurie sings and dances well.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is this week appearing in *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*. Mr. Guy Hastings as Derek Mason gives a capital performance; in the character of Post-captain Henry Drummond, Mr. Douglas Tremayne acts with distinction; Mr. Gerald Jordon as Lieut. Philip Marchant proves himself a competent exponent of the part; the chief female character is admirably taken by Miss Gertrude F. Godart; Miss Babs Stuart as Nanoya, a Cingalee girl, is excellent.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company began a week's engagement here on Monday with *Brewster's Millions* in the presence of a crowded audience. The diverting comedy was played with conspicuous success by an exceedingly clever cast. Mr. Percy Hutchison acted the title-rôle with his customary ease and humour, and with an occasional note of seriousness which deepened the effect of the impersonation. Among many admirable characterisations those of Mr. Aubrey Mather as Joseph McLeod, Mr. Henry Hampson as Archie Golding, Mr. Frank Hill as Rawles, Mr. A. Kay as Monsieur Bargie, Miss Lilian Earle as Mrs. Dan de Mille, Miss Marion Ripley as Janice Armstrong, and Miss Dorothy Whitaker as Peggy stand out vividly. The play was splendidly staged, the realistic mounting of the yacht scene commanding especial admiration. The curtain-raiser was a smart comedietta, *Two in a Trap*, acted with finish and intelligence by Miss Marion Ripley and Mr. Aubrey Mather.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Miss Horniman's Repertory Company paid a welcome return visit to Edinburgh this week, bringing Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Candida* and Mr. Arnold Bennett's *Cupid and Commonsense*. In the former piece the name-part was admirably played by Miss Rosalind Ivan, who rose fully to the opportunity afforded in the last act; and Mr. Ian Maclaren is to be heartily commended for the excellent rendering he gave to the rôle of the Rev. James Mayor Morell. Mr. Leonard Mudie achieved considerable success in his interpretation of the difficult part of the intense young poet Eugene Marchbanks; very clever and entertaining character-studies of the parvenu Mr. Burgess and the business-like typist Prosperpine Gurnett were provided by Mr. Whitford Kane and Miss Louise Holbrook; and Mr. Ernest C. Cassell made an acceptable curate. In a one-act Irish play, entitled *The Troth*, by Mr. Rutherford Mayne, put on as a curtain-raiser, Miss Dorothy West-Symes, Mr. Cassel, Mr. Whitford Kane, and Mr. Joseph A. Keogh presented a picture of an unhappy landlord-shooting episode. *Cupid and Commonsense* was excellently presented, notably good impersonations being given by Mr. Leonard Mudie as Willie Beach, Miss Rosalind Ivan as Edna Beach, Miss Louise Holbrook as Mrs. Copestick, and Miss Dorothy West-Symes as Miranda Finney.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—A capital programme at this house includes Lowenwirth and Cohan, two Hebrew comedians, whose patter and dancing are characteristically amusing; the Bijou Juvenile Troupe give a clever musical scena, entitled *Pansy's Birthday*; Miss Edna Latonne, male impersonator, is a great favourite, and her song, "The dear homeland," calls forth a specially hearty round of applause; the Warsaw Brothers contribute a pleasing musical act; and Mr. Ernest Clifford, comedian; La Belle Greta, an accomplished dancer; Madeline, also a smart dancer; Mr. Charlie Carr, vocalist; and Mr. Henry Hilton, an admirable sleight-of-hand performer, add to the attractiveness of an entertainment which likewise comprises excellent views by the King's Bioscope.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Fred Karno's company of comedians has the foremost place with the popular and amusing *Football Match*, the cast including Will Poluski, jun., and the Three Prestons, all of whom contributed successfully to the production of unlimited merriment; Ricardo and Salving introduced some original and striking acrobatic work in their novel act, entitled "The Human Bridge"; and the comedy cyclists Campbell and Barber displayed considerable skill on the wheel, combined with a capacity for quaint fun-making. Carrie Laurie's troupe of juvenile singers and dancers conducted "A Model School" in entertaining fashion; Chas. Lewis supplies a good ventriloquial turn; Ernie Mayne creates a great diversion with his grand opera parody; acceptable comedienne items are provided by Esta Stella and Ethel Beech; and up-to-date Bioscope pictures conclude.

Operetta House.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—A Midnight Cupid and The Sheriff's Sacrifice, a story of the Wild West, are the leading pictures here in a programme which is full of variety. Sports in Sumatra is a series which is very beautiful, and brings before the audience in realistic fashion the incidents depicted. The humorous films are numerous and mirth-provoking.

Pringle's Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edmunds.—A more than usually interesting selection of pictures is shown at this house. The variety part of the entertainment is efficiently filled by Frances Hanlon, a clever comedienne and dancer, and by the Angelina Trio, in a smart gymnastic and juggling turn.

Marine Gardens.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The Royal Piedmont Hussars' Band, which has given general satisfaction during its engagement, remains here for another week. Herr Meny's White Viennese Orchestra is a potent attraction in the Concert Hall, where the programme also includes the marvellous thought-reading performance by the Marriotts and a delightful musical entertainment by Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers. A daring diving exhibition is given in the Amusement Court by Professor Powsey. The skating-rink, the ballroom, and the various shows, such as the water caves and scenic railway, continue to do good business.

ELLESMERE PORT.—Hippodrome and Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—Matthews and Haming as comedy sketch artists are received with approval here this week; the Sisters Lawson supply appreciated contributions as vocalists and dancers; Joe Bee has a cordial reception, and shows ability as a comedian; Little Alf Arbis, a phenomenal boy vocalist, calls for rounds of applause nightly; Gertrude Osborne is a pleasing comedienne. In addition to up-to-date and interesting animated pictures being thrown upon the screen, a series of actual photographs of the recent Johnson-Jeffries Fight are shown.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is here with Mr. Henry Herbert and Miss Gladys Vanderzee. The répertoire includes *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, *King Lear*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Hamlet*. On Monday *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented. Mr. Henry Herbert as Petruchio was admirable, his portrayal of the character being marked by great histrionic ability; Miss Vanderzee's Katherina was characterised by much dramatic power; Miss Rosalind Grey was a charming and graceful Bianca; Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Lucentio, Mr. John Cairns as Baptista, Mr. Chas. Warburton as Gremio, Mr. F. Wicksteed as Hortensio, and Mr. H. S. Cohen as Tranio acquitted themselves successfully; and Mr. Joseph O'Dowd and Mr. Andrew Leigh as Biondella and Grumio were smart and merry.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are a trio of trick and comedy cyclists whose evolutions cannot be surpassed; another trio, the Three Romas, are a smart and graceful troupe; Daisy Wood is a dainty and refined comedienne, and is loudly encored for both her songs; Miss Elsie Robey, the "pianologuedienne," keeps the house in a roar of laughter; Gracie Lawn is good both in her vocal effects and her graceful dancing; and Ada Cerito supplies some strikingly interesting character portrayals; W. P. Sheen is very smart both in his songs and his patter.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, the eminent tragedian, with Miss Kate Clinton and a selected company, are drawing good houses. The plays staged included *Jeanie Deans* on Monday and Tuesday, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Wednesday. In the former Mr. Tearle's appearance as the counsel for the defence in the trial scene was very effective; and Miss Clinton's presentment of the title-rôle left nothing to be desired in artistic finish. Mr. Horace Price made a dignified Duke of Argyle; Mr. Ernest Lodge gave a spirited rendering of Geordie Robertson; as David Deans Mr. Fawcett Lomax was very successful; and Mr. P. P. Millar was effective as the Laird of Dumbiedykes. Miss Mary Campbell invested the part of Effie Deans with the requisite gentleness and grace; and Miss Nancy Blackwood's Madge Wildfire was a piece of good acting. *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Octoroon* were also billed.

Electric Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. E. Atkinson; Manager, Mr. Leo. D. Hickey.—Since its opening about a month ago this cosy little place of entertainment has done remarkably good business in a community where pictures are high in favour as a means of entertainment. The variety turns are of good quality, the comic interludes by Percy Curry, and the amusing sketches by Maclaine and Watt being hugely enjoyed.

FERNDALE.—New Workmen's Hall and Theatre.—Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—Mr. Percy Williams is here with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Cecil A. Melton is very successful as Howard Wilson; and Miss Violet Keand is a capital impersonator of Mabel Wilson. Miss Blanche Huber as Bridget keeps the audience in a merry mood; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is successful as Cora Williams; Miss Dot Jeffreys is quite at home as Jessie, the little mother, and wins much applause; Mr. Percy Williams is an acceptable Rev. Dr. Lanceford; Mr. Harry M. Vernon gives a capital portrayal of Toto; and Messrs. Alexander Wills (Robert Curtis), Watson Hume (Peter Schwartz), and Frank Newtown (O'Reilly) are all well placed.

FLEETWOOD.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company is here in *A Life's Revenge*. Mr. Wilton J. Richards gives a sinister interpretation of Prince Boris Storogoff; Mr. Ulick Burke is excellent as Michael Orloff; the part of Paul Stanfitch could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Edward E. Louis; Miss Millie Ford gives a clever rendering of Princess Yanda Ivylia; while Miss Carter Livesey gets the full effect from Acculina.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs* opened here on Monday. Mr. Theodore Leonard represented Timothy Gibbs with irresistible comicality; Mr. Ernest Darrell did full justice to the rôle of the Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. Montague Syrett sang and acted well as Lord Eynesford. As the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint Mr. Eustace Burnaby was responsible for a deal of hilarity, and was ably seconded by Mr. J. Leopold, jun., as Shithers; Mr. Campbell Brown was all that could be desired as Mr. Toplady; and Mr. Reginald Weighill was good as Mr. Beavis. Miss Jessie Lonnen as Mary Gibbs has a charming presence and a fresh and pleasing voice, which speedily made her a favourite; Miss Nellie Cozens was a satisfactory Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Ellaline Thorne made a fascinating Mme. Jeanne; Miss Helen Langton gave a cultured portrayal as the Duchess of Minster; and Miss Lilian Birtles appeared with success as Lady Elizabeth.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—This week we have for the first three nights Mr. Walter Steele's company in *A Fast Life*. Mr. Steele is a manly hero and Mr. J. Sommerville a robust villain in the characters of John Dixon and Sir Oliver Franklin. Miss Lilian Ross as Mrs. Dixon and Miss Lilian Barns as Lady Franklin are successful. The comedy element is safe in the hands of Mr. Willie Barratt and Miss Maud Ryder. The latter part of the week is devoted to pictures and a variety company.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sidney B. Stringer.—Starring on a strong programme here this week are Mr. Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice with pleasing items on the harp and soprano saxophone; Marcel and Boris present a remarkable equilibristic novelty; Harry Taft, whistling comedian, is very pleasing; and quite successful are the Brothers Brooks, whose welcome here is always hearty; Fatmah Diard renders two ballads agreeably; Miss Madge Morley and company make a hit with the comedy sketch, *After the Races*; the Sisters Brand are excellent comediennes; and the Kingscope adds to the enjoyment of the evening.

Metropole Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's fine production of *A Royal Divorce* has drawn large and enthusiastic audiences to this house. An excellent Napoleon is Mr. Frank Bradley; a welcome reappearance is made by Miss Edith Cole, whose Josephine leaves nothing to be desired; Marshal Murat is well represented by Mr. Alfred Grenville; the part of Talleyrand affords Mr. J. H. Roberts an opportunity, of which he takes advantage; Mr. Charles Hartopp cleverly depicts the Marquis de Beaumont; a most amusing Grimaud is Mr. George Hudson; a charming Stephanie is Miss Dorothy Garth; Miss Florence Cudlipp as Blanche makes the most of the rôle; and Miss Minnie Tempest is a dignified Marie Louise. The staging and effects are on a lavish scale, the production all round being meritorious.

GILLINGHAM.—Public Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Barnard Bros.—There is a varied selection of pictures here. The programme is en

Tom Costello, whose song, "The Dear Homeland," is favourably received.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Ella Retford is taking well here in all her latest songs, this charming comedienne being a strong favourite in Glasgow; Marie Kendall shares the star honours, and is in excellent form, taking the fancy of the audience with her new ditties; J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington once more present a powerful dramatic sketch, their latest production being *Olga's Oath*, in which they are afforded excellent opportunities; the Selbinis, as trick cyclists, are marvellous; Will Musgrave is a clever comedian, with many original touches; Frank Hartley is a really smart and up-to-date juggler; Curtis Leo, assisted by Little Noblesse, contributes a good turn; Steve M'Carthy dances neatly; and the mimicry of Cyril Ciensy is wonderfully true to life.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Jake Friedman is here once again, with his lively musical play, *Happy Holland*, and the fun is plentiful all through; Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian, is another favourite purveyor of humour; Johnson Clark is a ventriloquist of much originality; Mlle. Silotta, in her statuary poses, introducing a picturesque white horse, is heartily applauded; Gilbert Payne and Ethel Errol contribute a lively duologue; Arthur Woodville is a clever comedian and smart dancer; Maisie Dene takes well as a comedienne; Mabel Moss sings sweetly; and the equilibristic act of Smith and Gibbs is smart and neat.

COLISEUM. — District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Darracq appears in a couple of sensational motoring performances, the first "Whizzing the Wheel," and the other "Shooting the Bar." Both are performed fearlessly and without a hitch. Oswald Williams is a clever magician, and his work is very entertaining; in a comedy acrobatic and juggling act Cornalla and Eddie are very clever; Peter Bermingham, Scotch comedian, keeps his audiences in roars of laughter; Grant and Grant, the American Octoroons, both sing and dance well; Fred Elton gets through his entertaining song scena in a business-like fashion, and his catchy chorus songs are well taken up; Fred Poplar and Kitty Wager are also in the bill; and the bioscope concludes.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dickinson.—Good business is to be recorded here. The entertainment comprises the usual interesting and amusing selection of pictures, varied by clever interludes by Lieut. Gordon, ventriloquist and mimic, with fresh and witty dialogue; and Tom Gillimore, in song and some smart dancing. The talking and singing picture is the popular one entitled "Come up in my Balloon."

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Sydney Dolph tops the bill, and provides an enjoyable vocal, conjuring, and musical entertainment; Bill Bracey is a clever coon impersonator and dancer; Flo McCormack is a sweet ballad vocalist; George Casey, comedian, wins favour with his dancing; and Day and Martin are a taking pair of comedians, with plenty of patter. The pictures include up-to-date films.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The popularity of this house continues, and seats are at a premium nightly. In a ventriloquial act Fred Milburn is responsible for much amusement; Olive Delta dances smartly, and has a good reception; and Jack Rosslyn, comedian, likewise takes well. The pictures are again of a most interesting and amusing nature.

STAR.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots win high praise for their singing and dancing; Forbes Guilbert's impersonations of famous characters from plays gain much appreciation; and Victor Courtney proves most amusing as "the Boots at the Piano." The remainder of the programme is taken up with pictures.

SCOTTISH ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. H. A. Bostock.—Both the extensive zoological collection and the circus and variety entertainment here continue to be well patronized. The animals are a constant source of attraction to the younger visitors, and the performances at intervals by the various trainers evoke hearty applause. The addition of picture films has been much appreciated as another attractive feature.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—On Monday Mr. Harry Aynsleigh's company presented *The King of Diamonds*. Mr. Harry Aynsleigh gives a powerful interpretation of Sir Philip Garth; Mr. George Keene is a dignified Richard Fenton; Mr. Walter Warren is capable as the Hon. Herbert Selby; Mr. Bert Sharp submits a clever portrayal of Reginald A. Garth; Mr. Wilson Lowther does justice to the part of Sir Charles Lockwood, K.C.; Miss Camille Treherne is forceful as Olive Vandell; and Miss Peggy Rose graceful as Muriel Lockwood.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. B. T. Rea.—Mr. B. Marris Davis's company, in *Lady Godiva*, *Jane Shore*, *David Garrick*, *Hamlet*, *The Bells*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Three Musketeers*, is here. On Monday *Lady Godiva* was presented, Mr. F. B. Woulfe playing Peeping Tom in excellent manner. Miss E. Lorraine proves a clever actress as Lady Godiva; Mr. Baliol Holloway is powerful as Algar; and Mr. George Tempest makes an effective Unwolf; Mr. F. Cheevers as Edgar the Nameless is good, as is Miss Josephine Richards as Lady Aldyth; Leofric is admirably impersonated by Mr. Henry Parr; and Miss Ada Gower is prominent as Elfrida. Other members of the company are Messrs. E. C. Coates, Alfred Wade, Henry Ernestine, Alfred Waghorne, Sydney Churchill, B. Marris Davis, F. Brandon, Mesdames Nellie Higgs, Eva Cartwright, and Marie Preston.

KING'S HALL.—Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Stewart.—The pictures are supported this week by St. Malo and Coombs, in their clever song scena; Miss Kitty Woodford, song illustrator; Alpho, the novel ventriloquist; and the Vocaphone.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Electric Theatres, 1908.—Excellent business continues here with a good picture show. Free cycle, mail-cart storage, and cloak-rooms are announced by the management.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —Record houses have witnessed the presentation of *The Dollar Princess* by Mr. George Edwardes's excellent company. Miss Kathleen Courtney's charming personality, coupled with a delightful voice, makes her a big favourite as Alice; Mr. George Miller is very funny as Mr. Bulger; Mr. Alec Worcester's fine baritone voice is heard to advantage as Freddy Fairfax; Mr. Fred Leslie plays well as Harry Conder; Miss Muriel Allen as Olga is very popular, her songs being exceptionally well rendered. The orchestra, which has been augmented for this visit, is ably directed by Mr. Theo. Wendt.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company is paying a return visit in *Diana of Dobson's*.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Menotti gives a daring performance on the wire; Leicester Cooke and Doodles appear with conspicuous success in an equestrian comedy entitled *Chatarooga*; Gaertner and May give a clever barrel-jumping performance; Halma is a juggler of remarkable dexterity; Bains and company have an amusing and clever acrobatic turn; the "Tallo-Ho" spectacle continues its successful run; and the amusing item by Doodles and Pimple causes screams of laughter.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The excellent programme has resulted in the Pavilion being packed each evening. Fame and Fortune give a clever acrobatic performance; the Zaid Trio of Spanish Moors appear in an interesting speciality act; Cissey Dryden sings some excellent songs; Charles Penrose gives some clever imitations; and Blake and Granby cause a lot of fun with their sketch, *The Man in Possession*.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*The Love Birds*, presented by Miss Lole Esmond's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Edward Neville acts cleverly as Colonel Fritters; Ferdinand Fluff is amusingly impersonated by Mr. Jay O. Russell; and Mr. Fred Alberto scores in the character of the Policeman. Miss Lole Esmond makes the most of the character of Araminta; Miss Blanche Courtney plays Agnes Fritters effectively; and the rôle of Philomena, the colonel's sister, is in the capable hands of Miss Cicely Byrne. Miss Esmond's quartette of clever dancers add to the general success.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Cullen and Carthy, assisted by Little Cluly, top the bill here this week, and meet with a cordial reception; the Brothers Bradshaw are exceptionally clever acrobats; some particularly smart barrel-jumping is introduced by the Hartley Wonders; Spry and Austin are clever comedy artists; and others entertaining include Martinetti and Wallace, musical comedy artists; Joe Humphreys, vocal comedian; and Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl. The Dromoscope shows some interesting pictures.

EMPIRE. — Lessee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; General-Manager, Mr. J. B. Lawton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Clayton.—The leading pictures this week are Convict No. 796, Red Eagle's Love Affair, and The Road to Happiness.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—The farcical comedy, *Those Terrible Twins*, is meeting with exceptional popularity here. Mr. Leedham Bantock, the author, appears as William, and does much laughable burlesque as the eccentric butler; Mr. Cyril Delevanti acts with appropriate dash as Charlie Pringle; Mr. Archie McGaig makes the part of Minks, the lift-boy, highly diverting; Miss Enid Baird charmingly represents Violet Fairfield; Miss Norah Walker is pleasing as Lillie Leyton; Mr. Charles Hanbury is smart as the Hon. Harry Scott; Miss Maude Adams admirably realises the austere Mrs. Pringle; Mr. Robert Rivers does well as Samuel Pringle; and Mrs. Watt-Tanner is amusing as Maria.

THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Carl Junor's skill as a pianist is highly appreciated here, and its effect is enhanced by being blended in a dramatic episode which embraces military and love romance. The Comedy Meisters do a capital turn, combining excellent fun with artistic vocal music; Dan Whitley is scoring a great success, and his business in conjunction with the orchestra is especially amusing; Arabella Allen presents excellently-studied Dickens character impersonations; Jessie Albini is a smart comedienne, and her *Chantecler* burlesque is good; G. Webber is a pleasing bass vocalist who sings good songs; and Eric Dalvere and Phil Wallace speak very laughable patter.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Mr. Charles W. Poole's Myriorama opened here on Monday for a short season, and crowded houses are the rule. The descriptive picture tour piloted by Mr. John R. Poole is well chosen, and is very instructive, and everything is bright, attractive, and amusing. Excellent variety is introduced by Amasis, a man of mystery; the Cairo Trio, Three Ettenas, Harry Raymond, Inez and Pim, and The Verome Duo; and Poole's Bioscope is to the front with up-to-date events.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here with *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Florie Kelsey gaves an admirable rendering of Bess Moore; Miss A. E. Belmore makes a sympathetic Gladys Erskine; Mr. Barnett Lando gives a capital character study as Barney Gordon; and other artists engaged in the production are Messrs. R. M. St. John, S. Lynn, P. Haverstock, G. H. Asquin, W. Walmsley, J. Hignett, the Misses N. James, G. Newcombe, and E. Evans.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Full houses are the rule here to witness an excellent picture display, The Detective's Dog (a thrilling picture), The Impalement (dramatic), and A Case of Mistaken Identity (comic) receiving chief honours. Miss Dot Ray, soprano vocalist, is having a royal reception nightly, and the Prince Milner Trio give a clever exhibition of wire walking, juggling, &c.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Frank and Jen Latona are a decided success in a musical and comedy scena; the Westwoods contribute a clever cycling act; Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn provide plenty of amusement in *A Pantomime Boy*; the Sidney Girls are excellent skipping-rope dancers; Miss May Rowe's singing is appreciated; the Mars Trio give a smart exhibition of gymnastics; and Frank Boyce (character comedian), May de Rowse (comedienne and dancer), and the Pictures complete.

HAMILTON (N.B.).—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Millar.—Cavalier Rabottini, with his international band of thirty performers in selections from various operas, is topping the bill here this week, and proving a big draw. Edwards and Edwards are good in a graceful dance and musical turn; the Whittakers are smart and amusing in their skit *Dick Whittington*; F. C. Note, light comedian, sings a couple of songs with style and finish; Charles Rothwell is quaint and amusing; Amy Anderson and company in their comedy scena, *Black and White*, take well; and F. W. Nash and T. Noel, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. H. Armitage's company pays a welcome return visit in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Margaret Cellier plays Leah, and wins much favour; Mr. Wm. Clayton's Kleschna is capital; as Sylvaine Mr. C. Austin Lee is admirable; Mr. Hy. Nunn supplies an excellent portrayal of Raoul Barton; Mr. Hy. Wrenn as the General is good; and Mr. G. Pockett is a successful Schram.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—This week Harry Lauder tops the bill, and is attracting large houses; Stella Gastelle introduces a fine scene from *La Pouvee*; Victor Travers is a good comic; Will and Alice Vokes dance wonderfully; Miss Nina Gordon is an excellent mimic.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Captain F. Shaw; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazelwood.—The chief films this week are Jane Eyre, Lauder off the Stage, Water on all Floors, The Ranchman's Bride, and Hogarth the Detective. Mlle. Lucretia sings and dances acceptably.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of the week the Hutchison company appeared in *Smith*. Mr. Robert Minster was excellent as Tom Neeman; and Mr. Douglas Greet was well placed as the man-about-town, Algy Peppercorn. Mr. Geo. Child was good as the easy-going Dallas Baker, K.C.; and Miss Ethel Hodgkins was a pretty Mrs. Dallas Baker. Miss Ethel Wellesley was a capable Mrs. Rosenberg; Miss Straus was good as Miss Chapman; and Miss Stuckey was excellent as Smith. For the rest of the week Mr. Harry P. Powers' company appeared in *Dear Little Denmark*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—Mr. Flockton Foster's costume comedy company, The Ideals, are here this week, and go well. Mr. Geo. Robey is to appear on Friday afternoon and evening; and for Saturday Fritz Kreisler, the world-renowned violinist, is to give a recital.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Little Hackenschmidt, the champion lightweight champion wrestler, is giving exhibitions which find considerable favour; Burnetti, a man of many changes, impersonates musical artists of note and renders some pleasing selections on various instruments; and May Thorne, a popular vocalist, is given a hearty welcome.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram's company occupied the boards for the first half of the week in *The House of Temperley*, which filled the popular parts of the house with thoroughly delighted and enthusiastic audiences. The two brothers, Sir Charles and Captain Jack Temperley, were strongly played respectively by Mr. Howard Rose and Mr. Lionel Glenister, cleverly assisted by Miss Sheila O'Moore, whose Ethel Morley was a most winsome impersonation. Mr. Clifton Boyne played with great success as Sir John Hawker; Mr. John Detlly as Jakes gave a good delineation of evil characteristics; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland was popular as Ginger Stubbs; and much merriment was made by Miss Madge Devereux as Lucy, his sweetheart. The prize ring gentry were numerously in evidence, headed by Tom Cribb, excellently impersonated by Mr. H. A. Mather. The gentlemen of the Corinthians had convincing representatives, their ducal President, Mr. Arthur Jackson, acting with much impressiveness at the expulsion of Captain Hawker. The remainder of the numerous cast did good service, and the play was full of life and animation throughout. On Thursday Mr. George Dance's company paid a return visit in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell.—A half-week's engagement was opened on Monday by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Lady Frederick*. In the title-rôle Miss Decima Moore submitted a most attractive impersonation, replete with cleverly acted detail; Mr. George Mudie as Paradine Fouldes gave a finished sketch of a polished man of the world; Miss Celia Gordon was bitingly frigid and well bred as Lady Mereston; Lord Mereston was played by Mr. Graham Colmer with all the necessary impulsive ardour, and his disillusionment was cleverly conveyed; Mr. Andrew Wight as Sir Gerald O'Mara and Mr. Hugh Kennedy in the disagreeable rôle of Captain Montgomery were convincing. Mr. F. G. Thurstans was a jovial Admiral Carlisle, and the Mesdames Beryl Hamilton (Rose Carlisle), Rupert Lister (Mme. Claude), and Edith Anton Laing (Angelique) acted capably. For Thursday and remainder of the week Mr. Charles Macdona and company are billed in *Niobe*.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER PAVILION. — Lessees, Rinkeries, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. M. Leopold.—Mr. J. D. Hunter and his company are here in *Nicholas Nickleby*. The rôle of Whackford Squeers is an excellent presentment by Mr. J. D. Hunter, who cleverly indicates the craft and greed of the repulsive character, his make-up being capital; Ralph Nickleby is ably delineated by Mr. Entwistle, as also are Mrs. Squeers by Miss Eva Bayley and Fanny Squeers by Miss Blanche Bayley; Miss Vera Dudley is finely sympathetic as Kate Nickleby, whose brother is played with much feeling by Mr. Herbert Maule; Mr. C. Herman Pullen is a quietly humorous Newman Noggs; Smith is feelingly played by Miss M. L. Stephens; and good character impersonations are given by Mr. Frank Growcott and Mr. Cargill Campbell as John Brodie and Mr. Snawley respectively.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's No. 1 company is appearing here in *Her Secret Lover*. On Monday Mr. Harry Wood as Gilbert Seymour, Mr. Walter H. Wilson (Captain Rose), Mr. Alfred Stretton (John Strange), and Mr. Frank Wheatley, give excellent portrayals; and Mr. Percy Boucher, Mr. J. Newton-Cowley, Mr. Hugh Clayton, Mr. Felix Lawson, and Mr. Harry Cobley contribute to the success. As Ivy Seymour, Miss Laura Walker gives a realistic impersonation; and Miss Flora Leslie performs her task with tact; the comic element is cleverly supplied by Miss Lynn Darlington, who scores as Jane Maria Wilkes.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—Special films here include The Mule Driver, Caught in the Web, The Piece of Lace, and Buffalo Hunting.

HOYLAND. — HIPPODROME. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting- and Resident-Manager, Mr Harry Firth.—Mr. Charles H. Lester and company opened here on Monday night with *A Life for a Life*. Mr. Paul Neville as Kit Oswald and Mr. Hugh Travers as Pedro Li Calci are all that can be desired. Mr. Chas. H. Lester gives a convincing impersonation of Don Leon Fernandez. Miss Dorothy Riddell is a charming Kate Evelyn; and Miss Beatrice Anderson gives an excellent portrayal of Eulalie. The comedy element is well upheld by Mr. Sam Roberts as Tim McCarthy; and he is ably assisted by Miss Marie Ault as Nancy Dorn. Special mention should be made of Wee Winnie Warden as Venetta, who is exceptionally clever.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—That brilliant protean actor R. A. Roberts heads the bill, and on Monday presented his "Cruel Coppinger" with unqualified success. Also appearing are Jack Sheridan, comedian; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls; J. F. Franklin, comedian; Sisters Page, duettists; Seigel and Fields, in a musical medley; Bros. Horne, in a boxing turn; and the pictures are an amusing wind-up.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside. — The fine programme presented here includes Miss Mary Mayfren's company in a vividly-acted one-act play, entitled *The Yellow Fang*; the Maisanos, a quartette of clever and amusing musical clowns; John Donald, a cultured baritone vocalist, in a well-arranged song scena, "A Scottish Exile's Dream"; Colbert, juggler and hoop-manipulator; Poole and Maguire, a smart comedy pair; the Loube, in sensational feats in acrobatic trick cycling; Miss Julia Reeve, a bright comedienne; Julius Walther, the popular tenor from the Carl Rosa company; and the Palace pictures.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*What the Butler Saw* is the attraction this week. Mr. Lionel Rignold plays the Butler with skill, and gives a very droll performance; Mr. Chas. Fawcett is well placed as Barrington; Miss Zoe Gilfillian is a delightful Mrs. Barrington; and Miss Foden is capitally cast in the hands of Miss Marie Daltra. Miss Christine Jenson is admirable as Nora; excellent support is given by Mr. Raymond Dudley as Sir Charles; Mr. Leo St. Clair is a satisfactory Sydney Clifford.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Two Little Drummer Boys* is here this week. The Alma Kingsley of Miss Violet Langley is a praisworthy portrayal; Molly Meadow is a comedy part well realised by Miss Patricia Connaghton; the Capt. Frank Carsdaile, as realised by Mr. T. Arthur Ellis, is a big success; the two little drummer boys were capitally enacted by Miss Maggie English and Miss Maudie B. Douglas.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—A hearty reception is accorded to Mike S. Whallen, comedian and raconteur, who rattles off a batch of crisp witticisms; a feature of the bill is the cleverly trained ponies presented by Miss Marquis, each of whom perform some wonderful tricks; Fred Curran pleases immensely with his well-rendered parodies; the Miles Stavordale Quintette, with banjoes and harp, render several charming selections as comedy jugglers; Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust are original and very funny; Phillips and Merritt elicit hearty applause as society entertainers; and the Three Sisters Kilner are a trio of dainty dancers. Bert Marsden, light comedian, is a very acceptable turn; the Garden City Four win approbation for their capable rendering of "The Wreck of the Hesperus," with illustrations; and an interesting series of bioscope pictures complete.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—The leading feature here is provided by Cormon's Juveniles, who present a pretty vocal scena, entitled "The Waifs"; Marie Blythe, the popular contralto, wins admiration; Verne and Green, comedy acrobats, present a turn both skilful and funny; other interesting items include the Two Countees, humorists and duettists; Goodall and Knox, comedians with good patter; Fred Kendall, Hebrew impersonator; Capita, the mechanical comedian; Fred Horsfall, an excellent humorist and mimic; and Katie More, a popular descriptive vocalist.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—At the head of a varied bill are Sydney Mason and company, including Miss Theresa Moore, who present *The Usurer* with exciting results; Hyde and Cody trio, in a number of eccentric tricks, are much enjoyed; the singing and dancing of the Three Sisters Silcott is popular; as a character comedienne, Katie Butler has many admirers; Ted Gill, the Yorkshire tenor delights all with his excellent singing; and other favourite turns are Billy Marsden, the musical Lancashire lad; Dennis and Morris, comedians and simultaneous dancers; and Jimmy Ferguson, eccentric comedian.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery. — Mr. Alex. Maclean's company is here this week with *My Lady Bellamy*, the title-rôle being played by Miss Laura Leigh, who gives a charming rendering. Queen Mary is well played by Miss Mary Palmer; Mrs. Mackie is in the hands of Miss Viola Marsh; and Miss Muriel Eastney is Mrs. Hemming. Mr. Alex. Maclean gives a good portrayal of the part of Sir Gervaise Bellamy; Mr. Arthur Layland makes a capital Lord Crawford; and Mr. Eric Snowdon an excellent Robert Tarfax. King William (Dutch Bill) is well played by Mr. Lyttleton-Holyoake; Mr. F. H. De Quincey is Captain Van Healer; Mr. L. D. Arthur is Sir Geo. Barclay; and Mr. A. L. Burke Captain Ottley. Mr. Barnard Stacey is Sam Waring.

HIPPODROME—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Bellong Bros., cycle equilibrists, give a clever performance, and are very popular; Mlle. Sarema has a large collection of performing animals, &c., which are skilfully trained, and this turn deserves high praise; Austin Temple is clever with sleight-of-hand tricks; Dion Wade is a good comedian and singer; Miss Kitty Collyer is popular with catchy songs; a good vocalist is Florence Esdaile; and Stella Austral is a juvenile performer of promise. Stevens and Brett have an amusing burlesque turn; and the Bioscope concludes.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO. Ltd.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, Corporation Street, BIRMINGHAM

Telephone: {Show Rooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 Central, Birmingham.} Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are at the present time by far the largest Theatre Decorators and Furnishers in the World. A proof of this is that at the present time they have Contracts in hand ten to every one of their competitors. These are plain solid facts.

Why do **DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.**, get nine out of every ten Contracts they estimate for? Simply because they know their business, complete to time, give best workmanship, only employ men who thoroughly understand this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs, Seating, &c., whether a Tip-up Chair is purchased at 4/11, including carriage and fixing, or 75/-. This should be a sufficient proof of the class of work we are executing.

Proprietors, Architects, Lessees, Managers, &c., have only to telephone, wire, or write, and Dean's Furnishing Co., Ltd., will at once send one of their Managers—either Mr. Windibank or Mr. Bardell—to wait on them next day. Distance no object—five or five hundred miles, one and all receive their promptest attention.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Point with pride to the List of Contracts booked, executed, or in hand for immediate completion this year 1910.

1. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
2. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
3. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
4. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
5. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
6. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
7. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
8. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
9. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
10. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
11. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
12. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
13. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
14. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
15. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
16. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
17. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
18. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
19. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
20. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
21. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
22. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating &c.
23. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
24. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
25. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
26. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
27. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD-STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
28. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
29. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
30. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
31. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
32. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
33. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
34. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
35. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
36. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
38. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
39. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
40. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
42. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
43. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
44. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
45. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
46. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
47. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
48. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs.
49. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
50. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
51. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
52. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
53. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
54. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
56. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
57. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S-STREET, EDINBORO'.**
58. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
59. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.**
60. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
61. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
62. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
63. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
65. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.** Complete Seating.
66. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
67. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPCOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
68. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
69. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
70. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
71. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
72. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
73. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
74. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
75. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
76. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
77. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

Supply every description of Fibrous Plaster and Decor

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edwards Evans.—An excellent variety includes Edie Endon, acrobatic dancer; Chant and Chant, who are well received, in patter and burlesque; Sim Maree, the marvellous contortionist and bender; the Two Castles, versatile artists; Yettmah and the Japanese lady; the International Mirth-Makers; Allie Moore, champion all-round skater; and a capital sketch entitled *Before the Dawn*.

The Kino.—Proprietor, Mr. Dixon Scott; Manager, Mr. John R. Scott.—In addition to pictures, the variety programme includes Mr. George Leonard, the blind musician, who establishes himself a favourite, and Mlle. Doris, who accomplishes clever feats with her dogs.

The Palace.—Lessees and Managers, Jarrow Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. John V. Kane.—Good audiences continue to patronise the excellent show of pictures and variety. In the programme are Mr. Gus Gauntlett, the well-known military athlete; Miss Eva Nelson, illustrated and ballad vocalist; and Walter and Eva Grey, in a blend of harmony, comedy, and dancing.

The Gem.—Lessees, John Tweddle and Co.; Manager, Mr. Frank Rabey.—A first-class show of films here is receiving liberal support.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsay Edwardes.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company opened here on Tuesday with that funniest of recent plays, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Miss Nella Powys is charming and delightfully graceful as the aristocratic Countess; and Mr. A. W. Bascomb as Preedy proves himself the life and soul of the piece. Mr. John Nesbit has just the presence for John Bounsall; Mr. Shirley Lea is distinctly good as Bilson; excellent support is also rendered by Mr. Cecil Humphries as the Earl; Mr. Hamilton Deane as the Honourable Robert; Mr. J. D. Geddes as Lord Kinslow; Mr. J. McClintock Clive as Reginald Saunders; and Mr. Edmond Beresford as Mr. Sidgrave. Miss Mary O'Farrell is a particularly taking Emma Sidgrave; Miss Ninon Dudley appears as Harriet Budgen; and Miss Violet Greville as Mrs. Sidgrave. The principal piece is preceded by *The Chance*, well rendered by Mr. Cecil Humphreys, Mr. J. D. Geddes, and Miss Ninon Dudley.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—The electric pictures here include On the Banks of the Nile and Cardinal Richelieu. Mr. J. A. Maurice, the comedian, has been re-engaged for another week.

Olympia.—Proprietor, Mr. Louis Marks.—This is the closing week here, this hall shortly reopening as a roller skating rink. Mlle. Cordelia is appearing in electric dances, and Les Vivandières Concert Party has been re-engaged.

Triangle Park.—The Tatlers, under the direction of Louis Rihill, are appearing here.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—Amongst the new films being shown are A Piece of Lace, Melbourne, Mario's Swan Song, and The Funeral of the Late Florence Nightingale.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—For the first three nights this week *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* has been presented here by Mr. Gaston Mayer's company. Miss Lucy Beaumont in the title-part is very acceptable; Miss Armine Grace as Miss Hazy is very droll and quaint; Miss Winifred Murray plays Lovey Mary with considerable grace and charm; the Misses Doris Murray, Molly Shields, and Doris Beeton are delightfully girlish and animated as Asia, Europena, and Australia; Miss Sybil Brooke and Miss Violet Vivian are excellent as Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz; Miss Ethne O'Brien as Lucy is very sweet; the part of Mr. Stubbins is played with convincing effect by Mr. Fred Forrest; Mr. Ernest Gray ably portrays Mr. Wiggs; Deacon Bagsby is in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Fisher; Mr. Harry G. Wright and Mr. Robin Shiells are respectively good as Hunkerdunkus Jones and the Sheriff.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Parcezer.—For the first three nights of this week excellent variety shows have been given. A welcome return visit was paid by the Maningos, head balancers; Dan Scott, comedian, was popular; Donald Murray gave selections on the banjo; May B. Brilliant was successful in her songs and dancing; Scholey and Scholey presented an interesting sketch; Will Avis did some skilful shadowgraphy; and Dora Martini, the lady gymnast, was successful.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Messrs. J. C. Lodge-Percy and James Martin's company is the attraction this week in *Mr. Barnes of New York*, *A Fool's Paradise*, and *Frou-Frou*. The former piece was presented on Monday to a good house. Excellent work was done by Miss Henrietta Schrier as Marina Paoli; Mr. F. Douglas Howard made up well as Count Danella; Mr. Bartlett Garth was a success as Capt. Gerald Anstruther; whilst the title-rôle was in the safe hands of Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy; Miss Norah Vaughan gave a pleasing portrayal of Enid Anstruther, as also did Miss Kitty Trevail as Maud Chatris and Miss Nellie Stratham as Lady Chatris.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—A strong attraction is provided this week, Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's company appearing with conspicuous success in *Lights Out*. Miss Pauline Emerie plays Klara Volkhardt with naturalness; Mr. Frank Caviello gives an admirable performance of Lieutenant Von Lauffen; whilst Mr. Robert Noble's Sergeant Volkhardt is a powerful and clever piece of acting. Mr. Herbert Tugg is commendable as Lieutenant Von Howan, Mr. Charles Vincent a dignified Major Paschke, and Mr. Philip Renouf's Corporal Helbig an artistic portrayal. Corporal Quiess finds a competent representative in Mr. Arthur T. Barugh, and Mr. G. W. Barnes plays the comic part of Private Michael with success. Preceding the play Mr. Bernard Merryfield, society entertainer, greatly amuses the audience with selections from his extensive répertoire.

LEEDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*Claudian* is here this week. Mr. William McLaren acts with ability in the title-rôle, and Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida makes an excellent impression.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Jackson and McLaren, champion tree-cutters of Australia, give a very clever and interesting exhibition; Ando's Happy Little Japs appear in a smart equilibristic act; Carter Livesay and Lilian Roseberry bring a new and amusing sketch, entitled *An Amateur Anarchist*; Great Lester gains much popularity as a ventriloquist; Orpheus, a talented musician, is admired and applauded. Other good turns are those of Sybil St. Elmo, Six Lancashire Lasses, Amy Marsden, and Dan Crawley.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Four favourite star turns here include Henry Sleath's company, in *The Third Degree*; Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian musicians and dancers; Twelve Kennedy Girls; and Julia Mack. A clever musical entertainment is provided by Hamid Alexander; the Schilinsky Brothers are clever hand-balancers; and other popular artists appearing are the Keppels, the Triscos, and the Almas.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Performed here are two sketches, *The Cattle Thief* and *The Gambler*, and the following variety artists appear: James Shingleton, Woods and Walsh, Alice Blandford, the Kebbles, Rose and Jeanette, and Johnny Dwyer.

Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Booking-Manager, Mr. Johnny Whiteman.—The Heriot Trio are starring here in a capital sporting farce, *Denbigh's Divorce*. Other favourites are the Romah Sisters, Claymore Trio, Irene and Morton, Halbert, and the Mackinnon Family.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Mr. Wilson Howard and a talented company are presenting two excellent dramas, *viz.*, *Under the Iron Heel* and *Under the Czar*. On Monday night the first named was staged, and was well received. Mr. Wilson Howard as René de Maupassant gave a powerful interpretation, and had a sympathetic partner in Miss Carlotta Anson, who played Germaine Mirbleau with much feeling. A finished piece of acting was given by Miss Marie Angus as Andre; Mr. Henry Parr as Otto Marx sustained the necessary villainy of the piece with vigour; and Mr. Dennis Clyde as the German major obtained the approbation of the house. *Under the Czar* is billed for Friday and Saturday.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—This week's attraction is provided by a first visit of Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company in *The Bishop's Son*, the title-rôle being exceedingly well played by Mr. Derwent Hall Caine. Others in the cast who figure prominently with embodiments of cleverness are Mr. W. F. Grant as Gilchrist Mylrea, Mr. Julian Cross as Thorkell Mylrea, and Miss Verita Vivien as Mona Mylrea. A male quartette, consisting of Messrs. Lawrence, Carne, Young, and Nicholls, are also introduced with success.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The detective drama *Sexton Blake* is being presented here this week by the Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd. The name-part is well played by Mr. Murray Yorke, who is capably supported in other parts by Miss Elizabeth Watkins as Marjorie Lovell, Mr. Victor C. Rolfe as Farmer Blackburn, Mr. Millar Wilson as Tinker, Miss Dinah Wright as Euphemia Pattacake, Mr. Edward McLean as Roger Blackburn, Miss Lydia Manniugton as Philadelphia Kate, and Mr. Sydney Barner as Simos Faggas.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charles L. Sealey.—Splendid houses are delighted with this week's excellent show, at the head of which is Herbert Darnley's company in *Private Potts*, in which Fred Kitchen, an immense favourite here, keeps the house in a continual roar of merriment as Private Potts; the eminent ventriloquist Tom Edwards is receiving his usual warm welcome for a turn that is brimful of smartness; George French, a clever comedian, is making a hit; Evelyn Bingham, a young Leicester lady, possessed of a fine soprano voice, is accorded a flattering reception; Roma and Romani, the clever and versatile classical musicians, are ecoring their usual success; the Findens (Mr. and Mrs. Harold) create merriment with a well-played sketch; and other artists who give entertaining turns are Fred Lincoln, comedian; Georgina Leno, comedienne and dancer; and the Great Vincent, acrobatic table expert. The Bioscope is still retained.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Heading a very good show here this week is Percy Ford's company in the dramatic episode *The Spy*, in which Mr. Lionel D'Aragon sustains his original part of the spy with much success, Miss Millie Silvester as Madam Halcon being also good; Leo and Roland are smart equilibrists; Clarke and Mostol refined patter comedians and dancers, are successful; Mlle. Bartanelli is prominent as a clever contortionist; Cissie Carter renders a couple of catchy songs in capital style; and the picture programme is a fine one, and includes A Window to Let, A Colonel at Twenty-two, A Kid's Kite, The Majesty of the Law, and The Land of Eternal Summer.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The big attraction here this week is the Viviaphone Singing Pictures. Among a goodly array of diversified films is His Last Burglary. Millie Ray, vocalist and speciality dancer, also appears with success.

Grand Electric Palace.—Proprietors, the Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—The chief film in a fine programme is the Kinemacolour picture Venice and the Grand Canal, a beautiful subject. Other prominent films are Flowers that Bloom in the Spring, A Honeymoon for Three, A Lucky Miss, A Well-earned Meal, Industries in Cochin (China), A Window to Let, Indiscretions of Betty, The Eclipse Stakes, Cowes Regatta, &c.

The Cinema Theatre.—Proprietors, the London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager and Chief of Staff, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Kingstone Trollope.—The principle item at this new picture house is the Animatophone song "Come into the garden Maud," which is supported by Fashoda, The Messenger Boy, Cow Puncher's Ward, Bath Chair Attendant, Season of Birds, Aviator's Dream, and New Park Keeper.

Boulevard Electric Theatre.—Managing-Director Mr. J. Noble.—The pictures at this hall continue to be of the best procurable, and are interspersed with variety by Kitty Bowen, a pleasing soprano, in illustrated songs, and Bert White, a quaint Yorkshire comedian.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*Her Love Against the World* has proved very attractive here, the piece having been effectively presented by Mr. W. H. Hallatt and Mr. Walter Howard's principal company. Eric, Earl of Strathmere, was successfully filled by Mr. Fred Emery, and Miss Ellen Snow makes a good appearance in the part of Princess Iris. The rival Princes, Ulric and Othmar, are well portrayed by Mr. Roy Fortescue and Mr. W. H. Hallatt; evil-doing is ably personified in the Shula of Miss Blanche Steele; Mr. Arthur Chisholm makes an efficient Prince Maurice; and the boy Lionel has a sympathetic representative in Miss Rossie St. John. Messrs. Chas. R. Hann, Webster Grey A. B Cushman, and others do useful work; and comedy is provided in meritorious fashion by the Heinrick and Fritz of Mr. Fred Acton and Mr. John Mill, aided by the Katinka and Gretchen of Miss Winifred Acton and Miss Hettie Ferguson.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. Lewis Waller has always been a prime favourite in Liverpool, and his appearance here on Monday evening with the new play, *Bardelys the Magnificent*, drew an immense audience. Those who delight in Mr. Waller's spirited, emotional style will certainly find his latest work well suited to their tastes. The whole of the company, which is a well-chosen one, had a very cordial reception. Mr. Herbert Jarman showed his high accomplishments to the full in the rôle of Louis XIII.; Mr. William Haviland played the heavy part of Phillipe with most convincing result; Miss Madge Titheradge as Roxalanne acted with delicacy and grace; Mrs. A. B. Tapping presented an amusing old Viscomtesse; Mr. Alec F. Thompson proved a quaint little Pierre; and good support also came from Miss Dorothy Dix (Andrée), Miss Gabrielle de Wilden (Paquotte), Mr. Reginald Dane (Laurent), and Mr. Frank Woolfe (Lavedan).

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney. — Enthusiastic audiences are here this week to greet Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney in *The Unwritten Law* and *Margaret Catchpole*. The former, given on Monday night, afforded great delight, and the two distinguished players came in for rounds of applause. Miss Hackney as Sonio showed great emotional powers, and made a marked impression by the tenderness and charm of her efforts; Mr. Laurence Irving as Rodion took advantage of his numerous opportunities for exhibiting his dramatic powers, and afforded general satisfaction; Mr. James Skea was an excellent magistrate Bezak; and admirable work likewise came from Messrs. Frank Esmond (Kashin), Rupert Harvey (Zosimoff), Edward Chester (Gromoff), Wentworth Fane (Keller), and Miss Alice Inman (Pulcheria). In *Margaret Catchpole* Mr. Irving was John Luff, a rôle which suited him well; and Miss Hackney repeated her pleasing part of Margaret.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company are here this week with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay plays Delgado with considerable effect; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe presents an admirable Detective Gouffett; Mr. James Chippendale shows ability in the dual part of Brisson and Le Blanc; and others who appear are Miss Marie Pemberton (Lapinau), Miss Constance Glenabyn (Marie de Brisson), Mr. Richard Oliver (Lucien Cortier), and Mr. Leonard H. H. Rooke (Jean Barbelon).

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Was She to Blame?* is being given by the Kimberley, Green, and Hinton combination. Mr. Charles March makes the most of the part of William Clark; Mr. J. A. Wilson does well as Captain Courtnay; Mr. Henry Rutland plays the Vicar with care and tact; Miss Nancy Roberts pleases greatly with her Lillian Norman; Miss Helene Forest ably enacts the part of Mrs. Kate Rosselle; and others who afford satisfaction are Messrs. George Langdon (Frank Rosselle), Ken Murray (Timothy Swales), Miss Nita Owen (Sarah Swales), and Miss Ellen Beverley (Mary Norman).

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—A round of Shakespeare is being given here this week by Mr. Alexander Marsh and company. On Monday night *The Merchant of Venice* was staged, with Mr. Marsh as Shylock, Miss Carrie Baillie as Portia, and the following suporters:—Messrs. Wilson Gunning (Bassanio), A. E. Walker (Antonio), Edwin Beverley (Tubal), Miss Kathleen Clanchy (Jessica), and Miss May Grimshaw (Nerissa). The other plays of the week were *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *School for Scandal*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *David Garrick*, *Sleigh Bells*, and *Jane Shore*.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Big business is being done here this week, on account of Wilkie Bard being foremost. His latest songs are raising shouts of delight. James Stewart, the tramp at shouts of delight. James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, is as funny as ever; some remarkable acrobatic dancing is gone through by the Satanella Trio; Ethel Newman delights everybody with her comedy monologue, "Her Wedding Day"; a charming turn is provided by Katie Moss, a talented vocalist and violinist; the always welcome Winifred Hare has a flattering reception for her latest successes; Rusell Carr, the military ventriloquist, pleases greatly; and Walter Bellonini gives an exhibition of juggling that calls forth great applause.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here this week is *The Midnight Mail*, sent by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden. Mr. George Harvard plays Harry Steyne capitally; Miss Trissie Humphreys pleases everybody with her Mary Steyne; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman afforded much satisfaction with his Leonard Royle; Mr. Frank S. Strickland stands out prominently as Hassan Padisha; Mr. Fred G. Evison acts excellently and amusingly as Billy Brewer; Miss Mildred Carr helps with the comedy in the rôle of Nancy Brewer; and Miss Jennie Weston pleases as Lady Eustace.

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week are the Six Bros. Luck, with *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Madge Grey, the Lancashire comedienne, causes endless laughter with her funny children's stories; Carlisle and Wellmon present a neat musical act; James and Jenny Jees earn rounds of applause for their dancing, jumping, and cycling on the endless revolving wire; the Sisters Geretti go through a sensational double trapeze turn; Boden and Bell, juvenile duettists and dancers, earn a cordial reception; Webb and Branston gain favour for their operatic duet singing; and others in the list are Leo Fields, comedian, and George Norton, comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Old Folks at Home* is being played here twice nightly by the stock company. Included in the principals are Messrs. Sydney Grant (Lord Howard), Harry Tresham (Andrew Ross), Tom H. Solly (Ben Jolly), R. Seth Innes (Joe Chaff), Miss Lina Nazeby (Patricia Bathurst), and Miss Florence Entwistle (Dorothy Robin). Brown's Bioscope shows Soap in the Eyes.

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—George Formby is foremost here this week with his latest songs, and is greatly enjoyed; that merry couple Alexandre and Hughes are as diverting as ever; as acrobatic eccentrics Griffen and Ardel provide an admirable turn; Elmer Spyglass, a fine baritone, renders several numbers to general satisfaction; May Mars pleases with her charming singing, an Oriental fantasy, "A Persian Garden," being very beautiful; the Sutcliffe Family of acrobats, pipers, and dancers are greeted with rounds of applause; and also in the list are Lulu Williams, juvenile comedienne; Bert Weston, light comedian; and Walter Wade, comedian.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—A big line here this week is Amati's Band, which renders choice musical selections to everybody's delight; the O'Gorman Bros. are smart comedians and dancers; Master Edward Garratt and company cause endless laughter with *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*; Arthur Aldridge sings tenor songs with artistic finish; Alice Edwards affords much satisfaction with her male impersonations; the Royal Banzai Family of Japanese entertainers are a treat; and the Three Comedy Chanters have some humorous and harmonious interludes.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Commencing on Monday for three nights, Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore's company appeared in Ibsen's plays. *A Doll's House* was presented on Monday, *The Master Builder* on Tuesday, and *Hedda Gabler* on Wednesday. Mr. Leigh Lovel as Torvald Helmer plays well throughout; Mr. Claud W. Sykes being at home as Dr. Rank. Mr. F. Pennington Gush as Nils Krogstadt successfully portrays a telling part; Miss Katherine Maynard is excellent as Mrs. Linden; and Miss Octavia Kenmore as Nora Helmore performs effectively a difficult character. *Smith* was announced for the remainder of the week.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's vaudeville entertainers are doing good business this week, Mr. Bert Byrne being a big favourite. Mons. Alec Chentrena, the Anglo-French comedian, delights all with catchy songs; Mr. Geo. Charlestone is one of the best basso vocalists yet heard here; and Mr. Douglas Campbell is popular. Master Charley Bray sings and dances excellently, whilst Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe renders his items in inimitable style.

LLANELLY. — Haggar's Theatre (late Royalty).—Proprietor, Mr. W. Haggar; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jas. Haggar; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Danvers.—*Lucky Durham* is capitally staged here by Mr. Arthur Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy appears with conspicuous success as John Durham; Mr. Leigh as the Hon. Reggie works hard, and creates a favourable impression; Mr. W. Calvert as Lord Mountfallon is also very good; Miss Nellie Bonsor as Mrs. Durham deserves high commendation; as Helen Vallerton Miss Florence Tressillian is sympathetic and charming.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—The "Rurals," comedy musicians, are clever, and their "anvil scene" is effective; Phil Rees' Stable Lads in their racing act, *Not a Crook*, are appreciated, and give a good singing and dancing turn. The pictures include Tunny Fishing, On a Carnival Day, A Child of Impulse, and The Tide of Fortune.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—The pictures here this week include Red Eagle's Love Affair, What the Daisy Said, The Two Portraits, Never Send a Man to Match a Ribbon, etc. The artists are Dan Rodney, comedian; and Anna Hope, contralto.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Parcezer.—*The Arcadians* are drawing capital houses, scenery and dresses are distinctly praiseworthy, and the company work together with pleasing results. Mr. Alfred Beers is decidedly amusing as the jockey, and scores a big hit with "I've a mother"; Mr. Chas. Stephenson as Simplicitas and Mr. Arthur Macdonald (Jack Meadows) are also well to the fore; Miss Violet Roberts is capably placed as Chrysea; Miss Mollie McIntyre is a decidedly pleasing Eileen Cavanagh; and the Mrs. Smith of Miss Gertrude Aylward is a capital study.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Excellent business continues here. The current bill includes Lydia Dreams in a clever "vento" sketch; Williams' Welsh Minstrels; and Carlos Menard. Glimpses of Bird Land and a fine story of the American Civil War are amongst the best of a capital pictorial display.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here in *From Mill Girl to Millionairess*. Mr. D. Murry proves a capable exponent of Laurence Langdale; Dr. Lace Levallie is typically acted by Mr. Charles Vivian; Mr. J. A. Hybert submits a good rendering of Mathew Marsh; Mr. Gilbert Hall is equally successful as Dr. Bruce Cloud; Mr. Victor C. Vayne as Tommy Turnbull and Miss Lizzie Lennon as Tilly Tyndesly act with much humour; Miss Isla Garnett Vayne gave a talented and sympathetic performance as Lina Lee; Miss Hyda Moore portrayed Muriel Marsh with great effect; and Miss Alice N. Livesey's impersonation of Liz Lee is commendable.

MAESTEG.—Picture Palace.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. F. G. Knowles.—Included in this week's programme are the following films: The Blind Child, The Poachers, A Millionaire's Adventure, and Paul. Varieties are given by Pappo and Ella, society gymnasts; and Howard and Wallace with a comedietta, *Taming a Wife*.

MAIDENHEAD.—Town Hall.—Secretary, The Town Clerk.—Messrs. Nicoll, Rivington, and Howard had a crowded house on Monday, when they played *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Cecil E. Anson presents Mrs. Wiggs in a bright and captivating manner; Miss Muriel Locking emphasises the peculiarities of Miss Hazy, and Misses Edith Netting and Edith Tinniswood cleverly depict Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz; Miss Clara Earle is good in the pathetic rôle of Lovey Mary; and Miss Constance Cammeyer is successful as Miss Lucy; Mr. Kenneth Rivington gives a good character study of Mr. Stubbins; and Mr. George Heward displays ability as Mr. Wiggs.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—*The Woman in the Case* by Miss Florence Tyrrell's company has attracted good houses for three nights, and the remainder of the week was given up to *Havana*. In the first-named play Mr. Cecil Newton did good work as Julian Rolfe; and Mr. Harold Brennan excelled as Thomson; while Mr. Sidney Porter as Jimmy O'Neil and Mr. Charles Clark as Klauffsky were well suited; Mr. Gerald Alexander, the stage-manager, played Walters the Butler with credit; Miss Tyrrell made much of the part of Claire Forster; and Miss Mabel Ormande was good as Margaret Rolfe; while Miss Ethel Lodge caused amusement as Mrs. Hughes. As a curtain-raiser the one-act play, *Barbara*, was given.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Full houses are attracted here by the appearance of Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson in *Henry of Navarre* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. The first-named play was given on Monday with tremendous success. Mr. Fred Terry's depiction of Henry de Bourbon was matched in charming detail by the Marguerite of Miss Julia Neilson, this being certainly one of her best impersonations. Strong parts also are Catherine de Medici, played by Miss Phyllis Manners with sinister power, the Guise of Mr. Philip Merivale, Mr. Malcolm Cherry's Charles IX., and the Marshal de Tavannes of Mr. J. Carter-Edwards; while Mr. H. H. Wright added an effective embodiment of Anjou. A praiseworthy piece of work was the Mouhy of Mr. Walter Edwin. Many curtains were demanded, and much enthusiasm was displayed by the audience. *The Scarlet Pimpernel* was set aside for Friday and Saturday matinée.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. James Welch in *When Knights were Bold* is a sure draw anywhere if the requirement is food for laughter. So highly developed in this direction has the piece become, in fact, that people are now complaining that it makes them laugh too much. So, at least, is the state of things in Manchester. The old company in their old parts render the usual assistance, and all are very good. *Millie's Mother* precedes.

Royal Osborne Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*The King's Romance* is doing good business here. It is written by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, who himself undertakes the heroic rôle of Prince Andreas, afterwards the King, with notable success. He is assisted charmingly and cleverly by Miss Haidée Gunn, who makes a very effective character of Vera Navairre, the girl who married the King. As her enemy, Michel Vacurat, Mr. John Dunbar makes his mark; and other interesting parts are well filled, the humorous ones being in the hands of Mr. George Toft and Miss Bella Power.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company is here in *The Way Women Love*, which is making the circuit of local theatres. Friday and Saturday are devoted to *Sapho*.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.— Mr. Morton Powell's company is here in the popular drama *Driving a Girl to Destruction*. The cast is a strong one. As Ruth Wright Miss Marie Robson gives an excellent performance, which stands out equally with the fine delineation of Ruby Wright—the girl driven to destruction—by Miss Maud M. Powell. Mr. J. Edward Fletcher as the heroic Robert Ray is smart and manly, Mr. Walter Clark furnishing a contrast in the rascally doings of Lucas List. Miss Ana Corri as Mme. de Meral is also well in the picture, while light interest is provided by Miss Effie Mackintosh, Mr. Edward Swinton, and Mr. Arnold Allen.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—Rostand's romantic comedy, *The Fantasticks*, opens the bill here. It is very tastefully rendered, but is by no means new to Gaiety audiences. More novel and attractive to the audience is Bernard Shaw's trifle, *The Man of Destiny*, not so much because of its Shavian quality, as that the cast contains, in the title-rôle, a veritable descendant of Napoleon, Mr. Juan Buonaparte, who looks like the Man, and whose acting ability is quite good enough to complete the illusion. Miss Edyth Goodall as the Lady plays finely in her exchanges with Napoleon; Mr. Esme Percy as the Lieutenant gives one of his best performances; and Mr. Edward Landor does all that is required as Giuseppe.

Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—Mr. M. D. Waxman's Yiddish company is paying a return visit in a répertoire of interesting plays.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—A highly entertaining programme here includes Wee George Wood, the phenomenal juvenile artist, in his latest successes; Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings, well described as the riddle of the century; Foreman and Fannan, the comedy millionaires; Hayman and Franklin, in their comedy act, *A Matrimonial Agency*; Cosgrove and Burns in *The Singing Academy*; Gwilym T. Evans, the South African tenor; the Five Havannas, comedy acrobats; Teresa de Silva, contralto; and Mabel Berra, American comedienne.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Billy Watson and company in *A Losing Winner* are prominent here, while Florence and Rose Showell, duettists, also give a big turn, and Les Rallis create much amusement in the sketch *The Artist and His Monkey*. Other pleasing items are contributed by Philip Levard, illusionist; the Broadway Boys, singers and dancers; Alf Warner, swell comedian and instrumentalist; and Harry Luck, a smart comedian.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital programme here is headed by Courtice Pounds and company in *Charles, His Friend*, in which the well-known tenor acts and sings, and is admirably supported. The second place of honour is occupied by George Bastow, who is heartily welcomed, and whose songs, notably "Captain Ginjah," are much enjoyed. Laurence Barclay, the comedian, is another popular item; the Arthur Lloyd Trio go well in their playlet, *Little Charlie*; the Onetti Sisters are seen in a graceful and clever gymnastic act; Guyer and Valle make a hit in their comedy dancing sketch; and pleasing turns are added by the Durant Bros. in their comic speciality; Little Lily Shaw, juvenile comedienne; and the Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Harry Tate in his latest absurdity, *Flying*, is filling every house here. Willie Pantzer and company are seen to very great advantage in an acro-pantomimic sketch, *The Limit*, the whole performance being highly meritorious. Millie Hylton proves herself an exceedingly versatile comedienne, and is deservedly well received; Leslie Harris, at the piano with story, makes a big hit; the Sistars Doherty, original comediennes, are decidedly entertaining in song and dance; Udagawa and Kawamoura, Japanese actors, are followed with interest in a grim mimo-drama, *Vengeance*; Bugler Carr is seen in a unique balancing act of great merit; and Tom E. Hughes is a smart character comedian.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Victor Widdicombe, ably assisted, scores a success here in a comedy episode, *Her Devonshire Dad*. The Royal Italian Court Opera Trio give excerpts from grand opera in fine style, their singing being much above the average. Edith Harmer is a very charming vocal comedienne; the Three Grovini Sisters go through an astounding acrobatic, bending, and tumbling performance; Florence Wix, musical comedy artist, sings pleasing songs in nice style; Sadie Stanley is a smart male impersonator; Henrietta and Selina are accomplished vocal and musical entertainers; and Mark Hanbury is a capital comedian. Pictures complete.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—The well-known comedian Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are here with *The Lady of Ostend*. Highly successful are Mr. Brough and Mr. Alfred Hemming as Le Baron de Longueville and Joseph Carbury respectively; Miss Olga Esmé as Millie Grace, and Miss Beatrice Park as Dorothy Worths scored all along the line; and a big "hit" was made by Mr. Douglas Payne as the prize-fighter. Other parts were adequately filled, and the whole farce greatly enjoyed.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company in a sporting and dramatic episode, entitled *A 30 to 1 Chance*, is being played here with great success. The company—a strong one—includes Miss Mary Harrington, and Messrs. F. Deric Powell, Fred Monti, A. T. Lennard, Gerald Blake, Ben Jordan, and Young Sullivan. Horace Wheatley, genial as ever, sings, talks, and dances, and is well received; the Haytors give their popular turn; Seibo, a remarkably clever juggler, makes a hit; whilst others who provide enjoyable turns are Dixie Deo, comedienne; Tom Ellis, comedian; and the Dyotts, in a farcical episode, *Only a Dummy*. There are excellent pictures also.

Rusholme Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—The Cigarettes, an excellent combination of artists, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Crampton and Mr. Charles Hislop, are here this week, and include Miss Aimee Bebb, contralto; Miss Nellie Schrader, operatic vocalist; Miss Ida Stanley, accompanist; Mr. Leo Roy; Mr. Reginald Crowe; and Mr. Crampton himself, baritone.

Bijou Electric Theatre (Erskine-street, Hulme). —Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—Grandfather's G

HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. G. T. Smurthwaite.—In addition to an enjoyable show of pictures, which includes the Johnson-Jeffries Fight, Rowland Hill, a favourite comedian on Teeside, submits numbers which meet with much approval; and a turn given by J. P. Carroll, described as a military tambourinist, is also appreciated.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Diacoff; Manager, Mr. Arthur Izon.—Mme. De Rose, the lady Foli, is fulfilling a return engagement here, and fully upholds her previous reputation, ably assisted in duets by Hilda Claremont, a charming soprano. The approbation of the audience is most vociferous. Dancit, the queen of the golden clog, is a clever speciality dancer. J. H. Hawtrey, versatile comedian, also does well.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's excellent company has been here for three nights in *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Hugh Wakefield is funny in the extreme as Lord Fancourt Babberley, Chesney and Wykeham having excellent exponents in Messrs. Francis Drake and Robert Burnett. Mr. Theo McCausland Stewest acts and looks the retired Indian Army man to the life; Mr. Henry Hare is exceptionally good as Old Spettigue; and the Brasset of Mr. Sydney Compton is also commendable. Miss Audrey Stafford is charming and refined as the real Donna Lucia; and the three girls Kitty, Amy, and Hella find charming exponents in Mesdames Ruth Henton, Phyllis Black, and Janet Gillette.

NEATH.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's excellent company is presenting *A Country Girl in London*. Miss Maud Merrick, in the title-rôle gives an admirable delineation; Mr. Fred Wilberforce submits a good reading of Mr. John Hamilton; Mr. Chas. Halling ably acquits himself as Frank Gordon; Mr. Scott Leighton, in the heavy character of Godfrey Clinton, is well placed; Mr. Frank is an amusing Henrich Oppenheim; Mr. Seymour Perry as Wilberforce Puddyphat and Miss Alice Clarke as his wife are a genial couple; Miss Elsie Marriot Watson is very popular as Gwendoline Gordon. The scenic effects are excellent.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—A good selection of pictures is presented, The Sisters Anderson are expert dancers and musicians, and the Herald Comedy Four are entertaining comedians, vocalists, and dancers.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—An attractive bill is headed by Francini-Olloms and his pace in a clever variety entertainment, a feature of which is the performance of twenty-four somersaults by the former whilst playing a concertina; Ellen Sellars is a refined contralto singer; and attractive turns are supplied by Daisy Mayer, coon impersonator; Ruver's canine footballers; and Pollard Bros., in a novel sketch *The Airship; or, The Stolen Plans*; Dainty Vena Velma is a pretty dancer; and Mr. E. J. Sheldan a good comedian.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker. Mr. R. Nightingale's company is presenting *The Hindoo and the Maid* here. Mr. Horace Buckley impersonates Chicke with considerable skill; Mr. Lauri Howard is an amusing Thistles; and the rôle of Mr. Stubbs is admirably sustained by Mr. Fred Watson; as Captain Hertage and Ernest Travers respectively Mr. H. Willis and Mr. J. Johnston are both clever, the latter scoring a big success with his 'cello solo; Miss Kitty Vernum makes a charming Primrose; and Miss Nell Ingram sustains the character of Eliza with distinct success.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Crowded houses are the rule here, and Mr. Edward Terry and his London company have received a most enthusiastic welcome. The plays selected for the week are *The Magistrate, Liberty Hall, Sweet Lavender*, and for the second time out of London *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*.

TOWER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. H. Davy.—Pictures and variety still continue in the theatre and give every satisfaction.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—The Pierrots are in evidence this week. The company includes Mr. Norman Osborne, Miss Emilie Tait, and others.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The Grotesques are drawing crowded houses here; they are a versatile troupe, and prove themselves to be laughter-makers of an original character. "Some Impressions of a Ballad Concert" and "A Village Concert" are the two chief items, and are most diverting. The company include Miss Dorothy Doria, Miss Elsie English, Miss Kathleen Severn, and Mr. Cecil Cook, Mr. James Watts, Mr. Hugh Bayly, Mr. Harry Harmer, and Mr. Maurice Besly.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, in *Under Two Flags*, is creating a highly favourable impression on large audiences; Miss Agnes Verity's rendition of Cigarette is full of versatility and subtlety, and her impersonation is charming; Bertie Cecil Royellieu is graphically delineated by Mr. Wernham Ryott; and the Lord Royellieu of Mr. Charles Brooke is worthy of every credit; Mr. Wilfred Jessop gives a fine portrayal of Berklie; as Rake Mr. Harry Benson is highly amusing; Mr. Charles E. Johnson is well placed as Colonel Chaseauroy; and Mr. David Hawthorne is a vigorous Lord Rockingham. Miss O'Neill is a charming Princess Venetia; Countess Olga and Lady Beatrice Guinevere are ably portrayed by Miss Angela Stewart and Miss Madoline Gordon; Miss Tina Langlois, Mr. Lawrence Dew, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson, and Mr. Arthur Redmond capably fill their respective parts.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—*Her Nameless Child* is here. Arthur Ford finds an apt exponent in Mr. F. E. Noble, and Anthony Ford is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Keand; Mr. Leonard Aardale gives a vigorous rendition of the scheming Lord Henry Woodville, and the lesser villain Mongrole is admirably played by Mr. George Francis; Mr. L. Clements makes the most of his opportunities as Tona Rivers; Miss Dora Weber acts admirably as Lady Sybil Arundale; and the Phyllis of Miss Jean Wigney could not well be improved upon. This is the last week of the two-shows-a-night system here.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Gertie Gitani is paying a welcome visit, and her new and entertaining songs are vociferously encored; Harry Randall, the popular comedian, was billed to appear, but is indisposed, and J. W. Rowley fills his place; the Jackson Family of trick cyclists are becoming more wonderful than ever; Harry Ford, the interrogative comedian, receives a warm reception; Roze and Calvert are highly amusing in their diverting sketch, *Captain Kettle and His Mate*; the Alex Picud company please by their absurdity; Elly Adair is a dainty little dancer and sweet singer; McConnell Trio are responsible for a musical comedietta, entitled *The Invalid*; Frank Couch, comedian, has some amusing patter; and the pictures wind up the entertainment.

PAVILION.—Proprietors. Newcastle-on-Tyne Pavilion, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Victor Niblo's talking birds are delighting the patrons of this popular hall; Peggy Lennie and Walter Hast act and sing well in their musical idyll, *The Maid of Polaria*; the Faludy Troupe are sensational acrobats; Ernie Myers scores with his amusing patter; Terry and Lambert are a clever comedy couple; Lilian French, is a smart mimic; Dalmere's performing animals show careful training; Stacey and Williams, comedians, patterers, and dancers; Lily Lonsdale, comedienne; and the pictures complete the programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Linney.—Some excellent films are being featured here, and the variety turns—Raglus, juggler, and Zena Hay, comedienne—obtain a flattering reception.

OLYMPIA.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—An excellent picture programme is being submitted here, and the huge auditorium is well filled nightly.

BRINKBURN PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Tiny Ashton, boy vocalist and impersonator, is here with a budget of good songs, which he renders in capital style. There is the usual picture programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A Honeymoon for Three is an amusing wedding incident; The Purgation, Out of the Past, and Convict 796 are good dramatic subjects. Mr. Frank Power ably sings "I know in memory you'll recall me" and "And a little child shall lead them," illustrated with appropriate slides.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The Italian Lakes is a pretty travel series; The Firechief's Daughter, The Girl from Arizona, and Estralitta are replete with interest; and Desitution and Dreams is a good trick film.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Some fine dramatic films include The Tongue of Scandal, A Child's Impulse, The Face at the Window, Grandfather's Gift, and The Poacher. Some good comic subjects are also provided.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.— Mr. Will Glaye's company is presenting *No Mother to Guide Her* here. Mr. Bernard Lieli submits a clever character-study of Felix Campbell; Mr. John S. Millward does well as the Rev. Tom Pelham; Mr. Frederick Biron capably delineates Bill Bunce; Mr. George Gormley scores as William Saxby; Mr. Will Glaze makes a capital Bob Coleman; and Mr. Charles Addison proves an interesting John Smart; as Julia Patterson Miss Georgette Thierry is seen to distinct advantage; Miss Betty Seymour makes the most of her opportunities as Nan; and Miss Roma Pendrous gives a good impersonation of Millicent Saxby.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Gus Barra, eccentric musician, is the premier attraction, and is a big success; Madge Carew and Wynnie Russell, assisted by the Avril Juveniles, in *The Little Gleaner*, won well-merited applause; the Two Maros, triple-bar eccentrics, are exceptionally clever; La Belle Watson, in illustrated songs, is greatly appreciated; Mlle. le Barton, Continental performer, has a cordial welcome; and Jock Barrie, Scotch comedian and dancer, has made a great hit; the Sardines, vaudeville artists, go well; and the Palace Pictures conclude.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. F. Morgan.—Messrs. Glenville and Elliston's company in *The Wicked City* is here this week. Mr. Harwood Cooper was most successful as Harold Vereker; Mr. Fellows Bassett was very good as Paul Desmond; Mr. G. Granville did well as Dr. Strangeways; Mr. J. H. Manbey well accounted for the part of Silas Sefton; and Mr. Clements was amusing as Charlie Chance; Miss Lorna Treherne excited much sympathy as Doris Grant; Miss F. Halton was admirable as Victoria McCleary; Miss Wallace was good as Cora Despard; and Miss Katie Norris was a merry Clementina Spikes.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is presented this week. Frank Elliston and company heads the bill with a delightful masque, entitled *Long Live the King*, which is well rendered and well received; Barnard's Mannikins, in the coon's revelry, introducing their comedy rooster "Chantecler," are vastly amusing; George Brooks, in his old and new songs, pleases; Kenny Kay, ventriloquist, and his drummer boy Tommy, is successful; Ruby and Laws, in a smart comedy act, are well received; the Picquays exhibit some clever head and hand balancing; Elise Malpas, as child mimic and dancer, is good; while Lizzie Daniels, as a light comedienne, is pleasing; and the Hippo Pictures are interesting.

THE NEST, ROSARY ROAD.—Messrs. Goodman's Royal Pierrots, under the able management of Mr. Syd Goodman, continue successful here. Miss Effingham, Miss Cissie Scott, and Miss Delmore do pleasing turns; and Mr. Jack Bonny, Mr. Lawrence Howard, Mr. Leslie Sears, and Mr. Lockwood contribute to an excellent entertainment.

THORPE GARDENS.—Mr. Frank Lynne's Madcaps are still doing good business here. The company has been augmented by Miss Mabel Cameron, vocalist and dancer, and Mr. Alec Fraser, comedian, who are pleasing entertainers; Mr. Bert Gordon holds his position as a favourite; Miss Vi Huntly and Miss Dorothy Murray introduce new numbers; and Mr. Will Pitts, comedian; Mr. Harry Cove, vocalist; and Mr. Will Skidmore, comedian, are appreciated.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company received a very warm welcome on Monday from a packed house. *Richard III.* was staged, and Mr. Harvey electrified the audience by his masterly assumption of the crafty, unscrupulous, and bloodthirsty monarch; Miss N. de Silva lent dignity and sympathy to the part of Lady Anne; Miss Sybil Walsh made an imposing Queen Elizabeth; and the two princes were capitally played by Misses Brenda Gibson and Ethel Patrick; Mr. Charles Glenny portrayed the scheming Duke of Buckingham with his accustomed artistic skill; Mr. Fred Wright, sen., made a natural and impulsive Stanley; and Mr. Philip Hewland supplied a vigorous interpretation of Richmond; Miss Bessie Elder (Page) and Mrs. Fred Wright (Duchess of York) gave admirable expositions; and other parts were ably filled by Messrs. P. Stone, Cowley Wright, C. George, Albert E. Raynor, and E. Stidwell. During the week were also staged *The Only Way* and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Messrs. Shirley and Landeck's new drama, *Nick Carter, Detective*, is having a rousing reception. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles plays the name part with power and intensity, earning well-merited applause; Mr. Raymond Thomas excites keen repugnance as Eustace Lee, and is capitally assisted by Mr. William Burgess as Crowley; Miss Helena Walbran gives a dramatic and sympathetic touch to her part as Madeline; while Nancy is energetically portrayed by Miss Nellie Waddington; Miss Nellie Shirley gains distinction as Stephanie; and Little Hilda Vokes makes an excellent Cyril Carter. A fund of humour is well exploited by Mr. H. C. Momber (Timmins), Miss Nellie Fern (Mrs. Timmins), Miss Nancy Lawrance (Bessie), and Mr. Will Ellythorne (Slade).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Enthusiasm was aroused on Monday last by Miss Ada Reeve, whose delightful turn was enjoyed to the fullest extent by packed houses; the Twelve Fezzans are wonderful acrobats; the golf skit by Minnie and Vesta Pine provokes hearty laughter; and the Mezzettis provide a skilful and humorous entertainment on the horizontal bars. Impersonations by Syd May are cleverly done; the singing of Edie Gray, to the accompaniment of dancing by two boys, is well received; and Sylvia Barry contributes an effective song-scena.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—The Great Raymond's ability as an illusionist is shown in a number of smartly-executed tricks, that bring him well-merited approbation; Gene Morello keeps his audience in merry humour by a novel musical entertainment; the Three Gellins submit an expert acrobatic turn; Harrigan and Holt prove resourceful patterers; Little Sunbeam dances tastefully; Madge Osmond, male impersonator, Harry Cotton, comedian; Luella Cross, songstress; and Fanny and Harry Dent, in a burlesque act, all contribute to the general pleasure.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. F. Brown.—*The New Lady Bantock* is being presented here by Mr. Horace Lingard's company. As Fanny Miss Beatrice Moreau's performance is delightfully attractive; Bennet is admirably portrayed by Mr. Horace Lingard; Mr. Edward Ray gives an excellent impersonation of Dr. Freemantle; Mr. E. Royson-Cousins ably depicts Lord Bantock; George Newte is well represented by Mr. Wilfred Compton; Miss Marie Saville and Miss Miriam Holt as the Misses Wetherell are entirely successful.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Fred Karno's company is here in *Perkins, M.P.*, and *The Bailiff*. Tom Nelson appears in the title-rôle, and is capitally supported by a good company. William Mollison and company, in *The Touch of the Child*, act in a manner which holds the audience enthralled; the Jaxon Family are smart in a musical turn, and prove delightful; Molly Maguire charms with her fine singing; Leon and Tee do well in a capital musical comedy act; and Thomas Bentley performs character sketches from Dickens with success; Cyclumina gives a capital cycle act; and Richardson Taylor, in his ventriloquial show, is clever; the Three Warringtons give a good equilibristic act; and Preston Holmes in a musical turn and Jack Straw (comedian) complete.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. Wilson Benge and company are here playing *The Sinner*. Mr. Benge as Monk Stretton acted exceedingly well; Miss Pauline Nanton was a sympathetic Vera Ewen; Miss Dora Mason as Nora Stretton was charming; Miss Dora Olga as Little Ned acted cleverly; Miss Mona Grey was forcible as Meg Stanton; Mr. Ben Carr played the part of Bill Stanton in a finished style; and Mr. Louis Lingard as Paule Levaine and Mr. Jay Kay as Chris Floppington were amusing; Mr. Chas. Digby as Lord Ewen and Mr. H. Hastings as Jack Ewen were good, as was Mr. S. P. Clewlow as Jim Stephens.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company in *Send Him Victorious* is this week's attraction. Miss Lily Roselle as Countess von Mechlinberg and Mr. G. M. Montanini as Col. Henrich Kaufman do their work admirably; Mr. Edwin Turner makes a manly Capt. Allison; Miss Netta Mitchell is charming as Ethel Harding; and Miss Madge Palmer as Gretchen and Mr. Bert Woodin as Geordie are amusing; Mr. C. Russell does well as Sergt. Max; and Mr. H. Hardy is fine as the King.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—The Bellringer's Daughter is an excellent dramatic picture; The Gold Rose is a captivating love story; The Regatta on the Hekong is also interesting; Tilly the Tomboy is amusing; as is A Day in Mick's Life. Popular choruses are thrown on the screen, and Mr. Robert Leach contributes a capital song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. King.—The Marked Time-Table is an interesting drama; and another capital film is The Wings of Love. The latest news in pictures is depicted by Pathé's Journal. The amusing portion of the bill includes Father Buys a Chimney-pot, The Amateur Grocer's Assistant, and others. Mr. King sings "Half a Moment."

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Hughes.—Stars and Stripes is a capital drama; Rent Day is a beautiful picture; The Customs Officer's Dog is another good dramatic; When Strength is Not a Blessing and A Terrible Secret are included among the comedy films. Mr. S. Whitehead is the vocalist.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Brown.—One Who Remembered is a thriller; Wings of Love is well depicted; Burglar's Misfortune is amusing. Other pictures are also shown, and selections are rendered by the Auxeto Grand.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Milton Bode's Varieties continue to attract large and highly delighted houses. Cecile Shannon scores heavily as ballad vocalist and comedienne; the Fimans are funny in their comedy sketch *The Fire Station*; Argo is wonderfully clever as an eccentric mimic; Vardon, Berry, and Wilber appear with much success in America's latest musical singing and dancing novelty; the Australian Bush Boys contribute an interesting turn in their scene *An Australian Bush Camp*; Austin Rudd fairly brings down the house with his comic songs and dancing; Briff, Braff, and Broff give a wonderful acrobatic display, the tumbling waiter "coming in" for a big reception; and the Premier Imperial Bioscope pictures bring to a conclusion a first-rate entertainment.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. W. Graham Arthurs and Co. are here with *Every Inch a Man*. The cast includes Mr. W. Graham Arthurs, as Daniel Barnet; Mr. Sidney Bayliss, as Dick Barnet; and Mr. Ralph A. Armfield, as Alderman Barnet. Miss Ada Band plays Teddy Edwards; Mr. Joe Barker portrays Ben Brown; Mr. Roland Davenport Billy White, and Mr. Arthur Jarvis is Marmaduke Poole Martin. Vera Maxwell finds an able exponent in Miss Marie Elliot; Miss Mollie Richardson does well as Martha; and Miss Mildred Eversleigh makes a good Mrs. Edwards.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Miss Nora Carton's company is here this week with *Temptation*. Mr. Charles H. Mortimer as Sir Charles Tremaine gives a capital embodiment; Mr. Clifton Roystrell submits a powerful representation of Mr. Blight; and a clever enactment of Hubert Thorne is furnished by Mr. Norman A. Overton. Miss Nora Carton is to be complimented on her assumption of Hilda Dundonald, while the Irva Blight of Miss Lilla Wilde is admirably rendered; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders and Miss Madge Seymour in the dual rôle of Araminta and Emily are responsible for a great amount of mirth and fun. Mr. George Wallace as Stephen Rowe, Mr. Claremont Gaskell as Jacob Single, Mr. H. O. White as the Tramp, Mr. William Berson as Detective Holmes, and Mr. John Melville as P.C. Runhimin are all good; and Miss Anna Beaumont as Mrs. Oxen and Miss Kathleen Cranston as Agnes Rowe acquit themselves in creditable style.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Harry Lamore heads the bill here this week, and gives a grotesque entertainment; Big Jock Sinclair and Wee Gracie Whiteford, musical comedy duo, provide an excellent turn as musicians and vocalists, &c.; the Delafiores score heavily; Mlle. Haydeo's miniature theatre is greatly appreciated; David Poole, ventriloquist, is accorded a good reception; as comedy artists and dancers Cline and Clark are pleasing; Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers, are successful; Maud Esmond is a popular chorus songstress; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—The films include Lieut. Rose, R.N., Victim of Fate, and The Child and the Fiddler. Mr. George Hedges plays several pianoforte selections, which are much enjoyed.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—A capital picture programme is supplemented by Mahatma, the Queen of Second Sight, and Robert Grieve, the ventriloquist in kilts.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Mr. Joseph Poole's Myriorama and vaudeville company opened here on Monday evening for the second week before a crowded house, who fully appreciated the excellent entertainment presented. Johnson and De Vere, in the wire and cycle performance, were exceedingly clever, and the film of the Funeral of the late King Edward was particularly good. Mr. J. Wolseley Poole is the general-manager and Director.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Saville; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Aldridge.—Miss Ada Wallis and her company are here in *The Major*, a laughable musical absurdity. Miss Wallis, who is a host in herself, is ably supported by Mr. J. W. Groves, Mr. T. C. McQuire, Mr. Emlyn Davis, Mr. Arthur Douglas, Miss Ethel Tooney, and Miss Mercia Davis. A special word of praise is due to The Chanteclere Girls, an exceptionally smart trio of dancers.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. G. W. Bowes' company is here with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. Leonard Yorke portrays Marcus with marked ability; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice is a praiseworthy Nero; Mr. Duncan Gilmour gives a good impersonation of Licinius; Mr. Donald McAdam makes a capital Glabrio and Mr. G. Osmond Tearle is good as Tigellinus; Miss Pearl Gardner is an excellent Mercia; Miss Effie Dane supplies a finished exposition of Stephanus; Miss Daisy Towers as the Empress is all that could be desired; and the remaining parts are ably filled.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The Six Brothers Luck appear with distinct success in *The Demon of the Cellar* and *Liftem's, Ltd.*, and evoke many a hearty laugh; Fred S. Howard, artist entertainer, is well received; Madge Bryce, comedienne, gains applause; the Rallis-Wilson Trio, acrobatic ragmen, are immensely entertaining; Sylveve and Florence provide a smart equilibristic display; Harry Knox is a popular comedian; Ida Kathrina sings acceptable songs; and Johnny Danvers scores heavily in his latest successes.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—After a successful amateur production, *The Pigeon House* was presented for the first time professionally at Plymouth on Monday. The piece is written and composed by the Earl of Yarmouth, and has already been described at length in our columns. The author undertakes the rôle of Victor de Meneval, and proves himself an accomplished vocalist and actor; Mr. Ivan Berlyn is well placed as the lynx-eyed little lawyer, Paul Bouchard, and proves his ability as a comedian; Major Fallieres receives correct interpretation at the hands of Mr. Ernest Arundel, his mellow tenor voice being admirably suited in the numbers allocated to the part; and Mr. Haddon Cave as the Vicomte de Chantecler scores with a song dealing with the exhibition; as Leontine de Meneval, Miss Iris Hoey is both winsome and captivating, her "Cigarette" song being one of the most popular numbers of the piece; Miss Jane Eyre makes an attractive widow as Madame Verret; and Miss Violet Dere as Aglaia is responsible for some graceful dancing.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—An exciting naval spectacle, entitled *The Voice of the Empire*, is the principal attraction, and receives unstinted applause; the principals are Mr. Hy. Baggo and Mr. Ray Raymond; the Twelve Daytons perform some wonderful feats acrobatic and otherwise; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins are genuinely amusing in their sketch entitled *The Piano Tuner*; the Four Royal Scots provide an accomplished musical turn; Cash and Clair perform some attractive eccentric dancing; Fred Dunstone is a popular comedian; and Beatrice Allen a vivacious comedienne.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—Athelda, the lady athlete, is an expert weight-lifter; the Two Romers present a military vocal scena, *Comrades in Arms*; Mr. Wally Bishop and company appear in an American dramatic episode, *Pedlar Sam*; Tom Lenton is a good character comedian; Wheatley, a clever ventriloquist; and Pat O'Connor keeps the house in roars of laughter with his Irish witticisms; Nellie Lenton is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Brothers Almo are smart triple bar performers. The Alexscope show some excellent films.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Mr. Will Casey and Co. are presenting *An Unwedded Wife*, and good houses are being attracted.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in *The Power of the King*. Mr. Chas. Whitlock makes a truly regal King of Vallombrosa; Arthur St. John as Prince Oscar makes a hit; Mr. Clavering Craig as Captain Rupert Landgrave gives a faithful reproduction of "the people's friend"; Miss Isa Lydon makes a capable Lady Florina; and Rosa, a woman of the people, is capitally undertaken by Miss Alice Madell. Miss Marie Franklyn gives a clever impersonation of Lady Annatasia. The production is well staged.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—*The Earl and the Girl*, presented by J. Bannister Howard's principal company, is the attraction here. Mr. Edward Lewis as the dog-trainer, Jim Cheese, was chief funmaker; Mr. Herbert St. John creditably impersonated Dick Wargrave; Miss Lily Gullick was a captivating Elphin Haye; Liza was in the capable hands of Miss Lina Hicks; and the strong lady, Mrs. Black, was well played by Miss Edith Bland.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*For Wife and Kingdom* is being played here this week. Miss Hettie Zillwood makes a charming Duchess Marie, and is well supported by Mr. Reginald Fox as Captain Max Lupeck. The scheming Baron Breslaw is in the capable hands of Mr. Albert Guyon, and the part of Camille is well taken by Miss Margaret Frame.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The usual vaudeville entertainment this week gives way to grand opera, and the Moody-Manners opera company are on their first week's visit, regaling musical patrons successively with *Tannhauser, Samson and Delilah, Faust, Il Trovatore, Lohengrin*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. On Tuesday evening Saint-Saëns's *Samson and Delilah* attracted a large audience, whose approval was manifested by the recall of the principals at the termination of the acts. Samson was splendidly rendered by Mr. Albert Bowner both vocally and histrionically; Delilah was finely acted by Miss Helen Culver, who realised with much ability the sensuous, bewitching Philistine beauty; Mr. William Farmer's powerful voice was heard to advantage as the High Priest of Dagon; Mr. Harry Brindle was impressive as the aged Hebrew; and Mr. Graham Marr did well in the small part of Abimelech. A powerful, well-balanced chorus and orchestra of some thirty instrumentalists did justice to Mr. Harrison Frewin's expert conductorship, and Mr. J. MacCabe was in charge for the company.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Fred Moule and company present the exciting sketch *Gretna Green*. The Francoli Troupe create amusement as the "Billposters." Dan Thomas delights in his original creation, *Play up, Pompey*. The Carney Bros. score as vocal comedians. The other turns that please include Marjorie Lawrence, dansense; James Brady, comedian; Mayme Cannon, comedienne; and Beatrice McHadda, instrumentalist.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. I. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Merian's Canine Actors, introduced by Miss Lottie Passport-Merian, gave a wonderful exhibition of trained intelligence; the Schafer Four display skill with horns, cornets, &c.; a return visit by Fred Conquest and company in the sketch *Something for Nothing* amuses greatly; De Bière shows himself to be an expert and rapid conjurer and illusionist; Chas. Vincent's medley of popular songs is enthusiastically applauded; Louise Zeitlin is a cultured vocalist; a clever acrobatic entertainment is provided by the Five Olracs; an enjoyable musical item is presented by the Toilers, two Lancashire singing pit-brow lasses; and Jennie Gastelle is a diverting comedienne.

GOSPORT THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings. Harry Hardy, in his grotesque Dutch act, and Marie Lea, character comedienne, give appreciative turns here. There are some capital pictures, which include How Championships are Won, &c., On the Wings of Love, and Nick Winter's Smart Methods.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Cole.—A capital selection of films is being shown this week, including The Special Agent, Sammy as Equilibrist, A Difficult Capture, and Midnight Cupid.

FRATTON ELECTRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Clarke.—As the *pièce-de-résistance* we have an exciting episode entitled Stars and Stripes. The Test, the Wrong Floor, The Antarctic Expedition, and Equal to Emergency are other entertaining films screened.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban-Newton.—"House full" is the order here during the always-welcome visit of the D'Oyly Carte répertoire company, and the whole of the dress circle and stalls were booked for the week. On Monday a crowded house gave an enthusiastic reception to the company in *The Mikado*. Mr. Leicester Tunks in the title-rôle was heard to great advantage, and had a good reception; Mr. Herbert Henry was a pleasing Nanki-Poo, and sang his solos with excellent expression; Koko in the hands of Mr. Henry A. Lytton, convulsed the house with laughter; Mr. Fred Billington's entrance was the signal for vociferous applause, and his portrayal of Poo Bah proved a finished piece of acting. Mr. Sidney Granville was excellent as Pish Tush, as was also Mr. Frank Deawater as Go To. Miss Marjorie Stone as Yum Yum sang delightfully, and as Pitti Sing and Peep Bo Misses Beatrice Boarer and Myfanwy Newell were successful. Miss Louie Rene was a dramatic Katisha, and her excellent contralto voice was heard to great advantage. The chorus is one of the finest heard here for a long time. During the week *H.M.S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury, the Gondoliers, Iolanthe*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* are in the bill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, tops the bill, and his quaint style is much appreciated. Another great favourite is J. W. Hall. Edie Veno, eccentric comedienne, is inimitable; Otto and Olga have a capital musical comedy act; Sydney Brandon, character portrayer, gives a novel monologue entitled *The Tramp*; the Four Miovakys, acrobatic musical eccentrics, are decidedly clever; Adeline Yohle and company, including James Kurry, in a musical interlude entitled *Difficulties*, cause much laughter. Away out West on the Bioscope concludes.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Tom H. Taylor's company in *A Criminal's Bride* is drawing good audiences. Mr. Frank Robertson is an excellent Sir Harry Felstead; Mr. Grayson Bancroft is well suited with the part of David Loseby; Mr. Annesley Hely as Austin Deepdale gives a capital portrayal of the unprincipled "crook". Miss M. Hackett as Jenny Jenkins is excellent; Miss Emmie Barton proves herself a good actress in the part of Lavender Loseby; Miss Ella Wilmer gives a clever portrayal of Tessa Grinella; and Miss Maud Tremaine as Kitty Felstead and Miss Lilah Petty as Bellamy acquit themselves creditably. The mounting is excellent.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Testo Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company is drawing good houses with *My Irish Molly*. Mr. Karl Edwards as Billy is very effective; Mr. Gordon Robey is satisfactory as Captain Vere; Mr. Kenyon Grey is a typical Father McGuire; and Mr. St. John Medley is seen to advantage as Dennis; Miss May Warden is fine as Molly; Miss Emma C. Turner as a stately and dignified Lady Blanche; and Miss Rosie Kearns does good work as Sally. The staging is admirable.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainments-Manager, Mr. C. G. Price.—*The Little Damozel* was produced here for the first three evenings of the week, with a matinée on Wednesday, by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Miss Emelie Polini was splendid as Julie Alardy, the little Damozel; and Mr. Alick Chumley scored heavily as Recklaw Poole. Mr. Guy Newall did admirable work as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock;

attractions are the Palace Pierrots, the Skating Rink, and the Troupe of Swimmers.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. George Edwardes's Co. in *The Merry Widow* is here this week. Miss Mary Ridley is a delightful exponent of the title-rôle; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter as Baron Popoff is a big success; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy does clever work as Vicomte Camille de Jolidon; and Mr. Harry Emeric is effective as Nisch. Marquis de Cascade, M. de St. Brioche, and General Novakovitch are all capitally handled by Messrs. Tom H. David, Spencer Lloyd, and Cecil Warwick respectively. Mr. Robert Needham succeeds admirably as Prince Danilo, and Miss Mabel Hope gives a clever rendering of Natalie. Mr. C. L. Steward as M. Khadja and Miss Neste Laurel as Frou-Frou are good in their respective parts. The quintette of girls from Maxim's do their work well, as also does Miss Dorothy Arliss as Olga, Miss Alice Humphreys as Sylvanie, and Miss Nan Ainslie as Prascovia.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Willerby.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is this week presenting *His Real Wife*. Mr. Albert Sember is a dignified Martin Avondale; Herbert Barton is effectively played by Mr. Clifford Rean; Mr. Frank Lyndon capably interprets the rôle of General Barton; Mr. Herbert Vere makes the most of the part of Randal Meredith; Mr. Charles Yorke cleverly portrays the ex-convict Colombe, his partner in crime, Alf Snickers, having an able exponent in Mr. Harwood Roberts; Miss Ward plays with fervour and pathos as Rose Avondale; and as Lady Sybil Miss Kate Walford submits an excellent portrayal.

SHEFFIELD. — Lycium Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Monday Mr. H. P. Towers presented for the first time in Sheffield the delightful and amusing comedy *The Best People*, which met with a cordial reception. The reappearance of that old favourite Mr. Henry Renouf gave a spice of affectionate interest to a careful and well-considered all-round performance, which was further improved by the artistic *mise-en-scène*. The curtain-raiser was a clever little episode of real life in Mr. Pett-Ridge's characteristic vein of London humour and pathos, *Some Showers*, which was naturally acted by Miss Sylvia Dawson and Mr. Edward Nimmo.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—*Facing the World Alone* is here this week. The heroine is represented in a graceful and emotional manner by Miss Ethel Van Praagh, who is well supported by a competent company.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. M. Ramsay.—Another Melville drama, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*, began a return visit on Monday. Mr. Norman B. Cannon appeared successfully as the smart young hero, Jack Cunningham, and Bessie, the beggar girl, is charmingly impersonated by Miss Muriel Dean. Other characters are well played by Miss Sybil Hare, Miss Daisy Meynard, Miss E. Walter, Miss Linda Riley, Mrs. Wilson, and Messrs. Charles Barclay, Fred Hodson, Frank McClellan, George Vernon, David Cartwright, William T. Riley, Wilford Bailey, Ellis Carlyle, Herbert Goddard, C. Brown, B. Elton, H. H. Stewart, and Miss Linda Riley.

Empire Palace.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A good all-star programme was submitted to a full house on Monday, the *pièce-de-résistance* being the serio-comic sketch *The Fool of the Force*, in which Mr. George Carney distinguished himself by his comedy impersonation of P.C. Mudd. A coster episode, *Jim's Pal*, was capitally acted by Shirley and Ransom, who were loudly recalled. The well-staged illusions of the famous "Indian Fakir," Fasola, were enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Will Evans kept the audience in roars with his drolleries. The New Macs did well, and talented performers were Miss Lena Verdi, mimic; the Diamond Minstrel Trio; the Three Laurels, acrobats; Miss Marie Brayman, an attractive serio-comic; and Mr. Harry Marte, dancer. The Bioscope, with Doncaster Races films, concluded.

The Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A good array of talent is billed this week, including Miss Diana Hope and company in *The Altar of Duty*; Mason and Bait, comedy gymnasts; Analys and Fredo, sensational handbalancers, &c.; Mr. Herbert Clifton, the newsboy vocalist; Miss Mary Law, a skilful violin soloist; the Four Burnells in a pantomimic act; Miss Hilda Light, a clever danseuse; Mr. Tod Lowen, comic; Mr. Harold Heath, coon singer; the Hassan Trio, wire-walkers; and Barclay Gammon, entertainer at the piano. The Bioscope concludes with St. Leger pictures.

The Picture Palace, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Arnold Shaw.—A beautiful series of pictures, Carmen, acted by artists of the Odéon Theatre, are the principal Bioscope attractions, supplemented by comic and topical films.

SMETHWICK. — Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton bring a strong and well-balanced company with *His Indian Wife*. In the title-part, Miss Leila Zillwood gives a meritorious performance; Mr. Arthur Hinton is strong and impressive as Hubert Ainsworth; the treachery of Wolfsfang is vividly depicted by Mr. Graham Winsford; Mr. Travis Green as the faithful redskin Lone Star is excellent, and well deserved the applause accorded him; White Eagle is well represented by Mr. Gerald Byrne; Mr. G. Moreton Williams plays admirably throughout as Sir Walter Kingsley; Little Lennie is naturally and amusingly represented by Master Max Gumpert; the comic relief is chiefly supplied by Mr. Tod Squires as Billy Twiggle, ably assisted in the fun making by Miss Nellie Richmond as an alert and astute French maid, and by Miss Stella Beck as a negress; the authoress, Miss Emma Litchfield, imparts conviction to the unsympathetic rôle of Lady Grace Kingsley; and Mr. J. D. Hennesy plays effectively a mad medicine man.

Empire, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams.—This building, of which a description appeared in our last issue, was opened on Monday under the patronage of the Mayor and members of the Council and a crowded house. Madame Constance Bellamy sang sweetly "Asthore"; Miss Maud Rowland is a capable chorus singer; Mr. T. E. Johnson is an actor-vocalist of no mean ability; Crossley is a clever acrobatic-table performer; Mr. E. W. Selman, a versatile vocalist, is very droll; Miss Ivy Gillard is a comedienne of considerable ability; Messrs. Herman and Evelyn, Continental wire walkers, were heartily applauded; Mr. Dan Pedley, comedian, delighted the audiences with his songs and dances. A number of pleasing items were shown on the Bioscope.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—*The Midnight Wedding* is being played to good houses by Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company. Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a fine portrayal of the heroic swordmaster, Paul Valmar; Mr. E. Winnington Barnes is good as Captain Rudolf von Scarsbruck; and the same may be said of Mr. Dalziel Heron as the Crown Prince Leopold. Miss Lilian Hallows displays histrionic talent as Princess Astrea; and Miss Madge Raper makes a good Rozel. Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo are all capitally played by Messrs. Fred H. Constable, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding, who, together with Miss Phyllis Hume as Kathie, are responsible for the humour of the play.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier turn is Frances Letty, character comedienne, introducing "The Grandee's Pavilion," assisted by Mr. James Sutton, pianist, Little Tommy Shanley, and Miss Leonie Brewer. She sings and dances in good style, and is accorded an enthusiastic welcome. Harry Nelson is an old favourite here, and is well received; a good musical entertainment is contributed by Cavallotti Bros., who play on several instruments, and score a success; Lily Burnand renews her popularity. Other good turns are Bert Harrow, comedian; Rosa Loader, merry musical mimic; and the Bioscope.

Grand Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark. — Rozel, the Monarch of the Air, is the attraction, and does some wonderful feats; the animated pictures continue to delight large audiences.

(*Continued on page* 29.)

The Norddeutscher Lloyd Co. is making special arrangements for theatrical parties at reduced rates for passages to Australia, and offers exceptional opportunities to theatrical managers taking companies out to the Antipodes.

"THE WAY OUT."

A Play in One Act, by J. B. Hothersall, Produced for the First Time at the Royal Court Theatre, Wigan, on Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Robert Hood .....Mr. John McNally
Patrick McGeagh .....Mr. Harry Daly
Earl of Dalmuir .....Mr. J. W. Tuttle
Countess of Dalmuir .....Miss Nellie Stott

(from our own correspondent.)

The incident depicted by the above playlet occurs during the Matabele Rising of 1896. Hood and McGeagh, a sergeant and trooper respectively, are discovered in a lonely settler's house in Rhodesia. They are waiting for a flooded river in front of them to subside. The rebellious natives are close on their heels, and there seems to be small hope of their escaping death. This leads Hood to tell McGeagh, in a few words, how he, an ex-cavalry officer, when on active service, had been jilted by the girl to whom he was engaged, and how she had married, in his absence, a brother officer who had played the coward's part by staying at home when the regiment was ordered abroad. As he finishes speaking a hail is heard outside, and the Earl of Dalmuir and his wife enter. They have also been forced to seek shelter from the natives, Dalmuir being in Rhodesia on a mission from the Government. Then ways and means of escape are discussed. One man must necessarily be left behind to hold the house—which covers the flood of the river—and so keep the natives in check and give the others a chance of getting away. McGeagh volunteers, but Hood will not allow him, although Dalmuir, in a cowardly manner, urges this arrangement. Finally Hood and Dalmuir toss, the loser to stay behind. Hood wins. Then Dalmuir loses all control of himself, and at last forces his wife to beg—as Hood's lover—for his (Dalmuir's) life. Hood, after some hesitation, consents to remain himself, provided that he is allowed a final interview alone with Lady Dalmuir. An affecting scene follows between Hood and the Countess, the latter telling how she was forced into marriage by her people. She determines to stay behind with Hood, but Hood will not hear of it. The sound of firing is heard and McGeagh enters with the news that the natives are on top of them. McGeagh forcibly takes Lady Dalmuir away, and the curtain falls with Hood defending the house; a final picture showing him lying dead.

It is a striking little play. The twenty minutes occupied by its presentation is brimful of incident and excitement. Played as it is by Messrs. Hothersall and Gardiner's company, it ought to achieve a distinct measure of success. Mr. John McNally is a manly Robert Hood, and hits the right note; Mr. J. W. Tuttle makes an excellent foil to him in the part of the Earl of Dalmuir; and as the impulsive McGeagh Mr. Harry Daly is appreciated; Miss Nellie Stott makes a decided impression by her rendering of the rôle of the hapless Countess.

PORTSMOUTH LICENSING.

At a recent meeting of the Watch Committee of the Portsmouth Town Council, held at the Town Hall, Mr. G. W. Ash, T.C., presiding, licenses for the performance of stage plays were renewed to Mr. J. W. Boughton for the Theatre Royal, the Prince's Theatre, and the King's Theatre, and to Mr. A. F. Lalande for the South Parade Pier.

With regard to the licence of the Hippodrome, Mr. G. H. King applied for its renewal to the manager, Mr. G. Harris, and also asked, as last year, for the removal of the restriction prohibiting them from selling intoxicating drinks in the house. They wanted, he said, to be placed on an equal footing with other places of amusement in the borough.

Mr. G. W. Corbin, T.C., remarked that the Hippodrome management promised to never apply for a drink licence. Mr. King said that they applied for a licence for a year only, and were then prepared to be restricted. Alderman Scott Foster observed that the Magistrates made certain conditions in granting the singing and dancing licence, and it would not look very nice for the Committee to go against them. Mr. King replied that they were in honour bound to go to the Magistrates and ask them to remove their restrictions. Alderman Scott Foster reiterated that it would be flying in the face of the Magistrates to remove the restriction. Mr. King said that they would not sell drink under any circumstances until the magisterial restrictions were withdrawn. Alderman T. E. Fulljames asked how many times during last year did the Hippodrome play legitimate drama pieces licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. Mr. King said he was informed that a dramatic piece, pantomime, or sketch, was played nearly every week.

Mr. F. G. Foster, T.C., asked if the class of patrons of the Hippodrome had changed. His reason for asking that was that on a previous occasion they were told that the Hippodrome had a better class of patrons than other places, because they had not got a drink licence, and if that was so it would be a pity to alter the class. A definite undertaking was given when the first application was made that they would not ask for a drink licence.

Mr. Walter de Frece, managing-director of the Hippodrome Co., pointed out that the conditions had entirely changed, as at that time the King's was playing dramatic pieces, and was not giving a variety entertainment.

Alderman Scott Foster said that if the Committee granted the application it would not be necessary for them to apply for a singing and dancing licence, but Mr. King replied that they would be prepared to give an undertaking that they would go before the Magistrates. The licence was renewed, but the Committee declined to remove the restriction as to the sale of drinks.

"Baby Mine," a farce in three acts, by Margaret Mayo, has made a big hit at Daly's Theatre, New York. The critics have pronounced it one of the funniest farces New York has ever seen. Cleverly acted by Mr. Ernest Glendinning, Miss Marguerite Clark, Mr. Walter Jones, Miss Ivy Troutman, and several others, the piece provokes great laughter. It is booked for a long run at Daly's, New York, and is likely to be numbered among the farces whose popularity is perennial.

Alfred Hardy and his wife, a very young couple, quarrel and part in the first act. After three months' absence the wife begins to pine for her husband, and sets her wits to work to bring him back. Aggie Jinks, Zoe Hardy's bosom friend, suggests that she send a wire to her absent spouse informing him that she has a baby, and offers to hire one for the purpose. A baby is secured, but there is some delay, and the expectant husband arrives on the scene only to be told that the baby is "out." The youngster has hardly been brought in when everyone is thrown into a panic by a message from its real mother demanding her child back at once. Jimmie Jinks, who has to bear the brunt of the trouble in keeping up the deception, rushes off to secure another infant, and brings one in before the first one has been restored to its mother. Consequently, when the happy father looks in the cot there are two! Furthermore, as a result of the complications which arise from the borrowing and returning of sundry infants, he soon has triplets on his hands. These complications are cleverly devised, and the final explanations are made in a plausible manner.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. E. P. MORGAN.

Our earliest recollection of Mr. E. P. Morgan was when he toured the provinces as acting-manager with Joseph Eldred's Light Opera Companies, the Criterion Comedies, Miss Kate Santley's *La Mascotte* and *The Merry Duchess*, *Olivette*, *La Cigale*, &c., not forgetting J. F. Elliston's big tour of *New Babylon* and other favourites of a few years ago. Mr. Morgan was then secured by Mr. George Edwardes as manager for the principal first tours of *The Geisha*, *A Greek Slave*, *The Circus Girl*, and *San Toy*. Having remained with Mr. Edwardes for seven years, Mr. Morgan left to accept an offer from Mr. Sidney Jones to present *My Lady Molly* in the big provincial towns and cities, and afterwards at Terry's Theatre, London. After the run at Terry's Mr. Morgan drifted into vaudeville, accepting a tempting offer from Messrs. Moss and Stoll, and his services were retained for the opening of the New Hippodrome, Manchester.

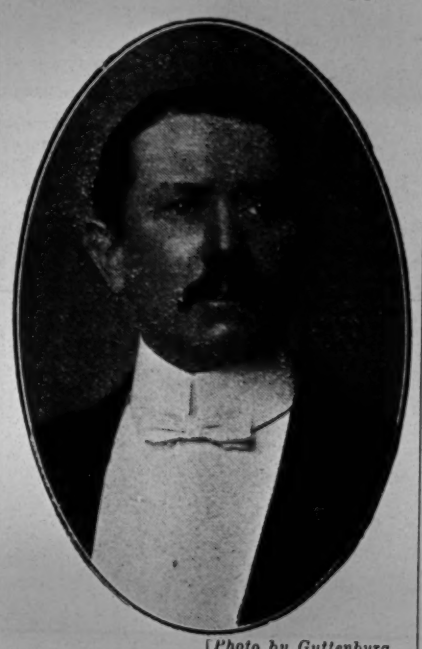

[*Photo by Guttenburg.*

MR. E. P. MORGAN.

Few managers ever had a stiffer task than he did as manager of the great house in Oxford-street—now known far and wide as the Manchester Hippodrome. He was practically hemmed in by competing houses of entertainment which had had established reputations for years. Within a distance of about 250 yards from the Hippodrome—at the farthest—Mr. Morgan had four theatres and four variety houses to compete with. But he never once mentioned the word "competitors." Indeed, he seemed unconscious of any competition at all. He knew he had a bill of amusements every day that could not be excelled; that the bill of fare was served up under the most comfortable conditions, and at prices known as "popular."

To carry through without ever a hitch such a complex business as that of the Manchester Hippodrome argues the possession by the manager of organising skill and method of the first order. The necessary knowledge for the successful management of a great variety house of entertainment like the Hippodrome could only be gained by long and varied experience.

Although only contracting for two years, Mr. Morgan remained with the firm for five years, during which period he gained a perfect insight into variety business and the inner working, methods, and systems of the big vaudeville syndicates. He holds a unique letter (of which he is very proud) from the Chief Constable of Manchester (Mr. Wm. Peacock) expressing regret at his departure from the city, and emphasising the fact that not one single complaint had been lodged with the police during his 4½ years' management of the place. Mr. Morgan (who is now in London) remarked at this office last week that things seemed quiet and that offers were not "pouring in," but we feel convinced that with such a record it will not be long before his services are secured by some far-seeing proprietor, and that, as they say in the vernacular, he has "clicked." We have not the slightest misgiving as to his ability to manage successfully any variety house or theatre in the kingdom.

MR. KINSEY PEILE.

Mr. Kinsey Peile was born in India, where his father, General Peile, was in the Royal Engineers, and held many important appointments. His brother, Colonel Peile, is at present commanding the Military Police in Burmah, a force of about 60,000 men. Mr. Kinsey Peile himself was in the Army—first in the Royal West Surrey Regiment of militia, from which he passed into the 2nd Battalion of the Welsh Regiment. When he left the service he joined the Post Office Rifles, the Honorary Colonel of which corps for many years was the Duke of Teck.

[*Photo by Lafayette.*

MR. KINSEY PEILE.

Mr. Kinsey Peile made his first appearance on the stage in *Blue-Eyed Susan*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, playing the small part of the White Admiral. Afterwards he joined the St. James's Theatre company, and played in *The Masqueraders*, *The Triumph of the Philistines*, Lane in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Hickson in *Liberty Hall*, of which a command performance was given at Balmoral before her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

Leaving the stage for a time, Mr. Kinsey Peile took to writing, his work including *The Belle of Cairo*, in which Miss May Yohe appeared, produced at the Court Theatre with considerable success; *Solomon's Twins*, which Mr. George Giddens produced at a special matinée at the Vaudeville; *The Interrupted Honeymoon*, produced by Miss Granville with success at the Old Avenue; and *Lyre and Lancet*, which he wrote with Mr. F. Anstey, at the Royalty. Perhaps he is best known by his adaptation of *The Man Who Was*, Rudyard Kipling's story, which was produced by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree with great success at His Majesty's Theatre. The first performance was in aid of the Charing Cross Hospital, and was honoured by the presence of their Majesties the King and Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales. Sir Herbert Tree also produced another adaptation, *The Door Upon the Latch*, the story of which is by Robert Louis Stevenson. Mr. Kinsey Peile has also written a play for Miss Ethel Irving, which may possibly see the footlights before long, and he has one or two other plays, which may be produced in the near future.

Mr. Kinsey Peile returned to the stage last year, when he played Blenkinsop in *Mrs. Dot*, by Mr. Somerset Maugham. Miss May Palfrey toured the play for six months with considerable success. Latterly he played the part of Henry Greville in *Dame Nature* at Terry's Theatre with Miss Ethel Irving.

MISS GRACE HARLINGTON.

Miss Grace Harlington's first recollection of the stage was at the early age of five, and on that occasion she so disgraced herself that it was doubtful if ever she would be allowed to act again. She was playing George in *Frou-Frou*, and her two aunts were sitting in the stalls witnessing the performance. During a pathetic portion of the play George cried out, much to the amusement of the audience, "There's my aunties"! Her next engagement was under Mr. Walter Bentley's management, playing children's parts in Shakespearean répertoire. This was followed by a succession of engagements, principal among which were under the late Mr. Andrew Melville at the Standard, creating his children's parts, her mother, Miss Violet Temple, being his leading lady.

After a tour with Mr. Graham Falcon in *True as Steel* and in her mother's company in *Jane Shore*, Miss Harlington returned to school until the age of sixteen. From that time she has played such parts as Laura North in *Luck of Life*, Ela in *Charley's Aunt*, Carrie in *When London Sleeps*, and Marie in *Grip of Iron*. Two years were then spent under Mr. W. S. Penley, during which Miss Harlington played Ela, and leads in *The Confederates* and *The Boer Meisje*. At the end of this engagement Miss Harlington was offered the same part at the Great Queen-street Theatre, but was secured to play Lulu in *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Immediately following this came Laura in *Driven from Home*, various stock seasons, Bob in *The Shadow of Night*, Betty in *The Convict's Daughter*, and Mary in *At Duty's Call*. It was during this engagement that she received two offers, one from South Africa from Mr. Leonard Rayne, the other from Mr. Frank Bertram to play Mrs. Martin Harvey's part in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Miss Harlington decided on the latter, which proved a wise choice, as she played Batty for over a year. Mr. T. E. Ward next engaged her for a tour of *Second to None*, which brings her list of engagements up to recent date. It is Miss Harlington's proud boast that she has played as many parts and had as wide a range as any young actress.

MISS GRACE HARLINGTON.

That young and enterprising theatre manager, Mr. Arthur Hardy, with whom is associated Sir A. Conan Doyle, is touring several companies in the provinces, and has more than one play now running in London. Last week at Cardiff Mr. Hardy gave a gorgeous production of *The House of Temperley*; this week he is presenting Mrs. Russ Whytal, in a quintuple bill.

"I am beginning the experiment at Cardiff this week," said Mr. Hardy, "and then we go to London. Why have I chosen Cardiff? Well, it is of easy access from London; it is a first-class theatre-town; and it is the Welsh Metropolis. Moreover, the New Theatre is exceptional in many ways. It has an ample stage, and holds a good-sized audience. I have brought Mrs. Russ Whytal, an actress of great reputation in America, who while engaged with Sir H. B. Tree in leading parts has added to her reputation.

"I am to test public taste," Mr. Hardy went on. "I am presenting five plays each night! It has never been done before. The authors of the plays include Sir A. Conan Doyle, Mr. F. Anstey, of *Brass Bottle* fame, and Alphonse Daudet, translated by Mr. Fred Pemberton. The experiment may be daring; but there it is. I shall see what Cardiff critics think of it. There will, at least, be variety, for the plays range from tragedy to comedy. If the experiment succeeds it will be developed. If it fails, well——. But I don't think it will fail; for it is meant to conform with the spirit of the age."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SHAKESPEARE'S WOMEN.

I have said enough, I think, about Shakespeare's earliest attempts at picturing women (writes Mr. Frank Harris in *The English Review*, in a series of articles in which he is developing his theory that Shakespeare suffered from a harassing passion for a certain Mistress Fitton). No great master has ever done worse. In spite of his rich sensual endowment and his incomparable gift of speech his first sketches were as bad as bad could be. To say nothing of the atrocious Joan of Arc, it is difficult to understand how a great man at twenty-six or twenty-seven years of age could have been content with a mere fiend like Tamora or a typical lay figure like Queen Margaret, and the talkative princess and her maidens in *Love's Labour's Lost*, and the innumerable duchesses and great ladies of the early historical plays are all just as wooden, mere marionettes.

The portrait of his jealous, scolding wife as Adriana is the first sketch which has any individual life in it. His unhappy marriage overshadows much of his early work. We have traced it in Suffolk's wooing of Margaret in the *First Part of King Henry VI.*; it dominates the whole of *The Comedy of Errors*; it inspires the great scene between Richard and Anne in *Richard III*; it supplies the theme of *The Taming of the Shrew*, and explains the otherwise inexplicable tirade in that play against those wives who are not the mere slavish instruments of their husbands' pleasure. Even the servility of Katharina and the submission of Anne did not satisfy Shakespeare. He will now show us in play after play how girls run after men. I cannot help thinking that the taming of women and the triumphing over them on the one hand and these pictures of girl after girl pursuing the hero with dog-like devotion on the other were not only a balm to his wounded vanity, but were also probably a result of young Shakespeare's conquests of women in those early years in London.

His success in every field had been astounding. He had come to the Bankside, at twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, an unknown country youth, and in five or six years he had made himself the first poet of his time and the master of the theatre. He was not only sensuous, good-looking, and sweet-mannered, but he had about him the halo of supreme genius; he had a good deal of money, too, and could invite ladies to the theatre to see his plays. Love must have been offered to him on every side, and the little soreness of the ancient wound which still twitched in him made him eager to dwell on his triumphs, and accordingly he pictures them for us in the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and in the first sketch of *All's Well that Ends Well*.

His life with his wife had hurt and angered him, but had not educated: rage and bitterness are poor schoolmasters. His happy pride and self-satisfaction during the early years in London were not more formative: he did not grow much, or learn much through contentment: happiness produces nothing but memories. It was well for Shakespeare and for us that his intense conceit came to a fall. Late in 1596 or early in 1597 he met for the first time the woman who was to change the world for him. We can tell in his works the very moment he saw her. As soon as he met her he tried to paint her, and at once began to abandon the lay figures which he had hitherto mistaken for heroines. From this time on his spiritual growth is astounding—a continuous flame-like effort reaching up from height to height. There is nothing in literature so instructive and few things so interesting as the extraordinary growth and development of Shakespeare's soul in the madding fever of passion.

The *Midsummer Night's Dream*, I imagine, dates from 1594; I like to think of it as written when Shakespeare was just thirty years of age. The play has a romantic individuality of its own. It is a charming fairy tale, and the hand of the dramatist begins to show itself in the portraits of the women. At first, it is true, they are not differentiated as they will be later. In the early scenes Hermia might be Helena, and Helena, Hermia; for they are both desperately in love, and that is about all we know of them. Hermia is happy in Lysander's affection, while Helena grieves because Demetrius scorns her; but these are differences of circumstances and not of character. Hermia begins to talk of her modesty and virginity, as all Shakespeare's girl heroines are inclined to talk, in contempt of probability; Helena, too, tells Demetrius of Hermia's flight with Lysander, and so brings about a meeting between the man she loves and her rival, in defiance of human nature; in all this there is no hint of character-drawing.

But when Hermia and Helena quarrel in the second scene of the third act they are for the moment clearly differenced, and curiously enough Shakespeare tries to distinguish between the two girls by contrasting their figures and tempers. Hermia is shown to us as small, vehement, and plucky, whilst Helena is tall, gentle, and faint-hearted.

"Hel. I pray you, though you mock me, gentlemen,
Let her not hurt me: I was never curst;
I have no gift at all in shrewishness;
I am a right maid for my cowardice:
Let her not strike me. You perhaps may think,
Because she is something lower than myself,
That I can match her. . . ."

A little later she again recurs to this difference and emphasises the same trait:

"Hel. O, when she's angry, she is keen and shrewd!
She was a vixen when she went to school,
But though she be but little, she is fierce."

This is about the only touch of character-drawing that can be found in the play. It is, however, sufficient for its purpose; the contrasted sketches are in perfect keeping with the charming foolery, and show us besides that Shakespeare is beginning to realise the necessity of painting women as individual beings. For a moment these two love-laden girls, Helena and Hermia, live for us—quarrelling, courting, and kissing—and then we lose sight of them down some green forest glade; for Titania is passing with her cowslip-pensioners in their golden coats, and we strain to catch a glimpse of Puck in the happy rout, while Bottom, the prince of mummers, roars like a lion, and the fairies flit across the moonlit spaces, hanging the flowers with pearls of dew.

N.D.L. IMPERIAL MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

REDUCED FARES.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEATRICAL PARTIES.

	First Class. Single.	Return.	Second Class. Single.	Return.
From Southampton	£60	£90	£35	£52 10s.
From Genoa	£56	£84	£33	£49 10s.

(plus 10 per cent. surtax.)

AUTUMN DEPARTURES.

Twin-screw.	Tons.	From Southampton.	From Genoa.
BREMEN	11,570	Oct. 3	Oct. 11
ZIETEN	8,066	Oct. 31	Nov. 8
GNEISENAU	8,081	Nov. 28	Dec. 6
BARBAROSSA	10,915	Dec. 26	Jan. 3
GROSSER KURFURST	13,102	Jan. 23	Jan. 31

Large state rooms and cabins for single passengers.

Apply to Keller, Wallis, and Co., 26 and 27, Cockspur-street, S.W., 2, King William-street, E.C., and at Manchester and Southampton, or to the Norddeutscher Lloyd Paris Office, 2, Rue Scribe.

THE NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

The differences between the Corporation of Wimbledon and Mr. J. B. Mulholland, the proprietor and manager of the new theatre, which is rapidly nearing completion, and is situated at the junction of Merton-road and Russell-road, South Wimbledon, over the former granting a licence for the performance of stage plays, has not yet been got over. The question was again before the Corporation at its monthly meeting held on Wednesday night, and in the absence of an assurance from Mr. Mulholland to pay one-third (£50) of the cost of extending a high-pressure water main to the building, so that there may be a sufficient supply of water in the event of a fire occurring in the top of the theatre, upon terms set forth in the minutes of the General Purposes Committee, the Corporation refused to grant the licence.

These minutes showed that at a special meeting of the Committee the Town Clerk (Mr. A. Steele Sheldon) reported that the Council, at a meeting held on Aug. 3, 1910, ordered that the meeting be held to consider the rules to be annexed to the licence proposed to be granted to Mr. J. B. Mulholland for the performance of stage plays in the theatre now being erected in Merton-road, and stated that Mr. Mulholland had been invited to attend. He then read the correspondence which had passed between Mr. Mulholland and himself and reported the results of interviews between the chairman of the Watch Committee (Councillor Allen), the superintendent of the fire brigade, Mr. Mulholland, and himself, respecting the rules to be annexed to the licence. Mr. Mulholland thereupon appeared before the Committee, and, after discussion, the draft rules were considered *seriatim*. The committee also discussed with Mr. Mulholland the supply of water for fire purposes to the theatre, and the arrangements for the lighting thereof. It was resolved (*a*) That the question of granting a licence to Mr. Mulholland be further considered at the next meeting of the committee; and (*b*) that Alderman Porter and Councillor Stuart, with the Town Clerk and the superintendent of the fire brigade, be requested to have an interview at an early date with the engineer of the southern district of the Metropolitan Water Board and ascertain whether an adequate supply of water for fire purposes can be given to the proposed theatre from the Board's 7in. main in Merton-road, and what information has been furnished to Mr. Mulholland as to the water supply available.

At the ordinary monthly meeting of the Committee, which was held on the 31st ult., the Town Clerk reported (*a*) that, as requested, Alderman Porter and Councillor Stuart, with the superintendent of the fire brigade and himself, had interviewed the assistant engineer of the southern district of the Metropolitan Water Board with reference to the water supply available at the theatre, and had inquired whether an adequate supply of water for fire purposes could be given to the theatre from the Board's 7in. main in Merton-road, and what information had been furnished to Mr. Mulholland as to the water supply, and submitted a letter from the Metropolitan Water Board, in which it was stated that the main nearest to the theatre in which a pressure of water is available sufficient to afford an adequate supply for fire purposes at the building is situated in South Park-road, and from this an extension of the main would be necessary; (*b*) that the Mayor had received a letter, dated Aug. 9, 1910, from Mr. Mulholland, respecting his interview with the Committee on the 8th inst., and stating that he assumed his application for a stage play licence for his theatre would be heard publicly, "in accordance with the invariable custom and more especially of the London County Council"; (*c*) that he had sent to Mr. Mulholland draft of the licence, rules, and bond, as altered after discussion between him and this Committee on the 8th inst.; (*d*) that a copy of such licence, rules, and bond had also been forwarded to each member of this Committee; and (*e*) that a letter, dated Aug. 25, 1910, had been received from Mr. Mulholland, respecting the draft rules, stating as follows, namely:—

Rule 14. There was an addition to this agreed giving two inches for the purpose of draught exclusion, which you have not inserted.

Rule 16. The seating area to each person and spacing in the different parts of the house are shown upon the approved plans, and I object to any deviation from such areas and spacing as approved.

Resolved—(i) That Mr. Mulholland be informed (*a*) that the words "more than two inches" will be inserted after the word "trail" in Rule 14; and (*b*) that Rule 16 will be deleted and that the following rule will be inserted, namely:—

The seating accommodation of the theatre shall be as follows, namely:—In the stalls, not exceeding 356 persons; in the pit, not exceeding 660 persons; in the boxes, not exceeding 62 persons; in the circle, not exceeding 530 persons; in the gallery, not exceeding 974 persons. In all cases there must be a space of at least one foot between the front of one seat and the back of the next, measured between perpendiculars";

(ii) that a copy of the letter, dated Aug. 9, 1910, received from the Metropolitan Water Board, be sent to Mr. Mulholland, and that he be informed that this committee are satisfied that a proper supply of water for fire purposes at his theatre cannot be obtained unless the high-pressure main is extended from South Park-road to Russell-road, and that if he will contribute £50 towards the cost of the extension, the Council will pay the balance, the Board's estimate of the total cost being £150; (iii) that, subject to the before-mentioned contribution of £50 being made by Mr. Mulholland, the Council be recommended to grant a licence to Mr. John Brennan Mulholland, of "Millbrook," Upper Richmond-road, Putney, S.W., to keep open the building known as the Theatre Royal, Merton-road, Wimbledon, for the public performance of stage plays for the space of twelve calendar months from the 1st day of October, 1910; (iv) that the following Rules be annexed to such licence, namely:—

(i) The theatre shall be closed on Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, and on every day appointed for a public fast or thanksgiving.

(ii) Authorised officers of the Council, police officers when in uniform, or other constables when not in uniform if known as such to the manager or his servants, and firemen in uniform shall be permitted to have free ingress to the theatre at all times.

(iii) No person in a state of intoxication shall be permitted to enter or continue within the theatre.

(iv) The manager shall to the best of his ability maintain and keep good order and decent behaviour in the theatre during the hours of performance.

(v) No profanity or impropriety of language, dress, dance, or gesture, or offensive personalities or representations of living persons shall be permitted on the stage, or anything calculated to produce riot or breach of the peace.

(vi) No spirits, liquors, wine, ale, beer, porter, cyder, or perry shall be sold or consumed in the theatre except in the refreshment rooms thereof, and only to the audience and company engaged in the theatre when the same is open for performance.

(vii) All doors and barriers must open outwards.

(viii) The public must be allowed to leave the theatre by all exit and entrance doors. All doors used for purposes of exit must during the time the public are in the theatre be secured by automatic bolts only of a pattern and in a position to be approved by the Council.

(ix) All doors or openings used by the public for purposes of exit must be indicated by notices clearly painted to the satisfaction of the Council in not less than 5-inch letters. Such notices must be painted over such doors or openings at a height of at least seven feet above the floor.

(x) All exit doors except the front entrance doors must have a notice clearly painted on them indicating the method of opening them.

(xi) Each exit door from the auditorium and stage must have a distinct light fitted over it, such light to illuminate the exit notice and to be maintained during the whole time the public are in the theatre.

(xii) All gangways, passages, and staircases intended for the exit of the audience must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions, whether permanent or temporary.

(xiii) Persons must not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and if standing be permitted by the manager in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient room must be left for persons to pass easily to and fro.

(xiv) All curtains covering doors or in passages must be hung so as not to trail more than two inches on the ground.

(xv) All check boxes must be fixed and placed in such positions that they will not obstruct exit.

(xvi) The seating accommodation of the theatre shall be as follows, namely: in the stalls, not exceeding 356 persons; in the pit, not exceeding 660 persons; in the boxes, not exceeding 62 persons; in the circle, not exceeding 530 persons; in the gallery, not exceeding 974 persons. In all cases there must be a space of at least one foot between the front of one seat and the back of the next, measured between perpendiculars.

(xvii) All gas pipes and fittings must be made of iron or brass.

(xviii) All fixed and ordinary gas burners on or about the stage must be furnished with efficient guards; moveable and occasional lights must be protected in the same manner, and be in charge of persons responsible for lighting, watching, and extinguishing them.

(xix) All gas burners within reach of the public must be protected by glass or wire globes.

(xx) Additional means of lighting the theatre in the event of the gas or electric light being extinguished must be provided for the auditorium, corridors, passages, exits, and staircases, by a sufficient number of oil or candle lamps, of a pattern to be approved by the Council, properly secured to an uninflammable base and placed in wire cages, and, if possible, out of reach of the public. This shall not apply where there is (*a*) complete installation of both gas and electric light; or (*b*) two complete systems of electric lighting from separate generating stations; or (*c*) two complete systems from one generating station, if specially approved by the Council for the purposes of these regulations. In cases (*b*) and (*c*), the exit notices must be provided with independent means of lighting or with lights on both systems.

All lamps or lights on both systems in the staircases, corridors, passages, and exits (including the exit notices) must be kept alight during the whole time the public are in the theatre.

No mineral oils must be used in oil lamps.

(xxi) Blankets or rugs, and buckets filled with water, must be always kept on the stage and in the flies, scene docks and passages immediately approaching the dressing-rooms, ready for instant use, and attention must be directed to them by placards legibly printed or painted and fixed immediately above them.

Some person must be held responsible by the management for keeping the blankets or rugs and fire appliances ready for immediate use.

(xxii) Scenery knives, hooks, ladders, and other appliances for taking down hanging scenery in case of fire, where such scenery is in use, must be always kept in readiness in the flies for immediate use.

(xxiii) Information of any outbreak of fire in the theatre, however slight, must be at once communicated to the Superintendent of the Wimbledon Fire Brigade, Central Fire Station, Wimbledon.

(xxiv) The corridors must not be used as cloak-rooms, and no pegs for hanging hats and cloaks must be allowed therein.

(xxv) No decoration, or construction for the purpose of decoration, must be employed in dressing-rooms which does not adhere without any cavities to the surface of the wall.

(xxvi) All open fireplaces or stoves must be protected by sufficient guards and fenders.

(xxvii) Permanent counter weights, where possible, must be carried to the walls of the buildings, and cased in. The ropes attached to them must be constantly tested.

(xxviii) A fire resisting safety-curtain shall be provided for the proscenium opening, and must be lowered at least once about the middle of each performance in the presence of the audience, so as to ensure it being in proper working order. Such arrangements must be made for pouring water upon the surface of the curtain which is towards the stage as may be approved by the Council.

(xxix) The words "safety curtain" must be exhibited on the safety curtain in sufficiently large letters to allow of them being read from all parts of the theatre.

(xxx) Whenever the curtain is lowered, the auditorium must be immediately and sufficiently lighted.

(xxxi) No wires, &c., in connection with gymnastic or other displays, or any other apparatus, must be allowed to interfere in any way with the lowering of the safety curtain.

(xxxii) All scenery, wings, sky borders, cloths, draperies, gauze cloths, floral decorations, properties, hangings, curtains, &c., on the stage must be rendered and maintained non-inflammable.

(xxxiii) At every performance where scenery is used at least one fireman must be on duty in the theatre during the entertainment. The responsibility as regards the employment of a fireman or firemen must rest with the management.

(xxxiv) Druggets or crumb cloths, where used, must be secured so as not to be in any way liable to rucking, or to be in any way a source of danger to members of the audience.

(xxxv) Smoking by members of the orchestra or others must be strictly prohibited within the stage risk, except in the band room and dressing rooms, and except so far as may be necessary on the stage in connection with the performance.

(xxxvi) A sufficient number of employees must have definite duties allotted to them in the event of fire or panic, and statements of such duties must be posted up in conspicuous positions in the theatre. Dry fire drills must be held at least once a month in the theatre.

(xxxvii) Any electrical installation in the theatre, whether for lighting, heating, or power purposes, shall be approved by the Council. No alteration of or addition to the permanent installation shall be made without the consent of the Council first had and obtained.

(xxxviii) A properly qualified man must be in charge of the electrical installation.

(xxxix) At least one pair of indiarubber gloves for each switchboard installed must be provided for the use of the electricians in the event of high voltage occurring, and must be kept on each switchboard and in good order.

(xl) At least one leathern bucket, filled with dry sand, must be kept in an accessible position near to each switchboard in readiness for use in dealing with an electric fire.

(xli) All boilers, pipes, radiators, and other apparatus used for heating purposes must be insured with a recognised boiler insurance company, and inspected not less than once in every year. The certificate of the company's inspection or a duplicate thereof must be sent or produced to the Clerk of the Council within twenty-one days after each inspection.

(xlii) No dangerous performance of wild beasts must be permitted.

(xliii) No structural alteration must be made in the theatre without the previous sanction of the Council first had and obtained.

(xliv) The name of the responsible manager must appear on the programme of each performance.

(xlv) The lavatories and urinals in the theatre shall at all times be kept properly and effectually cleansed, ventilated, disinfected, and supplied with all proper requisites.

(xlvi) The manager is held solely and entirely responsible for the carrying out of the foregoing rules, for the management of the theatre before and behind the curtain, and for the safety of the public and the employees in the event of fire or panic.

(xlvii) Copies of the following rules shall be exhibited in conspicuous parts of the theatre, namely:—

(*a*) The public may leave the theatre at the end of the performance by all exit and entrance doors;

(*b*) All gangways, passages, and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions;

(*c*) Persons are not permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways, and if standing be permitted by the manager in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, sufficient space must be left for persons to pass easily to and fro;

(*d*) The safety curtain must be lowered about the middle of the performance so as to ensure it being in proper working order.

(v) that Mr. Mulholland and the two sureties named by him be required to enter into a bond with the Council for the due observance of the foregoing rules; (vi) that, as the building proposed to be licensed is not yet finished, the licence be retained by the Council until the Borough Surveyor certifies that such building has been completed in accordance with the approved plans; and (vii) that Mr. Mulholland be informed that the Council are not prepared to depart from their usual practice and hear his application in public.

Prior to the second minute being submitted, the Town Clerk, at the request of the Mayor (Councillor J. M. Bathgate) read the minute of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held before the Council sat. It showed that the correspondence which had passed between Mr. J. B. Mulholland and himself since the previous meeting of the Committee was submitted respecting the conditions upon which the Council was prepared to grant him a licence for the performance of stage plays in his theatre. After discussion it was resolved that in the absence of any promise by Mr. Mulholland to pay £50 towards the cost of extending the high pressure water main from South Park-road to Russell-road, the Mayor be requested not to submit for confirmation to the Council the paragraph and resolution in the minute of Aug. 31 last.

The Mayor moved the minutes with the exception of that relating to the granting of the licence.

Councillor D. Stuart seconded.

Councillor J. S. H. Abbott said he felt although there had been a certain amount——

The Mayor: Do you move an amendment?

Councillor Abbot: Yes. I move that we agree to pass the minute subject to the Town Clerk getting a proper undertaking from Mr. Mulholland to pay the £50 towards the expenses of extending the high pressure main. He felt from what he could gather from what took place at the meeting that there might be a misunderstanding on the part of Mr. Mulholland with regard to the Metropolitan Water Board, and that if there was, he was quite agreeable to pay the £50.

Councillor G. A. Duff seconded.

The Mayor pointed out that he could call a special meeting for the purpose of granting the licence when they got the necessary assurance from Mr. Mulholland.

Councillor Abbott: Can you call one within a week?

The Town Clerk: In three days' time.

Councillors Abbott and Duff then agreed to withdraw the amendment.

Alderman G. L. Apperson then moved the adoption of the minute the Clerk had read. He observed that none of them wished to hamper Mr. Mulholland in the slightest degree. They made that plain to him when they had his society at the Committee meeting. It was their duty as a public body to see that the people of Wimbledon were duly protected. That was the only thing they had to do with in the present controversy. Now there had been a half verbal understanding that if the high pressure main was carried to the point mentioned in the resolution the cost would be about £150, and that Mr. Mulholland would pay £50 and the Council £100. Mr. Mulholland did not give them a definite promise, and they had nothing in the way of writing from him in reply to the Clerk's letter saying the licence would be granted on the conditions set down. As soon as they had that assurance the Council would be called together and the licence would then be granted. The ordinary water supply was only sufficient to give the merest trickle at the top of the house; what they wanted to see was a sufficient volume to cope with a fire if it took place in that part. The Water Board had told the Council the present supply would not give that, and one of the Board's officers had said they would not think of joining the hydrants, for they knew the supply would not give anything like the quantity of water required in case of a fire. If Mr. Mulholland paid his share of the cost—one-third—which was a modest one, the Council would willingly pay the other two-thirds.

Councillor L. Allen seconded, and the minute was unanimously adopted.

At a subsequent stage of the meeting, the minutes of a meeting of the Electric Lighting Committee were submitted, and these showed that the borough electrical engineer (Mr. H. Tomlinson Lee) reported that he had informed Mr. J. B. Mulholland of the terms upon which the Council is willing to supply electrical energy to the theatre and other buildings now being erected by him, and submitted a letter, dated 25th Aug. last, from Mr. Mulholland, stating (*a*) that, being advised by his expert that the use of metal filament lamps would considerably reduce the consumption of current, he was not prepared to guarantee a minimum consumption of more than 20,000 units per annum; and (*b*) that a charge of 1d. per unit should be made for his day consumption. After discussion, it was resolved that Mr. J. B. Mulholland be informed (i) that the Council assent to the minimum consumption of 30,000 units per annum being reduced to 20,000 units per annum; (ii) that the Council cannot agree to charge 1d. per unit for day consumption for lighting purposes and 2½d. per unit during other hours, but they are willing to supply at the rate of 1d. per unit between 12 o'clock midnight and 6 p.m., and at the ordinary lighting rates between 6 p.m. and midnight, a minimum consumption of 5,000 units per quarter to be guaranteed; (iii) that the meters will be read monthly, and that accounts must be paid within fourteen days after delivery; and (iv) that, as an expenditure of about £540 in providing necessary apparatus will have to be incurred by the Council, and as such apparatus cannot be obtained and installed in less than about two months, he must decide at the earliest possible moment whether he intends to take a supply of electricity from the Council or not.

On the motion of Councillor D. Stuart, this minute was confirmed without comment.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland sends us the following copy of a letter which he has sent to the local papers at Wimbledon:—

[COPY.]

DEAR SIR,—I beg to enclose you herewith copy of a letter I addressed yesterday to the Mayor of Wimbledon, and I feel I can rely upon your courtesy and your sense of fairness to publish it.

A full reply to the mis-statements which have been publicly made would occupy many columns of your paper; but just now I have not the time nor have you, I am sure, the space. Therefore seeing that a public hearing is denied me, I must for the present content myself with this brief disclaimer.

Since writing the Mayor I have seen the minutes published at the Council meeting last night, and anything more amazing than the manner in which the portions relating to my licence have been manipulated it would be difficult to conceive. Extracts from my letters, torn from their context, are published; other letters and many essential facts are entirely suppressed: and the whole constitutes an *ex parte* presentation of the case of a most insidious and dangerous nature. The perverted cleverness of the whole thing is undeniable, but that such a travesty should be seriously put forward is a matter of much greater moment than the personal interest involved.—Yours faithfully,

J. B. MULHOLLAND.

King's Theatre, W., Sept. 8.

Mr. Mulholland has also addressed the following letter to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Wimbledon:—

[COPY.]

YOUR WORSHIP,—With regard to the stage-plays licence to my new theatre, to be dealt with at to-night's meeting of your Council, I wrote you on the 9th ult. that I, of course, assumed my application would be heard publicly, in accordance with the invariable custom.

Not receiving any reply, I wrote the Town Clerk on the 26th ult. to similar effect, pointing out that this was the custom of the London County Council, "so many of whose rules it is proposed to force upon me." On the 30th ult. the Town Clerk replied: "The Council does not hear applications for theatre licences publicly, as is done by the London County Council."

This intimation I received on the 31st ult., and, understanding there was a meeting of the General Purposes Committee that evening, I dispatched a telegram (reply paid) to the Town Clerk, as follows:—

"Received your letter. I respectfully suggest your Council should follow same procedure as Surrey County Council, which, I am informed, will not grant original stage-plays licence unless applicant appears. Applications, moreover, are heard publicly. Please reply."

In the afternoon of the following day (1st inst.) reply was received as under:—

"Committee decline to depart from their usual practice. Letter follows.—SHELDON."

This is well worth noting, seeing that "the usual practice" has been entirely departed from to my prejudice, in practically every other direction. Yet this usual practice is to be strictly adhered to to stop a public application. Thus the methods and delays of certain of your officials and the breaches of faith I have experienced escape publicity. I beg to protest.

I have, however, pointed out to you what is the usual practice in this respect of the London County Council. Seemingly, you are prepared to adopt their rules, but not their method of publicly hearing applications. I have also informed you of the usual practice of the Surrey County Council from whom your Council hold delegated powers in respect of the granting of stage-play licences.

I desire also to protest against your method of using my licence to coerce me to contribute towards the extension of a public water-main.

Having regard to all the circumstances, I beg to inform you that I reserve the right to take such steps as I may be advised in the whole matter.—I beg to remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. B. MULHOLLAND.

Sept. 7.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.—*The Encore.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

INFLUENCE OF THE AUDIENCE.

Théophile Gautier, who disliked the stage, perhaps because he had to earn his living as a theatrical critic, used to disparage the drama as lagging far behind fiction in that it never dealt with a new idea until long after this had been exploited in newspapers and in prose-fiction (says Mr. Brander Matthews in his "Study of the Drama"). Perhaps he would have found it difficult to prove his assertion; but it would be easy to give a good reason why there might be some warrant for it. It is because the drama must appeal to the people as a whole, and not merely to the more intelligent, the more cultivated, the more advanced. Until an idea has sunk into the popular consciousness, until it has been absorbed by the main body of a playwright's contemporaries, he can put it into a play only at his peril. What Wordsworth said of the poets is true especially of the dramatic poets—that they write under the restriction of hoping to give "immediate pleasure to a human being, possessed of that information which may be expected from him, not as a lawyer, a physician, a mariner, an astronomer, or a natural philosopher, but as a man." In other words, the dramatist has ever to find the greatest common denominator of the public as a whole, whereas the lyric poets and the novelists can, if they choose, narrow their appeal to a single caste or a single class. Here we can perceive the justice of the general feeling that partisan politics and sectarian religion are, both of them, totally out of place on the stage.

The theatre is a function of the crowd; and the work of the dramatist is conditioned by the audience to which he meant to present it. In the main, this influence is wholesome, for it tends to bring about a dealing with themes of universal interest. To some extent, it may be limiting and even harmful—but to what extent we cannot yet determine in our present ignorance of that psychology of the crowd which Le Bon has analysed so interestingly. We are only beginning to appreciate the fact that a group of men and women gathered together has a psychic unity of its own, a consciousness of itself as an entity, a soul which is not merely the sum total of the souls of the men and women present. No one has asserted this more sharply than Professor Hibben. He declared that a patent fallacy underlies the saying that "the whole equals the sum of the parts." Although the saying may be sound in mathematics it is false in sociology:

"In any group of men, in a clan, a tribe, a society, in church or in state, the whole is more than the sum of its parts. The parts may be seen, they may be counted. We find them in registers, in rosters, in tables of census statistics, and yet the communal spirit which makes for unity and solidarity is unseen. It is the *esprit de corps*, without which the body dies and returns to its elemental parts. And, within the still larger range which embraces the circle of mankind in general, the several parts are bound together as members one of another, because they are united in a common ancestry and a common destiny, a common weal or woe. The spirit of humanity makes all one."

Thus it is that, in the playhouse, every successive audience has an individuality of its own, differing collectively from other audiences, seeing the same performance in the same theatre in the same week. An afternoon audience, composed mostly of women, will take the points of a play in quite different fashion from an evening audience, in which there is a larger proportion of men. Humorous speeches and effects which bring hearty laughs at night will sometimes scarcely evoke even a condescending smile in the afternoon.

An audience is a crowd, and it has the special characteristics of any other crowd, of the spectators at athletic sports, of the participants in a camp-meeting of the delegates to a political convention. And it has also certain characteristics peculiar to itself, to the fact that it is gathered in a theatre, that it is composed of a group of playgoers. Every crowd consists of human beings who, when they are a part of the crowd, and in consequence of that fact, have each of them lost consciousness of certain of his individual mental characteristics. On the other hand, every one of them has acquired a keener consciousness of certain mental and emotional qualities which he has in common with the other members of the audience. M. Le Bon's doctrine has been neatly condensed into this series of statements:

"The mental qualities in which men differ from one another are the acquired qualities of intellect and character; but the qualities in which they are at one are the innate basic passions of the race. A crowd, therefore, is less intellectual and more emotional than the individuals that compose it. It is less reasonable, less judicious, less disinterested, more credulous, more primitive, more partisan; and, hence, a man, by the mere fact that he forms a part of an organised crowd, descends several rungs on the ladder of civilisation. Even the most cultured and intellectual of men, when he forms an atom of a crowd, loses consciousness of his acquired mental qualities and harks back to his primal nakedness of mind. The dramatist, therefore, because he writes for a crowd, writes for an uncivilised and uncultivated mind, a mind richly human, vehement in approbation, violent in disapproval, easily credulous, eagerly enthusiastic, boyishly heroic, and carelessly thinking."

And Mr. Clayton Hamilton, from whom this extract is quoted, added that "both in its sentiments and in its opinions, the crowd is hugely commonplace. It is incapable of original thought and of any but inherited emotion. It has no speculation in its eyes. What it feels was felt before the Flood; and what it thinks, its fathers thought before it. The most effective moments in the theatre are those that appeal to commonplace emotions—love of woman, love of home, love of country, love of right, anger, jealousy, revenge, ambition, lust, and treachery."

This is what underlies Victor Hugo's assertion in the preface of his "Ruy Blas," that there are three classes which go to the theatre—the "main body of spectators who demand action, women who desire emotion, and thinkers who look for character." In other words, story, plot, incident, is of primary importance in a play, since that is what is most pleasing to the largest number; and delicacy of character-delineation and veracity of psychology are only secondary. This truth was seized long ago by Aristotle; and it was as imperative in Athens then as it is now in Paris and in New York. It seems to explain the boast of the elder Dumas that all he required for success on the stage was "four boards, two actors, and a passion."

The audience in a theatre is first of all a crowd, with the characteristics it has in common with all crowds. But it is also a crowd of a special type, in that it has come together with the desire of recreation, of amusement, of pleasure. Its purpose is not serious, like the purpose of the camp-meeting or of the political convention. It is inclined to resent instruction or edification, since it feels that the theatre is not the fit place for either of these useful things. This is one reason why the chief dramatists have rarely attempted to preach or to assume the attitude of the instructor; they have been satisfied to present life as they saw it with their own eyes, to mirror one or another aspect of the infinite complexity of human existence, leaving the spectator free to draw his own moral from the picture.

"THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS." By Cuthbert B. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KINGSWAY THEATRE.

Signor C. de Macchi's Italian company gave an attractive performance of Auber's opera *Fra Diavolo* at the Kingsway Theatre on Wednesday evening before a large audience. Auber's tuneful music is always welcome, and, as *Fra Diavolo* is so seldom heard, the revival seemed quite a novelty. Signor Franco de Gregorio as Fra Diavolo sang and acted with great spirit, and made a dashing Marquis San Marco, which disguise the famous bandit takes in the opera, and his singing of the Serenade and Barcarole was a great advance on the artist's previous performance in *Il Barbière* on the opening night of the present season. As Zerlina Signorina Isabella de Frate won frequent applause, and her solo with the flute obbligato in the second act had a most hearty encore. It is a pity the quality of Signorina de Frate's voice is not equal to her fluent execution of the pretty music or her really bright and clever acting. After Zerlina's chief solo in the bedroom scene floral tributes were handed to the young artist, which seemed utterly absurd, as in the plot all the males of the house except the three bandits are supposed to be in bed and asleep; but the audience, of whom a large number were Italians, received this proceeding quite as a matter of course. Signor Gaetano Rebonato and Signor Luigi Lucente were excellent as Beppo and Giacomo, the two accomplices of Fra Diavolo, while their capital make-up, good comic business, and talented singing well deserved the constant applause and laughter, and the trio, in the first act, one of the best numbers of the opera, went extremely well. In the bedroom scene of the second act the fun and humour were largely owing to the efforts of these two clever artists. Signor F. Talamanca appeared as Lord Allcash, and, for an English traveller, seemed strangely fluent in his Italian. Signorina Enrichetta Sogno impersonated Lady Allcash successfully, although her voice was somewhat small for the music of her part. Mr. Charles Neville made a gallant Lorenzo, and the little part of Matteo was ably undertaken by Signor R. Amati. The scenery and costumes were effective. Signor C. de Macchi proved an energetic conductor, and the singing and acting of the chorus were excellent.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Comic Opera, by Guy Eden and Reginald Somerville, entitled

"THE MOUNTAINEERS."

Pierre	Mr. Fred Eastman
Fritz	Mr. Claud Flemming
Conrad	Mr. Edgar Marsden
Gustave	Mr. Frank Lawton
Sergeant Frederico	Mr. Leo Sheffield
Annette	Miss Ida Stratham
Miss Spinifex	Miss Aida Jenoure
Clarice	Miss Marie Dainton

The present revised version of *The Mountaineers* is altogether a vast improvement on the Savoy Theatre production, and, judging by its very favourable reception at the King's on Monday evening, there are prospects of a successful future. With a slight, but interesting, story, plenty of humour and mirth, tuneful melodies, and, above all, excellent acting and singing, what more can the most critical patron require? Monday night's audience appeared to be perfectly satisfied, and calls were numerous and enthusiastic. That excellent comedian Mr. Fred Eastman was very much to the fore as Pierre, the chief Custom House official. He caused loud peals of laughter by his "confiscatory" powers as head of the Custom House, and in every other way proved himself to be a genuine humorist. As Gustave, his assistant, Mr. Frank Lawton was amusing, and showed the audience that his whistling powers had not in any way diminished. Mr. Claude Flemming in the part of Fritz sang beautifully, and showed that he could act with ability. His rival, Conrad, was exceedingly well sustained by Mr. Edgar Marsden, whose fine appearance and excellent voice were of material assistance. Sergeant Frederico was dashingly performed by Mr. Leo Sheffield; Miss Marie Dainton made a huge success in the character of the wayward Clarice, her talented singing and dainty acting being greatly appreciated. The song of "The Eidelweiss" particularly earned her great applause. A performance of undoubted merit was that of Miss Ida Stratham, who as Annette, the village coquette, furnished a representation of bright and vivacious acting and able singing which quite captured the house. As Miss Spinifex, a spinster, Miss Aida Jenoure, who has been seen too little of late, made a conspicuous success, and the audience were by no means slow in giving her a hearty welcome. The chorus was one of the most efficient that has been gathered together, and met with hearty approval. The composer, Mr. Reginald Somerville, conducted the augmented orchestra, and the plaudits of the audience must have repaid him for his efforts. The costumes were most artistic, and the picturesque Swiss scenery met with universal approbation.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

The Carl Rosa Opera Company opened here on Monday with *The Queen of Sheba*. Mr. Arthur Winckworth gave a very fine and noble impersonation of King Solomon, and as the Queen Miss Doris Woodall sang and acted superbly. Miss Beatrice Miranda, with a good appearance and excellent voice, was very expressive as the Shulamite, and Miss Annie Van Dyck as Astaroth showed the advantage of sound vocal and musical training. Mr. Walter Wheatley was a picturesque Assad, and as the High Priest Mr. Alexander Richard was thoroughly effective. Mr. George Reid scored highly as Baal-Hanan. Miss Annie Elliott danced artistically in the banqueting scene. Mr. Eugene Goossens conducted with his usual ability, and the piece was extremely well mounted. On Tuesday and Wednesday *Faust* and *Carmen* respectively were performed. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Il Trovatore* were to fill up the week.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Play entitled

"THE FIGHTING CHANCE."

The Lyceum production, *The Fighting Chance*, claims attention at the Dalston Theatre this week, and, judging by the persistent applause, the play is evidently to the taste of the patrons of that house. The scenery, which is from the Lyceum Theatre studio, provides realistic surroundings to the events of the story, which runs smoothly under the stage management of Mr. Charles Leverton, and the incidental music also adds to the general effect. Captain Jim Blanchard is strikingly represented by Mr. Sidney Vautier, who is a favourite with the audience. Captain Philip Rivers has in Mr. Arthur Elwyn an exponent who infuses into the part just the necessary atmosphere of bitterness to render the enactment realistic. Considerable credit is due to Mr. Fred J. Waller for his General Sir Christopher Blanchard, and Mr. Austin Milroy, as Stephen Blanchard, quite maintains his reputation as a capable and spirited actor. Mr. Charles Leverton presents a lively sketch of an Irishman as Larry O'Brien. The Dr. John Vorland of Mr. Terence O'Brien, the Colonel Paget of Mr. James Wilson, and the Captain Fraser of Mr. Roland Daniel are highly praiseworthy; while Mr. Charles B. Bedells as Isra Mahomet Khan, Mr. Alfred Wood as the Maharajah of Daulatpore and Mr. A. B. Stanton as his brother, Lal Chandra, are equally distinctive. A charming portrayal of the interesting character, Ethel Hardy, is given by Miss Marie Duncan, who establishes herself a favourite. Another well-played part is that of Marjorie Vorland, by Miss Lilian Constance, while Miss May Campbell as Jean Fielding, Miss Annie Barclay as Mrs. Effie Mackintosh, and Miss Amy Venimore as Mrs. Vanstart, appear to equal advantage.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Drama entitled

"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

Messrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company are paying a return visit with *Her Fatal Marriage*. The play receives a hearty welcome. Mr. Jerrold Heather is a sinister figure as the man-skeleton, Zaco Maletto, alias Capt. Vigo. Mr. Colin Peckover is a handsome hero as the young curate, Wilfred Grey. Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock makes an efficient Colonel Crichton. Mr. P. Morton Wright submits a weird character as the half-witted Paul. Mr. William Allen is much to the fore as Detective Smart. Mr. Frank Shepherd as Peter Pimple and Miss Elsie Dene as Dolly Dimple are responsible for some excellent drollery. Miss Minifred Rutland plays well as Lily the White Angel. Miss Hilda Shirley as Myra Maletto puts in some excellent acting, and lends an air of distinction to this important rôle.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Naval Play,

"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

That delightful picture of naval life presented to the playgoer by *The Flag Lieutenant* has lost none of its charm, and the Kennington Theatre was filled by a large and appreciative audience on Monday, when the curtain rang up once again on the "Admiral's Cabin" in the "Royal Edward." The play was finely presented by Mr. Lyn Harding and Mr. Sidney Cooper's company, the personnel of which is exceedingly strong both from the point of view of numbers and ability. The dominating note of *The Flag Lieutenant* is its naturalness, and that note was emphasised to the full by the clever work of every member of the cast. The staging, too, was magnificent, and both the camp at Kandia, besieged by Bashi-Bazouks, and the quarter deck of the "Royal Edward," when the King's Birthday salute was given, were two strikingly great scenes. In the title-rôle Mr. Edgar Kent scored an immediate triumph by his admirable impersonation of Dicky Lascelles. He was a typical naval officer of the younger school, and played with much humour and liveliness. As Lady Hermione Wynne Miss Dorothy Ripley won all hearts by her graceful and sympathetic acting. Mr. George Mallett invested the rôle of Vice-Armiral Berkeley Wynne with just the touch of dignity and strength needed. Mr. A. V. Bramble contributed a vivid piece of stage portraiture as Major Thesiger, R.M.L.I. Midshipmen Hood and Dormer-Lee were impersonated with spirit and skill by Mr. George Robinson and Mr. Allen Harris respectively. Miss Clarissa Selwynne sketched the part of Mrs. Cameron with power, whilst Miss Winifred Vaillant was an engaging figure as Viola Hood. General Gough-Bogle was excellently impersonated by Mr. Lionel Isted, and Miss Stella Leigh was good as Mrs. Gough-Bogle. Mr. George Percy sustained the character of Surgeon Crutchley with credit. Mr. John Wheatman was a delightful Michael Palisser. Mr. James Coulsdon was excellent as Quartermaster Pennis, and Mr. Harry Haste deserves special mention as George Blockley (Yeoman of Signals). Mr. Victor Moore made a grim Sergeant Steele and Mr. Gordon Hamilton was a sardonic Private Borlase, whilst Mr. John Belton deserves a word for his representation of Seaman Sloggett. Mr. Edward Harrison and Mr. Gilbert Prentice made soldierly figures as officers of the Campbell Highlanders, and Mr. Jean Chassereau was a picturesque Bashi-Bazouk. Mr. Vincent Fletcher did well as Flag-Captain Penrose, and Mr. John Cross was a sedate Admiral's secretary; whilst Miss Ada Clarke adequately filled the part of Lady Dugdale.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Drama entitled

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Mr. Walter Melville's combinations always keep the box-office fairly busy at the Lyric, and the company playing this week is by no means an exception. The resulting business is naturally good. Mr. Edward Valentine gives a captivating and lifelike presentment of John Meadows which calls for a high tribute of praise. Mr. Chas. F. Kerzo is effective as Jack Livingstone; Mr. Willie Scott is boisterously funny as Toby Turvey; and Miss Amy Rudd, as Tilley Vane, is very sympathetic. Miss Doris Whyte acts the part of Constance Cornel with grace and dignity, and Mr. Fred Rivers sustains the rôle of Cuthbert Lumley with smartness and address. An able rendering of Luke Ramsden is given by Mr. Leslie Nolan; and Mr. Kendrew Milson handles well the part of Dr. Weston. Mr. J. Pickford plays the policeman and Mr. Walter Johnson the pickpocket, both ably. Miss Ada Rothwell's interpretation of the pretty but graceless Nellie Meadows, the farmer's daughter, leaves little to be desired, and Miss Nell Oliver's rendering of Barbara Wade fascinates with horror. The parts of Joe Coyle, Fred Hickley, and Harry Butler fall respectively to Mr. David Borone, Mr. George Wilson, and Mr. Harold Mace, who all do well; to Miss Emily Crossley and Miss Nellie Butts are judiciously allotted the rôles of Jane Thomas and Georgie Watts; and Miss Kate Walton is efficient as Jessie Wilton, Miss Louie Valentine and Miss Nellie Noble being suitably cast as Fay Dudley and Gertie Seemton.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Drama, entitled

"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Percy Williams is here this week with his excellent company presenting this old favourite to Brixton playgoers, with satisfactory results. Mr. Hugh Montgomery must be commended for his fine acting as Howard Wilson; Mr. Royce Milton deserves eulogy for the manner in which he sustains the rôle of Robert Curtis; Mr. Sam Springson displays ability as Toto, and causes much laughter; Mr. Frank Ashley is capital as O'Reilly; Mr. Cyril Milton is an excellent Peter Schwarz; Mr. J. Newton is very good as the clergyman; Miss Ethel Kay is winsome and convincing as Mabel Wilson; Miss Leah Marlborough is admirable as Cora Wilson; and Miss Marie Harcourt as the cook, Bridget, is very successful. The "little mother," Jessie, is charmingly played by Little Lausanne. Songs and dances are interpolated throughout the play by smart and clever artists, and a capital clog dance is done by Master Tom Grice. The children, it should be mentioned, are well trained. *The Fatal Wedding* lends itself to picturesque mounting, and this is well supplied by the management.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday the Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled

"OUR BOYS."

Our Boys, which is the principal item in the bill at the Royal County Theatre this week, has been attracting numerous audiences, and has been welcomed with much zest. The comedy is being presented by Mr. Chas. Otley, who himself fills the part of the honest old parvenu Perkin Middlewick, and invests it with a quaint humour that keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment. The part of the haughty aristocrat, Sir Geoffrey Champneys, is in the hands of Mr. Francis Hawley, who showed himself an actor of considerable ability. The two sons, Charles Middlewick and Talbot Champneys, are played by Mr. Douglas Gordon and Mr. Hugh Ardale respectively, and in each case nothing but praise can be said of the impersonation. Miss Phyllis Relph is appearing as Violet Melrose, and Miss Barbara Hanway as Mary Melrose, and they present the parts with a winsome charm that finds them friends in all parts of the house. The part of the aunt is admirably filled by Miss Mildred Gilbert, and much of the humour of the production is supplied by Miss M. Ladle as Belinda, the house drudge. The farce *Ancient Britons* is produced after the comedy, and much interest was manifested in it, as it gave an opportunity to Miss Kitty Darling, the young Plymouth lady who won the Folkestone beauty prize, of making her début as an actress before a Kingston audience. She filled the part allotted to her with credit. The whimsicalities of Mr. Jack Humphries who, with Mr. Rupert Stutfield, is associated with her in the farce, caused no end of amusement.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

This week Mr. G. Carlton Wallace has brought his company here with his new play, *The Apple of Eden*, produced a fortnight ago at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland quickly made himself a prime favourite by his powerful acting. Most ably was he supported by Miss Janet Alexander; their scenes together were magnificent, too much praise cannot be accorded them. Mr. John F. Traynor was a vigorous General Paolos. The arch-fiend Prince Nicola was admirably played by Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood. Praise is due to Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan for his vivid portrayal of the besotted King Ferdinand. Excellent comedy was forthcoming from Miss Tessa Myers as Winifred and Mr. Bertie White as the fop Bertram. Miss M. Hayden enacted the grand dame Lady Hanbury to a nicety. Miss Mysie Monte was very smart as Queen Margaret's maid. As the brigand chieftain, Mr. C. W. Grahame was well placed, and so also was Mr. Francis James as Stefan. The remaining parts were well sustained by capable artists. The drama was well mounted, staged, and played.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Drama by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, entitled

"HER PATH OF SORROW."

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's company in the above new piece is the attraction at the Stratford Theatre Royal for the current week. The story exudes with sentiment, is easily followed, and is well staged. Mr. John Davidson as the self-sacrificing Richard Burfield plays very convincingly, and Mr. Horatio Sinclair strongly emphasises the villainy of Guy Lowther. Mr. Frank Etheridge is a manly Lionel Heathcote; Mr. Harry Harrold does well as Markham Ferrars; and Mr. Charles Reyne is excellent as Farmer Rayne. Miss Florence Melrose Millett makes a charming though rather emotionless Pauline Ferrars; and Miss Fay Garnet Vane as the sorely-tried Nellie Rayne acts with considerable feeling and abandon. Mr. Will Hook in the comedy part of Tommy Onions provides a source of considerable merriment; Miss Daisy Carlton is a vivacious and sprightly Polly Green; and Miss Nellie Freeland makes a chic Lucille. In minor rôles are Mr. Hubert Lawrence (Jack Smith), Mr. Allan Sothwyn (Dr. Simms), Mr. Wilson Saunders (P.-C. Bridge), Mr. Eric Winstanley (Detective Williams), Mr. T. Wheeler (P.-C. Robinson), and Mr. Wilfred Eckhart (Warder Jackson).

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 5, the Drama, entitled

"THE WHIP."

The Stratford Borough Theatre enjoys the distinction of being the first to submit to suburbia the Drury Lane success *The Whip*, and Mr. Fred Frederick's enterprise in securing such an attractive booking is being rewarded with bumper houses. Taking everything into consideration, the piece loses very little by comparison with the production at headquarters, the railway collision at Mansfield Junction being very thrilling and realistic, while the race for the Two Thousand Guineas is quite a triumph in stage representation. Mr. James Lindsay as the cynical, callous Captain Sartoris contributes a clever exposition of gentlemanly blackguardism; Mr. Edwin Brett is a highly interesting and entertaining Tom Lambert; Mr. Dallas Cairns as Lord Brancaster is manly and convincing; and a sparkling sketch of the self-important bookmaker, Joe Kelly, comes from Mr. Eric Hudson. Mr. Fredk. Leister portrays the uneasy-minded Rev. Vernon Haslam very appropriately; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is a fluent and dignified Lord Beverley; and Mr. Horace Kenney is fairly good as the jockey, Harry Anson. Miss Vera Beringer handles the thankless rôle of the scheming Mrs. D'Aquila very artistically; Miss Simeta Marsden is a highly popular representative of the "goey" Mrs. Beamish; Miss Gwendolin Wren as the sporting Lady Di is distinctly successful; and Miss Stella Campbell, while looking very charming, is somewhat overweighted with the part of the much-wronged Myrtle Anson. Remaining characters are all adequately filled; and the management of Mr. George Dance's company is safely entrusted to Mr. Hugh Nolan.

As a sample of eloquent praise, Mr. Hall Caine's eulogy on Miss Tittell-Brune's performance in *The Eternal Question* is worth preserving. He begins: "I call Miss Brune a great actress because, to begin with, she has the sense of the theatre. . . . It is the sense of how to speak to an audience in all its possible moods, its whims, its variations of temper, and in the midst of the unexpected waves of emotion that play upon people when they are sitting together in great numbers. . . . Miss Brune has it in a more marked degree than any actress I have ever seen. . . . That is what I call being an actress born, and this young Californian lady is a born actress beyond any possibility of doubt.

"Next, I call Miss Brune a great actress, because she has the gift of a personality which is capable of being put into the skin, so to speak, of any character she may be called upon to fill. . . . Her personality is neither so powerful nor so dangerous—it is the actor-personality pure and simple, the personality proper to the mime, and to the mime alone. The true actor has no individuality, in the sense in which the word is ordinarily understood.

"Next, I call Miss Tittell-Brune a great actress because she has one gift of nature—voice—which I have never before found in such absolute sympathy with the work it is called upon to do. . . . In particular, there is a note that is hardly voice at all, but a kind of breathless whisper, which seems to be the expression, not of the organs that produce sound, but of the woman's soul. I have never heard the like of this in any other actress in any country. You hear it as clearly as the loudest shout, yet it seems scarcely to make a ripple on the surface of the air. The effect of it is overwhelming. More than any sound I have ever heard from the lips of an actress, it goes through and through you. It is, perhaps, the greatest natural gift of this extraordinarily gifted young woman.

"Finally, I call Miss Tittell-Brune a great actress because she has a power of passion which I have never found in any English-speaking actress since Adelaide Neilson. . . . This Californian lady has a deeper well of passion to draw upon than any woman, save one, that I have seen on the stage since I began to go to the theatre forty years ago. . . . No such white heat of passion as Roma maintains through the long and trying scene with the Baron and with Rossi in the last act of my play has ever, to my knowledge, been exhibited on the English stage since Adelaide Neilson acted in the most passionate of Dr. Westland Marston's tragedies."

"CAPT'N JACK."

A Nautical Play, in Four Acts, by F. Ciel, Produced for the First Time in London, at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday, Sept. 5.

Capt. John Wetherley	Mr. Ernest Owtrim
Andrew Lee	Mr. Herbert Bentone
Anthony Cliversedge	Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh
Barry Trent	Mr. F. C. Leighton
Billy Bowster	Mr. Richard Seddon
Joseph Gympey	Mr. Owen Edwin
Ned Dedrull	Mr. Walter Kenion
Ben Billet	Mr. T. Otterspool
Jan Schafskopf	Mr. Ray Costello
Dan Shivertimbers	Mr. Eric Booth
Dick Marlinspike	Mr. Anthony James
Ginge	Miss Ada Arnott
Winnie Trent	Miss Betty Manners
Mary	Miss Nina Blake-Adams

The play is bright and breezy, free and easy, as a sailor play should be. It is essentially a clean and wholesome work, and has many good points. In the provinces it has already achieved remarkable success. The scene of the first act is outside Jolly Mariners, Seaport. There is general merry-making and excitement, Mary Lee, the village beauty, having that very morning been married to Captain John Wetherley ("Capt'n Jack"). The villain, Anthony Cliversedge, who is the owner of Jack's ship, has for a long time desired Mary, and when he hears of her marriage sets his brain working, and concocts dark and deadly schemes which bode ill for the happiness of the newly-married couple. It transpires that Jack has to sail by that evening's tide, and Cliversedge is informed that the steward has been taken suddenly ill. Thereupon he bribes Barry Trent, a wastrel whom he has completely in his power, to go abroad as steward and scuttle the ship. This Barry agrees to do after some persuasion, but is accosted by his sister Winnie, who, by her pleadings, brings his better nature to the surface, and he determines to turn over a new leaf. After Jack has said farewell he sails away, leaving his bride of a few hours disconsolate on the quay. Cliversedge, entering, watches her unobserved and gloats over her misery, congratulating himself on his idea for the speedy removal from this earth of "Capt'n Jack." In the midst of his complacent musings Barry enters, and when asked by Cliversedge why he is not on the ship, calmly informs him, "Well, I've changed my mind." We next discover Cliversedge in his office still intent on having poor Mary. He has bribed the postman to bring him all letters from Jack to his wife without delivering them. He also, by means of an affectionate letter that Winnie has written to her brother, and which, by a little manipulation, he contrives to make it appear was intended for Jack, secures false evidence of the hero's infidelity.

In the next scene, the Parlour of the Jolly Mariners, Mary, heartbroken and sad at not hearing from her husband, is confronted with the aforementioned letter by Cliversedge, and, at length persuaded by his oily manner and the weight of evidence, she agrees to leave Seaport with him. Six months now elapse, and we next see Mary in Cliversedge's flat in Kensington; he has discarded his veneer of polish, and shows himself in his true colours as a brutal drunkard.

During his temporary absence Jack, who has returned and been informed of Mary's whereabouts, arrives on the scene and upbraids her for her conduct. Mary tells him of the letter she had read which was apparently intended for him by Winnie, and at last has her eyes opened to the true state of things. She then informs Jack of Cliversedge's brutality, and Jack vows vengeance. Just then the key is heard turning in the lock. Jack conceals himself in an inner room, and Cliversedge and Barry enter, both slightly intoxicated. They are confronted by Jack, and Barry beats a hasty retreat, leaving Anthony to get himself out of the mess in the best way he can. Then ensues a fight between the two men, in which Cliversedge receives a knock-out blow, and Jack, touched by Mary's plight and remembering "To err is human, to forgive, divine," takes her to his heart again.

The third act represents Jack's cabin on board the Bonnie Mary. Here Mary, tortured by Jack's worship of her baby, confesses that it is not his, but the child of the villain who made her break her faith.

In the last act, at Cliversedge Cottage, Seaport, the villain puts out the light on the point on the night on which Jack's ship is expected back. A storm rises, and the Bonnie Mary is wrecked; but Winnie Trent rouses the lifeboat-men, and the crew are saved. They see the light in Cliversedge's cottage, and make their way towards it for shelter. Anthony, who, after extinguishing the light in the lighthouse has been amusing himself by strangling Barry Trent, makes a savage attack on Jack directly the latter enters the cottage carrying Mary. The villain is, however, frustrated in his final attempt at revenge by the rest of the crew, but manages to get clear away from them, and shoots himself. Mary recovers from her swoon and cries for her baby, only to be told by Jack that it is the only one of the ship's company who cannot answer the muster, having been drowned. The one bar to their reconciliation being thus removed, they fall into each other's arms.

Mr. Ernest Owtrim played Capt'n Jack in a manly and convincing manner; at times, notably in the Cabin scene, his histrionic powers reached a very high pitch ideed. Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh handled the difficult part of Anthony Cliversedge in a masterly manner. He shone particularly in the last act, where he has splendid opportunities, and did not fail to avail himself of them. Mr. F. Cyril Leighton contented himself with the rôle of Barry Trent, and gave an excellent character study. Mr. Herbert Bentone as Andrew Lee had a part which suited this experienced actor "down to the ground." Miss Nina Blake-Adams acted and looked charming as Mary. It was a most trying rôle, but Miss Adams came out with flying colours. Miss Betty Manners made a most sympathetic Winnie Trent. The comic relief was in the hands of Miss Ada Arnott, Mr. Owen Edwin (the latter a particularly lugubrious Joe Gympey), and Mr. Richard Seddon as Billy Bowster. Special mention must be made of Mr. Walter Kenion, whose appearance as the longshoreman "Ned Dedrull" reminded one forcibly of one of W. W. Jacobs' delightful creations. The minor characters were capably filled. The scenery was all that could be desired.

An interesting ceremony took place on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, last Friday week, the occasion being the presentation to Mr. Geo. E. Carleton of a handsome silver-mounted walking-stick and silver cigarette-case from the orchestra and staff on his retirement from the management of the theatre. The presentations were made by Mr. James Hecker, the musical conductor, and Mr. Jonas Swinbanke, master carpenter, both of whom expressed the regret felt by all at Mr. Carleton's departure.

At the monthly meeting of the York City Council at the local Guildhall on Monday, with the Lord Mayor presiding, the following recommendation of the Council was considered:—"That a surrender of the theatre from Messrs. Waddington, the lessees, be accepted" from Jan. 1, 1911. Two offers, it was stated, had been made by would-be tenants of the theatre, one of whom proposed to carry on the place as a music hall. After discussion, an amendment to the effect that the matter should be referred to the Estates Committee with a view to reporting on some scheme as to conducting the theatre, was carried by a majority of two votes.

"SISTER ANNE."

A New Play, in Four Acts, by Mme. Albanesi, Adapted from her Novel of the same name, Produced at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill Gate, on Wednesday, Sept. 7.

David Barostan	Mr. Norman Trevor
Basil Barostan	Mr. Frederic Sargent
Mark Wallingford	Mr. C. Aubrey Smith
Parsons	Mr. Henry Kitts
Farm Lad	Mr. Arthur Cleave
Miss Rainham	Miss Rosina Filippi
Pamela Brookdale	Miss Ruth Bower
Muriel Peyton	Miss Viva Birkett
Grace Peyton	Miss Winifred Beech
Speed	Miss Marion Ashworth
Mrs. Garstan	Miss Amy Ravenscroft
Anne Brookdale	Miss Marion Terry

The Coronet Theatre has, during its twelve years' existence, proved one of the most successful of the suburban theatres, and Mr. Robert Arthur has decided that the time has come when this house should be brought into line with the central theatres. It is in the midst of a high-class residential district, and moreover, the theatre is easily accessible by the two railway stations at Notting Hill Gate and also by motor 'bus services from all parts of London. Mr. Robert Arthur can, with justifiable pride, point to the fact that the Coronet Theatre has long been noted for its French and original seasons, and the new scheme promises to bring to the house increased prosperity. Special matinée performances will be a feature, and in such a district these are sure to be well patronised, more particularly by the ladies.

Mr. Robert Arthur opened his autumn season with his "own West-End company" in a new play, *Sister Anne*, dramatised by Mme. Albanesi, from one of her novels. At Hutley Court reside Anne Brookdale and her younger sister Pamela, and when the play opens the last-mentioned is about to marry the man of her choice. Anne has shown her all the love and devotion of a mother, but the spoilt child—for Pamela has been terribly spoilt—seldom makes any satisfactory return for the affection and anxious care lavished upon him or her. Pamela has acted very indiscreetly in encouraging the attentions of a young fellow named Basil Barostan, the brother of David Barostan, who is the owner of the adjoining farm. She has foolishly led young Barostan to think that she was fond of him, and when on the eve of her marriage he turns up and asks her to fulfil her promises to him, she finds herself in a very awkward position. She has never had any intention of marrying a poor man, and Basil comes under this description. Angry at his appearance at such a moment, and his persistence in urging his claims, Pamela declares that she hates him. The words uttered in a passion strike home, and giving her to understand that she need have no fear that he would ever trouble her again, Basil departs. Anne has an ardent wooer in Mark Wallingford, a gentleman with a very good opinion of himself. His offer of marriage comes as a surprise to Anne, and she asks for time to consider his proposal, which she eventually declines. For years there has existed a feud between the Barostans and the Brookdales, this having arisen in regard to the ownership of a piece of land which lies between the two farms. Miss Brookdale is anxious to put an end to the old-standing quarrel, and in an interview with David Barostan, asks him to become her friend as well as neighbour. David is extremely cold and distant in his manner, but thaws slightly under the influence of the woman whom he secretly admires and loves. The wedding of Pamela duly takes place, but shortly afterwards comes the terrible news that Basil Barostan has shot himself, and David, who has loved his brother deeply, learns the reason why the young man committed suicide. Clutched in his dead fingers was found a letter with the signature of Anne Brookdale, and in a stormy interview with the bereaved brother, she takes upon her shoulders the full responsibility of what has happened, although she knows that the cruelly-worded letter was a forgery on the part of Pamela. She succeeds in preventing Mark Wallingford going to Pamela's husband and exposing her heartless conduct. David, however, makes it a condition that she shall marry him at once. The wedding takes place, and David accompanies his bride to a lonely farmhouse in Yorkshire, which belongs to him. Here he gets at the truth with regard to the conduct of Pamela, and the self-sacrifice of her sister. He, however, announces his intention of journeying to New York on business, and he does not return to England for four months. In the meantime Anne has grown to love her husband, and though Mark Wallingford makes a last attempt to separate them husband and wife are reconciled, and there is a happy ending to this story of a sister's self-sacrifice.

Miss Marion Terry, in the title-rôle played with all her wonted charm of manner, and so contrived to make the heroine of the story a truly lovable woman, who, at any cost to herself, is prepared to shield from the results of her own folly and deceit, the sister she has always so dearly loved. Miss Terry's admirable performance greatly delighted the audience, and their recognition of its many good points was cordial in the extreme. Miss Terry was well supported by Mr. Norman Trevor, who deserves to be highly complimented upon his fine acting in the part of David Barostan. He had a firm grip of the part and was in no small degree responsible for the favourable reception accorded the new play. Mr. Frederic Sargent played with earnestness and sincerity the character of Basil Barostan, who is only seen in the first act. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith did all that was possible with the part of Mark Wallingford, and met with deserved success. Miss Ruth Bower played excellently as Pamela Brookdale, whose selfishness and insincerity cause so much trouble. Miss Rosina Filippi was well placed as Miss Rainham, a lady who speaks her mind very plainly. Miss Filippi played the part with a delightful humour that was evidently much appreciated by the audience. Mr. Henry Kitts was good as Parsons. Miss Amy Ravenscroft deserves a word of praise for her embodiment of Mrs. Garston, and Mr. Arthur Cleave was a capital farm lad. Two young girls, Muriel and Grace Peyton, had bright and pleasing representatives in Miss Viva Birkett and Miss Winifred Beech, while Miss Marion Ashworth as the smart maid-servant, completed the cast.

The play was most favourably received, and at the final fall of the curtain a call for the author brought Mme. Albanesi to the front.

Arrangements are now complete for the Tetrazzini concert at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, the 24th inst., at 3 p.m., when Mr. Percy Harrison will present the prima donna, Mme. Tetrazzini. She will sing three of the finest arias in her repertory, viz., "Caro nomo," from *Rigoletto*, by Verdi; aria and variazioni, "Carnovalo de Venezia," by Benedict; and polacca, "Je suis Titania," from *Mignon*, by Thomas. Those arias are in excellently varied styles, and should show the beautiful voice and method of Mme. Tetrazzini to perfection. The full Queen's Hall orchestra, under Mr. Henry J. Wood, has been engaged, and will accompany the songs, and will also on its own account play the overture to "Oberon" (Weber) and "Zampa" (Herold), scherzo from "A Midsummer's Night Dream" (Mendelssohn), "Humoreske" (Dvorak), and the "Peer Gynt" suite (Grieg).

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert B. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publishes, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Redfern and Lucile made the dresses for *Nobody's Daughter* at Wyndham's on Saturday last. Miss Lilian Braithwaite, whose gowns have been made by Mme. Lucile, makes her entry in the first act in a pale Nattier-blue crepe-satin over green silk, with touches of creamy lace on the corsage, which is cut in one with the long sleeves moulded to the arms. The waistline is slightly shortened, and a wide sash, which is drawn through the swathed folds of the material at the left side of the waist, falls to the hem, where it is weighted with heavy silk fringe. The skirt is draped and finished with embroidered buttons. A black hat, with shaded blue aigrettes, and a black cloak is worn with this dress. The cloak, in quite a new shape, is lined with the blue of the dress, with touches of gold braid. The long revers of the blue outlined with the gold braid run down the front to meet the fastening point, which comes at the knees in the front, and the upper collar, cut square at the back, is faced with silk embroidery in Eastern shades of blue, pink, gold, &c., a short line of heavy gold fringe in military effect furnishing this collar in front. At the back, running to the waistline, there is an under-collar of the black material, gathered into a heavy tassel, which introduces the blue and gold of the lining. The sleeves run to the wrists, with turn-back blue and gold cuffs.

The dress worn by Miss Braithwaite in the second act is in faded pink charmeuse, trimmed with buttons in the shape of acorns worked in faded pink, grey, and dull gold. A close line of these buttons runs down the skirt from a shaped ceinture of gold, orange, and shaded blue velvet, braided in silver. The corsage and sleeves are draped to the figure over a collarless V-shaped vest of pin-spot lace and net and a double frill of the lace softens the line at the throat.

In the garden party scene Miss Braithwaite wears a shell-pink satin, with creamy lace insertions in the bodice and skirt. The skirt, draped with an over-dress which comes down one side towards the back, where it is rolled over and brought round again to the waistline, is finished at the side of the front with a flowing panel of the lace insertion, bordered with a flat band of the satin. This panel falls from the waistline from a cluster of tiny pink and green rosebuds. The corsage has the sleeves cut in one, and the V-shaped neck, slightly décolleté, is finished at the throat line with a double frill of white lace, laced across in front with a narrow green silk tie with fringed ends. Showing through the transparency of the filmy vest of flesh-pink tulle there is an under-corsage of fine Valenciennes threaded with blue bébé ribbon.

In the last act Miss Braithwaite is in chiffon and charmeuse in exactly the same shade of grey. The charmeuse, banded with silver galon, is used for the skirt, and the chiffon for the bodice. The bodice, with collarless vest of lace, is piped with pink chiffon, and a chiffon sash, weighted with silver fringe, makes an effective finish.

Miss Henrietta Watson wears a gown of pale grey charmeuse, trimmed with braided grey silk cord and silk to tone, made by Redfern. The skirt, draped to the figure, has an overdress running from the left side of the waistline, across the front, round to the back, where it is turned over and brought back again in a looped-over effect, under a wide sash end, which falls to the hem with a border of grey silk fringe. The bodice, scooped out in a round shape, under a vest and high transparent collar of lace, has the dividing line covered with the corded and silk embroidery, and a line of the trimming crosses the front to the waistline from the vest. Touches of the lace trim the wrists of the long, smooth-fitting sleeves. The hat worn with this dress is in grey Tagal, lined with chiffon, and trimmed with two huge ostrich plumes in grey, running from the front across to the back.

Fine navy blue serge coating is used for a smart tailor-made worn by Miss Watson. The coat, with a shaped back, trimmed with buttons, gathered in slightly at the back of the waistline under a smooth-fitting basque, is finished in front with long revers to the waistline, under an open waistcoat of striped pique. The walking-length skirt has a shaped panel at the back and front, and the sides are trimmed in pointed effect with black silk braid. The waist is finished in corselet effect. The hat which accompanies this tailor-made is in soft butter-coloured felt, in toque shape, trimmed smartly at the side with a bird in yellow and blue tonings.

A covert coating coat and skirt (fawn colour), made perfectly plain, with a single line fastening on the coat and pocket at the side, is also worn by Miss Watson, with a fawn-coloured toque trimmed with black velvet and a black aigrette.

When Queen Katharine (Miss Violet Vanbrugh) pleads the cause of Buckingham in *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's, she wears a very beautiful Royal purple velvet dress, brocaded with gold, and lined with yellow satin. This forms a sleeveless over-dress, and is bordered with fur, and it opens over a rich robe of brown brocade patterned with gold, and arranged with long and wide hanging sleeves. The dress is cut square at the neck, and is finished at the waist with a heavy jewelled band. On her head the Queen wears a tight cap of black satin, fitted with two quaint points sticking out at each side, and surmounted by bands of crimson velvet and black satin, edged with pearls. These two bands are arched over the forehead, and thus form a very attractive head-dress. The closely fitting cap is only seen at the back.

In the trial scene Katharine is an impressively regal figure in the same purple velvet dress; but in this instance she is wearing it over a dark green silk, brocaded with gold; and the head-dress is of crimson satin, studded with rubies arranged in diamond patterns and finished with a wide end of satin which falls on the shoulder. A Prayer-book bound in crimson velvet hangs by long chains from the waist, and over one arm is thrown a wide scarf of gold tissue. The whole scene, with the colours of the gorgeous dresses and the rich red of the Cardinals' robes against the dark background of the hall, is most beautiful.

Anne Bullen (Miss Laura Cowie) is, of course, quite a girl, so her dresses are designed to give a very youthful effect. But they are beautiful; and in the wonderful scene of Wolsey's entertainment no woman is more charmingly clad. Over a white brocaded petticoat, patterned with pale rose pink, and set with pearls and diamonds, she wears a dress of pale rose-pink satin. The décolletage is cut in a low cut in a low square, edged with white net richly jewelled. There is also a jewelled band at the waist, and from this fall long chains of pearls ending in tassels. Anne's head-dress is of pink satin, and her ornaments are of rubies. The King wears a very rich dress of green velvet and silver, so that, as may be imagined, when he dances with Anne the effect of these two costumes is one of unusual beauty.

Anne's coronation dress is the most exquisite of all. It is made of cloth of silver, and over it falls a long robe of cloth of gold, lined with yellow satin, and fitted with hanging sleeves of ermine and miniver. These sleeves are so wide that they disclose an under-pair of silver gauze sewn with jewels. Anne's hair falls on the shoulders, unbound, save for the string of diamonds which holds it loosely together.

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

A CHAT WITH MISS BEATRICE LINDLEY.

Miss Beatrice Lindley, who has been selected to play Priscilla, the character so bewitchingly created by Miss Neilson-Terry in Elizabeth Arnim's amusing comedy, *Priscilla Runs Away*, on tour, under the management of Messrs. John E. Watson and C. T. Doe, is delighted with her part. It is a long and arduous one, and the rehearsals, under Mr. Charles La Trobe, stage-manager at the Haymarket Theatre, are heavy, but the task she finds most enjoyable. In a brief talk with an *Era* representative she spoke enthusiastically of the play and the character of the beautiful young princess she is to portray, and gave a few particulars of her stage work.

Miss Lindley's first part of any importance was that of Joan Trevelyan in *Sweet and Twenty*, the author, Captain Basil Hood, choosing her for the character originally enacted by Miss Ellaline Terriss. Later she played the Marie Tempest parts in *The Freedom of Suzanne* and *The Marriage of Kitty*. To enact characters created by so gifted a comedienne as Miss Tempest must have been a severe test of ability for so young an actress, but that her portrayals gave entire satisfaction is proved by the fact that she played each part for a year.

"I have also played important parts in *The Squire* and *Honours Divided*, with Miss Kate Rorke, and the lead with Mr. Louis Bradfield in Mr. Gilbert Dayle's Australian play, *What Would a Gentleman Do?* and toured with Mr. Harcourt Williams in pastorals."

An accomplished pianist and versatile entertainer, Miss Lindley gave songs at the piano at the Palace, and was for two tours with Miss Maud Allan, and also with Mr. George Grossmith, sen., in his Steinway Hall Recitals. She has also appeared in vaudeville in America. Here she found the audiences very nice and kind, and the trip was delightful. But her preference is for the English public, and she finds more interest and pleasure in dramatic work than appearing solus on the halls or concert platform, where she confesses to feeling a little lonely. She appeared as an amateur very early in life—somewhere about the age of seven—and could play the piano almost as soon as she could talk. Her social and concert engagements are, of course, numerous.

Miss Lindley speaks with pardonable pride of one special occasion when she had the honour of

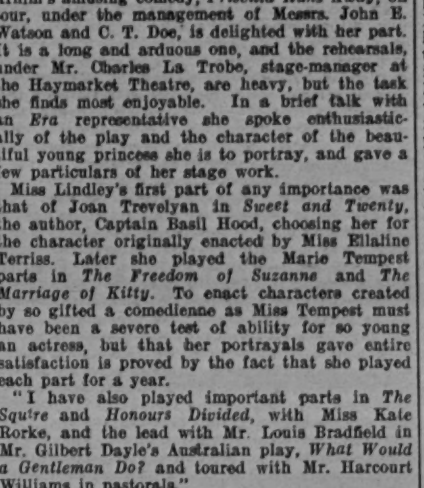

[Photo by Hana.

MISS BEATRICE LINDLEY.

singing before Queen Mary at Grosvenor House, to whom she was presented after giving her songs at the piano. Just lately she has been leading the simple life in a bungalow at the fishing village of Selsey, and having a splendid time. But the call for rehearsals must be obeyed, and her holiday had to be curtailed.

Keen on many kinds of sport, Miss Lindley confesses to a partiality for golf. She has encountered no thrilling experiences in her brief but busy career worth speaking of, never having been shipwrecked or bitten by a dog. Loving the stage ever since she was a kiddie, this charming and enthusiastic young actress is eagerly—and naturally a little anxiously—looking forward to playing Priscilla in public. She is full of admiration for the creator of the part in which she hopes to make a success. To one so thoroughly equipped for the rôle there should be little anxiety.

A GOOD many new works figure in the programme of the fifth week of the promenade concerts at Queen's Hall. Mme. Helen Noldi and Mr. Herbert Heyner are the vocalists at the Wagner concert on Monday, Sept. 12, the second part of which concludes with Sinigaglia's bright and popular overture "La Baruffe Chiozzotte." "The Magic Mirror," a descriptive suite for orchestra, founded on one of Grimm's fairy tales by the late Mr. William Hurlstone, a young English composer of great promise too soon lost to the musical world, will be given for the first time in London on Tuesday, the 13th. Another work which is comparatively unfamiliar to the audiences at these concerts is a suite from Gabriel Faure's incidental music to Maeterlinck's *Pelleas and Melisande*. Elgar's "Dream Children" is down for performance. The singers will be Miss Lillie Wormald and Mr. Robert Burnett, while Mr. Albert Fransella contributes a group of flute solos. Wednesday's Symphony is Brahms' in F, No. 3. Mr. O'Neil Phillips makes a first appearance in Cesar Franck's Variations Symphoniques for piano and orchestra. Miss Esta D'Argo sings "Ah fors e lui," from *La Traviata*, and Mr. Morgan Kingston a Handel aria. Tchaikovsky's overture-fantasia, "Hamlet," and the overture to "The Magic Flute" complete a very varied programme. On Thursday the concert opens with Mozart's overture to *Don Giovanni*. A new work, described as a study for orchestra, with the sub-title "Voices," by Mr. Ernest Bryson, will be heard for the first time. Lalo's charming "Aubade," for small orchestra, is included in the scheme. Paderewski's Concerto in A minor for piano and orchestra will be given, with Miss Elsie Horne as soloist. Miss Violet Oppenshaw will make her début as a vocalist on this occasion, the second singer being Mr. Herbert Brown. The classical programme for Friday, the 16th, contains Beethoven's C minor Symphony. Schumann's Concertstuck for four horns will be played by members of the orchestra. In Bach's Concerto in E for violin, organ, and strings Miss Marjorie Hayward takes the solo part. Miss Florence Schmidt will be heard in a Mozart aria, and Mr. Julien Henrys in Bach's "Mark, O my heart," with trumpet obbligato by Mr. F. L. Gyp.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE "FIRST NIGHT" OF "CATO."

"At last came the eventful evening of April 13, when *Cato* saw the light," writes Mr. Edward Robins in "The Palmy Days of Nance Oldfield." "The theatre was packed, just as Steele promised that it should be, yet the audience would have been large had Dick never existed. There were no Press agents to 'boom' matters, but as it became known that the Whigs stood sponsors for the tragedy there was a corresponding desire to be in either at its triumph or its death. The result has passed into history. The characters were, for the most part, finely acted, and the play was admired for its lofty sentiments and elegance of expression, while the Tories, *mirabile dictu*, vied with their enemies in enthusiastic tokens of approval. The Whigs went to the theatre expecting to appropriate all of Mr. Addison's illusions to the sacred cause of liberty, and what must have been their horror on finding that the Tories, refusing to be discomfited by any of those illusions, applauded as violently as did the friends of Hanover?

"Pope has left us a description of this first night, in a letter to Sir William Trumbull. 'Cato,' he writes, 'was not so much the wonder of Rome in his days, as he is of Britain in ours; and though all the foolish industry possible has been used to make it thought a party play, yet what the author once said of another may the most properly in the world be applied to him on this occasion:

"'Envy itself is dumb, in wonder lost,
And factions strive who shall applaud him most.'

"'The numerous and violent claps of the Whig party on the one side of the theatre, were echoed by the Tories on the other; while the author sweated behind the scenes with concern to find their applause proceeding more from the hand than the head. This was the case, too, of the prologue writer, who was clapped into a staunch Whig at almost every two lines. I believe you have heard that after all the applause of the opposite faction, my lord Bolingbroke sent for Booth, who played Cato, into the box between one of the acts, and presented him with fifty guineas, in acknowledgment (as he expressed it) for defending the cause of liberty so well against a Perpetual Dictator. The Whigs are unwilling to be distanced this way, and therefore design a present to the same Cato very speedily; in the meantime they are getting ready as good a sentence as the former on their side: so betwixt them it is probable that Cato (as Dr. Garth express'd it) may have something to live upon after he dies.'

"So important a rôle did politics play in this first performance of *Cato*, that to many in the house the merits of the actors must have passed unrecognised. And yet those merits were striking. Who could have made a lovelier Marcia than did Nance; and how thoroughly she must have justified the passion of that most virtuous of princes, the sententious Juba. The character was not worthy of her genius, but that did not prevent this true artist from giving to it all manner of dignity and beauty. Who could help pitying her lover when Marcia first repelled his amorous advances:

"'I should be griev'd, young Prince, to think my presence
Unbent your thoughts, and slacken'd 'em to arms,
While, warm with slaughter, our victorious foe
Threatens aloud, and calls you to the field.'

"And when Marcia, having sent away the youth, explained:

"'His air, his voice, his looks, and honest soul
Speak all so movingly in his behalf,
I dare not trust myself to hear him talk,'

the apology came with such delicious grace and plaintiveness that the house forgot her coldness in sorrow for her woes.

"And Barton Booth? His superb acting of Cato raised him to such an airy pinnacle of fame that he soon became one of the managers of Drury Lane. The other players were evidently all more or less effective, barring Cibber, whose Syphax (the Numidian warrior who seeks the downfall of Cato), must have made the judicious grieve. Indeed, we can easily believe that he used so many grotesque motions and spoke his lines with such a cracked voice as to win only ridicule and 'a loud laugh of contempt.'

"Lord Bolingbroke's gift of fifty guineas had a disturbing effect not only on the Whigs but on Manager Dogget as well. That worthy feared the success of *Cato* would cause Booth to claim a share in the direction of Drury Lane, as he did, of course, in a very short time. In the hopes of shutting off all pretensions to this honour by a paltry expedient Dogget thought that Cibber, Wilks, and himself, as joint managers, could relieve themselves of every obligation by duplicating the generosity of the Tory statesman.

"'He insinuated to us (for he was a staunch Whig)' relates Colley, 'that this present of fifty guineas was a sort of Tory triumph which they had no pretence to; and that for his part he could not bear that so redoubted a champion for liberty as Cato should be bought off to the cause of a contrary party. He, therefore, in the seeming zeal of his heart, proposed that the managers themselves should make the same present to Booth which had been made him from the boxes the day before. This, he said, would recommend the equality and liberal spirit of our management to the town, and might be a means to secure Booth more firmly in our interest, it never having been known that the skill of the best actor had receiv'd so round a reward or gratuity in one day before.

"'Wilks, who wanted nothing but abilities to be as cunning as Dogget, was so charm'd with the proposal that he long'd that moment to make Booth the present with his own hands; and though he knew he had no right to do it without my consent, had no patience to ask it; upon which I turned to Dogget with a cold smile [what a freezing, polar expression Cibber could put on when he desired] and told him, that if Booth could be purchas'd at so cheap a rate, it would be one of the best proofs of his economy we had ever been beholden to: I therefore desired we might have a little patience; that our doing it too hastily might be only making sure of an occasion to throw the fifty guineas away; for if we should be obliged to do better for him, we could never expect that Booth would think himself bound in honour to refund them.'

"From this little conversation we see that art is not always the one beacon light of the player or the manager. Cibber argued with his natural shrewdness, but Wilks would not be convinced, and began, 'with his usual freedom of speech,' to treat the suggestion 'as a pitiful evasion of their intended generosity.'

"'But Dogget, who was not so wide of my meaning, clapping his hand upon mine, said, with an air of security, "O! don't trouble yourself! there must be two words to that bargain; let me alone to manage that matter." Wilks, upon this dark discourse, grew uneasy, as if there were some secret between us that he was to be left out of. Therefore, to avoid the shock of his intemperance, I was reduc'd to tell him that it was my opinion that Booth would never be made easy by anything we could do for him, 'till he had a share in the profits and management; and that, as he did not want friends to assist him, whatever his merit might be before, everyone would think since his acting of Cato, he had now enough to back his pretensions to it.'

In the end Cibber's objections were overruled, 'and the same night Booth had the fifty guineas, which he receiv'd with a thankfulness that made Wilks and Dogget perfectly easy, insomuch that they seem'd for some time to triumph in their conduct, and often endeavour'd to laugh my jealousy out of countenance.'"

DRAMA IN FOR A GOOD TIME AGAIN.

A CHAT WITH MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE.

The poor old drama has been in a very grave condition of late years, both in London and the provinces, according to many, and its early demise has even been predicted, but there have recently been indications that it is quickly recovering, and will soon be quite its old lively self again. There is the wonderful success of the sporting drama *The Whip*, at Old Drury, which reached its anniversary yesterday; the fortunes of the Lyceum were revived with romantic drama; melodrama has been packing the Aldwych for months; and the suburban houses devoted to this class of fare have little to complain of in the way of attendance and takings when they stage really first-class plays and companies.

If the croakers with their lamentations were to run up against the well-known touring manager and author, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, they would speedily be convinced that drama—well written, well played, and well mounted—is still a big attraction in the country. Mr. Wallace, whose company has recently been doing excellent business at the Elephant and Castle Theatre with his new romantic play, *The Apple of Eden*, written by himself, speaks with authority and complete knowledge of his subject, for he has been touring plays from his own pen for some considerable time now, and frankly admits that he has little to grumble at. Besides his latest success he has written *The Love That Women Desire*, *A Thief in the Night*, *The Lancashire Lad*, and *The Village Blacksmith*, a play which ran for seven years. His shortest run was with *A Lancashire Lad* (three years), and he has never written a failure, which is something unique in the way of dramatic authorship.

"Yes, drama is in for a good time again," said Mr. Wallace emphatically, in a brief chat with an *Era* representative. "It is the staff of life to the theatre. Audiences may stray for a time, but they invariably return. Witness the strong demand there has been recently in the West-End for drama. When it languishes the blame must rest mainly with the resident manager. He has the power to sweep every bad play or company off the road by shutting his doors on them. Bogus could not obtain a foothold were resident managers to personally visit the companies they contemplate booking. They would see plainly whether the play

[Photo by French.

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE.

would draw or not. Proprietors with the monopoly of a town are the worst offenders in this respect. When they think their audiences want a rest from musical comedy they invariably book the cheapest drama obtainable, thereby giving their patrons a false impression of what the first-class article is like.

"Personally, I have little to complain about. Being so long established a manager, and known to give good productions, resident managers will book a play in advance. The only complaint I have against resident managers is that they will not come to see a production, and judge for themselves the merit or otherwise of a show."

There does not appear to be sufficient elasticity in the terms given to touring managers. Some resident managers there are who offer a ridiculously low percentage. You may take it or leave it. And the little man, of course, has to take it. There are many young touring managers ready and willing to do the thing properly who, after one tour, are compelled to retire. Mr. Wallace is of opinion that if a town is properly worked there should never be a dull season. The best of the kind of entertainment in demand should be provided, and there is always sufficient good drama to go round.

It is the cheap and nasty in drama that does the harm, and morbid and harrowing situations appeal only to the minority. Mr. Wallace, an enthusiastic and energetic worker, personally supervises every department in his companies, down to the smallest detail, and is careful that everything shall be of the best so far as in his power lies. Being the writer of all the plays he runs, he saves author's fees, and this is a big advantage to a touring manager. He, of course, also knows exactly how each part should be played, and is particularly careful in the selection of his company. Any success he may have achieved he attributes mainly to hard work and a determination to go in and win, and "Thoroughness in everything" would appear to be his motto. "I firmly believe, he says, "now that the picture palaces and skating rinks have levelled themselves out, the drama will quickly come into its own again."

So confident is he in the drawing power of good drama that he anticipates a London season in the not far distant future.

But he will speak of this later, when his plans are more matured. At present he finds himself kept pretty busy looking after his two companies touring *A Thief in the Night*, and his latest artistic and financial triumph, *The Apple of Eden*, both of which are well booked ahead.

A LIVERPOOL correspondent writes:—"May I, through the medium of your paper, call attention to the dangerous practice of striking matches in places of amusement? I was in the upper circle of a theatre last evening, and, though not an alarmist, I could not help being appalled at the thought of what a stray spark from one of the matches several men around were striking would mean in so crowded a place if it fell on any inflammable material. We have read a great deal lately of the inconsiderateness of women—by the way, I think most unprejudiced people agree that inconsiderateness is not monopolised by either sex altogether—but here is an instance in which the inconsiderateness of men may lead to more than a passing inconvenience, or a rushing of some 'lordly male's' temper, and steps should be taken to put a stop to such a dangerous habit."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 8.—Mme. Georgette Leblanc, wife of the famous writer, Maurice Maeterlinck, has given a marvellous production of *Pelléas et Mélisande* in St. Wandrille, the ancient abbey in Normandy, which the Belgian poet has made his home. When, after the passing of the Congregation law, M. and Mme. Maeterlinck heard that the Abbey of St. Wandrille was for sale, they at once made a bid for it, and having become the happy possessors of this ideal spot, carried out their plan to produce *Pelléas et Mélisande* in the halls and wooded dales of the ancient monastery. The price to attend this wonderful performance was fixed at 200 francs (£8); but the novelty of the thing appealed to the members of the fashionable world, many of whom turned up, and constituted a brilliant array of elegant women and Society men. But Mme. Georgette Leblanc, always well disposed to the Press, had also asked many journalists, and as I happened to be in Brittany, not far from St. Wandrille, I gladly accepted the great artist's kind invitation to witness this wonderful performance. The weather, unfortunately, was rather inclement, but it did no way damp the enthusiasm of the guests, among whom I noticed Mr. McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty; Mr. Walkley, dramatic critic of the *Times*; Mme. Réjane; her daughter, Mlle. Parel; M. Deutsch de la Meurthe; Mr. Charles Waldstein, professor at Cambridge University; M. Francis de Croisset, the well-known author; and several members of the French aristocracy. There can be no doubt that the work produced eminently fitted the sylvan dales and the thirteenth-century halls in which the sixteen scenes were presented to the audience. The manner, however, in which this performance was given was novel in the extreme, inasmuch as each scene was enacted in a different spot. Thus, we were first guided by attendants in mediæval dress, bearing torches, to a place in the park where Mélisande was found weeping over her forlorn condition and the crown she dropped in the lake. Thence we returned to the front of the abbey to witness the interview between Arkel, the aged King, and Genevieve. At another door we found the old King and Genevieve waiting, and, from the distant wood heard the sound of horses' feet announcing the procession of Golaud bearing his young bride in his arms. In this way all the scenes in the beautiful work passed before us. Nothing could have been more simple, yet more natural, than the setting. The audience, being so few, did not disturb us, and during the entr'actes the costumed guides conducted us from one spot to another, full of the interesting aroma of the past. The work was admirably acted. Mme. Lablanc, who created the rôle some years ago, was an impressive and wonderfully fascinating Mélisande; as Pelléas M. René Maupré won golden laurels; M. Jean Durozat impersonated Golaud with masterly skill; and the minor parts were held by Mlle. Jeanne Even, M. Severin Mars, and Mlle. Gilberte Livettini.

AT the Théâtre du Châtelet the scene-shifters sprang an unpleasant surprise upon the management. After the second act they went in a body to M. Prévost, the stage-manager, and informed him that unless the demands they put forward some time ago were immediately complied with they would strike work. M. Prévost informed them that he could not discuss the question with them, M. Fontanes, the manager, being away. He promised them, however, to lay the matter before M. Fontanes and to espouse their cause. Before this conciliatory attitude the scene-shifters consented to resume work, but the discussion had lasted over half an hour, and the public, tired of waiting, had begun to show their impatience in an unpleasantly audible form.

AT the Palais-Royal MM. Allévy and Jaullot have read their new three-act vaudeville *L'Enfant de l'Amour* that will be the first novelty to be produced at that house. The work will be interpreted by Mlles. Marcelle Yrven, Tempiey, Calvat, Danjau, MM. Charles Lamy, Le Gallo, and Levesque.

Several new operas will be produced at the Opera-Comique during the coming season. *Celeste*, by M. Trépard; *L'Heure Espagnole*, that will be given at the same time as *L'Ancestre*; a new three-act opera by Saint-Saëns; *Bérénice*, by M. Alberic Maynard; *Isdronning*, by A. Coquard, whose death was announced in our last issue; *Le Voile du Canheur*, by M. Pons; *La Yota*, by M. Laparra; and two works by M. Claude Debussy, *Le Chute de la Maison Ascher* and *Le Diable dans le Ceffroi*, both founded on stories by Edgar Poe.

THE list of novelties which the Vaudeville has in store for us is not only a long one, but promises to be particularly interesting. That house will re-open on Sept. 20 with a revival of *La Maison de Danse*, and start the rehearsals of M. Kistemæcker's new comedy *Le Marchand de Canheur*. This will be followed by *Rue de la Paix*, three acts, by MM. Abel Hermant and de Toledo; *Le Tribun*, four acts by M. Paul Bourget; *Raissa*, four acts and five tableaux, by M. Pierre Berton; *Montmartre*, four acts, by M. Pierre Frondale; *Sa fille*, four acts, by MM. Félix Duguesnel and André Bard; *Crésus*, by M. Henri de Rothschild. Moreover, on Oct. 1 M. Gabriele d'Annunzio will read a new comedy specially written for Mlle. Simone, who will interpret the principal rôle therein. M. Parel also intends to revive *La Famille Benoiton*, the well-known comedy by M. Victorien Sardou, which created such a sensation during the latter part of the Second Empire.

"NOBODY'S DAUGHTER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly give publicity to the fact that "George Paston's" clever play *Nobody's Daughter* has, fundamentally, the same plot as a play which I submitted to Mrs. Kendal in the spring of 1901, and that it formed part of the basis of my play *John Malone's Love Story*, which was produced at the Court Theatre in January, 1908.

The likeness between the play, which was read by Mrs. Kendal, and *Nobody's Daughter* is one of the most remarkable coincidences I have known.

In both plays the father of the illegitimate girl is a soldier: in both plays the mother places her child out to nurse with a kindly-hearted but severely moral woman: in both plays the mother wishes to have the girl live with her, not as a daughter, but simply as a young friend, that the mother's husband may not know the relationship existing between the girl and herself, and in both plays the husband is a good, genial, light-hearted, affectionate, lovable man until the fourth act, when he learns his wife's secret.

That all this is mere coincidence I am perfectly aware, and I don't claim that it is anything more than mere coincidence; but as I have recently learned from two or three sources that I am saddled with some grossly untruthful accusations, I do not wish to have plagiarism added to the load, an addition which would seem a very justifiable one if the likeness between the two plots were not pointed out until my play was either produced or published in book form.—Yours faithfully, RACHEL PENN (Mrs. E. S. Willard).

43, Acacia-road, N.W., Sept. 8, 1910.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

BERLIN.

Polnische Wirtschaft, musical farce, in three acts, by MM. Kraatz and Okonkowsky; Thalia, Aug. 6.

Auf der Goldwage, five-act play, by B. Ritterfeldt; Luisen, Aug. 6.

Simson und Delila, tragi-comedy, in three acts, by Sven Lange; Deutsches, Aug. 19.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree has issued a circular letter calling attention to the complimentary matinée to be given at the Lyceum on Tuesday, Oct. 4, for the benefit of Mrs. Ernest Carpenter. Sir Herbert will appear in a selection from one of his productions, and Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Marie Löhr in a new comedy, Mr. Henry Ainley, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, and Mr. Eric Mayne in monologues, Mr. Joseph Coyne and Miss Lily Elsie in a duet, Mr. Alfred Lester in *A Restaurant Episode*, Mr. Frederick Ross and Miss Norah Kerin in a new play, Mr. Espinosa and Miss Marjory Carpenter in a *pas-de-deux*, and the members of the Drury Lane company, in a scene from *The Whip*, will contribute to the programme, as will also Little Tich, Mr. Harry Lauder, and Miss Amy Evans, "the Welsh Patti." The matinée bids fair to be very successful, by reason of the remarkable strength of the programme, and the pathetic circumstances, which have excited so much sympathy both in the profession and amongst the general public. The demand for seats is already so large that it is advisable to book early.

The autumn term of the Academy of Dramatic Art will commence on Oct. 1, and on the 4th Mr. Arthur Bourchier will deliver a lecture on "The Art of Speaking Distinctly." On the 17th Sir Herbert Tree will preside at a reading by Mrs. Leo Grindon of a paper to the students on the subject of Shakespeare's *Henry VIII.* Mr. A. E. George has been specially engaged to preside over classes for declamation, and the number of the students is between eighty and ninety.

Mr. George Alexander, though *The Importance of Being Earnest* is still attracting the public, is compelled to announce the last performances, owing to previous arrangements for the production of *D'Arcy of the Guards*, in which he and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy will play the leading parts. The new play will be produced on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

In *D'Arcy of the Guards* the leading parts will be played by Mr. Alexander, who will represent a plausible and fascinating Major of Irish extraction, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who will enact an American maiden. The period of the story is 1777, during the occupation of Philadelphia by the British under Sir William Howe and Lord Cornwallis.

The question of the colour of Henry VIII.'s beard is still in debate. Mr. Arthur Bourchier has received a letter from a correspondent who says:—"I possess in my collection all the manuscripts and notes concerning 'The Glimpse of Henry VIII.'s beard,' which George IV. obtained on April 1, 1813, while the coffin of Charles I. was being opened in the crypt of St. George's, Windsor. The beard was of a lightish red or auburn tinge, and I have two or three sketches of it. There is no doubt about its colour, but it does not seem to have been a very dark red. Sir Henry Halford left some notes about it, and the caricaturists of the time went boldly for both the King and the doctor for opening these coffins."

Mr. Laurence Irving, who, with Miss Mabel Hackney, is playing at the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre this week, spoke very strongly on Tuesday evening, on the fall of the curtain, concerning the inadequate support he had received during that particular visit, and concluded by saying, "You have done your best to keep me in the theatres, but unless things take another turn I shall have to go where audiences are still to be found, namely, in the music halls."

Mr. Martin Harvey, who commenced his tour at the Opera House, Harrogate, on the 22nd ult., and subsequently visited Llandudno and Buxton, enjoyed exceptional success at these three popular resorts, especially at Llandudno, money being regretfully refused at all four performances, and the scene of enthusiasm on the final fall of the curtain on *The Only Way* on the last evening of the visit being described in the local press as "unexampled in the history of Llandudno theatricals."

Mr. Martin Harvey repeated at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Wednesday, his lecture on the National Theatre. There was a large audience, including several local magnates, and it was announced that over £85 had been received from local supporters of the scheme, £18 more being collected at the lecture.

Mr. Loraine, the actor-aviator, as a result of an attempt to rise on Sunday evening from the field into which he dropped more than a fortnight ago, wrecked his machine for the second time, and now lies at an hotel with a badly-sprained ankle. The disappointment both for Mr. Loraine and his friends is great, but he had a lucky escape. The aeroplane collapsed right on top of him and pinned him to the ground, and his injuries might easily have been serious. The aeroplane, which did not leave the ground, had run more than a hundred yards when the wreck took place.

Mr. Stanislaus Stange, the well-known dramatist, who came over from New York to produce *The Chocolate Soldier* for the American manager, Mr. F. C. Whitney, at the Lyric Theatre this evening, had a paralytic seizure on Saturday afternoon, and although the doctors think that he will get over it, his recovery must necessarily be slow. Mr. Stange was rehearsing the company at the Lyric, and had brought them to the end of the third act, when he became suddenly ill and collapsed. He was removed to a nursing home, and since then has been progressing favourably. He was the adapter from the German, of the book of *The Chocolate Soldier*.

The curtain will rise on Mr. F. C. Whitney's elaborate presentation of *The Chocolate Soldier* at the Lyric Theatre at 8.30 punctually this evening, and one of the principal situations in the opera—a scene between Nadina (Miss Constance Drever) and Bumerli (Mr. C. H. Workman)—follows almost immediately. In order to give the fullest possible effect to the enchanting music of Mr. Oscar Straus, the chorus and the orchestra, under M. Jacques Heuval's, direction, have been increased to sixty and fifty performers respectively; and when the big scene in the second act is reached—the Return from the War—there will be no fewer than one hundred and twenty persons on the stage.

Mr. Louis N. Parker, who rendered such valuable assistance in the mounting of *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's, was confined to his house by illness on the first night of the production, but is much better, and has now gone to Switzerland to write a new play for Mr. George Arliss, which Mr. Parker hopes to finish by the end of November. A prominent personage in Mr. Parker's play will be Lord Beaconsfield. The drama will first be tried in America.

Mr. Charles Frohman's cast of *A Woman's Way*, the comedy in three acts by Mr. Thompson Buchanan, at the Comedy Theatre on Wednesday evening will include Mr. Charles Quartermaine, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Charles Bryant, Mr. Eric Maturin, Mr. Athol Stewart, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Mr. Frederick Volpe, Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Helen Rous, Miss Nina Sevening, Miss Madge Murray, Miss Marguerite Leslie, Miss Evelyn Beaumont, and Miss Alexandra Carlisle.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's many friends will learn with regret that he has been seriously ill during the past fortnight. Being at Manchester some fourteen days ago in connection with the fifty-eighth visit of *A Royal Divorce* to that city, Mr. Kelly was caught in a downpour of rain. A bad chill supervened, which at one time threatened serious consequences. However, Mr. Kelly's medical man ordered him to bed imperatively, and Mr. Kelly was obliged to submit. During the present week a marked improvement has slowly but surely been taking place, and yesterday Mr. Kelly was stated to be progressing as well as could be expected.

That popular comedian, Mr. Lionel Rignold, is still appearing in his capital creation of Pink, in that most successful comedy, *What the Butler Saw*. The Press everywhere is unanimous in its praise of himself and of the strong company he carries to support him. The piece is now on its seventh tour, going stronger than ever, and doing enormous business everywhere. On its third and fourth return visits to Manchester, Sheffield, Hull, &c., it has beaten its own records, and its career bids fair to equal, if not excel, the run of any farcical comedy which has been produced for many years.

We regret to announce the death at Ludlow, Yonkers, in his fifty-fifth year, of Mr. Julian Edwards, the well-known composer of light opera in America. Mr. Edwards was an Englishman, and was born at Manchester in 1855. His musical education was gained at Edinburgh University, where he studied under Sir Herbert Oakeley. He afterwards became conductor of the Royal English Opera Company.

Mr. Edwards' first important effort in music was a grand opera, *Victorian*, performed at Covent Garden, the libretto being founded on Longfellow's "Spanish Student." He was next associated as conductor with the Carl Rosa Opera Company, under the late Carl Rosa. Going to America to conduct a series of Gilbert and Sullivan revivals, Mr. Edwards was prevailed upon to remain there, and to direct his talents to high-class light opera.

Mr. Edwards' triumph in light opera was *Madeleine;* or, *The Magic Kiss*, which ran for three years without a break. Afterwards he wrote *Brian Boru*, *The Wedding Day*, *The Jolly Musketeer*, *The Belle of London Town*, *The Princess Chic*, and *The Goddess of Truth*, founded on Sir W. S. Gilbert's "Palace of Truth."

In *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, written in collaboration with Mr. Stanislaus Stange, who provided the words for most of the above operas, Mr. Edwards composed an American national opera. His *King René's Daughter* was a one-act grand opera, and was performed at the Metropolitan Opera House. *Dolly Vardon*, with beautiful Miss Mabelle Gillman and charming Miss Madge Temple in the cast, was heard in London some years ago. Mr. Edwards also wrote the score for Sienkiewicz's play, *Quo Vadis*. He married in 1889 Miss Philippine Siedle, the well-known soprano vocalist.

The subjects of the late Mr. Holman Hunt's paintings were generally religious, but he exhibited in 1853 a remarkable picture of "Claudio and Isabella" in the prison scene in *Measure for Measure*, the attitudes of the brother and sister being quite unconventional, and the whole work having a realistic quaintness and force which were very arresting and impressive.

The usual monthly meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at Savoy House, Strand, on Tuesday last, when the secretary reported that his Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to become the Patron of the Fund and that her Majesty the Queen had been graciously pleased to become a Patroness of the Fund. It was agreed that a further investment of £1,000 be made. The office of the Fund will be closed during next week.

The Rehearsal Company will present Shakespeare's comedy *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Court Theatre at a special matinée on Friday, Sept. 23, with the following cast: Benedick, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury; Leonato, Mr. Story Gofton; Claudio, Mr. Clarence Derwent; Pedro, Mr. Dennis Cleugh; John, Mr. Cyril Cattley; Friar, Mr. H. K. Ayliff; Antonio, Mr. Richard Neville; Borachio, Mr. W. A. Mackersy; Conrade, Mr. W. Coats-Bush; Verges, Mr. W. G. Fay; Dogberry, Mr. Clive Currie; Beatrice, Miss Mabel Manneringe; Hero, Miss Evelyn Vanderzee; Margaret, Miss Katherine Stuart; Ursula, Miss Grace Richardson.

This week Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, and their company have been at Nottingham, where on Monday *Richard III.* was revived for the first time during the present tour. The magnificently-staged revival created a great impression, and as the King Mr. Martin Harvey won a conspicuous personal triumph, his performance being described as "a brilliant feat of histrionics and a *tour de force* wholly memorable." *Richard III.* will be played twice to-day, and to-morrow Mr. Harvey's company travel to Glasgow, where they open at the Theatre Royal on Monday in *The Only Way*. *Richard III.* will be played on four occasions during Mr. Harvey's stay in Glasgow, the demand for the play having necessitated extra performances. It is some time since Mr. Harvey has used this able little piece, and he will again appear as the blind *ouvrier*, Miss de Silva figuring in her original rôle.

That clever actor, Mr. Wm. Mackintosh, was due to appear with the Glasgow Repertory Company, as old Eccles in *Caste*, during this week; but an unfortunate difference of opinion at one of the final rehearsals, deprived local playgoers of the opportunity of seeing what would have been a notable impersonation. Mr. G. W. Anson (who was playing the part at Greenock last week) stepped into the breach at short notice, with the utmost credit to himself and satisfaction to the Repertory patrons.

Next Wednesday will be the opening night of the new autumn drama, entitled *The Sins of London*, by Walter Melville, at the Lyceum Theatre. The cast includes Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Harry Cane, Mr. Herbert Williams, Mr. J. C. Aubrey, Mr. Eric Mayne, Mr. S. Major Jones, Miss Polly Marsh, Miss Eva Dare, Miss Auriol Lee, Miss Vashti Wynne, Mr. Vassall-Vaughan, and Miss Amy Brandon Thomas.

Miss Thomas, although not yet out of her teens, has had a varied career and considerable experience in her profession. She had her first training from her father, Mr. Brandon Thomas, and made her début in his famous comedy *Charley's Aunt*. After appearing in several of his plays, she was engaged by Sir John Hare, and played with him in his last season at the Garrick Theatre and during his farewell tour. Mr. Forbes Robertson selected her for the part of Vivian in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. She then made a distinct hit as Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* at the Royal Court Theatre, and was chosen by Sir Herbert Tree for the part of Olivia in *Twelfth Night* in his recent Shakespeare season.

Mr. Charles Frohman is trying to secure a modification of the American law prohibiting dramatic productions on Sunday, so as to permit the presentation of plays on Sunday that have a sound moral lesson. He proposes that those plays shall be chosen by an appointed committee of citizens in each community, who have long been identified with humanitarian projects; and that the strictest civic supervision shall be exercised over the productions. Mr. Frohman's object is to expose on the stage the shams and injustices of contemporary, social, and political life, and turn the thoughts of the people to higher ideals on a Sunday. *Justice*, by Mr. John Galsworthy, Mr. Frohman regards as suitable for Sunday presentation, and also *Smith*.

The Liverpool Royal Court Theatre has, during a short closing, undergone a most striking alteration, and Mr. Robert Arthur is to be congratulated upon his enterprise. Some months ago premises adjoining, which had been used by a banking house, became vacant, and it was decided to utilise the space for the enlargement of the theatre. Mr. Arthur has accordingly remodelled everything on a comprehensive scale. The old winding staircase to the dress circle has disappeared, and in its stead is a beautiful straight cut approach with white marble pillars, leading up to a charming crush room. The sides of the dress circle and gallery have been pulled down and reconstructed, affording better lines of sight. New private boxes have been erected near the stage, the former ones at the rear of the dress circle having disappeared. Several rows of seats are added to the pit, the dress circle is enlarged, the proscenium widened, extra exits and entrances made, cloak room and lavatory accommodation increased, and, in fact, the whole place entirely altered in a surprising manner. The predominating tones are red and white, the walls being covered with very fine Japanese paper of cream and gold. Everybody who has witnessed the metamorphosis has given it the highest praise. The Liverpool Royal Court is now a thoroughly handsome and up-to-date theatre.

Miss Lily Elsie returns to Daly's Theatre this evening, resuming her original part of Alice in *The Dollar Princess*. Miss Elsie has been holiday making both on the Continent and in the country for the past seven weeks, having greatly benefited both in voice and health by the complete rest and change.

Mr. James Berry thanks all inquirers for their kindly solicitude, and although at one time things looked very bad, they are now quite hopeful for the future. The eminent specialist, Dr. Hutchinson, from the London Hospital, was called in at a critical moment, and there is every hope of a successful recovery.

The Saturday matinées of *Tantalizing Tommy*, which were discontinued during the summer months, will be resumed to-day, and a morning performance of the play will in future be given every Wednesday and Saturday.

Mr. J. Edward Pearce has been engaged by Mr. J. E. Watson to play Herr Fritzing in *Priscilla Runs Away*, on the forthcoming tour. Mr. Pearce has just concluded a long engagement with a repertory of plays by Mr. Bernard Shaw.

To-night the Saturday evening performances of *Priscilla Runs Away* will be resumed at the Haymarket Theatre. Although the public has greatly missed these performances, the pretty Princess Priscilla and her fellow-actors have gained so much energy from their week-ends as will keep them working merrily at the Haymarket for many months to come.

Mr. Sidney Bacon reopened the Public Hall, Carlisle, on Monday, after it had been closed for two weeks. The hall has been entirely redecorated and refurnished, and the latest improvements have been carried out, making this hall one of the finest in the provinces. Plans have been passed for the enlargement of the Victoria Hall, York, Mr. Bacon having purchased some property adjoining. The contractors are now at work, and it is expected that everything will be ready a month hence. Business has been carried on as usual during the alterations, and continues to boom as at Mr. Sidney Bacon's other halls, which include the Olympia, Newcastle, St. James's Hall, Kingston-on-Thames, Romilly Hall, Barry, and Public Hall, Erith.

Amongst those present at the hearing of the Crippen case at Bow-street on Tuesday were Sir W. S. Gilbert (on the bench), Mr. J. W. Mathews, of the Duke of York's Theatre, and Mr. J. M. Glover.

A copyright production of a play in three acts by Samuel Shipman, entitled *The Woman of To-day*, was given at the Court Theatre on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Philip Leslie, who at the end of the run of *The Dawn of a To-morrow* was engaged by Mr. George Tyler for Liebler and Co., sailed for New York this week.

Miss Lila Field, who last winter presented *The Goldfish*, acted by children, at the Playhouse, will, in the middle of October, at one of the large West-End theatres, produce a series of plays which will be performed entirely by juveniles. The plays will be given on matinées on five days per week, and will be specially written to interest young people. *The Goldfish* will be the first to be performed. Miss Field has obtained the support of Princess Dolgorouki, Princess Hatzfeldt, the Duchess of Norfolk, the Duchess of Marlborough, and the Marquis de Soveral.

Mr. Nat Gould's first play, *The Chance of a Lifetime*, is playing to record business at the King's Theatre, Melbourne. Mr. Wm. Anderson has staged the piece lavishly, and his Australian company give an admirable performance. A tour of Australia is being booked, and Mr. Frank Gerald hopes to be home again in time to produce the drama in England next Easter.

Miss Annie Hughes, in consequence of her provincial bookings with *Miss Tommy*, by Jerome K. Jerome, has been compelled to relinquish several engagements for this autumn. The latest offer Miss Hughes has received is from Miss Gertrude Kingston for her new theatre. In Norwich next week Miss Hughes will produce a farce in one act by David Garth, called *In Private Life*. David Garth is the Rev. D. Wallace Duthie, a canon of Norwich Cathedral.

Mr. Walter Reynolds is enjoying an ideal holiday at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The popular theatre of the Crystal Palace, which is situated in the Centre Transept, will reopen on Sept. 26, with D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, who bring with them a popular and extensive répertoire Mr. J. Bannister Howard, under whose management the theatre is run, has used every effort to provide patrons with a good weekly programme, and judging from the list we have been shown, we should say Mr. Howard has been very successful in his efforts, the list including as it does *A Woman in the Case*, *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, *A Speckled Band*, *The Naked Truth*, and many others. The Sydenham Hill Operatic Society will again present their light operas. We are pleased to learn that Mr. J. B. Sharpe will retain his former position as resident-manager of this theatre.

A welcomed instance of the revived interest in the provinces in Shakespearean and classical plays was evidenced last week on the occasion of Mr. Allan Wilkie's visit to the Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, when the holding capacity of that theatre was taxed to its utmost limits, and many would-be patrons of the stalls and circle had to be content with standing room at the back of the pit, even this not always being available. To cope with such enthusiastic patronage Mr. Wilkie has arranged with Mr. Gar Kiddie to extend his next year's visit to Widnes to a fortnight, when he will present a repertory of no fewer than twelve plays, so that no repeat performance of any one play will be given during the visit—this, in Mr. Wilkie's opinion, being the secret of successful touring with a Shakespearean repertory.

Messrs. Pain's great spectacle, entitled *The Destruction of Pompeii*, at the Crystal Palace, on Monday enters on its final week, the last performance being on Saturday next, so that those who have not yet seen this wonderful and beautiful open-air ballet will have to make the most of their opportunities, as after the 17th inst. *Pompeii* will be withdrawn from the Palace programme.

In view of the great success that has attended the nightly performance of this spectacular drama, it has been decided to accord Messrs. James Pain and Sons a grand benefit, and Thursday next is the day chosen. On this occasion a special programme has been arranged, which will include many pyrotechnic novelties. There will be daylight fireworks at 5.30 on the cycle track, a grand full performance of *The Destruction of Pompeii* at 7.15, and a magnificent display of fireworks on the terraces at 9.15. Other attractions in the programme will be four military bands, viz., the Coldstream Guards (conducted by Lieut. Mackenzie Rogan), Norwood Postal Band, the Crystal Palace Military, and the Crystal Palace Quadrille bands. Two performances of a vaudeville show will be given, the artists including Mlle. Doris and her Canines; Le Clement, trapeze act; the Adras, acrobats; Talberto and Douglas, speciality artists; and the Schafer Four, musical act.

There will also be the Fairy Archipelago, with its numerous attractions, such as the great water chute, rapids, and many side shows, including "Old London," so that it is pretty certain that a huge crowd will assemble at the Palace on the 15th, for the fame of *Pompeii* is world-wide.

Miss Maie Hoey, who has made a great success as Fatma and principal dancer in Messrs. Murray King and Clarke's *Bedouin Beauty* company, is a pupil of Mlle. Genée. Miss Hoey paints, and plays the mandolin, violin, and piano.

Mr. Douglas Stuart has nearly completed the compilation of his Railway Fare Book for this year. A new feature is the inclusion of over 1,000 fares from smaller towns in the provinces to the most important adjacent centres. The last day for advertisements to be received is Thursday next, Sept. 15.

Miss Phyllis Relph, who was the Joan Fielding in *The Fighting Chance* at the Lyceum early in the year, and has lately been playing the Hon. Gwendolin Fairfax in Mr. Peter Davey's and Mr. Douglas Gordon's summer tour of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, has been engaged by Mr. Forbes Robertson to play Vivian with him in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* in New York and on a tour in the States. She sails by the Laurentic on Sept. 17 from Liverpool.

A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held on Friday, the 2nd inst. Present: Mr. H. Ralland (in the chair), Mr. Weathersby, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Maitland, Mr. Clifton Alderson, Mr. Bertram, Mr. Graham Falcon, and Mr. Martin (secretary). Mr. H. W. Rowland and Mr. J. Garrett Todd were duly elected members, and Mr. George N. Ballanger was elected an honorary member during his stay in London.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association, Ltd., was held on Friday, the 2nd inst., at the Managers' Club. Present: Mr. H. Ralland (in the chair), Mr. Lambert, Mr. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Weathersby, Mr. Maitland, Mr. Brydon-Phillips, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Bertram, Mr. Alderson, Mr. Falcon, and Mr. Martin (secretary). A member having reported an actor for breaking his engagement, the secretary was asked to obtain a statement of damages from the member, to enable the solicitor to take the necessary proceedings. A member complained of the way in which he was treated on a journey by a railway company, and the secretary was requested to move in the matter.

"Are You a Mason?" is still drawing big houses, and during its visit to Scotland through August has met with success upon success. At the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, and King's, Glasgow, the play has done phenomenal business, and hundreds have been turned away, not being able to secure seats.

Miss Gertrude Boswell has been engaged by Mr. Ian Robertson to play the part of Vivian in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* for his forthcoming American season. Miss Boswell, who has done so much good work in America, Australia, South Africa, and England with the late Mr. Wilson Barrett, and latterly with *Sunday* and her most successful creation of the dumb girl in Mr. Fred Melville's play, *Married to the Wrong Man*, is delighted at the thought of returning to America, though on her last trip to the States Miss Boswell was wrecked and on an island for five days. However, she was landed safely on inhabited shores, and in time to open in Canada in a part she went there to sustain.

The Wrexham Opera House has been reopened this week with Mr. Hubert Helliwell's company in *Wrongs of a Woman*. Mr. Herbert Kingsley has been secured as local manager, and the musical direction has been placed in the hands of Mr. Holman.

Mr. Arthur Collins-Rolfe, who is at present playing the Earl of St. Ives in *Our Miss Gibbs*, under the management of Mr. George Dance, has recently presented some interesting photographs of Old Dulwich to the Camberwell Central Library, including one of the birthplace of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in Camberwell Grove. The photos are now hung in the vestibule of the Library.

On Sept. 26 the American scout Young Buffalo will commence his English tour at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, in *King of the Wild West*. For five years Young Buffalo has toured America in this melodrama. While playing at Toronto and Montreal, Miss Ellen Terry was appearing in the same towns, and she and her company visited the play several times, and it is partly on her suggestion that Young Buffalo is making the tour. He will be supported by Miss Caroline May Blaney as a Western cowgirl, and he is bringing some Indians direct from the reservation, and three Mexican ponies. As in America, the entire company will parade, the principals on horseback, headed by Young Buffalo in scout costume, and Miss Blaney riding astride in Western costume, with cowboy band and Indians in native dress. As soon as a theatre can be found in the West End where he can play at popular prices, Young Buffalo intends coming to London for a run. He will arrive at Waterloo Station with his company on Sunday between 11 and 12 by the Southampton boat train.

Mr. Frederick Melville's successful drama *The Bad Girl of the Family* is already creating considerable excitement in Australia. It has not yet reached Sydney; but at Perth, Adelaide, and amongst the silver mines of Broken Hill there have been "record rushes" to witness the play. A well-known lady lecturer has made it the subject of her nightly discourse, and thus the "Bad Girl" is good business even as a lecture.

Mr. Alexander Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie are this week in occupation of Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, and last Tuesday Mr. Marsh won much appreciation as Hamlet, a rôle he had not previously played in Liverpool.

Mr. Charles Road-night's *Havanah* company, which is proving a success in the provinces, includes such well-known and excellent artists as Mr. William Pringle, Mr. Arthur Lenville, Miss Josephine Sullivan, and Miss Ada Davidson. Mr. Road-night has arranged to tour *The Prodigal Son* and *The Dairymaids* at Christmas, in addition to three companies already on the road.

"Are You a Mason?" like *Charley's Aunt*, will have a West End season at Christmas, and a London theatre is being negotiated for by "Productions Limited." This excellent comedy is sure to attract large audiences.

Mr. James Carter Edwards writes: I note in your account of Herbert Hudson's old concert hall in Birmingham that a John Carter Edwards appeared there. No "John" Carter Edwards ever appeared there, nor have I had that honour, although I was very much and for a long period connected with the hall, as my brother, George Henry Edwards, was constantly acting there as a leading amateur.

At the recent musical examination, Mr. Fred Clarke Holliday, seventeen years of age, son of the well-known composer and conductor at the King's, Seacombe, succeeded in gaining the Cheshire Educational Musical Scholarship, tenable for three years at the Royal College of Music. No doubt more will be heard of this promising young musician in the future.

The new musical play by Lord Yarmouth, *The Pigeon House*, was most successfully performed at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on Monday. Mr. Ivan Berlyn made a big hit in his scenes with Miss Jane Eyre and Miss Iris Hoey, and was accorded an ovation at the end of the second act. The production will come to London shortly.

A new one-act drama, entitled *Two Men and a Woman*, written by the authors of *Looking for Trouble*, will precede the performance of that play for the first time at the County Theatre, Reading, on Monday.

Mr. O. Silverstone will put on the road about Easter a new production with the title *The Ruin of a Countess*. The play is built on exceptionally original lines, and the whole theme is quite away from the beaten track. Mr. Silverstone intends to make this production a very fine one, and one of the best known scenic artists will be engaged upon it. The production will be the sole property of and under the personal supervision of Mr. Silverstone.

Alfred Bruneau's orchestral suite, "L'Attaque du Moulin," which was so enthusiastically received on Tuesday evening last at the Promenade Concerts, when it was performed for the first time in England, will be repeated by special request on Friday evening, taking the place of Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 1.

M. Ysaye will make his reappearance in London on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 8, at Queen's Hall, when he will give an orchestral concert with the Queen's Hall Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Henry J. Wood.

On Saturday evening there will be one novelty, a set of six Flemish dances by M. Jan Blockx, head of the Antwerp Conservatoire. The young school of British composers is represented by Mr. Hamilton Harty's "Comedy Overture." Lalo's "Russian" Concerto for violin and orchestra will be interpreted by Mlle. Ivonne Astruc, who appears for the first time at the promenade concerts. The rest of the programme is made up of popular and well-known items.

Herr Fritz Kreisler will make his reappearance in London on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 24, when he will give a violin recital at Queen's Hall.

Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's *Naked Truth* company has certainly caught on at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, this week. "House full" has been the nightly announcement, and amongst the visitors have been Princess Storokoff and Countess Starkey, who professed themselves delighted with the performance. Miss Molesworth and Mr. Blow have dressed the play with exquisite taste, the gowns worn by the ladies coming from leading West-End firms. Mr. Townsend Whitling is stage-manager, and Mr. Arthur Law Raynor business-manager for the tour.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Chas. Imeson celebrate their silver wedding on Sunday, Sept. 18.

Mr. Oscar Hammerstein has elected to take advantage of an option he acquired some time ago from the London County Council, and has secured property situated in Kingsway, between Kemble and Keeley streets, as a site for an opera-house of modern construction to seat over three thousand persons, with a balcony devoted entirely to boxes, of which there will be forty-five. Mr. Hammerstein expects to finish the building in the autumn of next year. His répertoire will be selected from the French, Italian, and German schools. He will call his theatre the "London Opera House," and will set aside two boxes for the exclusive use of the King of England and the Lord Mayor of London.

The head of the Follies is once again to give the halls a taste of his quality, having been commissioned by Mr. Alfred Moul to supply a revue for the Alhambra, to be produced there about Christmas. The revue will deal entirely with passing events, and Mr. Pélissier will depart as far as possible from conventional lines, dispensing with imitations of popular artists and the "potting" of current plays.

Mr. Eugene d'Albert's dramatic opera *Tiefland*, which will be heard for the first time in England on Oct. 1, the opening night of the Beecham Opera season at Covent Garden, is now being rehearsed. Mr. d'Albert was born in Glasgow. *Tiefland* had been sung on the Continent 1,854 times up to the end of February last. The plot is practically the same as that of *Feudalismo*, the drama which the Sicilian players presented in London.

Messrs. J. E. Watson and C. L. Doe's *Priscilla Runs Away* company, from the Haymarket Theatre, starts on its tour on Monday, Sept. 19, at Hastings and Eastbourne Piers a week before it was intended originally to commence the tour. The play is drawing such crowded houses in London that the Haymarket management have found it necessary to put on an extra matinée on Saturdays to cope with the increasing demand for seats. The application from provincial managers for the play have been so numerous that the management have decided to book right ahead till June next.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Short-winded

In the second act of *Coriolanus*—writes Mr. R. O. Mason in "Sketches and Impressions"—when Kemble as Coriolanus returns from his late victory, he gave instructions to Schmidt, the little German trumpeter, to continue the trumpet flourish until he got well down to the front of the stage. At the rehearsal Kemble walked in a slow and stately manner from the back of the stage down to the footlights; but during the stately march the little trumpeter became exhausted and the flourish died out. "Sir!" said Kemble, with severe dignity, "did I not tell you to keep on blowing until I stopped?" "Yes, sir," meekly answered the breathless trumpeter, "but, mine Gott! who is to find der vind?"

Nothing Impossible.

KEMBLE'S energy when once he had decided to do a thing was immense. While the play of *Henry VIII.* was in preparation, he desired the chief "property man," Bradwell, to have a certain piece of stage property ready in a certain time. Bradwell demurred, saying it was impossible to prepare such a piece of work so quickly. "Impossible!" said Kemble, "I don't know the word; if it were necessary for the play I would have a *pickled elephant* in that time."

An Amusing Accident.

OLD Mr. Stephens, father of Catherine—"Kitty Stephens"—afterwards Countess of Essex was at one time the victim of an amusing incident. He was one evening, during the music between the acts, standing on the stage with his back in close proximity to the "act drop." Either purposely or by mistake the prompter rang up the curtain, and while slowly rolling up, it quietly took in Mr. Stephens' coat-tails. Notwithstanding his struggles he was lifted clean off his feet and hung doubled up like a half-closed jack-knife, with legs and arms dangling in the air. The English broadcloth refused to give way, and his bulk prevented the curtain from going up any farther. So there he hung in full sight of the audience. There was some confusion, the curtain was rung down, and Mr. Stephens, very red in the face, was safely landed on all fours, and crawled off amid screams of laughter both before and behind the scenes. His remarks on the occasion have never been fully reported.

Mr. Billington's Record.

MR. FRED BILLINGTON, interviewed by the representative of the *Glasgow Citizen*, has reminded us of the length of his connection with the D'Oyly Carte Company. "I joined in the autumn of 1879, so that you can figure it out for yourself. About thirty-one years and six months is the total, I believe. In that time I have witnessed many changes, but I am glad to say there has been no change in the popularity of the operas. I am the only member of that company left. I had played Poo-Bah in *The Mikado* exactly 3,054 times up to March last. I stopped counting then.

Like Sims Reeves.

"PERSONALLY, I make it a point to remain off the bill rather than risk going on when I don't feel quite fit. Let me appear to falter for one instant in saying my lines or utter one cracked note and immediately people will begin to say: 'Ah, he is not the Billington he was. He's failing.' There are always critics looking for faults. I want to disappoint them for a while yet.

Mrs. Carte's Thoughtfulness.

"WE do not always take away money from the places we visit," said Mr. Billington. "There are towns in our itinerary where the question is not—'How much shall we make?' but rather—'How little shall we lose?'"

"Then why not drop calling at them?"

"Because we have to take the fat with the lean. It keeps the company together instead of leaving the members wandering about idle so many months and leaving it almost impossible to get them together again. That shows Mrs. Carte's thoughtfulness, and helps to explain the *esprit-de-corps* which is so prominent a feature of the D'Oyly Carte Company."

Overheard at a Music Hall.

FIRST Speaker, who has brought his unsophisticated friend to see the show: "This is the star turn—Courtice Pounds and company. You'll enjoy this."

His Friend: "Oh. Seems a clever company. Is *that* Pounds?"

First Speaker: "Oh, no—Pounds is not on yet. These are the shillings and pence."

Long Waits.

MISS DREVER is not impressed by "production" in Paris. "Any clever stage-manager over here," she has told the *Daily Express*, "who knows the language can make his fortune in Paris. In 'straight' comedy they are perfect, but in musical comedy they have only the ideas. They can't carry them out. The 'waits' are intolerable, and if the leading man gets to the theatre long after he is due it doesn't matter; the curtain can be kept down."

Working for the Ensemble.

"BUT the French artists are charming with an English woman, and I can't tell you what I owe to their exquisite camaraderie. There, too, they work for the picture, the ensemble. No one strives for the merely personal success. And the audience? Well, as a rule, the claque does all their applauding, but they broke their rule for *The Merry Widow*, and cheered us to the echo."

A Bad Beard.

MR. ROY COCHRANE, the manager of the Surrey, was, as everyone knows, a leading actor before he became a music hall manager. On one occasion he was playing Rhodrick Dhu in an old Scottish drama, and was engaged in a fiery combat with King James. The actor who played that part wore the cloven beard of the period, which had been clumsily fixed, with the result that in the course of the vigorous cut and thrust it gradually slipped lower and lower down his face until just as Roderick bore his opponent to his knees and cried, "Now yield ye, King James!" the beard slipped completely off and fell to the ground amid roars of laughter from the audience. It was the quickest shave on record!

A "Fit" of Laughter.

ONE frequently reads in the criticism of a play that the audience went into "fits" of laughter, but this seldom occurs in reality. It, however, actually did happen during the performance of Miss Florence Baines' musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, on Monday last at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, when a youth in the pit was moved to laughter to such an extent that he was seized with a fit, and some considerable time elapsed before he could be brought round.

An Audience of Seven.

MR. C. W. SOMERSET, who is playing the part of Dr. Grimesby Rylott in *The Speckled Band* on tour, says: "I have a recollection of an amusing event at Salisbury. We were billed to play, *She Stoops to Conquer*, but when we were ready to commence there was not a soul in the building, and we were told there would be no performance. Just at that moment a gentleman drove up to the theatre with a party of seven from a village ten miles away, and when he found there was no show he was so disappointed that he offered to pay the expenses of the whole company if they played. To cut a long story short we did play, and to a party of seven people only! This gentleman was so delighted with the performance that he invited us to his house, and we had a very jolly time."

"NOBODY'S DAUGHTER."

Play, in Four Acts, by George Paston, Produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Saturday, Sept. 3.

Mr. Frampton	MR. GERALD DU MAURIER
Mrs. Frampton	MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Colonel Torrens	MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Mrs. Torrens	MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Tony	MR. RONALD SQUIRE
Honora May	MISS ROSALIE TOLLER
Christine Grant	MISS MARY RORKE
Teresa Holroyd	MISS DOROTHY BELL
Sir Jasper Marchmont	MR. LEON QUARTERMAINE
Will Leonard	MR. H. MARSH ALLEN
Maid	MISS MARY LESLIE

Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier can be heartily congratulated on the success of their first production under joint management. There is every possibility that *Nobody's Daughter*, by George Paston, produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Saturday, Sept. 3, will be "Everybody's Child," for a play so fresh, of such delightful simplicity, with so strong a human interest, and withal so happily cast, is likely to become a universal favourite. "We are only children wandering over the moor," is the summing-up of John Frampton's view of life. Helen Frampton, his wife, had gone astray from the path of virtue twenty years before the play begins, before she had ever met the man she marries. She and young Jim Torrens had been madly in love with one another and too poor to marry. The result of their brief period of madness, a baby girl, has been handed over to the care of a Calvinistic old nurse, Christine Grant, and the unfortunate episode has been kept carefully hidden. Jim Torrens is sent to India, and in twelve months he finds a rich wife, and the mother of his child marries a wealthy man with whom she is genuinely in love. There is nothing to recall the brief period of their infatuation but the little Honora May, to whom they pose as guardians and family friend. The child is well looked after, well cared for, but her companions belong to the working classes, and from them she takes her ideas and her general tone.

When she reaches the age of nineteen her self-appointed guardians come to the tardy conclusion that her surroundings and associates are unfitted for one of her birth. In the meantime the Torrenses have returned from India and are on terms of intimate friendship with the Framptons. It is suggested that Honora shall go into a "nice" family for two years, but the girl, who is unaware of her parentage, refuses. She has made her own plans, she has given her heart to an ambitious young chauffeur, and she is going to marry him. They will sail together for Australia, where Will's chance in life is to be found. The mother is horrified at the idea of her daughter marrying a working-man; she will save Honora from such a marriage at all costs. As Honora refuses to go to a "nice" family, Helen will take her into her own home for six months, hoping that in a different atmosphere and surrounded by congenial society the vision of the young chauffeur will fade away. So Honora goes unwittingly to her mother's home. There now appears on the scene John Frampton, Helen's husband, a charming, boyish middle-aged man, devoted to his wife, happy in the friendship of Jim Torrens. He is delighted at the advent of his wife's protegée, his one regret being that they are childless; and, on finding that poor Honora occasionally frets because of her lack of "real" relations, he in an idle moment sets himself the task of discovering the secret of her antecedents.

He succeeds only too well for the peace of mind of everybody concerned. It is, of course, on the woman, his wife, that his anger is chiefly concentrated. That she has been a loving, faithful companion to him for seventeen years counts not at all; she has deceived him, she has abjured her motherhood, she is altogether vile, she must be cast away. And who induces him to take a more rational view of the matter and is principally instrumental in bringing about a reconciliation? Who but the wife of the other man, a woman of beautiful character, sane, broad-minded, with a heart quick to feel, and a brain clear to judge rightly, a woman who "knew it all the time," and had kept silence until the time came for her to speak.

We cannot conceive a better rendering of this part of Mrs. Torrens than that given by Miss Henrietta Watson. There is nothing showy or theatrical in the character; she is a sweet-tempered, reasonable human being, and as such Miss Watson presents her, giving, by a multitude of clever touches, an impression of strength behind the sweetness, of the big heart of the woman behind the clear brain. Miss Watson's one chance for effect comes in the third act, and she rises magnificently to the occasion in her denunciation of "man-made laws." It is a performance that reaches a very high level of artistic merit. Miss Lilian Braithwaite hits exactly the right note as Helen Frampton, the sweet, soft, yielding woman of many charms, one of those "who love and feel, but cannot reason," and so "fall," and, alas! are not strong enough to bear the consequences of their folly. Miss Braithwaite conveys with exquisitely modulated pathos the suffering of the woman who, when her belated mother-love is awakened, finds her child's affection is wholly given to the nurse who has "mothered" her from her cradle. Miss Rosalie Toller is a very sympathetic figure as Honora, the "Nobody's Daughter," and plays with much charm and feeling, though her performance might perhaps be improved if she indicated her village upbringing in the first act by a little more shyness, even a touch of gaucherie. Miss Mary Rorke gives a beautiful and touching picture of a stern Calvinistic woman who cannot lie—and "a woman who can't tell a lie is like a firebrand," says Jim Torrens—whose love for her charge is for ever breaking through the crust of duty with which her hard religion has hedged her round. Miss Dorothy Bell is piquant as a vicar's daughter, "one of six" doomed to wear clothes from a "universal family wardrobe," who bemoans the gift of a smart hat because "the other five are always wanting to borrow it." Mr. Gerald du Maurier is extraordinarily interesting in the part of John Frampton, the easy-going, genial, middle-aged man, who is "bouleversé" by the discovery of his wife's deception. It is, we believe, the first time that Mr. du Maurier has attempted a part of this description, and his talent recently has been expended in depicting heroes of criminal or quasi-criminal characters. In a "straight part" Mr. du Maurier has more chance of showing his scope. His John Frampton is a clever, well-considered study, the "jolly" man who fools delightfully and without buffoonery in the privacy of his own circle, who is as quickly sensitive to the vague yearnings of the young girl for "somebody to belong to" as to the doubts of the austere old nurse who fears that "the world, the flesh, and the devil" will prove too strong for her child. As Jim Torrens, Mr. Sydney Valentine plays with his usual excellent judgment and psychological insight. Mr. Marsh Allen is first-rate as the straightforward and attractive young chauffeur of humble birth, and Mr. Ronald Squire is natural as the crippled son of Mr. and Mrs. Torrens. Mr. Leon Quartermaine, who enacts an aviator, plays an unobtrusive part easily and well, and Miss Mary Leslie is satisfactory as a maid.

"A BOLT FROM THE BLUE."

Play, in Three Acts, Adapted by Cosmo Hamilton from *Le Costaud des Epinettes* by Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis, Produced at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

Claude Brévin	MR. ARTHUR WONTNER
Doizeau	MR. DENNIS EADIE
Valtier	MR. LESLIE FABER
Gabriel	MR. A. HOLMES-GORE
Gomez	MR. HERBERT ROSS
Père Tabac	MR. EDMUND GWENN
Chémard	MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
Le Baron de Rouget	MR. A. G. ONSLOW
Chagnard	MR. HERBERT BUNSTON
Sauvalin	MR. HUBERT HARBEN
Boissonet	MR. J. H. BREWER
Doulieus	MR. WALTER KINGSFORD
La Tanche	MR. A. SCOTT-CRAVEN
Le Nantais	MR. ERNEST YOUNG
Ferdinand	MR. HAROLD WEST
Julian	MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Achille	MR. CHARLES VERNON
Le Concierge	MR. DERLINCOURT ODLUM
Manager of the Hotel	MR. P. L. JULIAN
Arsène	MR. RICHARD HAIGH
Adèle	MISS LYDIA BILBROOKE
Agathe	MISS FRANCES DILLON
Eugénie	MISS AGNES MILLER
Clorinde	MISS LILY MCINTYRE
Mme. Sauvalin	MISS MINNIE GRIFFIN
Ginette	MISS EVANGELINE HILLIARD
Valentine Gay	MISS ANN CLEAVER
Julia Varin	MISS SHEILA HESELTINE
Jeanne Dargens	MISS THEODORA GERARD
Irma Lurette	MISS IRENE VANBRUGH

There would seem to have been something in *Le Costaud des Epinettes* which has evaporated in the process of adaptation from the French, for when it was produced at the Paris Vaudeville on April 14 last our correspondent described it as a "singular and charming play." Our readers will judge from the following scenario if these adjectives are applicable to *A Bolt from the Blue*.

Irma Lurette, a beautiful and attractive Parisian actress, has in her possession some compromising letters which will prove fatal to the peace of mind of a certain noble family if, as Irma threatens, she makes them public property. To prevent this at all costs, the matter is placed in the unprincipled hands of an unscrupulous old villain, Doizeau, who sees no alternative but the murder of Irma as a prelude to the theft of the papers. To find a man who, for a suitable consideration, will stop at nothing, not excepting homicide, Doizeau visits a café-restaurant in the Quartier des Epinettes, kept by one Père Tabac, a favourite haunt of the Apaches, where we are shown some weird and horrible specimens of humanity.

The first man chosen for the task is a creature ready to commit any atrocity for money, but he fights shy when he learns that as a preliminary it will be necessary for him to make himself attractive to the woman he is to murder. He confesses that he has always had an invincible repugnance to feminine society, and that, so far as he is concerned, the job is "off." But the restaurant keeper, Père Tabac, who is an ally of Doizeau's, has another card up his sleeve. He has had a visit that same day from a man whom he had formerly befriended to the extent of granting him a loan of 2,000 francs, and who has returned to his old haunts, after trying ineffectually for a year or so to earn an honest living. Claude Brévin is a gentleman by birth, who, finding the burden of life too heavy for him, is on the point of ending it, when the thought of his debt to the man who had done him a good turn causes him to pause. He goes to Père Tabac famished in body and broken in spirit, and implores him to come once again to his —Brévin's—aid. Père Tabac rises to the occasion. He gives Claude food and drink, and then tells the revived and grateful man that he has found him work to do. It is dirty work; he must make no objection if his hands are soiled; but if he consents he will find himself the richer by 10,000 francs.

The prospect of possessing this sum decides the penniless Claude to agree to anything; he is introduced to Doizeau, and the plot is laid before him. He is to accompany Doizeau to an hotel where a reception is to be held in honour of the hundredth performance of the play in which Irma is appearing. He will be introduced to her, and is to set himself the task of attracting her sufficiently to persuade her to permit him to accompany her to her flat, where he is to murder her and obtain possession of the papers. As the whole villainous scheme is unfolded, Claude realises its infamy and wavers. At first he refuses the job; but eventually he remembers his desperate condition and the promised reward, and consents to do the deed.

The plans of the conspirators are entirely successful. Irma takes a violent fancy to Claude, apparently because he makes her lose her temper within five minutes of their meeting. Within another fifteen she has accepted a valuable sapphire ring from him, and in half an hour she has agreed to take him with her to a tête-à-tête supper at her flat. He is hardly to be blamed for thinking the charming actress "no better than she ought to be" when he finds himself alone with Irma in her rooms, her maid Eugénie having been hurriedly called away by a "bogus" telegram; and she, preparatory to changing into something "soft and loose," asks him to undo the top hook of her evening frock. It is a surprise to others besides Claude to find that, in spite of her Bohemian tendencies, Irma has an invincible prejudice for remaining "straight." However, straight or otherwise, Claude has come to murder her. She retires to her room to don a teagown, and he turns out the light and waits her return with unclasped knife. But another is before him. Into the darkened room creeps an Apache who seizes Irma by the throat. Claude dashes to her rescue, the Apache is overpowered and kicked out, and Irma falls in the arms of the man who has saved her life—by accident. He confesses all to her. She forgives him, hands over the letters, refusing to accept in payment for them the 10,000 francs which were to have been the price of her murder, and invites him to join the company to which she belongs—an offer which Brévin gladly accepts.

Parisian taste, it seems, highly approved of *Le Costaud des Epinettes*. In the form of *A Bolt from the Blue* it appears to an English audience as a somewhat lurid melodrama, with a distinctly morbid atmosphere, and it is a matter of some regret that the talents of such fine exponents of their art as Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, and Mr. Dennis Eadie should be expended on parts which do not call for the exercise of a tithe of their ability. Miss Irene Vanbrugh does everything she can with the part of Irma, and actually manages by sheer force of personality and charm to make her appear an acceptable character, a delightful Bohemian, unaffected, unconventional, who rules her life by laws of her own making, and has the courage to act on her instincts and defy conventions. Miss Vanbrugh's supreme art enables her to give an exquisite touch of womanliness to a part which might have been easily made hard and unsympathetic. As Claude Brévin Mr. Arthur Wontner takes full advantage of the emotional phases through which the unfortunate man passes, and contrives, with much cleverness, to make his best effect in the most difficult phase—that of Brévin's indecision. Mr. Dennis Eadie makes a very interesting study of the wicked old Doizeau, a sinister figure, always hovering in the background, recalling to the unhappy Claude the hideous task which he has undertaken. Mr. Edmund Gwenn gives a very interesting character-study of the restaurant keeper, Père Tabac; and Mr. Leslie Faber's polished style is effective as a man about town, a former associate of Claude's. Miss Minnie Griffin as an ill-mated wife introduces an excellent and welcome note of comedy; and Miss Lydia Bilbrooke is charming and graceful in a small part. Mr. Scott-Craven imparts a vivid touch of realism to the character of a jovial Apache, who has just "done time"; and Miss Frances Dillon looks lovely and acts with passionate earnestness as Agathe, a female Apache. Miss Agnes Miller merits praise as Eugénie, the maid; and as for the other members of the cast it is difficult to discover their separate identities, and it must therefore suffice to say that, one and all, they played with a spirit and a fire which left nothing to be desired.

"LA FORZA DEL DESTINO."

("THE POWER OF DESTINY.")

Verdi's Opera, in Four Acts, Played for the First Time in England at the Kennington Theatre on Friday, Sept. 2.

Don Alvaro	MR. WALTER WHEATLEY
Don Carlos di Vargas	MR. HEBDEN FOSTER
Marquis di Calatrava	MR. ALEXANDER RICHARD
Friar Melitone	MR. FREDERICK CLENDON
Father Guardiano	MR. ARTHUR WINCKWORTH
Preziosilla	MISS ANNIE VAN DYCK
Trabuco	MR. WILLIAM O'CONNOR
The Alcade / A Surgeon	MR. GEORGE M. REID
Curra	MISS DOUGLAS WILSON
Leonora di Vargas	MISS INA HILL

At the Kennington Theatre on Friday night, Sept. 2, the Carl Rosa company produced, for the first time in England, Verdi's opera *La Forza del Destino*, originally performed on Nov. 10, 1862, at St. Petersburg, and in a revised form at Milan in 1869, and on both occasions the opera met with little success, mainly owing to Piave's involved libretto and the small share the heroine has in the music. *La Forza del Destino* is the commencement of Verdi's third manner, shown in *Aïda* and *Otello*, now justly considered the composer's greatest works. Although the libretto of *The Power of Destiny* is unfortunate, there is much charm in its music, and the Carl Rosa Company deserve hearty thanks for an interesting revival. The English adaptation is by Mr. Percy Pinkerton, and as the opera is in four acts and unduly long, the Carl Rosa Company have wisely shortened the second scene of the third act to a ballet, and made several "cuts" in the fourth act. In the first act Leonora is waiting for her lover, Don Alvaro, and as her father will not consent to their marriage, they are on the point of eloping when Leonora's father enters and orders his servants to arrest Alvaro. The lover produces a pistol, but at Leonora's appeal throws it down, and the pistol going off with the fall her father, the Marquis di Calatrava, is mortally wounded. The second act opens in a Inn Kitchen, some of the company are dancing, and others are having supper. Preziosilla, a gipsy, sings a sparkling air in praise of the Italian Army, and the refrain "E bella la guerra, ev viva, la guerra ev viva," is taken up by the chorus. Among the company is Don Carlos di Vargas, Leonora's brother, who narrates his story of the death of his father and his sister's flight with the assassin. Don Carlos is seeking Don Alvaro, determined to avenge both his father and sister. Being overheard by Leonora, who is in the room disguised as a boy, we find her in the next scene outside the Church of the Madonna Degli Angeli, Spain, seeking asylum of the monks. The finest music of the opera occurs in this scene, for Leonora has an expressive solo, "At last, here! Heav'n be praised. My final refuge on this earth," and the chorus of friars singing "Venite, Adoremus, et procedamus, ante," gives fine effect to the heroine's solo "Hark, 'tis the holy chant divine," while there is much beauty in her duet with Father Guardiano. Leonora is given a cave to shelter in, and dressed as a friar, the Father Superior gives her his benediction, the friars extinguish their tapers and enter church, while the scene ends with solemn music. A Room in a Spanish Officer's Quarters near Velletri, Italy, is the first scene of the third act. Alvaro, after singing a scena expressive of his fear that Leonora is dead, hears shouts without, and going out rescues Don Carlos. Not knowing whom he has saved, they swear to be friends. Later on Alvaro is wounded in a skirmish, and thinking he is dying, gives a packet to Don Carlos. Alvaro recovers, but Don Carlos, by a portrait with the packet discovers his sister's lover, and vows he will kill him. The second scene, A Camp near Velletri, Italy, is entirely devoted to a pretty ballet between the vivandières and soldiers. The fourth act is the Interior of the Convent of the Madonna Degli Angeli, Spain, and the second and last scene, A Rocky Valley near the Convent. Alvaro has become a friar. Don Carlos enters, and challenges him to a duel. Alvaro at first will not, but after great provocation at last consents, and they fight near Leonora's cave. Don Carlos is killed. Alvaro goes to the cave for help, and sees Leonora. Overjoyed to meet her lover again, but hearing of her brother's death, she stabs herself, and when brought in by Father Guardiano dies in the presence of her lover. The performance on Friday night was excellent. Owing to the dramatic nature of the third and fourth acts of the opera the music only follows the various incidents; but where there was any chance the artists did justice to the great composer. In the second act Miss Ina Hill, the Leonora, sang with great purity of tone and artistic expression, while Mr. Walter Wheatley, besides acting with rare spirit, sang his chief scena in the third act admirably, and was effective in the love duets. Excellent also was the Don Carlos of Mr. Hebden Foster; and Mr. Frederick Clendon cleverly acted the amusing part of Friar Melitone, the comic relief which the opera greatly needs. As Father Guardiano Mr. Arthur Winckworth sang with fine quality of tone; and Miss Annie Van Dyck was heartily applauded for her singing of Preziosilla's pretty air in the Inn scene. Mr. Alexander Richard, the Marquis, has little to do, as the Marquis is killed in the first scene; but that little was ably accomplished. Mr. George M. Reid appeared as the Alcade and a Surgeon; and the part of Trabuco was ably played by Mr. William O'Connor. The chorus sang and acted well, and under Mr. Van Noorden the orchestra gave an excellent account of Verdi's score.

AT the Auction Mart, Tynewydd-road, Barry Dock, on Tuesday, Sept. 20, Messrs. Rufus A. Davies and Co. will sell by public auction scenery and wardrobe used in the two dramas *The Assassin* and *Mysteries of the Thames*. The properties include many elaborate sets of a comprehensive character from a palace to a kitchen, together with military uniforms, swords, helmets, wigs, and printing.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY AT NOTTINGHAM.

There was a numerous and distinguished audience on Wednesday afternoon at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, to hear a lecture by Mr. Martin Harvey on the aims and objects of the National Theatre movement, coupled with an appeal to the people of the district on behalf of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Fund. Mr. Harvey was eminently fitted for the task which he undertook "con amore," as he is an eminent exponent of Shakespeare's genius, and a member of the Executive Committee of the National Theatre. The Rev. Rosslyn Bruce, M.A., D.D., presided, and was supported by, among others, Canon Baigent, Professor Frank Granger, Mr. H. S. Perris (organising secretary of the movement). Mr. R. H. Jackson, and Mr. J. F. Townend. Letters of apology were received from Countess Manvers and Bishop Hamilton Baynes, who expressed sympathy with the object of the gathering.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who was very cordially received, said he came before them in a new part—that of an earnest petitioner and beggar. And he must tell them at once that he had never taken up a part with more enthusiasm or greater conviction that his view of the part was the right one. After that burst of modesty, he must warn them that, as in other parts which he had essayed, he was going to try by every means at his command to convince them that his view was the right one. He was there to plead for their help to rear a noble and monumental institution to our greatest Englishman. No—not Nelson, whom they had honoured with countless and greatly deserved monuments all over the British Isles. He meant to Shakespeare. To their hero of naval warfare they had created obelisks, memorials, statues innumerable, and never too many. But it had taken them three hundred years to rear a worthy memorial to their great hero of letters—and "the pen is mightier than the sword."

Well, it was going to be reared now, and he wanted everyone present—yes, and all their sisters and cousins and aunts—to help. He did not despair of playing his part to heedless ears, as it was played by one of the greatest men in his walk of life for many years—Sir Henry Irving. However, things had moved rapidly of late, and Sir Henry Irving's voice, which, not so long ago, was one of "crying in the wilderness," was now echoing throughout the breadth of the land. He had at all events the joy of seeing his hope crystallised into substantial shape before he died, and into a form which was nearest his heart—a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. To-day had he lived he would have seen eagerness to support the movement by representative men from all the learned professions and arts, united in their determination that an old neglect should no longer be a reproach to our country and our Empire.

Let us face this fact, the lecturer continued. In 1916 it will be 300 years since there died in this country the most amazing giant in the history of the world—an Englishman. What have we reared to honour him, to express our pride in our fellow-countryman, our gratitude for the boundless wealth of beauty, of thought, pleasure, and wisdom which the whole civilised world has rendered homage to? A trivial and unregarded little figure perched above a fountain which trickles its small jet of water into a basin in Leicester-square. This is the sole monument which is pointed out to the amazed foreigner when he visits the land of Shakespeare's birth. But all that is going to be changed; our self-respect, as grateful recipients of the noblest fount of wisdom ever poured forth by living man, will be restored, and soon we shall all be able to join in a chorus of pride, when we see erected in the Capital a monument worthy of our sublimely gifted countryman, and this shameful neglect of Shakespeare's memory put an end to.

Dealing with the financial side of the Memorial National Theatre scheme, the lecturer explained that £500,000 had to be raised, to be spent in £100,000 for a suitable site, £150,000 to build and equip the theatre, and the remaining £250,000 to permanently endow it. That would yield an income of about £10,000 a year, the same sum, roughly, which the State allowed annually to the famous National Theatre of France, the Comédie Française. A splendid stimulus was given to the movement by a princely gift of no less a sum than £70,000, and since then the donations had been steadily rising, and they were not far short now of possessing a fifth of the entire amount needed.

The building must be a noble one, occupying a noble position in the heart of that London in which Shakespeare for the most part lived, laboured, and achieved his triumph and the triumph of the British drama, not only for "the spacious days of the great Elizabeth," but for all time. It must be at once conspicuous and dignified, standing entirely detached from all other buildings, on a commanding site, bearing unmistakable reverence for its greatest poet, and respect for the art to which his life and genius were devoted. The uses of the Memorial Theatre were:—(1) To keep all the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory; (2) to revive whatever is vital in English classical drama; (3) to prevent recent plays of great merit from falling into oblivion; (4) to produce new plays and to further develop the modern drama; (5) to produce translations of representative works of foreign drama, ancient and modern; (6) to stimulate the art of acting. That touches home, Mr. Harvey put in naively.

The framers of the scheme were anxious that the theatre should not fall into the hands of any one party or clique, but desired that it should be wide in its scope, all-embracing, entertaining educational, ranging in its choice of work over the high dramatic achievements of the whole world; in short, such an institution as will worthily mark our reverence for the all-embracing genius whose name they desired to honour. Having met objections to the scheme, showed how liberally the drama was State and municipally supported on the Continent, and quoted the views of eminent men in favour of the scheme, Mr. Harvey explained how those he was addressing could help, both financially and by their active interest.

In conclusion, he commended the scheme to the patriotic, because the neglect of Shakespeare was a reproach throughout Europe and because it would place our national drama on its rightful pinnacle as the richest in the world; he commended it to the wealthy, to the artistic and the studious, and to the Church and churchmen, because in the words of Archdeacon Bevan, people go to see plays who will not come to hear sermons, and tens of thousands have owed to Shakespeare the best inspirations of their lives, next to those they have received from the Bible itself. The memorial must be an accomplished fact five years hence, and so there was no time to be lost.

It was announced that £85 11s., including £50 from Captain J. A. Morrison, had already been received from Nottingham supporters of the project, this sum not including subscriptions and promises that afternoon. Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Martin Harvey for his inspiriting and closely-reasoned address, to the chairman (who showed why the clergy should be associated with the uplifting of the drama), to Mrs. Martin Harvey and the ladies of the company for assistance rendered in receiving subscriptions, &c., and to Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. Howard Pinney for the use of the Theatre Royal.

COLONIAL GOSSIP.

Theatre Building Craze in Melbourne.

The theatre-building craze has not allowed Melbourne to escape, and the latest advices state that a new playhouse is to be built in Prahan, says the *Canterbury Times* (Christchurch). Suburban theatres around Melbourne have always been tricky ventures. Several have been erected, but one is now in the hands of the Salvation Army, another is now a brewery, and two others are drapery shops. What a queer collection of terminations—religion, beer, and clothing!

"What Every Woman Knows" in Sydney.

"'What Every Woman Knows' is generally recognised as the most whimsically humorous comedy in which Miss Nellie Stewart has yet appeared," says the *Sydney Morning Herald*, "and constant laughter attends the highly original scene in which, as Maggie Wylie, she responds to the almost defiant 'Miss Maggie, will ye?' of John Shand (Mr. Harcourt Beatty). To miss seeing the prim Scotch lassie half strangling her newly-acquired man with his woollen comforter is to miss one of the funniest incidents of a homely character presented on our stage for many a long day."

Back in Australia.

Mr. Frank Gerald, who was in Australia some years ago, has returned under engagement to Mr. William Anderson, to assist him in the Melbourne production of Nat Gould's sporting drama, *The Chance of a Lifetime*. He will also play the rôle of the villain in the piece, Captain Francis Clinch. After he left Australia he appeared for some years at the theatres and halls in London and the provinces in his sketch *Jealousy*, and a play written by George Roberts and himself, and based on the story of Dick Turpin. Mr. Gerald, says the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, speaks of *The Chance of a Lifetime* as one of the best sporting plays he has met.

Proposed Municipal Orchestra for Wellington.

Mr. J. Maughan Barnett's proposal to establish a municipal orchestra in Wellington has created quite a favourable impression amongst those interested in promoting good music in Wellington, says the *Dominion*. The lack of a really good orchestra to interpret the classical writers has long been felt there, and both musicians and that section of the public interested look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the development of the scheme. Mr. Barnett is not asking the City Council to bear any burden worth mentioning, and at the outset is relying to some extent on guarantees from the public. So far he has not received a refusal, and quite a nice little sum has been assured already for the prosecution of the enterprise. Mr. Barnett hopes that in time the orchestra will be able to meet its obligations without seeking aid from the city treasury.

Hugh Ward's Retrenchment.

Mr. Hugh Ward, of the Hugh Ward-Grace Palotta Company, appearing in New Zealand in Paul M. Potter's new farcical comedy, *The Girl from Rector's*, is never happy unless he is manufacturing fun or laughter. He was with a party of friends when the news of the result of the Johnson-Jeffries fight at Reno was received, and he was very hard hit. At once he started for the theatre. His friends asked the whyfor, and the comedian retorted: "I must do something; I'm going to sack two stage-hands."

Leslie Holland in Sydney.

Mr. Leslie Holland, who is playing the architect Horace Ventimore in Anstey's farce, *The Brass Bottle*, at Her Majesty's, Sydney, is a comedian well known in England. He is one of Mr. George Edwardes's "discoveries," who played leading rôles in the No. 1 tour of the English cities, and three times went out as the leading comedian of musical organisations to the Cape.

Conway Wingfield in New Zealand.

Mr. Conway Wingfield, appearing as Philip Christian in *Pete*, produced in Christchurch by the Roberts-Day Company under the direction of Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, is a well-known English actor, who has appeared with considerable success under the banner of Messrs. Beerbohm Tree, Forbes Robertson, F. R. Benson, and other London managers. Mr. Wingfield was taken out to Australasia by Messrs. Clarke and Meynell to star in *The Little Stranger* company, and has since appeared under their management with the Beatty M'Intosh and Maud Hildyard companies. Mr. Wingfield was last in New Zealand with Miss Nellie Stewart's company, from which he seceded to accept the present engagement.

The "Eventio Enterprises" have been launched in South Norwood, where Mr. Harry Eventio has reopened the Stanley Hall with a programme of varieties and pictures. The hall is being run on the American continuous system, the entertainment being repeated twice nightly. A well-filled house was secured for the opening on Monday, and much satisfaction was expressed. The inaugural programme was a strong one, and in addition to a well-assorted series of pictures, consisted of Muir and Bartlett in their "side-splitting" sketch *The Collar Stud;* Miss Marie Rivers, with illustrated songs; the Sardons, illusionists; and Gladys Hamilton and Irene Farmer, expert dancers. The pictures are changed twice weekly, and a feature is made of free Wednesday matinées.

To Singers AND Elocutionists.

It is essential that the Nasal Organs be kept free from mucous secretions, stoppages, &c. Colds must be prevented and relieved at once. If you use NAZENE daily you will be free ::: from all nasal trouble. :::

A leading London Specialist has lately invented a treatment which has caused a great sensation among the Medical Profession, Elocutionists, and Singers.

Nazene & Nasal Bath.

SIMPLE AND HARMLESS. DOES NOT TOUCH THE VOCAL CORDS.

NAZENE is a solvent, purifier, cleanser, and disinfectant, and its powers are immediate and ::: ::: wonderful. ::: :::

Testimonial from a London Physician. July 6, 1910

Gentlemen,—I have used Nazene for nasal obstruction and can testify that the result was highly satisfactory. I consider it most efficacious for post Nasal Catarrhs, and allied conditions. It would be most beneficial to those who find difficulty in nasal respiration, and greatly relieve snoring and mucous secretion. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Every Public Speaker and Singer must give this marvellous preparation a trial now—to-day!

IMPORTANT FREE TRIAL.
If not approved, money will be returned.

Send at once postal order for 2/10 to the **NAZENE COMPANY, 30 & 31, Great Marlborough-street London, W.**

THE POETRY SOCIETY.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, who is himself perhaps the finest living exponent of the art of elocution, is much interested in the Poetry Society, and will conduct the first of its auditions which will be held to-day in the large room at the Holborn Restaurant. It will be a thorough and searching trial, the scheme including a variety of poems calculated to test the examinee's range of expression and capacity.

The Poetry Society's aim is to secure recognition for the cultured use of the speaking verse and to make the "reciting" of poetry less subordinated to singing and music as a form of entertainment, the society seeking through its members to develop from the inside outwards. It should be pointed out, however, that centre meetings—the semi-private meetings of groups of members—are not elocution classes. No particular methods, reformed or otherwise, are forced upon members, and no preliminary examination is insisted upon. The "auditions" are held for the help and satisfaction of members and to test and control those who represent the society publicly and professionally.

The Society's attitude on the subject of speaking verse was well defined and its policy indicated by Lady Margaret Sackville's admirable presidential address, in which that clever lady remarked, *inter alia*, "Elocution differs as much from the proper rendering of a poem as a gramophone does from the human voice. The somewhat blatant methods of elocution are only suitable where the emotion to be expressed is obvious, and the atmosphere thin and unreal. The elocutionist aims at telling a story with entirely artificial intonation and gesture, instead of allowing the poem to speak quite naturally through him. The poem, which should suggest its own interpretation, he forces into unnatural attitudes, and the result is too often ridiculous. At his touch poetry shrivels up like the leaves of a sensitive plant.

"The true art of speaking rises as naturally from good verse as the song from a bird's throat. For every poem exists its appropriate expression by the human voice—since poetry is capable of two appeals, silent and articulate—both equally forcible. The poem, if it is great enough and the speaker sufficiently receptive, will suggest its own utterance. There should be no striving from outside to produce a definite effect; the soul of the interpreter should be so possessed by the poem that it follows it instinctively in every modulation and inflection as easily as water flows between winding banks, and this impression should be conveyed without effort to the listeners. We must possess an exquisite sense of a poem as a living organism, not as dead material to be exploited as one chooses.

"Elocution is contrary to all this. It is a hard and egotistical tyrant, making poetry its slave, and reducing everything to a matter of tone and gesture. It is never inspired by the spirit of the verse it professes to interpret. To my mind the proper rendering of a poem requires an attitude of surrender on the part of the speaker, and he must certainly possess a power of emotion equal to that contained in the poem itself. For the moment he is identified with the words he utters, and he should convey the impression that he is relating a personal experience, that the grief or joy or terror of the thing he is speaking are not simulated, but actually his own.

"The speaking of poetry is one of the means by which the soul, through the medium of beautiful words, can express itself as it would, and all those dumb and faltering emotions which, though usually inarticulate, are its life. It is when life is unable to endure the pain of silence that it breaks into a cry which is poetry, and in poetry all art is included. And certain temperaments cannot find their true expression save in the words of others, and these belong to the ideal speaker of verse.

"I believe as little gesture should be used as possible, and that, as a rule, the voice alone, provided it is flexible enough, is sufficiently effective. The speaking of verse is not acting. It is rather the imaginative expression of a mood; and gesture, unless very sparingly used, interrupts and produces a wrong atmosphere. The effective speaking of verse is before all else a question of temperament joined to the dramatic faculty (insufficient by itself, however) and a keen sensitiveness to poetry. It is from a lack of sensitiveness that so many actors fail in their rendering of verse."

STAGE-STRUCK NOVICES.

"Theatrical managers," says the *Birmingham Dispatch*, "have many trials and troubles which are unknown to the general public. To make up an attractive programme which will draw large houses is a work of art. On this subject the writer of the article had an interesting conversation recently with Mr. Edward Foster, the manager of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

"'Do I get many applications?' he said in reply to a query. 'Well, they number hundreds in a year. There is a general impression that it is the young girl of sixteen or seventeen who is stage-struck. It is true that the majority of applicants are women, but not all. Some of the letters I receive are pathetic. Others are of a purely business character, and yet again there are some decidedly humorous. Take this one as an example. A lady aspirant a few days ago sent me the following letter. I give the spelling as it reached me:—

"'"Will you do me a favour? I am a lady who wants a start on the stage. It am really no good for anythink but for the stage. I cannot take to anythink. I know a lot about the stage, so I should not want much learning. I am seventeen years of age, I feel I should be very much more happier on the stage. I wrote to a gentleman, Mr. ——, who was advertising for girls for the stage, but he dose not seem to trouble about me. He wrote and told me I should have to pay half a crown entrants fee for the stage. That I paid him. Now I think he was doing it for no use at all. I am longin for nothink else but stage. It is my longest and greatest wish, for I know I should do it well. I should like to go as a comice comedienne for a start. I am very fond of singing comice songs. I hope you will give me a start and I will return my kindness back to you if you will only help me."'

"'That lady,' remarked Mr. Foster, 'is, I am afraid, not likely to realise her ambition. Here is another letter which has some point in it. A girl writes:—

"'"I am in service, but I want to go on the stage. I have seen a good deal of the stage, and I am quite sure I can do quite as well as a good many I have seen.'"

"'There is a bit of humour about that statement which might be accepted as favourable to the lady's ambitions.

"'Another girl wrote saying she wanted to go on the stage and "do Vesta Tilley." Evidently Birmingham's favourite must look to her laurels.'

"The girls, however, as Mr. Foster pointed out, are not the only ones who imagine that they have been gifted beyond others. A young man wrote the other day saying he had a heavy baritone voice, and was quite sure he could give a good turn.

"He candidly admitted, however, that he could not go in for hand parts just yet, but as an incentive to an engagement said he had been complimented on his voice by one manager, and would have been taken into the company if he had known operas."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting, held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 2.30 p.m. Present: Mr. Richard A. Greene (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Cyril Cattley, F. J. Arlton, Robson Paige, J. Poole Kirkwood, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 30th ult., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

Concerning the case of objectionable dressing-rooms at a provincial theatre dealt with last week, Mr. Cattley reported that he had received an independent complaint from another artist. On the motion of Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. Cattley, the secretary was instructed to write to the Town Clerk of the town and lay the facts before him, at the same time pointing out that the manager of the theatre had been communicated with, but had not troubled to reply.

In the matter Mr. Ernest B. Norris *versus* a member, the member interviewed the council, and the secretary, on the motion of Mr. Cattley, seconded by Miss Spencer, was instructed to inform Mr. Norris that the council having heard both parties saw no reason to take further steps in the matter.

After discussion and an amendment made by Mr. Paige, this was agreed to.

The secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Gerald Ames' letter, and to say that the council had much pleasure in acceding to his request to post his circular on the notice board of the Association, and likewise draw attention of the members to the benefits to be derived.

The secretary read a letter from Messrs. Mote and Sons, enclosing a letter from Mr. Albert Strong *re* "Robert Hilton," and was instructed to file the same for further reference.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Edwin F. Fysher, and was instructed to acknowledge same and to say that the Council regretted that it was out of their power to take any action in the matter, he not being a member.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester and adopted.

The hon. solicitor reported receipt of a letter from a manager in reply to a claim made on behalf of a member. Also a letter from another member concerning a claim against a manager. Further, that he had written to Messrs. Strong in reply to their letter *re* Robert Hilton.

Miss Vita Spencer's motion—"that members accepting engagements with bogus managers, whose names had been posted, be debarred from the privilege of the hon. solicitor's services to recover arrears of salary"—was seconded by Mr. Paige, and, after prolonged discussion, it was put to the meeting. The motion was lost by four to three.

Mr. Kirkwood gave notice of motion for next meeting, that "From the new year the Actors' Association be registered as a club, the present subscription to cover membership of Actors' Association and the club."

The secretary reported three engagements through the Agency.

Messrs. J. C. and E. C. Jack have published a neat edition of *Henry VIII.* at the low price of 8d., with very full annotations by Henry N. Hudson, and a pithy and well-considered preface which is unsigned, but is, we suppose, by the same writer. The little edition is in large, clear type, and has a tastefully-designed title-page.

There is an agreeable definiteness about the opinions of the writer of the preface as to the authorship of *Henry VIII.*, about which so much has lately been written. He says:—"It would not be in accordance with the purpose and method of these brief prefaces to enter into the details of the argument in the present instance; so I can but say that, for my part, I have slowly and reluctantly grown, or been drawn, into the same upshot with the writers named (i.e., Mr. Spedding, Mr. Hickson, and Mr. Fleay), and that I am now thoroughly satisfied that the conclusion they have reached is substantially right. The particulars of this conclusion are as follows:—That the first and second scenes of Act I. are Shakespeare's; also the third and fourth scenes of Act II.; also about three-sevenths of the second scene in Act III., down to the King's parting from Wolsey with the words, 'and then to breakfast with what appetite you have'; also the first scene of Act V.; and that all the rest of the play is Fletcher's; namely, the third and fourth scenes of Act I., the first and second of Act II.; the first, and about four-sevenths of the second in Act III.; the whole of Act IV.; the second, third, and fourth of Act V.; also the Prologue and Epilogue. Mr. Fleay makes the whole number of blank-verse lines in the play to be 2,613, of which 1,467 are Fletcher's, thus leaving only 1,146 to Shakespeare.

"From the forecited distribution I see no reason to dissent, except that, as Mr. Spedding admits, some of the portions assigned to Fletcher have traces of a superior workman. In particular, the latter part of the second scene in Act III., all after the *exit* of the King, seems to me a mixture of Fletcher and Shakespeare; though the Fletcher element preponderates, still I feel some decided workings of the master-hand. The same, though in a somewhat less degree of the coronation scene, the first in Act IV. Certainly, if Fletcher wrote the whole of these, he must have been, for the time, surprised out of himself, and lifted quite above his ordinary plane; even the best that he does elsewhere giving no promise of such touches as we find here. On the other hand, I doubt whether the first scene of Act V. be pure Shakespeare; at all events, it seems by no means equal to his other portions of the play. And, as the two authors probably wrote in conjunction, it might well be that some whole scenes were done by each, while in others their hands worked together, or the one revised and finished what the other had first written, thus giving us choice bits of Shakespearean gold mingled with the Fletcherian silver."

A Hull correspondent writes as follows respecting "Artists Unseen": "While no one would wish to crush an artist's laudable ambition to reach the dramatic Mecca—the Metropolis—I feel that we, whose lives are chiefly spent in the provinces, have some claim for consideration.

"During the autumn season we have, it is true, Mahomets, in the persons of some London stars of the first magnitude, coming to the provincial mountain. But our dramatic season is not confined to the autumn alone. For the rest of the year the patrons of the playhouse rely upon replicas, many of them excellent representations of the successes of the day, brought to their own doors. These representations are made more acceptable by the presence in the companies of clever men and women, all capable artists, such as your correspondent in last week's issue—Miss Doris Gilham.

"Provincial critics, called upon to review each week these performances, could easily add to this list of those who, without any need for London's endorsement, are ever welcome in our midst.

"The great mass of provincial theatregoers have some call for consideration, and I for one feel that artists should recognise that in catering for our instruction, entertainment, and amusement, they are largely helping on that great and notable cause—the British drama—and that the plaudits of the provinces are joys of this world not to be disdained."

INSOMNIA.

By Tom Craven.

When the demon, insomnia, is on yer, you never know when it's going to go from yer. My insomnia is another notable instance of the law of heredity. My father never slept. He was a night watchman, and in the daytime he was an inspector of tankards. From birth I never was a sleeper. I came into the world crying, and, being an Irishman, shall probably leave it with a wake. Strangely enough, I have always been connected with sleepers. I was a minor official employed on the London, Crashem, and Turnover Line. I was not a violent success, the line wasn't much in my line. I was a signalman, but I was not a signal success. Sometimes I was put on point duty, but I could never see the point. I only succeeded in wrecking my future and several milk trains. When beer was scarce they put me on as porter, but the job turned me sour, and as I grew stout, the authorities thought I wasn't hale and hearty. I grew bitter, and was drawn off the engine. Then I retired on a small income, earned by my wife, who was a model for a pavement artist. She worked. I didn't. I thought it too foolish for both of us to do the same thing. Things went on pleasantly enough, until one unhappy day she took the key of the beer-barrel. Now use, as we all know, is the second law of nature. Robbed of my beer, I acquired a thirst that kept me awake. I tried water, but it wouldn't work. It got into my head, and I nearly had water on the brain. I couldn't sleep. I had a friend who shared the same maisonette. He *was* a pal. He was a guard who continually watched me: as a matter of fact, he was a watch-guard. He sympathised with my position. He knew what I wanted, and never brought it to me. But this I will say of him, whenever he had had a glass of beer he brought me up the empty glass to smell. When he was in a generous mood he'd bring me up two empty glasses to smell. I told him my troubles. I said I was the victim of insomnia. He offered to send me to sleep for a week or so by hitting me over the head with a coke-hammer. I suggested that he should break his hammer on something less soft. Then he said he thought a strong dose of arsenic would bring about the desired result. He said he had tried its effect on a Thomas cat a month ago, and that it hadn't woke up yet. I said I didn't want to go to sleep for a month or I might forget myself, and a man who forgets himself is no gentleman. We had a little argument over the matter, and he went downstairs the wrong way up. Then I tried to sleep "on my own," but it wasn't a success. I have known myself to keep awake for half an hour at a stretch, then, perhaps, I would go to sleep for a paltry eight hours and not go off again for quite ten minutes. Now, no man could go on like this for more than fifty or sixty years, so I determined to get advice elsewhere. I lived near a chemist's. I asked for a blue pill. He said I should have a black draught with it, but I said I could get all the draughts I wanted through the bedroom door. I told him the tale. I said I suffered from want of natural sleep, and inquired whether he could name a remedy. He wanted to know if I'd tried work. I replied that I'd rather keep awake all my life than indulge in so dangerous a cure. He then asked if I'd tried walking on an empty stomach. I said that I didn't think stomachs were good things to walk upon. He hinted that it was usual to walk on one's feet; but when he saw my feet he felt sure that two steps would be sufficient. With extreme politeness I informed him that I couldn't walk as I had a corn on my big toe. He hinted that I should get a razor and cut my corn—or my throat; it didn't matter which. Then some kind pal said I ought to put a cold-water bandage round my head. I attempted the feat, but got so sleepy in the process that I put the bandage on too low down and awoke with a sore throat. Then came along my maternal grandmother. She got to the point right away. She boxed my ears, pulled my nose, and borrowed one and fourpence till next washing day. When I told her I couldn't sleep she advised me to count two hundred sheep going through a gateway. She said if I couldn't afford English meat Australian mutton would do. Well, I went to bed. I counted 199 sheep going through a gateway, but when I got to the two hundredth the gate slammed, and the last one could't get through. I was done by a neck of mutton. I went downstairs and tried to push a beefsteak through the gate, but a collie dog came along and pinched it. Then came the climax. A doctor gave me a powerful sleeping draught. My wife said she would give it to me, but before she came up to bed I grew so sleepy waiting for my sleeping draught that I went into a heavy, dreamless snore. My wife awoke me at 3.30. I said: "What the deuce did you want to wake me up for?" She said: "To give you your sleeping draught, you silly ass."

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues, published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

"What has become of British farce?" asks a writer in *What's On*. "Last year only two out of some fifty leading theatrical productions were labelled by their authors 'farces,' though many comedies and even serious pieces contained incidents distinctly farcical in character. But the real genuine article—where has it gone? What are our managers thinking about? *The Brass Bottle*, strictly speaking, was fantastical comedy farce *in excelsis*, *Billy's Bargain* was mere noise—farce *in extremis*, and except for revivals of *When Knights were Bold*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Charley's Aunt*, this completes the list of farces produced at leading London playhouses during the year. *Tantalising Tommy* might be designated farce, but there is nothing wildly improbable in its idea or treatment, and to our mind it more nearly resembles the lightest of comedy.

"Of melodramatic plays with farcical situations we have had a plethora—but the first dramatist who reserves the principle and gives us a genuine melodramatic farce ought to reap a high reward. Perhaps he may find a reason for this singular neglect of a profitable form of theatrical amusement in the advance of so-called musical comedy of the type of *Our Miss Gibbs* and *The Arcadians*. In such plays as these farce rank and unabashed runs riot to the accompaniment of maddening melody, and small wonder that the jaded workers of our cities and their equally wearied wives should seek diversion in their thousands at the shrine of the musical horse-collar. Agreeable absurdity will always command its market, and when set to tuneful music seems irresistible.

"The most hopeful feature of the past season has been the increased measure of support extended to Sir Herbert Tree's Shakespearean season, wherein many leading actor-managers participate. These revivals are eminently worthy of encouragement, for many of the best artists take part in them, the dresses, scenery, and properties are elaborate and handsome, and opportunity is afforded for seeing interesting differences in reading of the same character. It must be freely conceded that these productions, which, under the personal direction of Sir Herbert himself, reached a much higher intellectual and artistic level than those of his brother managers, the ultra-provincial attempts of that well-meaning but misdirected Mr. Benson serving to show us on the same stage *per contra* 'how not to do it.' Mr. Poel's form of Shakespearean representation was also included, and proved distinctly interesting to the patrons of His Majesty's.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 12.

Angel of His Dreams.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Another Man's Wife.—O. H., St. Helens.
Apple of Eden.—T. R., Chatham.
Arcadians (N.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Arcadians (S.).—T. R., Bury.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Empire T., Hyde.
At the World's Mercy.—Hippodrome, Stoke.
Beecham Opera Co.—O. H., Belfast.
Bedouin Beauty.—Pavilion, Ramsgate.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Plymouth.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Ringwood and Bridport.
Best People, The.—Eastbourne and Hastings.
Bishop's Son, The.—Grand T., Leeds.
Black Mask.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Brass Bottle, The.—O. H., Blackpool.
Brewster's Millions.—King's T., Glasgow.
Broken Heart.—Palace T., Perth.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropolitan T., Glasgow.
Can a Woman be Good?—T. R., Sheffield.
Candida.—T. R., Hanley.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Cassidy J. Rice.—T. R., Leeds.
Caste.—King's T., Sunderland.
Castellano Opera Co.—T. R., Bradford.
Charley's Aunt.—Castle T., Stockton.
Child of the Streets.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Christian, The (Draper).—Ferndale and Aberavon.
Cingalee (A.).—Morecambe and Kendal.
Claudian.—Grand T., Nelson.
Cloches de Corneville, Les.—P. T., Bristol.
Coal King.—T. R., Belfast
Compton Comedy Co.—King's T., Seacombe.
Country Girl, A.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Country Girl in London.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Criminal's Bride.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Dairymaids, The.—T. R., Stockport.
Dame Nature.—T. R., Manchester.
Dare Devil Dorothy.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
David Garrick.—T. R., Worthing.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Dear Little Denmark.—O. H., Middlesborough.
Diana of Dobson's.—Colchester and King's Lynn.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes) (N.).—Grand T., Blackpool.
Dollar Princess (S.).—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Don.—Harrogate and Tunbridge Wells.
D'Oyly Carte.—O. H., Buxton.
Draycott, Chas.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Driven from Home.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Earl and the Girl.—Weymouth and Exeter.
East Lynne (Watt).—Alexandra T., Hull.
Every Inch a Man.—Grand T., Walsall.
Eyes of the World.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Face at the Window.—Grand T., Stockton.
Fast Life, A.—T. R., Goole.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Canning Town, E.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Fighting Chance.—Boro' T., Stratford.
Fires of Fate.—T. R., Margate.
Flag Lieutenant.—Empire T., Southend.
Florodora (Constant).—T. R., Barry.
For Love and the King.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
For Wife and Kingdom.—T. R., Merthyr.
From Convent to Throne.—Scarborough.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Girl on the Boat.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Girls of Gottenberg.—O. H., Torquay.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Glossop-Harris.—T. R., Northampton.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—Longsight, Manchester.
Happy-Go-Lucky O'Lyn.—Grand T., Oldham.
Harvey, Martin.—T. R., Glasgow.
Havana.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Her Nameless Child.—T. R., West Stanley.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Edmonton.
His Indian Wife.—T. R., Sunderland.
House Opposite, The.—T. R., Preston.
House of Temperley.—T. R., Dublin.
Irving, Laurence.—T. R., Blackburn.
King and the Unknown Woman.—T. R., Aston.
King of Cadonia.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Cavan and Tullamore.
Life of a Showman.—Tivoli T., Pentre.
Little Phil's Mother.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Chesterfield.
Love of the Princess.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Lucky Durham.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Lucky 'Liza.—Hippodrome, Leek.
Man to Man.—Grand T., Chorley.
Married to Wrong Man.—T. R., Bristol.
Marsh, Alexander.—Colwyn Bay.
Master of the Mill.—O. H., Burnley.
Merry Widow (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Merry Widow (S.).—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
Merry Widow (3).—T. R., Rochester.
Message from Mars.—Grand T., Llandudno.
Midnight Mail.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Miss Hook of Holland.—T. R., Brighton.
Miss Lancashire, Limited.—T. R., Bolton.
Miss Tommy.—T. R., Norwich.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Mountaineers, The.—O. H., Southport.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—West Pier, Brighton.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—T. R., South Shields.
My Irish Molly.—Hippodrome, Hoyland.
My Lady Bellamy.—Worthing and Cambridge.
New Frivolity.—T. R., Great Yarmouth.
New Lady Bantock.—Leamington and Rugby.
Nick Carter.—Star T., Liverpool.
Night and Morning.—T. R., Darlington.
Nihilist, The.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
No Man's Land.—Metropole, Openshaw.
No Mother to Guide Her.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Old Folks at Home.—Devonport.
Old Heidelberg.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Our Miss Gibbs (Edwardes).—Newcastle.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—Grand T., Southampton.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—T. R., Bath.
Outcast of the Family.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Paying the Price.—Greenock.
Pigeon House.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Power of the King.—Palace T., Gloucester.
Private Secretary.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Prodigal Parson.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Proof.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (N.).—New T., Consett.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (S.).—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Queen of the Fair.—Weston-super-Mare.
Raynor Repertory.—Junction T., Manchester.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Workington.
Sailor's Wedding.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Sexton Blake.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Sign of the Cross.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Sign of the Cross.—T. Hall, Loughborough.
Silver King.—T. R., Halifax.
Sir Walter Raleigh.—T. R., Newcastle.
Smith (N.).—Hastings and Folkestone.
Smith (S.).—P. T., Manchester.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Smethwick.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Tantalizing Tommy.—Grand T., Croydon.
Temptation.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Terry Edward.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Terry, Fred, and Julia Neilson.—Liverpool.
Thief in the Night.—O. H., Wakefield.
Through the Divorce Court.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—Sheffield.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Leicester.
Two Merry Monarchs.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Peterboro'.
Under the Iron Heel.—Palace T., Derby.
Under Two Flags.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Waller, Lewis.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Was She to Blame?—Queen's T., Longton.
Webb's Vaudeville.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Huddersfield.
When Knights Were Bold.—T. R., Birmingham.
When Knights Were Bold (S.).—County T., Kingston.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Stratford.
When Woman Hates.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Whip, The.—Marlboro' T., Holloway, N.
Whom God Hath Joined.—Star T., Swansea.
Wilkie, Allan.—T. R., Ashton.
Woman in the Case.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
Woman of Two Lives.—Empire T., Oldham.
Woman's Past, A.—Gloesop and Wrexham.
World, Flesh, and the Devil.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Wrecker of Men.—T. R., Tonypandy.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—Your Hull correspondent in his notice of the Hippodrome last week failed to mention that Billy Ross and company, in a boxing act, deputised for Keene and Adams and Pike and Evans.—Yours faithfully, Billy Ross.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HAGGAR.—Sept. 2, at 1, Park-street, Neath, the wife of Will Haggar (Jenny Lindon), Castle Theatre, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BRENCHLEY—CAROZZI.—Aug. 25, at St. Mary's, Clapham, by the Rev. Father Burke, Charles Albert Brenchley to Marion Louise Carozzi.

DEATHS.

KEITH.—Sept. 1, at Richmond, Va., U.S.A., Elaine Muriel, aged 24, the beloved and only daughter of Royston and Blanche Keith.

MARSHALL.—Sept. 1, at South Shields, Willie Marshall, only son of Thomas F. Marshall, aged 19.

WHITE.—Sept. 3, at Cardiff, as the result of an accident, John White, retired showman, aged 76.

IN MEMORIAM.

ELCOCK.—In ever-loving memory of our darling mother, who departed this life Sept. 9, 1908. Never forgotten by her loving daughters, Amy Elcock (Mrs. Fred Goss) and Florrie St. Roy (Mrs. Fred Laurel).

FORD (Thomas Waters).—In loving memory of my dear husband, who passed away Sept. 6, 1909. Interred in Dunfermline Cemetery. "Rest after toil."

FORD-THOMAS WATERS.—In affectionate memory of my dear father, who died Sept. 6, 1909.—Mourned by his loving daughter, MINNIE WATERSFORD CROSS.

KING.—In loving memory of my dear husband, James King, who departed this life Sept. 9, 1909, in his eighty-second year. Never forgotten by his sorrowing wife, JEMIMA KING.

TOWNSEND.—In ever-loving memory of my darling wife, Lucretia, who passed away Sept. 10, 1908.

"She is gone, but not forgotten,
Never will her memory fade.
Sweetest thoughts will ever linger
Around the spot where she is laid."

TOWNSEND.—In ever-loving memory of our darling mother, Mrs. Edward Townsend, who fell asleep Sept. 10, 1908. Never to be forgotten by her sorrowing daughters, Lucretia and Josephine. Sleep well, dear one.

FOR SYMPATHY.

LE BRETON.—Lillie Le Breton and mother wish to express their thanks through the columns of "The Era" to all those friends who sent kind messages of sympathy and floral offerings on the occasion of the death of her nineteen-year-old brother and son; and to Lamberte for kindness; also Victor's friends, Sister Johnne, Mr. and Mrs. George Barnard for beautiful cross, and all the beautiful wreaths sent by friends.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marie Studholme—Saturday, Sept. 10.
Winnie Donovan—Saturday, Sept. 10.
Bassett Roe—Saturday, Sept 10.
Lillia Le Main—Saturday, Sept. 10.
Vita Spencer—Sunday, Sept. 11.
Richard Ganthony—Sunday, Sept. 11.
Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer—Monday, Sept. 12.
Alfred Holles—Monday, Sept. 12.
Douglas Munro—Monday, Sept. 12.
Wallace Stranack—Tuesday, Sept. 13.
Jack Wayho—Wednesday, Sept. 14.
Edward Valentine—Wednesday, Sept. 14.
Eric H. Albury—Wednesday, Sept. 14.
Lily Langtry—Thursday, Sept. 15.
Charles Allan—Friday, Sept. 16.
Lucy Coventry—Friday, Sept. 16.

SHAKESPEARE'S AVERSIONS.

"It may be possible to get nearer to Shakespeare's life while showing how his personal experiences affected even his mature art," says Mr. Frank Harris in an admirable continuation of his series of articles in the *English Review*. "We know a good deal about the bitter quarrel between Ben Jonson on the one side and Dekker and Marston on the other; it seems probable that Shakespeare, when creating Ajax made the character life-like and recognisable by lending the stout Grecian some of Ben Jonson's peculiarities; and perhaps 'rank' Thersites shows Shakespeare's judgment of Dekker.

"Here is the portrait of Ajax put in the mouth of Alexander:

"'This man, lady, hath robbed many beasts of their particular additions; he is as valiant as the lion, churlish as the bear, slow as the elephant: a man into whom nature hath so crowded humours that his valour is crushed into folly, his folly sauced with discretion: there is no man hath a virtue that he hath not a glimpse of, nor any man an attaint but he carries some strain of it; he is melancholy without cause, and merry against the hair: he hath the joints of everything, but everything so out of joint that he is a gouty Briareus, many hands and no use; or purblind Argus, all eyes and no sight. . . .'

"This is too precise portraiture for an historical figure; it is evident that Shakespeare had some contemporary in mind when he thus individualised Ajax. I cannot but think he was glancing at Ben Jonson, his constant and not always fair critic, in this astonishingly realistic description. That 'gouty Briareus' is poisonously clever and the 'purblind Argus, all eyes and no sight' flicks the raw spot with consummate skill. It looks to me as if Shakespeare were paying off old scores in thus ridiculing his fellows; his caricature of Jonson is on the whole good-humoured and extremely effective, whereas his opinion of Dekker, though Dekker was supposed to be his partisan, is sharpened by contemptuous aversion. Nothing gives a better idea of Shakespeare's extraordinary insight than these disdainful glances at his contemporaries. They had not made life very pleasant to him, as we know; he retorts by showing the clumsiness and ineptitude which disfigured Jonson's strength and the foulness which prevented the gutter-mind of Dekker from rendering a fair reflection of earth and sky. But even here while giving play to keen eyes, he judges with imperial fairness: his friends fare worse at his hands than his enemies."

MR. LEON M. LION, who is a member of *The House of Temperley* company, and who is only in his thirty-second year, is engaged on a big national Welsh drama in which Owen Glendwyr and Iolo Goch will be the leading characters. "I have been for some time," says Mr. Lion, "interviewing Welsh experts on the period with which the Welsh drama in question deals. The history of Wales," he added, "teems with dramatic incidents. My difficulty is my wealth of material. At first I hardly knew what to select; but with the aid of friends in Wales I have been able to get to work on what I believe will be a national drama in a very real sense.

"WALES has as yet no such drama; and yet she is the land of poetry and of song—and of great actors and actresses. The piece is likely to be first produced in America, then in London, and afterwards in Wales. There have been and are distinguished Welsh novelists. Of all my work I am most in love with this effort to produce an essentially Welsh national drama of a period when the great forces that have made Wales a nation were shaping themselves. I want to show how the destinies of a great race were first directed into the channels from which have come the distinctive traits of a poetic and progressive people. This can be done in drama, and I mean to do it. I have been at work for some time in Wales, and the name of the drama, its exponents and place of production, will shortly be announced. It should bring Wales into line in drama with the other nations."

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6	One Year	£1	12
Six Months	0	13	Six Months	0	16
Three Months	0	6	Three Months	0	8

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

PISTOL.—*For arms and ammunition for the stage try Williamson's, Waterloo-road, near the bridge. He supplies the profession.*

L. A.—*(1) The Merry Widow ran at Daly's from June 8, 1907, to July 31, 1909. (2) We believe not.*

G. E. EVERED.—*There is no fixed rule that we know of. Each manager acts as he thinks best.*

WALTER JAMES.—*We know of no standard agreement. The amount of commission is regulated by the terms of the Arbitrator's Award issued in February, 1909.*

J. C. E.—*Mrs. Patrick Campbell played Militza in* For the Crown *on its production at the Lyceum in 1896. At its revival at the Scala in 1905 the part was sustained by Miss Gertrude Elliott.*

G. C. M.—*We do not recall the case alluded to. It is, however, a well-known rule of law that if an author sends by request to a manager or publisher his MS., which is lost through the negligence of the latter, then the author can recover damages.*

WM. SEELEY.—*The song is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. The chorus runs as follows:*

Playmates were we,
Little we thought it then
How we should change
When we should all be men.
How sweet boyhood's days,
Free from all care and pain.
Playmates, Playmates—
I wish we were young again.

THE monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon next.

MR. CHARLES S. KITTS and Miss Rhoda Windrum commence on Monday their ninth tour with Messrs. Moss and Stoll at the Empire, Hackney.

A SENSATIONAL aeroplane act is in course of preparation for December by Etherdo, Pugh, and Olrac, now touring with Sanger's Hippodrome.

MR. HARRY DANBY, who made one of the hits of *The Islander* at the Apollo in his own part of Seaman Jones, will produce a new sketch, entitled *Be a Pal*, at the Camden Hippodrome on Monday.

"RAYNE'S POCKET DATE BOOK." A new and enlarged edition. Price 1s. Send 13 stamps to the Publisher, *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

BENGER'S

FOR ACTORS, ACTRESSES, VOCALISTS AND ATHLETES.

When fatigued or overstrung, the first refreshment should be Benger's Food, because all exceptional physical effort and nervous strain causes a temporary lowering of the digestive capacity, just when Food is required as a pick-me-up.

It is unwise then to take ordinary food, and stimulants should be doubly avoided, Benger's Food is, however, just what is required to revive from fatigue, to give immediate nourishment, and to tone up the system in readiness for ordinary food.

Benger's is the lightest and daintiest of foods; it is also the most digestible and most highly nutritious.

It should be made with new milk strictly in accordance with the directions contained on each tin.

Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere.

365

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albas, the Great
Armstrong, Mr. W. J.
Ault, Miss Marie
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Baldwin, Mr. Lawrence
Barlow, Mr. Robert
Barry, Mr. Shiel
Battersby, Mr. Harry
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur
Baxter, Mr. Bob
Behrens, Mr. Nat
Bell, Mr. Gordon
Bellis, Mr. F. A.
Berkeley, Mr. F. J.
Bernac, Mr. Clifton
Birkett, Mr. Harold F.
Bosco, Mr. Irving
Bramley, Miss Bel
Bramley, Mr. J.
Branstone, Miss B.
Briff, Mr. Joseph
Brown, Miss Fanny
Brune, Miss L.
Burnette, Mr. T.
Calvert, Mr. Frank
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carlos
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chanti
Chard, Lieut.
Clark, Mr. E. H.
Clarke, Mrs. Leoni
Clyo, Mr. Leo.
Collier, Mr. Hal
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Cordell, Miss Daisy
Croke, Mrs. Wentworth
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Currie, Miss Lilly
Dalby, Mrs. Louisa
Dashwood, Mr.
Dauncey, Mr.
Davies, Mrs. Tilly
Deering, Miss Joan
De Santely, Mr. Bernard
Donaldson, Miss Alice
Donatos, The
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Dubois, Mr. Leon
Dunlops, The
Earle, Miss Victor
Eckersley, Mr. Dick
Edwards and Ward
Elliston, Mr. Harry
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Field, Miss Lila
Fields, Miss Fannie
Flemming, Mr. Claude
Frecker, Mr. C. D.
Freeman, Mr. Claude W.
Golden, Mr. Horace
Gordon, Miss Kitty
Goregund, Miss D.
Gregson, Miss E.
Grenville, Miss Helen
Grey, Miss Marion
Grossi, Mr. G.
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hales, Mr. Frank
Harris, Miss B.
Haywood, Miss Hettie
Hickish, Miss Anna
Hill, Miss Adria
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Hodges, Mr. Seymour
Holt, Mme. Blanche
Hope, Mr. Jones
Horac, Mr. S.
Howard, Mr. Geo.
Irving, Mr. K. Ernest
Jelliman, Miss A.
Jennings, Mr. Frank
Johnson, Miss Queenie
Jones, Mr. Gilbert V.
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Karr and Kooney
Kendal, Miss Marie
Kirk, Miss P.
Kirk, Mr. George
Landon, Mr. J.
Leonard, Mr. Arthur
Leslie Brothers.
Lewis, Miss Mabel
Lindo, Mr. Frank
Lorraine, Miss Nellie
Lupino, Mr. Barry
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Lytton, Mr. Edward
Mackinder, Mr. L.
Mark, Mr. John
Marshall, Mrs. C. R.
Martens, Mr. H.
Manning, Mr. W. J.
Maxwell, Mr.
Mayne, Miss Vera
Mazzoni, Mr. Fred
McEwan, Mr. Walter
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Menva, Mr. G.
Millais, Miss Ivy
Moillson, Mrs. W.
Moore, Miss Jessie
Morton, Mr. James J.
Nord, Miss Serene
Oakley, Miss Ada
Oliver, Mr. J. C.
Parker, Mr. Louis N.
Parry, Mr. Edward A.
Paul, Miss Mab
Payne, Mr. W.
Pedley, Mr. Dan
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Preston, Mr. John P.
Ra-Leslie, Miss Ethel
Restall, Mr. John
Richards, Miss Marion
Richardson, Mr. Harold
Richardson, Mr. Harry
Roberts, Mr. Francis
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Samosa, Prince
Santoi, Miss Marie
Saxony, The
Seeley, Mr. W. R.
Selby, Mr. Alf.
Seymour, Miss Maud
Shelley, Col. J.
Shields, Miss Ella
Shirley, Mr. Arthur
Shortland, Mr. K.
Shrapnel, Mr. L.
Simpson, Master R.
Sivado, Mr. C.
Somers, Mr. J. J.
Sowerby, Miss May
Steele, Mr. Ralph
Stephens, Mr. Billy
Stevens, Mr. R.
Stewart, Mr. H. H.
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Sullivan, Mr. A. M.
Taylor, Capt.
Thompson, Mr. Alec F.
Trevosper, Miss M.
Von Etta, Madam
Wamratta, Mr. W. J.
Ward, Mr. M. S. C.
Williams, Mr. Roland
Wyatt, Miss M.
Wynne, Miss Wish

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C. Under the present management since 1869. Office hours, 10 to 3. Interviews between 11 and 4. 'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London." All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated. Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London." C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT, English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond

BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

"THE ERA" IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.

Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban
Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, BURGLARY AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured Against by the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up £200,000.
Claims paid £5,700,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Barton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1235 Brixton.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act. ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the Natural method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearseller, London.")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIA ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE

Will Stop Immediately an Attack of
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.

Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.

To avoid disappointment, insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.
The Original and Only Genuine.
IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM
OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

TRADE MARK No. 214238.
Velvet Grip
REGD. TRADE MARK No. 204904.
Stocking Supporters

The only "GRIP" that "GRIPS" SECURELY without injury to the HOSE

			Single ends	Double ends
ALL THESE HAVE CLIP TOPS.	1¼in. wide,	Plain Cotton Elastic	No. 401 1/-	No. 601 1/-
	1¼in. ,,	Plain Silk ,,	No. 405 1/6	No. 332 2/-
	1¼in. ,,	Frilled Art Silk ,,	No. 607 1/-	No. 606 1/6
	1¼in. ,,	Frilled Best Silk ,,	No. 68 1/6	No. 40 2/6

By Post 1d. per pair extra.
If unable to obtain from your draper, write to—
The MANUFACTORY, Hackney Road Works, London, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
LAST NIGHTS (Final Performance Sept. 23).
Every Evening, at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
LAST 2 MATS., WED. NEXT and Sept. 21, 2.30.
Sept. 27, New Play, "D'ARCY OF THE GUARDS."

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Return of LILY ELSIE as Alice.
Box-office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every evening at 8.30
Charles Frohman presents
IRENE VANBRUGH in
"A BOLT FROM THE BLUE,"
by
Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis.
Adapted by Cosmo Hamilton.
Matinée every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"OLD HEIDELBURG."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Sept. 12,
"THE WHIP."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES
Sept. 12, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. CHARLES WOOD. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. ERNEST ARCHER.
Sept. 12, Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's Co., in "TANTALISING TOMMY."
(By arrangement with Cyril Maude.)
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
"POMPEII."
Last Week of "Pompeii," 8.30 Nightly. Last Week
"Pompeii," 8.30 Nightly,
By Messrs. J. Pain and Son.
Saturday next, Last Performance of "Pompeii."
Vaudevilles, Archipelago, Organ, Bands, Gardens, &c.
Return Rail and Admission, 1s. 6d. from all stations.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W. DAILY, at 3 and 8.
New Holiday Programme.
"Psycho," Mr. Maskelyne's famous automaton. "The Scarab," New Magical Farce; Mr. Archie Naish, Humour at the Piano; Memora, the Human Encyclopædia; Mr. Owen Clark, with Novel Magical Problems, &c. Seats, 1s. to 5s.
'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—MARK SHERIDAN (9.30), Venie Clements (8.10), Bransby Williams (10), Rich and Rich, Joe Elvin (8.40), Millie Payne, Billy Merson (9.30), Chas. Austin as "Parker, P.C." (10.45), Archie Royer, Jack and Evelyn (10.20), The Fitzroys, Gus Elen (8.20), The Crisps, Boganny's Lunatic Bakers, Ruth Lytton, Lily Black, Fred Laud, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Open 7.15. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

TIVOLI.—
HARRY LAUDER, Mark Sheridan, The Two Bobs, Geo. Lestocq and Co., Footgers, George Nagel and Co., Billy Merson, Maddison and Webb, Jennie Hartley, Josie Delaine, Arcadia, Spalding and Riego, Mildred Bryan, H. La Martine. Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Mark Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Dolly Elsworthy and Co., in "Right's Right," Ivan Ischernoff's Circus, The Three Drummonds, Cissie Lupino, Walter Munroe, Josie Mooney, Jack Marks, Mlle. Yetta, Ruffell's Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Charles Austin and Co., in "Parker's Progress," Phœbe Mercer and Co., "Mistakes Will Happen," Harry Bancroft, Hanid Alexander, Harry Thurston, Aimee Roberts, Ethel Campbell, Ruffell's Bioscope, Dufor Trio, and Boganny's Lunatic Bakers.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Daisy Jerome, Adam Tomlinson, Millie Doris, Parks and Price, Willie Benn and Freddie French's Co., in "The King of Sleepland," Rose and Challoner, Daisy Mayer, Bioscope, Lee and Kingston, Winnie Barr, Jolly Jimmy Walker, Three Langfords, Billy Rex. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly 6.10 and 9.
Sept. 12, 1910.—Fred Eustace and Co., "The Family Name," Edw. Cranston and Co., "Jaws of Death," Mrs. Will Pettitt, Garti and Law, Little Ganty, McKie and McKay, Everard Denton, Rose Devella and Mabel Woods, Brothers Durant, James Lawrence, Bioscope, Kitty Colyer, and others.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. DICKIE.—One House Nightly. (Half-time 9.30, except Saturdays and Holidays.)
Monday, Sept. 12.—John Lawson and Co. in "The Open Door," Rich and Rich, Three Flying Winskells, Dan Whitley, Clare Histob's Co., May B. Brilliant, Nat Watkins, Victoria Glen, Two Astralis, Ethel Pierce, Geo. Gordon, Gertie Leslie, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock). Commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15, with augmented programme). Tele., Westminster 503. Assistant-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
CARMEN TURIA, TERRY and LAMBERT, Jack 'Ark, Emma and Victor, Miss Coombs, Fuji Japanese Troupe, OLYMPIA DESVALL Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
Geo. Mozart, Sybil Arundale,
The Perezoffs, Asra, Smite and Smote, Russian Divertissement, "Moscow," The Leger on the Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Margaret Cooper, Nat M. Wills, Mary Grey, Kaufmann Troupe, Six American Dancers, Les Trombetta, De Serris Bas-Reliefs, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and J. F. KARAKA. District Manager, F. MITCHELL.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN. District Manager, J. BURY.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. STEPHEN. Joint Lessees, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, ROY H. SMITH.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
THE MANAGER,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

CAPE TOWN.—Correspondent required to Supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

JOHANNESBURG.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall News. Apply DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

MONTREAL.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

TORONTO.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Variety News. Apply, DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
VARIETY SEASON TWICE NIGHTLY.
Autumn Dramatic Season commences Sept. 19.
Address, MR. CLARENCE SOUNES, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1200 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Owner and Manager, Mr. CHARLES REVILL. Vacant Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 13, and 20. First-class Attractions only. Address, CHARLES REVILL, THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
EDMUND W. BIRCH,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
Acting-Manager, PERCY HARROP.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End company only wanted for the following date, Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
No Vacant Dates this Year.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply, R. J. BELL, Manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, JAMES BELL.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
MANAGER.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON, N.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Edmonton Empire. Apply, DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Finsbury Park Empire. Apply DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
Can entertain a big Panto. Feb. 6 or Feb. 20, 27.
Address, ERNEST BOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. DORRILL,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Vacant dates,
Nov. 14, March 27, April 10, 24,
and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE. ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. GARSIDE.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, PERCY HUTCHISON.
Possibly Vacant
Dec. 5.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. CHARLES REVILL.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant Jan. 16, Feb. 13, March 13.
First-class Attractions only.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
Visited by all the best Companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1911.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width, 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. BULL (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK. Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Director, Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., CHARLES MORLEY, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law," ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H. ....Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles ....Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark ....Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold ....Nov. 6, 1909
Austin, Late Miss Amber ....Aug. 13, 1910
Austin and Cowan ....Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward ....June 11, 1910

Barbour, Late Mr. William ....Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas ....Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester ....Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice ....July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie ....Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth ....Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart ....Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert ....Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy ....March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred ....Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward ....Aug. 20, 1910
Box, Mr. Ted E. ....Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin ....Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W. ....April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B. ....Aug. 27, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel ....Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H. ....Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles ....Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank ....June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert ....Nov. 20, 1909

Calvert, Mr. Cayley ....Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest ....Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W. ....March 6, 1910
Carr, Mr. James ....March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters ....Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton ....Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick ....July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W. ....July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian ....June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy ....Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly ....Jan 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert ....Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester ....March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie ....May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur ....Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola ....June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita ....April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise ....Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes ....July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B. ....Jan. 8, 1910

Dagmar, Miss Alexandra ....July 30, 1910
Darien Mr. Philip ....Feb. 5, 1910
Davies Late Mr. Chas. J. ....Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice ....June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W. ....March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie ....Feb. 12, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel ....Sept. 3, 1910

Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd ....Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian ....Aug. 20, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter ....June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry ....June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers ....Sept. 3, 1910
Evans, late Mr. Evans ....Nov. 6, 1909

Feldman, Mr. Bert ....Aug. 20, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable ....Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward ....March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary ....July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys ....Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert ....May 7, 1910

Gibbons, Mr. Walter ....Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch. ....Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy ....June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. C. ....Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom ....Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Wilmer ....Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R. ....May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri ....July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R. ....July 16, 1910

Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt ....Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H. ....April 23, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb ....Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J. ....March 5, 1910
Heath Late Mr. Frank ....Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D. ....April 23, 1910
Hill Mr. Rowland ....May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie ....June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie ....Sept. 3, 1910

Jesson, Mr. C. ....June 4, 1910

Kenyon, Mr. Neil ....Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S. ....Feb. 12, 1910

Leon, late Mr. Frank ....Nov. 6, 1909
Leslie, Mr. George ....Sept. 3, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie ....July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius ....Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude ....July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom ....May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William ....Nov. 27, 1909
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S. ....Aug. 20, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J. ....April 2, 1910

Mackay, Miss Ida ....Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B. ....Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel ....April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy ....April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen ....July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie ....Aug. 27, 1910
Montague, Little Constance ....April 30, 1910
Morgan, Miss Dorma ....Dec. 26, 1909
Morgan, Miss Mabelle ....Oct. 30, 1909

Neville, Late Mr. Henry ....June 25, 1910
Newall, late Mr. Richard ....Oct. 30, 1909
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael ....Jan. 15, 1910

Parker, Mr. Frank ....July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W. ....April 16, 1910
Penso, Mr. R. ....Nov. 27, 1909
Perrette, Mr. W. H. ....Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S. ....July 2, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette ....Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar ....March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William ....April 23, 1910

Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. ....Dec. 18, 1909
Reade, Mr. Randolfe ....Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace ....Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus ....June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C. ....Jan. 1, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy ....June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy ....Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry ....July 16, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall ....Aug. 20, 1910
Russon, Mr. Harry ....March 5, 1910

Salambos, The ....Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic ....Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera ....July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr ....April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake ....May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett ....Aug. 27, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa ....Feb. 5, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney ....April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert ....July 2, 1910
Simms, Rosa and Kitty ....Nov. 20, 1909
Smith, Late Mr. Vere ....Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C. ....Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A. ....July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles ....Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert ....May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace ....June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred ....March 26, 1910
Stuart, Miss Eva ....Dec. 25, 1909
Stuart, Mr. Dudley ....April 2, 1910
Studt, Mr. Henry ....Oct. 2, 1909
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry ....Jan. 8, 1910

Taylor, Late Mr. Henry ....May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge ....July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie ....March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L. ....April 30, 1910

Vernon, Mr. Percy H. ....July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann ....June 18, 1910
Victor, Mr. Frederick ....Dec. 18, 1909
Vine, Miss Lily ....March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon ....Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice ....Aug. 20, 1910

Wakeford, Miss Marion ....Feb. 26, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S. ....Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E. ....Jan. 8, 1910
Warren, Mr. Charles ....Oct. 30, 1909
Weaver, Mr. Wyn ....May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred ....Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny ....Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur ....July 2, 1910
White, Mr. Will ....Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend ....Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur ....Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember ....June 18, 1910
Wynne, Mr. Edwin H. ....Feb. 12, 1910

Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne ....July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1910.

THE HALL CAINE CONTROVERSY.

After an important production by Mr. HALL CAINE we usually notice certain phenomena. Mr. CAINE is an expert playwright whose aims, as he describes them, are ethical; that is to say, he attempts in his plays to solve, or at all events state, certain vital problems of life. To the ordinary playgoer, however, Mr. CAINE'S work appeals more by the variety of its story and the melodramatic vigour of its situations than by any elaborate demonstration of truth or theory. It would, perhaps, be well if he were satisfied with his success, and "left it at that." But Mr. CAINE is such an ardent controversialist that he cannot resist the temptation of arguing with his opponents; and in his recent contribution to the *Daily Telegraph*, entitled "A New Actress," we have the curious spectacle of a dramatist writing to traverse the verdicts of his critics.

Mr. CAINE seems to have a very great contempt for these verdicts. Even when dramatic criticism is "reasonable," he complains that he has to "translate the abstract ideas of writers who have no practical knowledge of the stage into the concrete forms in which they may be useful to the drama." Criticism, therefore, according to Mr. CAINE, may be reasonable but unpractical, or unreasonable, personal, and designedly offensive. It is never satisfactory.

It may be said that Mr. CAINE has the best answer to his critics in the success of his plays. But this is not exactly the case. The critics are distinctly invited by Mr. CAINE to judge his work on a high plane. Many of them do so, and consequently condemn the play. They complain that in no case does Mr. CAINE go below the surface of the questions he handles, and that instead of using a problem as the basis of his plot he introduces it as a kind of accessory.

The theatre has suffered for years from the influence of the brilliant essayists who started out many years since to "reform" the stage in the early PINERO period, and have on the whole injured its popularity. For the theatre, in England, cannot be "elevated." Some of the more glaring theatrical conventions and absurdities may be removed, but the English stage will remain what it always has been—a popular form of amusement and recreation. The only result of what we may call "unsophisticating" the playgoing public is to make a certain ever-increasing section of them rather more exacting and fastidious. The serious, the intellectual, and literary classes in England read essays on the theatre—they do not support the drama financially at the box-office.

Present-day criticism is, as a rule, too clever to be useful or effective. In the very curious dialogue-preface of a novel called "The Price of Freedom," by DEANE BALLYNN, just published by the WALTER SCOTT Company, a list is given of the objections of the different critics to little inconsistencies and minor theatrical ingenuities in Sir ARTHUR PINERO'S *House in Order*. All this is the result of placing the drama, for purposes of criticism, on too high a plane, of expecting too much from a theatrical entertainment. The practical critic—and only the practical critic is of any benefit to the theatre—has to be "a little blind" to faults of detail and tricks of convention in a play, and "very kind" to its virtues of theatrical effectiveness and power of pleasing the public. The critic must be the friend, not the opponent, of the author. Almost every book or essay which is written about the English drama nowadays is an attack on it. Playwrights are urged to be realistic, to found their plays on some great problem of life, to emulate the achievements of the new school of Parisian dramatists—in short, to do everything they ought not to do if the drama in England is to be prosperous and popular. Many of our critics are hopelessly out of touch with the British public, whom they treat with open scorn and contumely in their articles. Fortunately, in most cases, the strength of mind of our actor-managers prevents them from paying attention to these evil counsellors; and possibly, also, the rarity of the advanced playwright capable of writing a technically satisfactory play may assist the abstention.

Incidentally we may remark on the strange side-shoot of the HALL CAINE essay in connection with Mr. CAINE'S allusion to the late Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT. Mr. CAINE in his article said:

> I have asked and obtained the permission of the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph* to deal with what I consider a still more glaring instance of deficient appreciation—that of Miss Tittell-Brune. I venture the opinion that if Clement Scott (who was in more than one respect the best dramatic critic, English or foreign, of the past half-century) had been present at the Garrick Theatre on Saturday night, Miss Brune would be by this time the most talked-of woman on the English stage, for he would have seen and said, with the courage and emphasis that never failed him, that not since the days of Adelaide Neilson, nearly forty years ago, had any such remarkable talent revealed itself on the boards as was shown by this young Californian lady, who has hitherto been known as an Australian actress.

These remarks, which seem to us to have been meant to be highly complimentary to the deceased critic, were resented by his widow in a letter, in which she said:

> "This statement is not only a distinct violation of good taste, for it creates a purely fictitious impression about an actress as emanating from a dead man of whom Mr. Caine knew personally very little; but, moreover, it is calculated to produce a gross misconception, in that it distinctly points to an inferior quality of judgment as existing in his living confrères—an allegation that Clement Scott could never have made under any circumstances, for he thought too highly of his fellow-journalists, and was too loyal to his profession ever to have insulted it."

There are certainly two ways of looking at Mr. HALL CAINE'S statement. It may be taken as lauding the late CLEMENT SCOTT for his keen appreciation of talent and impulsive, eloquent way of expressing it; or it may be considered as implying that he had a lower standard than those of the critics who did not praise Miss TITTELL-BRUNE as warmly as Mr. CAINE considered they ought to have done. Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT certainly used to "let himself go" freely when he thought he had discovered a rising genius; but it is impossible to say what his opinion would have been in this case. Mr. CAINE was perhaps expecting too much. The sort of notices he hoped for would, it seems, have resembled that which he has written in the *Telegraph* on his "leading lady." It is, indeed, "appreciative."

THE SHOP HOURS BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Bloom's letter in your last issue, I may say I read same with considerable interest, having studied a copy of the proposed Bill carefully some weeks ago. On placing the matter before my confrères, manufacturers and merchants whose living depends entirely upon the freedom of trading of auctioneers in general, I found that not one of them ever took the matter seriously and that they were ignorant of the effect on their business of the above Bill in its present form becoming law. As Mr. Bloom states, it would mean the closing down of the whole trade, and throwing out of work hundreds of people interested, directly and indirectly, in the manufacturing of the various articles we sell. I am pleased to see you are willing to help us, and I would suggest a petition being got up by yourselves to present to the gentlemen responsible for the introduction of the Bill. I hardly think the promoters have taken into consideration the annual loss that will be incurred to the Government through loss of revenue from licences (auctioneer's, £10, hawker's, £2, hawker's plate, £2 6s.). Some auctioneers employ as many as half a dozen assistant salesmen. It would mean thousands of pounds each year. It is revenue that is wanted, so why attempt to close such a lucrative source? The argument they will bring forward is that "auctioneers will have an equal chance along with other traders"; but this is not so. Our trade is solely among the working classes, and in consequence thereof our business does not commence until 7.30 or 8 p.m. each evening. All we ask for is a clause to be inserted in the Bill exempting auctioneers the same as other trades enumerated in the second schedule of the Act.

The matter is most urgent, and not a moment should be lost before something is done, as I understand the Bill is down for second reading on the opening day of Parliament, and it is the Right Hon. Mr. Churchill's intention to have the Royal assent to the Bill by Christmas. I feel sure that if everybody interested in the matter will lend you a helping hand to do his level best to obtain signatures (of which there will be thousands) to the petition, the promoters of the Bill will see how unjust and unfair it will be to travelling auctioneers, not forgetting those whose businesses are permanent, as the Bill forbids all sales by auction except in a private dwelling house.

If you are successful in helping us to retain our freedom of trading you will earn from the whole members of the business their life-long gratitude.—Yours faithfully, WM. TAYLOR.

MISS MARION TERRY as Sister Anne in the play of that name at the Coronet Theatre in the first act wears a very graceful gown in a very soft and restful shade of pale grey. The gown is composed of an overdress of pale grey transparent chiffon over an under-dress of soft oyster-grey satin. The over-dress clips the figure closely at the waist, and is fastened in front with an ornamental clasp, and then opens out to display the satin skirt. The bodice is of the chiffon, with wide bands of the satin arranged in a V-point both at the back and front, and edged in their turn with a narrow border of rose-coloured satin. Satin of the same tint forms the chemisette, but is veiled by cream lace. A long stole end of the grey satin falls from the waist to the hem of the skirt at the back, and this again is lined with pink. The grey chip hat worn with this confection is trimmed with a mass of pink roses.

IN the same style is another of Miss Terry's gowns, composed of an over-dress of black net over an under-dress of rich blue satin. Great richness is given to this gown by the heavy gold embroidery in a butterfly design on the front of the bodice, and the over-dress is held together at the waist by rich gold ornaments. Both dresses illustrate the present fancy for a loose over-sleeve reaching to the elbow, and a close-fitting under-sleeve to the wrist.

VERY handsome is Miss Terry's third gown in soft mole-coloured cloth, with a bodice of pleated chiffon in the same shade, enriched by heavy bands of mole-coloured velvet. A cloak to match is worn with this gown, and a handsome black toque. Miss Terry's gowns are by Reville and Rossiter.

"HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN."

Irish Comedy Drama, in Three Acts, by G. Brian Daly, Produced for the First Time at the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, on Monday, Sept. 5.

Bryan O'Lyn ..... MR. JOHN CHILD
Donald Dunn ..... MR. WALTER B. NUGENT
Isaac Murch ..... MR. J. G. MCMAHON
Frank Fentiman ..... MR. REGINALD ADAIR
Dennis O'Lyn ..... MR. S. LANSDALE
Shaun Dermot ..... MR. F. B. WALTERS
Amos Pringle ..... MR. BRIAN DALY
Michael Mulcahy ..... MR. FRED WILLIAMS
Jemima ..... MISS HETTIE GRAHAM
Aunt Charlotte ..... MME. MARIE ALEXANDER
Mollie Murch ..... MISS JOSEPHINE ELLIS
Kathleen O'Lyn ..... MISS ANNA HICKISCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Exciting situations galore abound in Mr. Brian Daly's well-written play, and the Irish humour is so good and so naturally introduced that success is sure to attend it. The introduction of many popular numbers contributes in no small measure to the excellent results achieved. The period of the play is 1820, and the opening scene shows the bar parlour of the Harp of Old Eire, near Sligo, the landlord and Donald Dunn, a secret service agent, playing cards and drinking. There enters Isaac Murch, with Aunt Charlotte and Kathleen O'Lyn, who have been snowed up on their journey from Kerry to Sligo. They have decided to remain at the inn. Donald, it appears, is the illegitimate son of Dennis O'Lyn, and has sworn vengeance against him for discarding his mother and disowning him. Isaac discovers that Donald is his cousin, their mothers having been sisters, and reveals the fact that Charlotte and Kathleen are travelling with the hope of tracing Bryan, the nephew and heir-at-law of old Dennis. The uncle has decided to divide his fortune between Bryan and Kathleen, who are cousins. The landlord confirms a story of Bryan having been washed off a fishing boat and drowned a year before, and this proves to be Donald's opportunity. He decides to impersonate the supposed dead man, and partially makes an impression on the ladies. The appearance of Bryan, who is known as Happy Hooley, is the cause of much unrest. He is fitted up for the night, and the delightful trio from *Martha*, "Good Night," is effectively rendered. Shaun Dermot, an inventor of explosives, appears on the scene, and demands food and drink. Bryan makes known that he has saved the mail bags from the storm, the mail carrier having been overcome, and during his absence Donald and Isaac extract a letter from the bag addressed to Bryan. He recovers possession of the letter, and immediately retires for the night. Disturbed in his sleep by the marauders, Bryan finds another sleeping place, and Shaun, taking his place on the couch, falls a victim to Donald's baseness and is murdered. Bryan is an eye-witness of the crime, and also watches the villain set in motion an explosive machine. Donald escapes by way of the window, whilst immediately after Bryan flings the machine through the window. The inn is, however, burned down, but the party escape.

In act two Donald is endeavouring to secure the hand of Kathleen, who, however, declares her allegiance to Frank Fentiman, of the Military Constabulary, who arrives at the opportune time to spoil the undesirable attentions being paid by the adventurer. Donald and Isaac plan the destruction of Dennis O'Lyn, who is being driven to Kerry for a final settlement of his affairs. Isaac, who drives the coach, agrees for a sum of 5,000 guineas to cause the horses to take fright, and during the storm they plunge over a quarry and all is commotion. Frank Fentiman appears, and an indirect charge is made against Donald of being associated with the strange affair at the Harp of Eire Inn eighteen months before. The charge, however, is not sustained.

The last act witnesses Donald trying to make a bargain with Kathleen as to the disposing of the property, offering her the homestead if she will consent to be his wife, but she point blank refuses. Isaac, wild with drink, abuses Kathleen, but meets with a warm time at the hands of Frank. The play proceeds on the usual conventional lines, and at the close Donald, after paying Isaac his "blood money," arouses his anger to such an extent that Murch attempts to murder Frank. The latter is knocked insensible, but Dunn rushes forward and stabs his assailant, who falls dead. Dunn accuses Frank of the murder, but the watchdog Bryan has been an eye-witness of the affair, and proves Frank's innocence and establishes his own identity.

The play abounds in delightful Irish airs, and the beautiful vocalisation of Mr. John Child, who made a fine, rollicking Bryan, was a feature of the first night. His rendering of "It is a charming girl" ("Killarney"), "Can't you see I'm lonely," and "Let others sing the praise of wine" were in keeping with his reputation. Mr. Child and Mr. Adair were heard to advantage in "The moon hath raised her lamp above." Mr. Adair made a manly Frank Fentiman, and scored well in the song "A soldier's life" and in the duet with Miss Hickisch, "Without you." Mme. Marie Alexander represented the portly Aunt Charlotte capitally, and sang delightfully "Come back to Erin" and "To the end of the world with you." Miss Anna Hickisch was a charming Kathleen, and her rich soprano voice was agreeably exercised in "By the garden gate" and "The last rose of summer." Miss Josephine Ellis, with a song, "The Green, Green Ribbon," and dance earned applause, and the laughing song of Miss Hettie Graham was much enjoyed. Mr. Walter Nugent imparted plenty of dramatic force into the part of Donald Dunn, and a clever sketch of Isaac Murch was supplied by Mr. J. G. McMahon. Mr. F. B. Walters scored as Shaun Dermot. The staging was very effective, and the overture and incidental music, composed and arranged by Mr. H. E. J. Nation, were delightful.

THE Millionaires' Theatre, New York, will endeavour to change the standard of dramatic taste of the working man by giving a series of plays during the coming season at prices ranging from 2s. to 5d. The plays are to be performed by the theatre's regular stock company, which includes some of the most famous actors and actresses in the United States. No tickets are to be sold at the box-office, but they will be distributed through university settlements and similar organisations, so that they will get into the hands of the working classes.

THE first play to be staged will be Maeterlinck's *Blue Bird*, which will be produced on Oct. 3. This will be followed by Shakespearean drama on Dec. 24. Other plays not yet selected will be produced in February and March. If the experiment proves successful it may result in an annexe to the new theatre being constructed in one of New York's working-men's districts, subsidised by millionaires, for the permanent presentation of the highest drama by the best actors, at cheap prices.

THE total takings of Parisian theatres for 1909 reached the highest amount on record, namely, over £2,056,000, or more than sixteen times the total of 1850. Authors' net royalties increased, of course, proportionately, being always in France, owing to the contracts signed with all theatres by the Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers, calculated on a minimum basis of 10 per cent. of the gross takings. Last year authors' royalties on plays in Paris reached £240,000. Seven or eight dramatists pocketed from £4,000 to £6,000 each in the twelvemonth, twenty-five from £2,000 to £4,000, twenty-five from £1,000 to £2,000, twenty-five from £400 to £800, and all the rest from £20 to £200. Thus about fifty-eight authors make over £1,000 a year in France.

"THE QUEEN OF THE FAIR."

Comic Opera, in Two Acts, Libretto and Lyrics by R. C. Tharp, Music by Basil Horsfall, Produced at the Empire, Swindon, on Monday, Sept 5.

'Enery ..... MR. ARTHUR REYNOLDS
Burgomaster of Rumpeldorf ..... MR. GEORGE CARROLL
Pierre ..... MR. CLAUDE CASEY
Herr Funf ..... MR. JAMES BOIS
Karl ..... MR. ALBERT CHAPMAN
Freda ..... MISS AUDREY ESMONDE
Rosalie ..... MISS CARLOTTA SILVANO
Ermyntrude Higgins ..... MISS JANET REEVE
Jemima Jellicoe ..... MISS KATE NORTH
Queen of the Dance ..... MISS ROSA MAIR
Elsa ..... SENORA MERCEDES DALMADA

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The plot of the libretto of *The Queen of the Fair* is rather light, but there is plenty of fun in it, and the music is very agreeable. The leading character, the Burgomaster, a diminutive person with colossal self-conceit, is a droll figure; and another clever character sketch is that of 'Enery, a London 'bus driver. The opera was prettily dressed and mounted, and had an enthusiastic reception at its production at the Empire, Swindon, on Monday.

The Burgomaster of Rumpeldorf has banished from the village all the young unmarried men, to the despair of the village maidens—and it is only two days before the Midnight Fair. When the hour of twelve strikes, each "eligible" must rush forward, seize his fair charmer, and they are engaged to be married within the year. But salvation comes, in the form of a regiment of Hussars manœuvring near the village. The Burgomaster is adamant; he refuses to let his daughter take part in the revels. But while 'Enery, a London 'bus driver, who is vegetating at Rumpeldorf, uses the Burgomaster to free himself from the too amorous Jemima Jellicoe, a gallant Captain of Hussars, named Karl, carries off the Burgomaster's fair daughter Elsa. The Burgomaster is left with Jemima, and 'Enery with Ermyntrude. So the Burgomaster has to abandon his objection, and the curtain falls on his consent and his blessing.

Señora Mercedes Dalmada made a capital Elsa, Queen of the Fair. She has a capital voice, and rendered several fine solos in excellent style. Señora Dalmada was heard to great advantage in the duet, "Promises," in the first act, and her "Song of love" was an especially agreeable item, with a pretty chorus. Mr. Arthur Reynolds was a great success as 'Enery; he acted with an easy spontaneity and great effect. Mr. George Carroll was very droll as the Burgomaster, and a topical trio, rendered in good style by him, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, and Mr. James Bois (as the village policeman, Herr Funf), was twice encored. Miss Carlotta Silvano's bright interpretation of Rosalie earned for her golden opinions, and her duets with Pierre (Mr. Claude Casey) were very well rendered. She scored a success in "Gay Paree." Mr. Albert Chapman, as Captain Karl, used a good voice skilfully, and won warm applause in a patriotic piece, "The roll of the drum." Miss Janet Reeve ably represented Ermytrude Higgins, and Miss Kate North was good as Jemima Jellicoe. Miss Rosa Maie, as the "Queen of the Dance," did a couple of *pas seul* cleverly, and an augmented orchestra, under the conductorship of the composer, Mr. Basil Horsfall, did full justice to the score.

At the close of the play there were loud calls of "Author" and "Speech," and Mr. Alfred Manners appeared on the stage, accompanied by his Worship the Mayor (Ald. W. H. Lawson), Col. T. C. P. Calley, C.B., M.V.O., M.P., and the composer, Mr. Basil Horsfall, the whole company remaining on the stage.

Mr. Manners said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—May I, on behalf of Mr. Horsfall and the author and myself, thank you most sincerely for the very flattering way in which you have received this new play. I thank you, Mr. Mayor, and also Col. Calley, Capt. Wright, and numerous other ladies and gentlemen for the hearty manner in which you have supported me on this auspicious occasion. We have all seen produced to-night one of the finest of comic operas. It has entailed a great expense, but I feel sure the public will support us most readily."

The Mayor said: "I am sure we are all delighted to be here to witness the first performance of this comic opera. When we bear in mind the enormous amount of work entailed in a production of this kind, and the many difficulties to overcome, it is simply amazing that everything has run so smoothly. To us it has been presented to-night as though the play had been running for some considerable time. I do certainly congratulate the company upon their excellent first-night performance. I feel sure you were all pleased with the extremely pretty music, and the whole production has given us entire satisfaction. I can only express our hope that it will be a financial success. At any rate we are all proud that Swindon has been the birthplace of such a pretty comic opera, and hope that it will, like *Charley's Aunt*, run for ever. We have had to-night an excellent orchestra, conducted by one whose whole soul has been in the work. In your name, ladies and gentlemen, I thank the author and composer and Mr. Manners."

Colonel Calley, who was greeted with ringing cheers and the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," said: "I thank you all, ladies and gentlemen, for the way you have received me on the stage to-night, on this my first appearance in comic opera. My friend Mr. Manners has asked me to say a few words, not so much to you as on your behalf. I am not a dramatic critic, but I know something about plays and critics. There is only one real criticism worth having, and that is the criticism of a critical audience—and we have that in Swindon. We have here good plays, and we know what we are talking about. We have witnessed here to-night a good play, and heard some really good music, something bright and pleasing, something to take away with us, something we shall remember. This new play has been well performed, and the music well rendered. The company have done their level best. I am saying what you all feel when I say that this new play deserves success, and that it will be a success. That is the hope of a Swindon first-night audience. I do hope that when it is a success, the author, the composer, and those who are taking part in this new play will always have a tender feeling towards their Swindon first-night audience. We hope this new piece will have a long run, and that when the time comes for it to, like all mundane things, pass away, it will die regretted, and leave a rich legacy to everybody concerned with it."

Mr. Basil Horsfall, who was received with cheers and the "Jolly good fellow" chorus, added a few words: "All I can say, on behalf of the author and myself, and Mr. Manners, is to thank you most sincerely for your verdict on our little effort to-night."

The National Anthem was then sung, the curtain rung down, and the audience dispersed.

ACCORDING to the latest reports, I regret to say the condition of the famous actor Josef Kainz is very critical. Herr Kainz was compelled to undergo a very dangerous operation, which was said to have passed off satisfactorily; he had left the private hospital and was already thinking of reappearing on the stage, both the Imperial Burg at Vienna and the Royal Schauspielhaus awaiting the result anxiously. The old trouble, it is stated, has now begun all over again, and another operation is inevitable.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER ARZT WIDER WILLEN."

Opera Buffo, in Three Acts, by Gounod.

Geronte ..... HERR MANTLER
Lucinde ..... FRAULEIN BACHRICH
Leander ..... HERR BLOCH
Sganarelle ..... HERR ZADOR
Martine ..... FRAULEIN SEEBOLD
Robert ..... HERR WAGNER
Valere ..... HERR WISSIAK
Lucas ..... HERR KREUDER
Jacqueline ..... FRAULEIN EHRLICH
Hirtin ..... FRAULEIN HEIDE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Sept. 8.—It was a very happy idea of Herr Gregor to revive this merry work of the French composer. Many a long year has passed since it has been seen and heard in Berlin, and it came as a novelty to the entire audience. The reception was so hearty that a lengthy run may certainly be predicted, and probably the work will be more successful than it was when first produced in its native city. The cast was excellent, foremost being Herr Mantler, in the rôle of the "doctor in spite of himself." His fine voice and clever acting were each exhibited to the best possible opportunity, and his humour, while broad enough for the requirements of the burlesque, was always refined. Each of the characters, however, was splendidly given, and the conductor of the evening was Herr Reznicek, always a guarantee for a good performance. Herr Moris had mounted the work in his customary tasteful and appropriate style, so that altogether there was little left to be desired.

FRAULEIN HANSI NIESE commenced her season on Thursday last at the Berliner Theater, meeting with a welcome from the crowded audience, which must have done her heart good. The clever Viennese artist is exceedingly versatile, and whether she plays comedy or tragedy, sings or dances, it is always a pleasure to see and hear her. Fräulein Niese has brought with her this time a novelty for Berlin—the vaudeville operetta, *Das Musikantenmädel*, by the Austrians Jarno and Buchbinder, that has enjoyed a long run at Vienna already. The libretto is not very clear, but the music is bright and melodious, and the cast was capital. One of the most appreciated figures on the stage was that of a real donkey—a dear little animal—who behaved himself in most exemplary manner, and was altogether as pretty as a picture.

THE Hebbel Theatre during its struggle for existence, which has been a desperate one, has had to suffer a good deal from the hands of the Press on account of its classical name. Did the management attempt to better the situation by producing a flimsy, up-to-date comedy, it was at once reminded in none too tactful manner of the responsibilities of living up to the name of Hebbel. The new manager has determined to put an end to this, and has changed the name of his theatre to that of "Modernes Theater," under which he will be able to produce whatever piece takes his fancy. The opening performance, under the new auspices, was given last night, with a three-act comedy by André Picard, entitled *Die Wespe*, done into very good German by Dr. Lothar. It was a distinct success, and augurs well for the future. The plot being probably known to your readers, a few words only will be necessary. The "wasp" of the title is Therèse Duvigneau, a woman who is thus termed behind her back by her acquaintance, on account of the sharp sting she is supposed to possess. In reality, however, Therèse is a woman of high ideals, virtuous, and resigned to the hard fate which has pursued her all her days. She has been misunderstood by all, and even she herself has not been always clear about her feelings; she thought she hated a man when, in reality, she loved him, and after his own feelings have undergone a similar process, life still holds some sweetness for the maligned Therèse. The interpretation was good all round, and the mounting excellent.

THE Literary Association gave a performance last week at the Lessing Theatre, of Heinrich von Kleist's early tragedy *Penthesilea*. It was not a success, which was considered by many of our critics to be due to the adaptation—or, as some called it, mutilation of the unfortunate genius's work. The whole was exceedingly drawn out to the verge of wearisomeness, and, despite the painstaking acting, there was little or no applause. It is an experiment that will certainly not be repeated.

THE next novelty at the Komische Oper is a three-act lyrical composition by Dr. von Oberleithner. It is entitled *Die Sünde des Priesters*, the text being drawn by Adalbert von Goldschmidt from Zola's novel, "La Faute de l'Abbé Mouret."

SINCE France is the home of operette, it is only fitting that the distractions of the French seaside Casino should include Planquette's ever-fresh *Cloches de Corneville*, Lecocq's *Petit Duc*, and the sparkling, joyous works which Offenbach gave to a grateful world, says a writer on the subject in the *Morning Post*. It is to be regretted, however, that they are not always as well performed as could be wished, except in places which are patronised by "le monde chic" (which includes many well-to-do vulgarians) fifth-rate companies try conclusions with their charming music which, though it "sings itself," as the saying is, on the lips of an inferior performer, decidedly is a mixed joy. A Serpolette who is passé and a Grenicheux with one foot in the grave does not conduce to excellence of ensemble, while a skimpy chorus with scarcely a good voice amongst the lot creates an atmosphere, which, to put it politely, is depressing.

LUCKILY for the management, the play-going Frenchman, when in holiday mood, is rather easily satisfied, and the lady who accompanies him usually follows his lead. "Les artistes ne son pas du premier rang, mais ils chantent assez bien" ("The artists are not of the first rank, but they sing well enough") is his amiable comment. *The Merry Widow*, which is transformed into *La Veuve Joyeuse*, is a favourite wherever holiday-makers most do congregate, and several standing dishes which have done duty during the past twenty years are in constant demand.

THE performances given from time to time by the students of Stedman's Theatrical Academy have become so popular that the seating accommodation of the little theatre attached to the Academy at Great Windmill-street, Piccadilly Circus, is now totally inadequate. To cope with the demand, a society has been formed amongst the students, to be known as "Stedman's Students' Stage Society," and the performances will be given at the Court Theatre. The Society will be entirely self-supporting, and any profit made will be placed to the credit of the society, and utilised in defraying the expenses of the acting members, who will be drawn exclusively from the students of the Academy. Honorary members will be enrolled at a subscription of 1 guinea per annum, for which the member is entitled to twelve 10s. 6d. stalls, i.e., one for each performance given during the season—surely, an excellent investment for the winter evenings. The directors of Stedman's have become guarantors for any loss sustained by the society for the first year, and have also provided free of cost stage and musical directors, business-manager, secretary, and assistant. The producer will be Marshall Moore, who will also conduct rehearsals, and the first performance is arranged to take place this evening.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Laurence Irving made a significant allusion to the prosperity of the variety theatre at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, where he has been appearing in *The Unwritten Law* and *Margaret Catchpole*. In reply to demands for a speech on Monday, Mr. Irving referred to the criticism which his appearance on the music-hall stage had called forth, and offered as his defence that it was necessary to provide the means to produce such plays as he was offering to Liverpool during that week.

Entire satisfaction was expressed at the results of the past year's working of the Palace Theatre, Ltd., at the seventeenth ordinary general meeting, which was held on Thursday at the theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue. Mr. T. Ernest Polden presided, and in moving the adoption of the report, said that shareholders would, no doubt, agree with the directors in regarding the balance-sheet and profit-and-loss account as very satisfactory. The total receipts amounted to £98,868, and the total expenditure, including interest on mortgage, £74,491. Adding the balance brought forward from last year, £33,282, they had a balance to deal with of £56,618.

The directors proposed to pay a dividend of 20 per cent. for the year, which would absorb £18,000, to transfer to the reserve account £30,000, and carry forward to next account £8,618. The large sum of £30,000 would, of course, always be available for any purpose the directors might deem advisable, such as the equalisation of dividends, although the directors hoped to gradually and continuously increase this amount until they had a sufficient sum to extinguish the mortgage, £5,000 of which had already been paid off, thereby strengthening their financial position.

Mr. J. L. Graydon seconded the motion. Mr. Dingwall thought that anyone who studied the report would say that the entertainments provided by this theatre had given satisfaction to a great many people, and that the Palace had established itself in the affections of the great British public. Whatever doubts might have been felt or expressed as to the management of the theatre in times past had now, he thought, been set at rest by the test of actual experience.

Sir Edwin Galsworthy congratulated the board on the fact that they had started a reserve fund with such a substantial sum. The fact that they were able to do so was the best evidence the shareholders could have of the continued good management of the Palace Theatre. The report was adopted.

The annual general meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution will be held at the beginning of October. The business will include the presentation of the report and balance-sheet.

How Paris came to Leeds for dancers might be the title of the story of the engagement of Emie's Blossom Girls at the Olympia, Paris. Mme. Emie, for years principal dancer for Mr. John Tiller, was some time ago commissioned to form and train a troupe of sixteen dancers to appear in revues in Paris and Lucerne. Their success was immediate with the susceptible Parisians, and they are booked for the Continent for the next four years. Curiously enough, every member of the troupe is a Leeds girl, and not yet twenty years of age.

The Sketch Association, at its committee meeting on Tuesday, appointed six delegates to act on the proposed joint committee to press forward legislation on the lines of the Report of the recent Censorship enquiry. The committee will be called together in the course of the month.

Admirers of *Femina* at the Alhambra may become the possessors of a dainty souvenir in the shape of a booklet issued by Mr. Alfred Moul, giving an interesting account of the picturesque ballet. In addition to the reading matter there are a number of striking photographs of the two leading performers, Mlle. Leonora and Mlle. Britta.

Mlle. Genée, who has been enjoying since her marriage last June a holiday which she describes as a "summer of Sundays," will return to the stage for some eighteen months in order to complete existing contracts, after which she will retire permanently. The accomplished *danseuse* leaves on Sept. 14 for the United States, where she has a contract for a thirty weeks' tour at nearly £500 a week. Mlle. Genée intends to give some farewell performances in London before finally leaving the stage.

Mr. John Le Hay was the star of the municipal entertainments at Margate last week, his ventriloquial performance figuring as the chief item of the Randell Jackson party at the popular Westbrook, Oval, and other enclosures. Mr. Le Hay kept the crowded audiences convulsed with his smart "patter," and also gave a taste of his tenor quality in the song "Tom Bowling." The individual on the roof, who is responsible for singing the "last lines," was likewise in evidence, the effect of distance being marvellously suggested. The versatile polyphonist and comedian had to respond to repeated encores.

The Elliott-Savonas opened at the Apollo, Königsberg, on the 1st inst., and made a brilliant success, being received with continuous cheering, and complimented by the director.

The Crisps, a trio of clever youngsters, two girls and a youth, are this week giving a very attractive and novel dancing interlude at the Oxford, and from the flattering nature of their reception there is little doubt they will soon become established favourites in the West End. Two of the party first appear as a pierrot and pierrette, and indulge in a few neatly-executed steps, and are soon joined by their companion, a dainty figure in white, who gives a difficult toe solo, for which she is loudly acclaimed. A step dance by two of the trio is next smartly done, the pair moving together in perfect unison.

At the conclusion the youth falls, and, blaming it on to his companion, the couple have a few words. The other young lady then comes on to sing, but there is no band, and even if there were the quarrel of her companions would spoil her "turn." So she indignantly retires, and in a scene representing the dressing-room angrily declares that she will leave the troupe. The dresser then rushes on with a telegram containing an offer for them to appear in the Apache dance.

The youth, much to his regret, cannot accept, for the lady who partners him in it is the damsel who determines to sever her connection with her companions; and she refuses to be conciliated. But the younger girl pleads to be allowed to take her place, and, although the youth doubts her ability, he agrees to give her a trial, and "wires" accepting the engagement. Donning the familiar costume, the twain then engage in the famous Parisian dance, with an energy and abandon which proclaim them experts in the movement, and at the conclusion they are heartily recalled. The Crisps are gifted young terpsichorean artists, with an evident enthusiasm for their work, which is very refreshing, and the turn altogether is a well-worked and very enjoyable one.

They have been secured, through their agent, Will Oliver, for the Oxford, Tivoli, and all other Syndicate halls for 1910-11-12.

The Oxford, Middlesbrough, will be offered at auction at the Wellington Hotel, Middlesbrough, on Thursday next at 3 p.m. The house, which is the oldest licensed music hall in the town, has been closed for over a year.

The Star Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, has declared a dividend of 6 per cent. on the cumulative preference shares, payable for the year ending May 31.

The second anniversary of the Hippodrome, Devonport, will be celebrated on Monday next, when municipal countenance will be given to the occasion by the presence of the Mayor and other local dignitaries. The following week—Tuesday, the 20th inst.—will see the anniversary of another popular provincial hall—the Regent Theatre, Salford.

On Thursday next at St. Peter-le-Bailey Church, Oxford, Mr. George A. Gillespy (of the Milton Trio) is to be married to Miss Mary Studt, youngest daughter of Mr. Jacob Studt, the well-known show proprietor.

We hear that Mr. George E. Mudd, who until recently was business manager at the Grand Theatre, Nelson, which position he held for over eight years, has entered into partnership with Verno's Variety Agency, of Liverpool, and starts on his new venture Monday next.

A future star in the music hall world, Miss Violet Gerald, the only daughter of Mr. Frank Coyle, the well-known variety agent, is now appearing with the greatest success at all the leading halls in the country. Miss Gerald is a charming comedienne, and has everything in her favour—good songs, a capital voice, and pretty frocks. All her business, of course, is in the safe hands of Papa.

The Five Musical Palmers were such a success at the Jubilee Hall, Weymouth, last week that Mr. Albany Ward asked them to remain for his Sunday concert. They did so, and the efforts of the expert instrumentalists were most enthusiastically received by a crowded audience. Next week they appear at the Hippodrome, Blackpool, following on to Cheltenham and Gloucester with Messrs. Poole.

Mr. Tom Nelson, who is Mr. Fred Karno's new comedian, was on Saturday evening last, at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, presented with a massive gold signet ring, as a mark of appreciation of his great success in the part of Perkins. Recently, at the Nelson Palace, the comedian received from the directors a handsome cigar and cigarette case, to mark the occasion of record business.

That refined and accomplished comedienne and violinist, Miss Mollie Seymour, is adding greatly to her laurels at the Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare, which is packed to overflowing twice nightly. The audiences are of a high-class order and fully appreciate Miss Seymour's artistic efforts. Her success has been phenomenal, and after taking five and six calls nightly she has had to appear between the "tabs," before her admirers would allow the programme to proceed.

At the 674th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday, Mr. Fred Herbert presided, and there were also present Messrs. Fred W. Millis, Tom Packer, J. W. Cragg, and Lieut. Albini. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was decided to reinstate a member who was expelled some months ago for an offence against one of the railway companies. The weekly financial statement, showing the addition of fifty-five new members to the roll, was passed.

Sandy McNab is drawing record houses this week at the Empire, York—his first visit to the historic city. The success enjoyed by his sketch *The Egyptian Mummy* has been phenomenal, the enthusiasm of the audience being such that Sandy had to make a speech acknowledging the hearty reception accorded him. He paid a graceful tribute to the city, adding that he had long looked forward to his visit because York was so famous. He was shortly going to America, but the people of York would ever have a warm corner in his heart.

The complimentary benefit to Mr. Eric Victor in the Town Hall, Paignton, on the 31st ult., was from all appearances a huge success. Mr. Victor was the recipient of over twenty presentations, amongst them being a fountain pen from Fred Spencer. Other articles included a dressing case, dressing gown, silver match box, silver stamp case, gold tie pin, ebony manicure set and case, silver bottle, morocco address book, silver cigarette lighter, gold pin set with pearls, gold pencil and silver pencil, socks, ties, note papers, fruit, chocolates, and flowers.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, Miss Melinda May, the secretary, gratefully thanks the following:—Miss Alice Raymond for a donation of 10s.; Mrs. Keen (Keen and Waller) for collecting 5s.; Miss Clarice Mayne for a donation of 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Vernon Cowper for collecting 2s. 6d.; Mr. Jackson, Eight Lancashire Lads, for 1s. (per Mrs. Charles Coborn); Miss Mary McNeill, Edinburgh, for box of clothing; and Mrs. Abel Ethel Arden for useful parcel of clothing.

Miss May takes this opportunity of thanking Mrs. George Smythson most sincerely for her kindness during the last two weeks in attending to all duties whilst Miss May was on her holidays.

It has been decided that the president, vice-president, and executive committee ladies desiring copies of the minutes may have same by forwarding a stamped addressed envelope to Miss May in time for Wednesday's meeting. A prize will be given to anyone in or out of the profession collecting the most money for this deserving charity in twelve months commencing Nov. 4 last. Will anyone make an offer for fifteen large-sized band books given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Friends of the charity are heartily welcomed to tea and reception, held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Cheques should be made payable to Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street.

The popularity of Mr. R. C. Luxton, the new manager of the Spa and Gardens, Bridlington, was shown on the 1st inst., the occasion of his first benefit, when a crowd of about four thousand assembled to enjoy the monster programme provided. Herr Julian Kandt and his talented band gave some of their choicest selections; Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots presented a big programme in the Opera House; and they were followed by Mr. Walter George and his "Smart Set" entertainers. Miss Mabel Manson, the accomplished New Zealand soprano, and Miss Annie Croft, the clever young vocalist and dancer, entertained a packed house in the Glass Dome, where later the Waterloo Pierrots, from the Summer Gardens, drew an enthusiastic audience. There was also a Confetti Battle and display of fireworks.

Mr. Harry Randall, our Newcastle correspondent informs us, was too indisposed to appear at the local Empire on the night of his visit this week. The popular comedian had a substitute in an old friend—the veteran, J. W. Rowley, who was warmly welcomed.

Miss Vesta Tilley paid a flying visit to Southport on Saturday last, and gave two performances at the Empire Music Hall. The popular artist was on both appearances enthusiastically welcomed by crowded audiences.

One of the competitors in the Amateur Carnival at the Hammersmith Palace this week was disqualified under amusing circumstances. As a Hebrew comedian Ike Josephs displayed a remarkable talent for mimicry. He received no award, however, as the Israelite turned out to be no other than Mr. Bransby Williams, who is at the head of this week's company. The joke was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

Miss Adele Levey secured one of the heartiest receptions of the evening at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, on Wednesday, where the talented comedienne and raconteur appeared for Mr. Evan's benefit. The following laconic but eloquent sequence best suggests the effect of her appearance: "Seven tales—three pieces—great hit—lovely roses—a speech." On Monday the fair Adèle goes to the Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

A "Miniature Genee" is the description applied to Miss Gwen Zalska, who is winning admiration at the London Pavilion. She is one of the daintiest dancers imaginable, and her Japanese number not only proves her to be an accomplished danseuse, but reveals the possession of a pretty voice. She would be a decided acquisition to any programme, and will no doubt be sought after for pantomime.

Mr. Laurence Irving, who, with Miss Mabel Hackney, is playing at the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre this week, spoke very strongly on Tuesday evening, on the fall of the curtain, concerning the inadequate support he had received during that particular visit, and concluded by saying, "You have done your best to keep me in the theatres, but unless things take another turn I shall have to go where audiences are still to be found, namely, in the music halls."

Mr. R. G. Knowles has concluded his brief visit to London, and sailed for America on Wednesday.

Miss Marie Jones is still playing her protean act, *Wanted, the Co-respondent*. This intimation is rendered necessary by the fact that a lady billed in the same name is taking part in a double act as an operatic and character vocalist.

Miss Lil Hawthorne received quite an ovation on her appearance at the Empire, Bristol, this week, and was compelled to sing four songs at each performance. Quite a number of presents were handed over the footlights from her many Bristolian friends.

Mr. Neil Kenyon, who is en route to New Zealand on board the R.M.S. Corinthic, sends the welcome tidings that his health is already greatly improved. The boat has passed Teneriffe, and delightful weather up to then had rendered the voyage most enjoyable.

Miss Louisa Peach's sketch, *The Settler's Daughter*, went so well on Monday at the Foresters' that it was instantly booked for the Surrey Theatre next week and Battersea the following, through Mr. Fred Durham. Miss Peach will be supported by the same excellent company.

Miss Sylvia Cavalho plays Mr. W. Malcolm Watson's sketch *Sanctuary* at the Coliseum during the coming week. The play will be mounted in very fine style and has been rehearsed under the author's personal supervision. Miss Cavalho will be supported by Mr. Clifford Pembroke and Mr. H. Buckstone Clair.

In reply to numerous friendly enquiries as to what has become of Harry Nation, the laughing comedian, we are in a position to state that he can be found at the Blue-eyed Maid, 173, High-street, Borough, S.E., where he is always pleased to welcome old friends and new. His telephone number is 4145 Hop.

Mr. Fred Barnes, of "The black sheep of the family" fame, has definitely arranged to play his pantomime season at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, this year, with Mr. J. F. Elliston's production. In addition to playing a leading rôle, he will render some of the big successes from his music-hall répertoire.

Willie Benn and Freddie French's comedy sketch, *King of Sleepland*, which has had a successful provincial tour, will be produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, for the first time in London. Mr. Freddie French will himself appear in the chief part, in which he has many opportunities for the display of his comedy talents.

The Three Florodoras, who had the misfortune to lose their wardrobe basket, which dropped overboard at Belfast, are now working with an entirely new outfit. They are desirous of thanking Mr. Jones, manager of the Tivoli, Dublin, for his valuable help, by means of which they were enabled to appear on Monday night.

Once more has the generosity of the music-hall profession towards a public charity to be recorded. Over the box-office at the Surrey is just now to be seen a note acknowledging the receipt of the substantial sum of £19 17s., collected by the manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane, on behalf of Prince Francis of Teck's appeal for the Middlesex Hospital.

Miss Lilian Lea arrived in London last week from Australia, where she made a brilliant success as principal boy in pantomime under the management of Mr. William Anderson, not missing a single performance during a run of twenty-two weeks. Miss Lea has a sheaf of glowing notices from the Australian Press, of which she is naturally proud.

That popular comedian and whistler, Mr. Ted E. Box, has returned to town, and is meeting with one of the greatest successes with his funny burlesque song, "I'm the keeper of a lighthouse." Audiences at the Empress and Euston join in the chorus with might and main. Mr. Box's comedy whistling is always a sure winner, as he is the only comedian adopting that style, and his sayings and mannerisms are original.

Reano, the proprietor and conductor of the world-renowned band that bears his name, is still making rapid progress towards vigorous health, and hopes to be on the "warpath" early next month. He renews his thanks to the numerous friends who have so kindly sent letters of enquiry and good wishes during the past week. Reano is booked a long way ahead at all the principal music halls in Great Britain, and has under immediate consideration three offers for an Australasian tour, two for America, and two for the Continent. Rumour has it that Reano is interested in other bands that are endeavouring to book the music halls, but he wishes it to be distinctly understood that he has no connection whatever with any band or bands other than the one which he personally directs, and which has appeared with such great success at every hall of any importance in Great Britain.

The all-embracing variety stage has received into its ranks yet another recruit from the theatre in the person of genial Mr. George Graves, who will play the leading part in a new sketch entitled *Koffe of Bond-street*, by Mr. Arthur Falkland, which is due at the Palace Theatre on the 19th inst. Mr. Graves will be supported by Miss Dorothy Monckman, Mr. J. B. Gordon, and Miss Constance Hyem. Special scenery is being painted by Mr. Bruce Smith, and the production is under the direction of Mr. Frank Parker.

The present programme of the Palace is particularly strong. Mr. Ernest H. Mills has returned with his lightning sketches in crayons; and the Six American Dancers, who are as rapid in their movements as any seen in this country; Mr. Nat M. Wills, the American humorist; Les Trombettas, in a French Revue; and the ever-delightful Miss Margaret Cooper with new songs at the piano, together with a varied selection of up-to-date pictures, provide a delightful evening.

Eight new acts will be introduced at the London Hippodrome on Monday. Included among them will be the Carmos, Australian herculean and novelty jugglers; Les Alex Carangeot in the whirlwind dance "La Fiancee du Dragon"; the Four Poncherrys in a wonderful wire act; Les Romanis, Continental musicians; and Speedwell, the wizard painter. Miss Zena Dare and company remain with the successful musical comedy *The Model and the Man;* Mlle. Cleo de Merode will continue her dainty dances; Mr. Harry Fragson has still some more new songs; and Mr. Herbert Lloyd will give his amusing burlesques.

The next important production at the Empire will be of a high-class musical order, and will afford Mlle. Lydia Kyasht an opportunity for the exercise of her brilliant Terpsichorean talents. Later on will come a new ballet to be called *Ship Ahoy!* the events of which will take place on board an ocean liner, and a spectacle surpassing that of the realistic yacht scene in *Brewster's Millions* may be anticipated. Mlle. Kyasht, Miss Phyllis Bedells, Mr. Fred Farren, and Miss Unity More will be included in the cast.

A new revue, by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., is promised for the New Year. The groundwork has already been settled, and all sorts of novel ideas are to be fitted into it. The Empire's contribution to the Coronation year will take the form of a new ballet, on a large and elaborate scale.

Aptly named the Russian Marie Tempest, Mlle. Charpentier, a favourite actress of St. Petersburg, will be one of the prominent features in a very interesting bill at the Coliseum next Monday. Another notable arrival is Sylvia Cavalho in Malcolm Watson's dramatic incident *Sanctuary*. Joe Peterman's company will also be seen in *Chanteclair*, an elaborately-staged burlesque on Rostand's play. Jack Lane, the rustic at the piano; Sam Stern, in Hebrew and Italian songs; the Francoli Troupe of pantomimists; Mlle. Dolli, a dainty dancer; and Mr. and Mrs. Finden in one of their sketches are other important performers. The Russian Court Balalaika Orchestra remains the principal attraction.

The Oxford announces several changes for Monday next. Three prominent stars who join the bill are Bransby Williams, Mark Sheridan, and Gus Elen, and Billy Merson, Joe Elvin, and Chas. Austin remain in the programme. Another act retained is that of Boganny's Lunatic Bakers, who take things from an oven that no baker ever thought of putting there.

Mr. Harry Lauder makes his reappearance in London at the Tivoli on Monday, and will sing, among others, "The Picnic," "Every laddie loves a lassie," and his old favourite, "I love a lassie." The famous Scotch comedian will also produce a new song, of which report speaks highly. Mark Sheridan opens with new numbers, and Billy Merson, George Nagel and company in American sketch, *Trial Turns*, and Miss Arcadia are also new-comers. The Two Bobs, Foot-Gers, Robert Cunningham and company, and Jennie Hartley remain on what is assuredly one of Mr. Joseph Wilson's strongest programmes.

Amongst those present at the hearing of the Crippen case at Bow-street Police Court on Tuesday were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti, Mrs. Chas. Coborn, Mrs. Gintaro, Mrs. George Smythson, and Miss Melinda May.

The two-and-a-half year old boy, named Lorimer Tucker, who won the prize (silver mug), by fifty-two votes, at the beauty competition at the Pier, Dover, on Sept. 7, is the son of Miss Esmé Gordon, who is appearing at the Hippodrome, Dover, this week.

Mr. Walter Gay has been engaged by Mr. H. P. Selwyn to "star" in his sketch, *The Price of Peace*, an adaptation of Mr. Cecil Raleigh's Drury Lane drama at its production at the Surrey on Monday. The sketch is in four scenes, one of which is the interior of the House of Commons.

Mr. Arthur L. Williams, of Collins's Music Hall, is producing on Sept. 26, a new sketch, written by Percival Sykes, entitled *The Girl Who Did*. The company numbers upwards of twenty artists. There are three sets by the clever young scenic artist Francis Bull, the costumes are direct from Paris, and the music is by Mr. Alf. Petersen. The sketch is said to contain some remarkable situations, but is characterised by complete refinement.

The twenty-first anniversary of the formation of the Terriers' Association will be reached in May next. Terriers are invited to forward to the Secretary suggestions as to how this event may be suitably celebrated.

Messrs. Eddie Gibbs, Albert Heath, and Billy Hobbs were initiated into the mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier C. W. Kloof, assisted by Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman, V.T.; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were. Arthur Bromley, Edward Crossland, and Dan Hendy have successfully passed the ballot for membership of the association. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Ted E. Box, James Carr, F. Hughes, T. Howard Ward, Edward Rose, and J. Miller on their reappearance in the Kennel. Terrier E. Rose acted as Y.B. and Terrier J. Miller as W.D. Any Terrier who has not received a copy of the alterations to the rules of the association is requested to communicate with the Secretary.

Poor Belle Elmore, it may be recalled, figured on at least one occasion as a speaker. It was at the dinner of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild just two years ago, at which Dr. Crippen was also present. Miss Elmore's duty was to present a testimonial to Mrs. Fred Ginnett, the president of the Guild, and she discharged it in the following graceful words:—"I have a tribute to pay to our president. It is only the ladies of the committee who realise Mrs. Ginnett's generosity towards the Guild. She is always coming forward with assistance in every way, especially in finding material for our entertainments. She invariably says she will 'see Fred about it,' and 'Fred' always sees it through, obtaining many influential performers. Words really fail me to express the gratitude we owe our president, and we have accordingly prepared a little surprise for this night to convey to her an earnest of our appreciation."

Miss Hetty King is scoring heavily at the Palace Theatre, Douglas. The artistic excellence of her impersonations are thoroughly recognised, and audiences are loud in their praise.

In consequence of the pronounced success of *Very Much Engaged*, Mr. George Lestocq and his "bevy of beauties" are remaining at the Tivoli a third week. This arrangement is rendered possible by the kindness of the management of the Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

The Variety Bookings Agency are successors to, and exclusive proprietors of, the entire business formerly carried on by Rosen and Bliss. Their offices are Rooms 26 to 30, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C., where a comfortable waiting-room has been installed, which is always at the disposal of clients.

While crossing Upper-street, Islington, on the evening of the 26th ult., Mrs. Yangar, wife of the "West African Wonder Worker," was run over by a taximeter cab. The injured woman was taken to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, where she remained unconscious for two days, and it was found necessary to have an operation. Mrs. Yangar has sustained a compound fracture of the ankle and a severe injury to her head.

Gulliver and the doll with the laugh will make their initial bow to a West End audience on Monday at the Holborn Empire.

Miss Millie Hylton has been scoring at the Hippodrome, Manchester, this week with her latest comedy and dramatic successes. Reports to hand are exceedingly flattering to both the artist and the beautiful costumes worn in her comedy songs. Miss Hylton wishes it to be known that she has appointed Mr. Will Collins, of Broadmead House, as her representative.

The suburban Moss-Stoll houses are offering attractive programmes for next week. At the New Finsbury Park Empire the principals are the Raymond Phillips' Airship, the Seven Perezoffs, Harry Bedford, and Howard and Harris. The Croydon Hippodrome programme includes Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, George Bastow, Russell Wallett, and the Norman and Leonard Trio; and at the Hackney Empire will be found Kate Carney and company, Fred Russell, the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, the Jackson Family, and Drew and Alders.

At the New Cross Empire figure Mme. Ella Russell, John Warren and company in *The Magic Carpet*, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, and May Henderson. The Stratford Empire has tried favourites in George Lashwood, Nelson Jackson, Nellie Wallace, and the Sisters Gladwyn; and at the Shepherd's Bush Empire the bill is adorned by G. H. Elliott, Harry Roxbury and company, Leo Stormont, and Helen Trix.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Home, Mr. Ben Woodger, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank the following for box collections:—Mrs. Sedon, "Pankard," Kennington-road, 13s.; David Hart (variety agent), Brixton-road, 4s. 5d.; C. Perress, Prince of Wales, Brixton, 3s.; and Bob Graham and Co., Electric-avenue, Brixton, 2s. 5d. He also thanks Mrs. Egerton (American Bar), Liverpool, for her kind help to the committee. Any men's left off clothing (small size) would be very acceptable at the Home, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

"Lady Betty," a musical comedy idyll, produced at the London Hippodrome on Monday, is quite an agreeable trifle of the period of the farthingale, when the aristocrats were gallants and the *plebs* swains. The scene is the outskirts of Bath, a town much affected by the comedy writers of the last century. Something has happened whereby Sir Harry and Lady Betty have become estranged; but, as luck will have it, he is fortunate enough to be near her when she is frightened by a bull, and soothes her alarm. Why he does not recognise her in her milkmaid's dress is one of those things at which one acquainted with the artlessness of these musical idylls need not be surprised. The meeting is quite opportune for song and duet, and the mere chance reading of the monogram on Lady Betty's handkerchief brings the lovers to each other's arms. Miss Netta Lynde sings effectively and looks dainty in the title-part; and Mr. Conway Dixon is a personable lover, singing with sufficient ardour and sweetness.

The humour of the Hippodrome programme is considerably augmented by the amusing impersonation of a New York dude by Mr. Bert Coote, who presents *A Lamb on Wall-street*. We have outlined the lamb's adventures in former descriptions of this favourite episode, and there is nothing to add except to chronicle the excellent reception of the little company at the hands of a very large house, a special call for Mr. Bert Coote being well deserved. Mr. Herbert Lloyd, the king of diamonds, has a little company to assist him in "Special Scotch," and the droll business of singing to a comedian seated among the audience goes down particularly well. Mr. Lloyd's business is the limit of whimsical exaggeration.

Fragson returns to renew favourable impressions with songs old and new; Lockhart's elephants, presented by Captain Taylor, retain all those qualities of docility and intelligence that specially endear them to the youngsters; Carl Lynn's imitations of the horse and the lion and the cat are about as near the real thing as can be; and the Riogoku Family are very smart at Risley business, ten somersaults, feet to feet, by the diminutive Jap bringing down the house. Miss Zena Dare and company have scored a great success with *The Model and the Man*, which is applauded by packed houses.

T. Reed Pinaud is well known as a famous legmania artist. The show under the name of The Pinauds was at one time world-renowned. Mr. Pinaud is now turning his attention to commercial matters. He claims to be the inventor of a butter-making machine which is designed to halve the butter bill of the highest and lowliest in the land. To prove what the machine could do he called together a number of friends and members of the Press to witness a demonstration of its capabilities. What Mr. Pinaud claims for his invention savours of the feat of a necromancer. He is able to convert one pound of butter into two pounds and a quarter of butter, and he showed that he really can do what he promises. It is butter that he produces, and not buttermilk.

The process is easily described, and a child can do all that is needed. One pound of butter is taken and one pint of milk, and a spoonful of salt, the whole is placed in an inner cylinder of the apparatus, which resembles an ice-making machine, although its principle is entirely dissimilar. A handle is turned for 4½ minutes, during which time the milk has incorporated itself with the butter, with the result that the pound of butter has become two pounds and a quarter of butter. Really an extra pound and a quarter of butter has been secured for the outlay of the cost of the milk, say for ¼wopence. Anyone wishing to witness a demonstration of this wonderful little machine, has only to notify Mr. T. Reed Pinaud, at his office, 30 Wellington-street, Strand, when he will receive a polite request to attend at the next demonstration. These wonderful little machines cost the small sum of 12s. 8d., and soon return its cost to the owner.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR and Mr. Fred Barnes are very satisfied, we should think, with their new number, "Just remember me to Mary." It has turned out a big winner, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are the publishers.

AT the London Coliseum on Thursday was produced, with the greatest possible success, by Miss José Collins, the talented daughter of a talented mother, Leonard Cooke and Henry E. Pether's beautiful number "In cherry blossom time in Japan." It was a foregone conclusion that this, the great floral number of the forthcoming pantomimes—it has already been selected by many of the most prominent producers, including Mr. Robert Arthur—would be a triumph, for not only has the author supplied a picturesque groundwork, but the well-known composer of "Rainbow"—a greatly featured pantomime effect item in its day—has surpassed himself in the melody. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

MR. TOM FINGLASS has been the recipient of great receptions nightly everywhere for his fine rendering of Messrs. Francis and Day's song "My southern rose." The song is by Harry Von Tilzer.

MR. HERBERT LA MARTINE'S new song, "Many happy returns," has been acquired for publication purposes by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. It is by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long.

A NEW number, by Harry Castling and C. W. Murphy, entitled "Play us a tune on the gramophone," will shortly be issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

AN amusing ditty will shortly be placed on the market by Mr. David Day's firm entitled "Sea Sights." It is from the joint pens of Charles Osborne and Fred Elton.

MR. HERMANN E. DAREWSKI'S new two-step, "Down in Jungletown," will be much sought after, the song of the same title on which it is founded having been one of the most successful of the present year. Messrs. Francis and Day will issue it shortly.

MISS CLARA BECK, after her recent successful Australian tour, has produced with gratifying results a pretty new ballad, which is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is entitled "You taught me how to love you, now teach me to forget."

THE good people of Dublin have taken very kindly to Mr. Gordon Stretton, the ideal coon, and at the Empire his songs, "If I were a girl like you," "Estrella," and "There's a brown girl in old Dahomey," have been found greatly to the liking of audiences. The last of these, by Mellor and Gifford, is being published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE artiste appearing at the Folkestone Town Hall in conjunction with Messrs. Jury's fine exhibition of living pictures are the Barringtons, a clever trio of vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists, and Mr. Watty Macnab, who sings "Tobermory," "The Wedding of Sandy McNab," and "Keep on doing it, Sandy O!" with much *éclat*.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

A MARGATE MANAGER'S BENEFIT.

Wednesday night was set aside for the annual complimentary benefit of Mr. Charles Evans, the enterprising manager of the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, and his great popularity was evidenced by the huge crowd of friends and patrons who assembled to help make the benefit an unparalleled success. Large as is the Hall-by-the-Sea, the accommodation was severely taxed; the concert hall was packed and the magnificent ballroom crowded almost to suffocation. The Mayor of Margate and several Councillors were present, and Mr. Evans had the direct patronage of the member for Thanet, Mr. Norman Craig, K.C.

There was a long variety programme, the contributors to which included the Three Hodginis, aerial gymnasts; Tom Leamore, star comedian; Miss Cissie Paris, queen of burlesque; Charles Coborn, the favourite comedian; Adele Levey, in tales, recitations, and monologues; Charles Bignell, the ideal comedian; Edie Rhobins and Gwennie Crusoe, the South African musical comedy duo; Miss Nita Clavering, L.A.M., operatic soprano vocalist; Hugh and High, in their artistic musical act; Nell Derry, comedienne and dancer; Laurie and Leslie, comedians; and Dandy Dick, comedian. There were also illustrated vocal specialities and a series of Bioscope pictures.

Even this long programme did not exhaust the bill of fare Mr. Evans had provided, for there was an excellent display of fireworks in the garden, the concluding set piece in which was worded, "Mr. Charles Evans' Thanks." A ball in the exquisitely lighted ball-room, which was ablaze with myriads of electric fairy and gem lights, followed, and with the crowd of dancers presented a very pretty and animated scene. The Hall-by-the-Sea orchestra was assisted by the Royal Excelsior band, and the band of the G Co., 4th Batt. The Buffs, was also in attendance and played during the firework display.

Mr. Evans, who was the recipient of a batch of telegrams congratulating him upon his successful control of two of the most popular places in Thanet, the Hall-by-the-Sea and the Royal Palace Theatre at Ramsgate, and wishing him all good luck in the future, had to make a short speech during the evening. He cordially thanked his numerous patrons for the support they had given him during the season, he thanked the artists for appearing for him, and he thanked the audience for their attendance and the flattering way in which they had shown their appreciation of his efforts to entertain them. The Hall-by-the-Sea staff presented Mr. Evans with a dress-suit case.

JUDGMENT was delivered in the Glasgow Sheriff's Court last week in an action for damages, laid at £80, for breach of contract brought by Messrs. Fields and Lewis, variety artists, against the Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd. In the course of a note the Sheriff said pursuers alleged that they were engaged to play at defenders' music hall by Mr. Samuel Lloyd, defenders' former general-manager. Defenders said Lloyd was only an agent and was sent to look for performers, and if he saw anything suitable he noted it in pencil in the Pavilion contract book against a suggested date. On his return this was submitted to the directors, and if they approved of the performer and the terms they then proceeded to complete the contract with him. Mr. Lloyd was the only witness in support of the claim, and he was empowered to contract finally in the case of London engagements.

THE managing-director, continued the Sheriff, declared that he first heard of the engagement when their signatures came on Nov. 26. He was told by Mr. Lloyd that he had made no condition of power to cancel after the first evening if the directors did not like them. He said the directors must see if they were worth £80 and withheld his signature. On Nov. 30 Lloyd telegraphed the pursuers' agent that if £80 was the lowest the engagement was off. Pursuers replied that their signatures had been accepted without any reservation, to which Lloyd replied that pursuers were pencilled in subject to their (defenders) approving of the act, and immediately returned the contract. The Sheriff found that no contract existed between the parties, and assoilzied the defenders with expenses.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Large and delighted audiences are the rule at this handsome hall, which is now capitally managed by Mr. E. W. James, late of Balham Empire, who is ably assisted by Mr. Will Horsfield. As Mr. James becomes better known to the patrons of this theatre he will certainly increase in popularity, for he is indefatigable in his efforts to promote the comfort of visitors. Mr. Russell Forbes directs the fine band with his customary skill, and the stage is in the safe hands of Mr. Walter Smith.

George Lashwood received an ovation on his appearance, and his songs, entitled "Just for a girl," "Mr. Pat O'Hea," and, finally, as the railway guard, singing of his experiences on the line, were warmly applauded. Mr. Lashwood here, as elsewhere, is a huge favourite. Nellie Wallace made a great hit in her low comedy impersonations, entitled "The Silvery Sea," "The Hobble Skirt," and "I've Lost Georgie." This lady's quaint method renders her performance unique. Russell Wallet is a fine artist, and his turn is always enjoyable. His "Lady in Black" contribution made a marked success with the audience, the sketches at the piano being received with much applause. Dan Hendy, a quietly humorous comedian, was rewarded with an excellent reception; and King's College Boys gave their musical entertainment. The speciality wire performers, Wyndham and Kitty, are also on the bill.

Elsa Brull and Arthur Hemsley caused much amusement as the Dainty Damsel and the Dancing Dude in their contribution, entitled *Fun in a Music Shop;* the Bollingers, in their rag-the original dancing acrobat, gives a unique turn, for which he is heartily applauded. Ruffell's Bioscope is still a prominent feature of the programme, and some excellent pictures are exhibited. The manager, Mr. G. Wells, continues to see to the general comfort of his patrons.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

An exceptionally strong bill, together with what is always a strong local attraction, an Amateur Carnival, is filling this house twice nightly to its utmost capacity. The proprietors also have recently reduced somewhat the prices of admission, and this move been abundantly justified by a very large increase in business. Mr. Bransby Williams as Montague Tigg from Dickens' "Martin Chuzzlewit," in the Ghost scene from *Hamlet*, and as the Penny Showman showed his versatility, and each item gained most enthusiastic applause. Especial favour was bestowed on the last-named, throughout which the audience fairly rocked with laughter. Lively Miss Daisy James proves a great favourite, singing "The squeegee dress," a tuneful ditty concerning the latest fashion, of which her dress is an excellent, though somewhat exaggerated, example, and also in a tasteful principal boy costume, the popular "Ship ahoy!"

Mr. Alec Hurley meets with all possible success. He sings about the charms of Walworth-road, and "She's a little whipper-snapper" is a very pretty coster song concerning a "little mother." His third item, "My particular business," is a clever song which was keenly appreciated by the crowded house. Mr. Cecil Gray, who with his company appears in a powerful dramatic sketch, entitled *To-morrow's Dawn*, by the Rev. S. S. Edwards, supplies a thrilling and intense piece of acting as Dorian, the Fifth Earl of Norton, and the resident scenic artist, with appropriate verses from his pen, assist to lend bold advertisement to the competition. The matrimonial market of the district has consequently received a decided fillip, young couples having built the highest hopes of housekeeping on the result. The features of the competitors are exhibited in a frame on the stage under a strong light, and many varieties of beauty have been displayed. Some objection has been taken on the part of the young ladies to figuring as the unlucky No. 13, and in that case humour is lent to the proceedings by putting on "Billy," a local matchboy, whose appearance with his face "made-up," causes roars of laughter. The final was fixed for last (Friday) evening.

Chief among the company for the week is the sketch *Sexton Blake*, the first of the series, if we mistake not, to be presented on the halls. Mr. C. Douglas Carlile repeats his clever performance of the title-rôle, which he realises completely. Miss Carlotta De Yonson again utilises her emotional gifts in the part of the devoted Leah, and Mr. Lee Gilbert again wins success as Tinker. Mr. Charles A. Carlile is effective as ever as the Master Criminal, and Mr. H. Duncan and Mr. J. Langford complete the able cast. A great favourite of the neighbourhood, Miss Florence Yaymen, wins renewed popularity with her coon caricatures, in which many remarkable effects in facial expression and vocal eccentricity are gained. *The Scotsman's Visit to London* serves Pete and Minnie Lee as a vehicle for the introduction of entertaining comedy and vocalism.

Fun is aroused by the Ardel and Odell Trio, who have a novel acrobatic act, and the Phydoras spring musical surprises upon the audience to their great delight. Miss Norah Desmond's picture

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

painting act, gave a performance of wonderful ability, constructing in view of the audience excellent pictures from small pieces of rag; and Howard and Harris made a considerable success with their comedy act, entitled *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, in the course of which they introduced some capital dancing and funny original business. Pictures were also included in the programme.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

The world-famous Houdini, the original handcuff king and gaol-breaker, proves a huge attraction here this week, and his performance is not only skilful but astonishing. Local carpenters, locksmiths, and others have tried in vain to invent a trap from which he cannot free himself, but in each and every respect Houdini has proved the victor. Mr. Frank Lister, the popular London actor, presents an original American dramatic sketch, entitled *No. 99*, and the playlet receives the heartiest applause.

Adele Moraw, the clever international comedienne, is very popular, and sang three excellent songs in her own inimitable style, first favourite being "The Fire Brigade," which this dainty Parisienne sings in English. The Gascoignes, patter comedians and comedy jugglers, are clever and witty, the various juggling feats causing endless laughter. Lily Edwards, a dainty and vivacious chorus singer, scores well with two catchy songs, "On a Sunday afternoon" and "Sympathy," the chorus of each having a good swing and being taken up by the audience.

The sensational comedy act of the Four Paulastos, "the lively waiters," is extremely funny; and the Watneys give a skilful exhibition of club-swinging and hoop manipulation. Alec. Lawson, other characters are efficiently filled. Ward and Davis in a comedy skit, *Wanted, a Typist*, do some excellent fooling and a well-executed dance. Mr. Fred Hastings in song and patter "It's all right when you're courting" causes much mirth, and is heartily applauded. The impersonations of Miss Gladys Nelson are very good for so small a child, that of Maidie Scott being particularly clever.

A most artistic item is provided by A-Ba-Bee's picture postcard album. Crosby and Walker, the jocular Eton boys; Hillman and Russell in vocal comedy scena; and Mme. Holt's Juvenile Follies, consisting of four boys and four girls, who sing and dance, severally and collectively, in charming style; with the Grand Amateur Carnival, complete the long and exceedingly varied programme. Mr. Jack Hart, bronzed after his short holiday, courteously manages the house.

THE SURREY.

The fair maids of South London are having a look in this week at the Surrey, where a beauty competition is in progress. The entries have been remarkable, Mr. Roy Cochrane having for one evening upwards of a hundred aspirants for the distinction of being adjudged the belle of the Borough. The prizes are exhibited outside the theatre under the portico of the pit, and are handsome enough to tempt the most modest flower that blows in the Blackfriars-road. The first is a Chippendale drawing-room suite, covered in silk tapestry; the second a satinwood bedroom suite of first-rate quality; and the third a 14-day marble gong clock and equestrian figures to match. Numberless other prizes include a dinner service, silver-plated carvers, and useful articles galore. Coloured cartoons of the Cynicus pattern by the songs are widely appreciated; Mr. Ernest Rees makes good his claim to be "just a comedian"; the Great Virto again proves himself to be master of the art of music; Sidney Bach supplies a diverting time as "Mrs. Jones, the Welsh lady at the piano"; and each performance concludes, as usual, with the "pick of the picture world."

GREENWICH PALACE OF VARIETIES.

The new management here are making a bid for popularity by giving the best possible entertainment at the lowest possible price. Last week the artists engaged included Sid Stagg and Tommy Salten, boxers; Victoria Loving, a charming vocalist and dancer; Miss Maudie Leslie, who possesses an excellent voice, which she uses with great ability in "The Girl up North" and "Keep on walking in the park"; Miss Lilian Maude and Mr. Frank Mundill, in their amusing duologue, *Uncle's Coat;* George Bendon, whose white coon impersonations are most enjoyable; Messrs. Alf Roscoes, Will Burton, Will Grant, and Dan Renshaw, and the Sisters Dene.

This week there are many good turns, including Mr. Fred Mason, who contributed an excellent song on "Foreigners," and whistled in a manner which evoked loud applause; Tom Edwin submitted an enjoyable turn, consisting of patter, which was funny and original, and a clever eccentric dance; Alexander Homewood did a clean, smart turn, and sang effectively "Good-bye, Jack" and "That's the way of the world"; Miss Gertie Leslie vocalised very pleasantly "In your old-world garden" and "The drum in the big brass band"; Mr. Wal Clinton submitted a capital rendering of "I'm a millionaire," and concluded with a clever dance; the Three Langfords made a hit with their smart and agile dancing; Ted Davis, the Welsh collier-vocalist, made a decided success; Miss Jessie Harper is a clever comedienne; the Rowlands are expert acrobatic performers; Little Baby May is an intelligent juvenile, and was warmly received. Other excellent turns were contributed by Fred Laurier (legmania), Fred Walker (eccentric comedian), Jack Phillips (dancer), Davis and Deane (comedians and shadow dancers), and the Imperial Bioscope.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

On Monday evening last the Willesden Hippodrome was filled from floor to roof, and the entertaining fare provided was thoroughly appreciated. Messrs. Lew Lake and company head the bill with their well-known and humorous sensation, *Five Years Later*. The piece is well staged and is full of fun, and though the escape is rather far fetched and some of the situations somewhat ludicrous, the audience are highly delighted with the production, which continually evoked loud outbursts of laughter. Miss Eileen Douglas, looking very fresh and charming in a grey silk dress, gave a very pretty number, "I'll show you how to paddle your canoe," which she followed with a dainty dance, holding a canoe paddle; the air was taken up enthusiastically by the audience, who accorded the artist a hearty reception. Mr. George Gilbey was responsible for two very good songs, "Not to-day, nor to-morrow, nor the day after," and "How to be happy though married," and thoroughly earned the applause of the audience, his discourse during the second song upon courtship, worship, and hardship, and on marriage and its attendant evils being very, very funny.

Miss Daisy Dormer looked pretty in dark blue when she appeared to sing "Molly from Lancashire," and her style and the swinging melody evidently appealed to her listeners; she was as successful with a second, entitled "I wish I'd a girl like Molly," and afterwards with a dance, for all of which she was vociferously applauded. Ross and Lewis are a very clever American comedy duo. The former, in the garb of a messenger boy, gave a clever and novel exhibition of step-dancing to a rag-time accompaniment by the latter on the piano, the dancing being preceded by some smart patter, Ross being particularly quaint. Their show was much appreciated. Little Pam with an American cowboy song was good, and his dancing smart. The Dufors, American simultaneous dancers and singers, are full of energy and vivacity, and with two songs, "Down in Louisiana" and "Down in Jungletown," and particularly clever exhibitions of dancing, were much appreciated. The W. T. Thompson trio, in a farcical sketch, *Watch the Chalk*, were very amusing. The story is one of a henpecked husband who, being left to look after the house-work, eventually turns the tables on his wife, who asks forgiveness. The part of the husband as a weak, wan-faced little man is especially well portrayed. The Narow Brothers, trick cyclists and tramp acrobats, were a distinct success, and created hearty laughter. Mr. Geo. Gulliver, with his lay figure dressed in a khaki uniform, gave a good ventriloquial entertainment, and concluded with the song, "Let me like a soldier fall." The Bioscope concluded. Mr. L. F. Maloney remains the courteous manager, and Mr. G. R. Hatley continues to wield the bâton successfully.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The programme Mr. Cohen provides this week at this popular hall may be best described as a good all-round bill of fare, containing nothing which the epicurean in music hall menus could cavil at, but, at the same time, not offering any particular feature calculated to overshadow the others. Cole and Rags provide plenty of amusement, the eccentricities of Rags and the clever juggling of both partners finding equal favour. Arthur Leslie sings about the pleasures to be discovered in a "Dear Old Country Lane," and subsequently gives a very close imitation of Mr. Wilkie Bard. The next item is that that tops the week's bill, viz., Joe Peterman and his company in their latest success, *Slaterstein, Ltd.* Patrons of the variety stage know exactly what to expect from Joe Peterman—and they get it almost in excelsis in the latest. *Slaterstein, Ltd.*, is a perfect orgy of Hebraic comicality—pretty girls, handsome dresses, fine scenery, dancing and singing, the whole connected by a story of the death of the King of Monte Rosa, the kidnapping of his rightful heir, the attempt of a usurper to seize the throne, the latter's efforts to enlist the assistance of a handsome and outspoken lady, who eventually turns on him, the unexpected appearance of the aforesaid rightful heir, the discomfiture of the would-be usurper and—all ends happily and merrily. The piece is handsomely staged, the scenery being most elaborate and the dresses and uniforms splendid.

Miss Olga Dore is an operatic actress of fine appearance, a good style, and a voice of extraordinary brilliance. In "Banish Sorrow" some of Miss Dore's high notes are quite surprising in their purity of intonation. Phœbe Mercer and company appear in a farcical episode, *Mistakes Will Happen*, an amusing little piece which is smartly written, and played just in the right spirit by Miss Mercer as Mrs. Spicer Curry and Mr. Frank Harrison as Mr. Sydney Matcham. Ethel Eden is a pretty and dainty little comedienne in a fetching costume, who sings "Sheila" with spirit, and anon indulges in some step-dancing that sends her audience into ecstasies. Edward Rose and Dora Challoner do some good work in the fun-making line as *The Porter and the Singer*, and are well received.

A perfect hurricane of applause follows the final exit of Billy Merson, the quaint comedian, who, coming as a stranger to these boards, had not been on the stage many minutes before he was accepted as a prime favourite. His quaint appearance tells at once in his favour. As a grotesque little soldier in an ill-fitting uniform, he first sings about "Welcoming her soldier boy," after which he gives "I'm going to dance," in which humorous antics and a continual stream of amusing patter fairly bring down the house. Tschernoff's Circus is worth going far to see. The beautiful ponies and dogs, in fine condition all of them, have been trained to perfection, and seem quite to enjoy their work. The musical pony, "Hans," is a perfect artist in his way. The whole circus is redolent of beauty, neatness, and spirit, and is received at every performance with shouts of approval. During the absence of Mr. Cohen, who has been enjoying a much-needed holiday, the managerial duties here have been admirably filled during the past two weeks by his assistant manager, Mr. H. V. Mann.

THAT well-known musician R. Farban has published with Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter his new and beautiful waltz, "La Reine d'Amour."

THE telephone was resorted to as a means of promoting a quick settlement in a case heard at the Vacation Court on Wednesday, in which Miss Ada Reeve complained that Saronie's Picture Palace, Tranmore, Birkenhead, had exhibited posters suggesting that she was to appear at their entertainments and sing a "catchy, illustrative song." This, she said, was damaging to her in her profession, as she was earning £200 a week, and the defendant's "palace" was not very "high class," as the prices for admission ranged only between 2d. and 8d.

COUNSEL said the parties were in negotiation by telephone to Manchester with a view to settling the case, and asked for a short adjournment. A little later he announced that the parties had agreed, the defendants being willing to treat the motion as the trial of the action, submit to a perpetual injunction, and pay Miss Reeve's costs. The Judge made the consent order, but added that it was not to be taken as a precedent in any other case.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Miss Florrie Forde, at the Empire, Stockport, this week, has made a sensational "hit" with John P. Harrington and John Neat's comedy song "Cock-a-doodle-do, in the morning." After the first chorus, every member of the audience seemed to be seized with a frantic desire to assist the singer in the catchy refrain. This number is predestined to become a huge pantomime "production," and Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on yet another triumph.

Phenomenally successful at the Pavilion, Liverpool, this week has been Mr. Arthur Aldridge, in his two dainty songs of sentiment, "All in a day," by John P. Harrington and William Hargreaves, and "Beautiful garden of roses," by Dempsey and Schmid, and his turn has evoked the greatest enthusiasm. These two delightful Feldman publications are assured pantomime favourites.

In addition to Miss May Lilian Levey, who has been scoring all round the provinces with John P. Harrington and John Neat's sterling comedy chorus song, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," Mr. Colin Carlisle records the pleasing fact that he has been taking three and four curtains nightly, at the Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare, for the same ear-haunting Feldman song.

Habitués of the Empire, New Cross, have, if anything, waxed more enthusiastic over Mr. George Lashwood's masterly rendering of Feldman's big Irish comedy number, "Mister Pat O'Hare," by Benjamin Hapgood Burt, than even those of the other suburban Stoll houses where this gifted artist has previously sung this naïve and racy ditty. It certainly is one of the best numbers America has given us, and should enjoy a great vogue in this year's annuals.

Miss Annie Schuberth is making a great success on the Gibbons' tour with Feldman's big "winner," "Beautiful garden of roses" and "Star of hope." Miss Ailsa Douglas, at the Palace Theatre, Buxton, and Miss Lilian Pollard, at the Town Hall, Leamington, are also achieving triumphs with the first-named.

A dainty little number, which is being extensively exploited by alfresco performers at the seaside, as well as on the halls of variety—notably by Haley's "Garden of Girls" company among the latter—is "My sweet garden queen," by Harrington, Rogers, and Neat, one of the most delightful numbers published by the Feldman firm.

Mr. George Formby, happily recovered from his recent indisposition, is in better form than ever, and is winning plaudits loud and long at the Olympia, Liverpool, this week, for his side-splitting interpretation of "Playing the game in the West" and "I'm taking my father's tea," both of which are published by Feldman and Co.

Miss Dorothy Ward continues to charm all hearers with her beautiful rendering of Chas. K. Harris's exquisite ballad, "Yesterday," and is eminently successful at the Camberwell and Shoreditch houses, where she is appearing this week Feldman and Co. issue this new number from the pen of the author-composer of "Somewhere."

Mr. Jim O'Connor, Miss Gertie Gitana's manager, writing Messrs. Feldman and Co. from the Palace, Glasgow, records the remarkable success which this dainty little lady is making in the Scotch city with Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's charming number, "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," which is one of the greatest successes of her career.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Maurice Scott have just fitted Miss Cissie Curlette with three new comedy numbers, all of which she will produce in America, whither she sails in a fortnight's time. The new numbers are entitled "Everybody's happy," "So simple," and "Mixed proverbs," and Messrs. Harrington and Scott are now busily engaged on yet a fourth number for the same versatile artist.

Messrs. B. Feldman are to be congratulated on adding two more successes to their already large number—"Let's have a little bit of sunshine," by Glover Kind, and "What's the matter with father?" Both are in the hands of that rapidly rising star, Mr. Fred Barnes, and, judging by their nightly reception, in capable hands, too.

Miss Gwen Zalska, who is appearing this week and next at the London Pavilion in a dancing scena, will shortly be featuring a song by Messrs. Feldman entitled "A little china doll."

(*Continued on page 25.*)

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Buxton's annual benefit at Douglas, Isle of Man, on Wednesday was a memorable event. This smart entrepreneur adventured here with his clever wife as Pierrots on the Promenade. Now Buxton's Amusements cover an acre or more of the land, and include an elaborate Picturedrome, and a medium whereby al-fresco concerts can be given three times a day.

The audience on Wednesday was large and enthusiastic. The artists appearing were Mr. Allan Hanbury, with the latest comic chatter and quaintest drolleries; Miss May Birkett, a sweet soprano who sang emotional ballads artistically; Mr. Harry Braddan, a Manx comedian, who was funnier than ever; Mr. Charles Dawson, a real musician; impersonations from the works of Dr. Boz by Mr. John Story, which were entirely Dickensian; Mr. Ernie Famont, who again proved himself a genuine comedian; Mr. Walter Buxton, a tuneful baritone; and Miss Edith Buller, an admirable flute and piccolo soloist.

The beneficiaire himself took part in the programme, and his robust and tuneful tenor voice was heard to great advantage. In addition to the regular roll-call of artists engaged for the season, the following talented people appeared: Foley and Francis, fun makers; Miss Kathleen Garnon, musical comedy favourite; the Marvellous Howards, in a novel instrumental turn; Miss Dorothy Middleton, in her particularly clever imitation of music-hall stars; and the Edwin Hugh Trio.

The balalaika, the Russian national instrument exploited by the Balalaika Court Orchestra at the Coliseum, was known to the ancient Russians, but remained in its primitive condition until the last decade of the last century. Then Mr. W. W. Andreef, the conductor of the Balalaika orchestra at the Coliseum, heard the instrument played by a peasant labourer, and struck by its possibilities, decided to study it with the object of trying to improve it. Under his superintendence a famous Russian musical instrument maker made the first improved balalaika, and since then Mr. Andreef has little by little brought it to its present state of perfection.

The birthday of Mr. Frank Poole, the respected resident-manager of the Hippodrome, Sheffield, was marked last week by the presentation of a solid silver cigar-case, suitably inscribed, from the members of the orchestra. The event took place at the local headquarters of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, the presentation being made by Mr. J. G. Hahn, the clever and genial musical conductor, who spoke highly of Mr. Poole's kindness and consideration. Mr. Poole, in reply, heartily thanked the donors, and paid a high tribute to the members of the orchestra and their talented conductor.

M. HENRI CAZMAN'S NEW ACT.

M. Henri Cazman, the versatile and clever entertainer, has been presenting his latest creation at Collins's Music Hall, Islington, this week. The performance is divided into four sections—The Scarlet Chamber, The Orange Corridor, Le Café Chantant, and Les Ombres des Mains. On the night of our visit, time would not permit of M. Cazman giving his entire entertainment, but sufficient was seen to again prove the varied accomplishments of this resourceful and expert performer.

His astonishing act is a vaudeville show in miniature, and smartly worked and staged as it is, should prove a big attraction in the variety theatres. A burlesque on the lightning painter was the first item in the interlude, The Scarlet Chamber. On the evening to which we are referring, M. Cazman rapidly plied the brush on a number of panels, which were afterwards placed in a frame, and made a very presentable picture. With a number of what appeared to be knotted handkerchiefs and a strip of ribbon, he next fashioned a vase of flowers. A dexterously-worked illusion was that in which an empty cabinet placed over a sheet is suddenly and mysteriously inhabited by a lady; and an equally marvellous piece of deception was the trick of the lady apparently floating in the air, a hoop being passed all over her body to prove there are no wires or other supports.

For neatness and adroitness there is nothing in the act to beat M. Cazman's card tricks, which are accomplished with all the aplomb and ease of one who makes sleight-of-hand his special study. Then there is the elaborate and bewildering Escape from the Kremlin illusion. No sooner is the prisoner incarcerated in an iron cage and blinds drawn, than he disappears, and other mystifying things happen. And it must be remembered this is only a portion of an olla podrida packed with surprises. For novelty M. Cazman's new act is not to be surpassed.

The stage of the Woolwich Hippodrome was the scene of a felicitous incident on the evening of the 1st inst., when a birthday present was made to the popular manager of the Hippodrome, Mr. Herbert H. Laidman. The orchestra and the staff assembled on the stage after the second house, and Mr. Ambrose Nicholls, of the Upton Hotel, Bexley Heath, at the request of the staff and several friends, handed to Mr. Laidman a handsome diamond ring. He expressed the hope that Mr. Laidman would live many years to wear the ring, and that when he looked at it he would think of the friends who presented it to him. Mr. Laidman suitably returned thanks.

A similar ceremony was gone through the previous evening, the stage manager, Mr. P. H. Presland, being the recipient of a presentation. It took the form of a gold albert and locket, presented to him by the staff and a few friends in recognition of his services in connection with the recent theatrical sports at Stamford Bridge, and it was handed to him by Mr. Laidman.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO FRED NEIMAN.

Mr. Fred Neiman, the popular ventriloquist, was born at Brighton on Oct. 16, 1860, and therefore attains his fiftieth year next month. Many of the friends he has made during a busy career intend to take the opportunity of his fiftieth birthday to present him with a testimonial. Mr. Neiman has always been a hard worker in many charitable causes, being a Royal Arch Freemason, of the Chelsea Lodge and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of America, his lodge being the Newark No. 21, New Jersey. He is also a member of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, of which

MR. FRED NEIMAN.

he is one of the founders; a founder and vice-president of the Music Hall Home Fund, in which he takes a keen interest; and a founder of the Terriers' Association, of whose executive he is likewise a member. He belongs to the Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, his name being enrolled in one of the oldest lodges, viz., "The Pride of Sheppey." The proposed testimonial is supported by many influential gentlemen, headed by Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Walter De Frece. Any of Mr. Neiman's friends desirous of having their names on the testimonial committee should send to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Harry Barnard, 43, Marsham-street; the Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Hardie, 18, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.; or Mr. W. Benn, 108, Strand, London, W.C.

Mr. Neiman commenced his career as a ventriloquist in 1876, with a Panorama of the Russo-Turkish War, using at that time two knee figures with great success. Subsequently he was secured by the "Wizard of the North," Prof. Anderson, and then fulfilled a two years' engagement with Leotard Bosco. In the course of his long career Mr. Neiman has toured all the principal music halls in Great Britain and Ireland, and produced many ventriloquial novelties, notable among which are "Funny Folks," introducing a life-sized automaton and ventriloquial parliament, using "Folly talking sticks," the heads of which represented all the leading politicians of the day, including the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Disraeli (then Premier), Chas. Bradlaugh, C. S. Parnell, and Lord Randolph Churchill. He afterwards invented and produced his greatest success, viz., "Ventriloquial Minstrels," which he manipulates up to the present. The show consists of a complete nigger minstrel first part, Mr. Neiman being the interlocutor. With this act he visited America, where he remained three years, touring the whole of the United States and California. He returned to London to open at the Tivoli, where he remained some considerable time, and has since played all the leading tours in England. He is now in partnership with Mr. Willie Benn, with whom he carries on a variety agency business at 108, Strand.

"THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Under the heading of "Song Writers and Singers" in your last issue I notice a par re the publishing of a song by Francis and Day, entitled "The Lighthouse Keeper," for Mr. Billy Merson. I sang a song twelve years ago entitled "I'm the Keeper of a Lighthouse," and in March last, at South Shields produced a revised version of the same by Wells and Terry, and am still working it. It is only fair to me to give this fact publicity, as I may be accused of borrowing Billy Merson's ideas, whereas the above clearly shows it is anything but that.—Yours faithfully,

Sept. 7, 1910. TED E. BOX.

An undignified struggle for the possession of the famous Paris music hall, the Moulin Rouge, occurred on Wednesday. A body of shareholders appointed a new manager, M. Faber, some days ago, but the former manager, M. Ruez, refused to leave, and he was supported by other shareholders. M. Ruez, who a few days previously had been locked out of the Moulin Rouge by his successor, forced his way into the building at the head of a dozen friends and took possession of the offices.

A hand-to-hand fight resulted, when M. Faber returned with reinforcements, and in the course of the struggle M. Faber fired a revolver, and, according to M. Ruez, the bullet whistled past his head. M. Faber declares that there were only blank cartridges in his revolver. Eventually M. Ruez left the Moulin Rouge, and the rival managers have brought charges again one another of burglary with violence.

LOTTIE BELLMAN.

ASSISTED BY BAY RUSSELL,
IN BIRMINGHAM.
TALENT WILL TELL.

Two years ago Lottie Bellman came fresh from America to the Birmingham Hippodrome. About that time the public were demanding entertainments of a higher order than that provided by the red-nosed comedians, gymnasts, and knock-about comedians, and Lottie supplied the needful. The audiences grew quite excited over the little lady, and applauded her loudly at the close of every incident of her performance. They saw in her the true artist, novel, original, and versatile, and above everything a real, genuine worker. Since

that time Miss Bellman has appeared at the Grand, where she was a big success, but this week at the Hippodrome her performance surpasses anything she has ever done in this country. She is ably assisted by Bay Russell, a stylish young man with an enviable reputation in musical comedy. The couple work admirably together, and if there still remain sceptics who talk about the conventional low comedy acts which bore one, they should not fail to see Bellman and Russell. No incident in the brightest musical comedy is equal to their act, and that is saying a good deal. The public continue to demand such turns, and if poachers do creep in, as I know they have done, and given Miss Bellman's "tit-bits" without acknowledgment, I am confident this versatile American lady and her partner can hold their own in the front rank. Their's is a whirlwind performance, full of entertaining material from beginning to end. The little "cross-talk" song about aviation is bright and attractive; the lady's hambone Virginian song is a masterpiece; the duet and dance characterising "the college boy" goes with an exceptional swing, the dancing being most extraordinary, and the finale—*The Merry Widow* burlesque puts the Russian and Apache dances completely in the shade. It is burlesque involving considerable skill and hard work, but Bellman and Russell are equal to all demands.—*Birmingham Weekly Mercury*, Saturday, Aug. 27, 1910.

THE IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

The genial manager, Mr. Frank Clarke, has again provided an exceedingly good programme for his patrons this week, and the business is excellent. The hall is certainly one of the cosiest in the East-End of London, the seating being particularly comfortable, and the decorating most tasteful. One important matter also is worthy of mention, viz., the splendid order that is maintained throughout the performance, which is certainly due to Mr. Clarke's tact. The premier position on the programme is occupied by Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' company in *Slaterstein, Ltd.*, a farcical skit in four scenes, the former gentleman being responsible for the writing of the skit. Much fun is made by Mr. Harry Rogers and Mr. Charles Hylton as the brothers Slaterstein, their antics throughout causing great laughter. They are ably assisted by Mr. Mark Lane as Barge, other characters being well sustained by Mr. Leonard Maxwell as Prince Antonio, Mr. Robert Purser as Jim Ferres, and Mrs. Bennett as Cora. A bevy of pretty girls and smart male choristers help to dress the stage, greatly assisting in making the production a success.

Miss Nita Wairing, a talented descriptive singer, is decidedly entertaining in her song, "That's how they say good-bye," at the conclusion of which the lady does a clever dance, which is greatly appreciated. Vere and Royal, comedy artists, are a clever duo, the male partner being equipped with a full stock of quips and gags, the lady greatly assisting in the fun, her voice, too, being particularly powerful. Mitchell and Stott, comedy tumblers, do many difficult feats, a special feature being their neatness. Everard Denton and company in their mystifying magical act are very interesting, the various tricks being watched with much attentiveness with the hope of finding out "how it's done," but the audience is entirely baffled. The last illusion with the hat, cat, and bird is decidedly good. Bernard and Marion, comedy vaudeville entertainers, provide an interesting few minutes. Smart singing and dancing are done by the lady, and the gentleman's humour is quite broad and causes much laughter.

Miss Ruby Roya did not appear on the evening of our visit, but an able substitute was found in Miss Vera Rochdale, who possesses a good voice, which was heard to advantage in those popular numbers, "Dreamland" and "Colon Town." Her dancing was also excellent, and at the conclusion of her turn she was warmly applauded. Mr. James Lawrence sang well "There are nice girls everywhere"; and Miss Bertha May, a recent winner in an amateur competition, pleased all with "I'm trying so hard to forget you." Miss Ethel Grahame and company apeared in a South American episode, *The Coward and the Flag*, the scene depicted being on a ranch, and the coward being an English settler who is badly treated by the ranchers, who are foreigners. They appear to despise the British race, hence their cruelty to the white man, which is certainly excessive, and Miss Grahame would be well advised to modify a portion of it. Many exciting incidents occur, and the finale is reached when the villain, a German, is shot. Many interesting films are displayed on the Bioscope, and a capital orchestra is ably led by Mr. H. A. Knight.

Mr. Rowland Hill is scoring in every town with his comedy chorus song, "Why does Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" This number is from the pen of Tom B. Newsome, and will be a winner for pantomime comedians in any character.

Messrs. Devon and Earle have collected the following amounts for the Music Hall Home:—J. Alexandre, 1s.; Geo. Hughes, 1s.; James Devon, 1s.; Gus Earle, 1s.; E. C. Gittins, 1s.; Adele Prescott, 1s.; Neil Kenyon, 1s.; Phil Rees, 1s.; Harry Russon, 1s.; Stella Dell, 1s.; Cissie Curlette, 1s.; Chiko, 1s.; Smarte Bros., 1s.; A. Lennard, 1s.; the Mosaics, 1s.; the Yokels, 1s.; Hollman and Russell, 1s.; Paul Lovell, 1s.; Katherine Kennedy, 1s.; Henri Helme, 1s.; Tom Lloyd, 1s.; total, 21s.

FELDMAN'S GREATEST TRIUMPH

GARDEN OF ROSES

CREATED BY
ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

THE ASSURED
HIT
OF THE YEAR.

Another Winner.

ALL IN A DAY.

ALSO SUNG BY
ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,
2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.
Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 24.*)

"ONE of the most remarkable instances of vitality in a popular song." This is how a well-knowm critic describes the phenomenal success of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's breezy nautical ditty, "Ship ahoy!" It is a noteworthy fact that as time goes on the song seems to grow in popularity instead of diminishing. The lilting melody seems ever fresh and redolent of the briny sea. The Star Music Co. are at present coping with an enormous demand for copies.

MISS JESSIE STEWART is a new star, and one who has come to stay. Possessed of a melodious, yet withal powerful voice, and a fascinating personality, she is a decided acquisition to the variety stage. On Monday last Miss Stewart made her bow to the critical Canterbury audience, who immediately recognised the real artist. Her principal contribution was A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's new song, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" To say that the audience were delighted with her rendering of this charming ballad is to put the fact very mildly. The Star Music Co. find it necessary to state that the above-mentioned song is *not* a free number.

CHAS. WHITTLE has undoubtedly surpassed all his previous successes with his new song, "Fall in and follow me." Each performance adds to the rapidly-spreading popularity of this catchy number, which is by those ubiquitous writers A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. Last week Mr. Whittle appeared at Grimsby, and the town is now literally saturated with the chorus, which is being whistled and sung in all its highways and byways. The Star Music Co. consider this the biggest winner in the light comedy vein they have ever handled, and a worthy successor to their famous "Ship ahoy!"

G. H. ELLIOTT, the ever-successful chocolate-coloured coon, continues his triumphant tour of the Stoll circuit. This week he is appearing at the Stratford Empire with his usual great success. He is specially featuring A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's novelty song, "Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah," and the audiences are not slow to show their appreciation of a great artist and a great song. The applause when Mr. Elliott retires after this number is truly deafening, and a third song is absolutely demanded. The Star Music Co. are the fortunate publishers of the above-mentioned winner.

MISS KATHLEEN GRAY, whose sweet voice and charming manner win her hosts of admirers, has returned to London in better form than ever. On Monday, at the Shoreditch Olympia, she produced A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's delightful ballad "I want to be more than a friend." This number, which is fast becoming a popular favourite, shows Miss Gray's ability to great advantage, and looks like being one of the Star Music Co.'s biggest winners.

AMONGST the songs recently acquired by the Star Music Co. are:—"You can always find a friend in the summer-time," George Lashwood's latest "find," by Paul Pelham and J. P. Long; "Follow the soldiers," Arthur Reece's bright military ditty, by Worton David and R. Penso; and a catchy aeroplane number by J. P. Harrington and Harry Lane, entitled "There's a little cot in Dover." This is sung by Lloyd Morgan, one of the most talented of our light comedians. Mr. Morgan will shortly feature the song in London.

TED E. BOX wishes to draw attention to the following from the "Variety Gossip" of *The Era*, March 12, 1910, owing to a song being published under the same title, mentioned in this column last week:—"The popular comedian Ted E. Box has purchased a song, by Gilbert Wells and Will Terry, entitled 'The Lighthouse-keeper,' which has been produced with tremendous success. It is understood that Wells and Terry had to write four songs on the lighthouse-keeper before they hit upon the identical article. The lightning and thunder and crockery-smashing effects were rehearsed at Mr. Box's house, much to the surprise and perplexity of the popular Wells, who began to prepare for earthquakes, and Will Terry had laughing hysterics at the perplexed Gilbert. And then another song was written, and a success was found at last."

MR. TOM E. FINGLASS must feel proud of the enormous success which greets his three numbers this week at the Palace, Oldham, "My Baby," his big Coliseum hit, being greeted with tumultuous applause.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

An interesting programme was forthcoming at the promenade concert at Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, Sept. 1. Mozart's Overture, "Le Nozze di Figaro," was followed by a particularly fine performance of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2, which the audience applauded with great enthusiasm. The novelty on Thursday evening was Mr. Vaughan Williams's Fantasia on English Folk-songs, a spirited work, chiefly interesting on account of the purely English nature of its subject. In Richard Strauss's Horn Concerto in E flat Mr. A. E. Brain, jun., gave an effective account of the solo instrument. The orchestral works included Suite "Peer Gynt" (Grieg), Walford Davies's Solemn Melody for organ and strings, Prelude to "Sappho" (Bantock), Mendelssohn's *Ruy Blas* Overture, and the "Marche Slave" (Tschaikowsky). Miss Laura Graves, who appeared at these concerts for the first time, was well received in Hatton's song, "The Enchantress," and Mr. Thorpe Bates sang "If love were all."

There was a large audience at Queen's Hall on Saturday last, Sept. 3, and the programme commenced with Goldmark's Overture, "Sakuntala," a romantic and richly scored work, originally produced at Vienna in 1865, and having special interest on this occasion owing to the recent production of the composer's opera, *The Queen of Sheba*, by the Carl Rosa company. Goldmark's overture was in admirable contrast to Boccherini's Minuet in A for strings, played with delightful finish and refinement by the orchestra. Other excellent performances by the orchestra were Elgar's second "Wand of Youth" suite, Järnefelt's "Praeludium," Pizzicato "Sylvia" (Délibes), Prelude "Die Meistersinger," and E. German's Three Dances from *Henry VIII*. Miss Esta D'Argo sang the aria in Bantock's "Christ in the Wilderness," and Mr. Herbert Heyner "Mephisto's Serenade" from Berlioz's *Faust*. Miss Jean Marcel was the solo violoncellist in Saint-Säens's 'Cello Concerto in A Minor.

Juggling Geraldos for Australia.

I MET one of the Juggling Geraldos the other evening, and as I have been interested in the great country of Australia for some time, I am always a ready listener for news about this far-away country. Geraldo visited the Antipodes some time ago, and was such a good success, according to the Australian Press, that he is making arrangements to again make the tour.

Dewitt, Burns, Terrance.

THESE clever comic eccentrics have been doing nicely over on the Continent, and from the success they are meeting, will remain there for some time.

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALLS MUNICIPALISED.

"It is a theory which pleases me, that everything that is wrong with the music hall is the imposition of the commercial-minded manager," writes Mr. P. P. Howe in the *Socialist Review*. "I want to see the tendency towards commercial monopolisation reversed. I want the music hall to be municipalised.

"It is time to be specific. The principle of collective ownership gets taken up in this country for one of two reasons: first, that it isn't safe to leave the enterprise in private hands; second, that the enterprise is profitable, which is to say, more or less of a monopoly. The music hall should be municipalised for both reasons. The risks of its misuse and its persistent profits are equally conspicuous. Every municipality should acquire or erect its own music hall. A committee of the Municipal Council should run the theatre, with competent and experienced managers to do the practical work. It will not be desirable to provide this municipal service, as it is others, such as transport, free of charge to the public. On the contrary, it will be the one municipal enterprise run frankly for profit. This will be used to subsidise the municipal music hall in its competition with other variety theatres; for, as with the legitimate stage and the publishing trade and several other industries, an absolute monopoly will be undesirable. The programme would be selected and arranged by the experienced managers, responsible to the committee of the council. There need be no tyranny in this, and, I think, no Puritanism, for the public will soon see to it that certain persons are elected to the council for the express purpose of administering the great business of municipal entertainments. There would be general guidance by the council, but each 'turn' would be considered by the managers separately, and on its merits. I do not know that this guidance would not include certain general restrictions and prohibitions. Indeed, I think these will be some of them: (*a*) The impersonation of women by men will be restricted; (*b*) the humour of physical violence will be prohibited; (*c*) very sparing use will be made of the cinematograph. But there would be no preconceived decision as to what sort of things might be presented and what might not; impersonations of men by women would be frequent, and performances involving a display of the human form would be judged individually and on their merits. In the last resort, it must be remembered, if any sort of entertainment to which you were partial suffered prohibition because it would not, on the whole, be wise to give it municipal sanction, you would quite likely find it at another theatre round the corner. For there is not to be a municipal censorship, nor a municipal monopoly. There is only to be vigorous and subsidised municipal competition.

"I have it in my mind, before going any further, to say a word about the so-called improvement in the music hall. I don't mean to imply that there has been no improvement in the music hall during, say, the last couple of decades. I imagine, and I am sure I hope, there has. My misgiving is that the people who talk so much about it are wrong-headed people, who, not having any appreciation of what is good in the music hall, are not likely to be the best authorities upon its improvement. Partly also they are interested people whose concern it is to write up one or other of the couple of great syndicates that are engaged in converting the old intimate hall of moderate size into the vast palace of varieties. These have their place, and their resources for the presentation of spectacle are not without significance to the art of the theatre. Incidentally, the drinking-bar is vanishing in the process, and also—Hallelujah! says Mrs. Grundy—the promenade. But it is evident that the new palatial conditions are not adapted to what is best in the music hall—the diversity of its humours and its whimsical characterisations. Intimacy is the very spirit of the art of the music hall.

"Delicate and humorous characterisation is provided to-day by a large number of very able artists—perhaps a larger number than ever before; I will take Mr. Beerbohm's word for the brainlessness of the music halls of his youth. Setting their performances aside (and one cannot quite do that, because they are affected by the tendencies I am going to name), the music hall deals in humour of three sorts. There is the humour of over-drinking, the humour of sex innuendo, and the humour of physical violence. I am quite aware that drunkenness leads to the exhibition of mirth-provoking characteristics of which the stage has always made free use. I hope it always may, and I rather think so. It pleases me to think that something one might call sex wit—quite a frank, and therefore always a pretty clean, thing, such as one finds in the best of the Restoration comedies—used to prevail, and that our reformer succeeded in abashing it into taking the form of the sex innuendo of the present day. Physical violence, again, is, and must be, a constituent of broad comedy. But do you know what it is for your gorge to rise at it? No; I dislike the *greasiness* in music hall humour. The political humours of the music hall are greasy. They are not exclusively Tory in their bias, as some of our reformers like to make out. A self-respecting municipality will find no place for them.

"The permeation of the music hall by the short play is, of course, an improvement. I have yet, however, to see, with some three exceptions, a play in a music hall which is of any use to anyone. The trouble is only partly that of their difficult environment. Mr. George Alexander, it will be remembered, told the Censorship Committee that coming between performing elephants and human apes a good short play was inconceivable; but then it is impossible to conceive worse short plays than those with which Mr. Alexander raises the curtain at his own theatre. The trouble lies in the sort of short play that gets written. What could be calculated to appeal less to an audience inexperienced in plays and demanding that its attention shall be tickled every moment than great slabs of dialogue bandied from mouth to mouth? The writers of short plays will have to become more concerned with the method of realism (as to an extent have W. W. Jacobs and Henry Arthur Jones, two of the exceptions I mentioned just now). Touch-and-go dialogue is the thing for the music hall. The short play has no real hold on the music hall at present, but it will have so soon as the music hall is presented with plays so obviously cut to its measure as is Mr. Barrie's *Twelve-Pound Look*.

"A very great deal of nonsense is talked—and, what is worse, not talked, but loftily implied—about the puerilities of the music hall. Distinguished dramatic critics pay a biennial visit, and expect us to be mortified by their phonographic reproduction of the words of some chorus. These critics miss the whole spirit and the whole purpose of the music hall, and make a positive parade of their unfamiliarity. One may see how unfair a standard is applied to the music hall when one considers with what leniency is treated the instinct to stand and gaze at the veriest nothing being done in the street, while so soon as something twenty times as difficult is done twenty times as well in the music hall the onlookers and everyone concerned are regarded as fools and knaves. This is the lowest ground on which to defend the music hall. The municipal music hall will appreciate the need to provide intimate social amusement as well as to encourage the arts."

CRICKET.

TERRIERS C.C. v. HAMMERSMITH PALACE XI.

The above match took place on Tuesday, Sept. 6, and resulted in a win for Hammersmith Palace by 44 runs.

TERRIERS C.C.—Alan Marshall, b W. Ware, 51; H. Bekker, b Webber, 2; W. Bekker, b Richardson, 1; Billy Kloof, c Lewis, b Webber, 9; H Conlin, b Webber, 0; D. M. H. Hoffman, b Ware, 0; Tom Packer, b Ware, 5; W. Dunkley, b Webber, 4; T. Buckley, b Ware, 4; H. Bennett, not out, 0; H. Karno, 1 b w, 0; byes, 7. Total, 83.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.—Chittenden, c Conlin, b A Marshall, 6; Leslie, c Buckley, b A. Marshall, 2; Webber, c Bekker, b W. Dunkley, 32; C. Richardson, c Hoffman, b A. Marshall, 0; Parsons, 1 b w, b W. Dunkley, 0; Davis, b A. Marshall, 9; W. Richardson, b Hoffman, 14; L. Richardson, b W. Dunkley, 20; Nat Lewis, not out, 7; Pank, c Conlin, b W. Dunkley, 0; Ware, c H. Karno, b H. Conlin, 19; byes, 18. Total, 127.

The return and last cricket match of the season will take place on Tuesday next, Sept. 13, at Peckham Rye Park. Match starts 11.30. All Terriers wishing to take part in match kindly send names in to Tom Packer, hon. secretary, 69, Kennington-road.

STAR MUSIC CO., LTD.

AGAIN REMOVE TO LARGER PREMISES,

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

(*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*).

BAND PARTS . In this key . 1/-

THIS IS "IT."

Published in 3 Keys.

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES

(I WONDER IF YOU CARE).

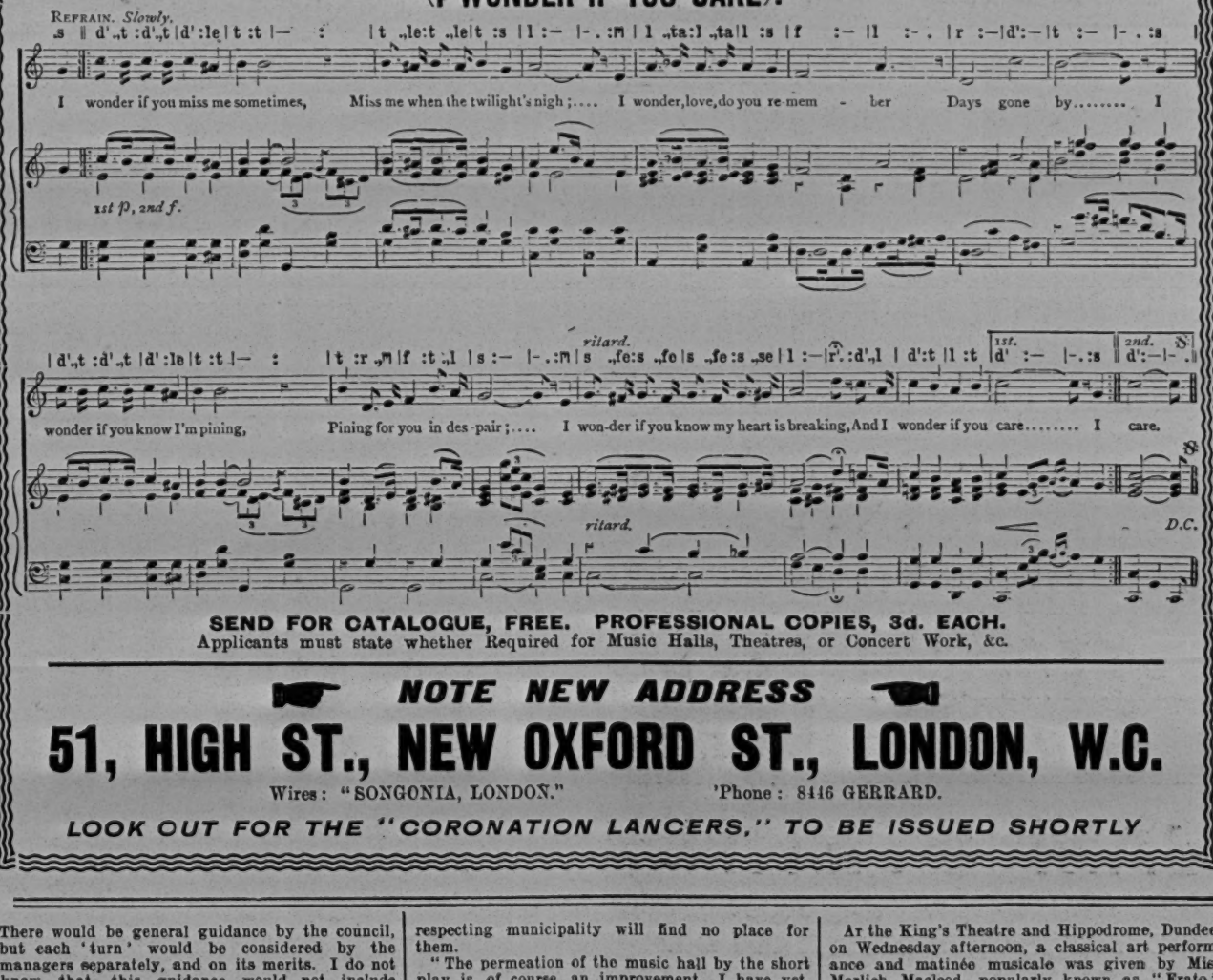

SEND FOR CATALOGUE, FREE. PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH.
Applicants must state whether Required for Music Halls, Theatres, or Concert Work, &c.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

LOOK OUT FOR THE "CORONATION LANCERS," TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY

AT the King's Theatre and Hippodrome, Dundee, on Wednesday afternoon, a classical art performance and matinée musicale was given by Miss Morlich Macleod, popularly known as "Erato." Miss Macleod appeared in her original symbolic representations, "The Tragic Muse of Scottish Ballad," her interpretations including "The bonnie Earl o' Murray," "The Lowlands o' Holland," "The four Maries," and "The land o' the leal." She was assisted by a talented company, including Madame Francesca Zanfretta, classical art danseuse, in æsthetic art dance postures; Miss Innell Græme, diseuse; Miss Adeline Hope, contralto; and Hon. Charles Vincent, tenor. Mr. Harold Craxton was a most efficient accompanist. The entertainment, which from start to finish was of the most enjoyable description, was under the direction of Mr. John Halpin.

"MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—Will you permit me to correct a mis-statement in your last issue? The dramatic scena now being played by me is entitled *For a Woman's Honour*, and not *For a Woman's Sake*.—Yours faithfully, MILLIE HYLTON, Hippodrome, Manchester. Sept. 6, 1910."

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice last week of the Queen's, Poplar, you mention Daisy Hicks as having sung "I wish I could let those rooms" and "If I hadn't got the dinner on the hob." May I say that I was deputising for Miss Hicks?—Yours faithfully, DOROTHY VERNON, 3, Beach House, Royal Crescent, Margate.

Soon be Back.

CHARLENE AND CHARLENE will sail from Australia the middle of the month, and will open in the English halls for a lengthy engagement about the latter part of October.

OPENING OF THE FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Yet another magnificent Moss-Stoll variety palace, the Finsbury Park Empire, opened its doors to the public on Monday evening, when a large and appreciative audience quickly packed every part of the fine building. Expressions of admiration were heard on all sides at the beautiful and perfectly-equipped house, a full description of which appeared in our last issue, and the latest addition to the vast aggregation of variety houses governed by the Moss-Stoll syndicate started on its career under the happiest auspices, and a career of prosperity would appear assured. The prices charged for admission are within the reach of all, and seem absurdly moderate when the quality of the entertainment and the palatial nature of the building are taken into account.

Apart from the band playing "The King" before the entertainment started, there was no special ceremony on the opening night, and the first artist to have the honour of taking the stage was Mr. George Rae, a Scotch comedian who aroused much merriment with his droll description of the adventures of six bonny boys who came to London town, a smartly-executed dance concluding a much-appreciated turn. The spacious stage of the new Empire enabled the Daunton-Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists to exploit their wonderfully clever and smartly-worked exhibition to the greatest possible advantage, and the many difficult feats accomplished by these monarchs of the wheel were loudly acclaimed. Nothing finer in its line is to be seen on the variety stage, and not the least attractive feature of the show is the apparent enthusiasm each member of the troupe takes in his or her part of the proceedings. Siems, the great Danish coin and card manipulator, seemingly produces coins from the air with marvellous skill, and his card tricks are particularly perplexing, his entire turn being a very enjoyable one; and Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, extracted much humour from her song, "I don't like London" and another number, her smart step-dancing also being a much-appreciated item. The ludicrous burlesque business introduced by the Kirbys, in their musical comedy pot-pourri, provoked hearty laughter, especially the "Lady Doctor" and "Lady Barber" impersonations, the grotesque antics of the male member of the duo creating much hilarity.

Those distinguished operatic stars, Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners were accorded a very flattering reception, Mme. Moody's artistic and expressive rendering of Tosti's "Good-bye" and "The Last Rose of Summer" making an irresistible appeal to the crowded and delighted house. Mr. Manners' fine voice was admirably employed in a couple of old favourites, "To-morrow will be Friday" and "Father O'Flynn," both of which were given in a quietly droll style that greatly enhanced their effect. That high-class vocalism is appreciated at the halls—not only in the West, but in all parts of London—was again demonstrated by the lavish applause bestowed on Mme. Moody and Mr. Manners at the conclusion of their turn. The musical comedy interlude of Tom and Marie Motrama was punctuated (as it always is) by hearty laughter, the ludicrous behaviour of the male of the duo towards his charming partner being very funny. The instrumental portion of the turn is also appreciated, and the turn throughout is a most enjoyable one.

The playlet of the programme is *A Lamb on Wall-street*, an episode of the New York Stock Exchange, in which Mr. Bert Coote gives his inimitable portrayal of the dude, Tapsley Framingham, who outwits his rascally partner Horton. The business in the earlier portion of the sketch, especially Tapsley's singing to his lady love of a song of his own composition, is screamingly funny, and the portrayal throughout is a very clever one. Miss Ada Russell, a charming figure in black, admirably depicts Eleanor Belding's indignation with Tapsley and her terror when threatened by Horton, and the scenes between her and Tapsley are neatly and adroitly managed, and Mr. J. C. Aubrey's representation of the unthankful rôle of Horton is a convincing and easy one.

Miss Helen Trix, a clever little American comedienne and sifflleuse, proved her undoubted versatility by contributing three impersonations of an entirely different nature, the first—her own sweet self—in which she sang a taking little song, accompanying herself at the piano; next appearing as a boy, and rendering with much expression a love idyll, "I'm awfully strong on you," and whistling the melodious refrain at the conclusion; and, lastly, as a lively and lovable old dame in a costume of mid-Victorian days, who is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of her wedding, and evidently sets out to enjoy herself. All three impersonations were capitally given, and the audience recognised the ability of the artist by much hand-clapping. The American Bioscope, in up-to-date subjects, is also on the excellent programme for the week. The fine orchestra is under the control of Mr. Fred Camp.

"PROBABLY in no public places is the advance of ideas with regard to public health and sanitation more apparent than in our theatres," says a writer in the *Scots Pictorial*. "The old-fashioned house, with heavily-papered walls—so suitable a harbourage for germs—dusty, insanitary decorations, and defective ventilation, is rapidly passing away, and in its place a fine modern style of house is being reared up that has such important improvements as sanitary wall-coverings, washable decorations, and ventilation by means of forced draught. While such progress is, generally speaking, satisfactory, there does seem some further room for improvements in one or two respects. But before such further improvements could be effected, the general public, who make up the audiences, and not the management of the theatres, would have to be made to feel the necessity for them, and concur in the effort to introduce them. As an instance, why should there be so much heavy upholstery about a playhouse or a music hall? Does it not go without saying that nothing is more likely to aid and abet the ubiquitous microbe than this class of appurtenances, or at least that it is extremely difficult to keep such material clean and in a sanitary condition? Now, here, the management of the theatres are not to blame. They would no doubt very gladly dispense with extravagant upholstery when building new houses, but what would the audience say to it? Yet, if the audience could only be got to know it—it seems like Spartan philosophy; but, at any rate, it is strictly true—it is much better to sit for a couple of hours on a hard seat than to be in contact for a like period with dusty, musty cushions. The danger, however, is not so serious as it was, as so many houses have introduced leather upholstery, which is clean and easily kept clean."

Diamond King Back.

JULES JORDAN arrived last week from America. During his stay over on the other side he was caused quite a little annoyance by the American Customs House officials, who tried to get gay with the clever actor. Jules beat them at their own game, however, and showed clearly that a man has a right to wear his own property in any place without going to the trouble of having to cough up money to the Government for the privilege.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era* Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN ENGLAND AND ELSEWHERE.

[By Americus.]

Beck Busy With Acts.
Martin Beck seems to pay little attention to the movements of other combines, and is busy booking up his bills for the season. It is quite evident that a few of the Eastern managers became very much alarmed at the rapid strides Beck has been making in American vaudeville, and the Cincinnati move was for the sole purpose of stalling Beck or blocking his rapid move East for some time at least.

Mighty Strong.
It is a well-known fact that the Sullivan and Considine circuit has been on the move during this past year, and will come into New York and the East regardless of all with their popular price vaudeville shows. This circuit is now considered one of the strongest in America, and has some thirty or more weeks to offer, and I look to see John Considine one of the biggest men in American variety, if he isn't right now, within a very short time.

Good Shuffler.
Herbert Lloyd caused the audience to roar with laughter at the Hippodrome during this week. This funny fellow shuffles a bunch of shirt fronts about the same as a card man would shuffle a deck. He does it with such finish that he never misses his right or left throw once.

Bert Coote Goes Next Week.
Bert Coote, the lamb of Wall Street, sails next week for America, where he opens with the United time with his present offering. The act has got a laugh or two every second at the Hippodrome all this week, besides playing at the new Empire at Finsbury Park.

Gilday and Fox at Paragon.
Gilday and Fox, the American Hebrew comedians, were held over for another week at the Paragon, where the act was a big success.

Sam Stern on Big Time.
The single American Hebrew comedian, known throughout the States as the Indian Jew comedian, Sam Stern, has gradually been going along on the Stoll time, and will be seen next week at the Coliseum. Stern has a new budget of songs and parodies which are fine, and he is putting them over the footlights with good results.

Carron There Every Night.
The German clubs would hardly exist if the patronage of Paul A. Carron, of the Marinelli office, were to withdraw. Not only this; but if anything comes off in the booking line Marinelli has his man there all the time on the spot, and Paul always has his eyes open for his boss.

Newcastle This Week.
The famous Jackson Family of cyclists are at the Empire, Newcastle, and the act is one big success.

Balloon Girl for the Palace.
Marinelli has booked *The Balloon Girl*, which has proved such a big hit in Berlin, for the Palace. The act was also a fine success in Paris for some weeks.

At Edinburgh.
The comedy man with his partner (Campbell and Barber) are at the Empire, Edinburgh, this week. The funny falls of the cyclist and the expert riding of the trick man have made them big favourites in the Scotch city.

Du Gros Bar Act.
The Du Gros comedy bar act are on the Stoll time, and are at Birmingham this week. The act may return to America next spring, for another stay over the Orpheum circuit.

Belle Belmont, Entertainer.
If there is anyone in the world can continually hand you a laugh or two during an evening at the German Club, it is Belle Belmont, the singer and comedienne. One of the boys came in the other evening with a new check suit on, and Belle handed over a big laugh by saying the checks on the suit ought to be chloroformed. Miss Belmont has a new find in a young lady who sings very prettily, and should be given some good time in the halls. I was told she was the daughter of an old performer who was quite popular here in the English music-halls in his day.

Nuremberg, Germany.
Bert French and Alice Eis, in their famous vampire dance, are the big attraction at the Central Theatre, Nuremberg, Germany, this month.

Wallace Bradley on Way Back.
Mr. Wallace Bradley, of the Kaufman troupe of expert cyclists, is on his way back from America via the Cunard Line. Mr. Bradley will arrive in London on Monday night from Fishguard. During his stay in America he reports that his son, Frank Kaufman, has made some very profitable real estate deals in their old home, Rochester, N.Y.

Pretty Dorothy Kenton,
The little banjo girl, who has been on this side and the Continent for the past few years off and on, is playing at the Alhambra, Paris, commencing in October for an indefinite engagement, booked by the Marinelli agency.

Ronacher's, Vienna.
Latell, the great mimic, is a big success at Ronacher's this month, according to the Wein Press. His clever mimic work has been noticed quite a good deal by the Austrian Press.

General Lavine.
This comic juggler goes to the Circus Carre next month for a two weeks' engagement, after which he will play the French Metropolis, Paris. The General has been getting on nicely on the Continent, and has been booked for returns at every hall.

Hymack Sails in November.
Hymack, the quick-change artist extraordinary, who was such a big hit in America last year, goes back to play a return trip over the Orpheum circuit.

Hansa Theatre Gets Ethel Levey.
Miss Ethel Levey has signed for a month at Hamburg, and will play at the pretty Hansa Theatre one month during the coming fall.

Five Mowatts, Dresden.
Topping the bill at the Central Theatre, Dresden, this month, are the American club jugglers, the Five Mowatts. These clever fellows have the reputation of being the greatest of club jugglers, and by their pretty work they have gained for themselves an international prestige in the variety halls all over the world.

For the United Time.
Alfred Whelan has been booked by the Marinelli office for a tour over the United time in America. The clever pianist and entertainer will open at Trenton, New Jersey, on Sept. 26.

RINALDO.

WILLY PANTZER & CO.,
STOLL TOUR.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS, IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
Aug. 29 to Sept. 24, TOWER, BLACKPOOL. A FEW VACANT DATES.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
at PALACE THEATRE, LONDON.

THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
DRESDEN, GERMANY.

HARRY JOLSON.
COLISEUM, LONDON.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

GILDAY and FOX.
Re-engaged for another Week, PARAGON.

NAT WILLS.
Re-engaged at PALACE, LONDON.

MISS MABEL BERRA,
PALACE, MANCHESTER.

SAM STERN. NOT AN INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS, BUT GROWING POPULAR.
COLISEUM. Week Sept. 12.

NICK KAUFMAN.
Refined Cycle Troupe. Special Engagement PALACE THEATRE, LONDON.

CAPT. SPAULDING. The Man who Made Vesuvius Jealous.
Hottest Act in any Music Hall.

Luton Next Week.
Russell and Held still continue to be the big top on all the bills which they play, and from the success they are meeting they will hold this honour for many years to come. They do a fine act, and they are what one would call a riot at every performance.

Metropolitan Has Good Bill.
The comedy work of S. and G. Auer at the Metropolitan this week is good, and they present a mighty neat and pretty entertainment. The man does some fine jumping, all of which shows absolute finish and gracefulness, while the lady's looks and nice personality win their audiences over right from the start. The making of a dog's head with rags is a novel feature, which presents a pretty picture and gets some nice applause.

King of Buck Dancers on Skates.
After seeing the clever performance of the little American buck dancer, Willie Gardner, at the Metropolitan, the other night, I have forgotten that I have ever seen any buck dancing on roller and ice skates before. This little fellow may well be termed the greatest of dancers in his particular style.

Nat Wills Kidding.
The tramp comedian isn't satisfied with kidding on the stage, but he wants to hand out a few laughs when off. He sprang a report that Pat Casey had just sent his card back to him, and had just arrived from America. A few of the boys took it seriously, but Earle Reynolds wanted to make a small bet that there wasn't a boat sailing that anyone could entice the big agent on. Reynolds says Casey gets seasick crossing the ferry-boats in New York. At any rate, the rumour was afloat that Big Pat was in London, and there were about a hundred acts looking for Pat to try to get on his books for America.

King Rose Here.
Isaac Rose, impresario, and sometimes called the Herr Director of big novelties throughout the world, arrived in the city in the early part of the week. Ike has some new stuff he is here to place. In fact, he never has anything else but novel stuff. He says, "It is loss of time to deal in goods which don't show profit to the managers. Consequently I have brought over a few, just a few, that will bring the money in." Manager Rose has the two famous Bohemian Twins, which have caused such a world-wide interest on account of being grown together. The impresario is arranging a time for their London appearance, and Ike says that London will see the greatest attraction in the freak line that the world has ever seen or ever heard of.

Nick Kaufman Goes Back Soon.
Nick Kaufman, who is one of the big hits of the Palace bill, goes back to Berlin the latter part of next week. As soon as his brother-in-law, Mr. Wallace Bradley, arrives from America, Nick will turn the troupe over to him, and he will proceed to Berlin, where he will get ready a big roller skating ballet for the American Roller Rink Company, which he has signed a contract for a three months engagement with. He will produce some ten or fifteen girls in a neat skating ballet at the opening of the Berlin rink on Oct. 1.

Captain Spaulding.
I see that the Captain has been booked for some time through the office of Shereck and Braff, twelve weeks being the number allotted to him for a short tour, after which he will go on the Continent. The man who makes Vesuvius jealous was a big headliner at Brighton a few weeks ago, and last week was repeating at the Canterbury, registering a big success. The blowing off gunpowder in his hand, biting off redhot carbons with his teeth, and chewing up melting lead, are only a few of the marvellous things the man who is immune presents in the course of his entertainment.

Mabel Berra Went Great.
The clever little American comedienne, Miss Mabel Berra, was a real good hit at the Palace, Manchester, last week. In addition to this success I notice that Miss Berra is registering many big votes for the popularity contest in a New York racing paper which devotes some columns to vaudeville.

Six American Dancers.
These clever people, and there are six of them, all clever, are still going great at the Palace. The German impresario, Isaac Rose, who paid three shillings to stand up to see the act, was very much in love with the performance, and applauded it throughout. The dancers sail for Australia on Nov. 12, via the Orient Line, for a trip over the Rickards circuit.

Nick Kaufman Again.
This famous bicyclist has been asked time and again, "Why don't you ride yourself, Nick? Why, you used to be a good one in your day; in fact, there never was anyone any better. You are a young fellow yet." "Well. Maybe you fellows think I can't do it. If you have your doubts about me, just hike over to Berlin Wintergarten about Christmas Day, and you will see that I am still there." Kaufman is going to ride in the Kaufman act on this day, and I hear that his friends are going to be there strong that night to see whether the old champion has lost any of his skill and cleverness. Nick will do his act on the old ordinary wheels, which will bring back fond memories to those who remember when the big wheels were just the thing.

Millman Trio.
The Millman Trio open at Dresden, Germany, for a two weeks' stay. The act proved to be a good winner right from the start. This is not the Bird Millman Trio that the halls saw last year.

Rinaldo the Great.
Just as big a hit at every performance as when he came over is this fellow, who acknowledges that he doesn't know one minute what he is going to play the next on the fiddle.

La Belle There With Gowns.
I called the turn that La Belle would be some picture this week at the Coliseum, but I am not going to say what Nat Wills told La Belle after her act on Monday afternoon.

Nellie Donegan Improving.
Nellie Donegan, who has had three months of mighty bad luck, is able to be around now, and will be out by the time this goes to press.

H. B. M. in Berlin To-day.
The international booker, H. B. Marinelli, went over to Berlin for a week's stay on Thursday. Mr. Wolheim is going to Paris to look over some matters while the boss is away. Chas. Bonaught, the American manager for Marinelli, has resigned, and will open an office of his own.

On Stoll Time.
Lamberti, the musician, will open on the Stoll time, making his first stop at the Hippodrome, London, on Oct. 3.

Athletas for America.
Carron tells me that the Marinelli office has recently booked the Sisters Athletas for America, opening on the United time in Jan., 1912.

Off for Louisville.
The Aurora Troupe sailed last week for America, and will open at the Mary Anderson theatre, Louisville, for a trip over the Orpheum time.

Jimmy Britt's Good Show.
Jimmy Britt, who is representing Hugh McIntosh (the big fight promoter), of Australia, is handling the first show to be pulled off here in London, which will be known as an "Elimination" series, and will give the public an opportunity of finding out which is the best man in England, and which will eventually bring forth an opponent for Jack Johnson. The first bill which is scheduled is Sept. 15, at the King's Hall, London-road, and the bout is between Bombardier Wells and Sergeant Sunshine.

Helen Trix's Sister Here.
Miss Helen Trix's pretty sister, Alma Trix, arrived from America last week, and will spend a few months with Miss Trix here in London before returning to the States.

Ritchie in Paris.
The Ritchie cyclists closed a fine engagement at Wein last week, and will open in Paris this month for a month's stay.

Cliff Going Back.
The comedy circus act of Cliff Berzac, which has registered a tremendous success all over the world, will return to America in a short time, playing the Big time, where he has a year's work booked.

De Coe at Olympia, Paris.
The American equilibrist, De Coe, is at the Olympia, Paris, this month. After this engagement he comes to London, at the Hippodrome.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Barnet Great Fair.

FRIENDS and foes (if there be any of the latter) all admit its claim to greatness. It is great as a business mart, world famous as a horse fair, and, despite all the pessimists, it gets greater every year as a pleasure fair for North London. Barnet, like Mitcham, can claim the sanctions of ancient origin and unbroken continuity. With its trading, or horse fair side, we have little to do. It is with the pleasure that follows business that we are concerned—when the trader and his customers unbend the severity of "haggling and higgling," and go to the shows, roundabouts, and all the fun of the fair, to rest and to recreate the body and the mind.

FOR this salutary medicine of the mind, this never-failing tonic for the jaded and worn faculties of body and soul, it is that the mighty physicians of the people—the itinerant showmen—provide.

ALL sorts and conditions of shows and showmen, from the colossal cinematograph palace to the peepshow; from the proprietor of a six-foot stall to the owner of both shows and roundabouts; from the camp-follower and kerbstone salesman to the stately orator, with his modern appeal on the picture palace parade; the cokernut men to the houp-la merchant. All these enterprises, all these men are needed to make up your modern fair. Barnet Fair lives and grows in popularity every year, because it does fulfil its true destiny. It supplies what the people require; it needs no other defence, and we, of all people, are ready to admit and to defend its claim to be modern as well as ancient. Modern, with the vigour of new life, and ancient with its many links with an honourable past. No; Barnet Fair will remain to the teeming population of great London town on its northern boundaries.

SPREADING by the roadside, nearly half a mile in length, over 200 caravans, shows, and stalls, entertainment by the thousand yards, at many pitches, and by 500 entertainers. So is great Barnet Fair as we know it to-day. Thurston's show and roundabouts, Biddall's show, Gray's roundabouts, Pettigrove's gallopers, Manders' racers and motors, houp-las, shooters, cokers, toy and gingerbread stalls in galore, swings, highfliers, aeroplanes, boxing booths, side shows, refreshment tents, throwing games, bazaars; in fact, all the best elements of a popular fair. Who shall gainsay its claim to endure so long as it satisfies its hundreds of thousands of patrons?

Oxford St. Giles Fair.

HERE, again, we have a hardy annual—a twentieth-century carnival for the people in a mediæval setting—"apples of gold in a silver frame"— the people at play with the seats of learning as the background. For even in a great university city it is wise and salutary to let the people free to enjoy the lighter things of life for a brief time. So the fair spreads its magic and glamour along the Broad and the Corn Market of ancient Oxford. The clown and the cheap jack (or their modern counterparts) display their talents or shout their wares. "And all the people go out to play." It is well that it is so. Oxford has the best that showland can give every year at St. Giles' Fair. Cinematograph shows by Wm. Taylor, Alf. Ball, and others; roundabouts and machine novelties by Thurston and Sons, Wilson, Buckland, Bird, Collins, and others; side shows in great variety, swings, bazaars, and games of all kinds; crowds of all classes, from the College Don to the College Scout, all are there—all do their share to make up that unique survival of ancient fitness, St. Giles' Fair at Oxford.

The Guild Chaplain at Ayr Fair.

THE Scotch showpeople hope to repeat the great success of the past three years at Ayr Fair. For the benefit of the Parliamentary Defence Work funds of the Guild the entire proceeds of the opening night of the fair are given. Over £50 were realised by this means last year. The Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, will address a mass meeting of the showpeople at Ayr on Sunday afternoon next, Sept. 11, at 3.30 p.m., in Green's show on the fairground. In the evening at 8.15 the Chaplain will conduct the usual Guild service, assisted by, as on former occasions, the local clergy.

Ayr Fair, 1910.

THE splendid open parkland and recreation grounds at Newton, Ayr, enables that celebrated expert showman, George Green, to set out a fair with both distinction and satisfaction. It was a pleasure to us to see the Great Fun City in the making at Newton Park, the orderly procession of huge traction engines convoying trains of caravans, carriages, and trucks, all loaded with the building plant, each train load moving to its appointed place. Then the magic celerity with which the builders set to work, till like a fairy transformation scene a vast square of shows, roundabouts, variety circles, throwing games, tents, and stalls sprang, like the prophet's gourd, into wondrous shape and being. It was a triumph of management that waved its magic wand. It was George Green as the Aladdin with the magic lamp. It was forethought and skill and power of expert organisation, a dozen traction engines, scores of draught horses, hundreds of willing men, all knowing what to do, and how to do it, and the vast quadrangle of the park became a city of joyous pleasure, a vision of light. From 200 and more powerful arc lamps, fed by ten electric light installations. That is the building of a modern fair; that is what we saw as we watched it rise into being at Newton Park, Ayr.

The Machine Novelties at the Fair.

THE veteran leader of Scotch showland, Mr. John Wilmot, had two high-class machines on exhibition—the racing motor-cars and the four-abreast galloping horses. Mr. George Green contributed two big sets—the motor-cars and the galloping horses. The cake walk was another novel feature by Mr. Green. Steam yachts were provided by Mrs. Baker and Sons and Howard and Sons; juvenile sets and gem horses were by Messrs. John Wilmot, jun., Talbot, Smith, and Baker; Mr. Joe Caddick, with photo saloon; and Mr. J. Caddick, jun., with novel throwing games, were located near the main entrance.

The Shows. Great and Small, at the Fair.

CHIPPERFIELD'S Franco-British menagerie, Paulo's circus, Biddall's optotechiscope, Manders' cinematograph, Green's gigantic picture palace, and the No. 2 show, the haunted castle, Testo's aeroplane, the golden staircase, Buckley's midget menagerie, T. Wortley's model of a coal mine at work, and the No. 2 show, the fine art gallery, Testo's giant horse exhibition, and Chapman's trained hares and birds, all these were set out on the two principal sides of the vast square. A galaxy of shows difficult to equal.

Shooters, Houp-las, Throwing Games.

SHOOTERS by Messrs. Rostron, Sheeran, Lawrence, Wright, and others; houp-la circles by Messrs. Baker, Sheeran, Carrick, McIndoe, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Cunningham. Throwing games, novelty frames, dolly stalls, cokers, refreshment tents, bazaars, pannum stalls, &c., by Messrs. Blockley, Irvin and Son, Bradley, Ross, Merrick, Cooper, Johnson, Day, Anderson, Kelly, Carrick, Graham, Smith, Dawson, Carter, Stevenson, Newey, Talbot, Lawrence, Swallow, and many others.

White City, Old Trafford.

THE return of the summer weather has brought crowds to this beautiful park, where the plants and flowers are in excellent condition. The Scenic Railway, water chute, and the many other outdoor amusements are being used to the utmost of their capacity. Meanwhile, the band of the 18th Hussars (Prince of Wales' Own) play during the afternoons and evenings. The 20th Annual Lifeboat Saturday demonstration is announced to be held here to-day (10th inst).

Gorton Fair.

GORTON this year has been more fortunate than the last few fairs held during August as regards the weather, which will be welcomed by one and all, and with hopes that it will continue. The wakes were under the direction and control of Mr. J. Collins, who had with him his motor-car track, airship, electric horses, and twin yachts. T. Hurst's electric farmyard and Helm's cycle track, along with Mrs. Hibbert's hobby-horses, completed the machine list. This year we were favoured with a visit, after a long absence, of Crighton's electric palace, whose elaborate, massive, and magnificent organ was surrounded by admiring crowds, and the show, both in and out, is without equal, and has left a good impression behind it, and will always be welcome and looked forward to in the future. Clarke's electric bioscope, the Lancashire favourite show, occupied its usual place, and was always showing the best pictures. Proctor's circus got some nice houses, and the national boxing academy completed the shows. Juvenile machines was catered for by Messrs. Fords, Thwaites, Mercer, and others, rifle ranges by Fletcher's, hoop-las and other games were supplied by Messrs. Wood, White, Calver, Mercer, Mulcaster, and others too numerous to mention. Gingerbread and nut stalls were catered for by Robert Dixion. Business was good, and the majority assembled here will be at Pendlebury, Manchester, this week-end.

Is Haslemere Fair to be Saved?

OUR London and Southern Counties showmen have only a fortnight wherein to get to work to save Haslemere Fair. We gave them full warning last week, and sounded an earlier alarm a fortnight ago. Who is going to stand in the breach and save Haslemere Fair? Please send in full particulars to the Guild secretary at *The Era* offices, and steps will be taken at once.

The Shops' Hours Bill and Auction Vans.

HERE, too, is a matter that demands immediate action. The warning we gave last week demands work at once if the interests of a large body of people are to be adequately protected. What are the travelling auctioneer and the allied trades and industries going to do in the matter? The Bill will go through Parliament because it has behind it all the force of the Home Office and the strong personality of a great Home Secretary. The travelling auctioneer is no sweater of labour. He does not keep open his shop for long hours. The cheapjack and his merry men work, as a rule, less than half the number of hours in any given week than the best employers exact from their assistants. Why should he be penalised for the sake of the sweater? The matter is serious, and that it is urgent we know and recognise. The Home Secretary must be approached, and safeguards for the auctioneering business must first be submitted to him.

IT may well be that with this Bill, as it was with the Cinematograph Act as first drafted, no provision was made to safeguard interests of great importance, because the Department of State dealing with the question had no means of knowing until it was told how serious the measure was to people of whose existence (much less their importance) the departmental draughtsmen were unaware. In all matters of this kind there is only one safe rule—make your case known, and it is certain you will get justice done.

An Old Showman's Fatal Slip.

AN inquest was held at Cardiff on Monday touching the death of John White, aged seventy-six, a showman, who for the past ten years had lodged with Mr. George Collins, of Tin-street. The latter said that deceased had suffered from rheumatism. On Aug. 13 he slipped in the passage, and was laid up. Death occurred on Saturday. His son, also a showman, travelled about the country and assisted his father. At present he was at Swansea. According to medical evidence, death was due to heart failure, accelerated by the fall. Verdict accordingly.

"The Band-box Clown."

MR. ALFRED NORTON, the long-time manager of Ginnett's Circus, regretfully informs us that George Benham, the well-known circus clown, is in Westminster Hospital, after undergoing a serious operation. Benham's many friends, in and out of the circus profession, will be glad to know that the operation has been perfectly successful, and that he is progressing satisfactorily. We heartily wish him speedy recovery. He was popularly known as "the band-box clown," because of his extra good "make-up" and spick-and-span appearance. In his time he has served nearly every circus of any note, as the following correct list shows, viz.:—McCullum, Bourne, Talliott, Myers, Powell, Foottitt and Clarke, Chas. Adams, Tudor, Keith, Swallow, Boswell, Hengler, Ginnett, Cooke and Sanger. We feel sure that any of the above, who are still left amongst us, will wish their old clown a quick convalescence.

Doncaster St. Leger Fair.

THE great fairground at Doncaster for the Race Week was, as usual, chiefly supplied by the local caterer, Councillor G. T. Tuby, who exhibited his colossal Temple of Light and varieties, the superb set of Gordon-Bennett racing motor-cars, the four-abreast galloping horses, and the mountain ponies. The novel mechanical feature of the fair was Farrar and Tyler's scenic railway, which attracted great crowds of patrons. The other machines were Richards' Brooklyn cake-walk and Doubtfire's rollicking pigs; shooting saloons and tubes by Fisher, Pullen, Leven, and Brannan; and houp-la circles and throwing games by Doubtfire Bros., Appleton, Lever, Lewis, Norman, Williams, Lazarus, Vint, Campfield, Dunkerley, Shaw, Fairplay, and other amusement providers.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

JOHN GREEN, £1 1s.; A. Crighton, 10s.; J. Day, 5s.; J. Matthews, 5s.; Thomas Bugg, 5s.; H. Castle, 5s.; and James Prestney, 5s.

Showman's "Letter Box."

LETTERS await the following at *The Era* offices:—Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, Biddall Brothers, Frank Bostock, H. Fossett, and Purchase Brothers.

Sad Fatality to a Young Showman.

A YOUNG man named Robert Purse, aged twenty-three, employed by Mr. S. White, was killed near Skewen on Thursday. Deceased was proceeding with a van towards Gowerton, and when descending the hill at Skewen jumped off the traction engine to scotch the wheel, when unfortunately the poor fellow stumbled under the wheel of the second waggon, and was instantly killed. Mr. White, with his characteristic promptitude and sympathy, journeyed from Ely, Cambridgeshire, and made all the necessary arrangements for the funeral at his own expense, although the young man had only been in his employ for thirteen days. He was a clever pianist. The funeral took place on Sunday at Skewen Church, when a beautiful service was rendered by the district Chaplain of the Guild, the Rev. T. C. Philips, assisted by the curate, the Rev. D. Lewis. The vicar and choristers met the sad *cortège* at the church doors, when a choral service was given. Among the chief mourners was Mrs. Purse (mother), Miss Purse, and Mr. Purse, jun., Mr. S. White, Mr. Chas. White, and staff, Mr. Hutchins (*Era*), Mr. Ben Cripps, Mr. David Butler, and several local residents. Some beautiful floral tributes were sent by Messrs. White and staff and Mr. Emerson and family.

South Wales Notes.

NEATH great fair opened in delightful weather, and attracted good crowds. The various concerns were as follow:—Bioscopes: Dooner, Wadbrooke, Haggar, and Crocraft. Machines: H. Studt, motors and zoological; E. Danter, gondolas; Ford's rizzle-razzle; T. Butlin, juvenile; A. Mathews, juvenile; J. Jones, juvenile; and White's tunnel and porkers. Cokernuts: J. North, Odley, J. Day, Mathews, Winsper, Holmes, Kinder, and White. Exhibitions: Birch, Wm. Davies, and Howard. Swings: Roberts, Odley, North, Winsper, Danter, Butlin, W. Kinder, and White. Shooters: J. North, Fossett, Roberts, and Mathews. Photographic: Fossett. Hoop-las: North, T. Butlin, J. Day, E. Danter, Winsper, Odley, Haggar, Dooner, Roberts, White, Holmes, Fletcher and Joe Danter. Aerial flights: S. White. Big boats: Roberts and Mathews. Palmistry: Carr Bros. Tatooist: Prof. Thomas.

ABERAVON FAIR was not so popular this year as usual, no doubt due to the depression of trade locally. Among the attractions, which were not so numerous as usual, was Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son's magnificent motor-cars and geological set, Messrs. R. Dooner and Son's bioscope exhibition, with some of the best animated photography; Messrs. Haggar was equally up to date; Davies's colliery exhibition was popular, also Birch's promenade of amusements. Phrenology was represented by the Bros. Carr, and tatooing by Prof. Thomas. Several old friends were in their usual places—popular John North, Thomas Butlin, James Day, Mathews, Odley, Symonds, Kinder, Winsper, J. Jones, with juvenile sets, hoop-la, shooters, Mollie's rings, photos, strikers, &c. Jim Sullivan's boxing saloon had attractive exhibitions during the fair.

GOWERTON FAIR was held in delightful weather, when Mr. S. White, of Bioscope fame, gave a good programme of pictures. He also had tower chute, porker's, swings, aerial flights, shooters, &c. Crowds visited the fair during the days, which also gladdened the hearts of flannel vendors, who report good business.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

Copying, mimicry, and imitation are exceedingly sincere forms of flattery

BUT there is NONE like the original—NONE

REANO

The Modern "SVENGALI"

AND HIS

FAMOUS BAND.

The Finest Combination of Instrumentalists in the World.

Sole Conductor and Controller, T. HAYDEN REANO,

who wishes to express many, many thanks to the very numerous friends who have so kindly sent letters of enquiry and good wishes during the past week, and to inform them that he is still rapidly improving in health, and hopes to be on the warpath again early next month.

"Bands"? will come and "Bands"?? will go,
But mine goes on for ever.

All communications to "THE ERA" OFFICE.

THE DOGS BARK, BUT THE CARAVAN PASSES.

THE NEW MOVEABLE DWELLINGS BILL.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the joint committee meetings of the Federated Trade Societies of Showmen, held at Oldham on Aug. 30, the president and council of the Showmen's Guild submit the following amendments to the new Bill. They will be fully considered at all the meetings of showpeople at the great autumn fairs, and also at the annual meetings of the various societies in January next.

The First Amendment.

The Bill, as it left the Select Committee and was duly reported to the House of Lords before the adjournment of Parliament, had the following title and preamble:—

"A Bill (as amended by the Select Committee) intituled an Act to provide for the regulation of Moveable Dwellings.

"Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—"

The Guild would thus amend and extend it:—"An Act to provide for the regulation of (insanitary) moveable dwellings, and for County Council camping-grounds for gipsies and other campers and squatters on common and waste lands."

Whereas, a Select Committee of the House of Lords having reported that with regard to gipsies and squatters on commons and waste lands "real public grievances" (dangerous to public health) "arise, and that a case for further legislation regulating moveable dwellings" (used by this class), "has been made out." Further, the Committee having reported with reference to other users of moveable dwellings: "As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required," and that "no grievances arise against them":

"Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Amendment to Clause 1.

"1. Where it appears to any county council that the presence of moveable dwellings on any specified place or places within the county would be dangerous to the public health, the council may by bye-law prohibit any moveable dwelling from being on such specified place or places."

To add the following words:—"All such proposed bye-laws to be duly notified in the *London Gazette* before confirmation by the Secretary of State."

Amendment to Clause 7.

As this clause now stands it reads as follows:—"7. Nothing in this Act shall apply to any moveable dwelling used by any portion of his Majesty's naval or military forces, or to any encampment which may be certified as under proper supervision by the territorial force association of a county."

The Guild executive council propose to add the following:—"Nor to the assembling for the purposes of their trade and business of moveable dwellings used by showpeople on any places or places for the holding of a Fair, Feast, Wake, Fête, Holiday Festival, or Carnival."

The Importance of Clear Definitions.

In the report of the Select Committee, commenting on the case for the travelling showman as against the original bill, it is said that "Apart from a small number of persons who use moveable dwellings as a pastime, van-dwellers are divided into two classes—the showman class and the gipsy class. As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of their Guild, told the Committee that there were some 4,000 showmen's vans travelling the country, and carrying a population of something like 12,000 souls. The trade is perfectly honest and respectable and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them, *and it was represented to us that not only is no legislation necessary, but that existing legal restrictions occasionally involve a grievance upon their side. In certain cases it is said local bodies avail themselves of these restrictions, not with a view to prevent breaches of the law, but in order within the area of their jurisdiction altogether to put an end to the Fairs where the showmen gain their living. Any further powers to make regulations, it is contended, would intensify this grievance.* Without pronouncing as to whether there may not be a reasonable answer to these allegations, the Committee are certainly of opinion that so far as the showmen are concerned no legislation on the lines of this Bill is called for."

The italics are our own, and used to point out the justice of the showmen's demand for clear definition in legislation giving local authorities further powers to deal with van dwellers. The Showmen's Guild came into existence for the very purpose of defending showpeople and their avocation in life from the mistaken energies of fanatics, faddists, and local busybodies (in office or out), anxious and ready to persecute showpeople and to deprive the common people of innocent and popular amusement. The record of the Guild's work is the continual story of struggle in the work of trade defence and the vindication of the showman's character. Prior to 1893, when the Guild first gave its serious attention to local bye-laws penalising the show business, and later on in 1898, when the Parliamentary work began, Corporations led by the fanatic and the puritanical zealot did seek powers to kill the people's Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes. Since the Guild, taught by sad experience, has set to work to oppose all such mistaken legislation, a great change has come over the country at large and Parliament in particular with regard to the showman's claim for full citizenship. He is no longer regarded as a fit subject for repressive class legislation.

The reason why is not far to seek. The showman, through his trade society, has met his enemies fairly and squarely in the open, in Parliament and in public debate, and has proved his manhood and his rightful claim for equal treatment with all other classes of workers and traders in the country, under the same laws and the same moral safeguards and sanctions as all the other subjects of the Crown.

Hence the paramount importance of clear definition in any legislation touching showman van dwellers. Having obtained a full and generous verdict from Parliament in their favour, a full acquittal of every charge brought against show life, from so high and august a judicial as the Select Committee of the House of Lords, it is extremely important that care be taken to secure in all future legislation touching vandwellers, that the advantages obtained be kept in their full power and integrity.

For example, the Bill, even with the Select Committee's own amendments, is still capable of being used in certain places where prejudice is rampant as an excuse to penalise showpeople and to abuse fairs. Clause 5 of the old Bill, modified and split up as it is in Clauses 1 and 2 of the new bill, still remains in a form that it might become, in the hands of an enemy of the showman and of the people's fair, an instrument of oppression and suppression. The Guild Executive Council will not leave anything to chance, but will insist upon clear definitions. If the showpeople as a class are honest traders and create no grievances, then it is only just and right that the Moveable Dwellings Bill should clearly set out in its scope and force that it does not touch them.

We said at the very commencement of the fight

against the various bills brought before Parliament by zealous reformers anxious to deal with gipsy life, if you do not attach showpeople using movable dwellings, say so, and embody it in your Bill and we will be satisfied.

All our work, all our trouble and agitation arose from the fact that they would not do so. For an admittedly limited area, when grievances do arise, the original promoters sought powers to cover the whole country with repressive machinery that might be used against all classes of vandwellers without distinction or discrimination. The result was seen in the triumphant vindication of the showmen's case against the Bill and the various amendments—amounting to the recasting of the original measure—by the Select Committee, to whose wise and judicial consideration the original Bill was referred.

We are confident that Parliament will take care that amendments on the sure and clear lines of those set out by the President and Council of the Showmen's Guild shall be inserted in the Bill before it passes into law.

White City, Old Trafford.

To-day (Saturday), the twentieth Annual Lifeboat Saturday demonstration will take place at Manchester, and for the fourth successive year Mr. John Calvin Brown, proprietor of the White City, places that popular resort at the disposal of the committees in charge of this national charity movement, and donates to the worthy cause a large share of the receipts of the day, which each year considerably augments the takings of the fund. Last year Manchester, Salford, and district sent in £22,000 to this fund, and from the preparations being made for the coming demonstration to-day the committees confidently look for even better results from their efforts than in any previous year. A number of special features are to be added, and a parade made through the principal streets that will be as attractive and as novel as any parade ever held in the North, where parades have been brought to a scientific perfection.

On Saturday, Oct. 1, a great memorial parade of Salford people in memory of the late King Edward will be made, and will end in the White City. For this occasion also a number of special features have volunteered, and the receipts are to go to a memorial fund being created by Salford. Councilman Jackson is chairman of the general committee, and in his experienced hands a great success is looked for. This will be the last day of the season for the summer of 1910, and, as usual, large crowds are naturally to be expected, and these should be materially increased by the memorial parade and exercises at the grounds. After Oct. 1 the summer amusements at the White City will be closed down, and will not be opened till May 1 next, at which time a number of new attractions will be added to those that have made this the popular resort of Manchester.

Showmen's Guild at Holbeck Feast.

The vicar and clergy of Holbeck Parish Church will conduct a service for the showpeople and their many friends at the feast. It will be at 8 p.m. on Sunday, and in Wm. Murphy's show pavilion.

The large St. Giles annual pleasure fair was held at Oxford on Monday and Tuesday last in the broad boulevard of St. Giles-street. The attendance, swelled by excursions from London and all parts, was, as usual, enormous, and the shows, favoured by the fine weather, did splendid business. As in former years, Taylor's, Jacob Studt's, Thurston's, and Ball's shows were all of a first-class kind, and well merited the patronage bestowed. There were the usual galloping horses, motor-car roundabouts, &c., and altogether the fair was a big success.

We have to record the death on Wednesday of Mr. George Parker, for over thirty years fireman at various London music halls. He was for twenty years fireman at the London Pavilion, commencing his service at the old house under the proprietorship of the late Mr. Loibel, afterwards serving under the late Mr. R. E. Villiers, and still later under the late Mr. Edward Swanborough. He was employed in the same capacity for five years at the Granville, Walham Green, under Mr. Alf Barclay and others; and was also at the Palace, Walthamstow, for five years. He was doorkeeper at the Luna Park (late Kursaal), Southend, for the past two seasons, and it was while on duty at the last-mentioned place that he was taken with a fit, which was ultimately the cause of his death. The widow is left entirely without means, club benefits, or insurance benefits of any description, and the son, Mr. William Geo. Parker, writes in hope that some of our readers will render assistance. It is a great pity that the late Mr. Parker did not join the Stage Operatives' Benevolent Fund.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Bath Horse Show.

So up-to-date are the management of the Bath Electric Theatre that they arranged with the Bath Horse Show Committee to have an operator at the show and exhibit films on the screen during the week, so that the public had the advantage of seeing themselves as others see them, while others enjoyed the experience of viewing the horses and the fashionable assembly that always attend this the premier equine show of the West.

Shooting at Pictures of Moving Enemy.

In the basement of the Royal Warwickshires' drill hall at Birmingham, says the *Evening News*, stands a remarkable target, the invention of Mr. B. W. Bates, a South African war veteran. Based upon the cinematograph principle, the object of the invention is to provide snap-shooting practice at objects which move more naturally than do those which are governed by the mechanical and electrical appliances at present used at the great rifle ranges. The principle of the invention is extremely simple. A cinematograph apparatus throws a picture of an infantry charge in open formation upon a screen, which consists of two rolls of heavy paper, one placed less than half an inch in front of the other. Immediately a shot is fired a red light appears on the screen indicating the spot where the bullet has perforated the paper. Instantaneously with the report of the shot the picture is fixed, and a glance is sufficient to determine whether or not the marksman has succeeded in wounding or killing one of the onrushing foemen. The touch of a button and the rear paper roll moves across half an inch, the front one remaining stationary. In this way the perforation caused by the shot is concealed from the marksmen. The same action restarts the cinematograph, and once again the soldiers are charging down upon the marksmen.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

Last week's programme at this popular and luxurious picture palace included the following entertaining films:—Tontolini the Toreador (Cineo), Bob's Escapade (Gaumont), Excursion through Brittany (Urban), Water on Every Floor (Gaumont), Daughter of the Mine (Walturdaw), Betty's Removal (Pathé), and The Forest Ranger (Essanay).

New Picture Theatre at Guildford.

The new Picture Theatre, at the junction of Richmond-road and Cromwell-road, from which hundreds of people had perforce to be refused admission last week, continues to attract crowded houses. Another splendid series of pictures is being shown, including the comedy, The Portrait, one of the most brilliant productions in animatography; A Visit to an American-Indian Village, which is not only full of interest, but possesses an educational value; and others of a humorous and dramatic character. The animatophone is also a great attraction.

History in Films.

The *Daily Express* is now in possession of a film of the Funeral Procession of King Edward VII., which will be sold for the benefit of the Fresh Air Fund. It is the gift of Mr. F. R. Griffiths, the managing-director of the New Bioscope Trading Company, of Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road. The film, which is 1,250ft. long, has been specially treated, and will last for thirty-five years. At the end of that time it could be treated again, and rendered imperishable for another long period. It was suggested in the *Express* some time ago that films of historical events should be acquired for the education of a future generation. The present is an excellent opportunity for the formation of such a collection, for a better nucleus could not be found than a film which shows so unmistakably a nation's grief.

New Coloured Film.

A private demonstration was recently given of a new coloured film done by the Anthesian process. The chief feature of the film is its beautiful effects, which make the colours as near Nature as possible. The cost will compare favourably with that of other coloured films now in use, and arrangements will be made for colouring all or any makers' films which can be done expeditiously.

More British Films Wanted.

A company is being formed to exploit this colouring process, as well as to produce original subjects of a distinctly British type. The public is asking for more British and less foreign films. It is expected that in a few weeks' time everything will be ready for putting these films on the market.

Pictures at Limerick Roller Rink.

The animated picture exhibition in connection with the Limerick Roller Skating Rink proved a veritable attraction again this week. The Pathé films were very instructive and humorous, whilst the gazette of current events was most interesting. Mme. O'Connor introduced new musical numbers for Fra Diavolo, Beautiful Poetry, and the Greek subject Clytemnestra, and for variety, Mr. Potts, the skilful operator, put on Foolshead Distracted, Hypnotic Suggestions, and the Quizzed Lover, which won marked applause. The vaudeville turns were supplied by that clever humorist, Mr. Fred A. Jeffs, who proved universally attractive. The director, Mr. Edward Kidd, and his courteous staff, can well be congratulated for supplying two hours' fun without one particle of vulgarity.

Reopening of a Picture Hall at Stalybridge.

Messrs. A. and H. Andrews have spared no expense in the beautifying of their Stalybridge hall, which has ben fitted throughout with plush tip-up chairs. All round the screen has been fixed some pretty brown velveteen, which hangs in heavy folds. The stage has been enlarged to provide more room for the artists. Mr. Robson is the expert operator, and Mr. Llewellyn conducts the entertainments admirably.

Jury's Imperial Pictures at Canterbury.

Jury's Imperial Pictures commenced at the Theatre Royal, Canterbury, on Monday, and will run until further notice. Good up-to-date pictures are being shown, and the programme for the opening week includes such fine films as that of The Leper of Aosta, Native Life in Malacca, Cow and the Earthquake, The Duke's Plan, The Girl and the Fugitive, His Chum, Mountain's Inn, and Dotty Nob's Engagement. An appreciative audience is present nightly, and no clearer pictures have been shown on any screen than those now appearing at the Theatre Royal.

St. Margaret's Hall, Canterbury.

The St. Margaret's Hall Picture Palace, Canterbury, is always to the fore with good films admirably depicted. This week's programme compares favourably with any of its many predecessors. Among the attractions, and perhaps chief of a long and varied programme of dramatic and humorous films, is that of Fra Diavolo, a story of thrilling interest and dramatic intensity.

Edmonton King's Hall.

The programme provided at the King's Hall, Edmonton, is of exceptional quality, and includes The Cowpuncher's Ward, The Fruits of Vengeance, Cracker's Bride, Two Bears, Love and Goodfellowship, Pill's Playing Truant, and illustrated songs by Mr. Jack Roberts, who also acts as cicerone. The hall is crowded nightly.

World-Wide Pictures at Aldershot.

The excellence of the subjects shown at Messrs. Golder and Sloman's picture palace in Station-road, Aldershot, is still maintained. The management have been favoured with a large attendance of the Canadian Rifles during their stay at Aldershot, who have expressed their high appreciation of the fare provided. Appropriately an instructional picture showing life in Canada, has formed one of the chief items which, needless to say, has been watched with interest alike by our friends from across the herring pond and local patrons. A dramatic picture of an enthralling nature is that entitled Pluck of a Naval Officer, whilst the humorous side has a good exponent in The Funny Foolshead, a character which always provides fun. The management at this hall deserve the patronage they receive, for they invariably provide a good programme.

ALF. BALL SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

We shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions to this truly deserving fund.

Per Mr. Henry Thurston.

H. Thurston, sen.	£10	10	0
Mrs. H. Thurston, sen.	1	1	0
Mr. J. Brown	0	5	0
Mr. Sattackelt	0	5	0
	£12	1	0

Per Mr. Titcomb, saddler, of Witney.

T. H. Titcomb	£0	2	6
T. S. Gibbons	0	2	6
F. M. Green	0	2	6
F. Middleton	0	2	6
J. Wilsdon	0	2	0
"A Friend"	0	2	0
T. M. Cook	0	2	0
W. J. Hobbs	0	2	0
Mr. Sharpe	0	2	0
B. L. Hieatt	0	2	0
W. G. E.	0	2	0
A. Titcomb	0	1	0
R. W.	0	1	0
W. J. Felton	0	1	0
H. Harris	0	1	0
H.	0	1	0
T. W. J. M. B.	0	1	0
J. P.	0	1	0
J. V.	0	1	0
H. C.	0	1	0
A. E. Horne	0	1	0
H. Dobretty	0	1	0
L. Oldham	0	0	6
J. S	0	0	6
	£1	16	0
Thos. Holden	1	1	0
Wm. Sweetingham	1	0	0
C. Simpson (Eggware)	0	5	0
Mrs. J. Pettigrove	0	5	0

Per H. A. Suggett, Tilbury.

Benefit Fund	8	1	8

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. They should be addressed to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Hon. Treasurer, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Roller Skating at Hamburg.

Plenty of excitement is being caused at the Velodrom, Hamburg, by Miss Adelaide D'Vorak, who nightly races any man on the rink over a distance of half a kilometre. The management offers a prize of 100 marks for the best time made against this famous American lady skater during her engagement. Earlier in the evening and each afternoon Miss D'Vorak shows her proficiency in another direction by presenting a wonderful display of trick and fancy skating. During the summer the fine floor has been re-surfaced, and the thousands who have availed themselves of it during the past week have declared it to be the "best ever." Three sessions daily are being held, and last season's prices have been revised. No free tickets are being issued, with the result that the undesirable class of skaters, which at one time last season threatened to destroy the tone of the establishment, has been entirely eliminated. Adjoining the rink a luxurious cinema theatre has been opened.

At the Croydon County Police Court, yesterday, twenty showmen were summoned under a bye-law for taking up positions on Mitcham Common before twelve o'clock noon the day previous to the opening of Mitcham Fair. There was a great competition for the pitches for the Fair, which is held from Aug. 12 to Aug. 14. The showmen begun to take up positions two days before the show opened. Among the defendants were thirteen members of the Showmen's Guild, who were represented by Mr. A. A. Strong. The plea for the defence was that when the showmen arrived at the Green they found their pitches which they had occupied in previous years taken by the gipsies. They bargained with the gipsies, in many cases paying large sums for the privilege of keeping the pitches which the gipsies had already taken. They infringed the bye-laws of the Conservators because they were afraid of the gipsies backing out of their bargains. Each defendant was fined £3 and costs.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Opening of Dartmouth Rink.

The Roseville Rink, Dartmouth, opened to record business on Sept. 1, the hall being packed to its fullest capacity. A grand display of fancy, trick, and speed skating was given by the floor manager, Mr. W. L. Mullinger, who has secured the post of skating instructor to this rink.

Novel Race at Darlington Rink.

A large crowd of skaters and spectators assembled at this popular rink on the night of the 31st ult. A special feature was a half-mile race entirely new to Darlington rinkers. The competitors skate half the distance, eat a banana, don female clothing, and complete the journey. After an amusing race, Mr. F. Bell was declared winner, and was presented with an umbrella by Mrs. F. Bloom. A tug-of-war took place afterwards, and much interest was evinced in it. The "married" team (Messrs. Richardson, Boyd, Walker, McLean, and R. Walton) defeated the "single" team (Messrs. W. Tose, W. Weldon, W. Thompson, C. Whitfield, and R. White). The evening was brought to a close by a confetti battle, in which skaters and spectators alike took part.

American Roller Rink, Cardiff, Reopened.

Many skating enthusiasts welcomed the reopening of the American Roller Rink, Westgate-street, Cardiff, on the 30th ult., when the popular resort was reopened for the autumn and winter season. Many of last season's enthusiasts were noticeable among those skating, but there were numerous beginners, which fact seems to indicate that the rink will be as well patronised as formerly. The interior of the building has been renovated, fresh decorations have been put up, and numerous improvements made, making the rink more attractive than ever. One of the improvements, which is likely to be very popular, is the enlargement of the café, which this season is to be under the same management as the rink, and which has been luxuriously furnished. Mr. Georgo Thomas is still acting as manager, and many of the old members of the staff are retained, Mr. J. Matthews again having control of the military band of twenty performers.

Rinking at Catford.

Catford Skating Rink reopened to the public for the autumn and winter season on Saturday. The building, which in the past has proved such a popular rendezvous, has undergone thorough renovation, and various improvements have been carried out. The proprietors have obtained the services, as manager, of Mr. E. E. Bance, who has the reputation of having handled some of the largest houses of entertainment in London and the surrounding districts, and who has relinquished his managerial position of a well-known and fashionable West London rink to come to Catford. A special feature he proposes to introduce is afternoon "at homes," and those ladies desirous of inviting their friends to tea at the rink will find this a very pleasant way of spending a merry afternoon on wheels.

Opening of Prince's Rink, Mansfield.

This rink will be opened for the winter season to-day. The inside of the building has been redecorated, and various improvements made. A military band will be in attendance each session, and during the winter amusements will be provided for patrons, in the form of carnivals, gymkhanas, and sports.

Waterford Roller Rink.

This magnificent rink, up to date in every detail, was opened to the public on Thursday. The management, realising the demands of the skating public, have overlooked nothing in the construction of the building for the comfort of the visitors. Situated at Adelphi Quay it is most central, and it is capable of accommodating a large number of skaters on the magnificent maple floor. Spacious promenades run around the skating surface, and at one end is a spacious tea café, where first-class refreshments are served. Mr. F. Cleesons' Rink Band plays each afternoon and evening. The rink is open for three sessions each day.

Maida Vale Open.

Maida Vale Roller Rink is open for the season. The chairman, Mr. Louis N. Schoenfield, an Indiana Hoosier, sure enough has one beautiful rink here in London. Splendid management and fine music should spell success for this pretty roller rink.

Beautiful Holland Park to Open Sept. 17.

The Holland Park Skating Rink will open for the season on Sept. 17. This beautiful rink has been recently redecorated. The skating surface, made like new, presents the appearance of one of the handsomest rinks in all England, where the élite of the British Empire congregate to enjoy the sport on the rollers. Mr. E. B. Barnes, operating-manger of the International Rink Operating Co., has appointed a corps of attendants and officials selected specially for this rink, who are the most experienced and expert in Rinkland. The music has been furnished by the ex-British Guards Band of London. A new equipment of the latest Winslow's model roller skates have been restored, and special attention will be given to the morning and afternoon sessions for the promotion of the art in its most advanced form.

Roller Skating at Hanover.

The Rollschuh Palast in Hildesheimerstrasse started its second season last week. During the summer the rink has been tastefully decorated and several structural improvements effected; also, the floor has been re-surfaced; and at all sessions, but particularly in the afternoon, it has been thronged with most representative gatherings of Hanover society. Spectators, as well as skaters, have been catered for by the new management by the engagement of the Great Monohan and Charlotte, who each afternoon and evening present really remarkable displays of the skating art. Little Charlotte, who is described as the "kleine rollschuhkönigen," presents a fairy-like figure as she glides gracefully through difficult figures, with her golden hair hanging loosely over her shoulders and her mass of chiffon skirts. The Great Monohan makes his chief effects with trick-skating, and proves himself worthy of his advertised appellation—"the Great." Books of twelve tickets are being sold for eight marks, and, with the new rules of half-price for skating with one's own skates, the present tariff should prove popular.

Edgar K. Smith's New Appointment.

Mr. Edgar K. Smith, who was manager of the American Skating Rink, Sheffield, from its opening until its destruction by fire, has been appointed general-manager of the Olympia Rink in that city, which re-opened for the season on Saturday last.

Reynolds and Donegan for Berlin.

The American skaters and dancers, Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donegan, will leave for Berlin the latter part of the month, to open at the Wintergarten for a two months engagement. The act was booked through the Sherek and Braff office.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

SYDNEY, Aug. 2.—Miss Nellie Stewart played Trilby for the first time last Saturday night at Her Majesty's and scored a distinct success. In the first act Miss Stewart acted, spoke, and looked admirably. Enthusiasm grew as the play progressed, and calls were numerous, until at curtain-fall the enthusiasm was immense. Mr. Gaston Mervale is a very powerful Svengali. He made two departures from tradition in producing Paul Potter's play. He draws a curtain from up stage and discovers Trilby singing to her audience with Svengali conducting, and he makes Trilby sing "Ben Bolt" just before she dies. Mr. Harcourt Beatty is the Laird; his disguise is effective and his accent admirable. Mr. T. Eardley Turner plays Taffy very naturally. Mr. James Atholwood as Parson Bagot is very amusing. Mr. George Thorne, junior, as Gecko is pathetic; Zouzou has an excellent exponent in Mr. Gregar McMahon; the Mme. Vinard of Miss Rosslyn Vayne is very good; Miss Madeleine Meredith gives us a staid, precise Mrs. Bagot; and Mr. Norman Campbell as Colonel Kaw is a typical Yankee entrepreneur. The smaller parts utilised the services of Misses Edith Lewis and Gwen Burroughs and Messrs. A. J. Patrick, Stuart Clyde, and William Ladd. The firm of J. C. Williamson, now a limited liability company, mounted the play with all necessary care.

"The Brass Bottle" is booking well at Her Majesty's. *The Arcadians* at the Criterion, West's Pictures at the Palace, and Spencer's Theatrescope at the Lyceum, all do well.

The Tivoli has a new serio-comic in Miss Lily Thompson, a young Australian, whose work is admirable, and she herself most popular. Two clever patter comedians, Bovis and Zoli, take the fancy of Mr. Harry Rickards' constituents. Charlene and Charlene; Sam Le Mert, a famous whistler; Kate Vesey, a graceful dancer and sweet singer; Fanny Powers, a clever mimic; and the Australian Dartos and Littlest Tich are also in the bill.

Mlle. Dolores is now touring Queensland with success. Mme. Calve, having failed to secure theatres for her proposed opera scenes with orchestra, Messrs. J. and N. Tait announce a series of return and farewell concerts at the Town Hall, with Gasparri and Pintel in the programme.

The Besses o' th' Barn Band is crowding the Town Hall here, under the Tait direction, managed by Mr. G. P. Barnes.

Mr. Walter Bentley is giving Robert Burns and Shakespeare lectures here.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PALACE, BRISTOL, STAFF OUTING.

In glorious weather some fifty odd of the Palace staff and friends journeyed on Sunday last by motor charabancs to Cheddar and Burnham. A start was made about ten, and after a short halt at Brockley Coombe, Cheddar was reached at 12.40. Making the Cliff Hotel their headquarters, the party spent the time before dinner in football and in admiring the grounds and magnificent

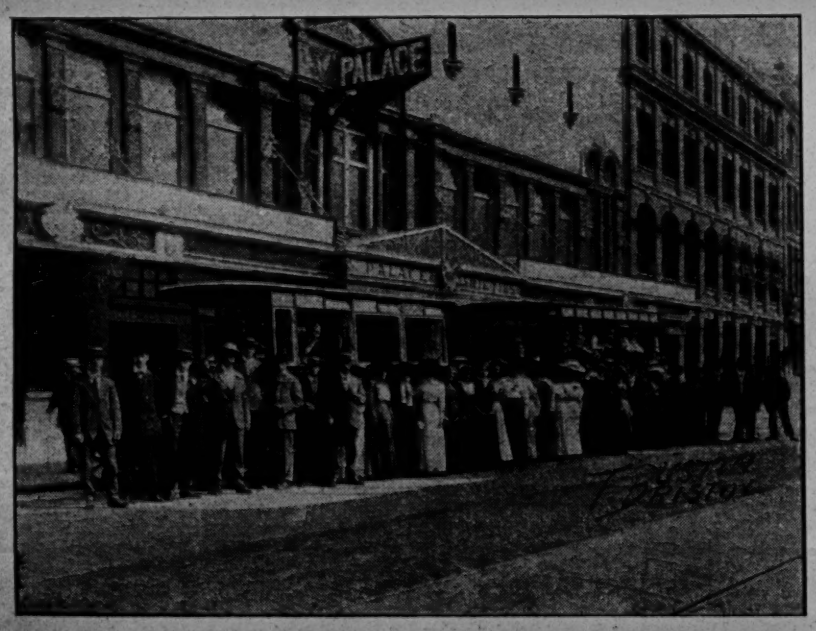

waterfall which descends from the cliff and flows through the grounds. Dinner was served at 1.30, and the excellent repast of four courses provided by Host Franklin was done hearty justice to.

After the loyal toast, proposed by Mr. Welchman, had been drunk, Mr. Finch-Hatton, the manager, addressed the staff, thanking them for their co-operation since he had taken up his duties, and asking for loyal individual efforts in the future. He proposed the health of Mr. Moul, the managing-director, coupled with the success of the Palace. A short musical programme followed.

The afternoon was spent in visiting the Gorge, Gough's Caves, Jacob's Ladder, and other spots of interest. High tea was served at 5 p.m., and afterwards a start was made for Burnham-on-Sea, which was reached at 7 p.m. An hour on the sands and promenade was thoroughly enjoyed, and Bristol was safely reached at 10 p.m., after one of the most enjoyable outings the staff have ever had. It was a matter of regret to all that Mr. Horace Livermore, so long connected with the Palace, was unable, through unforeseen circumstances, to be present.

REGENT, SALFORD, STAFF OUTING.

Brilliant weather favoured the Regent's, Salford, fifteenth annual outing on the 4th inst., the place selected being Chester. The party, numbering fifty, journeyed in special saloons from Cross-lane, Salford, at 8.45, arriving at Chester at ten. The party included Mr. Herbert Raymond, Mrs. Herbert Raymond (Miss Dorma Morgan), Mr. R. H. Lee (secretary), Mr. E. Shepherd (manager, Opera House), Mr. E. T. de Banzie (musical director), Mr. George Yarmouth (stage manager), and Mr. Jack Waters (Theatre Royal, Warrington) joined the party at this stage. Dinner was served at the Olde Pyed Bulle at 12 noon, after which the party drove in brakes around the Duke of Westminster's estate, returning to do ample justice to tea at 4.30, the remainder of the day being devoted to boating on the River Dee, returning to Salford from Chester at 8.35, arriving home at 9.45, after an enjoyable day.

Reading from left to right:—1st row: Mrs. Bedgood, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Kay, Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. E. Shepherd, Miss Taylor, Mr. Herbert Raymond, Mrs. Herbert Raymond, Mr. E. T. de Banzie, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Hannon, Mrs. Yarmouth, Mr. Wardlesworth.

2nd row: Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Bedgood, Mr. Kay, Mr. Kershaw, Miss Collins, Mrs. Wardlesworth, Mrs. Loughrey, Mrs. Frankell, Miss Hardcastle, Mr. Reay, Mr. Pedlar, Mr. Lord, Mr. Hannon, Master S. Green, Mr. J. Christian, Master Creighton, Mr. G. Walsh.

3rd row: Mr. Lee, Mr. Yarmouth, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Foster, Mr. Benn, Mr. Creighton, Mr. Snaith, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Cousins, Mr. Merton, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Tom Sherlock, and Mr. Heywood.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 12.*)

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—The first half of this week was devoted to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Fires of Fate*, which was presented by Glenister and Ingram, Ltd. A splendid character study of Colonel Egerton, D.S.O., by Mr. Lewis Fielder, was deservedly applauded; while Miss Aimee de Burgh also gained appreciation for a graceful and talented impersonation of Miss Sadie Adams; Miss Derbyshire as Miss Adams and Miss Dorothy Maude as Mrs. Belmont submitted excellent portrayals; the Brothers Roden were ably represented by Messrs. Gilbert Yorke and George F. Ide; Mr. Sam Wilkinson as Mr. Cecil Brown and Mr. H. Dolby as Mons. Octave Fardet were humorous; and Messrs. A. C. Holmes, J. M. Olivert, and Sidney Carlyle also gave commendable impersonations. *Our Miss Gibbs* commenced a three nights' engagement on Thursday.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burgh.—A first-class programme includes Mr. Arthur Roberts in his mirth-provoking sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; Chas. Sloman, a comic singer; Shirley Siggins and company, in a twilight serenade; Stewart and Morris, clog dancers; Doris Trevelyan, singer; The Hesseys, instrumentalists; Victor Newman, character actor; Marie Raikes and Partner, acrobats; Keen and Adams, American singers.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Edwards.—The programme for this week, submitted twice daily, is a pronounced success; much bewilderment is shown in the sensational and mysterious cabinet performance by Miss Colley Ashton, the turn being loudly applauded; the Two Daimlers give bright comedy and eccentric dancing; while Morris and Marte also give a pleasing comedy act; the Swift Duo as comedy cyclists display talent; Harry Hunter, both as a vocalist and ice skate dancer, is entertaining; Jessica Brooke dances and sings with evident satisfaction; Freda Fern is a delightful comedienne; and Ryder Davis deputises as a vocalist. Dancing, Astley and Lorenzo's Circus, and the outdoor attractions continue to gain good patronage.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—A popular feature of this week's programme is the performance of Dandy Dick's well-trained and clever dogs, while the pictorial entertainment is one of the best seen here under the direction of the London Cinematograph Company.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—The Compton Comedy Company met with a cordial reception from a good house on Monday, when *David Garrick* was presented. Mr. Edward Compton, who undertook the title-rôle for the 1635th time, was eminently successful with his polished and realistic impersonation of the well-known character; Miss Rita Sponti was a charming and piquant representative of Violet Gresham; Alderman Gresham was exceedingly well played by Mr. Henry Crocker; Mr. Frank Royde sustained the part of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut with vigour and effect; Rumbelow had an amusing impersonator in Mr. Charles Stone; Miss Marie Hassell presented a diverting sketch of Mrs. Rumbelow; and Sowerberry, Simkins, and Selina were creditably enacted by Mr. J. W. Austin, Mr. C. Marquand, and Miss Agnes Williams respectively. As a curtain-raiser *Tom Noddy's Secret* was presented, in which Miss Nell Compton and Mr. Frank Royde were prominent. The répertoire for the week includes *She Stoops to Conquer*, *A Reformed Rake*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Used Up*.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*Way Out West* was presented here the first half of the week by Mr. Junius Booth's able company. The principal character was taken by Mr. Booth, who was very popular as Jack Hamlin; Mr. Millar Anderson acted capably as Jim Harkins; Mr. Harry Bannister was seen to advantage as Bet Masterton; Mr. John Sanger played well as Abner Byers; and Mr. J. F. Brandon made a realistic Chinaman; Miss Alice West gave a careful study of Helen Easterton; Miss Lilian Deane as Paquita was a success; and Miss Phyllis Keith as Arethusia Byers created much laughter. For the latter half of the week *Monte Cristo* is billed.

TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vasey and E. W. Dodshon; Manager, Mr. Alfred Burrows.—The Three Cymbelines head an attractive programme, and win success with their musical talent; Joe Henderson is a popular comedian; Carlos Blondell is a good juvenile violinist; and some fine films are projected.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred J. Gowland; Manager, Mr. Robert Fenny.—Another capital batch of pictures is on view here, and highly appreciated. The variety element is contributed by Earl and Melville, diverting comedians, and Nellie Nora, an interesting instrumentalist.

TIVOLI PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. George Battle.—Heading a strong programme here is the famous J. H. Millburn, who fairly brings down the house with his songs and patter; Weary Willie is well received; the Five Yorkshire Lasses create a great impression in their song scena. Pictures of note are A Child's Impulse, The Lost Trail, The Poacher, and House on the Hill.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson. — Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in *The Beggar Princess* occupies the boards here. With an easy manner and a humour which appears to be spontaneous, Mr. J. Rice Cassidy in his impersonation of the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh is delightful; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy in the part of Seaweed sustains her high reputation as an artist, and her representation of the Beggar Princess is exceedingly attractive; Miss Ada Roscoe acts with realistic power the part of Countess Olga; as Duke Sergius Rubinoff Mr. J. Dalberta portrays the villain in a manner which does him credit; and Mr. Alfred Boxhall adds dignity to the part of King Olga. Mr. Cowell Clarke is likewise good as Michael Ichon. The highly-trained goat, Billy Butts, causes much amusement. The play is excellently staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—John S. Leick and Mabel Keith head a capital programme with an exhibition of their remarkable talent as cornetists; Hayes and Merritt, the bounding marvels, go through their wonderful act; Miss Hazel Glade, a beautiful figure in a beautiful dress, sings taking songs; the Martineks are very clever in *The Rag Doll*; and the Four Vagabonds receive enthusiastic encores. Stanley and Vandyke give a good turn; as also does Mark Leslie, coon artist and eccentric dancer.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill. — A cordial greeting has been bestowed upon Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company upon its return visit here in *Proof*. Mr. Francis Roberts acts with power and ability as Pierre Lorance; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is amusing as Chemboran; Little Adrienne is pleasingly played by Miss Pauline Garside; and Miss Hero Hathaway most charmingly acts the part of Madeleine.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Crowded audiences have welcomed the reappearance here of Florrie Forde, whose latest successes have been greeted with gratifying applause; Fred Barnes is a talented light comedian; Leroux's cycling monkeys are entertaining; the Athol Trio of vocalists and dancers are very pleasing; Abel and Welsh are smart comedy acrobats; and among others who contribute satisfactorily to the entertainment are Victor and Louis, in their vocal comedy act; Charles Craston, quaint comedian; and Maggie Rimmer, vocalist.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—*Alone in London* is presented here this week by Mr. Charles Gibbons's company. Miss Nellie Clyde is excellent in the rôle of Nan; Miss Joan Harcourt and Miss Ethel F. Greene also are seen to advantage; and Mr. Chas. Gibbon, Mr. W. S. Stevenson, and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson play their respective parts with distinction.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—The popular Scotch comedian, Jack Lorimer, is proving a big success here this week; Charles Prelle's Bijou Circus is capital, including an original dog act; Clifton and Gibson are good comedians; Richard Wally is a clever juggler; Will Thomas is a funny comedian; Edna Deno is a favourite as a comedienne and dancer; and Stella Stahl is a daisty comedienne.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. M. Montgomery's company presents the Grecian play, *Ingomar, the Barbarian*. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon is capital in the rôle of Ingomar, and deserves great praise; and Miss Nina Vaughton gave an excellent delineation of the rôle of Parthenia.

STOKE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mrs. E. Knight's company present *The Lighthouse Robbery* here. Baby Freeda is an accomplished little artist, and has a cordial reception. The scenery is good.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE HALL, AND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—La Valti heads the bill with her company of charming girls, in enchanting dances, and does a very smart turn; George Reeves is a comedian who takes well, and is encored nightly; Matheson and Johnson have good sketch, called *A Gentleman Thief*, which goes well; Sisters Rosalind win their way to the hearts of the audience by their pretty duets; Beatrice Harrold's Six Charming Gipsy Girls, in a song scena, *Carmencita*, deserve special mention; Edward Mortimer is an amusing cartoonist of exceptional ability, whose wit delights his hearers; and Connie Duprez sings and dances nightly with great verve and "go." The Great Amonda's pantomime company, in *The White Statue*, winds up an exceptionally strong programme, which is interspersed with some very good electric pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. Ernest Benham's company is appearing here in *Old Heidelberg* before crowded and appreciative houses. Mr. Owen Narr's portrayal of Prince Karl stamps him as an actor of exceptional ability; Miss Kitty Ricimer acts with piquancy as Kathie and is good in the emotional scenes; Mr. Ernest Bodkin gives a capital study of the fine character of Dr. Jutner; Mr. Percy Crawford is amusing as Ruder; Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will gives a quaint impersonation of Kellerman; Mr. Frank Powell is excellent as Von Haugh; and Mr. Sydney Hamilton does well as the pompous Lutz. The remaining rôles are all capably handled, and the vocal work is well done. The piece is suitably mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is playing *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* before well-filled houses. In the rôle of Monica Miss Viola Holland gives a meritorious performance, and puts great feeling into her impersonation; Miss Violet May submits a sympathetic study of Camiola, "the Beggar Maid"; the brothers Prince Hildred, Prince Michael, and Prince Olaf have capable representatives in Messrs. Leonard Booker, Victor Rae, and Henry Hallat, all of whom act in an accomplished manner. Good work also comes from Messrs. N. Burton, Oswald Waller, and Chas. Coleman. The humour is in the capable hands of Miss Mona Hall (Viola) and Mr. Stafford Dickens (Lieut. Stromberg), who cause much amusement.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden. — The Nicholsons are proving very popular with their smart patter; Bergitte is a comedienne who receives much encouragement; and Harry Hoyde comedian, causes much amusement. The picture programme is equally good.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton.—Maurin's Marvellous Fountains are displayed well and form a beautiful spectacle; Jules Kiaro does some clever equilibristic work which is keenly appreciated; and the Hargreaves Trio are extremely popular with their turn, which comprises music, vocalism, and dancing. The Fire Chief's Daughter is a fine dramatic and descriptive film.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Esden.—The Poluskis are heading the bill here and cause endless amusement with their cross-talk. Harry Weldon is as popular as ever with his screamingly absurd character of Stiffy and Dick Turpentine; Arden and Abel appear in *Town Hall, To-night*, with tremendous success; Will Johnson, comedian, is finding much favour; the Three Merrills give an exceedingly daring cycling display relieved with capital humour; Daisy and Dot, duettists and dancers, give a smart turn; Arthur Slater is a remarkably powerful whistler; and Daisy Martell is a pleasing comedienne.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's representative company is here. On Monday *A Wife's Triumph* was played. On Tuesday *Trilby* was presented to an appreciative audience. As Svengali, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott presented a powerful impersonation; Mr. John Lister was a typical Talbot Wynne; Mr. Edwin Keene infused a good deal of humour into the part of Alexander McAllister; Mr. Edward Ouston gave a good representation of Little Billee; Mr. Weedon Ross was effective as Gecko; and Mr. Stephen Crossley made a capital Rev. Thomas Bagot. Miss Ada Abbott was admirable in the title-rôle and Miss Ethel Tinsley and Miss Marjorie Tennant were good as Mrs. Bagot and Madame Vinard respectively. *Sapho* and *The Man of Her Choice* are also on the bill.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Chas. Tyers.—There are many up-to-date features in an enjoyable programme. Mr. Tyers continues popular in his song scenas.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—A pleasing variation is afforded by the engagement of Mr. Charles Constant's company in *Florodora*. The setting is remarkably good, and the chorus is strong in all respects. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Anthony Tweedlepunch is irresistibly funny; Frank Abercoed is capably undertaken by Mr. C. R. Dutton; Mr. Stanley White is excellent as Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. Jno. Junior does well as Captain Arthur Holyrood; Leandro is safely entrusted to Mr. J. Parker; Miss Daisy Lake is a capital Dolores—a remark equally applicable to Miss F. Hersee as Angela Gilfain. The Lady Holyrood of Miss K. Leicester is a highly-meritorious impersonation.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. D. Taylor.—The Five Jolly Bakers form a strong attraction; The Three Krakes cause hearty laughter; Jack Mackenzie scores heavily; and Harry Keeble is a clever ventriloquist; Clara Wells and Golden and Chance worthily get good receptions. Some interesting pictures are shown.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. Young.—G. W. Hunter is an attractive "top of the bill"; R. Cardigan and Co., in a musical sketch, do well; and the Soho Trio are clever dancers; Little Zola pleases greatly; Susie and Protti present a highly acceptable item; Cissie Lupino is a neat speciality dancer; Burt, Ward, and Barney Murphy uphold their reputations. The Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs* is here. In the title-rôle Miss Daisy Wallace presents a charming interpretation, her singing and dancing being excellent. Miss Louie Beckmann gives an artistic rendering of Mme. Jeanne, and Miss Florence Hylton is very acceptable as Mrs. Farquhar. Mr. J. Herbert Willis creates much amusement in the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierpont, and Mr. J. S. Durant is very successful as Slithers. A capital impersonation of Lord Eynsford is given by Mr. Douglas Phillips. Mr. Vincent Erne is quite in his element as Timothy Gibbs, and his clever antics are the source of much merriment. The chorus is a powerful one, and is under the bâton of Mr. Hubert Boggetti.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Charles Conyers' company, the Go-Bangs, are paying a return visit this week. Miss Edith Eatherley introduces some clever sketches at the piano, and Miss Kitty Conway is also very acceptable. Mr. Bryan O'Sullivan is a vocalist of ability, and Mr. Charles Resti and Miss Blanche Belsham also contribute some good numbers. Mr. Chas. Conyers is a humorist of versatility, and the concerted items are well rendered.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is receiving a clever interpretation here at the hands of Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Dorothy Southgate is a most vivacious Miss Hook, and is very cordially received; Mr. Alfred Wellesley gives a humorous study of the wealthy distiller, and Mr. Mansell Stringer admirably portrays the Bandmaster; military characters are ably given by Mr. A. W. Mansey and Mr. Lacey Mills; and Mr. Harry Brayne is excellent as the loafer; Miss Maud Deny scores a success as Mina. The week and attraction is Miss Hutchison's company in *Smith*.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—This popular resort of entertainment is still doing excellent business. A good programme is headed by the Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, who score in their amusing and sensational turn; Marie Santoi and company are responsible for a capital scena. *A Night in Japan*; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon are seen to advantage in their vocal and instrumental act; Haidee St. George, at the piano; Tom Gott, comedian; the Hudsons, comedy duo; Damerell and Rutland, comedians; and the pictures, conclude.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company in *Driven from Home* is appearing here. Mr. Felix Pitt gives a powerful impersonation of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. P. George Beresford is eminently successful as Walter Hatherleigh; George Clissold is well played by Mr. Howard Thornby; Mr. J. B. Shinton does full justice to Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Harry Leyton gives a good character study as Willie, an outcast; and the comedy element is well depicted by Mr. Fred C. Nubert as John Anderson and Miss Susie Bevan as Margaret Bailey. Mr. Edward A. Finlay shines as Dick Saunders. Mrs. Ada M. Ryden in the dual rôles of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh acts well; Miss A. Williams is capable as Mrs. McCarthy; and the part of Barbara Ashdown is effectively filled by Miss Emily Burnley.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The Waldrons, in their amusing absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*, create much laughter; Gicardo, juggler, performs some clever feats; Miss Grace Lester and company, in a sketch, *A Ruined Life*, prove most acceptable; Watson and Naylor ,comedians, give an entertaining turn; the Seven Monckton Musical Miners, glee singers, make their first appearance, and merit hearty approbation; Mr. J. H. McCann, roller skate dancer, is a success; and Dollie and Rosie are smart acrobatic dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Some excellent pictures on the Bioscope are shown here. Variety turns are provided by Mr. Leoni Clarke and his wonderful combination of performing cats, mice, rats, and birds, and the Sisters Ely, vocalists.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The American Comedy Chanters hold the place of honour here, and score in their vocal comedy act, *How D'yu-do?*. Oakes Duo are seen to advantage in an amusing skit; Dix and Dox are musical grotesques of ability; Cringle and Trewhitt present *The Call Boy* with success; the Three Alskarnos, acrobats; Flo Burnett, vocalist; Les Atans, gymnasts; and Leotara Brothers, Continental clowns, also appear.

PREMIER PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—Cade Burnett, descriptive vocalist, obtains a flattering reception. There is a good show of pictures.

TYNE PICTURE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—The Two Zets, vocalists, are paying a successful visit. A Child's Faith and Bootles' Baby are the two chief films.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here this week in the new Irish comedy drama, *Happy-Go-Lucky O'Lyn*, a detailed report of which appears in another column.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Ching Lung Soo is drawing crowded houses here, and his wonderful feats are looked upon with amazement; Nellie Farrell is a dainty singer of dainty songs; the Brothers St. Clair are smart trick cyclists; Edwin Garth has a rare fund of anecdote; the Lomas Duo score in the specialities The Birthday, Teddy Bear; Pat Lynch gives a fine exhibition of wooden-shoe dancing. The pictures are good.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. F. Waters.—Captain Ellis and his talented son top the bill here, and their singing and dancing and playing on the cornet and trombone meet with appreciation; Alice Maud gives a capital impersonation of a dandy and a naval cadet; Bertha Evelyn has a rich contralto voice. The pictures are good.

GRAND. — Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. Smyley. The principal picture at this house, The Angel of Dawson's Claim, is much admired, as are the views showing The Royal Agricultural Show and On the Border Line.

WASHINGTON. — ALEXANDER THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company is the attraction here in *A Woman of Two Lives*. The dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton is skilfully played by Miss Hilda Beverley; Mr. Herbert Pearson (an old favourite) scores heavily as the Hon. Travers West; Miss Mary Brammer is excellent as Drampardie Lares; Mr. James Jarrett is successful as Garda Khan; Mr. Jack Armitage and Miss Louis Gilmore as Lieutenant Lord Billy Tremaine and Lady Arabella Mount Phayton respectively are commendable; Mr. Tom Slater is good as Archibald Briggs; Mr. Arthur Swaine gives a capital rendering of Colonel St. Aubrey Fenton; the humour of the piece is in the hands of Mr. E. Hall Eldon and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande, who keep the audience in good spirits. The scenery and dresses are much admired. *The Ticket of Leave Man* is also billed.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—This week's company includes Madge O'Neill, in some excellently rendered songs; Arthur F. Ward, who supplements his clever juggling with a good exhibition of dancing; and Nora Dene, the latter a charming vocalist; Maude Courtney and Mr. Courtney individually and dually provide refined and amusing business; Edie King, the Sisters Josie and Frances Jonghmann, and Adam Tomlinson complete the programme.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—KING'S PALACE.—The pictures here are good enough to satisfy anyone, and there is a heavy demand for seats. The Five M.P.'s are giving a most effective musical act; and Andy Mack is first-rate.

EMPIRE.—The Frohmans, with their dog, are very smart, and please everybody; Fred Tresco succeeds as an eccentric; and Winnie Barr is well worth seeing. Some striking films make up a very full programme.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. R. Nightingale.—This week Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting *Women and Wine*. Miss Sidney Crowe as Marcel Rigadout submits an interesting study; Miss Margaret Noble as La Calombe is good; and Miss Irene Stanhope and Miss Emmie Gurney as Mary Andrews and Juliet Marlow do excellent work; as Dick Seymour Mr. Herbert Shandon has a part well suited to him; Mr. Gilbert Lonsdale as Hugh Seymour is also good; and the other parts are in capable hands.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden. An excellent bill here is headed by Lillian Devon, Grace and Alleen, Gertrude Martin, Sisters Miller, Harry Bentley, Hugh and Hugh, and Dorians also provide capital turns.

WEST HARTLEPOOL — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is this week giving *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Maitland Marier is a typical Captain James Barley; a success is scored by Mr. Fred Lake as Dibbs, the gardener; as the blustering Major Smedley Mr. Gerald is to be complimented. Other characters who have capable representations are Herbert Manners, by Mr. A. E. Jackson; Tom Codd by Mr. Herbert Russell; Augustus, by Mr. Frank Norman; and George Porter, by Mr. Frank Lilliput. Miss Hilda Vaughan is charming in the rôle of Ethel Smedley; Mrs. Smedley is effectively played by Miss Mabyn Fay; Lucy Dallas is well played by Miss Marie Clayton; and genuine comedy is served out by Mrs. Henry Renouf as Mrs. Baldwin and Miss Ethel Stalman as Mrs. Porter.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. G. Thompson.—Charles Norton, in his mimetic monologue "Pros at the Races," introduces capital impersonations of some of the most popular music-hall stars; and an acrobatic cycling exhibition by the famed Cumberlands is well carried out. Lily Hayes is smart in what she does; at dancing Malsie Hibbs proves herself an expert; Happy Tom Parker is a popular humorist; in a farcical episode, *A Man of Spirit*, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait are amusing; and smart dancing is done by the Brothers Herbert. Pictures are also screened.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company is paying a return visit here in *The Education of Elizabeth*. Mr. Ernest E. Norris is the life and soul of the piece as Reggie Hankey; Mr. Fred Castleman is artistic as Mr. Whitby; and Mr. Wilton Leonard is well cast as Harry Fairfax. Miss May Norris in the title-rôle proves herself an artist to the finger-tips; Miss Una Erle is successful as Lucy Middleton; and the Blanch Macintyre of Miss Emily Stevens is a very praiseworthy portrayal. Miss M. de Verne does good work as Lily Kerr, as does Mr. Cecil Wagner as Parsons.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—At the top of the bill this week is Arnold Richardson, a quaint and clever comedian, in "Ferdie's Ma-in-law"; Graham, the human marionette, is loudly applauded; the Jackley Trio is a good and comical turn; Miss Mollie Seymour excels as a vocalist and violinist; Metz and Metz are fine dancers; and Colin Carlisle is good as a light comedian. Mr. Lambert shows some excellent pictures on the Bioscope. Herr Fericescu and his band have returned for the remainder of the season.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Linden.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is presenting *Mother* here this week. Mr. J. O. Stewart gives a capital representation of Duncan Fairweather; and as Frank Rodney Mr. A. J. Haviland does well; Mr. Leonard Harrison is a capable Stephen Carrington; and as Jasper Rawden Mr. Will Beasley is good; Mr. Roy Gordon as Old Crump and Mr. Pat Quin as Biggs are well placed; Miss Amy Wood is very capable as Martha; and as Vesta L'Estrange Miss Fannie Wellesley is satisfactory; Miss Emily Entwistle plays Little May with much feeling; and as Nellie Fairweather Miss N. Thorne Hallam is excellent; the comedy element is in the hands of Mr. Cecil H. Raymond as Tommy Nobletts and Miss Phillis Vaughan as Polly Crumpet.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—The artists appearing here this week are Miss Cissy Madcap (acrobatic and speciality dancer), the Primrose Quartette, and Royal Togo (Japanese equilibrist). La Savalle, The Mule Driver, and Tongue of Scandal are excellent pictures.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Mr. Scott Alexander's variety combination is here this week, and gives an entertainment which is in every respect enjoyable. Fredda and Frank are agile acrobatic dancers and club-swingers; and Jean Kram is amusing in his novel interludes. The Merries prove popular in their songs and dances; and Will Warren's singing is much appreciated. The quips and antics of Sandy and Ramsay prove very entertaining; and the latest sporting novelty, "Whizzing the Whirl," is responsible for roars of laughter. Mr. Scott Alexander appears with success as the Emperor in a military episode, *Napoleon at Waterloo*; and Scottie's Operatic Ballet Troupe in *The Cry of the Children* gain much applause.

WEYMOUTH.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austin Hargon's company are appearing here in *The Girls of Gottenberg*. The part of Moddelkopf, played by Mr. Smith, is the essence of drollery; Miss Dora Langham is charming as Mitzi; Miss Melba Sharrott is amusing in her irresponsible gaiety as Katrina; and Miss Beryl Vaudrey gives an admirable rendering of Elsa; Miss Grace Desmond is successful as Clementine; and Mr. R. V. Cory is excellent as Prince Otto; while Mr. Jack Leyland, Mr. Eddie Foy, Mr. William Yaldwin, Mr. J. R. Timms, and Mr. Charles Squire render good service in their respective parts.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—*The Gay Gordons*, under the direction of Mr. Robt. MacDonald, had a good reception here on Wednesday. As Angus Graeme Mr. Frank Lincoln proved highly successful, and Mr. Harry Howe gave an artistic portrayal of Nervy Nat. As Edmund Siddons Mr. W. H. Desmond was capital; Mr. Chas. Benson capably portrayed Andrew Quainton, Mr. Stanley Maude giving an excellent representation of Corporal John Smith. In the rôle of Archibald Speedy Mr. Alfred Lloyd furnished a creditable performance. Miss May Yates merited the enthusiastic reception she obtained for her performance of Peggy Quainton, and Miss Marion Bradford as Lady Millicent was highly appreciated. Miss Mina Goss, Miss Mabel Crouch, and Miss Mavis Clare sustained their parts with success.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is paying a return visit here in the popular *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Chas. Simms repeats his amusing portrayal of Mr. Hook; and Mr. Edward Kipling is again the entertaining Slinks; Mr. Harry Winton is good as Schnapps; and Mr. Jack Gray is received well in his musical numbers as the bandmaster; Miss Carca Walker is pleasing as Sally; and Miss Marion Armitage excels as Mina.

WHITLEY BAY.—THE PLEASURE GARDENS, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlevé.—In the Theatre Royal an excellent company submits an attractive programme, which includes a smart sketch, entitled *Barmaids*, by Harry Lowther, Hulo Hodgson, Cissie Evelyn, Doris Dail, Chas. A. James, Dolly Gilroy, and Brighton; Slippere, the blind entertainer, is scoring equally as a mimc and as a trick pianist; Dalo and Leigh have a bright operatic episode, *Sunny Spain*; Donal McDougal, an amusing Scotch comedian; Else and Bob, equilibrists; Aggie Nolan, dainty comedienne and clog-dancer; Elsa Hulbert's dancing girls; and some particularly interesting films. In addition, the following members of the stock variety company—Dollie Hook, comedienne; Reuben Hill, actor-vocalist; Elsa Arnell, mimic and soubrette; Albert Hinton, comedian; and Harry Dunco, comedian—add considerably to a more than average entertainment. The various sideshows and other attractions continue to receive fair patronage.

THE COLISEUM.—General-Manager, Mr. William Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—There is a good display of some of the latest Bioscope pictures, comprising dramatic, domestic, and comedy incidents, interspersed with varieties by Ryan and Hall, comedians and comedy wrestlers, and Young Ashcroft, comedian and dancer. On Wednesday the extra attraction of a wrestling match enhanced the proceedings.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. T. J. Gregson.—The main draw here is an admirable show of moving pictures, that are being well received. Varieties form a welcome interlude, and are chiefly contributed by St. Ruth and Conyers, operatic duettists, whose efforts are duly appreciated.

BATHS PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—Pictures continue to go strong here, and diversity is furnished by Les Trippelos, in a musical mélange act that is thoroughly enjoyed.

BAND LINKS PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Catlin.—This capable company of Pierrots provides a popular free venue ground for quite a concourse of the younger generation.

THE TOREADORS' ENCLOSURE (Promenade).—Manager, Mr. Charles Elderton.—The season stock company of variety artists under this control continue as popular as ever, the dramatic, vocal, and comedy element being evenly balanced, and highly appreciated.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie and Frank Bray.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and star company are here with *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackey gives a realistic portrayal of Barney O'Hea, and is delighting large houses; Mrs. Mackey appears in the rôle of Norah M'Grath, and plays sweetly; Miss May Livesey makes a charming Biddy M'Ginn, and sings very sweetly; Mr. J. P. McBride is a true Irish gentleman as Shamus M'Dermott, and uses his well balanced voice to full advantage; Mr. Morley Carroll is an effectively villainous Michael Kenny; and the character of Sir George Courtenay is presented in a capable manner by Mr. Fred Charles; Mr. C. M. Julian is a good George Courtenay, and Miss J. Lyons is a motherly Mrs. M'Dermott.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Managers and Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Mr. George Bernard, the well-known actor-vocalist, is an immense success here, especially in his portrayal of the military veteran; Messrs. Geo. Bennet and Tom Martell are refined humorists, and do credit to themselves in the sketch *A Shipwrecked Sailor*; The Sisters Emson are refined duettists; and Messrs. Will and Jack Walford are polite comedians. The pictures are good.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are appearing here in Shakespearean and other standard plays. On Monday evening *The Merchant of Venice* was presented. Mr. Allan Wilkie gives an impressive impersonation of Shylock; Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves is conspicuous as Bassanio; while Mr. Philip Gordon moves the audience to laughter as Lancelot Gobbo. Miss F. Hunter Watts gives a splendid portrayal of Portia; Miss Hilda Plowright is a dignified Jessica; and the part of Nerissa is in the capable hands of Miss Mary Dallas. Other plays staged include *The Sleigh Bells*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Virginius*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—An original turn is provided by Signor Arvi, introducing Les Metables, who appear in Parisian poses and famous paintings, which are mysteriously produced; the Four Amaranths are clever acrobatic dancers; a welcome return visit is being paid by Stewart and Morgan, who are loudly applauded, in vocal selections; the songs of Sarah Rosebury, comedienne, are appreciated; the Unites, acrobatic comedians, and the Four Scoreys, in a musical mélange, deserve mention; Francis and Maxwell dance themselves into favour; and others who contribute are Conan and Doyle comedians and dancers; Chris. Van Bern; and Ivy Voyce, the popular contralto.

WISBECH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. Goodley Fisher.—The Gem Picture Company is here, and has some good films. The turns include May St. Clair, an Irish vocalist; and Kid Love, vocalist and sand dancer.

WISHAW (N.B.).—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The Edward Lauri and May

THE THEATRICAL ASPECT OF JAMAICA.

The British theatrical manager never, perhaps, thinks of Jamaica as a likely field for an extension of his activities; the "Land of Perpetual Summer" is so much out of the beaten track. And yet there are possibilities, if one is bold enough to go out there and to prove them for himself; rewards, too, for the man who is not afraid to venture. There are many things which tend to make a sojourn in Jamaica ever memorable, and first mention must be made of the marvellous hospitality, simplicity, and kind-heartedness of its people.

British theatrical managers, on the whole, have been strangely unenterprising as far as Jamaica is concerned, and not only Jamaica, but indeed the entire West Indies, Central America, and even South America, for that matter.

In the past there have been a few visits from American dramatic, comedy, and circus companies, from Italian opera companies, and, at long intervals, have come society entertainers, comedians, and others presenting one-man shows; musicians of more or less repute, singers, even picture shows have called in there and tasted of the bounty of the island. A few years ago the visit of a Benson Shakespearean company, including Mr. Matheson Lang, Miss Hutin Britton, Mr. Nigel Playfair, and others who have since "made good" on the London stage, created an epoch in the colony's dramatic history, suggested the beauties of some of the masterpieces of the master-mind to the inhabitants, and left behind ineffaceable memories. But these companies confined their visit to Kingston, the capital; or, if one or two of them did go out of Kingston, it was merely to pay a flying visit to one or two of the other important towns, such as Spanish Town, Port Antonio, and Montego Bay. Their experience, therefore, was not of a sufficiently wide nature to enable them to appreciate adequately what a profitable field the island opens up to the enterprising manager.

Theatrically speaking, Jamaica is virgin soil.

For there are no theatres (there was *one* in Kingston before that city was destroyed by the great earthquake of 1907), no music halls, no electric theatres. What talent there is is purely amateur, except in a few isolated instances where a British or American actor, or a native trained abroad, has settled down to teach elocution and to direct an occasional production. Of music, especially of singing, there is no lack, for Jamaica is another Wales in this respect; and the teachers of vocal and instrumental music cannot complain of dearth of employment. The visits of the Italian opera companies, too, have done not a little to encourage this passion for music. In the old Theatre Royal, in Kingston, before the terrible calamity of 1907, the first thing pointed out to the visitor was invariably a beautiful portrait of Mme. Lostegni, an Italian prima donna, who had visited the island with one of these opera companies, and, by her singing, had captivated the public imagination to an extent unprecedented in the history of the island. Her memory is tinged with pathos, for that Jamaican tour was her "Swan Song"; she died on landing in Panama immediately after her departure from Jamaica. And the scene of her wonderful triumph is now a collection of ruins, and her portrait—the spontaneous tribute of an appreciative people—is but a heap of dust. But her name lives on the lips and in the hearts of the Jamaican, and, at mention of her name, even the little bare-footed black boy, in shirt and trousers only, with the beautiful teeth, who fetches your newspaper in the morning, will exclaim: "Cho, boy! When yw waan fe 'ear a ooman fe sing, da Lostegni me son."

At the present day the idol of the colony is a black girl, a member of the Jamaica Choir which recently toured the United Kingdom. She is a first-class soubrette, with a magnificent voice, who would hold her own on the British vaudeville stage against the best of those in her own particular line. Then there is the famous West India Regimental Band, undoubtedly in the front ranks of the regimental bands of the Empire, and there are individuals of outstanding talent and personality; but, although one can easily see that music is universally beloved, the general development and the standard reached is not of a very high order. There are very few musical societies or organisations. Concerts are held frequently in the large towns in aid of religious and charitable causes, and there are amateur dramatic societies, which stage performances at irregular intervals. At the bazaars, garden parties, &c., you have farces, playlets, minstrel, pierrot, and marionette shows and such other forms of entertainment—all amateur. At intervals a party of enterprising and energetic people will put their heads together, organise a troupe, and make a tour around the island, the success varying in proportion to the quality and attractiveness of the show.

This barrenness of theatrical life is, perhaps, explainable by the following considerations:—

(1) Jamaica is a young country; everything is in an incipient state, and it is generally allowed that Art is essentially the expression of a people's consciousness of its individuality. Where this consciousness is not yet called into being, there can be no Art, and, as a corollary of this, no Drama.

(2) Then, Jamaica is essentially an agricultural country, and the inhabitants, perforce, are scattered over plantations, estates, farms, and fields. There are no industrial centres, a limited number only of communities of any size, and Art never yet did flourish where man lived under conditions of segregation.

(3) Again, the natives of Jamaica in the mass consist of people who have only been granted full facilities of adopting European civilisation since 1838; prior to that date they had lived under the degrading and soul-killing conditions of slavery. One, then, can hardly expect them to suddenly blossom out into Irvings, Kubeliks, Alma Tademas, and Tettrazzinis. Indeed, the impartial observer must be struck with the sound and not far short of marvellous progress that has been already made. The writer could name several West Indians who have made their name world-famous in various walks of life, but this article is not intended to be a biographical dictionary of the West Indies. It is of topical interest, however, to mention that in matters theatrical the Jamaican pays homage to the memory of Morton Tavares, a native of the island, the name of whom is not unknown or unremembered either in the outside theatrical world. There are also one or two present-day actors, native to the soil, who are enkindling eager hopes and expectations among their countrymen.

Now, the reader will have realised by this that the commercial possibilities of theatrical enterprise in Jamaica spring from the fact that the island depends entirely upon visiting companies for its professional amusements. Add to this the consideration of the infrequent visits of these companies. Consider again that the people are temperamentally pleasure-loving, that they are potentially an artistic people, that the love of the footlights is in their veins. Further recollect that, thanks to the rapid development of the fruit trade and the consequent extension of steamship lines and reduction in the passenger rates produced by stress of competition, hundreds of Jamaicans have been enabled to visit Europe and America, from which they return with a sharpened taste for the luxuries of life.

And now, will you wonder that they should hail the advent of a company with keen delight and crowd the auditorium to suffocation night after night? A slight qualification is necessary here. They will flock to a performance night after night if the performance is good, because the Jamaican is very appreciative, but he must be genuinely served at the same time. They have a habit of attending in force the first night of the visit of a new company; if they are satisfied, well and good; if not, the company might just as well fold their tents, and, like the Arabs, steal silently away! You cannot bamboozle them. Even those who have not travelled have a wonderful instinct for scenting out the true merit of a thing. Let us at this juncture take a view of the conditions confronting the enterprising manager who should take it into his head to tour Jamaica.

Since there are no theatres, the enterprising theatrical manager who should take it into his head to tour Jamaica will be saved an immense amount of money, as there will be no resident-managers or lessees to share with him the receipts on a percentage basis or otherwise. He will be saved much worry, too, in the matter of arranging his dates, as he will be able to go along almost at his pleasure, there being no crush of companies all struggling to fix their dates to suit their convenience. The field will be clear and open.

But, on the other hand, it will be easily recognised that the tour must necessarily be a "fit-up" one, and that there will be a busy time in store for the stage-carpenter and the other mechanicals. The manager must take then an adequate "fit-up," and he should pay particular attention to his lighting appliances for the stage, because in very few of the towns is there electric light or gas; in the majority of cases he will find oil lamps only. And his company must not be a big one, but those forming the troupe should be real good. If he likes, he may travel his own pianist, or he may engage a native one when he lands at Kingston, but he must do one or either of these two things, for, generally speaking, there are no bands or orchestras in the various parts of the island, though, now and again, he will come across a really fine orchestra or a fairly good band. Pianos may be borrowed; or, as is more often the case, hired at the rate of a guinea or half-guinea per night.

The performances will be held in the town hall or court house, for each town and every important village has its court house, and sometimes a town hall as well. In some cases these are already seated, in others chairs, &c., have to be hired or borrowed; and, in the case of a court house, the various fixtures, such as judge's throne, the criminal dock, the witness-stand, rails, &c., must be removed. This costs a matter of a few shillings only. The town halls and court houses, which are under the jurisdiction of the parochial boards of their respective parishes, may be hired at a rate not exceding the sum of £1 per night, in some cases ten shillings; there is likewise a deposit of £5 required, which insures against injury to the building or fixtures and loss of accessories. If no damage is done during the visit of a company, the full amount is returned to the manager after the building has been inspected by an officer of the parochial board. Application for use of the hall must be made out in writing, and handed or forwarded to the clerk of the board, together with the deposit and rental fee.

Accommodation is easily procurable, and, as the stay of a company in each town must be of short duration, there would be no ends served in living in private rooms, even were such easy to be had. The company then, must live in hotels or in boarding-houses. The cuisine in these is of a cosmopolitan character, English, American, Italian, native, and other dishes lying side by side, tempting every kind of appetite. The rates range from 5s. to £1 per diem inclusive for each person, though, if a manager knows how to go about it, he may obtain more favourable terms. Though many of the hotels are admirable in organisation and service, they cannot, as a rule, be said to be profitable investments to the tourist. Visitors to the island generally complain in that direction. The living of the company will prove the biggest item of expense. The other heavy item will be the travelling bill. And here again the tourist habitually grumbles. Much of the travelling is done by road. The Jamaica railway system, at present managed by the Government, is divided into two sections, one running from Kingston to Montego Bay, at the north-western extremity of the island, in distance about 113 miles; the other running from Kingston via Bog Walls to Port Antonio, at the north-eastern extremity of the island, a distance of about seventy-two miles. There is an extension from Bog Walls to Swarton, a distance of twelve miles. There are two classes, first and third, the latter costing 1d. per mile.

With regard to the road travelling, there has been introduced recently a motor company, from which touring cars and trucks for the luggage, scenery, properties, &c., can be hired. This company was started only at the beginning of the present year, and therefore is, as yet, an unknown quantity. The prevailing modes of road travelling are by waggonette, buggy or "bus," this last-mentioned being a light four-wheeled vehicle seating three or four comfortably, though as many as six or seven may be squeezed in at a pinch. They are to be had at livery stables, one of which may be found in every important village of Jamaica. The rates vary with the distance and with the number of passengers. A "bus" to carry three or four passengers for a distance varying from ten to thirty miles can be procured for 30s. Where two or more "buses" are engaged from the same livery stable at the same time, a reduction is of course made. A waggonette has been known by the writer to carry twelve people a journey of fifteen miles for £2. All these vehicles may be hired by the day or by the month, and are much cheaper if arranged for in this manner.

In every town there is some well-known and popular professional man, or tradesman, or artisan, who will undertake the working-up of a show in his particular town for a commission on the gross receipts, sometimes at the rate of 5 per cent., at times as high as 10 per cent. Thus the necessity of having an advance agent is obviated. One may have one, if he likes, but the local agent will prove a cheaper and more profitable investment in the long run. It is advisable, however, to take a man as ticket-collector, and roll tickets should be used. The prices of admission rest with the respective managers, though each town has certain traditions of its own in this respect, and the manager would do well to consult the local agents on this point.

These are the principal items of expense. There will, of course, be various little incidental bits, a matter of a few pence or shillings at the most.

The conditions in Kingston are somewhat different to those which obtain in the provincial towns, for, although there is no theatre proper in Kingston at present, there is a commodious (but only partially developed) pleasure resort called Rockfort Gardens, which has in its grounds a well-equipped open-air theatre. Hither the people of Kingston flock in their thousands when an entertainment of strong drawing power is on. The Gardens can be hired for a season, or leased from the proprietors, the West India Electric Tramway Co., whose trams run to its very gates, connecting it with every part of the city of Kingston and its suburbs.

There are widely circulated newspapers in which a manager can do all his advertising, and there is no lack of printers, photographers, &c. In the matter of theatrical requisites, he must be fully armed beforehand, for since there is no professional theatrical life in Jamaica, he will find no costumiers, perruquiers, vendors of grease-paints, &c.

In the general amenities of life he will find himself almost as well off in Kingston and in the larger towns of the island as if he were in an English city.

The length of a company's stay in the island will necessarily depend upon its drawing power and its capacity for endurance. For general purposes it may be stated as an axiom that so long as a company (no matter whether it be operatic, dramatic, vaudeville, or otherwise) can offer a good, attractive programme, and can vary that programme, it will be assured of a *convincing* success artistically and financially, for the Jamaican is quick to appreciate real merit and talent. To make the success *tremendous* two things further are needed, that the manager be a good business man, and that the members of the company be able to adapt themselves to the new conditions, and to make themselves popular socially, as well as artistically.

L.

"THE APOSTLE."

Mr. George Moore has written before the scenario of a play of his with the above title in the *English Review* the following amusing "Prefatory Note":—

"The publication of a scenario, that is to say the working notes that a writer has made to help him to write a play, is so unusual that it seems to me a few words of explanation are necessary.

"The story of *The Apostle* is one of those striking stories that one is tempted to relate to amuse one's friends after dinner, and I have related it sufficiently often to invite collaboration—I have in my mind a very generous letter which came a few days ago from a friend whose honour is above suspicion. But though one's friends may be trustworthy, our friends have their friends, and a story wanders far, like thistledown, and somebody hearing it and mistaking it for thistledown or folk-lore (which is the same thing), migh tunexpectedly feel himself called upon to write it. 'Very far-fetched suspicions' somebody mutters, raising his eyebrows, and hearing that matter, I answer that in the dramatic world all things are possible, and I make ready to pour into his ear the story of what happened to a comedy which I used to chatter about some few years ago.

"A friend delighted in the subject so much that I was besought to sketch it out to a shorthand writer, and the sketch pleased so much that I was persuaded to allow the friend to finish it. The method of collaboration adopted by my friend was to take it to a manager and to ask him what alterations he would like to have made. The manager was so caught by the comedy that he ordered it to be written according to his idea, and in a little while I found myself forced to choose between never seeing the play either acted or printed, or to agree to the production of the manager's version which I had never seen. All sight of it was forbidden me; I was not to have a voice in the rehearsing of the play. But if I sat quiet in the stalls no objection would be made to my presence. In return for my submission the manager agreed to allow me to print my own version of the comedy a year after the first performance. All this sounds like a fairy tale, but there can be no disputing the facts; for they are all written out in long agreements which lie at my solicitor's office. It was only the accident that the play the manager was then performing ran a little longer than he expected which prevented him from carrying out a project which I think is without parallel in literary history. He paid a forfeit of £200, and I found myself at liberty to write my play, which I did, sending it when finished to a fashionable London manager, who a few days after wrote to me saying that he had read it with great interest, and that it seemed to him delightful—I should have to look up his letter to find his adjectives—I am sure he used 'dainty' and 'refined.' He 'funked,' however, putting it into the evening bill, but asked me if I would allow him to keep it, promising to produce it on the first favourable occasion. To this I consented, and in the late autumn he produced a comedy, the plot of which, and some of the characters, were extraordinarily like mine, written by a fashionable dramatic author, whose ideas in all his previous works are so different from mine that I have ever since been trying to find out how it was that our ideas should have been so entirely fused together in the unhappy comedy whose history I am now telling.

"The first thought that came into my mind was of course 'a case of literary coincidence'; that is to say, different authors who had never spoken to each other, and between whom there had been no communication, direct or indirect, unwittingly thinking of the same plot and the same characters. It appears certain that such things have happened, and this much at least can be said in favour of the theory of literary coincidence, that commonplace people often think they have hit on an original plot, when what they have discovered is no more than a memory of some commonplace story they have either read or heard. A writer, therefore, is averse from explanation by 'literary coincidence'; and he is weary of the *a che la morte* of the dramatic organ; and, led by his vanity, perhaps, prefers to believe that he gossiped about the play he hoped to write, and that it drifted down the wind to a dramatic author, suggesting a comedy to him just as some event read in the newspaper or something heard in conversation might do, and that the comedy was sent to a manager without suspicion that another author had sent to the same manager a plot on the same subject with similar characters.

"If second thoughts are subtler than first, third thoughts are subtler than second, and though my third thinking will only appeal to a minority of readers I am not disposed to relinquish as altogether untenable the explanation that as the manager sat reading my comedy, admiring its dialogue, he began to wonder if there was anybody alive in London who could write it better; and that at the same moment a fashionable dramatic author was sitting alone in his study, his mind at pause. Who shall say that it is impossible that my story and my characters were suddenly precipitated into the empty mind ready to receive them, as a flower is to receive the pollen that the winds waft. The failure of the dramatic author's comedy to please seems to favour the belief that it was begotten of pollen too far removed in kind to produce anything except a hybrid that lived but a few days.

"Thought transference is, as everybody knows, irregular in its operations; and it does not follow that because I have not been able to get into communication with the manager and remind him that he should have written to explain the likeness between the produced and the unproduced, he did not unwittingly, as he pondered my comedy, get into communication with the dramatic author whose mind was at pause. The science of telepathy is still in its infancy, and, no doubt, some future scientist will be able to explain everything. For the present, however, the case of my comedy must remain obscure, and I shall go on nourishing the hope that the manager will put it to the test of a performance. In the world telepathic, as in the world dramatic, all things are possible. But, beset as we are by dangers—telepathy, literary coincidence, and our natural tendency to gossip—it seems to me well to publish my sketch for *The Apostle* and avoid all possible misunderstandings."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.

The Offices of "The Era" are "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C. "Wire," "The Era, London." "Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 10, March 13, 20, April 3, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Oct. 24, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 13, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 3, 17, Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 6, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Oct. 3 (?), 10 (three or six nights), 24, and various dates onwards.
Comedy or Musical Comedy preferred.
Dates in conjunction may be secured at Hastings Pier.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

PIER, HASTINGS.
May be booked in conjunction with Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Possibly vacant Oct. 10.
Walter Maxwell, New Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 14, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Plays for the People.
A few vacancies only in 1911.
Various 1912.

Continued success.
"Alone in London" closed to £90, despite almost tropical weather, totalling just under the £300. Brilliant reception accorded to "Little Phil's Mother."
Coms., Arthur Jefferson.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. Marriott Watson.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 27, May 1, onwards.
Re dates address, C. F. Wright.

RAMSGATE.
ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.
Director, Mr. Chas. Evans.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Easter (?), Whit, and season 1911.
Re dates, direct to Henry Bowman, Resident-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Feb. 6, 13, March 20, 27, April 3, 10. Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, on, with own scenery; good printing; twice nightly; must state lowest. Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Palace Theatre, Derby, Sept. 26, on, twice nightly, must have own scenery and good printing. Lowest terms, share or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Oct. 6, 7, 8 (?), 10 (?), 31 (?), Nov. 7, 21, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies Touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, C. Burgess.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Nov. 7, 21, Dec., onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 29, Oct. 3, three nights each; also Oct. 31, onwards, full weeks or three nights. Communications to C. A. Seebold, as above.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
The only fully licensed Theatre in Wirral.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for 1911.
Apply, James Kiernan.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 22, Oct. 10, 31, on, with exceptions, 3 or 6 nights, Share or rental. W. E. Potts.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, RUGBY.
This new and handsome Theatre to be opened on Dec. 26 next, under an alert and up-to-date management.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for few remaining Spring Dates.
Frank Langley, Proprietor and Manager.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION, RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Councillor Charles Price.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for next season's dates, July, Aug., and Sept.
All communications re Bookings, William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 12, 19, and 26. Address, E. B. Gouldon.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 13, 27, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 13, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 36. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light, 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 16, April 10, 17, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

KING'S HALL ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
KING'S HALL ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications, Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Booked by Mr. George Edwardes, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, George Dance, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Fred Mouillot, Messrs. Sidney Cooper and Lyn Harding, Messrs. Paumier and Howard, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. J. W. Turner, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 21, 28, onwards, with exceptions.
All applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, Leon Vint.
The above entirely New Theatre opened Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light. Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, Good Musical Comedies, Xmas, Certainty only.
Feb. 6, on, &c. Easter, certainty only.
Neath played last week to over £250 gross, with "Sins of a City" and "Stowaway."
No. 1 Managements only dealt with.
All communications re Dates to William Minto, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 21 (?), Jan. 2, 9, 16, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Pinkie and the Fairies," "Fires of Fate," "Havana," &c. Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
Leith, Oct. 10, Dec. 5 and 12;
Falkirk, Oct. 17 and 24;
Ayr, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12;
Motherwell, Dec. 5 and 12.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26, and onwards.
Apply, R. C. Buchanan, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 14 and 28, Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, J. Alban Newton.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Big Attractions. Apply, full particulars,
M. Leopold, Manager.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 3 (re-opening date) and onwards, with exceptions. Address, Arthur Talbots, Century T., Motherwell.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, for New Year's week, First-class Pantomime.
Address, Arthur Talbots, Century T., Motherwell.

GRAND T., STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Oct. 3 and on, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, Farces, &c., to play twice nightly; must have plenty of pictorials and scenery; share or certainty. All communications to Herbert Taylor, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 17.
J. B. Howard, 15, Clifford's-inn, E.C.

HAGGAR'S THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. Haggar, sen.
Manager, Jas. Haggar.
WANTED, good Companies, in or near Wales, having Oct. 10 vacant, can have 3 nights at above; also Oct. 27, 28, 29. Xmas still Vacant for good Panto. or Musical Show. Share or cert.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 6 (3), 10, 17, 27 (3), Nov. 14, on. Apply, B. Parbeier, New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn.

BATLEY THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, for Oct. 31 and Nov. 14.
Letters, J. Edward Whitty, Elephant and Castle Theatre, London.

WANTED, a Good Company, for the Public Hall, Exmouth, for two nights (Xmas date), Dec. 26 and 27, Drama or Musical Comedy. Pictures and varieties not required. Best date in the year. Apply, Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, for Selwyn Hall Theatre, Wisbech, good Companies, for Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 6, 7, 8, Nov. 17, 18, 19, and Xmas vacant.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 7, 21, and Jan. 16.
Otto C. Culling, Theatre Royal, Bury.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Henry C. Arnold, Managing-Director.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, Oct. 17.
Apply, Sherwood and Co.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

CORPORATION THEATRE
(Late Stephenson Memorial Hall),
CHESTERFIELD.
Lessees and Managers, Messrs. HENSON and DAVIS. Re-decorated and renovated. Opens Sept. 5 with "The Thief." New Seating, new Ventilation. Beautiful refreshment bars, lounges, and cloak rooms. Full licences. The finest theatre of its size in the Midlands.
Bookings include:—
"Merry Widow" (third visit), "Arcadians," "Leah Kleschna," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," J. W. Turner's Opera Co., "The Dairymaids," "The Gay Gordons," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED, Light Attractions, Oct. 17, 18, 19, Dec. 12 and 19, Jan. 9, 16, and 30.
Re dates apply W. PAYNE SEDDON,
The Spa, Whitby.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Musical and Light Attractions, Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, first three nights.

NEW THEATRE, NEWARK.
Vacant Dec. 12, Jan. 9, and on (first three nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16 and 30.
Bookings include "The Arcadians," "Gay Gordons," "Merry Widow," "Havanah," "Girl's Cross Roads," F. R. Benson, Horace Lingard, &c.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted, good Dramas, twice nightly,
Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, and on.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, THE PENNINGTON ESTATE CO., LTD.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 26 (?), Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 14.
JAMES BELL.

AMERICAN PALACE PIER,
ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Great Attractions. Wanted, Great Attractions. Wanted, Great Attractions.
Address,
M. LEOPOLD, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14, Jan. 2, 9.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, on, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Companies, Oct, 3, 10, 17, and on (3-night bookings preferred). Christmas vacant. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

Smithson's Speculations always good.
PALACE T., PORTH, Sole Lessee, WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, 28, and later, business good, Saturday, Aug. 27, night receipts £85 with drama.
PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER, Sole Lessee, WILL SMITHSON. Business good. Wanted, good Companies, Nov. 28 and later. All communications, SMITHSON, Barnsley.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 31 and Dec. 12.
H. MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

METHIL THEATRE, FIFESHIRE.
12 miles North of Edinburgh. Population 90,000. 9 miles radius. Electric trams pass door.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3 nights),
Oct. 31 (6 nights),
Dec. 26 (6 nights).
WANTED, good Musical Comedy.
J. D. SWANSTON, Kirkcaldy.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

GLOBE T., ROYAL MARINES, WALMER, DEAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, vacant Sept. 15 Oct. 6 (three nights each week).
Apply, MANAGER.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Dec. 5, 19, Xmas, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on, with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies, Comic Operas, or High-class Dramas, for Oct. 24, Dec. 12, 19, Feb. 6, 27, March 6, 13, 27, onwards, with exceptions. Address, THE MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS, WHITLEY BAY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Oct. 10, onwards; most Up-to-date Theatre on North-East Coast; seating capacity 2000. Good break for Companies travelling North to Scotland.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17,
Nov. 21, 28, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.

COMPANIES WANTED.

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 28 (3 nights with Folkestone),
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3), 24 (3), Nov. 7, 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 6 (3), 27 (3), 31, Nov. 7, 21 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3), Nov. 14 (3), 21 (2), Dec. 1 (3), Dec. 5.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Nov. 7 (?), 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26.
Pantomimes, Farnworth, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, or 20. Brighouse, Dec. 26, Jan. 9 or 16.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Vacant Oct. 10.
WANTED, First-class Company.
Wire, E. G. ELDER.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

Walter Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Sept. 19.
Wire, DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA." All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," all dates filled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of Nov. 14 and Dec. 26. Recently played to £900 at Dublin, £653 11s. 6d. at Belfast, and on Saturday night a fortnight ago closed our 58th visit to Manchester to a £137 house, being the biggest Saturday night's takings for a dramatic show in over twelve months.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, onwards. Big Company, Chorus, Specialities, Special Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Sept. 12, Brixton Theatre, Brixton, S.W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 17, 24, Oct. 10, to follow Margate.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Grand Theatre, Douglas.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Co.,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARING O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates this Year.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Autumn, 1911.
Record Business Everywhere.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Sept. 12, Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 21 (three nights), Jan. 2, March 13, 27.
Address,
FRANK M. THORNE, Gaiety T., Leith.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 10, for "The King and the Unknown Woman" Co.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, c/o "The Era."

O. SILVERSTONE'S NEW PLAY,
"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS."
Strikingly original.
Away from everything touring.
Nothing like it. Nothing like it.
WANTED, Dates, Easter, 1911, onwards.
Sole Owner and Manager,
O. SILVERSTONE,
H. M., Barrow; next, Alhambra, Higher Openshaw.

WANTED, for First-class Farcical Comedy, good towns, Oct. 10, onward.
Apply,
ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, Theatres, for G. A. De Gray and H. Masterman's Co., "The Angel of His Dreams," closed to packed house last Saturday at Coatbridge; refer R. C. Buchanan, Esq., re business done on his circuit. Thanks Milton Bode, Esq., for offer of Jan. 16; thanks Moss' Empires, Ltd., for offer of Bordesley, Jan. 16; also offers of Walsall and Nottingham. Vacant Oct. 31, Jan. 2, Jan. 16. GEO. A. DE GRAY, to-day, Methil; Sept. 12, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, for "Havana," Good Theatre, Christmas. Apply,
A. M. LATHAM, 13, King's Bench-walk, E.C.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
WANTED, Oct. 24 (?), Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, March 6, April 17, and on.
Refer Mark Lorne (Bordesley), Messrs. Barnard, James Worswick, H. J. Crane (G., Nottingham).
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Star, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 30, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Opera House, Leicester.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S CO.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 26.
STEWART, R. C. T., Warrington.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire; also "A Lion's Heart," by Arthur Shirley, and "The Three Musketeers," "Jeanie Deans," "East Lynne," "It's Never Too Late to Mend," "The Octoroon," &c.
WANTED, Nov. 14 and 21.
EDMUND TEARLE, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for the Great Success, "His Real Wife," Dec. 19, Xmas, Jan. 9, 16, on coms. T. E. WARD, Empire T., Swindon.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Grand Theatre, Fulham, London.
Grand Theatre, Fulham, London.
Receipts went up nightly.
Receipts went up nightly.
Monday, opened at
T. R., Macclesfield,
to packed houses.
Title and Printing brought big Monday.
Tuesday jumped up.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
The most
Certain Success
Certain Success
Touring.
A
People's Play.
People's Play.
A Grand Production.
The Death-bed Scene.
The Asylum Scene.
The Attempted Murder Scene.
The Fight in the Burning House.
Any one of which would make a Play.
Vacant,
Jan. 16, 23 (?), Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
The Great Money-maker.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
This mammoth Money Magnet
Draws the Public everywhere.
Again at
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough,
Enormous Success.
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant,
Nov. 14 (?), 28, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
The Never-failing Success.
Vacant,
Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
Notice.
The Titles, Plots, Situations, and Effects of the above Plays are fully protected, and any infringement will be at once proceeded against.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 2, 9, 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
for this Great Attraction,
Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 14 (?), 28, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL (dates only),
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
By arrangement with R. C. Carton.
The Brilliant Sporting Comedy,
"LORD AND LADY ELGY."
Special Scenery and Printing.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 29 (3 nights), Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Dec. 5.
Address,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

A. and B. LIMPUS' No. 1 CO.
"THE THIEF"
(by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander).
Entire Production carried.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 11, 12, Oct. 17 (?), Oct. 31, Nov. 7 (?), 28. Bookings include Scarboro', Harrogate, Yarmouth, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Brighton, Folkestone, Eastbourne, &c.
A. LIMPUS, Grand, Lancaster.

MR. STEPHEN PRITT'S CO.
"ALMOST HIS BRIDE."
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 21. MORRIS MAUD, to-day, Farnworth; next, East T., Oxford.

"COUSIN KATE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 (precede Brighton).
VERA LESLIE, 23, Hugh-street, S.W.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 3, 17.
Record business again at T. R., Scarborough.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

The New Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 20, 1911, onwards.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD and CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Nov. 21, and Christmas.
EDWARD LLOYD, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

"THE EYE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 5, 26, few Spring. Can play one or two weeks.
WILSON BENGE, Hippodrome, Neath, South Wales.

"FACING THE WORLD ALONE."
Everything seen on the Stage Carried.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 3 and 17, for Charles Darrell's Great Moneymaker. Refer G. H. Page, Percy Broadhead, John Hart.
J. EDWARD WHITE,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 14, Xmas, for Olga Audré, in "The Great Awakening."
Wire,
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham; Sept. 12, Bargoed.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The Most Successful Drama Touring.
WANTED, Oct. 3, Wire.
Wanted, Oct. 3. Wire.
Wanted, Oct. 3. Wire.
Also Oct. 10, 17.
Playing to Enormous Business Everywhere. Refer Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds; Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield; Harry Eeden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland; Harris Fineberg, Esq.; Star Theatre, Liverpool; W. W. Kelly, Esq.; T. R., Birkenhead; J. H. Currey, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby; Wm. Morton, Esq.; Alex. Theatre, Hull; &c., &c.
Re dates, address,
A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneaustreet, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
Sparkling Musical Comedy. Screamingly Funny. Gorgeously Mounted and Dressed. 30 Performers.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, 21, 28, and later.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
Vacant Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Vacant Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 7, 28.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, to follow run at Grand Theatre, Derby, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, good Theatre for Production, Dec. 26. also Vacant, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.
Re dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 17, Dec. 19, Dec. 26, Jan. 5, 16, various later.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
This, Elephant and Castle Theatre;
Next, Lyric, Hammersmith.
Vacant Oct. 17.
Wire,
ARTHUR HINTON,
To-day, T. R., Smethwick;
next, T. R., Sunderland.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with
New and Splendid Plant of Printing.
Carefully Selected Company, including
Miss Nellie Clyde
as Nan, the Flower Girl,
Sept. 19 (wire for Sept. 19),
Oct. 10 (?), Oct 17 (to precede Lyric, Hammersmith). Gross takings for four weeks, Aug. 8 to Sept. 3, £1,085 2s. 6d.
Address, CHARLES GIBSON,
To-day, C. T., Stockton; next, Prince's T., Preston.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Always the same verdict. Once or twice nightly. Really excellent.
This week, twice nightly, Empire, Oldham. Refer.
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Wanted, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct. 31.
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
The Play of Intense Human Interest.
Vacant Oct. 17 (to follow Stratford).
New Xmas Production,
Powerful Domestic Play,
Vacant Jan. 2, 16,
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Gorgeous Revival.
Vacant Feb. 13, 27.
All coms. re above, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, till Wednesday, Palace, Maidstone; then, Gaiety T., Worksop.

FRANK STANMORE
Introduces his New and Up-to-date Musical Novelty, in Two Acts,
"CHASING CYNTHIA."
"CHASING CYNTHIA."
Everything Carried.
The Brightest and Funniest Musical Play on Tour.
First-class West-end Cast and Chorus.
WANTED, Oct. 3 (Production), till Dec. 12, with few exceptions.
For Vacant Dates apply,
CHAS. C. OMMANNEY,
4, Duke-street, Charing Cross, W.C.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY,"
by
Elizabeth Arnim.
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
First-class Company. Approved by Herbert Trench. The Company Rehearsed and Production Superintended by Mr. Charles La Trobe, Stage-Manager, Haymarket Theatre.
Cast includes:
Miss Beatrice Lindley as Priscilla.
Mr. Clifton Alderson as the Grand Duke.
Mr. J. Edward Pearce as the Tutor.
Entire Production Carried.
Tour starts Sept. 19, Hastings.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Vacant dates, Oct. 17 (North), 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Jan. 23, on.
Apply, Mr. JOHN E. WATSON,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, Feb. 6, 13, only Vacant Dates until Autumn, 1911.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Wanted, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21,
Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn, 1911.
Refer this week Porth re business. Tuesday better than Monday. Big week anticipated.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Oct. 17, 24.
Wire for any of the above dates to
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
T. R., Wolverhampton.
Fit-up Rights to Let or Sell.

WANTED, Theatres for Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's Companies. "HER PATH OF SORROW," by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. The most successful Domestic Drama Touring. Playing to splendid business everywhere. No finer mounted or better played production. Everything carried. Vacant Nov. 7, Jan. 16, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 20, and various onwards. This, T. R., Stratford; next, T. R., Edmonton. "THE HEART BOWED DOWN," by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Production, Junction, Manchester, Feb. 13; London production Feb. 27, Lyric, Hammersmith. A really great play, of intense heart interest. Magnificently mounted, and interpreted by a specially selected company. Vacant March 13, April 10, May 8, 22, 29, June 5 (Whit), and Autumn, 1911.
Apply at once for all Companies to
CHARLES DRAYCOTT (Répertoire Co.),
Next two weeks, Col. T., Oldham.

WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 19, for "THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, March 6, 13.
Enormous Success at Dublin.
Refer. Refer.
MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM.

By special arrangement with Mr. Geo. Alexander, The Brilliant Comedy,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
now in the ninth month of its present revival at the St. James's Theatre.
Followed by Peter Davey's successful Travesty on "CHANTECLER."
West End Company, including Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. Hugh Ardale, Miss Olivia Glynne, Miss Barbara Hannay, &c., &c.
And the BURLESQUE played by Miss Nellie Lomas and the entire Original Cast.
This exceptional combined attraction vacant Oct. 3 (only vacant date).
WANTED, First-class Theatre only, everything carried for both pieces. Communications to PETER DAVEY, Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Only vacant dates this year Oct. 31, Dec. 5, 12.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, also Christmas and New Year's weeks for good Musical Comedy.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10.
Vacant Oct. 10.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
WANTED, Oct. 3, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

THE WILSON BARRETT
Original Version of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE."
(Bullock Version.)
By arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY SELECTED CO.
Another Great Success at Gloucester.
Refer Will Smithson, Esq.
WANTED, Oct. 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, Nov. 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 19 and 26.
Managers requiring a sound attraction and sure moneymaker, wire or write,
TOM WATT, 6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Sept. 12, Alexandra T., Hull

J. PITT HARDACRE'S TOUR,
with the Wilson Barrett Version of
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 1, 1911.
See Companies Page.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
The Financial Success.
WANTED, Oct. 17. Enormous success this week, Star, Liverpool. Refer. Wire re this date, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.
All other communications, GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

MR. J. W. LINDSAY ELLIS
Presents
"LIGHTS OUT."
As produced by H. B. Irving at the Waldorf and Savoy Theatres. Excellent business Leamington. Refer the Management.
WANTED, Oct. 10 (follow O. H., Middlesbrough), Oct. 17, Nov. 14.
This, T. R., Leamington; next, T. R., Bury St. Edmunds (3), Town Hall, Cromer (3).

WANTED, for the John Leopold Pantomime Comedy Productions,
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY."
"THE NEW FRIVOLITY,"
Preceded by
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
"THE HOUSEBOAT."
Wire for Sept. 19 (3 nights), to precede Glossop.
Oct. 3 and 10, Nov. 21, to precede Torquay. All communications to
CHARLES GOFF, Sole Director,
this, Grand, Wolverhampton;
next, Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
present the Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Theatres; only vacant dates this year, Oct. 10, Nov. 21, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 26. Please refer this week John Henry Saville, Esq., Paisley Theatre, re Play, Company, and Production. Tuesday pounds better than Monday, refer.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Sept. 26, between Fleetwood and Preston.
HORACE STANLEY,
Theatre Royal, Belfast; next, Prince's, Blackburn.

Mr. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 (North).
Coms., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
WANTED, Theatres, for the above, Once or Twice Nightly,
Sept. 19, Nov. 7, 21.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10 (?), 17 (?), Dec. 26, Jan. 2.

"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"
Wanted, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Xmas.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Hall or Theatre, for Oct. 17, for "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law."
The Biggest of Screaming Sketches Touring. Salary, share, or would bring Combination.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Good Theatres and Halls for First-class Combination, including Victor Widdicombe and Co. Vacant Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, and onwards (with exceptions).
WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Juvenile Light Comedy Gent, also Character Comedy Old Man (small), for Musical Comedy. Rehearse at once.
Terms, refs., photos., &c., to A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Refined Lady and Gentleman, to play small parts and understudy, in first-class Fit-up Company; young, smart Gentleman, to learn duties of Business Management; respectability and good education essential; small premium required, salary given from commencement. Only those who are willing to learn the business need apply. Send full particulars, age, height, and photo. (if any), to
MONTEFIORE and MARTINEZ, Post Office, Cambridge.
Interview in London by appointment.

ARTISTS WANTED.

STAGE.

WANTED, at once, Ladies and Gentlemen, must be young, good voices and appearance, absolutely essential; also Boys age 14, must have good voices, or useless. Apply immediately, Stedman's Agency, 58, Berners-street, W.

WANTED, Juv. and Light Comedian, and Actor, for Aristocratic Middle-age Parts, High-class Comedies (No Drama). Height, photo., terms, and references, Box 8,247, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, for Mr. John Lawson's part, Good Leading Lady, Good Heavy Man, and Responsible People, for No. 2 Productions. Letters, Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, to Rehearse, Sept. 19, First-class Chambermaid, able to sing and dance well; also Comedian, character man, play two small parts; Juv. Lady and Gent, both must sing well; also Mus. Dir. and Chorus (ladies). Terms, refs., Nightingale, T. R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Juvenile, about 5ft. 8in., also two Character Actors, must be 6ft., for Cowboys. Address or call,
Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

WANTED, immediately, smart Amateur, lady, small part, London production; also vacancy for Gentleman of appearance and ability. Howard, 453, Fulham-road.

WANTED, Young, Robust Chambermaid, 5ft. 6in., small part, sketch, special week. Write (or call to-day), Wallace, 49, Leighton-road, West Ealing.

WANTED, through relinquishing, Young Heavy Man for part of Levison;
must dress well on and off.
Tour to end of Year.
Full particulars, last two references, and lowest terms, apply, Tom Watt,
to-day, until 1 p.m., 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.; next week, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for Mr. Norman V. Norman's Co., a Gent. for Character Parts, and Gent. to play Responsibles (tall); also a Lady for Small Parts. G. Smith-Neill, Lyndhurst, Herbert-road, Southsea.

"HAVANA" COMPANY.

WANTED, Young Gentleman; must have smart appearance, able to sing and dance, for part of Frank Charteris in the above. Apply, full particulars, Chas. Road-night, Heathcote, Grimwood-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, Clever Young Juvenile Actor, to be able to look about 22, about 5ft. 8in. or 9in., dark. Walter Howard, c/o Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Young, Dainty, Smart Soubrette, must sing and dance; also several Chorus Ladies, must be pretty, young, smartly dressed, or useless. Full particulars by letter, with photos. (returnable), terms, &c. Chas. C. Ommanney, 4, Duke-street, Charing Cross, W.C.

WANTED, for Sketch, smart Juvenile and Character Actor. Apply, or write, stating age, lowest salary, photos., &c.; long engagement; also smart young Property Man. Full particulars, Lotinga, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, First-class Chorus and Show Ladies, for London Musical Comedy. Write for an appointment. No callers.
Joseph Davies, 18, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, First-class Elocutionist, able to Lecture Dramatic Pictures.
Apply, with full particulars and lowest salary, to the Manager,
Picturedrome, Bradford.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ragna Dehn and Karl Antonini, in "The Romance of a Violin," vacant Sept. 12 and on. 35, Norwood-grove, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mina Hope, the distinguished Girl Tragedienne.
1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham.

WANTED, immediately, by young, brilliant Solo Tenor, Engagement, any business. Apply, Tenor, Royal Arms, Gaisford-street, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD
PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boys and Girls, Smart Troupe of Juveniles, pair Sisters, Knockabouts, Comedians. Terms, refs., photos., and where working, to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes, First-class Producer, one who knows the Stanley Rogers version of "Cinderella" preferred; First-class Principal Boy, Prince in "Cinderella," must sing well; Lady for Cinderella, must be young, pretty, and sing well; smart Second Boy and Girl; a large number of Ladies for Chorus, must be young and tall; a Male Quartette for Speciality and Chorus, must be cheap.
Recognised Pantomime Comedians please write in.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, W.C.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, Chorus, &c. Send full particulars, photo., and lowest terms for London and provinces, to
Kelson Trueman's Agency,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a Comedian of Reputation for Pantomime. Terms and full particulars required. Also a first-class musical-director for same.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime; not less than 5ft. 7in. References, terms, to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, through releasing, First-class Principal Boy (Crusoe). Must sing really well and have plenty of dash. Fullest particulars, E. C. Jazon, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedian, Knockabouts, Quartettes of Dancers, &c. Write, Vaudeville Agency, 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C. References and photos required. Mark envelopes "Pantomime."

WANTED, for Pantomime, Two Excellent Knockabout Comedians, capable of playing good parts. Also first-class Comedians for Dame and Ali Baba. Principal Girl, Chorus, &c., &c.
Full particulars,
William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Clara Reid
Vacant Pantomime.
1909, Royal, Birmingham.
Offers invited, Principal Boy or Girl.
See Back Page.
To-day, Empire, Birmingham; next, Pal., Lincoln

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Ello, Dame Comedian and Dancer. Last six seasons with John Tiller, Esq. Monday, Public Hall, Woking.

WANTED, Panto., by Li-Chang-Hi and Tai Mao, Chinese Conjurors. Speciality and Parts, three people, Li-Chang-Hi and male and female assistant, six-sheet posters. Sept. 12, Pavilion, Rothesay.

WANTED, Known, Victor Bros., vacant for Panto, Spec., also Animal Parts, exceptionally good Cat. Who wants these goods? Hippodrome, Aston.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime,
thoroughly experienced.
Next week, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, by La Dor Troupe (six in number), male and female novelty acrobats, panto. parts, speciality, and harlequinade, everything carried. Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery. Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. Will Molesworth, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconis, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery First-class Work Guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.

WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, concluding eight weeks engagement with J. Bell, Esq., refer; at Liberty; offers invited. Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, Charles Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, permanency preferred, by First-class Scenic Artist; over 20 years' experience. Terms moderate. Box 8,239, "The Era."

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; References, &c., address 25, Elgin-terrace, Maida Vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Experienced Business Manager, with knowledge of Stage and Advertising; no office work and counting money when it comes in, but one who will bring it in by initiating Advertising and other methods to attract the public outside.
Address Box 8,249, "The Era."

WANTED, Assistant Resident-Manager. Age, references, terms, and full particulars, E. E. Falcon, Carlton House, Bedford.

WANTED, Carpenter, combine Baggage, must be useful man and assist generally.
Apply,
Fred W. Goddard,
General-Manager for Mrs. Frank Bateman,
12th, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, good Baggage Carpenter, "A Life for a Life" Tour. Open Monday, Sept. 19. Able to play Small Part; must be robust, good voice, not less than 5ft. 10in. Age, terms, references, Chas. H. Lester, 44, Marton-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Master Carpenter, practical man. Address, with age, references, to
Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

WANTED, good practical Carpenter, one able to take charge of Set, knowledge of electricity preferred. Letters marked "Humanity."
49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Baggage Man, tall. Fullest particulars, references, lowest terms, to Russell Norrie, 44, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, at once, young, neat, experienced, energetic Wardrobe Mistress, must be thoroughly capable of cutting out, making and fitting quick change and pantomime costumes; only abstainers need apply; long pleasant engagement if satisfactory. Fullest particulars first letter, photo. with stamped envelope for reply. The Great Raymond, Hippodrome, Nottingham; next week, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, by well-known Variety Agent, late Manager, Management of Music Hall or Big Picture Palace, in or near London. No salary required, as advertiser after one month would be willing to rent Hall or work on commission, or share with proprietor if mutually agreeable. Anyone requiring smart manager write to
Box 8,231, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Manager, at Liberty; Resident or Tour; thoroughly experienced; young, smart energetic; expert advertising, accountancy, &c.; moderate salary. Box 8,235, "The Era."

WANTED, by Gentleman, young, with twelve years' experience of Pier Pavilion, Theatre, Variety, and Touring Management, offers for Management, home or abroad; would combine Secretarial duties if necessary, smart and energetic; good refs. Box 8,242, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Manager Harry Lyons, at Liberty,
Resident or Tour, Theatre or Variety,
Highest credentials, covering years' experience.
101r, Gordon-chambers, Station-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Gentleman (active worker), place of trust;
£15 security.
Disengaged October.
Address, Box 8,218, "The Era."

Who wants me?

WANTED, Known, Walter R. Scragg, Advance or Advertising Manager, late of the foremost American Shows, just concluded two years with the Famous St. Louis Co., can Open at Once. Splendid references. Address, Waverley Hotel, opposite St. Pancras Station, London.

WANTED, Known, Thomas J. Hanlon, Advance Representative, Original Irish Animated Picture Co., Jeffries-Johnson Fight Pictures. Opera House, Cork.

WANTED, Engagement, as Practical Bill Inspector or Bill Poster, abstainer, reliable and experienced. Address, Emberson, 52, Howell-road, Exeter.

WANTED, Engagement, by Wardrobe Mistress, late charge workroom, Queen's, Manchester. Also Carpenter, Bill Inspector, Knowledge Electricity. Harrismith, c/o 78, Market-place, Middleton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.

WANTED, Musical Director, Pianist, to combine another instrument; must be experienced and first-class musician, with up-to-date library. Permanent engagement if suitable. Address, with refs. and lowest terms, Charles Revill.

WANTED, First Violin (able to lead if required), from Oct. 1, for my well-known Orchestra; must be young, steady, well-mannered man, good technique, good Sight-reader, strong rich tone, and temperament essential; unmarried. Permanent engagement for suitable person. Send references, photo., state age, lowest terms, Hunt, Scotch Orchestra, Knipperbrau, Saarbrucken, Germany.

WANTED, for Paisley Hippodrome, reliable Violin Leader, open Sept. 19; salary 32s. 6d. Apply, Manager, Hippodrome, Paisley.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, Bass, Clarionet, Lady Pianist and Vocalist, for Pictures, Canterbury. Terms, age, refs., Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

WANTED, competent reliable Leader, First-class Varieties.
Age and references to Mundell, M.D.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Leader, for White Star Mediterranean Service, Sept. 16, until Dec. Terms and conditions apply Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Violin Soloist, for Sketch; smart appearance; height about 5ft. 6in. Apply, P. Gayer, 15, Chesterfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, Rink, £2. open Monday.
W. Durrant, A.M.U., Arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, Cornet, open Monday; must be experienced quick variety, standard overtures, steady, or no use. Refs., terms, H. Stone, Conductor, Hippodrome, Keighley.

WANTED, a First-class, Sober and Steady Solo Cornettist for Big Musical Act. Must be good executant, triple tongueing, &c.
Apply Webb, Hipprodome, Wigan.
Height, 5ft. 6in.; chest 34in.

WANTED, good Cornet and Euphonium. Pitching. Terms, shares.
Apply, Sec., 95, Stow-hill, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, to open Sept. 19, only steady, reliable, and experienced men need apply. Signor Peri, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, a Lady Double Bass, experienced, commencing Oct. 1, Milan, Stockham's English Ladies' Orchestra. Walhalla, Wiesbaden, Germany. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, for the Cheltenham Town String Band, good Double Bass Player, also Violin. Terms shares. J. Boyce, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Trombone Player, to open Monday, Sept. 19. Apply, with refs.,
Sykes, The Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Japan-British Exhibition, Sept. 19 (week), Good Solo Euphonium, Army Journal. Silence polite negative. Conductor, 42, Kenilworth-rd., Kilburn.

WANTED, for Croydon Band, E flat Bombardon and Cornet, for pitching. Terms, shares. Walters. 51 Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, good Viola, open Sept. 26, permanent. Age, terms, and references to Chas. Elphinstone, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Flute and Clarionet Players, employed on Foreign-bound Liners. Apply first instance, Box 8,224, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist, for Palace Theatre, Derby, to open Sept. 19, must be experienced in Variety and Dramatic Work. Lowest terms and references, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Pianist (male), essentially First-class Accompanist and Sight Reader, required for hotel trio party; one who also plays viola preferred. Thomas, Cremona, Liverpool-st., Dover.

WANTED, Young Lady, Brilliant Pianist, must harmonise well, join Lady Music Hall Artist new act. Photos. Baxter, 29, Fentiman-road, Clapham-road.

WANTED, First-class Double Drummer and Tympanist, full effects, not afraid of work. Apply, Sheldon, New Empire, Kilburn.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, also 'Cellist,
for R.M.S. "Orsova"
sailing to Australia Sept. 16;
must be thoroughly competent; duties very light; arrive back in London Dec. 23.
One of the new 12,000 ton boats.

Write at once,
Herbert M. Sindall,
2, Harefield-road, Brockley, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Euphonium, Trombone,
B Clarionet.
Side Drummer.
None but absolute teetotalers. Long engagement offered. Good salary; must be prepared to start rehearsals from Sept. 26. Apply by letter only to Musician, c/o Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners.
Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to
Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black,
Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Sept. 19, and other special weeks, Leader, 'Cello and Viola; must be good men of recognised experience. Apply, with terms and particulars, W. R. King, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, Cornet, Flute, and Piccolo, and Drums. Permanency to the right men. Lowest terms and references to T. W. Wright, Luna Park and Palace, Southend.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Cornet, Bass, Clarionet; open immediately. Wire, Claremorris, Saturday; Westport, Monday.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists, all Lines, used to High-class Variety. Send age, terms, and addresses for reference, to Amos Parker, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Orchestra (Pianist to combine), Theatre near Edinboro'. Terms, &c., Frederic Fuller, M.D., 33, Prince George-avenue, Raynes Park, London.

WANTED, Musicians all Lines, for Provincial Music Halls, good money to good people. State age and if can open at once. Letters only to Musical-Director, 116, Church-lane, Tooting Common, S.W.

WANTED, Brass Band, to parade, two First Cornets, one Second, Tenor Horn, Euphonium, two Trombones, Double Bass, and Big Drummer, with Drum, would engage separate or complete Band. Address, with full terms and particulars, to Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM,
LONG GROVE, EPSOM, SURREY.

WANTED, Nurses. Wages, £19 10s. a year for first six months, then, if satisfactory, rising to £21 10s., and subsequently by £1 annually to £23 a year, and, on promotion, to £37 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Nurses are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Previous asylum experience not essential, but ability to play violin well a recommendation. Daily leave (subject to convenience of service), 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Weekly leave, 1 day; annual leave, first fifteen months (after nine months' service), 13 days; the following twelve months, 19 days; each successive twelve months, 21 days. Applications, stating age, height, experience, and previous occupation, should be sent (at once) to the Medical Superintendent, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12¼ by 10½, 11¼ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. The Standard Press, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS. Reg. No. 1398, T.U.

WANTED, Fully-qualified Musicians to join the above Protective Society, which is out to effect a Consolidation of the whole Musical Profession of the United Kingdom; to maintain the status of ability of the Musician, and to promote a system of fair and equitable dealing between its members and their employers.

Owing to the reliable efficiency of its members its popularity among managers and musical directors is rapidly increasing. Vacancies for certain instruments. Employers send along wants. Efficiency always guaranteed, as two-jobbers and unqualified musicians are not supplied by this Society.

Wire, "Orchestra," Manchester. For pamphlets, entrance forms, &c., or musicians, apply to the most convenient of the following offices:
Manchester: S. Broley, 1, Upper Kent-rd., Victoria Park.
Oldham: E. H. Goddard, 6, Crown-street.
London: Chris. J. Hoggett, 26, Wardour-st., W.
Glasgow: Fred Young, 71, Scott-street, Garnethill.
General Secretary: Joseph Ball, 19, Grange-street, Rusholme.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Chas. P. Fox, Musical-Director, Spa Theatre, Bridlington, Disengaged Sept. 17 (concluding second season). Refer, R. C. Luxton, Esq., Manager.

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical Director (Violin), Disengaged Sept. 19, with or without Orchestra; any business; extensive library; highest references. 13, Camden-sq., or Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Musical Director (Piano), Liberty Sept. 19; highest references. Good offers only invited to M. D., 4, Derby-street, Weymouth.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin), with or without small Orchestra, Lib. Sept. 17; refs. Fay, Britannia Pier Pavilion, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, by London Music Hall Conductor, Engagement; can open at once; up to date music; highest references. Box 8,223, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Fred Eplett, Conductor, Composer and Arranger, is open to accept Engagement. Address, this week, Hippodrome, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Variety Conductor, late with Barrasford; excellent references; big library. Lancaster, 4, Rosslyn-house, Brixton Oval, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, by Experienced Leader and Solo Violinist, now disengaged. Address, Rose Schoenthal, 59, Miranda-road, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, thoroughly experienced. Offers to Parisi, 4, Adam-street, Burnham.

WANTED, Re-engagement by experienced First Violinist (all lines), Disengaged Sept. 24; age 32; abstainer. H. Phipps, 46, Oxford-street, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Second Violin, thoroughly experienced any business.
Apply, Box 8,220, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Pictures or Rink, Violin and Cornet (Ladies), in or near London preferred. E. R., 60, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay, N.

WANTED, by Violinist, First or Second, engagement. Good refs. Steady and reliable. Vio, 16, Loampit-vale, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First or Second Violin, combine Second Cornet, Disengaged 12th, any business, good ref. C. Johnson, 73, Arundel-rd., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Cornet Soloist (Medalist), now free, any business, London preferred. Frank Clarke, 39, New Fillebrook-road, Leytonstone, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Disengaged.
W. A., 215, Portnall-road, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornettist, First or Second, age 30; good refs.; at Liberty Sept. 19. Ellis, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, by Cornet, finishing Kursaal, Engagement, any business, three years Hippodrome, Eastbourne. Good refs. Morland, 29, Central-avenue, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, First or Second, good refs., any business, can open at once. Hoyle, 9½, Russell-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, First or Second, any business.
F. Baker, 2, Sunnyside-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Brothers, Engagement as First and Second Cornet; experienced any business; young; Liberty 17th. Hullier, 72, High-st., Gorleston-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any business. Steady and reliable.
Address, A. Anstis, 39, Brewer-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet.
Cornet, 115, Haig-road,
Barking-road, Plaistow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, experienced in Variety; young, steady, and reliable. Terms moderate; good references. Charles Walters, 6, Stanefordham, Consett, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, First or Second, any business, can open at once. J. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, at Liberty, Theatre or Variety, steady and reliable; good refs. T. Crawshaw, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Clarionet, at Lib. Oct. 2, any business.
Hillston, Princess Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, by Clarionet and Saxophone Player, Engagement, any business. J. McRedmond, 3, Union-street, Ramsgate, or Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist, any business.
H. Matthews, Orchestra, South Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionettist, good, steady, reliable, all branches; good references; Union rates; ready Sept. 19. Chas. Calvesert, Success, Fence Houses, Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionetist, can open Sept. 19, any business, young, good refs. Atkinson, c/o 2, Bank-terrace, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, good refs., steady and reliable. Clarionet, Municipal Orchestra, Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, well-experienced Clarionet desires change; 6 years present shop; steady and reliable; open Sept. 19. Box 8,238, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, competent and experienced Contra Bass; reliable; good reference. Basso, 216, Lancaster-rd., Notting Hill, London, W.

WANTED, Known, good Bassoonist, at Liberty Sept. 12, high or low pitch; excellent refs. Apply, W. Bates, Ashworth-terrace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass and Violin, together or separate, experienced all lines, sober, reliable. Address, Lucas, Madoc House, Pwllheli, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass, competent, reliable, experienced, Variety or Theatre. Wire, Alfred Sunderland, 5, Ebenezer-place, Great Horton, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, any business, at Liberty Sept. 19. Address, W. Gott, Winter Gardens Orchestra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, Theatre, or small Band, experienced, first-class references, steady and reliable; permanency preferred. Hogben, 29, Victoria-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; steady and reliable; good refs.
Harry Hare, Grand Theatre, Douglas.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement in First-class Theatre, Music Hall, or Rink; just finishing season. Smith, Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing of season, as Trombone, Tenor, or Bass; highest refs.; late Guards. Bitmead, 27, Cornwall-road, Bexhill.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Trombone, any business, life abstainer, good refs. Send offers to 18, Aberdeen-road, Lancaster.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombonist, any Business; good refs.; London preferred; would deputise. A. Matthews, A.M.U., 9, Great Newport-street, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, through disappointment, thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable, Theatre, Music Hall, Touring, any business. S. Smith, 24, Stanley-st., Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium Disengaged shortly, first-class man, could take Bombardon, Rink Band teaching or otherwise. Maddock, Municipal Band, Rothesay.

WANTED, by good Euphonium, Engagement (good), Rink or any business, Disengaged Sept. 24; refs. J. Stone, 7, Southend-terrace, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, Open BB Bombardon, just finished Season Engagement, Rink or any business. Harman, 22, Fraser-street, Bedminster, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon; thoroughly reliable. Henry Woodage, 19, Cedars-road, Water-lane, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced reliable Bombardon and Double Bass Player, First-class references. E. Lazzari, 24, Hoxton-rd., Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, after Oct. 1, by experienced Bombardon, any business. Address, Chas. S. Turner, Orchestra, South Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, by Good Bombardon, Engagement, any business, age 35, finishing season. Address, Basso, Municipal Orchestra, Wellington Gardens, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, any business, finishing season end of September, abstainer. Cheetham, 14, Valley-mount, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Horn, Re-engagement, any business; good refs. Solo Horn, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, 'Cellist, Theatre, permanent; present engagement finishes Sept. 23. State terms. A. D., C/o Vincent, 5a, Park-avenue, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Known, Stanley E. Angless, 'Cellist, Queen's, and Highcliff Hotel, Cliftonville, Margate. Disengaged Sept. 30.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, or as Deputy or Tour, any business. Good ref. Address, R. Sortino, 65, Torren's-buildings, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola, any business.
H. Oldfield, 21, Ossory-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by excellent Oboeist; highest ref. Write,
Box 8,222, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, young, experienced; good refs.; any business; finish season Sept. 15. Gent, 21, South-rd., Gorleston, near Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Flautist in Orchestra; Theatre or Variety; first-class references; can open at once. Address, Flautist, 37, Goodge-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, any business; concluding season Saltburn Pleasure Gardens, Sept. 11. Address, Flautist, 11, Holder-street, Redcar, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, any business, distance no object, good refs., at Liberty Sept. 10. Stewart, 176, Lancaster-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, any business, at Liberty Monday.
Address, G. E. Beck, 91, Catherine-st., Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced and Reliable Flautist, good refs., any business, variety preferred. Flautist, 22, Almorah-rd., Victoria Park, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist, eight years O. H., Cork, just finished two years' Variety; best refs. W. A. Jordan, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, good Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty; experienced any business; reliable, abstainer; excellent references. Flautist, 27, Nicholl-street, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable experienced Pianist; combine Second Violin; Dramatic, Variety, Pictures; any Business; steady. Refs. Minton, c/o Holliday, 4, South Henry-st., Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement in London, by smart Young Lady Pianist, any capacity.
Miss F., 1, South Park-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Experienced and Reliable, Rink or Variety. W. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Mooreside-road, Ecclesshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, Piano and Cornet, good sight reader. Address, Piano, 54, Dunstan's-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Steady Lad, 16, Smart Pianist, reads sight, MS., London only. Experienced. J. D., 40, Ravensbourne-rd, Catford.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady Pianist, Double Second Violin; experienced all lines. Miss Lynton, 3, Havelock-road, Hastings.

WANTED, an Engagement, for Double Drums; first-class references (permanency preferred); Liberty Sept. 19. Tom Burt, 144, Lovell-street, Cleethorpes.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, at Liberty Sept. 19, London Rink preferred. A. EASON, 34, Elizabeth-road, South Tottenham.

WANTED, permanent engagement, by Drummer and Tympanist (own Tymps), first-class Theatre or Music Hall preferred; refs. TORDOFF, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects; thoroughly experienced, reliable; any business; Orchestra or Military; Liberty now. 19, King-st., Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras, smart uniform, now playing Olympia, Jersey, Cromer, Westgate, Folkestone, &c. Booking Autumn. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Belle, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Original Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, at Lib.; all Soloists; latest répertoire. CONDUCTRESS, "Lansdowne, Falkland-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Offers, Ladies' Lyric Orchestra, concluded successful season Filey, now playing Tower, Morecambe, any number. 3, St. Albans-place, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, Three Ladies (Violinist, 'Cellist-Pianist, Pianist-Vocalist), early October; splendid répertoire; good refs. 2, Seymour-street, New Writtle-street, Chelmsford.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth consecutive season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere, Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. THOS. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

TRADES EXHIBITION, DEVONPORT.
WANTED, Engagement, by the Celebrated Bohemian Orchestra. Six Performers, all Soloists; fully experienced, any Business; Hotel or Café preferred; Pianist, Flautist, First Violin, Second Violin, Cornet, Bass. Apply, LU DELVA.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Skating Rink Proprietors, &c., the Anglo-Bavarian Military Band open for Engagements, up-to-date Library and Uniforms. Moderate. GROOF, Bandmaster, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Skating Rink Band, Liberty Sept. 10. Apply to Signor DANIELE PECORINI, 42, Abbey-road, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, for Brass Band of seven or more musicians, steady, reliable, uniformed, used to rinks. Terms moderate. Box 8,228, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by small Band, scarlet and gold uniform, latest music, for Rinks, &c. BANDMASTER, 69, Carlisle-st., London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Small Band (five or six), Rink or Pictures, latest music, smart uniform. Terms moderate. COOPER, 116, Shirebrook-road, Sheffield.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Artists in Every Branch of the Profession, to open Saturday, Dec. 3, and during the season. Terms and particulars, first letter. Apply, TALBOT COOKE, Manager.

WANTED, at Once, good Tumbler for well-known Comedy Act. Send terms, prices, height, and age, in first letter to save time, Box 8,248, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Proprietors of Circus Buildings, Managers of Theatres, Rinks,
Your Eye,
Your Thought,
For a Brief Spell.
JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
General-Manager, Mr. G. H. SCOTT.
Equestrian-Director, Mr. JOE HASTINGS.
Many thanks to the various managers who have written us, but we must have fair terms. Still at liberty for winter season with our own family as complete Circus. Separately or collectively. We can fit you up with a Circus complete to the last button.
What we claim to give you:
A Magnificent Stud of Performing Horses and Ponies.
A Well-drilled and Efficient Staff.
A Constant Change of Novelties in Horsemanship.
A Troupe of Live Clowns with the Latest Entrées.
A Répertoire of Original Spectacles and Effects.
A Never-ceasing and Endless Stream of Animated Pictures.
Efficient Management and Fertile Brains.
A circus performance put on with such singular faithfulness that it will be hailed with admiration and delight by enthusiastic managers.
Vox Populi Vox Dei.
Substantial
Confidence and
Originality in
Triers of ability invariably brings
Triumph and
Success.

Come and see our Horses, they are
Infinitely superior and
Right above the average
Concerns; their
Unique appearance will spell
Satisfaction.
Communications,
G. H. SCOTT, 9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Dec. next, by Etherdo, Pugh, and Olrac, the Human Flying Machines. Mail, Sanger's Hippodrome, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Circus Engagements, for Winter Season, by Proctor's A1 Circus, Lady and Gentlemen Bare-back Riders, Gymnasts, Tight-rope and Wire Performers, Performing Horses, Ponies, and Donkey. Good Clowns, &c. Terms, address, PROPRIETOR, Proctor's Circus, Little Hulton, near Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Wanted,
Death
Defying,
Danger
Deriding,
Dare-
Devil
Diving
Cormack.

At Liberty Oct. 3, on.
Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E. (the Professional House).
or, American Park, Brussels.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Dramatic Sketches Specially.
Pleased to see any Turn.
RICHARD CASS'S Agency,
18, Adam-street, Strand. 'Phone 615 City.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEORGE E. MUDD.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Terms, bookings, &c. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines.
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, and PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above. Good, Sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers.

Lowest terms, lithos., &c.,
A. E. PICKARD,
Panopticon, Glasgow

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Sept. 19 and Future Dates.
Big Specialities,
Funny Comedy Acts.
Bookings, terms, lithos., and house address, 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Speciality Acts, Comedy Acts, Novelties, Sept. 19, onward. Terms, bookings, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbings."

WANTED, clever, versatile, useful Artists, capable of changing their Specialities, for season, in and around London, two years round the world tour, returning viâ America, to follow, to suitable people. Fullest particulars and photos. (stamped envelope for return) in first letter, HARRY CLARK, Premier Hotel, Southampton-row, London. No callers.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 19, on. 14A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates. Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Artists in all Lines, for several Halls in the North. Good strong Tops can be placed immediately.

Apply, Signor PEPI, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines known to me, to communicate.

HARRY BOWERMAN,
Pringle's Palace, Bedminster.

WANTED, for long Follies tour Abroad, Artists in all Lines,
Rehearse London October, sail November.

Apply by letter only (in first instance), enclosing photo, full particulars.
ALICE E. JOSEPH,
Theatrical Bureau, Stafford-street, W.

WANTED, Known, that the Entire Bookings of Rothesay Pavilion are now in the hands of Skivington's Agency. 41, Ardgowan-st., Greenock.

DEETRICH'S AGENCY,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, the Biggest Stars, especially Comedy, for immediate dates.
Full particulars, lowest terms, first instance.

CADLE'S AGENCY,
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, Sept. 19, and onward,
Stars in all Lines,
Stars in all Lines.

WANTED, Big Turns, three nights, Sept. 22 and 26, Shares. A break between Edinburgh, Dundee, and Aberdeen. W. E. POTTS, O. H., Dunfermline.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, Acts of all Kinds.

Lowest and House Address,

DALTON'S AGENCY,
29, Mauldeth-rd. West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Acts of Every Description for
THE HIPPODROME, HULL.
THE HIPPODROME, HULL.
Can place Immediate Dates.
Good Comedians, Serios, Patter Comedians, and Comedy Acts
Write, with list of dates, and lowest terms, to
WALTER BENTLEY,
168, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Variety Acts of every Description. FRED COLLINS'S Agency, 21, Barclay-street, Springburn, Glasgow. Telephone, P.O. Springburn, 84.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, Good Speciality Acts, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, and later dates.
All communications, WILL SMITHSON.

WANTED, Acts of all Lines, for Wallsend, for immediate dates; also Tops, for Sept. 19, Oct. 10, on. WILL LUND'S Agency, Liverpool. Wires, "Comedy, Liverpool." 'Phone 682 Royal.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes. Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

Wires, "Daneids, Liverpool."

Telephone, Royal 4036.

WANTED, the Greatest Acts in the Profession, immediate and future dates, for all the principal Variety Houses in the British Isles, Stars, Novelties, Specialities, Artists in all Lines, the bigger the better. Always vacancies for Monday next; give list of bookings and house address, and state lowest; six months' solid work waiting for the Right Acts. Sole Booking Agents for over 20 establishments. Also Artists all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, &c., for Picture Houses; also Acts of all descriptions wanted for immediate and future dates, for Hippo., Londonderry; New Theatre, Hawick; Palace Theatre, Selkirk; Palace, Galashiels; New Theatre, Dumfries; King's Theatre, Gainsboro'; New Theatre, Newark; Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield; Co-operative Hall, Rugby; Spa, Whitby; Picturedrome, Ulverston; Picturedrome, Clitheroe; Picturedrome, Dalton-in-Furness; Picturedrome, Atherstone; Picturedrome, Stanley, Liverpool.

Lithos., photos., particulars, to the Hustlers,

DALY and REYNOLDS,
Cyprus-chambers, 176A, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Hall twenty miles from London, Saturday night, Sept. 17, Comedy Acts and useful Turns in all Lines; exceptional opportunity for Artists to be seen with view to long engagements. All expenses will be allowed. No Amateurs need apply. Write full particulars, mark envelope "Special."
ASHBURN'S Agency, 295, Kennington-road, S.E.
Or, 'Phone 5467 Central.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, and Dates, onwards,

Big Specialities.

Comedy Acts,

Tops of all kinds.
for
YARMOUTH & LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES
and
HENGLER'S, GLASGOW.

Say when and where in towns before.

Absolute lowest and fullest particulars.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
2, St. George's-road,
Great Yarmouth.
Impossible to answer all.

WANTED, Specialities and Star Artists all Lines, immediately, run of several weeks to right Acts. Send at once with permanent, to RAWES and CLARANCE, Central Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Sept. 19, S. Wales, Rochdale, Glasgow, Dublin, Bristol, Star Speciality, Troupes, Novelties, Variety Acts. Full bookings imperative. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
Shaw-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
Wanted, Big Tops,
and Strong Attractions of all Description.

'Phone 2349 Royal. Tele., "Aeroplane, Liverpool."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top-Liner Novelties, Britain and Continent.
(For Continent Sole Agency only entertained.)
Also Panto. Principals for best houses.
Particulars re previous Pantos. and lowest terms.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, Sept. 19, on. Big Novelties, Big Singing and Comedy Acts wanted. WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-st., Liverpool. Wires, "Comedy, Liverpool." 'Phone 682 Royal.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Top Liners, and Artists all Lines.
Acts free 19th and 26th. Send immediately.
Full bookings and permanent address imperative.
48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Big Star Tops, for Sept. 12, 19, 26,
Artists, all Lines,
Big Comedy Acts. Wire quick,
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

BREAK YOUR JOURNEY.
WANTED, big Top Liners, immediate and future dates. Terms and open time to GRIFFIN, Palace, Northampton.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Sept. 19, on, really Good Sisters, Comedians, Doubles doing Singles, Specialities, &c., Stage 20ft. by 16ft, hall small, salary same. Call for Monday: Sketch, "The Culprits," Art Harrolld, Daisy Child, Sid Kearns, Arthur and Daisy, Harry Mantell, Scotch and Polly, Mitzi, Two Leons, The Orchids, Dave Murray, Carrie Ford. Rehearsal 12 noon. WALTER ADAMS, Cosy Corner, Romford. Twelve miles from London. Turns with own lithos preferred.

WANTED, for one night only, Oct. 27, an entertainment for indoor Primrose League Fête, lasting 1 to 1½ hours. Apply to Miss BODDY, Elmsleigh, Tarring, Worthing.

WANTED, Wire Walker, with own tackle, Lady preferred, to work in Cinematograph Picture. For full particulars, write Stage-Manager, CRICKS and MARTIN, London-road, Mitcham.

WINTER GAR. ELECTRIC T., CHELTENHAM.
WANTED, First-class Vocalists, for Illustrated Songs. GILLSMITHS, LTD.

WANTED, Lady, must have Smart Appearance, able to imitate Ashwell, Terry, Campbell, and others. Full particulars, Box 8232, "The Era."

JAMAICA.
THE COLONIAL AMUSEMENT SYNDICATE.
WANTED, First-class Lady Vocalists and Dancers,
Also Young Lady Pianist and Vocalist.
Return fares paid.
Journey takes two weeks.

Address, with full particulars, to
Box 8,202, "The Era."

WANTED, Really First-class Refined Comediennes and Comedians, with good voices, for six months' Tour abroad, must be young, handsome, talented beyond question, and Ladies and Gentlemen in the true sense. Excellent salaries paid to the right people; sail early in Nov. Apply by letter, enclosing photographs, to C. EMLYN JONES, 3, 4, and 5, Cartwright-gardens, Russell-square, W.C.

WANTED, smart Young Lady (Trapeze or Good Bender), to open at once. Apply, TRAPEZE, 67, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, for Second Company, Smart Risley Performers, Tumblers, Contortionists, &c. Good salaries for the right people. Particulars, WILL DOUGLAS, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Bearer and Catcher, at once.
Wire, No. 106, Variety Artists' Club, Booth-street East, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Improver, Hand Balancer, and Second Mount or Tumbler. Apply with terms, particulars, BONAIR, Bostock Pavilion, Wishaw, N.B.

WANTED, at Once, Good Tumbler, for Well-known Comedy Act. Send terms, tricks, height, and age in first letter, to save time. Box 8,248, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Young Man, as Assistant to Illusionist; must be able to use tools. State age, height, salary, &c., to Box 8,190, "The Era."

WANTED, to Open Immediately, Dreadnought Machine, First-class Operator, to understand gas and electric. J. Gardner write in. Apply, stating terms and references, to MANAGER, Palace, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, for Gabrielle Hope's Novelty Musical Act, Sept. 12. This, Romford; Bournemouth 19th. The only lady playing organ chimes alone, and sleigh bells to own piano accompaniment; marimbaphone, spielophone, and piano solos. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham.

Enormous Success of
the Great Top-Liner,
VERA DE ASTRA,
the Celebrated Andalusian Beauty,
in Sensational Creation,
"A SHEPHERD'S DREAM,"
a Refined Combination of High-class Dancing and Picturesque Posing.
Supported by the Famous Dancer,
WANDA BARANOFF,
and the great Premier Dancer,
OLAVE FRITCHOFF,
from the Royal Opera House, Copenhagen.
WANTED, immediately, Dates for this Great Act. Shares or certainties. A money-drawing attraction for every place.
Address perm., 10, Leicester-place, W.C.
Next week, Top of the Bill, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, Sept. 12, Babs Lloyd, Comedienne and Dancer; also Nellie Boden, Comedy Artist. Wire, Picturedrome, Longton. North preferred. Good turns.

WANTED, Known, Patricia Lind, Refined Vocal Comedienne, Liberty Sept. 19. Best offers invited, Halls, Sketch, Concert Party, &c. Good Pianist, Concertedes; also Panto., Soubrette or Low Comedy part. MASQUERADERS, Frazerburgh, Scotland.

WANTED, Monday, by Miss Hazel Dean, Chic Comedienne and Skipping-rope Dancing Expert. Wire for Monday, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Lady (29) Vocalist, experienced, also Pianist, wishes to join party or quartette, with booking ahead for halls; must be refined. Share or salary. Box 8,234, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday, also 19th and 26th, by Sisters Ely, the Refined Duettists, third visit Hippodrome, Wakefield, recalled nightly. Wire, Hippodrome; permanent, 7, Carver-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the famous Singing Boxmakers, three people. A sure draw. Add., Monday, H., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer, Monday, Sept. 5, Alexandra T., Pontefract. Offers. 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 19, or good Tour, by George Ritter, Speciality Musical Comedian and Pianist, 17th week Frewin's Coons. 2, Anchor-road, Clacton.

WANTED, Sept. 29 to Dec. 5, by Harry Hardy, Grotesque Dutch Comedian and Eccentric Dancer. This, Top, Theatre, Gosport, to precede Southport Palace, Bradford, Lincoln, Leicester, Bath, Cardiff, &c. Coms., 114, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, various, on, by Frank Selby, Comedian at the Piano. This, Yarmouth; after Sat., 7, Grasmere-rd., Muswell Hill, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clive Watts, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer.
34, Gowlett-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Sam Ello, Great Comedian and Dancer, D.C. lithos., and photo. frames. Public Hall, Woking.

WANTED, Engagement, Harry Barlow, Baritone, after Successful Tour of America, Open from Sept. 12 onwards; high-class Vocalist and Duettist. Perm., 10, Wellington-street, Stockport.

WANTED, by Geo. St. Helen, the Australian Actor-Vocalist, Nov. 7, 10, on, with exceptions. Latest Song Scena, "Out in the West." Seen by R. Colin, Esq., and given three special weeks. Next, Hippo., Ilkeston. Would buy a Wood Cloth, 24 by 18.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, by Jimmy Shields, the Clever One-legged Comedian and Dancer. Empire Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian, Copyright Songs, Sketches, Extraordinary Colliery Pictures. Encored nightly, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour, Durham. Enquire Management.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Hoop Juggling Effects, seven times London Pav. London Hippo., &c. Vac. next two weeks. Wire, Central Pal., North Shields.

WANTED, all Oct. and Nov. 7 and 14, to precede Bostock Tour, by Li-Chang Hi and Tai Mao, Chinese Conjurers. Share or salary. 6-sheet lithos. Address, Pavilion, Rothesay.

WANTED, Known, Olsen, Equilibrist, vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Novelty for Picture Halls. All coms., 68, Talbot-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Sept. 19 and 26, Wilton Warton, Incomparable Conjurer. This, St. James's Hall, Harrogate; next, Pavilion, Northwich, Cheshire.

WANTED, Sept. 19 (between Northampton and Tynemouth), through Dudley closing, by Philip Levard, Illusionist, three people, special scenery, big set, new illusions. Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester. Next week, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Dates, Oct. and Nov., by Pharos, the greatest Egyptian illusionist.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq. Good Top Liner, most sensational draw, well staged, beautifully dressed. 25, Osbourne-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Jean Seul, the Indian Mystery. Palace, Sale, near Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, with his Latest Challenges. Greater Success than Ever. Starring, packing, defeating, and surprising, all at Empress, Hartlepool, where wire. Vacant Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3.

WANTED, Known, the Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, are Vacant Sept. 12 and 19. Wire, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, by Meux's Marionettes, and L'Etoile, in Living Statuary. Oct. 10, to follow Darlington. Two acts. Panto. settled. MEUX, Kursaal, Southend.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

Something new. Away from all others.
WANTED, Known, Gilbert Payne and Ethyl Errol,
in the Original Episode "3 a.m."
Beautifully dressed and staged, capably played.
Vacant Monday, also Sept. 19, 26.
Wire, Wire, Wire, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 17, by Andre and Brenton, Fresh from American Triumphs in Screaming Duo, "Kitty." One long laugh. Good London agent required. 12th, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; also Gladys Wells, the Celebrated Yorkshire Contralto. Monday, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 7, 14, and on, by the Unique Equilibristic Marvels,
PHINEAS and ADA.
On Tour.
Perm., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, the Two Le Bruns (Edgar, Comedy Equilibrist, and Edith, one of the cleverest of lady jugglers and stylish vocalist). Great success this week, Empire, Camberwell, London; vacant Monday; also 19th. Wire.

WANTED, next week, Wylie and Kitz, in Musical Comedy Sketch, "What Would the Vicar Say?" introducing Wylie, Expert Violinist Hippo., Shrewsbury. Refer Manager.

WANTED, Monday, Edinburgh to follow, by Chant and Chant, Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire, the Smart Pair, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. Next, Pavilion, Leicester. Vacant Sept. 19 and 26. Wire offers to above.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Peakman and Walsh, the Real Comedy Jugglers, in a Novel Screaming Act, "The Waiter and Tourist." Many thanks to Dan Noble and Edgar Stebbings for Contracts. Big Success last week, Regent, Salford; ditto ditto, this, Palace, Buxton; next, New Empire, Merthyr Tydfil. Wire direct, or to our Agents as per above. Offers invited. Vacant for Panto.

WANTED, Known, The Cumberlands, free Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26. Letters, Empire, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, The Danbys, Comedians, Knockabout and Dancing Experts. Liberty for Pantomime. Wires, Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday (Sept. 12), Sept. 26, and Dec. 5 and 12, by Folay and Francis, the extraordinary Comedians. Wire, Palace, Ramsey, I.O.M.

WANTED, by Benette and Kellino Trio, Eccentric Acrobats and Risleyists, Monday next, and onwards. This week, Empire, Merthyr. Perm. Add., 23, Hercules-road, Lambeth.

WANTED, Sept. 19, by Avrignys, great Jap Juggling number. A sure success. T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Sept. 19, 26, and Oct. 3 and 10.
Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Le Blond and Miss Ol. Dare, with their great Aerial Gymnastic Act, at Liberty Sept. 26. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by famous Attilla Bros., near Weymouth, two Acts, big Draw. Wire, O. H., Weymouth; next, O. H., Jersey.

WANTED, Sept. 19, on, to follow Neath, the Great Rohde and Roche, Original Novelty Act, the Chameleon Artist and It. Enormous success Long Eaton; Sept. 12, Pal., Neath. We guarantee you draw, wire.

WANTED, Oct. 10, by La Dor Troupe (six in number), male and female novelty acrobats. Big success Crystal Palace. Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, Sept. 12, on, The Flying Orenius's (Stage Aerial), last three weeks the Success of Edinburgh Marine Gardens. 67, Walcot-sq., S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, Bouncing Peps, an extraordinary Gymnastic Comedy Novelty. Managers, Press, Public, and Artists all say: A smart act. Come, see us. Monday, Empire, Edmonton.

WANTED, Frantz's Comedy Five, Vacant Sept. 19, 26. Sept. 12, Paragon; Oct. 3, Empress; 10th, Dover; 17th, Eastbourne; 24th, Emp., Camberwell; Nov. 1, Rotterdam; &c. All communications, R. FRANTZ,
Perm. Address, 15, Richmond-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, by RICH. TAYLOR,
the Whistling Ventriloquist.
An Act Brimful of Novelties, and a Huge Success everywhere.
This, Grand, Oldham; next, Empire, Southport.
Letters or wires as above.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, 17, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Offers invited. COTTRELL'S Pictures, Consett, Durham.

WANTED, Sept. 19, on, by Grieve, Versatile Ventriloquist in Kilts, six figures, funny show, fine singing. Workman's Hall, Mardy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, for the Laughing Success, "Aunt Matilda." Three Artists; 15 minutes' fun. Vacant Nov. 7, through Ilkeston closing.
Wire for Monday next,
HARRY ELLISTON, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, Wallace Selkirk's Juvenile Spectacles are in no way connected with any other person of the same surname. I am the Selkirk, of Juvenile Spectacle Fame, of twenty years' standing.—Signed, WALLACE SELKIRK.

WANTED, Monday, by Billy Ross and Co., Great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act, Boxing Matinée; Competitions nightly if required. Wire, 22, Geneva-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Fred Astley's American Circus, the greatest and funniest animal act. Five ponies and mules. Can work on any stage. Elaborate fit-up, everything smart. Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 17.
Address, Luna Park Circus, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up to date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Big Turn for Parks, Fêtes; the one Original. Marvellous performance, including the High-springing Bok. Vac. 19th. 18, Carter-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Miss Doris' Fox-Terriers and Football Team, to communicate at once to J. SHARMAN, 8, Fenwick-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Inanda, presents "Bute," Marvellous Educated Canine Wonder, Refined Speciality, Clever, Humorous, the only dog performing the Barrel Act. Free Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, Nov, on. Address, 8, Fenwick-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, The Cyclinis, Comedy Cyclists, Football on Wheels, second to none, vacant Monday, also 12th, 19th. Agent, STEBBINGS, Perm., 7, Ebberstone-st., Moss Side, Manchester.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.)

Chairman: Sir Edward Moss

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman Oswald Stoll.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 12, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Zena Dare and Co., Cleo De Merode, Fragson, Romanis, Poncherrys, Sisters Reeve, Alex. Carangeot, Lylie Read, Lena Verdi, Speedwell, Animated Pictures, Herbert Lloyd, Carmos.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—

Serene Nord, Maples, Rosa Loader, Harry Weldon, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Bert Harrow, McConnell Trio, Eily Adair, Bioscope, Poluskis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

The Great Lester, Merton and Rydon, Chas. Santon, Esta Stella, Piccad Troupe, Arthur Lewis, Marie Reeve, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Alexandre and Hughes.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Karno's "Football Match," Beaty and Blanche, Bioscope, Ricardo and Salving, Cumberlands, Laurie's Kindergarten, Mazie Hibbs, Ernie Mayne, Motramos.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Horace Goldin, George Carney and Co., Betty Green, Jenny and Joe, Satanella Trio, Walter Wade, Bioscope, Winifred Hare, Harry Brown.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Graves and Co., Melford's "Non-Suited," Elizabeth Meacham, James Stewart, Grant and Grant, Sutcliffe Family, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Marquis's Ponies.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Karno's "G.P.O.," Du Gros Trio, Edie Gray and Boys, Little Zola, Tom Clare, Arabella Allen, Elmer Spyglass, Harry Simms, Bioscope, King and Benson.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for;

Fredk. Melville's Co. in "Her Forbidden Marriage."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Formby, Queenie Leighton, Cornalla and Eddie, Bioscope, Helene Donald, Lockhart's Elephants, Leipzig, Daras, Ernest Shand.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—

Happy Fanny Fields, Tom E. Hughes, Nina Wood, Orpheus, Riogoku Family, Haig and Novel, Arthur Slater, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Livesey and Rosebery.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Tom Foy and Co., Ada Colley, Rawsons, Tom Parker, Sanford and Lyons, Cissie Curlette, Cavalotti Brothers, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer, Johnny Danvers.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Tate and Co. in "Flying," Hardini Trio, Brothers Dean, Millie Hylton, Queen and Le Brun, Lumars, Maurice, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley, Lily Shaw.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Willy Pantzer and Co., Lilly's "Drummed Out," Fisher's Vocalesques, Syd May, Bert Williams, Sisters Doherty, Cassie Walmer, Bioscope, Ferry Corway.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Kate Carney and Co., Lizzie Glenroy, Clown Argo, Kitts and Wyndrum, Jackson Family, Drew and Alders, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Fred Russell.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Raymond Phillips' Airship, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Eisteddfod Sextette, Legay Trio, Howard and Harris, France and Stewart, Harry Bedford, Jack Pleasants, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ella Russell, Videos, Niagara and Falls, Kirbys, Harry Jolson, May Henderson, Stephens and Rennior, George Rae, Bioscope, John Warren and Co.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Carl Rosa Opera Company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stock Company. Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Dan Hendy, Brull and Hemsley, Nellie Wallace, King's College Boys, Sisters Gladwyn, Keltons, Bollingers, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Russian Balalaika Court Orchestra, Jack Lane, Mlle. Dolli, Sam Stern, Montgomery and Moore, Sylvia Cavalho, Finend, Francoli Troupe, Bioscope, Joe Peterman's "Chanteclair," Mlle. Charpentier.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, Will Evans, Empire Girls, Shirley and Ransome, New Macs, Three Laurels, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Gustave Fasola.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Bella and Bijou, Marconis, Woodhouse and Wells, Conn and Conrad, Ben Albert, Verno and Voyce, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Leyton and Co., Jack Lorrimer, Sylvia Du Barry, Barrett and Knowles, Avolos, Barry Lupino, Lydia and Amelys, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Staley's Transformation.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Whit Cunliffe, Bioscope, W. Fullbrook and Co., De Wynne Brothers, O'Hanlon Trio, Bugler Carr, Mike Nono, Maidie Scott, Hans and Lux.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Lola Patey, Fielding and Hull, Grassis, Fred Earle, Keene and Adams, Violas, Bioscope, Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Hetty King, Leonards, Gwennie Hasto, Evelyn Stoll, Chas. Norton, Three Merrills, Ed. E. Ford, Goltz Trio, Sisters Pine, Bioscope, Fred Lindsay.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Randall, Australian Woodcutters, Johnny Walker, Mary Ambrose, Lawrence Barclay, Winifred Ward, Duncan's Collies, Musical McGregors, Bioscope, Gothams.

EMPIRE PALACE LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ella Shields, Daisy Dormer, Phillips and Merritt, Fred Curran, Garden City Four, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Mike S. Whallen.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

G. H. Elliott, Harry Roxbury and Co., Leo Stormont, Azella Wilson, Eadie and Ramsden, Mitchell and Cain, Rhoda Paul, Musical Silvo, Bioscope, Helen Trix.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m.:—

Stock Company. Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George French, Ella Retford, Cull Pitt, Six Lancashire Lasses, Mezzettis, Roze and Calvert, Bert Weston, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Hadj. Mahommed Troupe, Frank Couch, Daisy Martell, Brothers Neill, Will Johnson, Pictures, Florrie Gallimore.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Twelve Fezzans, Fred Lincoln, La Superbe, Roma and Romani, Jennie Alexander, Bioscope, Horace Pollock and Co.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Arden and Abel, Lock Mills, Carina Sisters, Doody and Wright, Bioscope, Andos Japs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Anarios, Little Keeno, Peggy Pryde, Maud Rayne, Fred Hallam, Pictures, Burley and Burley, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Alice Hollander, Ethel Newman, Kitty Wagen, Chass Lewis, Lillian, Fred Poplar, Pictures, Tom Costello.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Le Roy, Talma, and Boscoe, Jessie Merrylees, Arthur Clifton, Luis Alvarez, Norman and Leonard Trio, Russell Wallett, Miller Brothers, Jenny Gastelle Bioscope, George Bastow.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, SEPT. 12.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Gibbon and Bell, Maisonas, Juno Salmo, Bros. St. Clair, Poole and Maguire, Julia Reeve, Rizarellis, Recar Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, Julius Walther.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Fred Ward, Jack Hamilton, "For Honour," Rose Cass, Goggin and Davis, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Kirk and Saraski, Harry Taylor, Kitty Upton Three Delaries, Clark and Mostol, Ada Fawn, Tubby Edlin and Co., Hippodrome Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Is It You? Competition, Ernest Rees, Bros. Rees, Cash and Clair, Showells, Mollie Doon, E. D. Nicholls and Co., Louie Freear, Russell and Held, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Sidney Bach, Florence Yayman, Cumminger and Colona, Maurice Lee and Company, Bros. Lawrence, Tho Boriskis, Pete and Minnie Lee, Tennis and Laune, Bessie and Neilson, Fred Maxwell and Company, Pictures.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Lights of London."

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Frank Boyce, Millwards, Cissie Carter, Wilton Heriot and Co., Rowland Hill, Smith and Gibbs, Bibobi, Palace Perfection Pictures, Capt. Spaulding.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Albert St. Clair, Daisy Hurdle, Gladys and Alber, Ethel Bourne, Reed and Stevens, Daisy Lloyd Wood, Harry Herbert, Guy Rider, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Coverdale's Dots, Maude Vera, Hayes and Merritt, Two Manites, Ford Williams, Mlle. Bartenelli, "The Key," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Bertha Winder, Shrillo, Albas, Bruce Green, "Compensation" Sketch, Mabel Thorne, Leoni De Lausanne, Zigeuner Quartette, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Ten Dixie Girls, Tom Davis Trio, Pat Lynch, Sisters Caine, Chas. Banks, Apollo, Edwin Garth, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Nellie Farrell, Reid and Power, J. H. Wakefield, Colbert, Doris Druce, "Plumbers," Danvers and Rosslyn, Mona Garrick, Palace Perfection Pictures, Beauty Competition.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Four Garricks, Arthur Harris, Cissie Brand, Rousby and Rene, Renot, "Yellow Fang," Palace Perfection Pictures, Four Figaros.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Forence Esdaile, Loube Trio, Hurman and Arthur, Dick and Dorothy, Latonas, Charburn's Juveniles, Colley and Scott, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Chris. Baker, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Village Blacksmith."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
T. C. Jaques, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"At the World's Mercy."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Morissey, De Breans, Sisters Hula, The Sages, Kitty Corelli, "Little Colonel," Cosgrove and Burns, Geo. Wood, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Billy Elliott.

LONDON HOUSES.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Vera Mayne, Arthur Bretton and Company, Norman Grant, Society Quartette, Harry Milton, Yangar, Oswald and Locke, Harry Harris, Alice Craven, Joe Collins, "Hello, Girls," Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Oliver Martin, The Cedrics, Velda, Reg Beauchamp, Nellie Lunelle, H. P. Selwyn and Company, Ted Karno and Company, Josephine Crook, Lottie Lennox, Louisa Peach and Company, Pictures.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pete and Juno, The Wedburns, Arthur Rose and Company, Virto, Sisters St. Julian, The Days, Myrtle Grove, Daisy Taylor, Little May Holden, Pictures.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY
(Successors to, and exclusive proprietors of the entire business formerly carried on by ROSEN & BLISS.)
General Manager - JOHN H. STRINGER.
Rooms 25 to 30,
12 HENRIETTA STREET,
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.
Telephone, 7623 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London."

ARTISTS PLEASE NOTE: A Comfortable Waiting-room has been installed, which is always at the disposal of our clients.

OPEN TO BOOK ALL BIG ACTS.
WANTED for Immediate Dates,
FIRST-CLASS SPECIALITIES.

NOTE.—Our Only Address—
12, HENRIETTA STREET,
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

SUCCESS! SUCCESS! SUCCESS!
of
"MOTHER," "MOTHER," "MOTHER."
WALTER EMERSON
in his Latest Success,
"Mother," "Mother," "Mother."
Sept. 12,
Hippodrome, Sheffield.
Agent, E. DE VERE, Esq.

INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS!!!
"BE PREPARED."
THE SCOUTS' MARCHING SONG.
This Song is going **Very Strong** although only out two weeks. Applications invited for performance at the Halls. Professional Copy Free for professional card
R. H ALLEN & CO., Music Publishers,
32-34, Theobald's-road, London, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TO THEATRE PROPRIETORS, WARDROBE DEALERS, AND OTHERS.
The Auction Mart,
Tynewydd Road, Barry Dock.

MESSRS. RUFUS A. DAVIES & CO.
(Members of the Auctioneers' Institute) have received instructions from the Executor of the late Mr. Augustine Knight
TO SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION
at the above address on TUESDAY, SEPT. 20, 1910, the Entire Stock of
SCENERY & WARDROBE
used in the two dramas "The Assassin" and "Mysteries of the Thames," comprising: 2 handsome Palace ects, 17ft. flats, doors, and openings; 2 light chambers, 17ft. flats, doors, openings, fireplace, &c.; interior Church scene, illuminated cloth and cut cloth, 4 wings, 30ft. and 20ft.; illuminated Garden cloth (snow scene) and 4 book wings, 30ft. and 20ft.; massive oak chamber, 2 large openings, 2 doors, fireplace, 4 plains, window piece, and backing; St. Petersburg, illuminated snow cloth and 4 book wings, 30ft. and 20ft.; 2 beautiful Palace cloths, 30ft. and 20ft.; illuminated Thames cloth, 30ft. and 20ft.; old Kitchen cloth, 2 doors, built staircase, and 2 plain pieces; oak chamber cloth, C opening, oak flats, 2 doors, fireplace, and several plains; Ship scene, complete, Horizon cloth, 2 side cloths, bulwarks, rattlings, deckhouse, bridge, mast, and border; 2 House pieces, practical doors, Bar-room cloth, 23ft. by 16ft.; Bedroom scene, window piece, door and 2 plains; Chandelier, Gong, Military Uniforms, Swords, Helmets, Wigs, Printing, &c., &c.
All scenery painted by Egerton, of Bradford.
On view day prior from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sale to commence at One p.m. sharp.
Further particulars from the Auctioneers, at the Mart, Tynewydd-road, Barry Dock.

TO BE LET on Building Lease, the grandest and most perfectly positioned MUSIC-HALL or THEATRE SITE IN SOUTH LONDON, with main road frontage of 112ft., close to the London tram junction connecting with Wimbledon, Croydon, and Putney, side frontages 167ft. and 161ft. respectively. The scheme lately stopped by the death of projector ready for adoption. A small premium for a 99 years' lease at £250 per annum. Freehold might be acquired. Plans can be seen upon application (by appointment) to EWART W. FISHER, Sole Agent, 12, Norfolk-street, Strand.

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a
PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE
is installed at
"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

SCHOOL FOR DAUGHTERS OF ARTISTS and Professional Men. Warwick College, 71, Brixton-hill, S.W. Large house and garden, excellent education in all branches, home comforts. Terms strictly moderate. PRINCIPAL.

NURSING HOME. On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-rd., N. 'Phone 327 Hornsey.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BLACKPOOL.—13, South Edward-st. Sitting and Bed rooms; comb. room; 2min. amusements; mod. terms. Davies. 14 years refers.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square. Open on Sundays for travellers. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cossie Noel).

LONDON, S.W.—Brixton. Comfortable Apartments (bath, h. and c.); good cooking and attendance; close to Theatre and Empire; motor 'bus passes for West End. 10, Effra-road.

LONDON, S.W.—Nice large dining-room and Bedroom (ex. piano); also Small Sitting-room and Bedroom. Terms mod. 42, Charlwood-street, near Victoria.

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s.; combined ditto, and suites; bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly Circus (opposite Tube).

LONDON, W.—Hammersmith. 79, The Grove. Superior sitting, bed, and comb rooms; piano, bath; 2 mins. King's, Palace, Lyric; good cooking; well recommended; near Tube and rail.

LONDON, W.C.—Central. To let, two furnished flats. 66, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-st. Apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; two minutes halls and theatres.

PORTSMOUTH.—Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

WAKEFIELD.—Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL, MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH. Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL FOR BACHELORS. 7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W. Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6369 Gerrard.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

FOR **PRINTING**
We aim to give the best, and we solicit a trial.
We have thousands of
STOCK PICTORIALS.
See our Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingsburst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel. "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILSON'S Supply Streamer Letters. The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

'Phone 177.
WE ARE POSTER SPECIALISTS. Try us.
Posters of all sizes, Daybills, Folders, Handbills, and all classes of Theatrical Printing, large or small.
HOLLOWAY and BIRD, Central Printing Works, Weston-super-Mare.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
FOR
BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY,
Chartered Accountant.
Price, **3/6.** Post free, **3/9.**

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts, audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

NOTICE.
NOTICE.
NOTICE.

WARNING.
WARNING.
WARNING.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, The Public are hereby informed that the Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship is protected by Letters Patent in Great Britain and Abroad, under which the Sole and Exclusive Right to Self-propelled Air-vessels or Ships controlled by Wireless Electric Waves is covered, and that the use of any such apparatus by others will be an infringement of the patent against which Legal Proceedings will be at once instituted.

For terms, &c., apply to the Inventor,

T. E. Raymond Phillips,
15, Nicander-road,
Sefton Park,
Liverpool.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Novel Comedy Cyclists, Sept. 12, 19. Wire, Kursaal, Southend; after Sat., 43, Oscar-st., St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, two youths (17) seek Engagement in Sketch or Troupe. Photos if desired. Address, J. W., 29, Surtees-street, York.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ROLLING MOTOR TRACK RIDING MACHINE,
like the Cake-walk and See-saw Slip.
is
Always on the Move, and a Quick Money-taker.
Apply for full particulars to
Taylor, Plinston Bros., and Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Known, we are Sole Makers of W. Taylor's Patents for above Novelties. New address, Kingsley Works, Grange-road, Willesden Green, W. Registered Trade Mark "Cake Walk."

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, our Autumn Tour of Exhibitions commences Oct. 1, Streatham. For particulars, apply, Manager, Exhibtion, Town Hall, Streatham, S.W.

HALIFAX ZOO AND AMUSEMENT PARK.
WANTED, for the Grand Fun Fair, from Sept. 17 to Oct. 18, First-class Attractions, including good three-abreast Riding Machine, Helter Skelter, or anything suitable for outdoor; population 1½ millions. For particulars address A. G. Sandilands, Manager, Zoo and Amusement Park, Halifax.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. Crouch's Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
Full particulars, sample lithos., and postcards in first letter.
A. E. Pickard, American Museum.

H. E. MOSS'S CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARNIVAL, WAVERLEY-MARKET, EDINBURGH, commencing Monday, Dec. 26, 1910.
WANTED, First-class Side Shows. Apply, with full particulars, &c., to W. Campbell Milne, Carnival Offices, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Lilliputians desiring to visit Australia. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Thumb write. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, for Barron's Free Exhibition, Kingstreet, Reading, opens Oct. 15, for Three Months, Wire-worker and Engraver, on shares or rental, also Lady Palmist, on shares. Must have good experience. Apply to Jack Barron, Sea View Exhibition, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, smart Saleswoman, to manage Jewellery Stall in Exhibitions. Apply, letters only, Manager, Exhibition, Town Hall, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, for the Fishing Season, Tattooist, good money for right man, share or wages. Apply, Sherman, Bijou Hall, Great Yarmouth.

MR. JOHN STUDT'S NEW SHOW.
WANTED, Doorsmen, able to Lecture, assist Building, &c.; Open at Once, or later. Terms, age, refs., &c., to Pat O'Brien, General-Manager, Fair Ground, Brynmawr.

WANTED, Smart Young Man to help work up Local Exhibitions; must be used to calling upon tradesmen. Address, Box 8,196, "The Era."

WANTED, by Mme. de Para, well-known Palmist, Winter Business Place, London preferred or Trades' Exhibition. Rent or shares. 30, Anchor-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

PALMISTRY.
WANTED, Known, Madame James, Disengaged Sept. 17. The Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Situation as Floorman or Planksman, Shops, Tents, or Halls; sober and good worker; good refs. if required. Address, Box 8,221, "The Era."

WANTED, Work as Doorsman. Stands 6ft. 4in. and good worker. Smith, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Yard, in Centre of Town, two acres in extent.
Good supply of water. Reasonable terms.
Apply, G. R. S. Brown, Auctioneer, High Wycombe.

WANTED, to Let, Show Ground. Splendid plot of land in a thickly populated district near Manchester; comprises about 1½ acres.
Has been used for show purposes for a number of years. Rent £100. Show not to extend more than five weeks per annum.
Apply, Pratt and Co., Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Good Side-shows. Apply, the Manager, Fun Palace, 40, Pinstone-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, reward for information of any large Shop to Let, in large populated town; must be in main position. Apply, Manager, Marine-parade, Exhibition, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete with Living Van, goes by rail; or let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Shutters, Booth, and Stage, with Iron Box, also Butcher machine No. 2. Smith, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). Wormald, 133, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 6s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. Lestis, 6, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Gipsy Queen Spirit Writers are Money-getters, 50s. each, with Mechanical Eyes, messages written by unseen hand; suit inside or outside shows. Lester Co., Morgan-st., Pontypridd.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers, &c.
P. COLLINS
is now open to book tenants for his well-known Autumn Round.

Willenhall Wakes, Atherstone Statute, and Uttoxeter Wakes,
all opening Friday, Sept. 23.

Ashby de la Zouch Statute, opening Sat., Sept. 24. N.B.—Here I have a special concession to open in the streets on Saturday.

Birmingham Great Onion Fair,
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1.

Handsworth Wakes, Tamworth Fair,
Leicester Great October Fair.

Smethwick, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Dudley, Bulwell, and a continuous run up to Christmas, when I shall have several good enclosed and sheltered grounds to let for Xmas and the New Year.

I have also taken the
City Exhibition Hall, Manchester,
where I intend running a monster World's Fair, all under cover. I am booking a first-class Circus Company as a Free Attraction. This show will open Dec. 20 for a short season.
For terms apply,
P. Collins, Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola." Telephone 80.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, a Quantity of Wax, also an Illusion known as the Mysterious Zoro, cheap. Apply, R. Arnold, The Novelty Exhibition, High-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Secondhand, Automatic Box Ball Bowling Alleys. State very lowest price.
Box 8,219, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Skating Instructors disengaged to communicate with Charles Evans, "the British Consulting Expert on Roller Skating," giving full particulars of experience, age, height, &c., The Margate Skating Rink, Grand Hall by Sea, Margate. Mark envelopes "Skating."
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Manager for High-class Rink in North of England. Only first-class man need apply. Highest references essential. State experience and salary required. Box 8,245, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, reliable Skating Instructor, to take charge of Rink in Midlands, open Sept. 17; must be good skater, have best refs., and some business qualification. Age, height, salary, photo., and copies of last three refs. Bird, c/o Hamples, 166, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, smart experienced Skate Mechanic, willing to be useful in Rink (Midlands). Fullest particulars, terms, and copies of last three refs. Bird, c/o Hamples' Agency, 166, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, attractive, pretty Lady Instructress, open Sept. 17, Midlands. Age, height, salary, refs., and recent photo., Bird, c/o Hamples, 166, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, good young Lady Trick Roller Skaters for Long Rink Engagement. Send photo and particulars of talent to Kaufmann Troupe, Palace Theatre, London.

WANTED, by Manager of Large Rink, Appointment; Disengaged Sept. 10; extensive experience; excellent references. Box 8,230, "The Era."

WANTED, by A. H. Lee, late General-Manager Ilkley, Yorks, First-class offers; large Rink preferred. 23, Well-close Mount, Carlton Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, by Young Man, position as Floor-Manager of High-class Rink; thoroughly experienced. Highest possible references.
Address, Box 8,226, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement as Floor Manager on Instructor. Experienced Skater.
Box 8233, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by Instructor or Skates Mechanic, experienced, excellent refs. Write, W. C., 53 St. George-st, Leicester.

WANTED, by a well-known Professional, finishing Long Tour shortly, Engagement as Working-Manager of Rink. Box 8,237, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement, as Skate Mechanic and Instructor or Fitter (combined); many years' experience; good reference. J. A., Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by experienced Skate Mechanic and Electrician, Berth, used to any Skates, own tools, &c.; excellent refs. Box 8,225, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, about 100 pairs Roller Skates, American, Raymond extension, 2/6 pair; lot Plimpton's, £2. Crowther, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WORLD'S FAIR SKATING.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL,
ISLINGTON.
Lessee, T. E. Read.

WANTED, to Let, Splendid Location, ground Dry Concrete, quite level, ready for laying, Maple, Asphalte, or Firmit Floor, size 102ft. by 150ft. Ideal position. Immense Success Last Season. Finest Position in North London.

Apply, T. E. Read, as above.

To Rink Managers and Others.
WANTED, 130 pairs of entirely new and about 450 pairs of nearly new Winslow Skates, assorted sizes, for Disposal; all in good condition and ready for use; also quantity of repair parts. Open to Offers.
Apply, Wm. Cottier Cubbin,
Proprietor, Winter Gardens, Onchan Head,
Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853. "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
Lucas, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED, Known, for Sale by Private Treaty, Lancashire, Rawtenstall, centre of the Rossendale Valley, population of over 100,000 to play upon, three tram lines terminate at the Theatre door; an up-to-date new Theatre, cost £14,000; seating capacity for over 2,000 persons, Market Hall and three shops included. In order to effect a speedy sale, £7,500 will be accepted, just about half cost. Chief rent only £70 a year.
Further particulars,
Nasmith, 40, Brazennose-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Corner Site, central Northampton, to be Sold or Let; suit Picture Theatre. Full plans, showing elevation, seating accommodation, will shortly be ready. Those interested should address, Cooley, Constitutional Club, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Sell, this year's Leger Film (Gaumont's). Price 30s.
Will be dispatched to-night (Saturday).
Smurthwaite,
Hippodrome, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, to Sell, one of the Latest Gaumont Biograph Lanterns, complete, bought new last May. Can be seen working by appointment. Apply, Milton Bode, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's Chrono, complete outfit, four resistances, Paularc lamp, four spools. Apply, Film Exchange, 63, Whitechapel-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, a Bioscope (New-Bio No. 15), accept £9, cash; also 20,000ft. good Film, at ½d. a foot. Fred Boulton, Pav., Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, plated, folding stand, perfect tone, £3 10s.; approval; also Benson Soprano Cornet, plated, 50s. Newman, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, a 3 Chromatic Octave Resonated Concert Xylophone, complete on table and stand, cost £7 10s., sell £3 3s.; also a specially made set of 2 Chromatic Octave Concert Tubular Bells, unique, nothing like it ever seen, cost £40, sell £15; another unique Novelty, a 3 Chromatic Octave Resonated Xylophone Piano, manipulation as an ordinary piano, indescribable effect produced, cost £40, sell £18; also for sale, the greatest Instrumental Novelty ever produced for a musical act, the Steel Zimbal; this is a Novelty that cannot be described, but must be seen and heard played upon. The easiest imaginable manipulation; wonderful effective carrying power; best offer for this instrument.
All the above instruments must be sold by the 17th inst.
Your choice of a lifetime, ye instrumentalists.

Seen by appointment only any time.

Angval, 4, Sistova-rd., Bedford Hill, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, for Bands, Orchestras or Stage, most powerful in the world. Lisle, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, two large best rubber Gas Bags, 12ft. capacity, massive Chinese Gong, number of old Playbills, Glasgow, 1822, and Property Animals (various). Goddard, Property Maker, 1, Wescombe-cottages, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to Sell, Tent Top, Birkmire best cloth, used for auction business, 60ft. by 50ft. Smith, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Performing Bear, very quiet. Make fine parader, £6. Reading Zoo.

WANTED, to Sell, Secondhand, Turnstiles, Registering; 20 Penny-in-slot Closet Locks; also Chairs, and New Winslow Skates. Box 8,217, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Cabinet Mystery, cost £25, accept 8gs.; Box Mystery, cost £8, take 3gs. Lester, Morgan-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to Sell, Sketch on "Raffles" Lines; ordinary scenery. Write W. Macqueen-Pope, 143, Stapleton Hall-road, Stroud Green, London.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase immediately, in London or within fifty miles, Picture Palaces as going concerns, and Halls, Shops and Theatres that can be converted into Picture Palaces; must be good positions, and in a thickly-populated district. Address, C. Emlyn Jones, 3, 4, and 5, Cartwright-gardens, Russell-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Purchase for Cash, Large or Small Houses of Furniture.
Address, F. and W. Pearson, 6, Station-road, Finsbury Park, N. 'Phone No. 2,913 North.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Secondhand Bass Drum and Pair 12in. or 13in. Cymbals.
J. Hinchliffe, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, a Good Pantomime Production, suitable to play twice nightly.

Send full particulars to
Box 8,211, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Good Production of "Aladdin." Scenery, Book Music, Dresses, &c. All particulars,
Dean, 159, Sherwood-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Buy, in good condition, second-hand Scenery, comprising the following: Wood and Landscape Sets, Chamber and Kitchen Sets, Street, Corridor, and Landscape Cloths, for Grand Theatre, Stonehouse. Terms and particulars to Herbert Taylor, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

WANTED, to Purchase, Complete Sets Dresses, for "Dick Whittington" Panto., Principals and Chorus; also good Pageant Costumes, suitable for Lord Mayor's Show scene. Address, Box 8,246, "Era" Office.

WANTED, to purchase, Serpentine Dancing Dresses, Lantern Slides, and Electrical Effects, Kaleidoscopic Discs, Slides for Posing Act, Spot Lights, also up-to-date Picture Machine, hyperbolic reflector, Comedy Films, Illusionists and Conjuring Apparatus, &c. Fullest particulars in first letter (no callers unless by appointment), Harry Clark, Premier Hotel, Southampton-row, London.

WANTED, Small Fit-up, also M.S. and Pictorials, suitable for "Trilby." State lowest price, &c., J. Errick, 15, Priestley-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, one or two Rickshaws, must be in good condition.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, to Buy, Prop. Hamper, 10ft. long, 2ft. wide, also Clever Dogs, or exchange for Warwick Bioscope. Tynewydd Villa, Rhyl.

WANTED, a Baritone Concertina, Lachenal's preferred, must be good. Particulars, L. K., Mayblossom, Belvedere, Kent.

WANTED, to Buy, two Second-hand Travelling Baskets, good condition; also Interior Light Drawing-room Set, centre folding doors, second-hand. Smith-Neill, Lyndhurst, Herbert-road, Southsea.

WANTED, two Scenes, one the Entrance Hall of an Hotel, second a handsome House Piece; must be in good condition, and cheap. Box 8,244, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Quantity of Military Band March Books, cheap; also Valses, Barn Dances, Cake Walks. Cash down. Box 8,236, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Comic Songs, with Patter. Quote lowest. Must be original. Address, Rees, Public Hall Theatre, Barnsley.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c.; apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer Months. Secretary, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Sept. and onwards, Ryculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

WANTED, to Let (off Westminster Bridge-rd.), 18, Hercules-road. Well-positioned shop, good living rooms, suit Wardrobe Dealer, Theatrical or otherwise. Low rent.
Edwards, 41, Finsbury-square, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, well furnished room in West End, suitable for High-class Lady Palmist. Apply, Sinkins, Photographer, 1, Harrow-road, W.

WANTED, Known, to Advertising Contractors, and Others, Stage Curtain in Edinburgh to Let for Advertisements;
also Advertising Space on Programmes.
Apply to
Box 8,243, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and Programme, for the New Picturedrome, Long Eaton. Apply, Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, S. Devon.

SURREY THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, Paint Frames, from 30ft. to 45ft. in length, at very moderate rentals, by the week, month, or year, every convenience. Apply, Roy Cochrane.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, successful Play (small Cast), music, scenery, props.; also Musical Comedy. Central Agency, 453, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Rent, Lease, or Purchase, Theatre or Music Hall, must bear strict investigation. State seating capacity and full particulars, James Hare, Kilboy House, Cloyne, Co. Cork.

WANTED, to Lease or Rent, Public Halls, Skating Rinks, Music Halls, and Theatres. Rent or long lease.
State all particulars in first letter.
Leon Vint, Globe Villa, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to Hire, Garret Scene, with Practical Window, with view to purchase, 16ft. flats. Lynn and Harding, Savoy House, Strand.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by recognised Artist, Partner for the Variety Theatres, must be good Character Comedian, accustomed to Music Halls and of repute, Act ready for production. Apply first instance, Box 8,229, "The Era."

WANTED, to join Proprietor or Manager desirous of changing over to Animated Pictures. Advertiser has £200 cash, complete set of machinery, and thoroughly knows the picture business. Principals only. Box 8,241, "The Era."

WANTED, Half-share in a good Production of "Aladdin."
All particulars, &c., in first instance, to
Dean, 159, Sherwood-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, that Frank Aylmer, Song Writer, has many pupils in training, and will entertain a Partner in any town who can play piano and assist in tutorship. Address, 10, Cross-street, Holyhead.

WANTED, Partner, Underman, to join Top-mounter, with good act and Contracts. For particulars Box 8,240, "The Era" Office.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED.—Managers and others please Note. MESSRS. LYNN AND HARDING, SAVOY HOUSE, SAVOY-STREET, STRAND, can supply
First-class experienced Artists all Lines.
Smart Men, Pretty Girls,
Talented and Refined Amateurs.
No inflated Salaries.
Plays typed, Productions arranged, Lowest charges.
Always safe to ring up 9907 Gerrard.
Australian Representatives for numerous London and Provincial Successes.
Several Plays and Sketches by well-known Authors for disposal.
We guarantee satisfaction.

WANTED, in Town or Country, Halls or Sites, suitable for Cinematograph Shows or Roller Skating. Letters only. M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. Lewis and Deakin, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone, 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2681 Central.

WANTED, Artists when visiting Manchester to pay Mosco's Swiss House a visit, best house in the trade for all classes of Laces, Embroideries, and Fancies of all kinds; Draperies and Curtains always kept in stock. Note the address, 16, Oldham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples, Memos. from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Dover-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, Amateurs to Note that "STAGE FACTS AND FIGURES," by Mr. WELLESLEY LYNN. This little book is crammed with information which is invaluable to the beginner, especially if he lacks "influence" and has to fight his battles single-handed. Mr. Lynn knows his business thoroughly, and he writes from a sound, common-sense point of view. He does not offer to make you a Tree or a Pinero, but he undoubtedly safeguards you from wasting time, money, and hope. To the author of one-act plays the book is more than helpful—it is a necessity.—Prompter, Aug. 25, 1910.
For straightforward, honest dealing go to
LYNN AND HARDING,
SAVOY HOUSE, STRAND.
who have built up their business simply by merit.
If you have talent we can help you.
For Songs, Sketches, Scenas, Typing, Band Parts, &c.
go to
LYNN AND HARDING.
Production a Speciality. Ideas written up.
Trial weeks arranged.
Terms Reasonable and Inclusive.
Messrs. Lynn and Harding will give you a candid opinion as to your chance of success; they only accept clients who are likely to be a credit to them.
First-class References.

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Known, if Miss Harris, of the —— Theatre, later of Ashley Gardens, S.W., in 1905-6, will communicate, she will hear of something to her advantage. Address, Box 8,227, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Will Cartwright, Stage-Manager Elephant Theatre, wishes to thank Messrs. Green and Hinton for useful presents received after their production, "His Indian Wife."

WANTED, Man, accustomed to Public Speaking, for Medical Publication Sale. Letters only. R., 84, Merton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, tall fair Beautiful Model, for Trying-on Gowns.
Good salary.

Apply, Lucile, Ltd.,
23, Hanover-square, W.

C. G. SPENCER and SONS,
56a, Highbury Grove, London, N.

Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations 1 Stamp.
SPENCER BROS., Ltd.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SOENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

CLERKS.—Add to Income. Christmas Cards. Sample Book Free.
Gordon, 27, Worship-street, London.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Subscription to "THE ERA."

ORDER FORM.

Inland.		Foreign.	
4 Weeks	2/-	4 Weeks	2/8
3 Months	6/6	3 Months	8/-
6 "	13/-	6 "	16/-
12 "	26/-	12 "	32/-

POST FREE.

A Single Copy forwarded for Six Stamps to any Address in the United Kingdom.

Fill up and send with remittance, to THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA," 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Sir,—Please place my name on your list of Subscribers, and send copy of "THE ERA." I enclose remittance for £ s. d.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Date .....

Remittance must be made payable to "THE ERA," Ltd., and crossed Lloyds Bank.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Aberdare Public Hall, Theatre, and Billposting Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Fred T. Webb's company is here in *For Old Times' Sake*. Mr. Rolf Leslie gave a fine study of Jean Brooke; Mr. Dick Eckersley was a most effective Dr. Heathcote; Wallace Rivington was powerfully impersonated by Mr. F. Cavannah; Mr. Fred J. Webb found ample scope for his undoubted abilities in the part of Rupert Sydney; Mr. R. Olive did well as Frank Rivington. The rôle of Sareta Berkley was sustained by Miss Marie Danvers-Smith in a creditable manner. In the hands of Miss Mamie Stanton the part of Phyllis Brooke was effectively represented. The comedy element was entrusted to Mr. Victor Coleman as Jimmy Jeppe and Miss Mary Robertson as Polly Pearson. Miss Dot Robins was well suited to the part of Mrs. Hale.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Clark and Glenny, in their screaming absurdity *The Haunted House*, top the bill here, and have a good reception; the Great Clifton, in his sensational wheel-jumping act, is appreciated; Charles Kean, light comedian, causes fun; and Tiny Arnold is a clever and dainty comedienne. Some very interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Sign of the Cross* occupies the stage here this week. Mr. W. Lawson Butt makes a dignified Marcus Superbus; Miss Evelyn Hope is charmingly impressive as the martyr maid, Mercia; Mr. Bernard Elliot makes a typical Nero; Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. J. Wetherall as Licinius, Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio, Miss Mabel Cooke as Poppæa, Miss Dorothy Lart as Berenice, Miss Esmé Lee as Dacia, Miss Julia Clarke as Ancaria, and Miss Winifred Delavanti as the boy Stephanus, play their several parts with judicious merit.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Lamberte is a big attraction here this week; George Melvin is a clever entertainer; *Roots, Rash Chemist*, proves an amusing skit; the O'Brien Brothers are gymnasts of ability; the Lacore Family give a triple trapeze performance of excellence; the Eight College Girls sing and dance with attractiveness; the Sisters Du Cane are entertaining humorists; and Ian Colquhoun tells stories and sings songs with mirth-provoking effect.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Henrietta and Selina give a charming display of their instrumental and vocal powers; Walter Bellonini proves himself to be a juggler and mystifier of no ordinary capacity; the Eight Lancashire Lads sing and dance effectively; Elsie and Cousin Bob are American artists of novel and pleasing turns; Bert and Dora sing and act with resource; the Sisters Wingrove are smart humorists and dancers; Cullen and Carthy dance and patter in a sprightly manner; and Will Musgrave is a funny comedian.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. James Bell's company, in *The Idol of Paris*, is the attraction here. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare is a pronounced success; Mr. Charles Langdon as Prince Sergius plays admirably; Mr. Montague Lane gives a powerful interpretation of Philip d'Estarre; and Mr. Frank Brunell capably sustains the character of the notary Gustave Langlois; Mr. Chris. A. Olgar submits a manly and dignified portrayal of Victor Cashelle; Tabavé is amusingly represented by Mr. H. Vivian Thomas, and Mr. Chris. Roberts is seen to advantage as Theo Decline. Miss Frances Bruce as the satirical Mme. Sancterre gives a creditable impersonation; Miss Lottie Ray capitally plays the part of Ann; and Miss Pharo Anderson is praiseworthy as Rachel Bernhardt.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Max Waldon, impersonator of international stars, is the premier attraction here, and his remarkably clever performance has aroused much enthusiasm; Marie Racco, a finely-developed young lady, and her partner go through a graceful gymnastic turn; Fred Herbert is a capital vocalist; and the Zelovas prove themselves smart equilibrists. James Hare and company, in the dramatic episode *Wrong 'Uns*, deserves every commendation, the acting, staging, and scenery being excellent. Vowles and Bryan, in a pretty song scena, are decidedly popular; Elsie and Norah Herbert, juvenile vocalists and dancers, meet with a good reception; and the Bioscope pictures are up to the usual standard.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Of the programme presented this week, the best item is undoubtedly the Flying Hanlons, whose thrilling feats in mid-air are very clever. The Dunvilles as comedy instrumentalists are amusing, and others who take part and add a share to the success are Ella Blair and her clever dancing marvels; J. W. Hall, comedian; Edgar Budden, roller skate dancer and bone soloist; Dale and Vale, in song and dance; Nancy St. John, comedienne and dancer; and Millie Denham, chorus singer.

WIDE WORLD PICTURES.—A series of Canadian scenes and industries is proving an acceptable and highly-appreciated item of the extensive programme presented here, the Canadian Rifles, many of whom are still in Aldershot, giving good patronage. Messrs. Golder and Sloman, who are always well up with the times, have also a capital set of comic and dramatic films showing.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Campbell Brown.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is here in the musical comedy, *Miss Plaster of Paris*. Mr. Harry Ed. Ray as Alexander, the melancholy waiter, causes immense fun; Mr. Johnny McElroy as Numbskull Nubbs, J.P., also creates much merriment; Mrs. Nubbs, as played by Mr. Sid Dean, is very funny; and Tom Flubbs is well presented by Mr. Frank Bellamy. Miss Nellie Harcourt in the title-rôle plays with much vivacity, her songs and skipping-rope dance being very tastefully executed; Miss Winifred Chalmers makes the most of the stately and fascinating manageress; and a special feature of the show is the singing and dancing of the Sisters Holman.

PAVILION PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stoker; Acting Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—Mr. Albo Moore, world's champion all-round skater, gives a clever and entertaining performance, and the Musical Bentleys are most enjoyable in their turn. All the latest films are shown.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb; Business-Manager, Mr. W. P. Carr.—The Carlo and Maie Trio head the list here this week in a capital comic acrobatic performance; and another excellent turn is found in Judge's marvellous parrots and cockatoos. Madame Adah Payne sings very sweetly and acceptably; and the pictures are up to their usual standard.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Allan Wilkie, tragedian, and his Shakespearean company are here this week. Mr. Wilkie opened on Monday evening with *The Merchant of Venice*, giving a scholarly interpretation of Shylock. Miss F. Hunter-Watts was a comely and graceful Portia—kindly, tender, loving; Mr. W. H. Hargreaves as Bassanio was the Venetian gentleman, fearless and uncompromising; Mr. Herbert Mansfield's Antonio was a finished exposition; and effective impersonations were given of the Duke by Mr. Houston Meharry and of the Prince of Morocco by Mr. John Paley. Miss May Dallas as Nerissa found a character congenial to her temperament. On Tuesday evening *The Taming of the Shrew* was staged, and on Wednesday *Virginius*. *Twelfth Night*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Hamlet* are also in the repertory.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—A return at the Empire to the production of drama brings Mrs. Frank Bateman and company in a play, *The Way Women Love*, by Mrs. Bateman. The drama is domestic, and is produced in eight scenes. Mrs. Bateman takes female lead in the character of a Mexican. As Verena Alabra she portrays all the characteristics of the woman of a passionate and hot-blooded race; Miss Lily Vaughan enacts with skill and self-possession the part of Violet Tremaine; Mr. Fred W. Goddard sustains capably the arduous rôle of Captain Howard Tremaine; Mr. C. Clifford as Leslie Lamont, his cousin, finds congenial work; and Mr. Geo. Herbert is forceful as John Barryford, a farmer.

BACUP.—CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Glenville and Osmond.—Pictures, dramatic and comedy, well chosen and displayed, still run merrily on here. Clarence Turner and the Mosaic Duo make their portion of the programme entertaining.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This week Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Percy Brown's company is here in *A Life's Revenge*. Mr. Edward E. Lewis is a manly Paul Starovitch; as Prince Boris Strogoroff Mr. Wilton J. Richards is all that can be desired; Mr. Eulick Burke is an excellent Michal Orloff; and as Maurice Trevor Mr. Lancelot Usher is good; Mr. Richard Walsh creates merriment as Nicholas, as does Mr. Chas. E. Warne as Colonel Tumbleoff. Miss Millie Ford displays histrionic ability as Princess Vanda Ivylia; Miss Nellie Hook is a bright Daphne Dashaway; and Misses Amy Ellam and Lillie Carter Livesey as Marcia Vittoria and Acculiara respectively are good.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietary, Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—A blend of comedy and mystery, *Ghostland*, is proving an attractive item in this week's bill. Mlle. de Louvois and company in living statuary present a pretty spectacle; Baby Vi Davis, child actress, is smart; Jessie Albini is an amusing comedienne; and Russell Carr a gifted ventriloquist. The bill also includes Russell Brandow, comedian, and Dennis and Morris, dancers. The Palacescope shows some new pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Johnson.—An attraction here is the Reays, neat and clever acrobats; Amie Jumel, vocalist and instrumentalist, is smart; Molly Edwards is heard to advantage in "Garden of roses"; and Madge Sefton is a good male impersonator. The Bioscope pictures include The Sheriff's Bride, A Plucky Youngster, Saved by Her Dog, A Funny Story, and Water on Every Floor.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Nora Carton's company, in *Temptation*, is here. Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is excellent as Sir Charles Tremaine, and Mr. Clifton Roystell as Mr. Blight submits a capital portrayal. Miss Lilla Wilde is a capable Ivra Blight, and Mr. Norman A. Overton does well as Hubert Thorne; Miss Nora Carton is good as Hilda Dundonald, and Mr. Frank Ayrton as Bob Saunders and Miss Madge Seymour as Araminta and Emily provide the fun.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Glaze's company, in *No Mother to Guide Her*, is here. Mr. Frederick Biron is a good Bill, and Miss Kitty Seymour gives a realistic impersonation of Nan; Miss Georgette Thierry, Mr. George Gounley, Mr. Bernard J. Lidll, Mr. Edward Halsey, and Mr. Charles Addison do well in their respective parts.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital all-round programme is presented here, the principal item being the "Eight Charming Daughters of Eve" in living pictures; the Zanferellas present a novel equilibrist performance; Sinclair's Three Diamonds, clever young ladies, sing and dance most tastefully; Halma is a society juggler with some clever tricks; Monty Walker is well received; Bob Winter's humorous songs are popular; Gertie Rex is a pleasing comedienne; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Fred Newman's picture and variety company have the usual interesting programme this week.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—The attraction here is Mr. Chas. Constant's company, in *Florodora*, under the management of Mr. Johnny Clegg. Mr. Johnny Schofield's drolleries as Tweedlepunch evoke much merriment; Mr. Courtier R. Button, a fine baritone, makes a capital Frank Abercoed; Miss Daisy Lake is clever as Dolores; Miss Kate Leicester wins hosts of admirers for her charming portrayal of Lady Holyrood; Miss Florence Hersee is very successful as Angela Gilfain, her Apache dance with Mr. Johnnie Junior (Captain Arthur Donegal) being highly enjoyed; and Mr. Jack Parker is convincing as Leandro. The chorus is strong, and an augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. W. Neale.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—The Herald Comedy Four score well; Beeford and Mars, in a comedy duo, come in for a good share of applause; and Shepherd and Granville are clever comedians and dancers.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. George Dance has sent *Our Miss Gibbs* again to Bath. The title-rôle on this visit is entrusted to Miss Daisie Wallace, who gives a winsome performance throughout; the task of enacting Timothy Gibbs now falls to Mr. Vincent Erne, and this clever comedian gives a very funny performance; Mr. J. Heribert Willis does well as Hughie Pierpont; and Mr. J. S. Durant is slickness itself as Slithers. Mr. Douglas Phillips enacts Lord Eynsford agreeably; Miss Nan Stuart vocalises delightfully as Lady Thanet; Mme. Jeanne having an imposing representative in Miss Louie Beckmann. Miss Laura Hansen, with her wide experience, easily makes her mark as the Duchess of Minster. Others who deserve mention and appear in their former characters are Mr. A. Gordon Begg (Earl of St. Ives), Mr. Frank Sealey (Mr. Toplady), Mr. David Miller (Mr. Beavis), and Miss Florence Hylton (Mrs. Farquhar).

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Miss Daisy Lloyd Wood is making a first appearance in Bath this week, and gives four songs at each house before the audience will let her depart; Reed and Stevens have a cleverly thought-out comedy sketch in *Married or Photographed?* Harry Herbert is billed as an "*entrée* of eccentricity," and his turn fully justifies the title; Gladys and Alber present a funny act, including some smart tumbling by the male partner; Daisy Hurdle is a pleasing comedienne; Guy Ryder whistles with bird-like sweetness; Ethel Bourne, a cultured contralto, is responsible for some pretty selections; Albert St. Clair, the double-voiced vocalist, is on a return visit. The pictures are of the best.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The last three weeks of the outdoor season are announced, and perhaps no more attractive engagement than the Cigarettes has been made, these clever artists delighting all by their smartness and vivacity in an entertainment which comprises songs, duets, dances, and duologues.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The star turn here this week is Alfredo Marschall, who catches heavy cannon-balls and torpedoes on the back of his neck cleverly. Other turns are those of Andie Burns, a smart step-dancer; Winnie Melville, who plays her own accompaniments to her songs; Cadwall and Verne, a comedy duo with funny patter; Gladys Ray, a comedienne whose songs go with a swing; Will and Roze, in a Continental comedy; and the Three Favourites, talented vocalists.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured with a visit from the Beecham Opera Company, and a crowded audience greeted Offenbach's fantastic opera *Tales of Hoffmann*, which was presented on Monday. In the rôle of Olympia Miss Caroline Hatchard achieved much success, her remarkably fine voice winning many admirers. Mr. John Bardsley shared the honours by his artistic performances as Hoffmann, his vocalism being perfect; Miss Edith Evans was well suited as Giuletta, rendering her numbers with wonderful dramatic power; congratulations are due to Miss Beatrice La Palme for her clever impersonation of Antonia; and Mr. Charles Magrath acquitted himself with high distinction as Copelio and Mirakel. Other principal rôles were effectively sustained by Messrs. Frederick Ranalow and M. R. Morand. On Tuesday evening Strauss' comic opera *Die Fledermaus* (The Bat) was produced. Mr. M. R. Morand was triumphantly successful as Frank, the Governor of the Prison, and Mr. John Bardsley furnished further proof of his ability by his admirable impersonation of Von Eisenstein. Miss Caroline Hatchard as Rosalinde rendered valuable assistance. Both operas have been lavishly mounted, and the largely augmented orchestra is under the skilful direction of Mr. Hamish McCunn.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Saimond.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company opened here on Monday with *The Coal King*. Mr. Cecil Woodhouse sustained the rôle of Tom Roberts with consummate skill, and Miss Winifred Love was a charming Grace Shirley; Mr. A. W. Norman furnished an effective impersonation of Sir Reginald Hartford, J.P., whose villainous son Walter Hartford was realistically portrayed by Mr. Sidney C. Kearns. A fine character sketch of Mad Ann was submitted by Miss Emily Levettez, and Mr. Frank Dalton left nothing to be desired in his impersonation of Dick Shirley; Miss Laurie O'Neil was a vivacious Araminta Green; and other rôles were adequately presented by Miss Lucy Caton and Messrs. Frank Caffrey, Aylmer Vane, Angus Hall, A. E. Hendley, E. Fortune, F. Wade, and Robt. Derwent.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature of the bill here is provided by Alice Raymond and company, who appear with great success in *A Night in Egypt*, in which delightful musical selections are included. Francis Ollows and Page do well in their remarkably smart acrobatic and musical act; Regan and Ryan, eccentric comedians, take well, as does Miss Patty Yolo, a capital comedienne and elegant dancer; the Jaxon troupe of dancers, vocalists, and pianists provide an act that has afforded the utmost pleasure; and the Floradoras appear in *Two's Company, Three's None*. Also here are Mr. Robb Wilton, comedian; Tiny and Mite, juvenile artists; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Miss Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, whose cultured vocalism has been enthusiastically received. A return visit is being paid by Mr. Tom Costello, whose latest songs have been accorded a terrific reception; the cycling feats of the beautiful Lillian are really marvellous; and Miss Ethel Newman appears in her comedy monologue *Her Wedding Day*. Mr. Charles Lewis, ventriloquist, is among the best in his line. Also here are Miss Kitty Wager, Mr. Fred Poplar, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Will White.—Interesting and attractive films are presented here. The vaudeville element is sustained by Mr. Gordon Stretton, a first-class comedian, and the Lannons, champion pedestal dancers.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Capital pictures are exhibited here. Miss Annie Blanchard, chorus songstress, is loudly and deservedly applauded nightly.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Captain T. A. Blake.—The pictures shown here include The Brother, The Sister, and the Cowpuncher, What the Daisy Said, and The Clown and the Pasha. Mr. David Grant in his illustrated songs has afforded much pleasure.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—This week the management are trying a new departure with drama twice nightly. The piece presented is *His Dishonoured Wife*, by Mr. Harry Tilbury and company. Mr. George A. Fry is successful as Frank Lindon, and Miss Belle Tilbury makes a sympathetic Florence Lindon. The comedy parts are admirably sustained by Mr. Harry Tilbury (Mickey Doolan) and Miss Etta Spalding as Araminta.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in *Her Road to Ruin*, is fulfilling a highly successful engagement here. Nothing but praise can be awarded to a very creditable production, which is much enhanced by a clever performance of the curate, Frank Temple, by Mr. Charles Dickens; Miss Doris Gilham gives an admirable rendering of Jess Willoughby; Miss Gertrude Tate is exactly suited as her sister May; and Mr. J. Knox-Orde distinguished himself as the evil genius of the piece. Mr. Henry Powell and Miss Grace Emery afford the necessary comedy relief.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Gilday and Fox, two smart Hebrew comedians from the United States, in their entertaining act "Cohen's Ward," head a strong programme, which includes Mooney and Holbein, clever American artists; Ike and Will Scott, thoroughly entertaining comedians; Miss Lillie Lassah, a talented comedienne; Mr. J. P. Ling, comedian and mimic; Otto and Olga, versatile instrumentalists; Mr. Arthur Woodville, light comedian; Miss Nora Stockelle, comedienne; Mr. Victor Travers, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—*The Prodigal Parson*, in a somewhat condensed form, is played twice nightly to large audiences. Mr. Garrod as the Rev. Tom Godley acquits himself with marked ability; Enoch Jaggins is well embodied by Mr. Ernest Vaughan; and Mr. Carthage Caldleugh is a realistic Ben Jaggins. The important rôle of Vera Godley is admirably played by Miss Bertha Kingston, and the various other parts are efficiently rendered. The play is liberally staged.

WINTER GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—General-Manager, Messrs. B. Allandale and L. Blattner; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry A. Dooley.—The musical comedy of *The Gay Rivet* is the attraction here. On Thursday Mr. Harry A. Dooley took a well-deserved benefit.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. James Welch is here again in *When Knights Were Bold*, which is as popular as ever. Mr. Welch as Sir Guy de Vere works hard, and his performance is exceedingly funny; Miss Audrey Ford is still happily identified with the character of Lady Rowena; and other members of a capable company to deserve special mention are Mr. Guy Lane as the Rev. Peter Pottleby; Mr. Henry J. Ford as the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe, Mr. Arthur Grenville as Isaac Isaacson, Mr. Cecil Kinnaird as Sir Brian Ballymote, and Miss Maer O. Hea as Lady Millicent Egginton.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. Edward Terry, who has been heartily welcomed, presents an attractive series of plays, and is admirably supported by well-chosen casts. On Monday he presented *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, and later appeared as Sergeant Buzfuz in *Bardell v. Pickwick*. Other productions during the week were *The Magistrate*, *Liberty Hall*, *Fiander's Widow*, and *Sweet Lavender*.

ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. Tom Taylor's company is playing the new sporting drama, *A Criminal's Bride*. Mr. Frank Robertson gives a faithful representation of Sir Harry Felstead, a young English gentleman; Austin Deepdale is an exceptionally cool villain, and the character is ably sustained by Mr. Annesley Hely; Miss Emmie Barton proves a popular heroine; Mr. Grayson Bancroft ably plays the part of the trainer; and Mr. Hubert Belmore is effective as the revengeful Italian.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*Her Forbidden Marriage*, by Frederick Melville, is successfully produced by the author's own company. Miss Alice Bowes is responsible for a faithful representation of the sympathetic character of Lucy; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson gives a capital study of the part of George Maddison; Mr. W. H. Porter is good as Charles Devereux; and Miss Vera Grafton represents Lady Lucretia Lancaster. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred de Vere as Timothy Tuttull.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. C. Watson Mill is appearing here in his dramatic romance *For Love and the King*. With Mr. Mill as Gerald Meredith, the whole show is a success. The acting of Miss Rosa Mervyn as Edith Meredith is creating a favourable impression. The uniforms, costumes, and scenery are excellent.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—*The King and the Unknown Woman* is paying a welcome return visit, Mr. G. Hill-Mitchelson's company playing to good audiences. The scenes are laid in Russia, and the scenery and dresses are on an elaborate scale. Mr. Norman Partridge is seen at his best as Prince Loris, and as Prince Memski, the villain, Mr. Walter T. Clifford is strongly convincing. Other important parts are ably sustained by Miss Adeline Raby, Miss Violet Carlyle, Miss Ella Sinnett, Miss Ada Douglas, and Mr. Willie Hicks.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Alexander.—*Proof* is attracting good audiences. Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company give every satisfaction. The story of the celebrated case is as fascinating as ever; and the costumes worn and the scenery are especially attractive. Mr. Francis Roberts gives an admirable representation of the character of Pierre Lorance; Mr. George Roberts is capital as Lazare; and Miss Elsie Goulding makes a charming Valentine. Other characters are ably sustained.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Audiences are being kept in merry mood by Mr. Fred Karno's company in *The G.P.O.*, chief honours being carried off by Tom Nelson as Perkins; King and Benson live up to their reputation in a new musical burlesque, *Around the Town*; Tom Clare proves himself an entertaining performer at the piano; pleasing vocalism and graceful dancing are combined in the turn of Edie Gray, in which she is assisted by two boys; Elmer Spyglass, a coloured artist, warbles ballad and American plantation songs very acceptably; Little Zola gets plenty of humorous capital out of distortions of nursery rhymes; and the Du Gros Trio introduce new business into a gymnasium act. Arabella Allen, the "Dickens girl," and Harry Simms, comedian, complete an excellent programme.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—George Formby, the droll Lancashire comedian, keeps the audience in merry mood, and Ernest Shand, a comedian of a different type, is equally successful. Queenie Leighton, a big favourite here, sings her latest successes delightfully; Captain Taylor presents Lockhart's Elephants, who are responsible for an intensely interesting entertainment; Comella and Eddie give an amusing acrobatic and juggling performance; Daras is as good a mimic as a juggler; Leipsig mystifies with his cards and other tricks; and Helene Donald sings pleasing numbers which are illustrated.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell. A lion's share of applause is accorded to Miss Lilian Dundas for her smart performance in the title-rôle of a dramatic sketch entitled *Convict Nance*; Payne's Wanderers are a company of versatile vocalists who appear in a pretty caravan scena; the Little Lilleys are up-to-date and clever juvenile acrobats; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie are three funny men; Talbot and Pearce are responsible for a bright entertainment; Jack Roscoe has taking humorous songs; and Dolly England is a male impersonator with an attractive style.

HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The turn of John Clempert, wherein he frees himself from a maze of manacles and chains, is as meritorious as it is mystifying; Barclay Gammon shows what resources there are in the entertaining line at the piano; Mary Law displays marked executive ability as a violinist; exhilarating acrobatic feats are performed by Avalys and Freydo; and similar work, with a humorous leaven, is furnished by Cummin and Seaham. George Lawrence and George Norton, comedians of different methods, leave the imprint of the smile "that won't come off"; and taking dances and duets are supplied by Dollie and Rosie.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—A well-varied programme attracts large audiences. Auguste Van Biene, the celebrated 'cello player, thrills his hearers with his artistic playing; Miss V. Vaughan and Mr. George Child also appear in the sketch which is entitled *Karl's Luck*; smart acrobatic feats are performed by the Seven Wulfrumas in a comedy speciality entitled *Fun in a Café*. Other pleasing items are contributed by the Sisters Hall, vocalists; Lillie Soutter, an amusing comedienne; Tom Franks, an up-to-date ventriloquist; J. K. Macfarlane, a quaint Scot; Victor Brothers, herculean equilibrist; and Hattie Petro and Pete Leon, accomplished gymnasts.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—Moving pictures illustrating racing, football, and a good production in colourgraphy are strong features of a popular entertainment. Miss Olga Leipold is a dainty little dancer and vocalist.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Kennedy.—A new series of moving pictures is exhibited to crowded audiences, and vaudeville items are contributed by Dan Idle.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Capital houses are witnessing Messrs. Dudley Bennett and J. T. C. Wray's company in *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Charles Sims provokes much laughter by his clever rendering of Mr. Hook; Mr. Edward Kipling is in his right place as Simon Slinks, providing heaps of fun; Mr. Jack Gray as Bandmaster Van Vynt is very good, his songs being well received; and a like remark applies to Mr. Griffiths Moss as Captain Adrian Paap. Miss Marion Armitage is a host in herself as Mina, and Miss Hook is charmingly portrayed by Miss Corder Walker. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Geoffrey Blackmore, are excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel, in the sketch *Three of a Kind*, are enjoyable; Alf Gibson causes much laughter as a quaint comedian; and other clever turns are the Hyde and Cody Trio, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud (vocalists), Lester Brothers, Victor and Vessey, and Watson and McIve.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company is attracting big houses here this week with *The Brass Bottle*. Mr. Holman Clark is a distinct success as Fakrash-el-Aamesh; and Mr. Langbourne Burton is just the right man for Horace Ventmore. Mr. Rudge Harding as Spencer Pringle and Mr. Percy Marshall as the Professor also contribute largely to the success of the production; Mrs. Rapkin is in the clever hands of Miss Mary Brough; while Miss Marjorie Chard does well as Sylvia Futvoye.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—The attraction here is a welcome return visit of Mr. George Edwardes' company, in *The Dollar Princess*. The title-rôle is charmingly played by Miss Norah Barry; and Miss Emmy Wehlen's Olga is an exceedingly creditable impersonation, her acting and singing being equally fine. Daisy is in the capable hands of Miss Mabel Russell; Mr. Leonard Mackay is again the Freddy Fairfax, and a better could not be desired; Mr. W. H. Rawlins provides great hilarity as Mr. Bulger; and Mr. Leslie Styles is well suited to the part of Harry Q. Conder.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The incomparable Vesta Tilley is retained here a second week, and business is still enormous; the Great Thora gives a remarkably clever ventriloquial turn; and Harry Tate's No. 1 company presents a clever little sketch, entitled *Flying*. Mr. C. is amusing with his patter; Felix and Fisher perform remarkable gymnastic feats; the Howards are retained in the comedy musical act; Maude Courtney is an attractive singer of American songs; Pera and Rennard appear in an amusing duologue; and Carl Lynn as an animal mimic has few equals.

HIPPODROME.—Licensee, Mr. J. A. Barraclough; Acting-Manager, Mr. Donald O. Clark.—The inimitable George Robey is here this week, and the management are being well rewarded for their enterprise. He is supported by Hulsey and Bowers, comedians; Walter Gray, a clever juggler; Lottie Holland, a dainty comedienne; the Great Vincent, in acrobatic feats; the Five M.P.s, in a musical act; and John A. Corry, who controls a wireless aerial torpedo.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Miss Florence Baines is here on a welcome return visit, and is appearing as Mary Ellen Thompson to crowded houses in the musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, supported by a capable company.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenlon.—The company here consists of the Bros. Horne in a smat comedy boxing act; Lawson and Odell, comedians and dancers; Beatie and Babs, in *A Pavement Rehearsal*; Robins and Collier, quaint comedians, &c.; Cestria, comedy juggler and acrobatic waiter; Mabel Sinclair, a clever lady ventriloquist; Lucy Coventry, comedienne; Stacey and Williams, comedians, &c.; Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Motoring*; and the Premier Imperial Bioscope.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company is presenting *The Flood-Tide*. Variety turns are given by Hilda de Gray, Tyrolean vocalist; Charles Woodward, comedian; Drum and Major in a smart duologue, "The Broker's Man"; James Curwell, clever boy pianist and composer; Edna Deno, dainty dancer; the Four Burnells, comedians, &c.; Jean and Josie, contortionists; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. D. Adams.—At the Muncaster Theatre this week Mr. Alf. D. Adams and an efficient stock company are proving a strong attraction in *Her Lost Self*.

WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Joint Managers, Messrs. Ludwig Blattner and Mr. Bobbie Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—The great success attending the visit of Mr. Eric H. Albury's répertoire company has enabled the management to prolong the engagement one week. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings they presented *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown*. Miss Edith Benson made a natural and unaffected Angela; Mr. Eric H. Albury was highly-amusing as Captain Courtenay; and Miss Enid Ross and Mr. Louis Palgrave were capital in their delineations of Miss Romney and Sergeant Fanner. On Thursday and Friday evenings the company presented *Our Boys*.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Gerald Spencer.—Miss Elsie Southgate, with her violin, and James Coward, at the Mustel organ, give fine selections, and are heartily applauded; Lala Selbini, the American bathing beauty, in a unique act, including juggling and trick cycling, is most successful; Wilson and Waring, American comedy couple, keep the house in roars; the Hovyns, Continental acrobats, are laughable in *Fun in a Baker's Kitchen*; Phil Parsons, light comedian, receives a hearty welcome; Lily Hayes as a comedien

power and emotion in his acting; the part of the Curé is well played by Mr. Leslie Lingham; Mr. John Dunbar is powerful and most effective in his acting as the vile and cowardly anarchist Michel Vacurat; Miss Ethel Vinroy is a charming Lizette; Miss Bella Power is amusing as Madame Pomeroy; as Jean, Mr. G. Toft is quaint; and Mr. A. A. Valentine is picturesque and vigorous as Fragot. The interest throughout the play is intense, and loud applause greets its representation.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—The Great Fasola, the Indian Fakir, is presenting some marvellous illusions here this week, his astonishing performance eliciting great applause; in a very clever and original acrobatic speciality act, the Three Laurels are the recipients of well-merited and hearty marks of approbation; Shirley and Ransome present a well-acted sketch, *Jim's Pal*, successfully; in a grotesque burlesque on *Chanticler* Will Evans is very amusing; the Eight Empire Girls sing and dance acceptably in their military scena; with capital patter and rare fun the New Macs are diverting; Harry Marie is an energetic light comedian and dancer; Gertie Gitana, the comedienne with a charming voice and delightful abandon and spontaneity in her work, wins favour; and there are some excellent bioscope pictures.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—This week's programme embraces a truly wonderful performance by Captain Spaulding, who appears to be immune from fire and heat, and his eating of liquid wax and molten lead, amongst other remarkable feats, excites astonishment; the Millwards present a good comedy act; Smith and Gibbs are clever equilibrists; an acceptable comedienne turn by Cissie Carter finds favour; in their sketch, *Father's Footsteps*, the Heriot trio are entertaining; Frank Boyce submits a good turn as a comedian; Bi-Bo-Bi gives an eccentric musical turn, which is enjoyable and clever; as a comedy "dame," Rowland Hill is delightfully funny; and the Palace pictures are, as usual, very entertaining.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—*The Arcadians* paid its first visit to Bridlington this week, opening to a capital house on Monday evening. As Smith and Simplicitas Mr. Charles A. Stephenson proved himself a comedian of talent; Mr. Alfred Beers was a clever exponent of the melancholy jockey Peter Dooley; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald is a manly Jack Meadows; and Mr. Cyril Lane makes a smart and dapper Bobby. Miss Sybil Tancredi was a charming Sombra, and Miss Violet Roberts was a pretty little Chrysea. As Eileen Miss Mollye McIntyre was enthusiastically received, and Miss Gertrude Aylward revelled in the part of Mrs. Smith.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The tenth and last symphony concert this season, by Mr. Norfolk Megone's talented orchestra, marks the end of the season with the full band, Tschaikowsky's "Pathetic" Symphony was the principal item at the concert. The vocalist at the promenade concerts this week is Miss Helen Blair, a fine contralto. In the Grand Pavilion Mr. Walter George and his "Smart Set" entertainers finished their successful season on Saturday, when Mr. George was accorded a complimentary benefit. This week Mr. H. Flockton-Foster and his company, "The Ideals," are drawing crowded audiences to their excellent entertainment. On Tuesday evening they performed an original burlesque, written by Mr. Flockton-Foster, composed by Ernest Longstaffe, entitled *Striking Matches by the Sea*, which was capitally played.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton—Herr Julian Kandt and his famous band are still drawing crowded audiences to the Spa to listen to their fine programmes. The vocalist this week is Miss Vera Moore, a sweet-voiced soprano, who is re-called. Mr. Wilson James's vaudeville company opened on Monday, and are giving some excellent entertainments under the direction of Mr. Percy Watson, the Euterpeans being heartily received as on their former visit to the Spa.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is here this week with *A White Man*, and is attracting good houses. Mr. Frank E. Petley gives a masterly impersonation of Capt. Wynnegate, V.C., afterwards known as Jim Carson; Miss Dorothy Edwards makes a sympathetic Nat-u-rich; Miss Nora Nagle is a pleasing Little Hal; Mr. Vernon Sansbury as Cash Hawkins, Mr. John M. East as Big Bill, Mr. Oswald Lingard as Tab-y-Wena, and Mr. James E. Page submit realistic impersonations; Mr. Charles Maunsell is well suited as the Earl of Kerhill; and other parts are ably sustained by Miss Enid Sass (Countess of Kerhill), Miss Gertrude Price (Dowager Lady Kerhill), Mr. Harold Richardson (Sir John Applegate), and Mr. Lewis Sealy (Malcolm Petrie).

ALHAMBRA. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Alexandra Dagmar, comedienne and raconteuse, is enthusiastically received; Wragg and Wragg, military athletes, achieve great success; Charles Sloman is a quaint and diverting comedian; the Musical Keiths give an admirable turn; Wana Ma, acrobatic lady, assisted by her canine wonder, merits praise; the Sisters Slater, banjoists and sand dancers, are warmly applauded; W. A. Harvie is a capital wire performer; Lill Elfreda is a good mimic; and the Alhambra Biograph is interesting and amusing.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—De Biere baffles the audience with his series of clever illusions; May Moore Duprez, the entertaining Dutch girl, meets with a very hearty reception; Miss Anna Chandler, American comedienne, submits a pleasing turn; Marie Santoi and company appear in a charming scena, *A Night in Japan*; Maud Lordy's dog actors and acrobats give evidence of clever training; Ted E. Box is a humorous comedian; Leo and Roland are skilful equilibrists; Harry Levaine, comedian, is amusing; Gus Harris is effective in Hebrew delineations; and Phyllis Seymour is a charming comedienne.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here this week with *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb submits an excellent character study as Hamilton Preedy; Miss Nella Powys makes a graceful and charming Countess of Rushmere; Mr. John Nesbitt gives an admirable impersonation of John Bounsall; Mr. Shirley Lea is diverting as Bilson; Miss Mary O'Farrell is a delightful Emma Sidgrave; and praiseworthy enactments are presented by Mr. Cecil Humphreys (Earl of Rushmere), Mr. Hamilton Deane (Hon. Robert Jennerway), Mr. J. McClintock Clive (Reginald Saunders), and Miss Ninon Dudley (Harriet Budgen).

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jay and Mann; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wilfred R. Kent.—Messrs. Peter Davey and Douglas Gordon's company opened here on Monday with *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Mr. Douglas Gordon gave a very clever enactment of John Worthing; Mr. Hugh Andale's Algernon Montcrieff was admirably played; Mr. Alfred Wilson as Canon Chasuble was well suited; Miss Olivia Glynne made a graceful Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax; Mrs. Peter Davey acquitted herself with distinct success as Lady Bracewell; Miss Mildred Gilbert as Miss Prism, and Miss Barbara Hannay as Cecily Cardew, were also very effective; and the remaining parts were satisfactorily sustained. The play was followed by the up-to-date burlesque on *Chanticler* entitled *Cock-a-Doodle-Doo*, in which the characters were represented by Mr. W. Lazard, Miss Cissie Clark, Miss M. Sadie, and Miss Nellie Lomas.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—A very attractive series of animated pictures is exhibited here this week. The great wrestling match between Gama and Zbysco at the Stadium for the championship of the world proves highly interesting; dramatic stories are conveyed by The Face at the Window, Tried and Found True, and the Eagle and the Eaglette (comprising incidents in Napoleon's career). Small Industries in Cairo is an instructive film; and much amusement is afforded by Looking for Lodgings, Getting Rid of Ma-in-Law, and A Funny Story. Mr. Arthur W. Briggs merits warm praise for his descriptive pianoforte accompaniments.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's opera comapny is here with *Les Cloches de Corneville*, Planquette's favourite comic opera being staged most effectively, both in the way of pretty scenery and appropriate dresses. Mr. E. H. Alban acts really well as Gaspard, his make-up is good, and he does not "overact"; Mr. Cyril Thompson has a very pleasing high baritone voice, he sings artistically, and he acts the part of the Marquis for all it is worth; Miss Kitty Dale both sings and acts charmingly as Germaine; Miss Dolly Castles is pleasingly vivacious as Serpolette; Miss Lucy Kipling makes an imposing Christophe, and acts effectively; Mr. Arthur Geary has a pleasing tenor voice, and he makes the most of Grenricheaux; and the comic parts of the Bailie and Gobo are taken in amusing style by Mr. Fred Dark and Mr. Alfred Selby, the latter scoring heavily with his eccentric dance. The chorus is large and very effective, some really fine voices being distinguishable. The augmented orchestra does admirably under the direction of Mr. Knight-Pearce, and the large audience on Monday evening seemed to fully enjoy and appreciate the once very popular opera.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Married to the Wrong Man* is the attraction here, the drama being effectively staged and well played by Mr. Frederick Melville's company. Miss Mary Pemberton and Mr. Henry Lonsdale are admirable in their respective parts of Ruth and Jack Gladwin; Mr. George Arthur acts with distinction as Captain Deering; Mr. W. Pemberton makes a fine part of the bluff Sergeant Manners; Mr. A. E. Johnstone makes the most of Doctor Brandon; Mr. Leonard Thackery does well as Jasper Skinner; and the comic parts of Timothy Clinker and Dolly Fritter are capitally taken by Mr. Hyland O'Shea and Miss May Day. The remaining characters are all in very capable hands.

PALACE.—District-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Albert Ward and company are highly successful with the interesting dramatic sketch, *A Noble Revenge*; Rozel performs various difficult and sensational feats on a trapeze and rope fixed above the auditorium; Harry Taft, comedian and whistler, is appreciated; Marie Kay is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Amy Anderson and company entertain with their excellent sketch, *The Banana Girl*; the Three Orleans are smart vocalists and dancers; Barry and Wood please with song and dance; Frank H. Fox, comedian, obtains applause; and the Dayton Family of twelve performers present a fine Risley acrobatic act. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Advertising and Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Mlle. Vera De Astra, in a speciality scena, entitled "A Shepherd's Dream of the Year," presents classical poses in artistic style, and Mlle. Wanda Baranoff and M. Olave Fritchoff also present some superb dancing, the scena being very prettily staged; James and Jenny Jee are exceptionally clever as tight-wire artists; Arnold Richardson and company amuse with their comedy sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-law*; the Czar's Troupe of Russian Dancers are experts in their line; the Three Cape Girls do a pretty turn of song and dance; Zerlini amuses as a comic juggler; Fred Costin, comedian, is appreciated; Fyne and Wood do well with their "Coster Stall" speciality; Vere and Royal patter and sing to advantage; Louise Zetland is a pleasing ballad vocalist; and Dale and O'Malley, patter comedians, are exceptionally smart in their line. Animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*The Princess and the Vagabond*, with Miss Irene Munroe as the Princess heroine, and Mr. Montague Beaudyn in the dual-rôle of Prince Rupert and Ulrick Garstig drew a very good house on Monday. Miss Muriel Inglis forcibly played the Countess Carmercita; Mr. A. A. Tomlin as Baron Kelvitz and Miss Phyllis Rae as Lady Nora celverly sustained the comedy business; Mr. Val Gully (stage-manager) presented the King and Captain Max. The villainous Prince Roderick had a typical representative in Mr. Wm. Melvyn; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt (Cardinal), Miss F. Haldane (Bruno), and Miss Cora Patey also did good work.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Master of the Mill* is presented here this week. Mr. Algernon Syms displays ability in the rôle of John Greenfield, whilst Messrs. Ernest Mason and Ernest E. Imeson are admirably fitted for the parts of Tom Bolton and Julian Croft. Mr. Daniel Green proves his power as Adam Davenport, and the humorous element is well maintained by Messrs. Frank Kingsley, Frank Ward, Jack West, and Will Crook. A winsome character is made of Nancy by Miss Enid Edoni, and Miss Valerie Russell as Isabel is a delightful actress.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Kebbles occupy a strong position here with happily-chosen duets enhanced by clever dancing; Lieven and Pantzer are a pair of smart athletes; and the Davenport Duo rank high with clever conjuring and irresistible humour. George Kill is a vocalist of merit; whilst Baby Baden shows promise as a comedienne. Ambrose Thorne and Harvey's American boys and girls help to complete a fine programme. Scenes in Constantine are shown by the Empire Theatroscope.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The principal turn here this week is Apollo in some marvellous feats of strength; an exciting turn is presented by the Tom Davis Trio in motor-cycling on a miniature track; and a clever step-dancing turn is given by Pat Lynch. Edwin Garth, comedian, is an amusing dame; and Carter's Ten Dixie Girls are a troupe of excellent singers and dancers. The Caines are a couple of smart athletic girls, whilst Charles Banks introduces his clever dog Woof. The film by the Palace Pictures shows How Scroggins Found the Comet.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ede Hague Body.—Cavalier Rabbottini, with his band of thirty performers, is creating quite a furore; the Milsted Bell trio give a side-splitting comedy act entitled *Three Sharps in a Flat*; a clever turn is that of Bu-Val, the Happy Dutchman; Layern mystifies the house with his clever tricks; Connie Isea is possessed of a sweet voice; Warren and Granville smartly present *His Brother's Fiancée*; Harry Martell, comedian and dancer, is clever and amusing.

BURY (Lancs.).—ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—A crowded house on Monday witnessed the first performance here of *The Arcadians*, presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. As Simplicitas Mr. Gus Oxley keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment; Peter Doody is well played by that clever comedian Mr. Geo. Hestor; Mr. H. Nelson Hancock sings and acts with fine effect in the rôle of Jack Meadows; Bobby is cleverly presented by Mr. Freddie Bentley; and Mr. H. Fairfax is good as Sir George Paddock. Miss Marion Edwards as Sombra acts with charming grace and dignity; Chrysea is prettily played by Miss Gladys Silvani; Miss Mysie Devine as Eileen Cavanagh renders her songs with sweetness and expression; Miss Madge Haines gives a thoroughly efficient and amusing representation of Mrs. Smith; Messrs. Douglas Marrs and W. Dawson appear to advantage as Astrophel and Strephon respectively. The scenery and dresses are of the usual high Courtneidge order, and an augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures still form the main attraction; and excellent variety items are given by Dennis McCarthy and Edna Francis.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Chas. R. Whittle, the quaint and original comedian, tops the bill; the Breen Family are responsible for some clever juggling; Will Walton is a quaint comedian; Mima Kello appears successfully in a song scena, assisted by the Raphael Quartette; a number of clever character studies are submitted by Sydney Brandon, that of the tramp being particularly good; and Edie Veno is also on the bill.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—The enterprise of the management in securing Miss Annie Hughes's company in *Miss Tommy* has resulted in packed houses. Mr. Mayne Lynton is quaintly humorous as Peter Hope; Dick Danvers is played with merit by Mr. Henry Deas; as the irascible Clodd Mr. Fred Marston acts delightfully; and Mr. Ernest Kendrick provokes mirth as Flipp. Miss Hughes blends the exquisite comedy and pathos of the title-rôle with unerring skill; Danver's wife is portrayed with power by Miss Winifred Pearson; Honor being prettily acted by Miss Vera Pole.

WEST SUFFOLK PALACE.—General-Manager, Sidney Reach.—Ibbotson, assisted by Helen Maynard, tops the bill this week; the Sprees give a capital turn entitled *The Rustic and the Maid*; Joa Con is capital in light comedy and song; Morris and Mart are favourably received; Ernie Brown is seen to advantage in light comedy; Bendello, the contortionist, is popular; Roma Ray is appreciated in song and dance; Fred Melburn proves an admirable comedian; and Steeley and Crawford's Pierrots are amusing. The Palace pictures conclude.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company is the attraction here. On Monday a delightful performance was given of *The Gondoliers*. Mr. H. A. Lytton, Mr. S. Granville, Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. H. Herbert, and Mr. Leicester Tunks were conspicuous for excellent performances as the Duke of Plaza-Toro, Linz, Marco, and Giuseppe respectively; and mention must be made of Miss M. Stone as Casilda; Miss Louie René as the Duchess; Miss Cross, in the part of Gianetta; and Miss Beatrice Boarer as Tessa; Miss Anna Bethell gave a charming performance as Vittoria. On Tuesday *The Pirates of Penzance* was staged, followed by *Trial by Jury*; and on Wednesday *The Mikado* had a cordial reception. On Thursday *The Yeomen of the Guard* was the attraction, and on Friday *Patience*. The musical conductor, Mr. François Cellier had an admirable band well under his bâton.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—Volteens slide on a tight wire from the balcony to the stage here, and are applauded to the echo; Miss Ada Gatley's juggling and swinging-wire turn is another prominent feature; whilst Miss Della Day is a popular comedienne. The pictures are also first rate.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon.—Miss Violet Osmond's company is here in *The New Barmaid*. Mr. George A. Fox is good as Captain Lovebury; the William White of Mr. Charles Adeson is screamingly funny; and no less amusing is the interpretation of Bertie White of Mr. Alexander Loftus; Miss Violet Osmond enacts Dora Heather with ability; and the Ethel Joy of Miss Madge Prior is successful; Miss Dora Carmen as Brenda Louth, and Miss Beatrice May as Lady Moulton are other good representations; Mr. W. Granger is quite at home as Colonel Claymore, and the parts of Mabel (Miss Murielle Mascot), Mary (Miss Betty Dalmeny), Braddy (Miss M. Stead), and James (Mr. E. Osborn) are all capably placed. During the end of the week Jury's Imperial pictures have been delighting good audiences.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—We have a welcome return visit of *The Arcadians*. Mr. Walter Passmore in the rôle of James Smith again gives a droll rendition; Mr. Oliver J. Round is again quite at home in the character of Peter Doody; Miss Billie Sinclair submits a most bewitching impersonation of Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra charms all by her sweet singing and graceful acting; Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith adds considerably to her reputation by her performance; Mr. Harold E. Pearce as Jack Meadows proves quite the right artist for the important part entrusted to him; and Mr. Louis Victor as Bobby, Mr. Ivan Cleveland as Sir George Paddock, Mr. James Stevenson as Time, Miss Florence Ivy as Chrysea, and Mr. Jack Morrison as Astrophel are all adequate.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—A strong and varied programme is in evidence this week. Geo. Leyton, the popular Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans' idol, makes a return visit, and in his new scena "The Roll Call" appears to great advantage; Jack Lorimer is a successful Scotch comedian; a novel turn is that of the Staleys' company in a lightning transformation; Barry Lupino's trick dancing is quite a feature of his performance; Lydia and Ameleys, Parisian whirlwind dancers, gain tumultuous applause; and Barrett and Knowles, patter comedians, cause wholesome laughter. A high-class item is that of Sylvia du Barry, in her vocal scena "In Andalusia"; the Avolos and Stella Stahl are also in the bill.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—*The Yellow Fang*, an intensely dramatic sketch, presented by Miss Mary Mayfren's company, is proving a tremendous draw this week; a really pleasing number is that of the Garricks (four), in a pot-pourri of songs and dances; Renot is a mimic of the first water; and the Four Figaros, character vocalists and dancers; Rousby and Rene, in their new Lancashire comedy, "Fine Feathers"; Sissie Brand, a charming comedienne who sings well; Arthur Harris, actor-vocalist; and an exciting Bioscope picture complete.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Miss Minola Hurst and her miniature comedians top the bill in a smart performance; a wonderful manipulation of hoops is given by Everhart and assistants; one of the most popular turns is contributed by the Great Four, comedy vocalists; Paul Corrix's daring feats of strength meet with favour; in the comedy skit *Dick Whittington*, the cat is cleverly portrayed by the male member of the Whittaker Duo; Stanley and Vandyke have a laughable comedy act; and Drury and Lane, comedians and dancers, and Barney Murphy, in Irish songs, complete an excellent programme.

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—A powerful dramatic sketch entitled *The Key* is the feature of this week's entertainment. Mr. Gilbert Heron acts with force as the husband; Miss Jessie Danvers plays the wife with intensity; and Mr. Victor Huntley is effective as the friend. A really great trampoline act is given by Hayes and Merritt; Ford Williams uses a fine bass voice with effect in "The Wolf." Some excellent comedy club juggling by the Two Manites meets with warm applause; and Maud Vera, dainty comedienne and dancer, Mlle. Bartenelli, contortionist, and Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots contribute popular turns.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—Some capital pictures are being exhibited here. W. H. Downs, the Australian coloured vocalist, sings a couple of songs with telling effect.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—This week Mr. Dudley Stuart presented Mr. Arthur Hare and company in the well-known comedy, *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr. Arthur Hare as Benjamin Goldfinch gave an excellent interpretation; Mr. James Harcourt as Gregory was exceptionally clever; as was also Mr. Guy Vivian as Percy and Mr. Fernley Bisshoff as Dick; Mr. Alfred Kingston as Joyce was very amusing; Mr. Victor Stuart as Lorimer was very good; Mr. Jack Bertram represented Bartholomew very creditably, as did Mr. Martin Sherwood, another bootmaker; Miss May de Launey was most successful as Lucy; and Miss Carmena Rivers gave an ideal exposition to the rôle of Marion.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—Mr. Junius Booth and company, in *Monte Cristo*, is the attraction here this week. Edmund Dante, afterwards the Count of Monte Cristo, has a forcible exponent in Mr. Junius Booth; as M. Notier Mr. Millar Anderson gives a strong portrayal throughout; Mr. J. Sanger submits a natural delineation of Danglars. The scheming Villefort is capitally played by Mr. J. Hawden, while Mr. Harry Bannister enters well into the spirit of the part as Fernand. Mr. D. J. Bosher is seen to advantage as Lieut. de Morcef; Caderousse finds an amusing exponent in Mr. J. F. Brandon; Miss Lillian Deane ably sustains the rôle of Mercedes; while Miss Ethel Blake is good as Marie, and Miss Phyllis Keith is capital as Sophie Danglars. *Way Out West* is billed for the latter three days of this week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Interesting and instructive pictures by the Loyal Dominion company provide an excellent show here this week. Kitty Leon sings and dances with a skill and vivacity that win the highest approbation; the Two Gilberts perform some expert and hazardous feats; and Jack Harris provokes merriment with songs and patter.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Eric Hope's company, in *The Pigeon House*, received a cordial welcome on Monday evening. The part of Paul Bouchard is capably sustained by Mr. Ivan Berlyn; Mr. Eric Hope as Victor de Meneval invests the part with a pleasing personality; Miss Iris Hoey as Leontine (Victor's wife), is delightfully piquant; Miss Jane Eyre does excellent work as Mme. Vernet; Major Fallieres is pleasingly impersonated by Mr. Ernest Arundel, who sings and acts well; Mr. Haddon Cave does well as Vicomte de Chantecler; Mr. A. J. Nicholls acts and sings with due point as Pierre; Miss Amy Fanchette does excellently as Celeste Bouchard; Miss Mary Hay is convincingly suspicious as Elise; and Miss Violet Dene (Aglaia) is a smart solo dancer.

MONTPELLIER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—*Les Militaires* holds the boards this week. Mr. Charlie Ross and Mr. Lauri Ray, the eminent pantomime comedians, are responsible for the fun; Miss Daisy Cordelia has a fine voice; Miss May Florence indulges in speciality dances; Mr. Henry Jordan is a capital tenor soloist; and Mr. Harry Langton a facile accompanist.

WINTER GARDENS ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill-Smith.—This show is still very popular, the excellence and pleasing variety of the pictures continuing to draw immense houses. The Closed Door and The Punishment of the Samurai are two interesting pictures. Popular songs are rendered by Miss Alice Forbes.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—The artists here this week are Tony Clifford, ventriloquist; Lawson and Odell, in a laughable interlude; and the Godfreys, musical entertainers. Capital films include Dutch Children and The Alpine Guide.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The principal attraction of an excellent variety company is Ohana San and company, in a beautiful Oriental scena, *A Vision of Japan*; the Lovelaces are clever and tuneful song illustrators; Slippere is a man of many parts, and as a blind entertainer deserves great praise, and won hearty plaudits; Bernard and Weston are smart comedians and eccentric dancers; Johnny Fuller is skilfully amusing as "the little cat on the wire"; and the Four Vagabonds, a vocal comedy quartette, prove a welcome turn, and are the cause of much hearty laughter. Biographic pictures conclude.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — CHORLTON THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS.—There is an attractive programme of pictures here this week. The variety turns are provided by Sands and Vincent, in an amusing comedy act; Stratton, a clever female impersonator; and Will B. Bright, vertatile vocalist and dancer.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—WEST CLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—Excellent concerts here continue to draw good houses. Miss Lily Gover, contralto; Arthur Melrose, humorous siffleur; Fred Pardoe, in clever impersonations; Bert Graham, comedian; Bernard Russell, in his female impersonations; and Will Bentley, comedian, form the company. Mr. Cyril Well is the able accompanist.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. R. D. Hooper; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. S. Whitcher; Secretary, Mr. T. Butt.—Sam Mayo tops the bill here; the Harvey Boys are a success in their boxing act; Leo Tell is a wonderful animal mimic; Mabel Fairchild is extremely clever in her dancing scena, "A Bolfry Dream"; Bonnie Lexie is a charming danseuse; and Florence Cooper is popular in her descriptive songs. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some fine films.

CLYDEBANK. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—The current bill includes Loch and Glen, assisted by Pete Marzella, in a comedy triple-bar act; Sirron and Simkin, comic jugglers and conjurors; Durazcoe and Azella, chair pyramidists and equilibrists; Wills and Warlock, comedians and novelty dancers; Gipsy Bell, comedienne; and a fine selection of pictures on the Bioscope.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Miss Lena Ashwell's company, in *Diana of Dobson's*, opened a half-week's engagement on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Eva Leonard Boyne achieved a triumph; Miss Hilda Francks showed dramatic cleverness as Mrs. Cantelupe; Mr. Thos. Pauncefort in the character of Sir Jabez was remarkably natural; and Mr. Brisco Owen did well as Capt. Bretherton. The comedy was preceded each evening by the one-act drama *Out West*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King.—The Venetians are concerned with living statuary; R. Cardigan and company, in *The Distinguished Visitor*, present a musical sketch, in which the outstanding feature is the admirable baritone contributions of Mr. Cardigan; Ryder Slone's character songs are loudly applauded; Winnie Dorson appeals strongly with her musical item; the Musical Wagners, on the xylophones, are a good turn; the Four Panamas present a pantomimical speciality, *The Delineator*; Tom Yorke goes well as a coster comedian; and the pictures form a welcome item.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is being played here by Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company. Miss Viola Holland is a charming and accomplished Monica; as Camiola Miss Violette May receives much applause; and Miss Mona Hall is a pleasing Viola. Prince Hildred is ably portrayed by Mr. Leonard Booker; Mr. H. Burton as Captain Hector and Mr. Stafford Dickens as Lieutenant Stromberg are both good; Mr. Victor Rae is a capital Prince Michael; and as Prince Olaf Mr. Henry Hallatt is a big favourite. The Bishop of Illyria is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Coleman, and Mr. Oswald Waller gives a good account of himself as Nathan.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—Mr. J. H. Milburn tops the bill here; De Lil is a clever illusionist; and Hulbert, ventriloquist, is well received.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, the Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—The Royal Quintette top the bill with extra good songs and dances; Henri Foden, hand jumper, &c., is an interesting turn; and up-to-date pictures conclude.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—The pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight were produced here this week, and the theatre was well patronised.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—Mr. Lewys James (of Moody-Manners Opera company) was in splendid voice, and his operatic and other ballads were well received; the Juggling McBans gave an exhibition of skill which was clever and novel; Arthur J. Hill, in some clever imitations of comedy stars, won appreciation; May Mars, in vocal scena, was high-entertaining; Mr. Hymack, the chameleon comedian provided a most laughable entertainment; Millie and Arthur, in comedy act, were capital: Lily Eaton, comedienne, sang pleasing songs; and the Palacescope pictures are new.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The play this week is entitled *A Woman and Two Men*, the piece from the pen of Messrs. John Buckley and Patrick Burnard, and is excellently produced by Miss Geraldine Montrose's company. Miss Montrose takes the part of Madeline Morden to perfection; Mr. Harold B. Lewis as Jack Maxwell is extremely good; Mr. Stephen Langton scores a success as Philip Collister; and Miss Maud Kirwan is equally good as Sybil Maynard.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Cruikshank, the droll clown, is at the top of a good bill this week; Edgar Graham, the Lilliputian wonder, gives a marionette show in truly realistic fashion, portraying entertainers of the past and present with great credit; Messrs. Bellew and Stock's company, including Master Edward Garratt, give a comedy sketch entitled *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*, which causes great fun; the Great Northern Troupe of Dancers give a fine performance; Miss Rachel Lowe is a novel singer with a style of her own that is quite unique, and which amuses the audience immensely; Victor and Louis give a vocal comedy act, "The Golfer and the Caddie"; and Ariel and Astarte have a capital gymnastic turn.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company in *Tantalizing Tommy*. Miss Nellie Lonnen is delightfully fresh and merry in the title-rôle; Miss Margaret Stuart is suitable as Elsie Tatham; Miss Eva Brickwell is capital as Bertha; and Miss Kate Emerson is neat as the maid. Mr. Hastings Lynn is a great success in the rôle of James Cottenham; Mr. Ambrose Flower is satisfactory as Harry Killick; Mr. Roy Byford just touches the right note as Thomas H. Pepper; Mr. Ernest R. Holloway does well as Eustace Tatham; Mr. Geoffrey Denys makes the most of Lord Enderby; and minor characters are carefully played by Messrs. Olaf Hytten, Cyril Percy, Frank Creston, and Hubert Lane. The curtain-raiser is *Collaborators*, commendably rendered by Mr. Olaf Hytten and Miss Margaret Stuart.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—This house is being packed at each performance to give a cordial welcome to that prince of Scotch comedians Harry Lauder—he receives quite an ovation, and his excellent songs are heartily applauded; the Cromwells give a clever juggling act; Jay Laurier is an irresistible comedian; Daisy James, comedienne, is full of life and spirit; Arthur Lennard is a vocal comedian of ability; Jack Smiles, comedian, is funny; Madge Temple sings her chorus songs with fine effect, her capital chorus song "The silvery, silvery sands," the work of that accomplished composer and musician Mr. Hermann Darewski, bringing down the house; Walton and Lester are a droll pair; the Romps are smart juvenile singers and dancers; Cribb and Cribb are amusing patter comedians; Eileen Northe, "Cullercoats' Fisher-Girl Vocalist," is praiseworthy; and the Bioscope pictures are up to date. Mr. Eustace Jay's excellent management of this house is causing much favourable comment.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—An enjoyable show here this week. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco create quite a furore in their marvellous conjuring act of magic and mirth; Arthur Clifton, comedian, is very good; Jessie Merryless, comedienne, is a favourite; Luis Alvarez's fine voice is heard to advantage; the Norman and Leonard Trio submit a talented musical and danc

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—The usual liberal supply of pictures is again in evidence here; there is also a variety programme. The Three Sisters Eston are very good on the triple trapeze; Billy Rhodes, a great favourite, evokes much laughter; Clare and Pastor provide fun; a clever knockabout act is presented by Reski and Reski; and James Rich, comedian, and the Bernices also appear.

DINNINGTON (Yorks.).—LYRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. James England.—Mr. Harry Aynsley's company is here with *The King of Diamonds*. Mr. Harry Aynsley is a capable villain, being well supported by Miss Camille Treherne as Olive Vandell; Mr. Geo. Keene is a capital George Fenton; and the character of the Dude has a good exponent in Mr. Walter Warren. Sir Richard Steel is well portrayed by Mr. Aubrey Norton; Sir Charles Lockwood being well represented by Mr. Wilson Lowther. Miss Peggy Ross is a charming Muriel; and Silas Craddock finds a capable representative in Mr. Ralph Maynard. Tragedy is relieved by the humour of Reginald Adolphus Garth as represented by Mr. Dennis Brook, and the vagaries of Sophonisba Garth as represented by Miss Esmai Ellys.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—*The Education of Elizabeth* is being presented here by Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company. Miss May Norris cleverly realised the part of Elizabeth Black; Mr. Ernest Norris himself presented fine studies of character as Mr. Whitby and Reggie Hankey; the Blanch McIntyre of Miss Emily Stevens was a capital comedy interpretation; Miss Una Lyle presented a fine portrait of an English gentlewoman.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Gaiety Theatre Cos.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Girl in the Boat* is being presented here. Mr. Charles McNaughton is a host in himself as Potts; Miss Irene Verona as Mrs. Hope is excellent; Miss Isobel Higgins as represented by Miss May Garstang, a clever actress, is natural; as Sir Walter Wenleysdale Mr. Frederick Hobbes is graceful and romantic; the Admiral Weber of Mr. Harry Adnes evokes loud laughter; and the Captain Jackson of Mr. Walter Thomas is entirely praiseworthy.

PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The calibre of the audiences at the Palace changes as the season wanes. Mr. Fox realising this, reserves some of his best engagements for the closing weeks. Mr. Tom Stuart secures legitimate applause as character actor and mimic; Professor Thornbury, lightning painter and entertainer, repeats his last week's success; Johnson and Bert present a quite original interlude, *A Quer Customer*; André Romanoff, the celebrated gipsy violinist, is a musician; a sketch, *The Breach of Promise*, as played by Milner and Storey, is provocative of fun; and Mr. Bert Errol, female impersonator, is also in the bill.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—There is an admirable entertainment in the new variety theatre here. The patter of Mr. Alec Kendall creates real amusement; Miss Maggie Carr, comedienne, is well received; The Napiers, Continental jugglers, have much dexterity; Siems, king of mystery, puzzles spectators with his methods; Craig, Rose ,and Craig, original gymnasts, essay daring feats; and dancing can be indulged in to Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra in the grand ball room. To-night, the last of the season, will be presented the great national event, a reproduction of *The Manx Mhelliah, or, Harvest Home*.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. Charles Dare; Manager, Mr. James Carr.—There has been no falling off in the attendance at this popular place of amusement. There are animated pictures, varieties by Mr. Arthur Bright, the Milanese pipe soloist, who makes his last appearances this season; and Mr. George Penn, the popular wit, who also gives his farewell performances. A particularly pleasing function took place here on Thursday, when the first complimentary benefit was tendered by Mr. Charles Dare to his indefatigable lieutenant, Mr. James Carr. The programme was considerably augmented. By permission of Mr. F. J. Connor, proprietor of the Hippodrome, Messrs. Stanley and Oakfield, comedians and expert dancers, appeared with success; there were special films; also Miss Phyllis St. Clare, a soprano, with a really wonderful voice, secured a splendid recognition of her quality; Mr. Bert Cayley, a very quaint comedian, made a hit; the Three Little Penn children were delightful in a tiny sketch; Mr. Neville, in his impersonation of characters from Dickens, was most artistic. Other turns were Professor Kelly, the Manx phrenologist; and Miss Lily Hill, a smart singer of piquant ballads. Mr. James Carr is persona grata to all and sundry, and he is an excellent actor and vocalist. Mr. Charles Dare's White Minstrels still continue their popular way on Douglas Head, where, owing to the fine weather, the attendances twice daily have beaten the record.

THE CIRCUS.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. F. J. Connor.—A round of benefits has marked this week at Connor's Circus. On Monday Mr. W. R. Albino, the experienced and courteous ringmaster, had his annual bespeak; Tuesday was the benefit of Little Mona and Douglas, the clever children of the popular proprietor. This was under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor, and given in the presence of himself, Lady Raglan, and a fashionable party from Government House. The benefits of the clowns Antonio, Rabbit, and Funny Frisk occupied three more nights; and on Saturday Mr. F. J. Connor will make his end of the summer annual speech. The augmented programmes have been thoroughly enjoyed, and the patronage has been most generous.

ONCHAN HEAD PLEASURE GROUNDS AND WINTER GARDENS.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Collier Cubbin.—The Onchans, which include Charley Harvey, the Shakespearean droll; Mr. J. H. Scotland, the baso vocalist, of Carl Rosa's own selection; Miss Elsie Steadman, who is of the calibre of the late and always lamented Nelly Farren, of universal fame; Mr. Alexander Webster, a tenor of quality; Mr. Alfred Maynall, a comedian of resource; have drawn large and appreciative audiences to Onchan Head three times daily.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Leah Kleschna* was presented here on Monday by Mr. H. Armitage's company. Miss Marguerite Cellier gives a fine interpretation of Leah; and the part of Kleschna is ably undertaken by Mr. William Clayton. As Paul Sylvaine Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gives every satisfaction; and Miss Emmie Wallace makes a capital Madame Berton. Mr. Henry Nunn does full justice to the rôle of Raoul Berton; and as the General Mr. Harry Wren is excellent. Mr. Graham Pocketi makes the most of his opportunities as Schram; and Miss Florence Dulhunty is a pleasing Claire Berton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Marriott-Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*The Stepmother* has been admirably presented here this week by Miss Nannie Goldman's company. Mr. William Holles presents a capital study of Captain Bristow; and Miss Goldman gives a good portrayal of his son Danny. Mr. Henry C. Ward acquits himself well as Abraham Wiggins; and Miss Patricia Bostock makes an excellent Anna Vickers. Mr. Herbert J. Walton handles the part of the detective, David Blake, skilfully; and Miss Elsie Walton Hemming is good as Clara. Mr. H. P. Owen is satisfactory as Luke Trizel, a tramp. Other parts are well filled by Mr. Teddy Myles as Timothy Yapp, Miss Edith Bruce as Johanna Jones, Mr. Ronald Roberts as Zeke, and Miss Lucy Burrows as Amy Bristow.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—*The House of Temperley* is drawing full houses here this week. Mr. Murray Carson as Sir John Harker repeats his success of last week, as does also Mr. Stratton Rodney (Sir Charles Temperley), Mr. Claude King (Captain Jack Temperley), Miss Una Venning (Ethel Morley), Mr. Blake Adams (Ginger Stubbs), Miss Clarice Pauncefort (Lady Temperley), and Mr. Leon M. Lion (Jakes).

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A prominent position here is held by the Anartos, whose clever and humorous performance is heartily enjoyed; Miss Peggy Pryde, a smart comedienne, meets with undoubted success; Burley and Burley, acrobatic comiques, win approval; Malo and Coombs, in a comedy singing act, are well received; Mr. Fred Hallam makes an excellent impression as a juggler; Miss Maud Hayne, comedienne, merits the appreciation she receives; Little Keeno is a clever comedian; and Miss May Andrey, an attractive comedienne. The Empire pictures are up-to-date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, are well received; Foreman and Fannan, "the millionaires," score successfully; Elton and Elma are diverting in their triple bar act; Rolando Martin is a popular comedian and patterer; Cara Magda provides a pleasing gymnastic act. Other excellent turns are Ellis Barrieton, Scotch-Canadian vocalist; Tod Lowen, comedian; La Belle Greba, comedienne and Spanish danseuse; the Tissets, living marionettes; and the Bioscope.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Photo Company are presenting the following films here this week: Davy Jones's Landladies, The Effects of Reading a Newspaper Serial, The Tyrant of Jerusalem, Sammy the Would-be Equilibrist, Athaliah Queen of Judah, &c. The variety artists include the Sisters Colley, juvenile vocalists and dancers; Miss Yeardley, soprano; Mr. P. J. Maloney, baritone; and the Mona Ladies' Orchestra.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—The variety programme presented here this week includes George Pelham and Co., sketch artists; Kitty Kildare, vocal comedienne; Percy Main, dancer and patterer; Mlle. Gretchen, serio and dancer; Oscar Martini, character impersonator; and the Cinematograph.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Alexander Lee's company, the Gay Birds, in a clever and amusing vaudeville entertainment.

DUDLEY. — EMPIRE. — This house reopened on Monday night under the management of Mr. R. Colin, a popular caterer of variety in several neighbouring towns. The attractive programme provided included Jenny Mills, with a company of charming girls, in clever and enchanting dances; Beatrice Harrold's Six Charming Gipsy Girls; Matheson and Johnson, in a good sketch, entitled *A Gentleman Thief*; the Amonda's pantomime company, in *The White Statue*; Joe Barry, comedian, with catchy songs; Edward Mortimer, cartoonist; the Sisters Rosalind, duettists and dancers; Edward Ranier and company, in *The Great Bank Robbery*, in which Mr. Ranier is again a powerful Stephen Craig; Mr. James Thacker as Mr. John Morley, detective, is a decided success; and other characters are ably portrayed by Mr. Alfred Knight, Miss Maud Haywood, and Mr. Fred Cockle.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company in *The Private Secretary* is drawing good houses. Mr. James Hussey essays the rôle of the Rev. Robert Spalding, and gives a mirth-provoking conception; Mr. Cattermole is again played by Mr. W. Hargreaves, who is, if possible, even funnier than ever; Douglas Cattermole is brightly and breezily enacted by Mr. Arthur Claremont; as Harry Marsland, Mr. Horace George plays in a light-hearted manner, and with commendable spirit; Mr. Marsland is well depicted by Mr. William Carriden; Mr. Kendal Chalmers does ample justice to the part of Sidney Gibson; Miss Elsie Blythe is a charming Eva Webster; Miss Mary Mallalieu brightly impersonates Edith Marsland; Miss Estelle Despa does exceedingly well as Miss Ashford; and as the landlady, Mrs. Stead, Miss Cicely Wade is satisfactory. *The Captain's Wife* precedes.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Topping a capital bill here is the miniature musical play, *Happy Holland*, in which Jake Friedman and his merry and numerous company have plenty of scope to display their capabilities; Diamond and Beatrice delight with their charming musical act; Edna Latonne is a neat male impersonator, and scores a hit with her fine song, "Homeland, good-bye"; Tom Gott, "the confiding comedian," is extremely funny; the Four Curtises sing and dance with pleasing effect; Pop Dearly is a particularly smart coon singer; Carlotta Levey's vocal numbers find much favour; Marcel and Boris are a smart couple of novelty equilibrists; and the programme is completed by Jury's Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—A capital collection of films here includes a thrilling picture, entitled Italian Flying Horse Artillery, The Forest Ranger, and The Fire Chief's Daughter.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. K. Stewart.—Among a varied programme of films shown here is Behind the Scenes, an incident in the life of a circus clown; A Wireless Message, a thrilling story picture; and many humorous studies.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin.—An excellent programme here includes The Tragedy of Robert, the Silent Duke of Aquitaine; Convict No. 796, a very pathetic picture; an elaborate film entitled Athaliah, Queen of Judah; and many others.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—For the first two nights of this week a new and up-to-date series of animated pictures is being presented here, and is much appreciated. For the remaining four nights of the week Miss Lole Esmond will present a new musical play, entitled *The Love Birds*.

DURHAM.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.—At the top of a most entertaining programme, Maurin's marvellous water fountains receive rounds of applause. In an original act, *Night Time at Madame Tussaud's*, Alix. Lukos' quick changes evoke much appreciation; Elroy, the armless wonder, is a clever artist and entertainer; Sim Marie, in contortions, is a wonder; Chant and Chant, in comedy, win favour; and the Bartholomew Sisters prove popular. The Cathedoscope shows in the Border States and The Common Enemy.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's company is here this week in *Two Merry Monarchs*. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin sings and acts with delightful ease and charm as Prince Charmis; Mr. E. Statham Staples keeps the fun fast moving as Rolandyl; Mr. Mark Lester plays King Paul with a rich and characteristic vein of humour; Mr. Sam Walsh is a funny and capable King Utops; Mr. Hugh Weybrance sings nicely as Helvanoise; and Mr. Frank Ashton as Mandamus and Francis Paten as Head Flunkey do well all that is possible. Miss Marjorie Moore sings and acts excellently as Princess Cynthia, and Miss Gladys Beach does bright and distinct work as Iris.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—For the first three evenings of the week Mr. H. P. Towers' company appeared here in *The Best People*. Mr. Frederick Meads played with much cleverness and conviction as Gerald Bayle; Mr. Henry Renouf extracted humour from the part of Lord Emsworth; Mr. Claude Haviland did excellent and realistic work as Lord Wynlea; and Mr. E. J. Trollope and Mr. Edward Nimmo gave very good help as Jackson and Mr. Spoffoth. Miss Irene Lavington repeats her clever and successful performance as Lady Emsworth, and Miss Evelyn Summers works hard and well as Mrs. Bayle. *Some Showers* was the curtain-raiser, and a special word of praise must be given to Miss Sylvia Dawson as Daisy and Mr. E. Nimmo as George for their really clever and effective rendering of this amusing duologue.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week are Victor's Juveniles, a troupe of clever young people who sing well, dance smartly, and introduce capital mimicry; the Cheers introduce well-trained cats into a pretty sketch, *Dick Whittington*; Les Andres appear in a clever dancing act; Miss Esme Gordon sings and dances in good style; Mr. Charles Erard is a refined and taking pianist and mimic; the Whitworth Trio are capable cyclists; Miss Ernestine Desborough pleases in song and dance; Mr. Sid Bandon scores as a comedian; and new films are shown.

EAST HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS THEATRE. —Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Maxted. —*Before the Dawn*, a sketch played by Mr. Geo. Sheldon and Mr. Rawson Buckley's company, is proving a great attraction. The characters are all well sustained. The local Boy Scouts, at the invitation of the management, are visiting the theatre in great numbers. Will Lindsey, Yorkshire dialect comedian, is enjoying great popularity; another good turn is provided by Miss Elsie Peach, comedienne; and some very fine animated pictures are shown.

EDINBURGH. — ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Crowded houses have again welcomed a return visit of Mr. George Edwardes' company in *The Merry Widow*, which has evidently lost none of its attractions for the play-going public. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield and Miss Gertrude Lester as Prince Danilo and Sonia were as effective and spirited as anyone could desire; Mr. W. Talleur Andrews gave an excellent rendering to the songs of Vicomte Camille; the Nisch of Mr. Robert Nainby was a clever study; and Mr. Eric Thorne's Baron Popoff, as usual, stood out among the chief humours of the piece; while Mr. Walter Champney caused much amusement in the part of the Walter; and Mr. Albert Kavanagh, Mr. Robert Cranny, Mr. Stratton Mills, and Mr. Jocelyn Hope ably filled the rôles of De Cascada, St. Brioche, Novakovitch, and Khadja. Miss Daphne Hope made an excellent Natalie; Sylvaine and Olga had good representatives in Miss Eve Hornsby and Miss Alice Cox; Prascovia was nicely played by Miss Hylda Coward; and Miss Vivien Talleur repeated her former successes as Frou-Frou. Stage-setting and beautiful costumes afforded fine spectacular effects; and both chorus and orchestra did their work well, under the direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus.Bac., Oxon.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's play *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, which has had such a successful run in London, is being presented here this week by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company. The drama, which is effectively staged and admirably acted, has aroused great interest amongst Edinburgh playgoers. Miss Marie Polini has immensely strengthened her reputation by a fine performance of the character of Glad. Miss Polini has done much good work. She has always been graceful and intelligent, but a more perfect piece of acting has seldom been seen than her impersonation of the London waif, in which she touches with equal success the chords of humour and pathos. She was recalled on Monday at the close of each act, and the enthusiastic applause of the audience acknowledged the triumph of her art. Mr. Frank Victor played ably and spoke with delightful elocution as Sir Oliver Holt; and Mr. William Kershaw sustained with power and feeling the part of Dandy, and shared with Miss Polini the warm recognition of the audience at the end of the impressive second act. Mr. Charles King was admirable as the dissipated Oliver Holt; and outstanding character sketches were given by Mr. Murray Hathom as Dr. Heath (a finished study), Mr. Henry Compton as Jem, Mr. Bertram Burleigh as the Thief, Miss Alice Dorie as Bet, Miss Dora Elisabeth Clements as Polly, and Mr. Reginald A. Hunt as Bedell. The remaining members of the large cast were excellent in their respective parts.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Captain Fred Woodward's sea lions, in their talking and juggling performance are prominent in this week's bill. Captain Woodward deserves the greatest praise for the remarkable success which his training of these animals has achieved and the applause at the close of the turn is loud and long. Miss Marie Kendal, the clever comedienne, brings a budget of her newest songs, which she renders with much dramatic force and considerable humour; Mr. Frank Hartley is an extremely deft juggler, his tricks being carried through with neatness and dexterity; the Hargreaves Trio are seen to advantage in a smart comedy act; Miss Evelyn Taylor, comedienne, is pleasing and vivacious in the rendering of her tuneful songs; Enzer and Clarice, sword expert and lady ju-jitsu champion, give an interesting performance; and the Three Welsh Girls, excellent vocalists; Mr. Harry Leaton, character singer; Mr. Loyall Leader, in his "Eccentricities of the Period"; and the King's Bioscope, with a capital display of Parisian scenes, complete a meritorious programme.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—A novelty in the way of leading turns was provided this week by Serene Nord, "the diving Venus," who gave a graceful and interesting exhibition of various forms of diving from a springboard into a large tank of water, concluding with a sensational header from the roof of the building. The feats were watched with close attention, and the performer received most demonstrative recalls. Will and Sam Poluski created great merriment with their patter entertainment; and Harry Welford was well to the fore in a couple of his smart and laughable character impersonations. The McConnell Trio sang and acted very pleasantly in a new musical comedietta, entitled *The Invalid*; Rosa Lauder, in a lively original sketch, mimicked amateur and professional artists with much success; the Maples appeared in a brisk whirligig-kind of skit, named *Hampered*; Bert Harrow's eccentric parodies were most acceptable; and Eily Adair contributed a bright turn as an Irish comedienne. The cycling display of the famous Jackson Family was in many respects unique as a charming spectacle and for some new and extraordinary trick cycle-riding. The American Bioscope showed some humorous moving pictures.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Sanders.—The programme here is a varied and attractive one, in which a first-rate series of films shows scenes in London—its famous buildings and streets. Lumbering in Canada is another excellent picture of the life of a hard-working class of men amidst surroundings full of the charms of Nature; Gold is Not All is a strong drama of much pictorial merit; The Cowboy's Reformation displays, in forcible scenes, how a lawless man is brought back to better paths by the power of old-time sentiment; Mistaken Identity and Frightened Freddy are two humorous subjects, which provoke loud laughter. Hayman and Houten, cross-talkers and dancers, impart additional liveliness to an exceptionally good entertainment.

MARINE GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. G. B. Smith.—The band of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, under the able leadership of Mr. F. Horton, constitutes the attraction in the Band Court this week. The concert hall programme has drawn large audiences. Mme. Norman Snowball, a delightful soprano singer; Mr. Thornley Dodge, a clever humorist; and Signor E. Scoma's orchestra provide an entertainment at once artistic and interesting. Prof. Powsey continues his daring diving performance in the Amusement Court; and the many outside shows—scenic railway, mountain slide, maze, and river caves—have a large share of patronage.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Winifred Maude and company opened here on Monday in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Winifred Maude gives an excellent impersonation of Seaweed; Miss Annie Megson humorously depicts the diminutive Midge; Miss Mabel Lane is effective as Mrs. Muggs, while Miss Ethel Crawford as Lesbia l'Estrange submits an admirable portrayal. Mr. William Vane creates a good impression as Sandy Macdonald; Mr. Harold Heath effectively depicts Donald McIvor; Mr. William Bradford gives a striking characterisation of Ralph Blackwater; Mr. Victor du Cane makes an admirable Isaac Levi; and Mr. Fred Elvin is quite successful as the twin brothers Woodleigh. On Wednesday *The Stowaway* was presented, and on the last three days of the week Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company were billed to appear in *The Earl and the Girl*.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.—Austin Rudd is a big favourite with his quaint style and funny songs; Carl and Mary Ohm introduce some highly-trained dogs, ponies, and monkeys; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins contribute a clever vocal comedy sketch; Owen McGiveney's impersonations of Dickens' characters are excellent; the Three Warners are clever acrobatic dancers; Miss Blanche Vincent renders pleasing melodies in a tuneful voice; and Alice Maydue is a clever character comedienne. The Hippodrome pictures complete.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. W. Ebbutt.—*The Outcast of the Family* is presented by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company. The play is exceptionally well staged, the "Falling Cave" scene in the third act being a marvel of stage realism. The play is well presented by a carefully-selected and well-balanced company. Mr. Jack McCaig fills the part of the hero Harry Thorne with dash and histrionic ability; Mr. Wybert Clive is successful as Sir Henry Thorne; Mr. Bert Oates imparts sufficient villainy into the rôle of Richard Martin; Mr. Tom Roydan looks and acts the village blacksmith well; and Mr. Edward W. Cudd is completely successful as Abram Wasper. As Joe Bushell Mr. Tom Armitage contributes to the amusement of the audience, in conjunction with Miss Freda Beckett as Nancy Bray. Miss Elsie Shelton's representation of Ruth, the heroine, is a well-conceived and skilful piece of acting; and Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd fills the thankless part of Grace Redburn with distinction.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. E. Atkinson; Manager, Mr. Leo D. Hickey.—Another strong programme of vaudeville and picture is submitted at this house, which continues to be well filled nightly. Mr. N. C. Bostock, the veteran comic, is the leading line in the variety turns, and takes well; Miss Nellie Elliene, comedienne, Nancy Lauder, child coon singer, and Charley Williams, the Scotch coon, are also well received. The pictures are varied and interesting.

FERNDALE.—NEW WORKMEN'S HALL AND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—*The Christian* (old version) is being presented to well-filled houses by Mr. Marcus D. Draper's company. Mr. Draper makes an admirable John Storm, and Miss Gladys Purnell scores a success as Glory Quayle; Mr. Benson Louth is capital as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. W. Burgess Barratt's impersonation of Horatio Drake is clever; Mr. Edwin Ling contributes a good interpretation of Father Lamplugh; an excellent Archdeacon Wealthy is found in Mr. Aylmer Williams; Brother Paul is in the capable hands of Mr. Geo. F. Weir; Miss Rosa Burgess is a typical Mrs. Callander.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company presented *A Country Girl* the first three nights of the week to excellent houses. Miss Dorothy Craske as Nan, with her seemingly natural country brogue, acted to perfection; Mr. R. Matthews made a buoyant naval officer of Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Coningsby Brierly as Barry was the life and soul of the piece, and his funniosities were really mirth-provoking; Miss May Rawlinson's expressive voice enabled her to make a complete triumph in her impersonation of Marjorie Joy; as the Rajah of Bhong Mr. St. John Hamund was excellent, as also was Miss Ethel Negretti as Princess Melaneh; Mr. Percy Everard skilfully delineated the part of Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr. H. B. Hargraves proved fully equal to the rôle of Douglas Verity; Mr. Tom Sheriden was truly quaint as Gran'fer Mummery; Miss Hilda Darrell made a charming Sophie; and Mr. Norman Howard bore himself well as Lord Anchester. The minor parts were in capable hands. The present production contains two new songs, "Come to the country fair" and "On the farm," both of which have been written by Mr. St. John Hamund and composed by Mr. Evelyn Baker.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester continue to be very popular, and draw excellent houses.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Seymour Hicks' company, under the direction of Mr. John Macdonald, appeared here for three nights in *The Gay Gordons* to crowded houses. Mr. Frank Lincoln as Angus and Miss May Yates as Peggy had most of the work, and acquitted themselves admirably. The showman and his family were humorously represented by Mr. Harry Howe, Mr. W. H. Desmond, and Misses Kitty Kirwan and Edie Adeson. Andrew Quainton and Corpl. John Smith were capably played by Mr. Chas. Benson and Mr. Stanley Maude. The chorus was efficient and the dresses and scenery were excellent.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Margo, a lady with some new deceptions, has interested large audiences here; Geo. Prince is a popular comedian; the Quality Quartette are very pleasing in a vocal act; the Brothers Herbert show some novel dancing; the Jackley Trio have a laughable acrobatic act; Captain Kettle is an accomplished and dowitty card manipulator; the Hulls present an entertaining comedy musical act; and the Kingscope completes the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's ever-welcome *Midnight Wedding* is playing to good business. Mr. Paumier repeats his fine delineation of Paul Valmar; Captain Rudolph is efficiently portrayed by Mr. A. E. Wennington Barnes; Lieut. Eugene is well looked after by Mr. Malcolm Tearle; Mr. Dalziel Heron realistically portrays Prince Leopold; the comedy parts of Max, Otto, and Bobo are in the excellent hands of Messrs. Fred H. Constable, St. George Frere, and Algie Spalding; Miss Lilian Hallows scores a success as Princess Astrea; and Miss Phillis Hume as Kathie makes the most of her opportunities.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company opened a week's stay here on Monday, in *The Only Way*. As Sydney Carton Mr. Harvey was in splendid form, and was frequently applauded for his finished and effective study. Mr. Chas. Glenney as the vengeful Defarge, Mr. Percy Foster as the irritable but good-hearted Mr. Lorry, Mr. Phillip Hewland as the jolly but outspoken friend Mr. Stryver, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Dr. Manette, Mr. Cowley Wright as the Charles Darnay all submitted clever portrayals. Miss N. de Silva and Miss Brenda Gibson as Mimi and Lucie Manette respectively, were also fine enactments. In the prologue Mr. Albert E. Raynor as Marquis, and Mr. Edward Combermere as Vicomte distinguished themselves, and Mr. G. T. Lambert was effective as Jean Defarge in the death-scene. On Tuesday a crowded house witnessed Mr. Martin Harvey's magnificent production of *Richard III.*, and evinced the heartiest interest in his acting as the crookback Duke of Gloucester. Mr. Charles Glenney as Buckingham, and Mr. Phillip Hewland as Richmond, shared the honours. Of the ladies, Miss Alice Chapin as Queen Margaret, Miss Sybil Walsh as Queen Elizabeth, and Miss N. de Silva as Lady Anne were specially noteworthy. Later in the week *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* was given, preceded by *The House of Pierre*.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A packed house welcomed, with enthusiasm, that amusing play, *Brewster's Millions*, which is on a return visit here. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison send round a first-rate company, the part of Monty Brewster being played, with infectious humour, by Mr. Percy Hutchison; Miss Dorothy Whitaker makes a sweet and winsome Peggy, and Miss Lilias Earle a charming Mrs. Dan, Miss Marion Ripley as the manly Janise Armstrong, Miss Phyllis Stuckey as Barbara, Miss May Seton as Trixie, and Miss Florence Hillder as the typist, all act with excellent effect. Mr. Aubrey Matter as M'Leod, Mr. Henry Hampson as Archie Golding, Mr. Gordon Ash as Charlie Harrison, and Mr. Frank Hill as Rawles are specially noteworthy among the men. The scenery of the comedy is good. *Two in a Trap* precedes.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys.—Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy, *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, is the attraction at the Répertory theatre this week. The masterful captain is energetically played by Mr. Norman McKeown; while Miss Madge McIntosh gives a delightful rendering of Lady Cicely Waynflete; Mr. Leslie Rankin, the plausible missionary, is skilfully delineated by Mr. Campbell Gullan; and Mr. Frank Cochrane as Sir Howard Hallam gives an excellent rendering of the sharp-witted lawyer; Mr. Percival Clark as Felix Drinkwater gives an amusing picture of the "converted" hooligan; Redmark, by Mr. Mark Hannam, and Johnson, by Mr. W. G. Robb, are well defined characters; and the Moroccan dignitaries are ably handled by Mr. Stuart Black as the Sheik, and Mr. William Armstrong as the Cadi. Mr. Leslie Casey gives a good delineation of the American Captain Hamlin Kearney, and the other parts are all well-filled.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—Pictures and farce still form the staple items here, and this week the Grand stock company is causing much hilarity by a lively rendering of the old farce, *Whitebait at Greenwich*. Mr. Alex. Keith acts with gusto as John Smell, the waiter, whose eccentricities provide the bulk of the fun; and Misses Elsa Brettingham and Margaret Zaidia, with Messrs. Byron Douglas, J. F. Wingate, and John Roberts, give able support; Mr. Jesse Hackett renders several illustrated songs in a sweet tenor voice. The pictures are well-selected, the most notable being The Girl from Arizona and Farmer Jenkins at the Exhibition.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company are here this week in *The Black Mask*. Mr. Watson's thrilling representation of Le Noir is very effective; the other principal parts, Blackmore and Nellie Cunninghame, forming an agreeable contrast as played by Mr. Edward C. Ashby and Miss Florence E. Florence; the rôle of Philip Cunninghame is well filled by Mr. Willis Elton; excellent comic relief is provided by Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Winkle, and Mr. James Abbot as the Footman; as the child of Le Noir, Miss Dot Forde gives a touching performance; Miss Hettie Senior is smart as the servant Emma; good work is done by Miss Mabel Harland as Stella, and Miss Flo. Norman as Mother-One-Eye; and a clever character sketch is seen in the Jem Rudge of Mr. Elton Morgan.

METROPOLE.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*When Woman Hates*, presented by Mr. Fred Bulmer's company, is here this week. Mr. Richard Ferris's fine presence and quiet method fit him admirably for the part of Lieutenant Fred Rokeby; Miss Ada Oakley submits a pathetic portrayal of Marie Rokeby; Miss Doris Brookes exhibits ability as Cora Daintry; Mr. Austin Mortimer presents a finished impersonation of Godfrey Lawton; the humorous element is well supplied by Mr. Evan Roland as Patrick O'Brien, Mr. Reg. Oldroyd as Alphonse Picolot, and Miss Mary Dalby as Mrs. Sally Potts. Miss Sybil Haughton is effective as Thirsty Meg, while Mr. B. H. Davis Miss Jean Scott, and Mr. Percy Follitt give creditable support.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Messrs. Lawrence and Sawyer's "Smart Set Cadets" are here this week. The humorous part of their programme is chiefly supplied by Mr. James Salter; Mr. Alvin Sawyer, who manages the troupe, is a clever entertainer, while Mr. Colin Clough sings coon ditties excellently. Miss Annie Wallace, a fine soprano, renders several operatic airs agreeably; Miss Lilian Rignold is a dainty comedienne; and Mr. Fred Warwick an able actor-vocalist; Mr. Frank Summer, baritone, and Miss Nellie Hutchinson also vocalise acceptably.

EMPIRE.—District-Man

also does May Darlus, ballad vocalist. The Bioscope has an interesting series of pictures both humorous and otherwise.

Hengler's.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—Among the pictures shown here special mention is due to The Fire Chief's Daughter, Over the Garden Wall, and A Wireless Romance. The variety turns were ably sustained by Mollie Augarde, vocalist; Belmont, comedian and dancer; and the clever Lizette Troupe of acrobats.

Star.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Allsopp and Beckwith, in their comedy act, *His First Lesson in Acting*, are amusing; E. J. Sheldon is responsible for two delightful numbers; while the Dormeys, in their comedy sketch, *Fun in the Garden*, give a clever acrobatic display; Lytton and De Silva sing in charming style; Wyman performs some wonderful skating feats; while a really clever and entertaining contribution is given by the Luvaines, their instrumental selections being loudly encored. An enjoyable entertainment is concluded with a picture display on the Bioscope. The Wireless Romance proving an attractive film.

Scottish Zoo and Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The turns retained from last week here include Mlle. Pinder, in her pleasing equestrian act; Mlle. Rosa Montero, with her intelligent horse Baby; and Mons. Spiridion, in a clever juggling speciality. An interesting and amusing show is given by Mlle. Rosini, who introduces her miniature burlesque menagerie with much success, and Miss Edith Tudora with her performing team of ponies. In an equilibristic act John Irvin is well received; Fremmel and Fremmel are a pair of original eccentrics who never fail to amuse; and Helene and Emilon are responsible for a smart and clever gymnastic turn. A grand spectacular production, entitled *Bonnie Scotland*, under the direction of Professor Selkirk, is carried through admirably. The various clowns, including Yorick and Yorick, Jimmy and Algie, are untiring in their efforts to please; while the Bioscope terminates a capital programme. The Zoo continues to prove an immense attraction.

Glossop.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Chas. Locke's company, in *A Woman's Past*, is the attraction here. Mr. Percy Dawson gives a clever portrayal of David Heath; Mr. Chas. Locke is very good as Frank Dellanoy; Mr. Jas. McLeod is a humorous P.C. Bloater; and Mr. Wm. Freemantle is a droll Spriggins; Mr. Henry Bargate wins success as Jack Crawford; Miss Dora Pass appears to advantage as Bessie; Miss Cherry Veheyne is a charming Dorothy Heath; Miss Laura Bitterne a clever Mrs. Brown; and Miss Phyllis Elton capable as Clara Darrell.

Gloucester.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. B. T. Rea.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company appears this week in *The Power of the King*. Mr. Clavering Craig as Captain Rupert Landgrave is admirably suited; Mr. Charles Whitlock as the King of Vallombrosa acts powerfully; Mr. Arthur St. John is extremely effective as the Crown Prince Oscar; as the lesser villain General Stevonie, Mr. Harry Lyndon gives a capital exposition; Lady Anastasia is successfully played by Miss Conyers Radcliffe; and Miss Iza Lyndon is praiseworthy as Lady Florina; Mr. Wilton Drury is smart in the part of Fritz Talheim, being ably seconded by Miss Maude Stuart as Margot; Master Sydney Clarence is worthy of mention as Phillippe; and Mr. Roy Craig is good as Alberta.

King's Hall.—Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—The varieties here include the Taffies, in popular Welsh airs and comedy; Simosa San, clever lady juggler; and Miss Kitty Woodford, in illustrated songs. The Vocaphone renders some good and popular songs.

Goole.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—On Monday night a crowded house assembled to welcome Mr. Walter Steele's company, in *A Fast Life*. Miss Lilian Ross gives a capital impersonation of Mrs. Dixon; Miss Lilian Burns cleverly enacts the rôle of Lady Franklin; the villainies of Sir Oliver Franklin are depicted with force by Mr. J. Sommerville; Mr. Walter Steele is very good as John Dixon; Mr. Cuthbert Taylor is a capital Harris Goldberg; Mr. Willie Barrett causes merriment as Tommy Burks; Miss Clarice Jenner is amusing as Juliana. Songs and dances are successfully introduced in the garden scene by Mr. Willie Barrett and Miss Clarice Jenner.

Great Yarmouth. — Royal Aquarium. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale. —For the race week a first-class attraction is provided in *The King of Cadonia*, presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's company. Mr. Bertram Wallis scores a great success, his polished acting and excellent voice being much admired; Miss Alice Venning sings well as Princess Marie; Mr. Alfred Clark is an amusing Bran, and his song "Why did I become a soldier?" went with a delightful swing; Mr. Arthur Staples is very amusing as Duke of Alesia; Mr. Robert Selby makes a splendid General Bonshi; Mr. C. B. Williams displays fine dramatic power as Laborde; Miss Joan Penrose is a vivacious Militza, her dancing calling for special praise; and Miss Amy Preston charmingly plays Stephanie. The orchestra is ably directed by Mr. Julian Rutt.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Some time has elapsed since the Leopolds visited Yarmouth, but their musical play has been brought up to date, and *Frivolity* is as attractive as ever; Mr. Charles Goff scores heavily as Professor Tumble, and is a big favourite; Mr. Harry Douglas is excellent as Oliver Buchwheat; Miss Kathleen Kavanagh's performance as Madam Cobweb is a delightful piece of drollery; and a first-class troupe of dancers add to the brightness of the performance.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Miss Florrie Forde is the particular star for the race week, and her chorus songs are delighting large audiences; Menotti is repeating his success of last week; the *Tally Ho* spectacle gains in popularity; the Grovini Sisters give a successful and clever acrobatic display; Leicester Cooke is a master of horsemanship; and Doodles and Pimple have added another amusing sketch.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Dick Tubb is topping the bill, and his grotesque performance causes irrepressible laughter; the artist known as "Mr. E" is a big success; Netta's Singing Jockeys give a novel racing act, which is very popular; Clown Paulo introduces a cleverly-trained pony; the Two Evalos give a clever gymnastic act; Jock and Jenny appear in an excellent Scotch scena; and the Brothers Curran's comedy boxing act keeps the audience in roars of laughter.

The Gem.—Managing-Director, E. V. Barr, Ltd.—A fine series of pictures is being presented, and, in addition, Percival is repeating his success of last week. Mr. Charles Conway gives some good character sketches, and Miss Emmie Barlone is a gifted comedienne.

Greenock.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. James Willard's company opened here on Monday with *Paying the Price*. Mr. Willard himself undertakes the dual rôle of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman with much success; the scheming and callous Nell Fortescue has an admirable exponent in Miss Margaret Damer, who looks the part to perfection; Mr. Jackson Wilcox plays exceedingly well as Captain Dick Clinton, and Mr. H. Morton hits off the character of the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple in most amusing fashion; Mr. Frank Medhurst is good in the double rôle of Hal and Van Vortoone, and Miss Gem Lloyd earns distinction as Doris Delemere. Other characters were in able hands. The staging is effective.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Allan Holt and company appear with success in a sensational dramatic episode, *A Society Woman*; much hilarity is occasioned by Haines and Borthwick in their amusing sketch *Half a Dollar*; and other attractive items are submitted by the Claymore Trio, expert club jugglers; Bertha Evelyn, a pleasing comedienne; Charles Rothwell, a popular comedian; and the Dromoscope, with some capital pictures.

Grimsby.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Prince and the Beggar Maid* is being capitally presented by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company. Miss Miriam Prichett represents the young Queen Monica with charming ingenuousness; Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox gives a frank and spirited portrayal of Prince Olaf; Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke acts with vigour as the haughty Prince Hildred; Mr. Lionel Gadsden contributes sterling work in the pathetic part of Prince Michael; Mr. Fred D. Davies is excellent in the fine soldierly character of Captain Hector; Miss F. Hale Davies plays the beggar maid, Camiola, with appropriate tenderness; Mr. Charles V. Sandford is a breezy Lieut. Karl Stromberg; and Miss Jessica Black, a pleasing Viola.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—*Rough Justice* is a powerful dramatic episode of Wild West adventure, and is acted in high-class manner by Miss Lily Hammersley and company; Stewart and Morgan retain their excellent reputation as Irish vocalists; La Vie presents a series of art poses of distinctly novel design; John Paley, the celebrated cornet and trumpet soloist, contributes a very acceptable turn; Sophie is a clever child mimic and dances very well; Tom E. Dean presents smart parodies; and Paul Bonarsby has some excellent illustrated songs.

Guernsey.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—On Monday Mr. C. W. Poole's Myriorama entered on its second week. "Amasis" still holds the audience by his clever and mysterious performance; W. L. Roland, a quaint and humorous patterer, has a good reception; the Cairo Trio, musical experts, please immensely; Inez and Pim and the Jerome Duo and the Ettenas are all appreciated. Mr. John R. Poole is an excellent guide, and Mr. Cecil Couper the business-manager.

St. George's Hall.—Secretary, Mr. E. O. Cohen. —The Vivandières concert party, under the direction of Mr. Carl Fredericks, has been re-engaged owing to their recent success.

Halifax.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is presenting *The Silver King* this week. Mr. A. H. Rooke is well suited to the part of Wilfred Denver; Nellie Denver is admirably played by Miss M. Surrey; Mr. Edward J. George as Jaikes maintains the high standard of the part he has played so long; Miss Hilda Bateman is sympathetic as Cisey; Mr. L. St. George Lowther plays well as the Spider; Mr. R. Leon is good as Corkett; Mr. Albert Bernard's Elijah Coombe is an excellent character-study; Mr. Fred May gives plenty of local colour to the part of Cripps; Mr. W. L. Ellis does well as Detective Baxter. The other parts are ably taken by Messrs. E. Dene, C. Dent, C. Birch, P. Store, Bingham, Hatchway, F. Norton, A. Amery, L. Parker, J. Randle, L. Sisley, C. Barker, J. Walker, F. Waylette, C. Grant, Misses E. Grey, A. Sergeant, M. Rooke, M. Gardener, and F. Norton.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks. — Miss Clarice Mayne and her Pianist are going strong at the Grand this week; Hugo and Smit are clever bar-performers; Jack Sheridan has had a splendid reception; the Three Biers, acrobats, give a good turn. May Vernon, comedienne, J. F. Franklin, character comedian, Douglas and Gordon, and the pictures complete.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Four Maisanos, musical clowns, are a decided hit; Gibbon and Bell, acrobatic and dancing turn, appear to advantage in *Wanted, a Partner*; Herr Julius Walther, operatic tenor, is in good voice, and pleases all; Juno Salmo, the "Devil Dandy," presents his unique and clever turn; the Brothers St. Clair are smart comedy cyclists; Toole and Maguire, vocal comedy duo, are well received; Julia Reeve, a refined comedienne, is a success; the Rizarellis appear in a clever and novel trapeze act; and the Recar Trio are three pretty and expert young lady acrobats.

Hamilton (N.B.).—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Harry Lamore, in a clever and amusing burlesque of a Chinese juggler, a tramp juggler, and a comedy slack wire artist provides one of the funniest things seen here for some time; Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is a clever and artistic turn; Big Jock Sinclair and Wee Gracie Whiteford are a couple of highly amusing artists; David Poole, in a novel bit of ventriloquial business is distinctly new and amusing; Moon and Morris are a couple of clever dancers and cross-talk comedians; Raynor and Erto, comedy contortionists; the Delafiores, vocal and musical artists; Cline and Clark, black and white comedy artists, and the Bioscope conclude an excellent programme.

Hanley. — Royal. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Miss Horniman's company, under the direction of Mr. B. Iden Payne, is presenting *Candida* and *Cupid and Commonsense*. Bernard Shaw's play is wonderfully smart and well played; Mr. Ian Maclaren as the Rev. Jas. Morell is admirable in elocution and manner; Mr. Ernest C. Cassell as the Rev. A. Hill is well suited; Mr. Whitford Kane as Mr. Burgess is the hit of the play, his acting being very natural; Mr. Leonard Mudie as Eugene has a difficult rôle, which he fills cleverly; Miss Louisa Holbrook as Proserpine is realistic; Miss Rosalind Ivan plays the title-rôle with great success. A strong one-act play, *The Froth*, is well acted by Miss Dorothy West Symes, Mr. E. C. Cassell, Mr. Whitford Kane, and Mr. Jos. A. Keogh. Mr. E. T. Hays is business-manager and Mr. Midgeley Russell acting-manager for Miss Horniman.

Grand. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Mr. Henry Kemble presents a musical comedy sketch entitled *The Gay Countess*, which is well received; the Warsaw Brothers in a comic musical act are really smart; Harry Nelson, comedian, is decidedly funny; McLellan and Carson are wonderful skaters; the Westwoods, cyclists, Maggie Rimmer, Lavail, and Bodene, trapeze artists; Keen and Waller, original novel eccentrics, and Harry Clarke, juvenile comedian and dancer, also appear. The Grand pictures are well applauded.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood; Manager, Captain F. Shaw.—The pictures are varied and interesting. Jack Judge, comedian, is very funny.

Hastings.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company played *Smith* on Monday for the first time in Hastings. The name-part was delightfully played by Miss Jessica Thorne; Mr. Montague Love enacted Tom Freeman in the right vein; Mr. Vivian Gilbert submitted a clever sketch of the unpleasant type of character with which the author endowed Algie Peppercorn; as the stolid Mr. Dallas Baker Mr. Cecil Brooking was effective; his pleasure-seeking, would-be fashionable wife was played with smartness and skill by Miss Eleanor Delaporte; Miss Kathryn Collier as Emily Chapman made an interesting character; and Miss Eileen Atherley was an agreeable Mrs. Otto Rosenburg, and acted with much emotional pathos in her repentance scene. Mr. George Child stage-managed, and also filled the rôle of Fletcher effectively. A revival of *A Country Girl* was billed for Thursday and the remainder of the week by Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company. A matinée concert was given on Thursday by the Russian Balalaika Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Victor Abaza. Mme. Polozoff sang several arias from Puccini's operas.

Pier Pavilion. — General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell.—On Monday a return visit was made by Mr. Mouillot's No. 1 company in *A Greek Slave*. The play was admirably staged, and Mr. Ernest Hartmann skilfully directed the orchestra. Miss Aimee Grey played as Maia with much charm; Mr. Edward Carlton as Heliodorus scored by his clever humour; Miss Clarice Elden gave a pleasing presentment of Antonia Miss Adda Crispin was much esteemed for her bright and pretty acting as Isis; Mr. Edmund Sherras admirably enacted the rôle of Diomed and was capitally supported by Mr. Murray Stephen as Archias; Mr. Colin Coope was well placed as Marcus Pomponius. A tarantelle was cleverly danced by Miss Renée Reel. On Tuesday and Wednesday *The Geisha* held the boards. On Thursday Mr. H. P. Tower's company opened a three days' visit in *The Best People*.

American Palace Pier.—Manager, Mr. M. Leopold.—This week concludes Mr. J. D. Hunter's season of comedy plays here, and, assisted by his versatile and clever company, *Robert Macaire* was revived on Monday and successfully played throughout the week. Mr. J. D. Hunter's impersonation of the cowardly Jacques Strop is cleverly thought out and presented; Mr. G. Harman Pullen successfully embodies the daring rascality of Robert Macaire; the farmer Germaine is in the able hands of Mr. Entwistle; the innkeeper Dumont is well essayed by Mr. Campbell Curgill; Mr. Ernest Constance does well as Charles; and a well-played rôle as Pierre the head waiter is supplied by Mr. Growcott. Miss Mabel Haste is a charming Louie.

Houghton-le-Spring.—Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—Miss Unice Udall's company opened with much success on Monday with *Beneath the Stars*. Mr. Coleman Davies gave a fine impersonation of Jemmy Hopblossom, and Mr. R. Renolds, Mr. Terry Davies, Mr. B. Halley, Mr. J. Nelson Turner, and Mr. Arthur Prescott met with appreciation in their respective parts. Miss Madge Trevelyan as Angel Marsden and Miss Kitty Clifton as Pauline were both good, and Miss Udall in the rôle of Becky Wiggans scored heavily. During the latter part of the week the American play *The Tramp* is being presented.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—Special pictures include: A Cruise in the Mediterranean, A Soldier's Honour, and A Comrade's Sacrifice. Full houses are the rule.

Hoyland. — Hippodrome. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Acting- and Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Firth.—The attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stuart's company, in *My Irish Molly*. As Denis, Mr. St. John Medly is to be commended; Mr. Gordon Robey is a typical stage rascal as Captain Vere; Mr. Kenyon Gray is an excellent Father McQuire; and as Tim Dolan Mr. H. Pointon is very good; Mr. Karl Edwards, who provides plenty of amusement as Billy, is ably assisted by Miss Rosie Kearns as Sally; Miss Elma C. Turner is an excellent Lady Blanche; and in the title-rôle Miss May Warden is all that can be desired. On Thursday and Friday nights *My Sweetheart* was to be given.

Huddersfield.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Crowded houses are being attracted by the wonderful Chung Ling Soo, whose illusions arouse much speculation. Also in the bill are Miss Bertha Norwood, comedienne; Williams and Parker, duettists; Vasey and Ramsey, singers and dancers; the Camplins, sketch artists; Massona, a juggling comedian; the Calmottas, in a medley of singing, dancing, and instrumentalism; and Arthur Gill, yokel comedian.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—The outstanding feature in the programme this week is the Zigeuner Quartette, whose cultured performance is warmly appreciated. Other turns are by Miss Mabel Thorne, comedienne; Bruce Green, dame comedian; Albas, in a sensational performance on the tight wire; Mlle. Leoni de Lausanne, a wonderful lady rifle shot; Mr. Richard Flanagan's company, in a comedy sketch *Compensation*; and Miss Bertha Winder, a nimble dancer.

Hull.—Grand Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The Speckled Band* has caught on with the Hull public, the company entrusted with its representation being all capable and clever artists. A hearty reception was accorded our former townsman, Mr. Bassett Roe, who as Grimble Rylott adds one more to his many successes; Miss Mary Forbes presents the part of Enid Stonor with fine skill; Mr. O. P. Reggie as Sherlock Holmes acquits himself admirably; and as Dr. Watson Mr. Talbot Homewood displays great dramatic ability; Miss Lillie Brennard plays the housekeeper thoroughly well; and the butler and the page are effectively rendered by Messrs. H. Ashton Tonge and Philip Tonge.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*East Lynne*, ever popular, appeals to the patrons of this house. It is the Bullock version. The name-rôle is filled most satisfactorily by Miss Ida Heron; Mr. Joe Rowland acts P.C. Bullock with good effect; the Levison of Mr. J. Hooker is all that could be wished; and Mr. Jerrold Manville, an artist of excellent ability, played the Lord Chief Justice; Little Willie is well realised by Miss Bessie Courtenay; and Mr. Tom Watts, who controls the company plays the part of Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. Archibald Carlyle has an interesting reading in the hands of Mr. Frank Beresford.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Harry Randall is as popular as ever, and he delights large audiences with an excellent répertoire of humorous songs and patter; a favourite item in the bill is the exhibition of tree cutting given by Jackson and McLaren; the Harmonious Gothams are paying a welcome return visit with good results; Miss Winifred Ward, "the immaculate boy," wins admiration for her style and songs; Duncan's trained Scotch collies prove themselves wonderful canine actors; the musical McGregors are a clever combination with xylophones, cornets, and concertinas; Mary Ambrose, an accomplished violinist and vocalist, delights all; Lawrence Barclay, the volatile comedian, is as funny as ever; and Johnny Walker, comedian, is also in the bill, which is concluded by the Bioscope.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—Mlle. de Rose, the lady Foli, and her clever protégé Hilda Claremont, are winning golden opinions for their excellent singing; the Bros. Lavelle, acrobatic comiques, prove a smart duo; Nellie and Queenie Carlton are pleasing duettists; Jimmy Shields is in great form and very popular; J. H. Hawtrey pleases immensely with good songs; the Bros. Milford, in song and dance; Chas. Lea, eccentric comedian; and Gestia and Hoe, novel and refined entertainers, complete.

The Hippodrome.—General Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Excellent audiences are paying a tribute to the strong bill here. Laughter reigns during the performance of the Six Brothers Luck, who present *Lift 'Ems, Ltd.*, and *The Demon of the Cellar*; Ernie Myers, patter comedian, keeps the house in a happy mood; the Gallimore Trio of speciality artists are an acquisition to the bill: as dancing experts the Carlson Bros. enjoy a flattering reception. Other successful contributors are Lily Lonsdale, soprano and descriptive vocalist; and Dixie Dee, versatile comedienne.

Inverness.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Mr. Durward Lely and his company opened a three nights' engagement on Monday with *The Bondman*. Mr. Lely as Jason was a striking character, and his singing of "Reaper's song" and other numbers evoked cordial appreciation. Michael Sunlocks by Mr. Frank Kelland, Greeba by Miss Georgina V. Clifford, and Mrs. Fairbrother by Mrs. Durward Lely were other outstanding impersonations; Mr. J. Clifford Wright as Father Ferrati proved himself an able actor; Mr. Clive Woods made an interesting figure of Adam Fairbrother; Mona was well played by Miss Adeline Leslie; and Mr. Jack Alexander as Grandfather was good. The scenery is on an elaborate scale, the farm set in particular being admired.

Ipswich.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savory. — Mr. Ernest Leicester's company is here this week with *The Ticket of Leave Man*, Mr. Leicester playing Bob Brierley excellently; the Jim Dalton of Mr. C. H. Hewetson is a clever piece of acting; and Mr. Charles Goodheart as Hawkshaw successfully carries through this popular part; Mr. Harry Bristow as Melter Moss and Mr. Ernest Spalding as Green Jones act upon traditional lines, as also does Mr. J. E. Savory in the part of Mr. Gibson. Miss Kathleen Russell is a successful May Edwards; and the garrulous Mrs. Willoughby is played by Miss V. Lorraine; Emily St. Everymond is in the hands of Miss May Forde; and Miss Webster is a sufficiently lively Sam Willoughby.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Bernard's Mannikins' entertainment, *The Coons' Revelry*, is very funny, and the manipulation of the figures cleverly accomplished; Ruby and Laws have a pleasing musical turn, the latter possessing a fine voice; Elsie Manpass is a promising child mimic and dancer; George Brooks, an old favourite, had a hearty welcome; the Picquays do some astonishing balancing tricks; Frank Elliston and company have a romantic sketch, entitled *Long Live the King*; Lizzie Daniels is a capable comedienne; and the bioscope concludes.

Jarrow.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week the variety company includes the following artists: The Great Zaid Trio of Spanish Moors; Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne; Whisper, the Comedy Kid, in an original act; Gus Hindell, in a musical scena; the Marco Trio, in a marvellous triple-bar act; Dix and Dox, in a musical speciality act; and Agnes Molteno and company, in the attractive scena *An Old-time Story; or, Dolly and the Coach*, which is capitally received.

The Palace.—Lessees, Jarrow Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. J. C. Padden.—This picture hall continues to receive excellent support, and shows some excellent pictures. In addition, Madge Carew and Wynnie Russell give an excellent musical scena *The Little Gleaners*; and Mr. Jack Casey, the singing fireman, is applauded.

The Kino.—Lessee, Mr. Dixon Scott; Manager, Mr. John R. Scott.—This place of amusement is doing excellent business, and changing the pictures twice weekly. Robinson and Son, speciality artists, and Violet Gerald, vocalist, are also here.

The Gem.—Lessees, Messrs. John Tweedle and Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Rabey.—This hall has some of the latest films, and receives liberal support from the public. This week Mr. Horace Monk is here in a first-class speciality turn, and is cordially received.

Jersey.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leslay Edwardes.—Animated pictures and vaudeville are once more to the fore here. The Attilla Brothers give a really fine turn, their weight-lifting exhibition being particularly good; Violet Beatrice makes a nice-looking boy and sings some catchy songs; Florrie Wright gets encored as a vocalist; T. W. Lenner is a capable comedian; and the Matt Wilkinson Trio appear in their original sketch *The Registry Office*.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—Excellent pictures continue to be shown here, and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Leslie Curzon, is a distinct success.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—The electric pictures include the 1910 Grand National. Vic Loving is paying a return visit.

Keighley.—Hippodrome.—Propriteors, Hippodrome, Keighley, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Holmes.—*The Cattle Thief* heads the bill here. The scenic effects are excellent, and a well-balanced cast has been engaged. Mr. George A. Street in the rôle of Ben Mardo submits a strong characterisation. An amusing absurdity, *Jealousy*, presented by George Parnell and company, finds much favour; Randolph King, the one-man programme, is a versatile artist; Tom Lee, light-comedy artist, renders his songs well; Cora Corina in character dancing and dialects receives much applause; Maxwell and Francis score; and De Lilo and Metz are well received.

Kidderminster.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week Messrs. Jay and Mann's company is here, and presents each evening the comedy entitled *The Truants*, preceded each night by the sketch *Jerry and a Sunbeam*. Mr. T. A. Shannon as Bill Chetwood gives a good display; Mr. O. Powis Griffiths ably portrays Dick Chetwood; Messrs. Chas. Owen and Frank Danby respectively play the part of Checkley and Lord Strelland with effect; the rôle of the Rev. Philip Preston is in the capable hands of Mr. Mackenzie Rogan; Miss Molly Tremaine supplies a finished rendering of Freda Savile; Miss Rita Trekelle as Mrs. Collins fills her part successfully; and Miss Stewart Dawson as Bent is excellent.

King's Lynn.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week *The Sign of the Cross* was presented here. Mr. Leonard Yorke fittingly took the part of Marcus; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice was excellent as Nero; as Glabrio, Mr. Donald McAdam was interesting; Tigellinus was well portrayed by Mr. G. Osmond Tearle; as Mercia, Miss Pearla Gardner was graceful and effective; Miss Daisy Towers was a dignified Poppæa; Miss Joan Saville was a beautiful Berenice; and Miss Effie Dane made an admirable Stephanus. A first-class Hippodrome programme was presented the first three nights this week, including Effie White in her ka.eidoscope dances; Ivy Leaf, comedienne; Stewart and Lorraine, with their marvellous musical turn; Bob Pueblo and Katie Cropp, trick sand dancers; Ethel Arundell, comedienne; Chas. Valvo, ventriloquist; and the favourite comedians Dan Harley and Fred Melton.

Lancaster.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company occupied the boards the first three nights this week in *The Thief*. Mr. Bernard Limpus appeared with success as Richard Chelford, and able support was given by Miss Diana Cloud as Marise Chelford; as Raymond Leyton Mr. F. Morland did admirably; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay as Harry Leyton submitted an excellent portrayal; and Mr. W. Somerset made a capital detective. Miss Mary Forrester also gave a clever rendering of Isabel Leyton. *Box and Cox* was the curtain-raiser, with Mr. Robt. Ashby as John Box, Mr. W. Protheroe as James Cox, and Miss Eva Lyndhurst as Mrs. Bouncer. For Thursday and the remainder of the week Miss Kate Graham Beck and company in *The Gay Goddess* are billed.

Leamington. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week we had a visit from Mr. Horace Lingard and company in répertoire. On Monday *The New Lady Bantock* was presented. Miss Beatrice Moreau submitted an admirable rendering of the title-rôle, whilst Mr. Horace Lingard gave full effect to the possibilities embodied in the character of Martin Bennett. Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens played Lord Bantock convincingly; Mr. Edward Ray gave a charming study of Dr. Freemantle; and Mr. Wilfred Compton's portrayal of George Newte was admirable. The characters of the prudish maiden aunts, Miss Wetherell and Miss Edith Wetherell, were faithfully interpreted by Miss Marie Saville and Miss Miriam Holt, whilst other parts were carefully played by Mr. W. B. Bevil, Miss Phyliss Brent, Miss Hilda Lane, Miss Mary Watson, Miss Fanny Lane, Miss Jessie Russell, and Miss Mary Langton. On Tuesday Sardou's play *Divorçons* was played, and on Wednesday *Is Marriage a Failure?* was presented. For the latter part of the week Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is announced in *Beauty and the Barge*.

Leeds.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy are presenting *The Beggar Princess* here this week. As Seaweed or the Princess Henri of Slavonia Mrs. J. R. Cassidy scores a triumph; Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh is successful in a part which gives full scope for his abilities, and is supported by a well-selected company. The staging is excellent.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Millar.—*The Bishop's Son* is appearing here, the principal characters being taken by Mr. Derwent Caine, Mr. Julian Cross, and Miss Verita Vivian.

Empire Theatre.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galby.—A trio of excellent artists are Ella Shields, Mike S. Whallen, and Daisy Dormer; the Miles Stavordale Quintette of Banjoists gives capital selections; and the Garden City Four, Phillips and Merritt, Fred Curran, M. and Mde. Alf. Agoust, and Sisters Kilner render attractive items.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill in their comedy sketch *H.M.S. Perhaps*; Herbert Clifton gives a versatile and clever singing act; Lennie and Hast gain much applause in a musical idyll *The Maid of Polaria*; Boden and Bell, a neat pair of juvenile dancers; Leo. Fields, J. H. Greener, and Hilda Light, are favourite artists; and the Faludy Troup (sensational Hungarian acrobats) and Dalmere's Animals complete.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Cecile Gray's company in *The Last Straw*, Dusty Rhodes, Willie Howell, an illusion by Venturini, the Carnworths, Edith Chantler, and Ritter and Foster provide a capital programme.

Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—H. O. Wills, a favourite here, is the principal turn; a capital chorus vocalist is Gladys Revell; Marion Scott has a couple of good songs; and Charles Rose, Bros. de Hais, and Royston and Bradfield complete an attractive programme.

Leek.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond. — Mr. Dickie Clare's company in the musical comedy *Lucky Liza* is drawing good houses. Mr. Clare as Silas Slim, the judge, and the French waiter, is excruciatingly funny; Miss Vesta Brownie is popular as Lucky Liza; Mr. T. W. Benson is a pleasing Peter Pettitoe; Mr. Leonard Maitland is amusing as Paul Pettitoe; Mr. Bert Collins as Tomkins causes a lot of fun; Virginia is well played by Miss Rosie Coyne; Mr. Harry George deserves mention as Barnaby Bladderwich; and Miss Evelyn Wood's charming voice is heard to advantage in the character of Sadie Potts. The Jesmond Trio, in their acrobatic dancing, show exceptional ability.

Leicester.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—The successful musical comedy *The Cingalee* is being presented here this week by Mr. Holdane Crichton's principal company.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley are again fulfilling a pleasing engagement here this week with the popular military drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*, in which Mr. Edward Bikker, Mr. Poison Turner, Miss Violet Langley, Miss Patricia Connaughton, Mr. T. Arthur Ellis, Mr. Will Percy, Mr. A. Selwood, Miss Maggie English, and Miss Maudie B. Douglas are seen to advantage in prominent parts.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charles L. Sealey.—Happy Fanny Fields is proving an immense favourite here; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery make a great impression with their exceedingly well-played comedy playlet *An Amateur Anarchist*; the Riogoku Family of Japanese artists go through a thrilling performance with smartness; Nina Wood is an excellent entertainer at the piano; Orpheus introduces with great success the new instrument, the Hecklephone; Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, who, while he whistles the overture of *The Bohemian Girl*, is making a well-deserved hit; Haig and Novel are a smart comedy acrobatic couple; the Sisters Jerome give an entertaining vocal and dancing act; and Tom E. Hughes also finds much favour.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Topping this week's bill are Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and Co., in the military dramatic episode *For Honour*, in which Mrs. Royston-Dene as Magdalen Armitage and Mr. Royston-Dene as Major Denis Grant give clever portrayals, being well seconded by Miss Eileen Dartrey, Mr. Charles Comfrey, and Mr. Naylor Grimson in other parts; Goggin and Davis are clever acrobats and comedians, Jack Hamilton's stories are laugh

from Miss Florence Tressillian; as Lord Mountfallon Mr. William Calvert affords every satisfaction; and others are Messrs. W. F. Clitherow, a capital Ben Vernstein; John Hart, Tasker; and Miss Frances Wolviston (Lady Mountfallon).

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Nick Carter, Detective*, is presented by an able company, under the direction of Messrs. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman. Good houses are the rule. Mr. Knowles, in the title-rôle, acts with dramatic strength, his work being warmly recognised; Miss Helena Walbran acquits herself well in the rôle of Madeline; Mr. Raymond Thomas makes a capital villain (Eustace Lee), receiving worthy assistance from Mr. William Burgess (Dave Crowley); while Mr. Will Ellythorne, Miss Nellie Waddington, Miss Nancy Lawrence, Mr. Hy. C. Momber, and Miss Nellie Fern supply some capital comedy.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—A visit of *A Child of the Streets*, by Miss Dot Stephens's company, is affording great delight here. The clever little actress earns high favour for her pathetic and telling picture of Doris Graham; and is ably supported by Mr. George Hazlehurst, who acts capitally the rôle of the vagabond Scroggie; Miss Bessie Hazlewood, a pleasing Gertrude Graham; Miss Yoxa Summer, whose Lorna Carstairs proves a strong character part; Mr. Edward Vivian, a powerful Lawrence Craigie; Miss Carlotta Blondin, Selina; Little May Renaud, Doris; and Mr. Claude Graveley, Robert Wallace. The play is well staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Foremost here this week is the merry Harry Tate, with his latest absurdity *Flying*, which causes endless laughter, the Bros. Dean, a couple of excellent dancers, come in for well-deserved applause; as comedy acrobats the Lumars have a particularly smart turn; Barton and Ashley bring their new farcical creation *Adam the Second*, which is richly enjoyed; the favourite Miss Millie Hylton has a rousing reception for her latest songs, her dramatic *London Bridge* sketch being particularly good: an artistic continental musical act comes from the Hardini Trio; Queen and Le Brun present a rattling good trifle, entitled *The Cockney Huntsman*; and also in the list are little Lily Shaw, juvenile character comedienne; and Maurice, conjurer.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—*A Daughter of the Sea* is being given here twice nightly by Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company. Mr. Gilbert as Mark Glensdale plays in excellent manner; Miss Florrie Green makes a charming Sunshine; Mr. Ashmore Vincent handles the rôle of Ken Moreland with fine effect; thanks are due to Mr. T. Gordon Blythe for his careful study of Dan Glensdale; and a deal of humour comes from Mr. Joe Monkhouse (Billy) and Miss Allyce Wyllyams (Mollie); Mr. H. C. Lanceley makes an efficient Captain Ben Morrison.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Large audiences are attending here to witness a good all-round programme. Harry M. Vernon's thrilling sketch, *The Third Degree*, is being played by Herbert Sleath's company, which comprises Charles A. East, Oswald Young, Chas. Terric, J. Williams, and Gerald Valentine. The work is followed with keen attention. Victor Niblo's talking birds are a source of much wonder; the Hassan Duo present a novel and talented acrobatic wire act; *A Drawing-room Rehearsal* is a neat little trifle submitted by the Sylvester trio of vocalists and speciality dancers: Velanche's dogs go through a remarkable performance, including a football match; the Russian hand-balancing acrobats, the Schilinsky Bros., display wonderful accomplishments as vocalists, banjoists, and dancers; the Three Sisters Dixon deserve the cordial reception extended to them: and contributions also come from Griffiths and Carmen, novelty entertainers; the Friscos, eccentric musical mimics; and Frank Saulby, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Good business continues to be done here by the stock dramatic company. This week we are having *The Sin of Her Childhood*, the principal parts in which are held by Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood, Sydney Grant, Harry Tresham, Leo Montgomery, Tom H. Solly, Miss Lena Nazeby, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle. Brown's Bioscope shows Sudden Wealth.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George M. Slater.—Willy Pantzer and company are causing great laughter with their diverting sketch, *The Limit*; the capital military act, *Drummed Out*, given by A. C. Lilly and company, is received with entire satisfaction; Ferry Corwey, a merry, musical clown, keeps his audience in shouts of laughter; Cassie Walmer, eccentric contralto, is particularly diverting; Syd May shines as a mimic, his burlesque of a wrestling match provoking much amusement; the Sisters Doherty earn loud applause for their singing and dancing; Charles Fisher's Vocalesques provide an acceptable show as comedians and harmonisers; and Bert Williams, ventriloquist, is also in the bill.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Heading the programme here are Harry P. Selwyn's company in *33 to 1 Chance*, in which Messrs. F. Derle Powell, Fred Monti, A. T. Lennard, Gerald Blake, Ben Jordan, and Miss Mary Harlington take part. Donovan and Arnold are a couple of funny American comedians; smart head and hand balancing is shown by the Denaro Bros.; a funny sketch *The Artist and His Monkey*, comes from Les Rallis; Ida Barr renders several songs in capital style; and the list likewise holds the names of the Lowells, with speciality act; the Four Broadway Bros., vocalists and smart dancers; and Phil Herman, vocal comedian.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — TOWN HALL. — The theatrical season is opened here this week by Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Leon Vint jointly with Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker (of the Hippodrome) as local manager. Mr. G. W. Bowe's company presents *The Sign of the Cross*, a strong cast including Mr. Leonard Yorke as Marcus, Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice as Nero, Mr. G. Osmond Tearle as Tigellinus, Mr. Duncan Gilmour as Licinius, Mr. W. Facer as Vitudius, and Mr. J. Cowell as Favius. Miss Pearla Gardner is responsible for the rôle of Mercia, and Stephanus is in the hands of Miss Effie Dane; Miss Daisy Towers appears as Poppæa, and the other parts are ably provided for.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—Vint's entertainments maintain their high reputation, and the pictures this week include Gold Rose, Francisca de Rimini, Ranchman's Feud, Clown and Weary Pasha, A Journey Through Corsica, &c. A smart juggling and sand-dancing turn is given by Mint and Mart; and the Australian Bush Boys (six in number) are clever as singers and dancers.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Evanson.—Pictures presented this week include Mario's Swan Song (a pathetic story), Their Sea Voyage, Tontoline Somersaults, and The Secret of the Glaciers, &c. The artists are the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, and Blarney and Bland, comedians.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—The management have another capital attraction in *The Dollar Princess*, for which Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company is responsible. The gorgeous setting, bright acting, and clever dancing, are greatly admired. Miss Kathleen Courtney makes a pleasing Alice, and is warmly applauded for a delightful performance; Miss Muriel Allen is also noteworthy as Olga, especially in her vocal numbers. Mr. Alec Worcester scores a big success as Freddy; Mr. Fred Leslie makes the most of his opportunities as Harry Conder; and Mr. Horace Mills adds to the general effect in the rôle of Mr. Bulger.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Miss Florrie Forde is making a welcome reappearance in her chorus songs, which are eagerly taken up by crowded houses. Miss Forde is heard to advantage in "Flanagan," "Rip Van Winkle," and other equally popular numbers, which are received with the greatest enthusiasm. The Frohmans give a delightful musical act; and Harry Walker has some very amusing ditties. The pictures are, as usual, a strong feature.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Louis J. Beard.—The variety turns this week comprise the Five Whiteleys, in acrobatic feats and wire walking; Minnie Love, comedienne and dancer; the Lomas Duo, comedy speciality; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville, smart in musical comedy; Bella Belmont, American chorus vocalist; Davis and Deane, comedians and dancers; and Shirley Liggins and his coloured company of vocalists.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone { Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 " "

Telegrams: "CARPETS, BIRMINGHAM."

SINCE JAN. 1st HAVE OBTAINED CONTRACTS FOR UPWARDS OF 100 THEATRES & PICTURE PALACES IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

CONTRACTS BOOKED AND IN HAND SINCE JANUARY 1, 1910.

1. **NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** Complete Furnishing.
2. **ALEXANDRA, BELFAST.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
3. **COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Complete Reseating.
4. **ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Complete Decoration and Refurnishing.
5. **HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY, SOUTH WALES.** Complete Decorations and Furnishing.
6. **HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing.
7. **ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Refurnishing.
8. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing.
9. **NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Complete Furnishing.
10. **NEW EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Decorations.
11. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
12. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
13. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
14. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
15. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
16. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
17. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
18. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
19. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
20. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
21. **NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
22. **NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Re-upholstering.
23. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upho'stering.
24. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
25. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
26. **EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Redecorations and Furnishings.
27. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
28. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
29. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
30. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
31. **NEW TOWN HALL, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tableau Curtains.
32. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
33. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating, &c.
34. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
35. **NEW HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.** Complete Decorations, Seatings, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
36. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
38. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, Furnishing, and Seating throughout.
39. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs and Furnishing throughout.
40. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
42. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
43. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
44. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
45. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
46. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
47. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
48. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
49. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
50. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
51. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
52. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
53. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
54. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
56. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
57. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
58. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
59. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs
60. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
61. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
62. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
63. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
65. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
66. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
67. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
68. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S - STREET, EDINBURGH.**
69. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
70. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
71. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
72. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
73. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
74. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
75. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, DUMFRIES.** Complete Seating.
76. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
77. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
78. **ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Reseating, New Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, &c.
79. **NEW HIPPODROME & CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
80. **NEW HIPPODROME, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £1,700.
81. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,600.
82. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
83. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
84. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
85. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
86. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
87. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.
88. **NEW SOUTHPORT PICTUREDROME.** Tip-up Chairs.
89. **POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE, IPSWICH.** Patent Pit Seating.
90. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
91. **NEW PUBLIC HALL, SALE, MANCHESTER.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
92. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, S.E.** 700 Tip-up Chairs, &c.
93. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, CHESTERFIELD.** Chairs, Seatings, &c.
94. **NEW HALL, HUCKNALL TORKARD.** Tip-up Chairs
95. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, SLOUGH.** Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
96. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, FALKIRK, N.B.** Tip-up Chairs.
97. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
98. **COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL GRAND STAND.** 500 Tip-up Chairs.
99. **EMPIRE THEATRE, SMETHWICK.** Chairs and Furnishing.
100. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete Decorations and Fibrous Plaster Work, Wilton Carpets, Curtains, and Tip-up Chairs throughout.

&c., &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.
Are at the present time by far THE LARGEST THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS IN THE WORLD. A proof of this is that at the present time they have contracts in hand fully 10 to 1 of their competitors
These are plain, solid, and true facts.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs and Seating they turn out It matters not whether the Chair be 4s. 11d. or 35s. each. This should be sufficient proof that they only turn out first-class goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Only employ in their factories Trade Union men, and at all times are enabled to obtain the very best class of labour. Many of their workmen have been in their employ for upwards of twenty years.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.'S,
Goods are all manufactured in clean, wholesome works, which are always open to the Factory Inspectors.
No Alien or Sweated Labour employed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have in their employ a number of First-class Artists and Modellers for the purpose of turning out First-class Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at all times pleased for their Managers to wait on Proprietors, Architects, Managers &c., for the purpose of estimating and preparing schemes for Decorations, &c., &c. Distance no object. A telegram or telephone message will at all times be immediately attended to.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Wish this to be thoroughly understood that all their Chairs, Seats, &c., are delivered and fixed free by thoroughly competent men, whose sole work is fitting these goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just placed on the market a special low-priced Chair, suitable for seating the Cheaper Portions of Picture Palaces and Electric Theatres.

THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. — **5/11** — UPHOLSTERED IN GOOD PEGAMOID. DELIVERED AND FITTED FREE.

THREE YEARS' GUARANTEE.
WRITE FOR SAMPLE CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also placed a better Chair, Spring Stuffed, quite equal to any Chair on the market as regards appearance and durability.

THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. — **8/11** — WITH ARMS. IN VELVET OR PEGAMOID, SPRING STUFFED SEAT.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Very Handsome Chair for the Best Parts of the House of Electric Theatres, &c., &c.

THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. — **11/9** — Handsome deep back. Chair Upholstered in best manner in rich British Velvet or Camel Cloth, or Embossed Pegamoid.

WRITE FOR SAMPLE.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Chair suitable for the Best Seats of the palatial Picture Palaces which are being erected in London.

CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. — **13/9** — Magnificent Chair, Spring Stuffed, Upholstered Best Velvet or Silk Embossed Plush.

MOST COMFORTABLE. SEE THIS CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also Designed a most Handsome Chair suitable for Fauteuils or Dress Circles of Theatres and Music-Halls. This is a very handsome, deep, hollow back Chair.

THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. — **16/6** — Spring and Hair Stuffed. Upholstered in Best Velvet Plush, Camel Cloth, or Embossed Best Pegamoid.

THE HANDSOMEST CHAIR IN THE MARKET.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Also make very handsome and durable Running Seating.
To lift up in sections of 4ft., in Pegamoid from 2s. 11d. per foot Run, Fixed. To lift up in sections, Varnished, from 1s. 9d. per foot Run, Fixed.

CORK CARPETS.	WILTON PILE CARPETS.
LINOLEUMS.	AXMINSTER CARPETS.
BRUSSELS CARPETS.	INDIAN CARPETS.

And MATTINGS of every description.
Cheapest in the Trade. All fitted free.
WRITE FOR SAMPLES.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Fire Screen Frames and Outside Decorations of every description.
Drawings and Schemes free.
All interested in Picture Palaces should, before placing their orders, see what Dean's Furnishing Co. have done at the Marble Arch Electric Theatre.
This magnificent work was executed without the proprietors loosing one single show in six weeks from time order was placed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just turned an Old, Cheerless Public Hall into a most Up-to-date and Elegant Picture Theatre, at Carlisle, in the short space of fourteen days.
The Talk and Wonder of Carlisle.
So pleased is the Proprietor, Sidney Bacon, Esq., that he has given Dean's Furnishing Co. Carte Blanche to Alter, Decorate, and Reseat his Victoria Hall, York.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER FOR INTERIORS OF PICTURE PALACES.
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER EXTERIORS.
FOR ARTISTIC AND UP-TO-DATE DECORATIONS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Retain Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, who has had the experience of a lifetime in carrying out this class of work, he having superintended the carrying out of upwards of 2,000 contracts for this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Still retain the services of Mr. L. BECK as Director and Manager of the Factories.

WRITE FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE, POST FREE

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., BIRMINGHAM. LTD.

Telephone: 224 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—On Monday Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company appeared here in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West as Horace Parker is excellent; Mr. Wm. H. Brougham as the Messenger is specially adapted for the somewhat weird part; and Mr. Norman Clark as the Tramp capitally sustains the pathetic side of the piece.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale's Vaudeville Entertainers continue to draw large audiences. Messrs. Bert Byron, Alec Chentrens, A. R. Sutcliffe, Charley Bray, Charlestone, &c., with Mr. J. Tunbridge at the piano, provide two hours' much-enjoyed entertainment.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—*Hush Money* is the attraction here. Mr. S. Leigh Courtney plays the part of Sexton Blake with intensity; Mr. F. Brooklyn's conception of Lord Mervyn Walgrave is impressive; Mr. Martin Sands presents an earnest study of Mr. John Shard; Tinker has a capable exponent in Mr. Harry Hartley; Mr. John Lowther as Nathan Finch and Mr. Fred Hopkins as Jem Tooley present noteworthy performances; Miss T. Osborne is an excellent Lady Montressor; and Miss A. Paulton highly successful as Euphemia Pattacake.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Mr. Montagu Beaudyn's company has enjoyed popular favour with *Send Him Victorious*, the principal parts being played by Mr. G. M. Montanini and Miss Lily Roselle. The company is deserving of the success achieved. For three nights *A Chinese Honeymoon*, by Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett's able company, has done equally good business.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A strong attraction here this week in Bataille's play, *Dame Nature*, adapted by Frederick Fenn. The production is remarkable chiefly for its inclusion of Miss Ethel Irving in the cast, her depiction of the ill-fated Lolette being, in fact, one of the strongest pieces of emotional acting that has been seen in Manchester for a long time. This is not to disparage the remainder of the company by comparison, for the cast is throughout a strong one, especial praise being due to Mr. Norman Forbes for a fine delineation of the old French nobleman, the Prince de Chabran, and to Mr. Frank Cooper for his strong and natural presentment of Robert Bertram. Miss Mabel Hunt as the Princess de Chabran shares the honours worthily, and among other good impersonations those of Paul Garford by Mr. W. R. Staveley, and Mrs. Garford by Miss Florence Nelson are of notable value.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, always welcome here, are playing *Smith* at this popular house. Miss Cicely Stuckey, in the title-rôle, is a delightful personality, and Mr. Robert Minster as Tom Freeman gives a full and engaging delineation of a man who has made himself worthy of so charming a maid. Mr. H. Douglas Greet as Algy Peppercorn provides an amusing character sketch; and commendable impersonations are added by Miss Ethel Hodgkins, Miss Pauline Straus, and Miss Ethel Wellesley as a trio of society ladies. The indictments of the smart set are pointed and effective. Good houses are attracted.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Morton Powell's company are here in *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, played last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Miss Ida Millais's company are back in Manchester, after an absence of about six years, with the attractive play *No Man's Land*. Miss Marie Kildare as Mary Bathurst plays a strong part sympathetically; Mr. Phil Harper as Harry Oaklands makes a hit; good work is done also by Messrs. Edwin Bennett, Fred Lillywhite, and William Mallalieu; while the light rôles are in the capable hands of Mr. Sammy Foster and Mr. R. J. Hamer. The final scene, The Old Weir, is very realistic and greatly applauded.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—Mr. Raynor and his company are playing here in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, which was much enjoyed by a good house on Monday. The play was well staged and splendidly performed As Lord Windermere Mr. Milton C. Curtis gives a capital performance; Mr. Raynor does well, as usual, as Lord Darlington; and Mr. Joseph B. Montague contributes a humorous delineation of Lord Augustus Lorton; Miss Cecilia Dare is excellent as Mrs. Erlynne; Miss Frances Waring adds a very good depiction of Lady Windermere; and other parts are well played by Miss Hilda Blanche and Miss Dora Dench. The remaining rôles are capably filled.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—*The Tallyman* here precedes a new play, called *Gentlemen of the Press*, a notice of which appears elsewhere.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Fred Karno's latest production, with its daring and effective stage mechanism, entitled *The R.M.S. Wontdetania*, is being played here with great success. Mr. Shaun Glenville as the Purser is extremely funny, and the whole performance is excellent; Charlier, the famous French ventriloquist, provides an exceedingly smart and novel turn, with life-size figures; Wilson Hallett makes his usual big hit as a cild mimic; Mattie Lund, a charming operatic vocalist, brings down the house; whilst other good turns are offered by the Athos Troupe of very clever acrobats and ball manipulators; Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians, with funny patter, and dancers of merit; and W. G. Westley, comedian, Madge Allen, comedienne and dancer, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The big turns are Jan Rudenyi, the actor-vocalist, in *The Power of Music*; and Horace Wheatley, the Irish comedian and dancer; while smart items are added by the W. T. Thompson Trio, in *Watch the Chalk*; Adeline Yohle and company in a musical interlude, *Difficulties*; One Billy Farrel, the popular debonair coon comedian; Martin Conway, comedian; and the Bros. Torono, expert gymnasts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A strong programme here is headed by Horace Goldin, the Royal illusionist; and George Carney and company in *The Fool of the Family*, a lively comedy sketch in three scenes; while sharing the honours of the bill is Winifred Hare, the popular comedienne, in her latest successes. Other good turns are Harry Brown, the coloured comedian and dancer; Satanella Trio of sensational acrobatic dancers; Walter Wade, a smart comedian; Betty Green, comedienne; and Jenny and Joe, American vocalists and dancers.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—This week the attraction here is *The Sailor's Wedding*, played by Mr. Frank Bertram and his company. Mr. Bertram, in the rôle of Jack Hawkins, is the big feature of the cast, and he is well supported by the company, who make the story interesting.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The top turn here is George Graves and company in a new sketch, a notice of which appears elsewhere. Miss Marquis and her ponies are also a big item; other good things being James Stewart, the tramp at the piano; Miss Jackedawra Melford and company in *Non-suited*; Elizabeth Meacham, soprano vocalist; the Sutcliffe Family of Scottish acrobats; Grant and Grant, entertaining octoroons; and Georgina Leno, comedienne.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Rachael Walker, the Creole nightingale, has a most beautiful voice, and her reception here this week is deservedly great; Les Averinos, marvellous comedy acrobats, go through a surprising performance; the Muir-Bartlett company are decidedly entertaining in *The Courage of Charlie*; Baron and Baroness De Nevers are particularly effective in a duologue by Carlton Dawe, entitled *Boy*; Florence Venning, contralto, has a good voice, and sings well; Molly Moore is a dainty comedienne, and is well received; Mlle. Anita Bartling, a charming lady juggler, is exceedingly clever; Dainty Doretta is a smart dancer and comedienne; and the Bros. Leo, patter comedians, complete.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—*The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, a new drama of naval and domestic interest, recently produced in Manchester, and played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, is the attraction here. Mr.

Guy Hastings is seen to advantage as Derek Mason; Mr. Douglas Tremayne plays well as Henry Drummond; as Lieut. Philip Marchant Mr. Gerald Jordan scores a success; Miss Gertrude F. Godart is excellent as Audrey Melrose; Miss Babs Stuart is very pleasing as Nanoya; and other parts are well filled by Miss J. Dean, Mr. T. Lionel Ellis, Mr. Finn Doyle, Mr. Stanley Vine, Mr. L. J. Lawrence, Mr. E. H. Clarke, and Mr. W. Webb. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Day.—Morny Cash, the popular Lancashire comedian, is here and scores his usual success; Sandy McNab is as funny as ever in *The Egyptian Mummy*; F. V. St. Clair makes a hit as a topical vocalist; the Kyasyas, athletic entertainers, provide a novel lifting act with the teeth and hair; the Olympian Team of Cyclists give an excellent performance; Jessie Wilton, a sweet-voiced comedienne, is well-received; and a lady deputy for Nell O'Neille, comedienne, takes well with her song, "Follow the girls." Pictures complete.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Phillips.—Mr. Sydney James and his Royal Strollers are the attraction here, and include G. W. Desmond, light comedian and dancer; Nellie Seymour James, soprano and comedienne; John E. Austin, tenor; Madeline Rossiter, comedienne and dancer; Frank Halpin, basso and humorist; Dorothy Belmore at the piano; and Sydney James. The combination is a very strong one, and the performance excellent throughout.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE (Erskine-street, Hulme).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—The beautiful films presented here this week include Little Doctor of the Foothills, Messenger Boy Magician, The Ranger's Bride, Saved by Her Dog, The Boss of Bar and Ranch, When Jack Has Got His Pay, &c., &c.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday for a three nights' production of *Niobe*. Mr. Charles Macdona played Peter Amos Dunn in an amusing manner, and Miss Kate Connaught gave a spirited and delightful presentment of Niobe. Miss Winifred Wood was good as Madeline Mifton, Miss Jenny Richards was excellent as Mrs. Caroline Dunn, and the Misses Carolene Fenton, Ida Southern, and Gladys Hardinge were good respectively as Helen, Hattie and Beatrice respectively. Mr. Charles Steuart as Cornelius Griffin, Mr. C. T. Chapman as Phillip Innings, Mr. Clifford Delph as Hamilton Tompkins, and Mr. T. Bruno Holmes as Parker G. Sillock each contributed effective delineations. The comedy was preceded each evening by recitals by Mr. Charles Macdona, "An Englishman's Home" and "Off Mumble's Head." On Thursday evening and for the remainder of the week *The Fires of Fate* was in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The programme this week includes Les Piccolinos, in their unique and clever midget entertainment; Dutch Daly, the favourite concertinist and raconteur; the Three Sisters O'Connor, in their musical, singing, and club-swinging act; the original Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies, under the direction of Miss Lily Vine; Doris Trevelyn, a pleasing vocalist; and Kennedy and Ryan, in a really funny comedy act. Dalraine's Marionettes give a life-like entertainment, and the pictures are good.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans.—Charles Bignell, the popular comedian, has been delighting audiences here this week. Roelgin, with his cleverly trained parrots, has given an entertaining show; and Cissy Paris, ballad vocalist, has been making a pleasing reappearance. Caselli, banjoist; the Sisters Dunbar, duettists and dancers; and Harry Brettell also contribute to an enjoyable programme.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. Frank Adair's company is the attraction here with *The Heathen and the Christian*. Mr. Frank Adair gave a life-like portrayal of Li, the Avenger; Mr. Fred Withers is good as the unscrupulous Viceroy, Lung Hi; Miss Louie Adair shows ability as Mira Sampson; Mr. Dudley Wynton as George Berresford and Miss Stanley Burt as May Berresford play their respective rôles in a realistic manner; Mr. Claude Seaton is successful as Lieut. Allendale; Mr. Gerald Turner as Admiral Freebold is responsible for a good representation; Mr. Charles Luck makes the most of the part of Gentle; and the humorous element as supplied by Miss Connie Meadows, with songs and dances, is highly appreciated.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is presenting *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt fully realises the heartlessness of Anthony Raybrook, and is ably supported by Mr. John B. Shinlon as Geoffrey Waring. Mr. P. Geo. Beresford makes a manly figure of Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Hy. Cornwall faithfully typifies the old servant Jabez; Miss Ada M. Ryder imparts sympathetic treatment to the rôle of the long-suffering Laura Raybrook; Miss Emily Burnley ably presents Barbara Ashdown; and minor parts are well sustained by Miss Susie Bevans, Mr. Howard Thornley, Mr. Hy. Helling, Mr. Percy Dawsone, and others.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The principal pictures are Boss of the Bar X Ranch, Native Industries in Cochin China, The Impalement, Crime and its Reward, and The Trail.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Mr. Harry Tower's company delights audiences here by a capital presentation of *Dear Little Denmark*. On the opening night Miss Thelma Raye was unfortunately unable to appear in her part of Christine, but the rôle was admirably filled by Miss Alice Waldie, whose clever acting and enjoyable vocal contributions as once established her a favourite. As Hans Hansen Mr. Tom Payne created much laughter; Mr. Edward Thirlby successfully portrayed the Duke; and the part of Conrad Petersen was in the able hands of Mr. Cameron Carr.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company appears with success in the emotional drama, *A Life for a Life*. Wee Winnie Warden as the baby detective, Venetta, is much appreciated; Eulalie is capably delineated by Miss Beatrice Anderson; Mr. Chas. Lester gives full satisfaction in the character of Don Leon Farnandez; Mr. Hugh Travers does justice to the part of Pedro Li Calci; and as the Magistrate Mr. Arthur Brown is deserving of praise. For last night (Friday) *Moths* was billed.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Melot, the French conjurer, occupies the top position at the Empire, and his mystifying performance is thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. Miss Lily Burnand in her latest successes is as successful as on previous visits; Miss Beatrice Bonnie and company of dancers on the stairophone go well; the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians, are old and valued favourites on Tees-side; the Tintos, in a speciality act; Arthur Croxon, comedian; Wakeman's Gypsies, vocalists; and the Empire pictures are all well received.

HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. S. T. Smarthwaite.—Capital business is doing at the "Hip.," where an attractive programme of pictures is presented. Variety is given to the entertainment by the very acceptable performance of Captain Permane's live Teddy bears.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—Mlle. Athelda, the bright particular star this week, evokes warm admiration with her exhibition of classical poses; Gracie O'Neill is an expert dancer; and Fallows and Beaumont, quick-change artists, come in for a large share of applause. The pictures are also well appreciated.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, Miss Kate Clinton, and company are here in a series of plays, and on Monday opened with *Jeanie Deans*. In the name part Miss Clinton has ample opportunity for displaying her undoubted histrionic ability; Effie Deans is effectively played by Miss Mary Campbell; and the Madge Wildfire of Miss N. Blackwood calls for special praise; Geordie Robertson is well personified in the person of Mr. Ernest Lodge; very quaint and amusing is the Dumbredykes of Mr. P. P. Millar; Mr. Tearle is seen and heard to advantage as counsel for the defence. The minor parts are well sustained. *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *A Lion's Heart* are the other plays billed.

NEATH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice; Musical-Director, Mr. G. T. Hutchins.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is here this week in *The Sinner*. Mr. Benge plays Mark Stretton with distinction; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle is well placed as Edgar Thornbill; Mr. Louis Lingard as Paul Levaine is successful; Mr. Ben Carr is a typical Bill Stanton; Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow is well suited to the part of Jim Stephens; Mr. Jay Kay is excellent as Chris, Floppington; Mr. Chas. Digby acquits himself favourably as Lord Ewen; as does also Mr. Harold Playfair as Jack Ewen. Mr. Bert Roberts is good as Farmer Hellam; Mr. George Loreno does well as Georgie McGregor; Mr. Chas. Mann scores as chauffeur to Mark Stretton; as Detective Jason Mr. G. Kennard gives a good study; and Mr. T. E. Thomas proves a smart Sergeant Butcher. Miss Dora Mason gives a charming delineation of Nora Stretton; Miss Dora Olga submits a clever portrayal of Little Ned; Miss Pauline Nanton gives a distinguished performance of Vera Ewen; and Miss Mona Grey is an excellent Meg Stanton.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice; Musical-Director, Mr. Chas. Thorne.—Chief among an excellent series of pictures this week are The Miser's Daughter, His Child's Capture, Colonel at Twenty-five. In a tour through Brittany many interesting scenes are witnessed. Rhode and Roache are an interesting couple, in singing, dancing, and contortion. The clever Welsh comedian Maddison is amusing.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—An attractive holiday programme includes as star turn W. T. Ellwanger and company in an American absurdity *Who Did It?* The Havannas troupe give a clever acrobatic performance; Bennett and Martell present their eccentric act *The Shipwrecked Mariners*; Evelyn and Lorrie appear in a well-staged production entitled *Set a Thief*; and Louis J. Seymour proves a popular comedian. The bill also includes Flake White, lightning cartoonist and painter, and Lily and Harry Zanioni, jugglers and club throwers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—*Claudian* is the attraction here. In the title-rôle Mr. Wm. Maclaren shows fine histrionic skill, making the character a real live one. He is ably assisted by Miss L. C. Badmann, whose impersonation of Almida is as charming as it is clever. The company is a strong one, and includes Mr. F. O. Chambers as the Tetrarch, Mr. C. T. Chaloner as Belos, and Mr. Douglas Earle as Agazie. Mr. Weston Hubbard makes a capable exponent of Alcares, and the character of Edessa is cleverly created by Miss Maud Garth. The earthquake scene is very realistic. In the prologue the curse is very finely spoken by Mr. W. Lawrence. Miss Amy Hardcastle gives a touching impersonation of Serena, the slave, and Mr. B. Mitchell is a capable exponent of Theorus.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—A very fine vaudeville programme is submitted here, and great successes have been achieved by Mr. Tom Jones, Welsh comedian; Messrs. Blake and Granby, in farcical sketch, *The System*; and the Scottish Meisters, in vocal extravaganza. Fun and music is supplied by Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, whilst the Weltman Brothers are wonderful whirlwind dancers. Mr. John Cecil sings acceptably, and the pictures are first-class.

TOWER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. H. Dairy.—Animated pictures and variety turns make up the bill in the theatre. A "Territorial Night" in the Ballroom was announced for Thursday.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Adeler Sutton and Allandale.—The Anglo-Indians are here, the company consisting of Mr. J. Watson, Miss Ethel James, Mr. Blanco White, Mr. C. Corale, Miss Fisher, and Mr. Jackson Collis. In addition Mr. Jack Hughes, Mr. W. Burnand, Mr. Archie Glen, and Miss Sparkes appear.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company, in *Sir Walter Raleigh*, opened here on Monday. The imperious Queen Elizabeth finds a finished exponent in Miss Winifred Emery, who infuses a great amount of power into the difficult part; the title-rôle is rendered in a convincing fashion by Mr. Lyn Harding; Miss Nell Carter submits an effective impersonation of Elizabeth Frogmorton; praise must be accorded to Mr. Percy Rhodes for his clever performance as the arch-conspirator Don Bernardo de Mendoza; the Earl of Essex is efficiently sustained by Mr. Percy Marmont; and Mr. Mark Paton is seen to advantage as Father Ballard. Mr. Charles Francis makes the most of his opportunities as Francis Frogmorton; and the same may be said of Mr. W. E. Holloway as John Savage and Mr. Powis Pinder as James Longbowe.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is here in *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Carrie Moore is charming in the title-rôle, her vocalism captivating all; Miss Nancy Hervyn plays Mme. Jeanne with chic and vivacity; Miss Grace Wixon as the Duchess of Minster, Miss Olive Moore as Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and Miss Kitty Cavendish as Mrs. Farquhar add greatly to the enjoyment by their clever impersonations; Mr. George Gregory is responsible for most of the fun in his quaint rendition of the Yorkshireman Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Frank Hector's impersonation of the Hon. Pierpoint is worthy of special praise; and Mr. H. V. Cropton makes an excellent Lord Eynsford. Mr. Myles Clifton scores as the Earl of St. Ives; whilst the Slithers of Mr. Leslie Gaye could not well be improved upon. Miss Florence Phillips introduces a solo dance, which is appreciated.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin Clark.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *The Beggar Girl's Wedding*, is a powerful attraction here this week. Miss Muriel Dean's clever rendition of the title-rôle wins approval; whilst the Jack Cunningham of Mr. Norman B. Cannon is excellent. Mr. William T. Ridley cleverly enacts Gilbert Lindsay; and the vindictive Maud Villiars is admirably portrayed by Miss Ernestine Walter. The Elsie Cunningham of Miss Sybil Hare is beyond reproach; and the same may be said of Miss Linda Riley as the slavey. Messrs. Fred Hodson, Frank McClellan, Wilford Bayley, E. D. Carlyle, Charles Barclay, and Herbert Goddard ably fill their respective rôles. The piece is admirably staged.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Tom Foy and company are paying a welcome visit here their week, their absurdity *First of April* being particularly droll; Ada Colley, the popular Australian vocalist, is responsible for a capital contribution, her extensive répertoire including "L'oiseau d'amour"; Severus Schaffer is a juggler and equilibrist of exceptional ability; the Cavalotti Brothers are seen to advantage in their unique musical act; Cissie Cudlette is a charming mimetic vocalist; Sanford and Lyons, comedians, have a budget of good and amusing patter; Happy Tom Parker, the jovial comedian, is popular; the Rawsons are clever entertainers; Johnny Danvers is a comedian and dancer of considerable ability. The Bioscope concludes.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Newcastle-on-Tyne Pavilion, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—William Mollison and company are paying a successful visit here this week in *The Touch of the Child*. Mr. Mollison scores a great success as Colonel James Fullard; and Mr. Archie W. Chappel is an admirable Captain. Miss Evelyn McNay and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald ably fill their respective rôles; Madge Grey, the Lancashire comedienne, receives a cordial reception; Macon and Bart electrify the audience by their clever comedy gymnastic act; Edie Endon is a comedienne and dancer of ability; the Three Pirmans provide a capital novelty gymnastic act; Karr and Kooney are two smart patter comedians; the Twelve Kennedy Girls are responsible for an exceptionally smart vocal and dancing act; Violet King is a clever entertainer at the piano; and Wall Langtry is a dialect comedian of no mean order. There is a good show of pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—An attractive series of animated pictures is being shown at this theatre, which has now abandoned the two-shows-a-night system. Chief amongst the films are A Wireless Romance, A Village Love Story, and 'Mid Cannon Roar. Maggie Dobson is a sweet and cultured soprano; and the Richards Trio appear in their eccentric acrobatic act.

BRINKBURN ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHary.—Frank Stanert, comedian, is paying a successful visit here, and is supported by an excellent picture programme.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—Some attractive pictures are shown this week, including A Child's Faith, The Majesty of the Law, and The Fire Chief's Daughter, with some humorous films. Mr. Frank Power's singing of "When the autumn leaves are falling" and "A message from home, sweet home," is appreciated.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The pick of the pictures this week is The Lake of Lugano. A Flash of Light, The Love of Chrysanthemum, and The Rake's Romance are good dramatics; whilst Foolshead in the Lion's Den is a funny comic.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The principal films here are The House on the Hill, The Call of the Blood, The Minotaur, and The Cowboy's Sweetheart. A Pennyworth of Potatoes is a good comic.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*How Girls are Brought to Ruin* is presented here by Mr. Morton Powell's company. As Jessie Burton Miss Alice Defoe is worthy of praise; Mrs. Morton Powell makes an excellent Winnie Waters; Miss Jeannie Risley a good Lucy Lawton; Miss Kathryne Eckhart scores a success as Mrs. Burton; and Miss Addie Adair makes a satisfactory Mrs. Stutt; as Harry Hailing Mr. Harry Scott gives a capital performance; Mr. Sydney Bryant is clever as Jack Jossle; Mr. Alaric Burton distinguishes himself as Solomon Sleek; and Mr. Richard Vane gives a skilful portrayal of Philip Edge.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Heading a good bill here are Alice Hughes and company in the sketch *The Star of the Bazaar*; Tom Payne introduces a clever musical act, and adds to his popularity; Lilly Esplin, comedienne, is a great favourite; Hall and Lall, in their musical and ventriloquial act, are heartily greeted; and Ferry and Foster, in *The Camera Girl and Her Rival*; and Frank Scott, character comedian, and the Bioscope contribute with success to the programme.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Miss Annie Hughes and her company occupy the boards this week in *Miss Tommy*. Miss Hughes gives a pleasing representation of Jane, and is greeted with warm marks of approbation; Mr. Henry Deas is an excellent Dick Danvers; Mr. Mayne Lynton a successful Peter Hope, Mr. Fred A. Marston an able William Clodd; Mr. Ernest Kendrick an amusing office boy; and Miss Winifred Pearson a clever Mrs. Morrison; Miss Vera Pole doing well as Honor. The piece is preceded by a farce entitled *The Parting Guest*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The programme this week contains the names of Friend and Downing, who, in their original characters, Rosenthal and Harrigan, convulse the audience with laughter; the Bellong Brothers, cycle equilibrists, give an exhibition of real merit; Katie Butler as a comedienne gets a rousing reception; Bromley and Fontein, in their novelty speciality, *The Man Behind the Music Stand*, are humorous; the Brothers Werd, knock-about acrobats, create much fun; Charles Vincent is a capital comedian; Madge Brownie, a dainty Dutch impersonator; Norah Desmond is successful in her American picture songs; and the Hippo. Bio. is interesting.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Under the able direction of Mr. Arthur Hardy, an excellent company produces *The Speckled Band* here this week. A powerful yet carefully restrained study is that of Mr. C. W. Somerset as Dr. Grimesby Rylott; Miss Alice Leigh is a charming Enid Stonor; and to the part of Sherlock Holmes Mr. Julian Royce brings a wealth of cleverness and experience. Mr. Bellenden Clarke makes a good Dr. Watson; and Miss Adelaide Grace does well as Mrs. Staunton. Deserved applause greets the efforts of Mr. Herbert Vyvyan as Rodgers; Mr. Gerald Rogers is a convincing Indian valet; Mr. E. H. Paterson, in the rôle of Armitage, secures early recognition; and a promising career seems opening before Master James Woodings, who created amusement as Billy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*From Mill Girl to Millionairess*, from the versatile pen of Mrs. Morton Powell, is being well played here. Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne portrays the mill girl in dramatic style; Miss Yhda Moores enacts the malevolent Muriel Marsh with subtlety; Mr. Douglas Murray makes a manly and vigorous Laurence Langdale; Mr. Charles Vivian gives sinister expression to the part of Dr. Levallie; and Mr. J. A. Hybert capitally impersonates Matthew Marsh. Miss Alice N. Livesey offers a capital embodiment of the disreputable Liz Lee; and Miss Lizzie Lennon becomes a general favourite as Tilly.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The principal attraction here is the singing of Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, who have a great reception. The ventriloquism of Tom Edwards is not only clever, but distinctly humorous; the Grassis supply an entertaining and artistic musical act; Fred Earle's songs are well received; the Violas give an exhibition of thought transmission; Fielding and Hull are entirely successful in their comedy scena; Lola Patey sings pleasantly; and Keene and Adams dance and patter themselves into favour.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Miller.—Merian's Canine Actors, presenting a tragi-comedy, *A Faithless Wife*, cause great amusement; Sid Bedford and company are seen to advantage in the sketch *The Second Mrs. Chester*; Snowden and Alexander have a genuine mirth-producer is *The Football Intruder*; the Sisters Florence sing and dance in charming style; Sam Williams proves himself a first-class character comedian; Ethel Ra-Leslie adds much to the enjoyment of patrons; Webb and Branston are the possessors of good voices; the Comedy Meisters are really funny; and the coon singing and dancing of Harold Heath leave nothing to be desired.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—The detective drama *Sexton Blake* is proving a great attraction here. Mr. Murray Yorke gives a powerful performance of Sexton Blake; Roger Blackburn is ably represented by Mr. Edward McLean; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers acts forcibly as Randolph Lovell, being ably seconded in his despicable schemes by Mr. Sydney Barner as Simon Faggas; Mr. Millar Wilson creates plenty of amusement as Tinker; Marjorie Lovell is charmingly portrayed by Miss Elizabeth Watkins; Miss Poppy H. Asquin makes a lively Euphemia Pattacake; Mr. Lydia Mannington is good as Philadelphia Kate; and the other characters are all well filled.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company presented the new romantic Irish comedy drama, *Happy Go-Lucky O'Lyn*, which had a capital reception, on Monday. Mr. John Child appeared as Bryan O'Lyn, and his singing and acting of the part was much enjoyed; Miss Anna Hickish as Kathleen sang in a charming manner; Madame Marie Alexander as Aunt Charlotte caused much amusement by her clever work; Miss Josephine Ellis was a smart Mollie Murch; and Miss Hettie Graham a capital Jemima. Mr. Walter B. Nugent filled the rôle of Donald Dunn in a capable manner, his accomplice, Isaac Murch, being effectively acted by Mr. J. G. McMahon. Mr. Reginald Adair as Frank Fentimer sang in a manner which was heartily appreciated.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott are paying a return visit here in répertoire, *The Shaughraun* being selected for the opening night. Mr. Draycott played the part of Conn in his usual brisk and merry style; Mrs. Draycott as Claire Ffolliot acted in a dignified and charming manner; and Miss Shirley Dalton as Arte O'Neale was excellent. Miss Nana Flensberg was a dainty Moya; Miss Louise Millward, a typical Mrs. O'Kelly; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde made a manly Robert Ffolliot; Mr. St. John Stuart, an interesting Capt. Molineaux; Mr. Clinton Baddeley, a villainous Corry Kinchela; and Harvey Duff was ably acted by Mr. Joseph Magrath. The bill also includes *The Octoroon*, *A Modern Adventuress*, and *East Lynne*.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Miss Hilda Beverley and company are here with a new mystical drama, *A Woman of Two Lives*. Miss Beverley, in the dual rôle of Miss Angela Fenton and Ogarita, depicted the varied emotions of the two characters in a clever manner; Miss Mary Brammer was fully equal to the part of Drandandi Lares; and Miss Louise Gilmore made a dignified Lady Arabella. Miss Dorothy Hildebrande, a capital Lottie London, with Mr. E. Hall Eldon as Dick Smarter, caused much laughter; Mr. Herbert Pearson, as Capt. Travers West, acted in an excellent manner; and Lieut. Lord Tremaine was ably played by Mr. Jack Armitage.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—The Fire Chief's Daughter is a most thrilling dramatic picture; and The Purgation is well depicted. A very interesting film is shown of Italy's Flying Artillery.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge.—The programme here is again good, including A Further Exploit of Muggins, V.C., What the Daisy Said, and others. A Fall in Tar, The Card Sharpers, and Pathé's Journal are also included. Mr. Harold Burt is the newly appointed manager.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—Milton Bode's variety season here continues its successful career. This week's programme is again a strong one, and was received with the utmost favour by a good house on Monday. Included in it are Edie Anderson, a taking comedienne and dancer; Albert Rees, a decidedly clever drawing-room entertainer; Alpho, the sleeping ventriloquial college boy; the Musical Marvels, who score a big success as vocalists and eccentric instrumentalists; Johnson and Hart, clever hoop rollers and juggl.ers; Alf Brookes, a most humorous and laughter-provoking comedian; and the Five Jolly Bakers, in their decidedly clever comedy Risley act, *The Bakers' Beano*. The Premier Imperial Pictures complete a programme that gives universal satisfaction.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—An especially attractive bill is provided here this week by Mr. Stephen Pritt's company, including Miss Lydia Donovan, in *Almost His Bride*, *East Lynne*, and *A Woman's Passion*. In the first-named play Mr. Stephen Pritt bears the brunt of the acting as Simon Simson, and sustains the character with pronounced success; Mr. Ridgewood Barrie as Squire Rowland; Mr. Morris Maud as Philip Rowland, and Mr. C. Quinton Fulford as Jasper Thorne all render valuable assistance in their respective parts; Miss May Neilson supplies the necessary comedy as Emma Baxter; Miss Sophie Reiss gives a very sympathetic portrayal of Ruth Gilchrist; while Miss Kathleen Stewart is a very captivating and capable Mona Gilchrist. Miss Lydia Donovan enacts Myra Thorne with her customary skill. All the minor characters are well played.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company, in *The Wearin' o' the Green*, is here this week. Mr. Mackey gives a delightful and characteristic impersonation of Barney O'Hea; Shamus McDermott is faithfully portrayed by Mr. J. P. McBride; Mr. Conway Hastings skilfully enacts the part of Connor Martin; Mr. Fred Charles as Sir George Courtney is admirable; Mr. Morley Carroll furnishes an excellent study of Michael Kenny; as Gerald Courtney Mr. Charles M. Julian gives a praiseworthy embodiment; and Mr. John Neville as Sergeant Yorke, Mr. Joseph Healy as James Weever, Mr. George Danson as William Shuttleton, and Mr. George Paradise as Mick Dolan lend excellent support. Miss May Livesey makes a vivacious Biddy McGinn; Mrs. McDermott has a capable exponent in Miss Jeanette Lyons; Mrs. Chalmers Mackey essays with considerable success the part of Norah McGrath; and meritorious are the performances of Miss Nora Desmond as Ellen Fitzgerald, Miss Nellie Moore as Edith Anstruther, and Miss Mona Russell as Gladys Anstruther.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Chief place on the programme is allotted this week to the Achmed Ibraham Troupe, ten in number, whose clever and exciting acrobatic performance is keenly appreciated; Fred Elton, in his scena *On Board an Ocean Liner* is loudly applauded; Yettmah and the Japanese lady O-Sasa San contribute a marvellous conjuring exhibition; and others who captivate are Fred Barnes, in his latest songs; the Columbia Comedy Trio, eccentric comedy vocalists; Horace Horner, versatile dancer; Rose Gower, chorus vocalist; Maclaine and Mack, Scotch entertainers; and the Hippodrome Bioscope both interests and instructs.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, the Magistrates and Council.—"Wullie" Frame, the popular Scotch comedian, on Saturday evening delighted a vast audience by his irresistible mirth and fun. The company supporting him was of all-round excellence.

PENTRE.—TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Messrs. Santé's company, in *The Life of a Showman*, is here this week. The cast is a good one, every rôle being represented satisfactorily. Specialities are given by Jose Santé, violinist; Bros. Testo, Pickard and West, and the Human Snake.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—The films shown here include Bad Man's Last Deed, Not Guilty, and A Girl from Arizona. Cliff and Kean give an acceptable singing and dancing act, and the Eldras in a canine acrobatic act win applause.

PERTH.—PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Saville; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Aldridge.—Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, and company are presenting three Ibsen dramas here this week. On Monday *A Doll's House* was staged, and the company is to be congratulated. Miss Octavia Kenmore as Nora Helmar plays with a sincerity that makes the character live; Mr. Leigh Lovel is equally successful as Torvald Helmar; and Miss Katharine Maynard, Miss Sybil Greig, Miss Daisy Race, Mr. Claude W. Sykes, and Mr. Pennington-Gush complete a good cast. *The Master Builder* and *Hedda Gabler* are also being presented

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Charles Harrington's American combination is here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm makes a capable Uncle Tom; Mr. Terence Nerrey a successful Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Frank Lynne in the part of Mr. St. Clair is most satisfactory; Mr. Eric Williams and Miss Sylvia Harrington play acceptably as George and Eliza; and Topsy and Little Eva find suitable representatives in Miss Annie Watson and Miss Norah Bretton; Mr. Reginald Kloof as Lawyer Marks is effective; and Miss J. Green makes a fine Aunt Chloe.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Fred Karno's comedians, in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*, provoke roars of laughter; Adela Masson's songs are heartily applauded; Jack Sawyer is very amusing; Freda Fern is a dainty comedienne; Jack Madden performs some wonderful jumping feats; and the Karnoscope shows new films.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Langdon Lee.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company gave a brilliant performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* here on Monday. As Sir John Falstaff Mr. Henry Herbert is "immense"; Mr. F. Wicksteed is responsible for some fine work as Shallow; and the Slender of Mr. H. S. Cohen could hardly be improved on; Mr. Andrew Leigh is quite at home as Dr. Caius; and the parts of Mr. Ford and Mr. Page are in the capable hands of Messrs. Charles Warburton and Duncan Yarrow; Miss Gladys Vandermee is a pronounced success as Mistress Ford; Miss Mollie Lloyd ably portrays Mrs. Page; Miss Rosalind Grey is a fascinating Anne Page; and Miss Hope Grant well delineates Mrs. Quickly. During the week the following pieces have been presented: *The Tempest*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *King Lear*.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Eduard José, in an English version of Mr. F. Coppée's *The Strike*, does a wonderful piece of character-acting here; the Comedy Chanters are responsible for some excellent harmony and genuine comic business; Graham and his Music Hall are interesting links with bygone days, the marionette portrayals of well-known characters proving very popular; Larola does some wonderful feats of juggling; the Concoran Bros. are heard to advantage in some attractive instrumental numbers; and Rose Cabani is a dainty vocalist and dancer.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard. — Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins' talented company, in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, occupies the first place in the programme. Mlle. Adele Prescott makes a charming Marie, and is ably supported by Mr. Tom Wood as the "sergeant," and other members of the company. Miss Florence Raymond, ventriloquist, gives a highly humorous and refined performance in the *Nursery*; Mr. John Cronow, a quick change artist, impersonates with lifelike accuracy a number of well-known historical figures; Mr. Tom N. Mills appears in his scena, *John Bull at Home*, with merited success; Little Ivy Francis is a clever child vocalist and dancer; and Will Challiner, the copper-coloured coon, gains favour for his songs and dances; Moy, assisted by Mlle. Delro, is a sleight-of-hand entertainer and illusionist. The Alexscope concludes the bill.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart* is the attraction here. John Barnard is convincingly played by Mr. J. S. Millward; Mr. Denis Hogan strongly emphasises the part of Stephen Raylton; Mr. George Addison as the Rev. Mr. Stainton is excellent; George Harris is admirably played by Mr. Hugh Alexander; Mary Barnard is invested by Miss Dorothy Haig with considerable feeling and emotion; Miss Dorothy Frances, Miss Mamie Thorpe, Miss Ethel Gray, and Miss Cissie Skeldon also furnish excellent impersonations. The drama is well mounted.

PORTSMOUTH.

Nellie Clyde as Nan, the "flower-girl," Mr. Will Macready as John Biddlecombe, and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as old Jenkinson.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Testo Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. R. Nightingale's company, in *The Hindoo and the Maid*, is proving unusually attractive. Mr. Horace Buckley as Chicks is a big success; Mr. Lauri Howard as Thistles also does good work; Mr. Arthur Britton handles the part of Captain Heritage in a capable manner; and Mr. Fred Watson does well as Mr. Stubbs. Mr. Johnny Johnston is exceptionally strong as Ernest Travers; Miss Kitty Vernum deserves warm praise as Primrose; and Miss Nell Ingram does useful work as Eliza. The dancing of the Sisters Valerie is well worthy of mention.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. T. R. Price; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. C. Price.—Mr. Murray King and company are here this week (the last of the dramatic season at the "Pav.") in the bright musical show *A Bedouin Beauty*. Mr. King is extremely amusing as Smith, the keeper of the camels, and Mr. Walter Brodie proves himself a most acceptable comedian as Abdullah. Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart, the well-known tenor, also figures in the cast, and Miss Marjorie Maxwell charmingly plays the title-part. Next week the skating season commences.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Under the sole direction of Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Large audiences have assembled this week to see the exciting play *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*. Mr. Laurence Tessier is a fine, healthy villain as Nicholas Brophy, an unscrupulous lawyer, and all the other parts are capably handled by the ladies and gentlemen to whom their presentation is entrusted. The staging of the drama is in all respects excellent.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The new farcical comedy *Looking for Trouble* is being presented here by Mr. Robert Arthur and Mr. L. Cowen. The play is another *Charley's Aunt*, and is quite as amusing as that phenomenally successful comedy. Mr. George Ingleton as Angus Macpherson is the life and soul of the piece, his masquerading in female attire and droll acting throughout causing immense diversion. Mr. Fred Grove as the irascible and match-making Pierpoint Porches is highly amusing; Mr. Warburton Gamble plays capitally as Captain Porches, his disguise in an old suit of his father's creating much mystification and amusement; Mr. C. Fancourt as Bethel Petch, Mr. Frank Tennant as Charles Bracebridge, and Mr. Frank Attree as the Butler, all sustain their parts well. Miss Gillian Scaife is a very attractive representative of Mrs. Bellingham; Miss Rhoda Beresford is successful as Silvia Porches; and Miss Barbara Huntley plays well as Mrs. K. C. Porches. The play is preceded by a short piece entitled *Two Men and a Woman*, which is being played for the first time in public, and is described in another column.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge. — Alice Pierce gives a splendid series of impressions of Star Actresses of dramatic and musical comedy; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto give an exceedingly clever turn as trick and comedy cyclists; the Sisters Allen sing and dance well; Flo Burnett is a good vocalist; Harvey and Jesson excel as comedians and dancers; Mr. Fred Sheppard sings two funny songs; Ada Cerito is an acceptable comedian; and Herbert Terry and company produce an effective dramatic sketch entitled *Wanted*, which deals with a story of the North-West Mounted Police on the Canadian prairies.

REDDITCH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. E. Field.—Two performances of *A Thief in the Night* were given here on the 9th and 10th, under the direction of Mr. Charles Roadnight, for Miss Maggie Morton. Mr. Tom Leeson (Lord Romily), Mr. Ernest Duval (Aller Escombe), Mr. W. Owen (Toby), Mr. Gerald Rogers (Croke), and the ladies, Mesdames Ainslie, Lowther, Grahame, Gardner, and Levoy, all are worthy of notice.

RHYL.—NEW PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. J. Millard.—"The Villagers" make their first appearance here, and are most successful. The company includes Irene Marriot, soprano; Edith Cooper, in songs and recitations; Trefelyn David, the Welsh tenor; Rowland Foster, basso; Rob Fox, Scotch character comedian; and Stanley Goddard, society entertainer.

HERR HAMBOURG'S Russian orchestra, two concerts daily, are well patronised.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale.—An attractive programme is headed by Vere and Nelldon, comedy duettists; Barney Stuart's clever impersonations are greatly enjoyed; and Ethel Dunford's songs at the piano are also popular. Joe Dale, Jock Barker, and Alf. Johnson are smart comedians, and Marie Leigh is a pleasing soprano.

PIER AMPHITHEATRE.—Sidney James' Royal Strolling Players pay a welcome return visit. The company is the same as on the previous occasion, and their bright entertainment is very popular.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—There is an excellent programme here this week. The Four Scoreys present an enjoyable musical *mélange*; Miss May Mignion captivates with refined vocalism and expert dancing; Owens and Willis, comedians, patter in an amusing way; and Tessman, with performing donkey and educated goats, gives a capital performance. The pictures comprise The Twisted Trail, A Knot in the Plot, Father Buys a Cheap Goose, Tontolino as Sharpshooter, Horse Show at the Olympia, London, and Stuff Americans Are Made Of.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. John F. Preston's company in *Secrets* — — — is here this week. Mr. Ernest R. Allen made a fine Lieut. Herbert Markham, and his friend, the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley, had an excellent representative in Mr. Dan F. Roe; Mr. Geo. Scully as Peter Wilkins, and Miss Jenny Hackett as Winnie Wilkins, with Kirkbach's Tivoli Troupe of Continental Dancers, kept the fun rolling; Miss Marie Barrett as Ismalia Meleda made a charming heroine; Zulieka was in the capable hands of Miss M. Kymersley; Miss Lucie Glenville was an amusing Kassi Ki; Mr. John Richter was well placed as Noureddin Ali; while good support was extended by Mr. A. Hartley (Ibrahim), Mr. W. Macready (Kara Mustapha), Mr. Ken Bulkeley (Breezy Bill), and the other members.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—On Sunday last the usual concert in aid of the Lifeboat Saturday Fund was held, when the Mayor of Salford presided. This week's programme is headed by the Geni Family of Continental risley acrobats; Selvidge and Holland (Bob and Poppy), in *A Dotted Crotchet*; Reg. Bolton, in *The Editor's Imp*; and Corbin's dogs. Other acceptable turns include the Westbrooks, in *Two Little Maids from School*; Denby and Dent, comedians; Victoria Cross, Scotch comedienne; and Sisters Dudley, operatic vocalists.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Vulcana and Atlas do some heavy lifting, &c., which is much appreciated; Metz and Metz (Arthur and Jack) sing, dance, and patter into favour; *Beauty and the Burglar* is an episode well presented by Miss Millie Engler, Mr. T. W. Watts, and Miss Louie Tinsley. Clever business is also done by Ruter's Comedy Football Dogs; Alice Edwards, male impersonator; Michael Malden, comedian; Four Miovskys, eccentric acrobats, &c.; and Kendrick and Laura, in harmony comedy and eccentric dancing act.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent new animated pictures this week include The White Squaw, Victim of Jealousy, Good Liqueurs, and Pathé's world's events. Mr. Tom Sherlock has some illustrated songs, which go well.

CENTRAL HALL (Blackfriars-road).—Proprietors, Messrs. Matt Raymond Co.—The Raymond pictures are Apache Red Indians' Gold, Father Buys a Chimney, Two Cowards, A Generous Woman, Lucky Miss, Mario's Swan Song, Holiday Episode, &c., interspersed by songs by Mr. George Leaverne.

NEW CENTRAL HALL (Pendleton).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiteley. — The world-on-wings pictures this week include Wheels of Justice, Bully and the Recruit, Betty's Choice, Duelling Up to Date, and a sensational drama of A Duel in the Air. Next Tuesday, 20th inst., the proceeds of the first show will be devoted to the King Edward's Memorial in aid of the Salford Hospital.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austin Hurgon's company opened here for two nights on Monday in *The Girls of Gottenberg*. In the rôle of Max Moddelkopf Mr. "Smith" was a huge success; Prince Otto had a capital exponent in Mr. R. N. Cory; Mr. Jack Leyland looked smart as Albrecht, and the same remark applies to Mr. W. Yaldwin as the General; Mr. Ralph Foster as the Burgomaster and Mr. Tom Squire as Adolph both deserve praise; Mr. Eddie Foy put plenty of "go" into the part of Britti Bottl; Miss Dora Langham as Mitzi looked and acted charmingly; Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Elsa gave a highly-finished performance; and Miss Grace Desmond as Clementine was very successful.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBORO' THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, is here. Miss Louie Pounds gives a charming interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. Basil Foster as Prince Danilo and Mr. Lionel Victor as Baron Popoff are exceedingly popular in their respective parts; Mr. Tom Redmond creates much amusement in the part of Nisch; Miss Victoria Sievers gives an excellent rendering of Natalie, her vocal items being greatly appreciated; Mr. Edward McKeown possesses a good voice, which is heard to advantage in the rôle of Vicomte de Jolidon. Other parts are excellently filled by Mr. Somers Bellamy, Mr. Grafton Williams, Miss Gwendoline Brogden, and Mr. Bert Edwards.

THE SPA.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—This being the last week of the outdoor season, Mr. H. G. Amer's Band terminates the season's engagement, after giving the greatest satisfaction throughout. *The Walls of Jericho* is being excellently played by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards gives a powerful impersonation of Jack Frobisher, and Miss Gwendoline Hay is distinctly successful in the rôle of Lady Alethea. The play is well mounted and some of the dresses are very elaborate.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*From Convent to Throne* is presented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Mr. Aldan Lovett ably impersonates Lieutenant von Hapsburg; Miss Faleri Crespin, Queen of Danubia; Mr. A. F. Stuart, Prince of Carpathia; Mr. W. J. Miller, Prime Minister of Danubia; Miss M. Greyson, Rosella; Mr. T. G. Vane, Lieutenant Otto Felson; and Miss Lissa Young, Casper Jessen.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—The premier position here is occupied by Mr. R. A. Roberts, who appears with distinct success in *Cruel Coppinger* and *Dick Turpin*; a very amusing sketch, *The Sleepwalker*, is presented by Walter Ellis; and good turns are provided by Damerell and Rutland (comedians), the Northcotes, Sisters Terry, and Stuart and Evans.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—The Three Royal Dreadnoughts are proving a big success here; the Brothers Obo are good comedians; Lestree is a clever juggler; the Delroys are entertaining; the Two Lees are responsible for a good musical turn; Tom Joy, comedian, is well received; the Le Cren Trio give a pleasing comedy act; and the Three Coopers score as vocalists and dancers.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Jas. Kiernan.—Mr. Edward Compton's company paid a return visit here this week with *Davy Garrick*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *A Reformed Rake*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Used Up*. In the first-named Mr. Compton plays the title-rôle with his accustomed success; Mr. Henry Crocker proves a convincing Alderman Gresham; and Mr. Frank Royde is successful as the Hon. Tom Tallybant. Mr. Charles Stone, Mr. C. Marquand, and Mr. J. W. Austin cause plenty of fun by their humorous personations of Rumbelow, Simkins, and Sowerberry respectively. Miss Marie Russell as Mrs. Rumbelow and Miss Agnes Williams, as Selina, supply amusing characterisations; whilst Miss Rita Sponti sustains admirably the exacting rôle of Violet.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Willerby.—On Monday and the two following evenings Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett's company presented *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Gwennie Harcourt is very funny as Fi-Fi; Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Pineapple contributes substantially to the fun; Miss Gertrude Melville gives a clever and vivacious impersonation of Mrs. Pineapple; very graceful is the Princess Soo-Soo of Miss Gladys Ivery; Mr. Rudolph Kloss does admirably as the Emperor; Mr. Leonard May is amusing as the Admiral; Mr. Frank H. Crimp ably sustains the part of Tom Hatherton; and Miss Dora Speakman as the official mother-in-law is capital. Other parts, including that of the Lord Chancellor by Mr. Colin Bryce, are all well filled. *The Woman in the Case* is billed for the latter part of the week.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Dramas of the historical-romantic class have a strong hold on the sympathies of Sheffield playgoers, and this, coupled with the personality of Mr. Lewis Waller, a strong company, and magnificent mise-en-scene, has made the visit of *Bardelys, the Magnificent*, an enormous success. Mr. Waller looks the beau ideal of the resplendent hero of the full-blooded times of Louis XIII., and his acting, marked by characteristic self-restraint suggestive of the hidden fires within, appealed irresistibly to every section of Monday's packed house, the enthusiasm culminating in a perfect ovation at the final fall of the curtain. Miss Madge Titheradge was a graceful and altogether charming representative of Roxalane; Mrs. A. B. Tapping, who as Miss Cowell won the hearts of Sheffielders as leading lady in the Alexandra Stock Company, made an admirable "grande dame" as the Countess, and her acting was distinguished by the finished technique of the true artist. Mr. Herbert Jarman's Louis XIII. was a particularly fine and interesting character study; and Mr. William Haviland, Mr. Alex Thompson, Mr. Reginald Dane, Mr. Cronin Wilson, and Miss Dorothy Dix all submitted commendable impersonations.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—Mr. Tom Taylor's company opened to a good audience on Monday in the domestic and pathetic drama *Can a Woman be Good?* The sympathetic house responded enthusiastically at the finish in the affirmative.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*Two Lancashire Lasses in London* began a welcome return visit on Monday under the direction of Mr. Sutton Vane. Miss Florence Zillwood, Miss Mabel Coleman, Miss Cissie Bellamy, Mr. Robert Gilbert, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. D. Byron, Mr. Tom Newell, Mr. D. Mining, Mr. F. Irwin, and all the other artists were good in their respective parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Miss Hettie King reappears here this week after her successful American tour, and meets with a cordial reception; Mr. Charles Norton is, as usual, applauded to the echo in his laughable and clever mimetic act *Pros. at the Races*; Miss Gwennie Hasto is a pretty and talented burlesque artist; the Leonards are two old-established and popular variety entertainers; and the company also includes Mr. Fred Lindsay, the smart manipulator of the stocksman's long whip; the Sisters Pine, talented performers; the Three Menills; the expert Goltz Trio; Mr. Ed. Ford; and the Bioscope with pleasing pictures.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Darracq, an intrepid motor "circling" adventurer, heads the bill this week; Susie and Protti, clever Continental artists, are great favourites; Mr. Walter Emerson in his song "Mother" is heartily cheered; a fine entertainment is submitted by the talented Wolkowsky Troupe; Mr. Ernie Lotinga, in a funny sketch *Her Husband*, causes laughter; and others engaged are Miss Aggie Nolan, Miss Madge Osmond, Mr. Josh Dixon, Mr. Julian Mack, and the Keppels in a novel act. Artistic films conclude an attractive programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—This comfortable place of amusement has returned to the "legitimate drama," the opening attraction being Douglas Jerrold's fine old breezy play *Black Eye'd Susan*, which was acted con amore by the specially selected stock company. Varieties and bioscope scenes conclude the entertainment.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's excellent company is here this week, playing *Trilby*, *Sapho*, *The Man of Her Choice*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*. The first-mentioned old favourite was admirably performed on Monday. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott acted with power as Svengali; Mr. John Lester was highly efficient as Talbot Wynne; Mr. Edwin Keen made a picturesque and droll Bohemian artist as Alexander McAllister; Mr. Ed. Ouston played with refinement and skill as William Bagot; Mr. Weedon Ross as Gecko acted meritoriously; Mr. Osborne Burgoyne, Dave Carter, and the Six Ceylons.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Edwards.—Avis and Desbarre give a bewildering and smart conjuring performance here, which wins repeated applause; Mr. Ben Jackson is a great favourite as a trick soloist and banjo humorist; a daring and skilful trapeze act done by Mlle. Pollo is popular; Meux's Mannikins, representing a miniature music-hall, are decidedly enjoyable; Le Etoile is seen in beautiful poses of many characters; Ford and Maxwell prove jolly comedians and dancers; Miss Connie Duprés as both comedienne and dancer is clever; and Miss Sadie Simpson sings and dances successfully.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—An exclusive picture programme is being presented twice daily this week, when the London Cinematograph Co. are showing some excellent films of a diversified series, and which prove decidedly enjoyable. Last Friday evening Mr. Peter Hope, the popular baritone of Mr. Finlay Dunn's "Dandies" (of the Pier Hill Bandstand, under the lesseeship of Mr. H. E. Angless) was given a complimentary benefit, when a splendid rally of artists contributed to a lengthy programme.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*The Mountaineers* was presented on Monday by Mr. Harry P. Towers' clever company, and met with an enthusiastic reception from a large audience. Mr. Fred Eastman was very prominent as Pierre, the Custom House official, which he depicted with a humour and whimsicality that convulsed the house; Miss Marie Dainton was a charming and piquant representative of Clarice, her vocal numbers and dancing being much admired; Fritz had an admirable exponent in Mr. Edgar Marsden, whose fine baritone voice was heard to great advantage; Mr. Claude Fleming was equally good in the rôle of Conrad, his vocal numbers being artistically rendered; Sergeant Frederico had a smart and commendable exponent in Mr. Leo Sheffield; Mr. Frank Lawton efficiently represented Gustave, and is to be credited with a capital whistling solo; Miss Aida Jonoure was very successful as the elderly spinster Miss Spinifex; and Miss Ida Stratham was a chic and clever impersonator of Annette.

SOUTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company is presenting *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* here. Miss Lucy Beaumont makes an ideal Mrs. Wiggs; Miss Hazy is admirably portrayed by Miss Armine Grace; and Mrs. Eichorn and Schultz are finely delineated by Miss Sybil Brooke and Miss Violet Vivian. The rôle of Lovey Mary is well undertaken by Miss Winifred Murray; Mr. Fred Forrest is successful as Hiram Stubbins; and Mr. Harry G. Wright is amusing as H. Hunkerdunkus Jones.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The Hadj Mahommed Arabs give a clever display of grotesque tumbling; Florrie Gallimore renews her popularity; Franco Piper gives a unique show of twisting, juggling, and spinning banjos, and has a good reception. The Bros. Neill, vocalists, are well liked; Will Johnson and Frank Couch are good singers and patterers. Daisy Martell, a dainty comedian and dancer, and the Bioscope complete an excellent company.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Clark.—Jackson and May, trick cyclists, please the audience with a good exhibition here, and the delightful pictures continue to instruct, please, and amuse.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company, by arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar. Mr. Wilson Coleman is successful in the heavy part of Felix Beverley; Mr. Reginald Brown makes a capital Jack Stirling; Mr. Cyril Grier a careful Colonel Miles; Mr. Francis Leslie is an interesting Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. W. Annesley as Arthur Bellairs is a success; Miss Minnie Goepel is an amusing Sweet Nancy; Miss Lelia Drummond as the Honourable Mrs. Sands plays effectively; and Miss Kathleen Magee does well as the heroine.

TIVOLI PICTURE PALACE.—Subjects by the A.B. Picture Company are presented here. Mme. Sims Reeves also appears.

ARCADIA.—Topping the bill here is C. H. Charlton, a clever conjurer; Miss Jessie Lee as a comedienne and dancer is highly appreciated. Pictures of note are Bride of the Haunted Castle, Waiter's Dream, Lover's Stratagem, and Ready in a Minute.

TOWN HALL.—Miss Babs Lloyd, comedienne, tops the bill here. Miss Nellie Boden is good.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Fred Granville's company, in *Another Man's Wife*, is here. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe takes the part of Carlos de Vergas in capital style; Albert Sinclair acts well as Paul Bernetoff; Mr. Henry Carlisle is excellent as Gilbert Eardsley; Miss Ruth Dockray looks sweet in the part of Maisie Matterson; and Miss Hazel Head displays power as Inez. Miss Ruby Loncraine is successful in the character of Lucia; and Mr. Willie Reid puts life into the part of Sam Smiles.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Mr. Arthur Roberts and company are delighting fun-lovers here in the laughable act *Till Sunday*; the Woodwards are smart in their balancing exhibition; Sterling and Love receive much applause for their efforts; Witty Wattie Walton is ever fresh and amusing; Marguerita is a dainty trapeze artist; Queenie May sings with effect; and Jack Easy gives a good turn.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Dairymaids* has been presented here by Mr. Robert Macdonald and company. Miss Ethel Callanan is a captivating Peggy; Miss Marie Rignold makes a stately Lady Brudenell; Mrs. Pyechase has a capable representative in Miss Rose Edouin; and Miss Edie Martin is highly-amusing and clever as Eliza. Mr. Wm. Spray as Lieut. Sam Brudenell and Mr. Harry Clark as Lieut. Frank Meredith are a pair of mirthful naval officers; Mr. Harry Scaddon acts admirably as Dr. O'Bryne and Mr. Edwin Dodds provides abundant fun as Joe Mivens.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in their vocal scena, head the bill here, and have had a gratifying reception; the Three Romas are clever and graceful gymnasts; J. H. Ellis, comedian, is genuinely funny; the Rangers, cyclists, do many clever tricks; Conan and Doyle are amusing comedians and dancers; Ida Kessanly's troupe of fox terriers are interesting; the Merrions present their vocal and instrumental entertainment with much success; and Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer, and Harry Vardon, ventriloquist, are very pleasing.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will. A. Jackson.—Mr. Carr Loates' company, in the musical comedy drama *At the World's Mercy*, occupies the boards here this week. Miss Cissie Milford scores in the part of Skittles, the street urchin, and Miss May Wortley plays up to her well as Dot.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—The Moxons give a clever exhibition of juggling, and their equilibristic performances meet with much applause; the Eeduns score a big success in their operatic act; whilst the Sisters Valli are good in long-boot and musical numbers. Jones Hope, the singing collier, possesses an excellent tenor voice. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Miss Cora Anson's company is presenting Mr. T. W. Robertson's *Caste* here this week. For the part of Eccles Mr. G. W. Anson has been engaged, and he gives a wonderful study of this exacting character; Miss Ida Phillips is deserving of eulogy for her meritorious work as Esther; Mr. Gerald Vinning submits a fitting portrayal of D'Alroy; and the rôle of Polly is given a pretty rendering by Miss Lydia Busch; Mr. Fred Annerly acts with commendable ease as Captain Hawtry; Mr. Arthur Dennis is good as Sam Gerridge; and Miss Helen Vicary is a dignified Marquise de St. Maur. The piece is preceded by *A Quiet Evening*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are playing *His Indian Wife* here this week. Miss Leila Zillwood does meritorious work as Wild Rose; Miss Emma Litchfield gives a splendid portrayal of Lady Kingsley; Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a masterly performance as Hubert Ainsworth; and Messrs. Travis Green (Lonely Star), Gerald Byrne (White Eagle), and G. Morton Williams (Sir Walter Kingsley) do their work in finished fashion; a clever juvenile is Master Max Gumpert as Lennie; Mr. Graham Winsford is a villainous Wolfsfang; and the humour is in the hands of Mr. Ted Squires, Misses Laura Wright and Nellie Richmond.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Nellie Nora is making a hit here this week as an instrumentalist, and is recalled; Little Ella does some excellent mimicry; and Doris Snowden is an acceptable comedienne. The pictures are up to the theatre's usual high standard.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—Haley's Twenty Juveniles are here with graceful dancing and charming vocalism, and are much admired; the Three Alskarnos are good in an acrobatic act. The pictures include a capital humorous item, Davy Jones' Landlady, which causes hilarity.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Miss Ella Retford is here this week with her smartly rendered and attractive songs and dances; Rose and Calvert, comedy duo, present a farcical turn with success; Abel and Welsh give an acrobatic act full of humour; Earle and Melville are popular comedians and clever dancers; Culpit submits a humorous conjuring turn; and Bert Weston, comedian, is also a favourite; the Six Lancashire Lasses give a clever vocal and dancing act; the Mezzettis do some clever horizontal bar work.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company opened the week with *His Real Wife*. *Trilby* was announced for Friday.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—*Mother* is being presented here this week by Mr. J. O. Stewart and company. Mr. J. O. Stewart furnishes a skilful impersonation of Duncan Fairweather; a powerful interpretation of Frank Rodney is contributed by Mr. A. J. Haviland; Miss N. Thorne Hallam is a charming Nell Fairweather; the rôle of Stephen Carrington is in the safe hands of Mr. L. Harrison; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond supplies a humorous impersonation of Tommy Noblets, being ably assisted by Miss Phillis Vaughan as Polly Crumpet. Miss Kathleen Hunt is a good Mrs. Bagot; Mr. Will Beasley's impersonation of Jaspar Rawden does him credit; and Miss Emilie Entwistle is an excellent Little May.

OLYMPIA PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. A. and H. Andrews; Manager, Mr. Charles Tyers.—Some attractive pictures are shown this week. Mr. Chas. Tyers contributes two songs.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here in *A Wrecker of Men*. Jem Murley is well played by Mr. Arthur Pitt; and the Pharosaphus of Mr. W. Ledger is a clever representation; Mr. B. Bosco is capitally suited as Railton; Guise Strange is suitably represented by Mr. J. Willowby; and Mr. Jno. Alexander is praiseworthy as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt; Miss Ruth Millwood deserves high praise as Resca Mallinson; and the Marion Isaacs of Miss Cyril Frame is sympathetic.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. D. Taylor.—First here come the Avrigny Trio of Japanese jugglers; while Fame and Fortune score well; Max Montesole successfully presents *Even Money on the Garter*; Leon and Tee, in a comedy musical act, create much laughter; Will and Rose are smart and eccentric comedy artists; and Morris and Moore, the Arnolds, the Sisters Robertson, and George Don all add materially to the general success.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. Young.—Mr. Frank Lister, in an original dramatic sketch, is a great attraction here; Binns and Binns, comedy duo, are well received; as also are Mackintosh and Royal dancers; Alcide Capitaine presents a remarkably clever trapeze act; the Phœnix Trio, Gladys Soman, and Jack Holland all have excellent receptions.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Alderman W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company with *The Girls of Gottenberg* is proving a great attraction here. Miss Dora Langham presents a charming picture as Mitzi, and her singing and dancing instal her a favourite; Miss Beryl Vaudrey makes a delightful and winsome Elsa, and Miss Melba Sharrott an attractive Katrina. In the part of Clementine Miss Grace Desmond does very well, and Mr. Tom Squires is well placed as Adolph; Mr. R. N. Cory carefully handles the character of Prince Otto, and proves his vocal capabilities; Mr. Eddie Foy is an amusing Britl Bottl, but to the efforts of "Smith" as Max Moddlekopf the success of the piece is largely due, his amusing antics and patter arousing unlimited merriment. The chorus and augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Edmund Petersen.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Walter Dowling's Fantastics are paying a first visit here, and crowded houses greet them nightly. Miss José Leyton is exceedingly popular as a comedienne, and her whistling solos are excellent; Miss Jessie Crone possesses a powerful contralto voice; Mr. Percival Mackenzie is an expert lightning sketch artist; Mr. Alfred Daniels contributes some clever numbers on the banjo; Mr. Roland Green is a vocalist of considerable ability; Mr. Bert Durant is quite satisfactory at the piano; and Mr. Walter Dowling as a jester keeps the house thoroughly amused.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Coun. Harold Arnold.—Turner's Opera Company is here this week. On Monday night Gounod's *Faust* was submitted before a large and fashionable audience. Miss Kitty Brownless played Marguerite in capital style; and Mr. F. J. Hargraves was in excellent voice as Faust. Mephistopheles was in the capable hands of Mr. William Anderson; Miss Jessie Dennis gave an admirable rendition of Siebel; whilst Mr. Frank Clarke scored as Valentine. Miss Beatrice Hill was well placed as Martha; and the same may be said of Mr. M. le Hoir as Wagner. During the week *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Carmen* are to be staged. The chorus is a particularly strong one, and does some excellent work, notably the "Soldiers' Chorus."

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company, in *A Thief in the Night*, is the attraction here. Mr. Hugh Wallace acts well as Lord Romilly; Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a clever impersonation as Alan Escombe; the villainies of Michael Pagani are well portrayed by Mr. Leyton Cancellor; Mr. H. Daneville is admirably placed as Richard Cleeve; and Mr. Philip Crossley plays with force and skill as the Rev. Charles Halkett. A deal of humour comes from Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby and Mr. C. Allan Hineson as Crake. Miss Irene Chalmers is admirable as Lady Romilly; Miss Jennie Hallworth is vivacious as Happy Christmas; Miss Edith Watkins does good work as the maid Susan; Little Doris displays ability as Little Joan; and Miss Florence Dalton gives an effective and charming depiction as Joan Escombe.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The Royal Banzai Troupe top the bill with a clever equilibristic and risley performance; a humorous musical and acrobatic turn is given by the Brothers Erard; Frank Lynne, comedian, affords delight with funny songs; Percy Johnson is a versatile comedian; the Two Countees (Mabel and Marion), duettists, provide a pleasing turn; Miss Masie Dene, eccentric dancer, and Miss Beatty Sullivan, comedienne, also contribute.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—A number of capital pictures provide amusement and instruction, and the varieties include Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque in an enjoyable sketch *My Lancashire Wife*, and Mr. Charles Bolton, baritone vocalist.

WALLSEND. — BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The Leslie Bros., in their comedy act *Music Mad*, Florrie Elliston, soprano vocalist, Togo, Japanese entertainer, Tom and Nell, in a burlesque boxing act, Marie Blythe, contralto, Austen Temple, magician, the Fimans, in burlesque scena, F. Dawson and company, in *Absurdity*, and the Bioscope make up the capital entertainment given here this week.

WALSALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatre Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. Mr. Graham Arthur's company is here with *Every Inch a Man*. Mr. W. Graham Arthur gives a very clever study of Dani

ably telling and effective manner; Ralph A. Armfield supplies a vigorous interpretation of Alderman Burnet; Sydney Bayliss sustains the rôle of the son with exceptional ability; Miss Ada Bond, in the part of Teddy Edwards, is distinctly good. The rôle of Ben Brown is ably filled by Mr. Joe Barker; Miss Mildred Eversleigh gives a capital portrayal of Mrs. Edwards; and other parts are ably filled by Miss Mollie Richardson, Mr. Arthur Jarvis, and Mr. Ernest Wovley.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The chief position is this week held by the Twelve Fezzans. They give a daring acrobatic act. Horace Pollock and company have a smart little episode in *Hester's Mystery*; Jennie Alexander is a promising child comedienne and a mimic of exceptional ability; Roma and Romani do a refined instrumental act; Fred Lincoln is very funny as a comedian; La Superbe is a dancer of merit; and the pictures make up a capital programme.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and company are here this week with *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr. Stewart in the title-rôle displays histrionic abilities of a high order; Mr. Eric Morden scores as Dr. Watson; Mr. Charles A. James is well placed as Sir Edward Leighton; and Mr. Henry Lyttleton does admirably as Count von Stahlburg. Plenty of dramatic power is infused into the character of Prof. Moriarty by Mr. W. T. Harris; Master Thomas Hill as Billy is a clever juvenile; and Miss Mary Clare is charming as Miss Faulkner.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Tubby Edlin and his company are here this week in the sketch *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, Mr. Edlin making a very eccentric P.C. Longfellow; Kirk and Saraski are refined entertainers; Ada Fawn is a charming soubrette; Harry Taylor is a clever comedian; Kitty Upton scores with good songs; Clare and Mostol are smart patter comedians and dancers; the Three Delaines are expert artists on the trapeze, rings, and swinging ropes. The pictures are good.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager Mr Jack Waters.—Tony Black is a humorous Scotch comedian; Frank McCryon sings many pleasing parodies; Sisters Gaye are smart comediennes and dancers; and Renee Graham makes a capital boy. The pictures are good.

Grand. — Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. Smyley.—There is a delightful collection of pictures here this week.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Ned Johnson.—A strong attraction is provided for local theatre-goers this week in *When It Was Dark*. Mr. Oswald Cray submits a capital impersonation of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Miss Lillian Herries scores heavily as Gertrude Hunt; Miss Rosalie Notrelle shows much ability as Helena Byars; Mr. C. W. Hulse is a typical stage villain as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Edward Valentine is good as Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Walter Manfree is excellent as the Rev. Mr. Byars; Messrs. Sydney Claydon and Seton Bernard supply humour as the Hon. Charlie Gayfly and Nunc Wallace respectively; as the "mercury" men Messrs. Baker and Brannigan are both capable; Miss Madeline Grand is capital as Gracie Goodeye; and Minnie Golightly is in the safe hands of Miss Barbara Lee.

WATFORD.—Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—This week's programme here includes the Belles of the Kitchen, who provide a bright and vivacious turn; Julian Ross, in two well-written songs; Dunning's ventriloquial sketch; the Sisters Edwards, in well-rendered songs and dances; and Kahn and Kahn, in their magic show. Tom E. Hood is a favourite; Cissie Thompson sings two songs in admirable style. Harry Cotton and George Elliston and company, in *That Brute Simmons*, secure deserved ovations.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Manager, Mr. Walle Spinner.—Tarro Miyake, the champion ju-jitsu wrestler, is responsible for crowded and enthusiastic audiences; Elmore and Evans, in their comedy contributions, are big favourites; an excellent juggling turn is given by Mr. Bert Anderson; Miss Amy Lloyd is a refined and popular comedienne; and Mr. Tom Garland presents an exceptionally clever performance in his ventriloquial and negro melodies. A good show of pictures is given on the Hippograph.

King's Hall.—Sole Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—A return visit of the old favourite Mr. Dan Pedley in all his London successes proves a big hit, whilst an artistic and effective entertainment is presented by Miss Maude Roland with original songs, Mr. T. E. Johnson, actor-vocalist, being also warmly applauded. A fresh supply of pictures is given each evening on the Ediscope.

WELLINGOOROUGH.—King's Palace.—The pictures here continue to be excellent. Claire Hastings, with the assistance of Little Joe, is pleasing. Ray and Lingard and Mlle. Renée Ralph also appear with success.

Empire.—The selection of pictures provided this week is pleasing large houses. Ethel Stevenson, a first-rate contralto, has a hearty reception; and Bent is a capable mimic.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee, Mr. R. Nightingale.—The romantic drama *A Royal Revenge* is being presented this week by Mr. Montague Beaudyn. Mr. Herbert Skardon as Pedro de Castro is excellent; Mr. Gilbert Lonsdale as Manuel Mondiga is also good; Miss Sidney Crowe is very charming as Cora Casilda; and the Angela of Miss Margaret Noble is a fine study.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. Hebden.—The chief attraction here is the Kio Taiu wrestlers; the Five Royal Scottish give an interesting exhibition of Scotch dances; the Tivoli Girls are also clever dancers; Frank Star has some good songs; the Musical Warners give selections on a number of instruments; and Wee Madge also entertains.

WEST HARTLEPOOL — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—*What a Man Made Her* is being presented here by Miss Renee Glendower and company. As Janet McAllister, an artist's model, Miss Glendower acts capitally; Mr. W. J. Butler gives a clever interpretation of Rupert Wogan Danescombe; whilst as Mark Haven Mr. Frederick W. Freeman distinguishes himself. All the characters are in good hands, amongst those worthy of mention being Miss Beatrice Shirley, Mr. Harry Ugar (who infuses much humour into the play), and Mr. Charles K. Francis.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Ando's Happy Little Japs are appearing here with great success; Doody and Wright have a comedy duo act, which is clever and original; Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. Geo. Abel's sketch *Town Hall To-night* is received with applause; the Brothers Durrant, who arrive on the scene in their airship, are very smart; a most enjoyable musical entertainment is given by the Carina Sisters; Jock Mills (Scotch character comedian), Elsie Hulbert and her clever dancing girls, and Bioscope pictures complete a good bill.

WESTON - SUPER - MARE. — Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Basil Horsfall's company is here this week in the comic opera *Queen of the Fair*. Senora Mercedes Dalmada is captivating in the title-rôle; Miss Kate North shows exceptional talent as Jemima; Miss Janet Reeve is excellent as Ermyntrude; Miss Rosa Maie (the Queen of the Dance), Miss Audrey Esmonde (Freda), Miss Carlotta Silvano (Rosalie) are all remarkably good in their respective parts; Mr. Arthur Reynolds keeps the house convulsed with laughter as 'Enery; Mr. Albert Chapman uses his fine voice to advantage as Karl; Mr. Jay Bois is droll as Herr Fünp; Mr. Claude Casey as Pierre is entitled to eulogy, as is Mr. George Carroll as the Burgomaster.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Brownies are making a welcome return visit, and are well received; Miss Beatrice Nelley sings with expression "A song of Andalusia"; Miss V. Stafford's song, "Rink, pretty creature, rink," is much applauded; Miss Maidee Field is as great a favourite as ever; Mr. Charles Heslop is a comedian of merit; Mr. Alec S. Clune's song, "A hundred years ago," was encored; and Mr. Harry Brinton's sketches at the piano are exceptionally smart.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company is here with *Her Nameless Child*. Mr. Arthur Keand fills the part of Anthony Ford in a creditable manner; and as Arthur, his son, Mr. F. E. North is good. Mr. Leonard Aardale is sufficiently villainous as Lord Henry Woodville; and as Mongrole Mr. George Francis does well. Miss Dora Weber is a capable Lady Sybil Woodville; whilst Miss Jean Wigney is clever as Phyllis Ford.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—The George French Troupe of trick cyclists head the bill here, and their clever act is well received; Eugene the girl baritone, is good; and also here are the Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters Convict 796, Kentucky Planter, and A Special Agent are appreciated pictures.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—On Thursday *The Arcadians* was presented at this theatre, this being the first visit to Whitby.

Waterloo Electric Theatre.—Some excellent pictures have been exhibited by the London Bioscope Company, and have attracted full houses.

WHITLEY BAY.—The Pleasure Gardens, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlevé.—A Beauty Competition is creating interest here. The competition is being "run off" in preliminary heats during the week. The Joy Wheel is proving a great attraction, and is the cause of much merriment to the spectators. It is also evident that the performers thoroughly enjoy the science of keeping, or rather, endeavouring to keep, their equilibrium. The varieties most prominent in the Theatre Roya are The Gerlandos, clever equilibrists; Percy Dalton, comedian and dancer; The Cycluminas novelty cyclists; Daisy and Dot, comediennes and dancers; The Roses, singers and dancers; and Evie O'Connor, comedy entertaining pianist. The stock company are also in evidence, and there is an admirable show of animated pictures. The "Home of Laughter" is also an amusing feature of the side-shows, where rounds of hearty mirth prevail. The Figure Eight Railway still holds its own as a money-maker, in spite of the counter attractions of the Water Chute and Social Whirl.

The Coliseum.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Smelt; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Patterson.—The bill principally comprises Bioscopic pictures in variety, with occasional speciality items by J. N. Clifford, the American comedian.

Empire.—Manager, Mr. T. J. Gregson.—Pictures also hold sway at this comfortable bijou theatre. Fox and Melville enhance the programme with some excellent song illustrations that are being well received.

Pavilion Electric Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. V. Grice.—The leading variety items are submitted by Geo. Benbow, comedian and mimic; and Sassy and Wally, juvenile duettists and dancers. The principal films on view are The Brothers, a stirring and exciting Spanish drama, and Flash of Light, America's latest Bioscopic novelty.

Links Band Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Wm. Catlin.—Here also the colder weather is militating against good patronage, and, failing a decided improvement in the climatic conditions, the season will of necessity have to be brought to a conclusion.

Toreador's Enclosure.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Elderton.—This popular resort is still going strong, although signs are not wanting that the season is rapidly waning. The nights are now on the chilly side and against the comfort of the patrons of outdoor entertainment.

WIGAN.—The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. James Willard's company is here in a dramatic naval sketch, entitled *When Swords are Drawn*, which is highly appreciated. A skilful turn is given by the Davis and Gledhill Trio in *Man v. Motor*; an original musical entertainment is provided by Webb's soloists; Le Hurst proves himself an exceptionally clever ventriloquist; Tatten Hall is applauded for his comic songs; much amusement is caused by the Haydons, in *Bertie and the Barmaid*; and Fields and Mansell are lightning oil-painters and jugglers of no mean talent; while Verona Phillis sings and dances herself into favour. Others who contribute include Harry Meegan, comedian; the Sisters Lawler; Addie Royden; and Great Arno, the humorous gorilla.

WISHAW (N.B.).—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—Bessie Butt, in a clever series of male character creations, is a deservedly popular topliner; the Martialo Trio, in a novel equilibristic act, which includes the balancing of a trap weighing a quarter of a ton on one performer's forehead, are popular; Bert Woodward, the steeplechasing cyclist, is also a popular turn; Baby Wolff is a clever little vocalist and exceptionally smart dancer; the Renz Brothers, in a comedy acrobatic turn, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—*Under Two Flags* is being presented here this week by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Pride of place must be awarded to Miss Agnes Verity for her clever interpretation of the varying moods of Cigarette; the handsome stage presence and easy manner of Mr. Wernham Ryott combine to make a capital Bertie Cecil Royellieu; whilst his brother, Berklie Cecil, is well accounted for by Mr. Wilfred Jessop. Mr. Charles E. Johnson plays with realistic effect as Colonel Chateauroy; Mr. David Hawthorne is earnest and convincing as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Arthur Redmond renders good assistance as Captain Claude Chanrellon; Mr. Ernest Willoughby causes amusement as Ezra Baroni; and the faithful Drake has an able exponent in Mr. Harry Benson. Miss O'Neil is successful as the Princess Venetia Corona; and Miss Madoline Gordon is good as Lady Beatrice Guinivere.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—*The Lady Bandits* goes with a swing from start to finish, thanks to the charming singing of May Beatty and the unctuous humour of Edward Lauri, assisted by a comely and tuneful chorus; whether as pianist, mimic, vocalist, or siffleuse, Helen Charles proves herself a thorough artist; Cavalli, ventriloquist, presents a turn it would be hard to beat for originality and ingenuity; the shadowgraph entertainment by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde is much appreciated; two excellent exponents in the saltatory art are found in Billy French and Frank E. Ford; Elmo and Rego cause roars of laughter as acrobatic eccentrics; and Rose Daulby sings nicely.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Macnamara.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is paying a return visit, and in the hands of Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is admirably presented. Mr. B. Russell is still inimitable as Mr. Hook; Mr. Reginald Hunter is quaintly original as the imperturbable Simon Slinks; Mina is delightfully impersonated by Miss Muff Carew; and Miss Kathleen Starling is a dainty and engaging Sally Hook. Mr. Cuthbert Hardy and Mr. Sam Lockridge, in the military parts (Captain Paap and Bandmaster Van Vuyt), find full scope for their vocal ability; and Mr. Wilson Blake has too little to do as Schnappe.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. Kitto.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce* is here. Miss Edith Cole as Josephine gives an interpretaton of the part that leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Frank Bradley as Napoleon is successful in his portrayal of the passionate, all-conquering hero.

Carnegie Hall. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. F. Kitto.—Joe Dixon, coon delineator and mimic; Eva Strauss, the young versatile artist; and Tom Agar, sleight-of-hand expert, provide the variety. The pictures are, as usual, excellent.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—On the first two nights of the week Mr. Alex. MacLean presented *David Garrick*, the old favourite being exceptionally well received. Mr. MacLean himself was in the title-rôle, and he gave a delightful interpretation of the character. Miss Laura Leigh played Ada Ingot in a winsome manner, and Mr. Lyttleton-Holyoake was good as Simon Ingot. The other characters were played with success by Mr. Arthur Layland, Mr. F. de Quincey, Mr. H. Barnard Stacey, Mr. A. L. Burke, Mr. E. Snowden, Mr. Frank Goodricke, and Miss Mary Palmer and Miss Viola March. On Wednesday there were two performances of *My Lady Bellamy*, the occasion being the sixth annual benefit of Mr. Seebold, the popular lessee. On Thursday *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* opened a short engagement.

WREXHAM. — Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Jno. J. Scott.—The great attraction this week has been the Comets, headed by Oliver Conroy, in their interesting and amusing entertainment, including songs, duets, concerted pieces, burlesque items, and sketches, one of the latter in particular, *The Servant's Dilemma*, creating roars of laughter. Harry Bennett has proved himself a clever dancer and amusing comedian; and as a vocalist, Tom Mills has added his full quota to the programme. The pictures included a beautiful picture of the Island of Capri.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—A varied series of pictures is shown here twice nightly. Allen and Austin, refined comedians and dancers, make a hit; and Alice Gill is a tuneful contralto. The vocaphone has capital illustrated singing pictures.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The management have again introduced a variety entertainment, twice nightly. The Sarnthaler Troupe, in national costume, hold the premier position, and are accorded a hearty reception for their singing and dancing; Mr. Arthur Milton, in his comedy act, entitled *The Puzzled Coroner*, displays great versatility in representing four different characters; he is ably supported by Mr. E. Millins as the Coroner; Friscary shows wonderful dexterity in his juggling turn; George Shurley makes a distinct hit as a comedian and dancer; the Two Sisters Harcourt are vivacious comediennes and dancers; the Sauteron Wonders provide a clever and amusing turn; a pleasing musical séance is given by the Brothers Gerrard; and praise must be given to the Stanley Brothers for their unique cycle act.

Opera House and Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—L'Incognita, who heads the bill this week, sings with good taste, and is loudly applauded; Florence Smithers and company are amusing in *Our Mary Jane*; the Royal Diamonds are one-legged gymnasts of much merit; Pulo is a smart juggler; and Harry Curwen's quaintness is amusing. Harry Merrylees has some witty sayings, and his Scotch patter is well received; Rosie Gaston is a dainty comedienne; Carl Osmond does some clever quick sketches; Andrews and Thompson sing well; and a neat turn is provided by Dacey and Lewis, the energetic entertainers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Bowman; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Bradley.—The following pictures are well received here this week: Agnes Visconti, Chicot, and Tantolin Turns Somersault (a clever comic film). The institution of a full orchestra is highly appreciated.

Victoria Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Bert Rutter.—There is a capital show here this week of the pictures. The Way of the Red Man and The Altar of Love are the most popular. Minnie D'Aubyn is a first-class comedienne.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD, OUTING.

The staff of the Queen's Theatre, Castleford, held their first annual outing on Sunday, when a visit to Knaresborough was paid. The party left Castleford by char-a-bancs by way of Wetherby, where a halt was called for light refreshments, thence journeying to the Elephant and Castle Hotel, Knaresborough, for dinner. After a look round this most interesting town—the Dropping Well, Mother Shipton's Caves, and the scenes of Eugene Aram's life—the excursionists proceeded to Boston Spa, where tea was partaken of at the Royal Hotel. Votes of thanks were passed to the directors of the company and to Manager Will H. Emerson, who presided, and to whom the whole credit of the successful outing was due. Mr. Emerson, who was with the staff all the day, and did all possible for the entertainment and comfort of his staff, suitably responded. Rowing on the river and other pastimes were indulged in, and a return was made to Castleford at ten o'clock.

C. Tomlinson, J. Auckland, A. Schofield, J. E. Bearpark, F. Hanson, M. Mason, M. Kaye, A. Wright, H. Bullock, Mr. Will H. Emerson (Managing-Director), J. Ramskill, Mrs. Hanson, Mrs. Steel, J. Steel, Mrs. Ramskill, S. Hamilton, Mrs. Newton, S. Newton, Mrs. Hallett, G. Hiles, T. Mitchell, Mrs. Will H. Emerson, Mrs. H. Waterhouse, Mrs. S. Hamilton, Miss Dyson, Mrs. Hallett, W. Smith, Miss Machin, Miss Terry, F. Bastow, G. Steel, Miss Steel, T. Speight, Mrs. Hiles, Miss Hoyle, H. J. Pickles.

THE PRESS AND THE STAGE.

There was an interesting discussion on Dramatic Criticism at the sitting of the annual Conference of the Institute of Journalists at the Guildhall on Tuesday, with the president (the Hon. Harry Lawson, M.P.) in the chair. Sir Edward Russell opened the debate.

In the course of his speech Sir Edward said: A writer on plays always did well to consider primarily the purpose for which all plays were composed. Then he must settle whether the play he had just seen had besides any special object. Next, whether that special object was artistic—desirable as a stage endeavour; whether the execution was reasonably true to life—decent for public enactment. Also he must appraise the execution in general. After all this—and the scope of it was very capacious, and at all points full of human interest—which the critic had the exquisite literary function of reproducing in print from his impressions at the theatre—after this might come more learned and profound inquiries as to the relations of this most recent dramaturgic achievement, in point of parentage, or kin, or construction, or style, or action with the masterpieces of Greece, of the Tudor time, of Molière, of much contemned but hitherto unsurpassed Victorians, and of present-day innovators, who had not yet fought their way into the classics.

Mr. A. F. Robbins said that during the last twenty years the pressure on the dramatic critic had steadily grown greater, partly through the late hour at which the curtain fell, but mainly because of the decidedly earlier hour of going to press. The most modern of the managers had tried to meet the critics' difficulty either by admitting them to a dress rehearsal or to a *répétition générale* the afternoon or evening of the day preceding the production, or by beginning the performance decidedly earlier on the first night. Of these the last was the best. If managers wished for criticism that should be fresh as well as fair, they would arrange for an earlier opening on the first night. In this connection Mr. Robbins commended the action of Sir Herbert Tree in commencing the first performance of *Henry VIII.* at seven o'clock for the special convenience of the critics.

Sir Herbert Tree said his feelings at the moment were somewhat akin to those of Daniel when he entered the lions' den. But he felt reassured in having just learned that the lions had been feeding. He had to express the pleasure with which he had listened to Sir Edward Russell, who had always encouraged the highest forms of drama, and from whose columns he himself had frequently quaffed a draught of encouraging praise and understanding. Sir Edward had always been devoted to the drama, and it was a great thing for the theatre that they had such writers as Sir Edward to give to it that encouragement, and who had for it that love upon which they fed. As to opening the theatre at an earlier hour than usual for the sake of the Press, he had recently made an experiment which he was glad to say was entirely successful, and he hoped that perhaps some of his brother-managers would follow his example. It was, of course, impossible to get a real and studied impression in the short time that the critics nowadays had before them. As regarded dress rehearsals, he felt that these were not satisfactory, because it was a most extraordinary thing that what one might think as an individual one did not think as one of the community. The hearts of an audience ticked in unison. He himself had witnessed this on more than one occasion, when he had been at every rehearsal of a play, and had formed a certain judgment from the first to the last, and when, sitting subsequently in the audience, his judgment had been entirely reversed. Sir Edward Russell had referred to the fact that there were several kinds of criticism. There was, for example, mere reporting. Dr. Johnson, he believed, had said that there were three kinds of critics. One was the critic who knew nothing of the rules; the second was he who knew the rules and did not see beyond them; and the third was the critic who knew the rules and saw beyond them. Of these the first and third were the most important; the other should never be present. The third class of critic belonged to what we might call imaginative criticism, which was in fact the art of criticism. Very often the subject itself was of lesser importance than the criticism. Take, for instance, Ruskin's "Stones of Venice." These wonderful criticisms of Ruskin were of greater importance than the stones of which he spoke. There was the imaginative criticism whose importance they knew. There was another kind of imaginative criticism which soared, as it were, above the realms of mere truth into the mists above, from which the critic would occasionally descend to the earth like a wrecked aeroplane.

He might tell them of a little experience he had had since the opening of this conference. He found that a distinguished novelist, who had taken to dramatic criticism late in life, wrote a very elaborate condemnation of a production which had lately been given, and whose name wild horses would not drag from him. This critic said that in this production the urns, the goblets, the cups were absolutely wrought for this special occasion in real and solid silver, whereupon he enlarged upon this, and spoke of the bombastic vulgarity of the manager and the general unworthiness of the conception. Had it been true that these things were made of real and solid silver, he would have been a mere reporter, but he was an imaginative writer, because upon these premises of the imagination he went on in the most brilliant and eloquent manner to attack the production. Here was what he said, or part of it: "The priests in the play"—whose name, of course, I shall not mention—"might be specially ordained in the green-room before they came on—nay, if it comes to that, the head of Buckingham might really be cut off. He might have re-established the goriness, as well as the gorgeousness, of the amphitheatre. If real cups, why not real wine, and if real wine, why not real blood?" Why not?

Nothing could be more vulgar than for a manager putting forth that he had spent so much money on a production. It was a thing one should always avoid. Because the writers would always greatly exaggerate the cost of any production. If this were true, as he had said, it would be mere reporting; but in point of fact he might tell them that these goblets, urns, and cups were made of papier-maché, a substance of which he believed the literary conscience was sometimes composed. To write in this kind of way had the advantage that it was not necessary to witness the performance at all. One was then free and unfettered by mere reporting, and could attack the principal actor with the greater impartiality and the greater force. One might be told, of course, that this new criticism was the new humour and that one was wanting in the sense of humour in not appreciating it. Let him say that even in writing, after the age of five and forty, it was not well to stand on one's head for more than five minutes at a time lest there should be real blood in the head.

It was a great thing for an actor to have the sympathy of the critic, and it was a great thing to have independent criticism. He thought the independence of the Press in regard to the theatre was much greater to-day than it was twenty or thirty years ago, and though they might get hard knocks occasionally, he thought that any wise man could always bear them. Personally he had to thank Mr. Robbins for what he had said about his action, and personally he should do everything to persuade his brother managers to follow suit.

Sir Edward Clarke having referred to the difficulty of the critic in securing sufficient time after a performance for "quiet and reflective repose,"

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., said it seemed to him that the difficulties pointed out by Sir Herbert Tree and Sir Edward Clarke were inevitable and insuperable. They could not get the public to wait in these days. If a play was produced one evening, the criticism, whether hurried or responsible, must appear on the following morning, and all proposals to change that state of things were quite futile and impracticable. Criticism, whether good or bad, must be written on the spur of the moment and on the night of the performance. He did not know how the general rehearsal had worked up to the present, but he should think, speaking entirely without any experience of the matter, that it must be a very considerable facilitation of the work of the dramatic critic to have the opportunity of grasping the plot and the general character of a play on a night prior to that of production. He would suggest that Sir Herbert Tree and the other London managers, if the conditions of their business permitted, should encourage these dress rehearsals, for the purpose of giving the critic a fairer chance. Personally, he had always found the first night a rather trying thing. It very often happened that on the very night before the first performance the manager and his company might have been up till four or five o'clock in the morning, giving the last touches to the play. In such circumstances, it was impossible to expect from human nature that it should be at its best when weeks of that kind of work had preceded the performance. He thought that in a first-night's audience there was a certain excitability, almost amounting to hysteria, which made it a little difficult to deal with.

He ventured to think that their dramatic critics were rather overworked. He was sometimes paralysed to think of men going five, six, and seven times a week to all kinds of performances. It was impossible to expect them, in these circumstances, to bring freshness of feeling and of impression to their work. He thought that in journalism the narrowness of the "school" was one of its most besetting and one of its most condemnable vices. The journalist, above all other men in the world, had no right to be narrow because he had every opportunity of being broad. Accordingly he (Mr. O'Connor) deprecated the system which was sometimes seen in journalism, and in dramatic criticism, of taking up one particular "school" as against another particular "school" of dramatic criticism. All schools were good, and no school was perfect. There were old critics in his early days who thought that no drama was good unless it was a drama of intrigue. If one ventured to put before a critic of that kind a play by Ibsen, he immediately declared that it wasn't drama at all. He (Mr. O'Connor) thought the true principle for the enlightened and intelligent critic to take up was that the stage should be like human life itself—open to everything that was human, in all its multitudinous phases, all its permutations and combinations—and that he was a poor dramatic critic that could not admire any emanation of art, to whatever school it might belong.

The President, in summing up the debate, said the Press took the drama very seriously. They wanted to do it justice; but they found that the conditions of publication in London, at all events, were now so difficult as to make it almost impossible to let actors and managers have the benefit of the considered criticism that was given, he thought, in the old days. The feeling that he had, in spite of what Mr. Robbins had said, was that the *répétition générale* was the best way out of the difficulty.

At the annual conference dinner of the Institute at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday,

Mr. H. B. Irving, in responding to the toast of "The Guests" said: My position is a singularly painful one. I came here originally, and unobtrusively, as a beardless young actor—beardless, because I understand from the newspapers that at the present moment no actor who is not possessed of a beard is really up to much. I am going away to Australia, and I shall use my earnest endeavour to cultivate whiskers which I hope will have sufficiently developed to sweep away my friend, Mr. Bourchier, altogether. I had hoped the Countess of Warwick would have spoken before me, but, as it is, it is left to me to make the best of a rather difficult position. I wished to say something about dramatic criticism, but you have been discussing that all the afternoon. With regard to dramatic criticism, not very much has been said, except one unkind thing—that dramatic criticism is really a relic of barbarism, for the greater the advance of civilisation, the gentler dramatic criticism becomes. At any rate, I notice that dramatic criticism is gradually dying away, and if it will be only remembered as a relic of barbarism that would be a very happy consummation from our point of view. I heard recently that a dramatic critic said he would have to give up his position because he was not allowed to write what he felt about the actors. It seems a sign of advancing civilisation that he had been allowed to give up his position. If the critics really said what they felt about the actors, and the actors said what they felt about the critics, the Palace of Truth would not be in it.

Your president has said that his is the most modest profession of all. That is wrong. Ours is the most modest, and it is only you journalists who seduce us from our modesty by the extreme trouble you take to get copy—and we make very good copy—and I assure you we should like to be left in a sweet, quiet retirement but for the ruthless way you draw us forth into publicity. If we break one of the Ten Commandments it seems to cause an interest in the newspapers that no other class can command. However, I am going to a country, I am told, where the Ten Commandments can be broken without attracting much attention. I had for some time hesitated as to whether I should take my wife with me to that part of the world, but I am going to take her, after to-night, because I look forward to her developing qualities which I had never dreamed of in her before, and if it means the loss of our humble luggage I shall not complain.

I feel there is a good deal in common between actors and journalists, and that is why we are such good friends. We are, as you journalists, servants of the public; but, although servants of the public, we have a duty to our calling—it is our duty to do our best to uphold the dignity and honour of that calling.

Another point in which we are alike is the precariousness of our calling. I was very much pleased with what I read in the *Daily Telegraph* of to-day of what your president said as to starting a fund to meet cases of unemployment. It would be a very good thing if we could emulate your example, and found such a fund as you propose to meet very sad cases, which are very many, amongst us.

One other point of resemblance between us is that the English drama is the drama of the Empire, as the Press is the Press of the Empire. So far the Colonies have not had a drama of their own, but we look forward to the day when Australia, Canada, and all the great Colonies will have a drama of their own. The Colonies have a great future, and a part of that future will be the foundation of a drama worthy of the drama of the Mother Country.

I had prepared a peroration, and a very eloquent one, in which I had proposed to say, as no one seems yet to have said it to-night, that the pen was mightier than the sword. But I had hardly sat down at this table before the Sheriff sitting at my side said, "I suppose you are going to give these Johnnies that hackneyed phrase about the sword being mightier than the pen." I will not do so; but, like all good lines on the stage, it is a very true one. On behalf of the guests I thank you very much.

Owing to the disbandment of the Duke of Devonshire's orchestra, Mr. P. Tas, the musical-director, is open to accept an engagement in a similar capacity. His address is 10, Camden-road, Eastbourne.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, Aug. 9.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—There is no abatement in the enthusiasm which *Madam Butterfly* has aroused in musical circles in Melbourne, and each evening a large and delighted audience assembles to revel in the music of the Puccini opera. On Thursday and Saturday of this week Miss Amy Castles will appear as Cho Cho San, and this evening and Friday the rôle will be taken by Mlle. Bel Sorel. Special matinées are held twice weekly.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton have entered upon their last nine nights of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. *Pete* will be staged on the 20th.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Knight.—Nat Gould's sporting drama *The Chance of a Lifetime* has been filling this theatre for the past three weeks. The drama abounds in striking situations, and all the characters are well portrayed by a strong company. From present appearances the piece is destined to enjoy a long and successful run.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The Kremo Family of acrobats still continue the star attraction here. These artists are among the finest exponents in this particular line of business that Mr. Rickards has presented to his numerous patrons. Other artists appearing are Mr. Billy Williams, Miss Gracie Grahame, Mendel (the blind pianist), the Bright Sisters, Miss Fanny Powers, Irving Sayles, Waratah Duo, the Donnellys, Ted Kalman, Les Warton, and Frank Hinchley (baritone).

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Brennan.—On Saturday evening Mr. Nat Clifford made his first appearance here and scored a success. Mr. Clifford sang a number of songs in his own inimitable style, and as an encore gave three eccentric dances. Armstrong and Verne are now in their last nights.

West's pictures continue to draw crowded houses. A feature of the entertainment at present is the film depicting the trial trip of the Australian torpedo destroyer Yarra.

The excellent series of animated pictures shown for the past week at Olympia by Spencer's Theatrescope company have served to fill the house nightly. Among the many interesting films submitted at present may be mentioned Scenes in Africa, The Cowboy's Sweetheart, Scenes by the Zuyder Zee, Over Silent Plains, and The Call of the Heart, while a number of humorous pictures keep the audience well amused.

The interest taken in the exploits of the Kelly Gang of Bushrangers is evident by the crowded houses at the Athenæum Hall to witness J. and N. Tait's pictures. The various incidents are followed with keen interest. Other excellent pictures on the present programme include Scenes in Bourglay, Cowboy's Devotion, Billy's Bulldog, Parted to Meet Again, and The Call of the Heart.

"THE GROTESQUES" AT THE SAVOY.

The vogue of what has been termed pierrotic comedy seems to be on the increase in town, and the reasons of its growing popularity as an entertainment are not far to seek—it is fun and sentiment in snippets, without the music-hall atmosphere; its humour is not of the too robustious order; and to the none too captious audiences the skits on favourite artists and singers, if sufficiently exaggerated, are very enjoyable. Mr. Vere Smith and his companions, who form the troupe known as the Grotesques, when they opened at the Savoy challenged inevitable comparison with their predecessors, the Follies; but it is quite unnecessary to institute that comparison. There are many genuinely mirthful moments in their well-arranged programme, even if at times the humour reaches the verge of extravagance. To the inventive spirit and the facile pen of the lamented Mr. Vere Smith, who died early in the year, are due most of the songs and choruses of the first part. Mr. Harry Harmer early distinguished himself by his singing of the "Uz-guz-goozle-um"; Miss Dorothy Doria was heard to advantage in "I'll be your gal"; Miss Elsie English found the melodious phrases of "Mister Nightingale" grateful to sing and provocative of applause; and then there was Mr. James Watts, who made quite a hit with "Mr. Jolliboy," a number of which the humour was much enhanced by the manipulation of six little mechanical figures in a jig danced to the melody of the chorus. Mr. Watts scored a surprising success, and as a comedian he has a real sense of drollery.

In the second section of the programme some concerted pieces were well worth listening to, particularly original numbers being "Who'll buy my lavender?" and "Strawberries, ripe strawberries." The impressions of a ballad concert enabled Miss Elsie English to take off Miss Margaret Cooper, the famous comedienne at the piano, who has come in for a great deal of attention lately from Miss Cecilia Loftus; and Mr. James Watts as a female on the large side "skitted" the mannerisms of Mme. Clara Butt. "Mr. Ben Nevis," too, who gave "I'll sing thee songs most horribly, in gloves of white cashmere," was successful in quaint exaggerations of the methods of the popular tenor Mr. Ben Davies.

Mr. Cecil Cook, as the vicar, again presided at the piano while his merry companions in the scheme of fun sketched the humours of the village concert at Rottenbosh. The grotesque dance by the Sisters Frieszenthau is perhaps the *pièce de résistance*; but the songs and recitations given with a delightful emphasis of amateur weaknesses keep the audience in mirthful mood.

The genial comedian, Harry Corson Clarke, tells many amusing stories of his experiences in other days. Listen to this:—"I will tell you the story of the smallest stock company ever organised. We had been playing a long stock season in the summer at Manhattan Beach, Denver, about seven years ago. Among us were James Neil, William Ingersoll, Annie and Katie Blanke, Henrietta Crosman and many other well-known people. It had come to the end of the season, and everybody was scattering for other positions. Captain Bethel, the manager of the Beach, came to me and asked me if it would not be possible for me to hold the company together until Labour Day, so as to capture some money. At that time the company was composed of Henrietta Crosman, William Ingersoll, and your humble servant, Harry Corson Clarke. It was one of the strangest experiences I ever had, but we made a splendid success out of the unique organisation just the same. Henrietta came early and called—'half hour'; Billy came in and called—'fifteen minutes'; and I rang up. The programme was like this:—First piece, *A Happy Pair*, Henrietta Crosman and William Ingersoll; second piece, *Uncle's Will*, Henrietta Crosman, William Ingersoll, and Harry Corson Clarke; third piece, *Box and Cox*, Henrietta Crosman, William Ingersoll, and Harry Corson Clarke. Every night the captain would come back and call 'Look out through the curtain, quick,' and we would be rewarded by seeing a crowded house—the place seated three thousand. The last night of the engagement the Mayor of the city stepped on the stage and called for the stock company. We arrived. I told the city's chief executive not to be frightened—that none of us had gotten away He presented Miss Crosman with a beautiful silver jewel case, and Ingersoll and myself with silver mounted canes, making a lovely speech on behalf of the management. Henrietta Crosman responded on behalf of the company, and there you have the story of the smallest stock company in the world."

STEDMAN'S STUDENTS AT THE COURT.

The first performance of Stedman's Students' Stage Society, given at the Court Theatre on Saturday evening last attracted a large and friendly audience, the varied and interesting programme including acts from *The School for Scandal*, *The Gay Lord Quex*, and *Florodora*—difficult work that was a very severe test for these ambitious aspirants. In the Quarrel and Screen scenes from *The School for Scandal* Mr. Oliver Crombie as Sir Peter Teazle is entitled to praise for a careful and, on the whole, satisfactory portrayal, especially good being his acting in the concluding episode of the screen scene. Mr. Stanley Hughes as the hypocritical Joseph Surface hurried his lines too much; Mr. Charles Koop realised fairly well the rollicking Charles; and Miss Dora Keith was an engaging Lady Teazle.

The Bedroom scene from Sir Arthur Pinero's brilliant play, *The Gay Lord Quex*, was perhaps the best-played item of the evening, and certainly the most interesting. In this Mr. Charles Koop appeared as the gay lord, and played the part of the blasé man about town with the necessary calmness, authority, and polish, although at times he appeared too juvenile in manner. Altogether, however, Mr. Koop may be complimented on a capital portrayal. The difficult character of the mistrustful manicurist, Sophie Fullgarney, was enacted by Miss Iris Damon, admirable in the calmer moments of the part, but in the emotional ones too exaggerated and noisy. The languid Duchess of Strood, so careful for her reputation, was cleverly portrayed by Miss Elsa Hall, the "romantic farewell" between the Duchess and Quex being skilfully handled throughout; and Miss Mabel Hay fulfilled all requirements as Mrs. Jack Eden.

The concluding item in the programme was the first act of the popular musical play *Florodora*, and chief honours in this undoubtedly went to the ladies. The male principals nearly all forgot their lines at times, and many awkward stage waits resulted. Miss Elsa Hall again did good work as the wily Lady Holyrood, singing "Tact" and taking part in the concerted numbers creditably. A dainty and winsome Angela Gilfain was forthcoming in the person of Miss Rita Caro, her duets and dances all being capitally given; and Miss Violet Stanning may be cordially congratulated on both her singing and acting as Dolores, her renderings of "Star of Love" and "Queen of the Philippine Islands" displaying the possession of a cultured and powerful voice. Mr. Clive Bowen as Frank Abercoed, Dolores's lover—a rather doleful one—sang "Oh, my Dolores" acceptably, but his inability to remember his lines spoilt any chance he might have had of giving a creditable representation; Mr. H. W. Bentham and Mr. Frank Sinclair as Cyrus Gilfain and Leandro both gave satisfactory portrayals; and Mr. Kenneth Morrison as Anthony Tweedlepunch occasionally aroused merriment and frequently forgot his words. The large chorus had been capitally trained, and the numerous attractive dances and concerted numbers were all admirably given, especially when the smallness of the stage is taken into consideration. The experienced Mr. Marshall Moore was responsible for the stage direction; Mlle. Lillian Leoffeler and Mr. Charles Sutton for the dances; and Mr. Kenneth Wynne for the choral tuition; Mr. Archibald Benwell having charge of the musical arrangements.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

The programme of the promenade concert of Thursday evening, Sept. 8, was headed with Smetana's spirited overture to "The Bartered Bride," an excellent performance being secured by the orchestra. In strong contrast to this came Debussy's delicate Prelude, "L'Apres-Midi d'un Faune" and Wormser's "L'Enfant Prodigue" music, "Valse Triste" (Sibelius), and Tschaikowsky's suite, "Le Lac des Cygnes," from his four-act ballet were also included in the programme. The novelty on Thursday evening was Two Night-pieces for Orchestra, by Mr. H. V. Jervis-Read, a skilful but somewhat noisy production, in which the second piece proved the most attractive. Other performances by the orchestra were "Menuet des Follets," "Danse des Sylphes," and "March Hongroise," from Berlioz's *Faust*; and "Fantasia on Welsh Melodies," arranged by Mr. Henry J. Wood. Miss Alice Baxter and Mr. Robert Burnett were the vocalists, the former giving a very effective rendering of "Ritorna Vincitor," from Verdi's *Aïda*.

The late W. J. Hurlstone's suite "The Magic Mirror," was performed for the first time in London at the Concert on Tuesday evening. The compositions of Mr. W. J. Hurlstone during his brief career as composer were always musicianly and free from gloom, that bane of so many young British composers, and several of the six movements in "The Magic Mirror" proved graceful and melodious, "Snow White in the Wood" and "The Death Sleep of Snow White" being the most attractive numbers in the suite. Of other orchestral performances Mendelssohn's Overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* came first in the programme, and was followed by the "Peer Gynt" Suite of Grieg, while excellent renderings were given of Handel's fine Largo, "Ride of the Valkyries" (Wagner), and Delibes' interesting Entr'acte and Valse (*Coppelia*). Mr. Albert Fransella beautifully executed a flute solo of his own composition entitled "Pastorale," and "Tourbillon" (L. Krantz), and E. Kohler's "Papillons." The soloists were Miss Lillie Wormald and Mr. Robert Burnett.

"The music of many instruments was heard that day." This is a phrase which will be thoroughly realised on the occasion of the eleventh annual Brass Band Festival, which takes place at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, Oct. 1, when representative bands from practically all over the country will be heard, and 200 bands will compete for the coveted thousand guinea trophy. During the whole of that day competitions will be held in every part of the Palace, and even the grounds will be utilised where necessary, the results of these contests being shown on the great screen after the performance given by the massed bands at night.

The contest pieces have been selected and arranged by Mr. William Rimmer, the popular conductor of the Southport Municipal Band, who has the unique record of having succeeded in carrying off the thousand guinea trophy for five years in succession. It is interesting to note that the preparations for this event occupy the best part of a year. The business part of the Festival is under the management of Mr. W. D. Cooper, who is secretary to Mr. J. Henry Iles, the musical director of this great "battle of bands."

People are beginning to wake up to the immense importance of good, sound teeth. It is only recently that doctors have discovered that all kinds of maladies can be traced to the condition of the teeth. Those who desire to keep in good health cannot do better than use the world-renowned Odol, which, by its remarkable antiseptic properties, cleanses even the most remote interstices of the teeth and mouth from all kinds of impurity. It is in these that the germs of disease, whether those which cause decay of the teeth or injury to the system and general health, have their breeding-ground, and it is just these remote interstices which the ordinary tooth powder or mouth-wash is powerless to attack. Many people prefer the sweet rose flavoured Odol, which is not so well known as the standard flavour, but is delightfully pungent and aromatic. It is hardly necessary to add that all chemists, stores, &c., keep this invaluable preparation.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent, in the chair; Mr. H. W. Mote, Hon. Solicitor; Messrs. Cyril Cattley, R. A. Greene, Henry Pettitt, J. Poole Kirkwood, Edward Morgan, Murri Moncrieff, C. F. Collings, and Chris Walker, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

With reference to the letter of complaint re a dressing room of a provincial theatre, the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of the manager's letter and to bring the matter up for further consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

The House Committee's report was read by the Chairman, and the recommendations agreed to. Miss Joan Pereira wrote stating that Miss Lallie Forsyth had very kindly presented a clock to the Association to be placed in the dining-room, and that Miss Mabel Leathem had sent some beautifully worked chair covers. The Council instructed the Secretary to acknowledge receipt of the gifts on behalf of the Council, and to express their extreme satisfaction for the kindness of both ladies.

With reference to a letter received from the Secretary of the Touring Managers' Association, the Secretary was instructed to reply that in this case the wish for arbitration emanated from one of their members. The matter was in their hands, and they ought to have secured the fees prior to the arbitration being held. With regard to the second paragraph of the letter, the Secretary was instructed to say that in other arbitrations all payments had been made to the Actors' Orphanage.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester, and adopted. The Secretary submitted report of approximate state of finance and income and expenditure until the end of the year. The Hon. Solicitors reported in three cases.

Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood drew attention to a form of contract being used by the Touring Managers' Association in which the words, 'as approved of by the Actors' Association' occur. As it appeared that this contract had evidently been considered some years ago the Secretary was instructed to ascertain at what date it was passed by the Council.

Mr. Kirkwood brought forward his motion "that in the new year the Actors' Association be registered as a Club," &c. He gave his views re the formation of the proposed club, and after discussion the Hon. Solicitor promised to look into the rules governing clubs and report at the next meeting. Mr. Cattley undertook to resume the discussion in the event of Mr. Kirkwood not being able to be present. Christmas Grose and C. C. Gratton were reinstated, and Marie Ethel Raynor was nominated. The Secretary reported five engagements through the Agency.

"TWO MEN AND A WOMAN."

Drama, in One Act, by Helène Gingold and Laurence Cowen, Produced at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, on Monday, Sept. 12.

John Southey .....Mr. Frank Tennant
Rev. Philip Pangbourne Mr. Charles Fancourt
Naomi Southey .....Miss Ruth Shepherd

The object of this little sketch is evidently to provide a serious prelude to the mirth-provoking farcical play, *Looking for Trouble*, which succeeds it in the programme. The plot somewhat recalls the story of "The Scarlet Letter," inasmuch as the Rev. Philip Pangbourne, John Southey's trusted friend and guide, turns out to be the betrayer of his wife. Southey (of course unaware of his clerical friend's guilt) consults him with regard to her return home penitent after a year's absence and the death of the child of her shame. He refuses to take her back, however, unless she discloses the name of her betrayer, which she refuses to do. Southey beseeches Pangbourne to help him to force her to speak. Naomi enters, and in a highly dramatic scene, faces her betrayer, but still declines to denounce him, notwithstanding his appeal to her to do so, saying that she is repentant, but does not seek revenge.

In an agony of remorse, Pangbourne accuses himself as a false friend, false priest, and one of the greatest sinners in all the world, and the play ends with his departure to purge his sin, and build up a new reputation in another country. The play, which was well received, was excellently acted by the three artists named in the cast.

DALSTON THEATRE.

Five plays nightly is the bill of fare provided for the patrons of the Dalston Theatre this week by members of Mr. Arthur Hardy's company, among whom are Mrs. Russ Whytal and Mr. F. Percival Stevens. The quintuple bill includes two compositions, *A Pot of Caviare* and *A Question of Diplomacy*, by Arthur Conan Doyle; *A Short Exposure*, by F. Anstey; *The Chain*, by Mrs. Herbert D. Cohen; and *The Royal Flower*, an adaptation from the French play *Le Lys* of Alphonse Daudet by Fred Pemberton. Mr. F. Percival Stevens undertakes the lion's share of work, appearing in each of the plays and proving himself a most versatile actor. Mrs. Russ Whytal undertakes three characters. She appears in male attire as the Marquis in *The Royal Flower*, and invests the part with considerable interest, but the actress is seen at her best as Lady Clara, wife of the Foreign Secretary, in *A Question of Diplomacy*, and clearly demonstrates, as she honestly asserts in the course of the episode, that while her husband manages affairs in relation to the Empire, she undoubtedly manages him. Mr. F. Percival Stevens is the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (with the gout); Mr. Frederick Moyes is Prime Minister; Mr. Harry Ashford gives a truthful but withal amusing sketch of a fashionable physician; and Miss Dorothea Desmond is quite natural as the Hon Miss Ida, the Foreign Secretary's daughter, this being one of four characters the lady essays in the course of the evening. She is excellent as Iris Waverley, a young widow, in the farce *A Short Exposure*, in which trifle Mr. Frederick Moyes scores as Mortimer Dolphin, a photographer and retired poet, and Mr. Stevens is decidedly amusing as Loftus Pontifex, a "swank" critic. The most effective representation is the tragedy *A Pot of Caviare*, being an incident during the Boxer insurrection of 1900. The scene is laid at Professor Mercer's bungalow in the besieged European quarter in Ichan, China, and as the Professor Mr. F. Percival Stevens takes full advantage of the opportunities afforded to present a strangely weird and fatefully serious personage. Out of nine characters seven die in the course of the performance of this strangely impressive little play, and the "business" of dying, as the result of poison administered by the professor with the view of thwarting the relentless Boxers in their designs upon their European victims, is extremely well "done." Mr. Frederick Moyes makes a fine Colonel Mannering; Mr. Harry Ashford looks genial as Mr. Patterson, a missionary; Mr. J. P. Wilson is a dashing James Ainslie; Mr. Percy Worrall is an effectively quiet Father Pierre, a French Catholic priest; Miss Eily Malyon is calm to the extent of charm as Mrs. Patterson; and Miss Dorothea Desmond is an attractively innocent Jessie Patterson. The part of a Christian Chinese servant is played by Mr. H. Aingar, while Mr. W. Joyce appears as an English naval officer. The representation elicits genuine applause. Mr. Frederick Moyes is stage director.

FRENCH CRITICISM.

If it be hard enough for the French to understand Shakespeare's tragedies, it must be admitted that an appreciation of his comedies is almost utterly denied to them, says Heine in one of his essays. The poetry of passion is to them intelligible, and they can also to a certain extent comprehend the truth of the characteristic, for their hearts have learned to glow, the impassioned is their own peculiar line, and with their analytical intelligence they can separate every given character into its minutest elements, and calculate the phases or situations into which that character would fall when reduced to the realities of life. But in the magic garden of the Shakespearean comedy all this empirical knowledge is of no avail. At its very gate their understanding fails them, their heart knows nothing definite, and they lack the mysterious divining rod at the touch of which the lock opens. There they stare with amazed eyes through the golden grate, and see how lords and ladies, shepherds and shepherdesses, fools and sages, wander about under the tall trees; how the lover and his loved one rest in the cool shadows and exchange tender words; how now and then a fabulous animal, perhaps a stag with silver horns, comes by, or else a chaste unicorn, leaping from the thicket, lays his head in the lovely lady's lap. And they see how the water-ladies rise with green hair and glittering veils, and how all at once the moon rises, and they hear how the nightingale trills—and they shake their wise heads at all the incomprehensibly nonsensical stuff! Yes, the French can comprehend the sun but not the moon, and least of all the rapturous sobbing and melancholy ecstasy of the nightingales.

Yes, neither their empirical familiarity with human passions, nor their positive knowledge of the world, is of any avail to the French, when they would unriddle the visions and sounds which gleam and ring forth from the magic gardens of Shakespearean comedy; they often think they see a human face, yet when near by it is a landscape fair—what they believed were eyebrows was a hazel-bush, and the nose was a rock, and the mouth a little fountain, as we see them in changing puzzle-pictures. And, on the other hand, what the poor Frenchmen mistake for a strangely gnarled old tree, or marvellous stone, appears on closer view to be a real human face of tremendous expression. And if they succeed in overhearing with strained ears some dialogue which two lovers are holding in the forest-shade, they are still more bewildered, for they hear familiar words in changed sense, and so they swear that these people know nothing of flaming feeling, and the great passion. What they had ordered for refreshment was witty water-ice, not a blazing bowl of love-drink. Nor do they observe that these people are only disguised doves, who converse in a jargon of their own, which one can only learn in dreams or in earliest infancy. But it is worst of all for the French standing outside the grated gate of Shakespearean comedy, when ever and anon a pleasant west wind sweeps over a garden-bed and wafts to their noses most unknown perfume—"What's that?"

Justice demands that I here mention a French writer who, with a cleverness quite his own, imitated Shakespearean comedies, and manifested even in the choice of his models a strange susceptibility to true poetry. This is Alfred de Musset. He wrote, about five years ago, several small dramas which, so far as construction and style are concerned, are altogether after the comedies of Shakespeare. And he has with French facility mastered the caprice, not the humour, of his original. And what is more, there is not wanting in these pretty trifles some of the pure gold of poetry, though it be drawn into the thinnest wire. It was only to be regretted that the then youthful composer had read, in addition to a French translation of the works of Shakespeare, also a version of Byron's poems, and was thereby led into affecting in the costume of the spleeny lord that satiety and weariness of life which it was the fashion of French youth to assume. The rosiest little boys, the healthiest saucy striplings, declared in those days that their sense of enjoyment was quite blunted; they feigned the coldness of old age, and affected a distrait and yawning expression.

Since which time our poor Monsieur de Musset has seen the error of his ways and returned from them, and now plays no more the part of Used-up in his poems; but, alack, those poems now contain, instead of simulated ruin, the far more inconsolable traces of a real decline of bodily and mental power. Ah, this writer reminds me of those artificial ruins which we see in castle gardens of the eighteenth century, which were once weak inventions of a childish fancy, but which in the course of time awaken in us a mournful pity, when they have become weather-beaten and mouldering in earnest, and run into real decay.

The French are, as I have said, little inclined to grasp the spirit of the Shakespearean comedy, and I have found, with one exception only, none among their critics who has even a vague idea of it. Who is this man? Who is the exception? Gutzkow says that the elephant is the *doctrinaire* among animals. And just such a reasonable and perfect paragon of a ponderous elephant has most sagaciously grasped the real being of the Shakespeare comedy. Yes, one can hardly believe it, but it is Monsieur Guizot who has best written on those graceful and most mischievously wanton airy images of the modern muse, and hereupon I translate for the amazement and edification of the reader a passage from a work which was published in 1822 by Ladvocat in Paris, and which is called "De Shakespeare et de la Poésie dramatique, par F. Guizot":—

"The Shakespearean comedies resemble neither those of Molière, nor of Aristophanes, nor of the Romans. Among the Greeks, and in modern times among the French, comedy was the result of a free but careful study of the real world of life, and the problem, or result, was its representation on the stage. The distinctions between comedy and tragedy are to be found in the beginning of dramatic art, and as they were developed the division became more marked. The reason for this lies in the things themselves. The destiny of man, like his nature, his passions, and pursuits, character and occurrences, all in and around us, have serious as well as comic sides, and may be ranged as one or the other, according to our special point of view. This double-sidedness of man and the world has pointed out to dramatic poetry—naturally enough—two very different paths, but while men chose this or that as a place for rivalry or action, art never deviated from the study and representation of reality. Though Aristophanes lashes with unrestrained freedom of fancy the vices and follies of the Athenians, though Molière censures and cuts the errors or abuses of scepticism, avarice, envy, pedantry, courtly etiquette, and of virtue itself—all there is in it is that the two poets handle very different subjects, one bringing on the stage a whole life and people, the other, on the contrary, the incidents of private life, or the inner life of families, and what is laughable in individuals—this difference in comic matrial being a result of a difference in time, place, and civilisation. But to Aristophanes, as to Molière, reality or the real world is always the stage of their representations. What inspire and sustain their poetic mood are the customs and ideas of their age, the vices and follies of their fellow-citizens—above all, nature and the life of man. Comedy, therefore, springs from the world which surrounds the poet, and she adapts herself far more closely than tragedy to the external action of reality."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

OPERA IN ENGLISH.

"Few phenomena in the history of Art," writes Mr. J. W. Galloway in his admirable work on "Musical England," "are more astonishing or more ridiculous than the long-continued effort to make English-speaking audiences appreciate performances in a language they did not understand. It is reasonable enough, perhaps, that Italian opera should be given in Italian, though there is some significance in the ludicrous fact that on its first introduction into this country it used to be performed by a mixed company of Italians and Englishmen, each singing in his own language. But the fashion for Italian, once it had taken root, developed vigorously, in spite of the ridicule of writers from Addison onwards, until it spread to works of different schools and nationalities. Moreover, it proved astonishingly stubborn. Not till 1839 was a French opera, Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, given at Covent Garden in French, this being the first time that any but an Italian work was performed there in its native tongue; not till 1892 did the introduction of German opera by Sir Augustus Harris cause the disappearance of the word 'Italian' from the title of the Covent Garden Opera House, and even in that year the production of a French work—Meyerbeer's *Le Phophète*—was marred by an incongruous Italian chorus; and not till 1895, after productions in the two preceding seasons of Stanford's *Veiled Prophet* and Cowen's *Signa* in Italian, did an English opera—Cowen's *Harold*—attain the distinction of being given in its proper tongue. The inevitable result has been that grand opera has never exercised its true appeal nor obtained a hold on the mass of the public; it has become, instead, the luxury of the rich, and has been degraded from a serious art into a fashionable amusement.

"But the long-continued ascendancy of Italian has had other far-reaching effects. In the first place, it has given rise to a widespread idea that English is essentially unmusical and a vehicle unfit for the expression of sentiment. So far as this meant that existing translations of foreign works were unfit for use, much might—perhaps still may—be urged in support of the view; but on general grounds it cannot be maintained. Nobody pretends that spoken English cannot do justice to sentiment, and there is no special mystery attaching to the interpretation of grand opera sufficient to exclude a language which has been found suitable for detached lyrics, part-songs, the service of the Church, the cantata, and the oratorio. The most that can be said against it is that its employment considerably hampers the popular foreign artist, who may, however, be confidently relied upon to overcome his disabilities as soon as he realises that he is seriously expected to do so. Moreover, if opera in English would lead to a partial exclusion of foreigners, it would at least secure for the music which is sung some of that attention which is now bestowed upon the singers, while it would give to native artists a fairer field for competing in public favour with those who are imported from abroad.

"Again, by failing to attract the great majority of Englishmen, who know no language but their own, the production of opera in a foreign tongue has not encouraged English composers to devote their attention to a form of art which has inevitably failed to win popular support. A second Purcell might have withstood the influence of Handel and changed the course of events; but there was no one strong enough to stem the tide of fashion. Accordingly, for years such composers as Arne, Storace, Arnold, and Bishop neglected almost entirely the severest form of grand opera and worked in a different field, the way to which was originally opened out by the successful production of the *Beggar's Opera* in 1727. The vogue of this distinctive type of 'ballad opera' was short-lived; it hardly lasted more than thirty years; but it set the fashion for light opera; and those who worked in the latter form helped to establish the school which reached its highest artistic expression in the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and, exercising through them an almost immeasurable influence, did much to predispose the modern British public towards the reception of grand opera. This ultimate outcome of their work was not, of course, apparent to Arne and his successors, nor is it more, than parenthetically significant. The important fact is that they neglected grand opera, and though subsequent English works like *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, and *The Lily of Killarney* achieved a lasting popularity, the fashion for Italian militated against the success of Balfe, Wallace, and Benedict, discouraging them as it has discouraged their successors right up to the present day.

"But the strange and curious perversity which boycotted the English language did more than deter native effort. For many years it helped to spread the belief that every province of music was better left to foreigners. The consequent distrust of the claims of English music produced a natural result. English music fell for long enough into the position popularly assigned to it, so that it is only in the last few years that the native musician has begun to come into his own. The operatic field has suffered more than any other and the growth of public interest during the last five-and-twenty years has scarcely reached it yet. Only last summer, when the English artists who form the Moody-Manners Opera Company were drawing crowded houses to a London theatre, it was wisely remarked that metropolitan music-lovers had long withheld their support from such enterprises from a natural disinclination to cultivate a taste with no certain means for securing its continuous ratification. Fortunately the attitude of the public is changing, and success is beginning to come; but in London at least it is humiliatingly recent. For in London there has been for long enough no sufficient public for opera, and this fact goes far, though not indeed quite all the way, to account for the failure of successive enterprises.

"Several times during the nineteenth century the continued neglect of opera aroused the disgust of ardent but misguided enthusiasts, and drove them into the exploitation of premature schemes. It would be unjust to class them all as utter failures, for they accomplished much invaluable spade-work; but their plans came to nothing permanent, because they came too soon, and the public was not ready to receive them. Other causes, of course, contributed to their defeat, and it will be well to see what these were in each case.

"The first important effort was put forward by Samuel James Arnold, who opened the Lyceum theatre as an English Opera House in 1809. His scheme deserved success, for it was not exclusive in its nature, and Arnold was wise enough to see the necessity for producing foreign operas in English. But he was ahead of his time, and suffered the usual fate of those whose ideas are too far in advance of the public intelligence.

"Efforts to establish English Opera were made at Drury Lane in the second quarter of the nineteenth century; by the Pyne-Harrison English Opera Company in 1856; and again at Covent Garden in 1865. These enterprises failed as they were bound to do, and, in so far as they were insular and exclusive, as they deserved to do. It is to be hoped that even the existence of a wider public would not save a restricted enterprise today; for while too much encouragement cannot be given to a venture which exists for the production of opera in English, one which attempts to take its stand solely on English opera does not merit success, at least if it arrogates to itself a position of national pre-eminence."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KINGSWAY THEATRE.

Signor de Macchi's company produced Donizetti's opera *Don Pasquale* on Thursday night at the Kingsway Theatre. Some years ago a revival of *Don Pasquale*, with Signor Bonci in the cast, was given by an Italian company at the Waldorf Theatre, and later on excellent performances of this opera were undertaken by the Castellano Grand Opera Company and at the Royal Opera, but the life and sparkle of Donizetti's work are lost on the large stage of Covent Garden. The libretto of *Don Pasquale* is simple but effective. A rich old man, Don Pasquale, is married—or, at least, thinks so, for the ceremony is only a mock marriage—to a young and handsome lady who already has a lover. After the wedding the supposed wife turns out a perfect tartar, and gives the Don a sharp lesson on what an elderly husband may expect when he marries a young and pretty girl. When Don Pasquale finds out the whole affair is only a hoax he is overjoyed, and finding Ernesto, his nephew, is willing to take the lady off his hands, readily consents to their union, which, of course, is exactly what the plotting lovers want.

Donizetti's score may be somewhat trivial, but the melodious music is admirably adapted to the lively subject, and the charming serenade in the last act is a perfect musical gem. The performance on Thursday night had many interesting features. Signor F. Talamanca as the vain old Don Pasquale proved highly diverting, while an excellent Doctor Malatesta was found in Signor Gaetano Rebonato, who greatly distinguished himself by capital acting and singing. Signor Franco de Gregoria appeared as Ernesto, and sang artistically, but in the serenade of the last act his voice has hardly that purity of tone required to do justice to Donizetti's pretty music. Signorina Isabella de Frate proved a vivacious Norina, and was well up in the lively business of the part. The trio and quartet in the second act went extremely well, and the acting of all concerned was full of life and movement. The costumes were handsome and picturesque, and the scene of the drawing room in Don Pasquale's house, in which most of the action takes place, was admirable. The orchestra, under Signor C. de Macchi, also acquitted themselves far better than in the first performance of *Fra Diavolo*.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Comedy entitled
"OLD HEIDELBERG."

The prospect of seeing this celebrated comedy drew a very large audience to the King's on Monday evening, and very enthusiastic was the manner in which it was received. The story is so prettily and naturally told that it is no wonder that the play appeals to all. There were few dry eyes when the curtain descended finally upon the parting of Karl Heinrich and Kathie. Mr. Ernest Benham's company has had the advantage of having been personally rehearsed by Mr. George Alexander, to whom all playgoers must be eternally grateful for having given us the first hearing of *Old Heidelberg*. Mr. Owen Nares as the young hereditary Prince Karl Heinrich gives a vivid impression of the youth tied down by the hidebound etiquette of a German Court. It is a successful impersonation. That delightful character, Dr. Juttner, the tutor, is admirably rendered by Mr. Ernest Bodkin, and the audience regretfully missed him after the end of the third act. Mr. Frank Powell is the stiff and starched Staatsminister Von Haugh to the life, meriting warm approval. Messrs. Robert Lawrence and George Wyley are excellent as Kammerherr Von Breitenburg and Kammerherr Baron Von Metzing. The Hoffmarschall Freiherr Von Passarge of Mr. Walton Palmer is distinctly good. Mr. Sydney Hamilton is admirable as the valet Lutz, his autocratic flunkeyism being cleverly indicated. Mr. Martin Lewis is good as Scholermann. The rôle of Graf Von Asterberg is well handled by Mr. Alex Onslow, the boyishness and noisiness of student life being skilfully depicted. Mr. C. Derwent Grenville is deserving of praise as Von Wedell. The part of Kellermann is amusingly played by Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will, and Ruder, the innkeeper, has a capital representative in Mr. Percy Crawford. As dainty and sympathetic a Kathie as could be wished for is Miss Kitty Ricimer. Her lightheartedness in the earlier acts, and her earnestness and sympathetic treatment of her share in the scene of parting with Karl Heinrich are most natural. Miss Florence Preddy as Frau Ruder, and Miss Constance Groves as Frau Dörffell lend material assistance. The host of Heidelberg students are in capable hands, and the scenery and costumes are excellent.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

Mr. George Dance's company is here in *The Whip*, and the fine production is drawing full houses. Miss Vera Beringer plays Mrs. D'Aquila in sharp and telling style; and Mr. James Lindsay as Captain Grenville Sartorys is full of cool, plausible villainy. As the Rev. Verner Haslam Mr. Fred Leslie acts with telling passion; and Mr. E. A. Douglas as the Marquis of Beverley plays the part with credit. As Lady Diana Miss Gwendolen Wren is really charming; and Mr. Dallas Cairn does well as Hubert, Earl of Brancaster. Miss Simeta Marsden as Mrs. Beamish is bright and animated; and Mr. Edwin Brett as Tom Lambert is very genial. Mr. Eric Hudson as Joe Kelly is strong and characteristic; and as Myrtle Anson Miss Stella Campbell displays real feeling and pathos. As Harry Anson Mr. Horace Kenney is decidedly praiseworthy; and the minor parts are well sustained. Mr. Hugh Nolan is Mr. Dance's manager, and Mr. Sidney Watson his stage manager, and both are careful and competent in their respective departments.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Drama entitled
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green have brought a good company with this piece, and are doing good business. Mr. Jerrold Heather is cordially received by Lyric patrons as Zaco Maletto, and gives a fine performance, and Miss Hilda Shirley is powerful and refined as Myra Maletto. Wilfred Grey is well rendered by Mr. Colin F. Peckover, and Mr. G. Mortimer Hancock is efficient as Colonel Crichton. The part of Jim Rogers is suitably allotted to Mr. Sam Edwards; and Paul is cleverly played by Mr. P. Morton Wright. Mr. William Allan well sustains the rôle of Detective Smart, and Miss Winifred Rutland is happily chosen as Lily, the White Angel. Mr. Frank Shepherd as Peter Pimple is agile and amusing; and Miss Elsie Dene smart and fresh as Dolly Dimple. To Mr. P. Lawrence and Mr. William George fall the rôles of Sergeant Wiggins and P.-C. Jenkins respectively, and their performances deserve warm praise.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Romantic Comedy, entitled
"THE LITTLE DAMOZEL."

The charm of *The Little Damozel* and her joys and sorrows, as shown in the play of the same name by Mr. Monckton Hoffe, have quite captivated the hearts of the patrons of the Kennington Theatre, where the comedy has been presented during this week by an admirable company sent out by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow. Miss Emélie Polini's portrayal of the Little Damozel is thoroughly natural in every mood in which the author presents the pleasure-loving harpist of the Café Angelique. Miss Polini shows herself once again to be an actress of genuine power and sincerity. Mr. Alick Chumley makes a worthy successor to Mr. Charles Hawtrey, and his rendering of Rocklaw Poole, the "man about town," is very interesting. The scoundrelly Captain Neil Partington is played with effective restraint by Mr. George A. Brandram. Mr. Mark Blow gives excellent point to the many good sayings placed in the mouth of the Hon. Fitzroy Lock, the pertinaceous insurance agent, and Mr. William Matthews makes a cheery proprietor of the café. The members of the orchestra were presented with much skill by Captain Gambier as the philosophic Papa Bartholdy, and by Mr. H. Ravenscroft and Mr. Frank Roy as Franz Pepo and Abraham respectively, each giving a touch of character to a slender part. Miss Marion Lockie as the girl the memory of whose face has been retained during his black years by Rocklaw Poole, was thoroughly adequate. *The Little Damozel* was preceded by a meritorious little curtain-raiser, entitled *An Idol's Message*, by Mr. Guy Newall, who was assisted in the performance by Mr. George Brandram and Miss Maude Rivers.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Play, entitled
"THE EYES OF THE WORLD."

A very strong attraction is provided here in Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company in that well-known play of French society life, *The Eyes of the World*. The play deals with the unspeakable miseries which people of the fashionable world have to endure in order to retain their position. Miss Ethel van Praagh supports the part of Helene de L'Orme, who, finding her husband unfaithful, leaves him and braves the consequences. In the scene in which she returns and confronts her spouse and his mistress she displays to their full extent her fine acting powers; but in fact throughout the play Miss Praagh is easily the dominating character. Mr. J. Edward Whitty is responsible for the rôle of the young advocate, Achille Fanfarade, and a very amusing fellow he makes him. Mr. Robertson Foulis in the character of the degraded and cowardly Hector de L'Orme does all that is possible. Mr. Guy P. Ellis is excellent as Gaston de Carnac, who is so intent on achieving success that he does not realise his wife's infidelity. Mr. Roger Carleton is a manly and amiable Octave; Mr. R. Wilton Bedford displays some neat traits of humour in the part of Paul Roqueville; Mr. Harold Forde is good as the faithful servant, Brigard; Miss Flora Hastings plays well the unpleasant part of the deceitful wife, Esme de Carnac; Miss Nellie Garside is a bright and vivacious Susanne Pomfleure; and Miss Edith Rutland is an engaging Avice. A word of praise should be given to the very excellent mounting.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

A welcome change from drama is this week being presented here with the production by Mr. J. W. Cordiner of the above successful musical comedy. Mr. Walter Boyce does good work as General Garston; Mr. Walter Ashley is a dashing and handsome Captain George Fielding; while Mr. James Morath fulfils admirably the part of Captain Edward Dudley. Miss Dorothy Desmonde is a captivating and dainty heroine, and sings charmingly. Miss Lillie Elvido is a sprightly Rosy Ann; and Mr. Fred W. Graham capital as Silas Crump. Mr. Geoffrey Berwick is well cast as Featherston Haugh; Polly is pleasingly played by Miss Iris Elvido, and Ruth finds a charming representative in Miss Margaret S. Forbes. The other characters are well sustained. *Dare-Devil Dorothy* is prettily mounted, and some graceful dances are given by the Two Elvidos, and smart specialities by Mr. Geoffrey Berwick, Miss D. Desmonde, Mr. Fred W. Graham, and Miss Margaret S. Forbes. The chorus and augmented orchestra are capitally controlled by Mr. Louis Elgar. The whole is carefully produced under the control of Mr. J. W. Cordiner. Mr. Newman Maurice is, as usual, to the fore as manager for Mr. Fred Melville.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Farce, in Three Acts, by Charles Marlowe, entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

The walls of the Kingston playhouse have resounded this week with the laughter occasioned by the performance of this most laughable farce. Mr. James Welch's part of Sir Guy de Vere is filled by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce, who extracts from it all the humour it is capable of yielding. Miss Isla Glyn is appearing as Lady Rowena, in which part she discloses considerable ability; and charming appearances are made by Miss Sadie Hope and Miss L. Lewes in the respective rôles of Milly and Lady Marjorie Eggington. Miss Violet Noel acquits herself well as Miss Sarah Isaacson, and the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave is capably represented by Miss Lena Flowerdew. Others who acquit themselves with distinction are Miss Juliet Matheson, Miss E. Oliphant, Mr. Colin Johnston, Mr. Humphrey Warden, Mr. Chas. Lloyd, Mr. John Cecil, and Mr. Percy R. Goodyer.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"HAVANA,"

Mr. Alexander Leighton has brought his company in the above popular Gaiety production. Bright, pretty, tuneful, and full of humour, the play is a huge success. Jack Villiers is well placed in the hands of Mr. Oliver Rogers, who is heartily supported by Mr. J. Brian Rideout as Frank Charteris. Mr. Cyril K. Percival is very funny as Don Adelfo, the "Telephone Song" and "Hullo, People!" with "The *Daily Mirror* Beauties" being most agreeably sung. Mr. Arthur Wingrave gives the amount of dignity required for Bombito del Campo, whose sister, Isabelita, is pleasingly delineated by Miss Edith Barwell. Miss Winnie Milne makes a pretty flower-seller; as Consuelo Miss Hebe Bliss acts successfully; and to Miss Winnie Browne must be given the highest praise, her singing and dancing winning her rounds of applause. Nix and Reggie Brown are admirably played by Messrs. John R. Vale and Reg Edwards, two excellent comedians. The other characters are placed in capable hands. Dresses, scenery, and stage effects are admirable.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the Play, in Three Acts, by George Paston and W. B. Maxwell, entitled
"THE NAKED TRUTH."

A capital company, managed by Miss Molesworth and Mr. Blow is giving a bright and lively representation of this successful farce. The leading rôle of Bunny Darrell, the "George Washington *malgré lui*," is in the capable hands of Mr. Stanley Logan, who plays in finished style and an admirable sense of the situation. Mr. Townsend Whitling as Uncle James is a typical Anglo-Indian, as peppery and explosive as one could wish. Mr. Besley Beltram plays quietly and effectively as Mr. Hayter. Mr. Erskine Lang as the ineffable Teddy Lestrange is a source of constant merriment. Mr. Laurence Arthur does well in the rather exaggerated sketch of the doctor; and Mr. James Heddon raises many laughs as the bewildered clerk, Prosser. Miss Kathleen Maude plays prettily as Darrell's fiancée, Norah, a part which has less of the broadly comic element, and more of human sentiment. So also with the part of Mrs. Darrell, the mother, which is well taken by Miss Ormonde Wynne. Miss Dora Fellowes plays brightly as Madame Favre; and Miss Violet Temple plays the part of Mrs. Duckett with vigour and humour. Miss Lillian Russell gives an excellent study of the well-trained domestic Hammond. Miss Violet Ley shows some power in her rendering of the part of Mrs. Hayter. The company play well together, and the piece goes briskly from beginning to end. *The Naked Truth* is preceded by the popular sketch, *Feed the Brute*, which is well acted by three members of the company.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. CHAS. ROAD-NIGHT.

One of the newest additions to the ranks of travelling actor-managers is the gentleman with the above striking name. He commenced his career as an actor eight years ago with Messrs. Sass and Nelson's répertoire company, playing in pieces like *A Gaiety Girl*, *A French Maid*, *The Belle of New York*, *Gentleman Joe*, &c., and remained with those gentlemen for a period of two years. Prior to this he had been fighting in the South African campaign as a soldier, and had distinguished himself on more than one occasion. "Having got tired of bully beef and biscuits," says Mr. Road-Night, "I came down to Pietermaritzburg and joined the Natal Mounted Police—a fine body of men. Here I met a nephew of the late Sir Redvers Buller and several V.C. men. My time in this corps was indeed pleasant. A free life, open country, and no business worries, with plenty of game—there was nothing better to wish for."

Mr. Road-Night, however, was not contented, for it happened that Messrs. Sass and Nelson brought a company to the theatre at Durban. He went down to see the performance, and was so enraptured with the life that he then and there made an application, and was accepted. On the termination of the engagement Mr. Road-Night was secured by Miss Minnie Palmer, who was then making a tour through South Africa with *My Sweetheart*, for the part of Frank Bartlett. His other engagements out there included those with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler and Mr. Robert Brough. Very shortly afterwards Mr. Road-Night came over to England, and almost immediately Mr. J. Bannister Howard engaged him to play Leandro in *Florodora*. On the termination of a two years' engagement with that popular musical comedy Mr. R. C. Buchanan made Mr. Road-Night an offer of a position as stage-manager at Harrogate, which he readily accepted. That year the pantomime *Cinderella* was a pronounced success, and the following year at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, enjoyed a run of six weeks. Amongst recent parts Mr. Road-Night has played his Wittle, in *When Knights were Bold*, stands out very prominently.

MR. ROAD-NIGHT.

He would have gone out to play this part again, but for a tempting offer by the well-known actress-manageress, Miss M. Morton, to undertake the general-managership of her company, an opportunity which Mr. Road-Night was glad to take. He has since secured the rights of the Gaiety success *Havana*, which is proving a success in the provinces. Mr. Road-Night has arranged to tour *The Prodigal Son* and *The Dairymaids* at Christmas, in addition to three companies already on the road.

An Anglo-Indian by birth, Mr. Road-Night was born in Bombay. He has travelled all over the world, and speaks six languages. His favourite pastime is boxing, his excellence in which is proved by the fact that he is the holder of the light-weight championship of the South African Police.

THE BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 12,
"FAUST."

The appearance of the Carl Rosa Opera Company is one of the great events of the season here, and the seating capacity of this large theatre is taxed to the utmost on their visits. Gounod's opera is ever absorbing, the music is delightful, and the representation of the familiar characters in this production leaves little to be desired. Mr. E. C. Hedmondt is the Faust; he looks the part and sings with artistic power and finish. The Mephistopheles of Mr. Arthur Winckworth is a very fine performance, vocally and dramatically; Mr. Hobden Foster's Valentine is very good indeed; Mr. George Reid is an excellent Wagner; Miss Beatrice Miranda is a charming Marguerite, gentle and sympathetic, and singing the well-known numbers of the part with sweetness and power; Miss Phyllis Archibald is an excellent Siebel; and the Martha of Miss Douglas Wilson is clever and humorous. All the smaller parts were well filled. On Tuesday there was a production of *Maritana*, Miss Ina Hill being a charming representative of the title-part; Miss Mabel Dennis, a clever vocalist and actress, made the most of Lazarillo; Mr. Walter Wheatley was a fine Don Cæsar; and Mr. D. Marcus an excellent Don José. On Wednesday *Tannhäuser* and *The Bohemian Girl* were given, on Thursday *Carmen*, and on Friday *The Queen of Sheba*. Miss Annie Elliott is a graceful and clever prima danseuse, the chorus is admirable, and the conductors for the week are Mr. Walter Van Noorden and Mr. Eugene Goossens.

"The Upstart," a farce comedy in three acts, was the opening attraction at Maxine Elliott's Theatre, New York, on the 1st inst. The Rev. James Mitchell and his young wife are not happy, and the reason is that the latter longs for ardent affection, but all she gets are theories and sermons. The Rev. James quotes Schopenhauer, and says that "the scourge of married life is familiarity." Enter this household a young student, named Coventry Patmore, with decided views on the subject of marriage and divorce, which he brays forth at every opportunity. In other words, he thinks he has a "mission." His theory is that the Courts are wrong in granting divorces, that happiness will come only when a husband is ready and willing to give up his wife to another man if he finds he cannot make her happy. Being led to believe that her husband has seen the truth of this theory the minister's wife elopes in a motor-car with her chauffeur, only to be caught when the car breaks down. The lady discovers that her chauffeur used to drive a taxi-cab, and is quickly disillusioned, so that a reconciliation is effected when the husband appears. Coventry Patmore is still "spouting" his theories as the curtain goes down. The play was cleverly acted by Messrs. David Glassford, John Westley, George Woodward, and Miss Jane Cowl. It was withdrawn after three performances.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS."

Play, in Three Acts, by H. M. Richardson, Produced for the First Time on any Stage by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Sept. 12.

Harry Blake	Mr. Milton Rosmer
Mr. Vernal	Mr. Edward Landor
Mrs. Dale	Miss Irene Rooke
Laurence Dale	Mr. Stanley Drewitt
Mr. Maxom	Mr. Henry Austin
Mr. McAndrews	Mr. Esmé Percy
Mr. Barlow	Mr. Charles Bibby
Tommy	Mr. Leonard Chapman
Mr. Bexley	Mr. James V. Bryant
Mr. Dilburne	Mr. Frank Darch
Mr. McPherson	Mr. Francis Hope
Mr. Bilson	Mr. Stafford Dawson
The Master Printer	Mr. Herbert Lomas

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In *Gentlemen of the Press* we have in some respects a unique entertainment. The scene is the Leader Writer's Room at the *Daily Planet* office, in which a free presentment is given of the inner workings of a newspaper staff. These are revealed not more fully than is warranted by the title of the play, though, to the credit of the author's wit and fancy, exaggerations are not conspicuous by their absence.

In the centre of the action are two of the leader writers, Harry Blake, a man of the moment, inspired merely by the necessities of his office, and Laurence Dale, a man abnormally possessed by conscience and a love of the truth. The difference between these men is one upon which the mass of journalists will lean to the side of Blake, and it is perhaps unfortunate for the author that the average newspaper cannot, by the very nature of its constitution, give countenance to the arguments of Dale. All men are liars, but especially is this so of newspaper men, says Dale, since their writings are dictated by policies, and conscience therefore must be sacrificed to expediency. The *Methodist Times* or the *War Cry* might, Blake suggests, be better suited to his colleague's frame of mind. But absolute truth is not anywhere, and bread and butter must be had; and if Dale will not write up a manufactured war scare for the *Planet* there are any number of men who are ready to do so as cheerfully as they will contradict the rumour when required. Here, in fact, is the material to hand—a bogus discovery of amazing treachery to England, which is to inflame the popular imagination and add to the prestige of the paper, and it is Dale's duty to write it up. In the meantime something has happened which adds piquancy to this question of conscience. Dale has been accompanied to the office by his wife. While her husband is in the editor's room she and Blake come together, for they are carrying on a clandestine and serious love affair. She agrees to ring Blake up on the telephone if she finds herself alone at home a little later on, Blake's intention being to go and keep her company for half an hour or so. Following this incident, the chief reporter makes his appearance with a dreadful story of bribery, to be charged against Barlow, a junior, for having received a sovereign from a dishonest baker to take no professional note of the latter's case in court. This unpardonable piece of corruption is gone into by Mr. McAndrews, the Scotch editor, in fine style, the result being that Barlow has the privilege of tendering his resignation instead of being dismissed on the spot. Barlow, however, is not the young man to take it quietly, and Laurence Dale puts forward friendly interposition on his account. Both are, in fact, of one mind—Barlow sees it in a flash! What he has done is no worse than the editor and the rest of them are doing, namely, taking their wages as bribery for suppression of the truth in other forms. But this shocking retort does not save him. Later, while Dale is alone in the room, the telephone bell rings. He answers it, but finds that it is Blake who is wanted. The latter, coming in, goes to the 'phone and speaks to Mrs. Dale. Dale has recognised the voice, and his suspicions are aroused. When Blake has gone out, ostensibly to meet someone at the club, Dale is disturbed by the entrance of Mr. Dilburne, one of the staff whose night off it is, and whom he asks to write the distasteful leader on the war scare, so that he may be at liberty to keep an appointment. Dilburne is the very opposite of Dale; he rattles the thing off with gusto, having no qualms whatever on the score of conscience.

The interview which takes place between Blake and Mrs. Dale is pertinent enough to the question of Dale's obsession. Between husband and wife there is no love, but of that transcendental sort in the former which would make him sacrifice her freely to the man she really loves. There are no children of the marriage; there is indeed no real tie. Dale has already gone so far as to say that were he free he would go abroad and begin a new, "clean" life. But this implies his self-sacrifice to the present for the sake of his love for his wife; and this the latter sees, in spite of the dubious light Blake throws on it, when the lovers argue their future on Mrs. Dale's resolve that their meetings must be at an end. Blake is about to accept the inevitable—is, in fact, leaving—when Dale arrives at the house. Blake conceals himself behind the window curtains and hears all that passes. Dale satisfies himself that his wife no longer loves him, but he is very gentle with her, laying himself out to bring her to a confession for the sake of simple truth. To be true to oneself at any cost—that is the thing! So pointed are his persuasions and his argument that Blake comes out from the curtains at last, and so the whole truth is out. Dale accepts the situation, adjures Blake to "be good to her," and takes a melancholy departure. It is, to say the least, unusual; but Dale is a rigid idealist, and he acts accordingly. The sequel takes place in the Sub-Editor's Room at the *Planet* office. There is to be but one simple issue, but it is approached by means of an elaborate gathering of the staff round the table, to make speeches and drink whisky in regretful celebration of the immediate resignation of Laurence Dale. This scene may be overdrawn, but it is unquestionably diverting. Dale himself provides the whisky, and there is to be a presentation of some token of esteem, which is to be sent on. Dale speaks last, and will not allow anyone to drink until he has come to the end of what he has to say. He speaks for conscience and the truth. At last he raises his glass and drains it, but prevents anyone from joining him by confessing that the whisky is poisoned, and that he will be dead in a few minutes. That is the end.

The acting, as is usual with this remarkable company, was uniformly excellent. Mr. Milton Rosmer conveyed with ease and finish the sense and sentiment of Harry Blake, in striking contrast to the brooding restlessness and dissatisfaction of Laurence Dale, who was impersonated with convincing fervour and sincerity by Mr. Stanley Drewitt. As Mrs. Dale Miss Irene Rooke showed herself a mistress of emotional acting. Mr. Vernal, the chief sub-editor on the *Daily Planet*, found a capital exponent in Mr. Edward Landor; Mr. Henry Austin as Mr. Maxom, the chief reporter, acquitted himself with characteristic ease; and a performance of high merit was the Barlow of Mr. Charles Bibby. Mr. Esmé Percy almost surpassed himself as the dignified but not unsociable Scotch editor, McAndrews, lending a touch of sedate comedy to the final scene, and looking like anybody but himself; and a bright piece of work was that of Mr. James V. Bryant as Bexley, the dirty-faced "sub," who ate sweetmeats out of a bag and drank ginger beer out of the bottle. The smaller parts were correspondingly well filled by Messrs. Leonard Chapman, Frank Darch, Francis Hope, Stafford Dawson, and Herbert Lomas.

THE POETRY SOCIETY.

Mr. Forbes Robertson said some very pertinent things at the audition he held in behalf of the Poetry Society on Saturday last. He had listened patiently to about a score of amateur and professional exponents of the art of speaking verse, whose efforts he commended, and then he proceeded to give some excellent advice which thoroughly endorsed the methods and policy of the Poetry Society. He had not come to flatter, but to judge, he said, but he was very agreeably surprised at the way the examinees had recited and read. They had shown taste and discrimination. In some cases, the voices were not loud or strong enough for that large hall (the Throne Room of the Holborn Restaurant). With some there was a tendency to depart from natural delivery and to sing or chant instead of delivering the words in the simplest possible way, and in others to indulge in gesticulation. Gesticulation, especially in the speaking of lyrical poetry, was out of place, the most finished demonstrator of the art pointed out. It did not assist the reciter to convey a certain emotion or a certain feeling, and it was better that he should confine himself to the use of the voice, impressing the audience by intonation and inflection and facial expression, eliminating altogether the adjunct of action. With lyrical poetry the words should be spoken without any action whatever. They were not appealing to the eye; they were not part of a scene, but standing alone expressing beautiful words and ideas through the voice as readers or reciters.

The tendency of reciters to drop the voice at the end of a line was noticed. The last word or two had to be watched very carefully, lest, having come to the end of a sentence, the voice was not supported, the air being exhausted, and the word disappeared, the sense of the line or sentence being lost to the audience.

Another great thing to remember, Mr. Forbes Robertson pointed out, was not only to secure true pronunciation and clear enunciation, and to give effect to the emotion and feeling of a poem, but to give careful consideration to the value and object of each word, not its value in the line or phrase, but the actual mere sound of the word. So many words in the English language were in themselves beautiful sounds, and, therefore, it behoved the reciter to be very careful to give out clearly the preciousness of the sounds themselves, apart from elocutionary efforts. Every word in the language had its own character and mission apart from its position in the line. There were words so beautiful that they must be given with all their purity. And if we were conscious of the beauty of words, and felt them deeply ourselves, we should go a long way to producing the effect of beauty on our audiences.

Such work as they were engaged on, Mr. Forbes Robertson declared, was most praiseworthy and admirable in every way. He hoped they would continue in their efforts, and that they would remember that sincerity and naturalness were to be striven after and mannerisms avoided. "Be perfectly natural, simple, and unaffected, and conscious of the beauty of the language."

The examination was arranged for the personal satisfaction and benefit of the members of the Poetry Society, and also as a test of the qualifications of members who might be called on to act as missionaries of the Society and "demonstrators of the art of speaking verse." Each candidate was liable to be called upon to "speak" two poems ("The Blessed Damozel" and Wordsworth's "The World is too Much With Us"), to read a portion of "Abt Vogler," and to recite or read a poem selected by the examiner, and one chosen by themselves as indicative of their personal style and taste. To hear each candidate do this programme would have involved a sitting of ten or twelve hours, and the expert examiner was content to hear about a third of "The Blessed Damozel" spoken and the Wordsworth sonnet or a part of "Abt Vogler" read, excessive repetition—which, while illustrating the varying styles, was apt to become monotonous—being avoided by some of the candidates being allowed to recite or read the pieces selected by themselves. All the candidates were members of the Society, comprising private members from Hampstead and Kensington centres, teachers of elocution and professional reciters, a devoted old lady of seventy-three, an Oxford-street business girl, who showed she possessed both intelligence and ability, a lady from far-off Texas, and a tall, handsome girl from Sydney, N.S.W., straight and slender and brown as a cornstalk—a collection typical of the wide appeal and ramifications of the Poetry Society. In their different ways, trying and embarrassing though the audition was, they showed considerable ability, giving evidence, in the opinion of the examiner (with whom was associated Mr. Galloway Kyle, the director of this most desirable and active Society) "of a great feeling for poetry. The average was very high, and the exhibition most satisfactory under the circumstances." This endorsement by a great living authority was most gratifying to the Society and the painstaking enthusiasts who submitted themselves to Saturday's ordeal, and will result in a wider practical application of the Society's very necessary work.

MISS FLORENCE IMESON'S WORK.

Amongst those from whom the Cape Town public will part with sincere regret is Miss Florence Imeson, the gifted artist whose beauty, lightness, grace, and charm contributed more than the lion's share to the success of the season. With one or two exceptions she has borne the brunt of the heaviest part in the different productions, never once was at a loss for a line, and frequently was able to cover up the hiatus caused by a lapse of memory of some other player. Whether the rôle was great or small she entered into it with a wholehearted zest and vigour which infused fresh life into many a lagging scene. It is difficult to say whether her portrayal of Molly Seamore in *The Geisha* or Lydia Hawthorne in *Dorothy* was the best thing she has done, but these performances certainly rank among the best interpretations of the respective characters ever seen here or in Great Britain. In *The Geisha* she was the gay, careless, light-hearted English girl to the life, and the abandon with which she invested her work at a critical moment when the performance began to drag listlessly, and compelled the company to play up to her, will not readily be forgotten in Cape Town, because the result of her magic spell was one of the finest renderings of Sidney Jones's famous work ever given here.—*South African News*, Aug. 5.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

Mr. Walter Melville's combination is presenting *A Girl's Cross Roads*, which has obtained a hearty reception. As Farmer Meadows Mr. Ed. Valentine's genial, hearty manner and quaint delivery win many admirers; Mr. Carl F. Kerzo is an earnest Jack Livingstone, but should "let himself go" more; the villainy of Cuthbert Lumbeg is well brought out by Mr. Fred Rivers; and as his quondam companion in crime Luke Ramsden Mr. Leslie Nolan works hard, as does also Miss Adah Rothwell as Nellie Meadows. Miss Doris Whyte is very sweet and sympathetic as Constance Cornell; as the poor degraded Barbara Wade Miss Nell Oliver is very effective; Mr. Kendrew Milson is well cast as Dr. Weston; and the comedy is supplied by Miss Amy Rudd and Mr. Willie Scott, who raise roars of laughter by their antics. The play is well staged and dressed.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"COMME ILS SONT TOUS."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Ad. Aderer and Ephraim, Produced at the Comédie-Française on Sept. 9.

La Préfète	MLLE. DU MINIL
Ginette	MLLE. PIERAT
Laure	MLLE. DUSSANNE
Mme. Leloutre	MLLE. BOVY
Baronne de Chanceney	MLLE. PROVOST
Baron de Chanceney	M. BERNARD
Comte Latour-Guyon	M. GRAND
Chabannes	M. NUMA
Le Colonel	M. GARAY
St. Didier	M. DE FERAUDY
Professeur	M. LAFON
Bocaire	M. GUILHENE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 15.—The new play brought out by the Comédie-Française met with a well-deserved success. The story is as follows. M. Ménard, a senator, has two daughters, Laure and Ginette. Laure, the elder, who divorced her husband, has taken a dislike to the male sex. Ginette, on the other hand, has centred her affections on the Comte de Latour-Guyon, a dashing cavalry officer. Ce que femme veut, Dieu le veut! Ginette wanted the captain, and before many weeks have elapsed she becomes his wife. The Count has always been a great admirer of the fair sex, but marriage has steadied him, and during fifteen months he remains so faithful to his young wife that he thinks himself proof against temptation. He has made a mistake. The fascinating Baronne de Chanceney, one of his former mistresses puts in an inopportune appearance. The two ex-lovers converse for a quarter of an hour, and that short space of time is sufficient for the lady to get him back into her toils. The inexperienced Ginette does not see that her husband is "running off the rails," and it is only when her sister tells her bluntly what is going on that she realises her misfortune. Then follows a violent scene between husband and wife. The Count shows himself repentant, and things might have been settled then and there if Ginette had not committed the mistake of taunting him with having married her "for her money." Whereupon the Count grows indignant, and for the moment any attempt at reconciliation is useless. There is only one course open to them—divorce. But things are not carried so far. The wife of a Prefect, the Count's first cousin, comes to the rescue, and makes Ginette understand that men like the Count have to be treated like puppets, with whom one has to pull certain strings to make them go in every direction. Ginette follows the advice of this woman of the world. She cleverly induces the Baroness to write the Count a letter, wherein she declares that their intimacy has come to an end; and there will be no divorce. The work was beautifully interpreted. Mlle. Pierat had a great success, especially in the third act; Mlle. Provost was a fascinating Baronne de Chanceney; Mlle. du Minil was a convincing Préfète; and M. Grand as the Count proved himself a thorough comedian. Mlle. Dussanne made the most of the unpleasant rôle of Laure.

"L'ENLEVEMENT DES SABINES."

Play in Three Acts and Four Tableaux, by MM. J. Lemaire and Schonhan, Produced at the Nouveautés on Sept. 10.

Mme. Levernois	MME. MAUREL
Marcelle	MLLE. DERMINY
Paulette	MLLE. PARYS
Rose	MME. JENNY ROSE
Augustine	MLLE. GALLY
Levernois	M. GERMAIN
Bédarride	M. MATRAT
Tourette	M. GORBY
Charles	M. LANDRIN
Emile	M. LEPRINCE

The above work is of foreign importation. We were told that in Germany it had a phenomenal run, and we, therefore, were anxious to hear this marvel produced. It raised some laughter, but it is not likely to keep the bill for fifteen hundred nights like it appears it did in the land of the spiked helmets. The plot, we were assured, has been slightly altered by the adapter. *L'Enlèvement des Sabines* is not only the title of the play, it is also that of a tragedy in five acts, written years ago by M. Levernois, a professor of history at the College in Pont-sur-Oise. His daughter is the wife of a Dr. Tourette, and the good professor, respected by all except by his wife, would have continued to lead a peaceful life had he but taken the precaution of tearing up his tragedy. Unfortunately, he lays his hands on the MS., he reads it again, and finally convinces himself that it is a masterpiece. It so happens that Bédarride, director of the Quatrième Théâtre Français, comes with his company to Pont-sur-Oise. The Professor shows his tragedy to Bédarride, who undertakes to produce it, promising not to divulge the author's name. From that moment the poor Professor's life becomes a misery. How can he attend the rehearsals, now that his wife has returned too soon from her stay in the country? At last, after many tribulations, the first night arrives. The first act of *L'Enlèvement des Sabines* falls flat, but the second fares better, the audience grows enthusiastic, and the play is a tremendous success. Mme. Levernois, for the first time in her life, is proud of her husband, who, thanks to his tragedy, has become the greatest man in the district. The work was smartly played by the efficient cast of the Nouveautés.

THE following letter is quoted by Mr. R. J. Broadbent in his recently-published and very interesting pamphlet, "Elizabeth Farren, Countess of Derby." It was supposed to have been addressed to Mrs. Farren by Whiteley, the manager, soon after her arrival in Manchester:—

"Madam,—I have duly considered the subject of our late conversation, and do not think there is the least chance of your deriving any permanent benefit from theatrical pursuits. Inclination does not confer talent; for the sake of yourself and children I strenuously advise you to turn your attention to some other less dangerous and precarious line of life. I say less dangerous as applies to your daughters. I have passed a long career upon the stage, and where I have seen one person prosperous and happy, ten have failed, and many, particularly females, have been morally cast away. If I had been bred as a shoemaker or tailor, and had followed those humble callings with the same diligence that I have endeavoured to get forward as an actor, I should, in all probability, be now independent. Look round you in this busy town, and you will see hundreds of persons who were destitute as it were but yesterday, and are now in the high road to wealth. Fix on some safe and certain occupation. Even a laundress, with tolerable plenty of work, is preferable to treading the stage as a *make-weight*. Do not feel offended at this bluntness. Nature has not endowed you with the qualities that are requisite to ensure success: as to Betsy, although she seems to possess every natural requisite, she is yet too young, and were she my daughter, I would sooner rear her up to go to service in a respectable family! Inclosed is a trifle of which I entreat the acceptance. When the wheel of fortune takes a more favourable turn you may return it. I would not advise you to leave Manchester. It is a busy, thriving town; let me hear your determination: and if you feel inclined to make any attempt in the way of trade, I will, with the utmost readiness, aid your views as far as my means permit. Meantime, with the utmost sincerity, I remain your friend,—W."

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER WERT DES LEBENS."

Play, in Four Acts, by W. Nemirovitch-Dantschenko, Produced at the Modernes Theatre, Sept. 10.

Demurin	HERR REUSS
Anna	FRAULEIN ISENTA
Hermann Demurin	HERR FELIX
Claudia	FRAULEIN SILTEN
Eudoxia	FRAULEIN MONATI
Nikolei	HERR FEHER
Warja	FRAULEIN DIESERN
Constantin	HERR WEIGNER
Morskoi	HERR PLANÉ
Sascha	FRAULEIN DAVID

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Sept. 15.—The author is well known here from the fact of his being the manager of the Artistic Theatre at Moscow, the company of which gave such a highly successful season at the Berliner Theatre last year. His chief merits lie in the way of mounting, and greater perfection could not easily be conceived than M. Nemirovitch-Dantschenko's management. This being allowed, the truth must be told that this very clever manager is not a successful playwright. The applause that the piece provoked was due alone to the excellent acting and mounting, and perhaps a modicum for auld lang syne. Herr Flachs-Fokschaneanu has translated the play in very good style, not a point—I am assured by those who know the piece in the original—having been lost. The action passes in Moscow, where a young man employed in M. Demurin's factory has committed suicide because he had a liaison of three years' standing with the wife of his chief. Plot there is, properly speaking, none; everything turns upon this suicide, and the "value of life" is the psychological discussion between all the persons of the play. The one dramatic scene is that in which Anna Demurin feels herself impelled to confess her sin to her unconscious husband. He makes things lively for a while; in fact, to use an Americanism, he raises Cain. This is in the third act, and here the piece should end, but the author adds a wearisome fourth, in which the justly-enraged husband becomes quite suddenly gentle as a lamb, how or why remains to the audience an enigma. This is the first novelty of the new management, and as such was not uninteresting.

THREE one-act pieces were given for the first time at the Neues on Saturday last. The first was a farce by the clever satirist Ludwig Thoma entitled *Erste Klasse*, and decidedly the best of the three. The scene is laid in a first-class compartment of an express train, where a Berlin "bagman"—as impudent and bombastic a specimen as any author could depict—a member of the Imperial Diet (of peasant extraction and not much education), a honeymoon couple, and one or two other "types" are collected together. The conversation that takes place is very amusing, and jokes are freely made at the expense of the authorities—sly hits such as have made the reputation of Ludwig Thoma as a member of the "Simplicissimus" staff. The two other pieces were by Max Burkhard, one entitled *Die unbedeutende Frau*, the other *Comtesse Clo*, and both are part of a cycle entitled "Die verflixten Frauenzimmer." They were neither funny nor decent, and the reception was not particularly cordial, which says something for the good taste of the audience. All the pieces were admirably acted.

"WANN KOMMST DU WIEDER?" a three-act comedy by W. Somerset-Maugham, was produced at the New Schauspielhaus on Tuesday, with much success. It is translated by B. Pogson, who might perhaps have supplied a less awkward title, but who has otherwise done the work very commendably. *When Are You Coming Back?* is certainly known to your readers. The story of pretty Penelope, who worries her husband Dr. O'Farrell with this question every time he stirs from her side, is amusingly told. The reconciliation, after O'Farrell has cured his little wife of over-devotion by attention to her friend, is complete, especially when Penelope has given him tit for tat, and the audience never had a dull moment from start to finish. Applause was loud and hearty, and the interpretation being capital, there is every prospect of a lengthy run.

A NEW farce by M.M. Hennequin and Veber, *Noblesse Oblige*, has been produced with the best results at the Residenz. It is much the same style of piece as we have seen there a dozen or more times before—the usual complications consequent upon the faithlessness of various married couples, the absurdly laughable "situations," the all-round reconciliations. Whoever sees Herr Richard Alexander in the chief rôle—even if it be but a variation of many others—is sure of an amusing evening, and it was the case this time. Not only the popular actor-manager, but all the cast deserved the applause they received in such full measure, while the piece was staged with customary skill.

DR. STRAUSS' new opera *Der Rosencavalier* will probably first see the footlights at our own Royal Opera after all, negotiations with Count Seebach—the Intendant of the Dresden Royal Opera—having come to a full stop on account of some little differences of opinion. In the meantime the composer is putting the finishing touches to his work, for which the managers of all the leading provincial theatres are eagerly bidding.

THE MRS. ERNEST CARPENTER MATINEE.

Since our last issue the following names have been added to the programme for the Benefit Matinée to Mrs. Ernest Carpenter at the Lyceum on Oct. 4:—Madam Margaret Cooper, who will render some songs from her répertoire; Mr. Bransby Williams, in some of his Dickens impersonations; and Mr. Charles Pond, who will give one or two of his "Glimpses of Life."

It is probable that Sir Herbert Tree's contribution to that occasion will be *The Ballad Monger*; whilst the scene to be presented by the Drury Lane company from *The Whip* will be that of the famous Mme. Tussaud's, in which Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Madge Fabian, Mr. Geo. Barrett, Mr. Austin Melford, and several others will appear.

The demand for seats is already very large, as it should be, considering the wonderful strength of the programme, and the sympathy aroused amongst all classes.

The following is a first list of subscriptions to the testimonial fund:—

Mr. Stanley Lindwall	£5	5	0
Mr. Henry Arthur Jones	5	5	0
Mr. Robert Courtneidge	5	5	0
Mr. George Alexander	2	2	0
Mr. Norman Forbes	2	2	0
Sir Edward Moss	2	2	0
Mr. G. E. Morrison	1	1	0
Mr. Lyn Harding	1	1	0
Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant	1	1	0

MESSRS. LUSH AND COOK, LTD., the well-known theatrical dyers and cleaners, of 29, Charing Cross-road, W.C., have this week executed an extremely smart dyeing order for Messrs. Frohman's production of *A Woman's Way* at the Comedy Theatre, noticed in this issue, by dyeing to pattern and re-making the green satin damask curtains in the extraordinary time of some fourteen working hours. Mr. Dion Boucicault, who has produced this play in his usual masterly style, was extremely pleased with their work. It was a successful achievement, reflecting great credit upon this enterprising firm, and upon Mr. John Bell, the manager of their theatrical business.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, SEPT. 7.—*Our Miss Gibbs* was performed for the first time in New York at the Knickerbocker Theatre on the 29th ult, the applause being frequent and hearty. Miss Pauline Chase, who appeared in the title-rôle, was welcomed back to Broadway as an old friend, and her dance with Mr. Ernest Lambart was the most graceful example of the Terpsichorean art that had been seen for a long time, and when she donned the pink pyjamas that seem to be inseparable from her identity, the audience expressed its approval most heartily. Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt became a great favourite as Kathleen, and her dancing evoked a storm of applause. Mr. Fred Wright, junior, one of the drollest comedians that London lends us, played Timothy Gibbs, and made the most emphatic hit of the performance in the song with Miss Vanderbilt, "Come, tiny goldfish to me." Mr. Wright's humour always tickles the New Yorkers. Mr. Ernest Lambart, too, was conspicuously successful as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, presenting, as he did, a most amusing caricature. Miss Kitty Mason as Clarita was another favourite Her novel dance in the second act delighted the audience exceedingly. Like the other members of this capital company she earned her applause by doing excellent work. Mr. Bert Leslie was funny as Slithers, an American crook with a wonderful assortment of slang phrases, and his burlesque of Russian dancing with Mr. Wright caused roars of laughter. Miss Jean Aylwin as Mme. Jeanne made a distinct hit, her singing and dancing being decidedly good. Miss Julia James as Lady Elizabeth Thanet made a very good impression. Mr. Ernest Elton, Mr. Reginald Sheldrick, Miss Daisy Belmore, and Miss Mollie Lowell played their parts well.

"THE ECHO," a musical comedy in two acts, described as "a singing and dancing frolic," has started the season auspiciously at Mr. Charles Dillingham's Globe Theatre. Written by William Le Baron, with music by Deems Taylor, the play derives its title from the fact that the action takes place at a New England summer resort famous for its echo. Kate, the head waitress at an hotel known as the Echo House, and Reggie Brewster, one of the guests, fall in love with each other, but Reggie's mamma disapproves. Mamma is a flirtatious widow, however, with designs on Rudolph Sylvester, a wealthy German soap manufacturer, who is also staying at the hotel, and the youngsters use their knowledge of her lovemaking to force her consent to their marriage. This is the main thread of the story. In addition there is the diversion created by Sylvester's ineffectual efforts to get away from a popular song of his own composition called "Heigh-ho," and the amusing disclosure that the so-called "echo" emanates from a man with a megaphone, he being employed by the hotel and compelled to lead a hermit's life in the mountains.

Miss Bessie McCoy, the popular dancer, appears as the waitress, and in her own unique style "trips it on the light fantastic toe" at every opportunity. Her "Tin Soldier" dance will be almost, but not quite, as popular as her "Yama Yama" dance in *Three Twins*. Mr. John E. Hazzard, a German dialect comedian, is very funny as the aforesaid Sylvester; and Mrs. Annie Yeamans, who will soon celebrate her seventy-fifth birthday, appears as a "youthful" typist. With the approved style of abbreviated skirt and bulging coiffure affected by the girl of the period, Mrs. Yeamans contributes a capital "take-off" and pleases the audience by doing a few "steps." Miss Georgie Drew Mendum as Laura Short gives an amusing impersonation of a lady reporter. The Imperial Russian dancers, M. Volinine, Mlle. Lopokova, and M. Lopokov, are an incidental feature of the second act, and are very popular. Admirably staged by Mr. Fred Latham, *The Echo* is full of life and fun. A spirit of unforced gaiety pervades the piece from beginning to end.

"MADAME SHERRY," described as "a French vaudeville in three acts," has scored a decided success at the New Amsterdam Theatre. This is an American adaptation of a piece originally produced by Mr. George Edwardes at the Apollo Theatre, London. It is said that only the principal incidents of the story have been retained, the scenes being laid in and about New York. The first act shows a studio, the second the saloon of a yacht, and the third the after-deck of the yacht while anchored off Coney Island. For the new version Messrs. Otto Hauerbach and Karl Hoschna, authors of the highly successful piece, *Three Twins*, are responsible. Mr. George W. Lederer, who made the Casino famous, has signalised his return to the metropolis after a long absence in Chicago in an auspicous manner, for it was he who staged the piece.

Miss Lina Abarbanell as Yvonne Sherry is the prima-donna; while Mr. Ralph Herz has the chief comedy rôle (Theophilus Sherry), and both are eminently successful. Miss Abarbanell sings and dances delightfully, and Mr. Herz is possessed of a dry humour that has put many an audience on this side in good spirits during the eight years that have passed since he first came here with Mrs. Patrick Campbell. Other artists who have important rôles are Miss Dorothy Jardon, who plays Pepita; Miss Frances Demarest, who appears as Lulu; Miss Elizabeth Murray, who makes a good deal of an Irish character part, Catharine; Mr. Ignacio Martinetti as Phillipe and Mr. Jack Gardner as Edward Sherry.

Like *The Merry Widow* and *A Waltz Dream* this piece has a melodious strain running through it which everybody learns very quickly through its constant repetition. This time, however, it is not a waltz, but a polka, called "Every little movement has a meaning of its own." The plot plays a more important part than it usually does in American musical comedies, and there are many amusing situations. A nephew has deceived his rich uncle who is living abroad, by writing him that he is married and has two children. Upon the arrival of the uncle it becomes necessary for the nephew to produce the wife and family, and this causes the complications. *Madame Sherry* has had the sort of reception that points to a long run.

MISS GERTRUDE QUINLAN, whom Londoners will remember as the waitress of George Ade's comedy *The College Widow*, fills the title-rôle in *Miss Patsy*, a three-act farce, by Sewell Collins, produced last week at Nazimova's Thirty-ninth-street Theatre. Miss Patsy is the companion and mentor of Helen Burrelle, the leading lady of a popular stock company at a theatre in Annapolis. With the best intentions, she causes all sorts of discomforts to everybody around her before she consents to marry a young farmer. The leading lady accepts a naval lieutenant and another member of the company weds an impecunious doctor who has written a play. The piece is a slangy mixture of farce, comedy, pathos, and vaudeville. Miss Quinlan plays the name-part in her own inimitable way and provokes plenty of laughter. Miss Dorothy Tennant acts with a quiet dignity and charm the rôle of the leading lady; and Mr. Lawrence Wheat plays with his usual pertness the part of the naval lieutenant. Miss Adeline Dunlap is capital as Minna Black, an actress whose disposition is decidedly "catty." Miss Pauline Winters as Maizie won applause for her dancing; and Miss Jennie La Mont contributed an amusing characterisation as a wardrobe mistress. One of those mirth-provoking concoctions that defy serious criticism, *Miss Patsy* seems likely to enjoy a fair share of popularity.

THE well-known authoress Miss Nita Rae is busily engaged on a new play at Ramsgate. Her latest success has been *No Mother to Guide Her*, which at some theatres, we understand, has broken all records.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The heroine of *The Eternal Question* at the Garrick is arrayed in a series of beautiful costumes. Miss Tittell-Brune's first gown is of soft cream satin, and has a tunic of golden-brown chiffon, which also drapes the corsage. There is a touch of blue at the waist, and the elbow sleeves are decorated with tiny wooden buttons and finished, as are the waist and tunic, with a band of golden satin, whilst at the back of the latter may be seen the eccentric large flat Japanese bow. With this costume is worn a huge black satin hat resplendent with black plumage and a black stole.

Later, Donna Roma is attired in a wonderful clinging toilette of sapphire-blue charmeuse with blue and steel beaded corsage and tunic that is most effective as an evening visiting gown. The tunic, which is drawn to a point on each side under a large flat bead-covered bow, is finished down the front with beaded cords and heavy tassels, and there is a large rosette of satin at the waist. The corsage has a pointed semi-*décolletage*, but this is partially concealed by the wide blue-satin scarf covered with beaded net, which is thrown over the shoulders. An excellent pinafore effect is obtained by the grey chiffon accordion-pleated over-dress which veils the red satin dress worn by Miss Tittell-Brune in the studio scene, and which is held in position on the skirt by two bands of grey velvet.

The dress worn in Roma's audience with the Pope is in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion. It is a perfectly-cut black satin crêpe dress, with draped tunic finished with ornaments of heavy jet fringe, relieved only with the orthodox black lace mantilla, which is fastened at one side with a jet ornament; but the sombre note against the white pontifical robes and the Cardinals' vivid scarlet is particularly effective. As befitting the occasion, the princess dress seen in the last scene, which shows Miss Tittell-Brune in prison for her lover's crime, is severely simple, made in a dull-green satin with just a lace collar at the throat and a row of green satin buttons from the shoulder to the feet.

An exquisite combination of colour is secured in the dress worn by Miss Ola Humphrey in the second act of *The Man from Mexico*, at the Strand. It it made of purple chiffon veiling blue shot silk. The corsage is embroidered in mauve floss silk and tiny iridescent beads, finished with a transparent collarless yoke of chiffon, and the long tunic is decorated with a deep fringe of beads. A large hat of purple silk makes a fitting finish to this dress. The brim is slightly turned up at one side and is trimmed with huge purple tips, which stand up and yet droop over the crown, and are held in place by a knot of purple velvet. Another beautiful dress worn by Miss Humphrey is a demi-toilette of gold satin, over which falls a chiffon tunic of the same colour embroidered in gold floss silk, and weighted with fringe. There are some touches of gold embroidery on the bodice, and the short elbow sleeves are caught up by a cabochon of small gold beads. With this handsome dress is worn a large picture hat of golden brown panne, lined with black, and trimmed with a cluster of feathers exactly toning with the hat.

Miss Jean Harkness wears a beautiful dress of white Pompadour satin, painted with blue lovers' knots and pink roses. The Empire tunic is of pale blue ninon, embroidered with a long trailing design worked in floss silk. The corsage is arranged with a yoke of point d'esprit, into which a touch of vieux rose ribbon is cleverly introduced with good effect; and the elbow sleeves are of the same net laced together and finished with French knots. The hat is a high-crowned, pale blue satin, made somewhat in the mushroom shape, with a very stiff brim, on which is laid a spray of pink roses and their foliage. Two long pale blue feathers are laid across the crown of the hat, and these exactly match the blue knots on the dress. This costume is in a later act exchanged for a dress of white satin charmeuse, draped with chiffon and embroidered on the corsage with floss silk, and with it is worn a hat of white satin lined with jade-green satin, and crowned with a large panache of black and white plumes.

In *A Bolt from the Blue* at the Duke of York's Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Irma Lurette has a very becoming toilette of soft white satin made princess. The skirt, which is sheathed to the figure, has a lovely glimmering embroidery in paste and crystal set below the waist and going to the hips, and the same embroidery forms the trimming of the low bodice, which has the upper part and sleeves of chiffon fringed with a narrow embroidery to match. At the back the satin is draped crossways to the waist and then forms a long flat narrow panel to the foot of the skirt. With this there is a mantle of dull terra-cotta satin, lined black, and the black forms a becoming collar, finished with gold tassels, which also hang from the sleeves. Irma's loose dressing-gown wrap is of cloudy moonlight blue, just relieved by a border of soft dark fur.

In the foyer of the Paris Hotel in Act II. is to be noted a striking dress in silver and cherry colour, the underdress of the bright-hued satin showing through the cut-up long tunic of transparent fine silver cloth, and the cherry-coloured tone repeated in a cluster of roses in the hair. A black satin charmeuse is most original, with its deeply inserted trimming of silver, in the centre of which is introduced a note of soft yellow velvet. A frock of heliotrope chiffon finishes at the foot with a wide band of silver, edged with silver fringes, and silver lace drapes the bodice. Silver plays an important part in the new evening frocks, and is introduced on the décolletage of a mauve chiffon tunic gown worn over emerald velvet. The bodice is finished with a band of the velvet. A novel toilette is of bluish green satin, patterned with large pansies in their natural colours, which go half way round the bodice and form a wide skirt border.

MRS. MEL B. SPURR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly allot me space in your next issue that I may appeal to your charitable readers, and more especially those of the profession, on behalf of Mrs. Mel B. Spurr and her child?

I have known this family for the last twelve years, and can honestly testify that few women have shown greater courage in adversity than the wife of the once famous Mel B. Spurr, of Maskelyne and Cook's. Their present condition is indeed pitiably sad—no present means, no prospects—how is it to end? Undoubtedly those who are blessed with the world's goods would help if they only knew.

Time was when the Spurr family helped those in the profession who were in need. Probably in some cases the tables are turned; but certainly their present condition calls for speedy charity. Is there a theatre manager who could employ mother and child in some capacity?

I am well aware, sir, that there are many in the profession who find themselves in low water, no one knows better; but I honestly say that no case is more deserving than this, on behalf of which I appeal. Will your readers please help by sending what they can afford? Everything received will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.—Yours faithfully,

(REV.) EDWARD MELLY.

The Presbytery, North Hyde, Southall, Sept. 15.

MR. VEDRENNE has arranged that at the first performance of *The Man from the Sea* at the Queen's on Tuesday the curtain shall rise punctually at eight o'clock in order to assist the critics in giving a deliberate verdict on the play.

JOHN COLEMAN ON THE N.T.

"In all this vast city, with its enormous population and its plethora of theatres of London," wrote John Coleman in "Fifty Years of an Actor's Life," "there is no single one permanently devoted to our national drama.

"Now there is not a nation of Continental Europe which has not built and endowed its National Theatre. In France (besides £44,000 per annum granted to the Grand Opera and the Opéra Comique) substantial and indeed large subsidies are granted to the National Theatre (Théâtre Français) and the Odéon, &c.; Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburg, and Brussels are largely subsidised, partly by the State and partly by the reigning Sovereign. The city of Geneva has not only provided and erected the National Theatre at a cost of £150,000, but allows the management £7,500 per annum. The Saxe-Meiningen Theatre (whose Shakespearean performances are famous throughout the world) is presided over and liberally endowed by the reigning Duke (a relation of our own Royal Family), and the theatre at Weimar (so long famous from its association with the illustrious Goethe) has been subventioned for the past century. Scores of smaller theatres in France and Germany are also liberally endowed. For instance, in Lyons, Bordeaux, and Toulon the municipalities in each town grant a subsidy of £9,000 a year to the manager, while even in Angoulême and Poictiers, with only 35,000 inhabitants each, substantial subsidies are granted.

"In Breslau, a German town with a population of barely 100,000, the municipality have provided a splendid theatre, and subvention it with £10,000 per annum.

"While investigating these figures it has reached my knowledge that on June 27, 1898, a petition signed not only by all the eminent professors of music in this country, but by many social celebrities, including various distinguished authors and actors, was presented to the London County Council, proposing that a municipal opera house should be erected and endowed at the public expense 'for the purpose of bringing the highest class of music within reach of the mass of the people.'

"Amongst the signatures to the petition may be found the names of many eminent members of the dramatic profession, but amidst the numerous subsidies and endowments referred to the very name of the drama is conspicuous by its absence: although, in the particular form of art advocated by the petitioners, music and drama are not only absolutely indissoluble, but drama actually comes first, inasmuch as without drama opera cannot exist.

"Strange to say, it has escaped the sagacious promoters of this scheme that their opera house is already built and endowed to their hands. Fifty thousand pounds would transform that ghastly failure the Albert Hall, or that colossal white elephant the Imperial Institute (both rotting away unused) into one of the finest opera houses in the world. Enough of opera houses. Let us now take a glimpse of the theatres.

"A quarter of a century ago the metropolitan theatres were a disgrace to the metropolis. Many of them remain so still—squalid, ugly, stifling dust-holes, which are a never-ceasing peril to the lives of actors and auditors, and to the property of their neighbours. There is not a theatre in the suburbs which does not put to shame these relics of a barbarous past. Were fire to break out during a performance at any one of these places an incalculable loss of life and property would inevitably ensue.

"Next to the existence of these death-traps, the most amazing thing is that they ever came to be licensed. In the public interest they should be closed at once—with, of course, reasonable compensation to the owners and occupiers.

"The era of reformation set in twenty years ago, and has continued steadily ever since. Many of our theatres are now both elegant and commodious, but there is still room for considerable improvement, and the theatre of the future, the National Theatre, has yet to be built. Externally, it should be an ornament to the metropolis. Internally, it should not only be beautiful, but it should be supplied with everything which improvement up to date can suggest for elegance and convenience. It should, of course, be built of fireproof material, and should be constructed to seat 2,500 auditors, who should be enabled to see every inch of the stage and to hear every word spoken. The seats should be numbered and comfortably upholstered.

"There should be ample means of entrance and exit, a lofty and commodious vestibule leading to a grand foyer adorned with statues and pictures of the celebrities of the stage, commencing with the master himself. The actors, at present too frequently relegated to rabbit-hutches and packing-cases beneath the stage, should be provided with spacious dressing-rooms, supplied with mirrors, gas and electric light, hot and cold water, baths and lavatories. The managerial staff should have offices before and behind the scenes. There should be a large room for rehearsals, or, preferably, a small theatre, such as Charles Mathews used to give his entertainment in at Her Majesty's, or such as formerly existed at the Theatre Royal, Dublin; a library, a room for the ballet to practice in, another for the chorus, a third for the drilling of the 'supers'; green-rooms, a large painting-room, large wardrobe-room, spacious workshops for carpenters and property men.

"There should be at least three complete stages, fully equipped with every modern scenic appliance. The stages and machinery should all be worked by hydraulic power, which would also ventilate the house, heating it in winter and cooling it in summer. At Penarth there is a hydraulic hoist which lifts fifteen tons of coal aboard a vessel in one minute. If a motive power like this could be applied to the three stages proposed, marvels of scenic effect could be achieved at the maximum of speed and the minimum of cost.

"Scores of competent artists can be secured at reasonable salaries by guaranteeing engagements for a season of nine months, with option to terminate or renew for a term of years, subject to certain conditions. The old stock must be leavened with a copious infusion of new, young, and ambitious aspirants, destined under competent tuition to form the actors of the future. There should be an elementary college, to which no one should be admitted who has not already passed the usual scholastic standard, and who is not proficient in fencing, dancing, and calisthenics. The candidate, having passed a satisfactory examination, would then be eligible for training, &c., and would start immediately at the lowest rung of the ladder.

"At least six months previous to the opening the manager should begin to arrange his repertory, and should have at least six standard works ready, text, scenery, costumes, and properties complete in every department, before he commences his season.

"The building will cost £150,000, the site £50,000 more, in all £200,000. The authorities can get any amount of money at 3 per cent. or less—hence the rental should not exceed £6,000 per annum; and a subsidy, to guarantee working expenses, must be made of not less than £15,000 a year."

"RATS" will be the title of a four-act drama which Gerhart Hauptmann, the famous German dramatist, has now in hand for production in Berlin shortly after Christmas. *Ratten*, to give its German title, deals exclusively with low life in Berlin, and is intended to be the first of a cycle of plays in which the dramatist will trace the development of the German capital and the phases of life, high and low, which characterise it.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree delighted the audience of Pressmen with his remarks on daily paper dramatic criticism at the meeting in conference of the Institute of Journalists at the Guildhall on Tuesday afternoon. Sir Herbert was drily humorous and gently satirical, but chiefly noticeable in his speech was his earnest desire to take just that course which commended itself most to the convenience of the critics.

Mr. H. B. Irving was also a contributor to the proceedings of the Conference, being present at the dinner which was given at the Hotel Cecil in the evening. The popular actor received quite an affectionate greeting, and his jocular speech, delivered in a racy style, was listened to with keen appreciation.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, with their company, are now on their way home from Australia on the R.M.S. Otway, which they joined at Fremantle. They are due to arrive at Plymouth on Oct. 1. Remarkable scenes of enthusiasm attended the embarkation of the popular actor and actress, and Miss Brayton was the centre of a veritable garden of bouquets. A happy idea was carried out by Mr. Asche, who bought the whole stock of a flower girl who was on the wharf, and as the ship was moving off he and Miss Brayton pelted the crowd with the flowers.

A claim at St. Pancras by Mr. Arthur Bourchier for a vote by reason of his occupation of a tenement used for the storage of scenery, was opposed by the Liberals at the Revision Court on Monday on the ground that the premises in question were now empty. Evidence was given that the rates had been paid up to the end of September.

The Revising Barrister said that Mr. Bourchier would not want scenery now, as he was appearing in *Henry VIII.* Besides that, a man who had a place for scenery would clear it when he went on tour, and thus leave the premises temporarily empty. The claim was allowed.

Mr. Forbes Robertson gave valuable hints on Saturday to a number of members of the Poetry Society who desire to qualify as readers and reciters of verse. The hearing took place in the Throne Room of the Holborn Restaurant, and about sixteen presented themselves for the test. Mr. Forbes Robertson warned his hearers not to indulge in gesticulation, which, even though admirably done, was out of place, especially in lyrical poetry. Mr. Forbes Robertson also laid great stress on the importance of the mere sound of some words. There were, he said, many words in the language that were in themselves beautiful sounds. If they had the consciousness of the beauty of words, and felt them deeply themselves, they would have gone a long way towards impressing that beauty upon their hearers.

Mr. Robert Loraine, who recently made a record sea flight, came very near to accomplishing another in his attempt to fly across the Irish Sea on Sunday, the actor-aviator falling into the sea when about a hundred yards from his goal. Mr. Loraine left the Welsh coast in his Farman biplane shortly after eleven o'clock in the morning, and reached the Irish shore at 12.50 p.m., English time. Engine defects caused him to attempt a descent on Howth Head instead of Phœnix Park, where he originally hoped to land, and through the breaking of a wire he had to drop into the water.

Spectators on shore were greatly alarmed for the airman's safety, but their fears were relieved when they saw him detach himself from the machine, and strike out for the shore. He reached the rocks close to the Bailey Lighthouse at the foot of Howth Head without difficulty, and clambered up clear of the sea. Meanwhile, the steamship Adela, on its way into Dublin, picked up the aeroplane, which was little damaged, and subsequently Mr. Loraine, who had got into a small rowing-boat to the rescue of his machine, was taken on board. Mr. Loraine will play the title-rôle in *The Man from the Sea*, which is due at the Queen's on Tuesday.

Mr. Edward Compton, who is now completing the thirtieth year of tour of the Compton Comedy Company, played the part of Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal* for the 1,100th time, at the Opera House, Southport, on the 8th inst. The occasion was made a souvenir night, and Mr. Compton had a most enthusiastic reception at the hands of his Southport friends. After the third act Mr. Compton was called before the curtain, and after thanking the audience for their kind support and sympathy, mentioned that he was the only actor, living or dead, who had played the part so many times. Amongst Mr. Compton's other records are David Garrick, in *Davy Garrick*, nearly 1,650 times; Charles Goldfinch, in *The Road to Ruin*, nearly 600 times; and Bob Acres and Tony Lumpkin, nearly 700 apiece.

Mr. James Welch celebrated yesterday the fourth anniversary of *When Knights Were Bold*, which began its exceptionally long successful career on Sept. 16, 1906. Mr. Welch has enacted the part of Sir Guy de Vere on 1,250 occasions, and avers that even now he is not tired of representing the character. He is gratified that London and provincial audiences continue to appreciate the production.

About Christmas time, however, he will say good-bye to *When Knights Were Bold*, and will enter into earnest study of his new play, *Mr. Hebblewhite*, which he will produce in London early in the New Year. It is a comedy of a not over-boisterous type, and a remarkable feature about it is that the author is unknown, the play having been submitted to Mr. Welch by an agent, the author refusing his identity.

Miss Gertrude Kingston has settled on Tuesday, Oct. 11, as the date of the opening of her Little Theatre, when a version of Aristophanes' comedy *Lysistrata* will be performed. The *Lysistrata* has always had a reputation for impropriety; but the attempt of a well-meaning Athenian magistrate to end a war by the women separating from their husbands until peace is declared is capable of being handled in a modern as well as an ancient spirit; and that is probably what has been done by Miss Kingston's anonymous adapter.

The decorations of the house are very tasteful and delicate. The entrance vestibule has an Adam ceiling, with a medallion painting by Angelica Kauffman in the centre. The colouring of the almost square auditorium is Wedgwood blue, and a separate entrance from the vestibule leads to the Royal box, flanked on each side by an ordinary box. The house will hold about £140, the stage being 21ft. deep, with an opening of 26ft.

Mr. Lewis Waller and Mr. J. E. Vedrenne will shortly sever their very pleasant partnership, as each of them finds his personal enterprises need his full attention. Mr. Vedrenne also has abandoned his scheme for the acquisition of French plays and their subsequent production in London, and has handed over his interests in the matter to Mr. F. O. de Senechal, who made the original contracts with the French authors.

Mr. Martin Harvey's dressing-table usually presents quite the appearance of a museum. Such was the impression given to a representative of the Glasgow *Evening Citizen* who interviewed the popular actor during his appearance at the Theatre Royal. One of the most valued treasures is a pair of gloves. Of crimson cloth, tastefully embroidered, and reaching to the wearer's elbow, they would not earn more than a passing glance. But the "touch of a vanished hand" has rendered them precious. They were worn by Sir Henry Irving when he played Richelieu. At that time Mr. Harvey was winning his spurs as a member of the Lyceum company. Another prized possession is the sword which Sir Henry used when he appeared as Ravenswood, and of which Mr. Harvey makes such good use in *The Breed of the Treshams*.

A dagger with a jewelled hilt is an artistic bit of work, with the motto "The readiness is all" engraved on the steel blade. It was presented to the actor when he produced *Richard III.* in Dublin in the spring of the year. But what catches the eye most are the royal accoutrements for the closing scene, when he fights vainly against fate and Richmond. In addition to wearing the coat of mail and suit of armour he wields a sword weighing four or five pounds, after that a lighter blade, and then a dagger. To weigh the warlike trappings in the hand is enough to convince one that the part is physically as well as mentally a very heavy ordeal.

"What about the alleged waning of the theatre's hold?" inquired the interviewer of Mr. Harvey. "Waning? I don't think there is any lessening of the hold of the theatre. Apart from the inevitable drop owing to bad trade, there has been nothing to complain of." "Don't you think the theatre managers ought to do something to counteract the growing competition of the music hall?" persisted the questioner—"cheaper seats and booking facilities, and so on?" No; I think things are all right as they are. Of course, I may change my mind—other times, other manners, you know. The music halls and picture palaces are doing good work in their own way, and I think there is room for all."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's fifth season opens at the Crystal Palace on Monday next with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. We wish him a prosperous season. Mr. Howard has had rather a rough time of it lately. He visited a physician for the purpose of having a slight operation performed. After the operation, he hired a taxi to take him home. This was smashed into by another vehicle, which gave him a very bad shaking. He is now resting at Bath, seeking recovery.

Terry's Theatre is shortly to be turned to the purposes of the cinematograph—an announcement that will cause a twinge of regret to many an ardent playgoer. The theatre is by no means ill-adapted to dramatic purposes, and in fact is remarkably well appointed; but its fortunes have fluctuated of recent years, and for the present at least the all-invading film is to establish yet another foothold in London.

Many pleasant memories are connected with the theatre, which was opened on Oct. 17, 1887, with *The Churchwarden*, one of Mr. Edward Terry's established triumphs. It was at Terry's that *Sweet Lavender*, which attained a run of nearly 700 nights, bloomed and proved one of Sir Arthur Pinero's most enduring successes. Later came the same writer's clever play *The Times*, which, but for the lamented death of the Duke of Clarence, would perhaps have enjoyed equal favour. Here, too, *Little Lord Fauntleroy* first exercised its charming influence.

The popular comedian whose name the theatre bears has appeared very infrequently on its boards of late years, but it was here in the autumn of 1896 that he furnished the public with one of his most effective creations, that of the estimable Professor in *Love in Idleness*. The theatre is at present in the occupation of Miss May Robson, who is appearing in *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, who has been recuperating at Brighton during the last fortnight, is now again in his usual vigorous health. He will return home to-day to Birkenhead, where Mr. Frederick Melville's company in *Her Road to Ruin* has been doing capital business at the Theatre Royal. Great interest has also been taken this week in the appearance of the plucky Miss Dot Stephens in *A Child of the Streets* at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. Miss Stephens has been received with great favour nightly, and many further visits of the play in which she appears to Liverpool are assured. At Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week, Miss Florence Baines will introduce her amusing production, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and on Monday week Mr. Kelly's Ibsen season, supported by Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore, will commence.

Miss Evelyn Millard, in case she should want to produce a new play before the close of her season at the New Theatre, has in hand a three-act comedy entitled *Young Fernald*, by E. G. Sutherland and B. M. Dix, the authors of *The Breed of the Treshams*. It is not a problem play, and it contains a pretty love-story. The action of the play is laid in Yorkshire, and there are good parts for Miss Millard and Mr. Norman McKinnel.

Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Charles Hawtrey will shortly produce at the Prince of Wales's Theatre Miss Gladys Unger's adaptation of De Flers and De Caillavet's three-act comedy *L'Ane de Buridan*, which will be entitled *Inconstant George*. The principal part of George Bullin was played in America all last season by Mr. John Drew. This character should suit Mr. Hawtrey exactly, and he will be supported by Mr. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Ernest Thesiger, Mr. Hubert Druce, Miss Lydia Bilbrooke, Miss Vera Maitland, Miss Hilda Moore, and Miss Athene Seyler.

Mr. Hall Caine's play *The Bishop's Son* will be produced by Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, the 26th inst. The cast will include Messrs. Bransby Williams, J. D. Beveridge, Ernest Leicester, Halliwell Hobbes, Shiel Barry, Miss Alma Murray, and Miss Elaine Inescourt. *The Eternal Question*, which has been drawing large audiences, will conclude its run at the Garrick on Saturday next, and will be transferred to another theatre. The arrangement for the production of *The Bishop's Son* was made before *The Eternal Question* was written.

The Earl of Yarmouth's new musical play *The Pigeon House*, an account of which appeared in our columns on its production at Cardiff last June, will be produced at the Court Theatre on Monday. The author will appear under his stage name of Eric Hope, and will play the principal character. Great interest has been shown at Cheltenham this week in the piece, and crowded houses have witnessed Lord Yarmouth's charming musical play.

The fine actress and elocutionist, Miss Alma Murray, will play Old Blind Kerry, the Bishop's housekeeper, in *The Bishop's Son* at the Garrick Theatre on the 26th inst.

The enthusiasm which marked the first appearance of *The Chocolate Soldier* at the Lyric Theatre last Saturday night has continued throughout the week, and it is quite safe to say that Mr. Whitney's splendid production has every appearance of being among the successes of the season. Striking evidence of the wide popularity already attained by Straus's delightful music is to be found in the fact that within the past six days no less than seventy military and municipal bandmasters have applied for permission to perform selections from *The Chocolate Soldier*, requests which have in all cases been granted.

No relationship exists between Oscar Straus, the composer of *The Chocolate Soldier*, and any of the other men who bore that famous name. He was born in Vienna on March 6, 1870, and studied music in his native town and in Berlin under Grödener, Prosanitz, and Bruch. Among his most successful compositions are *Die lustigen Nibelungen* (*The Merry Nibelungs*), *Die indische Witwe* (*The Indian Widow*), *Columbine*, *Didi*, and *The Waltz Dream*.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, on Monday evening, witnessing the provincial production of his play *The Fires of Fate*, by Messrs. Glenister and Ingram's company. The house was a large and fashionable one, and the distinguished author was soon recognised sitting in a box with Lady Doyle. After the second act Sir Arthur went behind the scenes and congratulated the management on the excellent performance they had given of his play.

Mr. Royston Keith wishes us to express the heartfelt thanks of himself and wife for the kind sympathy they have received since they had news of the sad death of their dear daughter Muriel in Richmond, U.S.A.

Mr. W. S. Buccleuch, who takes up the management of the Royalty Theatre, Chester, in succession to Mr. C. B. Fountaine, is not quite new to Chester, having been there with Milton Bode's *Gentleman Joe* company. Mr. Buccleuch is a son of the well-known scientist Prof. L. Scott, who created considerable attention with his article on "Modern Explosives" in the *Nineteenth Century* some time ago. Mr. Buccleuch was manager for Miss Julia Neilson and Fred Terry on tour, and district manager for them at the old Globe Theatre.

During the performance on Wednesday evening of *Michel Strogoff* at the Châtelet Theatre, Paris, a man in the pit, supposed to be a striker, lit a Bengal light. The audience, thinking it was a fire, were seized with panic, and many made a rush for the exits, shouting "Fire!" while a number of women fainted. The artists proceeded with the performance, however, and calm was at length restored.

Mr. Leslie Hughes, who has just recently resigned his position as secretary to the White City Garden Club, has been appointed by Messrs. W. and F. Melville manager at the Lyceum Theatre. Before leaving the White City Mr. Leslie Hughes was the recipient of many valuable presents, among which was a gold and silver cigarette case suitably inscribed.

Mr. Montague Wigan left town on Friday last week at an hour's notice to play the part of Charles in *Robert Macaire*, which Mr. J. D. Hunter produced at the Pier Pavilion, St. Leonard's-on-Sea. Mr. Hunter telephoned to London on the Thursday evening, and Mr. Wigan was rehearsing by eleven o'clock the next morning. Fortunately, he is a very quick study, and was able to give a finished performance.

Miss Augusta Haviland has been winning encomiums in Australia over her performance of Mrs. Futvoye in *The Brass Bottle*, the actress being described as "a stylish mother-in-law that any man might be proud of, wearing her handsome gowns well." *The Brass Bottle* is admitted to be the best farce that has been presented in Sydney for years.

Mr. J. A. Campbell's *Hand that Rocks the Cradle* will pay its first visit next week to the Rotunda, Liverpool. The business this play did in Manchester was extraordinary, and amply justified the favourable first night verdict. The piece will shortly be seen in London at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

Mr. Harry Henderson, Mus. Bac., the popular conductor at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, after a most successful season with his alfresco entertainers at Gourock, on the Clyde, is once more back at his familiar post at the Grand. He is already busy with the music for the Christmas pantomime, which will again be produced by Mr. Fred Karno, with Miss Lily Morris as principal boy.

Mr. Charles Windermere's farce, *Where is William?* attained its anniversary at Cromer last week, having started on tour last year at Richmond, on Sept. 9. After a most successful seaside tour, Mr. Windermere is now fulfilling a series of return dates this autumn, after which he hopes to give a West End production, but as yet he has been unable to secure a suitable theatre.

Mr. Leslie Bennett, who has lately concluded a stock season with Mr. Frank Weathersby, playing in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*, *John Glayde's Honour*, *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, *Jim the Penman*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, and *Facing the Music*, has been engaged by Mr. J. B. Watson to play the vicar's son in *Priscilla Runs Away*, opening at Hastings on Sept. 19, the date of his birthday.

Mr. Archie Selwyn, who has been playing George Fisher in *Are You a Mason?* since February last, will rejoin M. Auguste Van Biene for another long tour of *The Broken Melody*, starting in December. His association with the famous actor-musician now extends over seven years, during which time he has played, with two exceptions, all the male parts in the piece.

"Two Merry Monarchs" will be the attraction at the Marlborough Theatre next week. The company is exceptionally strong, and includes Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Sam Walsh, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Statham Staples, Miss Gladys Beach, and Miss Marjorie Moore. The production is identical with that at the Savoy, and travels an excellent chorus.

The Southport winter season is just commencing. Many visitors are already in the town, and the principal residents are returning from abroad and the South to winter in this charming health resort. Mr. Percy Hutchison has taken care that the evenings shall not be dull to his large circle of patrons, and his bookings for his season are phenomenal. This week that excellent Savoy comic opera *The Mountaineers* is meeting with gratifying popularity. Amongst the good things to follow are Mr. Edward Terry, *The Brass Bottle*, *Our Miss Gibbs*, the Carl Rosa Company, *The Naked Truth*, the F. R. Benson company, *The House of Temperley*, *The Whip*, and *The Blue Bird*. At Christmas will be produced the pantomime *Jack and Jill*, for which Miss Stella Gastelle has been engaged by Mr. J. F. Elliston. Among subsequent attractions are the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, *Peter Pan*, Mr. Martin Harvey, *Arsène Lupin*, with Mr. Percy Hutchison in the name part, and those old friends who never fail, *Charley's Aunt* and *The Sign of the Cross*.

Mr. Percy Hutchison's visit with *Brewster's Millions*, to the Lyceum, Edinburgh, last week, and to the King's, Glasgow, this, has been an unqualified success, the receipts nightly beating those of the first visit, which speaks well for Mr. Hutchison's popularity and drawing powers in the big Scotch centres. At Edinburgh Sir Richard and Lady Mackay and the Swedish delegates witnessed the performance, and afterwards invited Mr. G. T. Minshull and Mr. Percy Hutchison to their farewell banquet. In his speech, in the course of the evening, Sir Richard Mackay referred in flattering terms to the wonderfully-acted and beautifully-produced play they had witnessed that evening, which was loudly applauded by those present and very much appreciated by Mr. Percy Hutchison.

In his speech to a crowded house at the Lyceum, Edinburgh, on the termination of his visit there, Mr. Percy Hutchison interested his hearers with the announcement that in the near future he proposed to submit for their criticism the entire production of the great London success, *Arsene Lupin*, with himself playing the title-rôle and supported by a strong London cast.

Mr. Hugh Robertson's popular theatre, the Royalty, Barrow, appears to have taken a new lease of life, and has been doing record business of late, deservedly so, as it is a very charming theatre, and admirably managed. Mr. Harry Foxwell's *Broken Heart* company, Messrs. Paumier and Howard's *Prince and the Beggar Maid* company, and Mr. J. W. Turner's Grand Opera company all beat their previous records, the latter two companies by over £80 each, Mr. Turner playing his fifth visit to the Royalty. On Saturday he finished to the largest house he had ever played to in Barrow.

Mr. Fowler Thatcher, having successfully managed the opening of Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope's New Theatre at Newark, concludes his engagement with those gentlemen on Saturday next. Such a well-known comedian, with so varied an experience in management, will assuredly not long remain idle.

On the occasion of his sixth annual benefit, which took place at the Royal, Worthing, on Wednesday, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, the popular lessee of the theatre, was presented with a handsomely-appointed luncheon basket by the members of the staff. The presentation was made by Mr. Malcolm Spurgin, the assistant-manager. Mrs. Seebold was also given a charming bouquet.

"The Little Damozel," after her seaside tour, which she ended in a fitting manner by breaking all comedy records this season at Margate, has returned to town, and that Mr. Monkton Hoffe's delightful play is as popular as ever with the London public is shown by the way in which it is being received nightly at Kennington. Mr. Mark Blow, who has been himself playing the part of the Hon. Fitzroy Locke this week; Miss Emilie Polini, in the title-rôle; and Mr. Alick Chumley as Recklaw Poole, have been enthusiastically recalled at the conclusion of each performance.

The ready assistance of the profession in the cause of charity will be rendered at the Theatre Royal, Stockport, on Saturday next, when, acting in conjunction with Mr. Charles Revill, Mr. Allan Wilkie and his company are giving their services at a special matinée performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, the entire proceeds of which will be devoted to the local fund for relieving the distress existing among the out-of-work cotton operators in the town, who, it is estimated, at present number no less than 1,300.

Mr. J. W. Lindsay Ellis's company in *Lights Out* is drawing enthusiastic houses in all the provincial towns. Mr. Ellis has now secured the services of Mr. Bernard Merefield, who, in addition to giving a powerful and incisive presentment of the cross-questioning Major Paschke in the third act, is delighting the audiences with half an hour of artistically-rendered songs, imitations, and recitations in a finished manner worthy of a West-End house.

A revival of the prosperity of *Our Boys*, Byron's clever comedy, which enjoyed so long a run in London, is being secured by Mr. Charles Otley. At the County Theatre, Kingston, last week, it was received with the utmost enthusiasm, three curtains being obtained at the end of the second and third acts. Mr. Otley himself plays the retired butterman, and has proved the life and soul of the play. Immediate dates are available for the production.

The reception of *Sister Anne* has encouraged the Coronet management to persevere in their plan of producing new plays for long runs. At the end of the month Mr. Cecil Raleigh's psychic drama, *Behind the Veil*, will be produced for a series of matinées. This will, of course, in no way interfere with the run of Madame Albanesi's play, which shows every sign of being a long and prosperous one.

Mr. Alban B. Limpus, who, with his brother, Mr. Bernard Limpus, has been touring *The Thief* for the past two years, has secured the rights of *Tantalizing Tommy* for all the theatres not visited by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company.

Miss Florence Watson, who has been at Fraserburgh, N.B., for fourteen weeks with the "Merrie Masqueraders," was last week given a benefit. The house was packed in every part, the Provost, magistrates, and all the principal residents of the town being present, and all joined in giving Miss Watson a very flattering reception and hearty send-off.

Mr. Martin Harvey to-night concludes his short visit to Glasgow, where, at the Theatre Royal, he has won still further encomiums with his triumphant revival of *Richard III.*, which he has decided to make his principal attraction on his autumn tour. The Glasgow Press were particularly enthusiastic concerning the merits, both histrionic and pictorial, of the production, and unanimously praise Mr. Harvey's performance as the Crookback. On Monday he will open at the Newcastle Theatre Royal, where the booking of seats has gone on during the past fortnight with pleasing briskness.

Mr. Walter van Noorden, the enterprising director of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, has secured the sole rights of a new work by Smetana, *The Two Widows*, which has not up to the present been heard in England. The music is particularly beautiful, and is said to contain a waltz and a duet which will set the whole town humming. Mr. van Noorden himself will be the producer.

Miss Violet Ley, who has achieved a notable success as Mrs. Hayter in Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company *The Naked Truth*, wears some lovely dresses. In Act I. she is gowned in a tailor-made visiting frock of pale yellow cloth, strapped with black and gold. A large Parisienne black hat and gloves to match complete this dainty costume—one of Paquin's latest creations. Miss Ley wears in the second act a charming walking costume in black and white silk, strapped with black, crowned with another lovely hat, ornamented with a single ostrich feather in royal blue. Miss Ley's last act dress comes from Peter Robinson's, her tall, elegant figure being gracefully gowned in a delicate shade of terra-cotta, handsomely embroidered with silk insertions of the same shade.

Mr. Thomas Beecham's season of grand opera at Covent Garden will open on Oct. 1, and during the three months it is to last three different operas a week, upon an average, are to be produced. But, apparently, he thinks that the evenings of the first day of each week may hang heavily on his hands, for he has now completed arrangements for inaugurating a series of orchestral and operatic concerts at Covent Garden Theatre on Sunday evenings, at which the artists of his company will appear. The first of these concerts will take place on Oct. 9, and will be orchestral in character. Miss Mignon Nevada, who has established so great a reputation on the Continent, and is to sing the rôle of Ophelia in *Hamlet* on Oct. 3, will make her English début upon the concert platform at this concert. Miss Nevada, who is a daughter of the famous Emma Nevada, is essentially a collatura singer, and has been taught her art from the very beginning by her mother. Her voice has been described by one of the leading Continental critics as "one of the most perfectly trained voices that has ever been heard. It is quite even throughout, not one note less strong and full than the last one, and the quality reminds one forcibly of Christine Nilsson's, only that Miss Nevada's is 'warmer,' as the singers say." Miss Nevada has sung in grand opera also at the San Carlos, in Lisbon, at the Pergola, in Florence, and elsewhere. Though born in Paris, Mignon Nevada is of English parentage.

Mr. Beecham intends to make these Sunday concerts a special feature in order that all his artists may be heard in songs from their répertoires, and his famous orchestra in works that can be performed only upon the concert platform. The concerts will be modelled largely on those which take place at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. The prices of the seats will be within reach of all, and special Wagner performances will be given several times during the season.

The following is the cast of Eugène d'Albert's opera, *Tiefland*, which is to be produced in English at the Covent Garden Royal Opera House on the opening night of the Beecham Opera Season, Saturday, Oct. 1:—Marta, Miss Marguerite Lemon; Nuri, Miss Maggie Teyte; Rosalie, Miss Blanche Hamilton-Fox; Antonia, Miss Muriel Terry; Pepa, Miss Carrie Tubb; Pedro, Mr. John Coates; Nando, Mr. Maurice D'Oisly; Tomasso, Mr. Robert Radford; Sebastiano, Mr. Frederic Austin; Moruccio, Mr. Lewys James; and the Priest, Mr. Arthur Wynne. Miss Elizabeth Amsden has been specially engaged by Mr. Thomas Beecham, and is coming from Paris to create the rôle of Toinette in Leroux's opera, *Le Chemineau*. This is the first time that *Tiefland* will have been sung in England.

A startling interruption to the performance of the Italian opera *Don Pasquale* was made at the Kingsway on Thursday evening. As the conductor was about to take his seat at his music-desk after an interval between the acts, a man in evening dress walked to the front and struck him on the back and again on the face. The conductor retaliated with his bâton. Several members of the orchestra and the audience intervened, and the assailant, turning to the audience, said: "This man engaged me to sing here. He won't let me, and he won't pay me." The conductor warmly denied that he had engaged the man to sing, and states that he will take legal proceedings against him.

Mr. Frank Stanmore has just returned from Paris, where he has been seeking a big attraction for *Chasing Cynthia*. He has been fortunate in engaging the beautiful Parisienne, Roselle D'Origny, of the Folies Bergère and "The Danse du Paraguay" fame, who has signed for ten weeks. She will arrive in England Oct. 2, and will open Oct. 3 at Liverpool. Other special engagements are Mr. Arthur Poole and Miss Gurney Delaporte.

Passing over the Wagner Concert of Monday at the Queen's Hall, at which the vocalists will be Miss Ada Forrest and Mr. Morgan Kingston, attention may be directed to the programme provided for Tuesday, when an interesting novelty will be presented to the London public in a new concert overture by Dr. Walford Davies. The work in question was first produced at the Lincoln Triennial Festival in June of this year under the title of a "Festal Overture." In its joyousness of outlook and thoroughly national spirit it promises to be an attractive addition to our concert programmes. Besides the above, Saint-Saëns' symphonic poem, "La Jeunesse d'Hercule," Tschaikowsky's "Casse Noisette Suite," and Sinigaglia's Danze Piemontese No. 2 are included in the scheme. Miss Amy Dewhurst makes her first appearance at the Promenade Concerts and sings "Ah! mon fils" from *Le Prophète*, and Mr. Robert Burnett gives Tschaikowsky's "Don Juan Serenade." Mr. Alfred Kastner contributes a couple of harp solos. On Wednesday the symphony is Mozart's G minor. Miss Phyllis Emanuel makes her début at these concerts in Schumann's Concerto in A minor for Pianoforte and Orchestra. Elgar's "Enigma" Variations is an attractive orchestral item. The vocalists are Miss Edith Kirkwood and Mr. Norman Williams.

There are no novelties in the programme for Thursday evening. Strauss's "Don Quixote" is the chief symphonic work of the evening, and the part for solo 'cello will be played, as usual, by Mr. Jacques Renard, of the Queen's Hall Orchestra. The concert opens with Dvorák's Carneval Overture, and includes Mr. Percy Pitt's "Air de Ballet," the "Invitation á la Valse" (Weber-Weingartner), and other works of lighter calibre. Miss Lillie Wormald and Mr. Herbert Brown are the singers, the latter reviving a fine old song of Gounod's, "Le Vallon," with orchestral accompaniment. Friday's classical theme includes Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony," the charming suite in G arranged from some of Bach's less familiar works by Mr. Henry J. Wood, and the too-neglected Pianoforte Concerto, No. 1 in D minor, by Brahms. Miss Plyxena Fletcher is the soloist, and the fine work is therefore sure of intelligent and sympathetic treatment.

The programme for Saturday is miscellaneous. A new feature will be introduced into these concerts by the first appearance of the Alexandre Quartet of Lady Singers, who will be heard in the beautiful "Four Songs for female voices, two horns and harp," by Brahms. The bright and humorous "Overture to a Comedy of Shakespeare," by Paul Scheinflug, one of last season's novelties which made a good impression, will be repeated on this occasion.

A meeting of the Estates Committee of the York Corporation was held on Tuesday evening to consider the future of the Theatre Royal, of which the Corporation are the owners, the lessees, Messrs. Waddington, having requested to be relieved of their lease. The original recommendation of the Committee to the City Council a week since was to accept the surrender of the lease at the end of the year, but this recommendation was referred back to the Committee, with an instruction that the Committee should consider in any arrangement they might make the question of reducing the rent, in order to enable the lessee to arrange for a definite number of performances per year of the serious drama, the idea being to prevent the theatre being entirely converted into a "twice-nightly" music hall. The Committee fully considered the subject on Tuesday, and ultimately decided to recommend the Council to advertise for tenders for the theatre, which means in effect that a surrender of the lease be accepted from the present lessees.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Dress and the Stage.

"Really, I consider the stage the showcase of the dressmakers," writes "A. G. L." in the *Daily News*. "Could there possibly be a better advertisement for clothes than it affords? The best figures, the prettiest faces setting off to supreme advantage the most remarkable confections, have brought more trade than is likely to come in any other way.

Must be Long.

"It is absolutely essential that the dresses worn on the stage must be very long, or else they will look awkward and 'cut short,' yet the same length worn in the drawing-room has equal chances of landing the wearer into her pet enemies' arms, or of distributing in one tremendous crash the pieces of her hostess's most prized (and priced) china vase.

Delusions.

"Women do not easily realise the fitness of things. The hat with the ravishing ostrich plume or pheasant's wing nearly a yard long, that looks so placidly beautiful in the still atmosphere of the stage was never designed for exhibition on the top of a motor-'bus on a windy day. The only woman who dares to indulge in so fascinating an article of headgear is the one who can afford as many 'chapeaux' as she and the elements have whims. Then does anyone for a moment believe in the efficacy of the chiffon, ermine-embroidered opera wrap, slung carelessly from the shapely shoulders of a popular actress? Perhaps the footlights help to keep her warm, for not even the ermine border would prevent her from freezing on the other side of the stage door.

The Real and the Ideal.

"No one could possibly have looked more charming than did Miss Mary Moore in a recent revival of *The Liars*, when she wore a white chiffon river gown. But imagine that gown in reality—damp, draggled, and depressed from the splashing of many oars. Surely no sensible woman would ever risk it.

Not Always Wise

"The trouble is, however, that all women are not sensible. There are some even who seem to have no desire for any individuality of their own. They are content—it is even the height of their ambition—to be nothing but a ludicrous walking caricature of some footlight favourite. More often than not they are utterly unlike in face and figure, but this is considered to be adequately met by adopting a few leading characteristics, such as the gipsy ear-rings of Miss Violet Vanbrugh, or the Quaker-like parting of the hair approved by Miss Edna May.

The Stage as a Show Room.

"I do not think that the stage has power to create fashions. Its chief use lies in the presenting of them. There have, of course, been occasions on which stage suggestions have been taken up. It was George Alexander who introduced the soft collars, and, in spite of the many men who have showered blessings upon him, they have not defied the convention of starch. Nor did all the 'puffing' of the *Trelawny of the Wells* costumes recently gain popularity for the bulky frocks of many frills. The stage tells us what is being worn rather than what to wear and that is where our own discretion must save us from mistakes. In the telling is its usefulness, for it enables the middle-classes to dress more in line.

A Costume Theatre!

"In view of all this it does seem surprising that the dressmakers, milliners, lingerie specialists (these have certainly become very prominent in the new nightgown play), tailors, hatters, and all of that ilk and fraternity, are content to wait upon the whims of the dramatist for their opportunities. It does not seem quite business-like, however safe it may be. They might hire a theatre themselves, and send their 'creations' to the most fashionable dramatist to be clothed suitably in comedy or drama, the latter for choice, as it is only the more serious emotions which allow scope for expression in colour."

No New Dramatists.

"REGARD for a moment the theatrical season which has lately been begun," writes Mr. Guy C. Pollock in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. "There are no new men, no new plays. Why? It is certainly not because no new men write no new plays. Why, I have written and helped to write several myself. They may be good plays or bad plays. Two men at least think they are rather good plays. Two men at least have intimated that they consider them rather bad plays. But this is an irrelevant detail. It may explain in part my burning concern for the continued existence of British drama. It does not exhaust the limits of possibility. For I myself know other men—better men, very likely—who are also new (in the sense of being unacted), and who have also written new plays, and, of course, there is a mighty host of such men pursuing the actable play with great artistic merits and considerable commercial possibilities. It is not, then, because no new men write no new plays.

What is the Reason?

"Is it because managements are afraid to produce the new work of new men? That is a thing which is often said. Why should it be true? I imagine that the expense, the initial expense, of an adaptation by a capable hand of a foreign play must be greater than the corresponding expense of a new play by a new man. There is no assurance that the adapted play will be more successful than the new play.

"The Chocolate Soldier."

MR. BERNARD SHAW has at length spoken with regard to his position in connection with *The Chocolate Soldier*. "I have not," he wrote to *London Opinion*, "permitted *Arms and the Man* to be turned into a musical comedy. The relation of *The Chocolate Soldier* to my play is that of Sir William Gilbert's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* to *Hamlet*, or Mr. Pelissier's Potted Plays to *Henry of Navarre*, *The Whip*, &c., &c. I have no more to do with it than any other member of the public.

"So long as my copyright is not technically violated, and the work is not put forward as a musical setting of my play (I am compelled by my foreign contracts to insist on both points), Herr Oscar Strauss and his librettists and Mr. Whitney are quite welcome to improve on my work to the utmost of their powers. I have no doubt our critics will like *The Chocolate Soldier* much better than *Arms and the Man*, and that many people will agree with them. Far from grudging them their entertainment, I have done everything in my power to steer both Mr. Whitney and the original German producers clear of any serious risk of legal complications.

"I HAVE no objection whatever," concludes Mr. Shaw, in characteristic vein, "to its being made known that *Heldon* (the German *Arms and the Man*) suggested the libretto of *The Chocolate Soldier* to Mr. Jacobsohn. So long as the facts are accurately stated there will be no trouble. But if journalists persist in making statements which, if true, would expose me to actions for breach of contract I must do what I can to rectify those statements; and if the journalists are again betrayed by their natural incapacity for grasping facts of any sort, especially simple facts, into concluding that I have any ill-will towards Mr. Whitney's enterprise, the fault is not mine."

ROBERT LORAINE.

ACTOR—AIRMAN—SOLDIER.

In any appreciation of Mr. Robert Loraine, the distinguished actor-aviator, we cannot do better than quote the remarks of a daily contemporary: "It is stimulating to a man in any position to find his opportunities suddenly and wonderfully widened. To one like Mr. Loraine, who has been chiefly engaged in work which is mainly mimetic, it must be extraordinarily fascinating. His situation is rather similar to that of a brilliant journalist who, having conspicuously proved his powers of grasping and dealing with public questions as a writer, is summoned from his desk to be the private secretary of a Cabinet Minister, and thence proceeds to be a member of the House of Commons, and in due course becomes a Minister himself. Such things have happened. A man is called from being a mere commentator to the position of a protagonist, and in a moment finds the whole horizon of his life immeasurably extended and the opportunities for displaying his powers superbly enlarged. Like the hero of Wordsworth's poem, he at last 'Plays in many games of life, that one, Where what he most doth value must be won.' And, surely, to quote again from the same poem, 'This is the happy warrior; this is he Whom every man in arms would wish to be.'"

And Mr. Robert Loraine, who comes from a very fine stock of acting material, also distinguished himself as a soldier in the South African War. He joined as a trooper the Welsh Imperial Yeomanry, and first acted as one of a squadron of mounted infantry. After that he exchanged into a machine-gun section. Then he was promoted to be a corporal, and was placed in charge of a Colt machine-gun. Most of Mr. Loraine's work was done under Major-General Baden-Powell after the relief of Mafeking. He also served under General Plumer, General Hickman, General Paget, and General Clements. That the actor-soldier served well was testified by the fact that he was offered commissions on two occasions.

He was present at and assisted in the Battle of Schlobberte's Nek, also at Reiteiff's Nek, where 5,000 Boers were captured after many days' fighting, and altogether had a very exciting time, till he managed to get a touch of camp fever from drinking extra bad water, and was invalided home.

The son of Mr. Henry Loraine, young Robert played his first part of any importance on the stage in the spring of 1889, and soon after toured in *The Armada*, under the late Sir Augustus Harris, and gained a lot of experience. He then joined Mr. Ben Greet, and played any part that came his way. Then came a deal of hard work in Shakespearean drama with the Bernard-Alleyn company. His first engagement in London was at the St. James's Theatre, under Mr. George Alexander's management, in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, in January, 1896. When the piece was revived he took the part of Hentzau, originally played by Mr. H. B. Irving, staying with Mr. Alexander for two years. He was next offered the part of Dick Beech, a sort of Sidney Carton in low life, in *The White Heather* at Drury Lane. He made such a hit in this character that he was asked to go back and play Prince Kassim Wadia in *The Great Ruby*, in which he had a fine death scene. At the Avenue Theatre, for the New Century Society, he played Kit French in *Admiral Guinea*.

About this time Mr. Loraine received a very flattering offer to succeed Mr. William Terriss at the Adelphi Theatre as the hero of all those romantic parts for which poor Terriss was famous. Unfortunately in one respect, Mr. Loraine was under contract to play the part of Claudio with Mr. George Alexander in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and much to his regret had to forgo the opportunity offered. It will be remembered, however, that he played the part of Dudley Keppel—created by William Terriss—in the revival of *One of the Best* at the Princess's Theatre in 1898. Then came his fine performance of D'Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers* at the Garrick Theatre, in succession to Mr. Lewis Waller and Mr. H. V. Esmond. By the way, one of the most notable of D'Artagnans in the ages that are past was Mr. Henry Loraine, his father, who, with Mr. Charles Dillon, held the supremacy in these swashbuckling, romantic parts. This was really Mr. Robert Loraine's last part on the stage before he resolved to fight for Queen and country.

Mr. Loraine first appeared on the New York stage at the Knickerbocker Theatre, March 4, 1901, as Ralph Percy in *To Have and to Hold*. On Jan. 7, 1902, he played Noel, Viscount Doughton, in *Frocks and Frills*, at Daly's Theatre, New York. Returning to England in the same year, he played Henry V. in a revival of that play; at the Prince of Wales's in April, 1902, he enacted Enrico Carbayal, in *The President*; he was in *The Queen of the Roses* at Wyndham's in June, 1903; and next played Tom Faggus, in *Lorna Doone*, at the Avenue.

Again off to America, he toured with Grace George as David Garrick, in *Pretty Peggy*, and subsequently played Ah Ching in a vaudeville sketch, *A Tragedy at Tientsin*. At Rochester, N.Y., in 1904, he played in *The Liars*, *American Abroad*, *The Mysterious Mr. Bugle*, and *Diplomacy*. At the Lyric, New York, on Sept. 17, 1904, he appeared as Lieut. Von Lauffen in *Taps* (*Lights Out*); at the Garrick, Philadelphia, Dec. 26, 1904, he appeared as King Edward IV. in *The Lady Shore*; and at the Criterion, New York, March 15, 1905, he was the Danvers M'Gregor in *Nancy Stair*. On April 24, 1905, he played the Invermorach in *The Proud Laird*; and at the Hudson Theatre, Sept. 5, in the same year, he was the John Tanner in *Man and Superman*.

He reappeared again in London at the Court Theatre in the same part (John Tanner) May 27, 1907, and on June 4 he played Don Juan in *Don Juan in Hell*, also at the Court. On Dec. 30, 1907, he was at the Savoy as Bluntschli in *Arms and the Man*; at the Haymarket, May, 1908, he played St. John Hotchkiss in *Getting Married*; at the Aldwych, Sept., 1908, he enacted Joseph Brooks in *Paid in Full*; at Wyndham's, Oct., 1908, he appeared as Stephens in *Bellamy the Magnificent*; at the Haymarket, Nov., 1908, he played Harry Telfer in *Dolly Reforming Herself*, and his Thomas Freeman in *Smith*, produced at the Comedy in September last year, will be well remembered.

Mr. Loraine's short and sensational career as an airman is within the memory of all. He first appeared in the rôle as "Mr. P. Jones" at Bournemouth. He may be said to have placed himself in the front rank of aviators on Aug. 10, when he made a record oversea flight, travelling in his Farman biplane from Blackpool to Rhos, between Colwyn Bay and Llandudno. Forty-eight miles of the sixty miles' journey were over water, and he thus broke the world's record. His performance last Sunday, when he flew across the Irish Sea, from Holyhead to within about a hundred yards of the Irish coast, nearly sixty miles, constitutes the finest over-sea flight yet accomplished.

Mr. Loraine reappears on the stage next Tuesday at the Queen's Theatre—by a remarkable coincidence—in the title-rôle in W. J. Locke's comedy *The Man from the Sea*. He has a part perfectly congenial to him—that of a man who brings fresh air into a close atmosphere.

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. ROBERT LORAINE.

Encouraging an Actor.

AFTER the breaking-up of his establishment at Cork George Farren sought a living by commencing as an actor, says R. J. Broadbent in an interesting pamphlet, entitled "Elizabeth Farren, Countess of Derby." On his arrival in Liverpool he applied to William Gibson, the manager of the local Drury Lane Theatre, for an engagement at a very small salary, but his modest request did not meet with the expected success. "Our company, friend," said Gibson, who had been brought up as a Quaker, "being formed and full ere we left London, cannot possibly admit of any addition. Thou hast told me, friend, that thou hast never tried thy talents on the stage, and it is an unalterable maxim with me to reject all superfluities of any kind. I will not entertain more cats than will kill mice; and therefore, as by thy own confession thou art not practiced in the business of an actor, the most prudent course for thee would be to push thyself into some other way of life, which may support thee better.

A Half-a-crown Conclusion.

"WHATEVER thy vain hope may flatter thee with, expect not to keep up long the flashy appearance thou now dost make, shouldst thou engage with any travelling company of comedians. But lest, peradventure, thou shouldst lack wherewithal to answer for a bed and a supper, I make thee a present of this half-a-crown; thou dost look most pitifully lank, young man, but this may, if properly used by thee, prevent thy growing thinner for a short space of time." "The exordium to this puritanical speech," writes Lee Lewes, who tells the story, "made poor Farren look blank; he thought proper, however, being in want of half a crown, to pocket the affront—and making his best bow to his monitor, he went back to his lodging."

"THE MAN FROM MEXICO."

Farce, in Three Acts, by H. A. du Souchet, Performed for the First Time in the West End at the Strand Theatre, on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Benjamin Fitzhugh ..... MR. STANLEY COOKE
Roderick Majors ..... MR. GEORGE GIDDENS
Timothy Cook ..... MR. CECIL A. COLLINS
Von Bulow Bismarck Schmidtz ..... MR. HARRY PARKER
William Loveall ..... MR. KINSEY PEILE
Edward Farrar ..... MR. KING FORDHAM
Richard Dornton ..... MR. ERIC LEIGHTON
O'Mullins ..... MR. ELDRETT GULSON
Googan ..... MR. ARTHUR G. LEIGH
Louis ..... MR. TOM TINDALL
Clementina Fitzhugh ..... MISS OLA HUMPHREY
Sally Grace ..... MISS JEAN HARKNESS
Nettie Majors ..... MISS FAITH CELLI
Miranda ..... MISS GLADYS HARVEY

The Strand Theatre certainly needs a baptism of success, and it is likely to get it if the reception given to Mr. Stanley Cooke's production of *The Man from Mexico* on Saturday evening is any criterion. The first act is more or less preparatory; but when the ball is once set rolling, when the audience has once begun to laugh, it goes on laughing, louder and louder, and oftener and oftener, till the end. There is no superfluity of farce in our entertainment bill in London just at present, and *The Man from Mexico* ought to be a striking success at the Strand. It has already sent audiences into ecstacies of mirth over 2,000 times in America and Australia, and was played with success at the Coronet Theatre in the November of 1898. Indeed, in all essentials, the story may be said to have given delight to hundreds also in Paris and in London, for *The Man from Mexico* is practically a version of MM. Gondinet and Besson's *Voyage d'Agrément*, which was presented in English shape at the Criterion Theatre by Sir Charles Wyndham in the March of 1882, under the title of *Fourteen Days*. London audiences, however, have had a good many years in which to forget all about *Fourteen Days*, and, judging by the hilarity excited by *The Man from Mexico* at the Strand Theatre, the fact that the story has been used before is not likely to weigh for a moment with the public against the intensely droll and diverting incidents and smart dialogue of this screamingly funny piece.

The basis of so many farces—a husband's desire to enjoy himself independent of his wife's society, is that of *The Man from Mexico*. Mr. Benjamin Fitzhugh, a married man, who has been "out on the spree," is recovering from its effects and expecting its consequences. He has visited a certain fast restaurant, and there committed an assault in resisting a raid which has been made on the premises. "With" Mr. Fitzhugh, as they say of barristers in the Courts, is his obliging and resourceful friend, Mr. Roderick Majors, who does his best to pull Benjamin through his troubles. But justice is on the track in the person of a big and bitter detective, Timothy Cook, who pursues Fitzhugh relentlessly. In the end, the unlucky man becomes the prey of his pursuer, and is led off to prison.

How is he to account to his wife for his absence from home during the period of his incarceration? A story of a trip to Mexico is invented, and is duly told to Mrs. Fitzhugh. And now the scene of action shifts to the room of the Warden—what we should call the prison governor—in an American gaol. The Warden is a lively and artistic personage; and one of the most eccentric things in the farce is the entrance of a detachment of prisoners stepping to a quaint and haunting air. To complicate matters, the Warden, who is a very susceptible personage, has fallen in love with a lady whom Benjamin recognises, from a portrait, to be Mrs. Fitzhugh. She calls at the gaol with some other ladies with a philanthropic object, and the Warden pays her attentions which Fitzhugh is obliged to witness, but is unable to resent. The officious Roderick Majors has been working hard, but in vain, to straighten out affairs, and, at the end of the act, a rising of the prisoners spoils all his plans.

Having "done his time," Fitzhugh has to present himself to his wife plausibly and effectively. He does so in Mexican attire, and tells an extravagantly absurd story. His struggles with the situation, and his difficulties with the Spanish language, a smattering of which he has acquired from a phrase-book, are as excruciatingly droll as the rest of the piece. As Mrs. Fitzhugh was herself at the restaurant, which she visited in a spirit of curiosity on the night of the raid, she is disposed to be indulgent, and the performance concludes with everyone—including the audience—entirely contented.

Judging from the attitude of the audience towards *The Man from Mexico*, the piece has "come to stay" at the Strand. Mr. Stanley Cooke is the life and soul of the action. His performance as Benjamin Fitzhugh is a gem, and one of the best things he has ever done. His untiring activity and abundance of clever gags keep the audience in a continual uproar of hilarity. He excels particularly in the second act, where Fitzhugh is doing thirty days' imprisonment at Blackwell Islands gaol; but he is intensely funny throughout. Mr. Cecil Collins gives a clever character-study as Timothy Cook, the New York detective, who is principally engaged in shadowing Fitzhugh, and very amusing are the many little altercations which take place between them, Cook's towering frame contrasting strongly with that of the shorter Fitzhugh. Mr. George Giddens is in his happiest vein as Roderick Majors, whose desire to "make it all right" with everybody always ends in disaster. Mr. Harry Parker gives a finely farcical impersonation of Von Bulow Bismarck Schmidtz; Mr. King Fordham is excellent as Edward, the disappointed suitor for the hand of Sally Grace; as Richard Dornton Mr. Eric Leighton supplies a sound performance; and Mr. Kinsey Peile portrays the artistically inclined Warden Loveall in just the right key. The ladies' parts are all judiciously cast. Miss Ola Humphrey has a part to which she is well suited in that of Clementina Fitzhugh, and plays it in a decidedly effective manner. Miss Jean Harkness is a pretty and sympathetic Sally Grace; Miss Faith Celli skilfully enacts Roderick Majors' pretty daughter Nettie; and Miss Gladys Harvey is good as the maid, Miranda. Mr. Tom Tindall does good work as Louis, a waiter; and the characters of O'Mullins, of the New York Police, and Googan, a prison warder, are admirably sustained by Messrs. Eldrett Gulson and Arthur Leigh. *The Man from Mexico* was preceded by the pretty little Dutch play from the pen of Mr. Stanley Cooke, with music by Arthur Wood, entitled "HIS LIVING IMAGE."

The Figure and Jan ..... MR. WYN WEAVER
Jake ..... MR. CHRIS WALKER
Gretchen ..... MISS AMY FRANCIS

The story is simple. The father of a Dutch girl, Gretchen, has constructed a mannequin which he has named the perfect man. In his memoirs he states that owing to his mistrust of the modern man, he has made a perfect husband for his only child. The figure will come to life under the influence of an all-inspiring love. Jake, a fisherman, "chaffs" Gretchen about her mock husband, adding that a certain Jan is dying for love of her. But she will have none of him, believing in the resuscitation of her mannequin. Jan then arrives to plead his cause in person, but to no purpose. Then, as a last resource, he decides to smash the figure to atoms, and take its place. Gretchen is considerably startled on seeing the puppet come to life; but she is disillusioned by Jake, who shows her the remains of the broken image. After several pretty songs and dances, all ends happily. Miss Amy Francis makes a dainty Gretchen; Mr. Wyn Weaver, in the dual rôle of Jan and the figure, leaves little to be desired; and Mr. Chris Walker is a capital Jake.

"THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER."

Comic Opera, in Three Acts, Music by Oscar Straus, Written by Bernauer and Jacobson, the English Version by Stanislaus Stange, Produced at the Lyric on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Nadina ..... MISS CONSTANCE DREVER
Aurelia ..... MISS AMY AUGARDE
Mascha ..... MISS ELSIE SPAIN
Bumerli ..... MR. C. H. WORKMAN
Massakroff ..... MR. LEMPRIERE PRINGLE
Stephan ..... MR. MURRI MONCRIEFF
Mernosk ..... MISS ISOBEL LIDSTER
Jecko ..... MR. A. HARDING
Laska ..... MISS MORRISON
Marinska ..... MISS MAY CLARKE
Poski ..... MR. HAROLD DENNIS
Mernitz ..... MR. W. G. KEYRAM
Katinka ..... MISS M. BURNESS
Alexis Sparidoff ..... MR. ROLAND CUNNINGHAM
Casimir Popoff ..... MR. TOM A. SHALE

The fantastic humour of Bernard Shaw is ingeniously reflected in the opera which has been written upon his play *Arms and the Man*, and under the title of *The Chocolate Soldier* had its English representation at the Lyric on Saturday. Insinuating airs, duets conceived in the most whimsical vein, and richly harmonious choruses are wedded to a story in which brilliant shafts of Shaw satire are mingled with more or less neatly-turned rhymes from the pen of Mr. Stanislaus Stange. Above all rises a wonderful waltz tune, which exercised an influence that could not be resisted. It was received with rapture, echoed during the entr'actes, and it accompanied the audience on their way home.

The air was sung in the opening by Nadina, the daughter of Colonel Popoff, whose lover—Alexis—is away at the war then raging between Bulgaria and Servia. Alexis is a hero by repute, and ere retiring to rest, Nadina breathes forth her devotion to her absent lover in a song with the refrain "Come, come." The entry by the window of a fugitive soldier is the only response to her plaint. He is Bumerli, a Swiss lieutenant in the Servian Army, fleeing from the pursuit of the Bulgarians. With splendid assurance Bumerli, in a telling scene, first terrorises Nadina, and then gains her sympathy, thus giving the signal for an effective duet on that theme. A true Shavian hero, Bumerli has no taste for war, and confesses himself more expert at consuming chocolate drops than facing fire, and for that Nadina derisively dubs him a "chocolate soldier." He destroys Nadina's faith in her hero, declaring that though Alexis has the credit of taking the Servian guns, it was not to his valour but to the fact that the gunners found at the psychological moment that they had the wrong ammunition that the victory was due. Nadina bids him hide behind a curtain, while a squad of soldiers search for him in accepted opera-bouffe fashion. Bumerli, however, has other dangers to face, for Nadina's cousin, Mascha, and her mother, who have been heard singing a weirdly scored trio with Nadina, "Life is lonely without the man," discover that he is there, and insist on taking him under their protection. Mrs. Popoff lends him her husband's jacket, into the pocket of which each lady slips a photograph of herself adorned with her signature and some term of endearment. Worn out with fatigue Bumerli sinks to sleep with the three ladies sharing the duty of sentry.

The return of the victorious Bulgarians with Colonel Popoff singing "How glad I am the war is over" opens the second act, in which the betrothal of Alexis and Nadina is arranged. At dinner Popoff and Alexis discuss, to the horror and disgust of the ladies, a droll Swiss who had told them how he had escaped from the enemy through the good offices of "three Bulgarian women whose hearts he had captured." Consternation on the arrival of Bumerli bringing with him a portmanteau which contains the Colonel's jacket, gives way to terror when the ladies learn that he has not even seen the photographs and that they must be still where they had placed them. The Colonel calls for his jacket, and that garment being forthcoming, there is a quaint trio, in the course of which each lady approaches Popoff on various pretexts, and secures a photograph and safety. Mascha, who has lost her heart to Alexis, succeeds in diverting his from Nadina to herself, and Bumerli's persistent wooing finally overcomes Nadina, who is fain to love her chocolate soldier "because she hates him."

Romance, melody, and satire are cleverly interwoven, and in its interpretation composer, librettist, and artists are at one. In the case of the artists it is a reunion of Savoyards, and admirably do they realise the author's intention. The gem of the piece is the waltz-song to which we have alluded, and the honours of its rendering belong to Miss Constance Drever, who sang it with thrilling effect, imparting to the lines passion and fervour, and rising in a crescendo that was quite thrilling. Apart from that piece of sentiment, Miss Drever was a bewitching Nadina, wearing many ravishing costumes becomingly, and playing, dancing, and singing with exquisite comedy. Most of her musical effects were gained in combination with Mr. C. H. Workman, who as the irrepressible and irresistible Swiss, won unlimited laughter. Mr. Workman made artistic use of his voice, and sang agreeably in the "Sympathy" duet with Miss Drever. One recalls with pleasure the piquant number "That would be lovely," a graceful, lilting melody in which the pair join. The ingenuity and skill of the composer were manifested in the accompaniment to a letter song, which is afterwards sung as a duet between Nadina and Bumerli. The latter is a most melodious composition, and Miss Drever and Mr. Workman gained for it a hearty encore. Mr. Roland Cunningham, who entered thoroughly into the character of the vainglorious Alexis, delivered his droll lines with the utmost point. He had a song descriptive of that individual, in which the purity and sweetness of his voice was heard with telling effect. Miss Elsie Spain was at her brightest and best as the flirtatious Mascha and sang with vivacity and sweetness, and acted with delicious roguishness. With Mr. Cunningham she shares a duet, "Falling in love," in the rendering of which the clever pair obtained a conspicuous hit, Mascha's dainty dance round the dignified soldier adding in no small respect to the measure of success. Mr. Lempriere Pringle realised to the life the ferocious sergeant of the Bulgarian force. His advent, indeed, at the head of his company, who describe themselves in a chorus at once whimsical and musically effective, was one of the principal hits of the piece. Colonel Popoff was depicted with droll dignity by Mr. Tom A. Shale, whose efforts at promoting merriment never relaxed, and never went unrewarded. Miss Amy Augarde acted with comic perception as the Colonel's wife Aurelia, and utilised her voice to perfection in various concerted numbers.

Mounting and dressing could hardly be surpassed, a luxurious bedroom and a magnificent view of a Bulgarian hillside exacting the highest admiration. The splendour of the uniforms was intensified by the simple, rustic costumes of the Bulgarian maidens, and the return of the soldiers from the war was superbly enacted. M. Jacques Van Heuval conducted the orchestra in a manner that enhanced the attractiveness of the work. The opera has already triumphed in Vienna and other Continental cities, and its reception by a brilliant house on Saturday gave every indication that a similar happy fate awaited it in this country. The enthusiasm of the audience was unbounded, and Mr. F. C. Whitney, to whose enterprise the production is due, made a speech of thanks.

AN APPRECIATION OF DUSE.

"Eleonora Duse," says L. M. Hanason, "has a strangely wearied look. It is not the weariness of exhaustion or apathy, nor is it the weariness natural to an overworked actress, although there are times when she suffers from that to so great an extent that she acts indifferently the whole evening, and makes the part a failure. Neither is it the weariness of despondency, which gives the voice a hollow, artificial sound, which is noticeable in all virtuosas when they are overtired. Neither is it the utter prostration resulting from passion, like the drowsiness of beasts of prey, which our tragic actors and actresses delight in. Passion, the so-called great passion, which, according to an old legend recounted in one of the Greek tragedies, comes like the whirlwind, and leaves nothing behind but death and dried bones—passion such as that is unknown to Duse. Brunhild, Medea, Messalina, and all the ambitious, imperious princesses of historic drama are nothing to her; she is no princess or martyr of ancient history, but a princess in her own right, and a martyr of circumstances. Throughout her acting there is a feeling of surprise that she should suffer and be martyred, accompanied by the dim knowledge that it must be so—and it is that which gives her soul its weary melancholy. For it is not her body, nor her senses, nor her mind which give the appearance of having just awoke from a deep lethargy, the weariness is all in her soul, and it is that which gives her a soft, caressing, trustful manner, as though she felt lonely, and yearned for a little sympathy. Love is full of sympathy, and that is why Eleonora Duse acts love. Not greedy love, which asks more than it gives, like Walter's and Bernhardt's; not sensual love, nor yet imperious love, like the big woman who takes pity on the little man, whom it pleases her to make happy. When Duse is in love, even in *Fédora*, it is always she who is the little woman, and the man is for her the big man, the giver, who holds her happiness in his hands, to whose side she steals anxiously, almost timidly, and looks up at him with her serious, wearied, almost child-like smile. She comes to him for protection and shelter, just as travellers are wont to gather round a warm fire, and she clings to him caressingly with her thin little hands—the hands of a child and mother. Never has woman been represented in a more womanly way than by Eleonora Duse, and more than that, I take it upon myself to maintain that woman has never been represented upon the stage until now—by Eleonora Duse.

"She shows us the everlasting child in woman—in the full-grown, experienced woman, who is possessed of an erotic yearning for fulness of life. Woman is not, and cannot be, happy by herself, nor is the sacrifice of a moment enough for her; it is not enough for her to live by the side of the man, a husband's tenderness is as necessary to her as the air she breathes. His passion, lit by her, is her life and happiness. He gives her the love in which her life can blossom into a fair and beautiful flower. And she accepts him, not with the silly innocence of a child, not with the ignorance of girlhood, not with the ungoverned passion of a mistress, not with the condescending forbearance of the 'superior woman,' not with the brotherly affection of the manly woman—we have had ample opportunity of seeing and benefiting by such representations as those in every theatre, and in every tongue since first we began to see and to think. They include every type of womanhood as understood and represented by actresses great and small. But into all this Duse introduces a new element, something which was formerly only a matter of secondary importance on the stage, which, by the 'highest art,' was judged in the light of a juggler's trick, and was considered by the lower art as little more than a valuable ingredient. She makes it the mainstring on which her acting vibrates, the keynote without which her art would have no meaning. She accepts the man with the whole-hearted sincerity of an experienced woman, who shrinks from the loneliness of life, and longs to lose herself in the loved one. She has the dreadful sensation that a human being has nothing but minutes, minutes—that there is nothing lasting to rely on, that we swim across dark waters from yesterday until to-morrow, and our unfulfilled desires are less terrible than the feverish anxiety with which we anticipate the future in times of prosperity.

"Eleonora Duse's acting tells of infinite suspense.

"Her entire art rests on this one note—Suspense, which means that we know nothing, possess nothing, can do nothing, that everything is ruled by chance, and the whole of life is one great uncertainty. This terrible insecurity stands as a perfect contrast to the 'cause and effect' theory of the schools, which trust in God and logic, and offer a secure refuge to the playwright's art. This mysterious darkness, from whence she steps forward like a sleep-walker, gives a sickly colouring to her actions. There is something timid about her, she seems to have an almost superstitious dislike of a shrill sound, or a brilliant colour, and this peculiarity of hers finds expression not only in her acting, but also in her dress.

"We seldom see toilets on the stage which reveal a more individual taste. Just as Duse never acted anything but what was in her own soul, she never attempted any disguise of her body. Her own face was the only mask she wore when I saw her act. The expression of her features, the deep lines on her cheeks, the melancholy mouth, the sunken eyes with their large heavy lids, were all characteristic of the part. She always had the same black, broad, arched eyebrows, the same wavy, shiny black Italian hair, which was always done up in a modest knot, sometimes high, sometimes a little lower, from which two curls always escaped during the course of her acting, because she had a habit of brushing her forehead with a white and rather bony hand, as though every violent emotion made her head ache.

"No jewel glittered against her sallow skin, and she wore no ornament on her dress; there was something pathetic in the unconcealed thinness of her neck and throat. She was of medium height, a slender body with broad hips, without any signs of the rounded waist which belongs to the fashionable figure of the drama. She wore no stays, and there was nothing to hinder the slow, graceful, musical movements of her somewhat scanty figure. She made frequent gestures with her arms which were perfectly natural in her, although her Italian vivacity sometimes gave them a grotesque appearance. But it was the grace of her form rather than her gestures, which called attention to the natural stateliness of her person. As to her dresses, they were not in the least fashionable—there was nothing of the French fashion-plate style about them; but then she never made any attempt to follow the fashion; she set it. There was an antique look about the long, soft folds of her dress, also something suggestive of the Renaissance in the velvet bodices and low lace collars.

"But her arrangement of colour was new; it was not copied either from the antique or the Renaissance, and it was certainly not in accordance with the present-day fashion. She never wore red—with the exception of Nora's shabby blouse—nor bright yellow, nor blue, never, in fact, any strong, deep colour. The hues which she affected most were black and white in all materials, whether for dresses or cloaks. She always wore pale, cream-coloured lace, closely folded across her breast, from whence her dress fell loosely to the ground; she never wore a waistband of any kind whatever."

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE MODERN AUDIENCE.

Bear in mind—writes J. H. Cox, in an article in the *Irish Independent* on "How to Revive the Drama"—that the house has new tenants. The critical gallery and the perceptive pit are gone. The theatre has become "popular." Its plebeian crowd is full of nothing but excitement and compassion. Any amateur psychologist could anticipate the natural preference of such children in art. They like their drama as Mrs. Snagsby her religion, "rather sharp." The dilettante, whose senses have refined to decadence, is at the other extreme. He cannot bear laceration of mind. He flees the entreaties of Pity and Terror. He detests a heavy fire of shots between his nerves and the situation. Tragedy is his aversion. Musical comedy, wherein Nonsense punches the ribs of Laughter, is the torch of his soul. He is the degenerate descendant of him who revelled in the artificial comedy of the eighteenth century. He seeks in the theatre the mental inebriation that cancels the old world and establishes a new one. The muse of serious dramatic art, now sadly in need of friends, does well to give him up and turn instead to the combustible being who has at least heart enough for melodrama. That lurid article must be the basis of instruction. Only by melodrama can you form the dramatic instinct of primitive minds.

At the same time, no playhouse wholly subsists on runaway trains and tile-walking somnambulists. The first step to something better, according to managerial custom everywhere, is an appeal to patriotic stimulus. The sensationalism alternates with historical drama duly thrilling—an arrangement which gives the key to our hopes. But first a few flying remarks on historical drama, its seeming death, and its imminent resurrection.

The elder Dumas and his disciples made it the magnet of the stage. The theatre is, however, subject to fashion; the public wearied of the splendid gestures, the pompous speeches, the superhuman deeds. In the beginning this revulsion was induced by surfeit. Of course, the romantic authors wisely modified their mixtures; they began eliminating the "gush"; their work was devoted more to gay, gallant, and unexpected episodes. But do what they might, their preternatural swordsman was doomed. Burlesque and comic opera arrived and caught him, and he sank into the limbo of exploded chimeras, whence an age since grown sceptical, and consequently hungering for stage realism, has not suffered him to emerge.

A fuller tide of scepticism has more recently set in. This time it does not mean revulsion after overdose, as did the first recoil from inflated historical romance. Rather it is symptomatic of public thought in every domain. And in drama its most evident result is the naturalism which now for a considerable spell has restricted the serious stage to pictures of familiar life. The romantic school has passed. Fred Terry, Lewis Waller, and Martin Harvey—women's actors all—give us occasional glimpses of the discarded hero; but the men in the house are too modern to follow his movements with more than a mocking eye. In a word, we have lost the faculty of transporting ourselves into a romantic atmosphere. Be it said, in acknowledgment of the toilsome ascent of Man, that this spectatorial scepticism is no reproach. It does not betoken any hardening of the heart, or coldness for the truly heroic. We have a more practical public, that is all. Never before has the hero in real life been so well looked after. It is the idea of heroism that has changed. Titanic feats of arms and puerile points of honour no longer move a community which has relinquished, not its sentiments, but its sentimentality. Thus it happens that the modern touchstone of dignified drama is reality. And taking all these circumstances, there is nothing remote in the deduction that the grandiose-heroic style of historical piece is almost as defunct as Dr. Dowie.

This, mark you, is not ringing the knell of historical drama. In truth it is on the verge of a great revival. For a lead in theatrical matters you must look towards Paris as the Mohammedan towards Mecca. What the French theatre does to-day our does to-morrow; and the historical play is the latest thing on the Parisian boards. It is not the Dumas-esque round of sword tricks tempered by salaams. Nor is it the later elaboration of quasi-fabulous comic episodes, the best instance of which is Sardou's *Madame Sans-Gêne*. The treatment has become "scientific." The incidents are closely reconciled to history; the characters are such as the most sceptical audience can believe in. There are heroes, to be sure, and traitors also—history abounds in the one and the other; but the heroes are not absolute, nor the traitors without excuse. The *dramatis personæ* are men and women like ourselves, with the same human, changeable emotions, but with the thoughts of their own time. They speak and act as we should do if placed in their environment.

Presumably one or other Dublin theatre is already on the watch for historical pabulum. In laying in their stock the management could strike a rich mine of interest and go far to improve the standard of taste by encouraging Irish playwrights—of whom there are many pining for opportunity—to apply the new method to Irish subjects. An Emmet of stained-glass perfection, a Cromwell out-Heroding Herod, a Lord Edward of ten thousand horse-power—these are types that have had their day. Historical accuracy vivified by probability would admit of restatements of the same characters, not as gods or demons, but as men, and would uncover wells of pathos which the effete, artificial method entirely missed.

DON'T FORGET THE GRIN.

BY TOM CRAVEN.

If you should be a chorus girl,
And wish the town to fetch,
You must call yourself an *actress*
(Imaginative stretch).
Be photo'd in a motor car;
A Derby you must win!
Wear silken hose, and dainty clothes.
And—don't forget the grin.

Then sport a tiny snug retreat,
An easy ride from town.
And get some smart photographers
And interviewers down.
Then he photo'd in your study
And boudoir to begin,
Assume an air of innocence,
And—don't forget the grin.

You must have a motor mishap
(To work "pars." be alert),
And let the papers say you're "scared
But very little hurt."
Make capital of everything,
And dash about your tin;
Remember to exaggerate,
And—don't forget the grin.

Get mixed up in a scandal, too
(With titled men, of course);
Then associate your name with crime,
Especially divorce.
What if you blight ancestral homes,
If you the case can win,
A theatre shall be built for you,
Then—don't forget the grin.

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues. Published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.), price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SWINBURNE ON "KING LEAR."

An illuminating analysis and fine criticism of *King Lear* was written by the late Algernon Charles Swinburne, and published with other Shakespearean essays in a small volume issued by Henry Frowde, of the Oxford University Press, London. The lamented author of *Atalanta in Calydon* writes: "No supernatural effect of tragedy and of terror can ever equal or approach the effect of purely natural causes which work out their inevitable and unimaginable results by dint or by grace of no more incognizable influence than that of character and circumstance alone. *Macbeth* is not more surely above comparison with *Romeo and Juliet* as to range of thought and might of passion than is *King Lear* above comparison with *Macbeth*. Coleridge himself, the greatest master of the supernatural among all poets of all time, has left nothing so terrible or so beautiful. In lyric power and preterhuman imagination, unique alike in sweep of conception and in harmony of detail, he is beyond comparison with any other poet on record; but Shakespeare has touched a deeper chord of terror and a finer chord of pity in a poem which grapples with the best and the worst imaginable possibilities of human character no less than with the most living and the most glorious aspects of the passing magnificence of nature. All the magnetism of tempest is in the very words and cadences of the verse: and this matchless music is but an accompaniment, as this matchless painting is but a background, to the deeper and more dreadful harmonies and revelations of humanity. If this poem be not the greatest work of man, it is at least on a level with any other that tradition may set against it or enthusiasm beside it. Take away or tone down the tempest, and the tragedy of character would still remain, independent in its essence of the accident supplied by the wild night and the many miles of bushless waste. The conscious and conscienceless abandonment or self-devotion rather than self-surrender of Goneril and Regan to the instincts which they have just enough of practical intelligence to clothe if not to cover with some show of egotistic reasoning is as natural as the cruelty of their servile ministers; even though lightning and rain be here as relentless as the willing and unwilling agents who nailed Prometheus to the cliff. The unspeakable villainy of Edmund is not less imaginable and credible in a rancorous and heartless sufferer under the brand of bastardy than is the cheerful gallantry of Falconbridge in a heroic patriot who accepts it with a laugh and glorifies it by his acceptance. Against such a triad of most toad-spotted traitors no less heavenly counterpoise or contrast than could be given only by three such figures as those of Cordelia, Kent, and the Fool, could suffice to establish the ethical balance of the poem, and reconcile the sympathy or even sustain the endurance of the reader. The dramatic skill of the supreme dramatic rather than theatrical artist was never more triumphantly manifest than in the fusion and transfiguration of the stories here so naturally and so cunningly interwoven. To have turned the ugly and unmanageable legend of Cordelia's ultimate suicide in prison into the glory of a martyrdom unmatched for its tragic effect of terror and of pity, to have made its inevitable consequence the agony which now strikes out not the reason but the life of her father, is the supreme feat of Shakespeare as a spiritual craftsman. On the other hand, we cannot honestly overlook the one great and grave oversight or flaw to be found in this tragic work: the sudden and inexplicable disappearance of Lear's only comrade and support in the first horror of his exposure as an outcast to the storm. That Casca should not meet us at Philippi must always have been left as a disappointment and must always be remembered as a default: that the Fool should vanish with the tempest, never more to be thought of or mentioned by Lear or by Cordelia, can be neither explained nor excused by any possible audacity or felicity of conjecture. The most fortunate existence of a text from which two of the most priceless and incomparable scenes in the whole poem were struck out by the villainous editors of the folio precludes us from the otherwise natural and inevitable suspicion that another as brutal and treacherous excision may have deprived us of a third, in which we should have seen the last of the noble poor fellow, whose suffering, in common with his own, was the means of his master's conversion from the royal egotism of a wilful and headstrong tyrant to the infinite sympathy of a high-minded and tender-hearted man with all sufferers under social negligence and misrule. In the noblest sense of an ambiguous if not indefinable term, the socialism of the revolutionary if not subversive sympathies which imbue with such thoughtful passion the inspired insanity of the beggared and vagrant king can only rest unrecognised as Shakespeare's own prophetic and fervent faith by the blindest and deafest of misreaders.

"The one tragedy ever written which can be set beside *King Lear* as a comparable poem of the same kind as well as the same form is in all minor points unlike it. The eponymous hero is in every sense the hero indeed, and a nobler never lived in fiction or in less precious and immortal fact. The heroine, if not so heroically adorable as Cordelia, may probably seem to some readers a figure even more tenderly to be cherished in the inmost heart of all men's love and pity. She is not less patient and true: no other man, not even the creator of Antigone, and most assuredly no mortal woman, has ever painted the courage of woman, the distinctive property of their peculiar heroism, as Shakespeare has. And she is gentle almost beyond belief, submissive almost beyond sympathy: it is certainly impossible to imagine Cordelia, nor perhaps is it possible to imagine any other of Shakespeare's women, so 'obedient a lady,' so resentless of such outrage, so ultra-Christian in her uncomplaining readiness to turn the other cheek. It is almost suggestive of something almost like a reversion to the mean mediæval type of Griselda: of an ethical and spiritual subsidence or descent from Shakespeare's humanity to Chaucer's."

THE eleventh annual general meeting of the Incorporated Stage Society will be held on Tuesday next at 35, Southampton-street, Strand, the new offices of the Society. The chair will be taken at 5 o'clock.

A GREAT rush is being made in the direction of Oberammergau to witness the Passion Play next Sunday, and there is eager competition, especially among Americans, for quarters at the house of Anton Lang, who takes the part of Christus. All Americans going to the play booked in the months of March and April in the States. The audiences are in the proportion of twelve Americans to one Englishman.

ALL ladies going to the play dispense with hats, and instead wear motor veils like turbans. Everybody takes a cushion to the theatre, as the wooden seats are not upholstered. Cushions may, however, be hired from householders at a charge of 1 mark, or can be bought at the numerous booths and little shops which form the picture and postcard emporiums of this little Bavarian village.

MISS MARY MANNERING is, we are sorry to hear, lying dangerously ill in a hospital in New York, after an operation for appendicitis. Miss Mannering made her first appearance at the Prince's, Manchester, in 1892, and her *début* in New York, where she was subsequently very successful at the Lyceum Theatre there in 1895. She also appeared at Daly's, New York, and at Wallack's.

THE OLD ACTOR-MANAGER.

"The actor-manager of thirty years ago," wrote the late T. W. Robertson in the *Illustrated Times*, "was a man of totally different type to his successor of the present day. He was an intensely clever, bustling, wrong-headed, highly appreciative fellow, fond of his authors, his company, his orchestra, his scene-shifters, his supernumeraries and all that belonged to the little world he ruled. During the rehearsal of a new piece, he would swear horribly and stamp on the stage till the soles of his feet tingled again. On the night of its production, attired in his character dress, he would be here, there and everywhere—assisting the actors in the adjustment of their wigs, finding fault with the coiffure of a soubrette, discharging the prompter, imprecating every portion of the anatomy of his stage-manager, helping a carpenter in the 'setting' of a rock-piece, challenging his leading tragedian to mortal combat on the morrow, making speeches to the audience to appease them for the long delays between the acts, and conducting himself generally like a lunatic in fancy costume; but, the piece over, he would raise the prompter's salary, ask his stage-manager to join him in a bottle of champagne, treat the carpenters to beer, invite his leading tragedian to dine with him on Sunday, and thank his generous and liberal public for once more cr-r-r-owning his humble efforts with their kind approval. The first to recognise merit in an aspirant, he was the last to listen to the grumbling of a fastidious author or a tyrannical stage-manager. Beloved by all tragedians, comedians, carpenters, call-boys, scene-shifters, and supernumeraries, his funeral presented a long procession of grateful and weeping mourners, who dated all the events of their lives from his death, and who said constantly, 'When poor Yorick was living he would never,' &c. 'Alas! poor Yorick!' Hie over the last five-and-twenty years to the present caterers for the public! The change is great, and, like many other changes, the reverse of an improvement. There are so many varieties of the species that our limits will only permit us to touch upon a few.... The commercial manager is a very common type, and is willing to turn to good account opera, ballet, equestrianism and Shakespeare in this present practical theatrical age. He takes an entirely commercial view of all things—Ramo-Samee-Indiarubber Peruvians, real water, the legitimate drama, speaking pantomime, or pantomimic tragedy—so that it brings in the ready sixpence. He prides himself greatly upon his practical common-sense, distrusts manuscripts, fears authors, but places great reliance upon his costumier and property man. His conversation is not choice, except as regards oaths, which are of a raciness and full flavour that would do credit to an irate cabman. Although he professes a high respect for dramatic literature, he judges of the merit of a drama like a butterman—by its weight in paper. He is a great man for bargains, and will buy a quantity of damaged velvets for a fabulously small sum, after which he will search for an author to write him a piece for the velvets. 'Lovely velvets—make any piece popular them velvets would,' says the commercial manager. The drama found, if it fail he despairs of the prospects of the theatre. Public are so fickle nowadays. 'Who would have thought that with them velvets any piece could fail?' The commercial manager is a great financial genius, and cuts down salaries and expenses to the very lowest scale. He is also fertile in expedients for stopping a night's salary from his employés, and was the original inventor and introducer of that wonderful piece of economical meanness, a complimentary benefit, which means a benefit for the manager, on which occasion the actors, actresses, scene-shifters, supernumeraries and all give their services gratuitously. . . . Lastly, the commercial manager is very litigious, and always involved in lawsuits; in fact, an attorney is laid on to his establishment like gas, and picks out holes in engagements and flaws in arrangements for his clever client's interest. The actor-manager is a good second or third rate sort of artist, who forces himself into a prominent position by taking a theatre, and, by carefully stewing down the abilities of the authors and actors he employs, and mixing with his own their mental and artistic porridge, makes his weak water-gruel talents thick and savoury. Just now the stage is terribly plagued by various sorts of these self-sufficient entrepreneurs. There is your tragedian manager, who kindly puts Shakespeare right and explains what that erring author really meant; and there is your high comedy manager, who knows three lords to speak to, and once met a countess at a ball, and is in consequence a great authority on fashionable life, and, like Goldsmith's bear-leader, can't abide anything that is low. These two varieties are very fond of teaching young actors how to act, and so successful is their tuition that very often a promising young comedian from the provinces has in six difficult lessons been tamed and tortured into the ineffective and passionless delivery which forms so valuable a setting to managerial mediocrity. Another of these peculiarities is remarkable. They seldom, if ever, engage an actor or actress taller than themselves. An engagement at their theatre depends more on inches than genius. No mere actor should be taller than his manager. Banquo should always be smaller than Macbeth, and the *jeune premier* rôle shorter than the *grand premier* rôle. Height, like individual talent, must be kept down to one regulation standard. In regard to their well-disguised servility to the gentlemen who notice the theatres in the daily and weekly papers, actor-managers are by no means more open to animadversion than either the commercial or the invisible ones. . . . There are many other varieties of managers, too many for us to give a full and particular account of; many well-meaning, kind-hearted and honourable gentlemen—the sort of men who require no detailed description, for the good of all classes are alike."

THE latest volunteer contributors to the benefit to Mrs. Ernest Carpenter at the Lyceum on Oct. 4 are Miss Margaret Cooper, with several songs selected from her répertoire; Mr. Bransby Williams, who will give his impersonations from Dickens; and Mr. Charles Pond, who will supply some of his "Glimpses of Life."

FINE apparel decks both the virtuous and the vicious characters in *The Sins of London* at the Lyceum. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as the heroine appears on the good ship Alabama in a charming frock of fancy-coloured ninon, most dainty in colour and design. Shades of blue and pink and violet are charmingly intermingled. Character is given to the gown by a very wide waistband or corslet of mauve silk, and by a wide mauve bow on the skirt. Over this frock Miss Thomas wears a charming cream wrap coat, with a very wide collar and revers of black silk. Another notable frock is one of soft cream ninon, with elaborate draperies of white satin, worn with a large picture hat of oyster grey silk, with a broad brim turned up with black.

MISS AURIOL LEE as Gertie Coleman appears in a graceful gown of pale blue satin. A very wide band of embroidery and lace, touched with gold, encircles the skirt above the knee; and a graceful drapery of vivid purple chiffon falls from one shoulder in shawl fashion down the back of the frock, and is brought round to the front and fastened with an ornamental tassel. Black satin is the material of another of Miss Lee's gowns. This forms the kilted skirt, and over it is worn a close-fitting Princess tunic of crepe de chine. Miss Vashti Wynne makes an impressive appearance in an evening gown of flame-coloured satin, with a sweeping osprey of the same tint in her hair.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 19.

ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—T. R., Darlington.
APPLE OF EDEN.—Lyric T., Hammersmith, W.
ARCADIANS (N.).—King's T., Hammersmith, W.
ARCADIANS (S.).—Court T., Wigan.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—New, Washington.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—King's T., Gainsborough.
BEECHAM OPERA CO.—T. R., Dublin.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Torquay.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Ilfracombe and Barnstaple.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—T. R., Bath.
BISHOP'S SON, THE.—T. R., Nottingham.
BLACK MASK.—Lyceum T., Govan.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—T. R., Bradford.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
BROKEN HEART.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Belfast.
CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?—Star T., Liverpool.
CANDIDA.—T. R., Cardiff.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—T. R., Chatham.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—Chesterfield.
CASTELLANO OPERA CO.—Grand T., Oldham.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Metropole T., Manchester.
CHINESE HONEYMOON.—Broadway T., New Cross.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—Ashton-under-Lyne.
CINGALEE (A.).—Albert T., Brighouse.
CLAUDIAN.—O. H., St. Helens.
CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE, LES.—T. R., Portsmouth.
COAL KING.—Osborne T., Manchester.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—O. H., Belfast.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Pavilion T., Abertillery.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Prince's T., Manchester.
DAME NATURE.—Grand T., Hull.
DARE DEVIL DOROTHY.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—O. H., Kidderminster.
DAWN OF A TO-MORROW.—T. R., Glasgow.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.—Eastbourne and Worthing.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (EDWARDES) (N.).—T. R., Birmingham.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (S.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
DON.—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
D'OYLY CARTE.—O. H., Harrogate.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—T. R., Plymouth.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Alhambra, Openshaw.
EVERY INCH A MAN.—Palace T., Derby.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Prince's T., Bradford.
FAST LIFE, A.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Grand T., Brighton.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—New T., Aberdare.
FIGHTING CHANCE.—T. R., Aldershot.
FLAG LIEUTENANT.—Hastings and Tunbridge Wells.
FLORADORA (CONSTANT).—Leamington and Stafford.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Palace T., Newcastle.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—New Hall, Bargoed.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—T. R., Birkenhead.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
GIRL ON THE BOAT.—T. R., Preston.
GIRLS OF GOTTENBERG.—O. H., Coventry.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—T. R., Belfast.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS.—Victoria T., Kettering.
HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN.—Junction T., Manchester.
HARVEY, MARTIN.—T. R., Newcastle.
HAVANA.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—T. R., Woolwich.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—County T., Reading.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Grand T., Falkirk.
HER NAMELESS CHILD.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Barry.
HER SECRET LOVER.—T. R., Scarborough.
HIS INDIAN WIFE.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
HOUSE OPPOSITE, THE.—T. R., Bolton.
HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
IRVING, H. B.—Grand T., Blackpool.
IRVING, LAURENCE.—O. H., Blackpool.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—T. R., Smethwick.
KING OF CADONIA.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Galway and Ennis.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Grand T., Aberavon.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—Paisley T., Paisley.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—King's Lynn and Lincoln.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Aston.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—T. R., Tyldesley.
MAN TO MAN.—Royalty T., Barrow.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Theatre, West Kirby.
MASTER OF THE MILL.—P. O. W., Salford.
MERRY WIDOW (N.).—Grand T., Leeds.
MERRY WIDOW (S.).—O. H., Middlesbrough.
MERRY WIDOW (3).—O. H., Doncaster.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Scarborough.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—Empire T., Swindon.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
MISS TOMMY.—W. G., New Brighton.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—O. H., Leicester.
MOUNTAINEERS, THE.—T. R., Manchester.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—Grand T., Croydon.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—T. R., Halifax.
MY IRISH MOLLY.—Grand T., Mansfield.
NEW LADY BANTOCK.—Lincoln and Loughborough.
NICK CARTER.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
NIGHT AND MORNING.—T. R., Crook.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
OUR FLAT.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—T. R., Bristol.
OLD HEIDELBERG.—T. R., Worcester.
OUR MISS GIBBS (EDWARDES).—King's T., Glasgow.
OUR MISS GIBBS (N.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
OUR MISS GIBBS (S.).—Grand T., Swansea.
OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY.—Gaiety T., Methil.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Kirriemuir and Ayr.
PIGEON HOUSE.—Court Theatre, S.W.
POWER OF THE KING.—T. R., Stratford, E.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
PROOF.—T. R., Leicester.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (N.).—Castle T., Stockton.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID (S.).—Alex. T., Hull.
QUEEN OF THE FAIR.—Weymouth.
RAYNOR REPERTORY.—Pavilion Theatre, Liverpool.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Whitehaven.
SAILOR'S WEDDING.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
SEXTON BLAKE.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—H. M. T., Dundee.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
SILVER KING.—T. R., Rochdale.
SIR WALTER RALEGH.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
SMITH (N.).—Wolverhampton.
SMITH (S.).—O. H., Cheltenham.
STILL ALARM.—King's T., Sutton.
SWISS EXPRESS.—O. H., Dudley.
TANTALIZING TOMMY.—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
TEMPTATION.—Ashington and Blyth.
TERRY, EDWARD.—O. H., Southport.
TERRY, FRED, AND JULIA NEILSON.—Prince's T., Bristol
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Hippodrome, Leek.
TWO MERRY MONARCHS.—Marlborough T., Holloway.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Ramsgate.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Batley.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—T. R., Leeds.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Dewsbury.
WALLER, LEWIS.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
WEBB'S VAUDEVILLE.—T. R., Farnworth.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD (S.).—Worthing and Hastings.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—T. R., Edmonton.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—T. R., Barnsley.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—T. R., Belfast.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—King's T., Sunderland.
WHIP, THE.—New T., Cardiff.
WHOM GOD HATH JOINED.—Palace T., Ebbw Vale.
WILKIE, ALLAN.—T. R., Stockport.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—Weston-super-Mare.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—Grand T., Nottingham.
WOMAN'S PAST, A.—Abertillery.
WORLD, FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—H. M. T., Barrow.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.

ON the Bench at Bow-street at the hearing of the Crippen case on Wednesday were Sir W. S. Gilbert, Sir John Hare, and Mr. H. B. Irving, who is deeply interested in criminal phenomena, and has written very thoughtfully on the subject.

MISS ATHENE SEYLER has, we regret to hear, been compelled by indisposition to relinquish her part in *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, in which Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore will reappear at the Criterion on Monday; but Miss Seyler hopes to be well enough to support Mr. Hawtrey in *Inconstant George* when that piece is produced at the Prince of Wales's.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HALL.—The wife of Aubrey G. Hall, of a son, born July 4, 1910.

KAY.—Sept. 13, at 40, Clifford-street, Manchester, Mrs. Kay Martinette (May Merry, of Sisters Iris) of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

BORGEN—LORD.—On the 14th inst., at St. John's Church, Godley, by the Rev. Alaric Davys, M.A., Harald, son of the late Axel Borgen, of Copenhagen, Denmark, to Valeria Hyacinthe, only daughter of James E. Lord, Musical Director, Empire Theatre, Hyde, Cheshire.

BROWN—REDFERN.—Lionel Brown to Elsie Redfern (Sisters Redfern), at St. Nicholas Church, Sept. 17.

GILLESPY—STUDT.—Sept. 8, by the Rev. F. G. Brittain, vicar, at St. Peter-le-Bailey Church, Oxford, George Alfred Gillespy, of the Milton Trio, to Mary Ann, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Studt, of Victoria Hall, Southampton.

DEATHS.

COLVERD.—Sept. 10, at Camberwell, Edward Frederick Colverd, 37 years, second son of the late Jovial Joe Colverd. Interred Sept. 14, Nunhead Cemetery. R.I.P.

GRETTON.—Sept. 9, at the Castle Hotel, York, Little Rence, the beloved and only daughter of Flo and Austin Gretton, aged 4 years and 4 months.

LESBOROUGH.—Sept. 3, at Glasgow, Violet Lesborough, of *The Love Birds* company.

PARKER.—Sept. 7, George Parker, for over thirty years fireman at various London music halls.

IN MEMORIAM.

LAKE.—In loving memory of Charles Frederick Herbert Lake, who passed away Sept. 18, 1905.
For now we see through a glass darkly,
But then face to face.
—LILY.

LEYBOURNE.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family.

LEYBOURNE.—In loving memory of George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his daughter, Florrie (Mrs. Albert Chevalier).

MELLON.—In ever loving memory of Sarah Jane Mellon (Mrs. Alfred Mellon), who died Sept. 8, 1909. "Her children rise up and call her blessed."

PEDLEY.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Elizabeth (professionally known as Marie Joyce), who fell asleep Sept. 14, 1908, at Central Hospital, Malta. Never forgotten by her loving husband, D. J. PEDLEY and son ALFRED.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Katie Lawrence—Saturday, Sept. 17.
Madge Temple—Saturday, Sept. 17.
Arthur Dashwood—Saturday, Sept. 17.
Evelyn Millard—Sunday, Sept. 18.
Henriquette Maude—Sunday, Sept. 18.
George Robey—Monday, Sept. 19.
Will Sergeant—Monday, Sept. 19.
Mrs. Fred Bulmer—Monday, Sept. 19.
Mary Dalby—Monday, Sept. 19.
Henry Arthur Jones—Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Maggie Duggan—Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Frank Seeley—Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Constance Bellamy—Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Harry J. Crane—Tuesday, Sept. 20.
Arthur Roberts—Wednesday, Sept. 21.
Charles Hawtrey—Wednesday, Sept. 21.
Clara Jecks—Thursday, Sept. 22.
Lillah McCarthy—Thursday, Sept. 22.
Dickie Clare—Thursday, Sept. 22.
William Archer—Friday, Sept. 23.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "THE ERA" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

A GREAT outcry is being raised in Italy against the first performances of Maestro Mascagni's new work *Ysobel* being given in America. Not only is the opera to go across the Atlantic, but Mascagni himself—at an enormous salary—is to proceed to the United States to superintend the rehearsals and as musical director. A heated Press campaign is being waged against the composer, and appeals are being made to the Minister of Fine Arts that he should make use of the Italian law which prohibits the sale of an important work of art to a foreigner without the permission of the Italian Government.

A SUGGESTION has been made that since, as Court director of music, Mascagni is in a way a Government official, the Minister of Fine Arts would have a better case in intervening to prevent him taking his opera first to America. Meanwhile Mascagni himself, who is living in seclusion near Milan, is emphatic that he will fulfil his contract with Liebler and Co., who have secured the work; but the public outcry has disturbed him and retarded the completion of *Ysobel*. Messrs. Liebler have, therefore, sent to Europe a representative armed with letters to Ministers and Ambassadors, to ensure, if possible, that the composer be no longer worried.

UNDER the winding-up order against the Cambrian Theatres, Ltd., the summary of accounts and report of the assistant receiver have been issued. The company was formed in August, 1909, with a nominal capital of £5,000, to acquire the interest of A. E. Withers in an agreement for an underlease of the Theatre Royal, Cardiff. The agreement in question was acquired from the Cardiff Theatre Company, Ltd., and was for a term of twenty-one years, at a rental of £666 13s. 4d., to Christmas, 1910, to be increased, first to £1,000, and then to £1,300. The issued capital was £2,452, of which 450 shares were subscribed for cash. No assignment of his interest was made by Mr. Albert Withers, owing to a dispute with a firm of solicitors, who claimed a lien on the agreement for costs. The company, without the assignment, entered into the occupation of the theatre, and a number of plays were produced upon profit-sharing terms. The company produced the pantomime, *Mother Goose* at Christmas, 1909, and also sent it on tour. The enterprise resulted in a loss eventually, owing to the local authorities intimating that the theatre licence would not be renewed unless the building were entirely remodelled, and, as no funds were forthcoming, it was decided to go into voluntary liquidation, and a winding up order was afterwards made. The liabilities were £1,392 (£1,210 unsecured), and assets £88 11s. The creditors and contributories appointed a liquidator on Aug. 19.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6	One Year	£1	12
Six Months	0	13	Six Months	0	16
Three Months ..	0	6	Three Months ..	0	8

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

BERT EDWARDES.—*Yes.*

GILBERT WELLS.—*We have no record.*

HENRIQUES.—*J. L. Warner, son of Mrs. Warner, died on June 27, 1871, aged 26.*

W. V. GARROD.—*The title you propose to adopt was used for a farce produced at Whitehaven on June 20, 1873.*

H. MARTELL, JUN. (Bradford).—*Mr. Geo. D'Albert's song "His charity covers his sin" is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.*

J. ERRICK.—*We cannot say. Write to Mr. Henry Dana, His Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, who could probably give you the information.*

MEMO.—*The date of Miss Belle Elmore's appearance in Northampton was Monday, Nov. 25, 1901, at the Empire, vide* The Era, *Nov. 30, 1901.*

STAVE.—*"Down the Road" was sung by Gus Elen at all his engagements about ten years ago, and has been revived occasionally. He could give you the exact date of its production, if you write to him at the Oxford, enclosing stamped addressed envelope. We are only speaking from memory.*

CYMRO.—*The songs entitled "Sweet Adeline" and "Your eyes have told me so" are published, the former by Messrs. Witmark, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C., and the latter by Messrs. Nightingale, 20, Nassau-street, Mortimer-street, W. It is probable the respective publishers may issue dances founded on these songs.*

H. PENNINGTON (Birkenhead).—*In our issues of Aug. 6 and Aug. 27 you will find accounts of "openings" which would help you. Sometimes a private view of the place is given and a reception held, with light refreshments, on the stage, the principal inhabitants being invited. At the rising of the curtain at the public opening a soloist should sing "God Save the King" and the company on stage and in auditorium should join in. During an interval, the mayor, if present, should be invited to make a speech from the stage. A good newspaper man should be paid to boom the place, or a clever and expert publicity agent.*

"THE WAY OUT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I notice in your last issue that a sketch was produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Wigan, on Aug. 31 this year, entitled *The Way Out.*

I beg to point out to you that I wrote a play with that title which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Aug. 3, 1908, and which was duly criticised in your paper.

I feel sure that Mr. J. B. Hothersall was unaware of this, and my reason for encroaching on your valuable space is that I have recently given an option on my play.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE UNWIN.

c/o The Sketch Association, 49 Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., Sept. 15.

CRICKET.

The *Earl and the Girl* company, during their recent stay at Portsmouth, played a match with the Portsmouth Asylum, who batted first and declared at 103 for the loss of six wickets, leaving fifty minutes for the *Earl and the Girl* company to get the runs. However, 106 were obtained on the stroke of time, with four wickets down. C. Daily's 37, H. Crane's 24, and B. Paterson's 21 in six minutes, were the principal scorers in a most exciting game.

On the 9th inst. the *White Company* eleven were the opponents of the *Earl and the Girl* eleven, who batted first and scored 92. But the Conan Doyleites replied with 130 for eight wickets. H. Blake, for the *White Company*, scored 29 not out and took seven wickets, and for the losers C. Daily 22 not out, H. Salter 22, V. Davies 16, and B. Paterson 14, were the chief scorers. Daily also took six of the eight wickets.

THE present week is the last of the variety season at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, and on Monday the house reopens with "legitimate," with one performance a night. Mr. Clarence Sounes has secured an excellent series of attractions.

A DRAMATISED version of Mr. Thomas Hardy's novel "Under the Greenwood Tree" has been prepared by Mr. A. H. Evans, of Dorchester. The play will shortly be produced by the Dorchester Debating and Dramatic Society at the local Corn Exchange, under the title of *The Mellstock Quire.*

M. TARRIDE, the well-known actor and manager of the Renaissance, Paris, is divorcing his wife, Mlle. Marthe Regnier, the popular actress. Both are great favourites with the public. Incompatibility of temper seems to have been the cause of the disunion; but, although they are dissolving their marriage ties, they have decided to arrange a huge tour to America on joint account.

A NEW dramatic club, under the title "The Players," of which Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree is president, was inaugurated at Liverpool on Tuesday. Some 200 members have been enrolled, and the venture promises to prove a success. During the season it is intended to present *Sunday, Old Heidelberg, The Chili Widow, Mrs. Cummins, Trilby, Justice, Scrap of Paper, Dot,* and *New Men and Old Acres.* The proceeds are to be devoted to charity.

SIR EDWARD RUSSELL, who opened the discussion on dramatic criticism at Tuesday afternoon's conference of the Institute of Journalists, is himself an instance of the type of editor for whom he pleaded—namely, one who takes an active interest in the drama, and who attaches due importance to it journalistically. Play-going has always been one of Sir Edward's chief delights, and though he lives in Liverpool, where he directs the fortunes of the *Post*, he is a well-known "first-nighter" in London.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars, Post Cards, or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allen, Mr. George
Applin, Mr. Arthur
Ashby, Happy
Bagnall, Mr. Ronald
Balch, Mr. Albert
Baldwin, Mr. Lawrence
Barlow, Mr. Robert
Barry, Mr. Shiel
Barton Mr. Tom
Batley, Mr. E. D.
Battersby, Mr. Harry
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur
Baxter, Mr. Bob
Beck, Miss Clara
Bedford, Mr. R. W.
Bellis, Mr. F. A.
Berkeley, Mr. F. J.
Black, Mr. Tony
Bosco, Mr. Irving
Boyne, Mr. Leonard
Braithwaite, Miss Lilian
Bramley, Mr. J.
Brandon, Mr. J. G.
Burnette, Mr. T.
Burton, Mr. Burt
Caine, Miss L. Hall
Campbell, Mrs. P.
Carlisle, Mr. C. Douglas
Carlton, Miss Nellie
Carson, Mr. Lingford
Castling, Mr. Harry
Chanti
Clark, Mr. E. H.
Clifton, Miss Clara
Collins, Mr. Tom
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Cordell, Miss Daisy
Croke, Mrs. Wentworth
Cronin, Mr. M. F.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Dauncey, Mr.
Davies, Mrs. Tilly
Davis, Mr. George
De Santely, Mr. Bernard
Donaldson, Miss Alice
Donatos, The
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Dubois, Mr. Leon
Dunlops, The
Earle, Miss Victor
Eckersley, Mr. Dick
Evans, Mr. H. Carr
Evered, Mr.
Field, Miss Lila
Flemming, Mr. Claude
Frecker, Mr. C. D.
Freeman, Mr. Claude W.
Golden, Mr. Horace
Goodall, Mr. Archie
Graham, Mr. Nevill
Gregson, Miss B.
Grenville, Miss Helen
Grey, Miss Marion
Grossi, Mr. G.
Haming, Mr. Fred
Haywood, Miss Hettie
Hilsberg, Mons. Karl
Hodges, Mr. Seymour
Holt, Mme. Blanche
Hood, Miss Annie
Hood, Miss Nellie
Hope, Mr. Jones
Horac, Mr. S.
Howard, Mr. George
Hyden, Miss Mattie
Irving, Mr. K. Ernest
Irwin, Mr. Ben
Jelliman, Miss A.
Johnson, Miss Queenie
Jones, Mr. Henry A.
Kearne, Mr. Tom
Kendal, Miss Marie
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kirk, Miss F.
Kirk, Mr. George
Landon, Mr. J.
Lawrence, Miss Millie
Lawton, Mr. H.
Lennard, Mr. Arthur
Leo, King
Lea, Miss Lilian
Leslie Brothers.
Lorraine, Miss Nellie
Lytton, Mr. Edward
Mackinder, Mr. L.
Mark, Mr. John
Martens, Mr. H.
Manning, Mr. W. J.
Maxwell, Mr.
May, Mr. H. Gomer
Mayer, Miss Peggy
Mazzoni, Mr. Fred
McEwan, Mr. Walter
Mead, Mr. J. H.
Millais, Miss Ivy
Millar, Miss Stella
Minto, Mr. W. W.
Mollison, Mrs. W.
Moore, Miss Jessie
Morton, Mr. James J.
Murdoch, Miss Zeta
Murry, Mr. Geo. C.
Palmer, Miss Minnie
Parry, Mr. Edward A.
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Paul, Miss Mab
Payne, Mr. W.
Preston, Mr. John F.
Ra-Leslie, Miss Ethel
Reed, Mr. Wilton
Richards, Miss Marion
Richard, Mr. Seymour
Rose, Mr. Arthur
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Samona, Prince
Santoi, Miss Marie
Saxony, The
Selby, Mr. Alf.
Seymour, Miss Maud
Shelley, Col. J.
Shields, Miss Ella
Shirley, Mr. Arthur
Shortland, Mr. K.
Shrapnel, Mr. L.
Simpson, Master R.
Sims, Mr. Geo. R.
Sivroni, Mr. Ernest
Slater, Miss Stacia
Sowerby, Miss May
Stebbing, Mr. P.
Stephens, Mr. Billy
Stephenson, Mr. Frank
Stewart, Mr. H. H.
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Sullivan, Mr. A. M.
Sutcliffe, Mr. J. Miller
Wainratta, Mr. W. J.
Ward, Mr. M. S. C.
Warren, Miss Gwynne
Wildash, Mr. Jack
Williams, Mr. R. A. P.
Williams, Mr. Roland
Wyatt, Mrs. Melnotte
Wynne, Miss Wish
Zolas, the Four

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON,
DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, Australia; Mr. A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York. 34, Malden-lane, Strand.

The Great Raymond
BREAKING RECORDS FOR BIG BUSINESS EVERYWHERE.

ESSAYS
ON THE
CURRENT DRAMA
BY
J. H. BARNES

1. THE ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC
2. ON PLAYS AND PLAYWRITING
3. THE DRAMATIC PRESS

PRICE SIXPENCE

Published at the Offices of "The Era," Limited, 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—TAMING OF THE SHREW, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S
BRONCHIAL
TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S
MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

REAL HAMBURG GROUND
KROPP RAZOR
Always Ready for Use.
English Manufacture
NEVER REQUIRES GRINDING.
DO NOT BE PUT OFF WITH SUBSTITUTES.

Black Handle	5s. 6d.	Pair Ivory Handles in Russia Leather Case	21s. 0d.
Ivory Handle	7s. 6d.		
Kropp Duplex Strop	7s. 6d.	Kropp Strop Paste	6d.

Wholesale: OSBORNE, GARRETT, & CO., LONDON, W.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1235 Brixton.

WHEN ON TOUR
The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce
INDIGESTION.
A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

"THE ERA"
IN AMERICA.
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS & SUBSCRIBERS.
NEW YORK.
"THE ERA" IS ON SALE
OUTSIDE THE
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE BUILDING,
AND AT
SHULTZ'S NEWS STAND
CORNER OF THIRTY-SEVENTH-ST. AND BROADWAY.
ALSO AT
BRENTANO'S,
FIFTH AVENUE,
CORNER TWENTY-SEVENTH-ST.,
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
1 Year, 32/-; 6 Months, 16/-; 3 Months, 8/-
ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE SENT TO
"THE ERA," P.O. BOX 492, NEW YORK CITY.
American Artistes visiting the Metropolis use "The Era" Offices as their Permanent London Address.

"THE ERA"
IN SOUTH AFRICA.
THE
CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.
Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Next Matinée, Saturday, Sept. 24.
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Sole Lessee and Manager.
LAST 6 NIGHTS (Final Performance Sept. 23).
Every Evening at 9.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
By Oscar Wilde.
MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH in his Original Part.
At 8.30, "A MAKER OF MEN," by Alfred Sutro.
LAST MAT. (both plays) WED. NEXT, 2.30.
Sept. 27, New Comedy, "D'ARCY OF THE GUARDS."

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15,
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'
Production,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
Matinée Every Saturday at 2.15.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every evening at 8.30
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
IRENE VANBRUGH in
"A BOLT FROM THE BLUE,"
by
Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis.
Adapted by Cosmo Hamilton.
Matinée every Saturday at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
EVERY EVENING at 8.30
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"A WOMAN'S WAY,"
a Comedy in Three Acts, by Thompson Buchanan.
MATINEE EVERY WED. and SAT. at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"THE ARCADIANS."
For dates at Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Sept. 19,
"TWO MERRY MONARCHS."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Sept. 19, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"PAYING THE PRICE."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Sept. 19, Walter Maxwell's Co., in
"MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
TETRAZZINI.
Sat. next, Mr. Percy Harrison will Present, at 3 p.m., Madame Tetrazzini, at 3.0, Madame Tetrazzini and Queen's Hall Orchestra, Conductor, Mr. Henry J. Wood.
Aerial Flights, Tuesday, 3 to 7
(weather permitting).
Return Rail and Admission, 1s. 6d. from all Stations

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall,
Oxford Circus, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
For Full Programme.
See "Daily Telegraph."
Seats 1s. to 5s.
'Phone 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
HARRY LAUDER, Marie Lloyd, Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, the Two Bobs, Phil Ray, Violet Loraine, Billy Merson, Maddison and Webb, Jennie Hartley, Josie Delaine, Arcadia, Spalding and Riego, H. La Martine.
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice Nightly, at 6.40 and 9.10.
Overture, Frank Wood, P. Mercer and Co., Ted E. Box, Griffin and Ardell, Sisters Storm, Harry Coutts and Co., Rosina Leighton, Leslie and Stevens, Tom Edwards, "Slaterstein, Limited," Pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea.
Twice Nightly at 6.40 and 9.10.
Joe Peterman and Geo. Rickett's Co. in "Chanteclair; or, Hi Cockalorum-Chuck-Chuck-Chuck," Valezza, Billy Merson, Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, Frank Wood, Eileen, North, Henry Hilton, Ruffell's Bioscope, Doris Trevelyan, Joe Elvin and Co., in "W(h)ines and Spirits."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Harry Roxbury and Co. in "Prince of Monte Carlo," Tennis and Lanne, Three Veros, Fred Dunstone, The Findens, Maurice Lee and Co., Syd Crossley, Bioscope, Dr. Metzler's Spirit Paintings, Four Celestas. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Sept. 19.—Grand Beauty Show, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Barbara King, Benson and Rose, Dorothy Grahame, Belle Sylvia, Clive Watts, Great Scott, Sewell and Dudley, Bioscope, Griffiths and Victoria Carmen, and others.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter, in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL.
(facing Victoria Station). Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. S. Dickie. One house nightly. Half time, 9.30, except Saturdays and Holidays. Monday, Sept. 19: Harry Roxbury and Co., in "The Prince of Monte Carlo," Marie and Pep, Lily Read, Frank Hardie and Co., in "Pedlar Sam," Allen and Austin, Gladys Soman, Edith Evelyn and Co., in "The Show Girl," Amy Marsden, Wheeler and Wilson, Royburn and Dix, Walter Lintone, Jimmy Grant, Edisonograph. Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock. Doors open 7.30 (Saturdays 7 o'clock); commence 7.40 (Saturdays 7.15, with augmented programme). Tele., Westminster 503. Assist-Manager, Mr. MAURICE VOLNY.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
CARMEN TURIA, TERRY and LAMBERT, Jack 'Ark, Miss Coombs, Fuji Japanese Troupe, Olympia Desvall, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Every Evening at 8 (doors 7.45).
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
New Ballet:
"THE DANCING MASTER."
LYDIA KYASHT,
FRED FARREN, PHYLLIS BEDELLS,
Geo. Mozart, Sybil Arundale,
The Perezoffs, Asra, Smite and Smote, Russian Divertissement, "Moscow," Sam Stern, "Quick," the Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Geo. Graves and Co. in "Koffo, of Bond-street," Margaret Cooper, Nat M. Wills, Mary Grey, Kaufmann Troupe, Les Trombetta, De Serris' Bas-Reliefs, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director,
Mr. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—Wilkie Bard (10.5), Mark Sheridan (9.30), Gus Elen (8.30), Joe Elvin (8.40), Jack and Evelyn (10.40), Ella Retford (10.30) Phil Ray (9), Master E. Garratt as Mortimer Magnus, M.P. (9.10), Bogannys, Lunatic Bakers, Millie Payne, Tom Jones, Venie Clements, Rich and Rich, Footgers, F. Land, Ruth Lytton, Bioscope.
Open 7.30. Saturday, Matinées, at 2.15.
Manager, Mr. Blyth Pratt.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Mr. Harry Rickards has arrived in England.
Address, c/o "The Era."

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, SKATING RINK (shortly building).
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
Head Office, Wellington.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East,
and can offer attractions a
Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened in October next. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen. District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Will open in August.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

WEST INDIES.
ROCK FORT PLEASURE GARDENS
and
VAUDEVILLE THEATRE,
KINGSTON, JAMAICA.
Lessees, The Colonial Amusement Syndicate.
Commencing Oct. 17, 1910.
Address all communications re dates, on Sharing Terms or Certainty, to
Managing-Director,
Box 8,277, care of "The Era" Office.

CAPE TOWN.—Correspondent required to Supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

JOHANNESBURG.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall News. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

MONTREAL.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music-hall Reports. Apply Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

TORONTO.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Variety News. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Autumn Dramatic Season.
Sept. 19, "The Fighting Chance."
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. Vacant Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 13, and 20. First-class Attractions only. Address, Charles Revill, THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Birch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Charmingly re-decorated and re-appointed throughout. A beautiful luxurious, and perfectly appointed playhouse. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. First-class West End company only wanted for the following date, Oct. 24, 1910.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Home of Stars and Class Attractions.
For Vacant Dates Address,
J. F. Elliston,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
No Vacant Dates this Year.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply, R. J. Bell, Manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, James Bell.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

FLEETWOOD.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music Hall News. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow" (two visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Julia Neilson, Fred Terry, and New Theatre Co. in "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "Henry of Navarre," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Conan Doyle's Plays: "The House of Temperley" and "The Speckled Band," Miss Ethel Irving and Co. in "Dame Nature," Cav. F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera, from Drury Lane, H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), Frank Curzon's "King of Cadonia" and "Dear Little Denmark," Mr. George Graves, in "The Belle of Brittany," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Probably Vacant,
Grand Theatre, Nov. 7, for Musical or other high-class attractions.
Address,
William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant, Oct. 31 (3 nights), Nov. 10, 11, 12, Dec. 5 (6), Dec. 12 (3), Dec. 19 (3).
Address, E. Dottrill, Empire, Oldham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Shoreditch Empire and the Shoreditch Olympia. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Sadler's Wells Music Hall. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NEW BRIGHTON. — WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Perfectly Appointed, both before and behind the curtain, and with a Full and Competent Staff.
Can Stage Any Production
SATISFACTORY BUSINESS ALWAYS, BUT FIRST-CLASS COMPANIES ONLY ENTERTAINED.
No vacs. this year, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12 excepted.
Since Winter Gardens Rebuilt, Capacity Business Nearly Every Week.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq.,
Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits),
C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911.
Address, Managers.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
Only Principal Attractions entertained.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 6, 27.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant dates,
March 27, April 10, 24,
and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

SCARBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside.
Holding capacity £60, at ordinary prices, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., 6d., private boxes 10s. 6d.
Now booking summer, 1911.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant
Dec. 5.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Vacant Jan. 16, Feb. 13, March 13.
First-class Attractions only.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
Visited by all the best Companies, including Geo. Alexander, Lewis Waller, Oscar Asche, Martin Harvey, Geo. Graves, Moody-Manners, D'Oyly Carte, "Arcadians," "Merry Widow," &c., &c.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1911.

WINDSOR. — THEATRE ROYAL.
A New and Up-to-date Theatre now being erected at a cost of nearly £30,000, will be opened in December next, with a full and capable staff, both back and front, and a first-class Orchestra. Money capacity at Drama Prices (exclusive of Early Doors), £50; Musical Comedy and Special Production prices, £80. Stage: Depth, 36ft., width, 48ft.; floor to grid, 53ft.; proscenium opening, 28ft.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to send vacant dates and terms to
Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
c/o Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, London, W.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Colyson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."

HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec., Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Established and Managed by the Corporation of London.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped Theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Autumn Term commences Monday, Sept. 26. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M. Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Michaelmas Term begins on Sept. 26. The College provides instruction and training in all musical subjects. Students are received for a single subject or for the course.
Prospectus on application.
Shelley Fisher, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART,
77, New Oxford-street, W.C.
Principals, CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
President, George Edwardes, Esq.
Autumn Term begins Monday, Sept. 26.
George Edwardes Open Scholarship Examination, Sept 23. Private and Class Lessons in Dramatic Art and Characterisation, Elocution, Diction, Gesture, Stage Dancing, Deportment, Fencing, Opera and Musical Comedy, Singing, Voice Production, Choral and Sight Singing, &c.
Special Complete Course of Studies for the Dramatic and Musical Profession.
Pupils have secured engagements with the following managers:—Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Robert Arthur, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Sydney Blow, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. George Dance, Mr. St. John Denton, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Arthur Hart, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mrs. Langtry, Mr. E. Lockwood, Mr. Charles Macdona, Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ian Robertson, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Arthur Whittaker, Mr. Frank Wheeler, &c., and at the Empire, Hippodrome, Coliseum, &c.
Apply Secretary, Tel. Central 4287.

Price 5s., 8vo, Cloth. By Post, 5s. 4d.
THIRD EDITION.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,
Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX.

	Page.
Accidents, Compensation for	53, 209
Act of Paris	119
Actor, Illness of	11
" Incompetence of	16
Adaptations, Copyright in	110
Agents	129
" Award as to	131
" Commission	129
Apprentices	36
Arbitrator's Awards	219
Austria-Hungary, Copyright with	116
Author, Who is the	87
Awards, Arbitrator's	219
Ballets	66
Band Music	101
Barring Clause	41
Berlin Convention	119, 186
Berne Convention	116, 177
Bill Matter, Clause as to	34
"Book," Meaning of	85
Booth	65
Children on the Stage	60
Cinematograph, Rules of the L.C.C. as to	73, 238
Cinematographic Performances and Copyright	101
Compensation for Accidents	53, 209
Consideration for Contract	1
Contract	1
" Damages for Breach of	43
" Determination of	3
" Made by Letters	2
" Meaning of	1
" Music Hall	34
" Stamp on	3
" Theatrical	4
" Variation of Written	2
" With Infant	36
Copyright	83
" Assignment of	87
" Colonial	124
" Dramatic	83
" Essentials for	85
" in Adaptations	110
" in "Gag"	100
" in Situations	98
" in United States	120, 194
" International	1[illegible]
" Licence to Perform	88
" Musical	84, 160
" None in Titles	90
" not Infringed by Cinematograph	101
" Performance	92
" under Berne Convention	116, 177
" Registration of	86
" Remedies for Infringement of	105
" Term of	89
Copyright Act, Dramatic, 1833	147
" " 1842	149
" " International, 1844	167
" " International, 1886	118, 170
" " (Musical Compositions), 1882	108, 160
" " (Musical Compositions), 1888	107, 162
" " Musical, 1902	114, 163
" " Musical, 1906	114, 165
County Council, Granting Licences	77
" " Regulations of London	234
Criticism	46, 125
Crowds may be a nuisance	50
Custom of the Profession	21
Damages for Breach of Contract	43
Dance, Performing Right in	100
Dancing, Licence for	74
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	144
Disorderly Conduct in Theatre	46
Distance, how determined	42
Dramatic Piece? What is a	93
Dramatisation of Novels	102
Drunkenness no Excuse	16
Duologue, When a Stage Play	68
Excise Licences	80
Exits	234

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL SHOE AND HOSIERY MANUFACTURERS,
MAKERS TO THE PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES.

Louis Heel Dancing Shoes a Speciality.
Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for the Manufacture of Dancing Shoes, kept in stock.
This Satin has a Fine Lustre, and is almost as Strong as Leather.
Large Stock of Pure and Spun Silk Tights, Worsted and Cotton Tights, Opera Hose, Stockings, &c.
A Special Study made of Symmetrical Paddings.
The Most Up-to-date Stock of Stage Requisites and Sundries.
Everything of the Best and at Store Prices
H. and M. RAYNE,
115, 117, and 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Tel. 7978 Central. Telegrams, Raynaloo, London.
And at 49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo).

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1910.

THE NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

When NAPOLEON tried to cross the Alps the whole passage of his army was very nearly blocked by the insignificant little fortress of Berg; and in like manner Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND has found, we are sorry to say, more than his match in the little Corporation of Wimbledon, on which rather dull suburb he desired to confer the benefit of an up-to-date theatre. Mr. MULHOLLAND'S career as a manager is an interesting one; indeed, his whole career is interesting. He made his first venture into management in August, 1884, when he took *The Unknown* on tour, commencing at Burnley, playing the leading part of Harold. At Great Grimsby, in January, 1885, he produced *Mizpah*, a play written by himself, and toured with it nearly 1,000 nights, the play running altogether over twelve years. At Glasgow, in 1887, he produced *Disowned*, also written by himself. In the spring of 1888 he succeeded to the management of the Grand Theatre, Nottingham, which he retained several years. His first venture into London management was made at the Princess's Theatre, December, 1891, when, under his management and the stage direction of HENRY NEVILLE, he produced *The Swiss Express*. He was the pioneer of the suburban playhouse as we know it to-day, and when he opened the Metropole Theatre, Camberwell, on Oct. 29, 1894, it was the first suburban house to prove successful. Its success was so pronounced that no fewer than fourteen new suburban theatres were built within the next six years. Mr. MULHOLLAND was, for a period, tenant of the Comedy Theatre. In 1903 he opened the King's Theatre, Hammersmith; in 1906 he became chairman of the Marlborough Theatre Company, and controls the bookings for this theatre; and he is vice-president of the Theatrical Managers' Association. His management of the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, is well known for its superiority and thoroughness. With such a record, he may be said to have honoured Wimbledon by electing to build a theatre there.

The obstacles which are often placed in the way of the person who desires to benefit his fellow-creatures by erecting a place of amusement in their midst are almost absurdly exemplified in the case which we reported last week of what we may call the Corporation of Wimbledon *versus* Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND. Mr. MULHOLLAND'S previous exploits, as recorded above, prove how excellently well suited he is to be the pioneer of up-to-date public amusement in Wimbledon; and one would have thought that the Corporation of that place would have hailed with satisfaction the erection of a first-rate suburban playhouse in their midst. But the Corporation, on the contrary, appear to have been determined to do all in their power to discourage Mr. MULHOLLAND in his project. The question of granting him a licence was before the Corporation at its monthly meeting held last week, and it was stated that in the absence of an assurance from Mr. MULHOLLAND to pay one-third (£50) of the cost of extending a high-pressure water-main to the building the Corporation refused to grant the licence.

On the face of it, and with regard to the many benefits which are conferred upon a suburb by the erection of a theatre, it would seem that its authorities should welcome the enterprising capitalist who starts such a speculation in its midst; but exactly the opposite appears to be the case with respect to Wimbledon. The new theatre there would have been opened three years ago but for the delays imposed on Mr. MULHOLLAND by local officialdom. It was arranged that in connection with the site Mr. MULHOLLAND should surrender over 1,250 square feet of land to the public, and every document necessary, as well as the regulations by which Mr. MULHOLLAND was to be governed, were settled before March, 1907. There was an entirely unnecessary delay of nine months in passing these plans; but Mr. MULHOLLAND had an assurance that the rules which the Wimbledon authorities derived from the Surrey County Council would be those under which he would be governed; indeed, a copy of the Wimbledon regulations had been handed to him, and the regulations discussed clause by clause. Meanwhile, a sub-committee was appointed, and it added a number of new rules taken from the London County Council's Regulations. It is easy to understand that in attempting, entirely without experience, to deal with these numerous and complicated rules the sub-committee of the Wimbledon Corporation would find itself bewildered and overweighted and would be likely to render a local manager's life one of constant worry and anxiety. Mr. MULHOLLAND had paid several thousands for his site, on the understanding that he should be governed by the Wimbledon regulations alone, and the alteration in arrangements was "sprung" upon him afterwards.

But the most astonishing exaction was that mentioned above in the case of the water-main. A theatre is only a house in which entertainments are given, and pays a water-rate like any other building—5 per cent. on its rateable value. The theatrical manager has also to pay one guinea per annum for each hydrant in his theatre. But the Corporation of Wimbledon asks Mr. MULHOLLAND, in addition to paying these water-rates, to disburse £50 as part of the cost of extending a high-pressure water-main to the building, and, in the event of his refusing to do so, the Corporation refuses to grant the licence.

The injustice of this demand is obvious; and it is only equalled by the strength of the grip which the Corporation holds on the manager. Mr. MULHOLLAND is in their power. He has already lost thousands of pounds by the Corporation's delays, and the Corporation has only to continue to withhold his licence to cause him to lose thousands more. We wonder what the ratepayers of Wimbledon think of the matter. They are desirous, no doubt, of having a theatre built in their suburb, especially such a fine one as Mr. MULHOLLAND would be likely to erect. It is only by ventilating the subject that any public opinion can be created; and we gladly make our contribution to that excellent object.

A powerful obstacle to the formation of local public opinion is found in the fact that the Wimbledon Corporation does not hear applications for licences publicly. In other words, while it adopts the rules of the London County Council, it does not imitate its excellent practice of publicity. Mr. MULHOLLAND wrote to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors on the 9th ult. that he, of course, assumed his application would be heard publicly, in accordance with the invariable custom. Not receiving any reply, he wrote the Town Clerk on the 26th ult. to similar effect, pointing out that this was the custom of the London County Council, so many of whose rules it is proposed to force upon him. On the 30th ult. the Town Clerk replied: "The Council does not hear applications for theatre licences publicly, as is done by the London County Council."

This intimation Mr. MULHOLLAND received on the 31st ult., and, understanding there was a meeting of the General Purposes Committee that evening, he dispatched a telegram (reply paid) to the Town Clerk, as follows: "Received your letter. I respectfully suggest your Council should follow same procedure as Surrey County Council, which, I am informed, will not grant original stage-plays licence unless applicant appears. Applications, moreover, are heard publicly. Please reply." In the afternoon of the following day (1st inst.) the following reply was received: "Committee decline to depart from their usual practice. Letter follows.—SHELDON." This refusal was inconsistent, seeing that "the usual practice" has been entirely departed from, to Mr. MULHOLLAND'S prejudice, in practically every other direction. Yet this usual practice is to be strictly adhered to to stop a public application. Thus the methods and delays of certain of the Corportion's officials, and the breaches of faith Mr. MULHOLLAND has experienced, escape publicity. And in this way all the advantage which Mr. MULHOLLAND would have gained by a public protest against the way in which he has been treated, and by the publication of that protest in the local Press, is taken from him. As he put it in his letter to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors: "I have pointed out to you what is the usual practice in this respect of the London County Council. Seemingly, you are prepared to adopt their rules, but not their method of publicly hearing applications. I have also informed you of the usual practice of the Surrey County Council, from whom your Council hold delegated powers in respect of the granting of stage-play licences. I desire also to protest against your method of using my licence to coerce me to contribute towards the extension of a public water-main." It is, indeed, natural that Mr. MULHOLLAND should protest against the way he is being treated; indeed, in the position in which he finds himself it is the only thing that he can do.

THERE is fortunately no truth in the statement that Mr. Edmund Payne is contemplating retirement. We understand, as a matter of fact, that Mr. George Edwardes has just re-engaged Mr. Payne for a long term; and, so far from retiring when the run of *Our Miss Gibbs* comes to an end, he is looking forward to his appearance in a new part. Mr. Payne is surely to be credited with a record in the fact that in all the twenty years or so that he has been at the Gaiety he has only been out of the cast for one play, and that was during the run of *Havana*, when he wanted a long holiday.

"THE SINS OF LONDON."

Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, Produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Jack Pemberton .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Samuel Owen .....MR. HARRY CANE
Bobby Blake .....MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS
Julian Crawford .....MR. J. C. AUBREY
Charles Crawford .....MR. ERIC MAYNE
Captain Digby .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Joseph Manter .....MR. GERALD EARLE
Arthur Buckley ....MR. F. MARTIN THORNTON
Mrs. Eliza Parker .....MISS POLLY MARSH
Trixie Parker .....MISS EVA DARE
Gertie Coleman .....MISS AURIOL LEE
Maudie Holton .....MISS VASHTI WYNNE
Van Limberg .....MR. E. VASSALL-VAUGHAN
Tina May .....MISS EDITH BLANCHARD
Phyllis Travers .....MISS DORA WILLIAMS
Rev. Henry Wilson .....MR. F. ELSWORTHY
Inspector Maitland .....MR. GORE LINTON
Bill Hooker .....MR. RICHARD F. SYMONS
Millie Anderson ..MISS AMY BRANDON THOMAS

There are thousands of unsophisticated playgoers in London, and Mr. Walter Melville should draw every man and woman of them to enjoy his full-blooded drama—packed with sensation and incident—which was produced before a crowded house on Wednesday evening. The process of condensation by this time has no doubt allowed the stage-manager to commence preparations for the last act before 11.35, at which late hour a large number of the occupants of the stalls left the house. But the gods and the pit, who had howled themselves hoarse over *The Sins of London* and their perpetrators, still stayed on to assist at the final discomfiture of villainy and the reward of virtue and rectitude.

The story of the play opens in the office of Crawford and Co., and Julian Crawford (Mr. J. C. Aubrey) is a rich financier, who leaves his worthless son, Charles Crawford (Mr. Eric Mayne) in charge of his affairs. Here some of the sins of London are indicated—first with the young man, who has a liaison with a certain Gertie Coleman, and to keep going his reckless extravagances swindles his own father; and his rascally old clerk, Samuel Owen, who, with engaging frankness, helps him in his career of turpitude, and tells us, in chunks of soliloquy, the history and character and present doings and prospects of his employer, now on the voyage home from Australia on the Alabama with his ward, Millie Anderson.

On the ship Miss Anderson meets Jack Pemberton. They fall in love with one another, much to the resentment of the elderly guardian, who has designs on her fortune, which he hopes to secure by marrying her himself. In a heated colloquy between the two men the younger lover very properly resents the insults of the older, whom he nearly throttles. The quarrel has barely terminated when a loud explosion is heard, and the captain, keeping his position on the bridge, orders the boats to be lowered and the women to be saved first. Everyone is panic-stricken, and one of the men, in a dash for life, is shot down by the stern hand of discipline. As the last boat is going away and the last woman is about to enter it Crawford shouts, "My fortune for that woman's place in the boat." The heroine, Millie Anderson, seeing the man whose devotion to her she has up till now so little appreciated remaining on the sinking boat, elects to stay, and accepts Julian Crawford's offer.

In the second act we see more of the actual depravity of the younger villain, Crawford, jun. Hitherto his evil deeds have been mostly confided to us in moments of self-revelation. The son is in a state of alarm because his father, on his arrival home, may find out his defalcations. He goes to the flat of Gertie, who is entertaining a mixed company of pimps and demi-mondaines. A foreigner named Van Lemberg is a prominent representative of the former despicable class, having for his decoy Maudie Holton. From the conversation of the two we learn that the white slave traffic is a very lucrative game. There is a demand for "fresh goods," and Gertie is asked to become a third partner in the firm. She rejects the proposition with scorn, and also refuses young Crawford's offer of £300 as a final douceur. The act ends satisfactorily by the arrest of the procurer.

The old clerk, Owen, arranges to cover Charles Crawford's robbery of the firm's money by forging a note of purchase of some worthless securities. But we must not forget the Island scene, where the lovers, Millie Anderson and Jack Pemberton, and the steward of the lost Alabama are seen. The three castaways have practically made up their minds to live without hope of rescue for the rest of their lives. Of course they are rescued and brought back to England. Bobby Blake returns home to find his sweetheart, Trixie (Miss Eva Dare), thinking him dead, married to the rascally old clerk Samuel Owen. Trixie has married the man to save her mother and herself from the workhouse. In her desperation she flies away with her first lover, Bobby Blake, and finds a home with Millie.

Old Julian Crawford has suffered severe losses in his transactions, and is much perturbed at the reappearance of Jack Pemberton, who comes to claim an account of Millie's fortune. Crawford plots with a third villain, Bill Hooker, to knock Jack Pemberton on the head and carry him off to a disused cellar bordering on the Thames, into which the senseless one is to be thrown. Millie's silence, too, must be secured; but when her bedroom is invaded, the junior comic lady of the piece pulls a revolver from her pocket and stops the would-be abductors with "Move another step, and I fire."

Jack is set free in time to prevent the marriage of Millie to the despicable Charles, and with the arrest of the guilty pair the curtain falls.

The cast all round is admirable. Mr. Harry Cane, though his part of Samuel Owen is handicapped by soliloquies, shows the touch of assured experience in his treatment. The scene in which the old gentleman declares his unalterable devotion to Trixy Parker—a part amusingly handled by Miss Eva Dare—a declaration that is mistaken for an offer of marriage to the widowed mother of the lady derives its chief importance from the clever way in which Mr. Cane handled his character. Mr. Eric Mayne, affable and immaculate, acts the smiling scoundrel, Charles Crawford, with the sinister callousness demanded in such a part; Mr. J. C. Aubrey, who won a reputation a few years since as a popular impersonator of rogues at the Pavilion, Mile End, accentuates the thoroughness of Julian Crawford's wickedness. A subtler note is sounded by Miss Auriol Lee, who plays Gertie Coleman, who is impressive and convincing in portraying the better nature of the lost one. Miss Vashti Wynne looks fascinating and dangerous as the more degraded Maudie Holton. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas makes a pretty and pathetic heroine, her girlishness and charm being conspicuous in the Island scene. Here, too, Mr. Frederick Ross as Jack Pemberton rose to heights of tragic intensity. Mr. Herbert Williams, an admirable comedian, who in his methods reminds one of the late Robb Harwood, gets every ounce of fun out of the part of Bobby Blake; and Miss Polly Marsh, who has before done good service in Melvillian drama, makes the most of a poor part by her delineation of Mrs. Eliza Parker. Mr. S. Major Jones in the short part of the captain of the Alabama scores; there is downright ruffianism in every gesture of Mr. Richard F. Symons, who represents Bill Hooker; and Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan has our sincere sympathy in his uncongenial task of interpreting the part of the detestable Van Limberg.

"THE WHIP" ANNIVERSARY.

Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton were on very sure ground with a drama that has for its subject "the sport of kings"; but they made assurance doubly sure by cleverly contrived sensation, and by a well-managed race. Many melodramas have enjoyed these advantages, but few have had the appealing situations, the strong character drawing, the well-written dialogue, or the excellent comedy relief that are found in *The Whip*, which celebrated its first birthday at Drury Lane on Monday evening, when the "returns" were happy, indeed.

There was a most uproarious welcome for every member of the company which has so loyally served authors and manager; and in the course of the performance Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Raleigh were heartily applauded on making their appearance at the footlights after the great scene at Manfield Junction. The souvenir of the anniversary contained capital portraits of the cast, and it will, no doubt, be a cherished addition to the collections of such things made by enthusiastic playgoers.

Both Mr. George Barrett and Miss Fanny Brough were early on the scene—the Kennels, Falconhurst—to interest the audience vastly by some good comedy dialogue. Miss Brough is just shrewish enough, as the Hon. Mrs. Beamish, to make the tart remarks of that most estimable woman highly entertaining, and, though treating the part in its earlier stages with a wealth of whimsicality, Mr. Barrett is perfectly sincere and convincing in Tom Lambert's outbursts of temper at the insinuations against his good name thrown out by the woman, to whom the honest trainer has given his heart. His great scene, of course, comes in the second act at Madame Tussaud's, where Tom takes the place of Mr. Charles Peace, whereby he overhears the villainous plot of Captain Grenville Sartorys and Mrs. D'Aquila against the equine hero, and gets shut in for his pains. Twenty-four hours without a drink! The actor in his expression of despair is particularly powerful, and the chief honours of the performance are certainly with him.

That accomplished actor Mr. Basil Gill plays with great judgment the difficult part of the repentant Rev. Verner Haslam, reaching superlative excellence in his treatment of the speech at the hunting breakfast. This scene is dominated by the cheery presence of the Marquis of Beverley, an admirably drawn type of the noble sportsman, played with great force and infective geniality by Mr. E. Dagnall, who wins the complete sympathy of the house in his outburst of indignation at the conclusion of a wonderfully well-staged scene. Mr. Frank Elliott is easy and natural in his cool presentation of the refined rascality of Captain Grenville Sartorys, whose wickedness is just of the reckless kind beloved of theatrical folk. The captain is a regular out-and-outer.

The audience on Monday had compliments in abundance for Miss Jessie Bateman, who looked just sweet in her riding habit, when, as Lady Diana Sartorys, she replied in a few heartfelt sentences to the pretty compliment paid to the fair daughter of the house of Beverley by the members of the hunt. There are but few opportunities for the Earl of Brancaster, and Mr. Vincent Clive, who plays the part, wins recognition for his evident ability by the sheer force of his protestation at the end of the second act. Mr. Charles Rock, a particularly able character actor, delights the house by his remarkable embodiment of Joe Kelly—a really first-class blackguard. Miss Nancy Price, whose line seems to be fascinating adventuresses, lets herself go in the hunt breakfast scene, and is always a seductive and interesting Mrs. D'Aquila. Mr. Cecil Cameron's Harry Anson commands sympathy and admiration; Mr. Austin G. Melford's Tom Foster is one of the most effective impersonations in the piece; and the sketch of Captain Rayner by Mr. Charles Blackall is noteworthy. The tribulations of Myrtle Anson are touchingly set forth by Miss Madge Fabian; and the brightness and jollity of Miss May Warley's Lady Antrobus are never in question. Among the smaller parts a good word may be given to Mr. A. C. Hardie's Sir Andrew Beck; and there is much to commend in Mr. Bert Monks's impersonation of the carpenter at Madame Tussaud's. Mr. Jimmy Glover's incidental music is cheery and bright; and the scenery from the brushes of Messrs. Bruce Smith, Emden, and R. McCreery is of the best. Those who love honest, hearty melodrama embodied in a well-told story and beautifully illustrated, must not miss *The Whip*, which is quite worthy of the record run of two autumns at Old Drury.

"THE TOYMAKER OF NUREMBERG."

Mr. Edward Terry produced *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* on Friday evening last week at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, to a house crowded to the doors, seats being at a premium. *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, it will be remembered, was produced by Mr. Cyril Maude at a series of matinées at the Playhouse last spring, and has been acquired by Mr. Edward Terry, who saw in the part of the old Toymaker one that was specially suitable to his distinctive abilities. The piece is one of sentiment pure and unsophisticated, and is a plain, straightforward tale of a poor German boy's great love for the daughter of his father's employer. The old Toymaker is overjoyed at the intelligence of his son's love making, and in his simple manner at once sets out to gain his employer's consent to the love match, never dreaming it could possibly meet with refusal. In the end, however, all comes right, and the old man is made happy in the happiness of the young people.

Mr. Terry makes a touching figure of the dear, simple old Toymaker. In characters of this kind Mr. Terry has no equal, and it is not surprising that the immense audience were enthusiastic over such a beautiful and natural piece of acting. Mr. Robert Pateman was admirable as the old soldier, playing the part in the manner that only a sound and experienced actor could do. Mr. Percy Bell, as the pompous actor, scored well in a small character study, and Mr. William Dexter, as the employer, acted excellently throughout. Miss A. Barton enacted the Toymaker's old wife most feelingly, and as the young girl Miss Christine Rayner acted with gentleness and delicacy. Minor characters were excellently handled. The mounting of the piece was beyond all praise, the lighting effects being beautiful in the extreme. The production was repeated at Saturday's matinée, owing to so many being disappointed at not securing seats the previous evening.

"BOBBY BURNIT," a comedy in four acts, by Winchell Smith, has been well received at the Republic, formerly the Belasco Theatre, New York. Mr. Wallace Eddinger appears in the title-part, and gives an earnest and convincing portrayal of a young American, who inherits his father's business and an enormous fortune in cash, but who seems to lack the qualities that would enable him to shoulder such responsibilities. He is at liberty to do what he chooses with the business and the cash, but the rest of his father's estate he is not allowed to touch unless he succeeds in his own business enterprises, or else agrees to leave his affairs in the hands of a trustee. Bobby has two friends, a physical trainer named "Biff" Bates, and Daniel Johnson, who has been the elder Burnit's adviser. He also has a sweetheart, Agnes Elliston, who turns out to be the trustee. Bobby fails at first, being almost victimised by his so-called friends, but he eventually succeeds and wins the girl of his heart. Messrs. John Webster, George A. Wright, Fred Strong, Thomas Findlay; Miss Ethel Clayton, and Miss Ruth Rose acquit themselves well in important rôles.

"A WOMAN'S WAY."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Thompson Buchanan, Produced at the Comedy Theatre on Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Alan Waldron .....MR. CHARLES QUARTERMAINE
General Sir Harry Dundas, K.C.B. MR. EDMUND MAURICE
Clive Hatton .....MR. CHARLES BRYANT
Otho Dundas .....MR. ERIC MATURIN
Frederick Rowley .....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Ralph Blennerhasset ....MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Wilson .....MR. FREDERICK VOLPE
Lady Dundas .....MISS KATE SERJEANTSON
The Hon. Mrs. Waldron ....MISS HELEN ROUS
Norah Dundas .....MISS NINA SEVENING
Margaret Rowley .....MISS MADGE MURRAY
Mrs. Verney .....MISS MARGUERITE LESLIE
A Maid .....MISS EVELYN BEAUMONT
Effie Waldron .....MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE

How should a young married woman deal with a husband who, neglecting her and going his own way, has got into a habit of flirting with other ladies? This is the interesting problem that Mr. Thompson Buchanan has set himself the task of solving in his play produced at the Comedy on Wednesday evening. Mrs. Effie Waldron is the young lady whose married life seems likely to be wrecked by the indefensible conduct of her husband, and who by the ingenious and decidedly bold scheme she successfully carries out may be said to furnish an excellent lesson to neglected wives. Alan Waldron, the grandson of a peer, has a rather nasty accident while driving his motor, but a damaged arm would not matter so much. The real trouble arises from the fact that he was not alone when the accident happened, his companion being a lady who was not his wife. *A Woman's Way* was originally produced in America, and has, we understand, been in some respects altered so as to make it more suitable for the English stage. We know that in America a domestic scandal in high life is one of those matters that the newspapers devote columns to, with at least half a dozen headings, the reporters being expected to ferret out all the spicy details of the case. And so when the play opens Alan Waldron's house is besieged by newspaper men anxious to get as much as possible about the latest society scandal. But only one of them, Ralph Blennerhasset, of the Press Supply Association, gains admission to the house, and his methods amusingly illustrate the wily ways of the American journalist in search of sensational copy. Alan Waldron is furious at the publicity given to his awkward motor accident, but his wife faces the situation in a way that proves she is a woman of common sense, and in her the inquiring newspaper man meets more than his match. But how is she to win her foolish husband back again to the domestic fold from which he has strayed? She does not make the mistake of ignoring her formidable rival—the "beautiful Mrs. Verney," a widow—but invites her to dinner to meet the members of her own and her husband's family. When Alan discovers that two of the young men guests are in the habit of calling the object of his adoration "Puss," he receives a shock, and he is still more disgusted when he discovers his wife carrying on a flirtation with a former admirer, one Clive Hatton, who has, it should be explained, promised to help her in her little scheme. Though she is at first a little doubtful as to its wisdom, her husband's taming experiment ultimately proves even more successful than she expected, and Alan again becomes a devoted, loving husband, the "beautiful Mrs. Verney" being free to seek some other victim to her charms. *A Woman's Way* is a bright, exhilarating little play that provides a merry evening's entertainment.

Much of the success of the comedy depends upon the way in which the important part of Mrs. Waldron is played. Happily it is in the hands of Miss Alexandra Carlisle, and the charm of her manner, combined with the skill of her acting, went a long way towards securing for the new production a favourable reception. The way in which Effie chaffs her distracted husband over the unlucky motor accident and its results is quite delightful, while, on the other hand, Miss Carlisle shows real feeling when admitting to Clive Hatton that she still loves Alan in spite of his foolish philandering. Of the merits of Miss Carlisle's performance there can be no question; she scores all along the line. The character of Alan Waldron is not so easy to play, but Mr. Charles Quartermaine is nevertheless able to give a capital sketch of the peccant husband, whose irritation at the turn things have taken and the restlessness that denotes his feelings are amusingly depicted. Mr. Chas. Bryant plays agreeably and naturally the part of Effie's old admirer and true friend Clive Hatton; and Mr. Eric Maturin makes the very best use of his opportunities as Otho Dundas, Effie's brother, whom she threatens with revelations of his past if he does not at once cease his violent denunciation of Alan's conduct. Mr. Athol Stewart is well placed as Waldron's solicitor, Frederick Rowley; and Mr. Frederick Lloyd gives prominence to a minor rôle by his clever, carefully-drawn sketch of the journalist, Ralph Blennerhasset, who boasts that he always prefers fact to fiction. Mr. Edmund Maurice is highly amusing as General Sir Harry Dundas, who at once succumbs to the charms of the all-conquering Mrs. Verney, a character that is admirably impersonated by Miss Marguerite Leslie. The wily widow, known to her numerous admirers as "Puss," could scarcely have had a better exponent. Miss Kate Serjeantson is an excellent Lady Dundas, and Miss Helen Rous proves to be equally as good as the Hon. Mrs. Waldron, the two dames adding to the amusement of the audience by their acrimonious verbal encounters whenever they meet. Miss Nina Sevening is pleasing as the newly-wedded Norah Dundas, and Miss Madge Murray as Margaret Rowley, Mr. Frederick Volpe as Wilson, the butler, and Miss Evelyn Beaumont as a maid complete a very satisfactory cast. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Dion Boucicault.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES informs us that the Saturday matinées of *Our Miss Gibbs* at the Gaiety Theatre will be resumed on next Saturday.

IN *The Country Boy*, a four-act comedy by Edgar Selwyn, produced at the Liberty Theatre, New York, on the 31st ult., humour and pathos are cleverly blended, and city and country characters are represented in a lifelike manner. The hero of the story is a young fellow named Tom Wilson, who lives in a small town, and decides to go to New York in search of better opportunities than he can find at home. He obtains a situation, but loses it in a few months through irregular habits. He becomes infatuated with a chorus girl only to be disillusioned. His landlady threatens to turn him out, and he contemplates suicide. He is saved, however, through the influence of a good friend, Fred Merkle, a newspaper man, who persuades him to return home and begin life anew. Merkle, and a theatrical speculator named Joe Weinstein, accompany him to his native town, where they start a newspaper which proves successful. Wilson wins the good opinion of his fellow-townsmen, and marries the sweetheart whom he has loved from boyhood. The scene of the second act is Mrs. Phelps's boarding-house in New York, where Mrs. Stuart Robson's impersonation of the landlady is true to life, and the boarders are cleverly acted. A dinner scene proved highly diverting. In fact, the play is full of amusing bits that hardly lend themselves to detailed description, and the newspapers have praised it. Messrs. Robert McWade, junior, Forrest Winant, Arthur Shaw, and G. C. Staley; Misses Edith Lyle and Willette Kershaw play the principal parts admirably.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will arrive on Sunday by the 1.40 p.m. boat at Folkestone, and will motor to the Carlton Hotel, Pall Mall, where she is to reside. Her company will arrive at Charing Cross at 3.25 p.m.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will open her season on Monday at the Coliseum, where during the first week of her appearance she will give a scene from Rostand's *L'Aiglon*. Mme. Bernhardt will be supported by her own company of players from the Theatre Bernhardt, Paris, and she is bringing with her all her own scenery and stage effects. The cast is as follows:—Le Duc de Reichstadt, Mme. Sarah Bernhardt; Flambeau, M. Decoeur; Matternich, M. Favieres; Marmont, M. Cauroy; Prokesch, M. Denenbourg; Therese de Lorget, Mlle. Seylor.

To a correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* Mme. Bernhardt stated, a few days ago, that she was looking forward with the greatest enthusiasm to her forthcoming appearance at the Coliseum. "England is such an amazingly hospitable country," she said. "Indeed, in my opinion the English are quite the most hospitable people on earth, and, better still, they give expression to their hospitality in a manner so delightfully simple and yet so munificent. When an Englishman has opened his door to you he never closes it again. Your faults he excuses with the air of a courtier, and your peculiarities he accepts generously."

The scenario of Mr. Pélissier's revue for the Alhambra is already fully outlined, and before long lyrics, dialogue, and music will be added. Mr. Pélissier is putting his heart into the production, and his chief regret now is that obvious circumstances will prevent him from witnessing the first performance.

Operettas should be sure of a hearty reception at the older Leicester-square house, and one remembers with feelings of pleasure the production of *Gretna Green* some years since, with Miss Ruth Davenport and Mr. Fred Farren in the cast. Mr. Alfred Moul, however, has no present intention of touching musical pieces, but will present at no very distant date a one-act play of serious interest, with a strain of comedy running through it.

Mr. George Graves is appearing this week at the Hippodrome, Manchester, in a new crystal-gazing sketch called *Koffo of Bond-street*, described in another column by our own correspondent. This novelty will be seen at the Palace Theatre on Monday, when friends of George may be expected to muster in full force.

Mr. Graves has been telling an interviewer that "the conditions of the variety theatre are altogether different from the ordinary playhouse. You've got to hit your bull's-eye the moment you are on. There is no 'preparation' for you—no prelude—you must start in the middle, and score at once. That is not an easy task." These opinions are particularly trite, and apply rather to the comic singer than to the sketch comedian.

Much undeserved contempt is often showered on the red-nosed comedian of the halls by the "superior person," who seems to forget that ten minutes on a stage in front of a thousand people in a state of eager expectancy is not conducive to the display of the refined subtleties of the histrionic art. The gallery boy—who pays threepence, perhaps—has to know at once that there is an alleged funny man at the footlights ready and willing to make him laugh. Hence the "red label," the exaggerated costume, the broad effects. As Mr. Graves says: "You've got to hit the bull's-eye the moment you're on, and you only win by holding the attention taut every moment."

The production of *Koffo* is under the direction of Mr. Frank Parker, and the special scenery is by Mr. Bruce Smith. Mr. Graves will be supported by Miss Dorothy Monkman, Mr. J. B. Gordon, and Miss Constance Hyem. Miss Hyem, it will be remembered, made a pronounced hit in *The Devil* at the Adelphi last year.

Mr. Martin Harvey, in a chat with a Glasgow interviewer, says: "I am to open at the new London variety theatre, the Palladium, at Christmas. Many of the leading actors and actresses, including Sarah Bernhardt, have appeared in the halls, so why should not I? At least, that was how Mr. Gibbons put it to me, and really when he placed his handsome offer before me I felt it would be absurd to refuse. Of course it is only to be a short term during my vacation—that is all."

The popular actor will appear in short, one-act plays, such as *The Conspiracy*. There is no question of giving boiled down versions of such long plays as *The Only Way* or *The Breed of the Treshams*. That, Mr. Harvey considers, to be absolutely out of the question. Besides there have been sketches founded on *A Tale of Two Cities* and impersonations of Sydney Carton in plenty.

Mr. Johnny Danvers (who has been re-engaged by Mr. Arthur Collins for Old Drury panto next Christmas) has been booked on the Moss-Stoll tour, and is making a hit this week at the Empire, Newcastle. Johnny was for years a chief pillar of the Mohawks at the Agricultural Hall, and it was generally thought by his friends that he should have followed the example of Eugene Stratton and gone on the halls years ago.

According to the Bristol *Times and Mirror*, the late Miss Belle Elmore appeared in Bristol some years ago, and a bill dated April 1, 1907, shows that she appeared at the Empire on that date with Miss Madge Lessing. Further search has revealed a receipt in her handwriting for wages that week. These papers were given to Mr. John E. Nash, who has handed them over to Scotland Yard.

Mr. Wilkie Bard returns to town on Monday, and opens at the Tivoli. He is singing a new song of which report speaks highly, namely, "I want to sing in opera." Miss Marie Lloyd rejoins the company at the Strand house on the same date. The Two Bobs, who are now in their last nights, finish their long engagement next week. They have been a great success, and return to the Tivoli next year.

A number of the officers and men of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, now on a visit to this country, were in the boxes and stalls of the London Hippodrome on Tuesday evening, and again on Wednesday. They had a fine reception from the rest of the audience, and were made the subjects of various patriotic impromptus from the stage, all of which were heartily cheered. Mr. Fred Trussell put out banners on the "outer walls" of the house, and everything was "merry and bright."

The South London is being redecorated and re-seated throughout. A beautiful new ceiling is now in the course of completion, and an entirely new balcony, fitted with tip-up seats, will be installed. In conversation with Mr. Payne as to the scheme of decoration to be employed, our representative was told:—"It will be quite a delight to my patrons when finished, but as to the scheme—well, look in when we are completed, and you will be agreeably surprised. Wait and see!"

Mr. T. W. Wright, manager of the Luna Park and Palace of Amusements at Southend, will take his complimentary benefit there on Saturday next, the 24th inst.

Mr. Goodwin Woodward, whose retirement from the managership of the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham, is regretted by a host of friends in the Midlands, has been appointed a manager of the Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

Miss Elsie Redfern (of the Sisters Redfern) will be married to-day, at St. Nicholas Church, Great Yarmouth, to Mr. L. B. Brown. The sisters conclude to-day a most successful engagement of twelve weeks at Chappell's Ring. Miss Rubie Redfern intends launching out as a single turn.

The Dewsbury Empire Cricket Club have had a successful first season, having played sixteen matches and won thirteen, drawing one, and losing two. They are also running a football team, and will be glad to arrange a match with any theatrical company visiting Dewsbury during the season.

Mr. Harry Lyons, at one time manager of Collins's, Islington Green, who has had considerable experience as a touring manager, and who eighteen months ago resigned the managership of the Birmingham Hippodrome music hall to enter "the trade," has decided to return to his original profession.

Mr. Jas. Mayall, the popular manager of the Hippodrome, Margate, made his second annual collection last week on behalf of "Poor Children of Margate's Penny Dinner Fund." The object of the fund is to provide the starving kiddies of the town with dinners during the winter months for one penny each.

Last year the amount collected was £17 16s. 4d. This year's collection realised £40, out of which the prize donkey, introduced in Swan and Vesta's new sketch *'Liza's Wedding Day*, which was starring at the Hippodrome last week, succeeded in collecting £8 6s. 4½d.

Mr. Johnnie Renson, the Yorkshire comedian, finishes a most successful season as manager at the Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes. His benefit was a huge success. Next year he will be most pleased to book a good many of the acts engaged by him this season, especially the good V.A.F.s.

An interesting presentation took place at the new Finsbury Park Empire on Friday last, when Madame Fanny Moody-Manners presented Mr. Ernest Wighton, the resident-manager, with a handsome clock; Mr. Fred Camp, the musical-director, received a silver mounted baton; and Mr. Harry Brook, the stage-manager, a solid silver cigarette case, as a token of appreciation.

Preparations for the production of the new sketch by Percival Sykes, entitled *The Girl Who Did*, are being rapidly pushed ahead by Mr. A. L. Williams, of Collins's. The part of leading lady is to be taken by Miss Catherine Carew. The sketch, which is to be produced on Sept. 26, is said to contain much that is novel.

Mr. J. D. Davidson on Thursday (8th) made an application to the Licensing Justices of the City and County of Bristol, on behalf of Mr. Walter De Frece, in respect of the Hippodrome, East-street, Bedminster. Superintendent Pope, in reply to the Chairman, said he had received no opposition up to the present, but an intimation had been made to him that if a licence to sell intoxicating liquors was applied for there would be a great deal of opposition.

Mr. Davidson said the application was only for a six days' licence for singing and dancing. The building would cost something like £25,000, building and land. The plans had been approved by the sanitary authority, and a memorial had been signed by a large number of shopkeepers and professional people in Bedminster expressing their desire to have the hall, for there was no place of amusement of the kind in Bedminster, although it was a thickly-populated district.

The Chairman put some formal questions to Mr. Davidson, and afterwards said the Bench could make no more than an expression that, if the certificates were satisfactory, as far as the Bench was at present constituted, they would favourably consider the application for the licence.

Mr. W. S. Buccleuch, who takes up the management of the Royalty Theatre, Chester, in succession to Mr. C. B. Fountaine, after touring with Mr. Leonard Boyne in *Captain Pugh, V.C.*, became assistant-manager and treasurer of the Empire, Stratford, then Holloway, Glasgow, and Leicester Palace, staying with Moss' Empires for nearly seven years. By his courtesy and tact he has made many friends, and will doubtless do the same in the old city.

The New Brighton Tower has enjoyed an exceedingly prosperous year, and the directors, recognising that it is owing to the hard work and enterprise of Mr. R. H. Davy, the general-manager and secretary, that such a happy result has been brought about, have decided to tender him a complimentary benefit on Saturday, the 24th inst. A number of well-known stars and popular favourites have intimated their intention of appearing. To-day (Saturday) will be held the first annual September brass band contest, the entries for which include over twenty well-known bands.

Mr. Horace Livermore writes:—"Will you allow me space in your paper to thank all those artists who so willingly assisted at the concert at Colston Hall on Aug. 27, and who helped to make the entertainments such a great success, both artistically and financially. The artists who appeared were so numerous that I could not expect you to mention all names, but special thanks are due to G. H. Elliott, Florrie Forde, Montague Worlock, K. Scott Barrie, and all others who journeyed from London, Cardiff, Newport, Bath, and Weston-super-Mare."

On Monday the members of the Empire and Douglas Head staffs in the employ of Mr. Charles Dare made a surprise recognition of their appreciation of his services. Mr. Carr, the manager of the Empire, immediately prior to the commencement of the performance, and in the presence of the whole of the members of the staff, presented to Mr. Dare, in their name, a handsome meerschaum and amber pipe and case and a fine tobacco pouch, both suitably mounted and inscribed. In doing so he paid a graceful tribute to Mr. Dare's position as an entrepreneur, and emphasised his praise of Mr. Dare as an employer.

Mr. Dare, who was pleasingly surprised at the compliment, thanked the donors heartily, and said that during the season in the island he was always anxious to surround himself with clever artists, men who knew their work, and were equally willing with him to keep his shows clean and free from offensive innuendo. He had, both in the Empire and on the Head, a cosmopolitan crowd of all shades of opinion, and he had always made it his ambition to try to amuse them without offending the susceptibilities of anybody. He was determined to have a clean show, whether in Douglas or in England, or none at all.

The first annual general meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution will be held on Thursday, Oct. 13, at twelve o'clock, at the Bedford Head Hotel, Mr. Joe Elvin (chairman of the committee) presiding. A report of the year's working and a statement of accounts will be submitted.

Mr. Douglas Stuart has handed to the Music Hall Benevolent Institution the sum of £4 12s., being amount on sales of his last year's "Railway Fare Book," which he promised to hand over to the fund.

Will all holders of Benevolent Institution bricks kindly have the same opened, and forward the amount by postal order to the hon. secretaries? This is important, as the books for the year will be closed on the 30th.

The Stavordale Quintette, who have recently been appearing at the Oxford, leave England shortly, commencing their five months' Continental tour at the Hague on Oct. 1.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the "chocolate-coloured coon," leaves town again for a month in the provinces, and on his return remains until the commencement of rehearsals for pantomime at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas are just concluding a most enjoyable eight weeks' vacation at their bungalow, Mush Mush, on the Thames, and resume work on Monday at the Regent, Salford, after which they open on Mr. Oswald Stoll's London halls.

Miss Lily Langtry, who sailed from Australia on board the R.M.S. Otranto, writes from Marseilles that she is in the best of health, and that she was extremely sorry to leave the Commonwealth, where she has had one of the most successful and happiest engagements she has ever fulfilled.

"The New Barmaid," in sketch form, will be played at the Empire, Camberwell, next week, the cast including Mr. Lawrence Caird, Mr. Charles Adeson, and Mr. Alexander Loftus. The scene is the Owletts Club. The sketch will last half an hour.

Miss Daisy James is appearing at Richmond and Putney this week, and has scored an enormous success in her two latest songs, entitled "The Squeegee Dress" and "Down Regent-street." This popular and dainty artist opens at Willesden and Ealing next week, where both these songs will be heard.

The flat of Mr. J. E. Nash—husband of Miss Lil Hawthorne—at Park-mansions, South Lambeth-road, S.W., was entered by burglars during last week. Mr. Nash at the time was at Bristol, where Miss Hawthorne has been appearing. No money or jewellery had been left in the flat. Some silver plate and a few other articles were stolen.

Mr. Paul Murray, who was for some years at Cranbourn Mansions in connection with one of the departments of the administrative offices of the Moss and Stoll Empires, has now become permanently associated with H. B. Marinelli, Ltd., of 18, Charing Cross-road. He has, of course, resigned his appointment with William Morris.

Mr. Leonard Shepherd, who has been giving his "Character Studies from Shakespeare" on the halls again lately, has received an offer to go out to America—which he has accepted—to play the Marquis of Steyne in a production of *Becky Sharp* with Mrs. Harrison Grey Fiske for the coming season. Mr. Shepherd will sail for New York in the course of the next few weeks.

Messrs. Feecham and Wheeler, theatrical and variety agents, of 26, Charing Cross-road, are dissolving partnership on the 25th inst., Mr. Charles Beecham having decided to go into management again. The agency will be carried on solely by Mr. Worland S. Wheeler, who will, of course, represent all clients on the Beecham and Wheeler book. Among these are Miss Vesta Victoria, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Alice Pierce, and Miss Ada Colley.

It will be remembered that Mr. Charles Beecham was connected with the Syndicate Halls for a number of years, having been associated with Mr. George Adney Payne since a boy. Mr. Beecham resigned his position as manager of the Paragon some twelve months after Mr. Payne's death, to enter into partnership with Mr. Wheeler as theatrical and variety agents.

Mr. Charles Coborn and Miss Mabel Mavis, the celebrated novelty musician, will visit Berlin and other continental cities with a view to business during the week commencing Sept. 26. Mr. Coborn says he will sing in German if it hurts them, and the cosmopolitan character of Miss Mavis's musical entertainment leaves no cause for doubt as to her success.

It is probable that these talented artists will give their combined recital during the coming season in London and the provinces. Those who have been fortunate enough to be present at any of their former recitals are enthusiastic in praise of such a rich combination of humour, harmony, and versatility.

Albert Edward Hill, manager of the East Ham Palace, was summoned on Thursday at East Ham for employing six men to wear a dress having the appearance of a naval uniform under such circumstances as to be likely to bring contempt upon his Majesty's uniform. Six sandwichmen were summoned for using the uniform under such circumstances.

Constable 244K said he saw the six men in Romford-road, Manor Park, carrying boards advertising a music-hall naval sketch. Mr. Hill said he did not know he was committing an offence. Mr. Grubbe said it was important that masquerading the streets in this manner should be stopped, and Mr. Hill, who was chiefly responsible, would be fined £1 and 5s. costs. The men would be fined 2s. and 5s. costs each. The money was paid by Mr. Hill.

The usual weekly meeting of the Executive of the M.H.A.R.A. on Wednesday was presided over by Mr. Harry Bancroft, who was supported by Messrs. J. W. Cragg (trustee), Tom J. Morton, Charles Coborn (vice-president), Bernard Stavordale, Tom Packer, T. C. Callaghan, and C. Douglas Stuart (Secretary).

New agencies were appointed at the Seven Stars Hotel, Rugby, and the Swan Hotel, Leek. Owing to the carelessness or indifference of members of the Association travelling from Edinburgh, the privilege of securing single tickets has now been withdrawn, and no fewer than five tickets will be issued in future. The main trouble would seem to arise from the fact that members do not take the trouble to consult their fellow artists whose names appear on voucher. A little thought and care would result in saving considerable expenditure on the part of artists.

The monthly statement of the Association showed the following totals:—Reserve fund, £545 17s. 3d.; deposit account, £167 7s. 4d.; petty cash, £45; total, £768 4s. 7d. The total membership at the end of August was 6,298, as against 6,392 at the corresponding period last year.

At the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, on Sept. 19, Wallace Aston and Margaret Watson will produce *Corkscrew*, an episode of coster life.

Carl Howard and Lily Foy left last week for Australia, and Alex Prince, the Concertina King, leaves on Friday next for Australia, under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards, made through Tom Pacey's agency.

Mr. Benj. Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to thank Jim Karno (Ted Karno Trio) for box collection of 8s. 6d., Mrs. Ebdon, the Tankard, Kennington-road, for 13s., and Tom Branson, Queen's Saloon, Hastings, for 10s. 6d., in aid of the Home Fund.

Enormous profits made by the sale of pirated music were mentioned (on Friday, the 9th) in a case before the Common Serjeant in the Central Criminal Court, against four men named Bowden, Kinzett, Beckenham, and Puddifoot, of conspiracy to defraud Messrs. McGlennon and Co., music publishers. The prisoners pleaded guilty.

Counsel for the prosecution said that since Messrs. McGlennon had taken proceedings to put a stop to this kind of thing their profits had gone up about £500 a year. In regard to the sale of pirated music sheets, which were sold to hawkers in the streets at one farthing a copy, counsel said some dealers had earned £1,000 a year.

Accused figured in the "De Profundis" case, and in view of the fact that the present case took priority, the Common Serjeant declined to sentence them to imprisonment, and thought the case would be satisfied by binding them all over to come up for judgment if called upon.

Mr. Frank H. France and Miss Edith Stewart are now playing their new and original sketch, *The Little Puritan*, at the Moss and Stoll halls in London. This little piece gives them both an opportunity for clever comedy acting, and at New Cross and Hackney, and this week at the new Finsbury Park Empire, it has been received with much laughter and applause. Next week France and Stewart will be at the Croydon Hippodrome.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., on behalf of the committee, begs most gratefully to thank Miss Louie Davis (Ward and Davis) (collecting), 10s. 6d.; Miss Flo Banks (collecting), 3s.; Irisene (donation), 1s.; collected by the Sisters Macarte in America, £1 5s. 6d.; and Miss Irene Rose (collecting), £1.

Please note a prize will be given to the one collecting the most money, in or out of the profession, in twelve months for this deserving charity, commencing Nov. 4 last. Can anyone help the Guild with the address of Mrs. Arthur Hatton, who holds the winning number, 50, for the handsome portière curtain? Will anyone make an offer for the fifteen large-sized bandbooks, given by Messrs. Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)? Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Will subscribers please make cheques payable to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild?

The chief addition to the London Hippodrome programme next week will be Mr. George Bastow, the popular comedian who made "The galloping major" one of the most popular songs of the day. Mr. Bastow, who has not been seen in London for a long while, has a new ditty, "Captain Ginjah, O.T.," which has a most catchy chorus.

Messrs. Dan Hendy and George Ernest Aplin were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order upon Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier C. W. Kloof, W.T., assisted by Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman, V.T., Organist Terrier Arthur Were. Mr. Dan Fraser and Mr. Henry Stephens have successfully passed the ballot. All Terriers in town upon Sunday next are particularly requested to attend the meeting of the Association.

Applications for membership of the Terriers' Association have been received from Messrs. William Macdonald and Frank William Fisher. Terriers are requested to note that all nominations of candidates for membership must be forwarded to the secretary, accompanied with a letter of recommendation. In future, the names of all candidates will be announced in the weekly Press reports.

The following donations to the Emergency Fund have been received: Terrier Ted E. Box, 15s.; a friend of Terrier Box, £1 1s.; and Terrier William Welsh, 5s. Terrier Barend Jansen is particularly requested to forward his address to the secretary. A communication of great importance is awaiting him. Mr. Pete Reed is also asked to send his address.

"Olga's Oath," Mr. J. G. Grahame's new sketch, which has been touring the provinces so successfully for the last three months, made such a hit at the Pavilion, Glasgow, last week, that the management immediately exercised their option of booking them a return engagement. Miss Zerlina Harrington, who stars in the leading part, was the recipient of several floral offerings and many well-deserved compliments from the public, Press, and management.

Mr. Walter Graham, the "Human Marionette," has no vacant time until March, 1912, but he is looking ahead, and has just engaged the services of a first-class property carpenter to make him an entirely new fit-up for use when he returns from America. It will be on a most elaborate scale, faithfully portaying the old-time music hall of thirty years ago in every detail. Then an instantaneous change to the luxurious Empire of to-day. The scenic effects will be carried out by the well-known artist Mr. Johnston, of Drury Lane, and the electrical effects and lighting by T. Allum (late of Maskelyne and Devant). The whole solely invented by Walter Graham.

Considering the weather, the crowds that thronged the Crystal Palace grounds on Thursday night to see the special display of fireworks in celebration of Pain's benefit were surprisingly large. The band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Dr. J. Mackenzie Rogan, played selections throughout the day, and later in the evening gave a concert in the grand orchestra. Striking pyrotechnic pieces were the "Hanging Garden of Light," an effect attained by salvoes of mammoth rockets bearing flowers floating in space, and the "Changing Clouds and the Fountain of Light," an arrangement in five great tiers, 75ft. in height. The set piece consisted of the Imperial Colonnade and Arms of the Empire, canopied by an immense Union Jack.

Mr. Joseph Schofield, the well-known young violoncellist, has accepted a costume four-character sketch, written by Mr. Langford Reed, on most original lines, called *The Awakening*. This will be seen for the first time next week at the Empress, Brixton, where it will be in the regular bill.

Mr. Schofield in 1899, when only thirteen years' old, won the open violoncellist Guildhall School of Music scholarship of £75 presented by Baron Von Knopp. Mr. Schofield remained at the School for six more years, and again won the scholarship each of these years, making over £500 in scholarships before he was twenty-one.

An "extra" in the attractive programme at the Holborn Empire on Saturday afternoon last was the performance of Gates's British Burlesque Band, a combination of some thirty instrumentalists, whose selections were loudly acclaimed. The band was conducted by Prof. Saginor, R.R.A.M., late bandmaster of the Czar of Russia's Cossack Band. Dressed in the national Cossack uniform, he wields the bâton with much energy and no little originality.

His business with the gentleman who manipulated the big drum was responsible for much laughter. In a descriptive piece this resourceful instrumentalist-comedian-knockabout was particularly funny. His antics with the drum, which for the moment becomes a motor-car, and as a policeman, who punishes the drum severely, are very ludicrous.

The programme included the Russian National March, the Overture to *Masaniello* (Auber), the Motor-ride burlesque, a humorous paraphrase of "The Tearing of the Green," and another descriptive piece. All the selections were admirably played and keenly enjoyed, and at the conclusion conductor and band were frequently recalled. The bandsmen are dressed in a scarlet and gold uniform, and are all British.

Yvette Guilbert's first appearance on the stage—she writes in her life—was in 1888. "The piece was one of Alexandre Dumas', *La Reine Margot*, and the part entrusted to me was that of Madame de Nevers. I needed money to buy shoes and gloves, so I again wrote to my worthy friend Zidler (the music-hall proprietor). His reply came in the shape of a hundred-franc note. And so I made my *début*. I shall never forget that first night, or the emotions I went through. The fright I was in before it began! The relief I felt when it was over!"

Her performance proved more than acceptable, and she entered upon two years' continuous work on the stage, in which she played many parts. But she had not then discovered her true métier. She had an extensive knowledge of songs, old and new, and, at the suggestion of her friends, she determined to try her fortune at the café concerts as a singer. There were many trials and difficulties before Yvette became famous, but in the end her songs won the heart of Paris. Her success was tremendous, and it has never since forsaken her.

The possibility, which in the near future may at any moment become an accomplished fact, of huge international variety combinations in the way of circuits being formed has for some time earnestly engaged the attention of the long-sighted leaders of the variety profession, with the object of adopting an adequate protective policy. Huge concerns such as the Beck-Butt-Barrasford combination, and other planned amalgamations of British and American circuits, embracing with their tentacles the Continent of Europe, may necessitate the adjustment of existing different national usages. One important question is a possible international barring clause.

As the official organ of the International Artists' Lodge, *Das Programm*, appositely remarks: "If to-day a performer who is engaged for next year for ten weeks in a Stoll tour may not in the interval appear in any one of twenty-five to thirty towns in which the Stoll office books theatres, it is quite conceivable that in the near future an artist who is engaged for a ten weeks' tour next year for the former Barrasford circuit in England may be debarred from the Morris or Pantages tours in America, since these compete with the Orpheum tour, which in turn is allied with the Barrasford theatres.

Some years ago a plan for an international affiliation was outlined. The four great organisations of to-day were then scarcely ripe for the process. The German body, the International Artists' Lodge, was then, some fourteen years ago, the only association of importance; the Variety Artists' Federation, almost still in embryo, was undergoing a process of evolution; the White Rats of America, who for some years past had been in a state of stagnant lethargy, were only gradually awakening to activity (they and the V.A.F. then numbered between them some sixty-five members, as against over 6,000 to-day); while the Union Syndicate des Artists Lyriques of Paris was in those days nothing but a sick-fund.

To-day these four organisations have an aggregate roll of no fewer than 14,300 members, or, allowing for the same artist being a member of two or more of these Associations, a membership of between 13,000 and 13,500 remains. Hitherto these bodies, on the principle laid down in the agreement of affiliation, effected last year through the instrumentality of Mr. Max Berol-Konorah, the energetic president of the International Artists' Lodge, confined their activities entirely to the solution of their own national problems. Each held undisputed sway in its own country: the V.A.F. in Great Britain and Ireland, the White Rats in America, the I.A.L. in the Teutonic and Eastern countries of Europe, and the U.S.A.L. in the Latin countries of the Continent.

The strength, moral and otherwise, gained by the aforementioned affiliation has already made itself beneficially felt on several occasions, notably in the recent legislations on the agency question in America, England, and Germany. It is now felt that the time is ripe for taking up a plan which dates back as far as 1906, when an informal meeting was held in the then London offices of the I.A.L., and a small number of men of different nationalities, all of them leading members of the profession now, laid down the main lines of the scheme. It was suggested to convene an International Conference of delegates of the different organisations every two years on some neutral spot, such as The Hague or Geneva, for discussing international questions and for devising ways and means for carrying out their resolutions, an important item on the programme being the vexed question of international copyright. The question of selecting a place of meeting is to-day considerably simplified.

Since the profession is entirely free of all taint of international jealousy, the necessity of selecting a neutral meeting place, such as originally suggested, falls to the ground. The only towns that can come into question are London, Paris, Berlin, and New York. If the last-named place were chosen the money and time spent on assembling the Conference would be, of course, considerably increased; besides which there are always a number of leading American artists in Europe who could be deputed as delegates without incurring any unnecessary further expenditure.

The obvious place for the Conference, if for no other reason but for its geographical position, is London. The language, at any rate, in which the business would be transacted would be English, while it is estimated that the list of questions already filed for discussion—some of which, for reasons of expediency, are kept secret as yet—will keep the Conference, which will be composed of delegates appointed by the four organisations, and of the editors or representatives of their official organs and other leading class journals, busily occupied for about a week.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AT the King's Theatre, Portsmouth, where Miss Ada Reeve is the bright particular star, that dainty artist, Miss Amy Clevere, whose taste in dress is proverbial, has been delighting full houses with her new song, by G. A. Stevens, "Black Belle (I'm sorry you're a coon)." Messrs. Francis and Day have issued this tuneful number.

FOX AND MELVILLE are making a huge hit with F. V. St. Clair's great chorus number, "Where the bellbine climbs around the window." The song is published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.

"I LOVE to see them working in the mills" is a chorus song by F. V. St. Clair, which he is exploiting on the Moss-Stoll and the Broadhead halls. It is vociferously cheered everywhere.

THE magnificent receptions accorded Mr. G. H. Elliott nightly at the Shepherd's Bush Empire for his singing of "There's a little black Cupid in the moon," the principal song among his latest batch of ditties, prove it to be indubitably a compeer of his other tremendous successes from the pens of Lester Barrett and Hermann E. Darewski, notably "Sue" and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon." The chocolate coloured one's own pronouncement a short time since that "There's a little black Cupid in the moon" would be one of the biggest pantomime songs of the year will undoubtedly be verified, judging by the applications for rights already received by Messrs. Francis and Day. The artist avers no song has ever suited him better, and if he doesn't know, who does?

A CONSENSUS of praise has reached London from seaside entertainers who have been singing Mr. Charles Wilmott's laughable parody, entitled "Hip-I-addy-I-ay," which Mr. Johnny Danvers has been delighting audiences with on the variety stage, and everywhere it has been sung inquiries have been ripe for copies, notably at Brighton and at Margate. At the former place Mr. Fred Frampton, of the White Coons, has received ovations for it, a like fate befalling Mr. Stanley Kirkby, who has been scoring with the item at the municipal concerts at the Kentish resort. Messrs. Francis and Day have issued the parody.

THOSE comedians who in the past have been so successful in pantomime with Messrs. Rich and Rich's humorous items will hail with satisfaction the advent of their newest *tour de force*, which is entitled "We don't want a girl," and which has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is sure to be in greatest request for Christmas annuals, not only on account of its inherent comicality, but by reason of its adaptability for local use. It is by Messrs. Rich and Rich and the late Will Letters, and is being sung by the former twain with tremendous success.

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm have in the press a pretty new song, entitled "Someone waits for somebody." The lyric is from the experienced pen of J. P. Harrington, and John Neat has set the lines to one of those taking melodies for which he is noted.

A SONG, with the striking title of "I seem to hear you calling," will shortly see the light. It is by Scott Staunton and Henry E. Pether. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

MR. RYDER SLONE'S effective new number, "The Vagabond's Toast," has been disposed of by the authors and composer (Barnes, Weston, and M. Scott) to Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE fine song, entitled "My dear old coat," so well sung by Mr. J. C. Piddock in the musical sketch *Cupid's Arms*, has been largely inquired for ever since Messrs. Piddock and Danby put the morceau on the boards, and the song will shortly be available in sheet music form, it having been acquired for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. The lyric is by Albert E. Ellis and the music by Henry E. Pether.

MR. GORDON STRETTON, who both at Dublin and Belfast has been making so good with Mellor and Gifford's "There's a brown girl in Old Dahomey," a song that is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, has been booked for the Dublin Empire for no fewer than eight years. Mr. Stretton opens in London again shortly.

TOM E. FINGLASS, the cowboy coon, is making a success in every town he visits with his novel scena "My Baby," with which he scored so heavily recently at the London Coliseum. This week at Rochdale in each house this popular artist has had to make a speech and sing his well-known prairie song.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

So amused was a woman who went to the Crouch End Hippodrome that afterwards, on the way home, she laughed heartily "at the memory of the turns." "My sister-in-law," she told the Highgate magistrate on Thursday, "said I was laughing at her, and flew at me like a cat." The woman who laughed was granted a summons.

A MELANCHOLY interest attaches to the sale of a quantity of household effects belonging to "Dr." Crippen, which has been removed from Hilldrop-crescent to the sale-rooms of Messrs. Tooth and Tooth, in Oxford-street. The removal from Hilldrop-crescent was made under the strict supervision of Scotland Yard.

THE selections of ideal music hall programmes by the *Evening News* are arousing much interest in variety circles. Some of the bills sketched out for proprietors would mean a salary list of £1,200—a mere trifle to the man in the street.

MR. CHARLES S. KITTS and Miss Rhoda Windrum are playing next week at the London Coliseum in their ever-fresh and always successful military merry contretemps, *The Little Cuckoo*.

THIS evening will see the last performance of Messrs. Pain and Son's picturesque spectacle "The Destruction of Pompeii" at the Crystal Palace. The 500 artists on the huge stage of 350ft., which has for its flooring the beautifully laid-out grounds of the Palace, the artistic ballet, the troupe of acrobats, the 200 choristers, and the exciting chariot races all go to make up an attractive spectacle

MLLE. CLEO DE MERODE, now appearing with such success at the Hippodrome, was at home to a large number of her London friends at the Ritz Hotel on Tuesday afternoon, and proved as charming off the stage as on. Everything was done in the daintiest and most hospitable way. She received her guests with delightful *verve*, poured out the tea herself, and kept up a continual ripple of conversation and laughter.

PRESENTING his report of the festival to the stewards at Gloucester on Saturday, Mr. Barrett Cooke, secreary, referred to the lack of support during a portion of the recent festival, and asked if the time had not arrived to reduce the charges for the best seats. The receipts for seats and books of words amounted to £3,270, or over £400 less than three years ago, while the expenses totalled £3,560, against £3,714 in 1907, leaving about £300 to be taken out of the stewards' fund to settle the deficit. Collections taken at the various services amounted to £424, against £499 at the last festival, and it was estimated that there would remain £1,300 to go to the charities as against £1,677 at Gloucester three years ago, £1,000 at Hereford two years ago, and £780 at Worcester last year.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE COLISEUM.

An interesting appearance at the palatial St. Martin's-lane house on Monday afternoon was that of Mlle. Charpentier, a favourite actress in St. Petersburg, announced as the "Russian Marie Tempest." An accomplished vocalist, her fine voice was heard with pleasure in some tuneful selections, a specially popular number being a Russian version of "The Amorous Goldfish," from *The Geisha*. In her concluding item, dressed in becoming male costume, she sang of a Russian girl who had been kidnapped by Caucasian Cossacks, and escaped, and is impatiently waiting for a horse. The reception accorded Mlle. Charpentier was a decidedly favourable one. The powerful playlet *Sanctuary*, by Malcolm Watson, which it will be remembered was first seen at the Empire in the December of last year, with Miss Evelyn D'Alroy as the Woman, is also figuring for the first time in the Coliseum bill this week. Miss Sylvia Cavalho now enacts the part of the wretched Woman, who has accidentally committed murder, and gives an intense and effective portrayal throughout; and the Artist is played with firmness and conviction by Mr. Clifford Pembroke. Mr. H. Buckstone Clair submitting a capital little study of the Policeman.

Chanteclair, the feathered farmyard fantasy presented by Joe Peterman and George Ricketts, proved a pretty and novel interlude. Enacted by fifty artists in real feathered bird costumes, as executed by Clarkson for his Parisian production, the "farmyard sketch" was particularly strong in attractive choruses and dances; and the humours of the Cat and the rollicking rooster who is constantly inviting his companion to "come and have one" were responsible for considerable mirth. Chanteclair himself was a most impressive bird, his impersonator having a powerful voice and playing the part capitally; and Nellie, the Hen Pheasant, was also admirably enacted. Bright and lively throughout, *Chanteclair* certainly proved a most refreshing and delightful concert.

M. W. Andreef's Russian Balalaika Orchestra still remains in the fine programme here, and the selections so melodiously and delicately given are all heartily applauded, the balalaika solos given by M. B. S. Trojanowsky on the occasion of our visit being the "Waltz Durand" and a fantasie by Tschaikowsky, the executant displaying wonderful facility in his playing. The humours of Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic at the piano, were evidently appreciated; and his rendering of "Has anyone here seen Kelly?" as given by the Salvation Army, a curate at a concert, and in other extraordinary circumstances, aroused laughter in all parts of the house.

There is real humour in the turn of Montgomery and Moore, American entertainers with droll and novel ideas. The male of the duo is a clever pianist, and also an eccentric one; and the lady's quietly humorous rendering of "Jenny" is a gem in its way. The happily-associated pair have many devices for creating merriment, and their stay is altogether most enjoyable. Mlle. Dolli, from La Scala, Milan, executes a dainty toe solo with cleverness, and her other dances are also greatly enjoyed; the Francoli troupe, in their pantomimic act, *The Billposter*, submit a smartly-worked acrobatic and tumbling interlude that appeals to the entire house; Sam Stern, in a Hebrew parody medley and a clever impersonation of Italian character as seen in the New York streets, is a decided favourite; and the Findens present an admirably-played duologue that is amusing throughout. The Bioscope concludes.

THE EUSTON.

A capital programme is presented here this week, and consequently Manager McAvoy is all smiles as he endeavours to find room for his patrons. The chief attraction is a dramatic sketch, *Her Luck in London*, which deals with the fortunes of a young and spirited country girl who, tiring of rustic life and exasperated by the reproaches of her father and sister, seeks her fortunes in London. Her adventures as a barmaid in a gambling den are vividly portrayed, and the final scene, where she vindicates herself in the eyes of her husband, is strikingly acted. As the heroine Miss Mary Neil carries practically all the work on her shoulders, and her mixed humour and pathos won golden opinions from the audience, who showed their evident appreciation in no uncertain manner.

George Mozart again proves himself to be one of our first rank entertainers, keeping the house in roars of laughter during the time he occupies the stage. His first number is a dissertation on "Ladies," in which he introduces some of his inimitable "walks," while his second portrays the fortunes of a couple of buskers. His burlesque of a bioscope drama is highly diverting, and, above all, original. The Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, present a really marvellous exhibition of acrobatic and balancing feats. Mr. M. Adeson, assisted by Miss Clara Bernard, doles out quaint humour in a bright little farce.

Rauschle, in a series of impersonations of great men past and present, is repeatedly encored, his portrayals of Gladstone, Napoleon, Buller, and the late King being especially well received. A novel turn is provided by Mr. Willie Gardner in a clever exhibition of roller skate dancing, and Miss Hanid Alexander delights all by her brilliant pianoforte playing. Mr. Clifford Morgan is the possessor of a fine voice, and his dramatic ability was clearly shown in his rendering of Rudyard Kipling's song "Follow me home." Will Cornish in a tuneful handbell act, the Doreen Girls in a clever dancing speciality, and Ruffell's Bioscope round off an excellent bill.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

When we looked in at the South London this week we found a good audience enjoying the fine programme provided by the popular manager Mr. William Payne. Mr. Henry Hilton gained a good deal of applause for a clever sleight-of-hand performance, and Mr. Clifford Morgan sang in fine style one of Rudyard Kipling's barrack-room ballads. Hampton and Bauman, "Darktown Entertainers," give a varied musical performance. A couple of humorous numbers, "My mother said" and "Sing a song of sixpence," were sung by Mr. Ted Cowan, who adopts much the same style as his brother, Mr. Sam Mayo. Miss Daisy Jerome, the star turn here, was unable to appear on the night of our visit; but an excellent substitute was found in the Leonards, who contributed a very amusing duologue dealing with the "stop-out-late" husband and his rebellious wife. Cole and Rags, a clever couple, introduce some good juggling. Miss Annie Schuberth appears in a song-scena, *The Deputy; or, A Private Rehearsal*, into which she introduces a series of songs, the best perhaps being "Beautiful garden of roses," a fine song sung in excellent style.

When one thinks of the success of that stirring little drama *The Drums of Oude*, it is not surprising that other plays of a similar character should follow. In *The Half-Caste*, which is being presented by Miss Evelyn Beresford and company, we are again given an Indian episode. The scene is in the officers' quarters of an Indian palace. Captain Dick McBurn (2nd Seaforth Highlanders), stationed in India, rescues an Indian dancing girl, Nonoyah by name, from one of the bazaars. She is a half-caste, and the two fall in love with one another. Omurara, the bazaar-keeper, whose favourite dancer Nonoyah was, swears to have revenge. While the regiment is away Omurara obtains admission to the palace for the purpose of revenge by becoming the servant of Captain Dick. He murders the sentry after having compelled him to disconnect the electric telegraph. Nonoyah has a dream in which she sees her previous master murder Captain Dick and take her again prisoner. She tells the Captain, who arrives at the conclusion that there is treachery in the wind. (His attention has previously been directed to the death of the sentry.) He goes to the telegraph to communicate with the regiment, but finds communication has been cut off by the removal of the electric battery. Omurara enters with three of his followers and threatens to kill Captain Dick if he will not surrender Nonoyah. He of course refuses. The native horn is heard in the distance, the sound of which proclaims an Indian rising. Almost in despair the Captain again tries the telegraph, and succeeds in establishing a temporary connection. He receives a reply to the effect that a portion of the regiment is now on its way to the palace. Omurara is about to torture the girl with a huge boa-constrictor which belongs to an Indian snake-charmer. At this moment the regiment arrives, and amidst much confusion and more noise all ends happily. Mr. Henry Latimer was quite good as Captain Dick McBurn, and Mr. Gomer May acted consistently throughout as the treacherous Omurara. Miss Evelyn Beresford made a charming heroine in the character of Nonoyah. The little play was well staged.

"I'm the leader of the girls' brigade" is the title of a song sung to a stirring march tune by Miss Radie Stuart. In *The King of the Castle* Mr. Joe Elvin, as the husband with "no go in him"—the necessary amount of "go" coming from a draught administered by a doctor friend, is responsible for a good deal of merriment.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The management here this week have arranged a very excellent programme, and as a result Brixtonites are rolling up in large numbers to testify their appreciation. On the evening of our visit the house was packed. G. H. Chirgwin is, as usual, a host in himself, his many topical witticisms causing endless laughter, and, if such a thing be possible, he becomes more popular every day. The amusement he manages to get from a couple of clay pipes and an old tin tray is nothing short of wonderful, and if applause signifies anything he must have a very warm place in the hearts of patrons of this popular hall. Clever impersonations of some of our leading violinists are given by Le Strad, and amongst others may be mentioned Sarasate and Kubelik. These in their way are really excellent. Nellie Denver, a clever kiddie, sings and dances smartly; and Mal Vern, described as a laughing cyclone, has a couple of mirth-provoking numbers. Walter Barrett, a baritone, is heard to advantage in a couple of numbers entitled "Long live the King" and "The trumpeter," and Marie Magnus, besides telling some humorous stories, renders tunefully a song entitled "Whisper it again." Harry Tompa is responsible for a humorous song entitled "My wedding day," and handles patter in good style.

As a juggler pure and simple Richard Wally must surely rank very high. He performs many most difficult tricks in a way that makes them appear really facile in the extreme. Miss Bessie Knight has a taking coon ditty about a Mr. Jackson, which suits her well, and afterwards she shows how perfectly she has mastered the terpsichorean art. Miss Queenie Essex, a dainty comedienne, has a real winner in "Coo Goo Land," the chorus of which is readily taken up by the upper ten; and as a top-liner we have Percy Honri and company in *Concordia*. The well-trained voices of Belrose and De Velin are a real treat to listen to, and Bellew and Stocks's company present with success a refined musical scena entitled *The Romps*. Miss Margaret Ismay sings tunefully "Lampland" and "A snow-hut for two." Afterwards, supported by a troupe, she contributes some well-executed dancing. The comedy dogs, trick ponies, and jumping dogs of La Belle Duchesse contribute a most entertaining number. The perfection which these animals have reached shows that no small amount of time and patience must have been spent on them. As an encore "La Belle" introduces two boxing horses, which she claims are the only two in the world. A most interesting evening is brought to a conclusion with a series of pictures on the Bioscope.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

Mr. Cecil Paget, the genial manager of this popular South London house, is nightly reporting excellent business consequent on the general excellence of the programme. After an agreeable selection of music by the band, under the able direction of Mr. Julian Goldsmid, the ball is opened by Mr. Arthur Stacey, a smart eccentric comedian and dancer, who is very well received. Miss Harriett Rose, a prepossessing young lady with a tuneful voice, has a good chorus song in "Florrie, you'll be sorry," the refrain of which is taken up heartily by the gallery. The Three Crakes in their comedy act *The Electric-Car Conductor* appear as a tramway inspector, driver, and passenger respectively. Their knockabout and acrobatic business is extremely clever and comical, the audience being kept in a roar of laughter throughout the turn. Mr. C. W. Walker, the blind coloured comedian, assisted by graceful Miss Ida May, renders most agreeably "Down among the sugar-cane," concluding with a skilful dance. The popular pair Barney Armstrong and Kelly meet with a big reception, the comicalities of the diminutive Kelly, who has been aptly styled "the Tich of the North," being especially appreciated.

Fanny and Harry Dent in their unconventional comedy act *The Indian Bottle* appear first as Sicilian mummers, then as English peasants of the Plantagenet period, and finally as Russian dancers, in which last rôle they give a sensational terpsichorean display which brings down the house. Miss Elsie Ellis, a dainty and charming little comedienne, sings with much chic "The girl in the draper's shop" and "I can't understand it, can you?" A warm welcome is accorded to the old favourite Mr. James Fawn, whose ripe humour has ample scope for exhibition in his two side-splitting ditties, "The Magistrate" and "Oh! the honeymoon!"

A most exciting and ingenious sketch of the Sherlock Holmes type is *The Raven's Toll*, which is effectively enacted by Mr. Leonard Mortimer and his able company. A special feature of the production is that the mystery of the playlet is only revealed a few seconds before the fall of the curtain. Mr. Leonard Mortimer gives a fine delineation of the detective Hamilton Cleek; Miss Constance Elgin looks handsome and acts with much ability as the adventuress Brema Sax; and Mr. Sidney T. Pease elicits sympathy as the wronged Dr. Howard. Mr. Harold Brough, Mr. Horace Denton, and Miss Ida Clifford do well in the remaining characters. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope brings a capital programme to a close.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

The programme provided for the patrons of this handsomely appointed house contains an abundance of good things this week. Among the capital items presented, special mention must be made of the airship under wireless control, invented, constructed, and manœuvred by Mr. Raymond Phillips. Mr. Phillips first demonstrates to the audience, by means of his wireless apparatus on the stage, how he can simultaneously ring a bell and ignite tiny electric lamps upon a miniature Christmas tree, by the transmission of the same waves. The model airship is then ballasted in accordance with the temperature of the auditorium, and launched. As may be expected, the skill and dexterity with which this wonderful model is raised, lowered, turned in its own length in the auditorium, and brought back to its original position on the stage, at the will of the inventor, spontaneously evoke enthusiastic and clamorous applause.

Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are responsible for a really funny turn. Their patter is smart and original, and the quaint mannerisms of the tramp, the charming and vivacious dancing of the lady, together with the efforts both throw into their work, cause the turn to go with "snap" and fully merit the appreciation with which it is received. The shy comedian, Jack Pleasants, is the cause of many chuckles with his song, "Liza had hold of my hand." When he sings "Ma," and "I'm shy, Mary Ellen, I'm shy," he reduces the audience to an ecstatic state of merriment.

An entertaining performance is that of the Legay Trio, who dance with extraordinary rapidity, at the same time preserving gracefulness in all their movements. The Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette render several selections with great power, notably "Comrades in Arms" and "Thora." The blending of the voices and the perfect time preserved earn in full the hearty reception with which they are accorded. France and Stewart, in the comedy sketch, entitled *The Little Puritan*, enact their respective rôles most capably; the lady is especially dainty and refreshing. *The Little Puritan* is somewhat unconvincing, and is but slight in texture. The Seven Perezoffs, in their juggling pantomime, *An Evening in a Parisian Café*, create much amusement, and perform their turn most skilfully at whirlwind speed, thus causing a hearty response to their efforts.

Ugo Nap is extremely entertaining at the piano, his imitations of a woman singing, and a violoncello being particularly effective; and Harry Bedford's dancing is as original as it is grotesque. The Biscope, with some up-to-date films, remains a most popular turn. Mr. Ernest Wighton is in charge of the front of the house, and he is assisted in his successful efforts for the comfort of the audience by Mr. W. H. Bexby. A word of praise is due to the orchestra, under the batôn of the able Mr. Fred Camp.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

FLANAGAN.

SUNG WITH ENORMOUS SUCCESS BY MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

MISTER OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST & GREATEST SUCCESS.

DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.
MISS ETHEL LEVEY'S "ALHAMBRA" HIT.

I WISH I LIVED NEXT DOOR TO YOU.
Sung by MISS DAISY DORMER.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS JEN LATONA'S COLISEUM HIT.

THERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW LOOKS LIKE ME
GEORGE LASHWOOD'S LATEST HIT.

PUT ON YOUR TATA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU.

DAVE CARTER'S GREAT SUCCESS.

HE'S A NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY BOY.
CHARLES WHITTLE'S LATEST HIT.

HI! HI! MISTER McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

IN THE OLD DUTCH DAIRY.
THE GREAT SEASIDE SUCCESS.

WE DID ENJOY OURSELVES IN LONDON.
A Great Chorus Song sung by GUS GARRICK and the TWO ARNATOS.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE.
Sung by FRANK CASS.

MY PONY BOY.
MISS NELL EMERALD.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S GREATEST SUCCESS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED.
MISS ADA REEVE.

LA LA LA, SING THIS CHORUS WITH ME.
HERBERT RULE and GEORGE D'ALBERT.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND
TOM COSTELLO'S FURORE.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON.
G. H. ELLIOTT'S LATEST MOON SONG.

SAM.
MISS HELEN TRIX.

IN CHERRY-BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN.
A CHARMING JAPANESE ROMANCE.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun*.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Mr. Mark Sheridan's return to the metropolis has synchronised with what may be termed the rejuvenation of "I do like to be beside the seaside," for this "hardy annual" of mirth and melody has been the genial Mark's sheet-anchor at the Tivoli, Oxford, and Metropolitan, and has been received with thunders of appreciated applause at all three houses.

Mesdames Irene May and Annie Schuberth, at all their London engagements, have been scoring very heavily with Feldman and Co.'s big winner, "Beautiful garden of roses"; while Mr. Leslie Walker, at Margate, has also won plaudits loud and long with the same beautiful ballad.

Mr. Jack Smiles, at the Hippodrome, Croydon, is hugely successful with "Fish Sauce," a Feldman number that should prove very attractive to pantomime comedians this year. He will be singing this song at the Holborn Empire next week.

Messrs. Jordan and Harvey, at the London Pavilion, have been enthusiastically received in their new comedy number "Abraham," which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. publish, and which promises to even eclipse their other great Yiddisher song, published by the same firm, "Sollomon."

Miss Lillie Le Main, at the Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, is eminently successful with Feldman's delightful number, "Marie Louise," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford. This song certainly looks like being one of the most successful dainty character songs issued by the firm of B. Feldman and Co.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

"KOFFO, OF BOND STREET."

Farcical Comedy Sketch, in One Act, Written by Arthur Falkland, with Music by Herman Finck, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Sept. 12.

Captain Dick Hamilton ....Mr. George Graves
Thomas P. Perkins .....Mr. J. B. Gordon
Detective Janord .....Mr. Herbert
Nancy Perkins .....Miss Constance Hyam
Miss Cooper .....Miss Dorothy Monkman

(from our own correspondent.)

The scene of this sketch, in which the popular comedian, Mr. George Graves, made his appearance at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday night, is Koffo's spiritualistic, thought-reading, crystal-gazing establishment in Bond-street. Koffo is apparently lacking in status, for at the opening his typist, Miss Cooper, receives a telegram from him, stating that as the detectives are on his track he will absent himself for a time. This point settled, she is presently disturbed by the advent of a man, who comes into the room as if he is escaping from someone. This is Captain Dick Hamilton (of the Bluffs), otherwise Mr. George Graves, self-described as an incorrigible "nut." He is soon on good terms with the typist, and he tells her, in the typical Gravesian manner, the reason of his coming.

It appears that he is engaged to Nancy Perkins, the daughter of a wealthy stockbroker, who, however, does not approve of his prospective son-in-law. A few nights ago the latter, having undertaken to escort his intended to the theatre, allowed himself to be persuaded by "the boys" to join them instead in a round of dissipation, which ended in a journey to Sandown races, the while Nancy believed, vide his wire to that effect, that he had been called to Scotland. At this moment Nancy is looking in one of the shop windows below, and he has dashed into this place to escape being seen by her. The next thing that happens is the coming of Nancy to see Koffo, and there is nothing for it but that Dick must hide behind the curtains of an ante-room. Nancy will not believe that the magician is not to be seen. She has made up her mind to question him upon the fidelity of her lover. In the midst of her altercation with the typist, out comes Dick, got up in Koffo's clothes. Miss Cooper leaves them together, and the comedy begins. Of course, Dick is able to tell her all sorts of little things, which appear wonderful enough to Nancy. As for conjuring spirits, he makes a bold attempt to call up "Johnny Walker," "Johnny Dewar," and other familiar shades. Adding to the list of his credentials, he assures her that he descended from the Pyramids, and can show the bumps; that his ancestors came over with Cleopatra's Needle; and that he has a pickled aunt in the British Museum.

When he gazes into the crystal, he pretends to see Captain Dick, not in Scotland, where he had intended to go, but in a park, in the act of saving a child from death by a motor-car. Dick is hurt and taken to a hospital. Much distressed, Nancy goes off to find her lover and comfort him, and Dick is about to hurry away and forestall the discovery, when an irascible old man appears. This is Nancy's father, who vilifies the magician because his daughter has intended to consult him on the obnoxious subject of Captain Hamilton; but the latter controls and mystifies the old gentleman by telling him some truths about himself. On the approach of someone, however, he hastily puts the hat and cloak of Koffo on Mr. Perkins. Thus, as the police are wanting Koffo, it is Mr. Perkins who is arrested at this juncture. The return of Nancy gives Dick his cue to appear like an apparition in his own part, with his arm in a sling. Explanations are easy, of course, and there is nothing more to be done save on behalf of Mr. Perkins. The policeman comes forward with Mr. Perkins in charge, still enveloped in the cloak of Koffo. Dick drags the cloak off and announces the old man's identity. He has already brought home to him some of his delinquencies, and he adds another to them now, by committing the typist, Miss Cooper, to his care for the evening, this being not the first time Mr. Perkins has enjoyed the young lady's company. This practically ensures Mr. Perkins's more tolerant regard of his daughter's lover in the future.

These outlines give by no means a full idea of the comedy contained in the whole action and the dialogue. It is amusing from start to finish, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the fun. Mr. Graves's ability—not to say inspiration—in a rôle like that of Captain Dick is too well established to need more than mere mention; the part could not have been better exploited. As Nancy Miss Constance Hyam gave a bright and charming performance; and the same may be said of Miss Dorothy Monkman as Miss Cooper. Mr. J. B. Gordon acted with capital effect as Mr. Perkins; and the remaining rôle of Detective Janord was efficiently played by Mr. Herbert. The scenery is by Mr. Bruce Smith, and the play is produced by Mr. Frank Parker.

The second act of *L'Aiglon*, which Mme. Bernhardt has selected for performance at the Coliseum next week, chiefly consists of business respecting some toy soldiers which Flambeau, an old Napoleonic veteran, has dressed in French uniforms to remind the young Prince of his father's glories. The act, however, contains the celebrated speech in which Flambeau denounces the treasonous Marmont and contrasts his conduct with that of the old private soldiers of Napoleon. In the third act there is the very lively scene in which Flambeau dresses himself up in an old French uniform, and for the moment almost deludes the statesman Metternich into the belief that the clock of time has been put back and that Napoleon, after the battle of Wagram, is asleep in an inner room.

MR. BEN. WOODGER.

Mr. Ben. Woodger, the hard-working and enthusiastic secretary of the Music Hall Home, has been practically in the profession all his life, and he is acquainted with many phases of the music hall and entertainment business. As a youth he was employed at Astley's in spectacular and other work, and early in his career he performed in a lightning drill with rifle, sword, and lance, as one of the combination known as Woodger, Williams, and Waller.

Later, he was an aquatic expert and water pantomimist with Captain Paul Boyton, and was one of

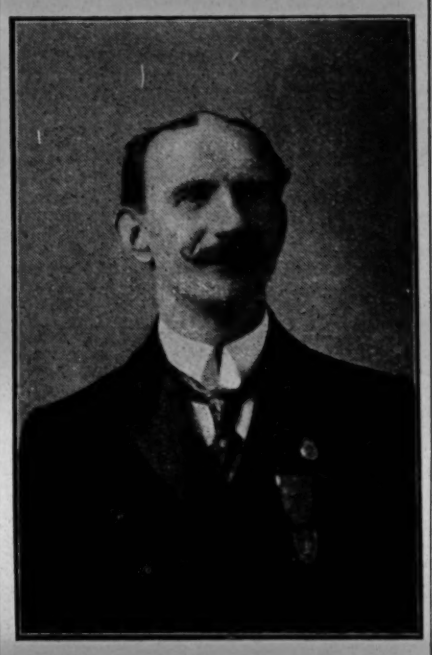

MR. BEN. WOODGER.

the first to walk the Thames, on the 1st May, 1893, walking from Chelsea to the Tower Bridge in water shoes. In the water pantomime, *Ally Sloper's Picnic and Walrus Hunt*, he enacted the one and only Sloper, in Scotland and elsewhere. He was also with the renowned Beckwith Family at the Aquarium, &c., and also produced his own shows at the Crystal Palace. When the first skating boom was on, the versatile Mr. Woodger saw his chance and took it, and in his time was an expert fancy and trick ice and roller skater. In this connection he worked with the Dunedin Troupe, and also in many big productions at Covent Garden, the Alhambra, and the Royal Aquarium (he had charge of the rink here right up to its close). He has also appeared at the Olympia, London, and the Antwerp Exhibition (1894). He has won many trophies and medals for swimming and skating, and in his time travelled extensively the Continent and America, and had many interesting experiences.

A member of the Terriers' Association since 1901 (P.W.T.), and for many years on the committee of the Music Hall Home, Mr. Woodger took over the duties of secretary upon the death of Mr. J. J. Fruin in October, 1907. Working for the fund in the daytime and engaged in the evenings at the Camberwell Empire, where he has been employed ever since the opening, Mr. Woodger, it will be seen, is kept pretty busy. But he delights in hard work, and the increased prosperity of the Music Hall Home is particularly gratifying to its energetic secretary.

SONGS AND PRICES.

to the editor of the era.

Sir,—One is continually hearing complaints anent the difficulty of procuring first-class songs, but it seems to me that the remedy is in the hands of those who complain. Authors and composers invariably work harder and more conscientiously for those who pay them reasonable rates, and it would seem that the best songs are usually sung by the artists who are thus generously encouraging. It may not be inopportune to state herein that one song alone has cost me close on £25, including the special orchestral parts, but I must admit that this was because I sought several brains before the whole scheme of the work was to my satisfaction. The best goods are ever the cheapest in the end, and the finest intellects in the lyric world can only receive impetus by adequate remuneration. I have heard of songs being purchased for 5s., 10s. 6d., and such-like prices, but I fail to discern how a singer can expect to make successes of lyrics turned out at these "cut" figures. Equity makes the world go round: good terms beget sincere authors and composers: sincere authors and composers beget successful artists: successful artists draw the public, and then everybody is satisfied. The moral is clear.—Yours faithfully,

MILLIE HYLTON.

Empire, Liverpool, Sept. 12, 1910.

Master Harry Clark, after a long and successful tour of London halls, has commenced a fifteen weeks' provincial tour, opening at the Grand, Hanley, on Monday.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road. There were present Messrs. W. Bailey (in the chair), Pat Carey (treasurer), T. Carney, A. Drew, S. White, W. Wainratta, H. Jennings (trustee), and R. T. Baines (secretary).

MUSIC-HALL CELEBRITIES.

MR. EDWIN BARWICK.

Leaving the uninteresting surroundings of a barrister's chambers at 9, King's Bench Walk, Temple, Mr. Edwin Barwick in the mid-eighties found himself at Astley's Theatre, Westminster Bridge-road—or Sanger's Amphitheatre, as it was then named. He had previously enjoyed a short experience in ordinary stock business, playing all kinds and conditions of parts in all sorts of plays, and gaining the knowledge that stood him in such good stead when he later on took to vaudeville as a performer solus.

Mr. Barwick's first performance on the variety

MR. EDWIN BARWICK.

stage was in a sketch of William Bailey's—the genial manager of the Metropolitan—*The Pair of Greys*, in which he enacted a peppery Major. Subsequently, through the kindly offices of Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Barwick joined his brother, Fred Williams, in those sketches so popular a score of years ago—*Little Marguerite*, *The Drudge*, *The Magic Teapot*, &c. After two seasons with a company of his own, and playing comedy sketches from his own pen, he launched out as a single turn at the Tivoli, making a decided hit in two character songs, "The Curate" and "Irving on the brain," written by himself, with music by Walter Passmore, his old-time friend and brother worker in pantomime. Mr. Barwick's imitation of Henry Irving has always been among his strongest items, and even at the present day one of his greatest successes is a short imitation of the late illustrious tragedian.

Mr. Edwin Barwick's stage experience has been a wide and varied one. Commencing with the idea that he was a budding Wilson Barrett, and with a love for all parts of a romantic and heroic order, his feelings were cruelly lacerated when he was informed by his first manager after a few weeks' tour that he was a born character comedian. Mr. Barwick has gone through the whole range of parts, from Shakespearean comedy and tragedy to the wildest of flippant farce, and he looks back to the time when at Minehead, Somersetshire, on 'one occasion, he played Nicodemus Nobbs in the farce *Turn Him Out* and Sir Geoffrey Champneys in *Our Boys*, besides singing comic songs between the pieces. On another memorable occasion it was his lot to play Lord Lovel in *The Mistletoe Bough*, the First Robber in *Babes in the Wood*, and Pantaloon in comic scenes—all for a salary of 30s. per week.

Besides playing principal comedian in the most popular pantomimes and in the principal theatres of the United Kingdom for the last twenty years, Mr. Barwick holds the unique record of having written the initial pantomimes for three London theatres—the Broadway, the Coronet, and the Camden. A recent venture of Mr. Barwick's was the production on May 2 at the County Theatre, Kingston, of a new farcical playlet entitled *Sir 'Erbert*, written by Mr. Barton White. In this piece he had the valuable assistance of Miss Emily Spiller, Mr. Fred Morgan, and that droll comedian (in one of his inimitable tramp creations) Mr. Arthur Williams, while he himself played the part of Smiler, an imperturbable and stolid manservant.

Our portrait of Mr. Edwin Barwick represents him in his popular character song, "The Cornet Player," one of his lugubriously funny studies, of the same type as "The Limelight Man" of fourteen years ago at the Palace and "A country cottage" of more recent date, which has helped to stamp him as an artist with a distinct line of his own.

"THE OPEN DOOR."

Dramatic Episode, by Mrs. Richard Pole, Produced at the Standard on Monday, Sept. 12.

Bernard Gaster .....Mr. John Lawson
Kenyon Elman .....Mr. Chas. Stafford
Reg. Parkman .....Mr. V. C. Newman
Mrs. Gaster .....Miss Lucille Sidney

Mr. John Lawson produced yet another dramatic playlet on Monday last—a tragic and interesting episode from the pen of Mrs. Richard Pole, the authoress of *The Devil's Sunday*, that held the attention of the Standard audience throughout. Bernard Gaster is a bank clerk earning £150 a year and living up to a deal more. His absence from home at nights is a source of anxiety to his devoted wife, who is annoyed soon after the opening of the playlet by the unwelcome attentions of Kenyon Elman, a near neighbour in the flats in which the Gasters are living, and whom we learn has Gaster in his power. Gaster owes Elman (also known as Flanders) £400, and the latter presses for immediate payment of the capital, refusing to take the interest.

Gaster, in the toils of a coiner named Parkman, has also forged Elman's signature to several cheques, and a sideboard in his flat contains much counterfeit coin. So that altogether he is in a pretty mess, and his disinclination to take his wife out to dinner is quite understandable. Elman, calling again at Gaster's flat, brings to his wife a present of fruit and flowers, tells her his own wife has been an invalid for years, and makes it plain that if her husband is to escape punishment for his forgery, &c., she must become his mistress.

He has built four walls round Gaster, with but one open door—the sacrifice of his wife's honour. When Gaster comes on the scene and learns Elman's price for his freedom, he would shoot him. But his wife obtains possession of the pistol, tells Elman she will agree to his terms, and orders him to write a pardon for Gaster, and also return the forged cheque, which he does. The wretched Gaster sneeringly refers to her sacrifice, when she turns the revolver on herself, and falls dead at his feet, exclaiming, "This is the open door."

The episode was powerfully presented throughout, Mr. Lawson enacting the erring Bernard Gaster in a quietly intense and nervous style that was very impressive; Miss Lucille Sidney as the self-sacrificing wife contributed an earnest and natural portrayal, her handling of the scenes with Elman being skilfully done; and the disagreeable part of the blackguardly Elman was cleverly undertaken by Mr. Chas. Stafford, Mr. V. C. Newman admirably enacting the coiner, Parkman.

Another sketch new to us in Mr. T. S. Dickie's varied programme was *Ria's Luck*, by Clare Elstob and Dolores Drielsma.

Ria Watson .....Miss Agnese de Llana
Jenny Wilson .....Miss Gertrude de Burgh
Florrie Dawson .....Miss Maud Blaze
Aggie Brown .....Miss Clare Elstob
Bill Lawson .....Mr. Heath Haviland

All the characters in this interesting playlet are employed in Wright's box-making factory, Barnes, and the action takes place in Ria Watson's living-room in Hammersmith. They are indulging in much noisy jollification, for Ria is to be married to Bill Lawson shortly, and her mates have gathered together to make her a presentation of a tea-service. One of the party is, however, not merry, and that is Jenny Wilson. She was a former flame of Bill's, but some misunderstanding had arisen, and he had transferred his affections to Ria. She has also only just recovered from a serious accident. But she smilingly wishes Ria happiness and joins in the congratulations which are showered on the red-haired box-maker, when her companions learn that she has come into a little fortune. Ria's luck is in!

Ria sees how distressed Jenny is, and does all she can to cheer her up, eventually telling her to go to an inner room to rest. Ria then goes off to join her convivial companions. Jenny, coming back into the room encounters Bill, and the misunderstandings of the past are explained. Ria, who has been a witness of the scene, decides that Jenny and Bill are meant for each other, and returning to the room declares to her companions, who have also come back, that she has been hoaxing them all the time. It is to be Jenny's wedding, not hers. Bill would be staunch to Ria, but she insists that he loves Jenny, and packs them both off, breaking down when left alone again.

Miss Agnese de Llana submitted a capital impersonation of the Cockney girl, Ria, particularly impressive being the episode where she decides to give up Bill; Jenny Wilson was quietly and naturally undertaken by Miss Gertrude De Burgh; and the other parts were all creditably played.

Miss Janet Gardner, a young Glasgow lady, made her first professional appearance in her native city on Thursday (8th) at the Pavilion matinée, when she gave a musical monologue which was well received.

Miss Gardner is a protegée of Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who discovered her as a pupil in the Glasgow Athenæum, and at once engaged her to tour the States and Canada in principal parts and as understudy. She has been appearing in London since then.

ANOTHER FELDMAN HIT.

MISTER PAT O'HARE.

PRINCIPAL BOYS, HEAR GEORGE LASHWOOD'S NOVELTY SONG.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 24.*)

MISS MARIE SANTOR is this week one of the chief attractions at the Hippodrome, Brighton, where her Japanese sketch is meeting with terrific and well-merited applause. Two of the chief items in this merry trifle are written and composed by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, the first being an appropriate song entitled "Here's another one off to Japan," in which Miss San-toi is assisted by a bevy of charming ladies. The second item is that delightful ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." This number "brings down the house" every time, and is now hummed and whistled all over Brighton. The Star Music Co. publish both songs.

MISS EDNA LATONNE, who has just concluded a wonderfully successful London season, is this week at the King's Theatre, Dundee, where she is specially featuring three of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's numbers, "Homeland, good-bye," "What's the matter with London?" and, in particular, that fine chorus song, "She was a girl in white." This is received with uproarious applause, and surely never was a chorus taken up with more enthusiasm than this one. The Star Music Co. have struck a great winner in this catchy number, copies of which are adorned with Miss Latonne's photograph in characteristic costume.

MISS JESSIE TEMPLETON is this week scoring a tremendous success at the South London Palace with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's new chorus song, "She was a dollar Princess," the refrain being taken up unanimously by packed houses. Principal girls who desire a song with humorous pointed verses as well as an exceedingly catchy chorus should secure a copy of this delightful song from the Star Music Co.

LLOYD MORGAN, who is this week with his own company at the Pier Pavilion, Bournemouth, is featuring no less than four of the Star Music Co.'s numbers, including "There's a little cot in Dover," by Harrington and Lane, "My wife's gone to the country" (Ted Snyder's great American song), and A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's two fine numbers, "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" and "I wonder if you miss me sometimes." Mr. Morgan has had so many applications for copies of the two last numbers that he decided to supply the demand. Telegram succeeded telegram, and close on five hundred copies were dispatched to him by the Star Music Co. up to the time of going to press. Lloyd Morgan is not only a smart light comedian, but an energetic man of business.

ANDIE CAINE, who is with his concert party at Filey, which is "up North," has made a special feature of the Star Music Co.'s songs this season, and has had quite an unprecedented demand for copies of these numbers, particularly Alf. J. Lawrance and George Arthurs' pretty song, "Hide Bunny, here comes a man."

MISS ELSIE KERRY, that delightfully dainty daughter of Erin, has been doing big things lately with Aylmer Lee and Maurice Scott's catchy chorus song, "Love is like a balloon." Her reputation has been considerably enhanced by her arch rendering of this fine song. Miss Kerry has in study another of the Star Music Co.'s winners, of which more anon.

HARRY BANCROFT, who is this week at the Chelsea Palace, has been associated with many popular ballads. He is just now exploiting a really excellent number by Charles Ridgewell, entitled, "'Tis years and years ago since our wedding day." Without doubt, this is the best song of its kind this favourite vocalist has had, and the Star Music Co. anticipate a great vogue for the well-written and melodious morceau.

MISS CASSIE WALMER, who has added so much to her popularity her her clever interpretation of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's novelty song, "Good-bye, Ebenezer," has secured from the same writers a worthy successor to this big winner. It is entitled "Anna Maria," and possesses limitless possibilities for the eccentric character impersonations in which Miss Walmer excels.

MR. ARTHUR BLOUNT concludes his summer tour to-night at Portsmouth, and returns to town for the winter season.

MR. J. M. GLOVER'S Drury Lane orchestra brought an eminently successful season to a close yesterday (Friday) at the Bexhill Kursaal.

MESSRS. CARL AND CARR commence the Moss-Stoll tour on Monday, opening at the Empire, New Cross, with the Coliseum to follow, in *A Drawing-room Interlude*.

MISS MINNIE D'AUBYN, the popular vocalist and successful principal boy, who will be playing her sixth consecutive pantomime this Christmas, and who has scarcely had any time out for the last eight years, is fast booking up 1911 and 1912, including the Syndicate halls.

THE latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 7-16; Empire, 15s. paid, 1⅞; Empire, 10s. paid, 1½; London Pavilion (5), 2⅝; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 4½; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires (5), 3½; Oxford (5), 6⅞; Palace Theatre, 9s. paid, 15-16 xd; Tivoli, New (5), 6 xd.

ONE of the cleverest juggling acts at present before the public is being performed nightly at the Empire Theatre by the troupe of Perezoffs. The scene is set in a restaurant, where the waiters are preparing for the evening. A party of two ladies and two gentlemen arrive, and are entertained by the maitre d'hotel and his staff, who relieve them of their cloaks, &c., by the most astounding methods. Eventually the diners join in the fray, and the act closes with plates, glasses, flower bowls, &c., flying in every direction on the stage.

MME. YVETTE GUILBERT is about to found a school in Paris where the art of singing decent songs is to be taught. It is true that her songs have not always been above reproach, but there is a wide margin between her contributions and the songs that are sung in many French music halls, where frank indecency too often takes the place of wit. She will take gratuitously a number of promising pupils from the working classes; but the school will also be open to more ambitious singers.

AN "extra" in the attractive programme at the Holborn Empire on Saturday afternoon last was the performance of Gates's British Burlesque Band, a combination of some thirty instrumentalists, whose selections were loudly acclaimed. The conductor, in Russian costume, wields the bâton with much energy and no little originality, and his business with the gentleman who manipulated the big drum was responsible for much laughter. In a descriptive piece the resourceful instrumentalist-comedian-knockabout was particularly funny. His antics with the drum, which for the moment becomes a motor-car, and as a policeman, who punishes the drum severely, are very ludicrous. All the selections were admirably played and keenly enjoyed, and at the conclusion conductor and band were frequently recalled. The British Burlesque Band supplies a novel and attractive interlude that will undoubtedly soon be seen on the London halls.

"THE PRICE OF PEACE."

Sketch, in Four Scenes, Adapted by Cecil Raleigh and R. Heaton Grey, from the former's Drama of the same name, and Produced at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre on Monday, Sept. 12.

Earl of Derwent ..... MR. WALTER GAY
The Hon. John Addiscott, M.P. MR. ARTHUR T. LENNARD
Sir Henry Delabere, M.P. MR. EDWARD JEPHSON
Marcus Benton ..... MR. RAYMOND WOOD
Count Ostadine ..... MR. FRANK WOODVILLE
Lady Kathleen Rossmagh .. MISS KITTY LOFTING

The difficulties of compressing a Drury Lane drama into a half-hour's sketch would appear to be insuperable, but the author of *The Price of Peace*, in combination with Mr. R. Heaton Grey, has done so in an effective manner, preserving most of the exciting incidents and arriving at a sensational ending. It is ten years almost to the day that *The Price of Peace* was produced at the National Theatre, and it is well therefore to recall the leading features of the plot. It will be remembered that Marcus Benton, the villain of the piece, induces Lady Kathleen Rossmagh, the daughter of Earl of Derwent, Prime Minister of England, to deliver to him a code message the publication of which would precipitate a war and involve the loss of thousands of British lives. Unable to read the code, Benton hands it to Count Ostadine, the agent of a foreign Power, who proceeds to make a copy of its contents. The Prime Minister, contrasting the issues at stake, determines that the death of Ostadine is the only way to preserve peace, gets the Count brought into his library, and there deliberately shoots him dead. It is given out that Ostadine has committed suicide, but Benton guesses the real state of affairs, and in an endeavour to overthrow the Government practically accuses Derwent of the crime from the floor of the House. The Earl does not deny the charge, but replies by denouncing Denton as a would-be traitor, and then succumbs to an attack of heart disease.

The production is that of Mr. Harry Selwyn, and is on a most elaborate scale, the Ball at the Prime Minister's Mansion and the Interior of the House of Commons being realised down to every detail. The cast is an able one, and includes that practised actor Mr. Walter Gay, who gave a finished performance of the Prime Minister. The effect of the dramatic scene in the Premier's Library was well worked up by Mr. Gay, and both the long speech in which he vindicates his action and of the succeeding delivery in the House were excellent feats of memory as well as fine elocutionary efforts, no flaw being perceptible throughout. There is little love interest in the playlet, but Miss Kitty Lofting availed herself fully of the opportunities presented in the part of Lady Kathleen Rossmagh, playing with much tenderness and emotional skill. A characteristic study of Count Ostadine was given by Mr. Frank Woodville, who was very effective in his defiance of Earl Derwent, and the sinister nature of Marcus Benton was thoroughly suggested by Mr. Raymond Wood. Mr. Arthur T. Lennard and Mr. Edward Jephson acted with sincerity and force as the Earl's faithful supporters. The production, which was rehearsed under the personal supervision of Mr. Cecil Raleigh, was heartily received by a crowded house.

FRANK HARDIE AND COMPANY are next week at the Granville, Walham Green, and Standard, Pimlico. At the former they play *The Honour of the Regiment*, and at the latter *Pedlar Sam*.

A CHAT WITH "MY FANCY."

It was on a Sunday afternoon when our representative rang the bell at the home of "My Fancy." He was not expected, nor was the purport of his visit known. He heard a musical voice in the drawing-room ring out: "Why, why, yes, do come in. So glad to see you! We've only just got in from Birmingham, and this is the first time I've been in the place. We're all

[*Photo by Langfier.*

"MY FANCY."

upside down, so you'll forgive the muddle. Sit right down, and, excuse me, I was just unpacking. I've got to get my 'props' ready for to-morrow." A glance round convinced him that if "My Fancy's" idea of muddle was what he could see around him, well, what would tidiness be? He did not think he had ever been in such an ideal homestead. Everywhere was the sign of artistic temperament; articles of vertu, bric-a-brac, quaint souvenirs from almost unknown lands, æsthetic decorations, and an air of lofty taste in art. As for muddle—why, no such thing. It was "My Fancy's" banter. "I was just thinking," she prattled on, "what a glorious motto that is, '*Nil desperandum*'; you know I never despair. I can't. Everybody should set out with the great resolve to work and have patience. Take our profession, for instance. It looks easy to amuse everybody. Look at the thousands of stage aspirants who get thoroughly discouraged because they perhaps draw a few blanks at the start. Look at those who do so in the middle of their careers—why? They inevitably go down the scale, don't they? Why, then? Faint heart—that's it. I always say that a kind word of encouragement to a despairing fellow artist often stimulates him or her into new life. That's my sentiment. Let's all do it!

"Once upon a time in the old one-night stand shows out West, we got stranded—two girls and our old lady guardian. No money, no anything. After a long, wet tramp we struck a railroad camp, and, by the way, a more villainous crowd of evil-looking men I don't think it's been my experience to see. There were blacks, whites, and sickly yellow ones, all railroad cutters, probably the scum of the West. They didn't wait for us to say anything. They simply swarmed round, and, but for a wild-looking Texan, who, I suppose, wanted to shine as a 'champion,' we girls would have tasted some very unsavoury attentions. However, after a few pacific measures in the shape of 'guns up, hands up,' it was explained who and what we were, and what we could do. 'Would we dance?' 'Yes.' Then started the strangest entertainment you could dream of. For two solid hours we took it in turns, my companion and I, to dance jigs, flings, anything, on the stump of an enormous cedar tree, to the accompaniment of the motliest music imaginable. Sometimes it was 'Yankee Doodle,' sometimes 'The Old Folks at Home,' sometimes our own National Anthem, and occasionally a selection from Moody and Sankey's hymns. Any old time was kept. Some whistled the tune, some hummed, some beat it out on tin cans—pannikins, they call them—some hammered it with big sledge hammers on the steel rails, and some tried to dance it out. Oh, what a corroboree! Ah, but they gave us 123 dollars and let us go—and we were happy."

"I had another comical experience, but this time in Wales—Abbotsvale, I think. When I got there I was astounded to find only three items on the bill. So I sought out the manager, and asked him when I could rehearse. Says he, 'Any time you like.' Says I, 'Where's the band?' Says he, 'We've got *one*.' Then it dawned upon me. He was the all-in-all—manager, stage manager, the band, and the other two items on the bill. And this was the programme, which started at 8 p.m.:

1. Grand selection on piano ..... Manager
2. Half an hour Pictures ..... Manager
3. Ten minutes (Top of the Bill) .. My Fancy
4. Half an hour Pictures ..... Manager
5. Ten minutes Performing Dogs .... Manager
6. Ten minutes Piano ..... Manager
7. Half an hour Pictures ..... Manager
8. Finale ..... Manager

"I stood this for one week. How long he lasted I don't know, but he was full of my maxim, 'Work and patience.'"

And so, one after another, "My Fancy" reeled out quaint little yarns, interspersed with still quainter observations.

STAR MUSIC CO., LTD.

AGAIN REMOVE TO LARGER PREMISES,

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

(*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*).

BAND PARTS . In this key . 1/-

THIS IS "IT."

Published in 3 Keys.

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES
(I WONDER IF YOU CARE).

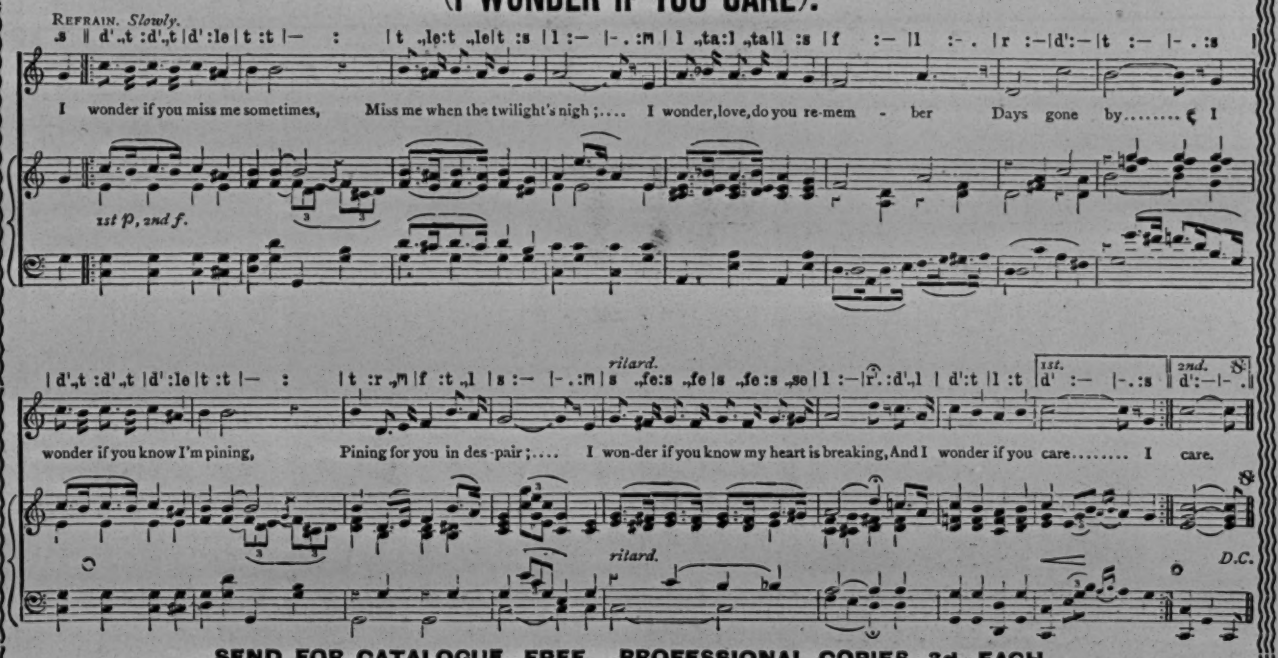

SEND FOR CATALOGUE, FREE. PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH.
Applicants must state whether Required for Music Halls, Theatres, or Concert Work, &c.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

LOOK OUT FOR THE "CORONATION LANCERS," TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP

A MEETING of the Heads of Departments Association Committee was held on Tuesday, when several applications for membership were considered. On the request of Mr. Ian Robertson a member of his staff was elected a member subject to the payment of an entrance fee of £5 and twelve months' contributions. It was decided to approve the rates of pay for Heads of Departments engaged by the promoters of Sunday entertainments in London, as announced by the National Committee. It was also agreed to reprint the rules and circulate them generally.

THE following members of the National Association of Theatrical Employees are now in America or on the way, or will shortly leave for that place:—Mr. E. S. Dawson, with Mr. C. W. Hart, at the Colonial Theatre, N.Y.; Mr. Harry Porter, master carpenter with Mr. Weedon Grossmith, leaves for Montreal this week; Mr. W. P. Tritchler, property master with Mr. Ian Robertson, leaves shortly for New York; Mr. H. S. Henby returns with Miss Maud Allan; Mr. W. Hersey leaves for New York as master carpenter for Mr. Forbes Robertson. All these members will have letters and credentials from the Association to the American Alliance of Stage Employees.

THE National Association of Theatrical Employees, the Variety Artists' Federation, and the Amalgamated Musicians' Union have contributed several resolutions to the agenda of the Trade Union Congress held in Sheffield this week. Mr. William Johnson, General Secretary of the N.A.T.E., who was to have moved the first resolution on behalf of the three societies, was prevented from attending the Congress owing to the serious illness of his wife, who has undergone a serious operation at the Bolingbroke Hospital this week, but is fortunately, making good progress.

THE following resolution was proposed by Mr. J. B. Williams, General Secretary of the Musicians' Union, and seconded by Mr. W. H. Clemart, Chairman of the Variety Artists' Federation:—"That this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to assist by deputation and other effective means the National Association of Theatrical Employees, the Variety Artists' Federation, and the Amalgamated Musicians Union to prevent the opening of places of amusement on Sundays by way of trade or for the personal gain of the proprietors of such places of amusement, and thus avert the imposition of a compulsory seven days' working week upon employees, artists, and musicians."

IN proposing the resolution, Mr. Williams said musicians and indeed all connected with the theatrical and music hall profession were, he was afraid, in danger of having a seven working day week instead of six. The system had already been introduced in regard to the seaside resorts in summer. Of course, it was quite optional, so they were always told, whether they worked on the seventh day. The option came in this way: In applying for these summer engagements they were told that if they did not work on the seventh day they could not have an engagement. Thus it was truly optional. He did not object to concerts on Sundays in aid of some charity, but in these cases the proprietors always thought that charity began at home. They fixed the management charges, and when one charitable organisation protested against the smallness of the proceeds for a Sunday concert, a director informed them that they were lucky to get anything at all. They wanted an end put to what he could only describe as these "bogus charity Sunday concerts." They were the thin end of the wedge for the introduction of a seven working day week in the music hall world, which of course would have to be done for the six-day week money. Sometimes big fees were given to musicians for playing on Sundays, but in time these disappeared or were made up by reducing the amount paid for the performances during the week. If places of amusement were opened regularly on Sunday shops in the same street as a hall would have to open. Let them take down their shutters, and others in the immediate neighbourhood would also want to open because of the loss they would sustain compared with their rivals; and so it would go on until we had the Continental system established here. He did not want to see the Continental practice introduced in England.

MR. W. CLEMART, Variety Artists' Federation, said there was, he thought, a tendency towards the Continental idea of seven working days to the week. Variety artists were workers, and should have their day of rest. Often they did not get it, because they had to spend Sunday travelling to the next town. In some towns in America there were three performances daily in six days in the week, and on the seventh no less than four shows were given, all in the same house. The resolution was agreed to without further discussion.

WE understand that the Sunday Defence Committee have been waiting for the result of the reception by the Congress of this resolution before taking further action in the matter of the Sunday entertainments now being given in London. Now that the allied societies composing the Sunday Defence Committee have secured the support of the Trade Unions throughout the United Kingdom (the Congress represents upwards of two millions of organised men and women), they can rely with confidence upon an effective response to their action by the Trade Unionists of the Metropolitan area, and no doubt a communication will at once be made to all the labour organisations concerning those halls where entertainments are given on Sundays and having special reference to the electric theatre shows, where it is well known the employees are poorly paid, and practically compelled to work on Sundays without extra pay.

IN addition to the foregoing resolution the A.M.U. had other resolutions down on the Congress agenda having particular interests for musicians. These were duly submitted and approved, unanimously, as follows:—"That the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to assist the Musicians' Union to obtain a reform in the law, so that musicians will be placed on the same level as other wage-earners in regard to the recovery by legal procedure of money due for services rendered."

"THAT this Congress reaffirms the condemnation of the action of the Government in allowing Army and Navy bandsmen to compete with civilian musicians, and instructs the Parliamentary Committee to again bring this matter before the Cabinet Ministers, and so assist the Musicians' Union to put an end to the competition of Army and Navy bandsmen against civilian musicians, a great many of whom through this competition are thrown out of employment and deprived of their means of livelihood."

THE Stage Employees' Association Committee are again to have the pleasure of giving the annual concert in aid of the Employees' Benevolent Fund at the London Coliseum, Mr. Oswald Stoll having generously consented to lend this fine house for the purpose. The date selected is Sunday evening, Nov. 20. Mr. William Johnson, the hon. secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, will be glad to hear from those who will kindly assist, and also from employees who will volunteer to sell tickets.

"WHICH do you consider the better dancer, the carefully trained or the self-taught?" she archly inquired. "Why ask me?" I appeal. "Because I don't know myself. Do you know I've never had a lesson in my life. My dancing creations come to me almost spontaneously, but the curious fact is they remain with me in splendid consistency. That is to say, once executed, there is no variation, and I can go back to them—even those I created when a little girl. By the way, have you ever tried to rub your chest with your left hand and pat your hand with your right and dance a double-shuffle at the same time? No? Well, that's as near as makes no difference to the dance I execute in my scena, 'Spring, Summer, and Winter,' when I tear paper patterns all the time. You wouldn't think it. Try it. Isn't it a diversified movement? Great fun at a Christmas party, eh? I'm going to show Scotchmen a real brand-new kind of a Highland fling in a day or two. It's my own invention. Do you know what 'winging' is? Well, I'm going to do both 'double' and 'single.' Scots wha hae! Probably I shall do it at the London Coliseum, where I open a 'starring' engagement on Monday next, Sept. 19, with my big scena already spoken of. And now I think I must be busy. I've a lot to do, and little time to do it in."

Inwardly our representative wished that "My Fancy" had another hour to spare him, but she is so volatile that too much talking and no work do not agree with her amiable nature, so alone he took another glance round her artistic home and departed.

MR. SAM SHIPLEY'S success in South Africa is marked, his new songs being decidedly popular with the Cape and Johannesburg folk.

American Vaudeville Artists in England.

AMERICANS IN ENGLAND AND ELSEWHERE.

[By Americus.]

Comedy Cyclist Ahearn Ill.

News was received the early part of the week of the illness of Chas. Ahearn, who has a clever comedy troupe of cyclists, who played the Hippodrome and Stoll time last year. Mr. Ahearn was stricken down with an attack of appendicitis while en route from New York to play an engagement at Keith's, Philadelphia. He was forced to turn back before arriving at his destination, and came on to New York, where an operation was decided upon. He was taken to hospital, where he was operated on the following day. News received this week states that Mr. Ahearn is getting along nicely. The act was booked for a return over the Stoll tour, and was supposed to open this month.

Al Reeves Sailing

Al Reeves, a brother to Billy Reeves, and manager for America of Fred Karno's companies, sails on Tuesday for Montreal with a company of Karno's comedians. In a répertoire of Karno's sketches *Wow Wows* has been the one selected to open with in America. Either *Justice Perkins* or *Jimmy the Fearless* would go well, and I hardly think there could be any mistake made with either, for both the latter sketches will appeal to the patrons of variety in the States, particularly through the fact that there is plenty of action and plot throughout.

Jack Hayman goes To-day.

I am informed that Mr. Jack Hayman sails for America to-day to take the place made vacant last spring by Mr. Llewellyn Johns as American representative of the Stoll tour. They often say in show business that it is a pretty hard job to follow a similar act which makes a big hit right ahead of you. Mr. Johns dug up some good stuff while in America for the Stoll tour, all of which registered big hits the first crack out of the box. His continued success in picking out live ones for the English halls gained him a prestige all over America and England as the foremost critic in vaudeville. He was very frequently quoted by the Press of the States, and more frequently interviewed on questions bearing upon international variety or theatrical matters. I wish Mr. Jack Hayman bon voyage and good luck.

The United Booking Offices.

This office books the Keith Circuit, Canadian Circuit, Percy Williams's house, and many more, and can give forty weeks of the big time, with more to follow. The general-manager is Mr. Ed. Albee, who has supervision over all acts booked. His lieutenants are S. K. Hodgdon, Phil Nash, and Dan Hennessey, all located at Long Acre Building, New York City, U.S.A.

Western Vaudeville, Chicago, Ill.

The Western Vaudeville offices are located in Majestic Theatre Building, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A. The manager is Mr. C. A. Bray, with two able lieutenants, Mr. Carry Meagher and Joe Hayman. This circuit can play acts of value indefinitely. It is said that middle-priced acts can play two years in the vicinity of Chicago alone.

Orpheum Circuit.

Mr. Martin Beck is general-manager of the Orpheum Circuit in the United States, and the offices are located in Long Acre Building, Times-square, New York City, U.S.A. All bookings for this circuit are under the supervision of Mr. Beck and his American lieutenant, Mr. Frank Vincent, and Mr. W. Passpart, Randvoll House, Charing Cross-road, London. The former has charge of the American acts, while all English and foreign acts must apply to Mr. Passpart. The circuit guarantees twenty-four to thirty weeks, and can play high-class acts many more weeks.

Watching Americans Arrive and Depart.

Russell and Held are the big people in Southampton this week. These clever performers' names appear at the top of the biggest bills in vaudeville by virtue of the fact that they do something on the stage which their patrons of variety appreciate. The junior member of the team is to be seen down at the landing stage every morning, especially when the American steamer either arrives or departs. And to say she has felt quite a little homesick is putting it mildly. While the senior member, Fred Russell, is pounding his ear and dreaming of some idea how he can get even with the Blackpool club juggler for keeping him up all night.

For the Empire.

Sam Stern, who has done so nicely at the Coliseum this week, was booked for an engagement of four weeks at the Empire, Leicester-square. Sam says, "Not a big riot, but continually growing popular each day."

Kaufman Troupe Big.

Nick Kaufman and Wallace Bradley do enjoy to sit out in the nice cushion seats of the Palace and note how pleased the audiences are with their offering.

Natt Wills Honoured.

At the big Press dinner given at the Hotel Cecil last week Natt Wills was invited from the Palace to entertain, which he did. Now, before going any further, did you ever hear Natt and Hertence at a smoker? Natt don't tell these only at a smoker, consequently the Press boys had a half-hour's good laugh, which they enjoyed immensely.

Harry Olson.

The clever American black-faced comedian put on another number last week at the Empire, New Cross. To say the number was a big success would be putting it mildly. He was a riot of laughter before he finished.

Wallace Bradley's Gift.

Nick Kaufman has been very happy the past week. The champion bike-rider was always a great lover of sweet potatoes, so Mr. Bradley did not forget his little brother-in-law when leaving New York. He brought back a few barrels of sweet potatoes, green corn (on the ear), and Rochester jam. In fact, everything came from Rochester. For Rochester is the only city in America, anyway, and is the home of the Kaufmans—that is, all except Nick.

Don't Mind It.

Tommy Dawe had Nick Kaufman and Earle Reynolds out looking over some of the Karno sketches. Reynolds and Kaufman liked *Jimmy the Fearless* and *Justice Perkins* for America. It cost 36s. to go the rounds, but Tommy don't care for money.

Ike Rose in Paris.

Herr Isaac Rose, the German impresario, is in Paris this week at the Olympia, where he has the two Bohemia Twins showing. The little freaks are a big draw at every place.

Terry and Lambert.

This clever duo have established themselves as English favourites, and both represent two fine types of real Americans who do not find fault with everything English. They are booked for an indefinite time here in Great Britain.

RUSSELL and HELD.
AMERICA'S LEADING SINGERS & DANCERS.

WILLY PANTZER & CO.,
STOLL TOUR.

SPISSELL BROS. and MACK.
AMERICAN ECCENTRICS AND PANTOMIMISTS, IN A QUIET LITTLE SUPPER.
Aug. 29 to Sept. 24, TOWER, BLACKPOOL. A FEW VACANT DATES.

EMERSON and BALDWIN.
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL. Six Weeks.

SIX AMERICAN DANCERS.
PALACE THEATRE, LONDON.

THOSE CLUB FELLOWS.
5 MOWATTS 5
DRESDEN, GERMANY.

HARRY JOLSON.
EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

RINALDO.

S. and G. AUER.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

NAT WILLS.
Re-engaged at PALACE, LONDON.

MISS MABEL BERRA.

SAM STERN. NOT AN INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS, BUT GROWING POPULAR.
EMPIRE, LEICESTER-SQUARE, Soon.

NICK KAUFMAN.
Refined Cycle Troupe. Special Engagement PALACE THEATRE, LONDON.

CAPT. SPAULDING. The Man who Made Vesuvius Jealous.
Hottest Act in any Music Hall.

TERRY & LAMBERT, JACK and MABEL.
ALHAMBRA, LONDON, Exclusive.

MY FANCY, "The Dancer."
LONDON COLISEUM.
"WINTER, SPRING, AND SUMMER."

Go Next Week.

Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donegan go to Berlin the latter part of next week, where they are billed to open at the Winter Garden on Oct. 1.

Mr. E. E. Meredith has sent the following notes from Chicago:—

Mlle. Vanity, who has signed with *The Kissing Girl* for another season, appeared at the American Music Hall in Chicago week of Aug. 29 with her "picks." It was her second appearance at that house within a few months. Her dancing has made a big hit on this side.

Cæsar Rivoli, who has been in America for two years, has contracts which keep him in the middle west (in and around Chicago) until November. Arturo Bernardi, who also does a protean act, is playing the Orpheum circuit for a second time.

Hill and Sylvianny, who have been on this side for three years, are booked up again by William Morris.

Henri French, manager, agent, and artist, played at the Majestic in Chicago week of Aug. 22, and had two more weeks of the Orpheum time. They put him on second at the Majestic and moved him up to fifth after the first performance.

The Heras Family is playing fairs in the middle west under the direction of the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association.

Kroneman Brothers, who recently finished the Orpheum circuit, have signed up with William Morris.

John Considine announces the opening of a London office, with B. Overmyer in charge. This will give Sullivan and Considine a much better opportunity to get foreign acts.

The Bonhair Troupe, which has been in this country a few months, starts on the Sullivan and Considine tour in November.

Fred Zobedie is to get married.

The Wartenburg Brothers are playing fairs around Chicago.

Zona Vevey is making a big hit in America. She began her second week at the American Music Hall Aug. 29.

"The Barnyard Romeo" opened a new American music hall in Omaha, Neb., Aug. 29, for Morris.

William O'Clare is now doing a "single," which is bringing him into favourable notice.

The circuses are having a prosperous season. Business was very big in the early summer, and is satisfactory now.

THE LATE E. F. COLVERD.

In the presence of a large gathering of sorrowing friends, the funeral took place on Wednesday (14th inst.) of the late Mr. Edward F. Colverd, of the Father Redcap, Camberwell Green, who passed away on Saturday last, after a brief illness, at the age of thirty-seven years.

The deceased was a son of the popular comedian, the late Jovial Joe Colverd, and brother to Mr. Arthur Reece, Mr. Arthur Boyne, and Miss José Colverd, who are well known in the variety and theatrical world; whilst his esteemed wife is a daughter of Mr. Thomas Holden, of marionette fame.

The cortège left the deceased's residence at 11.30 a.m. for Nunhead Cemetery, where the interment took place, the body, which was enclosed in a shell, with an outer coffin of polished oak, with massive brass mountings, being borne in a glass-panelled hearse. Six mourning coaches followed, the principal mourners being Mrs. Colverd (the widow), the Misses Dorothy and Violet Colverd (daughters), Master Tom Colverd (son), Mr. Arthur Reece, Mr. Arthur Boyne, Mr. Charles Colverd, Mr. Geo. Colverd, Mr. Henry Colverd, and Mr. Frank Colverd (brothers), Mrs. Isaacs and Miss José Colverd (sisters), Mrs. A. Boyne, Mrs. H. Colverd, Mrs. A. Reece, Mrs. C. Colverd, and Miss Ethel Holden (sisters-in-law), Mrs. Sendle, Mr. and Mrs. James Holden and family, and Messrs. Frank and Arthur Colverd (nephews). Then followed a number of private carriages containing several well-known local residents.

In addition to handsome floral tributes sent by the widow and family and the whole of the other mourners, there were choice wreaths from Messrs. Newham and Latimar, Miss Ada Holden, the Misses Emberson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bryson, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Fossett, the staff at the Camberwell Palace, Mr. Edwin Lawrence and company, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve, Mr. Lew Lake, Mrs. Ellis (of the Borough Theatre, Stratford), Mrs. A. E. Abrahams, the staff at the Father Redcap and Charlie, some friends at Forest Gate, some customers and friends at the Father Redcap, Mrs. Pryor (of the Castle, Camberwell-road), Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mills (of Putney), Mr. and Mrs. Garrard, some customers of the Duke of Clarence, Mr. Joe Blake, Mr. and Mrs. Kohler, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, the Misses Dawson and Tyler, &c. The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. J. T. Wybrow and Sons, Upper Kennington-lane.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London). 5s. *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*
Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*
Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of this work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To everyone connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.—*The Encore.*

MAKING MYSTERY.

The cartoon given below is reproduced from *Variety*, the American vaudeville paper, from the issue of Sept. 3, by the kind permission of the London representative.

The cartoon shows how the Americans consider the present vaudeville situation in the States. It shows also the different opposition circuits and so forth, and has caused quite a good many laughs among the Americans, as well as the many English artists who have played these circuits which the men represent.

Mr. Pat Casey is the king of the vaudeville booking agents in America, and it is said that he handles close on to 1,500 acts.

The two gentlemen in the victoria are General-Manager Martin Beck, of the Great Orpheum Circuit, and William Morris, of the William Morris Circuit, which has a string of opposition theatres to the United Booking Offices, or formerly known as the Keith Circuit in the East. The two gentlemen on horses are General-Manager Albee, of the United Booking Offices, which controls the bookings of many affiliated circuits of theatres, and B. F. Keith, who is the pioneer in American vaudeville, and who owns many large variety theatres outright, besides being a large stockholder in many other music halls in the East.

The cartoon shows clearly the uneasiness and the unsettled condition of American vaudeville just at present, which has been caused by the numerous reports of the intended affiliation of the Orpheum Circuit and William Morris, which at this date has not yet come to pass. In case of an affiliation of this kind being promoted, it would give the Orpheum Circuit, which now confines its business to the Middle West and West, an entrance to New York City and the East, which is now governed by the United Booking Offices, thereby giving the Orpheum Circuit a chain of theatres reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, of which possibly sixty weeks of big time could be given the highest-class vaudeville acts in the business.

During this time of unsettled condition of the American vaudeville, it is reported that B. F. Keith has purchased large blocks of stock in the Middle West theatres, i.e., in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and Louisville, which will give him a splendid opportunity to fight the progressive Orpheum manager in case he joins with Morris.

THE future of the Aquarium and the Municipal Band was the subject of considerable discussion at the meeting of the Brighton Town Council on Thursday. Mr. Griffith moved that all questions relating thereto should be referred to a representative committee of the Council. While arguing that Brighton could afford the best band procurable, he urged the necessity of separating it financially from the Aquarium.

MR. HUEN, however, said the tide seemed to be turning in regard to both concerns, for on the previous day, when there were three orchestral performances, no fewer than 2,240 people paid for admission. The motion was defeated.

IN connection with the proceedings of the Finance Committee, Alderman Colbourne stated, as showing the increased popularity of Brighton as a residential resort, that the produce of the penny rate—£3,435—was larger than it had been during any period of the last three years. Houses were letting most satisfactorily.

American Roller Rink, Glasgow.

A SMOKE ABATEMENT EXHIBITION, under the auspices of the Glasgow Corporation, is now being held at the American Roller Rink, Victoria-road, Glasgow. This will delay the reopening of the skating season at this rink until about Oct. 22. Mr. G. M. Wells, who is now managing the Tournament Hall Rink, Liverpool, will return to Glasgow for his third consecutive season at the rink's reopening, due announcement of which will be made in these columns.

Pontefract Pavilion Rink.

AFTER being repainted and decorated and the floor resurfaced, the Pontefract Pavilion Rink was opened on Saturday last. About 400 persons paid for admission. Mr. C. W. Hill (late manager of the Mexborough Grand Rink) has been engaged as manager for the coming season. He hopes to introduce the Bioscope to his patrons in the course of a few days. A military band is in attendance at all the sessions.

LONDON HIPPODROME OUTING.

The front of the house staff of the London Hippodrome on Sunday last had one of the most happily devised outings ever experienced since the opening of the theatre. The start was fixed for 8.50 a.m., the rendezvous being Victoria, whence the party travelled by two special saloon carriages attached to the 9 a.m. train to Dorking. On arrival there a number of carriages were in waiting for a drive to Wootton Hatch.

The sun was up, the air was fresh, and the uplands of Surrey were looking their best in this most delightful part of South England. On arrival at their destination many of the company indulged in various outdoor games, while others wandered amid the woodlands, now just tinged with the russet of autumn.

At one o'clock dinner was served at Wootton Hatch. At its conclusion Mr. Fred Trussell, the genial manager of the Hippodrome, toasted "The King and the Royal Family" and "The London Hippodrome." In reply to the toast of "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. Tom Miller, assistant-manager, and seconded by Mr. R. Winslow, stage-

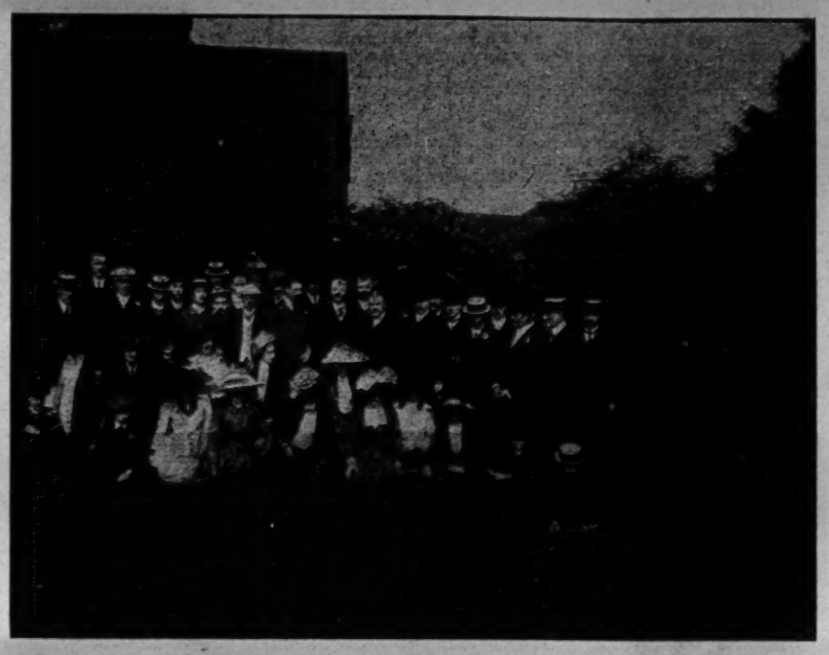

THE LONDON HIPPODROME FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF OUTING AT WOOTTON HATCH ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 11.

manager, Mr. Trussell made a characteristic speech. Telegrams were received from both Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Oswald Stoll wishing the party a pleasant day and an enjoyable outing. After dinner the party drove off for a few hours through the Surrey lanes and picturesque villages, and, needless to say, calls were made at some of the famous hostelries en route, the happy crowd returning to Wootton Hatch again at six o'clock for tea.

Owing to the late hour the musical programme was short, consisting of two songs by Mr. Trussell and the rendering of "The Corsican Maid" by Miss Maisie Mace. The company returned to Dorking and travelled by train to London, arriving back at Victoria shortly after 10 p.m. The day was delightfully fine, and everyone enjoyed the outing immensely.

American Roller Rink, Birmingham.

THE American Roller Skating Rink, Monument-road, Birmingham, reopens to-day for its third season. Mr. F. C. Rothwell has been engaged as resident-manager, and Mr. John Williams as floor-manager. The rink has been newly decorated and painted during the closed period, and the prospects for a successful season are very bright. The Famous Winslow skates are used exclusively at this rink. The rink is open three sessions daily—10.30 to 12.30, 2.30 to 5.30, and 7.30 to 10.30—and Mr. Edward Murray, of the Tournament Hall Rink, Liverpool, is furnishing the music.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Chelsea Rink Reopened.

LOVERS of roller-skating welcomed the re-opening of the handsome rink at the corner of Church-street last Saturday afternoon. The skating surface is in splendid condition, and the rink undoubtedly compares favourably with any in the metropolis for comfort and artistic surroundings. Mr. Walter Power, the genial manager, has sole control of the undertaking, and he has arranged several novelties in the way of carnivals, gymkhanas, confetti battles, &c. A military band performs daily, and cosy tea and smoking lounges are provided. A Sunday club is in process of formation.

Reopening of Olympia Rink, Pentre, Rhondda.

THIS popular rink, which has been closed during the summer months for renovation, commenced its second season on Thursday, Sept. 8. The floor has been entirely resurfaced, and is now the finest in the valley. Many improvements have been made, adding to the comfort of the patrons. Prof. Tom Butterworth (late of West Hartlepool) has been appointed manager, with Miss Jennie Wilkes (of the Palace, Folkestone) as instructress and floor manager. An efficient military band under the batonship of Mr. J. Sheridan contributes delightful music during the evening session.

Prof. Butterworth and Master Eric.

ON the opening day Mr. Butterworth gave a clever exhibition of fancy and trick skating, assisted by his five-year-old son, Master Eric, which met with well-merited applause from the onlookers. Skating and hockey clubs are being formed, and there is every prospect of a successful season.

Barnet Rink Reopens.

THE Barnet skating rink will reopen for the season to-day. The rail separating the rink floor from the promenade has been lowered, a new bandstand has been provided, the floor has been specially resurfaced, and the whole building painted and decorated.

Empress Rink, Ilkeston.

A BOLD bid for the patronage of the Ilkeston public is being made by Mr. T. Wheatley, of Bath-street, who, at considerable expense, has enlarged and redecorated the Empress Skating Rink, off Granby-street. Roller skating has been exceedingly popular throughout the country, and Mr. Wheatley has had laid down at the Empress Rink a rock maple floor, the materials for which came from Olympia, London. Not only is there accommodation for the skating pastime, but there is a spacious dancing room. The decorations and fittings are of the latest kind, and no doubt large numbers of people will in the coming winter find this an attractive place in which to spend their leisure hours. The rink reopened last Saturday.

Prof. Phillips at Gerrard's Cross.

THE proprietors of the Gerrard's Cross Rink provided a special exhibition of figure and fancy skating at the reopening on Saturday, when Professor Phillips, champion free skater of Great Britain, performed some of his unparalleled feats.

Empress Rink, Gloucester.

THE Empress Skating Rink, Gloucester, is open for the season. The building is under new management, and good patronage is secured.

Leicester Rinks Reopened.

THE whole of the Leicester roller skating rinks are now in full swing, and there is every indication that they are in for another successful season. The Boulevard Rink has undergone a thorough overhauling, and now presents a charming appearance. It has been entirely redecorated. A large café, which is raised, is a welcome addition. It is upholstered and draped in deep red silk, and it is adequately heated and ventilated. The two opening sessions were crowded to their utmost holding capacity, and on all hands admiration was openly expressed for the manner in which the directors had looked after their comfort. We are pleased to see that Mr. T. P. Blakesley is again installed as manager. At the Empress the opening session was attended by many of the leading citizens of the town. At this rink also Mr. Butters, the proprietor, has carried many improvements which add greatly to its attractiveness. A splendidly furnished and decorated café has been added, and a new learner's annexe, with maple floor, is another new feature. Mr. A. E. Court is back at his post as manager, duties which he fulfilled in so popular a manner last session, and has formed a club, entitled the Empress and County Roller Skating Club, which includes both skaters and non-skaters.

Music Licence for Belgrave Rink Refused.

WE regret to have to record that the fifth application for a music licence for the Belgrave Rink, Leicester, has again been refused. A protest meeting has been held, and was largely attended. Councillor Reynolds, Councillor Loseby, and Councillor Taylor were the chief speakers, and the resolution of strong protest was carried without a single dissentient. The proprietors only applied for a string band. The opposition before the magistrates numbered three persons, and those in its favour can be counted by thousands. Mr. L. H. Cockram is the managing-director, and in spite of the drawback of want of music the rink is well patronised.

Ealing Rink Reopens.

THE Walpole Rink, Bond-street, Ealing, reopens for the season on Friday, Sept. 23, at 7.30 p.m. There will be an excellent programme for the opening night, including an exhibition of fancy and figure skating by Walter Stanton, N.S.A., amateur champion of Great Britain; a dance display by Mr. G. Conyers-d'Arcy, N.S.A. (the new resident-manager), and Miss Rhoda M. Brockie, N.S.A.; a match between Goys United and Walpole Hockey Clubs, and many other special attractions. Under the direction of Mr. Charles Byng-Hall the rink has been entirely redecorated, the floor surfaced into splendid condition, and patrons will find that everything has been done to add to their comfort at this, the daintiest of London's rinks.

Rinking in Bath.

RINKING has recommenced in Bath this week by the reopening of the Central Rink, while this afternoon (Saturday), the new County Rink, which is undoubtedly the finest building of its kind in the West of England, is to be opened by the Mayor of Bath (Major C. H. Simpson, J.P., M.C.). A large number of invitations have been issued.

Reopening of Paisley Rink.

AN auspicious reopening of the Paisley Hippodrome Skating Rink took place on Monday, when a large number of rinkers attended at the afternoon session. The evening session saw the floor of the big building fully occupied. The interior during the vacation has been entirely redecorated, the floor has had the best attention, the band engaged is a first-class one, and the entire arrangements are such that patrons will find the rink more comfortable than ever. Mr. Jack B. Bostock, with his usual affable and courteous manner, is still at the head of affairs, and everything points to a successful season.

Neath Rink Reopens.

THE Gnoll Skating Rink, Neath, reopened on Thursday, the 8th inst., when there was a large attendance. Mr. B. P. Rees is the new manager, under whose control the company hope to have a record season.

The Aldwych Rink.

THE Aldwych Rink, transformed almost beyond recognition, opened its season on Thursday evening with bright prospects of continuing its past success. The rink will be open mornings, afternoons, and evenings. An efficient military band and a comfortable café afford additional attractions to what is likely to become a very popular rendezvous.

Holland Park Rink.

THE Holland Park Skating Rink, W., will inaugurate its reopening for the skating season of 1910-11 this morning at eleven o'clock. Mr. A. Holmes-Dallimore's ex-British Guards Band has been engaged to furnish the music at each of the three daily sessions, the hours being 11 to 1, 3 to 6, 7.30 to 11.

"A Bower of Beauty."

MESSRS. J. DEFRIES & SONS, LTD., AND F. AUSTEN, the well-known decorators, have transformed the rink's interior into a bower of beauty by means of a very handsome and attractive decorative scheme, designed by Mr. E. B. Barnes, the managing-director. The entire roof of the rink has been buried in over 16,000 yards of bright-hued bunting, which has been stretched over frames, the construction of which required two and three-quarter miles of 1in. by 3in. timber, bound together with some 3cwt. of iron braces and 500 yards of steel cable. The large electric sign over the main entrance has been connected by Messrs. Brooks and White, and Holland Park-avenue in the vicinity of the rink will be one of the most brilliantly-illuminated thoroughfares in the district.

Winslow Skates and Perfect Floor.

THE rink is equipped with the celebrated Winslow skates, and the floor is in perfect condition, and no "wheel" will be left unturned this season to ensure the rink's success—socially, artistically, and financially. Numerous applications from various roller skating clubs who desire to make this rink their headquarters are being received. Mr. Will Albert, upon whose shoulders the managerial mantle has again fallen, is very optimistic concerning the season's prospects, and will introduce many novelties in the way of gymkhanas, exhibitions, and races.

American Roller Rink, Chester.

THE American Roller Rink, Upper Northgate-street, Chester, after a continuous run of one year, closed last June, and reopens to-day under the management of Mr. Frank Maher, who has been re-engaged as resident-manager. Mr. T. Maidment, who has had considerable Continental experience, has been engaged as floor-manager, and Miss Winifred Tompkins returns as lady-instructor. Mr. Edward Murray, of the Tournament Hall Rink, Liverpool, is furnishing the music. During the summer season the entire interior has been freshly painted, and the skates (Winslow) and floor have been cleaned and repaired.

American Roller Rink, Croydon.

MR. ALEXANDER TELFORD, late manager of *The Belle of Brittany* company, has been engaged as resident-manager of the American Roller Skating Rink in Cherry Orchard-road, East Croydon, which reopens to-day for its second season. Mr. Telford formerly managed the American Roller Rink at Cardiff, and comes to Croydon full of new ideas and schemes for the enjoyment of rink patrons, to whom he promises many a delightful evening's sport. The entire interior of the rink has been redecorated and painted, and the floor and skates (Winslow) are in perfect condition. Mr. Alec. Glaze will again have charge of the floor, and Miss Daisy Chilton-Heyes has been engaged as lady-instructor.

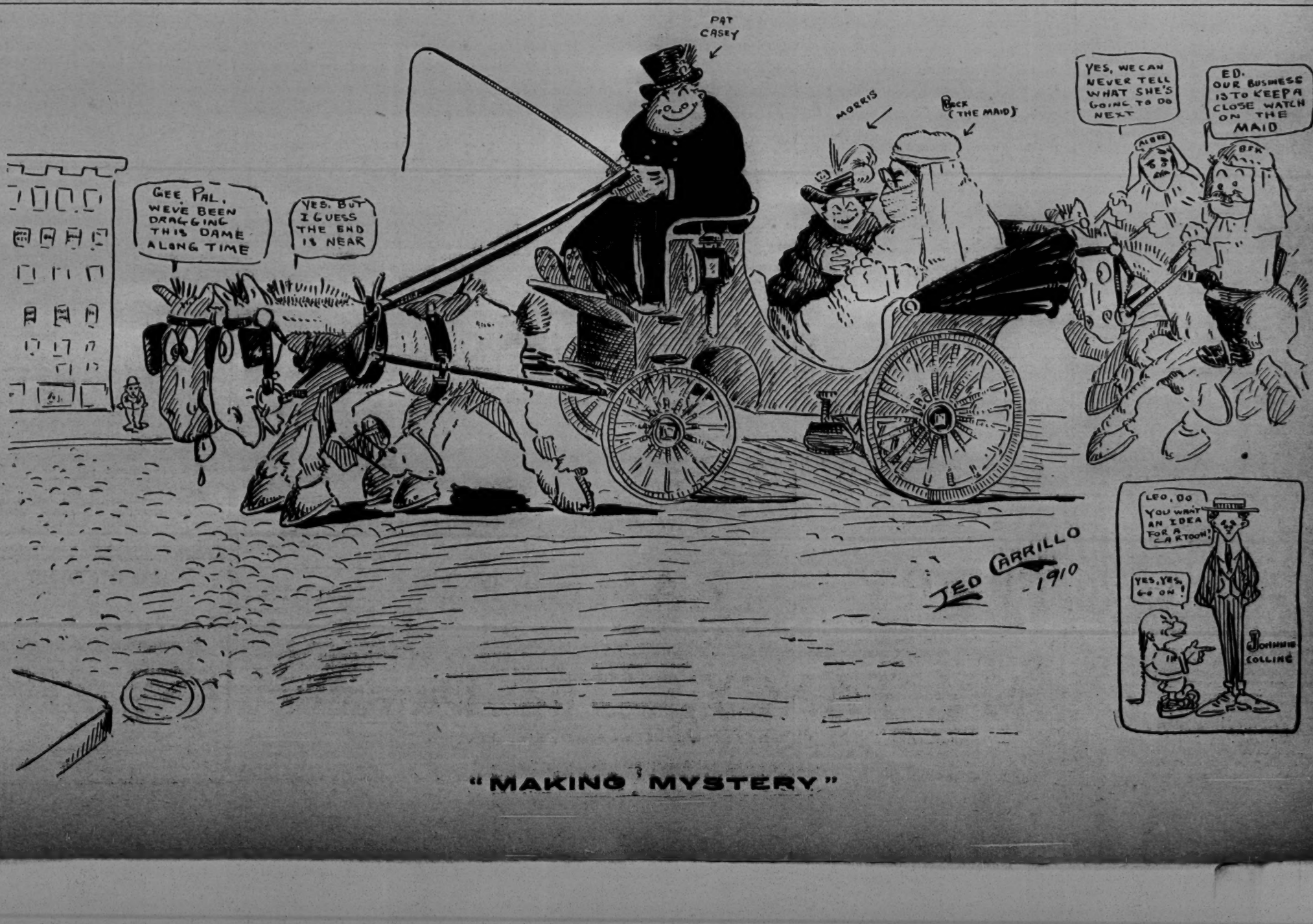

"MAKING MYSTERY"

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

Fairs Ahead for Next Week.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Amersham, on the Metropolitan; Atherstone, on the Great Western; Beamister, on the Great Western; Chapel Town, on the Great Central; Farnworth, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hemel Hempstead, on the Midland; Honley, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ilkley, on the Midland and North Eastern; Newcastle - under - Lyme, on the North Staffordshire; Rushden, on the Midland; Sidmouth, on the London and South Western; Staines, on the Great Western and London and South Western; Swindon, on the Great Western; Worcester, on the Great Western and Midland; Ware, on the Great Western; Backwell, on the Great Western; Folkestone, on the South Eastern; Lewes, on the South Eastern and Great Northern; Longtown, on the Great Western; Ottery St. Mary, on the London and South Western; Reading, on the Great Western, London and South Western, South Eastern, and Metropolitan and District; Bude, on the London and South Western; Sandbach, on the London and North Western; Over, on the London and North Western and Cheshire lines; Bowdon, on the Cheshire lines; Bugsworth, on the Midland; Idle, on the Great Northern; Iron Acton, on the Midland; Stevenage, on the Great Northern; Stockport, on the London and North Western, Great Central, Midland, Great Western, Great Northern, and Sheffield and Midland; Tyldesley, on the London and North Western; Uttoxeter, on the Great Northern and North Staffordshire; Willenhall, on the London and North Western and Midland; Woodhouse (Leeds), on the Midland and Great Northern; Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on the Midland; Bridgwater, on the Great Western; Brierley Hill, on the Great Western; Cambridge, on the London and North Western, Great Eastern, Great Northern, and Midland; Hartland, on the London and South Western; Haslemere, on the London and South Western; Hayfield, on the Great Central; Heyford, on the London and North Western; Huddersfield, on the London and North Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Great Northern; Morton, on the Great Northern; New Mills, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Pickering, on the North Eastern; Ratcliffe, on the Midland; Ware, on the Great Eastern; Wotton-under-Edge, on the Oxford and Aylesbury; Aberdeen, on the Caledonian, North British, Great North of Scotland, and Deeside; Castle Douglas, on the Glasgow and South Western; Dumfries, on the Glasgow and South Western and Caledonian; Hawick, on the North British; Llanfyllin, on the Cambrian; Tredegar, on the London and North Western; Abergavenny, on the London and North Western and Great Western; and Cowbridge on the Taff Vale railways.

Notes from Wales.

Neath Fair is the annual occasion for one of those kindly deeds of charity for which showmen are proverbially celebrated. On Saturday, Sept. 10, the various charitable institutions were entertained by the various generous showmen, and a very enjoyable time was spent by the youngsters. Messrs. Dooner, Wadbrooke, Crecraft, and Haggar put on a good selection of pleasing pictures. Messrs. Davies' colliery exhibition was next visited to advantage. Mr. and Mrs. John North let the children have shies at the cocoanuts *ad lib.*, and also presented sweets all round. Mr. H. Studt, Mr. E. Danter, and Mr. S. White also gave the use of their various machines.

The Guardians, through *The Era*, wish to thank most heartily the showmen for the great kindness shown to the various charities, and Mr. H. Hutchins, *The Era* local correspondent and hon. Guild agent, for taking up the responsibility of personally conducting the children round the fair.

On Saturday night, happily without any accident, the razzle-dazzle of Messrs. Ford broke down, supposed to be due to overstrain. Fortunately, the proprietor had a successful run over the fair. The machine will soon be in working order again.

Penalty of £200 a Day—Liability of Theatre Proprietors.

The Watch Committee of the Merthyr Corporation met on Friday last week, Mr. J. M. Berry, J.P., presiding. The Town Clerk submitted a report stating that under the Sunday Observance Act of 1780 proprietors of cinematograph theatres who gave entertainments on the Sabbath to which persons were admitted by payment of money, were liable to a fine of £200 a day. It was decided to draw the attention of the conductors of such entertainments to the penalty.

Holbeck Feast, Leeds.

With this suburban fair on Holbeck Moor, Leeds, the Leeds and Bradford circuit of fairs reaches its highest perfection of expression. Holbeck Feast, in its order and arrangements, its vast display of multiform amusements, its mighty crowds, and its public acceptance, ranks with the great pleasure fairs of the world.

The long line of shows, all of the very best of their kind, was aglow with thousands of electric lamps, and the gilded artistry of show fronts and parades. Here were displayed the picture palaces of Messrs. Aspland, Murphy, Farrar and Tyler, Crighton, and Waddington, Bailey's circus, and numerous side shows.

In the centre of the feast ground were the motor car sets of Messrs. Murphy, Howden and Sons, J. W. Waddington, Marshall and Redfearn; other varieties of roundabouts by Messrs. P. Collins, Proctor, Waddington, and Marshall; razzle-dazzle by Messrs. Relph and Pedley; and Richardson's cak[illegible]alk machines.

[illegible] were avenues and streets of throwing-[illegible] bazaars, toy, gingerbread, and pot stalls—[illegible]u might count by the score. Altogether, [illegible] feast.

[illegible]vallow's International Circus at [illegible]pe.

[illegible]estabished Circus concluded a two-days' [illegible]undee on Monday evening, 12th inst. [illegible]nt was pitched on the Esplanade, and [illegible]nces were attracted to the two per-[illegible]iven daily. Mr. John H. Swallow, [illegible]ily upholds the reputation of his father, who established the show in 1830. The entertainment provided is of a high-class order, a pleasing feature being the entire absence of anything pertaining to vulgarity. The highly-trained mare Elizabeth, a beautiful piebald animal trained and introduced by Mr. John Swallow, reflects the utmost credit on its trainer; a graceful quick-change act of equestrianism by Miss Amelia was much admired; a performance of quite an exhilarating character was given by Chloe Diana, described as "the only black lady equestrienne"; the Seven Wilburs, in their stage-coach act *Fun on the Rocket*, gave a clever and humorous performance; M. Globella did some clever balancing work on the sphere; the game of polo by six mounted gentlemen proved exciting, and appealed to the sporting instincts of the audience; a dexterous performance on the electric wire was given by Mlle. Lydia; Wild Orest and Wild George submitted an interesting display of lasso-throwing and buck-riding; Herbert Oregon, "the modern Jack Shepherd," securely manacled and placed in a sack, and then dragged round the arena by a horse, succeeded in freeing himself in a remarkably short time; a very finished, and at the same time comical, performance on the cord elastique was given by Linton; a sensational cycling feat was accomplished by Elektra, who races down an incline and turns a somersault in the air; the Quetas, in their cycle hurricane race upon the smallest track ever ridden, showed a wonderful control of the wheel; a neatly-executed jockey act by Mr. Swallow was vociferously applauded; much merriment was created by Funny Johnny and his educated mule and dogs; no circus is complete without the clown, and in the capable hands of Comical Walker and a troupe of clever comedians the comic items kept the audience in the best of humour. Appropriate music was discoursed by the band, under the leadership of Mr. Robert Horrocks. Mr. G. E. Swallow is the capable manager of the Circus.

Notes from the Midlands.

At Astwood Bank were Scott's galloping horses, swing boats, houp-la circle, and other amusements. From Astwood this aggregation moved to Fecken ham, and met with great public acceptance. Her bert's roundabouts and other attractions have been on exhibition at Henley-in-Arden.

Brutal Murder of a Roundabout Owner.

Horley, a pleasant suburb of greater London, was greatly shocked on Thursday last by the discovery of a brutal crime. Wednesday was to have been the occasion of the annual sports and fête in aid of the Horley Town Band funds, and the committee had let the privilege of providing roundabouts, swings, &c., to Mr. Christopher Odam, a well-known and highly-respected showman. Owing to the wet weather which prevailed on Wednesday morning, however, it was decided at the last moment to postpone the sports and fête until the 21st inst.

Odam had incurred some considerable expense in travelling to Horley, and the proprietor of the field agreed to allow the show to remain there for a week. In order to avoid disappointment to any farm hands from a distance the entertainments were in full swing on Wednesday night.

During the day Odam had disposed of two horses, and among the witnesses of the sale were two men who had been following the show for some time past in hoping of securing a job. One it is reported, had been promised "a start" next week.

Contrary to his usual practice, during the evening Odam did not act as moneytaker on the roundabouts, and about nine o'clock he was seen in conversation with a roadman. He did not return to his caravan at bedtime, and his wife and son set out to search the neighbourhood. The quest was continued until about two o'clock in the morning, but without avail.

Just after daybreak a milkman coming along the Balcombe road saw the body of a man lying in a field not much more than two hundred yards from the field lent for the fête. It was the body of an elderly man with a black silk scarf tied tightly round his neck, and near by a knife and two pieces of wood studded with nails. He informed the police, and Sergeant Bird, of the Surrey Constabulary, who at once recognised the remains as those of Mr. Odam, had them removed to an outbuilding of the King's Head Hotel, where they were identified by one of the dead man's sons.

There can be little doubt that the motive of the murder was robbery, but the assailants must have been disappointed. Mr. Odam had handed over the proceeds of the horse sale to his wife. His pockets, however, were turned inside out and rifled. The police believe that the dead man was attacked from behind, strangled with his own scarf, and then beaten.

During the day a systematic search of the countryside was undertaken to discover the two "followers," who have disappeared. Up to a late hour on Thursday they had not been found. The greatest consternation prevails in the town and district, more particularly as Blindley Heath, where an old man was recently done to death in a barn, is only six or seven miles away.

The Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union.

The next meeting of this society is fixed for Sept. 20 at Bury. For place of meeting and time, see advertisement.

Showman's "Letter Box."

Letters await the following at *The Era* offices:—Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, Biddall Brothers, and H. Fossett.

Limerick Rink and Electric Picture Palace.

The Limerick Roller Skating Rink and Electric Picture Palace still seem to be favoured by the classes and the masses. The films put on this week are both chaste and instructive, and in the absence of Director Kidd, who is spending a well-earned holiday in Waterford, Mr. George Ledger is the moral censor. The Race for a Bride, Bravery Rewarded, Over Silent Paths, Fury of the Waves, The Late Guest, and Pathé's Animated Gazette are especially attractive. The special engagement of Mr. Harry Drew, piano recitalist and mimic, adds a stimulus to the scenic effects. Mr. W. J. Potts, of Walturdaw Operatives, is skilful and exacting, and Mlle. May O'Connor has contributed some choice musical selections, appropriately set to the subject matter of the pictures exhibited.

Merton Picture Theatre.

The new picture theatre, at the corner of High-street and Mill-road, Merton (like the Picture Picture Theatre, Kingston, the property of the Surrey and Sussex Picture Palaces, Ltd.), is rapidly approaching completion, and the opening is tentatively fixed for October 10. The new building will hold about 400 people. Special attention has been paid to ventilation. There are two large Barrol roof ventilators, and an electric fan will be in constant operation. A large number of exits have been provided. The frontage will be to High-street, and the external decoration will be in Marton white plastic work. Mr. Walter C. Phillips, of 48, Bishopsgate-street, is the architect.

MILITARY BANDS and ORCHESTRIONS

For SKATING RINKS, HOTELS, CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS, BILLIARD ROOMS, CONCERT HALLS.

Special Models for Roundabouts.

THE NEW POLYPHON SUPPLY CO., LTD.,
2, Newman Street, London, W.
27, Jamaica Street, Glasgow.

A SHOWMAN'S LAST WISH.

An enormous crowd witnessed the remarkable funeral at Cardiff on last Tuesday, the 13th, of Mr. John White, father of Mr. Sidney White, the well-known South Wales amusement caterer. Deceased, who was seventy-seven, died ten days ago, and before he breathed his last he made his son promise that he would have his coffin taken to the cemetery on his great traction engine, "General White."

The promise was duly carried out on Tuesday according to the prescribed programme, and, consequently, Constellation-street was packed with spectators long before the funeral was timed to leave, and the police had a difficult task in keeping order.

The hearse was attached to the traction engine, and some twenty carriages followed behind. The engine itself was most beautifully decorated with huge wreaths on the wheels, which were also draped in crêpe. On the front of the engine was a superb design of the Prince of Wales's feathers in white flowers, with the motto "Ich dien."

The coffin was brought from the house through the front-room window, and a start was quickly made for the cemetery, via Clifton-street, which was also thronged by the curious. It then passed along Newport-road, Queen-street, Park-place, and Cathays-terrace to the cemetery.

Arriving there, another huge gathering was seen; but, in accordance with the instructions of the Lord Mayor, issued the previous day, the police only admitted to the cemetery the actual mourners. This was done to prevent a recurrence of the happenings during a military funeral last week, when numerous graves were trampled on.

When the cortége reached the cemetery a halt was called, the traction engine being drawn up outside the gates. The coffin was removed from the hearse, and conveyed on the shoulders of bearers into the chapel. The Rev. C. A. L. Senior, curate of St. German's, Roath, was the officiating minister, and the interment took place in the Church of England portion of the cemetery. Despite the vigilance of the police, a considerable number of the public found admission to the burial ground.

The chief mourners were Mr. Sid White (son),

[*Photo by Topical Press.*

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. J. WHITE AT CARDIFF.

Mrs. James (daughter), Mrs. Harry Rehorn, Miss Lillie White, and Miss James (granddaughters), Mr. William White, Mr. Sidney George White, Mr. Tom White, and Mr. Tom James (grandsons), Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, of Blaengwynfi (cousins), Mr. and Mrs. Fry, of Cymmer, Mr. T. Williams, and Mr. H. Watkins, of Bridgend, and Mrs. Ridout (cousins).

Following the relatives were Mr. White's staff: Messrs. Ted Holloway, Ernest Lowe, Walter Gibbons, Tom Curl, Chas. Taylor, Joe Gillespie, Harry Unwin, Chas. Passmore, and Misses Trapnell, Patty Trapnell, Nellie Troy, Trixie Troy, and Elsie Meds.

Other friends and travellers were:—Mesdames C. Taylor, G. Taylor, John P. Studt, E. Danter, A. Philips, Lloyd and Bounds, Misses Pernell (who decorated the engine so beautifully), Violet Winsper, Ford, M. Ford, and E. Unwin, and Messrs. Geo. Winsper, Geo. Goodwin, Watkins, Alf. Holmes, Alf. Smith, H. Lucas, H. Craddock, Butlin, Prof. Lloyd, and Prof. Bounds.

In the last coach came Mr. Renot (at present appearing at the Palace, Cardiff) and Mr. Rory Macs (Mr. White's business representative).

The whole ceremony was most interesting, and created a great stir in the city. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. R. Jordan, of Messrs. G. Stone and Co., 11 and 12, Working-street, Cardiff.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue nine years ago of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition just published comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the New Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable treatise on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at the offices of *The Era*, has reached a third edition. This includes the text of the recent Berlin Convention and the new Copyright Act of the United States, also all the important decisions of the Courts, since the last edition, on which the compiler has been able to lay hands. As Mr. Strong remarks, "There is probably no more fruitful source of litigation than the ordinary theatrical contract." If the work under notice achieved no other object than to impress this fact on the parties concerned, it would still be worth its weight in gold.—*The Music Hall*, May 12, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*.

Dramatic authors, composers, and all of those interested in dramatic enterprise will find much that is useful and instructive in "Dramatic and Musical Law," by Albert Strong.—*Sporting Life*, May 16, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

The Johnson-Jeffries Pictures.

The much-discussed pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight at Reno were shown at a private gathering held in the National Sporting Club on Monday afternoon. Costing £52,000, the pictures, beautiful specimens of cinematography, give a very realistic idea of what took place. The complete record of the contest, in all 60,000ft. of film, occupied something like an hour and a quarter, and the display throughout is absolutely devoid of offence.

Remarkable Pictures.

A gentleman acting on behalf of Mr. W. J. Wainratta and Mr. George Smith, the English manager for the Vitagraph Company, prefaced the exhibition with some explanatory remarks. Pictures of the preliminaries show Johnson chewing gum, playing cards, and posing with friends and members of his family in the back-yard. Jeffries is seen going through his training exercises and having sparring bouts. Then follow scenes in and about Reno on the day of the fight. There are also pictures introducing fighting heroes of bygone days. When the rivals enter the ring they soon get to work, and although the fight is a very disappointing affair, some clever footwork is witnessed. Mr. Smith, of the Vitagraph Company, Cecil-court, is making all arrangements for placing these remarkable films on the market.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

This week's programme here includes His First Place (Ambrosio), A Rake's Romance (Cricks and Martin), The Italian Switzerland (Cosmopolitan), Calino Buys a House Dog (Gaumont), Our Dear Uncle from America (Eclair), Unexpected Help (A.B.), A Lesson in Wrestling (Pathé), and Pathé's Animated Gazette of all the latest news.

Another Historic Film for the F.A.F.

Another historic moving picture film has been set apart for the benefit of the poorest children of London and other towns, through the medium of the Fresh Air Fund. Mr. E. J. Muddle, editor of the *Bioscope*, has sent to the secretary of the Fresh Air Fund a film of the lying-in-state of King Edward in Buckingham Palace, which has been placed at his disposal for the Fresh Air Fund by Mr. W. W. Johnson, lessee of the Public Hall Theatre, Scunthorpe. The film is forty-seven feet long, and cannot fail to be of the deepest interest to any audience. It will be sold to the highest bidder, and the secretary of the F.A.F. will be glad to receive offers.

The Pioneer of the Cinematograph.

The books, lantern slides, Press cuttings, &c., which the late Mr. Edward Muybridge, the pioneer of the cinematograph, bequeathed to the borough of Kingston-on-Thames, have been placed in the Kingston Free Public Library for the inspection of the public during this month. Mr. Muybridge was the first photographer to take photographs showing an object in motion. Arising out of a bet between two millionaires in California, while in charge of the General Photographic Survey of the Pacific Coast, in 1872, he took a series of photographs of a trotting horse which proved, what had not previously been believed, that the horse had all its feet off the ground at the same time, thus showing that existing sketches of a trotting horse were all wrong.

Moving Pictures of Women Chain-makers.

Public sympathy with the women chain-workers will be stimulated by the series of cinematograph films issued this week by Messrs. Pathé. The pictures, taken at the suggestion of the *Daily News*, give a vivid representation of the women in the act of chain-making, and clearly show the arduous nature of the occupation. A scene in which little children are playing around the "forge" is followed by some incidents of the strike, including a procession of the women accompanied by a large crowd of sympathisers. An explanatory headline is also given as to the wages received by the women. The pictures tell their own story and make a powerful human appeal. The films are being shown this week at the principal music-halls in London and at between 500 and 600 picture theatres in all parts of the country.

Edmonton Baby Show.

Andrews' pictures continue to draw crowded houses at the King's Hall, Lower Edmonton. The local film, The Edmonton Baby Show, is a great attraction. The programme also includes The Bottle of Milk, The Call of the Blood, Through the Darkness, A Bolt from the Blue, Ma's New Dog, and illustrated songs and lecturing by Mr. Jack Roberts.

Terry's Theatre to be a Picture Palace.

Terry's Theatre, in the Strand, has been leased to a cinematograph company, and will be opened by them in November as a living picture theatre under the style of the Grand Casino.

Picture Theatre, Kingston.

The Picture Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, opened successfully three weeks ago by the Mayor (Councillor George Huckle, J.P.), has since continued to do record business. The high quality of the films exhibited has been the subject of general comment. The management enjoy the local monopoly of Animatophone pictures, and some of the best of this company's records and films have been made features in the programme. On Thursday, the whole of the Boy Scouts in the Kingston district, under their scoutmasters, were to attend, and a special selection of films submitted.

Novel Beauty Competition.

The Beauty Competition now in progress on entirely new and unobjectionable lines has drawn a host of competitors. Photographs only are sent in, and these are to be converted into lantern slides, the audience itself selecting the four winners of four valuable prizes.

Poole's Picture Palace, Aberaman.

The attractive programme here includes the Brothers Hannaway, smart dancers and patter comedians; Mlle. Sylvesto and her comedian Rumbo in their comedy pot-pourri contortionist act, a very good turn; and Henry Carlton, a delightful entertainer at the piano. The pictures shown on the Bioscope are as attractive as ever.

Sunday Picture Shows in Carlisle.

The Carlisle City magistrates on Monday granted permission to the lessee of the New Public Hall to exhibit cinematograph pictures on Sunday evenings after the hours of Divine service. The Chief Constable said he had no objection. Other places had permission, and had not abused it at all. In fact, some Chief Constables rather approved of these entertainments.

Hastings Picture Palaces.

Extensive structural alterations and additions are probable in the near future at the Wellington-place Electric Theatre, Hastings, consequent upon a recent change in the proprietorship. The Pelham Hall Electric Theatre continues a very prosperous undertaking under the management of Mr. Dale. The People's Picture Palace Company, at the Public Hall, locally managed by Mr. A. Ashcroft, provide an excellently varied series of interesting subjects. Among some noticeably good are Forty Years in the Land of Midian and The Goldseeker's Son. An agreeable interlude is provided by Miss Daisy Silcott, a dainty comedienne and danseuse. On the Hastings Pier, the pictures shown outside the Pavilion during the evenings attract a large audience, and prove a financial success.

THE SHOP HOURS BILL,

The warning note to travelling auctioneers sounded in *The Era* a fortnight ago has roused the leading men in the business. Not only did we give a general warning through our columns, but we sent out (in answer to many inquiries) our best expert opinion as to the course to be pursued in meeting the threatened danger.

Messrs. Bloom, Barber, Harrison, Smith, Greenwood, Rowley, and others have taken immediate action to organise the trade for its own defence. Quite naturally, as some of the travelling auctioneers are members of the Showmen's Guild, the Rev. T. Horne was appealed to for advice, and if possible active assistance on the question. That advice in general terms was embodied first in the special article two weeks ago dealing with the Bill itself, and again in an interesting paragraph last week.

The Showmen's Guild and the Bill.

In a letter to Mr. F. M. Barber, of Mansfield, now on tour with his auction mart, and at present located at Ravensthorpe, the Guild organiser referred Mr. Barber and other Guild members in his line of business to the rules of the society. In rules 2 and 19 it is set out that "the objects of the Guild shall be (1) to watch any attempt at legislation which is calculated to affect or interfere with the rights or business of showmen and van dwellers in general, and to take such proceedings in Parliamentary and other matters as may be deemed advisable," and (11) "the Guild's principal object being to protect the interests of amusement caterers as a body, they can only support such actions at law as affect the whole community."

Fairs and Markets Exempted in the Bill.

The Showmen's Guild, Mr. Horne pointed out to Mr. Barber, would have no *locus standi* against the Bill, as the general interests of showmen proper were already provided for. This opinion did not prevent him personally rendering all the assistance in his power to help the auctioneers, for he recognised the close links that bound their line of business to the fairground. Mr. Horne suggested that the auctioneers should form a defence league of their own, and to seek affiliation with the Guild Parliamentary Defence Committee. He offered to place at the auctioneers' disposal his own services, and suggested that the Guild Parliamentary agents and solicitors would be the best experts to handle the business for them, as the Guild could not by its constitution spend its funds on sectional interests, but only those touching the whole body of travelling amusement caterers. He advised that the auctioneers formed their own league and raised a defence fund to carry the matter through.

Mr. Barber's reply was a grateful acknowledgment of the advice given, and an invitation to attend an organisation meeting of the proposed defence league at Manchester next week. (See our advertising columns for date, time, and place of gathering.) Mr. Horne will attend and render all the assistance possible.

This is in strict accordance with the past action of the Guild. In all local and sectional questions the expense of any action taken must be borne by the parties interested.

We were sure that the whole body of auctioneers pursuing their business on the best modern lines, taking a circuit of towns in the yearly round of their business, would rally to the cause of trade defence, and with such champions and leaders as Messrs. Bloom, Harrison, Barber, Greenwood, and others there is little doubt of ultimate success.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "The Era" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

IMPORTANT
TO
PICTURE PALACE
PROPRIETORS and SYNDICATES.

The Advertiser has FOR SALE or TO LET on rental a cheap magnificent Hall that with small outlay for alterations could be made into one of the FINEST PICTURE PALACES in the Kingdom. Huge population. Provincial Town. Principals or Solicitors only dealt with.

Address—Box 8286 Era Office.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN SCOTLAND.

Up to the present time two great rallying centres for the work of the Showmen's Guild have been opened out in Scotland—at Greenock Fair and again at Ayr Fair. There are, we are told, other centres where Scottish show-people who do not go to either Greenock or Ayr might be encouraged to support the general work of trade defence. But, as we have already said, the work of organising the interests of the Guild in Scotland has of necessity been confined to two great centres. It is hoped that in the near future opportunities may be given to the organising chaplain to get into complete touch with the whole body of showmen and fair-ground traders in Scotland.

It was necessary to state the hitherto partial character of the Guild's enterprise over the Border, in order to give full value to the remarkably successful work already accomplished, and to the equally remarkable generous support the Guild has received from Scottish showmen. It is from scarcely more than half of the whole body that the generous support to the Guild funds has come, and it is confidently expected that when the appeal is made to the others Scotland will take a very proud position in its support of the trade defence movement.

When it is remembered that the whole country is not covered, the contribution of Scotland to the Guild funds places it in the premier position. At Greenock Fair, earlier in the year, the special subscription and the general subscription of yearly members amounted to close upon £20; and now, at Ayr, the benefit and the general members' subscriptions reach over £74. Scotland, considering what we have already stated—that only two places are touched in the business year—undoubtedly leads the way.

The Benefit.

The opening night of Ayr Fair is always a quiet one as regards business, and a certain number of the concerns would hardly think it worth

[*Photo by Warner and Co.*

MR. GEORGE GREEN, V.P.
The Originator of the Ayr Fair Guild Benefit

while to open under ordinary conditions, but when the idea of giving a benefit to the Guild funds was proposed by Mr. George Green, acting in the matter with the full sympathy of Mr. John Wilmot, it was gratifying to notice that every showman and stallholder determined to do his best, and that, however little each concern might take upon the opening night, the entire proceeds would be given as a benefit to the Guild. It is a remarkable instance of the success of combination, and is a very practical example of how the whole body of workers in the industry may be encouraged to take a real and personal interest in its well-being.

The Scottish showpeople at once were anxious to know all about the Guild they were asked to support, and one great result has been crowded and interested meetings of the Guild at Ayr Fair.

Another result, hardly less important, has been the increasing interest of the general public and the growing attendance year by year on the benefit night. The people of Ayr have crowded the Guild services, and, through the chaplain's addresses and commendatory notices of his ministry in the local Press are now taking a greater interest in the showpeople and their Guild. Practically, on the opening night there are only two or three hours' possible business, and for some of the amusements only very little time indeed wherein to take money, but, whatever the result, it is earnestly worked for and cheerfully given.

On the opening night the weather was gloriously fine, and there is no doubt that the advertisement of the Guild benefit and meeting fixed public attention upon the fair, and that many people made a first visit on that night who otherwise would have waited later. In our pilgrimage of the fair, we were much pleased with the evident enthusiasm of the showpeople to do their best for the Guild funds. Not only the big shows, but the little shows, not only the roundabouts, but the houp-las, throwing games, and variety stalls were doing their very best to interest the visitors to the fair. We have much pleasure in giving the full list of contributors:—

Mr. George Green, £15 1s. 6d.; Mr. John Wilmot, £10 6s. 9d.; Mrs. Biddall's show, £3 10s. 4d.; Mr. S. McIntosh, £2 11s. 10d.; Mrs. Baker and Sons, £2 6s. 6d.; Chipperfield's menagerie, £2; Mr. Talbot, £1 15s. 4d.; Tom Paulo's circus, £1 8s. 6d.; Mrs. Howard, £1 8s. 6d.; Mr. H. Irvin, £1 5s. 1d.; J. Wilmot, jun., £1 0s. 3d.; H. Irvin, jun., £1 3s.; Mrs. Mander's show, 18s. 1d.; Mr. W. Irvin, 16s. 11d.; Mr. S. Rostron, 12s. 2d.; Mr. J. Day, 10s. 6d.; Mr. A. Carrick, 10s.; Mr. J. Beaty, 9s. 5d.; Mr. W. Merrick, 8s. 6d.; Mr. H. Smith, 8s. 8d.; Mr. H. Hughes, 8s. 2d.; Mr. Moore, 8s.; Mr. W. Smith, 7s. 3d.; Mrs. Stevenson, 7s. 2d.; Mrs. Anderson, 7s. 1d.; Mrs. M. Smith, 6s. 11d.; Mr. Lawrence, 6s. 9½d.; Mr. J. W. Kelly, 6s. 8d.; Mr. W. McIndoe, 5s. 10d.; Mr. A. Testo, 5s. 7d.; Mr. J. McIndoe, 5s. 6d.; Mr. Illingworth, 5s. 6d.; Mrs. Cunningham, 5s 4d.; Mr. R. Russell, 5s. 4d.; Mr. C. Smith, 5s. 2d.; Caddick and Sons, 5s. 1d.; Mrs. Blockley, 5s.; Mr. G. Stott, jun., 5s.; Mr. J. Clarke, 5s.; Mr. J. Bradley, 5s.; Mr. J. Buckley, 4s 10d.; Mr. J. Dobbing, 4s. 8d.; Mr. J. Matchett, 4s. 6d.; Mr. J. Dawson, 4s. 6d.; Mr. J. W. Ross, 4s. 5d.; Mr. H. Chapman, 4s. 2d.; Mr. D. Kennedy, 4s. 2d.; Mr. G. Blockley, 3s. 9d.; Mr. J. Wright, 3s. 6d.; Mr. J. Graham, 3s. 4d.; Mr. J. Newey, 3s. 3d.; Mr. J. Knight, 3s. 2d.; Mr. J. Blockley, 3s. 2d.; Mr. Fitzpatrick, 3s. 2d.; Mr. Hiscoe, 3s. 1d.; Mr. W. Graham, 3s. 1d.; Mr. P. Swallow, jun., 2s. 8d.; Mr. T. Dawson, 2s. 7d.; Mrs. Carter, 2s. 7d.; Mrs Lipton, 2s. 7d.; Mr. C. Miller, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Robertson, 2s. 6d.; Mr. H. Johnson, 2s. 3d.; Mrs. Newton, 2s. 2d.; Mr. H. Merrick, jun., 2s. 1d.; Mr. H. Merrick, 2s.; Mrs. Sheeran, 2s.; Mr. E. Cooper, 2s.; Mr. Graham, 2s.; Mr. A. Palmer, 1s. 10d.; Mrs. Cooke, 1s. 1d.; Mr. Nelson, 1s.; Mr. W. Smith, 1s.; Mrs. Brady, 9d.; making a grand total of £59 7s. 3d.

This altogether satisfactory result is, as will be noticed, largely made up of moderate sums, and its great significance consists in the fact that it enlisted the enthusiasm and intelligent interest of every showman and fairground trader present. Great credit is due to Messrs. Green and Wilmot for the successful results, first at Greenock and then at Ayr. It is because the Scottish showpeople are so well led, and have so excellent an example set them by their leaders in the business that Scotland occupies so worthy a place in the honour list of contributors to the Guild funds.

The Afternoon Meeting of the Guild.

This was held in George Green's show; the proprietor occupied the chair, and with him were the veteran vice-president John Wilmot, Messrs. S. Mackintosh, H. Irvin, T. Paulo, J. McIndoe, H. Hughes, W. Manders, G. Biddall, J. Buckley, J. H. Chipperfield, C. Miller, S. Sheeran, Mr. W. Irvin, S. Rostron, J. Day, and others. Mr. George Green, V.P., in opening the proceedings, intimated that he would reserve the few observations necessary for him to make till after Mr. Horne's address, and towards the close of the meeting. They all knew the splendid work the organising chaplain was doing on their behalf, and when they had heard the story of the work of the Guild from the chaplain, they would be in a better position to add their quota to the meeting in the discussion and consideration that must follow. He called upon Mr. Horne to address the meeting.

The Organising Chaplain on the Work of the Guild.

The Rev. T. Horne prefaced his address by reading to the meeting the names of the contributors to the benefit and the amounts given, as already shown above. He warmly commended the excellent method by which the benefit was carried through, and spoke of the pleasure it afforded him to bear back to the general funds the gift of the Scottish showpeople. He expressed a strong hope that in every division of the showman world such benefits might be as successfully organised as at Ayr. It was only, he said, when the leaders and the principal Guild workers determined to carry the thing through to a successful issue that success was secured. There had been benefits in other parts, but the only one that seemed to remain as an annual institution was that at Rotherham Statues. The other efforts had been but spasmodic, and although they had flourished for a time they had fallen away. He commended to lessees of fairgrounds and the leaders of the Guild, the practical, business-like plan originated by Mr. George Green, and carried out at Ayr. The result had been what they were all rejoicing in—not only an increased return year after year, but also an increased interest in the work and aims of the Guild.

Dealing at once with the matter that was in all their minds—the Guild and the Moveable Dwellings Bill, he engaged the attention of the audience by exhibiting copies as it went before the Committee of the House of Lords, and as it left that body. He did this by holding up the Bill without any amendment and a copy with all the clauses that the Committee had rejected blotted out. This demonstrated that, with the exception of one clause, Clause 5, of the original measure, the old Bill in all its operative clauses was rejected by the Committee.

The Great Importance of the Victory Won.

They were met, he said, to celebrate a great victory won. All the invidious proposals of the original Bill that would have stigmatised them as a class separate and apart from the rest of the community had been ignominously rejected by the Select Committee of the House of Lords. He referred to the proposals that their moveable dwellings were to be registered, licensed, and inspected under special legislation that did not apply to people living in permanent dwellings. It would have given power to the policeman and the sanitary inspector to determine conditions that were rightly left to the sound sense and the individual liberty of the subject.

They had now reached, he was glad and proud to tell them, after more than twenty years hard fighting, an acknowledged position in the face of the whole world. Their home life, their moral character, and their business integrity were to be no longer under the stigma of special class legislation. The showman's claim for the freedom of the ordinary laws had been fully vindicated, and it was now an established and accepted fact beyond all further dispute or cavil that they should carry on their business and live their daily life just as other people, under the ordinary control and protection of the common law. This was an immense gain. It cleared the ground of all those vexatious and troublesome matters that had occupied so much of their time and attention. It was no exaggeration to say that the travelling showman had at last come into his kingdom. The organised showmen of the Empire had been judged and after full investigation had been proved to be worthy citizens of the commonwealth, moral, industrious, and loyal subjects of the Throne. This verdict had been awarded by the highest judicial authority in the country, a Select Committee of the House of Lords. The report of that Committee had been proclaimed in every newspaper in the land, and the unanimous opinion of both Press and people had been one of great satisfaction with the verdict.

The Great Importance of the Work still before the Guild.

He had dwelt at some length upon the various aspects of the great advantages their trade combination had secured them, and had shown them the vantage ground they now occupied. It was from the secured vantage ground of their present position, with all the force of the well-won vindication of character now universally admitted, that they would in the future deal with the dangers that menaced their business and avocation in life. They would now approach all attacks upon them with a good heart and courage, because they felt certain that what they had already secured would enable them to claim full justice from Parliament with regard to attacks upon their means of livelihood. He was confident that both Houses of Parliament would refuse to sanction any hastily conceived legislation to injure so important an industry and so necessary a branch of public service as the provision of the open air amusements of the people.

He had already shown them that all that remained of the original Moveable Dwellings Bill was one paragraph known as Clause 5, and even in the new Bill, which they would have to seriously consider as far as it touched their trade and business, the old Clause 5 had been modified and divided, and now formed two sections in the new Bill. When the executive council of the Showmen's Guild began its opposition to the old measure, they were compelled to regard with the greatest possible seriousness the importance of the menace to their business contained in Clause 5. The council had declared in regard to that clause that if the Bill contained nothing else, it would be the duty of every showman to offer it the most strenuous objection. Clause 5, as they would remember, gave county councils power to make bye-laws to prohibit the assembly or encampment of moveable dwellings upon any place or places that, in the opinion of the authority, might constitute a danger to health or be a source of annoyance to the neighbourhood. That was Clause 5, and they would readily see how it placed their very existence and means of livelihood at the mercy of the county authority.

It would enable the county councils to practically abolish fairs, no matter how long established, to override the power of the Crown with the regard to both charter and other fairs, and to practically abolish a fair without either the consent of the people or of the Home Secretary as provided by Statute. The serious warning he had to give the meeting was that even in its modified form as it appeared in the new Bill it involved an attack and a menace to the show business of such a nature that it would be their duty to approach Parliament with reasonable and proper amendments to safeguard their interests. He had every confidence of ultimate success, but the necessity for continuing Parliamentary defence work was extremely urgent. Having gained so much, it would be the greatest possible mistake to relinquish their efforts until every danger was over.

In the new Bill there were provisions for closing down their business if in the opinion of the authority it was either a menace to public health, or was a source of annoyance to the neighbourhood in which the fair was held.

Is There a Reason for New Legislation?

As far as the provision of County Council camping grounds for gipsy vandwellers and hawkers go, showmen have no possible concern. That is absolutely a matter for gipsies and their friends to settle, and it is erroneous to imagine that gipsies have no friends, for one of the most able witnesses against the late Bill was Dr. Farrar, a high medical official of the Local Government Board, and a convinced champion of gipsy life. The good-living gipsy has nothing to fear from Parliament—the only excuse for new legislation at all is the admitted peril to country life of so-called gipsies (mostly half-breeds) who live a semi-criminal life, or subsist by dubious means, and whose moveable dwellings and tents are of doubtful sanitary character. It was the existence of this class—in some of the Home Counties an admitted menace and peril to health and good rule and order—that led to proposals like those embodied in the new Moveable Dwellings Bill, for the provision of County Council camping grounds as a necessary preliminary to giving the police powers to drive the undesirable gipsy off the commons and waste lands of the countryside into properly provided compounds.

With that part of the new measure showmen had nothing to do save and only to make sure that showmen are not brought under its drastic provisions to corner the gipsy. We admit that the Select Committee, in its admirable Report, makes clear the distinctions and differences between gipsy vandwellers and showmen vandwellers. We must be quite sure that the good intention is honestly carried out in the Act. It is in that direction that the Showmen's Guild will work, and it was for that necessary purpose that he (the speaker) was appealing that day to Scotch showpeople to generously support the Guild executive with ample means to safeguard the interests of showland.

Legislation for show van life was neither necessary nor desirable. Every show van was already under the strictest control and supervision of the whole body of Public Health Acts and Notification of Infectious Diseases Acts, and as regard the canons of morality, and the rules of good citizenship, the police had just as much power (and no more) as over the people who lived in permanent houses. The same sanitary and police laws applied equally to all people—the pierrot or the peer, the showman or the stockbroker. Their battle was to see that the present just incidence of the common law remained; that no special legislation, however desirable for the undesirable gipsy or squatter, inflicted hardship on their means of livelihood.

Clause 5 Still Threatens Show Life.

The extraordinary powers sought in Clause 5 of the original Bill were now distributed in Clauses 1 and 2 of the new Bill. If these proposals became law it would still be possible for Councils (if so minded) to strain the powers only meant to prevent gipsy encampments to cover moveable dwellings used by show people as part of their working plant. It would be their duty, as working for the good of all kinds of travelling amusement caterers, to see that amendments were drafted and submitted to Parliament entirely clearing up all ambiguity and doubt, and strictly confining its drastic powers to the limited class of undesirable people who have necessitated its proposal. Showmen will ask for, and he doubted not would obtain, full and complete exemption. The executive council of the Guild had already gone fully into the matter, and already amendments had been suggested. These would be fully discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Guild at the great autumn fairs, and finally approved before Parliament resumes its work.

Better Times Ahead for Showland.

He had every confidence that full justice would be done to their cause—their friends were many and their enemies few and rapidly coming over to their side. He ventured to attribute some of the gratifying results of their recent work to the assistance of their friends, the hon. local chaplains in the great centres of industrial life. His brethren of the clergy took a warm and intelligent interest in the concerns of showland. He referred his hearers to the excellent and wise words of the oldest and best of their friends, the Rev. H. Norburn, of Longsight, Manchester, who, in his parish magazine, had most kindly and wisely referred to the work of the Guild and to

MR. JOHN WILMOT, V.P.
Father of the Guild in Scotland.

the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords. He earnestly exhorted all showmen to make friends; to so live their lives that wherever they went they would make friends. Their dear old friend and fellow showman, John Wilmot, still happily present with them at their meetings, was a signal example of the advice he (the speaker) was offering. John Wilmot's one great policy and ambition in life had been to make friends in every town he visited on his extensive circuits of fairs. Although their dear old friend and leader, by his growing infirmities and great age could no longer take an active lead in their affairs, his very presence with his people was a precious advantage, for he made, and he held, wherever he travelled, the friendship of the people, from the highest to the humblest. Let their ideals be noble—to render public service as the entertainers of the people, and to uplift the popular amusements of all who enjoyed the open air fellowship of our fairs, feasts, and wakes.

The Chairman and Other Speakers.

Mr. George Green, after a humorous disclaimer of his ability to speak, and his contentment at being one of the band of silent workers, urged the duty incumbent upon every showman and amusement provider of joining the Guild and working in defence of their common interests. To his mind it was the merest act of trade insurance to safeguard their business from injurious legislation. There were other reasons, as Mr. Horne's speech had clearly set out; but to him it had always been difficult to understand the showman who kept out of the Guild. To stand out and refuse to support the good work was a tremendous mistake. Referring to the great work the Guild had already done, and to the able advocacy of the organising chaplain, he quoted the certificate of good character the House of Lords Committee had given show life.

"That apart from a small number of persons who use moveable dwellings as a pastime, vandwellers are divided into two classes—the showman class and the gipsy class. As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of their Guild, told the Committee that there were some 4,000 showmen's vans travelling the country, and carrying a population of something like 12,000 souls. The trade is perfectly honest and respectable and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them."

That, he maintained, was their charter of freedom. It was a discharge in full from all the vicious and vile charges that had in the past been levelled against showpeople.

It was a testimonial of good character from the highest judicial tribunal in the country. They were proud to be counted worthy of so great a verdict. As the Chaplain had shown already, it cleared the way. The faddists' and fanatics' occupation was now gone for ever as regards showpeople. Their business was honest and praiseworthy, and their character known to be beyond reproach. All these great gains were altogether good, but their work was not yet finished. So long as mistaken legislators wanted to get special powers to penalise the show business, so long would they, as an organised body, be compelled to defend their interests. He made a vigorous appeal for all to join and to help in strengthening the hands of the Guild executive council.

Mr. Tom Paulo's Commendation.

The well-known circus proprietor, Mr. T. Paulo, in response to the chairman's request, paid a high tribute to the Guild Chaplain's individual work, as well as the sterling good to showmen done by the Guild Council three years ago, when the Children's Act was under consideration, and an earlier Bill that sought to stigmatise with the calumny of neglect show parents with regard to the education of their children. The need for a society to represent and to defend them before

REANO

The Modern "SVENGALI"

AND HIS

FAMOUS BAND.

The Finest Combination of Instrumentalists in the World.

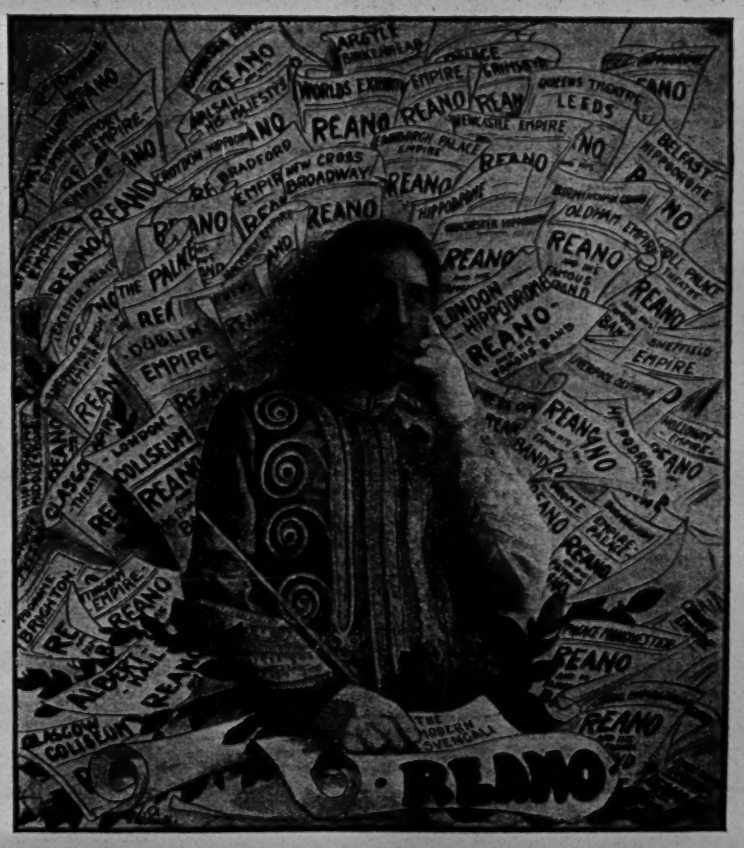
REANO
REANO
REANO

Parliament had been brought home to him. The Guild had fought for the rights of parents and for all reasonable facilities for show children to attend school. This had been done, and there was no education difficulty with showpeople as a class. When he realised what the Guild was doing he felt it his bounden duty to join and to subscribe for the defence work. He personally wished to thank the Guild Chaplain for looking after their interests and the interests of their families and their homes. Every showman, every stallholder should be a member, and he warmly advised and exhorted them to come forward at once with their names and subscriptions.

Mr. George Green proposed and Mr. J. Caddick, jun., seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain, for his visit to Ayr, and his address on the work of the Guild. This was carried with cheers, and the secretaries of the Conference, Messrs. Bert Green and Joe Caddick, jun., enrolled the following members and additional subscriptions:—Mr. George Green, £5 5s.; Mr. John Wilmot (third subscription), £2; Mrs. Howard, £1; Mrs. Biddall, 10s.; Mr. C. Miller, 10s.; Mr. T. Paulo, 10s.; Messrs. Irvin and Son, 10s.; Messrs. Mackintosh and Son, 10s.; Mr. J. H. Chipperfield, 10s.; Mr. Buckley, 5s.; Mr. Hughes, 5s.; Mr. Chapman, 5s.; Mr. Bert Green, 5s.; Mr. E. Blockley, 5s.; Mr. Merrick, 5s.; Mr. J. Blockley, 5s.; Mr. Testo, 5s.; Mr. E. Sheeran, 5s.; Mr. S. Rostron, 5s.; Mr. J. Graham, 5s.; Mr. Newey, 5s.; Mr. J. W. Kelly, 5s.; Mr. Talbot, 5s.; Mr. Wm. Irvin, 5s.; Mr. J. Day, 5s.

Guild Service at Night.

In the morning, at the invitation of the Vicar, the Guild Chaplain was the special preacher at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Ayr. The Rev. J. Vavasour Hammond, the Vicar, is the Hon. Local Chaplain of the Guild, and he takes a great interest in the showpeople when they visit Ayr. The Guild service in the evening was held in Green's spacious show pavilion. Nearly a thousand people were in the booth and hundreds went away unable to obtain admission. The choir from Newton Parish Church led the singing and Miss Rainie from the Manse, a great friend of the showpeople, was the organist. The hymns and the canticle were heartily sung by the vast congregation. The Guild Chaplain took the service and preached, taking for theme "compassion." He brought to his hearers by many striking illustrations the need for more sympathy, tenderer and quicker compassion on our fellow sufferers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond and Miss Rainie held an informal reception of the showpeople at the close of the service. 1910 Fair at Ayr will mark a great forward step in the appreciation and acceptance of the Guild and its work.

Mr. Joe Caddick, the veteran pioneer of the trade defence movements in showland, was prevented by a serious illness from being present at the meetings. We saw him in his caravan, and we are glad to state that he is recovering from the exhausting malady which had laid him low. On the Sunday afternoon news came of the sudden (and ultimately fatal) heart failure of Mr. John Robertson, one of the side show exhibitors at the Fair. The Chaplain made a sympathetic reference to the death at the close of his sermon.

MR. H. FINLAY-KNIGHT, in an interesting letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette* on the Shakespeare-Bacon question, says:—"I do not know, and I do not greatly care, whether Francis Bacon wrote 'Love's Labour's Lost,' but I feel pretty sure he did not write 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' and these are some of the reasons for my opinion. The writer, whoever he may have been, picked out a Warwickshire neighbour of Shakespeare's and held up his coat of arms to coarse ridicule. Now in Elizabethan days a gentleman's shield was almost a sacred thing, and it would have been in the worst possible taste to make fun of it. It is inconceivable to me that the well-born and cultivated Bacon could have been guilty of such a piece of clownishness, especially if he was connected with Warwickshire people. But the butcher's son need have had no such scruples if he saw his way to scoring off an old enemy. The dialogue goes on:

Shallow: It is an old coat. . . .
Slender: I may quarter, coz.
Shallow: You may, by marrying.

Now this is sheer nonsense. If you marry a man's daughter you *impale* his arms, but you cannot quarter them. That is for her children, and then only if she be an heiress. My third point comes at the end of the play, where there occurs what I have ventured to call a gross blunder in everyday law. That vulgar fellow, Ford, incoherently exulting over the crestfallen Falstaff, says: 'Falstaff . . . hath enjoyed nothing of Ford's but . . . twenty pounds of money, which must be paid to Master Brook: his horses are arrested for it, Master Brook.' But under correction of 'the greatest lawyers of several generations' there never was any process of English law by which (outside the City of London) a plaintiff could attach the goods of a defendant in the hands of a third party before judgment. Perhaps this also seems insignificant to a layman, but it is not so. No lawyer worthy of his robe would wilfully put bad law into the mouth of one of his characters. It would be worse than blasphemy. Would Scott have done such a thing? No, not for—Edinburgh! But, indeed, the bare idea that Ford could recover money advanced for the vilest of purposes is one that could never have occurred to a lawyer. May I say a few words about the passage spoken by Mrs. Page: 'If the devil have him not in fee simple with fine and recovery, he will never, I think, in the way of waste attempt us again.' I am convinced that no lawyer could have put such a highly technical speech into the mouth of a simple country housewife. It would have outraged all his ideas of the fitness of things. But I can fancy Shakespeare hearing the words fall from some witty Templar in the ordinary, and the laugh that followed. I can fancy him murmuring, 'My tablets: meet it is I set it down,' and then giving them *tant bien que mal* to the first comic character to whose circumstances they seemed to him appropriate.

IN our last issue reference was made to the trouble between M. Fontanes, manager of the Châtelet Theatre, and his machinists. M. Fontanes has now rebelled. Not only has he refused to take back a stage hand he had dismissed, but he turned away the leader of the agitators and engaged non-syndicate men in their places. The Scene Shifters' Union thereupon proclaimed its intention of disturbing the performances at the Châtelet by "protests" from the auditorium. Consequently, a posse of police and municipal guards attended the reopening of the theatre after an enforced closure owing to the strike. The malcontents, however, did not carry out their threats, and the performance passed off peacefully. We may remark here that the malcontents acted wisely in refraining from any demonstration, inasmuch as they would very likely have been set upon by the public.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home Fund. *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AN ACTOR'S IMPUDENCE.

In 1758, when he was in the very zenith of his popularity, the actor Tate Wilkinson took advantage of a holiday to pay a visit to London from York (wrote the late John Coleman). The day of his departure was one of lamentation for his admirers, who were convinced if Garrick once saw their favourite he would never return to the stately old city by the Ouse; and we are disposed to think that he himself was under the impression that he had only to show his face in town to be immediately snapped up by one or other of the London managers.

On the night of his arrival he went to Drury Lane, and paid his money like a man to the pit, to see David Garrick in *Hamlet*. Next morning he went to the Palais Royal (as Garrick's splendid mansion in Southampton-street was called). The great impresario at length broke the ice thus:

"Well, well, Mr. Frodsham," said Garrick, "I suppose you've seen a play since your arrival in London?"

"Oh yes. I saw you play my own crack part last night, sir."

"Oh, indeed! And how did you approve? I hope I pleased you, sir?"

"Why, yes, certainly, my dear sir—vastly clever in several passages, but I can't say I was struck with your entire performance."

This took Garrick's breath away, and he afterwards avowed that he never had such a "rise" taken out of him in all his life, as by this outspoken and audacious young country actor. The great man gasped and stammered:

"Why—now, now, to be sure now—I suppose you good people in the country—pray, pray, now, Mr. Frodsham, what sort of a place do you act in at York? Is it a room, or a riding-house, occasionally fitted up with scenery? Eh? eh?"

"Neither, sir," replied Frodsham, with dignity. "A theatre—a splendid theatre, Mr. Garrick."

"Ah, to be sure, my Lord Burlington told me so. By-the-bye, come and see my Sir John Brute to-night" (and he gave him an order for the pit); "then come and breakfast with me in the morning, and we'll have a trial of skill. Mrs. Garrick shall be judge between us. Good-day, Mr.—York—good-day. I must be off to rehearsal. Remember breakfast—breakfast at ten to-morrow."

Frodsham was punctual to the moment next day, and did justice to Mrs. Garrick's substantial repast; after which David opened fire with—

"Well, well, Mr. Frodsham, what do you think of my Brute? Eh, eh? Now, no compliments—tell Mrs. Garrick; was it all right? Would it go down at York?"

"Well, sir," replied the young coxcomb, serenely, "I can't undertake to say. Our audiences are confoundedly exacting. For my own part, I was delighted. Sir, I didn't expect it from your Hamlet. You see, I am accustomed to play Hamlet myself, sir; but tragedy is my forte, while comedy—my good sir—comedy is yours. Your Brute, sir—d——n it, Mr. Garrick—your Brute was the most brutal thing I ever saw in my life! I don't mean from an artistic point of view. No, no! there, sir, it was perfect. But you stood on the stage in your drunken scene, flourishing your sword; you placed yourself in an attitude (I'm sure you saw me in the pit), and with your eyes fixed on me you seemed to say, 'D——n it, Frodsham! did you ever see anything like that in York? Eh, sir? Eh?'"

Garrick, who was accustomed to swallow flattery by the hogshead, did not accept the rival Hamlet's doubtful compliments with perfect equanimity. He hemmed and hawed, pretended to laugh the matter off, and then said:

"Well, well, now for a taste of *your* quality; now a speech from Hamlet, Mr. Frodsham, and you, Mrs. Garrick—ahem! 'bear a wary eye,' my dear."

Nothing loth, with the utmost *sang froid*, Frodsham recited Hamlet's first soliloquy.

When he had finished, Garrick said:

"Well, well, hey now! There is stuff about you, but you see you want some of my forming; and really, in some passages, you have acquired tones that I do not by any means approve."

"Tones, sir," replied the country actor. "Tones! I flatter myself, Mr. Garrick, I *have* tones; but you are not familiar with them. Now, sir, *you* have tones, very odd ones, and Mrs. Cibber has tones, very strange ones, which I do not by any means approve; but I suppose, in time, I might get used to them, as I might to your Hamlet!"

Despite all we hear of Garrick's vanity and jealousy, he must have had many noble qualities.

We are under the impression that if some "young man from the country" were to call on any of our London managers nowadays, and ventilate candid and uncomplimentary opinions about their acting, he would be shown the door with as little delay as possible. Instead of which, as soon as David could recover his breath, he replied:

"Why now—now you're a d——d queer fellow, Frodsham; but, for a fair and full trial of your genius, my stage shall be open to you, and you shall act any part you please. If you succeed, we will then talk of terms."

Surely, here was a frank and generous proposal, and if this bumptious young blockhead had had the grace to have accepted it, the current of his whole life would have been changed. We suppose, however, Garrick's patronising condescension put the other's back up, for, with characteristic modesty, the airy youth responded:

"My dear Mr. Garrick, you are mistaken if you think I came here to cadge for an engagement. I am a Roscius myself in my own quarters, and I judged it a proper compliment to wait upon a brother genius; but I neither want nor wish for an engagement, nor would I relinquish the happiness I enjoy in my dear old York for the first terms your great city of London could afford!" And with an imposing obeisance to Garrick, and another to his beautiful wife, the insolent young puppy made his exit, leaving the rival Roscius absolutely dumbfounded at his impudence.

Of course, this modest young gentleman's visit to town would have been incomplete without an interview with that rough diamond, David's rival, Rich, of Covent Garden, who was as remarkable in his way as Garrick was in his.

Frodsham found the renowned pantomimist (he was said to be the greatest harlequin in the world!) surrounded by his usual troupe of cats. There was one perched on each shoulder, one on each knee, and two or three others purring about his legs. In the intervals of petting his favourites he was teaching a young lady to act. Supercilionsly looking at his visitor from head to foot with a large reading glass, he took snuff; next he blew his nose like a foghorn, then he dismissed his pupil, and began:

"Well, Muster Frogsmire, I suppose you've come from York for an engagement, and you want me to larn you how to act. Did you ever act Richard, Muster Frogsmire?"

"Yes, sir."

"Why, then, you shall see me act," says Rich; and, strutting about like a turkey-cock, and making the most hideous grimaces and contortions, he began to spout—

"Now is the winter of our discontent."

A little of this went a very long way with Frodsham, who cut his would-be tutor short with, "Sir, my name is *not* Frogsmire; I don't want an engagement; and I don't want to be taught to act; but I do want to wish you and your cats a very good-morning."

So saying, he stalked out of the room, leaving the despot of Covent Garden purple with rage.

THE SPIRIT OF THE PLAY.

The scene was the luxurious private study of a great actor-manager. He was alone. He closed the brown-paper copy of the last act of the play he had been reading and yawned. Forgive him! It was one o'clock in the morning.

He reached for a cigarette from the box at his elbow, and lighting it, puffed a cloud of smoke up towards the ceiling.

"Not bad," he murmured. "Rather a novel idea; and it has atmosphere, but—— wants working up here and there—still, not at all bad!"

He rose from the comfortable armchair and paced the room two or three times. With the exception of the red-shaded lamp on the desk, the room was in semi-darkness.

At last he stopped before the desk, placed the three brown-covered copies of the play together, seated himself, and, taking a sheet of notepaper, prepared to write to the author.

As his pen touched the paper, a small, quaint voice, as from a distance, came to his ear.

"Are you going to send me back, after all," it said.

"I beg your pardon?" he exclaimed, starting round and listening.

"Are you going to return me?" the small voice repeated.

"Well, what else could I do?" he asked.

"You *might* produce me."

"Absurd!"

"Why absurd?"

"The author is entirely unknown!"

"And likely to remain so!"

"Besides, there's a little weakness about the third act. The part, too, is not quite my line, and the woman scores too much in the second act——" There was a silence.

"Isn't that rather selfish of you?" asked the small voice.

"Who the deuce *are* you?" queried the great man, rising and glancing furtively round the room. It was beginning to feel rather uncanny, this small voice cross-questioning him.

"Who are you?" he repeated. "Speak!"

"I am the spirit of the play you have just read."

"My nerves are a bit off, I think!" he cried, rubbing his eyes.

"Your nerves are all right. It's your conscience and your judgment that are a bit off."

"Who the devil are you, really?" he cried, irritably.

"The spirit of that excellent comedy there!" the voice answered.

"Impossible!"

"Of course you don't believe. Now listen."

"Oh! Go!"

"I've almost ceased to be a play. I am an uncommercial traveller. For nearly five years have I been wandering around from theatre to theatre. Oh! It's sickening. I am tired and disheartened! What the author is I leave you to imagine, if, indeed, you *have* any imagination, which I am beginning to doubt."

"Thanks!"

"Oh! You're welcome. I don't pretend to be a perfect play."

"You're not!"

"You're all crying out for new authors and good plays. When you get them, you funk trying them because they are not exactly to your measure. You send them back when an encouraging word, a suggestion, a hint even would transform what was crude into a success. I'm really ashamed of you."

"Go ahead! You're talking through your hat!"

"I'm not, and you know it, too! I'm pleading for my life and the author's too. I am stronger than he is, because he's put the best of himself into me. His very soul, perhaps; while you, you are so stale, so sated, you are not able to judge me fairly."

"Oh! Thanks!"

"I'll tell you of my two last journeys. I was sent, with hope and confidence, to a charming friend of yours, and to an actor-manager of your acquaintance. In due course—weary months, I may mention—I returned from them both. One said I was very well written, the other said my dialogue struck him as being trite and commonplace. They couldn't both be right, could they?"

"Perhaps like the curate's egg?——"

"Damn the egg! Be a man! Ask the author to come round and have a chat. I know you want a play badly. I shan't cost much to mount."

"All very fine! There's the woman's part; it's much too good, the public will say——"

"You're a fool! Haven't you learnt that truism of Billy's, that 'The *play's* the thing!' Have you ever kept a bad play going? Confess? Will you never learn that the more good parts there are in a play the more chance it has of interesting the audiences."

"I daresay you're right."

"Then 'right now'—as the Americans say—write!"

"Don't talk to me of American plays."

"Write to my author, and you won't need them. Ask him to come here and talk about *me*."

"Well, as you are so persistent," cried the actor, "I will. But I fear it's useless."

"I prophesy you'll never regret it."

He took up the pen, however, and wrote a short note, asking the author to call.

"There!" he exclaimed, as he placed it in an envelope, "are you satisfied now?"

Silence!

"Well?"

Still no reply. Not even an echo.

"I wonder if I've been dreaming?" he asked himself, taking a cigarette and lighting it thoughtfully.

A soft murmur seemed to come from somewhere in the room like an echo.

"I wonder?"

But he posted the letter.

PORTSMOUTH CORPORATION.

SOUTH PARADE PIER PAVILION, SOUTHSEA.

WANTED,

FIRST-CLASS COMPANIES

for

THREE or SIX NIGHTS,

From

OCTOBER 10.

Apply to MANAGER.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS), ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
March 13, 20, April 3, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 20, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Oct. 24, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 13, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 17, Dec. 19, Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 6, 27, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Dec. 19, 26, (Xmas week), Feb. 6, 13, March 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Oct. 31, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 6, 20, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 10 (three or six nights),
Oct. 31, Nov. 7,
and Various Dates onwards
Can be booked in conjunction with Hastings Pier
Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

PIER, HASTINGS.
May be booked in conjunction with Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Company, Nov. 7.
WALTER MAXWELL, New Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 26, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, 12, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Oct. 3, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing Director, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 27, May 1, onwards.
Re dates address,
C. F. WRIGHT.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 6, 7, 8 (?), 10 (?), 31 (?), Nov. 7, 21, 28, Jan. 2, onwards.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives,
JAY AND MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies Touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, C. BURGESS.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions for Dec. 12, 19, 26, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 29, Oct. 3, three nights each; also Oct. 31, onwards, full weeks or three nights. Communications to C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Sept. 22, Oct. 10, 31, on, with exceptions, 3 or 6 nights. Share or rental. W. E. POTTS.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, THE PENNINGTON ESTATE CO., LTD.
The above will be open Dec. 12 next with Hall Caine's New Drama, "The Bishop's Son," by Wentworth Croke's company, followed by Edmund Tearle, "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "Pantomime," and other good Companies.
WANTED, Known, now open to book First-class Attractions for August Bank Holiday, 1911, and onwards.
The Theatre will be one of the most up-to-date in the provinces. Holding capacity 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter mile radius. All trams from Liverpool to Bootle North Docks, Seaforth Sands, and Litherland Terminus pass the door. It is also within five minutes' walk from the Lancs. and York Rly., Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra, under direction of Tom Shaw.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 17, Nov. 7 (first three nights), Dec. 5, 19, Xmas, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, on, with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, last three nights of week preferred.
Oct. 3, 10, 17, Nov. 14, 28, Dec 3, 10, 17, Xmas, onwards.
RUSHWORTH and SON, Proprietors.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and 19.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 3, through transferring to oblige.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, First Class Attractions for:
Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and 14, London.
Nov. 7 and 14, Newcastle.
Nov. 14, Aberdeen.
Nov. 21 and Dec. 19, Dundee.
Dec. 5 and 19, Glasgow.
Dec. 12 and 19, Edinburgh.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 27, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
All arrangements complete at present.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 16, 30, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales, up-to-date in every detail. Holding capacity over 2,000. Stage 62 by 36. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. Superb plant of electric light. 500 ampères available. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island, the latter being full of visitors during the summer season.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 16, April 10, 17, onward, with exceptions.

Bookings already include "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights Were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE, BARRY.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

Wanted, Dates, "ALADDIN," "BABES IN THE WOOD," "PUSS IN BOOTS."

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business. The week of Aug. 29 "The Prince and the Beggar Maid" beat their previous visit by £32. Refer Messrs. Paumier and Howard. Last week, J. W. Turner's Opera Company's fifth visit to the Royalty. The business improved each visit, last week being over £31 above the best. Refer Mr. Turner.
Extract from the North-Western Daily Mail of Saturday, Sept. 10: Tannhäuser at the Royalty
Extract from the North-Western Daily Mail of Saturday, Sept. 10:
Tannhäuser at the Royalty.
Packed from floor to ceiling, and many unable to obtain a seat, the chief theatre of Barrow presented a very gay and festive appearance last night when Wagner's masterpiece was produced by J. W. Turner's company, who have created so much popular interest in high-class music during the week.
Saturday was packed at early doors, and was the largest house Mr. Turner had ever played to in Barrow.
Future Bookings include: "Miss Lancashire, Limited," "The Christian," Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Merry Widow" (return), Miss Glossop-Harris, "Where is William?", Messrs. Paumier and Howard's Company, in "Her Love Against the World," and Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," "The Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEATH.
Proprietor, LEON VINT.
The above entirely New Theatre opened Aug. 22. Lighted throughout with electric light. Seating capacity, about 1,600.
WANTED, Strong Drama, Dec. 12, through obliging a Manager. March 20, 27, Easter (certainty only).
Neath is the Best Dramatic Date in South Wales. Thanks to Mr. Wilson Benge for his beautifully mounted and played piece, "The Sinner."
No. 1 Managements only dealt with.
All communications re Dates to
WILLIAM MINTO, Palace Theatre, Barry Dock.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 21 (?), Jan. 2, 9, 16, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
Leith, Dec. 5 and 12;
Falkirk, Oct. 17 and 24;
AYR, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12;
Motherwell, Dec. 5 and 12.
Also Good Pantomimes, for Dec. 26, and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14, Jan. 2, 9.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 14 and 28, Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Sept. 26, Oct. 17 and 24.
Wire VERNON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Light Attractions, Oct. 31, and Nov. 28 (3 nights).

NEWARK and GAINSBOROUGH.
Three Nights Each.
Vacant Nov. 21, 28, and Dec. 12.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted, Good Companies to play twice nightly, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 19, and Jan. 23.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.
Managers' Club until Wednesday.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, Oct 17 (?), Nov. 7, 14 (?), Dec. 5, 12.
JAMES BELL.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, share or certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
WANTED, Attractions for the following dates: Nov. 3 (3 nights), Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27.
All communications,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant March 6, 20, 27, May 29.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27 (?), April 10 (?), May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Dec. 5, April 3, 24, May 8, 15 (?), 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn (1911) Dates.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Nov. 7, (?), 14, 24, (3 nights with Folkestone).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3), 24 (3), Nov. 10 (3), 28.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 6 (3), 27 (3), 31, Nov. 7 (3), 21 (3 night with Eastbourne), 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Vacant Oct. 3 (3), Nov. 14 (3), 21, Dec. 1 (3), Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 13.
Apply for all above.
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, York, First-class Companies, three nights, Oct. 6, 7, 8, also Oct. 10 week. Apply WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Oct. 17, 24, 31, Dec. 12, 19, and 26. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Companies, for New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn. Vacant Sept. 29 (3), Oct. 6 (3), 10, 17, Nov. 3 (3), 10 (3), 14, on, with exceptions. Bookings embrace Best Productions Touring. Re dates, apply, B. PARENZER.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Oct. 10 on, Twice Nightly, with own Scenery and Good Printing. Must state lowest, share or certainty. T. A. EDWARDES, Palace Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, good Company,
Sept. 26, week.
Wire, MACDONA, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Dec. 26 to Jan. 7, inclusive. Send full particulars to R. C. BUCHANAN,
6, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Oct. 3, First-class Attraction or High-class Vaudeville Combination, on sharing terms. No Drama. Silence polite negative. THOS. COURTICE, Her Majesty's T., Carlisle.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Oct. 10. Unexpectedly Vacant.
Wire, MANAGING DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.

WANTED, a Strong Attraction, Oct. 10 (through transferring "The Dollar Princess"), Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20, and 27, March 13 and 20, April 3, and Autumn, 1911, with exceptions. The present season's bookings include many of the leading Companies.

Address,
SIDNEY COOPER, Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, for Porth, Good Companies, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec 5 and 19, for Gloucester, Nov. 28, and later. All communications, WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Vacant Oct. 10.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Wire, R. G. ELDER.

GRAND THEATRE,
LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Companies, for 1911, July, Aug., Sept., First-class Attractions only.
Write, MANAGER.

RAMSGATE.
ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.
Director, Mr. CHAS. EVANS.
WANTED, Musical Comedies and Good Dramas, for Season, 1911; also Autumn and Spring.
Address, re dates, direct to
HENRY BOWMAN, Resident-Manager.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
Scotland's
Premier Drama Theatre.
WANTED, Popular Plays.
Few Vacancies only 1911.
Various 1912.

Coms., ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
Wires: "Jefferson, Glasgow."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

WANTED, Known, Oct. 31, Dec. 5 and 12, Open for First-class Attractions; also dates, from Feb. 20, 1911, onwards, with exceptions.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.

Vacant Dec. 5, 12, 19; also Christmas and New Year's Week, Big Musical Attraction.
All Communications for Grand Opera House to be Addressed there; others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Companies, Sept. 26, Oct. 13, 17 (3 nights each), Nov. 10, 24, and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 12, on, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, on, Grand, Radcliffe. SANTE.

WINTER GARDENS, BOOTLE.
Messrs. ADELER, SUTTON, and ALLANDALE.
WANTED, good Farcical Comedy Co. or Musical Comedy,
Oct. 10, 31, Nov. 7, onward.
CHARLES BOULT, as above.

HAGGAR'S THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Sole Proprietor, W. HAGGAR, sen.
WANTED, Companies having Oct. 10 vacant, can have 3 nights at above; also Oct. 27, 28, 29. Xmas still vacant for good Panto. or Musical Show. Share or cert. Manager, JAS. HAGGAR.

THE KURSAAL, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Sept. 19, onwards, Good Attractions and Musical Shows do well. Follies, one night, £117; same afternoon, £70; total one day, £187. London Stars for one day or night always draw.
Address, J. M. GLOVER, Drury Lane Theatre.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WALTER MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Oct. 31, Dec. 12, 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Absolute Open Time 1911.
"CINDERELLA." All Dates Filled.
"RED RIDING HOOD." Feb. 13.
"BABES IN THE WOOD." all dates filled.
WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, once or twice nightly; clean, smart, funny, and bright. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 21, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of Nov. 14 (North preferred) and Dec. 26.

Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, onwards.
Big Company, Chorus, Specialities,
Special Scenery and Printing.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Hippodrome, Sheerness. Ramsgate next.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

1910 fully Booked.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9. Feb. 27, March 27.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Sept. 19, Royal Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 26.
BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Co.,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARING O' THE GREEN."
Record Business Everywhere.
No Vacant Dates this Year.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Autumn, 1911.
Either or both Plays.

CHALMERS MACKEY,
Paisley T., Paisley; next, King's T., Greenock.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21 (3 nights), Jan. 2, March 13 and 27.
Address,
FRANK M. THORNE, Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"HER SECRET LOVER,"
Vacant Oct. 10, Oct. 10.

"THE POWER OF THE KING,"
Vacant Oct. 24, Oct. 24.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
Vacant Oct. 17, 24, Oct. 17, 24.

Write, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

WALTER STEELE'S TOUR.
"A FAST LIFE."
The great Drama that is still beating the big money-makers. Thirtieth week of continuous tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 10 (South Wales), Nov. 7 and 14, Dec. 5 and 19. Once or twice nightly.
WALTER STEELE, Carlton T., Birmingham.

WANTED, for the Great Success, "His Real Wife," Dec. 19, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 1911. Good Theatres only.
Address, T. E. WARD, Metropole T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, for "A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" Co. Nov. 14, Mid. or Lancs.
Only vacant date this year.
LEWIS GILBERT, O. H., Kidderminster.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 31, Jan. 16.
Refer R. C. Buchanan, Esq., as to business on his circuit. Also A. Jefferson, Esq., T. W. Rowe, Esq., Francis Laidler, Esq., &c. Thanks Milton Bode, Esq., also Moss's Empires, Ltd., for offer of Jan. 16, Bordesley. Also offer of Nottingham and Walsall. G. A. DE GRAY, Sept. 19, Alex. T., Birmingham.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S TOUR,
with the Wilson Barrett Version of
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 1, 1911.
See Companies Page.

"OUR BOYS." "OUR BOYS."
CHARLES OTLEY as PERKYN MIDDLEWICK.
Revived at County Theatre, Kingston, Sept. 5, and received with the utmost enthusiasm. Three curtains nightly at the end of the second and third acts. Refer Peter Davey, Esq.
WANTED, immediate dates, Wanted, immediate dates.

At the Royal County, Kingston, last week, Mr. Charles Otley and Company scored &main in "Our Boys." Mr. Otley's Perkyn Middlewick was especially droll.—Referee, Sept. 11, 1910.

Mr. Charles Otley is the life and soul of the play, causing endless fun and amusement.—Surrey Advertiser, Sept. 7.

Everybody is delighted with "Our Boys," which is being presented under the direction of Mr. Charles Otley, who himself gives a splendid portrayal of the character of the generous-hearted parvenu, Perkyn Middlewick. He does full justice to a part which calls for good acting, as well as skilful manipulation of the English language, as interpreted by a person whose education left something to be desired. As the devoted father he extracted the pathos as well as the humour from the rôle, and while he was on the stage there was continual laughter pervading the house.—Surrey Comet, Sept. 10, 1910.

Address (letters or wires only),
6, Vestry-road, Camberwell, S.E.

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
WANTED, Theatres, for the above, Once or Twice Nightly,
Nov. 7, 21.
Address, H. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S CO.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 26.
H. H. STEWART, T. R., Colne.

MR. LEONARD BOYNE.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, 28 (South only).
Address,
9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Little Damozel.
MARK BLOW.
11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park.

MR. GASTON MAYER'S PRINCIPAL CO.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 (North).
COMS., WALTER D. NICOLL, 106, Strand, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by
Mrs. Morton Powell.

Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Pavilion Theatre, London.
Grand Theatre, Fulham, London.
Grand Theatre, Fulham, London.

Receipts went up nightly.
Receipts went up nightly.

Monday, opened at
Grand, Nottingham,
to packed houses.

Enormous Success.

"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"

The most
Certain Success
Certain Success
Touring.

A
People's Play.
People's Play.

A Grand Production.

The Death-bed Scene.
The Asylum Scene.
The Attempted Murder Scene.
The Fight in the Burning House.
Any one of which
would make a Play.

Vacant,
Jan. 16, 23 (?), Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
The Great Money-maker.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This mammoth Money Magnet
Draws
the Public
everywhere.
Enormous Success.
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant,
Nov. 14 (?), 28, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,

The Never-failing Success.
Vacant,
Oct. 17, 31, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

Notice.
The Titles, Plots, Situations, and Effects of the above Plays are fully protected, and any infringement will be at once proceeded against.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 2, 9, 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
for this Great Attraction,
Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 14 (?), 28, Dec. 26.

MORTON POWELL (dates only),
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and Xmas, for Mr. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of
S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's
Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
by arrangement with T. Morton Powell.
The Romantic Military Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
and the Play from Dickens's famous novel,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD."

Refer W. W. Kelly, Esq., Percy Broadhead, Esq., or any Manager visited. Breaking all records at the magnificent new Theatre, New Washington, this week, refer J. Turnbull, Esq.

OSWALD CRAY, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, with New and Splendid Plant of Printing, Carefully Selected Company, including Miss Nellie Clyde as Nan, the Flower Girl, Oct. 17, Oct. 17.
Only Date Vacant till Autumn, 1911.
Wire for Oct. 17.
CHARLES GIBSON, this, Prince's T., Preston; next, Grand T., Walsall.

MISS HORNIMAN'S COMPANY,
on Tour with "CANDIDA" and
"CUPID AND COMMONSENSE."
WANTED, Oct. 24,
to follow Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Only Vacant Date this Autumn.
EDWIN T. HEYS, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
The Premier Domestic Drama.
WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5.
HARRY TILBURY, Empire, Oldham.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD & CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Nov. 21, and Christmas.
EDWARD LLOYD, Royalty T., Barrow.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26, Jan. 30, April 17. HALDANE CRICHTON, Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Undoubtedly the masterpiece of this genius.
Every scene and property carried. A perfect Production.
WANTED, Oct. 24, 24, 24, Nov. 7, 7, 7, absolutely the only vacant dates till Jan. 23.

HARRY LYNDON, Palace Theatre, Gloucester; next, Royal, Stratford, E.

"THE GAY GODDESS."
WANTED, Oct. 3 and 10, on, with exceptions. Wire, STANLEY, this, Grand, Lancaster; next, T. R., Stanley, Durham.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
The Most Successful Drama Touring.
WANTED, Oct. 10, Wire.
Wanted, Oct. 10, Wire.
Also Oct. 17.
Playing to Enormous Business Everywhere.
Refer Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds; Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield; Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland; Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star Theatre, Liverpool; W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead; J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby; Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull; &c., &c.

Re dates address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."
Vacant Oct. 10, 17.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Vacant Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 7, 14, 28.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.

Re dates, A. R. FEATHER, Manager,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANY.
By arrangement with Mr. R. C. Carton.
Mr. Norman will revive the Great Sporting Play,
"LORD AND LADY ALGY."
This Play met with the Greatest Success where presented.
WANTED, Theatres. Booking Spring, 1911.
Vacant this year,
Oct. 17 and Dec. 5.
Address, MANAGERS' CLUB,
5, Wardour-street, W.

A. and B. LIMPUS' TOURS.
"THE THIEF"
(by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander).
Everything carried.
Only Vacant Date for above, Nov. 7.
"TANTALIZING TOMMY."
Now playing to crowded houses at the Playhouse.
WANTED, Good Theatres not visited by Messrs. Harding and Cooper's Company, Xmas, and on. A. LIMPUS, T. R., South Shields.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 17 (?), 31.
Nov. 7, 14.
Admitted to be one of the biggest moneymakers touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire for Oct. 17, 31. Wire.
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Oct. 10.
Vacant Oct. 10.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Christmas, on, with Exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
present the Modern Domestic Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
Good wine needs no bush. Refer this week Manager George Stow, Royalty, Barrow-in-Furness, re Play, Printing, Company, and Production. Thanks the seven Managers for offer of Oct. 10. Secured by Stanley Rogers, Esq., T. R., North Shields, for that week.
WANTED, Theatres, for only vacant dates this year, Nov. 21, Nov. 28, and Dec. 5, follow Ramsgate and precede St. Helen's. First vacant date Nov. 21; first vacant date.
Big Theatre wanted Xmas week.
Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Ashington (3), Blyth (3).

FRANK STANMORE introduces
the up-to-date Musical Comedy,
"CHASING CYNTHIA."
"CHASING CYNTHIA."
Cast includes Mr. Arthur Poole, Frank Stanmore, and Miss Gurney Delaporte.
Special and exclusive engagement of the beautiful Parisienne, Mlle. Roselle D'Origny of the Folies Bergère, who will introduce her famous "Danse du Paraguay," that has set all Paris dancing.
Special Chorus of "Hobble" Skirted Maidens.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, Oct. 17, 31, and Nov. 7.

Apply, CHAS. C. OMMANNEY,
4, Duke-street, Charing Cross.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY,"
by
Elizabeth Arnim.
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
First-class Company. Approved by Herbert Trench. The Company Rehearsed and Production Superintended by Mr. Charles La Trobe, Stage-Manager, Haymarket Theatre.
Cast includes:
Miss Beatrice Lindley as Priscilla.
Mr. Clifton Alderson as the Grand Duke.
Mr. J. Edward Pearce as the Tutor.
Entire Production Carried.
Tour starts Sept. 19, Hastings.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Vacant dates, Oct. 10, 17 (North), 31, Nov. 14.

Apply, Mr. JOHN E. WATSON,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

WANTED, Sept. 22, 26, and on, for "Caste," and second play when required. Mr. G. W. Anson being at Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, Miss Lydia Busch will continue to tour above with excellent all-round company. Wire, King's Theatre, Sunderland. Sept. 19, 56, Abinger-road, Bedford Park.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 26 and Oct 10, Lancs or Yorks preferred. Enormous plant of private printing. The Finest and most Artistic "Sapho" travelling. Bright Music and Costumes. Note.—"Sapho" can, if required, be played in conjunction with our unique répertoire of eight plays. Wire for Sept. 26. ABBOTT, to-day, T. R., Shrewsbury; next, Lyric, Liverpool.

"AT THE WORLD'S MERCY."
A play somewhat out of the ordinary.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10.
"AT THE WORLD'S MERCY."
Address, CARR LOATES.
This, Hippo., Stoke; next, King's T., Gainsboro'.

WANTED, Hall or Theatre, for Oct. 17, for "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law."
The Biggest of Screaming Sketches Touring.
Salary, share, or would bring Combination.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S
"CHARLEY'S AUNT" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Oct. 24 (South).
Address, CECIL BARTH, Theatre Royal, York.

The "Smart Set" Entertainers.
Vacancies in October.
WANTED, Theatres, Music Halls, or Concerts. Novel and Sparkling Show.
Fifteen Minutes to Two Hours.
Own Scenery and Effects Carried.
Only First-class Managers need apply.
Share or Certainty.
All Particulars, address,
WALTER GEORGE, Stow-hill Skating Rink, Newport (Mon.), Sept. 19, week.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
by Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, March 13.
May 1, 15, 22.
June 5, 19, 26.
MISS HILDA BEVERLEY,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

THE WILSON BARRETT
Original Version of the Famous Play,
"EAST LYNNE."
(Bullock Version.)
By arrangement with J. Pitt Hardacre.
TOM WATT'S SPECIALLY SELECTED CO.
34th week of tour. Continuing to Dec. 31.
Record run for "East Lynne."
Personally conducted by Mr. Tom Watt, who will shortly make a very interesting announcement in regard to the future. Please note that no other person, directly or indirectly, has any interest in this company. Return dates offered everywhere.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, Nov. 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 19 and 26.
Managers requiring a Sound Attraction and Sure Moneymaker, wire or write.
TOM WATT,
6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.
Sept. 19, Alhambra, Openshaw, Manchester.

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Oct. 17, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 16, 23, various Spring and Autumn, 1911.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.

This, Lyric, Hammersmith; next, T. R., Woolwich.
Wanted, Oct. 17 and Xmas.

Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
T. R., Sunderland;
next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
Always the same verdict: Really excellent.
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, also Oct. 31 (?).
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
The Great Human Interest Play.
Vacant Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct. 31.
Once or twice nightly.

All coms. re above, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
To-day, G., Worksop; next week, Queen's, Dublin.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Oct. 24, to follow Walsall.

HORACE STANLEY,
To-day, P., Blackburn; next, Empire, Fleetwood.

H. ARMITAGE'S COMPANIES.

Associate Manager, CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.

"LEAH KLESCHNA"
(over 2,000 performances).
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 21, Xmas onwards.

"THE GREATER LOVE,"
By Vincent Brown.
Only vacancy this year, Oct. 10.
Now Booking Spring.

Henry Seton Merriman's
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
Now Booking Autumn, 1911.

All coms. re dates, CAMPBELL GOLDSMID,
This, Grand, Swansea; next, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

KIMBERLEYS, GREEN AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Oct. 17, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Nov. 21.
The recognised money-maker. Magnificently mounted and played by an exceptionally strong cast. Refer any Manager. Wire re these dates, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.
All other communications, GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

MR. J. W. LINDSAY ELLIS
Presents
"LIGHTS OUT."
As produced by H. B. Irving at the Waldorf and Savoy Theatres. Record business T. R., Bury St. Edmund's.
WANTED, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14.
This, Town Hall, Cromer.
Next, Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 5, 26, few Spring.
Can play one or two weeks.
WILSON BENGE, Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, for YOUNG BUFFALO, in
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."
Real Indians, Cowboy Band, &c.

Oct. 17, 24, 31, for
"THE SAILOR'S WEDDING."
Everything carried.

Oct. 17, 24, 31, for
"HAPPY GO LUCY O'LYN,"
with John Child.

Address, BERTRAM, 8, Rupert-court,
London, W. Telegrams, "Breather, London."

WANTED, for really First-class Pantomime Production, the weeks of Feb. 6 and 13. Managers of Theatres capable of holding good money, please
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

"BABES IN WOOD."
35 performers and 8 scenes; once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Jan. 23 and 30.
"PUSS IN BOOTS."
35 performers, 7 scenes; once or twice nightly.
Wanted, Jan. 23 and 30, and Feb. 6.
COLLINS, 8, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

THE MELODRAMA PRODUCTION SYNDICATE, LTD., Proprietors of "Sexton Blake," "Convict 99," "Hush Money," "The Master of the Mill," &c.

WANTED, good and reliable Artists all Lines, for week commencing Oct. 17, who are at Liberty, to be in new production in London. Please address, THE MELODRAMA PRODUCTION SYNDICATE, LTD., 21, John-street, Adelphi, W.C. 'Phone 2431 City.

"HER PATH OF SORROW."
WANTED, Juvenile Lady for Nellie Rayne (not more than 5ft. 4in.), Plenty of Power and Pathos (capable of mad scene), Pretty and Good Appearance, Rehearse at once. Fullest Particulars, Refs. (applied for), exact height, &c., to CHARLES DRAYCOTT, 72, Beever-street, Oldham.

"ALONE IN LONDON."
WANTED, Tall Actor, for Biddlecombe. Apply, with photos., height, references, and lowest terms, to CHARLES GIBSON, Grand T., Walsall.

WANTED, for Sept. 26, a few useful Artists, Ladies and Gentlemen. Those who can attend to business; third week here; Thursday, under the patronage of the Countess of Kimberley. TOM GREEN, Public Hall, North Walsham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for "For the Cross" (fit-up tour), Artists, all lines, good voices, Agent, young, dress well. Rehearse 10th, open 17th. Terms, parts, &c., JOHN SODEN, S.M., Lamb Hotel, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Gent., Comedy Repertoire, Rehearse Midlands; also Good Amateur. MISS M. LOWE-DARE, 86, Canterbury-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, for La Comedie Anglaise, Fit-up Répertoire Tour, young Gentleman, for good parts; splendid opportunity for one wishing to gain experience. Address, with photographs (imperative) and lowest terms for long Tour, Mr. WM. L. DOZELL, Father Matthew Hall, Athlone, Ireland.

WANTED, Heavy Lady, Gentleman, Juvenile Lady, Gentleman, Character Gentleman, Actress for Old Hag. Write, W. GRAHAM, 144, St. Paul's-road, Highbury. No callers.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Heavy Lead, Open in London Oct. 3; rehearse in London prior. State terms and address.
W. E. MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Tall Character Actor, also Smart Young Gentleman for Business Manager, must be able to play parts if necessary. Well-known management. Box 8,279, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Light Comedian, to play Reggie in "Our Flat,"
must be really first-class.
Address, MURRAY KING, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

WANTED, a tall Gentleman for Responsible Parts; also a Lady and Gent., for Small Parts. Full particulars, References, &c., NORMAN V. NORMAN, Globe Theatre, Walmer, Deal.

WANTED, good Comedian (tall preferred), also Gentleman, for General Stenovic, in "Power of the King," also Child Actress, aged 14, must be small. Lowest terms, refs., &c., to F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton. Also tall Carpenter wanted.

WANTED, experienced Character Actor, age 35 to 40, for Cinematograph Work. finished Artists only entertained; permanency to right man; good modern Wardrobe essential. Apply, THEO. BOUWMEESTER, Wilbury Cinematograph Works, Hove.

WANTED, rehearse Monday, really good Comedian, to sing and dance; also Juvenile Gentleman, must have good voice (tenor or light baritone). Terms, wire NIGHTINGALE, T. R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs in First-class London Comedy Success for Talented Young Gentleman to play Small Juv. part and Learn Stage-Management; Long Tour. Full particulars, Box 8966, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Gentleman, to play part and take half share in new production of a Musical Dramatic Sketch; a good Amateur would have an excellent opportunity under the direction of a manager of repute. Address, Box 8,272, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Lady, with good singing voice, must not be more than 18, pretty face and figure essential, to play in a new Musical Costume Dramatic Sketch. Preference given to lady who will take financial interest, under tuition of well-known Actor. Address, Box 8,273, "The Era."

WANTED, Short Comedienne, with Operatic Soprano voice, for Tour starting next month. Apply, personally, HERBERT JAY, 9, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Mrs. Gampney in "The Major" (Sing, Dance). Lowest, photo, T. C. MCQUIRE, O. H., Lochgelly, N.B. Terret write.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nina Hope, the Distinguished Girl Tragedienne. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Gentleman (inexperienced), Position as Super in Theatrical Company in return for small salary. Write, Box 8,258, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by Contralto, Young, Good Voice, Appearance, and Reg. Assist at Piano. KATE TWIST, Bradda House, Palace-road, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, by trained and experienced Gentleman Amateur, refined Drama or Comedy Juvenile, London if possible; no premiums. W. MCCABE, 56, Sydenham-road, Croydon.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boys and Girls, Smart Troupe of Juveniles, pair Sisters, Knockabouts, Comedians. Terms, refs., photos., and where working, to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Caxncau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists all Lines, including Producers, also Ladies and Gentlemen for Chorus. Full particulars, ARTHUR CARLTON, T. R., Worcester.

WANTED, Ballet Ladies, for Provincial Pantomime (good salary);
must be young, good-looking, and good dancers.
Apply, with practice dress,
next Tuesday, at 5 o'clock,
at Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Chorus, Pantomime, near Manchester.
Send photo, height, and voice to
ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Six Tall Chorus Ladies for Panto.
Not less than 5ft. 8in.
References, terms, photos, to
ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, a Principal Comedian for Panto.
Also Comedians for Ugly Sisters.
Address,
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Recognised Principal Boy and Principal Girl of Repute, First-class Comedian for Baron, also Demon King and Male Quartette of Choristers.
Address, with full particulars, terms, references, and state where can be seen working, to
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Two Pairs Comedians for Policemen, Vizier and Wishee Washee, also Fairy Queen, Principal Girl, Sisters (sing and dance) for Second Boy and Girl, Emperor and Specialities. Panto. refs and photos in all cases. State where can be seen next three weeks. R. NIGHTINGALE, T. R., West Bromwich.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Clara Reid is vacant for Pantomime.
Principal Boy (petite) or Girl.
34, Rockhouse-street, Rocky-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, Panto., by Fred Boulton; last two seasons Will Atkins, with Chas. Elderton, Esq. Address, Pavilion, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, by La Dor Troupe, Male and Female Novelty Acrobats, Pantomime parts, Speciality, and Harlequinade, everything carried. Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, Known, Carr and Rose, Vacant for Pantomime.
G.P.O., Boscombe.

WANTED, Known, Victor Bros., Vacant for Panto., Spec. and Animal Parts. Always a Feature on any Bill. Mon., Hippo., St. Helens.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, able play parts, quick worker; also young Juvenile Lady, used to Stock. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Theatrical Advertising Curtains, designed, painted, and written. Distance no object. Real good showy work. WILL MOLESWORTH, Shirley, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconis, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel. "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery First-class Work Guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.

WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces; References, &c., address 25, Elgin-terrace, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, by Davies Massey, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract.
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a very good
Advance Agent
for England;
Must have good experience
with travelling companies
and
first-class references.
Write to
Dr. ROBINEAU,
Proprietor,
Kursaal,
Cayeux-sur-Mer,
Somme,
France.

WANTED, Known, Manager will shortly be at Liberty for Variety Hall. Present Position held for Five Years, General Manager First-class Vaudeville House. Age 31; Highest References. Address, in confidence, Box 8 260, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at once, Practical Stage Carpenter (own tools) to make, and Scenic Artist (own brushes), Temporary Employment. State experience, references, and lowest wages. Also Stage Manager, to combine billing, for Variety Hall. Permanency for experienced and steady worker.
Apply, A. F. CROSS,
Prince of Wales Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, for Suburban Theatre, a good working, thoroughly experienced Electrician. Must be accustomed to theatre work and switchboard. Salary to commence with, 30s. per week. Permanency to good man. Apply, with references, to Box 8,271, "The Era."

WANTED, by T. Elder Hearn, Carpenter,
capable of touching up Scenery.
Must be under 30.
Single,
Teetotaller,
and not afraid of work.
Also Valet, to look after wardrobe, wigs, &c., same qualifications above.
Apply, Empire, Holborn, to-night;
or write, Theatre Royal, Jarrow, next week.

WANTED, Situation as Resident Stage-Manager or Business-Manager, in a good Provincial Music Hall or Picture Palace, well up in advertising, &c.; 12 years' first-class Theatrical references, CHAS. HAMMOND, 67, Corbyn-st., Hornsey Rise, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Albert Birchenough, three years Advertising Manager White City, Manchester, just concluding season Blackpool; open for Working Manager, Bill Inspector, or anything in advertising; a worker; best of references. Write or wire, BILLPOSTING CO., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known. Why have bad business, when it can be easily rectified by engaging a manager who by his general knowledge, and his own methods of improving business, when others have failed, can ensure success, which no doubt seems big talk, but none the less a fact. At liberty Oct. 1. Address, A. G. SANDILANDS, General Manager, Zoo, Halifax.

WANTED, Position, by Manager with four years' experience in West-End Music Hall; town or provinces. Box 8,256, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Live Manager of Picture Palaces or Variety Halls, at Liberty; 20 years' all-round experience. Box 8,269, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Permanent Building, as General Stage Hand; assist Props., Billing, &c.; own kit of tools; abstainer, single. A., c/o Smith, 2, Bishopsgate-street Without.

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-class Wardrobe Mistress, Disengaged, cut, make, and renovate, 42, Geneva-road, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Wardrobe, Policemen, Soldiers, Square Cuts, Shapes; good, cheap for cash. GAUNT, Grand Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Lady, thoroughly qualified, Position as Private Secretary; home or abroad. A. MANBY, 30, Howitt-road, Belsize Park, N.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musical-Director, for Pantomime.
Full particulars and terms,
Box 8,287, "The Era."

WANTED, for Pantomime, experienced Conductor.
Terms and references indispensable.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

WANTED, competent reliable Leader, First-class Varieties.
Age and references to MUNDELL, M.D.

WANTED, Leader, First Violin, Viola, and 'Cello, for permanency. None but first-class men of recognised theatre experience need apply. State terms and full particulars. W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, to open at once, good Leader, permanency if suitable. Terms, age, and refs. to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.

EMPIRE, TON-Y-PANDY.

WANTED, First Violin, to open Monday next; must be used to First-class Varieties. Wire terms, &c., to H. E. BREAKWELL, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, First Violins (Leader), 'Cello, Bass (Ladies). Permanency.
Box 8,284, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for First-class British Orchestra, now in Fourth Year of Tour, Clever Young Man as First Violin (to understudy Leader); must have good technique, tone, temperament; good Sight-reader; must be steady, well mannered, unmarried. Send testimonials, photo, state age, lowest terms. Fare paid to join. Must open Oct. 1. HUNT, Knipperbrau, Saarbrucken, Germany.

WANTED, Violinist and Flautist, join Harpist, pitching and ball business; shares. Tiddley merchants save stamps. WATERS, 10, Friar-street, Worcester.

CARDIFF CITY MENTAL HOSPITAL, WHITCHURCH, NEAR CARDIFF.

WANTED, Bandsman Attendant (Cornet player), age 20 to 35.
Apply for particulars to
THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, used to Variety. Apply, with testimonials, to MANAGER, Royal Hippodrome, Rochdale.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, must be steady and reliable. Shares. Weekly subsidy from Corporation. HOSKING, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Flute, 'Cello, Bass, commence Monday; Concert Performers. CONDUCTOR, 44, West End-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, for Hoylake Town Band, Pitching, B flat Bass and First Cornet Player. Instrument found. Apply, particulars, GROOM, Bandmaster, Hoylake.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Solo Cornet, join at once; terms 30s. per week.
Kington, Sat. and Mon.; Pembridge, Tues.; Herefordshire.

WANTED, at once, for Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra, First or Second Clarionet, Flat Pitch, Experienced in High-class Concerts, till October 31 next.
Apply to P. TAS 10, Camden-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, a Lady Double Bass, experienced, commencing Oct. 1, Milan, Stockham's English Ladies' Orchestra. WALHALLA, Wiesbaden, Germany. Stamp 2½d.

WANTED, Clarionet Player, to commence Monday, Sept. 26. Apply, with refs., SYKES, Musical Director, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, to open, Sunday, Sept. 18, Experienced Trombone, must be efficient in Concert and Variety Work. Wire terms, CONDUCTOR, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, for Suburban Theatre (permanency), Flute, Trombone, and Drums. Must be first-class and fully experienced. Terms and particulars, Box 8,270, "The Era."

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1, Competent Solo Euphonium. Address, J. MILLS, Saturday, Bradford; Monday and Tuesday, Halifax.

WANTED, E Flat Bombardon, Double Drums, Tenting Ireland, winter shop to follow. STEPHENSON, Monday, Ardfert; Tuesday Ballyheige; Wednesday, Causeway; all Kerry.

WANTED, good French Horn and B flat Clarionet, to enlist in Distinguished Line Regiment. Bonus given according to ability. Apply, BANDMASTER, Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), Devonport.

WANTED, at Once, good Viola Player, for P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby. Terms and two recent references to J. R. BINGLEY, 24, Eleanor-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, thorough Knowledge of Picture Work. Permanent Engagement. No Orchestra. Piano and Organ only.
State lowest terms,
Marsell's Pictures, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Pictures and Varieties, to open Sept. 19, Good Reader and Accompanist, or useless. Terms, Refs., to TOTTEN, Manager, Poole's Picture Palace, Treherbert.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to complete Small Orchestra, for Winter Season in Southport, commencing Oct. 3; three performances daily; No Sunday work. Terms and refs. to R. W. DAVISON, 16, Victoria-street, Southport.

WANTED, Pianists, used to Dramatic and Variety business, to open in Lincolnshire, Sept. 22. Terms and full particulars, MILTON, 32, Havelock-street, Stoke.

WANTED, Pianist (male), accompanist and sight reader, for Hotel Trio Party, 7 to 10.15 p.m. only; one who plays Viola preferred; permanency if reliable. Terms and refs., THOMAS, Cremorne, Liverpool-street, Dover.

WANTED, good Pianist, twice daily, Municipal Band, Winter Gardens, Great Yarmouth. Terms, references, to Mr. E. HOLLAND, 44, Salisbury-road, Great Yarmouth. Please accept one week's silence negative.

WANTED, Smart Young Up-to-Date Pianist (single), must have had experience and able to play to pictures, also to memorise. State full particulars, age, salary required, also references. GLYNN HILL, Central Hall, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Bostock's Railroad Circus, Double Drummer, join at once. Salary 32s. 6d. Apply, POWELL, Bandmaster.
Warrington, Sat.; Northwich, Mon.; Crewe, Tues.

WANTED, Immediately, Drummer (with effects), also Flautist. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Cymbalist, for Hungarian Orchestra, long engagement. Letters sent to Box 8,285, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Tympanist, for 26th. Will Paul write in. Terms, &c., touring. AMATI'S Band, Salford.

WANTED, Smart Trio (Piano, Violin, and 'Cello), to Play in Orchestra Winter Gardens, Bootle, used to Musical Comedy. Write, CHARLES BOULT.

WANTED, immediately, Clever Lady 'Cellist, to combine Piano, for high class Musical Act. State full particulars. MME. SANTINI, O. H., Londonderry.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, Double Bass, Cornet, Flautists, and Clarionet; six months' engagement, commencing Oct. 6, for Rink in Guernsey; must be good readers. Apply Santangelo, Channel Islands Hotel, Guernsey.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Open 26th. Two Shows and Matinée. Lowest terms, &c., L. MCMAHON, Conductor, 44, Grove-rd., Northampton.

WANTED, Musicians all Lines, for Provincial Music Halls, good money to good people. State age, if can open at once, and Union (if any). Letters only to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 116, Church-lane, Tooting Common, S.W.

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. THE STANDARD PRESS, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

Musical-Director.

WANTED, Known, Mr. P. Tas, Musical-Director Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra, begs to announce that owing to the disbandment of the above Orchestra he is open to accept Engagement as Musical-Director; can supply first-class Orchestra of any number; first-class references. All communications to P. TAS, 10, Camden-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Chas. P. Fox, Musical-Director, Spa Theatre, Bridlington, Engagement. Concluding Second Season to-day. Refer R. C. Luxton, Esq., Manager.

WANTED, Known, James A. Lowe, Musical-Director, is Open to accept Engagement; Disengaged Sept. 25, Tour or Resident. Pavilion, Onchan Head, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, Wilfred Ball, Musical Director (Violin), Disengaged Sept. 19, any business; extensive library; highest references. Address, Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate; after Saturday, 19, Wrexham-street, Kirkdale, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist-Conductor, with or without Small Orchestra. At liberty Sept. 17. Good Library and refs. Wire or write, H. FAY, Britannia Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Smart, Reliable Conductor, at liberty to accept Engagement First-class Music Hall, London or Suburbs. Highest refs. Box 8,264, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Conductor (pianist), at liberty. Thoroughly experienced and reliable. Any business. Coms., BEATTIE, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Fred Eplett, Conductor, Composer, and Arranger, is Open to accept Engagement. Address, 206, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Concluding Three Months' Engagement on Oct. 2, the Misses Clarice and Bessie Earle, Leading Violin and Contra Bass. Offers Invited. Address, Pier, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; efficient and reliable; excellent references. ROGERS, 39, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; brilliant performer; thoroughly experienced, reliable. Offers to PARISI, 4, Adam-st., Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Leader or First Violin, Experienced, Reliable, age 28. Open 26th. STEWART PHIPPS, Bradda House, Palace-road, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagements, by experienced Leader and Cornet (Ladies); now Disengaged. Bands also provided. Apply, SCHOENTHAL, 59, Miranda-road, Highgate, N.

WANTED, Engagement, in or near London preferred, by Violinist and Piano Accompanist. Concludes Sept. 10. Miss BUXTON, 25, St. Leonards-road, East Sheen, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist. Write, 13, The Crescent,
Rectory-lane, Prestwich, near Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Beatrice Westall, First Violin, Disengaged.
48, Montpelier-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist, First or Second, Engagement, Variety, Skating Rink, Orchestral, &c.; good references; Disengaged Sept. 24. W. S. PHASEY, 35, Belmore road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement, Violin or Viola.
JOE NICHOLLS, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Re-engagement by experienced First Violinist (all lines), Disengaged Sept. 24; age 32; abstainer. H. PHIPPS, 45, Oxford-street, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, Hotel, Café, by Violin, 'Cello, Piano, 2 ladies, 1 gent; 2 years' reference. Box 8,278, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Second Violin, thoroughly experienced any business. Apply, Box 8,220, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, Piano, and Cornet, combined, Skating Rink or Bioscope.
JOHN TAYLOR, 53, Bridport-place, Hoxton, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any business, at Liberty Oct. 2.
REUBEN BARBER, 72, Gladstone-road, Boscombe.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, Engagement. Finished seaside. Three years' refs. from Hippo., Eastbourne. MORLAND, 7, Noel-st., Islington, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Cornettist, First or Second, age 30. Good refs. Can combine second violin. ELLIS, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet. Disengaged 19th just finished Summer season Bexhill. Would suit club requiring first-class cricketer (wicket keeper) and footballer (goalkeeper), Member A.M.U. Address, CORNET, 26, Chantry-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, at Liberty, any Business.
W. WIGELSWORTH, 30, City-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet Player, Orchestral or Military; good references; steady. Offers invited. JAMES WHITFIELD, 7, South-end-terrace, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, First or Second; exp., any Bus.; steady; good refs. At Liberty Oct. 1. LONG, The Gardens, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Engagement as First Cornet, any business, thoroughly experienced and reliable, good references. Address, A. ANSTIS, 39, Brewer-st, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, First Cornet; experienced, any Business. SID CHANNING, 59, St. Nicholas-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, London or neighbourhood, used to Varieties, &c. Address, BENNELL, 6, St. James's Cottages, Richmond,

WANTED, Engagement, Second Cornet, in Skating Rink or Hall in or near London. Steady and reliable. 8, Station-parade, Norbury.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, at Liberty. Can join at once. Sober and reliable. Any business, Opera preferred. C. EMPTAGE, Cornettist, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Cornet, Winter Engagement, finishing summer season Oct. 1. Excellent references. Address, T. F. CORNET, Pavilion, Buxton-gardens, Derbyshire.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, First or Second, any business.
F. BAKER, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Clarionet, at Liberty Oct. 2, any business; good references. HILLSTON, Prince's-parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionettist, good, steady, reliable, all branches; good references; Union rates; ready Sept. 19. CHAS. CALVESBERT, 3, Crowtree-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any business, young, good refs. Write or wire, R. ATKINSON, c/o 2, Bank-terrace, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist, any Business.
H. MATTHEWS, Orchestra, South Pier, Lowestoft.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionettist, any business; thoroughly experienced; good references; finishing season. F. MARLEY, Cricketfield Cottages, Ashford-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, at Liberty, Theatre or Variety, steady and reliable; good refs. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass and Violin, together or separate, experienced all lines, sober, reliable. Address, LUCAS, 28, Shirland-st., Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass. Just finished engagement with Mr. Shottler's Military Band. Good references. BASSO, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; steady and reliable; good refs.
HARRY HARE, Grand Theatre, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement Double Bass, Reliable, eight years last engagement. Experienced, any business. BASSO, 216, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, London, W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First-class Bass Player, 4-string; highest London references; age 35. BASSO, 20, Hetley-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Miss G. Nicholls, Contra Bass, at Liberty to accept Engagements; just finished seven weeks, Darlington.

WANTED, by experienced String Bass (Variety or Drama), through close of season; Liberty Sept. 20. S. BOOTH, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, best experience, any business, just finishing season. At Liberty now. TROMBONE, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

WANTED, an Engagement, by brilliant Trombonist, young and steady. G. W., 34, Rosslyn-road, Walthamstow, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, thoroughly experienced in all lines. Now at liberty. Address, MUSICIAN, 11, Leyland-street, Accrington, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone; at Liberty Sept. 26. Address, GEO. STEWART, Palace Theatre, Blackpool; or 7, Park-view, Staincliffe-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by Trombone, Good Engagement, in Theatre or Music Hall. Three seasons W. G., Blackpool. H. S. WALKER, Trombone, W. G., Blackpool.

WANTED, Re-engagement Trombone. Experienced.
W. A. DUNCAN, Grand Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, Euphonium, combine Violin. Just finished engagement. Abstainer, reliable. Good refs. Can start at once. EUPHONIUM, 38, Acacia-road, Sydenham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, any business. H. WOODAGE, 19, Cedars-road, Water-lane, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced, Reliable Bombardon and Double Bass player, first-class references. E. LAZZARI, 24, Hoxton-road, Torquay.

WANTED, Known, French Hornist, experienced, open for Good Theatre Orchestra or any business. MUSICIAN, 70, Meanley-road, Manor Park, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by excellent Oboeist; highest ref. Write,
Box 8,222, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Flautist; thoroughly experienced, any Business; at Liberty now. Miss BESSIE PRATT, Park-st., Chatteris, Cambs.

WANTED, Known, Flute, at Liberty; just finishing season, any Business; excellent references. KELSH, 2, Norman-road, Rochdale.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy, Engagements; concludes three months' Solo and Orchestral Harp (Mr. Lyell Tayler), Pav. Gdns., Buxton, Oct. 1; after, 78, Parkhill-rd., Hampstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Harpist (high-class), thoroughly experienced and reliable. ALICIA DANBROOKE, 28, Lyme-street, Camden-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Euphonium, Liberty Sept. 19, experienced, steady and reliable. Refs. LITTLEJOHN, 36, Auckland-road, Victoria Park, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Euphonium, any Business, used to Rinking. G. COWLAND, 68, Winnie-road, Selly Oak, Birmingham

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Euphonium, sixteen years Army. Good references. Prefer town band. Apply, PRESLAND, 2, Knightsdale-cottages, Weymouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, Liberty now, thoroughly experienced, reliable, Orchestral or Military or Rinking. 27, Towson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer. DRUMS.
Sefton House, The Mount, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and effects, experienced, any business. Liberty Sept. 25. Address, Box 8,257, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer and Effects, any business; good references if required. H. GRISS, 17, George-street Gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Drummer, any Business.
H. J., 69, St. Stephens'-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Theatre, Varieties, or Rink, Excellent Refs., age 43. FLAUTIST, 82, Arthur-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by F. Weaving (late Royal Engineer's Band), Re-engagement, Flute and Piccolo (combine Piano if required), through season terminating. 31, Devon-villas, Gillingham-avenue, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Sept. 26, Pianist; young, experienced; highest refs. Concluding season, Waterloo Pierrots, Bridlington. Address, J. HORSFALL, Summer Gardens.

WANTED, Known, Pianist seeks re-engagement, Pictures or Varieties, latter preferred, at Liberty Sept. 26. GEO. B. SMITH, 87, Vernon-st., Wrexham.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady Pianist, Double Second Violin; experienced all lines.
Miss LYNTON, 3, Havelock-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by experienced Accompanist (very sympathetic and good Sight-reader), Composer, Pianist, L.R.A.M., also Songs at Piano; Engagement, at Home, Practice, Concerts, &c. Very moderate terms. ADDEY, c/o Alderton, Home View, Cobham, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, any Business; can combine Wood Wind; in or near London. Box 8,250, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, good references and sight reader, any capacity, distance no object; small salary. Apply, 22, Parliament-street, Dukinfield, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform, including Vocalists. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 377 Ilford.

WANTED, Offers for Bateson's Orchestra, Vocalists, Solo Instrumentalists, Up-to-date Répertoire. Twelfth consecutive season, Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere. Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Vacant Oct., onwards. THOS. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Known, Ladies' Lyric Orchestra, from Crescent Gardens, Filey; now Tower, Morecambe. Exhibitions, Rinks, &c. 3, St. Albans-place, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, the "Ace" Ladies' Quartette or Trio (Instrumental); available for Hotel or Café Engagement. Address, c/o 10, Paddenswick-road, Hammersmith, W.

An established success.
THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Known, that this Popular Orchestra will conclude Summer Season at the Slieve Donard Hotel, Ireland, Sept. 30, re-opening at Bournemouth Oct. 5, two weeks, Ryde and Southsea to follow.
All communications to the Musical Directress, Madame MANTON-MYATT,
28, Rosendale-road, West Dulwich, S.E.
A Band with an established reputation.

WANTED, Engagement, October, Three Ladies (Violinist, 'Cellist, Pianist), one Vocalist; Hotel, Café, Rink. Répertoire and references excellent. Box 8,265, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by Orchestral Trio or Quartette. Extensive Rep. Can open 26th or Oct. 3. CONDUCTOR, Pavilion, Port Soderick, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Skating Rink Proprietors, &c., the Anglo-Bavarian Military Band open for Engagements, up-to-date Library and Uniforms. Moderate. GROOP, Bandmaster, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart Rink Band, First-class Répertoire. For terms and particulars apply, CONDUCTOR, 9, Crown-road, Sutton, Surrey.

JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION, Sept. 19 (week).
WANTED, Known, Special Re-engagement of the Famous Whitehall Military Band; deputising for the Grenadier Guards. Brilliant new uniforms. Address direct for open dates, Winter and Coronation Year, to Bandmaster MARKS, 42, Kenilworth-road, Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Engagements, Rinks, Picture Palaces, Collini's Orchestral Military Bands; smart men, music, style. Apply, Stamford Hill Rink. Re-engaged, Second Season.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Winter Season,
Good Lady and Gentlemen Riders,
with Own Horses;
also
Sensational Acts
of every kind,
Good Flying Trapeze Show
(not less than two ladies and two gentleman),
New and Novel Acts,
Suitable for the Ring.

Quote Lowest Terms,
which must be moderate,
to
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known.
MONA and DOUBLAS CONNOR,
Premier Juvenile Equestrians,
conclude to-night a successful season
at Douglas, Isle of Man.
Their Benefit and Presentation Night on Tuesday last was graced by the presence of
LORD and LADY RAGLAN,
and Government House party.
And the Elite of the Isle of Man.
Engaged by E. H. Bostock, Esq., to open at the Zoo Hippodrome, Glasgow, on Monday, Sept. 26.

JOHN SCOTT'S
JOHN SCOTT'S
ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
General-Manager, J. H. SCOTT.
Equestrian Director, Mr. JOE HASTINGS.
WANTED, Engagement, for Winter Season, own family, or Complete Circus.
Communications,
9, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Edith Tudora's Ponies, Lib. Oct. 17, on. Tudora thanks Mr. E. H. Bostock for another week at the Zoo, Glasgow, and Paisley, and Hamilton to follow; also thanks Monsieur Rocke for Paris Contracts, sorry unable to accept. Coms., Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, The Stephenson Equestrian Family, with a Great Variety of Circus Acts, at Liberty for Winter Season (Continent preferred). Harry Stephenson, the Greatest Rider in the Universe. Good looks, style, appearance, and ability a Speciality. Address, STEPHENSON FAMILY, 40, Wellington-square, Hastings, England.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, liberty Oct. 10. Finish to-night three weeks' successful engagement Zoo Circus, Glasgow. Re-engaged three weeks longer, making my third return with Mr. Bostock. Also myself and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, liberty Oct. 10, with seven good bareback acts, one horse riding Collie dog, and flight of Pigeons. Zoo Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
Death
Defying,
Danger
Deriding,
Dare-
Devil
Diving
Cormack.

At Liberty Oct. 3, on.
Coms., "The Ship," next Hackney Empire, N.E. (the Professional House).
or, American Park, Brussels.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Floria, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Two Acts, "Reconstruction, Ruins of Rome." Great Equilibristic Novelty, and Comedy Wire Act. Permanent, 56 Fletton-avenue, Peterborough.

WANTED, Oct. 3, onward, Savaro, Mimic Silleur, and Agouste, Equilibrist. Wire, Picturedrome, Longton; next, Palace, Kidderminster. A Great Attraction. Refer.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Wanted,
Dramatic Sketches Specially.
Pleased to see any Turn.
RICHARD CASS's Agency,
18, Adam-street, Strand. 'Phone 615 City.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES.
WANTED, Variety Artists, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, October, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full list of bookings essential. FRED COLLINS' Agency, 21, Barclay-street, Springburn, Glasgow. 'Phone, P. O. Springburn 84.

WANTED, Variety Artists going North to send list of Bookings and Vacancies; also lowest to Kingsway Agency, 20, Bury-street, Bloomsbury, London.

WANTED, Artists, to send list of Vacancies and terms to
MANAGER, 168, Hammersmith-road, W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Aug. Bank Holiday and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists all Lines, from now onwards; Hall small, terms same. Good break for Artists going North, South, or Ireland. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines.
Send full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Specialities and Star Artists all Lines, immediately, run of several weeks to right Acts. Send at once with permanent, to RAWES and CLARANCE, Central Agency, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only.
STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Specialities. Specialities. Specialities.
Sept. 26, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.
'Phone, 9261 Central. Tels., "Stebbing."

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Star Artists, Head Liners only, for best London and Provincial houses.
Am now touring Scotland and the North.
Letters, date sheets, lithos, CAZMAN, Pav., Glasgow.

WANTED, big Star Acts, with own Combination, for Oct. 10, 17, or 24. Fullest particulars and sample printing, MANAGER, Hippo., Hoyland.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
105-106, Strand, London, W.C.
WANTED, for Sept. 26, and onward,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK,
and
PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above. Good Sound Specialities.
Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers.
Lowest terms, lithos, &c.,
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 26, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, who are coming North to send terms and vacant dates to JAS. ANDERSON AND SON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Shortly, Artists in all Lines.
Particulars, photos, refs.,
and three weeks' address,
LEWIS GILBERT,
O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Artists holding contracts for Star Palace, Partick, and Star Palace, Bridgeton, Glasgow, to note, I. Guss Lazenberg, have no further interests in these halls, and will not be responsible for any contracts entered into by me from Oct. 1 on.—Signed GUSS LAZENBERG, Sept. 13, 1910.

WANTED, Vi Eplett, Song Illustrator, if vacant Sept. 26, to communicate with J. W. CHAPMAN, Empire, Doncaster.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Young, Good-looking Girls,
age 14 to 17,
for Acrobatic Dancing Act;
little experience of Dancing necessary.
Reply, 28 (second floor), Titchfield-st., W.C., from 11 to 1 o'clock noon.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, Star Tops of all Kinds,
Sept. 26, and Future Dates.
Bookings, terms, and your house address,
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm."

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEORGE E. MUDD.
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
Variety Acts of Every Description
for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms, Bookings, &c., 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, Sensational Specialities, Eccentric Acrobatic Troupes, Spectacular Novelties, and anything with Strong Drawing Powers, for Oct. 3 and 24, also Nov. 14, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Big Comedy and Spectacular Acts, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, and on, for Poole's Picture Palace, Aberaman. Must not have worked Aberdare or Mountain Ash. J. R. POOLE, Pavilion, Weymouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Hamilton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.
Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WANTED, five Lady Dancers, good voices and figures indispensable, for Continental Tour. Photos and letters to LUETCHFORD, 15, Preston-road, Upper Norwood.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates; also Good Principal Boy. Unites and Falcons send Address.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telephone, 1,686 Royal. Telegrams, "Fioni," Liverpool.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, Top-Liner Novelties, Britain and Continent.
(For Continent Sole Agency only entertained.)
Also Panto. Principals for best houses.
Particulars re previous Pantos. and lowest terms.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Top Liners and Artists all Lines, Acts free 26th and Oct. communicate immediately. Full bookings and permanent imperative; one week's address useless. Contracts wait Lauri Bros. (six dates). 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, immediately, Big Tops and Bottoms, Acts all Lines, Sept. 26, onwards, for Wallsend, New Brighton, Leigh, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Ramsgate, Barnsley, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bolton, Wigan, Hull, Coventry, Aston, Birmingham, Manchester, &c. Big Novelties, First-class Comedy Acts, Star Acts always places, money no object for the right goods. Full list bookings necessary on account of Barring Clause. WILL LUND'S Agency, 24, Seymour-street, Liverpool. 'Phone 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy."

WANTED, Big Tops of Bills, for Sept. 19, 26,
Artists, all Lines, for all Dates,
for Midlands and North.
CLIQUOT'S AGENCY,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

EGBERT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Top for Immediate Dates in the Midlands; also good Comedy Acts New to Eastbourne and Dover.
Fullest particulars, letters only, to
EGBERT'S AGENCY,
Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.
Telephone, 6519 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Egbertency, London."

WANTED, Tops, Bottoms, Acts of Every Description, now and onwards. Send full particulars, LEATON'S Agency, 575, Argyle-st, Glasgow.

HIPPODROME, HOYLAND.
WANTED, Big Variety Company or Musical Show, Oct. 3, also First-class Drama, Pantos., and Variety Companies, Oct. 10, and various, on. Full particulars to RESIDENT-MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Sketch Combination, with Répertoire of good Comedy and Dramatic Sketches, carrying own special scenery and costumes preferred. Apply, with full particulars, to HARRY ESDEN, Empire, Sunderland. Mark envelopes "Sketch."

WANTED, Monday next, for Empire, Rugby, good Picture or Variety Show, possible season, electric in. Wire, GUSTAVE, Empire, Cradley, Staffs.

WANTED, immediate and on, Big Specialities in all Lines, Sensational Novelties, &c.
Write, STEINLET & WILLSON, Palace, Jarrow.

BUFFALO PALACE,
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Specialities all Lines, Sept. 26, on. LAMB.

WANTED, to open at once, a smart Tumbler, for well-known Comedy Act, long engagement and good salary to right party. State tricks, age, height, terms, &c., in first letter. MANAGER, c/o 104, Loughboro' Park, Brixton.

WANTED, Young Three-bar Performer, one who can be funny.
Particulars, Box 8,276, "The Era."

WANTED, Useful Artists for Minstrel Show.
All particulars to
FRANCIS, 98, Hackford-road, Brixton-road.

WANTED, immediately, clever Buck and Schottische Dancer, good Tenor voice essential. Write, R. LAYER-PARKER, 63, Frampton Park-road, Hackney, N.E.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, for Gabrielle Hope's Novelty Musical Act, Sept. 26, this week Aberdare, Bournemouth 19th. The only lady playing organ chimes alone, and sleigh bells to own piano accompaniment; marimbaphone, spielophone, and piano solos. 1, Norfolk House-road, Streatham.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Musical Act, Monday next; also Oct. 17. This, Avenue T. Wire, 3, Ashmore-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday, also 26th, and Oct. 3, by Two Beatrices, Duettists and Dancers. Wire, Palace, or 96, Hill-street, Blaenavon, Mon. Any distance; vacant Panto.

WANTED, Sept. 26, also Oct. 3, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Singing Boxmakers, three people. Add., Monday, Kino Hall, Jarrow.

WANTED, Engagements, Dan Ashton, Copyright Colliers' Songs, Sketches, Extraordinary Colliery Pictures. Ninth week in Scotland. Encored nightly. Palace Varieties, Cambuslang.

WANTED, Sept. 25, on, by Kidd Love, American Coloured Artist, Speciality Buck and Sand Dancer, good songs (sure winner), great success here last week, been specially engaged for the next two weeks. Public Hall, Wisbech.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, by Ernest Selman, Funny Comedian; Ivy Gallard, Smart Comedienne. Alhambra, Attercliffe.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Phil Terris, Patter Comedian, with a Kosher voice. Mon., T. R., Darwen. Engaged for re-opening by F. R. Griffiths, Esq.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 26, by Leslie Clements, "The Black Comic." Wire or write, 32, Beach-lane, Musselburgh.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Dancer. Liberty Sept. 19. 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Popular Collier Comedian. Copyright Songs, Colliery Pictures. Palace, Cambuslang, Scotland; after Sunday, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, 19th and 26th, Jean Seul.
Wire, 64, Romford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 3 and 10, by Charles Valvo, the Great Ventriloquial Act, with New Ideas. Next week, King's Palace, Wellingborough.

WANTED, by Trillo, Ventriloquist, Monday next. Enormous success here. Entirely new act for the North and Midlands. Refined, humorous. Success guaranteed. Wire, Theatre, Northwich.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 10, 17, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two Smart Acts. Offers invited. Victoria Hall, Halifax.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 26, by Harry Keeble, Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. This, Grand, Gravesend; Mon., 15, Weltje-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known, great excitement, Little Hackenschmidt, with his latest challenges at Empress, Hartlepool, last week. Still another record broken. Mr. Maxted says: Hack, you have broken the record for any one week bar holidays, and it is remarkable, as thousands are out of work, with the lock-out. Out of a population of 22,000 in Hartlepool 70 per cent. visited the theatre during the week, and your act is free from even the semblance of vulgarity. Who wants this big show? Oct. and Nov. dates. Six-sheet lithos, &c., Address, Empress, Hartlepool; next, Palace, Chorley, Yorks.

"How are Yer?"
ask Jack Judge,
Versatile Entertainer.
This, King's, Hanley; next, King's, Birmingham.
WANTED, Business with any good Agent, Proprietor Manager, or Artists, requiring songs of every description. Vide Staffs Advertiser: A Grossmithian versatility. Coms., JUDGE and WILLIAMS, Oldbury.

WANTED, by Gladys and Alber, in Comedy, Singing, Dancing, and Tumbling Act. Vacant Sept. 26. Next week, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Monday, for Duncan and Brasque's Great Lancashire Comedy Playlet. Enormous Success. Refer, Walham Green, Wakefield, Hull, &c. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, by Delin and Antonini, in sketch, "The Romance of a Violin." Next, King's T., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Sept. 26, on, by Douglas and Gordon, also do First-class Single Turn if required. Next, Buffalo Palace, Ashington.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists. Vacant Monday.
Wire, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Musical Novelists, beautifully draped show, starring Gibbons' Circuit, vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10. 19, Sancroft-street, Kennington Cross.

WANTED, Known, The Danbys, Comedians, Knockabouts, and Dancing Experts, Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10. This, Palace, W. Hartlepool; next, Palace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, wire for Monday, Warren and Granville, Smart, Laughable Comedy Show. Success, Hippo., Burton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo and Castelle, Musical Monkey Act. Wire, Victoria Hall, Halifax; after Sunday, 5, Hattersley-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by the Sisters Geretti, Premier Gymnasts, Sept. 26, and Oct. 3 and 10. Perm. address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 17, on, Rohde and Roche, the Chameleon Artist and IT. A Great Novelty Act. Palace, Neath. Sept. 19, Public Theatre, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Oct. 3, and on, by La Dor Troupe (six in number), Male and Female Novelty Acrobats, two acts. Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 7, 14, and on, by the Unique Equilibristic Marvels,
PHINEAS and ADA.
On Tour.
Perm., Belfield Lawn, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Beatrice Bonnie Company, Stairophone Dancers, Dancing Novelty. Empire, Middlesbro'; vac. next two weeks; also Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler.

WANTED, Sept. 19, 23, 26, near Weymouth, by the Famous Attilla Bros., two acts, Grecian Gladiators and Strong Men, with Competition. Big Draw. Wire, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, by Plant Bros., Society Athletes, Equilibrists, second to none, concluding tour, Liberty Nov. 14, on, Halls, Panto., or Circus. 5, Sutton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, Sept. 19, 26. Always a Star Top of the Bill Act when we get before the public. We require no favours on the bill or programme; only the stage and public.
Wire, Empire, Edmonton.
After Saturday,
64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Cyclinis Trio, Somersaulting Cyclists, Football on Wheels, second to none. A success. Vacant 26 (S. Wales), Oct. 10, 17. Next, Poole's Theatre, Aberaman. Agent, STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Cycling Acrobat, Thanks F. Nueman, Esq., for Panto. offer. Re-engaged by Wm. Pardoe, Esq. No immediate vacancies.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Three Original Hodginis, Gymnastic Seaside Scene. Wire to 14, Albert-rd, South Norwood, London, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, on, The Flying Orenius's (Two Ladies, Two Gentlemen); can fix on small stage, or anywhere. Next week, Empire, Barnsley. Always a good Top or Bottom for any Bill.

WANTED, Sept. 26, to precede Palace, Watford, by Daisy Graham's Troupe of Educated Birds and Baby Dog. Coms., 17, Rugby-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Monday, on, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, Novel Electric Show. Third visit Tivoli, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, The Tissots, originators of Living Marionettes. Our second week, Tivoli, Dublin. Vacant Sept. 19 and 26. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, onward, by the Girl in the Hoop, world's greatest balancing act. 17, St. Gabriel-street, Southwark, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

NOTICE.
NOTICE.
NOTICE.

WARNING.
WARNING.
WARNING.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Public are hereby informed that the Raymond Phillips' Wireless Controlled Airship is protected by Letters Patent in Great Britain and Abroad, under which the Sole and Exclusive Right to Self-propelled Air-vessels or Ships controlled by Wireless Electric Waves is covered, and that the use of any such apparatus by others will be an infringement of the patent against which Legal Proceedings will be at once instituted.

For terms, &c., apply to the Inventor,

T. E. RAYMOND PHILLIPS,
15, Nicander-road,
Sefton Park,
Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Assistant to Entertainer, Illusionist, &c., by smart, tall, young man, with good experience and references. G., 79, Lower Sloane-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Picture Lecturer, Liberty Monday, fluent plain talker, King's English; refs. good. ARTLEY, 71, Edward-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Manager and Operator, used to running Pictures; must thoroughly know his business. Age, references, lowest terms. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, immediately, a First-class Costume Concert Party of five or six Artistes for certain four weeks, with possible long extension. To open Oct. 10.
Must have Up-to-date Répertoire, especially Concerted Numbers, Sketches, &c. State where now working, and if show can be seen. Fullest particulars, terms, &c.,
THE TED SNYDER ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU,
Albion House, 59-61, New Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, smart and funny Character Comedian, for special three weeks, must be well up in Gags, Sketches, &c.; twenty weeks next year to really good man. Particulars to CLEMENTS, 34, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls. Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

JOY WHEEL.
The Latest Sensation.
WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device.
Write for full particulars.
TAYLOR PLINSTON BROS. & Co., LTD.,
Kingsley Works, Grange-road,
Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Known, our Autumn Tour of Exhibitions commences Oct. 1, Streatham. For particulars, apply, MANAGER, Exhibtion, Town Hall, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE,
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.
Unprecedented Success under the New Management.
WANTED, for the Winter Season, Illusions, Freaks, Novelties, and Sensational Attractions for Shops in Arcade;
rental or shares; weekly tenancy or longer if show suitable; must be up-to-date, or useless.
All communications,
T. W. HILTON, Luna Park, Southend.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
Full particulars, sample lithos.,
and postcards in first letter,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Freak or Quick-showing Novelty, with lithos. First show in after Exhibition. Shares. Wire, 98A, Stretford-road, Manchester.

HUMBER'S NEW AUTOMATIC ARCADE,
112, George-street, Aberdeen.
Open front, fine position, and the first in the North of Scotland.

WANTED, Wire-worker, Engraver, Tattoo Artist, Candy Workers, Fancy Stalls, new and novel Games, anything and everything suitable for the above,
on Shares or Rental.

WANTED, Two Planksmen, for Auction Tent.
Only those with previous experience need write in.
Box 8,259, "The Era."

WANTED, Watchmaker and Pianist Combined, must be good Watchmaker, Good Wages and Permanent Shop to gentlemanly fellow. BARBER, Auction Mart, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Work as Doorsman. Stands 6ft. 4in. and good worker. SMITH, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

WANTED, by well-known Lady Palmist, Winter Business Place, Trade Exhibition preferred; rent or shares. PALMIST, 38, Finsbury-road, Ramsgate.

WANTED, to Sell, to Immediate Cash Purchaser, a First-class Set of Three-abreast Galloping Horses and Teddy Bears, Splendidly Carved and Gilded, Regardless of Cost, with a good Interchangeable Gaviola Organ, with Drums and Figures, Illuminated with Electric Incandescent Lamps, Twelve New Excello Lamps, and a New Foster Road Locomotive, with thirty-arc Dynamo, the whole forming the most Compact and Best Complete lot in England. Will be sold cheap to cash customer on account of owner retiring through ill-health. Apply by letter to Box 8,268, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, complete, with living van, goes by rail, or let on terms. R. O., 65, Market-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Shutters, Booth, and Stage, with Iron Box, also Butcher machine No. 2. SMITH, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, lists free, Husband, Wife, Eye, Hair, Fortune, Astrologer cards, 6s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 19, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard. Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Zena Dare and Co., Cleo de Merode, Fragson, Carmos, Romanis, Will H. Fox, Poncherrys, O Hana San, Sisters Reeve, Animated Pictures, Herbert Lloyd, George Bastow.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Miss Ada Colley, King and Benson, Cavalotti Brothers, Will Johnson, Graeme Goring, Alex. Piccad's Co. in "The Burglars of New York," Guyer and Valle, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, George French.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Serene Nord, Elmer Spyglass, Bert Harrow, Eight College Girls, Syd May, Bellonini, Phil Percival, Maud Vera, Bioscope, Harry Weldon.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Harry P. Selwyn's Co. in "The Flood Tide," Rosa Loader, Mlle. Haydee, Jackson Family, Barton and Ashley, McConnell Trio, Elly Adair, Bioscope, Poluskis.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Alice Pierce, A. C. Lilly and Co. in "Drummed Out," Leo Stormont, Gus Garrick, Hardini Trio, Coverdale, Charles Santon, Brothers Dean, Bioscope, Cornalla and Eddie.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, Ricardo and Salving, Lockhart's Elephants, Ferry Corwey, Cassie Walmer, Edie Gray and Boys, Bert Weston, Bioscope, Tom Clare.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Randall, Lola Patey, Grant and Grant, Harry Freeman, Brothers Bright, Four Royals, Sisters Allen, Bioscope, "The Little Stowaway," Harvey Boys.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :

T. Morton Powell's Company in "From Mill Girl to Millionairess."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Warsaw Brothers, Haig and Novel, Kisbey, Lilian Farrar, Millie Hylton, Riogoku Family.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Kate Carney and Co. in "Fun of the Fair," Dan Hendy, Lena Verdi, Sutcliffe Family, James Stewart, Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques, Betty Green, Bioscope, Farr and Farland.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Violas, J. C. Scatter, Franco Piper, Little Zola, Miss Jackedawra, Melford in "Non-Suited," The Maples, Illustrated Song Bioscope, Hadj-Mohammed Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Cull Pitt, Peggy Pryde, Johnson and Bert, Andos Japs, Luis Alvarez, Sisters Caselli, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber, Marjorie Lawrence.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

The Great Lester, George Leyton in "The Roll Call," Hilda Jacobsen, The Cumberlands, Two Anartos, Burley and Burley, Maizie Hibbs, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Miss Marquis's Ponies.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Darnley's Company, including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Rhoda Paul, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Francoli Troupe, Azella Wilson, Bioscope, Fred Shephard, Ray Wallace, Harry Jolson.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Lamberti, Anna Chandler, Drew and Alders, Dusty Rhodes, Brothers Egbert, La Superbe, Hunt and Thomas, Jackson Family, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Hetty King.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jack Pleasants, George Carney, Carl and Carr, Legay Trio, Seven Perezoffs, Harry Bedford, Eisteddfod Sextette, Ugo Nap, Bioscope, Adrienne Augarde.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Dudley Bennett's Company, "A Chinese Honeymoon."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. Austin and Co., in "Parker, P.C.," Bioscope, May Henderson, Howard and Harris, the Kirbys, Stephens and Rennior, George Rae, Harry Ford, the Zigeuner Quartette.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt and Co., Kitts and Windrum, Ruth Davenport, Lupino Lane, My Fancy, Mlle. Charpentier, Fred Russell, Minnie Mace, Maurice, Montgomery and Moore, Bioscope, Russian Balalaika Orchestra.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Harry Tate in "Flying," Bioscope, Ed. E. Ford, Gwennie Hasto, Three Merrills, Fred Lincoln, Sisters Pine, The Leonards, Charles Norton, Helen Trix.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Jack Lorimer, Sylvia du Barry, Barry Lupino, Barrett and Knowles W. Fulbrook and Co., Signor Persichini, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Queenie Leighton.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Chas. R. Whittle, Bugler Carr, Durant Brothers, Livesey and Rosebery, Mitchell and Cain, Pat Rafferty, Arthur Slater, Katie Moss, Bioscope, The Bensons.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Bella and Bijou, The Marconis, Woodhouse and Wells, Verno and Voyce, Conn and Conrad, Mona Vivian, Bioscope, Ben Albert.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Whit Cunliffe, Jock Mills, Nina Wood, Bioscope, Belles of the Kitchen, Avolos, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Three Sisters Kilner, Horace Hunter and Co. in "Under Suspicion."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

G. H. Elliott, Walter Wade, Fred Curran, Winifred Hare, Sisters Doherty, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Talbot and Pearce, Six Lancashire Lasses, Alice Maple, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Fasola, Will Evans, Shirley and Ransome, Edie King, New Macs, Three Laurels, The Rawsons, Harry Marte, Bioscope, Musical Jees.

EMPIRE PALACE LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Fred Karno's "Football Match," Mary Ambrose, Johnny Walker, Duncan's Collies, Goltz Trio, Lawrence Barclay, Musical McGregors, Bioscope, The Gothams, Alexandre and Hughes.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Jessie Merrilees, Bioscope, Brull and Hemsley, Nellie Wallace, King's College Boys, Russell Wallett, the Bolingers, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Elise Craven and Bert Clerc.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Raymond Phillips' Wireless Airship, The Falcons, Florrie Gallimore, Du Gros Trio, Victor Travers, Frank Couch, Bioscope, The Grassis.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Gertie Gitana, Georgina Leno, Tom Parker, Maude Lorette, Tom E. Finglass, Roze and Calvert, Pictures, Tom Foy and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Staley's Transformation, Bioscope, Mike Nono, Lydia and Amelys, Winifred Ward, Fielding and Hull, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Willy Pantzer and Co., Phillips and Merritt, Stewart and Morris, Ruby and Lawa, Abel and Welsh, Florrie Ellison, Thora, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Alice Hollander, H. Squire Day, Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, Chass Lewis, Lillian, Ethel Newman, Pictures, Tom Costello.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Lily Burnand, The Motramos, Beattie and Blanche, Will Poluski, jun., Griff, Brothers Weltmann, Pictures, Esta Stella.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Mme. Ella Russell, Northern Troupe, De Wynne Brothers, Dutch Daly, France and Stewart, Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, Nellie Farrell, Bioscope, Fred Storey and Co., in "Rip Van Winkle."

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Secretary: Miss AMY ROBINSON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, SEPT. 19.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Cosgrove and Burns, Geo. Wood, Four Figaros, Guy Rider, Bertha Winder, Edwin Garth, Mona Garrick, Ethel Bourne, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Mollie Doon, Two Manites, Guest and Newlyn, Edgar Forest and Co., Little Sophie, Lizette Troupe, Mollie Augarde, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Morissey, Bruce Green, Frank Boyce, Donaldson Bros., Nora Emerald, Giovanni Daruso, Four Garricks, Hippodrome Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Daisy Hurdle, Gladys and Alber, Arthur Harris, Stewart and Morgan, Rousby and Rene, Juno Salmo, H. P. Selwyn's Co. in "The Price of Peace," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Sisters St. Julian, Tokio, Virto, The Wedburns, Alice Craven, Reg. Beauchamp, Marjory Ward, The Dillons, Frank Cass, Fred Maxwell and Co.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Sons of Erin" Drama.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Kirk and Saraski, Chas. Banks and Dog, Rizarellis, Recar Trio, Maisanos, Tennyson and Wallis, Daisy and Dot, Belrose and De Velin, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Ernest Rees, Ena Compton, Tamamoto, Daisy Taylor, Barrie and Wood, Russell and Held, "Plumbers," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Four Sydney Girls, Colbert, Albas, Bi Bo Bi, Pat Lynch, Jack Hamilton, Kitty Corelli, Apollo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Millwards, Merrions, Julian Mack, Tom Davies Trio, "Humanity," Lomas Duo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Harry Taylor, Kitty Upton, Silvano, "Saved by Wireless," Poole and Maguire, Capt. Spaulding, Julius Walther, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Westwoods, Edith Chantler, Banzai Family, Clark and Mostol, Walter Stanley, "Little Colonel." Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Bros. Rees, Rose and Challoner, E. D. Nicholls and Co. in "The Dreadful Detective," Loube Trio, Ellerslie Pyne, The Sages, Palace Perfection Pictures, Albert St. Clair.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Gibbon and Bell, Chris. Baker, Elroy, Ten Loonies, Goggin and Davis, Harry Herbert, May de Rowse, Irene May, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Wat Tyler, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Prodigal Parson."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Forrito, Coverdale's Dots, Danvers and Rosslyn, Cissie Carter, Mlle. Bartenelli, Stanley Cookson, De Bessell, Casn and Clair, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, T. C. Jaques.

LONDON HOUSES.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Vesta Nixon, Pete and Juno, The Boriskis, Sidney Bach, The Cedrics, Velda, Lottie Lennox, W. Frisco, Katie Weston, Josephine Crook, "Cape Diamond" Sketch.

SURREY THEATRE.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Oswald and Lock, Mabel Thorne, Harry Bent, Reed and Stevens, Norman Grant, Melody Makers, "Golden Wedding" Co., Dandy George 1st, May Terry.

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Pete and Minnie Lee, Society Quartette, Cumminger and Colona, Jack Warman, Oliver Martyn, Ted Karno and Co., "Settler's Daughter," Addie Royden, Esther Phillips and Co.

London District and Booking Manager: Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

THE
VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY
(Successors to, and exclusive proprietors of the entire business formerly carried on by ROSEN & BLISS.)
General Manager - JOHN H. STRINGER.
Rooms 25 to 30,
12 HENRIETTA STREET,
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.
Telephone, 7623 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London."

ARTISTS PLEASE NOTE: A Comfortable Waiting-room has been installed, which is always at the disposal of our clients.

OPEN TO BOOK ALL BIG ACTS.
WANTED for Immediate Dates,
FIRST-CLASS SPECIALITIES.

NOTE.—Our Only Address—
12, HENRIETTA STREET,
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

TO BE LET on Building Lease, the grandest and most perfectly positioned MUSIC-HALL or THEATRE SITE IN SOUTH LONDON, with main road frontage of 112ft., close to the London tram junction connecting with Wimbledon, Croydon, and Putney, side frontages 167ft. and 161ft. respectively. The scheme lately stopped by the death of projector ready for adoption. A small premium for a 99 years' lease at £250 per annum. Freehold might be acquired. Plans can be seen upon application (by appointment) to EWART W. FISHER, Sole Agent, 12, Norfolk-street, Strand.

THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B., Lond.
Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d.
LISHED AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
avistock-st., Strand, W.C.

SUCCESS! SUCCESS! SUCCESS!
of
"MOTHER," "MOTHER," "MOTHER."
WALTER EMERSON
in his Latest Success,
"Mother," "Mother," "Mother."
Sept. 19,
Empire, Barnsley.
Agent, E. DE VERE, Esq.

Vocalists are flooding us by every post with eulogistic reports of the immense success they are obtaining by singing
Stanley Gordon's Great Bass Song.
"NEPTUNE."
(LORD OF THE SEA AM I),
pronouncing it an even Greater Hit than the famous World-renowned Songs,
"ASLEEP IN THE DEEP"
and
"WHEN THE EBB-TIDE FLOWS."
Write at once for Pro-Copy and Orchestration (1s. 2d. stamps), as it is suitable for all Vocalists or Musical Acts who have used either of the above Sensational Successes.
CHAS. SHEARD and CO.,
196, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE.

PROFESSIONALS AND OTHERS.

FOR SALE, Charming Modern Detached Residence, with long garden and motor house, in fine open road, within easy distance of City and West-end; house contains three handsome reception rooms, billiard room, two lofty bedrooms, two fitted bath-rooms, excellent offices, lease nearly sixty years, price £650, including blinds and expensive fittings, lately redecorated in good style.
Can be seen at any time. Owner, Cambridge Lodge, 7, Flodden-road, Camberwell New-road.

BRAID HILLS HOTEL,
MORNINGSIDE, EDINBURGH.
Charmingly situated hotel, completely appointed, every modern luxury, uninterrupted views of the city and surrounding district, 450ft. above sea level, pure mountain air, splendid public golf course adjoining hotel, also ladies' course; cable cars to and from city every three minutes up to 11.30 p.m. Terms moderate.
For descriptive brochure apply to MANAGER.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

SCHOOL FOR DAUGHTERS OF ARTISTS and Professional Men. Warwick College, 71, Brixton-hill, S.W. Large house and garden, excellent education in all branches, home comforts. Terms strictly moderate. PRINCIPAL.

NURSING HOME.
On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-rd., N. 'Phone 327 Hornsey.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.
Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. Bowman, 41, Gilcomston-park, 3 sitting, 3 bedrooms (1 double), 2 pianos, bath, near H. M. Theatre, 5 mins. Halls.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's, Buchanan-st. Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Apartments, comfortable, close Hippodrome, Gem, and Piers. Terms moderate. Mrs. Clark, Buckingham Cottage, Devonshire-road, Yarmouth.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square. Open on Sundays for travellers. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cossie Noel).

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large combined room vacant; piano, bath (h. and c.); board-residence, 13s. 6d.; very moderate. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Dyer (nee Gatehouse), 123, Kennington-road.—Bed-sitting Room, also Bedrooms, for Sundays, 18th and 25th; every convenience. Mention "The Era."

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 12/-; combined ditto, and suites; bath. 6, Arundell-st., Piccadilly. Proprietress, Mrs. Oliver.

LONDON, W.C.—1, Guilford-place. W.C. Bed-sitting-rooms vacant, also Bed rooms, from 5s. 6d. weekly.

MANCHESTER.—Vac. Sunday. Sitting-rooms, bedrooms, or comb. rooms; piano. Terms mod. Mrs. Halliday, 45, Rumford-st., C.-on-M.

MANCHESTER. — Mrs. Gray, 36, Booth-street, East Oxford-road (near Palace). 2 bedrooms, cosy, front sitting, front-combined.

NORTHAMPTON.—Mrs. James, 14, Kingswell-st.—Two Sitting-rooms, Three Bedrooms, Combined Room. Bathroom. lav.; 2 pianos.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-st. Apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; two minutes halls and theatres.

PORTSMOUTH. — Judd's Hotel. In same family over thirty years. Accommodation for professional gentlemen; inclusive from 30s.

STRATFORD, E.—Professional apartments; bath, piano, gas, good cooking; near Empire and Borough. Mrs. Sisley, Fairlight House, Deanery-road.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of *THE* *Hana* STUDIOS, Ltd.,
place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

FOR **PRINTING**
We aim to give the best, and we solicit a trial.
We have thousands of
STOCK PICTORIALS.
See our Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham"

WILSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

'Phone 177.
WE ARE POSTER SPECIALISTS.
Try us.
Posters of all sizes, Daybills, Folders, Handbills, and all classes of Theatrical Printing, large or small.
HOLLOWAY and BIELS,
Central Printing Works, Weston-super-Mare.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.
How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.
By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY,
Chartered Accountant.
Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business-Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (*The Era*, Ltd., London, 3s. 6d.), is a most concise and comprehensive little work, calculated to prove of assistance to the theatre-manager. It shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given, and the chapters treating of receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts and audit will be found to contain much useful information. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, Feb. 3, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. (3s 6d., *The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.). The work of accountants has now been brought to a fine art, and in almost every branch of business a different system has been elaborated. The present work deals in a small compass fully and clearly with all the special features of theatrical management on the business side.—*Financial Times*, Feb. 1, 1909.

Skeleton schemes of book-keeping, &c., with explanations, showing how the affairs of a theatre can be efficiently managed by the adoption of systems of internal check in all departments. Contains also a draft agreement as between manager and artist.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts" (*The Era*, Ltd., 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.), we should say, is a very useful compilation for business-managers of our places of amusement. It is practical, exact, and analytical; it should stop leakages, and needs only good houses to keep it fully employed.—*Sportsman*, Feb. 8, 1909.

"Theatrical Accounts." By Cuthbert E. Smedley (*The Era*, Ltd., 3s. 6d.). Shows how the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. Specimen pages of the books to be kept are given. Receipts, tours, book-keeping, and accounts audit—each is allotted a separate chapter. In the appendix is given "a form of agreement with artists for touring engagements."—*Morning Post*, Jan. 27, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers, &c.
P. COLLINS
is now open to book tenants for his well-known Autumn Round.

Willenhall Wakes, Atherstone Statute, and Uttoxeter Wakes,
all opening Friday, Sept. 23.

Ashby de la Zouch Statute, opening Sat., Sept. 24. N.B.—Here I have a special concession to open in the streets on Saturday.

Birmingham Great Onion Fair,
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1.

Handsworth Wakes, Tamworth Fair,
Leicester Great October Fair.

Smethwick, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Dudley, Bulwell, and a continuous run up to Christmas, when I shall have several good enclosed and sheltered grounds to let for Xmas and the New Year.

I have also taken the
City Exhibition Hall, Manchester,
where I intend running a monster World's Fair, all under cover. I am booking a first-class Circus Company as a Free Attraction. This show will open Dec. 20 for the winter season.
For terms apply,
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola." Telephone 80.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Yard, in Centre of Town,
two acres in extent.
Good supply of water. Reasonable terms.
Apply, G. R. S. BROWN, Auctioneer, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Good Side-shows. Apply, the MANAGER, Fun Palace, 40, Pinstone-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, the Ideal Home Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, Norwich, Oct. 8 to Nov. 5. I can find good positions for about 100 Automatic Machines.

Apply to MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Positions in Exhibitions, Carnivals, &c., for High-class Side-show. All communications, ARTHUR MONTAGUE, 91, Tulketh-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Candler and Knox's Punch and Judy, now concluding Gala Season, at Liberty for Picture Palaces, &c. Address, Harrogate.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 fine Distorting Mirrors, 6ft. by 3ft., in good condition, in black frames, used at Earl's Court. Further particulars and price apply, Box 245, G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, Secondhand Box Ball Bowling Alleys. State lowest price for cash and where to be seen. E. METCALF, 15, The Retreat, Sunderland.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important,
that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Queen's Hotel, Bury, on Tuesday next, Sept. 20, at 2.30 p.m.
A good muster of Members is requested, as there is Important Business on the Agenda.

Signed, THOS. HURST, Sec.

WANTED, all Auctioneers, &c., to Note, re the Shop Hours' Amendment Act (copies can be had from "The Era" office. Price 3d.). I have been requested to call a general meeting of auctioneers to form a Guild of Defence Committee, which will be affiliated to the Showmen's Guild. The Rev. Thos. Horne and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of the Guild, have promised to help us. Most of the principal auctioneers have promised to attend. We must all be there. No backsliding. The thing must be carried through at once. The meeting will be held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, Thursday, Sept. 22, at 2.30 p.m.
Signed, F. M. BARBER, Mansfield.

WANTED, Known, Meeting of Protest against Proposed Shop Hours Act, 1910, at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Thursday next, Sept. 22, at 2.30 p.m.
All Travelling Auctioneers, Merchants, &c., interested, please come. Case requires Most Urgent Attention.
Full particulars,
WM. TAYLOR, Auction Mart, Keighley, Yorks.

WANTED, Thomas Fossett to please communicate with P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

RINKING.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Instructors and Instructresses, for Rink out of London.

Send full particulars and references to Box 8,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Instructor, for Oct. 1, for private Rink, London, 9 till 6 p.m., Saturdays 2 o'clock.

Write full particulars in first instance, stating age, salary, capabilities, and experience,

Box 8,254, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Instructor. State age, height, ability, and salary required, with copies of refs., to MANAGER, Skating Rink, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, smart Skating Instructor, used to controlling floor, able to give exhibitions. State age, references, wages required, also photo. A. A. CASH, Manager, Winter Gardens Rink, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Instructresses (with Crawford Uniform preferred), for the Hammersmith Broadway American Roller Skating Rink, Ltd. Apply at once, 17, Brook Green Road, Hammersmith, W. Manager, Mr. GRAY MURRAY.

WANTED, Floor Manager, Instructors, and Skate Mechanics. Those in France or Belgium before preferred. Apply, MANAGER, American Roller Rink, Rue de Canal, Antwerp.

WANTED, Floor Manager, for High-class Irish Rink, good address, be expert skater, and thoroughly versed in Organising Rink Attractions. Apply, with photo and terms, to RINK, care Eason and Son, Advertising Agents, Dublin.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Manager, German Rink; must speak good German; salary Mk.600.00 per month; former experience of Rink or Amusement Enterprises necessary. Box 8,267, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known Professional Skater, Engagement, working Manager or Floor Manager; one who knows the business. Terms moderate. Box 8,251, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Trick and Fancy Skater, also Acrobatic Skater. State tricks and lowest. J. M., 26, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Floor Managers, Instructors, Instructresses. Send copy of references, &c., height. Box 8,275, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty immediately, Floor and General-Manager (combined); fully experienced; good organiser; ex. refs. Apply, Box 8,252, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, qualified Skate Mechanic, at Liberty to accept Engagement, suitable Rink. W. G. G., 15, Bridge-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Engineer seeks Situation as Skate Mechanic or Assistant to Artist, age 24. B., 15, Woodford-road, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED, by experienced Skate Mechanic and Electrician, Berth, used to any Skates, own tools, &c.; excellent refs. Box 8,225, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, position as Floor-Manager of High-class Rink; thoroughly experienced. Highest possible references.
Address, Box 8,226, "The Era."

WORLD'S FAIR SKATING.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
Lessee, T. E. READ.

WANTED, to Let, Splendid Location, ground Dry Concrete, quite level, ready for laying, Maple, Asphalte, or Firmit Floor, size 102ft. by 150ft. Ideal position. Immense Success Last Season. Finest Position in North London.

Apply, T. E. READ, as above.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, commencing Nov.
must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

CITY OF EXETER.
TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, to Sell, by Private Treaty, Freehold Site, six minutes from the High-street, with an area of 58,300ft., and road frontage of 750ft.
Plan and particulars of
LUCAS, Architect, Exeter.

WANTED to Sell.
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
Wanted, to Sell,
a First-class
Pantomime Production,
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
with or without Mechanical Submarine.

Apply,
ERNEST GATES,
Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Panto, "Robinson Crusoe," New Last Season, one of the finest productions ever toured. Will sell cheap to immediate buyer, or would let on hire. JOHN WALTERS, Theatre, Bacup.

Pantomime Dresses.
WANTED, Known, for Sale or Hire, Complete or Partial Sets, for any of the following: "Aladdin," "Blue Beard," "Dick Whittington," "Cinderella," "Sinbad," "Robinson Crusoe," "Blue Bell in Fairyland," "Where Children Rule," "Alice in Wonderland," "Puss in Boots," "Mother Goose," "Jack and Beanstalk," "Boy Blue," in good condition, and very cheap.
Address, Box 8,274, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Garden set, Conservatory set, used in "Sunday." GEORGE MARRIOTT, JUN., 62, St. Augustine's rd., Camden-square, N.W

WANTED, to Sell, Large Basket, 6ft. 4in. long, 18in. deep, 34in. wide. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, 100 Pairs Roller Skates, 1s. 6d. pair; two gross Fairy Damps, 1d. each; large hamper full Theatre Costumes, 15s.; dozen Lime boxes, 5s. each. CROWTHER, 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date.
THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow

WANTED, to Sell, Secondhand, Turnstiles, Registering; 20 Penny-in-slot Closet Locks; also Chairs, and New Winslow Skates. Box 8,217, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Tent Top, Birkmire best cloth, used for auction business, 60ft. by 50ft. SMITH, Auction Mart, Platt Bridge.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Real Live Teddy Bear, height 5ft. 3in., walks about on chain, plays with little dog. Big Draw for any Show. Dog can go with him. Send for photos.
Address, MARCO,
West London Theatre, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Small Live Teddy Bear, very docile, still takes the bottle; £5. Write ARTHUR JAMES, 4, York-terrace, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berks.

WANTED, to Sell, Tent (green canvas), 195ft. by 95ft., used for Skating Rink, in Good Condition, made by Sanders, Wisbech, including all fitments. Best offer for cash. Apply, MANAGER, Crosshaven Skating Rink, Crosshaven, co. Cork.

WANTED, to Sell, about 900 Lithos (Panto. and Drama), take £2 to clear. MONCRIEFF, Alder House, Alderbrook-road, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Known, Serio leaving Stage has unused Songs, Orchestrated, Sole Rights, £1 each. Miss GRANVILLE, 11, Cleveland-mansions, Chapel-street, Brixton.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, complete, plated Set, handsome folding Stand, 5ft. 2in. high, grand tone, new, £3 10s. Approval. NEWMAN, 9, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, for Bands, Orchestras, or Stage. Loudest instruments ever heard. LISLE, 209, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Quick Photos, Electric Portrait Lamp. Complete; also Cabinet lens, Dariot, £5 lot. H., 175a, Tranmere-road, Earlsfield.

SHAKESPERE.
WANTED, to Sell, in two volumes, Knight's Illustrated, very handsomely bound, not soiled, magnificent steel engravings. Price low.

R. W. T., Willing's, 53, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, good Secondhand Bioscope Machine, for cash; also sheet; must be in thorough working order, with film box, &c., to comply with act. Write full particulars as to make and when new, with absolute lowest price, to Box 8,262, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Sketch for Halls; must contain sensational incident. State particulars, &c., to Box 8,253, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a new powerful Domestic Drama, short cast. Full particulars in confidence, Box 8,263, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a small well broken dog, one who is house broken, dog will have good home, as I wish a pet. State all tricks, also price and all particulars in first letter; must be as small as possible. Box 8,183, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, an Indiarubber Suit, for Comic Fat Policeman.
KING, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

WANTED, to Buy, full-sized Property Post Office, Pillar Box, circular or semi-circular, cheap. Box 8288, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Light Chamber Set, Centre Opening, Secondhand, Good Condition; two Travelling Baskets and Several Costumes (square cut). S. SMITH-NEILL, Globe Theatre, Walmer, Deal.

WANTED, Curtain Fit-up, complete, must be in first-class condition and attractive. Full particulars to W. J. CHURCHILL, The Vine, Llandudno.

WANTED, to Buy, Photographic Apparatus for Instantaneous Post-cards, must be cheap for cash. Box 8,283, "The Era."

WANTED, Files of "The Era," 1860 to 1864, 1868 to 1872.
A. W., 49, Drewstead-road, Streatham Hill.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Sept. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER

WANTED, Known, to Advertising Contractors, and Others, Stage Curtain in Edinburgh to Let for Advertisements;
also Advertising Space on Programmes.
Apply to
Box 8,243, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain and Programme, for the New Picturedrome, Long Eaton. Apply, LEON VINT, Globe Villa, Exmouth, S. Devon.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Freehold Building, fine floor for Skating Rink and Seating for Cinematograph Show; also Cinematograph Box, already fitted for use. Fully licensed, rent extremely low; premium £400. Fine opportunity for a man who understands his business. Box 8,262, "The Era."

THE KURSAAL,
BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
WANTED, to Sub-let from October to March, Would make good Picture Theatre. Seating 800. Best seats, tip-up, Fully Licensed. None but reliable offers entertained. Mr. Glover, having several large musical undertakings in London this season, wishes to be free of other responsibility for the winter.
Address,
J. M. GLOVER, Drury Lane Theatre.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Palace Company Promoters and others, exceptional opportunity occurs for purchasing or renting important block Freehold Property, including Hall, Dwelling House and Shops, main thoroughfare, town 50,000 population. Sublets producing £150 per annum. Apply, CORNELIUS and BOULTER, Estate Agents, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, a First-class London production of "Aladdin," Scenery, Properties, Dresses, all in excellent condition, the libretto and music can also be arranged for if desired; glass Cinderella; Coach also to be Let.

Full particulars on application to P. B.,
C/o Chas. Tayler and Co.'s Advertisement Offices,
30, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, to Let, for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances. Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, the Empire Theatre, Rugby, full Dramatic and Picture License. Low terms to responsible man. GUSTAVE, Empire, Cradley.

SURREY THEATRE.
WANTED, to Let, Paint Frames, from 30ft. to 45ft. in length, at very moderate rentals, by the week, month, or year, every convenience. Apply, ROY COCHRANE.

WANTED, to Let, a Four-act Drama, "Married to the Wrong Woman," by Nita Rae.
Address, 58, Hardress-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, or Sell, several pairs and four-in-hands Match Ponies, suitable for Panto. JOHN WALTERS, Court T., Bacup.

WANTED, to Rent, long terms for preference, Theatres or Music Halls, or other large Halls, in good positions throughout the country. Write, with full particulars, to
Box 8,261, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, with £300, to Finance the Production of a new Domestic Drama, by one of our most successful Authors, to be produced under the direction of an Actor with influence to book same. A splendid investment. Box 8,281, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Soprano, to join Instrumental Trio, for the Halls. All particulars, &c., to Box 8,256, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2681 Central.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Tip-up Chairs and Seating of every description, Constructional Alterations, Electric Light, and complete Furnishing of Electric Theatres. Send, and we will quote you with prices, best in the trade. LEWIS and DEAKIN, Empire Works, 21, Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton. Telephone, 274 Wolverhampton; Telegrams, "Seating, Wolverhampton."

WANTED, Known, Geo. D. Fox, Composer and Arranger, 134, Queen's Park-rd., Brighton. Band Books a Speciality. Sample nine stamps.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO.,
5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Addresses and Price Lists of Makers and Importers of Toys, Novelties, Small Conjuring Stuff, &c. T. SOMERFIELD, 57, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, the address of Alfred Montague Court, important.
Mrs. NEWMAN, 65, Lewisham-hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, the address of James Cole, Violinist, by uncle from Australia. Write to HETHERINGTON'S, Bandmasters' Help, 163A, Strand.

SPENCER BROTHERS, LTD.,
45b, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.
Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents.
Captive Balloons, Airship Flights.
Terms upon application.
C. G. SPENCER & SONS,
58a, Highbury Grove, London, N.
Manufacturers of Airships, Aeroplanes, Balloons and Parachutes, Captive Advertising Balloons, and Small Toy Balloons.
Price Lists or Quotations, 1 Stamp.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London," 'Phone, 1893 Dalston.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches, &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

HUNSTANTON PIER.
TENDERS ARE INVITED
For the Hire of
THE PAVILION
for 1911.—For Form of Tender and Terms, apply The SECRETARY, Hunstanton Pier Company, Chapel Street, King's Lynn

"ALADDIN,"
First-class Production and Company.
FIRST-CLASS THEATRES Required where Big Money can be taken, Jan. 2 and onwards. Apply to CHARLES CONSTANT, T. R., Leamington.

SHOP ASSISTANTS.
Additional £2 weekly.
Christmas Cards.
Book free.
GORDON, 27, Worship-street, London.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Arnold, Mr. Harold	Nov. 6, 1909
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barratt, Mr. Lester	Oct. 23, 1909
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Kenneth	Nov. 20, 1909
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blanchard, Miss Mildred	Nov. 27, 1909
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Box, Mr. Ted E.	Nov. 6, 1909
Boyde, late Mr. Edwin	Nov. 6, 1909
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Brough, late Mr. Lionel	Nov. 13, 1909
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Bushell, Mr. Albert	Nov. 20, 1909
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Caselli, Sisters	Nov. 13, 1909
Chapman, Miss Ida Assheton	Dec. 18, 1909
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan. 22, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Mr. Lester	March 26, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Evans, late Mr. Evans	Nov. 6, 1909
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Aug. 20, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford-Howitt, Miss Gladys	Jan. 22, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. C.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walner	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hardacre, Mr. J. Pitt	Oct. 23, 1909
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harlington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910

"THE CHILDREN DELIGHT IN A RIDE ON 'BABS.'"

Wanted to Sell, "BABS."

Small Elephant, the Children's Pet, five years old, about 60 inches high.
In good condition and perfect in every way. Late of the Crystal Palace.

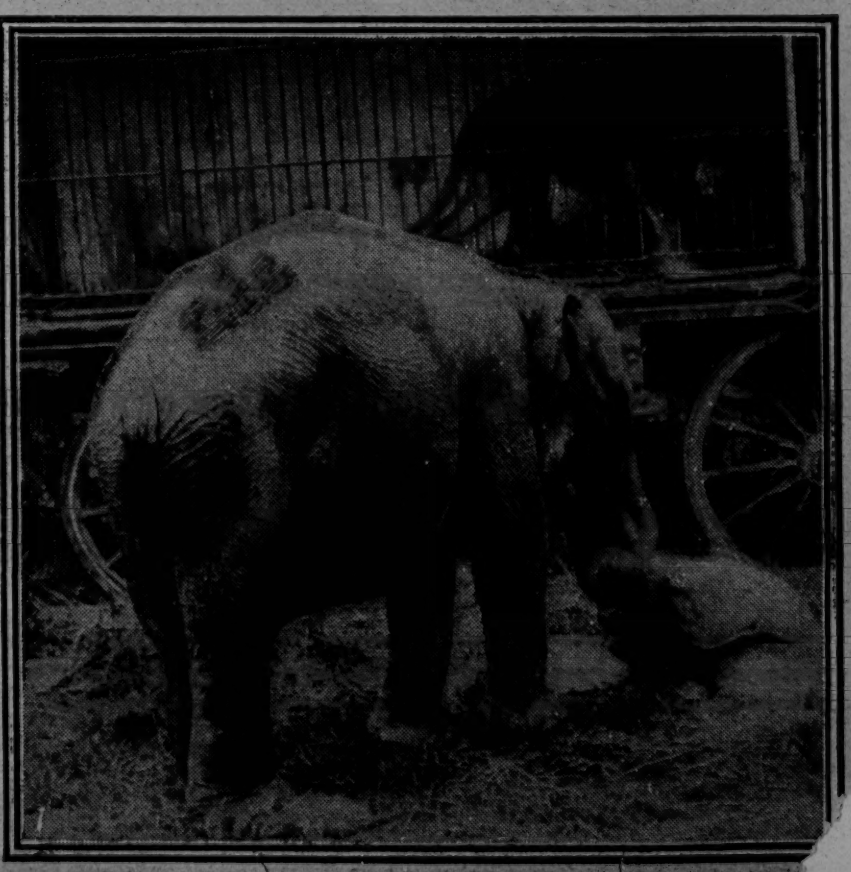

("Daily Mirror" Ph

Address, BERZAC, Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross Road.

.1

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN. — POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE. — Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—Gosling and Merrall's original Troupe of Australian Bush Boys, in their song-scena *Brighteye's Birthday*, are a big attraction here; Ingram and Irving, in their farcical absurdity *The New Office Boy*, cause roars of laughter; Lieut. Chard introduces some well-trained dogs; and the pictures shown are exceptionally good.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Seeley, West, and Rhodesia top the bill here; Flo Delemere is a chic comedienne and dancer; and Will Harris, comedian, has a good reception. Millie Cain, low comedienne, is also popular. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's talented company is presenting this week to Aberdeen play-goers Mr. F. Anstey's clever comedy *The Brass Bottle*. The play carries the beholder back to primitive days, when Arabian Nights were real and genii were creatures of flesh and blood. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., makes an effective Horace Ventimore; Mr. Percy Marshall as Professor Anthony Futvoye is piquantly original; Mr. Holman Clark as the Genii of the Bottle is a pronounced success; Mr. Rudge Harding makes a decided hit as Spencer Pringle; whilst Lieut. Chard introduces some well-trained dogs; and the pictures shown are exceptionally good.

ABERDARE.—NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Seeley, West, and Rhodesia top the bill here; Flo Delemere is a chic comedienne and dancer; and Will Harris, comedian, has a good reception. Millie Cain, low comedienne, is also popular. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's talented company is presenting this week to Aberdeen play-goers Mr. F. Anstey's clever comedy *The Brass Bottle*. The play carries the beholder back to primitive days, when Arabian Nights were real and genii were creatures of flesh and blood. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., makes an effective Horace Ventimore; Mr. Percy Marshall as Professor Anthony Futvoye is piquantly original; Mr. Holman Clark as the Genii of the Bottle is a pronounced success; Mr. Rudge Harding is a pronounced success; Mr. Robert Macdonald's capital company in *The Dairymaids* is here. Miss Ethel Callanan acts and sings in a winsome manner as Peggy; Miss Marjorie Manners makes a charming Winifred; and Miss Marie Rignold is imposing and dignified as Lady Brudenell. Miss Edie Martin is responsible for excellent light comedy as Eliza; Miss Rose Edouin is all that could be desired as Miss Penelope; Mr. Edwin Dodds throws a vast amount of humour into his performance as Joe Mivens; Mr. Harry Scaddan gives a clever reading of Dr. O'Bryne; Mr. Willie Spray is a capital exponent of the part of Lieut. Sam Brudenell; Mr. Harry Clark makes the most of his opportunities as Lieut. Frank Meredith; and the rest of the characters are in good hands.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—N. T. Kioto and C. H. Esa are presenting a unique equilibristic performance here; Francis and Alfred provide a smart juggling act; Joe Belmont, in a whistling act, is entertaining; Tom Gott, dialect comedian, is deservedly applauded; James Basnett proves himself a popular comedian; Miss May Newall has a couple of good songs that take well; Alice Edwards is an acceptable male impersonator; and Will E. Stoppit is a capital acrobatic comedian. The Hippodrome pictures complete.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*The Idol of Paris*, played by Mr. James Bell's company, is here this week. The leading rôle is undertaken by Miss Annie Bell with pleasing results and Misses Frances Bruce (Mme. Sancterre) and Lottie Ray (Ann) are very successful. Mr. Arthur McCullock as the Prince is capital; Mr. Bernard Copping (Phillipe) gives a meritorious enactment; Mr. H. Vivian Thomas is excellent as Taiave; and Messrs. H. C. Ward (Gustave) and Chris A. Olgar (Victor) are both well placed.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Campbell Browne.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here this week with *The Prince and the Beggar-Maid*. As the treacherous Prince Hildred Mr. Leonard Booker plays his part most capably; Mr. Victor Rae as the afflicted Prince Michael gains much sympathy by his masterly performance; as Prince Olaf Mr. Henry Hallatt is a great favourite; as Captain Hector Mr. Herbert Burton is admirable, as is also Mr. W. S. Hardy as Colonel Wellenberg. As Nathan, the dumb servant, Mr. Oswald Waller is excellent; and the Bishop of Illyria is well played by Mr. Charles Coleman. Miss Viola Holland is a sweet and dignified Princess Monica, and the Camiola Miss Violette May is commendable. The comedy is excellently played by Miss Mona Hall as Viola and Mr. Stafford Dickens as Karl Stromberg.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb.—The star turn here is La Belle Duchesse, with her clever boxing horses and dogs, all wonderfully trained animals; Mumford and Marsh are good eccentric comedians; and an excellent ventriloquial entertainment is given by Astor and Billy. The films are of the usual high standard.

PAVILION PALACE, LTD.—Business-Manager, Mr. A. Stoker; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Curry.—The chief engagement here during the week is George and Lillian, in an enjoyable refined musical and dancing entertainment; Flake White is clever with his lightning cartoons and paintings; and Cardwell and Verne are also excellent in their singing and dancing scena *Early Closing Day*. The pictures are splendid.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The return visit of Mr. W. Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann, with *Claudian*, was warmly welcomed. Mr. Maclaren's fine physique and forceful acting make him an ideal Claudian; Miss Loly C. Bandmann is a graceful and tender Almida; Mr. W. Lawrence delivers the curse as the Holy Clement with impressive solemnity; Mr. Frank Owen Chambers is a capable exponent of the cruel, lustful Tetrarch of Charydos; Mr. C. T. Chaloner handles with discretion the humorous character of Belos, and his efforts are ably seconded by Miss Maud Garth as Edessa. Mr. Basil Mitchell makes an excellent Theorus, and a good Zosimus is found in Mr. Martin J. Moar. Mr. Douglas Earle as the blacksmith, Agazil, is also effective in impersonation of character; Miss Amy Hardcastle acts with grace and feeling as Serena; and the minor rôles are effectively sustained.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—Heading the programme here is the inimitable comedian, Morny Cash; Forbes Gilbert is an effective exponent of scenes from well-known dramas; Will Sullivan is as diverting as ever; and the clever gyrations of the trick cyclists, the Ellesmere Troupe, are watched with admiration. Dolly Ross is a taking serio-comedienne and charming dancer; L. W. Harris shines as a light comedian; the Three Comedy Chanters give harmonious interludes; and Robins and Collier, clever comedy artists, appear in an "Eggstravaganza Scrambled," entitled *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*. The Bioscope remains a feature of the bill.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mrs. G. Kimberley's company is here with *Her Road to Ruin*.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wm Smithson.—A good bill here is headed by the Sunderlands in sensational tricks on cycles. Wylie (tramp musician) creates endless amusement; Lucerna's animals are a clever troupe; and Grace Lester and company in *Her Ruined Life* are applauded repeatedly. Walter Buxton renders two charming songs.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Miss Maggie Morton's company in *Havana* appeared here for two nights. Mr. William Pringle as Nix caused uproarious laughter by his drolleries; and able support was accorded him by Mr. Arthur Lenville as the ship's boy. Messrs. Chas. Boulting and Cecil Parke made a couple of irresponsible officers; Don Adolpho was admirably undertaken by Mr. John A. Latham; Miss Josephine Sullivan gave a spirited conception of the heiress Consuelo; four dainty newspaper maidens were represented by the Misses Dorothy Melbourne, Billie Brame, Cecilia Bamford, and Marian Ashley; and other principal parts were satisfactorily undertaken by Messrs. John Talford, Sylvester Stuart, and the Misses Beatrice Annersley, Alice Lenville, and Florence Pomeray.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier and comedy company in répertoire are here. Opening with *The Taming of the Shrew*, Miss Glossop made a spirited and pleasing Katharine, and Mr. Frank Cellier a splendid Petruchio, virile and forceful. Mr. Murray Kinnell did well as Lucentio, and Mr. Arthur Seaton was a capable Baptista. Mr. Herbert Standland was a good Hortensio, and the humours of Grumio were well brought out by Mr. Attred Bristowe. *Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, The School for Scandal, Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* are also billed.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Horniman's company opened with *Candida* here this week. Mr. Ian Maclaren makes a splendid Rev. James Morell, and Mr. Leonard Mudie a clever Eugene Marchbanks. Miss Louise Holbrook is a good Proserpine Garnett, and Mr. Edward Landor presents a well-drawn Mr. Burgess. The Rev. Alexander Mill is happily hit off by Mr. Ernest C. Cassell, and Miss Rosalind Ivan is a charming Candida. A curtain-raiser, *The Troth*, precedes. *Cupid and Commonsense* is also billed.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital programme is presented here this week. The entertaining Tally-ho Trio receive hearty applause; Arthur T. Ward gives an expert hoop-juggling act, and is a clever eccentric dancer; the Redcar Trio submit a creditable acrobatic and tumbling performance; Cassie Walmer has a taking style, and had a hearty reception; the Rizarella Trio of lady gymnasts are clever on the trapeze, and give a smart and pleasing performance; Cliffe and Keen are good in song and dance; Harris Coonie is a particularly smart dancer; and some very interesting pictures are depicted by Vernon's Bioscope.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Fred Newman's picture and variety entertainment continues to draw capital houses.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond presents *For Wife and Kingdom* here this week. Miss Hettie Zillwood cleverly portrays Marie of Gotsburg; very effective is Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl; Mr. Reginald J. Fox is a successful Captain Lubeck; Mr. Albert Guyon is responsible for the villainous part of Baron Breslau; and General Von Nestolde is well played by Mr. Frank Sutherland.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—Included in a strong bill here are the Three Phydoras, instrumentalists, who win hearty applause. Marco is a clever conjurer, and the pictures are interesting.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Gus Oxley still gives his diverting conception of Smith, and Miss Marian Edwardes delights with her cultured vocalism as Sombra. Miss Mysie Devine captivates with her Irish brogue and dainty ways as Eileen Cavanagh; and Miss Madge Haines again scores a big success as Mrs. Smith. Newcomers are Mr. George Hester, who is the drollest Peter Doodey imaginable, Mr. Mervyn Dene, excellent as Sir George Paddock, a beau-ideal Jack Meadows in Mr. H. Nelson Hancock, and Miss Beryl Craigie is a win some Chrysea. Others who valuably assist are Mr. Freddie Bentley (Bobby), Mr. Berkeley Davies (Time), Mr. Douglas Marrs (Astrophel), and Mr. W. Dawson (Strephon).

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—*Dare Devil Dipping*, by E. D. Nicholls and company, is a popular item in this week's bill; Billy Merson, comedian, is in great favour; Ida Kessanly's troupe of fox-terriers arouse excitement, the canine football match proving a splendid finish to a clever turn; Nellie Farrell is always sure of a warm welcome in her Irish songs and expert dances; Edith Chantler is a young vocalist of merit, who has the distinct advantage of clear enunciation; Ernestine Desborough is a come dienne who gives a couple of taking songs with favour; and a fine film is Briton and Boer, which is one of the best pictures unfolded for many a week.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened here on Monday with *The Naked Truth*. In the rôle of Bernard Darrell (Bunny) Mr. Stanley Logan achieved a noteworthy success; Miss Violet Ley as Mrs. Hayter gained many of the honours of the representation; and Mr. Townsend Whitling was all that could be desired as the uncle, James Darrell. Miss Kathleen Maude, with a charming stage presence, was a delightful Norah Creighton; and Mr. Horace Sinclair in the rôle of Teddy Lestrange is worthy of a special meed of praise. Miss Ormonde Wynne acted naturally and convincingly as Mrs. Darrell; and Mr. Besley Beltrán was capable as Mr. Hayter.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here this week is the domestic drama *Home, Sweet Home*, presented by Miss Marion Wakeford's company. In the rôle of Joan Miss Wakeford achieved success; as Stephen Armitage Mr. Norton Shields rendered adequate support; and Mr. Tom E. Lewis (who introduces his bone speciality) appeared as David Armitage. Mr. Sydney Dench's impersonation of the Duke of Ancaster reflected credit on him; and Miss Lena Coleman appeared to advantage as Sybil Fay. Miss M. Burgess Barratt as the aristocrat, Lady Summerton, was admirable.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The top of the bill is occupied by that talented actor Mr. Seymour Hicks, who, with his capable company, are appearing in *Scrooge*; Mr. Hicks's impersonation of the title-rôle being remarkably clever; the Columbia Comedy Trio of comedians make a big hit; Mr. J. W. Gallagher is a smart comedian with good songs; Miss Belle Braham, pictorial songstress, is paying a return visit, and her reception nightly is certainly flattering; and the Jackley Trio appear in their comedy act, which is quite a feature of the programme. Also appearing are Mr. Harold Heath, coon singer and fine dancer; Petro and Leon, classical gymnasts; Sisters Herbert, duettists and dancers; and the Hipposcope, with film Launch of the Olympic.

EMPIRE THEATRES OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The leading attraction here is furnished by Herbert Sleath's company, who produce *The Deputy Sheriff*, the leading rôles being cleverly sustained by Miss Ewing Kemp, Ray Raymond, Leonard Craske, &c. As a female impersonator Mr. Albert Letine has few equals; Phil Ree's Stable Lads stage with success their novel racing act, *Not a Crook*; Mr. Bert Weston, comedian, pleases all with his latest hit, "The matman"; Miss Madge O'Neill is a charming comedienne and dancer; and Miss Rose Gower, comedienne, Mr. Joe Wesley, comedian, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among many interesting pictures exhibited here may be mentioned The Launch of the Olympic at Queen's Island, Belfast, on 20th inst., Military Tournament, Between Love and Honour, The Despatch Bearer, &c. The variety element is sustained by Mr. Marcus Boyle, comedian, and Hess and Chivers, in their skating speciality.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Mr. Oswald Cray and his company are presenting *When It Was Dark* twice nightly, with gratifying results. Mr. C. Wordley Hulse acts extremely well throughout as Constantine Schwabe; Miss Lillian Herries distinguishes herself as Gertrude Hunt; Mr. Oswald Cray adapts himself well to the character of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Miss Rosalie Notsello makes a sweet and charming Helena Byrne; and others who render efficient service are Vivian Charles, Vincent W. Carlyle, Frank V. Venn, and Miss Madeline Grande.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—*The Hypocrites*, presented by Mr. Frank Bertram's company, is attracting large audiences. An effective performance of the Rev. Edgar Linnet by Mr. Philip Darien is highly popular. Miss V. St. Lawrence plays the exacting rôle of Mrs. Willmore with signal success. Mr. W. J. Stirling displays a thorough grasp of the important part of Mr. Willmore, and his son Leonard is capitally played by Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald. Miss Violet Macree is well suited as Rachel Neve; Miss Verita Vivien is a charming Helen Plagenet; and Miss Viola Marsh gives an able impersonation of Mrs. Baney. Mr. Frank Melrose displays exceptional ability as the lawyer, Mr. Viveash; and the remaining characters are ably undertaken by Mr. Morrice Seaton, Mr. Basil Dyne, Mr. A. Quilter, Mr. Elwyn C. Walter, Miss Lilla Nordon, and Miss Margaret Story-Gofton.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Miss Ella Shields, the popular comedienne, is repeating previous successes; Sam Stern, a clever American Hebrew comedian, is also a leading attraction; and the Motramos are clever and amusing vaudeville artists. Other prominent turns are given by Miss Rosie Lloyd, a chic comedienne; Mr. Hal Forde, a smart light comedian; the Three Langfords, novel and expert dancers; Beattie and Blanche, accomplished duettists; Mr. Charles Hatch, a good character comedian; Mr. Walter Stanley, a versatile comedian; Lux's trained dogs; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. The orchestral arrangements are under the direction of Mr. E. Denney.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Two performances nightly of the drama *Her Nameless Child*, by Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company, command considerable support. Mr. J. H. Evelyn gives an incisive and telling performance of the blacksmith, Anthony Ford; Miss Jean Wigney plays Phyllis Ford with effect; and the villain of the piece, Lord Woodville, is well embodied by Mr. Leonard Aardale.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Lewis Waller produced *Sir Walter Raleigh* about a year ago at this theatre, and it comes back with a different company, with the exception of Miss Winifred Emery, who, as Queen Elizabeth, is really excellent. She makes the very best use of the magnificent opportunities which the author has given her, and large audiences pay her warm tribute. Mr. Lyn Harding is successful in the title-rôle, his acting being extremely forceful. In the minor parts Miss Nell Carter is an amiable Bess Throgmorton, Mr. Powis Pinder is amusing as Jim Longhowe, Mr. W. E. Holloway is convincing as Savage, and Mr. Percy Rhodes is good as Don Bernardino de Mendoza.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*Samson and Delilah* was introduced to the Birmingham public for the first time on Monday night by the Moody-Manners Opera Co. It was a successful performance, which a large audience thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Albert Bowyer was prominent as Samson, and a more seductive Delilah than Miss Bessie Weir would be hard to imagine. Others in the cast to deserve special mention were Mr. William Farmer, Mr. Graham Marr, Mr. Harry Brindle, and Mr. R. Worland. The new opera was repeated at the Thursday matinée. Other operas presented during the week were *Tannhäuser* on Tuesday, *Faust* on Wednesday, *Carmen* on Thursday, *Il Trovatore* on Friday, and *Bohemian Girl* on Saturday.

ALEXANDRA.—Manager, Mr. F. Barnardo; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company is presenting *Why Did She Run Away?* which is closely followed by large audiences. As Sybil, the much persecuted village maiden, Miss Iza Lyndon portrays a trying character with distinct success, and Miss Edie Macklin is conspicuous in the rôle of Sally Tompkins. Mr. John B. Shinton plays the part of the Curate with the necessary force and decision; Mr. Harry Lyndon gives a clever study as Weary Willie Lightning; Miss Ada M. Ryder acts well as Vera; and Mr. Stephen Langton is to the fore as Cecil Whiteley.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*Married to the Wrong Man* is here this week. Miss Mary Pemberton, as Ruth, the dumb girl, has a sympathetic rôle, and is an actress of no mean ability; Mr. Henry Lonsdale is successful as Captain Deering, and others who deserve special mention are Mr. George Arthur, Mr. Walter Pemberton, Miss Clara Milvain, and Mr. Leonard Thackeray.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Midnight Wedding* is scoring a further success here. Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is producing the piece, which is in the full tide of popularity. The acting is clever and always convincing, and the chief incidents are depicted with startling realism. Miss Lillian Hallows makes a charming heroine as the Princess Astrea, and Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes does full justice to the character of Paul Valmar. Mr. Malcolm Tearle and Miss Madge Raper are prominent in the heavy characters, and the lighter side of the piece is well sustained by Miss Phyllis Hume, Mr. Harry Paine, Mr. W. Franklin, and Mr. Algie Spalding.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—*His Indian Wife* is the title of a thrilling drama here, for which Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is responsible. The outstanding feature is the excellent performance of Miss Lelia Zillwood in the character of the Indian maiden, Wild Rose. Miss Zana St. George is a graceful Lady Kingsley, and Mr. Arthur Hinton earns appreciation for a natural representation of the English gentleman, Hubert Ainsworth. Mr. Travis Green is clever as Wolfsfang, and Miss Laura Wright (Black Duck) and Mr. Tod Squires (Billy Twiggie) are responsible for much humour.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Miss Winifred Maude and company are here this week. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, *The Sins of a City* was presented. Miss Maude was warmly applauded for her representation of Seaweed, and she was ably supported by Mr. William Vane, Mr. Harold Heath, Mr. Maurice Jones, Mr. Arthur Read, Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. George Bogue, Miss Gipsy Alexander, Miss Annie Megson, etc. *The Stowaway* was presented on Thursday and Friday, in which the chief characters were ably portrayed by Miss Winifred Maude and Mr. Victor du Cane.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—The wonderful performances of Miss Annie Abbott, "The Georgia Magnet," provide patrons with food for much speculation, and the turn creates much amusement. Alexandre and Hughes are an entertaining pair of comedians; Rich and Rich add to their popularity in Birmingham by a clever turn; the Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette sing in a way that captivates audiences; the Manchester Mites present a smart vocal and dancing scena; Nora Emerald is a bright and popular comedienne; Barry Lupino is a smart dancer; Clown Argo has a remarkable talent for mimicry; and Nelson Jackson entertains ably at the piano.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Malcolm Scott is an amusing entertainer, and he is warmly greeted; an artistic performance is given by Little Elsie Craven, the delightful dancer, who is assisted by Master Bert Clerc; G. W. Hunter keeps the audience in merry mood with his amusing monologue; Harold Montague introduces *The Vagabond Players* in a refined burlesque of an Italian opera; Ben Lewin's character impersonations are excellent; a pleasing entertainment is provided by Elsie Roby, "the slavey at the piano"; the Hoyns display considerable acrobatic skill; Miss Alice Hollander sings beautifully, and Dan Fraser is a lively Scotch comedian.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Florrie Forde is a big favourite here; a delightful entertainment is provided by Ivan Tschernoff's ponies, dogs, and pigeons; Will Netta's singing jockeys appear in a racing act of exceptional merit; Lilian Barnes pleases with well-chosen songs; comedy of a bright order is supplied by E. J. Sheldon, Will Penn, and Rentow; Harry Tomlin is a smart light comedian; Austin Temple is an entertaining magician; and the Three Warners introduce some new dances.

HIPPODROME. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Fred Karno's company, including Mr. Shaun Grenville, present here this week the farcical sketch, *The R.M.S. Wondatainia*, and another of Mr. Karno's companies are successful in the farce, *The New Slavey*. Dramatic fare is provided by Miss Beaumont Collins and a strong company in *The House of Terror*; Effie White's kaleidoscope dance is very pretty; Two Lancashire Girls are warmly applauded for sweet duets; Vera Wootton and Cissie Retford are charming comediennes; Doris and Frances are comediennes and dancers, and Tod Lowen is a clever comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Pride of place in the programme is worthily allotted to Elise Lambert, a mezzo-soprano of remarkable voice quality. The sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, presented by Mr. Arnold Richardson, assisted by Mr. A. Gordon Laws and Miss Ethel Lonsdale, is received with enthusiasm. Mlle. Leonie de Lausanne performs wonderful feats with a rifle and target; the D'Vorak Family are applauded in a clever gymnastic act; Violet Ray is a gifted 'cello soloist and singer; and Nolly (character comedian), Dan Conroy, Norman Osborne (ventriloquist), and Probin and Bates, in a comedy scena, are also popular.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—A popular feature of a varied list is the new travel series, showing Beauty Spots of South Devon, the pictures being remarkably clear. Miss Marie D'Alcourt and Miss Elsa Arnell are well received in vocal contributions, and score in a clever comedy sketch.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—Many new films are provided here, and full houses are to be found at each performance. The variety turns contributed by Little Lemaine and her mannikins are popular.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. B. Kennedy and J. P. Moore.—Up-to-date pictures account for the heavy patronage which is extended to this hall, the programme being rendered additionally attractive by clever vaudeville turns. The go as-you-please competitions are eagerly taken part in by the local amateur entertainers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company is here in *Proof*. Mr. Francis Roberts gives an effective portrayal of Pierre Lorance; Mr. Geo. Kingsley is well suited to the part of Lazare; and a characteristic portrayal of the Duke D'Aubeterre is presented by Mr. Alfred Wiltshire. Mr. Thos. E. Marshall is a good Chambaran. Miss Hero Hathaway a pathetic Adrienne, Miss Elsie Goulding a charming Valentine, Miss Millicent James a dignified Duchess D'Aubeterre, and Miss Phena Powell is all that can be wished for as Mme. Deprets.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Rabottini and his band are here; the Seventrunas are very good acrobats; Tom Moore is a pleasing vocalist; Fame and Fortune are effective comedians; Guest and Newlyn are an entertaining duo; Stanley and Vandyke produce a pleasing comedy act; Margit and Lever, in *Wet Paint*, are highly amusing; and the Hipposcope films are good.

BLACKBURN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Resident Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Stungeon's company is here this week in *The Girls of Gottenberg*. Mr. Smith, who plays Max, and Miss Grace Desmond, who appears in the part of Clementine, supply humorous impersonations. Mr. R. N. Cory is good as Otto, and the same may be said of Mr. Eddie Foy as Britti Botti. Miss Dora Langham is a graceful Mitzi, and Miss Beryl Vandrey is a satisfactory Elsa. As Adolf, the Town Clerk, Mr. Tom Squire is responsible for a striking portrayal.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—At the head of the bill here we have the Fugi Troupe of Japanese equilibrists and jugglers, who give a smart performance. A novel turn is supplied by Mr. Edward Crossland's Melody Makers; Albert St. Clair is a favourite; the Oakes Duo give a humorous turn, *Making a Man of Her*; J. H. Wakefield, the "new coon," sings and dances acceptably; Gwennie Morgan quickly gains the favour of the audience; Guy Kyder gives a smart turn; Maurius's Fountains are a beautiful sight, and prove a big attraction; and The Revolution in Portugal is shown on the cinematograph.

NEW PRINCES' THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Manageress, Mrs. C. Clarkson.—*The Hand that Rocks the Cradle* is here this week. Mr. Guy Hastings as Derek Mason plays well; Miss Gertrude F. Godhart is good as Audrey Melrose; Mr. Gerald Jordan plays strongly as Philip Marchant; and the humorous element is chiefly in the hands of Mr. Finn Doyle, who appears as Jerry Dale.

BLACKPOOL.—HIS MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Arthur Leigh and company are paying another visit here with *Lucky Durham*, and meeting with their usual cordial reception. Mr. Leigh is very successful as the Hon. Reginald Sleighton, and Mr. William Calvert faithfully portrays Lord Mountfallon; John Durham is forcefully represented by Mr. Edmund Kennedy; Miss Nellie Bonser portrays Mrs. Durham with charming effect, and Miss Florence Tressilian gracefully assumes the rôle of Helen Wallerton.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—*The Queen of the Fair*, played by Mr. Basil Horsfall's company, is doing well here. Mr. Albert Chapman is a fine baritone vocalist, and appears to great advantage as Karl, Captain of the Hussars; Mr. George Carroll provides much amusement as the Burgomaster, and Mr. Arthur Reynolds as 'Enery is also well to the fore as a fun-provider. Signora Mercedes Dalmada, who plays the title-rôle, is a charming vocalist, and several pleasing dances are executed by Mlle. Rosa Mais.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Orrikshank, the musical clown, is the chief attraction here. Shirley and Ransome provide a good sketch, Charles Erard is a capable pianist and mimic, Michael Madden is a good comedian, the Eight Lancashire Lads dance well, Maud Esmond provides chorus songs, Crystal and Saville are capable sketch artists, and George Casselli is a clever comedian and dancer.

HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Donald O. Clark.—Besides the latest living pictures, which are always a strong attraction here, the management have secured the services of Louie Freear and Rale Walters.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. J. A. Campbell has presented with success the drama, entitled *The Old Folks at Home*. The company engaged, which includes Mr. Frank Liston and Miss Maud Warburton, has met with a hearty reception.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram's company is here this week in *The Fires of Fate*. Mr. Lewis Fielder plays with much force and skill as Colonel Cyril Egerton, D.S.O.; Mr. Gilbert Yorke is a pronounced Rev. Samuel Roden; Mr. George F. Hyde is earnest in his rendering of the part of James Roden, M.D.; Mr. A. C. Holmes is an interesting Captain Jack Archer; Mr. Henry Gray Dolby is animated and enthusiastic as Mons. Octave Fardet; Mr. Sydney Carlyle's efforts are realistic in the part of Abdulla; Mr. Sam Wilkinson and Mr. G. D. Greig are alike good as Mr. Cecil Brown and Mr. Brodie; Miss Aimee de Burgh plays with much sympathy the part of Miss Sadie Adams; Miss Marie Derbyshire is excellent as Miss Adams; and Miss Dorothy Maude is a capital Mrs. Belmont. The play is preceded by a dramatic episode, entitled *After Seven Years*.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Good houses assemble nightly to enjoy the programme supplied by the Seven Perezoffs, who appear in their clever juggling pantomime *An Animated Supper at Maxim's*; Tim O'Connor, comedian and expert dancer; Chaes Lewis, novelty ventriloquist; Ralph and Nellie Howard in a comedy musical act, *Military Mad*; Luis Hardt, the Sandow Boy; Frey Colley and Minnie Scott in comedy, *Tit-Bits*; Harry Karr and Walter Kooney, curious comedians; Miss Fatmah Diard, American prima donna; Leo. Fields, comedian; and the De Wynne Bros., athletes, and their canine comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—A strong bill here contains Bransby Williams, character actor, who is delightful large audiences with his sketches from Dickens and Shakespeare; Maud Courtney, in song and story; Mr. C., who sings and talks; Palles and Cusnick, comedians and burlesque boxers; Fred Lyndo, comedian; The Paulham Team in a novel and exciting aerial football match on bicycles; Viviana and company in their dancing scena, *The Toy Shop*; the Seven Brammeas, juvenile musicians, in "Music Afloat"; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is on a visit here in *The Dairymaids*. Mr. Norman Bowyer as Joe Mivens keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter, and is well supported in this respect by Miss Ruby Louis as Eliza. Miss Eva Ellis plays Peggy in a captivating manner; Mr. Donald Price-Evans and Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Lieuts. Sam Brudenell and Frank Meredith are responsible for much amusement; Miss Kathleen Sinico plays and sings well as Winifred; Miss Margaret Carter is well suited as Lady Brudenell; and Mr. Bernard Vaughan makes an excellent Dr. O'Byrne.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee,

Strathpeffer; Miss Eily Malyon as the Governess is all that can be desired; and Miss Marjorie Day is a charming Gwendoline. The comedy is preceded by *A Question of Diplomacy*, in which Mrs. Russ Whytal and Mr. F. P. Stevens are conspicuous.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—We are having another visit from *The Private Secretary*. The company is Mr. Eugene Stafford's, and the comedy is presented in a manner which does not fail to elicit hearty laughter, the most being made of the funny situations by Mr. James Hussey as the Rev. Robert Spalding, Mr. W. Hargreaves as the irascible Mr. Cattermole, and Mr. Kendal Chalmers as Gibson. The support by Miss M. Mallalieu as Edith Marsland and Miss Estelle Despa as Miss Ashford is noticeable amongst other impersonations in the excellent cast. A curtain-raiser, *The Captain's Wife*, is well played.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Councillor F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—The Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne* is staged here by Mr. Tom Watt's capable company with excellent results. Miss Ida Heron, in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine, succeeds in arousing the deep sympathy of her audience by her emotional acting; Mr. F. Beresford's Archibald Carlyle is an impersonation of restrained power and excellence; and noticeable support is rendered by Miss Anita Palozza as Barbara Hare, Miss Isabel Singleton as Cornelia Carlyle, Mr. Joe Rowland as Bullock, and Miss H. V. Homewood as Willie Carlyle. The play is well staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—"My Fancy," in her charming and novel scena, *Winter, Spring, and Summer*, is dancing herself into the affections of the audience; Ernie Mayne's quaint and irresistible humour provokes hearty laughter; The Human Bridge is an exceedingly clever and novel acrobatic act presented by Ricardo and Salving; Mina Denvil is a pleasing vocalist; and as deputy for Millie Hylton Doris Trevelyan quite wins her audience with her sweet vocalism. Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton's comedy turn, *Mixed Pickles*, is very amusing; as "the tramp at the piano" James Stewart is diverting; Lew Lake is the central comedy figure in King Nobbler, and he has capital support from his company; and some fine films are shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Tamamoto, a Japanese performer on the wire and perpendicular rope, gives a daring and graceful exhibition of skill; Dare Austin and C. E. Howard are very diverting in a capital sketch, *His Wedding Morning*; Lulu Lord is a dainty comedienne; in his entertainment as an instrumentalist and trick cyclist Bert Woodward displays much skill; Harry Taylor, the Lancashire comedian, is particularly quaint; and Ernest Rees, a comedian of another method, is very funny. In immaculate male attire, and in an artistic and convincing manner, Edna Latonne wins hearty applause for her excellent songs; the Whittington Trio give a comic acrobatic performance full of merit and skill; and the Perfection pictures are most entertaining.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The engagement of Mr. Julian Clifford and his famous Harrogate Kursaal orchestra have given a great treat to the lovers of first-class music here, the overtures to *Oberon* and *Raymond* and Liszt's Rhapsodies and the beautiful symphonic poem "Finlandia" being much enjoyed. The Hon. Mrs. Julian Clifford was the vocalist on Saturday and Sunday, and her rendering of "Let the bright Seraphim," with trumpet obbligato by Mr. Mark Hemingway, was rapturously encored. Master Julian Clifford conducted two special items, and the remarkable precision with which he wielded the bâton proved that he had inherited the gift. Mr. Edward Elliott, the leader of the orchestra, played the solo part in Handel's "Largo" in a most artistic manner, and "1812" on Sunday night concluded a fine programme.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Large audiences attend the performances here this week of *Under Two Flags*, by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Wernham Ryott merits high praise for his masterly impersonation of Bertie Cecil Royellieu; Miss Agnes Verity gives a charming enactment of Cigarette, which is very warmly appreciated; Miss O'Neill achieves great success with her portrayal of Princess Venotia Corona; Mr. David Hawthorne is duly vigorous as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Charles E. Johnson's Colonel Chateauroy is an able representation; Mr. Harry Benson affords much amusement as Rake, the valet; and others meriting comendation include Mr. Charles Brooke (Lord Royellieu), Mr. Wilfred Jessop (Berklie Royellieu), and Miss Angela Stewart (Countess Olga).

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Barney Armstrong and Kelly, comedians, are very entertaining, and evoke the heartiest laughter and applause; the Brasques achieve distinct success in *A Society Butterfly*, Miss Cora Duncan being especially effective in the title character; Bartling and Green combine juggling and comedy very happily; the Kowans, "two voices and a piano," are cordially applauded; Renee Day is a clever acrobatic dancer and comedienne; the Fentons are well received in *The Doll and the College Girl*; Poole and Maguire are a good vocal comedy duo; Preston Holmes, musical speciality artist, gives a capital turn; Jessie Harding is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Alhambra Picturegraph presents an excellent series of films. Mrs. Lewis Waller and company are giving daily matinée performances here this week, supported by Mr. Maurice Farkoa. On Saturday last, when Mrs Lewis Waller opened her engagement, she appeared in *The Admiral's Lady* and *A Midnight Visitor*, and was assisted by Mr. Leonard Robson, Mr. W. Lenton, Mr. Malcom Cockerell, Miss Olive Twain, Miss Aileen Woods, Miss Doris Woods, Mr. E. Freeling, Miss Emmie King, and Mr. Villiers. Mr. Maurice Farkoa sang half a dozen songs.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Theo C. Le Gar's company, including Señor Angel Blanco, an accomplished violinist, win hearty applause in the representation of *Music, the Conqueror*; wonderful illusions are submitted by Oswald Williams, assisted by Winifred La Barte and company; Wilson Hallett is a capital mimic and entertainer; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane are very effective in the Hobble Skirt Dance; the Schmettans are clever equilibrists; Harry Taft is a gifted and clever whistler; Topsy Sinden dances herself into high favour; the Four Vagabonds are artistic and humorous vocalists; Madge Grey is a versatile Lancashire comedienne, who is enthusiastically received; Leonard Teel, "the suffering dame," gives a diverting turn; and George Norton is an attractive burlesque turn.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr Charles Windermere and company are here this week with *Where is William?* Mr. Charles Windermere is very amusing as Sir William Gregory; Mr. Rule Pyott materially adds to the fun as William Jolly, the butler; Mr. Leslie Norman gives a capital embodiment of the peppery General Rubbub; Mr. Robert Urquhart, as Henry, and Miss Clare Manifield made a capital pair of lovers; Miss Zoe Davis is well placed as Eliza; Miss Bele Donaldson acquits herself admirably as Lady Gregory; Mrs. Alfred Davis is distinctly successful as Emily, the cook; and able support is given by Mr. Fred Archer as the burglar, and Mr. Albert Plant as the policeman.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera company is here for the week. On Monday evening *Carmen* was performed in excellent style. Miss Doris Woodall acted splendidly and sang superbly as Carmen, and the same must be said of Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Jose. Miss Rita Wallace sang charmingly and played prettily as Micaela; Mr. Hebden Foster was successful as Escamillo, obtaining an encore for his toreador song; Miss Hilda Morris and Miss Annie Van Dyck were pleasing as Frasquita and Mercedes; Mr. Frederick Cleudon and Mr. William O'Connor scored as Don Cairo and Remendado; and Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. R. Carter, and Mr. Albert Felton did well as Zuniga, Morales, and Lilias Pastia. *Lohengrin, Il Trovatore, Tannhäuser, The Bohemian Girl, The Queen of Sheba*, and *Faust* are also billed.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is here with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Miss Lorraine Stevens acts with much power as Molly Vernon; Mr. Charles Sparrow is convincing as Jack England; Mr. W. Kellson is effective as Captain Geoffrey Caversham; Mr. Charles Ashwell makes an interesting part of the Rev. Robert Everton; Miss Dorothy Thayer is pleasing as Rose Seymour; Miss Letitia Rushforth does well as Marian Franklyn; and the comic parts of Isabella Jones and Dick Punch are capitally taken by Miss Lilian Drake and Mr. Allan Carruthers.

Palace. — Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Messrs. Peterman and Rickett's company is here with the amusing Turkish musical comedy *The Belle of the Orient*; the Flying Winskills present an admirable gymnastic act; Tom Jones, Welsh comedian, is highly successful; Niagara and Falls score with their acrobatic act; Ian Colquhoun is a successful baritone vocalist; the Hesseys please with their musical entertainment; Alec Lawson performs many clever feats as a dancing acrobat; Wisper juggles cleverly with plates and hats; and Beattie Bloom is a pleasing vocal comedienne. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Victoria Monks is highly successful with her songs, which are mostly new to Bristol; the Countess De Russe presents a charming entertainment, including a series of graceful poses, classic dances, &c., in which she is assisted by Carl Menitz, who conducts a travesty of overtures by the Empire orchestra; Billy French is a clever dancer; Smith and Johnson, coloured vocalists, are successful; Clifford Morgan, baritone vocalist, pleases with Rudyard Kipling's ballads; the Wilton Heriot Trio amuse with their comedy sketch *Father's Footsteps*; Lily Eyton is a pleasing comedienne; Will Douglas and his jolly bakers present some smart tumbling, &c.; and Harry Thurstan, comedian, is appreciated. Animated pictures conclude.

Colston Hall.—This is the ninth week of Mr. Ralph Pringle's animated pictures in this large hall, and the attendance is still being well kept up. The Five Musical Marvels are specially engaged for this week.

BROUGHTON. — Victoria Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*A Girl Redeemed from Sin* is this week presented to good houses. Will May is in the capable hands of Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Miss Irene Munroe is a charming Nancy Lee; and Miss Cora Patey, as Nancy's mother, also does well. Comic business is in the hands of Mr. A. A. Tomlin (Jim Jakes) and Miss Phyllis Rae (Peggy). Mr. Wm. Melvyn (Robert Denham), Mr. Chas. D. Pitt (Ernest Sylveston), Mr. George Overs (Samuel Lee), and Mr. E. Denson (Rundle), also gave good support.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here presenting *The Geisha*. Miss Aimee Grey, in the rôle of O Mimosa San, is a great success, and a clever performance is that of Miss Renee Reel as Juliette Diamante. Miss Aleda Crispin as Molly gives much satisfaction; Mr. Edward Carlton in his old part of Wun-Hi is irresistibly funny; Mr. Colin Coop as the Marquis Imari is a fine actor; and other pleasing parts are represented by Mr. Edmund Sherras, Mr. Murray Stephen, and Mr. Harry Reynolds.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The programme here this week is of the highest order. The Four Paxtons are particularly smart in hand-balancing and acrobatics, and in a pretty scena; George Payne's Wanderers do some capital work; the De Hais Bros. are fully appreciated for club-throwing; Ernie Myers pays a return visit with his merry jokes; Siems displays his remarkable ability as a conjurer; and Lily Lonsdale has a flattering reception for two songs. Good songs are given by Tom Drew, and the Empire Theatrescope concludes.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Rintaoul.—Mr. John Lawson's company is here this week presenting *Humanity*, with Mr. Rene Owen as the Jew; the Michael Richardini Troupe gain much applause for smart gymnastics; Zellini has some very laughable comic illusions; W. B. Raby is as popular as ever with "Sleep"; and the wonderful use of legs for arms is demonstrated by Elroy, the armless man. Hearty laughter is caused by the Arthur Gallimore Trio in a burlesque; and Harry Bancroft is well received for chorus songs. Emmie Ames, comedienne, and the Palace pictures complete.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—Mr. Harry Roxburgh presents his two comediettas *The Prince of Monte Carlo* and *The Cowboy Millionaire*. Mr. Tubby Edlin plays the principal rôle in each, and his racy humour keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Cissie McCullam sings well; and Mr. Will Lytton is a droll comedian. Clever exhibitions are given by Paulie and Billie (skating), and by Green and Willa (tumbling). The Operscope pictures are good.

BURY (Lancs.).—Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*A Message from Mars* was presented on Monday by Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West gives an admirable performance of the part of Horace Parker, thoroughly emphasising the selfishness of the character without in any way over-acting it. As the messenger, Mr. W. H. Brougham furnishes a sound representation; Mr. Norman Clark is excellent as the Tramp; Miss Josephine Middleton is a charming Minnie Templar; Miss Magdalen Navarre and Miss Aubrey Ashton also do clever work.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures are still the main attraction, and variety turns are contributed by May B. Brilliant, comedienne and dancer, and Percy Dalton, eccentric dancer.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baker. —H. O. Wills, a comedian with a quaint and original style, is as popular as ever; Burns and Bentley are clever in their exhibition of simultaneous dancing; a capital turn is that of Two Brilliants, lady xylophonists; the Brothers Ashley appear successfully in a comedy boxing sketch; a charming scena with living tableaux is presented by Agnes Molteno and company; the Lovelaces, in illustrated song scena, and the Four Athos, a smart combination of ball manipulators and acrobats, complete the bill.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—Mr. Murray King's company is here in *Our Flat*. Mr. Warburton Gamble gives a first-rate portrayal of Reginald Sylvester, Mr. Ireland Thring making a good second as Clarence Vane. The dry humour of Mr. McCullum is cleverly delineated by Mr. Ardene Linden; the eccentricities of Nathaniel Glover cause endless merriment as set forth by Mr. Murray King; Mr. Walter Brodie (Pinchard) and Mr. Owen Rice (Stout) both play well; Miss Florence Radcliffe is a charming Marjory Sylvester; Miss Rhoda Beresford makes a dainty Lucy; Mme. Volant is well portrayed by Miss Evelyn Shelley, the same remark applying to Miss Gracie Mathieson as Clara Pryout; and Miss Louie Tinsley is simply delightful as Bella.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—A very welcome visit is being paid here by D'Oyly Carte's principal répertoire company, and capital houses have resulted. On Monday night the ever-fresh *Mikado* was listened to with great appreciation. Mr. Henry A. Lytton is an immense favourite here, and was as good as ever in his rendering of Ko-Ko; Mr. Fred Billington played Pooh Bah as only he can; Mr. Leicester Tunks' fine voice was heard to advantage in the title-rôle; Mr. Henry Herbert made an admirable Nanki-Poo; Mr. Sydney Granville (Pish-Tush) and Mr. Fred Drawater (Go-Go) played their old parts with ability. Miss Marjorie Stour (Yum Yum) rendered the part with conspicuous success; Miss Beatrice Boarer (Pitti-Sing), Miss Myfanwy Newall (Peep-Bo) sang charmingly; Miss Ethel Morrison was good as Katisha. *The Gondoliers, Princess Ida, The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* are also in the week's bill.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon.—*The Arcadians* was the attraction last week-end, and packed houses resulted. Mr. Harry Rignold was entrusted with the dual rôle of James Smith and Simplicitas, and his impersonation was very entertaining. Immensely successful was Mr. Percy Cahill as the ill-fated Peter Doody; Jock Meadows and Bobby were safely placed in the hands of Messrs. Max Wakeham and F. Sinclair; and Mr. Horace Nye enacted appropriately Father Time in the Arcadian scene. Miss Maisie Riversdale was a humorous Mrs. Smith; Miss Violet Roberts gave a charming enactment of Eileen Cavanagh; another pleasing impersonation was that of Sombra by Miss Beartice West; Miss Dorothy Clancy made a sweet Chrysea; and the numerous minor parts were all carefully filled.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—On Monday Mr. Edward Compton and company opened here with *David Garrick*, a large and fashionable audience assembling to accord an enthusiastic reception to the eminent actor. In the title-rôle Mr. Compton was as histrionically brilliant as ever, and won prolonged applause. Mr. Henry Crocker was again seen in his really admirable delineation of Alderman Gresham; Mr. Frank Royde was a particularly fine Tom Tallyhaut; while Mr. Charles Stone (Rumbelow), Mr. J. W. Austin (Sowerberry), and Mr. C. Marquand (Simkins) were all skilful exponents of their respective parts, interest being centred around the latter gentlemen owing to local connections. Miss Rita Sponti as Violet gave an impersonation which captured all hearts by its grace and charms; Miss Agnes Williams as Selina gave a most skilful and humorous portrayal; while Miss Marie Hassell was equally as successful in a talented interpretation of Mrs. Rumbelow. *Tom Noddy's Secret* preceded. Other pieces included in the repertory are *She Stoops to Conquer, The School for Scandal, The Road to Ruin, Used Up*, and *The Rivals*.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Cardiffians have been delighted this week by a return visit of the original ideal coon impersonator, Eugene Stratton, who proves as great a favourite as ever, his new song-scena, "I may be a millionaire," being rendered by this well-known artist in his usual charming style; Captain Fred Woodward's sea lions show marvellous ability and dexterity; a pleasing and interesting sketch, entitled *Hester's Mystery*, is capitally rendered by Horace Pollock and company, Mr. Pollock as Owen Silverdale being seen to considerable advantage—the other members of the company are capable artists; a refined vocal and instrumental act is that of the Dumond Minstrels, who obtain vociferous applause for a clever entertainment; and the Mezzettis are favourably received in their exceptionally smart horizontal-bar performance; Lawrence Barclay, comedian; the New Macs, patter comedians and dancers; and Aida Martine, pleasing comedienne and expert dancer, complete the bill.

Theatre Royal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. E. Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here in *Happy-go-Lucky O'Lyn*. Interest is caused by the appearance in the cast of the eminent tenor, Mr. John Child, this gifted vocalist delighting all by his sweet singing in the character of Bryan O'Lyn; Miss Anna Hickisch as Kathleen is a superb singer, her impersonation being altogether one of exceptional charm; Madame Marie Alexander is prominent as Aunt Charlotte; Miss Josephine Ellis is a very pretty exponent of the part of Mollie Murch; and Miss Hetty Graham causes amusement by her portrayal of Jemima; Mr. Walter B. Nugent as Donald Dunn submits a talented exposition; Mr. J. G. McMahon is capitally placed as Isaac Murch; and Mr. Reginald Adair as Frank Fentiman, Mr. S. Lansdale as Dennis O'Lyn, and Mr. F. B. Walters as Shaun Dermot prove worthy of the trust placed in them.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Wonders are worked here by Yangar, the West African magician, whose cleverly contrived tricks cause astonishment; unrestrained laughter follows the antics of Ted Karno's company's in the pantomime sketch, *The Hotel de Quick*; and the Society Quartette, singers and speciality dancers, provide a turn brimful of talent; T. C. Jaques, character comedian, possesses a fine voice and a clear delivery; and the Zanfrellas, equilibrists, obtain applause for a smart performance. Irene May, soprano vocalist; the Four Maisanos, musical clowns; Dorothy Dacey, dainty singer of chorus songs; and a pathetic Bioscope picture complete a strong programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—An excellent entertainment is given here by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's clever company in *Hop o' My Thumb*. In the title-rôle Little Georgie Harris makes quite a hit; Mr. Vivian makes an excellent dame; Miss Daisy Wood as the Prince and Miss Kitty Rafferty as the Princess are distinctly lively and entertaining; Miss Evelyn Major and Miss Marie Lumberg are dainty ladies, who render excellent assistance; and the knockabout comedy business is in the capable hands of Messrs. Tom Cowley and Alf. E. Rick, who, as two Cockney Jews, create no end of laughter. The dressing, scenery, and music are special features.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The De Breams, in a Japanese entertainment, in which they introduce some mysterious illusions and clever juggling, successfully top the bill. Arthur Croxon, on a return visit, is deservedly popular; a fine comedy gymnastic act by the Two Walonells is greatly appreciated; and the Two Zees, who introduce many novel features in a comedy instrumental act. Phillips and Merritt, society entertainers of distinct ability; the Lomas Duo, in a smart speciality, the principal feature of which is some remarkably clever rope work; and Doris Druce, a charming little mimic, complete, with excellent pictures, a much-approved entertainment.

CARMARTHEN.—Assembly Rooms. — Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—This week Mr. Tom Owens, the well-known Welsh comedian, and company is paying a visit. Mr. Owen's quips and cranks create roars of laughter; in the musical comedy *Indiana*, by Mr. Edward Mervyn, Mr. Owen as Taffy Thomas is most amusing; Mr. Owen Ford as Jack Meredyth is good; Mr. George Kelly is an imposing Rajah; Mr. Ivor Hughes a capable attendant; Miss Hilda Deacon a very good Gwendoline; Miss Nellie Turner a most successful Mrs. Taffy Thomas; Miss Dorothy Barron an effective Indian charmer; and Miss Edith Mason an excellent Dorothy Goodheart. The songs and choruses are well rendered.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company, in *A Life's Revenge*, is appearing here this week. Miss Millie Ford as the Princess proves herself an actress of ability, her acting in the Duel scene with Marcia provoking much applause; Mr. Percy Brown impersonates the Prince with force and energy; Mr. Ulick Burke gives a capital portrayal of Orloffs; a creditable performance of Paul Starovitch is submitted by Mr. Edward E. Louis; Miss Amy Ellam is successful as Marcia Vittoria; Mr. Richard Walsh is very funny, supported by the dainty and vivacious Miss Nellie Hook; Miss Holly Hazlewood gives a good delineation of Acculina; Mr. Charles E. Warne does remarkably well as Colonel Tumbleoff; Mr. Francis Leslie is forcible as General Mikhaloff; Mr. Lancelot Usher makes a typical Englishman as Trevor; and Mr. Arthur Dudley is an amusing dude.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—Felix and Fisher are clever and amusing gymnasts; Edith St. Claire sings with much dash and vivacity; a capital character-sketch by the Dees is thoroughly appreciated; Jack Truman, tenor vocalist, is a great favourite; Martin Conway evokes laughter with his comic songs; Belrose and De Velin's (George and Maude) contributions are thoroughly appreciated; Poole and Poole (Tom and Florrie) introduce some clever dancing; and Louis Kerno, coon impersonator and dancer, comes in for a deal of applause. Good pictures by the Loyal Dominion Company are still in evidence.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard are this week presenting *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Miss Miriam Pritchett wins sympathy as Monica; Prince Olaf and Prince Michael have capital representatives in Messrs. E. H. G. Cox and Lionel Gadsden respectively; Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke does well as Prince Hildred; and other parts are in good hands.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The one and only Joe Elvin is starring here for one week, the sketches being *Touched* and *Deaf*. Host Barnard's popular hall is crowded at every performance. The following turns are also announced:—Madge Beresford, comedienne; Kendric and Laura, in harmony and eccentric dancing; the Maro Duo, in comedy triple-bar performance; Bert Byrne, eccentric comedian; Jack and Willie, in acrobatic act; and Connie Dupres, comedienne and dancer.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Paul Cinquevalli tops the bill here, and has a splendid reception nightly. Miss Winifred Ward is making a hit; Callie and Walker present a lively interlude; and Johnny Hurley renders coster songs in an unassuming manner. Others who appear are Lucky Law, comedienne; Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer; and Monahan and Sheehan, instrumentalists and singers.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—The premier Hutchison company introduced *Don* to a delighted audience on Monday. Mr. Gordon Bailey in the title-part is entirely successful; Albert Thompsett is realistically represented by Mr. Charles Harley; Miss Viola Garland plays with much charm as Ann Sinclair; and Miss Violet Harley presents a clever study of Elizabeth Thompsett. Miss Emma Hutchison depicts with skill the foibles of the doting Mrs. Bonington; Mr. Arthur Willoughby is pleasing as the much-perplexed Canon Bonington; Mr. Charles Tyrel acts effectively as the brusque General Sinclair; and Miss Celia Gordon does well as Mrs. Sinclair. Miss Dorothy Gordon is natural as Fanny, the maid. In *Chalk and Cheese*, which precedes, Mr. Lionel Bevans, Miss Viola Garland, and Miss Mamie Matthews appear successfully.

Winter Garden Electric Theatre.—Lessees, Gillsmiths, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill-Smith.—Messalina is the *pièce de résistance* of coloured photography shown this week. Cheltenham Steeplechases are a great attraction. Pharos continues to mystify the audience with his conjuring and clairvoyance.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—Mlle. Sylvesto performs some wonderful contortionist feats, assisted by Rumbo; George Prince is a smart comedian; and the pictures are well up to the usual standard of excellence.

Albert Hall.—The two-houses-a-night system is now adopted here, the high-class picture entertainment being reinforced by Waltham and Lacey, military vaudeville artists, and Harry Clarke, comedian and dancer. The Martyrdom of Thomas à Beckett is a powerful film subject.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The attraction here is Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's evergreen *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. E. St. Alban as Gaspard ably sustains the rôle of the miser, and maintains the Shiel Barry tradition. Mr. Cyril Thompson is good as Henri, and the Grenrichean of Mr. Arthur Geary is a capable portrayal, both actors having fine voices. The Baillie of Mr. Fred Dark and Gobo of Mr. Alfred Selby are excellent bits of character acting, provoking much mirth. Miss Kitty Dale is charming as Germaine, and Miss Dolly Castles plays Serpolette with a vivacity and grace worthy of high praise. The opera is beautifully staged.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Lessee, Mr. W. Wiseman; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. L. Smart.—The following films are worthy of special mention: In a Submarine, Italy's Marvellous Cavalry, A Father's Crime, A Mother's Last Wish, Adventures of Tifine, Burglar's Dog, and A Princess Slave. There is an entire change of pictures during the last three nights of the week.

CLYDEBANK.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—The bill here includes the Two Castles, in sketch entitled *The Miser*; Melrose and Maxwell, comedians and dancers; Lily Hales, excellent wooden shoe dancer; Horace Horner, another smart dancer; Wallace Muirhead, tenor vocalist; and the bioscope.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Sutton Vane's company in *Two Lancashire Lasses in London* opened to a large house on Monday. Mr. Robert Gilbert as John Edmunds and Mr. T. Dennis-Byron as Rev. Selby played with considerable cleverness; Mr. Edward Heanley made a capable Jonas Bear; the parts of Jim Price and Ratty were well taken by Messrs. Dan Mining and Frank Irwin; Miss Florence Zillwood was always dramatic as Constance; and the intensely pathetic character of Nell was finely portrayed by Miss Mabel Coleman; Mr. Tom Newell as Sam was ably seconded by Miss Doris Kelvey as Jane Adelaide; and Mr. Wm. Grand made a most natural Doctor.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King.—Gilbert Heron and company, in a thrilling "wireless" episode, top the bill this week; the Creedons, club juggling and ball-punching in unison, make an attractive turn; Cliff Ryland is a fountain of dry humour; the Tintos present African gambols in a clever and humorous method; the Wedburns, burlesque instrumentalists and patterers, give a praiseworthy show; Minnie Warner goes well with her acrobatic dancing; and Sadie Simpson also shines as a dancer.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —*The Sign of the Cross*, as presented by G. W. Bawes company, is here this week. Miss Peara Gardner played the part of Mercia with admirable and realistic effect, which won her loud applause; Miss Effie Dane gave an effective portrayal of Stephanus; as Dacia and Berenis Miss Marie Vere and Miss Joan Savile respectively do well; while Miss Daisy Towers fills the part of Poppæa with skill. Mr. Leonard Yorke makes a fine Marcus, his interpretation leaving nothing to be desired; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice gives a good account of himself as Nero; and as Tigellinus Mr. G. Osmond Tearle excels. Licinius is in the capable hands of Mr. J. E. Cowell; and Mr. Donald McAdam is amusing as Glabrio. The remaining parts are all excellently played.

Daly's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Marconis head the bill, and are both weird and interesting in their electric exhibition. Doyle and Gibson, comedians, keep the house in roars with dance and patter. Excellent films are shown, among the best being A State Secret, Saved by the Flag, and Tom Thumb.

New Town Hall.—Proprietors, The Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—A capital programme is provided here, headed by Edith Tudora's ponies—a clever and smart turn. Bandoni, one-man band, is good, as are also the Sisters Volka, comedy artists. Pleasing pictures conclude.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, with *The Little Damozel*, opened a week's engagement here on Monday, when there was a full house. Miss Emelie Polini as Julie Alardy gave an excellent study of the part, and drew forth enthusiastic applause; Mr. George A. Brandram furnished a convincing rendering of Capt. Neil Partington; Mr. Alick Chumley as Rocklaw Poole was most successful; Mr. Guy Newall as the insurance agent; and Mr. William Matthews as Walter Angel afforded excellent portrayals. Miss Marion Lockie as Sybil Craven was also pleasing. The play was preceded by a clever curtain-raiser, entitled *The Lie*.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The Violas, White Mahatmas, give a mysterious performance, the lady Viola answering numerous questions with marvellous accuracy; Professor Norton performs wonderful magical tricks; the Custances, in *A Game for Two*, afford considerable amusement; Bessie Willows, vocalist, and Marie Brayman, chorus vocalist, are great attractions. The Six Brothers Luck, in the absurdity *Liftems, Limited*, create roars of laughter; the Leigh Brothers are capital in a billiard balancing turn; the Five Whiteleys, in the acrobatic musical and wire walking act, provide much amusement; and the Palascope pictures continue to please.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is here in *Our Miss Gibbs* this week. Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs is full of fun; Eustace Burnaby takes the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint in an able manner; Slithers, the professional thief, is ably portrayed by Mr. John Leopold; Mr. Hugh Weybrand as Lord Rynesford, Mr. Ernest Darrell as the Earl of St. Ives, and Mr. Campbell Brown as the manager at Garrod's are all good. The parts of the modiste at the Stores and the Duchess of Minster are well sustained by Miss Ethaline Thorne and Miss Helen Langton. Miss Lilian Birtles makes a charming Lady Elizabeth.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Mr. Chas. T. Aldrich provides the chief turn at the Hippodrome. He is a character impersonator of great merit, and also gives a clever burlesque of the "tramp juggler." Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas have a clever and amusing sketch, entitled *Her Birthday*; Duncan and Godfrey, first-class entertainers, present *The Coster's Courtship*; the Four Janowskys perform difficult acrobatic feats; Dion Wade wins much applause for his mimicry and impersonations; Leon and Tee, in the act *On the Farm* give a good display on various musical instruments; and Nora Dene is a good comedienne.

CROOK.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Manageress, Mrs. Davidson.—A variety entertainment is being given here by Mr. Ernest Dottridge's vaudeville company. A very pleasing turn is that of Zelda, the instrumentalist; the Three Eltons are mirth-provoking comedians in their horizontal bar performance; the Les Rallis give a clever performance; the Harwood Juveniles are much appreciated; and other turns help to provide a good evening's entertainment.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. Herbert Jay has brought to the Grand this week an exceptionally fine company in *Captain Kidd*. Miss Maie Ash is piquant and pleasing, her style is fresh, and she has a crisp and roguish way of delivering her lines as Lucy Sheridan which are very entrancing. Miss Marjorie Maxwell as Señorita Juanita Arquilla wins golden opinions all round; she has a rich voice well under control, and her undoubted abilities receive warm recognition. Miss Dorothy Eden makes a charming Mrs. John T. Bowie; Miss Margaret Lynhart dances cleverly in the rôle of Sarita; Miss Helen Holmes does herself credit in the part of Aggie Shrubb, and completely electrifies her audience with her fine voice; and Miss Constance Grainger is a buxom and refreshing Mme. Ducrot. Mr. Roland Bottomley is of material value in the rôle of Viscount Albany, singing and playing in the happiest manner, and he comes in for a large share of approbation. Mr. Harry Benet keeps the audience in merry mood by his quaint rendering of Simpson; Mr. Harold Deacon distinguishes himself as Dick Hyne, and his song is redemanded; Mr. Lister Morr

sympathetic rendering of the part of Ned Chippies, an orphan; Mr. Walter Clarke works hard as Lucas List; and Mr. Henry Scratchard is capable as Octavius Screwe.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Jake Friedman's company, in *Happy Holland*, is a big attraction here, the principals being Miss Florence Hunton as Gretchen and Mr. Friedman in the humorous rôle of Jakey Ookievasal; the Four Kasracs provide a first-rate acrobatic performance; Damerel and Rutland have an original and amusing boy scout parody; Hugo and Smit execute some clever single-bar business; Arthur Aiston has some first-rate songs; and Jack Hylton and Harry Cotton are both popular contributors to the humorous side of the programme. The remaining number is contributed by the Belle-Belles, a troupe of accomplished dancers.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week Mr. C. Watson Mill's company appear in *The Love of a Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey gives a finished impersonation of Prince Conrad; Miss Maisie Hanbury as Princess Idalia presents a sympathetic and womanly performance; Mr. John Burton is to be highly commended for his excellent portrayal of Josef, King of Ilarnia; Mr. Edward Morgan does clever and amusing work as Boris; Count Danillo is forcibly played by Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews; Mr. W. Palliser Acock as the Duke of Scarfe is responsible for some well-studied acting; Messrs. John Worth and Charles O'Connor do capitally in the parts of Lieutenants Zaroff and Orlans; Miss Maude Steeple ably sustains the part of Lady Irene; Miss Josephine Lee makes an admirable Constantia; Mr. Laurence Doyle is well suited to the part of the Prince Regent; and other parts are all in capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—The Three Romas perform some extraordinary feats in head and hand balancing, and prove themselves to be possessed of great strength; a most popular turn is provided by Leruss's monkeys, which ride bicycles in a wonderful manner; Leo Teil receives a cordial reception for his realistic imitations of different instruments and animals; the trick cycling and funniosities of Henry and Tyler meet with pronounced success; Mlle. Marjutti, contortionist, presents a refined and artistic performance; the Hargreaves Trio are well received for their comedy and musical act; the Royal Delomes, in their speciality *The Phantom Clogs* submit a clever and neatly-executed turn; Gracie Lawn, comedienne, has a good presence, and sings and dances well; the funny patter and singing of Folay and Francis cause merriment; and a fine dramatic picture, The Dumb Half-breed's Defence, is portrayed on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—The programme here this week includes Lock and Glen, who present an amusing and clever triple-bar act, which is well received; Jack Hartley, Yorkshire comedian, creates a great deal of amusement with his humorous contribution; a very novel turn is provided by Sinclair's Two Diamonds, their roller-skate dancing and singing being greatly appreciated by the audience; the Beatty Brothers, comedians and dancers, arouse enthusiasm; Lyla Norton sings sweetly, and her songs are beautifully illustrated; Gypsy Bell, comedienne, presents her numbers very pleasingly; and A Child's Impulse, The Fruits of Vengeance, two fine dramatic pictures, Boxing Mac, a comedy film, are included in a most interesting display of animated pictures.

DINNINGTON (Yorks). — LYRIC THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. James England.—A quadruple bill is presented this week by Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company. On Monday and Tuesday evenings *For Mother's Sake* was presented to good houses. As Jaqueline, the heroine, Miss Mabel Phillips sustained an arduous and exacting part with ability; as Mathilde Mrs. Crosby was excellent; and Mr. B. M. Fox made a typically vicious grandpère. The part of Henry Romaine was ably filled by Mr. B. Crosby; the heavy lead being in the capable hands of Mr. B. Paley. The comic element was well sustained by Mr. F. Ward as Pomponnel, Miss Violet Leyton as Fifi, and Mr. E. Walters as Ball Higgins. *Greed of Gold*, *East Lynne*, and *Jane Shore* have also been presented during the week.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Sinner* is presented here by Mr. Wilson Bengo's company. Mr. Louis Lingard is a great success as the hero; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle is cool and callous as Edgar Thornhill; and material support is given by Mr. O. G. Davies as Paul Levaine, the diamond thief; the piquant humour of Mr. Jay Kay is an interesting diversion; and Chris Floppington has an adept exponent; Mr. Charles Digby's bearing is a valuable asset in his rendering of Lord Ewen; and the onerous titular rôle is undertaken with dainty feminine charm by Miss Pauline Nanton.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is here in that popular musical comedy, *A Country Girl*. Miss Dorothy Craske makes an admirable Nan, her singing and dancing being excellent; Mr. Coningsby Brierly is responsible for a lot of fun as Barry; Miss May Rawlinson is a charming Marjorie Joy; and as the Princess Melaneh Miss Ethel Negretti sings and acts effectively. Mr. St. John Hamund displays versatility in the character of the Rajah of Bhong; and Miss Florence Linton makes a favourable impression as Mrs. St. Quinton. Miss Hilda Darrell giving a delightful study of Sophie. Geoffrey Challoner is extremely well played by Mr. Percy Carr; Mr. Tom Sheridan makes a capital Granfer Mummery; Mr. C. B. Hargraves as Douglas Verity is creditable; and as Sir Joseph Mr. Percy Everard does well. On Tuesday afternoon and Saturday evening two Tetrazzini concerts were given. Mme. Tetrazzini sang the following on Tuesday: Aria, "Caro nome" (*Rigoletto*), Verdi; encore, bolero ("I Vesperi Siciliani"), Verdi. Air and variations, "Carnevale di Venezia" (Sir Julius Benedict); encores, "O luce di quest 'anima" ("Linda di Chamonix"), Donizetti; and "Batti, batti" (*Don Giovanni*), Mozart. Song, "The Echo," Eckert; encores, "Saper vorreste" ("Ballo in Maschero"), Verdi; and "Serenata" (Tosti). The other artists appearing were Mr. Morgan Kingston (tenor), Mr. Wilfrid Douthitt (baritone), Miss Marjorie Wigley (pianoforte solo), Miss Wena Pickering (contralto), Miss Lilian Berger and Miss Flora Mann (in vocal duets), and Mr. R. J. Forbes (accompanist).

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company opened here on Monday with *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Harvey, in the rôle of Reresby, sustains the part with his usual ability; Miss N. de Silva distinguishes herself as Batty; as the Hon. Clement Hungerford Mr. Charles Glenny is creditable; and Viscount Dorsington is capitally portrayed by Mr. Philip Hewland. Miss Brenda Gibson is particularly good as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; and Mr. Albert E. Raynor does full justice to the part of Sir Henry Curwen. Mr. Fred Wright, sen., makes a capital Colonel Bagshaw. *The Only Way* is also billed.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, in the melodrama *Mother*, is the draw here. Miss N. Thorn Hallam is an impressive Nellie Fairweather; Mr. Henry Foxwell successfully portrays the rôle of Duncan Fairweather; Little May is cleverly sustained by Miss Emily Entwistle; and Mr. Leonard S. Harrison is an effective Stephen Carrington. Vesta L'Estrange has a good exponent in Miss Fannie M. Wellesley; and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland makes an excellent Frank Rodney.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Franco Piper, in his marvellous banjo performance, is the chief attraction here. Bugler Carr meets with a good reception; the Adeles, second-sight performers, are wonderfully clever; Kisbey, the call boy, is a popular turn; and the violin selections of Edie Reynolds are well received. Jenny Lynwood, Scotch comedienne, gains much approval; and Alfred Leslie, light comedian, makes a hit. Other acceptable turns are Adey Spencer, Heather Belle (Scotch character vocalist), and the Empire pictures.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—A good all-round programme here this week is headed by Mme. Ada Pagial, Royal Italian Court violinist. Joseph B. Montague and Hilda Blanche score in an amusing absurdity; the Six Buster Browns are particularly good in an American singing and dancing act; the Three Gelins provide a funny acrobatic turn; and others worthy of note are Ida Dorrie, comedienne; Frame-Flint, versatile comedian; Sidney and Partner, in a comedy cycle act; Marjory and Maude, vocalists and dancers; and Percy Johnson, comedian.

ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA. — The Irish Animated Photo Company continues to do good business here, the constant change of pictures being greatly appreciated. Mr. Mervyn Columb is an accomplished baritone, and the orchestral band of the Rifle Brigade plays selections which are heartily enjoyed.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—The current bill includes the Two Reenos, comedy artists; Harry Whitley, comedian; Miss Ada Fearne, ballad vocalist; Will Ivor, comic vocalist; Miss May Merry, comedienne; Wee Wullie, Scotch comedian; Storey and Hughes, comedy duo; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*From Mill Girl to Millionairess* is being presented here by Mr. Morton Powell's company. Miss Isla Garent-Vayne as the Mill Girl wins the hearts of all; Miss Alice N. Livesay is an excellent Liz Lee; and Miss Ybda Moore's portrayal of Muriel Marsh could scarcely be improved upon; Miss Lizzie Lennon's idea of the good-hearted Lancashire lass, Tilly Tyndesley, is greatly appreciated, and, together with Mr. Victor G. Vayne as Tommy Turnbull, she introduces the welcome element of humour; Mr. Arthur Plummer makes a manly Laurence Langdale; and Mr. Charles Vivian is a cool, deliberate Dr. Lace Levallier.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Colin.—The Leotard Bros., clever comical clowns, are pleasing patrons of this house; Harley and Milton, the pithy pattering pair, create great fun; the Unites, in a comedy act, introduce some clever acrobatic tricks; Bert Rayburn is well described as a quaint comedian; Clara Hastings is a strong favourite; and other good turns are given by Jack and Vera, potpourri act; Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer; and Alf Brookes, comedian. The pictures complete.

DUNDALK.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Urban Council.—Messrs. Bennett and Wray's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, is the attraction here. Miss Cora Walker in the title-rôle is most captivating; Mr. Charles Sims is a delightful Mr. Hook; Mr. Jack Grey as Bandmaster Van Vuyt sings excellently; Captain Paap, interpreted by Mr. Gerald Harty, is effective; Mr. Henry Winton as Ludwig Schnapps gives a clever performance; Mr. Edward Kipling as Simon Slinks contributes a delightful character study; Miss Marion Armitage's Nina is well suited.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Signor Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company has drawn good houses here this week. On Monday evening a brilliant performance of *Il Trovatore* was given. The large orchestra is presided over by Signor Wehlis in an exceedingly able manner. On Tuesday evening Verdi's *Rigoletto* was presented. The week's bill also included *Cavalleria Rusticana*, followed by *I Pagliacci*, *Carmen*, *Il Barbiere Di Siviglia*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and *Faust*.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—An entertaining bill is presented here this week, the pièce de résistance being Arthur Roberts in his racy and laughable sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, in which he displays his well-known versatility; Webb and Branston are heard to advantage in several operatic gems; J. P. Ling brings down the house with his mimicry; Juanitos, acrobats, give a neatly executed display of tumbling; Charles Rowen's ditties are received with applause; Wyotti shows remarkable juggling; Ethel Dunford scores a gratifying success; Moon and Morris are entertaining comedians; and Jury's pictures complete.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Ernest Benham's company is appearing here this week in *Old Heidelberg*. Mr. Owen Nares as Karl Heinrich works earnestly and well; Mr. Frank Powell is a strong and decided Von Haugh; Mr. Ernest Bodkin does capitally as Dr. Juttner; Mr. Sidney Hamilton demands a special word of praise for his clever and artistic work as Lutz; Mr. Percy Crawford is an animated Ruder; Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will extracts fun out of his part as Kellerman; Mr. Alex Onslow and Mr. C. Derwent Grenville share honours as the students Asterberg and Wedell; and Mr. Walter Palmer as Hofmarshall and Mr. Martin Lewis as Scholermann do capital duty. Miss Kitty Ricimer is a bright, girlish, and attractive Kathie; Mrs. Braithwaite makes all capital possible out of her part of Frau Dorffell, and Miss Hilda Hamilton is a pretty Frau Ruder.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—The Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama is paying a return visit here this week, and it is as interesting and up-to-date as ever—the Battle in the Air is even in advance of the time. At the head of a good variety company is Amasis, with an elaborate and picturesque staging for his clever conjuring and illusions; the Cairo Trio find great favour in a skilful musical performance, which boasts many novelties; the Ettenas, in a well-varied act, are clever globe manipulators, balancers, and dancers; Vasey and Ramsey are exceptionally agile and smart dancers; the Jerome Duo are nimble and funny comedy jugglers; Inez and Pym are gymnasts of ability; and Mr. W. L. Rowland provides great fun as a comedian. Mr. John R. Poole is the guide, and Mr. F. Mann heads the musicians.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—The Norman and Leonard Trio head the bill here, and in a very attractive musical incident, play the violin and harp and dance with much cleverness; the Three Comerfords have a very successful gymnastic sketch, *Leading the Strenuous Life*, which goes excellently; Mr. Will Dacey and Miss Nellie Lewis offer a smart and effective performance, which is well received; Rosa excels as a wire and globe performer; Miss Dorothy Sephton has a fine voice, and gives her songs in a taking, refined way; Mr. Montague Biggs as the male Marie Lloyd again amuses the audience; Mr. Frank Sylvo provides much fun as a juggler; and new films are shown.

ECCLES. — CROWN THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company are presenting *A Daughter of the Sea*. Miss Florrie Green as Sunshine proves herself a talented and capable actress; Miss Alice Wyllyams as Mollie, a Cornish maiden, acts naturally throughout; Mark Glensdale has a powerful representative in Mr. Lewis Gilbert; Mr. Sutton Taylor as Sir Maxwell Brentwood is all that could be desired; as Ken Moreland Mr. Ashmore Vincent acts with vigour, and his lines are spiritedly declaimed; Mr. H. C. Lancely as Captain Ben Morrison gives a very clever character study; Mr. Jo Monkhouse as Billy, the village idiot, is responsible for a finished impersonation.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Man.-Dirs., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—A crowded audience welcomed Mr. Lewis Waller and his company last Monday on their appearance for the first time in Edinburgh in the romantic play, *Bardelys the Magnificent*. Mr. Waller in the title-rôle carried all before him by his fine acting; forcible in the stronger scenes, delightfully tender in the love passages, and graceful and easy in his bearing, Mr. Waller has, in the part of Marcel de St. Pol, added another success to his gallery of gallant portraits. Mr. William Haviland was incisive and powerful in his performance of the Comte de Castelroux; and a finished, effective study of Louis XIII. was contributed by Mr. Herbert Jarman. Miss Madge Titheradge displayed a command of expression in voice and feature, and a skill and appropriateness of gesture which made the character of Roxalanne de Lavedan a charming and touching representation; Miss A. B. Tapping, always a genuine artist, brightened the play at many points by her humorous impersonation of the Viscountess de Lavedan; and Miss Dorothy Dix infused the requisite passion and pathos into the part of Andree de Marsac; Mr. Alec F. Thompson gave a clever rendering of the part of Pierre Rodenard; and amongst several minor characters Mr. Cronin Wilson's excellent acting as Rene de Lasperon must be singled out for especial praise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A well-filled house assembled on Monday evening to greet Mr. Edward Terry, much interest attaching to the genial comedian's first appearance here in his new character part of *The Toy-maker of Nuremberg*. The piece, which has not previously been staged in Edinburgh, was very kindly received, and the tender pathos of Mr. Terry's portrayal of the simple, gentle old man secured cordial recognition. The cast was strengthened by the inclusion therein of Mr. Robert Pateman, who made a fine old Sergeant; Miss Adah Barton as the Mother shared in the successes of the production; the Boy and the Girl had pleasing young interpreters in Mr. Percival Madgewick and Miss Christine Rayner; and the Boy's Friend was nicely played by Miss Gabrielle E. Paul; while the Old Actor, the Stranger, the Employer, and the Cook were effectively characterised by Mr. Percy Bell, Mr. Templer Powell, Mr. William Dexter, and Miss Eugenie Vernie. Nebuchadnezzar, too, though unnamed in the bill, was faithfully represented. *Bardell v. Pickwick*, *Fiander's Widow*, *The Magistrate*, *Liberty Hall*, and *Sweet Lavender* have had places in the repertory for the week.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Maxard.—Mr. T. E. Dunville occupies principal place in the programme here, and keeps his audiences in the best of humours. Miss Jenny Johns character sketches are done in admirable fashion, and the talented comedienne receives a splendid reception; Miss May Fairclough in her dramatic monologues evinces much ability; and the entertainment at the piano by Mr. Fred Elton is full of humour and freshness; The Greys (Diana and Len) are admirable dancers and very clever bâton manipulators; the Three Stewarts give an extremely smart turn in their balancing act; and that exceedingly versatile, able comedian, Mr. John Le Hay, makes a distinct hit in the name part of the farce entitled *Poor Beggar*; Mr. Harry Knox and Mr. Charles Gardener, comedians, are also in the bill; and the King's Bioscope shows some good films.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners dominated the week's bill at the Empire, this being their first appearance at the Moss-Stoll Edinburgh house; the distinguished vocalists hugely delighted the audience with a varied selection of popular ballads and songs, which secured the inevitable recalls. Russell Wallett provided excellent entertainment with his topical ditties; Ben Albert contributed an amusing comedy turn; and the singing comedians, Verno and Voyce, made a hit with a novel scena, *John Bull's Cash Box*. The feminine single-handed turns included clever male impersonations by Rhoda Paul, acceptable songs from Lola Patey, and pleasing violin playing by Gladys Hooley; and the American Bioscope exhibited a series of good pictures. The well-known artists, Bella and Bijou, were unable through indisposition to take their allotted part in the programme on the earlier evenings of the week.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Variety holds the boards here this week, two performances nightly being given, while owing to a recent alteration in the local by-laws smoking is also permissible in all parts of the house. Claude Ginnett and company head the bill in *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, which proves exceedingly popular, the same company also presenting *Rejected Remounts*, a highly diverting sketch; Iris Yohe and the Sisters Harcourt are clever comediennes and dancers; Jack Marogate is a smart speciality dancer; Mavis and Mavis contribute a diverting item, entitled *You Struck Me*; H. D. Adams introduces a humorous juggling turn; and A. T. Ramp and Lottie Lee also render excellent service.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sands.—Liane d'Eve heads the bill, and with her charming manner and excellent voice is winning golden opinions; Will Hanvarr and Anna Lee are very popular in *The Golfer and the Maid*, introducing some smart juggling; Sam Fay proves an exceedingly diverting comedian; and the Corcoran Brothers contribute a musical speciality act of a high order of merit; Adela Masson is equally at home as dramatic, operatic, or humorous vocalist; Johnny Fuller, as the great little cat on the wire, is as dexterous and nimble as the animal he represents; and Walter Aubrey is an expert wooden-shoe dancer.

EXMOUTH. — KING'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint.—An attractive programme is given at this pretty hall twice nightly, and so greatly is it appreciated that it is difficult to find a vacant seat, except at early doors. This week, in addition to a fine selection of pictures, the Rurals are delighting the audience with a musical and comedy sketch that is received with great applause. Vint's photo songs also please greatly, while the music supplied by Mr. Sinclair adds in no small degree to the excellence of the menu.

FLEETWOOD.—EMPIRE.—Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* so won the popular affections on the occasion of her last visit to Fleetwood that it is not surprising this week to find large audiences welcoming the vivacious Australian lady's return visit to the Empire. Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company improves on further acquaintance, and nearly all the smart songs and dances are nightly encored. Miss Dorothy Desmonde, in the title-rôle, acts and sings well; Miss Florence Corri as Judith contributes, amongst other items, a taking song and dance; Ruth Montrose is admirably portrayed by Miss Margaret S. Forbes; Mr. James Salter, in the humorous character of Silas Crump, is loudly applauded; Mr. Walter Ashley makes a handsome and dashing Captain Fielding; Mr. James Morath as Captain Dudley acts with force; Mr. Edward Aldworth as Smith is excellent; and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick puts in some good work as Featherstone Haugh; the Misses Lillie and Iris Elvido contribute a clever "mirror dance." Mr. Louis Elgar ably conducts.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Laurence Irving, Miss Mabel Hackney, and company, in *The Unwritten Law*, met with a tremendous reception on Monday. The rôle of Rodion Raskolnikoff enabled Mr. Laurence Irving to show his dramatic abilities to great advantage. As Sonia Miss Mabel Hackney invested her part with pathetic gentleness and charm. The delineation of Bezak by Mr. Dalziel Heron was a clever and most effective piece of work; Mr. Rupert Harvey played the part of Zosimoff, the young doctor, with ease and judgment, and as Kashkin, a student of the Teclinological Institute, Mr. Frank Esmond was acceptable; Mr. James Shea was good as the uncouth Gromoff, as also was Mr. Wentworth Fane as Keller, the unscrupulous District Attorney. Miss Margaret Omar gave a lively rendering of Raskolnikoff's sister, Doonia; Miss Alice Inman as Pulcheria, Miss Mabel Nelson as Katya, Miss Beatrice Swanton as Nastasia did well, and the remaining characters were in safe hands.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company appeared here in *Send Him Victorious*. Miss Lily Roselli and Mr. G. M. Montanini as the pseudo-Countess and Col. Kaufmann respectively filled their parts in a capable manner; Mr. Bert Woodwin and Miss Madge Palmer supplied the comic element; Sergt. Max was well played by Mr. Charles Russell; and the other parts were in the hands of Messrs. H. Hardy, Edwin Turner, Charles Higgins, and Miss Netta Mitchell.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Messrs. Alan Holt and company, in *A Society Woman*, are starring here this week; the Lukushimas are entertaining Japs, who have some novel acrobatics; Harry Nelson, a local comedienne, is received with gratifying warmth; Bardelli excels in a ventriloquial act; Maxwell and Francis are entertaining vocalists; the Brooklyn Boys are seen to advantage in song and dance; Earle and Godfrey are successful in a dancing scena; and the Kingscope completes the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bowlam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. Walter Melville is presenting *A Girl's Cross Roads* here this week. Mr. Edward Valentine repeats his praiseworthy impersonation of the old farmer, Meadows; Mr. Carl F. Kerzo efficiently portrays Jack Livingstone; Cuthbert Lumley, the villain, receives the best of treatment at the hands of Mr. Fred Rivers; Mr. Kendrew Milson makes an admirable Dr. Weston; Barbara Wade is admirably played by Miss Nell Oliver; Miss Adah Rothwell ably depicts Nellie Meadows; Miss Florrie Lyndon is a charming Constance Cornell; and other parts are in capable hands.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Harold V. Neilson and his repertory company are appearing here in *The House Opposite*. As Richard Cardyne Mr. Neilson gives a clever and convincing impersonation; as the Hon. Mrs. Rivers Miss Amy Langster acts with pathos and passion; as the Right Hon. Sir Henry Rivers Mr. Lemmon Warde displays a sangfroid under trying circumstances; as Sir Edward Harrowby Mr. Franklin Miles gives a taking conception of the funny and pompous old Under-Secretary; while as Marie, the French maid, Miss Dorothy Blackader is very successful. As Lady Muriel Wentworth Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn causes great amusement; while as Mrs. Calthorpe Miss Effie Leigh Hunt gives a realistic impersonation. Stuart Fillerby, Paul Sandys, and Parker are in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Hilliard, Mr. A. C. Bute, and Mr. C. Edwardes-Horobin respectively. The drama is preceded each evening by the studio scene from Rudyard Kipling's *The Light that Failed*, in which Mr. Neilson and Miss Langster distinguish themselves.

KING'S LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The second week of the Beecham Opera company commenced on Monday with a brilliant performance of Strauss's comic opera *The Bat*. Miss Caroline Hatchard sang magnificently in the rôle of Rosalinde, and Messrs. Wilson Pembroke (Von Eisenstein), Frederick Ranalow (Dr. Falke), and Alfred Heather (Singing Master) excelled themselves both in singing and in acting. Mr. M. R. Morand delighted his Glasgow admirers with his portrayal of the Prison Governor; excellent work is also done by Miss Kate Anderson as Adele, and Miss Ruby Gray as the Russian Prince. *The Bat* is down for three performances, the rest of the week being taken up with Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffmann*.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys.—This week the repertory company is producing here Miss Elizabeth Baker's clever play *Chains*, and the simple but poignant story is excellently brought out by a clever cast. Mr. Campbell Gullan particularly distinguished himself by his acting as Charlie Wilson; Miss Eve Titheredge was also well suited as his young wife, Lily Wilson; Miss Lola Duncan as Maggie Massey gave a clever study of a young woman discontented with her humdrum existence; a striking study of an elderly and timid old clerk was given by Mr. George Tawde; Mr. Frank Cochrane as Massey and Miss Gwynneth Gatton as his wife gave two clever portraits of a typical family group; Miss Irene Clarke and Mr. Mark Hannam were an amusing pair of young lovers; and Mr. W. G. Robb as a jolly and self-satisfied neighbour and Mr. Norman McKeown as a sedate widower completed an excellent cast. The play was produced by Mr. Norman Page.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The stock company here is now presenting the farce *My Neighbour's Wife*, in which Miss Julia Kent gives an excellent rendering of Mrs. Somerton; while the audience is kept in hilarious mood by Mr. Alex Keith as Jonathan Smith. Mrs. Brown is pleasingly played by Miss Margaret Zaidia; Mrs. Smith by Miss Ann Haughton; the husbands being amusingly rendered by Mr. Chas. Homer as the fiery and hot-tempered Somerton, and Mr. F. Wingate as Brown. The man from Birch's by Mr. John Roberts completes the cast. Mr. R. W. Speed, tenor, gives adequate expression to the illustrated songs. The moving pictures include The Man to Beat Jack Johnson, Prison Reform, The Governess, Hako's Sacrifice, Her Uncle's Will, and other up-to-date films.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—A drama new to Glasgow was presented here by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott—*A Wife's Triumph*. Mr. Abbott as Robert Dewhurst gives a convincing representation; Mr. Andrew Money ably undertakes the part of Frank Wilton; and other leading parts are filled by Miss Ada Abbott, Miss Florence North, and Misses Stephen Crossley and Weedon Ross.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, in *A Royal Divorce*, is here this week. Mr. Frank Bradley gives a capital reading of the Emperor Napoleon; Josephine was effectively played by Miss Edith Cole; Talleyrand had admirable treatment at the hands of Mr. George Traill; while Mr. Charles Hartopp gives a careful study of the Marquis de Beaumont. Miss Dorothy Garth cleverly interpreted Stephanie; General Augereau was admirably represented by Mr. Ernest Plumpton; Miss Winnie Tempest as Marie Louise has scope for her talents; Mr. Thomas Barry gives a praiseworthy portrayal of Marshal Murat; and the Grimaud of Mr. George Hudson was capital. The King of Rome is successfully played by Miss Dorothy Hudson.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mrs. E. H. Knight's company, in *The Lighthouse Robbery*, is appearing at the Govan theatre this week. Baby Freda as Little Nellie, a clever young child actress, sings and dances charmingly; Miss Hilda Baynton as Rose Prescot was all that could be desired; and Messrs. Percy Beresford, H. Gordon Ingram, and Rupert Talbot all played their parts in an admirable manner.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The visit of Miss Ellaline Terriss in *Bluebell* has this week caused an enormous rush to secure seats at all performances. Her talented company includes Mr. Stanley Brett. Geo. Leyton introduces his latest military scena *The Roll Call*, included in which are a number of Crimea and Indian Mutiny veterans; a capital comedy gymnastic act is given by the Flying Hanions; Cole and Raggs, as comedy jugglers, prove successful in their endeavours to amuse; Ray Wallace is as popular as ever; the Legay Trio execute a number of clever and attractive whirlwind dances; Betty Green is very entertaining; dainty Ethel Beech is well received; and the Bioscope films are fresh and much appreciated.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Middleton and Spellmyer meet with a most cordial reception in their sketch, *A Texas Wooing*; Ram Bhuj gets through a lot of mystifying tricks, which are appreciated; in his impersonations of international stage stars Max Waldon meets with a good reception; Morton and Elliott do some phenomenal things in the manipulation of paper, while their singing and playing is of a high order; Madeline Rossiter appears in a graceful dancing act, and is well received; the Real Mackays are a smart pair of juveniles, who get through their work in business-like fashion; Rolando Martin is a clever comedian much above the average, and is responsible for much amusement; in all her latest chorus songs and successes Evelyn Taylor appears to great advantage; and Gicardo (juggler) and Jack Barker (comedian) complete the programme.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Wee Georgie Wood's impersonations of Vesta Tilley, George Formby, &c., are clever and popular; Adelaide Waldorf sings with great taste and acceptance; Anthony, who claims to introduce the funny side of magic, is entirely successful; Dale and O'Malley get through a deal of funny work, and their cross-talk patter is much enjoyed; Chas. Parker's Æolians provide an excellent turn in refined comedy, vocalism, and dancing; while Don and Mabel meet with a capital reception for their vocal efforts. An attractive roller skating turn is given by Les Videos, who perform many clever feats; Cumminger and Colonna are well received in their dancing act; Cosgrove and Burns do well in their clever sketch, entitled *The Singing Academy*; Wal Langtry (the dialect comedian) makes a reappearance after a most successful tour "across the pond," and is capitally received; good duettists are Tennis and Laune, and the work is received appreciatively; in a military gymnastic entertainment the Mars Trio get through a lot of good work; and in the Palascope films those worthy of mention are Burglars Expected and Papa's Cane.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Fred Karno this week stages his latest production, *Mr. Justice Perkins*—included in the company are Messrs. Chewd, Herbert Sidney, and Albert Bruno, the latter as Perkins being quite the feature of the show; Howard and Harris, the quaint American humorists, are to the fore again with their attractive work; Harry Frisky is a funny American comedy juggler; *A Lesson in Physical Culture* is the title ascribed to the remarkable entertainment of Lieven and Pantzer; Coverdale is responsible for much amusement in his lengthy turn, which is of an enjoyable nature; good Scotch comedians are always in demand, and the reception accorded Jock Mills this week has been most gratifying; that talented and dainty little lady, Agnes Tina, is a warm favourite, and deservedly so, as her various impersonations are perfect; Elsie Roy sings a couple of good songs, and is well received; while the Bioscope films are novel and entertaining.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—An interesting bill is here this week, and on the opening night a large audience thoroughly enjoyed a programme of historical, dramatic, and humorous pictures, which included among others, The Enchantress, The Moths and the Flame, The Inventor, A Coquette's Suitors, A Child's Faith, Romance of the Auirl, and all the principal up-to-date events. The vaudeville programme is sustained by Cissie Norton, versatile artist, and Purse and Devlin, comedians and dancers. Both turns were thoroughly appreciated.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—Luke and Logan are amusing knockabouts and patterers; Charles Howarth proves very versatile in his quick-change sketch *Fun in College*; May Glenroy sang two songs in fine style; Susie Hayman was loudly applauded for her descriptive songs; while Jack Hamilton does well as a light comedian. The Bioscope pictures are of admirable variety, and much enjoyed.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The picture season here continues to attract large crowds. This week's variety turns are given by Phil Goldie, a clever and humorous Hebrew comedian; the Macdonald family, whose singing and dancing is much appreciated; and Sam Kelly, an amusing comedian with a style of his own. The pictures are, as usual, up to date.

STAR.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—The pictures here are well chosen and of contrasting natures. Excellent relief from the curtain gazing is provided by the Tweenies, in a quaint turn of an amusing kind; Miss Lorna Lomond is successful as a singer of some fine old ballads; the McGregors, in a smart comedy turn; and Les Lanonis (who appeared in place of the Three Royal Temples), in a very clever juggling entertainment.

ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Some good variety turns are here this week, including Mlle. Leoville, in her graceful act of wire-walking, her comic assistant, Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke, as a Frenchman studying horsemanship being extremely amusing; Nimble Nip and Wee Willie keep the fun from flagging; the Ronnies are a pair of clever jugglers, and their high-springing is start

Whitlock gives a dignified impersonation of the King; Mr. Clavering Craig is admirable as Captain Rupert Landgrave; Mr. Arthur St. John is an able Crown Prince Oscar, and is well supported by Mr. Harry Lynton as General Stevonie; Miss Florence Radcliffe is a charming Lady Anastasia, and Miss Florence McInnes an excellent Lady Florina; and the fun of the piece is capitally sustained by Mr. Fred Newburn, Mr. Witton Drury, and Miss Maud Stuart (Margot).

GLOUCESTER.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is appearing in *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt gives an admirable performance of Anthony Raybrook; and Laura Raybrook is capitally enacted by Miss Violet Forbes, who later in the drama plays the lad Walter Hatherley in an equally able manner; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes gives a powerful rendition of the villainous Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Edward Finlay as the lesser villain, Dick Saunders, sustains the part effectively; Mr. Harry Layton as Willie, an outcast, is distinctly good; and a word of praise is due to Mr. Fred C. Imbert as John Anderson; Miss Emily Burnley is well placed as Barbara Ashdown; as is Miss Susan Bevan as Margaret Bailey. Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas and Mr. P. George Beresford as Walter Hatherley the elder are adequate; and Miss Madge Muriel is noticeable as Jane.

King's Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Alfd. Stewart.—Varieties and pictures provide a good show here. The artists are Helene and Emilon, Continental gymnasts; Williams' Welsh Minstrels, in instrumental and vocal selections; and Miss Kitty Woodford, in illustrated songs.

Theatre de Luxe.—Electric Theatres, Ltd. (1908).—Entertaining pictures of travel and humorous films are shown here with much success.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—The Goole Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society are presenting *The Mikado*.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and his company are appearing here this week in *For Love and the King*.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Four Royal Scots are scoring a big success with their refined musical turn; Mlle. Doris introduces some cleverly-trained dogs; the Twin Brothers Dean are experts in the terpsichorean art; Fred Ellis's funny stories are well received; Syd Crossley does well with his humorous songs; the Four Panamas give a refined and clever acrobatic turn; Hayes and Merritt are remarkably clever acrobats; Doodles, with new eccentricities and witticisms, keeps the audience in roars of laughter whenever he enters the arena.

GREENOCK.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Horace Lingard, Miss Beatrice Moreau, and company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when *The New Lady Bantock* was presented to an appreciative audience. Miss Beatrice Moreau sustains the title-rôle with exceptional ability; Mr. Horace Lingard merits warm recognition for his rendering of the character of Martin Bennet; Miss Miriam Holt and Miss Dorothy Clifton submit a delightful study of the two maiden aunts, the Misses Wetherell; Mr. Alfred Gray plays well as Lord Bantock; Dr. Freemantle is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Leon Hastings; and the rôle of George Newte is admirably presented by Mr. Wilfred Compton.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Lowenwirth and Cohan are topping the bill here; Charburn's Young Stars prove extremely popular in their scena, *A Picnic Up the River*; Maggie Fraser renders her songs in good style; the Three Orleans, vocalists and dancers, do well; highly amusing is the turn presented by Cedria, the acrobatic juggling waiter; and Ernie King, comedian, is particularly quaint.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*The Merry Widow* is here this week. Miss Mary Ridley now plays Sonia, and is a daintily bewitching widow; Mr. J. Warren Foster realises the dash of Prince Danilo with excellent effect; Mr. Edwin D'Arcy extracts much humour from the part of the Ambassador; Mr. Fred Fowler is also highly amusing as Nisch; Mr. Ripley Evans is responsible for good vocal work as the Vicomte Camille de Jolidon; Miss Ada Thomas acts charmingly as Natalie; and Miss Kitty May proves a clever dancer as Frou-Frou.

The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—Staley's transformation act is a decided novelty, the quick change of a drawing-room into a blacksmith's shop being excellently worked, and the smiths prove clever trick instrumental performers; Talbot and Pearce introduce good vocal work and pleasing fun into their Irish musical duologue; Julia Reeve is a comedienne with an engaging manner, and she has good songs; Leo and Roland give a capital display of equilibristic business; Miss Adah Payne, a popular prima donna, sings excellent operatic selections; C. H. Charlton gives a smart display of conjuring and sleight-of-hand; and Gene Crowe is a coloured artist with a distinctly original style.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and varieties, despite the rinking craze, continue strong here. The Flash of Light and The Fire Chief's Daughter are capital films, and Robert the Silent is a beautiful coloured picture. The Deroneys provide a good turn; Mr. Edward Lane contributes; Amleer and Avon, a Canadian musical couple, elicit plenty of applause; and Mr. P. J. Durney, champion globe walker, gives an interesting exhibition.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. C. Dudley Bennett's company is here with *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Gwennie Harcourt is a lively Fi-Fi; Miss Gladys Ivery (Princess Soo-Soo) sings nicely, and acts with a charming grace; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is an ideal Tom Hatherton; and Mr. Will Harman ably sustains the rôle of Mr. Pineapple.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—John Clempert heads the bill with his death-defying mysteries, and is supported by Minora and her trained dog, Jack; Bros. Burgo, in comedy boxing act; Lily Ray, comedienne; Fred Conquest's company, in *Something for Nothing*; Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer; and Fred Land, a clever eccentric comedian.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Carl and Mary Ohm introduce cleverly-trained dogs, ponies, and monkeys; Silly Billy Elliott is on good terms with his audience; the Loube Trio, trick cyclists, are decidedly clever; and others appearing are Ernest Montefiore's company, in *The Little Colonel*; Cromo and Hamilton, burlesque artists; Bros. Rees, in a military act; Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers; and Lizzie Hay, comedienne.

Victoria Hall, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Leslie H. Murray.—The pictures are good; Pulo, juggler, provides a smart turn; and Carl Osmond, lightning cartoonist, completes the programme.

HAMILTON (N.B.).—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—Friend and Downing (Rosenthal and Downing) are topping the bill here this week; Maud Mortimer sings a couple of songs with style; Marie Dreams is the possessor of a baritone voice, which she uses to effect; Bromley and Fontein in their skit, *The Man Behind the Music Stand*, go well; the Floradors in their skit, *Fishing*, are a popular turn; the Leopold Leglere Troupe of Acrobats and gymnasts are good; Newco and Lullo, the boys in red; Frederico and Edgonto, together with the Bioscope, conclude.

HANLEY.—Royal.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*The Fighting Chance* is here. Miss Marie Duncan as Ethel Hardy is a success; Miss Mary Campbell as Jean Fielding is strong and expressive; Miss Annie Barclay as Mrs. Mackintosh is good; Miss Amy Venimore as Mrs. Vanstart is capital; and Miss Lilian Constance as Marjorie is praiseworthy. Mr. C. B. Bedells as the black chief proves his powers as an actor; Mr. C. Leverton's Larry is very fine; Mr. Austen Milroy (Stephen Blanchard), Mr. Sidney Vautier (Jim Blanchard), Mr. F. J. Walker (General Blanchard), Mr. Arthur Elwyn (Philip Rivers), and Mr. Terence O'Brien (Dr. Vorland) display histrionic ability.

Grand.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Amati's British Empire Band is proving a terrific attraction; Jack Pleasants is a favourite; Jessie Merrilees as La Chrale is excellent; Driscoll and Felino in *Fun in a Paddock* are very smart; Marie Pera in a sketch, *Two Doors and a Passage*, are loudly cheered; Vere and Nelldon introduce a decided novelty; the Northcotes, duettists, are good; and the Grand pictures are excellent.

King's.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—The Range Riders is a thrilling picture; and Heart of a Heathen Chinee, A Child's Impulse, Sweethearts, and Fireworks Gone Mad are the chief. Wylie Fox, mimic, is very good.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—This week Mr. Alex. Marsh and company occupy the theatre in Shakespeare and classical drama. On Monday *Taming of the Shrew* was in the bill. Mr. Alex. Marsh was well cast as Petruchio, and Miss Carrie Baillie was excellent as the shrewish Kate; Miss May Grimshaw made a winsome Bianca; Mr. Wilson Gunning was good as Lucentio, and Mr. Ian Fleming made the most of his opportunities as Grumio. Other parts were well filled. On the remaining nights of the week *School for Scandal*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Merchant of Venice* were billed.

The Kursaal.—Manager, Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford.—The last week of a very successful season has arrived. The March Hares, including Mr. Dave Burnaby, are a capable troupe of entertainers. The band, of which Mr. Julian Clifford is so able and so popular a conductor, are billed for a gala night on Saturday.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Tom Lloyd, always popular here, has a capital reception; George Edmunds is a capital mimic at the piano; and Ruby Maybutt, "the dancing dot," exhibits considerable skill. Pictures by Ruffell's Bioscope complete.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—*Chasing Cynthia* held the boards the early part of the week. The author, Mr. Frank Stanmore, takes a principal part, and creates much merriment in the character of the Hon. Billy Bootle. Mr. Arthur Poole displays a large amount of original humour as Col. Theobald Chutnees; Dobson (the head waiter at the hotel) is cleverly depicted by Mr. Mark Lester; Miss Pinch (proprietress of the Academy) is ably depicted by Miss Adie Boyne; Miss Gladys Beech as Fifi is a vivacious representative of the maid; and Miss Gurney Delaporte is charmingly natural in the character of Cynthia. For the remainder of the week Mr. Laurence Irving and company, including Miss Mabel Hackney, were announced to appear in *The Unwritten Law* and *Margaret Catchpole*.

Pier Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and his large company are paying a return visit in *Lord and Lady Algy*. Mr. Norman puts plenty of healthy vigour into his embodiment of Lord Algernon Chetland; the Duke of Broneborough is given a natural interpretation by Mr. Campbell Cargill; a very good rendering of the Marquis of Quarmby is shown by Mr. F. Lock Whittaker; Mr. R. Taylor in the part of Lieut. Standige evinces decided aptitude for comedy; Miss Beatrice Wilson in the character of Lady Algernon Chetland gives a touch of refinement and distinction which is delightful; as Mrs. Vokins, Miss Madge Trenchard is worthy of praise; Miss Agnes Thornton is excellent in the part of Mrs. Brabazan Tudway; and Emily Cardew and Lady Pamela Mahinson are well represented by Miss Syretta Synnett and Miss Ena Douglas.

American Palace Pier, St. Leonard's.—Manager, Mr. M. Leopold; Pier-Master, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The London Répertoire company are producing *Caste*. Old Eccles is very naturally taken by Mr. Arthur Levien; an excellent sketch of George d'Alroy is given by Mr. Edward Vivian; Mr. Vernon Crabtree in the part of Capt. Hawtrey plays with constant vitality; a good character sketch of Sam Gerridge is shown by Mr. Lionel Howard; Miss Grace Garside quite realises the part of the Marquise de St. Maur; an effective portrait of Esther Eccles is given by Miss Kathleen Yates; and Polly is charmingly played by Miss Sylvia Yates.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Ainsley and H. Hall.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company opened to a packed house on Monday in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. W. H. Macauley was a powerful Lucio Delgado; Mr. T. Dunscombe a smart French detective; Miss Nita Imeson, in the character of Marie de Brisson, won unstinted applause; Mr. James Chippendale gave a realistic reading of the Wealthy Banker; and the comic element was cleverly interwoven by Mr. J. Stimson as Peter Pottlebury and Miss Frances Day as Babbett; Miss Marie Sennant also contributed largely to an enjoyable programme.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The outstanding turn is Carlton, whose dexterity in the manipulation of cards is bewildering. His patter is good and his exposure of a seemingly great illusion is interesting. Also appearing are the Kebbles, duettists and dancers; Harry Drew, bass vocalist; the Almas, a pair of acrobats; Tom Clifford, ventriloquist; Miss Kitty Allen, comedienne; Tom Haigh and Miss Millie Novel, comedy artists, the male partner being smart in his acrobatic work; and David Poole, ventriloquist.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A well-varied and interesting bill here includes Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde in their unique shadowgraphic act; Miss Flo Warner, a bright comedienne; Harry Herbert, a highly amusing comedian; J. A. Wilson and his wonderfully wise dog, "Private Towser," in a charming little turn; Gus Harris, in Hebrew impersonations; Frank Maura, a wonderful foot balancer; George Sheldon and F. Rawson Buckley's company in a dramatic playlet, entitled *Before the Dawn*; and the Palace pictures.

HULL.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The present is a Hall Caine week. On Monday we had *The Bishop's Son*, and later in the week *The Eternal Question*. Opinions differ as to the merits of the plays, but none can as to the capabilities of the company, which include Mr. W. F. Grant, who realised with much success the rôle of the Bishop. Mr. Julian Cross was well cast as the Doomster, whilst that sterling artist Miss Helena Millais did her task with consummate skill. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine gives promise as the Bishop's Son of good work in the future. The play is well mounted.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Little Phil's Mother* is the play this week at this popular playhouse, and a capital crowd has been gathered together for its representation. Little Phil as portrayed by Little Daisy Rochefort is remarkably well done. The Ruth Towers of Miss Maud Russel is a distinct success, whilst other prominent parts find excellent support from Miss Kate Blair, a capable artist; Mr. Herbert Evelyn, who gives a good study of the rôle allotted to him. The remainder of the company are effective.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Considerable interest is manifested here this week in Mr. Raymond Phillips' wireless-controlled airship, which the clever inventor manœuvres in the auditorium, amidst roars of applause; Tom Costello is popularising himself still further with new songs; as cycling eccentrics Campbell and Barber are in the front line; the Kirbys are deservedly applauded for a notable musical comedy potpourri; Joe Boganny and his lunatic bakers are responsible for much hilarity with their acrobatic tumbling; Kitty Wager is a vivacious comedienne; with his political song Fred Poplar scores; and the Sisters Jerome, duettists and dancers, had a cordial reception. The Bioscope pictures conclude.

The Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—The Five Musical Tritons score a well-merited success; Auto-Ajax is an athlete whose many feats call forth loud praise; Rowlands and Forth are comedians of considerable ability; with popular songs Charles Lilburn is a big favourite. Other items of acceptance include Kavados, a clever juggler, equilibrist, and cannon-ball performer; Ally Berson, dame comedian and whistler; Emilie Warren, ballad and operatic vocalist; and Flo Melville, dainty comedienne.

Prince's Hall.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morton.—The films here include Aviation, Inspecting the Guard of Honour at the Middlesex Hospital, A Child's Faith, Sights Along the Nile, The Plumber, A Wasted Effort, and numerous others both instructive and amusing.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres and Cinematograph Co., Ltd.; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Moore, C.C.; General Manager, Chas. P. Cooke.—The variety turn for this week is the Herald Comedy Four in a laughable show, entitled *The Indians and the Sailor*. The chief films are Ironworkers' Strike, In Time for War, &c., &c.

INVERNESS.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Messrs. F. and R. Kelso's Royal British pictures and vaudeville started their fifth week on Monday to a crowded house, the high standard of the pictures being well maintained. The vaudeville portion of the entertainment is supplied by Mr. Harry Harcourt, comedian, and Miss Rose Fyne, while a popular soprano singer is Miss Jessie M. Govan.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery.—Messrs. Leedham Bontock and Frederick Mouillot's company is here with *Those Terrible Twins*, the author, Mr. Bantock, playing the leading part of William the Butler effectively; Samuel Pringle is in the safe hands of Mr. Robert Rivers; Charlie Pringle is well played by Mr. Cyril Delevanti; the Hon. Harry Scott is realistically portrayed by Mr. Martin Alwyne; and Minks, the lift boy, is drolly personified by Mr. Archie McCraig; Miss Maud Adams is adequate as Mrs. Pringle; Mrs. Watt Tanner makes the most of Maria the Cook; Miss Enid Baird plays Violet Fairfield ably; and Miss Norah Walker is excellent as Lillie Leyton. *Only a Clown* precedes.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Courtiers, under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill, give a miniature musical comedy, which is bright, pretty, well acted, and excellently staged; the Dorrington Family are justly billed as wonders on wheels; Charles Norton, in a mimetic monologue, introduces a racecourse scene which gives him ample scope for fun; Baby Wolff is a child comedienne of promise; Lennard and Vereker have a pictorial scene; and Ferris and May an amusing sketch, entitled *Two's Company*; Dan Thomas is always popular here; Hilda Mascott is a pleasing comedienne; and the Bioscope concludes.

JERSEY.—Opera House, Ltd.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. Lindsay Edwardes.—The electric pictures include a capital coloured film, entitled Athalia. Kitty Caffrey entertains in songs and dances; Geo. Bernard renders "The Charge of the Light Brigade"; and Fanny Humber gives a skipping-rope dance.

Royal Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—The films here include A Modern Cinderella and A Rake's Romance.

Alhambra.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langton and L. Poulain.—Some good pictures are shown here, and Miss Dolly Pritchard still supplies the variety turn.

KEIGHLEY.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George S. Holmes.—*Sexton Blake* is proving a powerful attraction. Mr. Murray Yorke deserves commendation for a capital rendering of the detective, Sexton Blake; Roger Blackburne is strongly presented by Mr. Edward McLean; Mr. Millar Wilson is a big favourite as Tinker; Farmer Blackburne is well portrayed by Mr. Victor C. Rolfe; and Miss Elizabeth Watkins plays with power, sympathy, and charm as Marjorie Lovell.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—This week Mr. Lodge Percy presents here Miss Henrietta Schrier in the plays *Mr. Barnes of New York*, *The Idler*, and *Forget-Me-Not*.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company is presenting *Her Fatal Marriage*, which is well staged. Mr. Jerrold Heather is most effective as Zaco; Mr. Ernest Allen makes an able Wilfred Grey; the difficult part of Paul is well presented by Mr. P. Morton Wright; Miss Maude Hustings shows ability as Lily; and Miss Hilda Shirley is excellent as Myra Malletto.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—*The Girl Who Went Astray*, the attraction this week, is well presented by Mr. Bulmer's company. Miss Doris Brookes is successful in the title-rôle; Violet Harvey is well rendered by Miss Ada Oakley; and Miss Sybil Haughton does well as Eleanor Merton; as Captain Frank Julian Mr. Richard Ferris is effective; and the parts of Rupert Murdock and Adolphus Boomer are successfully played by Messrs. Austin Mortimer and Evan Roland respectively.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—The original Leopolds are appearing here in *The New Frivolity*. Mr. Willie Leopold proves himself a versatile and clever comedian in the rôle of Samuel Vermiglio, whilst as Oliver Buckwheat Mr. Harry Douglas is responsible for much merriment. Mr. Tom Leopold's Jules Vermiglio is a pleasing performance, and Miss Kathleen Kavanagh plays Mme. Cobwebb with success. Other parts ably fulfilled are those of Lucy Buckwheat by Miss Amy Hall, Daniel Teething by Mr. John Leopold, jun., and Professor Fumble by Mr. Charles Goff. The U.S.A. Girls are a clever troupe of dancers, and the Leopolds, in their many knockabout and acrobatic feats, are as successful as ever. The piece is preceded by *The Houseboat*.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Millar.—*The Dollar Princess* is drawing crowded houses. Mr. W. H. Rawlings is highly amusing as Bulger, and Mr. Leslie Stiles is also diverting as the millionaire. Mr. Leonard Mackay sings effectively, and is altogether a big success. Miss Madeline Seymour takes the character of the adventuress in capable style, and Miss Effie Mann sings and acts well as the millionaire's sister. Miss Mabel Russell is a very graceful dancer, and the rest of the company give adequate support.

The Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Courtice Pounds and company have a bright entertainment in *Charles, His Friend*, interspersed with some delightful singing; Hilda Jacobsen gains much popularity in several choice numbers; the Arnatos are old favourites; Schichtl's Marionettes are very cleverly worked; Lillian, the trick cyclist, is here; and Peggy Pryde is a big favourite. Other good turns include Little Keeno and Alice Maple.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Frank Fenton and company appear in a well-acted tragic sketch, entitled *Treachery*. Arthur Reece is a big favourite here in new songs. A very clever bar show is given by the Carpatti Bros.; Maisie Ellinger's songs are well received; and others comprising a good bill include Daisy and Dot, Mabel and Moss, Sam Thompson, and Merian's Dogs.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Horace Hunter and company are appearing in a good sketch, *Under Suspicion*. Fred Hallam is vastly popular; Ike Scott and Son are in good form; and Ernesto, Perrier, Madge Goodall, and others are included in the programme.

The Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Whiteman.—Harry Weldon tops the bill, and has a flattering reception; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy, makes one of the hits of the evening; Leslie, Lyn, and Willie are singers of repute; Clare and Pastor are good comedy artists; Frank Leslie is a big favourite; and the Eldras appear in a novelty act.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Miss Hilda Beverley's admirably balanced company is here this week with *A Woman of Two Lives* and *East Lynne*. Miss Beverley, in the dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton, adds to her reputation; Mr. Herbert Pearson displays ability and vigour as Captain Travers West; Mr. James Garlett is a commendable Garda Khan; Mr. Jack Armitage is exceedingly good as "Billy" Tremaine; Mr. Arthur Slater gives a praiseworthy study of Colonel Fenton; Mr. E. Hall Eidon makes the most of his opportunities as Dick Smarter; Miss Marie Robertson acts charmingly in the character of Lottie Loudon; Miss Mary Brammer submits a powerful portrayal of the Red Witch; and Miss Hetty Schuler well sustains the part of Lady Arabella. The staging is excellent.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business Manager, Mr. Treeman Towers.—A first visit is being paid here this week of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's well-selected company in *Smith*. The principal parts of Smith and Tom Freeman are enacted in a manner that leaves nothing to be desired by Miss Cicely Stuckey and Mr. Robert Minster.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Alberton Turner.—The drama *The Wrongs of Woman*, which was originally produced with signal success a short time ago at this theatre, is on a welcome return visit, being presented by Mr. Hubert Hellliwell's company. Miss Ada Hender is again making a conspicuous success as Mrs. Helmstone; Mr. Harry Cullenford deserves praise as Corner Helmstone, and especial praise is due to Mr. Hubert Helliwell as Sir Herbert Comerford.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—The premier turn this week is Serene Nord, aptly described as the "diving Venus"; the American ventriloquist, Lester, is responsible for a smart, novel, and entertaining turn; the Jackson Family of versatile musicians are making their usual hit; F. V. St. Clair is cordially received for his songs and recitations; the Soho Trio are popular in a good vocal and dancing scena; the Hadj-Mohammed troupe of Arab acrobats and whirlwind tumblers give an excellent display; Horace Wheatley, the well-known Irish comedian, is very good, his dancing being of the best and neatest; Lizzie Glenroy is a capital Scotch comedienne and expert dancer; and the Bioscope is also retained with entertaining films.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Heading this week's programme is Henri Cazman, in his entertaining potpourri act; Jack Hayton, the Lancashire comedian, convulses the audiences with his songs and patter; Rita and Roma are smart and entertaining; Edna Barrett is an excellent speciality dancer; and Gracie Hunt, comedienne and dancer, and Jim Meeson, light comedian and dancer, also appear. The films shown are especially good.

Empire.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—At this, the first picture hall in Leicester, Mr. F. R. Griffithe continues to give his patrons a programme that is replete with the best films that can be procured. The two leading pictures this week are The Reign of Terror and Cowboy and Squaw, very fine examples of the art of animated photography. Val Robbins, an entertaining comedian and instrumentalist, is also appearing with success.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gould; General-Manager, Mr. A. F. Beaton.—Mr. John F. Preston and company have occupied the boards here for the first three nights of the week with *Mr. Smith*. Mr. John F. Preston gives an exceedingly clever study of the title-part; Mr. Francis Everard supplies a fine interpretation of Lord Angeleand; and the Hon. Dudley Dysart has an able exponent in Mr. Dan F. Roe; Miss Mabel F. Barlow proves herself a clever and graceful exponent of the part of Lady Mary; Miss Maud Kynnersley makes a dignified Duchess of Angeleand; Miss Lily Pearce acts with dash and vivacity as Mrs. Smith; and Miss Ethel Leslie makes the most of her opportunities as Ruth Anhenser.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—At the head of a good bill here are the Brothers O'Brien, who are exceedingly clever in a trip'e-bar act; Tiny and Mite, juvenile artists, appear with success; Henry Hilton, sleight-of-hand expert, does many neat and clever tricks; a musical turn, provided by Musical Silvo, is greatly enjoyed; Marion Adelaide, in a song-scena, is much appreciated; Fred Carr and Ada Rose, and Misses Purvis and Partner, sketch artists, all find favour; and the Hipposcope is admired.

Assembly Rooms and Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—The many excellent pictures on view here this week are providing a great source of enjoyment to large audiences, Red Eagle's Love Affairs being a fine dramatic film. Miss Anna Hope is warmly applauded for her vocal contributions.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Davison.—Mr. Fred Granville's No. 1 company provides sound entertainment with the lively musical production *A Hot Night*. The chief burden of the more farcical element is vigorously sustained by Mr. Frank Daleno in the part of a waiter, and the rôle of a leading lady is made diverting by Mr. Jimmie Watson. A goodly group of familiar musical comedy characters includes Mr. Edward Stream and Mr. H. Jackson Collis as Frank Frith and Mark Maybury; and Mr. Charles North as Captain Drake, with Miss Olive Sparke, Miss Hilda Brent, and Miss Nellie Valentine as their respective wives. Mr. R. Austin Earl as Fontenoy Flutterwig, Mr. H. Val Morgan as a bogus professor, and Miss Mimi Fisher as Lucy Lorrimer help the fun along very effectively; and in addition to smart speciality turns contributed by all the above-named performers, the Granada Girls introduce—besides other terpsichorean attractions—a sensational Apache dance. An augmented orchestra works well under the direction of Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.

LIMERICK.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. G. V. Fogerty.—The Irish Animated Picture Company commenced a week's engagement at the Royal on Monday, and presented a realistic series of pictures to a most appreciative audience. The Jameson pictures are always well received, and the variety company, including Messrs. Francis Rayne, Ralph Goggin, and the clever little Sisters Colley in their artistic turns leave nothing to be desired. The principal films are The Doctor's Automaton, The Portuguese Rebellion, and Elephant's Labour in India. The other films are of the dramatic series.

Athenæum Hall.—Mr. George Mallins's pantomimic company are also attracting very popular houses, and *Blue Beard* was delightfully received. As the humorous Sister Anne, Mr. Mallins himself was very funny, and the pretty dancing and sweet singing of Miss Richardson as Selim pleased the audience. Mr. Herbert Lemley was good as Blue Beard, and as Diavolina Mr. Dick Howard was amusing. Messrs. Keenan and Fry as Rusk and Lusk were also very funny; whilst the clever sisters Alice and Ada Hibbert sustained their respective rôles with ability. As Fatima, Miss Lil Richardson proved an efficient artist; and the Misses Mollie McNaught, Venice Rome, and Precious Kinsella were equally capable and attractive.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—*The Education of Elizabeth*, presented by Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company, constituted the attraction on the first three evenings of the week. Miss May Norris was highly satisfactory as Elizabeth; and Miss Phyllis Dailey cleverly played the difficult part of Blanche; Mr. H. B. Waring as Fairfax and Mr. Ernest E. Norris as Reggie Harkey scored greatly. *Her Fatal Marriage*, submitted by Hinton and Green's company, concludes the week.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Atlas and Vulcana fittingly top the bill, and their weight-lifting, with that of the Sisters Atlas, is astounding, while Vulcana's posing is the acme of grace and effect; Frank Cass sings exceptionally; Miss Norman Grant is one of the best entertainers at the piano we have had; and Edwin Garth's dame song and patter are extremely funny; Forrit's whistling, the work of David Fuller, and Sydney Burdon's impersonations make up a fine bill.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*Our Miss Gibbs* is paying a second visit here, and meeting with much favour. Mr. George Edwardes's excellent company is headed by Miss Carrie Moore in the title-rôle, and Mr. George Gregory as Timothy. Both sing and dance to everybody's delight, and cordial recognition is extended to the accomplished artists. Mr. Frank Hector does capital work as Hughie Pierrepont; Mr. H. V. Cropton makes a natural Lord Eynsford; as Mme. Jeanne Miss Nancy Hervyn finds favour; and also in the cast are Miss Olive Moore (Lady Thanet), Mr. Leslie Gaze (Slithers), Miss Kitty Cavendish (Mrs. Farquhar), and Mr. Ernest Mahar (Toplady). Miss Florence Phillips dances excellently.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr John Gaffney.—The Benson company are putting in a second week. On Monday evening they opened with *The Taming of the Shrew*, in which Mr. Benson repeated his admirable Petruchio, Mrs. Benson being Katerina, followed on other days by *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Piper of Hamelin*, *Richard III.*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *Twelfth Night*.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company, with *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is receiving strong support. Miss Alice Bowes plays Lucy tenderly; as George Maddison Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson shows much power and manliness; Mr. W. H. Porter brings out all the strong points of the rascally Charles Devereux; Mr. T. Macdonald, as his assistant, does well; capital comedy comes from Messrs. Fred de Vere (Timothy) and Vincent Lorraine (Joe Lambkin), aided by Miss Kitty Merrick (Patty Lovejoy); Lady Lancaster is capitally represented by Miss Vera Grafton; and Mr. Frank Denis acquits himself in the part of Sir George Lancaster.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—For the first time in Liverpool *A Criminal's Bride* is here with Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Emmie Barton plays Lavender Loseby in a sweet, tactful manner that earns for her a deal of favour; Miss Ella WiEmer presents a sound study of the Italian girl, Tessa Gianetta; as Sir Harry Felstead Mr. Frank Robertson acts with vigour; Austin Deepdene is capitally portrayed by Mr. Annesley Hely; Mr. Grayson Bancroft affords every satisfaction as David Loseby; good comedy comes from Mr. George Brentwood (Village Constable) and Miss Mollie Hackett (Jemmy Jenkins), and Mr. Herbert Belmore acquits himself as Canova.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*Miss Tommy* is here for the first time. Miss Annie Hughes, in the title-rôle, proves exceedingly pleasing. The accomplished artist is having most flattering recognition. Mr. Henry Dene makes an admirable Dick Danvers; Mr. Mayne Lynton is a particularly amusing Peter Hope; Miss Vera Pole presents a careful and attractive Honor; and Miss Elinor Foster handles the heavy part of "Mr. Morrison" with tact. *Meg, the M

with merriment; Dr. Mievi'le played well as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. Bernard Hobson as Frank Abercoed displayed useful musical talent; Mr. D. E. Mosely also made an excellent attempt at the part of Captain Arthur Donegal; and Mr. F. L. Canney was good as Leandro. As leading lady Mrs. Ewart C. Potter was delightfully successful, showing marked ability in acting as well as in musical proficiency in the part of Lady Holyrood; Miss Margaret Long acted artistically as Dolores; while Miss Josephine Moss made much of the part of Angela. The chorus did well, and the orchestra was quite efficient.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, which is staged here, affords Mr. H. B. Irving an excellent opportunity to show how well he can present the weird and uncanny. A big house witnessed the play on Monday, and the audience were duly horrified, especially by the scene in which the bestial Mr. Hyde returns before their eyes to the personality of Dr. Jekyll, incidentally startling his friend, Dr. Lanyon, to death. Miss Dorothea Baird as the wife of the unhappy Jekyll has, unfortunately, a very poor and unnecessary part; Mr. Eillie Norwood plays Dr. Lanyon in the style of an accomplished actor; Mr. Charles Sugden is cynically entertaining as Sir Danvers Carew; a quiet and natural impersonation of Mr. Utterson is given by Mr. Henry Vibart; and Mr. Frank Tyars makes an effective Poole, the butler. Miss Grace Croft as Lady Carew adds strength to the play; and among other clever members of the cast, Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem makes a hit in the comedy character rôle of Mr. Hyde's landlady, Mrs. Leppery. The play is preceded by a costume episode, *A Maid of Honour*, in which Mr. Frank Tyars as Cromwell and Miss Grace Croft as Mary Cave are the notable figures.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*The Arcadians* is always sure of a welcome here, and certainly there is no diminution of the wonderful attractiveness of this merry Courtneidge production. Mr. Walter Passmore keeps up the fun excellently as Smith (Simplicitas), and Mr. Oliver J. Round's Peter Doody is still one of the best things of the show. Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith admirably fulfils the comic requirements; Miss Ethel Erskine acts and sings very nicely as Sombra; and a pleasing impersonation of Eileen Cavanagh is given by Miss Billie Sinclair. The remainder of the long cast are all adequate, and the piece throughout is as bright and satisfying as ever.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company, in *The Cingalee*, provide the week's attraction here. Miss Molly Wolstenhulme makes a charming Nanoya; Mr. Jack Crichton is prominent as Chambhuddy Ram; Mr. Cyril Dane's Harry Vereker is smart; Mr. Milroy Cooper plays Boobhamba with humour; Mr. Scott Cullen's Bobby Warren is an engaging impersonation; Miss Ida Ernest is pleasing as Peggy Sabine; and Mr. F. W. Ford makes a satisfactory Sir Peter Loftus. Full chorus and orchestra add to the entertainment.

METROPOLE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Fred Granville's (Productions, Ltd.) company is here in the domestic drama *Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe plays excellently as Carlos de Vergas, and Miss Ruby Loncraine's depiction of Lucia, his wife, is also an outstanding feature. Mr. Sammy Foster as Sam Smiles provides a great deal of fun, and the whole production is exciting and enjoyable. It is played twice nightly.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—The fourth and last week of Mr. Walter Howard's *The Boy King* adds further emphasis to the great success which this latest addition to romantic drama has attained.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—Mr. Charles Constant's No. 1 company is here this week in *Florodora*. It is brightly staged and played, the principals being Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Tweedlepunch, Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores, Miss Florence Horsee as Angela Gilfain, Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood, and Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus Gilfain. The other parts are well filled, and an Apache dance is introduced effectively in the second act.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—The production of Mr. Galsworthy's *Justice* here is a notable event, and there is every sign that the fortnight of its run will be a very busy one, so far as the public are concerned. A better interpretation of this remarkable play than that which was given on Monday could not well be conceived, and the author, who superintended the production, must have been gratified to find his work in such astonishingly capable hands. Miss Irene Rooke's embodiment of Ruth Honeywill stamps her as an actress of the first-class—natural, tragic, and in every way effective without strain; and Mr. Milton Rosmer's Falder stands out as his best impersonation, which is saying much. Mr. Charles Bibby adds another to his successes as Cokeson, the managing clerk; the firm of How and Son are well represented by Messrs. Frank Darch and Henry Austin; and a marked success is added by Mr. Whitford Kane as Hector Frome, this actor being responsible also for the sketch of convict O'Cleary. Among others worthy of mention are Mr. Esmé Percy as Cleaver, Mr. Stanley Drewitt as the Judge, and Mr. John Beech as Sweedle. The play is produced by Mr. B. Iden Payne, Miss Horniman's art director, and it is extremely well put on.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Miss Ada Reeve, the famous comedienne, tops the bill here, and charms with her clever rendering of several taking songs; Elsie Southgate, assisted by Jas. Coward at the Mustil organ, contributes a delightful musical turn; A. and A. W. Asra are seen in a very smart and original juggling act; the Chrisps dance well in a novel scena, *The Little Deputy*; and other good turns are offered by Ethel Loftus, character comedienne; J. W. Rickaby, the popular comedian; the Four Sydney Girls, vocalists and dancers; the Three Cunards, in vocal and dancing act; Ridiculous Recco, burlesque acrobat; and Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer. The Palace pictures complete.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* and *Skating* form the two principal attractions here; the Three Asa Boys give a clever vocal and dancing act; Blanche Vincent, burlesque actress, is smart, and is well received; Pat Carey, comedian, provides an enjoyable turn; and other entertaining items are Rosie Lee, eccentric comedienne; Billie Melia, the dancing comedian; and Gwen Frances, a dainty comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Mme. Ella Russell tops the bill here, and gives the audience a rare vocal treat; King and Benson, who occupy the second place of honour, provide enjoyable comedy; Les Romanis present a novel musical act; Jean Clermont's burlesque circus is a wonderful exhibition of training; Farr and Farland's cross-talk is highly amusing; the ladder act of Les Silvas, the Portuguese firemen, is a sensational and thrilling turn; Witty Watty Walton, comedian, is bright and popular; and pleasing turns are added by Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer, and Will Johnson, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Happy Fanny Fields is the big attraction here, and meets with a most flattering and deserved good reception; an interesting turn is George the First, an exceedingly well-trained chimpanzee, introduced with success by Dandy George; Edmund Manner's company, including Henry Latimer, score a success in a one-act drama, *Blind*; Austin Rudd, a very popular comedian, is funny, as usual; Little Ganty is highly amusing in eccentric song and dance; Minnie Leslie and Edgar Stevens are well received in neat comedietta, *Love Levels All*; the Gotz Trio are seen to advantage in a wonderful globe and wire act; the Du Gros Trio, comedy gymnasts, give an original and clever turn; and Katie Butler is good as an eccentric character comedienne. Excellent pictures are also shown.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—An excellent all-round show is here, headed by Sylvia Cavalho and Clifford Pembroke in a well-acted romantic episode, *The Fortune of War*; Violet King, a very clever pianist and violinist, deserves the loud applause she gains; Charles Ulrick manipulates a large barrel, &c., with his feet in a most surprising manner; Josephine La Barte is well received for amusing songs at the piano; Jean and Josie are clever contortionists; Rayburn and Dix have some funny patter, and take well; Harry Morgan, comedian, sings coon songs with success; Pauline Potter, vocalist, sings well; and Vera Saunders is pleasing in song and dance. The pictures are very laughable.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore and company are the attraction this week in *A Pair of Spectacles*. A fine performance—twice nightly—is given, the principal parts being well sustained by Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, Mr. Harry Emmerson, Mr. Frederick Meads, Mr. Hugh F. Wildy, Mr. Vernon West, and Miss Katherine Maynard, whilst capital support is rendered by Miss Sybil Greig, Miss Daisy Race, Mr. Claud W. Sykes, and Mr. George Preston. On Friday evening *Hedda Gabler*.

HULME.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—George Gilbey scores a huge success here this week; Maria Racko, an astonishing lady athlete, and Partner perform some astounding balancing feats, and are well received; De Ganty's grand illuminated water grotto, introduced by Mlle. De Silva, is a most beautiful spectacle; Cullen and Carthy, and Little Cluley are very funny comedians, and make their usual hit; Dolly and Elsie, dainty duettists and dancers, give a pleasing turn; G. H. Carlisle and H. M. Willmon in an original novelty musical act, are good; and Clifford Stuart takes well as a Lancashire comedian. Prison Reform on the Bioscope is an interesting film.

BIJOU ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Morrison.—This week's films are very fine, and include Native Industries in Cochin-China, All's Fair in Love, Central American Romance, The Other Johnson, The Closed Door, Saucy Sue, and Mother's Love. The realistic effects, invented and worked by Mr. H. Danby which accompany the pictures, also deserve mention.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Capt. C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—This week Mr. Percy Williams presents *The Fatal Wedding*. An able and energetic company includes Mr. Cecil A. Melton, who deals in most satisfactory manner with the part of Howard Wilson; Mr. Alexander Wills is an able exponent of the part of Robert Curtis; Mr. Watson Hume faithfully represents the German, Janitor Peter; Mr. Harry A. Vernon is a good Toto; Mr. Frank Newton also is a success as O'Reilly; Miss Violet Keand is a sympathetic Mabel Wilson; Miss Elaine Vanburgh, an imposing adventuress; Miss Blanch Huber as the cook causes much merriment; and a clever little actress is seen in Little Hilda May, who plays Jessie.

MARCH.—PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Joe Collingwood, J.P.—*The Love Birds*, given by Miss Lole Esmond's company, were here on Monday and Tuesday.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—During the week Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' company has been playing *The Thief*, and the cast has included Mr. Bernard Limpus and Miss Diana Cloud. As Richard Chelford, Mr. Bernard Limpus has given a clever character study, playing an exacting part in a natural and effective manner. Mr. F. Morland as Raymond Leyton has touched the heart of everyone, and sustains the pathetic situations with fine effect; Mr. Carl W. Lindsey has contributed good work as Harry Leyton; and Mr. W. Somerset, as the detective Protheroe, is excellent; Miss Diana Cloud puts much feeling into the part of Marise Chelford; Miss Mary Forrester does remarkably well as Isabel Leyton; and Mr. Leo M. Briggs is excellent as the servant.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall. — Fred Lindsay, stock-whip expert, heads the programme this week with a novel and remarkably clever display with the Australian stock-whip; the Sevronis, comedy artists, and Victor Widdicombe and company, in the sketch *Her Devonshire Dad*, are particularly amusing; Mr. Leslie Gordon, baritone, makes his début on the music hall stage this week, and his reception has been a most cordial one. Other contributors to the programme include Edith Harmer, character comedienne, and Arthur Leslie, comedian and mimic.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Sandon Perkins.—The *Merry Widow* made her first bow to Merthyr audiences on Monday and had an enthusiastic reception. In the title-rôle Miss Dorothy Arliss is very successful as a vocalist, she is far above the average, while her graceful acting won the applause of all; Miss Mabel Hope as Natalia is charming; Mr. Robert Needham is Danilo, and his powerful acting and singing is highly appreciated; Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter is irresistibly humorous as the Baron; Mr. Harry Emeric is capital as Niech; as Jollidan Mr Harold Homeroy is seen to advantage; Mr. Tom H. David is well-placed as the Marquis; Mr. C. L. Steward does good work as Khadja; and Mr Cecil Warwick causes laughter as General Notakovitch.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, the Merthyr Entertainments Co.; Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Sisters Showell (Florence and Rose) are receiving much applause for their vocal numbers; the Oxos in their comedy pantomime, *Sinbad Up-to-Date*, score a success; Carlos Menard is a skilled musician. Other pleasing turns are provided by Ted Lennard, eccentric comedian; the Grayson Comedy Four, Florrie Wright, a dainty comedienne; Lisbon and Barker, comedians; and W. E. Hilton, the Scottish Valentine Vox. Pictures complete.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company is here this week with *Capt'n Jack*. In the name-part Mr. Ernest Owttrim makes a manly hero; the rôle of Mary, his wife, is effectively portrayed by Miss Nina Blake-Adams; the part of Anthony Cliversedge is well taken by Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh; Mr. F. C. Leighton is good as Barry Trent; Miss Betty Manners does well as his sister, Winnie Trent; Miss Ada Arnott as Ginge, a barmaid is well suited.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott and company are here this week. On Monday they presented *The Octoroon*. Mr. Chas. Draycott played with his well-known skill as Salem Scudder; Mr. Clinton Baddeley made a vigorous McCloskey; Mr. St. John Stuart did well as George Peyton; and Mrs. Chas. Draycott presented Zoe most artistically. *A Stolen Birthright*, *The Heart of a Hero*, *Colleen Bawn*, and *Shadows of a Great City* are also in the week's bill.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram are presenting *The House of Temperley*. As Captain Jack Temperley Mr. Lionel Glenister makes a good impression; Mr. Howard Rose is seen to distinct advantage as Sir Charles Temperley; and the part of Lady Temperley is ably undertaken by Miss Adria Hill. The other characters are in competent hands.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Imeson.—*The Prodigal Parson* is played by Mr. W. V. Garrod and his company. The Rev. Tom Godley is ably played by Mr. W. V. Garrod; Myrtle Godley is cleverly portrayed by Miss Celia Barnard; and Miss Bertha Kingston is a success in the part of the parson's wife.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. J. Rembges.—George Lashwood occupies the top of the bill, and his contributions are received with much appreciation by large audiences; the concertina solos and patter by Dutch Daly are enjoyed; Donnas Trio, equilibrists, give a fine performance; Mooney and Holbein, advanced vaudevilleans, are amusing; Miss Edith Pink, comedienne; Rover and Gloria, comedy artists; Miss Violet Romaine, comedienne, and the Empire Pictures complete an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Large audiences nightly witness a capital show of pictures. Owing to Mr. Tom Melbourne, of the Melbournes, having sprained his ankle while rinking, Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese conjurer and illusionist, assisted by Princess Tai-Mao, is substituted. Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in their speciality act, are very amusing. Other interesting items are provided by Miss Dorothy Watson, entertainer, and Mr. Hardy Williams, vocalist.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Deacoff.—An entertaining turn here is supplied by Shenton and Chicks; Bessie Hind is a

THE WORLD'S THEATRE FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone { Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 „ „

Telegrams: "CARPETS, BIRMINGHAM."

SINCE JAN. 1ST HAVE OBTAINED CONTRACTS FOR UPWARDS OF 100 THEATRES & PICTURE PALACES IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

CONTRACTS BOOKED AND IN HAND SINCE JANUARY 1, 1910.

1. **NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.** Complete Furnishing.
2. **ALEXANDRA, BELFAST.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
3. **COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Complete Reseating.
4. **ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** Complete Decoration and Refurnishing.
5. **HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY, SOUTH WALES.** Complete Decorations and Furnishing.
6. **THE GEM PICTURE PALACE, MALDEN-ROAD, N**
7. **ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.** Complete Refurnishing.
8. **SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing.
9. **NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.** Complete Furnishing.
10. **NEW EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.** Complete Decorations.
11. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
12. **PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
13. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
14. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
15. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
16. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
17. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.** Reseating and Refurnishing.
18. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
19. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
20. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM.** Complete Furnishing, Seating.
21. **PUBLIC HALL, CARLISLE.** Complete Decorations and Seating.
22. **BROADWAY ELECTRIC PALACE, WALHAM GREEN.** Complete Furnishing and Seating.
23. **NEW THEATRE, BILSTON.** Complete Re-upholstering.
24. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, WINGATE, DURHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
25. **MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES,** for Fred Karno, Esq.
26. **NEW CORN EXCHANGE, ROCHESTER.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
27. **OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.** Complete Reseating.
23. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
29. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
30. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
31. **NEW VICTORIA HALL, YORK.** Complete Decorations and Furnishing and Seating.
32. **NEW HIPPODROME, YORK.** Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
33. **HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.** Reseating, &c.
34. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Reseating, &c.
35. **NEW TOWN HALL, SHIREBROOK.** Complete Seating.
36. **NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
37. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON.** Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
38. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET.** The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, urnishing, and Seating throughout.
39. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
40. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. **NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA.** Complete Seating, &c.
42. **NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
43. **NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON.** Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
44. **NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
45. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
46. **NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
47. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Tip up Chairs, &c.
48. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
49. **VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
50. **NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD.** Complete Seating.
51. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
52. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD.** Complete Seating and Furnishing.
53. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN.** Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
54. **GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
55. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON.** Complete Seating, &c., &c.
56. **ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
57. **NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.** Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
58. **BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.** Refurnishings.
59. **PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.** Reseating and Tip-up Chairs
60. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE.** Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
61. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY.** Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
62. **LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE.** Complete Seating, &c.
63. **ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. **NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING.** Reseating, &c., &c.
65. **ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.** Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
66. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.** Complete Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
67. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.**
68. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S - STREET, EDINBURGH.**
69. **NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**
70. **HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
71. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.** Reseating, &c.
72. **RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
73. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY.** Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
74. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
75. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, DUMFRIES.** Complete Seating.
76. **NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR.** The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
77. **THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.** The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
78. **NEW HIPPODROME, LEWISHAM.** Whole of Decorations and Seating, Furnishing, &c., at a cost of upwards of £6,000.
79. **HIPPODROME & NEW CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW.** Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
80. **NEW PICTURE PALACE, LOZELLS, BIRMINGHAM.**
81. **NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.** Whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000
82. **WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM,** The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
83. **NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.** Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
84. **NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM.** Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
85. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY.** Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
86. **NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.** New Tip-up Chairs.
87. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.** New Tip-up Chairs.
88. **NEW SKATING PALACE AND ELECTRIC THEATRE, ERDINGHAM.**
89. **POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE, IPSWICH.** Patent Pit Seating.
90. **NEW GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
91. **NEW PUBLIC HALL, SALE, MANCHESTER.** Tip-up Chairs, &c.
92. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, S.E.** 700 Tip-up Chairs, &c.
93. **NEW CENTRAL HALL, CHESTERFIELD.** Chairs, Seatings, &c.
94. **NEW HALL, HUCKNALL TORKARD.** Tip-up Chairs.
95. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, SLOUGH.** Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
96. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, FALKIRK, N.B.** Tip-up Chairs.
97. **CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.** Tip-up Chairs.
98. **COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL GRAND STAND.** 500 Tip-up Chairs.
99. **EMPIRE THEATRE, SMETHWICK.** Chairs and Furnishing.
100. **NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, BOLTON.**
101. **NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, LEICESTER.**

&c., &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at the present time by far THE LARGEST THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS IN THE WORLD. A proof of this is that at the present time they have contracts in hand fully 10 to 1 of their competitors
These are plain, solid, and true facts.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs and Seating they turn out It matters not whether the Chair be 4s. 11d. or 35s. each. This should be sufficient proof that they only turn out first-class goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Only employ in their factories Trade Union men, and at all times are enabled to obtain the very best class of labour. Many of their workmen have been in their employ for upwards of twenty years.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.'S,
Goods are all manufactured in clean, wholesome works, which are always open to the Factory Inspectors.
No Alien or Sweated Labour employed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have in their employ a number of First-class Artists and Modellers for the purpose of turning out First-class Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at all times pleased for their Managers to wait on Proprietors, Architects, Managers &c., for the purpose of estimating and preparing schemes for Decorations, &c., &c. Distance no object. A telegram or telephone message will at all times be immediately attended to.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Wish this to be thoroughly understood that all their Chairs, Seats, &c., are delivered and fixed free by thoroughly competent men, whose sole work is fitting these goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just placed on the market a special low-priced Chair, suitable for seating the Cheaper Portions of Picture Palaces and Electric Theatres.

THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. — **5/11** — UPHOLSTERED IN GOOD PEGAMOID. DELIVERED AND FITTED FREE.

THREE YEARS' GUARANTEE.
WRITE FOR SAMPLE CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also placed a better Chair, Spring Stuffed, quite equal to any Chair on the market as regards appearance and durability.

THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. — **8/11** — WITH ARMS. IN VELVET OR PEGAMOID. SPRING STUFFED SEAT.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Very Handsome Chair for the Best Parts of the House of Electric Theatres, &c., &c.

THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. — **11/9** — Handsome deep back. Chair Upholstered in best manner in rich British Velvet or Camel Cloth, or Embossed Pegamoid.

WRITE FOR SAMPLE.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Chair suitable for the Best Seats of the palatial Picture Palaces which are being erected in London.

CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. — **13/9** — Magnificent Chair, Spring Stuffed, Upholstered Best Velvet or Silk Embossed Plush.

MOST COMFORTABLE SEE THIS CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also Designed a most Handsome Chair suitable for Fauteuils or Dress Circles of Theatres and Music-Halls. This is a very handsome, deep, hollow back Chair.

THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. — **16/6** — Spring and Hair Stuffed. Upholstered in Best Velvet Plush, Camel Cloth, or Embossed Best Pegamoid.

THE HANDSOMEST CHAIR IN THE MARKET.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Also make very handsome and durable Running Seating.
To lift up in sections of 4ft., in Pegamoid from 2s. 11d. per foot Run, Fixed. To lift up in sections, Varnished, from 1s. 9d. per foot Run, Fixed.

CORK CARPETS.	WILTON PILE CARPETS.
LINOLEUMS.	AXMINSTER CARPETS.
BRUSSELS CARPETS.	INDIAN CARPETS.

And MATTINGS of every description.
Cheapest in the Trade. All fitted free.
WRITE FOR SAMPLES.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Fire Screen Frames and Outside Decorations of every description.
Drawings and Schemes free.
All interested in Picture Palaces should, before placing their orders, see what Dean's Furnishing Co. have done at the Marble Arch Electric Theatre.
This magnificent work was executed without the proprietors loosing one single show in six weeks from time order was placed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just turned an Old, Cheerless Public Hall into a most Up-to-date and Elegant Picture Theatre, at Carlisle, in the short space of fourteen days.
The Talk and Wonder of Carlisle.
So pleased is the Proprietor, Sidney Bacon, Esq., that he has given Dean's Furnishing Co. Carte Blanche to Alter, Decorate, and Reseat his Victoria Hall, York.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER FOR INTERIORS OF PICTURE PALACES.
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER EXTERIORS.
FOR ARTISTIC AND UP-TO-DATE DECORATIONS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Retain Mr. A. F. WINDIBANK as Manager of the Theatre Department, who has had the experience of a lifetime in carrying out this class of work, he having superintended the carrying out of upwards of 2,000 contracts for this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Still retain the services of Mr. L. BECK as Director and Manager of the Factories.

WRITE FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE. POST FREE

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.
BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: 224 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

pleasing comedienne; Vera Mayne, vocalist, scores a distinct success; the Malbans, comedy duo, evoke merriment; and pictures complete.

MOTHERWELL. — New Century Theatre — Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company are here this week in *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. Claude Hermann is excellent as Harry Steyne, and Mary, his wife, is sweetly played by Mlle. Trissie Humphrys; Mr. Fred. G. Evison as Billy Brener is very good; Lenard Royde is well sustained by Mr. H. W. Hatcham; Hersam Padisha being equally well played by Mr. F. S. Strickland; while Miss Mildred Carr calls for mention as Nancy Brever.

NELSON.—Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—Ethel Arden and Geo. Abels' company, who head the bill here this week, score a big success in their amusing sketch *Three of a Kind;* a unique turn is presented by Gitto, the Welsh double-voiced vocalist. His singing is preceded by a series of living pictures showing him at work as a moulder of steel plates. Gitto, who comes from the mills, possesses a fine baritone voice, also sings in the higher register. He gave a splendid rendering of "Queen of the earth," and, in response to an enthusiastic demand for an encore, contributed a charming little Welsh song attired in female costume. Gitto had a well-merited ovation. Villiers de Caston presents a series of clever illusions; the Les Carmody Trio of Continental juggiers do some smart work; and the Four Miovskys are highly diverting in their comic acrobatic and musical entertainment. Other good turns are supplied by Frances Hanlon, comedienne and dancer, and the Four Lubins, Russian singers and dancers.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Messrs. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company is presenting *Nick Carter, Detective*, here. In the title-rôle Mr. Knowles proves highly successful; Miss Helena Walbran is an effective Madeline; and little Hilda Vokes acts prettily as Cyril. Mr. Raymond Thomas depicts the villainous machinations of Eustace Lee with skill; Dave Crawley is admirably treated by Mr. William Burgess; Miss Nellie Shirley makes a charming Stephane; Mr. H. C. Momber and Miss Nellie Fern sustain the comedy parts admirably. Mr. Will Ellythorne is a capable exponent of the rôle of George Slade; Mr. Jack Turnbull's Inspector Wilson is exceedingly good; and Miss Nellie Fern represents Bessie Timmins with distinct success.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—Crowded houses are enjoying *The Earl and the Girl*, presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's principal company. Mr. Edward Lewis has made a great success as Jim Cheese, and is ably supported by a large company and full chorus.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessees and Managers, the Amusements Syndicate, Ltd.—This week we have *The New Barmaid*, played by Mr. Alexander Loftus and company.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Miss Ethel Irving is paying a welcome visit here in *Dame Nature*. Miss Irving plays Lolette in a manner that secures emphatic recognition, the affectionate character and impulsive emotion of the part being depicted by Miss Irving in a vivid and natural manner. The supercilious and arrogant Princess de Chabran is admirably portrayed by Miss Mabel Hunt and Miss Florence Nelson gives a refined and pathetic rendition of Mrs. Garford. Mr. Frank Cooper carries conviction by his vigorous impersonation of Robert Bertram, and a clever piece of character acting is that of Mr. Norman Forbes' Prince de Chabron. The shrewd and good-natured Paul Garford finds an apt exponent in Mr. W. R. Staveley; and Mr. Charles Vane gives a dignified and serene delineation of James Ridgeway. Miss Kemble Cooper, Miss Olga Renne, and Mr. Alfred Brayton do good work in a thoroughly satisfactory fashion.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The Adelphi company, in *The House of Temperley*, occupy the boards here. Mr. Claude King has a part that suits him admirably in Captain Jack Temperley; whilst the elder brother, Sir Charles, is in the able hands of Mr. Stratton Rodney. Mr. Murray Carson impersonates the villainous Sir John Hawker with power and skill; Mr. Blake Adams as Ginger Stubbs is provocative of hilarity; and Mr. Leon M. Lion is an admirable Jakes. Mr. Douglas Munro is seen to advantage as Tom Cribb; and the same may be said of Mr. Stanley Turnbull as Jackson. Miss Joyce Francis makes a charming Mary; and Miss Pollie Emery scores as Lucy.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company, in *Through the Divorce Court*, is here. Miss Hettie Chattell appears as Lady Doloras Penarth, and her clever acting of the difficult part gains her much favour; Miss Lydia Hart makes a fine study of Dinah, and is very amusing; Mr. Riddell Robinson's acting as Lord Robert Penarth is very impressive; and Mr. Henry C. Cooper infuses the necessary vigour into the somewhat difficult rôle of Guyman di Mendoya. Much mirth is produced by Mr. Jack Denton's humorous rendition of the Hon. Algernon; and the minor parts are well filled.

Empire.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. W. Kilgour.—Kate Carney and Co. hold the place of honour this week, and their latest production, *Fun at the Fair*, is greatly appreciated; Goodfellow and Gregson are an exceptionally smart comedy couple; the Grassis score in a unique musical acrobatic act; Kitts and Windrum score in an amusing sketch; the Bollingers, in their rag-painting turn, Leo Stormont, baritone, Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist, Ugo Nap, comedy artist, Mike Nono, comedian and dancer, and the pictures conclude.

Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Clark and Hamilton present some new and original items, and their clever patter is much enjoyed; the Six Brothers Luck are paying a return visit, and their sketch, *H.M.S. Perhaps*, is exceedingly funny; Mabel Mignon, comedienne, sings and dances herself into favour; Sniescll Bros. and Mack are acrobats of considerable ability; A. E. Clifford, vocal comedian; Addie Adell, vocalist; Eight Frolics, juvenile dancers, &c., the Smarte Bros. eccentric comedians; Bertie Herron, and the animated pictures complete the programme.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Excellent variety turns are provided here by the Phœnix Trio of singers and dancers; May Mayho, serio and dancer; and Cambo and Castelle, in their clever vocal and acrobatic act. There is also the usual excellent and up-to-date show of pictures.

NEWRY.—Town Hall.—Owners, Newry Urban Council.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is here in *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Hook gives a capital representation; Miss Carda Walker excels in the title-rôle; as Captain Papp and Bandmaster Van Vuyt, Mr. Griffiths Moss and Mr. Jack Gray respectively are well placed. Mr. Edward Kipling sustains the part of Simon Slinks excellently; Miss Marion Armitage's Mina is also a capital portrayal. Mr. Harry Winton as Schnappe, Mr. Tom Bardsley as an old policeman, Mr. Ted Oliver as Hans Maas, Mr. B. Latham as Drack, Mr. Charles Jenner as Van Eck, Miss Hazel Alexander and Miss Ella Burke as Freda and Clara Voss, Miss Frances Walker as Gretchen, and Miss Harrie Green as an old market-woman all give valuable support.

NORTHAMPTON. — Temperance Hall. — Andrew's Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A varied list of films is provided here. Two illustrated songs, sung by Mr. F. Nettleton, elicit great applause.

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—The Valley of Brathland is a pretty travel picture, dramatic intensity is shown in The Girl on Triple X Ranch and Cowboy Chivalry, whilst Muggsby as Hero is a good comic.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. J. F. Bentley; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—The leading films are Adventures in the Golden Valley, a fine coloured picture, Sandy, the Substitute, and Isabella of Arragon; the best comics are Wearie Willie as Ballet Girl, The Waiter's Dream, and The Only Pebble on the Beach.

NORTH SHIELDS. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's capable company is attracting large audiences here with *Her Love Against the World*. As Eric Mr. Fred Emery proves himself a clever and experienced actor; Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Prince Othmar is excellent; Mr. Roy Fortescue gives a capital performance of Ulric; Mr. Arthur Chisholm scores as Prince Maurice; and Mr. Charles R. Hann makes a satisfactory General Tessler. As Iris, Princess of Idalia, Miss Ellen Snow acquits herself with distinction; Miss Rossie St. John as Nello wins much appreciation; and Miss Blanche Steele as Sheela is worthy of mention. Some amusing comedy is provided by Mr. Fred Acton as Heinrick Pimpernickel and Mr. John Mill as Fritz Pimpernickel.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—An entertaining programme here is headed by the Three Merrions, vocal and instrumental comedy entertainers, who meet with a deserved big reception; Rohde and Roche present their comedy act, which is heartily greeted; Lily Langdon is a smart comedienne; the Five Yorkshire Lasses, in their vocal scena, are very pleasing; the Crowtrees, speciality artists, win applause; Jenny Vincent's dramatic recital is much liked; and Willie Haines, character comedian, is a great favourite. The pictures are interesting.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—*A Message from Mars* has been presented by Messrs. Percy Tyler and Dudley Stuart's company here this week. Mr. Dudley Stuart's Horace Parker is a capital portrayal; Mr. Percy Tyler's Tramp is a clever and natural study; the Messenger is impressively played by Mr. G. Beresford Innes; Mr. George Ronald fills the part of Arthur Dicey with distinction; Miss Eilly O'Dempsey does well as Bella; Miss Ruth Wingrove is a stately Miss Parker; and Miss Maud Gill is a charming Minnie Templar. Other characters are ably filled. The last three nights are taken up with Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky Liza*.

NORWICH. — Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Harry P. Bowers' company is here this week in *The Best People*. Mr. Harry Renouf as Lord Emsworth gives evidence of his ability, and is greeted with enthusiasm; Mr. Frederick Sargent is equally good as the Hon. Gerald Bayle; Mr. Claude Haviland gives a natural representation as Lord Wynlea; Mr. O. Forester as Jackson is everything to be desired; while Mr. Edward Nimme as Mr. Spofforth is excellent. Miss Irene Lavington deserves praise for her charming portrayal of Lady Emsworth; and Miss Evelyn Summers is particularly good and pleasing as the Hon. Mr. Bayle. As a curtain-raiser *The Last Night* is given, in which Miss Summers and Mr. Renouf take the chief characters in excellent style.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—An attractive programme is presented this week, heading which are Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in their comedy playlet, *An Amateur Anarchist*. Paul Barnes as the droll American is most amusing; Griff, the sarcastic juggler, gives his inimitable performance and patter, and is much appreciated; the Valdo Brothers, in their absurdity *The Eccentric Motor-bus Men*, display agility as gymnasts, and prove great funmakers; Jack Lorne is quaint as the "Yorkshire lad," and inspires much mirth; Yetmah and the Japanese lady render a clever magical entertainment; Connie Mascot is a dainty comedienne and dancer, whilst Dolly Harmer proves a pleasing character comedienne. The Hippo. Bioscope pictures are very good, and include The Lady and the Burglar and other up-to-date pictures. A grand picture matinée is held here every Thursday, and proves a success.

Theatre de Luxe.—Proprietors, the Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Hallisey.—The pictures this week include The Bandit's Wife, For Old Friendship Sake, Friends from Childhood, Dr. Grow 'Em Quick, Don't Hurry Nature, The Wild Man of Borneo, and others depicting travels.

NOTTINGHAM. — Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The excellent company of Mr. Harry Towers are giving *The Mountaineers* to big houses. Mr. Fred Eastman's drolleries and comical mannerisms are irresistible; Miss Marie Dainton is altogether delightful as Clarice, singing and acting with a sprightliness and charm that evokes hearty applause; Miss Spinifex is played on amusing lines by Miss Aida Jenoure; and Miss Ida Stratham makes a vivacious Annette. The Fritz of Mr. Claude Flemming is a fine performance, and his songs are rendered in an artistic and vigorous style; while Mr. Sen Holloway supplies a pleasant and agreeable portraiture of Conrad. Mr. Nevill Voyatt is a diverting exponent of Gustave; Miss Mona Campbell makes a demure Prudence; and Mr. Leo Sheffield vocalises acceptably as Sergeant Frederico.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*Her Road to Ruin* is here this week. As the Curate Mr. Charles Dickens plays with a dignity and manliness that carries conviction; Mr. Albert Grenville makes a pitiful picture as the Poor Journalist; and Mr. Dane Clarke is unctuous as the Bishop. Mr. Knox Orde enacts Philip Hardy in vigorous style; and Mr. R. L. Ellis gives a good performance as Charles Cholmondeley. In the pathetic part of Jess Miss Doris Gilham acts with commendable tact and sympathy; and Miss Grace Lester capitally embodies the sorely-tried Mary Dawson. Miss Gertrude Tate makes an engaging May Willoughby; and minor rôles are well filled.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A lively little playlet, *The Model and the Man*, is divertingly given by Miss Zena Dare, Mr. Frank Wilson, and Miss Ivy St. Helier. As a raconteur Mr. Leslie Harris is very entertaining, and his delightful songs at the piano are always welcome; Barrett and Knowles are smart in their patter; and the ventriloquism of Thora is both amusing and clever. Alec. Piccad and company present a mirth-provoking sketch; the Cavalotti Brothers show remarkable skill in their musical act; Gwennie Hasto dances well; Dan Hendy's comicalities are appreciated, as are also some excellent films on the Bioscope.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. W. Austin.—The thrilling sketch *The Midnight Express* is a prominent item in this week's bill. Daisy James, in her latest skit on the hobble skirt causes much laughter; Madison and Webb add to the merriment by an amusing duologue; Elton and Elma give their expert bar performance; the Fitzroys are skilful gymnasts; Amy Anderson and company make a success in *The Banana Queen*; the Elite Harmony Boys sing pleasantly; and the eccentricities of Hadley Harman, comedian, and Fred Dunstone, comedian, are duly rewarded.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here this week with *Her Secret Love*. Mr. W. H. Wilson ably enacts Capt. Darrell Rose; Mr. J. Edward Fletcher is good as Gilbert Seymour; Mr. Alfred Stretton proves a capable villain, and is ably seconded by Miss Flora Leslie as Alicia Royale. Miss Laura Walker meets with much appreciation as Ivy Seymour; the humorous interludes are in the hands of Mr. Fred Russell as Billy Burley and Miss Lynn Darlington as Jane Maria Wilkes.

Empire.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; General-Manager, Mr. J. F. Elston.—On Monday the Nuneaton Empire opened as a first-class music hall, and, judging from the attendance at both houses on that evening, bids fair to be a success. The building has accommodation for 2,300 persons, the grand circle alone seating 400 in the newest tip-up chairs. The architectural arrangements have been carried out in a highly satisfactory manner by Messrs. Ward and Ball, of Birmingham. The furnishing was the work of Messrs. A. R. Dean, of London. Mr. J. F. Elston, recently the manager of the Grand, Bolton, has arranged a good bill, which is topped by the Three Krakes, in their clever and amusing act *The Electric Tram Conductor;* the Bros. Obo, as the laughing comedians and comedy duologue artists, supply a merry turn; Bonnetti and Corrie give a very funny juggling display; the Sisters Henderson provide and excellent turn; Douglas Campbell pleases the audience; and Phyllis Seymour's sentimental songs are well received. Some first-rate films on the Bioscope conclude the performance.

OLDHAM.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his company are here in répertoire this week. The selection for the opening of the engagement was *Hamlet*, with Mr. Wilkie in the title-rôle. *The Taming of the Shrew* was staged on Tuesday. Mr. Wilkie acted in a capital manner as Petruchio, and Miss F. Hunter Watts as Katharina received hearty applause for clever work. Miss Hilda Plowright was charming as Bianca; and Miss Mary Lovett made a vivacious Curtis; Mr. Henry Hargreaves as Lucentio played the part to perfection; and Mr. G. Edward Dunstan makes a capital Tranio; Mr. Sinclair Neil was good as Baptista; and Messrs. H. Mansfield and Sibley Hicks as Hortensio and Vincentio, also acted well; Mr. Philip Gordon as Grumio acted cleverly, and received much applause; as did Mr. Houston Meharry as Biondello; Mr. John Paley as Pedant and Mr. Frank Mayes as Gremio also did good work; and the remaining parts were well filled. During the week *The Merchant of Venice, The Sleigh Bells, The King and the Miller, School for Scandal*, and *Othello* were staged.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company occupies the boards in the romantic play *The Apple of Eden*, and they have a good reception. Miss Janet Alexander as Queen Margaret acted with power; Miss M. Hayden was a clever Lady Hanbury; and Miss Tessa Myers as Winifred Cresson was excellent; as was also Miss Mysie Monte as the Maid. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland in the part of Julian Hanbury acted effectively; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as the King did well; and Mr. Percy Ballard as Prince Nicola and Mr. Bertie as Robert Bertram were excellent; Mr. John F. Traynor was capital as General Pavlos; and Mr. H. Chalmers made a good Colonel Ferat; Mr. Percy Follis as Vassili and Mr. James Saunders as L'Atan were both capable.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Beggar Princess* is being played here by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy and company. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as Seaweed acted in a charming manner; and Miss Ada Roscoe as Countess Olga was excellent; Miss Hilary Burleigh made a sympathetic Maggie Bolton; and Miss Isabel Hunt as Tommy Bostock was clever; Mr. Cassidy as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh caused merriment; and Mr. Jaun D'Alberti as the Duke Sergius was excellent; whilst Mr. E. Lowrie as Moulet and Mr. F. Norburn as Allen Armstrong were capital, the bluff Abraham Bolton being well played by Mr. E. J. Fay; King O'ga, in the hands of Mr. A. Boxhall, was a creditable enactment; and Mr. Henry Danson as Michael Ichon did good work.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—Convict 796 is the principal film, and Miss Aidee Mellor sings "Lead Kindly Light" with great success during the showing of the picture. The Attack on the Mill is another fine dramatic film; the Warwick Journal is again interesting, and some laughable films are shown which include The College Chicken, The Runaway Star, and Aunty in the Fashion. Mr. Leach contributes a good illustrated song.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Burt.—The Heart of a Sioux is a fine picture, and The Thief is another well acted drama. New Messina proves pleasing, as is Pathé's Series of Travel. Father Minds the Baby and An Enthusiast for Sunday Rest are amusing. Mr. Burt also contributes a song.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—The attack on the Mill, Mystery of the Bridge of Sighs, and Jane and the Stranger are very dramatic; Ajaccio to Bonifaccio is an excellent travel picture; Foolshead, Fisherman, and The Kidnapped Servant are amusing comedy films. Miss Seddon is the vocalist.

Brown's Assembly.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Tempest and Sunshine and May and December are excellent pictures. Tilly the Tomboy and Dickie's Courtship are good and funny. The programme includes several other pictures of merit.

OXFORD.—East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Karl Edwards.—Scottie and his variety company are occupying these boards. Among many interesting items are: Vivagna, marvellous card manipulator; Fre and Fra, vocalists and dancers; Will Warren, patriotic vocalist; Graham and Barron, quaint comedians; Lawrence Ivors, Irish tenor; and Dot Irving, lightning dancer. Two sketches are contributed by the company—*Sexton Blake* and *Androcles and the Lion*—in both of which Scottie plays the leading rôle very successfully. The Marathon cycle racing novelty attracts considerable attention, as does also "Whizzing the Whirl."

New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—On Monday Mr. George Edwardes's company commenced a successful return visit with *The Dollar Princess*, which was again received with great favour. Mr. Fred Leslie is admirably suited as Harry Condor; Mr. W. J. Douglas delights the house with his breezy and natural impersonation of Freddy Fairfax; Mr. H. Henson is a capital Dick; and Mr. Horace Mills has full scope for his wonderful comedy powers in the part of Mr. Bulger. Miss Muriel Allen is a handsome and imposing Olga; Miss Daisy Elliston plays the part of Daisy with conspicuous success; and Miss Kathleen Courtney wins all hearts with her delightful singing and clever acting as Alice. *The Dollar Princess* is splendidly staged.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey, the popular Irish comedian, is here for the second time within a few weeks, this time presenting the Irish musical fairy play, *Rollicking Rory*. In the name-part Mr. Mackey is the personification of real Irish humour, and Rosie, his sweetheart, is earnestly and well played by Miss May Livesey. Mr. Conway Hastings makes an excellent Stephen D'Arcy; as General Ashleigh Mr. Charles M. Julian gives an admirable presentment; Mr. J. P. McBride distinguishes himself by a clever and intelligent embodiment of Desmond Fitzgerald; Miss Jeanette Lyons as Rory's mother gives a characteristic delineation; Miss Nellie de Lacy plays with dignity the part of Mrs. Ashleigh; and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey submits a good portraiture of Rosaleen.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—As a leading turn George A. Street and company gain the heartiest praise for their American sketch *The Cattle Thief;* the Mysterious Mysticus performs in a novel and wonderful manner; a daring and marvellous exhibition is submitted by the Bellong Brothers, cycle equilibrists; Bert Williams is genuinely funny in his ventriloquial novelty; Vera Rochdale, mezzo-soprano vocalist and dancer, has a hearty reception; George Rae is entertaining as a Scotch comedian and dancer; Marie Kay, comedienne and roller-skate dancer, is applauded; the Sisters Luraine contribute a clever musical entertainment; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes.

PENTRE.—Tivoli.—Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company presented *The Female Detective* here to good houses. *Guilty Gold* will be staged on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Workmen's Hall.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—An attractive picture programme is supplemented by Andrews and Thompon, the Anglo-American operatic duo; Ethel Ra Leslie pays a return visit, and fully sustains her reputation; and Mr. Joe Leslie, with suitable selections from his extensive répertoire, is still a feature of the evening's enjoyment.

PETERBOROUGH. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Graham Arthur's company opened here on Monday with *Every Inch a Man*. Miss Mabel Elliott as Vera Maxwell submits a fine impersonation; Miss Mildred Eversleigh as Mrs. Edwards merits praise; Mr. Ralph A. Armfield is a good Alderman Barnet; Mr. Joe Barker a successful Ben Brown; Mr. W. Graham Arthurs acts cleverly as Dick Barnet; and Mr. Gerald Ord ably sustains the part of Daniel Barnet.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Alec Hurley, the coster comedian, is on a return visit; Fred Mason is a good whistling comedian; Royston and Bradfield appear with success in *The Bailiff and the Actress;* the Whatneys are smart club and hoop manipulators; Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist, is entertaining; Sissie Brand, comedienne and dancer, does well; the Thomsons are smart and amusing; and Leo Dryden, in a selection of operatic song playlets, has a warm reception.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Harry Towers' company in *Dear Little Denmark* is here this week. Miss Thelma Raye plays Christine admirably; Miss Winifred Volt as Ophelia has a couple of particularly catchy songs, to which she does full justice; Miss Nancy Rich as Adeline executes some graceful dances; and Miss Alice Waldie is an attractive Xandra. As Hans Hansen, Mr. Tom Payne is very humorous; Mr. Edward Thirlby is amusing as the gouty Duke; and Mr. Alec Bolton as Sergeant Ohls has one of the best songs of the piece.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Three Keltons provide a musical number far above the average; Rapoli, an eccentric juggler, has plenty of daring and originality in his tricks; Athas and Collins are as amusing as ever; Stewart and Morris, an accomplished pair of comedians, are very entertaining; the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio are dancers of ability; Joe Archer's humorous contributions are popular; and Dorma Morgan has a charming style. Bruce Green furnishes the remaining item on the bill.

PONTEFRACT.—Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Mr. Geo. Tankard.—The Barrington Trio (two ladies and a gentleman), who head the bill, give a pleasing performance; the Lennard and Morton company presents a comedy sketch, entitled *The Burglars*; Mr. Henry Carlton gives a fine rendering of G. R. Sims's "The Lifeboat"; Shawlene brings down the house with his whistling act; the Becketow Brothers are original and amusing acrobats; and Sterling and Cashen, military comedy duo and dancers; the Mosaics, in speciality act; Gus Lindon, trick conjurer; Marie Ray, comedienne and dancer; and the Alexscope complete.

PORTH. — Palace Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth. — Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley present *Two Little Drummer Boys* here this week. Mr. Ed. Bikker gives a powerful portrayal of General Kingsley, V.C.; and Mr. A. T. Ellis as Captain Frank Carsdale and Mr. Polson Turner as Captain Darrell also play excellently. Mr. Alf. Edwards makes a capital Lieutenant Kingsley. As the two drummer boys, Miss J. T. Tracey and Miss Maudie Douglas contribute admirable portrayals; and Miss Patricia Connaughton as Molly Meadows is captivating. Margaret Rivers, known as Drunken Megg, is in the capable hands of Miss Minnie Watersford; and the General's daughter, Alma Kingsley, is attractively acted by Miss Violet Langley.

PORTSMOUTH.—Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner. The Portsmouth Orpheus Operatic Society are in occupation, presenting *Tom Jones*, in aid of local and service charities.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Fred Karno's *Skating* tops the bill, and provokes laughter; Dr. Willmar's spirit paintings, styled "The Riddle of the Century," mystify the audience; the dancing and acrobatic performance of Eadie and Cissie Ramsden is smart; William Mollison and company hold attention with their well-acted sketch, *The Touch of the Child;* a comedy juggling act is submitted by the Dardinis; another taking comedian is George Brooks; and Lizzie Daniels, Pat Rafferty, Helen Martin, and Bioscope pictures are well received.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—A highly-picturesque entertainment is provided by Vere de Astra, in "A Shepherd's Dream of the Year," the artist appearing in a series of poses, amid elaborate scenic sets; she is assisted by Mlle. Wanda Baranoff and M. Olave Fritchoff, in dances depicting the four seasons. Farcical impersonations are submitted by Terry and Lambert; the Carmos, in a juggling act, introduce an airship novelty; Arabella Allen cleverly impersonates Dickensian characters; the vocalism of the Scottish Meisters is appreciated; the Faludy Troupe are daring acrobats; the Sisters Gaye are successful duettists and dancers; J. H. Greener's songs are liked; Walter and Bailey present their speciality; and this week's sketch is *That Brute Simmons*, by Geo. Elliston's company.

South Parade Pier.—Manager, Mr. A. Lalande.—Les Vivandieres, under Mr. Carl Frederick's direction, are the principal entertainers here. Mlle. Cordelia's dances, with electrical effects, being greatly admired. Wednesday was devoted to a Scotch concert, under Mr. Hugh Campbell, the artists including Misses Bessie Vigars, Lottie Hore, Messrs. J. B. Huntley, F. Holman, with Piper F. Ross (bagpipes) and James Laughland (sword dancer, &c.).

Clarence Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. Cuddy.—Both Miss Mabel Monson and Mr. Whitworth Milton delighted a large audience on Saturday. The Fantastics have been re-engaged for this week's entertainments.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. James Welch's company, in the farce *When Knights Were Bold*, is this week's attraction. Miss Violet Noel is an excellent Lady Rowena; Miss Elspeth Oliphant and Miss Lena Flowerdew as Alice Barker and the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave deserve praise; and Miss Lee Lewes is an excellent Sarah Isaacson. Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd as Isaacson and Mr. Colin Johnston as the Dean are both admirable. Mr. Alan Macdonald is a droll Hon. Chas. Widdecombe; and Mr. Humphrey Warden a satisfactory Sir Brian; while Mr. John Cecil and Laurence Stephenson acquit themselves creditably as Barker and Wittle.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Mike S. Whallen tops the bill, and succeeds in raising hearty laughter by his witty patter; the W. T. Thompson Trio, including Miss Maud Leighton, W. T. Thompson, and Bert Wade, in *Watch the Chalk*, creates much laughter; Frances McNulty, in her latest American success, is a winsome comedienne; the Hartley Wonders, in their marvellous jumping specialities, are as acceptable as ever; Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire singing mill girl, is very popular; Marie Santoi and her Merry Japs, in their musical scena, *A Night in Japan*, is a most acceptable turn; and Nightingale and Stigant (Joe and Arthur), in their novel comedy duologue, *Two Sides of a Wall*, cause roars of laughter. Some interesting views of the Portuguese Revolution are shown on the Bio. Will Shaw, comedian, also contributes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manager, Mr. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Clarkson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company, in *The Sailor's Wedding*, is here this week. Mr. Frank Bertram enacts the part of Jack Hawkins excellently; and the capital company include Miss Madge Moote, Miss Olive Warne, Miss Daisy Gwynne, Miss Celestine Bertram, and Miss E. Giddens; Messrs. Stanley Harrison, J. H. Darnley, Cecil Klein, Alfred Fisher, and Alfred Holles.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Mr. Sydney Carlton's company are here this week in *Night and Morning*. Mr. Willie H. Vernon is very good as Bob Barleycorn, and Mr. Bertram Damer does excellent work as Lionel Mildmay. Dr. Gilmour is in the safe hands of Mr. David Curtis, and Mr. Stanley Carlton is seen to advantage as Richard Sefton; while Mr. James Fielding as Captain Shark deserves praise. Miss Rubie Maude is capital as Alice Wylford, Miss Jenny Bostock does ample justice to the part of Mrs. Barleycorn, and Miss Marion Holly is equal to the calls of Selina, a drudge.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman. — Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company have this week been staging *A Woman's Past*. Miss Dora Pass admirably fills the rôle of Bessie; Mr. Percy Dawsone is excellent as David Heath; and a similar description fits the case of Mr. Lock as Frank Delanney and Mr. Victor Gordon as Clement Harpur. Mr. Clifford Hamilton does good work as Uriah Craven; and the ladies' parts are filled in satisfactory fashion by the Misses Laura Bitterne (Mrs. Brown), Dorothy Veheyne (Dorothy Heath), and Phyllis Elton (Clara Darvell).

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Hamilton Jackson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—To a crowded house the original *Life of a Showman* company gave a most acceptable performance on Monday. Miss Dora Price was a powerful and effective Baroness de Villemont; Miss Eileen Bamford a charming and womanly Mrs. Brien Leader; Mr. Frank Sante an admirable Brien Leader; and Mr. J. R. C. Hamilton an excellent villain. Sir Noel Hartland was well represented by Mr. E. Bretton, and Messrs. Tom Maynard and Wheeler were satisfactory. Miss Kitty Lambert was good as Angelina Mutton.

READING. — Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company is presenting *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* here. Mr. A. N. Baskcomb plays Mr. Preedy excellently; the part of the Countess is admirably sustained by Miss Nellie Powys; Mr. John Nesbitt portrays Bounsall characteristically; Miss Mary O'Farrell is good as Emma Sidgrave; Mr. Shirley Lea acts well as the Manservant, and the other parts are well filled. The play is preceded by *The Chance*, in which Mr. C. Humphries, Miss Ninon Dudley, and Mr. J. D. Geddes appear to advantage.

The Palace. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curlins Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Kedge.—The Australian Woodcutters are providing a novel and interesting turn here, preceded by a cinematograph film in which the work of tree felling in the Australian forests and the difficulties of transport are vividly depicted. Jackson and McLaren give a fine exhibition of their skill in tree felling and expert axemanship. Other items are offered by the Prince Milner Trio in their pot-pourri act; Gladys Williams, an attractive comedienne; the Dunvilles, who show ability as instrumentalists and vocalists; Adele Morew, international comedienne, who sings and dances with Parisian vivacity; Ford and Maxwell give a clever exhibition of wooden shoe dancing; Les Alex Carangeot do some wonderful acrobatic gyrations in their original dancing act, "La Fiance du Dragon," in which some startling effects are introduced; and Arthur Pier, comedian, also appears with success.

ROCHDALE.—Royal.—Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Mr. Lionel Rignold's company in *What the Butler Saw* is playing to crowded houses. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, the Butler, is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Charles Fawcett is a capital Jack Barrington; Mr. Harry H. Rignold takes the part of Abraham Weinstein cleverly; Mr. Raymond Dudley is good as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. Pat Alexander gives an interesting study of Professor Shale; and Mr. George Ascot is a realistic General Dunlop. Miss Zoe Gilfillan is charming as Mrs. Barrington, and Miss Maria Daltra as Miss Foden is a decided success.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—One of the special events of the season has been the visit of Mr. Herbert Trench's Haymarket Theatre company in *The Blue Bird*, which on Monday met with a cordial reception from a large audience. Maeterlinck's beautiful symbolic story allied to the charming fairy scenes appealed strongly to the sympathies of old and young, and the music, so well wedded to the fanciful theme by Mr. Norman O'Neill was adequately performed by the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Jackson Byles. The exquisite scenery and dresses were a treat to people blessed with artistic susceptibilities, and the acting was on a par with the excellence of the piece, Miss Lizzie Webster as the Fairy Berylune and Mrs. Saba Raleigh as Night being much admired. At the close all the artists were enthusiastically applauded.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is paying a return visit, the mounting is first-rate, and the members of Mr. Frank Adair's company are animated by a commendable *esprit de corps*. Mr. Frank Adair's Li, the avenger, is a powerful study of a repulsive character; Miss Louie Adair is a handsome representative of Mira Sampson, and she cleverly depicts the jealous hatred of a "woman scorned." Effective contrasts to the two leading rôles are Mr. Dudley Wynton as a missionary and Miss Stanley Burt as his devoted wife. Miss Connie Meadows as a comic servant, with songs and dances, makes a welcome relief to the melo-dramatic episodes of a cleverly constructed play.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mrs. Morton Powell's *Brought to Ruin* is hard fact, illuminated by fiction, and the large audiences at the Alxeandra have expressed their opinion on the "white slave" traffic in no uncertain way. As an adventuress the authoress acts with histrionic power, and a certain distinction, which compels attention, and other characters are excellently represented by Mr. Harry Scott, Mr. Richard Vane, Mr. Sydney Bryant, Mr. Alaric Burton, Mr. Julian Mitchell, Mr. Arthur Beaufort, Mr. George Cuthbert, Miss Jeannie Risley, Miss Kathryne Eckhart, Miss Bertha Lake, and Miss Alice Defoe, who makes a graceful and pathetic heroine.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The celebrated illusionist, Mr. Horace Golding is mystifying large audiences this week, assisted by the charming dancer Mlle. Jeannie Fransioli; a smart act of cycling, comedy, and eccentric dancing is done by the clever Villion Trio, who are loudly applauded; Mr. W. J. Churchill's easy manner and funny patter keep him in his assured position as a big local favourite; M. Doris Lensky, violin virtuoso, is enthusiastically received; and Miss Rosa Loader as "The Slavey at the Piano"; the popular McConnell Trio, sketch artists; Mr. Bert Harlow, eccentric; Mr. Barriston, vocalist; and the Bioscope make up an attractive programme.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. Fred Karno's screamingly funny absurdity *Perkins, M.P.*, with the amusing burlesque actor, Mr. Tom Nelson, in the title-rôle, is again making the welkin ring with laughter; the skilful and original Mephisto does a marvellous and unique entertainment; the Permane Bros. are clever performers; and also appearing are Miss Hazel Glade, Miss Norah Stockelle, Mr. Archie Royer (comedy acrobat), Neodia (a clever quick-change artist), the Ansonia Troupe of equilibrists, Osborn and Brooks, in a good turn, and Miss Amy Clevere, a favourite here. The Bioscope pictures conclude.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Gladys Gaunt.—Sterling domestic dramas, well played by the stock company, are delighting the patrons of the "old Star." *Convict 99* and *The Hand of Fate* are billed for this week, with pictures, &c.

PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Arnold Shaw.—A series of artistic pictures fully keeps up the prestige of this palatial resort of Bioscope-lovers.

CENTRAL HALL.—The J. Redfern Co., Ltd.—The local motor-car speed trials and other pictures please the habitués of this cosy hall.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr Thos. Baugh.—Day and Dean are a capable pair of comedians; Bowie a clever juggler; Bert Ward a fine whistler; Frank Weaver's sand and eccentric dances are exceedingly good; Will and Nell are a dainty and well-trained couple of dancers; Le Hurst vastly amuses with his ventriloquism; and Mr. Harry Tate's company, in the screamingly funny sketch, *Fishing*, cause diversion.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is presenting *Facing the World Alone*. Miss Ethel Van Praagh is well suited to the part of 'Melia Burgess, the flower girl-countess. Mr. J. Edward Whitty plays with telling effect as Captain Parkhurst; Mr. Edward Ouston portrays Caleb Valentine with easy grace; Mr. R. Wilton is an effective Barnard Avory; Mr. Guy P. Ellis a realistic Jim Mouler; and Mr. Harold Forde does well as James Sudbury. Miss Flora Hastings is a satisfactory Lady Cecilia Constantine, and Miss Edith Rutland an excellent Duchess of Pimlico.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Leslie.—At the top of an attractive bill is Beanland, a clever female impersonator. At the bottom of the bill the Lashmars provide an amusing turn. The Leslies, in sketch, *A Jealous Wife*, are good. Will B. Bright, American back dancer, receives well-merited applause; Charles Dixon is an eccentric comedian; Violet Rivers, whistling comedienne, is much appreciated; Jack Pardoe, wire walker, is smart; the Digbys are an amusing comedy duo; and the pictures are interesting.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is this week appearing in W. Somerset Maugham's comedy *Smith*. Mr. Montagu Love is very successful as Tom Freeman; Miss Jessica Thorne in the title-rôle gives a capital portrayal; and the Misses Eleanor Delaporte, Kathryn Collier, Eileen Atherley, and Messrs. Vivian Gilbert and Cecil Brooking are all responsible for clever characterizations.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Archibald Pareezer.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's excellent company played *A Thief in the Night* here on Monday. Mr. Alfred Goddard gave an accomplished impersonation of Alan Escombe; while Miss Florence Dalton as his wife submitted a praiseworthy characterisation; villainy was ably depicted by Mr. Leyton Cancellor as Michael Pagani and Miss Beatrice Homer as Sonia Cleeve; Messrs. Chas. Danecourt as Richard Cleeve and C. Alan-Hineson as Crake gave good assistance; Messrs. Hugh Wallace and Philip Crossley took their respective parts with credit; and Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby and Miss Jeannie Hallworth as Happy Christmas provided entertaining comedy in a pleasant manner.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Burgh.—The programme this week includes the following: Olive Armidale, comedienne; The Findens, in *A Desperate Remedy*; Fred Barnes, light comedian; Bi-Bo-Bi, instrumentalist; the Two Vestas, juvenile duettists and dancers; Barclay Gammon; Esta Stella, comedienne and dancer; Harry Grey, comedian; and the Jewels, in the *Haunted Castle*.

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—Much enthusiasm was shown on Monday, when pictures were again the chief attraction. Messrs. Blackwell and Crosse gave delightful vocal and instrumental act, while Jack Roscoe proved a favourite light comedian. Two programmes are submitted nightly, except on Wednesday and Saturday, when dancing is substituted for the second performance.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison.—*The Speckled Band* was presented here for the first time on Monday by a good all-round company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Hardy. Mr. C. W. Somerset submitted a powerful and very effective impersonation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott; Sherlock Holmes had a natural and clever exponent in Mr. Julian Royce; the rôle of Enid Stonor was admirably depicted by Miss Alice Leigh; Miss Adelaide Grace efficiently represented Mrs. Staunton; the old butler, Rogers, was characteristically portrayed by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan; Mr. Bellenden Clarke was very good in the part of Dr. Watson; Mr. William Duncan as the Coroner acquitted himself with great credit; Mr. E. H. Paterson was a droll representative of Mr. Armitage; Ali, the Indian, had a sleek impersonator in Mr. Gerald Rogers; Billy was well played by Master James Woodings; and other good characterisations were supplied by Mr. Harold S. Standring, Mr. F. Finch Smiles, Mr. H. Ainger, Mr. J. Wood Ingram, and Miss Lucie Verrier.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company presented *The Sign of the Cross* to good houses. Mr. W. Lawson Butt makes an impressive Marcus. Nero is well accounted for by Mr. Bernard Elliott; Tigellinus, Lucinius, and Viturius are all well played by Messrs. Charles Aldred, I. Weatherall, and Phil Ellis. Miss Evelyne Hope is sympathetic as Mercia; Miss Winifred Delevanti is good as Stephanus; Poppœa is captially played by Miss Mabel Cooke; Miss Dorothy Lart is well cast as Berenice; and Miss Esme Lee makes a good Dacia. The humour of the piece is hit off by Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Haley's Juveniles, twenty highly trained children, in song and dance, are much appreciated; Mr. Tom Edwards, the ventriloquial huntsman, is an old favourite; clever trick cycling is submitted by the Daunton-Shaw troupe; a good vocal and instrumental act is contributed by the Channings; Walter Wade, in a new monologue, has a cordial reception. Other good items are Stephens and Rennior, comedians; Harry Simms, light comedian; Cissie Thompson, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—The Musical Bentleys are here in a novel, refined musical and patter turn. The animated pictures of comedy, drama, &c., are still appreciated. Another good turn is the Great Dewson, "the man at the grand piano."

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Appearing here this week is Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Mr. Norman Partridge acted well as Prince Louis, and Mr. Walter T. Clifford in the rôle of Prince Menski was a great success. Mr. Cyril Harrison made a capital Captain Gara; Mr. W. R. Winning came out creditably in the rôle of General Platz; Miss Adeline Raby as Countess Melvitch acted capably; Miss Ella Sennett in the part of Else was interesting; Miss Violet Carlyle was seen to advantage as Zora; and Miss Anena Walton in the character of Schnapps played well.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. Leslie Talmage.—The variety turns here include:—Henry Albano, a clever English concertina soloist; Tom Black, a good double-voiced vocalist; Jock McNeil, Scotch comedian; and Ward and Davis in the sketch, *Wanted, a Typist*.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. [illegible] F. Gowland; Manager, Mr. R. Fenny.—A fine programme here includes the Misses Lytton and De Silva, charming operatic duettists; the Marvellous Daye, clever exponents of second sight; and Myrtle Grove is a good juvenile vocalist and dancer. The pictures are up to the usual standard.

TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vasey and E. W. Dodshon.—Appearing here at the head of affairs are the Brothers Hornby, who score well in a vocal comedy act, *The Rivals*. As an equilibrist and contortionist Chiko is very good. Films of an interesting character are shown.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting *Miss Hook of Holland* to big houses. Mr. Alfred Wellesley makes a capital Mr. Hook—his quaintness is so natural and unassumed, and his individuality suits the part so well that his success is assured from the first; pretty Miss Nan Stuart fills the part of Sally charmingly, and her singing and bright acting are quite captivating; Mr. Mansell Stringer acts admirably as Bandmaster Van Vuyt, and his fine voice gives much pleasure—the duets with Sally are especially well rendered; as Capt. Adrian Paap Mr. Arthur Wood Manvey displays great judgment both in acting and singing; Mr. Charles Ross is equally good as Ludwig Schnapps; and Mr. Harry Brayne's Simon Slinks is effective. Miss Maud Denny is a captivating Mina, her rendering of the attractive numbers allotted to the part being heartily encored. The chorus is excellent and the orchestra well up to the mark, both under the direction of Mr. H. A. Dyer.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Minola Hurst and her miniature marvels are exceedingly interesting and amusing; Everhart produces a fine show of hoop manipulation; the Four Mexicans, lasso wonders, certainly do wonderful things with the lasso; Vowles and Bryan are pleasing in their scena; Will Lindsay raises a good laugh; the Rangers are highly expert cycle performers; the Four Sisters Gilby, in becoming costumes, give some musical items excellently; and the programme concludes with a laughable entertainment by Barnard's mannikins.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Fatal Wedding*, which has been presented by Mr. Percy Williams's talented company, has attracted large audiences here. Mr. Hugh Montgomery acts with ability as Howard Wilson; as Robert Curtis Mr. Royce Milton is thoroughly effective; Toto is amusingly played by Mr. Sam Springson; and Peter Shwortz is pleasingly impersonated by Mr. Cyril Melton. Miss Leah Marlborough acts with stately grace and power as Cora; Miss Ethel Kay is sympathetic as Mabel Wilson; Miss Nellie Summers makes a mirthful Bridget; whilst a word of praise is due to Little Lussanne as Jessie. The juveniles, in their specialities, displayed marked talent.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—A performance of exceptional merit is that of the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, champion rifle shots, whose display of marksmanship evokes well-deserved applause; an interesting sketch entitled *Wrong 'Uns*, given by Mr. James Hare and company, is appreciated; Carlotta Levey's songs were pleasingly greeted; the Sisters Geretti, trapeze artists, are wonderfully smart; Harry Morris is an amusing comedian and story-teller; Rosaby and Rene, in *Fine Feathers*, are very entertaining; Harry Levaine, comedian, causes plenty of laughter; and the Four Quaint Q's, harmonious comedians and dancers, are most successful.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—CASTLE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. G. M. Polini's and Mr. Austin Melford's company pays a return visit here with *The Silver King*. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke as Wilfred Denver is seen to advantage; Miss Mildred Surrey is a charming Nellie; and Mr. Edward J. George, in the character of Jaikes, is most natural.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—Tom Foy and company are well received in their absurdity, *The First of April*; Three Veros are clever speciality dancers; Giovani Daruso, violinist, takes well; Doris Del Monte is daring with her five Polar bears; Robb Wilton is a comedian with good patter; Trevor and Wall are pleasing in a comedy duo; May McPherson sings well; Marguerite Broadfoote is as popular as ever; and the Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. F. Marriott Watson and Mr. James Usher's company was accorded a hearty welcome here on Monday last with *The Black Mask*. The author himself gave a most dramatic rendering of Le Noir. Miss Florence E. Florence also did well as Nellie Cunningham.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—This week Miss Grace Warner and company present *The Scarlet Clue* and *The Wages of Sin*. On Monday evening, in *The Scarlet Clue*, Miss Warner showed her wonderful grasp of the histrionic art in the part of Scarlet Sal, alias Mrs. Michael Stanton; Mr. George Gordon gives her able support in the part of Michael Stanton; the twin brothers are well played by Mr. Frank Esmonde.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE, AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Victor Brothers, herculean equilibrists, head the bill, and are popular; Winifred Ray is a comedienne of great merit; the Dancing Duggans, skate, wooden shoe, and sand dance artists, give a turn which is out of the ordinary; Harry Cline is a comedian whose songs go well; the Double A's foot the bill with a smart comedy act, *The Other Mrs. Brown*; and Phelps' Electric Pictures are well chosen.

STROUD.—SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Ghent.—Messrs. Nicoll, Rivington, and Howard's company was here on Saturday and Monday with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Cecile E. Anson gave a realistic embodiment of the title-part; Miss Muriel Locking as Miss Hazy was droll and quaint; Miss Clara Earle plays Lonely Mary with grace and charm; the Misses C. M. Lancaster, Ivy Sheppard, and Madge Ward were girlish and animated as Asia, Europena, and Australia; Miss Edith Netting as Mrs. Eichorn and Miss Ruth White as Mrs. Schultz added to the humour of the production; Miss Constance Cammreger acted Lucy sweetly; Mr. Stubbins was portrayed with effect by Mr. Kenneth Rivington; Mr. George Howard well embodied Mr. Wiggs; Mr. Robert Herne made a good Deacon Bagsby; and Mr. George Kingsland and Mr. James Hodge ably represented Hunkerdunkus Jones and the Sheriff.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. Sylvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company are appearing here this week in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards gives a powerful impersonation of Jack Frobisher, and imbues the rôle with much strength; Mr. Russell Barry fills the rôle of Hanky Bannister with commendable unconventionality; the Marquis of Steventon is excellently done by Mr. Franc Stoney; Mr. Hanworth Browning gives a studied rendition of Harry Dallas; Miss Gwendoline Hay displays histrionic ability as Lady Alathea, infusing into the character much sweetness and charm; Miss Dora McDonnell gave a refreshingly piquant rendering of Lucy; and Lady Westerby was capably taken by Miss Eileen Orby. Miss Florence Steventon is also good as Tiny Mornington. The play is excellently staged, and is preceded by a smart curtain-raiser, which is charmingly played by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards and Miss Steventon.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Cliffe and Vanstan are being given an enthusiastic reception here for a clever and refined musical item; Douglas and Clarke are also being appreciated for their dancing and patter.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Sandy McNab and company are establishing themselves firm favourites here with their screamingly funny sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*, which is cleverly presented. Clara Coverdale's Juveniles are extremely popular in their vocal scena, "The Gipsies' Revels." Miss Ethel Thomas also wins favour with her charming voice.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company is playing here this week in *The Coal King*. Miss Winifred Love is admirably adapted to the rôle of Grace Shirley, and gives a fine rendering; Miss Emily Levetter does some good dramatic work as Mad Ann; Mr. Cecil Woodhouse gives a meritorious interpretation of the part of Tom Roberts; Mr. A. W. Norman gives a masterly performance as Sir Reginald Hartford; as also does Mr. Frank Dalton as Dick Shirley. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns as Walter Hartford proves himself a capable exponent of villainy. The comedy is in the excellent hands of Miss Laurie O'Neill and Mr. Frank Caffrey, both of whom do capital work.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Miss Vesta Tilley is appearing here this week before crowded houses, and, needless to say, fascinates her auditors with her dashing and captivating manner in all her masculine modes; Chas. Prello's Dogs give evidence of much careful training; the Rawsons contribute an enjoyable musical turn with much success; and the Francoli Troupe are equally good in their acrobatic sketch. Another smartly-produced sketch is *The Puritan*, by France and Stewart; Edna Lyall makes good use of her charming voice; Hans and Lux, comedians, are in great favour; and Baby Bowden, juvenile entertainer, is very warmly received.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—*The Arcadians* is being presented here by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson creates fun as Simplicitas; Mr. Alfred Beer's interpretation of Peter Doody could scarcely be better; Mr. Wallace G. Court proves a capital Sir George Paddock; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald an admirable Jack Meadows; Bobby is well taken by Mr. Cyril Lane; Miss Gertrude Aylward's portrayal of Mrs. Smith is greatly appreciated; Miss Molly McIntyre makes a successful Eileen Cavanagh; and Miss Sybil Tancredi sings and acts delightfully as Sombra.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Dewhirst.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company is here this week in *Whom God Hath Joined* and *The Thief Catcher*. On Monday night *Whom God Hath Joined* was presented to an appreciative audience. Mr. Stuart Lomath makes a powerful Captain Jack Merritt, and Mr. George Edwin Clive as Major Stevens is very convincing. Mr. Oswald Douglas makes a humorous Digby Trant; Mr. Frank Orehard ably enacts the rôle of Richard Manly; Watty Cooper is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Victor H. Crawford; Miss M. Ainsley capably delineates the part of Marion; Miss Madge Ashdown sings and acts well as Frankie; Miss Olive Lindsey is good as Teddy; Miss Daisy Stone makes a chic Kitty Crumpet; and Miss Amber Wyville as Beatrice Trant ably seconds Major Stevens.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company is presenting *A Country Girl in London*. The title-rôle is ably filled by Miss Maude Merrick; Miss Elsie Marriott Watson gives a clever study of Gwendoline Gordon; Frank Gordon finds a capable exponent in Mr. Chas. Halling; Godfrey Clinton's evil deeds are presented by Mr. Scott Leighton; Mr. S. Pateman is a realistic Joe Smithers; and Mr. F. Dallas a diverting Heinrich Oppenheim.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Ton-y-pandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. David Taylor.—The Great Ruhart, protean artist, heads the bill here. A most popular turn is Mlle. de Bose, and Hilda Claremont; Pitti Sing does well; Stuart and Avans are appreciated; as also is J. H. Hawtrey. Some good films are shown.

PRICE & REYNOLDS'
SUCCESSFUL SONGS.

FOLLOW THE TRAM LINES.
I'VE GOT THE TIME—I'VE GOT THE PLACE.
Miss HETTY KING.

I WISH I'D A GIRL LIKE MOLLY.
Miss DAISY DORMER.

PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.
FRED POPLAR.

FATHER STARTED OUT TO WORK.
Miss MAIDIE SCOTT.

SHE SIFTED THISTLES.
CHARLEY HARVEY.

GOOD MORNING, MR. SUNSHINE.
YET, IF I SAID FORGIVE.

PRICE & REYNOLDS, 41, Berners Street, London, W.
Telephone, 2691 Gerrard.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO.'s
PANTOMIME HITS
JOE ARCHER'S

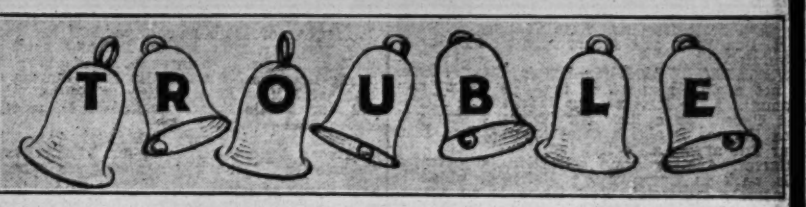

Those Wedding Bells are Ringing
Is the Best Comedy Song of the season. It will certainly be the rage of every town in the Country.
A limited number of Pantomimes will be granted at Two Guineas each.

Queen of the Land of Pearl and Gold
By J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban (co-authors of Queen of Old Samara and Won't You Go to Go-go?), is a charming and fascinating song for Pantomime purposes.
A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

APPLY TO
CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, SHAFTESBURY AV.

EMPIRE.—Chairman and Manager, Mr. John Young.—Chas. M. Daly's company pays a welcome return visit with *Men were Deceivers Ever*. The Bros. O'Gorman amply justify their description of nimble; F. S. Peake presents a Cromwellian episode; the Two Countees are well applauded. Entertaining and meritorious items are given by Chas. Grantley, Tony Black, Harry Conlin, Rosie Coleman, and Miss Mi-Narom. The Empiroscope concludes.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here with *Charley's Aunt*. Miss Phyllis Back is a charming Amy, being ably seconded by Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty; Miss Audrey Stafford is quite at home as Donna Lucia; Miss Janet Gillette as Ela Delahay is much appreciated; Mr. Francis Drake is a natural Jack Chesney; Mr. Robert Burnett an admirable Charles Wykeham; and Mr. Theo. McCausland as Col. Chesney and Mr. Henry Hare as Stephen Spettigue are excellently suited, Mr. Sydney Compton as Brassett being exceedingly droll. The chief success of the play, however, is the amusing portrayal by Mr. Hugh Wakefield of Babs.

BATH SALOONS.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. G. Courtney.—The Joseph Poole Myriorama, under the direction of Mr. J. Wellesley Poole, has been doing good business here. Excellent variety turns are contributed by Eileen and May, in a musical speciality; the Victas, acrobatic barrel jumpers; and the Four Wartanas, in a clever juggling turn.

TREHERBERT.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A Tottcn.—Crowded houses enjoy the really fine pictures; Miss Elene Briton, the midget singer, sings some very pleasing songs; Rozel does startling tricks on the rope and rings, and Herbert Bartlett and company cause roars of laughter in their sketch, *The Collar Stud*.

TYLDESLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Brierley.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is here in *As Your Hair Grows Whiter*. Mr. Hubert Jones is an earnest and manly Rev. John Alberry; a finished study of Farmer Walters is presented by Mr. R. Nelme Crasswell; Mr. Percy St. Clair distinguishes himself in the part of Jack Walters; Mr. Louis Weston is an amusing Mozart; Miss Agnes Collier a sweet and pathetic Alice Walters; Mrs. Walters receives a clever rendering from Miss Florence Delmar; Miss Emily Lewis is a capital Nurse Von Grip, and Miss Lily Fuller an efficient Diana Vanderbout.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE.—Proprietors, Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Messrs. J. E. Watson and C. T. Doe's No. 1 Company in *Priscilla Runs Away* is attracting large and appreciative audiences. In the title-rôle, Miss Beatrice Lindley scores a decided success, her acting throughout being admirable; Miss Eve Mansell gives a delightful rendition of the Duchess of Gerstein; Miss Madge Elswick makes the most of her opportunities as Annalise; and Miss Annie Stalman's humorous portrayal of Mrs. Morrison could not be improved upon. Mr. Clifton Alderson makes a dignified and efficient Grand Duke; Prince Henry is admirably impersonated by Mr. Leslie Owen; Mr. J. Edward Pearce gives an effective delineation of Herr Fritzing; Mr. Cecil Clayton is well placed as Dr. Billitson; Mr. Leslie Ryecroft is successful as Robin Morrison; and the rôle of Sir Augustus Shuttleworth is excellently depicted by Mr. Cyril Bruce.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The Wakefield Operatic Society occupy the stage this week with an excellent performance of *The Gondoliers*, in aid of local charities. The production reflects great credit upon the efforts of Mr. Henry Leffler (of the Savoy Theatre), who has been coach to the company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Tom Davis Trio, in their sensational motor-cycling act in mid-air, have a good reception; the Geraldos display great strength in a clever equilibristic act; Josh Dixon is a diverting comedian; the Rosses prove expert dancers; Barrie and Wood (Dolly and Juan), comedy duo, are popular; Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland present a successful musical absurdity; Jack Charles, tenor vocalist, sings admirably; and Francesca is entertaining with vocal pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The pictures are again fine, and varieties are supplied by Durazcoe and Azella, clever hand balancers, and the Lawsons, smart dancers.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The Royal Banzai Family, who perform marvellous and daring feats, are a big attraction here this week; Keene and Adams, in their singing and dancing duo, are as popular as ever; Daisy Taylor is a refined and fascinating Scotch comedienne, her singing and dancing being highly appreciated; an amusing turn is provided by Fayre and Manning, comedians, who win hearty applause; Millie and Arthur score successfully in their vocal drawing-room act; and the Four Scoreys cause hilarity in their musical mélange; the Sisters Maynard are dainty duettists and dancers of exceptional ability; and Lila Vesta is a graceful and charming comedienne.

PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McDonald.—A powerful picture programme is presented at this favourite hall, headed by The Attack on the Mill, which is proving to be a big attraction. A welcome variety interlude is provided by Geo. R. Moncrieff, tenor, who is a vocalist of exceptional ability, and scores a huge success.

TYNE PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McHarg.—The Eight Royal Kino Juveniles, under the direction of Mr. Le Kane, are paying a welcome return visit to this popular place of amusement, and prove themselves to be talented vocalists and dancers. A good selection of pictures is also provided, including The Rosary and Twa Hieland Lads.

WALSALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Miss Geraldine Montrose and company are here in *A Woman and Two Men*. The part of Madeline Morden is in the capable hands of Miss Montrose; Mr. Harold B. Lewis makes a capital Jack Maxwell; a clever study of the unscrupulous Philip Collister is given by Mr. Edward Vivian; in the rôle of Elsie Warner Miss Phillis Spalding proves herself a charming actress, and the part of Guy Maynard is sustained by Mr. J.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

THE SENSATION OF THE YEAR!
A PANTOMIME WITHOUT THIS SONG WILL BE LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A RUDDER.

EQUALLY SUITS BOY, GIRL, FAIRY QUEEN, AND DUETTISTS.

Band Parts in medium and high keys, 1s. per set. Chorus Slides, 1s. each. Throwaways (words and music of refrain) with Singer's name, 2s. 1000 (2s. 500). "YOUR EYES" WALTZ, Full Orch., 2s. Septet 1s. 4d. (half price professionals).

NIGHTINGALE & CO., 20, NASSAU ST., MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. Telephone 3535 Mayfair.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

Andsell Wilson with much earnestness. Vivienne Verney is well represented by Miss Alice Corri, and Miss Winifred Rutland gives a capital rendering of Sybil Maynard; Mr. Harry Harrop is seen to advantage as Jim Briton.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Pride of place is this week held by Harry Ford, whose breezy style makes him an established favourite; a wonderful canine act is done by Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies; the Sutcliffe Family, a troupe of Scottish acrobats, pipers, and dancers, win well-earned applause; the Musical McGregors, in selections on the xylophone, concertinas, etc., are applauded; Carl and Carr, comedians and patterers, have a smart little interlude; Lillian Farrar is a refined comedienne and dancer; Alf Chester is very amusing with his football song, and the Bioscope concludes a first-class entertainment.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees, the Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull.—Mr. Harry Newman presents *What a Man Made Her*. Mr Phil Harper scores as Dr. Mark Haven; a really excellent impersonation of Rupert Dancecombe comes from Mr. W. J. Butler; Mr. Charles K. Francis shows ability in his impersonation of Sir Ernest Cavendish; Mr. Harry Ugar makes a realistic moneylender; Mr. Paterson is capital as Evans; Mr. J. Lindsay, as Lord Taporley, also acts with distinction; the Lady Gorrinking of Miss V. Thomas is a sound impersonation; Miss K. Murgatroyd is seen to advantage as Nurse Arden; Miss Dorothy Dewhurst shows conspicuous ability as Deborah; Miss Nora Kingsley is excellent as Elfrida; and Lady Thora Dancecombe is finely undertaken by Miss Beatrice Shirley. The arduous rôle of Jean McAllister is faultlessly sustained by Miss Renee Glendower.

WATERFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland* attracted large and appreciative audiences during the latter part of the week. As Miss Hook Miss Nan Stuart at once made herself a favourite by her tasteful singing and graceful dancing; as Mr. Hook Mr. Alfred Wellesley was very humorous; Miss Maud Denny was excellent as Mina; Mr. Charles Ross as Ludwig Schnapps was remarkably good; Mr. Harry Brayne as Simon Slinks was irresistibly funny; Mr. Maunsell Stringer as the bandmaster, Van Vuyt, presented a good study; and Mr. Arthur Mansey, Mr. Lacey Mills, and Miss Cherrie Hardy filled their respective parts well.

WATFORD.—Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, assisted by Miss Eileen Dartrey, are the star attraction in their comedietta, *My Lady's Chamber*, this week; Henri Bekker and Miss Maie appear in a comedy conjuring act of merit; and a much-appreciated item of a bright programme is the performance of The Markies in *The Professor's Studio*, in which Miss Marie French is very good; Field and Mansell, lightning oil-painters and jugglers, are clever; and Rose Camboy, Ada and Gert, Dan Daly, and Arthur Albert complete the entertainment.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—King's Palace.—There is not a dull moment in the two hours' programme. Kitty Marion sings delightfully; Harris and Tweed are a fine pair of comedians; and Alex Thomas is also a great success. The Bonheur Trio are an attractive turn.

Empire.—Another great attraction is presented this week in Harry Tate's *Motoring*, which is immensely successful. Rolf Slater is an accomplished vocalist and mimic. The films are of more than usual interest.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn is presenting *British Born*, in which Miss Sidney Crowe appears to great advantage as Mary Hope, and Mr. Herbert Skardon as George Seymour has a part which he admirably sustains. Mr. Geoff Sutherland as Laban Brood is also good, and the Nancy Treat of Miss May Dana is also a clever study.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden.—At this place of amusement Mr. William Pardoe is producing *Dick Whittington*. Miss Lottie Holland is a charming Dick, Miss Cissy Lenore as Alice Fitzwarren, Miss Rose Finnittie as Lord Dedbroke, Mies Elsie Kedward as Princess Preciosa, and Miss Cissy Loveday as Fairy Bowbelle, all do their parts excellently. Monsieur Pauli, as the Cat, is wonderfully clever.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The principal item on the programme this week is *Bank Holiday in* [illegible], a production full of comedy and melody. Adam Tomlinson, the Tyneside comedian, is also an old favourite who never fails to please. The musical entertainment of Diamond and Beatrice is admirable; King's College Boys in solos and concerted pieces are appreciated; some smart acrobatic feats are performed by the Saletos; Geoffreys and Benson successfully present one of their popular sketches; and Leonie Dixon is a smart dancer.

WEST STANLEY. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company with *The Cingalee* is here this week. The part of the Hon. Harry Vereker is capitally filled by Mr. Frank Barclay; Mr. Herbert Franklin is an admirable Bobby Warren; Mr. Hylton Warde as Chambhuddy Ram is funny; Mr. Frank Lennard as Boobhamba acquits himself creditably; Mr. Herbert L. Maistre is well placed as Sir Peter; and as Myancah Mr. Frank Crichton is excellent; Miss Isa Bowman is an attractive Nanoya, and Miss Florrie Greensmith a vivacious Peggy Sabini.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell.—The Four Hicks head the bill here; Jaddo Wallah, Hindoo necromancer, is interesting, and Carl Cynski, the Hungarian one-man band, is a big success. Some excellent pictures are shown.

WEXFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—The ever-popular La Comedie Anglaise company, under the direction of the well-known Mr. Wm. L. Dobell, has been here for the early part of the week. On Monday *A Child Shall Lead Them* was performed. Mr. Oscar Wyatt was well suited to the part of the Hon. Eustace Warde, and Mr. Page Ware was a cool and cynical Sir Robert Burleigh. Mr. W. L. Dobell as Dick Lester acted with great feeling, and Mr. Percy Dewhurst gave a powerful rendering of the rôle of Ned Hudson. Mr. Horace Morton Wright as Billy Tidger kept the audience in good humour. Miss Nora Baker as Violet Warde was natural and convincing, and Miss Lilian Fenn was sincere and sympathetic as Meena Warde. Miss Eva Ballard was well placed as the maid, Elizabeth Ann, and a special word of praise is due to little Nelly Melbourne, who played Essie Warde cleverly.

WEYMOUTH.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company is appearing in *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Maitland Marler gives a humorous rendering of Captain James Barley, and Miss Hilda Vaughan is a charming Ethel Smedley; Mr. A. Russell-Davis is very effective as Lieutenant Seton Boyle, R.N., and Mr. A. E. Jackson, as the fiery Major Smedley, is well received; Mr. Gerald Carter's Herbert Manners is a careful study; Mr. Frank Lilliput is a realistic exponent of Mr. Porter; and Miss Mabyn Fay a typical Mrs. Porter; and Mr. Fred Lake, as Dibbs, is very droll; Miss Gwenllyan Cattell is a winsome Lucy Dallas; Miss Rose Case a dignified Mrs Smedley, and Mrs. Henry Renouf gives a finished impersonation of Mrs. Baldwin; Mr. Hugh Trevor, as Tom Codd, and Mr. Ivor Barnard, as Augustus, are both good. The piece is uncommonly well staged, the Barge scene being especially effective

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. Gar-Kiddie and F. Bray.—Mr. Herbert Sleath's company are staging this week *A White Man*. Mr. Frank E. Petley as Jim Carston presents a fine character study, and one that impresses and appeals to the audience; and Miss Dorothy Edwards gives an almost perfect representation of the difficult rôle of Nat-u-ritch, the Indian girl. The other characters are all admirably sustained, notably that of Cash Hawkins by Mr. Vernon Sansbury, Big Bill (Mr. John M. East), and Tab-y-wana, Peace Chief of the Utes (Mr. Oswald Linzold).

Co-operative Hall.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—A capital bill is provided here, the turns being presented by the Bijou Troupe of Juveniles; Messrs. J. Peale and W. Brodway, comedians and dancers; Mr. Fred Escador, and Mr. Harry May, both up-to-date humorists.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company, Ltd.—*The Bad Girl of the Family* is being presented here. Miss Florrie Kelsey gives a capital impersonation of Bess Moore; Miss Alice Esther Belmore makes a charming Gladys Erskine; Mr. R. Marius St. John acts with telling force as Lieut. Marsh; Mr. Sydney Lynn gives a powerful representation of Harry Gordon. The humorous characters are capably filled by Miss Nellie James as Sally Smithers, Mr. Barnett Lando as Barney Gordon, and Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Sammy Snozzle.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Hayman and Franklin cause endless laughter in their sketch, *A Matrimonial Agency; No. 99*, finely presented by Mr. Frank Lister and company, is an intense and keenly-appreciated playlet; J. W. Hall's reception is an enthusiastic one; Beatrice English is applauded for operatic selections; J. P. Carrol is a skilful tambourinist; St. George Sylvesta mystifies the audience with his tricks; the Savoleys are clever acrobats; Phillips and Bristow sing and dance themselves into favour; and other acceptable turns are given by Lily Hayes, comedienne and dancer, and Fallows and Beaumont, in a novel vocal comedy act.

WISBECH.—Selwyn Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Gates.—We have received a visit here for two nights from Miss Inez Howard's company, in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, which proved a great success. Mr. William J. Rea did excellently as Prince Michael; as Prince Olaf Mr. Chas. A. Baker acquitted himself capitally; whilst Mr. Alfred Brandon gave a good rendering of Prince Hildred of Sylvania; as Monica, Princess of Illyria, Miss Ethel Saville displayed much ability; Mr. J. D. Brannigan as Captain Hector and Miss Gladys Mosswright as Viola also deserve mention. Miss Loie Esmond's company, presenting *The Love Birds*, is here for the three concluding evenings of this week. Mr. F. H. Dale was good as Colonel Fritters, as was also Mr. Edward Neville as Ferdinand Fluff. Miss Esmond caused much amusement as Araminta 'Awkins.

WISHAW, N.B.—Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse.—The Three Biers (the living rubber balls) give a smart tumbling turn here this week; Tony Hoppit and Terry, in their comedy act, *The Coster's Derby Day*, are amusing; George Madigan introduces a clever troupe of performing dogs; Little Eileen is a dainty and popular comedienne; Eugene and Willie, in a novel musical and acrobatic turn, are good. Some excellent Bioscope films conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—Lovers of ultra-sensational are well catered for this week by the engagement of Mrs. Frank Bateman's company in Charles Darrell's *Where Angels Fear to Tread*. The Hon. Maurice Masterman has an excellent exponent in Mr. Fred. W. Goddard; Mr. George Herbert is sufficiently inane as St. Diderington; Mr. George Butler as Bert Taylor is the embodiment of brutal depravity, and has an able partner in Mr. Will White as Jim Sadler. Mr. Percy Shaw does good work as Herbert Sloggins; in Araminta Parsons Mrs. Frank Bateman has a part which affords ample scope for the display of those human passions she can so ably portray; Miss Emma Rainbow acts with dignity as Lady Margaret Austinleigh; Miss Dulcia Lawrence is a realistic Lady Clarina Clelland; and Miss Fanny Olive as Selina Sticcles and Miss Mattie Everett as Bedelia Brixton both render good service.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Auguste Van Biene and company are appearing here in *Karl's Luck*. Mr. George H. Child lends a touch of realism to the part of Ned Christie; Miss Dorothy Radford is a sweet and womanly Margaret Dane. Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in *The Piano Tuner*, provide plenty of fun; Joe and Hetty Waldron are a particularly smart comedy duo; and the programme also includes Joe Hunt, comedian, the Falcons, acrobatic eccentrics, Happy Attwood, comedian, and Radie Stuart, comedienne and dancer.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Macnamara.—Monsieur E. Lavigne's Eight Charming Daughters of Eve are making a first appearance in a series of living pictures, representing famous works of art, and have achieved a decided success; Victoria Carmen and H. A. Griffiths make a welcome reappearance in their amusing musical turn, and Carter's Ten Dixie Girls appear in a vocal and dancing scena, entitled "The Silver Coon"; Will McIvor's tenor soliloquy and oldtime melodies are attractive; and "Who Is It?" achieves popularity; Ethel Dancy and Maude Beaumont are talented vocalists, and Vivian Forster's recitals, with Bioscope pictures, complete.

WORTHINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—During the first three nights of this week Mr. Harold Lloyd's company with *The Passing of the Third Floor Back* has met with a good reception. Mr. Hodgson Taylor as the passer-by won much applause. The following three nights *The Master of the Mill* held the boards.

Carnegie Hall. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—Good houses, as usual, maintain the reputation of the Hall, and the pictures this week are exceedingly good. The variety turns are Douglas and Gordon and Nellie Nora, both of whom are well received.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—A splendid variety show is being given here this week, and at the head of the bill is Bosanquet, the human violin, who charms his audience with selections from the works of great composers, as well as other items. Howe and Ardie give a clever comedy gymnastic act, and Bu-val is a happy Dutchman, who proves to be inseparable from his concertina; Stuart Paton shows that he is a character actor of no mean order, and the Belmonts dance cleverly; the Three Louberts give a good knockabout show, and Fifi Gordon and her quartette are entertaining, whilst catchy songs are sung by Connie Isca. A Bioscope picture of the Portuguese Revolution completes the programme.

YNYSHIR.—Workmen's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Some capital pictures are exhibited here, viz., Percy the Cowboy, Military Tournament, The Red Man's Way, The Short-sighted Errand Boy, The Sisters, and Shooting Flying Dogs. The vaudeville element is sustained by the Five M.P.'s in an up-to-date musical speciality; and Miss Daisy Graham and her troupe of educated birds and baby dog "Nap." The Cinephone has the latest chorus songs.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Brewster's Millions* has drawn crowded houses during the week. Mr. Percy Hutchison revels in the part of Brewster, delighting all by his excellent performance. Mr. Aubrey Mather gives a clever, breezy performance of McLeod; Mr. Gordon Ash in the somewhat unpleasant part of Charlie Harrison is at once a success; and Mr. Otho Hazelwood is excellent. As Peggy, Miss Dorothy Whitaker could scarcely be improved upon. Miss Lilias Earle makes a fascinating Mrs. Dan de Mille, and Miss Phyllis Stucky is a handsome Barbara Drew. Miss May Seton does exceptionally well as Trixie Clayton.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Miss Stella Gastelle in *La Poupée* has drawn large audiences during the week. She is an accomplished representative of a popular part. Mr. Leon Simkin also does well; Ethelda is a wonderful athlete; and the dancing of Mr. Herbert Martine is an outstanding feature. Alice Gill is a sweet singer of popular songs, and Signor Persichini is a mandolinist of merit. Sewell and Dudley appear in a smart sketch, and Rastus and Banks are coloured artists who never fail to please.

Mlle. Gaby Deslys, who played the part of the Demi-Vierge in a piece by Rip at the Theatre des Capucines, Paris, a few months since, wore a turban suggestive of a sultana from the "Thousand and One Arabian Nights." It was of pale red silk, and was surmounted by an enormous aigrette. The turban was "created" by a fashionable milliner, and when the actress appeared wearing it, the milliner naturally expected to benefit from the advertisement. But a rival milliner in the Rue de la Paix came forward and declared that the turban had emanated from her establishment. At the same time, in an announcement which, according to a contract with an agent of publicity, should have appeared under the portrait of the actress in the theatre programme, had the name of her milliner suppressed. The "creator" of the turban claimed damages for unfair competition. Her case was heard last week, when she was awarded 25 louis.

A MUSICIAN AND INNKEEPER.

MR. W. J. O'CONNOR.

This young and successful musician has been connected with the theatrical profession almost from the cradle. During Mr. Alfred Hemmings' prosperous direction of the Grand Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M., he was everything by turns. He delivered bills, he assisted the local scenic artist, he devilled for that much-abused individual the resident property man; but his bent was for music. He had, as a child, taken to the fiddle, and for some years he was first violinist in the Grand Theatre, Douglas. Since then he has been musical conductor with Charles Elderton's "Toreadors," the Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne, the Empire Theatre, Douglas, the Grand Theatre, Douglas. He also played at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, the Hippodrome, Wigan, and the Hippodrome, Glasgow.

This is the first winter for six years that he has elected to stay in his native land of Mona where he has married. He is able to supply a band of three or four performers for small concerts or a full orchestra for special occasions, and many entertainments obtain in Hall Caine Land, even in the winter, in addition to theatrical shows at certain seasons. Mr. O'Connor has for a considerable period been the proprietor of the Oddfellows' Arms, a quaint hostelry situated on the old Quay, Douglas. During the many years in which he and his father, Fitz O'Connor, have lived here—"Fitzy's" theatrical recollections go back for half a century—they have known all the leading lights of the theatrical profession. The Oddfellows' Arms has been transformed into a real Caravanserai for the travelling artist. The smoking-room is full of memories—day bills setting forth that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean appeared for a week in repertoire at the playhouse in Wellington-street; that Miss Charlotte Cushman, Mr. Edward Askew Sothern, Charles Mathews, and nearly all the great ones also strutted on its boards; while such actors as Mr. James Fernandez, Mr. John Coleman, and Mr. John Wainwright were members of the stock company.

To the older actor the Oddfellows' Arms is the Rosemary of the past; to the new generation the

[*Photo by Windsor.*

MR. W. J. O'CONNOR.

old prints, the faded day bills present an object-lesson of what their predecessors accomplished in the way of study and work. They are confronted in print with the fact, framed on the wall, that at a benefit tendered to Miss Ellen Tree on Dec. 2, 1841, after playing in Sheridan Knowles' romantic drama *Love*, and having parts in the play which followed, wherein the beneficiaire also appeared, Mrs. H. Webb and Mr. William Rignold danced a *pas de deux*.

Since Mr. O'Connor's proprietorship it has become the home in Manxland of the great artist and the little actor. They are both equally welcome, and they will be both equally entertained with the quaintness of the environment and the value of treasures collected by "Fitz" and his son.

The Kaiser prepared a pleasant surprise for the Empress's birthday last Sunday, in the form of a concert given at Potsdam after dinner by Signor Caruso and Mme. Geraldine Farrar. The Royal automobile was sent to Berlin to fetch the singers. Mme. Farrar, by special request sang the old Irish song, "The Bluebell" and the old English song, "The lass with the delicate air." The Kaiser chatted for some time with Signor Caruso, asking him how he found the acoustics of the famous Jasper Gallery, where the concert was given, and appointed him honorary Court vocalist.

"Molière was only fifty-one when he died, the same age attained by Lessing and Balzac," writes Mr. Brander Matthews in an article in the *North American Review*. "Shakespeare survived to be fifty-two, as Thackeray survived to be fifty-three. This comparatively premature death has an importance of its own. Even if they may have done their work thus early and have put forth all their powers before they died, they were deprived of that lingering aftermath of fame which came to Voltaire and Goethe and Victor Hugo by the fact of survival beyond the threescore years and ten. In the external circumstances of their several careers Shakespeare and Molière are often curiously alike. They were both born in prosperous households of the middle class; and they were not stinted in their youth, although the affairs of both fathers may have become embarrassed later. Shakespeare may have gone to the grammar school at Stratford; and Molière went to the best school in Paris, getting a more thorough training. Neither of them ever achieved the wide erudition of Lessing, still less the minute scholarship of Racine. Both broke away from their homes to become actors; and both after acting for a while undertook to write plays. Both began modestly as dramatists, content at first to imitate and patch up earlier work. Even when they had given over this prentice labour, their earlier pieces contained little promise of their later mastery. In *Love's Labour's Lost* and in the *Etourdi* we can see clever young writers striving to show off their cleverness, delighting in their own fantasies, and not yet knowing enough about life itself to be willing to rely on it unaided. Molière was the manager of his company, while Shakespeare was only one of several partners in his; and both of them had a shrewd sagacity in business affairs, governing their private fortunes with skill, putting money out at interest and amassing a comfortable reserve. Both of them liked the good things of life; and neither of them took an austere view of mankind. Shakespeare was as little attracted towards the Puritan as Molière was towards the Jansenist."

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our own correspondents.)

MELBOURNE, Sept. 14.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.—The opera company closed its season here on Saturday evening, when *Madam Butterfly* was performed, with Miss Amy Castles in the prima donna rôle, Cho-Cho-San. There were calls for the principals after the curtain had fallen. Miss Castles received a round of applause, and Signor Hazon, the conductor of the orchestra, also met with acknowledgment. Mr. Henry Bracy made a short speech, and thanked the public for the support accorded to the company. The theatre will be closed for four nights. On Friday evening the sporting play *The Whip* will be introduced.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—Hall Caine's drama, *Pete*, attracted a crowded audience on Saturday evening, when the pathetic incidents of the play were watched with close interest. Owing to engagements already entered into in London, Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton will be unable to play a second season here, and will appear at this theatre for only ten nights more. *Sergeant Brue* will be staged on Sept. 24, when Clarke and Meynell's new English Comic Opera Company will make its reappearance.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—An excellent programme on Saturday drew a house crowded to the doors. Mr. Morris Cronin repeated his dexterous juggling feats, being well supported by his two comic assistants; Mr. Fred Bluett's skit on the Boy Scouts is still one of the most popular items on the programme; the entertaining duologues by Powell and Vesey continue to win favour; graceful Gracie Grahame, Fanny Powers, Johnny Gilmore, Will White, the Waratah duo, and Irving Sayles were also well received. Mr. Fred Aydon, Mr. Rickards' popular manager, has lately been suffering from a severe cold, but is now quite himself again.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—After a most successful season, *When London Sleeps* was withdrawn on Friday in favour of an entirely new Australian drama, entitled *The Winning Ticket*, which was staged for the first time on Saturday. Mr. Roy Redgrave eclipsed himself as the Count; Mr. George Cross and Miss Eugenie Duggan were never seen to greater advantage; Mr. Bert Bailey must have enjoyed the novelty of a "straight" part; Mr. Edmund Duggan and Mr. Temple Harrison provided good studies as the Count's evil associates; so, too, did Mr. Rutland Becket as the laconic monosyllabic Biggs; a queer, quaint, and comical figure was Mr. Gus Franks. Miss Olive Wilton, Miss Lillie Bryer, and Miss Fanny Erris deserve warm commendation for their efforts; and Mr. Edwin Campbell gave a wholesome representation of Kookaburra's owner; Little Nellie Macdonald made a good newsboy. The scenic studies were from the brushes of Messrs. Rege Robins and John Ricketts, and included, amongst other well-known landmarks, a fine view of Flemington racecourse on Cup day. Judging from the enthusiastic reception accorded *The Winning Ticket* it should enjoy a long and prosperous run.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—There was a large attendance here on Saturday evening, when Mr. James Brennan introduced several new artists. These included a clever comedian in the person of Mr. A. Holt, who comes from Chicago with good credentials. Mr. Holt sang, cracked jokes, and manifested his powers of merriment for twenty minutes. Messrs. Wills and Hassan proved themselves to be acrobats of a high standard. Other artists who contributed to a first-class all-round programme included Delavale and Gilbert, Miss Lily Vockler, Mr. J. Kearns, and a host of others.

West's Pictures at West's Palace, Spencer's Theatrescope company at Olympia, Tait's Pictures at Athenæum Hall, and Hoyt's Pictures at St. George's Hall all submitted excellent programmes to crowded houses on Saturday.

SYDNEY, Sept. 13.—Messrs. Harry Plimmer and Reynolds Denniston, both prominent actors, have combined with Mr. Allan Hamilton in producing that sweetest of comedies, *Lovers' Lane*, at the Theatre Royal for the only two weeks during which the popular theatre is available. A feature of this short season is the return to the Australian stage of Mrs. Robert Brough, who made Mrs. Herbert Woodbridge an important element in the cast. Every scene is safe whenever Mrs. Brough is on in it; and Mr. Harry Plimmer is the Rev. Thomas Singleton, whose beneficence is malconstrued by the pious (?) tabbies of the parish. It is a fine interpretation of a manly rôle—just what was expected. To Mr. Reynolds Denniston falls the divorced Herbert Woodbridge, and he gets all possible value out of the trust reposed in him. One of "our own" clever youngsters, Miss Lizette Parkes, wins all and sundry hearts by her ingenuous work as Simplicity Johnson, the tomboy waif befriended by the hospitable parson. Two excellently acted persons are Aunt Martha by Miss Alice Deorwyn and Uncle Bill by Mr. Harry Neville; they are exceedingly clever and entertaining. Miss Valentine Sidney gives much importance to the crisp but kind hearted housekeeper, Miss Mattie; a sweet personage is Mary Larkin as Miss Winifred Austin lets us see her; Miss Beatrice Usher is a spiteful schoolmistress; and she joins Misses Tempe Pigott, C. Edington Byrne, and Alice Holroyd, who are the tabbies—Mrs. Henry Brown, Mrs. Steele, and Mrs. Jennings. A truculent Deacon Steele is Mr. S. A. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Charles Throsby presents a hearty, open-minded Henry Brown. Delightful scenery by Mr. Harry Waite adds a charm which is genuinely appreciated by the large audiences.

"The Orchid" is crowding Her Majesty's at present. Meanwhile the J. C. Williamson Royal Comic Opera Company is actively rehearsing *Our Miss Gibbs* for its first Australian production on the 24th. The firm brings back its Grand Opera Company to the Royal on the 24th, with Mr. Reginald Roberts this time as its tenor, a position in which Sydney has not hitherto seen or heard him.

Messrs. Allan Hamilton and Max Maxwell have by arrangement with Mr. Blair Holt, revived *A Woman's Revenge* at the Palace Theatre. This time the principal parts are played by Miss Beatrice Holloway (May Lonsdall), Mr. Max Maxwell (Frank Drummond), Mr. Charles Brown (Jeptha Grimwade), and Miss Nellie Strong (Mabel Wentworth). So far there have been hundreds turned away each night.

The Tivoli has the great turn of the Kremo Family as its star attraction, and a very attractive item is now added by four local singers, who are billed as the "Australian Golddiggers." These gentlemen do some charming part-singing round a camp fire, and gave an interesting change in Mr. Rickards' plethoric programme.

West's Pictures are back at the spacious Glaciarium for the summer, Spencer's Theatrescope still flourishes.

The new Adelphi Theatre, now in course of construction on the site of the demolished Paddy's Market, will be the largest theatre in Australasia.

The *Comedy of Errors* formed part of the Gray's Inn Revels in 1594. On this occasion the crowd was so great that on their arrival the players could not find room to perform until the angry withdrawal of the guests from the Temple, when "the throngs and tumults did somewhat cease."

There will be a concert of British Chamber Music at the South-place Institute on Sunday. The programme includes works by Holbrooke, Dan Boyes (a new name), and Mme. Verne-Bredt; while Mr. Gordon Cleather will sing songs by Edith Swepstone, Walford Davies, Hamilton Harty, Graham Peel, Roger Quilter, and Cyril Scot.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

THE BEECHAM SEASON,
"FIDELIO."
(In German.)

Pizarro	Mr. Clarence Whitehill
Florestan	Mr. Joseph O'Mara
Leonora	Miss Gleeson-White
Rocco	Mr. Allen Hinckley
Marcellina	Mme. Beatrice La Palme
Jacquino	Mr. Maurice D'Oisly
Il Ministro	Mr. Gaston Sargeant

So seldom is Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*, performed, that special interest was taken by a large audience in Mr. Thomas Beecham's revival of this noble work on Saturday night, Oct. 22, for *Fidelio* has not been given at Covent Garden since 1907, when Mme. Ternina appeared as Leonora, the opera being conducted by M. Ysaye. Owing to Miss Edyth Walker's indisposition, the part of the devoted wife was undertaken at very short notice by Miss Gleeson-White, who acted gracefully and at times sang with considerable power, particularly in the prison scene, in which occurs the finest music of the opera. Mr. Allan Hinckley as the kind-hearted gaoler, Rocco, sang with splendid effect, and the superb impersonation of Pizarro by Mr. Clarence Whitehill lent distinction to the performance. The duet between Rocco and Pizarro was admirably sung by both artists. Florestan's music was ably rendered by Mr. Joseph O'Mara, and Mme. Beatrice La Palme proved an excellent Marcellina; Mr. Maurice D'Oisly and Mr. Gaston Sargeant were successful in the parts of Jacquino and Il Ministro. Mr. Percy Pitt conducted, and the excellent performance after the second act of the Leonora No. 3 overture was greeted with loud applause.

"RIGOLETTO."

Gilda	Miss Mignon Nevada
Maddalena	Mme. Edna Thornton
Giovanna	Miss Lena Maitland
Contessa di Ceprano	Miss Violet Williams
Il Duca	Mr. Bendinelli
Rigoletto	Mr. Giuseppe de Luca
Sparafucile	Mr. Murray Davey
Borsa	Mr. Leon de Sousa
Marullo	Mr. Charles Knowles

A fine performance of Verdi's melodious opera *Rigoletto*, in Italian, was given by Mr. Thomas Beecham's company at Covent Garden, on Tuesday night. Mlle. Mignon Nevada, who has already created so good an impression, made a charming Gilda, while her youthful appearance was consistent with the part. "Caro Nome" was beautifully sung, and Mlle. Nevada might easily have taken an encore, so abundant was the applause. As the libertine duke Signor Bendinelli sang well, displaying a light tenor voice of pleasing character heard to great advantage in his duet with Gilda and the always popular "La Donna e Mobile." Signor Bendinelli also had a graceful presence and proved himself a skilled actor. Signor Giuseppe de Luca gave a powerful reading of Rigoletto's part, unconventional and convincing in its truth and graphic realism. Mme. Edna Thornton was excellent as Maddalina, and the famous quartet went superbly, while the fine voice of Mr. Murray Davey made the part of Sparafucile very effective. Miss Lena Maitland appeared as Giovanna, and the other characters were ably sustained by Miss Violet Williams, Mr. Leon de Sousa, and Mr. Charles Knowles. Signor Camilieri conducted, and Verdi's old opera went with spirit throughout.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Wednesday evening had many interesting features. Miss Gladys Platt's piano solo, "L'Ondine" (Chaminade), opened the programme, and was followed by the lively waltz song from Ed. German's *Tom Jones*, effectively sung by Miss Iris Rainbow. In Schumann's "Two Grenadiers" Mr. Stanley F. Ayres showed intelligence and some regard for dramatic expression; and Miss Minna Sears gave a pleasing rendering of Lambert's "She is far from the land." An important item in the concert was a capital performance of César Franck's Sonata for Piano and Violin in A major, by two advanced pupils of the school, Miss Audrey Richardson and Mr. Eric H. Zardo. Miss Richardson, a talented pupil of Mr. Johannes Wolff, has often won approval and many prizes as a violinist, and her performance of a by no means easy task was warmly applauded; while her associate, Mr. Zardo, equally distinguished himself. Miss Gladys McAuslane, the other violinist in the concert, had a very hearty recall after a clever performance of Ries's "Adagio"; and when Miss Millicent E. McIntyre has greater confidence or more experience, she will do justice to a really fine voice, as her singing of "O flower of all the world" (Woodforde-Finden) was expressive. Mr. Herbert Wild sang "The Jasmine Door" (Scott); and Mr. Arthur O. Duley may be commended for his careful playing of Chopin's Ballade in G minor. No example of the composer can be called easy, but Mr. Duley would have had greater success in one of the Etudes than the more exacting Ballade. Miss Ethel Badrick was set down for "Eleanore" (Coleridge-Taylor); and variety was given to the programme by the clever dancing of Miss Vera Jones, pupil of Mr. B. Soutten, and a recitation, "The Leaguer of Lucknow" (Henry Hamilton), ably given by Miss Ellen Rice, Miss Kate Rorke's pupil. Miss Jenny Hyman, professor, was the accompanist.

Mr. Earl Gandy, an American entertainment "King," has a scheme for building a summer theatre and palace within a mile and a quarter of Olympia. The stage is to have a 170ft. opening and a depth of 100ft., and upon this Mr. Gandy proposes to give spectacular entertainments in which a thousand people will be seen on the stage at one time. Seating accommodation for 3,500 people, a promenade leaving room for 2,000 strollers, a garden entrance, with flower-beds and crystal fountains, tea terraces dotted with 1,000 chairs, a garage for five or six hundred cars, a huge waiting-room for chauffeurs, several restaurants, billiard-rooms, and the largest lounge in the world are other features of Mr. Gandy's astonishing project.

In a lecture on Shakespeare's connection with London, given by Mr. Sidney Lee at the "Times Book Club" on Wednesday, the lecturer reminded his hearers that in Shakespeare's day there were fields and pleasure grounds right up to the walls of the City itself, which were genuine walls still, with frowning and formidable gates. Outside there was no lack of houses—villas, cottages, palaces—but among them were innumerable gardens and open spaces, kept inviolate from further buildings—for the time—by rigid enactments of the authorities, who had grown by then as keen on suburban hygiene as any "garden city" council. The Sunday walk through the London meadows would probably have given the Elizabethan botanist an opportunity of gathering every flower in the herbal.

One use of these open fields that Mr. Lee specially noted as having been significantly familiar to Shakespeare was that of the drilling of the trained bands—the "Terriers" of Shakespeare's day. It was Captain Dumain of *All's Well that Ends Well* who "instructed for the doubling of files" at Mile End, but whose "soldiership" consisted in "leading the drum before the English tragedians." It was Justice Shallow who learnt his fencing at Mile End Green, where he "played Sir Dagonet" there "in Arthur's show." Incidentally Mr. Lee observed that Shakespeare probably witnessed the actual building of the old house—No. 17, Fleet-street, over the Temple gateway, which was set up in 1610 as "The Prince's Arms," and still shows the three feathers in its decorations.

"JOHN BERKELEY'S GHOST."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick, Produced at the Royal County Theatre, Bedford, on Thursday, Oct. 27.

Lady Mary Carlisle.....MISS ELLA DAINCOURT
Brenda Carlisle .....MISS AMY RAVENSCROFT
Patty Monaghan .....MISS MARJORIE MOORE
John Berkeley .....MR. ROBERT HORTON
Philip Doyle .....MR. K. KAY
Tony Carlisle .....MR. CHAS. TROODE
Archibald Bodley .....MR. GEO. POWER
Cracknell .....MR. WM. DEMPSEY
Derrick Vernon .....MR. SAM WALSH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Contrary to the expectation aroused by its title, this play does not deal with the supernatural, but with the story of an unscrupulous author's ascendancy over another more gifted writer, by virtue of a mysterious secret which would mean social ruin to the latter. In the eyes of the world, John Berkeley is a brilliant author, but the books which bring him fame and money have in reality been written by his private secretary, Derrick Vernon, otherwise his "Ghost." Bound by this unrighteous compact, Vernon has perforce to submit to the fruits of his genius being appropriated and exploited by Berkeley, while he remains in the background, a "mere animated typewriter," as Brenda Carlisle, the woman he loves, bitterly designates him, under the impression that he has lost all ambition and is content to drift into obscurity. His hard taskmaster compels him to continue the writing of books, and, as if this was not humiliation enough, presently announces his engagement to Brenda Carlisle. But Vernon has a stout friend in Philip Doyle, who, after urging him to break his connection with Berkeley, comes to the conclusion that there is something radically wrong somewhere. He reads one of Berkeley's books, and from its descriptions of life and scenery in a part of Italy where he once spent a holiday with Vernon, taxes him with the authorship. Insistently pressed by his friend, Vernon at length confesses that this book, and all the others, have come from his pen, but implores Doyle to keep silence. He will not divulge a word as to the mysterious bond between Berkeley and himself. Doyle is not satisfied, and says he will go to Berkeley and tell him what he thinks of a man who sucks other men's brains. Vernon says that the more Doyle meddles in the affair, the harder he will make it for him. Doyle says there is something Quixotic about the motive, and he will get to the bottom of it. He will make Berkeley speak by exposing him. Vernon makes a final appeal to him to desist for Brenda's sake; she loves Berkeley (so he thinks) and it will shatter her ideal. Doyle consents to keep silence on condition that Vernon breaks with Berkeley. It so happens that while Brenda is reproaching Vernon for missing his opportunities in life, she confesses that she loves him. But she has promised to be Berkeley's wife, and will keep her word; only Vernon must not live with them when they are married. A little later John Berkeley and Vernon are left alone, and Vernon asks for his freedom. Berkeley affects astonishment at the request. Vernon, he says, had turned out a good investment to him, but he was an uncommonly risky speculation at one time. Six years ago he (Berkeley) came into possession of certain information. It was to his interest to make it public. He was a struggling and unsuccessful author, and Vernon had just completed his first book. He (Berkeley) agreed with Vernon that in return for his work and his silence he would keep the information to himself. He had kept his word, and had paid Vernon a handsome salary as his private secretary. He refuses to let him go. The interest of the audience is now fully awakened with regard to the secret which has cast such a blight over Vernon's life. Ultimately, through the loyalty of Doyle and the love of Brenda, Berkeley is fairly cornered; and though at first showing defiance and signs of fight, finally tells Brenda the truth. Vernon's father had committed a forgery, and Berkeley alone held the proof of his guilt. One had expected a rather more sensational *dénouement* than this, but of course it is more within the bounds of everyday posibility, and it certainly appealed to the audience. Vernon is set free from bondage, and we leave him with brighter prospects and the hope of winning a charming and sympathetic wife.

The play had an appreciative and encouraging reception, and as its serious interest is lightened with plenty of bright dialogue and some epigrams of more than passing merit, should enjoy a good measure of popularity with lovers of the drawing-room play. Mr. Walsh acted with fine restraint and dignity in the by no means easy rôle of Derrick Vernon; Miss Amy Ravenscroft gave a very pleasing and graceful rendering of Brenda Carlisle; Miss Marjorie Moore acted engagingly in the ingénue part of Patty Monaghan; Mr. Robert Horton played with power and distinction as John Berkeley; Mr. Charles Troode was quite amusing as the elephantine youth, Tony Carlisle; Mr. K. Kay portrayed Philip Doyle in a manly and spiritaed manner. A neat little sketch of a crotchetty old publisher came from Mr. George Power; Miss Ella Daincourt did good work as Lady Mary Carlisle; and Mr. Wm. Dempsey, as Cracknell, submitted a clever characterisation of a waiter.

"PROTECTING MRS. MOXON."

Play, in One Act, by Arthur Eckersley, Produced at the Grand Opera House, Belfast, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Mrs. Moxon .....MISS VIOLET TEMPLE
Quartermaster Snapper, R.N. (retired) MR. W. BESLEY BELTRAN
The Stranger .....MR. JAMES HEDDON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The piece opens in Mrs. Moxon's parlour. To her presently comes Quartermaster Snapper, R.N., with vows of love, and proposes to the widow, offering her his hand and heart, stating that she must find herself very lonely and in need of some protection. During the course of his remarks it transpires that his only son had left home after some difference with his father, and his whereabouts is quite unknown. Mrs. Moxon, musing over the proposal, is suddenly surprised by a stranger, who demands her money and threatens to stab her if her purse is not handed over at once. She rings for help, and, after some conversation with the stranger, whom she has disarmed, learns that he is the Quartermaster's own son, who had attempted to burgle the house. She decides on saving him, but in the meantime the Quartermaster knocks loudly for admittance, and the youth is hidden in another room. He is able, however, to slip away, unseen by Snapper, who was not aware of his presence or his identity, and, on the Quartermaster renewing his suit, he is accepted. The little piece was extremely well acted by Miss Violet Temple and Messrs. W. Besley Beltran and James Heddon.

MISS INEZ HOWARD'S company presented *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* at Shodfriars Hall, Boston, on Wednesday and Thursday in this week. Mr. Alfred Randon was an excellent Prince Hildred; Mr. William J. Rea gave a clever study of the hunchback, Prince Michael; Mr. Chas. A. Baker played Prince Olaf in a masterly manner; Mr. E. W. Parr played the part of Nathan, the dumb servant; the Bishop of Illyria was in the capable hands of Mr. J. W. Brighton; and as Camiola, the beggar maid, Miss Jessie Yatman gained hearty praise. Princess Monica was delightfully interpreted by Miss Ethel Saville.

MISS EVA MOORE'S CLAIM.

A theatrical suit came before his Honour Sir William Selfe at the West London County Court on Thursday, the plaintiff being Miss Eva Moore, the well-known actress, of Apple Porch, Maidenhead, who sued Mr. Adolph Ernest Darewski, described as an impresario, of Sinclair Mansions, Kensington, for professional fees said to be due in connection with a recital given by the plaintiff at Scarborough.

Mr. M. Templeton (Messrs. Templeton and Cox) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Osborne (Messrs. Osborne and Osborne) represented the defendant.

At the outset Mr. Osborne said the defendant pleaded that he was an infant, and was therefore not responsible.

Mr. Templeton, for the plaintiff, said Miss Eva Moore was the wife of Mr. Henry Esmond Jack, who was professionally known as an actor as Mr. H. E. Esmond. In January last Miss Moore was approached by the defendant with a view to her taking part in a play which he said he had. Nothing came of that, but in March Miss Moore received a letter from the defendant, asking what her terms would be to appear at two concerts. She replied that her fee would be twenty guineas a concert, and subsequently it was arranged that the plaintiff should appear at two concerts at Scarborough on March 25 and 27, at an inclusive fee of forty guineas. Miss Moore journeyed to Scarborough and there saw the defendant at the Grand Hotel, where he was staying. The contract was duly made, and a conversation took place, during which the defendant asked Miss Moore: "How old do you think I am?" She replied: "I should think you are 23 or 24." The defendant said: "I am 27." Miss Moore appeared at the two concerts, and immediately afterwards left Scarborough, without having seen the defendant again, or been paid, as was the usual custom. She, however, received a letter from the defendant, in which he said he was sorry to have missed seeing her, but had been engaged with the management. He added: "I shall have to send you a cheque when I return to town, as there is practically no money to draw from the management, the houses having been so terrible. I changed the last cheque I brought with me on Thursday night, not anticipating such poor business." That was an admission of liability, and the plaintiff then gave him a little time in which to pay. The defendant, however, failed to meet the liability, and proceedings were then commenced.

Mr. Templeton added that his Honour would have an opportunity of seeing the defendant and judging whether he was under twenty-one years of age. If his plea of infancy were upheld, Miss Moore hoped that the case would be a warning to her fellow artists not to enter into engagements with Mr. Adolph Ernest Darewski.

Miss Eva Moore, in the witness box, bore out counsel's statement, and said defendant, when she saw him after journeying to Scarborough, told her he was floating a company at Cork, and was getting a good deal of money for it. He asked her how old she thought he was, and she replied, "About twenty-four."

Mr. Templeton: Was he clean shaven at the time, as he is now?—I cannot remember. My impression is that he had a moustache. I certainly put him down at not less than twenty-four.

For the defence a lady was called who said her name was Irene Darewski, and that she was the mother of the defendant, who was born in Austria in 1890. She produced a certificate signed by a doctor. The defendant's correct name was Josef Adolf Darewski.

Cross-examined, the witness said her son did not live with her. He left home nearly two years ago.

Mr. Templeton: Did he leave you to get married?—No.

Is he married?—I do not know.

Do you know his flat?—No.

Do you know that at his flat there is a plate bearing the names of Mr. and Mrs. Darewski?—I do not know anything about it.

When did you last see your son before to-day?—Last week.

Was he then wearing a moustache?—No, I never saw him with a moustache.

Mr. Templeton: He appears to have shaved, at all events.

The defendant, a well-dressed, clean-shaven young man, who was next called, said he called himself Adolf Ernest Darewski for professional reasons.

Mr. Templeton: When did you take the flat in Sinclair Mansions?—Twelve months ago.

Did you run the International Agency in Garrick-street, from which one of your letters is addressed?—I did.

You rented it yourself?—Well, there was another party connected with it.

When you took your flat, did you have the names put up, "Mr. and Mrs. Darewski"?—I did.

Mr. Templeton: Are you married?

The defendant, after some hesitation, said he declined to answer the question.

Questioned with regard to the conversation he had with the plaintiff at Scarborough, the defendant said something was mentioned about age, and Miss Moore remarked that she was old enough to be his mother, which she never would have said if she thought he was over twenty. (Laughter.)

Mr. Templeton submitted that if the defendant was really under age, it was a most discreditable transaction on his part, and he asked his Honour that at least the defendant should be ordered to pay the costs. There were many professionals who were probably less able than was Miss Eva Moore to lose money in engagements, and he hoped they would be warned by these proceedings.

His Honour said the case would undoubtedly cause other artists to be careful in making engagements. There would be judgment for the defendant without costs.

Mr. Osborne suggested that the defendant should have his costs, inasmuch as the plaintiff knew as far back as August last that the defendant was under age.

His Honour: I will consider it when he has paid the £42. Come and tell me, and I will then give costs.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Borodine's Quartet for Strings, in A major, the first item in the College concert on Wednesday evening, was played by Miss Dorothy Devin, Mr. Antonio Piedra, Miss Sybil Maturin, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe with fairly successful results. Mr. Douglas Fox displayed so much ability in L. Delafosse's "Concert Studies" (Nos. 5, 4, and 3), for pianoforte, that the delighted audience gave the talented young performer four hearty recalls. In Bach's D Minor Concerto for two violins, Miss E. Muriel Pickup and Miss Elsie Avril were associated in a very able performance. The broad expressive style of the fine old composer was well maintained, and the young ladies' tone and execution were above reproach. Much applauded were also the organ solos, Choral Improvisations, Op. 65 (Sigfrid Karg-Elert), "Aus tiefer Not" and "Jerusalem" (Toccata), skilfully played by Mr. Albert Midgley.

To the vocal side of the programme Miss Gladys Coppen, who has an excellent voice, contributed C. Saint-Saëns artistic song, "La Cloche," and the duet, "El Desdichado," of the same composer, was sung by Miss Rita Rabone and Miss Violet C. Smith with good execution, but hardly so satisfactory a tone. Miss Katherine Vincent, who sang "Absence" (Berlioz), was favourably received. The accompanists were Miss Grace Humphery, Mr. William Murdoch, and Miss Gladys Cawston.

THE GEORGE WEIR FUND.

Mr. Henry Ainley, the hon. secretary of the above fund, has received the following additional subscriptions for the widow and children of the late George Weir:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	160	13	6
A. Murray Smith	21	0	0
Per Mrs. Benson	5	13	6
Mr. and Mrs. Heaton	5	5	0
T. Henry Denman	3	3	0
E. Lyall Earle	3	3	0
Mr. and Mrs. Phelps	2	2	0
E. A. Smith	2	2	0
D. Lestocq	2	2	0
C. Quartermaine	2	2	0
Alfred Brydone	2	2	0
Leslie Faber	2	2	0
Mrs. Simons	2	0	0
E. N. P.	2	0	0
W. Ribton Haines	1	1	0
Nigel Playfair	1	1	0
H. M. Hall	1	1	0
Miss Constance Robertson	1	1	0
E. A. Warburton	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
John Greenwood	1	0	0
Mrs. Wellington	1	0	0
G. McLauman	1	0	0
J. G. F. Cooke	1	0	0
Per Charles Besley	0	15	6
W. W. Caithness	0	10	6
Miss Madge McIntosh	0	10	6
Miss Dorothy Wilmer	0	10	6
A. A. Harris	0	10	6
Holliday Attlay	0	10	0
Otho Hazlewood	0	10	0
K. R. B.	0	10	0
Charles Thomas	0	10	0
Maud M. Dawe	0	7	6
Andrew Wright	0	5	0
Miss Elinor Aickin	0	5	0
T. Oliver Lee	0	5	0
M. L. Pilkington	0	5	0
A. G. McNab	0	5	0
Miss Westwood	0	3	0
Anon.	0	2	6
Helen Macdougall	0	2	6
C. Maunsell	0	2	6
Anon.	0	2	6
A. C. S. Bell	0	2	6
R. M. Mason	0	2	0
	£233	3	6

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

In the first act of *Mrs. Skeffington*, at the Queen's Theatre, Miss Gwladys Gaynor as Effie Thynne appears in a charming little frock of deep rose cashmere-de-soie scooped out over a little cream collarless lace vest, with a tiny bow tie of dull blue satin. The back of the gown is buttoned from the corsage to the hem, while the front is decorated with "pattes" of dull blue and aluminium embroidery of the Oriental description, the sleeves being decorated with a row of buttons and likewise enriched with the same broderie, while the full corsage pouches over the belt, which is bordered on either side with embroidery and finished with a flat bow behind.

Miss Ellen O'Malley as Mrs. Thynne wears a graceful gown of soft black ninon with a tablier of gold lace cut in peplum form back and front, and brought into a point over the bust. This is veiled again with black ninon trimmed with wide bands of black velvet studded with black satin buttons, while a band of gold lace is encrusted into each of the sleeves from the shoulder downwards, and appears to be held in place with a row of tiny buttons. A ruche of feathers decorates the sleeves, and her fair hair is filleted with a wide band of black velvet ribbon.

Miss Beryl Faber's gown is a soft primrose-coloured charmeuse, over which is worn a coat of lavender grey chiffon. This is finished with a deep hem of lavender-grey charmeuse, cut out over the chiffon in rays, while over the chiffon itself are embroidered giant puff-balls of aluminium thread and floss silk. To accompany this gown there is a little hat with curled-up brim, covered with folded ninon, which introduces the two shades of the gown, a twist of chaudron-coloured ribbon being wound round the crown and caught on one side with a single rose.

In the second act she appears in a lovely gown of the palest opal satin, shading to a greyish blue on the corsage, and painted with branches of lilac-mauve and pink blossoms, the gown being made in princess form, and partially covered with a little loose coat of silver lace, edged all round with silver bugle fringe. Her round hat with its curled-up brim cut into points at the side is of lilac silk lined with bishop's purple velvet, and trimmed with a twist of shot blue and silver net.

A dainty little gown of pale blue satin is worn by Miss Gwladys Gaynor in this act. It is draped very lightly on one side, with an overdress of pale sunset blue chiffon to match, hemmed with white satin worked in a lovely design, in rose-blue and green paillettes, which has a chiné effect, the ceinture being of the same, while from a large chiffon bow worn between her shoulders float long chiffon ends. Her pretty polichinelle hat is of steel-grey stretched satin, with a mass of pink roses on one side.

Miss Ellen O'Malley wears a dress of ivory tulle over satin, the corsage being of ivory and gold lace combined, while a deep band of gold dentelle is encrusted into the skirt, and below that is a band of cream lace, with an interlining of rose chiffon showing through it.

The jupe is finished with a deep hem of pink chiffon, while over this is worn a charming cloak of the same pink chiffon, with a very wide hem of satin to match, hung with silk tassels and fashioned with a deep Watteau pleat at the back. A hat of bronze beaver, lined with black velvet and trimmed with a couple of dark lapis lazuli ostrich plumes, provides a finish. In the last scene Miss Beryl Faber wears a motor hat and cloak in dark slate-blue cloth, with a bonnet of the Dutch cap persuasion in leather to match.

THOSE who wish to hear the first performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto by Herr Kreisler at the first Philharmonic Concert on the 10th should lose no time, as the hall was reported to be all but sold out some days ago.

PRINCESS LOUISE, Duchess of Argyll, has graciously given her patronage to Dr. William A. Hall's annual concert at the Municipal Hall, Tottenham, on December 8, in aid of the Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham.

AT the New Theatre, New York, on the occasion of the first subscription performance for the residents of the poorer sections of the city the house was crowded. For every seat there had been about twenty applicants, so keen was the interest in seeing the performance of *The Blue Bird* at one-fifth the regular prices. Mr. Winthrop Ames, the director of the New Theatre, has spoken of the affair as "a very successful experiment." Another performance with the same end in view will be given shortly when *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be the attraction. The prices of admission on these occasions range from ten to fifty cents, the distribution of the tickets being undertaken by various educational associations. The movement to bring the best plays within the reach of the working classes is extending, and it is expected that several of the leading theatres will shortly be included in the scheme. Mr. Hammerstein has already offered to sell at reduced prices the balcony seats at the Manhattan Opera House.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, OCT. 19.—*Madame Troubadour*, an operetta in three acts, was performed for the first time in America at the Lyric Theatre on the 10th inst. The music is by Felix Albini, while the Americanised libretto was written by Joseph Herbert, who also staged the production. There are only eight characters in the piece, and there is no chorus, the music consisting of duets and trios, with the exception of the finales. The story is all about the marital troubles of the Marquis de Kergazon, who devotes his life to studying the deeds of the ancient troubadours. His wife Henriette, nicknamed Madame Troubadour, finds herself neglected, and consoles herself with the Vicomte Max de Voigommeux. The ill-mated pair discuss the situation, and agree upon a plan by which the Marquis is to give his wife grounds for a divorce. She visits the country house of Vicomte Max, but he has not expected her, and instead of finding him eager to marry her, she catches him kissing his two good-looking serving maids. Henriette's absence arouses her husband's jealousy, and he follows her. Finally Henriette becomes disgusted with her former admirer, and the Marquis having been disappointed in his efforts to obtain a divorce, they awake to the fact that they really love each other, and all ends happily.

THANKS to its sparkling music, the piece proved thoroughly enjoyable. The score was unusually good, and the orchestration very fine. There were no interpolations. Every number was relevant to the story, and there was a constant flow of melody of the sort that charms the ear. Miss Grace La Rue sang the title-part, and Mr. Van Rensselaer Wheeler appeared as Vicomte Max. Both sang well and received much applause. Mr. Charles Angelo not only gave a capital impersonation of the Marquis de Kergazon, but sang several numbers splendidly. His performance was thoroughly artistic and conspicuously successful. One of the best numbers in the piece was the pastoral duet by the pair of bare-legged serving-maids, Georgette and Martine, impersonated with much vivacity and humour by Misses Anna Wheaton and Doris Goodwin. Miss Georgia Caine sang and acted well as Juliette, the other rôles being creditably sustained by Mr. Edgar Atchison Ely and Mr. Edgar Norton.

MISS HILDA SPONG, who has been seen but seldom on the New York stage during the last few seasons, appeared at the Gaiety Theatre on the 14th inst. in a special performance of a new four-act play called *The Penalty*, by Henry C. Colwell. Messrs. Cohan and Harris are the producers and are sending the play on tour. The author is a Yale man, and he has written of the divorce problem, the scenes being laid in New York. Bess Rutherford, after divorcing her drunken husband, has become the mistress of James Carpenter, who is able to provide her with luxuries and educate her son as well as help her to pay the sums of money that her husband demands of her from time to time. Her son Jack, knowing nothing of his mother's "past," becomes engaged to Gladys Dexter, a wealthy girl with whom Carpenter is also in love. In vain the divorced wife implores her paramour to marry her. He has no intention of doing so. Jack Rutherford learns from the mother of the girl he loves that he can never be accepted as her son-in-law, because there is a stain on his own mother's name, his drunken father having disclosed the fact of the divorce in a desire for revenge. Carpenter verifies the statement when he comes to ask for the hand of Gladys Dexter, who has promised to marry the son of his mistress.

Jack Rutherford confronts his mother, and she tries to deny everything, but Carpenter enters and makes no concealment of their true relations with each other, at the same time denying the woman's story that he intends to marry her. The son seizes a revolver to kill him, but Carpenter lays the blame on the woman, and tells the boy that everything he has had in life has been bought with his—Carpenter's—money. The lad is turned from his purpose, but his mother seizes the pistol and kills her paramour. Then she locks herself in the room with the dead man and swallows poison. As the curtain falls her son is beating madly on the door.

As Bess Rutherford Miss Spong gave a highly effective rendering of a very emotional rôle, and was warmly applauded. The supporting company was good. The important part of the son was played in manly fashion by Mr. Harry Mestayer, and Gladys Dexter was charmingly represented by Miss Edna Baker. Mr. John Flood as the ex-husband, Charles Rutherford, and Mr. Cuyler Hastings as James Carpenter also deserve praise for their impersonations.

MISS BILLIE BURKE will make her next appearance in New York at Christmas time in a new comedy called *Susanne*. The play is an adaptation from the French by C. Haddon Chambers. The original was called *The Marriage of Miss Bullman*, and was first produced in Brussels about two years ago, afterwards running at the Renaissance Theatre, in Paris. Miss Burke's rôle is said to be entirely different from the part she plays in *Mrs. Dot*, being described as "sympathetic and emotional."

THE Shuberts have opened a new playhouse in Brooklyn. It has a seating capacity of 1800, and is called the Sam S. Shubert Theatre.

MR. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, who returned to New York last week, said that the Londoners had refused to take him seriously, but the work on his new opera house was about to begin, the builders having agreed under a penalty of $1,000 a day to have the house ready for opening by Nov. 1, 1911.

THE New Theatre company will visit Montreal and Toronto during the latter part of this month, presenting *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and Pinero's play *The Thunderbolt*. The company will open the regular season at the New Theatre on Nov. 7.

MR. NAT C. GOODWIN has a new play called *The Captain*, by George Broadhurst and C. T. Dazey. He appeared in it for the first time at English's Opera House, Indianapolis, on the 10th inst. The scenes of the play are laid in Manila. Mr. Goodwin impersonates Jefferson Lorimer, a New Yorker who has held a commission in the National Guard. He is travelling around the world with two companions when he meets a charming widow in Manila. In order to help an old friend, Captain Hastings, out of a scrape, he assumes the Captain's identity for four days, and this leads to all sorts of unforeseen consequences. The widow falls in love with him because of his supposed bravery during the march to Pekin. Then he is accused of murdering Jefferson Lorimer. Finally he is called upon to lead a dangerous expedition into the jungle in order to capture a rebel chief.

MISS MARY MANNERING, who recently underwent an operation, has recovered, and will open her second season in *A Man's World* on the 24th inst.

MISS FRITZI SCHEFF is at present appearing in a revival of *The Mikado*, and will shortly be seen in a musical version of *Trilby*.

HERMANN E. DAREWSKI, jun., the well-known composer, and his brother, Max Darewski, known as a musical conductor, and his father, E. Darewski, wish it to be known that they have nothing to do with the case heard at the Brompton County Court this week.

ON the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 15, a series of "Anglo-Spanish Tableaux Vivants" is to be presented at the Court Theatre. The entertainment has been organised by the Spanish circle of the Lyceum Club, of which Mrs. Stuart Erskine is president, in aid of the Queen of Spain's charities.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE AT HOME.

The Actresses' Franchise League "At Home," held in the Georgian Room of the Piccadilly Hotel on Wednesday afternoon, was a very successful and interesting meeting, and largely attended by members and friends. Lady Carl Meyer and Mrs. J. B. Fagan were the hostesses, and in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Miss DECIMA MOORE occupied the chair. In opening the proceedings, Miss Moore explained the nature and objects of the League, which aimed at interesting all women of the theatrical, musical, and music hall professions in the work of obtaining the suffrage for women. The League had a broad basis, no particular methods, and no politics. They were out to help all those working for the movement. They were not asking that all women should have votes, but, rather, that the fact that being a woman should not be a disqualification. Miss Moore instanced many laws which worked very hardly and unfairly on women, and they wanted the vote as a safeguard. Later in the afternoon she explained part of a scheme of the A.F.L., the production of propaganda plays, in connection with which a new department had been started, under the direction of Miss Edith Craig. In aid of this work, Miss Moore appealed for funds, and received many promises of help and some donations.

Lady MEYER, who followed, spoke of the splendid work being done for the cause by the actresses, who had brought all the force of their beauty and their intelligence into the struggle. The theatre was the one sphere wherein women were on the same level with men, in that they received equal pay for equal labour. Would that such conditions might be extended to other professions. On the stage there was no sex jealousy, as in other walks of life; all were good comrades. The vote might not banish all hardship from the life of woman, but she claimed that it would make a great difference in her social welfare. Lady Meyer spoke of an article in a recent review by a well-known writer in which he had tried to prove that Shakespeare had a poor idea of women. She herself did not think so; in her opinion many of his heroines had far more commonsense than the heroes, and in support of this instanced Viola in *Twelfth Night* and Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*. In the course of a very interesting speech, Lady Meyer also dwelt upon the economic and other aspects of the question.

Mr. FREDERIC WHELEN referred to the good work done nowadays by women in all that concerned the stage. The theatre in England was, he considered, in a most unsatisfactory state; the only satisfactory thing about it was the successful part women were taking in writing plays and in producing and acting them. In speaking of the Répertoire Theatre, he mentioned a repertory theatre in Dusseldorf, managed by a woman, who has produced seven different plays in a week, two of which were by Marlowe and one by Bernard Shaw. Then there was the repertory theatre in Manchester, founded by a woman, Miss Horniman. And a woman was responsible for the only performance of a play by Ibsen in London this year—Miss Rosina Filippi's production of *John Gabriel Borkman* at the Court on Tuesday afternoon. He also referred to Miss Gertrude Kingston's experiment at the Little Theatre. He had lately seen a play written by a man in which the curtain came down on the spectacle of a woman on her knees, crying: "I am your chattel!" No woman would ever write that! As a man, he was struck by the admirable way in which the Woman Suffrage Movement was being conducted, and he quoted Oliver Wendell Holmes, saying, "Man has his will, but woman has her way."

Mme. YVETTE GUILBERT, who came on from the Coliseum, and received a very cordial greeting, in a delightful little speech remarked that the actress had to keep eternally young, which was extremely difficult; and she had to be very beautiful and to maintain her personal charm as well as the gift of illusion, and that was often very difficult. The wearing of beautiful dresses was a great factor in the success of an actress, and in connection with this subject, Mme. Guilbert said that English actresses were far more fortunate than the majority of her French sisters. She understood that in England the management provided most of the costumes for the run of the play. That was not so in France. There the "star" artists only were supplied; the minor actresses, who only received £7 or £8 a month, had to find costumes for twelve or more plays. The existence of such a state of affairs often led to the minor actress having a male "friend," and on that "friend" she became dependent. Under such conditions the actress was a victim, and nothing else. A great French poet had asked when women would become the sisters of men, and the answer was, "When men become our brothers." She had, with the aid of kind friends, founded an institution in Paris for supplying wardrobes at a small charge to the poorer ladies of the profession. It was easy to sneer at the cry of votes for women, but when women had a hand in ruling the destiny of the world, it would then be at the highest point of civilisation.

"WAY OUT WEST" was produced at the Ayr Gaiety Theatre this week, under the direction of the author, Mr. Junius Booth. Mr. Booth takes the leading part, and fills it with power. Others who make up a good all-round company are Messrs. Millar Anderson and Bannister and Miss Alice West. A new version of *Monte Cristo*, by the same author, was produced on Friday evening, evening.

"A PAIR OF SPECTACLES" was presented at St. John's Hall, Penzance, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings before appreciative audiences by Mr. Dudley Stuart. The Benjamin Goldfinch of Mr. Arthur Hare was a perfect piece of acting; while Mr. James Harcourt was most successful in the part of Gregory, whose appearance on the stage kept the audience in one long roar of laughter. As Percy and Dick Mr. Ernest Dean and Mr. Guy Vivian were well placed; and Joyce was ably taken by Mr. Alfred Kingston. As the two bootmakers, Messrs. Jack Bertram and Ted Jackson did good work; Miss Carmena Rivers as Marion did full justice to the part; while Miss May de Launey as Lucy was quite fascinating. The character of Lorimer was well portrayed by Mr. Sherwood Martin.

QUALITY and COMFORT
Wines
Spirits
Liqueurs
COAL HOLE
Tea
Coffee
Cigars
Savoy Buildings, Strand.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, entitled
"THE WHIP."

Of all the Drury Lane successes *The Whip* has been acclaimed as the greatest, and this week's production at the King's Theatre supports that fact to the utmost. Every part of the house was crowded on Monday evening, and the enthusiasm of the audience was aroused at the sensational scenes and incidents. It would be very difficult to improve upon the elaborate effects placed on the stage of the King's for this play, so realistic are they, exciting wonderment at the smooth and easy working which says much for the ability of the permanent staff of the theatre, so capably controlled by Mr. J. B. Mulholland. Mr. George Dance, who brings the production, has not been at all niggardly in his enterprise, and it is gratifying to see that he will be amply rewarded for his efforts. The cast is a very long one, but care has been shown in the selection, and every character is in good hands. Mr. Frederick Leister, as the Rev. Verner Haslam renders capital service as the weak-minded but repentant clergyman, and gains applause for a very praiseworthy assumption. Tom Lambert, the trainer, gives Mr. Edwin Brett many opportunities for comical acting, and the manner in which the audience receive him shows clearly that he has succeeded. A finished piece of acting is Mr. James Lindsay's Captain Greville Sartorys, the cool and insouciant scoundrel of the piece. The Earl of Brancaster is played by Mr. Dallas Cairns in excellent fashion, and Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as the Marquis of Beverley is as good a member of the nobility as could be desired. Mr. Eric Hudson plays Joe Kelly, the bookmaker, with much ability, and Mr. Colston Mansell as Harry Anson, the Jockey, is decidedly effective. Tom Foster, by Mr. W. Goldman, and Captain Rayner by Mr. Vincent Lawson lend valuable assistance. Mr. Horace Custins as Tomlin is capable, and Lord Clanmore is ably personated by Mr. W. G. Yeldham. An emphatic success is obtained by Miss Simeta Marsden in the part of the Hon. Mrs. Beamish, the audience highly appreciating her talent. The adventuress, Mrs. d'Aquila, in the hands of Miss Vera Beringer, is remarkably well rendered, her aristocratic appearance and elegant costumes lending material support. Very attractive and sweetly sympathetic is Miss Gwendolen Wren as Lady Diana Sartorys. Myrtle Anson is earnestly portrayed by Miss Dora Lane. The numerous minor parts are in very good hands.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, Oct. 24,
"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."

Messrs. Wentworth Croke, Milton Bode, and Edward Compton's company are paying a very welcome visit to the Marlborough this week in *The Dawn of a To-Morrow*, a play full of interest, and holding the attention of the audience throughout. As Sir Oliver Holt Mr. Frederick Victor scores a big success. He has a firm grip of the part, and portrays the character with his accustomed skill. Mr. Charles King is in every way excellent as Oliver Holt, and as Sir Bowling Burford, Dr. Heath, and Dr. Satterley, small but important parts in the first act, Messrs. Chas. E. Dering, Murray Hathorn, and James Williams each display much ability. Mr. Paul Wynter is amusing as Lord Tommy Dartmore, and Mr. Reginald Hunt supplies a finished delineation of the Secretary, Bedell. Mr. William Kershaw interprets the Dandy in a manner that reflects great credit upon him, and Mr. Bertram Burleigh as The Thief sustains his part excellently. Miss Marie Polini acts with a pleasant discrimination as Glad, her performance coming in for cordial expressions of approval. Dolly is fittingly sustained by Miss D. E. Clements, and Miss Alice Dorie shows considerable skill and ability in her delineation of Bet. Miss Iris Rutherford and Miss Doris Digby are well suited as Mimi and Madge Delorme, and Miss Edith Hartley is a conscientious exponent of the part of Feathers. Mr. George West's performance as Powell, the butler, is in all respects excellent, and Mr. Henry Compton finds a congenial rôle in Jim. Mr. Arthur E. Maskell supplies an able delineation of Barney, and Mr. Franklyn Gregory contributes a meritorious performance as The Bat, receiving substantial assistance from Master George Hughes as The Kid. In minor parts Messrs. Chas. Hardy (Inspector Barnes), Tom Fielding (Policeman), and Fred Cater (Footman), each deserve a word of praise.

CORONET THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Comedy, entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

Mr. James Welch and his company were long ago booked for the Coronet, before its more ambitious programme was inaugurated, so *Sister Anne* had to depart with the encomiums of her admirers last Saturday night. The humour of *When Knights were Bold* is by no means dulled by time, and the spontaneity and unflagging zest which Mr. Welch and his clever company put into their work are really remarkable. The result is a continuous ripple of merriment. The scene on the battlements with "ye dream of ye olden tymes" is not only remarkable for its ludicrous anachronism, but is dressed and mounted with beauty, taste, and correctness as to detail; of course, with the notable exception of the central figure, Sir Guy de Vere. As this very modern sprig of nobility, up-to-date in every particular from tip to toe, with his modern slang, and his intense appreciation of modern comforts and conveniences, Mr. James Welch is inimitable, and is absolutely cut out for the part. His unflagging humour and tireless energy in the matter of mirth-moving "business," are beyond praise. Excellent support is rendered by Miss Audrey Ford as Lady Rowena Egginton, the intense and perfervid admirer of all that appertains to the days of old, whose mock-heroic method is admirably adapted to her part. Mr. George F. Tully is excellent as Wittle; and Mr. Gordon Tomkins is excruciatingly funny as the lachrymose Barker. Mr. Arthur Grenville does good service as the Israelite, Isaac Isaacson, and Miss Daisy Cordell as Sarah and Miss Annie Chippendale as Alice are well in the picture. Mr. Henry J. Ford is good as Widdicombe, the jester, with a song; and Mr. Guy Lane as the Dean, Peter Pottlebery, Mr. Cecil Kinnaird, and Misses Maev O'Shea, Hermina Black, Peggy Kennedy, Mabel Younge, and Mr. Leopold Profeit do good work in minor rôles. Mr. Arthur Whittaker is general manager for the company, and Mr. Leonard Buttress, stage manager.

DALSTON THEATRE.

The visit of J. W. Turner's English opera company to the Dalston Theatre this week has proved a great attraction, and the house has been well filled at each performance. As a matter of fact the acting-manager of the house, Mr. W. R. King, has had his ingenuity taxed to find seating accommodation for all the enthusiastic musical patrons of the theatre at this period. The operas produced during the past week have included *Faust*, *Robin Hood*, *Carmen*, *Satanella*, *Lily of Killarney*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Maritana*. Mr. Turner's name has been associated with the title-rôle in *Robin Hood*, Myles na Coppaleen in *The Lily of Killarney*, and Don Cæsar de Bazan in *Maritana*. The popular singer's vitality is really wonderful, and he is still on wonderful terms of popularity with his audiences, the most noteworthy songs in the operas in which he appears being again and again encored. Miss Sarah Williams is also a decided favourite. Her characters during the present visit of the company to Dalston have been Maid Marion in *Robin Hood*, Satanella in the opera of that name, and Leonora in *Il Trovatore*. Miss Williams makes a convincing Leonora, and she is always charming as Satanella, a character which just suits her style. Mr. Tom Griffiths's popular parts are Valentine in *Faust*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Danny Mann in *Lily of Killarney*, and Don Jose in *Maritana*. He has been well to the front this week, gaining most flattering plaudits, and being called upon to accede to many encores. Miss Kitty Brownless has appeared in the title-rôle of *Carmen* and as Eily in the *Lily of Killarney*, and has proved herself a most capable artist. The rôle of Maritana in Wallace's charming opera of that name has in this instance been entrusted to Miss Christine Gomez. In the same opera Miss Jessie Dennis still represents Lazarillo, and the same artist has appeared with considerable success in *Satanella*, *Robin Hood*, and *Carmen*. Mr. F. J. Hargrave has sustained the title-rôle of Faust, and has also been the Count Rupert in *Satanella*, and Manrico in *Il Trovatore*. Others in the company are Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. William Anderson, Mr. Tom Yates, and Mr. Sidney Appleby. Miss Ella Vane, Miss Grace Parish, Miss Beatrice Hill, Mr. Richard Cummings, Mr. T. Yates, and Mr. Seth Hughes, who plays Don Jose in *Carmen*.

BRIXTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

Mr. Clyde Fitch's successful play is this week attracting large audiences, and deservedly so. It is well played by the clever company which Mr. Louis Meyer has around him, and the performance gave every satisfaction to Brixtonians on Monday evening. To Miss Florence Lloyd unqualified praise must be bestowed for her brilliant portrayal of Claire Forster. Throughout the play Miss Lloyd held her audience firmly, and won hearty applause and many "curtains"; Miss Mabel Trevor, a clever actress, was a very engaging and handsome Margaret Rolfe; and Miss Sophie Lingwood distinguished herself as Mrs. Hughes. Miss Madge Russell made a charming Elsie Brewster, and Miss Esther Whitehouse was pleasing and fresh as Dora Miller. Miss Grete Hahn as Louise Mane was very praiseworthy; Mr. Leonard Pagden merited warm eulogiums for his fine acting as Thompson. His sincerity and power carried the audience with him. Mr. Clive Ross did good work as Louis Klauffsky, and Mr. Richard Fielding made an excellent Jimmy O'Neill. Mr. Lambert Plummer did well as Walters; Mr. Reginald Maurice was a typical Police Inspector; and Mr. T. Taylor Vinson made a satisfactory attendant. In the rôle of Julian Rolfe Mr. Clayton Greene was very good, his easy style and aplomb being much appreciated. The play was well mounted and dressed, Mr. Lambert Plummer being an efficient stage-manager for Mr. Louis Meyer, and Mr. F. Clive Ross an excellent general-manager.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

It seems quite like old times again at the "Brit." On Monday evening the house was packed from floor to ceiling. The Melville drama provided this week is proving very popular, and Mr. George Conquest should soon re-establish the "Brit." as a popular and successful drama house. The story of the "bad girl," who is still winking as strongly as ever, is now no doubt too well known to need recapitulation. The name-part is undertaken by Miss Violet Crossley, who, in this capacity is a decided success; her dramatic rendering is particularly effective; Mr. Alexander Bradley undertakes the part of Harry Gordon, and his powerful acting does not fail to evoke the acknowledgment which is always accorded by the gallery to the villain of the piece; Mr. Richard Lane as the hero—Lieutenant Richard Marsh, R.N.—plays in sincere and manly fashion; Miss Daisie Cook is very refined and charming as the heroine, Gladys Erskine, and is the possessor of much natural grace; and Mr. James C. Taylor invests the part of Lord Erskine with all the necessary dignity. The comedy parts are well looked after by Mr. Luke Forster as Barney Gordon and Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle. Miss Mona Hungerford effectively enacts Sally Smithers; Misses Gertrude Wood, Marjorie Green, Louie Smith, and Molly Gustave appear as other shop girls, and render valuable assistance. Miss Dulcie O'Mull Conroy as Honour Moore and Miss Sadie Southern as Mrs. Moore enact their respective rôles in a natural and convincing manner. A word must be said in praise of Mr. George Belmore, who, as Jerry Holmes, makes the most of his opportunities, displaying both humour and pathos. Mr. Edwin Lever effectively undertakes the part of John Moore. The remaining characters are capably sustained by Mr. Charles Eustace as Inspector Lawrence, Mr. Henry Meade as P.C. Harper, Mr. Frank Willing as the Vicar, and Messrs. E. W. Vincent, Fred Carr, James Selwin, Clement Hood, and Joseph Canton. The piece is capitally staged, and the musical arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. Carlile Vernon.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

The popularity of that fascinating creature, *The Merry Widow*, was again shown by a full house at Kennington Theatre on Monday. At the hands of the brilliant company which Mr. George Edwardes has selected, the pretty music, romantic story, and melodious songs, are done full justice to. In the title-rôle Miss Gertrude Lester is a charming, graceful, and attractive figure. She acts the part with vivacity, and sings and dances admirably. Mr. Louis Bradfield is a delightful Prince Danilo, investing the character with a liveliness and humour that make him a warm favourite. Mr. Tailleur-Andrews's remarkably fine voice finds ample scope in the spirited lyrics with which the composer has endowed the part of Vicomte Camille de Jolidon, and he plays the French gallant with much vim. As Natalie Miss Maggie May is heard to great advantage, and her duet with Mr. Andrews was encored. An amusing impersonation of Baron Popoff is given by Mr. Eric Thorne, whose versatile humour seems inexhaustible. His efforts were ably seconded by Mr. Fred Kaye, who was mirth-provoking in the rôle of General Novakovitch; while Mr. Robert Nainby made a big hit by the clever fashion in which he delineated the character of Nisch. Miss Vivien Tailleur as Frou-Frou proved herself a skilful and sprightly dancer. Mr. George Miller is very good as the Marquis de Cascada; and Miss Alice Cox is excellent as Olga. Mr. Jocelyn Hope is a picturesque M. Khadja; and Miss Eve Hornsby is duly demure as Sylvaine. Mr. Walter Champney makes a quaint waiter at Maxim's; Mr. Robert Cranny is well placed as M. de St. Brioche; and Miss Hylda Coward deserves praise as Prascovia. The chorus is large and well balanced, and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, leaves nothing to be desired.

PAVILION THEATRE, E.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, entitled
"O.H.M.S."

A stirring military drama, entitled *O.H.M.S.*, occupies the boards at the Pavilion Theatre this week, and large audiences have been the rule. One of the most notable features of the play is the firing of a machine gun, which produces a most realistic effect. As Frank Fairway Mr. Wingold Lawrence plays with much skill and ability; Mr. Wilton Richards makes a very capable villain; Geo. Middleton is enacted by Mr. Harold Greaves in a very creditable and natural manner; Mr. E. Rayson Cousens as Will Rawson makes a fine sailor; as General Fairway Mr. Wilfred Lyndon proves himself a talented actor; Mr. Andrew Emm producer and author of the play, wins great applause by his impersonation of Bob Wittles; and he is greatly assisted by Miss Lulu Bowes as Mary Parkins. Praise is due to Mr. Hubert Lindsay, who, as Sergeant Millwards, acts very well indeed. Miss Margherita Gordon scores a success in the rôle of the cunning Lucie Marton, little Miss Mabel Wall captivates the audience as Master Frank Fairway, and Madge Middleton finds a capable impersonatress in Miss Rosa Ralph.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24,
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company is sure of a hearty welcome and full houses here, and they enjoyed an excellent send-off on Monday with Shakespeare's ever-popular comedy. Mr. John Cairns gave an appropriate dignity to the part of Baptiste, Katherine's father, and Mr. Charles Warburton made Gremio a fine impersonation of servility; Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Lucentio was quietly effective and attractive; the character of Hortensio was discreetly embodied by Mr. F. Wicksteed; Mr. Henry Herbert as Petruchio was excellent, the brawling manner and hectoring disposition being clearly accentuated, without any suspicion of overacting and a peculiarly attractive voice enhancing his other qualifications for the part; Miss Gladys Vanderzee as Katherina, altogether good, her knitted brow and tiger-like displays of rage being most realistic; Miss Rosalind Grey as Bianca gave a most intelligent rendering; and Miss Mollie Lloyd lent significance to the small part of the Widow; the Tranio of Mr. H. S. Cohen was a careful study and most meritorious, his facial expression being very telling; Biondello was enacted in good low comedy style by Mr. Joseph O'Dowd; and the Grumio of Mr. Andrew Leigh was conceived in the same happy vein; Old Vincentio was well represented by Mr. F. J. Richardson; and Mr. Harry Ballantyne infused much humour into his performance as the Tailor; and the many small parts with which this play abounds were all efficiently filled.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Dramatic Comedy, by James Forbes,
"THE CHORUS LADY."

Mr. William Mollison's company, under the direction of Mr. Harold Neville, in *The Chorus Lady*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Rita Carlyle is a decided success as the chorus lady, Patrica O'Brien, being highly diverting in the comedy passages, as well as fully realising the dramatic possibilities of the part. As the ingenuous Nora O'Brien Miss Elsie Vron Neville acts naively and engagingly, and looks the part well; Mr. John Sims Woolley plays with buoyancy and ease as the popular Dan Mallory; and Mr Henry Ludlow portrays the blackguardly Dick Crawford in a suave and plausible manner, which is most impressive. Mr. Thomas Howes impersonates the easy-going Patrick O'Brien on sound lines; Mr. Eric Dane is well placed as Rogers; and Mr. R. F. Marshall smartly enacts the Shrimp. Miss Mabel Durrant's fine stage appearance adds to the effectiveness of her performance as Sylvia Simpson; Mrs. Josephine Woodward is a motherly and natural Mrs. O'Brien; the slatternly wardrobe womn Mrs. Cocte is appropriately played by Miss Agnes D'Aragon; the dairymaid Blanche has an able representative in Miss Jeannie FitzGeorge; and the chorus ladies are safely entrusted to Miss Kitty Wickstead (Evelyn Blair), Miss Marjorie Lawton (Millie Sultzer), Miss Hilda Donn (Inez La Rue), Miss Maud Bracewell (Rita Nicholls), and Miss Edie Wallace (Mai Delainey).

As a curtain-raiser, was presented on Monday night, for the first time on any stage, a one-act play, by Gerald Villiers Stuart, entitled
"THE DRUMS OF DOOM."

Judge Delaney .....Mr. Harold Neville
Billy Buckstone .....Mr C. A. R Shun
Dawson .....Mr. Eric Dane
Mrs. Jim Fitzgerald ..Miss Marjorie Lawton

This twenty-minute playlet, the action of which takes place in the private room of an hotel in the principal town of a Western State of America, was very favourably received at its initial performance on Monday night. The wife of Jim Fitzgerald receives private news of the pardon of her husband for a murder committed during a political riot, and is awaiting his release from gaol. The pardoning is very unpopular, and the Governor of the State is likely to be displaced in consequence. Further, if the news leaks out in the vicinity of the prison, the approaching execution will undoubtedly have to be carried out. Discussing the case with her lawyer, Judge Delaney, Mrs. Jim confides that the real reason Jim killed the man was in defence of her honour, and Delaney, in a striking speech, explains how unwise it was to have withheld this fact at the trial, but Mrs. Jim, unfortunately, has a past which her husband was constrained to shield. It is a tempestuous night as they sit in the hotel, peals of thunder being heard frequently. "Drums of joy" Mrs. Jim repeatedly calls them in her excess of happiness at the near reunion to her husband. Champagne is ordered, and she toasts her husband rapturously. As the time of Jim's arrival approaches, a visitor, in Billy Buckstone enters the room, and his blanched face indicates that all is not well. Mrs. Jim's "joy drums" he sorrowfully alludes to as "drums of doom," and aside tells Delaney brokenly that news of the pardon has leaked out through the hotel manager; that the mob are clamouring for the execution and that it will take place. Twelve o'clock, the time of the execution, draws near, and Mrs. Jim vividly pictures in her mind the tragic event, but adds, "Of course, it cannot happen, as Jim is pardoned." The telephone bell rings as the fatal hour strikes, and Mrs. Jim rushes to answer it, as Jim is now overdue. She is met with the awful intelligence of her husband's execution! With a wail she cries that the thunder was indeed the "drums of doom," and the end sees her fall to the ground in a swoon.

The interpretation of the dramatic little play was quite satisfactory. The histrionic and physical demands of the part of Mrs. Jim were very commendably met by Miss Marjorie Lawton, who received adequate support from Mr. Harold Neville as Judge Delaney; and in the two minor parts Mr. C. A. R. Shun as Billy Buckstone and Mr. Eric Dane as the hotel manager were successful.

EALING THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

In the opening scene of Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck's drama—a beautiful set with a view of the ocean—we are introduced to Dan and Nancy Ellington (Mr. Frank Stone and Miss H. Vigors). Years before Nancy had been saved from a wreck by Dan, and, growing up to be a lovable lass, became a sailor's bride. She is really a lost heiress, and is being searched for high and low. Her cousin, Richard Fenton (Mr. H. Booth) is engaged in the quest, his idea being either to marry the girl when found and share her money, or by putting her out of the way secure the whole fortune, he being the next heir. He is assisted by Peter Schalcher (Mr. E. Cheston), an enquiry agent, and as great a villain as himself. Jim Weaver, known as Surly Jim (Mr. B. Morley), and himself infatuated with Nancy, is used as an instrument to put Dan under the turf. The plan fails, and Jim is killed by Schalcher, and Dan, wrongfully accused of the crime, is convicted. In the prison yard—a most gruesome scene—we see the unfortunate Dan passing to his death, and here occurs an incident recalling the Babbicome murder of years ago. The instrument of execution fails three times to act, and the convict's sentence is reduced to penal servitude. Dan lingers seven years in prison, then the denouncement comes. Schalcher, in an attempt to escape with Dan, receives a death wound, and, dying, confesses that he—incited thereto by Fenton—is the real culprit. Fenton's arrest follows, Dan is rehabilitated, is rejoined to wife and child (prettily played by Miss Mabel Wall), and a pleasant vista of many happy years to come brings down the curtain. Comic relief from a somewhat gloomy theme is supplied by Snooks and Jenkins (Messrs. H. C. Morton and Tracey), joint pretenders for the affections of saucy Polly Blake (Miss N. Sheffield). Other parts are filled by Miss N. Gillmore as Mrs. Blake (Polly's mother), and Messrs. Griffiths, G. Cranfield, R. Martin, and R. Green. The drama is well played throughout by the company, and received an excellent reception.

FULHAM THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, by A. Conan Doyle, entitled
"THE SPECKLED BAND."

Mr. A. Hardy's company is doing well at Fulham and is well worth going to see. The company is good and contains some particularly clever artists. Mr. Bassett Roe's impersonation of Dr. Rylott is a wonderfully powerful study of a malignant personality, and it positively haunts one. Miss Mary Forbes does very well in the highly emotional part of Enid Stoner. Another little triumph is that of Mr. E. H. Brooke, as the rugged and determined Armytage. Mr. Ashton Tonge brings out forcibly the weakness of the character of the old butler Rodgers, and Mr. Vyvyan is good as the Indian Ali. Mr. Herbert Bradford does all that is needful in nice style as Scott Wilson, and Mr. Warmington plays the businesslike and unimaginative coroner to the life. As the four clients of Sherlock Holmes, Mr. A. Wyndham, Miss Lilian Rodgers, Mr. R. Lumley, and Mr. Warmington give well-considered studies of differing types of character. Master Philip Tonge is as bright and alert as usual as Billy, and Mr. Talbot Homewood is an eminently sane and sympathetic impersonator of the famous Dr. Watson. Miss Lilian Brennard plays the housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton, with force and point. Finally we have Mr. O. P. Heggie as the inimitable Sherlock Holmes. He plays with all the coolness, the decision, the quickness of perception, and the resource, and the biting humour that belong to the great character created by Conan Doyle, and realises our conceptions to the life.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's capital company is drawing excellent houses here with this highly successful naval play, lavishly staged and handsomely dressed. Mr. Edgar Kent as Richard Lascelles is excellent in every way, both voice and appearance being especially adapted to characters of this kind. Mr. A. V. Bramble gives a fine representation of Major William Thesiger; Mr. George Mallet furnishes an impressive and clever performance of the Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley Wynne; Mr. Vincent Fletcher is very good as John Penrose; General Gough-Bogle and Mrs. Gough-Bogle are capitally played by Mr. Lionel Isted and Miss Stella Leigh; Mr. John Cross is very good as Christopher Neate, as is Mr. George Percy as Surgeon Crutchley. Messrs. George Robinson and A. J. Harris are amusing as the Two Midshipmen. Other characters are well filled by Messrs. James Coulsden (Charles Penny), Harry Haste (George Blockley), Victor R. C. Moors (Thomas Steele), Gordon Hamilton (Joshua Borlase), John Belton (James Sloggett), Edward Harrison (Colonel McLeod), Gilbert Prentice (Captain Munro), Ian Chassereau (Memeti Salos), John Wheatman (Michael Palliser), and David Wilson (Servant). Miss Clarissa Selwynne gives a fine performance of Mrs. Cameron; Miss Dorothy Ripley is a charming Lady Hermione Wynne; Miss Winifred Valiant is a clever and attractive Viola Hood; and Miss Ada Clarke is decidedly good as Lady Dugdale.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, entitled
"ALONE IN LONDON."

This play makes the traditionally slack nights busy, and the Lyric patrons do not tire of it or of Miss Nellie Clyde, who continues to sustain the part of Nan with such dignity and pathos. Mr. Charles Gibboy is a capable Dick Redcliffe, and improves steadily the more he throws off restraint. The part of the banker, Mr. Burnaby, is well left in Mr. Gilbert Elvin's hands, and Mr. Herbert Grey conducts himself with ease as Walter Burnaby. John Biddlecombe is ably acted by Mr. John Macready; old Jenkinson meets with sound treatment at the hands of Mr. J. W. Wilkinson; Mr. Walter Dunlop is satisfactory as Spriggine; the part of Charlie Johnson is interpreted with a genial sympathy by Mr. Bruce Lindley; Mr. Robert White is amusing as the pot-boy; to Mr. John F. Cane and Mr. George Vincent respectively fall the rôles of the policeman and the police inspector; Miss Ethel F. Greene is quite effective as Tim Chickweed; Liz Jenkinson is suitably allotted to Miss Carrie Young; Miss Jessie Melville is typically hearty as Mrs. Maloney; and Miss Joan Harcourt is graceful and charming as Ruth Clifton, while Miss Hetty Hornsby as Little Paul is made for the part.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Comedy in Three Acts,
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

Mr. Gaston Mayer's excellent company in the popular *Mrs. Wiggs* is paying a return visit here. The little lady of "the patch" finds a most able exponent in Miss Lucy Beaumont, ever ready to hear other people's troubles, ease them, and patch them up, and never thinking of her own. Miss Beaumont is undoubtedly a host in herself. The difficult rôle of Miss Hazy is admirably enacted by Miss Armine Grace, and her efforts cause roars of laughter. Misses Sybil Brooke and Violet Vivian as Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz respectively are very mirth-provoking. Miss Winifred Murray is charming as Lovey Mary, her histrionic powers being of the highest order. The part of Miss Lucy is sympathetically played by Miss Ethne O'Brien. Little Miss Victoria Holmes is clever as Tommie, being quite at home as a boy, without that touch of artificiality generally associated with these characters. Mr. Fred Forrest makes a fine character study of Mr. Stubbins; he is perhaps at his best in the last act, when he returns home after his journey in a freight car. Mr. Ernest Gray is well placed as the weak, easily led Mr. Wiggs. A clever exponent of Mr. Bob is found in Mr. Robert Neilance. As the Sheriff Mr. Robin Shiells does well. Billy Wiggs and Chris Hazy find smart interpreters in the persons of Messrs. Walter Hick and Bailey Hick. Masters H. Lindsay and H. Jeffries make the most of the boys' parts of Micky and Eddie, and cause a large amount of fun. The remaining rôles are well filled by capable artists. The scenery, dresses, &c., are of the best, and the piece is a huge success and well received.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama entitled
"A LIFE FOR A LIFE."

Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company opened here this week with the strong emotional drama, *A Life for a Life*, by Walter Beaumont and Stephen Baring. Mr. C. H. Lester figures prominently as Don Fernandez, and makes a capital hero. Mr. Hugh Travers rises to the occasion as the villainous Pedro, throughout the play giving a most convincing performance. Mr. Bert Albert makes the most of his opportunities as Kit Oswald. Of the ladies Miss Beatrice Anderson is the central figure, her perfect delivery and vigorous acting being very commendable. Miss Dorothy Riddell in the somewhat difficult rôle of Kate Evelyn also gives an admirable portrayal. Wee Winnie Warden, who has been specially engaged to play the child's part, Venetta, plays well, and gives a delightful rendering of "Daddy." The comedy is successfully undertaken by Miss Nell Ingram and Mr. Horace Buckley as Nancy and Tim, and is clean, crisp, and without vulgarity. The minor parts are well placed. Well mounted, staged, and dressed, *A Life for a Life* is a pronounced success.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Chas. H. Longdon and Eric Hudson, entitled
"MAN'S ENEMY."

The attraction this week is the drama *Man's Enemy*, which allows the stock company engaged ample opportunities of displaying their abilities. Mr. Sanderson Moffatt as Harry Stanton gives a very powerful impersonation of the easily-led young man who allows drink to almost deprive him of his senses. The scene in the doss-house kitchen is very effectively carried out, and received warm approval from the audience. Tom Drake is skilfully played by Mr. Hugh Carmichie. Mr. Harry McClelland as Bill Saunders has a character that suits him admirably, and represents the villain's accomplice in a manner which shows him to be an actor of ability. Isaac Barnett as played by Mr. Herbert Lewis is an admirable representation; Mr. Harvey White creates amusement as Adolphe Benbonpoint, and is ably assisted in this respect by Miss Lizzie Chambers as Polly Harris; Mr. Julian Bainbridge is well placed as the Rev. Fred Lisle; Mr. Archibald Grant plays the police-constable quite naturally, and is well adapted for this description of character; Miss Kathleen Doyle is dainty and graceful as Grace Lisle; Sally Banks is cleverly represented by Miss Gabrielle Romero; and Miss Marie Frederick's Mrs. Saunders is a very neat performance. A word of praise must be given to Miss May Maddison for her natural portrayal of Nelly Saunders. The drama was staged in a most elaborate manner, some of the scenes being very effective, the producer being Mr. H. G. Braddon. Some excellent films were shown on the screen by the Bioscope, and the orchestra rendered excellent selections in the intervals. Mr. Chas. Hardly is Mr. Macnaghten's able and courteous manager.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Play, by Geo. Grossmith, jun., and Graham Hill, in Three Acts, entitled
"HAVANA."

Musical comedy always has a charm for Kingston playgoers, and, knowing this, Mr. Peter Davey is giving the patrons of the theatre an opportunity of witnessing that amusing and tuneful production *Havana*. The company is toured by Mr. Alexander Leighton, and it is a strong, numerous, and most capable combination. Chief honours are carried off by Miss Hebe Bliss, who is appearing in the part of Consuelo, which she invests with a charm which makes her many friends in every part of the house. Her fine contralto voice is heard to advantage in many of the principal numbers, particularly in "The Cuban girl" song. Miss Winnie Brown makes a winsome Anita. The part of Isabelita is in the hands of Miss Edith Barwell, who acquits herself well; and as the four Cuban beauties Miss Jeanie Rose, Miss Ena Gordon, Miss Dora Gray, and Miss Connie Emerald win much favour by their concerted singing and dancing. Chief amongst the male members of the company is Mr. Sidney T. Peace, who presents a most amusing picture of the bo'sun of the steam yacht Wasp. Mr. Peace's drolleries as the pneumatic seaman cause great laughter; and he is ably assisted by Mr. Rec. Edwards. Other parts are ably filled by Mr. Oliver Rogers, as Jackson Villiers; by Mr. J. Brian Ridout, as the Hon. Frank Charteris; by Mr. Arthur Wingrove, as Bombito del Campo; by Mr. Cyril R. Percival, as the Don Adolfo; and by Mr. John Sandbrook, as Diego. The chorus is a most capable one all round, the dresses are superb, and the scenery all that could be desired. The play is being produced by Mr. Pascoe Rutter, Mr. Harry Hatfield being assistant stage manager, and Mr. Wilfred Esmond acting-manager. The orchestra and the chorus are under thoe direction of Mr. J. H. Yorke.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Agenda for the Council meeting, held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 2.30 p.m. Present: Mr. R. A. Greene (in the chair), Messrs. C. F. Collings, Cyril Cattley, Basil Dean, Henry Pettitt, Cecil A. Collins, Langford Reed, Fred Annerley, F. J. Arlton, Murri Moncrieff, Edward Morgan, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, secretary.

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th inst., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same. The chairman read a letter from Miss Nesta Sandford making a complaint against a member, and the secretary was instructed, on the motion of Mr. Cattley, seconded by Mr. Collings, to send a copy of Miss Nesta Sandford's letter to the member concerned and ask him to favour the Council with an explanation.

The Council interviewed certain members with reference to engagements offered them by Miss Gertrude Kingston. Another member gave the Council particulars of his interview with Mr. Oscar Asche and his manager, and after discussion it was proposed by Mr. Collings, seconded by Miss Chester, that the letter previously drafted be sent to the Press, together with copies of the letters from the complainants, with the distinct understanding that the names of the complainants were not for publication, but merely as evidence of good faith. On being put to the meeting the motion was carried by 10 to 3.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan and adopted. Mr. Cattley reported that, after consultation with the secretary, the Finance Committee recommended that letters be written to the members whose agency fees were overdue, and this was carried on the motion of Mr. Cattley, seconded by Mr. Dean.

Nominations:—Trevor Sylvaine and Stanley H. Groome.

The secretary reported five engagements through the Agency. The Council then considered Mr. Montague Wigan's sketch scheme. Mr. Henry Pettitt submitted the recommendations of the sub-committee thereupon, and after a prolonged discussion, contributed to by the chairman, Messrs. Langford Reed, F. J. Arlton, Cyril Cattley, C. F. Collings, and Misses Joan Pereira, and Beatrice Chester, the secretary was instructed, on the motion of Mr. Cattley, seconded by Mr. Langford Reed, to convey the Council's hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Wigan and the sub-committee for their labours, and to say that the Council regretted they could not see their way to proceed further in the matter.

A Vienna correspondent telegraphs that Herr Felix von Weingartner, Director of the Imperial Opera, has resigned his position, and that Director Gregor, of the Berlin Comic Opera, has been engaged as his successor.

An interesting matinée will be given on Thursday next at the Crystal Palace Theatre, when the Grotesques will appear in their enjoyable entertainment, which is proving successful at the Savoy.

GERMAN NOTES.

The Kaiser and Caruso.

THE birthday of the German Empress on Saturday last was the occasion of a concert given at Potsdam, in the famous jasper gallery of the Imperial Palace, at which both Mme. Geraldine Farrar and Signor Caruso were heard. The former sang the old Irish song "The Bluebell," and, by special request, the Emperor's favourite, "The lass with the delicate air." On Caruso the Kaiser conferred the title of "Königlicher Kammersänger." Another honour was bestowed on the Countess Agnes Minotto, better known by her stage name of Agnes Sorma, already the possessor of many German and foreign decorations, to whom was awarded the medal or Red Cross. Frau Agnes Sorma, who, with the company of the Neues Schauspielhaus, from Berlin, is on tour at Amsterdam, is appearing there as Marie Heink in *Das Konzert*, one of Hermann Bahr's most successful plays. Meanwhile, the German capital is suffering from a severe attack of Caruso fever. As in Hamburg, so in Berlin, a corner in the best seats has been engineered. The daily papers are full of advertisements offering tickets for the Caruso performances at fabulous prices. Five-shilling seats for *Aida*, for instance, honoured by the presence of the Emperor, are offered at £5, and three fauteuils adjoining each other in the last row of the stalls are valued at £50. A movement is on foot to follow the example set by the authorities in Bayreuth, and to make the speculative traffic in tickets illegal.

Divers Orders and Honours.

AT a meeting of the Municipal Council of Marienbad, the management of the Stadt Theater, frequently visited by the late King Edward VII. during his numerous stays at the picturesque Bohemian watering-place, has been entrusted for the next five years to the present intendant, Director Julius Laska, who has held this appointment for the past twenty-two years, in addition to acting as director of the Kurtheater in Meran. A number of honours in the theatrical world are announced: The German Emperor has appointed Frau Martha Leffler-Burckhardt, of the Royal Theatre at Wiesbaden, to be "Königliche Kammersängerin"; the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has conferred the Saxon Ernestine Order on the famous singer Richardi, of the Coburg Opera, in honour of the thirtieth anniversary of his début; Director Julius Heydecker has received from the Prince of Hohenzollern, at Sigmaringen, the Hohenzollern gold medal for art and science *bene merenti*; and at Schwerin, on the occasion of their retirement from the Court Theatre, the General Intendant, Baron Karl von Ledebur, on behalf of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, decorated Herr Paul Arendt, leaving after twenty-five years' service, with the Cross of a Knight of the Order of the Griffin, and Herr Reinhard Cabano, who retires at the age of seventy-two, after twenty years' connection with the Grand Ducal stage, with the gold medal *pour le mérite*.

Mayence and Heligoland.

IN addition to the old-established municipal house, the Stadttheater, which is under the control of Director Max Behrend, well known to London audiences in German plays, the town of Mainz (Mayence) has opened another permanent theatre. This, known as the Neues Theater, under the management of Directors Pangoff and Strecker, is a magnificent new structure, erected on the site of the old Kötherhof Theater, which, in endeavouring to provide variety entertainment, was unable to compete with Director August Landau's Apollo Theater. The opening ceremony commenced with a prologue, spoken by the wife of Director Pangoff, after which a performance of *Hohes Spiel* (*High Play*), a drama in three acts, by Ernst Didring, was given. Another new theatre is to be erected on the island of Heligoland in place of the present old structure, which grew out of a large shed used during the period of the Continental blockade by Napoleon I. as a storehouse for British goods in transit for Hamburg. It was under the last British Governor (prior to the cession of the island to Germany), Sir William Maxse, who had married a German actress, that drama took a firm hold on the little rock. Frau Käte Basté, "in recognition of her valuable artistic services for many years past," will retain the post of directress of the new theatres.

The Ninety-first "Francesca."

UNDER the collective title of *Panspiele* there were produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Schauspielhaus in Cologne, on Saturday, Oct. 22, three plays of one act each, from the pen of Karl Hauptmann. The first two, entitled respectively *Frau Nadja Bielen* and *Der Antiquar*, met with but a cool reception, whereas unstinted and well-deserved applause was accorded to the third playlet, *Im Goldenen Tempelbuche verzeichnet* (*Recorded in the Golden Book of the Temple*), which is taken from an old Japanese legend, and deals with the flight of two of the Emperor's favourites, and their subsequent adventures disguised as beggar girls. Another *première* on the same day was a drama in five acts, by Gustav Renner, entitled *Francesca*, produced at the Royal Wilhelma Theatre in Stuttgart. The story of Francesca Polenta, of her unfortunate marriage with Lanciotto Malatesta da Rimini, and her love for his brother Paolo, apart from Danté's masterly treatment in the fifth canto of his "Inferno," has been dealt with by Boccaccio, d'Annunzio, Ludwig Uhland, Paul Heyse, and Phillips, no fewer than forty-eight plays and forty-two operas dealing with the subject being in existence. Gustav Renner, whose drama *Merlin* was produced in Berlin at the Royal Theatre four years ago, is a Silesian by birth, and a prolific poet of undoubted strength.

Russian Variety Contracts.

A TIMELY warning has been issued by the International Artists' Lodge, in Berlin, to the effect that artists signing contracts for Russian engagements should be careful to ascertain how many holidays fall into the month or months for which they are being booked. Since every holiday means the loss of a day's salary, and as there are frequently from seven to ten such holidays within the period of one month, this is by no means a trivial matter. The normal contract of the International Artists' Lodge provides a blank space in which should be enumerated all such holidays for which salary can be deducted. The manager, before sending out the contract, is thus obliged to specify the holidays occurring during the period of the engagement. An important point in Russian law is to the effect that any clauses struck out of the body of the contract must be enumerated and specified at the foot of the document, thus: "Paragraphs 3 and 4 are struck out." All contracts, according to Russian law, become null and void whenever a cholera epidemic is declared (by official proclamation of the Government) to be prevalent in a certain district. The Russian calendar, too, is a pitfall. It should be borne in mind that it is thirteen days behind our own. Thus an engagement commencing on Aug. 16, Russian style, begins actually on Aug. 29 of our own calendar. The precise date is generally expressed thus: August 16/29.

Maximilian Harden's Cameos.

PERHAPS these essays on some eighteen of the leading figures in Europe of the past quarter-century are more than vignettes; at any rate, they are limned by the hand of a master, probably the most trenchant of German essayists. The handsome volume under notice, entitled "Köpfe" ("Heads"), is from the pen of Maximilian Harden, known to the world at large as the undaunted exponent in the recent unsavoury Prince Eulenburg scandal. A fair proportion of these character sketches is devoted to the arts, notably the drama.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER MOLOCH."

Play, in Three Acts, by Leo Birinski, Produced at the Modernes Theatre, Oct. 23.

Ramusoff ..... HERR PFANZ
Nina ..... FRAULEIN MONATI
Sasha ..... HERR WEIGERT
Fedor ..... HERR FELIX
Waspa ..... HERR FEHER
Bjelkin ..... HERR MUHLBERG
Stefkin ..... HERR RUTHLING
Malinoff ..... HERR GARRISON
Lapuchin ..... HERR HEIMER
Dr. Spielmann ..... HERR SCHONFELDER
Ninta ..... FRAULEIN MEISSNER
Agrasena ..... FRAULEIN LINDNER
Ivan ..... HERR REUSS
Ossip ..... HERR MECHLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Oct. 27.—The author has written an unmistakably interesting play. For nervous people, however, the work cannot be recommended. The majority of the audience followed the development of the plot with breathless interest that was almost painful, and the closing scene proved too much for several present. Ramusoff and his wife Nina are a simple-minded old couple, with little or no understanding of the theories of the revolutionist party. Their eldest son, Sasha, whom they think is away in America, is in prison for his principles, inculcated all unknown to the old couple. Fedor and Waspa, his younger brothers—youths of nineteen and twenty-one—are also members of the Terrorists' band, and secret meetings are carried on in the quiet home of the Ramusoffs, under the very nose of the unsuspecting father and mother. Sasha's friends make a bold stroke, and manage to rescue him from jail. He is destined by his party for a terrible deed—that of murdering the Governor, to whose adjutant the young man bears a strong resemblance, a coincidence which fits him better for the mission than another. Sasha, however, disappoints his comrades. In the solitude of his prison-cell he has had time to think over matters, and has become a pessimistic philosopher. Humanity, he declares, is the Moloch that tears itself to pieces in destroying its fellows, and for bombs and infernal machines there is no necessity. Sasha does not express his sentiments very lucidly, although he uses many words, but the fact is apparent that the young man is no longer the bold terrorist he was. After long discussion, he allows himself to be overruled, and consents to carry out the deed, on condition that he may die with his victim. The sacrifice is not made, for the misguided youth falls dead from a bullet fired by the soldiers, who have discovered his whereabouts and made a raid upon Ramusoff's dwelling. The old father, in his horror and astonishment at the course things have taken, loses his reason, and the curtain descends upon a painfully tragic scene. A cordial reception was accorded to the play, which would be improved by cutting. The interpretation was not altogether satisfactory, if we except the renderings of Herr Pfanz and Herr Weigert, which were excellent.

THE topic of the hour is the appointment of Herr Hans Gregor, manager and lessee of the Berlin Komische Oper, to the position of director of the Imperial Opera at Vienna. Herr Gregor will be greatly missed here, but none of his admirers grudge him the change, which is doubtless far more remunerative in these hard and capricious times. The popular manager has signed a ten years' contract with the Viennese Intendantur, and will enter upon his new duties early in the New Year. Who will be his successor at our Komische Oper has not yet been made public, is probably not even yet decided, but I think I am not far wrong in surmising Herr Hermann Gura as the future director. Herr Gregor, by the way, is married to an American singer.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh's Début.

FEW playgoers are aware that it was in a burlesque of Sir Henry Irving's production of *Faust*, which was running at Toole's Theatre, that Miss Violet Vanbrugh made her first appearance on the stage, but she has told readers of *The Sketch* so in a most interesting interview. "I was a girl in my early teens at the time," says Miss Vanbrugh, "and was living with Miss Ellen Terry, who was a friend of my mother's. I used often to go with her to the Lyceum. In this way I got to know Mr. Harry Loveday, who was Sir Henry Irving's stage-manager, and through him I met his brother, Mr. George Loveday, who occupied the corresponding position with Mr. Toole.

Her First Chance.

"I HAD told Mr. George Loveday that I wanted to go on the stage, and one morning, quite unexpectedly, Miss Terry got a letter from him saying that if I was still staying with her and wanted to go on the stage, I might get the chance if I was at the theatre at half-past ten. As I had been trying to get an engagement for six months, I was not late for the appointment.

Depending on a Dress.

"WHEN I saw Mr. Loveday he asked me whether I still wanted to go on. I told him I was dying to. 'Well,' he said, 'can you go on to-night?' 'Yes, of course I can,' I replied. 'Well,' he said, 'it will depend on whether you can wear Miss La Capilaine's dress. She has got an engagement at the Gaiety, and if her things can be made to fit you (for she is bigger than you), you shall come on.' He called the housekeeper, and sent me up with her into the dressing-room. I put on the clothes, and, by putting a stitch in here and a pin somewhere else, we got them to fit sufficiently well; so that when I went down to show myself to Mr. Loveday he nodded and said I would do. 'Be here at four o'clock,' he said, 'to go through the parts with the stage-manager,' and he gave me a couple of sheets, bound in brown paper, which represented the long-hoped-for parts. Before I got home I knew the few lines of the choruses of the songs I had to sing.

Miss Terry's Pigtails.

"WHEN I reached home, I was, of course, off my head with excitement. Miss Terry took me down with her to the Lyceum that night, and as the burlesque did not begin until ten o'clock, she made me up herself in her dressing-room and pinned two of her own 'pigtails' on to my hair for my first part. I remember I was frightfully proud of wearing Miss Terry's 'pigtails,' for she had worn them herself as Marguerite, and, so that I might not lose them, I not only pinned them to the cap which covered my own hair, but fastened them to my belt as well.

One of the "Mashers."

"I was sent to Toole's Theatre in Miss Terry's own carriage, which had to wait for me to take me straight back to her after the performance was over. In the second act, as I have said, I was a masher, and, as far as I remember, most of the part consisted of singing, with five other girls, 'We are six mashers, tra, la, la!' I probably did not make much of that chorus that evening. Before I went down to the theatre, however, a most important matter had to be decided—my stage name. We called out all sorts of names, and Miss Edith Craig—Miss Terry's daughter—wrote down thirty or forty of those we liked best. Eventually we chose 'Violet Vanbrugh,' though what made me do so I can't tell. 'Vanbrugh' had somehow always been more or less familiar, and I fancy that it was borne by some distant connections of my father's family."

THE PROGRESS OF ACTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I hope certain points urged by Mr. H. B. Irving in his Salon lecture at the Adelphi Hotel, reported in your current issue, will not pass altogether without practical result. I refer to his remarks relative to the artistry of acting, to his claim for it as a potent craft of high distinction worthy the more earnest consideration and sympathy of public and critics. He suggests that discerning attention on the part of the critics to the actor's art would raise the general standard of acting, and help and encourage the individual artist in an ever difficult accomplishment. He points the danger to the art, also, in the increased and extraordinary attention which is almost exclusively nowadays centred upon the play; an attention, as I endeavoured to indicate in a letter some time ago, justifiably accruing to the drama as reward of its awakened vitality and truth to modern life. In short, the tenor of Mr. Irving's reference to the subject points generally—the quite discernable fact that acting is an art that has reached a crisis in its development, and must bestir itself actively if it would retain its place as a real and living power.

In June last, in your columns, in this connection I urged that "the Actors' Association might seek to institute lectures and addresses on technique, training, and the fundamentals of capacity and ideals, by eminent members of the profession, by dramatists and critics, and to encourage discussion and a literature on the subject." Mr. Irving's exordium forms the first corroboration that I have met that has emanated from a weighty source. But is it, one may ask, only the critics that we have to reproach with a lack of attention to professional art? Have not the great mass of players some just complaint against their eminent leaders? Mr. Martin Harvey once said some pertinent things on technique which were printed in "'The Stage' Year Book," but for the most part authoritative voices are studiously—perhaps too modestly—silent. The profession needs the leadership of new and more vital working ideals, and these are generated by individuals who have reached a certain eminence, and, on the whole, are alone clearly visualised by such as have achieved this distinction. All will agree with the distinguished actor that the theatre must be organised to "maintain in the public esteem the imperishable greatness of the higher forms of dramatic art." But in what, technically, does the "higher form" of acting consist? The bulk of the profession is almost entirely of mediocre conception on this and other vital points. The impulse of clear, highly aspiring, personal force, is perhaps the only leaven that will spread and revitalise the art. Our leading actors deliver lectures to the public; why not also, more directly, to the workers with whom the only hope for the larger regeneration lies.

It is not only work the aspirant needs. There is plenty of rough and tumble experience to be gained in the provinces—repertory theatres and répertoire companies have arisen in quite remarkable profusion in the last year or two—what is needed is direction for those who have gained a certain ready facility of technique that shall carry them on the right paths towards the higher expression of the art of acting. Cleverness in the provincial ranks is undeniable, but its standards of satisfying accomplishment are cheap and low. The refinements of the art are often, on the one hand, assumed to coincide with lack of strength and ineffectiveness, and on the other, powerful presentation is often taken to denote chiefly a louder noise.

In this connection also—and to bring the matter to date—does not the art of acting require new statement? The technique of yesterday cannot serve for to-day, and less for to-morrow, because the psychology of life changes, and its expression with it. Mr. Shaw has pointed out that the actor—in public at least—feels, not according to himself, but according to stage tradition. The past ages dealt chiefly in tangibilities in physicality, in sound and action, but something of a new atmosphere of soulfulness, mystery, and thoughtfulness to-day envelops all our motions and adventures. What is the new technique that must inevitably arise to express these conditions of modern life? The concrete school was born out of Shakespeare, the master of the concrete world; where is the school who shall follow Maeterlinck into the no less alive realms of silence and spirit? For this is the school that will help to bring back vitality to a profession that suffers, perhaps chiefly through dealing in antiquated forms and through lacking power in the psychological phenomena of the present and imminent ages.

A National Theatre might organise the scattered theatrical forces and perhaps create standards and ideals; but there is in the meantime a field for our distinguished artists who care to give the humbler workers the benefit of their wide experience and personal views.—Yours faithfully,

BREMBER WILLS.

Actors' Association,
Oct. 25, 1910.

"THE FAMILY."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Family, a domestic drama, in three acts, by Robert H. Davis, was produced at the Comedy Theatre, New York, on the 11th inst. The characters are members of a small New England community, and the story is about a family that could not be divided even when trouble came. The chief incident is the elopement of Madeline Sneed, the daughter, with Paul Churchill, the drum-major of a minstrel troupe, with whom she becomes infatuated during his visit to her home. The young couple put up at an hotel, and there the old folks visit them, supposing them to be married. The minstrel man has failed to keep his promise, however, and after trying to deceive her parents, the girl breaks down and confesses. Her betrayer makes himself scarce, and some time after Madeline has been taken home, the news comes that he has been killed in a railway accident. This seems simple and commonplace enough, but it is characterisation that counts in a play of this kind. Moreover, there are the various incidents supposed to be typical of New England village life, most of them laughable and all of them interesting. Then there is a stirring scene when David Sneed, the brother, learns the truth about his sister and springs to the door, which his mother has locked, declaring that he will kill the drum-major. The mother refuses to give up the key and restrains the boy as he struggles to get out. While this is happening the minstrel troupe passes the hotel, and the strains of the band are heard. The lad breaks away from his mother, and in his impotent rage hurls a heavy inkstand through the window. In the last act another strong scene occurs when David discovers the news of Churchill's death in a newspaper. Incidentally, the slang David uses, his hatred of work, and his love for his dog help to create diversion. The dog is named Roosevelt, which affords occasional opportunity for pointed political allusions. The animal is supposed to be lost in the first act and is not seen until the final moments of the play. His restoration to his master keeps "the family" intact. Finally there is general rejoicing when David reforms and goes to work. Father takes mother in his arms, the sisters embrace, and David hugs the dog. Exceedingly clever and amusing is Mr. John Westley's embodiment of the "tough" sporty youth, whose slangy conversation is as incomprehensible as Greek to his mother. The other characters are well represented by Miss Julie Herne, Miss Mabel Bert, Mr. Sam Edwards, and Mr. Thomas Meighan.

"THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION."

Domestic Drama, in Three Acts, by Cecil Newton, Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, on Thursday, Oct. 20.

Father Peter Baptiste ..... MR. CECIL NEWTON
Alfred Raby ..... MR. HOWARD BRENAN
Ernest Allan ..... MR. SYDNEY PORTER
Algernon Herrick ..... MR. SYDNEY PALFREY
Claude Raby ..... MR. ANGUS WINTER
Apps ..... MR. GERALD ALEXANDER
Hospital Attendant ..... MR. W. WHITEHEAD
Inspector of Police ..... MR. HENRY FIELD
Martin ..... MR. R. NORTCOMBE
Violet Raby ..... MISS EVELYN CARLETON
Kate Allan ..... MISS ETHEL LODGE
Nurse Varley ..... MISS IRENE ASH
Nurse Ponting ..... MISS W. HOLCOMBE
Olive Webb ..... MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

There is much to commend in *The Hour of Temptation*, but there is also much that needs alteration ere the play can count upon a successful run. The play, as a whole, is good, but portions of it require judicious pruning, while others need strengthening. Claude Raby, whose intemperance has brought him to the verge of starvation, is living in a Lambeth slum with his wife and child when he receives tidings that he has inherited a large fortune. The letter encloses a bank note for £5; but Raby decides to keep the news from his wife for the present, and, under pretence of seeking work, goes out to spend the money. Violet Raby has found a friend in Olive Webb, a beautiful girl of doubtful reputation and intemperate habits. She is not wholly bad, and ungrudgingly produces her last coin, and goes to buy food for Violet. During her absence, Violet is sought out by her former lover, Ernest Allan, who entreats her to leave the man who has wrecked her life, and make a home with his sister and himself. Violet is, however, staunch to her husband, and Allan departs regretfully. A brawl outside announces Claude Raby's return in a hopelessly intoxicated state and flourishing a loaded revolver, which she endeavours to wrest from him, with the result that it goes off, wounding Raby. Violet believes she has killed her husband; but Olive Webb, on her return, declares he is only slightly wounded. Nevertheless, she takes the distracted girl and her child to her own house until Raby recovers sufficiently to clear his wife of suspicion. At this point Alfred Raby, Claude's brother, appears. He has heard of Claude's accession to fortune, and being next heir, conceives the fiendish idea of strangling the now half-conscious man, leaving suspicion to rest on Violet. Father Baptiste enters in time to witness the conclusion of the struggle; but Claude Raby is beyond human aid, and Alfred, after emptying a small phial, tells the priest he has taken a deadly poison, beseeching him to hear his dying confession and grant him absolution. The ceremony over, Raby informs his confessor that the contents of the phial were harmless, and mockingly reminds him that the vows of the priesthood forbid him to divulge the secret told at confessional. Such an incident, of course, helps the dramatist; but what so obviously insincere a penitent could hope to gain by confession it is difficult to conceive.

The second act opens in Alfred Raby's flat, whither comes Olive Webb, whom he has in former years ruined and deserted. Raby learns that Olive was an unsuspected witness to his confession, and the price of her silence is that he makes her his wife. There is a powerful scene, in which Olive breaks a window to attract the attention of the police, threatening to tell the whole story, and, driven to bay, Raby accedes to her terms. The scene changes to St. Thomas's Hospital, where Ernest Allan is house surgeon and his sister nurse. Violet Raby has sought refuge with them, but she is tracked by Raby, who denounces her as his brother's murderess. Claude Raby's body has been brought to the hospital for post-mortem examination, and Allan's declaration that his death was caused by strangulation puts a temporary check on Violet's persecutor, and with the aid of Algernon Herrick, an empty-headed, but good-natured medical student, she escapes in a nurse's uniform.

The last act opens with a stormy scene between Raby and Olive Webb. Raby has not kept his promises, and Olive, weary of gilded captivity and vainly endeavouring to drown her remorse in drink, begs him to confess his crime and save the innocent girl who is being hunted for it; but Raby points out that her silence has made her an accessory to the murder. Father Baptiste visits the flat and implores Raby to release him from the seal of silence and save Violet, but his appeal is vain, and Raby starts for Scotland Yard to obtain a warrant for her arrest. During his absence Ernest Allan and Herrick, failing to gain an interview with him, enter by the window, and finding Olive in a drunken frenzy, wring the truth from her. In the next scene, Olive, having escaped from Raby's surveillance, comes past the church of St. Francis. She defies Raby, and announces her readiness to meet the consequences of her act. The singing of the choristers comes from within the church, and kneeling, the sinner prays for pardon. The act concludes in the Church of St. Francis, where Violet Raby comes to pray and seek the blessing of Father Baptiste before her life pays forfeit for another's crime. She commits her child to the priest's care, and kneels before the altar. Ernest Allan enters, and implores Father Baptiste to speak before it is too late, but he is closely followed by Raby and an officer holding a warrant for Violet's arrest. The priest battles with the fierce temptation to break his vows and save an innocent woman, and he is about to speak when Olive rushes in and prevents him. Her story, of course, clears Violet, and ensures the arrest of the real murderer, on whom the curtain falls kneeling for mercy.

Mr. Cecil Newton was distinctly successful as the priest, though his opportunities were not numerous; Mr. Howard Brenan played the villain with sinister effect; Mr. Sidney Porter gave a manly rendering of Ernest Allan; Mr. Angus Winter was quite equal to the part of Claude Raby; and Mr. Sydney Palfrey satisfactorily accounted for Algernon Herrick. Miss Florence Tyrrell acted admirably throughout as Olive Webb. No tinge of coarseness marred her portrayal, and the better nature struggling for victory was cleverly delineated. Another excellent performance was Miss Evelyn Carleton's Violet Raby, a creation of intense pathos and marked power. Miss Ethel Lodge was successful in the lighter part of Kate Allan. The last act has a setting of undeniable beauty, with its pealing organ and procession of white-robed choristers. The play was received with considerable favour by a full house.

IN the Court of King's Bench on the 21st inst., Mr. Frank Rothsay, theatrical manager, of Hull, sued Mr. George Augustus Loveridge, landlord of the West London Theatre, Church-street, St. Marylebone, for damages for alleged breach of agreement. Defendant denied that there was any such agreement. Plaintiff contended that on Aug. 25, 1909, defendant agreed, through his solicitors, to let the West London Theatre to witness for a period of twenty weeks, from Sept. 13, at £12 10s. per week. Later defendant refused to carry out the agreement, and consequently plaintiff had sustained damage.

DEFENDANT contended that no agreement was concluded between himself and the plaintiff, as the latter failed to comply with a condition that he should pay the costs of preparing the agreement. After hearing evidence in support of counsel's statements, his lordship said he did not think there was any concluded agreement, and gave judgment for defendant, with costs.

THE MATINEE HAT CASE.

The case of Dann *v.* Curzon was commenced before his Honour Judge Woodfall in the Westminster County Court on the 17th inst. There were two actions, by Mr. Thomas Lumley Dann, a press agent, of Hind-court, Fleet-street, and his wife, Ethele Lumley Dann, each to recover a sum alleged to have been "verbally agreed to be paid by the defendant, Frank Curzon, for assisting in carrying out, by way of advertisement, at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, a certain matinée hat incident, on April 2, 1910." The husband claimed £100, and the wife £52 10s.

Mr. Patrick Rose-Innes and Mr. Lilley appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. W. G. S. Schwabe for the defendant.

Mr. Lilley, opening the case for the plaintiffs, said Mr. Dann had abandoned £5 of his claim to reduce the amount to £100 and bring it within his honour's jurisdiction. The claim was for services rendered to the defendant, Mr. Frank Curzon, who, amongst other things, was lessee and manager of the Prince of Wales' Theatre, where, in March last, a play called *The Balkan Princess* was produced, he believed, with Miss Isabel Jay as the leading lady. Mr. Dann, who was acting as press manager at some of the London theatres, was appointed in that capacity at the Prince of Wales' for *The Balkan Princess*. Miss Isabel Jay wore a hat upon which press comments were favourable, on the ground that it was likely to solve the difficult problem which had troubled theatrical managers for a considerable time. A hope was expressed that ladies would be content to wear such hats at theatres. It occurred to Mr. Dann that a scheme might be devised which would set at rest the vexed question, and the matter was discussed with Mr. Curzon, Mr. Dann outlining a scheme which would have three advantages—calling attention to the seriousness of the matinée hat question, advertising Mr. Curzon, and procuring a decision from a court as to whether a theatre manager could refuse to allow ladies to occupy seats for which they had paid, if their occupancy of the seats obstructed the view of others who had paid for seats behind them. Eventually, it was agreed that the scheme should be adopted, and Mr. Dann was to have a hundred guineas. A lady and gentleman were enlisted to help in the scheme, and Mrs. Dann entered the theatre, with a lady friend, and took seats in the stalls, in front of the seat occupied by a gentleman who was a party to the scheme. The gentleman complained rather forcibly about the size of the ladies' hats, and the ladies refused to remove them because of the brusque manner in which they had been addressed. Mr. Curzon was called, and the ladies complained, in accordance with the parts which had been written out for them. They left their seats, and continued to go through their parts, with Mr. Curzon. They passed through the theatre doors, and Mr. Curzon refused to let them re-enter, placing his hand on Mrs. Dann's shoulder to commit the technical assault for which he was afterwards to be summoned. A summons was issued, the parties appeared at the Bow-street police-court, and a considerable amount of notoriety was secured, Mr. Curtis Bennett, the magistrate, holding that Mr. Curzon was perfectly right in what he did. The whole object of the scheme was attained, and the plaintiff sought to get his remuneration, but he had been unsuccessful.

Mr. Dann and Mrs. Dann having given evidence in support of their claims, Mr. Curzon, in evidence, stated that he thought Dann's scheme good, and consented to it, but he always understood that it was not to be a police court case but an action for damages, and he would get a decision as to whether he was entitled to turn away a lady with a large hat on like these two. It was absolutely untrue that he was to pay 100 guineas or 50 guineas. Nothing was said about payment of any kind, but he naturally paid expenses for anything of a special nature like this. He dismissed the plaintiff, but it was nothing to do with the matinée hat incident. "He said," continued Mr. Curzon, "that he should write to the papers about the Matinée Hat Exhibition, and I forbade him to, and I told him to leave."

Cross-examined: He had employed very few press agents. The plaintiff's scheme was a striking form of advertisement, but he did not want an ending like that arranged by the plaintiff. He wanted a matinée hat action, and not to be a defendant at a police court. He did not think it a very unpleasant thing for anyone to abuse a lady's hat. Some people would be very pleased to do it. (Laughter.) Some other people might think it unpleasant. Had Mr. Dann suggested that he wanted £10 for each person taking part he might have agreed to it, but nothing was said about it.

By the Judge: There was no assault, and he denied touching Mrs. Dann. He denied it at the police-court. It was decided that he could prevent people remaining in the theatre with "these atrocious hats."

His Honour: The advertisement was incidental?

Defendant: Oh, naturally, yes.

His Honour: Was there to be an exhibition of matinée hats?

Defendant: Yes. I withdrew it because I thought it would be a "frost."

Thomas Benjamin Vaughan, general manager of the defendant's theatrical matters, gave evidence bearing out that of the defendant. The incident, he said, was part of the ordinary work of the press agent. Mr. Dann was getting £5 a week from each of two theatres, and something extra was expected from him.

Mr. Houston, the treasurer at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, also gave evidence.

Mr. Lilley, who produced the signed judgment for £104 on the promissory note, said that it was signed in July, and he submitted that it could not be pleaded as a set-off.

On Monday his Honour, in giving judgment, said the plaintiffs allege that the defendant agreed to pay them for their services in carrying out the venture. I am of opinion that the agreement alleged is illegal, being contrary to public policy, and that no action is maintainable upon it. And this for two reasons:—(1) The spectacle of two ladies being peremptorily and brusquely treated might well have aroused interlocution on their behalf and led to a serious breach of the peace. (2) The invocation of a Court of Law to punish an offence which, to the knowledge of the parties had not been, even technically committed, was in the nature of a fraud on the administration of justice. I, therefore, dismiss the two actions, and leave each party to pay his own costs. In case of a successful appeal against this decision, and to save the expense of a second hearing, I will state what otherwise would have been my finding and decision. I find that the defendant did agree to pay the plaintiff, Dann, £105; that the defendant's set-off is valid; and I should have given judgment accordingly for the defendant, with costs. I find the defendant did agree to pay the plaintiff, Mrs. Dann, £32 10s., and I should have given judgment for her, with costs.

"Chaffing" a Dramatist.

MR. MONCKTON HOFFE, author of *The Little Damozel*, arrived in New York recently and saw the performance of his play at the Naximora Theatre, to which house it was recently transferred from the Comedy Theatre. The newspapers have been poking fun at Mr. Hoffe in a little story supposed to illustrate the average Englishman's ignorance of America. It is said of him that while coming up the bay he asked what a certain stretch of land was, and on being told it was Long Island he replied, "Oh, indeed, and is it inhabited?"

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Herbert Tree, in consequence of the great success of *Henry VIII.* at His Majesty's Theatre, is obliged to abandon his intention of producing Mr. Alfred Noyes's fantastic play *The Forest of Wild Thyme* at Christmas, the run of *Henry VIII.* promising to last till Easter.

Miss Viola Tree has gone to Milan, where she is continuing her studies for the operatic stage under Mme. Arkel.

Mr. H. B. Irving will take the chair at the annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, at the Hotel Métropole, on Sunday, Dec. 11. It is close on twenty years since Sir Henry Irving, the first president of the Fund, took the chair at the first annual dinner. "Since that time," as Mr. Irving says, "it has been working with ever-increasing usefulness and success to alleviate the many sad cases of want and suffering which, often through no fault of their own, overtake the less fortunate of our calling."

Mr. Cyril Maude will produce at the Playhouse, on Tuesday, Nov. 8, a new play, in four acts, by Hubert Henry Davies, entitled *A Single Man*. In the cast will be Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Ernest Mainwaring, Mr. Lyonel Watts, Miss Florence Haydon, Miss Dulcie Greatwich, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Mary Jerrold, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Dorothy Dayne, Miss Emma Chambers, Miss Vera Coburn, and Miss Diana Sellick. It will be preceded by *Between the Soup and the Savoury*.

Amongst those who signed their names in the visitors' book at Marlborough House as a mark of their sympathy with King George and Queen Mary on the death of Prince Francis of Teck were Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Sir John Hare, and Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander. Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Sir Herbert and Lady Tree, and Mr. Arthur Bourchier, went down to Windsor on Wednesday for the funeral service in St. George's Chapel.

To a visit of Mr. Arthur Bourchier to his friend the late Prince Francis of Teck, when the latter was in a nursing home, was due the idea of a gala performance to celebrate Coronation year. Prince Francis obtained the approval of the King, and Mr. Bourchier, having secured Sir Herbert Tree's co-operation, a committee was soon formed, and the execution of the project assured.

Mr. Martin Harvey, at the close of the performance of *The Breed of the Treshams* on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, was called upon for a speech. He said—"Ladies and gentlemen, I must, if you will allow me to keep you for a moment—I must say a word of thanks to you for the splendid welcome you have given us. I am sure all my fellow-workers, Miss de Silva, and I, feel greatly pleased to be so warmly greeted by you. Some of the happiest and some of the most anxious moments in my life recur to my memory as I stand here. On this stage five plays have been produced among you since we first had the honour of appearing here. I am sure that is a record which we, at all events, look back on with very great pride. We don't bring anything new this time—(A voice: "Always welcome")—but I am sure the warm welcome you have given to *The Breed of the Treshams* leads us to hope that for a short time some of our old pieces will be favourably received. We thank you once again for your very warm and friendly greeting."

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has been playing to crowded houses at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, this week, delivered his lecture in support of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre on Wednesday afternoon, before a large and distinguished audience. On Thursday afternoon Mr. Justice Madden presided, and was supported by Lord Chief Justice O'Brien, Professor Tyrrell, and an influential committee. Mr. Harvey opened the "Pioneer Carnival," to raise funds for the debt of St. Francis Xavier's Hall. Yesterday afternoon the Abbey Theatre company gave a special complimentary matinée to Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss de Silva, and members of their company. The programme included *In the Shadow of the Glen*, *The Clancy Name*, *The Gaol Gate*, and *The Workhouse Ward*, all of which were much appreciated.

Mr. Lyn Harding's appearance in Birmingham as Sir Walter Ralegh in Mr. Devereux's drama of that name this week has, in view of the fact that the part was originally played upon the piece's production in Birmingham by Mr. Lewis Waller, created much interest, and the appreciation which Mr. Harding has aroused is a remarkable tribute to the natural grace of his personality and to his gifts as an actor.

Mr. Harding is proceeding with his plans for his production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, and if he can secure the particular London theatre upon which he has set his heart he will give the first performance of his revival in the Metropolis during the spring. Should he fail to obtain a lease of this playhouse, he has decided to give the first performance either in Birmingham, Bristol, or Cardiff. Mr. Lyn Harding is next week to appear at Bournemouth, where the tour of Sir Walter Ralegh comes to a close.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, when they opened their season at the New Theatre with *Count Hannibal*, hoped to give special Shakespearean matinées twice a week, but the chief parts in the successful drama have so taxed the powers of the actors that for the present the extra matinées are abandoned. *Count Hannibal* will be given each Wednesday and Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Terry, who is this week appearing at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, was present one morning on the Bench of the local Police Court, and heard several cases which came before Bailie Laing. Mr. Terry has long been a magistrate in the county of Surrey, officiating very frequently, and takes a great interest in cases at Petty Sessions and Summary Jurisdiction Courts.

Mr. Charles Frohman's production of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, on Tuesday, with Mr. Fred Terry as Sir Percy Blakeney and Miss Julia Neilson as Lady Blakeney, created demonstrative enthusiasm. Bunches of violets were thrown at Miss Neilson's feet, and at the end of the third act a speech was demanded from Mr. Terry, who was deeply moved by the greeting of the audience. He said: "Miss Neilson and I hoped for a welcome from you, but your reception to-night has simply broken us up. I can only say, 'Thank you.'" The play is a great success in America.

Mr. F. R. Benson and his company can claim credit for converting Mr. W. T. Stead to a more indulgent idea of the stage as a profession. Mr. Stead never went to theatres, and when his daughter, Miss Estelle Stead, wanted to become an actress, he said he would rather see her in her grave than on the stage. After seeing Mr. Benson and his Shakespearean company, Mr. Stead altered his opinion, and consented to his daughter enlisting under Mr. Benson's banner to play "seconds" in the provinces. Mr. Stead now declares that Church and Stage should work together for good.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith began his American tour at the Princess Theatre, Montreal, on the 3rd inst., appearing in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. After a short tour under the direction of Mr. Daniel V. Arthur, Mr. Grossmith will fulfil an engagement in New York.

On Wednesday, Oct. 26, at the Fixby Golf Links, Huddersfield, an interesting foursome was contested. The players were all members of *The Merry Widow* company, Miss Pounds having Mr. Gordon Allison as her partner, and Miss Gwendoline Brogden Mr. Basil Foster. Unfortunately Mr. Allison found the first bunker, but made amends later by a capital approach shot, while, although Miss Brogden foozled her first drive, an excellent recovery by Mr. Foster placed matters square on the green. Miss Pounds and her partner were leading by "four up" on the "turn," their opponents having been distinctly unlucky throughout the first half. Some capital driving by Mr. Foster enabled them to "half" the tenth and win the eleventh holes, but at the fifteenth hole Miss Pounds and partner won the match by "five up and three to play." Mr. Foster played a splendid game throughout, several of his drives being very long, and although Mr. Allison was not at his best, his mid-field and approach shots were well placed.

Agents and others will find in our advertisement columns a full account of the effect of the provisions of Part V. of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1910, relating to employment agencies in the County of London, which must now be licensed by the Council.

Judge Parry and Mr. Frederick Mouillot are collaborating in a play called *The Captain of the School*, which will be produced on Nov. 15 at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. The scenes of the three acts are the cloisters, the class-room, and the dining-hall. Mrs. Mouillot and Miss Dorothy Parry, a daughter of Judge Parry, will appear in important parts. Mr. Lionel Mackinder will enact the Captain of the School, and others in the cast will be Mr. Charles Macdona, Mr. E. F. Mayeur, Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Miss Lucy Edwin, and Master Harry Duff.

We are sorry to hear that Miss Louie René, the principal contralto of D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, is suffering from rheumatism, and was obliged last week to enter a hospital. Miss Edith Holmes, at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, took up Miss René's parts of Katisha, Dame Carruthers, the Duchess of Plaza-Toro, the Queen of the Fairies, and Lady Jane at short notice, and did remarkably well in each.

At Daly's Theatre on Saturday last, sixty-four stage hands employed at the theatre presented the popular Mr. Joseph Coyne, who is leaving his part of Harry Condor in *The Dollar Princess* to appear in *The Quaker Girl* at the Adelphi, with a silver inkstand and an illuminated address, paid for by subscriptions limited to fourpence.

The list of principals in the cast of the new musical play *The Quaker Girl*, which will be shortly produced at the Adelphi Theatre, includes Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. J. Blakeley, Mr. Herbert Ross, Mr. G. Carvey, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. H. Kitts, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Miss Gracie Leigh, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Phyllis Le Grand, Mme. Caumont, Mlle. Palerme, and Miss Gertie Millar.

"The Whip," which was produced on the 19th ult. at Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne, proved a great success, Mr. Lionel Atwill scoring well as Brancaster. The *Melbourne Age* says: "Mr. Lionel Atwill quite justifies the reputation he brings with him from England. It is good, sound acting, clear cut and very intelligent, sympathetic also; and with a pleasant avoidance of staginess in what is a very stagey part."

Mr. Charles Frohman will transfer *A Woman's Way* from the Comedy Theatre to the Globe Theatre to enable Mr. Arthur Chudleigh to produce *Vice Versa* at the latter house, and the final performance of *A Woman's Way* at the Comedy will be given on Friday, November 4.

George Paston's new one-act play, to be produced at the matinée to be given by the Actresses and the Women Writers' Franchise League, on Friday, Nov. 18, at the Aldwych Theatre, is to be entitled *Stuffing*. The sale of programmes will be under the direction of Miss Lilian Braithwaite, who will be assisted by many prominent actresses.

Mr. J. Wellesley Lynn has been commissioned by Mrs. Gertrude Compton Reade, niece of Charles Reade, to write up his play, *The White Witch of Mayfair*, and by Mr. R. S. Walker, nephew of Ralph Boldrewood, to reconstruct *The Silver Queen*, founded on the novel of the same name.

Mr. Walter C. Jordan, of Sanger and Jordan, of New York, has just purchased outright from M. Henry Bernstein, the United States and Canadian rights in that celebrated author's three greatest successes, *The Thief*, *Samson*, and *Israel*, subject only to Mr. Charles Frohman's existing leases and exclusive control over the performing rights of the said plays. This deal constitutes one of the largest cash transactions in play purchasing that has ever been consummated, as M. Bernstein's plays mentioned are very valuable and his terms very high.

Particulars are to hand of the death of Mr. Arthur Edwards, of *The Arcadians* company, who was drowned at North Harbour, Manly, Sydney, Australia, on Sept. 17. Mr. Edwards had been yachting all the afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Shadler and their child, Miss Schroder, and Mr. James Wood, and just before five o'clock anchor was dropped in North Harbour. Messrs. Wood and Edwards then put off in the yacht's 8ft. dinghy to row to the Manly Wharf, and when about 400 yards from the party, opposite Fairlight House, the boat was upset. No immediate assistance was available. Mr. Wood was seen clinging to the dinghy, holding his companion up, but his powers failed him, and Mr. Edwards sank. When help came it was only in time to save the almost unconscious survivor. The water was dragged for the body without success until midnight.

The late Arthur Edwards had only been upon the stage six years, and was only twenty-three years of age. He was born in London, at St. John's Wood, made his stage début in Brighton in *Bluebell in Fairyland* six years ago, and after provincial experience became a member of Miss Lena Ashwell's company in *The Bond of Ninon* for a season at the Savoy. He then joined Miss Ada Reeve in *Butterflies* at the Apollo Theatre for seven months, where he arranged the ballets and played a part, and toured with her for a year after that, when he enlisted in the Rupert Clarke and Meynell management for their Australian tour. In *The Arcadians* he played cleverly the eccentric character of the "dude," Percy Marsh, and made quite a sensation by his dancing.

Mr. W. W. Kelly was the recipient at the Liverpool Theatrical Licensing Sessions on Tuesday of a compliment, paid in open court by the Head Constable of Liverpool. In common with the other Liverpool theatres and places of amusement the question of the renewal of the licence to Kelly's Theatre came up for consideration, and upon the chairman asking the Head Constable whether he had anything to report adverse to Kelly's Theatre, Mr. Leonard Dunning said that on the contrary he would like to take the opportunity of congratulating the management of the theatre upon the very much improved condition of things which had obtained since Mr. Kelly took up the reins of management, and also upon the superior class of audience now attracted.

"Which Loved Him Best," a drama, in four acts, by H. C. Lomax, was copyrighted at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, on the 21st inst.

Miss Christine Silver, who has been laid up with a severe attack of pleurisy, has resumed her part of Enid Stonor in *The Speckled Band* at the Globe Theatre.

At the Crystal Palace Theatre next week will be *Man to Man*, an exciting drama that has had a brilliant career of twenty years. The company includes Mr. Clifford Bown and Mr. Edward Lloyd.

Mr. Cyril Maude asks us to say that the matinée in aid of the Tuberculin Dispensaries, which he had announced to take place on Monday, Nov. 7, has been postponed until next May.

The Grand Theatre, Stonehouse, Plymouth, was reopened on Oct. 3 on lines entirely new to the West of England, *i.e.*, drama twice nightly at popular prices. The experiment has proved entirely satisfactory. The resident-manager is Mr. W. Goodwin Woodward, who came from the Bordesley Palace Theatre, Birmingham (one of Messrs. Stoll's establishments), to reopen the house after a long closure.

Mr. Wyn Weaver, now appearing as Jan and the Figure in Mr. Stanley Cooke's little play, *His Living Image*, at the Strand Theatre, is acting as sole agent for Mr. H. F. Maltby's plays. This young author has already met with unusual success at the No. 1 provincial theatres, and from the opinion his work has won from the best playgoers in the country, there can be little doubt that West-End audiences would welcome his clever and entertaining plays. *The Laughter of Fools* and *Profit—and the Loss*, are Mr. Maltby's latest efforts. *The Youngest of Three*, which has won golden opinions everywhere, has a great part for a young ingenue actress.

Mr. James Welch pays a return visit to Kennington next week in *When Knights Were Bold*, which has lost none of its remarkable drawing power.

Miss Maude Stewart Drewry will return to England in February, after an extended tour in India and the Far East with the English Comedy Company, with which she has been appearing with great success in such rôles as Mrs. Dane in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*, Paula Tanqueray in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, Gloria in *You Never Can Tell*, Gwendoline in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Kathie in *Old Heidelburg*, Elsie Brudenell in *The Profligate*, Jane in *The Manœuvres of Jane*, Blanche Chilmot in *Liberty Hall*, Lady Serania in *Dr. Wake's Patient*, Beatrice in *The American Citizen*, and Niobe.

"Naughty Marietta," a musical comedy in two acts, book and lyrics by Rida Johnson Young and music by Victor Herbert, was produced for copyright purposes at the Ladbroke Hall on Oct. 24.

Mr. George Stone, the popular resident-manager of Mr. Hugh Robertson's Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, enters on his seventeenth year of management on Monday, having started his engagement there on his birthday, Oct. 31, 1894. Strange to say he commences his seventeenth year on his birthday again, which is on Monday. We wish him continued success in his charming theatre which is visited by all the best companies on the road, and is now doing record business.

The many friends of Mr. Arthur Shelton will regret to hear that on Sunday, while entraining with his company, *Beauty and the Barge*, at Brighton, he slipped on the platform and sprained his ankle. The accident will necessitate his resting for at least two weeks.

The Coronet Theatre will be closed on Monday for the final rehearsals of *Behind the Veil*, and the first night of Mr. Cecil Raleigh's play will be on the following evening.

On Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 3 p.m., a copyright performance of an English version of Alfred Capus' well-known French play, entitled *Les Deux Ecoles* will be given at Ladbroke Hall, by Joseph Williams, Ltd., under the title of *The Two Schools*. This well-known firm of music publishers own the sole rights of the play for Great Britain and the Colonies.

Mr. Harry Paulton, Jun., was called upon to undertake the part of Horace Ventimore in *The Brass Bottle* on Saturday at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, and was highly complimented on his performance by the local management, as well as his own. Owing to the serious indisposition of Mr. Langhorne Burton, Mr. Paulton will continue to play the part for two or three weeks. In Aberdeen, where *The Brass Bottle* is being performed this week, the *Daily Journal* speaks thus of Mr. Paulton's performance: "Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Horace Ventimore won the unstinted favour of the delighted house by his consistently-effective impersonation."

It will be a regret to the many friends of Mr. Langhorne Burton, who has been playing the principal part in *The Brass Bottle* on tour, to learn that he has been laid up with an illness, which necessitated an operation, which was successfully performed by Professor Caird in Edinburgh on Sunday. Mr. Burton is in a private nursing home in that city. He is making satisfactory progress, and hopes to be in harness again in a few weeks.

"A Wife for a Day," the new play, in three acts, by W. V. Garrod, will start a lengthy tour at Macclesfield, Feb. 6. The cast will include Mesdames Bertha Kingston, Phyllis Vaughan, and Alice Clarke; Messrs. Scott Leighton, Frank Dallas, Alex. J. Haviland, J. Sutton Pateman, Fred Wilberforce, and W. V. Garrod. The scenery will be by Egerton, Bradford, and the entire production, including a suite of furniture, carpets, electric fittings, draperies, ornaments, &c., will be carried. There will be four companies touring under the management of Mr. W. V. Garrod next autumn.

Mr. W. V. Garrod has again secured from Mr. G. M. Polini the entire rights of Wilson Barrett's drama, *The Sledge Hammer*, and will send it on tour next autumn. An entirely new plant of pictorials will be provided, and new scenery will be painted by Egerton, of Bradford. Mr. Garrod toured the piece five years ago for fifty-five weeks without a break, and only gave up the tour owing to the printing having run out. After this lengthy rest there should be a very long and prosperous career awaiting *The Sledge-Hammer*. The late Wilson Barrett once said it was the best piece he had ever written.

Mr. Percy Hutchison's visit to Grimsby last week was a veritable triumph with regard to the number paying for admission to see *Brewster's Millions* during the six nights' engagement. The aggregate worked out at just over 7,800 people, and on the Friday evening all the dress circle and stalls were taken by the Commercial Travellers' Association, the Mayor of Grimsby being present.

At the invitation of Mr. Curry, a reception was held in the Assembly Rooms, where Mr. Hutchison was introduced to the company assembled and heartily congratulated by the Mayor and everyone present on his great production and his performance as Monty Brewster. Mr. Hutchison made a short speech, in which he thanked them all for their enthusiastic reception, also promising to visit Grimsby next year with his production of *Arsène Lupin*.

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Morgan, who on Wednesday next celebrate their silver wedding.

Mr. Arthur Chudleigh and Mr. Hardy have fixed on Thursday, Nov. 10, for the production at the Comedy Theatre of Mr. F. Anstey's enlarged version of his novel "Vice Versa."

"La Jolie Miss" is the title of an opera which will shortly be produced at Milan. The book is a satire on the American "yellow" Press, and the leading character is a Miss Elkins.

Mme. Clara Butt was taken ill at Dundee on Tuesday, and has cancelled all her engagements for the next six months. She intends to leave England shortly for change of scene.

Miss Mabel Hurst played Sonia at the matinée of Mr. George Edwardes's *Merry Widow* company at the Kennington Theatre on Thursday with such complete success in the absence of Miss Gertrude Leicester, and obtained warm praise from both audience and management.

Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, Mr. Martin Harvey's popular business-manager, whose hobby, as is well known, is the breeding of sheep dogs, was particularly successful last week at the Palace show, his fine dog Bobbie securing two prizes.

At the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, commencing on Nov. 5, will be given a short series of Saturday afternoon popular vocal and instrumental concerts, under the direction of Kopski, the talented musical director of the theatre.

The Operatic Class of the Royal Academy of Music is, under the direction of Mr. Edgardo Lévi, rehearsing Humperdinck's opera *Hansel and Gretel*, and Schubert's *Der Hasliche*r (the English version by Mr. Claude Aveling) with a view to a performance early in December next.

On Monday evening, after the performance of *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, Mr. T. C. Browne, the genial manager of the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, presented Mr. A. C. Moody, the popular lessee of the Blyth and Ashington Theatres, with a beautiful 400-day timepiece, subscribed by the staff, on the occasion of Mr. Moody's birthday.

Mr. Herbert Trench will keep *Priscilla Runs Away* in the bill at the Haymarket until the middle of December, when *The Blue Bird* will be revived with a new scene which Maeterlinck has written for Mr. Trench with the title "The Palace of Happiness." This will take the place of the Forest scene.

Miss Violet Ellicott, who has recently been playing the Empress Josephine again in Mr. W. W. Kelly's *A Royal Divorce* company, will open on Monday at Belfast as Lady Isabel in that popular manager's new *East Lynne* company. It will be remembered that Miss Ellicott played this part in the summer of 1909, under the same management.

Mr. C. St. John Denton, the well-known musical and dramatic agent, is changing his address, and on Monday next will remove his offices to new and more convenient quarters at 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C. A new department has been added to his business, Mr. Denton, in conjunction with Mr. F. J. Richardson, now undertaking the booking of first-class companies and theatres.

At the Paris Opera Comique on Thursday evening the performance of *Madame Butterfly* came near being interrupted. The stage hands came out on strike because the manager declined to sign a collective contract with their union in place of the existing individual contracts. M. Carré replaced the mutineers immediately, and the performance of the opera was continued.

Negotiations are in progress by virtue of which Mr. Alfred Wareing, the director of the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre will transfer the company to Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, during the early part of next spring. Mr. Kelly is also arranging with the management of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, for a similar enterprise, thus realising his promise to use his best endeavours towards the institution of a Liverpool repertory theatre.

An evening gala will be given at the Town Hall, Chiswick, on Thursday, Nov. 10, in aid of the Chiswick Branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The programme will include a costume recital from *The School for Scandal*, with Miss Davies Webster as Lady Teazle and Mr. A. E. Drinkwater as Sir Peter. A classical ballet, "The Wounded Swan," arranged by Miss Aimee Phipps, will also figure in the programme, to which Miss Ruby Helder, Mr. Sivori Levey, and other artists will contribute.

Mr. Laurence Housman, in an article in the *Fortnightly Review* for November, pleads for a King's Proctor for Plays. "Instead of the Censor with his present power of veto before production," he writes, "there should be an Examiner of Plays, whose functions would be somewhat similar to those of a King's Proctor, and whose duty it would be to consider plays from a strictly legal standpoint. To this official a copy of every play, accompanied by a registration fee, should be submitted a reasonable time—say, three weeks—before production; and wherever he saw good reason for doing so, he should be empowered to issue a warning to the manager, stating that, in his opinion, the play contained matter which would render its production liable to prosecution for an offence against the common law.

"If the Proctor had no objection to put forward, he would enter the play at once upon the official register as having passed its preliminary examination; he would give it, that is to say, a certificate of character, which for all practical purposes would amount to a licence, though subject to reconsideration at any time after the play's production, just as is now the case under the Censorship. The risk of future interference would, in fact, be less than at present, since the Proctor would at all times be guided in his action by more fixed and definite rules than those of mere taste or tradition. After the play had been produced, say, for at least a week in any one place without offence to public decency, the register should receive endorsement to that effect, and the play's position might thenceforth be regarded as fully assured against official interference."

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's next creation is to be that of the character of Judas in a play by an American author, Mr. John de Kay, who deals with the personage in an entirely new and original way, and has conceived a Judas heretofore unknown to literature. The play deals in an entirely original way with New Testament characters in Jerusalem, under the rule of Pontius Pilate. It was written by Mr. John de Kay, a well-known American business man, and the author of several books, and is Mr. de Kay's first drama. It is dedicated to Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, at whose request the French version has been undertaken by M. J. C. de Chassaigne, who is M. J. Coudurier, London correspondent of *Le Figaro*. Mme. Bernhardt will produce the play in New York, early in January.

The production of Miss Hilda Hatton's new drama, *For the Land We Love*, will take place at the Lyceum, Stafford, on Friday next, Nov. 4.

Mr. Peter Davey has arranged with Mr. Frank Weathersby to provide a special production of *The Shaughraun* at the County Theatre, Kingston, for a week, commencing Nov. 7.

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson are meeting with great success in R. C. Carton's brilliant sporting play *Lord and Lady Algy*, Press and public being unanimous in their praise of these entertaining personalities, and the play being received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm.

Mrs. George Edwardes will be the hostess at a meeting under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League, which will be held in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, at three o'clock. Mrs. J. B. Fagan will preside, and the speakers will be Lady Constance Lytton, Mrs. Pertwee, Mr. Cecil Chapman, and Mr. Campbell Johnson.

A new one-act play, entitled *Protecting Mrs. Moxon*, by Arthur Eckersley, author of *A Boy's Proposal*, *The Trap*, and other West End successes, was played for the first time on Monday in front of *The Naked Truth* at the Belfast Opera House, and had an excellent reception. The little play was produced by Mr. Townsend Whitling.

Mr. Edward Terry's latest addition to his extensive répertoire, *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* (by arrangement with Mr. Chas. Frohman), has been enthusiastically received in the provinces. The eminent comedian's impersonation of the old toymaker is a valuable addition to his long list of artistic stage portraits and character-studies.

Mr. Martin Harvey to-night concludes, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, his highly successful Irish tour. *The Only Way* and *The Breed of the Treshams*, which have not been seen in Ireland for some years, have on their revival at Belfast, Cork, and Dublin proved particularly successful.

The Grotesques, who registered their fiftieth performance at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday, came to London for three weeks only. Their success has been so great that they have stayed eight weeks. During that time, to meet the demand for seats, they have had to put on Wednesday matinées as well as the usual Saturday matinées. Owing to other arrangements being made at the Savoy, they will have to terminate their season on Nov. 5, when they will go on a short tour before going to Manchester for the Christmas season. Amongst the theatres to be visited are Kennington, Fulham, Prince's, Bristol, Brighton, Oxford, &c. We shall expect to see the Grotesques back in town early in the spring. They pay a flying visit to the Crystal Palace Theatre on Thursday next.

Mr. W. H. Pennington, who was present at the Balaclava Dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, began life as a sailor, and after his Crimean experiences became an actor and reciter. His first performance was as Othello at the Royalty in 1862, and he played the part again in 1867 at the Haymarket. Mr. Gladstone thought very highly of Mr. Pennington's acting. At the dinner Mr. Pennington proposed the health of the benefactors and supporters of the Light Brigade.

At the instance of M. Wideman, president of the Société Franco-Anglaise de Cardiff, M. Roubaud's Parisian Company, including M. Duparc, of l'Odeon, and Mlle. Martha Gravil, of the Théâtre Sarah Bernhardt, will present the famous French comedy, *Le Voyage de Monsieur Perrichon*, at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, this afternoon. The company are making a special flying visit from Paris for this matinée, under the auspices of the Cardiff Anglo-French Society.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, a series of "Anglo-Spanish Tableaux Vivants" organised by the Spanish circle of the Lyceum Club, of which Mrs. Steuart Erskine is president, in aid of the Queen of Spain's charities, will be given at the Court Theatre.

The representation of the four episodes from Shakespeare's plays connected with the City of London will assume great importance in the procession on Lord Mayor's Day. In the first episode, depicting Henry V. on his return to London after the battle of Agincourt, the characters will be represented by forty-four persons on foot and forty-seven on horseback; while in the second set, concerning Falstaff and the men of the Boar's Head, in Eastcheap, there will be seven footmen and an equal number of horsemen. The third episode, dealing with the Duke of Gloucester escorting the Princes to the Tower, and in which the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of the period will be represented, will have eighteen footmen and twenty men on horseback; while there will be thirteen men on foot and fifteen horsemen in the fourth episode, representing Henry VIII. and Wolsey returning from the trial of Queen Catherine.

A new section has been added to the Shakespeare Memorial Exhibition at Whitechapel, which draws quite a separate little audience of its own, consisting of a collection of prints, photographs, or reproductions, illustrative of the history of the dance. The group, which represents fairly completely the later dance history, from the seventeenth century, includes portraits of the Duchesse de Maine (1676-1763), who, at her private theatre at Sceaux, first introduced in modern times the purely mimed or wordless ballet, when, in 1708, the fourth act of Corneille's *Horace* was danced and acted by two popular stars, Mlle. Prévôt and M. Balon, the music, composed by Mouret, being played by an orchestra.

The Brighton Town Council on Thursday gave consent to the provision of a Winter Garden and other improvements on the Palace Pier at Brighton, conditionally upon the execution of an agreement, embodying such provisions as may be necessary for the protection of the Corporation. An amendment to defer the matter for a month was defeated. The proposed Winter Garden building is 190ft. long, 65ft. wide at the central dome, and 30ft. high at the extreme elevation. It will have a floor space of 900ft. in excess of the largest building in the town, and will provide seating accommodation for 2,000 persons. It will be necessary to increase the width of the pier deck, which will be done by putting additional piles on either side of the existing pier. It is intended that the Winter Garden shall be a resort for those who enjoy high-class music. It is believed that the scheme will involve an expenditure of over £14,000.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

American Audiences.

"One thing I have noticed," writes Miss Billie Burke in the *Inter-Ocean*, is the difference between audiences in America and in London and Paris. "In America an audience is very apt to take even a bad play, one that bores them horribly, good naturedly. I have attended a first night in New York where, if you judged from the apparent enthusiasm of the audience, the play was a tremendous success. It was a good audience and it was playing its best. That was all. If you listened to what the people around you said as they were going out—and lots of their hands were still red from applauding and they were still laughing—but what they said! Oh, my! There was no need to wait for the papers in the morning to tell you that the piece was one of the worst failures of the season."

Forbes-Robertson Anecdotes.

Mr. Percy Burton has been contributing to the American *Green Book Album* an interesting article on "The Real Forbes-Robertson." It contains some agreeable anecdotes of the celebrated actor. "It was the multifarious quality of Mr. Robertson's invitations in New York that led him, no doubt, to tell me," says Mr. Burton, "of an old habit of his and his brother's (Norman Forbes) when frequently out visiting years ago in London, that whenever they had been particularly bored by their host and hostess, on leaving the house they would pause discreetly upon the doorstep and hum or whistle, *sotto voce*, of course, the chorus from a then well-known refrain, entitled 'Never Again!' One night, to their consternation, on hearing a rustle they turned round, and found the door slightly ajar and several footmen, with the butler, and apparently the owner in the background, listening interestedly to this extraordinary proceeding.

A Big Jump.

"Modjeska was the first Juliet to whom he played Romeo, and the greatest he had ever known. He described with what beauty, pathos, and power she invested that difficult rôle, of which it has been truly said that it needs the appearance of a girl, and the experience of a woman. Modjeska was, Robertson said, the most unselfish of actresses, and had a very keen sense of humour. Once, when he was playing Romeo and was about to make his exit from her room, he was staggered to find that the ladder had been taken away, and pointed the fact out to her in a stage whisper. 'You must jump!' she said, with scarcely disguised glee; and, indeed, there was no other way to negotiate the ten or twelve feet between Juliet's bedroom and terra firma. So he had to.

Terriss and Irving.

"Of his old days at the Lyceum, too, with Sir Henry Irving, Forbes-Robertson has many interesting reminiscences to relate, amongst others, of poor William Terriss. 'Irving was very fond of poor Bill Terriss,' said Forbes-Robertson, 'and was mightily amused by the unconscious impertinence with which Terriss treated the dear old chief.' Irving, as is well known, had a dining-room (called the Beef Steak Room) just off the stage near his own dressing room, and one night Terriss smelt the savoury odour of appetising cooking proceeding towards the end of the performance. 'Fine smell that, Guv'nor,' said Terriss to Irving during a wait in the wings. 'Yes, very good,' agreed Irving, who added as a polite afterthought: 'You must come along some time and have supper with me, my boy.' 'Nothing would please me better, Guv'nor,' said Terriss, to which Irving replied: 'Well, when would you like to come?' 'To-night!' responded Terriss promptly. And he did, while Irving was delighted by the businesslike acceptance of his invitation.

"'We were rehearsing John Davidson's beautiful play at the Lyceum,' said Mr. Robertson, 'and Davidson was leaning against the proscenium engrossed in it. Presently a well-known actor, who shall be nameless, came on the stage, waving his arms like a windmill and sawing the air in his desire to illustrate the text. Davidson edged quietly up to me. "That, I suppose, will be a verra well-known actor," he said *sotto voce*. "Yes," I agreed. "And I presume he will be in receipt of a verra considerable honorarium," he continued. I confessed he was right. "Then why does he wave his arms aboot in that extraordinar. manner?" said Davidson in his broad Scots accent, adding, with a humorous gleam in his eye: "If he did that in Piccadilly he would be arrested!"'

"Mr. Forbes-Robertson, who was a picturesque figure at the Meredith Memorial Service in Westminster Abbey, was in constant touch with the great writer about a score of years ago. Meredith often threatened in jest to write a play, but never kept his promise. Once during the run of Irving's production of *Henry VIII.*, in which Forbes-Robertson acted at the old Lyceum as Buckingham, Meredith met him at the house of a mutual friend and, observing his sunburned appearance after a holiday, hailed him by the rhythmic expression: 'Here comes the—browned Buckingham!'

Arthur Cecil and George Meredith.

"Mr. Robertson recalls another story of an old friend and late fellow-actor, Arthur Cecil, who, when once holiday-making with Meredith in Switzerland, came back to the hotel where the great writer was at work, full of the glories of the sunshine and the scenery of the mountain peaks he had been climbing. Meredith listened to his eulogies for awhile, and then, looking up, rolled off *ex tempore* the following astounding quatrain:

'The sun shone high upon the crinkled crag,
He clomb it; it left him scarce a rag;
With knees barked blue and bleeding nether bare,
He boasted he'd enjoyed the mountain air.'

"Mr. Forbes-Robertson is proud of the fact that his first bank balance was realised at the age of twenty-nine from his painting of the church scene in *Much Ado About Nothing*, which was hung in the Royal Academy, and now rests in the Players' Club, in New York, since the sale of Irving's relics. For it was commissioned by Henry Irving, who proposed that Claudio should paint the scene in which he appeared, for £150. Forbes-Robertson at once agreed, but Irving was so delighted with the result that he insisted on doubling the amount, and sent him a cheque for £300. Forbes-Robertson returned it twice, but in vain, Irving was adamant, even in his generosity, and had his way."

Art and Nature.

Mr. Haldane Macfall, in an article on Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree in *Cassell's Magazine*, says: "It happened that a famous musical-comedy star, a handsome creature who was wont to display more of her handsome self than of her mediocre talent, was a counter attraction on one of Sir Herbert's visits to Dublin, and someone said that he could not understand Tree's poor success, as she had played to crowded houses. "Ah," said Tree, "Art cannot compete with Nature."

Precious Hostility.

"To the prosaic, nothing is so embarrassing as the poetic," says Sir Herbert. It follows that he has many enemies. Someone asked him if their pinpricks fretted him as they fretted Whistler. Tree brooded awhile on the problem. "I can imagine a man in lonely middle-age praying: 'O God! give me back my enemies!'" he said.

"MRS. SKEFFINGTON."

An Episode in Cavalry Barracks, in Three Acts, by Cosmo Hamilton, Produced at the Queen's Theatre, on Friday, Oct. 21.

General Sir Gresham Thurlow ..... Mr. Arthur Lewis
Col. Ranulph Thynne ..... Mr. A. Holmes-Gore
Major John Skeffington ..... Mr. Dawson Milward
Captain Cecil Lindsay ..... Mr. Frederic Worlock
Ivo Ward ..... Mr. Charles Vernon
Noel Dacre ..... Mr. H. Robert Averell
Hugh Pellew ..... Mr. Max Leeds
Willoughby Pellew ..... Mr. Arthur G. Onslow
Trooper Beales ..... Mr. Arthur Chesney
Trooper Howe ..... Mr. Richard Haigh
Trooper Saffrey ..... Mr. W. D. Fazan
Lady Thurlow ..... Miss Frances Wetherall
Mrs. Thynne ..... Miss Ellen O'Malley
Effie Thynne ..... Miss Gwladys Gaynor
Hobson ..... Miss Estelle Winwood
Kathleen Lindsay ..... Miss Beryl Faber

Mrs. Skeffington, the heroine of Mr. Cosmo Hamilton's "episode," produced at the Queen's Theatre on Friday last week, has a happy knack of insinuating herself into the affections of everyone with whom she came into contact: she charms, she amuses, she promotes good temper all round. *Mrs. Skeffington* is a very delightful play, possessing all the attributes which ensure a pleasant and amusing evening. An interesting plot, brilliant dialogue, excellent mounting, and first-class acting combine to create an agreeable impression.

Mrs. Thynne is the flighty little wife of Colonel Ranulph Thynne, commanding officer of the 23rd Dragoons, who is of a very jealous disposition. Disapproving of the friendship between his wife and Major John Skeffington, an officer in his regiment, the Colonel forbids her either to correspond with or to be seen about alone with the Major, a command which Mrs. Thynne ignores. Major Skeffington, unaware of the Colonel's prohibition, invites Mrs. Thynne to visit his racing stables, and together they motor up from London, where Mrs. Thynne has been on a visit. On their way back to the barracks, rather late in the evening, the car unfortunately breaks down at a tiny hamlet, and they are forced to spend the night at the village inn there.

On the impulse of the moment Mrs. Thynne, anxious to avoid scandal, passes herself off to the landlady as Mrs. Skeffington, and on her return home next day tells her husband that she has spent the night with some friends in town. Her husband's suspicions being aroused, he soon discovers that her story is false; and, having proof that she has lied to him, he allows his jealousy to master him, and his wife, to her horror, learns that a detective is to be employed to track her movements on the eventful night. Mrs. Thynne, in imagination, sees herself already in the Divorce Court, and is at the point of complete collapse when help comes from an unexpected quarter. Kathleen Lindsay, sister of Captain Cecil Lindsay, of the 23rd, comes on a flying visit to her brother, whom she has not seen for many years, and, on hearing the facts of the case, has an inspiration. She will pass herself off to the Colonel as Mrs. Skeffington, the mysterious lady of the inn, about whom gossip is already wagging its tongue. This she does chiefly that the career of John Skeffington, with whom she has been in love since the days of her childhood, shall not be ruined; and her plan is at first a complete success. When complications arise she manages to avert catastrophe with so much tact and skill and charm that the heart of the Major is captured, and Kathleen promises to become Mrs. Skeffington in reality.

Miss Beryl Faber is excellently suited in the part of Kathleen Lindsay, and plays with a frank, boyish charm which is very captivating. She makes one realise that Kathleen can be a delightful "pal" to men and women alike, clean and wholesome in mind and body. Miss Faber's scene with the Colonel, when, lies having proved of no further avail, she stakes everything on her trump card, and tells him the truth, and, moreover, forces him to see it through the clear vision of her own sane eyes, is played with a depth and strength which is arresting in its intensity. The name of Miss Ellen O'Malley has hitherto been chiefly associated with parts calling for a display of demureness or of sedate sweetness, which appeared singularly well fitted to the personality of the charming actress; and it is therefore all the more praiseworthy that Miss O'Malley's Mrs. Thynne is such an extremely clever and consistent performance. She depicts with absolute fidelity the typical frivolous, foolish woman, making a molehill into a mountain by her silly lies and ineffectual subterfuges, yet always appealing in her helplessness and femininity. Miss Frances Wetherall is more than efficient as Lady Thurlow, a veritable "grande dame," getting on in years, but still beautiful, sparkling, and gracious. Miss Gwladys Gaynor is winsome and dainty as a "country mouse" on a visit to town; and Miss Estelle Winwood as Hobson expresses with cleverness, by eloquent facial play, her disapproval of her mistress's "goings-on." As the jealous husband, Mr. A. Holmes-Gore has an opportunity for some effective explosions of temper, of which he avails himself to the full. Mr. Dawson Milward is admirable as John Skeffington, whether good-naturedly standing the "chaff" of his brother officers, comforting the hysterical Mrs. Thynne, or making love, in his own peculiarly attractive way, to Kathleen Lindsay. Mr. Frederic Worlock plays with distinction as Captain Cecil Lindsay; and Mr. Arthur Lewis is impressive and soldierly as the General. Mr. Charles Vernon, Mr. Robert Averell, and Mr. Max Leeds are all good as three irresponsible young junior officers. Mr. Arthur Onslow as the only civilian in the piece plays a small part with ability, and Mr. Arthur Chesney, Mr. Richard Haigh, and Mr. W. D. Fazan are satisfactory as three troopers.

Mrs. Skeffington is preceded by a revival of Mr. Frederick Fenn's one-act play of low life, *The Convict on the Hearth*, which shows the home-coming of George Midden after he has served a sentence of three years penal servitude. At first everything goes wrong. George meets with the animosity and resentment which he had expected; but eventually matters are put on a more satisfactory footing by the intervention of a young parson of sound common sense. There are some fine pieces of individual acting in the performance at the Queen's. To Miss Frances Wetherall high praise must be given for her exceedingly clever performance of the convict's mother. Miss Wetherall makes the poor, patient drudge infinitely pathetic in her apathy. She conveys, with exquisite art, the impression of a woman worn out physically and mentally, yet with the mother-love dominating her. Her by-play is exceptionally interesting; her attitudes as she sits waiting developments are the attitudes of an over-tired woman of the working classes. She embodies a type, even to the wisp of untidy hair which straggles over her forehead. Miss Estelle Winwood contributes valuable help as the tearful Jenny Midden; and Miss Evelyn Weeden is very good as a conscientious district visitor. Miss Molly Preston is competent as the convict's betrothed. The George Midden of Mr. Arthur Chesney shows much power of observation and adaptability; and Mr. Hubert Harben creates a very favourable impression as the Rev. Cartwright Dade. Mr. Richard Haigh plays the father, Thomas Midden, with a pleasant touch of humour; and the Uncle Joseph of Mr. Gerald Merrielees and the Jim Watersmith of Mr. Walter Kingsford are excellent and able impersonations. Percy Kitchen Midden, the *enfant terrible*, has a capable exponent in Mr. Robert Lawlor.

"THE LIARS" REVIVED.

On Thursday, Oct. 27, at the Criterion Theatre, Revival of the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones.

Colonel Sir Christopher Deering ..... Sir Charles Wyndham
Edward Falkner ..... Mr. Thalberg Corbett
Gilbert Nepean ..... Mr. Norman Trevor
George Nepean ..... Mr. Bertram Steer
Freddie Tatton ..... Mr. Sam Sothern
Archibald Coke ..... Mr. Alfred Bishop
Waiter at "The Star and Garter" ..... Mr. Herbert Dansey
Taplin ..... Mr. Reginald Walter
Gadsby ..... Mr. Lawrence White
Footman at Cadogan-gardens ..... Mr. Richard Neville
Mrs. Crespin ..... Miss Norma Whalley
Beatrice Ebernoe ..... Miss Dorothy Thomas
Dolly Coke ..... Miss Lettice Fairfax
Ferris ..... Miss Frances Vine
Lady Rosamund Tatton ..... Miss Ellis Jeffreys
Lady Jessica Nepean ..... Miss Mary Moore

The success of most of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's plays is due to the fact that he wisely avoids anything of a "thesis" or "problem" character. He appears to have two aims—to tell an amusing story and to give his audience a "slice out of life"; but he rarely aims at pointing a definite moral, or forcing his public to draw a deduction. *The Liars*, which was revived at the Criterion Theatre on Thursday evening, with very great success, was produced at the same house on Oct. 6, 1897, and ran, omitting the summer vacation, till Nov. 2, 1898. The cast then included, besides Sir Charles Wyndham as Sir Christopher Derring and Miss Mary Moore as Lady Jessica Nepean, Mr. T. B. Thalberg as Edward Falkner, Mr. Herbert Standing as Gilbert Nepean, Miss Cynthia Brooke as Beatrice Ebernoe, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh as Lady Rosamund Tatton. The piece illustrates our contention as to Mr. Jones's methods. As far as it is philosophical, it points the passionate and absolutely reckless and unscrupulous love of an imaginative man for a shallow, frivolous woman of society. Falkner, in his overpowering desire to "possess" Lady Jessica, is prepared to wreck both their lives, and consider "the world well lost." The character is a realistic study of a man whose intelligence and right feeling are entirely overmastered by a sexual infatuation. He would commit social suicide under the influence of temporary insanity. Certainly there is nothing in the character of Lady Jessica, as she is shown to us in the play, to account for, or excuse, Falkner's aberration. She is perfectly unaffected and sincere; she neither poses nor pretends to be higher or deeper than she is. When a man like Falkner asks a woman like Lady Jessica to run away with him and live with him in South Africa, he must have for the time lost his reason. And this enables Mr. Jones to introduce a third character, who is entirely admirable, and is the strong man or hero of the play. Sir Christopher's little lecture in the fourth act is like the "official utterances" alluded to by Sir Joseph Porter in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and is unanswerable:—

"You know what we English are, Ned. We're not a bit better than our neighbours, but, thank God! we do pretend we are, and we do make it hot for anybody who disturbs that holy pretence. And take my word for it, my dear Lady Jessica, my dear Ned, it won't work. You know it's not an original experiment you're making; it has been tried before. Have you ever known it to be successful? Lady Jessica, think of the brave pioneers who have gone before you in this enterprise. They've all perished, and their bones whiten the anti-matrimonial shore. . . . Marriage may be disagreeable, it may be unprofitable, it may be ridiculous; but it isn't as bad as that! And do you think the experiment is going to be successful in *your* case? Not a bit of it! First of all there will be the shabby scandal and dirty business of the Divorce Court. You won't like that. It isn't nice! You won't like it. After the Divorce Court, what is Ned to do with you? Take you to Africa? I do implore you, if you hope for any happiness in that state to which it is pleasing Falkner and Providence to call you, I do implore you, don't go out to Africa with him. You'd never stand the climate and the hardships, and you'd bore each other to death in a week. But if you don't go out to Africa, what are you to do? Stay in England, in society? Everybody will cut you. Take a place in the country? Go abroad? Take any of the other dozen alternatives and find yourself stranded in some shady hole or corner, with the one solitary hope and ambition of somehow wriggling back into respectability."

By this admirably-written speech and by others uttered by the "reasoner," the worldly-wise counsellor of the play, a moral is forcibly extracted, but that does not do away with the fact that the absolutely irresponsible lover, who leaves the husband's rights and his own social obligations entirely out of the question, acts altogether selfishly and madly, and makes, like Antony, "his will lord of his reason," is, as far as all gifts and qualities go, a very fine fellow.

But *The Liars* should not, perhaps, be "considered so closely." It is a little masterpiece of stage-craft and cleverness. The exigencies of the position—two leading parts fitted to display the best powers of Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore—smartly-drawn minor characters, amusing subsidiary incidents, neat and close construction, and bright and natural dialogue free from any forced epigrams or laboured excrescences, ensure the success of *The Liars* in actual performance. One of the best things about the piece is the way in which Mr. Jones has supplied the social atmosphere of his comedy. The view taken by all the subordinate personages of the situation which is created by the intrigue which is imminent between Lady Jessica and Falkner at "The Star and Garter, Shepperford," is amusingly, if somewhat cynically, true to life. The toleration which smart society extends to matrimonial *liches*, its anxiety "not to leave undone, but keep unknown," and its horror of scenes and scandals, are indicated with the pen of a fine satirist. Even Sir Christopher, with all his shrewd sense and eloquence, is calmly cynical in his views. His reprobation of the proposed elopement of Lady Jessica and Falkner is based purely on arguments as to its inexpediency, and not on any idea that the interests of society in general, or of the surly husband, have any claim to consideration. Possibly Mr. Jones's irony is sharpened by the fact that he comes of a sterner stock than the characters in his society plays, and that he views their antics mentally from outside the cage, though, of course, socially he has every opportunity for class study.

But why, after all, analyse a piece so diverting, so various, and so effective as *The Liars*? Never does it drag, or cease to interest and amuse. The humour of it is genial, at any rate on the surface; and the most admirable personage, the wise and worthy counsellor and friend, is rewarded in the last act by getting the girl he loves, and seeing his influence prevent a catastrophe in the career of the man he likes.

The parts which Mr. Jones has written so cleverly have full justice done to them by their exponents. Sir Charles Wyndham's incomparable performance as Colonel Sir Christopher Deering made an impression in 1897 which the lapse of years has failed to erase; and it is worthy to take a place in his notable gallery of portraits of wise, strong, and kindly men of middle-age. The good-humoured worldliness of Deering's outlook, his shrewd and genial humour, and his alert activity and intelligence are depicted by Sir Charles in the most finished and masterly manner; and the mellow ripeness of his style and his complete command of the required resources are as obvious as ever on renewed acquaintance with his creation. The stronger passages of the rôle made their effect with unabated force, and the balanced ease of Sir Charles's delivery of the monologue in the fourth act was again admired. The part of Edward Falkner is a difficult one, and Mr. Thalberg Corbett may be congratulated on sustaining it satisfactorily, the fervour of his acting being quite consistent with the character. Mr. Norman Trevor emphasises with decision and power the brusque stupidity of Gilbert Nepean, and the solid sincerity of George Nepean is indicated by Mr. Bertram Steer with care, skill, and intelligence. That very droll personage, Freddie Tatton, has a most amusing representative in Mr. Sam Sothern, who gives a clever reading, never marred by caricature or exaggeration, yet quietly and completely comic; and Mr. Alfred Bishop's finished art is employed with great success in the embodiment of the matter-of-fact Archibald Coke. Mr. Herbert Dansey hits off the traits of the French waiter at the riparian hotel very neatly, and Mr. Reginald Walter is satisfactory as Taplin, Mr. Lawrence White and Mr. Richard Neville making excellently aristocratic footmen. The female characters in *The Liars* are all effective. Miss Lettice Fairfax as the agreeable, frivolous, and airily wilful Dolly Coke employs a light touch and very tactful treatment, and depicts the pretty but shallow trifler admirably. Miss Dorothy Thomas realises the deeper and more serious nature of Beatrice Ebernoe, tenderly indicating the underlying melancholy of the widow, and her sweet gentleness and sympathy, and Miss Ellis Jeffreys puts plenty of life and character into her animated and easy performance as Lady Rosamund Tatton, which could hardly be improved upon. Miss Norma Whalley plays the "cute" and witty Mrs. Crespin very smartly, and the epigrams in the text lose nothing by her capital delivery of them; and Miss Frances Vine's Ferris is a subtly typical "society" servant. As for Miss Mary Moore, she seems to have been born, taught, and trained to play parts like that of Lady Jessica Nepean. Her rendering of them is unapproachable, so favoured is she by nature, in appearance, voice, and manner. Her Lady Jessica is the same exquisite performance that it was thirteen years since. The piece is dressed in perfect style and taste, and the revival had a very friendly—not to say affectionate—reception from the highly-delighted audience.

Richard Strauss has, it is reported, begun a new opera. He has returned to antiquity, and the subject he has chosen is Sewetzow's drama *Circe*. The latest information from Berlin is to the effect that *Der Rosenkavalier* will be produced at Dresden early in January.

How Managers Choose Plays.

Several London managers have been giving in *Tit-Bits* particulars of their methods of judging plays submitted to them.

Mr. Frederick Harrison trusts solely to his own judgment in deciding the merits of a play. "I must be quite alone when I read a play," he says, "secure from interruption, and read it right through at a sitting, and rapidly. If it will not bear rapid reading there is generally something wrong—incoherence of story, clumsiness of dialogue, or something that detracts from the probability of success for the play. One reading tells me all that I want to know, and my mind is made up absolutely. I consider it a fatal error to solicit opinions on a play."

Mr. Kendal's Way.

Mr. W. H. Kendal says: "There is such a dearth of good plays at the present time that if we get one which contains the possibilities of success we try to get over the stile with it by showing the author where, in our judgment, he may improve his work. It is a curious fact that, with the exception of *The Squire*, no play was ever written specially for us, for even *The Elder Miss Blossom*, which we have been playing for seven years or more, was sent to us in the ordinary way.

"In estimating the value of a play, I think of it entirely as if I were one of the audience sitting in front and watching its development. If it holds me—if the characters live before me and their story interests me—then, other things being equal, I should call it a good play for our purpose, and produce it. On the other hand, if it were brilliantly written and had no plot, it would not be suitable for our requirements."

Mr. Edwardes's Idea.

"What I primarily look for," says Mr. George Edwardes, "is an idea of a simple character, and then seek to elaborate it through the medium of characters which will give striking opportunities to the actors who are members of my company. As an example of this, I may mention the case of *The Cingalee* at Daly's. The *locale* was selected by Mr. Tanner and myself a very long time before the play was produced, and we discussed many different characters before we found that of the Babu lawyer, which was to add another to Mr. Huntley Wright's successes."

Mr. Davies's Definition.

Mr. Tom Davies confesses that the plot is not of supreme importance to a musical play. "At the same time," he says, "one must have a story of some sort. One point on which I always lay great stress, although I cannot always get authors to carry it out, is the immense value to the piece if the low comedian can be woven into the plot so that his character is indispensable to the development of the story, instead of having him merely brought on as an incidental comic character."

Two Managers' Methods.

Both Mr. Fred Terry and Mr. Cyril Maude like to hear a play read to them before deciding upon its acceptance or non-acceptance. "If a play appeals to me," says Mr. Maude, "or if I think it will be successful, I like to hear it read aloud, or even to read it aloud myself, in order to judge the effect it will make on my ear, or see whether my own voice bores me.

"Outside judgment does not influence me in this respect. I have known people criticise adversely a play when they have read it, though I have been pleased with it, and have seen my judgment endorsed by the public. On the other hand, the reverse sometimes happens, and others think well of a play while I do not. Under these conditions I still adhere to my own opinion, though it is quite possible I may, on some occasion, by following that plan, occasionally miss a play destined to turn out a money-maker."

Mr. Curzon's Criterion.

Mr. Frank Curzon says: "If a play hits me hard enough, I produce it. That is always the point—that it should hit me hard enough. By this I mean that it should interest me and hold my attention from the beginning to the end if it is a serious work, or that it should make me laugh if it is of a light or farcical nature. If a play conforms to these rules, I buy it. Not laying down any conditions, I never analyse a play, and, once I have made up my mind to produce a given work, all the arguments in the world will not turn me aside from my determination. I have produced some failures, but this much I can say—I have never refused a play which has made money for anybody else. One season I refused six plays which were produced by other people, and were failures."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LES MARIONETTES."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by M. Pierre Wolff, Produced at the Comédie-Française on Oct. 26.

De Ferney ..... M. de Feraudy
Roger de Monclars ..... M. Grand
Duc de Ganges ..... M. Charles Granval
Bonnières ..... M. Paul Numa
De Valmont ..... M. Jacques Feraudy
Pierre Vareine ..... M. Alexandre
Fernande de Monclars ..... Mlle. Pierat
Baronne Durieu ..... Mme. Fayolle
Madame de Valmont ..... Mlle. Maille
Madame de Jussy ..... Mlle. Robinne
Madame de Lancey ..... Mlle. Provost
Madame Briey ..... Mlle. Jane Faber

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Oct. 27.—M. Pierre Wolff's new comedy is not pleasing, owing to the fact that the transformation which he makes his personages undergo are too sudden, with the result that these personages are not true to life, and fail to convince us. The plot is as follows. Roger de Monclars, heartless and brutal in all his love affairs, has squandered his money. His mother is very rich, and she is quite willing to help him out of his financial difficulties, but on condition that he marries Fernande, the niece of her old neighbour, M. de Fernay. Roger consents, and in the opening act we find the young couple in their splendid mansion in Paris. Fernande simply adores her young husband, but he hates her for having assisted his mother in pitchforking him into matrimony. Everything in Fernande gets on his nerves: her countrified manners, her puritan way of dressing, her piety, her very demonstrations of love. He insults her; he cynically tells her that he loathes the very sight of her, and leaves Paris for Switzerland, where he will meet his former flame, Mme. de Jussy. On the night of his return he does not even attempt to see her, but, having dressed, goes straight to a soirée given by his friend Nizerolles. There a surprise awaits him. He has not been there half an hour when Mme. de Monclars is announced, and Roger sees a beautiful woman enter, magnificently dressed in a gown that moulds all her forms, and outrageously décolletée. Roger stares at her open-mouthed, and can hardly believe his eyes. Yet it is his wife, the gawky Fernande, who, during her husband's three weeks' absence, has blossomed into a sparkling beauty with the manners of a cocotte! But whereas the husband is thunderstruck, we, who are in the secret, know that this transformation is done with the object of gaining Roger's love *à tout prix!* In Fernande's attitude there is also something of the coquetry that lurks in every woman; and she does not see why, young and pretty, with money at her command, she should not "glitter" like other women who do not possess her fascinations. For all that, we cannot understand her persistency in loving her abject husband, and the trouble she takes to bring him to her feet. We understand this all the less as Pierre Vareine loves her, with a love based on respect, and we see her moved when he declares his passion to her. Roger, attracted by his wife's charms, wants to embrace her brutally, but she keeps him at a distance, and her seemingly cold attitude makes him jealous. In the fourth act things come to a climax. Fernande and Roger have given a Venetian fête, and after the guests are gone Roger overhears a conversation at the telephone between his wife and Vareine. Mad with baffled desire and jealousy, Roger threatens to strangle her; and after he has returned to his own apartment Fernande whispers to her old uncle, "Now he loves me." Nor is she mistaken. Convinced that Fernande has been unfaithful to him, he resolves to leave her, but the love he now feels for her is too violent. He throws himself at her feet, and Fernande makes him happy by clasping him in her arms; but she wisely refrains from telling him that she has never been unfaithful to him. She knows her man! The acting was excellent throughout.

I am very sorry to have to chronicle the death of Mme. Berthe Legrand, who passed away at the age of sixty-eight, in the Actors' Home at Pont-aux-Dames. With her disappears one of the last of the famous Variétés company that comprised Dupuis, Baron, Kopp, etc. She made her début in 1865 in *Lulli ou les petits Violons de Mademoiselle*, wherein she scored a marked success, but she might perhaps never have come to the fore had it not been for the memorable dispute between Hortense Schneider and Silly, at a performance of *La Belle Hélène*. Schneider, very domineering, had insulted Silly, who then refused to play that evening unless Schneider apologised. This the latter declined to do, whereupon Berthe Legrand at once replaced Silly, and from that moment she appeared only in principal rôles. Her name figures on the programmes of *La Vie Parisienne*, *Barbe-Bleue*, *La Grande Duchesse*, *La Périchole*, and *Les Brigands*. She was in the original cast of *La Mascotte*, and one of the favourites of the public. She was young, pretty, and fascinating. But things underwent a change. In 1899 she was engaged at the Palais-Royal, but she then impersonated an elderly lady. She made her last bow to the public last year at the Théatre Michel in M. Tristan Bernard's *Le Poulailler*. A little while later a benefit performance was given for her, and she then withdrew in the home at Pont-aux-Dames. Kind-hearted and amiable, Berthe Legrand will be regretted by many, inside and outside the profession, who had the pleasure of knowing her.

"Vive Paris!" is the title of a capital revue brought out at Olympia. It is a gorgeous spectacle, and MM. de Cottens and Marinelli may be complimented on having brought together so many genuine attractions. Miss Bessie Clayton, an American danseuse, is decidedly clever, and made a hit. In a long number of notable numbers should be mentioned Mlle. Giverny, the diabolical pianist; the clever Fender troupe of giants from Drury Lane; the Blossom Girls; and the very laughable couple who give a droll imitation of the Jeffries-Johnson match on roller skates.

M. Maurice Bernhardt, manager of the Sarah Bernhardt Théatre, has accepted a play called *Gugusse*, by M. Albert Acremant, for which M. Charpentier has written the incidental music. *L'Homme Mystérieux* is the title of a play by MM. de Lorde and Binet that will be produced at the above house on the 3rd of next month.

The next novelty at the Ambigu will be *Le Train de 8 heures 47*, by M. Léo Marchès, founded on Courteline's well-known novel.

Signor Caruso commenced his short season at the New Royal Opera House, Berlin, on Monday with *Aïda*. The house was crowded in every part, and the tickets had been sold at fancy prices. The arrangements for the sale of tickets to the public on an occasion like this could not well be worse, and it must be remembered that more than half of the seats are disposed of by the Crown to the Court officials (many of whom do not know or care anything about music) and to Government servants and officers. Consequently, the hundreds of persons who stood patiently for six or seven hours and longer never got near the ticket-office until all the tickets were sold. The Kaiser and his daughter were present, just before leaving Berlin for Brussels, with a numerous suite. Caruso sang at the palace with Miss Geraldine Farrer a few nights previously, and his Majesty told him he did not intend to miss *Aïda* even if it made his train late in starting. It must be confessed that the great tenor was not in good voice; only towards the end of the performance did he do himself anything like justice. Miss Florence Easton (Mrs. Maclennan) had been selected for the name-part.

AMERICAN NOTES.

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE.

The Seguin Tour.

English artists desirous of exploring new regions should note that at the end of the week Mr. Tolomei will be over here, taking up his quarters at 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Mr. Tolomei does the sole bookings for the Casinos and Palaces of the Seguin Tour in South America. Recently the tour was a solid one of two months, but is now to be extended to four. The cities to be played in are Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, Rio de Janeiro, and Rosario.

"Chimes."

Chimes, the musical butcher, has recently returned from these places, and says he has had the time of his life. He tells some stories of wonder. Among other items in his show is a string of musical sausages, and during the so-called revolution in Monte Video he was carrying them over his arm to his hotel. Much looting had been going on, and consequently everyone was under suspicion. Walking along the Plaza he heard four distinct "coo-ees," the vocal police alarm, and found himself in a moment surrounded by police, and without a word of explanation he was very forcibly conducted to the Chief Police Department. It took him just three hours to get released and prove he had not stolen his own goods from the theatre.

Lily Lena.

Lily Lena, America's top-liner wherever she goes, is still holding them on the other side. Lily is fortunate in having a husband and manager in one. English folk will remember him as Willy Newhouse, the trick cyclist, with his partner Ward, who is also a black and white artist of great promise. Newhouse is the inventor of the highest or tallest "bike" in the world. It is 10ft. up, and he uses it for advertising purposes.

The Skycycle.

It is reported that recently he took his clever wife for a ride down Broadway on it by way of a parade advertisement. Imagine Lily on Willy's shoulders 10ft. up, cruising in and around the trolley cars, motors, and general traffic on Broadway! Still, he's daring enough for anything. He's the only man who can steer the famous unicycle, on which there are ten seats. It is built like an ordinary safety machine, and used in a store over in New York as an attraction in the "bike" department.

Stoll's Bar.

American artists over here are not particularly struck with the new contract forms for Stoll's new time. The location of the new houses and the geography of London, together with an intelligent knowledge of the administration of the Metropolitan Police area, wants a bit of finding out. It isn't like a provincial tour, with a station close to each hall. It looks as if they'd have to get here two weeks ahead and "lay off," so as to give themselves time to educate up to it all.

New Vaudeville House.

News comes from New York that Harry B. Harris and Jesse Lasky are going to put up in that city a new vaudeville house, to be called the Folies Begere. So!

Zona Vevey.

The American papers have been slamming Zona Vevey right up with praise. One journal says, from Chicago, where she played two weeks, "If Zona has a répertoire of twenty to thirty songs she must be cheating us out of seventeen, for she repeated her old favourites by request the second week." Her partner, Max Erard, while in America, has been getting together a great spectacular and vocal act with a view to its production when they open on the Moss time at the London Hippodrome early next year. When they opened at the Roof Garden, New York City, the management employed a fine motor car for her to get around in—even to shop, with her Scotch piper with her all the time. They do it well over the other side in the way of "stunts."

Wilson and Waring.

These artists are filling in a week at the Hippodrome, and Wilson is looking fit and well both on the applause and the whisky-and-soda he asks for so often in the show, but doesn't get. It's a great gag, and amuses the audience in fine style.

The Happy Hooligans.

Billy Howard and Kitty Harris, America's Happy Hooligans, are in such demand since their appearance at the Empire, Edinburgh, that they have had to cancel all their American engagements. Agents Somers and Warner have booked them up here until 1914.

The Zeiguners.

This quartette opened on the Morris time on the 17th under a ten weeks' engagement, and were offered further time, but they are wanted over this side until the fall of 1914.

Popular Minstrels.

The Three Dumond Minstrels report that they have a full book with Moss and Stoll circuit right up to the end of 1912. This all looks well for American turns. Why complain, fellows?

Green and Wood.

Managers on this side have been trying hard to secure Green and Wood for England. They do a comedy tumbling act on the lines of Humpsti Bumpsti. By cable comes the message that they don't expect to come over until they've finished work altogether. They've not a minute to spare for the rest of their days.

"The Lazy Frolics."

The Brothers Huxter, including the dude, have recently played the Morris time, and report the good news that they were much appreciated. Over the other side they were known as The Fullers, and played their screamer with the subtitle of "The Lazy Frolics." Who says they are foreign to real circus business?

"1915."

Why, well! What's the matter with this? Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait have been offered full time on two American circuits for 1915 and 1916. This is surely the limit.

The Male Patti.

There's something wrong when an American artist says he can't stand the vaudeville business on the other side, but is coming over here to try his luck. Well, there's plenty of room for Stuart, the Male Patti, if he's first class. A male Patti is a bit of a novelty, anyway, though there's not a great market for falsetto singers. They've got to be good.

Sam Elton.

"The man who made the Shah laugh," is making his home permanently over here. Though he hasn't said so, we believe since he entered into a tight contract with a member of the Leopold family this is his decision. In a few days he sails for Australia for the winter, under a very favourable engagement.

Velanche.

Velanche, with his football dogs and circling fox "Nellie," leaves for a world's tour in December, starting from London for Australia on the Rickards tour, thence to Africa, and after to America, beginning at San Francisco and ending up in New York City.

The Georgia Magnet.

News comes to hand that Annie Abbott, the little Georgia Magnet, is drawing great audiences in the provinces, especially at Birmingham. It has taken Annie a long time to convince everybody that she is the real identical little lady who made such a big hit eighteen years or so back at the London Alhambra. This comes of letting the act sleep so long; yet, on the other hand, as you say over here, it's woke up considerably, and is just as puzzling now as it was then. It stayed many weeks at the London Pavilion.

RINKING GOSSIP.

"Merry Martha" at Ramsgate.

Long announced, Merry Martha made her début at the Ramsgate County Rink last week. She gave a really delightful exhibition of trick and fancy skating, skipping, and dancing on rollers. Her performance showed what can be accomplished by a really clever skater. Merry Martha, in performing intricate figures on the rink, was grace personified.

Jersweat Session at Sunderland Rink.

The first "Jersweat" session of the season was held at the Whitehall Rink, Holmeside, on the 21st inst., and proved a great success. The chief feature was the various races, which were keenly contested and provided much entertainment to the spectators. There were hobble-skirt and picture-building competitions for ladies, and for gentlemen a card-castle building race and a chariot race. The last-mentioned was, perhaps, the most exciting, and after a keen contest Messrs. Boucher and White were the winners. The rink skate boys created much entertainment in an obstacle race, arranged by Mr. G. Bryan, the lads being attired in comic costumes. The last half-hour was given up to a confetti battle, which waged in good-humoured fun till eleven o'clock. Altogether the evening was very enjoyable, and Mr. Walton, the manager, received many congratulations upon the novel nature of the races.

Carnival at Waterford Rink.

The directors of the Waterford Rink have announced that the first carnival will be held on Nov. 15. They are offering very handsome prizes for best costumes. The three sessions still continue to draw a good attendance.

Cycle v. Skates at South Wigston Rink.

The Clarence Rink at South Wigston is doing splendid business, and Mr. T. Moody, the manager, is to be congratulated on the many attractions he puts before his patrons. On Saturday last a cycle v. skate race took place, in which Mr. Moody, who rode the cycle, was beaten by a yard by Mr. H. Green on skates. Mr. Moody, besides being an expert in the art of fancy skating, is also a clever trick cyclist, an exhibition of which he gave on Saturday last on an ordinary road machine.

Rinking at Limerick.

The Limerick Skating Rink continues to attract the patrons of this exhilarating pastime, and nightly crowds have availed themselves of the spin on the wheels. The carefully arranged hockey matches are a great attraction. The next event will be the children's carnival, and success has already been assured by the number of applications for tickets.

Carnival at Norwich Rink.

The first carnival of the season was held at the Rinkeries, Rose-lane, on Tuesday, and there was a large attendance. Some capital racing and other competitions for ladies as well as gentlemen took place, all of which were keenly contested. Able assistance was rendered by Mr. F. W. Fitt and by Messrs. B. J. Seabrook, A. Murray, Hubbard, and others, and the occasion proved a great success.

COLONIAL GOSSIP.

Julius Knight's Popularity.

Julius Knight is very popular in West Australia, and his farewell season brought forth some tangible evidences of the fact. In Kalgoorlie he was the recipient of a beautiful solid silver bowl, while in Perth he was presented with a very handsome set of gold-mounted smoking requisites.

Amy Castles in Grand Opera.

Owing to the illness of Signorina Pampari, Amy Castles stepped into the part of Mimi, in *La Bohème*, at a moment's notice in Melbourne, and achieved a notable success. The Victorian singer has improved out of all knowledge as an actress since she went to New Zealand, according to the *Sydney Town and County Journal*. So pleased is the Australian cantatrice with her initial effort in grand opera that she has quite made up her mind to continue the career which she has started so successfully under the J. C. Williamson management. She is only waiting till the present season finishes to get away to Italy and settle down to study in real earnest. There seems little doubt about her ultimate success.

Miss Maie Sydney's Advice.

Miss Maie Sydney, who recently returned to Sydney after five years' experience abroad, and particularly in London, has, says the *Canterbury Times* (New Zealand), written a letter of warning to ambitious Australians who would seek fame and fortune on the stage in London. Emphasising the necessity for talent and thorough training in acting and singing when allied to self-confidence and ambition, she points out that there must be some financial preparedness for a long wait before the looked-for engagements eventuate. Much disappointment may be experienced before the aspirant for popular favour on the stage achieves success. She adds that unless one knows London, and the way to expend money to the best advantage, living expenses there will absorb a good deal of capital. Miss Sydney states that she has received many letters asking for her advice from stage aspirants, and, while she does not wish to advise all to seek fame and fortune abroad, she recognises that the Australian girl with the necessary courage, ability, and money may always try her luck in London, with good prospects of success.

"The Dollar Princess" in Toronto.

Charles Frohman's company, in *The Dollar Princess*, recently opened a week's engagement at the Princess Theatre, Toronto. In addition to the English cast, the company comprises the famous "beauty chorus," selected by popular vote by the readers of the *New York World*. *The Dollar Princess* went direct from a ten months' run at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York City. No expense has been spared to make the production the same in every detail as it was during its New York engagement. It is staged in a most gorgeous manner, the company travelling three carloads of new and beautiful scenery.

Mr. Langford Kirby's Success.

Mr. Langford Kirby, who has been appearing with great success in *The Orchid* at Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, is one of the Boucicault family. His mother was the reigning beauty of Rockhampton (Queensland) as a girl, being known as one of the beautiful Miss Boucicaults. Her son is an exceptionally versatile comedian, with a born stage manner. He has become very popular as a member of J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company. Mr. Kirby's career in Australia has been an unusual one. Engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson from Mr. George Edwardes for musical comedy, he was first cast as Young Ryder, in *The Lion and the Mouse*, in which he scored a distinct hit. His dramatic experience in England, included in which was three years at Drury Lane Theatre, stood him in good stead in this rôle. Next he stepped into the part of Joachim, in *The Waltz Dream*. His performance was on eccentric lines, and distinctly amusing.

Hugh J. Ward's Good Work.

The Children's Hospital scheme, in Wellington, New Zealand, has been boomed through the assistance given it by Mr. Hugh J. Ward, and in the course of a week Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Wilford, the Mayor and Mayoress of Wellington, collected the fine sum of £3,600. Mr. Ward's generous offer started the ball rolling, and, thanks mainly to his initiative, a new children's hospital is a certainty for Wellington. There are very many people who will in the future bless the day that Hugh Ward brought *The Girl from Rector's* to Wellington, for it marks one of the finest efforts ever made in the cause of charity in New Zealand.

"HER LADYSHIP'S GUEST."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Harry M. Vernon, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Coliseum, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Lady Arlington .....Miss Mary Griffiths
Gibbs .....Mr. W. F. Stirling
Tricky Dugan .....Mr. C. M. Brune

The above sketch was produced in July last at the Leeds Hippodrome, and its principal purpose at the Coliseum seems to be the introduction of Mr. C. M. Brune as the American "crook," Tricky Dugan, a smart New York burglar. He has come across Cyril, the self-exiled heir of the noble house of Arlington, who has left home because of the brutality of his father to his mother. Chance had thrown Cyril into his way, and being deeply impressed by the youth's manly, upright character, the burglar reforms, and comes to England to seek the boy's relations. He intrudes on the privacy of Lady Arlington, Cyril's grandmother, to whom he discloses all he knows, and influences her ladyship to seek the return of her grandson. Scotland Yard, however, is on Dugan's track, and a detective calls to arrest him on suspicion, but he is saved by Lady Arlington informing the 'tec through her butler that the "gentleman" is "her ladyship's guest."

Miss Mary Griffiths was authoritative, dignified, and pathetic as the aristocratic Lady Arlington, and played the part with much impressiveness. Mr. C. M. Brune's speech was too hurried on Monday afternoon to allow those at any distance to catch the New York slang which is so plentifully sprinkled in his lines; but Mr. W. F. Stirling made an excellent butler.

Miss Mina Green has been going great guns at the Bedford and Crouch End during the week with two new songs, "In the land of the Cingalee" and "Star of the Nile." J. F. Lambe and Alf. J. Lawrence, the author-composers, have supplied Miss Green with another number entitled "Take me back to Mexico."

Ebrington Rink, Plymouth.

The floor is now in prime condition, and the weekly handicaps that have been arranged materially add to the attractiveness of the ordinary evenings, and are responsible for much increased support. Last week's carnival proved so successful that another, coupled with a Cinderella, is to be arranged at an early date.

Sports Carnival at Rochdale.

A sports carnival was held at the Palace Roller Rink, Rochdale, on Tuesday night, and attracted a large number of competitors. A silver challenge cup was offered to amateurs racing for a distance of half a mile, the winner being Mr. T. Burgess. There were several other competitions. A confetti battle was afterwards held. There were a good number of spectators.

AN OPERATIC HORSE.

"During my visit to Munich, while arranging a leave of absence for Therese and Arthur Vogl in view of our Berlin engagement," writes Angelo Neumann in his "Personal Recollections of Wagner," "I attended a rehearsal of the *Götterdämmerung*, and in the final act investigated the details of Brunhilda's celebrated ride into the flames. The horse she used had once been a favourite charger of the Emperor Maximilian, and now in its old age fulfilled this last and only duty with a marvellous intelligence and an almost uncanny instinct for the rôle. It knew its cues perfectly, for the moment that Brunhilda advanced, saying, 'Heya Grane, grüsse den Freund,' it grew restless, champed the bit, and pawed; then at her final call, 'Siegfried, selig gilt dir mein Gruss,' it wheeled rapidly, and, galloping straight across the stage, dashed at the blazing funeral pyre. Brunhilda, grasping the mane at the start, leaped to its back on the keen run, and so they rode—apparently into the very heart of the flames! It was wonderfully carried out, and the effect on the audience was simply overwhelming.

"I expressed my awe and admiration to Therese Vogl, who assured me that, though she was a skilled rider, she could never carry out that leap with any other mount, for the creature's intelligence was nothing short of marvellous. 'You might almost say,' she added, 'that the animal has an ear for music!' For at each performance of the *Götterdämmerung*, precisely at the same bar, without a sign from her and not waiting for her to mount, the horse started on that wild dramatic plunge across the stage.

"As this final act of *Götterdämmerung* was of the keenest importance both to myself and to all the artists concerned, I resolved with the Vogls to petition his Majesty Ludwig II., well known for his gracious and enlightened patronage of the arts, to allow us to take this horse to Berlin for our coming *Nibelungen* cycle. This request was most courteously granted on condition that he should be suitably lodged in the Royal stables in Berlin. Naturally that could only be arranged by application to his Majesty the Emperor of Germany. Kaiser William I.—always kindly and generous—immediately gave his consent, and arrangements were made for the careful handling and housing of the horse in the royal stables.

"In the midst of our rehearsals, however, just as we were preparing for his shipment from Munich, came the news of his illness, and finally of his death. Then the problem was to secure another tractable horse for the part. Where could we find a Grane to play that difficult rôle both in *The Valkyrie* and the *Götterdämmerung*? Day after day I hunted through Berlin, but all in vain. As a last resort I was recommended to apply to the Equerry of the Imperial stables (at that time Count Pückler), who received me most graciously, but refused my request most emphatically. He escorted me over the palace, and spared no pains to make up by urbanity for his point-blank refusal. When, finally, quite in despair, I appealed to him naïvely, asking him who could give me permission to borrow one of the royal horses—without which our performance must inevitably fall through—he answered with a calm candour that I shall never forget, 'The only person who could let you have it would be the Kaiser. But I may as well tell you now that, even if he gave his consent, I should certainly refuse mine.' Then he ushered me to the door and bowed me out."

"My joy and surprise, then, may be imagined when a royal lackey was ushered in some two days later and handed me a note from Count Pückler, saying, 'I shall expect you and Madame Vogl this morning between eleven and twelve at the riding-school of the royal stables. We can then pick out a suitable mount.'

The writer then explains that the Crown Prince, hearing of the difficulty, had interested himself.

"Promptly at the given hour I arrived at the riding school with the Vogls—both excellent riders—and found the court equerry waiting for us. Here the prima donna tried twelve or fifteen horses without being able to find one with whom she could manage that daring leap into the flames. However, we might still count ourselves fortunate to find a horse that was suitable in other respects. So the Berliners had to thank the quick wits and the genial readiness of their Crown Prince (later the Emperor Frederick) for their enjoyment of the *Nibelungen* cycle."

Large audiences still attend both houses at the Ayr Picture Palace. A new feature is added this week in "The Pathé Gazette"—a chronicle of topical events. The Revolution in Portugal evoked considerable interest. The programme also includes The Phœnix, As the Bells Rang Out, and others.

Some time since Mr. Mark Melford slipped out of the whirl of life to find relief, perchance, in "a shrine of utter quietude." He just as quietly returned to the stage on Monday at the Bedford in his famous sketch *My Wife Won't Let Me*, which has recently been published, with other productions from his pen, in the form of a handy little volume, price one shilling net, by Samuel French, Ltd., Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

Miss Maggie Duggan has given permission to Miss Renee Grahame to sing her popular song, "The happiest chappie of the day," during her coming American tour. Renee Grahame's latest winner, "Cheer up, girls," is by Chas. Levey, of the Lyric, Liverpool.

Mr. Aubrey Dennistoun has been engaged by Mr. Harold Nuttall for the part of the Doctor in *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, by W. W. Jacobs, which is booked for a round of the halls preparatory to a tour of the States. This will be Mr. Dennistoun's first appearance on the variety stage.

A New York correspondent states that the band at the aviation meeting at Belmont Park played practically one lilting air all one afternoon. It is called "Every little movement has a meaning of its own," is from *Madame Sherry*, and has already been christened "the aviation melody."

A well-informed contemporary states that the largest salary ever offered in vaudeville was recently made to Miss Marie Tempest for a short engagement in a musical sketch. The writer states also that Miss Tempest says that she has no intention of ever returning to the music hall stage, in any circumstances.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., beg most gratefully to thank Mr. Walter Inge (donation), 10s. (per Mrs. George Gilbey); Miss Ronna Shanara (collection), 8s. 10d.; Miss Lottie Albert, babies' new clothing; Miss Kate Toole, pair babies' new leather shoes. We have some very nice fancy dress costumes for sale. No reasonable offer refused.

Owing to the officials of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild having to attend the Old Bailey, the general meeting is unavoidably postponed until Thursday, Nov. 3, at 1 o'clock, at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Strand.

The Five Musical Palmers are this week playing a return visit to the Kino Hall, Clay Cross, where they beat all records on their last visit in Good Friday week. They follow on with Messrs. Broadhead at Manchester for the next four weeks, opening at the Queen's Park Hippodrome.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Allan-Edwardes, Mr.
Anglo, Mr. Chas.
Arundale, Miss S.
Audre, Miss Olga
Austin, Mr. Arthur
Barker, Mr. Granville
Barrett and Knowles
Barry, Mr. Russell
Beecham, Mr. George
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Bell, Mr. W. Gordon
Bignell, Señor A.
Boswell, Mr. Sidney
Brammall, Mr. H. S.
Buff-Bill
Burnet, Mrs.
Caley, Miss Daisy
Calvert, Mr. Frank
Carlisle and Wellmon
Carr, Mr. Philip
Carson, Mr. Lingford
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Chase, Miss P.
Collier, Miss C.
Collins, Miss Lucia
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Cotterell, Mr. Sid
Cumberlands, The
Curran, Mr. Fred
Daly, Mrs. Lawrence
Darsley, Miss E. M.
Dashwood, Mr. A.
Deane, Miss Eileen
De Caston, Mr. Walter
De Landes, Mr. R. O.
De Marr, Mr. Harry
Douglas, Mr. J. D.
Draco, Mr. K.
Elder, Miss Nance
Elliston, Mr. J. H.
Enger, Sergt. J.
English, Mr. George
Erskine, Miss Evie
Evans, Mr. Wash
Eyson, Miss Edith
Fancourt, Mr. Tom
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Field, Mr. Harry
Field, Miss Lila
Ford, Miss Ray
Forde, Mr. Owen
Fox, Mr. J. Gallimore
Foy, Mr. Tom
Fuller, Miss Loie
Gilbert, Miss Doris
Godwin, Mr. Will
Gordon, Miss Winnie
Gorigund, Miss D.
Graham and Conyers
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Hamerstein, Mr. Oscar
Harrison, Miss
Hart, Mr. M.
Haverley, Mr. C. E.
Haworth, Miss Polly
Hawtrey, Mrs. George
Heathcote, Mr. Robert
Hilbert, Mr. Frank
Hine, Mr. Robert
Hollies, Mr. Wm.
Holtz, Mr.
Howard, Mr. Eardley
Hugo, Little
Humber, Miss Fanny
Jackson, Miss Ethel
"Jennie and Joe"
Kemble, Mr. H.
Kettel, Captain
Knight, Miss Violet
Lane, Miss Hettie
Lawrie, Miss Carrie
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lea, Miss Lillian
Leicester, Mr. Geo. F.
Leigh, Miss Grace
Leigh, Mr. A.
Leonard, Mr. Jack
Leotard, Mr. Tom
Leslie Brothers
Leven, Mr. Ben
Le Blanc, Miss Marie
Lilly, Mr. A. C.
Lion, Mr. Leon M.
Lloyd, Mr. Harold
Lockhart, Mr. Wm.
Luxmore, Miss Mabel
Maddison, Mr. H.
McCarthy, Mr. Chas
McEwen, Mr. Walter
Meads, Mr. Earle F.
Minster, Mr. Otto
Mohamed, Ben
Montisolo and Macleod
Moore, Miss Carrie
Morgan, Mr. Harry
Morton, Mr. James J.
Murray, Mr. T. E.
Nevis, Mr. Ben
Niagara and Falls
Nixon, Mr. W. D.
Norwood, Miss Bertha
Palmer, Mr. F. Payne
Paul, Mr. T. M.
Pearson, Mr. H. A.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Polini, Mrs. G. M.
Rayne, Mr. Roland
Read, Mr. D'Arcy
Reeves, Miss Marie
Robson, Miss May
Rogerson, Mr. Harry
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rowley, Mr. J. W.
Russell, Mr. W. K.
Sampson, Mr.
Spaulding, Captain
Savidge, Mr. James
Scroggs, Mr. Chas.
Shepperd, Mr. E. G.
Sinclair, Miss Gracie
Sivroni, Mr. E.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Smith, Miss Annie
Smith, Mr. Eustace S.
Smith, Mrs. G. Boswell
Somers, Mr. J. J.
Sowerby, Miss May
Stedman, Mr. Charles
Stewart, Miss Rose
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Strauss, Miss Rita
Sutherland, Mr. Frank
Temple, Mr. Fred
Thebaud, Miss E. M.
Toone, Mr. Alfred C.
Tubb, Miss Carrie
Valazi
Vallas, Mr.
Van Biene, Mr. Auguste
Vetter, Mr. W. Eugene
Ware, Miss Nettie
Warren, Miss Gwynne
Willoughby, Mr. P.
Wilson, Mr. Frank
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Wood, Miss Daisie
Wood, Mr. Percy
Yelding, Mr. Bob
Zolas, The Four

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York.
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), solicitor. Third edition.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—*The Financier.*

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Office, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Frank Fox, at the Walthamstow Palace, produced a new song, entitled "I'd rather have the moonshine," written and composed by Harry Carlton. The song was an immediate success, and is already in great demand for pantomime, being an ideal song for principal boy.

The first of a series of operatic concerts, to be given by the Municipal Orchestra during the winter, took place at the Brighton Dome on Wednesday evening, Gounod's *Faust* being the work selected. The festival choir supplied the chorus. The solo vocalists included Miss Lilian Tree, Miss Mary Leighton, Mr. Wilfred Virgo, and Mr. George Baker. Mr. Joseph Sainton conducted.

"An Unwedded Wife" is the attraction at the Hippodrome, Neath. Miss Crissie Dunbar proves herself a talented actress as Marion; Mr. and Mrs. Will Casey in their respective parts of Napoleon B. Boomer and Carraway Crumpet are very funny; Little Doris Spense, who plays Reggie, is a clever child actress; as Philip Blackstone Mr. H. Oxtaby gives an excellent portrayal; Mr. L. Ernest is admirable as John Hawthorne; as Frank Armstrong Mr. Arthur Cheeves distinguishes himself; Mr. Dicky Bird is good as Christopher Leanox; Mr. W. Fisher is an acceptable David Drummond; the constabulary are well represented by Messrs. Robert Young, Frank Masters, and H. Hammerton; and Miss Ethel Spense is a charming Elsie Langham.

"Dramatic and Musical Law." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

GOODRICH RUBBER

Seeing that there is such a great difference in tyre values, the motorist who wishes to get the best must learn to discriminate between that which is good and that which is—not so good. Quite a lot of "rubber" gets into motor tyres which is only fit for "ink erasers" in elementary schools, and being out of its element is promptly "erased" by the road. Every atom of a Goodrich cover is buoyantly alive, and automatically capable of instant compression and recoil. To these essentials is added a quality of toughness ensuring the maximum resistance to the cutting and grinding attacks of the road. These are the reasons for "the Goodrich average." This is the combination of speed and durability which has earned it the title of

THE IDEAL TOURING TYRE.

"ASK THE ROAD" about

Stand No. 306 Olympia. Stand No. 386 Olympia.

Goodrich Tyres

Manufactured by The B. F. GOODRICH CO., Ltd., 7, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 31.

Almost His Bride.—O. H., Harrogate.
Alone in London.—T. R., Bolton.
Angel of His Dreams.—Empire T., Hyde.
Another Man's Wife.—King's T., Seacombe.
Arcadians (N.).—Court T., Liverpool.
Arcadians (S.).—T. R., Plymouth.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T. R., Castleford.
At Cripple Creek.—Grand T., Brighton.
At the World's Mercy.—Bordon Camp.
Bad Girl of the Family.—T. R., Bristol.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., Exeter.
Beecham Opera Co.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Benson, F. R. (N.)—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Benson, F. R. (S.)—Tiverton and Burnham.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—O. H., Southport.
Best People, The.—Kidderminster and Malvern.
Bishop's Son, The.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Blue Bird.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Brass Bottle, The.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Brewster's Millions.—Halifax.
Broken Heart.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Bulmer, Mr.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Candida.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Captain Kidd.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Chalmers Mackey and Co.—King's T., Greenock.
Charley's Aunt.—West Pier, Brighton.
Chasing Cynthia.—Tidworth and Worthing.
Child of the Streets.—Grand T., Derby.
Christian, The (Draper).—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Cingalee (A.).—Miners' T., Ashington.
Cingalee (Crichton).—O. H., Dudley.
Claudian.—T. R., Stockport.
Coal King.—T. R., Jarrow.
Compton Comedy Co.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Country Girl, A.—O. H., Cork.
Country Girl in London.—Hippo., Wednesbury.
Dairymaids, The.—Victoria T., Burnley.
Dairymaids, The (N.).—Macclesfield & Chesterfield.
Dame Nature.—Grand T., Leeds.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Houghton-le-Spring.
Daughter of the Sea.—Crown T., Eccles.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—O. H., Belfast.
Dear Little Denmark.—O. H., Torquay.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes) (N.).—T. R., Nottingham.
Dollar Princess (S.).—Grand T., Croydon.
Don.—Assembly Rooms, Malvern.
D'Oyly Carte.—New T. Oxford.
Draycott, Chas.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—T. R., Cardiff.
East Lynne (Watt).—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Education of Elizabeth.—T. R., Leamington.
Eyes of the World.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Face at the Window.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Facing the World Alone.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
Fast Life, A.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Junc. T., Manchester.
Female Detective.—Grand T., Walsall.
Fighting Chance.—T. R., Rotherham.
Flag Lieutenant.—Grand T., Southampton.
Florodora (Constant).—Court T., Wigan.
For Love and the King.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Lyceum T., Newport.
From Convent to Throne.—T. R., Rochdale.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—T. R., Belfast.
Girl from America.—T. R., Colne.
Girls of Gottenberg.—O. H., Leicester.
Girl Who Went Astray.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Great Awakening.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—T. R., Barnsley.
Happy-Go-Lucky O'Lyn.—T. R., Bury.
Harvey, Martin.—T. R., Manchester.
Havana.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—O. H., Wakefield.
Her Love Against the World.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Her Nameless Child.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Her Path of Sorrow.—Star T., Swansea.
Her Road to Ruin.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Her Secret Lover.—Palace T., Porth.
His Indian Wife.—Aquarium T., Great Yarmouth.
His Real Wife.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
House of Temperley.—Grand T., Hull.
Importance of Being Earnest.—Tynemouth.
Irving, H. B.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Irving, Laurence.—T. R., Brighton.
King and the Unknown Woman.—Met. T., Glasgow.
King of Cadonia.—Grand T., Swansea.
King of the Wild West.—Met. T., Birmingham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Tenby & Pembroke Dock.
Life for a Life.—Stockton.
Life of a Showman.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Life's Revenge.—T. R., Preston.
Lingard-Moreau Repertoire.—Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline.
Little Phil's Mother.—T. R., York.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Empire T., Southend.
Love Birds, The.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Love of the Princess.—Empire T., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Lucky Durham.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Man to Man.—Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.
Marsh, Alexander.—O. H., Scarborough.
Master of the Mill.—Grand T., Nelson.
Maude, Winifred.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Merry Territorial, The.—County T., Reading.
Merry Widow (N.).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Merry Widow (S.).—T. R., Hanley.
Merry Widow (3).—O. H., Northampton.
Message from Mars.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Midnight Mail.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Midnight Wedding.—Met. T., Birmingham.
Miss Hook of Holland.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd. (N.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Miss Lancashire, Limited (S.).—Peterborough and Grantham.
Miss Plaster—of Paris.—Alexandra T., Belfast.
Miss Tommy.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—T. R., Aldershot.
Mountaineers, The.—T. R., Newcastle.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—Ipswich and Grantham.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—Fulham, S.W.
My Irish Molly.—Central T., Northwich.
New East Lynne.—O. H., Belfast.
New Lady Bantock.—Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline.
Nick Carter.—Queen's T., Dublin.
No Mother to Guide Her.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Octoroon, The.—T. R., Margate.
Old Home.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Old Folks at Home.—T. R., Sunderland.
Old Heidelberg.—County T., Bedford.
Our Miss Gibbs (Edwardes).—T. R., Dublin.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—New T., Cardiff.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—T. R., Worcester.
Outcast of the Family.—Barnoldswick.
Power of the King.—Alexandra T., New Washington.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (N.).—Palace T., Newcastle.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (S.).—T. R., Woolwich.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Prodigal Parson.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Proof.—T. R., West Stanley.
Queen of the Fair.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Raffles.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Raynor Repertory.—Grand T., Halifax.
Royal Divorce.—Motherwell and Ayr.
Sexton Blake.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Sherlock Holmes.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Sign of the Cross.—Met. T., Gateshead.
Sign of the Cross (Bowes).—Durham and Wrexham.
Silver King.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Sinner, The.—Met. T., Abertillery.
Sir Walter Raleigh.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Smith (N.).—Bath.
Smith (S.).—Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Sowers, The.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Speckled Band.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Still Alarm.—Palace T., Ebbw Vale.
Tantalizing Tommy.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Tearle, Edmund.—Arbroath.
Temptation.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Terry, Edward.—T. R., Glasgow.
Thief in the Night.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
Thief, The.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Through the Divorce Court.—Court T., Warrington.
Traitor Prince.—Grand T., Stonehouse.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—O. H., Coventry.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Tivoli T., Pentre.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Under the Iron Heel.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand T., Walsall.
Waller, Lewis.—King's T., Glasgow.
Was She to Blame?—Grand T., Stockton.
Wearin' o' the Green.—King's T., Greenock.
What a Man Made Her.—Spennymoor.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Darlington.
When Knights Were Bold.—Kennington T., S.E.
When Knights Were Bold.—Merthyr Tydvil.
When it was Dark.—Hippodrome, Neath.
Where is William?—Palace T., Gloucester.
Whip, The.—T. R., Birmingham.
Who is She?—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Whom God Hath Joined.—Empire T., Oldham.
Why Did She Run Away?—Stoke-on-Trent.
Wilkie, Allan.—T. R., Preston.
With Edged Tools.—Court T., Warrington.
Woman and Two Men.—Smethwick.
Woman of Two Lives.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Woman's Past.—T. R., Edmonton, N.
World, Flesh, and the Devil.—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Wrecker of Men.—Hippodrome, Keighley.

SHAKESPEARE'S CONSTRUCTION.

"It is reasonable to believe," says Mr. William H. Fleming in "Shakespeare's Plots," that Shakespeare did recognise the fact that plot is the primal element in a drama. The perfection of his own plots proves this. His plays, with the exception of some written in his tentative, his playwright period, are the perfection of symmetry; they balance around a common centre. 'The key to every man is his thought.' The key to every drama is the plot, which is simply the poet's originating, constructing thought. The recognition of this fact is one fruit of the study of the plays according to the method here advocated.

"The study of a drama after this manner is similar, in every stage, to Shakespeare's method of constructing it. The student is thereby brought into intellectual and imaginative sympathy with the dramatist. As a consequence he is able to judge accurately, to appreciate fully, the perfection and beauty of the drama. Shakespeare's method was first analytic, then synthetic. He analysed a romance or history, selecting some, rejecting other incidents. Then, using those selected, and adding to them others of his own invention, out of them, as raw material, he created a drama. This operation is followed step by step, by the student. The details are seen to be perfect in themselves. Further, that each one is essential, for in a perfect drama there is no lay figure, not a needless word or action. Then, passing from specials to generals, the growth of each division of the drama is traced. Finally the drama is perceived to be organic. Each and every part is seen to be vital, and to be in living connection with every other part, and all together constitute a perfect work of dramatic art.

"By this method of study the scholar follows the natural order of intellectual growth, which is from the concrete to the abstract. He rises, like Shakespeare himself, to the region of the imagination, and

'. . . . apprehends
More than cool reason ever comprehends.'

While there is, as Coleridge has stated, an antithesis between science and poetry, this antithesis is not great in degree or inherent in character. Essentially, science and poetry are alike, both being expressions of truth. As in character, so in method are they similar. 'The highest reach of science,' says Matthew Arnold, 'is, we may say an inventive power, a faculty of divination akin to the highest power exercised in poetry.' And again, 'without poetry our science will appear incomplete. . . . For finely and truly does Wordsworth call poetry "the impassioned expression which is in the countenance of all science."' The critical study, therefore, of poetry as of science is the joint work of reason and of imagination; of the imaginative reason. This is true of Science. 'Bounded and conditioned by co-operant reason, imagination becomes the mightiest instrument of the physical discoverer,' says Tyndall. The scientific method of studying the Shakespearean drama equally demands the use both of reason and imagination. It is by means of both that *the still and mental parts* of the drama, the hidden but vital connection of all the factors of the play, and the artistic result of that connection, are perceived. By means of both the student apprehends not only what is really in the play, but also what is potentially there. The production of that beauty, both that which is real and that which is potential, and the perception of it as well, are the result of the concurrent action of a highly trained intellect and a most refined and disciplined imagination. The method of study here advocated necessitates the exercise of both. Hence it is in accord with Shakespeare's method of construction, and, better than any other, will enable the student to appreciate the Shakespeare plays."

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Ventom Swift—Saturday, Oct. 29.
H. Sherwood Martin—Saturday, Oct. 29.
Dora Fellowes—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Frank Lindo—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Madge Crichton—Monday, Oct. 31.
Renée Grahame—Monday, Oct. 31.
George Stone—Monday, Oct. 31.
George R. J. Austin—Tuesday, Nov. 1.
Rhoda Larkin—Tuesday, Nov. 1.
Victoria Monks—Tuesday, Nov. 1.
J. Pitt Hardacre—Wednesday, Nov. 2.
Herbert Shelley—Wednesday, Nov. 2.
Lewis Waller—Thursday, Nov. 3.
Gertrude Price—Thursday, Nov. 3.
G. H. Elliott—Thursday, Nov. 3.
Peter Bijou—Thursday, Nov. 3.
G. Mayor-Cooke—Thursday, Nov. 3.
Peter Adair—Thursday, Nov. 3.
F. R. Benson—Friday, Nov. 4.
Edith Forrest—Friday, Nov. 4.

Miss Mary Moore, in *The Liars* at the Criterion, appears in the first act in a white satin dress heavily embroidered with white bugles and white silk embroidery, and finished with bugle fringe. The bodice, which is lightly high-waisted, is treated in the same style, but its characteristic feature is a wide ceinture of pale blue satin worn under the transparent chiffon, and carried round to the back, whence fall two long flat stole ends almost to the hem of the skirt, richly embroidered with silver. The effect of the dress was still further enhanced by ornaments of turquoise and pearl.

In the second act Miss Moore wears a gown of very fine white cloth. The bodice is of the Magyar or sans'eve type, with elbow sleeves. The skirt is made with a short tunic of the same cloth, which is gathered into the high waistband. A novel effect in the bodice is produced by crossing bretelles of the cloth, and these are continued at the back in fashionable flat stole-ends. Touches of blue and black appear at the neck and sleeves of the gown, and are repeated in the buttons, while the toilette is completed by a huge black picture hat with sweeping white ostrich feathers.

Miss Moore's gown in the last act is composed of transparent silk ninon of a very soft dull grey over a silk foundation of the same shade. The ninon overdress is finished with a very wide border of embroidery in dull gold, and is adorned with gold bugle fringe. Above this border appears through the ninon a wide band of lace which adorns the underdress. The bodice is also richly embroidered, and is finished by a very wide waistband of old rose silk partially veiled by the ninon and finished at the back with two long ends. The picture hat is of pink with a wide brim lined with black velvet and trimmed with large black ostrich feathers. A very graceful white satin gown is worn by Miss Ellis Jeffreys, and Miss Dorothy Thomas appears in a frock of purple chiffon over white.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.
All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.
"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.
TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.
Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.
Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

Geo. Jarvis.—*Yes, it is illegal. The mere fact that the children get nothing for their services is immaterial. If the entertainment is for profit, then the manager is liable.*
"Straws."—*Yes, Miss Violet Cameron appeared at the old Gaiety as Faust in* Faust Up to Date, *Oct. 30, 1888, and as Dick, in* Dick Turpin the Second, *a burlesque, in two acts, by W. F. Goldberg, produced on May 6, 1889.*
H. Warde (Norwich).—*Miss Amber Austa (Mrs. Will E. Haines) died on Aug. 3 last of consumption, at the early age of twenty-seven, at her residence, 191, Lavender Hill, London, S.W., and was buried at Morden Cemetery, Surrey.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**
As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Watts.—Oct. 25, at 34, Gowlett-road, East Dulwich, S.E., Mrs. Clive Watts (Miss Daisy Hicks), of a daughter.

DEATHS.

Blake.—On the 25th inst., at 50, Grove-road, Clapham Park, S.W., after seven days' illness, Flora, the beloved wife of Harry Blake (professionally known as The Two Bees). Funeral Monday next at Tooting, 2 o'clock. Peace, perfect peace. American and Australian papers please copy.
Carter.—Oct. 23, at Westminster, after a short illness, Mrs. Carter, the beloved mother of Evie Conway.
Deane.—Oct. 25, suddenly, at Kilmarnock, William Deane, musical conductor of the King's Theatre, aged forty-five.
Glover.—On Sunday, Oct. 23, 1910, at 141, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham, S.W., Annie Glover, the dearly beloved mother of Alfred Glover and John A. Glover-Kind. Interred at Streatham on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 1910. At rest.
Graham.—Oct. 16, at Rugeley, after a short illness, Caroline Graham, aged seventy-four.
Johnson.—Oct. 20, at Bolingbroke Hospital, Wandsworth Common, Mrs. Johnson, wife of Mr. Wm. Johnson, general-secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees.

In Memoriam.

Blake (Flora).—In ever affectionate remembrance of my dear little "godmother," who left us Oct. 25, 1910. Lead, kindly Light. Ruby Dahl, Kursaal de Montreux, Switzerland.
Boyde.—In dearest memory of Edwin Boyde (Ted), who passed away Oct. 30, 1909. "Until the day break and the shadows flee away." R.I.P.
Boyde.—In loving memory of my darling dada (Edwin Boyde). Deeply mourned.—Edwina.
Grahame.—In ever loving memory of my dear brother, J. G. Grahame, who died Oct. 31, 1907.
Leno, Dan.—In loving remembrance of dear Dan, who died Oct. 31, 1904. Ever remembered. Will and Edie.
Leon.—In loving and affectionate memory of Frank Leon, who died in Glasgow, Oct. 31, 1909. Never forgotten by his loving wife, Lizzie Kirk-Leon (now known as Elsie Ellis).
Leon.—In ever-loving memory of our dear daddy, Frank Leon, who died in Glasgow, Oct. 31, 1909. Never forgotten by his little daughters, May and Lillie Leon.
Mellors.—In loving memory of Arthur Gregory Mellors, who died in Paris, Oct. 22, 1899. Gone, but not forgotten. Wife and children.
Wade.—In loving memory of Tom Wade, of Wade and Waller, who passed away Oct. 25, 1908. Always remembered by his wife and children.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society's performances of *As You Like It* concluded at the Royal Court Theatre on Saturday last. In acknowledging the enthusiastic applause, Mr. Acton Bond said:—"I am glad to say that our members and their friends, the public, have not found our Forest of Arden a 'desert inaccessible,' for you will be pleased to hear that these fourth annual performances have been a success, both artistically and financially. On behalf of the B.E.S.S. I wish to publicly thank all those who have helped towards this gratifying result. Without doubt, the fact that we were able on the previous three occasions to hold our annual performances at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, has enabled us to bring the first London festival to a successful issue. Thanks to the co-operation of the Governors of the Memorial Theatre—headed by their chairman, Mr. A. D. Flower—and of many prominent Stratford-on-Avon citizens, we were given the use of the theatre, and were thus enabled to hold the performances under the happiest conditions.

"The Shakespearean cause," continued Mr. Bond, "must be making great strides when men and women of position give up their leisure for rehearsals and a week's performances. The casts have not only been composed of London members, but of many members from the provincial cities. We have no intention of crowding the stage, but of spreading the love of Shakespeare, by insisting on the vital and dramatic side of the poet's work as against the 'dry-as-dust' treatment, which obtained till recently. The thanks of the society are due to Mr. Drinkwater for his none too easy task of rehearsing four different casts of ladies, in addition to the usual two casts of gentlemen. I also wish to thank Miss Carter, who helped us last year at Stratford, for again arranging the dances. Then we must not forget the Arion String Quartette, who have once more given us a programme of mostly traditional music. A final word of thanks is due to the staff of the theatre, both in front and behind. It has been to all of us one of the great pleasures of this week to see so many school children in our audiences, and to hear their cheery laughter and applause. One of our 'objects' is to help children to love Shakespeare's works."

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the **Natural** method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,

BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—Taming of the Shrew, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Gentlemen,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), Marie Rose Mapleson.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

REAL HAMBURG GROUND

KROPP RAZOR

Always Ready for Use.

NEVER REQUIRES GRINDING.
DO NOT BE PUT OFF WITH SUBSTITUTES.

Black Handle	5s. 6d.	Pair Ivory Handles in Russia Leather Case	21s. 0d.
Ivory Handle	7s. 6d.	Kropp Strop Paste	6d.
Kropp Duplex Strop	7s. 6d.		

Wholesale: OSBORNE, GARRETT, & CO., LONDON, W.

BIRKBECK BANK

ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1235 Brixton.

WHEN ON TOUR

The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce
INDIGESTION.
A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Established Over Half-a-Century.
Picture Frames & Mouldings
Decorative Mouldings.
THEATRICAL FRAMES A SPECIALITY.
ESTIMATES FREE.
CARVER, GILDER, & MOUNT CUTTER.
Largest Stock in the Kingdom.
SEND FOR PATTERN BOOK.
Jubilee Edition Just Published. Up-to-date Patterns. Many New and Exclusive Designs.
Post Free for 12 penny stamps.
H. MORELL, Manufacturer and Importer.
17 & 18, Gt. Saint Andrew Street, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C
Warehouses:
11, 12, 13, Neal's-yard and Neal-st. (in the rear).
Telegrams, "Rabbitry." 'Phone, 6135 Central.

ESSAYS
ON THE
CURRENT DRAMA
BY
J. H. BARNES

1. THE ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC
2. ON PLAYS AND PLAYWRITING
3. THE DRAMATIC PRESS

PRICE SIXPENCE

Published at the Offices of "The Era," Limited, 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
WILL APPEAR
EVERY EVENING at 8.30,
in a new Comedy, by Louis Evan Shipman,
"D'ARCY OF THE GUARDS."
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Mr. J. H. BARNES. Miss EVELYN D'ALROY.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15,
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES' PRODUCTION,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.15.
On THURSDAY NEXT, Nov. 3, there will be a SPECIAL MATINEE at 2.15, under distinguished patronage, in AID of THE LEAGUE OF MERCY.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

COMEDY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh.
EVERY EVENING at 8.30
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
"A WOMAN'S WAY,"
a Comedy in Three Acts, by Thompson Buchanan.
Matinée Every Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
MISS IRENE VANBRUGH in "GRACE."
A New Play in 4 Acts by W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"RAFFLES." Mr. Leonard Boyne and Co.
For dates at the Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address, King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Oct. 31,
"CAPTAIN KIDD."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton.
MONDAY, October 31.
Walter Melville's Latest Success,
"THE SHOP-SOILED GIRL."
For six nights only.
Monday, Nov. 7,
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, & THE DEVIL."

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Oct. 31, at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Oct. 31, George Edwardes's No. 1 Co. in "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS," including Mr. Horace Mills.
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW,
Wednesday to Friday next, National Chrysanthemum Show. In Theatre, "Man to Man," 7.45. Mat., Wednesday, at 3 p.m. Special Flying Matinée on Thursday, at 3, The Grotesques. Wednesday next, Grand Concert in aid of Railway Guards' Society, 7.45. Return rail and admission, 1s. 6d. from all stations.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
Mr. Ernest Hastings, "The Scarab," Mr. Owen Clarke, Memora, and Mr. David Devant, with New Illusions, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LADBROKE HALL.
"THE TWO SCHOOLS."
an English version by "E. W." of Alfred Capus' French play entitled "Les Deux Ecoles" will be performed for copyright purposes on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 3 p.m.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

TIVOLI.
HARRY LAUDER, MARIE LLOYD,
Wilkie Bard, Mark Sheridan, Lottie Bellman, Harry Tate, Three Belle Belles, Wilson and Waring, Gintaro, Phil Ray, Venie Clements, Ernest Shand, Rinaldo, Kitty Colyer, &c.
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly,
at 6.40 and 9.10.
Frank Maura, Dan Whitley, May Fairclough, Edie King, Tate and Tate, Blake and Amber, Harry Lamore, Three Dixons, Harry Lauder, Marshall and Parr, Sid Walker, E. Lotinga and Co., Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea.
Twice Nightly at 6.40 and 9.10.
George Gray and Co., in "Parson Gray, V.C.," Four Burnells, Marriott Edgar, Little Ganty, Ada Cerito, Bert Errol, Colley and Scott, J. H. Scotland, Wishart, Edie King, Ruffell's Bioscope, Auguste Van Biene and Co., in "Karl's Luck."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock, George Carney and Co., in "The Fool of the Force," Ryder Slone, Bioscope, Harry Marte, Lottie Lennox, Phœbe Lyndhurst, Martin Henderson, Russell and Held, Fred Eustace and Co. in "On Leave," Trixie Richards. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Oct. 31: George Mozart, "Midnight London Express," Brian McCullough and Co., Dorothy Vernon, Bioscope, Eva Danton, Olga Rayne, Quin and Fordham, Victor Courtney, Sisters May, Luke Joy, Damascus Girls, Bessie Slaughter, "Roots, Rash Chemists," Martin and Tempest.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter, in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
"FALL IN, ROOKIES!"
By Henry Arthur Jones.
FERNAND FREY, Tan Kwai Troupe, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"THE FAUN," a fantasy by Dora Bright.
Lydia Kyasht, Fred Farren
GEORGE ROBEY.
"THE DANCING MASTER."
Fred Russell, Nobel, Olga Tcharna, Harry Grattan, Valazzi, La Deodima, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Ben Davies, The Silhouette Dancer, Willuhn Trio, Gregory Troupe, Lawrence Crane, Poluski Brothers, Events in Portugal, &c., on the Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD. — Wilkie Bard, Clarice Mayne, Sam Mayo, Two Bobs, Phil Ray, Ernest Shand, Madge Temple, John Macauley, Bessie Slaughter, Satani, the Mysterious Raffles, Jennie Hartley, The Westbrooks, Tate and Tate, Jose Delaine, Bros. Ford, Ruffell's Bioscope, and H. P. Selwyn's Co. in "The Price of Peace," by Cecil Raleigh.
Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées, 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH PRATT.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH
Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."
Business Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, KING'S THEATRE.
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL, ZEALANDIA HALL.
London Rep., Gordon P. Firmin, The Film House, Gerrard-street, W.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened early in 1911. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Opening will shortly be announced.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
AUTUMN DRAMATIC SEASON.
Few vacant Spring dates.
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill. Vacant March 6, 13, 20, April 10.
First-class Attractions only. Address, Charles Revill, THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT

BIRKENHEAD. — HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly, Drama House.
Business excellent. Vacant as follows:
Dec. 12, Jan. 30 (?), Feb. 27, March 13, on.
All particulars to
E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
This new magnificent theatre is one of the finest in the Provinces.
Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 13 and 27.
All communications, Harry Yorke, Man.-Director.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ballroom, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked.
For dates address, Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. Suitable Christmas productions (first-class only considered) for Dec. 26 (Boxing Day week) and Jan. 2 (New Year week).
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Home of Stars and Class Attractions.
For Vacant Dates Address,
J. F. Elliston,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD. — CORPORATION THEATRE. Recently redecorated, refurnished, and comfortable bars (full licence) added. The best equipped theatre in the district. Spring dates now filling. Apply, Henson and Davis, Lessees and Managers.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.
Only Vacant Date this year, Nov. 28.
Wanted, Companies.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply R. J. Bell, Manager, or F. Mouillot, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, James Bell.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts, Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

FLEETWOOD.—Correspondent required to supply Theatrical and Music Hall News. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Nov. 21, 28, and Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Julia Neilson, Fred Terry, and New Theatre Co. in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, Lewis Waller, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow," (three visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Conan Doyle's Plays: "The House of Temperley" and "The Speckled Band," Miss Ethel Irving and Co. in "Dame Nature," "The Mountaineers," H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), "The Whip," "A Brass Bottle," F. R. Benson and Co., Bransby Williams in "Kit Careless," Carl Rosa Opera Company, D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Pantomime at Christmas,
"The Babes in the Wood,"
by J. F. Elliston.
Address,
William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dec. 12 (?), (three nights),
Jan. 2, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 27,
for Important Attractions only.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant Dec. 12,
Now Booking Spring.
All communications to Ernest Dottridge.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant, March 13, 20, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUID'S HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
Possibly Vacant
Dec. 5.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Stockport. Vacant Jan. 16, April 24, May 8.
First-class Attractions only.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
A.A. Contract, 1910, for sale, 2d. each.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. Renaut, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron, His Majesty the King.
President, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus.Doc.
Hon. Secretary Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from Frank Pownall, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, E.C.
Estd. and Managed by the Corporation of London.
THE CORPORATION OF LONDON offer for competition to students of not less than one year's standing at the Guildhall School of Music NINE SCHOLARSHIPS of great value, two of £80, two of £50, and five of £30 per annum. To be competed for in July, 1911. Pupils joining before the half term, commencing Nov. 7, 1910, will qualify as competitors. Minimum fee for three terms' tuition, £5.12 H. SAXE WYNDHAM, Sec.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M., Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
The Operatic Class meets on Wednesday at 6.30 p.m., and is now rehearsing Cellier's "Dorothy."
Oct. 31, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert.
Prospectus on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART.
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
President, GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq.
Principals, CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
Autumn Term.
COMPLETE COURSE OF STUDIES comprises Lessons in Singing, Elocution, Stage Dancing, and Deportment; Gesture, Acting, Fencing, Sight Singing, and Rehearsal of Light Opera and Musical Comedy.
AMATEURS COACHED, PRIVATE LESSONS in all subjects.
Pupils can join at any time Prospectus and all particulars on application to the Secretary. Tel., 4227 Central.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5 Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ALEX. GARTSHORE STIRLING McCULLOCH, deceased.
The widow and family of the above, who resided at 38, Hungerford-road, London, N., or anyone knowing their whereabouts, are requested to communicate with Messrs. Mackenzie Roberton and Co., Solicitors, 176, St. Vincent-street, Glasgow.

RE GEORGE LOCKE STRATTON, Deceased.—Notice is hereby given that all CREDITORS and other persons having any debts, claims, or demands upon or against the Estate of GEORGE LOCKE STRATTON, late of 44, Crookham-mansions, Crookham-road, Fulham, in the County of Middlesex, who died on the 22nd day of July, 1910, are hereby required to send written particulars of such debts, claims, or demands to us, the undersigned, the solicitors to the administratrix of the estate of the deceased, within fourteen days from the date hereof.—Dated this 24th day of October, 1910.
HARDISTY, RHODES, and HARDISTY,
17, Great Marlborough-street, W., Solicitors to the Administratrix of the late George Locke Stratton.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.
ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Anthony, Mr. Mark	Jan. 1, 1910
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austen-Lee, Mr. Cyril	Sept. 24, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barnardo, Mr. Fred	Oct. 1, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Barwick, Mr. Edwin	Sept. 17, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Burns, Mr. Harry	Oct. 15, 1910
Cagney, Colonel T. G.	Oct. 8, 1910
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Carter, Mr. Charles J.	Oct. 8, 1910
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Cohen, Late Mr. Isaac	Oct. 8, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Late Mr. Lester	Sept. 24, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Miss Elise	Jan. 1, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Crisps, The Three	Sept. 24, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dance, Mr. George	Oct. 1, 1910
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Deane, late Mr. Charles	Oct. 22, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Elen, Miss Hilda	Sept. 24, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Aug. 20, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Gordon, Miss Celia	Oct. 15, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. L.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Wilmer	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harlington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Heath Late Mr. Frank	Dec. 18, 1909
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Ieeson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Jones, Mr. Tom	Oct. 1, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lockhart, Mr. William	Nov. 27, 1909
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loraine, Mr. Robert	Sept. 17, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
My Fancy	Sept. 17, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Pelle, Mr. Kinsey	Sept. 10, 1910
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phasey, Mr. Handel V.	Oct. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Oct. 8, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Road-Night, Mr. Chas.	Sept. 17, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shand, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 22, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred O.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each, for any issue 1910; other dates double price.
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL STORES.

Manufacturers and Makers to the Principal London Theatres and Leading Artists.

Every Requisite for the Stage at Moderate Prices.

DANCING SHOES A SPECIALITY.

We stock Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, specially woven for the manufacture of Dancing Shoes.
Select stock of pure and spun silk Tights, worsted and cotton Tights, Opera Hose Stockings, &c.

A special study made of Symmetrical Paddings.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115 to 119, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Telephone, 7978 Central.
Telegrams, "Raynaloo, London."
Also at
49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo.).

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space
in the 1911 issue of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every town in the world where there is a place of amusement. It is therefore the best medium for those who require world-wide publicity.

Scale of Charges
For Professional Advertisements.

FULL PAGE	£4 4 0
HALF PAGE	2 2 0
QUARTER PAGE	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS
at present Vacant.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1910.

QUICK CRITICISM.

A discussion at a recent meeting of the Institute of Journalists of the difficulties of dramatic criticism revived several suggestions which have been made again and again, but have always been allowed to drop eventually. It has long been perceived that the time given to the critic to write his notice after the conclusion of a theatrical performance and before the paper going to press militated against any very high literary standard being attained, and against the criticisms produced being worth reading for themselves alone; and various alternatives have been suggested, the most feasible of which is a dress rehearsal to which the critics should be invited. At many London theatres such a dress rehearsal of a play is given on the day before the performance.

We were rather surprised to see that the debaters did not deal with the difference between the personal and the impersonal, the intellectual and the common-sense, styles of criticism, and the desirability of cultivating more examples of the former than we have at present. We can certainly use both kinds of treatment with advantage.

English dramatic criticism must necessarily be for the most part reportorial and commonplace, from want of material. A very large proportion of the plays produced are only worthy of description and estimation on the rather low plane on which they exist. And even in the case of worthier dramas there is often little to be written which is witty or thoughtful or valuable on its own merits. The critic, therefore, who aims at being helpful to the dramatist, and not at adding to his own personal reputation by writing brilliant essays, must be content to pen much that is prosaic. The analysis of an ordinary play can only be made to read amusingly by an effort. If a witty or intellectual critic conscientiously deals with every piece that is produced, he must often find himself baffled in the effort to produce essays and not estimates. The critic who is really useful, the Sarcey who is steadily serious, practical, considerate, and conscientious, is always appreciated by the playwrights and actors, but earns a kind of half-contemptuous toleration from the literary reader. The critic who cultivates a personality and who makes his notices "brilliant" is the favourite of the latter, and with reason. For the literary reader only seeks to be amused. The dogged digging-away at play after play—intelligent dissection, in fact—is more useful than the essayist's style, but it is decidedly less ornamental. For the brilliant critic has a horror of the commonplace and the well worn; and in the case of the majority of plays careful commonplace is the only spirit in which they can be treated. Dramatic criticism, indeed, like playwriting, has in it a large element of drudgery. The average daily paper reader wants first of all to know what a new play is about, and, secondly, to be supplied with an estimate of its peculiarities and merits.

Now, apart from the time required to write a certain number of words down on paper—a mere matter of manual dexterity—most critics could not form a more correct opinion of the average play in a couple of days than they could in a couple of hours. There used to be a saying amongst the R.A.s that you could tell a good picture from across a street; and the trained mind of the critic is made up completely at the fall of the curtain. It is only the *élite* of critics who can produce, at such short notice, a smart literary essay which will bear the test of reading for its style, its wit, and its symmetry. And even these gifted writers cannot always rise to their highest standard. When they publish their notices in book form they are compelled to make "selections," and they are often driven to write scenarios in despair of their material.

It used to be said of a distinguished critic who wrote for a weekly paper that he was in the habit of reading all the daily paper notices and then collectively opposing them in his own essay. There is certainly a temptation in this direction to the writer who aspires to literary fame as a critic, and who consequently signs his articles. When Canning sent home a diplomatic report in the form of an operatic lyric, he was rebelling against the customary and the obvious. When Charles Lamb invented his paradox about the unreality of the characters in comedy, he was absolutely wrong; but he produced an immortal essay, while Macaulay's sound refutation of Lamb's theory is comparatively unknown. It is the eccentric which attracts attention. Common-sense is apt to be obvious. Mr. A. B. Walkley, in one of his articles, made some pithy remarks on this point. "It has to be remembered," he said, "that good plays often make bad copy. A play that presents no variation of type may be interesting enough in itself, but vexes the critic, to whom it presents no 'purchase.' . . . The critic is generally tempted to describe a melodrama by the ironic method—which is unfair."

Anything, therefore, which is calculated to reduce the number of personal critics, and keep up the supply of steady-going, sympathetic estimators, is to be encouraged; and our present system is undoubtedly calculated to do this. Valuation must always depend on the state of the market. To approach the task of judging English plays with an Ibsen standard or an advanced Parisian standard inevitably tends to a certain antagonistic tone and temper. The attitude required of the helpful critic is that of the ordinary playgoer plus knowledge and experience. That individual can be influenced for good only by degrees. He can be induced to prefer the less vulgar form of entertainment to the more vulgar only by a preacher who does not ask of him too much at once. The drama is, for the most part, inevitably banal, because the people to whom it makes its appeal are banal. As Mr. Clayton Hamilton says: "Both in its sentiments and in its opinions, the crowd is hugely commonplace. It is incapable of original thought and of any but inherited emotion. It has no speculation in its eyes. What it feels was felt before the Flood; and what it thinks, its fathers thought before it. The most effective moments in the theatre are those that appeal to commonplace emotions—love of woman, love of home, love of country, love of right, anger, jealousy, revenge, ambition, lust, and treachery."

But even in the case of the commonplace notice mercy should be shown to the critic, who should be allowed reasonable time to write his notice, if not time enough to embellish it with witty remarks, apt quotations, and euphonious turns of phrase. As it is, the excellent average quality of our dramatic criticism is a marvel, considering the rapidity with which it is necessarily written; and any increase in the time given to the critic to do his work should be welcomed in a spirit of mere humanity.

At the concert at Covent Garden on Sunday night Mr. Vernon Warner plays the solo part in Delius's Concerto in C, and the singers are Miss Agnes Nicholls, Mme. La Palme, Miss Booker, Miss Edna Thornton, and Mr. Frederic Austin.

Miss Annie Hughes' Debut.

"I had never seen the front of a theatre from the stage," says Miss Annie Hughes in an article in the *Sketch*, "and when the opportunity came of 'walking on' at a Gaiety matinée before going on tour it was taken advantage of for me. Among the things I was given to do was to carry on a tea-tray in one part of the play and two candlesticks with lighted candles in another. I was very angry because of that tray and those candlesticks. I thought that if that was what acting meant the sooner I was allowed to leave it alone and retire into private life the better it would suit me. Mrs. (now Lady) Beerbohm Tree very kindly lent me one of her dresses for the part. It was the first time I had ever had on a long dress. When I came to my entrance with the two candles I got as far as the centre of the stage, and at the next step I trod on my dress and fell prostrate on the floor. Of course, the audience roared with laughter. It was the first laugh I ever got on the stage, though, happily, it has not been the last. To add to the absurdity of the situation, the stage was in darkness until I took the candles on. Then all the lights went up. When I fell down, however, the candles went out, but the lights remained up, though the source of the illumination was withdrawn. My first steps on the stage were like those of a baby—fatal ones.

No Make-up.

"It was in the Town Hall at Ealing that I spoke for the first time on the stage. I had not seen the Gaiety Theatre during the rehearsals, for the curtain was down, and, naturally, I did not notice anything at the performance. When I saw the Town Hall I was as disappointed as a famous dramatist was with the Atlantic. I knew nothing about the stage, and when I arrived at night and dressed, someone said to me, 'Aren't you going to make up?'

Praise from the Press.

"I had nothing to make up with, and I did not know that make-up was necessary. My début, therefore, was made without any paint on my face at all, and it was some time before I did 'make up.' My lack of artificial colour was noticed by a newspaper when I played my first original part in London in *The Man with Three Wives*, at the Criterion, for its critics said, 'At last we have an actress who has no intention of making up, which is such a relief. English actresses make up too much, but not to such an extent as the French."

MISS ROSINA FILIPPI'S MATINEES.

Miss Rosina Filippi and her pupils, with some professional assistance, delighted a large audience at the Court Theatre on Friday afternoon, Oct. 21, with a capital all-round performance of Sir A. W. Pinero's witty farce, *The Cabinet Minister*, which was originally produced at the theatre some twenty years since. In the arduous rôle of Lady Twombley, created by Mrs. John Wood, Miss Filippi—who in the first Court representation played Mrs. Gaylustre—is to be congratulated on a complete success, the actress cleverly depicting the mental torture the financially embarrassed Countess goes through as the result of getting into the clutches of the money-lender Lebanon. Altogether her portrayal of the fond mother who has "outrun the constable" was a very humorous and convincing one, the many humorous lines of the Countess never failing to arouse merriment. Miss Eileen Allen was a natural and lovable Imogen, her scenes with Valentine White being capitally handled, and her enactment throughout an admirable one. The Dowager Countess of Drumdurris as undertaken by Miss Esmé Hubbard could not have been improved upon; Miss Emily Luck as Lady M'Phail supplied an admirable portraiture; Miss Amy Ravenscroft as the scheming Mrs. Gaylustre gave a finished and clever enactment; and Miss Cathleen Nesbitt as Angèle, Miss Ruby Carson as Miss Munkittrick, Miss Mary Ann Prest as the Countess of Drumdurris, and Mrs. Noel Mackern as Lady Euphemia Vibart all contributed creditable performances. Mr. Egerton Hubbard as Sir Julian Twombley skilfully suggested the weariness and perplexity of the distressed Home Secretary, whose one real interest in life appears to be playing the flute; Mr. Harold Hawkins as his worldly son Brooke was excellent; Mr. Charles Adair as the Earl of Drumdurris and Mr. Mervin Rintoul as Valentine White both submitted effective portrayals; Mr. Dennis Atherton as the sheepish Macphail of Ballocheevin contributed a quietly humorous caricature that is deserving of much commendation; and Mr. Eliot Makeham as the vulgar and snobbish little Jew, Joseph Lebanon, was responsible for a comical portrayal, particularly laughable being the concluding episode, the scenes with Lady Twombley being very drolly enacted by Mr. Makeham and Miss Filippi. Mr. Gerald Jerome as Mr. Melton, Mr. William Butler as the Munkittrick, and Mr. James Gelderd as Probyn were all quite satisfactory. The large audience, including Sir Charles Wyndham and other well-known actors and actresses, thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's entertainment, and were loud in their appreciation at its conclusion.

On Tuesday afternoon Miss Filippi and her clever little company, going from lively to severe, presented, again before a large and appreciative audience, Ibsen's gloomy but impressive play, *John Gabriel Borkman*, and the presentation was a praiseworthy one throughout. In the part of the unhappy and unforgiving Mrs. Borkham Miss Filippi gave a portrayal of wonderful strength and conviction, and her scenes with her twin sister Ella, and her bitter disappointment when she discovers that her boy—the only person for whom she apparently has any affection, and of whom she hopes so much—is determined to enjoy life, and leave home with the fascinating Mrs. Wilton, were splendidly handled. The gentle, grave Ella Rentheim was admirably played by Miss Emily Luck, her depiction of the suffering, heart-broken woman, thrown over by Borkman to further his ambitious schemes, being a very finished and effective one; and the worldly, ironical Mrs. Wilton of Miss Amy Ravenscroft was an easy, judicious, and refined enactment of a thankless part, and one on which the actress can be cordially complimented. Miss Cathleen Nesbitt was a bright and natural Freda; and the impertinent and lazy maid Melina was satisfactorily undertaken by Miss Joan Carson. Mr. Franklin Dyall as the ambitious, broken bank-director, Borkman, gave a vivid and powerful portrayal, looking the part exactly and acting throughout with exceptional ability; and Mr. Donald Calthrop as the rebellious Erhart played with feeling and naturalness, skilfully realising the infatuation of the impressionable youth for the siren who evidently fully realises that he will soon tire of her, and is quite prepared for any eventualities. Foldal, the gentle, down-trodden friend of Borkman's, was cleverly enacted by Mr. Campbell Cargill. *John Gabriel Borkman* was followed by a new one-act fantasy, by W. Oliphant Down, with music by Beatrice Pattenden and Richard Harris, entitled

"A MAKER OF DREAMS."

Pierrot .....Mr. Eliot Makeham
Pierrette .....Miss Gwendolen Logan
The Manufacturer .....Mr. Franklin Dyall

Pierrot and Pierrette are in partnership, and apparently business is bad. Pierrette, at the rising of the curtain, is busily engaged in preparing tea for Pierrot, but when he comes in he complains of the cold, has no relish for the meal, and eventually goes in search of a handsome, dark lady he has seen at the show. It should be mentioned that Pierrette silently loves Pierrot, but the latter only regards her as a business partner. When he has departed, the girl breaks down, and there enters an elderly gentleman in the costume of a century ago—the Manufacturer. He finds out that Pierrette has been crying, and the reason; and, Cupid in disguise—the Maker of Dreams—he will soon bring Pierrot to his senses. When the latter returns he starts writing an article for the Press, in which it is necessary to describe Pierrette; and as she gives him particulars it gradually dawns upon him that she is the girl he desires—the girl of his dreams, imparted by the Manufacturer. This quaint and pretty trifle is interspersed with a number of little verses, spoken by Pierrot, and is accompanied throughout by sympathetic music. Miss Gwendolen Logan was a dainty and sincere Pierrette; the irresponsible Pierrot was capitally played by Mr. Eliot Makeham; and Mr. Franklin Dyall as the Manufacturer gave a quietly humorous and altogether admirable portrayal.

THE COMPANY OF MUSICIANS.

The Worshipful Company of Musicians held their annual banquet at Stationers' Hall on Tuesday, the chairman being Mr. T. Les Southgate. Silver medals for the year were presented to Wm. Malcolm Robinson, L.R.A.M., 1st Border Regiment, of the Royal Military School of Music; Mr. M. Gordon Burgess, of the Guildhall School of Music; and Bandmaster H. G. Cornfoot, of the Royal Naval School of Music, who has been selected as bandsman to accompany the Duke of Connaught to South Africa. His medal was received on his behalf by Major Hobbs.

Mr. J. B. Pakeman proposed the toast of "The Company of Musicians." He said the company was founded in 1469, and received a charter from James I. in 1604. It had wide powers over musicians within its jurisdiction, and the right to impose heavy fines for such offences as that of a non-member making music within the jurisdiction. These powers had completely passed away, and sometimes he regretted that the company's jurisdiction no longer extended over the streets of London. The usefulness of the company, however, continued, and by their medals and in other ways they promoted the cause of music. Mr. Southgate, in reply, said that among the new schemes of the company was the offer of prizes, for which money was presented by a member, Mr. Cobbett, for composition in the Old English fantasy form. They had also decided to conduct a competition for a new Coronation March, in which he hoped young composers would take part. The ceremony followed of swearing in the new Master, Mr. A. H. Littleton, and the new Wardens.

TOURING AND RESIDENT MANAGERS.

MR. PAYNE SEDDON'S OPINIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

I read Mr. George Dance's article, recently published in your pages, but I am afraid I cannot "illumine the resident manager's side of the shield." I am inclined to agree with a great deal of what Mr. Dance says. He is certainly quite right about the lack of illumination in a great many theatres and their managers. The fault, I think, is that there are so few resident managers who can be legitimately called theatrical managers. By legitimate theatrical managers I mean men who devote themselves entirely to their own business. Of course, there are many such, and most of them have the control of several theatres and touring companies; but in the provinces, of which I speak in particular, you will find theatres in the hands of limited companies, syndicates, or private individuals, and managed by men who have never been actors or touring managers, or earned their living in any branch of stage work. They have not mastered its details, and have little sympathy with the business they conduct.

One manager is a good business man; he runs two theatres, both of which do fairly well, but he has no theatrical experience outside managing his own two theatres. A second is a legitimate theatrical manager who controls a dozen theatres. A third is a brewer by trade; he leaves the management of the theatre to a lad of about twenty-five years of age, assisted by the carpenter—who is a practical man, and assists with the bookings. Yet another is a tweed merchant, a splendid old fellow, but he does not call himself a theatrical manager—the theatre is a little hobby of his. I have visited him regularly for fifteen years; and he produces the same little bottle from his office cupboard when setting up which he used the first year.

One theatre is owned by the Corporation, and can be booked by any company which likes to pay two-thirds of the rent in advance—they make sure of that amount and trust to Providence for the balance. The scenery, if there is any, is not allowed to leave the theatre until the balance is paid. This manager runs his theatre in very cheap lines—I believe it pays him, but the legitimate touring manager only works it as a "fill in." The manager keeps going with the cheapest drama companies, and is a general dealer in the daytime. Another is the son of his father, who left him the theatre when he died. It is like a mechanical toy to him; he does not understand the mechanism, but keeps it going with frequent breakdowns. This theatre belongs to the wife of an old theatrical manager, who left it to her. The management is in the hands of her son; if he does not make any money he does not pay any rent, so he cannot lose much; but he is ruining the playhouse in what might be a good town. Another theatre is leased by an old theatrical manager who wished to settle down. He took it over from the liquidators of the former amateur manager, and it has done well since it came into his hands. This house and two others in the neighbourhood were built about five years ago and paid for by the unfortunate shareholders of various limited companies, promoted by an energetic theatrical speculator. I do not think he speculates himself much, beyond drawing his fees as managing director. The shareholders have not received any dividend, and one of them, I think, is in the hands of the Official Receiver. These two places were splendid one-night towns six years ago. The receipts at the Town Halls, as far as my experience goes, averaged £50 for a one-night visit per week, with any good company; now they do not average that amount per week. The population has not increased; and what was ten years ago a good fit-up town is now a "weak week" town. They neither pay the shareholders nor the visiting companies.

Towns vary; but very few towns can stand a regular theatrical programme with a smaller population than 50,000. A theatre which has a double licence and can run three nights with drama and three with variety stands a better chance; but the majority of English theatrical managers in the small towns won't—or can't—run variety and drama. They stick to the old lines—six nights or nothing—no matter whether the population be 100,000 or 20,000.

In America we heard of Sir Henry Irving, and, later, of London managers, doing one-night stands and travelling 300 or 400 miles between each town with their entire London production. It appears to be a regular thing there; but you cannot get the English touring managers to do two towns per week with a journey of fifty miles between them. They say: "I can't do split weeks with my production; the fares and the printing are so heavy." The local manager agrees, and keeps his bars open. They comfort each other by discussing the bad season or the decay of the drama. It is the local manager who profits most by keeping the theatre open whether the business justifies it or not. His theatre is a fixture; he cannot move it to another town—although many would like to. He did not consider the population when he built it, or, rather, persuaded the local shareholders to do it for him. He called their attention to the dividend paid by Moss' Empires, Howard and Wyndham, and other going concerns in towns with a population of 100,000 to 300,000, and persuaded them to expend, say, £20,000 on a building in a town of about 30,000 population; and then, hey presto! the excellent fit-up town which had hitherto been amply supplied with dramatic companies for one night each week is expected to fill the £20,000 theatre for about forty full weeks per annum.

To some extent supply creates a demand; but presuming that the advantages of a comfortable theatre *doubles* the number of theatre-goers—or the number of attendances—it does not create a new theatre-going population. In a provincial town there is so much money waiting for a recognised London success or piece which the population knows; and it can be taken for one night, three nights, or six. If the attraction be announced for six nights it will probably play to a smaller gross than for one. The public get into the habit of waiting to hear the opinion of others. On the Monday night the audience is spread all over the building. The play consequently goes badly. The opinion is seldom unanimous; one person likes it, another does not, and no matter what their verdict on the play may be, no one is enthusiastic. A bad opening generally means a bad week.

Touring managers consent to book the smaller towns for six nights simply from habit; they can't help it. Their date books are printed for week towns. They would sooner book six nights in each town than do more than one town, or, at the outside, two per week. They would take more money in these small towns in three nights than in six; but its too much trouble.

I'll give you an instance—that of a London star. Mr.—— (you had better not mention his name, as I have not his permission to publish his receipts) visited me every season at Whitby and Bridlington for three nights at each place. His average receipts were £50 per night. Last season I offered him a certainty equivalent to 75 per cent. of his usual gross receipts if he would let me book him at these and one other town for one night each. His receipts varied from £106 to £148 per night. He sees my point now. The next season he has agreed to my booking him a week of one nights, and neither of the six towns has a population of over 20,000.

His gross per night will thus be considerably over treble his former average; and yet managers in towns of this size will insist upon keeping open six nights per week and having no play for less than three. The managers of theatrical companies visiting these places insist upon booking full weeks.

I work all my theatres on this principle as far as I am able. The difficulty is to get touring managers to see it from my point of view. Some of them do. All my theatres have double licences for playing three nights drama and three nights variety, or three nights once nightly and three nights twice nightly each week. One, with a population of 50,000, has been open for forty weeks this season; but only three companies—répertoire and pantomime—played full weeks. The result is that since I took the theatre, over three years ago, the annual receipts have been doubled. Does it not stand to reason that if a play visits Glasgow or Birmingham for six nights that same play should remain in a town one-twelfth the size one or two nights at the outside?

Further, if there are 25,000 people in a town of 50,000 (that is, half the population) waiting to see *The Merry Widow* or *The Arcadians*, there will be only 10,000 waiting for a comedy, or 5,000 for a Bernard Shaw play. Yet these plays will all visit the same theatres for the same number of nights, and the resident and touring managers may blame each other, or the poor old drama if the results are not the same in each case.

If I had my way, in revising the Licensing Act I would license one building only in a town of under 50,000 population to open three days or six, according to the audited results shown, refusing to renew the licence of any building which could not justify its existence; and I would allow no theatre to be kept open for the sake of the bars, the advertisements on the curtain and the programmes, or for the amusement of the local manager. I am convinced that it is the old-fashioned habits of many managers of theatres and touring companies that are what is "wrong with the drama" rather than the relationship between the resident and touring managers which are alluded to by Mr. Dance.—Yours faithfully,

W. PAYNE SEDDON.

Londonderry, Oct. 26, 1910.

SHAKESPEARE SCENES IN SEQUENCE.

The dainty Little Theatre was well filled by an expectant gathering on Tuesday, when Miss Estelle Stead gave a matinée of selections from *The Merchant of Venice* and *Macbeth*. The former piece was represented by Scene 2 of Act I, the Casket Scene, the bargaining between Shylock and Antonio, and the Court scene, and the latter by the letter scene, the interview between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, the former's soliloquy, Donald's murder, and the sleep-walking scene. The episodes in each play were arranged in such a way as to preserve the continuity of the story, and were given on a draped stage.

Whether Miss Stead took to play-acting as recently as her respected father took to playgoing we know not; but she has obviously much to learn in the technique of the stage and in the management of the voice. She made a good appearance as Portia and was commendably free from any straining after-effect. The delivery of her lines, however, was not all that could be desired, and there was a constant clipping of words, due possibly to the effect of nervousness on the voice. In her share of the casket scene she displayed tenderness, but her delivery of the mercy speech was sadly lacking in feeling, and she rattled off the latter part at an alarming rate. Miss Stead's bent is clearly that of tragedy rather than comedy, and there was a decided improvement in her impersonation of Lady Macbeth. Real intensity was displayed in Lady Macbeth's railling against the weakening Thane, and the sleep-walking scene, the lines delivered in a somewhat guttural but effective monotone, created quite an impression.

Miss Stead had surrounded herself with competent support. Mr. Clarence Derwent gave a really fine study of Shylock, the cunning and ferocity of the Jew being portrayed with the skill of an experienced artist. Mr. J. Henry Twyford was a buoyant and spirited Bassanio, though his fine voice proved a little too robust for the acoustics of the bijou house. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury gave a finished impersonation of Antonio, marked by much pathos, and Mr. Rathmell Wilson was a distinct and sympathetic Duke of Venice. Miss Renée De Vaux was a refined and graceful Nerissa, Mr. Alfred A. Harris a forceful Gratiano, Miss Dorothea Moss a pleasing Balthazar; and Mr. Allan Jeayes a typical Clerk of the Court. In *Macbeth* Miss Stead was equally well served. Mr. Arthur Whitby was a sturdy Scotsman with a deep-toned voice that sounded the tragic note completely. His performance was artistic throughout and commanded general admiration. Miss Eve Tame spoke the lines of the Gentlewoman with skilful emphasis, Mr. Allan Jeayes was a ferocious Messenger, and Mr. H. Harding Steerman played the Doctor, and was responsible for the stage-management of the selections. The performance won cordial commendation from a well-disposed audience, which included Sir Herbert Tree, who was in a box with Mr. Stead, and many members of the profession.

Happy Endings.

"Nothing but fear of accidental error," wrote Mr. Hall Caine in a recent article on "Happy Endings" in the *Sunday Chronicle*, "restrains me from an attempt to illustrate by further examples the sure fact that English novelists, as well as English dramatists, have nearly always had to yield obedience to the unwritten commandment of the English public, which says, 'Thou shalt not leave us unhappy at the end.'

"For my own part, I have (like every other writer to whom the public has granted any sort of popular acceptance) been compelled to make my choice. Utterly to wrong my subject as I saw it by bringing round a serious entanglement to anything equivalent to 'marriage bells,' I have never at any time allowed myself to do; but I have always known that even if I elected to direct my story to what seemed to be a sad issue in point of mere outward circumstance I had to give my readers at the same time the equivalent of spiritual compensation.

"Fortunately this has been agreeable to my view of life, which tells me that victory may be the worst vanquishment, that success may be the worst failure, and that it is better to die in a good cause than to live for an evil one. So it has not been hard for me as a novelist to reconcile my artistic sense to my ever-present consciousness of the craving of the public for a spiritual satisfaction that is equivalent to a happy ending.

"But as a dramatist I have been compelled to go farther. Apparently the public will not accept in the theatre the spiritual compensation which seems sufficient in the library. Under the glare of the footlights it demands the reality of worldly compensation as well. You may make it weep as much as you will during the course of your play, but you must dry its eyes at the end. So it has been necessary for me, as for nearly everybody else in England practising the same art, to submit to the unwritten law of the public heart, which requires that to be popular the climax of a play must please, and I can only hope that in submitting to this law in the cases of the two plays which I have written I have at least done no great wrong to the ethical intention with which I began to write them. That would be an unpardonable offence, which no writer with any sense of moral responsibility would allow himself to commit at the temptation of any reward whatsoever."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Oswald Stoll's project of building a new house at Fulham is likely to meet with local opposition, and we hear of a petition that is being signed by the patrons of the Granville, Walham Green, against the granting of a licence to the new house.

The appeal, which is prominently displayed by the management at the Walham Green house, reads as follows:—"Important.—You are earnestly requested to *sign the petition* which is on these premises against the granting of a music and dancing licence to the proposed Fulham Empire, the site of which is close to this hall, and which, if granted, might have the effect of closing up your old favourite, the Granville." At any rate, there is refreshing frankness about this statement, though many similar cases might be cited where nothing of the sort has happened.

Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Oswald Stoll again will apply for the removal of the restriction attaching to the licences of the London Hippodrome and the London Coliseum, that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold or consumed on the premises. Most of the new applications, to be heard at Clerkenwell on Nov. 11, are in respect of "picture palaces."

At the London Hippodrome the Christmas entertainment will consist of a travesty of Edmond Rostand's *Chantecler*, that much-postponed play. The novelty is to bear the name of *Chicks in the Wood*. Mr. Walter Passmore has been specially engaged for the part of the Cock, and the Hen Pheasant will be presented by dainty and charming Miss Agnes Fraser, who has been too long absent from the London stage.

"The Price of Peace," the sketch founded by Mr. Cecil Raleigh on his piece produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Sept. 20, 1900, is to be played for the first ime in the West End on Monday at the Oxford. Mr. Walter Gay will be starring in the production, which will be under Mr. H. P. Selwyn's management.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, now become one of the chief funny men of London, is to be at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, at Christmas, in Mr. Robert Arthur's production of *The Forty Thieves*, the subject of the famous burlesque written by the members of the Savage Club, and produced in 1860. Mr. Malcolm Scott and Miss Fanny Fields are to be other contributors to the fun. Miss Bessie Butt will be principal boy—an excellent choice.

Mr. Forbes Robertson has been giving his views to an American correspondent concerning the alleged decadence of the drama: "It is idle to say that the decadence of the drama is shown by the enormous popularity of the music-hall entertainment and the musical comedies, for these things have nothing at all to do with the question.

Musical comedy is not the drama. And why should not musical comedy have its appeal? At the halls is found a light entertainment; the people can go in, smoke, spend half an hour or so, and hear or see something more or less funny, and then come out and go into another similar place.

"This form of entertainment has nothing to do with drama. It is as far removed from drama as chalk is from cheese. There will always be a great number of people who will go to that sort of entertainment. It appeals to them, just as I suppose a flaring chromo would appeal to a person without culture more than a Botticelli.

"It is folly to say that the drama is declining because the circuses and music halls are becoming more numerous and are better frequented than the playhouses."

Mr. Seymour Hicks is to revive *Scrooge* on Monday at the Coliseum, and Miss Ellaline Terriss will come to the Hippodrome on the same date in a shortened version of *Bluebell*, which has been recently seen at Croydon. Later, Mr. Hicks will produce the battle scene from *Richard the Third*, in which he will play the crook-backed tyrant. The Coliseum stage affords exceptional facilities for the tramp of armoured men, and for alarums and excursions.

Charles Collette and the popular boy impersonator, Joan Derry, were billed to appear in *Pyjamas* at the Hippodrome, Richmond, during the week, but owing to the unfortunate indisposition of the lady, the piece was not played, and Mr. Charles Collette substituted some of his songs, and again proved his right to the title of "Patter-master-General." We are glad to know that Miss Joan Derry has completely recovered.

The cast of *Ship Ahoy!* the new divertissement written by C. Wilhelm and composed by Cuthbert Clarke, will include all the favourites of the Empire Theatre. Mlle. Lydia Kyasht, besides her great performance in *The Faun*, will be the première danseuse, and play the principal rôle, whilst Mr. Fred Farren, who is responsible for the production, will undertake the chief male rôle.

Miss Phyllis Bedells and Miss Beatrice Collier have also good work to do, and two new engagements of great interest have been made by the directors of the Empire Theatre, namely, Miss Unity More, who made so great a success in *Round the World* at this house last year, and M. Zalewsky, the principal dancer of the Russian Imperial Ballet of Warsaw.

"The Little Stowaway" in November will have completed its third year with Messrs. Moss and Stoll, but though it takes its farewell of that tour its author, Mr. Fred Bowyer, is in treaty with another firm for a continuance of its run. It should be long ere the British public should tire of a sketch with so touching a story, such appealing humanity, and such an interesting and splendid environment. In the part of the waif the genius of the lamented Jenny Hill shone with its greatest lustre.

When in the neighbourhood of the Strand, the tired and thirsty soul in search of repose and refreshment should call in at the Coal Hole, in Savoy Building. Here, in comfortable surroundings, all his wants will be supplied, and he may rely on everything being of the finest quality. The present "Coal Hole" is quite close to the site of the Coal Hole Tavern, where Edmund Kean formed his Wolf Club, and where the actors of that day gathered round the head of their profession.

The notorious Renton Nicholson, better known to fame as the Lord Chief-Baron Nicholson, a scurrilous journalist, "a rooker of the rich and the soul of good nature to the poor," attained immense publicity as Chief Baron of the Judge and Jury at the Coal Hole Tavern. The old place had many historic and interesting associations. The present Coal Hole is, of course, in striking contrast to its predecessor of 1815, being exceedingly comfortable and tastefully decorated, and where only the very best of all kinds of refreshments are purveyed.

The booking of the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, will be done in future by Mr. Ernest Dottridge, of the Oldham theatres. It is being run as a twice-nightly drama house, and meeting with very great success.

The Blackpool Tower Company, in its report, shows an increased profit, notwithstanding the bad weather of the past summer, but the company has had the advantage of an additional attraction in the form of a new theatre. The dividend is unchanged at 6 per cent., but the carry-forward is raised from £1,100 to £2,200.

At the Hippodrome, Buxton, this week, quite a sensation is being caused by Miss Maude May Murray, who is appearing in her aerial dance act. Nothing finer has ever been seen at this hall, where her clever dancing, in a veritable blaze of light, has evoked considerable astonishment. Next week Miss Murray reappears at the Empress Theatre, Brixton.

At the Islington Empire next Sunday Mr. Ernest Meads, the eminent elocutionist, is performing for the first time Sarga's new dramatic scena *Nero*, with Roman music, composed and played by the author, who has been honoured by no less than five European monarchs. Mr. Robert Loraine, the actor-aviator, writes:—"The splendidly vivid sketch *Nero*, by Sarga."

Mr. Harry Bawn, the popular managing-director of the Edmonton Empire, displayed characteristic enterpise in exhibiting on Wednesday evening last an Urban film of the funeral of the late Prince Francis of Teck. Considerable local interest was also centred upon Sam Mayo's singing competition. The management presented three handsome prizes for the best imitations of the "immobile one." Up till Wednesday night no less than 135 entries were received. The final heats took place last (Friday) evening.

There is at present much distress in West Hartlepool owing to the shipyard lockout, and on Sunday last a sacred concert was given in aid of those not receiving lock-out pay. The Empire Theatre was very willingly lent by Mr. Richard Thornton and the directors for the occasion, and it was packed to its utmost capacity. A splendid programme was given by a number of talented artists. Mr. George Thompson, the resident manager, assisted the promoters in every way possible. As a result of the concert, a sum of about £50 was handed over to the relief fund.

Mr. Albert Whiteman, or, to give him the name by which everyone knows him, "Tich" Whiteman, is the newly-appointed manager at Mr. Fred Wood's cosy hall, the Varieties at Leeds. He first made his appearance at the early age of six as a dancer in the pantomime *Dick Whittington*, at Pontefract, his native place, and his brother, Mr. Johnny Whiteman, the genial licensee of the Pack Horse, Briggate, Leeds—a favourite resort of the profession—also appeared in the same production. When Mr. Johnny Whiteman became identified with the Varieties, "Tich" took up his brother's work as a comedian on the concert platform, and was a big success.

The appointment should be extremely popular with the profession, for Mr. Whiteman has been in touch with the Queen's and the Varieties for a long time. He is a golfer of some repute, having won the Leatham Bowl at Pontefract four years ago, and is a keen football enthusiast. Mr. Bernard Armstrong, who is also highly appreciated at the Varieties, holds the position of assistant-manager.

The death occurred at his residence, 5, Sapphire-street, Blackburn, on Sunday night, of Mr. John Anelay, acting-manager and treasurer at the Palace Theatre, Blackburn, to which position he succeeded last April. Mr. Anelay, who was only twenty-six, and unmarried, had lately been in failing health, and confined to the house for a week. He was well known to patrons of the Palace, and held in high esteem there and amongst his many personal friends. He had been in the employ of Mr. Frank Macnaghten for ten years as clerk and secretary until his appointment as acting-manager.

The Brighton Town Council on Thursday night approved by a large majority the scheme for the erection of a winter garden on the Palace Pier. The scheme was opposed by Councillor Yates, chairman of the Aquarium Committee, and other members, who took the view that to allow competition with the adjacent Aquarium and the municipal orchestra which plays there would be suicidal. They advocated alterations to the Aquarium, in order to give the orchestra a permanent home.

Alderman Reeves, chairman of the General Purposes Committee, stated, however, that the Local Government Board had said that they would not allow the Corporation to borrow any more money for the Aquarium. He declared that the entertainments at the Aquarium had been a "ghastly financial failure."

The numerous friends of Charles Osborne, the well-known song-writer, will regret to hear that he is *hors-de-combat*, having slipped down on Sunday last on the polished granite pavement at the Tufnell Park Tube station and put his left knee out. He is going on as well as can be expected, and his chief concern is that he cannot deliver certain promised ditties to clients at the time arranged for.

For membership of the Terriers' Association Messrs. Frederick Barnard, Edward H. Lucas, E. Morrisey, Phil Ray, and Harry Russell have successfully passed the ballot. Applications for membership of the Association have been received from Messrs. Tom Kelso, Sam Vincent, Jack Austin, Sid Doody, Joe Archer, and Harry Bland. In future a photograph of the candidate must be forwarded with the nomination form if he is not very well known in the profession.

Mr. John Lawson will sail from New York on Nov. 2 per the Oceanic for England. His stay in London, however, will not be long, as he is under contract to Mr. Morris to open at the American, New York, with *Humanity*, and he will stay there for some seven weeks and then tour. Mr. Lawson leaves his *Monkey's Paw* scenery at New York, and takes out with him the productions for *Humanity*, *Sally in Our Alley*, and another of his works. He will probably play two weeks each town he visits in the States.

There is a report current that the Edinburgh Town Council has been invited to take over the Marine Gardens, Portobello, which for the past season have been run at a loss of £2,664 10s. 2d. The first year's profits (1909) were £3,019 5s. 3d., thus showing a net decrease this season of £5,683 15s. 5d. Last year, however, the profits had to be allotted to meet extra initial outlay, and, in addition, the capital had to be considerably increased. An appeal is now made to shareholders for £5,000 to meet outstanding liabilities. If this be not forthcoming, the company will be forced to liquidate. There is a report current that the Town Council of Edinburgh has been approached in the matter of taking over the gardens.

Mr. Joe Elvin (its president) will take the chair at 7.30 p.m. on Sunday next at the annual meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, at the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C. All members in town are requested to attend.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Annie Glover, the mother of Mr. John A. Glover-Kind, the song-writer, who passed away on Sunday last at her residence at Clapham, and was interred at Streatham on Wednesday.

The Camberwell Empire is under the personal management of Miss Cissie Lawson, who has written to us to point out an erroneous statement in a contemporary in connection with the control of that house.

Mr. Walter Graham, the human marionette, is now at the Majestic Theatre, Chicago, where he is taking three and four calls nightly. The New York revenue authorities made Graham pay £15 duty on his fit-up and dolls. He has received an offer to extend his stay in America, but has had to refuse, owing to his London engagements on the Gibbons' Circuit.

The famous partnership known as the McNaughtons has been dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Fred McNaughton, who is now in England. He intends doubling up with Mr. Gus Le Clerq.

Miss Louie Tracy, "the dapper dandy boy," has arrived, after a most successful engagement, from South Africa per R.M.S. Walmer Castle, and opens at the Palace Theatre, Blackburn, on Monday next.

Mr. John Lawson, who has been interviewed on the "other side," considers that "the day is gone of the old stage manager. What is necessary now to a successful production, be it sketch or play, is correctness, realism, attention to every detail. I have always endeavoured to make my patrons feel that they were looking upon an actual happening in real life, and to that I trace the fact that my efforts have always been successful."

John confesses that he had a great deal of difficulty in getting that grim little play, *The Monkey's Paw*, for the halls; but Mr. Cyril Maude gave every encouragement, even to making the "Belasco of Vaudeville" a present of his own beard and wig to play the part. This was really nice of Cyril.

Lovers of golf in the variety profession are invited to join the Vaudeville Golf Club. An arrangement has been made to affiliate with the Honor Oak Golf Club. Applications, enclosing the sum of £1, should be made to Mr. Gus Garrick, the hon. secretary *pro tem.*, at the Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Mr. Herbert Sleath will be responsible for the production in the London district next Monday of two sketches. The first is *The Third Degree*, to be presented at the Euston Palace, after a career of success in the provinces, with Mr. Gerald Valentine in the title-rôle of Casey. The second is *Mull*, with Miss Mabel Garden in the title-rôle. This playlet is being produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Croydon Empire.

The Grand Order of Water Rats, as our readers are aware, distributes during the year a large amount in charity among the needy of the profession. The fund for this purpose, therefore, is in constant need of replenishment, and the annual charity matinée given by the fraternity on its behalf has such a successful record that it has become one of the chief sources of revenue for the relief of the "poor, distrest" among artists.

As in former years, the entertainment to be given on the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 21, at the Oxford, is to be brightened by an original skit. This time *The Bad Girl of the Family* naturally suggests itself as a subject for a skit, which is to be presented by, among others, Messrs. Wilkie Bard, Harry Tate, Percy Honri, Will Poluski, Fred McNaughton, and Charles Austin. Another skit will be on the Russian dancers, and there will be an impromptu Colonial Quintette.

"The Bad Girl of the Family," of which a skit has already been given at the Empire, is the attraction this week at the Britannia, Hoxton, and we understand that it will be given in its entirety at the Alhambra, Brighton, where a season of drama is to be tried shortly.

The George Fuller Golden Fund amounts to 2,287 dollars, including 136 dollars 36 cents from the Grand Order of Water Rats. Nat M. Wills, in forwarding his subscription from London, wrote:—"I am playing here at his (Golden's) old stamping ground, the Palace, where he was the pioneer of American monologism, and made the path easy for those of us who have followed him. They love him here."

Golden's monologues were certainly the talk of London, and no American entertainer has ever had such a hold on Palace audiences as he, though many, we are ready to admit, have run him very close. Mr. Gus Elen has contributed five dollars, and a grand star programme is being arranged for the benefit entertainment to be given at the New York Hippodrome on Nov. 20. Contributions from this side of the pond can be sent via the V.A.F., 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Mlle. Adeline Genée began her farewell engagement in America at the Chestnut-street Opera House, Philadelphia, on Oct. 4, appearing in a two-act musical comedy, called *The Bachelor Belles*, the book and lyrics of which are by Harry B. Smith and the music by Raymond Hubbell. The story deals with an association of young women whose object is to bring about the complete independence of the female sex. Mlle. Genée, who introduced two new character dances and a ballet entitled *Roses and Butterflies*, received a warm welcome, and her graceful exposition of the "poetry of motion" delighted the audience exceedingly.

"The London music halls," says Mr. Seymour Hicks in his volume of autobiography, "are the greatest pleasure to appear in. The audiences are of the very smartest, and the house is always crammed full. I would rather play a powerful character part like Scrooge to the Coliseum than at any theatre I have ever acted in in my life. The talent about one is extraordinary on the halls, and one is amazed where it all comes from. . . . I have made many staunch friends among my new comrades, and the invariable kindness and help I have received from artists who might not unreasonably resented me as an intruder have placed me in the debt of this big-hearted and generous community."

Mr. Benj. Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, on behalf of the committee, thanks the following managers for pence box collections:—J. J. Kelly (Empire Theatre, Bradford), £3 15s. 9d.; Geo. Manners (Empire Theatre, Liverpool), 16s. 2d.; Nelson Barry (per A. Trussell, Hippodrome, Manchester), 15s.; Frank D. Todd (Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne), 14s. 4d.; H. Yardley (Hippodrome, Southampton), £1 5s.; Lewis de Burgh (Hippodrome, Southend), £1 4s. 9d.; H. Raymond (Regent, Salford), £2 1s.; William Payne (South London), donations from his pence box, £1 1s. Parcel of books have been received from Houdini and from Mr. Burt, Camberwell.

Mr. Frank Coyle would like to draw the attention of proprietors, managers, artists, &c., to the new telegraphic address for his agency, which in future will be Alarm, Beeston, Yorks.

"The Summing Up," which we noticed last week on its production at the Balham, first saw the footlights at Woolwich on July 20 last.

The Kendalls, a new duo, appeared at the Empress, Brixton, on Wednesday evening last with great success. They were immediately engaged to star on Monday next at Collins's, through the agency of Messrs. Neiman and Benn.

Beatie and Bass, those popular young favourites, return to town for one week (Oct. 31st) to play the Holborn Empire and Olympia, Shoreditch, after which they resume their provincial engagements, coming back to town for Christmas. They are also busily preparing a new sketch by the author of *A Pavement Rehearsal*.

The Baroness de Merlincourt, a pupil of Sarasate, made her English music-hall début at the Coliseum on Monday. The Baroness, who has youthfulness and charm, started nervously, but later played with an excellent command of "harmonics" a solo of considerable difficulty. Being enthusiastically recalled after her second number, she replied with a charming melody, played with muted strings.

A notice issued on Monday night by the Clerk of the London County Council intimates that since the issue of the printed list of applications for music and dancing licences, an application has been received from Mr. Arthur Soden Markwell for a music licence for Terry's Theatre, Strand. The application will come before the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council at Clerkenwell Sessions.

Mr. Registrar Giffard heard an application at Bankruptcy Building on Wednesday, on behalf of Mr. Frederic Baugh for approval to a scheme under which the applicant's creditors will receive 20s. in the £. The liabilities are £2,000, of which £915 have been proved. The scheme submitted by Mr. Martin O'Connor for the debtor provided for the payment of £50 per month, and the only question at issue was whether, where there was no tangible property, an offer to pay from salary was security within section 3 of the Bankruptcy Act, 1890. The Registrar held that the offer made of payment from salary amounted to a reasonable security, and approved the scheme.

Mr. H. Waterson, the head of the Ted Snyder Music Publishing Company, who has been on a visit to this country and the Continent, left for America yesterday by the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, together with Mr. Irving Berlin, one of his song writers.

Mr. J. H. Squire, the Ted Snyder Company's representative in this country, had promised to go to Southampton to see Mr. Waterson off. Moreover, he invited Mr. Bennett Scott (of the Star Music Publishing Company) to go with him. While Messrs. Squire and Scott were talking to Mr. Waterson and Mr. Berlin, the tender left the side of the ship without them knowing it, and by the time they got up on deck they found that the liner was already steaming towards Cherbourg.

There was no help for it, they had to go with the boat. Both gentlemen, however, had important engagements in London, and these had to be cancelled or postponed; so, perhaps, for the first time in the history of English music publishing, the wireless was called into service, and both Mr. Squire's and Mr. Scott's messages were soon floating on the aerial waves towards London.

After an eventful trip they arrived at Cherbourg, and found that the only boat to be got was one of the London and South-Western Railway's cargo boats, which had accommodation for a few first-class passengers only. So they decided to travel by her, and were fortunate enough to secure a sleeping compartment to themselves. But their troubles were far from ended. Having had a long and exciting day, they were naturally quite ready and wanted to sleep; but no sooner was the boat (which was only a very small one) outside the mouth of the harbour than she ran into the teeth of a gale that was blowing down Channel. A donkey engine outside the cabin was banging all night, and the spray was continually rushing through the unprotected windows.

What with these inconveniences, and the rolling and pitching of the boat, our two friends passed a rather unhappy night, finding it impossible, however hard they tried, to get a wink of sleep. They landed at half-past six at Southampton, and got back to London just before ten o'clock, sadder and wiser men. Mr. Squire had a hard day in front of him, and on Friday he had to take a journey to Liverpool about some pantomime arrangement for a new song entitled "I'm a happy married man."

At the Marylebone County Court last week an action for damages was heard against the London Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd., brought by William Hebbins, of Priory-road, Kilburn, who claimed £20 in respect of injury sustained through being forcibly ejected from the Kilburn Empire.

The plaintiff's story was that on Aug. 2 he went with his wife and a friend to the Kilburn Empire. During the performance he leaned forward to his wife and remarked that one of the turns reminded him of his young days when he used to play "see-saw" on the trunk of a tree. His friend observed that he thought that it would take both of them to lift his (plaintiff's) wife, she being somewhat stout, and upon this there was some laughter, his wife remarking, "I am not the biggest woman in the world."

One of the theatre attendants called for order. When the turn was ended the plaintiff went to the attendant and asked him what he meant by threatening to "chuck him out." There was an altercation, and plaintiff was pushed violently through the door. He was severely bruised on the arm, back, and hip, and he also suffered considerably from shock. He was attended by a doctor for a fortnight. He denied that he was drunk or had used offensive expressions when the comedienne was on the stage.

The plaintiff's wife and William Mayo, a solicitor's clerk, who was at the theatre with them on the night of the trouble, gave corroborative evidence. One of the audience and an attendant said the plaintiff certainly used offensive expressions whilst one of the comediennes was on the stage. Other evidence was given that no violence was used in ejecting the plaintiff. The jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, assessing damages at £5, and judgment was entered for that amount with costs.

Mr. Robert W. Duck, at the Granville, Walham Green, on the night of the 21st inst., took a complimentary benefit, and was enabled, by the kind assistance of his friends, the artists, to keep a packed house amused and interested for five hours. The benefit was under the patronage of the Mayor and other prominent local people, and many well-known in the profession acted as stewards. Mr. Ernest Aplin (of Hyman's Agency) had the direction of the stage. In the course of the evening the beneficiaire was presented with a cheque, and was cheered to the echo when he returned thanks. There were no fewer than thirty-two turns, among them being Chirgwin.

The 681st meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Fred Herbert was in the chair. Others present included Messrs. Chas. Coborn (vice-president), Chris Van Bern, Tom Packer, T. C. Callaghan, E. H. Lucas, J. W. Cragg (trustee), and Fred W. Mills (vice-president).

Upon the motion of the chairman, the meeting passed a vote of condolence with Mr. Harry Blake upon the death of his wife. It was decided to send a wreath on behalf of the Association, and a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Fred Herbert, F. W. Mills, Charles Coborn, T. C. Callaghan, and Douglas Stuart, was appointed to attend the funeral as representatives of the committee.

Miss Della Ray deputised last Thursday at the Hippodrome, Woolwich, and Poplar for Miss Dora Lyric, and did well, her natty figure being much admired. She goes to Edmonton on Monday.

"Selfridge's Bargain Day," from the pen of Mr. Paul Rubens, has been introduced into the revels of that bright little company, the Grotesques, at the Savoy. We are introduced to the manager, in the person of Mr. Cecil Cook, who interviews a number of customers—country and suburban. There is a giddy old lady with the coming on disposition, who ogles the boss, and invites him to tea. She must have strayed from some French farce of a character best understood at the Palais Royal. We are on surer and more legitimate ground with a really amusing and natural Cockney domestic, who has been sent by Mrs. 'Opkins to change a piece of music. This is an extremely funny impersonation.

A girl with an immense hat strolls into "where the milliner officious pours of hats and caps her ready stores"—especially of hats. But the astounded shopman confesses his inability to provide anything of a larger circumference. Reference is very naturally made to the hat incident at the Prince of Wales's. At present the humour is somewhat laboured. It should be quite easy to supply better opportunities for character-sketches and comic business to so clever a company, which still finds its strongest item in a burlesque of a village concert.

Mr. Maurice Besly is quite a humorist at the piano, and his skilful weaving of a number of airs into his amusing skit, "Don't sing Yip-i-addy," is one of the best things in a programme, which has other humorous and interesting numbers in "The Belle and the Beaux," by the lamented founder of the troupe, Mr. Vere Smith; "Mr. Jollyboy," rendered with much cleverness by Mr. James Watts; and the "Street Cries," a musical portion of the entertainment which might be added to with advantage, even if room has to be made for such an alteration by the deletion of one of the burlesques of a famous concert singer.

In the matter of the proposed Coliseum at Kilburn the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows at the L.C.C. meeting on Tuesday:—"We have considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a music hall to be known at the Kilburn Coliseum, and to be erected in High-road, Kilburn. We understand that application will be made to the Council under Part II. of the London Building Act, 1894, for sanction to the formation of a new street to lead out of High-road, Kilburn, on the south-eastern side of the site of the music-hall.

"Subject to the formation of this street, we consider that the site will be suitable for the erection of a music hall. The premises will have accommodation for about 2,800 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the arrangements appear to be satisfactory. The Committee accordingly recommend the Council to grant a certificate to the owner of the premises on being satisfied that the new street shown to lead out of High-road, Kilburn, has been satisfactorily formed, that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to, and that stated conditions have been complied with." The recommendation was agreed to.

Miss Harriett Vernon made a decided success in a new song-scena, written by Richard Elton (Adelene Harrison) and composed by Denham Harrison, at the Camberwell Empire on Monday night. The scene represents an old baronial hall. A beautiful worldly woman enters from the ball-room. She is tired of modern life. She longs for the days of old and envies her ancestress, whose picture hangs on the wall before her. Men in those days were bold and fought to win their lady's love. Life was all excitement and worth living. She falls asleep as the stage darkens.

Next the picture comes to life, and Miss Vernon, dressed exactly as her ancestress, renders a dramatic song, "For the King," with excellent effect. The song describes how a loved husband gave his life for the King, and was brought home dead at her feet. Finally she awakens to realise that the olden days were a little too exciting, and that the modern times suit her best, after all. Altogether an artistic and effective production, and all concerned are to be heartily congratulated.

Mr. Clarence Sounes, the proprietor of that beautiful house, the Empire, Kingston-on-Thames, has been telling an interviewer of a thrilling experience of his when travelling in Ireland. He said: "We were playing at a hall in Killarney and went one night after the performance for a moonlight row on one of the lakes—five or six of us—all men—accompanied by a boatman. When about half-way across a strong wind arose, heavy rain began to fall, and soon a fierce storm was raging. Unless I had experienced it I would never have believed a lake could have become so rough; it was like being on the sea in a gale. We dare not turn back, so were obliged to row before the wind, at the caprice of the storm. We pulled for dear life, and eventually landed on a beach, we knew not where, but our boatman had an idea it was somewhere near the Gap of Dunloe (which is one of the scenes in *The Colleen Bawn*). Accordingly out we stepped, thankful to be once more on terra firma. We were wet through, of course.

"We started at once to walk to the nearest habitation, and after about an hour's tramping, we came upon a house which proved to be Kate Kearney's cottage. We knocked up the inmates and requisitioned all the 'potheen' (or whisky) and milk they had on the premises, and, lighting a peat fire on the earthen floor, regaled ourselves with hot milk (goats' milk, I think it was), and some victuals, till morning broke. Ponies were then hired, and we rode round the lake to Killarney—it was still too rough to row back—by which time it was about five o'clock in the afternoon of the day after we set out.

"The people genuinely rejoiced to see us back, and proved their joy in a practical manner by packing the house that night. My landlady recognised my return safe and sound by presenting me on leaving for Cork with a live chicken, which, she said, would do for my dinner on arrival there. When I got to the station and during the railway journey this unusual gift was the source of much amusement. The chicken was duly executed next day and prepared for my dinner, but I could not touch it. I never can eat anything I have previously seen alive, so I, in turn, presented it to my landlady in Cork, and so got rid of the 'souvenir' of my visit to Killarney."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

A RECORD number of applications for copies of Messrs. Francis and Day's pantomime books have been received by every post during the week, and the vast piles have been daily depleted and replaced by fresh stocks. A noteworthy feature that has evoked spontaneous praise is that full pianoforte accompaniments are furnished to all the fifty picked songs that go to make up these two eagerly-sought volumes, one for principal boy and girl, the other for comedian and dame. Artists engaged in pantomime must, in applying for the tomes, enclose the sum of one shilling, if the two are required, or sixpence should only one book be needed.

THAT dashing artist Miss Zona Vevey, at the Canterbury Music Hall, has met with enormous success with the song, "My Mary," a publication of Messrs. Francis and Day. It is by Harry Brown (of "Is everybody happy?" fame), and that brilliant musician and pianist Max Erard.

A PRIME factor for coming festivities is now in the press, and lovers of dancing will hail with glee the news that Karl Kap's new quadrilles, entitled "Welcome Home!" will shortly be available. The well-known musician and bandmaster, who recently finished a highly successful season at Torquay (to which fashionable resort he returns with his band next year), has made use of the following favourite airs in the quadrilles, which are assured of a great vogue:—"Come up in my balloon," "She'll be seventeen on Sunday," "If you want a ray of sunshine," "You want a sweetheart," "Good bye, everybody's girlie," "I'm waiting here for Kate," "The Navy Two-step," "Take me back to Pompeii," "Shine on, harvest moon," "Hi! Hi! Mister McKie!" "Sweet Caroline," "Blue Feather" Intermezzo, "Flanagan," "Pride of the Prairie," "On the silvery sands," and "I've got rings on my fingers." Messrs. Francis and Day will issue the quadrilles forthwith.

MR. GEORGE H. ELLIOTT has been receiving nightly at each of the halls at which he has appeared—the Canterbury, the Holborn Empire, and the Granville—thunderous plaudits for his two great songs, "Mister Owl" and "There's a little black Cupid in the moon." This fine artist was never in better fettle, and his audiences have been loth to lose him. Both items are in much request for pantomime, and are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

GREAT inquiry has taken place latterly for that amusing song of Mr. Wilkie Bard's, "Will you sing this glee with me?" ("Hail, smiling morn"), and it will be heard in many Christmas annuals. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

No pantomime will be considered complete that does not comprise that great chorus song, "On the silvery sands," and the applications from artists engaged in pantomime for this fine number of Miss Madge Temple's are legion. By A. C. Findon and Herman E. Darewski, it is published by Mr. David Day's firm, and principal boys are on it to a man.

MANY a scenic artist is by this time busy on special gorgeous settings for that beautiful song, "In cherry blossom time in Japan," by Leonard Cooke and Henry E. Pether. Not since the same composer's "Rainbow" has the firm of Messrs. Francis and Day had a pantomime number which lends itself so admirably to give both the painter and electrician their chances, and many are availing themselves of the opportunity within their reach.

MR. ROWLAND HILL'S amusing song, "Why did Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" is being much sought after; and a like happy fate has befallen Miss Ella Retford's "Hi! Hi! Mister McKie!"; while "There are nice girls everywhere" and "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," and "You want to go to Tokio," have each scores of admirers for pantomimes, and one and all are in steady request. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

IT goes without saying that "Flanagan" is bound to be included in all the pantomimes, and, like Miss Florrie Forde's two prior gigantic song rages, "Oh! Oh! Antonio!" and "Has anybody here seen Kelly?" it will be in the mouths of everybody everywhere in these islands. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THOSE who like sterling songs of sentiment are voting for Mr. Tom Costello's great chorus number, "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland" and "You taught me how to love you, now teach me to forget," so tastefully sung by Miss Clara Beck; and yet another fine song, which is in great demand for pantomime, is "'Tis a faded picture," so admirably rendered on the variety stage by Mr. Frank Cass. All three are issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A NEW song has been acquired by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication, entitled "Toast those who're absent." With it are associated the names of Fred J. Barnes, Charles Collins, and Will Godwin.

THAT dashing march song, "Take your girlie where the band is playing," is more and more in demand for pantomime as the weeks slip by, and that rollicking riot of fun, "Come with me down Regent-street," has also whole hosts of admirers, and many seekers after each have gone away delighted during the week now ending, after securing rights from Messrs. Francis and Day.

HUNTLEY TREVOR AND T. W. THURBAN have supplied Tom Barrasford's Juvenile Minstrels with special songs and a striking opening chorus.

FRED WARWICK AND ALFRED GLOVER have collaborated in a fine specimen of that *rara avis* a comic song. They have named it "Something always happens when it shouldn't." Mr. George Robey has acquired the number.

THAT fine soprano Miss Bianca Brina has made a profound impression at all her recent engagements with the national Sunday League, through her delightful rendering of "If I had the world to give you," Hayden Clarendon's masterpiece of ballad-writing. The foremost artists in pantomime have secured this number, which is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, with band parts, in three keys.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

BALACLAVA HEROES AT THE ALHAMBRA.

The fourteenth annual Balaclava matinée, the whole of the proceeds of which will be given to Mr. T. H. Roberts's Light Brigade Charge Survivors' Relief Fund, took place at the Alhambra on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 22, the fine house being crowded in every part. Although the entertainment throughout was of a most attractive nature, chief interest, of course, centred in the appearance on the stage of the ten survivors of the Charge, who, towards the finish of the programme, were seen seated facing the audience, with the Coldstream Guards behind them and the buglers of the London Rifle Brigade on either side. After Mr. Peter Dawson had given a spirited rendering of "The Boys of the Old Brigade," the trumpeters of the Coldstream Guards sounded the charge, the bugles rang out, and Mrs. Clement Scott recited Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade." Some of the fine old fellows straightened themselves out and came to the salute; some were visibly affected; and the scene was a very impressive one. Mr. T. H. Roberts, the founder of the fund and organiser of the benefit, in an excellent speech, expressed his thanks to the proprietors of the Alhambra for placing the theatre at his disposal, and to all those, including the staff, who had so generously given their services. In appealing for funds to help the veterans in their few remaining years, he said that glory was all very well in its way, but it didn't keep them; the glory was no good without the grub. There were still twenty-one of the twenty-eight surviving heroes to be provided for, and he was urgently in need of funds.

The novelty of the programme was the production of a patriotic playlet by Major W. P. Drury, part author of *The Flag Lieutenant*, entitled

"THE ADMIRAL SPEAKS."

Francis Egerton .....MR. TALBOT HOMEWOOD
Violet Egerton .....MISS JOAN CHALONER
Prentice .....MISS LENA SHIRLEY
The Figurehead .....MR. O. P. HEGGIE

The action of this interesting one-act piece takes place on the evening of Trafalgar Day, and the scene is the drawing-room of the Egertons' cottage at Porchester, and in the garden, just outside, is to be seen a figure-head of Nelson. Egerton, a naval lieutenant, on that day, it appears, has decided to send in his papers of resignation, but seems scarcely enthusiastic at the prospect. He tells his young wife Violet of some rumour he has heard of the mobilisation of the fleets, and of England's threatened danger from a foreign power, but she says it is all scare talk, reminds him that there is sufficient money for them to have a comfortable time without him endangering his life, and he finally decides to send in his resignation then and there. A telegram arrives from a friend just placed in command of a boat offering him a good post, but Violet tells him there are many others who would be glad of the opportunity; she wants him at home, and he somewhat reluctantly agrees to refuse the offer. When he has gone out to write the letter, the wife sinks in a chair, and after blaming Nelson for all this talk of duty and so forth, apparently dozes. Then the figure of Nelson comes through the curtains, and tells her that England expects as much of her sons to-day as of old, and that her daughters also must make some sacrifice. When she awakes and her husband returns, she tells him he must not leave the service, but he is now as determined to resign as he was before disinclined. How can he leave her and the child that is to come? Then the spirit of Nelson again appears, and points the path of duty, and as the curtain falls it is evident that the Admiral's words have not fallen on deaf ears. The play was admirably acted throughout. Mr. Talbot Homewood was a breezy and natural Lieutenant Frank Egerton; Miss Joan Chaloner played Violet with feeling and conviction; Mr. O. P. Heggie as the figurehead of Nelson spoke his lines with dignity and was an impressive figure; and Miss Lena Shirley was excellent as the parlourmaid, who decided to forgo her night off in fear of encountering the Admiral's ghost in her walks abroad. The playlet was given a very attentive hearing, and there were loud curtain calls at its conclusion.

Miss Nellie Hodson and company supplied the comedy sketch *An Old Maid's Baby*, by Harry and Edward Paulton, and the amusing trifle was played to plenty of laughs, Miss Hodson, Miss Emmie Grey, Mr. Bruno Holmes, and Mr. Charles Fancourt, all giving capital impersonations. Mooney and Holbein contributed a varied and always entertaining comedy singing act, the male of the duo being responsible for some clever eccentric dancing; and Miss Yolande Noble scored decidedly in her rendering of a comedy number "Swank." An attractive interlude of vocalism, dancing, and music was given by the Debutantes, a quartette of accomplished young ladies; and Merlin did some wonderful card tricks, &c., and was loudly acclaimed.

Mr. Wilkie Bard as the hobble-skirted lady of uncertain age who decides to take Signor Caruso's advice and go in for opera, was, of course, greeted with enthusiasm, and this immensely funny number—one of the best things Mr. Bard has ever done—proved one long laugh from beginning to end; and Miss Edris Coombs, Miss Violet Essex, Miss Valerie Farr, Miss Alice Hollander, Miss Carrie Lanceley, Miss Helene Vallance, and Carmen Turia all vocalised charmingly and with complete success. The fine band of the Coldstream Guards in selections were also greatly appreciated.

"DICKY'S MOTHER."

A Sketch of Human Interest, in Two Scenes, Adapted by Miss Dorothy Mullord from Miss Wylie's Story, "The Other Woman," and Produced at the Foresters' on Monday, Oct. 24.

Richard Angus .....MR. WILLIAM BOULTON
Count André .....MR. DAVID WATSON
Dicky .....MASTER NEVILLE
Señora Veroni .....MISS VIOLET LEWIS
Nina Angus .....MISS DOROTHY MULLORD

This adaptation has been cleverly effected. The first scene represents the home of blind Richard Angus and his son Dicky, who anxiously await the arrival of the wife, Nina, who is away attending a voice trial. She eventually enters, and is delighted with her success and the reception accorded to her, but unfortunately there is some opposition in the form of Señora Veroni, an accomplished operatic singer, who also possesses culture and beauty. Nina is to compete with her on the following day at the final rehearsal, and all depends on the former obtaining an engagement, for she is now the bread-winner, since the husband has lost his sight. By an extraordinary coincidence the rival is no other than the divorced wife of Richard Angus, and Dicky's mother. The adventuress, for so she turns out to be, calls upon Nina and endeavours to dishearten her with crushing remarks, finally making an offer not to sing in her best form if she will only give up the boy. This Nina refuses to do, as the trio have all lived quite happily together, so with bitter curses Veroni leaves the room. The next scene is the dressing-room of the Señora, who is preparing for the final trial. She has a friend, Count André, and during their conversation she vows that she will do her utmost to beat her opponent, so that she can have her revenge, for she is sure the boy has been brought up to hate her. A visitor is announced, viz., Richard Angus, and she prepares to have much fun with the caller, who, however, turns out to be the boy Dicky, and a splendid scene is here witnessed.

Señora Veroni, his mother, has always been under the impression that the lad had been told bad things about her, but she learns from him that he has been taught to love her, for she was such a good mother, but she had died when he was quite a baby. The boy's loving solicitude completely changes Veroni's manner, and when she hears from him that the object of his visit is to ask her not to sing in her best manner, so that his mother may be chosen, her better nature comes out, for she promises that his wish shall be gratified. The Count has listened to the conversation and asks what she proposes to do. She requests him to tell the manager that she refuses to sing, for she intends going abroad. She will try to live up to the part of the good mother.

Miss Violet Lewis played delightfully throughout, her emotional change from the pompous singer to the loving woman being charmingly suggested. She received able assistance from Master Neville as Dicky. Miss Dorothy Mullord gave a particularly interesting performance as Nina, her clear enunciation and emotional power being features of her delineation. Mr. William Boulton was quite natural as the husband, and Mr. David Watson made an excellent Count. The playlet is certainly one of the finest productions that have been seen at this hall.

"FAKESTON BLACKE, DETECTIVE."

Burlesque Sketch on *Sexton Blake*, Written and Composed by Charles Kay, Produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Lady Flutterbuck .....MISS JOAN DUDLEY
Flash Harry .....
Clinker .....} MR. LESLIE HAROLD
Fakeston Blacke .....MR. CHARLES KAY

This trifle met with roars of laughter on Monday. Lady Flutterbuck seeks a divorce, and falls in love with Blacke, eventually proposing to him when he obtains the "decree nicey." Blacke who has sworn to be a bachelor, succumbs to her cry "I have three millions." MR. CHARLES KAY, who has a fine stage appearance and an excellent delivery, is very amusing as Blacke, and his office scene with the lady causes great amusement. Miss Dudley makes a good Lady Flutterbuck, and Mr. Leslie Harold successfully doubles the parts of Flash Harry and Clinker, and gives clever imitations.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, PUBLISHERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST SONGS.

LEGITIMATE HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS. *MISS MADGE TEMPLE.*

HAIL, SMILING MORN. (WILL YOU SING THIS GLEE WITH ME?) *WILKIE BARD.*

PUT ON YOUR TAT-TA, LITTLE GIRLIE. *MISS CLARICE MAYNE.*

FLANAGAN *MISS FLORRIE FORDE*

HI! HI! Mr. McKIE. *MISS ELLA RETFORD.*

Mr. OWL. *G. H. ELLIOTT.*

'TIS A FADED PICTURE *FRANK CASS.*

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU *DAVE CARTER.*

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE. *WHIT CUNLIFFE.*

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND. TOM COSTELLO.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON. G. H. ELLIOTT.

IN CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN. *MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.*

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED. *MISS ADA REEVE.*

YOU WANT TO GO TO TOKIO. *MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE.*

PANTO. BOOKS NOW READY. No. 1 PRINCIPAL BOY & GIRL SONGS. No. 2 COMEDIAN AND DAME SONGS. *COST OF DISPATCH,* ***6d.*** *EACH BOOK.*

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London. THE PLACE WHERE THE HITS COME FROM.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Great a song as Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. know their *bonne bouche* "Beautiful garden of roses" to be, even they have been astounded at the stupendous demand for copies and pantomime permissions that has reached headquarters in an ever-increasing continuous wave. Every post literally brings scores of letters, containing requests for this song in particular, and during the current week the Arthur-street professional staff have been kept busy attending to the many producers, principal boys, girls, and others desirous of making "Beautiful garden of roses" their own for pantomime purposes.

It is indeed a fortunate firm that is enabled to acquire as late in the season as this a number that is so instantaneous a music-hall success that everybody interested in pantomime production is clamouring for permission to use it; therefore Feldmans are indeed to be felicitated on the possession of so sterling a new song-hit as Mr. Mark Sheridan's "By the sea," which the genial comedian produced, for the first time, at the Chelsea Palace on Wednesday week with such unequivocal success that he will, on his return visit to the Oxford and Tivoli, two weeks hence, make this song the staple item of his entertainment. A special scene has been written for the express purpose of introducing Mr. Sheridan in this song at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. This is undoubtedly the song of the year, from a principal boy's standpoint, and bids fair to eclipse the same firm and singer's last year's triumph, "I do like to be beside the seaside."

What the finest judges in the world of popular songdom emphatically declare to be the best Irish song these islands have seen for many moons is Feldman's new number "Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town," a delightfully lilting ditty that should loom large in every pantomime throughout the kingdom. Miss Dora Poole is producing this song at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, shortly, as a special song-scena, supported by several auxiliaries; and Miss Stella Stahl will open on the Stoll tour, at the Empire, Sheffield, with the same fascinating number. Principal boys and others desirous of singing another "Molly O'Morgan" should be expeditious in their applications for permission to sing "Maggie Ryan."

Dainty Miss Ella Retford still continues to score all along the line at the Oxford and her other London turns with that delightful "7,000 dollar song," as "By the light of the silvery moon" is termed in the States, where Messrs. Remick and Co., the well-known American song publishers, paid this stupendous sum to Messrs. Madden and Edwards for the publishing rights. The acumen of the American publishers has already been more than vindicated in America, where the song was the rage of its season, and, judging by the pantomime demands that keep pouring in on Messrs. Feldman, the song's success in the land of its birth will be more than duplicated in this country at panomime time—and after.

That debonair comedian and vocalist Mr. Fred Barnes is singing two Feldman numbers just now at all his engagements, entitled "What's the matter with father?" and "Let's have a little bit of sunshine," both of which offer surpassing opportunities to light comedians, principal boys, and others engaged in this year's pantomimes. Early application is recommended to the Arthur-street firm for permissions to sing these already-popular numbers.

That delightful song which Miss Mabel Green has been rendering so charmingly at the Tivoli and other London houses, "In the sunny Engadine," and which has been awarded such a teeming measure of success by all auditors, bids fair to become one of Feldman and Co.'s best pantomime numbers this season, as it is being much asked about just now, and all producers and performers who have been privileged to hear this eminently tuneful and most original "locality" song have been unanimous in expressing their delight with it, and desire to include it in their Christmas offerings.

Principal girls who last year "featured" that great success "Little girl from nowhere" in pantomime should certainly make it their business to hear Miss Josie Delaine in her most artistic rendering of this song's legitimate successor, "Little Miss Importance," with which she has been 'witching all ears and hearers at the Oxford and elsewhere during the current week, and a great pantomime vogue may confidently be predicted for this delightfully fresh and piquant song-hit.

That incomparable comedienne Miss Clarice Mayne, who, aided and abetted by "that fellow at the piano," has been rejoicing all hearts at the Oxford and her other turns this week with her deliciously humorous rendering of her refined répertoire, has, as a special concession to the universal demand for her two great song-hits, "Longing for someone to love me" and "Georgie took me walking in the park," for pantomime purposes, consented to allow the publishers of these two songs (Messrs. Feldman) to give permission for same to be sung in this year's "annuals" by approved artists.

A "duo" that comedians engaged in pantomime all over the country are eagerly acquiring permission for is Damerell and Rutland's really great number, "Sing, sing, sing." For double turns this is undoubtedly the pick of the season, and any who have heard the original singers, at the Syndicate and other halls, in this irresistible number will certainly not be slow to embrace the opportunity of working a number so brimful of opportunities for comedy business as this unquestionably affords. Permission to sing in pantomime may be obtained on application to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., the publishers.

The Holborn Empire has long been noted as an ideal house for purveyors of the popular type of chorus song, but we doubt if ever in the annals even of the Holborn has any chorus been so heartily taken up and sung to the echo as Mr. Joe O'Gorman's delightfully naïve number, "Any little girl that's a nice little girl is the right little girl for me." It goes without saying that so easily-learnt and tuneful a number is destined to achieve pantomime prosperity of the highest, and Messrs. Feldman are certainly to be congratulated on both song and singer.

At pantomime time there is often considerable difficulty in fitting dame and principal boy or principal comedian with a suitable comedy duet admitting of comic business and a spirited dance to finish. To all such, therefore, with confidence may be recommended that ideal number for the purpose indicated "The barber's ball," with which the Two Bobs scored so heavily at the Tivoli recently—a success which they are repeating just now at the Oxford and other Metropolitan turns. Feldman and Co. are the publishers.

That clever light comedian Mr. Harry Simms will, on Monday next, at the Empire, Edinburgh, and throughout his Stoll tour, specially "feature" a new "girl" number, published by Feldmans, entitled "Lead me towards the girls," which bids fair, in his accomplished hands, to become yet another Feldman rage of the near future. The same singer has several other songs published by the Arthur-street firm in active preparation for early production during this tour, and in London later.

The Romps still continue to "bring down the house" at the London Pavilion with Feldman's spirited number, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," the pantomime demands for which during the last few days have been simply prodigious; and at the Empire, Camberwell, this week the same talented troupe are also "making good" in most unmistakable fashion with this catchy number.

Miss Helen McGregor, of the McGregors, has made a huge success at the Palace, Partick, Glasgow, with Feldman's ubiquitous ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," which she will also make the *pièce de resistance* of the McGregors' programme of good things at the Hippodrome, Paisley, next week.

Miss Lillie Le Main, at the Winter Gardens, Liverpool, this week, has charmed all hearers with her finished rendering of Feldman's big "costume" number, "Marie Louise," which pantomime producers on the look-out for a character number out of the beaten track should lose no time in securing for their productions, both in town and country.

That clever burlesque actress and favourite pantomime boy Miss Dorothy Ward has been making a sensational success in Manchester with Feldman's big new Charles K. Harris's ballad "Yesterday," which will doubtless be extensively featured in pantomime during the coming season by artists who favour numbers at once pathetic and ear-arresting in quality.

Messrs. Price and Reynolds anticipate a record pantomime season. The songs in request for principal boys are Miss Hetty King's "Follow the tram lines" and "I've got the time, I've got the place"; Miss Harriett Vernon's "The sun can't be always shining"; Glover Kind's "Cheer up, be merry and bright."

Principal girls will find the following songs very useful numbers: "Gwennie from Abergavenny," "The Lily of Zamora," "Walking out with Schneider," "Good morning, Mr. Sunshine," "The greedy gosling," and "Won't you come over the stile."

Fairy queens in search of good, taking ballads are requested to give the undermentioned special attention: "Yet, if I said forgive," "If I had a thousand lives to live," "If the world were mine to give."

Comedians have plenty of variety in Price and Reynolds latest, viz., "In 1999," "The sifted thistle," "D'ye ken, Mr. Kennedy?" "Father started out to work," "Ask the band to play an English tune," and Fred Poplar's famous song, "The Parliamentary Smoking Concert."

Mr. J. H. Squire, the Ted Snyder Company's representative in this country, informs us that he has a number just brought over from America in his catalogue, entitled "Kiss me," which has one of the most haunting and plaintive choruses that he has ever seen in a song. It will be sung on the concert stage by Mr. Maurice Farkoa, and in all probability will be put on at the Tivoli next Monday week by Miss Queenie Leighton, who will also take the song to South Africa with her. Up to the present nine people have heard the song, and nine people have secured it for pantomime, to be done in the form of a duet.

Mr. Squire furthermore informs us that Mr. Irving Berlin played him over the choruses of two songs which he was writing for Mr. George Grossmith, jun., and these will be in the Ted Snyder Company's London offices within three weeks.

All principal boys should make a special feature of Miss Jessie Templeton's beautiful march ballad, entitled "When the bloom is on the heather"; while "dames" who do not secure Maidie Scott's latest song, entitled "If the managers only thought the same as mother," will indeed miss a winner.

The Ted Snyder Company have just got out their latest song, entitled "I'm a happy married man," the sole rights of which have been secured by George French, who will produce the number in a week or two.

Miss Edie Veno produced her new song, "Come back, Bill," at the Hippodrome, Peckham, on Tuesday last, and made an instantaneous hit, being compelled to repeat the chorus no fewer than four times. J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban are the author-composers.

Chas. Sheard and Co. are receiving applications daily for pantomime permissions to introduce the exquisite number "Queen of the Land of Pearl and Gold." Already most of the principal towns are booked. The charming ear-haunting melody is the work of the joint authors and composers of "Queen of Old Lamara" and "Won't you go with me to Go-Go?" This is in itself a guarantee of success.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

STUART'S RAILWAY FARE BOOK.

Compiled and edited by Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, the eighth edition of this valuable little railway fare book and artists' travelling guide has just been issued. In the tables will be found nearly 7,000 fares between towns in which there are now variety theatres. The full fare is given first for those members of the M.H.A.R.A. when the requisite number of five cannot be made up from one town to another, then the reduced fare for members travelling in a party of five or over. Amongst a deal of other useful information may be mentioned a list of provincial agents of the M.H.A.R.A., times of rehearsals at the London and provincial variety houses, a list of professional apartments recommended by artists who have stayed at addresses named, steamboat lines that grant the reduction to M.H.A.R.A. members, stage phrases in French and German, &c.

Published at the very moderate price of 6d. (post free 8d.), by C. Douglas Stuart, at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., this little handbook is invaluable to all variety performers, and should command a large sale. And as a further recommendation it may be mentioned that every copy sold will benefit the Music Hall Benevolent Institution to the extent of 2d.

There was a pleasant little gathering on Wednesday evening at Masini's Restaurant, the occasion being the opening of the new grill room, inaugurated by an old friend of the theatrical vaudeville profession, Mr. Louis Roux, who will be well remembered at Earl's Court as manager of the Quadrant Restaurant, at Blanchard's, and latterly at the Queen's Hotel. A few notabilities were invited to sample the "good old English fare," among whom were Messrs. Horace Lennard, F. H. Pedgrift, L. Godfrey Turner, Chris Davis, Wilfred Sayers, A. J. Daniels, Harry Garrick, Vaughan Evans, and H. Petrie. The chairman, in proposing the health of Mr. Roux and success to the undertaking, remarked that the idea was to establish an eating department on old-fashioned English lines, with fare of the best, and at a most reasonable figure. He was sure the company and their friends would not rue (Roux) the day they made both the acquaintance of the homely and wholesome food, and the provider thereof. He wished the undertaking a brilliant success, to which the host responded with thanks.

FELDMAN'S TRIUMPH for PANTOMIME.

"GARDEN OF ROSES"

The acknowledged Ballad of the Year.

THIS SONG WILL OUTRIVAL OUR FORMER HITS:

"TINY SEED OF LOVE" AND "SOMEWHERE."

NO ARTISTE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THIS. DO NOT BE MISLED! WE STAKE OUR REPUTATION ON THIS SONG! IT WILL POSITIVELY BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL SUCCESS EVER PUBLISHED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHERS OF POPULAR MUSIC.

ARTISTS, REMEMBER! YOUR SUCCESS IS OURS.

OTHER GREAT WINNERS FOR PANTOMIME.

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON. SUNG BY MISS ELLA RETFORD.

MISTER PAT O'HARE SUNG BY GEORGE LASHWOOD.

BY THE SEA. SUNG BY MARK SHERIDAN.

NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

YOU WERE COMING THRO' THE CORN MOLLY DEAR. SUNG BY MISS GERTIE GITANA.

PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST. SUNG BY GEORGE FORMBY.

IN THE SUNNY ENGADINE. SUNG BY MISS MABEL GREEN.

LET'S HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF SUNSHINE. SUNG BY FRED BARNES

MARIE LOUISE. SUNG BY MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.

OH, BOYS, I'VE SEEN YOU THERE. SUNG BY THE ROMPS AND MISS MAY LILLIAN LEVEY.

MARY, YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW. SUNG BY ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

FOOLISH QUESTIONS. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

LIZA HAD HOLD OF MY HAND. SUNG BY JACK PLEASANTS.

Watch **SILVER BELL.** I'M LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME and GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING IN THE PARK. *SUNG BY MISS CLARICE MAYNE.* ***This!***

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW. SUNG BY MISS LILIAN HERLEIN.

FISH SAUCE. SUNG BY JACK SMILES.

I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE. SUNG BY MISS MABEL GREEN

SING! SING! SING! SUNG BY DAMERELL & RUTLAND.

SANTA FÈ. SUNG BY MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

THE BARBER'S BALL. SUNG BY THE TWO BOBS.

LITTLE MISS IMPORTANCE. SUNG BY MISS JOSIE DELAINE.

IN THE ARMY. SUNG BY MISS ELLA SHIELDS.

I'D RATHER BE BY THE FIRESIDE. SUNG BY FRED BARNES.

EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU. SUNG BY MISS DOROTHY WARD.

ANY LITTLE GIRL THAT'S A NICE LITTLE GIRL. SUNG BY JOE O'GORMAN.

WE HAVE THE GREATEST AND MOST VARIED SELECTION OF **PROVEN SUCCESSES for PANTOMIME** EVER OFFERED TO ARTISTS AND PRODUCERS. CALL OR WRITE AT ONCE, STATING PART AND THEATRES.

B. FELDMAN & CO., 2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4467 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 24.)

SLOWLY but surely the all-important pantomime season draws nearer. Week by week the record of splendid success attained at the variety theatres by the Star Music Co.'s batch of pantomime songs becomes more and more emphatic. Artists in various parts of the United Kingdom have tried these numbers, and the result is a long list of triumphs that any publishing house may well feel proud of. This indisputable evidence of success is having its due effect on theatrical managers and artists engaged for pantomime. The sequel is seen is the phenomenal demand and requests for permission to introduce them in Christmas productions.

DURING the past week the following artists have scored hits with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes":—Miss Maud Mortimer, at Hamilton; Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, at Pentre; Park's Eton Boys and Girls, at the Stratford Empire; and Miss Florrie Cooper, at the Hackney Empire. One and all report the glorious success of this Star Co. winner.

G. H. ELLIOTT returned to London on Monday, and at the Canterbury and other halls was welcomed with salvos of applause. His special number was undoubtedly that quaint and melodious song by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, entitled "Loo Sue Mary Dinah," which concerns a sweet chocolate coloured girl boasting a string of no less than nine different Christian names. This number caught on at once, and was sung by the entire audience with great gusto. Those who are anxious to hear Mr. Elliott's newest song, "Here comes the chocolate soldier," must possess their souls in patience until next week, the preparation for this song being somewhat exceptional. Meantime the Star Music Co. are arranging with their printers for a huge edition of this big song to be struck off in record time.

CHARLES WHITTLE, whose faculty for picking out the big song hits each year is commented upon by all as being little short of marvellous, has undoubtedly beaten all his records of success with "Fall in and follow me," the new song written for him by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. Such an impression has this song made that its fame has travelled in advance even to towns where it cannot have been sung. Principal boys engaged for forthcoming pantomimes have practically without exception decided to make "Fall in and follow me" their "stand-by," and jolly good judges, too. The Star Music Co. publish this great winner.

MISS CHUMMIE LA MARA, the charming comedienne, who has been associated with the introduction of more than one popular Irish song on the halls, is just now featuring with exceptional success A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's tricky little Irish ditty, "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy." A peculiarity about the number is the unexpected little turns the melody takes. Altogether a most charming song. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

LLOYD MORGAN, that favourite light comedian, has secured from Harrington and Lane an up-to-date chorus number on the subject of aeroplaning entitled "There's a pretty little cot in Dover," which is published by the Star Music Co.

MISS ELLA RETFORD continues to win genuine appreciation for her delightful arch rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's catchy Irish song, "Mary, you don't come from Spain." At the Empress, Brixton, and other halls during the past week the song has caught on most emphatically. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS DAISY WOOD, who is just now in splendid form, has established herself a firm favourite at the London Pavilion. Her two songs (by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott), "Take me on the wiggle woggle" and "The lady burglar," give her plenty of opportunity to display the wealth of wit and humour she possesses. The "Wiggle woggle" song is published by the Star Music Co.

HARRY BANCROFT, the favourite singer of descriptive songs, continues to win all hearts by his really artistic rendering of Charles Ridgewell's pretty song, "'Tis years and years ago since our wedding day." Mr. Bancroft is at present on tour, and this number has been a trump card. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

AT the Alhambra this week, Miss Edris Coombs, who is fulfilling a second engagement there within as many months, introduced a new waltz-song by Edward St. Quintin, entitled "Everywhere." This charming artist scored a decided success with this ear haunting number, and has decided to specialise it in her forthcoming engagement in the pantomime—*Red Riding Hood*—at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth. Messrs. Sheard immediately secured the song for publication, and it is already in the press.

UNDOUBTEDLY one of the best comedy songs of the season is "T-r-o-u-b-l-e" ("Those wedding bells are ringing"). It is the work of those two clever song-writers, Mr. Chas. Collins and Mr. Fred Terry, and is being sung on the music-hall stage by Mr. Joe Archer. Our advertisement columns announce that a limited number of pantomime permissions can be obtained from Messrs. Chas. Sheard and Co., the publishers, and lucky will be the comediennes who secure the song for their pantomime engagements.

MESSRS. SHEARD inform us that their advertisement in our columns of Messrs. W. H. Petrie's new songs, "A thousand fathoms deep" and Roses tell me of you," and Stanley Gordon's bass songs, "Neptune" (Lord of the sea am I) and "The volcano," has called forth a host of applications for those special numbers, which has kept their mailing clerks exceedingly busy.

MR. SAX ROHMER, the laugh-maker extraordinary, has just placed with Little Tich a number which shows every promise of rivalling Mr. Rohmer's other contribution to the répertoire of the famous comedian, "The gas inspector." The title of the latest scream is "Tally Ho! the tallyman." Even for the writer of Little Tich's "Bargee," George Robey's "Mrs. Blobbs," "Charles II.," "Mignon," the unforgettable "Village blacksmith," and many other big comedy hits, this latest Tich item is a great number.

MESSRS. CHAS. SHEARD AND CO. have secured this "riot," for their catalogue, and also announce for early publication "The gas inspector," with which Mr. Tich has been paralysing London Pavilion patrons, and with which he has arranged to re-open in town. The music is by T. W. Thurban.

GOOD news comes from South Africa respecting the hit Mr. Will Norrie has made there with Edward St. Quintin's artistic love ballad and chorus, "What would my life be without you?" It is a song for deep expression and tender sentiment. It presents no vocal difficulty, but has a powerful climax. Messrs. Sheard and Co. invite all pantomime artists to call at their establishment and hear this beautiful number before deciding what to sing, and have their names connected with this exceptional success.

"BLUE BIRD" WALTZ CASE.

The above action, which was commenced before the Long Vacation, and was brought by Messrs. Elkin and Co., Ltd., music publishers, Beak-street, against Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, music publishers, Charing Cross-road, was resumed on the 19th inst. in the Chancery Division before Mr. Justice Eve. The plaintiffs sought to restrain defendants from the publication of a waltz which had been put upon the market, and which, plaintiffs said, deceived purchasers into the belief that they were buying music from the well-known play *The Blue Bird*.

Mr. P. O. Lawrence, K.C., and Mr. H. Houston (instructed by Mr. Percy H. Becher) appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. E. Clayton, K.C., and Mr. Owen Thompson (instructed by Mr. P. J. Rutland) were for the defence.

It was explained by Mr. Lawrence that Mr. Charles Coote was the composer of the waltz published by defendants. It contained an illustration of what defendants called an American blue jay flying. *The Blue Bird*, written by Maeterlinck, was first performed in Moscow in 1908. The first performance in England took place at the Haymarket on Dec. 8 last, but announcements had appeared in the Press beginning on April 29, 1909, when they first appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*. The play was advertised by blue birds in flight, and it has been a great success. Mr. Norman O'Neill, a co-plaintiff, had composed the music for the play, and the music itself was an integral part of the performance. There were songs and dances, four of the latter being "The Dance of the Hours," "The Dance of the Maids of the Mist," "The Dance of Fire and Water," and "The Dance of the Stars." Those four dances were published separately on Jan. 18 this year by the plaintiffs, who had the musical rights. "The Dance of Fire and Water" was a waltz dance. On Feb. 4 of this year defendants' waltz was published, but, said counsel, it was not the same class of music as that published by plaintiffs. Plaintiffs said that the publication of defendants' music would do harm to their musical rights; it would prevent people going to the play and buying the music. Defendants had pleaded that the title was suggested in August, 1909, long before the play was produced, and that the pictorial representation was designed on Dec. 8, 1909. Plaintiffs did not suggest their design had been copied or that their music had been taken. It was purely a question of passing off.

Mr. Norman O'Neill described the music in the play, and was cross-examined with reference to "The Blue Bird Waltz."

Mr. Clayton asked that his junior, Mr. Thompson, should be allowed to put questions to the witness relating to the compositions.

Mr. Lawrence suggested that a piano might be brought into Court.

His lordship thought this would tend to confuse matters.

Mr. Thompson then questioned witness with reference to the music in "The Blue Bird Waltz," and Mr. O'Neill said it was almost the same as the first section of the "Fire and Water" dance.

Counsel asked questions dealing with bars, sharps, and semi-tones, and remarked, "I don't know whether it is clear to your lordship?"

His Lordship: Not at all. (Laughter.) Which are the two bars you refer to—are they the two little compartments? (Laughter.)

Mr. Thompson: They are the two compartments at the end of the third line.

His Lordship: We are associated with bars sometimes. (Laughter.) I see there is one note between lines and the next note is on the line.

Mr. Thompson: They are what the witness calls "C" and "B."

His Lordship: What is that scratching; is it a sharp or a flat?

Witness: I suppose that is a sharp.

Counsel next proceeded to discuss with witness the use of triplets in the music, and expressed his regret to his lordship that musical terms lent themselves to misapplication.

Mr. Paul A. Rubens, the next witness, said he was an author and a composer of music, and had written several musical plays. Waltzes called by the play name had been published in connection with them. He thought the picture of the blue bird and the title "L'Oiseau Blue" would lead the public to believe that the waltz referred to was founded on melodies in *The Blue Bird*.

Mr. Trench, managing-director of the Haymarket Theatre, said the production of *The Blue Bird* was a great success. The music was essential to that success.

The hearing was adjourned till the 21st inst., when Mr. D. G. Day, music publisher, of Charing-cross-road, in giving evidence, said he was the sole surviving partner of the defendant firm, Francis, Day, and Hunter. They had taken a prominent part in endeavouring to suppress musical piracy.

Mr. Thompson: Was there any intention to lead the public to believe, by using the name "L'Oiseau Bleu," that there was any connection between Mr. Coote's waltz and the play called *The Blue Bird*?—Certainly not.

Do you claim the right to apply the words "L'Oiseau Bleu" to any publication of your own?—Certainly.

Witness described how Mr. Coote called upon him with compositions and suggested "L'Oiseau Bleu," or "Joys of Life," for the waltz, and added that he selected the former as the title. Mr. Coote suggested a design for the cover. Witness had no idea then that the play *The Blue Bird* was to be produced in London.

On Tuesday last Mr. Charles Coote, the composer of the waltz, went into the box and explained that when Mr. Day asked him to suggest a name he mentioned "The Joys of Life," or "L'Oiseau Bleu." He composed the music two years before he offered it to Mr. Day. He would have preferred "The Joys of Life," but Mr. Day liked the other title, and as he was going to publish it, he allowed the question of the name to remain there. At that time he had not seen any announcement with reference to *The Blue Bird* play at the Haymarket Theatre. He certainly had no intention of conveying the impression that his music was from the Haymarket Theatre. The title, "L'Oiseau Bleu," had been familiar to him for years.

Mr. C. Mudie, secretary to Mr. A. Boosey, of Messrs. Boosey and Co., defined a musical play as one containing dialogue, songs, choruses, duets, and dances. Incidental music was that which suggested the atmosphere and the action taking place on the stage—not absolutely necessary, but increasing the effect of the action.

On Wednesday, counsel having addressed the Court, his Lordship, in giving judgment, said:

"I want to say that the defendants repudiated, and I do not think unnaturally repudiated, any charge of fraud, and they desired, as far as they could, to meet the views of the plaintiffs, provided always that any suggestion of fraud in the inception of the matter was withdrawn. If there was any copying (and I do not think there was, or it may have been to some extent unconscious copying), it was a copying for which the defendants were not in this case primarily responsible. . . . Now this much is due to the defendants to say, that when the sales were small the matter was brought, at an early stage, to Messrs. Elkin's attention, and when Messrs. Elkin complained, I have it from Mr. Day's evidence, which I accept, that pending the litigation, pending the ascertainment of the respective rights of the parties, he suspended the further sales of this work. That, I think, shows that, so far as he was concerned, he only desired to do that which was right and honourable as between two opposing publishers, and he put himself in this position, that if ultimately it turned out, as I am about to hold it turned out, the defendants were in the wrong, he could, at any rate, say this: 'As soon as it was suggested I was in the wrong I did not adopt the course of conduct which would inflict any further damage on the plaintiffs.'"

His Lordship granted an injunction restraining the defendants from publishing their waltz in this particular cover, or any cover calculated to lead to the impression that the music was taken from the play. He ordered defendants to pay the costs, and granted plaintiffs an inquiry as to damages.

STAR MUSIC Co. LTD.

THE 3 TIP TOP PANTO WINNERS

Send 6 stamps for full Panto. Selection. State theatre and part.

Written by A. J. Mills. Composed by Bennett & Scott.

Ordinary Pro. copies 3d. each. Catalogue Free.

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "SONGONIA, LONDON." 'Phone: 8446 GERRARD.

"A SOLDIER'S LOVE STORY."

Domestic Military Episode, by Mr. Alexander Loftus, Produced at Olympia, Liverpool, on Thursday, Oct. 27.

Capt. Gerald Pierpoint.. MR. ALEXANDER LOFTUS
Lieut. Courtney ..... MR. WALTER HENTY
Colonel L'Estrange .... MR. LINCOLN CALTHORPE
Rose ..... MISS LINA NAZEBY
Tom Kennedy ..... MR. CHAS. ADESON
Earl of Barasco ..... MR. GEORGE FOX
General Holmes ..... MR. FRANCIS EGERTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is a neat little sketch, with a sustained interest which opens at an early stage. Although requiring only thirty minutes to present, it is full of action, episode following episode in rapid succession, and maintaining the attention of the audience to the close. Judging by the manner in which it was received by a large audience on Thursday afternoon, the work should prove successful wherever given.

The scene is laid in the Kingdom of Muretania, where Captain Pierpoint's battalion are about to be attacked by a horde of rebels headed by his father-in-law, General Holmes. Despatches detailing the strength of Pierpoint's forces are left at home by him, and these are stolen by Holmes, who gains admission to the house through the treachery of Colonel L'Estrange, who is in love with Mrs. Pierpoint, and desires to remove the husband. The loss of the documents is followed by Pierpoint being arrested and condemned to be shot, but when the execution is about to take place his innocence is established, and the guilty ones punished.

The company did every justice to the sketch, Mr. Alexander Loftus playing the heroic part in most effective manner; the military rôles, as sustained by Messrs. Henty, Calthorpe, and Egerton, reflected credit upon all three actors; Miss Lina Nazeby did everything necessary as the distressed wife; and Mr. Charles Adeson amused as the faithful servant.

IN order to avoid paying £100 additional licence duty under the Budget, a Dover music hall has closed its public bars.

A GOOD selection of pictures is presented at the Neath Palace this week to large audiences. The special attraction in the variety part of the programme is Mahatma, Queen of Second-sight, assisted by Prof. C. N. Steen, who give a remarkable performance. Healey and Spencer in a comedy duo successfully contribute towards a good entertainment.

FRANK TRAVIS, VENTRILOQUIST.

HIS RETURN FROM AUSTRALIA.

"Life's panorama spreads a view of fancies unfulfilled," once wrote an erudite contributor to these columns. We might express the idea more strongly, and say that the chronicle of life is a catalogue of ambitions unattained. This cannot be said of the subject of our interview, whose young face and alert figure belie the assertion that he has been on the stage—well, never mind how long! When just out of his teens he had it in his mind to become a public entertainer, and as, according to Robert Browning, "youth is the only time to think and decide on a great course," young Travis determined to become a polyphonist.

He possessed already the "voice of aspiration, the voice of high hope"; he probably read the thrilling pages of Henry Cockton's "Valentine Vox"; and, in view of his future career, took the sensible course of going on the stage. As an aspirant for fame behind the footlights, he came under the kindly influence of Sarah Thorne, of the Kent Circuit, who shaped the destinies of so many of our leading actors and actresses, and with that excellent stage director, producer, and actress he played all sorts of parts. He was a nimble, supple, and even an imaginative harlequin in a pantomime at Ramsgate, and with months of general utility work the rough corners were knocked off, he learnt stage technique, and, most valuable of all lessons, he had to make himself heard in the remotest corner of the gallery. This clearness of utterance was always insisted upon in the old stock days, and its virtues were additionally emphasised when Travis became associated with that fine actor Charles Dillon.

He who "picnics on Parnassus need not look for cakes and ale," and what is true of the poet applies even more truly to the utility actor. Plenty of work at a small salary was all very well; but the youngster felt it incumbent upon him to make a move; and the world of variety, which at that time, even as now, took so many of its principal performers from the legitimate stage, spread an alluring prospect before the ambitious youth. He practised his art assiduously, and like so many of his contemporaries, made his début as a ventriloquist in the provinces—the Pavilion, Sheffield, to wit, a house that stood next to where the Theatre Royal now rears its head. From this time Travis, who had become Lieutenant Travis, never looked back, and has been a familiar ventriloquial star for years.

He has travelled in every nook and corner of the Continent, has visited America twice, and has just returned from his second trip to Australia, where he has fulfilled a most successful engagement on the what may well be termed the Harry Rickards Circuit, securing his greatest triumph perhaps at the Tivoli, Sydney. The papers were unanimous in praise of the tramp ventriloquist—a gentleman of birth and education, who has come down in the world, not an ignorant, loose mannered loafer. Says one writer: "Got up in the manner of a forlorn, dusty, and penniless tramp, Travis casts his bundle down before a roadside inn, and introduces as travelling companions a pert puppet in the uniform of an ex-soldier and a wheezy old man in a smock. Many puzzling feats of ventriloquism are shown in the highly diverting dialogue, especially when the tramp, with the lower part of his countenance buried in a frothy tankard, is rallied briskly by the ex-soldier. Later on the Lieutenant introduces a very human-looking and decidedly 'advanced' little girl, who sings with acceptable pathos and expression the ballad 'Daddy,' while the man behind the doll apparently puffs complacently at his pipe."

When voyaging back from the Commonwealth Travis landed at Marseilles, and in travelling overland found himself hampered by the railway strike in France, and his luggage was held up at the Gare du Nord. After his arrival home his belongings were forwarded to London, and his fears of the loss of stage properties, which would have been a very serious one, vanished. He had a delightful return trip on board the Mooltan. Like many another star performer, Travis has suffered from copyists, but his new act is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain and the title registered, and he should therefore be immune from plagiarism. As an incidental in his act, Travis introduces Miss Marjorie Dean, whose lithe and lissom dancing fairly astounded the "Cornstalks."

His longest engagement was with the late Charles Morton at the Palace Theatre, at the beginning of the régime of the "Father of the halls." The ventriloquist's time was continually extended, until at the end of sixteen weeks he had to give in his notice in order to take up provincial contracts. The Australians have undoubtedly taken very kindly to Lieutenant Travis, and he records with much gratification the warm and generous hospitality always extended to artists from the "Old Country." Besides broadening and deepening his artistic reputation, he has had a most delightful time and has reached home in the best of health, and with vocal power as resonant as ever.

ALMOST as soon as the doors of the Japan-British Exhibition close to-day an army of men will be busy removing the exhibits and packing them for return to the palaces of the Emperor and the mansions of Japanese noblemen.

MANY exhibits, however, are to be left behind as mementoes of the exhibition. For instance, the model of the mausoleum at the second Tokugawa Shogun is to go to Buckingham Palace. It is a beautiful reproduction from the City of Tokyo. The splendid model of Tokyo City has been left to the City of London, and two miniature gardens to the London County Council.

THE model of the post office exhibited by the Japanese Department of Communication will be placed in the museum of the General Post Office, and all the exhibits of the Fishery Bureau will be sent to the Official Fishery Museum at Hull; while the Japanese Government's exhibits of Japanese rural life, which are composed entirely of tableaux, will be given to the British Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

As already announced, the model of the historic Kyoto Gate is to be re-erected in Kew Gardens, and the Japanese model summer-house, exhibited by the Forestry Department of the Japanese Government, has been presented to Prince Arthur of Connaught, and will be re-erected in the gardens of the Duke of Connaught.

So pronounced is the success of John Lawson's visit to America, that William Morris has engaged him for a further eight weeks, with an option to extend. According to present arrangements Mr. Lawson will produce *Humanity* in New York on Nov. 28 with a full cast of London artists, who will sail on Nov. 16 to join him. He will also produce *Sally in Our Alley* later on.

THE syndicate formed to acquire part of the island site of the Strand, whereon to erect a French Palace of Arts and Industries, on Monday paid the London County Council the extra £2,500 demanded at their last meeting. The syndicate thus have the option until Dec. 1. M. Ernest Gerard, the architect, is bringing his plans immediately for the Council's final approval.

THE Earl's Court, Ltd., have now completed the transfer of the Earl's Court Exhibition Grounds from the London Exhibitions, Ltd., and are now in possession. The work of arranging the various amusements for next year has actively commenced.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

The newest votary of Terpsichore and the latest Continental novelty are associated at the Palace, where Mlle. Hippolita D'Hellas is presenting "The Silhouette Dance." The shadow pantomime, of course, is among the treasured memories of our youth, but in the Silhouette Dance the principle is elaborated in a picturesque way, the scenes presented having variously tinted backgrounds against which the performer is realistically outlined. On Monday Miss D'Hellas began with a classical study, in which an Athenian young lady is seen, with much ceremony, laying a tribute at the feet of a Grecian god. The second represented a seashore, with a view of gently undulating water, the dancer, assisted by two others, indicating the various emotions of The Awakening from Sleep, of Butterfly Catching, and of Rapture. At the end came a Moorish dance, the performer going through a series of frenzied evolutions, in which a couple of daggers figure, to the accompaniment of barbaric music. Miss D'Hellas has a lithe and graceful figure, and is an accomplished dancer. There is an element of quaintness about the act which adds to its effect, and it leaves a most agreeable impression.

The well-assorted programme has recently undergone changes in other respects. Les Trombettas, who have been renewing their popularity at the Palace with their diverting ducts, presented on Monday a new musical sketch by Herman Finck and Eustace Eayres, in which the clever comedian poses as "Tommy Atkins in the Park," and makes love to a coy maiden. The interlude is delightfully funny, M. Trombetta's broken English added to his air of braggadocio as the diminutive Tommy, and the affectations of his fair partner, keeping the audience convulsed. Mr. Finck has written some effective music with quite a martial strain for the song which accompanies the scena. M. Trombetta's whistling and imitations still remain successful features of his entertainment. That great artist Mr. Ben Davies demonstrates the purity and power of his sweet tenor voice in three of his choicest selections. The evergreen "When other lips," aroused so much applause that Mr. Davies was obliged to concede an encore, rendering the pretty little ballad, "I know of two bright eyes," with exquisite expression.

A hilarious act is that of "General" Edward La Vine, who, habited in American uniform, with embellishments, juggles with three rubber balls in whimsical fashion. He does wonders with cigar and hat, bringing both from the foot, the former to his mouth and the latter on to the cigar, and manipulates with extraordinary ease a sledge-hammer, a cannon-ball, and a paper pellet. The instrumental effects are cleverly managed, and the marine scene at the back furnishes a constant succession of comic surprises. Mr. Harold Montague entertains humorously at the piano and does some clever burlesque conjuring, and as trick billiardists the Brunins excel, the gentleman by means of a cannon off the cush firing a pistol held in the mouth of his partner, who is careering round the stage on a bicycle. The drollery of Mr. George Graves in *Koffo, of Bond-street*, has become more irresistible than ever; Mr. Jack Lorimer once again diverts with the eccentricity of his Scotch songs and dances, and also included in the bill are the Willuhn Trio, comic gymnasts; Miss Violet Loraine, comedienne; Sidney James and company, in a musical pot-pourri; and Bert Marsden, mimetic comedian. The Palace Bioscope portrays all that is most interesting in pictures, including views of Portugal during its recent stressful period; and not the least appreciated items of Mr. Alfred Butt's attractive bill are the selections by Mr. Herman Finck's superb orchestra.

THE TIVOLI.

Mr. Joseph Wilson's latest novelty at the Tivoli is a sketch without a plot, from the joint pens of Mr. Lennox Pawle, the popular comedian, and Mr. P. J. Wodehouse. It is entitled *The Dumb (?) Waiter*, the ironical significance of the adjective of the title being marked by a note of interrogation. In a restaurant scene a deaf-and-dumb gentleman and a Hebrew of uncultivated manners are dining. The Jew, after addressing several observations to the deaf mute, appropriates his evening newspaper, which is promptly snatched back by the silent one. After one or two little skirmishes the waiter arrives on the scene. He is quite a greasy specimen of his class, but his clatter of speech is prodigious. Like Gratiano, he speaks an infinite deal of nothing. His deaf-and-dumb customer has, he thinks, a sympathetic soul, and when he pours his family history into his ear, with incidental references to the doings and love-troubles of a kindly-hearted innkeeper, he has no idea that his talk flows "in one ear and out of the other." The old gentleman at last understands that he is being spoken to, and taking a small scrap of paper, he scribbles thereon: "Any statement of importance you have to make you must put it in writing. I am deaf and dumb." The sketch has the merit of giving a droll comedian a real chance as a humorist, and its chief recommendation is that it introduces to the London variety stage Mr. John Humphries, of whom too little is seen in the West End. Such a capital comedian should be permanently established in the metropolis. The music halls, at any rate, can do with him, for his waiter is a joyous optimist, and a refreshing exponent of a Cockney type as amusing as it is lifelike. Mr. Humphries may be said to have "found himself" in the halls. He should remain there.

Mr. Wilson has an all-star programme. Mr. Mark Sheridan is at the top of his form, and keeps the house laughing at his well-timed gags. Mr. Wilkie Bard has done nothing better than his "I want to sing in opera," a number that shows musicianly qualities. The business introduced is in "the Bard's" best manner. A bright and interesting show is furnished by Lottie Bellman and Bay Russell, who make a welcome return in "Bits of Vaudeville," which includes a capital burlesque of *The Merry Widow* Waltz. A plantation melody sung in the style of the Southern negro is another feature, and Miss Bellman dresses with great taste. Versatility and vim are the distinguishing marks of this accomplished duo. Mr. Harry Lauder sings to a crowded house three of his old songs, his favourite, "I love a lassie" being quite an irresistible lilt. Miss Venie Clements is responsible for some clever sketches and anecdotes of children; Kitty Colyer is a dancer of remarkable agility and energy; Ernest Shand is as unctuous as ever in "We spent a most delightful evening"; and Rinaldo, who plays the fiddle with vigorous unrestraint, becomes quite a humorist with a composition of his own.

Miss Marie Lloyd, who vanquished London just a few years since when she "winked the other eye," is quite her vivacious self in "Do you like my style just a little bit?" She has also a number quite after her own heart in her comic description of the Cockney lady who ignored the blandishments of a pasha of many wives, and went straight home to Bill. Miss Addie Dorina's versatility and quick changes are agreeably apparent in her entertainment, "Dr. Spot's Patients"; Miss Ruth Lytton wears the kilts gracefully; and Phil Ray, having discovered that abbreviation is the soul of his wit, evokes a deal of laughter by lopping syllables. Ruffell's Bioscope presents some good pictures.

THE METROPOLITAN.

An interesting and scientific novelty in Mr. William Bailey's varied and attractive programme this week is the sailing over the auditorium of a fully rigged airship under wireless electric control. On Monday evening, at the first house, the demonstration was completely successful, the inventor, operating from the stage, having perfect command over the vessel, which gracefully sailed round the auditorium, rising, dipping, and turning at the will of the operator in marvellous fashion, especially when the limited space available is considered. Once or twice it appeared impossible for the airship to escape colliding with the balcony or electric light brackets, but it was always manœuvred to a nicety, and eventually gently glided safely into port on the stage, to the enthusiastic applause of the astonished audience. Certainly a wonderfully clever and novel exhibition.

Miss Clarice Mayne, the charming comedienne and mimic, demurely sings of a certain fascinating Nursie who had a most interesting patient in Percy. Of course, Percy nurses Nursie ere his convalescence is completed, and one can readily understand in the circumstance that his illness is of a lingering nature. Miss Mayne, looking very dainty in white, gives a capital rendering of the number, and receives valuable assistance from the gentleman at the piano—an unobtrusive comedian whose facial expression and funny asides greatly enhance the effect of the number. The popular and clever artist also gave another attractive number, and her reception at the conclusion was most gratifying. Miss Lottie Bellman, in "Bits of vaudeville," proves her undoubted versatility by her mimicry of a child, an imitation of a coon song as sung in the Southern States of American, a coster impersonation, and some clever dancing, particularly a "Merry Widow" waltz; and Mr. Ray Russell, who assists her, is also an accomplished dancer, the hard-working couple being loudly acclaimed for their smartly-worked interlude. W. Foot-Gers, the well-known French comedian, submitted some humorous and clever impersonations of Mr. Harry Fragson and Mr. G. H. Elliott, his Apache dance being especially droll; and Ajax and George, in their novel gymnastic act, contribute an exhibition of skill and strength that appeals to all parts of the house,

Back again after a short absence is Harry Champion, who has a rousing welcome. He rattles off three of his quick-fire songs, to the amusement of all. Maude Miller has a pretty number in "The Harvest Moon," which goes well, and Harry Lawson causes mirth with his cleverly-compiled medley song. An exhibition of dancing is given by Bertha Winder, who holds several medals to mark her accomplishments. She dances beautifully, and makes a big hit. Peter Birmingham, a clever Scotch comedian, scores with his funny stories and song, and our only regret is that in such a short turn he is hardly allowed to do justice to himself. Harry Pleon is always certain to raise laughter, but his present skit on a popular drama sends his audience into shrieks, for his continual flow of clever gags and witticisms are most diverting. The Brothers Horne are still playing *The Biter Bit* with all the old success. The Eight Frolics, a dashing set of young ladies, dance well and provide a bright turn. They deserve better material than they have at present.

A dramatic sketch played by Lois Du Cane and company is entitled *The Heathen and the Christian*, and it deals with the Boxer rising in China. It is beautifully staged, and Miss Du Cane acts with her accustomed skill and makes a big success in the part of the wife of the missionary. The Bioscope concludes.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

The usual large and delighted audience was present in this handsome hall on the night of our visit. Mr. James, the highly popular acting-manager, was in his accustomed place looking after the comfort of patrons. The fine orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Forbes Russell, gave a brilliant rendering of the overture to *The Bohemian Girl*, after which Barton and Ashley presented a diverting item, entitled *Adam the Second*, in which Mr. J. B. Barton as Adam consisting, among others, of Perseus and Andromeda, Three Graces, Ida and Swan, Una and the Lion, Harvest, Venus di Milo, and Hebe, in all of which she was warmly applauded. La Milo was assisted by Cruickshank's clever freehand pictures. The American Bioscope exhibited some interesting subjects, and the entire programme was thoroughly enjoyable. The stage is in the safe hands of Mr. Walter Smith, and Mr. Will Horsfield is assistant-acting-manager.

BATTERSEA PALACE.

Excellent is the entertainment usually provided at this popular and well-patronised hall, and this week's programme proves itself no exception to the rule. A sketch, set in a very pretty exterior and entitled *The Undesired*, written by Leonard Mortimer, is played by a capable company, who bring out the various points of the melodrametta to the full satisfaction of the audience. The story of a father's crime and the similar fault of his grown-up son, leading finally to the repentance of both, with the prospect of future happiness, is most interesting. Mr. Horace Denton enacts the part of the erring parent with much force; Mr. Osmond Reece as the guilty son obtains the proper contrast; Mr. Leonard Mortimer ably sustains the sympathetic part of the illegitimate brother; and Miss Aletha Vyse is a pretty little heroine, whose affections naturally incline to the despised and, as the programme describes him, "undesired" offspring of the baronet. Miss Katherine Clarke and Miss Ailsa Lorne suitably fill the remaining parts. The piece is received with much favour.

The Three O'Connors, a pretty trio of Irish colleens, give a delightful musical and singing act very much to the taste of the audience, one of the trio proving herself a vocalist of no little merit in a tuneful song. Jack Vann, described as a "Dutch comedy vocalist," is responsible for an imitation of Swiss jödel; a particularly graceful acrobatic bar act, in which the lady

CONTRACTS AND IMMEDIATE WORK

AT LIBERTY!

APPLY—

HARRY BURNS,

Walter House,

418, Strand,

London.

NEW OFFICES
OPPOSITE TIVOLI.

'Phone 1106 City.

Wire "BILLOTOPP."

Representative at this Office

Mr. CHARLIE CHAPMAN.

PROVINCIAL OFFICE—

WELBURN HOUSE, HARTLEPOOL.

'Phones 231 and 231A.

Wires, "Chosen."

and includes many feats which we have never before seen accomplished.

Kelly and Agnes present an amusing speciality turn in which the comedian of the duo employs numberless droll devices for the creation of mirth, and also dances and tumbles in a remarkable fashion. The lady excels as a dancer, and the happily-associated couple are responsible for an entertaining quarter-of-an-hour. Mr. Peter Kelly has a funny comic song in "That won't do," and his mock descriptive ballad is capitally rendered; and the humour of Mr. Phil Ray, the popular abbreviating comedian, is relished by the entire audience, who accord him a hearty welcome. Miss Josie Delaine, who is paying a return visit to the "Met." after only a few weeks' absence, sings her one song "Little Miss Importance" with much point and expression, and scores with her neat and attractive dance; Roma and Romani, classical musicians, play a number of instruments admirably, and are greatly appreciated; and Ber. Errol, a clever female impersonator; Lil Elfrida, comedienne; Miss Mary Mayfren's company in the thrilling and capitally acted sketch, *The Yellow Fang*; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope complete the alluring entertainment.

CAMDEN HIPPODROME.

As usual on visiting this fine hall, we found a good programme, and the courteous manager, Mr. Charles Beresford, surveying a full house. Mr. Harry Barford and his company are presenting that clever sketch, *Cottage or Palace*, which has made a great success, and the little drama—so delightfully told and well acted—is much appreciated. As Stephen Armitage Mr. Albert Ward finds a character which suits him admirably, and he embodies it with his accustomed skill. Miss Etta Delamere as the wife plays most sympathetically. Walker and Miss Annie Ashley as Anita (the girl who sees a man for the first time) won well-deserved applause. Lily Burnand, looking charming in her hobble dress, had a warm welcome; her songs, "I smile" and "I'm going to be a musical comedy star," were well sung and cleverly worked. Charles Vincent sang a capital medley, and was loudly applauded at the finish of his excellent turn. Johnny Walker was also a decided favourite, and sang an amusing song, entitled "I'm not such a josser as I look," supplemented by really funny patter and business.

Miss Maggie Neill and company appeared in a sketch, entitled *What Women do for Men*. The scene is laid in a cottage in Peruda, Sicily, and the story is prettily and cleverly told. Miss Maggie Neill is a charming Rose Drummond; Mr. Charles Cameron is an excellent General Jacquimint; Mr. George Buchanan is very good as Joseph Fenan; Mr. Frederick Hunter is a capital Giuseppe; and Mr. A. G. Jewell is well placed as the Soldier. The production was cordially received. Luis Alvarez, the Spanish tenor, sang very sweetly an operatic selection and "Violets," his efforts being enthusiastically applauded. The Three Laurels made a hit in a clever acrobatic turn, their work being exceptionally smart. Henry Coutts and Gwladys Soman appeared in *Outflanked*, a clever protean entertainment. Miss Soman, who played Kitty Benson, a barmaid, and a Red Cross nurse, sang "Star of my life" most effectively; while Mr. Henry Coutts appeared with equal success as Sergeant Tom Willoughby, Claude Duval, a Tramp with Aristocratic Ideas, Sandy Macpherson, Sarah Blobbs, Miss Birdie Gusher, and Britannia.

The bright particular star of the evening was La Milo, in an entirely new repertoire of poses, especially distinguishes herself, is given by Lavil and Bodie, who receive well-merited applause; the Brothers Devlin, the singing newsboys, with placards of evening papers strictly up to date, sing together excellently; and Jack Mavis is a singer and dancer of an energetic type.

Marie Jones, in her comedy *The Correspondence*, sustains no less than seven distinct characters, in each of which she is very clever, the rapidity of her changes being remarkable. She appears, firstly, as a wife, next as an office boy, and subsequently as a clergyman, a suffragette, a Chelsea pensioner, a society lady, and a housemaid. In all of these characters she gives excellent representations. Josephine Crook, with illustrated songs, quickly persuades the audience to join her in her choruses; Stan and Stella Atkins give an entertaining turn of song and dance; and the Palace Perfection Pictures conclude.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The programme, which is being presented here this week, has certainly been very well chosen. The top liner is Consul, the "almost man." He eats, drinks, smokes, rides a bicycle, besides doing many other things, and whilst on the stage he fairly holds the house. Additional interest is added to his performance by the fact that in Mr. Harold L. Hilliard he has a most capable showman, whose explanation and little humourisms are very appropriate.

That popular comedienne, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, is again visiting this hall and repeating her former triumphs. Her number, "None of them can sing a song like me," earns her deafening applause, and so great is the demand for an encore that she is forced to reappear. She then gives a humorous recitation, entitled "Forsaken," with suitable music by the orchestra, which, needless to say, causes boundless laughter. Seaner and Fridkin's Imperial Russian troupe of singers and dancers provide a most interesting turn. After singing a song in their own tongue, they are responsible for some wonderful dancing, the male members especially showing extraordinary ability in this art. One of the features of this item is the vivacity of the performers. Miss Mat Fayre sings tunefully a couple of songs, entitled "Mr. Man, Man, Man," and "It's all very well on paper"; and Frank Lindo gives some capital impersonations, including the late Sir Henry Irving and Wilson Barrett. The Three Dixons score heavily in a singing and dancing scena, their ability in the terpsichorean art fairly bringing down the house. Woodhouse and Wells are responsible for some smart crosstalk and patter, which has the additional charm of being original. They conclude with some clever dancing. Arthur Slater demonstrates his ability as a sifflеur, and Fred Neiman, with some ventriloquial minstrels, amuses all during his occupation of the stage.

The Bartholomew Girls are heard to advantage in "Quaint little girls" and "All the girls are after McAllister," the former number especially being much to the liking of the house. They bring their turn to a conclusion with some neat and dainty dancing. The Melroses—lady and gentleman—contribute some clever dancing, and the Five X-Rays prove themselves to be acrobats of no mean ability. Max Martini, who has the assistance of a very charming young lady (Miss Anna Gorney), is a decided success, their dancing especially being of a high order. One of the most popular items on the programme is Miss Ella Retford who sings "Mary, you don't come from Spain" and "By the light of the silvery moon." Kelly and Agnes are highly popular, and Ruffell's Bioscope is responsible for a series of entertaining films.

BOW PALACE.

Headed by such favourites as Coram and Miss Louisa Peach, this week's bill is more than usually attractive, a fact to which crowded houses at each performance bear ample testimony. Miss Louisa Peach and company present a powerful episode in *The Mystery*. In defending his wife's honour Eric Sutherland kills a fellow clubman. He seeks refuge in a secret passage of his old house, but sounds have been heard by an old servant, who imagines them to be caused by the clandestine visits of one of the female servant's friends. He imparts his discovery to Baron Rochford, and the hunted man is discovered. Lesbia, Eric's wife, pleads for her husband, but the Baron will only keep silence on condition that Lesbia becomes his mistress. Such a proposition is refused by the wife, who cheats the law by killing her husband, and then turning the knife upon herself. The sketch gained the immediate appreciation of the audience, Miss Louisa Peach as Lesbia furnishing a remarkable piece of dramatic acting. A very pleasing and natural sketch of the old servant, Jacques, was given by Mr. Charles Daly; and Mr. Edwin Lesterre and Mr. E. H. Dobell gave able support.

Coram, as a ventriloquist, is widely popular, the rapidity of his "cross-talk," the humorous dialogue, his ready wit, the well-controlled voice, all tending to mark his performance an exceptionally clever one. He was in particularly fine form on the evening of our visit. Tom Lee has the advantage of a good style. Both of his songs, "Seaside swank" and "It's no use taking a girl there," have tuneful airs, in addition to being cleverly written. Elsie and Bob are seen to advantage in difficult feats of head and hand balancing. The Five St. Clairs present a pot-pourri of singing and dancing in excellent fashion. The song "Hello!" given by the pianist of the troupe, has a rollicking chorus, whilst two cleverly-written numbers, in "Someone to love and cheer you" and "In the silvery moonlight," gain much in the rendition.

Thomas Barrasford's Nine Minstrel Boys work hard and appear to thoroughly enjoy it. A solo step dance given by a member of the troupe gains much applause, as also does a laughing song and "Only a flower by the wayside," the latter of which is well rendered by a youngster with a high soprano voice. Dollie and Rosie are a cheery couple, and infuse plenty of life into their dancing, which earns for them well-merited applause. The lengthy bill also includes Lincoln Taylor, comedian; Jack Lumley, comedian; and Valmour Shain and company in *The Bank Clerk's Temptation*. Mr. Gordon Harman, happy at being so busy, continues to attend to the managerial duties with his accustomed courtesy and tact.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Since the present management assumed control of the Crouch End Hippodrome this cosy little theatre has lost none of its local popularity. Full and appreciative houses are the rule. Striking testimony to the success of the existing *régime* was given the other evening on the occasion of the first anniversary performance, when there was a large attendance of friends of Mr. Frederick Phelps, the resident manager. The entertainment this week is up to the usual high standard of excellence, and on Tuesday evening an enthusiastic audience showed its appreciation of the good "fare" provided in no unmistakable manner. Lovers of the Terpsichorean art find agreeable diversion in the mazy gyrations of La Valti and her group of lady dancers. With the aid of the cinematograph, they gave a realistic representation of sea-bathing, the foaming billows in the pictures making a very effective background for the dancers. No less pleasing is the exhibition of fire-dancing, produced by limelight effects. Another group of dancers who have been appearing this week are the Damascus Girls. Their turn is most attractive, and combines both singing and dancing. Those in search of sensation find plenty in the racing sketch produced by Edward Cranston and company, entitled *Terry; or, True to His Trust*. The story is replete from beginning to end with exciting episodes, and deals with the unscrupulous efforts of a villainous Major to dispose of "the favourite" by foul means.

Another sketch, having all the attractive qualities of the detective story, is that produced by Carlotta de Yonson and company, entitled *The Case of the Red Triangle*, the plot of which is founded upon the adventures of Sexton Blake. It is well acted, and has proved one of the main attractions of the week. Marie Kendall has proved a great favourite. Not the least amusing of her various impersonations is that in which the 'Oliday 'Arriet, in all her finery, is portrayed with singular realism. Some good singing is provided by Mina Greene. A vocalist of winsome manner, she speedily wins the hearts of her audience, and in the song "Cingalee" her voice is heard to great advantage. Arnold and Baxter, capital vocalists, are responsible for another agreeable turn, in which they sing of the charms of gipsy life. Agnes Aldra, Dolly Denton, and Ella Lyons, together with Steve McCarthy and Tom Isherwood, help to swell the list of the current week's attractions, and a number of animated pictures are also comprised in the programme. The two-houses-a-night system is found to work well, and there is no likelihood of the present policy being departed from.

The Railway Guards' Universal Friendly Society will give a concert on Wednesday evening next at the Crystal Palace, in aid of the Widows and Orphans of Permanently Disabled Members Fund of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway. Many popular artists have promised to appear, including Miss Alice Matterway, Miss Carrie Herwin, Mr. Samuel Masters, Mr. Randell Jackson, Miss Nina Gordon (at the piano), Mr. Will Edwards, Mr. Fred Hastings, and Mr. Bertram Banks. The Crystal Palace Military Band will play, under the conductorship of Herbert Godfrey.

FALL IN, ROOKIES!

A Play, in Two Scenes, by Henry Arthur Jones. Produced at the Alhambra, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Nat Drake .....Mr. Farren Soutar
Mrs. Drake .....Miss Mabel Knowles
Sergeant Higlett .....Mr. Walner Gregory
Alfy Jennings .....Mr. R. Vallis
Cherry Gedge .....Mrs. Leslie Faber

Lord Roberts, who was present in a private box at the Alhambra on Monday evening, must have been gratified at the practical illustration of his theory that universal military training for the Britisher is in the best interests of the Empire. To quote the words of Lord Tennyson, if we are to have "men with strength and will to right the wrong'd, of power to lay the sudden heads of violence flat," then the males of the Empire must be drilled from early youth and taught to bear arms and to use them. The practical value of the famous field-marshal's pleadings is expounded dramatically by no less a playwright than Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, who, in his latest production, *Fall in, Rookies!* has written what may be called a *pièce de circonstance* with considerable skill.

The lesson taught by the dramatist is tersely summed up in the vigorous speech of Nat Drake, Mr. Jones's hero, on his return from the Boer war: "I've seen a bit of fighting, and I don't want to see any more. Them as knows what war is don't go about jingoing and blustering to bring it on! No! It ain't the fighting, it's the regular drill and discipline as our youngsters want. Three years ago I was a lazy, loafing, drunken, good-for-nothing, and I should have ended up in the work'us or in a ditch, or God knows where! But I took to soldiering, and there's this about soldiering: it either makes a man or it breaks him. And them as it breaks, they was good for nothing but to be broke. And them, as it makes, it makes men of 'em for all their life."

"The Drakes were never any good, and you Nat Drake are as bad as the rest of 'em." This is the opinion of the poor old mother of her son, who in the first scene of *Fall in, Rookies!* is the drunken, ne'er-do-well of the village. He is found outside the Duke of Wellington public-house at Aldchester in colloquy with a recruiting sergeant. He has been impressed, in his sober moments by the charm and domestic virtues of Cherry Gedge, the innkeeper's daughter, and now in his state of alcoholism insists on kissing her. After a deal of persuasion she induces a mean-spirited weakling to take up her cause, with the result that he soon gets the worst of it, being thrown into the nearest horse-pond by Nat, who enlists. The second scene shows Nat's return from the Boer war, with a medal. Cherry is, of course, his, and the mother is happy once more. Nat, we should add, has no patience with the Little Englander, who, in the person of a sanctimonious parson, presents him with a petition against the fostering of the military spirit in England. Tearing the paper up, Nat throws the pieces in the holy man's face.

The incidental march past of a company of soldiers with fife and drum band makes for spectacular effect, and the conversations are well in keeping with the characters of the little piece, which has its streak of boisterous humour well brought out by Mr. Farren Soutar as the village wastrel. But there is plenty of sentiment for Nat Drake, and when he falls to thinking over his mother's warning, the actor makes his speech quite impressive. Mrs. Leslie Faber as the village lass Cherry, who is kissed against her will, looks engaging and pretty, even when losing her temper, as she very naturally does. Mr. Walner Gregory, who has produced the piece so well, is quite the smart, military man as the recruiting sergeant, and Miss Mabel Knowles cuts quite a pathetic figure as Mrs. Drake, and the old woman's plaint is admirably delivered. Mr. R. Vallis as the timorous but talkative Alfy Jennings makes the character as contemptible as the author intended. There was a great reception for the little piece on Monday night, but the author did not appear.

SEEING LONDON.

By Tom Craven.

I am a countryman by birth. Some people call me lots of other things. I have spent most of my life in a tiny, little island, not far from Weymouth. It's a busy little place, that island. Nobody can be idle. Hard labour is the order of the day. I had led such a busy, hard-working life that I'd never had time to see London. I did once visit the Old Bailey, but I drove to and fro in a closed carriage, had a friendly chat with one judge, a few barristers, and a dozen evilly-disposed citizens of London, and I really had no time for gadding about. However, when I left Portland—I mean Weymouth—I let my hair grow, because I have always had an artistic temperament. My affairs were slightly involved, and I was at my wits' end how to secure the necessary filthy lucre to aid me in my passionate desire to see London. I am ever of an exceedingly resourceful turn of mind, so I borrowed from a comrade a small article of virtue known to aristocrats of my profession as a knuckleduster. Ornamented by this I interviewed a wealthy and bejewelled gentleman in a quiet country lane, and in the politest possible old-time manner persuaded him to bestow upon me certain rings, scarf-pins, and pencil-cases, which realised for me, after considerable discussion, a paltry sum of ready money not exceeding fifty pounds. Then I sought an old and valued friend, who had always led me to believe he knew London backwards. But when I put him to the test his knowledge of the great Metropolis was purely suburban. His bump of locality did not seem to go beyond Brixton, Bow-street, and Holloway. However, for a certain consideration he generously offered to show me over London, and as he seemed fairly well acquainted with inns, ancient and modern, we didn't have half a bad time. He showed me Scotland Yard in the distance, and, by aid of a pair of field-glasses, I recognised several old acquaintances passing in and out. He next took me to view a large building east of Ludgate-hill. This, he informed me, was the Tower of London, but I have since learned that it was, in reality, St. Paul's Cathedral. Our next visit took us to the Surrey side of the Thames. He pointed out a high chimney with the words L I P T O N in electrically illuminated letters displayed up its side. This chimney he informed me was Cleopatra's Needle. He then introduced me to the Bank of England, but this turned out to be the Westminster Swimming Bath. Buckingham Palace came next on our round, but here again my gentle guide got slightly mixed—it wasn't the King's residence at all, it was the Hammersmith Workhouse. The Hotel Cecil turned out to be the "Angel" at Islington, the Army and Navy Stores the Bon Marché at Brixton, Kensington Gardens eventually revealed itself as Kennington Park, and the Elephant and Castle Theatre as Drury Lane. The *Times* newspaper office he glibly relegated to the editor of the *Winning Post*, and a Punch and Judy performance he emphatically declared to be the White City. The Gladstone memorial turned out to be a bust of the late Dan Leno, and Spurgeon's Tabernacle Westminster Abbey. It was altogether an uninstructive, vexing way of seeing London, but it had its advantages. I picked up during our peregrinations several valuable pieces of jewellery, which have placed me on a financial footing to seek rest in some country where extradition warrants are of no avail.

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues. Published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

BERT FELDMAN CHATS ABOUT PANTOMIME SONGS.

In his palatial premises in Arthur-street the genial Bert Feldman is literally "up to his eyes" in business connected with *The Chocolate Soldier*, the sole English selling rights of the music having being acquired by his firm.

"Pantomime?" rejoined Mr. Feldman, with twinkling eyes, in response to a pertinent query. "Yes; I think I may with safety assert that I possess the strongest hand of ready-made successes for this year's forthcoming annuals that I have had during my career as a publisher of popular songs. First and foremost, of course, comes that really exquisite ballad 'Beautiful garden of roses,' originally produced in this country at the London Pavilion by that fine tenor vocalist Mr. Arthur Aldridge with a success that has been duplicated at every hall where he has since sung it.

"One of the greatest successes ever scored with a ballad in the annals of Douglas, Isle of Man, fell to the lot of Miss Florrie Forde, when she sang 'Beautiful garden of roses' this year at Derby Castle. The mellifluous strains of this irresistible song were a day or two later to be heard in every corner of the island, on the lips of "trippers" and natives alike. I feel the utmost confidence in predicting that managers throughout the kingdom will avail themselves of the opportunity of featuring this number in pantomime, as it is certain to equal, if not to transcend, last year's greatest winner, 'Somewhere,' also supplied by my firm. Many managers are having special rose-garden scenes painted, with a view to giving this song an appropriate setting.

"A particularly brilliant number, conceived in quite a new vein of comedy and with a lilting chorus that is certain to carry far, is 'Mister Pat O'Hare,' which that clever vocal comedian Mr. George Lashwood has made so important a feature of his répertoire all round the Stoll Tour. This number should certainly be in very great demand among singers who like a bright, stirring number, full of action and vim.

"This year we have one of the finest 'moon' songs that have ever been penned in our big winner 'By the light of the silvery moon,' which dainty

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. BERT FELDMAN.

Miss Ella Retford is nightly singing at the Oxford and her other London 'turns' with phenomenal success. Pantomime producers and performers might with advantage pay the Oxford a visit one night and hear Miss Retford's delightful rendering of this charming song.

"Last year, as you will remember, we were able to offer a great pantomime winner in Mr. Mark Sheridan's 'I do like to be beside the seaside.' This year, I am pleased to be in a position to state that we have another great 'seaside' number, from the same pen, also being sung by Mr. Sheridan, entitled 'By the sea,' which bids fair to outrival its predecessor in pantomime popularity.

"Yet another instance in which history repeats itself. Last year pantomime artists showed remarkable unanimity in singing our famous Irish song 'Molly O'Morgan.' This year we are offering a new Irish chorus number that bids fair to eclipse the popularity of our last year's number, entitled 'Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town.' This captivating Hibernian ditty will shortly be exploited in the West End, and the best judges confidently prophesy that it will prove a success.

"Miss Mabel Green just now is making a very great hit at the Tivoli and her other engagements with our dainty new number 'In the sunny Engadine'; while the Romps, at the London Pavilion, nightly bring the house down with that dashing chorus number of ours, 'Oh, boys, I've seen you there!' which has already been booked by so many managers and performers for pantomime. In addition to those already referred to, Miss Ada Reeve's beautiful song of sentiment, so popular all round the Stoll Tour, 'Nobody knows, nobody cares'—one of the finest songs that ever emanated from the author of 'Somewhere'—is certain to be extensively used for pantomime purposes.

"Another special favourite will be Miss Gertie Gitana's greatest success, that beautiful pastoral idyll, 'You were coming through the corn, Molly dear.' The staging possibilities of this song speak for themselves, and the chorus is certain to be picked up with avidity by pantomime first-nighters all over the country.

"That dainty story of the loves of a little French laundress and an amorous tourist, 'Marie Louise,' which Miss Venie Clements has sung in the West End with such pronounced success, teeming as it does with opportunities for local colour and costuming of a picturesque and appropriate character, should prove a most decided pantomime hit; while 'Little Miss Importance,' from the same pens that gave us last year's enormous pantomime success, 'Pretty little girl from Nowhere,' already finds a host of professional admirers. A particularly happy 'locality' song is 'Take me back to Yorkshire,' which is certain to have a big pantomime vogue in the North, and 'Silver Bell' is an 'Out West' number which certainly should enjoy no less popularity than our famous song 'Redwing' did a couple of years ago.

"Then, again, for comedians, we have such great songs as George Formby's 'Playing the game in the West,' Jack Pleasants' latest 'riot,' 'Liza had hold of my hand,' Jack Smiles's 'Fish sauce,' and many others of like excellence. In addition to those already referred to may be mentioned such tried and proven successes as Joe O'Gorman's 'Any little girl that's a nice little girl,' 'Mary, you're a big girl now,' 'It's just like being at home,' 'I'd rather be by the fireside' (Fred Barnes's big hit), 'Santa Fe,' 'I wonder who's kissing her now?' (Miss Lilian Herlein's song craze), 'I'll make a ring around Rosie,' and others.

The Donaldson Brothers have just been engaged by the Brothers Melville to produce their zoological comedy at the Lyceum Theatre next Christmas.

"A BLACK MARK."

Farcical Comedietta, Produced at the Kilburn Empire, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Colonel Talbot .....Mr. Percy Francis
Captain Charles Talbot ....Mr. Charles Esdale
Miss Dora Talbot .....Miss Decima Moore

The plot of the above playlet, produced for the first time here on Monday, is very slight, but the idea is a humorous one, and serves to make a half-hour pass pleasantly. Colonel Talbot's ward, Dora, is in love with his nephew, Captain Charles Talbot, who is returning from service abroad. Under Dora's persuasion the uncle consents to her marriage within a week, if she will refrain from kissing Charles during that time. The conditions are very, very harsh, but she agrees. But how is the Colonel to know that the conditions are being adhered to? A good idea, he will mark Dora's face with black paint across the lips, so that if she kisses Charles the mark will be partly obliterated. Dora accordingly shuts her eyes, and the uncle pretends to draw the stick of paint across her mouth. Charles next appears, and in spite of his sweetheart's protestations he kisses her. She informs him what her uncle has done, and the two guilty ones proceed to restore the mark, the face being this time painted in reality. They kiss again, and of course both their faces are now marked, with the consequence that the Colonel discovers what they have been doing. However, Charles and Dora soon bring him round to their way of thinking, and he consents to the wedding shortly taking place.

As we have said, the sketch is slight, but causes plenty of laughter. Miss Decima Moore's acting as Dora was both piquant and charming, and she is to be congratulated on a successful appearance. Able support was given by Mr. Percy Francis as Colonel Talbot, and Mr. Charles Esdale as Captain Charles Talbot.

The remaining portion of the bill at the Kilburn Empire is a very varied one, and crowded houses have been the rule. Unfortunately, on Monday evening the popular comedian, Mr. George Robey, was indisposed and unable to appear, causing grievous disappointment to his numerous admirers. The Gotham Quartette made a welcome deputy and caused much merriment by their quaint antics. Ling and Long (the latter a very lengthy comedian) gave a bright performance with the Indian clubs, the lady, we presume, singing most pleasantly; Miss Daisy Morell is an excellent coon singer, not disdaining to open her mouth wide, to give full expression to the nigger peculiarities in that direction, and incidentally showing a good set of teeth. The Violet Shelley Trio, in *The Idea Woman*, are extremely good. The wife, newly married, overhears her author-husband repeating his opinion for a magazine publication of what his ideal woman is. As she possesses none of the qualities described, she at once makes things warm, with the result that her husband eventually confesses that his opinion was only for publication.

An exceedingly interesting turn is the Venetians, consisting of living representations of famous statuary and paintings, and singing by well-trained vocalists. The two songs contributed by Mr. Ernest Shand are very welcome and amusing being "Send for me" and "A most delightful evening." Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, in their bicycle act, is one that can be seen over and over again, so clever is it. Miss Dora Lyric's singing of "Give us a grip of your hand," with its swinging chorus, is much applauded, and the Sisters Storm indulge in some sprightly dancing.

A performance of great delight is D'Arc's wonderful marionettes presenting representations of all the stars, most excellently realised. The Scotch fisher girl, Bessie Mackenzie, sings "Loch Lomond" in fine style. The excellent orchestra so ably controlled by Mr. H. Sheldon, is a great feature at the Empire, and Mr. C. Foster Marner, at the head of affairs, is the right man.

PRESTON'S NEW EMPIRE LICENCE.

There was a large attendance of Justices at a special licensing sessions held at the Police Court Preston, on Wednesday, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wm. P. Park, when Mr. J. Parker made application for a licence for the performance of stage plays for the new Empire Theatre, Church-street.

Mr. Smith intimated that he opposed on behalf of the police, Mr. Oakey objected on behalf of the Prince's Theatre, Preston, Mr. Blackhurst offered opposition on behalf of the Theatre Royal, Preston, and Mr. P. H. Edelston also opposed.

Mr. Parker, in outlining the application, said that on May 13, 1907, notice was served of a similar application with regard to a theatre then to be built. Application was duly made on May 29 for a similar licence, and though, by law, he was not really entitled to make it, it enabled him to come before the Bench, and in that way to present plans which were referred to a sub-committee.

The magistrates would recall that at an earlier period an application had been made respecting the rebuilding of the Fleece Inn, which was in fact part of the theatre buildings, although there were no internal communication. However, the Fleece Inn appeared on the plan referred to, and when the theatre plans were before the Bench there were also shown upon them a beer cellar and four saloons—one each for the pit, stalls, dress circle, and gallery, with a lift communicating from the beer cellar to the various saloons. The obvious inference to be drawn from the fact that a beer cellar had been provided was that it was the intention to sell intoxicating liquor.

He did not think there could possibly be any misunderstanding as to the reason for which it was put in that place. The building itself was a very large one, and it was estimated that the provision which was being made for the sale of intoxicating liquor had cost at least from £3,000 to £4,000—a fact which he asked the Court to bear in mind.

The Chairman: You have not told us on whose behalf you appear.

Mr. Parker: The applicant is Edwin Bush, who is the architect for the building. I may say that negotiations have been entered into for the sale of the whole block of buildings, Theatre Hotel and Fleece Inn, but unless this licence is granted there is an end of those negotiations. I cannot say more than that, but that is the present position. My application, therefore, is that this licence be granted unfettered, and without any restriction in regard to the sale of intoxicating liquors in the theatre.

Mr. Edwin Bush, architect, said the theatre had been built in accordance with the plans, and suggestions made from time to time by the committee had been carried out. Certain conditions required by the committee were considered and explained by witness, and suggestions made by the Chief Constable as to precautions against fire were agreed to or left to the committee.

Witness said that many of the modern buildings of the Moss' Empires, on the two-houses-a-night principle, held full dramatic licences. A local instance of such a licence was the Blackburn Palace. They were a great convenience and attraction to the house. Without a licence they would need men at all the doors to give pass-out checks. They could not compel people to stop in, and unless they could come back they would not come again. He had attended many meetings of the committee, and no objection had ever been made to the provision made for saloons.

After hearing counsel the Bench retired to consider their decision. On returning, the Chairman said:—"After carefully considering this important case, the Bench has overruled the technical objection raised, and we grant the full dramatic licence, subject to the usual rules and regulations."

DEATH OF FLORA BLAKE.

Members of the profession at home and abroad will learn with the sincerest regret of the death of Flora Blake (Mrs. Harry Blake), who, with her husband, became widely known as the Two Bees. Mrs. Blake retired from the stage nearly three years ago owing to failing health, and passed away on Tuesday last after much suffering, death being due to chronic gastritis and syncope. Added pathos is given to Mrs. Blake's demise by the fact that in December next the couple would have celebrated their silver wedding.

Born at Weybridge, Surrey, Flora Blake was reared in America. Her professional career was of course bound up with that of her husband, and her success was his. They were married in 1886 at a very early age, and started entertaining in the States under the style and title of the Two Bees—a name which Mr. Blake had the precaution to have registered. Mrs. Blake in those days made a speciality of "waif" parts, and was a capital Oliver Twist. She was also a fine Sam Willoughby, and it was the custom of managers in the older vaudeville houses in the States to engage Mr. and Mrs. Blake for their duets for one week in order that they might prepare for the following week's drama, which usually concluded the programme.

The Two Bees came to England sixteen years ago, and immediately secured popularity with comedy duets, humorously satirising topics of the day and harmonising at intervals. One of their chief successes was the singing contest in which the audience was invited to act as judges, Mrs. Blake rendering a sentimental verse, and her partner coming in with an apt parody. Mrs. Blake had a deep contralto voice with a remarkable range, and if one shut one's eyes it was difficult to tell whether it was a man or a woman who was singing. She was the first to popularise the much-tried "Sweet Marie" in this country, and a favourite song of hers, as well as of the public, was "Who'll buy my toys?" which had a taking refrain, and included the distribution of toys among the audience. Another effective number was "Just tell them that you

[*Photo by Webber.*

THE LATE MRS. HARRY BLAKE.

saw me," which Mr. Blake parodied in his usual cheery style, and so fond of the item was one well-known manager that he used to give the couple twelve dates at a time on the express condition that the selection was included in the turn.

In 1896 a visit was paid to South Africa, with the most gratifying results, and a year later saw the clever pair back again in London, renewing their old successes. In 1903 they returned to America for the purposes of health, and here Mr. Blake obtained the sole singing rights of Great Britain and Ireland of *Hiawatha*, a musical setting of Longfellow's poem, which he brought to England and produced at the New Cross Empire, with himself as the intrepid brave and his wife as Minnehaha. Later came the sequel, *Hiawatha Wedded*, with Mrs. Blake as an Indian squaw. Both scenas were prettily mounted, the effects being very picturesque. The last scene in which the lamented artist figured was that of *The Man in the Moon*, a serio-comic episode, which on his wife's retirement Mr. Blake worked as a single turn. He is now winning success as a patter comedian.

Mr. Blake is anxious to express his deep gratitude to Mrs. Winstone, the mother of Miss Ruby Dahl, and to Mrs. Heath mother of the once famous danseuse, Ida Heath, who attended with the utmost devotion during the last days and nights of Mrs. Blake's illness. The funeral will take place at the Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, on Monday, the cortège leaving the deceased's residence, 50, Grove-road, Clapham Park, at 1.15 and reaching the cemetery at two o'clock. The societies associated with the variety profession will be well represented, including the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, in which Mrs. Blake took a keen, though, unhappily, not an active, interest, the Water Rats, the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, the Variety Artists' Federation, and other institutions in which Mr. Blake is so hard and consistent a worker. We add our sincere condolences to those of the profession at large on Mr. Blake's severe bereavement.

MASONS AT WORK.

The closing meeting of the Chelsea Lodge 3098, held at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on the 21st inst., was marked by a very large attendance of members. The W.M., Mr. Harry Bawn, was supported by Mr. W. H. Hitch, I.P.M., Mr. W. F. K. Walton, S.W., Geo. Dyball, J.W., Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R., A.G.P., Treasurer, C. J. Doughty, Secretary, Frank Hardie, acting S.D., E. T. R. Lester, J.D., A. E. Nicklen, I.G., Angelo Asher, organist, G. H. Hill, Albert Felino, Stewards, and J. H. McNaughton, Tyler. The W.M. having advanced Messrs. Seims, Amandus, Coram, and Tom Finglass, vacated the chair in favour of Mr. W. H. Hitch, who completed the full ceremony with Mr. Harry Clifford. Mr. Gus Sellers was elected as a joining member. A letter was read from Mr. L. G. Sharpe, in which he stated that, owing to engagements abroad, he was reluctantly compelled to resign his office as S.D., upon which it was proposed and unanimously carried that he should hold the same position upon his return. Amongst the members present were Messrs. Douglas White, Bertie Ralland, Fred Neiman, Fred Camp, Willie Benn, Amandus, Harry Clifford, Bert Marsden, John Grant Siems, C. H. Burton, T. S. Burnetti, W. J. Mackay, Tom Finglass, Ernest Dillon, Ed. E. Ford, Andie Caine, Gus Le Clerq, Coram, &c.; and as visitors Messrs. Frank Kelly, Vincent Adams, Sidney Doolcy, Leo Sterling, Fred Wildon, C. D. Carlisle, C. A. Carlile, Harry Claff, and W. O'Connor. At the conclusion of the business the members and visitors adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel for refreshments.

KINGSTON EMPIRE OPENED.

This new place of entertainment in Kingston-on-Thames, which has been erected in a central position, near the railway station, and is one of the most up-to-date halls in the neighbourhood of London, opened its doors to the public on Monday, and judging by the way the people of the riverside town flocked to it during the week, it promises to have a most successful future.

So great was the crush that the police had to be requisitioned to regulate the traffic. It was a compliment to the enterprise of Mr. Clarence Sounes, the proprietor, who has spent many days and nights in superintending the details of the building. Many well-known residents of the ancient and royal borough were present, and amongst them was Alderman Dr. W. E. St. Lawrence Finny, J.P., a former Mayor, who attended in the place of the Mayor (Councillor G. Huckle), and in the course of the evening referred to Mr. Sounes' enterprize in providing for Kingstonians such a well-equipped place of amusement, which, he said, was deserving of the utmost success. Dr. Finny said he was assured that the entertainments to be provided at the Kingston Empire would always be of an inoffensive character, so that husbands could bring their wives and families to see them without the slightest hesitation.

Dr. Finny then introduced to the audience Mr. Sounes, who on coming forward was accorded a most cordial reception. Mr. Sounes appropriately expressed his thanks for the reception accorded to him, and in the course of a few remarks, which were loudly applauded, he said, though he was a stranger to Kingston, he hoped soon to make many friends in the ancient borough, and to see them again and again. When Mr. Sounes had finished speaking three rousing cheers were given for him at the instigation of the ex-Mayor, and the big audience then settled down to the enjoyment of the capital list of turns provided.

The chief item in the programme—and it was a most attractive one all through—was the performance of Raymond, the wonder-worker, who was a revelation to the people of Kingston. Mr. Raymond's posters had led them to expect great things, and they were not disappointed. The new Kingston Empire is at present giving a variety entertainment twice nightly. Mr. Raymond not only appears at both, but gives two shows at each, and each of these lasts over twenty minutes. There were many old people in the audience on Monday night who honestly believed there was something uncanny about this wonderful man. To mention only a few items in his programme, Mr. Raymond takes an ordinary moth-catching net, and swinging it about the stage catches a live pigeon every time. He places a small wooden scout boy doll in a small box, draws a curtain round it for only a few seconds, and when the box is opened a live scout boy of twenty years of age is disclosed. He fills three tankards with confetti, which by some mysterious means turn into hot coffee, milk, and sugar, and a cup of steaming liquor is suddenly transformed into the confetti again.

Not the least important section of Mr. Raymond's interesting performance was entitled "Noah's Ark," a large empty box, the sides of which were all opened and tested. Out of this he brought forth, one by one, about twenty live pigeons, a dog, several cats, one or two rabbits, a parrot, about a dozen large geese, a monkey, and a goat, until the stage looked like a farmyard or a small zoological gardens, and when the sides were lifted again, three human beings stepped forth. But the greatest feat of all, the one which is said to have puzzled Edison, was one in which a young lady is handcuffed in a sack and locked and roped in a box. This is placed behind a screen for only a few seconds, and almost in the twinkling of an eye the young lady steps forth free from her tramme's, and when the box is opened, Raymond, who was standing beside it free only a moment before, is found tied up in the sack, handcuffed, and wearing a coat the young lady had worn. Mr. Raymond was vociferously applauded at each of his performances. The remainder of the programme comprised songs by Little Sunbeam ("Marie Lloyd in miniature"), Tom Clare, the pianist and vocalist; Ryde and Beeman, two funny acrobatic comedians; Luella Cross, an American vocalist and comedienne; Joan Deering, speciality vocalist and violinist; Miss Dorothy Ward, a musical comedy artist; the Comedy Meisters; and Mr. Arthur Gill, the original yokel with many voices. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope was shown at each performance, and the programme was enhanced by the fine music discoused by a full band, under the direction of Mr. A. W. Ketelbey. Mr. Sounes' acting-manager is Mr. F. E. Thorne.

THE TERRIERS' ASSOCIATION.

A special general meeting of the Terriers' Association was held at the Three Stags Hotel on Sunday last, the President, Terrier Griff, in the chair. The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the valuer's report of the first quinquennial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Association. Owing to the great progress made by the Association during the past year, and the consequent increase in its prospective liabilities, it was deemed necessary to review the financial position.

Terrier Ted E. Box submitted the following proposals, which were passed for the consideration of the committee, with a view to their being brought before the members at the next special general meeting:

1. On and after Jan. 1, 1911, the entrance fee to be raised from £2 2s. to £3 3s. for active members, and 10s. 6d. to £1 1s. in the case of honorary members. The annual subscription for new honorary members to be £1 1s.
2. To reduce the age limit of active members at admission: First benefits, from 40 years of age to 35; second benefits, from 45 years of age to 40.
3. To inflict a fine of one shilling a month, or portion of a month, upon active members who are over thirteen weeks in arrears with their subscriptions, to commence upon the first day of the fourteenth week.
4. To instruct the Medical Officer of the Association, to make a stricter examination of candidates for membership, and upon lines usually adopted by life insurance companies.
5. A fine of 2s. 6d. to be inflicted upon honorary members whose subscription is over six months in arrear.
6. Abolition of special grants from the Benefit Fund.

These proposals will be considered by the committee at the earliest opportunity. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Terrier Ted E. Box for bringing them before the meeting.

At the ordinary meeting that followed, Terrier Bert Marsden acted as W.D. and Terrier Syd Walker as Y.B. A hearty welcome was accorded to the President, Terrier Griff, and his health toasted with musical honours.

Terriers Harry Barnard, Fred Neiman, Jack Harris, George Cooper, G. Skipper, T. Burnetti, Julian Mack, Russell Brandow, Jock Miller, E. Gibbs, H. Cee Mee, S. W. Wyndham, Fred Hughes, and Ernest A. Stebbing were also welcomed upon their reappearance in the kennel.

Terrier Parend Jansen is requested to communicate with the Secretary. A letter of great importance is awaiting him.

Houdini paid a visit to the Music Hall Home on Monday, and found the old boys happy and comfortable. They desire to thank him for his kindness in presenting them each with tobacco.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT).

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR NOVEMBER.

ENGLAND.

1. Coalville (15,280)
1. Coventry (68,877)
1. Poole (19,461)
2. Rotherham (54,000)
2. South Shields (97,300)
2. Swaffham (3,400)
3. Pontefract (13,400)
4. Mansfield (Statutes) (21,411)
4. Runcorn (16,500)
5. Aford (2,500)
5. Ainwick (6,700)
5. Barwick Feast
5. Beverley (14,185)
5. Cartmel (754)
5. Clipstone (546)
5. Halifax (104,938)
5. Mansfield (Woodhouse) (2,824)
5. Morpeth (6,200)
5. Portland (15,300)
5. Rowsley (700)
5. Scarcliffe (2,525)
5. Skegby (3,987)
7. Eastwood (4,815)
7. Heckmondwike (9,459)
7. Kirkby Stephen (2,495)
7. Plymouth (107,509)
8. Biggleswade (5,129)
8. Guisborough (5,645)
8. Leeds (428,953)
9. Biddenden (1,300)
9. Chesham (7,245)
9. Portsmouth (189,160)
9. South Shields (97,300)
9. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
10. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
10. Hucknall (15,256)
10. Lancaster (40,300)
10. Loughborough (21,500)
10. Stamfordham (900)
10. Wakefield (41,514)
10. Wetherby (2,212)
11. Askam-in-Furness (4,500)
11. Brackley (2,467)
11. Carlisle (45,478)
11. Easingwold (1,945)
11. Millom (10,400)
12. Bishop Auckland (11,956)
12. Bulwell (14,707)
12. Chelmsford (12,389)
12. Cockermouth (5,256)
12. Egremont (Cumb.) (5,761)
12. Epping (2,722)
12. Glapwell (89)
12. Kendal (14,200)
12. Keswick (4,500)
12. Maryport (11,896)
14. Bakewell (2,850)
14. Brampton (2,617)
15. Penrith (9,200)
15. Warkworth (1,100)
16. St. Columb (6,846)
17. Andover (6,500)
17. Ulverston (10,064)
17. Yeovil (9,838)
19. Rugby (16,830)
19. Shaftesbury (2,027)
21. Pickering (3,500)
22. Darlington (44,500)
22. Dover (41,783)
22. Fakenham (2,912)
22. Guildford (15,934)
22. Martin Town (900)
23. Crowle (2,749)
23. Newark (14,984)
23. Richmond (Yorks.) (3,836)
23. Ripon (8,200)
23. York (77,793)
25. Chesterfield (27,185)
26. Hartlepool (22,809)
26. St. Ives (Cornwall) (6,697)
26. York (77,793)
30. Frome (11,055)
30. Ilminster (2,287)
30. Ludford (714)
30. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
30. Milborne St. Andrews (1,000)

SCOTLAND.

1. Alyth (3,000)
1. Jedburgh (2,222)
16. Govan (111,000)
23. Langholm (3,975)
25. Inverness (21,193)

WALES.

1. Brecon (6,111)
2. Talgarth (1,446)
5. Llangefeloch
10. Penmorfa (1,486)
11. Aberdare (43,358)
14. Aberystwith (8,613)
15. Llandovery (1,869)
21. Aberystwith (8,613)
26. Mountain Ash (17,000)
28. Aberystwith (8,613)

Showman as Hospital Governor.

"Captain" Rowland, the proprietor of a travelling "Empire" and Bioscope entertainment, is to be made a life governor of the Yeatman Hospital, at Sherborne, in recognition of the financial assistance which he has rendered to the institution for several years by means of his "benefit nights." Visiting Sherborne each year on the occasion of the annual "Pack Monday" Fair, which lasts a week, it has been his practice to devote the proceeds of his show for one night to the hospital. Previous to this year's fair £95 had been received by the hospital through his agency, but the showman's latest "benefit" realised 21 guineas, bringing the total to £116.

Roundabout Music.

W. Irvin, a steam roundabout proprietor, in occupation of some land at the rear of Nos. 1 to 11, Peckham-rye, was summoned by Mr. C. W. Tagg, Town Clerk of Camberwell, for making or causing or suffering to be made a loud and continuous noise by means of an organ, to the annoyance or disturbance of the residents of the surrounding district. Mr. G. W. Marsden, solicitor to the Camberwell Borough Council, appeared in support of the proceedings, which were taken under a by-law made by the Council in March last. Mr. W. Godfrey, street-keeper to the Council, spoke to having, on the 15th inst., when the defendant "opened" on the ground, handed him a copy of the by-law; and two residents spoke to the annoyance caused to them by the playing of the organ. The defendant said he was not aware, when he went on the ground, that the by-law was in existence. Since then he had deadened the organ, so that it could only be heard on the ground. Mr. Baggallay.—Putting the soft pedal on doesn't stop the organ, you know. The Defendant.—It is my livelihood, sir. Mr. Baggallay.—It may be your livelihood, but you mustn't get your livelihood in such a way as to be a nuisance to others. The defendant was ordered to pay a penalty of 20s. and £2 2s. costs.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

Per Mr. Hawkey, Hon. Sec. for Cleethorpes Branch:—John Hawkey, 10s.; J. R. Oliver, 5s.; F. Sheardown, 5s.; Mark Woolmark, 5s.; C. H. Horton, 5s.; Messrs. Allard, 5s.; Brown, 5s.; Oust, 5s.; Hancock, 5s.

Kingsclere Fair.

Kingsclere is situated nine miles from Basingstoke and seven miles from Newbury. This pleasure fair is held the first Tuesday after Oct. 11, and forms a halting place between the two towns mentioned above. The fair was held this year Oct. 18 and 19. The old familiar face of W. Mathews, proprietor of roundabouts, swings, &c., was once more present; but Mr. Deakin, who has had a stall for gingerbreads, toys, &c., here on Fair day for over forty-four years, without once being away, has died during the past year, his widow being present this year, and much sympathy was felt with her in the loss of one who had been a favourite of the children and the grownups. Hoop-la was a great attraction; also the shooting galleries were much patronised in spite of the wet weather.

Lifeboat Field, Salisbury.

Mr. Jacob Studt's Electric Picture Palace and variety combination is located at the above ground for a short season, in addition to his splendid electric motor track. A host of stalls, etc., are provided by W. H. Freeman. A very fine illumination of electric light is seen nightly.

SHOWMEN' GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

PRESIDENT: PATRICK COLLINS.

OBJECTS OF THE GUILD.

1. To conserve the business interests of all open-air amusement caterers and entertainers, whether menaced by faddist legislation or by public bodies.

2. To vindicate the character and the avocation in life of the showman whenever unjustly maligned or attacked.

3. To defend the fairs and holidays of the people wherever threatened, and to encourage all wise efforts to improve the entertainments of the people.

First List of Subscriptions, 1910.

	£	s.	d.
P. Collins	52	0	0
John Wilmot	9	2	0
John Studt	7	7	0
Forrest Brothers	5	8	0
Wm. Murphy	5	8	0
George Green	5	5	0
H. Thurston and Sons	5	5	0
Charles Thurston	5	5	0
Wm. Haggar	5	5	0
John Collins	5	5	0
Anderton and Rowland	5	5	0
Savage Bros., Ltd. (hon. members)	5	5	0
Messrs. Garrett and Sons	5	5	0
Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons (hon. members)	5	0	0
R. Dooner	3	8	0
Wm. Wilson	3	8	0
Wm. Taylor	3	3	0
Arthur Henderson	3	3	0
Creecraft Brothers	3	3	0
Toft and Turnbull	3	3	0
Jacob Studt and Sons	2	12	0
Messrs. W. Foster and Co. (hon. members)	2	12	0
W. C. and S. Hancock	2	2	0
Mr. Wentworth (hon. member)	2	2	0
Wadbrook and Scard	2	2	0
T. Hurst	2	2	0
J. Johnson	2	2	0
T. Clarke	2	2	0
Sir Robert Fossett (1909 subs.)	2	0	0
Sir Robert Fossett	2	0	0
G. T. Tuby	2	0	0
G. H. Kemp	2	0	0
J. and W. Barker	2	0	0
Purchase Brothers	2	0	0
John Beach	2	0	0
Fred Gray	1	6	0
H. Studt and Son	1	6	0
Messrs. J. Bibby and Co.	1	1	0
Messrs. R. H. Mellor and Sons	1	1	0
Messrs. Marenghi et Cie (Paris)	1	1	0
Alfred Ball	1	1	0
Frank Turner	1	1	0
T. E. Read	1	1	0
Wm. Beach	1	1	0
George Beach	1	1	0
Mrs. Pettigrove	1	1	0
Wm. Hastings	1	1	0
John Searle	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Smith (hon. Member)	1	1	0
Mr. Tom Smith (G.C.R.)	1	1	0
Smith and Whittle	1	1	0
Mr. A. A. Strong (hon. member)	1	1	0
Mr. J. H. Creber (hon. member)	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Affleck (hon. member)	1	1	0
Relph and Pedley	1	1	0
E. Davies	1	1	0
John North	1	1	0
W. Kinder	1	1	0
Mr. J. Hardman (hon. member)	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Kemp (L. and N.W.R.)	1	1	0
James Wilmot	1	1	0
Waller Wilmot	1	1	0
James Bleackley (hon. member)	1	1	0
John Green	1	1	0
G. Marshall	1	1	0
Clark Bros.	1	1	0
John Crighton	1	1	0
A. H. Faulkner	1	1	0
Swales Bolesworth	1	0	6
B. Howden	1	0	6
Taylor, Blinston Bros. and Co.	1	0	0
Robert Clasper	1	0	0
Stock Brothers	1	0	0
C. F. Rowley	1	0	0
Mr. T. Bentley (hon. member)	1	0	0
Mrs. Howard	1	0	0

The above list of subscriptions of £1 and upwards is subject to addition and correction.

Any omissions or corrections will be at once put right on communication with the Guild Secretary at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Other lists to follow.

A Most Urgent Case of Need.

We understand from Mr. Irvin (who is interesting himself as a friend in the matter) that Mr. and Mrs. Chittock are in necessitous circumstances. We have known for some time past that dear old Chittock, as we love to call him, has been in failing health. Mrs. Chittock, with the bravery and perseverance that mark showwomen, has done her best to keep the show going and to maintain the family. The task has been manifestly too much for her. An attempt was made in the summer to sell the show, Mr. Tom Norman, out of sheer kindness, doing his best to dispose of it as a going concern. This well-meant effort failed. Since then the family has made a precarious living on various private pitches in the suburbs of London. In these days of keen competition from permanent picture palaces at every street corner, picture shows on vacant land in back streets make little money. Anyhow, the Chittocks are, through ill-health and continued misfortune, in real distress. Mr. Irvin kindly lent them his traction engine, and gave his personal help to move the show to a new pitch last week, and he informs us that it is a case needing immediate help. We shall be glad to receive subscriptions, however small, and will acknowledge them week by week in *The Era*. Mr. Pedgrift will act as treasurer to the fund, and the Rev. T. Horne will see that the money goes to Mrs. Chittock for their pressing wants.

Rev. T. Horne £1 1 0

Showman's Letter-box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. C. Ginnett, W. Purchase, Fossett's, Biddall Bros., and J. W. Chipperfield.

Ilkeston Fair.

The Fair was held on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd inst. The most noteworthy shows were Collins' roundabouts, "Teddy Bears," motors, and horses; the joy wheel, and the cinematograph; Crighton's Pictures, showing the "fight" film, also Captain Payne's show of moving pictures. The helter-skelter, &c., &c., were also here.

Midland Notes.

Sedgwick's Menagerie will visit Redditch on Nov. 5. This grand collection will stand on the Royal Hotel yard.

Mr. Thomas Clarke gave a benefit for Stratford-on-Avon Hospital, and the handsome sum of £20 9s. 6d. was collected.

No portable theatre has visited Astwood Bank for some time.

Mr. C. Herbert's amusements have been visiting Claverdon, near Warwick.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE GUILD CHAPLAIN'S REPORT, 1910.

Fourth Article.

Guild Service at Mitcham Fair.

A special feature of the fair was the Guild Service held in Ball's Show (kindly lent for the occasion by the proprietor) on the Sunday night. It was timed to commence at 8.20, after evensong at the Church of St. Mark's (the show being in St. Mark's parish). The curate (the Rev. Lough Fargan) read the lesson, and at the close of the service, at the request of the Guild Chaplain, addressed a few earnest words of exhortation to the congregation. The Rev. T. Horne conducted the service, and preached. The show was well filled. A large number of showpeople were present, and great satisfaction was expressed with the service, both by showpeople and their friends and neighbours for the fairtime at Mitcham. Mr. Lough Fargan was invited to become hon. local chaplain to the Guild.

The Guild Work in Suffolk.

A notable advance in guild work has been made this year in the diocese of Norwich. Until two years ago the only possible centre for the Guild was King's Lynn. Lynn Mart Fair, about the middle of the month of February being a great opportunity for the Chaplain to get in touch with the East Anglian showfolk, and the Chaplain always took full advantage of it, the Guild annual meeting at the mart and the service on the fairground being notable events.

Two years ago Miss Anita Welton, of Farlingay Hall, Woodbridge, Suffolk, locally esteemed as taking a deep interest in the shows and showpeople when at Woodbridge, thought it possible to widen the sphere of her kindness, and after consultation with the Chaplain, became hon. diocesan secretary for Norwich. The idea was to develop guild work on diocesan lines, beginning, as all good works do, at home. Miss Welton secured the co-operation of the Woodbridge clergy, then going further afield, enlisted the good offices of the clergy at Ipswich, Yarmouth, and Aldeburgh. The Chaplain's report for 1909 tells the story in full of this endeavour. This year's report is the record of the spread of the work in the diocese of Norwich and the growing interest of the showmen and the church in the work of the Guild. The Chaplain was able this year to visit and preach at Woodbridge, Ufford, Ipswich, and Aldeburgh.

Guild Work at Aldeburgh Fair.

Despite a deterrent storm of wind and rain the spacious show pavilion of Mr. Charles Thurston was well filled for the Guild service at 8.15 on the Sunday evening of the fair. The hon. local chaplain, the Rev. S. W. Goldsmith (Vicar of Aldeburgh) intoned the service, which was sung throughout by the church choir and mission band of the local detachment of the Church Army. Miss Allen, the organist of the parish church, was at the harmonium. The service was most hearty and devout. The Guild Chaplain preached on the theme suggested by the collect for the day, "Faith, Hope, and Charity." (Prior to the service in the show booth, the chaplain was the special preacher at the parish church.) After the departure of the general congregation, the Vicar, in response to a vote of thanks, told the showpeople how gladly he co-operated in the good work of the Guild, and how proud he was of the honour they had done him in making him one of their hon. chaplains. At their fair he would readily help them all that was in his power. He referred to the great pleasure it had been to himself and his ready helpers in the matter, to turn the church house into a showmen's hostel for the days of the fair. For the two married couples and the eighteen or twenty young men, mostly the employees of the fair, who could not find lodgings in the usual way, he had done his best to provide temporary lodgings at the church house. That, and all else within his powers, he did gladly for them. For that he needed no vote of thanks. He concluded with a short and exceedingly telling exhortation to so live their lives that each year made them better for the work attempted, the work in God's grace done. He hoped that the Chaplain would visit Aldeburgh again. He and his people would gladly welcome him, and all that they could do to help the work of the Guild would be readily done.

Guild Work in Scotland.

Both at Greenock Fair in July and Ayr in September, excellent work is done in Scotland. The Chaplain hopes next year to open out other centres in Scotland. This can only be done as the work becomes more self-contained through its honorary local chaplaincies in England, and thus liberating the organising chaplain for pioneer work in parts of the United Kingdom hitherto untouched. The steady increase in the number of hon. local chaplains and the linking up of the Guild with the special agencies of the parishes where fairs occur will make pioneer work the chief endeavour of the Chaplain in the future. Owing to local circumstances the Guild Service cannot be given at Greenock Fair. With the earnest goodwill of Mr. John Wilmot and family, the lessees of the fair, a good temperance work has been carried on at Greenock fair time for many years past. The Guild Chaplain finding this really excellent temperance mission in existence on his visit to the fair, felt it his duty to co-operate with it and not to attempt a guild service; that might seem a rival endeavour to attract the show-people.

Temperance Work at Greenock Fair.

The Guild meeting on the Sunday afternoon was held in the British Women's Temperance Associatiestion tent, by kind permission of the local committee of the Society. The ladies of the local committee of the B.W.T.A., with their usual kindness, provided a tea for the young people of the fairground. This took place immediately after the Guild meeting, and was followed by a highly-successful temperance meeting.

At this meeting the Rev. T. Horne was an invited speaker, and several of the local clergy took part in the proceedings. A pleasing feature was the way in which the showpeople co-operated with the ladies' committee in making the gathering a success. Messrs. W. Wilmot and J. R. Styles made excellent speeches, and Miss Strand sang a temperance solo with great acceptance. The tent was crowded to its utmost capacity by the showpeople and their Greenock friends.

Guild Service at Ayr Fair.

On the Sunday morning, at the invitation of the Vicar, the Guild Chaplain was the special preacher at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Ayr. The Rev. J. Vavasour Hammond, the Vicar, is the Hon. Local Chaplain of the Guild, and he takes a great interest in the showpeople when they visit Ayr. The Guild service in the evening was held in Green's spacious show pavilion. Nearly a thousand people were in the booth, and hundreds went away unable to obtain admission. The choir from Newton Parish Church led the singing and Miss Rainie from the Manse, a great friend of the showpeople, was the organist. The hymns and the canticle were heartily sung by the vast congregation. The Guild Chaplain took the service and preached, taking for his theme "compassion." He brought to his hearers by many striking illustrations the need for more sympathy, tenderer and quicker compassion on our fellow sufferers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond and Miss Rainie held an informal reception of the showpeople at the close of the service. 1910 Fair at Ayr will mark a great forward step in the appreciation and acceptance of the Guild and its work.

The Guild at Gloucester Fair.

For several years past the corporation of Gloucester has given civic recognition to the work of the Showmen's Guild, the Mayor, the City Sheriff, and the Town Clerk, with the members of the City Council, have attended the annual public meeting of the Guild, held in Mr. Jacob Studt's show on the fairground.

The *Citizen*, the leading local paper, commenting on the meeting, said: "One of the most pleasing features of Gloucester Fair is the glimpse which one may get on the Sunday of the good work done by the Showmen's Guild. For several years past the Rev. T. Horne has entirely devoted himself to its work, and, indeed, he was largely instrumental in its formation twenty-one years ago."

The usual afternoon meeting was held on Sunday, in Mr. Jacob Studt's show, when the Mayor (Alderman F. Hannam-Clark) presided, supported by Councillors J. Crofts, C. G. Clark, the Town Clerk (Mr. G. Sheffield Blakeway), Mr. S. Aitken, and Mr. Matthews.

The Mayor expressed the pleasure it gave him to follow the example set by many of his predecessors in office to preside at that meeting. He had known that a Showmen's Guild existed, but not until a few days ago had he known the basis upon which it worked. In the first place it was, and quite rightly so, a trade protection society, for every honourable trade had a right to protect itself against vexatious legislation and other things. There was also an educational side to its work, and he was sure it gave a general levelling-up of the whole tone of the showman's business. He personally could remember the great change which had taken place in Barton Fair since fifty years ago. There was also the religious side to the Guild, and it was quite right that where a large number of showmen were together they should have the opportunity of attending at least one service on the Sunday. Amongst the objections which some people had brought against the life of the showpeople was that their children were not getting proper education. Well he was assured that nine-tenths of the showpeople had a permanent home somewhere, and there they left their children, where they could attend the schools and receive the necessary education. He was sure that if such were not the case the school attendance officers in the various towns would soon be inquiring about the children of a school age, and he thought that fact sompletely answered the case. He wished to congratulate the showmen present upon the new site of the Gloucester Fair. The Corporation—of course the Corporation always did the right thing!—had been very wise when they closed Barton-street to the fair. The Corporation were very glad that the affair had got into the hands of one man like Mr. Jacob Studt, for he arranged everything and the Corporation had had absolutely no complaints from other showmen that they had been unfairly treated by him. He wished them all fine weather for the rest of their stay in Gloucester.

Mr. Aitkin (ex-Mayor) proposed votes of thanks to the Guild Chaplain and to the Mayor, and in doing so remarked that for several years past he had attended the Guild meetings on the fairground, and upon each occasion with increased interest. He had upon a former occasion ventured to name the Guild Chaplain as the Bishop of the Fairground, with a diocese greater than an Archbishop's and a parish as big as that claimed by the famous John Wesley.

As indicating the strong personality and the power exercised by the chaplain, he informed the meeting that upon reaching the fairground that afternoon the chaplain had immediately demanded that he (the speaker) should attend the Guild service at night, and, as upon former occasions, accompany the hymns of the service upon the piano of the show. Most readily he complied with the chaplain's demand, and if he, an ex-Mayor of that ancient cathedral city, could be so quickly captured by the showmen's Bishop, it was no wonder that the people to whom Mr. Horne had devoted his life should rally round and work with him in his good endeavour.

For more than fifty years he had attended Barton Fair, and he could corroborate everything that the chaplain and the Mayor had said with regard to the upward progress and improvement of the entertainments at the fair. As a member of the Corporation he gladly identified himself with the good work that Mr. Jacob Studt and other leading showmen had done ever since the fair had been removed from the street to its present spacious ground. He, therefore, gladly proposed the votes of thanks to both the Mayor and the speaker.

Councillor C. G. Clark, in seconding the vote heartily identified himself with the commendatory remarks of Councillor Aitkin. He, too, claimed to have been a constant patron of Gloucester Fair, both when it was held in the street and since its happy removal to its present site. He considered that the excellent and judicious words of His Worship the Mayor were exactly the weighty testimony to the worth of a good movement that deserved the recognition of all public bodies, and of all those who were interested in the uplifting of the people's amusements. It had been a great pleasure to him to hear the eloquent and persuasive lecture that Mr. Horne had given them. Without doubt, the Guild Chaplain was a thorough master of his subject, and it was no exaggeration to say that he had won his position as the leader and pastor of his people by sheer ability and force of character. He gladly seconded the vote of thanks, and put the resolution to the meeting.

The Guild Service at Night.

After taking part in Evensong at the Parish Church of the fairground, St. Nicholas, whose vicar—the Rev. J. J. Luce—is hon. local Guild chaplain for Gloucester, the Organising Chaplain conducted a most successful service of the Guild in the same show pavilion. The choir, as on former occasions, was entirely made up of young showpeople, Mrs. Studt's troupe of dancers and the Misses Studt forming the principal members of the choir. Mr. S. Aitkin (ex-Mayor) was at the piano, and accompanied the hymns and canticle. The reverent and devout way in which the service was rendered was most impressive. The lesson was read by Mr. Aitken, and the sermon was by the Guild Chaplain.

(To be continued.)

Amusements at Bath.

Marshall and Ernest Hill's Fun City is lodged on the Broad Quay, Bath, this week, and attracts large crowds.

Payne's Portable Theatre.

The above theatre, which has been located at Wigston, a goodly-sized town near Leicester, for some time now, and has just been granted a further licence by the county magistrates, has been doing enormous business, and has become exceedingly popular. Mr. Frank Payne is popular in the district, as in his younger days he was a well-known amateur athlete, and has had many a hard race over hurdles and on the flat with Mr. G. O. P. Jarvis, our Leicester correspondent. His success in the theatrical line is well-deserved, as he puts on his plays in a most creditable style, and has a capable company. This week he is playing *Firematch the Trooper*, *Only A Vagabond*, *All that Glitters is not Gold*, and *The Streets of London*, which are preceded by a laughable farce.

"Humorous and Tragic Stories of Showman Life." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne, Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE AUCTIONEERS' LEAGUE AND THE HOME OFFICE.

In reply to the letters of the League to the Home Secretary, the text of which appeared in our issue of last week, the hon. secretary of the League, Mr. Fred M. Barber, has received the following official reply:—

"Home Office.

"Oct. 22, 1910.

"*Re* Shops (No. 2) Bill.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., and to say that the same shall receive due attention.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"Edward Troup.

"F. M. Barber, Esq."

The Executive Committee of the League is now busily engaged in preparing the case for trade defence to be submitted at the proposed interview (if the League is successful in obtaining one). We have every hope and expectation that the Home Secretary (busy man as we know him to be) will afford the organised travelling auctioneers a full opportunity of submitting their claim for an exemption under the Act.

Continued Response of the Trade.

The following subscriptions are acknowledged by the hon. treasurers:—Harley Jones, Fenton, £5 5s.; Frank Wood, Sheffield, £5 5s.; Stossell Gertha, Berlin, 10s.; and J. Rogan, Manchester, 10s.

Some Queer Notions on the Subject.

We have received two or three remarkable letters on this question—remarkable as coming from business men (wholesale supply agents and firms). The idea of these advisers is that to take action will be to rouse still greater opposition to the travelling auction mart business and enterprise. We are advised by these would-be friends to emulate the conduct of the ostrich—the foolish bird that, when pursued, buries its head in the sand and fatuously believes that its enemies will blindly pass it by. We seriously warn all who have a real interest in the travelling auctioneers' business to read the Bill, particularly the—

"Application of Part II.

"10. Subject to any provisions contained in a closing order it shall not be lawful in any locality to carry on in any place not being a shop, retail trade or business of any class, on any day or at any time when it would be unlawful in that locality to keep a shop open for the purposes of retail trade or business of that class, and this Act shall apply as if the person who carried on such trade or business were the occupier of a shop:

"Provided that—

"(*a*) this prohibition shall not apply where the retail trade or business is carried on in a place, not being a shop, merely as auxiliary or incidental to some other business (not being retail trade or business) and does not form a substantial part of that business; and

"(*b*) nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a barber or hairdresser from attending a customer in the customer's residence, or the holding of an auction sale in a private dwelling-house.

"11. Where a shop is exempted from any of the provisions of this part of this Act or a closing order made thereunder on the ground that it is a shop in which a trade or business mentioned in the second schedule to this Act is carried on, and other trades or businesses to which the exemption does not apply are carried on in the same shop, the exemption shall not extend to such other trades and businesses, and shall be subject to such conditions as may be imposed by regulations made by the Secretary of State or by the closing order."

If the Bill goes through as printed, with no exemption for portable auction marts and no modification of the death-dealing clauses set out above, an ancient and honourable profession, and all its allied interests for labour and manufacture, will be legally killed at one fell stroke. Ostrich hunters rejoice at the fatuity of the bird when it is found with its head buried in the sand. Travelling auctioneers have trade rivals who would rejoice if they were foolish enough to remain a ready and passive prey for their enemies.

"He is thrice armed who hath his cause just."

The whole of the commerce and trade of the Empire has grown up with travelling auctioneers plying their lawful trade in the land. To secure better conditions of labour for shop assistants it is surely not necessary to destroy a perfectly just and honourable business and avocation in life.

MITCHAM FAIR RIGHTS AND THE BOARD OF CONSERVATORS.

The actual transfer of the Fair Rights to the Board of Mitcham Common Conservators is now an accomplished fact. The one public body that could deal in an open and straightforward way with the question of the removal of the Fair to a better site is now in possession of the only remaining vested interest, the Manorial Franchise of the Fair (that up to 1905 was in the possession of the Bailey Family, of London show and roundabout celebrity). For the past four years the Franchise of the Fair has been held by four Mitcham gentlemen, who up to the present year did not surrender their trust to the Board. This unfortunate delay nullified all the strenuous efforts of the friends of the people's fair to bring about a wise settlement of the question at issue between the abolitionists and the showmen and the people of Mitcham.

A Better Outlook.

A great deal of nonsense has been talked about Mitcham Fair. Again and again we have pointed out in these columns the real facts of the situation, yet the enemies of the people's Fair have gone on in their usual style, talking and writing as though no such person existed as the Home Secretary, or that Fairs could be abolished without the operation of the Abolition of Fairs Act, and against the wishes of the people. Repeatedly have we set out the governing factors in the matter, only to find that our efforts have been in vain with regard to the abolitionists. One encouraging result has been that the people who love their fair have roused themselves in the defence of their fair rights—yes, the rights of the people, properly theirs by long usage, and protected by Act of Parliament—have come out of all this agitation to maintain the fair. We shall return to this subject next week and endeavour to show the urgency of a wise and statesmanlike solution of the question. We notice with the utmost satisfaction that at the last meeting on Thursday at Croydon, Alderman Allen gave notice "That at the next meeting of the Board he would move that Mr. Malleby Deeley be asked to open up negotiations with the Home Secretary and the Showmen's Guild with regard to Mitcham Fair, to see if the differences could not be amicably settled."

This important item of news reaches us as we go to press. We rejoice that at last, out of all the mists of ambiguity and uncertainty there will be a clear issue. The people of Mitcham and the showmen will gladly support the wise proposal of leaving the matter in the hands of Mr. Malleby Deeley, M.P., who throughout the various vexatious delays of the past three or four years has pursued a truly wise, public-spirited policy. As we have already indicated, we shall go thoroughly into the question next week.

FILM GOSSIP.

Not Granted.

THE L.C.C. on Nov. 2 last decided not to grant a certificate in respect of the cinematograph hall on the ground floor at the Casino de Paris, 291a, Oxford-street. The premises have since been licensed under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, and the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, at the meeting of the Council on Tuesday, reported that application has again been made by Mr. A. S. Markwell for a certificate with a view to obtaining at the forthcoming licensing meeting a music licence for the premises. Some slight improvements have been made in the premises since the previous application was made, but the premises are still far from complying with the regulations of the Council relating to places to be licensed for music. The Committee recommended that the application be not granted. Agreed to.

Kensington Picture Theatre.

A PROGRAMME of films quite up to the usual high standard associated with this popular picture house is screened this week, including The Kid's Kite (Cosmopolitan), The Poacher (Pathé), The Jealous Cavalier (Clarendon), The Flag of Company "H" (Pathé), Affectionate Pets (Pathé), What the Daisy Said (A. B.), The Marriage of Muggins, V.C. (C. and M.), a stirring military story, full of exciting situations, and showing how the gallant hero captured a fair bride; and Funeral of Prince Francis of Teck (B. and C.).

Holloway Empire.

THE work of installing a motor generator at the Holloway Empire has just been completed in strict accordance with the requirements of the L.C.C. and the Islington Borough Council Electricity Department. It is fixed in what is known as the "front intake room" on a cast-iron bedplate, and motor and generator are coupled together with a rigid coupling. The work has been completed to the satisfaction of Mr. A. D. James, the electrical engineer for Moss' Empires, Ltd. The most important result of the installation of the motor generator is the greatly-improved lighting of the pictures. Under the new conditions every film will be marked by a clearness and an absence of flickering hitherto unattainable.

Ayr Pavilion.

THE charms of roller-skating have, for the time being, at any rate, been exhausted, and the spacious pavilion was opened this week as an electric theatre. The programme lasts from 7.30 to 10 p.m., and, as the admission is only 2d., 4d., and 6d., patrons are assured of quantity. The Continental refreshment-tables are an innovation. Among the pictures on view this week are The Romance of a Jockey, Cowboy's Stratagem, Poor-luck Buys Furniture, A Bolt from the Blue, and the special for the last three nights of the week is The Funeral of Prince Francis of Teck.

Picture Programme for the Benefit of Widows and Orphans.

A SPECIAL benefit performance in aid of the Widows and Orphans' Fund of the Professional Fire Brigade Officers' Association was given at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday evening, when Mr. Waller Jeffs arranged a special programme of pictures. A large and appreciative audience assembled, and the entertainment was in every way a success. By kind permission of the Chief Constable (Mr. C. H. Rafter), the Birmingham Police Band contributed to the entertainment.

New-street Picture House, Birmingham.

THIS attractive theatre is in the enjoyment of a very successful season, and there is every prospect of a continuance of the heavy patronage. The bright interior and the excellence of the picture programmes make a very favourable impression upon first visitors. Pathé's Gazette illustrates current events, and the dramatic and comic pictures are new and exhibited in attractive style.

Opening of Pavilion, Bishop Auckland.

THERE were large attendances at the opening of the Pavilion, Bishop Auckland, on Monday. The hall is splendidly fitted, the seating accommodation being for 400 persons, and no effort has been spared for the comfort of the patrons. The programme of pictures is attractive, and a successful season is anticipated.

Electric Pictures at Bridlington.

THE great success which has attended the animated picture shows in the Royal Victoria Rooms, is still continued, and Mr. Charles Palmer, the manager for the Corporation, is always placing something new and attractive before his patrons. The series of the celebrated "AB" pictures are always well received, and the steadiness with which the pictures are shown by the Gaumont de luxe machine adds greatly to the enjoyment of the large audiences which are drawn nightly to the rooms, an added attraction being the appropriate music rendered in a masterly manner by the musical director, Mr. A. J. G. Fox. The massive gilt frame which surrounds the screen is also a wonderful improvement in showing the pictures to the best advantage.

Pictures at Brighouse.

ON Monday evening Mr. Sydney Carter's pictures drew a crowded audience to the Albert Theatre, Brighouse, some exceedingly good films being shown, both humorous and dramatic, viz., The Bandit's Wife, Foolshead and the Lions, Forest Rangers' Daughter, The Biter Bit, The Plans of the Fortress, The Impalement, His New Appointment, Off for the Holidays, Seal Catching off Tasmania, The Embarrassing Legacy, Coco as Policeman.

Brighton's Picture Palaces.

AN excellent series of animated pictures is exhibited at the Court Theatre, Brighton, this week. Drama is splendidly exemplified by The Attack on the Mill, Through the Darkness, and Between Love and Honour; A Visit to Benares is a fine topical film; and those of a comic character include Calino Buys a Dog, Cambodian Dance, and How Bumptious Papered the Parlour. The following recent events are pictorially illustrated:—Crowds Outside the Court during the Crippen Case, Scenes in Lisbon after the Revolution, Football Flashes (Rugby and Association Games), Paris to London (airship flights), King and Queen of Spain at the Seaside, and Boy Scouts at Finchley.

Attractive Programme at the Theatre de Luxe.

THE animated pictures at the Theatre de Luxe, Brighton, are changed each Monday and Thursday, and continue to attract good houses. Dramatic stories are conveyed by The Consequences of an Imprudent Act and Alain de Serigny; the Pathé Gazette depicts recent events; Road to Happiness is interesting; Athens is a picturesque film; and great fun is provided by Lazy Farmer Brown, The Plumber, and An Advertisement Answered.

The Duke of York's Increasing Popularity.

THE Duke of York's Picture Theatre in Brighton continues to increase in popularity. Excellence and variety characterise the pictures. The Attack on the Mill represents a stirring episode in the Franco-Prussian War; Chivalry on a Ranch and the Cowboy's Stratagem are delightful stories; Feeding Seals at Catalina Island is interesting; Muggsy becomes a Hero is entertaining; and The Bobby's Dream is very comic. There is an entire change of programme twice weekly.

Eastbourne's Gallery of Illustration.

MESSRS. MURRAY KING AND CLARK on Monday last made an excellent start with their new Gallery of Illustration at Eastbourne. Situated in the principal thoroughfare, Terminus-road, the new building is now a comfortable, well-ventilated, and refined place of amusement. The place will cater for the better class of people, and the prices of admission range from 6d. to 1s. 6d. During the week excellent films are screened, and local pictures of the unveiling of the late Duke of Devonshire's statue by the Duke of Norfolk are now being shown at every performance.

New Picture Palace at Dudley.

MR. J. MAURICE CLEMENT, proprietor and manager of the Dudley Opera House, encouraged by the immense audiences which assembled for his experimental run of pictures during the summer season, is building a fine hall, to be called the Colosseum Picture Palace. The building is rapidly approaching completion, and will be opened in December. The hall has a total length of 120ft. and a proportionate width, and will seat 1,000 persons. The architects are Messrs. Gammage and Dickenson and the contractors Messrs. Oakley and Coulson, both firms of the town. The new hall is in a central position, being close to the Opera House and the L. and N.W. and G.W. Railway Stations, and also tramway terminus.

B.B. Pictures at Dundee.

THE B.B. Pictures are going strong in Dundee, their success being an eloquent testimony to the capable management of the hustling district manager, Mr. Tom Lunn. The programme presented at the Palace Theatre this week is a very attractive one, and includes, amongst others, the following fine films:—The Flag of Company H, Twa Hieland Lads, Wilful Peggie, Tontolin's Discovery, and What the Parrot Saw. At the Gaiety Theatre a capital film depicting The Geisha, a play performed in Japan by Japanese players, unfolds a weird story of vengeance. The film is richly coloured, and proves a very attractive item in a programme which also includes A Sailor's Lass, A Selfish Man's Lesson, A Live Teddy Bear, &c. At the Empire Theatre Acting-Manager Mr. R. W. Austin nightly beams on two packed and thoroughly delighted houses, who are loud in their praise of the delectable fare offered them. The B.B. Pictures are undoubtedly a feature of the amusement world in Dundee, and they well deserve to be so.

Cinema Theatre, Dundee.

MR. P. FEATHERS' new Cinema Theatre, Dundee, opened its second week on Monday evening with an exceptionally fine programme, which included a popular film, A Boarding School Romance. Other pictures are The Heavenly Message, The Patent Fire Extinguisher, Killing the Lady Killer, &c., while two illustrated songs, "By the fountain" and "Comin' through the rye," are well received.

"Hiawatha" at Keighley Picture Palace.

THE programme presented at the Picture Palace, Keighley, is giving complete satisfaction to delighted audiences, the Palace Manager, Mr. Harry Plant, doing his utmost to maintain a high standard of entertainment. A special attraction this week is the singing and talking Cinephone. Hiawatha is a fine "Imp" picture, depicting Longfellow's poem. Another charming picture is Angel of Dawson's Claim. Two distinct programmes are presented nightly.

Vint's Palace, Salisbury.

VINT'S PALACE (late County Hall), Salisbury, opens on Monday, Dec. 5, with pictures and varieties on the two-houses-a-night system.

Queen's Picture Palace, Stoke.

SOME excellent films are thrown on the sheet this week, and prove very popular with the patrons. In the list The Plans of the Fortress as a piece of realistic and dramatic work stands out prominently. Also shown are The Red Girl's Romance, Our New Mamma, the Hunting Whip, &c. Charlie Chard is an amusing and versatile comedian; Wee Baby Violet dances pleasingly, and Annie Casey is popular in her pantomime numbers.

Daylight Moving Pictures in New York.

BY means of a new invention, called the "mirror screen," moving pictures can be made visible in broad daylight. The invention consists of a glass screen backed with a chemical preparation. It will be shown for the first time in the roof garden of the Victoria Theatre, New York, where a moving picture exhibition is to be the staple attraction through the winter.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE demand for tickets for the Employees' Benevolent Fund concert on Sunday, Nov. 20, at the London Coliseum, is very great. All tickets below 2s. 6d. in price have been disposed of, and a large number ordered cannot be supplied. The following additions to the list of artists already announced in this column have been made: Miss Evie Greene, Mr. Phil Ray, the Two Bobs, the Meister Glee Singers, Mr. John Phillips, Mr. Gurney Russell, The Romps, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Charles Pond. Miss Ruth Vincent, writing to Mr. Pedgrift, regrets that she cannot appear, and offers to take tickets. Miss Margaret Cooper regrets that she cannot appear, as she will be on tour on the date of the concert.

A SUB-COMMITTEE of the Operators' Association will meet on Wednesday at 29, Wellington-street, to go through the numerous papers sent in for examination. The final examination will then be arranged. A general meeting of members will be held on Tuesday at the Musicians' Club, 9, Great Newport-street, at 11 a.m. All members of the N.A.C.O. in London are urged to attend this meeting.

THE friends of Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, will be grieved to learn that his wife died on Thursday evening, the 20th inst. Since Sept. 8 Mrs. Johnson had been in a nursing home attached to the Bolingbroke Hospital, Wandsworth Common, where an operation to remove a cancerous growth from the breast was performed. The operation was successful, and it was thought Mrs. Johnson would shortly be able to leave; but during the third week blood poisoning was discovered, and since that time to the hour of her death it was a constant struggle, one day better, the next day worse. Hope was never relinquished, but it was realised that the heart, under the constant strain, might fail any moment. Thus it happened, death resulting after a severe fit of coughing. The funeral took place on Monday at Brookwood, where Mrs. Johnson is buried with her only boy and her father. Mrs. Johnson was passionately fond of flowers, and in accordance with her known wishes that flowers should not be given to wither on the ground, many friends who intended to send wreaths kindly refrained from doing so. Only the near relatives attended the funeral. Mr. Johnson desires to thank those many friends who have expressed their sympathy with him, and to say also that he greatly appreciates the similar resolutions sent to him by various meetings of employees and committees.

Gymkhana at West Stanley.

A VERY successful gymkhana was held at the West Stanley Skating Rink on Wednesday last week, nearly 2,000 persons being present. The various events—obstacle race, ladies' hoop race balloon race, half-mile amateur race, musical chairs, &c.—were all well contested, several valuable prizes being given.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Professor Moritz Clarke and Dainty Lillian.

PROF. MORITZ CLARKE (the skating Apollo) and Dainty Lillian (the Queen of the Wheels), famous international figure and trick skaters, who have appeared at the principal London and Continental rinks, are making a great success on their tour. Their clever and varied programme includes selections from the International Championship figures, star and other artistic figures, fancy skating; waltzing, including "Merry Widow," "Drop Three," "Amelia," Butterfly and Jump, Veleta, barn dance, &c.; two-step, cut-off, spread-eagle, &c.; pair skating, candle and knife maze, trick skating, pirouettes, &c.; and is altogether a very attractive exhibition.

Master Eric Batterworth's Clever Exhibition.

AT the Continental Carnival held on the 20th inst. at Olympia Rink, Pentre, Rhondda, Master Eric, the clever son of Prof. Tom Butterworth, the manager, gave a clever exhibition of fancy and skate dancing which met with much enthusiasm from the crowded onlookers. He was also successful in breaking his last winter's record for half a mile, made at West Hartlepool. His time at West Hartlepool was 3min. 15sec., but last Thursday he covered the distance in 2min. 58 1-5sec. Mr. Butterworth offers a challenge to the world for skating distances of a quarter and half mile at the same age. Eric is only five years and four months old.

New Skating Rink at Woolwich.

AT the meeting of the L.C.C. on Tuesday, the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Mr. W. A. Cornell, showing a skating rink proposed to be erected on a site between Plumstead-road and Spray-street, Woolwich. Application will be made for a music and dancing licence for the premises. The rink will have accommodation for about 680 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The committee accordingly recommended the Council to grant a certificate provided that certain stated conditions had been complied with.—Agreed to.

Westover Rink, Bournemouth.

A CHALLENGE CUP of the value of £12 is to be put up for competition between hockey teams, the matches to be played at the Westover Rink, Bournemouth, and any team winning the cup two years in succession wins it outright. Silver medals will be given to the winning team and bronze medals to the losers in the finals. The matches must be played at the Westover Rink on dates to be arranged, and any team entering for the cup will be liable to be scratched if not able to play on the date fixed. A gentleman has put up a purse of £15 for a race between Powell and any floor manager or instructor in England, £10 to go to the winner and £5 to the loser. If there is more than one challenger, the right to race against Powell will be decided by heats, the winner to meet Powell.

Confetti Battle and Carnival at Derby.

THE Alexandra Rink, Derby, continues to maintain its great popularity, and the carnival organised last Wednesday evening attracted patrons in costumes of charming and novel variety. Prizes for various events were competed for with great zest, whilst a confetti battle terminated an enjoyable night. Mr. W. H. Innes, the courteous manager, is untiring in his efforts to please.

Rinking Popular in Dundee.

THE Dundee West End Rink is being well attended just now, and rinkers are enjoying the graceful art on as fine a floor as one could wish for. By special request, the sports night has been altered to every Wednesday instead of Thursday as formerly. The Olympia Skating Palace is always well attended. Manager Mr. Jas. F. Allan announced a grand sports carnival for Thursday evening, Oct. 27—anniversary night.

Leicester Boulevard Rink Carnival.

MR. T. P. BLAKESLEY, the one-time champion skater of England, and now the popular manager of the Leicester Boulevard Rink, one of the largest, handsomest, and best-equipped rinks in England, is to be highly praised for the immense success obtained at the carnival held there on the 20th inst. Almost every conceivable character and nation had its representatives on the surface, and the rink was literally packed with admiring onlookers. The whole of the arrangements were carried out in a manner that reflected great credit on all concerned, and the handsome and numerous prizes offered for competition secured an immense number of entries.

The Prize-Winners.

THE prize-winners were as follows:—Most original costume, Mr. P. Bree (snowman) and Mrs. P. Bree (fountain); best historical, Mr. H. Angrave (Henry VII.) and Miss Ellis (Mocassin); best fancy dress, Mrs. Wheat (Cleopatra) and Miss Prince (Prince Charming); best evening dress, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Hunter; consolation prize, Mr. A. Cain; best two alike, Messrs. Bowles and Robinson; best flower-girl, Miss E. Angrave; best cimic, Mr. Kendale (ballet girl); trade mark, Mr. Boulter; best soldier, sailor, or policeman, Mr. Hollis 1, Mr. H. Glover consolation; juvenile class, Master Hyslop (Indian Prince) and Miss Hope (Topsy). During the evening an exhibition of waltzing, two-step, and fancy skating was given by Messrs. Firth and Blakesley, jun., which was greatly appreciated, some of the feats performed being particularly clever. Mr. P. Robineon, with Miss "Billy" Whitfield as a partner, won the waltzing competition, and Master and Miss Wilson were awarded the verdict in the two-step.

JOHN LAWSON

IN "THE MONKEY'S PAW." AMERICA.

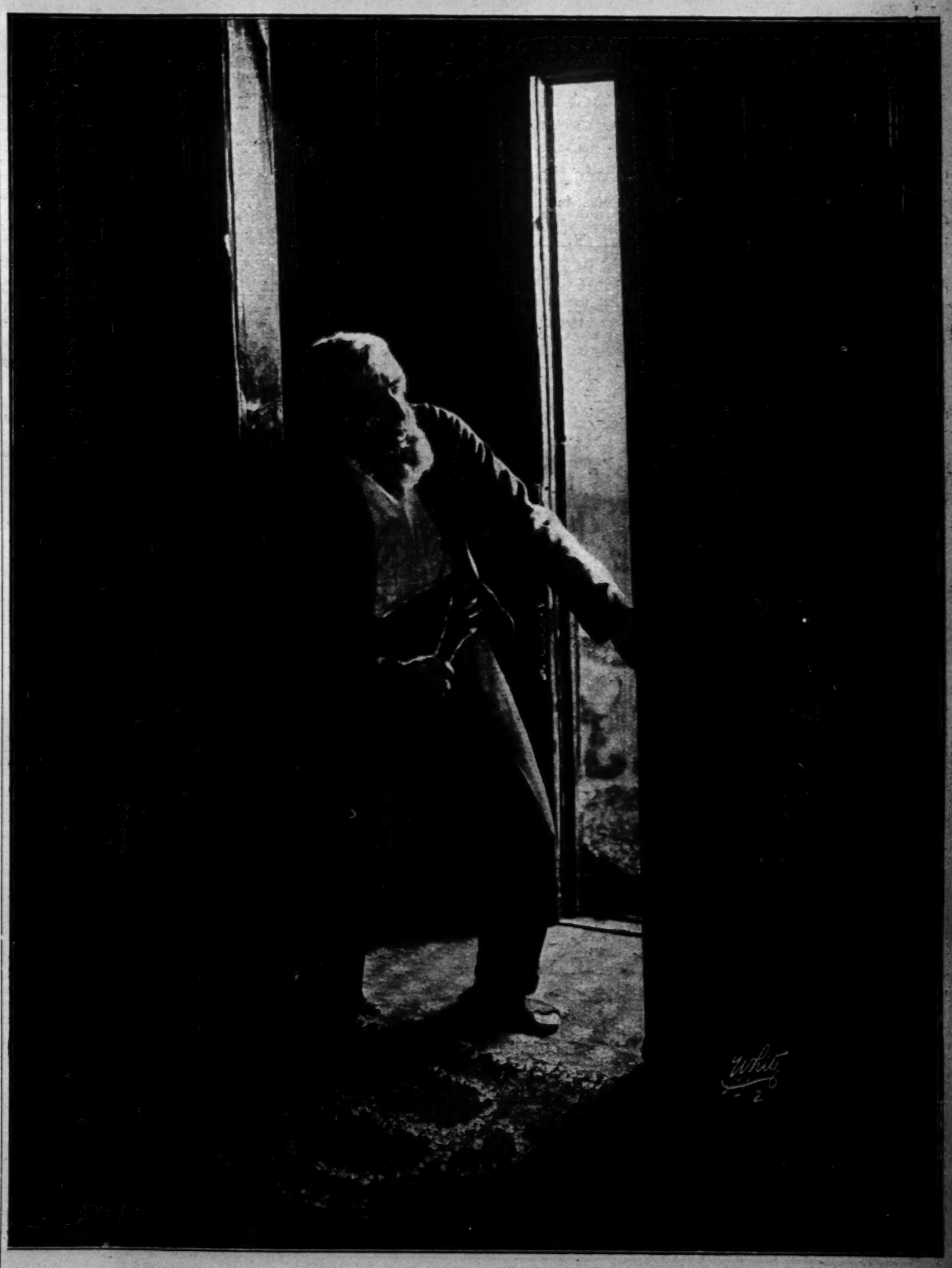

[*Photo by White.*

EXTRACTS FROM THE NEW YORK PRESS REGARDING "THE MONKEY'S PAW."

Sam M'Kee, in the *Morning Telegraph*, Oct. 5, says:—

"In *The Monkey's Paw* William Morris is giving his patrons the most tensely holding serious story ever presented on any stage. Moreover, the acting of John Lawson, for sincerity of detail and convincing strength, has never been surpassed. . . . The dread of what might happen next so possesses the audience that towards the finish of the act, when a door is opened in response to a loud knocking, many of the women present are afraid to look. At the Monday matinée one man was carried out in a dead faint. . . ."

The *New York American*, Oct. 6, says:—

". . . There is a dramatic playlet at the American Music Hall this week that even people who are not steady patrons of variety are going to talk about. They are already discussing a new actor, John Lawson, who is the central character in *The Monkey's Paw*. The reception of the act shows that an original theme, well worded and excellently interpreted, is welcome to vaudeville audiences as it is to persons who believe that the legitimate stage is the only place where real art can find a welcome boon. Lawson is a firm believer in detail. He is like David Belasco in his staging of this playlet from over the sea . . . the setting is perfect. Credit should be given to William Morris for bringing the playlet to this country and introducing such a sterling actor as Mr. Lawson to American theatregoers."

The *Evening Mail*, New York, Oct. 4.

". . . . An extraordinarily intense work which is thrilling capacity houses at the American. . . . The setting is the most perfect yet seen in vaudeville. . . ."

The *New York World*, Oct. 4.

". . . *The Monkey's Paw* held the large audience spellbound and is without doubt the most intense little playlet yet presented in vaudeville. Mr. Lawson's acting as the old Devonshire man was most excellent. . . ."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Feb. 6, April 3, 24, May 1, 15, 22, 29, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Nov. 21, Feb. 20, March 20, April 3, 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
April 3, 10, 24.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, March 6, 13, April 3, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 6, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Dec. 19, 26 (Xmas week),
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 20, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Dec. 12, 19, Feb. 6, March 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for READING, Nov. 14 and 21;
NORTHAMPTON, Xmas week;
WOLVERHAMPTON, Jan. 2.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Nov. 21;
Vacant owing to releasing Mr. Laurence Irving for his Garrick Theatre Season.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

HASTINGS PIER.
WANTED, Nov. 7, Three Nights.
WALTER MAXWELL, New Theatre, W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit through out by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28, Dec. 5,
Jan. 2, 16, 30, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2 (?), 16, March 13.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
The New Building, now rapidly nearing completion, will Open in December with a full and capable staff before and behind the curtain. Holding capacity at prices charged for West-End attractions, £85, exclusive of early doors.
Bookings for first eight weeks include "The Cingalee," "Brewster's Millions," Mr. P. Hutchison's Company, Mr. Peter Davey's "Cinderella," Mr. F. Storey's "Aladdin," "What the Butler Saw," "The Fatal Wedding."
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and West-End Plays for March 6, 20, April 3 and 24, and May, on. Apply, Mr. J. E. BULL (for the Proprietors), The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, Company, for first vacant date, Nov. 14, onward. Now booking Spring and Summer, 1911. Can also arrange for flying matinées.
C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
Barrow's Leading Theatre. The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
Oct. 24, Miss Horniman's Company, from the Gaiety, Manchester (second visit within six months), to be followed by Mr. Walter Maxwell's Company, "Mr. Preedy and the Countess."
WANTED, London Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, and a few later dates.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

WANTED, High-class Companies,
Nov. 14, three nights, Ipswich;
Dec. 1, three nights, Ipswich;
Dec. 5, three nights, Eastbourne;
Dec. 8, three nights, Folkestone.
For other dates see Advertisement.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 5, 19.
Drama well played and staged can safely rely upon big business.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 5, 19, 26, and Pantomime for Jan. 23.
HUGH ROBERTSON,
T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, York, Company, Nov. 7.
Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 21,
Dec. 12.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

WANTED, a First-class Attraction, for Theatre Royal, Chatham, Nov. 14, Musical Play preferred, no Drama. Wire or write, DAN BARNARD, Elephant Theatre, S.E.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, good Companies for Nov. 28, Jan. 2, few Late Spring. Share or certainty.
Wire F. G. KIMBERLEY.
Contracts wanted for scenery, or repainting, cheap.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 6, 13, 27, April 3, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, 30, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales. Holding capacity over 2,000. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 16, April 10, 17, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "The Dairymaids," "Silver King," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The Premier Theatre in the Town, with a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business. The week of Aug. 29 "The Prince and the Beggar Maid" beat their previous visit by £82. Refer Messrs. Paumier and Howard. J. W. Turner's Opera Company's fifth visit to the Royalty. The business improved each visit, his last week being over £81 above the best. Refer Mr. Turner.
Miss Florence Baines with "Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," played to over £70 more on the week than she had done on her previous visit to Barrow at another theatre.
Mr. George Edwardes's company broke all records at the prices last week with "The Merry Widow" (return visit), the house being full at Early Doors on four nights of the week.
Monday next, Walter Howard's "The Boy King." First production after an enormously successful month's season in Manchester.
Future Bookings include: Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Merry Widow" (return), Miss Glossop-Harris, "Where is William?", Messrs. Paumier and Howard's Company, in "Her Love Against the World," and Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," William Mollison's Company in "The Chorus Lady," Robert Courtneidge's Company, "The Arcadians," Mr. George Dance's Company, "Our Miss Gibbs," Mr. George Edwardes's "The Dollar Princess," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov 28 (?), Jan. 2, 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Perfectly Appointed, both before and behind the Curtain, and with a Full and Competent Staff.
Can Stage any Production.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, only. Capacity Business Nearly Every Week.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq., Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits), Miss Annie Hughes, C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911.
No Vacancies this Year.
Address, Managers.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 22, Dec. 5, 12, 19 (3 or 6 nights).
W. E. POTTS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, Dec. 5 and 12 open for Musical Comedy or High-class Attractions.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, and 23, for Good Musical Comedy.

All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical preferred, Nov. 7. Nov. 28, Dec. 12.
Wire, MACDONA.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH, LANCS.
WANTED, First-class Drama and Musical Comedy, for Dec. 5 (?), 12, 19, Jan. 9 (?), 16 (?), Feb. 27 (?), March 6, on, with exceptions.
FRED GOULD.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, T. R., Margate, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 31, and Season 1911.
WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

HAGGAR'S THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Proprietor, W. HAGGAR, sen.
The above now a howling success under the new management. Refer W. C. Sullivan, R. Macdonald's "Gay Gordons" Co. Capacity business every night. Box office closed Monday noon (straight). Good shows, good business.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Comedies, also a really Good Panto. Vacant dates, terms, &c., JAS. HAGGAR, Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
One of the most Charming Theatres in the Provinces. The only Theatre in the Town.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, Easter, Whit Week, and intermediate dates, onwards. Address, CHAS. JULIAN.

WANTED, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, Companies, for Nov. 7, 21, 28, and onwards, with exceptions, must be good Drama, Comedy, or Musical Comedy Companies.
The Rawtenstall Grand is one of the finest theatres in Lancashire, and is now fitted with electric light throughout the stage.
Enormous success for excellent Companies. Last Musical Comedy ("Cingalee") receipts were £287 gross. For confirmation apply Mr. Crichton.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
MANAGER,
Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant, March 13, 27 (?), May 29.
Also Autumn, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant, Jan. 16, Feb. 20 (?), 27(?), March 20 (?), April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant, April 10, 17 (?), May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant, Dec. 5 (?), Feb. 13 (?), 20, 27, March 13 (?), 20, April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year,
Dec. 5 (3 nights with Folkestone), Jan. 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 27, March 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Nov. 28, Dec. 8 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 12, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 27.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH
Vacant Nov. 14 (3), Dec. 1 (3), Jan. 23, Feb. 13 (?), 20 (?), March 2 (3), 20.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
AYR, Dec. 12 and 26.
LEITH, Dec. 19 and 26.
FALKIRK, Dec. 19 (3 nights);
MOTHERWELL, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and 26;
and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 5, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, Strong Musical or Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and good printing, Nov. 14, on, twice nightly; must state lowest, share or certainty. T. ALLAN EDWARDES, Palace Theatre, Derby.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, this New Theatre will Open in December next,
and will be one of the most up-to-date in the Provinces. Holding capacity 2500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter-mile radius; all trams pass the door; also within five minutes' walk from the Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra. Now open to book first-class Attractions for Autumn, 1911, and onwards.

WANTED, Real Attractions, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 30, on, Grand, Chorley; also Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2, on, Radcliffe. SANTE, Radcliffe.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, in all Probability, Nov. 21, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
WM. MORTON.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
Only fully licensed theatre in the district, which comprises Seacombe, Egremont, Poulton, New Brighton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 7, 8 (three nights), Feb. 13, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17. Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, March 20, 27, April 10, May 1, on, with exceptions. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

RAMSGATE.
ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee and Director, Mr. CHAS. EVANS.
Resident-Manager, Mr. HENRY BOWMAN.
The New and Popular Theatre.
Open throughout the year.
WANTED, Musical Comedies and Dramas only, Spring, Summer, and Autumn, 1911.
Re dates, address HENRY BOWMAN direct.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Dec. 5, 12, 19.
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
Dec. 12, 19.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Dec. 12.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT.
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Companies, Dec. 5 and 12.
Address, M. MONTGOMERY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 19, June 5, onwards, with exceptions.
Re dates address,
C. F. WRIGHT.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantomimes, Musical Comedies, and Light Opera, for Vacant dates at St. John's Hall, Penzance, in mid-Dec., Jan., and Feb.; sharing terms. Apply to A. J. ROGERS and SON, Theatrical and Concert Agents, c/o St. John's Hall, Penzance.

WANTED, for the P. O. W. T., Salford, Company for Dec. 12, also good Pantos. for Jan. 9, 16, and on. E. B. GOULDEN.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Attractions, for Empire Theatre, Swindon, Nov. 21, Xmas, Jan. 23, 30, for Panto., Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. First three nights, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies and Burlesques, for Clydebank's only Theatre. Lowest terms, A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only, vacant dates, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, 30, onwards. Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Nov. 14.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE,
LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Companies, for 1911, July, Aug., Sept., First-class Attractions only.
Write, MANAGER.

PAVILION THEATRE,
ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20,
April 3, 10, 24, on.
First-class Attractions only.
Apply, E. TILNEY, Abertillery.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or Pantomime, for Jan. 2 (biggest holiday week of the year).
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
Dec. 12 (twice nightly).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
Nov. 14, Dec. 12.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
Nov. 17 (3), 21 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Nov. 14 (3), 24 (3), Dec. 12.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is visited by all the Best Companies. No Vacant Dates this year. A few Dates in Spring and Autumn, 1911. First-class Companies Only.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES, GAINSBOROUGH.
The New Place.
WANTED, Good Attractions. This Theatre is situated in the heart of the town. Good stage, scenery, dressing-rooms, and fittings, with Circle and Promenade; holds 1,000.
Address all communications, JOHN R. FOX, as above. Telephone No. 70.
Note.—The local people say they like it.

WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (not Melodrama), for Nov. 28, and remainder of weeks till Christmas. Apply, Mr. A. W. SCHOLEY.

HARROGATE
and
SCARBOROUGH
GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, the Best of Companies, Dec. 12, onward, with exceptions. These two theatres can now be booked in conjunction, three nights each town.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Harrogate.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Exeter, First-class Attractions for Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Apply, MANAGING-DIRECTOR.

WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, 2, 3, or 4 nights, Nov. 14 and 21. FRED BOULTON, Manager, Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

WINTER GARDENS, BOOTLE.
Messrs ADELER, SUTTON, and ALLANDALE.
WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, 26 (?), Musical Shows and Farcical Comedy do well.
Write, CHARLES BOULT.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
WANTED, Powerful Dramas, Dec. 26, Feb. 13, 27.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Dramatic Attractions, Dec. 5, 12.
Pantomimes, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic or Musical, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, and on; Christmas vacant.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Nov. 17, 28, Dec. 15, 29, all three nights. B. PARKINSON, New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"THE SINS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, various.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WALTER MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"THE SHOP-SOILED GIRL."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21 and 28.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2, 30, for
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, for
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5. Communicate,
FREDK. MELVILLE, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
WANTED, through re-arrangement of Dates, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, for "Driven from Home," Nov. 21 (Scotland), Dec. 19, 26.
A. MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Norwood, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Can arrange for Vacancies as under:—
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6(?), 13 (?), 20, and 27.
"RED RIDING HOOD," Feb. 13 (?).
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 20, 27.
WANTED, Immediate Application for Open Dates, once or twice nightly. Magnificent Productions. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 35, Tudor-road, Cardiff.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of
Jan. 23 and 30.
(North preferred).
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Mr. CHAS. HARRINGTON'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" CO.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, on.
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 9 (three nights), March 9 (3 nights, South).
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Oct. 31, Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring.

"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5,
Jan. 3, 9, 16, 23,
Feb. 13 and March 13.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Metropole, Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 23, for "Robinson Crusoe,"
Feb. 6, 20, 27, "Cinderella,"
Jan. 16, Feb. 27, "Aladdin."
Communicate for full particulars to
HARRY BURNS,
Head Office,
Walter House, Strand, London, W.C.
Telephone 7106 City. Telegrams, "Bilotopp."

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S PANTO., "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," from Brixton Theatre.
WANTED, Xmas week. Wanted, Xmas week. Vacant through Theatre not being ready to open. Address, MONCRIEFF, Brixton Theatre.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Vacant, Jan. 16, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
The Great Money-maker.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This mammoth Money Magnet
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant Nov. 28, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Never-failing Success.
Vacant Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 2, 9, 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
The Greatest Drama
of
Crime and Criminals
since
"The Silver King"
or
"The Ticket-of-Leave Man."
The Interest sustained
to the last moment.
A Great Drama.
A
Great Scenic Production.
A
Great Company,
Headed by
the Acknowledged Powerful
Star Actress.
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
as
MARY MACAIR.
"Out on ticket-of-leave."
Vacant
Nov. 14 (?), Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £300 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Christmas, on, with Exceptions.
FRED BULMER.
Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Theatres, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Dec. 26, New Year, also Spring, 1911. BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

"SMITH."
WANTED, Jan. 16, Feb. 13 and 20, North or Midlands.
PERCY HUTCHISON.
Theatre Royal, Halifax.

H. ARMITAGE'S COMPANIES.
Associate Manager, CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.
"LEAH KLESCHNA"
(by arrangement with Charles Frohman)
(over 2,000 performances).
WANTED, Xmas week, for this big Attraction, Midlands or North preferred.

"THE GREATER LOVE,"
By Vincent Brown.
Wanted, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5, Jan. 16.

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
Henry Seton Merriman's Greatest Work.
Wanted, 1911.
Aug. Bank Holiday (?), Aug. 14, 28, Sept. 11, Nov. 20 (?), Dec. 4 (?).
All coms. to CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.
To-day, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.
Next week, Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Nov. 7, to follow Walsall.
HORACE STANLEY, to-day, Tivoli, Pentre; next, Grand, Walsall.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
The Brilliant Modern Comedy,
from the Haymarket and Apollo Theatres.
Refer to all managers visited.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 14 and 21, North. Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Address, ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Company,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
Panto. Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6 and 13.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Oct. 31, King's Theatre, Greenock.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, 28, Christmas, to follow Howard and Wyndham's.
Now Booking Spring, 1911.
Maitland Marler as Captain Barley.
Entire production travelled.
ARTHUR SHERTON, T. R., Exeter.

KIMBERLEYS' GREEN AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Xmas, Xmas, Xmas,
First-class Theatre for this
Financial and Artistic Success.
Magnificently mounted, splendidly played.
Kindly refer any Management visited.
Re dates, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton;
All other coms., GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE,"
Vacant Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12, 26.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Jan. 23, 30.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.

Address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wire, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Return Visits Everywhere and Bigger Business.
Please refer:—
Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds;
Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield;
Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland;
Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star T., Liverpool;
W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead;
J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull;
J. Batty, Esq., Grand T., Stockton-on-Tees;
Stanley Rogers, Esq., T. R., North Shields;
J. Bell, Esq., T. R., Darlington, &c., &c.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Wire for Nov. 7.
Wire for Nov. 7.
Also Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 26.

Address,
A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Wires, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

FRED. GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
The most successful "Provincial" Musical Comedy ever produced.
Playing to Enormous Business Everywhere.

WANTED, Nov. 14, Wanted, Nov. 14.
North preferred.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
Also vacant Nov. 28.

Address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Pagoda," Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatres, 21st Month of Continuous Tour.
HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
Vacant Jan. 2, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 20, &c.
AGNES COLLIER'S STAR TOUR.
"THE TEMPTRESS OF PARIS."
Vacant March 13, 27, April 3, 10, 24, May 8, 29, July 17, 24, 31, Aug. 7, 28, and various, on.
"MOTHERLESS" (Production Shortly).
HERBERT FULLER, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
One of the strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
"TEMPTATION."
Vacant 3 nights, Nov. 24, 25, 26. Only other vacant dates this year Nov. 28 and Dec. 26.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Theatres, Jan. 23 (precede Alex., Hull), Feb. 20 (precede Metropole, Devonport), March 13 (follow Grand, Brighton), April 10 and 17 (follow New Metropole, Bootle.
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-pandy.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."

WANTED, Dec. 5, through Alex., Belfast, not being completed, also Jan. 16.
GEO. A. DE GRAY, Oct. 31, Empire Theatre, Hyde.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, Feb. 20, March 27, and April 3.
Address,
FRANK M. THORNE, Theatre Royal, York.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 7.
Nov. 7.
Nov. 21.
Nov. 21.
Admitted to be one of the biggest money-makers Touring.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire for Nov. 7, wire.
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
Wanted, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Nov. 7.
Special Band to Parade.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Vacant Nov. 21, Nov. 21.
Only vacant date until Autumn, 1911.
Guaranteed one of the finest mounted shows on the road to-day. Doing excellent business everywhere.
Refer.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
WANTED, few Spring Dates, fast filling Autumn, 1911. This play doing marvellous business. Refer to any manager where the play goes. Thanks to Wentworth Croke, Esq., for return for Lyric, Hammersmith; also H. Arnold, Esq. for Lyric, Liverpool. Wire for these dates to F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON and TRAVIS GREEN present their No. 1 Company in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Wanted, Xmas,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30.
Feb. 20, 27 (3 nights, precede Grantham).
March 6, 20, April 24, various, 1911.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.

Wire, ARTHUR HINTON.
To-day, Aston; Monday, Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.

TRAVIS GREEN AND ARTHUR HINTON CO., in "HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Emma Litchfield.
No Greater Success Touring. Refer Anywhere.
Record week at Eccles last week.
Enormous Business at Aston this week.
WANTED, Big Theatre for Xmas.
Wanted, Big Theatre for Xmas.
Also Jan. 23 and few on. Autumn, 1911, nearly full.
Wire or write, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, now booking Spring and Autumn, 1911. Apply, JOHN E. WATSON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.C.

WANTED, Jan. 23, 1910, for Pantomime, with First-class Cast, now Complete. BRYDON PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

"FACING THE WORLD ALONE."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Jan. 2.
See Company Page.
J. EDWARD WHITTY, Alex. T., Birmingham.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" CO.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
Nov. 14, Nov. 14.

Also through misunderstanding,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.

Jan. 2, Jan. 2, Jan. 2.
Jan. 2, Jan. 2, Jan. 2.

Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan. 9.
Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan. 9.

LEWIS GILBERT, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26,
Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Feb. 13.
March 20, 27.
Only Vacant Dates till Whit.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Palace, Bordesley.

MURRAY KING,
with Strong Company in
"OUR FLAT."
WANTED, Nov. 14.
Address, New Theatre, Cambridge.

MURRAY KING,
with absolutely New Plant of Printing, in
"OUR FLAT."
WANTED, Nov. 14.
Address, New Theatre, Cambridge.

XMAS. XMAS. XMAS.
MURRAY KING'S COMPANY IN
"OUR FLAT."
WANTED, Theatres. For Vacant Dates apply, PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

SPRING. SPRING. SPRING.
MURRAY KING AND HIS COMPANY IN
"OUR FLAT."
WANTED, Theatres. For Vacant Dates apply, PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 14
Nov. 28,
Dec. 5.

"THE BOY KING."
"THE BOY KING."
"THE BOY KING."
Wanted, Dec. 12,
Xmas,
Jan. 23, 1911.

Two Companies of "The Boy King," North and South, Tour from Xmas onwards.
Address,
WALTER HOWARD,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S PLAYS.
"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
"FOR HONOUR AND REVENGE."
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
New Domestic Play Shortly.
Each Show well played.
Each Show well mounted.
Each Show well advertised.
All the Shows can, and do, draw the public.
WANTED, through Transferring,
Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Nov. 28.
Jan. 2, 16, 23.

All coms. re above to
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
To-day, Gaiety Theatre, Worksop.
Next, Grand Theatre, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatre,
Nov. 28 (Suburban or South).
Also Booking for Spring, Jan. 23, 30, onward.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., London, W.

MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL'S COMPANIES.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE"
and
"THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION."
By Cecil Newton.
WANTED, for "The Hour of Temptation,"
Nov. 3, 4, 5 (to follow Worthing),
7, 8, 9 (Midlands),
Nov. 21,
Dec. 26 (to follow T. R., Stratford).
Wire, wire,
FLORENCE TYRRELL,
T. R., Worthing.

WANTED, Feb. 6, March 6, Easter, Sept. 11, for Mr. Oswald Cray's Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell)
also the Romantic Military Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
And the Play from Charles Dickens' Famous Novel,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD."
Now playing to record business everywhere.
OSWALD CRAY, Hippodrome, Neath.

WANTED, Big Theatres.
No. 1 Co.,
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
Jan. 16, Feb. 20
(North or Midland).
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE LOVE BIRDS."
WANTED, Nov. 7 (precede Oxford),
Smart Musical Comedy Success.
Fourteenth week of Tour.
Wire, LOIE EDMOND,
To-day, Selwyn Theatre, Wisbech;
Oct. 31, T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.

JOE COLLINS' PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Feb. 6, certainty only. "BABES IN THE WOOD," wanted Jan. 23 and 30, shares or certainty. "PUSS IN BOOTS," wanted Feb. 6, shares or certainty. All shows play once or twice nightly.
8, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, March 20, April 17, Aug. 7, and on.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
Every week has been a moneymaker.
Fourteen Artists, Three Tons of Scenery.
A healthy, romantic drama.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Queen's T., Dublin.

"CHASING CYNTHIA."
The New Musical Comedy that is Beating all Records.
Now Booking Xmas and Spring.
WANTED, Nov. 14 (unexpectedly vacant through the South Parade Pier, Southsea, having no orchestra). Nov. 14, to follow Weymouth and precede Brighton.
Wire, CHAS. C. OMMANNEY,
To-day, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Oct. 31, Garrison T., Tidworth, and T. R., Worthing.
Nov. 7, New Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 20.
EDWARD LLOYD, Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 31, "Sherlock Holmes." Address, CHAS. E. SUTTON, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

CHARLES WINDERMERE
and His Comedy Company,
presenting
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
Second Year of Tour.
A rollicking three-act farce, provocative of much merriment.—The Referee.
WANTED, Jan. 2, and on, with exceptions, Oct. 31, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Xmas Productions, "Cinderella," "Forty Thieves," and "Aladdin." E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Dec. 5, 12, 26, Feb. 27, March 27, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Opera House, Dudley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. TOM WATT'S COMPANY.
Only two dates this year to arrange for the above celebrated Company in
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 21, 21, 21, 21, 21,
Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26.
An interesting announcement will be made next week in regard to 1911.

Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

Wire, wire, wire for the above vacant dates to
TOM WATT,
6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, London, W.C.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Dec. 25, Jan. 2, 9.
All Feb., March 6, Whit week.
Letters, WILSON BENGE,
Moorlands, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
WANTED, Juvenile Light Comedy Lady, young, dress well. Rehearse at once.
Terms, photos., &c., to A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman of Culture and Refinement, to play small parts, understudy, &c., in a First-class Company.

NEAL, 113, London-road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, Special Week London, rehearse Tuesday, Character Comedian, for Dramatic Eccles part. Tall, robust actor, for Colonel. Young pretty Light Comedy Lady. Terms, age, height, and full particulars recent engagements.
Box 8,435, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, exp. Actors; temperate, small parts; age about 30-35, height 5ft. 6in. or over; also exp. Actress, young and tall, small part.
Write lowest terms and experience, also photograph, to
GASTON CHEVALLIER,
This week, Hippodrome, Liverpool;
next week, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, Juvenile and Character Gentlemen, also pretty responsible Lady; refinement essential. Miss M. LOWE-DARE, 56, Canterbury-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, for Nightingale and Beaudyn's Permanent Stock, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, two young Responsible Men, capable of Juveniles or Heavies, not less than 5ft. 9in. HERBERT SKARDON, General-Manager.

WANTED, for Music Hall Operetta, very good Young Contralto, for principal part; also Four Mezzo-Sopranos for chorus.
Box 8,421, "The Era."

WANTED, Heavy Bass, for Quartette, one week, Manchester.
Apply, THREE CHANTERS, Hippodrome, Salford.

WANTED, Professional Chorus Tenors and Basses, good voices and musicians, to rehearse two hours daily, for three weeks, Sunday Concerts and possible tour. Box 8,432, "The Era." Office.

WANTED, Tall Young Chorus Ladies for Tour.
Call, WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for London Musical Comedy and Music Halls; also Tenors and Basses, for Chorus. Write for an appointment. DAVIES and ADAMS, 18, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, for Australia, Male Dancer, must be good Eccentric and Legmanis, young and good appearance. Also wanted for London Pantomime, Clown, able to produce Harlequinade.
Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON,
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nina Hope, the distinguished Girl Tragedienne. Youth, Beauty, Talent. 20, Henslowe-road, East Dulwich.

WANTED, by Amateur Lady and Gent, Engagement, Rep. Co.; Stock or Tour; good appearances and wardrobes. Box 8,409, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Small Part and Understudy; Sketch, Drama, or Comedy. Good appearance; good Soprano voice. Box 8,419, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by well-trained Soprano (Pianist), Concert Tour, Variety or otherwise. C., 32, Portland-road, Holland Park.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, wide experience Amateur Acting, Pageants, Engagement, nominal salary, few weeks. W. J. K., Brooklyn, Gorleston.

WANTED, by Young Lady with Stage Experience, Re-engagement, expert shorthand typist. Terms low. Write, STEELE, c/o Woods, 125, Lodge-lane, Liverpool.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD., PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boy for Aladdin,
Good Comedian for Abanazar,
Principal Boy and Girl,
Dame, Ruffians,
Baron, Demon King, and
Pair Juveniles for Babes.
Also Two First-class Conductors and Producer.
Terms, refs., photos, perm. address, and where can be seen working during next three weeks, to
A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, 100 Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 6in. in height. Personal applications each morning between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Photos., &c., to A. R. FEATHER,
Heyes and Sons, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Recognised Principal Girl of Repute for Alice in "Dick Whittington"; also Fitzwarren and Two First-class Musical Conductors.
Address, with full particulars, terms, references, &c., to JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra T., Widnes.

WANTED, for "Cinderella," "Dick Whittington," and "Babes in the Wood," Principals, Boys, Girls, Sisters, Fairy Queens, Demon Kings, Knockabouts, &c., for London. Six weeks certain. Send full particulars. Letters only. FRED DURHAM, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Two Comedians, for Ugly Sisters. A First-class Comedian, with reputation for a Star part.
Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 8in.
References, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

Dancers and Chorus Ladies.
WANTED, for Pantomime.
State experience, age, height, and terms; also enclose Photograph,
JOHN TILLER & Co.,
15 Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Pair Knockabout Comedians, for Robbers "Babes"; also Chorus Ladies. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Smart Dancers and Chorus Ladies. SYDNEY RUSSELL,
9, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for London and Provinces. Full particulars. Photos. CAMERON, Globe Agency, Hippodrome, Heywood.

WANTED, good Ballet Mistress. Lowest terms, age, photograph, names, and addresses last two references. ARTHUR CARLTON, T.R., Worcester. Mark Envelopes "Ballet."

WANTED, Artists, &c., engaged for "Jack Giant Killer," please send present address. LANGLOIS, El Retiro, Clavering-rd., South Wanstead.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell, at Liberty for Panto., Principal Boy or Special Part. Offers invited. 218, Stockwell-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maizie Hibbs, concluded Moss and Stoll Circuit, Vac. Panto., Prin. Boy or Girl. 92, Mersey-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Ello, Dame Comedian and Dancer; last five seasons with John Tiller, Esq. Monday, Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, Pantomime, Harry Kirk, Comedian, Baron, Dame, or any good part. Engagements Drury Lane, Shakespeare, Liverpool, Grand, Nottingham, Grand, Newcastle, O. H., Belfast, J. F. Elliston, Esq. Address, Pavilion, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
EDWINA BOYDE
(daughter of the late Edwin Boyde),
also ARTHUR ROYCE, Liberty for Pantomime, Dame and Principal Girl. Last four seasons with Peter Davey, Esq. Miss Boyde thanks Alan Reid, Esq. (Alwin Syndicate, Ltd.) for Offer of Principal Part in New Musical Comedy at Kingsway Theatre, London, but owing to previous arrangements was unable to accept.
Communications next week,
Hippodrome, Blackpool.
Permanent, 7, Durand-gardens, Stockwell.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Vacant Panto; play Boy, Girl, Fairy Queen, and Comedy Parts. Come and see us next week Hippodrome, Putney.

WANTED, Panto., by Rex and Ford, Eccentric Patter Comedians, Parts and Speciality. Thanks to F. Laidler, Esq., &c., for offers. 334, Gt. Western-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Pantomime, by the Brooks Bros., Comedians.
Birmingham Weekly Mercury, Jan. 8, 1910:—
The Brooks Bros. are two of the funniest pantomimists ever seen in Birmingham.
Gibbons Tour.
Permanent, 25, Seely-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Pantomime, a First-class Quintette of Dancers; own costumes if required. Miss VALENTINE, 9, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Panto., any Animal part, fully portrayed. FRED W. LAURAINE, 54A, Morat-street, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconi, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work Guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, with High London and Provincial references, Engagement for Production or Permanency. ARTIST, 31, Oxford-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for High-class Pictorial Theatre, a thoroughly competent Manager; only those who thoroughly understand this branch of business and are capable of controlling a staff need apply. Address, with full particulars, experience, and salary required, to Box 299, C. A. G. Browne's Advertising Agency, 20, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Manager for a large Music Hall, two shows nightly, and fully licensed, must understand booking Artists. State full particulars to 3, Snow-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, good Hard-working Resident Manager. Full particulars, age, lowest terms, references. Box 8,422, "The Era."

WANTED, reliable Agent, Fit-up, must know South Coast well, open Dec. 12, "Aladdin," must have big printing basket. Terms, photo., VERA RAY, Victory Hotel, Duke-street, Brighton.

NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON.
WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager; must be good Shorthand and Typewriter. Lowest terms and references, CLARENCE SOUNES, as above.

WANTED, Practical Stage Carpenter, comfortable permanency to man willing to make himself generally useful. Salary 25s. Applications, enclosing copies latest references, Mr. PERCY DUNSFORD, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Billposters (Scaffold and Ladder). MACDONALD,
84, St. George's-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Picture Palace, smart Top Biller, able to use Brush, must be used to working effects, start Nov. 20. References required. AUBREY ALLEN, County Hall, Salisbury.

WANTED, Reliable Man, as Hall-keeper, West End Hall.
Apply, Box 8,412, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, used to Pantomime. Age, photo, terms, names, addresses last two refs., A. CARLTON, T. R., Worcester. Mark Envelopes "Wardrobe."

WANTED, Lady Shorthand-Typist, sight Pianist. Theatrical Offices. Call immediate, F. W., 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, an opportunity for a young man to be thoroughly inculcated into the business of the Front of the House and General Acting-Management of a Touring Company with a first-class and well-known old-established Pantomime Company. A Good Tour Booked at First-class Theatres. Must be of Good Appearance, Gentlemanly, and thoroughly reliable in every way. Premium Required.
To be Returned in Salary.
Apply in first instance, letters only,
M. M. H.,
2, Hengleton-road, Portslade, Brighton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, Props, &c., Resident or Tour. Used to Mus. Com. and Drama. Highest refs. Refer F. Karno, F. Lindo, A. Carlton, 2 Panto. tours. A trial will prove my worth. Can open at once, any distance. READ, 98, Springfield-road, Southborough, Kent.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Re-engagement as Electrician, Stage-Manager, or Operator.
Not afraid of work.

Just concluded two tours with Miss Alice Raymond's "A Night in Egypt" as Electrician, Carpenter, &c.
Generating station experience. Can take charge of Plant, Gas or Oil.

Can open at once. Tour or permanent.
HOLMAN,
The Euston, London.
(Inventor and Patentee of the Holman Flame Arc Lamp, Glasgow.)

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Dec. 2, Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools. Ex. refs. Resor tour. J. CHARLTON, Nelson, Leicester.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, to take bâton, must be thoroughly experienced, and have Command to Control Orchestra, at different Theatres. Single preferred. Long Tour. State absolute lowest terms, references. Open Monday, Yarmouth. Wire, GREEN, T. R., Aston; after Saturday, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

WANTED, through releasing, First-class Conductor, for Pantomime.
Lowest terms and references to
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, good Leader, open Oct. 31, A.M.U. preferred. Age and references, R. D. CHEW, Mus.-Dir., Grand, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. BLACK, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, open to-morrow (Sunday) or Monday, First-class Leader and 'Cellist. Concert and Theatre Work. Wire terms, CONDUCTOR, Palace, Tynemouth.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, a Probationer Male Attendant; must be a good Violin Player, able to read at sight, and used to String Orchestra; wages to commence at £32, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year's service £2 increase, afterwards rising £1 annually up to £42. An annual addition of £3 is given after 5 years' service, and a further £2 after 10 years' service; further increase according to ability as an attendant.
The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
Applications to be sent to the
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
enclosing copy of one testimonial.

WANTED, for Bostock Circuit, First Violin, thoroughly experienced and sober, for Variety. Open Nov. 7. Terms, 32s. 6d. Refs. to MILLAR, Conductor, Hippodrome, Hamilton, Glasgow.

WANTED, excellent Violinist, smart appearance, to join Quartette for the Halls. Fine opportunity. Write particulars. Box 8,424, "The Era."

WANTED, Army Bandsmen
Violinists, Double-handed preferred.
Noted Infantry Regiment.
Good pay and prospects for good men.
Apply, BANDMASTER, Royal Berkshire Regt., Dover.

WANTED, Cornet, Lady or Gentleman, for Rink, open Oct. 31, two sessions. Wire or write, NEWTON, Post Office, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, good Cornet and Pianist, for Skating Rink Band, open Saturday next. Refs., terms, age, HORACE TEAGUE, Musical-Director, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Cornet, Clarionet, Euphonium, Drum, for re-organisation of the old-established Italian Band. Terms, share. TROTTI, 14, Hilldrop-terrace, Torquay.

WANTED, First Horn Player, Band Royal Marines, Chatham Division, including Symphony Concert work; none but really good players need apply. CHARLES HOBY, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster.

WANTED, an experienced 'Cello Player. Apply, with latest references and salary, to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, 'Cello Player.
Address, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR,
Lyceum Theatre,
Sheffield.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellists, Leaders, Vocalists combined preferred. Must be experienced. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, High-class Variety, once nightly, December, North.
Applicants who have played for me say where, and when. State age, experience, lowest terms and references to
PETER FLITCROFT,
34, Cecil-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, good Pianist, to Double another Instrument. Terms, age, photo, names, addresses last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, for Picture Palace, Pianist and Leader (male), must be used to Variety, start Dec. 5. Letters to AUBREY ALLEN, County Hall, Salisbury.

WANTED, Double Drummer that can also play Wind Instrument; permanency for suitable man. HOSKING, Bandmaster, Town Band, Penzance.

BANDMASTERS.
WANTED, Military Band, Summer 1911, South Coast, 18 weeks, twenty good performers, Conductor, smart uniform, first-class repertoire, three performances daily, twice Sunday. Send estimate (weekly), and description uniform, letters only, to AMUSEMENTS MANAGER, J. B. Cramer and Co., 126, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Ladies' Quartette or Trio, with Vocalist, for Sea-side Engagement. State terms, &c., Box 8,426, "The Era."

WANTED, Professional Lady Musicians, to form a Balalaika Ladies' Orchestra. Tuition free. Must reside in London. Address Box 8,423, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8, 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. THE STANDARD PRESS, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by smart Conductor, age 30, Music Hall (Lightning Programme) or Drama, up-to-date Library; sober always; London or Provinces; at Lib. Nov. 14; highest credentials and fully experienced. Box 8,433, "The Era."

WANTED, by an experienced Conductor, Engagement in a First-class Music Hall, London or Suburbs; only first-class offers entertained. Box 8,418, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, T. Reynolds will be at Liberty shortly as Leader for Circus or Skating Rinks. Hannaford's, Carrick Allen, Co. Longford, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, Theatre, through Disbandment of Orchestra. Violin, 19, Whitley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, re-engagement, Leader or First Violin, experienced and thoroughly reliable. Age 28. Could open 31st or Nov. 7. Phipps, Empire Palace, Dewsbury, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist, Disengaged. Experienced, 8 months leader. 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Edythe Reeve, Violinist, Disengaged, First or Second, any business. 60, Kimberley-gardens, Green Lanes, Harringay, N.

WANTED, by Violinist, Lady Diplomé, Engagement in Orchestra, experienced soloist, and ensemble music, Press notices, London or neighbourhood preferred. Write G., c/o Burrows, Dentist, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Violinist (22), Engagement, Obligato or Second, in London Theatre, Music Hall, or Private Band. Wolf, 126, Tachbrook-street, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin or Viola, experienced Theatre or Variety; could open Monday. Nicholls, 5, Livingston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any business, good refs., at liberty Nov. 2. Apply, Violinist, 38, Park-st., Swinton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any business.
E. Galbone, 10, North Park-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, as Violin, to join a Ship, willing to make himself in any other way useful; age 24.

G. Chanot, c/o Professor Bacon, 42, Endell-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement First Violin, Young, Experienced. Good refs. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Violinist, Any Business.
Address,
Violinist, 32, Prince's-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, any Business, good Cornet (Owen), also Euphonium or Trombone (D. Benedetto); finished engagement; excellent references. Apply, Box 8,411, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, David Williams, Winter Gardens, Blackpool; after Oct. 30, perm., 255, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, good refs., any business; can open at once. Cornet, 35, Prebend-street, Bedford.

WANTED, Known, Cornet or Conductor, Disengaged 28th.
W. A., 215, Portnall-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, any business, reliable and experienced. Liberty Nov. 7. Nuttall, Meynall-street, Derby.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Winter Engagement; excellent refs.; finished summer season, Lyell Tayler's Orchestra, Buxton. Fenwick, 5, Plantagenet-st, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, any business, experienced, sober, reliable. Wood, 64, Tewkesbury-st., Tudor-rd., Leicester. State terms.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Clarionettist, thoroughly experienced, any business. Miss L. Ter Poorten, 243, Prescot-rd., Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, First-class Orchestral player, Disengaged. High or low pitch. Charles Matthews, Duke of Devonshire's (private) Orchestra, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by reliable Clarionet Player. Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, six years present place, age 35, good references. Can open Monday. Hillas, Empire, York.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, First-class Orchestral Player. Disengaged; excellent references. Clarionet, 222, Alum Rock-road, Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, experienced, reliable, age 28, C instrument. Any business, London preferred. 2, Stafford-road, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED, through reduction Orchestra, Engagement by First-class Clarionetist, also by good Violinist, together or separate. 88, Castle-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Orchestral or E flat, Military Band, combine second violin if required, experienced. Chas. Woodward, 50, London-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by a Well-known Clarionetist, any business, join at once; good references. Address, Clarionetist, 4, Prince's-street, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, experienced and reliable, any business; good refs.; Disengaged Nov. 2. Peck, 53, Mount-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, E flat Bass Player, any business. Good refs. Steady and reliable. Duckett, 6, Dover-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, Contra Bass; thoroughly experienced all lines; steady and reliable; good refs. H. Richardson, 132, Brinnington, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, first-class references, and reliable. Basso, 53, Shakespeare-road, Herne Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, experienced Young Lady, Double Bass Player, Disengaged.
Address, Box 8,428, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Good Double Bass Player. Young, steady, and reliable. Good refs. England or abroad. Address David Thomas, Theatre and Empire, Hyde.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombone, Theatre, Music Hall, any business, can commence at once. S. Smith, 24, Stanley-st., Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone, thoroughly experienced in all lines, Theatre, Hall, or Rink. T. Raine, 5, Percival-street, Accrington, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombone Player, any business, Rink preferred. James Cooper, 6, Ivy-terrace, Old Ynysybwl, near Pontypridd, S. Wales.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia, Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombonist, combine Solo Euphonium. Any business. Thoroughly reliable. Good refs. M., 9, De Beauvoir-crescent, N.

WANTED, by Bombardon Player, Winter Engagement, good references, sober and reliable. Fred Walters, 1, Delhaig, Gougie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, in or near London; very experienced in Lightning Variety Business. 'Cellist, 9, Petherton-rd., Highbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, any business, Orchestral or Military; can open at once. J. C. Everard, 65, King-st., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Flute and Piccolo, experienced, any business, at liberty Nov. 2. Flautist, 663, Stratford-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flute and Piccolo. Well up to any business. Flautist, 53, Trowbridge-rd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

WANTED, by Pianist, re-engagement, good sight reader, accompanist, &c. Experience pictures, variety, &c. Willing to assist billing. &c. Low terms for permanency. Central Hall, Vange, Essex.

WANTED, Known, A. A. Key, Pianist, Chelsea Palace, disengaged owing to augmentation of orchestra. Address, 26, Burnaby-st., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Rink or Variety, experienced and reliable. W. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Pianist (lady), also Cornettist. Experienced in all lines. M. S. S., 57, Craven-gardens, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, steady and reliable. Can open at once. Billy Palmer, 200, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer, with Effects, steady and reliable, good references. Ted Callcott, 1, Portland-cottages, Portland-square, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform, including Vocalists. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, that the popular
RED ROSE ORCHESTRA
is the ideal Band for First-class Hotels (British and Continental experience), Bazaars, At Homes, Exhibitions, &c., a never-failing Attraction. This week and after at Portland Hall, Southsea, and Ryde.
Please address all communications to Madame Manton-Myatt, 28, Rosendale-rd., W. Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Ladies' Trio, refined, Violin, 'Cello, Piano, one good Vocalist, Hotel, Café, or Rink; excellent Répertoire. Box 8,370, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements for Ladies, Trios or Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates, Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagements, by
the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. Carter, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Signor Di Giacomo's Anglo-Italian Band, Orchestra or Military, is at Liberty for next summer season; may be heard in London; picked Soloists, smart uniforms, Répertoire includes the latest English selections. Terms, &c., Sig. U. Di Giacomo, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Brass Band, seven or upwards, any business. Concluding season with Alexandra's Hippodrome. First-class repértoire of up-to-date music. Liberty Nov. 7. Apply Matt Corbett, 11, Outram-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Rink Band, disengaged, 6, 7, or 8 capable performers, reliable every way, up-to-date rink music. Terms reasonable for sessions required. Apply, Bandmaster W. E. Ward, Lowestoft.

WANTED, re-engagement for First-class Band, Restaurants, Pictures, Rinks, Pianists provided. Bandmaster, 2, Seymour-place, Marble Arch. 'Phone 4086 Mayfair.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

To Circus Artists
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Winter Season,
Good Lady and Gentlemen Riders,
with Own Horses;
also
Sensational Acts
of every kind,
Good Flying Trapeze Show
(not less than two ladies and two gentlemen),
New and Novel Acts,
Suitable for the Ring.

Quote Lowest Terms,
which must be moderate,
to
P. Collins,
Gondola Works
Walsall.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, all kinds of Animal Specialities, Dec. 3, and onwards; also Acts of every kind that can be done in the Ring before a most refined audience; no vulgarity.
A few Window-billers, those used to High-billing with the sticks, may apply; sober men only, and those that work with interest in the concern.
Apply in all cases, Talbot Cooke, Manager.

WANTED, to Open at once, Smart Men that can Tumble for Comedy Act. Send Terms, Tricks, Age, and Height in first letter. Long Engagement to right party.—Box 8,434, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
For Special Mattings, Mats, Tents, Tents,
Canvas and Rope Goods,
for Circus and Theatre use,
write, John B. Champion and Sons,
Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.
WORLD'S FAIR. WORLD'S FAIR.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
LONDON.
LONDON.
LONDON.
LONDON.

Commencing CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 1910.
Commencing CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 1910.
Commencing CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 1910.
Commencing CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 1910.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. E. Read,
who has left no stone unturned to
procure and place before the Public
ALL THE
GREATEST NOVELTIES OBTAINABLE,
GREATEST NOVELTIES OBTAINABLE,
GREATEST NOVELTIES OBTAINABLE,
for the Great
WORLD'S FAIR CIRCUS.
WORLD'S FAIR CIRCUS.
WORLD'S FAIR CIRCUS.
He has arranged (after an absence of three years and at a great increase of salary) with
SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS,
SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS,
SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS,
whose reputation in that line is unquestionable.

Notice. Notice. Notice.
SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS
wish to thank those Proprietors and Managers for their most tempting offers for Christmas, 1910, and also to inform them that after a lapse of three years they are returning to the home of their former triumphs, where for thirteen successive seasons they astounded and delighted millions of visitors at that great institute of amusement,
THE WORLD'S FAIR,
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS'
GREAT CIRCUS.
The horses will be selected from upwards of 200 of the Fossetts' Famous Stud. The Ring will have the full attention of the entire Fossett Family, under the personal supervision of that good old general, Sir Robert himself.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Lady and Gentleman Equestrians,
with or without own horses,
Good Ground Acts,
Good Ground Acts,
Tumbling Clowns, and good Agousts,
Tumbling Clowns, and good Agousts,
Haute Ecole, and Liberty Horses,
Haute Ecole, and Liberty Horses,
in fact, anything that is good for Circus Ring, and not appeared at the Agricultural Hall within the last three years.

All communications to Sir R. Fossett,
Lodge, Tiffield, near Towcester.

Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Auto-Mati, Athletic Exposition, with Twin Motor Sensation; also Mlle Amelia, Speciality Wire Act. Open time, Feb., on. 37, Brunswick-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, The Altons, Marvellous Demon Contortionists, now with Fossett's Circus, are at liberty Nov. 14, onward. 6, Victoria Park-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Clown and Agoust, just finished eight months' tour, Swallow's Circus; now vacant. Permanent address, 105, Church-street, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

WANTED, to follow Zoo Circus, Glasgow, Nov. 21, on, for Captain George's wonderful Performing Elephant and Ponies, in their great and novel act. The only act of its kind in Britain. Absolutely New. Capt. George, Hippo., Hamilton, N.B.

WANTED, to thank all the Circus Proprietors who have offered Engagements for Christmas and Winter Season to the Royal Ohmys, but they cannot accept, as they are engaged for London, and will bring to England the greatest sensational Novelty Equestrian up-to-date Act ever seen in a Circus Ring. The Royal Ohmys have been the talk of Norway. The Royal Ohmys have been the talk of Sweden. The Royal Ohmys are now the talk of Denmark. The Royal Ohmys will be the talk of London.
First vacant date, Feb., 1911.
For particulars address,
The Royal Ohmys,
Circus Bech Olsen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Palace of Varieties, also Empire, Worcester. No wires.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, for Scarborough, Nov. 7, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Good Specialities. Particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists (nothing too big) for Nov. 24 (three nights) and Dec. 1 (three nights). Apply, William Peacock.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, November, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. Kennedy, Empire, Smethwick.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK,
and
PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above. Good Sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers. Lowest terms, lithos., &c.,
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists of every description, Monday next, onwards.

HARRY BURNS'S AGENCY,

Head Office, Walter House, Strand, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1106 City. Telegrams, "Billotopp."

Provincial Office, Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Telephones, 231 and 231A Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Chosen, Hartlepool."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

WANTED, Nov. 7, on, Artists in all Lines, Show good, terms low, otherwise save stamps. W. A. Jackman, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines, for several
Halls in the North. Good Tops and
Bottoms, and New Novel Original Acts,
can be placed immediately.
Address, Signor Pepi, Palace, Darlington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Brighton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Oct. 31, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, George E. Mudd.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 7, onwards. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Oct. 31, onwards, Artists all Lines, nothing too big, nothing too small. Send full particulars, Leaton's Agency, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, Jan., on; Hall small. Lowest terms. Managing-Director, Queen's Hall, Darlaston.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities,
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, new to towns in Yorkshire, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c. Send full particulars, terms, and dates, 1, Cross-Flatts,-drive, Beeston, Leeds. Telephone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
WANTED, immediately, Stars of every description, immediate dates onwards.
Apply immediately, Harry Burns,
Head Office, Walter House, 418, Strand, London, W.C. (opposite the Tivoli).
Telegrams, "Billotopp." 'Phone, 1106 City.
Provincial office, Welburn House, Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Chosen, Hartlepool."
Telephones 231 and 231A Hartlepool.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, WAKEFIELD.
One of the finest and brightest Music Halls in the Provinces. Open all the year round. Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.

WANTED, Known, always openings for Star Artists. Apply, with vacancies and absolute lowest, to our exclusive agent,
Harry Burns, London and Hartlepool.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

EGBERT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Starring Attraction or Top Liner, Nov. 7, on, Midlands,
also Big Tops for Wales,
exclusively representing
Royal Hippodrome, Dover.
Royal Hippodrome, Eastbourne.
New Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.
Tivoli Theatre, Pentre.
New Hippodrome, Maesteg.
Dowlais, Ferndale, and Tredegar.
Piccadilly-mans., 17, Shaftesbury-av., London, W.

HIPPODROME, WORTHING.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Star Top.
Ashburn's Agency,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
'Phone 5467 Cent. Tele., "Hippotomy, London."

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Nov. 7, and on, Star Tops.
Ashburn's Agency,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
'Phone, 5467 Cent. Tele., "Hippotomy, London."

WANTED, Variety Turns for Nov. 7 (4 nights) (Theatre let for Thursday and Friday nights), also Dec. 12 and 19, and Picture Palace, Bacup. J. Walters, Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
Hamilton & Hughes, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Acts for immediate and future dates. Nothing too Big. Messrs. Rawes and Clarance, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Comedy Acts in all Lines. Anything to cause shrieks of laughter, Dec. 26, Jan. 2 and 9. Write particulars and lowest bedrock terms, Box 8,410, "The Era."

T. D. CUMMINGS, VARIETY AGENT,
just returned from Tour of the World.
WANTED, for all the Principal Halls, the very best Acts. Send full Bookings and name of Hall's, and absolute lowest, to the Reliable Agent, 7, Welcome-street, Exeter.

WANTED, for Dalton's Agency, 62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester.
Early Dates:
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, &c.
Early Dates:
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, &c.
Early Dates:
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, &c.
Acts for all Towns.
Send Immediate dates with full list of Bookings.
Lowest Price Essential.

GLOBE AGENCY.
Hippodrome, Heywood. 'Phone 109.
WANTED, for immediate work, Star Acts, nothing too big, also Comedy and Specialities. Full particulars, J. Cameron.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, good Speciality Act or Attractive Novelty, with good Stage Setting, for Nov. 7, also Sensational Specialities, Spectacular Productions, and big Continental Novelties, for Dec. 5, 19, 26, on. State where performance can be seen next two weeks. Lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Nov. 7, North, East, South, and West, Variety Acts; Dec. 26, Bristol, Star Specialities. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Acts for a Special Week, Nov. 7, Lancashire, for Picture Theatre.
Apply,
Director, 21, Balmoral-road, Fallowfield, Lancs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Nov. 7, on. Apply, Lamb.

ASHBURN'S AGENCY,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
'Phone 5467 Central.
Tele., "Hippotomy, London."
WANTED, for Nov. 7, onwards, Big Tops of Bills, Stars, Artists only.
Odd Dates or Tour.
Suitable Acts can Share.
Must be Sensational and Attractive.
Capable of following the Great Raymond, Gustave Fasola, Rabottini's Band, &c.
Particulars, full list of bookings, lithos, and absolute lowest terms in first letter imperative.
Thanks those who replied to previous adverts.
Too numerous to reply to all individually.
Please accept silence as polite negative.
No interviews without appointment.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, for First-class Halls. Lowest salary for immediate dates. Artists all lines. Permanent Address, Bookings, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton. Jimmy Shields wire address.

WANTED, Big Top, Nov. 7, also Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future dates.

Barnard's Agency,
33, Shaw-street, Liverpool.
'Phone 2349 Royal. Tele., "Aeroplane, Liverpool."

WANTED, Top-Liners for Immediate Dates. Communicate, Chas. Dietrich's Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, for Nov. 7, onwards, Tops, Bottoms, Middles, in fact Turns of all Lines. Nothing too Big; Small Turns also Wanted if Good. Turns new to Castleford write. One house nightly, twice Saturdays. Small town, but a fine break between North and South. State lowest in first letter, Beanland and Emerson, as above.

Artists known to us please send full list of bookings and permanent address for our rapidly growing Agency Department.

WANTED, for Rinks, Miniature Circus Acts (own mat), Acrobat Troupes, Three Bars, Dogs, &c. De Ora, Rink Agent, Picture Palace, Nuneaton.

WANTED, good Combinations, with big Top and Bottom, for Nov. 28, and onwards. Terms, &c., Donald O. Clark, Hippo., Blackpool.

WANTED, good Juvenile Troupes, Specialities, and Comedy Acts, with drawing powers, for Picture Palaces, North. Smith's Agency, 22, Walker-terrace, Gateshead.

ANGLO-JAPAN EXHIBITION,
RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.
To be opened on Saturday, Nov. 26, by the Lord Mayor of Manchester.

WANTED, a few more real Japanese Acts, such as Jugglers, Acrobats, Balancers, Wrestlers, &c.,
also Native Artisans, Embroiderers, Carvers, &c.

Apply to the Secretary,
Old Hall-lane, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady, for Illustrated Songs, must have good voice and appearance, permanent engagement to a suitable person. State full particulars and salary in first letter to C. F. Rowley, Coliseum, Thistlecroft, Hersham, near Walton-on-Thames.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist, Sing Descriptive Song to Novel Picture; must have excellent voice and very distinct enunciation. Letters only, with terms, refs., photo., all particulars, Pink, 6, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

Coloured.
WANTED, Young Lady, Sing and Dance, to join Trio, must have good appearance on and off the stage, good engagement. Clifford, 72, Isledon-road, Finsbury Park, N.

CHARLES DARE'S FAMOUS MINSTRELS.
WANTED, for Long Tour, First-class Comedians, also deep Basso, male Soprano, and Baritone. Artists engaged for Christmas don't apply. Terms, &c., by letter only. Charles Dare, 26, Paternoster-row, E.C. Telephone 2785 Holborn.

WANTED, Smart Comedy Man for Double Comedy Acrobatic Act. Apply, terms and weight, to Bonair, 3, Binn's-yard, Somers-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Comedy Acrobat, able to do a hand balance, must be really funny, or no use, good salary and pleasant job for right man. State ability, former experience, height, weight, &c., to

Comic Acrobat, 82, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Operator, Gaumont Machine; must be experienced in both currents.
State experience and salary required.
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Poole's Picture Shows, First-class Operators, Good Stage Carpenter, and Useful Men; all must be good billers. Lowest terms, F. Mayer, Public Rooms, Camborne.

WANTED, First-class Operator, one who knows his business, can start at once; also Pianist, thoroughly used to variety and pictures. Cottrell, Pictures, Daly Hall, Consett, co. Durham.

WANTED, for Nov. 7, one week, First-class Picture Show.
J. Sykes, Victoria Hall, Abercarn, Mon.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne, Expert Dancer; also Nellie Boden, Comedy Artist. Theatre, Perth; Monday, Palace, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Oct. 31, by Athelda, champion Lady Athlete, Weight Lifter, Dumbbells and Barbells. Empire, York. Direct, or Dalton's Agency.

WANTED, Monday, by La Gantias (Mona and Cora), in New and Novel Vocal and Instrumental Interlude. Voice, appearance, harmony. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, for a sure, fire act.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 19, 26, The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers. 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Singing Boxmakers. Three people. A sure draw. Monday, Pavilion, Birtley, Durham.

WANTED, Dates, by Master Fred Crook, Soprano, 5, Stanley-street, Queen's-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.; or, David Hart, Esq.

WANTED, Known, Will Warren, England's Premier Actor-Vocalist, is Vacant Nov. 7, on, with exceptions. Wire quick for a successful turn. This, East Oxford; next, Public Hall, Woking.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 7, by Jock McIver, Versatile Scotch Comedian. Wire, 37, Blenheim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 7, by Leslie Clements, Coon Singer and Banjoist. Wire, 37, Blenheim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Will Mills (Salt Bush Bill), World's Champion Whip Manipulator (Australian). Austral Hall Hotel, London, W.C.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Empire's Collier Comedian. Original Copyright Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. 26, Wood-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comic Singer, with Original Antics. Terrific Hit, Grand Theatre, Derby. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, on, Theo. Leslie, Light Comedian, an Artist; Pictures, Tour, Halls, good Combination. 6, Albert-grove, South Hackney, London.

WANTED, Nov. 7, to follow T. R., Goole, by Tom Delaware, in his Impersonations of Lady Vaudeville Stars. 107, Helmsley-road, Sandyford, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Nov. 7, by Bert Powell, Entertainer and Illusionist (North preferred), Oct. 31, week. Hippodrome, Heywood, Lancashire.

WANTED, E. Lucknow, Anglo-Continental Comedy Musical Comedian and Story-teller. Liberty Nov. 7. 14. Address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, new songs, liberty Monday next. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer, Liberty Monday, Oct. 31. Offers, 17, Newcastle-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Carlos Menard, The Novelty Musician. Vacant Dec., on. This, Emp., Merthyr; next, Hippo., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggling Effects, from London Hippodrome, vacant Nov. 14 and 21, to follow London. Next, Palace, Carlisle

WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7. JEAN SEUL, 302, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Recognised Record Breaker, with latest Sensational Challenges, this week, cheered to the echo at Hippo., Shildon, Durham. Plenty of printing, including small and sensational 6-sheet lithos. Who wants this Act? Nov. and Dec. dates. Address, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, and 21, Theo Mauritus, the famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker. This, Pavilion, Urmston; next, Albert Hall, Cheltenham. Refer, Mr. Adrim, Urmston, as to drawing powers. His takings are nearly double. Who wants me? Wire.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, vacant Monday. Two acts if required. Wire, perm., 22, Barton-road, Heeley, Sheffield.

WANTED, by King and Manley, Nov. 7 and 14, in their latest Illusion and Comedy Act, first vacancies since Nov., 1909; also Panto. 76 Redland-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Monday, by Ray and Lingard, Comedy Sketch. Also Rene Ralph, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, 218, Stockwell-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 21, various, on, Andie and Brenton, presenting Original Screaming Comedy Episode, "Kitty." Oct. 31, Marina T., Ramsgate.

WANTED, the Bohemians (Will and Madge) Instrumentalists and Comedy. Gigantic success, this, Picture Palace, Caerphilly. Vacant Monday next. Wire above.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14 (through transferring dates), by Tom Kelso and Edie George, in their Latest Sporting Comedy Act, "Yoicks and a Yoke," Well-Dressed and Mounted. Own Scenery and Effects Carried. Thanks for offers. Still Free for Pantomime. Oct. 31, Grand, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1910, by The Great Rohde and Roche the Chameleon, Artist and IT, an original Novelty Act from start to finish. This Act is fully protected. Enormous success this week, Bottom of Bill, Central Palace, North Shields; next week, Starring, Town Hall, Consett, Durham.

WANTED, Nov. 7, onwards, by the Three Britons, in a New, Novel, and Original Speciality Act, "Jack's Best Pal." Miss Briton is wonderfully entertaining. Agents and Managers would do well to look up this act. 275, Park-lane, Horton, Bradford.

WANTED, another Hall, to work with Empire, Camberwell, Nov. 7, by Foley and Francis, Extraordinary Comedians. Emp., Dewsbury; Oct. 31, Vint's Palace, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Oct. 31, 7, by the Famous Athletes, Attilla Bros., as Grecian Gladiators and Strong Men. Wire, 199, Boaler-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 31 also Nov. 7, by RICH TAYLOR, The Whistling Ventriloquist. The Feature of every Programme. Letters and wires to Low Moor, Clitheroe. Don't miss this attractive novelty.

WANTED, Nov. 21, by Gulliver and the Dol, with the Laugh, between London and Scotland, also Christmas and New Year (Scotland) through transferring. Many thanks to seven Managers who replied last week, but must have price. Gibbons and Syndicate Tours booked. Usual big success, this, Scarboro'; Monday, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 12, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Offers invited. Hippo., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. Two Sure Successes. Mon., Hippo., Heywood.

WANTED, by Pollintas, Original Marionettes, introducing Thirty-eight Figures in Fifteen Minutes, including Boxing Kangaroo, Grand National Steeplechase, Nov. 7, onwards. P.A., 2, High-street, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Meux's Marionettes (Miniature Music Hall), L'Etoile, the Artist's Model, in Posing Act; also as Kissie Dagmar, Chic Comedienne, Liberty Nov. 28, on, with exception, to follow Hexham. Address, People's P., South Bank, Middlesbro'.

WANTED, Known, the Cyclinis, Tippling, Somersaulting Cyclists, Football on Wheels, Vac. 31st, 7th, 14th, also Dec., Jan., North. 7, Eberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe (six in number), Male and Female Novelty Acrobats. Two acts. Thank the following proprietors for contracts and offers: C. Poole, Collins, Ginnett, Ashworth, Kennedy, Davis, Gilley, Moore, Ward, for tour and re-engagements. Royal Theatre, Exeter.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE GREAT RAYMOND.
THE GREAT RAYMOND.
THE GREAT RAYMOND.
The Globe-trotting Fun-maker and Illusionist.

Enormous Success of first British Tour.
Records broken everywhere.

The biggest, brightest, most elaborate, and costly magical performance ever seen. Five complete different two-hour programmes. Gorgeous stage settings of gold, silver, silk, and plush. Special scenery. Magnificent electrical effects. The finest variety of five-colour art lithographic posters in the world. Over thirty people. Twenty tons of equipment.

Creating a positive furore everywhere.

WANTED, Known, Raymond will be pleased to hear from Managers of up-to-date, fully-equipped First-class Theatres and Halls having open time. Sharing terms or salary. All communications, MAURICE F. RAYMOND, Proprietor and Manager, En route, or care of "The Era." Let it be distinctly understood that the name RAYMOND means big business, and nothing is spared to keep up the breaking of records. Enormous Success of first British Tour. THE GREAT RAYMOND. THE GREAT RAYMOND. THE GREAT RAYMOND. Owing to mistake in Bookings, Nov. 7 and 14 open. Only vacancies prior to long London season. Address, New Empire Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Nov. 14 and 21 (London or near), by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, World's Greatest Athletic Entertainment. Conclude, Palace, Lincoln. 31st, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, Jan. 2, 9, 16, and 23. Most marvellous electric act on earth. Good top or bottom. Sure draw. This week, Daly's Hall, Consett, Durham; next, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Lo-Lo May Trio, Refined Gymnasts, Contortionists, and Dance Artists, magnificent silver and electric apparatus, costly wardrobe, concluding thirty-six weeks' tour with Alexandra's Hippo. Few immediate vacancies from Nov. 7. Helen's Cottage, Mattershall Burgh, E. Dereham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Known, the Three Kels, conclude to-night another successful week at Aquarium, Scarborough. Monday, Pavilion, Wishaw. Have a few immediate dates vacant. Offers invited. Address correspondence as above.

WANTED, Monday, Walker's Would-be Acrobats, Globella, Juggling Speciality, Halls or Pictures. Wire, Hippodrome, Ellesmere Port.

WANTED, Monday next; also Nov. 14 and 21, by Herman and Evelyn, in their Great Sensational and Novel Pot-Pourri Unique Jumping Acrobatic Table and Wire Act. Offers, to-day, Saturday, Pavilion, Wolverhampton; after, Alexandra, Pontefract. Two Acts if Required.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto and Clown Rumbo, Comedy Pot-Pourri Contortionist, Nov. 7, 14, 28. Oct. 31, Poole's Palace, Ynyshir, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Lorettes, Double Trapeze Artists, also Leoville, Tight Wire, two Good Acts. Big success, Zoo, Glasgow. Liberty Nov. 7 and 14.

WANTED, by Frantz's Comedy Five, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, through obliging Continental Managers. All coms., R. FRANTZ, 15, Richmond-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, Dates, Rinks, Circuses, Carnivals, Halls, Picture Halls, De Ora's Great Aerial Act. Picture Palace, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known
J. A. WILSON
and
"Private Towser."
At Liberty Nov. 7.
Wire or write,
Palace Theatre, Halifax;
or
TOM SHAW, 18, Adam-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, by Lorenzo's World-renowned Performing Dogs, Monday and until Xmas, Halls, Circuses, Pictures, &c. Red Lion Hotel, Northfleet, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Dog Show at Liberty Monday next; can follow anything. Wire, Coliseum, Tranmere, Cheshire.

WANTED, to follow Zoo Circus, Glasgow, Nov. 21, on, for Captain George's wonderful Performing Elephant and Ponies, in their great and novel act. The only act of its kind in Britain. Absolutely New. CAPT. GEORGE, Hippo., Hamilton, N.B.

WANTED, by Young Man, 19, to join Sketch or Troupe, knowledge of Dancing. P. L., 7, Yukon-road, Balham.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, age 22, desires Engagement as assistant, can juggle with balls, &c. Address, 26, Maplin-street, Bow, London, E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

IMPORTANT.
To Roundabout Proprietors, Amusement Caterers, and Others.

WANTED, Known, that I have received Instructions to Offer for Immediate Sale by Private Treaty as a Going Concern a Beautiful Set of Three-abreast Gallopers which are undoubtedly Second to None in this country. Savage's make, comprising 40ft. centre truck, Savage's engine, splendid carved and gilt top centre and droppers, 14 carved and gilded rounding boards, cornice, and droppers, over 5ft. deep; carved and gilded drum; large ornamental mirrors; 36 carved horses, by Spooner; 2 motor cars, altogether carrying 74 persons; twisted brass rods; magnificent Gavioli organ; 10 Excello lamps; the whole packs on four loads, road or rail (Savage's trucks). Also 8 h.p. Burrell traction engine and dynamo; 1 14ft. road Pullman living wagon, by Orton. All the above are in condition as new. This lot will be sold; worth the money, and can be seen working any time by appointment. If not sold this week will be sold by Public Auction at an early date. For time, place of sale, and date, see next week's "Era." For further particulars, price, cards to view, &c., apply to TOM NORMAN, Auctioneer, Auction Dept., "Era" Office, London.
N.B.—This is undoubtedly a very Special and First-class Lot.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

JOY WHEEL.

The Latest Sensation.

WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device. The Wheel provided with Silent Driving Mechanism (patents applied for) Write for full particulars. TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS. & Co., LTD., Kingsley Works, Grange-road, Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Showmen to Read Copy of Testimonial:—
Oct. 15, 1910. Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros.
Sirs, — In reference to the Joy Wheel which you have just supplied me with, I think it is only fair that I should write you a note of appreciation. I am pleased to say it has given great satisfaction, and it not only looks well, but works well, too. Great credit is due to your firm for turning out such a neat and handy lot. Best wishes.—I am, yours respectfully,
(Signed) JOHN WILMOT (E. W.).

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelties, with Flash, one month certain, two weeks at Lowestoft, two at Reading. Will Fat Women, Midgets, and Dahomey Warriors write? Sharing terms or salary. BARRON'S Exhibition, King-st., Reading.

WANTED, a Tattoo Artist and other Novelties for Automatic Arcade. Good position. Share or rental. PAULEY, 1, St. Mary-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Comedy Ground Worker, short, young. Particulars to FURNESS, Drug Stores, Central Drive, Blackpool.

WANTED, Man, accustomed to Show Business, able to describe Freaks and Novelties, Fit-up Illusions, and arrange Tableaux in Wax. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Trainer, one used to Handling Large Apes and Baboons. Sobriety Indispensable.
BOSTOCK, Earl's Court, London.

WANTED, Business-like Young Man, to assist in Sale Rooms, first-class terms to suitable applicant. Box 8,431, "The Era."

WANTED, Nov. 5, onwards, Wildman Winter Carnival, Pavilion, Carnarvon. I am still open to book a good Flying Show for the opening week. Wire or write, Sole Lessee, A. WILDMAN, Pavilion, Carnarvon.

WANTED, an Engagement by Well-known Palmist, on Shares or Salary. Address for particulars, Scientific Hand-reading, 208, Ladywood-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, after three weeks' terrific success at the Standard Theatre, Whitehaven, Miss Maud Temple, Britain's Bearded Lady, the Greatest Attraction of Modern Times, and a guaranteed success, is at liberty Oct. 31 and several future dates. All letters to Blue Boar Theatre of Varieties, Sheffield. No sharing terms accepted.

WANTED, Space in Trades Exhibition, Fountain Pens. STEWART, 50, Stanley-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORNALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheaper to buy than hire, Pathé and leading makers, used few weeks, as new, 1d. foot. Lists free. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, must be Sold. Owner Leaving for the Colonies. All kinds of the Most Up-to-date 1d. in Slot Automatic Machines, also a Magnificent Keith Prowse piano, with illuminated top, almost new. For particulars, apply to Mr. CHARLES, 271, Ecclesall-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, Mills' Punch Ball Slot Machine, £5, sacrifice; Electric, 30s.; Execution Model, 60s.; Loops, 20s. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Brooklyn Cake Walk, complete tilt, 10 h.p. motor, belts, cables, pay box, Simmani Organ, with music. JUSTINE, 23, Severn-avenue, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Sell, Wax Model Heads. STIFF, Makers, 18, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Small Art Exhibition, handy to travel, bargain for quick sale. Letters, BAKER, 45, Plumstead-road, Woolwich.

WANTED, to Buy, a pair of Stands, Pulleys, and Blocks, for Wire Show. ALGAR, 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool. Bob Yelding write.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c. Address, MIRRORS, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Let, one or two Spaces in our Exhibitions, Hertford and Lewisham. Apply, SECRETARY, Exhibition, Ladywell Baths, Lewisham.

To Auctioneers, Showmen, 6d. or 1d. Bazaars.
WANTED, to Let, for twelve months or more, Large Premises in the Best Position in Sheffield; open front. Apply for particulars to Mr. CHARLES, 271, Ecclesall-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, to let, Ground at Fair Ground, High-street, Deptford, for Roundabouts and all Throwing Games. MACKESY, 52, Blackheath rd.

WANTED, Known, good Building, convenient to the principal Theatres, suit Waxworks or other Entertainment; would let or share profits. Particulars, 10, St. Aubyn-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Modern Picture Theatre or Sports Hall, 42ft. wide, 75ft. long, working middle class district, will be let privately. Box 8,425, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent, for short season, small Skating Rink, Garage, or large building, manufacturing town, for Maxim's High-class Fun Carnival. MAXIM BROS., Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, J. Johnson and Joey Oram to communicate at once with C. F. ROWLEY, Coliseum, Thistlecroft, Hersham, near Walton-on-Thames.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Manager, to take sole control of the Pontycymmer Skating Rink. One used to Theatrical, Cinematograph, Rinking, &c., &c.
Apply, with wages, references, and experience, to SECRETARY, Rink Co., Ltd., Pontycymmer.

WANTED, Instructors, Instructresses, Floor Managers, must be tall, large London Rink. Write, with photo., height, references, NORTON, 5, Denning-road, N.W.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, First-class all round Roller Skater, in Straight and Comedy. State tricks in both. Send last cabinet photo, with lowest terms. Must be single and of respectable appearance.
A. MAYO, 76, Burnham-st., Canning Town, London.

WANTED, by Rink Manager, with practical experience of Amusement Catering, Engagement as Business Manager for Picture Show. Box 8,417, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, by Skate Maker, as Skate Mechanic, Rink experience; refs., age 24; distance no object. W. SMITH, 43, Western-road, Wood Green.

WANTED, to sell, Skates, quantity Brampton's and Winslow extension skates. Good condition. Bargain, to clear, 5s. pair.
TRAVERS, Tempest-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Skating Rink, near Birmingham, medium size. Let, or Sold at Break-up Price.
TRAVERS, Tempest-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings, Next Year. Three, Six, or Twelve Months, or longer.
App'y, with particulars, to Box 8,436, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Production and Rights of well-known Musical Comedy. May be seen on Tour. Apply, Box 8,415, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Monologues, Duologues, Sketches, Musical Plays, Comedies, Artists' own ideas embellished, Tragedy, Comedy, History, Pastoral. STAPENHILL-BIRD, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Films, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Accessories. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, to Sell, Gaumont's very latest, Revolution in Portugal, 450ft., dispatch to-night, £2; also 6,000ft., splendid film, 4d. per foot. FRED BOULTON, Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp.

WANTED, to Sell, that well-known Travelling Picture Palace, Rowley's Coliseum, admitted to be one of the finest travelling, can be used either as permanent or portable; the exhibition in itself is an enormous attraction and draws large crowds nightly. Now open, in its full tide of success. Come and see it taking money, and judge for yourselves; not at a penny, but at 6d. and 3d.
For price and full particulars apply to the Sole Proprietor, C. T. ROWLEY, Coliseum, Thistlecroft, Hersham, near Walton-on-Thames.

WANTED, to Sell, Ship Set, suitable for Pantomime or Sketch, fitted with Leaps, as used by Phillips and Lorenzi. 127, Westbrook-street, Bolton, Lancs.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Secondhand Fittings, for Cinematograph; also 20,000ft. Film, from 1d. upwards. WOOD, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, the whole or part of Mlle. Naveeda's Illusionary Act, consisting of six big Illusions and number of small tricks: No. 1, Eve, instantaneous appearance of lady, garden, flowers, trees, all from empty cabinet; 2, Aga, the suspended maiden; 3, Egyptian Coffin; 4, Grand Balloon, production of lady, flowers, flags, &c., suspended in the air. No reasonable offer refused. Reason for selling, change of business. Those not intending business save stamps. Coms., NAVEEDA, 2, February-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to sell, several new Stage Illusions, also quantity latest Conjuring Apparatus. Something new and original. 212, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Imperceptible Leg Paddings, Tights, Woven Worsted Trousers, Cats, Dogs, Monkeys, Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, Boots, Shoes, Wigs, &c. MAYERS, Maker, 333, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Uniforms, nearly new, also a Quantity of Dresses and Scenery, suitable for Pantomime, in good condition. Apply, Box 8,416, "The Era."

WANTED, to sell, Russian and Military Uniforms and Costumes. Also two Chamber Sets, full size, room wanted. List sent. All bargains. Box 8,420, "The Era."

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

Coronation of his Most Gracious Majesty King George V.—1911

Now Booking Engagements

Now Booking Engagements

Phasey and his Band.

MOST ELABORATELY UNIFORMED BAND IN ENGLAND.

Phasey's Band has toured Canada and the United States of America with Great Success.

"PHASEY'S GREAT BAND APPEAR AGAIN."—"The second concert of Phasey's Band drew a crowded house to the Herald Square Theatre last night. The programme was a treat for the lovers of instrumental music, and all the soloists were generously applauded.—*New York Journal.*

A SECTION OF THIS GREAT ORGANISATION IS NOW ATTRACTING LARGE AUDIENCES DAILY TO THE SKATING RINK, 143, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W

Live Musicians—Not Seat Warmers. **Up-to-Date Music.**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, ***H. VICTOR PHASEY, Dallas's Music Emporium, 415, Strand, W.C.***

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, OCT. 31, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Ellaline Terriss and Co., in "Bluebell," Boris Lensky, Harry Brown, Courtiers, M.M.s, Emersons, Corbin's Dogs, J. J. Dallas, Animated Pictures, Ayoe, Constantino Bernardi, Silhouette Dancers.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Kate Carney and Co., Tom Edwards, Harry Simms, Hans and Lux, Channings, Goodfellow and Gregson, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Evelyn Bingham.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ella Russell, Dan Fraser, Francoli Troupe, Russell Wallett, Clermont's Burlesque Circus, Adam Tomlinson, Frank Lynne, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Caryl Wilbur and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Elsie Roby, Rhoda Paul, King's College Boys, Rich and Rich, Verno and Voyce, Larola, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, Tom Foy and Co., Kasracs.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Peterman's "Chanteclair," Fred Elton, Roze and Calvert, Diamond and Beatrice, Cole and Rags, Frank Couch, Bioscope, Arthur Lennard, Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Marie George and Co., Malcolm Scott, Tom Parker, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Jackson Family of Musicians, Four Royals, Hal Forde, Queen and Le Brun, Bioscope, Carmen Turia.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Bella and Bijou, Darracq, H. Squire Day, Smythsons, Ethel Newman, Falcons, Carl and Carr, Bioscope, J. W. Rowley.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Hilda Beverley's Co., in "A Woman of Two Lives."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Gertie Gitana, Adrienne Augarde and Co., Sisters Reeve, Royal Scots, Les Silvas, Walter Bellonini, Witty Watty Walton, Bioscope, Ernie Garner, Tom E. Conover.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Maples, Hilda Jacobsen, Two Anartos, Rawsons, Clown Argo, Bioscope, Harry Weldon, Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Alf. Chester, Stephens and Rennior, Thora, Sutcliffe Family, Edmund Maurice's "Blind," France and Stewart, Baby Boden, Bioscope, Staley's Transformation.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Great Lafayette, Dan Hendy, Bioscope, Fred Keeton, Ray Wallace, Florrie Gallimore.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's Co., including Albert Bruno, in "Justice Perkins," Katie Butler, Manchester Mites, Ben Albert, Violas, Lizzie Glenroy, Sisters Allen, Bioscope, Talbot and Pearce, Lieven and Pantzer.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Serene Nord, Chase Lewis, Westwoods, Harry Herbert, Dick Tubb, Crystal and Saville, Jessie Buckle, Bioscope, Herbert Lloyd, Dixon and Lynde.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's "Football Match," Les Romanis, Chris Van Bern, Jack Smiles, Gustave Fasola, Tom E. Finglas, Vincent, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Daisy Jerome.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Randall, Maidie Scott, Bioscope, Florance Cooper, Saxonia Family, Fanny Robina, Mitchell and Cain, Jackson Family of Cyclists, Walter King, "Little Stowaway."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Alexander Leighton's Company, in "Havana."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Gus Elen, Johnnie Walker, Lily Burnand, Three Laurels, Maggie Neill and Co., Chas. Vincent, Parr and Fariand, Rosie Fitzgerald, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Seymour Hicks and Co., in "Scrooge," Borellis, Dutch Daly, Barrett and Knowles, Elise Loubert, Velanche's Dogs, Lena Verdi, Victor Kelly, Bioscope, Fanny Fields, Baroness De Merlincourt.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Rosa Loader, Villions, Morries, McConnell Trio, Ellis Barrieton, Elly Adair, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill, Bert Harrow.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Eugene Stratton, Ford Williams, Mezzettis, Horace Pollock and Co., New Macs, Lawrence Barclay, Aida Martine, Bioscope, Dumond Minstrels.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Sybil St. Elmo, Musical McGregors, Duncan's Collies, Leslie Harris, Tom Leamore, Will Musgrave, Bioscope, Merlin.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Woodward's Seals, Cull Pitt, Hardini Trio, Fred Earle, Gus Garrick, Bros. Redmond, Three Merrills, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Anna Chandler, Great Lester, James Curwell, Peggy Pryde, Goltz Trio, Sammy Shields, Fisher's Vocalesques, Soho Trio, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Princess D'Arayaba, Will Johnson, George Pearce, Little Zola, Esta Stella, Grassis, "Belles of the Kitchen," Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Lew Lake and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Horace Goldin, Mina Denvil, James Stewart, My Fancy, Ricardo and Salving, Bioscope, Howard and Harris, Ernie Mayne, Kenny Kay.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Zena Dare and Co., Sisters Jerome, Cavalotti Bros., Kirbys, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Bioscope, Tom Costello, Campbell and Barber.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Hetty King, Bioscope, La Superbe, Burley and Burley, Matthews and Cowper, Ferry Corwey, Park's Eton Boys, Fred Shephard, Marquis' Ponies, Braatz Dogs.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Jock Whiteford, Harry Ford, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Walter Wade, Satanella Trio, Lillian, Ethel Beech, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Dale and O'Malley.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Andos Japs, Mike Nono, Freddy Hackin, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, Ugo Nap, Les Bollingers, Pictures, Holden's Mannikins.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
George French, Edie Reynolds, F. V. St. Clair, May Mara, Du Gres Trio, Dacey and Lewis, Bioscope, King and Benson.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bogannys, Corcoran Bros., Eisteddfod Sextette, Flying Hanlons, Findens, Rowlands and Ford, Beattie and Blanche, Bioscope, Motramos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Deputy Sheriff," Edith Heron Brown, Bert Weston, Rose Gower, Takio, Pictures, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Dorothy Ward, Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Jock Mills, Bugler Carr, Gladys Hooley, Joe Wesley, Pictures, Drew and Alders.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Lamberti, Ryan and Hall, Claff and Tremayne, Sanford and Lyons, J. C. Scatter, Bioscope, Piccad Troupe, George Formby, Aggie Nolan.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, OCT. 31.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Gracie Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Elroy, Gladys Mavius, Arthur F. Ward, David Fuller, Harvey's Boys and Girls, Palace Perfection Pictures, J. A. Wilson.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Frank Cass, Lennard and Vereker, Guy Rider, E. Desborough, Daisy Hurdle, Flo Warner, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Pete and Juno, Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Bros. Rees, Mabel Thorne, Four Sydney Girls, Loube Trio, Hippodrome Perfection Pictures, Boriski Bros.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Nellie Farrell, Yangar, "Our Mary Jane," "The Coward and the Flag," Kirk and Saraski, Whittington Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures, Bruce Green, Len Hale.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Cash and Clair, J. H. Wakefield, Oakes Duo, Two Lees, Lomas Duo, Dollie and Rosie, Cissie Thompson, "Olga's Oath" Co., Happy Attwood, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Milner and Storey, Society Quartette, Dorothy Dacey, "Little Colonel," Chas. Brard, Chung Ling Soo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Cromo and Hamilton, Miltons, Millwards, J. G. Aitken, Stylo, Beatrice Bonnie, Rose Cass, W. B. Raby, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Louie Tracy, Carl and Mary Ohm's Animals, John Donald, Reg. Beauchamp, Bert Woodward, Tamamoto, Fred Lindsay, Gallimore Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Gus Harris, Ernest Rees, Fuji Family, Doris Druce, Nelson Jackson, Julia Reeve, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dene, Palace Perfection Pictures, Gene Morelle.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
T. Karno and Co., Edna Barrett, Four Figaros, Rose and Jeanette, Two Manites, Billy Merson, Palace Perfection Pictures, The Eeduns, Scena Vocas.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Achmed Ibraham Troupe, Bros. Hannaway, Norman Grant, Sinclair and Whiteford, Chris. Baker, Rita and Roma, Fred Evans, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Harry Taylor, Halma, Daisy Taylor, Werds Bros., Albert St. Clair, Hicks and Hunter, "Aunt Matilda" Co., Victoria Monks, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Why Did She Run Away?"

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Gwennie Morgan, Edwin Garth, Sisters Herbert, Rauschle, Trevor and Ware, Cumminger and Colonna, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Gwen. Francis, Jack Hayworth.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Colbert, Rosie Archer, "The Straight Game," Lily Hartley, W. D. Waxman and Co., Lovil and Bodie, Tom and Neil, Garden Troupe, Sisters Lylie, Jack Vann.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Lilian French, Forritt, Billy Marsden, Elsie and Bob, The Menzies, May Terry, "Raven's Toll," L. Mortimer and Co., Lincoln Taylor, Jack Mackenzie, Parr's Eight Girls.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Home, Sweet Home."

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Tom Lee, "Dickie's Mother," Carlie and Sydney, Loyal and Linby, Nat Morley, Jos. Crook, Harry Desmond, Coram, Valmore Shain and Co., Bessie McCarthy.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

NOTA BENE.

A Sure Success is
"MY MOON"
(Chorus Ballad for Pantomime).
By H. G. PÉLISSIER,
The 'Chief" of "The Follies."

Keys—D Compass (C to D), E Flat, E, and F.
"Pro." Copies 6d. each (with card).
Band Parts in key of F *(in the press)*.
Arranged by H. Lucas.
1/6 each set (post free).

Dept. 6, **JOSEPH WILLIAMS** (Ltd.),
32, Great Portland Street, London, W.

The Hit of the Season.
GIVE ME PANSIES.
(LESLIE LLOYD).
Written for and sung by
MARY GREY,
of the London Palace of Varieties.
1/6 nett cash.
REITZ PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 12, Herbrand St., W.C.
Professional Copies 6 stamps.

PANTO. Printing.
We still lead for Pictorials or Letterpress.
See Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.

PRINTING.
CHEAPEST THEATRICAL PRINTERS
Daybills, 6-Sheets, Memos, Roll Tickets.
Send for Useful Price List. It will pay you,
MEAD & SON, *Room 10,* **SANDY, Beds.**

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

TO THEATRICAL AGENTS AND OTHERS. UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.
A magnificently furnished block of offices to be Let on Lease, consisting of four floors and basement, and containing 11 rooms, recently furnished from designs by Hampton's, near Piccadilly Circus. Arrangements can be made to let in floors.
Apply by letter,
6, Church-row, Hampstead, N.W.

THEATRICAL LADIES' CLUB,
3, ST. JOHN'S-PARADE,
(End of St. John-street), MANCHESTER.
Fee for Members, 6d. per annum.
Bright, comfortable rest and refreshment rooms for members of the Stage, where "The Era," &c., are taken.
Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

NOW IN PREPARATION.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements
should be forwarded at once to the Office,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

TWO CERTAIN HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

JUST PUBLISHED.
"What is the World Without You?"
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Allan Grey. . . .
A pretty Ballad suitable for Principal Boy, Girl, or Fairy Queen.

"My Cartagena Girl."
A SPANISH SERENADE.
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Alexander Herbert.
A Sure Winner for any Principal Boy.

The above songs are already secured for several prominent productions.
SEND FOR PROFESSIONAL COPIES, **3d. each.** Post free.

C. A. RANSOM & CO.,
26, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.
'Phones: 3785 Holborn, 4295 Gerrard.
Exclusive Publishers for CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS' SONGS.

The Ted Snyder Music Publishing Company, Inc.
LONDON NEW YORK CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO MELBOURNE.

Pantomime Songs.

MAIDIE SCOTT'S LATEST SONG:

IF THE MANAGERS ONLY THOUGHT THE SAME AS MOTHER.
Suit any character for pantomime, especially Dame.

MY DREAM OF THE UNION JACK.
A great patriotic number with a great chorus.

MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY.
PHIL PARSONS' great song, and a song that sings its own praises.

I WANT TO BE A SAILOR.
Sung by PHIL PARSONS. A great chorus song which no Principal Boy should be without.

I'M A HAPPY MARRIED MAN.
Sung by GEO. FRENCH.

When sending for copies 6 stamps should always be enclosed.
Demonstrations given daily at our offices:—
Albion House *(4th floor),* **59/61, New Oxford St., W.C.**
J. H. SQUIRE, Manager.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to sell cheap, 10 Dresses, nearly new, 5 Spanish hats, other requisites, suit Pantomime or Quartette. 6, Francis-st., Leeds.

WANTED, to sell, Frock Frills, Leno (plain), with ruche, 3s. 11d. doz; Accordion pleated, 5s. 6d. Samples free. King, 2, Dysart-rd., Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, for Bands or Stage Purposes, loudest and best-toned instruments ever heard, Sleigh Bells, Organ Chimes, Tubaphones, Marimbas, Ratties. Lisle, 33, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, two 40ft. Brinn's Gas Cylinders, perfect condition, covered, £3 the two, to clear. Rowley, Coliseum, Thistlecroft, Hersham, near Walton-on-Thames.

WANTED, to Sell, Valuable Freehold Business Premises, comprising Corner Shops and Cottages, having extensive frontage to the leading thoroughfare of a thriving Midland town. Rare opportunity for acquiring a capital site for Electric Theatre, &c.
Apply, Rowland and Sons, Auctioneers, 32, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Wanted to Sell or Let, Premises, in Musgrave-street, West Hartlepool, suitable for a Picture Hall or place of Public Entertainment.
For particulars apply, Edward Fryer and Webb, Solicitors, West Hartlepool.

To Music Hall Syndicates, Amusement Caterers, Café Proprietors, or Multiple Shopkeepers.
WANTED, to Sell, in the very Centre of an Important Provincial Town, extensive Freehold Business Premises, with 50ft. frontage and 900 square yards area, offering an unequalled site for amusement purposes, large Café, Bon Marché, or Bodega.
Apply in the first instance to H. and F. Tarratt and Sons, Auctioneers and Valuers, Leicester.

PICTURE THEATRE SITE FOR SALE.
WANTED, Known, Established Company, having altered its plans, has a fine Site in Middlesex to transfer at cost; 50ft. by 135ft.; excellent plans by experienced architect, approved by local authority, these may be taken over. Large district and constant traffic.
Apply, Box 8,414, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Lease, Plot of Land, suitable for Electric Palace, situate centre of town, in most populous Midland manufacturing district; absolutely no opposition.
C. Clayton, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, to Sell, Wonderful Performing Heifer. Can jump hurdles mounted, and work on see-saw and tub, school passage. Worth the attention of Proprietors of Circuses and Performing Animal Shows. Full particulars and photos on application. Lomer, Badgeworth, Cheltenham.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Plays for Children and Adults, for Home Acting.
All MSS. sent in will be considered, and if printed will be paid for.
Address, The Play Editor, C/o Messrs. T. C. and E. C. Jack, Publishers, Causewayside, Edinburgh.

WANTED, a good Italian Operatic Song (high range).
Cambo and Castelle, Empire, Wakefield.

WANTED, to buy for cash, Waltzes, Two Steps, Barn Dances, Marches, Piano and Septette. Address Wood, 1, Gladstone-road, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, to Buy, cheap, three Trampoline Apparatus. Send size, particulars, Wamba, 16, Ash-grove, Latchford, Warrington.

WANTED, to Purchase, a Set of Tromboline Boards, or Springing Nets.
H., 28, Schubert-road, Putney.

WANTED, to buy, Palace Scene, also Cloths 18ft. by 24ft., for repainting. Lowest price, particulars. Rix, Assembly Rooms, Carmarthen, South Wales.

WANTED, to Buy, pair Tableau Curtains, to fit Pros. Opening 28 by 33. Particulars and price to Griffin, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, to Buy, 100 Plush Tip-up Chairs, 100 Bent Wood Tip-up Chairs, and 150 Cane Bottom Chairs; must be cheap for cash.
Picture, Box 8,429, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to buy, Two Travelling Baskets, Secondhand, good condition. Norman, 113, London-road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Purchase, Sleigh Bells, must be cheap. Send full particulars.
Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Immediately, Small Gas Engine and Dynamo, to produce electric for pictures. Particulars, Lewis, Picture Palace, Widnes.

WANTED, to Purchase, Miniature Brougham or Hansom Cab, for the smallest man known, must be a very little one; also a Midget Pony.
J. G. B., 52, Eardley-crescent, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Buy, a Trained Bird, Cockatoo or Talking Species preferred. State what bird can do, also price. Box 8,413, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. Andrew B. Simpson, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Oct. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. Manager.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms, suitable for Rehearsals, &c. Apply, Manager, Cinema Palace, Gauden-road, Clapham.

WANTED, to Let, commodious premises, newly built, suitable for Picture House or similar purpose, three doors from Queen's Theatre, Bridge-street, Deansgate, Manchester; rent reasonable. Apply, W. H. Sutton and Sons, Estate Agents, 3, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, fine rooms to Let, rehearsals, meetings, &c. Gardenia Restaurant, Ltd., 6, Catherine-street, next door to Drury Lane Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances, Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, Advertising Curtain, from Nov. 7, on.
W. A. Jackman, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Lady to join another as Partner.
Miss Nicoll, 33, Offley-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Tom O'Neill (late of Maxford and O'Neill), a straight man as Partner; must talk and sing well, and be known. 13, Lynedoch-street, Liverpool.

PARTNERS WANTED.

Pantomime, 1910-11.
WANTED, a Lady or Gent. as Partner in First-class Pantomime from No. 1 London Theatre. Full tour of three months solidly booked (not a date vacant). All Principals and Chorus engaged. Three dates alone which are booked sufficient to ensure success of any Pantomime. Profits will be unlimited; losses practically impossible. This Pantomime Opens Three New Theatres. Magnificent scenery, dresses, and appointments. First-class tour; no rubbish dates. Incoming partner to pay £250 cash for the partnership. Bona-fide applicants only. Address (letters only), Pantomime, c/o 33, Deacon-street, Walworth-road, London, S.E.

Theatrical, Private Costume, and Dressmaking Business.
WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Partner (active or sleeping), with about £1,000 capital, to further a very lucrative business with an exceptional future before it, in the best position in the West End of London. Very valuable connection amongst the best houses. Apply personally, Messrs. Beecroft, Sons, and Nicholson, 12, Wood-street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

WANTED, Leading Man as Partner in two Successful (three character) Sketches.
Address, Sadie Foote, 101F, Station-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, to join Partner, Comic Triple Bar Performer. Refer J. Almo. Wire, A. Wright. Read's Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, Partner, with £200 to £300, to join Advertiser in opening a Picture Palace.
Write, Hall, Box 8,430, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. 'Phone 2,681 Central.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. Senior & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
Artistic Printing Co., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Quick Printing, 100 Memos, 1s. 6d.; 50 Cards, 6d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 5s. 6d.; post free. Rockingham Printing Works, 15, Rockingham-st., Elephant and Castle, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Palatine Printing Co., Wigan, are the cheapest printers on earth or elsewhere. Customers exclaim "Marvellous!"

WANTED.—Words set to Sure Hits, Band Parts arranged. Terms, Braham and Prosper, Composers-Arrangers, 19, Century-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Gerald Delauney-Fozier, for High-class Orchestrations, Composing, Transposing, Harmonising, Arranging from 5s. Address, 47B, Buckingham Palace-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Modernised Artist's Dream, worked anywhere without traps or paraphernalia, framework beautifully made oak, massive gilt frame front. Exchange for nest trunks and cabinet or illusion. Aubrey Elkington, Royal-avenue, Lowestoft.

SCOTLAND.
WANTED, Known, unique opportunity for a small Syndicate of Amusement Caterers, a most lucrative and money-making speculation, where money can be taken in "smalls." Business patronised by millions. Only requires a Live Manager, who knows the ways of the world. For full particulars apply to McDonald and Sons, 12, Montgomery-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring the Most Handsome, Durable, and Economical Floor Coverings in the World should get samples of "Monarch" Mattings from John B. Champion and Sons, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Makers, also, of Special Gymnasium, Wrestling, Circus, and other Mats and Mattresses.

WANTED, Known, if the Baggage consisting of Scenery and Properties stored with me by the Wolfgangs and Miss Millie Wolfgang, on Oct. 13, 1909, is not cleared within twenty-one days from this date, it will be sold to defray expenses. Signed, Alfred W. Dove, 47, York-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Mrs. J. C. Nation or Frank Nation, formerly of Queen's Club Gardens, to communicate with J. H., 42, Bark-place, Bayswater.

WANTED, Address of Mr. Bob Cody, Painter and Decorator. Last winter with Mr. John Wilmot, Glasgow. Will be obliged to anyone sending address. 69, Abbotsford-place, Glasgow.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches &c.
LATONA ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

NOW IN PREPARATION.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

COUNTY OF LONDON.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

The London County Council, in pursuance of Section 27 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1910, hereby gives notice that the effect of the provisions of Part V. of the said Act is as follows:—

From and after the first day of January, One thousand nine hundred and eleven, no person shall carry on an employment agency in the County of London, exclusive of the City of London, without a licence from the Council.

An employment agency means any agency or registry in the County for or in connection with the employment of persons in any capacity, but does not include:—

(a) Any employment agency conducted by or under the direction and supervision of the Board of Trade under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909, or any other Act of Parliament; or

(b) Any employment agency which is carried on exclusively for the purpose of obtaining employment for (i.) persons formerly members of His Majesty's Naval or Military forces, or (ii.) persons released from a prison or Borstal Institution, or from a reformatory or industrial school, and which is certified at the commencement of this Part of this Act and annually thereafter by the Admiralty or the Army Council or by the Secretary of State for the Home Department (as the case may be) to be properly conducted; or

(c) Any employment agency conducted by a metropolitan borough council under the Labour Bureaux (London) Act, 1902, by a central body or distress committee under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, or by the Port of London Authority under the Port of London Act, 1908.

A person requiring a licence or the renewal of a licence shall make application in writing to the Council under his own name and shall state the trade name under which he carries on or proposes to carry on the employment agency, the nature and address of such Agency and whether he is interested in any other employment agency, and if so, to what extent.

Every application for a licence to carry on an employment agency in existence on Aug. 3, 1910, must be made within one month from the publication of this notice.

The Council shall grant or renew a licence to the applicant to carry on an employment agency of the description and in the name and at the address specified in the application, provided that the Council may refuse to grant or renew a licence to (a) any person under the age of 21 years or (b) upon the ground that the applicant is an unsuitable person to hold such licence or (c) that the premises on which it is proposed to carry on the employment agency are unsuitable for the purpose, or (d) that an employment agency has been or is being improperly conducted by the applicant.

On the applicant receiving a notice from the Council that objections have been, or will be taken to the renewal of the licence, an opportunity of being heard against the refusal of the licence shall be afforded to the applicant on a written application made to the Council within three days after the receipt of such notice.

The Council shall deliver, if required by the applicant, particulars in writing of the grounds upon which the grant or renewal of a licence is refused.

Any person who deems himself aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to grant or renew a licence may appeal to a Metropolitan Police Magistrate, within 14 days from the date of such refusal and not less than 4 days' notice of such Appeal is to be sent to the Council.

Any such person aggrieved by any decision of a Magistrate may appeal therefrom to a Court of Quarter Sessions.

The undermentioned fees shall be paid to the Council:—

(a) In respect of the grant of a licence to carry on an agency bona-fide carried on by the applicant within the county continuously for five years before Jan. 1, 1911	£1 1 0
(b) In respect of the grant of a licence for an agency not being such an agency aforesaid	£2 2 0
(c) For the renewal of a licence	£1 1 0

Licences shall expire on Dec. 31 in each year unless previously revoked.

The Council may make by-laws relating to the conduct and business of an employment agency and for regulating the premises.

A copy of such by-laws shall be exhibited in the premises in a suitable place to be approved by the Council.

Authorised officers of the Council may enter and inspect premises specified in any licence or application or any premises used for the purposes or in connection with the business of an employment agency and also inspect documents kept in connection with the agency.

Penalties are provided in the Act as follows:—

Offence.	Penalty.
Carrying on an employment agency without a licence or otherwise than in accordance with the conditions of a licence or obtaining a licence by wilful misrepresentation.	Not exceeding £50 and a daily penalty not exceeding £20.
Refusing to permit an authorised officer of the Council to enter or inspect any premises or to inspect the entries required to be kept in the records of the agency or obstructing the officer in the discharge of his duty.	Not exceeding £5 and a daily penalty not exceeding £2.
Contravening any by-law or any provision of this Act for the contravention of which no penalty is specifically provided.	Ditto.

The Court may, in lieu of or in addition to imposing any penalty, make an Order revoking the licence, but any person feeling aggrieved by such Order may appeal therefrom to a Court of Quarter Sessions.

Where any company registered under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1907, or under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, or any Act amending the same, commits any offence for which a penalty is provided by Part V. of the above-mentioned Act, the Council may take proceedings in respect of such offence against all or any of the Directors and Managers of such Company as well as or instead of against the Company, and each such Director and Manager shall be liable on conviction to the like penalty as if he or they were the person or persons committing the offence.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 1910.
G. L. Gomme,
Clerk of the London County Council.
County Hall,
Spring gardens, S.W.

Any further particulars can be obtained on application to the Chief Officer, Public Control Department, London County Council, 31, Spring-gardens, S.W.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WITHERNSEA.

The Council are prepared to
RECEIVE OFFERS
for the Sole Right of Performances by
PIERROT OR OTHER AL-FRESCO ENTERTAINERS.
on the foreshore at Withernsea from about next WHITSUNTIDE until SEPTEMBER, or for Two or Three Years.

Copies of the Agreement may be now obtained from, and tenders should be sent in to me, not later than TUESDAY, Nov. 22.
FREDK. J. GARDAM, Clerk.
Municipal Buildings, Withernsea, Oct. 25, 1910.

FOR SALE.
Owing to dissolution of partnership,
KATZANJAMMER CASTLE
on the Pleasure Beach Southport, under lease expiring May, 1911,
ALSO
KATZANJAMMER CASTLE
at the White City, Manchester,
lease expired, and the loose material forming a similar device in store. The Southport and White City devices are in working order, and comprise buildings as erected with all electric wiring, 8 horse power motor and meter. All sensations in working order. These devices have been very profitable, and are now being sold owing to the dissolution of partnership. For further particulars and to treat apply to Trotter Davies and Yearsley, accountants and auditors, 27, Brazennose Street, Manchester.

To Circus Proprietors, Showmen, and Others.
Banbury, Oxon.
IMPORTANT SALE OF THE VALUABLE
Stock-in-Trade and Equipments
of the well-known
ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS.
CASTLE, BOOTH, & ICKE
are favoured with instructions from the Proprietress, who is relinquishing business,
TO SELL BY AUCTION
on Thursday, Nov. 10, 1910, at one o'clock, at Banbury, the whole of the valuable Stock-in-Trade &c., comprising fifty valuable Horses and Ponies twenty Vans and other vehicles, large Circus Tent top 115ft. and 90ft., best waterproof cloth, equal to new, wallings for same, and 85ft. Circus Tent top, large quantity Brackets, V's and Boards, a 100ft. long House Tent complete, best waterproof cloth; large quantity Harness, Bridles, and Saddles, about sixty Horse Collars, about fifty Head Stalls, and other Effects.
The whole may be inspected on application to the manager, after Nov. 7.
Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Banbury.

MAIDA VALE.—148, Sutherland-avenue.
SUPERI RESIDENCE,
for occupation, 9 bedrooms, dressing-room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiard room, kitchen, and offices, use of private garden at rear. Rental value. £100 per annum. Lease 66 years. Ground rent, £14 per annum.
DOUGLAS YOUNG & CO.
Will Sell the above by Auction, at the Mart, E.C., on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 1910, at 2.
Particulars of G. E. Hodgkinson, Esq., solicitor, 124, Chancery-lane, W.C.; or, of the Auctioneers, 51, Coleman-street, E.C.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

NURSING HOME.
On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-rd., N. 'Phone 327 Hornsey.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.

BELFAST.—Select apartments, leading private street. Every modern requisite. 99, Gt. Victoria-st. (2min. from Op. Ho. and Hippo.).

BIRKENHEAD.—Sitting, three bedrooms, 2 combined; piano; lavatory inside; Vacant Panto; 3 minutes all amusements. Mrs. Howell, 44, Claughton-road.

BIRMINGHAM.—Apartments. Piano, bath, hot and cold; tram stops opposite door 1 stage. 52, Bristol-road.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. De Costa, Proprietor.

BRIGHTON.—Bath Hotel, West-street. Comf. bedrooms, full board, 31s. 6d. per week; liberal table, excellent cooking; no extra charges.

BRIGHTON.—Mrs. Beckett, 5, Hampton-terr., Upper North-st., near theatres, furnished apartments, board residence, bath, piano; mod. terms.

COVENTRY. — Double-bedded rooms; Sitting-room; also Combined Rooms, near Hippo., Empire, Opera. Mrs. Hillyer, 9 Priory-st.

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. Charles Grant.

EDINBURGH.—Mrs. Watson, 9, Lauriston-gardens. 2 sitting-rooms, 5 bedrooms; bath, piano (self-contained). Good cooking. Highly recommended.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's Buchanan-street Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

GLASGOW.—Mrs. Douglas, 26, South Apsley-place. Comfortable sitting-room and bedroom, vac. Panto.; bath, w.c.; moderate.

LIVERPOOL. — Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square. Open on Sundays for travellers. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cossie Noel).

LONDON, N.W.—Euston. Well-furnished bed-sitting room, select house. 6, Lidlington-place, Ampthill-square, Hampstead-rd.

LONDON, S.E.—TO LET, Comfortably-furnished Flat at Elephant and Castle, 4 rooms, piano, plate, and linen; 21s. weekly. Box E. 10, Maiden-lane, Strand.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. E. Dyer. Bed-sitting rooms, also bedroom vacant, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6; bath, pianos. 123, Kennington-road.

LONDON, S.E. — Camberwell Gate. Large Combined Rooms, bath (h. and c.), piano; board residence, 14s. 23, Grosvenor-terrace.

LONDON, S.W.—Victoria. Two unfurnished drawing-rooms, all breakfasts, 15s. weekly. 75, Denbigh-street.

MANCHESTER.—426, Stretford-road. Comfortable apartments, front sitting bedroom, good cooking, fires, cars stop at door. Mrs. Hackett.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Mrs. R. Whittle, 26, Tollemache-street; 5 minutes to any Hall; boat and train. Piano.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-street, superior apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temp. Hotel. Healthy comfortable bedrooms, good cooking and attendance, between both stations; terms moderate. Floating Bridge, car 1d.

TYNEMOUTH.—Apartments. Two sitting and two bedrooms; bath, w.c., and piano. Moderate. Mrs. Grey, Tyne House, 30, Hotspur-street.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. Walter Hewitt.

METROPOLE
THEATRE GLASGOW LTD.

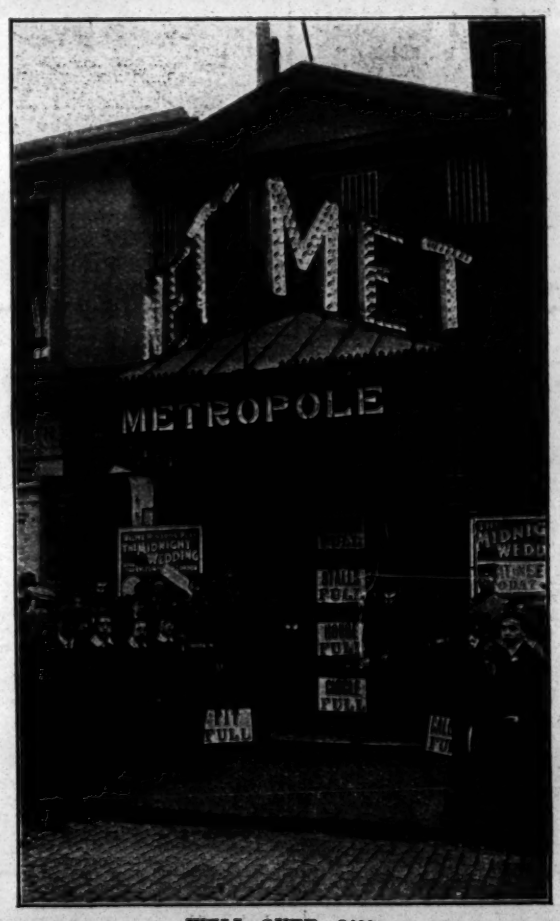

WELL OVER £400.
SCOTLAND'S PREMIER DRAMA THEATRE.
Continued Success—The Reason Why
POPULAR PLAYS PRESENTED AT A POPULAR PLAYHOUSE.
"Outcast of the Family" closed to £600, with "Sign of the Cross" in opposition. This week 'A Royal Divorce
NIGHTLY HOUSE FULL NIGHTLY
Bookings ahead include the majority of the leading dramatic attractions.
'Re dates, ARTHUR JEFFERSON. Bill copy, plots, and upon all matters affecting the visit, GORDON JEFFERSON.
Wires: Jefferson, Glasgow.

THE WORLD'S THEATRE FURNISHERS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. R. DEAN & SONS, CORPORATION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone { Showrooms, 224 Central, Birmingham. Factory, 3834 „ „ } Telegrams: "CARPETS, BIRMINGHAM."

SINCE JAN. 1ST HAVE OBTAINED CONTRACTS FOR UPWARDS OF 100 THEATRES & PICTURE PALACES IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

CONTRACTS BOOKED AND IN HAND SINCE JANUARY 1, 1910.

1. NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. Complete Furnishing.
2. ALEXANDRA, BELFAST. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
3. COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Complete Reseating.
4. ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Complete Decoration and Refurnishing.
5. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY, SOUTH WALES. Complete Decorations and Furnishing.
6. THE GEM PICTURE PALACE, MALDEN-ROAD, N
7. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Complete Refurnishing.
8. SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY. Complete Furnishing.
9. NEW TOWN HALL THEATRE, WESTGATE-ON-SEA. Complete Furnishing.
10. NEW EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH. Complete Decorations.
11. OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON. Complete Reseating.
12. PARKHURST THEATRE, HOLLOWAY. Reseating and Refurnishing.
13. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WILTON-RD., PIMLICO. Reseating and Refurnishing.
14. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, WANDSWORTH. Reseating and Refurnishing.
15. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, HORNSEA. Reseating and Refurnishing.
16. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, KILBURN. Reseating and Refurnishing.
17. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Reseating and Refurnishing.
18. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, ILFORD. Complete Furnishing and Seating.
19. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON. Complete Furnishing, Seating.
20. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, RYE LANE, PECKHAM. Complete Furnishing, Seating.
21. PUBLIC HALL, CARLISLE. Complete Decorations and Seating.
22. BROADWAY ELECTRIC PALACE, WALHAM GREEN. Complete Furnishing and Seating.
23. NEW THEATRE, BILSTON. Complete Re-upholstering.
24. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, WINGATE, DURHAM. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
25. MAGNIFICENT TABLEAU CURTAINS AND DRAPERIES, for Fred Karno, Esq.
26. NEW CORN EXCHANGE, ROCHESTER. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
27. OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON. Complete Reseating.
28. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, TODMORDEN. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
29. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, WREXHAM. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
30. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, NUNEATON Complete Seating and Furnishing.
31. NEW VICTORIA HALL, YORK. Complete Decorations and Furnishing and Seating.
32. NEW HIPPODROME, YORK. Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
33. HIPPODROME, COVENTRY. Reseating, &c.
34. CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS. Reseating, &c.
35. NEW TOWN HALL, SHIREBROOK. Complete Seating.
36. NEW PICTUREDROME, SOUTHPORT. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
37. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BRIXTON. Complete Redecorations, Reseating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
38. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARBLE ARCH, OXFORD STREET. The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous Plaster, Decorations, urnishing, and Seating throughout.
39. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, THORNTON HEATH. Complete Seating. Tip-up Chairs and Furnishing throughout.
40. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CARDIFF. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
41. NEW THEATRE DE LUXE, BATTERSEA. Complete Seating, &c.
42. NEW ELECTROSCOPE THEATRE, TOOTING. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing throughout.
43. NEW KING'S HALL, LEYTON. Complete Seating and Tip-up Chairs.
44. NEW QUEEN'S HALL, BRISTOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
45. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, BRISTOL. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
46. NEW OLYMPIA ELECTRIC PALACE, BRISTOL. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
47. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL. Tip up Chairs, &c.
48. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, BATH. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
49. VAUDEVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE, READING. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
50. NEW ELDORADO ELECTRIC THEATRE, HAMPSTEAD. Complete Seating.
51. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE THEATRE, CHELSEA. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
52. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, EDGWARE-ROAD. Complete Seating and Furnishing.
53. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, KILBURN. Construction, Decorations, Seating, Furnishing.
54. GREAT CENTRAL PICTURE THEATRE, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
55. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, LONDON-ROAD, BRIGHTON. Complete Seating, &c., &c.
56. ELECTRIC PALACE, BRAMBER BRIDGE, PRESTON. Tip-up Chairs and Complete Seating, &c.
57. NEW WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON. Tip-up Chairs and Furnishings.
58. BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. Refurnishings.
59. PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN. Reseating and Tip-up Chairs
60. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, CREWE. Furnishing, Seating, and Tip-up Chairs.
61. NEW CENTRAL HALL, SHREWSBURY. Complete Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
62. LIGHTHOUSE PAVILION, HOLYOAK, CHESHIRE. Complete Seating, &c.
63. ELECTRIC THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
64. NEW TOWN HALL, KETTERING. Reseating, &c., &c.
65. ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD. Complete Reseating, Refurnishing, Tip-up Chairs, and Furnishing.
66. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. Complete Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, and Seating throughout.
67. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SACKVILLE-STREET, DUBLIN.
68. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, PRINCE'S - STREET, EDINBURGH.
69. NEW CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.
70. HOWARD HALL, NORTH SHIELDS. Tip-up Chairs.
71. RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW. Reseating, &c.
72. RAYMOND'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BLACKBURN. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
73. NEW PICTURE PALACE, WHITLEY BAY. Complete Furnishing, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
74. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, NUNEATON. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
75. MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, DUMFRIES. Complete Seating.
76. NEW SKATING RINK AND PICTURE PALACE, WINDSOR. The whole of Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
77. THE ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. The whole of the Decorations, Carpets, Seating, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c., at a cost of upwards of £1,500.
78. NEW HIPPODROME, LEWISHAM. Whole of Decorations and Seating, Furnishing, &c., at a cost of upwards of £6,000.
79. HIPPODROME & NEW CIRCUS FOR MR. BOSTOCK, CITY-ROAD, GLASGOW. Complete Furnishing and Tip-up Chairs.
80. NEW PICTURE PALACE, LOZELLS, BIRMINGHAM.
81. NEW HIPPODROME, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL. Whole of the magnificent Draperies, Carpets, Tip-up Chairs, and our Patent Pit, at a cost of upwards of £3,000.
82. WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM, The whole of the magnificent Draperies, Tip-up Chairs, &c., &c.
83. NEW HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE. Complete Refurnishing, at a cost of £1,200.
84. NEW BIOGRAPH THEATRE, PECKHAM. Whole of the new Carpets and Tip-up Chairs.
85. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HANLEY. Whole of new Tip-up Chairs.
86. NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON. New Tip-up Chairs.
87. NEW GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. New Tip-up Chairs.
88. NEW SKATING PALACE AND ELECTRIC THEATRE, ERDINGHAM.
89. POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE, IPSWICH. Patent Pit Seating.
90. NEW GRAND THEATRE, NELSON. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
91. NEW PUBLIC HALL, SALE, MANCHESTER. Tip-up Chairs, &c.
92. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, S.E. 700 Tip-up Chairs, &c.
93. NEW CENTRAL HALL, CHESTERFIELD. Chairs, Seatings, &c.
94. NEW HALL, HUCKNALL TORKARD. Tip-up Chairs.
95. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, SLOUGH. Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.
96. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, FALKIRK, N.B. Tip-up Chairs.
97. CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS. Tip-up Chairs.
98. COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL GRAND STAND. 500 Tip-up Chairs.
99. EMPIRE THEATRE, SWETHWICK. Chairs and Furnishing.
100. NEW ELECTRIC PALACE, BOLTON.
101. NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH-STREET, LEICESTER.

&c., &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at the present time by far THE LARGEST THEATRE DECORATORS AND FURNISHERS IN THE WORLD. A proof of this is that at the present time they have contracts in hand fully 10 to 1 of their competitors
These are plain, solid, and true facts.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are prepared to give three years' guarantee with all Chairs and Seating they turn out It matters not whether the Chair be 4s. 11d. or 35s. each. This should be sufficient proof that they only turn out first-class goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Only employ in their factories Trade Union men, and at all times are enabled to obtain the very best class of labour. Many of their workmen have been in their employ for upwards of twenty years.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.'S,
Goods are all manufactured in clean, wholesome works, which are always open to the Factory Inspectors.
No Alien or Sweated Labour employed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have in their employ a number of First-class Artists and Modellers for the purpose of turning out First-class Decorations, Fibrous Plaster, &c., &c.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Are at all times pleased for their Managers to wait on Proprietors, Architects, Managers &c., for the purpose of estimating and preparing schemes for Decorations, &c., &c. Distance no object. A telegram or telephone message will at all times be immediately attended to.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Wish this to be thoroughly understood that all their Chairs, Seats, &c., are delivered and fixed free by thoroughly competent men, whose sole work is fitting these goods.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just placed on the market a special low-priced Chair, suitable for seating the Cheaper Portions of Picture Palaces and Electric Theatres.

THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. THE GEM. — **5/11** — UPHOLSTERED IN GOOD PEGAMOID. DELIVERED AND FITTED FREE.

THREE YEARS' GUARANTEE.
WRITE FOR SAMPLE CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also placed a better Chair, Spring Stuffed, quite equal to any Chair on the market as regards appearance and durability.

THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. THE WONDER. — **8/11** — WITH ARMS. IN VELVET OR PEGAMOID, SPRING STUFFED SEAT.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Very Handsome Chair for the Best Parts of the House of Electric Theatres, &c., &c.

THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. THE CINEMA. — **11/9** — Handsome deep back. Chair Upholstered in best manner in rich British Velvet or Camel Cloth, or Embossed Pegamoid.

WRITE FOR SAMPLE.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have Specially Designed a Chair suitable for the Best Seats of the palatial Picture Palaces which are being erected in London.

CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. CHAIR DE LUXE. — **13/9** — Magnificent Chair, Spring Stuffed, Upholstered Best Velvet or Silk Embossed Plush.

MOST COMFORTABLE SEE THIS CHAIR.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have also Designed a most Handsome Chair suitable for Fauteuils or Dress Circles of Theatres and Music-Halls. This is a very handsome, deep, hollow back Chair.

THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. THE PALACE. — **16/6** — Spring and Hair Stuffed. Upholstered in Best Velvet Plush, Camel Cloth, or Embossed Best Pegamoid.

THE HANDSOMEST CHAIR IN THE MARKET.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Also make very handsome and durable Running Seating.
To lift up in sections of 4ft., in Pegamoid from 2s. 11d. per foot Run, Fixed. To lift up in sections, Varnished, from 1s. 9d. per foot Run, Fixed.
CORK CARPETS. LINOLEUMS. BRUSSELS CARPETS. | WILTON PILE CARPETS. AXMINSTER CARPETS. INDIAN CARPETS.
And MATTINGS of every description.
Cheapest in the Trade. All fitted free.
WRITE FOR SAMPLES.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Fire Screen Frames and Outside Decorations of every description.
Drawings and Schemes free.
All interested in Picture Palaces should, before placing their orders, see what Dean's Furnishing Co. have done at the Marble Arch Electric Theatre.
This magnificent work was executed without the proprietors loosing one single show in six weeks from time order was placed.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Have just turned an Old, Cheerless Public Hall into a most Up-to-date and Elegant Picture Theatre, at Carlisle, in the short space of fourteen days.
The Talk and Wonder of Carlisle.
So pleased is the Proprietor, Sidney Bacon, Esq., that he has given Dean's Furnishing Co. Carte Blanche to Alter, Decorate, and Reseat his Victoria Hall, York.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER FOR INTERIORS OF PICTURE PALACES.
FOR FIBROUS PLASTER EXTERIORS.
FOR ARTISTIC AND UP-TO-DATE DECORATIONS.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Retain Mr. A. F. Windibank as Manager of the Theatre Department, who has had the experience of a lifetime in carrying out this class of work, he having superintended the carrying out of upwards of 2,000 contracts for this class of work.

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.,
Still retain the services of Mr. L. Beck as Director and Manager of the Factories.

WRITE FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE. POST FREE

DEAN'S FURNISHING CO., LTD.
BIRMINGHAM.

Telephone: 224 Central, Birmingham. Telegrams: "Carpets, Birmingham."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—Poole's Picture Palace.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—Heading the bill here this week are Helene and Emilon, clever gymnasts; Jules Charmettes, Anglo-French eccentric, is a good turn; Daisy Graham, with her educated birds and baby dog Nap, appears with success; and the Bioscope pictures are first class.

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Proprietors, The Aberdare Public Hall, Theatre, and Billposting Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here, in *From Mill Girl to Millionaires*. Mr. J. A. Hybert is successful as Matthew Marsh; Mr. Arthur Plummer is seen to advantage as Laurence Langdale; Mr. Charles Vivian makes an effective Dr. Lace Levallie; and Miss Isla Garnet-Vane played sympathetically the part of Lina Lee; whilst Miss Yhoa Moore's acting as Muriel Marsh is praiseworthy. Miss Lizzie Lennon is well placed as Tilly Tyndesley; and Mr. Victor G. Vayne as Tommy Turnbull provides a humorous element.

New Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Gladys and Alber, in their funniosities, come in for a good reception; Irene Meldon, a chic comedienne and speciality dancer, is popular; Stanley Waller, on the piano, is clever; Howey and Jesson, in their singing and speciality dancing act, are well liked; and the usual series of high-class Bioscope pictures are shown.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Hall Caine's plays have a special place in the theatrical world, and command a special class of theatre-goers. This week the novelist's famous drama, *The Bishop's Son*, is being produced, alternated by *The Eternal Question*. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine takes the part of Dan, the Bishop's son, in the former, and of the no less important part of David Rosse in the latter. He acts the two parts with fidelity and impressiveness, and may reasonably be expected to yet go far in the theatrical world. Mr. Creagh Henry, Mr. Julian Cross, and Mr. J. Burton are able and experienced exponents of the Manxian customs and conditions, whilst Miss Helena Millais and Miss Pem Wheeler represent the well-known and attractive female characters with charming grace and ability.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—Mr. Arthur Roberts, the well-known comedian, heads a popular list of attractions this week with a mirth-provoking sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Roberts is well supported by Mr. Harry J. Worth as Major Thunder, Miss Ruby Celeste as Mrs. Thunder, Miss B. Hobson as Mrs. Green, Miss Ida Furneaux as Kitty, Miss Lizzie Primmer as Martha, and Mr. T. Johnson as Sammy. In addition to this attractive playlet, Mr. J. P. Ling gives an entertaining display of mimicry and drollery; the Spanish Juanitos are acrobats of original and daring characters; Wyotti is a skilful conversational juggler; Earle and Godfrey are clever comedians; Charles Rowen displays comical eccentricities; Moon and Morris play and dance with novel effect; and Webb and Branston are vocalists of more than ordinary ability.

The Tivoli.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Middleton and Spellmyer have the place of honour this week in a bright American sketch, entitled *A Texas Wooing*. A series of wild Western scenes is depicted, and stirring episodes and dare-devil adventures follow each other in rapid succession; Tennyson and Wallis are Irish comedians of bright and original cast; Mr. Ben Lewin is an elocutionist of power and ability; Gicardo is a juggler of unusual smartness; George Norton gives a burlesque representation of amusing variety; Alf. Brooks sings and dances with appreciative grace; Palles and Cussick give an amusing sketch of *The Funny Side of Life*; Miss Leonie Dixon dances well; and Miss Rose Cambry sings with melodious charm.

ABERTILLERY.—New Metropolitan Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Seaborn and Evans; Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. J. Seaborn; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. P. Evans.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company presented the picturesque domestic play *The Eve of Her Wedding* to a crowded house on Monday. Mr. Louis Lingard was an excellent George Tremain (afterwards known as Nemo); Squire Leverton was capably played by Mr. Ben Carr; Mr. Charles Digby was very clever as Dick Leverton (who took the wrong turning); Mr. Jay Kay caused roars of laughter as Rudolph Earle; Mr. Sydney P. Clewlow was good as Giovanni (secret agent of the Italian Government); Dean Clifton was played with much power by Mr. A. E. Pringle, his cunning and villainous ways being great; Mr. G. Davies acted Paul Cavisham and Hiram F. Younger (American swell) with accurate judgment; Mr. Herbert Hastings as Jack Herne, a cripple, was excellent in that pathetic part; Miss Mona Gray made an admirable Renie de Telle, an adventuress; Miss Nancy Roberts acts with charm as Mavis Leverton; and Gwendoline Younger is well played by Miss Emilie Mayhew.

Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. B. H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Price.—*Hush Money, or, the Disappearance of Sexton Blake*, was produced at the above theatre to a crowded house on Monday night. Mr. S. L. Courtney was great as Sexton Blake; Tinker, taken by Mr. Harry Hartley, was continually applauded for his smartness; Mr. Martin Sands played the part of John Shard carefully; the Earl of Montressor was in the capable hands of Mr. Robert Barton; and Mr. Charles Kean acted well as Lord Mervyn Walgrave; Miss Annie Wilden made a capital Auntie Crooks, and Miss Agnes Poulton an amusing Euphemia Pattacake.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—The Alpha Amateur Dramatic Society is presenting *Our Boys* here in aid of the local charities. Capital houses have been the rule.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Four Mexican Lasso Wonders top the bill, and give a smart and picturesque speciality; Ralph and Nellie Haword, in *Military Mad*, please immensely; that old pantomime favourite, Leo Fields, has a reception that is cordial in the extreme; the Landix Trio, operatic vocalists, are worthy of high commendation; Billy French gives an accomplished dancing exhibition; Alonso Sylvano performs clever feats of equilibrism; Dan Conroy is a comedian of merit, and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Lovers of the grand opera have an opportunity this week of hearing an excellent répertoire given by the Moody-Manners Opera Company. On Monday *Faust* was presented in a faultless manner, the leading rôles being in the hands of Mr. Frank Christian (Faust), Miss Rose O'Farrell (Marguerite), Mr. Harry Brindle (Mephistopheles), Mr. Graham Marr (Valentine), Mr. Kushell (Wagner), and Misses Bessie Weir and Alexander. On Tuesday *Samson and Delilah* received a fine interpretation, those taking part as principals being Mr. Albert Bowyer (Samson), Miss Helen Culver (Delilah), and Messrs. William Farmer, Graham Marr, Harry Brindle, Davies, Home, and R. Woolard. *Carmen, Il Trovatore, Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana* are also in the week's bill. Mr. Harrison Frewin is *chef d'orchestre*.

Wide World Pictures.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. Golder and Sloman.—A series of local military pictures is a feature of the programme here, and comic and dramatic subjects make up an interesting entertainment.

ARBROATH.—Public Hall.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Abner Joiner.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company opened here in *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Tearle invested Shylock with dramatic vigour and cunning; Antonio was in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Lodge; Bassanio was capably portrayed by Mr. Leons Courtville; Portia as played by Miss Kate Clinton was a finished performance. The other parts were in the hands of competent artists. *The Three Musketeers, Jeanie Deans, East Lynne, Macbeth*, and *It's Never Too Late to Mend* are also in the week's bill.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Miss Horniman's company from the Independent Repertory Theatre, Manchester, is in occupation here. On Monday Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Candida* was performed to a good house. Mr. Ian Maclaren gave a masterly interpretation of the Rev. James Mavor Morell; as Eugene Marchbanks Mr Leonard Mudie won the close attention and approval of the audience; Mr. Edward Landor as Mr. Burgess, the contractor, scored; as did also Mr. Ernest C. Cassel as the Rev. Alex. Hill. Miss Rosalind Ivan realised the sweet and sympathetic Candida perfectly; and the Proserpine of Miss Louise Holbrook was excellent. The play was preceded by *The Troth*, in which Miss Dorothy West-Symes and Mr. Jos. A. Keogh distinguished themselves. On Tuesday Mr. A. Bennett's *Cupid and Commonsense* was acted, Miss Rosalind Ivan as Edna Beach, Miss Louise Holbrook as Mrs. Copestick, Miss Dorothy West-Symes as Miranda Finney, Miss Hilda Davies as Emily Boothroyd, and Miss Marie Leonhard as Alice Boothroyd doing excellent work. Mr. Ivan Maclaren as Ralph Emery displayed a power of analysis and a force of character which was very impressive; Mr. E. Landor as Eli Boothroyd and Mr. Leonard Mudie as Willie Beach submitted excellent studies; and Miss Rhoda Marshall did well as a servant.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—A romantic play, *The Love of the Princess*, by Mr. C. Watson Mill, is being played here for the week, Miss Maisie Hanbury is a central figure in the

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

PANTOMIMES.

THIS WORK IS UNDERTAKEN AT COMPETITIVE — PRICES TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION. —

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS, AND CONTRACTORS TO HIS MAJESTY'S OFFICE OF WORKS.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

From J. A. Harrison Co., Ltd., Theatrical Costumiers, 29, Leicester Square, W.C.
27th October, 1910.

To T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll Street, W.

Dear Mr. Harris,—

I am very pleased with the cleaning of the Pantomime Wardrobe you have just sent back. It may interest you to know that some of the Costumes were made six years ago. They look almost as good as the first time they were used.

Yours truly, J. A. HARRISON,
Managing Director.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1311 (3 lines). Telegrams: "Cleaning, London."

play as Princess Idalia, and the actress maintains with appropriate dignity the character of a Royal personage as well as the courage and the womanly traits of character well approved. Mr. Frank Harvey scores as Prince Conrad, and the villainous interpretation of Count Nicholas, the traitor, is ably simulated. Good work in the delineation of foreign personages is also given by Messrs. John Burton, Charles O'Connor, John Worth, D. Lawrence Doyle, W. Palliser Acock, and E. Morgan, and by Misses Maud Steeple and Josephine Lee in the characters of Lady Irene and Constantia, a sister of mercy.

AYR.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—During the first three nights of this week Mr. Marcus Draper presented *The Christian*. Miss Elizabeth Risdon impersonated Glory Quayle in a capable manner; and Mr. Marcus Draper gave an admirable representation of John Storm. Lord Ure was represented by Mr. Benson North; and Father Lamplugh by Mr. Edwin Ling. The company also included Misses Rosa Burgess and Winifred Palmer, Messrs. Burton Yaldwin, W. Burgess Barratt, Walter Watford, Percy Carlingford, and others. For the last three nights Mr. W. W. Kelly presents *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Edith Cole plays her favourite part, the Empress Josephine; and Mr. Frank Bradley is responsible for a good study of the Emperor Napoleon. On Friday evening a complimentary benefit was given to Miss Edith Cole.

Picture Palace.—"The Animated Chronicle" is a great success, and it is to be continued weekly. Among the other pictures are Love of a Chrysanthemum, Italian Cuirassiers, and Out of the Night.

Pavilion.—The most attractive films shown this week are Dottynob's Courtship, The Rock Climbers, Ah Sing and the Greasers, Central American Romance, The Closed Door, and Mother Driven from Home.

BACUP.—Court Theatre.—Manager, Mr. John Walters.—Mr. Harry Foxwell and company, in the domestic drama *Mother*, are here. Mr. Harding Thomas is a success as Duncan Fairweather; Mr. A. J. Haviland plays Frank Rodney well; Miss Fannie M. Wellesley shows distinction in the part of Nellie Fairweather; Miss Thorne Hallam is worthy of mention; a clever actor is Mr. Will Beasley as Jasper Rawden.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*. Mr. Gerald Jordan as Lieut. Philip Marchant portrays the part excellently; as Derek Mason Mr. Guy Hastings is admirable; Lieut. Arthur Barclay is well played by Mr. Stanley Vine; as Jerry Dale and Nanoya Mr. Finn Doyle and Miss Babs Stuart make a good comedy pair; and Miss G. Goddart is a sympathetic Audrey Melrose.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—A good bill is headed by the Martinecks, French comedians, in the absurdity *A Rag Doll;* the Mars Trio present some good gymnastic tricks; Maud Clifton sings in excellent style; Cummin and Seaham are a clever and droll pair of acrobatic comedians; the Mano Aldex Troupe are an excellent musical turn; the Kiers and Tom Drew are also on the bill. Two good pictures are shown on the Palacescope.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—This theatre has recently been fitted out to meet modern requirements, and the Picturedrome Company, under the management of Messrs. Lionel Prichard and Francis A. Osborne, are providing a variety entertainment throughout the winter in conjunction with moving pictures. This week the programme includes Jack Toler with his wonderful dog, Lady; Mlle. Ponky Blundell, a vivacious comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Sid Clarke, in some clever tumbling. Amongst many interesting pictures, that of Life in the Next Century provides great fun.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Annie Saker and Walter Howard's company in *The Boy King* is here. Mr. Walter Howard is an accomplished Ragged Prince, and Miss Annie Saker makes a charming Camilla. Mr. Charles Weir is a capital Duke of Savernac; Mr. F. G. Clifton is an acceptable King; Mr. Claude Allingham is good as Captain Fabian; and Miss Grey Logan a refined Elaine.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—A costume concert party, "The Cigarettes," is here, consisting of Miss Nellie Schrader, a pleasing vocalist; Miss Annie Bebb, with pleasing items; Mr. Reginald Crowe and Mr. Leo Roy, with plenty of variety; Mr. Ernest Crampton, with a good choice of songs; and Miss Ida Stanley, a good pianist.

Tivoli.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital all-round programme is presented here. The premier turn is a dramatic episode, by Alan Holt's company, entitled *A Society Woman;* Hampton and Bauman are popular with their songs; Beattie Foster is a pleasing comedienne; Wallace Whitney has some taking songs; Daisy Sloan's Scotch songs are much appreciated; the Sisters Caselli receive much applause for some clever dancing; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

BARRY DOCKS.—New Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Hamilton Warden; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—A crowded house welcomed Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company with *The Merry Widow* on Monday evening. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter established himself a favourite as Baron Popoff; Mr. Robert Needham scored a success as Prince Danilo; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy was heard to advantage as Jolidon; Mr. Harry Emeric scored as Nisch; Mr. Tom H. David played well as the Marquis de Cascada; the efforts of Miss Dorothy Arliss as Sonia were praiseworthy; Natalie was excellently portrayed by Miss Mabel Hope.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. W. Minto.—Mahatma is billed here as the queen of second sight; the Danbys, comedians, and pictures, are other attarctions.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Smith* is here this week. Mr. Montagu Love is excellent as Tom Freeman; Miss Jessica Thorne handles the title-rôle with admirable reserve, her scenes with Mr. Love being taken in the spirit of true comedy. Miss Eleanor Delaporte portrays Mrs. Dallas Baker capitally; Mr. Vivian Gilbert enacts Algie Peppercorn with an air of unruffled calmness; Miss Kathryn Collier brings out the better nature of Emily Chapman cleverly; and Miss Eileen Atherley is the Mrs. Otto Rosenberg. Mr. Cecil Brooking undertakes the easy-going Mr. Dallas Baker satisfactorily, and Mr. George Child plays the smart part of Fletcher amusingly.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Charles Schuberth.—Chung Ling Soo is paying a third welcome visit to Bath this week, and again attracts crowded houses to witness his wonderful tricks and illusions. In the first part of the programme turns are given by Ernest Montefiore and company in *The Little Colonel*. The Society Quartette once again demonstrate their position as speciality dancers of the front rank. Others who also give enjoyable items are Dorothy Dacey, comedienne; Chas. Erard, pianist and also a smart mimic; and Milner and Storey, comedy artists. The pictures include an effective film, The Squire's Romance, which is loudly applauded.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*Old Heidelberg* is again seen here, the company being that of Mr. Ernest Benham. Mr. Owen Nares admirably portrays Prince Karl, and Miss Kitty Ricimer, who plays Kathie, brings out the bright Bohemian side of the character with fine abandon, and is naturally emotional at times. Mr. Sydney is seen to advantage as Lutz, and Mr. Frank Powell is a hard, incisive Von Haugh. As the old tutor, Dr. Jütner, Mr. Ernest Bodkin is admirable; and Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will causes much amusement as Kellermann. Von Wedell is ably represented by Mr. C. Derwent Grenville, and Mr. Percy Crawford is decidedly good as Rüder.

BELFAST.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company opened here on Monday with the well-known famous play *New East Lynne*. In the rôle of Lady Isabel, the charming, emotional actress, Miss Violet Ellicott, achieved a noteworthy success, her acting being worthy of very high praise indeed. Honours were also achieved by Mr. Frederick Victor, whose impersonation of Archibald Carlyle was certainly faultless; Mr. Charles Levey's impersonation of the despicable Francis Levison (alias Captain Thorne) reflected no little credit on the able actor; and the rôle of Justice Hare was excellently portrayed by Mr. George Bishop; Miss Alice Dorie and Miss Sophy Shenton filled the rôles of Barbara Hare and Cornelia Carlyle with no little satisfaction; and much humour was infused into the rôle of Murty O'Flynn by the capable Irish comedian Mr. Paddy Dupres; Mr. James Cole appeared as Lord Mountsevern, and Mr. Byron Douglas filled the rôle of Richard Hare to advantage. Other rôles were effectively portrayed by Miss Dorothy Douglas (especially good as Willie Carlyle), Miss Gwladys Veevers, Miss Rose Bright, and Messrs. M. Talbot, F. McFarlane, and V. Barker.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—The attraction here is the fine drama *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company. The leading rôle of Mary was sustained with skill by Miss Kathleen Magee; Mr. Wilson Coleman cleverly delineated the part of the unprincipled Felix Beverley; Miss Leila Drummond admirably sustained the rôle of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and one could not desire a better representative of the rôle of Colonel Milla than Mr. Cyril Grier; an effective impersonation of Jack Stirling was furnished by Mr. Reginald Brown; the humorous element was sustained by Miss Minnie Goepel, a vivacious sweet Nancy; and Messrs. Joe Redfern and Alfred G. T. Raymond, who were undoubtedly most amusing as Thomas and Charles; Mr. W. Annesley appeared to advantage as Arthur Bellairs; and Mr. Francis Leslie appeared with no little success as Geoffrey Langdon. Other rôles were sustained by Messrs. Harland Brookes and Hubert Rufus.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is supplied by Harry Tate's No. 1 company, who appear with great *éclat* in their mirth-provoking sketch, entitled *Flying;* Mr. J. W. Rickaby, an old favourite here, is loudly encored for his capital rendering of several songs; Mr. Norman Osborne is a capable ventriloquist, with some new ideas; and Carman and Readwin, in their vocal comedy and patter, make a deserved hit; Barnard's mannikins supply one of the features of the bill with an up-to-date entertainment; and also here are Mr. Fred Barnes, comedian, who made a big hit on Monday; Leo and Roland, equilibrists; and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is the accomplished comedienne, Miss Dorothy Ward, whose local pantomime triumphs are not easily forgotten, and who, on this occasion, gains an enviable success; Mr. Jock Mills is a droll Scotch comedian with good songs; and Drew and Alders, described as "Two Valiant Coastguardsmen," furnish a very clever act, which meets with much approval; Miss Gladys Hooley appears in her scena, "Fiddle and I," her violin selections being capably rendered; Miss Adey Spencer, "the girl from the hat shop," is paying a return visit with satisfactory results; and the same remarks apply to Kisbey, a realistic mimic; Bugler Carr, equilibrist; and the Bioscope complete the programme.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among the many interesting films presented here may be mentioned Trailed to the Hills, District Attorney's Triumph, Peg Woffington, &c. The variety element is sustained by Newco and Sullo, comedians; and Elliott and Lane, Scotch comedians.

St. George's Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Some attractive films have been shown here, including 'Mid the Cannon's Roar, The Eleventh Hour, The Marked Time-table, &c. Miss Heather Belle, Scotch character vocalist, appears at each performance with gratifying success.

Princess Picture Palace.—The pictures exhibited here include Apache Gold, Way Out West, &c. Master Sam McGarrell, the boy with the wonderful voice, gains deserved applause nightly.

BILSTON.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—This week's company includes Sylvene, assisted by Miss Florence, equilibrist; Will Hay, popular comedian; and Little Violet, in a variety of pretty dances.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—A visit from Miss Florence Baines and her No. 1 company, in the musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is keenly enjoyed by large audiences. The fine impersonation of Mary Ellen Thompson by Miss Florence Baines, both vocally and histrionically, is worthy of the highest commendation; Mr. Burt Burton enacts Moses Goldberg with unctuous humour; Mr. Payne Fletcher gives a capital interpretation of Farmer Thompson; Mr W. E. Brereton is excellent as the Lawyer; Mr David Donaldson is a good John Higgins; and Mr. Eric Vivian works hard and with success as Harry Higgins. Miss Molly Shine is a bewitching Eva Lancashire, and possesses excellent vocal abilities; and a capital cast includes Miss Mary Collier, Miss Maud Locker, Mr. Henry Lloyd, and Mr. Hubert Mitchell.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mr. John Terry and Miss Mabel Lambert, in a series of character sketches, figure prominently here; Alexandre and Hughes are entertaining musical comedians; and a liberal programme is supported by Miss Winifred Ward, a smart male impersonator; Mr. Julian Mack, topical comedian; Woodhouse and Wells, patterers and dancers; Miss Rose Sartella, American comedienne; Miss Lila Vesta, comedienne; Mr. Frank Seeley, the popular comedian; Mr. Barry Lupino, contortionist and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

Hippodrome.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Miss Winifred Maude's company is here in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude wins much popularity in the rôle of Nora Gillmore; and the eccentricities of Isaac Levi are admirably reproduced by Mr. Victor Du Cane. The rascalities of Ralph Blackwater are vividly illustrated by Mr. Arthur L. Read; and conspicuous in the cast are also Mr. Harold Heath, Mr. William Vane, and Miss Gipsy Alexander. The performances are given twice nightly, and good business results

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. George Dance's company present the highly successful melodrama, *The Whip*, for the first time to Midland audiences, and they are accorded a warm greeting by crowded audiences. The elaborate nature of the staging of the piece emphasises the thrilling incidents with which the play abounds, and the piece fully merits the support it has. There are two outstanding characters—Captain Sartorys, represented by Mr. James Lindsey, and Mrs. Beamish, played by Miss Simeta Marsden. Those persons are responsible for exceptionally clever acting. They are well supported by a strong company, including Miss Vera Beringer as Mrs. D'Aquila, Miss Gwendolen Wren as Lady Diana, Mr. Dallas Cairns as the Earl, Mr. Edwin Brett as the trainer, Tom Lambert, Miss Dora Lane as Myrtle Anson, and Mr. Eric Hudson as Joe Kelly.

Prince of Wales's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—Mr. H. B. Irving is presenting *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Hyde* to large and interested audiences. It is a powerful production, and the acting is above the ordinary type. It is a triumph for Mr. Irving, and the piece should have a long and successful run. It is splendidly staged, and the sketchiness of Stevenson's story is largely expanded in the play, and numerous characters are added. Mr. Irving assumes the dual character, and he is assisted by a strong company. Miss Dorothea Baird gives a pathetic study as the blind wife of Jekyll; and others who deserve special mention are Mr. Henry Vibart as Lawyer Utterson, Mr. Charles Sugden as Sir Danvers Carew, Miss Eille Norwood as Lanyon, Mr. Frank Tyars as Poole, the butler, Miss Grace Croft as Lady Carew, Miss Irene Brown as Lady Hilda, and Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem as Hyde's landlady. The play is preceded by a bright one-act piece entitled *A Maid of Honour*.

Alexandra.—General-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo.—Patrons are thoroughly enjoying the performance of the melodrama *Facing the World Alone*, admirably undertaken by Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss Ethel van Praagh as the Duchess of Pimlico displays considerable ability; the heroine is safely entrusted to Miss Nellie Garside; Mr. Whitty is a powerful villain, and gives a very effective performance; Mr. Edward Ouston appears as Caleb Valentine, Mr. Harold Forde as James Sudbury, and Miss Flora Hastings as the heroine's mother.

Bordesley Palace.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Miss Hilda Beverley and company present a weird mixture of love, hate, and revenge in the melodrama *A Woman of Two Lives*. Miss Beverley undertakes the chief work in impersonating the dual rôle of Ogarita and Angela Fenton, and is a big success; Miss Mary Brammer makes a handsome and evil witch; Mr. Herbert Pearson is prominent as the hero; and the comedy element is in the capable hands of Miss Marie E. Robertson and Mr. E. Hall Eldon. Other characters are ably sustained.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Unusual interest attaches to the appearance of the American scout, Young Buffalo, who is supported by his American company in the romantic drama, *King of the Wild West*. A realistic setting is provided by the inclusion of several genuine American Indians in the cast, and the principal characters are exceedingly well drawn. In the title-rôle Young Buffalo is the heart and soul of the piece. He is perfectly at home in every situation, and well deserves the applause bestowed upon him. Miss Caroline May Blaney is a typical wild Western girl; and other parts are cleverly filled by Miss Agnes McCarthy, Miss Lucy Murray, Mr. Ernest Foster, Mr. Edwin J. Collins, Mr. Edward Rich, Mr. Antoine Provost, Mr. G. W. Cockburn, &c.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis M. Chapman.—*A Criminal's Bride* is enjoying a week of great success, presented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Elizabeth Dundas scores a triumph in the character of Lavender Loseby, who is under the evil influence of Austin Deepdale, a difficult, heavy part, capably filled by Mr. Annesley Hely; Mr. Frank Robertson is seen to advantage as Sir Harry Felstead; Mr. Grayson Bancroft has many admirers as David Loseby, and other characters are in capable hands.

Carlton Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The drama *Driven from Home* has lost none of its popularity, judging by its reception here this week. The piece is enjoyed each evening by crowded houses, and the thrilling scene in the sawmill causes a great sensation. Miss Violet Forbes undertakes the dual rôle of Laura Raybrook, the outcast, and Walter Hatherleigh, her son, with marked ability, and her characterisation is warmly applauded. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is conspicuous as the adventurer, Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. Harry Leyton as Willie, the half-witted outcast, is a popular figure. Miss S. Beaven and Mr. Fred C. Imbert portrays the humorous characters very effectively; and the other characters are well chosen.

The Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Darracq's sensational motor-car act is proving a good attraction; Bella and Bijou are big favourites here, and the suffragist sketch is as attractive as ever; Miss Ethel Newman appears in an amusing sketch *Her Wedding Day;* the Falcons are smart comedy acrobats; the Smythsons keep the audience in merry mood with *The Lie Alarm;* J. W. Rowley is a smart entertainer; H. Squire Day is a lively comedian; and Carl and Carr are an excellent comedy couple.

The Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas. A warm welcome is accorded Gertie Gitana, the young lady with the sweet, attractive voice and novel dances; a brightly-conceived duologue, *Dick's Sister*, affords an opportunity for the advantageous display of graceful light comedy acting of Miss Adrienne Augarde, ably assisted by Mr. Victor Huntley; Ernie Garner is a genuine comedian, and his monologue in local dialect is well received; a ladder performance by Les Silvas is a remarkable acrobatic achievement; Witty Watty Walton gives a diverting performance; Walter Bellonini is an extremely clever juggler; Tom E. Conover is a character comedian; and the Royal Scots are responsible for a delightful musical act.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—At the head of an acceptable programme is the popular comedian, George Gilbey; *The Pirate's Cave* is the title of a tabloid pantomime, effectively presented by the Five Oxos; Russell Brandow is a smart coloured dancer; and the Croisit Trio, French acrobats, are responsible for a remarkable athletic exhibition; Rosie Everette, comedienne and dancer; Winifred Norman, in a quaint Dutch character; James Basnett, a popular Birmingham vocalist; and the McKinleys, duettists and dancers, also provide enjoyable items.

Hippodrome.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—A novel and sparkling act is that presented by Montgomery and Moore two Americans who should go far in this country; as patter comedians, Friend and Downing would be hard to beat; Herbert Sleath's company appear in the stirring sketch *Her Ladyship's Guest;* the Zanosis are accomplished jugglers; Rosie Lloyd is a vivacious comedienne; Bertie Herron displays marked ability and originality; a comedy act is given by the Crisps; Will E. Fall is rightly styled "the eccentric fellow"; Hazel Glade is a chic comedienne; Tom Franks is a pleasing ventriloquist; and the Zenary Brothers perform clever acrobatic feats in their act, "A Meeting at the Club."

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—At the head of the list is Harry Roxbury's great success *The Cowboy Millionaire*, presented by Tubby Edlin; in the character of William Wiggs Mr. Edlin has ample opportunities for displaying his mirth-making talents, and the sketch is loudly applauded; Tom Gott, the confiding comedian, makes many hits in the Yorkshire dialect; and Rob Wilton's quaint style provokes much humour; Kioto and Esa present a daring equilibristic act; the Rangers perform difficult feats on cycles; Gibbon and Bell score in a dancing speciality; Joe Belmont is an entertaining siffleur; Lambert and Hands are applauded in a vocal scena; and the Hipposcope effectively winds up the programme.

Curzon Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The pictures shown this week represent all that is newest and best in animated photography. Great interest centres in the travel series throwing light upon Darkest Africa, and depicting the beautiful scenery of the Zambesi and Victoria Falls. The Geisha is the title of a pretty Eastern story told in colourgraphy, and an excellent reproduction is given of the celebrated story of The Lyons Mail. Pathé's Animated Gazette, as usual, ranks high in public favour, and amongst the remaining pictures An Adventure of Lieut. Rose and Over the Garden Wall are well worthy of mention. M. Georges Dollin, a popular impersonator, appears successfully in several selections from an extensive répertoire.

Picture House, New-street.—Proprietors, The Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Quill.—The entertainments at this hall are receiving undiminished patronage and the programmes are kept entirely fresh

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. W. V. Garrod and company are reappearing here in *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. Garrod again plays the rôle of Tom Godley in a charcteristic manner, and a clever Enoch Jaggins is Mr. Ernest Vaughan; the Ben Jaggins of Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh is very effective; Mr. Owen Remonde is a success as Phil Drive, and Miss Madge Dougles portrays Gretchen von Craus delightfully; Miss Bertha Kingston is a winning Fern Godley, her singing being admired. The scenic effects are good.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Boswell's Circus is very popular; Cassie Walmer is a clever eccentric vocalist and dancer; the Three Tree children give a bright musical scena; and Ray, Miles, and Ray are a smart juggling trio. Jack Sheridan cleverly understudies his father, Mr. Mark Sheridan, and Harris Coonie is a good singer and dancer; Craig, Roze, and Craig give a clever gymnastic turn, and good films are shown by the Hipposcope.

BLACKBURN.—New Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Resident Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reg. Yorke.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company is presenting *The Geisha* and *A Greek Slave*. In the former play Miss Aimee Grey as O Mimosa San scored both in singing and acting; Miss Adela Crispin was a delightful Molly Seymour; Mr. Edward Carlton was well placed as Wun-Hi, missing few opportunities; Mr. Colin Coop was good as the Marquis Imari; Mr. Herbert Uzielli as the Captain of the Guard sang very nicely; Reginald Fairfax had an able exponent in Mr. Edmund Sherras; and the rest of the characters were in good hands.

The Palace.—Sole Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Mr. Fred Lindsay does wonderful things with a whip; a capital turn is given by Bert Woodward, the steeple-chasing cyclist; Mr. John Donald, the Scottish baritone, sings in fine style; Reg Beauchamp is a good comedian, and scores well; Miss Louie Tracey, the "dapper dandy boy," gives a smart turn; Tamamoto, Japanese rope performer, has few equals in his line; a very amusing scena is given by the Arthur Gallimore Trio; Carl and Mary Ohms's animal circus is greatly enjoyed; and two very interesting pictures complete.

New Princess.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Manageress, Mrs. C. Clarkson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in *For Love and the King* was well received by a good house on Monday. The part of Gerald Meredith was admirably played by Mr. Watson Mill; and Miss Joan Ellis did well as Natila. Mr. Alfred Maurice in the part of the miser gave a clever study; and Mr. Beckitt Bould was good as Prince Uros. The humorous portion of the drama was well placed in the hands of Mr. Oscar Tower as Carl Oppenheimer. Mr. John C. Carlyle played well as Vladimir Obrenovic; and other characters were in good hands. Careful attention has been paid to the dresses and scenic effects.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week with *Miss Tommy*. In the title-rôle Miss Hughes has a part to which her style is exactly suited, and, of course, she is the life and soul of the play; Mr. Mayne Lynton acts well as Peter Hope; and Mr. Henry Deas contributes a very clever study of Dick Danvers. An ideal Flipp is found in Mr. Ernest Hendrick; whilst Mr. Fred A. Marston carefully portrays William Clodd. Miss Vera Pole as Honour and Miss Elinor Foster as "Mr. Morrison" complete the cast.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Harrop.—Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company is in possession here with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. W. Hargreaves repeats his clever and amusing representation of Mr. Cattermole; and Mr. James Hussey is seen to advantage as the Rev. Robert Spalding. Mr. William Carriden makes an excellent Mr. Marsland; whilst Edith Marsland is charmingly played by Miss Mary Mellalieu. Mr. Kendal Chalmers as Gibson is also a capable actor. The other parts were also carefully played.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Frank Lister, in a sketch, entitled *The Sundowner*, is well received here this week. Other turns of merit are supplied by Charburn's Young Stars, in a vocal scena; Four Faribonis, classical dancers; George Campbell, a very amusing patter comedian; Hettie Lee, a smart comedienne; Vere and Neldon, comedians; Frank Legay Trio, the remarkable whirlwind dancers; and Fayre and Manning, a couple of good comedians.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Charles Gibbon's company is here with *Alone in London*. Miss Nellie Clyde acts artistically as Nan; the Misses Joan Harcourt (Ruth Clifton), Hettie Hornsby (Little Paul), Ethel G. Greene (Tom Chickweed), and Carrie Young (Liz Jenkinson) all get the most out of their respective parts; Mr. Charles Gibbon proves himself a capable stage villain as Dick Redcliffe; Mr. William Macready is a fine John Biddlecombe; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson acquits himself well as Old Jenkinson; and Messrs. Gilbert Elvin (as Burnaby), Robert Grey (as Walter Burnaby), and Walter Dunlop (as Spriggins) all do good work.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Heading an attractive programme here are J. Tysoe Smith's famous Eighteen Lancashire Singers, who are delighting large audiences with their part-singing. The Reays, gymnasts and equilibrists; the Bros. Milford, comedians and dancers; St. George Silvesta, wizard and entertainer, assisted by Miss Eva de Courtney; Harry Russon, actor-comedian; Miss Raie Walters, a dainty comedienne; the Bros. Miller, gymnastic comedians and burlesque wrestlers; Harry Shirley and May Ransome, in a pleasing episode of East-end life, *Jim's Pal;* the Orchids, a smart vocal comedy duo; the Saxonys, singers and wooden shoe dancers; and the Hadji-Mohamed Troupe of Arab acrobats and tumblers, are other attractions.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The premier position is occupied by M. Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoile le Noir, who appear in a novel terpsichorean scena, entitled *The Rat*. Other turns are given by the Two McNaughtons (Fred and Gus), cross-talk comedians; Miss Daisy James, comedienne; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, in a new and original skit, *The Girl in the Hobble Skirt;* Arthur Croxton, in burlesque impersonations; Lew Lake presents the Six Buster-Browns in an American vaudeville singing and dancing act; Madge Osmond, "the ideal dandy"; Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, in their comedy juggling act; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Bobbie Allandale's company, in the popular comedy *The Gay River*, is proving a strong attraction here. The company includes many clever singers.

Muncaster Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Pennington Estates Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred D. Adams.—*The Octoroon* is being played here this week Miss Nina Vaughton and Mr. Stanley Gordon are popular.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece.—The Kellinos are clever acrobats; the Wilton Heriot Trio are highly amusing in *Father's Footsteps;* Stevens and Brett, as burlesque entertainers, are successful; Hillman and Russell obtain hearty applause for their vocal comedy scena, *The Scarecrow and the Star*. Tod Lowen, eccentric comedian; Helen Martin, vocalist; and Carl Muller, dancer, are also well received. The Hippodrome pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*The Speckled Band* is played here to large audiences. So realistic and convincing is Mr. C. W. Somerset's impersonation of the hateful Dr. Grimesby Rylott that he is greeted with groans of contempt, a fine compliment to his ability; with much skill Mr. Julian Royce portrays Detective Sherlock Holmes; and Mr. Bellenden Clarke is good as his friend, Dr. Watson. There is much charm and pathos in Miss Alice Leigh's acting as Enid Stonor; Miss Adelaide Grace makes the most of her chances as the objectionable Mrs. Staunton; Rodgers is a capital character study by Mr. Herbert Vyvyan; Mr. E. H. Paterson is really excellent as Mr. Armitage; and the many other characters are in capable hands.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert is presenting, for the first time here, his excellent drama *A Daughter of the Sea*. As Mark Glensdale, the octogenarian villain of the story, Mr. Gilbert acts with skill and effect; and the young heroine Sunshine is very charmingly represented by Miss Florrie Green. In his impersonation of a retired sea captain Mr. H. C. Lanceley is good; humour in the drama is in the safe hands of Miss Alice Williams and Mr. Joe Monkhouse; and Mr. Leon Courtville and Mr. Gordon Blyth lend able support in minor parts. The play is well staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—A brilliant reception is accorded Miss Vesta Tilley, and, bright and artistic as ever, she delights her audience. There are two excellent exponents of comic vocalism in Bert Harrow and W. J. Churchill; Ellis Barrieton sings well in character; Rosa Loader is amusing as the slavey at the piano; the McConnell Trio are entertaining in a vocal comedy sketch, *The Invalid;* Elly Adair is a dainty Irish comedienne and dancer; the Korries blend comedy and music in their excellent turn; with fine trick cycling of a humorous type and clever acrobatic dancing the Villions win hearty applause; and some amusing pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Miss Zerlini Harrington displays fine emotional power in a well-acted Russian Nihilist sketch, *Olga's Oath;* Cash and Clair, American singers and dancers, are clever; as a coon delineator J. H. Wakefield is very good; a novel musical scena by the Two Lees wins merited favour; Dolly and Rosie are smart and attractive comediennes; the Lomas Duo gives with success their speciality *The Birthday Teddy Bear;* Cissie Thompson, comedienne, sings with much acceptance; with song, story, and parody, Happy Attwood is diverting; with their comedy sketch *Making a Man of Her*, the Oakes Duo are humorous and original; and the Perfection pictures are entertaining.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, jun.—Sydney Carter's pictures are again the attraction this week, and continue to draw crowded houses, the pictures shown being both dramatic and humorous: Convict 796, with musical and vocal effect, The Stolen Plans of Carthage, The Majesty of the Law, Buffalo Bill, Picturesque Rome, The Clown and Donkey, Which of the Two? That Typist, and others.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here this week with *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Wernham Ryott

"DERWENT"
GAS-STEAM RADIATORS
For Heating Theatres.
JOBSON & CO.,
Derwent Foundry, DERBY.

There is no simpler, safer, or more agreeable preparation than
ENO'S
'FRUIT SALT'
THE OLD TIME, EVER-POPULAR HOUSEHOLD REMEDY FOR
Biliousness, Sick Headache, Errors in Diet (Eating or Drinking), Giddiness, Constipation, Thirst, Rheumatic or Gouty Poison, Feverish Cold with High Temperature and Quick Pulse, and Feverish Conditions generally. It proves beneficial in the early stages of Diarrhœa. Most valuable to Travellers, especially in hot countries.
CAUTION.—*Examine the Capsule, and see that it is marked ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT,' otherwise you have the sincerest form of flattery—IMITATION.*
Prepared only by J. C. ENO, Ltd.,
'FRUIT SALT' WORKS, LONDON, S.E.

gives an admirable portrayal of Joe Mayfield; Miss O'Neill submits a charming impersonation of Belle Gordon; Miss Tina Langlois as Maggie Mason and Mr. Charles C. Calvert as Reggie Harwood are well placed, and contribute pleasing songs and dances; Mr. Charles E. Johnson's Martin Mason is an excellent embodiment; Mr. J. C. Cuthbertson's Manuel Averax merits praise; Mr. Wilfred Jessop makes a picturesque Wahketah; Miss Agnes Verity is distinctly effective as Dynamite Ann; and Mr. Harry Benson affords much fun as Ben White.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Gilbert Heron and company achieve great success in the tabloid drama *Saved by Wireless;* the Three Flying Winskills are very dashing and clever gymnasts; Bruno Pitrot, the originator of the mobil-bar, gives a smart turn; De Lilo and Metz, comedy juggler and rubber ball dancer, are a very entertaining pair; Lily Farrar is as captivating as ever in her song scena *Bubbles;* Marie Rey contributes pleasing songs; Walton and Williams are capital comedians and dancers; Gee Gordon is a good patter comedian; Allsop and Beckwith are a pleasing comedy duo; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and diverting.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings, presented by Mr. P. T. Selbit, are interesting and wonderful; William Mollison and company win enthusiastic applause for their representation of *The Touch of the Child;* clever dancing was submitted in the Indian ballet scene *Les Idolatres,* in which Espinosa is especially effective; Eadie and Ramsden are very humorous in *Charlie's Visit;* Les Tombettas are a versatile and popular couple; A. and A. W. Asra are very clever jugglers; the Hovyns are smart acrobats; J. H. Greener, the singing pit-boy, is well received; and Belrose and De Velin are pleasing duettists.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here this week with *Charley's Aunt.* Mr. Hugh Wakefield affords unbounded fun by his clever impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Francis Drake as Jack Cheney and Mr. Robert Burnett as Charles Wykeham are well placed; Mr. Sidney Compton submits an admirable character-sketch as Brassett; Miss Ruth Henton as Kitty Verdun and Miss Phyllis Back as Amy Spettigue give charming representations.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Edward Compton and his company are here for the week. On Monday evening *Davy Garrick* was performed. Mr. Compton scored his usual success in the title-rôle; Miss Rita Sponti acted charmingly as Violet Gresham; Mr. Henry Crocker was amusing and effective as Alderman Gresham; and the remaining parts were all carefully taken. The performance commenced with *Tom Noddy's Secret,* in which Miss Nell Compton, Mr. Frank Royde, Mr. J. W. Austin, Mr. Charles Stone, and Miss Vivien Marriott distinguished themselves. *She Stoops to Conquer, A Reformed Rake, The Rivals, School for Scandal, Used Up,* and *Cool as a Cucumber* are also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*The Bad Girl of the Family* is attracting a large attendance here. Miss Florrie Kelsey acts admirably in the title-rôle, Bess Moore; Miss Alice Esther Belmore is very pleasing as Gladys Erskine; Mr. R. M. St. John is a fine, manly, and convincing Lieut. Richard Marsh; Mr. Percy Baverstock displays dignity as Lord Erskine; Mr. Sydney Lynn makes the most of Harry Gordon; Mr. Barnett Lando presents a good study of Barney Gordon; and the comic parts of Sammy Snozzle and Sally Smithers have smart exponents in Mr. George H. Asquin and Miss Nellie James.

PALACE. — Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. J. V. Welchman.—Reano and his band of about thirty performers are here for the week, and are proving attractive; Rapolio presents an artistic and sensational juggling act; Stuart and Evans, comedians, are successful; the Sisters Du Cane are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Arthur Aiston, comedian, has some good songs; the Zanpellas do a clever equilibristic act; Jean Wallace, comedian and dancer, is fully appreciated; and animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Annie Abbott, "the woman with the mysterious power," heads the programme very successfully. Many strong men try to lift and shift her. A pair of dray horses are announced to try on Friday evening, and a local brewery tug-of-war team of sixteen men will try their luck on Thursday. La Valdi and assistant present a very pretty spectacular and dancing turn, entitled *The Spirits of the Foam;* Six Lancashire Lasses are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Percy Thomas is an expert dancer; Payne and Errol amuse with their episode, *Three a.m.;* August, September, and May do well with their comedy skit; K. Scott Barry and assistants present a song and dance speciality, *The Chantecleres;* Arnold and Baxter, two ladies in Gipsy costume, are very charming and artistic vocalists; Ethel Campbell is a pleasing comedienne; and R. Cardigan and company please with their musical sketch *The Distinguished Visitor.* Animated pictures are also included in the entertainment.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*Lady Godiva,* with Miss Irene Munroe in the title-rôle, is presented here this week. Mr. Montague Beaudyn makes a fitting Peeping Tom; the Black Earl is capably portrayed by Mr. Chas. D. Pitt; Mr. A. A. Tomlin (Robin Shadbolt) and Miss Phyllis Rae (Elfrida) furnish most of the comedy business; Mr. William Melvyn (Leofric), Mr. Geo. Overs (Unwolf), Mr. Geo. E. Dunstan (Edgar), and Miss Cora Paley (Lady Aldyth) give good studies of their several parts; and the scenery is good.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Dairymaids* appears here this week, and is a great success. Mr. Edwin Dodds is a comedian of high powers, who plays Joe Mivens; and a great share of the fun is provided by Miss Edie Martin as 'Liza. Miss Ethel Callanan is a sweet Peggy; and Miss Marjorie Manners makes a pleasing Winnie. Mr. William Spray capitally plays Lieut. Sam Brudenell; and the remaining parts are in capable hands. The chorus is a good one, and worthy of special praise.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A programme of considerable merit is before the patrons here this week, including the Brothers Griffiths, who create roars of laughter with smart patter and burlesque wrestling; Wm. Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads also create a good impression with dancing and singing; and Woods and Walsh are a pair of jumpers with remarkable ability. Gladys Re Vell is a chorus singer with a winning way; and another good turn is provided by Archie Graham, swell comedian. Maurice and Macie, in a military vocal scena, and the pictures by the Empire Theatrescope complete the bill.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Rentoul.—A refined programme is submitted here, with Nelson Jackson well to the front both with a piano and without; a well-worked comedietta is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, entitled *My Lady's Chamber;* the Fuji Japanese Troupe are a set of clever equilibrists; and Gene Morell's instrumental music is enjoyable. Julia Reeve, comedienne, is well received; and Little Doris Druce is an acceptable juvenile mimic. Ernest Rees provides a catchy turn, and the Palace pictures conclude with a funny film.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—A hearty welcome is accorded to Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company, in *The Arcadians.* Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson as Simplicitas keeps the audience in a merry mood; the lugubrious jockey is a capital sketch by Mr. Alfred Beers; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald (Jack Meadows) sings and acts extremely well; as do also Mr. Cyril Lane, Mr. Wallace G. Court, Mr. John Montague, and Miss Noah Cameron. The cultured voice of Miss Sybil Tancredi is heard to great advantage in the songs allotted to Sombra, of which character she is an ideal exponent. The Mrs. Smith of Gertrude Aylward is inimitable in its sparkling humour; and Miss Molly McIntyre is eminently successful as Eileen Cavanagh. The play is admirably staged.

BURY (Lancs).—ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—*Happy-go-lucky O'Lyn,* presented by Mr. Frank Bertram's company, is proving a big success. As Bryan O'Lyn Mr. John Child is heard to advantage; Mr. Reginald Adair is excellent as Frank Fentiman; Miss Anna Hickish and Mme. Marie Alexander undertake the parts of Kathleen O'Lyn and Aunt Charlotte respectively, and here again some beautiful singing is heard.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson. Harry Drew, Welsh Basco, and Mlle. Benita, operatic vocalist, provide the variety turns this week, and the bill is completed with entertaining films.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—J. W. Hall is a popular comedian here, and meets with a flattering reception; an entertaining and amusing scena is presented by the Haylors; Dolly Ross is a sprightly comedienne; L. W. Harris, light comedian, shines with excellently-rendered songs; and Cara Kyasya appears in art poses. Seims, card and coin manipulator; Will Sullivan, comedian; and Karp and Kooney, in a smart comedy act, conclude the programme.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — THEATRE ROYAL — Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Maron.—*The Love Birds* is played by Miss Lois Esmond's company. Leading rôles are sustained by Miss Esmond, Mr. Edward Neville, Mr. F. Dale, and Miss Maisie Bramley. Miss Blanche Courtenay acts and dances daintily; and the Misses Wignall, Robertson, Ross, and Byrne are a very expert troupe of dancers.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark's company paid a return visit here on Monday with *Our Flat.* Mr. Murray King is naturally humorous, and as Nathaniel Glover was thoroughly at home; Mr. McCullum was well rendered by Mr. Ardenne Linden; Reginald Sylvester was excellently played by Mr. Warburton Gamble; Miss Louie Tinsley made the most of Bella; Mr. C. Ireland Thring (Vane) was good; and Miss Florence Radcliffe (Marjory) was very safe. The minor parts were all capably represented.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. George Dance's company in the musical comedy *Our Miss Gibbs* was welcomed by a large and appreciative audience on Monday. Miss Jessie Lonnen is seen in the title-rôle, her dainty manner and graceful style making her portrayal one of exquisite charm. Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs is responsible for a remarkably amusing and clever performance; Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint does his full share in provoking merriment; Mr. Hugh Weybrance sings well and acts cleverly in the rôle of Lord Eynsford; and the Earl of St. Ives is impersonated by Mr. Ernest Darrell in a dignified and thoroughly aristocratic manner. Lady Elizabeth is delineated by Miss Lilian Birtles in a delightfully sweet style; the Duchess of Minster is given just prominence by Miss Helen Langton; Mme. Jeanne has an attractive exponent in Miss Ellaline Thorne; and Miss Emily Stevens as Mrs. Farquhar is admirably suited. Mr. John Leopold, jun., wins full credit as Slithers; and a pleasing rendition of Mr. Toplady is given by Mr. Campbell Browne. The chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—Fred Kitchen is appearing once again in Herbert Darnley's sketch *Private Potts,* and is making as big a hit as ever. Tom Leamore, popular comedian, treats his audiences to a couple of side-splitting songs rendered in this artist's best style; Leslie Harris is decidedly entertaining at the piano; Duncan's royal Scotch collies do marvellous tricks; Merlin, card manipulator, manages completely to baffle his audiences; the McGregors are expert musicians; Sybil St. Elmo renders two songs in a sweet voice; Will Musgrave is a humorous comedian; and fine Pictures complete the programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. E. Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* is produced by Mr. Morton Powell's company. Miss Marie Robson as Ruth Wright wins universal commendation by her admirable representation of an arduous rôle; Miss Maud M. Powell as the much-wronged Ruby Wright gives an artistic rendering of a difficult part; Mr. Harry Wood is a manly Robert Ray; the villainies of Lucas List find a powerful impersonator in Mr. Frank Stacey; Mr. Henry Scatchard as Octavius Screwe justified his selection by his clever representation; Miss Kate Froude proves herself an actress of undaunted ability as Mme. de Meral; Miss Effie Macintosh gives a refreshing portrayal of Bessie Betts; and Mr. H. Arnold Allen is also effective as Freddy Feather. Mr. Fred Yarnold (Billy Broad) and Mr. Frank C. Lester (Bobby Broad) introduce the comedy element in a clever manner.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Topping an excellent bill is the well-known Achmed Ibraham Troupe of Bedouin Arabs, who perform their wonderful aerobatic turn with such daring and skill. Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford are a refined comedy vaudeville duo; Miss Norman Grant proves entertaining at the piano; Fred Evans does well in a novel absurdity entitled *Dreaming;* and the Brothers Hannaway, clever comedians and dancers, Rita and Roma in a new pot-pourri, and Chris Baker, a thoroughly amusing comedian, contribute to the attractive programme. The Palace Perfection Pictures are as interesting as usual.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The first visit of Mr. Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham* drew a large and appreciative audience on the opening night. In the title-rôle Mr. Edmund Kennedy gave a sound and well-balanced interpretation; the Lord Mountfalion of Mr. William Calvert was a judicious and careful piece of acting; and Mr. Charles Wemyss's tact and skill made Mr. Vallerton a prominent character. In the comedy-rôle Mr. Arthur Leigh made a big hit; Miss Florence Tressilian was a charming heroine; as Mrs. D. ham Miss Nellie Bonser made a deep impression; the Lady Mountfallon of Miss Frances Wolviston was a sound performance; and Miss Dorothy Turner as her daughter looked and acted the part admirably.

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—The Milton Bros., in a comedy skating act, in which they display wonderful ability and agility, are one of the most popular turns this week; Beatrice Bonnie and her troop of juvenile clog-dancers give a striking turn on a novel stair arrangement, entitled "The Stairphone"; Stylo, the hoop manipulator, displays his skill to everyone's satisfaction; and J. G. Aitken's songs and funny Scotch tales bring down the house. Cromo and Hamilton, smart burlesque artists, W. B. Raby, comedian, and Rose Cass, comedienne and chorus singer, contribute excellent turns.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Sydney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Peter Mooney.—The most striking films reproduced this week are Nellie's Farm, The Flag of Company H, and The Blacksmith.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. Arthur Farren's Royal Pierrots and No. 1 vaudeville company occupied the Assembly Rooms, and gave a refined and enjoyable entertainment. Miss Girtie Coleman contributed very effectively a couple of humorous songs; Miss Eva Travis scored in her illustrated song; La Zenith delighted the audience in her illuminated butterfly dance; the humorous interlude of Mr. J. Mackenzie and the company caused roars of laughter; Mr. Eugene Maccabe was successful in his songs; Miss Flo Claremont proved herself a capable vocalist and dancer; and Mr. Harry Sumner made a decided hit in his songs. Mme. Zilla and M. Mazeppa gave wonderful exhibitions of telepathy. The comedy sketch of the company was amusing.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman, J.P.—*As Your Hair Grows Whiter* is presented here by Mr. Herbert Fuller and company. Mr. George Galsford gives a manly and dignified impersonation of Rev. John Albery; Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell is responsible for a careful study of Farmer Walters; Miss Florence Delmar is a very natural farmer's wife; as Alice Walters Miss Agnes Collier sings sweetly; from Mr. Edward Fryer comes a well-acted portraiture of that precious scoundrel Squire Jake Stoneley; Mr. Louis Weston plays Mozart with brisk humour, and, supported by Miss Emily Lewis as Nurse Von Grip, causes much laughter; another amusing couple are Mr. Percy St. Clair and Miss Tilly Fuller.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson.—A capital bill this week is headed by the Lukushimas, in a smart performance as acrobats; the Avrignys are expert balancers; Elsie Malpass gains much applause for mimicry; Rousby and Rene are pleasing vocalists; the Lancashire comedy sketch, *Fine Feathers,* is attractively funny; Harley and Melton have good songs and amusing patter; Walter Buxton is in capital form as a baritone; Tom Isherwood's songs provoke laughter; Spry and Bentley in a humorous character sketch, *The Dude and the Dupe,* meet with approval; and good pictures are shown.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram are presenting *The Fires of Fate.* Mr. Lewis Fielder gives an admirable delineation of Colonel Cyril Egerton; Mr. Gilbert Yorke's Rev. Samuel Roden is a capital portrayal, his brother, James Roden, being commendably represented by Mr. George F. Ide; Mr. Sidney Carlyle is the Abdulla, and makes a favourable impression, and the rôle of Miss Sadie Adams is effectively undertaken by Miss Aimee de Burgh.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Dandy George, with his cleverly trained chimpanzee George the First, Herr Unthan, the armless wonder, Spry and Monti, in their comedy act *The Eccentric Song-Writer,* Dion Wade, Ella Lyons, male impersonator, and Milo and George, in their athletic gymnastic display, are all appearing with success.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer, Master Cliff Diamond, a pleasing singer and nimble dancer, Stella Stahl, a vivacious soubrette, The Three Romas in a clever gymnastic act, Harry Clifford, with an amusing shoeblack song and recitation, Jack Lorimer, a popular Scotch comedian, and the Hemispheres Quartette in their musical act, are in the capital programme here this week.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company provide thrills this week in *The Sailor's Wedding.* Mr. Stanley Harrison plays with never-failing earnestness the part of Gordon Drake; Mr. Cecil Klein plays with spirit and humour as Sir Victor Lascelles; Giovanni Ferici is robustly impersonated by Mr. J. H. Darnley; Leonora de Gresac is impersonated with sufficient dramatic emphasis by Miss Olive Warne; Miss Madge Monte is pleasing as Mary Bellini; Mr. Alfred Fisher is sympathetic as Count Bellini; and Miss Daisy Gwynne is a stately Countess Bellini; Mr. Alfred Holles is a sinister figure as Giacomo Ferrara. Humorous relief is afforded by Mr. Frank Bertram as the typical sailor, Jack Hawkins, and Mr. Frank Kidger as his bosom pal Bill Burns; Miss E. Giddens, a pretty and coquettish waitress, and Miss Celestine Bertram as a chic French maid are clever.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. C. B. Shenton.—The Brothers Weyman, American wooden shoe experts, do some clever step dancing; Miss Alice Gill charms the audience with "Beautiful garden of roses"; The Dunvilles, comedy instrumental vocalists, contribute an excellent turn; and the pictures are again perfect.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. S. Bucclench.—Edward Crossland's Melody Makers top the bill with their exceedingly clever and exquisitely tuneful phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream;* Will Beanland, a female impersonator, with his wonderful falsetto voice and graceful deportment, delights and puzzles his audience; Lawson and O'Dell give a smart novel singing and dancing act; and Harry Marlow is a good singer of catchy original songs with rollicking choruses; the Three Rochesters are excellent drawing-room entertainers and wonderful barefoot sand dancers; the Sisters Edwards are expert and graceful vocalists, dancers, and drummers; and the mirthful and eccentric Austin Rudd convulses the house and wins well deserved encores. Beautiful bioscope pictures complete the programme.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — THEATRE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—Excellent pictures are exhibited here.

CLYDEBANK.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—Hess and Chivers lead off with their roller-skating act, which is well received. Charles Howarth in a laughable sketch, *Fun in the College,* is highly amusing; and Lillie Dennis, an excellent comedienne and speciality dancer; Day and Daly, comedians and dancers; Jack Chambers, negro comedian; Queenie May, descriptive vocalist; and some good films on the Bioscope complete a good show.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Lester Collingwood's company, in *When London Sleeps,* is here. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson played *David Englehart* in his own delightful style; Miss Mabel Tremere was a winning Queenie; Miss Lilia Wilde a dramatic Hilda Carode; and a fine impersonation was that of Rodney Haynes by Mr. Frank Eaglesfield. A trio of popular characters were Sammy, Carrie, and Hon. Bertie by Mr. Harry Cooke, Miss Amy Manfree, and Mr. Chas. Rogers respectively. Mr. F. G. Kay worked hard as Mark Blackwood.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo. King.—Millie Payne, "topping" here this week, is much enjoyed; Horace Wheatley, fresh, funny, and in good voice, is a welcome turn nightly; W. G. Webber is a basso to whom all listen with delight; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler, is an amusing artist; Albert Ross, ventriloquist, has a pleasing partner; Harry Thurston, burlesque comedian, is droll, with variations in verse and prose; Kitty Corri is generally admired as a dancer and a comedienne, and films conclude.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—At the top of the bill is Beaumont's Circus, consisting of performing ponies, dogs, &c.; Chiko, equilibrist, is accorded applause; Tiny Aston sings well; and R. C. Note is a big favourite as a chorus singer. A Cowboy's Stratagem and Bullfight in Chili are two fine pictures.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Five Yorkshire Lasses top the bill with original song and dance scena; Rennie, ventriloquist, is very amusing. Capital pictures are shown, among the best being Revolution in Portugal, Unexpected Reward, and The Governor's Daughter.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The New Town Hall Co.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—Bosanquet, in his clever musical act, "The Human Violin," holds premier position; Rohde and Roche, in novelty episode, *A Strange Meeting,* are interesting; and Charles Coll, comedian, is well received. Pictures shown are appreciated.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—*A Country Girl* opened here on Monday night. Mr. Jonathan Clarke as Mr. Raikes sang well, and was recalled; Miss Ethel Negretti as Princess Melanch was in splendid voice; Barry was capably filled by Mr. Coningsby Brierly; Mr. Percy Carr as Geoffrey Challoner was successful; Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity and Mr. Norman Howard as Lord Anchester both filled their parts capably; Miss May Rawlinson made a pleasing and clever Marjorie; Miss Hilda Darrell scored as Sophie; and Miss Dorothy Craske as Nan was also good.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—Mme. Ada Pagini, Royal Italian Court violinist, contributes some beautiful pieces; Schichtl's Marionettes are attractive; Ike and Will Scott, comedians, are a clever pair, and amuse; Walter Emerson is a smart comedian; Gweenie Hasto, comedienne and dancer, and Rosie Sylvester, soubrette and dancer, both contribute capital items; and the Palascope pictures are well received.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett. — Mr. Sutton Vane's company is presenting *Two Lancashire Lasses in London.* Miss Florence Zillwood as Constance is particularly good; Miss Mabel Coleman ably portrays the other Lancashire lass Nellie; Mr. Robert Gilbert is the hero; and Mr. Edward M. Heanley makes a capital villain; Mr. T. Dennis Byron ably portrays the Rev. Frank Selby; Messrs. Dan Mining and Frank Irwin are particularly good as two burglars; Miss G. Verner as Bessie Edmunds and Miss Doris Kelvey as Jane Adelaide are excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Heading the bill is Mr. George Lashwood, who has a hearty reception; Messrs. Harry Jackson and Peter McLaren, champion axemen, provide a very welcome turn; Mlle. Leonie de Lausanne, lady champion shot, does many very difficult feats. Other excellent turns are contributed by Edith Fink, comedienne; Stacey and Williams, entertainers; Queenie May, vocalist; and the Victor Brothers, herculean equilibrists. Excellent pictures conclude.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Resident-Manageress, Mrs. Davidson.—*The Black Mask* has been played here by Messrs. Marriott Watson and Jas. Usher's capable company. As the young doctor, Walter Blackmore, Mr. Edward E. Ashby gave an exceedingly good performance; and Mr. Marriott Watson was a capital representative of Le-Noir. The Jem Rudge of Mr. Elton Morgan is worthy of notice; Mr. Tom J. Taylor was funny as Sam Winkle; the rendering of Nellie Cunningham by Miss Florence E. Florence was both artistic and pathetic; while a pleasing bit of acting was that of Miss Dot Forde in the boy part of Philip Le-Noir. Miss Hettie Senior as the servant Emma deserves mention, and the remaining parts were in good hands.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is winning unstinted praise here in the pleasing musical comedy *The Dollar Princess.* Mr. Fred Leslie is a host in himself, and never fails to amuse as Harry Q. Conder; Mr. Alec Worcester has a remarkably fine voice and stage presence, and makes a palpable hit as Freddy Fairfax; Mr. Hugh Henson is quite at his ease and sings well as Dick; Mr. W. Johnson Douglas is fully equal to the responsibilities of John, Earl of Quorn; Mr. Willie Warde, jun., as Sir James MacGregor dances cleverly; Mr. Horace Mills enacts the rôle of Mr. Bulger with a tinge of unctuous humour which is most refreshing; and useful services are rendered by Messrs. Jack Bates, Derrick Knowles, and J. Austin Castle as the Duke of Stonehenge, Sir John, and Lieutenant Grant; Miss Muriel Allen as Olga gives a smart performance, which calls for general admiration; Miss Daisy Elliston is irresistible as Daisy; Miss Muriel Hodgson makes a handsome Dulcie; as Alice Miss Kathleen Courtney wins all hearts. The dresses are beautiful, and the scenery au fait, and there is a first-rate chorus and augmented orchestra.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—A new sketch entitled *Mill,* produced by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, is noticed in another column. Ella Shields' artistic methods are much appreciated; the Poluski Brothers are genuine comedians; Dave Samuels is an eccentric Hebrew comedian; George Robey causes fun; Addie Lennard is a persevering comedienne; the Prince Milner Trio submit a novel pot-pourri act; Joe O'Gorman always receives a cordial welcome; Jay Laurier, comedian, is funny; Poole and Maguire are creditable in comedy act; and Eddie and Ethel are a diverting pair.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—A smart and whimsical pantomime sketch, *The Burglars of New York,* is being played here by the Alex Piccad company; Harry Claff, assisted by Alice Tremayne, is much enjoyed in operatic novelty *The White Knight;* George Formby is a comedian of resource; J. C. Scatter, Tyneside comedian, deserves praise; Ryan and Hall are skilful acrobatic comedians; Lamberti in his living portraits and character impersonations brings down the house; Aggie Nolan is a successful comedienne; Sanford and Lyons are commendable comedians and simultaneous dancers; and the American Bioscope pictures conclude an enjoyable programme.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. Dicks.—The picture programme at this comfortable house is full of interest and novelty. All new subjects are quickly snapped up by the management, and large audiences testify their approval nightly.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Lionel Rignold

THE NEW HEATING METHOD.

EXPRESSLY DESIGNED FOR THE HEATING OF

Theatres, Concert Halls, Billiard Rooms, Hotels, Etc.

"MARS"

GAS-HEATED STEAM RADIATORS.

ENTIRELY SELF-CONTAINED.

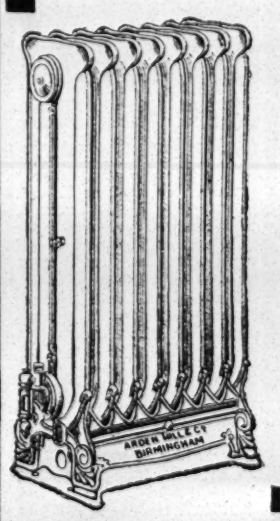

Require No Boiler,
No Piping,
No Fireplace,
No Flue.

NEED ONLY A GAS CONNECTION.

Automatic Valve makes Waste of Gas impossible.

MADE IN 26 DIFFERENT SIZES TO SUIT VARYING . . REQUIREMENTS. . .

ARDEN, HILL, & CO.,
B Dept., BIRMINGHAM.

EVERYONE'S OWN PHYSICIAN

3rd Edition. By J. ERNST, M.D., Etc., Vienna. 80,000 SOLD.

This unique work should be in the hands of all who suffer from any CHRONIC Heart, Lung, Stomach, or Liver Trouble, from Chronic Rheumatism, Diabetes, from Genito-Urinary and Skin Diseases, and NERVOUS Exhaustion (Neurasthenia). It describes the SYMPTOMS of these maladies in simple language, together with Medicines, Diet, etc., suited to each. Thousands of despairing sufferers have regained HEALTH and happiness through it. Order at once.—1/- (P.O. or stamps), post free from the

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC INSTITUTE, 12, PALL MALL, LONDON, S.W.

N.D.L. IMPERIAL MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

REDUCED FARES.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEATRICAL PARTIES.

	First Class Single.	Return.	Second Class Single.	Return.
From Southampton	£60	£90	£35	£52 10s.
From Genoa	£56	£84	£33	£49 10s.

(plus 10 per cent. surtax.)

Twin-screw.	Tons.	From Southampton.	From Genoa.
GNEISENAU	8,081	Nov. 23	Dec. 6
BARBAROSSA	10,915	Dec. 26	Jan. 3
GROSSER KURFURST	13,102	Jan. 23	Jan. 31
SEYDLITZ	8 000	Feb. 20	Feb. 28
SCHARNHORST	8,131	Mar. 20	Mar. 28

Large state rooms and cabins for single passengers.

Apply to Keller, Wallis, and Co., 26 and 27, Cockspur-street, S.W., 2, King William-street, E.C., and at Manchester and Southampton, or to the Norddeutscher Lloyd Paris Office, 2, Rue Scribe.

and his company are on a return visit with *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink (the Butler) is the life of the comedy. Mr. Charles Fawcett as Jack Barrington, Mr. Harry H. Rignold as Abraham Weinstein; Mr. Harry Dudley as Sir Charles Foden, Mr. Pat Alexander as Professor Shale, Mr. George Ascot as General Dunlop, Miss Zoe Gilfillan as Mrs. Barrington, Miss May Hart as Sephonisbe Hake, Miss Julie St. George as Mrs. Hake, Miss Florence Vennimore as Mrs. Fleming-Smythe, and Miss Marie Daltra as Miss Foden all contribute valuably to the success of the production.

Palace.—Lessees, The East Coast Variety Halls, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—The great Dayton Family head the bill here this week. Miss Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots sing sweetly in the scena *The Gipsies' Revels;* Miss Beatrice, soprano, has a fine range; Cestria is simply great in comedy juggling; and other special turns are Lily and William, acrobatic sand dancers; Tom Joy, comedian; Bros. Curran, in a comedy boxing act; and the Bioscope, with the latest pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. J. Bollen.—Miss Dora Diehl and company appear in a patriotic episode, *All's Well*. Miss Eva Lumley plays the part of Jim to the life, as does Mr. F. De Quincy the part of Corporal Smith; Miss Diehl being prominent as Stella Harcourt. Pictures on the Bioscope are also shown.

Albert Hall.—Lessee, Mr. H. Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Mona Vivian is successful in her impersonations of Vesta Tilley, Harry Lauder, &c.; Lloyd Trio are applauded for their clever wooden-shoe dancing; and Geo. Leavern, comedian and mimic, is amusing. Capital pictures are shown.

Public Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Thomson and Co.; Manager, Mr. J. E. Thomson.—Les Volteens show smart work in their comedy wire act; and Siegel and Sields give a good turn of comedy, singing, and dancing. Excellent pictures conclude.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Harry P. Selwyn's company, *A 55 to 1 Chance*, is the attraction here this week. The company includes Ben Jordan, the retired undefeated feather-weight champion of the world, and Young Sullivan, the American light-weight champion. Selvidge and Holland give a funny musical absurdity, *A Dotted Crotchet;* Tom Reed is a quaint comedian and an amusing patterer; Dewson is entertaining at the piano, and sings well; Floria, as an equilibrist, goes through a strenuous performance; John Martin, actor-vocalist, possesses a good voice; Cissie Lupino is a graceful speciality and character dancer; and Francesca is deserving of praise for her rendering of patriotic picture songs.

Palace Theatre.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—Miss Dot Stephens and company are this week presenting *A Child of the Streets*. Miss Dot Stephens as Doris Graham gives a clever rendering; Mr. Leonard Clarke makes the most of the part of Lawrence Craigie, the villain; Sir Robert Graham is characteristically enacted by Mr. John Errol; and Mr. Claude Gravely submits a manly interpretation of Robert Wallace. Miss Bessie Hazelwood is praiseworthy as Gertrude Graham; and Little May Renaud is charming as Little Doris. Messrs. Norman H. Tracey, H. C. Edwin, Geo. H. Hazlehurst, Chas. Tolcher, and Lewis Rae, and Misses Yoxa, Summer, and Jennie Hackels are responsible for the remaining characters.

Victoria Electric Theatre.—Proprietors, United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—A capital selection of films are reflected on the screen at this cosy little house, chief among which is the drama The Murder of Admiral Coligny. A pleasant break between the pictures is provided by Miss Nina Lorenza, a clever mandolinist; Avis and Desbarre contribute an exceedingly smart conjuring act; and Harry Carsdale, farmyard linguist, proves most entertaining.

Midland Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—Many highly instructive and amusing films are displayed here, including some wonderful Kinemacolour studies of the Italian Lakes, which are admired for their richness of colouring. Extensive alterations are being effected at this popular place of amusement which, when completed, will bring it into line as one of the most comfortable and up-to-date picture shows in the Midlands.

"Spot" Cinema Theatre.—An excellent programme of topical pictures is provided, and an innovation in the shape of afternoon tea, which is dispensed to patrons, is a popular feature.

DEVONPORT.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Prance.—Tom Clare is starred for the week, and a more entertaining turn it would be impossible to imagine. The Five Musical Marvels provide a delightful musical number; Minnie Leslie and Edgar Stevens in a pretty vocal scena, *Love Levels All*, supply a choice entertainment; Edna Latonne realistically impersonates well-dressed members of the male sex; Wisper performs good jugglery; and George James completes a good bill.

Metropole.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. G. S. King has kindly placed the theatre at the disposal of the Western Amateur Operatic Society, who are giving a fine rendering of *The Yeomen of the Guard* in aid of local charities.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. H. C. Dudley Bennett's well-selected company in *The Chinese Honeymoon* is here. Mr. Colin Bryce is a great success as Mr. Pineapple; the part of Mrs. Pineapple is in the competent hands of Miss Gertrude Melville, who sings and dances delightfully; Miss Gwennie Harcourt plays Fi-Fi with much success, being loudly applauded for her efforts; Tom Hatherton is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Crimp; Miss Gladys Ivery makes a dainty Princess Soo-Soo; Mr. Rudolph Kloss is capital as the Emperor Hang-Chow; Miss Dora Speakmar as Mrs. Brown plays with dignity; and a word of praise must be given to Mr. Leonard May (Hi-Lung) and Mr. Harry Spawton (Chippie-Choo).

Empire.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—Lockhart's Elephants, introduced by Captain Taylor, supply the star item. Helen Charles proves herself to be a clever mimic and siffleuse; Madge Allan is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Les Supriskis perform marvellous feats on the double trapeze; Henry Hilton mystifies with sleight-of-hand business; and another excellent turn is that of Tom Stuart, with burlesque impersonations. Stuart and Stuart are greatly appreciated in their singing and dancing act; Bertha Evelyn has a good contralto voice; and animated pictures complete.

QUALITY and COMFORT

Wines Spirits Liqueurs

COAL HOLE

Tea Coffee Cigars

PATRICK and McGREGOR,
Between Savoy & Cecil Hotels, Strand.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager and Proprietor, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—Poole and Poole, the comedy duo, introduce smart patter into their act; Le Hurst proves himself to be a clever ventriloquist; Harry Goodburn, singing comedian, evokes much laughter; Pongorilla does some smart acrobatic work; Mlle. Zaida submits a graceful slack wire exhibition; and Marie Taft, comedienne and drummer, goes well.

DINNINGTON (Yorks). — Lyric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Jas. England.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company is here for a second week with *The Lady Tomboy*. Miss Mabel Phillips very capably fills the title-rôle; as Black Davie Mr. B. M. Fox finds ample scope for his undoubted histrionic talent; whilst as Vincent Middleton Mr. B. Crosby scores heavily. Miss E. Graham makes an exceptionally good Becky Wiggles; and as the designing cousin Mrs. B. Crosby is superb. The comic element is well filled by Mr. F. Edwards as Jimmy Jenkins; and the heavy lead is capably accounted for by Mr. P. Walters.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The Five Vernons, xylophone experts, are a welcome turn here, and their musical attainments are strikingly evident. Little Dolly Manson adds to her reputation as a coon vocalist and mimic; some amazing and dexterous juggling is contributed by Leolin; the Continental acrobatic performances of Les Zelovas are smart; Agnese and Arthur Lynch, in their American picture songs, are well applauded; Baddow's ventriloquism is greatly enjoyed; Miss Victoria Cross, the lassie in kilts, gives a number of good character sketches; and Mlle. Sarema, in her animal act, *The Zoological Universe*, provides a good turn.

DUBLIN. — Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Messrs. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company is here this week with *Nick Carter, Detective*. Mr. Knowles furnishes a good rendering of the name-part, and Miss Helen Walbran as Madeline acts in a sympathetic manner. Mr. Raymond Thomas leaves nothing to be desired as the villain, Eustace Lee, and is well supported by Mr. William Burgess as Dave Crowley. Miss Nellie Shirley submits a careful study as Stephanie, and Nance has a good exponent in Miss Nellie Waddington. Mr. R. J. Turner is satisfactory as Jim Colston, and Little Hilda Vokes acquite herself well as Cyril Carter. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. C. H. Momber (Timmins), Miss Nancy Laurence (Bessie), Mr. Will Ellythorne (George Slade), and Miss Nellie Fern (Mrs. Timmins).

Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—*The Naked Truth* is being presented here this week by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Stanley Logan as Bernard Darrell (Bunny) gives a capital embodiment, and Miss Violet Ley is to be complimented on her assumption of Mrs. Hayter. Mr. Horace Sinclair cleverly enacts Teddy Lestrange, while the Norah Creighton of Miss Kathleen Maude is admirably rendered. Mr. Townsend Whitling is well suited as James Darrell, and Miss Ormonde Wynne submits a good rendering of Mrs. Darrell. Mr. Besley Bertram is capital as Mr. Hayter, and the remaining parts are all in capable hands. *Protecting Mrs. Moxon* precedes.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—The attraction here is *Our Miss Gibbs*, played by Mr. George Edwardes's company. Miss Carrie Moore is delightful in the title-rôle, and Mr. George Gregory as Timothy Gibbs gives a humorous and clever performance. Mr. Frank Hector fills the rôle of Hughie Pierrepoint admirably, and Miss Nancy Hervyn is seen to advantage as Mme. Jeanne. The Earl of St. Ives has a capable exponent in Mr. Myles Clifton, and Miss Olive Moore is creditable as Lady Elizabeth Thanet. Mr. Leslie Gaze ably sustains the part of the professional crook, Slithers, and Miss Kitty Cavendish gives a good account of herself as Mrs. Farquhar. M. Ernest Mahar does well as Mr. Toplady, and Miss Grace Wixon is distinctly good as the Duchess of Minster. The solo dance in Act III. by Miss Florence Phillips is warmly applauded, and the chorus and orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Harold Lonsdale, is efficient.

Empire. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—Heading the bill here we have Mr. Herbert Sleath's company in *The Deputy Sheriff*. In the novel racing act, *Not a Crook*, Phil Rees's Stable Lads are applauded. Edith Henn Brown as Eliza Ann, the musical slavey, is diverting. Adeline Phillips is an accomplished operatic vocalist, and Rose Gower is an attractive comedienne. Good turns are added by Bert Weston (comedian), Crissie Cross (song and dance artist), and Arthur Green (comedian and dancer). The Empire pictures conclude.

Tivoli. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Frances Letty is scoring here this week. Viviana and company in *The Toy Shop* provide an enjoyable turn. Much merriment is caused by the Thompson Trio in *Watch the Chalk*. Others who contribute successfully are the Calcotts in their episode, *Rags and Tatters;* Harold Heath, coon vocalist and dancer; Marie Blythe, contralto chorus comedienne; Will Rhodes, droll comedian; Beattie Sullivan, comedienne and dancer; Wallie Fitzgibbon, musical monologist; and the Bioscope.

Round Room Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Photo. Co. entered on their last week here on Monday, after a most successful season, when a large audience patronised each performance. The pictures shown included:—A Great Pacific Train Hold-up, A Boarding School Romance, Foolshead's Fishing Exhibition, The Incendiary, The Man to Beat Johnson, Short-sighted Sportsman, The Flag of Company H, The Smuggler Automobilists, &c. Good vocal items are given by Mr. P. J. Molony (baritone) and Miss Violet Gore (mezzo), and the orchestral band of the Rifle Brigade plays excellent selections.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietors, Sprengel Bros.—The following artists are appearing here:—The Reenos, comedy speciality act; Max Welton, comedian and piper; Miss Allie Fittoni, the banjo queen; Will Ivor, descriptive vocalist; Miss Ada Farne, ballad vocalist; and the Cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—Empire.—Manager, Mr. R. Colin.—An attractive programme is provided here this week. The top of the bill is occupied by Seeley, West, and Rhodesia, in a very smart comedy, musical, and juggling act; C. Tessman gives a clever turn with his performing donkeys, goats, and chickens; the Bros. Erard are exceedingly good musical and acrobatic comedians; Eccentric Billy and his dog give a neat acrobatic novelty; and the Esdale Bros., eccentric comedians, have good songs and patter. Oliver Conroy, comedian, "the Knut," had a good reception, as also did Will B. Wright, coon artist; and Marie Ray is a good comedienne and dancer. The electric pictures are always a welcome item.

Opera House—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—The ever-welcome *Cingalee* is here. Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram is funnier than ever; Mr. Cyril Dane is effective in the principal part of Harry Vereker; Miss Ida Ernest as Peggy Sabine is charming and attractive; Bobby Warren has an interesting representative in Mr. Scott Cullen; and the Boobhamba of Mr. Milroy Cooper and the Sir Peter Loftus of Mr. F. W. Ford are effective and diverting. Miss Pauline Hague's fine stage appearance adds to the effectiveness of her performance as Lady Patricia; and Miss Molly Woolstenhulme is a highly-pleasing Nanoya.

DUNDALK.—Town Hall Theatre.—Proprietors, Urban Council; Manager, Mr. M. Comerford.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's variety company, under the management of Mr. Payne Seddon, is here this week. Mr. George Keith renders songs in a style that gains applause; Messrs. Diamond and Hart afford capital entertainment; Wee Winnie proves herself a clever child actress; Eric and Nora provide a bright musical act; the Sisters Lesmere, charming duettists, render excellent selections and dance well; Miss Mabel Lewis would be hard to improve upon in illustrated songs; the Aerials are an attractive turn; and Miss Elsie Rubina is a decided acquisition.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Gaston's Mayer's company in *The Brass Bottle* has played to enormous business here. The mechanical effects are exceedingly well managed, and the stage business throughout is excellently contrived. As Horace Ventimore Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., has many opportunities of displaying his abilities, and his success is most emphatic; the Fakrash-el-Aamash of Mr. Holman Clark is a really excellent characterisation, his make-up and actions being admirable; Mr. Percy Marshall depicts the peppery Professor most effectively; Miss Edith Hunter as the Professor's wife plays capitally; while her daughter has a charming and dainty representative in Miss Phyllis Birkett. Mr. Rudge Harding submits a performance of sterling merit as Spencer Pringle; Samuel Wackerbath is vigorously and humorously characterised by Mr. Robert Ayrton; Miss Hilda Sims contributes an engaging portrait of Mrs. Wackerbath; as Rapkin Mr. Charles Barrett plays remarkably well; a noteworthy character study is presented by Miss Mary Brough of Mrs. Rapkin; Messrs. Henry Siebert and Charles Hirst as the Chief of Caravan and Head Waiter respectively do useful work; and a captivating Dancing Girl is found in Miss Irene Wells.

King's Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—The chief attraction is Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley's company in that rollicking musical comedy *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, which goes with a fine swing, Miss Stanley being a charming Polly; while as Jack Marlinspike, the sailor detective, Mr. Arthur Watson creates no end of merriment. The neatly executed dances by the Vera Troupe prove an enjoyable feature of the piece. *Prince of the Dandies* was presented the latter end of the week. Maude Mortimer is in great form, and gets a hearty reception; Marie Dreams displays her remarkable baritone voice to advantage in several well-chosen songs; Tom E. Hughes scores heavily; the Six Manchester Lads in "Dancing in the Old Oak Tree" get a perfect ovation; the Paolias appear in a really artistic athletic act, entitled "At Home with a Modern Athlete"; Philip Levard and Lily Gene present a mystifying illusionist act; Richard Wally proves an expert juggler; Jack Warman is a cheery comedian with a good style; and Jury's Bioscope Pictures complete.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. J. E. Watson's company is appearing here throughout the week in *The Sowers*. Mr. Reginald Besant gives a cleverly restrained and effective performance as Prince Paul; Mr. Charles Craston is a strong and individual Herr Karl Steinmetz; Mr. Walter Russel an excellent Count Stepan; Mr. Robert S. Entwistle does good work as Baron de Cheuxville; Mr. Leslie Oswell as Mr. Bamborough and Mr. Fred Epitaux as Vassili render good service; and other parts are capably sustained. Miss Violet Luddington is a strong and sympathetic Mrs. Bamborough; Miss Jessie Lothian is an earnest and attractive Catrina; Miss M. Lister Stephens gives a capable account of the part of the Countess Lanovitch; and other ladies do able duty.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—For the first three evenings of the week Mr. Henry Dallas's company is appearing here as the Follies, and the clever band of artists is proving an attraction. In the first half of the programme Miss Elsa Redfern used a sweet voice very artistically in a song "My moon"; Mr. Clifton Yates was enthusiastically received for his finely-rendered songs; Mr. Reginald Mountfield was the clever pianist, and his musical sketches were very popular; Miss Marie Mansfield pleased with some humorous stories; Miss Cissie Harcourt contributed a pretty, tuneful song with success; Miss Nellie Webber joined Mr. Desormes and Mr. Henry Dallas in duets; and the first part concluded with "potted" versions of *The Merry Widow* and *The King of Cadonia*. A really clever skit on the music-hall entertainment follows, and collectively and individually this is the success of the evening. Mrs. Lewis Waller and company, including Mr. Maurice Farkoa, will appear later in the week.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week is the Lyons Trio, and their clever comedy act in pantomime is capitally acted and well received; Baby Vi Davis, a juvenile vocalist, is received with marked favour for her praiseworthy efforts; Miss Madge Morley and company play smartly an effective sketch, *After the Races;* Hulbert is a ventriloquist of considerable merit; the Musical Keiths have a musical turn which pleases the audience; Mr. Harry Merrylees causes much fun in song and patter; De Lil is an expert illusionist; Miss Lily Deane is a successful singer and dancer; and new pictures are added.

ECCLES.—Crown Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Variety once more holds sway at this theatre. The star position is occupied by Mr. H. O. Wills, comedian, and his efforts are the source of much merriment; Phil Herman makes his reappearance, and is cordially welcomed; Mr. Will Walton is a comedian with some very good patter; Messrs. Burns and Bentley provide an acceptable dancing turn; Milton and Horton prove themselves expert horizontal bar artists; the Claymore Trio are good vocalists and club jugglers; a sketch, *The Last of the Desmonds*, meets with well-merited approval; and two good films are shown on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr Geo. T. Minshull.—The Thomas Beecham Opera Comique company has been warmly welcomed here this week by large audiences attracted by the performances of two works, Offenbach's bizarre *Tales of Hoffmann* (*Contes d'Hoffmann*) and Johann Straus's *A Viennesse Masquerade* (*Die Fledermans*), seldom presented in public. Opening on Monday evening with Offenbach's opera, the company gave a magnificent interpretation of the work under the direction of Mr. Hamish McCann. The arduous part of Hoffmann was in the hands of Mr. John Bardsley, who proved himself an admirable singer and accomplished actor; Miss Caroline Hatchard took the character of Olympia, and sang and acted with much effect. Miss Edith Evans, in the dual rôle of Guiletta and Antonia, displayed her splendid voice to advantage, and showed versatility in these strongly contrasted parts. Mr. Charles Magrath, a powerful singer and fine actor, played the characters of Coppelius and Dr. Mirakel, in the latter of which he created a profound impression by his dramatic intensity. The rest of the cast, Mr. Scott Russell, Mr. Frederick Ronalow, Mr. M. R. Morand, and Miss Isobel Bronte, who sang charmingly in the trio in the third act, contributed to an exceptionally good performance. *Die Fledermans* had an altogether satisfactory rendering on Wednesday. The flowing melodies were admirably sung by Mr. Wilson Pembroke (an expressive singer), Miss Caroline Hatchard, Miss Kate Anderson (an artistic contralto vocalist), and Mr. Frederick Ranalow, who appeared in the name-part. Mr. M. R. Morand's quaint humour was of much service in the character of Frank, and Mr. Howard Carr conducted with ability and taste.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A revival of *Les Cloches de Corneville*, by Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's Opera company, has this week delighted admirers of Planquette's charming work. Mr. Cyril Thomson makes a manly Marquis, and sings with an agreeable baritone voice; while Mr. Arthur Geary approves himself a vigorous tenor in the part of Grenicheux. As Gaspard, Mr. E. St. Alban gives a powerful rendering of the old miser; and Mr. Fred Dark, with Mr. Alfred Selby, as the Bailie and Gobo, keep the house in constant merriment. The Germaine is Miss Kitty Dale, who invests the part with all possible grace and distinction; Miss Dolly Castles is captivating as the saucy Serpolette; and minor rôles are all competently filled.

King's Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Wee George Wood, a child mimic, gives some distinctly clever imitations; Mr. Angus Strong, a baritone vocalist, with a cultured voice, and Miss Ethel Thomas, a sweet singer, give much pleasure by their selections; the Athos Troupe, daring acrobats and skilful ball manipulators, are loudly applauded; Morton and Elliott, harmonica players and vocalists, and paper manipulators, submit a fresh performance; and Griffiths and Carmen evoke merriment by their sketch, *The Lady and the Chef;* Cosgrove and Burns, in a capital sketch, *The Singing Academy;* Miss Dorothy Watson, an exceedingly pleasing entertainer at the piano; the Brothers Weltman, Russian whirlwind dancers; Mr. Fred Dunstone, comedian; and films shown by the King's Bioscope complete a strong and varied programme.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—An attractive bill was headed this week by Kate Carney and company, with the brisk and mirthful production, *Fun of the Fair*, the three scenes of which were carried through with great zest by Miss Carney and Messrs. Geo. Marriott, Willie Phillips, Albert Mason, Fred Malcolm, and Percy Moran. The clever ventriloquial sketch of Tom Edwards proved increasingly popular; and exceedingly dexterous display of feats on the wheel was given by the Daunton-Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists; Goodfellow and Gregson put in a good turn as comedy artists; the Channings appeared with acceptance in a vocal and instrumental act; Kitts and Windrum aroused hilarity in their military scena, *The Cuckoo;* and Hans and Lux made a successful bid for favour as comedians. Evelyn Bingham, a pleasing soprano vocalist; Harry Simons, a versatile light comedian; and American bioscope pictures completed.

ELLESMERE PORT.—Hippodrome and Picture Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The bill here is headed by the Three Royal Temples, who are drawing large audiences, and are highly appreciated for their operatic songs. Long Amos causes roars of laughter as a character comedian; a delightful comedienne and dancer is Daisy Osborne; Sandy and Carl are funny comedians and patterers; and the animated pictures are of the usual interesting order.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—A welcome return visit is paid by *Beauty and the Barge*, presented in an admirable manner by Mr. Arthur Shelton's company. The genial bargee Captain Barley is typified in a style redolent of the river by Mr. Maitland Marler; Mr. A. Russell-Davis capitally impersonates Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N.; Mr. A. E. Jackson is good as the irascible Major Smedley; and Mr. Jack Lilliput is clever in the part of Mr. Porter. Miss Hilda Vaughan endows the rôle of Ethel Smedley with grace and charm; and Mrs. Henry Renouf supplies just the right touch of humour as Mrs. Baldwin.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Fred Granville's No. 1 Company occupied the boards here during the week with *A Hot Night*. Mr. Edward Stream as Frank Frith, Mr. R. Austin Earl as Fontenoy Flutterwig, and Mr. H. Jackson Collis as Mark Maybury, individually and as a trio, keep the fun going at a lively pace, ably assisted by Mr. Chas. North as Captain Drake. Mr. H. Val Morgan as Professor Sheerman, Mr. Frank Daleno as Wm. Whiffles, Mr. Jimmie Watson as Mrs. Fontenoy Flutterwig, and Mr. Wm. Kent as Banks. Among the ladies of the cast Miss Nellie Valentine (Polly Drake), Miss Minnie Fisher (Lucy Lorimer), and Miss Olive Sparke (Fanny Frith) are prominent. Clever dances are given by the Granada Girls troupe.

FERNDALE.—New Theatre.—Business-Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—The Seymour Hicks production, *The Gay Gordons*, under the direction of Mr. Robert McDonald, visited this popular house the first three nights of this week, and had a warm reception. Mr. Alec S. Clunes was admirably suited as Angus; Miss May Yates was a winsome Peggy; Mr. Harry Howe and Mr. W. H. Desmond as the showman and his son introduced much merriment; Miss Kitty Kerwin scored a success with her humorous performance of the showman's wife; Janet McLeod was capitally represented by Miss Beatrice Grosvenor; and Miss Edie Adeson was very popular as the showman's daughter, Victoria Siddons. Mr. Charles Benson as Andrew Quainton was dignified.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*The Bad Girl of the Family*, capably presented by Mr. Fredk. Melville's company, has interested large audiences here. Miss Violet Crossley, in the name-part, acts with great feeling and sympathy; Mr. Richard Lane is a popular Lieut. Richard Marsh R.N.; and Gladys Erskine is gracefully sustained by Miss Daisie Cook. Mr. James C. Taylor acts with commendable ease as Lord Erskine; Barney Gordon is played with a keen appreciation of the humour of the part by Mr. Luke Forster, who arouses roars of laughter; Harry Gordon has an efficient representative in Mr. Alexander Bradley; Mr. George Belmore supplies all necessary colouring in sustaining the character of Jerry Holmes; Mr. Tom May is Sammy Snozzle; Mr. Edwin Lever's John Moore is a creditable piece of character-acting; and Miss Sadie Southern is sufficiently docile as Mrs. Moore. Miss Dulcie O'Mull Conry ably impersonates Honour Moore; and smaller parts are in safe hands.

Town Hall.—Poole's Myriorama is presenting an excellent and varied programme. At the top of the bill is Amasis, who is responsible for a series of wonderful magical tricks; Inez and Pim are a couple of clever gymnasts; the Jerome Duo give a capital juggling performance; the Cairo Trio have an artistic musical performance; Vasey and Ramsey are clever dancers; the Three Ettenas appear successfully on the revolving globe; and Mr. W. L. Rowland creates roars of laughter.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Miss Nannie Goldman's company appeared here the first half of the week in *The Stepmother*. Captain Bristow, Abraham Wiggins, and Luke Frizel were all excellently played by Mr. William Holles, Mr. Chas. Dockwray, and Mr. H. P. Owen. Mr. Herbert J. Walton was a capable Detective; Miss Patricia Bostock gave a powerful rendering of the title-rôle, and the Donny of Miss Goldman was a pathetic performance. The comedy element was really well sustained by Mr. Teddy Myles and Miss Edith Bruce. Miss E. Walton Hemming was a precocious child, and the mounting all that could be desired.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Maurin's Marvellous Fountains form the leading attraction here this week. With the vari-coloured lighting some excellent effects are obtained, and the act is much admired. Harry Levaine is a comedian well supplied with fresh and incisive patter; we have been introduced to few better comedy duos than Barry and Wood, who have an act which is refined and taking; the Real McKies, Scotch

A SHAKESPEARE LONG LOOKED FOR.

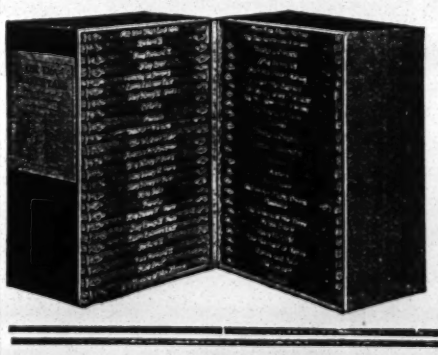

8D. net

Large Type.
Very Low Price.
Very full Annotations.
Pocket Volumes.

8D. net

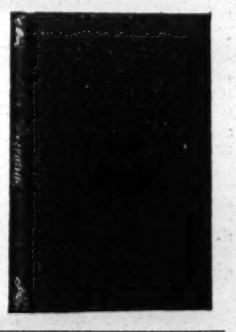

The ERA Shakespeare.

In 42 Cloth-Bound Volumes at 8d. net per Vol.

The Volumes are beautifully set: Binding, Title, and Frontispiece are designed by Joseph Simpson.

Edited by HENRY N. HUDSON, LL.D.

For the Text a careful collation has been made of the various authorities—Collier, Dyce, Delius, Furness, Halliwell, the Cambridge Edition, etc.
The notes at the foot of the pages are those which are necessary to make clear the meaning of the passages. The notes of a more specialised nature are placed at the end of the volumes. The Editor has throughout availed himself of the best thought of the great commentators.

LIST OF VOLUMES.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Merchant of Venice
The Tempest
King Henry the Fifth
Romeo and Juliet
Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
As You Like It
The Merry Wives of Windsor
King Henry the Eighth
Julius Cæsar
Macbeth
Othello
The Taming of the Shrew
Twelfth Night
King Richard the Third
King Lear
Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus
The Comedy of Errors
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Love's Labour's Lost
King Henry IV. Part I.
King Henry IV. Part II.
Cymbeline
All's Well That Ends Well
Much Ado About Nothing
King John
King Richard the Second
Troilus and Cressida
Pericles, Prince of Tyre
Measure for Measure
A Winter's Tale
King Henry VI. Part I.
King Henry VI. Part II.
King Henry VI. Part III.
The Two Noble Kinsmen
Titus Andronicus
Timon of Athens
Venus and Adonis, Lucrece
Sonnets and Minor Poems
Life of Shakespeare
Index

A Noble Edition with happy mingle of illustration, explanation, and keen, subtle, sympathetic criticism.—*H. H. Furness, Editor of the great "Variorum" Shakespeare.*
Abundant notes are provided at the bottom of each page; the type is clear; and the introductions are brief and sufficient. Notes on textual matters showing wide knowledge are added at the end.—*Athenæum.*
The type clear and large, the binding and get-up all that could be desired, the editing and annotating most lucid and exhaustive, the price as low as the lowest.—*Daily Chronicle.*

Complete Set in Box, 30s. net.

SINGLE COPIES, 8d. each.

Can be obtained at
"The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

juveniles, are remarkably accomplished; Annie Schuberth renders two ballads to the satisfaction of the audience; Marco is an entertaining mystifier; and Russell Carr, the military ventriloquist, and the Kingscope are other attractive items on the list.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—A most welcome return visit is being made here by Mr. Ben Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. W. Lawson Butt in the part of Marcus is not found wanting in any respect; there is much to admire in Mr. Bernard Elliott's Nero; Tigellinus is capably impersonated by Mr. Charles Aldred; Mr. J. Wetherall does the part of Licinius full justice; especially notable is Mr. Frank Wood in the part of Glabrio; a sweet and lovable Mercia is presented by Miss Evelyn Nope; Stephanus is charmingly depicted by Miss Winifred Delevanti; Miss Dorothy Lart is seen to advantage as Beronice; the Empress is well looked after by Miss Mabel Cook; and Dacia is excellently done by Miss Esme Lee.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys. —A welcome return visit is being made by Mr. Edward Terry and company. The play presented on Monday was *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, which comes to Glasgow for the first time. In the part of the toymaker Mr. Edward Terry has a part to which he is admirably suited; the toymaker's younger son, David, had a fine reading at the hands of Mr. Percival Madgewick; and Miss Christine Rayner gave a fine portrayal of his sweetheart. Mr. Robert Pateman was specially deserving of notice as the Sergeant; as also was the old actor of Mr. Percy Bell. Miss Adah Barton as the toymaker's wife and Mr. Templer Powell as the eldest son completed an admirable cast. The play was followed by *Bardell v. Pickwick*.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A crowded and enthusiastic house on Monday welcomed Mr. Lewis Waller in his latest picturesque character, *Bardelys the Magnificent*, and followed with interest the development of the fascinating story. Miss Madge Titheradge makes a most charming Roxalfane, and acts with much power and intensity in the dramatic moments of the play; Mr. William Haviland makes a notable success as Castelroux, acting the cold-hearted villain with striking effect; Mr. Herbert Jarman is a stately and dignified Louis XIII.; Miss Dorothy Dix acts well as Andree de Marsac; Mr. A. B. Tapping is a most amusing Vicomtesse de Levedan; Mr. Reginald Dane as the foppish St. Armand, Mr. Frank Woolfe as Regnier, Mr. Caton Woodville as a Captain of Dragoons, and Mr. Dion Titheradge as a tipsy courtier all give excellent support. The Ganymede of Mr. Alec F. Thompson is a cleverly acted part. The play is beautifully staged.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Sub-Lessees, The Scottish Playgoers Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys.—Miss Elizabeth Baker's realistic comedy *Chains*, which finished here on Tuesday evening, makes a pleasing addition to the repertory company's stock of plays. In the parts of Charlie Wilson and his wife, Mr. Campbell Gullan and Miss Eva Titheradge were capitally suited, and keen perception of character was shown by Messrs. George Tarode (Fenwick), Frank Cochrane (Massey), and Norman McKeown (Walter Foster). Mr. Perceval Clark as Tennant and Miss Lola Duncan as Maggie gave very convincing studies. On Wednesday *The Two Mr. Wetherbys* was presented for the first time here.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss's Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant. — Success continues to reward the efforts of the management here in their triple bill. The sketch this week is *On and Off*, and as Peter Macducketty Mr. Alex. Keith has a part that provides endless amusement. Mr. Chas. Horner acts well as the poetic De Pentonville; Miss Ann Haughton, Miss Margaret Zaidia, and Mr. John Roberts complete the cast. The principal film is a dramatic rendering of Harriet Beecher Stowe's immortal story, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Illustrated songs are contributed in good style by Miss Jenny Sneddon.

PRINCESS'S. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*The Face at the Window* is being presented here by Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's company. Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay is successful in depicting the villainy of Lucio Delgado; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe creditably sustains the more popular part of Paul Gouffet; Mr. James Chippendale plays with discretion as Le Blanc; Miss Constance Glenabyn draws a strong and pathetic picture of the heroine; Mr. Richard Oliver is an effective Lucien; Mr. James Weston an excellent Henri de Brisson; and the humorous element is supplied by Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter Pottleberry and Miss Frances Day as Babette.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—"Striking" and "stirring" are the superlatives that could be used in describing the representation of *The King and the Unknown Woman* here. The author, Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, in the character of Prince Menski, brought the ire of the "gods" upon his head by his realistic interpretation; Miss Adeline Raby in the pathetic picture of the Unknown Woman captured admirers; Mr. Norman Partriege as Prince Loris played with dignity and power, as also did Mr. W. R. Winning as the faithful General Platz.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Two pieces are being staged at the Lyceum this week by Mr. Ernest R. Abbot's company. On Monday night *A Wife's Triumph* was performed twice before good audiences. For the remainder of the week an adaptation of Alphonse Daudet's novel *Sapho* will be produced, Miss Ada G. Abbott taking the part of Fanny Legrand.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The centre of attraction this week is the popular prima donna Mme. Ella Russell; Caryl Wilbur and company again present their now well-known comedy *61, Prospect-street;* Russell Wallett is amusing in the extreme; in a comedy pantomimic acrobatic sketch, *The Billposter*, much clever and amusing work is performed by the Francoli Troupe; Jean Clermont presents again his burlesque circus, including ponies, dogs, roosters, &c.; Frank Lynne's burlesque of "The Village Blacksmith" is exceedingly smart; Adam Tomlinson, a comedian from Tyneside, has met with a capital reception; Lola Patey is dainty and cheery; Dan Fraser gets through a lot of good work as a Scotch comedian; and the Bioscope brings an enjoyable evening's entertainment to a finish.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Vesta Victoria is once again proving a record draw here, and all her songs, new and old, go well, "Simple Life" being a special favourite; the Bros. Egbert, the happy dustmen, are strong favourites in Glasgow, and their reception is particularly cordial; John Le Hay and company once more give their lively sketch *Poor Beggar*, and both for humour and music it is one of the best that comes here; Bromley and Fontein contribute a clever musical burlesque item; Jennie Johns takes well in several catchy ditties with good choruses; Clarke and Mostol are smart patterers and wonderful dancers, and make a hit; the Eight Frolics are smart young people, and their singing and dancing proves highly popular; Kittie Douglas, a bright and happy comedienne, goes well in a couple of lively songs.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The principal item is an exhibition of rifle and pistol shooting by the Three Dreadnoughts; another turn of note is the humorous and dramatic episode, *Wrong 'Uns*, presented by James Hare and company; Lindsay and Harte in their vocal and comedy sketches are specially favoured; and other artists include Edie Veno, eccentric comedienne; the Three Orleans, clever vaudeville artists; Jack Barker, comedian and mimic; Petro and Leon, simultaneous gymnasts; and Fred Park, comedian and dancer.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Tom Foy and company in their sketch, *First of April*, cause half-an-hour's hearty and continuous laughter, the Yorkshire simpleton of Tom Foy himself being a wonderfully clever bit of humorous acting; Verno and Voyce have a well-written and well-played turn in *John Bull's Cash Box*, and it earns hearty applause; Elsie Roby's fun at the piano, and her imitations of a Spanish dancer and an operatic vocalist, are richly comic; Rich and Rich are pastmasters in the art of humorous patter, and they get a great reception; Rhoda Paul contributes a clever sketch of a street waif, and acts and sings with notable effect; the King's College Boys take well in their musical turn; Larola, in his varied acrobatic turn, is well received; Russell Wallett as the lady in black ably deputises for an absent turn; Rose Cabani, comedienne, completes a most enjoyable entertainment.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Well-sustained patronage is still the lot of the management here. Both comic and dramatic films were excellent. The B.B. Gazette presented an interesting chronicle of events, including a splendid view of King George at the recent Royal funeral. The variety interludes were provided with great acceptance by Hector Wright, in his vocal and dramatic sketch, *The Portrait*, and the star trio, in their musical speciality, *Ginger*. The talking and singing picture for the first part of the week was the ever-popular Lauder ditty, "I love a lassie."

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—The principal position here is filled by Harry St. Clair, comedian and instrumentalist, whose clever dog performs many tricks; Lillie Lawrence, speciality dancer, Tymes and Waite, patterers and dancers, and Harry Arnold, Scotch comedian, are also on the bill. The Bioscope pictures are specially interesting.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—The chief attraction here is a refined instrumental speciality by the Musical Bentleys; Andy Burns takes well with his songs.

STAR, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—The variety artists here include Hargadon and Cole, in a musical comedy sketch; the Brookland Girls, dainty comediennes and dancers; and Miss Rita Halkett, one of Partick's own "stars."

ZOO-CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mlle. Florence, the globe-walker, joins the company here, and is proving her dexterity in her clever feats on the rolling globe; the Walonells are clever triple-bar experts, who give a smart turn; Mons. Abex, the boy Hercules, remains another week, and his wonderful feat of lifting a motor-car and five men with his teeth creates a sensation. The circus items are always much enjoyed by the youngsters in the audience.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Miss Violet Osmund's company presented here the musical comedy *The New Barmaid*. Mr. George Fox ably sustained the part of Captain Loveday; Miss M. Stead was charming as Braddy; Mr. W. Henty gave a fine impersonation of Colonel Claymore; Mr. Alexander Loftus was a big success as Bertie White, as was also Mr. Chas. Adeson as the Head Waiter; Miss B. Steale was an imperious Lady Moulton; and Miss Madge Prior a sweet and charming New Barmaid.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here in *Where is William?* Mr Windermere plays the part of Sir William Gregory in mirth-provoking style, and comedy honours are shared by Mr. Rule Pyott as William Jolly; the fery General Rubbub is excellently played by Mr. Leslie Norman; and Mrs. Alfred Davies enacts the part of Emily, the cook, in able manner. Harry Gregory is smartly rendered by Mr. Robert Urquhart; Miss Zoë Davis as Eliza is distinctly good; and Miss Clare Manifield acts charmingly as Phyllis Patterson. Lady Gregory is presented in dignified manner by Miss Belle Donaldson; Mr. Fred Archer plays Joe Budge, a burglar, well; and an imposing police officer is made by Mr. Albert Plant.

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—An Indian Girl's Romance is a good picture; and Miss Kitty Woodford tunefully renders some good illustrated songs. The Bowery Boys and Girl dance excellently; and the Loonas, in musical act, are well received.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd. —Whilst putting on a good selection of pictures, the management have, for the comfort of their patrons, added smoking lounge, ladies', and general rooms, where all the illustrated and daily papers are provided for patrons waiting for a seat at this continuous show.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. P. Hainsworth.—A good all-round company is here this week, including the clever Zingares, international dancers and vocalists; Mr. Tom Delamare, comedian and female impersonator, provides a clever and entertaining turn. The Sisters Cecil, duettists and buck dancers, are highly successful, and Miss Ethel Colyer is a clever skipping-rope dancer. The Monarchscope Pictures complete the bill.

GRAVESEND.—NEW PUBLIC HALL AND THEATRE. —Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.—On the concluding three nights of last week Mr. G. W. Bowes produced *The Arcadians*, which was well staged and dressed. A really artistic portrayal of the dual characters of James Smith and Simplicitas was given by Mr. Harry Rignold; and as Peter Doodey, the jockey, Mr. Percy Cahill was as good as anyone could wish for, his song, "Always merry and bright," being repeatedly encored at each performance. As Jack Meadows Mr. Max Wakeman proved himself worthy; and as Bobby Mr. Lauri Aster was good. Miss Maisie Riversdale's was a first-rate impersonation of Mrs. Smith; and as Eileen Cavanagh Miss Moyna Hill sang sweetly and danced gracefully. Of the Arcadians themselves, Mr. H. E. Neville as Astrophel did well; and Miss Dorothy Clancy and Miss Beatrice West worked admirably together, and were perfectly at home as Chrysea and Sombra respectively. Other parts well sustained were Sir George Paddock (Mr. Jack Chester), Reggie (Mr. Edward Jefferson), and Time (Mr. Horace Nye).

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—For the week we have here Howell, Webb, and company, in their sketch, *The Professor's Baby*, which puts the audience on good terms with themselves; Charlie Moore, comedian, also contributes to the laughter; the Sisters Beatrice excel as vocalists and dancers; the Gelders, society entertainers and magicians, are a smart turn. Cyclumina performs some clever tricks on an electrically lighted cycle; Ivy Dene, a soubrette, is a good songstress; the Three Victors, in a song scena, "The Flower of the Prairie," written and produced by Herbert Shelley, make a decided hit; and the Erascope, with some new films, proves very acceptable.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—*His Indian Wife* is here this week. Miss Leila Zillwood gives an artistic performance of Wild Rose; Miss Jara St. George is a dignified Lady Kingsley; Mr. Arthur Hinton gives a capital portrayal of Hubert Ainsworth; Mr. Travis Green is excellent as Wolfstang; and Miss Laura Wright as Black Duck and Mr. Tod Squires as Billy Twiggle are amusing.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Three Lumars top the bill this week, and give a unique and clever gymnastic performance; the Martialo Trio are jugglers of remarkable dexterity; the Three Rocs submit a smart performance on the silver chains; Judge's cockatoos are repeating their success of former visits; Mr. George Gulliver is a remarkable ventriloquist; and Doodles, with his sketch, is responsible for much hilarity.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey and company are here. On the opening night *Rollicking Rory* was effectively produced. Mr. Chalmers Mackey admirably sustained the title-rôle; and as Rosie Callagan Miss May Livesay played with much freshness and charm; Mr. Conway Hastings gave an effective delineation of Stephen d'Arcy; Mr. J. P. McBride was commendable as Desmond Fitzgerald; and Mr. Charles M. Julian proved successful as Captain Ashleigh; Mrs. Chalmers Mackey was seen to advantage as Rosaleen; and Miss Jeanette Lyons was very good as Widow Callagan.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Charles Parker's Aeolians, who top the bill, are very entertaining in their vocal and dancing act; Edie Haley, vocalist, submits a smart and versatile turn; A. J. Gamble keeps the audience in the best of humour by his funny patter and originalities; Dixon and Dixon are very successful; Tony, Hoppit, and Terry, in their speciality act, cause hearty laughter; George Madigan's dogs supply a pleasing turn; and Frank E. Ford excels as a dancer.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—After an absence of a few years *A Message from Mars* is appearing here again. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West successfully plays Horace Parke, being excellent alike in the lighter and more pathetic scenes; Mr. William H. Brougham acts with dignity as the Messenger; Mr. Norman Clark's impersonation of the Tramp is a clever character study; Miss Josephine Middleton acts pleasingly as Minnie Templar; and among others who may be mentioned are Miss Aubrey Ashton as Miss Parker and Mr. Alfred Sugg as Arthur Dicey.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford. — Sandy McNab, the Scottish comedian, is causing much merriment in his sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy;* the Amaranths are a troupe of clever lady acrobatic and whirlwind dancers; Walter Lennard is a baritone of pleasing ability; Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn have a capital vocal burlesque; Dolf Escourt provides novelty as a singing juggler and mimic; and other good turns are given by A. G. Spry, a quaint comedian, Henry Carlton, a refined entertainer, and the Sisters Storm, vocalists and smart dancers.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIAN. — Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial electric pictures and varieties continue here. Some excellent films are shown this week. Unexpected Help, Our Weekly Chronicle, and a coloured picture depicting a Biblical story Athaliah, are greatly admired. Mr. George Bernard, actor-vocalist, is in high favour with his songs and scena; Miss Fanny Humber, novelty instrumentalist and skipping-rope dancer, pleases; Freda and Frank appear in a singing and dancing act; and Miss Kitty Caffrey contributes as the military maid. Mr. A. May-Marsh is an able pianist.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here with *Brewster's Millions*. Mr. Percy Hutchison plays Monty Brewster with real naturalness. He is admirably supported by Mr. G. Ash (Charlie Harrison), Mr. R. Forsyth (Mr. Grant), Mr. A. Andrews (Colonel Drew), Mr. H. Hampson (Archie Golding), Mr. Aubrey Mather (Joseph McLeod), Mr. A. Bell (Frank Bragden), Mr. A. Wight (Horace Bettinghill), Mr. O. Hazlewood (Tommy Smith), and Mr. Frank Hill (Rawles). Miss Dorothy Whitaker is a winsome and captivating Peggy, Miss Lilias Earle a charming Mrs. Dan, and Miss M. Ripley an interesting Janice Armstrong.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Sutton and Raynor's répertoire company is here with *Moths, Camille*, and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*. In *Moths* Mr. Raynor plays well as Lord Jura; Miss Dora Dench makes a charming Vere Herbert; Miss Cecilia Dare is a big success as the Duchesse de Sonnaz; Miss Hilda Blanche's Fuchsia Leach is excellent; Mr. Chas. Brandon is good as Zouroff; and Mr. Conrad Heywood and Mr. M. C. Curtis do well as Correze and the Duke of Mull.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas give a fine and artistic rendering of various scenes from Dickens; Arthur F. Ward fully justifies his title of a "Somewhat different juggler"; J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser are a popular turn; David uller is a baritone of full range and a good singer; and Gracie Hunt (comedienne), Elroy (the armless wonder), and Harvey's American Boys and Girls complete the bill.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. René Clayton.—Mr. George A. Street and company, in *The Cattle Thief*, are topping the bill here. Mysterious Mysticus in his clever burlesque of spiritualistic clap-trap is entertaining; the Bellong Brothers have a skilful equilibristic turn; Bert Williams, ventriloquist, is funny; Vera Rochdale is the possessor of an excellent voice, besides dancing very cleverly; Sisters Luraine are capital instrumentalists. Marie Kay (roller skate dancer and comedienne), George Rae (Scotch comedian and dancer), and the Bioscope conclude.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. George Edwardes' company in *The Merry Widow* visits Hanley for the third time. Miss Louie Pounds, Mr. Basil S. Foster, and Mr. Lionel Victor are included in the powerful cast.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Riogoku Troupe of Japanese acrobats are a great attraction; the Gothams in comedy-harmony are also very popular; the Gillins are responsible for a clever comedy act; Tony Black, a Scotch comedian, is well received; Jack Waller is decidedly clever; the Watsons, musicians and sketch artists, are very entertaining; the Derrington Family of cyclists are clever; Tom and Edie George present an original sporting scena; and the interesting pictures include the funeral of Prince Francis of Teck.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—An excellent series of pictures is shown, including The Lost Trail, The Great North-West, Her Sweet Revenge, Mulligan Hired Out, His Little Son, and Never Again. Lily Metcalf, comedienne, makes a big hit.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—This week Mr. Stephen Pritt's company is here with a selection of his plays. On Monday *Almost his Bride* was in the bill. Mr. J. O. Stevenson made a dignified Earl of Ulswater; Mr. Barrie was good as Squire Rowland; and Mr. Morris Maud was a manly hero; Mr. Quinton Fulford played the deep-dyed villain, Jasper Thorne, and Mr. Stephen Pritt was a host in himself as Simon Simson; Miss Bellamy was good as Myra Thorne, and Miss Kathleen Stewart made a sweet Mona. *East Lynne* and *A Woman's Passion* have also been played.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Stanley and Vandyke head the bill, and provoke considerable merriment. Arthur Harris, character vocalist, is cordially received in his varied sketches; and song and dance are well contributed by Masie Phillips. Capital films are shown by Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus's company are here in *The Thief*, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander. Mr. Bernard Limpus as Richard Chelford contrives to invest the part with manly charm and tenderness: Mr. F. Morland lends dignity and weight to the rôle of Raymond Leyton; his suspected son Harry has an excellent exponent in Mr. Carl W. Lindsey; a telling impersonation of the Detective is given by Mr. W. Somerset; Miss Diana Cloud shows true dramatic talent in her vivid portrayal of the character of Marise Chelford; and Isabel, Leyton's second wife, is daintily depicted by Miss Mary Forrester.

PIER PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Maxwell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hawker.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company is here in *The Marriage of Kitty, Davy Garrick*, and *Caste*. As Sir Reginald Belsize in *The Marriage of Kitty* Mr. Norman employs a quiet, humorous method which is very telling; Mr. Lock Whittaker is effective as John Travers (solicitor); as Mme. de Samiano Miss Agnes Thornton acts with a deal of brightness and cleverness; and a delightful impersonation of Kitty is given by Miss Beatrice Wilson.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. Ainsley and H. Hall.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company is here in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmonde, in the title-rôle, scored heavily; Miss Florence Corri as Judith met with hearty applause; and Kate Montrose was finely portrayed by Miss Margaret S. Forbes; in the humorous character of Silas Crump, Mr. James Salter kept the audience in a merry mood; Mr. Walter Ashley made a typical captain; and Mr. James Morath as Dudley gave a capital impersonation.

HOYLAND. — HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Firth.—The attraction here is Mrs. Frank Bateman and company with *Where Angels Fear to Tread*. Mr. Fred W. Goddard is an excellent Maurice Masterman; Mr. George Herbert is successful as Lord Fearless; as Bert Taylor, Mr. George Butler makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. Will White as Jim Sadler is satisfactory; Mr. Percy Shaw is a humorous Herbert Stiggins, being ably assisted by Miss H. Carrington as Acrodyan Warkerry, and Miss Emma Rainbow is all that can be desired as Lady Margaret Austinleigh; Mrs. Fanny Olive as Selina Sticcles is good; Miss Dulcia Lawrence as the scheming Lady Carina Clelland gives an interesting reading; and Miss Frank Bateman in the rôle of Araminta Parson is sympathetic.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—An interesting return visit is being paid by the wonderful animal Consul, whose highly educated state is remarkable. Also appearing on Monday night were Arthur Albert (character vocalist), the Two Diamonds (a pair of clever young singers and dancers), Will Lindsay (Yorkshire comedian), Smarte Bros. (skilled comedy acrobats), Fred Conquest and company in a highly amusing sketch *Something for Nothing*, and some good pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A good bill includes Miss Victoria Monks (the popular comedienne, whose first visit is a great success), Harry Taylor (comedian), Halma (a dexterous juggler), Miss Daisy Taylor (a dainty singer and dancer), the Werds Bros. (clever comedy acrobats), Hicks and Hunter (two nimble dancers on real ice skates), Harry Elliston and company in a funny sketch *Aunt Matilda*, and Albert St. Clair (a sweet singing double-voiced vocalist). The Palace Pictures are, as usual, good.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The House of Temperley*, with the full company from the Adelphi, has been doing great things this week, and little wonder. Mr. Stratton Rodney and his company all work towards one end—success. Mr. Murray Carson plays with consummate skill the part of Sir John Hawker, and Sir Chas. Temperley is a rôle that finds excellent scope for Mr. Rodney. Captain Jack Temperley could not be better cast than in the safe keeping of Mr. Claude King. Lady Temperley was well played by Miss Claire Paunceforte. Mr. Blake-Adams with all his skill plays the part of Ginger Stubbs; Miss Una Venning gives a taste of her work as Ethel Morley.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Great Awakening* is a play that just appeals to the Alexandra audience, and Miss Olga Audré is an artist full of resource, and meets with warm expressions of approval; and Mr. Arthur Wimpenny fills the part of Jack Merton with distinct cleverness. Miss Evie Conway gives a daring performance as Molly Merton; Mr. Chas. Chandler renders good service at Captain Lambart.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—The clever illusionist, Mr. Horace Goldin, ably assisted by the charming Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli, is presenting some novelties in the way of cabinet and trunk tricks; Howard and Harris are quaint American humorists; My Fancy, the charming dancer, presents her pretty and novel scena, "Winter, Spring, and Summer," with distinct success; Ernie Mayne's quaint and irresistible humour is responsible for hearty laughter; as "the tramp at the piano," James Stewart enhances his reputation here; Ricardo and Salving obtain vociferous applause for their clever and novel acrobatic act; Mina Denvil, a pleasing vocalist; Kenny Kay, an entertaining ventriloquist; and the Bioscope pictures complete a capital bill.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hy. Slingsby.—A popular feature of a varied bill is the clever weight-lifting performance by Atlas and Vulcana, they also introduce the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, an exceedingly clever trio; the Phœnix Trio of harmonising singers and dancers contribute an enjoyable item; Kydd and Kydd, patter comedians, and Kail Stern, the Colombo coon, meet with well deserved recognition; Mons. Ugo, the man of mystery; Lilian Rose, popular vocalist; Rose D. Auiby, chorus comedienne; and Ida Idris, comedienne, are much appreciated.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Principal turn here is John Clempert, whose death-defying mysteries are watched with close interest; Dave O'Toole, with a budget of funny songs, is a warm favourite; a bright comedy act is presented by Kennedy and Ryan; Dale and Vale win hearty plaudits for their smart singing and dancing; an item much enjoyed is the vocalism and dancing of Lauri and Elsy; Tom Clifford is a ventriloquist of merit; and Harriet Rose a pleasing comedienne.

PRINCE'S HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morton.—An attractive picture programme is given at this pretty hall twice nightly, and it is difficult to find a vacant seat.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Messrs. R. and F. Kelso still draw good houses with a series of pictures. Mr. Ben Lomond is popular. The proceeds of Friday evening are to be devoted to the Provost's coal fund.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Jack Lane, an old favourite in Ipswich, is as good as ever; *An Amateur Anarchist* is a short comedy turn well played by Livesey and Rosebery; Paul Barnes is a droll American vocalist and raconteur; the Valdo Brothers are smart and skilful acrobats; Yellmah has a stock of amusing tricks; Dolly Harmer sings well and is a good comedienne; Connie Macot is also a good singer and dancer; and the Bioscope has some excellent pictures.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edwards Evans.—This week we have a visit from *The Coal King* company. Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse plays Tom Roberts admirably, while Mr. A. M. Norman makes an excellent Sir Reginald Hartford; the part of Walter Hartford is played with force and skill by Mr. Sidney C. Kearns; Mr. Frank Caffery makes much out of the part of Jim Williams; and Dick Shirley is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Dalton. Miss Winifred Love gives a charming rendering of the part of Grace Shirley; Miss Laurie O. Neil is quite at home as Araminta Green, while Miss Emily Levettez makes an ideal Mad Ann.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, The Palace Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Padden.—This picture hall continues to show some excellent films. Lillah Brett, the athletic girl, and Babe Lloyd are here this week and are well received.

THE KINO.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Scott.—The hall is still drawing good houses and shows some excellent pictures.

JERSEY. — OPERA HOUSE, LTD. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Edward Marris and Albanany Ward; Manager, Mr. Lindsay Edwards.—Miss Lena Stanton's company is appearing here in *The Bluecoat Boy*, burlesque, in tabloid form. Miss Stanton is supported by Miss Norah Neville and Messrs. Arthur E. Carlton, Harry Josephs, and Dan Lyall. The same company also appear in *The Happy Jap*. The picture portion of the programme is particularly good.

ROYAL HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—The pictures shown here include A Day With Mr. C. B. Fry's Mercury Boys, A Ramble through Ceylon, and The Launch of the Olympic.

ALHAMBRA.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—Mr. Jim Begley supplies the variety portion of the programme, and the Pictures are up to the usual standard.

KEIGHLEY. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. S. Holmes.—Mr. Watson Mill's company, in *A Wrecker of Men*, is here. Miss Ruth Zillwood gives a fine impersonation of Risca Maflinson; Mr. Arthur S. Pitt is a big favourite as Jem Murley; Mr. Thompson Carruthers well sustains the part of Eric Melville; Mr. James Willoughby scores highly; and Mr. Eddie Vane is good.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The boards were occupied the first three nights of the week by Mr. H. P. Tower's company, in *The Best People*, excellently mounted. Mr. Henry Renouf cleverly enacts the part of Lord Emsworth; Mr. Frederic Sargent ably portrays that of the Hon. Gerald Boyle; Mr. Claude Haviland and Mr. O.

FOR INDIGESTION

Pains After Eating Biliousness **Constipation, Wind Headaches**

Those who have once had Indigestion know what a death in life it is. Indigestion causes more human misery than all other ailments combined. When pains in the stomach, chest or back, visit you after meals; when you lose your appetite, or have headaches, biliousness, constipation, and feel miserable, run-down, played-out, Indigestion is wringing the life out of you. Mother Seigel's Syrup, the herbal tonic, is the remedy you need. It tones and strengthens the stomach, so that it *can* digest food, cleanses your blood, increases your vitality, and gives you health and strength. Mrs. M. A. Murray, 41, Wychtree Street, Morriston, Swansea, says:—"I suffered from Indigestion. I became constipated, had pains across my chest and between my shoulders, with frequent headaches, and violent pains in the region of the heart. The very first bottle of Mother Seigel's Syrup did me a world of good. I had about eight bottles of the Syrup, and by then my cure was complete."—11/4/10.

TAKE—MOTHER

SEIGEL'S

SYRUP

AND CEASE TO SUFFER

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size. Also in Tablet form, 2/9.

Forester are good as Lord Wynlea and Jackson; the part of Mr. James Spofforth is in the capable hands of Mr. Edward Nimmo; Miss Irene Lavington and Miss Evelyn Summers do full justice to the rôles of Lady Emsworth and the Hon. Mrs. Boyle respectively. The latter end of the week Mr. H. Armitage is presenting *Leah Kleschna*.

KING'S LYNN.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—*Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* was presented for three nights this week. Miss Cecile Anson is a capable Mrs. Wiggs; Miss Muriel Locking makes an eccentric Miss Hazy; Miss Clara Earle is a graceful Lovey Mary; Mr. Kenneth Rivington as Mr. Stubbins is quite characteristic; and all the other characters are well sustained.

KIRKCALDY.—New King's Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Bell.—*The New Lady Bantock* is being presented here this week by Mr. Horace Lingard, Miss Beatrice Moreau, and company. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice Moreau exhibits much histrionic ability, and Mr. Horace Lingard is eminently successful as Martin Bennett. Miss Miriam Holt and Miss Dorothy Clifton submit a delightful study of the maiden aunts, the Misses Wetherell; Dr. Freemantle is admirably played by Mr. Leon Hastings; Mr. Alfred Ray is excellent as Lord Bantock; and Mr. Wilfred Compton's enactment of George Newte leaves nothing to be desired.

LANCASTER.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Miss Elizabeth Dexter and Mr. Harold C. Lloyd's company, in *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*, occupied the boards the first three nights this week. Mr. Hodgson Taylor as a Passer-by delivered his lines with remarkable clearness; Mr. Herbert Pearce was good as Joey Wright; Mr. Gerald Pring did capable work as the Artist; and the part of Major Tompkins was in the safe hands of Mr. Richard Hicks. Miss Elizabeth Dexter gave a clever portrayal of Vivian Tompkins; Miss Jeannie Thomas as Mrs. Sharpe, the landlady, was a decided success; and very able support was rendered by Miss Katherine Morris as 'Stasia, the slavey, Miss Emma Stockley as Miss Kite and Miss Clara Nicholls as Mrs. de Hooley. Mr. John Levey and company appeared in the melodrama *The Scapegrace* on Thursday.

Hippodrome.—Haley's Garden of Girls are at the top here; the Cumberlands supply a remarkably clever cycle turn; Odeyne Spark sings well; Barry Snowball and Kitty Mack, in a hunting skit, are smart; and Walter Stanley, comedian, does well. Animated pictures complete.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of the week Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company appeared to large and delighted audiences in *The Education of Elizabeth*. Miss May Norris played Elizabeth with wonderful effect; whilst Mr. Harry B. Waring gave a very natural performance as Harry Fairfax. Mr. Norris was a decided success in the rôle of Reggie; and as the unscrupulous Whitby Mr. Fred Castleman played with much merit. Miss Helen Forest was admirable as Lucy Middleton; other characters being portrayed by Miss Phyllis Dailley and Miss Maggie Spencer with much skill. In the latter part of the week Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is announced to appear in *Don*.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. Wynn Hart.—*Dame Nature* is here this week. Miss Ethel Irving gives a powerful and convincing impersonation as Lolette; Mr. Frank Cooper submits an admirable representation of Robert Bertram; and Mr. Norman Forbes very capably sustains the character of the Prince de Chabran; Miss Mabelle Hunt plays with much distinction the Princess.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Manager, Mr. George Macleod.—Miss Zena Dare is drawing enthusiastic audiences here in *The Model and the Man*. Miss Dare sings, acts, and dances delightfully, and is quite a success. She is well supported by Mr. Frank Wilson, who takes the part of a sculptor, and Miss Ivy St. Helier as a slavey; Tom Costello is well received in several new songs; the Kirbys create much amusement in a merry comedy act; Campbell and Barker do some clever cycling tricks; and the Cavalotti Bros. in their musical act are good; Fred Poplar has a clever political song; and other nice turns include those of the Sisters Jerome and Kitty Wager.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Fred Karno in his amusing sketch *Perkins, M.P.*, with Tom Nelson as Perkins, is well received; Alec. Hurley is a big favourite; Herbert Rule is rapidly increasing in popularity; Margit and Lener are good in a speciality act; and other successful turns are those of Fred Lyndo, Elton and Elma, Vera Wotton, Lloyd Morgan, an excellent light comedian, and Eileen Northe.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*No Man's Land* is being presented here this week. The leading characters are taken by Messrs. Henry Horne, Edwin Bennett, Villiers Stanley, and Misses Marie Kildare and Alice Steinberg.

Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Albert Whiteman; Assistant Manager, Mr. Bernard Armstrong.—Luis Hardt tops the bill here in a new scena entitled *In Days of Old*. Ferguson and Mack in a comedy act are responsible for much laughter; Seener and Fridkins appear in their clever sketch; Sisters St. Julian are talented dancers; and others appearing are Billy Rex, Sterling Nasham, and Jack Hayton.

LEEK.—Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin* is here. Mrs. Morton Powell achieves success as Minnie Waters; Miss Alice Defoe plays with tact and sympathy the rôle of Jessie Burton; Mr. Harry Scott draws a manly portrait of Harry Hailing; and Messrs. Richard Vane (Philip Edge) and Alaric Burton (Solomon Sleck) prove themselves capable exponents of villainy. The rôle of Mrs. Burton is effectively sustained by Miss Kathryne Eckhart; and Miss Addie Adair as Mrs. Slutt and Mr. Sidney Bryant as Jack Jossie supply the humorous element successfully. The play is well mounted.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company is presenting *The Girls of Gottenberg*. Miss Dora Langham plays delightfully the part of Mitzi; and "Smith" is very funny as Max. Various other artists who deserve special commendation include Miss Grace Desmond (Clementine), Mr. R. N. Cory (Otto), Mr. Eddie Foy (Brittl Bottl), Miss Beryl Vaudrey (Elsa), and Mr. Tom Squire (Adolph). The dressing and mounting are well done.

Theatre Royal.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—A notice of the new play, *The Ruin of Her Life*, will be found in another column.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—Harry Roxbury and company are making a well-deserved success here in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, Mr Roxbury as P.-C. Longfellow creating endless merriment; Harry Weldon, comedian, is always sure of a hearty welcome here; the Seven Perezoffs, in *An Animated Supper at Maxim's*, introduce smart juggling; the Two Anartos are a most amusing pair of comedians; Clown Argo's imitations of birds and animals are cleverly done; the Maples are a pair of excellent comedy artists and dancers; Hilda Jacobsen, the musical comedy artist, sings "Dear Cigarette" in good style; the Rawsons (Maggie and Jack) are capital entertainers upon the piano and banjo; and the Bioscope still entertains.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—At the top of the bill is Frank Cass, who is well received; Lennard and Vereker introduce their original and thoroughly pleasing vocal-picture-songs, with satisfactory results; the Brothers Tarrant, excellent and amusing comedians and dancers, appear in place of Flo Warner; Guy Rider goes well in his latest success, "The regimental pet." Other good turns are contributed by the Vanderbilts, the swell and the belle; Ernestine Desborough, vocalist; and Daisy Hurdle, comedienne. The Bioscope shows good films.

Empire.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The two star films in the usual lengthy and diversified programme invariably submitted here are The Judge and The Girl and the Eleventh Hour. Ruby Lester, comedienne and mimic, is on a successful return visit.

Grand Electric Palace.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—The Kinemacolor pictures shown here always arouse the greatest interest and admiration.

The Electric Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Kingstone Trollope.—The business continues to be exceptionally good at this new hall, with double changes of pictures weekly.

LEIGH. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gould; General-Manager, Mr. A. F. Beaton.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here in *The Apple of Eden*, which was enthusiastically received by a full house on Monday. Mr. Percy Ballard makes a good impression as the aristocratic scoundrel, Prince Nicola; General Pavlos finds a clever exponent in Mr. John F. Traynor; Mr. Lauderdale Maitland gives a masterly performance of Julian Hanbury; Vassili has a capable representative in Mr. Percy Follis; Miss Janet Alexander as Queen Margaret quickly wins the sympathy of the audience by her pathetic enactment; Miss M. Hayden is finely suited as Lady Hanbury; the humour of the play is never allowed to flag by Mr. Bertie White as Robert Bertram and Miss Tressa Myers as Winifred Cresson; Mr. Francis James deserves praise as Stefan, as does also Miss Mysie Monti as Anna.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—A strong programme is headed by Carlton, an accomplished illusionist and humorist; the Four Quaint Q's combine good comedy with excellent vocal harmony; David Poole is a smart ventriloquist; the Sisters Thorne, duettists and dancers, are successful; Rene Graham is clever; Chas. Woodward, light comedian, is well received; Victor and Louis contribute a good comedy sketch; Mack Olive, mimic and whistler, and the Hipposcope pictures complete.

Assembly Rooms and Picture Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—Another fine picture programme is presented here. The Sisters Aindow have a refined musical act.

LEITH. — New Gaiety Theatre. — Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The various episodes in Mr. Arthur Shirley's stirring drama, *The Midnight Mail*, which conveys a moral lesson on the temperance question, are well illustrated by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr. Claude Hermann makes a striking figure in the leading part of Harry Steyne, whose wife, ably played by Miss Trissie Humphrys, bears the vicissitudes of the heroine with a fortitude deserving the reward she ultimately secures. Mr. Henry W. Hatchman is very acceptable as Leonard Royle, the good genius of the play; while the evil-doer, Hasson Padisha, is presented as a sufficiently malevolent person by Mr. Frank S. Strickland; and Miss Jennie Weston appears to advantage in the rôle of Lady Phyllis Eustace. Miss Mildred Carr acts in very brisk and engaging style as Nancy Brewer; and her dissolute spouse, in the hands of Mr. Fred G. Evison, becomes one of the strongest character-studies in the cast. Minor parts receive careful representation, and some imposing realistic effects are successfully worked.

LICHFIELD.—St. James's Hall.—On Monday night Miss Maggie Morton's company appeared here in *A Thief in the Night*. The premier part was in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Duval; Mr. M. de Courtsey was the heavy lead, and Mr. W. Owen an amusing low comedian. Of the ladies, Miss C. O'Sullivan played the part of Joan Escombe with spirit, Miss Helen Lowther was responsible for the heavy rôle of Sonia Cleeve, and Miss Maggie Blyth was pathetic as the child Joan.

LIMERICK.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. George Victor Fogerty.—*The Little Damozel* was produced on Monday by the Ida Molesworth and Mark Blow company, before an extremely appreciative audience. Mr. Alick Chumley impersonated the rôle of Recklaw Poole with rare histrionic ability; and as Fitzroy Lock the acting of Mr. Guy Newall was much to be commended. As Captain Partington, Mr. George A. Brandram was admirable; and Walter Angel, of the café, was in the capital hands of Mr. W. Matthews. Papa Batholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham were capitally sustained by Messrs. R. R. Ravenscroft, Frank Roy, and Captain Gambier. Mr. Arthur Redmond acted well as Chef d'œuvre; Miss Marion Locke was a winsome Sybil Craven, and Miss Emelie Polini as Julie Alardy won rounds of applause by her artistic acting. Miss Maude Rivers appeared to great advantage as Madam. Miss Polini had to acknowledge the plaudits of a very large and delightful audience.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Here again Mr. Robert Courtneidge's excellent company are delighting large audiences with *The Arcadians*. Mr. Walter Passmore is the life and soul of the merry play, his Simplicitas being as rich as ever. Miss Ethel Erskine sings and acts very nicely in the rôle of Sombra; Mr. Oliver J. Round's Peter Doody is again a big mirth-provoker; Miss Billie Sinclair makes a delightful Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Veronica Brady proves an amusing Mrs. Smith; and other worthy helpers are Mr. H. E. Pearce (Jack Meadows) and Miss Florence Ivy (Chrysea).

Shakespeare Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The Carl Rosa Opera company are here this week. On Monday night they opened with *Tannhäuser*, in which Miss Emma Loeffler appeared as a new Elizabeth, and showed talent of the highest order both as a vocalist and actress. Mr. E. C. Hedmondt repeated his well-known Tannhäuser; Mr. Hebden Foster played Wolfram with care and intelligence; Mr. Arthur Winckworth repeated his Landgrave, and sang in fine style; and others who lent valuable aid were Messrs. Charles Brierly (Reinmar), Alexander Richard (Biterolf), Albert Felton (Schreiber), and Miss Lawson Tayler (Shepherd Boy), and Miss T. Addington (Venus). The other operas given were *Queen of Sheba* (first time in Liverpool), *Faust*, *Lily of Killarney*, *Carmen*, and *Il Trovatore*. Messrs. Walter Van Noorden and Eugene Goosens were the conductors.

Rotunda Theatre. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is the attraction here this week. Miss Muriel Dean plays Bessie Webster with every satisfaction; Mr. Norman B. Cannon makes a manly Jack Cunningham, earning much commendation; Mr Frank McClellan is well suited to the rôle of Norman Marsh; Miss Sybil Hare is a sweet Elsie Cunningham; most diverting comedy comes from Mr. Fred Hodson (Dicky Storm) and Miss Daisy Maynard (Tina Torkington); and others who appear with distinction are Messrs. Charles Barclay (Dr. Millbank); William T. Riley (Gilbert Lindsay), and Miss Ernestine Walter (Maud Villiers).

Star Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week owing to the important booking of *A White Man*. Mr. Herbert Sleath sends a capital company. Mr. Frank E. Petley plays Jim Carston with much dramatic effect, and earns earnest applause; Miss Dorothy Edwards, a young lady who has recently adopted the stage, gives considerable promise, her acting as Nat-u-rich being marked by care and intelligence; Big Bill is capitally presented by Mr. John M. East; Mr. Oswald Lingard makes an impressive Tab-y-Wana; Cash Hawkins is played with plenty of dash and swagger by Mr. Vernon Sansbury; Bud Hardy finds in Mr. James E. Page a worthy exponent; Miss Nora Nagle is an intelligent Little Hal; and the rôles of the Lady Mabel and the Countess of Kerhill are carefully held by Miss Elsie Buller and Miss Enid Sass.

Kelly's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*The Hypocrites* is the attraction this week, an able company, under Mr. Frank Bertram, presenting it. Mr. Philip Darien stands out prominently with his Rev. Edgar Linnell, which he plays with every effect; Mr. W. F. Stirling is an amusing Mr. Willmore; Miss V. St. Lawrence proves successful as Mrs. Willmore; Mr. Frank Melrose pleases as Mr. Viveash; and other strong supporters are Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald (Leonard Willmore), Miss Violet Macaree (Rachel Neve), Miss Verita Vivien (Helen Plugenet), and Miss Viola March (Mrs. Blaney).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Foremost here this week is Lafayette, whose wonderful illusions are attracting enormous crowds. Florrie Gallimore is as popular as ever; Ray Wallace delights everybody with her clever mimicry at the piano; Fred Keeton amuses greatly; Franco Piper earns rounds of applause for his smart spinning of and juggling with banjos; and Dan Hendy shows himself a comedian and eccentric dancer of merit.

Lyric.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here this week are Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company in *Her Nameless Child*, in which Mr. J. W. Evelyn plays Anthony Ford in forceful manner; Miss Jean Wigney pleases as Phyllis Ford; Mr. Leonard Aardale makes a strong Lord Woodville; a deal of broad humour is introduced by Mr. Larry Clements (Tom Rivers) and Miss Rene Belle Douglas (Bessie Brooks); and Miss Dora Weber fills the part of Lady Woodville with distinction.

Royal Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the programme here is Fred Karno's company in *R.M.S. Wontdetainia*, which is causing endless laughter. Frank Fenton and company have a powerful and well-played episode, *Treachery*; a pretty vocal and dancing scena is gone through by the Twelve Forget-Me-Nots; Theo. C. le Gar's company present a delightful playlet, *Music the Conquerer*, in which Señor Angel Blanco renders some charming excerpts on the violin; Fred Land is as funny as ever; Sam Thompson's Scotch quaintness is richly enjoyed; and others in the list are A. E. Clifford, vocal comedian, and Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here are this week giving *For the Colours* twice nightly, among the principals being Messrs. Harry Tresham (Captain Vereker), Leo Montgomery (Lieut. Hansford), Sydney Grant (Van Blumen), Tom H. Solly (Sergeant Steel), Miss Lilian Radbourn (Doris), and Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Mrs. Vereker).

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Karno's latest sketch, *Mr. Justice Perkins*, is creating great amusement here this week. Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce please immensely with their *Over the Garden Wall* trifle; Lieven and Pantzer have a remarkable speciality act, *A Lesson in Physical Culture*; Ben Albert finds great favour by reason of his songs; the smart second sight work of the Violas causes much wonder; a delightful vocal and dancing scena comes from the Manchester Mites; and in the list are Katie Butler, character comedienne; Lizzie Glenroy, Scotch comedienne and dancer; and the Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Cullen and Carthy are here this week with their funnyosities, including their latest, "Danny McCann"; Otto and Olga have a musical act of a refined nature; Ernest Cadle and company create a deal of fun with *Bank Holiday in Casey Court*; Forbes Guilbert presents in good style characters from popular plays; Merian's Dogs show wonderful sagacity with the sketch, *A Faithless Wife*; Dolly and Elsie are a couple of dainty duettists and dancers; some clever gymnastic work is gone through by Donna's Trio; and others who contribute are Clifford Stuart, Lancashire comedian, and Harry Kirk, comedian.

LONDONDERRY.—Opera House and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. R. A. Warton.—The attraction this week is *His Dishonoured Wife*, which is capably presented. Mr. Alex Alexander gives a capital study of Lord Devant; Mr. George A. Fry as Frank Lindon made the most of the part; and the humorous character, Micky Doolan, found an able exponent in Mr. Harry Tilbury. Of the feminine characters, Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Linden gave a most cultured representation, and Miss Arline T. George as Alice Harvey was also good. During the last three nights of the week *My Native Land*, an Irish-American play, drew fine audiences.

LONGTON. — Queen's Theatre. — Proprietors, New Longton Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Sheriff Howard.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and his repertoire company opened to a packed house on Monday. *Lady Godiva* was chosen as the initial attraction, and Mr. Woulfe himself was seen to great advantage as Tom o' Coventry. Miss Edith Loraine made an ideal Lady Godiva, and Miss J. Richards gave a really excellent performance as Lady Aldyth. *Jane Shore*, *The Two Orphans of Paris*, *David Garrick*, *The Sleigh Bells Hamlet*, and *The Flowers of the Forest* are billed for the remaining nights.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Town Hall.—Miss Incz Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, visited here on Friday and Saturday last week in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, and were well received. Miss Ethel Savill as Princess Monica played with feeling; Miss Gladys Moss-Wright was a bright and humorous Viola; and Miss Jessie Yatman a good Camiola. Mr. Alfred Brandon as the cynical tyrant, Prince Hildred, was clever; and Messrs. William J. Rea and Chas. A. Baker as Prince Michael and Prince Olaf respectively gave fine renderings of those parts. Mr. J. Desmond Brannigan as Captain Hector was highly successful; and as the flippant Lieut. Karl Stromberg Mr. Lawrence Grove was breezy.

Vint's Electric Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Vint's entertainments continue to hold their own in popular favour. The Three Phydoras are clever in a grotesque and novel musical turn; and the Melbas, vocalists, musicians, and sketch artists, are much appreciated.

Temperance Hall. — Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. S. Evanson.—The Forders, in their mannikin act, give a clever turn; and Frank Boyce, character vocalist, also appears.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is drawing excellent business here. The piece is well acted and staged, and the efforts of the company meet with unstinted applause, especially from the Scotch fisher folk, who are engaged in the local fishing season.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—The current bill includes, in addition to a smart pictorial display, which arouses great interest amongst the crowded audiences, Syd Crossley, comedian; Fred E. Ellis, comedian; Hayes and Merritt, acrobats; and the Four Panamas in a pantomimic sketch. Of the pictures, Carmen, Birdland, and The Winning Punch (a sporting film) deserve special mention.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company is drawing crowded houses with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Eva Ellis as Peggy is very bright, and her vocal numbers are well received; Miss Cathaline Sinico makes a delightful Winifred; as Eliza Miss Nellie Bouman submits a clever and amusing impersonation; Mr. Norman Bowyer is very funny in the character of Joe Mivens; Mr. Price-Evans as Lieut. Sam Brudenell, Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Lieut. Frank Meredith, and Mr. P. Vaughan as Dr. O'Byrne give excellent assistance; Miss M. Carter is a distinguished Lady Brudenell, and Miss R. Lewis is pleasing as Helen.

MAIDSTONE.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—A good variety bill has been presented here. Leipzig, card manipulator and conjurer, is amazing and amusing all; Gwennie Llewellyn gets a hearty reception for her well-rendered songs; Reid and Power introduce singing and dancing into a good comedy duologue; George Prince, comedian, sings excellent songs; Hearne and Palmer provide some fun in an acrobatic act, entitled *The Hebrew and the Barman*; Bertha De Pas is entertaining in song and dance; the Sisters Cora excel in a charming singing and dancing act; and the electric pictures contain some of the best films.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Martin Harvey's appearance in Manchester is always a welcome event, and on Monday a big audience showed the usual appreciation of his acting as Lieut. Keresby in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Excellent support was rendered by the company, the most prominent successes being scored by Miss N. de Silva in her familiar rôle of Batty, Mr. Charles Glenney as the despicable Clement Hungerford, and Miss Brenda Gibson as Margaret. Besides these, a powerful and imposing impersonation of Viscount Dorsington was given by Mr. Philip Hewland; Mr. Albert E. Raynor played Sir Henry Curwen with quiet distinction; and Mr. Cowley Wright was becomingly heroic as young Francis Tresham; while a good word should be added for the clever acting of Mr. Edward Combermere as Captain Stanhope. The week's bill includes also *The Only Way* and *Richard III*.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—It is the general opinion here that nothing so memorable and unique has ever been seen in Manchester as Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*. Full of poetic and spectacular charm and instinct, with a tender philosophy which touches at once the heart and the imagination, it is indeed a play to be thankful for—a beautiful and touching evidence of a genius that is nothing short of wonderful. Every justice in the matter of staging and lighting has been done, so that the effects become part of the beauty of the play; and when to all this is added admirable acting, the total effect is something that mere description fails to convey. The parts of Tyltyl and Mytyl are charmingly filled by Master Stephen Thomas and Miss Bella Terry, the former part being played also on three occasions by Master Eric Rae. Mr. Edward Rigby as Bread is also a conspicuous success, while one may well conceive the ecstasies of children at the impersonations of such things as Water, Milk, Sugar, and familiar creatures of the animal world, all with their separate meanings. Mr. James Hearn as Time is notable among many others; Mr. Ernest Hendrie as the Dog is capital; and Mr. Norman Page makes an effective contrast as the Cat. Mr. Norman O'Neill's music is distinctly pleasing and appropriate, and it only remains to be added that full houses, like that which overflowed on Monday night, are sure to be the rule to the end of the fortnight of the play's visit.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart presents here *Sherlock Holmes*, which is proving a big attraction. Mr. Stewart himself plays the title-rôle, and makes quite a success of it, and he is very capably supported by Miss May Clare as Alice Faulkner, Mr. W. T. Harris as Moriarty, Mr. Oliver Crombie as Larrabee, Miss Ethel Trevor Lloyd as Madge Larrabee, and Master Thomas Hill as Billy. Other contributory parts are also well filled, and the staging is excellent.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Fred Karno's *Skating* and *Mumming Birds* are the two principal attractions here, much enjoyed, as usual. Other good turns are Nellie Gannon, descriptive contralto vocalist; Harry Wright, vocal and extempore comedian; Molly O'Morgan, the singing colleen; Leigh and Lawrie, refined comedy boys; Pat Carey, the popular Irish comedian; and the Whitworth Trio of smart trick cyclists.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—Mr. Percy Williams is still entertaining local audiences here this week by his presentment of the popular New York drama, *The Fatal Wedding*.

Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—A "Sexton Blake" drama is proving a strong attraction here, well played and well put on.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—A brilliant attraction here is Zona Vevey, assisted by Max Erard, her author-composer, in a delightful and refined act; the Eight Saxones appear in dances extraordinary, supplemented by transparent dressing-room scenery; Herbert La Martine gives a fine exhibition of eccentric dancing; Maud Esmond, vocal comedienne, is very well received; and other enjoyable turns are the Two Lilleys, in a speciality act; Mabel Moss, a refined singer of chorus songs; Mildred Parr, entertainer; and Vera Nixen, comedienne and dancer.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A capital programme here is headed by Robins and Collier in *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*, a comic item; Ganty's Grotto, a beautiful water extravaganza, is also prominent; Richard Finberg adds a selection of his character studies; the Five M.P.'s give enjoyable evidence of their expert musical abilities; and Merton and Rydon are an entertaining musical comedy duo. Other pleasing turns are Mima Kello, who is very charming in a dainty song-scena, assisted by the Raphael Quartet, and Fred Lloyd, a versatile comedian.

Empire. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Peterman and Ricketts provide the top turn here in their farmyard burlesque *Chanteclair*, which is very well put on. Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist, occupies the other place of honour with his usual distinction; and other good turns are Rose and Calvert in their amusing act *Captain Kettle and his Mate*; Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies, led by Lily Vine; Cole and Rags, the comedy jugglers; Fred Elton, entertainer; Diamond and Beatrice, novelty musicians; and Frank Couch, a smart patter comedian.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—An all-round excellent programme here includes Miss Marie George, who sings, acts, and dances well, and is ably supported in *The Cowboy Girl*, a new one-act play; Senorita Carmen Turia, the famous Spanish prima donna, is a glorious singer, and meets with a big reception; Malcolm Scott as Nell Gwynne is, as usual, highly entertaining, and makes a hit; Hal Forde is an excellent light comedian; Lohenwirth and Cohan are very funny Hebrew comedians; the Jackson Family are splendid in a delightful musical scena of great merit; Tom Parker, the happy comedian, gives an enjoyable turn; the Four Royals are seen to advantage in a very funny sketch; and Queen and Le Brun are good in comedy act. Up-to-date pictures are also shown.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Miss Alice Hollander, who tops the bill here, sings in fine style, and is loudly applauded; Miss Sylvia Cavallio, ably supported by Mr. Clifford Pembroke and company, appears with great success in the dramatic playlet *Lulu*; Miss Mabel Green, a dainty musical comedy artist, gives a charming turn; whilst other good turns are those of Florence B. Dudley, burlesque artist; Walter Lintone, concertina expert; Birdie Brightling, American entertainer; David Kidd, Scottish light comedian; and Kitty Malone, burlesque comedienne. On the occasion of our visit Lisbon and Barker acted as deputy turn for Jenny Trill, comedienne, who did not appear. Ruffell's Bioscope pictures complete.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett.—Morny Cash, the well-known Lancashire comedian, tops the bill here with his usual success. W. E. Gillin is an exceedingly smart and amusing ventriloquist; Nellie Rose, serio, dances neatly; the Ellesmere Troupe of trick cyclists are well received; George Hyam, comedian, takes well; the Broadway Boys are a quartette of wonderful dancers; Cara Magda, Continental lady juggler and gymnast, presents a good turn; and The Desperado on the Bioscope is an exciting film.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—L'Incognita a soprano of wonderful range and ability, and meets with a great reception; Gildey and Fox, Hebrew comedians from America, make a big hit; Jack Raffo, tenor vocalist, is well received; Nightingale and Stigent are good in an amusing duologue, *Two Sides of a Wall*; Pichel and Scale are clever comedy acrobats; Mike Cray, comedy juggler, with his dog Dooley, is smart and funny; the Brothers Ashley score in a comedy boxing act; and the Two Heiland Lads is a wonderful human study on the Bioscope.

MANSFIELD. — Grand. — Managing-Director, Capt. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* had a hearty reception from a crowded house. Mr. J. H. Boehm is to be congratulated on the feeling and sympathetic manner in which he played Uncle Tom; Mr. Lawrence Nerry showed the experienced and finished actor in his impersonation of Phineas; Mr. Frank Syms was successful in the part of Mr. St. Clair; Mr. John Gibson was good as Mr. Wilson; Mr. Tom Bowron was very effective as the brutal Legree; and Mr. Eric Williams was good also as George Harris.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Michael; General-Manager, Mr. F. Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Lake.—Mr. Clive Currie, with his company, has been paying a return visit to this house, and on the first three nights of the week presented *The Octoroon*. Mr. Clive Currie as Salem Scudder and Miss Eileen Savage as Zoe were especially good; and other characters worthy of favourable comment included the Jacob M'Closky of Mr. W. A. Mackersy, the George Peyton of Mr. Stuart Ethall, the Squire

THE SONGS FOR PRINCIPAL BOY AT THIS SEASON'S PANTOMIMES

ARE

I FEEL SO LONELY.
Written and Composed by BERT LEE.

NO MORE STOPPING OUT LATE.
Written and Composed by BERT LEE.

ANGELINA.
Sung by GEO. GROSSMITH, Junior.

FOR PERFORMING RIGHTS APPLY TO THE PUBLISHERS—

METZLER & CO. (1909) LTD., 42, Gt. Marlborough Street, LONDON, W

Sunnyside of Mr. Eric Snowden, the Pete of Mr. Lewis Carlton, the Paul of Miss Edith Pither, the Mrs. Peyton of Miss Ada Dick, and the Dora of Miss Grace Richardson. For the remainder of the week *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Harry Grey, eccentric comedian, has kept the audiences in a continuous state of merriment. Other good turns are Bi-Bo-Bi, a most expert musician; Frazer and French's Dixie Dancers; Willie Harvey, in his cycling on the wire; Frankland Gray, comedian and impressionist; Olive Armidale, comedienne and dancer; and Waldo and Etoile, the Crocodile and the Fairy. The pictures are as interesting as any yet shown.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Sandon Perkins.—Mr. James Welch's company in *When Knights Were Bold* is here. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce presents an excellent interpretation of Sir Guy de Vere; Mr. Allan Macdonald plays with skill the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe; Isaacson is acted in capital style by Mr. Charles F. Lloyd; Mr. Colin Johnston is well suited as the Rev. Peter Pottleberry; Miss Violet Noel as Lady Rowena gives a charming performance; and Misses Lola Norman, Mabel Hardinge, Juliet Matthewson, Elspeth Olivant, Lena Flowerdew, Lee Lewes, and Messrs. Humphrey Warden, Lawrence Stephenson, and John Cecil are successful in their respective parts.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, The Merthyr Entertainments Co.; Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Chas. M. Daly and company return here after a brief absence, and introduce a realistic sketch entitled *'Twixt Love and Duty*; the Lannons provide an excellent show; Blodwen Jones, a juvenile 'celloist, is loudly applauded; and other taking turns are provided by Connie Gilbert, Healey and Spencer, Gosling and Merrall's Australian Bush Boys, Billy Fauder, and a good series of Biograph films.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company is here in *Every Inch a Man*. Mr. Ralph A. Armfield ably depicts Alderman Barnet; as Dick Barnet Mr. W. Graham Arthurs makes a manly hero; the part of Ben Brown is well portrayed by Mr. Joe Barker; the villainy of Daniel Barnet as depicted by Mr. Gerald Ord would be hard to equal. A lighter vein is supplied by Mrs. Edwards (Miss Mildred Evergleigh) and Martha (Miss Mollie Richardson); while the tricks of Teddy Edwards (Miss Ada Band) are an unceasing source of mirth. Miss Mabel Elliott as Vera Maxwell makes a good and effective heroine.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's Répertoire company opened here on Monday night with *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Chas. Draycott gave a typically boisterous and good-humoured rendering of Conn; Mr. St. John Stuart capably interpreted Captain Molineux; Robt. Ffolliott was cleverly played by Mr. J. Dobson Clyde; Mr. Clinton Baddeley was effective as Corry Kinchela; and Father Dolan was well played by Mr. Theo. Balfour. Mrs. Chas. Draycott imparted grace and sympathy to the rôle of Clare Ffolliott; Miss Shirley Dalton was pleasing as Arte O'Niel; and Miss Louise Millward did well as Mrs. O'Kelly. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man, A Modern Adventuress*, and *Arrah-na-Pogue* were also in the bill for the week.

PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Melton.—A specially good selection of films is being shown here this week.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Fighting Chance* is the attraction here. In the part of Ethel Hardy Miss Marie Duncan is much appreciated; Miss Mary Campbell is a successful Joan Feilding; as General Sir Christopher Blanchard Mr. Fred Waller is seen to advantage; the character of Captain Jim Blanchard is well played by Mr. Sidney Vautier; and as Stephen Blanchard Mr. Austen Milroy is successful.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Tom Watt and company present *East Lynne*, in which Mr. Watt meets with well-deserved success as Lord Mountsevern. The character of Archibald Carlyle is in the able hands of Mr. Frank Beresford; Mr. Edward Ray does well as Francis Levison; and Mr. Jarrold Manville's portrayal of Justice Hare meets with approval. Miss Ida Heron is responsible for the part of Lady Isabel, which she sustains admirably.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Chas. T. Aldrich, the talented entertainer, occupies the top of the bill here; an old favourite, Miss Nellie Wallace, captivates her admirers with her "skit" on the hobble-skirt; a clever and amusing gymnastic display is given by Onda and Antell; and Talberto and Douglas, speciality artists, are well received. The Three Pirmans (comedians), the Misses Florence and Rose Showell (vocalists), Miss Gwen Francis (comedienne), and the Empire Pictures complete an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—A capital picture show is presented nightly, and good houses rule. The Three Clarkes in their speciality act are very amusing; Cavilli is a capable ventriloquist; and Miss Elsa Rayne, vocalist, is well received.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—*A Royal Divorce* has done excellent business here. Napoleon finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Frank Bradley, the Josephine of Miss Edith Cole is endowed with power and pathos, Talleyrand is cleverly played by Mr. George Traill, and a finished study of the Marquis de Beaumont is given by Mr. Charles Hartopp. Marie Louise is excellently portrayed by Miss Winnie Tempest, and a clever child actress, Dorothy Hudson, is good as the little King of Rome. *The Christian* is billed for the last three nights of the week.

MUSSELBURGH.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Ritchie; Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Logan.—George Charlton, comedian; and Little Chris, the Glasgow singing newsboy, are the variety turns. Red Eagle's Love Affair and Rent Day are among the best films shown by the Empire B.B. pictures.

NEATH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Mr. Oswald Grey submits the popular play *When It Was Dark* to excellent houses this week. In the leading part of the Rev. Basil Gortre Mr. Oswald Grey presents a clever impersonation; Miss Lillian Herres is a charming Gertrude Hunt; Miss Rosalie Notrélle displays ability as Helena Byars; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse is a clever Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Vincent Carlyle a good Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Walter Manfree an excellent Rev. Mr. Byars; Mr. Frank Venn an amusing Hon. Charlie Gadfly; being ably supported by Mr. Percy Coningsby as Nunc Wallace; Miss Madeline Grand is capital as Gracie Goldeye; and Miss Ethel Wynne Mathews is worthy of praise as Minnie Golightly.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Harry Tower's company in *The Mountaineers* is drawing crowded houses here. Mr. Fred Eastman is exceptionally funny as Pierre; the Fritz of Mr. Claud Flemming is beyond reproach; Mr. Len Holloways's Conrad could not well be improved upon; Mr. Nevill Wyatt is droll as Gustave; and Mr. Leo Sheffield is an amusing Sergeant Frederic. The important rôle of Clarice is entrusted to Miss Marie Dainton, who enacts the part with a chic and vivacity that makes her impersonation very charming, and her vocal efforts evoke repeated applause. Miss Ida Stratham is a bright Annette, and Miss Aida Jenoure causes much mirth by her clever impersonation of Miss Spinifex. Miss Mona Campbell makes the most of her opportunities as Prudence.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A treat of unusual excellence has been afforded to the dwellers of the Northern Metropolis this week by the visit of Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company in a répertoire of favourite compositions. On Monday night *Il Trovatore* was the attraction. As Azucena Mme. Isoretta Castellano's singing and acting were worthy of the best traditions; Signora Defral in the rôle of Leonora sang with the greatest ease; Signor Barbato, a youngish Manrico, came in for a most flattering reception; and Signor Vail was an interesting Conte di Luna. The augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Signor Wehilo, was most satisfactory.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's (N.) company is here in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Leonard Booker gives a particularly strong rendition of Prince Hildred; the somewhat trying rôle of the afflicted Prince Michael is in the able hands of Mr. Victor Rae; Mr. Henry Hallatt scores a success as Prince Olaf; Mr. Herbert Burton makes the most of his opportunities as Captain Hector, and the same may be said of Mr. Oswald Waller as Nathan, Mr. W. S. Hardy as Colonel Wellenberg, and Mr. Charles Coleman as the Bishop of Illyria. Miss Viloa Holland is a delightful Princess Monica, and Miss Violette May an excellent Camiola. Much amusement is caused by Mr. Strafford Dickens, who capably fills the comedy part of Karl Stromberg, and receives able assistance from Miss Mona Hall as Viola.

EMPIRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Kilgour.—Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners hold the place of honour this week. The Staley's company in musical act and lightning transformations are another excellent turn; Mr. Edmund Maurice's company scores a success in their one-act drama, entitled *Blind*; Thora introduces a novel ventriloquial act; Stephens and Rennor are two clever burlesque comedians; and Alf Chester (comedian), France and Stewart in sketch, *The Little Puritan*, and Baby Boden (child entertainer) conclude.

PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Arthur Prince again heads the bill here, and in his new items maintains his reputation as the prince of ventriloquists. Miss Beaumont Collins and company present their sketch, *The House of Terror*, with considerable success; Harry and Fanny Dent are both amusing and clever in their novel mélange; Archie Royer is an eccentric acrobatic comedian of more than usual ability; David Muir pleases by his various and well-rendered selections on the violin; the Tafanos are clever Continental musical eccentrics; the Carpatti Bros. prove themselves to be marvellous bar performers; Mlle. Medicis presents rather a pretty posing act, and is assisted by a well-trained dog; Nora Stockelle, comedienne and dancer, well deserves the reception she receives; and Harry Clark, comedian, and the pictures complete the entertainment.

GRAND.—General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Captain Permane's Teddy Bears are here this week, and prove an acceptable turn. Zenora, equilibrist, and the Arlenas, entertainers, also contribute, and there is the usual picture programme.

BRINKBURN ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—The Three Veros are responsible for a capital variety turn here this week, their figure dancing being heartily appreciated. Chief among the films are Little Angels of Luck and The Modern Prodigal.

ROYAL PICTURE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Hall Jones.—Another excellent programme is submitted and full houses are the order. The chief film is The Tide of Fortune.

NEWRY.—TOWN HALL.—Owners, Newry Urban Council.—Mr. Payne Seddon is presenting Mr. John H. Tomkinson's variety company to large audiences. The musical act by Eric and Nora is unique; the gymnastic display by the Ariels is very clever; Elsie Rubina sustains her reputation as a skilful wire-dancer; Wee Winnie is a decided success; Diamond and Hart are capital burlesque artists; the Sisters Lesmere, duettists and dancers, are very attractive; and Mr. George Keith and Miss Mabel Lewis deserve mention as vocalists. The Bioscope shows the very latest in pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The leading films this week are Company D to the Rescue, The Master of the Quarries, A Modern Prodigal, and The Adventuress. The illustrated songs "Love Beams" and "Planning" are well sung by Mr. F. Nettleton.

COUNTY ELECTRIC.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Hako's Sacrifice, Carmen, Across the Gorges, and Uncle Tom's Cabin are full of interest, and The Man Who Beat Johnson is funny.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. F. Bentley.—The chief pictures this week are The Heart of an Outlaw and The Farmer's Daughter.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company with *Captain Jack* is attracting large audiences here. As Mary Miss Nina Blake-Adams presents an excellent portrayal of the character, and Miss Betty Manners gives a creditable account of herself as Winnie Trent. Mr. Ernest Owtrim is responsible for a fine impersonation of Captain John Wetherley; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh makes a marked impression as Anthony Cliversedge; Mr. F. Cyril Leighton acts with distinction as Barney Trent; Mr. Fowler Thatcher makes the most of Ned Dedrull; and the comedy parts are in the hands of Miss Ada Arnott (Giace), Mr. Harry Leamer (Billy Bowster), and Mr. Owen Edwin (Joseph Gympey).

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The Four Lubins, Russian singers and dancers, are the principal attraction here. Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, give an interesting turn; Jack Henri pleases immensely with his Scotch songs; Duranceee and Azeela are clever chair pyramidists and staircase equilibrists; and La Gautias (in a vocal and instrumental interlude), May Bright (vocalist), Bert Lytton (the favourite swell comedian), and the Pictures are also in the programme.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Mr. George E. Gilmour's company in the Irish musical comedy, *My Irish Molly*, has been the cause of much enjoyment. Denis in the hands of Mr. S. John Medley is a pleasing performance; Mr. Harry Starr as Billy, the Showman, is very amusing; and Miss May Warden is entirely successful in the title-rôle. The other characters are well filled, and good songs and dances are supplied.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—The attraction here is Mr. William Mollison's excellent company in *The Chorus Lady*. Mr. John Sims Woolley is very good as Dan Mallory; Mr. Henry Ludlow is equally so as Dick Crawford; and Mr. Thomas Howes is successful as Patrick O'Brien; Mr. Eric Dane does well as Rogers, and Mr. R. F. Marshall deserves compliment as the Shrimp; Miss Rita Carlyle deserves every praise as Patricia O'Brien, and receives hearty applause; Miss Elsie Vron Neville is equally well appreciated as Nora O'Brien; Miss Mabel Durrant is excellent as Sylvia Simpson; Miss Josephine Woodward acts well as Mrs. O'Brien; Miss Agnes d'Aragon is good as Georgie Adams; and Miss Jeannie Fitzgeorge ably accounts for the part of Blanche.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Henry Bedford and company, in their sketch, *The Bottom Dog*, create quite a sensation, Mr. Bedford making an excellent impression; while the other characters are filled by Messrs. Robert Purdie (Rev. Carruthers), W. E. Wenham (Sergeant Stubbs), and Jack Williams (policeman). Chinko displays extraordinary skill as a juggler; Miss Minnie Kauffman is a very clever and neat trick cyclist; the Milstead-Bell Trio create much laughter in their farcical comedietta *Three Sharps in a Flat*; the Toreadors are very funny in their comedy bullfight; Ernie Myers, comedian, is a great favourite; Mabel Sinclair and her little coster boy give an amusing as well as smart performance; and Lily Lonsdale is a pleasing vocalist. The Hippo-Bio pictures are interesting.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Proprietors, The Electric Theatre (1908), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. Hallisey.—The pictures are attractive. Very good business is done. The tea-rooms recently opened are proving a great success.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Dollar Princess* is here. Miss Nora Barry sings and acts with charm as Alice; Miss Mabel Russell is a dainty Daisy; and Olga is presented in charming fashion by Miss Madeline Seymour; Mr. Leslie Styles impersonates the good-natured Conder with a fine perception of humour; Mr. W. H. Rawlins again demonstrates his gifts as a comedian in the rôle of Bulger; Mr. Leonard Mackay's fine voice is heard to advantage in the music of Fairfax. Mr. Paul Plunkett (John), Mr. Howard Cridland (Dick), Mr. Martin Rosse (Lieutenant Grant), Miss Roma June (Sadie), Miss Berenice Maxwell (Lady Margaret), and Miss Winifred Vyvyan (Lady Gwendoline) are all good in their respective parts.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—The company of Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson is giving good representations of *Who Is She?* Mr. S. Herbert Humber has a congenial rôle in King Vladimir, which he plays with power and distinction; Mr. Walter T. Clifford invests the villainy of Prince Bora with easy nonchalance; Mr. Stanley W. Healey is a commendable Captain Gower; Sergeant Metroff is well delineated by Mr. Alfred Grenville; the impersonation of the title-rôle by Miss Ada Champion is pervaded by dramatic intensity; Miss Elsie Clarke makes a charming little King; and able assistance is also rendered by the Misses Helen Richmond, Constance Medwyn, and Alice Barber.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The ventriloquial act of Lester is an amazing piece of cleverness; another exceedingly dexterous turn is the juggling of Severus Schaffer; the coon songs of Anna Chandler are pleasantly rendered; the Goltz Trio submit a skilful wire-walking performance; Charles Fisher's Vocalesques give an amusing skit on grand opera; Sammy Shield's comicalities are brimful of fun; as vivacious as ever, Peggy Pryde keeps her audience in the brightest of humour; James Curwell's pianoforte solos are well rendered; and the Soho Trio are excellent dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. W. Austin.—*La Poupée*, judiciously condensed, is being brightly and effectively played by Miss Stella Gastelle, Mr. Leon Simkin, Mr. Warwick Wellington, and Miss Rose Lytton; smart comedy and patter by the Waldrons draw appreciative applause; Taree makes an excellent entertainer on the mouth organ; Rastus and Banks supply an expert dancing turn; the Athols are also clever dancers; the Denaro Brothers prove skilful head and hand balancers; and enjoyable items are also given by Arthur Aldridge (vocalist), Martin Conway, and Marguerite Broadfoote.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—Messrs. Glenister and Ingram presented *The House of Temperley* here on Monday. Mr. Lionel Glenister, in the character of Captain Jack Temperley, did very creditably; Mr. Howard Rose as Sir Charles was excellent; and Mr. Fellows Bassett as Sir John Hawker acted cleverly; Miss Sheila O'More as Ethel Morley was charming; and Miss Adria Hill as Lady Temperley made a dignified society lady; Miss Nora Watson as Mrs. Barnet, Miss Grace Massey as Mary were excellent; Miss Madge Devereux as Lucy, with Mr. Charles Cleveland as Ginger Stubbs caused much amusement; Jakes was well played by Mr. John Ditliv; and Mr. E. E. Clive capitally filled the part of Tom Belcher.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*A Broken Heart* is being played here by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Miss Dorothy Haigh acted delightfully as Mary Barnard; and Mr. John S. Millward as John was very forcible; Mr. Denis Hogan as Stephen Raylton and Mr. Vernon Travers as Gash Gill were good; Miss Mamie Thorpe acted in a charming manner as Grace Fanshaw; Miss Ethel Grey was excellent as Mrs. Kellett; and Miss Dorothy Frances was smart as Little May; whilst Miss Nellie Benson made a motherly Mrs. Barnard; Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally Travner and Mr. Newton Pearce as Tony Tibbits created merriment; the Rev. Mr. Staunton was well played by Mr. Eric Vayne; and Mr. George Addison was good as the Shrimp.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Stuart Lomath and company opened here on Monday in *Whom God Hath Joined*. Mr. Lomath portrays the part of Captain Jack Merritt in a manly style; and Miss Mary Ainslie as his wife Marian acts charmingly; Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive as Major Stevens plays cleverly, and is ably supported by Mr. Oswald Douglas as Digby Trant and Mr. Frank Orchard as Richard Manley; Miss Amber Wyville creditably fills the rôle of Beatrice Trant; Miss Olive Lindsay as Teddy and Miss Madge Ashdown as Frankie are good; and Miss Daisy Stone as Kitty Crumpett introduces some good comedy, with Mr. Victor H. Crawford as Watty Cooper.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—Nellie's Farm is a splendid film of the pathetic order, and The Dumb Half-breed's Defence is cleverly acted; His Chum is another good picture; The Warwick Chronicle and Rambles Round Ceylon are interest-

PRICE & REYNOLDS'
PANTOMIME SONGS.

FOLLOW THE TRAM LINES.
I'VE GOT THE TIME—I'VE GOT THE PLACE.
Miss HETTY KING.

I WISH I'D A GIRL LIKE MOLLY.
Miss DAISY DORMER.

PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.
FRED POPLAR.

FATHER STARTED OUT TO WORK.
Miss MAIDIE SCOTT.

SHE SIFTED THISTLES. IN 1999.
CHARLEY HARVEY.

D'YE KEN MR. KENNEDY?
GOOD MORNING, MR. SUNSHINE.
YET! IF I SAID FORGIVE!

PRICE & REYNOLDS, 41, Berners Street, London, W.
Telephone, 2691 Gerrard.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO.'s
PANTOMIME HITS
JOE ARCHER'S

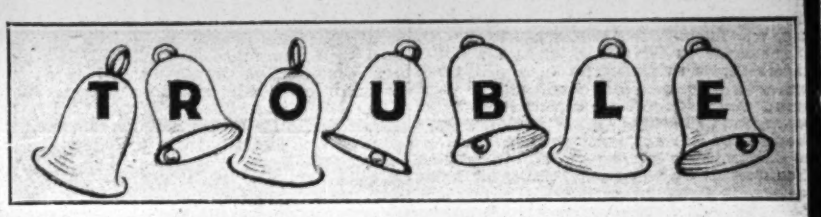

Those Wedding Bells are Ringing
Is the Best Comedy Song of the season. It will certainly be the rage of every town in the Country.
A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each,

Queen of the Land of Pearl and Gold
By J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban (co-authors of Queen of Old Samara and Won't You Go to Go-go?), is a charming and fascinating song for Pantomime purposes.
A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

APPLY TO
CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, SHAFTESBURY AV.

VON TILZER MUSIC CO's
WINNERS for PANTOMIME.

PICK ME A NICE ONE.
The PRINCIPAL BOY SONG.

QUEEN OF THE CANNIBAL ISLES.
MISS GERTIE GITANA'S GREAT SUCCESS.

IF YOU SEE HARRY.
MISS ELLA SHIELDS' CHORUS HIT.

SOMELAND.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.

SWEET KATHLEEN
(IN YOUR DRESS OF EM'RALD GREEN)

I NEVER NEVER NEVER SAW SUCH A THING BEFORE.
(SOMETHING NEW IN QUAINT SONGS FOR COMEDIAN.)

The VON TILZER MUSIC CO., Ltd.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON. Telephone—3522 Gerrard.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

THE SENSATION OF THE YEAR!

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED

A PANTOMIME WITHOUT THIS SONG WILL BE LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A RUDDER.

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED.

EQUALLY SUITS BOY, GIRL, FAIRY QUEEN, AND DUETTISTS.

BAND PARTS in Medium and High Keys, 1s. per set. CHORUS SLIDES, 1s. each.
"YOUR EYES" WALTZ, Full Orchestra, 1s.; Septet, 8d.; Piano, 6d. (i.e., half price).

NIGHTINGALE & CO., 20, NASSAU ST., MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. Telephone 3535 Mayfair.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

ing; Medal Competition, Looking for Lodgings, and Tweedledum's Itching Powder are the comics. Mr. Leach contributes "Won't you tell me, daddy?" with good results.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Burt.—The Flag of H Company is a capital picture, another good dramatic one being The Girl of Bar X Ranch, How McWinter Went to the Races being also good. Some amusing films are shown, among others being Kill that Fly and Davy Jones's Landlady. Pathé's Journal is excellent.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. William Hughes. Triple X. Ranch is a capital drama of the Far West, and The Price of a Sacrifice is capital. Some very laughable pictures are also screened. The vocalist for the week is Mr. W. Ashworth.

Brown's Assembly.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown. —The Girl of Triple X. is a good picture of ranch life; Storms of Life is a capital dramatic film. The funny films include Widow's Wooers, and Embroidery is a smart trick film.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company are paying us their annual visit, and absolutely packed houses and continuous laughter and applause testify to the increasing popularity of the operas. On the first day of booking every seat was taken in the theatre for all the seven performances, so that the genial and popular manager of the company (Mr. Henry Bellamy) has good reason for his customary cheerfulness. In *The Gondoliers* Mr. Lytton and Mr. Billington were welcomed with a cordiality there was no mistaking, and their acting of the parts of the Duke and the Grand Inquisitor went as well as ever. Messrs. Henry Herbert and Leicester Tunks did full justice to the parts of the Gondoliers; Miss Beatrice Boarer charmed all with her delightful rendering of Tessa; Miss Ethel Morrison was admirably suited as the Duchess; and the other ladies' parts were cleverly sustained by Miss Marjorie Stone and Miss Myfanwy Newell, whose singing was delightful. The chorus was, as always, first class, and the orchestra, under Mr. Walter Hann's direction, did full justice to the music. During the week *Patience, Iolanthe, Yeomen of the Guard, H.M.S. Pinafore,* and *The Mikado* are billed for performance.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Karl Edwards.—Mr. Walter Steele's company is appearing here and attracting good houses with *A Fast Life*. Mr. Walter Steele sustains the rôle of the hero, John Dixon, very forcibly; and is ably assisted by Mr. J. Sommerville as Sir Oliver Franklin and Mr. Cuthbert Taylor as Harris Goldberg. Mr. Ed. Kingsley is very good and sings well as Lord Craven; whilst Mr. Willie Barratt supplies the necessary fun as Tommy Burke. Miss Lilian Burns makes an effective and graceful Lady Franklin; Miss Clarice Jenner is merry as Juliana; and Miss Lillian Ross gives a very capable rendering of Mrs. Dixon.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*The Queen of the Fair* is presented this week by a well-selected company under Mr. Basil Horsfall. Senora Mercedes Dalmada gives a graceful and charming impersonation of Elsa; Miss Janet Reeve makes a dainty and bright Ermyntrude Higgins; Miss Maude Fergusson gives an excellent enactment of Jemima Jellicoe; Miss Aubrey Esmonde's Freda and Miss Carlotta Silvano's Rosalie are capital impersonations; and Miss Rosa Maie wins applause for her gracefully executed *pas seuls*; Mr. George Carroll as the Burgomaster submits a capital character study; Mr. Arthur Reynolds enhances his reputation by an entertaining and quaint portraiture of 'Enery; Mr. Albert Chapman as Karl acts with alertness and spirit, his songs being effectively rendered; the Pierre of Mr. Claude Casey is capitally sustained; and Mr. James Wood as Herr Funf is funny and humorous. The choruses are all ably rendered, and the opera is admirably staged and handsomely dressed.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Miss Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, in a novel kindergarten, head the bill this week; the Five Musical Tritons, vocalists and instrumentalists, give a highly finished entertainment; Mart and Pep, in hand-balancing and tumbling acts, contribute a wonderful exhibition; and the others in the programme include the McGregors, comedy entertainers; Marie Reeve, comedienne and dancer; Tom Moore, comedian; Lorno Lomond, contralto vocalist; Stewart and Morgan, vocalists. The Bioscope concludes with interesting pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Barger; Business-Manager, Mr. Norman Barger.—An old favourite, in the person of Mr. Wm. Dobell, is here, presenting his La Comédie Anglaise Company. On Wednesday, the opening night, a crowded audience was attracted, when *A Child Shall Lead Them* was presented.

PENTRE. — Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's principal company is here in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Exquisitely staged and acted, the powerful drama attracts crowded houses.

Workmen's Hall.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—A strong picture programme is supplemented by the Three Van Earles, in song and dance, and the Herald Comedy Four, in *The Indians and the Sailor*.

PENZANCE.—St. John's Hall.—Messrs. A. J. Rogers and Son presented on Monday evening Miss Inez Howard's company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell) in *The Old Home*. Daddy Dean was capitally represented by Mr. Sidney Rennef; while the part of his erring daughter Hazel was played with emotional ability by Miss Gertrude Bonser. Mr George Steel gave a powerful portrayal of the villainous Lord Avondale; Mr. John Blake made a clever exponent of the character of the Rev. Eric Armstrong; Mr. Bertram Noel provided amusing comedy as Sam Adams, and had an excellent helpmate in Miss Coralie De Waner, who played the part of Polly Popp. Miss Harriette Loydall gave an excellent impersonation of Bridget, and as Timothy Twaddle and Dr. Warburton Mr. Ed. Johnson and Mr. Wilfred Martin were well placed.

PERTH.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge. A first-class variety programme is headed by Rabottini and his band. Alpho is a smart ventriloquist; Ben Jackson is an expert banjoist; Fame and Fortune are clever tumblers and boxers; Wal Croft sings Scotch humorous songs; Ward and Davis give a merry musical comedy act; and Leon and Tee provide a grotesque musical turn entitled *On the Farm*.

PETERBOROUGH. — Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Mr. W. W. Evans and company, in *Paradise Alley*, is a prominent feature here this week; Violet Romaine sings in a pleasing style; as a comedian Sam Fay is decidedly good; an interesting turn is that of Billy Tucker, champion ball-puncher; Ernie Westo, dancing comedian, contributes a clever turn; Green and Willa have an amusing tumbling act; and Gilbert Girard, animal mimic, is well received. The Karnoscope concludes.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The ever-popular *Arcadians* is again in the West, and proves every whit as attractive as on the initial visit. Mr. Gus Oxley continues to impersonate James Smith and Simplicitas, and infuses a kind of infectious humour into the part that is quite irresistible. Mr. Geo. Hestor is by far the best Peter Doody that has visited Plymouth, his melancholy reminiscences never failing to elicit roars of laughter, whilst the "Merry and bright" song was encored time after time. Mr. Freddie Bentley introduces some smart dancing into the part of Bobby, and Mr. H. Nelson Hancock is responsible for some cultured songs as Jack Meadows. Miss Maggie Jarvis impersonates Sombra, and does full justice to her many opportunities, whilst her magnificent singing, particularly "The Pipes of Pan," is a feature of the performance; and Miss Beryl Craigie is a fascinating Chrysea. Particular mention must be made of the splendid mounting and powerful and well-balanced chorus.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Vera d'Astra in *The Shepherd's Dream* provides some wonderfully effective poses; Minola Hurst and her two diminutive comedians provide a good number; the Hesseys entertain with some charmingly-rendered musical selections; Ian Colquhoun does full justice to a couple of well-known songs; Josh Dixon has a warm welcome; Niagara and Falls execute some good acrobatic business; Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists and dancers, work hard and please; Mlle. Wanda Baranoff and M. Olave Friteroff introduce some pretty costume dances; and the Bros. Herbert have some amusing eccentric business.

PONTEFRACT. — Alexandra Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee, Mr. Geo. Tankard.—Madame Lucerna's burlesque animals give a novel act; Mr. Charles Wakeman's Five Singing Gipsies have a charming pot-pourri of vocal numbers; Palette and Otto bring down the house with their entertainment as comedy umsicians, jugglers, and lightning painters; Pattie Burton is a sweet soprano; Allan Hanbury is a clever comedian; and Caselli a phenomenal banjoist. Other turns are Nellie Duval, comedienne, Max, the educated dog, and the Alexscope.

Assembly Rooms.—Mr. George Munro and company, including Miss Horrocks, appeared here on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week, playing *The Sleigh Bells* and *David Garrick*. This talented company gave every satisfaction, and closed their visit to a big house.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*The New Frivolity* is being played here with success by Mr. Charles Goff and company. Mr. Harry Douglas is good as Oliver Buckwheat; Mr. Goff is a capital Professor Fumble; Mr. Fred Leopold, jun., is excellent as Daniel Teething; Mr. Tom Leopold is a capable Jules Vermiglio; Mr. Willie Leopold is a creditable Samuel Vermiglio; and Mr. R. Valls is commendable as Tickle, Mr. W. H. Howard making an effective Mick. Miss Kathleen Kavanagh is a praiseworthy Madame Cobweb, as is Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat; Miss Rosie Clair is a pleasing Winnie; Miss Winnie Leopold is an able exponent of Maud; and Miss Queenie Bronte (Mannette), Miss Maudie Weston (Elsie), and Miss Aida Hurley (Cissy) are also adequate. The dancing and acrobatic tricks are clever.

PORTH.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *Her Secret Lover* is the attraction here. Mr. Ed. Fletcher as Gilbert Seymour makes an impression by his excellent acting; and Mr. Walt. Wilson as Captain Darrell Rose is a most accomplished actor. John Strange is in the hands of Mr. Alf. Stretton; Mr. Frank Wheatley as Mr. Murfield is very good. Miss Laura Walker as Ivy Seymour wins the admiration of all, and Miss Flora Leslie as the designing Alicia Royale is quite capable. Comedy is well furnished by Miss Lyn Darlington and Mr. Fred Russell (Billy Burley).

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company are here with *Tantalising Tommy*. Jimmy, the Colonial Office clerk, is humorously portrayed by Mr. Hastings Lynn; his artist friend Harry Killick has a clever exponent in Mr. Ambrose Flower; Tommy's docile father, Thomas Pepper, is capitally handled by Mr. Royd Byford; Mr. Ernest H. Holloway ably realises Mr. Eustace Tathem; and the chauffeur Jennings is amusingly impersonated by Mr. Olaf Hutton. Miss Nellie Lonnen's conception of Tommy rivets attention throughout; low comedy is well sustained by Miss Eva Brickwell as the servant Bertha; and Miss Margaret Stuart suitably plays the Methodistic Elsie Tathem.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*His Real Wife*, produced by Mr. T. E. Ward's company, is here this week. Rose Avondale is admirably taken by Miss Ward; the old blind father Martin Avondale finds a capital counterpart in Mr. Albert Sember; Mr. Clifford Rean gives a realistic portrayal of Herbert Barton; Colombe is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Yorke; Miss Kate Walfred makes an impressive Lady Sybil Welton, whilst some excellent humour is provided by Messrs. Harwood Roberts and T. E. Ward in the form of Alf Snickers and Simon Slotherby, cleverly aided by Miss Carrie Yandell as Bettie Tuttlebee.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A tabloid version of *East Lynne* is the attraction this week. Walter Aubrey is a comedian who amuses, the Four Melbas are clever vocalists, Tiny Arnold creates mirth in original style, W. Fullbrook and company produce a comical sketch, *Astronomy*, and other turns that please include Lester and Lenton (entertainers), the Albano Girls (soubrettes), and Leo Trainor.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—A musical treat is provided by W. W. Audrey's renowned Russian Balalaika Court orchestra, M. Trojanousky, with pianoforte accompaniment, being the soloist; Foreman and Fannan were responsible for much hilarity; Francini Olloms, assisted by a page, not only showed skill as a juggler and acrobat, but entertained with his concertina playing; Archie Glen, as a scout with some clever patter and dancing, was a success; Griff, the sarcastic juggler, and his figure scored, as usual; the Two Vestas, Maudie Ford, and Harry Luck are good turns; and an amusing picture, Foolshead in the Lions' Cage, concluded.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—George Bastow tops the bill this week with his popular "yokel" songs; charming Topsy Sinden soon dances herself into favour; Mary Law's manipulation of the violin delighted all; Hinton and Wootton, cyclist-footballers, riveted attention; the Two Brilliants (xylophonists), the Kepples (operatic vocalists), Len Tell ("The Suffering Dame"), Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning (in comedy duologue *Our Wedding Anniversary*), Damerell and Rutland, the Schmellans, and the clever child mimic, Wilson Hallett, were the recipients of frequent applause.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Exors. of the late Mr. W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his Shakespearean répertoire company are paying a return visit. *Hamlet* was played on Monday to a most appreciative audience. In the title-rôle Mr. Allan Wilkie gave a most artistic performance; Miss Hunter Watts was a most successful Ophelia; Mr. Houston Meharry as Polonius imbued the part with the necessary touch of humour; Mr. Philip Gordon was excellent as the First Gravedigger; Miss Mary Lovett gave a stately rendition of the Queen; and Messrs. Edward Dunstan as Horatio and Henry Hargreaves as Laertes proved themselves finished actors, and displayed much skill. Mr. Sinclair Neill was decidedly good as the King; Mr. Herbert Mansfield was heard to advantage as the Ghost; and Mr. John Paley was excellent as the First Player.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Fred Karno's company in *The Wow-Wows* and an up-to-date version of *Mumming Birds* are attracting good houses. The Bros. Obo are clever; Susie and Protte in their original Continental dancing creation prove themselves most graceful and artistic; Rosie Lee is decidedly original; Adela Masson in her triple-song scena—operatic, amusing, and dramatic—is the possessor of an excellent voice; and Wolffe Laud is a comedian with a good voice.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company in *A Life's Revenge* is an exceedingly popular booking; Mr. Edward E. Lewis gives a most meritorious presentation of Paul Starovitch; Miss Millie Ford appeals strongly in the part of Princess Vanda; Mr. Lancelot Usher is an acceptable Maurice Trevor; Mr. Arthur Dudley as Clarence Chesterfield is thoroughly suited; and Miss Nellie Hook is vivacious as the wife. Mr. Percy Brown is a thorough stage villain as Prince Boris, and he is ably supported by the crafty Michael Orloff, most ably portrayed by Mr. Ulick Burke. Miss Amy Ellam as the Red Angel, Mercia Vittoria, is excellent; and Mr. Richard Walsh as Nicholas and Mr. Chas. Elborne as Colonel Tumbleoff cause much merriment.

RADCLIFFE (near **Manchester**).—Grand Opera House. — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—The Sarnthalu Troupe of dancers and singers give a very acceptable turn; Mr. Geo. Shurley is a lively comedian and dancer; Mr. Bert Anderson bewilders the audience with his conjuring; the Starley Brothers give a unique turn on a motor cycle; Mr. Tom Garland is a good ventriloquist and mimic; while Friscary conjures cleverly with the top hats; the Blue Bells are excellent singers, and Otto Cuisino is the possessor of a good bass voice; The Milton Ray's duologue entitled *The Puzzled Coroner*, by Mr. Arthur Milton and Mr. Edwin Millins, proves very entertaining.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Palace Theatre.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. William Howard's company is here in *Under the Iron Heel*, which is well staged and admirably acted. Mr. Walter Howard plays with fine effect the part of the manly and chivalrous French officer. There is a strong love interest in the play, and Miss Carlotta Anson is extremely good in the emotional scenes. Mr. Howard is supported by an excellent company.

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hamilton Jackson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—*The Ideal of Paris* is here, played by Mr. James Bell's company. Miss Annie Bell as Flare Flare gave a powerful portrayal, her acting being exceptionally clever and realistic; Miss Lottie Ray did well as Ann; and as Madame Santerre Miss Frances Bruce gave an admirable representation; Mr. Chris A. Olgar was distinctly good as Victor Cashelle, his impersonation being marked with strong and refined feeling; Mr. Bernard Copping was clever as Phillippe d'Esterene; and Mr. Arthur McCullock made a capital Prince Sergius; Mr. H. Vivian Thomas scored a success as Tatave Cashelle; and the remainder of the cast were all thoroughly capable.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans. —*The Merry Territorials*, an amusing musical farce, is being played here successfully this week by Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company. Mr. Edward de Vere distinguishes himself as Augustus Gaybird; Mr. Sydney Claydon portrays Bertie Brown capitally; Mr. Haydyn Scott is a good Captain Carlton; Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Major Mustard and Mr. Victor T. Raymond as Corporal Jones are highly amusing; Miss Evelyn Robson as Mrs. Gaybird, Miss Irene Atchinson as Bella Brown, Miss Lily Beverley as Polly, and Miss Ethel Royale as Angelina Vernon all sustain their parts well.

The Palace. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Kedge.—This week's attractions include Max Waldon, a clever female impersonator; the Fitzroys, smart society gymnasts; May Fayre, a fascinating vocal soubrette; Tatten Hall, comedian; Maurice H. Hoffman and company, in a capital sketch *Ship Ahoy*; W. P. Sheen, who appears in a hobble skirt as the Merry Widow Wimple, and creates much amusement; Carl Lynn, a clever animal mimic; the Four Maisonos, French musical clowns, who give a clever and novel turn, in which they produce music from a variety of unlikely articles, and finish up with a musical boxing bout; and the Palace Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—Royal.—Manager, Mr. S. Burton. —Mr. J. A. Campbell's company present *From Convent to Throne* here this week. Miss Valerie Crespin is a great favourite as the Queen, while Mr. Aidan Lovett is very successful as Lieut. Ernest von Hapsburg. Others who perform with considerable ability are Mr. A. F. Stuart, who makes a clever villain, Mr. W. J. Miller as the Prime Minister, Mr. Courtney Robinson as General von Hapsburg, Miss Gwen Verschoyle, and Miss Maudie Grayson.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. James Jackson.—The premier turn this week is Jack Pleasants, "the shy comedian"; Mme. Santoi's scena *A Night in Japan* is very pretty; Conn and Conrad are good in a novel comedy acrobatic turn; Rose Elliot, with chorus songs, is popular, while Persichini is a skilful mandolinist; Kendrick and Laura appear in a comedy scene; and pictures are also shown. Jessie Merrilees ("La Cigale") was announced to appear, but was unfortunately indisposed, and Miss Gracie Stansfield, a pleasing young local artist, deputised with success.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Pringle.—Some good pictures are shown this week, chief being The Modern Prodigal, An Arab's Gratitude, and The Broken Symphony. Sibb and Sibb (double trapeze artists), Tom Dean (comedian), and Maud Hughes (soprano) also appear.

Public Hall.—Andrew's Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. L. Dixon.—An attractive programme is submitted, and Mr. Dixon sings a good illustrated song.

ROTHERHAM.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—The well-known acrobats Wild, Willie, and West meet with a cordial reception. Their act is clever and original. The Columbia Trio are above the average as comedy vocalists; Leo Tell, who is termed "the human horse," is as entertaining as ever; the Hargreaves Trio present a pleasing musical act; the Keebles are smart duettists and dancers; Hendy and Tyler, as trick cyclists, are well to the fore; and the other contributors to an excellent entertainment are Mlle. Marjutti, the lissom lady, and Miss Lillie Lassah.

Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Picture entertainments hold the sway here. The Sisters Draycott are pleasing duettists.

RUNCORN.—Public Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—A good programme is submitted this week, including the Brothers St. Clair (clever trick cyclists), Guniosa (with a perfect potpourri entertainment), the Uniques (with an entertaining drawing-room act), the Miltons (a trio of expert dancers), and a capital set of pictures.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is here with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Chas. Ashwell plays the Rev. Robert Everton forcibly; Mr. Chas. Sparrow as Jack England and also as Private Johnson does good work; villainy is well presented by Miss Letitia Rushworth as Marian Franklyn; and Mr. Herbert Morgan as Captain Caversham, Mr. Allan Carruthers (Dick Punch), and Miss Millie Whyatt (Lucy Vere) work hard and comically; as Molly Vernon Miss Lorraine Stevens gets much sympathy, and charms the audience; Miss Dorothy Thayer is a charming Rose Seymour; Mr. Walter Kellson (James Sutton) and Mr. Digby Hayes (Detective Weathersby) give good support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—T. E. Dunville heads an excellent bill here with *The Railway Stationmaster;* smart work is done by the Three Stewarts, equilibrist wonders; the Great Maurice does some very clever card tricks; Mlle. de Rose, the lady Foli, and Hilda Claremont, soprano, get much applause; Fla Burnett sings well. Other turns include those of J. H. Hawtrey, character vocalist; Drum and Major, in vaudeville act; and Alice Craven, Lancashire dialect comedienne.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Mike S. Whallen pours out his witticisms for upwards of half an hour here; Ada Fawn, burlesque actress, is much applauded for her clever singing, &c.; John Tiller's Eight Cocktails are clever acrobatic dancers; good dancing is also done by Frances McNulty; Three Warringtons, acrobats; the Two Ludoes (May and Eddie), tumblers and contortionists; and Three Comedy Chanters, in humorous and harmonious interludes, also appear.

Opera House and Assembly Rooms, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent new animated pictures this week include Grandfather's Gift, A Well-matched Marriage, A Comrade's Self-sacrifice; The White Nigger, The Soldier's Honour, Father Buys a Chimney Pot, &c., &c. Mr. Tom Sherlock's illustrated song goes well.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen. —Miss Maggie Morton's company has fulfilled a two nights' engagement in *Havana*, under the direction of Mr. Charles Road-Night. Miss Jocephine Sullivan was excellent and looked very smart as Consuelo; Miss Ada Davidson made a capital Anita, and her dancing was very popular; Miss Beatrice Annersley acquitted herself well as Ira belita; Mr. Arthur Lenville as Reginald Brown worked very hard; Mr. William Pringle as Nix was very comic; Mr. John H. Latham was well chosen as Don Adolpho; and Mr. John Talford was good in the character of Bombita. Mr. Cecil Parke in the rôle of Frank Charteris looked very smart, and handled his part well; and Mr. Chas. Boulting was quite at home as Jackson Villiers. The scenery and dresses were pretty, and the music was under the direction of Mr. E. Midgeley.

People's Theatre — Proprietor, Mr. J. Orton Hayes.—Crowded houses are seen at every performance. The plays for this week are *Uncle Tom's Cabin, Ticket-of-Leave Man, Home, Sweet Home, My Sweetheart, The Octoroon,* and *The Nondescripts*.

SCARBOROUGH.—The New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Martin.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and Co. opened here on Monday night with *Hamlet*, in which Mr. Marsh gave a clever interpretation of the title-rôle and Miss Carrie Baillie was excellent as Ophelia. The other parts were in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Digges as Laertes; Mr. Arthur Keane, Horatio; Miss May Grimshaw, the Queen; Mr. Wilson Gunning, King Claudius; Mr. Edwin Beverley, the Ghost. The plays for the rest of the week were *Romeo and Juliet, The Merchant of Venice, Othello, The Taming of the Shrew, Davy Garrick,* and *The Corsican Brothers*.

The Spa.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. H. Chambers.—The Comets, under the direction of Mr. Douglas Vaughan, are appearing here for the first time, and on Monday received a cordial reception. The programmes submitted by Mr. C. H. Allan's orchestra are much appreciated.

The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench. —Ara, Zebra, and Vora top the bill here and give a clever acrobatic turn; Three Sisters Kilner are pleasing vocalists and dancers; H. C. Lovell and Co. are distinctly successful in an amusing sketch entitled *The Queen of Sheba;* Ventom Swift is a good comedian and dancer; Rolando Martin is responsible for considerable amusement; The Hulls provide a turn which is greatly appreciated; and Bob Fox, Scotch comedian, is well received.

SEACOMBE.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Fred Granville's company is here with *Another Man's Wife*. Carlos de Veryas is well played by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe; the adventurer, Paul Bernstoff, finds an energetic exponent in Mr. Albert Sinclair; Mr. Henry Carlisle does well as Gilbert Eardsley; Mr. Fred Forde is effective as Count Pelikoff; Mr. Edwin Davies gives a characteristic reading of Colonel Matterson, Maisie being nicely played by Miss Ruth Dockray. The humour is capitally looked after by Mr. Sammy Foster as Sam Smiles; good comedy work is also presented by Mr. Leonard Marshall as Andy Bremmer and Miss Marian Mayne as Tibby. Inez de Castro, the adventuress, is powerfully portrayed by Miss Hazel Head; and Miss Ruby Loncraine is successful as Lucia.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—*The Lighthouse Robbery* is being presented here by Mrs. E. H. Knight's company. As Tom Manley Mr. H. Gordon Ingram gives a convincing portrayal; Mr. Percy Beresford depicts the villainy of James Hammond with fine dramatic skill; William Farren finds a capable exponent in Mr. F. H. Fortesque; Mr. J. T. Lawson is an excellent David Morris; Sam Kidder is humorously drawn by Mr. Rupert Talbot; Mr. Arthur Rundall as the Rev. Geo. Medhurst is efficient; Rosa Prescott is admirably presented by Miss Hilda Baynton; Baby Freda is very popular as Little Nellie; Miss Louise Carlton is a pleasing Ruth Manley; and as Mrs. Manley Miss Alice Dent is entirely successful.

SHEERNESS.—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Willerby. —*A Thief in the Night* is being presented here by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Alan Enscombe is ably acted by Mr. Alfred Goddard; Miss Beatrice Homer presents the rôle of Joan Enscombe successfully; Mr. Leyton Cancellor is forcible and convincing as Michael Pagani; Sonia Cleeve is capably undertaken by Miss Florence Dalton; Mr. Bert Atherton is a humorous Toby; and Miss Jennie Hallworth an exceedingly good Happy Christmas.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The third visit of Mr. George Edwardes's strong company, in the delightful musical comedy, *The Merry Widow*, has again resulted in big business.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—Mr. Junius Booth, Miss Alice West, and a good all-round combination began a return visit to Sheffield on Monday in the exciting American drama *'Way Out West*.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The local Drury Lane was packed on Monday, when Mr. Fred Melville's original drama, *Married to the Wrong Man*, was again received with thunders of applause. Miss Mary Pemberton was a fine representative of Ruth, the dumb girl; Mr. Harry Lonsdale was loudly applauded as Jack Gladwin; Mr. Leonard Thackray's Jasper Skinner was a good character-sketch; and other commendable impersonations were Miss May Day's Dolly Flitters, Miss Clara Santley's Mrs. Snaggs, Mr. Geo. Arthur's Captain Deering, Mr. W. Pemberton's Sergeant-Major Manners, Mr. A. E. Johnstone's Dr. Brandon, and Mr. Basil Lynn's Archie Bird.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The excellent bill of fare this week includes the graceful and accomplished Princess d'Arzaba, in a novel terpsichorean fantasia, assisted by the Russian opera dancer, M. Barthelemy; Lew Lake and his burlesque troupe, in the serio-comic sketch *King Nobbler;* Little Zola, the "multum-in-parvo" comedian; Mr. Will Johnson, comic singer; the Belles of the Kitchen; the Grassis, in a pleasing and original musical comedy act; Miss Daisy Martell, a pleasing artist; Mr. George Pearce, entertainer; the Bioscope, with up-to-date films; and Miss Esta Stella, the bright, clever, and vivacious vocalist, comedienne, and dancer.

The Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The Six Brothers Luck, in their laughable pantomimical extravaganza, *H.M.S. Perhaps*, head the bill this week, and other well-known performers appearing here are Jan Rudenyi and company, in a sketch *The Storm;* Miss Florence Esdaile, a graceful and favourite vocalist; Mr. Arthur Reece, the popular vocal comedian, in new impersonations and songs; Miss Maisie Ellenger and Miss Madge Grey, two clever artists in their different lines; Mr. J. J. Mannix; Mr. J. H. Ellis; the Harmony Boys, vocalists, &c.; and Miss Effie White, a talented entertainer. Artistic pictures conclude.

Grand Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Gladys Gaunt.—Favourite dramas, such as *Mary Stuart, Convict 99, British Born, Sweeney Todd*, varied with pictures and varieties, continue to please large audiences at the redecorated and improved Westbar playhouse.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Baugh.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots are talented and refined performers; Mr. Quiningborough is a smart and humorous monologue artist; Mr. D. Campbell a capital comedian; Mr. Bianco White, coon dancer, is agile and clever; Clifford Grey, comedian, vastly entertains; Victor Wallace is a fine baritone; and Miss Emily Tait, a sweet soprano, sings with taste and judgment. The Misses W. Fare and N. Chartell are skilful pianists.

SMETHWICK.—Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*A Woman and Two Men* is being presented for the first time at the Royal by Miss Geraldine Montrose and company. Miss Montrose undertakes the principal rôle of Madeline Morden with conspicuous success; Mr. Harold B. Lewis plays well as Jack Maxwell; Mr. Robert Faulkner ably impersonates the villainous Philip Collister; Mr. J. Andsell Wilson makes a capital Guy Maynard; Mr. Harry Harrop creates much amusement as Jim Briton; Miss Winifred Rutland is well placed as Sybil Maynard; Miss Anna Corri gives an effective representation of the unscrupulous Vivienne Verney; and Miss Phillis Spalding does well as the child, Elsie Warner.

Empire, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Leslie.—A good all-round programme is proving a great attraction. Charles Waterfield, actor-vocalist and piano soloist, is entertaining; Marie Liston, comedienne, is well received; Jack Igo and Vera Cooke are pleasing; Daisy Dashwood "catches on" with her chorus songs; Peakman and Walsh are clever and amusing comedy jugglers; Sam Johnson found favour as a speciality ventriloquist; Hand and Hart, comedy duo, find much favour. The pictures are of a high-class order.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Archibald Pareezer.—A triple bill is presented here this week by Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy, who is supported by an excellent company. *Mr. Barnes of New York* attracted a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday and Tuesday. Miss Henrietta Schrier won a well-deserved reception for her impersonation of Marina; Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy also gained recognition for his portrayal of the title-rôle; Mr. Andrew Money as Captain Gerald Anstruther, Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Count Danella, Mr. Rowland Ward as Tomasso, and Mr. Ernest Whitmee as Dark proved capable exponents; and the Misses Nora Vaughan, Nellie Statham, and Kitty Trevail gave pleasing characterisations. *Moths*, on Wednesday and Thursday, was well enjoyed; and *A Fool's Paradise* on Fri-

For restoring or altering colours of theatrical properties always use

MIDAS

BRONZINE colour POLISHES

Made in Gold, Silver, and all the favourite colours, but you can order any special colour, if you wish, without extra charge.

Guaranteed to keep true to Colour—waterproof—free from acid—"MIDAS" will not tarnish or crack.

"MIDAS" can be used for restoring or imparting new colours to almost anything—leather goods, picture frames, chairs and woodwork of all kinds, lincrusta, metal ornaments, &c., &c.

"MIDAS" can be obtained from most Ironmongers, Chemists, Boot Shops, and Stores, price

1/- PER TIN.

If you cannot obtain, send P.O. direct to Midas, Ltd., 73, Leadenhall St., London, E.C.

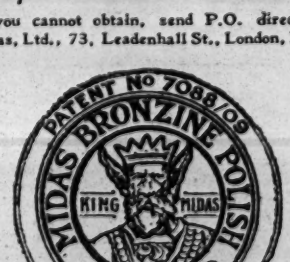

day was the occasion of a complimentary benefit to Miss Henrietta Schrier.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE—WINTER GARLENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson, who are appearing this week in a répertoire of Shakespearean plays, opened on Monday evening with a good all-round representation of *The Winter's Tale*. Mr. F. R. Benson submits an admirable and distinctly-successful interpretation of Leontes; Mrs. F. R. Benson is a most commendable and effective impersonator of Hermione; Miss Marjorie Patterson charmingly portrays the rôle of Perdita; the amorous Florizel is capitally depicted by Mr. Eric Maxon; Miss Violet Farebrother plays the part of Paulina very creditably; Mr. H. O. Nicholson adequately represents Autolycus; Mr. Murray Carrington is very good as Polixenes; and Mr. Hannam Clark is well placed as Antigonus. During the week *The Merchant of Venice, The Piper, Macbeth, Masks and Faces, Twelfth Night*, and *The Taming of the Shrew* are billed.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Messrs. Dauncey and Browning's company present *The Walls of Jericho* to good houses. Jack Frobisher is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards; Mr. Russell Barry makes an admirable Hankey Bannister; Mr. Hanworth Browning contributes a good delineation of Harry Dallas; Mr. Frank Stoney is well placed as the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Gwendoline Hay displays much histrionic talent as Lady Athlea Frobisher; Lady Lucy Derenham is ably interpreted by Miss Norah McDonnell; and Lady Western and Miss Tiny Mornington find good exponents in Miss Eileen Orby and Miss Florence Steventon. The piece is capitally mounted, and preceded by *Jerry and Sunbeam*.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief item is Ando's Happy Little Japs, who have an excellent reception. Charles Prelle's Bijou Circus is vastly entertaining, the dogs being very clever; Little Freddy Hackni is an artist; some clever shadowgraphy is displayed by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde; Ugo Nap submits a funny turn; Mike Nono, the Irish cowboy, is well liked; the Bollingers contribute good comedy rag-painting; and the Bioscope completes an excellent bill of fare.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist, meets with a good reception; another pleasing turn is Stewart and Carter, in a refined singing and dancing scena, *Early Closing Day*; and the rest of the programme is devoted to pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Harry Newman is presenting *What a Man Made Her*, which is well played and applauded by large houses. Mr. Phil Harper makes a good Doctor Mark Haven; Mr. W. J. Butler is successful as Rupert Wogan Danescombe; Mr. Charles K. Frances is a capital Sir Ernest Cavendish; Mr. Harry Ugar ably undertakes the part of Lewis Gunnerstein; Miss Renee Glendower wins appreciation for her fine acting of Janet McAllister; Miss Beatrice Shirley gives an excellent delineation of Lady Thora Danescombe; Miss Nora Kingsley acts well as Elfrida; and Miss Dorothy Dewhurst is a smart Deborah Gunnerstein.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; General-Manager, Mr. George Castrey.—This place of amusement commenced the one performance nightly before a crowded audience on Monday, when Mr. George Castrey, a popular light comedian, who has taken over the management, had a good send off. The programme included Tom and Neil, boxing and wrestling specialities; Little Eileen, comedienne and dancer; Trevor and Ware, vocalists and dancers; Miss May McPherson, soprano vocalist, with illustrated character songs; and Will Haines, vocal character comedian. Pictures were also supplied.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager and Operator, Mr. Leslie Talmage.—Heading the bill here is Karl Cynski, the Hungarian musician and one-man band, who scores heavily; Bob Ferry and Lily Fester are very good in their snap-shot speciality. The films are interesting.

TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vasey and Dodshon.—Heading the bill are Mrs. Thompson Woods' Eight Tiny Stars, who give an ideal entertainment. The pictures are highly appreciated.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Willard and company appear here this week in *Paying the Price*. Mr. Willard cleverly impersonates the characters of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman; the Capt. Dick Clinton of Mr. Jackson Wilmore shows careful study; Miss Margaret Meskie plays with force the difficult rôle of Nell Fortescue; Miss Lily Lloyd is a vivacious Doris Delemere; and Mr. Frank Hurst is capital as Hal and Jan Vortoone.

HIPPODROME.—Six Brothers Luck present their amusing sketch *Demon of the Cellar*, in which they are successful; Curtis Leo gives a marvellous display as a conjuror; some excellent fooling by Ridiculous Reeco is enjoyed; J. W. Gallagher, comedian, obtains much applause; the character sketches by Sydney Brandon are well done; and Jim Cheetham's whistling turn is also good.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren and company are here in *Claudian*. Mr. Wm. Maclaren in the title rôle gives a fine impersonation; Mr. Frank Owen Chambers acts effectively as the Tetrarch; Agazil is capitally portrayed by Mr. Douglas Earle; and Belos is amusingly presented by Mr. Chas. T. Chalmer, admirably supported by Miss Maud Garth as Edessa; Miss Lily C. Bandmann acts with grace and charm as Almida.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—*Home, Sweet Home* has been presented here this week by Mr. Frank Lindo's company. Mr. Norton Shields acts with power and feeling as Stephen Armitage; Lucas Lyle has a capable representative in Mr. Leonard Laurence; Mr. Sydney Dench plays with due dignity as the Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Tom E. Lewis makes a typical David Armitage; and as Dick Redmayne Mr. Eric Crowther is sympathetic; Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan impersonates the character with skill and ability.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will. A. Jackson.—Mr. and Mrs. Barry Lyndon's company is here in *Why Did She Run Away?* The principal parts are in the capable hands of Mr. John B. Shinton, Miss Ellie Macklin, and Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon. Able support is given by the remainder of the company.

QUEEN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Trevanion.—Another batch of excellent films is depicted. The vaudeville turns are by Ernie Travers, a clever eccentric trick cyclist; and Mint and Mart, in their wonderful exhibition of paper-tearing.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. J. Crawford Orr.—Messrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Pantomime Co. is here this week, playing in *Hop o' My Thumb*. George Harris played the part of Prince U-No in excellent style, while Miss Daisy Wood was equally good as Rupert; Mr. Harold Pyott, the smallest man on earth, appeared with success, as Tommy and Miss Kitty Rafferty, was appreciated in the role of Princess Meadowsweet; Mr. Vivian Wakeman caused amusement as the Dame, and Messrs. Tom Cowley and Alf E. Rick were also responsible for much good humour as Silver Sheen and Goldstein. There were some capital ballets, including *The Clans*, in which Miss Gladys Wyss excelled in song, dance, and piping.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Bernard Mervyn and company are engaged here to produce a series of playlets founded on the fictitious detective character of Nick Carter. Judging from this week's performances the arrangement will be a great success. Mr. Bernard Mervyn impersonates Nick Carter in capital style, and is backed up by an excellent company; Mr. Nigel P. Kean gives some enjoyable vocal items.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Archer Hamilton. The Breen Family of comedy jugglers are making a tremendous hit here this week with their clever and skillful work; the Three Comerfords give an enjoyable acrobatic act; Madame Dalmere's animals and birds give evidence of careful training.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Dunn.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is playing here this week in *The Old Folks at Home*. Miss Maud Warburton excels in the delineation of Dorothy Robin; Miss Adele Liddon makes a capital Martha; Mr. Frank Liston gives a fine performance as Andrew Ross, and clever work also comes from Messrs. Henry Sainsbury and Cecil Renton as Christopher Robin and Hugh Lovel- respectively; Miss Alice Greenwood (Patricia Bathurst) and Mr. Cecil Mannering both prove themselves capable exponents of villany, and the humour is entrusted to the capable hands of Miss Pollie Denville and Messrs. George Organ and Henry Strong.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Jock Whiteford is scoring a big success here this week with his popular songs and patter, his "Fitba' Match" being keenly enjoyed. Equally popular on their own lines are Dale and O'Malley, who are highly diverting; M. and Mme. Agoust prove to be jugglers of rare skill; the Satanello Trio give a clever dancing and tumbling turn; Harry Ford is as popular as ever; Walter Wade has an abundance of humour in his monologue, "Sandy McGregor"; Beautiful Lilian gives a daring cycling turn; and Little Keeno, comedian, and Ethel Beach, comedienne, are also good.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds is on a return visit with his new play, *The King's Romance*. The author gives a powerful embodiment of Prince Andreas; Miss Austin provides a charming impersonation of Vera Navairre; Mr. Arthur Estcourt is seen to advantage as Baron Cavonia; Mr. William Manning makes a satisfactory Count Bavantio; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards is well placed as Bortoy; Mr. William H. Dewhurst skilfully enacts Paul Navairre; Mr. John Dunbar effectively portrays Michel Vacurat; Miss Ethel Vinroy is a pleasing Lizette; Miss Bella Power and Mr. Henry Sheppard as Mme. Pomeroy and Jean Pomeroy respectively are amusing.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures here are of a high order of merit.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Miss Nora Carton's company is successfully appearing in *Temptation*. Mr. C. H. Mortimer gives point to the part of Sir Chas. Tremayne; the Mr. Blight of Mr. C. Roystell is a convincing study; Hubert Thorne is capably undertaken by Mr. N. A Overton; and Mr. G. Wallace is well cast as Stephen Rowe. Miss Nora Carton gives a charming representation of Hilda Dundonald; and Miss Lilla Wilde ably depicts the scheming Ivra Blight.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Ton-y-pandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. D. Taylor.—Topping a fine bill is Gates' Burlesque Band; the Three Louberts are screamingly funny; the Matt Wilkinson Trio ably present a comedy sketch; the Two Le Bruns appear successfully in a pot-pourri act; Violet Beatrice, the Belmonts, and Harrd Hayton are well received; and the Hipposcope pictures are greatly appreciated.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearce.—Mr. Harry P. Tower's company in *Dear Little Denmark* is here this week. Miss Winifred Volt as Ophelia creates an excellent impression, singing and dancing with charming vivacity; Miss Alice Waldie as Xandra does exceedingly well, and Miss Thelma Raye sings with acceptance as Christine; Mr. Cameron Carr achieves considerable success as Conrad; and Mr. Arthur Ballance as Karl gives a capital study. As the Duke, Mr. Edward Thirlby is well placed, whilst Mr. Frank Lewis is equally suitable to the character of the Burgomaster. Mr. George W. Ruff is a very quaint Jenson, and works well with Mr. Tom Payne, whose interpretation of Hansen causes much hilarity.

TREHERBERT.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole's; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten.—Heading this week's programme are Golden and Chance, in a novel and eccentric act; Mr. Harry Raymond and his daughter, Ivy, make themselves favourites with their singing and dancing; Simosa San is entertaining with her trained pigeons; and pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

TYLDESLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Brierley.—Mr. H. O. Silverstone's company is attracting good audiences here in *The Prince's Secret Wedding*. Mr. George Mitchell is seen to distinct advantage as Ivan Nowasky; Mr. O. Silverstone plays Prince Alexander in capital style; Mr. Cowell Clarke gives a meritorious study of Karl Orloff; Mr. J. B. Harvey is a successful Father Gourki; Miss Annie Hylton makes an excellent impression as Princess Olga; Aexina Orloff is capably portrayed by Miss Edna Clare; Mrs. O. Silverstone is a pleasing Katrina; and Mr. Henry Wright is responsible for much humour as Bobbie Smart.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Messrs. Peter Davey and Douglas Gordon's company is presenting *The Importance of Being Earnest*. John Worthing, J.P., has an apt exponent in Mr. Douglas Gordon; and Mr. Hugh Ardale admirably sustains the rôle of Algernon Moncrieff; Miss Evelyn Cecil furnishes a clever impersonation of the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax; a charming and captivating Cecily Cardew is to be found in Miss Barbara Hannay; the Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D., is in the able hands of Mr. Geoffrey Guise; Mrs. Peter Davey makes the most of her opportunities as Lady Bracknell; and Miss Ruth Rose is successful as Miss Prism. The comedy is preceded by a society duologue entitled *We Dine at Seven*, in which Miss Ethel Vokins as Millicent, and Mrs. Peter Davey as Julia, are seen to advantage.

WAKEFIELD.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is presenting *Her Forbidden Marriage*. George Maddison, the hero, is well sustained by Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson; Mr. W. H. Porter ably portrays the villainies of Charles Devereux; Mr. T. Macdonald is successful as Geoffrey Broughton; the part of Rev. Mr. Dean is well depicted by Mr. Conrad Stratford; Mr. Frank Denis is realistic as Sir George Lancaster; Mr. Fred de Vere is responsible for much humour as Timothy Tuttut; Mr. J. Stewart is efficient as Jenkins; Miss Alice Bowes is admirable as Lucy; Miss Vera Grafton acts well as Lady Lucretia Lancaster; Miss Rita Tomkins is seen to advantage as the Mother Superior; and Miss Kitty Merrick is vivacious as Patty.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Arnold Richardson and company, in the mirth-provoking sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, has a great reception; Briff, Braff, and Graff provide an excellent comedy acrobatic turn; Jean and Josie, lady contortionists, give a clever and graceful performance; Tiny and Mite, juvenile duettists and dancers, merit hearty applause for smart dancing; George Brooks, comedian, is entertaining; Cambo and Castell have a pleasing and novel musical turn; and Rover and Gloria, comedy couple, merit appreciation.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Toffree.—The pictures on the bioscope are good, and continue a great attraction. Variety turns are provided by Mr. Andy Fagan, comedian, who does well, and Miss Mamie Morris, a dashing comedienne, who dances smartly.

WALLSEND. — BOROUGH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The Ansonia Trio, equilibrists, deservedly hold the place of honour; a highly amusing turn is provided by Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians and dancers; Phyllis Seymour is a dainty and refined comedienne; Master Leonard Bedford proves himself a talented cornet soloist; Frank Hartley is a juggler of exceptional merit; and a sweet and cultured soprano is to be found in Adelaide Waldorf; Tom Taylor and company are successful in their sketch *The Plumbers*; Tony Friedman, comedian, and Fields and Lewis, in a comedy act, are also seen to advantage.

PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McDonald.—Little Dixie, comedienne, is paying a welcome return visit. A good picture programme is also provided.

TYNE PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McHarg.—A powerful selection of pictures is furnished. Geo. Leonard, blind musician, scores a success.

WALSALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are here this week in *The Female Detective*. The part of Colonel Heathcote is well sustained by Mr. T. B. Brabazon; Mr. Ernest J. Fare supplies a powerful impersonation of Tom Heathcote, V.C.; Myra Mayne, the title-rôle, is featured by Miss Florence Trevoir with exceptional ability; Miss Violet Agnew shows to advantage in the rôle of Nellie Danvers; much humour is introduced into the part of Tubby Philpotts by Mr. Horace Stanley; the rôle of the unscrupulous Basil Vane is capitally sustained by Mr. Chas. Burdon; and other parts are well sustained by Miss Kate Kilpack (Emma Toogood) and Mr. Fred Seymour (the Mad Doctor).

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint-Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—George French was billed to appear here, but on the night of our visit he did not appear owing to indisposition: a local comedian deputised, and showed considerable ability; King and Benson keep the house in a good mood with their latest burlesque; May Mars has a charming song-scena, entitled *A Persian Garden*; the Du Gros Trio are comedy gymnasts of a high order; Dacey and Lewis are a pair of successful entertainers; and F. V. St. Clair (vocalist) and Edie Reynolds (violinist) complete.

WEDNESBURY. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Manager, Mr. Walle Spinner.—Mr. W. V. Garrod is presenting *A Country Girl in London*. Effectively mounted, Mr. Fred Wilberforce as John Hamilton and Mr. Chas. Halling in the rôle of Frank Gordon do well. The adventurer, Godfrey Clinton, is creditably played by Mr. Scott Leighton. Mr. J. Sutton Pateman makes up well as Job Smithers; Miss Maude Merrick meets with hearty approval in the representation of Marjorie Hamilton; as Adelaide Puddyphatt, Miss Alice Clarke proves most humorous; Miss Elsie Marriott Watson gives a clever performance as Gwendoline Gordon; warm appreciation is accorded to Mr. Frank Dallas in his interpretation of Henrich Oppenheim; whilst the part of Wilberforce Puddyphatt is left to the safe keeping of Mr. Seymour Perry.

KING'S HALL.—Sole Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—The vaudeville items here this week include Mr. Chas. Murray, eccentric character vocalist; Miss Amy Bayne, descriptive and coon vocalist; and Mr. E. H. Linson in his latest songs. There is an interesting show of pictures.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—Zelda is an attractive lady instrumentalist; Miss May Halsee is a favourite vocalist; Wal Owen's performance is very quaint and novel; and Williams and Hayes as prima donna and tramp are a great success.

EMPIRE.—Joan Deering is a charming speciality artist and vocalist; Prof. Thornbury gives a clever exhibition of lightning painting, &c.; and Fifi Gordon's scenes are also appreciated.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Nightingale and M. Beaudyn.—*The Queen of the Night* forms the attraction here. Miss Sidney Crowe as Paulina and Mr. Herbert Skardon as Frank Featherstone have met with a hearty reception; a word of praise is due to Miss Margaret Noble as Maud Sylvester; Miss May Dana as Kitty White and Miss Emmie Gurney as Mrs. Adelaide Brisket. Mr. Geoff Sutherland is good as Philip Stoneleigh; Mr. Richard Nugent as Adolphus Brisket does well; and the other parts are admirably sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Cohn; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Cohn, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden.—An excellent bill is headed by Dix and Dox; Miss Marie Ray is clever; the Two Mites do well; and the Leotard Bros., Jack and Vera, Miss Clara Hastings, Oliver Conroy, and the Bros. Erard provide enjoyable turns.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The principal turn is provided by Joe Boganny and his troupe of lunatic bakers, whose tumbling and acrobatic feats are the wonder and amusement of all. Tom and Marie Motramo are also old favourites who are well received. A novel and expert musical act is delightfully submitted by Corcoran Bros; harmony is delightfully contributed by the Elsteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette; the Flying Hanlons, bouncing gymnasts, perform numerous revolutions on the spring mat; an amusing sketch, depicting matrimonial amenities, is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden; Rowlands and Ford, in Welsh and Scotch comedy, are entertaining; and Beattie and Blanche prettily contribute song and duet.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. F. Bulmer's company is here with *The Girl Who Went Astray*. Mr. R. Ferris is well cast as Captain Julian; and Mr. Austin Mortimer is good as Rupert Murdock. Mr. R. Oldroyd as James Yellowsocks and Mr. E. Roland as Adolphus Boomer are creditable; and Mr. J. H. Lee is capital as Gussie Seymour. Miss Ada Oakley is a pleasing Violet; and the character of Madge Harvey has a capable exponent in Miss Dorris Brookes.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company, Ltd.—*Florodora* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Constant's No. 1 company. Miss Daisy Lake gives a capital portrayal of Dolores; Miss Florence Hersee dances herself into favour as Angela Gilfain; Miss Kate Leicester sings admirably as Lady Holyrood; Mr. Johnnie Schofield creates endless laughter as Tweedlepunch; Frank Abercoed is in the capable hands of Mr. Martin D. Pitt; Mr. Stanley White does full justice to the part of Cyrus Gilfain; while the character of Arthur Donegal finds an able exponent in Mr. J. Junior.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.—The premier position is occupied by Amati's Band, consisting of thirty clever instrumentalists, who are loudly applauded for their various selections; Menotti, the Stockholm wonder, gives a smart exhibition with his bicycle; Richard Flanagan's production, *Compensation*, provides a capital turn; Henry O. Boie is a clever juggler; Bert Rayburn amuses the audience with funny songs; Oger and Orule are responsible for a skilful acrobatic exhibition; and other acceptable turns are provided by Jennie Higham (a popular vocalist), the Sisters Montague (duettists and dancers), Eva Chadwick, Marjory and Maud, and Owen and Wills (comedians and dancers).

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith* is proving a strong attraction here. Mr. Sam Livesey is a powerful John Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Leo makes a plausible villain; Mr. J. Milne Taylor is good as Lucas Marler; Mr. Joe Hodson acquits himself well as Billy Twigg; and Mr. Edwin Maydew as Jeremiah Parkins and Miss Nellie Graham as Sal Parkins present two clever character sketches. Miss Maggie Edwardes plays with tact and skill as Kate Strong; Miss Cassie Le Grande arouses sympathy as Ruth Parkins; Miss Nellie Sinclair is well placed as Martha Mopps; and a special word of praise is due to Little Gladys Brittain for a delightfully intelligent rendering of Harry Strong.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Of the many musical turns seen here, few have succeeded in raising the audience to such a pitch of enthusiasm as do the Seven Bramusas, a family of juvenile musicians, who present a brass band extravaganza, *Music Afloat*; the Bros. Durant make a comic entrance in an aeroplane, and then indulge in clever acrobatic eccentricities; Atlas and Collins, comedy duo, are as popular as ever; Mr. C., as a raconteur, causes much merriment; Maud Courtney appears in song and story; and Phillips and Bristow, in a unique dancing act; and Nobby, boy comedian, complete the bill.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Macnamara.—*Our Miss Gibbs* again finds a hearty welcome, and crowded houses throughout the week have revelled in the many melodious numbers and the humorous creations which the comedy presents. Mr. George Dance's company is a strong and talented one. The production is superbly staged and dressed, the chorus is strong and well trained, and Mr. Hubert Boggetti conducts an augmented orchestra. Miss Daisie Wallace acts with dainty grace in the name-part, and sings delightfully. Lady Elizabeth is safely entrusted to Miss Dorothy Harris, who has a natural charm of manner; and Miss Madge Lucas causes much amusement as the Duchess. Miss Florence Hylton as Mrs. Farquhar, and Miss Louise Rickmann as Mme. Jeanne contribute their full share to the success of the production. Mr. Vincent Erne is inimitable as Timothy, and he is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. J. H. Willis is a dashing Hughie, Mr. J. S. Durant an admirable Slithers, Mr. A. Gordon Begg a dignified Earl of St. Ives, Mr. Douglas Phillips well suited as Eynsford, and Mr. Frank Sealey a suave stores manager. The Misses Cole, Loraine, and Stuart are dainty colleens.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—During this week Messrs. Albert and Edmunds' comedy company of versatile artists have played to excellent houses. The variety turns have consisted of Miss Vera Elmore, Desmond and Dare, Jean Kram, Nellie Boden, Harry Morris, Purvis and Partner, George Lambton, and the Four Minims, all of whom gave great satisfaction.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—The usual thing, good houses every night. Robb Gilmore (comedian), Dolly Brough (comedienne and dancer), and Eva Hope (descriptive vocalist) were very successful, and the pictures were of good order.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. Eynorth.—The pictures here are of the usual standard and excellence; Williams's Welsh Minstrels give a refined musical and vocal entertainment; and Mlle. Sylvesto and comedian Rumbo present a smart comedy contortionist act.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Little Phil's Mother* has drawn large audiences. Mr. Herbert Evelyn gives an intensely dramatic rendering of Frank Towers; and Miss Maud Russell is in every way acceptable as Ruth Towers. Mr. David McFarlane is successful as the villain; and Mr. Dunlop Stewart as Geoffrey Eyne gives a clever character study. The comedy is in the safe hands of Mr. Frank Thorne, a most amusing Sam Perkels. Praise is due to Miss Daisy Rochefort for her sympathetic acting as Phil.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The ever-popular Florrie Forde is having a hearty welcome from crowded houses. Her songs are rendered with great success. The Three Spissell Bros. and Mack are acrobats of great merit; the singing of the Four Celestas is very popular; and Albert Rees at the piano and in song at once commands attention. As a clay modeller De Bessell has probably few equals; and C. H. Charlton's magic kettle causes wonderment. Excellent dances are given by Dorris and Francis; and Marjorie Laurence is well received in song and dance.

"THE COWARD," a drama in four acts, by Mrs. Sam Duckworth, was produced for copyright purposes at the Birkenhead Hippodrome on Oct. 27.

"NEW YORK," a drama, in three acts, by J. Hurlbut, author of *The Fighting Hope*, is the current attraction at the Bijou Theatre, New York. The newspapers have severely criticised the play. It was announced as "a picture of New York life," but as a matter of fact its characters and incidents are merely suggestive of that part of New York known as "the Tenderloin." A man with a past has an illegitimate son, whose mother is a woman of the streets. He falls in love with a good woman, who attempts to reform the son, the latter not knowing who his father is. He attacks her in revenge for a fancied slight from his father, and she kills him in self-defence. An attempt is made to fasten the crime on the father, but the woman confesses, and finally the man marries the murderess of his son. The language used by some of the characters is of a sort that is seldom heard on the stage. The drama is well acted.

DURING the performance of a melodrama at one of the Palermo theatres on Saturday night it was noticed in the course of the play that two of the musicians of the orchestra named Propeta and Olivieri were quarrelling, and in the entr'acte they came to blows. The two men were, however, separated, and took their seats for the third act. Suddenly the audience was horrified to see Propeta rush towards Olivieri with a revolver. He fired four times, and Olivieri fell, gravely wounded. The theatre firemen took the shots as signals of an outbreak of fire, and drenched actors, orchestra, and audience to the skin with the hose. The wounded man was taken to the hospital and Propeta to gaol.

E. J. C. writes:—I see that Mr. Sidney Lee, the well-known authority on Shakespeare, in his recent lecture said: "As to Shakespeare's law, it is almost invariably bad law." Assuming that Mr. Lee has been correctly reported, his opinion is directly opposed to that of Lord Campbell, and, I believe, of Lord Penzance. Lord Campbell says in his little volume on Shakespeare's legal acquirements, page 108: "Whilst novelists and dramatists are constantly making mistakes in the law of marriages, of wills, and of inheritance, in Shakespeare's law, lavishly as he propounds it, there can be neither demurrer, nor bill of exceptions, nor writ of error." Lord Campbell may have written too eulogistically of Shakespeare, as most people seem to do, but there is a great difference between his opinion and that of Mr. Lee.

"THE ARCADIANS."

550TH PERFORMANCE.

The delightful fantastical musical play *The Arcadians* celebrated its 550th performance at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday evening, when the piece was entirely redressed, the ladies' costumes so exquisitely shown having been designed with a view to forming a forecast of the fashions of to-morrow. Always merry and bright, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's charming production is now brighter and merrier than ever, and the fair sex will revel in the feast of beautiful and wonderful Parisian costumes, including the startling bifurcated skirt, the bewildering array of hats—turbans, beehives, &c.—on exhibition in the Askwood and Arcadian Restaurant scenes. The principal parts remain in nearly every instance in the same hands as on the first performance, Miss Florence Smithson's dainty enaction of the simple Arcadian maid Sombra, the beautiful renderings by the cultured and sweet-voiced vocalist of "The Pipes of Pan," "Arcady is ever young," and other numbers enrapturing the crowded house on Thursday evening. Miss Cicely Courtneidge now takes the part of the roguish little Irish girl Eileen Cavanagh, dancing with much daintiness and grace, and acting throughout with delightful piquancy and sweetness. Mr. Dan Rolyat and Mr. Alfred Lester as James Smith and Peter Doody have greatly worked up the fun since the first night, and there is not a dull moment while either of these admirably contrasted and clever comedians is on the stage. Screamingly funny is Mr. Rolyat in the scene where the Arcadians appeal to the astonished Cockney to lead the simple life; and the song and business in the second act, where, as Simplicitas, Smith carries on a flirtation with his wife, who fails to recognise him, is also a capital bit of fooling, the eccentric "falls" and dances occasionally indulged in by Simplicitas being all immensely entertaining and adroit. Mr. Alfred Lester's portrait of the dismal Doody is, of course, one of the most precious remembrances of a delightful evening. The melancholy jockey's monologue on his racing experiences is one long laugh, and his distinctly funny song, "I've got a motter," is repeatedly encored. Miss Ada Blanche as the good-natured Mrs. Smith is responsible for a genuine comedy portrayal that greatly adds to the value of the scenes in which she appears, the accomplished actress never once forcing the fun. Mr. Harry Welchman as Jack Meadows, Mr. Nelson Keys as Bobby, Mr. Akerman May as Sir George Paddock, and Miss Gladys Silvani as Chrysea all give invaluable support, and the many other clever and charming artists contributed materially towards the enjoyment of the evening. Delightfully picturesque and exhilarating, *The Arcadians*, with its first scene of entrancing beauty, its charming vocal numbers and dainty dances, and its feast of genuine fun—not forgetting the magnificent and startling new confections and the bevy of beauty whom they adorn—should attract all London again for many months to come.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* telegraphs the news of the death of Mlle. Bianca Dutamel, an actress long popular in Paris, who has passed away in comparative solitude in a small flat near the Avenue des Ternes. Born in Rouen nearly forty years ago, she made her first appearance as a child at the local theatre, and after making her début at the Paris Galté in *Le Petit Poucet*, she entered the Conservatoire as a pupil of Delaunay.

AT the Bouffes-Parisiens she played the name-part in Maxime Baucheron's *Miss Helyett*, with music by Audran, for the first time, on Nov. 12, 1890, and her fame was assured. The piece, with its French indelicacy was deodorised by Sir (then Mr.) Francis Burnand, and its English dress was produced at the Criterion as *Miss Decima*, with Miss Juliette Nesville in the title-role and the late David James as a Baptist minister. The name of Miss Helyett became indissolubly associated with Mlle. Dutamel, and her decease, after a long illness, has been announced in the Paris papers as "the death of Miss Helyett."

WHEN Mrs. Charles Sugden was playing *Camille* in a large North Country town, her husband was watching her in her dying scene in the last act when he noticed the call-boy in the O.P. entrance looking at the scene with the tears running down his cheeks. Mr. Sugden was so delighted at the call-boy's appreciation of his wife's acting that he gave the boy 2s. 6d. The matter passed out of Mr. Sugden's head till he returned to the same town some months afterwards, playing *Wheels within Wheels*, Mr. Carton's brilliant comedy. The house was laughing heartily, but Mr. Sugden noticed as he came off the stage his old friend the call-boy crying bitterly, with his handkerchief to his eyes. Sugden says that call-boy ought to get on. As a matter of fact, he has got on; he is now playing the principal comedy part in Mrs. Sugden's new melodrama, *The Ruin of Her Life*.

THE funeral of Mr. Arthur Edwards, of *The Arcadians* company, who was drowned in Sydney Harbour, just off Manly, on Sept. 17, took place at Waverley, an enormous crowd following and receiving the cortège at the cemetery. Members of all the theatrical companies in the town attended. Scores of beautiful floral tributes filled a large dray, male singers sang a dirge, the Rev. North Ash read the service and delivered a touching address, and deep sorrow bowed every head and saddened every heart, for the cheery young actor, only twenty-four years of age, was beloved by everybody in front of and behind the curtain.

Advantages of Municipal Theatres.

MUCH is urged, and with justice, against the system of theatres subventioned or owned by the municipality; yet, from the actors' point of view, it has a good many features distinctly in its favour. A happy illustration is the new agreement under which the commissioners appointed by the Burgomaster and Senate of the old Hanse town of Lübeck have let the Stadttheater for the next four years to Councillor G. Kurtzschulz and Director Stanislaus Fuchs. Among other beneficial stipulations it is laid down that out of the chorus, numbering never less than thirty-two persons, a nucleus of twenty-five be given annual contracts, which secure to them a salary throughout the whole of the year, amounting to a minimum of £6 5s. per month instead of £7 10s. for a season of eight months only. The difference, an increase of £15 for the performers, is made up by the municipality. Another clause provides that so-called "volunteers"—members with a monthly salary of less than £5—are to be employed adequately, and that extra performances in the guise of matinées must be paid for in addition to the ordinary salary. The quaintly picturesque old Hanse town on the River Trave possesses one of the most beautiful municipal theatre buildings on the Continent, its graceful modern architecture, mirrored in a lake of the Town Park, its elegant modernity emphasised by its mediæval surroundings, for which Lübeck is famous, being one of the s

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play entitled
"RAFFLES."

That the Amateur Cracksman still exercises his fascination over the King's patrons was plainly manifest on Monday evening, when, in the person of Mr. Leonard Boyne, he made his re-entry for the week. *Raffles* is a capital play containing plenty of excitement, and the love interest is not neglected. In addition, the cast has been excellently selected, and the piece, in consequence, swings along most effectively. As Raffles Mr. Leonard Boyne has a part that suits him exactly. The "champion slow bowler of England," moving in the best of society, through his cricketing claims, must obviously be a gentleman, and Mr. Boyne quite fits the character. Loud applause throughout rewards his efforts. Mr. Carlaw Grand makes an exceedingly good Earl of Amersteth; and Viscount Crowley has an able representative in Mr. Stephen Wentworth. The American ex-detective, Curtis Bedford, is splendidly rendered by Mr. Edward Irwin, who, in his catechism of Raffles, shares the honours with Mr. Boyne, and creates keen interest amongst the audience. Mr. Harold West's portraiture of Harry Manders (Bunny) is well realised, his unswerving devotion to Raffles earning for him much approbation. The professional burglar, Crawshay, the very antithesis of Raffles, is boldly and vigorously typed by Mr. Buckstone Clair. Mr. Henry Armstrong is good as Merton. The part of Gwendoline Conran is undertaken by Miss Eva Killick with great skill and charm, and, aided by a delightful appearance, the actress attains popularity. Miss May Brooke, in the unsympathetic part of Mrs. Vidal, displays talent and delicacy; and Miss Blanka Stewart gives a careful rendering of Lady Melrose. Lady Ethel is brightly played by Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald, and the French maid, Marie, is tactfully represented by Miss Kathleen Grey. The scenery and appointments are quite up to the King's standard of excellence.

THE MARLBOROUGH.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"CAPTAIN KIDD."

The first suburban production of the successful musical comedy, *Captain Kidd*, by Seymour Hicks, took place here on Monday last. It is an adaptation of Richard Harding Davis's successful play *The Dictator*. The lyrics are by Adrian Ross, with additions by George Arthurs, and the music by Leslie Stuart. From the raising of the curtain on Monday it was evident that the large audience assembled would have a great treat, and so it proved, for one good thing followed another in quick succession, and one lovely scene, The Deck of the Steamer Boliver, came to a close only to be replaced by one even more delightful—The American Consulate at Porto Banos, both designed and painted by Joseph Harker. Everything went as merrily as possible, and the members of the clever company got together by Mr. Herbert Jay, and which includes Miss Maie Ash and Mr. Roland Bottomley, seemed almost to have been made for their parts. The music is charming, and the dances, specially arranged and rehearsed by Mr. Fred Farren, of the Empire, are very pretty and well executed by the company. Miss Maie Ash made a great success with a charming impersonation of Lucy Sheridan, playing in a bright and vivacious manner, which fairly carried the house with her. Miss Ash has not a strong voice, but her sweet and particularly acceptable singing and neat dancing met with repeated demands for encores. Her numbers include "There's going to be a honeymoon," "Take your girl where the band is playing," and, most successful of all, "Um-te-ay." Mr. Roland Bottomley as Captain Kidd has a great deal of work to do, and does it all in splendid fashion. He amused the audience all the time he was on the stage, and his songs, "Johnny on the spot," and notably one about "The only girl he ever loved," were funnily and brightly rendered, and were heartily encored. Miss Ash and Mr. Bottomley also share honours in their duets, "I could do wonders with you" and "I've got rings on my fingers." Much dry humour is introduced into the part of Simpson by Mr. Harry Benet, whose quaint comedy business is funny in the extreme, and keeps the house in merriment the whole time he is on the stage. He has a capital song, "Poor old man," which was funnily rendered and heartily redemanded. Mr. Harold Deacon appears to advantage as Dick Hyne, and renders in excellent voice and artistic finish a patriotic song, "England," for which he was encored. A capital impersonation of Colonel John T. Bowie is submitted by Mr. Lister Morrah; and Mr. Alfred Sandoe contributes his share to the general success as Duffy. Miss Marjorie Maxwell was seen to great advantage as Senorita Juanita Arguila, and sang with excellent effect "I am the Star of the East." Miss Helen Holmes is bright and pleasing in the part of Aggie Shrubb, a miniature "Louie Frear" character, and is very successful with "I want a man to love me," which meets with its due reward. The buxom hotel proprietress, Mme. Ducrot, is characteristically undertaken by Miss Constance Grainger; and Miss Dorothy Eden suitably impersonates the part of Mrs. Bowie. Mr. Sydney Gavin (Rev. Bostick), Mr. Harry Hardy (General Campos), Mr. Frank Wolsey (Captain Codman), and Mr. Dan Robson (Lieut. Perry) all capably fill their respective parts. Miss Margaret Lynhart dances well as Sarita, and the remaining parts are all suitably represented.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Farce, by Charles Marlowe, entitled
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

That genial comedian Mr. James Welch is "storming" the house at Kennington this week in the familiar farce *When Knights were Bold* which he has made so peculiarly his own. Mr. Welch is producing the farce with the company and scenery that figured in it at the Criterion Theatre, and, despite the fact that this is not his first visit to Kennington, the audience which assembled there on Monday found the play as fresh and as entertaining as at the outset of its run. Mr. Welch keeps well abreast of the times, so that topical point is lent to most of his allusions, references being made, amongst other subjects, to the Suffragettes and latest aviation achievements. As Sir Guy de Vere Mr. Welch is as bright and as merry as ever. Despite the strain of continual appearance in the part during the past four years or so he is incredibly blithsome and festive, and never allows a dull moment throughout the entire action of the farce. He is supported by an exceedingly able company, the chief amongst whom is Miss Audrey Ford, whose Lady Rowena is a splendid study. Mr. Arthur Grenville on Monday scored a distinct personal success by his clever and well-sustained interpretation of the part of Isaac Isaacson, the Jew. Mr. Henry Ford was excellent as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, the boisterous gaiety of his performance as the Jester in the second act keeping the house convulsed. Mr. Guy Lane was very good as the Dean, his dignified mien forming a necessary contrast to the eccentricities of Sir Guy de Vere. Three fascinating and charming figures were the Misses M. O'Hea, H. Black, and Peggy Kennedy as Lady Millicent, Lady Muriel, and Kate Pottlebury respectively. They sketched the larkish young ladies fresh from school to the life. Mr. Cecil Kinnaird presented a vividly-drawn portrait of Sir Brian Ballymote; while Miss Daisy Cordell was a graceful and attractive Miss Isaacson. The part of Wittle was finely sustained by Mr. George F. Tully, and Mr. Gordon Tomkins was very good as Barker. Miss Annie Chipperdale made a sprightly Alice Barker, and Miss Mabel Younge was well placed as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave. The staging was magnificently done, the second act being an especially fine set, with its picturesquely garbed crowd of mediæval servants, soldiers, and nuns.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, entitled
"MAN TO MAN."

This strong drama has been very successful at Mr. J. Bannister Howard's theatre, where large and sympathetic audiences have been the rule, and each highly sensational situation has been followed and appreciated, with hisses for the villain and tears for the sorrows of the hero and heroine. Mr. Clifford Bown as the old "lag," Bill Burkley, kept the audience in a roar by his quiet quaintness, and his make-up and acting were alike excellent; and Mr. Edward Lloyd, who, in conjunction with Mr. Bown, is responsible for the company, made a most efficient cleric as the Rev. Philip Ormond. Mr. Arthur Robinson's youthful appearance and taking style were well adapted to the part of the hero, George Gordon. He rendered the pathos without undue sentimentality, and spoke his lines with clearness and effect. Mr. Charles Stirling as Richard Ellerton, the villain, made himself as unpopular with the upper part of the house as he could well wish, his appearances before the curtain being the signal for hisses and booing, in appreciation of the reality which he infused into his acting. Mr. Bruce Williams as Samuel Blumtree was an excellent light comedian, and supplied plenty of very good comic relief in conjunction with Miss Alice Bradshaw as Mary, who played the part capitally. As the sorrowing heroine, Ethel Maythorne, Miss Beatrice Hone puts in much good work without effort, and claimed the sympathy of all from the first, both her style of acting and her appearance being very much in her favour. Mr. H. Holland as the old man, Matthew Ellerton, was well suited; and Mr. Elec Mayhew as Forde, the stolid constable, was all that could be desired. The erring boy, Ned Doyle, was feelingly acted by Miss Phyllis Oakley, who succeeded in giving a feeling touch to the part. Miss Eleanor Papera as Miss Phyllis Dove was the cause of much amusement as an old maid with a leaning towards matrimony; and Miss Frances May gave much reality to the strong part of Gipsy Madge. The sensational railway accident scene was realistically carried out.

DALSTON THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play entitled
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

Mr. W. H. Hallatt and Mr. Walter Howard's company present this week at the Dalston Theatre the romantic drama, entitled *Her Love Against the World*, which was originally produced at the Lyceum Theatre. The piece is admirably staged and the acting is of such general excellence that the attention of audiences is rivetted from first to last. Mr. Fred Emery as Eric, Earl of Strathmere, is seen to the best advantage, making the most of the many striking situations. Miss Rossie St. John is Lionel (Nello), the fifteen-year-old brother of the Earl. Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg, has a fine representative in Mr. Roy Fortesque, whose striking presence and dignified bearing creates precisely the right impression. Prince Othmar is remarkably well sustained by Mr. W. H. Hallatt, who is the popular general-manager of the company. Mr. Arthur Chisholm proves himself a most capable actor as Prince Maurice of Saxonia, obtaining the admiration of all for his histrionic abilities. Mr. Ernest Hillyer as Major Sarona is well cast. Mr. Charles R. Hann, Mr. Webster Grey, and Mr. A. B. Cushman are officers serving Prince Maurice; Mr. T. Archer, Mr. W. F. Thorpe, and Mr. J. Russell are troopers; Mr. A. J. Moss is well suited as Sergeant Kaspar, and Mr. Clement Barnes is thoroughly at ease as Surgeon-Captain Helgar. Mr. Fred Acton, who fulfils the responsible duties of stage-manager, appears as Heinrick Pimpernickle, and Mr. John Mill is Fritz Pimpernickle. Miss Ellen Snow presents a striking picture of Iris, the beautiful Princess of Idalia. A great deal of the romantic interest of the story centres in the dramatic circumstances which surround the life of this lady, and Miss Snow proves herself quite capable of discharging the responsibilities of such a trying part. Miss Blanche Steele does full justice to the demands made upon her as Shula, Countess of Rasslyn; Miss Julie de Esco is attractive as Corona, an Austrian dancer, and Miss Winifred Acton and Miss Hettie Ferguson are maids of honour to Princess Iris.

THE SHAKESPEARE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play entitled
"THE SPECKLED BAND."

The patrons of the Shakespeare Theatre have certainly every reason to be satisfied with the fare provided this week, the fascinating and thrilling play *The Speckled Band* engrossing large audiences. The members of Mr. Arthur Hardy's company have met with signal favour, fully realising all expectations. That fine actor Mr. Bassett Roe scored a complete triumph in his representation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott, the dramatic intensity of his acting holding the audience completely enthralled. Nothing could exceed the charm and personal attractiveness of Miss Mary Forbes as Enid Stonor, and her delineation of the terror-stricken girl was a striking piece of acting. Miss Lilian Brennard was distinctly good as the austere housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton, and Miss Lilian Rodgers made the most of the part of Mrs. Soames. A fine character study was that of Mr. H. Asheton Tonge as Rodgers; the crafty nature of the Indian, Ali, was well portrayed by Mr. Frank G. Vyvyan; Mr. Herbert Bradford as Mr. Scott Wilson was satisfactory; Mr. E. H. Brooke was an amusing Mr. Armitage; Mr. S. J. Warmington was the suave Coroner to the life; Mr. Rupert Lumley rendered good service as Mr. Brewer, Foreman of the Jury; Mr. O. P. Heggie's conception of Sherlock Holmes was all that could be desired, and he enacted every phase of the character in the most effective style; Mr. Talbot Homewood was an interesting Dr. Watson; and Master Philip Tonge as the page, Billy, showed real humour.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, entitled
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

As presented by Mr. Laurence Cowen's company, this weird drama proved greatly to the liking of the large audience assembled. Mr. Keith Fraser well sustains the rôle of the "devilish" Nicholas Brophy, who sticks at nothing to attain his ends; Mr. Harry Douglas makes an efficient hero as Robert Hall; Mr. Frederick Jacques is a dignified Sir James Hall; Mr. Henry Compton plays well as the wretched Rupert Dyke, whose misdeeds recoil so strikingly on himself and daughter; Mr. John Brittain is distinctly humorous as Mr. Jenkins, and finds an able helpmate in Mrs. Harding Barrington as Mrs. Jenkins; Mr. Edwin Wilson makes a sinister figure of George Grigg; Miss Dora Hammersley puts in some fine acting as the betrayed girl, Gertrude Grant; Miss Dorothy Routh does well as Beatrice Cuthbert; Miss Alice Winter plays the old nurse, Caroline Stanger; and Mrs. Maitland Marler shows to advantage as the militant Suffragette, Sylvia Trevor.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, entitled
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

The above piece is doing very well here, which is not surprising. It is a most popular play. Mr. Charles Dickens gives a most brilliant and diverting rendering of the now famous rôle of the Curate, and Mr. Albert Grenville is strong as Tom Wells. The heavy part of Philip Hardy is admirably sustained by Mr. Knox Orde. The Bishop is most ably played by Mr. Dane Clarke, and Mr. R. Leigh Ellis satisfactorily interprets the rôle of Charles Cholmondeley. To Mr. Will Wood falls the part of the Solicitor. The characters of Fritz and Carl, waiters at the Savoy, are suitably allotted to Messrs. Harry Winter and Harry Clarke. That of Dicky Gerald falls to Mr. Henry Powell, and Mr. H. C. Stallwood is good as Inspector Homewood. Mr. Chas. H. Brooke is thoroughly entertaining as Billy Boots. The rôle of Bill Grimes is wisely left to Mr. Thomas Henry. The part of the old roué, Sir John Lewis, has been acted admirably by Mr. H. Dobell Lyle in the sudden absence, through illness, of Mr. Guy Routh. Miss Gertrude Tait plays with grace and ability the part of May Willoughby, and is particularly clever in the scene with Mr. Temple. The rôles of Sal Briggs, Lottie Baker, Clara Seaweed, and the Scorcher fall respectively to Miss Leta Scarlett, Miss Jessie Stevens, Miss Lucy Bentley, and Miss Mary Halstead, who interpret them ably. The Wardress is well played by Miss Violet Cane. As Jenny Crackling Miss Grace Emery is bright and sparkling, and a thorough favourite. Miss Margaret McClellan as Mary Dawson, Marie De Vaune, and 'Orrible Mary sustains the triple part with praiseworthy versatility, passing from one phase to another with remarkable ease. Miss Doris Gilham must be praised highly for her admirable and fascinating rendering of Jess; the swift thoughts that fleet across the woman's mind are well brought out, and her hesitation at continuing her dangerous career, followed quickly by a devil-may-care attitude, are vividly delineated.

EALING THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Historical Drama, by T. N. Walter, entitled
"JANE SHORE."

At the commencement of this historical play we are taken back through centuries to the time of Edward of Rouen, when the White Rose was triumphant and that of Lancaster had long lain in the dust. Some liberties have been taken by the dramatist in writing the book, but in the main the tale runs upon historic lines.

Mr. Frank Stone as the Duke of Gloucester endows the character with all the savage ferocity with which history credits it. Miss Kathleen Russell as the goldsmith's beautiful wife acts and looks the part to perfection, and small is the wonder that she makes havoc in so many hearts. Mr. Wheeler's Edward IV. showed the amorous monarch in one of his softest moods. As William Shore Mr. H. Booth had the full sympathy of the house, while Mr. Bert Morley made a brave and gallant Hastings, Mr. E. Chester won all hearts as stout John Milverton, Mr. N. Tracey brought well to the front the despicable characteristics of Sir William Catesby, and the vein of fun running through the play was well supported by Mr. F. Brunnell as Peter Buckram, Mr. H. C. Morton as Simon Mucklebery, and Miss N. Sheffield. Little Miss F. Arthur was a pert Malbouche, a Court jester; Miss N. Gilmore made a stately lady-in-waiting to the Elizabeth Woodville of Miss H. Vigors, who was successful in showing that her hatred of Jane was not so blind that she could see no virtue in the heart of her rival. The scenery, by Leolyn Hart and Co., was good, and more than one word of commendation is due for the excellent dressing of the play by Mr. L. Benjamin. Well staged and well played, the drama has an unmistakably favourable reception.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE SHOP-SOILED GIRL."

Melville drama again occupies the boards at the Britannia this week, and is proving a big attraction. The many vicissitudes of the "shop-soiled girl" are watched with keen interest by Hoxtonians, whose attention is firmly held throughout. Probably some of the finest passages in the piece occur in the scene between Jessie Browne, the "shop-soiled girl," and Joe Kelly, her faithful Lancashire lover. The former part is undertaken by Miss Georgina Wynter and the latter by Mr. H. E. Herbert. The scenes are well written, and the acting of the respective parts is to be highly commended. The unscrupulous Mark Faulkner is impersonated by Mr. Harvey Braban, and he makes a very capable villain. The rôle of the equally unscrupulous adventuress, Mrs. Philip Thurston, née Flossie Duveen, is undertaken by Miss Winifred Pearson; her acting of the part is so excellent as to call forth more than one oral "plaudit" from an indignant gallery. Miss Gladys Ford-Howitt is very charming and natural as Vera Thurston; and Mr. D. Willis makes a dignified and refined character as Philip Thurston. Mr. C. W. Standing undertakes the part of Jack Duncan, Vera's sweetheart, and acts in a manly and sincere fashion. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Teddy Champion and Miss Beatrice Fairley as Polly Smith. The humour of this excellent duo is indeed quite refreshing. Mr. J. P. Haynes puts in some excellent work in the capacity of Dick Champion, a butler, and Mr. C. Arton as Mr. Jarvis makes a plausible enough manager of the "shop." Mr. Raymond Wood as Detective Dering is very commendable. Mr. John Brooks and Mr. Wiliam Smith make capable inspectors. Miss Carrie Thomas and Miss Dorothy Duncan as shopgirls, and Mr. Harry Wilson and Mr. B. Vernon, all lend valuable assistance. The scenery and dresses are noticeable features in an excellent production.

GRAND, FULHAM.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play, in Three Acts, entitled
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

Good houses have been drawn to Fulham to see Mr. Gaston Mayer's excellent company in *Mrs. Wiggs*, and have received it with much favour. The entry of the various eccentric characters in Act I. was marked with ripples of delighted laughter, which, indeed, hardly ever stopped. The rôle of Mrs. Wiggs, that invincible optimist, is capitally played by Miss Lucy Beaumont, who in face and manner is strongly reminiscent of the gifted creator of the part, and proves a worthy successor in the task of portraying a delightful character. Miss Armine Grace is irresistibly quaint as Miss Hazy; and Miss Sybil Brooke and Miss Violet Vivian keep up the characterisation as Miss Elchorn and Mrs. Schultz. Miss Winifred Murray made a charming Lovey Mary; and Miss Ethne O'Brien played brightly as Miss Lucy; while the daughters of the Wiggs family also found fresh and pretty representatives. Mr. Fred Forrest as Mr. Stubbins showed himself a comedian of the first water, and delighted the house. Mr. Ernest Gray did well as Mr. Wiggs; Mr. Robert Neilance was good as Mr. Bob, and Mr. H. G. Wright was amusing as Hunkerdunkus Jones. Mr. Walter Hicks and Mr. Bailey Hick also were efficient as Billy Wiggs and Chris. Hazy; and Mr. Alfred Fisher was good as Deacon Bagsby.

PAVILION THEATRE, E.
On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama entitled
"CAN A WOMAN BE GOOD?"

The manager of this theatre has put a question to his audience this week in the form of Mr. C. Watson Mill's popular play *Can a Woman be Good?* and when the curtain falls the audience answers decidedly in the affirmative. The cast is a very strong one, and the scenery is elaborate. Much credit is due to Mr. Harry C. Robinson for the correct interpretation he gives of the callous Herod Steinberg, who can claim to be the worst of all men; as Manuel Errington Mr. Joseph Millane plays with such skill as to win the admiration of the audience; Mr. Ernest St. John is very pathetic as old Jostler Jim; Mr. W. H. Griffiths in his impersonation of Ralph Desmond won much applause; Miss C. R. Tyrrell plays Curley Dabbs in a humorous manner, and receives much assistance from Miss Winifred Barton.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Romantic Play, entitled
"THE PRINCE AND BEGGAR MAID."

This week Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company is here with the last-named gentleman's latest success. Mr. G. Mayor-Cook as Prince Hildred brings stage villainy up to a pitch of excellence. The hunchback brother, Prince Michael, is well placed in Mr. Lionel Gadsden's hands. The other brother, Prince Olaf, has an able exponent in Mr. E. H. G. Cox. The peppery Col. Wellenburg is played to a nicety by Mr. J. Chamberlain, and deeply pathetic and intensely dramatic is the personification of the dumb servant, Nathan, by Mr. Hugh Selwyn. Dignified and impassioned is Mr. Adam Alexander as the Bishop of Illyria. Mr. Fred D. Davies makes the most of the opportunities offered as Captain Hector. As the beggar girl Camolia Miss F. Hale-Daviss acts with great charm. Miss Miriam Pritchett as Princess Monica is a tower of strength, and the comedy is most capably infused into the play by Miss Jessica Black and Mr. C. T. Sandford. The remaining characters are well played by capable artists, and the scenery and dresses, direct from the Lyceum Theatre, are everything that can be desired

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

Lovers and students of Shakespeare in Woolwich are in their element this week, as Mr. F. R. Benson's company (North) is on a welcome return visit here. On Monday evening *Hamlet* was staged. Other works by the immortal bard produced during the week were: Tuesday, *Twelfth Night*; Wednesday, *The Tempest*; Thursday, *The Taming of the Shrew*; Friday, *She Stoops to Conquer* (Goldsmith); Saturday, *Richard III.* Matinées, Wednesday, *The Merchant of Venice*; and Saturday, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Such a fine répertoire affords an intellectual and educational treat to large numbers of people, and as the company is a powerful one, the visit has proved abundantly successful. Mr. Henry Herbert, the popular provincial favourite, in the leading rôle, contributed a most interesting performance, being ably assisted by Miss Gladys Vanderzee. The remaining parts are in the capable hands of the following well-known and talented artists: Messrs. Jno. Cairns, H. S. Cohen, Andrew Leigh, Jos. O'Dowd, F. J. Richardson, Chas. Warburton, Duncan Yarrow, Horace Braham, Wilfred Fletcher, R. Mortiboy, J. P. Wicksteed, A. G. Legge, E. Pardoe Woodman, Guy Cavandish, Harry Ballantyne, Wilson Tarrant, and H. G. Withers; Misses Dorothea Johnson, Celia Lorraine, Hope Trant, Rosalind Grey, Mollie Lloyd, Sheila Leslie, Olive Everest, and Damaris Kingston. In addition to playing the leading rôles Mr. Henry Herbert is also stage-director of the company, and is responsible for the productions. The tour is under the personal direction of Mr. W. H. Savery. The scenery and dresses are splendid and complete in every detail.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is once again paying a return visit to this popular house, and meeting with gratifying success. The operas selected for presentation are the old favourites, viz., *The Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *Maritana*, *Satanella*, *Carmen*, *Lily of Killarney*. The veteran tenor seems to grow more juvenile on each visit, and he was in splendid form on the occasions he sang. Then the other artists who support Mr. Turner, notably Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Tom Griffiths, Mr. Richard Cummings, Mr. Arthur Fisher, Miss Kitty Brownless, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Grace Parish, and the ever-popular Miss Sarah Williams received ovations.

On Wednesday evening a capital performance of *Carmen* was given, Mr. Seth Hughes singing and acting in robust style as Don José. Mr. Tom Griffiths was, as ever, excellent as Escamillo; Miss Kitty Brownless was delightfully naïve as Carmen, and sang the melodious music with feeling. Mercedes was in the hands of clever Miss Jessie Dennis; Mr. M. Le Noir made an excellent impression as Zuniga; Mr. Frank Clarke rendered valuable service as Don Carlo; and Mr. Richard Cummings was very satisfactory as Remendado. Morales was effectively played by Mr. T. Yates; Mr. S. Appleby, Miss Ella Vane, and Miss Stock all aid in the interpretation. The augmented orchestra and the well-drilled chorus deserve a word of praise. Mr. T. Lawton is to be complimented on his efficiency as musical conductor.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.
On Monday, Oct. 31, the Comedy, entitled
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."

This intensely powerful play, which rivets the attention from start to finish, has been a strong attraction at the Kingston playhouse this week, and, despite numerous counter attractions, has been "drawing" crowded audiences. The company got together by Mr. Louis Meyer is one of the strongest that have visited Kingston in comedy for some time. Chief honours were accorded to Miss Florence Lloyd, who gives an artistic portrayal of Claire Forster, greatly enhancing the reputation already won by her in Kingston. An equally successful appearance is made by Miss Mabel Trevor, who presents a powerful and most sympathetic picture of the wife, Margaret Rolfe. The part of Julian Rolfe affords Mr. Clayton Green many opportunities of exhibiting his admitted histrionic abilities, and both he and Miss Trevor quickly enlist the sympathies of the audience, and retain them till the end. Admirable work is also put in by Mr. Leonard Pagden, who acts the part of the attorney, Thompson, in finished style. All the subordinate parts are well filled by the Misses Sophie Lingwood, Madge Rossell, Esther Whitehouse, and Grete Hahn, and by Messrs. F. Clive-Rocs, Richard Fielding, Lambert Plummer, Reginald Maurice, and T. Taylor Vinson. All the details in the mounting of the play are above reproach. It is preceded by the comedietta *Yes, Papa*, by Miss Grete Hahn.

To the uninitiated the initial letters "D.H.A." ("Duty, Hospitality, and Alliance") have little significance; to certain Pressmen they are important as representing the distinctive title of a private club, the majority of whose members are associated with the editorial and business departments of a section of the London Press. Last evening about 300 members and friends of the club assembled at the Frascati Restaurant, where a programme of exceptional interest was provided and keenly appreciated. President Bro. Henri F. Klein, of the *Standard*, occupied the chair, assisted by the senior vice-president, Bro. John Warburton, of the *Daily Graphic*, in the vice-chair. Of the artists, the following merit special recognition. Miss Helen Forsyth excelled herself in a vocal effort, enthusiastically received; Miss Lilian Goodson, whose fine contralto voice was impressive in its richness and sympathetic expression; Miss Lilian Barnell, a soprano of distinctive merit; and Miss Steed, a young lady new to the concert platform, possessing a voice of more than ordinary promise. Mr. Edward Beaumont, the well-known baritone, was in great form, and rendered songs, "The harvest dance" and "The Token" with a distinct enunciation and expression and delightfully agreeable. Mr. William Fisher won warm applause after each of his songs, "I mind the day" and "Rossmund." Charles Hughes, ventriloquist, was clever; Archie Naish was a host in himself at the piano; and Frank Powell proved himself a comedian with a rare force of humour, and quaintly original in its interpretation.

"BIRTHRIGHT."

A Play, in Two Acts, by T. C. Murray, Performed for the First Time on any Stage at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, Oct. 27.

Dan Hegarty .....Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Maura Morrissey .....Miss Eileen O'Doherty
Bat Morrissey .....Mr. Sydney J. Morgan
Frank Harrington .....Mr. J. M. Kerrigan
Shane Morrissey .....Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Hugh Morrissey .....Mr. Fred O'Donovan

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This play is from the pen of Mr. T. C. Murray, of Cork, and is his first work, and it was most successfully handled by the artists of the Abbey Theatre company. Needless to say, the play was enthusiastically received, and the author was doubtless highly pleased at the warm and cordial reception.

The scene is the Interior of an Irish Cottage in West Cork, where we meet the Morrissey family. There are two sons, Hugh, the mother's favourite, of a sensitive character and a high-spirited lad, and his brother, Shane, who was put to the farm. The farm is the birthright of Hugh, and Shane, who has laboured many years to keep the farm going, and has only the prospects of going off to America to work for himself, has a deep resentment against his brother. His father, whose favourite he is, feels with him in this matter. Hugh is successful in everything except farming, in which he shows no interest. He scores in the Feis and in the Gaelic sports, and his high favour with the priest of the parish only jars on the other two men, the mother's admiration for her favourite son only serving to increase the resentment of Shane and the angry scorn of the father. The culmination of these family jealousies occurs very swiftly and tragically. Hugh has great honours at the hurling tournament, but he is fated to be the instrument of disaster to his house, for the cheering crowds who shoulder him home frighten the farmer's mare, which breaks a leg and has to be shot. Shane and the father are highly incensed. Hugh goes out again to a spree to celebrate the match, and returns moody and feverish, after drinking. His father, in a white heat of rage, dispossesses him, and orders him to take up Shane's part and clear off to America. Hugh is in no mood to obey, and when Shane interferes, high words and blows ensue between the brothers. In the end Hugh leaves the house, and the mother, in her deep woe, turns on Shane, and says, "I would see you to the gallows to have back my son." "You mean that?" exclaims Shane, with fierce bitterness, "then it shall be so," and snatching up his gun, he rushes after his brother and murders him.

The individual acting of the artists was very convincing and natural. Mr. Fred O'Donovan gave a splendid study of Hugh, and as Shane Mr. Arthur Sinclair was efficient, Mr. Sydney Morgan submitting a remarkable and powerful reading of the father (Morrissey). Miss Eileen O'Doherty acted with excellent judgment as the mother, Maura Morrissey, and Mr. J. M. Kerrigan as Frank Harrington and Mr. J. A. O'Rourke as Dan Hegarty were both good in their respective parts. The whole production, under the supervision of Mr. S. L. Robinson, was excellent.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

Present: Mr. Cyril Cattley (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Robson Paige, Basil Dean, Frederick Annerley, Cecil A. Collins, Richard A. Greene, Clarence Derwent, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th ult., and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed same.

The chairman read a letter from a member with reference to a complaint made by another member, and the secretary was instructed to file the letters for future reference.

The committee reported progress in the matter of the "coming of age" dinner, to be held at the Criterion on Sunday, Dec. 4, and advised early application for tickets by the members.

The secretary read letters from Miss Winifred Mayo, Mr. T. Baxendale Patterson, Mr. A. Caird, Miss Geraldine Montrose, Miss Clara Nicholls, Mr. William Lestocq, and Sir Edward Moss. With regard to Mr. T. Baxendale Patterson's letter, it was proposed by Mr. Dean, seconded by Mr. Cecil A. Collins, that Mr. Patterson be elected an hon. dental surgeon for Blackpool.

The secretary read a letter from a manager, and was instructed as to reply. The secretary also read a letter from a member with reference to her claim against a manager, and Mr. Mote agreed to write a letter on her behalf.

The hon. solicitor reported on a member's claim with regard to a manager, and advised that action should be deferred. The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Murri Moncrieff and adopted.

Reinstatement.—Kathleen Coleman.

Nominations.—Francis Roberts, John Wells Knight, Gertrude De Lacy, Susie Nainby, Dorothy Radford, and E. Vivian Wilson.

A revival of *The Lyons Mail* was given at the Assembly Rooms, Balham, on Saturday, by Mr. R. Malcolm Morley and his company. Mr. Morley not only adapted the drama skilfully to the limits of the small stage, but played the dual rôle of Dubosc and Lesurques with much effect. Admirable support was given by the company, and a most enjoyable performance resulted.

"Monarch" mattings for South Africa.—The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa has accepted the tender of Messrs. John B. Champion and Sons, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos., the well-known makers of "Monarch" mattings, for the supply of those goods for Government buildings in Natal. This is a repeat order, Messrs. Champion and Sons having been successful in obtaining a similar contract some time ago.

At a meeting held recently at the house of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, in Dublin, for the purpose of raising a subsidy for the Irish National Theatre, the Lord Chancellor, who presided, read a letter from the Lord Lieutenant wishing the movement every success. Mr. Birrell, the Chief Secretary, said that the Abbey Theatre had vindicated in a high degree its right to a place amongst the intellectual forces of the Western world. He assured them that the universal feeling in England was that the Abbey Theatre, small and humble though it might be, was really a very remarkable product, and one well calculated to cause foreigners and Englishmen to respect Irish genius and character. It had produced a literature. Personally he had gained more of the little insight he had into Irish character from seeing and reading these Irish plays than from any other source or experience to which he had been exposed. Mr. Justice Ross said that when he first went to the Abbey Theatre he went perhaps with a certain prejudice, but before long he became convinced that they had in the movement the nucleus of a very important thing for Ireland. His visits had led him to study Irish literature, and his eyes had been opened a good deal. Perhaps as a Commissioner of National Education he had been against the people wasting their time, as he thought it, in such studies. But he was now convinced that in Gaelic literature they had got a most important asset, and these studies should be encouraged in every shape and form. Many large subscriptions were announced. About £2,170 of the requisite £5,000 has now been subscribed.

"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."

A Drama of Crime and Criminals, in Four Acts, by Mrs. Morton Powell, Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, on Monday, Oct. 31.

Mary Macaire, Lady Selwyn, The Duchess ..... MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
Alice (aged 9) ..... LITTLE DORIS DENVILLE
Alice (aged 19) ..... MISS MARY VANE
Fairy (aged 9) ..... LITTLE FLORENCE MAYE
Fairy (aged 19) ..... MISS KITTY ROSE
Mother Blight ..... MISS CONSTANCE GROVES
Lady Desborough ..... MISS EMILY PATTERSON
The Hon. Alicia Fanshaw ..MISS MAUD WILSON
Dan Devel Macaire ..MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH
Eli Shadwell ..... MR. SAM ROBERTS
Curly Smiler ..... MR. JOHNNY LEONI
Bill Buster ..... MR. J. PARRY
James Tracy ..... MR. ARTHUR KEAND
Harry Heather ..... MR. J. E. STEVENSON
Sir Philip Selwyn ..... MR. HENRY C. WARD
Lord Markham ..... MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY
Sir Philip Phenn ..... MR. WILLIAM OSCAR
Police Sergeant Grip ..... MR. J. W. BUTLER
Ned Wilde ..... MR. CHARLES COVENTRY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At the old Theatre Royal, Leicester, on Monday evening last, was presented for the first time the above drama. In *The Ruin of Her Life* Mrs. Morton Powell has written just the type of drama of which the stage stands in need. The story is a strong, heart-moving one; it grips the audience the moment the curtain rises, and that grip is never lost till the final tableau, and we leave the theatre feeling that the night has been all too short, and filled with a strong desire to see it all again. It is a drama which will hold the stage for many years, and given a London production it would make the fortunes of manager and authoress.

The play opens in the shop of Mother Blight, who, under the cloak of a dealer in secondhand clothes, plies her more profitable and nefarious trade of training young children for a career of crime. Here we see a number of little ones of tender age being instructed in the art of pocket-picking, safe-opening, shop-lifting, &c. Conspicuous amongst this group is Fairy, a wild wilful waif of the streets, grand-daughter of Mother Blight, who is evidently ripe for anything, from pitch-and-toss to manslaughter, and her companion Alice Macaire, a sort of infant Cinderella, who is kicked and cuffed from pillar to post because of her natural dislike to stealing. Alice is the daughter of Dan Devel Macaire, head of a gang of thieves, and Mary Macaire, his wife, who, we learn, is serving out a sentence of seven years for a robbery of which she was really innocent, the crime having been committed by her husband, Devel, who allows her to suffer in his stead. Ned Wilde, the brother of Mary Macaire, who is on the eve of starting for Australia, arrives in search of his sister, and learning that Mary is in prison, seeing the miserable appearance of the child Alice, he arranges that the little one shall be sent into the country and brought up to an honest life. He leaves £50 for her present needs, and promises to send the same amount every year for the child's maintenance and education. On his departure Devel Macaire enters with news that he has obtained information that Lady Desborough's diamonds valued at £20,000, are to be deposited in the safe of her friend and lawyer, Sir Philip Selwyn, at his private residence on the Thames, preparatory to Sir Philip Selwyn negotiating a loan of £15,000 which Lady Desborough stands in immediate need of. Devel Macaire determines to obtain possession of the diamonds, and arranges to employ his own daughter, Alice, to assist him in the robbery. He is aided in his scheme by Eli Shadwell, a Jew fence, Curly Smiler, a bright young coster lad and Mother Blight. At this moment Mary Macaire enters, having been released on ticket-of-leave. In a powerfully-written and admirably-arranged scene, the character of Mary is revealed to us. She is a woman of noble nature, with all the finer qualities fully developed, but possessing strongly-marked characteristics. At the moment of her return, embittered by five years of unjust imprisonment, all the good in her soul seems to have been twisted and mangled out of shape by the iron bars and prison rules. She went into jail a woman capable of great good; she comes out a wild, desperate creature, ready for anything evil. This scene is a most powerful indictment of the prison code and of the ticket-of-leave system as worked to-day. Nothing stronger or finer than Mrs. Sugden's performance in this scene has been witnessed on the stage for years.

Mary suddenly meets Fairy, who rushes in with a watch she has stolen. Her attention is attracted to the child by her wild ways, and by a peculiar birth-mark on the little one's neck, and she accidentally learns that her own daughter, Alice, whom she believes was being brought up in the country in an honest life, and fitted to fill a respectable position, is being trained for a thief, and is to be employed that night to aid Devel Macaire in the burglary. Mary threatens to denounce Devel and the gang to the police if they attempt the ruin of her child's life. Devel and his companions tie Mary to the counter, and locking the door, leave the place, taking Alice with them to accomplish the robbery at Sir Philip Selwyn's. Mary escapes from the shop and follows them, arriving just at the moment that the child jumps from the bedroom window of Sir Philip Selwyn's with the jewel case in her hands. Mary attempts to save her child, but Devel, seeing he is betrayed, throws the child into the river, and in a struggle with Mary for the revolver she holds is accidentally shot by Mother Blight, who is waiting on the river bank. Devel falls into the river as the Detective Tracy, Sir Philip Selwyn, Lady Desborough, and the guests, aroused by the shots, rush on to the lawn. Mary, believing her child dead, falls fainting to the ground. Tracy is about to arrest her, when Sir Philip, whose life Mary has saved in a previous scene, declares the thief is not Mary, but a child whom he saw jumping from the window.

Ten years elapse between the first and second acts, and when the curtain rises again we quickly learn that Mary Macaire believes the child, Alice, was drowned, and that her husband, Devel, was shot by her hand on the night of the robbery ten years before. Mary, now Lady Selwyn, is suddenly met by Eli Shadwell. He forces her to meet him at Mother Blight's house for the purpose of blackmail. Arriving there, Mary meets Alice (now grown to womanhood), and without knowing who she is, protects her from the blows of Mother Blight, and gives her address to Alice, bidding her come to her if she ever needs a friend. Fairy, seeing a diamond bracelet dropped by Lady Selwyn, steals it, but is induced by Alice to give it into her care, she—Alice—undertaking to return the bracelet to Lady Selwyn. Devel Macaire, who is now known as Captain Broderick Cunningham, enters, disguised as an Italian organ-grinder, he having learnt that Ned Wilde, the brother of Mary, has died in Australia, leaving a fortune of £100,000 to his daughter Alice. Devel believing the child Alice was drowned, decides to pass Fairy off as his daughter, and so obtain the fortune. To this end, in the disguise of a clergyman (Rev. Christopher Good), he goes to the house of Sir Philip Selwyn, who is the London agent of the Australian lawyers. There he meets and recognises in Lady Selwyn his own wife Mary. Fearing she may recognise that Fairy is not her daughter, he employs Eli and Mother Blight to denounce Lady Selwyn before her husband and her guests as a ticket-of-leave woman and a thief. Sir Philip, horrified by the discovery, turns Mary away as Alice, who has brought the bracelet back, offers to Mary the share of her small room; and the act ends with mother and daughter, still ignorant of their relationship, going out into the world together.

In the third act Mary and Alice are living in poverty. Devel, still disguised as Captain Roderick Cunningham, follows and finds Mary, reveals his identity to her, and tells her that her daughter is not dead, and offers to restore the child to her arms if she will consent to claim her and aid him to obtain the fortune of £100,000 left by her brother Ned to Alice. Mary consents, and meets Devel, now disguised as the Rev. Christopher Good, at Sir Philip Selwyn's office. Here he produces Fairy, and attempts to pass her off as the daughter of Mary; but the latter, recognising Fairy by the mark upon the neck, turns the tables upon Devel Macaire by swearing Fairy is not her daughter and denouncing the Rev. Christopher Good as Devel Macaire. Mrs. Charles Sugden in this act treats us to a piece of acting which is nothing short of wonderful. The despair of the mother, who feels no love in her heart for the child they call her daughter, her struggle to take Fairy to her arms, her scorn of Devel, her love and gratitude to Sir Philip, her wild outbursts of grief, despair, hope, and fear, follow one another with lightning-like rapidity. She sways her audience with a magic touch, her acting rising to heights seldom seen in melodrama.

Act 4 discloses the public-house of Bill Buster, an accomplice of Devel Macaire. Here Alice, who has fallen into the hands of Mother Blight and Eli, is kept a prisoner in the cellar. Devel, hunted by the police, now learns that Alice is his own daughter. He takes full advantage of this knowledge, and sending for Mary, in a most powerful scene, reveals to her the fact that Alice is her child, and offers to restore her in return for half the fortune. Mary refuses, and sets out to find her child, aided by Fairy. She comes to the public-house disguised as the Duchess of Bethnal Green, a drunken, debauched wreck of humanity. Here again Mrs. Sugden's marvellous powers were fully revealed. The cough, the slouching gait, the alcoholic, husky voice, were all true to life. It was no stage figure, but an absolute type of London's submerged tenth, which we saw before us. Nothing more striking, vivid, and realistic than this gem of character acting could be imagined. In London it would set the West-End talking. Alice is rescued by her mother as the cellars are flooded and she is being left to drown. The climax of the play, in the fight between Devel Macaire and the soldier lover of Alice, and the raid in the public-house by Detective Tracey and the police, is sensational and natural, and ranks amongst the most realistic ends we have witnessed.

Of the company taking part, of course the greatest amount of work fell to Mrs. Charles Sugden, an actress of unquestionable ability, her marvellous emotional powers, whether of love, hate, despair, or revenge, being brought out to the full in the triple parts of Mary Macaire, Lady Selwyn, and the Duchess. She achieved a most gratifying success. As the villain, Dan Devel Macaire, with many aliases, Mr. F. Pennington-Gush was seen at his very best, and that is sufficient praise for an actor of his recognised histrionic abilities. Miss Mary Vane as Alice is also deserving of the highest eulogium, her acting being especially noteworthy. Mr. Sam Roberts as Eli Shadwell, Mr. Johnny Leoni as Curly Smiler, and Miss Kitty Rose as Fairy, each did excellent service in the lighter parts towards the general success. Mr. Arthur Keand as James Tracy, the detective, was very good; and Mr. Henry C. Ward as Sir Philip Selwyn and Mr. J. E. Stevenson as Harry Heather should also be specially praised for the capital style in which they fulfilled their respective parts. Miss Constance Groves as Mother Blight did well, the same remark also applying to Mr. Charles Coventry as Ned Wilde. Two clever little child actresses were also seen in Little Doris Denville and Little Florence Maye. The other parts of the cast were also capably presented.

On Saturday next, at 3 p.m., Mr. Harold Bauer will give a pianoforte recital at the Crystal Palace, and will be assisted by Miss Eva Ross, the Australian vocalist. Harold Bauer hails from New Malden, and was born in 1675. At the early age of twelve he showed remarkable talent, and, although it was at first intended that the youthful Bauer should become a violinist, he himself finally decided to devote his gifts to the pianoforte, and, at the persuasion of Paderewski, who was profoundly impressed by Bauer's playing, he went to Paris to complete his studies. Here his life's chance occurred. While playing at a small Parisian *soirée*, a famous Russian singer, hearing him, gave him the offer of a tour as her pianist. Bauer accepted, and the enterprise was crowned with success. Ultimately Lamoureux, the well-known conductor, sent for him, with such satisfactory results that Bauer's career as a pianist was definitely settled.

WHITEHALL, EAST GRINSTEAD.

A UNIQUE BUILDING.

The residents of the delightfully located Sussex town, East Grinstead, and dwellers in the near neighbourhood should be very grateful to Messrs. Letheby and Christopher, the well-known caterers, to whose enterprise is due the Whitehall, a building which is certainly a valuable asset to the district, and one possibly unique in its way. For this perfectly-equipped and beautifully-appointed house may be utilised either as a theatre capable of comfortably staging any ordinary London production, a skating rink, or a picture palace, and a wonderful transformation can be effected in a very short time.

This was demonstrated at the private view given by Messrs. Letheby and Christopher to a few friends and a party of the Press on Tuesday evening. The company were conducted all over the building and the handsome adjoining suite of rooms—including the handsome ball-room, with its magnificent patent oak parquet flooring, the exquisitely decorated and furnished drawing-room lounge, the artistic Japanese lounge, and many other apartments which cannot here be described in detail—by Mr. Christopher, the hall being then in perfect readiness for a theatrical performance. In less than two hours, on being revisited, the solid, built-up proscenium-walls, stage, chairs, &c., had vanished; everything had, in fact, been cleared away, and the whole area of rock maple flooring was available for the revellers on rollers. Thus it will be possible to give rinking sessions in the early part of the day and theatrical shows at night, or vice-versâ. Mr. Cecil Barth, the well-known manager, has undertaken the bookings, and promises some special attractions in the near future. Flying matinées with "stars," and high-class concert parties, it is hoped, will frequently visit the Whitehall, and the proprietors and all concerned have certainly done all in their power to ensure success. The opening night of the theatre is fixed for Wednesday, Nov. 9, when Miss Agnes Nicholls and her concert party will provide the entertainment.

Amongst those present at the enjoyable little function of Tuesday may be mentioned Mr. Christopher, Mr. Letheby, Mr. Cecil Barth (the Managers' Club), Mr. Frank J. Arlton (the Actors' Association), Mr. H. E. Mathews, the architect, Mr. W. Drury, Dr. Stewart, Col. Wyndham, Mr. Whitley Hughes, and Mr. Hills. The little party sat down to an exquisitely-served dinner in the dining-room of the Grosvenor Restaurant soon after six, at the conclusion of which Mr. Christopher, in a capital little speech, expressed his gratitude to the gentlemen who had helped him to accomplish what he ventured to hope would be a success — Mr. Mathews, the architect; Mr. Frank J. Arlton, who was responsible for the admirably-planned stage, proscenium, &c.; and Mr. Cecil Barth, who would look after the booking. All these gentlemen briefly replied. The health of Mr. Christopher and prosperity to his enterprise was proposed by Mr. Hills, of the *East Grinstead Observer*, in a few pithy remarks; and the toast was honoured with enthusiasm. The festive little party then adjourned to the rinking hall, the more venturesome donning the "rollers," and some unique "exhibition" figures were executed. The London and Brighton visitors had to leave just as the fun was starting, much to their regret. The following are a few particulars of the building:—

The hall occupies a position adjacent to the Grosvenor Restaurant and Ball Rooms, which are situated in the centre of the town, also owned and occupied by Messrs. Letheby and Christopher. The hall has been erected in the Georgian style of architecture, and has a length of 95ft., a width of 58ft., and a height to top of lantern of 32ft. A very comfortable seating capacity is afforded for about 800 people, and represents a house of about £120 at 5s., 3s., 2s., and 1s. prices.

The object the proprietors had in view was the provision of a large hall for public meetings, entertainments, concerts, skating rink, and a fully-equipped stage for dramatic performances, to meet the requirements of the population of nearly 40,000 in the East Grinstead district. Exits have been made at each of the four corners of the building, and provided with fireproof staircases.

When the Whitehall is arranged for stage plays every convenience for the audience has been considered. The orchestra stalls and private boxes are approached through the main entrance to the Grosvenor Hall, with its glass awning extending to the roadway, the floor is beautifully carpeted, and the tip-up seats are luxuriously furnished in red velvet. The stalls are comfortably cushioned, and the occupants sit about 3in. higher than in the orchestra stalls. The unreserved seats are again raised some 2in., and all comers have, therefore, an excellent view right up the well-raised and sloping stage. Good cloak-rooms are also provided.

Coming to the stage part of the building, there is a full equipment for any London company. The working stage measures 50ft. wide by 25ft. from front to back, and from the stage level the roof is placed at a height of 46ft., giving ample space for the flies, grid, ropes, tackle, and all the usual fittings which are essential in any well-arranged theatre. The height to grid is 40ft., height to fly floors 19ft., width between fly rails 32ft.

The proscenium opening is 25ft. by 15ft. 6in., and has for an act drop a reproduction of W. L. Leitch's celebrated picture, "The Church of Santa Maria della Salute, Venice," specially painted by Mr. Walter Drury, of Brighton. On the stage, as in the auditorium, personal safety and convenience have been provided for by two fireproof staircases, and there is capital dressing-room accommodation.

Coming now to the all-important matters of heating, lighting, and ventilation, these have been carried out in the best and most up-to-date manner. The heating is by radiators, and ample provision has been made for thorough ventilation. The building is electrically lighted by current produced by the proprietors' own plant. The hall is mainly lighted by lamps concealed from view on the top of the main cornice and two electroliers, which give a beautifully soft and restful illumination. The lighting of the stage is complete, including footlights, battens, side lengths, and arc-lights. By the use of the Watkins switch all these can be dimmed to any required degree.

The modern craze for living pictures has not been overlooked, and the proprietors, having purchased the latest type of Bioscope machine, have arranged to give exhibitions similar to those in the principal London theatres of the latest and most up-to-date pictures on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays in each week twice nightly.

When the theatre is transformed into a skating rink it is difficult to realise that it is the same building. By a carefully thought out plan the whole of the stage is made collapsible, and all the parts are stored away in a comparatively small compass. The curtains, borders, and other stage fittings are drawn up bodily into the huge space above the stage. The proscenium walls are rolled back against the sides of the building, and the whole of the floor area is available for skating. This has been laid with the orthodox rock maple, and provides the finest possible rinking surface. A revolving notice board at one end of the rink indicates the order of skating. By festoons of small electric lamps, the mode of lighting for the rink is entirely different from that to be used for theatrical performances or concerts, and by the introduction of coloured lamps a very bright and charming effect is obtained.

The various work has been carried out by the following firms:—Stage fittings, Mr. Sheldon, of Daly's Theatre; the curtain and the stage decorations, Mr. Walter Drury, of Brighton; seating and furnishing, Messrs. A. R. Dean and Co., of Birmingham; daylight exclusion blinds for matinée performances, Mr. T. Facer, of East Grinstead; electrical installation, Messrs. A. and C. Bridgland, Ltd., of East Grinstead; stage lighting, Mr. Hunt, of Daly's Theatre, London; electrical dimmers, by the Watkin Switch Co., London; Bioscope machine and fittings, Messrs. Hepworth, London; general contractors, Messrs. C. and H. Rice, of East Grinstead.

The whole of the works have been carried out from the designs and under the personal superintendence of Mr. H. Edmund Mathews, F.R.I.B.A., of the firm of Messrs. J. Douglass Mathews and Son, of London and East Grinstead, and the stage, proscenium, &c., has been specially designed and planned by Mr. Frank J. Arlton, of the Actors' Association and the principal London theatres, both of whom are to be heartily congratulated on the thoroughness of their work. Messrs. Letheby and Christopher have spared no expense in any department, and their bold venture certainly deserves to flourish.

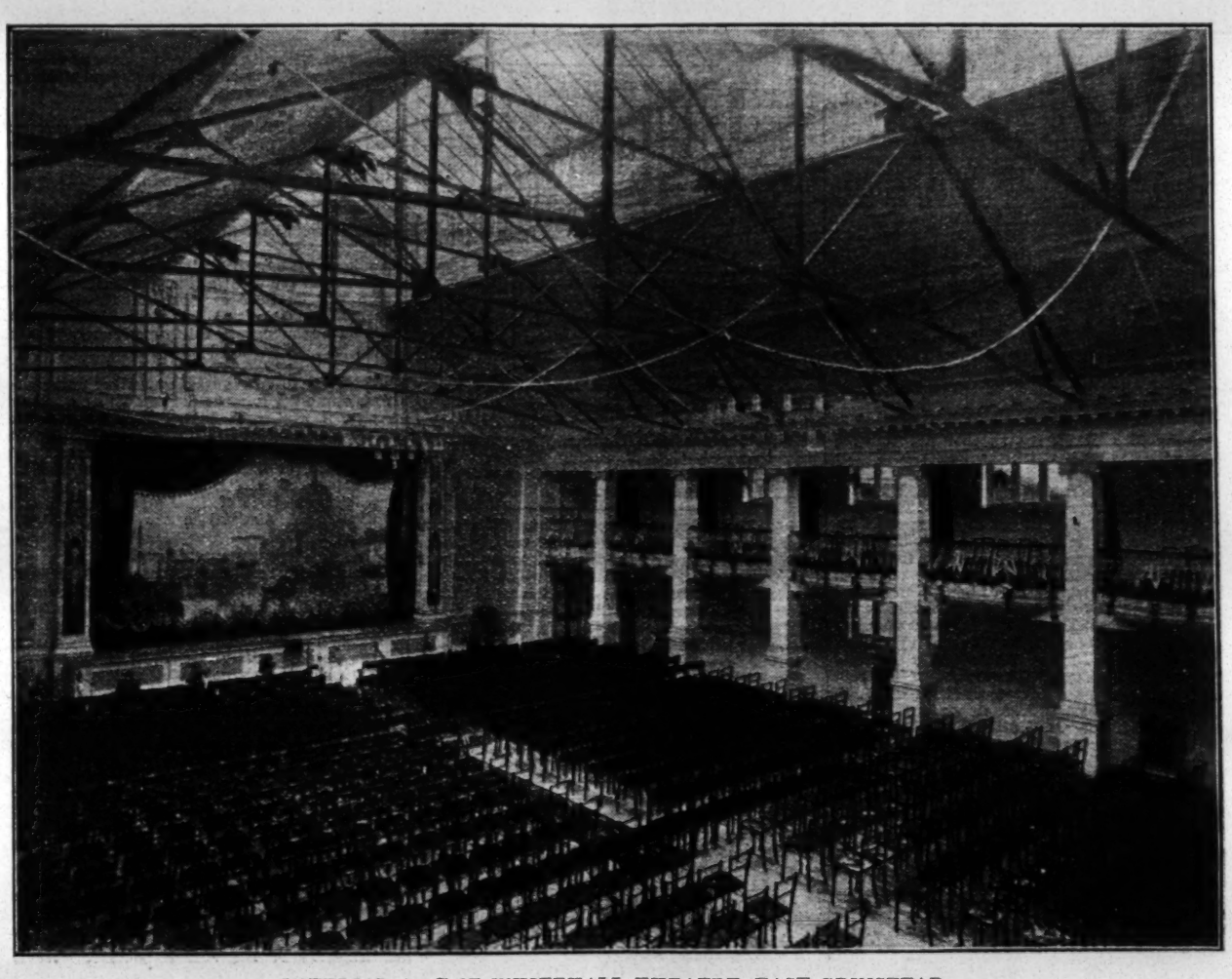

INTERIOR OF THE WHITEHALL THEATRE, EAST GRINSTEAD.

To mark the completion of his twenty-five years as manager of the Comédie Française, M. Jules Claretie was on Monday entertained to luncheon by seventy authors, whose works have been produced at the French National Theatre during that period.

BEFORE a good gathering of members of the English Association, presided over by Professor de Selincourt, at the Birmingham University, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Drinkwater read an interesting paper on "The Presentation of Shakespeare on the Modern Stage." Much of the paper was devoted to the difficult problem of scenery or no scenery, and Mr. Drinkwater said that to his mind scenery was unnecessary on the ground of verisimilitude, for, after all, did it matter whether Puck and Oberon walked in a wood in Warwickshire or near Athens? On the whole, the vagaries of the scenic artist were many; either he overdressed the play or made it unconvincing. He thought the use of curtains a much more satisfactory setting for the dramas of Shakespeare.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, Oct. 27, Mozart's "DON GIOVANNI."

Don Giovanni ..... SIGNOR DE LUCA
Donna Anna ..... MME. GLEESON-WHITE
Il Commendatore ..... MR. ROBERT RADFORD
Don Ottavio ..... MR. WALTER HYDE
Donna Elvira ..... MISS PERCEVAL ALLEN
Zerlina ..... MISS RUTH VINCENT
Leporello ..... MR. MURRAY DAVEY
Masetto ..... MR. ARTHUR WINN

Mozart's *Don Giovanni* was revived at Covent Garden on Thursday night, Oct. 27, and the performance, if not ideal, was certainly interesting. One welcome feature was an English cast, with only a single exception, Signor de Luca—who on Tuesday night gave such a striking performance of the Jester in *Rigoletto*—impersonated the Don with considerable success as regards the music, although he was somewhat lacking in courtly bearing. Miss Ruth Vincent made a charming Zerlina, and sang Mozart's music with delightful finish and purity of tone. Mr. Murray Davey appeared as Leporello, and if he was not so entirely vivacious in his acting as some Italian exponents of this part, the music was admirably sung. Mr. Walter Hyde made Don Ottavio vocally effective, and an excellent Il Commendatore was found in Mr. Robert Radford. Mme. Gleeson-White and Miss Perceval Allen gave an interesting performance of Donna Anna, and Donna Elvira and the rustic humours of Masetto were ably undertaken by Mr. Arthur Wynn. The opera on Thursday night did not end with the disappearance of Don Giovanni and the statue, as the principal characters sang the sextet Mozart wrote for the finale. The opera was handsomely mounted, and the orchestra, under Mr. Thomas Beecham, gave a spirited account of the score.

Le Nozze di Figaro was given by Mr. Beecham's company on Saturday evening. Mme. Elizabeth Amsden as the gentle Countess sang delightfully, and Miss Maggie Teyte again made an excellent Cherubino and so pleased the audience that one of her airs had to be repeated. The Count's part does not entirely suit Mr. Clarence Whitehill, but he sang the music finely. Messrs. Lewys James, Robert Radford, Byndon Ayres, and Arthur Wynn repeated former successes, and the Misses Carrie Tubb, La Palme, and Betty Booker were thoroughly efficient. Mr. Thomas Beecham conducted, and the principal artists were frequently called on.

Faust was produced for the first time this season at Covent Garden on Tuesday night, Miss Maggie Teyte undertaking the rôle of Margherita, a part in which the talented young artist has not been heard before. As regards youth and a charming presence, Miss Teyte was an ideal heroine for Gounod's opera, and the music was always sung with delightful purity of tone and finish, her artistic rendering of the "Jewel Song" creating a most favourable impression. In the more dramatic scenes Miss Teyte naturally was less effective, for this exacting part requires a prima donna who, while looking a young girl, has at the same time mature operatic experience. Signor Bendinelli as *Faust* sang well, but his voice sounded somewhat light for the part, and in appearance he hardly realised Margherita's youthful lover. Mr. Murray Davey's Mephistopheles, if not very sardonic, was vocally excellent, and Signor de Luca gave a striking performance of Valentine. Miss Edna Thornton was successful as Marta, and Miss Lena Maitland a graceful Siebel. Signor Camilieri conducted.

Hänsel and Gretal was performed at Covent Garden on Wednesday afternoon, and as the delicate charm of the forest music in Humperdinck's fairy opera appeals to all musicians, the inclusion of this work in Mr. Thomas Beecham's comprehensive répertoire is very welcome. Although Covent Garden is somewhat large for such a dainty little opera, its fine stage greatly adds to the picturesque effect of the forest scenes. The performance on Wednesday afternoon was excellent. Miss Muriel Terry and Miss Ruth Vincent as the two children acted and sang charmingly; while Mr. Harry Dearth and Miss Lena Maitland as the father and mother acted with great spirit. The rest of the cast worked well in securing admirable results, for the other characters and the orchestra (under Mr. Cuthbert Hawley) did justice to Humperdinck's delightful score.

MESSRS. RAPHAEL TUCK AND SONS have published a new edition of "Alice in Wonderland," with illustrations by Mabel Lucie Attwell. The text is printed in the large clear type beloved of juveniles, and the illustrations are quite in harmony with the spirit of Lewis Carroll's work. There are twelve coloured plates, and any number of outline sketches are embedded in the text. A great claim of Miss Attwell's designs is their bold and simple style, so well suited to the mind of childhood. The book will be a most attractive present in many a family this Christmas.

MESSRS. RAPHAEL TUCK AND SONS.—Messrs. Raphael Tuck and Sons have made their usual yearly output of Christmas and New Year cards, calendars, toy books, and varied art novelties connected with the season. The novelties in Christmas and New Year cards include over 4,000 new designs. The famous "Autograph Christmas Stationery" is packed in 300 separate boxes, ranging from 6d. to 3s. the complete set, and of the immensely successful "Card Wallets" there are over forty new varieties. A delightful set of cards is the "Lucky Charm" series. The charms are attached to specially designed cards by a silken ribbon, and are easily removed. There are many other new and attractive lines. Their Majesties the King and Queen, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, their Imperial Majesties the German Emperor and Empress, and their Majesties the Kings and Queens of Spain and Italy, have graciously allowed the firm to reproduce the Royal Christmas cards, the demand for which is extending year by year. A choice series of 1,000 new designs for Christmas postcards appeals to every sort of taste; and the picture postcards have the usual qualities of novelty, beauty, and high artistic finish. The collection of books and toy books is most attractive. "Crystal Thoughts from the Poets"—six charmingly dainty miniature volumes, containing selections from Shakespeare, Tennyson, Burns, and Robert Browning—are included in the collection of birthday books; and Father Tuck's "Annual" is this year more sumptuous and entertaining than ever, the old and favourite fairy tales appearing in new and brilliant dresses. A remarkable series of natural history books in the "Midget" series has been added, and in the "Picture Building" series many new and delightful subjects have been introduced. The calico and untearable books and the painting books, including the highly popular "Patent Paintbox" series, are more numerous and pleasing than ever. The calendars are of astonishing quality and quantity, beautiful ideas being beautifully carried out in upwards of four hundred designs; and Messrs. Tuck and Sons have judiciously increased the number of their engagement calendars. The block calendars are better than ever, the designs by such gifted artists as John H. Bacon, A.R.A., A. Dixon, and Harold Copping being excellent. The art and toy novelties include zag-zaws, Royal picture puzzles, picture puzzle postcards, and a remarkable series of walking animals, the last named being one of the most popular juvenile items ever issued by the firm, whose productions seem to increase and improve every year.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE has decided, to meet the continually increasing demand, to give five extra matinées of *King Henry VIII.* during the Christmas holidays. The first will be on Boxing Day, Monday, Dec. 26, and the others will be on the Thursdays in January, viz., the 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th of that month. The ordinary matinées on Wednesdays and Saturdays will continue as usual throughout the run.

SIR JOHN HARE writes to contradict a statement to the effect that he will visit America professionally in the spring. The report, which has caused Sir John much inconvenience, is entirely without foundation.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY opened the carnival at the Hall of St. Francis Xavier's, Upper Sherrard-street, Dublin, on the 27th ult. Father Cullen, in introducing Mr. Harvey, said, from all he had heard of Mr. Harvey and of his high aspirations, he made great efforts wherever he went to purify the stage. They welcomed men like Mr. Harvey, who set themselves to lift the stage up to the high level which they all believed it should enjoy.

MR. HARVEY, who was very cordially received on rising to declare the carnival open, said that on one occasion an Aberdeen doctor was interested in a bazaar, and his daughters, who had often been to the theatre, suggested that the doctor should ask him (Mr. Harvey) to open the bazaar. It seemed repugnant to the Aberdeen doctor to invite an actor to open his fête, but eventually he surrendered to his daughter's wishes. The doctor received him (Mr. Harvey) on the opening day, and seemed to be trying to keep the good side of his nature out, when suddenly he burst forth, "Aye, mon, it's jist wonderful to wha' depths a mon will sink to raise money." It was a real pleasure, continued Mr. Harvey, to come to open the Pioneer Carnival, although night after night he was appearing as Sydney Carton, the poor fellow who was always down to the cup. However, he felt in presenting that play that he was holding up the awful example of the unfortunate Sydney; "and if I may say so," said Mr. Harvey, with a smile, "without appearing in the guise of the man who wants to push his own wares, I would say that there is no better temperance lecture you could attend than see a performance of *The Only Way*." Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and a number of patrons of the carnival then attended an interesting concert in the Café Chantant.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON will play the leading part in *Just to Get Married*, a comedy in three acts, which she will present at the Little Theatre on Tuesday. The remainder of the cast will consist of Misses Dora Earton, Margaret Watson, Phyllis Embury, Everard Vanderlip, and Rosina Filippi, and Messrs. Thomas Sidney, Godfrey Tearle, A. C. Fotheringham Lysons, and Arthur Fayne. In *The Merciful Soul*, a play in one act, which follows, the characters will be undertaken by Misses Violet Bucalossi, Isabel Merson, Christine Jenson, and Dorothy Minto; and Messrs. Guy B. Rathbone, James Gelderd, A. E. Filmer, and Cavendish Morton.

"JUST TO GET MARRIED" is a modern comedy, in three acts, the story being unfolded in a quiet country atmosphere somewhat reminiscent of Trollope's novel, "Dr Thorne." The plot concerns a spinster of thirty, who ever since she came out has been intent, unsuccessfully, on getting married. In this she has been ably assisted by her aunt, the wife of an old squire, the family leading a somewhat humdrum existence. All the household are very interested in this chase of a husband except the desired bridegroom, who is so indifferent that he thinks it better to make a bad marriage than never to marry at all. The first two acts are exact reproductions of the interior of a well-known house in the Shires, and the managerees has made a special effort to represent in the costumes, male and female, the dresses seen in an out-of-the-way country village. *The Merciful Soul* can hardly be described as a new piece, as it has already been played in four languages throughout Europe, but never in Great Britain. The characters live in an ideal country, in the age of chivalry.

SIR JOHN HARE, Mr. Hall Caine, and Mr. W. W. Jacobs were present at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the "Charles Dickens Testimonial," held on Monday under the chairmanship of the Lord Chief Justice. The chairman having consented to act as trustee, the names of three others were proposed and unanimously chosen, namely, the Earl of Rosebery, Sir Charles Mathews, and the Hon. H. W. Lawson, M.P. It was agreed that the definite object of the stamp issued by the committee should be "for the purpose of raising a fund for the benefit of the descendants of Charles Dickens, and, should the proceeds permit, of in other ways commemorating his memory."

AT the matinée organised by the Actresses' Franchise League and the Women Writers' Suffrage League at the Aldwych on the 18th inst., Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Lily Brayton, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy will appear, and in Miss Cicely Hamilton's "Pageant of Great Women," produced by Miss Edith Craig, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Decima Moore, Mr. Henry Ainley, Lady Constance Lytton, and Mrs. Despard will take part. Two new plays are to be produced, namely, *Stuffing*, by George Paston, played by Mr. Arthur Chesney, Miss Clara Greet, Miss Agnes Thomas, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother, and a new piece by Miss Cicely Hamilton, in which Miss Marion Terry will appear.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES will reopen the renovated Adelphi this evening, when he will produce the new musical play, *The Quaker Girl*, written by James T. Tanner, with lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank, music by Lionel Monckton. In the cast are Messrs. Hayden Coffin, James Blakeley, Herbert Ross, and Joseph Coyne, Miss Gracie Leigh, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Phyllis Le Grand, Mlle. Caumont, and Miss Gertie Millar. The stage production is by J. A. E. Malone. The curtain will rise at eight precisely.

THE usual monthly meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at their offices at Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, London, on Tuesday last, when the chair was occupied by Mr. A. B. Tapping. Mr. Charles Cruickshanks, the secretary, announced the receipt of a letter from Mr. George Alexander, stating he should be happy to accept the invitation to take the chair at the sixty-sixth festival to be held in the early part of next year. It was unanimously agreed that Mr. George Alexander be cordially thanked for his kindness in undertaking the duties of presiding on the occasion. The suggested new rules were again dealt with, and after a lengthy discussion, in which the honorary actuary gave valuable advice and assistance, the further consideration of the matter was adjourned to a future date.

MR. LYN HARDING has arranged to resume his masterly characterisation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's play, *The Speckled Band*, at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, on Monday. He will play the part at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Nov. 14, and at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Nov. 21.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison's *Don* company will make its first suburban appearance next week. On Monday, at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, it will present Mr. Rudolf Besier's famous comedy. The company, which includes Miss Emma Hutchison, Mr. Charles Harley, and Mr. Gordon Bailey, has had a most successful provincial tour, the play being received with great enthusiasm in every town visited, and the players having to take repeated calls after each act.

MR. EDWARD TERRY'S provincial tour will conclude at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on Dec. 10. Four days afterwards, on Dec. 15, he sails with his company in the Tunisian for his Canadian tour (under the auspices of Messrs. Liebler and Co.), opening at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Dec. 26. During the tour the eminent comedian will visit Montreal, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Vancouver, &c. His répertoire will consist of *The Toymaker of Nuremburg* (by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman), *Sweet Lavender*, *Liberty Hall*, *The Magistrate*, and *Fiander's Widow*. Mr. Terry will return to England in ample time for his annual provincial tour in the autumn.

MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER sailed for New York on Saturday by the Mauretania to produce at Montreal, on the 28th inst., a piece by himself and Mr. Lechmere Worrall, entitled *Daddy Dufard*. In this Mr. Chevalier will himself play Achille Talma Dufard, the anxious father in *The First Night*, whom the authors have made the central figure in a four-act play. Mr. Chevalier has already appeared in the character at the Coliseum. *Daddy Dufard* will eventually be seen in New York.

THE date for the unveiling of the statue of the late Sir Henry Irving, to be erected in the Charing Cross-road, will very shortly be fixed, and the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund have placed their offices in Savoy House, 115-116, Strand, at the disposal of Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, who is the secretary of the Memorial Committee, for the work in connection with the ceremony. All communications on the subject should be forwarded to Mr. Cruikshanks at that address.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has lent the Haymarket for two matinées on Thursday and Friday, the 24th and 25th inst., in aid of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. Mr. J. M. Barrie's *A Slice of Life*, *The Kiss*, by George Paston, *Stuffing*, by the same writer, and *The Dark Lady of the Sonnets*, by Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, will constitute the programme.

THE recent retirement of Dr. W. H. Cummings, the veteran principal of the Guildhall School of Music, recalls the fact that it was during his régime the theatre was added to the building. Amongst the dramatic pupils who, on leaving their *alma mater*, have distinguished themselves are Miss Constance Hyem, who is playing in *Koffo, of Bond Street*, at the Palace, and Miss Ethel Cadman, leading lady of Mr. Frohman's New York *Arcadians* company, while Mr. Bassett Roe and Miss Kate Rorke, professors at the Guildhall, are appearing respectively in *The Speckled Band* on tour and *The Toymaker of Nuremberg* with marked success.

MR. AND MRS. H. B. IRVING showed their sympathy with the work which the Rector of Saltley is doing by attending a drawing-room meeting held at the Cathedral Church Rectory, Birmingham, on Wednesday, and giving recitals. The object of the function, which attracted a numerous attendance, was to raise money on behalf of the Saltley Church Rooms and gymnasium fund, connected with which £100 remained to be obtained. The audience, which included Lord Norton and Sir Oliver and Lady Lodge, gave a cordial reception to Mr. and Mrs. Irving. The programme commenced with "Gemini and Virgo," by Calverley, recited by Mr. Irving with a happy ease and admirable realisation of the humour of his subject. Subsequently he gave a rendition of W. S. Gilbert's "Etiquette." In responding to the plaudits of his hearers, Mr. Irving said he was glad to have done anything he could to help his friend Father Adderley. Mrs. Irving also recited with marked grace and expression her contribution, "High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire," adding much to the enjoyment of a keenly interested audience. Miss Boughton sang successfully, and during the proceedings some short speeches were delivered.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN'S company, with Miss Gladys Unger's translation of De Flers and De Caillavet's comedy *Le Bois Sacré*, entitled *Decorating Clementine*, will leave New York on Wednesday for London, where the piece will be produced at the Globe Theatre, replacing *A Woman's Way*, which will be transferred to the Comedy. In *Decorating Clementine* Mr. G. P. Huntley will sustain the part in which he has made such a success in New York.

MR. HARRY NICHOLLS, who has been engaged by Messrs. Liebler and Co. to appear in *Marriage à la Carte* in New York in December, will leave Southampton to-morrow by the Amerika (Hamburg and America Line).

MR. ARTHUR HARDY will produce next Thursday at the Comedy Theatre Mr. F. Anstey's version of his own novel, *Vice Versâ*, described as a "farcical fantastic play," in three acts, with a cast including Mr. Fred Volpe, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Miss Agnes Glynne, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Miss Phyllis Embury, Mr. Leveson Lane, Mr. Brian Egerton, Mr. W. Briscoe-Owen, Master Bobbie Andrews, Master Philip Tonge, Master Joseph Victor, Master F. Thorndike, Master Jack Hobbs, Master Sidney Sherwood, Mr. Clifford Brooke, Miss May Taverner, Miss Jean Bloomfield, Miss Marjorie Dane, and Master Burford Hampden.

MR. VEDRENNE has arranged with Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow to tour Cosmo Hamilton's successful military play, *Mrs. Skeffington*, founded on his novel of the same title. Great things are expected of *Mrs. Skeffington* in the provinces. This play, which has such a delightful military setting, will certainly appeal to all theatregoers. A special company rehearsed by the author will start on tour early in January.

MISS PAULINE CHASE has had a sad bereavement in the death of her mother, which recently took place in America, where Miss Chase is now playing Mary in *Our Miss Gibbs*.

MR. FRANK STANMORE'S *Chasing Cynthia* is playing to extraordinary business everywhere. So great is the desire on the part of managers to secure this remarkable attraction that the advertisement in last Saturday's *Era* notifying Nov. 14 to be the only date vacant brought no fewer than nineteen offers by letter and telegram. M. Rouband, who is running French matinées on the South Coast witnessed the piece at the Gaiety, Hastings, and was so enthusiastic about it that he has entered into negotiations with Mr. Stanmore to send a company next April to the Continent for two months. The effect of the performance at the Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, on Monday night was seen in the issue of a special brigade order to all messes requesting them to support so excellent a show by attending in full force.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY concludes to-night a particularly successful visit to the Theatre Royal, Manchester, where he has appeared in *The Breed of the Treshams*, *The Only Way*, and *Richard III.* Mr. Harvey figured in a new rôle on Sunday evening, when, habited in a surplice, he read the lessons at St. Ann's Church, Manchester, at the annual services of the Actors' Church Union.

THE preacher was the Rev. A. J. Waldron, of Brixton, who, in referring to the fact that in former days it was thought a Christian could not attend the theatre, mentioned that he was brought up in such an atmosphere. "My father and mother," he said, "believed sincerely that the place nearest hell was the theatre. When about fourteen, I went—though I told a lie about it—and to my surprise I thought the theatre was more like heaven than anything I had read or heard about in my life."

ON Tuesday afternoon Mr. Harvey delivered, in the presence of a large audience, his lecture on the subject of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre project. On Monday, Mr. Martin Harvey will reappear, after a long absence, in Cardiff at the New Theatre, when the programme will comprise *The Only Way*, *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, *Rouget de L'Isle*, and *Richard III.*

MR. T. LANGTON LANE, who was manager for Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's recent tour of *The Mummy and the Humming Bird*, is, we are glad to be able to state, now completely restored to health, after a long and painful illness, following upon an operation on the throat.

"THE MELLSTOCK QUIRE," a Wessex comedy in four acts, adapted by A. H. Evans from Thomas Hardy's *Under the Greenwood Tree*, will be presented by the Dorchester Debating and Dramatic Society at the local Corn Exchange on the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 16.

MR. ALFRED GRAY was taken suddenly ill at Greenock on Monday, and reluctantly had to relinquish his professional duties. His friends wish him speedy recovery, and trust he will very soon be enabled to resume work.

MR. HORACE LINGARD'S company, with *The New Lady Bantock* is meeting with every success through Scotland, receiving great praise from the press of each city visited. Miss Beatrice Moreau is creating a marked impression by her admirable performance of Fanny.

MR. FRANK ADAIR'S new play, *It's Always the Woman* (originally produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on June 20), will commence its provincial tour at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, on Nov. 7, with nearly all the original cast. The piece is booked up to October, 1911 (forty weeks) with only one vacant date.

MISS RENEE DE L'ESTRADE has been engaged by Mr. Auguste van Biene to play the part of Mabel, in *The Broken Melody* at Christmas.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN will pay a return visit to the Crystal Palace Theatre next week with *Lord and Lady Algy*. By special request *David Garrick* will be played on Friday and Saturday evenings. Mr. Norman will be supported by Miss Beatrice Wilson and a strong company.

COUNTESS ARNIM'S successful comedy *Priscilla Runs Away* will be performed at the Haymarket Theatre for the 150th time on Wednesday. The play shows no sign of waning popularity. The rights of translation into Russian, German, French, and Italian have been secured.

MISS DORA BRIGHT, whose dainty little pieces *The Dryad* and *The Faun* have been produced with such success at the Empire, has written a dance play, entitled *The Portrait*, which Mr. Chas. Hawtrey will produce at the Prince of Wales Theatre at a special matinée on Thursday, the 24th inst., subsequently placing it in the evening bill as a prelude to *Inconstant George*.

MISS KATHLEEN CLIFFORD, the clever child actress, late of Edmund Tearle's company and Mr. Gaston Mayer's *Mrs. Wiggs* company, has been specially engaged by Mr. Alfred Wareing, of the Scottish Repertory Theatre, for two seasons at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING will tour early next spring an original romantic drama, specially written for him by Mr. C. Watson Mill, entitled *A Prince of Pleasure*. Mr. Mannering will himself play the title-rôle, which is a very striking one, and he is also engaging a very fine cast. The play will be toured on a large scale, with new and elaborate scenery, uniforms, and dresses.

A FIRST performance (for copyright purposes) of a new musical play, entitled *The Golliwog*, was given at Ladbroke Hall on Wednesday. The book and the lyrics are from the pen of Mr. Edward Cadman, and Mr. J. Grcebe is responsible for the music.

MR. HENRY DEAS, who is leading man with Miss Annie Hughes, concludes to-night in a successful tour of Jerome K. Jerome's play, *Miss Tommy*, in which he played Dick Danvers, and opens on Monday at the Pavilion, Glasgow, as Napoleon in Miss Hughes's well-known *Sans-Gêne* sketch.

THE Opera House, Southport, receives week after week visits from all the latest London successes booked by Mr. Percy Hutchison, who controls this beautiful theatre. Mr. F. R. Benson is there this week, and the advance booking for the original London company of *The Blue Bird* (although it is not due at the Opera House until Nov. 21) is close on £100.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT writes:—"I yield to no one in admiration of Charles Dickens, in love of his labours; but I cannot help asking myself if it is proper to forget, or to ignore, words which were written with his own hand at a solemn time: 'I conjure my friends on no account to make me the subject of any monument, memorial, or testimonial whatever. I rest my claims to the remembrance of my country upon my published works, and to the remembrance of my friends upon their experience of me in addition thereto.'"

MISS MARIE DAINTON has had a number of tempting offers lately—one to appear at the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, in a special fairy play at Christmas, one from Mr. John Hart for pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, one for principal girl at the Stratford Theatre, and a fourth from a Christmas play to be produced in the West End. Those who think of Miss Dainton as a soubrette will be surprised at the voice she has developed, and a well-known opera entrepreneur recently approached her with a view to an engagement.

MR. STANISLAUS STANGE, the English librettist of *The Chocolate Soldier*, who was struck down by serious illness during one of the final rehearsals of that notable comic opera, has, we learn with pleasure, sufficiently recovered to witness a performance of the piece at the Lyric. His complete restoration to health is now so well assured that his doctors sanction his sailing on Nov. 16 for the United States, in three of whose principal cities *The Chocolate Soldier* is playing to large and enthusiastic audiences. Meantime, overflowing houses and record advance sales are to be chronicled.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON'S visit to York last week with *Brewster's Millions* was a most successful one. This play, having such a far-reaching reputation for its attractiveness and enormous popularity, consequently received the patronage of many county families during this visit. On Thursday evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, also the Lord Mayor-elect and members of the Corporation, were present. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress personally congratulated Mr. Hutchison on his performance as Monty Brewster, also expressing great admiration for the wonderful yacht scene and the realistic electrical effects, which was endorsed by the members of the Town Council, who were also present and chatted to Mr. Hutchison in his dressing-room between the acts. On Saturday evening the house was full prior to the curtain rising, and amongst another fashionable audience many officers from the barracks were to be seen in the dress circle and stalls.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, in an interview in the *Halifax Guardian*, says:—"My hobbies are motoring, golfing, and hard work. Just at present I am a very ardent admirer of bricks and mortar, and I can tell you that we are now actually in negotiation for two first-class theatres, these and the others of which I may become the lessee, to be visited by my own companies as well as by the leading successes from London. Many prominent people on the boards may also be persuaded to come. It is a big venture, but I think the scheme will succeed."

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER will end the run of *D'Arcy of the Guards* at the St. James's on Friday, and in the week beginning Nov. 14 will produce a new play by Mr. R. C. Carton entitled *Eccentric Lord Comberdene*.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S new drama, *The Ruin of Her Life*, which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, on Monday, scored an immense and immediate success, and booking ahead has already begun busily. The local Press is enthusiastic in its praise, and the piece was received with rapture by the audience. A full report appears elsewhere.

"SEVEN DAYS," with a record of 402 consecutive performances at the Astor Theatre, New York, closed its engagement there on the 22nd ult. This farcical comedy was played for fifty weeks on Broadway, running through the four seasons of the year without missing a performance. The company, with one exception, remained unchanged during the entire period.

THE last weeks of the remarkably successful *Bad Girl of the Family* at the Aldwych are announced. The 400th performance was celebrated on Tuesday.

A NEW romantic comedy opera, in one act, entitled *Sweet Simplicity*, by Professor Kopski, the talented conductor of the orchestra at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, is to be produced at the theatre this (Saturday) afternoon, when the first of a series of three Saturday matinée concerts will be given. The orchestra will be augmented to thirty performers, and the opera will be produced on each occasion.

MR. F. CULL-PITT is sparing neither expense nor trouble in order to make his pantomime of *Aladdin* a success. To assist him ensuring the absolute correctness of the Oriental scenes Mr. Cull-Pitt has engaged M. Henri Leon, Ph.D., formerly Masqara Bashi, or Chief Director of Amusements, at the Palace of Yildiz, Constantinople, who produced the spectacle of *Al, A-ud-deen* (the Turkish equivalent of Aladdin) before the ex-Sultan of Turkey in 1907.

BARON H. HARRISS and Charles St. John Denton have arranged with Mr. Charles Elphinstone to produce at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, on Boxing Day his first city pantomime, the subject being *Cinderella*. The following artists are amongst those already engaged:—Madeline Rees, Joan Ritz, Emmeline Orford, Edith Barwell, Edwin Brett, Tom Payne, Arthur Sutcliffe, and E. Statham Staples. There will be a chorus of fifty.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER gave an "At Home" on Friday at Pont-street, in aid of the South St. Pancras Branch of the League of Mercy. The event was a most gratifying success. Mr. Alexander and Captain H. M. Jessel, M.P., delivered speeches, and songs were given by Miss Constance Drever, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, and Mr. George Grossmith, jun.

IN the Children's Court at Bow-street on Thursday application was made on behalf of Mr. Arthur Hardy for licences to enable six boys and a little girl to take part in *Vice Versa*, which is about to be produced at the Comedy Theatre. It was stated that the police had no objection, and the licences were granted. At the same Court, on the application of Mr. Harry Wilson, a number of boys and girls were licensed for the Savoy Theatre.

MISS ELLA ERSKINE is by way of publishing in a volume, through Messrs. Truslove and Hanson, of Oxford-street, eight plays that have been adapted by her from Felix Philippi, the well-known Viennese playwright.

AT Mr. W. W. Kelly's Birkenhead Theatre Royal on Monday Mr. Percy Hutchison will appear in *Brewster's Millions*. This is one of the most important engagements Mr. Kelly has made for some time for his "over-the-water" house.

THE results of the year's working of the Glasgow Repertory Theatre were submitted to a meeting of the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd., on the afternoon of the 26th ult. A report covering the period from March 17, 1909 (when the company was incorporated), till May 28, 1910, states that during that period the company occupied the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, for the following seasons:—From April 5 till May 29, 1909—eight weeks; Sept. 6 till Nov. 27, 1909—twelve weeks; and Jan. 10 till May 28, 1910—twenty weeks.

IN these three seasons forty-two plays were produced (sixteen of which were performed for the first time on any stage), and the number of performances given was as follows:—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, 284 performances; King's Theatre, Glasgow, seven performances; Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, twelve performances; Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, two performances. The expenditure of the company for the period ending May 28, 1910, including depreciation, &c., written off, amounted to £15,006 4s. 10d., and the income to £11,986 8s. 6d., showing an excess of expenditure over income of £3,019 16s. 4d.

THE following is a summary of the receipts, expenditure, &c., in respect of each season:—Spring, 1909—Receipts, £2,015 19s.; expenditure, £2,982 6s. 3d. Autumn, 1909—Receipts, £4,097 11s. 3d.; expenditure, £4,646 7s. 9d. Spring, 1910—Receipts, £5,495 16s.; expenditure, £6,839 0s. 7d Vacation expenses and receipts, payments, &c., in connection with visits to other theatres—Receipts, £377 2s. 3d.; expenditure, £538 10s. 3d. The directors think that, on the whole, satisfactory progress has been made, and they are of opinion that the excess of expenditure over income should be considered as development expenses. It is not, however, intended to make any division of profits until this expenditure is very materially reduced or entirely written off.

MR. W. W. KELLY'S booking of Mr. Frank Bertram's company in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, *The Hypocrites*, has resulted this week in exceptionally good business at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. For next week the attraction is *The Girls of Gottenberg*, which will be presented by Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's company, the cast including "Smith" and Miss Dora Langham.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH AND MR. MARK BLOW will be sending out four companies at Christmas and early in January—the great Prince of Wales success, *Inconstant George*; Cosmo Hamilton's sterling military play, *Mrs. Skeffington*, which is attracting large audiences at the Queen's; *The Little Damozel*, which will make another triumphant tour, having been received everywhere with great enthusiasm this autumn, and last but not least the ever-popular *Under Two Flags*, which has toured continuously, with hardly any break, for these last three years.

"TO-MORROW," a play for children, by Miss Kitty Barne and "O. W. Wheeler," was produced at the Court Theatre on Thursday and yesterday afternoons in aid of the Children's League of Pity. Miss Megan Lloyd George, daughter of the Chancellor, made her first appearance on the stage as "A Day of the Week."

THE new principal of the Guildhall School of Music, in succession to Dr. Cummings, is Mr. Landon Ronald, the popular conductor of the New Symphony Orchestra, who was appointed on Thursday by the Court of Common Council. The election was unanimous. The appointment is to date from Dec. 25.

MR. WALTER PEARCE has been engaged to produce at Mr. Redfern's Cambridge Theatre for the Footlights Club a musical play, entitled *The Socialist*, by Mr. Rottenburg, M.A., a well-known "coach." The music is by Mr. J. W. Ivimey. Incidentally, the play treats of the "equality of man," a subject that perplexed young Midshipman Easy, as all readers of Captain Marryat will remember. There will be five performances.

THERE is a great deal of drama in life which is left untouched by people who write for the stage, because it is the one art which is so bound by conventions that it has scarcely room to breathe; managers have tight-laced its possibilities until it has the approved French figure (writes Mr. Dion Clayton Calthorp in the *Fortnightly Review*). Some few have tried to get away from convention by writing for children, others by writing very intimately of social problems. The only true way to set to work is to write about children. This is the reason for the success of *The Third Floor Back*, where childlike and very simple words appeal straight from the Stranger to the hearts of his converts.

THE pupils of the Croham Hurst School gave a performance at the Croydon Public Hall on the evening of the 28th ult. in aid of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre, when a fantasy play, *Some Dreams Come True*, by Theodora E. Clark, incidental music by Mr. R. Ingleton Rowe, was produced. The play centres round a Dream Pedlar, who offers dreams to various personages, and there is a mystic chorus of the Hours and a ballet of Wayward Dreams.

THE first act is laid in a leafy place before dawn on Midsummer Day. The Dream Pedlar summons the Wayward Dreams, who recount their adventures. They disappear at the approach of dawn, and the Hours sing the song of Dawn. In Act II. the Dream Pedlar discourses with various characters as to dreams, and they in turn discuss the philosophy of the day and its work. The last act brings, at twilight, the Wayward Dreams and the passing of the Hours in the song of Sleep. The incidental music comprises overtures to each act, and songs and dances of the Dreams and Hours. The music was conducted by the composer, who may be complimented upon his work.

MR. ALEC WEATHERLY, whose death at Southampton is recorded, was the only son of Fred. Weatherly, song-writer and barrister, of Newbridge Hill, Bath. He was born at Oxford, and was educated at Rugby and Brasenose College, Oxford. Having spent many years on the stage in boy and character parts, under such actor-managers as Beerbohm Tree, Charles Hawtrey, Sir Henry Irving, and George Alexander, he took to management, and it was while acting as manager of Mr. Percy Hutchison's *Smith* company that he was taken ill with pleurisy at Torquay.

UNFORTUNATELY he struggled against his illness, and stuck to his nightly work till too late, and reaching Southampton last week he developed acute pneumonia, followed by heart failure, and died on Monday afternoon. He will be buried to-day at Portishead, near his grandfather, and it is a pathetic circumstance that his body passes through Bath, where his company is now playing, and where his father resides. He leaves a widow and two young children. He was only thirty-six.

MR. WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS, the poet and dramatist, visited Leeds on Monday, at the joint invitation of the Arts Club and the Playgoers' Society, and delivered a lecture on "The Dramatic Movement in Ireland."

"IN England," said Mr. Yeats, "when they wished to educate the people, they founded a library; they gave the public books because there was great treasure existing in the mind of and created by the educated classes. But in Ireland," continued the lecturer, "we go to the peasant, because in the peasant's memory, and not in any library, is our national treasure. The Gaelic League, feeling the growing squalor of the Irish mind, has gone back to the peasant for his language, thinking to find in that language a noble inspiration and the key of a great past. Lady Gregory and myself have gone to the peasant for his stories, for his fancies, that we may bring them back into the towns."

MR. YEATS then spoke of the wanderings of Lady Gregory and himself among the peasants gathering their stories and their fancies. In the lore they collected they found the Homeric quality, a contemplation of the heroic. After these wanderings they tried to form a little theatre to bring back to the people of the towns two things—the legend and the life of the country people rendered through abundant and beautiful language. They tried to bring back to the towns the life of folk. They founded a little theatre, with Irish amateurs at the beginning, and they gradually built up the little company of actors which the people of Leeds knew.

THE lecturer next proceeded to tell how the late Mr. J. M. Synge came to give aid to their movement, which was much needed. Synge was a man with a passion for primitive life, and Mr. Yeats first met him in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Synge's whole life was a flight from organised life and from all that was not of the folk. He could not form a political thought, he thought of nothing but human life. All his plays were plays of the heroic life. Speaking of the dialect in which Synge wrote, Mr. Yeats said that this dialect of the people was a necessary part of the attack on the imagination of that commercial Ireland which must be taught everything anew. The dialect had the idiom of the Gaelic and the vocabulary of Elizabethan English.

THE IMPROVED ADELPHI.

There has always been a curious tendency in the proprietors of the houses built on the site in the Strand now occupied by the Adelphi to rebuild, enlarge, and improve. The original playhouse was built in 1802 by a Mr. John Scott, the proprietor of a "liquid dye," who called it the Sans Pareil. Scott sold the theatre to two partners, who reopened it in 1819 under the name of the Adelphi. Terry and Yates bought the house in 1825; and then came the management of Mathews and Yates, which commenced in 1828. The name of Madame Celeste is always remembered in connection with the Adelphi. She made her first appearance there in 1837. In 1844 Benjamin Webster became lessee, and Madame Celeste directress; and they appeared with famous success in Buckstone's drama of *The Green Bushes*, in which Madame Celeste played Miami and Paul Redford Jack Gong.

The last night of the old Adelphi Theatre was June 2, 1858. The new Adelphi accommodated 1,500 spectators. Mr. J. L. Toole was introduced to the audience at its opening, appearing as Tom Dibbs in *Good for Nothing*. In 1859 Watts Phillips's drama *The Dead Heart* was done at the Adelphi, where, in 1860, the famous *Colleen Bawn* was presented. In the October of 1862 Miss Bateman appeared in *Leah*, and in 1867 *Lost in London* was produced. In 1870 Webster and F. B. Challerton were joint managers of the Adelphi, where in 1874 Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault appeared in *The Shaughraun*. But the Adelphi will always be most firmly associated with the series of melodramas in which, under the management of the Brothers Gatti, the present ground landlords, the late William Terriss won such widespread fame and popularity. Messrs. Gatti extensively reconstructed the house and enlarged the stage; and now comes Mr. George Edwardes and puts the finishing touches to the improvement of the theatre by a series of alterations marked by enterprise, taste, and excellent judgment.

CHANGES IN THE FRONT.

The visitor to the much-altered house will find himself puzzled and bewildered as to the geography of the building. As he enters he will find that one of his "land-marks," the large staircase which led to the dress circle, has vanished. Its removal has allowed of the construction of a magnificent entrance hall, about 56ft. long by 24ft. wide, with a ceiling supported by five square columns of real marble. This entrance hall is a very striking feature of the altered house, and will excite general admiration. From it corridors conduct the visitor to either side of the stalls, a new saloon bar having been built for the stall patrons. The dress circle is reached by an oak staircase on the left, and the upper circle has direct communication with the Strand.

THE AUDITORIUM.

Standing in the centre of the stalls, one is struck by the bright, clean, and artistic effect of the auditorium generally. The colour scheme of white, grey, and gold is carried out with exquisite judgment, but little of the old decorations having been retained. The ornamentation of the ceiling, however, has not been much altered, and Mr. George Edwardes has judiciously preserved the beautiful dado or frieze of figures above the proscenium. The line of the stage at the base of the proscenium remains unaltered; but, in order to accommodate the large orchestra of forty performers, the "apron" arrangement has been adopted, part of the band being seated beneath the stage. The boxes at the sides of the proscenium have been enlarged by moving the walls at the back 8ft., and those on the first and second floors have been supplied with large retiring rooms. The arches which formerly surmounted the top "boxes"—which are really part of the upper circle—have been removed and replaced with flat panels, the seats having been raised 8in. The old imitation copper figures, of no great artistic value, have disappeared, and gilt festoons provided. The curves of the fronts of the second tier of boxes have been brought out in a fine sweep. The Royal Box has been enlarged, and the passage which formerly existed between it and the Royal retiring room has been done away with, so as to form a spacious "withdrawing room."

On the balcony tier, at the back, eight new boxes have been constructed, tastefully draped in grey. These have removable partitions, so that, if desired, two of them can be thrown into one. The stalls and balcony are upholstered in Rose du Barri plush. The general decorations of the auditorium are simple and chaste, and need no detailed description.

The proscenium has been supplied with a movable border, which, by means of wires worked through tubes let into the wall, can be let down and cleaned regularly. On the new act-drop crimson curtains are painted, one of which is looped up with a tasselled cord, leaving an opening through which a female figure in a blue pierrot costume is visible, beckoning the public to enter between a pair of brown curtains which she is slightly parting with her other hand. The idea is pleasing and appropriate, and the figure is very prettily painted. An important item in connection with the new auditorium is that the floor of the pit has been raised to make the rake 1ft. in 10ft., to the great advantage of the view of the stage, both from the stalls and from the pit. On the balcony tier the old foyer at the top of the staircase has been added to by throwing the floor back over the gulf which formerly existed at the top of the stairs. The new foyer goes right back to the old buffet, which is retained, though much embellished and improved.

THE STAGE.

Though the stage itself is almost unaltered, much has been done in the way of increasing the accessory accommodation. A new electrician's room has been built, and a new intake room; and at the back of the stage, under the scenery doors, a lift-up staircase can be raised like a drawbridge during the performance, so as not to obstruct the space at the back. A new property room has been placed under the street, and there is a new boiler house for the system of heating by which every room in the theatre is supplied with hot water. The stage has been slightly enlarged at the back, and an electric lift carried to the top floor, so as to serve the thirty-four dressing rooms. A green room about 24ft. by 16ft. has been made out of an old cellar, ventilation and light in the daytime being obtained by making in the thickness of the wall an area opening on the street. A new office for the stage door keeper has been built; and the stage-door entrance connects directly with the new lift, the position of the stage door being changed. All the dressing-rooms are most comfortable and convenient, but Miss Gertie Millar's is a gem of taste and elegance, curtained in Rose du Barri, brilliant with mirrors and glass, and luxuriously furnished with couches and chairs of delicate grey. The whole house has been newly repanelled. The street front below the canopy has been faced with Pavonazza marble cut from an exceptionally fine block, and has been supplied and fixed by Messrs. Farmer and Brindley. The slope of the floor of the house has been very much increased, and both the stalls and the pit have now an uninterrupted view of the stage. This as well as many improvements behind the curtain has been carried out by Mr. Emblin Walker. The reconstruction of the Adelphi has been made under the direction of Mr. Walter Cave, who is responsible for the design and the colour scheme and the extensive alterations. The general building work has been carried out by Messrs. W. J. Fryer and Co. and Mr. J. Sinnott. Altogether the way in which the theatre has been prepared for the reception of *The Quaker Girl* reflects great credit on Mr. George Edwardes's taste, liberality, and judgment.

"BEHIND THE VEIL."

A Modern Legend, in Three Acts, by Cecil Raleigh, Produced at the Coronet Theatre on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

Prince Maurice Le Noir.....MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Lady Margaret Courtenay.....MISS MILDRED COTTELL
Margaret Courtenay.....MISS VIVA BIRKETT
Madge Guthrie.....MISS RUBY BOWER
Blanche Giberne.....MISS GLADYS MASON
Nelly Anson.....MISS BEATRICE AINLEY
Sister Marie.....MISS WINIFRED BEECH
Sister Therese.....MISS MURIEL DOLE
Sister Adela.....MISS MARY MIERS
Marthe.....MISS CONSTANCE BACHNER
Joan.....MISS ALINE EARL
Leonie.....MISS FLORENCE JACKSON
Lulu.....MISS MARION ASHWORTH
Victor Descloux.....MR. JOHN TRESAHAR
Doctor Anceloe.....MR. WILLIAM LUGG
Doctor Beaunier.....MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Baptiste.....MR. J. H. BREWER
Achille.....MR. CHARLES E. DERING
Durant.....MR. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
Cavarral.....MR. WILLIAM ROKEBY
Laurent.....MR. ARTHUR CLEAVE
Etienne.....MR. FRANK SAKER
Gauthier.....MR. ARTHUR E. MASKELL
Fabien.....MR. ERNEST CRESPAN
Stephanie.....MISS DORA THORNHAUGH
Celeste.....MISS MURIEL MASON
Clarice.....MISS DOROTHEA MOSS
Amelie.....MISS MARGARET MUNRO
Josephine.....MISS NINA HIRST
Suzanne.....MISS ADELA MAVIS
Felice.....MISS PHYLLIS WALLIS
Julie.....MISS HILDA MOSS
Mathilde.....MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL
Laure.....MISS IDA SOUTHERN
Jacqueline.....MISS DORIS MARSHALL
Gabrielle.....MISS GLADYS MASON
Rosaline.....MISS PEGGY GAY
Valerie.....MISS AUDREY BRUCE
Angelique.....MISS ADA LAUDERDALE
Helene.....MISS MINNIE LANCASTER
Pauline.....MISS AMY HOLLAND
Nanette.....MISS ALICE CLIFTON

It is difficult, after seeing Mr. Cecil Raleigh's play, *Behind the Veil*, which was presented by Mr. Robert Arthur at the Coronet Theatre on Tuesday, to decide whether the dramatist has done his work in a spirit of contemptuous cynicism with a view to crude provincial consumption, or whether he was really inspired with the idea which it contains, and elaborated it in all sincerity. In his previous work, Mr. Raleigh has shown himself as the practical dramatist *par excellence*, free from illusions, absolutely sane, and powerfully realistic. In *Behind the Veil* he launches on the sea of the mystic and supernatural, and the result is a piece which it is not easy to analyse, and somewhat difficult to describe.

According to the author's own account of his work, the hero, Prince Maurice Le Noir, "in his wanderings from the faith, seeks in the nightmares of science the light of truth, listening one day to an Eastern fairy tale, the next to some dream of apes and atoms, now with the chemist, now with the hypnotist, now with the charlatan, driven terrified from craze to craze, from doubt to doubt." Such a character—especially when, as in this instance, he is addicted to morphia—is obviously like Voltaire's Habakkuk, *capable de tout*, and accordingly the Prince believes himself to possess peculiar powers. He imagines that he is able to restore to his cousin, an elderly lady, the Mother Superior of a convent near Paris, her departed youth and beauty. Margaret, a young and pretty girl, also his cousin, has been trying on a new dress, which the girls of the convent school have been making for the Mother Superior, and when Margaret appears, radiant and attractive, and throws off the costume, the Prince believes that he has transformed the old woman into the young one. He falls in love with the latter, and she, returning his affection, resolves to save his soul.

The Prince has been forced to accept a challenge to fight a duel, in consequence of a chivalrous act on his part in protecting a lady—who, unknown to him, was his cousin Margaret, who had visited a *bal masqué* in a spirit of frolic—from the insults of one of the masquers. He is wounded, and is brought in almost insensible, and in this condition he sees the Mother Superior, and is horrified, imagining that his supernatural power was a dream. The Prince gets over the effects of his wound; but an eminent specialist states that his brain is affected, and that the only chance of his cure is for Margaret to throw herself into the life of his former associates. So she joins a party of his Parisian friends, and theatens to take part in their orgies. The Prince is horrified at the contrast of her purity with so much vice. Margaret then announces her intention of returning to the convent, to which the Prince follows her; but there he comes face to face with the Mother Superior, and endeavours by the exercise of his supposed supernatural power to change her form to that of his younger cousin. Of course, he fails, and the shock restores to him his reason. Thus all ends well, and at the end of the play the Prince and Margaret are seen kneeling at the steps which lead to the convent chapel, while the organ peals out and the nuns' voices are heard chanting hymns.

Mr. Philip Desborough gives a quite sound performance of the very difficult part of Prince Maurice le Noir. He is seen at his best in the third act, where his Parisian friends welcome him back to life, and drink a toast to their "Prince of Darkness," the scene culminating in his driving them from his house in disgust. Here Mr. Desborough is particularly powerful and convincing. Margaret Courtenay has a very able representative in Miss Viva Birkett. Always sweet and sympathetic and wonderfully natural, she easily finds the way to the hearts of her audience, and thoroughly deserves her undoubted success. Miss Mildred Cottell cleverly portrays the Mother Superior of the convent, Lady Margaret Courtenay, and gives a cultured and finished performance, being decidedly strong and satisfying. The part of Victor Deseloux, the Prince's intimate friend, is handled in excellent style by Mr. John Tresahar; he is carefully subdued and never obtrusive, yet always intelligent and effective. Mr. William Lugg enacts Doctor Anceloe with great energy and expression, and wins a round of applause for his telling speech in the third act. Mr. Owen Roughwood's performance as Dr. Beaunier could scarcely be bettered, and is to be commended in all respects. Mr. J. H. Brewer is excellent as Baptiste, the old servant of the Le Noir family. Miss Ruth Bower plays Madge Guthrie, Margaret Courtenay's Australian friend, in exactly the right vein, and deserves warm praise. Miss Gladys Mason and Miss Beatrice Ainley are excellent in every way as Blanche Giberne and Nelly Anson, the two Australian girls at the convent, the former doing a very spirited piece of acting in the first division of the play. Misses Winifred Beech, Muriel Dole, and Mary Miers adequately represent the sisters, Marie, Therese, and Adela; and the two lay sisters, Marthe and Joan, have careful exponents in the Misses Constance Bachner and Aline Earl. Miss Florence Jackson and Miss Marion Ashworth as Leonie, a model, and Lulu, a dancer, deserve great credit for their lively and active performances, and the supernumerary parts are all carefully played. The scenery, by Mr. W. T. Hemsley, is appropriate and artistic, and the drama was produced under the direction of the author, with the assistance of Mr. Slaine Mills as stage-manager. Mr. Esde Montefiore, the general-manager, attended to his onerous duties in front of the house with his usual courtesy and ability.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" WILL BE FORWARDED TO ANY address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE O.P. CLUB DINNER.

The eleventh annual dinner of the O.P. Club was held at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday. The president of the club, Mr. A. E. W. Mason, was in the chair, and the chief guests of the evening were Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton. Amongst other well-known people present were Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Hope Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Clement Shorter, Mr. and Mrs. Pett Ridge, Mr. James Welch, Miss Audrey Ford, Miss Mabel Love, Miss Gladys Unger, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Edyth Latimer, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hentschel, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Richard Green, Miss Nora Kerin, Mr. Herman Finck, Mr. Lewis Sydney, Mr. F. H. Jones (hon. treasurer), Mr. T. McDonald Rendle, Miss Ethel Allandale, Mr. J. Bernard Dickson (vice-president), Mr. George Spencer Edwards, and Messrs. J. Davies, Smith, and Stanley Grey (joint hon. secretaries).

After the toast of "The King" had been drunk with enthusiasm, the PRESIDENT proposed the toast of "The Drama." He said that he thought people might be divided into two classes—those who had written plays and those who were going to write plays, and that the latter was an insignificant and constantly dwindling minority. Many considered that the drama required rejuvenating and revitalising; but, in spite of that, he thought that it seemed to get along. He said that as a body they might call themselves a club of appreciative playgoers, who went often to the theatre with a great desire to be pleased, and more often than not went away with that desire gratified. He was not going to run down the Drama, for he thought that in neatness, ingenuity, and ability our playwrights could show a bold face to the dramatists in all the countries in Europe. A good deal was heard about many a black swan in Paris, which when it came over here was discovered to be a somewhat speckled bird. They were there that night to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Asche on their return from Australia, to congratulate them on the great success they made there, and to assure them of their pleasure in recapturing them again for the Old Country. They wanted to keep them here to carry on the tradition of romantic drama. He was not going to endeavour to analyse the art of Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, but he thought that the O.P. Club owed them a good deal of gratitude. Mr. Mason concluded by remarking that Mr. Oscar Asche was going to carry into private life the attitude of Count Hannibal, and make his wife's speech for her.

Mr. OSCAR ASCHE, in responding to the toast of "The Drama," said that his wife had at first announced her intention of responding, and had told him that he could enjoy his dinner and need not speak, but since then she had joined the Suffragettes, and had told him that he would have to speak, as she declined to do so. As Mr. Mason had said, there had been a lot of talk about what the Drama should be, and for years it had been suggested that the public required to be educated. He did not agree with this. He thought it was the dramatists and producers of plays who wanted to be educated up to the public taste. He had tried to produce classical drama in London several times, and outside Shakespeare it had always been a non-success. The Drama depended on the playgoing paying public. It had been left for years past to the actor-managers—Sir Henry Irving, Sir Herbert Tree, and others—to keep classical drama alive. The commercial managers had never produced Shakespeare's plays; it had always been left to the actor-manager. When they went to Australia they were told that Shakespeare was not understood out there, and would be a failure. Well, they had visited Perth, which had a population of 50,000, and had produced four of Shakespeare's plays there in a week, and the returns showed that 63,000 people went to see those four plays, and many of those people had never seen or read a play of Shakespeare before. In Australia they loved tragedy, because they lived under sunny skies; here, in London, living under fogs and dreary skies, tragedy did not pay. Referring to the Repertory Theatre, Mr. Asche thought that London was too big a place to support it, as most of the theatres were repertory theatres. They hoped to carry on the good work which Mr. Mason had been good enough to say they had done in the past, but they also had to live. When they had lived a little time, and had made money enough by producing plays which were not perhaps artistic successes, they would endeavour to produce plays which were artistic successes, and would also allow them to die decently.

Miss GLADYS UNGER, in replying to the toast of "The Visitors," said that the only thing she had done for the British drama was that she had given the public a chance of seeing Mr. Hawtrey in his pyjamas. She considered that there was some excuse for the conduct of Count Hannibal; he wooed so tempestuously that he had no time to be polite. She thought that Mr. Oscar Asche should start a school for young lovers, to be turned out perfect masters of the art in six lessons.

Mr. JAMES WELCH, who also responded, standing on a chair, told several amusing anecdotes, and confessed to a yearning to give up playing "the fool" on the stage, and to take to serious parts. He was, he said, replying for Mr. Stanley Cooke, because he supposed that, in the absence of that gentleman, a bit of "Welch" rabbit would do instead of "Unger and Cooke."

Mr. PETT RIDGE, who gave the toast of "The Chairman," made a neat speech, and was enthusiastically received.

An excellent entertainment was given at intervals during the evening, amongst the performers being Miss Alexandra Dagmar, Miss Ruby Wilson, Mr. Stuart Debnam, Miss Dorothy Normandy, Mr. Ivor Foster, Mr. Leslie Lambert, Mr. Ulph Smith, and Mr. Horace Whitty. Mr. Sinclair Mantell accompanied.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The students' concert on Monday afternoon opened with Hummel's Trio in E flat, Op. 12, for pianoforte, flute, and violoncello, Miss Edith K. Bird, Miss Margaret Gibson, and Miss Winifred Love, the executants, giving a praiseworthy account of the Allegro Agitato. The young performers are members of the Chamber Music Class. Miss Muriel Croston was heard in Woodforde-Finden's pretty song "O flower of all the world," and Miss Jennie Clarke received much applause for her singing of "When all was young" (Gounod). Miss Ida Benthin played Chopin's Etude No. 9, Op 25; and another able pianist, Mr. Patrick Thayer, was successful in the "Lento" and "Danse Négre" of Cyril Scott. Mr. Eric Catford is ambitious, but he can be commended for his singing of recit. "I feel the Deity within" and aira "Arm, arm, ye brave" (Handel); and Miss Constance Hatton in her piano solo, "La Campanella" (Elégie Idylle), W. G. Faubert, deserved praise. Mr. C. H. G. Mottram greatly pleased the audience by his cleverly-written song, "Inspiration," and was called on with the vocalist. Miss Alice Booth. Mr. Mottram's second effort, "Little Nancy," was effective, but less artistic. Another young composer, Mr. S. H. Sheppard, brought forward a Miniature Suite MS. for violin and pianoforte, in four short movements, which had merit, and were cleverly played by the composer and Miss Alice Lees, a very promising violinist; while mention should be made of Miss Briana Prager's excellent performance of Liszt's pianoforte solo "Liebestramm."

AT the theatre at Bayonne on Sunday evening, during the performance of *Carmen*, one of the singers, Mlle. Lucy Sternel, went out of her mind while performing her part, and hurled insults and curses at the audience, who, ignorant of the cause of her conduct, retorted vigorously. The disturbance was terminated by the lowering of the curtain.

DEATH OF HENRIETTA HODSON.

Miss Henrietta Hodson, who had long since retired from the stage, succumbed to an attack of apoplexy on Sunday morning at her villa in Florence. She passed away in the presence of her husband, Mr. Henry Labouchere, whom she married, *en secondes noces*, in 1868, and her daughter, the Marchesa Dora di Rudini. The deceased lady came from an old theatrical stock, her grandfather, George Hodson, being at one time the lessee of the Bower Saloon, a minor theatre in Stangate, Westminster, which was cleared away on the removal of St. Thomas's Hospital to that locality. The theatre was opened in 1838; Phil Phillips, the scenic artist of the Surrey Theatre, having, in 1837, taken a tavern with some land, on it he built this place of entertainment. The venture was not too successful, but had its palmy days under the lesseeship of Mr. Hodson. He had conducted the "Yorkshire Stingo," where in those days a variety entertainment was carried on. The old proprietor's son, George Hodson, married Miss Noel, sister of the late Mrs. Harry Marston, and the daughter born to them was the subject of this memoir.

Henrietta Hodson had her early theatrical training, like Lady Bancroft, under the Chutes at the Bristol Theatre. It was an admirably conducted house, says Lady Bancroft in her "Reminiscences," and "will always be remembered by me as my stepping-stone to London. The work was hard, but some of our best artists have left the old King-street theatre to fill leading positions in London. Names that come at once to my mind are Kate and Ellen Terry, Madge Robertson (Mrs. Kendal), Henrietta Hodson, and Charles Coghlan." After her provincial experience Miss Hodson came to the Prince of Wales's, Tottenham-street, under the management of Marie Wilton, her former comrade, and made her London début in Henry J. Byron's *Pandora's Box; or, The Young Spark and the Old Flame*, in which she played Prometheus.

At the opening of the old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, on Oct. 24, 1867, under the management of Alfred Wigan, the deceased actress acted the devoted servant Jacintha in Charles Reade's *The Double Marriage*, a dramatisation of his novel "White Lies." In this piece Lal Brough, "a favourite comedian of the Liverpool stage," made his début on the London stage, and young Charles Wyndham distinguished himself as Colonel Dujardin. Sir Charles and Ellen Terry are now the only survivors of a celebrated cast. In January, 1868, Miss Hodson played Lucy in *Dearer than Life*, in which Toole made a hit as Michael Garner, whose son was played by Charles Wyndham, the Uncle Ben being Lionel Brough—another fine cast that was completed by Henry Irving as Bob Gassit. A bright and winsome performance was Miss Hodson's vivandière in W. S. Gilbert's extravaganza *La Vivandière; or, True to the Corps*, the triviality of which rôle was in direct contrast to her delineation of Oliver Twist in an adaptation of Dickens's novel (Queen's, April, 1868), by John Oxenford, which was chiefly notable for Henry Irving's wonderful sketch of Bill Sikes. The actress made a successful appearance in Robert Reece's burlesque, *The Stranger, Stranger than Ever*, in November, 1868, at the house in Long Acre.

On May 29, 1869, Mrs. Labouchere took part in the first performance, at the same theatre, of Burnand's play, *The Turn of the Tide*, which had a considerable success. In the following year (January, 1870), at the same theatre, she was in the original cast of Tom Taylor's play, *'Twixt Axe and Crown*,' the late Mrs. Rousby in the leading rôle. Completing her engagement at the Queen's Theatre Aug. 10, 1870, on the 3rd of the following month she opened the Royalty Theatre under her management with a comedy by H. T. Craven and a burlesque by F. C. Burnand. During the year following she acted in various pieces, chiefly burlesque, at that theatre, and in 1872 returned to the Queen's, "opening" Jan. 8 as Nydia the blind girl in John Oxenford's version of Lord Lytton's "Last Days of Pompeii." During the same year at the same theatre Miss Hodson played certain parts in the so-called "legitimate" drama: Virginia (*Virginius*), Imogen (*Cymbeline*), &c. Of the latter character she gave "a tender and graceful representation, failing only to convey those subtle shades of character, duly to embody which needs an actress of the highest intellect and culture. She exhibited much grace and not a little intelligence, but no inspiration." She was highly successful, however, as Ariel in a revival of *The Tempest*, with John Ryder in the part of Prospero and George Rignold as Caliban. Miss Hodson appeared later at various theatres in London and the provinces, one of her most successful impersonations being that of Dick Wastrell, in a romantic drama in five acts entitled *Old London*, adapted from *Les Chevaliers du Brouillard* (a French dramatisation of Harrison Ainsworth's "Jack Sheppard"), produced at the Queen's Theatre in February, 1873. Mrs. Labouchere was also very successful in a revival of *Pygmalion and Galatea* at the Haymarket in January, 1877, in the character of Cynisca.

For many years Mrs. Labouchere, who retired from the stage a few years after her marriage, lived at Pope's Villa, in Twickenham, where she and her popular husband loved to entertain their friends with al fresco theatrical performances. From the memoirs of Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, who but a few months ago returned from a long visit to the Labouchères in Florence, this little word-picture of the scenery for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* may be taken:—"The disposition and charcter of the garden lent itself perfectly to the play, and never was there a more grassy, daisy-pied, flowery, softly rolling background provided for Shakespeare's fascinating fantasy. Clumps of lilies and Canterbury bells grew just where they were wanted, and a bed of roses was not too far away. A noble old tree in the centre, with gnarled roots, was chosen for the stage. The huge branches, like a monster umbrella, dipped down here and there, quite low enough for Puck to swing upon. The musicians were hidden from view behind a screen of honeysuckle and trumpet flowers. The electric lights glowed through blossoming foliage, and a moon was provided in case the real one, which was due, should hide her silver face behind a cloud."

THE musical season at the Harrogate Kursaal was brought to a close on Saturday evening last, when a special concert was given. The large interior of the Kursaal was crowded, and overflowed into the promenades, several hundred residents and visitors being present. An excellent programme of music was played by the orchestra, under Mr. Julian Clifford, who gave a pianoforte solo, and entertaining items were given by The March Hares. In an interval in the programme, the Mayor (Captain A. B. Boyd Carpenter), who was supported by several members of the Kursaal Committee, said that the Kursaal could be congratulated this year upon an increase in its receipts. Whereas last year there was a charge on the rates of £4,170, this year it seemed certain that the amount to be found from the rates would not exceed £2,925. When, however, this amount was spoken of as a charge on the rates, it was well to remember that the Kursaal paid £700 in rates and another £400 to the Corporation electricity department. Those figures were apt to be lost sight of, but they were important, because they showed that the Kursaal helped the rates to a material degree. The Kursaal during the past season had actually received £600 more in season tickets than last season, and £182 more than in 1907, which was often spoken of as the bumper year.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

A large audience assembled at the Guildhall on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 29, for the annual presentation of medals, prizes, and certificates to the students of the Guildhall School of Music by the Lady Mayoress, who was accompanied by the Lord Mayor (Sir John Knill), Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Johnston, and Mr. Sheriff Buckingham. The proceedings commenced with a short concert. Dr Cummings' ode "Domine Dirige Nos" being sung by the choir, which was followed by an able pianoforte solo of Chopin's Barcarolle, Op. 60, by Miss Jessie Willis, winner of the Lady Mayoress' prize for 1910. In Weber's scena, "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from *Oberon*, Miss Ethel Dieselhorst, the Lord Mayor's prize winner, 1910, displayed considerable power; and Mr. Reginald T. Crawford, the Chairman's prize winner, 1910, was heard to advantage in Blumenthal's song "The Requital." The winner of the Musicians' Company silver medal, Mr. M. Gordon Burgess, gave two piano solos MS., "Romance" and "Humoresque," of his own composition; while Miss Florence Riden's fine contralto voice was heard in an admirable rendering of Sardi's aria, "Lungi dal caro bene." Miss Riden is the Sheriffs' (contralto) prize winner, 1910. Mr. Bevington Rosse, the School (bass) prize winner, 1910, sang Handel's air, "Shall I in Mamre's Fertile Plains?" (*Joshua*); and a very clever little student, Master Louis Godowski, nine years old, a Special Corporation Scholar, quite distinguished himself in a violin solo, "Souvenir de Bellini" (Artot), and was recalled several times. The concert concluded with a fencing display by the Misses Petronella C. Collins and Irene M. Sargent, winners of the fencing prize of 1909 and 1910. Miss Jenny Hyman presided at the piano and Mr. David Beardwell at the harmonium.

The Chairman of the Music Committee, Mr. John R. Pakeman, in a short address said: "Every year in the life of an institution such as this school must bring changes, and I must first mention the fact that the veteran principal (Dr. Cummings) has been obliged to resign by reason of failing health. We miss his presence to-day, as for many years he has been accustomed to deliver an address on the occasion of the annual distribution of prizes, and it is only fitting to acknowledge here his strenuous and constant efforts on behalf of the school. He devoted his best energies to the work, and continued to do so until the breakdown which overcame him early in the summer term. Let us hope that he may be blessed with good health to enjoy his well-earned retirement. This retirement has thrown much extra work on our esteemed secretary, Mr. H. Saxe Wyndham. I have also, alas! to mention the deaths of five distinguished professors, Messrs. Prout, John Matt, A. Beaumont, Fountain Meen, and Henry Guy, all of whom were highly esteemed. On the other hand, I find consolation in the fact that the school has during the past year obtained some excellent results upon which the committee and the Corporation may well feel self-congratulation. The silver medal given triennially by the Musicians' Company to the most distinguished student in the school I was able to award to Mr. Gordon Burgess, A.G.S.M., F.C.O., B.A., whose successes have been so many that I dare not detain you long enough to mention them in full. The absence of the principal has necessitated my devoting a great deal of time to the affairs of the school, and I do not hesitate to say that in every branch there are students of a very high order, and possessing great, and, in some cases, quite exceptional, talent. My own opinion was confirmed by such eminent judges as Mr. Riccardo Martin, Mlle. de Lys, M. Emil Saure, Mr. Lloyd Chandos (himself an old student), Mme. Clara Samuel, and others. The Corporation of London has recently created further valuable scholarships. Two are of £80 each, providing maintenence and education, and five are of £30 each, for complete education. They will all be competed for in the course of the next year. In addition to these, two scholarships are given by the Grocers' Company for children of their Freemen, five scholarships for violin students given by the National Union of School Orchestras, the Maude Willby medal given by Miss Alice Grimes, the Pearce Morrison prize for enunciation in singing, and the August Manns' Memorial prize for a young pianist-composer. In addition, I must say how much we appreciate the renewal by the Merchant Taylors' Company of their valuable scholarships, and you will notice from the list that there are many other generous donors. I would mention that during the past year very successful operatic performances have been given of Gounod's *Irene* and Purcell's *Dido and Æneas*. I should also state that some distinguished former students have this season taken part in grand opera. Of these I may mention Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Betty Booker, and Mr. Byndon-Ayres. This is a fact of which we are justly proud, and which should afford an impetus to present students. At the conclusion of Mr. Pakeman's address, which was heartily applauded, the Lady Mayoress presented the medals and prizes to a very large number of successful students. Miss Audrey Richardson was awarded the silver Jubilee Commemoration Challenge Cup, given by the late Alderman Sir Stuart Knill; and Mr. Gordon Burgess the Musicians' Company silver medal. The Associates for 1910 were Miss E. K. Harrison, gold medallist for piano; Miss Marie Cox (pupil of Mr. L. Cairns James), silver medallist (elocution); and Mr. C. Arthur Wright, bronze medallist for elocution, also a pupil of Mr. L. C. James. Besides these awards there were a host of medals, prizes, and certificates too numerous to mention. A vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs, and their ladies was proposed by the chairman, and seconded by Mr. Richard Davies.

In responding, the Lord Mayor said this was almost his last public function, as his term of office was near a close. Sir John Knill also congratulated Miss Audrey Richardson, and in making a graceful allusion to Dr. Cummings, said he had always done his best to raise the Guildhall School of Music to its present high standard.

Mr. John Crawley's able performance of Dr. Basil Harwood's organ solo "Dithyramb" was the first item in the students' concert on Wednesday evening. In Sullivan's song "Will he come?" Miss Amy Watts was fairly successful; and Miss Dorothy Westlake for her piano solo gave a painstaking performance of the allegro from Beethoven's Sonata in B flat. Miss Dorothy Mackay attempted Donizetti's florid aria "O luce di quest anima," from *Linda di Chamonix*; while Miss Nellie H. V. Lynde was applauded for her violin solo "Romance et Rondo elegant," Op. 9 (Wieniawski). Mr. E. Marsh was hardly wise in selecting Blümenthal's once-famous song "My queen," as it requires such expressive singing. The two most successful vocalists in this concert were Miss May Colegate, heard in "Peace and rest" (Batten), and Miss M. E. E. Sowman, who gave a pleasing rendering of "Sunshine and butterflies." The most important item in the programme was Miss Evelyn K. Harrison's brilliant performance of Moszkowski's difficult "Caprice espagnole." Miss Harrison is this year's associate and gold medallist for pianoforte. Miss Eleanor Barrett (a pupil of Mr. Bassett Roe) recited "The Butterfly" (Hans Andersen) with considerable charm. The second recitation, "The Clown's Baby," was admirably delivered by Miss K. Wann, a clever pupil of Professor Paul Berton. Another student, Miss Marjorie H. Bolland, gave a careful performance of Chopin's A flat valse, Op. 82.

MR. JOHN TAYLOR, Mus.Bac., of 36, Grand-parade, Eastbourne, and late of Torquay, by his will, which has just been proved, left £500 to the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE MILLION,"

Comedy-vaudeville in Five Acts, by Georges Berr and Marcel Guillemaud, Produced at the Palais-Royal, on Oct. 28.

Béatrice ..... Mlle. Berny
Francine ..... Mlle. Yrven
Torelli ..... Mlle. Calvat
Mariette ..... Mlle. Danjou
Prosper ..... M. Ch. Lamy
Michel ..... M. Le Gallo
Tubjse ..... M. Hurteaux
Crochard ..... M. Clement
Champaubert ..... M. Patau
Sopranelli ..... M. Mangin

PARIS, Thursday, Nov. 3.—MM. Berr and Marcel's farce differs from those generally brought out at that house, in so far that it is not at all "peppery," and, with a little pruning, may be offered as a spectacle to a young ladies' school. The idea of the play is the chase after a million, or, rather, after a lottery ticket. This ticket that won the prize of a million francs belongs to Michel, a young hare-brained painter, who hid it in one of the pockets of his old studio jacket. But, during his absence, Thomas Crochard, a burglar, hunted by the police, rushes into Michel's studio, puts on the jacket, and goes straight to the reach-me-down shop, of which he is the owner, where he sells the jacket to Sopranelli; a tenor, who came to the shop to select a picturesque costume. Michel and his faithful friend, Champaubert, are arrested by the police on suspicion of being burglars, but they succeed in chloroforming the inspector on duty and all his men, whereupon they escape, and we meet them again at Sopranelli's trying to take possession of the jacket. After much trouble Béatrice, a young pianiste, Michel's friend, finds the garment, which she then throws out of the window to Michel and his friend, who are waiting on the pavement. Unfortunately it drops on a motor-car going at the rate of sixty miles an hour. Fresh troubles and complications ensue, until finally Crochard, the burglar, pursues the car and brings back the coat with the ticket inside; for Crochard owes a debt of gratitude to Béatrice, who assisted him in escaping, and he tells Michel that Béatrice loves him (Michel) without daring to show him her affection. And everything ends happily by a marriage between the new millionaire Michel and Béatrice. The vaudeville, which raised much laughter, was spiritedly played by a very efficient cast.

"ARSENE LUPIN CONTRE HERLOCK SHOLMES."

Detective Play, in Four Acts and 22 Tableaux, by V. Darlay and de Gorsse, Brought Out at the Chatelet on Oct. 28.

Rebecca ..... Mlle. Ety
Mme des Epouffettes ..... Mlle. Maud
Miss Moore ..... Mlle. Alson
Ganimard ..... M. Moricey
Herlock ..... M. Noury
Arsène Lupin ..... M. Jullien
Fotinard ..... M. Hamilton
Nazir-Pacha ..... M. Albens
Gottlieb ..... M. Bardes
Monnier ..... M. Legoux
Piédechou ..... M. Ollivier
Fred ..... Mlle. Carina

It is a foolish spectacular play, but one that will please the little boys and girls whom their parents will take to the Chatelet, and for whom, no doubt, the work was written. The little folks will delight in the homeric struggle between that arch-thief Arsène Lupin and the great American Herlock Sholmes, without reckoning the latter's seven-year-old son, Fred, like his father, a born detective. It would be a hopeless task to relate in detail the plot of this intricate business. Sufficient to say that Lupin robs the banker Gottlieb of a valuable jewel belonging to the ineffable Nazir Pacha. Lupin then bluffs Ganimard, an idiotic police inspector, and, chased by Herlock Sholmes, locks up the latter in a grotto in his country seat at Villers-Cotterets. The American detective, however, is not to be beaten, for he shadows Lupin wherever he goes, and recognises him in his various disguises. But Lupin has undergone a transformation. He is in love with the highly respectable Miss Moore, and, thanks to that lady's influence, becomes a reformed character. Herlock Sholmes and his clever little son will not now arrest Lupin, but allow him to escape and begin life once more under honourable auspices. The Chatelet management have introduced many "numbers" in the play that have nothing whatever to do with the action, but appeared to give much pleasure to an easily-amused audience.

"CHOU-BLANC,"

Farce, in 3 Acts, by Grenet-Dancourt and R. Dieudonné, Produced at the Nouveautés on Oct. 29.

Yvonne Chaloup ..... Mlle. Marguerite Caron
Fanoche ..... Mlle. Templey
Mominette ..... Mlle. Peuget
Angèle ..... Mlle. Delys
Le Frisé ..... M. Germain
Lambinet ..... M. Sulbac
Lasnier ..... M. Coquet
Chaloup ..... M. Ladrin
Jacques ..... M. Saint-Bonnet

The new farce met with a well-deserved success, although the authors depict the morals of the Paris middle-class in rather sombre colours. Maurice Lasnier is a friend of Chaloup. He pays marked attention to that gentleman's wife, Yvonne, who does not object to become Maurice's mistress. She, therefore arranges to accompany her intended lover on a motor-car trip, when they will manage to spend a night together. But on the road to Rambouillet the car breaks down, and the lovers have to return to Paris without having made closer acquaintance. Unfortunately, a sporting paper informs its readers that M. Lasnier, the well-known motorist, has come to grief with his car near Rambouillet, whither he was going with a lady. That paragraph is read by Fanoche, Lasnier's mistress, a spiteful cocotte, who at once suspects her friend, Angèle, of being the lady who accompanied Lasnier. Lasnier then hires a little house at Auteuil where he can receive Yvonne, but Fate ordains that these two lovers will never accomplish their purpose. The house at Auteuil—supposed to be uninhabited—is the home of Le Frisé, an apache, who is in the habit of meeting there his friend, Mlle. Mominette. And in the bedroom of the Auteuil house we meet all the *dramatis personæ*: Le Frisé, who awaits his lady; Mominette, who comes to meet Le Frisé; Maurice and Yvonne, who want to be an hour by themselves, undisturbed; Fanoche, in search of her supposed rival; and, finally, Yvonne's husband. Maurice sees Mominette in the bed where he expects to find Yvonne. Le Frisé embraces Yvonne, whom he mistakes for Mominette, and the arrival of Yvonne's husband brings things to a climax. Maurice and Yvonne extricate themselves the best way they can out of the difficulty, but their last chance of ever having a secret meeting is gone.

Miss Naomi Rutherford.

Miss Naomi Rutherford, the talented young actress who has come to the front so rapidly during the last six months whilst acting with Leonard Rayne's company in South Africa, was born in New Zealand, but has lived most of her life in Johannesburg. Her first part was Cissy Denver in *The Silver King* with Wilson Barrett when he was in South Africa. She was then only nine. Later she was with Edward Terry at the old Empire, acting Dick Bellamy in *My Pretty Maid*, and two years ago she joined Leonard Rayne's company. One of Miss Rutherford's big hits was the part of Batty, the boy in *The Breed of the Treshams*; but she told a *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg) reporter that she does not like being a boy. She prefers light comedy, and revels in acting the ingenué in *The School for Scandal*.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

OCTOBER.

London.

Inconstant George, comedy, in three acts, adapted by Gladys Unger from *L'Ane de Buridan*, by Robert de Flers and Armand Caillavet (Gymnase, Feb. 19, 1909); Prince of Wales's Theatre, Oct. 1.

The Shop-soiled Girl, drama, in four acts, by Walter Melville; Elephant and Castle, Oct. 3.

The New Life, play, in one act, by R. A. Brandon and George Bull (Carpenter Matinée); Lyceum, Oct. 4.

Maw; or, The Squab Lady, comedy, in three acts, by Ethel Watts Munford and Margaret Herford; Terry's, Oct. 6.

A Place Hunter Purled, farce, adapted and modernised from *Le Solliciteur; ou, L'Art d'Obbenir Les Places*, by Eugène Scribe (W. H. C. Nation's season); Royalty, Oct. 8.

The Cost of Cringing, comedy, in two acts, adapted from *Maître Corbeau*, by Hyppolite Raymond and Maurice Ordonneau (W. H. C. Nation's season); Royalty, Oct. 8.

Where Angels Fear to Tread, melodrama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Oct. 10.

The Girl on the Boat, musical comedy, in three acts, by Violet Hatherley and Cyril Winchcomb; Brixton Theatre, Oct. 10.

Lysistrata, an adaptation from the Greek of Aristophanes' Play, by Laurence Housman (opening by Miss Gertrude Kingston of the Little Theatre, John-street, Adelphi); Oct. 11.

Le Chemineau, French lyric-drama, in four acts, by Xavier Leroux, founded on Jean Richepin's drama, originally produced at the Paris Opéra-Comique, Nov. 6, 1907 (Beecham Opera season); Royal Opera, Covent Garden, Oct. 12.

Company for George, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Warren Bell (opening of Miss May Palfrey's and Miss Lena Ashwell's season); Kingsway Theatre, Oct. 15.

Grace, play, in four acts, by W. Somerset Maugham; Duke of York's Theatre, Oct. 15.

The Angel of His Dreams, drama, in four acts, by George A. De Gray (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Castleford, April 26, 1909); Lyric, Hammersmith, Oct. 17.

Why Did She Run Away? drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Oct. 10, 1910); Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Oct. 17.

Tracked by Wireless, melodrama, in five acts, adapted from *Answers* serial "Blackmail"; Shakespeare, Clapham, Oct. 17.

Facing the World Alone, drama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell (originally produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, under the title of *I Want to be Loved*, on March 30, 1910); Reopening, by George Conquest, of the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton.

Between the Soup and the Savoury, play, in one act, by G. E. Jennings (originally produced for a trial performance at the Albert Hall Theatre on May 31, 1910); Playhouse, Oct. 19.

Count Hannibal, romantic play, in four acts, adapted by Norreys Connell and Oscar Asche from the novel by Stanley Weyman, originally produced on March 18, 1909, at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol; New Theatre, Oct. 20.

Mrs. Skeffington, an Episode in Cavalry Barracks, in three acts, by Cosmo Hamilton; Queen's Theatre, Oct. 21.

Provinces.

The Boy King, romantic play, in four acts, by Walter Howard; Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, Oct. 3.

The Cloister, poetic drama, in four acts, translated by Osman Edwards from *Le Cloître* of Emile Verhaeren; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Oct. 3.

Chasing Cynthia, musical comedy, in two acts, by Frank Stanmore; Winter Gardens, Bootle, Oct. 3.

Her King of Men, drama, in four acts, by Russell Norrie; Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, Oct. 3.

The Last Night, dramatic play, in one act, by Robert Higginbotham; Theatre Royal, York, Oct. 3.

Why Did She Run Away? domestic drama, in four acts, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Oct. 10.

Servants of Pan, fantasy, by Clarice Laurence; Theatre Royal, Margate, Oct. 14.

The Point of View, play, in one act, by G. L. Robins; Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Oct. 17.

The Lie, play, in one act, by Beatrice Heron-Maxwell; Grand Opera House, Belfast, Oct. 17.

The Hour of Temptation, domestic drama, in three acts, by Cecil Newton; Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, Oct. 20.

Protecting Mrs. Moxon, play, in one act, by Arthur Eskersley; Grand Opera House, Belfast, Oct. 24.

John Berkeley's Ghost, comedy, in four acts, by Arthur Anderson and Hartley Carrick; Royal County Theatre, Bedford, Oct. 27.

Paris.

César Birotteau, play, after Balzac, by Emile Fabre, in four acts and five tableaux; Antoine's, Oct. 7.

Le Petit Dieu, comedy, in four acts, by Louis Artus; Athénée, Oct. 8.

La Conquête d'Athènes, play, in four acts, by Albert du Bois; Sarah-Bernhardt, Oct. 11.

Le Marchand de Bonheur, comedy, in three acts, by H. Kistemaekers; Vaudeville, Oct. 18.

Un Soir, comedy, in three acts, by Gabriel Trarieux; Odéon, Oct. 18.

Les plus beaux jours, comedy, in three acts, by Traversi; Odéon, Oct. 18.

Le Château des Loufoques, farce, in three acts, by Benjamin Rabier and Albert Chantrier; Cluny, Oct. 18.

Les Marionnettes, comedy, in four acts, by Pierre Wolff; Comédie-Française, Oct. 26.

Le Million, vaudeville, in five acts, by Georges Berr and Guillemand; Palais-Royal, Oct. 28.

Arsène Lupin contre Herlock Sholmes, spectacular detective story, in four acts and twenty-two tableaux; Chatelet, Oct. 28.

Chou-Blanc, farce, in three acts, by Grenet-Dancourt; Nouveautés, Oct. 29.

Berlin.

Wenn der junge Wein blüht, three-act comedy, by B. Björnson—Lessing, Oct. 1.

Der Liebestrank, farce, in three acts, by Frank Wedekind—Kleines, Oct. 6.

Die Zensur, one-act piece, by Frank Wedekind—Kleines, Oct. 6.

Der Fähnrich im Kloster, three-act play, by C. Albert—Luisen, Oct. 7.

Der Stier von Olivera, play, in three acts, by H. Lilienfein—Neues, Oct. 14.

Der Krampus, three-act comedy, by H. Bahr—Royal Schauspielhaus, Oct. 15.

Die törichte Jungfrau, play, in four acts, by H. Bataille—Berliner, Oct. 15.

Der Moloch, three-act tragedy, by Leo Birinski—Modernes, Oct. 23.

Die Verschwörung der Frauen, play, in five acts, by A. Müller—Rose, Oct. 27.

Die Schauspieler des Kaisers, three-act drama, by K. Wartenburg—Neues, Oct. 28.

Berlin geht zu Bett, four-act musical farce, by E. Ritterfeld—Luisen, Oct. 28.

Der heilige Hain, comedy, in three acts, by MM. de Flers and de Caillavet—Trianon, Oct. 28.

Herr und Diener, three-act play, by Ludwig Fulda—Deutsches, Oct. 29.

Der scharfe Junker, play, in three acts, by Georg Engel—Berliner, Oct. 29.

Jack Tar goes Rinking.

The Palace Rink, Penzance, has been visited recently by a large number of the crew of H.M.S. Cæsar, anchored in Mount's Bay, and also by members of Mr. Arthur Haro's company, *The Pair of Spectacles*.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The following additions to the list of artists who are giving their services at the Employees' Benevolent Fund concert, on Sunday, Nov. 20, at the Coliseum, have been secured: Mme. Zelie de Lussan, Miss Helen Blain, the Hon. Eva O'Connor, Mr. Dutch Daly, Miss Florence Dudley, and Miss Violet Lorraine. Mr. Bernard Gluck has kindly consented to act as the accompanist.

There is a good demand for tickets, and all those below 2s. 6d. in price have already been sold. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones sends a cheque for £2 2s. to the hon. treasurer, Mr. Pedgrift, and says he will be glad to have his name added to the list of patrons of the concert. Sir Arthur Pinero sends £1 1s.; Sir Edward Moss, £1 1s.; Mr. Frank Curzon, £1 1s.; Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, £1 1s.; and Mr. Henry Tozer has consented, "with pleasure," to add his name to the list of patrons.

A meeting of cinematograph operators was held on Tuesday morning at the A.M.U. Club, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C. Mr. Mason, vice-president of the N.A.C.O., presided. The secretary (Mr. John Hutchins) presented reports on several important items, among which were the result of an informal conference with representatives of the Cinematograph Defence League, the Manufacturers' and Hirers' Association, and details of the arrangements made for the examination of candidates for certificates. Mr. W. Day sent a donation of £1 1s. for the Association to give a prize to the candidate sending in the most satisfactory examination paper. A number of applications for membership were considered. A sub-committee met on Wednesday at 29, Wellington-street to go through the large number of examination papers sent in.

Mr. J. L. Meeker, corresponding secretary to the New York City Branch of the International Alliance of Stage Employees, writes to Mr. William Johnson, and sends the local scale of pay, in referring to which Mr. Meeker says: "While it may seem to be rather high, taking into consideration the high cost of living, &c., it is only a fair rate of wages." Mr. Meeker says the past year has been the most eventful one in the history of the Alliance, many branches having secured increases in the rate of pay.

THEATRICAL PROTECTIVE UNION NO. 1 OF NEW YORK,
I.A.T.S.E.
131, WEST 42ND STREET.

Schedule of Prices, 1910.

Master Carpenter of a Theatre, not less than, per week $30.00
Second Hand of a Theatre, not less than, per week 25.00
Master of Properties of a Theatre, not less than, per week 25.00
Master Electrician of a Theatre, not less than, per week 25.00

Master Carpenter, Second Hand, Master of Properties, and Master Electrician, who are required to be present during performances on Sunday, either matinée, night, or both, where an admission fee is charged, shall be paid extra, at the rate of one day's salary.

Stage Hands and Flymen shall receive for a performance not less than $1.75
Stage Hands and Flymen shall receive, for a rehearsal, per hour 0.50

A rehearsal to be classed as such when scenery is set and struck for the use of characters of the play, also for lighting, scenes, or working effects.

In theatres where scenery is set and struck for the benefit of the opening performance, and those working the same, it shall be charged for as days work (if done in other than between the hours of 8 to 12 and 1 to 5, it shall be charged for as broken time).

Members of this Union doing work while a rehearsal is in progress, such as cutting, netting, profiling, or any other work, shall be paid at the rate of broken time.

Master Carpenters, Master of Properties, and Master Electricians, holding positions as house men, and required to work in shops during the day by their management, building their productions:—

To receive not less than, per week: Master Carpenter, $40.00; Master of Properties, $35.00; Master Electrician, $35.00.

Seven hours a day in the shop, 9 to 12 and 1 to 5, and show time at night, to constitute a day's work.

Six days to constitute a week's work. Unless changing the bill in their own house (on the incoming attraction), which work shall be included in the above salary.

Stage Carpenters and Property Makers shall receive for a day's work, 8 to 12 and 1 to 5, in a theatre, shop, or storehouse, not less than, per day $4.50
Journeymen Electricians shall receive for a day's work, 8 to 12 and 1 to 5, in a theatre, shop, or storehouse, not less than, per day $4.00
Assistant Carpenters shall receive for a day's work, 8 to 12 and 1 to 5, in a theatre, shop, or storehouse, not less than, per day $3.00

Stage Carpenters, Property Makers, and Journeymen Electricians, working Sundays, holidays, or overtime on the construction of scenery, properties, or electrical effects in a theatre, shop, or storehouse, shall be paid at the rate of double time per hour.

Assistant Carpenters working Sundays, holidays, or overtime in a theatre, shop, or storehouse shall receive not less than double time per hour.

All members of this Union shall be paid at the rate of $2.50 per man for loading or unloading each and every car.

When the head of any department leaves his theatre to go on the road for a period not to exceed four (4) weeks, he shall receive, in addition to his regular house salary, all expenses, i.e., hotel bill, sleepers, &c., and this Union will not be responsible for any accident that may occur during such absence.

The heads of departments are to give and receive one week's notice when terminating an engagement.

And no member of this Union to take the position unless same has been complied with.

No time shall be given by the members of this Union other than the half-hour after the performance at the end of an engagement, without the consent of the Union.

This Union recognises and proclaims the following as legal holidays, for which double time shall be charged:—New Year's Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Decoration Day, Independence Day, Labour Day, Election Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

When it becomes necessary for a manager to call upon the working staff of his travelling attraction to work in a shop, storehouse, or theatre, other than his own attraction, he, or they, shall receive the extra $10.000 per week, as paid to the heads of departments of a theatre, and that only members of this Union shall be eligible to do so.

All construction work done in carpenter, property, and electrical shop, storehouses or theatres, within the jurisdiction of this Union, shall be done by members of this Union.

And no member of a local of the I.A.T.S.A. shall be allowed to do so without first obtaining the consent of this Union.

"The Law of Musical Copyright." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., Lond. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 7.

Almost His Bride.—Hippodrome, Scarborough.
Alone in London.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Angel of His Dreams.—Alex. T., Sheffield.
Apple of Eden.—T. R., Aston.
Arcadians (N.).—T. R., Bradford.
Arcadians (S.).—Oxford and Cambridge.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Batley.
Bad Girl of the Family.—Pier, Eastbourne.
Beecham Opera Co.—Court T., Liverpool.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Junc. T., Manchester.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Warminster and Shepton Mallet.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Grand T., Leeds.
Bishop's Son, The.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Black Mask.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
Blue Bird.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Boy King.—Star T., Liverpool.
Brass Bottle, The.—King's T., Glasgow.
Broken Heart.—Gaiety T., Methil.
Bulmer, Mr.—O. H., Workington.
Can a Woman be Good?—T. R., Bristol.
Candida.—T. R., Stockport.
Captain Jack.—Grand T., Walsall.
Captain Kidd.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Blackburn.
Castellano's Opera Co.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Chalmers Mackey and Co.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Charley's Aunt.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Chasing Cynthia.—Pavilion, Weymouth.
Child of the Streets.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Chorus Lady.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Christian, The (Draper).—T. R., Coatbridge.
Cingalee (A.).—Castle T., Stockton.
Claudian.—T. R., Castleford.
Coal King.—T. R., North Shields.
Compton Comedy Co.—Cambridge and Oxford.
Country Girl, A.—T. R., Halifax.
Country Girl in London.—Shrewsbury & Stafford.
Criminal's Bride.—T. R., Smethwick.
Dairymaids, The.—T. R., Bury.
Dairymaids, The (N.).—Grand T., Doncaster.
Dame Nature.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Daughter of the Sea.—O. H., Dudley.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—T. R., Dublin.
Dear Little Denmark.—T. R., Exeter.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes) (N.).—T. R., Manchester.
Dollar Princess (S.).—T. R., Plymouth.
Don.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
D'Oyly Carte.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Drama of Life.—Grand T., Halifax.
Draycott, Chas.—T. R., Blyth.
Driven from Home.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Earl and the Girl.—Lancaster and Kendal.
East Lynne (Watt).—Pavilion, Abertillery.
Face at the Window.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Facing the World Alone.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
Fast Life, A.—Palace T., Derby.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Alex. T., Widnes.
Fighting Chance.—T. R., Leeds.
Flag Lieutenant.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Florodora (Constant).—Grand T., Oldham.
For Love and the King.—T. R., Barnsley.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Grand T., Fulham.
From Convent to Throne.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Geisha.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Girl Who Went Astray.—O. H., Workington.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Hand that Rocks the Cradle.—T. R., Norwich.
Happy-Go-Lucky O'Lyn.—King's T., Greenock.
Harvey, Martin.—New T., Cardiff.
Havana.—O. H., Northampton.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Prince's T., Preston.
Her Love Against the World.—O. H., Coventry.
Her Nameless Child.—T. R., Rotherham.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., York.
Her Secret Lover.—T. R., Worcester.
His Dishonoured Wife.—T. R., Belfast.
His Indian Wife.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
House of Temperley.—O. H., Southport.
House of Temperley.—P. T., Bristol.
House Opposite.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Irving, H. B.—T. R., Brighton.
Irving, Laurence.—Boro' T., Stratford.
It's Always the Woman.—T. R., Sheffield.
Jeannie Deans.—Gaiety T., Leith.
King and the Unknown Woman.—Hippo., Leigh.
King of Cadonia.—O. H., Cheltenham.
King of the Wild West.—Queen's T., Dublin.
King's Romance.—G. T., Southampton.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Llandilo and Kington.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Life for a Life.—Hippodrome, Bilston.
Life of a Showman.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
Life's Revenge.—P. T., Blackburn.
Little Phil's Mother.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Lodge-Percy, J. C. and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Sheerness.
Love of the Princess.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Lucky 'Liza.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Man to Man.—Grand T., Brighton.
Marsh, Alexander.—Court T., Wigan.
Master of the Mill.—T. R., Leicester.
Merry Territorial, The.—T. R., Worthing.
Merry Widow (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
Merry Widow (S.).—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Merry Widow (3).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Message from Mars.—Bedford and Grantham.
Midnight Mail.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Midnight Wedding.—P. T., Bradford.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Royalty T., Chester.
Miss Plaster—of Paris.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—County T., Reading.
Mountaineers, The.—T. R., Glasgow.
Mr. Barnes of New York.—Sheerness.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—O. H., Middlesbro'.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
My Irish Molly.—T. R., Crook.
New East Lynn.—T. R., Dublin.
New Lady Bantock.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Nick Carter.—O. H., Londonderry.
Night and Morning.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Nihilist, The.—Prince's T., Accrington.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Hippo., Wednesbury.
Old Home.—T. R., Woolwich.
Old Folks at Home.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Old Heidelberg.—T. R., Bolton.
Our Miss Gibbs (Edwardes).—O. H., Belfast.
Our Miss Gibbs (Dance) (N.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Our Miss Gibbs (S.).—Leamington and Swindon.
Outcast of the Family.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
Passing of the Third Floor Back. — Assembly Rooms, Durham.
Power of the King.—T. R., Sunderland.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (N.).—T. R., Jarrow.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (S.).—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Priscilla Runs Away.—Grand T., Hull.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Prodigal Parson.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Proof.—Alex. T., New Washington.
Queen of the Fair.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Raynor Repertory.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Rollicking Rory.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Ruin of Her Life.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Sexton Blake.—Victoria T., Burnley.
Sherlock Holmes.—O. H., Wrexham.
Sign of the Cross.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Sign of the Cross (Bowes).—Malvern and Aberavon.
Silver King.—T. R., Darlington.
Sinner, The.—Met. T., Abertillery.
Smith (N.).—T. R., Chatham.
Smith (S.).—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Sowers, The.—Hastings and Folkestone.
Speckled Band.—King's T., Sunderland.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
Tantalizing Tommy.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Temptation.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Terry, Edward.—T. R., Nottingham.
Thief in the Night.—T. R., Aldershot.
Through the Divorce Court.—O. H., St. Helens.
Traitor Prince.—Empire T., Oldham.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—P. O. W., Salford.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Under the Iron Heel.—T. R., Margate.
Village Blacksmith.—King's T., Seacombe.
Waller, Lewis.—T. R., Birmingham.
Was She to Blame?—T. R., Stanley.
What the Butler Saw.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
When Knights Were Bold.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
When Knights Were Bold.—Hippo., Barry.
When it was Dark.—Palace T., Ebbw Vale.
When London Sleeps.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Where is William?—O. H., Blackpool.
Whip, The.—O. H., Leicester.
White Man, A.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Who is She?—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Whom God Hath Joined.—Met T., Gateshead.
Wilkie, Allan.—Grand T., Nelson.
Woman of Two Lives.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Woman's Past.—O. H., Kidderminster.
World, Flesh, and the Devil.—Britannia T., N.E.
Wrecker of Men.—Gaiety T., Worksop.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Alexander, Mr. S. King
Allan-Edwardes, Mr.
Anglo, Mr. Chas.
Arundale, Miss S.
Austin, Mr. Arthur
Barrett and Knowles
Barth, Mr. Lonnie
Beecham, Mr. George
Bell, Mr. Broadbent
Boswell, Mr. Sidney
Brammall, Mr. H. B.
Buff-Bill
Bull, Mr. Gordon K.
Burrows, Mr. T. W.
Caley, Miss Daisy
Carr, Mr. Philip
Carson, Mr. Lingford
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Chase, Miss P.
Collins, Miss Lucia
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Cotterell, Mr. Sid
Curran, Mr. Fred
Daly, Mr. Brian
Daly, Mrs. Lawrence
Dashwood, Mr. A.
Deane, Miss Eileen
De Caston, Mr. Walter
De Landes, Mr. R. O.
De Marr, Mr. Harry
Dewar, Miss Mary
Dolf, Mr. S.
Douglas, Mr. Geo.
Douglas, Mr. J. D.
Draco, Mr. K.
Elder, Miss Nance
Elliott, Miss Queenie
Elliston, Mr. J. H.
Elton, Mr. Sam
Enger, Sergt. J.
English, Mr. George
Erskine, Miss Evie
Evans, Mr. Wash
Eyson, Miss Edith
Fairhurst, Mr. G.
Fancourt, Mr. Tom
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Field, Mr. Harry
Field, Miss Lila
Ford, Miss Ray
Forde, Mr. Owen
Fox, Mr. J. Gallimore
Foy, Mr. Tom
Fulford, Mr. and Mrs. C. M.
Fuller, Miss Loie
George, Mr. Chandos
Godwin, Mr. Will
Gordon, Miss Winnie
Gorigund, Miss D.
Graham and Conyers
Grossie, Les
Harrison, Miss
Hart, Mr. M.
Haverley, Mr. C. E.
Hawtrey, Mrs. George
Heathcote, Mr. Robert
Herdman, Mr. Jack
High, Mr. H. E.
Hine, Mr. Robert
Howard, Mr. Eardley
Humber, Miss Fanny
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Jackson, Miss Ethel
"Jennie and Joe"
Kemble, Mr. H.
Kenny, Mr. Charles
Kent, Mr. T. F.
Kettel, Captain
Kirkdale, Mr. R. D.
Knight, Miss Violet
Lawrie, Miss Carrie
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lea, Miss Lillian
Leigh, Miss Grace
Leigh, Mr. A.
Leonard, Mr. Jack
Leotard, Mr. Tom
Leslie Brothers
Leven, Mr. Ben
Le Blanc, Miss Marie
Lillias, Miss
Lilly, Mr. A. C.
Lion, Mr. Leon M.
Luxmore, Miss M.
Lytton, Mr. Bert
Maddison, Mr. H.
Maxim, Mr. Tom
McCarthy, Mr. Chas
McEwen, Mr. Walter
McNaughton, Mr. Fred
Meads, Mr. Earle F.
Mohamed, Ben
Montisole and Macleod
Mooney, Mr. Jim
Moore, Mr. Henry A.
Moore, Miss Carrie
Morgan, Mr. Harry
Morton, Mr. James J.
Murray, Mr. G. R.
Murray, Mr. T. E.
Nevis, Mr. Ben
Nixon, Mr. W. D.
Noell, Mme. A.
Norwood, Miss Bertha
Otley, Mr. C.
Palmer, Mr. F. Payne
Paul, Mr. T. M.
Pearson, Mr. H. A.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Reeves, Miss Marie
Rignold, Mrs. L.
Robson, Miss May
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rowley, Mr. J. W.
Russell, Mr. W. K.
Sampson, Mr.
Saxonys, The
Spaulding, Captain
Savidge, Mr. James
Shepperd, Mr. E. G.
Sivado, Mr. Chas.
Sivroni, Mr. E.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Smit and Smit
Smith, Miss Annie
Smith, Mr. Eustace S.
Stedman, Mr. Charles
Stewart, Miss Rose
Steyne, Mr. E. J
Strauss, Miss Rita
Sutherland, Mr. Frank
Thebaud, Miss E. M.
Toone, Mr. Alfred C.
Valazi
Van Biene, Mr. Auguste
Vane, Miss Edith
Vernons, The Five
Vetter, Mr. W. Eugene
Villiers, Mr. John
Vinning, Miss Maude
Ware, Miss Nettie
Whitford, Mr. J.
Whyte, Mr. Robert
Wilson, Mr. Frank
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Wood, Miss Daisie
Wood, Mr. Percy

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York.
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

A SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL.

The Shakespeare memorial at Verona was inaugurated last Sunday by Sir Rennell Rodd, the British Ambassador to the Italian Court. The Ambassador, speaking in Italian, alluded to Shakespeare, whose remarkable knowledge of Italy, if due perhaps to his genius rather than to a personal visit, shows at least how profoundly he had been penetrated by the Italian spirit. At Verona (continued the speaker) we are in the very heart of Shakespeare's country; it is in Italy that the poet found the most suitable environment for his romantic creations—in Sicily for *The Winter's Tale* and *Much Ado About Nothing*, in Italian waters for *The Tempest*, at Padua for *The Taming of the Shrew*, in Florence for *All's Well That Ends Well*, on the lagoons for *The Merchant of Venice* and *Othello*, at "fair Verona where we lay our scene" for *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Verona had, indeed, no need of a poet to perpetuate its memories. Placed at the meeting of the great ways that lead from Italy to Germany, she was marked out for fame from the time of the Cimbri to our own, while as the birthplace of Catullus, the refuge of Dante, she now pays her respects to the greatest poet of the North—a poet already interpreted in Italy by Federico Garlanda, and about to be translated in his entirety by Diego Angeli. As representing in Italy the fatherland of Shakespeare and of my Sovereign, who, as an exceptional favour, has allowed me in this year of national mourning to appear here to-day, I thank the Municipality of Verona, the members of the committee, and the sculptor for their generosity. The memorial, planned some three years ago, is situated at Juliet's tomb, and takes the form of a bust of the poet, surrounded by the principal characters from his plays, all in white Carrara marble, the work of the local sculptor, Cattani.

At a recent meeting of the Evesham Town Council it was resolved that the Town Clerk communicate with the boroughs of Kidderminster, Droitwich, and Bewdley, asking them to join with the Council in making a representation to the County Council to delegate their powers in connection with the licences of theatres in the boroughs to the Town Councils instead of to the county justices, as at present. The Town Cl

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

Oct. 1.—Surrey Vaudeville Theatre closed for rebuilding.
Oct. 2.—Opening Concert of the season at the Vaudeville Club.
Oct. 3.—Opening of autumn season at Covent Garden, with Ambroise Thomas's opera *Hamlet*.
Oct. 3.—Opening of Bristol Coliseum by the Lady Mayoress of Bristol.
Oct. 4.—Last performance of *The Bishop's Son* at the Garrick.
Oct. 4.—Matinée at the Lyceum on behalf of the widow of the late Ernest Carpenter.
Oct. 5.—"Au revoir" Supper to Mr. Fred Terry at the Hotel Metropole.
Oct. 6.—Resignation by Dr. W. H. Cummings of the post of principal of the Guildhall School of Music.
Oct. 7.—Reception to Mme. Sarah Bernhardt in celebration of her visit to London, Holborn Restaurant.
Oct. 7.—Benefit to Mr. Nelson Francis, manager of the Empress, Brixton.
Oct. 8.—Last performance of *Young Fernald* at the New.
Oct. 11.—Opening of the Little Theatre, John-street, Adelphi, with *Lysistrata*.
Oct. 11.—Opening by Sir Herbert Tree of the Shakespeare Memorial and Theatrical Exhibition, Whitechapel Art Gallery.
Oct. 11.—Interment of the remains of the late Belle Elmore at the Finchley Cemetery.
Oct. 12.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson sailed for America.
Oct. 13.—Annual General Meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Mr. Joe Elvin, chairman of committee, presiding.
Oct. 13.—Fifth anniversary of the death of Sir Henry Irving.
Oct. 13.—Presentation of gold medal and chain to Miss Kitty Colyer, in recognition of her collection of the sum of £63 13s. on behalf of the Music Hall Home.
Oct. 14.—Farewell Celebration at the Standard Music Hall, Pimlico, which finally closed the following evening.
Oct. 14.—Mr. H. B. Irving delivered at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, the first of the new series of Salon lectures in aid of the funds of the Ladies' Sanitary Association, and referred at length to the subject of Sunday drama.
Oct. 15.—Miss May Palfrey and Miss Lena Ashwell began a joint season at the Kingsway with the new play *Company for George*
Oct. 15.—Last night of *The Man from the Sea* at the Queen's.
Oct. 16.—At the Criterion Restaurant Mr. Lawrence Housman addressed a special meeting of the O.P. Club on the subject of the censorship.
Oct. 16.—Presentation of an address and cheque to Mr. Fred Neiman, on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday, at the Loughborough Hotel, Brixton.
Oct. 17.—Opening of New Hippodrome, Sutton, Surrey.
Oct. 17.—Beginning of a series of performances by the British Empire Shakespeare Society of *As You Like It*, at the Court Theatre, with four different exponents of Rosalind.
Oct. 17.—Thirteenth annual ordinary general meeting Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, Ltd.
Oct. 17.—Reopening of the Britannia Theatre by Mr. George Conquest with *Facing the World Alone*.
Oct. 18.—Last performance of *Tantalizing Tommy* at the Playhouse.
Oct. 18.—Annual general meeting, Actors' Day, St. James's Theatre, Mr. Sydney Valentine presiding.
Oct. 19.—Miss Ellen Terry sailed on the Oceanic from Southampton for America, to begin a lecture tour in New York.
Oct. 20.—Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton, returned from a tour in Australia, opened at the New Theatre in *Count Hanibal*.
Oct. 21.—Benefit to Mr. Robert W. Duce, manager of the Granville Music Hall.
Oct. 21.—Actors' Day.
Oct. 22.—Opening by Sir William Bass of the Picture House, New-street, Birmingham.
Oct. 22.—Fourteenth Annual Balaclava Matinée at the Alhambra, in aid of the Light Brigade Charge Survivors' Relief Fund.
Oct. 22.—Dr. Crippen convicted at the Old Bailey of the murder of Belle Elmore and condemned to death.
Oct. 23.—Special general meeting of the Terriers' Association at the Three Stags' Hotel, Kennington-road, to consider the valuer's report of the first quinquennial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Association.
Oct. 24.—Opening of Kingston Empire.
Oct. 25.—Annual banquet of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, Stationers' Hall.
Oct. 25.—Miss Estelle Stead presented selections from Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* and *Macbeth* at the Little Theatre.
Oct. 26.—An injunction granted against Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter restraining them from publishing their waltz "L'Oiseau Bleue" in any cover calculated to lead to the impression that the music was taken from Maeterlinck's play *The Blue Bird*.
Oct. 26.—Actress's Franchise League "At Home," Georgian Rooms, Piccadilly Hotel, Miss Decima Moore in the chair.
Oct. 27.—Sir Charles Wyndham returned to the Criterion with a revival of *The Liars*.
Oct. 29.—Benefit to Mr. Morris Abrahams, manager of the Queen's, Poplar.
Oct. 30.—Thirteenth Annual Meeting Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Mr. Joe Elvin in the chair.
Oct. 30.—Eleventh Annual Dinner O.P. Club, Hotel Cecil, Mr. A. E. W. Mason in the chair.

Reynolds and Donegan Retained for Another Month.

EARLE REYNOLDS AND NELLIE DONEGAN will remain at the Wintergarten, Berlin, for another month. The act has proved a big draw, and is still being featured at this famous variety house during its second month's stay.

Kirkcaldy Olympia.

ENTERPRISE has been the keynote of success with this rink, as the craze is again at fever height. Every form of sport is being held here nightly, and Mr. Hunter is sparing no expense in the interests of catering for his numerous patrons.

THE GREAT REMEDY FOR COUGHS and COLDS
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. & 11s.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 16 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERNEST ST. JOHN.—*In that case an application to the Actors' Benevolent Fund would be your best course.*

ERNEST TAYLOR.—*The play was produced at the Haymarket Theatre. You might get into communication with the management.*

G. NEWSTED.—*We know of no particular method. Acting-managers are sometimes promoted to that position after experience in the box-office of a theatre. The most direct way is often reached through influence. You must begin by taking a subordinate position, to learn routine. Salary £2 and upwards. Try an advertisement.*

A. F. L.—*Your question is slightly ambiguous. Do you refer to novels dealing with aspects of stage life, or to actual reminiscences and experiences of well-known players? Anthony Hope's novel, "A Servant of the Public," which has been dramatised, deals with life at the footlights; and Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, and many other stage celebrities have had their life chronicles published.*

LEONARD COOPER.—*There have been many adaptations of Bulwer Lytton's "Last Days of Pompeii." Under the same title adaptations by Fitzball and J. B. Buckstone were presented at the Victoria and the Adelphi in 1834. John Oxenford's version with the same title was produced at the old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, on Jan. 8, 1872. Nydia, the Blind Girl of Pompeii, author's name not given, was produced at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Oct. 18, 1869; and an opera in five acts, with precisely the same title, was composed by George Fox, and produced at the Crystal Palace on May 10, 1892.*

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Fred Trussell—Saturday, Nov. 5.
Mrs. Fred Wright—Saturday, Nov. 5.
Mrs. John Wood—Sunday, Nov. 6.
Grace Jones—Sunday, Nov. 6.
J. P. Sousa—Sunday, Nov. 6.
Pat Carey—Sunday, Nov. 6.
James Welch—Sunday, Nov. 6.
Eric Victor—Monday, Nov. 7.
Maude Millett—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
Agnes Fraser—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
John Hastings Batson—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
H. Burrows Smith—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
Lionel Rignold—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Fred Terry—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Fred Thorne—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Marie Dressler—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Ernest De Vere—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Octavia De Noel—Friday, Nov. 11.
Nannie Goldman—Friday, Nov. 11.
J. B. Mulholland—Friday, Nov. 11.
Dan Rolyat—Friday, Nov. 11.

BENGER'S
FOR ACTORS, ACTRESSES, VOCALISTS AND ATHLETES.
When fatigued or overstrung, the first refreshment should be Benger's Food, because all exceptional physical effort and nervous strain causes a temporary lowering of the digestive capacity, just when Food is required as a pick-me-up.
It is unwise then to take ordinary food, and stimulants should be doubly avoided, Benger's Food is, however, just what is required to revive from fatigue, to give immediate nourishment, and to tone up the system in readiness for ordinary food.
Benger's is the lightest and daintiest of foods; it is also the most digestible and most highly nutritious.
It should be made with new milk strictly in accordance with the directions contained on each tin.
Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere.
268

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

RASMUSSEN.—Oct. 30, at 31, Cumberland-street, Stockbridge, Edinburgh, the wife of Mr. Adolf Rasmussen (Hemleb Brothers), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BRAHAM—SCHAMI.—On 3rd inst., at Vestry Hall, Hammersmith, Charles Braham (Carl Robarts), gymnast, to Mrs. Julia Amelia Schami, American and Colonial papers please copy.

USSHER—LAIDLAW.—On the 30th ult., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, by special licence, James Ussher to Constance Laidlaw.

DEATHS.

BULLOUGH.—Oct. 31, at her residence in London, after a long illness, of septic poisoning, Mrs. John Bullough (Maudi Darrell), aged 27.

DE MONTI.—Oct. 28, of pneumonia, at Camden Town, De Monti, age 42, of the Lisbon Troupe, the Sisters Everette, Chivers and De Monti, and for the last twelve years of the Four Mayos, Comedy skaters. Interred at St. Pancras Cemetery, Finchley, Oct. 31. Continental papers, please copy.

LABOUCHERE.—Oct. 30, at Florence, after an attack of apoplexy, Mrs. Henry Labouchere (Henrietta Hodson).

O'CONNOR.—Oct. 21, at Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, after a short illness, Thos. Fitzgerald O'Connor (Tom Fitzgerald), only son of the late Francis Fitzgerald O'Connor.

WEATHERLY.—On Oct. 31, at Southampton, of acute pneumonia, Alec Weatherly, only son of Fred E. Weatherly, song writer and barrister, aged 36. R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM.

ALLEN.—In loving memory of Thomas Allen (equestrian), who died Nov. 5, 1898. Never forgotten.

CLEMSON.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Charles Clemson, late member Harry Tate's company, who died Nov. 5, 1909. Sadly missed.—E. V. C.

KAVANNAH.—In loving memory of J. H. Kavannah, comedian, who died Nov. 1, 1907, deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife and children. "Till the day breaks and the shadows flee away."

KINGHORNE.—In fondest remembrance of Mark A. Kinghorne, who passed away to the "Homeland," Nov. 4, 1906. "There shall be no more pain."

LENO.—In affectionate memory of my late husband, George Galvin (Dan Leno), who died Oct. 31, 1904. Not forgotten by self and children. Rest.

TRANSFIELD.—In ever loving memory of my dear mother (Bellamina Transfield), who passed away at Lincoln, Nov. 6, 1899. Lovingly remembered by her loving daughter, TINA (MRS. H. ELLIOTT).

FOR SYMPATHY.

BLAKE.—Mr. Harry Blake wishes to tender his heartfelt thanks to all kind friends who sent him telegrams and letters of loving sympathy in his sad bereavement, also for floral tributes to the memory of his beloved wife, Flora Blake. Will one and all accept this acknowledgment of his deeply-felt gratitude, it being impossible at the present moment to reply to each individually?—50, Grove-road, Balham.

Eringdon Rink, Plymouth.

THE newly-formed hockey club is proving a great success, the members being particularly proficient at the game. Some exciting matches have been played with neighbouring rivals, which are highly attractive to players and onlookers alike.

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
Will Stop Immediately an Attack of
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.
Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.
To avoid disappointment, insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.
The Original and Only Genuine.
☞ IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM
OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,
RED WHITE & BLUE
For Breakfast & after Dinner.

Special terms. Short-date Loans.
MONEY LENT PRIVATELY. £10 to £1,000.
£10, repay £11 5s. £50, repay £56 5s.
£20, repay £22 10s. £100, repay £112 10s.
£30, repay £33 15s. £200, repay £225.
Call or write to the well-known Financier, W. JACKSON.
Head Offices: 70, Plymouth-grove, Manchester.
Or applications can be made at my branch offices:
Regent House, Mostyn-street, Llandudno.
215, Piccadilly, London, W.
Central Chambers, Crewe; 26, Corporation-street, Manchester; 14, Cromwell-terrace, Leek; 70, Manchester-road, Burnley.

BIRKBECK BANK
ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000
DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.
WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS
maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by
MATURING IN BOTTLE,
the Natural method,
without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.
The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.
APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,
BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London")
FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—TAMING OF THE SHREW, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS
GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.
SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.
The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion.
The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.
MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C.
PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS.
TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES.
ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN.
SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

WHEN ON TOUR
The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce
INDIGESTION.
A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Established Over Half-a-Century.
Picture Frames & Mouldings
Decorative Mouldings.
THEATRICAL FRAMES A SPECIALITY.
ESTIMATES FREE.
CARVER, GILDER, & MOUNT CUTTER.
Largest Stock in the Kingdom.
SEND FOR PATTERN BOOK.
Jubilee Edition Just Published. Up-to-date Patterns. Many New and Exclusive Designs.
Post Free for 12 penny stamps.
H. MORELL, Manufacturer and Importer.
17 & 18, Gt. Saint Andrew Street, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C
Warehouses: 11, 12, 13, Neal's-yard and Neal-st. (in the rear).
Telegrams, "Rabbitry." 'Phone, 6135 Central.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, THIRD PARTY, BURGLARY, GLASS, AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO., now incorporated with the NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.,
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up, £200,000. Claims paid, £5,800,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON. A. VIAN, Secretary.

TRADE MARK J.H. No. 214138.
Velvet Grip
REGD. TRADE MARK No. 504804.
Stocking Supporters
The only "GRIP" that "GRIPS" SECURELY without injury to the HOSE

			Single ends	Double ends
ALL THESE HAVE CLIP TOPS.	1¼in. wide,	Plain Cotton Elastic	No. 401 1/-	No. 601 1/-
	1¼in. "	Plain Silk	No. 495 1/6	No. 382 2/-
	1¼in. "	Frilled Art Silk "	No. 507 1/-	No. 606 1/6
	1¼in. "	Frilled Best Silk "	No. 68 1/6	No. 40 2/6

By Post 1d. per pair extra.
If unable to obtain from your draper, write to—
The MANUFACTORY, Hackney Road Works, London, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.

EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
WILL APPEAR
EVERY EVENING at 8.30,
in a new Comedy, by Louis Evan Shipman,
"D'ARCY OF THE GUARDS."
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER,
Mr. J. H. BARNES. Miss EVELYN D'ALROY.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15,
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES' PRODUCTION,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.15.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, CHARLES FROHMAN.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
MISS IRENE VANBRUGH in "GRACE."
A New Play in 4 Acts by W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"CAPTAIN KIDD," Miss Maie Ash and Co.
For dates at the Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre,
address, King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Nov. 7,
"THE SPECKLED BAND."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton.
Monday, Nov. 7,
"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."
Six Nights only.
Monday, Nov. 14.
"HOW GIRLS ARE BROUGHT TO RUIN."

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"THE SHAUGRAUN."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. CHARLES WOOD. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. ERNEST ARCHER.
Nov. 7, Emma Hutchison's and Percy Hutchison's Co., in "DON."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CAMDEN THEATRE
to be Sold
or Let on Lease,
with vacant possession.
Apply, SECRETARY, Saunders Theatre, Ltd., 57, Moorgate-street, E.C.
and to MARLER and MARLER, 176, Sloane-st., S.W.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
Varied Programme.
In Theatre, "LORD AND LADY ALGY" and "DAVID GARRICK."
7.45. Wednesday Matinée, 3.
Variety Shows twice daily.
Cinematograph, Organ, Bands, &c.
Saturday next, Grand Pianoforte Recital by HAROLD BAUER.
Return rail and admission, 1s. 6d. from all stations

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
Mr. Ernest Hastings, "The Scarab," Mr. Owen Clarke, Memora, and Mr. David Devant, with New Illusions, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly,
at 6.40 and 9.10.
Poole and Maguire, Doris Trevelyan, Strolling Players, F. H. Fox, Ascot Girls, Three Dardinis, Dolly Harmer, Chirgwin,
Daisy Wood, Havanna Troupe, Pictures, G. Gray and Co.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Harry Tate, in "Flying," Daisy Dormer, O'Gorman Bros., Herbert Rule, Doody and Wright, Kitty Colyer, Wilf. Burnand, Grovini Sisters, Ted Waite, Francis and May, Ruffell's Bioscope, Herbert Sleath's Co., in "The Third Degree."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. MORRIS ABRAHAMS. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Albert Marsh and Co. in "Chums till Death," Austin and Cowan, Molly Augarde, Bioscope, Lizzette Troupe, Kitty Rayburn, Will Smythe, Alexandra Dagmar, Five Bombays, Ashley Page, Marion Denvil and Co. in "Her Just Punishment." Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday Nov. 7. Whit Cunliffe, Frank Melvin Lila Madison, Payne and Errol, Prince Milner Trio, Six Boston Girls, Harry Moore The Kormer Girls. Will H. Farley and Co., "Fun on a Railway Station," H. Harvey and Co., in "In an Old Country Lane," the Bioscope, Cameron Matthews and Jessamine Newcombe, Millie Payne, Villiers De Caston, also Russell and Held and Mabel Held and others.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter, in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

KINGSTON. — NEW EMPIRE.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. CLARENCE SOUNES.
High-class Varieties Twice Nightly, 6.30 and 8.50.
This week, Miss Evie Greene and First-class Variety Company.
Next week (Nov. 7).
George Bastow, Ruth Lytton, Yangar, Eight Stella Girls, Herbert Shelley, Minnie Warner, The Tintos, Lestree Francesca, Bob Selvidge, Poppy Holland, Kitty Gresham, and Ruffles' Bioscope.
Band rehearsal, Monday, at 12.
Telephone, 1212 P.O. Kingston. Telegrams, Sounes, Empire Kingston.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
"FALL IN, ROOKIES!"
By Henry Arthur Jones.
FERNAND FREY, THE FOUR HARVEYS, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"THE FAUN," a fantasy by Dora Bright.
Lydia Kyasht, Fred Farren.
GEORGE ROBEY.
"THE DANCING MASTER."
Fred Russell, Nobel, Olga Tcharna, Harry Grattan, Valazzi, La Deodima, Bioscope, &c.
Evenings at 8.
A New Nautical Ballet will be produced during the week.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Ben Davies, Laurence Grossmith and Co., in "A Loose End," the Balloon Mystery, Willuhn Trio, Gregory Troupe, Lawrence Crane, Poluski Brothers Events in Portugal, &c., on Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—Wilkie Bard (10.10), Mark Sheridan (9), Clarice Mayne (9.55), Two Bobs (8.35), Phil Ray, Ernest Shand, Dan Crawley, Bessie Slaughter, Doody and Wright, Mabel Green, The Whittakers, Jennie Hartley, Alec Lauder, Yvonne Lamour, Leonard Teel, Satani, Idania Troope, Bioscope, and the Great Drury Lane success, "The Price of Peace," by Cecil Raleigh. Open 7.25. Saturday Matinées at 2.15.

TIVOLI.
MARIE LLOYD, WILKIE BARD, QUEENIE LEIGHTON, Phil Ray, VICTORIA MONK Lottie Bellman, Harry Tate, The Keltons, Dan Crawley, The O'Gormans, Gintaro, Venie Clements, Ernest Shand, Rinaldo, and GEORGE GRAVE and Company, in "Koffo, of Bond Street," &c.
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. MALONE, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE; PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE; TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY; TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY; TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE; PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."
Business Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, KING'S THEATRE.
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
London Rep., GORDON P. FIRMIN, The Film House, Gerrard-street, W.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and J. F. KARAKA. District Manager, F. MITCHELL.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened early in 1911. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN. District Manager, J. BURY.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. STEPHEN. Joint Lessees, MAURICE E. BANDMANN and A. STEPHEN.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, ROY H. SMITH.
Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Opening will shortly be announced.
For vacant dates apply,
THE MANAGER,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
AUTUMN DRAMATIC SEASON.
Few vacant Spring dates.
Address, Mr. CLARENCE SOUNES, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. Owner and Manager, Mr. CHARLES REVILL. Vacant March 6, 13, 20, April 10, 17.
First-class Attractions only. Address, CHARLES REVILL, THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BIRKENHEAD. — HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly, Drama House.
Business excellent.
No. 1 attractions only entertained.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to EDMUND W. BECH, Chartered Accountant, 37, Temple-street, Birmingham.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
This new magnificent theatre is one of the finest in the Provinces.
Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 13 and March 27.
All communications, HARRY YORKE, Man.-Director.

BLACKPOOL.
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS,
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES and has better average business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The Most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best-equipped Theatre, Large and Well Electric Lighted Stage, and First-class Orchestra.
All visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments; thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies Booked. For dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, GEO. H. HARROP.
Acting-Manager, PERCY HARROP.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. Suitable Christmas productions (first-class only considered) for Dec. 26 (Boxing Day week) and Jan. 2 (New Year week).
All communications, which should be made at once, to GEO. H. HARROP, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. LOCKWOOD, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Home of Stars and Class Attractions.
For Vacant Dates Address,
J. F. ELLISTON,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
All dates filled this year.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD. — CORPORATION THEATRE. Recently redecorated, refurnished, and comfortable bars (full licence) added. The best equipped theatre in the district. Spring dates now filling. Apply, HENSON AND DAVIS, Lessees and Managers.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Only Vacant Date this year, Nov. 28.
Wanted, Companies.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply R. J. BELL, Manager, or F. MOUILLOT, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager, JAMES BELL.
The Finest, Most Popular, and Record Money-holding Theatre in the Town. Brilliantly-lighted Stage, Magnificent Orchestra.
A Few Vacant Dates Oct., Nov., and Jan.
No. 1 Companies only.
Bookings already include "Our Miss Gibbs," "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," Moody-Manners, "Hook of Holland," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," &c., &c.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET
for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
MANAGER.

EVESHAM.—New PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed, good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Nov. 21, 28, and Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dec. 12 (three nights), Jan. 2, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 27,
for Important Attractions only.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, DRAMATICUS, 5, Tavistock-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
FRED MORGAN, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 27.
All communications to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr. C. C. DORRILL, Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. LANGDON LEE.
Vacant, March 13, 20, April 10, 24, May 1, and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUID'S HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply OWEN HILL, Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, PERCY HUTCHISON.
Possibly Vacant
Dec. 5.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Owner and Manager, Mr. CHARLES REVILL.
The Premier Theatre of Cheshire.
Stockport. Vacant April 24, May 8, June 6, 12.
First-class Attractions only.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, THE PUBLISHER,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, EDWARD TERRY, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. COLTSON, Secretary.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
A.A. Contract, 1910, for sale, 2d. each.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB
and
TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to THE SECRETARY, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
PRINCE CONSORT-ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.
Patron, His Majesty the King.
President, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus.Doc.
Hon. Secretary Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, E.C.
Estd. and Managed by the Corporation of London.
Principal, LANDON RONALD, Esq.
THE CORPORATION OF LONDON offer for competition to students of not less than one year's standing at the Guildhall School of Music NINE SCHOLARSHIPS of great value, two of £80, two of £50, and five of £30 per annum. To be competed for in July, 1911. Pupils joining before the half term, commencing Nov. 7, 1910, will qualify as competitors. Minimum fee for three terms' tuition, £5.12 H. SAXE WYNDHAM, Sec.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: SIR FREDERICK BRIDGE, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. BAMBRIDGE, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M., Director of Examinations: C. W. PEARCE, Mus.D.
The Operatic Class meets on Wednesday at 6.30 p.m., and is now rehearsing Cellier's "Dorothy."
Prospectus on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

New Pavilion,
Harehills Corner, Leeds.
TO ROBERT COURTNEIDGE, ESQ.
I, KEMSLEY SCOTT-BARRIE, of New Pavilion, Harehills Corner, Leeds, hereby beg to tender my sincere regrets and apologies to you for having sung, or caused or permitted to be sung, on various occasions Copyright Songs from "The Arcadians" and "Tom Jones," and hereby undertake that in future no songs from these or any other opera of yours shall be used by me or any company of mine unless express permission in writing is given, and I consent to this apology being published in such manner as you may require.
Dated this 31st day of October, 1910.
(Signed) KEMSLEY SCOTT-BARRIE.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Copyright confusion is like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austen-Lee, Mr. Cyril	Sept. 24, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barnardo, Mr. Fred	Oct. 1, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Barwick, Mr. Edwin	Sept. 17, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blake, Late Mrs. Harry	Oct 29, 1910
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Burns, Mr. Harry	Oct. 15, 1910
Cagney, Colonel T. G.	Oct. 8, 1910
Calvers, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Carter, Mr. Charles J.	Oct. 8, 1910
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Cohen, Late Mr. Isaac	Oct. 8, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Late Mr. Lester	Sept. 24, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Crisps, The Three	Sept. 24, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dance, Mr. George	Oct. 1, 1910
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Deane, late Mr. Charles	Oct. 22, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. F. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Elen, Miss Hilda	Sept. 24, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Oct. 29, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Gordon, Miss Celia	Oct. 15, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Walter	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harlington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Jones, Mr. Tom	Oct. 1, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loraine, Mr. Robert	Sept. 17, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
My Fancy	Sept. 17, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan 15, 1910
O'Connor, Mr. W. J.	Oct. 29, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 15, 1910
Peile, Mr. Kinsey	Sept. 10, 1910
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phasey, Mr. Handel V.	Oct. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Oct. 8, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Road-Night, Mr. Chas.	Sept. 17, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shand, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 22, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Triggs, Late Mr. A. Standen	Sept. 24, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victoria, Miss Vesta	Sept. 24, 1910
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wallace, Mr. G. Carlton	Sept. 10, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
Wheeler, Mr. Worland S.	Oct. 1, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Woodger, Mr. Ben	Sept. 17, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each, for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL STORES.

Manufacturers and Makers to the Principal London Theatres and Leading Artists.

Every Requisite for the Stage at Moderate Prices.

DANCING SHOES A SPECIALITY.

We stock Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, specially woven for the manufacture of Dancing Shoes.
Select stock of pure and spun silk Tights, worsted and cotton Tights, Opera Hose Stockings, &c.

A special study made of Symmetrical Paddings.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115 to 119, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Telephone, 7978 Central.
Telegrams, "Raynaloo, London."
Also at
49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo.).

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space
in the 1911 issue of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every town in the world where there is a place of amusement. It is therefore the best medium for those who require world-wide publicity.

Scale of Charges
For Professional Advertisements.

FULL PAGE	£4 4 0
HALF PAGE	2 2 0
QUARTER PAGE	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS
at present Vacant.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1910.

TOURING AND RESIDENT MANAGEMENTS.

It is now some little time since we printed Mr. GEORGE DANCE'S statement of the case of the travelling manager against the resident manager. Mr. DANCE'S complaint was made in connection with *The Whip*, which was an excessively expensive production to mount; and he objected to the lowness of the percentage—45 per cent.—which one manager offered for a visit of Mr. DANCE'S company with the great Drury Lane success. "Just imagine what our expenses are," said Mr. DANCE in the interview. "Last week I paid in authors' fees over £200; railway fares came to an enormous sum; then there are innumerable other demands—three horse-boxes, a special truck 45ft. long for the panorama, six carpenters, four property men, grooms for the horses—why, the expenses of such a production are half as much again as those of a musical comedy. I cannot take the terms offered by the management of certain provincial theatres, so I am driven to the music halls.

"I have no quarrel with the managers generally; they are all old friends of mine. But I get a piece handed over to me, and I am responsible to the London producing manager and the author. I have to make the best I possibly can, not only for myself but for them. Therefore, to recoup the producing manager for his original outlay, which is exceedingly heavy, and the author for his brain work, I have to run the piece for all I am worth. I have a tour to map out and dates to fill, and if I cannot get reasonable terms at the theatre I shall go to the music hall. In Sheffield *The Whip* goes to the Hippodrome, and in Newcastle-on-Tyne to the Pavilion. Many theatre patrons will accordingly visit the Hippodrome for the first time, and having gone once will go again, thus creating a new audience for the hall. I could book every music hall in the country, but in every case where I could get proper terms from the theatre I have refused, despite the fact that I can get in the halls 10 per cent. better than the best offered in the theatres."

Other complaints were of the insufficient time available for rehearsal—the members of the orchestra being usually employed at various trades, and having only their dinner hour to devote to the purpose—and the alleged dirty condition of some provincial theatres.

In our last issue we printed a most informative and interesting letter on the same subject from the much-experienced Mr. PAYNE SEDDON, who thinks that the trouble comes from so few resident managers devoting themselves entirely to their own business. "One manager," wrote Mr. PAYNE SEDDON, "is a good business man; he runs two theatres, both of which do fairly well, but he has no theatrical experience outside managing his own two theatres. A second is a legitimate theatrical manager who controls a dozen theatres. A third is a brewer by trade; he leaves the management of the theatre to a lad of about twenty-five years of age, assisted by the carpenter—who is a practical man, and assists with the bookings. Yet another is a tweed merchant, a splendid old fellow, but he does not call himself a theatrical manager—the theatre is a little hobby of his. . . . One theatre is owned by the Corporation, and can be booked by any company which likes to pay two-thirds of the rent in advance. This manager runs his theatre on very cheap lines—I believe it pays him, but the legitimate touring manager only works it as a "fill in." The manager keeps going with the cheapest drama companies, and is a general dealer in the daytime."

But Mr. PAYNE SEDDON had yet another explanation of the "bad business" in the provinces which some travelling managers complain of. He contends that many towns whose population only justifies a three nights stay by a travelling company are made week towns, with the result that there are not enough people wanting to see the play to make a six days' stay profitable. Mr. PAYNE SEDDON throws the blame of this on the touring manager, who, Mr. SEDDON says, finds the bookings for three nights only "too much trouble"; and he substantiates his argument by instances which have come under his personal observation. The suggestion is certainly one worth attention; and we commend it to the consideration of our readers among touring managers.

The modern provincial manager is, and must be, primarily a man of business. In most cases this arrangement "answers" excellently. The qualities which are chiefly necessary to a resident manager are those of the successful hotel-keeper. He must have a good general idea of the merits of the different dramas which are on the road, and should know what are the legitimate demands of a travelling company upon the "resident" staff. These are easily understood; and a resident manager need not necessarily be an actor to be acquainted with them. Common-sense will tell him that, for a theatre to be successful, the front of the house must be made comfortable, and the accommodation, appliances, and assistance behind the curtain must be first-rate.

In most cases the resident manager is equal to the demands made upon him by his position, and gives complete satisfaction. We cannot believe, in the face of the long list of companies "on the road" which we print every week, that the touring business can be in such a bad way. As there are black sheep in every flock, so there are poor companies and badly-managed theatres. But we do not believe that the degeneration is general, or that dissatisfaction is anything but exceptional.

DEATH OF MAUDI DARRELL.

The theatrical and play-going world will hear with regret of the death of Miss Maudi Darrell, the popular musical comedy actress, who was married in the March of last year to Mr. John Bullough. She passed away on Monday morning at her London home, after a long and painful illness. For many months she had been under the care of Sir Alfred Fripp. The cause of death was septic poisoning. The funeral took place on Wednesday from her husband's Scottish seat, Meggerine Castle, Glen Lyon. Miss Maudi Darrell's marriage to Mr. John Bullough was one of the stage romances of last year. The civil ceremony at the Paddington Registrar's office on March 24, 1909, prevented Miss Darrell taking up the part of Mimi Vernon in *The Devil* at the Adelphi, and it was assigned to Miss Constance Hyem. Mr. John Bullough is the son by his second marriage of a millionaire Accrington engineer, and the stepbrother of Sir George Bullough, the owner of the Island of Rhum, off the Argyllshire coast.

Mrs. Bullough, who was only twenty-eight years of age, was three years older than her husband. She was the daughter of Mr. Hugh Jay Didcott, the "father" of music hall agents, who died last November, and was educated at the Convent du Sacré Cœur, Paris. After appearing in the chorus at Daly's, as one of the "six little wives" in *San Toy*, 1899, she went to the Gaiety to take up Miss Ethel Sidney's part in *The Toreador*, 1902. She next appeared in *The Girl from Kay's* at the Apollo, 1903; this was followed by her appearance at the Savoy, February, 1904, in *The Love Birds*; at the Apollo, May, 1904, played the part of Denise in *Véronique*; next appeared at Lyric, 1905, in *The Talk of the Town*, in which she was selected for a leading part by the author, Seymour Hicks; also in revival of *Blue Bell in Fairyland*, at Aldwych, Christmas, 1905, and in *The Beauty of Bath*, at same theatre, and the Hicks, 1906-7; at the Imperial, February, 1907, played Ethel Borridge, a popular music hall star, in the lamented St. John Hankin's piece, *The Cassilis Engagement*; at the Vaudeville Theatre during the summer of 1907 she succeeded Billie Burke in the leading comedy rôle of *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* with great success. At the Aldwych, December, 1907, she played Victoria Siddons in *The Gay Gordons*; and at the Queen's Theatre, October, 1908, her performance of Toinette in *The Belle of Brittany* placed her in the front rank of stage favourites.

The funeral took place on Thursday at Innerwick Churchyard, Glenlyon. There was a large representative attendance, including tenantry on the estate. A short, impressive Presbyterian service was held at the castle, after which the *cortège* proceeded to the family vault, where the interment took place. The coffin was covered with numerous wreaths.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

OCT. 1.—Isaac Cohen, aged 77.
" 1.—H. J. Wood.
" 5.—Frederica Smith, aged 28.
" 6.—Bertha Dallaway, aged 21.
" 6.—Barnard Russell, aged 34.
" 7.—B. B. Daenes, aged 79.
" 8.—Annie Carney, aged 52.
" 10.—Herr Heinrich Dittmar.
" 11.—Ivy Hartington.
" 13.—Willie Kennard.
" 13.—Emma D'Auban.
" 16.—Caroline Graham, aged 74.
" 17.—Rose Amelia Little, aged 33.
" 17.—Charles Deane, aged 44.
" 20.—Mrs. Wm. Johnson.
" 20.—William Le Clair.
" 21.—Thos. Fitzgerald O'Connor (Tom Fitzgerald).
" 23.—Mrs. Carter.
" 23.—Annie Glover.
" 25.—Flora Blake.
" 25.—William Deane, aged 45.
" 30.—Mrs. Henry Labouchere (Henrietta Hodson).
" 31.—Alec Weatherly, aged 36.
" 31.—Mrs. John Bullough (Maudi Darrell), aged 27.

Bombay Skating Rink.

MR. SOUNDY has now secured a new location, close to the new General Post Office and quite central for all parts of the city. The new rink is 140ft. by 50ft., and has been decorated throughout in a manner most creditable to the management. A new band has been engaged, and everything points to a record season. Expert instructors are present each session, and a noticeable feature is the number of European ladies who find in rinking the ideal health restorer in this torrid clime.

"THE CAREER OF HENRY JONES."

Comedy, in a Prologue and Three Acts, by George Reston Mallock, Produced by the Play Actors at the Court Theatre on Sunday, Oct. 30.

Henry Jones, M.P. .....MR. ERIC LEIGHTON
The Earl of Bartripp ..MR. RALPH W. HUTTON
Sir John Grisly, M.P. .....MR. F. ANNERLEY
Albert Ransome, R.A...MR. LAWRENCE HANRAY
Peter Snodgrass .....MR. A. L. BURKE
Colonel Bolliver St. John ..MR. WILLIAM STACK
Mr. Castleton .....MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
The Bishop of Bexhill .....MR. ROBSON PAIGE
Martin .....MR. GRENDON BENTLEY
Men from Grisly's Stores ..... MR. A. L. BURKE / MR. VAL CUTHBERT
Mrs. Jones .....MISS IRENE MONCRIEFF
Lady Diana Bartripp ..MISS MABEL MANNERING
Lady Paygrave .....MISS MARIE LINDEN
Alice Grisly .....MISS DORIS DIGBY
Mrs. Peter Snodgrass ....MISS KITTY LOFTING
Mrs. Stanhope .....MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL

The large audience at the Court Theatre on Sunday evening expressed their unanimous approval of George Reston Mallock's new comedy, *The Career of Henry Jones*, produced by the Play Actors. Scarcely convincing, farce and sentiment being curiously mixed, the play is full of amusing and witty lines, and the main idea is good. The scene of the prologue is the interior of the pork pie establishment of Henry Jones in the Borough. Jones, an enterprising young man, is determined on adopting different business methods from his late father; the goods were all right, but the old man was evidently too slow, and the son is about to try an elaborate system of advertising, and tells his mother—an uneducated, homely old soul, who does not seem to take altogether kindly to his new-fangled ideas—of his plans. Jones has a friend, Albert Ransome, an artist, who has painted to Jones's design an advertisement which will astound the universe. It represents Jones, in life-size, seated on a throne of pork pies, with a pork pie for a crown, a sceptre of sausages in one hand, and the other resting on a pig, a number of little pork pies and sausages embellishing the painting, and underneath the words, "Jones, the Pork Pie King." Ransome, bringing the completed work of art to the shop, tells Jones and his mother that he has taken the liberty of asking John Grisly, a grocer in a large way, round to see the painting, and hints that Grisly is likely to make an offer to Jones, of whose "live" business methods he is a great admirer. This Grisly, who is accompanied by his daughter Alice, does. He will give Jones the benefit of his money as an exchange for his valuable services, and a kind of partnership is agreed upon. Jones, it appears, has met Alice before, at the County Council classes, and implants a kiss on her cheek ere the enthusiastic party adjourn to the parlour for refreshment, the curtain coming down on Jones gazing admiringly on his picture as the Pork Pie King, and rapturously exclaiming, "Am I too ambitious?"

The first act takes place in the drawing room of the Earl of Bartripp's town house, ten years later. Jones and Grisly have achieved remarkable results with the partnership, for Jones is now an M.P. and enormously wealthy, and Grisly has been knighted. At the rising of the curtain Lady Paygrave, the sister of the Earl of Bartripp, is reading out a list of names of likely people to invite to an assembly at her brother's house—the majority of whom she is aware Bartripp, poor but proud, has no liking for. His daughter, Lady Diana, is engaged to Jones, who has broken off the engagement to Alice some years previously—a mutual arrangement on their part. Diana has no real affection for Jones, and tells him so; she is quite frank as to her feelings towards him. She respects him, but there must be no love making. It must be mentioned that none of the family are aware of Jones's connection with the pork pie business. There is only one of the pictorial "ads" where he is shown as the "Pork Pie King" now in existence, and old Grisly has this. He has satisfied the Earl as to his antecedents, and is now a gentlemanly and very earnest young man, anxious and determined to accomplish some good work. Amongst the Bartripps' invited guests are Sir John Grisly and his daughter Alice; and when Grisly comes on the scene he quickly makes it known to Jones that if he refuses to break off his engagement to Lady Diana and marry Alice he will get him turned out of the house. Alice herself does not want to wed Jones, for she is in love with the artist Ransome, now a distinguished R.A. Jones tells Grisly that he will not marry his daughter, and the latter, before the assembled company, then asks the Earl, knowing him to be an enthusiastic collector of works of art, if he will accept an old painting he has—an early example of Ransome's work. Bartripp will be pleased, and at the presentation of the picture on the following day all present are invited to attend. Jones and Diana—who ere this has learnt of her "'Enery's" connection with the sausage-meat and pork-pie business from the ingenuous Alice, and also begun to get very fond of him—guess at once what the picture is, and decide that at all costs Bartripp must not see it. He would never allow his daughter to wed the "Pork Pie King." The kindly, worldly aunt, Lady Paygrave, flippantly refers to the sensation in society such a revelation would create, but nevertheless bids the lovers cheer up, and she will help them. And Alice and Ransome also decide to assist them. When the covered canvas arrives Ransome asks to be left alone with it. And then comes the unveiling. Jones, thinking the game is up, tells the assembled party that the portrait about to be uncovered is that of a young man who was born in poor circumstances, and determined to rise, &c.—his own life-story. And when the picture is unveiled it is the bewhiskered face of old Grisly which is revealed to the astonished party. No one is more taken by surprise than Jones, unless it be Grisly. That crestfallen person shakes him by the hand, and departs, and Jones and Diana embrace.

An otherwise capital all-round representation was occasionally marred by the lapses of memory of some of the Play Actors. Mr. Eric Leighton was an earnest and sincere Jones, particularly effective being his delivery of the lines where he bitterly talks to Lady Diana of the opposition a man of lowly birth has to contend with, and also his explanatory speech at the conclusion. The underlying pride of Jones at having accomplished so much from such humble beginnings was skilfully indicated, and his love for Diana expressed very really. Miss Mabel Mannering as the frank and bantering Lady Diana acted with a keen sense of the humorous possibilities of the part, and gave a delightfully natural and easy portrayal; Miss Doris Digby as the ingenuous Alice also being responsible for a very praiseworthy impersonation. Miss Marie Linden as the worldly, kind-hearted Lady Paygrave gave a polished and acute enactment, delivering her very telling lines with exquisite point, and her representation throughout being an unimpeachable one; and the homely, plebeian Mrs. Jones was a capital character study as enacted by Miss Rose Moncrieff. Miss Kitty Lofting as Mrs. Snodgrass and Miss Kathleen Russell as Mrs. Stanhope were responsible for attractive and quite satisfactory portrayals. John Grisly was realistically undertaken by Mr. F. Annerley, the actor cleverly suggesting the surliness and masterful nature of the character; Mr. Ralph W. Hutton as the Earl of Bartripp gave a neat and quietly humorous impersonation; Mr. Lawrence Hanray as Albert Ransome was responsible for a clever and effective caricature; and Mr. A. L. Burke as Peter Snodgrass, Mr. William Stack as Colonel Bolliver St. John, Mr. Harold Chapin as Mr. Castleton, and Mr. Robson Paige as the Bishop of Bexhill all gave admirable little character sketches.

NEW PLAYS AT THE COURT.

A substantial bill was provided at the Court Theatre on the afternoon of the 28th ult., when Mr. Clive Currie presented the Rehearsal Company in two one-act plays and a three-act comedy. The last-named was written by Ursula Keene, and entitled

"THE ELDEST MISS DARRELL."

James Darrell .....MR. W. A. MACKERSY
Matilda Darrell .....MISS DOROTHY TANQUERAY
Lucy .....MISS MAY SAKER
May .....MISS ADAH DICK
Rupert .....MR. W. COATS-BUSH
Georgina .....MISS CLARICE LAURENCE
Cousin Mary Bonsor ..MISS KATHERINE STUART
Rev. Augustus Bankes .....MR. CLIVE CURRIE
Thomas .....MR. LEWIS CARLTON
Lady Catherine Thynne ..MISS EILEEN SAVAGE
Lieut.-General Sir Horace Thynne, K.C.M.G. MR. MATTHEW BOULTON
Captain Cosmo Thynne ....MR. DENNIS CLEUGH

A sense of humour is displayed in the above piece, but the material utilised is so scanty that the whole three acts occupied less than an hour-and-a-half, including waits. Its picture of suburban life has an air of reality, but when the authoress ventures among the upper classes she becomes less interesting, and a weak second act is the result. Considerably strengthened, the piece would be of excellent service to the amateur. The characters are of a familiar pattern. There is Lucy Darrell, the abnormally self-sacrificing eldest daughter of a Norwood family, who uncomplainingly waits upon her abnormally selfish sisters and brother, and is apparently contented. The arrival of Cousin Mary, who has inherited a large fortune, changes the situation, for Mary offers to adopt Lucy, and takes her away to her country house in order that she may enjoy the delights of life so long denied her. Here Lucy wins the heart of Captain Cosmo Thynne, and has just accepted the offer of his hand, when news comes of her mother's death, and she determines to return home. The third act—some five months later—finds Lucy back at her "drudgery," as it is termed, though she commands a staff of three servants. Cousin Mary sends a letter requesting her to return, but Lucy's father forbids her not only to go, but to give up all thought of marriage. Then Lucy rebels, and bitterly denounces her selfish sisters, until her Captain arrives to soothe her and carry her off in his motor-car in quest of a marriage licence.

The best opportunities to the artists occurred in the first act, and the exponents of the various characters took full advantage of them. Miss May Saker quite succeeded in suggesting the sweet and patient disposition of Lucy. Her share of the love scene was particularly charming, and her fiery outburst towards the close was quite thrilling. A capital character-study was the James Darrell of Mr. W. A. Mackersy, who acted the stern paterfamilias with every effect. Miss Dorothy Tanqueray also cleverly assumed the affected superiority of Mrs. Darrell, and the two objectionable girls were ably contrasted by Miss Adah Dick and Miss Clarice Laurence, the latter as a pert young miss of seventeen being particularly good. Mr. W. Coats-Bush was amusing as the bad boy of the family, who, however, befriends his eldest sister; and Mr. Clive Currie presented a new kind of stage curate as the mincing Rev. Augustus Bankes. Miss Katherine Stuart was a sympathetic Cousin Mary; Miss Eileen Savage a refined Lady Catherine Thynne; Mr. Dennis Cleugh was duly agitated in the proposal scene in which Captain Cosmo Thynne shared; and Mr. Matthew Boulton appeared as Sir Horace Thynne.

Another novelty was a fantasy by Clarice Lawrence, entitled

"SERVANTS OF PAN."

Old Man .....MR. W. A. MACKERSY
Old Woman .....MISS URSULA KEENE
Celar .....MISS GRACE RICHARDSON
Scio .....MR. WILLIAM LUFF
Arkas .....MR. DENNIS CLEUGH

The little piece, which was produced at Margate on Oct. 14, and noticed in our columns, is written in graceful language, but its story is not distinguished by clearness. The scene is laid in a hut in the depths of a mountain woodland, and the piece seeks apparently to show how the dwellers therein, an old man and woman and their son have penetrated the mysteries of the rural divinity Pan, and have been taken into his service, with the threat of dread punishment should his secrets reach the ears of other mortals. An adventurer from the plain below discovers the mysterious celebrations in progress, but is persuaded to leave by his sweetheart, who has followed him to the forest. Later, however, the god's threat is realised, for the people in the plains arrive in force to take the wood-dwellers captive, and put them to death. The playlet was elaborately mounted, and there was a creditable attempt to realise the thunders of the angry god. The cast was exactly the same as on the former production, and each member of it acted creditably.

The central item of the programme was the dramatic incident, *The Passing of the Ironside*, which has been improved and strengthened since its production at the Rehearsal in March last. Mr. Clive Currie repeated his impersonation of the stricken Roundhead, who dies in his chair after a fierce denunciation of the Monarchy, which he learns has just been restored. Miss Evelyn Vanderzee was again a prim and pretty Puritan maiden; and Mr. Matthew Boulton made a gallant and prepossessing lover. A very full house (which included Sir Charles Wyndham) gave authoress of *The Eldest Miss Darrell* had the distinction of a call.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT, on arriving at New York last Saturday in the liner Provence, received a remarkable welcome. In the steamer Mme. Bernhardt's state-room was decorated daily with bouquets which had been preserved by cold storage. Her sixty-sixth birthday on the 30th ult. was made the occasion for a grand dinner.

ON Monday, at Bow Street, a young woman named May Ayres, was charged, before Mr. Marsham, with stealing 7s. 6d. by means of a trick. Mr. Frederick King, the prosecutor, a clerk at Daly's Theatre, said that after the matinée on Oct. 8 the prisoner came to the manager's office and complained that she had lost her purse in the pit. She said she had come up from Winchester by an excursion train, and the purse contained her return ticket and about 14s., which was all the money she had with her. She added that 7s. 6d. would be sufficient to take her home, and witness handed her that amount, for which she signed a receipt. The prisoner then said, "To whom am I to send the money?" and a stamped addressed envelope was given to her. She mentioned that she would be coming to town again on the 15th, but witness did not see her again on that day, and he wrote to the address she had given at Winchester. The letter was, however, returned by the postal authorities.

MR. KING on Saturday evening was passing the Prince of Wales's Theatre, when he noticed the accused standing at the box-office. He instructed his wife, who was with him, to telephone to Vine-street Police Station, and upon the arrival of a detective-sergeant the woman was given into custody. The sergeant stated that when he got to the theatre Ayres was in the waiting-room. The manager asked her what she wanted, and she answered, "I have lost my purse in the theatre. It contained about £2." She had in her possession a purse containing about 8s., and papers bearing the names of persons connected with the Savoy, Comedy, and Criterion Theatres. Prisoner was remanded.

"MALINCHE."

A Romantic Light Opera, in Three Acts, by Arthur Stanley Gill, Performed for the First Time at the Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham, on Thursday, Oct. 27.

Hernando Cortes .....MR. ERNEST FISHER
Montezuma .....MR. GILBERT SUMMERS
Guatemoc .....MR. ALBERT FARNSWORTH
Totona .....MR. HARRY FARNSWORTH
Tezcat .....MR. CLAUDE GILL
Teacopa .....MR. ARTHUR S. GILL
Maya .....MME. FLORENCE FARNSWORTH
Uloa .....MISS HELEN MAUDE
Technichpo .....MISS SYLVIE ROSSLYN
Mihra .....MISS GRACIE ELLIOTT
Orizaba .....MISS MABEL MEEKLAH
Popitza .....MISS JANET HEARSON
Malinche .....MME. MIDDLETON WOODWARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Cast in the stirring period of Cortes' invasion of Mexico, the story is picturesque and interesting. The love interest is centred in Malinche and Cortes, and the infatuation of Uloa for Tezcat, while the complications are provided in the conspiracy of Maya to supplant her son, Tezcat, in the inheritance legally belonging to Malinche, and in the jealousy of Technichpo, whose husband, Guatemoc, shows an unrequited love for Malinche. The vengeance of Cortes falls upon Guatemoc, who is compelled to fly for his life, the conspirators are saved from death by the strategy of Totona and Uloa, and a happy ending is assured.

Mr. Gill has aimed high in his music, and with a considerable measure of success. The numbers are tuneful and pretty, and the dialogue is bright and sparkling. Mr. Harry Farnsworth made a hit as Totona, helping along the fun in no uncertain manner. Mme. Woodward sang and acted with expression as Malinche, and the vocalism of Mme. Farnsworth was admirable in the part of Maya. Miss Helen Maude sang, acted, and danced in excellent style, and Mr. Albert Farnsworth's fine baritone voice gave full effect to the music of Guatemoc. The dances were arranged by Mme. Maud Bolton, and enthusiastic applause greeted each one. The scenery by Mr. J. Halford Ross was excellent, and a capable orchestra was under the bâton of Mr. J. E. Pickerill.

STEDMAN'S STAGE SOCIETY AT THE COURT.

For their second performance at the Court Theatre on Saturday, Oct. 29, the Stedman Stage Society again chose a difficult work as a test of their abilities—Henry Herman's adaptation of Scribe and Legouvé's *Adrienne Lecouvreur*. The important part of the ill-fated Adrienne was undertaken by Miss Iris Damon, who, it will be remembered, at the last performance did admirable work as Sophie Fullgarney in *The Gay Lord Quex*, and the actress may again be complimented on a creditable enactment of an arduous rôle, her death scene being particularly well played. Adrienne's unselfish love for the Count de Saxe and her gratitude to the devoted old prompter Michonnet were skilfully suggested, and the scene between Adrienne and the Princess de Bouillon was effectively handled. A finished and convincing portrayal of the Princess de Bouillon was given by Miss Frances Goring, the hatred of the jealous woman for her rival in the affections of the Count being realistically shown, and her portrayal throughout a decidedly meritorious one; and Miss Elsa Hall again did good work as the Duchess d'Aumont. Of the males Mr. Charles Koop is specially deserving of praise for his capital portrait of the kind old prompter Michonnet, the ambition of the old man to become a Societaire, his pride in the triumph of Adrienne, and his devotion to her throughout being cleverly depicted. Mr. Stanley Hughes as Count Maurice de Saxe was a gallant and earnest lover, being at his best in the concluding scenes of the play; and the gay Prince de Bouillon and the busybody and tiresome Abbé de Chazeuil were creditably undertaken by Mr. Stuart Gantner and Mr. Gerald Ermin. The performance gave evident delight to the large and friendly audience, and the principals were frequently recalled.

Adrienne Lecouvreur was preceded by a charming ballet divertissement, *Perdita*, founded on the sheep-shearing scene in *The Winter's Tale*. The dances are arranged by Mlle. Lilian Leoffeler and the music written by Mr. Archibald Benwell. Misses Dorothy Edward, Edith Mansfield, Phyllis Munro, Helen Hope, Violet Denzil, Hilda Munnings, and Hilda Boot were among the principals who contributed some delightful dancing in the dainty little entertainment, and the Maypole Dance, in which a number of youngsters represented shepherds, shepherdesses, &c., was attractive and skilfully executed. As a spectacle it was very pleasing to the eye, and the carefully trained young dancers appeared to thoroughly enjoy their exercises. Bouquets and other floral tokens of appreciation were handed to the principals at the conclusion, and all concerned in *Perdita* may be congratulated on the success of the pretty ballet.

TOURING AND RESIDENT MANAGERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The letter of Mr. W. Payne Seddon is worthy of being reproduced in pamphlet form and sent to every theatre *proprietor*. It is through lack of theatre *managers* that bad business so often results from a good average all-round travelling company. What successful commercial man would place an inexperienced, unsuitable person in charge of his business, at a paltry salary and no authority, to meet the necessities of the moment? How can such a man be expected to understand the working-up of a neighbourhood and to satisfy the requirements of the play-going instinct of his town? Then there is the foolish system of "window billing," which in many towns means that every week the tradesmen get free seats for exhibiting a bill. These worthy people can well afford to buy their seats, and should be the keenest supporters of a well-conducted, attractive theatre. Local representatives are not easily persuaded that bright surroundings from early-door opening, good music (not necessarily a large orchestra), and ever-changing channels of letting the neighbourhood know of the varied coming attractions, to be successful must be carried out in a thorough and generous spirit.

Touring managers (who likewise run theatres) are not blameless, for, "knowing the ropes," they endeavour to cut down gratuities, which in their own theatres they expect the travelling company to respect. Personally, I consider all such gratuities should be universally abolished. This, however, is but one of many "robbing Peter to pay Paul" tactics adopted.

For over twenty years I have kept a careful return of all takings, and I am led to think that more actual profit was made when the manager was a "showman" in the true sense of the word, and terms, on an average, an equable fifty or fifty-five per cent. Each party to the contract did their level best, and found it mutually advantageous.

There are good managers to-day, but they want a good salary and a free hand to develop the "showman's" business.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY TWEEDIE.

"Daneswood," Twickenham, Nov. 2, 1910.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY'S *Mother Goose* pantomime will play a short season at the Bordesley Theatre, Birmingham, opening at Christmas.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Earl of Derby, K.G., K.C.B., Sir Edward Moss, J.P., Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., Lord Mayor-Elect of Liverpool, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. William Henry Broadhead (Mayor of Blackpool), Mr. Walter De Frece, and Mr. W. W. Kelly are amongst those who have given their influential patronage to the benefit matinée to be given (by kind permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll) at the Empire, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 24th, in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund.

The following is the splendid programme of star artists who are appearing in Liverpool and the vicinity that week, and who have generously offered their services:—Ben Albert, Bros. Ashley, Adrienne Augarde and company, Margaret Cooper, Fred Curran, Mina Denvil, the Three Emersons, [illegible] Troupe, Florrie Gallimore, Archie G[illegible], Jack Hylton, Jennie J[illegible]y, Ketts and Windrum, Harold Montague, Bros. Obo, Orpheus, Lola Patey, Pichel and Sale, W. B. Raby, the Romanis, Harriett Rose, Rose and Challoner, Harry Russon, F. V. St. Clair, Verno and Voyce, Russell Wallett, Walton and Lester, Harry Weldon, and Bert Williams.

Such a company could not have been obtained without the co-operation of all the managements having halls in Liverpool and district, and special thanks are due to the Moss' Empires (Ltd.), and Messrs. De Frece, Butt, and Gibbons, Broadhead and Son, D. J. Clarke, Fred Wilmot, the Jacksons, and others for readily granting permission for artists engaged with them to appear.

The performers have rallied round grandly, while Mr. George Manners, manager of the Empire, and Mr. Tom McKay, the local representative of the Benevolent Fund, are working hard to ensure a crowded house. The box-office opens next Thursday, and already there is a keen demand for seats. The entire arrangements of the benefit are in the hands of Mr. Douglas Stuart, assisted by Mr. T. C. Callaghan.

Mr. John Lawson has scored another success in New York with his production of *The Open Door*. He is on his way to England on the Oceanic, having started on Wednesday, and is engaged to return to America on Jan. 16 to produce his other big works in New York prior to an extended tour of the States.

The Law and Parliamentary Committee of the Fulham Borough Council, reporting on the application by Mr. Oswald Stoll for a music and dancing licence in respect of the Fulham Empire, proposed to be erected in the Fulham-road, express the opinion that the application should be opposed by the Council, and recommend that the necessary steps be taken on the consideration of the application by the Licensing Committee of the London County Council.

It is pointed out by the Parliamentary Committee that the immediate neighbourhood and surrounding district are well supplied with places of public entertainment, and that the erection of the Fulham Empire would depreciate the value of the premises in the vicinity, which are mainly of a residential character, with a consequent loss of rates.

The Variety Artists' Federation are supporting Mr. Stoll's application for a licence, on the sensible plea that the opening of a new variety hall gives more work to the performer, who will also benefit by the exclusive contract foreshadowed in Mr. Stoll's scheme of management.

Miss Florence Smithers concluded the Moss and Stoll tour last week at Newport, where her comedy sketch *Our Mary Jane* proved as great a success as on previous visits. After playing Southampton, Lincoln, Nelson, and Huddersfield, Miss Smithers takes a week's holiday at Brighton, and then returns to London to prepare for the Lyceum pantomime, in which she will appear as one of the Sisters in *Cinderella*. At the end of the run she opens, for her third year, on the Moss-Stoll tour at Birmingham, and is fully booked, having only two vacant dates in 1911.

Miss Annie Hughes, who will terminate her tour with Jerome K. Jerome's play *Miss Tommy* at Blackpool to-night, commences on Monday her music-hall engagements, with *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, *The Fourth Kiss*, and *Nell Gwynn*. Miss Hughes visits Glasgow, Liverpool, and Manchester, The last-named city, where she is a great favourite, claims her for two weeks. On Dec. 5 Miss Hughes will make her reappearance in London at the Syndicate halls.

Miss Millie Hylton, the well-known musical comedy actress and old Gaiety favourite of a few years ago, who has been appearing with great success on the Moss-Stoll tour for many weeks past, underwent a serious operation for appendicitis on Monday afternoon last. The operation was performed by Sir Alfred Fripp, the eminent surgeon, at Netley House, Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square, W., and Miss Hylton's numerous friends will be pleased to learn that the latest bulletin says that she is making satisfactory progress. Miss Hylton has been confined to her house for the past three weeks, and we wish her a permanent and speedy recovery.

"The Loose End," the new one-act play to be produced on Monday at the Palace, is the work of Mr. Malcolm Watson, and is likely to provide playgoers with several distinctly novel "thrills," the denouement in particular being of a highly-sensational character.

That Mr. Malcolm Watson can be grimly dramatic or scathingly and satirically amusing in writing for the stage is proved by those two highly-successful playlets, *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* and *Sanctuary*. If the general trend of *The Loose End* is serious, it finishes on a comic note. The principal part is that of a dashing young English officer who has just won his D.S.O. and sustained by Mr. Lawrence Grossmith. To Mr. Leslie Carter has been assigned a rôle hardly less in importance; whilst other characters will be undertaken by Mr. Philip Kay, Mr. Eric Ward, Mr. J. Graham, and Miss Maggie Neill.

In *Ship Ahoy!* the nautical divertissement in one scene to be produced at the Empire Theatre in a few days, Mr. Fred Farren will play Algy Fanshawe (of the British Legation—on leave), Colonel Currie will be represented by Mr. M. Girard, Cornelia Lady Currie, by Miss A. Courtland, and their daughters, Kathleen and Fay, by Miss Unity More and Miss Phyllis Bedells. Miss Beatrice Collier will have a character after her own heart in that of Jhansi, an ayah. Leontine L'Etoile (a French danseuse) will be played by Mlle. Lydia Kyasht. The scene, by Mr. Bruce Smith, will be the upper deck of the liner Empire, homeward bound. The music is by Cuthbert Clarke, and the production is designed and supervised by C. Wilhelm.

Miss Elisa Loubery, a newcomer to the Coliseum, is announced as a comedienne of Anglo-Gallic descent. She has a well-trained mezzo, and possesses a good range. She sang on Monday a Scotch song, "My ain Folk," and "The Lost Chord."

Friends of Mr. T. G. Transfield, circus proprietor, will be sorry to hear that he is lying ill in ward 24, Bellevue Hospital, New York. He will be pleased to hear from old friends.

Mr. Sydney Tolfree, the popular manager of the Wakefield Hippodrome, has been unable lately to answer letters, &c., owing to a severe attack of influenza, but we are glad to say he is almost recovered.

Mr. John Terry and Miss Mabel Lambert, recently at the Alhambra, are following up their London triumphs by gratifying success in the provinces. At the King's Theatre, Southsea, last week, they were enthusiastically received by large audiences.

A "joy wheel" similar to the one that so delighted the Parisians at Luna Park, Porte Maillot, this summer, has been installed at the Scottish Zoo-Circus, Glasgow, and Mr. E. H. Bostock inaugurated it there on Wednesday by giving free rides to all who ventured to sample the new sensation.

Miss Renee Grahame was to have joined Carlton's merry variety company at the Hippodrome, Leigh, last week, but was unable to appear owing to her engagements in America. She had also to refuse an offer to play Dandini during the coming pantomime season, William Morris having secured her services for the next four months.

The picture matinées, with trial turns, at the Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields, continue to run as merrily as ever. Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the manager, is to be congratulated on the success of his venture. This week he arranged for a flying visit of the Countess Bekoffska, the lightning flower-painter, who paints on a luminous panel in total darkness, and is the only artist who performs this clever act.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Alfred Sutcliffe, wife of Mr. Alfred Sutcliffe, of the Sutcliffe Family, who, after being compelled by the precarious state of her health to give up active work last July, died suddenly, from heart disease, on Thursday, 27th ult, at Edmonton, at the age of thirty-four. The deceased lady was born at Burlington, U.S.A.

Last week a special Petty Sessions of Birmingham Justices was held at the Victoria Courts for the purpose of dealing with two applications for licences for the performance of stage plays. Mr. Isaac Bradley presided. Mr. Kimpton applied on behalf of Mr. John Lewis Jones for the theatre licence of the Alexandra, John Bright-street. He said that Mr. Jones was one of the executors of the late Mr. Collingwood, and was now directly responsible for everything in connection with the theatre. The application was granted.

At the same time Mr. Mark Lorne applied for the transfer of the licence in respect of the Bordesley Palace Theatre, High-street, Bordesley, from Mr. Woodward to himself.

At the Ramsgate Borough Petty Sessions on Monday Mr. James Emery, solicitor, Ramsgate, applied for the grant of a monthly music and dancing licence in respect of the King's Electric Theatre, King-street, Ramsgate. He said the ground plans had been delivered and notice served on the Clerk and Chief Constable.

He (Mr. Emery) had a long report from the borough engineer. He did not know that it was necessary to read it all, but in the concluding paragraph Mr. Taylor said that, in his opinion, the hall was well designed, and in all particulars met the safety of the public. He had no hesitation in saying that the building was suitable to receive the desired licence.

The Chief Constable said he had that morning had a conversation, on the telephone, with the Mayor, who was too unwell to attend the Court. The Mayor said that, with respect to this application, the Watch Committee had inspected the theatre, and they wished him (the Chief Constable) to say that there was no objection, so far as the Watch Committee were concerned, to the application being granted. The committee inspected the building for cinematograph purposes only, and were prepared to grant a licence of that character. The application was granted for a month.

"Consul," the performing chimpanzee, was the subject of much amusement in an action brought by the proprietors of the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Ltd. Defendants were Mr. Fred Ginnett, Mr. Frank C. Bostock, and Mr. Harold L. Hilliard. Damages were claimed for alleged breach of contract, made by Mr. Hilliard, on behalf of the other two defendants, for a week's performance by "Consul" at the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Defendants denied that any such contract was made, and further, it was denied that Mr. Hilliard purported to act for the other defendants.

Opening for the defendants, Mr. Shearman said that at the time in question Bostock had leased the monkey to Mr. Ginnett for £70 a week, and therefore Ginnett was the only man competent to make binding engagements. Mr. Hilliard did not know of the lease, and that was how the mistake came to be made. It was an honest muddle, for which defendants were sorry. The case ended in an amicable and businesslike arrangement that Consul should perform at plaintiffs' music hall in Newcastle in Christmas week.

Amidst the chorus of praise concerning some recent acts of swordsmanship, the claims of some of our variety artists to recognition should not be lost sight of. Amongst these Mr. Charles Wragg holds a worthy position, and next week, at the Hippodrome, Sutton (a new venture which has been piloted to success by its present proprietor, Mr. Harry Eventio), the patrons of the establishment will have the opportunity of witnessing some astonishing feats of strength and dexterity.

Mr. Wragg will cut the carcase of a sheep in two twice nightly (not the same sheep, of course) with one blow of his sword. With another blow he will sever in two a 2in. bar of solid lead, besides displaying other wonderful examples of his skill. Mr. Eventio is to be congratulated on his "up-to-dateness" in gauging the popular taste and catering for it.

The New Hippodrome, Exeter, of which the proprietor is Mr. Fred Karno, and the resident and acting-manager Mr. Frederick Sandy, attains its second birthday this week. It has, under the fostering care of the resident-manager, attained a very high degree of prosperity, and has now long since passed the stage when there was any doubt as to its ultimate success. The programmes have always been maintained at a very high standard of excellence, and the anniversary bill is, naturally, no exception to the rule. Marcel and Boris are aptly described as extraordinary equilibrists. An attractive burlesque vocal item is contributed by the Four Vagabonds, and Tom Jones, the whimsical Welshman, scores a big success. There are many other attractions.

Mr. Gus Elen returns on Monday to the Coliseum—a house where he has a legion of admirers.

Miss Lil Hawthorne has made a genuine hit in New York. All the papers speak very highly of her performance.

Miss Katie Marsh has been engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur to play in his pantomime next Christmas at the Kennington Theatre.

Mendel arrives in England by the s.s. China to-day, and opens at the Palace Theatre, Plymouth, on Monday.

Among the attractions at Richmond Hippodrome next week is Percy Honri's *Concordia*. Mr. David C. James is anticipating big business.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Houdini are interesting themselves in the Music Hall Home, and have already started collecting for the New Year's Fund.

Miss Dorma Morgan, who recently made such a success at King's Theatre, Edinburgh, has been engaged to play principal boy in *Mother Hubbard*, to be produced at that house on Dec. 22.

It is quite on the cards that Miss Ethel Irving will appear at the Coliseum in a version of *Dolly Reforming Herself*. Miss Irving's art should find a host of admirers among music-hall audiences.

Mr. Morris Abrahams wishes to tender, through our columns, his sincere thanks to all those artists who so kindly appeared at his benefit on the 28th ult.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon next.

Mr. Ernest Lepard, the popular manager of the Canterbury, will take the chair at the second Vaudeville Club Bohemian Concert of the season, which is to be held on Sunday, Nov. 13. Everybody will be merry and bright.

Mr. Douglas Stuart informs us that owing to the increased size of his new "Railway Fare Book," the Post Office authorities are charging 2½d. for postage, so will intending purchasers kindly forward 8½d. for a copy instead of 8d.?

Mr. George Graves on Monday will be making his first appearance at the Tivoli in his funny and successful sketch *Kofo*, recently at the Palace. The production is kept right up to date by this wonderfully ready comedian, who will be supported by a strong company.

An interesting golf match for the music hall golf pennant took place at Chorlton Golf Club, Manchester, on Oct. 26 between J. Rickaby and J. Cullen (Cullen and Carthy) over 36 holes, resulting in J. Cullen being returned the winner by 11 up and 10 to play.

Mr. Albert Chevalier is paying another visit to America, where he has been a *persona grata* ever since he presented to Uncle Sam his character impersonations and his poetic conception of the coster. This time he is going out to produce in New York, on the 28th inst., a play entitled *Daddy Dufard*, by himself and Lechmere Worrall. As may be gathered from the title, the play is founded on *Le Père de la Débutante*, first adapted by Alfred Wigan for the English stage, and produced at the old Princess's in October, 1849, with the adaptor in the title-rôle, Achille Talma Dufard.

The character has been a favourite one with comedians ever since the production alluded to, and *The First Night*—to give the production its English title—has been revived many a time and oft to exploit the talents of a star comedian. Of late years Sir Herbert Tree has made the character his own, playing it at the Haymarket in 1888—though not for the first time. Mr. Chevalier, whose French accent is irreproachable, is particularly partial to the character; and his rendering of it at the Coliseum a year or two since will be well remembered. Of the jealousies of the stage, which is really the *clou* of the piece, the late Henry J. Byron wrote in *The Prompter's Box*, which was certainly based in its main incidents on the story of *The First Night*.

Mr. Pat Carey a broth of a bhoy as an Irish comedian, is returning to the stage. Pat's Hibernian comedy is of the cheeriest sort, and the man or woman who comes under the influence of his geniality when he is behind the footlights takes a more rosy view of life. Irish comedy of late has not been too popular. Pat Carey should alter this condition of things.

Mr. Bob Pender, Drury Lane clown, and his troupe are at the Olympia, Paris, with their giant act, which made such a hit at Drury Lane pantomime. They are remaining at *la ville lumière* till the end of November, when they return to Drury Lane for Christmas. The Parisians, especially the juveniles, have taken very kindly to their unique and admirably presented act.

In view of the fact that the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund Benefit Matinée, by kind consent of Mr. Stoll and the directorate, is to take place on Thursday, the 24th of this month, at the Empire, Liverpool, artists who have personal friends in that city (and there must be many) would do well to make the forthcoming event as widely known as possible, by word of mouth, letter, or otherwise.

The 682nd meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday, when Mr. Fred Herbert (chairman) presided. Messrs. Chas. Cohen (vice-president), T. C. Callaghan, Tom Packer, Arthur Rigby (hon. treasurer), Jack Straw, J. W. Cragg, Lieut. Albini, Chris. Van Bern, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary) were also present.

The nominations for the positions of chairman and vice-chairman to the Association for the forthcoming year were opened. Mr. Fred Herbert was unanimously re-elected chairman. The names of Messrs. Harry Blake, Lieut. Albini, and Arthur Gallimore will be sent out to ballot of the committee for the position of vice-chairman.

The weekly financial statement showed an increase of thirty-six new members, and receipts of £50 14s. 6d. The hon. treasurer's monthly statement disclosed the following position of the funds: Reserve fund, £545 17s. 6d.; deposit account, £168 16s. 6d.; current account, £105 4s. 3d.; cash in hand, £36 19s. 9d.; total of £855 17s. The amount from the 1s. extra on the cards has resulted in a sum of £32 12s. being collected for the V.A.B.F. for the month.

Mr. Harry Nation, at the Blue-Eyede Maid hostelry, Borough, S.E., organised a very successful inaugural concert on Thursday, the 27th ult., in connection with the "Islanders," whose chairman is Viscount Esher. The following well-known artists appeared:—Edward Ind, Syd Godfrey, Acton Holmes, Percy Hannan, Harry Dunbar, H. N. Eccles, the Two Harrys (second sight act), Master Bert (mandoline soloist), Mons. Earle (conjurer), Miss Dorothy Irving, Miss Hettie Lee, M. Cowan, and H. Nation. Mr. Sam Holman was in the chair.

Mr. Seymour Hicks will present on Monday at the Coliseum an "arrangement" of the tragedy of *Richard III.*, in two tableaux and seven scenes. He will play the Crookback.

Mr. Hubert Carter, who has done admirable work in Shakespearean character at His Majesty's and other houses, will appear as Henry, Duke of Richmond, and there will be upwards of a hundred supernumeraries.

The overture and the incidental music are from the pen of Mr. Edward German; the scenery will be from the brush of Mr. W. T. Hemsley; and Mr. Frank Parker will "produce," which is another way of saying that we shall have a fine spectacle.

The Three Victors have scored an immediate success in *The Flower of the Prarie*, being at once engaged to open on Monday at the Empire, Camberwell. This new Western musical episode is from the pen of Mr. Herbert Shelley.

Miss Maude May Murray, on concluding her engagement at the Hippodrome, Buxton, last Saturday, was presented by the Countess Bekoffski with a beautiful painting. Miss Murray has been interesting and delighting audiences at the Empress, Brixton, on her reappearance at that house, by her beautiful dancing.

Mlle. Denarber, who was to have made her début in this country at the Palace Theatre a month ago, has so far recovered from her accident as to be able to appear at that house next Monday, when The Balloon Mystery will be presented for the first time. The air vessel propelled by the fair voyager will float over the auditorium, and she will sing and converse.

It will be remembered that Mlle. Denarber made a balloon journey over London on Oct. 2, and travelled to Essex. On arriving at Roydon it was decided to descend. It was then found that the valve was faulty, and the party were dashed to the ground from a height of over 7,000ft. How the aeronauts escaped instant death will never be explained except by the fact that the grappling iron of the balloon caught in an oak tree for a brief second and thus partially broke the fall.

"How is it done?" will probably be the question which will exercise the minds of the Palace Theatre audience on Monday evening, when the "Balloon Mystery" will be presented for the first time. A large balloon will float out from the stage and make a tour of the auditorium. In the car will be Mlle. Denarber, who will sing and engage the members of the audience in conversation. Apparently it can be propelled at will, and is under the full control of its fair pilot.

Miss Fanny Robina and Miss Florence Cooper, although early turns, have been meeting with great success at the Empire, New Cross, this week.

Miss Maie Hoey, who made such a success in their last pantomime, and also on their *Bedouin Beauty* tour, is specially re-engaged for pantomime by Messrs. Murray King and Clark.

Miss Florrie Robina will sing to-night three new songs for Mrs. Bayles at the old Victoria Palace, Waterloo-road. These numbers have been specially written for Miss Robina by two famous authors and composers.

The marriage of Carl Robarts (Charles Braham), an acrobat and gymnast who won European fame in the seventies, to Miss Julia Amelia Schami, took place at the Hammersmith Vestry Hall on Thursday. The bridegroom is the brother of Harry Braham, the impersonator, now in America.

At a Dalston concert on Saturday last the Rev. Bramwell Evans, nephew of "Gipsy" Smith, appeared in a suit of white ducks, and sang two comic sungs, one of which was Mr. Herbert Rule's "La, la, la, la (sing this chorus with me)." He provided one of the most popular turns of the evening.

At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday petitions were presented by Mr. Easton and Mr. Cobb against a proposed new music hall at Fulham, one being from the parishioners of St. James, Fulham, the parish in which the new hall would be situated, and the other from the shareholders and patrons of the Granville.

Mr. Handel Phasey, acknowledged by the American Press as the British Sousa, is a very busy man. Frank Bostock has engaged his great band to play at Earl's Court Rink, which opens next week, and other sections of this big band are playing at Balham Rink and Clapham-road Rink. Phasey knows how to catch the ear as well as the eye.

Miss Mabel Mavis, the well-known "novelty" musician, whose cleverness and versatility has often been recognised in our columns, has this week added Bristol to her captures, her first appearance in that city having been the signal for an outburst of journalistic enthusiasm which must be very gratifying to the gifted lady. Next week she reappears at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

Mr. Leslie Paget's success at a Saturday matinée at the Empire, Shoreditch, in some Dickens impersonations, led to his immediate engagement at that house, and dates until 1913. Miss Adèle Levey, who introduced this promising young actor to the management at Shoreditch, recently gave some of her monologues and stories at the Eccentric Club, where she earned the warm encomiums of the members, and was warmly complimented by Mr. Richard Warner.

Mr. R. A. Roberts, the English protean artist, has been letting the readers of *The Strand Magazine* know something of the secrets of his quick changes on the stage in *Dick Turpin* and *Ringing the Changes*. He also tells a little story, which is a vivid illustration of the chequered career of a star. Mr. Roberts came to London nearly twenty-five years ago without a penny in his pocket.

He had picked up an engagement at the Waterloo Rooms as an entertainer at one guinea a performance, which was never paid him. At the end of his first performance a gentleman and lady asked to be introduced to him, and they invited him to their flat to supper. Mr. Roberts had been twenty-four hour without food, so he did not hesitate about accepting the invitation. "It was a most enjoyable meal," said Mr. Roberts, "and I made a very big one; my host's little son, a keenly intelligent boy of thirteen, sat opposite to me and talked a great deal about the theatre. He told me he had made up his mind to go on the stage.

"I stayed at the house of my kind entertainers, who knew nothing about my circumstances, until long after midnight. As I bid them good-night, and glanced round at the pretty supper-table and bright fire in the grate, my heart sank, for I had nowhere to go that night. I slept, as a matter of fact, on the Embankment, and it was freezing terribly hard. The little boy who was so stage-struck has since become known to the world as Granville Barker, dramatic author and brilliant stage producer, and recently he told me he remembered the Waterloo Rooms very well."

To dissolve the mists of misunderstanding Mr. Stoll has issued a statement with reference to the Grange Estate, Kilburn, in which he says: "Judging by the report I have seen in the local paper, and a batch of letters which have come on to me, a good deal of misapprehension seems to exist in regard to the question of the Grange Estate, and I think it is desirable that I should make the position clear.

"I am one of the principal purchasers of the entire estate of over nine and a half acres, and it is only a small portion of the frontage facing the High-road upon which it is proposed to erect the Kilburn Coliseum.

"This theatre will be, if erected, of a high-class character, and will be conducted in the same way as I have for years past conducted the Coliseum at St. Martin's Lane, and the entertainment will be of a similar high-class character, and no intoxicants will be sold in the building.

"It is only through my being able to utilise this part of the frontage, and to take this at a somewhat larger price than it would realise for the purposes of shop property, that my solicitors (Messrs. George Reader and Co.) have been enabled to offer to the Council the large piece of the back land at the low price which they have done, and to thus render an open space, which is admittedly, on all hands, so great a necessity for Kilburn, possible to be acquired."

Miss Amelia Trapnell (of the Trapnell Family) has collected the most money in twelve months for the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. Miss Melinda May, on behalf of the committee of that deserving charity, begs most gratefully to thank the following: Mr. Bruce Miller (donation), £1; Miss Rosie Coleman (Mrs. Conlin), collecting 5s.; Miss Flo Banks, collecting 5s.; Mrs. Fawkes, collecting 2s. 6d.; Miss Irene Rose, baby's new woollen jackets; Miss Lottie Albert, letters for hospital; Miss Bessie Bishop, slippers and hose; Mrs. Kellner, useful parcel baby's clothing. The Guild has some very nice fancy dress costumes for sale—no reasonable offer refused. Will anyone make an offer for the fifteen large sized band books, given by Messrs Dennis and Morris (per Sisters Macarte)?

Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception, held every Wednesday from four to five o'clock. Will anyone help us with Mrs. Arthur Hatton's address? She has the winning number (50), and the handsome portière curtain belongs to her. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Will subscribers please make cheques payable to Music Hall Ladies' Guild?

At the Bloomsbury County Court on Wednesday Judge Bacon heard the case of Selinger *v.* Macnaghten. It was an action by Mr. Archibald Selinger, professionally known as Archie Pitt, to recover from Mr. Frank Macnaghten the sum of £11 15s., two weeks' salary, for alleged breach of contract. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Giveen and the defendant by Mr. Martin O'Connor (instructed by Messrs. Blackwell). The chief question involved was the demur of an artist to take the first turn.

The plaintiff gave evidence, and said that he was to appear at the Foresters' Hall from Sept. 5 to 12, and another week at the Bow Palace. He was billed to appear at the Foresters', and he produced a bill. On the 5th (Monday) he went to the rehearsal, and the stage-manager came to him and said he had a nice turn. "What is it?" plaintiff asked, and he said, "The first turn." He went down to see the stage-manager, and asked him why he was to have the first turn, and he said, "I don't know; you had better see Mr. Baugh." He sent a note to Mr. Baugh, who replied that it was his turn, and he could not alter it. Mr. Baugh also asked him if he thought the programme could be altered to suit everyone, and said that if the Variety Artists' Federation were to make out the programme he would go out of the business and start as a greengrocer. (Laughter.)

Mr. Murray said that the plaintiff told him that unless his turn was altered he would not go on. Witness was not empowered to alter the programme, and told him that if he saw Mr. Baugh perhaps he would alter it for him. Plaintiff said, "It doesn't matter; I will get a doctor's certificate, and he knows where to find me."

Other evidence having been given, Mr. Baugh said a message was brought to him that Mr. Pitt would not go on, and, in consequence, he had to make arrangements for another turn. When he saw the plaintiff he told him that if the artists were going to run the theatre he would sooner start a greengrocer's shop. They had been friends, and they were still friends, he hoped. Mr. Baugh added, "You must have a first turn, and there must be the last one."

Judge Bacon said the main feature of the case was that the former, not finding his position in the programme to be what he considered his merits justified, intimated that he would not go on. The point that followed was, the performer having declined to go on, did any money payment devolve upon the defendants as a result of his refusal to fulfil his item in the programme? If money ment resulted, that must be taken into consideration. He thought an additional picture was obtained, that a money payment did not result, and, therefore, he must give judgment for the defendants, with taxed costs.

Messrs. Edward H. Lucas and Teddy Pirman were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers Order upon Friday, Oct. 28. The ceremony was performed by Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman, W.T., assisted by Terrier Andie Caine, V.T., and Organist Terrier Arthur Were. Messrs. Peter Birmingham and Sid Doody were initiated into the Mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman, W.T., assisted by Terrier C. W. Kloof, V.T., Organist, and Terrier Russell Brandow. Messrs. Joe Archer and Jack Austin have successfully passed the ballot. Applications for membership have been received from Messrs. Harry Alvey (X Rays), Fred Leon (X Rays), Phil Hayes (Barnes and Ascot), Charles A. Rowcroft (Zettmah), Frank Forsyth, Frank Sylvo, Jack Lane, Harry Valdo, and James Valdo (Valdo Bros.).

A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers G. P. R. Burgess, A. De Brean, Alf. Cawthorn, Fred Carr, and Frank Boyce upon their reappearance in the kennel on Sunday last. Terrier Bert Marsden acted as W.D., and Terrier Alan Rand as Y.B. In the absence of the Secretary, Terrier Arthur Were (who was attending the banquet of the O.P. Club), Terrier Tom Packer undertook the duties of the office. The Secretary desires to express his sincere thanks to Terrier Tom Packer.

Terriers and others are requested to note that Mr. Alf. Hampson is no longer a member, that he severed his connection with the Association many years ago, and that his representment as its founder and organiser is unauthenticated. The officers for November are as follows:—Terrier Andie Caine, W.T.; Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T.; Terrier C. C. Cornish, W.I.; and Terrier Arthur Were, Organist.

A ladies' concert will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday next at 8.15 p.m. Terrier Bert Marsden has been appointed M.C. Terrier Arthur Were represented the Association at the funeral on Monday last of the late Mrs. Harry Blake.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

In common with lesser productions at smaller houses, in a few short weeks the greatest money-spinner in the dramatic world, staged at one of the largest houses in the mightiest city in Europe, will have to retire for the nonce to give way for the reign of King Pantomime, and from Old Drury to the most distant Thespian fanes preparations to receive the monarch in fitting style are in progress. In all and every instance those "Masters of the Musick," Messrs. Francis and Day have been, or are being, consulted as to the songs, ballads, and marches to be employed in his honour, for it would not be meet to go for music to grace a purely British institution elsewhere than to the house which has, with its other British compeers, supplied the principal pantomimes with music for well over a quarter of a century. That is why managers and producers and artists return year after year to the firm of Francis and Day, knowing exactly what they want to get, and getting what they want exactly.

Legion have been the applications for those great pantomime numbers, "Flanagan," "There are nice girls everywhere" (which Mr. Whit Cunliffe is still making his *pièce de resistance* at the London Pavilion and elsewhere), and "Hi! Hi! Mr. McKie!" and that dashing song which is own brother to "Let's all go down the Strand," and which is entitled "Come with me down Regent-street." Miss Winifred Ward and Miss Daisy James have been instrumental in making this last so famous, as it already is. All the above mentioned songs are in Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue.

Of that great ballad "If I had the world to give you" it is impossible to say more than that it is ear-marked for use in pantomime everywhere where sound sentiment and a lovely melody are desiderata. At certain great cultured provincial centres—Bristol might be cited as one—such a song as "If I had the world to give you" will be hailed as the gem it is, and its known record with brilliant singers has been its own chief recommendation to pantomime talk. It is issued by Messrs. Francis and Day in three keys.

The melody of "On the silvery sands," the lyric by that brilliant young journalist, Arthur C. Findon, and music from the pen of Herman E. Darewski, will be hard to escape from on Boxing Night and before, having been secured on every hand and in all quarters for Christmastide use. Miss Madge Temple, who has been singing it nightly during the current week, both at the Oxford and at Poplar, makes on Monday her initial appearance at the Pavilion, Glasgow, where, in addition to "On the silvery sands," the popular lady will sing her other great success, "I'm looking for Mr. Wright." Both are issued by Mr. David Day's firm.

Miss Ada Reeve has been packing the Camberwell Empire to suffocation nightly, and in new songs and old favourites has shown herself to be what all know her as—a consummate artist without parallel. Her new humorous song "And just then he fell out of bed" is being much sought after for pantomime. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

The transformation scene of yore having been relegated to limbo at most pantomime houses, its place is now filled by a set scene of transcendent beauty, which requires much thought beforehand, a suitable peg to paint it round being often hard to find or hit upon. This year Messrs. Francis and Day's lovely song "In cherry blossom time in Japan" is being seized upon as the very thing (recent happenings at the White City aiding), and scenic artists and electricians (and vocalists) are all happy.

Still further reprints of Messrs. Francis and Day's two volumes of songs for the use of artists engaged in pantomime are being called for, and both Book No. 1 for principal boy and girl and Book No. 2 for comedian and dame are already being spoken of—as were their predecessors of former years—as worthy of being preserved as epitomes of the successes of the pantomimes of season 1910-11. One would imagine a limerick competition was being adjudged at the world's song market at 142, Charing Cross-road, to see the piles of sixpenny postal orders received daily for postage of one or other volume.

As was only to be expected, "You want to go to Tokio," "'Tis a faded picture," "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland," "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," "Hail, smiling morn! (Will you sing this glee with me?)," "You taught me how to love you," and that comic scream "We don't want a girl" are daily being asked for, each and all having been weighed in the variety balance and not found wanting, and therefore just the things for pantomime. All are issued by the celebrated house of Messrs. Francis and Day.

Among the multiplicity of good things just acquired for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day is a new song, entitled "Won't you take your old place?" It is by Leonard Cooke and Arthur Stroud, the music being by Alf. J. Lawrance.

A humorous song, with the title of "You'd better go back again," will shortly be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is written, composed, and sung by Mr. Frank Wood.

George A. Stevens and Charles Ridgwell, who can always be relied on for clever and tuneful numbers, have just disposed of to Messrs. Francis and Day a song named "Will you walk along the Prom—Prom—Prom?"

In the distinguished list of artists who have featured that fine song of Messrs. Francis and Day's "I've got rings on my fingers," none have stood out with more *éclat* than that superlatively gifted artist, Miss Winifred Hare. At the Palace, Camberwell, the popular lady has been cheered to the echo nightly for her rendering of this great feature of the forthcoming pantomimes, a rendering that has stood out as a thing by itself reason of her unique reading and insight of its possibilities.

At the Marlborough Theatre during the week now ending Miss Maie Ash has been singing in Leslie Stuart's delightfully musical *Captain Kid* and has nightly earned the approbation of multitudes of visitors for her rendition of the interpolated march-time song "Take your girlie where the band is playing." It has been secured for the leading pantomimes, and Messrs. Francis and Day have in it one that will be hard to even equal, let alone excel, for purposes where a march is imperative in a Christmas annual. It is written and composed by Fred Day.

At Edmonton and at Camberwell, and at the Canterbury also, and with audiences at exclamouring for more, Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has during the week been regretfully allowed nightly at length to leave the stage by his myriads of admirers. His great songs "Mister Owl" and "There's a little black cupid in the moon" promise to be the rage of many a pantomime, thanks to their alluring melodies, no less than to the inherent cleverness of their lyrics, and, most of all, to the vogue given them by the artist. Messrs. Francis and Day continue to receive what may be better described as supplications rather than applications for each of these "gilt-edged securities" for pantomime. At the Euston Palace M. Foot-Gers has been nightly giving a fine imitation of Mr. Elliott in "If the man in the moon were a coon."

The Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co., whose advertisement appears opposite the Stoll "calls" this week, have a great song they have just published, entitled "Kiss me, my honey, kiss me," which has a chorus that is both original and taking. No less a person than Mr. Maurice Farkoa, the great concert artist, is going to sing this number, and it is not likely to be put on the market in the cheap edition.

Miss Hetty King, one of pantomime's greatest favourites, has secured the sole rights of the Snyder Company's patriotic song, entitled "My dream of the Union Jack," and has got same under rehearsal, and she will produce it in the form of a big scena. With such an artist as Miss Hetty King to handle a song of this nature, the success of it is a foregone conclusion.

Miss Maidie Scott will shortly produce the Ted Synder Company's big Dame song, entitled "If the managers only thought the same as Ma." This number justly deserves to be the Dame song of the year. The title is sufficient to tell the artist what the song is about without further explanation, and in the hands of such a capable artist as Miss Maidie Scott this ought to prove to be another winner for the Ted Snyder Co.

That famous eccentric comedian Mr. George French has got the Ted Snyder Company's "I'm a happy married man" in rehearsal, and will produce same shortly. This is a song every comedian should get hold of for pantomime, as well as that other great song, entitled "My wife's gone to the country," which Phil Parsons has scored such an enormous success with all over the country.

Miss Jessie Templeton's great song "When the bloom is on the heather" and George Lashwood's "Ring me up some rainy afternoon" are two numbers which principal boys should make a point of getting hold of. The choruses are just "the thing."

(*Continued on page 24.*)

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE BILLPOSTER."

Fantastic Sketch, by Arthur Anderson and Herbert Sargent; Music by Herman Finck, Produced at the Palace Theatre on Monday, Oct. 31.

Jim Banks ..... Mr. Lauri de Frece
Mephistopheles ..... Mr. Harry Gordon
Minnie the Milkmaid ..... Miss Mabel Sealby

Mr. Lauri de Frece, who made all London laugh as the Keeper of the Crocodiles in the comic opera *Amasis*, is at the Palace Theatre this week in *The Billposter*, a fantastic production that should increase in amusing incident and comic business with the passage of time. It is funny in idea, and the blending of the Faust and Pygmalion and Galatea legends is effective enough for the purposes of humour. Jim Banks, a billsticker, falls in love with a hoarding picture of Minnie the Milkmaid. Near by Mephistopheles stands in all the distempered effrontery of a coloured poster. In an unguarded moment Jim expresses his longing for the power of the ruler of Hades, and calls to his aid his majesty of the netherworld. The modern Mephisto agrees to come to the help of Jim on the condition that the latter gives himself up body and soul, and is willing to change places. Lightnings flash and thunder rattles. The changes are effected, and Minnie materialises. But she does not care for Jim, the new Mephisto, and the latter is not enamoured of her. Both demon and billposter resume their original positions, and Minnie and Jim Banks, at the curtain fall, retire to a watchman's hut. Miss Mabel Sealby, who will be remembered for her piquant performance of Magda in *A Balkan Princess*, makes a winsome milkmaid, and scores in song and dance; Mr. Lauri de Frece sings and acts in quaint fashion; and Mr. Harry Gordon gives efficient support as Mephisto.

"THE THIRD DEGREE."

Dramatic Sketch, Produced by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company at the Euston Palace on Monday, Oct. 31.

Inspector Reynolds ..... Mr. Chas. East
Casey ..... Mr. Gerald Valentine
Mrs. Von Hudson ..... Miss East Robertson
Rogers ..... Mr. Oswald Williams
Sergeant ..... Mr. William Bell
Second ..... Mr. Arthur Kellard

This sketch, which has had a great success in the provinces, was produced for the first time in town on Monday at the Euston, and proved an instantaneous success. Dealing with the system by which prisoners in America are tortured, and even starved, to make them confess to crimes of which they are often innocent, this tabloid drama grips you with interest from start to finish.

The scene is the headquarters of the police at New York, and depicts a prisoner being commanded to confess to a crime. Casey, the unfortunate man's name, protests his innocence to the inspector; but a burglar's jemmy and an injured hand leaves no doubt in the official's mind of the prisoner's guilt. After urging the wretched fellow to own up to his supposed crime, the inspector turns to threatening him, and hints to Casey the terrible results that will follow if he still remains obdurate. At last, seeing it is no good, he orders Casey to the cells, meeting with cold indifference the captive's passionate outburst of a wronged man.

No sooner has Casey been led away than a Mrs. Von Hudson, the wife of a millionaire, appears on the scene, and attempts to elicit information as to the whereabouts of a man who rescued her child from a burning building, and then suddenly disappeared. The inspector informs her that it will be almost impossible for him to help her; but the lady's quick eye has noticed a photo on the table, that of Casey, and immediately declares that her search is ended, for he is the hero she wishes to find. She then leaves the office with an assurance that Casey shall be sent to her in a few hours. Casey is sent for, and the inspector, in broken sentences, tries to make amends for his harsh treatment. The curtain falls on Mrs. Von Hudson kissing the wounded hand of the now overjoyed prisoner.

Undoubtedly this is one of the finest sketches of its sort that have been put on here, and Mr. Sleath must be congratulated on having secured such a capable company. As Casey, Mr. Gerald Valentine brought out all the strong points of the character, and was a decided success; while the same must be said of Mr. Charles East as the Inspector, whose sudden change from a stern and remorseless official to a forgiving and ashamed man, was a remarkable piece of acting. Miss East Robertson gave a pleasing study of the millionaire's wife, and the other parts were filled with credit.

Vaudeville will be given twice daily in the Centre Transept of the Crystal Palace on Monday next and during the week, the artists including: The Four Flying Oreninos, the most sensational act in vaudeville; Robert Gilbert's Canine Wonders; Rose and Wold, the great comedy acrobats; Warriner, in clever musical act; and the Brothers St. Clair, great comedy trick cyclists.

A COMPLAINT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Why—I only ask for information—is it that the majority of the newspapers—more especially the dailies—omit the name of the author when noticing the production of a music hall sketch?

Quite recently I have had several sketches produced at West End halls, and, with scarcely an exception, no mention was made of the author's name, although it appeared on the programme in each instance. Surely this is rather hard luck on the humble scribe!—Yours faithfully,

HERBERT C. SARGENT.

64, Ashworth-mansions, Elgin-avenue, Nov. 2.

HOWARD AND HARRIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A slight error occurred in last Saturday's *Era*. Referring to "Howard and Harris," it stated that they are booked up until 1913 by "Somers and Warner." Now, I have booked these artists for many years, and am booking them still, and I am pleased to say they are excellent clients. I should, therefore, be much obliged if you would correct this statement.—Yours faithfully,

H. W. WIELAND.

16, St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PUBLISHERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST SONGS.

LEGITIMATE HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS. MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

HAIL, SMILING MORN. (WILL YOU SING THIS GLEE WITH ME?) WILKIE BARD.

PUT ON YOUR TAT-TA, LITTLE GIRLIE. MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

FLANAGAN. MISS FLORRIE FORDE

HI! HI! Mr. McKIE. MISS ELLA RETFORD.

Mr. OWL. G. H. ELLIOTT.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE FRANK CASS.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU DAVE CARTER.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE. WHIT CUNLIFFE.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND. TOM COSELLO.

THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK CUPID IN THE MOON. G. H. ELLIOTT.

IN CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN. MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

AND JUST THEN HE FELL OUT OF BED. MISS ADA REEVE.

YOU WANT TO GO TO TOKIO. MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

PANTO. BOOKS NOW READY. No. 1 PRINCIPAL BOY & GIRL SONGS. No. 2 COMEDIAN AND DAME SONGS. COST OF DISPATCH, 6d. EACH BOOK.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London. THE PLACE WHERE THE HITS COME FROM.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., a few weeks ago, acquired a song of the Irish persuasion, entitled 'Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town," which they were sanguine from the first would prove to be far and away the finest number of the year, from the Hibernian standpoint. Managers and artists are unanimous in endorsing the opinion of the publishers respecting this song, and it has been very extensively booked for pantomime for some time past. On Monday next, at the Palace, Oldham, that favourite performer, Miss Carlotta Levey, is specially producing "Maggie Ryan," and on the 14th inst. will make it her *pièce de résistance* at the Oxford and her other important London engagements. Principal boys or girls should make a special point of hearing Miss Levey in this song, on her return to town.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, who should certainly be one of the finest judges of the merits of a comedy chorus song in the business, absolutely swears by Feldman's great new number, "By the sea," as the best song of its type that has come his way for many years past. He will specially feature it in a scene that has been written into the Court Theatre, Liverpool, pantomime; but, prior to pantomime, he will introduce this taking song to the West-end, when he starts a special couple of weeks' engagement at the Oxford and Tivoli. Mr. Sheridan's latest wheeze, "Nothing doin'," certainly doesn't seem to be exemplified in his case.

The Holborn Empire patrons this week have emphatically endorsed the verdict that the habitués of the Oxford have pronounced on "By the light of the silvery moon" for a month past, viz., that this song, in dainty Miss Ella Retford's hands (to say nothing of her feet) is absolutely the "greatest thing that ever happened" in the song line. The Holborn denizens of high Olympus give forth the chorus in lusty accents calculated to cure the deaf, and the applause that greets the fair singer at the conclusion of her delightful "moon" number should be an earnest of what principal boys may expect for *their* rendering of the same song, if they are only well-advised enough to "go and do likewise." This number is published by Feldman.

One of the prettiest songs of the "Redwing" type that America has given us for several years is that dainty Indian romance, "Silver Bell," which Messrs. Feldman and Co. are "placing" everywhere for pantomime. That most accomplished artist, Miss Maggie Carr, on Monday next will specially produce this number at the Hippodrome, Brighton, prior to giving it a West-end production a week or two later at the Tivoli, to be followed by the London Pavilion, where this number will be produced with special effects, and should prove one of the most effective song-scenas of the year.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have just accepted for publication a new and striking nautical ditty, entitled "When Jack comes home again," which Miss Daisy James is singing, and so instantaneous has been the liking that artists and producers have evinced for this breezy song of the sea that we have some confidence in predicting that it is destined to create something like a furore in all pantomimes into which it is introduced this season.

Surprising unanimity has been evidenced by principal girls and managers this year with regard to what is undoubtedly the premier principal girl's song of the year, that dainty and characteristic French laundress's ditty "Marie Louise," and Messrs. Feldman and Co. are to be congratulated on the possession of a song calculated to be as great a pantomime triumph as it has already proved at the halls of variety in the hands of Miss Venie Clements and other accomplished artists.

Miss Ada Reeve at the Camberwell Empire this week is charming her hearers beyond measure with her two inimitable songs, "Nobody knows, nobody cares" and "Foolish questions." The former of these, a pathetic ballad from the pen of Chas. K. Harris, is in very great pantomime demand, especially with artists essaying Dick Whittington and similar characters, and the incisive humour of the "Questions" morceau will have also a considerable number of pantomime exponents this year. Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. publish both these Reeve numbers.

To hear those sprightly and artistic young performers the Romps render that brilliant Feldman number "Oh, boys, I've seen you there" at the London Pavilion and elsewhere is a sheer delight and a big object-lesson to principal boys and others on the look-out for the sort of song that always "goes" in pantomime. During the current week the Feldman offices have been literally besieged by managers and artists all eager to acquire the rights to sing this truly great song in their respective productions. The Romps are now busily rehearsing several new Feldman numbers for production at an early date.

It is not generally known that Messrs. Feldman and Co. are in a position to extend pantomime permissions for all three of Mr. George Formby's latest winners, to wit, "I was standing at the corner of the street," "I put on my coat and went home," and that greatest of all comedy numbers, "Playing the game in the West"; but this is so, and early application should be made by comedians playing Idle Jack, &c., or they may get "left."

That exquisite song which Miss Annie Schuberth renders so delightfully, "Though years go rolling by" ("My star of hope"), bids fair to have a considerable pantomime vogue this year, and is being asked about considerably by fairy queens, &c. Miss Schuberth still continues to charm all hearers with Feldman's gem of vocal gems, "Beautiful garden of roses."

Miss Violet Romaine at the Hippodrome, Peterborough, this week is achieving a success second to none with Feldman's dainty song of sentiment "I wonder if it's true," which she, in common with many other artists, will feature in pantomime this year. This song possesses every element that makes for pantomime success, and a hit in every town where it is sung is assured.

Miss Gladys Re Vell, who in the title-rôle of *Sinbad* this year purposes "featuring" several of the Feldman numbers, notably "By the sea" and "Silver bell," is making a very great hit this week at the Empire, Burnley, with a Feldman number of the first water, entitled "I like the pictures hanging on the wall," which she assures the publishers catches on immensely everywhere.

Some of the loudest plaudits of the evening at the Camberwell Empire are showered upon charming Miss Ethel Re-Leslie for her fine song-scena "Connemara," which is published by Feldman and Co., and which proves so entirely to the liking of the audience that they heartily join in the "taking" refrain, plaudits loud and long being a pleasing accompaniment to the fair singer's final bow.

The latest talented and high-class artist to yield to the charms of Feldman's unrivalled ballad "Beautiful garden of roses" is Miss Lilian Lea, who at the Shoreditch Empire this week is nightly ravishing the ears of her enthusiastic auditors with the loveliest ballad that ever was borne "across the pond." Needless to say, the powers that be at Arthur-street have welcomed the "airy fairy Lilian" to the "Roses" fold with open arms.

Miss Josie Delaine has proved just as successful with her delightful little chansonette "Little Miss Importance" at the Walthamstow Palace this week, as she has been all along for weeks past at the Oxford, Metropolitan, and other important West-end halls, and all parts of the house, Oliver Twist-like, clamour for more at the termination of her most artistic interpretation of a most fascinating song. This is a big Feldman number for principal girls, and as such has already been extensively "booked" for pantomime.

That dainty number, "Little silver moonbeams," has quite established itself a prime favourite since Mr. Fred Wilson popularised it by his singing of it at Douglas Head Pavilion during the recent season. Messrs. Sheard are making this charming number one of their many good things for pantomime, especially as it lends itself so happily to scenic effects.

The Isle of Man and Mr. J. J. Mannix (the coffee-coloured coon) are responsible for the popularity among the young trippers of Lancashire and Yorkshire, who are everywhere humming, whistling, and singing that eminently catchy coon melody, "Oh, Miss Malind; or, when evening time comes round." This wonderful hit has already achieved immense popularity in the United States, where Miss Maud Lambert started it on its hurricane course over the American Continent. Sheard and Co. handle the song in this country.

Mr. Joe Archer, after three or four weeks in the provinces, is back again in town with "T.R.O.U.B.L.E" ("Those wedding bells are ringing"), which he, as well as many others, regard as the very best song he has ever exploited. Messrs. Sheard and Co. are granting a few special permissions for pantomimes, so those who have not yet heard it should take the opportunity of hearing Joe, or Mr. Thurban will be pleased to run it over to those calling at 196, Shaftesbury-avenue.

Messrs. Dempsey and Schmid, the authors of "Garden of roses," have placed with Messrs. Sheard their two latest song successes, "Moonlight in Jungleland," which is exceedingly melodious, and is regarded in the States as being the "one and only" jungle song.

"If you must love someone, won't you please love me?" is a most delightful love song, and is being used as a special number by Melville and Russell, in their *Aeroplane Flirtation* sketch. This is a double first-class number for princes, princesses, and other pantomime heroes and heroines.

Those purveyors of pretty, popular pantomime numbers Messrs. Chas. Sheard and Co. have secured two very taking specimens in "What would my life be without you?" which Mr. Will Norrie is delighting South Africa with, and "Alone but never lonely." Those looking for ballads that are sensible and sentimental at once, and with catchy chorus, cannot do better than make themselves acquainted with Edward St. Quentin's appealing song and Marcus Hope's effective love ballad.

Demon kings and such like this coming pantomime season should certainly look up Messrs. Charles Sheard and Co. at once. They will not be disappointed. Mr. Dan Billington, the great Yorkshire baritone, tells them that Stanley Gordon's fine song "Neptune" is the biggest hit since the same composer's "When the ebb-tide flows." All bass and baritone singers will hail this dramatic number with delight at having found a good thing.

Those well-known writers of winners Clifton Bingham and Stanley Gordon have through Messrs. Chas. Sheard and Co. got well there again in their new song for bass or baritone, "The Volcano," a number which lends itself finely to dramatic interpretation, while giving every chance to the vocalist. Singers on the look-out for something both strong and distinctive, should decidedly call and see this.

J. Chas. Moore and Karl F. Hooper, of the National Music Publishing Co., 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C., are indeed a lucky pair. Without doubt they have secured one of the biggest ballad hits of the year—namely, "Why do you wait for to-morrow?" This number is at present being featured on the halls with enormous success by Messrs. Carlisle and Wellmon. The future of the song is assured, having been already snapped up by most of the leading pantomime managers.

Another prime favourite, published by the same firm, is "Sammy in his Tam O'Shanter hat," a comedy chorus song with a melody haunting in the extreme.

The National Music Publishing Co. have still one or two things up their sleeve, so we would advise all pantomime managers and artists on the look-out for winners to keep their eyes (not to mention their ears) open for good things coming along.

J. Chas. Moore has lately collaborated with Fred E. Cliffe, a song-writer of the new school who is rapidly coming to the front. Considering that Fred E. Cliffe has only been writing since the autumn of last year, and has already written winners for such artists as Marie Lloyd, Mark Sheridan, George Formby, Carrie Moore, Hetty King, George Roby, and a host of others, with the able assistance of J. Chas. Moore, it certainly looks as if Fred E. Cliffe is getting there.

Miss Louie Tracey's new naval song, by Kenneth Lyle and Worton David, entitled "It's a little way we've got in the Navy," is proving a huge success everywhere, the Dapper Dandy Boy's trim figure being much admired in her well-cut naval uniform.

In "Give me pansies" Mr. Leslie Lloyd has composed a pretty song with a pleasing waltz refrain. The song, published by the Rietz Publishing Co., 12, Herbrand-street, W.C., is dedicated to and sung by Miss Mary Grey.

Little Eileen Breton has acquired the full rights of "It all comes out on the cinematograph," by Fox and Long, which is going well.

Miss Bessie Slaughter, who opened at the Oxford on Monday evening, again gave a magnificent rendering of "Your eyes have told me so." In response to a persistent encore she sang a new number by the same composer, entitled "Guardian Angel Mine," which evidently made a deep impression on the audience, who, at the conclusion, recalled the artist again and again. Messrs. Nightingale and Co., the publishers of "Your eyes have told me so," are to be congratulated upon securing both these excellent songs.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

Musical Salvo, who is at the Canterbury this week, is presenting there his musical novelty the Silvochimes. As a soloist on the musical glasses he plays classical compositions and the latest popular melodies with equal skill.

FELDMAN'S TRIUMPH for PANTOMIME.

"CARDEN OF ROSES"

The acknowledged Ballad of the Year.

THIS SONG WILL OUTRIVAL OUR FORMER HITS:

"TINY SEED OF LOVE" AND "SOMEWHERE."

NO ARTISTE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THIS. DO NOT BE MISLED! WE STAKE OUR REPUTATION ON THIS SONG! IT WILL POSITIVELY BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL SUCCESS EVER PUBLISHED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHERS OF POPULAR MUSIC.

ARTISTS, REMEMBER! YOUR SUCCESS IS OURS.

OTHER GREAT WINNERS FOR PANTOMIME.

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON. SUNG BY MISS ELLA RETFORD.

MISTER PAT O'HARE SUNG BY GEORGE LASHWOOD.

BY THE SEA. SUNG BY MARK SHERIDAN.

NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

YOU WERE COMING THRO' THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR. SUNG BY MISS GERTIE GITANA.

MAGGIE RYAN FROM DUBLIN TOWN. SUNG BY MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY.

WHEN JACK COMES HOME AGAIN. SUNG BY MISS DAISY JAMES.

MARIE LOUISE. SUNG BY MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.

LET'S HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF SUNSHINE. SUNG BY FRED BARNES.

OH, BOYS, I'VE SEEN YOU THERE. SUNG BY THE ROMPS AND MISS MAY LILLIAN LEVEY.

MARY, YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW. SUNG BY ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

FOOLISH QUESTIONS. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

LIZA HAD HOLD OF MY HAND. SUNG BY JACK PLEASANTS.

SILVER BELL. SUNG BY MISS MAGGIE CARR.

LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME AND GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING } SUNG BY MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW. SUNG BY MISS LILIAN HERLEIN.

THOUGH YEARS GO ROLLING BY. SUNG BY MISS ANNIE SCHUBERTH.

I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE. SUNG BY MISS MABEL GREEN.

SING! SING! SING! SUNG BY DAMERELL & RUTLAND.

SANTA FÈ. SUNG BY MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

THE BARBER'S BALL. SUNG BY THE TWO BOBS.

LITTLE MISS IMPORTANCE. SUNG BY MISS JOSIE DELAINE.

EVERYWHERE I GO I LEAVE MY HEART WITH YOU. SUNG BY MISS DOROTHY WARD.

ANY LITTLE GIRL THAT'S A NICE LITTLE GIRL. SUNG BY JOE O'GORMAN.

WE HAVE THE GREATEST AND MOST VARIED SELECTION OF **PROVEN SUCCESSES for PANTOMIME** EVER OFFERED TO ARTISTS AND PRODUCERS. CALL OR WRITE AT ONCE, STATING PART AND THEATRES.

B. FELDMAN & CO., 2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 6447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 24.*)

THE accumulated evidence of the past few weeks seem to point with unerring certainty to one result. The Star Music Co.'s three special pantomime songs have been in such demand by managers and artists that a triumphal success is assured. From every quarter of the United Kingdom comes the demand for permission to introduce in forthcoming pantomimes A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's great numbers, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes," "Fall in and follow me," and "Here comes the chocolate soldier."

EACH morning the postman's burden becomes more bulky, and 90 per cent. of the correspondence refers to the above-mentioned songs. The daily despatch of copies alone employs the services of a separate staff. In spite of all counter attractions, the best material will come to the top.

DURING the past week many artists have scored tremendous hits with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes," particularly Miss Mande Mortimer, who, at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, created a furore with this song. Miss Mortimer is featuring the number at all her engagements, and had the privilege of being one of the first to associate herself with this Star Company winner.

IF there is a principal boy who has not yet secured Charles Whittle's enormous success, "Fall in and follow me," for pantomime, that lady may write herself down as practically the solitary exception. Never has there been such unanimity in pronouncing for a particular pantomime number. No artist who has heard the song played has been able to resist the compelling power of its lilty chorus. One musical-director who advises in connection with a most important theatre, hearing the song for the first time, declared enthusiastically "Ah! this is what I call real pantomime music, bright, sparkling, catchy; in short, irresistible!" The Star Music Co. have printed band-parts for this number.

G. H. ELLIOTT, whose popularity with London audiences seems to increase at every visit, has scored tremendously during the past week at the Palace, Camberwell, and other halls, with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's quaint and melodious song, "Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah." Mr. Elliott's rendering of this delightful number is an education in artistry. Next week he will produce his new song "Here comes the chocolate soldier." Both numbers are published by the Star Music Co.

MISS DOROTHY WARD, the charming musical comedy artist, now playing a "variety" season, has been repeating in the provinces the huge success she made at the London Coliseum with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's fine march song, "Cheer up, my Highland lassie." Miss Ward renders this number with incomparable dash and verve, her fine voice and splendid appearance adding to the general charm of her performance. Everywhere Miss Ward has sung this brilliant number it has brought down the house. The Star Music Co. will grant a few special permits for the halls to approved artists.

MISS MAY MARS, who is just now on the Stoll circuit, is featuring with exceptional success A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's dainty and catchy Irish ditty, "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" Miss Mars has been associated with many successful songs, but few have equalled this number from the point of view of applause, and, after all, that is one thing every artist must value. The Star Music Co. have great confidence in "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" which is suitable for boy or girl in pantomime. Band parts are printed in medium key.

LLOYD MORGAN, the favourite light comedian, continues to do the trick with his new song, by Harrington and Lane, entitled "There's a pretty little cot in Dover." Mr. Morgan's great success with this number has resulted in a huge demand for copies of the song, which has had a record sale in Leeds during the past week. The Star Music Co. publish this winner.

THE Von Tilzer Music Company have certainly found a big number for principal boys in their light comedy chorus song, "Pick me a nice one," which has already been secured by many of the leading artists. Miss Ella Shields' chorus hit, "If you see Harry," is also finding favour as a "boy" number.

MISS CARRIE MOORE will specially feature in the forthcoming pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, her latest success "Someland," which should appeal to all artists engaged for "Boy" or Fairy Queen. Von Tilzers publish this number.

MISS GERTIE GITANA'S success, "Queen of the Cannibal Isles," is being eagerly sought after by principal girls. It is a coon number with comedy, and is not of the stereotyped "moon" or "spoon" order. Another song that looks like "making good" with principal girls is "Sweet Kathleen" (in your dress of em'rald green), which possesses a dainty comedy chorus. These are also among Von Tilzer's publications.

COMEDIANS should see "I never, never, never saw such a thing before" ere they decide on their songs for pantomime. It is a screamingly funny song of the quaint "short chorus" persuasion, and the fact that it is from the pens of Worton David (the past-master of short, quaint comedy choruses) and Bert Lee, makes further comment unnecessary. It is published by Von Tilzers

"MILL."

A Dramatic Episode, in One Scene, by E. W. Garden, Produced at the Empire, Croydon, on Monday, Oct. 31.

Joe Preston .....MR. BERTIE MURRY
Dawes .....MR. C. A. WHITE
Mill .....MISS MABEL GARDEN

This is a very pleasing sketch, in one scene, the Dawes's house in Whitechapel. At the rise of the curtain we see Dawes and his daughter Mill at tea. The father is somewhat upset on account of hard times at his work, but his daughter endeavours to cheer him up. Joe Preston, who has lived with them for three months, and has made himself a part of their lives, is the subject of their conversation, when Joe comes on the scene, bringing presents for Mill and her father, which gives them great satisfaction. Joe states that he will have to leave them, but before departure has an important secret to disclose to Mill. The latter has confided to her father that she is in love with Joe, and she now thinks that the secret which Joe has to tell is that he loves her. She is greatly distressed when he only tells her that he is an author, and has written a book of their lives, with her as the heroine. She is unable to control her disappointment, and confesses her love to Joe. He is very fond of the girl, and, with this confession, he finds that his life would be a blank without her. He destroys the manuscript, and, embracing Mill, the curtain falls on a pretty love picture. Mr Herbert Sleath has well selected his company for this sketch. Miss Mabel Garden just touches the right note, and gives a pleasing impersonation of Mill; Mr. Bertie Murry acts with care and Judgment in the rôle of Joe Preston; and Mr. C. A. White deserves praise for his assumption of the part of Dawes.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Cecil Raleigh's Drury Lane drama, *The Price of Peace*, cleverly compressed into a half-hour's sketch, is having its first representation in the West-End this week at the Oxford, Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company being responsible for the production. The sketch was described in detail in these columns on its first performance at the Surrey on Sept. 12, where the exciting and effective playlet was warmly received; and Oxford audiences have been equally favourably impressed, the dramatic situations and telling lines holding their attention throughout. With one exception, the cast is the same as in the original production, Mr. Walter Gay repeating his impressive and finished performance as the Prime Minister, his delivery of the long speeches being splendid elocutionary feats, and his enactment throughout an admirable one. Mr. George Polson portrays the treacherous Marcus Benton effectively, being especially good in the House of Commons scene. Mr. H. Jephson and Mr. A. T. Lennard as Sir Henry Delabere and Sir William Addiscott, the Prime Minister's two faithful supporters, played with sincerity and ease; and Count Ostadine was capitally portrayed by Mr. Frank Woodville. Miss Kitty Lofting was a refined and sympathetic Lady Kathleen, playing with much tenderness in the scene with her father where she pleads for peace. The sketch was elaborately mounted, the House of Commons and the Ballroom of the Prime Minister's House being skilfully realised.

The bill at the Oxford contains many other turns of an alluring nature, the comedians of front rank including Mr. Wilkie Bard, who has given us nothing better than his screamingly funny and well-worked "I want to sing in opera"; Mr. Ernest Shand, with his quaint old Jack Tar impersonation, "I'll be there"; Mr. Sam Mayo, who chortles so effectively "Ha! Ha! Ha!" and his comic Indian number; and the peculiar and popular abbreviator, Mr. Phil Ray. The Two Bobs are enormous favourites with their artistically sung and humorous songs, quaint impersonations, clever piano playing, and generally agreeable and clever interlude, and are repeatedly recalled. Tate and Tate submit an amusing "American Bar Scene," in which the male does some wonderful somersaulting, and, in conjunction with his smart, athletic, and agile little companion, executes many novel and skilful feats, his resourcefulness and originality as a comedian helping along considerably the success of a keenly appreciated turn. The Westbrooks have a most attractive and neatly worked dancing scena, "Two Little Maids from School," and are applauded at their true worth; and Miss Jennie Hartley, in "He can't keep his eyes off the boots" and another number, finds many admirers, her skilful and neat footwork being particularly enjoyed.

The charming vocal comedienne, Miss Madge Temple, is singing here with her usual success "Looking for Mr. Wright" and "The silvery sands," popular and well-written numbers, which this delightful artist gives with much point and effect. Miss Josie Delaine, a gifted and versatile little lady, has an excellent song in "Can you tell me which is Tommy Atkins?" and her cleverness is admirably employed in an amusing dialect song, her neat and smart step-dancing also being a sure passport to popular favour. The cultured and fine contralto voice of Miss Bessie Slaughter is heard with much pleasure in "Your eyes have told me so" and "Guardian angel mine," both numbers being loudly applauded. Dainty and clever Miss Clarice Mayne and "that fellow at the piano," whom one seems to encounter all over London just at present, are of course keenly appreciated; and Satani and company, the mysterious "Raffles," the Bros. Ford, Mr. John Macaulay, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope also figure in the fine bill.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

When visiting the Holborn Empire three distinctive features strike one, and they are: the excellence of the programme, the consequent good business, and the marked enthusiasm of the immense audience. On Monday the only regret was the absence of Dainty Daisy Dormer; but another Holborn favourite was present in the person of Miss Ella Retford, who is undoubtedly extremely popular at this hall. She gives two sparkling numbers in her own delightful style, and dances daintily. It may be mentioned, however, that neither of the songs is of her catchy chorus type which the "gods" delight in, although the first has a lilting refrain.

Mr. George Mozart is also here, and is seen to great advantage in his droll dumb show, his facial expressions being particularly amusing—first in photographs of father and mother in different periods of their careers; then in the difference between male and the more artful female demonstrators(!). For his final effort this popular, comedian, with the help of his wobegone assistant, depicts the itinerary musicians (?) in two lights; firstly, in the beginning of the morning or thirsty-but-moneyless stage, and again at night after having dined not wisely but too well.

Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait gain many a well-deserved laugh in their brisk farce, *A Man of Spirit*, their business and gags being extra good. The skit is brimful of fun, and the last piece of business is very chic and much to the liking of the audience. Osborne and Brooks appear in two bright duologues as the lawyer and his fair client in *A Breach of Promise Case*, and also in the always diverting theme of the late (or early morning) homecomer, who brings in the milk with him to his indignant partner. Beattie and Babs, a pleasing turn, include a clever little Nellie Wallace, who is, nevertheless, an original comedienne. The other is a juvenile who dances nicely.

Mr. Chas. Norton, in his well-known show, "Pros. at the Races," embodying impersonations of Joe Elvin, Eugene Stratton, R. G. Knowles, &c., and Jordan and Harvey, in "Abraham" and another melodious number, needless to say, make good in courteous Mr. Conroy's liberal bill, which contains plenty of comedy—and his patrons appreciate it.

The entry of Mr. Charles Austin in the ever-popular character of Parker, P.C., is the signal for applause. The sketch is now a well established success, and for its continued popularity is well worthy to be ranked with such great successes as *'Appy 'Ampstead*, *Humanity*, and *The Fighting Parson*. Clara Beck charmingly warbles "You taught me how to love you—teach me to forget"; and the three acrobatic Pasquali Brothers call for special mention, their performance being particularly smart and their comedy business being really original. Much can be and has been written anent Lively Lily Langtry, but it will suffice to say she is vivacity personified. Natalia and Diana, lady gymnasts; and Zajah, a charming dancing act, are well received, and the Bioscope, as usual, completes the programme.

CHELSEA PALACE

The leading feature on the attractive programme here is Mr. George Gray, supported by a powerful company, in *Parson Gray V.C.*, a sketch full of dramatic incident. Mr. Gray gives a masterful impersonation of the Rev. Thomas Gray, and is recalled again and again at the close of the piece. He is ably assisted by the whole of his company, special mention being due to Miss Geraldine Somerset as Madge. Judging by the reception accorded by the audience, *Parson Gray V.C.* should have a long reign of popularity.

The Four Burnells are figuring prominently on the bill with their act, *Fun on the Links*, which keeps the house laughing from start to finish, their efforts earning them well-deserved applause. Mr. Bert Errol, the Lady (?) is giving his realistic impersonations of the fair sex including an excellent rendering of "Il Bacio," with which he scores a decided success. Little Ganty is extremely droll as a Captain of the Boys' Brigade, his "get-up" alone being sufficient to send the audience into convulsions.

A fine turn is conjurer Wishart, in his astonishing bottle and box tricks. In one of them he displays to the audience what appear to be two ordinary travelling trunks, which, after being examined by a committee from the audience, are locked, and placed one inside the other, and securely corded. Wishart then introduces a gigantic iron bottle, which is also examined thoroughly by the committee. He is then handcuffed, after which he gets inside the bottle, which is securely locked, and the bottle and boxes placed in a curtained recess. After a few seconds the handcuffs are thrown out from behind the curtains, unlocked. Eventually the curtains are drawn apart and the bottle unlocked. It is found to be empty. Attention is now called to the boxes, still corded, and to all appearances undisturbed. On their being opened, Wishart emerges from the inner one, calmly smoking a cigarette.

Mr. Auguste Van Biene, the actor-musician, and his company, are presenting *Karl's Luck*, a little sketch which serves admirably to display his undoubted abilities as a 'cellist. Other excellent additions to this attractive programme are Miss Edie King, in a series of dances, in which she displays considerable grace. Miss Ada Cerito, whose number "He's saving up his overtime for me," is very popular with the "boys," and Colley and Scott, in their comedy tit-bits. Mr. J. H. Scotland is a vocalist with a very good bass voice; but we would venture to suggest that his turn would be appreciated much better if his songs were a trifle more up-to-date; and Ruffell's Bioscope concludes with interesting films.

Mr. J. Norman Berlin is the courteous manager here; and Mr. Geo. Ames ably superintends the orchestra.

THE CANTERBURY.

A programme quite up to the usual high standard of excellence is provided by the management of this popular variety theatre for the current week, and in the twenty turns listed there is not an uninteresting one. Early in the evening Mr. Tom Lee amuses with an impersonation of a smartly-dressed Johnny who sings of "Seaside Swank," and a capitally rendered song descriptive of "Man, beautiful man" and his many excellent qualities is given by the swell comedian, Mr. Will Driscoll. The late Sir Henry Irving as Corporal Brewster in *A Story of Waterloo* is faithfully impersonated by Mr. Wilfred Burnand, and other admirable portraits are his George Formby and Harry Brown. Miss Venie Clements, the accomplished comedienne and mimic, appearing as a dark and dashing pierrette, sings with real cleverness a smartly-written and amusing character song. Mr. Fred Walmsley has a popular number wherein he describes the difference in the dance and song of fifty years ago and to-day; and the Whittingtons are winning their usual success with their entertaining skit, in which the male gives such a funny and faithful feline impersonation.

Miss Clarice Mayne and "that fellow at the piano" come in for a reception of the heartiest, the lady singing in the daintiest possible manner "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," and "The moon's pale light," and giving some capital impressions of Miss Marie Lloyd and Miss Victoria Monks, the "Fellow" occasionally introducing a quiet little bit of business—a sly look or a funny remark—that helps along the success of this happily-associated and entertaining duo considerably. Haley's Juveniles, a smartly-trained troupe of youngsters, contribute a pretty vocal scene, a couple of tots giving with remarkable precocity a duet and dance, and the entire combination engaging in their many and various evolutions with decided cleverness for children so young. The entertainment of the Jackley Trio includes some wonderful somersaulting and a sensational tableau fall by one of the members of the trio, but the antics of George, the whistling comedian, dominate the turn, and are justified by the evident delight they afford the audience. Carlisle and Wellman submit a pleasing and varied novelty musical act, the pair playing with gloved hands many admirable pianoforte selections, and vocalising seriously and humorously, their original interlude being loudly applauded; and Wood, Wells, and Wilkins have an amusing vocal comedy sketch in *The Piano Tuner*, their fine rendering of "Daddy" being particularly appreciated.

Mr. G. H. Elliott, the original chocolate-coloured coon, is as a matter of course acclaimed with unusual warmth by Canterbury audiences this week, and is giving with all his well-known artistic effect a couple of ear-haunting songs, "There's a little black Cupid in the moon" and "Won't you tell me, Mister Owl?" For the first number Mr. Elliott is immaculately tailored, being quite the dashing and debonair darkey swell; and in his second he appears as a love-sick coon, Sambo, who appeals to Mr. Owl, a very wise bird, for information as to the faithfulness of his sweetheart. A graceful dance concludes a particularly attractive and well worked number, and Mr. Elliott is enthusiastically recalled.

Mr. Sam Stern gives a funny impersonation of a Hebrew singing a parody medley of well-known songs; and his Italian boy song and his mock operatic business proclaims him a resourceful and droll entertainer. The always funny Poluski Brothers are still giving their "Haven't we?" duet, with its accompanying ludicrous business, and keep the audience continuaaly on the smile; and Musical Sylvo, the accomplished soloist on the musical glasses and the silvochimes, submits a turn that always meets with well-merited appreciation. The programme also includes Mr. George Sheldon and Mr. Rawson Buckley's company in *Before the Dawn*, the popular immobile comedian Sam Mayo, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

Sunday, Oct. 30, found a very large audience assembled, the National Sunday League submitting an attractive concert, with the Meister Singers' orchestra as the principal feature. Mr. Norfolk Megone, who conducted, is a very well-known personality in the neighbourhood, as prior to his engagement at Bridlington this season he was the musical director at the Holloway Empire, and under his spirited direction the orchestra performed an extensive programme of popular music, the items including such well-known numbers as the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, the *William Tell* overture, the selections from *Iolanthe* and *The Arcadians*, and the ever-popular Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, together with other items. Though limited in numbers the orchestra is excellently balanced, and in consequence the body of tone produced is remarkably good, and the ensemble playing exceedingly finished. Needless to say, the audience were most enthusiastic, and an appeal had to be made to them not to insist on encores.

Miss Phyllis Davies displayed an agreeable voice in "Angels guard thee," the violin obbligato being played by the leader of the orchestra, and "Unless," and had to concede an encore. Mme. Gertrude Shrimpton rendered a very effective little song, "The Land of Love," by Herbert Oliver, with the composer at the piano, this being deservedly encored, and for her second item she gave "Bonny blue 'kerchief."

A feature of great interest was the appearance of Mr. Ernest Meads, the well-known elocutionist, in a monologue entitled "Nero." This was the first performance in public, and Mr. Sarga, the well-known composer, who has written both the monologue itself and the pianoforte accompaniment, himself officiated at the instrument. It is a highly-dramatic and effective scene between Nero and his favourite slave, and illustrates one of the last episodes in the life of the cowardly and cruel King, this being the particular moment when he learns that the Romans themselves are going to rise against him. In the hands of so accomplished an elocutionist as Mr. Meads, naturally the scene was given with the greatest effect, and it completely held the undivided attention of the audience. Mr. Sarga's music is in keeping with the gloomy nature of the episode, and at the close both he and Mr. Meads were called to the front several times, Mr. Meads having to concede an encore. For his second item Mr. Meads gave "My first and last football match," this being in a very much lighter vein. Altogether the concert was in every respect admirable, and well deserved the large audience it attracted.

THE PARAGON.

A hearty welcome is given here to Hayman and Franklin, the popular delineators of Hebrew comedy, who engage in a merry jingle of smart repartee, the male partner's humour being quite bright. He also sings a verse and chorus of a descriptive song, which is exceedingly well-written, the title being "Life's a very funny proposition after all." Their concluding item is a number into which parts of popular songs are blended, and their efforts are loudly applauded. The marvellous Eugenes, four in number, give a clever and refined aerial act, their many feats being carefully studied, a great feature being the high double somersaults.

Mr. Dusty Rhodes, singing comedian, is certainly a good turn, for not only has he a batch of well-written songs, but also possesses a powerful voice to render them. His first item is a parody on that popular ballad "Somewhere," the second being a "Football" song, the singer making his appearance walking with a crutch. The patter is decidedly breezy, and Mr. Rhodes is forced to give an encore, viz., "Pictures we see in the gas stove," which is very funny. Orpheus presents a high-class musical act, which is elaborately staged and certainly artistic. Many popular ballads are delightfully played on sundry instruments, many of which are quite novel, the tit-bit being the various calls on a coach horn during a drive. The Bros. Ford are smart dancers. In their first number they give a well-executed fancy dance, their second being a step-dance, to which is added some difficult hand springs. Their voices, too, are above the average. Ruby Zethus gives carefully-studied impersonations of Miss Daisy Jerome, Sam Mayo, and Maidie Scott, finishing her performance by a well-rendered solo on the cornet.

Mr. Fred Carr and Ada Rose play an amusing sketch, *After a Night Out*. The story is not novel, for it relates to the adventures of a newly-married man, who imbibes too freely and quarrels with his wife on his return home, she finally vowing to leave him, but a promise to abstain from drinking causes a happy ending. Much good fun is put into the trifle, and the excellent singing of the lady is greatly appreciated. O'Malley and Brown, comedians and patterers, are amusing with their quips and gags, the bank-note business causing much laughter. Miss Ruby Emmerson has a good appearance, and sings pleasingly "There's a letter in the post for someone" and "I love only one girl." Jack and Willie give a clever equilibristic act, and Mr. W. H. Downs, the black tenor, is also well received. Many interesting films are displayed.

STAR MUSIC CO.
LTD.

ALL OTHER BALLADS FADE INTO OBLIVION
WHEN YOU HEAR THE

Real Hit of the Year.

A. J. MILLS' & BENNETT SCOTT'S BEAUTIFUL SONG

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES.

The Song that Reaches Your Heart.

CHAS. WHITTLE'S GREAT HIT.

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.

The Successor to "Ship Ahoy."

Send Six Stamps for FULL PANTO SELECTION. State Theatre and Part,

SEND FOR CATALOGUE, FREE. PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH.

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "Songonia, London." (*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*). 'Phone: 8,446 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL LADIES GUILD.

FOURTH GENERAL MEETING.

That young but vigorous charity the Music Hall Ladies' Guild had a good attendance at its fourth general meeting, which was held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, on Thursday afternoon. Mrs. George Smythson, vice-president, occupied the chair, and there were also present Miss Irene Rose (vice-president), Miss Melinda May (secretary), Miss Lottie Albert (hon. treasurer), Mrs. C. C. Bartram, Mrs. Herbert Shelley, Mrs. Vernon Cowper, Mrs. James Horne, Mrs. Chas. Coborn, Mrs. Fawkes, Miss E. G. Clarke, Miss Lilian Baylis (secretary of the Victoria Hall), Miss Lily Burnand, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Florrie Robina, Mrs. Tom Maltby, Mrs. Ernest Collins, Miss Freda Sharlotte, Mme. Nellie Kelvin, the Rev. Stephen Barrass, the Rev. Donald Hole (of the Actors' Church Union), Drs. Walker and Burroughs (hon. medical officers), Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Fred Herbert, Mr. Douglas Stuart, and Mr. T. C. Callaghan. Letters regretting inability to attend where sent by Mrs. Carson, of the Ladies' Theatrical Guild, and by Miss Vulcana.

The following report and balance-sheet was read by the secretary :—

REPORT FOR 1910.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, FEB. 23, 1910, TO OCT. 19, 1910.

Dr. *Receipts.*	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, Feb. 23, 1910.....				253	0	11
„ Donations—						
Messrs. H. and M. Rayne	£5	0	0			
Sundry persons	12	16	0			
				17	16	0
„ Subscriptions, members' and executive members' fees				24	9	6
„ Collections				43	10	2
„ Sales—						
Work, &c.	£14	9	0			
Portiere	13	15	5			
				28	4	5
„ Badges				0	13	0
„ Proceeds of Sunday Concert, June 5				19	1	5
„ Interest on deposit				0	19	2
				£387	14	7

Cr. *Payments.*	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Stationery and printing ..	5	6	8½			
„ Secretary's fares	0	18	10			
„ „ salary	59	10	0			
„ Rent (one year)	31	0	0			
„ Lighting	0	11	11			
„ Postage, telephone, and general expenses	13	12	10½			
„ Visitors' teas	0	14	9			
				111	15	1
„ Food, clothes, and assistance to poor artists				71	0	7
„ Balance—						
At bank, on current a/c	93	8	11			
„ „ on deposit a/c	100	0	0			
Cash in hand	10	0	0			
Electric light deposit....	1	10	0			
				204	18	11
				£387	14	7

LOTTIE ALBERT, Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
HYLAND AND RICHES,
Chartered Accountants.
21, Cannon-street, London, E.C.
Oct. 26, 1910.

The Executive Committee have pleasure in presenting their fourth annual report and balance-sheet up to date. It was the original intention of the committee to hold this meeting on or about Sept. 26 this year, thus making the general meeting and the yearly balance account come on about the date of the birth of the Guild. This was, however, impossible, owing to the death of a much-respected comrade.

It is very gratifying to know we have so many earnest supporters who are so appreciative of our good work, and we hope that many more will join and assist us during the coming year. It is, indeed, a joy to know that we can help so many people who through illness or misfortune have fallen on evil times, and to bring a little comfort into their sad lives. Many, many cases of illness and distress have been helped during the past year with food, clothing, coals, and medical assistance, solicitor's advice, employment obtained, &c.

A short summary of our work may now be given. We would like to draw attention to the clothing mentioned. This is a very important item that we have never brought upon our balance-sheet before; but as it is the means of making so many feel comfortable and respectable in appearance, so as to enable them to apply more freely for work, we have decided to make it known. We receive many gifts from members and friends of both new and secondhand clothing, and when we have not in stock what is urgently needed we buy it at wholesale prices and freely give what is required, no deserving case ever being refused.

The special feature of our Guild is to assist the women and helpless children of the music hall profession who unfortunately cannot help themselves, and we, being women, can fully understand their needs.

We want to call attention to our Jumble Sales, which we intend to have periodically. At these sales we only dispose of things that would not be useful to pensioners or would not improve with long keeping. With the money thus obtained we purchase baby clothing, or what is most needed.

The committee wish to draw special attention to maternity cases, for which they find doctor, nurse, nourishment, lending all linen and long clothing for a time, and then *giving* two full sets of shortening clothes. Most of these garments are made by the willing hands of the committee and members. During the last year we have had no less than nineteen maternity cases, all of which we have helped.

Another special feature of our work has been our endeavours to ascertain, by writing and investigation, the probability of obtaining the Old Age Pensions for some of our poor and aged applicants.

Another feature is to place deserving poor and unfortunate cases into homes where possible, and visiting the sick. Clothing, old and new, to the extent of £18 7s. 9d. has been given.

A few of many letters received by the committee expressing gratitude for the help tendered by the Guild, in money, food, clothing, and fuel, were quoted.

The Guild have to return their most grateful thanks again this year to all those kind friends who have helped us in our noble charity :—The Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, for kind co-operation, in no case having refused their assistance; to Dr. Walker, Camberwell-road; to Dr. Burroughs, City-road; to Dr. O'Dwyer, Hackney-road; to Dr. Loudon Gordon, Edmonton; to Dr. J. J. Oakman, Battersea; to Dr. Eales, of Manchester; to Nurse Baxter, Streatham; to the seventy medical gentlemen in the provinces who have so kindly and generously promised to attend to all Guild cases in their districts free of charge; to the Rev. Arthur Brinkman and the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund, for letters to enable us to place patients in hospitals and homes; to the clergy; to Messrs. Roberts, Seyd, and Co., honorary solicitors, who have been untiring in their efforts on our behalf; to the directors, Mr. Leon Zeitlin, and the management of the Metropolitan for kindly lending us their hall for our Sunday concert, also the artists who appeared and helped to make it such a success; to Messrs. H. and M. Rayne and Co., Waterloo-road, for their donations and special loan of stage clothing to assist our pensioners; to the gentlemen of the Press; and to Messrs. Marshall Bros., Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, for giving us the hall on two occasions free of any charge.

We also beg to thank one and all who have sent gifts, donations, and clothing. The committee wish to thank Mrs. George Smythson, our acting vice-president, for her untiring efforts in discharging in so able a manner the duties of our president, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, who has been absent in America for the past twelve months. Thanks are also due to Miss Lottie Albert, who so kindly undertook the hon. treasurership of the Guild at a moment's notice, and has continued to do so with every possible satisfaction. Also to Mrs. C. C. Bartram for her hard work in connection with our Sunday concert, which realised a handsome profit.

The committee also desire to state that the work done by the secretary of the Guild, Miss Melinda May, in investigating cases, coupled with her other duties, has been performed with tact and ability.

Mrs. SMYTHSON said : When the Guild started in 1905 we had amongst us two ladies who are present to-day, and I cannot tell you how pleased I am to see them. They have been out of the ranks for the last twelve months, but I hope this will be the means of getting them back. Miss Lily Burnand —(Applause)—worked like a Trojan at our first matinée, and was the only lady ever known to enter the Stock Exchange to sell tickets on behalf of charity—a great feather in her cap. I do hope the ladies of the Guild will try and persuade Miss Burnand to come back amongst us as an active member. (Hear, hear.) I also see Miss Constance Moxon, another of the founders of the Guild, and I trust she will likewise return. (Hear, hear.) The report presented extends over only eight months, because we wished to bring the date of the annual meeting as near as possible to the birthday of the Guild. (Applause.)

Dealing with the annual report, Miss LOTTIE ALBERT, the hon. treasurer, said : As you have heard, our expenditure for the last eight months ending Oct. 19 has amounted to the sum of £111 15s. 1d., and our receipts from all sources have reached the figure of £134. To a casual observer, it might appear that our expenses for the period in question have been somewhat excessive, but I can assure you such is not the case. On the contrary, the committee have run the Guild on most economical lines, for you must take into consideration that a large part of our charity consists in giving to the necessitous poor articles of clothing, stage accessories, and other things, which we have distributed to the value of £18 odd, and that is not included in the balance-sheet which has been presented to you, as we certainly cannot expect our auditor to put on the credit side of the account clothing sent us by kind-hearted friends and new clothing purchased by ladies of the committee out of their private purses, and given to the Guild. In order to be able to collect and distribute these gifts, it is, as you will know, necessary to incur the various expenses which appear on our balance-sheet. We also give food, coal, lighting, and every kind of help we can. I wish to point out to your notice that we are as careful as we possibly can be in the distribution of these things, and every possible inquiry is made to find out if our applicants are deserving. Many ladies of the Guild, in the kindness of their hearts, personally investigate cases at their own expense, so that as far as it is possible our charity is only given where it is needed. If you only knew how these gifts are appreciated by our less fortunate brother and sister artists, it would at once convince you that we have not striven in vain. Should anyone in the audience desire to ask any questions on the balance-sheet, I shall be most happy to give any information in my power. I assure you it would be much easier for me to give you a song and dance than make this little speech—(laughter)—as I am a poor orator at the best. Thank you, one and all, for the patient hearing you have given me and for your attendance here to-day.

At the invitation of the chair, Mr. FRED HERBERT proposed the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, and congratulated the Guild on the good work they were doing. Undoubtedly the Music Hall Ladies' Guild was doing a vast and noble work among the poorer members of the profession, and nobody knew of its good deeds better than himself and his friend, Mr. Douglas Stuart, the secretary of the Variety Benevolent Fund, of which he had the honour to be chairman. They fully realised the difficulties that beset the ladies of the Guild in investigating cases, because they had the same difficulties in their own benevolent fund. He could specially commend the Ladies' Guild for their work in connection with maternity cases, and their efforts to assist their poorer members over such troublous times as those. Again, he could not conceive of any more noble duty than that of looking after children who were unable to look after themselves, and if for nothing else, the music-hall profession should be indebted to the Guild for its work in helping the little ones. The Variety Benevolent Fund was prepared to work with the Ladies' Guild, and to be in the future as in the past, the means of lifting out of distress and trouble unfortunate members of the profession during the coming winter. The Guild had been successful in placing some of their applicants in little positions, and the Fund had been successful in placing some of their old pensioners in situations. He knew the Ladies' Guild would do its utmost to alleviate distress, and he could assure them that he and his committee would work hand-in-hand with them.

Mrs. SMYTHSON explained that the account of receipts extended over only eight months, and that for payments principally over a twelvemonth. Amid applause, she read a letter from one of the beneficiaries, thanking the Guild for their assistance in getting an eye specialist to interest himself in the case of his wife, who had thus been preserved from blindness.

Mr. CHARLES COBORN seconded the adoption of the report and balance-sheet. He said he was very old in the business, and he was heartily in accord with every effort made on behalf of the music hall profession. The report was very pleasant and encouraging. The Guild seemed to him to be carried on very cheaply and very well. Besides giving many gifts in kind to poor people, the Guild got them work, secured medical assistance, and generally helped those in distress. He was quite sure from his own observation that the ladies of the Guild were doing excellent work, and he watched its progress with a keen desire for its success. The speaker counselled the members of the Guild to work together. If everything went smoothly at the fountain head, then they would make headway. Nothing but praise could be said of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. The only criticism he had to make was that they had started rather late. They had accomplished good work, but there was more to be done, and his advice was to get as many music hall ladies to interest themselves in their work as they possibly could. (Applause).

The Rev. STEPHEN BARRASS supported the resolution, and said he was convinced the Guild was doing a useful work. They could not measure work of that character by the money expended. The ladies banded themselves together with the object of helping others, and though they might only give a few shillings here and there, their work would have far-reaching results beyond anything they had dreamt of; it would inspire other people to give, and work would be accomplished that they would never hear of, but would be due to their inspiration. When they set about doing good, they never knew where that good was going to end. He had, with Mr. Coborn, to congratulate them upon their report. They were in a flourishing condition—money in the bank, and no debts. That was a very happy state to be in; with a good many charities with which he was connected the reverse was the case; but they were going on hoping for the best. He particularly admired the way in which charity was administered, and the kind spirit which underlay the workers. He spoke of all the ladies of the Guild, but the work centred more or less in the acting secretary, and he was edified at the able manner in which Miss Melinda May set about her work. They might mar the greatest charity by indelicacy in its administration. They must remember that very poor people were often more sensitive than those not in want. It was easier to give than to receive, but it was all the more easy to receive when the gift was tempered by delicacy and sympathy. He was sure not only the secretary, but the president and all the ladies of the Guild were inspired by that spirit of sympathy which unconsciously diffused itself wherever their work was felt.

The report and balance-sheet were carried unanimously.

Considerable amusement was caused by the reading of a letter addressed to the secretary by a gentleman in India. In quaint terms the writer inquired if they could furnish him with the name of a handsome young lady who was single and belonged to the Guild seeking a matrimonial life. He did not mind whether she was a fair or dark lady, but she must be not more than thirty-five years of age, with a good figure, and about 5ft. 7in. or 8in. high. He did not mind a foreigner if she came up to his desires. "I am," concluded the writer, "dark and good-looking, with a good figure, 12st., strong and healthy, and very steady, purely English, and in fairly good berth." He offered as a last inducement to forward one or two photos.

Mrs. SMYTHSON paid a tribute to the help furnished by the Actors' Church Union, who worked in conjunction with the Guild, and also acknowledged the assistance rendered by the hon. medical officers. Drs. WALKER and Dr. BURROWS replied.

Miss IRENE ROSE read the following appeal :—

"KIND HEARTS ARE MORE THAN CORONETS."

"Once more we appeal to our numerous friends to assist us in our arduous task of relieving the many necessitous cases daily brought under our notice. Our funds are sadly depleted, owing to the very heavy demands to which they have been subjected, and the ensuing winter, with every sign of being severe, promises to be a still further strain upon our already heavily taxed resources. One visit by you to any of the many distressing cases relieved by us would, we feel certain, so greatly impress the spectator with a feeling of pity that you could not but generously respond to our appeal.

"All past and present members of the music hall profession are eligible for our assistance, irrespective of creed, and in many cases the timely aid is not only the means of relieving pressing distress, but is often the stepping stone to the firm establishment of a prosperous future.

"If only we elicit your practical sympathy, which will enable us to carry on our work during the next season, we feel that we shall not have appealed in vain, and that the work already done by us has at least borne some good results, and we are sure that there is not amongst us to-day, one who will not do his or her level best to assist in this noble work of love and charity.

"Before concluding, we would draw your attention to the advent of Christmas, when it is our custom to supply our less fortunate sisters and brothers with free dinners and warm clothing, and it is at such times, when we are surrounded by our many friends in the midst of comfort, that we cannot, nay, must not, allow our conscience to reproach us with a feeling of unfulfilled duty to the poorer members of our profession."

Mrs. SMYTHSON tendered a vote of thanks to the Variety Benevolent Fund and its Secretary, Mr. Stuart, to whom, she declared, they never sent in vain for assistance or advice. She also acknowledged the kind co-operation of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, and thanked that society again for its donation of £40. Mrs. Smythson drew attention to the Christmas dinner. They were, she said, getting lots of clothing for the Christmas tree, and hoped to get more. In answer to her appeal last year she got twenty-eight lovely Christmas puddings, many of them made by the ladies of the Guild, who, while making their own, did an extra one for the Guild. They also purchased a number of puddings on sale or return, which enabled them to delight many a home with Christmas cheer.

Mr. STUART said he wished to reciprocate the sentiment expressed by Mrs. Smythson by saying that if the Benevolent Fund had a case with which they could not deal Miss May always looked after it for him. On behalf of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association he could say they would continue to give as much as they could out of their profits each year. Last year, he reminded them they had a dinner, and wondered whether they were going to have one this year.

Mrs. SMYTHSON replied that the date for the dinner fell at the time when a recent very sad case was on, and they did not feel justified in having that celebration at such a time. If there was time between now and Christmas they might possibly arrange for a dinner.

Answering a suggestion by Mr. Coborn, Mrs. Smythson said that the committee were considering a proposition to enrol honorary members at a lower rate.

Miss LILY BURNAND was urged to make a speech as one of the founders, but replied that she could sing a song, but could not make a speech.

Votes of thanks to the chair and the Press concluded the meeting.

CONTRACTS AND IMMEDIATE WORK

AT LIBERTY!

APPLY—

HARRY BURNS,

Walter House,
418, Strand
London.

NEW OFFICES
OPPOSITE TIVOLI.

'Phone 1106 City. Wire "BILLOTOPP."

Representative at this Office

Mr. CHARLIE CHAPMAN.

PROVINCIAL OFFICE—

WELBURN HOUSE, HARTLEPOOL.

'Phones 231 and 231A. Wires, "Chosen."

MASONS AT PLAY.

The Earl's Court Lodge of Instruction, from which so many founders of that most successful Lodge Chelsea 3,098, emanated, held a gala night on the 27th ult., at the Villa Villa Restaurant, under the protection of Host W.B. Tettamente. Some of the older members of the Lodge, feeling that the time had arrived when some formal acknowledgment should be made of the untiring efforts of W.Bro. John Worth, the preceptor, to perfect the younger members in the work they eventually hoped to perform, a committee, consisting of W.B. Wolfe S. Lyon, L.R., A.G.P., as chairman, C. G. Hutt, P.A.G.P., vice-chairman, W. Bros. Thomas Tute, J. J. Gilbeart, Arthur J. Taylor, Albert J. Taylor, J. Bucklow, W. H. Neville, and P. Smethurst, treasurer, with Bro. S. N. Lavington hon. sec., was formed to bring the project to a successful issue, which culminated in a gathering of ninety-three members of the craft to assist at a supper and concert at which Bro Worth was the guest of the evening. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, W.B. Lyon proposed the toast of the evening, "Our Guest," and in well-chosen words said there was no occasion for him to dwell upon the many excellent qualities of the esteemed brother in whose honour they had assembled, but for the knowledge of the visitors present he would like to mention that for the twelve years the Lodge had been in existence, during the whole of which Bro. Worth had been preceptor, he had been absent only ten times, which he thought was a record, more particularly having regard to the fact that he resided at so great a distance as Horley. The members of the Lodge had also considered the self-denial of Mrs. Worth, who, instead of complaining of the apparent neglect of her husband every Thursday night, was proud of the work he was doing; and he had much pleasure in asking Bro. Worth if he would oblige the members by conveying to her in their name the contents of a small package he had had placed in the safe for protection before coming into the room. Mr. Lyon then requested one of the waiters to fetch same. The man returned in company with another waiter, the two supporting a large canteen of cutlery and plate, to which the chairman, to the amusement of the company, pointed as the small package from the safe.

In reply, W.B. Worth said that when he was first notified that a supper was to be held in his honour he felt very proud. At the moment of speaking he scarcely knew what he was saying, for the surprise that had been given him in the magnificent present to his wife had quite unnerved him. At the same time he was quite conscious of the honour he was receiving by so vast a number, including his esteemed friends W.Bros. Mulvey and Arthur Williams, both members of Grand Lodge, being present, on to him so memorable an occasion. "The Health of the Visitors," being proposed, W. Bro. Mulvey, who had, together with W.Bro. Williams, been called upon to respond, said he felt rather hurt that he should have been called on to respond for the visitors, as he did not, if the chairman had, forget he was an honorary member of the Lodge, and it afforded him the greatest satisfaction to know that so well deserved a compliment had been paid to so worthy a Brother. W.Bro. Williams said that perhaps to him more than any other brother was the pleasure of that evening. He had known Bro. Worth since his first introduction to Masonry, and it fell to his good lot to place the first collar of office round the shoulder of the guest of the evening. He knew the Earl's Court Lodge of Instruction, and could only hope that its worthy preceptor would be spared for many years to continue the good work he was doing. "The Health of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman" having been duly drunk, the proceedings were brought to a close with a concert, under the direction of W.Bro. Harry Bawn, at which the following artists assisted : Misses Violet James, Tremayne, Ethelle Stapley (gold medallist L.A.M.), Edith Taylor, Betty Wright, Messrs. Arthur Sargent, T. Burnetti, Coram, Andie Caine, Harry Claff, Bert Marsden, Albert Robb, Ambrose Thorne, and Fred Wildon.

THE management of the County Rink, Bath, have started races open to the district, the final heat for which takes place on Nov. 12. On Thursday, Nov. 24, a fancy dress carnival and confetti battle is to take place. Another attraction is the formation of a hockey club, the chairman of which is Mr. C. W. Ellis, the popular manager of the rink.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

Another year's record of invaluable work was unfolded on Sunday evening, when the thirteenth annual general meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane. Mr. Joe Elvin (president) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Charles Coborn (vice-president), J. W. Cragg and Paul Martinetti (hon. trustees), Arthur Rigby (hon. treasurer), Fred Herbert (chairman of committee), T. C. Callaghan, Chris Van Bern, C. C. Bartram, Willie Atom, Mrs. Chas. Coborn, Latimer, Gintara, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The following report was read by the secretary:—

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The executive committee, in placing this report of the past year's working of the Association before the members, cannot help feeling that there is not a little monotony in these yearly statements. They seem to be nothing but repetitions—pleasant repetitions, certainly—but repetitions for all that. Each year, what in financial parlance may be termed a "healthy balance-sheet," is incorporated with the report; each year some minor concessions obtained for members have to be recorded; each year a large sum is allocated to charity from the profits derived; and each year the customary votes of thanks to medical officers and provincial agents—all honorary workers—thanks thoroughly well deserved, conclude the report.

The past twelve months have been no different to the others. Owing to increased expenditure, chiefly in the way of rent, the balance in hand is less than last year, while the membership is practically the same as last October—only thirty-five less.

The current account on Sept. 30, the end of the financial year, at the London and South-Western Bank, and the deposit account at the Birkbeck Bank, amounted to £173, as will be seen on reference to the Statement of Receipts and Payments overleaf, while the Reserve Fund, which is invested in Consols, amounted to £545 17s. 3d., and the petty cash at the London and Provincial Offices was £37, making a total of £755 19s. 3d.

The committee has, in addition to the £230 voted at the last General Meeting to be distributed between the railway and music-hall charities, donated during the year a further amount of £70 10s., and now recommends to the General Meeting that the remaining surplus of receipts over expenditure should be donated in the following manner:—£40 to the Music Hall Benevolent Institution (a donation having been granted to the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund in February last), £40 to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and £20 to the Music Hall Home; also £100, in amounts of £10 each, to ten railway charities.

Regarding two items in the statement overleaf, the committee would like to make some comment. One is the Insurance premiums. In May a deputation of the committee met Mr. Snell, of the Ocean Company, and secured a reduction of 1d. on the premium of each member, amounting to some £28; while, on the other hand, a considerably larger sum has been paid out by the Insurance Company to members for loss of luggage (in one case £40) than ever before.

The other item is the large difference arising between the amount received and the amount paid out under the heading of Refunds. This is explained by the fact that whenever a party of five has been broken, and two or three members only have received the concession, by agreement with the railway companies the difference of the full and reduced fares is promptly paid by the Association to the railway concerned. Afterwards the question of liability on the part of the members is considered. If they can give legitimate and justifiable reasons why they did not, or could not, travel, then the Association pays the amount from the funds, hence the difference mentioned; but when the members are to blame—as, unfortunately, frequently happens—then the committee asks them to refund the amount. Sometimes they do so, very often they neglect to send, or ignore all letters on the matter. The committee has definitely and firmly decided—and due notice is now given to all members—that when they apply for renewal of their cards, the same will not be given them unless and until they have discharged the debt they owe to the Association, or given reasonable explanation of the case. The reasons why there exists this question of refunds—a very troublesome one to the railway companies and to the Association—are various. Sometimes it is caused by members putting their names on Agents' Lists in two towns, and then not advising one of the Agents, or members place their names down stating that they wish to travel by one railway and then go by another without notification, or they receive a contract at the last moment and never let the Agent know so that he could cancel the voucher. Whatever the reasons may be, they cause no little trouble, brought about as they are generally by the thoughtlessness of the members, and are very likely to jeopardise the valuable concession of individual tickets.

The Annual Dinner and Dance in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and Music Hall Benevolent Institution was held on Feb. 20, when Mr. Eugene Stratton presided. There was a loss of some £7; but, considering the amount of donations received (over £600) and the number of invited guests (thirty-seven), the committee does not consider the loss a large one.

Regarding the provincial branch offices, the Variety Artists' Federation having dispensed with the share of the joint offices at Glasgow, new premises have been taken, and the branch is now conducted solely by the Railway Association.

During the year a regulation has been altered by the railway companies, which is now very vague in diction and very expansive in meaning. It would be impolitic to refer to it more precisely, but it has a decidedly prejudicial effect upon the interests of the Association. Therefore the committee has decided to convene a conference with the music-hall representatives of the railway companies, and if they consider that there would be any chance of having the regulation altered to render it more clear and more limited in scope, a deputation of the committee would be arranged to attend a Clearing House meeting and discuss the question in all its bearings with the superintendents. It is hoped that a favourable settlement will then be arrived at.

A conference was held in the spring of the year with the music-hall representatives of the railway companies, Mr. Joe Elvin, the president, being in the chair, when several questions were before the meeting, one having reference to the heavy charges made by the companies for the conveyance of animals. It was pointed out, however, that special trucks had to be built for large and wild animals, and that there was no chance of the present rates being reduced.

The concession of three-quarter fare has been during the year granted by two more steamship lines from England to the Continent, one having a day service on Sundays that should be of considerable benefit to members.

The committee desires to repeat its expressions of gratitude to all the hon. medical officers of the Association for their kind gratuitous attendance and advice to members. Especially are cordial thanks due to the hon. specialists in London, who, while at the head of their profession, are generous enough to give the best medical skill without thought of fee or reward. To the provincial agents—over 150 in all—who continue to perform their onerous and honorary duties so efficiently that scarcely ever do well-founded complaints against them come before the committee, the heartiest of thanks are due. Again, Mr. Arthur Rigby (the hon. treasurer), Mr. Fred Herbert (hon. chairman of the committee), and Mr. Harry Blake (hon. vice-chairman), are especially entitled to warm thanks for the able manner in which they have attended to the duties of their positions; and another friend should not be forgotten—Mr. Eugene Judge (the hon. solicitor), who gives legal advice to all members upon all points.

The committee, with a desire to express its thanks to the secretary, feels that this cannot be better done than by repeating the words contained in last year's report: "The committee again wishes to express its appreciation and entire satisfaction of the excellent manner in which Mr. C. Douglas Stuart has fulfilled his ever-increasing duties, and thanks him on behalf of the members for his conscientious attention and business-like zeal."

As to the attendances of the committee, the same complaint must be made—that, except for a loyal and devoted band of less than a dozen, the greater portion of the elected representatives of the Association—elected to govern its concerns, to control its affairs—have never attended a single meeting during the year, or possibly one or two only. No doubt the work at the meetings is chiefly routine business, and possibly to some uninteresting, but they might occasionally look in now and again when in London, or else tender their resignation.

There being no nominations received for membership on the executive committee, there will be no need of an election, and the present committee will be reappointed for another year.

To conclude this report the committee, bearing in mind the old adage, 'Happy is the nation that has no history," trusts and believes that the M.H.A.B.A. will continue to pursue its level course of continual, quiet, but effective good work, returning a thousandfold the value of the members' subscriptions, giving away yearly hundreds to charities, enriching the poor, helping the needy, proving itself an undoubted boon and blessing to the entire variety profession.

THE MUSIC-HALL ARTISTS' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS, OCT. 1, 1909, TO SEPT. 30, 1910.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance, Sept. 30, 1909..		220 14 4
„ Subscriptions—		
236 at 2s. 6d.	29 10 0	
6540 at 5s	1660 0 0	
		1689 10 0
„ Entrance Fees (1910 at 5s.)	477 10 0	
„ Fines	77 18 0	
„ Lost Cards.....	8 2 0	
„ Badges Sold	1 3 0	
„ Refunds Recovered.....	89 2 10	
„ Insurance Claims Received	142 10 2	
„ Interest on Deposit to March 31, 1910	1 9 2	
„ V.A.B.F. Subscriptions....	343 16 0	
		2831 1 2
Total Funds:— £ s. d.		
Reserve Fund (excluding interest) 545 17 3		
Deposit Account 168 16 6		
Current Account 4 5 9		
Cash in Hand.. 36 19 9		
£755 19 3		
		£3111 15 6

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Insurance Premiums	463 0 4	
„ Subscriptions to Charities..	300 10 0	
„ Refunds paid out	153 6 0	
„ Insurance Claims paid out	141 15 2	
		1078 11 6
„ Printing and Stationery..	92 4 1	
„ Advertising	62 10 2	
„ Postages	61 1 0	
„ Telegrams	7 19 7	
„ Telephone	18 10 0	
„ Miscellaneous Expenses....	102 12 8	
		344 17 6
„ Salaries of Secretary and Staff	515 12 6	
„ Honorarium to C. D. Stuart	10 0 0	
„ Rent	165 1 0	
„ Glasgow Office Expenses..	155 14 8	
„ Manchester Office Expenses	125 16 1	
„ Liverpool Office Expenses..	121 9 10	
„ Fixtures and Fittings for New Offices	25 18 2	
„ Loss on Dinner, 1910	7 2 1	
		1126 14 4
„ V.A.B.F. Subscriptions	343 16 0	
„ Sports Prize	5 5 0	
„ Profit on Dinner, 1909	2 9 2	
		351 10 2
„ Balance—		
Cash at Bank—		
Deposit Account	168 16 6	
Current Account	4 5 9	
Cash in hand	36 19 9	
		210 2 0
		£3111 15 6

We have examined the above Statement with the books and vouchers of the Association, and certify it to be correct We have verified the Investment and the Balances at Bank and in hand

JACKSON, PIXLEY, BROWNING, HUSEY, and CO., Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

58, Coleman-street, E.C. Oct. 22, 1910

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening address, said: I do not intend to worry you with a speech. Here are the same old faces, the same old few, always the same, whether it is the Railway Association, the Federation, or the Benevolent Institution. (Hear, hear.) I think the report of our secretary most satisfactory. I am sorry members do not take more interest in the working of the Association and give the committee more support. I don't know what the Association would do if it were not for men like Fred Herbert, Arthur Rigby, Harry Blake, and Charles Coborn, and the few others who do the hard work. The thanks of the Association are due to them for carrying on the business, and no doubt if they did not do so the Association would be smashed up, and we should not be able to reap the benefit of it or to give away money to various charities, both railway and music hall. I hope we shall continue to be prosperous, and I hope later on we shall be able to approach the directors of various railways and ask for a further concession. The directors are reasonable and far-seeing men, and will no doubt consider our proposals to place us on the same terms as anglers, and enable us to have cheap tickets for one instead of five. The theatrical traffic managers are always very kind and courteous to the profession; they always have been to me and my company, and I think it is our duty always to look after them as regards those "bad boys" who transgress. I am sure the committee show discretion in every way. I sincerely hope that the year 1911 will be just as prosperous as the present. (Cheers.)

Mr. FRED HERBERT said: It affords me the greatest possible pleasure to be here in my capacity of chairman of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association committee, and to be permitted the privilege of again moving the adoption of the report. It seems to me, as the chairman remarked, that it is a very bad state of affairs when the members of the Association, who number something like 7,000, do not take a greater interest in its working. There is, however, always one thing to be considered, that when members do not turn up at general meetings it shows they are satisfied with the way the organization is going on. We, of course, regard it as a great compliment that nobody comes here to challenge the figures or to create a bother, but it is hardly satisfactory to assemble year after year passing our own words and patting one another on the backs. There is not the slightest doubt if there was anything wrong with the Association members would roll up in large numbers. Just before the meeting Mr Coborn suggested to me that it would not be a bad idea to put a motion on the agenda proposing to divide up the funds at the next general meeting. It might have the effect of bringing members up to the scratch, if only to move an amendment, which I am afraid would be successful. During the past year, I am pleased to think, we have gone on satisfactorily. There has been less trouble than in previous years, and not one expulsion, I think, to chronicle. I believe we had during the year before two expulsions from the Association for bad conduct, and that possibly has had a deterrent effect upon others, and we have had no repetition of the trouble. I hope everything will be done to safeguard the concession. I do not suggest anybody does anything maliciously to endanger the concession, but little bits of friction may bring about trouble in the future. (Hear, hear.) The sight of the old faces, year after year, on the committee, is somewhat monotonous. The confidence of members is shown in the fact that there is no opposition to the committee. Nominations have been asked for to oppose the present committee with a view to getting fresh blood on the executive, and that would not be a bad thing, for some of the members of the present committee have not attended more than one meeting. I think the alternative for these people, who cannot do a little bit of the work, for which they derive as much benefit as we derive, is to tender their resignations. (Hear, hear.) Nevertheless, we must regard it as a compliment, and resolve to do our work just the same in the future as in the past. (Applause.)

Mr. ARTHUR RIGBY moved the adoption of the balance-sheet. He said he should like to say he was quite in accord with the previous speakers. He thought such a meagre attendance as they had that night was a slight on the labours of the committee. It would not be a bad idea to adopt the attitude of the Labour Members of the House of Commons, namely, payment of members of the committee. (Laughter.)

Mr. VERNON COWPER seconded the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which was carried.

NAMES ON AGENTS' LISTS.

Mr. COWPER entered a protest against members not putting their names down earlier in the week. The matter did not affect parties, but it did affect individual members. He took it that the Association was for individual members, and not particularly for people who could get their five or ten. It should be impressed upon members that they ought to put their names down as soon as they knew their journey. Monday was rehearsal day, but they ought to have their names by Tuesday morning if possible. He had known of people leaving it until Friday, thus causing several to miss the concession. It was, he added, an absolute disgrace that there were not more members present that night to support the committee who do their work. He asked whether there was any chance of getting the concession applied to three instead of five.

The CHAIRMAN: I can only say that during the next year we shall form a deputation to the directors again, and take what we can get. The committee will bear in mind your remarks with regard to putting down names. I think the rule specifies Friday, and therefore they do not hurry themselves, but I am sure that Mr. Stuart might impress upon those members who travel singly the advisability of putting their names down on Tuesday, and not later than Wednesday.

Mr. COBORN said it should not be lost sight of that transfers were now very common, and people who put their names down earlier than Thursday did not know but that they might be transferred. If members put down names, and were afterwards transferred, they might thereby be the cause of breaking up the voucher.

The SECRETARY said that, as a rule, in London quite 75 per cent. of members did not put their names down until Friday. Some of that 75 per cent. must have known where they were going that week

Mr. HERBERT said he was on one occasion in an agent's office in Manchester at closing time on a Wednesday, and up to then only seventeen names had been put on the list in three days.

The CHAIRMAN said the committee would bear in mind the suggestions submitted.

A VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The CHAIRMAN said he rose to propose a vote of condolence with a respected member of their Association, Mr. Harry Blake, on the loss of his dear wife, with whom he had been associated so many years. The sympathy of the profession, of the committee, the officials, and every member of their Association would be extended to him in his sad bereavement.

Mr. COBORN seconded the vote of condolence, which was passed in silence, with the meeting upstanding.

THE PRESIDENT'S RE-ELECTION.

Mr. FRED HERBERT said he moved that their dear old friend, Joe Elvin, be reappointed to the presidency of the Association. (Prolonged applause.) He knew it was not Mr. Elvin's desire to be greedy and hold that office against the wish of anybody, but he did not know of any person in the profession more fitted to hold that position than their old friend, Joe Elvin. It was the only thing they had to offer him for all the kindness that he had bestowed upon the profession.

Mr. MARTINETTI seconded, and the resolution was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. ELVIN thanked the meeting for his re-election. He accepted the presidency of the Association. It was a great honour to be president of an association numbering 7,000 members, and two years was a very good engagement. There were, however, others in their profession—for instance, Mr. Joe Cragg, Paul Martinetti, dear old Charlie Coborn, and lots of others—more entitled to occupy that position than he was. (No, no.) Any way, he accepted the position for another year, and was determined to do his duty as president and anything possible for the profession. But next year he wanted to pass it on to somebody else. He did not believe in one person being in any position all the time. He thanked them from his heart for re-electing him.

REAPPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

Mr. VAN BERN proposed the re-election of vice-presidents, Messrs. Charles Coborn, Albert Le Fre, Douglas White, and Fred Millis. He alluded to the fact that Sir James Bailey, who had just passed away, was one of their vice-presidents, and accompanied the first deputation to the Clearing House. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. COBORN thanked the meeting on behalf of his colleagues, who for various reasons were unable to be there that day.

Proposed by Mr. CRAGG and seconded by Mr. BARTRAM, Mr. Arthur Rigby was elected hon. treasurer. In returning thanks Mr. RIGBY said he had better hang on until they got payment for members. (Laughter.) But, joking apart, he would always use his best endeavours in the interests of the Association.

Mr. COBORN proposed the re-election of the hon. solicitor, Mr. Eugene Judge. They were, he said, all indebted to Mr. Judge for his advice given, most promptly and with a great deal of legal acumen. He was a valuable asset in their Association. The resolution was seconded by Mr. VAN BERN, and unanimously passed.

Mrs. VERNON COWPER (who will perhaps be better known as Mlle. Hirsch, a violin soloist and conductor of ladies' orchestras), thanked the meeting on behalf of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild for their kind donation of £40, which was appreciated exceedingly.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the chairman on the proposition of Mr. FRED HERBERT, seconded by Mr. CRAGG.

Mr. COBORN wished to emphasise the vote of thanks in the report to their secretary, Mr. Stuart, who, he added, did everything possible to make the machinery of the Association run smoothly. (Hear, hear.)

The meeting then concluded.

"BLUEBELL" AT HIPPODROME.

A Shortened Version of the Vaudeville Play, by Seymour Hicks, Music by Walter Slaughter, Produced at the London Hippodrome on Monday, Oct. 31.

Dicky	MR. STANLEY BRETT
Mr. Joplin	MR. ROLAND CHESTER
Will	MR. JOHN DORAN
Won't	MR. CECIL KINGSLEY
Mab	MISS IVY SAWYER
Winnie	MISS DORIS WALKER
Peter the Cat	MISS BERTHA SCHWARTZ
Bluebell	MISS ELLALINE TERRISS

Miss Ellaline Terriss came to the Hippodrome on Monday in one of her favourite characters, Bluebell, in a shortened version of *Bluebell in Fairyland*, which had such a successful run on its original production at the Vaudeville. Bluebell's travels are now restricted to her journey from her garret to a corner of the Strand. Incidentally, she is found outside Mr. Joplin's house, from which position she is driven by a bobby. Her Arcadian love affair with Dicky, the crossing-sweeper, is properly dwelt upon, and the happiness dispensed by the kind-hearted Mr. Joplin to all and sundry has quite a Christmassy flavour. Those wonderful footmen, Will and Won't, who have ideas and phraseology in common, are duly important and funny, and the flower-sellers are dainty blossoms in a garden of girls. Everything has been done to emphasise the idyllic nature of the production, and the play of fun and fantasy should prove agreeable alike to elders and youngsters. The charm and sweetness of Miss Ellaline Terriss are as irresistible as they were when the larger production first saw the footlights at the Vaudeville Theatre, and she dances with an alluring grace and daintiness that take us captive. Mr. Stanley Brett, who may be said to be his brother's (Mr. Seymour Hicks) *alter ego*, plays Dicky, the crossing-sweeper, with invincible cheeriness; and the duet and burlesque business with Bluebell are particularly full of gaiety. Mr. Roland Chester is effective as Mr. Joplin; Mr. John Doran and Mr. Cecil Kingsley are a couple of whimsical footmen; Miss Ivy Sawyer is a clever child actress as Mab; Miss Doris Walker makes a successful appearance as Winnie; and Miss Bertha Schwartz is benevolently feline as Peter, the cat.

A great novelty in the Hippodrome programme is found in the silhouette dances of the "Three Maidens from Sais" (Greece). These young ladies, in black tights that outline their shapeliness, reflect their figures on a strongly-lighted scene. They pose beautifully in a sinuous representation of "Idolatry," and the "veil" dance is quite in the classic vein. The realisation of the figures on a Grecian frieze is also particularly interesting and artistic.

Ayoë, a Danish comedienne, well endowed as an expressionist, reminds one strongly of Yvette Guilbert, especially when she sings "The Keys of Heaven," a favourite number with the French artist. Mr. J. J. Dallas, who is quite English, whimsically deplores the woes of a widow who sings "What I've suffered nobody knows"; M. Costantino Bernardi's long turn is a marvel of energy and versatility; the Maid and the Mandarin present an agreeable vocal and musical Chinese scena at the piano; and Boris Lensky, the violin virtuoso, is well applauded for his solos, in which he displays command of technical difficulties and a good tone.

Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is so quaintly confidential that he quickly gets on terms with his audience, who find originality and drollery in his song "In the summer-time it's all right; in the winter-time—no!" He shows some anxiety as to the appreciation of his humour by those in front; but this is only at the start of his turn. He gets right there at the finish. The Courtiers are responsible for some dainty, well-written, and well-produced numbers, the dresses of the ladies sounding a note of real elegance; Corbin's boxing dogs are amusing; the Three Emersons have a novel way of presenting a really smart gymnastic and acrobatic act; and the thrilling picture on the Bioscope of a genuine lion hunt keeps the audience until the close of a very fine programme, directed by the popular Mr. Fred Trussell, who has for his aide-de-camp Mr. Tom Miller.

NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON.

Mr. Clarence Sounes, who has made such a bold bid for local favour by erecting this palatial music hall in a town honeycombed with places of amusement, is receiving a handsome reward for his enterprise, for the large house, which holds about 1,800 persons, has been well filled at each of the two performances nightly since it was opened last week, and judging by this, the latest of Kingston's places of entertainment has a promising future in front of it. Mr. Sounes opened with a remarkably attractive programme, and the bill of fare this week is even more notable. The star turn is provided by Miss Evie Green, the clever musical comedy artist from the London Hippodrome. Miss Green commands admiration wherever she goes, and the audiences at Kingston this week have not been slow to recognise her undoubted abilities. Her singing of "The Corsican Maid" was beautifully done, and she was equally successful in the song "I hear you calling me." In the hands of a less capable artist these commonplace songs might have gone flat, but Miss Green infused a power of expression and pathos into them that commanded universal appreciation, and she was vociferously rewarded for her efforts. She was loudly recalled, and for an encore gave a rustic recitation in the West Country dialect that brought her back to the front several times afterwards. Another important item in the programme is the performance of the remarkable Child Trio, three little juvenile actor musicians, who exhibit most precocious talent for their years. The singing of little Bessie was received with rapturous applause, and the climax was reached when her little brother John takes the conductor's chair and leads the orchestra of adults. The Five Whiteleys exhibit remarkable cleverness as acrobats, the lady member of the troupe being loudly applauded for some clever evolutions on a wire rope. Erne and Dave, the Warsaw Brothers, from Australia, create great fun in their comedy musical act, as also do Kenneth and Kane in their "comedy duo," with their latest song, "Oh! Oh! Oh!" Yetta, a clever lady artist, introduces her sensational novelty, a "cake walk on the wire," and Charles Ulrick, "the burrel king and franka wonder," Mr. Arthur Stephens, the local light comedian, and Mr. Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, are also attractive features in the programme, which concludes each evening with pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

JOHN LAWSON

HAS SENSATIONAL HIT IN HIS SKETCH, "ONLY A JEW."

The most exacting critic of the vaudeville stage or of the stage itself, regardless of classification, would be silenced by a visit to the American Music Hall this week. Popular acts are there in plenty, but also there is something over which to enthuse that is altogether worthy and acting sufficiently powerful to satisfy the most ardent advocate of high standards for the stage.

The people who take the stage and its people seriously, the people who cry for the managers to show them splendid acting, owe a vote of thanks to William Morris for bringing Jack Lawson to America. He has followed his triumph in *The Monkey's Paw* with a still greater triumph in *The Open Door*.

Mr. Lawson has completely upset many stage precedents. That the producers of dramatic plays who scoff at vaudeville should have allowed John Lawson to escape them is nothing short of astounding. Physically, he is a little man. From the standpoint of dramatic acting he is the biggest little man this American generation has known.

John Lawson is an actor who makes you forget that he is acting. Here is no clever stage mountebank, full of tricks to gain applause, but an actor who feels the character he is portraying so intensely as to forget the sham appeals for curtain calls. By his sheer sincerity he compels the greatest applause and the more curtain calls.

HERE IS THE STORY.

The story is of *Only a Jew*, so the lines run, who, in his admiration for a pretty face—"a toy," as he expresses it—has drifted from moneylending to racetrack touting, and finally to counterfeiting. He is tried, found guilty, and is likely to receive a five years' sentence.

Released on bail, he returns home. His wife, believing bail had been refused, is expecting an admirer, who had helped to trap and convict him. He discovers this, also that because the new fancy had spoken of his imprisonment as her "open door," she had intended delivering to the police the counterfeiting plates he had wanted her to destroy.

In his frenzy to keep her and to save himself at the same time he chokes her to death. He had not intended to do this, but he has no regrets. He hides the lounge on which she has fallen behind a screen before his rival arrives.

The dialogue and action from here hold every one breathless up to the startling climax, where the Jew gives the man who had much to do with his ruin a chance for his life. He gives him the choice, to be made in the dark, of two revolvers, one loaded, the other not, he to take the one left, and then both attempt to fire to kill. The loaded one falls to the Jew. He fires and kills.

The programme says this is a problem episode, and the last line discloses the problem when John Lawson, as the Jew, exclaims:

"And now I'll wait for justice!"

John Lawson, the Belasco of Vaudeville.—Sam M'Kee in the *Morning Telegraph*, New York, Oct. 25, 1910.

PECKHAM HIPPODROME.

A visit to the above popular South London house, over the fortunes of which Mr. Cecil Paget has so long ably presided, assures us of the fact that it has lost none of its pristine popularity. After a well-rendered overture by the orchestra, under the talented bâton of Mr. Julian Goldsmid, vivacious Miss Elsie Steadman opens the programme proper with an Hibernian ditty, "Molly Molloy," which she renders with much *chic*. Mr. Harry Nelson is an amusing comedian, whose two comic effusions, accompanied as they are by some humorous patter, prove much to the taste of the audience. Mr. Walter Peach, who possesses a fine baritone voice, renders with great effect "If I had the world to give you." A very artistic and enjoyable turn is that provided by Miss Alice Hoodless, who gives us a series of tableaux, most of which are reproductions of famous English paintings. Some of the tableaux are designed by Miss Hoodless herself, and she appears as the central figure in each. Especially notable are "February Sunshine," "A Christmas Carol," "Cutting a Cabbage," and "The Nun." Miss Hoodless deservedly receives a great ovation at the close of her turn.

The Two Bobs (Bob Adams and Bob Alden) present a sparkling mixture of fun, song, and dance. They are both very smart comedians, and a clever parody of "Funicular" and the American ditties "It's a good world, after all," and "Come to the barber's ball" are hugely enjoyed by the house. Lulie and Jessica Brooke, "the girls in blue," delight the audience with their songs and dances. One lady appears as a gay Court gallant, with her sword at her side, and the other as a pretty damsel, attired in the costume of our grandmothers' days.

Perhaps the hit of the evening is made by Mr. Jake Friedman and company, in the burletta *Happy Holland*, a merry and tuneful half-hour musical comedy in miniature. It is crammed full with fun, dance, and melody. Mr. Jake Friedman, with his clever yodelling and quaint humour, is the life and soul of the production; while Miss Florence Hunton sings sweetly as his Dutch fiancée. Mr. Charles Mavern, Mr. Leigh Ellis, Mr. Lucian, and Miss Limberg ably sustain the remaining characters; while their efforts are well supported by a chorus of some twenty ladies and gentlemen. Messrs. Crosby and Walker, the jocular Eton boys; Miss Louise Zetland; Ted Curtis, assisted by a lady and gentleman artist, in a clever dancing act; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope are the remaining items in a first-class programme. Mr. G. B. Wayne ably sustains the duties of stage-manager.

SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.

A most attractive and varied programme is submitted this week at this popular house. The principal turn is that sweet-voiced vocalist, Miss Lilian Lea, who delights audiences with rendering "The Dear Homeland," "Il Bacio," and Sir Arthur Sullivan's "The Lost Chord." Another popular artist is Miss Alexandra Dagmar, who highly amused the patrons with her well-rendered songs and choruses, interpolated with humorous stories. The Two Bobs are a pair of most capable artists, who were heartily applauded in their several numbers, the most popular being "Casey Jones." Regan and Ryan are also an amusing duo, both in knockabout business and songs, and keep the company in a continual state of merriment. Olive Dene, a dainty character comedienne and dancer, was most successful in "Come, oh, come, to Santa Bay," followed by a neatly-executed dance.

Mark Leslie is a clever delineator of coon melodies, which greatly appeal to the audience. That his success was immediate was shown by the manner the number was received. He also scored most unmistakably in "If you have only got a little bit" and "You have my sympathy," and was applauded for his graceful dancing. Sterling and Love caused merriment in their well-known and extremely popular act, entitled *Discord and Harmony*, in which the gentleman introduces some very good instrumental playing and the lady entertains with fine vocal efforts.

Fred Moule's well-known sketch *Gretna Green* was received with every token of satisfaction, the fight between Jack Wayho and Jack Collinson with bare knuckles being well done. Among the other turns were Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; Lewis and Elvy, Hebrew recruits; and Harry Marte, who assisted in making the entertainment a success. During the evening the bioscope threw some interesting films on the screen.

"THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE."

Musical Playlet, Book and Music by Ernest Bucalossi, Produced at the Hackney Empire, on Monday, Oct. 31.

Janet .....Miss Netta Lynde
Jim .....Mr. Conway Dixon
Dorkins .....Mr. Christmas Grose

A very pleasant and attractive little production, entitled *The Head of the House*, is being introduced at the above hall this week. Mr. Ernest Bucalossi, the well-known musical-director, is responsible for both the book and the music, and he has succeeded in creating a playlet admirably adapted for vaudeville programmes. The characters are three—a husband, wife, and the husband's friend. All of them move in very humble surroundings, and the wife has already discovered that she is married to a man who has developed a dislike for work—an amiable but weak human being, who is beginning to make beer, tobacco, and a good dinner the main objects of existence, though not at all prepared to make it his business to earn the money to pay for them. Soon after the rise of the curtain the husband comes in, and commences to tell his wife that if he had a shilling to buy a little leather he would be able to earn five shillings by repairing the local blacksmith's bellows, which are broken. The wife, very accurately believing that it is a trick to secure the money, goes off to find out if the story is true. As soon as she has gone the husband's friend, Peter, who suggests all these little dodges, enters, and the husband, who is beginning to feel ashamed of himself, has a row with Peter, and announces his intention of going off to enlist. Peter tells the husband that if he would keep out of sight for a short time, so as to let the wife think he had gone, that he would tell the wife that for a matter of two or three pounds he could "square" the sergeant who had taken her husband and get him bought out.

The husband does not like the idea, and while they are wrangling the wife is heard returning, and the husband gets out of sight. As soon as she enters Peter begins to work the trick, and just when it has succeeded and she has paid over the money the husband comes out, forces Peter to refund the money, and kicks him out, then eventually announces his intention of reforming, and effects a reconciliation with his wife.

Apart from the slight touch of improbability as to the promised reformation being permanent, the episode is capitally worked out, and it gains a good deal from the music. Two numbers in particular are very effective—the duet between husband and wife, and the song sung by the husband, this latter item being capitally scored. Mr. Conway Dixon played the husband in a very convincing fashion, and displayed a good voice; Miss Netta Lynde was exceedingly natural as the wife, and also distinguished herself in the musical side of the show; and Mr. Christmas Grose as Peter submitted an excellent study of an elderly cadger.

The production was listened to with the greatest interest by a large audience, and at the fall of the curtain a very demonstrative "curtain" was accorded the artists.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Good fare and plenty of it figures on the menu here this week. Prefaced by a capitally-played overture, "Light Cavalry" (Suppé), Rosie Gaston, dainty and delightful, warbles quite sweetly of oranges. She naïvely comments on the embarrassment of the situation when buyers "fix one eye on the oranges and the other on the orange girl." Goggin and Davis, droll's, get to work in a business-like way, and are soon in the good graces of the audience. Merriment reigns supreme while they are in possession. Some of the wheezes cracked by this duo are unique. A combat *à la mort* is one of the funny things of the evening. Alf Arbus adds his pleasing contribution to the programme, and as a juvenile is not without talent. Some excellent work is put in by Ross and Grayson, a quaint comedy couple, who extract humour from a harmless piano, and keep things humming in an all too brief turn. Ross and Grayson are, in a word, excellent.

Hailing from the land of kangaroos, Ed. E. Ford is responsible for considerable amusement in his novel entertainment, "Faces." There is a distinct touch of novelty about this clever comedian. His "business" is distinctly good, and his facial contortions remarkable. Ford at the dentist's is something "that tells a story." "We're all growing older and older," a chorus ditty, gets the gallery and pit humming the refrain of a vocal truism. A host in herself, Irma Lorraine is responsible for some very beautiful tableaux; a series illustrating "The Five Senses" is both artistic and delightful A couple of irresponsible wags, the Brothers Brook, gave forth quite a host of moral precepts to the air of "The grandfather's clock." Comedy on wheels is represented by the Marsumas, who, while demonstrating their ability as smart wheelmen, contrive to imbue their act with much that is amusing and not unfunny. A dainty little mimic, who will do better things later, Gladys Nelson gives a selection of "Imitations, More or Less Accurate." A *bonne bouche* is provided in Walter Bird's company, in their wildly-diverting sketch *Her Husband*. The plot of the piece is as gossamer, but its interpretation leaves nothing to be desired. As the burglar, Jem, that excellent comedian Ernie Lotinga is at his best. Never for a second did the fun flag, but "laughter, holding both its sides," proved the rule. All the parts were capably sustained. Mr. Lotinga had an enthusiastic "call," and deserved it. Richmond does bravely.

Before Mr. Justice Bray and a common Jury, in the King's Bench Division, on Thursday, was an action brought by Mr. William Thomas Lapthorne and his wife, Marion Lapthorne, known on the stage as Ashley Page and Marion Denvil, against Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler for salaries alleged to be owing them as music-hall artists.

Mr. Daldy said the plaintiffs were engaged to play characters in two pieces, *Cromwell or the King?* and *The Other Woman*. As matters stood he only asked, on behalf of the plaintiffs, for three weeks' salary at £15 per week and extra payments for two matinées. The defence was that Messrs. Beecham and Wheeler were only contracting agents for someone else, and were therefore not personally liable. The plaintiffs' contention was that the defendants contracted as principals.

Mr. Lapthorne, in the course of his evidence, stated that the original salary for himself and his wife was to be £20 a week at the Paragon Music Hall, Mile End-road. As the piece *Cromwell or the King?* promised to be a big success and to have a long run, he assented to the salary being reduced to £15 a week. Mrs. Lapthorne spoke of an incident at the Holborn Music Hall, when the company was asked to stand out of the bill, as it was overcrowded. Mr. Beecham refused to agree.

Mr. Charles Henry Beecham stated in evidence that in 1908 he was the manager and Mr. Wheeler was treasurer of the Paragon Music Hall, Mile End-road. The sketch *Cromwell or the King?* was written by Mr. Wheeler, and the plaintiffs received £20 a week for playing it at the Paragon. The witness and Mr. Wheeler afterwards started business as music-hall and dramatic agents. He got engagements for Mr. and Mrs. Lapthorne, and the former knew that if there was no play there was no pay. The further hearing was adjourned.

DANCING—FOREIGN AND ENGLISH

A CHAT WITH MISS LOLA LEE.

An article recently appeared in *Truth* concerning foreign and English dancing, in which our readiness as a nation to accept anything foreign and our unwillingness to recognise any merit in anything produced in our own country was deplored. By this neglect we allow our English school of dancing created by John d'Auban to languish and die, and while we still cherish memories of Kate Vaughan, Letty Lind, Sylvia Grey, and Mimi St. Cyr—to mention only a few of the brilliant little company who graduated in this school—their successors are not forthcoming. The opinion of Miss Lola Lee, one of our cleverest young English dancers, on this question should prove interesting.

Miss Lee, who learnt in the John d'Auban school, and is the one exponent of the Kate Vaughan style of dancing at present before the public, it will be remembered proved her versatility by her performance at the Hippodrome in many

MISS LOLA LEE.

varied and difficult dances, and won a decided success. In the Kate Vaughan Waltz the dancer introduced a series of "dip pirouettes," and very few there are on the English stage who can do justice to the fascinating but extremely difficult movements. Her teacher, Mr. John d'Auban, is of opinion that Miss Lee executes these pirouettes better than any pupil he has ever had.

Asked by an *Era* representative why she gave up the snake dance, Miss Lee replied that she was very sorry to do so, being particularly fond of that kind of dance, but the snakes all died after she returned from South Africa with the exception of one, which is now in the Zoological Gardens. "And as everyone told me that sort of dancing was dead, I decided to give it up; but from the papers it seems that we are to have quite another invasion of barefoot dancers from abroad. I also see that an English dancer is doing a Kate Vaughan dance with bare feet. This is, of course, an anomaly.

"What are the chief characteristics of the Kate Vaughan dance? There is really no such thing. Kate Vaughan did many dances, all of which were creations of John d'Auban, who founded this style of dancing, which is really ballet dancing in long skirts and high-heeled shoes, with the addition of the arm and body movements, which are a speciality of all John d'Auban's pupils. Maud Allan is the only artist not a pupil of Mr. d'Auban that I know of who has these movements, and in her case there is no denying they were simply beautiful. All her actions were entirely spontaneous and untaught."

Asked if dancing in high heels instead of ballet shoes did not make the balance much more difficult, Miss Lee replied, "Certainly it does, and the high heels being a speciality of this kind of dancing you will see how ridiculous it is for anyone to talk of doing a Kate Vaughan dance with bare feet."

The lack of good English dancers at the present time Miss Lee attributes to the lack of demand for them. "There is a craze at present for foreign turns. Anything that comes from abroad seems able to obtain an engagement at our leading West End halls. I don't mean to imply by this that we have not had some really fine dancers from abroad, but I think some of them would never have got booked if there had not been a strong boom in foreign articles.

"You know it requires years of hard work to make a dancer. I practice two hours every day, and three days a week I have an hour's lesson as well. It's very difficult to keep on work, work, work, to find when you go to look for a job that it is a case of 'No English need apply.' I am sure there is plenty of the raw material, and if only there was the demand Mr. d'Auban would unearth it as he did in the old Gaiety days."

Many people doubt if Miss Lee is as youthful as has been stated in some of the papers, for her dancing is that of a fully trained artist, and not that of a child. Questioned on this point, the enthusiastic young lady replied: "It is quite true. I was fourteen on March 16 last. I came out at the Canterbury when I was 12½, and was starred in South Africa when I was thirteen. You should have seen the manager's face when I appeared at rehearsal, and have heard him exclaim, 'Good heavens, only a child!' But he was quite satisfied with the child after the first performance. I may tell you I am the youngest pupil Mr. d'Auban has ever had."

Speaking of her success at the Hippodrome, Miss Lee remarked: "I think Mr. Stoll, at any rate, thinks there is still some merit in English dancing, for he has given me the whole Moss and Stoll tour, commencing next year."

British born and British trained, Miss Lee's refreshingly artistic and clever work should quickly win for her a prominent position in the art of which she is so gifted an exponent.

Among the visitors to the Tivoli on Tuesday evening were several members of General Sir Archibald and Lady Hunter's wedding party, including Lord Kitchener.

"Scrooge" has again been presented by Mr. Seymour Hicks at the Coliseum, and on Monday the versatile actor had a very warm reception in the character. He is again receiving excellent support from Mr. J. C. Buckstone and Miss Adela Measor.

The Brothers Webb (Jo-Jo and Ruté), the musical clowns, are scoring a gratifying success at the Circus Variété, Copenhagen. The Countess Blücher and her daughter, Irene, have been three times to see their performance at the circus, and on Thursday, the 27th ult., these ladies invited the brothers to afternoon tea. During their stay they played the following pieces on their English concertinas: March, "Sounds of Peace" (Franz von Blon); valse, "Aimons Nous" (Lecoq); and Suppé's overture, "Poet and Peasant." Jo-Jo also gave a solo (fantasie), introducing an imitation of the bells of England, and Brother Ruté played a solo on the guitar. These ladies have since written to the popular musical clowns a letter of thanks for their delightful music. They left Copenhagen on Sunday evening for the Apollo Théatre, Mannheim.

MR. MORRIS ABRAHAMS' BENEFIT.

A well-deserved complimentary benefit was accorded to Mr. Morris Abrahams on Friday evening, Oct. 28, at the Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar. The house was packed at each performance, being ample testimony to the popularity which Mr. Abrahams enjoys. The programme contained some eighty-nine items, of which the following appeared:—Harry Brown; Arthur Boyne; Hal Berte, amusing as ever; Russell Brandon; Harry Brettel; Frank Bryce, who was greatly appreciated in his song scena, "Don't go down the mine, daddy"; Ruby Corbett; G. H. Chirgwin, who was received with hearty applause; Johnny Cecil; Collins and Moore; Dolli, whose clever dancing, heightened by fine scenic effects, was greatly appreciated and applauded—Dolli is certainly a graceful dancer; Florence Dudley, heard to advantage in "I want to come home to Killarney" and "Good-bye, darling"; Baby Vi Davis; Alexandra Dagmar, looking exceptionally well; Fred Durban; Dolly Elsworthy and company, a popular item; Rosie Ferne; Billy Farrell; Ian Grey; Muriel Harding; Frank Hartley; the Harbard Septette, in song and dance, a well stage-managed turn; George James; Dudley King; Fred Lincoln; Lyle and Lina; Chas. Lloyd and Cissie Barwick; Jack McKenzie; Bertha May; Mr. and Mrs. Manning; the MacJans; Mr. Arthur Rose and company, in the thrilling sketch, *The Robbery of the Mail;* Vesta Victoria; Lena Verdi; Sam Williams; May Ferry; Bros. Ogarlson; Frank Fernley; and S. W. Wyndham.

A pleasing expression of appreciation was made during the evening, when Mr. R. C. Jenkins presented, on behalf of the staff and friends, a purse of gold to Mr. Abrahams. In reply to the many nice things Mr. Jenkins had said, the beneficiaire tendered his heartfelt thanks for the splendid way in which his friends had rallied round to make the evening the success it was, and also to every member of the staff who had subscribed to his presentation. He mentioned that the evening marked two new things in his career: they were his first benefit and his first public speech, but that he sincerely trusted to bring off the double again in the near future.

The management of the evening's entertainment was in the able hands of Mr. Ben Abrahams, who pioneered affairs successfully. The smoothness and celerity with which the numerous turns were handled reflects great credit on Mr. Wilfred V. Biegen, the resident stage-manager, and his popu-

MR. MORRIS ABRAHAMS.

lar assistant, Mr. R. C. Jenkins. The musical arrangements were ably attended to by Mr. W. Hinkinson.

The bill for the current week is a particularly strong one. George Carney presents his latest sketch, *The Fool of the Forge*, written by himself, in three full-set scenes, in which he appears as Officer Mudd. Sharing the top of the bill is Fred Eustace and company, in a new dramatic sketch by G. Roydon Duff, entitled *On Leave*, in which Mr. Fred Eustace as Post-Captain Hughes and Miss Mary Eustace as Mary Hughes are particularly well placed. Billed as "the world's greatest English concertina soloist," Martin Henderson, the blind musical genius, wins well-merited applause; Harry Marte, that popular light chorus comedian and dancer, scores well; whilst Ryder Slone, Poplar's favourite, has some new numbers, which he gives in his own quaint style. Russell and Held have a very taking singing and dancing act, in which Lillian introduces her famous telephone song; Lottie Lennox, popular as ever, gives her latest successes, the best of which is "Put on your old plaid shawl." Also in the bill are Phœbe Lyndhurst and Trixie Richards.

The following story, by Mr. Harry Weldon, "Stiffy, the goalkeeper," a comedian who is as well known in the football world as he is upon the stage, is well worthy of reproduction in these columns. As a prefatory explanation Harry writes: "I am not the Wheldon that played so well for Aston Villa. I have been accused of this in each of the four countries. Wagers have been made about it, and the decision left in the hands of the editor of a well-known sporting paper.

"On one occasion in a certain town I was honoured with a splendid little supper in my honour; and, after the eatables had been replaced by the drinkables, my host rose and proposed the health of his guest. 'Gentlemen,' he said, 'I have pleasure in asking you to drink the health of Fred Wheldon, who as a forward knew no superior when he wore the colours of Aston Villa. Those of you who saw the great game he played against Blackburn Rovers in 1895 will agree with me that his like we shall rarely see again.' The health was drunk with musical honours, and then I was called upon to reply.

"'It gives me the greatest pleasure to drink this gentleman's health,' I began, 'because though I have not the pleasure of knowing him, yet from what my friend, Jimmy Crabtree, has told me of him he must have been one of the best players and the truest of men.'

"'Now, Fred, lad, theau needn't be ashamed of taking to the stage, and go in for disguising thyself. Theaurt earning an honest living, and theare's nowt to be ashamed of,' so ran the protest of my audience.

"'Gentlemen,' I responded, 'I'm very sorry to disappoint you in any way. I'd be very willing to be Fred Wheldon or anyone else to please you, but I must remind you of one or two things. Firstly, my name, like myself, is plain "Weldon." I never use the "h" in it. Then, again, in place of "Fred" I find that my name is "Harry," or to be "eloquition," as Tom Foy would say, it is "James Henry." As for that match against Blackburn Rovers in 1895, well, at that time I was a schoolboy of thirteen, so I'm afraid it could not have been me who played. I'm awfully sorry. I've enjoyed my supper and your company, and the real genuine article could not have done so more than I have.'"

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. ERNEST BRIDGEN.

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, Empire Palace, South Shields, first entered "the business" as a box-office clerk at the old Munts Hall, Clapham Junction, London, 1894. After this he was appointed a manager by the late Herbert Campbell, chairman, and Dan Leno, vice-chairman, of a syndicate which owned at that time the Empire, Camberwell, the Palace, Croydon, the Granville, Walham Green, and the Grand, Clapham, London. Following this, he was appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll as manager of the Empire, Briggate, Leeds. There Mr. Bridgen remained for the course of a year. Afterwards he was appointed manager of one of Mr. Stoll's most important halls in London—namely, the Empire, New Cross—where he remained for five years. He left with the best wishes of his employers to open the last music hall

MR. ERNEST BRIDGEN.

which has been opened in the suburbs of London—viz., the Kilburn Empire, not a stone's throw from the Marble Arch. From that hall Mr. Bridgen comes to us at the Empire, South Shields. He is known in this town as our dear old friend the Matinée King.—*The Northern Observer*, Aug. 26, 1910.

BALHAM HIPPODROME.

The comedy element is prominent in the current bill at the Balham Hippodrome, which has Mr. Mark Sheridan as the star. The strains of "I do like to be beside the seaside," which at the present moment is enjoying perhaps the greatest vogue of any song in town and country, is greeted with a roar of welcome, and the popular comedian has no lack of support in the chorus. Mr. Sheridan loses not a second in the making of mirth, and his description of Brighton beach and his accompanying patter are followed by roars of laughter. Nothing droller, either, is to be seen than his burlesque quadrille dance, and the pleasure derived by the audience is seen in repeated recalls. Jordan and Harvey are also effective in the production of merriment, and their quaint Yiddisher songs and "cross-talk" earn any quantity of laughter.

Pride of Regiment, the "beautiful homely incident" by Mr. F. D. Bone, is making as great a hit on the variety stage as it did on the theatrical. It has appealed forcibly to Balham music-hall lovers, who have applauded the capital acting of Mr. Nevill Graham as the old martinet of a father; of Mr. Arthur Leslie, who realises the youthful and degraded soldier admirably; and of Miss Nellie Lauraine, whose spirited and pathetic acting is equally impressive. A sketch of another kind is the comedy episode, *Mixed Pickles*, presented by Bowman and Morton, and designed to make the audience hilarious, a purpose in which it never languishes.

Favourite entertainers are seen in the Dandies, who provide mirth and melody unlimited. Their latest is a musical burletta entitled *Our Audiences*, in which the occupants of an imaginary pit, stalls, and gallery are amusingly satirised. A pretty duet, "If I were King," is sung by a lady and gentleman Dandy, and the efforts of the little company provide a never-failing source of enjoyment. Miss Queenie Essex, a fascinating comedienne, sings "Goo-goo Land" in exhilarating style, and wins loud applause for her rendering of a popular operatic selection. Another popular artist is the "Black Diamond," Charles J. Johnson, who scores particularly with a peculiar specimen of the cake-walk, by means of which he won the competition in "Paris, France." Other contributors to the programme are Vi Lauri, comedienne and dancer, and Jay Laurier, assisted by his blood-hound, Dirk. The Bioscope has some interesting pictures of monkeys gathering cocoanuts, and of the capture by natives of a gigantic snake. The new manager here is Mr. Charles Beresford, who comes from the Camden Hippodrome, and was formerly at the Holloway Empire under Messrs. Moss and Stoll. Mr. Beresford has also had a long career in the management of companies on tour.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Drury Lane (15s. pd.), 1 1-16 xd; Empire (15s. pd.), 2; ditto (10s. pd.), 1½; Gaiety, 2 xd; London Pavilion (5), 2⅞; ditto Pref. (5), 4½; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires (5), 4; Oxford (5), 6¾; Palace Theatre (9s. pd.), ⅞; Tivoli, New (5), 6 xd.

An impressive ceremony took place at the Jewish Cemetery in the Siegsburger Strasse in Cologne, when the remains of Siegwart Gentes, one of the founders of the International Artists' Lodge, and one of the most popular of German variety artists, was laid to his last rest. The solemnity of the occasion was further enhanced by the magnificent rendering of Mendelssohn's "Es ist bestimmt in Gottes Rat" on the part of the Dutch quartette, who, in loyal comradeship, came to the rescue, since, according to Jewish ritual, it being a Jewish festival, the Rabbi was prohibited from making a farewell speech. Born in Berlin on Aug. 12, 1872, Siegwart Gentes made his début in 1893 at Schippanowski's concert hall in Berlin, which brought him into immediate favour, and into the front rank among such stars as Frankl and Förster, playing their own compositions on piano and harmonium, Willy Harnisch, the character impersonator, and the eccentric musician Wolkenstein. His subsequent fortunes were largely bound up with those of Director Alexander Genée, who first engaged him for the Central-hallen Theater in Stettin, and subsequently for the Reichshallen Theater in Berlin. The deceased, who leaves a widow, a daughter of nine, and a son of five, retired from the variety stage at the beginning of this year, when the first signs of a nervous heart trouble were felt. He then established on the Neumarkt at Cologne a high-class wine restaurant, the Trocadero, which he worked up to a flourishing condition.

FUNERAL OF FLORA BLAKE.

The last sad rites over the remains of the late Flora Blake, beloved wife of Harry Blake, for so many years popularly known on the variety stage as the Two Bees, were performed at Tooting Cemetery last Monday amid many manifestations of grief and sympathy.

While awaiting the arrival of the mournful cortége one noticed the graves of many well-known people who have joined the great majority. Here was that of Dan Leno, newly strewn with blooms in token of his recent anniversary; hard by were the graves of Joe Laurence and Mrs. Joe O'Gorman, both taken within the last two years; and many other tablets bore names that brought up memories of the past. And now there is Flora Blake, cut down in the bloom of womanhood, and followed to the grave by comrades whose tear-dimmed eyes gave evidence of the affection in which she was held.

The little chapel where the burial service was read was filled with mourners, and there was quite a long procession to the graveside. Pathetic it was to see poor afflicted Fred Millis, all but deprived of sight, tenderly led by Fred Herbert to pay a last tribute of respect to the departed.

A number of deputations from the various societies with which Mr. Blake is associated were represented both by wreath and deputation. The Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, of the committee of which Mr. Harry Blake has been a member for over twelve years, sent a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Fred Herbert (chairman of the committee), Charles Coborn and Fred W. Millis (vice-presidents), T. C. Callaghan, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The deputation from the Grand Order of Water Rats, of which Mr. Blake is an active member, were Messrs. George Sanford (Sanford and Lyons), J. O'Connor (Jack and Evelyn), and E. W. Manning. Mr. Arthur Were (secretary) represented the Terriers' Association.

Miss Marie Kendal and Rats Steve McCarthy, Geo. Sanford, and Jack O'Connor, went to the house, 50, Grove-road, Clapham Park, but rehearsals prevented them following.

Among those present either at the house or at the grave we noticed Mr. and Mrs. Charles Best, Mr. Frank Halter, Mrs. Harry Lester, Mrs. Fred W. Millis, Mr. Charles Cornish, Mr. Ralph Edgar, Mr. W. Hasberry, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Winstone, Mr. and Mrs. Rob Winstone, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Barton, and Mr. Geo. Webster, and several inmates of the Music Hall Home.

The mourners were Harry Blake, the bereaved husband; his brother and sister, F. W. Sanders and Miss Sanders, Mum Winstone, and E. J. Warden in the first carriage; Mr. and Mrs. Alec Girling, Mrs. and Miss Shonfeld, in the second carriage; Arthur Were (Terriers' secretary), Harry Champion's daughter, Miss Tod, Miss Nellie Barton, E. W. Manning (Rat), and Mrs. Wm. Heath in the third carriage; Chas. Douglas Stuart, T. C. Callaghan, Chas. Coborn, Fred Herbert, and Fred W. Millis in the fourth carriage; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ethardo in the fifth carriage.

The floral tributes were numerous and beautiful. Mr. Harry Blake's offering took the form of a massive pillow of white flowers, with the words "Sleep, dear Flo" in blue flowers. From brother Frank and family came a very large cross of autumn leaves, inscribed "Auntie Flora." Miss Ruby Dahl (god-daughter) sent a wreath; and similar tokens of sympathy came from Mr. and Mrs. A. Girling ("Gates ajar"), Geo. and Rose Chirgwin (heart), Joe and Lottie Elvin (cross), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Champion (harp), the Craggs (harp), Grand Order of Water Rats (harp), Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Stuart (cross); wreaths from Miss Florrie Constable (of Brighton), the Kellino Family, Auntie Nancy and Alice, Mr. and Mrs. Hicks (of Leicester), the Terriers' Association, Mr. and Mrs. Will Ethairien (Copenhagen), Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ethairien (Copenhagen), Mr. and Mrs. Hopter, Miss Bella Dahl (Switzerland), Ida and Joe Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Heath, Mum Winstone, Mr. and Mrs. Luke (of Portsmouth), Miss Soper and Mr. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Steve McCarthy (Marie Kendal), Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, Miss Flo Shonfield and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Nyman, Mr. and Mrs. Ethardo, Mr. and Mrs. Walton (of Walton and Lester), Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Vendome; and bouquets from Cissie Skuse, the Misses Cooper, Mrs. (Leno) Best, and Mrs. Harry Lester.

BENEFITS AND SALARIES.

The case of Desormes *v* Sebery and James was before his Honour Judge Woodfall in the Westminster County Court on Thursday, and was a claim for £7, two weeks' salary, against the proprietors of the Bohemian Concert Co. Mr. Portland Akeman, solicitor, said he was appearing for the plaintiff, and was also acting in this matter for the other members of the troupe of pierrots which defendants were running at Sandown, Isle of Wight. Defendants had other troupes of pierrots at the Isle of Wight. The weeks ended Friday night, and one Saturday afternoon a telegram was received from Mr. Sebery to close down the show. The artists had broken into a fresh week.

Plaintiff gave evidence in support, and narrated some difficulties in the troupe in connection with the artists' benefit. There was another benefit for them on the night before they were dismissed, and they divided up the proceeds after deducting what they agreed to pay the defendants for expenses.

For the defence, Mr. Sebery gave evidence that the whole of the proceeds of the benefits were to be paid into the firm and the firm divide the money. He had been in the habit of making the amounts up for "the boys." If the amount was £3 5s. he would make it up to £4 out of his own pocket, or if over £4 he would make it up to £5 each. He went over to Sandown from Ryde in response to a telegram, and finding the money had not been paid in, and that there was a refusal to pay it he dismissed the troupe.

His Honour was firmly convinced that the defendant wished to act fairly and kindly to the artists, but the question was as to legal rights. There was no right to terminate the contract of which the artists had in no way committed a breach. So long as the artists paid the expenses they agreed to, they were entitled to the proceeds of their benefit performance. He found for the plaintiff, with costs, and dismissed a counter-claim for £14 odd, the proceeds of the benefit.

The death is announced of Mr. De Monti, formerly of the Lisbon Troupe of Skaters. At one time the deceased gentleman, whose real name was Holt, was a member of the duo Chivers and De Monti, and for the last twelve years of the Four Mayos, comedy skaters. Pneumonia was the cause of death, which occurred on the 28th ult. in Camden Town. The remains were interred on Monday in St. Pancras Cemetery, Finchley.

Herr Strazini, known as the Human Volcano, gave a private exhibition of his extraordinary powers at the Alhambra on Wednesday morning. He began by swallowing lumps of solid paraffin; crunched up oyster-shells and small chunks of tallow from a burning candle. After this déjeuner Herr Strazini had a smoke, but his appetite apparently being unsatisfied, he ate up a large mouthful of his clay pipe just as a savoury. This was washed down by several drinks, including a wine-glass of paraffin, a tumbler of water, and a liqueur brandy. He struck a match, put it in his mouth, and out shot a flame seven or eight feet long.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT).

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are—Eastwood, on the Great Northern; Heckmondwike, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Kirkby Stephen, on the North-Eastern and Midland; Plymouth, on the Great Western and London and South-Western; Biggleswade, on the Great Northern; Guisboro', on the North-Eastern; Leeds, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, Great Northern, and Midland; Biddenden, on the South-Eastern; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Portsmouth, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; Stockton-on-Tees, on the North-Eastern; Alston (Cumb.), on the North-Eastern; Hucknall, on the Great Northern and Midland; Lancaster, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Loughborough, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, and Midland; Stamfordham, on the North-Eastern; Wakefield, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, Great Northern, and Great Western; Wetherby, on the North-Eastern; Askam-in-Furness, on the Furness; Brackley, on the London and North-Western; Carlisle, on the London and North-Western, Midland, North-Eastern, Great Northern, and Great Western; Easingwold, on the North-Eastern; Millom, on the Furness; Bishop Auckland, on the North-Eastern; Bulwell, on the Midland; Chelmsford, on the Great Eastern; Cockermouth, on the Cockermouth, Keswick, and Penrith and Metropolitan and Carlisle; Egremont (Cumb.), on the London and North-Western and Furness; Epping, on the Great Eastern; Glapwell, on the Midland; Kendal, on the London and North-Western; Keswick, on the London and North-Western; Maryport, on the Metropolitan and Carlisle; Penmorfa, on the Cambrian; and Aberdare, on the Great Western and Taff Vale Railways.

The Guild Chaplain and Rotherham Statutes.

THE organising Chaplain will have a busy week-end at Rotherham Fair. He will be the preacher at St. Michael's, Northfield, on Sunday morning. In the afternoon the annual meeting of the Guild will take place at three o'clock, in Farrer and Tyler's cinematograph coliseum. In the evening he will conduct the Guild service and preach in the same show at 8.15. On the Tuesday in next week the annual benefit performances for the Guild funds will take place. Ever since the proposal to have benefit performances originated Rotherham has been faithful to the scheme. The result, considering the size of the fair, has always been most gratifying.

Showman's Letter-box.

LETTERS await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. W. Purchase, Biddall Bros., J. W. Chipperfield, and James Henry Chipperfield.

A Most Urgent Case of Need.

WE understand from Mr. Irvin (who is interesting himself as a friend in the matter) that Mr. and Mrs. Chittock are in necessitous circumstances. We have known for some time past that dear old Chittock, as we love to call him, has been in failing health. Mrs. Chittock, with the bravery and perseverance that mark showwomen, has done her best to keep the show going and to maintain the family. The task has been manifestly too much for her. An attempt was made in the summer to sell the show, Mr. Tom Norman, out of sheer kindness, doing his best to dispose of it as a going concern. This well-meant effort failed. Since then the family has made a precarious living on various private pitches in the suburbs of London. In these days of keen competition from permanent picture palaces at every street corner, picture shows on vacant land in back streets make little money. Anyhow, the Chittocks are, through ill-health and continued misfortune, in real distress. Mr. Irvin kindly lent them his traction engine, and gave his personal help to move the show to a new pitch last week, and he informs us that it is a case needing immediate help. We shall be glad to receive subscriptions, however small, and will acknowledge them week by week in *The Era*. Mr. Pedgrift will act as treasurer to the fund, and the Rev. T. Horne will see that the money goes to Mrs. Chittock for their pressing wants.

Rev. T. Horne £1 1 0

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

R. J. W. Bloom, 5s.; T. Harrison, 5s.; W. Taylor, 5s.; Mr. A. Birch, 5s.

Alf. Ball Fund.

THE time is rapidly approaching when this fund must be closed. We confidently reiterate our appeal for this extremely deserving case. We readily admit that the response has been generous, particularly from the fairs where the Ball family are well known. It is now the season of the big all-England fairs—Nottingham, Peterborough, Hull, Stratford, Warwick, Rotherham, Wakefield, York, and the great hiring fairs of the North. Efforts, we think, might well be made at these fairs to support the Alf. Ball Fund.

AMOUNT already received and acknowledged in *The Era* £163 15s. 6d.

WE shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions to this truly deserving fund. New subscribers' names will be duly acknowledged in our columns. The treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, is anxious that the help given shall not only be generous, but that it shall be immediately available.

COLLECTED by Mr. John Barker at Brightlingsea Fair:—John Barker, 10s.; Mrs. Hall, 2s. 6d.; F. Borsom, 1s.; T. Manning, 5s.; Williams, 1s.; W. Barker, jun., 2s.; W. Summers, 2s.; Miss M. Barker, 1s.; Miss R. Barker, 1s.; J. Bond, jun., 1s.; J. Prestney, 1s.; Miss Prestney, 1s.; C. Duffield, 5s.; J. Jann, 4s.; A. Holmes, 1s.; Miss Holmes, 1s.; A. Summers, 2s.; Miss Duffield, 1s.; John Westrop, 1s.; W. Barker, 5s.; Mrs. R. Bond, 2s. 6d.; G. Summers, 2s.; G. Bugg, 2s.; G. Holmes, 2s.; H. Roberts, 2s.; J. Barker, jun., 1s.; J. Bingham, 2s.; N. Barker, 1s.; C. Duffield, 1s.; Miss Duffield, 1s.; total, £3 5s.

British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

AN important meeting of the above Union will take place at Rotherham on Tuesday next. For place, time, &c., see advertisement.

Kidwelly Fair.

THIS fair opened on Saturday of last week, and was well attended, good business being done all round. There were more showmen present this year than at any previous year. Messrs. Hy. Studt and Sons, of course, occupied premier position with their large machines. The shows included that of the Lemans, remarkably clever Australian knife and hatchet throwers; Davies' very popular model coal mine; Professor Lloyd's palace of varieties; with Hesson and Lydia, very smart sleight-of-hand artists, &c. Hoop-las, cokernut shies, and Mollies, &c., were supplied by Messrs. David Boswell, James Day, Wm. Blower, Wm. Otley, Wm. North, and others. Station-road, outside the fairground, was crowded with small stalls, whilst at the open end of the road were Professor Lloyd's juvenile roundabout and shooting saloon, Clarke's freak show, Bossett's swings, and others.

THE CONTINUANCE OF MITCHAM FAIR.

We told our readers last week that the long-deferred transfer of the fair rights from the trustees to the Board of Conservators had taken place. We understand that the deed of conveyance has a clause expressing the desire *that the Conservators use their best endeavours to prevent the fair being held*. The publication of this clause in the covenant between the late trustees and the board has already misled the Press, with the result that many newspapers announced it as the doom of the fair. We wish at once to correct that wrong impression. It would take many such expressions of opinion and many such covenants to get behind the Abolition of Fairs Acts, and to over-ride the constitutional right of appeal of both traders and people to the Home Office, and the ultimate authority of the Crown. If it was a comfort to the late trustees to get over their obligations to the subscribers to the fund they used to purchase the franchise, let them enjoy it for all it is worth. We fear they have already had many discomforts to endure in the revelation that their poorer neighbours objected to the improvement of the fair green at the cost of losing their fair.

We, at any rate, can say that we never ceased warning them of the error of their way, and begging them to recognise that public opinion did not justify the scheme—however good the motive—for the abolition of Mitcham's ancient Charter Fair.

The Present Position of the Matter.

We are face to face with an entirely new situation. The position of the matter is vastly simpler, and the prospect of a wise and permanently peaceful settlement immeasurably brighter. So far from feeling depressed by the outcome of last Thursday's discussion at the Board meeting, we rejoice at it. May we go further and say that the transfer of the manorial rights to the Board is the one thing we have worked for and have kept before the people. For this perfectly obvious fact—the Board is the only public authority that can deal with the continuance of the fair for the people on wise and statesmanlike lines. We know now with whom we have to deal. Personal prejudices and private ends and ambitions cease to have any weight in the question. It is a great thing to lift the subject out of the arena of parochial politics, and to find it handled by a body of gentlemen free from narrow parochialisms and sectional interests. We gladly recognised at the time in *The Era* the utterly different aspect the question assumed (as far as the Board was concerned) when Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., became chairman—not that Mr. Mallaby Deeley loved the fair; but as a public man he recognised that if Mitcham people loved their fair, he, for one, would be no party to abolition.

This first pronouncement, as chairman of the Board, on the fair dispute, was to the effect that whilst he could not undo what had been done by the Board or in its name, he would advise the Board not to continue the mistaken and futile policy of preventing the continuance of the fair by High Court process of inhibition against individual showmen. From this policy and from this advice to his colleagues he has never swerved. We know enough of his integrity and wisdom as a public man to still hold that he will maintain the best traditions and the strictest impartiality of public life.

The Story of the Fight for the Fair.

In order that the ground may be cleared for a wise settlement of the dispute, it is necessary to briefly recapitulate the history of the people's efforts to keep their fair and the showmen's endeavour to continue their trade and business rights and privileges. As far back as the month of April, 1906, a petition was before the Home Secretary, asking him to exercise his powers under the Fairs Abolition Acts to abolish Mitcham Fair. This petition provoked a certain amount of local opposition, and two of the Parish Councillors took action against the petition. The Showmen's Guild petitioned the Home Secretary against the proposed abolition of the fair. A deputation of the Guild executive laid their views before the Home Office, and the end of that stage in the struggle was extremely satisfactory to both showmen and people, for Councillor Parker received the following reply from the Home Secretary:—

"With reference to your letter of the 26th inst., relative to the proposed abolition of Mitcham Fair, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has decided not to interfere with the holding of the fair this year. Mr. Gladstone will inquire further into the matter, and will be glad to consider any objections, in writing, to the abolition of the fair, or any evidence that it is practicable to move it to a more convenient site.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"W. P. BYRNE."

When the matter became more acute, and in order to allay public apprehension, the Home Office sent another letter, reaffirming in more definite terms the decision of the Home Secretary, "that the Home Secretary had issued no order to abolish the fair."

Despite the refusal of the Home Secretary to abolish the fair, the abolitionists tried to override the Statute and to prevent the fair being held. The then Chairman of the Board of Conservators of Mitcham was the late Alderman Foss. In his dual capacity as part owner of the fair rights and as Chairman of the Board, he issued the following prohibitory notice:

"MITCHAM FAIR, 1906.

"Notice is hereby given that no sites for shows, roundabouts, or other similar amusements on the fair green will be let for the present year, and proprietors of such shows, &c., are warned that they must not pitch on the ground of the fair green, or on any part of the common. By order of the Conservators of Mitcham Common,

"FREDK. FOSS, Chairman.

"And on behalf of the owners of the franchise.

"Dated this 4th of Aug., 1906."

The old tenants of the fair came as usual, and occupied their accustomed pitches on the fair green amidst great demonstrations of public approval and support. Public indignation meetings were held, protesting against the prohibition of the Franchise owners. Three representative showmen were served with writs of the High Court, to show cause why they had disregarded the prohibitory notice of the chairman of the Board of Conservators and the owners of the fair rights. The showmen did not defend the action and injunctions were issued against them.

The Futility of Prevention by Injunction.

This was seen at the next fair in 1907, when the same policy of prohibition by public notice was continued. No less than forty-five tenants of the fair were served with writs, and in due course (as no defence was made) were brought under injunction. There was a double mistake made in thus pursuing individual showmen. It was futile in that there are seventy thousand showmen ready, if need be, to come and maintain the fair until prohibition by injunction proves its own limitations, and besides that, the yearly demonstrations of showmen and the people against abolition, only served to advertise the fair and make it more popular than ever. From being fairly well contained on the fair ground—as it was in the days when a showman owned the fair rights—it grew so rapidly that private pitches to hold the overflow were opened. Prohibition by individual injunction only resulted in increasing the fair and swelling the attendant crowds.

The Wise Action of the Conservators.

It was in the year 1908 that the Board of Conservators, under the chairmanship of Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., had to consider the wisdom of continuing the policy of their late chairman with regard to Mitcham Fair. It is public property that Mr. Mallaby Deeley refused to sanction—and in this view had the support of the Board—the issue of further writs against the showpeople. The position taken by the Board was clear: that until the Board was in full possession of the Franchise of the fair, as a public body it could not properly consider, much less determine, its policy. Mr. Mallaby Deeley, though personally, as we have already acknowledged, not favourable to the fair, offered, in the interests of peace and to settle a question growing more difficult to handle every year, to endeavour to effect a mutually satisfactory arrangement. This eminently kind and public-spirited action was scouted by the abolitionists on the Board, with the result that Mr. Mallaby Deeley withdrew his offer of mediation. This brings us down the story of the question as it touched the Board of Conservators to the present year. The resolution to be moved by Alderman Allen at their next meeting—"That at the next meeting of the Board he would move that Mr. Mallaby Deeley be asked to open up negotiations with the Home Secretary and the Showmen's Guild with regard to Mitcham Fair, to see if the differences could not be amicably settled"—is the proper outcome of the present position of affairs. In the greater interests of peace and the settlement of a dispute in which popular feelings are much concerned, we again express the hope that this resolution will be passed, and that Mr. Mallaby Deeley will again begin his statesmanlike endeavour to bring all the interests concerned into amicable conference and agreement.

What Mitcham Did to Save its Fair.

Besides the public demonstrations against abolition held every fair time, Councillor Dant and other supporters of the popular demand obtained the important constitutional point of "calling a parish meeting," and taking an open vote of the people for or against the fair. This was properly called by the clerk, and presided over by the chairman, Councillor A. Dendy. Councillors Dant and Bland moved and seconded the resolutions, which were passed amidst loud cheers:—

"That this meeting of the electors of the Parish of Mitcham, constitutionally assembled, expresses its strong disapproval of the action of Mitcham Parish Council in seeking to bring about the abolition of Mitcham Charter Fair, and desires to record that any attempt to abolish the fair would be contrary to the will of the people."

"That it be an instruction to the Clerk of the Parish Council to forward this resolution to the Home Secretary."

The following resolution was also proposed by Councillor Dant and seconded by Councillor Bland:—

"That this meeting of the electors of the Parish of Mitcham, constitutionally assembled, desires to see the removal of Mitcham Fair from the Fair Green to a more suitable site on Mitcham Common, if the same can be effected without prejudice to the rights granted under the Charter. That it be an instruction to the Clerk to the Parish Council to forward this resolution to the Home Secretary and to the Board of Conservators of Mitcham Common.

A year later a similar meeting was held, properly convened as a Parish Meeting, and resolutions against abolition were passed with unanimity and acclamation. Public meetings on the Fair Green, held by both the Showmen's Guild and by local committees, sent petitions numerously signed by the ratepayers to the Home Office against abolition, but favouring a wise policy of removal to a less congested site on some part of Mitcham common lands. Every constitutional means were taken by the people of Mitcham to maintain and to secure the continuance of their fair. The culminating point of their endeavour was seen last Easter, when two avowed champions of the people's and the showmen's fair rights and privileges were returned to the Parish Council, one of these being an official of the Guild Executive Council (Mr. F. H. Pedgrift), who, together with Councillor Bland, stood as avowed friends of the fair and the showmen. It was a clear issue to test public feeling, and they won. At an early meeting of the Parish Council, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift moved and Mr. Bland seconded the following resolution:—

"'Mitcham Fair.' That this Council, desiring to bring about a peaceful settlement of the question, resolves to approach all parties concerned with a view to co-operative action for the removal of the Mitcham Fair from the Fairgreen to a more suitable site, if the same can be accomplished without prejudice to the continuance of the fair and the ancient rights pertaining thereto."

The Hope for the Future.

We confidently expect that Alderman Allen's wise resolution will be carried, and that Mr. Mallaby Deeley will resume his effective mediation with the Home Office and with the Board of Agriculture to bring about the removal of the fair to a better site on the common lands. This policy will receive the hearty support of the Showmen's Guild. The showmen will support Mr. Mallaby Deeley's wise endeavour. They have absolute faith in his character for fair and fearless dealings. His strong sense of public duty has already led him to subordinate his personal view, which is against the continuance of the fair, and to have regard to the views of the great bulk of his neighbours. They know that under his guidance justice will be done to all parties concerned. It will also enable the conservators to permanently improve the old fair green and make it a sylvan beauty spot in the heart of a village. This much-desired improvement will fully carry out the covenants of the transfer of the manorial rights. It will settle permanently the recurrent increasing trouble of dealing with a fair grown too big (under modern conditions) for the centre of a growing town. Further, under direct control of a public body it will tend to uplift the tone and character of the popular open-air amusements of the people. It will also yield a yearly revenue in the shape of tolls that will be available for the upkeep and improvement of the people's commons.

We confidently look to the Board of Conservators to treat this matter in strict accord with the best traditions of public service. The lead has been given them by their chairman, Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., who has on many occasions with manly and courageous persistence dissociated himself from all partisan or selfish interests, and has taken his stand on the firm ground of devotion to the greater good of the people, and the acceptance of the constitutionally voiced opinion of the majority of the people directly concerned. In his willingness to undertake this important work of mediation we see the brightest auguries of ultimate success. It will be a worthy achievement for the honour of public life and devotion to the interests of the whole body of Mitcham residents—rich and poor alike—if a lasting settlement be effected. We venture to ask not only the showmen and their patrons, but also the public men of Mitcham and neighbourhood, to heartily forward the movement for a mutually acceptable settlement of the Mitcham Fair dispute.

Worksop Fair.

FOR the people's amusement at this fair the following entertainers were in attendance:—Tuby and Sons, with cinematograph pavilion and other attractions; Relph, with midgets and giant girl; Fisher, with swings and shooting gallery; Campfield, Gillett, Leach, Wallser, Webb, and Illingworth, with throwing games and variety stalls. Tuby's motor-cars are located for private business at Grimsby.

THE TRAVELLING AUCTIONEERS AND THE SHOP-HOURS (2) BILL.

In reply to the request of the Auctioneers' Trade Defence League for an interview on the Shop Hours (2) Bill, Mr. Fred M. Barber, the secretary, received the following official communication:—

"The Home Office, Whitehall,
Oct. 31, 1910.

"To F. M. Barber, Esq., *The Era* Office, Strand, W.C.

"Your letter of 26th *re* Shops Bill, the Home Secretary will receive deputation from travelling Auctioneers' Trade Defence League on Thursday next, 3rd inst., at 12.30.—Private Secretary."

The deputation consisted of the President, Mr. T. Harrison (London); the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain; Mr. R. J. Bloom (Sunderland), Vice-President; Mr. Wm. Taylor (Leeds), Vice-President; Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Hon. Treasurer for the London District; Mr. Fred M. Barber, Secretary; and Miss Harrison, Assistant Secretary. Mr. H. Greenwood was also included in the deputation, but was not able, owing to pressure of business, to be in attendance. The deputation met in committee the day before, and discussed possible amendments for submission to the Home Secretary.

At the Home Office to receive the deputation were the Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, Home Secretary, Sir Edward Troup, Permanent Secretary of the Home Department, Mr. Delevine, of the Home Department, and other officials.

The Rev. T. Horne introduced the deputation, and made (at the request of the League President) the opening statement of the conference. The other speakers were Messrs. Harrison, Bloom, Taylor, and Barber. The scope of the Bill as it might injure the business interests of the whole body of travelling auctioneers was discussed in a most thorough manner, and with every wish on the part of the Home Office to do justice to the claims submitted by the deputation.

The Home Secretary promised to give the points submitted to him the most careful consideration, and asked that two London members of the League should be ready to confer with them at a later date.

The deputation retired from the conference convinced that the cause they had at heart would receive full justice at the Home Secretary's hands.

Subscriptions to the League Fund.

Mr. W. Knight, Auctioneer, Birmingham, £2 2s.; Mr. A. Golding, Auctioneer, London, £1 11s. 6d.; Mr. H. Spiro, Auctioneer, Southampton, £1 11s.; Messrs. J. and B. Rosenthal, Auctioneers, London, £1; Mr. T. Morris, Auctioneer, Plymouth, 10s.; Mr. R. Todd, Auctioneer, Southport, 10s.; Mr. Thos. Newall, Supplier, Lancaster (second contribution), 11s.; Mr. Lympthy, Supplier, London (second contribution), 10s. 6d.; total, £8 5s.

FILM GOSSIP.

Will Brown Elected Councillor.

MR. WM. BROWN, the popular proprietor of Brown's Assembly Rooms, Oldham, whose picture hall is so well patronised, stood for the position of Councillor for the Oldham Town Council, his opponent being ex-Alderman Johnson, of St. James's Ward. He is well known as a sound business man, and is a Liberal in politics. This was his first contest, and at the close of the poll on Tuesday he was elected Councillor by a good majority. Mr. Brown is shortly opening a new picture hall in Hollinwood, which will compare in every detail with any similar house in Lancashire, and will have a seating capacity for 1,200 people.

B.B. Pictures at Dundee.

DISTRICT-MANAGER MR. TOM LUNN has a fine assortment of pictures on tap at the Palace Theatre this week. A very fascinating film is A Bobsleighing Competition at Moscow, the audience being held spellbound as sleigh after sleigh glides down an icebound slope with amazing speed. The Dumb Half-breed's Defence is an intensely dramatic story of the West; and a thrilling naval story is unfolded in the film entitled Lieutenant Rose and the Chinese Pirates. Khmara tells a romantic story centring round Russian peasants; and a very amusing film is Tontolini Pays Visits.

"David Copperfield" on the Screen.

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, a very interesting film is shown, being in the form of a playlet from Dickens's novel, "David Copperfield." Another fine item is The Broken Symphony, which tells the love-story of a poor fiddler with sympathetic effect. Other pictures are A Fair Exchange, Mr. Breakneck's Invention, and The Trick Cyclists; while the illustrated song, "Top of the morning," is well received.

"Now We Have to Call Him Father."

AT the Empire Theatre, Dundee, Mr. R. W. Austin, the courteous and energetic acting-manager of this popular house, has also a capital programme, which includes a very fine film, entitled Hako's Sacrifice. The singing picture, "Now we have to call him father" meets with vociferous appreciation.

Dundee Cinema Theatre.

THIS comfortable and elaborately fitted up house is making great headway in public popularity, and Mr. P. Feathers has evidently provided a felt want in the north-east district of the city. Amongst the pictures shown this week are:—A Woman's Wit, Feeding the Seals, The Miser's Lesson, A Child's Impulse, &c.; whilst the illustrated songs are "The Lost Chord" and "Annie Laurie."

Quality and Quantity at Mansfield.

IN quantity and quality of the pictures presented at the Victoria Hall, Mansfield, the sternest critic could find no cause for dissatisfaction. The entertainment, consisting as it does of instructive pictures, with a necessary leaven of clean, humorous films, has become more than popular in Mansfield. The best pictures presented this week are His Last Game and Charity.

Andrews' Pictures in Burnley.

THIS week's attractive programme of Andrews' world-renowned pictures, screened at the Church Institute, Burnley, includes Smith Gets Engaged, From Tyranny to Liberty, Love Me, Love My Dog, His Master's Voice, Lieutenant Rose, Billy as a Boxer, A Trip on the Ganges, Little Angels of Luck, Take Care of the Wardrobe, The Hobble Skirt, The Great Train Hold-up, and The Boy and the Physic. Illustrated songs are also given by Mr. G. R. Lees.

Crewe Picture Palace.

THE pictures here still keep up to a high standard of excellence, and the result is capital houses are the rule. Sadie and Vone, coloured humorists, and Miss Lillie May, a local favourite, are excellent turns.

Dukinfield Electric Palace.

THE work on this building in Crescent-road, Dukinfield, under the direction of Mr. Hamilton Jackson's general-manager (Mr. Manville Morton), is proceeding with remarkable rapidity. The Dukinfield Palace is the seventeenth theatre Mr. Morton has opened in the past five years—a fine record—and with such an experienced manager at its head it should soon be in the front of the amusements of Dukinfield and district. The lessee and proprietor, Mr. Hamilton Jackson, is also the proprietor of electric palaces all over the kingdom. They are under the direction of Mr. Morton, who comes here from Bournemouth, where he has been running another for some months past with tremendous success. The Dukinfield Palace is within easy reach of all parts of the district, and will be opened early in November with an attractive programme.

CINEMATOGRAPH DEFENCE LEAGUE

The monthly meeting of the Cinematograph Defence League was held at the offices, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., on Tuesday, Nov. 1, Mr. George Gray being in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the secretary reported on the delegates of the League's interview with the London County Council authorities, at whose invitation they attended and discussed the proposed advisability of inaugurating a technical school for operators. Whilst not committing themselves to any definite opinion, they expressed the willingness of the League to co-operate with the L.C.C. in anything that might be deemed advantageous to all parties.

A lengthy discussion took place on the growth of seemingly reckless and unfair competition of cinematograph enterprises, and it was decided that so momentous a question should be left open to discussion and dealing at the next general meeting.

A letter was read from the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association with reference to the Cinematograph Trade dinner being held earlier in the year than was possible on the last occasion. Mr. Barker and Mr. Walker were appointed as representatives of the League to wait upon the above Association, and discuss the necessary arrangements.

The chairman congratulated the League on the strength of its executive representation, drew attention to the important work it had already accomplished, and foreshadowed the strenuous efforts it would be called upon to make in the future for the maintenance of protection of every branch of its growing industry, beset, as it was in many quarters, by fanatical and hypocritical prejudice. He urged the necessity of concrete unity in combating the difficulties that in this country invariably impeded the paths of progression. He referred, *inter alia*, to the vexed question of Sunday performances and the grave importance of the forthcoming appeal from the magisterial decision, affecting not only the trade and charity institutions, but the rights and privileges of the citizens of the United Kingdom.

The secretary then read letters from the League's solicitors stating that Mr. C. A. Russell, K.C., and Mr. Perfumo had been engaged as counsel for the League to contest the appeal of the L.C.C. from Mr. Chapman's favourable decision on Sunday opening.

The whole question was exhaustively discussed, and it was unanimously resolved that a fighting fund should be inaugurated, and that proprietors of cinematograph halls, and showmen generally, should be invited to subscribe one guinea per hall, the same invitation to be extended to every branch of the trade. Also that the proprietors of the trade journals should be empowered to receive and acknowledge subscriptions for this specific object.

The resignation of Mr. G. W. Grant as president of the League, owing to his inability through stress of business, to devote the necessary time and attention that the position called for, was received with great reluctance, and a vote of thanks was extended to him for the able work he had given to the League's interests in the past.

The election of Mr. Bye, Mr. Jupp, Mr. Deakin, and Mr. Prentice as members of the executive, was confirmed, and the following new members were elected as members of the League:—Violet Melnotte Wyatt, Mr. Whiffin, Mr. J. J. Rye, and Mr. Bowman.

WINGATE'S NEW THEATRE.

A long-felt want has been adequately met at Wingate (Co. Durham) in the erection of a handsome and commodious new theatre, which has been named the Empire Electric Theatre. Wingate is one of the most thickly populated mining districts in Mid-Durham, and the new theatre, being situated almost in the centre of the town, can readily be reached from all parts. No expense has been spared in making the interior of the new building of a comfortable and cosy character. Seating accommodation is provided for about 1,000 people, and, upholstered in green and red leather, the auditorium presents quite a bright and attractive appearance. Tip-up chairs have been introduced, and the fittings throughout the theatre are of a modern and up-to-date character. Special attention has been paid in the way of painting and artistic decorations. The walls are green, with a dado of a darker tint, and with richly-designed gilt panels between the windows a pleasing effect has been secured. The stage and scenic effects are excellent. The stage front is finished in Doric architecture, with a Roman and Corinthian statue at each side, in elaborate relief, picked out in white and gold. For bioscope purposes, machinery of the latest type has been utilised. The machine is a Gaumont "Chrono," driven by two gas engines. The contractors were Messrs. G. Colwell and Co., builders, Wingate; painting and decoration, Mr. J. J. Harrison, Wingate; electric lighting, Messrs. Long and Co., Newcastle; seating, Messrs. Dean and Co., Birmingham; furnishings, Messrs. Robinson and Sons, Hartlepool; and stage effects by Mr. W. E. Clark, Houghton-le-Spring. The directors have secured the services of Mr. Richard Mortimer as manager, and the success that has attended his efforts at the Central Palace Variety, South Shields, and other Northern places of amusement, will doubtless be continued at Wingate. In the presence of a large and representative gathering, the opening ceremony was performed on Monday by Mr. S. S. Wheatly, architect, Newcastle, and chairman of the directors.

The Mad Museum.

The Mad Museum, a curious collection of things as they are not, on view at the Victoria Arcade, 107, Strand, is well worth inspection, and the visitor who departs without having his risible faculties greatly tickled must indeed be a very dull dog. In this frivolous exhibition of distorted ideas some sixty-one articles are catalogued, and the Mad Girl of a Family is certainly a lady to be avoided. The Original Banana is said to be the one offered a comic singer who was wont to warble a ditty inviting all and sundry to visit the thoroughfare wherein the museum is situated. The Mighty Atom is an antiquated piece of cheese; Shakespeare's Rival, two rashers of bacon; Brussels Exhibition, a collection of sprouts; The Lady Killer, a pair of stays; Pillars of Greece, four candles; The Abode of Departed Spirits, some empty bottles; Something the World Shuts its Eye to, a piece of soap; The Castaway, an old clay pipe; and so forth. Much ingenuity and no little originality has been shown in this queer and quaint collection, and it is admirably arranged. The astute manager of the Arcade, Mr. Ernest Gibbins, is to be complimented on his novel exhibition, which is only one of the many allurements offered the seeker for amusement with a little spare time and a few spare pence.

Notes from the Midlands.

JENNING'S portable theatre is having a successful short season at Brighton. Buckley's show is located at Winchcomb. Kaye's picture palace and variety show is at Evesham. Sedgewick's menagerie is on tour in this district, and on Friday visited Henley-in-Arden, and is billed for Bromsgrove on Monday. Fossett's circus was at Lichfield on Wednesday last.

"HUMOROUS AND TRAGIC STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE." Told by the Rev. Thomas Horne. Price 6d., post free 7½d. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROFESSIONAL RENDEZVOUS.

"GOOD OLD ENGLISH FARE."

Oh, the roast beef of Old England! Where is there a Britisher who would scorn the standard dish of his country, and where is there one who does not enjoy the succulent chop or the seductive porter-house steak, the haunch of mutton and red currant jelly, to say nothing of silverside with carrots, turnips, and dumplings? Sound, solid, toothsome dishes, always appetising and always satisfying. True, there is a plentiful supply of eating and chop houses in the city of London and its environments, but they are not handy, especially in the West End of London. This week heralds the institution of a new order of things "up West," and at Maxim's Restaurant, in Wardour-street, adjacent to Leicester-square, there has been added a new grill-room, which for comfort, cosiness, and catering is just the thing wanted. Further, the charges are most reasonable, and the cooking is par excellence. Here the joints are served from the waggon in the old style; here you get your meal piping hot, and redolent of home and its fascinating privacy. Every conceivable English dish can be had for the asking, as they are all ready. If a full-course luncheon or dinner is required, a few moments' notice, and your wishes are complied with. Take, for instance, a little special dinner ordered this week by a gentleman for forty friends:—

Maxim's Restaurant.
Oysters.
Clear Turtle.
Turbot and Lobster Sauce.
Whitebait.
Saddle of Mutton.
Brussels Sprouts.
Rissolé Potatoes.
Roast Pheasant.
Salad.
Ice Pudding.
Stilton Cheese.
Celery.

The daintiest epicure could not find fault with a menu like this. On the other hand, every style of cooking can be had—French, German, Russian, and even American (plank Shad) if ordered. Catering for the wants of the inner man in these days of rush and vitiation is a clever art, but it is too often spoiled by having to wait too long for service; hence irritability and the demon indigestion. But M. Louis Roux, the manager of Maxim's, is used to looking after the material wants of all comers: he is thoroughly cosmopolitan. At Monte Carlo, Paris, and many other cities on the Continent he has managed hotels galore. In London readers will remember his careful attention at Blanchard's, in Regent-street, at the Quadrant, in the Western Gardens, at Earl's Court Exhibitions, and latterly at the Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square. M. Roux is exceedingly well known to members of the dramatic, musical, and vaudeville professions. To all attention is called to the fact that during and after rehearsal M. Roux will be there to attend to your immediate wants. It is more than necessary to rejuvenate the gastronomical organs after an exhausting tussle with the system's vitality. "Dr." Rous is the specialist to consult, and without the physician's glorified fee. The maxim of Maxim's is "Essentially English," so there need be no fastidious objections to partaking of the dishes. You can have your meal with music or without; in public or in private. The charge for Manager Roux's personal attention is not extra, and, if you prefer it, his animated conversation on the brightest of subjects will give your appetite just that piquancy which can hardly be self-created.

CHARITY AT TOTTENHAM PALACE.

Tottenham is nothing if not thorough in the cause of charity. Each year it gives up a day or two to gala for the financial benefit of the local hospital. The district skating rinks throw in their lot with the good work associated with Carnival Day, while the picture palaces also contribute their quota in the sweet name of charity. Following on these praiseworthy efforts, Mr. Thomas Mayne, the manager of Tottenham's pretty variety palace, each year takes up the line and organises a matinée on behalf of the hospital. This year's event took place on Thursday, when Mr. Mayne presented a bumper programme to a host of patrons. Long before the day, by dint of sheer hard work, both he and his able lieutenant, Mr. Harold Nuttall, were able to declare all the best seats taken, and this despite the high prices which ruled. The occasion appealed to the generosity of the local public. One box fetched ten guineas. Well, the house was packed in all parts, and seated amongst the gathering were four millionaires! The audience was one big family just gathered together to have a real good time, and Mr. Mayne saw that they had it. True to his promise, Mr. Harry Lauder came along, though straight from bed with a severe cold. His appearance was a signal for a great reception. He started to make a speech, and apparently got annoyed with himself for doing so. "Ye dinna want me a blathering a kna'. Ye jest want a song." The audience acquiesced, and got the true and tried favourite, "I love a lassie." Chirgwin, always popular at Tottenham (and where not?) chatted and chipped his listeners to no end of fun, made a neat little speech, full of his usual puns and wittiness, and brought down the house with his performance. Indisposition claimed Miss Marie Lloyd, but she sent a thoughtly wire and promised a cheque to the fund. The Two Bobs put in no less than eighteen minutes with their rollicking act; Footgers gave his clever impersonations; Rinaldo entertained on his violin, and Jen Latona at the piano came in for a fine ovation. Yet another piano act, that of Miss Clarice Mayne, preceded Whit Cunliffe, whose girly choruses were sung again and again. Miss Olga Doré's vocalism charmed, and Dick Tubb's screaming facial contortions set all laughing lustily. Arthur Lewis gave his Diabolo exhibition, and the Boccaccios their musical act. Of sketches there were two, "The Quarrel" scene from *The School for Scandal*, depicted by Miss Frances Dillon and Mr. Eric Mayne, and *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, Harold Nuttall's top-liner. Lottie Lennox, in chorus songs, Chas. Santon, Madge McCalla, Mme. Lilian Mackenzie Fairfax, J. H. Scotland, Roma and Romani, Miss Jessie Hughes, and Brull and Hemsley all contributed to the afternoon's enjoyment. The latter turn are on the current bill, and their bright little act, "Fun in a Music Shop," was quite one of the best features of the matinée. They were accorded a hearty reception, and had time permitted they could have doubled their stay. On behalf of the Hospital Committee Mr. F. W. Drewett thanked Mr. Mayne, the artists, and staff for their kindly services, and, responding, Mr. Mayne said it was just a real pleasure, and was sure that other helpers were with him in this.

Something like £300 has been raised through this performance; programmes alone realised £20. Behind the stage Mr. Harry Phillimore and his assistants worked hard to make the show a success, and Mr. Wm. Burgess and his band of musicians never flagged in their contribution to an in every way satisfactory entertainment.

THIS week, at the Empire, Islington, the Eight Sunrays, one of the finest troupe of vocalists and dancers on the boards, are making a hit. The combination is headed by that well-known dancer Miss Kitty Denton, and with its smart and refined stage business gets out of the ordinary groove. Next week the Sunrays are appearing at the Camberwell Empire.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

OCTOBER.

A Married Microbe, farcical sketch; Bedford, Oct. 3.
The Aftermath, dramatic episode, in one scene, by Sydney Mason; Empire, Shoreditch, Oct. 3.
Meg o' the Alley, sketch, by Herbert Darnley and Fred Kitchen; Euston Palace, Oct. 3.
The Faun, fantasy, by Dora Bright; Empire, Oct. 10.
A Lady at Large, farce, by Seymour Hicks, music by Frank Tours; King's Theatre, Southsea, Oct. 10.
Texas Jess, episode, by Gladys Hastings-Walton; Bedford, Oct. 10.
La Femme X. (second act), by Alexandre Bisson (Mme. Jane Hading); London Hippodrome, Oct. 10.
The Spendthrift, serio-comic domestic sketch; Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, Oct. 10.
The Gift, musical sketch, written by W. Lynne; Peckham Hippodrome, Oct. 10.
The Blacksmith, episode, by George Bruce; Foresters', Oct. 10.
Blind, dramatic sketch, adapted from L'Aveugle by Messrs. Ellem and P. Estock, by Edmund Maurice; Coliseum, Oct. 10.
A Lady at Large, farce by Seymour Hicks, music by Frank Tours; King's Theatre, Southsea, Oct. 10.
Nina, sketch, by T. M. Paul; Willesden Hippodrome, Oct. 17.
The Revolutionist, Russian episode, by H. D. Waxman; Foresters', Oct. 17.
The Cowboy Girl, playlet of Western life, by Sidney Blow and Douglas Hoare; King's, Southsea, Oct. 10; London Coliseum, Oct. 17.
Ojija, American Indian scena, by A. L. Hatzan; Granville, Oct. 17.
Bluebell, musical playlet, by Seymour Hicks, music by Walter Slaughter; Croydon Hippodrome, Oct. 17; London Hippodrome, Oct. 31.
Revolution, sketch; Hammersmith Palace, Oct. 17.
A Queen's Honour, romantic sketch, by Joan Pereira; Collins's, Oct. 17.
The Summing Up, dramatic incident, in one scene; Balham Hippodrome, Oct. 17.
Lydia and the Parson, sketch, by Archibald H. Pocock; Camberwell Empire, Oct. 17.
The Admiral Speaks, playlet, by Major W. P. Drury (Balaclava matinée); Alhambra, Oct. 22.
Her Ladyship's Guest, sketch, in one scene, by Harry M. Vernon; Coliseum, Oct. 24.
Dicky's Mother, sketch of human interest, in two scenes, adapted by Miss Dorothy Mullord from Miss Wylie's story, "The Other Woman"; Foresters', Oct. 24.
Fakeston Blacke, Detective, burlesque sketch on Sexton Blake, written and composed by Charles Kay; Camberwell Empire, Oct. 24.
A Soldier's Love Story, domestic military episode; Olympia, Liverpool, Oct. 27.
Fall In, Rookies! play, in two scenes, by Henry Arthur Jones; Alhambra, Oct. 24.
A Black Mark, farcical comedietta; Kilburn Empire, Oct. 24.
The Price of Peace, tabloid version of Drury Lane drama of same name, by Cecil Raleigh; Oxford, Oct. 31.
The Head of the House, musical playlet, in one scene, written and composed by Ernest Bucalossi; Hackney Empire, Oct. 31.
Papa's Consent, operatic absurdity, in one scene; Willesden Hippodrome, Oct. 31.
The Bill-poster, comedy burlesque, by Arthur Anderson, music by Heman Finck and Herbert Sargent; Palace Theatre, Oct. 31.

"PAPA'S CONSENT."

An Operatic Absurdity, in One Act, Produced by Stuart Alexander at the Willesden Hippodrome on Monday, Oct. 31.

Col. Benjamin Buzzar ..... MR. HARRINGTON WEEKES
Dora Buzzar ..... MISS MAUDE DAVIS
Mrs. Tobias Tuppleton ..... MISS ALMA
Fanny ..... MISS MADGE WHITE
Capt. Frank Gordon .... MR. STUART ALEXANDER

The scene is laid outside Col. Buzzar's bungalow in India, and the piece opens with a meeting between the Colonel's daughter, Dora, and Capt. Gordon, with whom she is in love. The Colonel has refused his consent to their marriage on account of the Captain's lack of means. In order to force such consent, the Captain hits upon a ruse, whereby the Colonel and a Mrs. Tobias Tuppleton shall be found together under circumstances which would cause the ridicule of the regiment to fall upon the Colonel were such circumstances to become generally known. The "trick" is arranged, and the Colonel receives a note (apparently from the widow) asking him to meet her outside the bungalow at midnight, and to give as a signal the barking of a dog. The widow also receives a note (apparently from the Colonel) requesting a similar meeting and giving a signal the mew of a cat. The meeting duly takes place, but Dora and the Captain are witnesses of the same, and behind the shelter of a friendly sheet extract a reluctant consent from the Colonel.

The characters are cleverly sustained throughout, special praise being due to Miss Alma (who reminds one very much of Miss Connie Ediss) as Mrs. Tuppleton, and Mr. Stuart Alexander as Captain Gordon.

The playlet is suggestive of potted comic opera, and several excellent numbers are rendered, including a duet, "What care we?" by Miss Maude Davis and Mr. Stuart Alexander; "Do you remember when I was a girl?" by Miss Alma; "My boy," a reminiscence, by Mr. Harrington Weekes; "My Star of Hope," a serenade, by Mr. Stuart Alexander; and a finale by the company, "All's well that ends well." Miss Madge White makes a very smart maid, and is a pretty dancer. The scenery and dresses are all that could be desired, and the piece should have a very successful run.

In addition to the foregoing playlet, a good vaudeville show is being presented this week, including, amongst others, Mr. Harry Champion, singing "Ginger, you're balmy"; Mr. Chas. R. Whittle, with "When the lights are low" and "Fall in and follow me"; Miss Madeline Rossiter, an amber beauty with an excellent manner and sweet-toned voice, an artist of whom more will be heard. Albert Wyndham is presenting a strong and well-acted historical sketch, entitled *Magna Charta*, and Mrs. John Lawson is presenting a striking moral play, *Sally in our Alley*.

Mr. Gibbons must be congratulated upon having put such a splendid programme before his audiences at Willesden this week. Mr. George R. Hatley is an unqualified success with the baton, and Mr. Lawrence F. Moloney is unstinting in his energies at the front of the house.

A STRONG programme at the London Hippodrome next week will include an entirely new act, provided by the beautiful and graceful Mlle. Simone de Beryl, who amid illuminated fountains will pose as "La Source."

THERE is no end to the attractions at Richmond Hippodrome. As we go to press a grand beauty show is being held. The nice point for the adjudicators to settle is, Who is the prettiest girl in Richmond? The management stipulate that competitors must not be under fourteen. The audience have a task both congenial and difficult, and local excitement runs high. Six prizes are offered. Mr. David C. James, the manager, states the booking has been phenomenal.

MR. W. F. FRAME, "the man from over the Border," appears next week at the Olympia, Liverpool. He is always welcome to the natives on the Mersey. "Hooch, aye; the man ye ken!"

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
April 3, May 1, 15, 22, 29, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 20, 27, March 13, 20, April 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Feb. 20, April 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
March 27, April 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Dec. 12, Jan. 2 Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 20, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Dec. 12, 19, Feb. 6, March 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for READING, Nov. 21;
WOLVERHAMPTON, Jan. 2.
Wire; MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
April 13 and 15,
April 17 (Easter),
May 11, 12, and 13 (3 nights),
and various dates onwards.
Also one or two season dates still vacant for recent London successes.
May be booked in conjunction with Hastings Pier.
Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Nov. 14, 21 (?), 28, Dec. 5,
Jan. 2, 16, 30, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives,
JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. WALLIS.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2 (?), 16, March 13.
WALLACE DAVIDSON, Globe Hotel, Bristol.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
The New Building, now rapidly nearing completion, will Open in December with a full and capable staff before and behind the curtain. Holding capacity at prices charged for West-End attractions, £36, exclusive of early doors.
Bookings include "The Cingalee," "Brewster's Millions," Mr. P. Hutchison's Company, Mr. Peter Davey's "Cinderella," Mr. F. Storey's "Aladdin," "What the Butler Saw," "The Fatal Wedding," and Castellano's Italian Opera.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and West-End Plays, Feb. 27, March 27, April 10, 24, and May, on. Mr. J. E. BULL (for the Proprietors), Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, Company, for first vacant date, Jan. 9, onward. Now booking Spring and Summer, 1911. Can also arrange for flying matinées.
C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre With a Smart Audience.
WANTED, London Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 16 (?), Feb. 20 (?), and a few later.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Nov. 21, Dec. 12 and 19, London;
Nov. 28, Dec. 4, 11, and 18, Newcastle;
Dec. 5, 19, Glasgow;
Dec. 12 and 19, Edinburgh.
ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 2 (3 nights), Feb. 2 (3 nights), Feb. 20, onwards. Wire, MACDONA.

WANTED, T. R., Margate, Nov. 21, 21, 21, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 31, and Season, 1911.
WEATHERSBY'S Agency 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Nov. 14, 28, and Xmas.
Wire, VERNON.

LINCOLN THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Light Attractions for Three Nights, Dec. 5 and 19.

CHESTERFIELD—CORPORATION THEATRE.
Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 9 and 16, Feb. 27, and on.

GAINSBOROUGH—KING'S THEATRE.
Vacant Dec. 8, 9, 10, and 19.

NEWARK—NEW THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 9 and 23, and on.

HAWICK—NEW THEATRE.
Wanted, Good Dramas, twice nightly, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 16 (?).

MECHANICS' HALL, DUMFRIES.
Wanted, Strong Attraction for the New Year week, Jan. 2.

LONDONDERRY—OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, good Twice-nightly Pantomime on a certainty, Easter.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Fahan, Co. Donegal.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 27, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales Holding capacity over 2,000. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "The Dairymaids," "Silver King," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland" "Merry Widow," "When Knights were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
BARRY ELECTRIC THEATRE DE LUXE.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

BOYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The premier theatre in the town.—Vide Press.
With a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business.
This week, Walter Howard's "The Boy King." First production after an enormously successful month's season in Manchester. Future bookings include: Mr. George Edwardes' own Company, in "The Merry Widow" (return), "Where is William?" Messrs. Paumier and Howard's Company in "Her Love Against the World," and Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," William Mollison's Company in "The Chorus Lady," Robert Courtneidge's Company, "The Arcadians," Mr. George Dance's Company, "Our Miss Gibbs," Mr. George Edwardes's "The Dollar Princess," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Dec. 5, 12, 19, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 5, 26, and Pantomime for Jan. 15.
HUGH ROBERTSON,
T. R., Jarrow.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHMIN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov 28 (?), Jan. 2, 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," &c. Re dates, JAY and MANN, 1021, Jermyn-street, S.W.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Perfectly Appointed, both before and behind the Curtain, and with a Full and Competent Staff. Can Stage any Production.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, only. Full Capacity Business Nearly Every Week.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq.,
Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits), Miss Annie Hughes, C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911. Dates fast filling.
No Vacancies this Year.
Address, Managers.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.,
SCOTLAND'S
PREMIER DRAMA THEATRE.
WANTED, Wanted, Attractions, various 1911-12.
Last week, "A Royal Divorce," close on £500.
This week, Hill-Mitchelson's success, "King and Unknown Woman."
Bookings include the majority of the leading Drama managements.
Coms., ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19 (3 or 6 nights).
W. E. POTTS.

HARROGATE
and
SCARBOROUGH
GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, the Best of Companies, Nov. 21, 22, 23, Harrogate, Dec. 5, three nights each town. These two Theatres can now be booked in conjunction, three or six nights each town.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Harrogate.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 5, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, 13, 27.
JAMES BELL.

GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or Drama, Nov. 24, 25, 26, 1910, Jan. 26, 27, 28, March 16, 17, 18, March 30, 31, April 1, April 27, 28, 29, 1911, and onwards. Wire or write,
D. JONES, Proprietor.

NEW THEATRE, FERNDALE.
WANTED, Strong Drama for Dec. 12, week, Jan. 23, 24, 25 (3), Feb. 13, 14 15 (3), March 6, on. Now booking Autumn, 1911. Booked by the best dramas on the road. Apply, D. WILLIAMS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales T., Salford, First-class Co. for Dec. 12, also Jan. 9, 16, and 23, for good Panto. E. B. GOULDEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 21, Dec. 12.
Apply, J. ALBAN NEWTON.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, for Musical or other High-class Attraction.
Wire,
WM. MORTON.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 5.
Address, R. G. ELDER, General-Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant, March 13, 27 (?), May 29.
Also Autumn, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant, Jan. 16, Feb. 20 (?), 27(?), March 20 (?) April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant, April 10, 17 (?), May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant, Dec. 5 (?), Feb. 13 (?), 20, 27, March 13 (?), 20, April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Dec. 5 (3 nights with Folkestone), Jan. 30 (?), Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 6, 27, March 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Nov. 28, Dec. 8 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 23, Jan. 23, Feb. 4, 27.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH
Vacant Nov. 14 (3), Dec. 1 (3), Jan. 23, Feb. 13 (?), 20, March 2 (3), 6, 20.
Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
AYR, Dec. 12 and 26.
LEITH, Dec. 19 and 26.
FALKIRK, Dec. 19 (3 nights);
MOTHERWELL, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and 26;
and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 27, May 22, June 26, onwards, with exceptions. Re dates address,
C. F. WATSON.

WANTED, Something Good, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 30, on, Grand, Chorley; also Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 23 on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply SHERWOOD & Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

HAGGAR'S THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Proprietor, W. HAGGAR, sen.
Good shows, good business.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Comedies, also a really Good Panto. Vacant dates, terms, &c., JAS. HAGGAR, Manager.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, this New Theatre will Open in December next, and will be one of the most up-to-date. Building 2500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter-mile radius; all trams pass the door; also within five minutes' walk from the Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra. Now open to book first-class Attractions for Autumn, 1911, and onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 12, 26 (Xmas week). Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 21.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for weeks of Nov. 21 and Dec. 5. Theatre holds £60 at popular prices; large stage. This theatre is worked on sound business lines by a thoroughly experienced management. Apply, JOHN WATERS, Royal Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, First-class Company for Xmas, play twice nightly. State lowest, certainty.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE,
LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Companies, for 1911, July, Aug., Sept., First-class Attractions only.
Write, MANAGER.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES, GAINSBOROUGH.
The New Place.
WANTED, Good Attractions. This Theatre is situated in the heart of the town. Good stage, scenery, dressing-rooms, and fittings, with Circle and Promenade; holds 1,000.
Address all communications, JOHN R. FOX, as above. Telephone No. 70.
Note.—The local people say they like it.

WANTED, Companies, Nov. 28, and on, vacant Christmas Pantomime or Musical Comedy.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, Big Attractions, for Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, 23. Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attraction, Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, May 8, and on, with exceptions.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES, Grand T., Derby.

WANTED, Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 19.
Dec. 19.
COUPER, Star Theatre, Swansea.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is visited by all the Best Companies. No Vacant Dates this year. A few Dates in Spring and Autumn, 1911. First-class Companies Only.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only vacant dates, Dec. 5, Feb. 13, on, with exceptions.
Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantomimes, Musical Comedies, and Light Opera, for Vacant dates at St. John's Hall, Penzance, in mid-Dec., Jan., and Feb.; sharing terms. Apply to A. J. ROGERS and SON, Theatrical and Concert Agents, c/o St. John's Hall, Penzance.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 14, three nights, Ipswich;
Dec. 1, three nights, Ipswich;
Dec. 5, three nights, Eastbourne;
Dec. 8, three nights, Folkestone.
For other dates see Advertisement.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Monday, Dec. 5 (unexpectedly vacant through termination of Tour). Address, WORSWICK.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Company, Nov. 28 (3 or 4 nights).
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Resident-Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON, NEAR NEWBIGGIN-BY-SEA.
Sole Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR C. MOODY.
Resident-Manager, T. CAMPBELL BROWNE.
The most comfortable theatre in the North of England. Holding capacity, 2,500.
One of the largest circles outside London fitted with Tip-up Chairs.
Superb Plant of Electric Lighting.
A Modern Theatre.
This Theatre caters for a population of 50,000 people. Enormous Success. Enormous Success.
Under New Management.
Record Business. Record Business.
Please Note.
This is not a three-night town.
This is not a three-night town.
This is not a three-night town.
This is not a three-night town.
This is not a three-night town.
This is not a three-night town.
Refer J. W. Turner, who visited this Theatre for three nights and was delighted to give a return date for six nights.
This is one of the best six-night dates in the North.
This is one of the best six-night dates in the North.
This is one of the best six-night dates in the North.
This is one of the best six-night dates in the North.
This is a Theatre where business is done.
Refer J. W. Turner, Esq., W. W. Kelly, Esq., Henry L. Osmond, Esq., Harry Armitage, Esq., Arthur Leigh, Esq., Martin Comstock, Esq., Harry Foxwell, Esq. Bookings include Mr. George Edwardes's "Merry Widow," Mr. J. W. Turner's Opera Company (return), Mr. Haldane Crichton's "Cingalee," Paumier and Howard's "Prince and Beggar Maid," "Proof," Draycott's Répertoire Pantos., Charles Emerton's "Sinbad the Sailor" (two weeks), Arthur Carlton's "Puss in Boots," "Bad Girl of the Family," "Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," "His Indian Wife," &c.
WANTED, Very Big Attraction, Wanted, Very Big Attraction, Dec. 12, 1910. Wanted, three Good Up-to-date Pantomimes, for good dates. Musical Comedies, Musical Comedies, wanted, for Good Spring Dates.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Only fully licensed theatre in the district, which comprises Seacombe, Egremont, Poulton, New Brighton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 7, 8 (three nights), Feb. 13, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17. Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
One of the most Charming Theatres in the Provinces. The only Theatre in the Town.
WANTED First-class Companies only, Easter, Whit Week, and intermediate dates, onwards. Address, CHAS. JULIAN.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Burlesques, for Clydebank's only Theatre. Lowest terms.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Attractions for Xmas, Jan. 23, 30, for Panto., Feb. 6, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, Jan. 2, 16, on. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Derby, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own scenery and good printing, twice nightly, Nov. 21, on; must state lowest, share or certainty. T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Nov. 21. Wire,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and Xmas. Good Panto write. Musical Shows and Farcical Comedy do well.
Write, CHARLES BOULT, Winter Gardens, Bootle.

THE OXFORD HIPPODROME, COWLEY-ROAD, OXFORD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Variety Companies, Nov. 14, on; also First-class Pantomime, for Xmas (four weeks).
GEO. STRANGE, Resident-Manager.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WALTER MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"THE SINS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, March 6, various.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Jan. 30, for
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, for
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London.

"BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
WANTED, Dec. 5 and 26, Jan. 2, and on.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5.
Address, FREDERICK MELVILLE, Aldwych T., W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Nov. 14. Wires, to-day, DOUGLAS BRUCE, 46, Liverpool-st., Salford; next week, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Can arrange for Vacancies as under:—
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 20. Certainty only.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 20. Certainty only.
"RED RIDING HOOD," March 13. Certainty only.
WANTED, Application, for above Magnificent Productions, once or twice nightly. All foregoing dates booked. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 12½, Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of
Jan. 23 and 30.
(North preferred).
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Established 1891.
CHARLES HARRINGTON'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" CO.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 9 (three nights), March 9 (3 nights, South).
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 26, once or twice nightly.
Excellent business all the year round.
Feb., Belfast, £180 18s., third visit;
June, Perth, £131 14s. 9d.; ditto, Stoke, £151 14s. 9d.
Refer Mr. Warden, Mr. Poole, Mr. Macnaghten.
Wire or write,
LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
by
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
Produced on Monday, Oct. 31, at the
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.
The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.
The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.
The Huge Audience
The Huge Audience
Held from the
Held from the
Rise to Fall of Curtain.
Rise to Fall of Curtain.
A CERTAIN FORTUNE.
A CERTAIN FORTUNE.
A CERTAIN FORTUNE.
ANOTHER "SILVER KING."
ANOTHER "SILVER KING."
ANOTHER "SILVER KING."
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
as
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.
A
Revelation in Acting.
Revelation in Acting.
Revelation in Acting.
A Wonderful Creation.
A Wonderful Creation.
A Wonderful Creation.

The Leicester Daily Mail, Nov. 1, says:—

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

Local lovers of good, wholesome drama who were at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, last night were decidedly fortunate to have the opportunity of witnessing the first performance of "The Ruin of Her Life." . . . . and the large audience which filled the auditorium, both in the popular parts and in the circle, showed, by its appreciation, that a really good work has been put on to the boards. "The Ruin of Her Life" possesses to the fullest extent those essential factors without which no drama can possibly hope for a
LONG AND SUCCESSFUL RUN.
The play is from the pen of that well-known writer of drama, Mrs. Morton Powell, who has
ECLIPSED ALL HER PREVIOUS EFFORTS.
It is well balanced, all the scenes are carefully laid, there is no overlapping or a superabundance of material which so often mars the success of a drama; it constitutes a skein of intensely exciting episodes which grip the attention of the audience from
THE RISE TO THE FALL OF THE CURTAIN.
Perhaps the greatest feature of "The Ruin of Her Life" is that all-important fact that it centres round a delightful theme, and points out in a realistic manner much of the seamy side of child-life by exposing the many horrors and dangers which beset juveniles in the hands of unscrupulous people of the Father Fagin type. . . . One can imagine the tremendous possibilities of such a theme, especially when in the hands of a talented company, as that convened by Mrs. Charles Sugden. . . . .
THE AUDIENCE ARE HELD SPELLBOUND, the play was splendidly acted, and everything went off without the slightest hitch. Of course, the premier honours go to Mrs. Sugden in the part of Mary Macair, which was specially written for her by Mrs. Morton Powell. It is a triple rôle, and whether as the ticket-of-leave woman, Lady Selwyn, or a drunken hag, Mrs. Sugden acts with all customary skill. Upon the success of these characters the play hangs, and the heroine of "Zaza" and many other famous plays rises to all the demands placed upon her.

"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
by
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
Packing the Theatre to Suffocation.
Packing the Theatre to Suffocation.
Once in twenty years we get a great Drama.
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE"
is such an one.
Will draw the Public,
Will Pack the Theatre,
Will be the
GREATEST SUCCESS OF THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.
Managers cordially invited to witness this Play.
Nov. 7, Colosseum, Oldham.
Nov. 14, Queen's, Manchester.
Vacant dates:
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, 23.
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"THE BETTER LAND."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE,"
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 26.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.
Address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wire, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Return Visits Everywhere and Bigger Business.
Please refer:—
Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds;
Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield;
Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland;
Harris Fineberg, Esq., Star T., Liverpool;
W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead;
J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull;
J. Batty, Esq., Grand T., Stockton-on-Tees;
Stanley Rogers, Esq., T. R., North Shields;
J. Bell, Esq., T. R., Darlington, &c., &c.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Vacant Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Address,
A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Wires, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

FRED. GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
"A HOT NIGHT."
The most successful "Provincial" Musical Comedy ever produced.
Gorgeously mounted and dressed.
Playing to Enormous Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Wanted, Nov. 14. Nov. 14.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
Also Vacant, Nov. 28.
Address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Pagoda," Liverpool.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Theatres, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Dec. 26, New Year, also Spring, 1911. BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Christmas, on, with Exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Opera House, Workington.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Nov. 28.
Wire, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
To-day, Grand, Plymouth; next, Empire, Oldham.

MESSRS. KING AND CLARKE'S COMPANY
in
"OUR FLAT."

MR. H. C. LLOYD & ELIZABETH DEXTER'S COMPANY in
"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
1911 TOURS.
WANTED, No. 2 Theatre in the South and Midlands, from Christmas, on; Seaside Towns, July, August, and September; and Northern Theatres, October and November, 1911.
The two companies can be arranged for three nights each in six-night towns, and two and one nights respectively in three-night towns.
Address re Dates,
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Dingleburn, Fahan, Co. Donegal.
All other communications to the Managements.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Xmas Week, Xmas Week, Jan. 2 and 9.
Letters, WILSON BENGE,
Moorlands, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

"RED RIDING HOOD."
WANTED, Dec. 19 (twice nightly), in or near London.
EDWARD MARRIS, 39, Prince's-Place, W.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Spring Dates for Above; also July, onwards.
EDWARD MARRIS, 1, Douglas-house, Maida Hill, W.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, now booking Spring and Autumn, 1911. Apply, JOHN E. WATSON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.C.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Nov. 28, between Oldham and Chesterfield.
HORACE STANLEY, to-day, Tivoli, Pentre; next, Grand, Walsall.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, to follow Oldham, Portsmouth, and Stratford.
Wire, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN.
To-day, Grand, Plymouth; next, Empire, Oldham.

"MOTHER."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 19, 26.
A clear stage only required.
HARRY FOXWELL, 230, Central-drive, Blackpool.

Mr. GEORGE D. DAY'S COMPANY,
in
"THE WILL OF ALLAH,"
by Lewis T. Dalrymple.
and
"THE ARABIAN NIGHTS,"
by Sydney Grundy.
WANTED, Easter Monday, and on, with exceptions.
GEORGE D. DAY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Dec. 5, 12, 26, Feb. 27, March 27, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, Feb. 13.
EDWARD LLOYD, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, March 20, April 17 (?), Aug. 7, and on.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
Enthusiastic and profitable visits everywhere.
Fourteen Artists, Three Tons of Scenery.
A healthy, romantic drama.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, O. H., Londonderry.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 23, March 20, 27.
Only Vacant Dates till Whit.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Metropole, Devonport.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Nov. 14, Nov. 14. Wanted, Nov. 14, Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
Good Band to Parade.
"HER SECRET LOVER."
Wanted, Feb. 6, 13, Feb. 6, 13.
Doing excellent business; refer, refer.
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
Feb. 13, Feb. 13, Feb. 13, Feb. 13.
Only vacant date until Autumn, 1911.
Guaranteed one of the finest mounted plays on the road. Booking 1912. Wire for these money-makers to F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

KIMBERLEYS' GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Xmas, Xmas, Xmas, Jan. 2, 9, and 16,
for this remarkable success. Magnificently mounted and played. Refer Mr. Batty this week, Grand, Stockton, or any management visited.
Re dates, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton; All other coms., GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Company,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
Panto. Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 20.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Nov. 7, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5, Jan. 3, 9, 16, 23, Feb. 13 and March 13.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Lyric T., Liverpool.

Important to Theatre Managers.
The Great Oriental Pantomime
"ALADDIN."
Undoubtedly the finest show on the road.
WANTED, the following dates: Jan. 16 (?), 23 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27, March 13. Wire best offers (Share or Certainty) to F. CULL PITT, Empire, Wolverhampton.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
No vacant dates till Spring.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Palace Theatre, Tynemouth.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'
GRAND PRODUCTION,
"RED RIDING HOOD,"
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Theatres, Xmas, and onward.
"Warwick House," 8, Warwick-court, W.C.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, Feb. 20, March 27, and April 3.
Address,
FRANK M. THORNE, P. O. W. Theatre, Nuncaton.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
The "Premier" Domestic Drama.
WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Nov. 21, 28.
HARRY TILBURY,
This, Londonderry; next, R., Belfast.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 31, "Sherlock Holmes." Address, CHAS. E. SUTTON, Theatre, Wrexham. Nov. 10, Star, Liverpool.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 28, Nov. 28 Xmas, and on, with exceptions.
Strong cast, including Maitland Marler as Capt. Barley. Entire Production travelled.
ARTHUR SHELTON, O. H., Torquay.

The Great Money-maker.
"HIS REAL WIFE."
Playing to packed business.
Booking returns at the best theatres.
WANTED, through obliging, Nov. 14, Nov. 14, Nov. 14, also Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, T. E. WARD, Empire, Southend.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
Vacant 3 nights, Nov 24, 25, 26, Nov. 28, and Dec. 26.
WANTED, 1911, Jan. 23, Feb. 6 and 20, March 13 and 20, April 10 and 17.
Only Vacant Dates.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, East Theatre, Oxford.

MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL'S COMPANIES.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE"
and
"THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION."
By Cecil Newton.
WANTED, for "The Hour of Temptation," Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 26 (to follow T. R., Stratford).
Fast Booking Spring. Wire, wire.
FLORENCE TYRRELL,
Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

C. AND F. RENAD'S
New Musical Comedy.
"THE MERRY TERRITORIAL."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for week of Nov. 28.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Theatre R., Worthing.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Dec. 5, through Alex., Belfast, not being completed, also Jan. 16.
GEO. A. DE GRAY, Oct. 31, Empire Theatre, Hyde.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Admitted to be one of the Biggest Moneymakers Touring.
MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" CO.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Nov. 14. Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
Also through misunderstanding,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Jan. 2, Jan. 2, Jan. 2.
Jan. 2, Jan. 2, Jan. 2.
LEWIS GILBERT,
Opera House, Dudley.

WANTED, Feb. 6, March 6, Easter, Sept. 11, for Mr. Oswald Cray's Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rozerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell.)
Also the Romantic Military Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
and the Play from Charles Dickens's Famous Novel,
"THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD."
Now playing to record business everywhere.
OSWALD CRAY, Palace Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

THEATRES WANTED.

"EAST LYNNE."
MR. TOM WATT, having failed to arrange terms with the Lessor of the Bullock Version for the future, is now in a position to offer to Managers a
SPLENDID UP-TO-DATE VERSION
of the above Play, with
ENTIRELY NEW, CLEAN COMEDY SCENES, by a WELL-KNOWN LONDON AUTHOR.
Sparkling with fun and merriment, well calculated to take the place of more ancient material. The copyright portions have been eliminated, and the new scenes are ingeniously interwoven with the actual story, and not tacked on.
Mr. Tom Watt will still continue to personally conduct the Tour, and will maintain the same excellent company which played to £382 at Leeds and Bradford during the last fortnight, and which has
BEATEN RECORDS ALL ALONG THE LINE,
and has been on the road since Jan. 31, 1910.
Special engagement of Mr. WALTER DALE.
Nov. 7, Pavilion Theatre, Abertillery.
Returning to Dublin by special request.
WANTED, Theatres, for the only two Vacant Dates this year,
Nov. 21, 21, 21, 21, 21.
Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26.
Also for Jan. 2, 1911, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire or write,
TOM WATT,
5, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, London, W.C.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO."
WANTED, Nov. 21 (North or Midlands), Nov. 28 (Midlands or South), for this sure draw. The survival of the fittest. Sixth year. "Sapho" can be played, if required, with one répertoire of eight plays. ERNEST R. ABBOT, Theatre, Paisley.

MISS IDA MILLAIS'S "NO MAN'S LAND" CO.
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21.
HENRY HERNE, to-day, Queen's Theatre, Leeds; next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"SEND HIM VICTORIOUS."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Nov. 28.
Wire, MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
To-day, Grand, Plymouth; next, Empire, Oldham.

Mr. and Mrs. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Money turned away at the Alex., Birmingham, last Saturday. A Genuine Success.
Booked by D. Barnard for Elephant and Wentworth Croke for Lyric.
Selected after witnessing the performance by Wm. Morton, Esq., as his New Year's Attraction.
Re-booked at Alex., Birmingham.
Will Jackson, Esq., Stoke, says:
One of the best played, mounted, dressed, and Brightest Shows he's seen.
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, and Easter.
HARRY LYNDON,
Hippodrome, Stoke;
next, Grand, Plymouth.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN
Present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Jan. 23 and 30, Feb. 20, 27 (3 nights, precede Grantham), March 6 and 20,
April 24, Whit, various later.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco,
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Wire or write,
ARTHUR HINTON,
To-day, Yarmouth; Monday, Lowestoft.

TRAVIS GREEN AND ARTHUR HINTON'S CO.
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
A Beautiful, Romantic Red Indian Play, by Miss Emma Litchfield.
The greatest dramatic success touring. Refer anywhere. Breaking records in all theatres, in most cases doubling the average drama takings.
WANTED, for Xmas Week, large Theatre only, sharing terms; also Jan. 23, Feb. 13, April, onwards. Autumn, 1911, nearly full. P.S.—This attraction packs any theatre, large or small.
Wire or write, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Good Theatres for Musical Comedy, "The Gay River." Bobbie Allandale, Horace Jones, and full company. Vacant Nov. 14, 21, 28.
Wire, CHARLES BOULT, Winter Gardens, Bootle.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for "Alice in Wonderland," Savoy Theatre,
Girl, age 14 to 16,
with exceptional Soprano Voice.
STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-st., Oxford-st., W.

WANTED, Girls, age 15-17, for Savoy Theatre;
first-class voices and appearance essential.
Apply, STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-st., Oxford-st., W.

WANTED, Boys, Wanted, Boys.
BOYS for the Savoy Theatre, age 12-14, must have good singing voices;
BOYS also girls 14-16; good salary paid.
BOYS Apply,
BOYS STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-st., Oxford-street, W.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Acknowledged Star Juvenile Leading Lady, must be young, have power and pathos, and be well known.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
WANTED, Young Juvenile Lady for the part of Ethel Smedley. Latest Photographs and last two references. Silence polite negative. Rehearse Nov. 21.
ARTHUR SHELTON, O. H., Torquay.

WANTED, a Clever Young Singing Juvenile Lady, not more than 18 years of age, pretty, good singing voice, for High-class Sketch.
Letters only,
MANAGER, 52, West-square, S.E.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to Understudy and Play Small Parts. Apply (appointments arranged), SMITH-NEILL, Crystal Palace Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, Actor, look 20, also Juvenile Lady and Lady to play Duchess. Particulars, photo, LEONARD ROBSON, Theatre, Folkestone.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
"A HOT NIGHT" CO.
WANTED, smart, tall, Juvenile Light Comedy Gentleman, Tenor. Photos., terms, refs., &c., to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Heavy Lead, Light Comedy Man, also Young Lady, smart and attractive, to join Music Hall Artist in Sketch. Letter only. H. R., 150, Lambeth-ter., Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Society Plays, Light Comedy and Heavy Gentlemen. Few pretty Ladies for parts. ALEXANDER, 9, Francis-avenue, Southsea, Hants.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
WANTED, Gentlemanly Juvenile Light Comedian, for five weeks; rehearse Tuesday Tynemouth; dress well, not less than 5ft. 9in. ERNEST E. NORRIS, Palace Theatre, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Comedian (Low), also Robust Military Colonel. All particulars, photos., references, terms. HUBERT HELLIWELL, Somerleyton, Holyhead-road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Proposed New Combination, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, and Bass, who can each play an instrument; must be good in both lines. Full particulars, lowest salary, and height to Box 8,465, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

SOUTH AFRICA.
LEONARD RAYNE and FREDK. MOUILLOT present
ALFRED PAUMIER AND COMPANY in
WALTER HOWARD'S PLAYS.

WANTED, to sail Jan., a young prepossessing Lady, for Juveniles and to understudy, capable of Ingénue and Chambermaid, must be 5ft. 4½in. to 5ft. 5in. (without shoes), and not more than 25 years of age. State terms, exact height (without shoes), references, this and next week's addresses, &c., photos. required. Address, ALFRED PAUMIER, c/o Leonard Rayne, Portugal House, Portugal-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Clever Boy Actor; education essential, over 14, about 5ft. in height. Photos., letters only, MULLORD, 27, Gloucester-street, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, Stock, One-hour Dramas, rehearse immediately, open here Nov. 14. Particulars, lowest, COLEMAN DAVIES, Theatre, Hetton-le-Hole, Co Durham.

WANTED, for Xmas, Ladies and Gentlemen, used West-End Comedies. Photos., parts played, terms, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for London Musical Comedy and Music Halls; also Tenors and Basses, for Chorus. Write for an appointment. DAVIES and ADAMS, 18, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, six Young Ladies, to speak a few lines from the audience; only those from the surrounding districts from Birmingham need apply.
FRED GREAVES,
Stage Door, 12 o'clock, Hippodrome, Aston.

WANTED, an Artistic Young Lady, to join Entertainer (at the piano), for High-class Duo, must be good vocalist, musical, and have good stage presence. Age and particulars, in full confidence. Box 8,449, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, to join Troupe (good pay), Juvenile Lady Pianist with good voice; also Lady with good voice and knowledge of dancing. Write, with photo, to 119, The Grove, Ealing, London, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nina Hope, the distinguished Girl Tragedienne. Youth, Beauty, Talent. 20, Henslowe-road, East Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Allen Hope, Girl Operatic and Speciality Dancer; youth, beauty, talent. 20, Henslowe-road, East Dulwich.

WANTED, Vocalists, Singing Lessons. Is your voice worth training? Professor Louis Cottell has 27 years' experience preparing amateurs for engagements, and only receives pupils he can benefit. Consultation free. Send post card for appointment. 85, St. Paul's-road, Highbury.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, Amateurs and Beginners, successfully trained for Musical Comedy, Music Halls, and Concerts; Songs written, Band Parts arranged; Specialist in rapid voice production; everything for the Stage supplied. First-class introductions and appearances guaranteed. Write, FRANK DOBELL,
152, Hamlet-gardens, Ravenscourt Park,
Chiswick, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Pantomime, First-class Conductor, Carpenter, Baggage Man, and very good Second Boy and Girl.
Apply, with terms, age, and references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD., PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boy for Aladdin,
Good Comedian for Abanazar,
Principal Boy and Girl,
Dame, Ruffians,
Baron, Demon King, and
Pair Juveniles for Babes.
Also Two First-class Conductors and Producer. Terms, refs., photos, perm. address, and where can be seen working during next three weeks, to

A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD. PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, 100 Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 6in. in height. Personal applications each morning between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Photos., &c., to A. R. FEATHER,
Hayes and Sons, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Recognised Principal Girl of Repute, for Alice, in "Dick Whittington," also Fitzwarren and Demon King.
Address, stating terms, references, and full particulars to JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MR. & MRS. JOHN WALTERS' PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, to complete company, for First-class Lancashire Theatre, three weeks' production, and good tour (fully booked) to follow, Principal Boy for Prince in "Cinderella," First Sister, pair of good Knockabout Comedians, and a Reliable Stage Manager. Vacancies for a few chorus and ballet ladies, young and refined. JOHN WALTERS, 34, Northumberland-av., Gynn Estate, Blackpool.

DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
A First-class Comedian, with reputation for a Star part,
Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 8in.
References, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, good Pair Knockabout Comedians, for Robbers "Babes"; also Chorus Ladies. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, "Dick Whittington." Only those who can arrange interview in London need communicate. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photo., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

Dancers and Chorus Ladies.
WANTED, for Pantomime.
State experience, age, height, and terms; also enclose Photograph.
JOHN TILLER & Co.,
15 Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, to Tour, Useless unless tall.
Call, WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

WANTED, Smart Dancers and Vocalist, for Panto. and Previous Tour; ages 14 to 24. CARTER, 40, Fitzwilliam-road, Clapham Common, London.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell, at Liberty for Panto., Principal Boy or Special Part. Offers invited. 218, Stockwell-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Panto., by Adele Roze, Principal Boy or Girl, recognised genuine success as same seven successive seasons. Thanks Managers for offers. Address, 11, Gower-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Georgina Leonard, Burlesque Actress, vacant for Principal Boy or Special Singing Part, five years with Milton Bode's Panto. 125, Withington-lane, New Springs, Wigan, Lancs.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Mlle. Cordelia, the Chameleon Sylph. Vacant Panto., in her beautiful Electrical Transformation Dances. A sure success. C. FREDRICKS, S. Parade-pier, Southsea.

WANTED, Known, a Comedian who is funny at Liberty for Panto. or Sketch, any quaint part. Write, Box 8,446, "The Era."

WANTED, Pantomime, by Charles Kay (Palace London, Syndicate Halls, Stoll Tour), Baron, Emperor, Sister, height 6ft. 2½in.; highest references. Fine stage appearance, excellent delivery.—The Era, 29/10/10.
Offers, 10, Gassiot-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, that Phil Terris is not the name of a street or avenue. Phil Terris is a Patter Comedian, whose patter and voice is kosher. Vacant for pantomime, any funny part. Come and see me when I'm not looking.
Monday, Empire, Wigan;
Pontefract and Morley to follow.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Ello, Dame, Comedian, and Dancer. Last five seasons with John Tiller, Esq. Monday, O. H., Radcliffe.

WANTED, Pantomime, Harry Kirk, Comedian, Baron, Dame, or any good part. Engagements Drury Lane, Shakespeare, Liverpool, Grand, Nottingham, Grand, Newcastle. Address, KING, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Maxford and O'Neil (Dan and Harry), vacant Panto., any parts.
Coms., DAN MAXFORD, 58, Guelph-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at Liberty for Pantomime, Bob Pender's Little Dandies,
One of the Greatest Juvenile Acts now on the Stage, including Little Doris Pender, the Graceful Little Danseuse. A Sure Hit for any Pantomime. Five Boys and one Girl.
Address, 1, St. George's-mansions,
St. George's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, through misunderstanding, Bob Pender's Troupe of
Comedy Giants (No. 2 Company),
which made such a hit at Drury Lane, and seven years with Howard and Wyndham, and are performing with Marinelli's Revue at Olympia, Paris, till Dec. 5, with Great Success, are at Liberty for Christmas, also Animal and Small Parts. Sure Success for any Pantomime.
Wire at once, BOB PENDER,
1, St. George's-mans., St. George's-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, for Troupe of Juveniles; also Quartette of Dancers. For particulars, ERNESTINE, 13, Pollitt-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement, for Quartette, pretty dresses, smart dances, electric effects Offers to MANAGER, 191, Claremont-road, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Manager (Panto.) has vacancy for lady desiring introduction to the Stage. State age and height and send photo. to MONS. HENRI LEON, Empire Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, good Ballet Mistress. Lowest terms, age, photograph, names and addresses, last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, T. R., Worcester. Mark envelopes "Ballet."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS.
WANTED, Estimate for Painting Pantomime, also for Retouching others.
Apply, Box 8,457, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconi, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work Guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase Largest stock in London. Estimates. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, with High London and Provincial references, Engagement for Production or Permanency. ARTIST, 31, Oxford-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Stage Manager; able to Produce Big Pantomime, must have had good experience of big productions,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Acting Manager, capable of playing Small Part, to take full charge, must be energetic, steady, and capable of booming. Also First-class Juvenile Leading Actor of acknowledged ability. Must have good appearance, voice, and capable of robust, dashing Juvenile Lead. Terms, references.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Manager, for Picture Theatre, with Short Turns. State age, references, &c., guarantees. Box 8,460, "The Era."

WANTED, good hard working Resident Manager. Send age, lowest terms, references, Box 8,443, "The Era."

NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON.
WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager; must be good Shorthand and Typewriter; also First-class Electrican. Terms and references, CLARENCE SOUNES.

WANTED, smart Man, for Film Hiring, one that can take complete control of a large business; only those with first-class references and experience need apply.
Box 8,471, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gent, to Learn Duties of Acting-Management and play Small Part, with Well-known Musical Comedy Tour. Duties will be taught. Salary from commencement. Premium £10. Age, photo., and full particulars, to Box 8,470, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, First-class District Working Agent and Bill Inspector of good address and smart appearance, to advertise good Dramatic Entertainment among all classes; able to interview Gentry for Patronages, &c.; not above working with handbills and circular. Must be strictly sober, steady, and attentive to business. Salary and commission. References, terms, and recent photo. in first letter to Mrs. POULTON, Star Theatre, Falmouth, Cornwall.

WANTED, Agent-in-Advance, for few weeks. Particulars and references (last two engagements), SMITH-NEILL, Crystal Palace Theatre, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Electrican; used to and experienced in all Theatrical work, capable doing all repairs, and working Bioscope; sobriety indispensable. Last three references (to be applied for), age, and absolute lowest terms, C. FINCH-HATTON, Palace Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Carpenter, to take charge of large Production; must be Bench Hand.
Lowest terms and references,
C. W. J. East's Boat-house, Reading.

WANTED, Bill Inspector; might arrange for Wife as Cleaner. Terms, photo., age, addresses last two references, A. CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Billposter, All-round Hand. Permanent.
State Wages, &c., SHAKSPERE SHENTON, Cheltenham.

WANTED, good Wardrobe Mistress, used to Pantomime. Age, photo, terms, names and addresses last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester. Mark envelopes "Wardrobe."

WANTED, Known, First-class Manager, at Liberty, Resident or Tour, Dramatic or Variety; thoroughly experienced; young, smart, energetic; highest credentials. Moderate salary. Box 8,467, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known West End Music Hall Manager, a similar position in a Music Hall or Electric Theatre.
E., 167, Highbury New-park, N.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Scotland's Popular Manager, 20 years' experience, for Pictures, Rinks, Variety, and General Amusements. Wire, SANDILANDS, Manager, Zoo, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager for Picture Theatre, have successfully managed five 's for one firm; salary £3. Write, ENTERPRISE, c/o 60, Arundel-street, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Young Gentleman, just concluded 14 weeks as Business Manager, is vacant to accept similar post; first-class references, &c. Write, H., 17, St. George's-square, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, by Youth, Situation as Assistant or Dresser, gentlemanly appearance, first-class references, steady, and willing. PATON, 8, Clarendon-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Carpenter, Practical. First-class reference, resident or tour, G. B. HUGHES, 29, Teneriffe-st., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Dec. 5, Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools, excellent references, Resident or Tour. J. CHARLTON, this, Royal, Leicester; next, Clarence, Pontypridd.

WANTED, by Mrs. Steve Cooke, Wardrobe Attendant, or Dresser; thoroughly experienced, would travel. 52, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay, N.

WANTED, by Middle-aged Woman as Dresser, make herself generally useful; good taste, speaking French. 522, High-st. North, Manor Park.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Daisy Thomson, as Companion, well educated, willing, obliging, small salary. Particulars, C/o HART, 138, Park-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Position in Theatre or Theatrical Office; First-class Theatrical experience; Shorthand-typist, good Musician.
Box 8,464, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady (widow) as Useful Companion, Amanuensis, or in any light capacity; bright, some experience in nursing, fond animals; good refs. Mrs. SHRUBSOLE, 172, Castle-road, Bedford

WANTED, Known, Working Housekeeper, thoroughly domesticated, good cook, capable of taking entire charge. Highest of references. 18, Jeffreys-road, Clapham, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

EDWARD MARRIS' PANTOS.
WANTED, First-class Musical Director (Pianist).
EDWARD MARRIS, 39, Prince's-place, W.

WANTED, Conductor, for Musical Show, on Tour. State salary. One combining vocal instructor preferred. Box 8,440, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Leader, for Opera House, Southport, must be well up in Standard Orchestral works; permanency to suitable man. Apply, HENRY S. FEILER, Musical-Director, Opera House, Southport.

WANTED, First-class Leader; open next Sunday. Wire terms,
CONDUCTOR, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. BLACK, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Lady Violinist (Leader); also 'Cellist for Hotel Work. State experience and terms to live in. Box 8,455, "The Era."

WANTED, Brilliant Violinist for Picture Theatre. Must be able to conduct small orchestra if necessary. Apply, with references, photo, and lowest terms, J. R. POOLE, 146, Westgate-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, for Staff Band, on South Coast.
Good standing engagements.
Apply,
Mr. A. F. HAWKINS, 58, Oxford-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Violinist, Brilliant Player, Soloist, thoroughly experienced in selection and extract work, also 'cello, bass, pianist, good salary; must have first-class references. Box 8,465, "The Era."

WANTED, for Nov. 28, two First Violins, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, and Clarionet, for Pictures, permanent, in Yorkshire Union Rates. Write, ERNEST WAKE, 31, Charles-street, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, two First Cornet Players, for London Territorial Band. Apply,
BANDMASTER, 138, Beresford-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, good Second Cornet, open Nov. 14.
Apply,
MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, open Monday, Cornet, Clar., Picc., Euph., Trombone, Drums, E flat Bass, by De Land, Illusionist. C. LILLIE, Hippo., Cambridge.

WANTED, for the Cheltenham Town and Promenade Band, Double String Bass, also Violin. Terms shares. J. BOYCE, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Trombone or Euphonium, for Pitching and Rink, through death of Walter Pemberton. Write, SECRETARY, Town Band, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, an experienced Flautist; must be well up in Variety. Apply, with references, BAKER, Manager, Hippodrome, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, for Poole's Perfect Pictures, commence Nov. 14, Pianist, used to Pictures; also Lady Vocalist for Illustrated Songs. &c. Terms, refs., J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Drill Hall, Tiverton.

WANTED, good Pianist (small Orchestra), Pictures and Variety, permanent for experienced, reliable musician. State age, references, salary. CONDUCTOR, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Quartette, Male or Female, for Tour, also Solo Singers. State lowest salary and experience. Box 8,438, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, for Tour. State salary and experience.
Box 8,439, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Mandolinist, to learn the Domra and join a Ladies' Professional Balalaika Orchestra. Tuition free. Box 8,466, "The Era."

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Second Flute, and Piccolo. Not over 35 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Appointments will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Known, Rink Orchestras required immediately, for Skating Rinks, France, twelve to fourteen musicians, Military Uniforms; must be used to Rink Music. Send terms, references, répertoire, composition of band, and photos., to DIRECTEUR, Grand Skating Rouennais, Rouen, France.

ANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. THE STANDARD PRESS, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director (Violin), Variety Preferred, excellent refs. W. BRADSHAW, 1, Cherry-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Mr. William McBean,
late Musical Director to the
Borough of Hastings and St. Leonards,
can accept Engagement as
Orchestral Conductor,
Concert, Theatre,
Musical Comedy, or Grand Opera.
Address,
44, Redcliffe-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Conductor (Pianist and Violinist), composer and arranger, at Liberty Hall, Theatre, or Company; first-class library. Good offers only. Box 8,447, "The Era."

WANTED, by brilliant Conductor, First-class Variety Theatre, age 30, abstainer, highest refs., London preferred. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 4, Merchiston-road, Catford, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, First Violin or Viola; fully experienced; open Monday. WALLACE, 5, Livingston-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, thoroughly experienced. Offers to PARISI, 31, Grafton-road, Worthing.

WANTED, through disbandment of Duke of Devonshire's Private Orchestra, Engagement in Theatre; Leader or First Violin. HOPKINSON, c/o London Orchestral Association, Gerrard street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Lady Violinist (Leader), good library and references, double Piano. Miss KATE HUSBAND, 16, Beach-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist, Disengaged; experienced Leader. 152, Herbert-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, any Business,
E. ZALBONE, 10, North Park-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist, excellent references. Write, E. P., 29, Northway-road, Loughborough Junction, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, any business. Experienced. Good refs.
VIOLINS, 88, Park-street, Swinton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, any Business, good Cornet (Owen), also Euphonium or Trombone (D. Benedetto); finished engagement; excellent references. Apply, Box 8,411, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Cornet Soloist, well known, desires Engagement.
Apply, Box 8,445, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Cornet. Any Business. Apply, with terms, CORNETTIST, 36, Manchester-street, King's Cross, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged, Any Business.
215, Portnall-road, Paddington.

WANTED, Engagement by Good, Reliable First Cornet. Just finished season. Sobriety, Punctuality, Attentiveness. References. BERRY, 4, Worcester-street, Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, any business. Address, WILL ELDERS, Solo Cornet, Anglo-American Skating Rink, Rue Nationale, Lille, France.

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Cornet, any business. Liberty Nov. 7. Sat., Post Office, Bicester; Mon., NUTTALL, Meynell-street, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, steady, reliable, good tone and execution. 12 years' orchestra and hotel experience. MUSICUS, 93, North-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any business, excellent references, can join at once. Address, Box 8,462, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, open immediately, any business, good references; moderate terms for permanency. LEGGETT, 4, Alan-road, King-street, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, finish Nov. 12, Hippo. closing, South Coast preferred, steady and reliable. BASSO, 4, Mann-st., Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, young, steady, and reliable.
W. J. BROOKE, 25, West-end, Witney, Oxon.

WANTED, Engagement for Double Bass; could double Second Violin. Apply, Miss BET BERRY, Park-road, Norton, Malton, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass and E Flat Bass, Restaurant or Theatre, Disengaged, best references, age 32. A. FREERICHS, 53, Chester-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, experienced and reliable, any business; good refs.; Disengaged Nov. 2. PECK, 53, Mount-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Double Bass, any business. First-class References, and reliable. BASSO, 53, Shakespeare-road, Herne Hill, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass seeks Engagement; young, abstainer; good references. T. C. TROLLEY, 202, Elms-road, Clapham Park, London.

WANTED, Engagement, for E flat Bass Player, any business; best refs.; steady and reliable. 6, Dover-street (off Bankhouse-street), Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, Eng., as Trombone, through disappointment, experienced, steady and reliable, Theatre or Music Hall. S. SMITH, 24, Stanley-st., Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, any bus., sober and reliable, just finished two year's engagement. THRUSSELL, 2, Well-square, Percy-street, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombonist, combine Solo Euphonium. Any business. Thoroughly reliable. Good refs. M., 9, De Beauvoir-cres., N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Experienced, any business. J. THOMAS, Viaduct Hotel, Workington, Cumberland.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone or Euphonium; good refs. TED COOPER, 39, Cranford-street, Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon Player, at Liberty; good references; reliable and steady. FRED WALTERS, 1, Delhaig, Gorgie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, engagement. Can open at once. CHAS. GRICE, 281, Portobello-road, North Kensington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business.
W. P., 23, Hartismere-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, Disengaged, any business, good references. Address, 'CELLO, c/o Woods, newsagents, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, deputising, tour or abroad, any business; can open Monday. SORTIN, 65, Torrens-buildings, City-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement by Reliable Flute and Piccolo, any business. Experienced; good refs.; can open at once. FLAUTIST, 174, Wilderspool-road, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, Theatre or Music Hall; good refs.; 12 years' experience. L. FRANCIS, 7, Lower-arcade, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist. SCHWARZ,
15, Charlton-street, Great Portland-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, good Flute and Piccolo, any business, excellent refs., steady and reliable. FLAUTIST, 53, Trowbridge-rd, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.

WANTED, Known, Violette Haût, Flute; Josephine Haût, 'Cello and Violin, Disengaged. Perm. address, Canal House, Warwick-avenue, London W.

WANTED, Known, A. A. Key, A.M.U., Pianist and Arranger, late Chelsea Palace, Disengaged. Address, 26, Burnaby-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Constance Upstone, A.T.C.L., Solo Pianist, Vocalist, Sight Reader, Accompanist, concluded 20 weeks' season; Lib. 21st, on. 11, Willoughby-park, Tottenham.

WANTED, Daily Engagement, by Lady Shorthand Typist, good sight pianist and accompanist (A.L.C.M.). Apply, 27, Mosslea-road, Penge, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Accompanist, Concerts, At Homes, Practice Work, Ballads, Opera, MSS., and Orchestral, thoroughly experienced; good refs. Box 8,458, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist.
Address,
PIANIST, 37, Goodge-st., Tottenham Court-rd., W.

WANTED, good permanent Engagement, by First-class Pianist.
CHARLES DAWSON, 23, White Rock-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Brilliant Picture Pianist desires Berth in High-class Picture Theatre, London or Provinces. HAROLD JONES, 4, Wyre-grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drummer, any business, owing to the Band finishing Nov. 5. FRANK LAKE, 150 Robinson-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform, including Vocalists. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, that the popular RED ROSE ORCHESTRA is the ideal Band for First-class Hotels (British and Continental experience), Bazaars, At Homes, Exhibitions, &c., a never-failing Attraction. This week and after at Portland Hall, Southsea, and Ryde.
Please address all communications to MADAME MANTON-MYATT, 28, Rosendale-rd., W. Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band.
Apply to O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Signor Di Giacomo's Anglo-Italian Band, Orchestra or Military, is at Liberty for next summer season; may be heard in London; picked Soloists, smart uniforms, Répertoire includes the latest English selections. Terms, &c., Sig. U. DI GIACOMO, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Rink Band, disengaged, 6, 7, or 8 capable performers, reliable every way, up-to-date rink music. Terms reasonable for sessions required. Apply, BANDMASTER W. E. WARD, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Rink Band, at Lib. Nov. 7, from 6 to any number; Up-to-date Music. Apply, BANDMASTER, 30, Chattan-place, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Brass Band, Seven Performers or more, terminating season Alexandra's Circus. Any business, first-class répertoire. MATT CORBETT, 11, Outram-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for Small Brass or Military Stage Band, Rink, Circus, Menagerie, or any business, eight or ten in number. COOK, B.M. Tiffield, Northants.

WANTED, Engagement, by Russian Quartet (Piano, two Violins, and 'Cello), in Hotel or Café.
5, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Useful Circus People, also two or three Pony Grooms, to commence Monday, Nov. 21.
Address,
BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, For Special Mattings, Mats, Tents, Tents, Canvas and Rope Goods, for Circus and Theatre use, write, JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

To Circus Artists
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.
To Circus Artists.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Winter Season,
Good Lady and Gentlemen Riders,
with Own Horses;
also
Sensational Acts
of every kind,
Good Flying Trapeze Show
(not less than two ladies and two gentlemen),
New and Novel Acts,
Suitable for the Ring.

Quote Lowest Terms,
which must be moderate,
to
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works
Walsall.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip, Clown and Agoust; just finished thirty weeks, Bostock Circus. Vacant Nov. 14. 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by smart Gymnast, to join for Bars and Trampoline, straight or comedy. Address, Box 8,461, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Winter Months, Proctor's All-round Circus Artists. Terms, PROCTOR'S Circus and Hippodrome, Runcorn, Cheshire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 7, on. 1A, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Monday next, onwards, Artists of every description, for England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales. Write in first instance, with full particulars, lowest terms, to HARRY LEATON'S Hustling Agency, 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow. 'Phone 1672 Argyle.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines,
for several halls in the North.
Good strong tops and bottoms.
Also New Original Acts.
Can be placed immediately.
Address Signor PEPI, Palace, Darlington.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEORGE E. MUDD.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Nov. 14, onwards. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Palace of Varieties, also Empire, Worcester. No wires. ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, November, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, for Scarborough, Nov. 14, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Good Specialities. Particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists coming North send vacant dates and lowest terms, JAS. ANDERSON and SON, Variety Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, and PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above, good sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers. Lowest terms, lithos., &c., A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Big Specialities, Nov. 14, onwards. Nothing too big. New to towns in Yorkshire and North. Top Star Liners, with odd weeks, write
Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone 4195. Wires, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

DAN NOBLE'S AGENCY, 272, LIVERPOOL-STREET, SALFORD.
WANTED, Star Attractions for immediate dates. Full list of Bookings and absolute lowest imperative. Silence not polite negative. 'Phone 771 Pendleton.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, to Tour Ireland with High-class Picture Show, weekly, bi-weekly towns, Variety Turns, good Musical Show and Sensational Act. "The Empress" please write. New to Ireland. Efficient Operator and Pianist. "PICTURES," 30, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, immediate and future dates.
Bellong Bros. and Percy Johnson send adresses.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Acts for immediate and future dates. Nothing too Big. Messrs. RAWES and CLARANCE, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Picture Theatre in Lancashire, Acts of all kinds.
Apply,
DIRECTOR, 21, Balmoral-road, Fallowfield, Lancs.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, really good Specialities, with Novel Stage Settings, for Nov. 21 and Dec. 5; also Big Spectacular Productions, Pantomimical Sketches (with own scenery preferred), and Big Sensational Acts, &c., for Dec. 19, 26, onward. Kindly state where show can be seen during the next two weeks. Address, with lowest terms, samples of pictorials, &c., to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Brighton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WANTED, Nov. 14, North, East, South, and West, Variety Acts; Dec. 26, Bristol, Star Specialities. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Acts, now and on. Artists out Monday send private address, also list of bookings. name of Halls, terms, T. D. CUMMINGS, 7 Welcome-street, Exeter.

WANTED, good Specialities
and Juvenile Troupes,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5.
Lowest terms,
BOSWELL, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Big Star Tops,
the Biggest in Existence,
for all dates, Nov., Dec.,
for Hanley, Rochdale, Barnsley,
also Artists all Lines for the North.
Amongst my this week's bookings include
Ella Russell, the famous Prima Donna;
also Carmen Turia, Spanish Prima Donna.
Sam Elton, Severus Scheffer, please wire.
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

ADAMS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Tops, with odd weeks, to Communicate; also Specialities, Novel Acts, and Artists in all Lines.
Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, W. Tel., "Shrieking, London." 'Phone Gerrard 2092.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

HEBDEN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, Artists, all lines, Specialty Acts, Bigger the better, Comedians, Good Sisters, Combinations, complete, Nov. 14, onwards. Ful lbookings and permanent address imperative. Terms, &c., HEBDEN'S Agency, Withymoor, Station-road, Brierley Hill.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

ASHBURN'S AGENCY,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
'Phone, 5467 Central.
Telegrams, "Hippotomy, London."

WANTED, for Nov. 7, 14, 21, onwards, Big Tops. Star attractions only.
Must be Top-liners. Others save stamps.
Those new to Worthing, Kettering, Lynn, Grantham, Nuneaton, Dudley, West Bromwich, Ton-y-Pandy, Chorley, and Radcliffe can have immediate tour or odd dates.
Sharing terms or salary.
Satisfactory business assured to sound attractions.
Particulars, full list of bookings, lithos., and absolute lowest terms in first letter imperative.
Interviews by appointment only.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, for First-class Halls. Lowest salary for immediate dates. Artists all lines. Permanent Address, Bookings, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Tip-top Liners, for immediate Dates; also Circus Artists in all Lines; good Riders with own Horses, or a good Circus Family Entertained. CHAS. DEETRICH Agency, 31, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1269 Royal.

WANTED, Star Top Line; must be very strong, Nov. 14; also other Acts, various dates. Nothing too big. MANAGER, Hippodrome, Oxford.

WANTED, Juvenile Troupes, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, and Novelties, with drawing powers for the North. SMITH'S Agency, 22, Wakerterrace, Gateshead

WANTED, all Proprietors and Artists to read the notice of Dissolution of Partnership of Daly and Reynolds, of Liverpool, on page 36. Address, in future, to CHAS. M. DALY, Daly's Agency.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for DALTON'S AGENCY, 62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES. Send immediate
EARLY DATES. Dates, with full
EARLY DATES. list of Bookings.
EARLY DATES. Lowest Price Essential.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.

WANTED, Young Lady or Gentleman for Cycle Troupe, must do all First-class Tricks. Particulars to Box 8,451, "The Era."

WANTED, all-round Acrobatic Dancers, able do splits, bends, tricks, high kicking. Photographs, lowest terms, LA BELLE, 25, Lord Duncan-street, Salford.

WANTED, Young Man, Hand Balancer, Tumbler, under 9st., smart Amateur not objected to. State list of tricks, references, terms. OLINDO, 13, Gordon-street, Darlington-st., Wigan.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Operator, Gaumont Machine, must be experienced in both currents.
State experience and salary required,
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, gas, electric, also Pianist, four Halls Ireland; refs. required. Lowest first letter. PICTURES, 30, Great George-street, Belfast.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACES.
WANTED, First-class Operators, Effect Workers, Window Billers, also Gentleman with a knowledge of managing a Picture Show. Commence Nov. 14. Terms, &c., J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Drill Hall, Tiverton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, for Gabrielle Hope's Grand Novelty Music Act, Nov. 14 and 21.
Address, Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES.
WANTED, Dates, for herself and Company, in Sketch Répertoire.
Miss Annie Hughes as
Sans Gêne,
Nell Gwynne,
and in "The Fourth Kiss."
Address,
Miss ANNIE HUGHES,
Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dates, by Master Fred Crook, Soprano, 5, Stanley-street, Queen's-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.; or, DAVID HART, Esq.

WANTED, the 14th and 21st, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the famous Singing Boxmakers, Three people, a sure draw. Address Monday, Raby Hall, Byker-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, by Leslie Clements, Coon Comedian and Banjoist; also Nov. 21, to follow Morpeth. 37, Blenheim-st., Newcastle.

WANTED, Nov. 7 and 14, by Vulcan's, the Scottish Grossmith, in Mimicry and Comedy at the Piano. Write or wire for Monday. Empire, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, Harry Kardoc, Vacant Nov. 14, on, with exceptions, Theatres, Hippos., and Skating Rinks. Big Act. Lithos. See Card.

WANTED, Monday, and Nov. 7, by Bert Brayshaw, Speciality Comedian, two acts. Offers. 7, Church Cross-st., Leeds. Good turns wanted.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, by Barry Gilmore, Comedian, Knockabout, and Dancer. Wire, Pavilion, Kirkcaldy, N.B. Any distance.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, at Liberty Monday. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Copyrights, Colliers' Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. Starring, Palace, Ashton-under-Lyne; after, 26, Wood-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Will Mills (Salt Bush Bill), World's Champion Stock Whip Manipulator (Australian). Austral Hall Hotel, London, W.C.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ventom Swift, in new Dancing Act. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough. Nov. 14, Palace, Normanton.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, now on top as the Cleanest, Cleverest, and Luckiest Wrestler touring this country and breaking records for big business. This, Empress, Hartlepool. Thanks the Hustler, HARRY BURNS, for contracts. Coms., direct; or the Hustler, HARRY BURNS, Esq.

WANTED, Nov. 7, also Dec. 5 and 12, Pharos, the Egyptian Magician. Thanks J. R. Poole, Esq., Will Smithson, Esq., for Contracts. Winter Gardens, Cheltenham, wire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Nov. 14, onwards, by Jack Alex, Clever and Comical Gymnastic Bar Act. Nov. 7, Theatre, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Paul Delano, the Famous Living Art Gallery; most Extraordinary Juggler and Equilibrist. At Liberty. Wire, Empire Music Hall, Blaina, Mon.

WANTED, Nov. 14 and 21, by Will and Roze, in a novel Continental Comedy Contortion and Magical Pot-Pourri Act. Big success, Hippo., Connahs Quay. Top, Nov. 7, Her Majesty's T., Carlisle. Thank Ashburn, Noble, and Smythson Agencies for contracts.

WANTED, Nov. 14 and 21,
Belasco Refined Musical Act,
also Isa Davis, Mimic.
Coms., FRED HIGHAM,
Perm. address, 63, Knowle-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Harry Hollands, Juggling Comedy Pot-Pourri; also Mlle. Amelia, speciality Wire Act. Liberty Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 23. Coms., 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, the Great Rohde and Roche, the Chameleon Artist and 1T. Original Novelty Act. Success, Town Hall, Consett. Nov. 7, Arcadia, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Monday and Nov. 21, various, on, The Monckton's, Comedy Duologists, presenting their Screaming Comedy Episodes, "A Woman's Curiosity," "Two in a Flat." Wire, Marina Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, by Henshall and Foster, in Serio Comic Playlet, "Cabby Knows His Fare," good single (Serio), two Acts. 6, College-street, Waterloo, S.E.

WANTED, a few Bookings for Nov. 14, for the Artistic Singing and Dancing Act, presented by Harry Raymond and Little Ivy. Address, Poole's Picture P., Aberaman; or EDELSTEN, Agent.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, between Wallsend and Glasgow, by Agnese and Arthur Lynch, American Picture Songs. Borough Theatre, Wallsend.

WANTED, another Hall to work with Empire, Camberwell, Monday, Nov. 7, by Foley and Francis, extraordinary comedians. Wire, St. James's T., Long Eaton.

WANTED, Known, the Continental Comedy Sketch Co., Liberty Monday, Nov. 14, introducing their Black-and-White Sketches, Songs, and Duos, three in number. 4, Parkside-road, Manchester-road, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, The Ronnies (lady and gentleman), Double Juggling and Equilibrist Act, including the Deathspring, have just completed two weeks' successful engagement with Zoo Circus, Glasgow. To follow, Nov. 7, Aquarium, Scarborough. Offers invited for Nov. 14 and 21, also a few vacant dates in Dec. Good Sole Agent Wanted.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Theatres,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in Number,
Supported by First-class Vaudeville Company.
Over twenty-five performers. Splendid display of lithos. and printing.
Vacant Nov. 14, Jan. 23 and 30.

Nov. 7, New Empire Theatre, Sunderland.
Booking us means Big Business for you, and no Risk, no Worry.

WANTED, Known, Spiegler's Great Gipsy Quartet, greatest Attraction Instrumental and Vocal, Top the Bill everywhere, only vacant dates, Dec. 17, 1910, till Jan. 2, 1911. Address, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Nov. 14, 28, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; also Gladys Wells, Speciality Contralto; always successful. Monday, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Dec. 5 and 12, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Next week, T. R., Canterbury, and Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, by Albert Ross, the Barrister Ventriloquist, Vacant Monday. An absolute Novelty. Everything up-to-date. Wire, Hippodrome, Colchester.

WANTED, Monday, next, also 14, 21, The Three Cyclinis, Trick Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Want Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, 16, N. 7, Ebberstone-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by La Dor Troupe (six in number), Male and Female Novelty Acrobats (two acts). Post Office, Exeter.

WANTED, Known, The Carlsens, Comedy Acrobatic Trampoline Speciality. Own scenery, splendid lithos. Everywhere a success. For terms and dates, Opera House, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Known, Ryde and Beeman, the greatest of all Eccentric Acrobats, just terminated six months with the Great Raymond, Vacant Nov. 7, 14, 21. Wire or write, 1, Henry-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, by Plant Bros., refined Acrobatic Equilibrists. Address, No. 5, Sutton-street, Hollowayhead, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Young Man, a Tumbler, also Trampoline Tumbler, Comedy or Straight; would join Troupe of Acrobats. P.A., 53, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, Jan. 2, 9, 16, and 23. Most marvellous electric act on earth. Good top or bottom. Sure draw. This week, Empire, Southport; next week, 68, Fentiman-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, 14th and 21st (London, or near), by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, Lady and Gentlemen Athletes, all champions, in the most beautiful entertainment ever presented. Monday, Palace, Carlisle. Perm., The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, the Three Kels, Chinese Character Gymnasts, have concluded another successful week at Pavilion, Wishaw, and are vacant Monday. Thanks for offers. Wire for Monday, as above.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, on, The Flying Oreniuses (2 ladies, 2 gentlemen), the most sensational Aerial Gymnastic Act extant; can fix on small stage. This, topping (as usual), Hippo., Blackpool; next, Crystal Palace, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show,
Now Touring the Continent,
Vacant all the months of May, June 5, 26, on.
All coms.,
Eden Theater, Turin, Italy.

WANTED, Known, Daisy Graham's Troupe of Educated Birds and Baby Dog. First Vacant Date, Jan. 2, on, with exceptions. King's T., Gloucester.

WANTED, by Lorenzo's World-renowned Performing Dogs, Monday and until Xmas, Halls, Circuses, Pictures, &c. Red Lion Hotel, Northfleet, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Mount, Lecturer, at Liberty, can describe a picture as it should be. 4, Attneave-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, good all-round Tumbler wishes to join good Troupe. Address, WALTER GROGANS, Foresters' Music Hall, London.

WANTED, Engagement, at once, by a good Tumbler, Second Man, and Catcher.
Apply, Box 8,450, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, by Practical and Experienced Bioscope Operator, electric or lime. OPERATOR, 21, Richard-street, Grimsby.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS,
SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
Season 1911. Easter till Sept.
WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Concert and Costume Parties. State vacant dates and terms for one, two, and four weeks' engagement (twice daily), to AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

WANTED, High-class Seaside Comedians, Specialities and Vocalists, for next season. Box 8,448, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

An Important Sale
by Public Auction.

To Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Travellers in General.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman having been favoured with Instructions from the owner, who is retiring from the Business, to Offer for Sale by Public Auction
on Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m., prompt,
on Market Ground, Crewe,
all that Beautiful Set of Three-abreast Gallopers as a going concern, which are undoubtedly Second to None in this country, Savage's make, comprising 40ft. centre truck, Savage's engine, splendid carved and gilt top centre and droppers, 14 carved and gilded rounding boards, cornice and droppers, over 5ft. deep; carved and gilded drum; large ornamental mirrors; 36 carved horses, by Spooner; 2 motor cars, altogether carrying 74 persons, twisted brass rods; magnificent Gavioli organ; 10 Excello lamps; the whole packs on four loads, road or rail (Savage's trucks). Also 8 h.p. Burrell traction engine and dynamo; 1 14ft. road Pullman living wagon, by Orton.
All the above are in condition as new, and can be seen running on day of sale.
The Proprietor having quite recently spent a very large amount of money on the concern, especially the organ and traction, it is now without doubt absolutely equal to a new concern and worth the consideration of those that require a really smart, up-to-date lot.
For further particulars, cards to view, catalogues, &c.,
apply to TOM NORMAN (Silver King),
Showman's Auctioneer, Valuer, &c.,
Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and big Attractions, for Edinburgh and Dundee. Terms and particulars to STEWART'S Waxworks, Edinburgh.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

Coronation of his Most Gracious Majesty King George V.—1911

Phasey's Band
SPECIALLY ENGAGED
for the
GREAT EARL'S COURT RINK.
BALHAM RINK.
CLAPHAM RD. RINK.

PHASEY'S GREAT CONCERT BAND.

American Tour
WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED IN THIS SPACE.

Phasey and his Band.

MOST ELABORATELY UNIFORMED BAND IN ENGLAND.

Phasey's Band has toured Canada and the United States of America with Great Success.

"BRITISH BAND DRAWS LARGE AUDIENCE."—The Second Concert of Phasey's Band took place last night at Herald Square Theatre. The programme, which was made up of selections of popular character, received hearty applause.—*New York Herald.*

A SECTION OF THIS GREAT ORGANISATION IS NOW ATTRACTING LARGE AUDIENCES DAILY TO THE SKATING RINK, 143, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W

Live Musicians—Not Seat Warmers. **Up-to-Date Music.**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, ***H. VICTOR PHASEY, Dallas's Music Emporium, 415, Strand, W.C.***

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated) — Chairman: Sir Edward Moss

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.) — Chairman Oswald Stoll.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, NOV. 7, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Miss Elaine Terriss and Co. in "Bluebell," Silhouettes, Hovyns, Josephine La Barte, Alexandre and Hughes, Three Merrills, Harry Brown, Doraswami, Animated Pictures, Ayoe, Simone de Beryl.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—
Ugo Nap, Pictures, Bollingers, Staley's Transformation, Manchester Mites, Leo Stormont, Mike Nono, Ban Fraser, Alice Pierce, Danby Piddock and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Edmund Maurice's "Blind," Gertie Gitana, Hans and Lux, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Kitts and Windrum, Three Belle Belles, Katie Butler, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Tom Edwards.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Wentworth Croke's "East Lynne," Bioscope, Bugler Carr, Sutcliffe Family, Goodfellow and Gregson, Vagabond Players, Alice Hollander, Channings, Stephens and Rennior, Tom Clare.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Stock Company. Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Jen Latona, Harry Roxbury and Co., Ethel Beech, Haig and Novel, Borellis, Dick Tubb, Jessie Buckle, Bioscope, Celectas.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Constantina Bernardi, Violas, George Rae, Barrett and Knowles, Farabonis, Baby Boden, Bioscope, Thora.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Evelyn Bingham, Five Vernons, Armstrong and Kelly, Harvey's Boys and Girls, La Superbe, Frank Couch, Three Emersons.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Dot Stephens' Co. in "A Child of the Streets."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Zena Dare and Co., Billy Marsden, Larola, Ray Wallace, Leslie and Stevens, Bros. Redmond, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, Sarkoezi and Monnier.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—
George Lashwood, Lillian, May Mars, Goltz Trio, Cole and Rags, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Tom Costello, Kirbys, Everhardt, Minola Hurst.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Madame Ella Russell, Bioscope, Clown Argo, Satanella Trio, Adam Tomlinson, Griff, Frank Lynne, Fred Elton, King and Benson, Australian Tree-fellers.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
The Great Lafayette, Onida Macdermott, Bowden and Stol, Clermont's Burlesque Circus, Empire Girls, Bioscope, Jack Lane.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Tom Foy and Co., Kate Carney and Co., Kisbey, W. F. Frame, Bensons, Chass Lewis, Signor Persichini, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Riogoku Family.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Herbert Sleath and Co. in "The Horse Thief," Rosie Fitzgerald, Bioscope, Walter Wade, Mackways, Dutch Daly, Herbert Dickeson and Co., King and Queenie, Vickey Delmar, Chanti.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Footgers, Bioscope, Lena Verdi, Luis Alvarez, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Harry Herbert, Westwoods, Crystal and Saville, Bros. Ford, Bransby Williams.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Daisy Jerome, Chris Van Bern, Korries, Jack Smiles, Tom E. Finglas, Vincent, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Gustave Fasola.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Mr. Herbert Sleath's Co. in "A White Man."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Stock Company. Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Harry Randall, Maidie Scott, Bioscope, Florence Cooper, Saxonia Family, Fanny Robina, Lee and Kingston, Jackson Family, Walter King, "Little Stowaway."

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Seymour Hicks and Co. in "Richard III.," Orchidee, Ian Colquhoun, Bros. Artois, Harry Weldon, Gwennie Llewellyn, Marquis' Ponies, Bioscope, Baroness Merlincourt, Gus Elen, Fuji Troupe, Toft's Statuary.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Horace Goldin, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Esta Stella, Grassis, Little Zola, "Belles of the Kitchen," Will Johnson, Alf. H. West, Laurie and Beattie.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
George Formby, McGregors, Sybil St. Elmo, Leslie Harris, Duncan's Dogs, Will Musgrave, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer, Hunt and Thomas.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Hetty King, Lamberti, Bioscope, Carl and Carr, Lancashire Lasses, Gwennie Hasto, Gus Garrick, Burley and Burley, "Deputy Sheriff."

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—
Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Lawrence Barclay, Lulu Williams, Mezzettis, New Macs, Aida Martine, Horace Pollock.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Peterman's "Chanteclair," Betty Green, Bioscope, Dacey and Lewis, Andos Japs, Olga Dore, Harry Squire Day, Lowenwirth and Cohan, George French.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Vesta Tilley, Mary Ambrose, Tom Parker, Hardini Trio, Du Gros Trio, Albert Rees, Bioscope, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Roze and Calvert, Harry Grey.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Happy Fanny Fields, Rosa Loader, Cavalotti Bros, Seven Perezoffs, McConnell Trio, Ellis Barrieton, Eily Adair, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill, Bert Harrow.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
George the First, Ricardo and Salving, Villions, My Fancy, Ernie Mayne, James Stewart, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Lew Lake and Co., Terry and Lambert.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—
Marie George and Co., Louie Desmond, Chas. Vincent, Maggie Neill and Co., Three Laurels, Lily Burnand, Farr and Farland, Johnnie Walker, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Stock Company. Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Wee Gorgie Wood, Elsie Roby, Cosgrove and Burns, J. C. Scatter, Sisters Jerome, Dan Hendy, Bioscope, Dayton Family.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—
Fred Shepherd, Eisteddfod Sextette, Rhoda Paul, Russell Brandon, Dunco and Langdon, Pictures, Two Mackays, Anzani, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Hadj-Mahommed Troupe, Lizzie Glenroy, Soho Trio, Park's Eton Boys, Harry Bedford, Bert Weston, Bioscope, Ferry Corwey.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—
Piccad Troupe, Mina Denvil, Cassie Walmer, Waul Langtry, Conan and Doyle, Wullie Walker, Bioscope, Howard and Harris.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Harry Ford, Rose and Sylvester, Jock Mills, Josie Delaine, Ike and Will Scott, Ford Williams, Gladys Hooley, Pictures, Drew and Alders.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—
Florrie Gallimore, Lola Patey, King's College Boys, Ben Albert, Edith Heron Brown, Pictures, Verno and Voyce, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—
Raymond Phillips' Airship, Fred Lincoln, Coverdale's Dots, Les Romanis, Campbell and Barber, Horace Wheatley, Tom Jones, Florence Dudley, Bioscope, Adrienne Augarde.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.
EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General: **Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.**

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit: **Mr. E. P. LAWTON.**

Provincial District and Booking Manager: **Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.**

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, NOV. 7.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Edna Barrett, Gallimore Trio, Hayman and Franklin, Charbourn's Juveniles, Chas. Erard, Ridiculos Recco, Hicks and Hunter, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
"The Midnight London Express," Sam Williams, The Falcons, Lucy Lind, Singing Newsboys, Pictures, Charles Bradford, La Vie.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Albert St. Clair, Carl and Mary Ohm, Norman Grant, Halma, Sisters Hula, "Yellow Fang," Four Figaros, Cissie Thompson, Palace Perfection Pictures, Reg. Beauchamp.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Rose and Jeanette Toch and Tard, Julia Reeve, Julius Walther, Three Richardinis, Maisanos, Milner and Storey, "Roguery," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Billy Merson, Society Quartette, "Bottom Dog," Ernestine Desborough, Dorothy Dacey, I. Kessanly's Dogs, Yettmah, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Jack Hayworth, Chris Baker, Dollie and Rosie, Flo Esdaile, Bruce Green, Lillie Soutter, Sinclair and Whiteford, Palace Perfection Pictures, The De Breans.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Rita and Roma, Harry Taylor, Dan Conroy, Newco and Sullo, Atlas and Vulcana, Belrose and De Velin, Tamamoto, Gracie Hunt, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Ernest Rees, Daisy Hurdle, Mr. and Mrs. Wilde, Quality Quartette, Ellerslie Pyne, Metz and Metz, J. A. Wilson, Ferguson and Mack, Tom Davies Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Bros. Rees, Louie Tracy, C. Livesey and Co., Gwennie Morgan, Melody Makers, Richard Walley, Bert Woodward, Pete and Juno, Palace Perfection Pictures, Sisters Silcott.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Cromo and Hamilton, Cash and Clair, Guest and Newlyn, "Our Mary Jane," Irene May, Richarc-son Taylor, Jack Sheridan, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Lilian French, Edwin Garth, Will Rennie, Lotinga and Co., Kirk and Saraski, Lily Langtry, Eeduns, Illustrated Songs, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Gladys Mavius, T. Karno and Co., Woodhouse and Wells, Arthur Ward, Nelson Jackson, A. De Bessell, Happy Attwood, France and Stewart, Crown Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Sins of a City" and "The Stowaway."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Alfonso, Flo Warner, "Roots, Chemists," Alf Gibson, Geo. Edmunds, Bros. Hannaway, Doris Druce, Hugo and Smit, Pavilion Perfection Pictures

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Edith Chantler, "Dickie's Mother," Gene Morelle, Bessie Neilson, Wright Girls, Jack Vann, The Rosses, Mabel Moss, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Esther Phillips and Co.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Pictures, The Lannons, Goggin and Davis, Ryder Sloane, The Maples, Loyal and Linby, Will Douglas and Co., Coram, Three Orleans, Mack Olive, Gene Morelle, Valmore, Shain and Co.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Woman Adrift."

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday at 2.30.
Pictures, Bertha Winder, Rosie Archer, Forritt, The Menzies, Lily Hartley, R. Cardigan and Co., Egan and May, Josephine Crook, Lillie Lassah, Arthur Bretton, "The Justice of Man."

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

NOTA BENE.

A Sure Success is

"MY MOON"

(Chorus Ballad for Pantomime).

By H. G. PÉLISSIER,

The "Chief" of "The Follies."

Keys—D Compass (C to D), E Flat, E, and F.
"Pro." Copies 6d. each (with card).
Band Parts in key of F
(in the press).
Arranged by H. Lucas.
1/6 each set (post free).

Dept. 6, JOSEPH WILLIAMS (Ltd.),
32, Great Portland Street, London, W.

TWO CERTAIN HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

JUST PUBLISHED.

"What is the World Without You?"
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Allan Grey. . . .
A pretty Ballad suitable for Principal Boy, Girl, or Fairy Queen.

"My Cartagena Girl."
A SPANISH SERENADE.
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Alexander Herbert.
A Sure Winner for any Principal Boy.

The above songs are already secured for several prominent productions.
SEND FOR PROFESSIONAL COPIES, **3d. each,** Post free.

C. A. RANSOM & CO.,
26, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.
'Phones: 2785 Holborn, 4295 Gerrard.

Exclusive Publishers for CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS' SONGS.

PRINCIPAL BOYS and PRINCIPAL GIRLS in Pantomime should sing the New and Ideal Song,
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
"THE WOOING WALTZ,"
By H. LANE WILSON
(Composer of the well-known Waltz-songs, "Carmena" and "Love's Star").

Band Parts, One Shilling.

Published in Three Keys by REEDER AND WALSH, 14, CASTLE STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW.
Pantomime, "RED RIDING HOOD."
CHORUS to be on the stage of the above Theatre on WEDNESDAY, November 23, at 11 o'clock.
PRINCIPALS on MONDAY, November 28, at 11 o'clock. No excuses.

TO THEATRICAL AGENTS AND OTHERS. UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.

A magnificently furnished block of offices to be Let on Lease, consisting of four floors and basement, and containing 11 rooms, recently furnished from designs by Hampton's, near Piccadilly Circus. Arrangements can be made to let in floors.

Apply by letter, 6, Church-row, Hampstead, N.W.

THE
NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING CO
PANTOMIME HITS.
WE HAVE GOT IT. THE **REAL** GOODS. CANNOT MISS. MUST GET THERE.

The SONG SENSATION of the YEAR.
"WHY DO YOU WAIT FOR TO-MORROW."
Hear Messrs. CARLYLE and WELLMON Sing this Number and Judge for yourself.
WHAT A MELODY! WHAT A TALE! WHAT A SONG!
THIS IS ABSOLUTELY **IT.**
And Here is Another One—
"SAMMY IN HIS TAM O'SHANTER HAT."
This is Mr. PETER BIRMINGHAM'S Big Production Number in Mr. RICH WALDON'S Pantomime at the Princess's, GLASGOW this year, and everybody must admit that Mr. Rich Waldon can Judge a Song. 'NUFF SAID.

Don't Overlook These Winners:—
"WE ALL WANT TO CANOODLE WITH SOMEBODY."
Companion Song to
"WE ALL WANT SOMETHING TO CUDDLE."
"GO AWAY MEDDLESOME MOON."
"ALL BE GAY." "A PRESCRIPTION FOR LOVE."

Professional Copies of the above Numbers, together with our other Successes, will be sent only to Artistes holding Pantomime Engagements, on receipt of Sixpence for postage. State Theatre and Pantomime. **Call any Old Time and Hear Them Played Over.**

NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.,
132, Charing Cross Road, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—5051 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

The Ted Snyder Music Publishing Co., Inc.
London New York Chicago San Francisco Melbourne
PANTOMIME SONGS.

HETTY KING'S LATEST SONG ::
My Dream of the Union Jack,
A Great Patriotic Song with a Great Chorus.

MAIDIE SCOTT'S LATEST SONG ::
If the Managers Only Thought the Same as Mother.
All Dames should have this.

My Wife's Gone to the Country, Hooray, Hooray!
PHIL PARSONS' Big Success.

Ring Me Up Some Rainy Afternoon.
Sung by GEORGE LASHWOOD. A Great Principal Boy Number.

When the Bloom is on the Heather
JESSIE TEMPLETON'S Great Success.

I'm a Happy Married Man.
Secured by GEORGE FRENCH.

KISS ME, MY HONEY, KISS ME. America's latest Chorus Song. Sung by MAURICE FARKOA, ETHEL BRYANT, MARY ROBERTSON.

When sending for copies 6 stamps should always be enclosed. Demonstrations given daily at our offices:— **Albion House** *(4th floor),* **59/61, New Oxford St., W.C.** J. H. SQUIRE, Manager

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, FOR NOVEMBER.

ENGLAND.

5. Aford (2,500)
5. Alnwick (6,700)
5. Barwick Feast
5. Beverley (14,185)
5. Cartmel (754)
5. Clipstone (546)
5. Halifax (104,938)
5. Mansfield (Woodhouse) (2,824)
5. Morpeth (6,200)
5. Portland (15,300)
5. Rowsley (700)
5. Scarcliffe (2,525)
5. Skegby (3,987)
7. Eastwood (4,815)
7. Heckmondwike (9,459)
7. Kirkby Stephen (2,495)
7. Plymouth (107,509)
8. Biggleswade (5,129)
8. Guisborough (5,645)
8. Leeds (428,953)
9. Biddenden (1,300)
9. Chesham (7,245)
9. Portsmouth (189,160)
9. South Shields (97,300)
9. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
10. Alston (Cumb.) (3,133)
10. Hucknall (15,256)
10. Lancaster (40,300)
10. Loughborough (21,500)
10. Stamfordham (900)
10. Wakefield (41,514)
10. Wetherby (2,212)
11. Askam-in-Furness (4,500)
11. Brackley (2,467)
11. Carlisle (45,478)
11. Easingwold (1,945)
11. Millom (10,400)
12. Bishop Auckland (11,956)
12. Bulwell (14,707)
12. Chelmsford (12,389)
12. Cockermouth (5,255)
12. Egremont (Cumb.) (5,761)
12. Epping (2,722)
12. Glapwell (89)
12. Kendal (14,200)
12. Keswick (4,502)
12. Maryport (11,896)
14. Bakewell (2,850)
14. Brampton (2,617)
15. Penrith (9,200)
15. Warkworth (1,100)
16. St. Columb (6,846)
17. Andover (6,500)
17. Ulverston (10,064)
17. Yeovil (9,838)
19. Rugby (16,830)
19. Shaftesbury (2,027)
21. Pickering (3,500)
22. Darlington (44,500)
22. Dover (41,783)
22. Fakenham (2,912)
22. Guildford (15,934)
22. Martin Town (900)
23. Crowle (2,749)
23. Newark (14,984)
23. Richmond (Yorks.) (3,836)
23. Ripon (8,200)
23. York (77,793)
25. Chesterfield (27,185)
26. Hartlepool (22,809)
26. St. Ives (Cornwall) (6,697)
26. York (77,793)
30. Frome (11,065)
30. Ilminster (2,287)
30. Ludford (714)
30. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
30. Milborne St. Andrews (1,000)

SCOTLAND.

16. Govan (111,000)
23. Langholm (3,975)
25. Inverness (21,193)

WALES.

5. Llangefeloch
10. Penmorfa (1,486)
11. Aberdare (43,358)
14. Aberystwith (8,613)
15. Llandovery (1,869)
21. Aberystwith (8,613)
26. Mountain Ash (17,000)
28. Aberystwith (8,613)

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the Next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be Held at Rotherham, on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 2.30 p.m.
Members to meet on the Fair Ground.
A Good Muster of Members is Requested.

Important Business on the Agenda.

(Signed) T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

JOY WHEEL.

The Latest Sensation.

WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device. The Wheel provided with Silent Driving Mechanism (patents applied for) Write for full particulars.
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS. & Co., LTD., Kingsley Works, Grange-road, Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Showmen to Read Copy of Testimonial:—
Oct. 15, 1910. Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros.
Sirs,—In reference to the Joy Wheel which you have just supplied me with, I think it is only fair that I should write you a note of appreciation. I am pleased to say it has given great satisfaction, and it not only looks well, but works well, too. Great credit is due to your firm for turning out such a neat and handy lot. Best wishes.—I am, yours respectfully,
(Signed) JOHN WILMOT (E. W.).

SCHEMES FOR "JOY WHEELS."

WANTED, Known, Complete Detail, and Working Plans, with price, for JOY WHEELS, supplied for moderate fee.
Plans passed by authorities any district.
Erection also undertaken.
DAVENPORT, c/o Pendleton's, Architects, 16, Brazennose-street, Manchester.

JOY WHEEL.
JOY WHEEL.
The latest American Amusement Sensation.
WANTED, Known, Attractive 2-sheet Posters correctly representing the Joy Wheel.
Samples and prices on application.
CREBER, printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Novelties, Good Paintings.
App'y, 63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, to open, Monday, on, Quick Showing Novelties, for one month certain. Sharing terms and guarantee given. Start at Barron's Exhibitions, King-street, Reading. Fat Women, Lahomey Troupe, and Midgets, write.

H. E. MOSS'S 26th ANNUAL CARNIVAL, WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH, commencing Monday, Dec. 26, 1910.

WANTED, two First-class Side Shows, also several Stall Spaces to Let.
Apply, with full particulars, to
W. CAMPBELL MILNE,
Carnival Offices, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

WANTED, good Illusion, for Shop or Shares, also good Palmist.
Write, WHITE, 24, Brighton-road, Redhill.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, Clairvoyant, good opening for business woman. Terms, share or rental. Add., MANAGER, Royal Waxworks, 80, Oldham-st., Manchester.

WANTED, for the (Miniature) British and Japanese Exhibition, 459, North End-road, Fulham, Palmist, Wire Worker, Photos, and Side Shows (share or rental). Apply, MANAGER, after 12 a.m.

WANTED, Man, accustomed to Show Business, able to describe Freaks and Novelties, fit up Illusions, and arrange Tableaux in Wax.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Descriptive Vocalist, also Pianist, to travel with auction mart, man used to the business. Auction Mart, Hirwain, near Aberdare, South Wales.

WANTED, by Freddy Baker, Comedian, Planksman, Situation in Auction Mart; experienced, first-class references. Wire or write, 15, Hunter-street, Northampton.

WANTED, by Engineer, Engagement with Showman or Showmen's Engineers; experienced, young, able, and willing to devote whole time to business, home or abroad. Apply, Box 8,441, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Astrology Novelty, Space 5½ft. in good Travelling Exhibition. Madam ALASKA, 90, Falconer's-road Studio, Scarboro'.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Punch Ball (Mills'), £5; Diabolo, 45s.; Golf, 15s.; Loop, 20s.; must clear, genuine. SPORTS, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheaper to buy than hire, Pathé and leading makers, used few weeks, as new, ½d. foot. Lists free. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Wax Model Heads.
STIFF, Makers, 18, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Three American Box Ball Bowling Alleys, 36ft. long, splendid money-takers; suitable for Carnivals, Exhibitions, Fairs, &c. Owner going abroad. Best offers accepted. 17, Ivanhoe-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, 12 beck flame Arc Lamps, £2 each.
Automatic Cutouts, 15s.
Walpole Hall, Ealing, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Suspended Maiden Illusion, 50s.; pair Vent. Figures, 11s.; Conjuring Tricks. Professor SANZ, 178, Villa-street, Lozells, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Palmist's Practice, in Harrogate; long-established; good opportunity. Box 8,444, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors, or will share, Exhibitions, &c. Address, MIRRORS, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Let, one or two Spaces in our Exhibition at Lewisham. Apply, SECRETARY, Exhibition, Ladywell Baths, Lewisham.

WANTED, Known, Modern Picture Theatre or Sports Hall, 42ft. wide, 75ft. long, working middle class district, will be let privately. Box 8,425, "The Era."

SHOWMEN, DON'T MISS THIS.
SHOWMEN, DON'T MISS THIS.
WANTED, to Let, 3, 7, or 14 years, or shorter period, the Arcade, Harrow, adjoining the Harrow Picture Playhouse, where people are turned away nightly. The Arcade has entrances on three thoroughfares, three lofty display frontages, no restrictions; children's Bioscope, Funland, Musical Novelties, or any similar enterprise would do immense. The basement would make splendid miniature Shooting Range. Come and see. Book from any Underground station to Metropolitan Station, Harrow (three minutes from Arcade).

WANTED, George Pinder to communicate with P. Collins, Walsall, re Contract.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the rail way to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

THE GREAT EARL'S COURT RINK.
Direction, FRANK C. BOSTOCK.
WANTED, First-class Instructors, Ladies and Gentlemen; must be accomplished.
Waltz, Two-step, Barn Dance, Cake Walk, &c.
Letters only, immediately, with photos., to JOHN S. HARVEY, General-Manager.

WANTED, Instructors, for Dover, York, Lynn, and Folkestone, to give Free Instruction. Send photo., height, experience, salary required. MANAGER, Pier Rink, Folkestone.

WANTED, Gentlemanly and Competent Instructors, must be proficient in teaching the various waltzes and two-steps. Apply, with references, stating age, height, and experience, and photo if possible, to RINK MANAGER, Crystal Palace Rink, Sydenham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager desires change; would like mangement of small rink; holder of N.S.A. certificate (International style); good Exhibition Skater; 4 years' experience on high-class rinks; good refs. Box 8,468, "The Era."

WANTED, Position as Floor-Manager or Instructor; first-class references, excellent skater, well up in the business; provinces preferred. Apply, Box 8,456, "The Era."

Skating! Skating!! Skating!!!
WORLD'S FAIR, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
WANTED, Known, I am now prepared to Let a Splendid Location, for Skating Rink.
Ground ready, size 102ft. by 150ft.
The finest, most central, and accessible Location in London.
Already Lighted and Decorated.
Thousands attend this huge amalgamation of amusements daily.
32nd Consecutive Year of one Continuous Success.
App'y,
T. E. READ, Sole Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, to Sell, 100 pairs Richardson's Roller Skates, good condition, assorted sizes; also quantity other makes. MANAGER, 10, Prideaux-chambers, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, 90 pairs Extension Roller Skates, 1s 6d. per pair; large quantity old Plimpton Skate Fittings, £2 lot. CROWTHER, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, to Let, Skating Rink (Northamptonshire), now open. Season coming on. Everything complete, including skates, £70.—Box 8,452, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, fine Pantomime Productions. "CINDERELLA," as produced last season at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. Price £150.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS," as produced last season at Bordesley, Birmingham, and Grand, Nottingham. Price £150.
J. MURRAY HERRIOT, Marlborough T., London, N.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, London Theatrical Company to produce new striking little One-Act Play. Few characters, simple cottage interior, very easy and inexpensive to produce. Amusing and original. Diploma of Merit awarded the author for this play by the English Stage Society. What offers? Address, JAMES CASSIDY, Orchard House, Whitton-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Entire Production, Scenery, Properties, and Wardrobe, of "The Bondman" and "Prodigal Son."
Scenery, Properties, and Furniture of "The Dawn of a To-morrow" and "The Bishop's Son."
Can be viewed by appointment.
WENTWORTH CROKE,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Monologues, Duologues, Sketches, Musical Plays, Comedies, Artists' own ideas embellished, Tragedy, Comedy, History, Pastoral. STAFFENHILL-BIRD, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Exclusive Rights of Novel Military Music Hall Sketch; positively original idea. Address, Box 8,437, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Films, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Accessories. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, to Sell, three Funerals of Prince Francis of Teck (Pathé), £1 each, 275ft.; three copies of Funeral (Gaumont), £1 10s. each, 340ft.; three copies of Revolution in Portugal (Pathé), 15s. each, 215ft.; two copies Revolution in Portugal (Gaumont), 460ft., £1 10s. each.

MAGNET FILM CO., LTD.,
30, St. Martin's-court, Charing Cross, London.
Telephone, 8,492, Gerrard.

WANTED, to Sell, or on Hire, Pathé Weekly News, 1 week old, Nov. 14. Wire or write best offer, MANAGER, Empire, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Secondhand Fittings, for Cinematograph; also 20,000ft. Film, from ½d. upwards. WOOD, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Imperceptible Leg Paddings, Tights, Woven Worsted Trousers, Cats, Dogs, Monkeys, Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, Boots, Shoes, Wigs, &c. MAYERS, Maker, 333, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Frock Frills, Leno, Plain with Ruche, 3s. 11d. doz.; Accordion Pleated 5s. 6d. Samples free. KING, 2, Dysart-road, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Quantity of Pantomime Dresses and Armour.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, to Sell, set Tubular Chimes, plated, folding stand, 5ft. 6in. high, new; bargain, £3 10s. NEWMAN, 26, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Loudest and Purest Toned Resonated Xylophones ever made. Organ Chimes, Marimbas, Glockenspiels. LISLE, 33, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, sell, Novel Fit-up for Wire, Two Plated Blocks, for net, horizontal bar, rings. FRAME, 98, Upper Conran-street, Manchester.

BANKRUPT STOCK.
WANTED, to Sell, brand new seating suitable for Picture Palaces, Theatres, &c. Tip-up chairs, with standards, beautifully gold enamelled upholstered in best Pegamoid, with arm rests; cost 13s. 9d. each, my price 5s. 9d. each. Running pit seating, in 4ft. 6in. lengths, extra strong, with upholstered seats and backs, in best Pegamoid; cost 3s. 9d. per ft.; my price 2s. 2d. per ft.; standards gold enamelled. Running pit tip-up seating upholstered and finished as above; 2s. 4d. per ft. (tip-up), in 4ft. 6in. lengths. Pit standards and other legs sold separately if required at 2s. 3d. each, gold enamelled. Stained wood pit seating in 4ft. 6in. lengths, at 1s. 4d. per ft. Tip-up chairs from 3s. 9d. Before buying your seating, see what I have got. I can save you 50 per cent.
WILLIAM POLLARD, 15, Aston-rd. North, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Valuable Freehold Business Premises, comprising Corner Shops and Cottages, having extensive frontage to the leading thoroughfare of a thriving Midland town. Rare opportunity for acquiring a capital site for Electric Theatre, &c.
Apply, ROWLAND and SONS, Auctioneers, 32, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.

PICTURE THEATRE SITE FOR SALE.
WANTED, Known, Established Company, having altered its plans, has a fine Site in Middlesex to transfer at cost; 50ft. by 135ft.; excellent plans by experienced architect, approved by local authority, these may be taken over. Large district and constant traffic.
Apply, Box 8,414, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Blick Typewriter, No. 7 115s.; No. 5, leather case, lock and key, 90s. BURGH, Hawarden-crescent, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, great bargain, handsome Bull Buffalo Hide, in perfect condition, admirably suited for carriage or motor use; taxidermist's examination permitted. Offers. Box 8,442, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Dog Fox Terrier, handsome, 12 months, great hind legs and football, very smart, £2. HILLEARD, 29, Little Broom-street, Camp Hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Tame Teddy Bear, about 8 months old, splendid side show or advertisement. JONES, Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, to Sell, "The Era," 1876 to 1882, bound, and several other years, unbound. A. WILLIAMS, 49 Drewstead-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Plays for Children and Adults, for Home Acting.

All MSS. sent in will be considered, and if printed will be paid for.

Address,
The PLAY EDITOR,
C/o Messrs. T. C. and E. C. JACK,
Publishers,
Causewayside, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Production, also Comedy, with Bookings. State particulars, letters only (must be suitable for lady star), G. WEIL, 15, Strand, London.

WANTED, really Funny Comedy Sketches, or Farcical Absurdities. Letters, GRAHAM, Manager's Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, to Purchase, Desert Scene (Front Cloth), one with transparent moon preferred, also a Gong, good deep tone, and several secondhand Travelling Baskets, in good condition. State lowest price, MONS. HENRI LEON, Empire Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, to Purchase, Scenery suitable for "Babes in the Wood"; Village Set, Forest Set, Palace Set. Particulars and lowest cash price to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Scenery of every description, Cloths, Flats, &c.
Lowest cash price, full particulars,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, to Purchase, a secondhand electrically-fitted "Cinderella" Coach, also quantity of Dresses suit "Cinderella," in good condition. State where can be seen, &c., to GREEN and HINTON, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, a Library of good Military Band Music; must be good and up-to-date.
State price, condition, and send catalogue.
Address, Box 8,454, "The Era."

WANTED, MS. of "Barnes of New York." H. Ryland Leigh please communicate.
T. E. WARD, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Buy, 100 Plush Tip-up Chairs, 100 Bent Wood Tip-up Chairs, and 150 Cane Bottom Chairs; must be cheap for cash.
PICTURE, Box 8,429, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Purchase, Dragoon Guards, uniforms, complete, must be like new. Price, full particulars, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, several Dresses (hats, wigs, and swords, complete), Charles II. period. Also Ladies' Dresses, same period. BUTLER, 4, Winter-street, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, good Dramatic Sketches of all Descriptions. Nothing clap-trap; must be original. Letters, GRAHAM, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, to Buy, a good Secondhand Monkey Skin, for man 5ft. 6in.; must be cheap. Particulars to A. PLANT, No. 5, Sutton-street, Hollowayhead, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Buy, a Trained Bird, Cockatoo or Talking Species preferred. State what bird can do, also price. Box 8,413, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Nov. and onwards, Ryculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms, suitable for Rehearsals, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Cinema Palace, Gauden-road, Clapham.

WANTED, to Let, with Possession about April, Picture Theatre, seats 1,500, large district. Rent £700. Box 8,469, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, "The Girl from Japan," a Musical Comedy, by Wilfred Carr; Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Printing ready for piece at moderate terms. Address, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, set of "Dick Whittington" Chimes. Wrtie, stating full particulars, to MORGAN, c/o Fred Karno, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Music Hall (London). State particulars. Letters only.
G. WEIL, 151, Strand, London.

WANTED, to Rent, Picture Hall or building that can cheaply be converted, in district without opposition. Information resulting in advertiser becoming tenant will be paid commission. Box 8,459, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, in Populous District, Good Theatre or Hall. Box 8453, "The Era" Office.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, with £200 to £300, to join Advertiser in opening a Picture Palace.
Write, HALL,
Box 8,430, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, third share in Successful Picture Hall, Capital for development of further Cinematograph Property. Strict investigation. J. T. RICHARDSON, Post Office, Bolton.

WANTED, Partner for Stage Academy, Dancing School, Variety Agency, Amateur entertained. Write particulars, STAGE TUTOR, 19, Cruden-street, Islington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2,611 Central.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper.
ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Quick Printing, 100 Memos, 1s. 6d.; 50 Cards, 6d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 5s. 6d.; post free. ROCKINGHAM PRINTING WORKS, 15, Rockingham-st., Elephant and Castle, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Palatine Printing Co., Wigan, are the cheapest printers on earth or elsewhere. Customers exclaim "Marvellous!"

WANTED, for Paterson's Gag-book, small card advertisements. Three lines, 2s. 6d. Other rates on application, or will let same. Scotland's premier songwriter. 228, Parliamentary-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Gerald Delauney-Fozier, for High-class Orchestrations, Composing, Transposing, Harmonising, Arranging from 5s. Address, 47B, Buckingham Palace-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring the Most Handsome, Durable, and Economical Floor Coverings in the World should get samples of "Monarch" Mattings from JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Makers, also, of Special Gymnasium, Wrestling, Circus, and other Mats and Mattresses.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate. 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus. The Council regret they cannot utilise the Funds of the Association for non-members.

WANTED, J. F. Preston to communicate with Mrs. Frank Bateman immediately. Important. Address, 147, Parkside-terrace, Bentley-lane, Walsall.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.
DALY AND REYNOLDS,
1764, London-road, Liverpool, Nov. 5, 1910.
To whom it may concern.
NOTICE.—The partnership hereto existing between the above has been mutually dissolved from Nov. 5, 1910. All accounts owing by, and owing to Daly and Reynolds, will be paid and received by Mr. Daly, who will carry on the business as heretofore, with the sole exception of the Picturedrome, Atherstone, which will in future be carried on by Mr. Reynolds. All communications to Mr. Daly from this date.
Signed, CHAS. M. DALY.
FRED. REYNOLDS.

DISENGAGED FOR PANTOMIME
PRINCIPAL BOY OR GIRL.
Refer TOM B. DAVIS, Esq., Lyric Theatre.
PHILIP RODWAY, Esq., T. R., Birmingham.
J. F. ELLISTON, Esq., Bolton.
CLARA REID, ADDRESS, PAL, BRISTOL.

EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space in the
1911 ISSUE
of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.

44TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every Town in the World where there is a Place of Amusement. It is therefore the Best Medium for those who require World-wide Publicity.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROFESSIONAL ADVTS.

FULL PAGE	-	-	£4 4 0
HALF-PAGE	-	-	2 2 0
QUARTER-PAGE	-	-	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS AT PRESENT VACANT.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock Street,
Covent Garden, W.C.

'Phones 4747 & 1433 Central.

"THE ERA" IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

MESSRS
GORDON AND GOTCH.

SINGLE COPIES ON SALE.
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.
ADVERTISEMENTS ACCEPTED.

Australian Artistes visiting the Metropolis use *The Era* Offices, as their Permanent London Address.

Apply or Address,
MELBOURNE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
SYDNEY—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, PITT-STREET.
BRISBANE—
Messrs. GORDON and GOTCH, QUEEN-STREET.
PERTH—
Messrs GORDON and GOTCH.

DRAMATIC CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Sixpence per line.

MISS LOUIE ADAIR,
Own Company, "It's Always the Woman."
Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

MISS MARY ALLESTREE,
Bessie Clare in "The Horse Thief," Mr. Herbert Sleath's new sketch, Empire, New Cross.

MISS INA ALSTON, Ballet Mistress.
Private and Class Lessons in Dancing.
38, Baron's Court-road, W. 'Phone 3433 Kensington.

MISS CECILE E. ANSON,
As Mrs. Wiggs, on tour. Dis. Nov. 21.
Letters, 1, St. Lawrence-road, Brixton, S.W.

MISS MARIE AUCKLAND,
Dis., Lead, Special Parts, &c.
137, St. George's-rd, S.E.

MISS MAY BEATRICE.
Permanent address,
19, Prince's-avenue, Liverpool.

MISS MARIE BECKENHAM,
"Our Miss Gibbs" Co.
Re-engaged by Mr. George Dance for Christmas.

MISS CISSIE BELLAMY, Leading
Business. Thanks Stephen Pritt, Esq., for half salary for matinée. 33, May-st., South Shields.

MISS WANDA BERESFORD,
At liberty for 1911.
25, St. Stephen's-square, Bayswater, W., or A.A.

MISS KATIE BLAIR,
Heavy Lead, "Little Phil's Mother" Co.
P. O. W., Nuneaton; next, T. R., Wolverhampton.

MISS NELLIE BONSER,
"Lucky Durham" Co. Theatre Royal, Hanley. At Liberty shortly.

MISS ADIE BOYNE,
Address,
33, Lawford-road, N.W.

MISS WINNIE BROWNE,
Anita, "Havana." On Tour.
Nov. 14, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MISS STELLA CAMPBELL.
Address,
5, Alexandra-villas, Finsbury Park, N.

MISS EVELYN CARLETON,
Juvenile Lead, Miss Florence Tyrrell's Co., Pavilion, Weymouth.

MISS RITA CARLYLE,
Starring as the Chorus Lady.
Add., O. H., Cheltenham.

MISS NORA CARTON,
Touring own company, "Temptation."
Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MISS PHYLLIS CECIL,
8, Nevill-road,
Rottingdean, near Brighton.

MISS MARGUERITE CELLIER,
Leah in "Leah Kleschna."
Harrogate (3), Grantham (3).

MISS ADA CHAMPION,
Title-rôle in "Who is She"?
Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's Co. Next, P., Bordesley.

MISS HETTY CHAPMAN.
Agent, A. HART.
22, Wellington-street, Strand.

MISS HETTIE CHATTELL.
At liberty Xmas through misunderstanding.
Nov. 14, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

MISS NITA CLAVERING, Liberty.
Prin. Sop. Mus. Com.; or Panto., Prin B. or G. Add., 28, High-street, Clapham, S.W.

MISS AMY COLEMAN
and MISS GLADYS EVERARD.
50, Cambridge-mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.

MADAME COLLARD notifies that on and after this date will be known as MISS AIDA OLIVE. 68, Crowndale-rd., Camden Town.

MISS PATRICIA CONNAUGHTON.
concludes 1,000th performance of Molly, "Two Little Drummer Boys." Offer invited, Prin. Com.

MISS ITALIA CONTI.
Address, 7A, Parade-mansions, Golders Green, Hampstead, N.W. Tel., 5104 P.O. Hampstead.

MISS GEORGIE CORLASS,
Starring in India and Far East.
Address, c/o THOS. COOK and SONS, Bombay.

MISS MILDRED COTTELL,
Lady Margaret, "Behind the Veil," Dis. Nov. 19. 61, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.

MISS VALERIE CRESPIN,
Starring with J. A. Campbell, Esq.
"From Convent to Throne" Co. Next, Liverpool

MISS FLORENCE DALTON,
Starring as "The Thief in the Night." At Liberty Dec 5. Lyric, Hammersmith.

MISS MARIE DAVENTRY,
32, Wightman-road, Finsbury Park, London, N.

MISS ALICE DEFOE,
Jessie Burton, "Brought to Ruin." At Lib. Christmas. Britannia, Hoxton, Nov. 14.

MISS ETTA DELAMERE,
Juvenile Lead, &c.
53, Canterbury-terrace, Elgin-avenue.

MISS GEORGIE DE LARA,
Entire Lead, Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's Co. Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

MISS FRANCES DELAVAL.
Big success of own Sketch, "Iron Bars."
61, Crescent-road, Ramsgate.

MISS RENEE DE L'ESTRADE.
Address,
15, Rowan-road, W.

MISS GRACE DENBEIGH-RUSSELL,
Kitty Verdun in "Charley's Aunt."
Nov. 14, Cambridge (3), Ipswich (3).

MISS OCTAVIA DE NOEL,
At Liberty, Lead, Light Comedy.
14th, Hippodrome, Coventry.

MISS DOROTHY DESMONDE,
Title-rôle, "Dare-Devil Dorothy."
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MISS DORIS DIGBY,
Mr. Harold Neilson's Co.
Nov. 14, Hastings (Six Nights).

MISS BELLE DONALDSON,
"Where is William?" Co. Nov. 14, Royalty Theatre, Barrow. Disengaged shortly.

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN.
Now resting till Feb. by doctor's orders.
Permanent address, Actors' Association.

MISS ELIZABETH DUNDAS,
Lavender, Juv. Lead, "A Criminal's Bride" Co. This, T. R., Smethwick; next, Edmonton.

MISS ENID EDONI,
At Liberty in December for Lead or Light Comedy. Next, Pontypridd.

MISS CONSTANCE ELGIN,
Brema Sax in "The Raven's Toll," Leonard Mortimer's Co. Empire Theatre, Portsmouth.

MISS VIOLET ELLICOTT will appear
as Lady Isabel in Mr. W. W. Kelly's "New East Lynne" Co. Nov. 14, Theatre, Cork.

MISS MABYN FAY,
Mrs. Porter, in "Beauty and the Barge." Nov. 14, Opera House, Torquay.

MISS DOROTHY FIRMIN
(Principal Girl), Christmas.
J. C. Williamson, Esq., Australia.

MISS MARGARET FRAME,
Camille, in "For Wife and Kingdom." Dis. Dec. 12. Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

MISS ISLA GARNET - VAYNE,
Star Lead, "The Mill Girl."
Morton Powell, Esq.'s, Co. Star, Swansea.

MISS NELLIE GARSIDE,
Disengaged Nov. 25. Thanks Miss Ethel Van Praagh for Offer. T. R., Sheffield.

MISS DORIS GILHAM,
Lead, Mr. Fredk. Melville's Co.
Brixton Theatre, or 20, High-rd., East Finchley.

MISS KIRSTEEN GRAEME,
Address,
76, Elm Park-mansions, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS PAULINE HAGUE,
Concluding two years, Lady Pat, "Cingalee." At liberty, 21, Granby-street, Liverpool.

MISS LOUISE HAMPTON.
Offers invited for Christmas. Lead.
Address, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MISS FLORENCE HARCOURT. "Half a Dollar," London Pavilion. Dis. Nov. 26. Light Comedy, Character, &c. 32, Regent-street.

MISS JOAN HARCOURT,
At Liberty in Dec.
Nov. 14, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

MISS ETHEL HARDACRE Finishes
"Passing Third Floor Back" Dec. 10. Char. and Com. 11, Ennismore-rd., Walton, Liverpool.

MISS GERTRUDE HARRISON,
Disengaged for Xmas, Leads and Heavies. Perm. to be forwarded, 24, Pelham-sq., Brighton.

MISS HILDA HATTON, Mona Moncrief (Lead), own new Drama, "For the Land we Love." En route, or Actors' Association.

MISS JENNIE HAYDN, Disengaged.
Light Comedy and Chambermaids (sing). Offers invited. 78, Bellbarn-road, Birmingham.

MISS ROSALIE HEATH,
Disengaged Dec. 12.
Letters, 10 Cornwall-st., St. George's-sq., S.W.

MISS KATHARINE HERBERT
(Mrs. Rupert Harvey). Perm. Add., 99, Victoria-mansions, South Lambeth-road, S.W.

MISS ADRIA HILL (Mrs. Robert Ayrton). Lady Temperley, "House of Temperley," Grand T., Swansea. At Lib. Dec. 10.

MISS OLGA HOPE,
Child Actress. Disengaged for Xmas.
Permanent address, 17, Comeragh-road, W.

MISS MARIE HOUSLEY,
At Liberty for Lead.
15, Heathcote-street, Mecklenburgh-square, W.C.

MISS AGNES IMLAY,
"The Man from Blankley's" Co.
At Liberty Nov. 21. King's, Hammersmith.

MISS ALICE INMAN,
Mr. Laurence Irving's season.
Garrick Theatre, W.

MISS CLARA JECKS.
Address,
Care of "The Era"; or, A.A.

MISS VIOLA JENNINGS,
Lead, Heavy Lead. All communications, perm. add., Viola House, Redditch, Worcestershire.

MISS CHRISTINE JENSEN,
concluding as Nora, "What the Butler Saw" Co. 57, Sternhold-avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

MISS MARY KILPACK.
Disengaged Nov. 28. Character Parts.
Hippodrome, Sheffield.

MISS GLORIA LAWRENCE,
Specially engaged by George Conquest, Esq., for Britain's Fairy Queen, Britannia Theatre, N.

MISS GERTRUDE LE SAGE,
Disengaged.
42, Charlwood-st., South Belgravia, London, S.W.

MISS GRACE LESTER,
Own Sketch, "A Ruined Life."
Nov. 14, Palace, Canning Town.

MISS SOPHIE LINGWOOD.
Mrs. Hughes, No. 1, "Woman in the Case" Nov. 14, T. R., Darlington. Disengaged Dec. 12.

MRS. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
L.R.A.M. Pianist, Vocalist, Accompanist, Coach; good sight-reader. 28, Chelverton-rd., Putney.

MISS ETHEL TREVOR LLOYD.
Heavy Lead, "Sherlock Holmes" Co.
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS KITTY LOFTING,
Lead, "The Price of Peace."
Next week, The Oxford and Hippo., Peckham.

MISS MABEL LOWE,
Own Sketch Company.
The Bedford and Crouch End Hippodrome.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON,
Disengaged Nov. 14.
Thanks Mr. Watson for a most pleasant 6 weeks.

MISS IZA LYNDON,
the Youngest Leading Lady on the Stage. Grand, Plymouth; next, Princes T., Accrington.

MISS MARGARET LYNHART.
Address,
Care of "The Era."

MISS MARA MALTBY,
Address,
127, Cambridge-street, S.W.

MISS MABEL MANNERING,
at Liberty. Lead.
14, Salisbury House, Highbury, or A.A.

MISS LYDIA MANNINGTON and POPPY H. ASQUIN, Dis. Dec. 10; L. M., Lead, H. Lead; P.H.A., Comedy, Boys. Salford.

MISS ALICE MANSFIELD,
Disengaged 19th inst.
Address, care of "The Era."

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE,
Disengaged
48, Chepstow-road, Newport, Mon.

MISS EDIE MARTIN,
Eliza, "The Dairymaids" (No. 1 Tour).
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MDME. ANNIE MOLLER.
Address,
Woodlea, Ashton-on-Mersey, Manchester.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE,
Disengaged.
Address, The Laurels, Chiswick-lane, W.

MISS MARGARET MURCH,
Lead. Disengaged.
C/o "The Era."

MISS WINIFRED MURRAY,
Re-engaged Lovey Mary in "Mrs. Wiggs."
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON
(Mrs. Atkin), Supporting Miss Ethel Irving, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS KATIE NEVILLE,
Disengaged, Lead or Comedy, Disengaged.
37, Wyke-gardens, Clapham-road, S.W.

MISS CLARA NICHOLLS.
Mrs. De Hooley, "Passing of the Third Floor Back." Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MISS ROSALIE NOTRELLE,
Starring, Juvenile Lead, in Répertoire.
Pavilion Theatre, Abertillery.

MISS ALICE O'DEA,
Mrs. Banger, in "Press Cuttings."
Miss Horniman's Co. New Theatre, Oxford.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT,
Disengaged.
Address, 239, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS DORIS PEACE,
Dis. until January. 56, Broad-st., Pendleton, Manchester. 'Phone 740 Pendleton.

MISS MARY PEMBERTON,
Lead. "Married to the Wrong Man."
C/o Walter Pemberton, Aldwych Theatre.

MISS ADELINE RABY,
Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's Co. Dis. December.
Good offers invited. Next, T. R., Sunderland.

MISS FLORENCE RADCLIFFE,
Margery Sylvester, "Our Flat."
Nov. 14, County Theatre, Bedford (six nights).

MISS JOSEPHINE RICHARDS,
Juv. Lead, Mr. F. B. Woulfe's Répertoire Co. This and next, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by Oscar Asche.
Address, 25, St. Margaret's-rd, Twickenham.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL,
Lead. At Liberty Nov. 23.
Devonshire Park or 14, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS MAUD RUSSELL
(Mrs. Frank M. Thorne), "Little Phil's Mother." Nov. 14, T. R., Wolverhampton.

MISS BEATRICE SELWYN,
Disengaged.
Address, c/o "The Era."

MISS NELLIE SHEFFIELD, Dis. for few weeks. Thanks Miss Bains. Panto. John Hart, Esq. 26, Greyhound-road, Hammersmith.

MISS MARY STAFFORD SMITH,
At Liberty.
Add., 33, Offley-road, North Brixton, S.W.

MISS GERALDINE SOMERSET,
Madge, "Parson Grey, V.C.," Mr. Geo. Gray's Co. This, Metro.; next, Tottenham Palace.

MISS LALLA STANHOPE,
Star Lead, "A Girl's Temptation" Co.
Nov. 14, T. R., Crook.

MISS BLANCHE STANLEY,
Character and Comedy. Disengaged, Town.
Address, c/o S. Major Jones, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL,
Disengaged.
4, Thornton-hill, Wimbledon.

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY (Mrs. Edwin Wilde), Miss Kite, "Passing of the Third Floor Back." Winter G., New Brighton.

MISS KATE SYDNEY,
Disengaged. Offers invited.
5, Old Oak-road, Acton, W.

MISS JESSICA THORNE
as Smith, in "Smith."
Nov. 14, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MISS LOUIE TINSLEY, Resigned
Engagement with Messrs. Murray King and Clark. Dis. 21st and Panto. County T., Bedford.

MISS RITA TREKELLE, Cecile in
"The Cruise of the Saucy Sally." Mr. Laurence Brough's Co. Nov. 14, Birmingham.

MISS NELLIE VALENTINE, Lead,
"A Hot Night" Co. Disengaged Dec. 12. This and next, New Century Th., Motherwell.

MISS WINIFRED VALLANT,
"The Flag Lieutenant" Co.
Disengaged Dec. 5. C/o Actors' Association, W.

MISS ELLA VANE.
engaged by J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman, "Nick Carter." Th. Royal, Belfast.

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN,
Ethel Smedley, in "Beauty and the Barge."
Nov. 14, Torquay.

MISS AGNES VERITY, Lead,
Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's Co. New Theatre Royal, Barry, Nov. 14.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
Starring in Mr. Frank Lindo's plays.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, Openshaw.

MISS WARD,
Rose Avondale in "His Real Wife."
Address, Palace, Maidstone.

MISS ETHEL WARD.
Address,
1, Douglas House, Maida Hill West.

MISS VASHTI WYNNE.
Lyceum Theatre,
W.C.

MR. MARTIN ADESON and CLARA BERNARD. "Dr. Maude's First Patient."
Palace, Huddersfield.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
At liberty, Dec. 5, onwards. Mr. W. Greet's Co. Address, Opera House, Southport.

MR. GEORGE ASCOT,
Disen. Dec. 17, Paris, A. or S.-Management.
Letters, King's Lynn, till Thursday.

MR. ROBERT R. ASHBY.
Address,
3, Bolden-street, St. John's, S.E.; or, A.A.

MR. G. AUBREY-HALL,
Disengaged, Business-Management or Press Agent. Thundersley, Essex.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
Paul Sylvaine, "Leah Kleschna."
1, Nydd Vale-terrace, Harrogate.

MR. & MRS. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN
(Marie Florence). Title-rôle, Nancy, in "Pete." Letters, care of "The Era."

MR. FRANK AYRTON.
Miss MADGE SEYMOUR.
"Temptation," Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. ROBERT AYRTON, "The Brass Bottle" Co. At Liberty Dec. 17. Address, Lyceum Th., Sheffield, Nov. 14 (six nights).

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Enter.-Man. to the Herne Bay Urban District Council. Alphington, Hillbro'-road, Herne Bay.

MR. IVOR BARNARD,
Mr. Porter, "Beauty and the Barge."
Nov. 14, Opera House, Torquay.

MR. and MRS. P. BARRY-LEWERS
(Elizabeth Watkins), Heavy Lead and Lead, "Sexton Blake." Dis. Xmas. P. O. W., Salford.

MR. EDWIN BARWICK,
open for Musical Comedy or Panto. (Baron).
49, Barry-road, East Dulwich.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE,
At Liberty. Offers invited.
Address, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

MR. and MRS. RONALD BAYNE
Miss Evelyn Hope.
Gibbon's Circuit, London.

MR. HENRY BEDFORD,
"The Bottom Dog." Address, 99, Halton-rd., N.; or, W. EDELSTEN, 209, Brixton-road, S.W.

MR. FRANK BERESFORD
Thanks Leonard Rayne, Esq., re Miss Ada Reeve's South African tour. Hippo., Neath.

MR. IVAN BERLYN.
At Liberty.
C/o Weathersby, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

MR. WILLIAM BILLETT,
Manager, "Fires of Fate" Co.
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. LEONARD BOOKER,
Prince Hildred, "The Prince and the Beggar Maid." Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

MR. CHARLES BOULT.
Arrangements complete.
30, Upper Baker-street, N.W.

MR. MATTHEW BOULTON
and MISS RUTH DOCKRAY. Disengaged.
32, Portland-road, Holland Park, W.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN.
Address,
Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, E.

MR. ALFRED BRANDON, Hildred
and S.M., "Prince and the Beggar Maid" Co. Dis. Nov. 26. C/o P.O., Newtown, Wales.

MR. WILLIAM H. BROUGHAM.
Letters.
Care of "The Era."

MR. J. V. BRYANT,
Miss Horniman's Co.
Nov. 14, New Theatre, Oxford.

MR. CAYLEY CALVERT.
C/o Mr. George Gray's Dramatic Bureau, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Tel. 3160 Central.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE.
H. C., Lyceum; Mrs. C., Dis. O. W. and C. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.; or A. HART.

MR. GEO. E. CARLETON,
at Liberty Dec. 4, Management, Resident, or Tour. Address, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

MR. J. HAROLD CARSON,
Disengaged in Dec. Parts or Management.
Address, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Mrs. Lewis Waller's Co. At liberty Nov. 20.
5, Hurlingham-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER, Capucius,
"Henry VIII." Miss V. CHAMIER, "Pillars of Society," 9th. 15, Gordondale-rd, Wimbledon.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE H. CHILD.
G. H. C., "Karl's Luck," Met., 8.25 and 10.30. "Cottage on the Moor," Chelsea Pal., 7.15 and 9.30.

MR. ALICK CHUMLEY
as Recklaw Poole in "The Little Damozel."
Nov. 14, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

MR. WALTER CLARKE,
Leading Business. Mr. Frank Adair's Co.
Nov. 14, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

MR. STUART CLEVELAND
Invites offers.
33, Somerleyton-road, Brixton.

MR. & MRS. GEORGE EDWIN CLIVE
(Miss Amber Wyville), Heavy Leads. Stuart Lomath's Company. Nov. 14, Theatre, Blyth.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS,
Lead,
"Sapcote," Oppidans-road, Primrose Hill. N.W.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON.
as Spettigue, in "Charley's Aunt" Co.,
Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. WILFRID COMPTON
(Miss Miriam Holt), Miss Wetherall and Newte, "New Lady Bantock." H. M., Aberdeen.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK,
General-Manager, Miss Nora Carton's Co.
Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. TOM CONWAY,
See Front Page.

MR. J. W. CORDINER.
Nov. 14,
Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MR. VERNON COWPER.
All communications,
C/o Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W.

MR. TOM CRAVEN.
restored to health, offers his services as Manager, Press Representative, or Actor. Add., "Era."

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. OWEN DACROY, at Liberty
Dec., London only. Char. and Heavies, Panto., Sketches, or Management. Hip., Nelson, Lancs.

MR. ROLAND DANIEL
and MISS DORRIE ROBERTS.
Messrs. W. and F. Melville's Management.

MR. and MRS. PHILIP DARIEN
(Violet Macarre). At lib. for leading business. All coms., 78, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MR. ALAN S. DAVENPORT,
Dis. Picture Palaces, Skating Rink Parts.
3, York-street, St. James's. Tele., 1477 Gerrard.

MR. HARRY W. DAY,
Resident Manager.
New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

MR. JACK DENTON,
at Liberty Xmas through misunderstanding.
Nov. 14, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

MR. HENRY DE SOLLA,
Disengaged for Pantomime.
21, South End-road, Hampstead.

MR. J. HERMANN DICKSON,
At liberty to accept engagement as Acting-Manager. First-class advance.
or Character Parts.
Offers invited.
Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. ERNEST A. DOUGLAS,
Marquis of Beverley, "The Whip."
Lib. Nov. 21, few weeks. Kennington Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES DRAYCOTT
(Miss Muriel Thompson).
Répertoire Co., Grand Theatre, Stockton.

MR. CECIL DU GUE,
Disengaged.
20, Newpolt House, Great Newport-street, W.C.

MR. and MRS. T. W. DUNSCOMBE
(Miss Marie Tennant).
Nov. 14, Gaiety Theatre, Methil.

MR. BASIL DYNE,
Concludes Re-eng. Rev. Daubeny, "Hypocrites." Offers invited. 70, Jerningham-rd, S.E.

MR. CHARLES A. EAST.
MISS EAST-ROBERTSON, Mr. Sleath's "Third Degree." 17, Adie-road, Hammersmith.

MR. REG EDWARDS,
Reginald Brown, in "Havana."
Disen. for Christmas. Nov. 14, Roy. T., Chester.

MR. CHARLES ESDALE.
with Miss Decima Moore.
Nov. 14, Nottingham.

MR. GERALD FITZGERALD. Sailing
for S. Africa. Jan. 28, Panmier and Howard. Disen. for few weeks. Trafalgar House, Cheltenham.

MR. and MRS. FRANK H. FRANCE
(Miss Edith Stewart). "The Little Puritan."
Nov. 14, Empire, Edinburgh.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE,
"The Old Home."
32, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS
Disengaged.
12, Canterbury-street, Islington, Liverpool.

MR. VICTOR GARDOM,
Rev. Robert Arden (Lead), "For the Land we Love." Letters, En Route, or A.A.

MR. WILLIE GARVEY.
Panto., Widow Twankey, Kennington Theatre.
Vine Cottage, Herne Bay.

MR. WALTER GAY,
Starring in "The Price of Peace."
The Oxford (third week).

MR. NEVILLE GIORDANO,
James Welch's "When Knights Were Bold."
South Co. Nov. 14, Royal Theatre, Worcester.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Leading Business.
Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON,
Disengaged Dec. 3.
198, Wymering-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. CLAUDE GRAVELEY,
Lead, "A Child of the Streets" Co.
Nov. 14, Grand T., Nottingham.

MR. RICHARD A. GREENE,
Lead, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.
Disengaged end of run. Address A.A.

MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN
as Fire in "The Blue Bird."
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Disengaged, Character, Dialect Lessons.
50, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE,
Karl in "Prince and Beggar Maid." At lib.
Nov. 26, Juv., Light Com. 69, Huron-rd., Balham.

MR. & Mrs. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON
(Miss Grace Harlington). Disengaged.
88, Rectory-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. HENRY HALLATT
As Olaf in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid." Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

MR. AUGUSTUS HAMMOND,
Stage-Director, and MARIE FONTAINE.
"The Eternal Question." T. R., Glasgow.

MR. J. PITT HARDACRE.
Booking "East Lynne."
All communications, Staines, Middlesex.

MR. A. C. HARDIE.
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.
Disengaged end of run.

MR. W. S. HARDY,
Manager, North Co.,
"The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

MR. HENRY HARGREAVES,
Leading Man with Allan Wilkie.
Nov. 14, Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Albert Thompsett, "Don." Nov 14, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. Disengaged Dec. 3.

MR. W. T. HARRIS,
Professor Moriarty in "Sherlock Holmes."
Nov. 14, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. STANLEY HARRISON.
Disengaged Nov. 25. Leading Business, Light Comedy. 32, Portland-road, Holland Park, W.

MR. RUPERT HARVEY,
Mr. Laurence Irving's Co.
Garrick Theatre, W.

MR. JOHN HASTINGS-BATSON.
Disengaged.
C/o "The Era."

MR. G. LYON HASTINGS,
Horace Lingard's Répertoire. Oct. 31, King's Th., Kirkcaldy; Nov. 14, H. M. T., Aberdeen.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
The Haven, Hale-lane,
Edgware, Middlesex.

MR. T. P. HAYNES.
Address,
Letters, c/o "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER and MISS HILDA SHIRLEY. Starring and General-Manager for Messrs. Green and Hinton.

MR. DALZIEL HERON.
"The Unwritten Law."
Garrick Theatre.

MR. DENIS J. HOGAN,
At Liberty for 1911. Leading Business.
25, St. Stephen's-square, Bayswater, W.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
205, South Croxted-road,
Dulwich, S.E.

MR. W. EDWYN HOLLOWAY,
Disengaged.
Langroyd House, Larkhall Rise, S.W.

MR. A. C. HOLMES,
Disengaged.
34, Poppleton-road, Leytonstone, N.E.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
Disengaged.
Address, 74, The Drive, Fulham, S.W.

MR. FRANK HOWARD,
General Manager Walter Melville's Co.,
"Beggar Girl's Wedding." Osborne, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD
(Miss Carlotta Anson), 87th week of tour,
"Under the Iron Heel." Nov. 14, T. R., Colchester.

MR. ERIC HUDSON,
At liberty Nov. 28, for few weeks.
Nov. 14, "The Whip," Kennington T. (6 Nights.)

MR. & MRS. S. HERBERT HUMBER
(Beatrice Sinclair), Mr. H., Lead, "Who is She?" Co. Disengaged Dec. 10. Bordesley.

MR. JAMES HUSSEY,
Title-rôle, "The Private Secretary."
Nov. 14, Palace, Tynemouth.

MR. RALPH W. HUTTON.
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES,
Stage-Manager,
Lyceum Theatre.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
105, Ditchling-rise, Brighton.

MR. D'ARCY KELWAY,
Jerry, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C. Disengaged shortly.

MR. CLAUDE KING
as Captain Temperley. Dis. December.
Nov. 14, Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MR. FRED KNIGHT, at Liberty.
Character, Comedy, Old Men, Robust.
21, Rattray-road, Brixton, S.W., to be forwarded.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE,
Address, The Central Theatre, Northwich.
Permanent address, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE.
Address,
1 and 2, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. MONTAGUE LANE,
Mr. Laurence Irving's Co.
Garrick Theatre, W.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price). Disengaged.
40, Glenthorne-road, Hammersmith.

MR. HERBERT LAWRENCE,
Boys, Comedy, Spec. Juv. Offers invited.
Ferm., 13, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

MR. MARK LESTER. Pantomime,
Baron, Broadway Theatre, Deptford. Dis. for Spring. Perm., 53, Waldemar-mans, Fulham.

MR. HORACE LINGARD and BEATRICE MOREAU'S Rept. Co. H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen, or A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. RUPERT LISTER,
Disengaged.
St. James's Theatre, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK LISTON
(Maud Warburton). Star Leads.
14th, T. R., Leeds; or, The Managers' Club.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY
(Miss Maggie Edwards).
"The Village Blacksmith." Queen's T., Leeds.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN.
Address, A.A., or,
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY.
All communications,
16, Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. MONTAGU LOVE,
Tom Freeman, in "Smith" (North Co.).
Dis. Dec. 5. Nov. 14, Grand, Croydon.

MR. LLOYD LOWNDES,
Disengaged.
Address, A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
Playing Wm. Mollison's rôle in "The Chorus Lady." O. H., Cheltenham.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG,
Disengaged.
Craven House, Grove Park-road, Chiswick.

MR. JOHN MACFARLANE,
Richard Chelford, "The Thief."
C/o Actors' Society, New York.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Own tour, "Rollicking Rory," "Wearin' o' the Green." En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde.

MR. JERROLD MANVILLE,
Character Comedy. Disengaged Xmas.
Pavilion, Abertillery; next week, Hippo., Neath.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
Nov. 14, Opera House, Torquay, six nights.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Professor, in "Brass Bottle."
Nov. 14, Lyceum, Sheffield.

MR. WILLIAM G. MARSHALL and Miss CHARLOTTE E. BALLINGER.
Address, 11, Church-square, Tredegar, Mon.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN.
Resident Manager,
Grand Opera House, Scarborough.

MR. GEORGE MARTIN,
Stage and Business Manager.
53, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. H. SHERWOOD MARTIN,
General Manager and Lorrimer.
"A Pair of Spectacles" Co."

MR. WILLIAM MARTIN,
General Theatrical Agent. Tours booked.
Telephone 285 Gerrard. 415, Strand, W.C.

MR. CYPRIAN H. MATTHEWS,
Danillo, "Love of the Princess."
Nov. 14, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS,
Walter Angel, "Little Damozel" Co.
Nov. 14, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

MR. G. MAYOR-COOKE, Manager and as Hildred in "The Prince and the Beggar Maid." 60, Anson-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

MR. HARRY McCLELLAND,
401, Albany-road, Camberwell.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
"The Merry Widow" Company.
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. GEO. R. MONTFORD,
Disengaged.
Leading Parts, Heavy or Juvenile,
Management or Production.
37, Eversholt-street, N.W.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HARCOURT. Star Lead, Comedy and Character. Grand Theatre, Chorley.

MR. HERBERT MORGAN,
Lead, "The Girl Who Lost Her Character."
Nov. 14, Woolwich.

MR. F. MARTIN MORRIS,
Disengaged for Management.
Address, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

MR. CHARLES H. MORTIMER,
Sir Charles Tremaine, "Temptation."
Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. FRED MOULE,
Production, Manage, or Part.
153, Capworth-street, Leyton.

MR. FREDERICK MOYES,
Disengaged Lead. Nov. 21, supporting Mrs. Russ Whytal, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

MR. DOUGLAS MUNRO,
Disengaged Nov. 19.
14th, Borough, Stratford; or A.A.

MR. SINCLAIR NEILL,
Allan Wilkie's Co., King, Ford, Gratiano, and Stage-Management. Nov. 14, O. H., Blackpool.

MR. and MRS. ALFRED NORTHWAY.
109, Cambridge-gardens, W.
Telephone, 2079 Western.

MR. ALEX ONSLOW,
as Detlev von Asterberg, "Old Heidelberg."
Nov. 14, Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. R. JERROLD ORD,
Leading Business. Disengaged Nov. 28.
Opera House, Dunfermline.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
Heavy Lead, "Temptation."
Nov. 14, Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. GUS OXLEY.
Simplicitas, "The Arcadians" Co.
T. R., Brighton.

MR. and MRS. MARK PATON
(Miss Mabel Rees).
39, Stansfield-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. WILFRED E. PAYNE,
At Liberty for Leading Business.
15, Heathcote-street, Mecklenburgh-square, W.C.

MR. HERBERT PEARSON.
Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

MR. SYDNEY T. PEASE,
Principal Comedian. At liberty Nov. 28.
This, O. H., Northampton; next, Royalty, Chester.

MR. FOLLETT PENNELL,
Advance Manager, "The Midnight Wedding."
Messrs. Paumier and Howard.

MR. PENNINGTON - GUSH.
All communications.
18, Bernard-street, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq) in America.
Address, 366, Grand-avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY,
"A White Man" Co.
Nov. 14, Shakespeare Theatre, S.W.

MR. FELIX PITT,
Anthony Raybrook, "Driven from Home."
Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

MR. T. ARTHUR PLUMMER:
CORA LINDA, T. A. P., Juv. Lead, "Mill Girl to Millionairess," Star, Swansea.

MR. SYDNEY PORTER.
Arrangements complete.
Combe Lodge, Filton, Bristol.

MR. FRED POWELL,
Disengaged.
Rockchase, Hornchurch, Essex.

MR. OSCAR POWER,
Carl Oppenheim, "For Love and the King."
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

MR. & MRS. DONALD PRICE-EVANS
(Miss Marcella Hudson).
"The Dairymaids" Co. Queen's Th., Longton.

MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE,
Disengaged.
13, Gordon-street, W.C. Tel., 7248 Central.

MR. RULE PYOTT,
"Where is William?" Co.
Nov. 14, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

MR. E. RAYSON - COUSENS,
Juvenile Lead. Dis. Nov. 21 and Spring.
1, Doddington-place, Kennington Park, S.E.

MR. GEORGE RELPH.
Address,
New Theatre, W.C.

MR. SIDNEY RENNEF,
At liberty, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 3.
Hagley, Leighton-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

MRS. HENRY RENOUF,
Mrs. Baldwin, "Beauty and the Barge."
Address, Opera House, Torquay.

MR. DENNIS RENTON
(Formerly Cecil Renton).
Nov. 14, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. ALFRED RIVERS,
Stage-Manager, "The Brass Bottle" Co.
Nov. 14, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Concluding
Nov. 19, Short Engagement with Mrs. Waller.
Booking "Zaza." 44, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C.

MR. OLIVER ROGERS,
Liberty Nov. 28. Management, Lead, or Comedy. Sing, dance. Royalty, Chester.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all Communications,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MR. HOWARD ROSE,
Sir Charles Temperley.
Grand Theatre, Swansea.

MR. JOE ROWLAND,
P.C. Bullock. Resting, by arrangement.
184, Finborough-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY,
Exclusively engaged by Moss' Empires until 1913. Nov. 14, Empire Palace, Birmingham.

MR. A. RUSSELL - DAVIS,
Juvenile Lead and S.M., "Beauty and the Barge." Opera House, Torquay.

MR. MARTIN SANDS,
At Liberty.
58, Windsor-road, Holloway, N.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
George Fisher in "Are You a Mason?"
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Bedford, Leigh.

MR. FRANCIS SERLE,
Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Season.
The New Theatre, W.C., and Managers' Club.

MR. and MRS. ROBIN SHIELLS and MOLLIE, "Mrs. Wiggs" Co. This, Tyne, Newcastle; next, T. Royal, Birkenhead.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
in "Why Did She Run Away?"
Nov. 14, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor, Laurence Irving's Co.
Future offers invited. Garrick Theatre, London.

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON
(Miss Evelyn Robson), at Liberty in Dec.
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (seventeenth year).
Royalty Theatre and Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
General-Manager for Mrs. Chas. Sugden.
Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. EDWARD SWINTON,
Disengaged Dec. 10. Offers invited.
Nov. 14, Palace Theatre, Bordesley (6 nights).

MR. and MRS. RICHARD F. SYMONS
(Miss Eva Moss), R. F. S., Lyceum, W.C.
E. M., Lead, Standard Theatre, Johannesburg.

MR. A. B. TAPPING,
At Liberty, Parts or Management.
28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR.
The Stranger, "Passing Third Floor Back."
Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager. "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. EDWARD THANE,
Heavy Lead.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane. Upper Clapton, N.E.

MR. E. W. THOMAS
and MISS AGNES KNIGHTS.
"The Eternal Question." T. R., Glasgow.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Lord Erskine, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Talleyrand, "A Royal Divorce."
His Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Miss Ethel Irving's Company.
Nov. 14, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. CHARLES B. VAUGHAN,
Engaged by Mr. Hawtrey.
Prince of Wales' Theatre, W.C.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
Representing Mr. Edward Terry in London during his Autumn Tour. Terry's Theatre, Strand.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Special engt. with W. W. Kelly, Esq. Nov. 14, Opera House, Cork. Disengaged, Nov. 21.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont), D. V., Grand, Birmingham; L. B., T. R., Birkenhead. Dis. Dec. 4.

MR. ALBERT WARD.
"A Noble Revenge," by A. W.
45, Santley-street, Brixton, S.W.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Principal Comedian, Chambhuddy Ram,
"Cingalee" Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-rd., Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE.
Disengaged in December.
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.
'Phone 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER,
engaged by Stanley Cooke, Esq.
"Jan and the Figure." Strand Theatre, W.C.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Mr. Hook, R., Chester; next, Bolton.
Christmas, Dame, Prince's, Bristol.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
Managers' Club, or
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
At Liberty. Also Christmas Character Comedy. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley).
"Naked Truth" Tour. T. R., Plymouth.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
"Brewster's Millions."
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. ERIC W. WILLIAMS,
Harrington's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co.
T. R., Wolverhampton; next, P.O.W., Nuneaton.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Principal Comedian,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
Offers to "The Biorenge," Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
George Munro's Répertoire.
Nov. 14, Assembly Rooms, Durham.

MR. JOHN WILMER.
At liberty for management.
Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. H. BONHOTE WILSON,
Starring with Mr. Fredk. Melville.
Dis. Dec. 11. Grand, Rawtenstall.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager,
The London Hippodrome.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON.
Good offers for Lead invited.
52, Parliament-hill, N.W.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD.
Disengaged Christmas, Panto. or otherwise.
"Sign of the Cross." O. H., Southport.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
The F. R. Benson (North) Co.
Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Disengaged. Parts or Management.
Address, 52, Eastbourne-terrace, Paddington, W.

MR. SIDNEY YOUNG.
Address,
132, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE MISS BELLA TERRY,
Principal Girl, "Blue Bird" Co.
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS
on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era"
should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Accompaniste,
Society Entertainer, Ladies' Orchestra, for Dances, Receptions, &c. 210, Edgware-road, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS,
Smartest and Brightest of all Concert Parties.
Now Booking Easter and Summer Tour, 1911. For full particulars, GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MISS CISSIE HARCOURT, Mezzo. and Soubrette, sailing to-day, s.s. Sardinia, "Follies," India, Japan and China Tour. Coms., 47, Canterbury-road, Brixton, S.W.

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Galeties and The Euterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

ADELE LEVEY,
Raconteuse. Vacant November.
Address, C/o "The Era" Office.

MISS KATE RICHARDS,
Pianist, Accompanist and Coach, &c.
Address, C/o Brinsmead Studios, Wigmore-st., W.

WILKIE, the Human Marionette,
Impersonations. Write for booklet.
11, Sotheby-road, Highbury. 'Phone 4747 City.

44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements
should be forwarded at once to the Office,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS
FOR
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be Most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

BY CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, A.C.A.
Price 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

PUBLISHED AT "THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

A CRITIC ON CRITICS.

Mr. E. F. Spence has collected a number of clever essays, which have appeared in the *Westminster Gazette*, of which he is the dramatic critic, and Messrs. Methuen and Co. have published the book, which has not a dull page in it. Mr. Spence is one of the ever-hopeful band of cultured enthusiasts who, while regarding the present condition of the drama in England unfavourably, are sanguine of improvement in the future. The charm of his articles is that they are sane, though cultured. He is not at all a bigoted admirer of modern French art, as the following extract proves:—

"Many of the present school of French dramatists write plays—unfortunately chosen for presentation in England—which assume the existence in society of a large class of people, otherwise amiable, who act upon the proposition that in Paris, as in heaven, there is neither marrying nor giving in marriage. Unmarried men and women live together, the males paying for the board and lodging, &c., of the females, without there being any pretence that the intimacy of their relations is radically immoral under normal circumstances. They do not even indulge in fireworks in such plays. You do not have parodies of the famous phrase 'Property is theft,' for the heroines fail to justify themselves by remarking that marriage is immorality. There is simply a business union and disunion, *collage* and *décollage*, coupled with what one may call cross-unions, all of them apparently free from the embarrassment of children, and none of them involving any of the more dignified of the human emotions. One of the worst of the number was *L'Age d'Aimer*, by M. Pierre Wolff—a piece so cynically immoral, and written with such an air of truth, that it might well cause some of us to shrink in horror from the idea of an *entente cordiale* with a people which, if truly represented by its fashionable dramatists, has no concept of cleanliness of life. . . . It is a great pity to use such a powerful vehicle as the stage for slandering a nation. . . . The great French nation is generally judged over here by flashy pictures of the fast section of Paris society, drawn, very often, if not always, from the outside, by clever people too indolent to know that the psychology of decent people is quite as interesting and dramatic as that of the gutter creatures of mere passion, who dignify their cynical desires with noble names, and, so far as the latest school is concerned, fail even to reach the humblest concept of free love."

There are over sixty articles in this amusing book, and not one of them is tiresome or unreadable. Selection is difficult amidst such an embarrassment of richness, but probably our readers will most cordially approve of Mr. Spence's defence of English acting against the attacks of "Max":

"Members of gesticulative races," writes Mr. Spence, "are apt to think English players very wooden, because, when representing British people, our actors and actresses are much restrained in movement. A French or Italian critic can hardly appreciate some of the splendid Stage Society or Court Theatre performances, such, for instance, as that of *The Voysey Inheritance*, which could not have been surpassed in any theatre or country.

"The offensive comparisons often, even generally, are based upon performances where our players are at a serious disadvantage.

". . . . English players do not represent certain foreign characters as well as do the foreigners. Is this surprising? They are handicapped, obviously.

"It is largely a question of geography; the Englishman expresses rapture by the phrase 'not half bad,' where the foreigner piles superlative on superlative of gush. It is our quality and our defect that we have a strange shyness, which prevent the exhibition of emotion for fear of ridicule. On our stage, as in our real life, the beloved son comes home from a long voyage, and, meeting his father, shakes hands a little warmly and says, 'Hallo, governor!' or something poetic like that, whilst abroad the two men kiss one another and utter highly-emotional phrases of rapture. Everyone knows that the feelings are equally deep in the two cases, but our cross-Channel critics doubt the depth of the English feeling, whilst our native players cannot do the kissing and hugging with an air of sincerity.

"Now, when taking these facts into account, we should be very careful in appraising the efforts of our own players. Not only ought we to avoid comparing select teams of foreign players with our own scratch companies, but also it is our duty to consider whether the strangers are appearing in plays better or worse than the average of our own, and we must take into account the fact that they are gaining from the advantage of novelty. Lastly, there remains the question how far they would appear to be better than ours if appearing on neutral ground."

There is much unconscious humour in the remark which Mr. Spence makes in his essay on "The Dramatic Critic: An Attack Upon Him." He is disinclined, he says, to attach importance to Philistine observations in theatrical papers. Mr. Spence certainly is not a Philistine, and his demonstration of the position of affairs as regards the English drama is identical with our own. The only difference is that we regard it with complacency, while he hopes and desires change.

MISS AMELIA BINGHAM was one of the speakers at a recent meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs in New York City, on which occasion the proposed legislative measure for the censoring of plays was emphatically condemned. It was said by one of the members that women were accused of being responsible for all the bad plays and books that were written.

ON being asked for her opinion, Miss Bingham confessed that she was "just scared to death" to address the Federation on such a weighty subject. She went on to say, however, that there wasn't much going on in the world for which women were not responsible, one way or another, but America was the most moral country in the world, and American women the most moral people in it. Miss Bingham denied that an immoral play could really succeed in New York, and pointed to the closing of several that had recently been condemned. "You don't go to the theatre to find religion," she said. "We're not supposed to preach. We must hold the mirror up to nature, and it is not all beautiful is it?"

MRS. THEODORE ROBERTS remarked that "if novels dealing with the sex question were immoral, then there were immoral novels, and that many of them were written by women." Mrs. Roberts thought the so-called protection of women by keeping them from contact with the world, was not for their benefit, but to keep them from "seeing what is going on." The one right that men give women without question, is the right to be good. "If a book, picture, or play, makes us hate vice and emulate virtue, it is moral. A play like *Rip Van Winkle*, where a drunken husband is made a popular hero, is immoral. If what the novelist writes is life, then it is right to depict it," she concluded.

MR. JAMES MORTIMER will deliver an address, entitled "Some Casual Remarks Concerning the Press and the Stage," to the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday, Nov. 13, Mr. F. McDonald Rendle in the chair.

RAYNE'S "Pocket Date Book." Price 1s. Address, THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAMAN.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Robert Tebbitt.—The Musical Marvels are a remarkable quintette of vocalists and eccentric musicians; Harry Raymond is an artistic coon vocalist and dancer, and his little daughter Ivy is a graceful dancer. Gaertner and May are clever barrel jumpers. The latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. Richards.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company is presenting *Miss Hook of Holland*. Miss Margaret Paton as Miss Hook plays with much grace and charm; Mr. Edmund Russell in the rôle of Mr. Hook is excruciatingly funny; Miss Muff Carewe as Nina obtains many encores for her songs; Mr. Reginald Hunter as Simon Slinks wins much praise; Mr. Edward Booth is a suitable Captain Adrian Paap; Mr. Sam Lockridge as Bandmaster Van Vuyt scores with his songs; Mr. Wilson Blake is successful as Ludwig Schnapps; and Miss Olive Marshall is an excellent Gretchen.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Victor Rowe; Manager, Mr. Arthur Norton.—Lenaro is a clever and eccentric juggler; the Belmores are dainty comediennes and speciality dancers; Walter Wallis, comedian, causes much genuine laughter; and the Bioscopic pictures are highly appreciated.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Messrs. Bode and Hart's company are presenting this week the evergreen opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Cyril Thomson makes an excellent Marquis, alike in singing and declamation; Mr. E. St. Alban as Gaspard, the miser, is realistically attractive; Mr. Arthur Geary as Grenicheux sings and acts with tasteful power; whilst Mr. Fred Dark as the Bailie and Mr. Alfred Selby as Gobo, his clerk, are irresistibly funny in their impersonations. Miss Kitty Dale as Germaine sings tunefully and acts with lively grace; Miss Dolly Castles as Serpolette is bright and vivacious; the village girls are in the capable hands of Miss Jessie Hamilton, Miss Kitty Rawlinson, Miss Alice Hornsby, and Miss Mabel Rosa.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—One of the chief attractions at the Palace this week is *The Electric Car Conductor*, given by the Three Krakes; Bert Williams and his lay comrade Ted give a capital ventriloquial entertainment; Maude Mortimer sings with sprightly grace; the Newmans, a troupe of Australian unicycle riders, give a thrilling series of cycling tricks; Jenny and Willie Fordyce and Little Frankie entertain capitally; Edie King is a graceful dancer; the Paolias are athletic wonders; Marie Dream has a rich and powerful baritone voice; and Harry and Charlie Rich are comedians of mirth-provoking originality.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The principal feature of this week's entertainment at the Tivoli is *A Black Mark*. Miss Decima Moore takes the leading part of Miss Dora Talbot, and presents it with piquancy and grace; whilst the elderly military guardian and the dashing young lover are typically portrayed by Mr. Percy Francis and Mr. Charles Esdale. In addition, the Three Pirmans give a pleasing display of acrobatic agility; a troupe of five Japanese submit an interesting exhibition of gymnastic variety; Muriel Harding makes an attractive Anglo-French impressionist; Louis J. Seymour is a light comedian of amusing power; the Brothers Durrant exhibit their flying machine act with general acceptance; Tom E. Dean as "the morbid man of mirth" proves popular; and Miss Marie Kay gives a roller-skating dance of bold and original grace.

ABERTILLERY. — THE PAVILION. — Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Price.—Mr. Tom Watt's company is here this week with *East Lynne*. Archibald Carlyle is well played by Mr. Frank Beresford; Mr. Walter Dale is capital as P.C. Bullock; and Miss Ida Heron acts with charm as Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. E. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. and Mrs. O. Silverstone and H. Wright's company in *The Nihilist* is here this week. Mr. O. Silverstone as Prince Alexander sustains the rôle with consummate skill; Mr. Geo. Mitchell gives a powerful and manly study of Ivan Nowasky; and Mr. Cowell Clark is an excellent Karl Orloff. Mr. Henry Wright creates much merriment as Bobbie Smart; Mr. C. Newton Buckland ably impersonates Pierlree Petoff; and Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey enacts the part of Father Courko in an admirable manner. Miss Edna Clare is responsible for a faithful representation of the sympathetic character of Alexina; Miss Annie Hylton gives a creditable rendering of Princess Olga; and Mrs. O. Silverstone is a bright and vivacious Katrina.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Haley's Juveniles, in a vocal scena, are the premier attraction here, and prove themselves artists of decided ability; Fred Barnes appears in his latest successes, and has been enthusiastically received; the Mars Trio, in a clever speciality, prove clever gymnasts; and Gladys and Alber are an amusing comedy duo. Arthur Woodville, in song and dance, is greatly appreciated; Les Saldos give an excellent equilibristic turn; and Day and Queen, expert dancers, and the Bioscope pictures are also in the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—*A Thief in the Night* is presented here by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a good impersonation of Alan; as the villainous Michael Mr. Leyton Cancellor is successful; Miss Florence Dalton's portrayal of Joan is clever; and Miss Beatrice Homer as Sonia is all that could be wished for.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Campbell Browne.—Mr. James Bell's company in *The Idol of Paris* occupies the boards here. As Flare-Flare Miss Annie Bell plays the leading part well; Mr. Chris. A. Olgar is good as Victor Cashet, as is also Mr. A. Sember as Philippe d'Esterre; Mr. Arthur McCullock does capital work as Prince Sergius; as Mme. Sancterre Miss Frances Bruce is excellent; and Mr. H. Vivian Thomas as Tatave and Miss Lottie Ray as Ann Sancterre cause much amusement.

PAVILION PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stoker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Curry.—The starring engagement here of the Five Musical Tritons is a most enjoyable entertainment. Pattie Bella, comedienne and dancer, is also good, and another excellent turn is Douglas and Clark, comedians and sand-dancers. The pictures are of the usual high standard.

BUFFALO PALACE.—Proprietors, J. and E. Lamb; Business-Manager, Mr. P. Adams.—The chief turn here is given by the Maximilian Trio, who give a fine entertainment with their marvellous juggling and balancing. Vic Verney gives a most refined whistling turn; and Boniar and Tess, quick-change artists, are very winsome as Japanese maidens in their Oriental splendour. There is the usual capital display of films.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Leedham Bantock and company are here with *Those Terrible Twins*. Mr. Leedham Bantock as the wine-bibbing old butler, William, is the cause of continuous laughter. He is admirably seconded by Mr. Robert Rivers as Samuel Pringle and Miss Maud Adams as Mrs. Pringle. Miss Enid Baird and Miss Norah Walker as actresses at the Novelty Theatre are vivacious; and the efforts of Mrs. Watt Tanner as Maria, Mr. Archie McCaig as Minx, and Messrs. Cyril Delevanti and Martin Alwyne as lively medical students, together with Max and Climax as those Terrible Twins, form a diverting entertainment.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Bursiem.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is appearing in a new version, with hilarious results, of *Mumming Birds*, and in *Skating*. Dan Daly, the loud, yet sweet-voiced comedian, gives a very acceptable turn; Aggie Nolan is a dainty comedienne and a neat and dexterous buck and clog dancer; Gilbert Girard is a skilful animal and instrumental mimic; Zellini is a good comedy juggler; and Billie Melia a marvellous dancing comedian.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—This week Mr. Frank Cellier produces a selection of Shakespearean plays:—Monday and Saturday matinée, *Twelfth Night*; Tuesday, *Taming of the Shrew*; Wednesday, *Romeo and Juliet*; Thursday, *Merry Wives of Windsor*; Friday, *Richard III.*; and Saturday, *Hamlet*. The company is a good one, and includes Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Messrs. Frank Cellier, Gordon Philliott, Alfred Bristowe, Misses Madge Spencer, Gertrude Gilbert, and others.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Quite a welcome treat was provided here by Mr. Dudley Stuart's company in *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr. Arthur Hare was eminently successful as the optimistic and tender-hearted Goldfinch, his efforts being admirably supported by Mr. James Harcourt, who handled the part of the tight-fisted Gregory with realistic effect; Mr. Ernest Deans and Mr. Guy Vivian showed a keen sense of the wayward character of young fellows; and Mr. Alfred Kingston and Mr. H. Sherwood Martin, in the respective parts of Joyce and Lorimer contributed to the general success. Miss Carmena Rivers carried through the rôle of Marion with flying colours; and Miss May de Launey charmingly portrayed the unsophisticated Lucy.

PICTUREDROME.—Proprietors, the Barnstaple Picturedrome Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr Lionel Prichard; Business-Manager, Mr. Francis A. Osborne.—This week a capital programme includes Mr. Wilmot Hastings, an exceedingly clever comedian, well known to local audiences, and Miss Daisie Cordelia, a charming comedienne and dancer.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *From Convent to Throne* is here. Miss Valerie Crespin is a charming Princess Maritza, and Mr. William J. Miller is a strikingly impressive Baron Strelsau. Mr. Courtney Robinson is an imposing General Von Hapsburg, and Mr. Aidan Lovett a good Lieut. Ernesto Von Hapsburg.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail* is here. Miss Trissie Humphreys makes a sympathetic Mary Steyne, and Mr. George Harvard is an admirable Harry Steyne. Mr. H. W. Hatchman is a dignified Leonard Boyle, and Mr. F. G. Evison is a humorous Billy Brewer.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—A capital programme is presented here this week. Miss Annie Abbott gives an extraordinary exhibition of magnetic power which astonishes the audience. The Herald Comedy Four appear in a scena entitled *The Hawkers*, in which they are very successful; *The Giles in Town*, a comedy sketch, is capitally given by J. W. Darley and company; Hearn and Palmer are amusing comedy acrobats; Marie Coates is a very pleasing comedienne; Charlie Walker is a capital comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes with some interesting pictures.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Fred Newman's British Empire picture and variety company are presenting an interesting programme here this week, and drawing good houses.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Miss Lillie Soutter's eccentric comedy gains great favour; Chris Baker has a prize-winner in his schoolmaster ditty; Bruce Green's "dame" creations and patter cause endless laughter; Flo Esdaile, a high soprano, essays the well-known Soldiers' Chorus from *Faust* with capital effect; Jack Hayworth sings a Scotch ditty successfully; acrobatic dancing is given by Dollie and Rosie; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford are once again seen in their popular domestic comedy; a wonderful globe illusion and shadowgraph turn is that of the De Breans; and the pictures are of the latest and best.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—During the first part of the week Mr. Fred Mouillot's company in *A Message from Mars* occupied the boards here. Mr. Harry St. Barbe-West was an excellent Horace Parker; Mr. Wm. H. Broughton was well suited as the Messenger; Mr. Norman Clarke's portrayal of a Tramp was very clever; Miss Josephine Middleton acted gracefully and naturally as Minnie Templar; and the other members of a large cast were all good.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Edwardes's company opened here on Monday with *Our Miss Gibbs*. In the rôle of Mary Gibbs the charming actress, Miss Carrie Moore, achieved a gratifying success with her delightful vocalism and her vivacious interpretation; Mr. George Gregory fairly convulsed the audience with his inimitable impersonation of Timothy Gibbs; Miss Olive Moore was in every sense excellent as Lady Elizabeth; and Miss Nancy Hervyn appeared to advantage as Mme. Jeanne. Mr. Frank Hector was admirable as the Hon. Hughie Pierpoint, his dancing being very smart; and the rôle of the Earl of St. Ives was cleverly sustained by Mr. Myles Clifton. As the professional crook Slithers, Mr. Leslie Gaze is worthy of special praise; and the rôle of Mr. Toplady was in the safe hands of Mons. Ernest Mahar. Miss Grace Nixon as the Duchess of Minster acted with grace and charm; and Miss Kitty Cavendish appeared as the impecunious woman of fashion, Mrs. Farquhar. Mr. H. V. Crofton was good as Lord Eynsford; and Mr. C. Campbell Bishop was the family solicitor, Mr. Beavis, to the life. The remarkably clever solo dance in Act 2, by Miss Florence Phillips, created the utmost enthusiasm.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*His Dishonoured Wife* is presented by Mr. Harry Tilbury and company. Mr. A. George Pry acquits himself with distinction as Frank Lindon; and Mabel Lindon is skilfully sustained by Miss Grace Stafford. Florence Lindon is cleverly enacted by Miss Belle Tilbury; and Mr. Fred Owen is a praiseworthy Niel Locksley. Mr. Alex. Alexander plays Lord Devant with much power; and Mr. George Walkley appears as Tom Redman. Mr. Eric Rees makes the most of his opportunities as Geoffrey Harvey; and Mr. A. S. Goring is a capable Arthur Cooper. The humour of the piece is in the hands of Mr. Harry Tilbury, who was inimitable as Micky Doolan; and Miss Etta Spalding a vivacious Araminta.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is the famous comedian Little Tich, whose droll rendering of several songs has created quite a furore. The feats of equilibrism by the Two Lillys is aptly described as unparalleled; and Viviana and company, in their toyshop scene, furnish a talented exhibition of the terpsichorean art. A fine musical act has been provided by the Four Sisters Gilby, the manipulation of several musical instruments being exceptionally clever; and Miss Lilian Lowe's songs have been loudly and deservedly applauded. Miss Barry Eldon, musical comedy artist, Mr. Joe Belmont, vocalist and whistler, and the Hipposcope, complete a really good programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Miss Florrie Gallimore tops the bill, and this accomplished comedienne easily secures unbounded success with her finished rendering of several good chorus songs; Verno and Voyce, who are always up to date, appear this visit in their musical scena, "John Bull's Cash Box," in which they make a great hit; and the King's College Boys appear in their scena, "The Students," their capital vocalism gaining encores. Miss Edith Heron Brown, the musical slavey, gains many admirers of her clever act; and Miss Chrissie Croft, a fascinating comedienne, is one of the best dancers that have appeared here for some time. Also appearing are Miss Lola Patey, comedienne, Mr. Ben Albert, comedian, and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White. — Many attractive pictures are presented here, and the variety element is sustained by Clarke and Clare, comedy duo, and Blarney and Bland, comedians and dancers.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—In addition to the films, Mr. Karl Stern, comedian and acrobatic dancer, appears.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—The pictures shown here are many and varied. Mr. W. J. McNiece, Irish comedian, gains a good reception.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—Drama twice nightly forms the attraction here, *A Life for a Life* being presented by Mr. Charles H. Lester and company. The Josh Harker of Mr. Lester is a clever and vigorous piece of work; Mr. Hugh Travers is also good as Le Calci; Wee Winnie Warden wins all hearts as Vanetta, the "baby detective"; Miss Beatrice Anderson plays with feeling the trying part of Eulalie. Miss Nell Ingram is an amusing Nancy. *The Sorrows of Satan* is to be presented on Thursday.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Crowded houses are attracted by a return visit of Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Brewster's Millions*, which gives great satisfaction. Mr. Hutchison contributes a finished and highly-effective impersonation of the "Millionaire," Monty Brewster; Miss Dorothy Whitaker is an irreproachable Peggy; and Miss Lilias Earle invests the part of Mrs. Dande-Mille with peculiar charm and acceptance. Mr. Aubrey Mather as Joseph McLeod, Mr. Gordon Ash as Charlie Harrison, Mr. Henry Hampson as Archie Golding, Mr. A. P. Kaye as Monsieur Bargie, Mr. Robert Forsyth as Mr. Grant, and Mr. A. Andrews as Colonel Drew, all accord excellent service. Rawles the Butler is raised into prominence by that experienced actor Mr. Frank Hill; Miss Marian Ripley is an accomplished Janice Armstrong; Miss PhyHis Stuckey acquits herself well as Barbara Drew; and the remaining characters are adequately represented. The Yacht scene in Act III. is certainly a marvel of mechanical skill. *Chalk and Cheese* forms a suitable curtain-raiser.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Jack and Evelyn are clever and entertaining; Bellew and Stocks's company, including Master Edward Garratt, are enthusiastically greeted in the sketch *Mortimer Magnus, M.P.*; and the Gothams are popular. Other excellent turns are given by Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen, comedienne; Mr. Phil Percival, comedian and pianist; Chorley and Connor, dancers and patterers; Miss Kitty Wager, comedienne; Mr. Fred Poplar, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—Mr. Raynor's répertoire company are appearing twice each evening. During the week *Moths* and *The Idler* have been produced, with Mr. Raynor, Miss Dora Dench, Miss Cecilia Dare, and Mr. Jos. B. Montague in the principal rôles.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Monsieur Beaucaire* is a very charming costume drama, and Mr. Lewis Waller gives one of his finest performances in the title-rôle. Miss Madge Titheradge is a charming Lady Mary Carlyle; Mr. Herbert Jarman is a commanding figure as Beau Nash, and his acting is excellent; the difficult part of the Duke of Winterset is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Frank Woolfe; and others who figure prominently are Mr. S. B. Brereton (Captain Badger), Miss Gabrielle de Wilden (Lucy Rellerton), Mr. Reginald Dane (Major Molyneux), and Mr. Leslie Rea (Lord Townbrake).

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—The D'Oyly Carte Company have an attractive répertoire, and the standard of the work is well maintained. The programme for the week comprised *The Mikado, The Gondoliers, H.M.S. Pinafore, The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Patience*.

ALEXANDRA.—General-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—*The Eyes of the World* is enjoying a successful week. The production is in the capable hands of Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss Van Praagh provides a finished study in her original creation, Hélène de L'Orme, the wronged wife, and the house is roused to great enthusiasm in many effective situations. Mr. Miles Hodgson is excellent in the part of the husband, and Miss Edith Rutland also shows considerable ability. Other characters are well portrayed by Miss F. Hastings, Miss N. Garside, Miss B. Hulment, Mr. G. P. Ellis, and Mr. E. Onston.

BOURNSLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Miss Dot Stephens is adding to an already long list of successes in the drama *A Child of the Streets*, which is presented by Mr. George H. Hazlehurst's company. Miss Bessie Hazlewood ably sustains the part of Gertrude Graham; Mr. George Keene makes an admirable hero; Mr. Claude Gravelly is popular in the rôle of a Highland soldier; Mr. Leonard Clarke makes a success in the heavy character; and the humorous side of the piece is in capable hands.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Walter Melville's new play, *The Shop-soiled Girl*, is creating an excellent impression upon its first appearance in Birmingham. The company is one of the strongest out of London, and the principal parts are presented with realism. The story is built on popular lines, and rouses audiences to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Miss Georgina Wynter gives a good account of herself in the title-rôle; and Mr. H. E. Herbert as her Lancashire lover is perfectly at home in the part. Mr. Harvey Braban is clever as Mark Faulkner, a scamp; and other characters are capably presented by Miss Gladys Ford Howitt, Miss Winifred Pearson, Mr. Wilfred Lyndon, and Mr. Tom E. Sinclair.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's romantic production *The Apple of Eden* is enjoying a successful visit. Miss Janet Alexander as the Queen of Slavonia is fully equal to all demands of a trying character; Mr. Lauderdale Maitland cleverly fills the character of Julian Homburg; and Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan is prominent as King Ferdinand. Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. B. White, Miss Tessa Myers, Miss Hayden, and Miss Mycie Monte are also deserving of praise.

CARLTON.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Percy Norman's company provides the attraction here in the diverting comedy-drama *The Beginning and the End*, and the popular drama *Trilby*. The company is a strong one, and the performances are thoroughly enjoyed by good houses. Mr. A. B. Mackay takes the chief character in both pieces, and scores a big success as Svengali in *Trilby*. Miss Ida Mackay is a versatile actress; and Miss Lillie Lewis, who takes the part of Trilby, gives a very creditable impersonation. Other prominent members of the company are Mr. Campbell Kelly, Mr. Fred Chester, Mr. Graham Hamlyn, Mr. Sydney Davis, and Miss Trixie Leiton.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Fred Kitchen is appearing with Herbert Darnley's company in the military comedy *Private Potts*, and causing roars of laughter. A smart trio of gymnasts are the Emersons; Barney and Armstrong are well to the fore in diverting comedy; and Harvey's American Boys and Girls come in for appreciation in an effective song and dance act. The Five Vernons are talented performers on the xylophone; La Superbe is a popular dancer; Evelyn Bingham earns applause for good singing; and Frank Couch has entertaining patter.

THE GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Lucas.—Miss Zena Dare is a big attraction in a one-act sketch, *The Model and the Man*. Miss Dare is well supported by Mr. Frank Wilson and Miss Ivy St. Helier. Sarkoezi and Monnier, "cymbals and violin virtuosi," provide an artistic musical turn; and Larola is applauded for smart acrobatic and juggling feats. The Brothers Redmond are strong favourites in a burlesque representation of two policemen; Leslie and Edgar Stevens score in a comedietta, *Love Levels All*; Ray Wallace entertains at the piano; Billie Marsden is a comedian and instrumentalist of note; and Rose Cabani completes the bill.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Excellent musical and comedy turns are a feature of a good programme presented here this week. Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist, receives a hearty welcome, and his emotional songs are as acceptable as ever. Miss Berry, a ballad vocalist of musical ability, is heard to advantage in the items "Queen of the Earth" and "Caller Herrin'." The Two Anartos combine good music and boisterous fun very acceptably; Wilson Hallet contributes humorous and pathetic child studies; Mona Vivian dances well and gives pleasing imitations; Ethel Dunford is a dainty soprano vocalist; the Forsyths are well received in a speciality, *La Poupee*; and Denby and Dent are popular comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings provide a sensational item in a good all-round programme. Arthur Prince is a smart ventriloquist; the Ansonia Trio are a capable combination of equilibrists; Arthur Reese is a vocal comedian of merit; and Harry Taft displays wanderful talent as a whistler. Billy Rex is a versatile entertainer; and other contributors are Damerell and Rutland, comedians; Sam Thompson, Scotch comedian; Mabel Mignon, comedienne and dancer; and A. E. Clifford, vocal comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—The Six Brothers Luck are adding to their popularity in Aston by their sketch *Lift 'Ems, Limited*. The Three Langfords give a clever and original dancing act; Nightingale and Stigant extract a wonderful amount of mirth from a comedy duologue, *Two Sides of a Wall*; Little Joyce Barbour, a local juvenile of great promise, is encored for her singing and dancing; Jim Cheetham is a smart boy whistler and mimic; and A. W. Scott, coon delineator, is popular. Ralph and Nellie Howard, sketch artists, the Colombias, equilibrists, and Leolin, club manipulator, are also well received.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Walter Jeffs.—This week's programme is of good standard merit, being well varied and up to date. The entertainments hold a high position in the favour of Birmingham people because of their perennial freshness, and the attendances show no falling off. Pathé's Animated Gazette is eagerly looked forward to, and the events illustrated this week include the Walthamstow Election and the Kaiser's Visit to Brussels. Miss Ida York and Miss Olga Leipold provide excellent variety turns.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Dickie Clare and company are appearing here in *Lucky 'Liza*, this being a return visit. Mr. Clare is very good in the rôle of Silas Slim; and Mr. Leonard plays Paul Pettitoe with the desired effect. Mr. T. W. Benson is clever as Peter Pettitoe, as is Mr. Harry Feorge (Barnaby Blatherwick) and Mr. J. W. Forest (Biffins). Miss Rosie Coyne is a winning Vergina Blatherwick, her singing and dancing meeting with approval; Miss Vesta Brownie in the title-rôle works with decided cleverness; Miss Helen Douglas is a good Mary Pettitoe; and Sadie Potts is admirably handled by Miss Evelyn Wood, who possesses a good voice. The Jesmond Quartette are good in their dancing, and the chorus under the direction of Mr. T. A. Conner is capital.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Good houses are the order here. Nellie Wallace, comedienne, is received enthusiastically; the Brooklyn Comedy Four take well; Jones and Clare give a smart gymnastic display; and an able comedian is Tom Joy. The Two Units, comedy acrobats, are clever; Sisters Carelli are successful in providing a charming dancing turn; and Jack Warman is an immense mirth-maker. The Hipposcope films continue to be interesting.

BLACKBURN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Resident Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reg. Yorke.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company opened their week here with a fine rendering of Goldmark's *Queen of Sheba*. Miss Doris Woodall's dramatic acting and splendid singing as the Queen of Sheba called forth tremendous applause; Mr. Walter Wheatley also sang well as Asad; Mr. Arthur Winckworth added to his laurels by his beautiful singing as King Solomon, his resonant voice admirably suiting the declamatory style of the music; Miss Beatrice Miranda soon established herself in popular favour; Mr. Alex. Richard acquitted himself well, both vocally and dramatically, as the High Priest. The smaller parts of Baal-Hanan and Astaroth were well sung by Mr. George M. Reid and Miss Annie Van Dyck respectively. The largely augmented orchestra played the difficult music without a hitch. Mr. Eugene Goossens conducted. *Tannhäuser* was billed for Tuesday, *Carmen* Wednesday, *Lily of Killarney* Thursday, *Faust* Friday, Saturday evening, *Il Trovatore*, and on Saturday afternoon a matinée performance will be given of *The Queen of Sheba*.

THE PALACE.—Sole Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A high-class entertainment is given here by Mr. Ellerslie Pyne in the scena, *The Actor's Dream*, in which he introduces short scenes from well-known plays; a novel and interesting turn is that supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilde, shadowgraphists; the Tom B. Davies Trio give a thrilling cycle performance; Messrs. Fergusson and Mack, as the Sisters Dimple, caused amusement; Metz and Metz are good comedians; Daisy Hurdle is a charming comedienne; the Quality Quartette sing acceptably; and a good turn is given by J. A. Wilson and his dog. Ernest Rees amuses his hearers immensely. Good pictures complete.

NEW PRINCES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Manageress, Mrs. Clarkson.—A romantic play, by Mr. Walter Howard, *A Life's Revenge*, is being played here this week. Mr. Percy Brown plays Prince Storgoroff admirably; Miss Millie Ford is a capital Princess Ivylia; and Mr. E. E. Louis makes the most of his opportunities as Paul Starofvitch.

BLACKPOOL.—WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are meeting with success here with *Where is William?* Mr. Windermere has appeared here in many parts, but Sir William, which he is playing this visit, is undoubtedly the one to which he is most suited. He is well supported by Mr. Rule Pyott, who plays William, the butler, and Miss Belle Richardson, who very cleverly portrays Eliza; and Emily, the cook, is in the skilful hands of Mrs. A. Davis. Mr. Leslie Norman provides amusement as General Rubbub.

QUALITY and COMFORT

Wines Spirits Liqueurs — COAL HOLE — Tea Coffee Cigars

PATRICK and McGREGOR, Between Savoy & Cecil Hotels, Strand.

INVALUABLE FOR THE COMPLEXION.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully SOOTHING and REFRESHING after MOTORING, GOLFING, CYCLING, DANCING, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Chaps, and Irritation, and preserves the delicacy of the skin in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s. and 2s. 6d each, of all chemists and stores.—M. BEDHAM and SON, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

PANTOMIMES.

THIS WORK IS UNDERTAKEN AT COMPETITIVE — PRICES TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION. —

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS, AND CONTRACTORS TO HIS MAJESTY'S OFFICE OF WORKS.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

From J. A. Harrison Co., Ltd., Theatrical Costumiers, 29, Leicester Square, W.C.
27th October, 1910.

To T. Harris, Esq, Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll Street, W.

Dear Mr. Harris,—

I am very pleased with the cleaning of the Pantomime Wardrobe you have just sent back. It may interest you to know that some of the Costumes were made six years ago. They look almost as good as the first time they were used.

Yours truly, J. A. HARRISON,
Managing Director.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1311 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A droll comedian is Paul Barnes, who tops the bill here. Annie Schubert contributes a fine song-scena; and the Rallis-Wilson Trio supply a clever acrobatic turn. Fred Curran is well received as a singer of quaint songs and parodies; Albert Letine shines as a female impersonator; the Rawsons are pleasing society entertainers; and Minnie Kirby is a dainty comedienne.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott, supported by an excellent company, have presented the under-mentioned popular plays with success: *The Shraughan, The Octoroon, Colleen Bawn, The Heart of a Hero, The Ticket of Leave Man*, and *The Shadows of a Great City*.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Mr. Ernest Benham's company is presenting *Old Heidelberg* here. Mr. Owen Nares' portrayal of Prince Karl proves him an actor of exceptional ability; Miss Kitty Ricimer acts with piquancy as Kathie, and is good in the emotional scenes; Mr. Ernest Bodkin gives a fine study of the part of Dr. Juttner; Mr. Percy Crawford is very amusing as Ruder, the innkeeper; Mr. Jan Ogilvie Will gives a quaint impersonation of Kellermann; Mr. Frank Powell is excellent as Von Haugh; and Mr. Sydney Hamilton does well as the pompous Lutz. The remaining characters are all in capable hands, and the piece is suitably mounted.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—R. A. Roberts, protean actor, is the chief attraction here, where he is presenting this week two distinct dramatic sketches, *Dick Turpin* and *Cruel Coppinger*, to delighted houses. Turns are also given by Vena Valma, comedienne and dancer; Tom Drew, dancer; the Wedburns, comedians, burlesque instrumentalists, &c.; the Flying Hanlons, in their comedy throwing act; Dave Carter, Irish tenor vocalist; Frank Cass, vocal comedian; the Sisters Simms, in their vocal dancing scena; Phil Ree's Stable Lads, in their novel and original racing act, *Not a Crook*; and the Premier Imperial pictures.

Hippodrome, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—A good variety company here comprises Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, assisted by Miss Emeline D'Alton, in a series of mysterious illusions; Fred Lindsay, stock-whip expert, in a novel and wonderful act; Will Lytton, eccentric comedian; Radie Stuart, comedienne and dancer; Orpheus, in a refined and artistic music entertainment; Joe Hunt, comedian and dancer; Nobby, juvenile comedian; the famous Joe Boganny's Troupe of Lunatic Bakers; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—At the Winter Gardens this week Messrs. Lyle and Yeomans present the merry musical absurdity *The Girl from America*. Mr. Robb Chynne as Professor Bumperina is amusing, as also is Miss Ethel Stanton as Mary. Miss Tina Romano as Alice Dixon, "the girl from America," and Miss Audrey Mason as Camille Dalvera are responsible for some clever singing.

Muncaster Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Pennington Estates Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. D. Adams.—A powerful stock company is playing *Mr. Barnes of New York* here. The company is an exceptionally strong one.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome, Ltd. — Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter De Frece.—Francini Olloms and Page have a variety entertainment, including excellent concertina playing; Flora Cromer pays a return visit, and is much appreciated; Haley's Girls, in a vocal and dancing scena, *The Garden of Girls*, is well presented; Harry Luck, eccentric comedian, has some good songs; Evelyn Taylor as a chorus comedienne is successful; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in a unique singing and dancing act, and the Keppels, in an operatic vocal scena, also contribute. The Hippo pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—A return visit is made here by Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company, in *The Flag Lieutenant*. Mr. Loring Fernie infuses much humour into the part of Richard Lascelles. Mr. A. V. Bramble wins the sympathy of the audience as Major Thesiger; Miss Dorothy Ripley realises the sweet character of Lady Hermoine; Miss Stella Leigh scores as Mrs. Gough-Bogle; and Mrs. Cameron is well played by Miss C. Selwynne. Mr. Lionel Isted and Mr. John Wheatman submit excellent studies; Mr. Geo. Robinson and Mr. A. J. Harris are admirable as the Midshipmen; as also is Mr. Jas. Coulsdon as the Quartermaster. Mr. Geo. Percy plays the Surgeon is a quiet and natural manner. The other parts are all well sustained.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—A return visit of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in the bright and beautifully staged musical comedy *The Arcadians* forms the present attraction here. Mr. Walter Passmore is again delightfully humorous as James Smith (Simplicitas), and Mr. Oliver J. Round's quaint assumption of Peter Doody elicits hearty laughter. Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra sings sweetly; as Eileen Cavanagh Miss Billie Sinclair is bright and dainty; Miss Veronica Brady is immensely diverting as Mrs. Smith. The charming concerted numbers are well rendered, the minor parts are again in excellent hands, and the comedy is greeted with hearty marks of appreciation.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—*The Midnight Wedding* again forms a strong attraction here for Mr. Laidler's patrons, and at the hands of Mr. Walter Howard's capable company the stirring drama receives skilful treatment. The part of Paul Valmar, expert swordsman of the Hussars, is filled with much excellence by Mr. A. E. Winnington; Miss Lilian Hallows displays much ability in a very charming performance of the Princess Astrea; the two villains of the story, Captain Von Scarsbruck and Lieut. Von Strelsburg, are represented with effect by Messrs. Malcolm Tearle and St. George Frere respectively; the Crown Prince Leopold is ably represented by Mr. F. H. Constable; and for the humour in the play Miss Phyllis Hume and Messrs. H. Paine, H. Richardson, and A. Spalding are responsible. The drama is again finely staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Horace Goldin, the illusionist, who is assisted by Mlle. Jeanne Fransioli, in a series of clever and bewildering feats, is the recipient of great applause here again this week, and the Grassis, the delightfully entertaining musical acrobatic pierrots, are winning applause once more in their novel performance. Edward Lauri and May Beattie in their diverting sketch, *Her Boudoir*, are, as usual, eliciting hearty laughter. Little Zola, the comedian, is a lump of fun; Alf H. West gives a very brilliant performance as a solo pianist; Esta Stella is a smart and dainty comedienne and dancer; Daisy Martell, comedienne, and Will Johnson, comedian, submit acceptable turns; five juvenile entertainers as "Belles of the Kitchen" are amusing; and the Bioscope shows some entertaining pictures.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Billy Merson, the quaint comedian, is responsible for much laughter here this week, and Dorothy Dacey's chorus songs are appreciated. The Society Quartet sing and dance with considerable acceptance. In a comedy magic act Yettmah is both clever and amusing; Ida Kessanly introduces a troupe of very wonderfully trained fox terriers, and the performance they are put through is much applauded; Ernestine Desborough is a very acceptable comedienne. A thrilling and well-acted dramatic sketch, *The Bottom Dog*, in which Henry Bedford as a convict and Robert Purdie as a clergyman appear successfully, is a feature of the evening's entertainment, which concludes with the interesting Palace Perfection pictures.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, jun.—Mr. Frank Lindo's *Home, Sweet Home* company in on a welcome return visit. Miss Marion Wakeford is an excellent Joan; Mr. Norton Shields a vigorous Stephen Armitage; Mr. Sydney Dench a dignified Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Leonard Laurence is very good as the unscrupulous Lucas Lyle; Mr. Bert Dench is most humorous as the Hon. Percy; Mr. Tom E. Lewis submits a clever reading of David Armitage; Mr. Arthur Trail is responsible for two clever character studies; Mr. Eric Growther deserves praise as Dick Redmayne; Miss Lisa Coleman is exceedingly good as Sybil Fay; and Little Queenie is also to be complimented on her rendering of Dora.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—*Man to Man* occupies the boards here. Mr. Arthur Robinson gives an admirable impersonation of the hero, George Gordon; Miss Beatrice Hone acts with much charm and sympathy as the heroine, Ethel Maythorne; Mr. Clifford Bown, under whose direction the play is presented, is very quaint as the convict, Bill Burkley; Mr. Charles Stirling is forcible as the villainous Richard Ellerton; Mr. Hartland Edwards submits an admirable representation of the Rev. Philip Ormond; Miss Frances May's Gipsy Madge and Miss Phyllis Oakley's Ned Doyle merit praise; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Bruce Williams as Samuel Plumtree and Miss Eleanor Papera as Miss Lavina Dove. The play is excellently mounted.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Roma and Romani, the classical musicians, win hearty applause; Oscar Mills and John Brown present *My Friend the Count*, in which Ernest Lawson is especially effective as Billy Sparkings; Zasma is a clever gymnast; the Nonentities are highly successful in their concert party programme; the Three Daisies are excellent in song and dance; J. H. Crew is an eccentric comedian and dancer; Flo Carlow acquits herself admirably in songs and sand dancing; Wade and Lilian are well received in the vocal scena, *A Romany's Wooing*; Hagar and Willie are effective in an acrobatic speciality; and the Alhambra Picturegraph is interesting and amusing. On Thursday Miss May Palfrey and Miss Lena Ashwell's company from the Kingsway Theatre, gave a matinée performance of *Company for George* and *The Outcome of Agitation*.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Miss Ada Reeve is the great attraction here, and is enthusiastically applauded. Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists, achieve great success; La Noedia impersonations of French characters are warmly appreciated; the Scottish Meisters are excellent in the vocal extravaganza, *Ancestral Spirits*; Signor Torti, an accomplished tenor vocalist, is distinctly effective; Maggie Carr is a capital vocalist and dancer; Hinton and Wooton are skilful in their football match on bicycles; Joe and Hetty Waldron are good comedy artists; and Jack Hylton is a pleasing comedian.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Louis Meyers company is here with *The Woman in the Case*. Miss Florence Lloyd gives a telling and realistic impersonation of Claire Forster; and Mr. Leonard Pagden is highly successful as Thompson. Miss Mabel Trevor is a sympathetic Margaret Rolfe; Miss Sophie Lingwood is well placed as Mrs. Hughes; Mr. Clayton Greene displays polished acting as Julian Rolfe; Mr. F. Clive Ross is a capital Klauffsky; and able support is given by Mr. Richard Fielding, Mr. Lambert Plummer, and Mr. Reginald Maurice.

Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Maud Barrasford; Manager, Mr. F. J. Thompson.—The Events of the Week and other pictures are highly interesting. Ballads are charmingly rendered by Miss Emmie King.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—A special matinée was held here on Saturday afternoon, the 5th inst., organised by the Women's Social and Political Union, consisting of Cicely Hamilton's *Pageant of Great Women*, as at the Scala Theatre, London, the pageant being written by Miss Cicely Hamilton and arranged by Miss Edith Craig. Miss Olive Terry, Miss Homer Vesey, and Mr. Charles Thursby appeared in the principal parts, assisted by a company of seventy. Morris dances and Old English games, and a play, in one act, by Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John, entitled *How the Vote Was Won*, were also included in the entertainment. The theatre was packed in all parts. This week we have Messrs. Glenister and Ingram's company in *The House of Temperley*. Mr. Lionel Glenister acts in manly style as Captain Jack Temperley; Mr. Howard Rose presents a good study of Sir Charles Temperley; Miss Sheila O'More is pleasing as Ethel Morley; Mr. Fellows Bassett acts consistently as Sir John Hawker; Mr. John Detley makes a fine character-study of Jakes, a bookmaker; Mr. Charles Cleveland acts capitally as Ginger Stubbs; and the remaining parts are well played.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—*Can a Woman be Good?* is being played here by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Mabel Rose and Mr. Joseph Millaine both act admirably their respective parts of Esther Howarde and Manuel Errington; Mr. Harry C. Robinson presents a fine character-study of Herod Steinberg; Miss Florence Hunt displays considerable power as Naomi Merrick; Mr. W. H. Griffiths makes the most of his opportunities as Ralph Desmond; Mr. T. G. Maine and Mr. J. Archer do well as Cairns and Starman; and the comic parts of Curley Dabbs and Slithers are taken in excellent style by Mr. G. R. Tyrrill and Miss Winifred Barton.

Palace. — Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. J. V. Welchman.—Captain Fred Woodward's talking and juggling sea-lions and seals head the programme, their performance being both interesting and amusing; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arab acrobats (ten in number) perform many difficult and wonderful feats; Clara Reid and John Power amuse with their sketch, *The Chambermaid*; Cestria does well as a comedian, acrobat, and juggler; the Brothers Herbert are smart eccentric dancers; Lily Edwards is a pleasing comedienne; the Brand Sisters are acceptable, both in song and dance; Fred Hallum, comedian, is appreciated; the Brothers Brooks amuse as comedians, &c.; and animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Manager, Mr. Sid. Macaire.—Cinquevalli, the incomparable juggler, is here for the week; Marquerite Broadfoote, comedienne, has some pretty songs; Mark Melford and company amuse with *My Wife Won't Let Me*; Jack and Lily Kendall are pleasing vocalists; Captain Ellis and Son do well with their comedy-musical act; Ardell and Odell do some smart tumbling; Mr. and Mrs. Rossi Ashton score with their speciality, *The War Artist and Lady Conductor*; Brothers Bass, comedians, are appreciated; Stan. and Stella Atkins are smart dancers; and Alexander Mee displays ability as an actor-vocalist. Interesting animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*A Collier's Daughter*, with the clever actress, Miss Irene Munroe as Bess, had a good house on Monday. Mr. Montague Beaudyn ably portrayed Dick Silver; Jaspar Bargrave was well played by Mr. Charles D. Pitt; Miss Cora Patey presented Irene Gallimore effectively; Mr. A. A. Tomlin (Merkins Gentle) and Miss Phyllis Rae (Lady Kathleen Harland) were entrusted with the comedy business.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*Sexton Blake* is here on a return visit, and is meeting with a good reception. Mr. Murray Yorke appears with great success in the title-rôle, and Mr. Miller Wilson proves his powers as Tinker. Mr. Edward McLean fills the difficult rôle of Roger Blackburn; and good work is done by Miss Elizabeth Watkins as Marjorie Lovell. Much ability is shown by Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as Randolph Lovell, and the scenic effects are good.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—At the head of a pleasantly varied programme is Jan Rudenyi and his company, who present *The Storm*, introducing brilliant violin solos, which evoke much applause. Spissell Bros. and Mack are a diverting combination of knockabout artists, and Miss Ellen Sellars is a sweet mezzo-soprano who sings with excellent effect. J. H. Carney gives a novel performance as a mimic comedian, and Will Owen and George Morton provide good turns. The Empire Theatrescope concludes.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Rentoul.—Foremost in popularity here are Edward Crossland's Melody Makers in their scena *The Burglar's Dream*, in which excellent vocal and piano music predominates. Continuous laughter greets *The Would-be Actors*, presented by Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery; and Bert Woodward is a smart cycle trickster. Richard Wally, juggler, makes a welcome reappearance, and Miss Louie Tracey repeats former successes. The Bros. Rees give an interesting exhibition of heavy juggling, and Gwennie Morgan is a pleasant comedienne. The Three Sisters Silcott are a bright turn, and the Palace pictures conclude.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—Ching Ling Soo is paying a return visit, and astounding the natives with his clever tricks; Geo. O. Doughty and Molly Laney, in a pleasing comedy entitled *A Woman's Way*, show considerable talent; the Calcotts shine in singing, dancing, and playing; Miss Annie Martin possesses a pleasant voice; Alma Correze, assisted by Droll Keith, does some marvellous juggling; and Kathleen Cogan, comedienne and dancer, and Burns and Bentley, artistic dancers, and the Operascope, also entertain.

BURY (Lancs).—Royal.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Mr. Robert McDonald's company opened here on Monday with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Ethel Callanan makes a delightful Peggy, and Miss Marjorie Manners is equally successful as Winifred. Lieut. Sam Brudenell is capitally played by Mr. William Spray, and Mr. Edwin Dood's drolleries as Joe Mivens are highly diverting. Miss Edie Martin is most amusing as Eliza. Others prominent in the cast are Miss Marie Rignold as Lady Brudenell; Mr. Harry Clark as Lieut. Frank Meredith; Mr. Harry Scaddan as Dr. O'Bryne; Miss Shelia Hayes as Helen; and Miss Rose Edouin as Miss Pyechase.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures still hold the sway at this house, and some exceedingly excellent films are shown. The Sisters Dudley, novel duettists, and Blair and Allen, comedians and dancers, provide clever turns.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Jim Pullin is a quaint comedian with clever songs; Moon and Morris are to be congratulated upon their clever patter and smart simultaneous dancing. Other capital turns include the Three Warringtons in an expert equilibrist act; Marjorie and Maude, dainty dancers; the Dancing Paceys in vocal act; Lynn and Leslie in a smart vaudeville act; and Casey's Juveniles in *Casey's Court*.

CAMBRIDGE.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Edward Compton and his talented company were welcomed here on Monday in *The School for Scandal*. Mr. Compton's Charles Surface is as dignified as ever; Peter Teazle was made a fine study by Mr. Henry Crocker; Miss Nell Compton played *Lady Teazle* artistically; Sir Oliver Surface was well portrayed by Mr. Chas. Stone; Joseph Surface was efficiently rendered by Mr. Frank Royde; and Miss Erita Sponti, Miss Maria Hassell, and Miss Agnes Williams also gave skilful support. On Tuesday *She Stoops to Conquer* was played, and *Davy Garrick* on Wednesday.

CANTERBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon.—The performance of Paul Cavalli, the well-known athlete and strong man, is much appreciated; Connie Ieca, a charming songstress; Stuart Paton, an amusing and versatile character impersonator; the Louberts, pantomimists, who have caused roars of laughter; Detil, with mystifying tricks; the Weimars, tightrope and musical artists; Billy Horley, comedian; and Bu-Val, the happy Dutchman, who performs very cleverly on the concertina, comprise a good programme.

CARDIFF. — Theatre Royal. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. E. Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson. The musical comedy *The Cingalee* is here. Enthusiastic audiences have crowded to see the play, which is presented by Mr. Haldane Crichton's company. Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram is successful in keeping his house in peals of laughter; Mr. Cyril Dane, with a capital voice, makes an excellent Harry Vereker; Mr. Milroy Cooper does exceptionally well as Boobhamba; Mr. F. W. Ford is an amusing Sir Peter; and as Bobby Warren Mr. Scott Cullen scores considerably. Miss Pauline Hague, who has a pleasing voice, plays Lady Patricia Vane in lively style; Miss Ida Ernest is entitled to praise for her portrayal of Peggy Sabine; and Miss Molly Woolstenhulme in the rôle of Nanoya has ample opportunity for displaying her vocal ability.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Heading a capital bill this week at the popular Palace is Walter Bird's company in a comedy sketch, entitled *Her Husband*. Mr. Ernie Lotinga's clever skit of Jimmy is most amusing. Lively Lillie Langtry proves as popular as ever, her sprightly performance being always appreciated in this district; Edwin Garth is another successful artist; Kirk and Saraski are well described as "the girl aquatic marvels"; the Eedunn, operatic duettists, "go down" exceptionally well; and Will Rennie, the American roller-skate dancer, Lillian French, vocalist and mimic, and Scena Voces, in illustrated songs and ballads, are other additions to the programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Variety holds the boards here, the principal attraction being Rabottini's Band in some delightful selections. Alpho is a novel and clever ventriloquist; Leon and Tee, in a funny musical scena, *The Musical Farm*, evoke roars of laughter; Ben Jackson is an expert banjoist and humorist; Fame and Fortune do well in a comedy boxing act; Howard Ward and Louie Davis are amusing in a sketch, *Wanted a Typist*; and Will and Roze do well in an eccentric conjuring and acrobatic act.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—Atlas and Vulcana top the bill here, and, with the Sisters Atlas and Little Gus, give an excellent exhibition of feats of strength. Rita and Roma, in a bright pot-pourri act, are much enjoyed; Belrose and De Velin are operatic duettists of a high order; Harry Taylor is a clever comedian; Tamamoto is a wonderful perpendicular rope performer; Dan Conroy is a bright comedian and raconteur; and good items are contributed by Gracie Hunt, chorus comedienne, and Newco and Sullo, comedians and dancers.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Coun. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—The *Claudian* Company is here. Mr. William Maclaren gives a highly-finished and artistic performance of Claudian; as Almida Miss Lily C. Bandman fills the part with subdued grace and charm; Mr. Frank L. Chambers' portrayal of the Tetrach is effective; Mr. Douglas Earle gives an interesting representation of Agazil; Alcares finds an able exponent in Mr. Weston Hubbard; Mr. Cecil Maynard makes a careful study of Rhamantes; Mr. Chal. T. Chalenor as Belos causes great amusement; and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa plays with care.

Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Heading the bill here are the Bellong Bros., who perform feats as equilibrists on cycles. George Madigan's dogs go successfully through various tricks; *A Society Sinner* is effectively interpreted by the Forestiers; another welcome turn is given by the Esdale Bros.; Lilian Harvey sings descriptive and chorus songs; Tony, Hoppit, and Terry in an amusing comedy act *The Coster's Derby Day* are smart acrobats; Tom E. Roma is well to the fore as a comedian; and Wagner and Ward, in a vocal scena, *The Blacksmith's Daughter*, display considerable ability.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*Smith* is presented here, with Miss Jessica Thorne delighting all in the title-rôle. Mr. Montague Love gives a capital interpretation of Tom Freeman; Mr. Vivian Gilbert is admirably suited as Algie Peppercorn; Mr. Cecil Brooking does well as Mr. Dallas Baker; Miss Kathleen Collier is effective as Emily Chapman; and Miss Eleanor Delaporte is deservedly applauded for her able representation of Mrs. Dallas Baker. The piece is admirably staged.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Richard Braatz's canine actors make a hit with the dog drama, *The Burglar's Fate*. Martin and Gorney are excellent dancers; Baby Wolff adds to her admirers; Les Valdos amuse with their scena, *The Eccentric Motor-Busmen*; Sid Bandon scores with his chorus song. Edna Deno, comedienne, also appears. Burt Shepard was announced, but owing to indisposition his place is taken by the Mysterious Mystics.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The King of Cadonia* had an enthusiastic reception on Monday. Mr. Bertram Wallis as the quixotic King has a distinguished and gallant bearing, and sings agreeably; Misses Alice Moffatt as the Princess is irresistible; and Mr. Arthur Staples as the nervous heir-presumptive is deliciously humorous. Mr. Alfred Clarke is exceedingly funny as Bran, with him being associated Miss Joan Penrose, the lively soubrette of the piece; Mr. Lawrence Robbins as Captain Laski and Miss Amy Preston as Stephanie are a pleasing pair; Mr. Robert Selby acts with due point as General Bonski; Mr. Alec Buchanan is a comical ducal secretary; Mr. C. B. Williams an effective Chief Conspirator; and Miss Queenie Preston a dignified Duchess. Mr. Julian Rutt is the able director of the large chorus and augmented orchestra.

Poole's Picture Palace.—Manager, Mr. E. B. Shenton.—The Flying Winskills give a thrilling performance on the trapeze; M. Jules Charmette gives evidence of his skill on the 'cello and sings comic songs capitally in French; and Fallows and Beaumont give a good comedy duo turn. The pictures are excellent.

Gillsmith's Electric Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Cecil Gill-Smith.—The move from the Winter Garden to new premises has not affected the popularity of this place of amusement. John Story is an excellent character impersonator; and Miss May Harper does well in illustrated songs.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—George Dance's principal company, in *Miss Hook of Holland* is this week's attraction. Mr. Alfred Wellesley is a droll Hook; Mr. Mansell Stringer sings and acts well in the part of the Bandmaster; and the Schnapps of Mr. Chas. Ross is a praiseworthy performance; Captain Paap is well acted by Mr. A. Wood Mansey; and so is the Lieutenant de Coop of Mr. Lacey Mills; Mr. Harry Brayne is a mirth-provoking Slinks; Miss Maud Denny as Mina proves herself a capable actress; and Miss Nan Stuart, in the title-rôle, is the personification of grace and vivacity.

CHORLEY (Lancs).—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar Dereve.—A refined and acceptable variety company occupies these boards this week. The principal "turn" is Gates' Burlesque Band, an exceptionally fine and numerous company of musicians; the Whitworths are clever cyclists; Zaida presents a smart slack-wire turn; "Pongrila" gives a capital acrobatic performance; the Belmonts are smart dancers; and included in the strong bill are Arthur Milton, comedian; Violet Beatrice, comedienne and dancer; and the Matt Wilkinson Trio in a sketch.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY. — Theatre and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Choriton Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Stott.—The pictures here maintain their high standard of excellence.

CLYDEBANK.—Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickhard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—The Rowantrees (Bert and Edna), on a return visit, are well received; Rowan and Moore cause roars of merriment; Mlle. Bartinelli is a graceful contortionist; Carl Bennice is a successful singing ventriloquist; and excellent pictures are shown.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in *Married to the Wrong Man*, opened to a full house on Monday. Mr. Henry Lonsdale played the manly rôle of Jack Gladwin with great power; Miss Mary Pemberton, in the pitiful part of Ruth, was a great success; the despicable Captain Deering and Skinner were capably portrayed by Mr. Geo. Arthur and Mr. Leonard Thackeray respectively; Miss Clara Milvain looked charming and acted well as Rose; Mr. Walter Pemberton

"DERWENT"

GAS-STEAM RADIATORS

For Heating Theatres.

JOBSON & CO.,
Derwent Foundry, DERBY.

A SHAKESPEARE LONG LOOKED FOR.

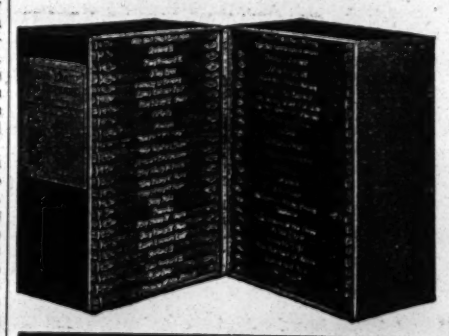

8D. net

Large Type.
Very Low Price.
Very full Annotations.
Pocket Volumes.

8D. net

The ERA Shakespeare.

In 42 Cloth-Bound Volumes at 8d. net per Vol.

The Volumes are beautifully set: Binding, Title, and Frontispiece are designed by Joseph Simpson.

Edited by HENRY N. HUDSON, LL.D.

For the Text a careful collation has been made of the various authorities—Collier, Dyce, Delius, Furness, Halliwell, the Cambridge Edition, etc.
The notes at the foot of the pages are those which are necessary to make clear the meaning of the passages. The notes of a more specialised nature are placed at the end of the volumes. The Editor has throughout availed himself of the best thought of the great commentators.

LIST OF VOLUMES.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Merchant of Venice
The Tempest
King Henry the Fifth
Romeo and Juliet
Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
As You Like It
The Merry Wives of Windsor
King Henry the Eighth
Julius Cæsar
Macbeth
Othello
The Taming of the Shrew
Twelfth Night
King Richard the Third
King Lear
Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus
The Comedy of Errors
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Love's Labour's Lost
King Henry IV. Part I.
King Henry IV. Part II.
Cymbeline
All's Well That Ends Well
Much Ado About Nothing
King John
King Richard the Second
Troilus and Cressida
Pericles, Prince of Tyre
Measure for Measure
A Winter's Tale
King Henry VI. Part I.
King Henry VI. Part II.
King Henry VI. Part III.
The Two Noble Kinsmen
Titus Andronicus
Timon of Athens
Venus and Adonis, Lucrece
Sonnets and Minor Poems
Life of Shakespeare
Index

A Noble Edition with happy mingle of illustration, explanation, and keen, subtle, sympathetic criticism.—*H. H. Furness, Editor of the great "Variorum" Shakespeare.*
Abundant notes are provided at the bottom of each page; the type is clear; and the introductions are brief and sufficient. Notes on textual matters showing wide knowledge are added at the end.—*Athenæum.*
The type clear and large, the binding and get-up all that could be desired, the editing and annotating most lucid and exhaustive, the price as low as the lowest.—*Daily Chronicle.*

Complete Set in Box, 30s. net.

SINGLE COPIES, 8d. each.

Can be obtained at
"The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

was capital as Sergeant Manners; and the large number of minor parts were suitably allotted.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King.—Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew impersonators, are the top line, and their show compels hilarity; Billy Keene and Jessie Adams, versatile entertainers, present a really artistic show; the Two Brilliants are expert xylophonists; Staffo, comedy talking juggler, is smart; Sylvene and Florence are good; E. W. Selman, comedian; Madie Burker, comedienne; and excellent films complete the bill.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarsance.—Maurin's Fountains are a beautiful exhibition; the Sisters Volbeque, in comedy act, score a success; Graham and Barron, dancers, &c., prove amusing; and George and Lilian do well as musical entertainers. Excellent films are shown.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—Good varieties fill the bill here, including the Bijou Juveniles, with songs and dances; and Preston Holmes, who submits a pleasing musical turn. Up-to-date pictures conclude.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The New Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—Countess Bekoffska, lightning painter, holds premier place here, and other good turns include Hal and Lal, ventriloquists, and St. Vincent Ellesmere, baritone singer, Burly Bill and Cowboy Stratagem are two fine pictures.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's principal company, in *The Naked Truth*, is here this week. Mr. Stanley Logan as Bunny submitted an interpretation which received general approbation; Miss Kathleen Maude as Norah Creighton evinced sympathy and refinement; Miss Violet Ley as Mrs. Hayter played with fervour and conviction; Mr. Townsend Whiting as the touchy old uncle was capital; and the Mr. Hayter of Mr. Beasley Beltram fitted well into the picture. The piece was preceded by a comedietta, *Protecting Mrs. Moxon*.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—Charles R. Whittle's capitally-rendered humorous songs have been greatly appreciated; Barrington is an accomplished pianist, and he is ably assisted by Miss Isobel Dickens, who introduces classical dances; Joe Cookson, in vocal and ventriloquial entertainment, is amusing; Clare and Pastor, comedy and speciality artists, gain applause; Mlle. Tina, gymnast, gives a daring and clever turn; Dalvere and Wallace, in comedy act, entitled *By the Sideboard*, receive an ovation; Ada and Gert, juvenile duettists and dancers, and Beattie Sullivan, dainty comedienne, are pleasing; and the Palascope pictures capital.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Messrs. W. N. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company is here with *Her Love Against the World*. Mr. Fred Emery takes the leading rôle, that of Eric Earl of Strathmore, with ability; Mr. Ray Fortescue takes the character of Prince Ulric in a capable manner; Mr. W. H. Hallatt is an excellent Prince Othmar; and Miss Ellen Snow as Iris, Princess of Idalia, wins much favour.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—At the top of the bill is Tubby Edlin in *The Cowboy Millionaire*, a musical comedy in miniature. The music is extremely good. A good turn is provided by Carl Lynn, the wonderful animal mimic; Miss Winifred Ward (the immaculate boy) sings some clever and catchy songs; the Jannitos Troupe perform wonderful acrobatic feats; and other good turns are provided by Rolando Martin, an amusing waiter, the Lyric Mummers in a vocal and comedy speciality, Polo and Florence, herculean equilibrists, and Marie Blythe, contralto singer.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Manageress, Miss Davidson.—Mr. G. E. Gilmour's company is here with *My Irish Molly*. Mr. St. John Medley proves himself a capable actor in the part of Denis; a good character study of Father McGuire is given by Mr. Kenyon Gray; as Billy Glim Mr. Karl Edwards proves himself a genuine comedian; Miss May Warden makes a charming and graceful Molly; Miss Irene Carrington is to be commended for a capital impersonation of Lady Blanche; Miss Yoonie Lang provides a lively bit of acting as Kathleen; and Miss Carlton also does well. The staging and scenic effects are excellent.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in *Don*, in which Miss Hutchison is very successful in the rôle of Mrs. Bonington; Miss Celia Gordon is satisfactory as Mrs. Sinclair; Miss Viola Garland makes a charming Ann Sinclair; Miss Violet Harley gives an accomplished performance as Elizabeth Thompsett; and Miss Dorothy Gordon is adequate as Fanny. Mr. Arthur Willoughby gives a good rendering of Canon Bonington; Mr. Gordon Bailey is equal to the responsibilities of the rôle of Stephen Bonington; Mr. Charles Tyrel is capital as General Sinclair; and Mr. Charles Harley acts with force as Albert Thompsett. The first piece is *Chalk and Cheese*, admirably enacted by Mr. Lionel Bevans (Walter Raymond), Miss Viola Garland (Sybil Raymond), and Miss Mamie Mathews (Perkins).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. William Mollison's company is well received here in the powerful dramatic sketch, *The Touch of the Child*. G. H. Elliott, chocolate-coloured coon, brings down the house with his artistic methods; the Eight College Girls sing and dance capitally; Osborn and Brookes are an interesting musical comedy duo; the Seven Bramusas are remarkably good in musical act; Charles Norton is refreshing in monologue, *Pro's at the Races*; O'Malley and Brown submit an amusing comedy turn; Phil Parsons, comedian, is commendable; the Oakes Duo are very droll; Lena Wylie has a nice soprano voice; Madge Brownie is a pleasing comedy artist; and the bioscope pictures conclude.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—A decided sensation is being caused here by the important engagement of Mr. Raymond Phillips with his airship under wireless control. The turn is unique and entertaining. Miss Adrienne Augarde, assisted by Victor G. Huntley, is frolicsome and entrancing in duologue, *Dick's Sister*; Campbell and Barber give a marvellous cycle act; Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots deserve unstinted praise for a neat show, *The Gipsies' Revels*; Tom Jones is an amusing Welsh comedian; Les Romanis give a novel and brilliant musical act; Fred Lincoln is a funny comedian; Florence Dudley is a well-dressed burlesque artist; Horace Wheatley is a sterling Irish comedian; and the American Bioscope pictures interesting.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's company in *The Silver King* is drawing full houses here. Mr. Arthur Rooke gives a manly and earnest impression of Wilfred Denver; Miss Mildred Murray is a winning Nellie Denver; Mr. Edward J. George as Daniel Jaikes fills the part naturally; Mr. L. St. George Lowther's impersonation of the Spider is excellent; Mr. Ralph Leon shows to advantage as Henry Corket; Mr. Albert Bernard as Elijah Coombe does good work; and Mr. W. Leslie Ellis is excellent as Samuel Baxter. The piece is well staged.

PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—Two large houses on Monday night were strong in appreciation of a good programme, headed by Consul, the almost man monkey, a wonderful performance. Jack Pleasants got a good reception on his return visit; Benn's Dutch Boys and Girls go well; Amandus is a clever mimic; Bernard and Weston are good in song and dance; and other artists include Mlle. Rosina, instrumentalist, Sewell and Dudley, and the Bioscope.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Manager, Mr. J. Bollen.—In addition to the latest films on the Bioscope, Stave, the Indian eccentric artist, is applauded for his performance in mystery, mirth, and music.

ALBERT HALL.—Lessee, Mr. H. Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—Wyllie, the musical tramp, tops the bill; Brothers Drugan, duettists, are successful; and Gertie Macdonald is well received in her sketch *The Jolly Dutch Girl and a Piano*. Up-to-date pictures are shown.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Thomson and Co.; Manager, Mr. J. E. Thomson.—The Days (Florence and Frederick) give an interesting exhibition of telepathy; Tim Carlisle is a versatile comedian; and Baby Myrtle Grove sings and dances well.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—An excellent top-line turn is T. Elder Hearn, with a quick-change sketch and highly amusing juggling act. He also produces a sketch depicting low life in Paris, in which he is capably assisted by a good company. The Royal Banzai Family of Japanese entertainers, who foot the bill, introduce some new business; an amusing domestic farce entitled *My Friend the Enemy* is very effectively produced by Edgar Forest and company; the Three Romas are to be congratulated upon their gladiatorial display, which includes some good feats of strength; Sam Redfern, the black philosopher, is very amusing, and makes as favourable an impression as ever; Little Sophie is a clever juvenile character impersonator; and the Bros. Carney are praiseworthy vocal comedians. The Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—*What a Man Made Her* is being presented by Miss Glendower and company. Miss Glendower is entirely successful as Jane McAllister; Mr. Phil Harper gives a manly rendering of Mark Haven; Miss Beatrice Shirley and Mr. W. J. Butler are to be complimented upon their assumptions of the rôles of Lady Thora and Roger Danescombe. The other characters are all cleverly accounted for, and the play is well staged and dressed.

ROYAL DRILL HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus opened here on Monday to a crowded house. Signors Volpi, Cembrani, and Trufelli introduce various groups of animals, whose performances give evidence of long and careful training; an excellent trio of clowns, viz., Dan Gregory, Bishop, and Winkles, create any amount of merriment.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—A capital bill of fare is provided in the way of humorous and dramatic pictures, and the vaudeville element is well sustained. Sidney Leighton, in song and sketch at the piano, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Marie Beresford, costume comedienne, delights with selections from musical comedy; and Frank L. Hearnshaw proves a pleasing tenor vocalist.

MIDLAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Bert Dent.—The programme here is well up to the mark, and the pictures are agreeably assorted, kinemacolour studies being the foremost feature.

SPOT CINEMA THEATRE.—The excellent films here draw good houses.

DEVONPORT.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Horace Hunter's company, in an excellent dramatic tabloid entitled *Under Suspicion*, is the big letter turn for the week. The Harlequinaders are an admirable sextette of vocalists; Captain Roberts blends some wonderful feats of strength with indisputable musical ability; Harry Champion comes in for a first-rate reception; Diamond and Miss Beatrice provide a high-class musical number; Nellie Farrell entertains with some tuneful Irish songs and pretty dances; and Jean Wallace is a first-rate eccentric dancer.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Miss Hilda Beverley's company in *A Woman of Two Lives* is responsible for some exciting work, which is eagerly followed by large audiences; Miss Beverley cleverly undertakes the rôle of Ogarita and Cingela Fenton; and Miss Mary Brommer works hard as Drampardi Larcs. The other principals are Messrs. James Jarrett, Herbert Pearson, J. Armitage, and Miss Hetty Schular.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Frank Bertram and company occupy the boards here in the drama *The Sailor's Wedding*. Mr. Stanley Harrison as the hero, Gordon Drake, gives a highly-finished rendition; Mr. Cecil Klein is to be congratulated on his portrayal of Sir Victor Lascelles; as Mary Miss Madge Monte is successful; Miss Olive Warne plays Lenora de Gresac in an effective manner; Mr. J. H. Darnley as the villain, Giovanni Ferici, is capital; Mr. Alfred Fisher (Count Bellini) and Mr. Alfred Holles (Gracomo Ferrar) well sustain their parts; and Mr. Frank Bertram and Miss E. Giddens as Jack Hawkins and Polly Clarke introduce some excellent comedy.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—At the head here is Boswell's Stage Circus; much laughter is evoked by the funniosities of the Columbia Comedy Trio; Shirley and Ransome, in a sketch, *Jim's Pal*, have a flattering reception; the Kebbles, in a smart singing and dancing act, win hearty recognition; the Ted Curtis Trio submit a pleasing vocal and dancing scena; the Gilberts prove themselves accomplished artists on the tight wire; and success also attends Reski and Reski, comedy gymnasts and Nella Peers, a good singer. There is the usual display of pictures.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager and Proprietor, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—George Hyam's humorous patter keeps the house in continuous laughter; the Tymes, in a novel song-scena, *The Enchanted Clock*, are deservedly applauded; Lillie Le Main submits some clever impersonations; and the Delroys are well received for excellent coon singing, so also is Nellie Rose, a dainty comedienne and dancer.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Dairymaids* had a cordial reception here on Monday. Miss Margaret Carter's assumption of Lady Brudenell was an artistic performance; Mr. Donald Price-Evans made a dashing and smart Lieutenant; Mr. Algernon W. Lee did well as Frank Meredith; Dr. O'Bryne was genially played by Mr. Bernard Vaughan; and the Tim Capus of Mr. Paul Smythe was humorous.

DUBLIN. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*King of the Wild West* is drawing capital houses. Young Buffalo gives a forcible representation of the title-part; and Miss Caroline Mary Blayney supplies a clever portrayal of Wild Nell. Mr. George W. Cockburn successfully enacts John Bluffington; and Miss Agnes McCarthy makes a bright and attractive Kate. Mr. Edwin J. Collins does excellent work as Jack Morton; and Miss Lucy Murray is highly amusing as Mrs. Miles. Mr. Edmund Rich is admirably placed as Judge Gritt.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's *New East Lynne* company occupies the boards. Miss Violet Ellicott displays conspicuous ability in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine; and Mr. Frederick Victor gives a capital delineation of Archibald Carlyle. The part of Francis Levison has a fine exponent in Mr. Charles Levey; and Miss Sophy Shefton gives an acceptable reading of Cornelia Carlyle. Mr. James Cole does full justice to the part of Lord Mountsevern; Miss Alice Dorie makes an effective Barbara Hare; Mr. Paddy Dupres acts with much humour as Murty O'Flynn; and Miss Dorothy Douglas is particularly good as Willie Carlyle. Justice Hare has a good representative in Mr. George Bishop; and Mr. Byron Douglas is really excellent as Richard Hare.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Smith*, presented for the first time here by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company, is being greatly enjoyed. Mr. Robert Minster fills the rôle of Tom Freeman in a highly commendable manner; and Miss Cicely Stuckey as Smith acquits herself creditably. Mr. F. G. Thurstans achieves success as Mr. Dallas Baker; and Miss Pauline Strauss depicts the part of Emily Chapman in admirable style. Algy Peppercorn is cleverly sustained by Mr. Douglas Greet; and Miss Ethel Hodgkins is acceptable as Mrs. Dallas Baker. Mr. George Gamble is a satisfactory Fletcher; and Miss Ethel Wellesley is seen to advantage as Mrs. Otto Rosenberg.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Harry Ford, "the interrogative one," is starring here; Drew and Alders, "Coastguardsmen," are very quaint; Miss Gladys Hooley's violin selections are warmly applauded; Ike Scott and Son are diverting comedians; Miss Kathleen McShane, comedienne and dancer, meets with a good reception; Charles Robinson is a clever and entertaining vocal comedian; Rose Sylvester, a pleasing comedienne and dancer, has many admirers; Jock Mills is a humorous Scotch comedian; and Ford Williamson an effective baritone singer. The pictures are very good.

TIVOLI. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Athas and Collins top the bill here, and meet with a cordial reception. The Three Stewarts submit a marvellous gymnastic performance; Barnard's Mannikins, presenting *The Coons' Revelry*, provide an amusing turn; Leo and Roland are remarkably clever equilibrists. Also in the bill are the Sarony Sisters, comediennes and wooden-shoe dancers; Phil Kaufman, "the new coon"; Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy; Harry Bickley, eccentric comedian; Leah Arden, operatic and chorus vocalist; and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR, WAXWORKS, AND VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sprengel Brothers.—Bell and Dernay are a clever pair of comedy duettists; Lieut. Uniquem is an excellent ventriloquist; and Miss Genie Glen a dainty comedienne. Miss Allie Fittoni, banjo queen, and Max Welton, comedian, also appear with success.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company are here this week in *A Daughter of the Sea*. Mr. Gilbert as actor-author played old Mark Glensdale with skill and force; Miss Florrie Green is pretty and pathetic in the part of Sunshine; Mr. H. C. Lanceley acts in manly style as Captain Ben Morrison; the comedy element is well sustained by Miss Allyce Williams as Mollie and Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Billy; Ken Morland is effectively rendered by Mr. Paul Neville.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Colin.—The following artists are appearing here this week: The Australian Bush Boys, in a song scena; Three Comedy Chanters, vocalists and instrumentalists; Bert Ward, whistling comedian; Whylie Fox, clever animal mimic; Harry Keeble, modern ventriloquist; Sisters Beckstein, duettists and dancers; and Gladys Wills, Yorkshire contralto. The Empire pictures complete.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Hall Caine's new play *The Bishop's Son* was presented here on Monday. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine realises capitally the character of Dan Mylrea; a sweet and sympathetic Mona is found in Miss Helena Millais, who rises grandly to the pathetic situations of the play; Mr. Creagh Henry plays the Bishop with quiet dignity; Mr. Julian Cross's impersonation of the Deemster is full of passion; Mr. Norman Carn does well as Ewan Mylrea; Davy Fayle is amusingly and energetically played by Mr. George Mudie; Mr. E. W. Thomas presents a diverting study of Hommy-beg; Miss Agnes Knights is a commendable Kerry; and Father Dalby is admirably performed by Mr. Herbert Winton. *The Eternal Question* was staged the latter half of week.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Pride of place here is occupied by Florrie Forde, who is accorded a reception reserved for favourites, and her success is greater than ever, her new numbers completely bringing down the house. A fine dramatic sketch, *The Cattle Thief*, presented by George A. Street and Co., proves of absorbing interest; Clarke and Mostol elicit applause for their well-worked turn; the Rangers contribute a really clever and amusing trick cycle interlude; the Eight Frolics sing and dance themselves into favour; Fred Dunstone is versatile; Earle and Godfrey are bright and cheery; Cambo and Castelle, in a musical and acrobatic act, are decidedly smart; and pictures by Jury's Bioscope complete.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Edmund Tearle and Kate Clinton's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here this week. On Monday night *The Merchant of Venice* was produced, Mr. Tearle giving an admirable portrayal of Shylock. Miss Clinton appeared as Portia, and acquitted herself with credit; Mr. Edmund Grogan was a capital Duke of Venice; Mr. Ernest Lodge played the part of Antonio well; Mr. Bernhardt Turner gave a good performance as Bassanio; Messrs. Fawcett Lomax as Launcelot Gobbo and Samuel Seldet as Old Gobbo, Miss Mary Campbell as Nerissa, and Miss Ray Parry as Jessica gave able support; and the other parts were in equally good hands. *Jeanie Deans*, *East Lynne*, *Macbeth*, and *The Octoroon* completes the week's répertoire.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—On Monday Mr. F. Anstey's new comedy *Vice-Versâ*, founded by the author on his well-known book of the same name, was produced here with every sign of success, and repeated on Tuesday. The clever company was "called" many times during the evening, and in response to persistent cries for the author, Mr. Anstey bowed his acknowledgments from the stage. For Wednesday and the remainder of the week Mr. Arthur Hardy's company was billed to appear in *The Man from Blankley's*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Fred Melville's company appeared here the first three evenings of the week in *The Bad Girl of the Family*. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Crossley, aided by a handsome presence and alluring charm, made Bess Moore a real and appealing character; Miss Dulcie O'Mull Conry was a capital foil as the hard-hearted sister, Honour Moore; Miss Daisy Cooke was a dainty and hard-working Gladys Erskine; Miss M. Green was a bright, vivacious Sally Smith; and Miss Saidie Southern gave good help as Mrs. Moore. Mr. Richard Lane was an earnest and manly Richard Marsh; Mr. Alexander Bradley did capable and individual work as Harry Gordon; Mr. James C. Taylor's impersonation of Lord Erskine was marked by refinement and dignity; Mr. Luke Forster gave an excellent character-study as the Jew, Barney Gordon; clever comedy work was done by Mr. Tom May as Sammy Snozzle; and Mr. George Belmore was a distinct success as Jerry.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here is Mr. Willie Benn's company, which appears very successfully in a well-staged sketch, *The New King*. Miss Florence Cameron is a refined coloured Princess Kiorra, and sings with fine voice and effect; Mr. Alf. Donohue as Willie Pink is a clever comedian; and Mr. C. Maynard Brown is excellent as the Prime Minister of the island. The Martialo Trio of jugglers do smart, clever, and novel work; Miss Flo Cecil is a charming vocalist; the Arthur Lloyd Trio cause much fun with the sketch *Little Charlie*; Mr. Tom Clifford is an expert ventriloquist; Slow and Sure are funny acrobats and wrestlers; Essman is a very capable juggler; and Miss Neil Drury sings and dances well.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Lawrence Brough is here in *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*. In the character of Herbert Jocelyn Mr. Brough acts throughout with verve and animation; he is well supported by Mr. Alfred Hemming as Jack Buncombe and Mr. Paul Wynter as Evan Evans; Mr. A. J. Murray as Ulysses Jeffson is all that can be desired; Miss Olga Esmo as Rosie Jocelyn is charming and graceful; and Miss Bessie Harrison as Mrs. Lambert is to be complimented on her capital impersonation.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. Jas. Welch and company are here this week with *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Welch's impersonation of Sir Guy De Vere remains an exceedingly clever and humorous performance; Miss Audrey Ford plays the part of Lady Rowena with elaborate romantic effect; and admirable work is contributed by Mr. Arthur Grenville. Mr. Guy Lane gives an excellent sketch of the Rev. Peter Pottleberry; and the remaining members of the cast, including Mr. Cecil Kinnaird, make the most of their parts. The piece is capitally mounted, and on Monday the actors had an enthusiastic reception, Mr. Welch being forced to acknowledge the appreciative applause in a short speech.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company are here in *The House Opposite*. Mr. Neilson as Henry Rivers acts with much ability; Mr. Dickson Moffat, a clever comedian, is genuinely good in the character of Sir Edward Harrowby; and excellent performances are given by Mr. Lemmon Warde, Miss Dorothy Blackadder, and Miss Effie Leigh Hunt. Miss Amy Sangster's acting of the Hon. Mrs. Rivers is distinguished by sincerity, grace, and emotional expression. The play is preceded by *Six and Eightpence*.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—The Brothers Egbert, happier and more mirth-provoking than ever in their sketch *The Happy Dustman*, head an excellent bill. Arden and Abel draw forth hearty applause and laughter by their clever acting in *Three of a Kind*; Webb and Branston approve themselves expressive singers in a selection of tuneful duets; Miss Edie Veno is a bright comedienne; and the Francoli Troupe give an excellent pantomimic and acrobatic sketch, *The Billposter and the Terrible Children*. The Six Manchester Lads submit an exhilarating exhibition of clog dancing; and other artists include Miss Kitty Fields, comedienne; Sam Kelly, Scotch comedian; and Seigel and Fields, vocal and instrumental entertainers.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—Sammy Shields, the Scottish comedian, is greatly popular; Leo Stormont sings in entertaining fashion; and another Caledonian artist appeared with much success in the person of Dan Fraser. Alice Pierce gave remarkable imitations of favourite artists; and a good deal was made by Frank Danby and J. C. Piddock of a musical sketch entitled *Cupid's Arms*. The Manchester Mites danced smartly in an acceptable scena; Staley's Company effected a transformation from a cooperage to a drawing-room very expeditiously; the Bollingers presented their unique rag-painting act; Ugo Nap contributed a bright bit of comedy; Mike Nono was acceptable in his cowboy song and dance; and some very amusing pictures were shown on the American bioscope.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—The comedy speciality act presented by the Cedrics tops the bill; Vela, the tramp on the clothes line, is entertaining; Doris Snowden sings in good style, and her dances are highly appreciated; Spry and Bentley, in their comedy sketch, attain well-earned popularity; and the remainder of the programme is taken up with interesting pictures.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—A crowded house welcomed Mr. Harry P. Towers' company on Monday, when *Dear Little Denmark* was presented. Miss Thelma Raye was a charming heroine, delightful in both her singing and acting; Mr. Tom Payne proved himself a smart comedian, and his fooling as Hans Hansen was very clever; Mr. Edward Thirlby as the eccentric Duke furnished a genuine character sketch; Miss Volt's Ophelia was a marked success; Mr. Cameron Carr's singing as Conrad was a musical treat; and Mr. George W. Ruff was smart and clever as Jonas Jenson.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—A popular attraction is the appearance of Reano's famous band of twenty-nine performers—the principal has the well-deserved distinction of being designated "the modern Svengali," and enjoyed an enthusiastic reception, due not only to the personality of the conductor, but also to the merits of the musicians. Other contributors to the bill are Mark Leslie, a clever coon artist and eccentric dancer; Irene and Morton, in a high-class comedy duo; Gus Harris, in his latest dramatic creations; Cummin and Seaham, smart and humorous acrobatic comedians; the Three Aza Boys, in their graceful singing and dancing act; and the Schmettans, in their extraordinary feats of equilibrium.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company with *A Royal Divorce*, which is admirably presented, both in staging and acting. Mr. Frank Bradley gives a dignified and impressive rendering of Napoleon, and the Empress Josephine of Miss Edith Cole leaves nothing to be desired in lofty conception and artistic finish. The other prominent parts are capably filled by Mr. Geo. Traill (Talleyrand), Mr. Charles Hartopp (Marquis de Beaumont), Mr. Ernest Plumpton (General Augerau), Mr. Thomas Barry (Marshal Murat), Mr. Geo. Hudson (Grimaud), Miss Winnie Tempest (Marie Louise), Miss Dorothy Garth (Stephanie de Beauharnais), and Miss Dorothy Hudson (the Little King of Rome). Good houses have been the rule.

FERNDALE.—NEW THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—Occupying the boards for the first half of this week are Mr. W. J. Churchill's Happy Valley Minstrels, an exceptionally good troupe. *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, by Miss Inez Howard's company, is billed to appear the latter end of the week.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mrs. Lewis Waller's company in *A Midnight Visitor* and *The Admiral's Lady* is proving a strong attraction here. In the former play Mrs. Waller gives a delightful rendition of Margot; while Miss Josephine Colona is responsible for a clever study of Lucille de Voisel. Mr. Malcolm Cockerall is the possessor of a rich baritone voice; the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods are talented duettists; and Mr. Maurice Farkoa scores a success in new songs.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Messrs. Fox and Leonard's company appeared here for three nights this week in *Greed of Gold*. Miss Mabel Phillips was an excellent Dora Hood; Mr. Warden showed himself a good character-actor in the part of Harry Hood; and Mr. B. M. Fox well sustained the part of the dumb man, Tom Wellstead.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Miss Leonie de Lausanne, a champion rifle shot, is providing an engrossing turn; Frank Seeley is immensely amusing; Ernest Montefiore and his company once more present the dramatic episode *The Little Colonel* to an appreciative audience; Violet Romaine renders two ballads in charming manner; the ever-welcome Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn score again with the vocal absurdity *A Pantomime Boy*; Alice Beanford is an engaging soprano; Hattie Petro and Pete Leon score with a trapeze act; and the Kingscope depicts a dramatic episode.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in *Whom God Hath Joined* provided the fare here. Mr. Lomath ably impersonates Jack Merritt, Mr. George Edwin Clive is an excellent Major Stevens, Digby Trant has an able exponent in Mr. Oswald Douglas, Mr. Frank Orchard is seen to advantage as Richard Manley, the comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Victor H. Crawford in the part of Watty Copper, Miss Mary Ainslie charmingly portrays Marian Merritt, Beatrice Trant is well impersonated by Miss Ambe Wyville, and the part of Kitty Crumpet affords Miss Daisy Stone an opportunity of showing ability.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Humphreys.—We are again enjoying the amusing situations of *Charley's Aunt*, as presented by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm as Lord Fancourt Babberley plays the part of the masquerading aunt with much humour; Mr. Sydney Compton as the fatuous Stephen Spettigue is very good; and Mr. Mr. C. F. Collings is a soldierly Sir Francis Chesney. Mr. Francis Drake is successful as Jack Chesney, as is Mr. Cecil Kerr in the rôle of Charles Wykeham; Miss Helen Palgrave realises Donna Lucia to the life; and the three girls are ingenuously and charmingly portrayed by Misses Bertha Northam, Gladys Storey, and Ruth Henton. Mr.

BY APPOINTMENT

FOR COUGHS. Owbridge's Lung Tonic FOR COLDS.

Owbridge's
Lung Tonic

The most up-to-date, best known and most successful Remedy in the World for

COUGHS & COLDS

Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.

CAUTION:—Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

This is the Best, Cheapest and Safest way to recovery.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
Established 1874.

Sold everywhere in bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. 4s. 6d. and 11s.

COPYRIGHT

E. Christopher makes the most of Brassett. The comedy is preceded by *The Lancashire Sailor*.

KING'S.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company is presenting *The Brass Bottle*, and the hearty laughter of the huge audience is ample evidence of the success of the company. Mr. Holman Clark as the genie Fakrash acts with excellent effect, and his make-up is extremely good; Mr. Percy Marshall as Professor Futvoye is also well suited; and his wife and daughter are ably played by Misses Edith Hunter and Marjorie Chard. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Horace Ventimore acts with much humour; Miss Mary Brough infuses a deal of rich humour into the part of the landlady, Mrs. Rapkin; and her bibulous husband is ably acted by Mr. Charles Barrett. Mr. Rudge Harding as the solemn Pringle and Mr. Robert Ayrton as a wealthy auctioneer also help the fun along. The stage effects are well arranged and cleverly managed.

ROYALTY.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphreys.—The repertory company is appearing in *The Two Mr. Wetherbys*, the quiet humour of which is much enjoyed. Mr. Campbell Gullan as the "good" James Wetherby gives a finished and clever characterisation; and in fine contrast is the breezy acting of Mr. Norman McKeown as the "bad" Richard Wetherby. Miss Winifred Gunn acts with much charm as the wife of the first; and Miss Muriel Pope as Constantia, the strict and severe spouse of the second, infused a touch of grim humour into the part. Miss Gwynneth Galton as an old invalid and Mr. Perceval Clark as a young man with a mania for collecting funds for missions give clever touches of character; Miss Eve Tithoradge as Jane completes a clever cast. The play is preceded by that grim little tragedy *Jean*, excellently acted by Messrs. Campbell Gullan and Walter Roy.

GRAND. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The Grand Répertoire Company, under the direction of Mr. Alex. Keith, is presenting a farce entitled *Found in a Four-wheeler*. Mr. Keith keeps his audiences in a continuous roar of laughter by his representation of Joe Capsize. Mr. David Stewart is a good tenor vocalist. The pictures are still a remarkable attraction.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey provide a capital night's amusement with *Rollicking Rory*. In the part of Rory O'Donohoe Mr. Mackey keeps the house in a constant ripple of laughter; and in the rôle of Rosie Miss May Livesey is bright and attractive. The parts of D'Arcy and Captain Ashleigh are well filled by Mr. Fred Charles and Mr. Charles M. Julian respectively; the thankless part of Shaun Brady is ably undertaken by Mr. Morley Carroll; Mr. J. P. McBride gives a fine representation of Fitzgerald; good character acting is seen in the Sergeant Callagan of Mr. Conway Hastings and in the Widow Callagan of Miss Jeanette Lyons; the parts of Mrs. Ashleigh and Queen of the Fairies are cleverly doubled by Miss Nellie de Lacy, the Rosalun of Mrs. Chalmers Mackey being also a good performance. Mr. Mackey took a benefit on Friday evening, when *Arrah-Na-Pogue* was played.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company, in *Driven from Home*, has had a cordial reception. Mr. Felix Pitt makes an excellent Anthony Raybrook; Mr. P. George Beresford acts well as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes ably portrays the scheming Geoffrey Waring; Miss Emily Burnby acts with much vigour as Barbara Ashdown; Miss Violet Forbes is a sweet and engaging Laura Raybrook.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*The Face at the Window* receives capable treatment in the hands of Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's talented company. As Paul Gouffet Mr. T. W. Duncombe gives a clever portrayal; as the Chevalier Lucio Delgado Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay's representation of the calculating villain is very convincing; Mr. James Chippendale gives a clever conception of Le Blanc, the mad doctor; while as Henri de Brisson Mr. James Weston acts the haughty aristocrat with marked success. As Marie Brisson Miss Constance Glenaubyn gives a charming and effective representation; Mr. John A. Stimson as Peter Pottleberry and Miss Frances Day as Babette are responsible for much humour; Lucien Certier, M. Vernet, and Jean Barbelon are in the capable hands of Messrs. Richard Oliver, T. Johnson, and W. Marriott respectively. The drama is excellently staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—The top of the bill is allotted to Miss Gertie Gitana, the accomplished comedienne, who is a great attraction, and the audience on the opening night was large and appreciative. She sang four songs, and was repeatedly recalled. Another artistic and amusing contribution is that of Tom Edwards, the ventriloquial huntsman; Katie Butler is a clever comedy artist; and the dramatic sketch *Blind*, by Mr. Edmund Maurice's company, is a clever bit of acting. The other artists include Hans and Lux, comedians; Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists; Three Belle Belles, comediennes and dancers; Harry Simms, light comedian; and Kitts and Windrum, in the military scena *The Cuckoo*.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—Another excellent company here is headed by May Moore Duprez, who is a great favourite in Glasgow; Topsy Sinder, the clever dancer, again proves her sterling ability in several catchy songs and dances; Annie Hughes and company appear in a clever comedy sketch, *Napoleon*, introducing this excellent actress as Mme. Sans-Gene, in which she makes a pronounced hit; J. W. Rickaby as an eccentric comedian is in the front rank; Tom E. Hughes easily maintains his position as a comedian; Madge Temple sings several catchy chorus songs with fine effect; Odeyne Spark is another clever comedienne; and the Paxton Trio of head and hand balancers are wonderfully neat in all their feats.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—De Canty's illuminated water grotto, with its wonderful and ingenious lighting effects, occupies a leading place in the programme; the dancing of Billy French makes him a strong favourite; Rastus and Banks, the clever coloured duo, take well in their songs and dances; a smart acrobatic and knockabout turn is that of Talberto and Douglas; J. P. Ling's imitations are wonderfully good; Rose Cambey's three songs are heartily encored; Denard Bros., two clever juveniles, give a smart display of head and hand balancing; Sisters Gaye sing and dance with much dash and style; Flora Macdonald's Scotch turn is well received; and John Hall, Scotch comedian, ably fills the place of an absent turn.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Mr. Wentworth Croke presents a tabloid version of *East Lynne* which meets with a capital reception, Miss Beth Elliott as Lady Isabel is worthy of mention for her realistic representation; as Sir Francis Levison Mr. Geo. R. Montford is admirable; Tom Clare sings a couple of catchy chorus songs; Geo. Goodfellow's and Jennie Gregson's comedy work is smart and breezy; Miss Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, has a gratifying reception; Harold Montague and his Vagabond Players in their dancing and vocal efforts are alike good; Bugler Carr's work meets with appreciation; Stephens and Rennior are warmly received; the Channings are responsible for vocal and instrumental work of a refined character; the Sutcliffe family of Scottish acrobats, pipers, and dancers get through a lot of excellent work; and the Bioscope is up to the usual high standard.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—An attractive picture programme is presented here. Smart vaudeville turns are contributed by Nettie Hawthorne (comedienne and dancer) and Jock Carrells (Scotch comedian).

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—Ella Dean sings several songs in fine style; Bob Campbell proves a nimble one-legged comedian; Harry Bolden secures applause for his banjo playing; Lena Grant is a descriptive vocalist of ability; May Lawson, comedienne, is deserving of praise; and the Bioscope has an excellent series of pictures.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—A first-class picture programme is provided. Madge Locke is a charming character impersonator; the Spiridion Trio, comic juggling specialists, are clever and amusing; and Oswald and Locke, burlesque artists, are much appreciated. The selections on the Auxelo-gramophone are also very good.

STAR, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—A first-class selection of films is again provided. Miss Dora Sefton is a clever song and dance artist; Miss Heather Belle is a vocalist of more than ordinary merit; and the Victor Brothers submit an excellent head and hand balancing performance.

ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Councillor E. H. Bostock.—The joy wheel continues to provide unlimited excitement to participants and onlookers; the Prairie Girls are graceful and picturesque equestriennes; Comical Spuds dances on wooden stilts in a highly-amusing manner; the Two Walonells introduce comedy business into their performances on the triple bar; Miss Pinder's equestrian trick act is wonderfully clever, and Rabbit, the clown, accompanies her with sallies of wit; Mlle. Florence's combined globe-walking and juggling excite much admiration; the Janowsky Troupe are sensational acrobats; Mlle. Chloe and her cake-walking horse give entire satisfaction; Captain George's trained elephant and ponies show what educated animals can be made to do; Erneste Family are equestrians all quite at home on horseback; Funny Frisk's jokes keep the fun going merrily; and the strong youth, Abex, is still going strongly. The Bioscope winds up.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—At this theatre this week the boards were occupied by Mr. John F. Preston's répertoire company, and opened on Monday night with *Jane Shore*. Mr. John F. Preston ably portrayed the character of Richard, Duke of Gloucester; Mr. Alfred Wade well sustained the part of King Edward IV.; Miss Edith Leslie and Miss Ada Brett were good in the characters of the young princess; Mr. Walter Morton was an imposing Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Francis Everard an effective Matthew Shore; Mr. W. Howard Barlow a successful Matthew Yeast; Mr. John Richter is a fine Red Murdoch; Miss Lillie Pierce is a dignified and charming Queen of England; and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow an effective Jane Shore. For the remainder of the week *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *Lady Godiva* were performed.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Roa.—Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow* is this week playing to good houses. Miss Dorothy Arliss as Sonia is a clever and pleasing artist; Mr. Robert Needham makes an excellent Prince Danilo; Baron Popoff is a comical personage in the hands of Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter; comedy is the forte of Mr. Harry Emeric as Nisch; Miss Mabel Hope is good as Natalie; the Vicomte de Jolidon is successfully enacted by Mr. Ronald Pomeroy; Miss Neste Laurel dances splendidly as Frou Frou; the Maxim Girls have able representatives in Mesdames Willis, Winnington, Steward, Bethell, and Allen; Mr. C. L. Steward is noticeable as Khadja, as is Mr. Clinton Reynald as the Waiter; and the remaining characters are in capable hands.

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—Pathé's Animated Gazette is a capital idea and the other pictures are good. The varieties include Mr. George Prince, a favourite comedian; the Brothers Weyman, clever simultaneous dancers; the Dunvilles, refined musical act; and Miss Kitty Woodford, illustrated songster.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.—The lounge and tea rooms are a decided boon here, and this week the best pictures are The Axolotl and Among the Roses. The dramatic and comic pictures are well selected.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Hainsworth.—Good houses are the rule here. Witty and Wyse in comedy sketch keep the house in roars of laughter; the Sisters Volka are capital singers and dancers; Mr. Claude Boulby, light comedian, scores with his songs; Miss Connie Hicks is a charming comedienne; Miss Maud is a pleasing singer and dancer; Mr. Charles Orme, comedian, wins well-merited applause. The Monarch Pictures prove attractive.

GRAVESEND.—NEW PUBLIC HALL AND THEATRE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—Messrs Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's *Miss Hook of Holland* company, under the direction of Mr. Alan Adair, was here on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Mr. E. Russell's impersonation of Mr. Hook caused continual merriment; Mr. Vernon Booth as Capt. Paap sang well; the fine voice of Mr. Sam Lorkridge as the Bandmaster was heard to great advantage; the Slinks of Mr. Reginald Hunter was a capital performance; Mina was extremely well enacted by Miss Muff Carew; and as Miss Hook Miss Kathleen Starling charmed the audience with her delightful singing and acting. Other commendable performances were the Schnappe of Mr. Wilson Blake; the Hans Maas of Mr. Frank Smythe; the Gretchen of Miss Kitty Darnell; and the Old Market Woman of Miss Alice Sutton.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. G. Leslie.—The favourite comedienne, Lily Esplin, proves very diverting; Tom Connor, a quaint comedian, does well; Fred Bronte possesses a good voice; Morris and Marte are excellent comedians and dancers; La Valti, with her bevy of pretty girls in graceful dances, scores a success; Will Challiner is an ideal copper-coloured coon; *At the Stroke of Twelve* is excellently put on by Mrs. Royston Deane, and finds much favour. The Brascope has new films.

POPULAR PICTURE PALACE. — A varied series of pictures is presented here.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, is on a return visit here.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Miss Florence Humel, the lady jockey, is scoring a success; the Rizarelles are clever gymnasts; the Martelloni family of acrobats perform remarkable feats; the Paulham team of aerial football cyclists give an interesting performance; Della Ray is popular with her chorus songs; Elsie Hulbert is a smart dancer; Miss Sadie Bizet a charming comedienne; the Recar Trio give a refined acrobatic turn; Arthur Holland's scena is well received; and Doodles, with his electric shock machine, creates merriment.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is appearing here in *Happy Go-Lucky O'Lyn* with great success. Mr. John Child, who was in good voice, appeared to the utmost advantage as Bryan O'Lyn; Miss Marie Alexander achieved a notable success as Aunt Charlotte; Mr. Reginald Adair distinguished himself as Frank Fentiman, singing admirably; a delightful interpretation of Kathleen was furnished by Miss Anna Hickisch; Mr. Walter B. Nugent sustained the rôle of Donald Dunn cleverly; and Isaac Murch was well accounted for by Mr. J. G. McMahon. Mention should also be made of Miss Josephine Ellis as Mollie Murch and Miss Hetty Graham as Jemima.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—James Hare and company in a highly sensational sketch *Wrong 'Uns* provide the principal attraction here; and good turns are contributed by Pallos and Cussick in *The Funny Side of Life*; the Bros. Weltman, acrobats and dancers; Henry Curwen, character comedian; Stacey and Williams, burlesque actors; and the Three Kels in a pot-pourri act.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—*What the Butler Saw* is again here. Mr. Lionel Rignold is once more seen as Pink, the butler, and makes the character as whimsically entertaining as ever; Miss Zoe Gilfillan acts with spirit as Mrs. Barrington, and contributes two pleasing musical numbers; Mr. Chas. Fawcett does excellent work as Jack Barrington; Mr. Pat Alexander cleverly presents the eccentricities of Professor Shale; Miss Marie Daltra is quietly amusing as Miss Foden; Miss May Hart acts daintily as Sophonisba Hake; and others among a numerous company are Mr. Harry H. Rignold, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. George Ascot, Mr. Leo St. Clair, Mr. Wylie Thompson, Miss Julia St. George, Miss Florence Vennimore, Miss Chrissie Jensen, Miss Gertrude Savage, Miss Nancy Yorke, and Miss Mona Garland.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—A thoroughly amusing sketch is *61, Prospect Street*, well presented by Caryl Wilbur and company; the Jackson Family's refined instrumental act is very enjoyable; a vocal scena, *The Toilers*, presented by G. W. Blythe, is a distinct novelty; Pauline Rivers' sextette of singers and dancers give a smart performance; Lilian Rose is a successful actress-vocalist; Walter Stanley is a comedian with good business; and J. H. Greener sings capital songs.

GUERNSEY. — THEATRE ST. JULIAN. — Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week Miss Lena Stanton and company are here in *The Bluecoat Boy*. Miss Stanton is in her old place, and as Billy scores with her song; Miss Norah Neville is a charming Dolly; Messrs. Rex Kempton and Arthur R. Carlton as Jack and the Dame provide plenty of fun; and a pretty musical scene, *The Happy Jappy*, is presented by the company.

HALIFAX.—PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. Simpson.—Leonard Charburn's Young Stars, a troupe of young vocalists, have had a most gratifying reception; Hicks and Hunter dance with wonderful precision on ice skates; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, keep the house in a roar; the Arthur Gallimore Trio are again a success; Charles Erard is a clever mimic and pianist; Edna Barrett is a neat comedienne and dancer; and Emmie Ames (comedienne), Ridiculous Recco (comedy acrobat), Harry Bancroft (actor-vocalist), and the pictures complete.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Dudley Benett and T. C. Wray's company is here with *A Country Girl*. The company is strong vocally. Mr. Coningsby Brierley keeps the fun going merrily as Barry; Miss Ray Rawlinson sings well and acts nicely as Marjorie Joy; Miss Hilda Darrell's Sophie is good; Miss Ethel Negrette is the Princess Melaneh, Mr. P. Carr Geoffrey Challoner, Mr. St. John Hamund the Rajah of Bhong, Mr. P. Everard Sir Joseph Verity, Miss F. Linton Mrs. St. Quinton, Miss S. de Lacy Lady Anchester, and Miss D. Craske Nan.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Sidney C. Cranston and Archie Helsby's company is here with *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Graham Woods undertakes the part of Harry Beech, Mr. Sidney C. Cranston Dobbie, Mr. Archie Helsby Walter Beech, and Miss Pattie Hastings Sylvia Beech.

VICTORIA HALL, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Frank Corbett.—Hal Roberts tops the bill here this week with a smart conjuring turn and a constant flow of amusing patter.

HAMILTON, N.B. — HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; General-Manager, Mr. Rene Clayton.—Laurie's Juveniles, in a kindergarten entertainment are topping the bill here; Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators and harmona players; Marie Reeve, dainty comedienne and dancer; Stewart and Morgan, vocalists; Tom Moore, comedian; the McGregors, comedy entertainers; Mart and Pep, acrobats; W. H. Smart, comedian; and the Bioscope present an excellent entertainment.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—*Are You a Mason?* is attracting good houses. *My Wife's Friend* is a clever curtain-raiser.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill in *H.M.S. Perhaps*, which is very funny; Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian, makes a hit; Brothers Dean are excellent dancers; Mr. and Mrs. Finden appear in a good sketch; Mlle. Marjutti presents a clever creation; Les Frasettis, musicians, are praiseworthy; Les Frank-Legay Trio are skilful dancers. The pictures are very fine.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—In addition to capital pictures Miss Minnie Pike, in illustrated songs, is successful.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—Mr. George Munro & Co. are here in repertory. On Monday *The Sleigh Bells* was on the bill. Mr. George Munro was good as the guilty burgomaster, Matthias; Mr. Ernest Griffin made a handsome Christian; Miss Littlewood was good as Catherine; Mr. Denton Thompson as Hans; and Mr. Brember Wills as Father Walter made the most of their comedy parts. *The Sleigh Bells* was succeeded by *Delicate Ground*. On the other nights of the week *David Garrick*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Robbery of the Lyons Mail*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Hamlet* were in the bill.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Maxsted.—The Polar bears presented this week by Doris Del Monti are five splendid animals which have been cleverly trained to go through a number of feats, reflecting great credit upon their trainer. Caralli, ventriloquist, introduces an original act; Maude Phillips, a contralto with a capital voice, has made a conspicuous hit; and interesting films are projected by Ruffell's Bioscope Co.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—In the early part of the week Mr. J. E. Watson's company appeared in *The Sowers*. Mr. Chas. Craston made a robust Herr Karl Steinmetz; a quiet dignity was shown by Mr. Reginald Besant in the part of Prince Paul Alexie; Mr. Walter Russell played the exiled Count effectively; as Baron Claude Mr. Robert Entwistle displayed ability; Miss Violet Luddington did well in the part of Mrs. Sydney Bamborough, and Miss Lester Stephens and Miss Jessie Lothian distinguished themselves in the characters of Countess and Catrina Lanovitch. On the last evenings of the week Mrs. Lewis Waller and company presented *The Admiral's Lady*, and the one-act play by Gayer Mackay, *A Midnight Visitor*.

ST. LEONARDS AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. L. N. Schoenfeld; Resident-Manager, M. Leopold.—Mr. Arthur Levien's London Répertoire company are appearing here in *Still Waters Run Deep*. The stolid character of John Mildmay is remarkably well exemplified by Mr. Edward Vivian; Mr. Arthur Levien as Capt. Hawkesley is an effective study; old John Potter has a capital exponent in Mr. Vernon Crabtree; Mrs. Hector Sternhold is interpreted with much skill by Miss Grace Garside, and the part of Mrs. John Mildmay is ably undertaken by Miss Kathleen Yates.

HEREFORD.—DRILL HALL.—Manager, A. Lovesey.—The annual event of the highly esteemed local Amateur Operatic Society was the production on Nov. 1, 2, and 3 of Grundy and Sullivan's *Haddon Hall*. Under the able conductorship of Mr. George Banks, A.R.C.M., aided by an efficient band, the work went with precision and spirit, the chorus being exceptionally good and well drilled, reflecting every credit on the stage director, Mr. Richard Weathersby. The individual honours belong chiefly to Miss Lucy Saul, as Dorcas, and to Mr. Peyton Levason, as Rupert Vernon, and Mr. Garnet Marchant as The McCrankie, two humorous portrayals. Mr. Rea Powell has a fine stage presence as John Manners; Mr. Briscoe was prominent as Sir George Vernon; Mrs. Shenton was capital as Lady Vernon, and Miss Lilian Hull looked charming as Dorothy Vernon.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. Ainsley and H. Hall.—This week the popular drama *The Black Mask* is the attraction here. The company is one of Messrs. Marriott-Watson and James Usher's. Miss Florence E. Florence plays Nellie (the heroine) with grace and charm; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson gives a first-class delineation of the villainous Le Noir; and Mr. Edward Ashby in the character of Walter Blackmore is good.

HOYLAND.—HIPPODROME. — Owner, Mr. Scott Alexander; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Firth.—Harwood's Juveniles, in their vocal and dancing scena, *Christmas Eve*, are favourites; Mr. Geo. E. Pelham and company, in *Castlemaine Diamonds*, are excellent; Les Rallis are amusing in the sketch, *The Artist and the Monkey*; the Girl Middies provide a lively and entertaining performance; The Mosaics, in their sketch, *The Suffragette*, are well received; Alec and Jolly, triple bar comedians, are a source of amusement; Marlo (juggler) is dextrous; and Jimmy Hoffman, Ella Dolan, Dolly Crown, Clarence Turner, Oscar Martini, and The Dennies complete the bill.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The artists appearing are Miss Rose Elliott, a popular singer of chorus songs; George Payne's smart troupe of singers, dancers, and a clever whistler; Henry Hilton, a dexterous sleight-of-hand performer; Harry Dansy and company in the sketch *Be a Pal*; the French troupe of cyclists and the Snow Family of skaters; Miss Elsie Malpass, a dainty young comedienne; and the Bros. Huxter, three exceptionally smart and original acrobats. The pictures finish.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten. Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A good programme includes Nelson Jackson in his clever and humorous entertainment; Miss Gladys Mavius, a bright comedienne; Happy Attwood, comedian; France and Stewart in a bustling racing sketch *A 100 to 1 Chance*; A. de Bessell, a skilful clay modeller; Ted Karno and company in a knockabout sketch *The Hotel de Quick*; Woodhouse and Wells, singers and dancers; Arthur F. Ward, an accomplished hoop juggler and eccentric dancer; and the Crown Trio of singers. The Palace Pictures complete.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The attraction here this week is *Priscilla Runs Away*. Priscilla is played with much charm by Miss Beatrice Lindley; the Grand Ducal librarian is effectively conceived by Mr. J. Ed. Pearce; the Grand Duke of Mr. Clifton Alderson is a good piece of work; a fascinating Prince is that realised by Mr. Leslie Owen; the aged Mrs. Jones finds a fair representative in Mrs. Thos. Sidney.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Her Fatal Marriage* is here this week. Miss Hilda Shirley is a charming Myra; Mr. Jerrold Heather makes the part of Capt. Vigo one of power; Mr. E. R. Allen plays the clerical rôle with skill; the comic relief is in the safe keeping of Miss Elsie Dene and Mr. Frank Shepherd.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Happy Fanny Fields retains her vivacity and popularity as the Dutch Girl; the Seven Perezoffs have a smart juggling act; W. J. Churchill treats his audiences to some good songs and excellent patter; Bert Harrow's comic vocalism draws appreciative applause; the McConnell Trio provide a very welcome turn; a clever musical act is submitted by the Cavalotte Brothers; as The Slavey at the Piano Rosa Loader evokes hearty laughter; Ellis Barrieton pleases immensely with good character songs; Eily Adair, a dainty Irish comedienne; and the bioscope pictures conclude.

THE EMPIRE. — Lessee and Manager, Hy. Slingsby. — Slippere, the blind entertainer, is allotted the place of honour, and well deserves the applause bestowed on him; Stewart and Morris supply one of the features of the bill with their excellent comedy; the eccentricities of the Maro Duo fairly convulsed the audience; very funny are Griffiths and Carmen in their burlesque *The Lady and the Chef*. Other items of merit include Mamie Morris, chic comedienne and dancer; Percy Johnson, comedian; Jones and Estelle, operatic and character singers; and Darazoe and Azella, clever equilibrists.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Irresistably funny is the turn given by Tom and Marie Motramo; Hayes and Merritt perform a number of difficult somersault and tumbling feats; George Campbell (patter comedian) and Eric and Erne (comedians) are responsible for humorous items; Michael Kemble (character vocalist), Sissie Brand (comedienne), Beaty and Blanche (duettists), and Elsie Ellis (comedienne) contribute successfully to a capital bill.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Midland Electric Theatres and Cinematograph Co.; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Moore, C.C.; Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—The dancing Melias give an appreciated vocal and song and dance speciality; the Voldras, with their canine novelty, do well; Phil Burt, talking comedian, Betsy and Hughes, in *Cornered*, and Laffan B. Jolly complete the varieties. The usual varied series of films are shown.

ILKLEY. — KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, the Urban District Council; Manager, Mr. Wardle S. Bellerby.—*The Passing of the Third-Floor Back* was played to a crowded house on the 4th inst. As the Stranger Mr. Hodgson Taylor greatly distinguished himself; Miss Jeannie Thomas as the landlady and Miss Katharine Morris as the slavey were the recipients of well-merited applause. Hibbert's Pictures occupy two nights each week.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and his company are giving a dramatic interlude entitled *The Strolling Player*, in which he impersonates a number of leading Shakespearian characters with much ability; Leick and Keith have a musical turn in which cornet playing is a speciality; The Toreadors have a very amusing mock bull-fight; Chinko gives a juggling entertainment of great merit; Ernie Myers is an old favourite here in patter and song, and is clever as ever; the Milstead Bell Trio in a sketch entitled *Three Sharps in a Flat* kept the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Lily Lonsdale contributes some good songs; and the Bioscope concludes.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery. Mr. William Mollison's company is here with *The Chorus Lady*. Miss Rita Carlyle gives an excellent interpretation of the leading part of Patricia O'Brien; and is well supported by Miss Elsie Vron Neville as her sister Nora; Miss Josephine Woodward makes the most of the character of Mrs. O'Brien; Mr. James Sims Woolley is a manly exponent of Dan Mallory; Mr. Henry Ludlow plays excellently the difficult rôle of Dick Crawford; Patrick O'Brien is a good character study by Mr. Thos. Howes; Mr. F. R. Marshall plays the stable-boy Shrimp; Miss Mabel Durrant is a smart Silvia Simpson; and Miss Agnes D'Aragon is amusing as Georgie Cooke. The scenery and dresses are excellent. *The Drums of Doom* precedes.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Messrs. Howard and Paumier's company is here with *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*. Mr. Leonard Booker gives a powerful portrayal of Prince Hildred; Mr. Victor Rae is an effective Prince Michael; and Mr. Henry Hallatt makes an ideal Prince Olaf; Mr. Herbert Burton as Captain Hector looks the part well, and Mr. S. Dickens is suitably placed as Lieut. Karl Stromberg, and Mr. Oswald Waller gives a very good account of the part of Nathan, the dumb servant; Miss Viola Holland is charming as Monica; Miss Violette May makes the most of the rôle of Camiola, and Miss Mona Hall is neat as Viola.

JERSEY. — OPERA HOUSE, LTD. — Managing-Directors Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; Manager, Mr. Pan E. Draco.—Sabino, the Merry Musical Monarch, tops the bill here this week; Les Henris are clever gymnasts and equilibrists; the Sisters Lucretia and Josephine dance well. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

ROYAL HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. T. West; Manager, Mr. George Francis.—Amongst many good films shown here is one of the Central Markets of Paris.

ALHAMBRA.—Proprietors, Messrs. L. C. Langlois and L. Poulain.—The Grand Review at Longchamps is amongst the pictures shown here. Bertie Blossom supplies the variety turns, and sings "I'm shy, Mary Ellen," and other ditties.

KEIGHLEY. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. S. Holmes.—Miss Zerlina Harrington and company in *Olga's Oath* forms the principal attraction here, and is admirably staged and acted. Mr. F. V. Clair's songs go well; Tiny and Mite are favourites; the Hulls are versatile artists; Mr. John Donald gives a good account of himself in "A Scottish exile's dream; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard appear in a humorous sketch, *Coming Home*; and the Sisters Edwards provide a good turn.

KIDDERMINSTER. — NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P.

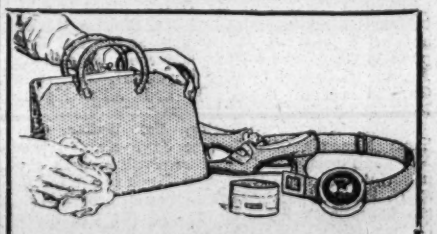

Would you like to make your shoes, handbags, belts, &c., match the colour of your dress?

. . . A shilling tin of "Midas" will do it for you. And it will do it quickly and easily—without mess or trouble—and cheaper than it could be done by any other means.

. . . "Midas" is made in Gold, Silver, and all the favourite colours, but you can order any special colour, if you wish, without extra charge.

. . . Guaranteed to keep true to colour—waterproof—free from acid—"Midas" will not tarnish or crack.

. . . "Midas" can be used for restoring or imparting new colours to almost anything—satin shoes, leather goods, picture frames, woodwork of all kinds, lincrusta, metal ornaments, &c. It is invaluable for theatrical properties.

Midas

PATENT

Can be obtained from most Ironmongers, Chemists, Boot Shops, and Stores, price 1/- per tin, any colour. If you cannot obtain, send P.O. direct to "Midas," Ltd., 73, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

N.D.L. IMPERIAL MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

REDUCED FARES.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEATRICAL PARTIES.

	First Class Single.	Return.	Second Class Single.	Return.
From Southampton	£52	£90	£35	£52 10s.
From Genoa	£56	£84	£33	£49 10s.

(plus 10 per cent. surtax.)

Twin-screw.	Tons.	From Southampton.	From Genoa.
GNEISENAU	8,081	Nov. 28	Dec. 6
BARBAROSSA	10,915	Dec. 26	Jan. 3
GROSSER KURFURST	13,102	Jan. 23	Jan. 31
SEYDLITZ	8 000	Feb. 20	Feb. 28
SCHARNHORST	8,131	Mar. 20	Mar. 28

Large state rooms and cabins for single passengers.

Apply to Keller, Wallis, and Co., 26 and 27, Cockspur-street, S.W., 2, King William-street, E.C., and at Manchester and Southampton, or to the Norddeutscher Lloyd Paris Office, 2, Rue Scribe.

Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Messrs. Clifford Hamilton and Charles Locke's company is here in *A Woman's Past*. Mr. Percy Dawsone well portrays the part of David Heath; Mr. Chas. Locke and Mr. Victor Gordon are respectively good as Frank Dellannoy and Clement Harper; Uriah Craven is realistically played by Mr. Clifford Hamilton; Miss Dora Pass excels herself in the rôle of Bessie.

KIDWELLY.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, Sergeant W. James.—Miss May Hopkins' company in *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa* were here on Friday and Saturday last week, and met with unqualified success. Miss Gladys de Clifford made a sympathetic Maid; Miss Marian Richards as Mrs. Thomas was very good; Mr. Coult Griffiths was a manly Will Hopkins; Messrs. R. A. Hopkins and William Hopkins as the Maddox's, senior and junior, did well; Mr. Charles Cameron was very capable as Morgan the Seer; Miss May Hopkins as Gwenny and Dan Hopkins as Lewis created roars of laughter; and Mr. John Meecham as Mr. Price was commendable.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—Crowded houses have welcomed the presentation, by Mr. George Dance's company of *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Norah Dwyer is excellent in the title-rôle; Mr. Claude Cameron is an irresistible Timothy Gibbs; Mr. Reginald Relsie a satisfactory Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint; Mr. Arthur Collins Rolfe a dignified Earl of St. Ives; and Mr. Wilfred Norman an able Slithers.

LANCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Earl and the Girl* occupied the boards the first three nights this week. Mr. Edward Lewis made an excellent Jim Cheese, and his performance was warmly appreciated. Mr. Herbert St. John worked hard as Dick Wargrave, and a like remark applies to Mr. Lionel Scott as the Hon. Crewe Boodle. Miss Lily Gallick was a pleasing Elphin Haye; Miss Lina Hicks was capital in the part of 'Liza; Miss Blanche Aefley did well as Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Edith Blande gave an admirable representation of the strong lady. On Thursday Messrs. Glenville and Elliston's company in *The Wicked City* are billed.

HIPPODROME.—Jennie Johns, an old favourite; the Stowe Bros.; Joe Booth, comedian; the Sisters Brenton, dancers; Jack North, comedian; and Will Onda's animated pictures make up a capital programme here.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Mr. George Dance's company presented *Our Miss Gibbs* to crowded houses the earlier part of the week. Mr. Vincent Erne gave a very droll performance of Timothy Gibbs; whilst in the title-rôle Miss Daisie Wallace played and sang in her most charming manner. As the amateur pickpocket, the Hon. Hughie Pierpoint, Mr. J. Herbert Willis was most amusing; Lord Eynsford was in the capable hands of Mr. Douglas; and Mr. J. S. Durant proved himself an admirable Slithers. Mr. A. Gordon Begg was a dignified Earl of St. Ives; whilst other characters ably interpreted were Lady Elizabeth Thanet, Mme. Jeane, and the Duchess of Minster, by Miss Dorothy Harris, Miss Louie Bechman, and Miss Madge Incar. A capable chorus and an excellent orchestra added to the success of the production, which was well staged and beautifully dressed. For the remainder of the week Mr. Murray King and company are appearing in *Our Flat*.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company are drawing crowded houses in a series of plays, which includes *The Winter's Tale, The Piper, Macbeth, The Taming of the Shrew, Julius Cæsar*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Fighting Chance* is presented to the patrons of the above for the first time, and this military drama receives a magnificent reception. The company is a powerful one, included in which Miss Marie Duncan and Mr. Sidney Vautier both act with dramatic force. The soldier-servant of Mr. Charles Leverton is clever and amusing. Miss Annie Barclay creates diversion. The staging is worthy of special mention.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; General-Manager, Mr. George Macleod.—Three capital star turns appearing here include Terry and Lambert, who give a most artistic performance; Lew Lake and company, in their new comedy-drama, *King Nobbler*, which is as good as a pantomime; and Dandy George's *George I*. The Villons, comedy cyclists and dancers, are big favourites; and My Fancy, the clever dancer, creates much applause for her unique dancing act in her new scena, "Winter, Spring and Summer." Ernie Mayne is a very droll comedian; and James Stewart creates amusement in his piano burlesque. Georgina Leno was unable to appear through illness, which was duly announced at the box-office.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Miss Beaumont Collins and company get a splendid reception in their clever playlet *The House of Terror;* Rosie Lloyd is chic in smart songs; Addie Adell, with a fine voice, gains much applause; Dale and O'Malley appear again after a short absence; Hazel Glade, a new turn here, meets with much favour; the Tofanos appear in a novel musical act; Revell Hall is a clever humorist; and the Whittington Trio and Master Harry Clark complete a good company.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Stanley Carlton's company is here in *Night and Morning*. Mr. Stanley Carlton is excellent as Richard Sefton; Mr. Bertram Dancer as Lionel Mildmay and Miss Ruby Maude as Alice Wylford are talented artists; and Miss Marain Holly as a drudge also makes herself popular.

VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Manager, Mr. Albert Whiteman; Assistant Manager, Mr. Bernard Armstrong.—Sandy MacNab and company are responsible for the laughing turn of the programme, in the comic sketch *The Egyptian Mummy;* the Four Royal Scots, in their novel musical and dancing scena, are a big success; Madge May, a favourite vocalist here, sings nicely; Karr and Kooney appear in comic songs; and Little Ganty also takes well. Clifford and White also appear in a vaudeville act.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Mr. William Pardoe's company opened here on Monday in *Dick Whittington* to a crowded house. Miss Lottie Holland made an excellent principal boy, her songs being well received; Miss Cissy Lenore as Alice was a charming principal girl; Mr. Tom Hulme as Idle Jack was most amusing; Mr. Tom Griffith made an excellent King Rat; Mr. Frank Vant was exceedingly funny as Sarah Cook; and as the Cat Mons. Pauli was a decided success; Mr. Joe Verona as the Emperor, Mr. Harold Carlyle as Khan Tellum, and Mr. J. Sherwin as Jim are worthy of praise; and Miss Cissy Loveday as Fairy Bowbelle gave a pleasing portrayal. Specialities were admirably given by Paulletti, the Finnettie, and the Edondale Dancing Trio. The scenic effects are elaborate, and there is a most capable ballet, which completes a successful show.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Immense business is being done here by Mr. George Dance's company in *The Whip*, which is staged with marvellous elaboration and detail. The various parts are in the hands of a first-class company, the two leading characters of Captain Sartorys and Mrs. Beamish being very finely played by Mr. James Lindsay and Miss Simeta Marsden.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., is presenting *The Master of the Mill*. Mr. Paul Beckett makes an excellent impression as Tom Bolton, and Miss Enid Edoni wins great favour as the mill lass, Nancy; Mr. Ernest B. Imeson play with his usual ability as Julian Croft, and others in the cast who also deserve commendation are Mr. Algernon Syms, Mr. Daniel Greene, Miss Valerie Russell, Miss Nair Jonghmans, Mr. Frank Kingsley, Mr. Frank Ward, and Mr. Ewart Drake. The play is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—George Lashwood, in new songs, is scoring a big and well-deserved success; Minola Hurst, who introduces her miniature marvels, gives an entertaining show; Everhart, the expert hoop roller and juggler, is heartily appreciated; Tom Costello earns loud applause; Cole and Rags, the comedy jugglers, create endless merriment; May Mars, an excellent vocalist; the Kirbys, in their merry musical pot-pourri, raise hearty laughter; the Goltz Trio are smart in their globe and wire act; the Beautiful Lillian does some clever cycle feats; Little Keeno is a dancer of exceptional merit; and the Bioscope presents good films.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The leading attraction here is the sensational sketch, *The Midnight London Express*, which is elaborately staged, and is played by a capable company. Lucy Lynd is a smart Lancashire dialect comedienne; the Falcons are both clever and amusing acrobatic comedians; La Vie is seen to advantage in her art-posing act; Charles Bradford is a capital and successful comedian; and others who entertain are Sam Williams, refined comedian; and the Singing Newsboys, harmonious vocalists. There is also the usual excellent picture programme.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles R. Craig.—The outstanding pictures in a long list of finely-shown and entertaining films are Capital v. Labour and Taming a Grandfather. Charles Relph is a popular chorus vocalist.

LEIGH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gould; General-Manager, Mr. A. F. Beaton.—Messrs. Alban and Bernard Limpus' company, in *The Thief*, is proving a good attraction. Mr. Richard Limpus gives an excellent rendering of Richard Chilford; Mr. Carl W. Lindsay is seen to advantage as Harry Leyton; Mr. F. Morland undertakes the rôle of Raymond Leyton with success; Miss Diana Cloud deserves praise for her clever study of Marise; Mr. W. Somerset submits a good performance of Mr. Protheroe; Miss Mary Forrester is responsible for some charming acting as Isabel; and Mr. Leo Briggs is worthy of mention as the servant.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here in *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Mr. Norman Partridge cuts a manly figure as the heroic Prince Loris; Mr. Walter T. Clifford does well as the villainous Prince Menski; the rôle of General Platz is well brought out by Mr. W. R. Winning; Miss Violet Carlyle gives a convincing and sympathetic portrayal of Zora (the unknown woman); Miss Adeline Raby is well placed as the scheming Countess Melvitch. The comedy is effectively supplied by Mr. J. Telby Dillsen as Corporal Stack, his efforts being well seconded by Miss Anena Walton as Schnapps.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—Amati's Band is the chief attraction here, each selection being greeted by applause; Gesta and Hoe, comedy duo, are also successful. The pictures are of a high standard.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. John Clyde and a good representative Scottish company have occupied the Leith playhouse this week with a most acceptable production of the ever-popular drama *Jeanie Deans*. Miss Lena Levenston appeared with excellent effect in the name-part, and Effie had a sympathetic representative in Miss Jean McIntosh, the rôle of old David Deans being capably sustained by Mr. George Hunter. Madge Wildfire was made outstanding by Miss Belle Cecil, and Miss Clara Hunt acted with characteristic vigour as the old hag, Marjory Murdochson. Mr. Clyde's Laird of Dumbiedykes, while following traditional lines, was not without original touches of quaint humour; Mr. Fred F. Lloyd put great force into his speeches as Counsel for the Defence; Mr. R. B. Drysdale figured effectively as John, Duke of Argyle; Mr. David Blair missed none of his opportunities as Jamie Ratcliffe; and the entire cast was otherwise very creditably filled.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—On Monday the Thomas Beecham Opera Comique Company, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Quinlan, opened here with *Tales of Hoffmann*, which was presented in admirable style. Offenbach's fantasy was interpreted by a talented chorus and a numerous and faultless orchestra. Miss Caroline Hatchard delighted everybody with her Olympia, her wonderful vocal powers provoking numerous demands for encores; whilst her amusing antics as a doll, very naturally presented, caused endless merriment. Mr. John Bardsley scored a big success as Hoffmann, his acting and singing being of a high order; Mr. Charles McGrath stood out prominently in the rôle of the scheming Dr. Mirakel; Miss Edith Evans as Guiletta and Antonia gave evidence of her versatility, and well deserved the recognition she earned for her delightful singing; and others who won favour were Messrs. M. R. Morand (the Scientist), H. Scott Russell, Frederick Ranalow, and W. J. Samuel, and Miss Ruby Gray, the last-named, along with Miss Evans, charming everybody with the duet, "Lovely Night." On Wednesday *A Viennese Masquerade* was given, the cast including Miss Caroline Hatchard, Miss Kate Anderson, Mr. Frederick Ranalow, Mr. Wilson Pembroke, Mr. Arthur Heather, and Mr. M. R. Morand.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—On Monday evening *The Geisha* opened here. Miss Aimée Grey as Mimosa San delighted everybody with her acting; Miss Renee Reel pleasingly presented Juliette Diamante; Miss Adela Crispin showed high talent with her singing and dancing in the rôle of Molly Seamour; Mr. Edward Carlton caused endless fun with his whimsical Wun Hi, a part which he has made his own; Mr. Colin Coop repeated his humorous Marquis Imari; as Captain Katana Mr. Herbert Uzielli sang to everybody's satisfaction; as did Mr. Edmund Sherras in the character of Reginald Fairfax. On Friday *A Greek Slave* was given, when Miss Renee Reel danced the Tarantella.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Here this week we are having Mr. William Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross*, which is finding much favour. Mr. W. Lawson Butt is the Marcus, a rôle which he plays with considerable dramatic strength; Mercia is sweetly given by Miss Evelyn Hope; and among the chief supporters are Messrs. Bernard Elliott (Nero), Charles Aldred (Tigellinus), Miss Dorothy Lart (Berenice), Miss Esme Lee (Dacia), and Miss Mabel Cook (Poppea).

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Boy King* is doing big business here this week, Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's combination presenting it in excellent style. As the ragged Prince Mr. Walter Howard displays his fine qualities as an actor to the utmost degree, and earns rounds of applause; a most flattering reception is also accorded to Miss Annie Saker for her really good playing of Camilla; Mr. F. G. Clifton makes a dignified King Camillo; Mr. Charles Weir acts the Duke of Savernac in robust style; a good Captain Fabian comes from Mr. W. Royce Carleton; and Miss Grey Logan sweetly presents Elaine.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—The patrons of this popular house are this week enjoying an excellent presentation of *The Girls of Gottenberg*, given by a capable company, under the control of Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon. The rôle of Mitzi is charmingly undertaken by Miss Dora Langham; Smith makes a diverting Max Muddlekopp; and others who are deserving of praise for clever efforts are Messrs. R. N. Cory (Otto), Eddie Foy (Britel), J. R. Timms (Colonel Finkansen), Tom Squire (Adolph), and Miss Beryl Vaudrey (Elsa).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The great Lafayette is putting in a second week to crowded houses. The remainder of the bill is occupied by Jack Lane, the Lancashire rustic at the piano; Bowden and Stoll, smart acrobatic eccentrics; Jean Clermont's burlesque circus, which is an excellent entertainment; Ouida Macdermott, vocalist; and the Eight Empire Girls, in song and dance.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The attraction here this week is *Rogues and Vagabonds*, played by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company. In the rôle of Nathan Baxter Mr. Mitchelson plays with much humour, being considerably helped by Mr. Willie Hicks as John Lamb. Mr. Stanley Healey makes an excellent Harry Stanford; and worthy support also comes from Messrs. Herbert Humber (Fernand Delair), Alfred Grenville (P.C. Clegg), Miss Constance Medwyn (Julia Keer), and Miss Ada Champion (Hilda Jefferies).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Andreef's Russian Balalaika Court Orchestra, whose musical entertainment is received with manifestations of delight, is here this week. The audience are very enthusiastic over the fine show. Tom Stuart presents some smart dramatic and burlesque impressions; the Elite Harmony Boys have an excellent vocal act, *Messmates Ashore;* Max Waldon, an able female impersonator and clever dancer, has a cordial reception; Effie White pleases immensely with her kaleidoscope dancing in "The Spirit of the Cave"; the Zanonis submit a smart juggling scena; and also in the programme are Fred Lyndo, comedian; Vera Wootton, comedienne; and J. H. Ellis, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*By the Hand of a Woman* is being played here twice nightly, among the principal artists of the stock company being Messrs. Harry Tresham (Roy Brockbank), Sydney Grant (Jose Silvarez), Leo Montgomery (Bert Crossland), Miss Gertrude Entwistle (Gwen), and Miss Lilian Radbourne (Kitty). Brown's Bioscope shows Bootle's Baby.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Tom Foy, who made such a hit in Liverpool pantomime last year, is here, causing shouts of laughter with his *First of April*, in which he is supported by an able company; *The Fun of the Fair* is a diverting sketch, presented by Kate Carney and company; W. F. Frame, the pawky Scot, is as funny as ever; Chas. Lewis gives an acceptable ventriloquial turn; the Riogoku Family of Japanese jugglers go through a wonderful show; "The Page and the Maid" is a delightful vocal and comedy act, given by the Bensons; Kisgey, the calliboy, is diverting; as a mandolinist Signor Persichini shows talent; and Adey Spencer, comedienne, also appears.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—George Gilbey heads the programme here this week, and has a hearty greeting for his songs, among which is his latest, "Constable Duffy"; Marie Santoi and her Merry Japs please greatly with their musical scena, *A Night in Japan;* L'Incognita gains rounds of applause for her fine vocalism; Julian Mack causes a deal of laughter with his patter; Hampton and Bowman afforded satisfaction with their entertainment; and Cara Magda is an expert juggler and gymnast.

LLANELLY.—HAGGAR'S (late ROYALTY) THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Haggar, Sen.; Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—Capital pictures are shown on the two-houses a night system. Excellent turns are also given by Williams's Welsh Minstrels, instrumentalists and vocalists, and the Two Exceptions, clever singers and dancers.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. R. E. Warton.—The attraction here is *Nick Carter, Detective*. The name-part is taken by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, who sustained the rôle with power; Miss Helena Walkran as his wife also gave a capital study of the part; and little Hilda Vokes as their child was graceful and effective. Mr. Raymond Thomas, in the rôle of Eustace Lee, gave a good impersonation; Mr. Will Evelythorne played George Slade creditably.

ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams; Manager, Mr. Dan Derry.—The O'Brien and Ireland company is here in a répertoire of drama.

PRICE & REYNOLDS' PANTOMIME SONGS.

FOLLOW THE TRAM LINES.
I'VE GOT THE TIME—I'VE GOT THE PLACE.
Miss HETTY KING.

I WISH I'D A GIRL LIKE MOLLY.
Miss DAISY DORMER.

PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.
FRED POPLAR.

FATHER STARTED OUT TO WORK.
Miss MAIDIE SCOTT.

SHE SIFTED THISTLES. IN 1999.
CHARLEY HARVEY.

D'YE KEN MR. KENNEDY?
GOOD MORNING, MR. SUNSHINE.
YET! IF I SAID FORGIVE!

PRICE & REYNOLDS, 41, Berners Street, London, W.
Telephone, 2691 Gerrard.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO.'s PANTOMIME HITS

JOE ARCHER'S

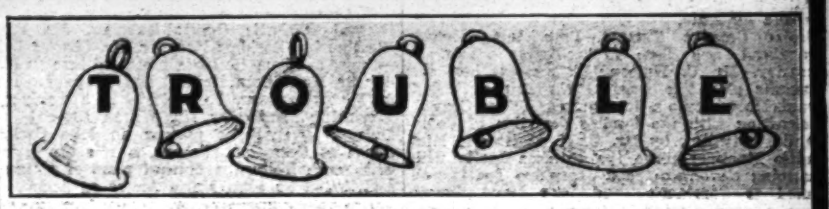

Those Wedding Bells are Ringing

Is the Best Comedy Song of the season. It will certainly be the rage of every town in the Country.

A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

Queen of the Land of Pearl and Gold

By J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban (co-authors of Queen of Old Samara and Won't You Go to Go-go?), is a charming and fascinating song for Pantomime purposes.

A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

APPLY TO

CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, SHAFTESBURY AV.

VON TILZER MUSIC CO's WINNERS for PANTOMIME.

PICK ME A NICE ONE.
The PRINCIPAL BOY SONG.

QUEEN OF THE CANNIBAL ISLES.
MISS GERTIE GITANA'S GREAT SUCCESS.

IF YOU SEE HARRY.
MISS ELLA SHIELDS' CHORUS HIT.

SOMELAND.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.

SWEET KATHLEEN
(IN YOUR DRESS OF EM'RALD GREEN)

I NEVER NEVER NEVER SAW SUCH A THING BEFORE.
(SOMETHING NEW IN QUAINT SONGS FOR COMEDIAN.)

The VON TILZER MUSIC CO., Ltd.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON. Telephone—3522 Gerrard.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—As reported last week, Vint's entertainments are doing well, crowded houses being attracted twice nightly. An excellent lot of pictures this week includes The Emperor's Messenger, a stirring dramatic film; Hako's Romance, Native Lion Hunting, How the Squire was Captured, &c. Variety turns are given by Clarke's Nippers, speciality dancers, jugglers, and club throwers; and the Two Zetts, vocalists and wood-shoe dancers.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. S. Evanson.—The "World in Motion" entertainments maintain their high standard in the exhibition of pictures, the star films this week being The Dumb Half-breed's Defence, Little Mother at the Baby Show, His Chum, The Man to Beat Jack Johnson, Kill that Fly, &c. The artists are the Malbans, comedy sketch artists, and Emily Warren, soprano.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer.—*His Indian Wife*, a drama dealing with the Indian of the Far West, is playing to excellent business this week. Miss Leila Zillwood enacts the part of Wild Rose with wonderful realism; while Mr. Arthur Hinton is also well cast. They are supported by a strong all-round company.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

THE SENSATION OF THE YEAR!

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED

A PANTOMIME WITHOUT THIS SONG
WILL BE LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A RUDDER.

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED.

EQUALLY SUITS BOY, GIRL, FAIRY QUEEN, AND DUETTISTS.

BAND PARTS in Medium and High Keys, 1s. per set. CHORUS SLIDES, 1s. each.
"YOUR EYES" WALTZ, Full Orchestra, 1s.; Septet, 2d.; Piano, 6d. (i.e., half price).

NIGHTINGALE & CO., 20, NASSAU ST., MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. Telephone 3555 Mayfair.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. W. Alvar.—Crowded business continues here, the current bill being warmly appreciated. Gulliver presents a smart "vento" act; the Desmonds score successfully in illustrated songs; Floria appears in a novel equilibrist act; and E. E. Howard's company present the dramatic sketch *The Fight in the Lighthouse*, in which some clever scenic effects are introduced. Some fine pictures are shown.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *How Girls are Brought to Ruin*, is paying a return visit. Mr. Harry Scott is a striking Harry Hailing, Mr. Richard Vane a powerful Philip Edge, and Solomon sleek is cleverly handled by Mr. Alaric Burton; Mr. Sydney Bryant successfully represents Jack Jostle; Mr. Julien Mitchell makes the most of Mr. Sterling; Mrs. Morton Powell depicts the character of Winnie Waters satisfactorily; Miss Alice Defoe makes a pathetic figure as Jessie Burton; and Miss Addie Adair submits a clever study of Mrs. Slutt.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—The popular immobile comedian, Sam Mayo, is being received here with great favour; Captain Spaulding amazes everyone by defying fire and heat; *Sam Kee's Laundry*, a good acrobatic comedy, is greatly appreciated; Vera Rochdale, in song and dance, does well; Russell Carr gives a clever ventriloquial turn; Medley Barrett, the "comedian in pyjamas," is very funny; and the Sisters London are successful with their singing and dancing. Capital pictures conclude.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Dollar Princess*, is the attraction here. Mr. Leonard Mackay as Freddy Fairfax uses his fine voice and good presence to the best possible advantage; Miss Norah Barry as Alice is an attractive and accomplished figure; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is, as usual, very good as Mr. Bulger; Mr. Leslie Stiles adds a capital delineation of Conder; while Miss Mabel Russell makes a charming Daisy, and Miss Madeline Seymour very agreeably fills the rôle of Olga. The whole performance is bright, tuneful, and admirably put on.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*The Blue Bird* is again drawing crowded houses here, extra matinées having to be put on to meet the great demand for seats.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. C. Watson Mill presents here the romantic play *The Love of the Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey cuts a fine figure as Prince Conrad, contrasting with the forcible depiction of Count Danilo, a traitor, by Mr. C. H. Matthews; Miss Maisie Hanbury plays the Princess Idalia with charming cleverness; Miss Josephine Lee is well placed as Constantia; and Miss Maud Steeple gives a good account of herself as Lady Irene Ramona. Among other clever impersonations are those of Josef, the king, by Mr. John Burton, and Duke Scarfe by Mr. W. Palliser Acock.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—J. A. and H. B. Jewel's comedy-drama *Change* is the big attraction in an excellent programme here; Ada Fawn, comedy and burlesque actress, is very entertaining; L. W. Harris is a popular light comedian; the Five M.P.'s are, as usual, successful in their musical act; and other smart items are contributed by Richard Finbury, in character studies; Will Sullivan, comedian; the Bros. Curran, in a comedy boxing act; and Tom Franks, ventriloquist.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—Mr. Walter Melville's sensational drama *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* provides the entertainment here. Mr. Norman B. Cannon sustains the heroic part of Jack Cunningham in admirably vigorous fashion; and Miss Muriel Dean invests the title-rôle of Bessie Webster with the requisite sympathy and intelligence. Mr. Charles Barclay as the eccentric physician, Dr. Millbank, plays with unmistakable talent; Mr. Frank McClelland is good as Norman Marsh; and effective renderings on the side of evil are given by Mr. William T. Riley as Gilbert Linsay and Miss Ernestine Walter as Maud Villiers. Other smart impersonations are Mr. Herbert Goddard as Lawyer Grimshaw, Mr. George Virnon's P.-C. Phillips, Miss Sybil Hare's Elsie Cunningham (a very natural piece of work), Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle as the Dodger, and, in the light rôles, Mr. Fred Hobson as Dicky Storm, Miss Daisy Meynard as Tina Torkington, and Miss Linda Riley as Lizzie.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—Mr. Charles Gibbon and company are playing here in *Alone in London*. Mr. Gibbon plays the rascally Dick Redcliffe in good style; and is well supported by Mr. William Macready as John Biddlecombe and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as Old Jenkinson. Miss Nellie Clyde makes Nan dramatically effective throughout. Other clever people in the cast are Miss Carrie Young as Liz Jenkinson, Miss Jessie Melville as Mrs. Maloney, Mr. Bruce Lindley as Charles Johnson, and Miss Hetty Hornsby as Little Paul.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Miss A. E. F. Horniman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwin T. Heys.—So popular has *Justice* proved here that its run has been extended over this week.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—Carter is an exceptionally clever illusionist; Theo. C. Le Gar's company, including Señor Angel Blanco, Spanish violinist, present successfully a dramatic playlet, *Music, the Conquerer*; the Twelve Forget-Me-Nots give a delightful vocal and dancing scena; Little Dollie Bell has a wonderful voice, and is well received; Corinne Carter is smart in mental telepathy; whilst other good turns are Les Tell, the well-known mimic of sounds; George Collins, eccentric comedian; Lizzie Danilo, comedienne and dancer; and George Brooks, comedian. The Palace pictures are up to date.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W Meek.—Morny Cash, the Lancashire comedian, is a popular draw here; Pichel and Scale, comedy acrobats, are smart and amusing; Rob Rossi, tenor vocalist, is highly appreciated; and Fred S. Peake and Dora Davis play cleverly in *The Swashbuckler*. Other good turns are Silvo, novel gymnast; Marie Kay, singer and dancer; Selms, card and coin manipulator; and Eadie and Emmie, in the newspaper kiosk.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Jen Latona gives an excellent comedy turn at the piano; Harry Roxbury and a smart company appear in the funny mélange *The Prince of Monte Carlo*; Franco Piper is probably the most novel and accomplished of banjo experts; and Dick Tubb is a new grotesque comedian. The Borellis add their "cat-chy" act; Haig and Novel, in acrobatic comedy, are deservedly applauded; and other pleasing turns are Jessie Buckle, comedienne; the Celestas, in comedy, song, and mirth; and Ethel Beech, a smart soubrette.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Constantino Bernardi heads a first-class bill here, and his protean entertainment, with transparent scenery, is a smart and clever performance; Thora is loudly applauded for a novel ventriloquial act; the Farabonis, including Cristi Faraboni, give a dancing act of great merit; the Violas are well received for their mental-telepathy act; Barrett and Knowles score with humorous patter; Baby Boden, juvenile comedienne and dancer, is excellent; and George Rae, Scotch comedian, is a good dancer. Up-to-date pictures are shown.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mme. De Vilmar, American soprano, is to the front here in a well-chosen selection of songs, rendered artistically; Scener and Fridkin's Russian Troupe of singers and expert dancers present a wonderfully clever act; Walter and Bailey are seen to advantage in a very sensational balancing act; Ben Lewin is an exceedingly clever and enjoyable character impersonator; Ruby Emerson, comedienne, makes a hit; Elsie Denby, comedienne, charms with her singing; the Sisters Allen are spirited dancers; Alice Lingard is a dainty comedienne; and Fred Horsfall, vocal comedian, with imitations, is well received. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope completes.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Two popular star turns here are Carlton, the well-known eccentric card manipulator, and Arthur Aldridge, tenor singer; Adeline Yohle appears in a musical act; Forbes Guilbert, the American character actor, is well received; "The Mysterious Cross," a smart act by Carlton, is also a prominent and effective feature; while other good turns are Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy; Bros. Ashley, in their boxing speciality; W. B. Raby, comedian; and Harry Kirk, comedian.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mike S. Whallen, who tops the bill here, keeps the audience in good humour; the Maories go through a remarkably clever acrobatic tumbling act; the Merrions, of local fame, are highly entertaining; Frances McNulty is well received in her latest American successes; Amy Anderson and company are particularly good in scena, *The Banana Queen*; Mima Kello is assisted by the Raphael Quartette in a dainty song-scena; and Fred Lloyd is a versatile comedian. The Bioscope proves entertaining.

MARCH.—PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Jos. Collingwood, J.P.—A large audience greeted Messrs. Nichol, Rivington, and Howard's company in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Miss Cecile E. Anson brought down the house on several occasions with her excellent portrayal of the title-rôle, Mrs. Wiggs; as Miss Hazy Miss Muriel Locking was good; and Mr. Kenneth Rivington gave a droll rendering of Mr. Stubbins. Miss Clara Earle as Lovey Mary and Mr. George Howard as Mr. Wiggs deserve special commendation.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Edward Michael; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Lake.—*Under the Iron Heel* was presented here on Monday by Mr. Wilson Howard and company. Rene de Maupassant has been played in a manly and convincing manner by Mr. Wilson Howard, who finds a sympathetic partner in Miss Carlotta Anson as Germaine Mirbeau, a rôle she imbues with much feeling; a finished piece of acting is contributed by Miss Marie Angus as Andre, the charbonnier's grandson; Mr. Henry Parr makes an ideal villain as Otto Marx; and the part of Sergeant Bleucher is amusingly played by Mr. Austin H. Longford. Mr. Dennis Clyde secures approbation by his presentment of the rôle of Major Schromberg; and Miss J. Douglass-Hicks is particularly good as Maman Gouffe.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Peggy Pryde tops the bill this week, and her quaint songs and amusing coster patter have caused great amusement and hearty laughter; the Vigoranto Trio give a smart gymnastic turn; and Charles S. Best, the eccentric, as McBunker the mountebank, is amusing. The Frantz Comedy Five have an up-to-date entertainment, which includes dancing, acrobatic feats, and a spice of comedy; the Bros. Wheeler, comedians, in their general fooling, are excellent; and Mildred Parr, entertainer at the piano, is a pleasing addition to the programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Sandon Perkins.—*An Unwedded Wife* is presented by Mr. Will Casey's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar achieves success as Marion, and Napoleon is smartly played by Mr. Will Casey. Miss Edith Tempest, Mrs. Will Casey, Little Doris Sorsby, and Messrs. Walter H. Cheetham, L. Ernest, Dennis Kenton, Dicky Bird, and W. Fisher render valuable assistance.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, The Merthyr Entertainments Co.; Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Breen Family present a novel juggling act; Dorma Morgan is a great favourite; the Lovelaces are meeting with hearty appreciation; Miss Alice Hamer, elocutionist; Jack Hayton, comedian and dancer; Chas. Stanton, vocalist; and pictures add to a successful programme.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is the attraction here with *A Broken Heart*. Mr. John S. Millward ably portrays the blacksmith, John Barnard; Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mary plays in sympathetic style; Mr. Denis Hogan makes the most of the part of Stephen Raylton; Mr. A. J. Bleasdale gives a realistic display of villainy as Gash Gills; a clever character study was given by Mr. Newton Pearce as Tony Tibbets; and the child-part of Little May is capably filled by Miss Dorothy Frances. Some fine films are shown on the Gaietyscope.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—The Mexborough and District Teachers' Amateur Dramatic Society has given a capital representation of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Gondoliers* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre this week. The society of fifty-six voices is controlled and organised by Mr. W. Winstanley, who is the musical director and manager. Full houses each night are reported, and a substantial fund for the local charities will probably accrue. Mr. Walter Mead, an old D'Oyly Carte "boy" of many years' experience, has been coaching the society for the past month, and has succeeded in turning them out in capital trim. He took the part of Marco. Mr. Pritchard, another London artist of some distinction, appeared with credit as Luiz.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is presenting *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, and audiences are kept perpetually on the laugh. Miss Nella Powys very ably sustains the part of the countess, and Mr. A. W. Baskcomb as Hamilton Preedy is a pronounced success. The other characters have been placed with much care and discrimination.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Miss Ida Millais' company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, is playing *No Man's Land* to appreciative patrons. Mr. Herne fills the exacting rôle of Harry Oaklands with much credit; and Mr. Edward Lockstone is very amusing as Thompson Poodle. The other characters are well sustained, and the play is admirably staged.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Friend and Downing in their characters of Rosenthal and Harrigan are very funny; Kelly and Agnes, comedians, do well; Robins and Collier in *Mrs. Bacon's Easter Egg* are well received; and the Westbrooks in *Two Little Maids from School*; the three Comerfords, comedy acrobats; the Musical Keiths, in a refined entertainment; Clifton and Gibson, comedians; and the Empire pictures all meet with approval.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—In addition to a capital picture show, Tom Child delights crowded audiences by his fine tenor contributions; the Musical Bentleys are well received; the Misses Lytton and De Silva, duettists, are enjoyed; and Rozel's daring performance is admired.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Licensee, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—The Granvilles Production Co., Ltd., in *A Hot Night*, is proving a strong attraction. An excellent cast includes Frank Daleno, Edward Stream, Val Morgan, Austin Earl, Jackson Ollins, Chas. North, William Kent, Nellie Valentine, Mimi Fisher, Olive Sparke, and Jimmie Watson. The staging and dresses are also good.

MUSSELBURGH.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Ritchie; Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. W. J. Logan.—Arthur Gilrae, Fred Lynford, Cliffe and Kempton, and J. T. Dale all give turns this week, in addition to a monster picture programme.

NEATH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Mr Percy Williams's company in *The Fatal Wedding* is here for six nights. Mr. C. A. Melton gives an excellent impersonation of Howard Wilson, and Mr. Alexander Willis does well as Robert Curtis. Messrs. Harry M. Vernon (Toto) and Watson Hume (Peter Schwartz) are very amusing. Miss Violet Keand is a sympathetic Mabel Wilson, and Miss Elaine Vanburgh acts well the part of Cora Williams. Miss Blanche Huber gives a clever study of Bridget; Miss Hilda May is a delightful Jessie; and Mr. Percy Williams is an able exponent of the part of the Rev. Dr. Lanceford.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Good houses are attracted this week by Marquis and Truly, eccentric grotesques; Fame and Fortune are excellent comedians, dancers, and burlesque boxers; and some good pictures are shown.

NELSON.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Benson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—The Nelson and Colne Amateur Operatic Society has presented the comic opera *Falka* before large and enthusiastic audiences.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. Parker.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his company of thirty-five artists are here this week in a répertoire of Shakespearean and standard plays. Mr. Wilkie is an exceedingly popular exponent of Shakespearean drama in Nelson, and large houses have assembled. On Monday night he appeared in *Hamlet*, his characterisation being as clever in conception as it was in forceful acting. Miss F. Hunter Watts made a charming Ophelia, whilst the company included Mr. Henry Hargreaves as Laertes, Mr. Sinclair Neill as Claudius, Mr. Houston Meharry as Polonius, and Mr. Frederick Harden as Horatio. The grave-digging scene was splendidly given by Mr. Philip Gordon and Mr. Rex. Barrington. Miss Mary Lovett appeared in the rôle of Gertrude, Queen of Denmark, with considerable success.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—High-class vaudeville is presented, and The Ideals, a smart company of nine ladies and gentlemen, are extremely good; Mr. Flockton-Foster, the proprietor of the company, is excellent in all he does, and Miss Ray Morgan sings most acceptably; Mr. James Craig and Mr. Donald Gilbert are both good, and Mr. E. Le Butt is a clever comedian; Miss Rita Vincent, Miss Enid Hamilton, and Miss D. Eals complete a versatile combination. The Attilla Bros. as Grecian gladiators make a success, and Renato, the wizard of the banjo, proves himself an able player. The sketch *Watch the Chalk* is smartly played by Mr. W. T. Thompson and company.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. George Edwardes's ever-popular production, *The Merry Widow*, is paying its fifth visit to this city, and on Monday night the large house was filled to its utmost capacity. Attractive, graceful, and charming as ever is Miss Gertrude Lester in the title-rôle; Prince Danilo has an apt exponent in Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, whose humorous rendition of the character is largely responsible for the success of the production; as Baron Popoff, Mr. Eric Thorne is highly amusing; Mr. Fred Kaye causes considerable mirth by his clever impersonation of General Novakovitch; Vicomte Camille de Jolidon is entrusted to Mr. W. Tailleur Andrews, who does the rôle ample justice; Miss Maggie May is a dainty Natalie; a sprightly dancer is found in Miss Vivien Tailleur, who ably fills the rôle of Frou-Frou; Mr. Robert Nainby scores by his impersonation of Nisch; Mr. George Miller makes the most of his opportunities as the Marquis de Cascada, and the same may be said of Mr. Robert Cranny as M. de St. Brioche, Mr. Jocelyn Hope as M. Khadja, Mr. Walter Champney as the waiter at Maxim's, Miss Eve Hornsby as Sylvaine, Miss Hylda Coward as Prascovia, and Miss Alice Cox as Olga. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, is quite adequate, and the chorus is well balanced.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Gaston Mayer's company in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* is proving a capital attraction. The matchmaking and buoyant Mrs. Wiggs is played with tact and skill by Miss Lucy Beaumont; Miss Winifred Murray gives a pathetic rendition of Lovey Mary; as Miss Hazy, Miss Armine Grace gives a particularly fine character study; Miss Violet Vivian is excellent as the ponderous Mrs. Schultz; and Miss Sybil Brooke plays Mrs. Eichorn in just the right vein; whilst Miss Ethne O'Brien is a charming Lucy. Mr. Fred Forest's Stubbins is a droll character sketch, and Mr. Ernest Gray acts with convincing force as Mr. Wiggs. Mr. Robert Neilance is well placed as Bob, Mr. Harry G. Wright is seen to advantage as Jones, and the same may be said of Mr. Walter Hicks as Billy Wiggs and Mr. Alfred Fisher as Deacon Bagsby.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—Mr. Morton Powell's play, entitled *Driving a Girl to Destruction*, is here. Miss Maud M. Powell gives a capital impersonation of the persecuted school teacher, and Miss Marie Robson fills the rôle of Ruth Wright in a capable fashion. Lucas List is played with considerable power by Mr. R. F. Stacey, and Mme. de Meral is in the able hands of Miss Kate Froude. Miss E. Norman gives a creditable rendition of the cripple Ned, and Miss Effie Macintosh is a bright and charming Bessie Betts. Mr. Henry T. Wood is a manly Robert Ray.

EMPIRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. W. Kilgour.—Mme. Ella Russell holds the place of honour here. King and Benson are paying another visit in their musical burlesque, *Around the Town*; Griff, the jesting juggler, entertains acceptably; Jackson and McLaren give an astonishing exhibition of tree felling; Frank Lynn, comedian, is highly amusing; Fred Elton scores heavily in a scena entitled *On Board an Ocean Liner*; the Elsa Satanella Trio of acrobatic dancers are responsible for much mirth; Clown Argo is a clever mimic of sounds; and Adam Tomlinson, Tyneside comedian, and the pictures complete the programme.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Pavilion, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Fred Karno's *Perkins, M.P.*, the hilarious burlesque, is the chief item at this popular hall. Mr. Tom Nelson is excruciatingly funny in the title-rôle. Helen Charles proves herself to be a versatile entertainer as a pianist, vocalist, mimic, and siffleuse. *Treachery* is the title of an admirable Indian episode in which Mr. Frank Fenton gives a powerful rendition of Captain Alick Mainwaring; Syd Walker, comedian, scores in his entertaining items; Lloyd Morgan, light comedian, has some good songs; Elton and Elma appear in their original triple bar act; Zenary Bros. successfully present their acrobatic act, entitled *A Meeting at the Club*; Doris and Francis are comedians and dancers of considerable ability; the Three Gerlinis, acrobatic eccentrics, also appear; and an admirable show of pictures concludes.

GRAND.—General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Linney.—The variety items are contributed by the Brothers Carless, whose musical act is wonderfully clever; Maud Hughes is a soprano vocalist of more than usual ability; Wyotti delights the audience by his clever juggling display; and the pictures maintain their usual high standard.

RAIY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Scott; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. M. Dalyell.—The films here are of a high order. Little Violette, male impersonator, is accorded a most hearty reception.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company opened here on Monday with *Tantalizing Tommy*. Mr. Ambrose Flower, particularly well placed as Harry Killick, makes good use of his opportunities; Miss Nellie Lonnen adds to the number of her admirers by the delightful manner in which she sustains the title-rôle. Special mention has to be made of the Bertha of Miss Eva Brickwell; Mr. Roy Byford does remarkably well as Thomas H. Pepper; Mr. Ernest Holloway figures as Eustace Tathem; Mr. Geoffrey Denys as Lord Enderby; and Elsie Tathem finds a capable representative in Miss Margaret Stuart.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde.—Heading a good all-round bill this week we have Eugene Stratton, who entertains with his accustomed charm; *Hester's Mystery*, a sketch by Sir A. W. Pinero, is capably presented by Horace Pollock and company; Lulu Williams, a clever juvenile comedienne, wins well-merited applause for two capitally rendered numbers; Laurence Barclay repeats with undiminished success the troubles and trials of a policeman; the New Macs have an abundant fund of topical patter and catch phrases, which cause roars of hearty laughter; as gymnasts and acrobats the Mezzettis give a smart performance; and Aida Martine, in song and dance, wins approbation. Bioscope pictures conclude.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—The pictures are good, and Mr. F. Nettleton's illustrated songs are heartily enjoyed.

COUNTY ELECTRIC.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Miss Nellie Stevenson, soprano vocalist, sings popular songs, illustrated by coloured slides. Capital pictures are provided.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's company with *The Coal King* is drawing good houses here. Grace Shirley receives a good rendering from Miss Winifred Love; Miss Emily Levettey submits a clever impersonation of Mad Ann; as Tom Roberts Mr. Cecil H. Woodhouse gives a fine interpretation of the part; Mr. A. W. Norman is well suited to the rôle of Sir Reginald Hartford; Mr. Frank Dalton as Dick Shirley proves himself to be a capable actor; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns ably represents Walter Hartford; and some excellent comedy is introduced by Mr. Frank Caffrey as Jim Williams and Miss Laurie O'Neill as Araminta Green.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Corman's Juveniles, in their vocal-scena, head the bill here; the Three Moxons, in their speciality act, are clever; Lamb and Hands present an enjoyable vocal act; Marcos Marco bewilders the audience with his smart conjuring; Dale and Vale are an entertaining comedy duo; Master Stan Robinson, boy vocalist, is much appreciated; Billy Revell, eccentric comedian, is well received; and the Palace pictures conclude.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Miss Geraldine Montrose's company, in the drama *A Woman and Two Men*, is here this week. Jack Maxwell is a fine manly impersonation by Mr. Harold B. Lewis; Mr. Robert Faulkner makes a typical villain of Philip Collister; Mr. J. Ansdell Wilson does full justice to the part of Guy Maynard; Miss Winifred Rutland is a charming Sybil Maynard, Miss Anna Corri a clever Vivienne Verney, Miss Montrose a sympathetic Madeline Morden, and the blind girl, Elsie Warner, is prettily played by Miss Phyllis Spalding. On Friday the *Ticket-of-Leave Man* was played.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is presenting *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle* to large audiences nightly. As Derick Mason Mr. Guy Hastings makes an excellent impression; Mr. Douglas Tremayne is very good as Captain Henry Drummond; Mr. Gerald Jordan is successful as Lieutenant Philip Marchant; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis deserves praise as John Melrose, and Mr. Finn Doyle as Jerry Dale is humorous. Mr. Stanley Vine as Lieutenant Arthur Barclay, Mr. L. J. Lawrence as Edward Somerville, Mr. E. H. Clarke as Captain Hubert Sternroyd, and Mr. W. Webb as Sir Dennis Jermyn give admirable assistance. Miss Janice Deane is successful as Gabrielle d'Armand; Miss Babs Stuart acts well as Nanoya, and Miss Gertrude F. Godart pleasingly represents Audrey Melrose.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Austin Rudd heads, and maintains his popularity; the Warsaw Brothers are entertaining in their musical act; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane create much amusement in their skit, *The Girl in the Hobble Skirt*; Regan and Ryan are droll comedians; Eileen Douglas is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Arthur Slater, the "whistling man in white," gets a capital reception; Tom Gott, as the confiding comedian, is well received, and Patty Yole is a clever character comedienne and dainty dancer.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Edward Terry and company are here in a répertoire of plays. *Sweet Lavender* was staged on Monday. In the part of Dick Phenyl, Mr. Terry was again delightful; Mr. Robert Pateman gave a vigorous rendering of Geoffrey Wedderburn; Mr. Percival Madgewick played Clement Hale on natural lines; Mr. Templer Powell did well as Horace Bream. The vivacity of Minnie Gilfillian was capitally shown by Miss Kathleen Leigh; Miss Christine Rayner made a sympathetic Lavender; Miss Ada Barton acted with care as Ruth Holt; and Miss Eugenie Vernie was well placed as Mrs. Gilfillian. During the week were also given *The Magistrate*, *Liberty Hall*, and *Fiander's Widow*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Excellent houses show their approval of Mr. Frederick Melville's company in *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Florrie Kelsey plays Bess Moore with ability and tact; Miss Alice Belmore imparts charm to her portrayal of Gladys Erskine; Mr. R. Marius St. John as Richard Marsh well suggests the hearty and vigorous sailor; Mr. Sydney Lynn invests the part of Harry Gordon with easy nonchalance; Mr. Percy Baverstock does excellently as Lord Erskine; Miss Edith Evans gives a fine interpretation of Honour Moore; and Miss Gladys Newcombe adds a touch of pathos as Mrs. Moore. The humorous relief is well shown by Mr. G. H. Asquin and Miss Nellie James.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*Chanticlair*, a well-dressed and excellent musical comedy, is capitally presented by a company including Messrs. Jack Martin, Leonard Russell, and Miss Madoline Rees; Lowenwirth and Cohen provide fun by their patter and oddities; the skill and daring of Andos' little Japs evoke an enthusiastic demonstration; Olga Dore sings with spirit and expression; Bonnie Goodwin's piccaninnies are expert dancers; Dacey and Lewis contribute a diverting item; Betty Green dances smartly; and Harry Squire Day is an amusing comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. W. Austin.—The heartiest of fun is found in the sketch *Poor Beggar*, ably presented by John le Hay, Charles Herbert, and Norah le Hay; a smart cycle balancing act by the Woodwards gains applause; some excellent fooling from Malcolm Scott and Tennyson and Wallis is thoroughly appreciated; a humorous musical scena by the Florodoras is capitally given; a novel turn is provided by Fred Evans; the Hargreaves Trio supply a fun-making act; Beatrice Allen sings well; and Claude Gardiner's comicalities are duly rewarded.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is presenting *Little Phil's Mother*. Mr. Herbert Evelyn ably portrays Frank Towers; Mr. Dunlop Stewart acquits himself well as Geoffrey Dyne; Mr. David M'Farlane makes a callous Oscar Titherton; Mr. J. P. Marsden is good as Donald Taggerty; Miss Maud Russell gives a creditable performance as Ruth Towers; Miss Kate Blair puts in telling work as Elspeth; Daisy Rochefort acts well the pathetic part of Phil; and the humorous rôles of the play are ably presented by Mr. F. M. Thorne as Sam Perkels and Miss Leslie Warner as Julia Woorrilove.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. F. Elston.—The Seven Wulfrunas supply an amusing and clever acrobatic turn, "Fun in a Café"; Mr. W. H. Downs, the coloured vocalist, sings well; Mr. Alf Brooks creates plenty of amusement; Willie and Johnnie are a pair of smart equilibrists; and the Dorntons are pleasing duettists. The Bioscope pictures are well up to the usual standard.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—*Florodora* is played here by Mr. Charles Constant's company. Mr. Johnnie Schofield in the part of Tweedlepunch keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Daisy Lake plays Dolores excellently; Miss Kate Leicester is a charming Lady Holyrood; Miss Florence Hersee is a dainty Angela, and her dancing of "La Danse des Apaches" with Mr. Johnnie Junior is admired; Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Frank Abercoed has a good reception for his singing; Mr. Stanley White makes an excellent Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. Johnnie Junior is a capital Capt. Donegal; and Mr. Jack Parker is a good Leandro.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Ruin of Her Life* is here for the first time, and Mrs. Chas. Sugden and company had a good reception on Monday. The ability of Mrs. Sugden in the triple characters of Mary Macaire, Lady Selwyn, and the Duchess was early recognised, and she received hearty applause; Miss Mary Vane as Alice was also very good; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush as Dan Devel Macaire acted finely; Mr. J. E. Stevenson as Harry Heather and Mr. Henry C. Ward as Sir Philip filled their parts in a capital manner; Mr. Johnny Leoni as Curley Smiler was very amusing; Miss Kitty Roze as Fairy was satisfactory; and Mr. Sam Roberts acted cleverly as a Jew fence, receiving much assistance from Miss Constance Groves as Mother Blight.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*A Traitor Prince* is staged here by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—The principal film here is Love and Law, an adaptation from "David Copperfield."

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas.—The present term's engagements are proving most attractive. Last week the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company did a record week's business here, while on Monday this week Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, in *The Arcadians*, opened a three nights' engagement to a house that packed the theatre in every part. The play was received with even more enthusiasm than on the last visit here. Mr. Gus Axley works hard, and with sterling success, as Simplicitas; Mr. G. Hestor's melancholy humour proved irresistible as Peter Doody; Mr. Nelson Hancock as Jack Meadows and Miss Mysie Devine as Eileen Cavanagh score heavily both in song and dance; Miss Madge Haines is highly diverting as Mrs. Smith; and Miss Maggie Jarvis quickly wins all hearts as Sombra, her delightful singing meeting with keen appreciation. The chorus is strong and tuneful, and splendidly mounted and staged, *The Arcadians* prove most attractive.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Stuart.—*Temptation*, as presented here this week by Miss Nora Carton's company, is attracting full and highly appreciative houses. The play is well acted, and the scenery and effects are much above the average. As Sir Charles Tremaine Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is a great success; whilst a practical and forcible performance is that of Mr. Norman A. Overton as the villain Hubert Thorne; some able renderings are given by Mr.

Girl to Millionaires, which is elaborately staged and powerfully acted.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—The Leonas appear in a novel instrumental act; *A Game for Two*, given by the Custances causes hearty laughter.

PETERBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—A good audience witnessed *Our Flat*, presented by Mr. Murray King and company on Monday night. The principal characters were ably undertaken by Mr. Murray (Nathaniel Glover), Mr. Warburton Gamble (Reginald Sylvester), Mr. Bernard Stacey (Clarence Vane), Mr. Ardene Linden (McCullum), Florence Radcliffe (Marjory Sylvester), and Louie Tinsley (Bella).

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—The top line of an interesting programme is this week occupied by Duncan and Godfrey in *The Coster's Courtship*; F. E. Johnstone, character vocalist, gains applause; Maudie Olmar is a clever child dancer; Clifford Morgan, in a pot-pourri of operatic melodies, earns warm approval; Sergeant Mumford gives a clever performance on the wire; Billy Rhodes is a droll comedian; and Dion Wade is an amusing comedian who takes well. The Karnoscope shows new films.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—A brilliant performance here of *The Dollar Princess* was thoroughly enjoyed on Monday. As Alice, the Dollar Princess, Miss Kathleen Courtney is responsible for some delightful acting; Miss Muriel Allen is a fascinating Olga; Miss Daisy Elleston an attractive Daisy; Mr. Horace Mills as Bulger is the life and soul of the humorous business; Mr. Hugh Henson as Dick renders material assistance; Mr. Alec. Worcester as Freddy Fairfax is exceedingly popular; and Mr. Fred Leslie maintains his well-established reputation with his rendering of the rôle of Harry Conder. The dressing and mounting are of the usual Edwardes magnificence.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. J. Field. — Mendel, the wonderful blind pianist, receives a rousing reception on making his re-appearance here after an extended Australian tour, and his subsequent efforts fully deserve the appreciation bestowed; the Zanfrellas, American novelty equilibrists, perform some daring and sensational work on a revolving pedestal; Dan Whitley is as amusing as ever; Josh Clifton's Six Ceylons in *A Dream in an Opium Den* use their sketch as a means of introducing some new and skilfully executed acrobatic and contortionist feats; Reginald Jecks is responsible for some popular ballads; and the Sisters Du Caine entertain with smart and attractive dancing. The remaining numbers are contributed by Fred Earle and Archie Pitt (comedians).

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mrs. George Tankard.—Frank Elliston and company occupy the premier position on the bill here this week in *The Snowstorm; or, Jane Shore in a Hurry*. Loch and Glen (Seth and Nellie) in a triple-bar act are both comical and sensational; the Lysando Bros. give a neat and clever hand-to-hand balancing act; Herman and Evelyn contribute a smart wire act; Edwards and Ward delight with their patter, &c.; and Cosselly, Witty Will Pearce, Harry King, and the Alexscope all contribute to the evening's enjoyment.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company play successfully to good houses *The Gay Gordons*. Miss May Yates is a big favourite as Peggy; and Mr. Alec S. Clunes is a successful Angus. Miss Beatrice Grosvenor is a capital Mary McLeod; and Miss Edie Adeson is an excellent Victoria Siddons. Mr. Harry Howe and Miss Kitty Kerwan are good as Nat and his wife Charlotte; Miss Mavis Clare is admirable as Mary McLeod; Mr. W. H. Desmond is a successful Edmund Siddons; and Mr. Charles Benson is excellent as Andrew Quainton; Mr. Stanley Maude is good as Corporal Smith; Messrs. Cyril Stowell, Eric Lester, Eric Ford, Clarence Gordon, and J. W. Harding are jolly officers of the Gordons; Mr. Alfred Lloyd is meritorious as Lawyer Speedy; and Mr. Alfred J. Gale is amusing and clever as Jock. The Misses Mabel Crough (Peasant Woman), Nina Goss (Lady Græme), and Marion Bradford (Lady Millicent) are also successful parts.

PORTH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is presenting *The Beggar Princess* to crowded houses. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh is very funny; Mr. Alf Boxhall makes a capital King Olga; Mr. Juan d'Albert as the villainous Duke Sergius Rubinoff does some effective work, skilfully aided by Miss Ada Roscoe as the Countess Olga; Michael Ichon is successfully interpreted by Mr. Henry Danson; Tonny Bostock is cleverly acted by Miss Isabel Hunt; and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy gives a successful rendering of Seaweed.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—*Our Miss Gibbs*, presented by Mr. George Dance's company, is here this week. Miss Jessie Lonnen admirably renders the name-part; Miss Lilian Birtles wins favour as Lady Elizabeth Thanet; Miss Emily Stevens shows to advantage as the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Helen Langton impersonates the imperious Duchess of Minster; Mr. Theodore Leonard, Mary's Yorkshire cousin, Timothy, is the life and soul of the play, and is ably supported by Mr. Eustace Burnaby as Hughie; Mr. Hugh Weybrance renders good service as Lord Enysford; Mr. Ernest Darrell shows to advantage as the dignified Earl St. Ives; Mr. Toplady has a capable exponent in Mr. Campbell Browne; and the Misses Aylwin, Vining, and Terri make three pretty Irish colleens.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company present *At Cripple Creek* here this week. The part of Joe Mayfield, the hero, is in the capable hands of Mr. Wernham Ryott, and Miss Agnes Verity gives a clever rendering of Dynamite Ann. Mr. Charles E. Johnson is well suited as Martin Mason, the terror of Cripple Creek; Mr. Wilfred Jessop gives a clever impersonation of Wahketah, the faithful Indian; Belle Gordon, the luckiest girl in the Creek, is shown to advantage in Miss O'Neill; whilst Sarah Lively does not belie her name in the form of Miss Nora Dillon.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Mr. Oswald Williams, assisted by Miss Winifred Barte and company, proves himself a clever illusionist. James Willard and company successfully present a military sketch, *The Devil's Box of Bricks*; Arthur Astill scores as a child mimic and ventriloquist; Ina Lorrimer is a smart Scotch comedienne; and others include Williams and Parker (vocal comedy duo), the Rhoderick Duo (Caledonian Girls), and Will Cornish, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The popular George Mozart was unfortunately unable to appear on Monday night owing to illness, being substituted by Gilday and Fox, Hebrew comedians, whose songs and patter were very funny. Sensational feats on cycles were performed by Paulton and Dooley; a laughable sketch, *Bink's Blunder*, was capitally played by Harry Russell and company; a clever pair of American vaudeville entertainers are Montgomery and Moore; and also amusing are the Hyde and Cody Trio of acrobatic eccentrics, Stevens and Brett, W. G. Westley, and Ted Cowan.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Herbert Lloyd, "the King of Diamonds," in his burlesque on "Variety," concluding with his Scotch Brigade, is one of the chief mirth-provokers this week. Lola Lee gracefully imitates French and Spanish dances and the Kate Vaughan Waltz; humour and music by the Four Quaint Q's are appreciated; Harry Tate's No. 1 Company raise many a laugh in *Motoring*; Smaun Sing Hpoo is an interesting miniature man and ring gymnast; *'Xmas Eve* is a good sketch, well played by Irve Hayman and Little Girl; the Six White Boys sing and dance with precision; the Alaskas are clever comedy acrobats; the Bros. Bright excel as equilibrists and athletes; Nell Emerald is a pretty comedienne; and an amusing film, Mrs. Nosey, is depicted by the Kingscope.

CLARENCE PIER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. Cuddy.—Mr. Joseph Brett, tenor, and Miss Agnes Christa, soprano, delighted a large audience on Saturday, while the string band of the R.M.L.I., under Lieut. Geo. Miller, performed with their accustomed skill.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Mr. H. C. Dudley Bennett's company in the musical comedy *A Chinese Honeymoon* is attracting good houses this week, and no dull moments are experienced while the curtain is up. Mr. Rudolf Kloss makes an impressive and humorous Emperor, Hang Chow, and Mr. Harry Spawton is a grotesque Lord Chancellor, Chippie Chop; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is a decided acquisition as Tom Hatherton, his song, "A passing cloud," being well received; Mr. Leonard May imbues the part of High Lung with much humour; Mr. Colin Bryce as Mr. Pineapple works hard, and is well rewarded for his efforts; Miss Gertrude Melville as Mrs. Pineapple is a great success, and scores with her song, "The à la girl"; Miss Dora Speakman has an excellent make-up as the official mother-in-law, Mrs. Brown; Miss Gladys Ivery is a bewitching Princess Soo Soo, and her singing and dancing bring her loud applause; Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fo-Fo is inimitable, and brings down the house; she is certainly one of the cleverest low comediennes ever seen here; Miss Nance Langley is a capital Mi-Mi; and the Misses Renad, Beberley, Lisle and Green, as the bridesmaids, are equally good in their respective parts. The play is capitally mounted, and the chorus and augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Clement Locknane, go with a swing.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Clarkson.—Frederick Melville's powerful drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is a strong attraction here. Mr. Frank Denis is an excellent Sir George; Mr. H. B. Wilson is to be complimented on his clever portrayal of the hero, George Maddison; and in Miss Alice Bowes, as Lucy, he was strongly supported; Mr. Fred de Vere is inimitably funny as Timothy Tuttutt; Mr. W. H. Power comes out strong as the villain, Charles Devereux, and is ably supported in his stage villainy by Miss Vera Grafton, as Lady Lancaster, and Mr. T. Macdonald, as Geoffrey Broughton. The comedy element is ably presented by Miss Kitty Merrick, as Patty Lovejoy, and Mr. Vincent Lorraine as Joe Lambkin, Miss Rita Tomkins scores as the Mother Superior, and Little Lucy by "herself" plays capitally.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—Arthur Roberts tops the bill again on his return visit, and this time displays his versatility in his sketch *Till Sunday*; J. W. Hall is a great favourite here; W. E. Gillin, the ventriloquial humourist, creates much mirth; the Four Athos, in addition to being exceedingly clever acrobats, give a wonderful turn in ball manipulation; the Derrington Family have a sensational cycling act; Clifford Stuart is a capital comedian; Ida Dorrie a pleasing comedienne; Arnold Richardson, supported by Miss Ethel Lonsdale and Mr. A. Gordon Laws, presents a clever sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, which elicits much applause.

RADCLIFFE (near Manchester).—GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Messrs. Brandon and Carlsen's company is here in *Naughty Ninette*. Miss Celestine Brandon in the title-rôle is smart and lively; Miss May Leslie deserves praise as the Countess of Mayfair; Miss Patty Hazel sings well as Millicent, and Miss Alice Chasemore deserves a word as Mrs. Moggs. Mr. Frank Cleo undertakes the rôle of Wraggs creditably; Mr. Edwin Lewis is good as Professor Moggs, and Mr. Herbert Waller is well placed as the Hon. Launcelot Ingoldsby. On Wednesday Miss Horniman's company gave a flying matinée of *Candida*.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Charles Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—C. W. Poole's myriorama has made a welcome reappearance here. In addition to the myriorama, there is a capital variety entertainment, contributed to by Amasis (the "Wizard of the Nile") Trio; the Ettenas, globe speciality artists; Vasey and Ramsey, comedy entertainers; Inez and Pim, gymnasts; Jerome Duo, eccentric novelty jugglers; and W. L. Rowland, fun furnisher.

MARINA THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—An interesting series of animated pictures is being given here. Leslie Race is a popular comedian.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Hamilton Jackson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw.—Mr. Harry Aynsleigh's company in *The King of Diamonds* is well received by appreciative audiences. Mr. Harry Aynsleigh as Sir Philip Garth gives a good impersonation; Mr. George Keene as Richard Fenton is most successful; Mr. Walter Warren is excellent as Herbert Selby; Mr. Aubrey Norton is a capable Sir Richard Steel; Miss Caroline Treherne makes an excellent Olive Vandell; and Miss Peggy Ross is a capable Muriel Lockwood.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is providing a rich treat this week, which is being greatly appreciated by lovers of good music. The répertoire for the week comprises: *Faust* on Monday, *Samson and Delilah* (the first performance in Reading) on Tuesday, *Carmen* at a special matinée on Wednesday, *Maritana* on Wednesday evening, *Il Trovatore* on Thursday, *Tannhäuser* on Friday, and *The Bohemian Girl* on Saturday. The operas are all splendidly mounted, special scenery and costumes for each being carried. On the opening night *Faust* was produced in admirable style, the principals being most ably impersonated by Mr. Albert Bowyer in the title-rôle, Mr. Harry Brindle as Mephistopheles, Mr. Graham Marr as Valentine, Mr. Moorhouse as Wagner, Miss Olive Westwood as Siebel, and Miss Rosa O'Farrell as Marguerite. Mr. Harrison Frewin is the conductor and musical-director.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Kedge.—Claude Anderson's Opera Company is giving condensed versions of *Maritana*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl* here this week, in excellent style. The principals are Mr. Claude Anderson, Miss Clara Addison, Mr. F. Hudson, Mr. A. Sedgley, Mr. Geo. Effing, and Miss Toni Seiter, all of whom act and sing with great ability. Mr. Hal Bert is an amusing acrobatic comedian-singer; Mr. Frank Melvin's songs are well received; Nellie Kollie is an accomplished vocalist; Grace Dalton, comedienne, and C. H. Charton, the phenomenal conjurer, provide good turns; the Macjans, Continental comedy gymnasts, give a clever performance; and the Ten Dixie Girls appear in a pretty vocal scena, *The Silver Coon*.

ROCHDALE.—ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company in *The Private Secretary* is having a very successful week. Mr. James Hussey is very clever as the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. Hargreaves is seen to advantage as Mr. Cattermole; Mr. William Carriden is good as Mr. Marsland; Mr. Horace George and Mr. Arthur Claremont are capital as Douglas Cattermole and Harry Marsland; Mr. Kendal Chalmers is an excellent Mr. Sydney Gibson; Miss Mary Mallalieu as Edith Marsland is attractive; and Miss Elsie Blythe as Eva Webster is charming.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. James Jackson.—The chief item is Senorita Carmen Turia, the Spanish prima donna; Frank Hartley does some smart juggling; Mysterious Mysticus bewilders everyone with his tricks; and Wood, Wells, and Wilkins are most amusing in the comedy sketch *The Piano Tuner*. Maud Courtney and Mr. C. sing and patter effectively; Cumminger and Colonna, sand dancers, and Professor Thornbury, a lightning painter, also appear.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Manager, Mr. James Pringle.—The variety turns added to the pictures are Mille and Arthur in their sketch *Domestic Bliss*; Will and Nell, juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Wyndham and Kitty, wire artists.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Holland.—Lockhart's wonderful group of trained elephants, under the direction of Captain Taylor, provide a novel entertainment here this week; *The Days of Romance* is capitally presented by Miss Margaret Ruby and Mr. Ernest Laws; Mastro and Oretta appear in a combination of juggling, balancing, and feats of strength; Dave O'Toole and Arthur Croxon provide the humour of the programme with success; Les Supriskis are a couple of clever gymnasts; Burnetti, as an original quick-change artist and musician, comes in for plenty of applause; and Stuart and Stuart are quaint comedy entertainers and smart dancers.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company in *Her Nameless Child* occupy the boards here this week. Mr. J. H. Evelyn gives a characteristic portrayal of the rôle of Anthony Ford; Miss Jean Wigney is a sympathetic Phyllis Ford, and the other parts are all admirably sustained.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—The Bros. Obo create much laughter; Clara Hastings submits choice songs; Lauteron is responsible for an entertaining act; the Welislands are seen to advantage; and the pictures are much enjoyed.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Sutton Vane is presenting *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*, with Miss Florence Zillwood as Constance and Miss Mabel Coleman as Nellie. Mr. R. Gilbert works well as John Edmunds; Mr. Edward M. Heanley as Jonas Dean, Mr. T. Dennis Byron as the Rev. Frank Selby, Mr. T. Newell as Samuel Hallett, Miss Geraldine Verner as Bessie Edmunds, Miss Rita Corri as Lucy, and Miss Doris Kelvey as Jane Adelaide Bloomfield give good studies of their several parts. The staging is good, and large audiences give evidence of their appreciation of the play.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—John Lawson's company, including Mr. Rene W. Owen, Mr. Charles Stafford, Miss Maud Babbington, and Miss Rosamond Thompson give an effective representation of *Humanity*. Fred Land, comedian, keeps the house in hearty laughter; Rowland Hill is also very comical; Sterling and Love, in "Discord and Harmony," are much applauded; the Two Countees harmonise well, and are amusing; Ivey Aberdare is a pleasing comedienne and wooden shoe dancer; Cecile Shannon sings well; and the Bros. Milford, comedians, are very expert dancers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* and *Skating* are very amusing; Adela Masson sings well; Dix and Doc, eccentric musicians, Belle and Austin, in "A Fatal Rehearsal," Tom Collins, light comedian, Will E. Fall, eccentric comedian, and May de Rowse also give acceptable turns.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—A Trades and Inventions Exhibition is now being held here, and is proving very popular. The various attractions include illuminated fairy fountain, the Red Rose Orchestra (Manton-Myatt Family), Prince Ishmael (Hindoo magic), cinematograph, hall of laughter, &c.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Orton Hayes.—Another successful week is being held, and a good programme is nightly presented. The following plays occupy the boards this week: *Two Little Vagabonds*, *Hands Across the Sea*, *An Imperial Divorce*, *East Lynne*, *The Woman in Red*, and *Queen of Hearts*.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. Doddridge, Longden, and Livesey's company presents *The Village Blacksmith* here this week. The title-rôle is depicted in excellent fashion by Mr. Sam Livesey, his little son Harry being an interesting child study by little Gladys Brittain; Captain Leo receives able treatment at the hands of Mr. Joseph Carter; Lucas Marler is satisfactorily rendered by Mr. J. Milne Taylor; Mr. J. H. Langford does all that is required as St. John Harman; Jeremiah Parkins is a good study by Mr. J. H. Langford, his better half, Sal, being naturally played by Miss Nellie Graham; Mr. Joe Hodson creates much fun as Billy Twigg; Miss Nellie Sinclair is good as Martha Mopps; Ruth Parkins finds an able exponent in Miss Cassie le Grande; and Miss Maggie Edwards is an emotional Kate Strong.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's company is paying a welcome return visit with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. As Capt. George Fielding Mr. Walter Ashley leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. James Morath as the scheming Capt. Edward Dudley is effective; Silas Crump is invested with much humour by Mr. James Salter, and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick as the dude, Featherstone Haugh, is responsible for much merriment; Mr. Edward Aldworth is a capable Hawkins; Dorothy finds a charming exponent in Miss Dorothy Desmonde, a pleasing vocalist; Ruth is satisfactorily drawn by Miss Margaret S. Forbes; and as Judith Miss Florence Corri is popular. Several enjoyable speciality turns are introduced in Act 3.

SHEERNESS.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Willerby.—Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy and company opened a three nights' engagement here with *Mr. Barnes of New York* and *Moths*. In the former play Mr. Lodge-Percy gave a fine exposition of the title-rôle; and Miss Henrietta Schrier was an admirable Marina Paoli. Variety fills the bill for the last three nights.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Miss Ethel Irving is appearing to appreciative audiences this week in *Dame Nature*, supported by Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Frank Cooper, and other well-known artists.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—A cleverly-constructed and well-written drama, full of unaffected pathos and domestic interest is *It's Always the Woman*, written by Riada, which was played for the first time in Sheffield on Monday by Mr. Frank Adair's specially selected company. All the characters were effectively played, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adair appearing with great success in leading parts. The play was carefully mounted, and its enthusiastic reception by a crowded house augurs well for a long and prosperous tour.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsey.—*The Angel of His Dreams*, a story of Cornwall, was acted to a large and interested audience on Monday by Messrs. Geo. A. de Gray and H. Masterman's company. Mr. de Gray was good as Christian Esdaile; Miss Amy Dalby acted gracefully as Milly, Miss Effie Bartlett made a handsome Hilda Revelle, and good work was done by Mr. W. Campbell as Major Ferrars, Mr. W. Kenion as Sir Francis Tregarthen, Mr. Robert Hall as Roy Ferrars, Mr. M. Clyde as Sam, Mr. W. Thornton as Frank Roberts, Mr. B. Carlton as Jackson, Mr. Chas. Wakefield as Smart, Little Doris Brereton as Lulu, and Miss Etta Turner as Bessie Sparkles. Some artistic scenery added local colour to a well-told tale. "The angel of my dreams," published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, was loudly applauded.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The old Sheffield favourite, the "idol of London" and of two hemispheres, Miss Vesta Tilley, is again starring here with new songs and favourite impersonations. Other clever performers this week are Mr. Tom Parker, humorist; the Hardini Trio, in a refined and novel act; Mr. Albert Rees, vocalist; Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, whose clever and splendidly staged *Scenes from Dickens* have won them the esteem of the countless lovers of England's greatest author; Mr. Harry Gray, entertainer; the Du Gros Trio, acrobatic experts, &c.; Roze and Calvert, in *Captain Kettle and the Lady Fair*; the Bioscope; and Miss Mary Ambrose.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—A well-arranged programme this week is contributed to by Mlle. Medicis, a graceful and refined lady poseuse; Beattie and Babs, two remarkably clever young vocalists and mimetic entertainers; the Eight Saxones, in a smart display of terpsichorean agility; the Asras, novelty performers; Radford and Valentine, the juggling tramp and the pretty soubrette; Philips and Bristow, Miss Bertie Herron, Miss Eileen Northe, and the lively and diverting comedian of Cockaigne, Mr. Alec Hurley, with lively jokes, jocular ditties, and nimble "steps." The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, artistic.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Director, Mr. W. Yates Gregory; General-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baugh.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's capable and hard-working company was here on the first three nights of this week with the interesting and realistic drama *A Country Girl in London*. The part of Frank Gordon, the hero, was exceedingly well sustained by Mr. Charles Halling; Mr. Scott Leighton was admirable in his portrayal of the villainies of Godfrey Clinton, an adventurer; Mr. Frank Dallas gave a faithful delineation of the character part of Heinrich Oppenheim, a naturalised Englishman; Miss Maude Merrick was very successful and pleasing as Marjorie Hamilton; the rôle of Gwendoline Gordon was very cleverly taken by Miss Elsie Marriott Wilson; Mr. Fred Wilberforce proved efficient as Mr. John Hamilton, the squire; the part of Joe Button was capably undertaken by Mr. Edward Ashton; Job Smithers (a ne'er-do-well) was excellently depicted by Mr. Sutton Pateman; while Mr. Seymour Perry and Miss Alice Clarke caused much hilarity as Wilberforce and Adelaide Puddyphat. Mr. Churchill's jovial Happy Valley Minstrels gave entertaining performances during the remainder of the week.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*A Criminal's Bride* is cleverly interpreted by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Mr. Frank Robertson, as Sir Harry Felstead, plays in a thoroughly artistic manner; Austin Deepdale is capitally portrayed by Mr. Annesley Hely; Archie Ravenscourt is well represented by Mr. Harry T. Butler; Mr. Herbert Belmore acquits himself creditably as Giuseppe Canova; Mr. J. Templar Ellis is a clever stage detective; Mr. George Brenewood as P.-C. Dumbleby, Miss Molly Hackett as Jenny Jenkins, and Miss Lillah Peltz provide plenty of light comedy; Miss Maud Tremaine as Kitty Felstead shows great histrionic ability; Miss Elizabeth Dundas plays Lavender Loseby in a sweet, tactful manner that earns for her a deal of favour; Miss Ella Willmer presents a sound study of Tessa Gianella; Mr. Alf. Rushen as P.-C. Barraby, and Mr. Teddy Leonard as Billy Tippit also give a good account of themselves.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Leslie.—The pictures at the Empire are of good quality and the subjects attractive, while the vaudeville turns are of more than average merit. Ray and Douglas, the popular comedy couple, are much appreciated; Belford and Mars, vocal comedy duo, are well received; Phinas and Aida are clever revolving equilibrists; the Brothers Yentoy; hand-to-hand balancers, are well to the fore; the original T. W. Barrett is warmly applauded for his songs; Renot, newsboy impersonator of music hall stars, pleased, and the same can be said of Fred Leslie, comedian. Lucie Prinello's dancing, dance, and music, provides a really excellent turn.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—This week Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds appear in their new romantic play *The King's Romance*, which is successfully presented. On Friday afternoon Mr. Cyril Maude and the Playhouse London company, including Miss Kate Rorke and Miss Margery Maude, presented *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*. This delightful play was enthusiastically received, and Mr. and Miss Maude, with the other members of the excellent company, received a cordial welcome.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Topping the list here is Fred Karno's company in *Mr. Justice Perkins*, which is a screamer from start to finish. Mr. Albert Bruno, who has now succeeded Mr. Fred Kitchen as Mr. Karno's principal comedian, appears as Perkins, and keeps the house in roars of laughter. Marie Kendall scores with her latest songs, and others who appear are the Hesseys, Hillman and Russell, Phil Bransby, Archie Glen, Two Vestas, and Steve McCarthy.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—Herr Julius Walther, the celebrated tenor from the Carl Rosa Opera Company, sings delightfully; Mr. W. H. Benson's company score in a thrilling sketch *Roguery*; the Four Maisons excel in a musical act; the Three Michael Richardinis are sensational gymnasts; Toch and Tard create great merriment; and Miss Ada Reeve, Rose and Jeanette, and Milner and Storey also contribute their quota.

PHILHARMONIC HALL.—Proprietors, The Walturdaw Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Boustead.—Delightful pictures are being shown here, and crowded houses twice nightly are the rule at this successful picture palace.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Archibald Pareezer.—On Monday Mr. T. Edward Ward's company presented the domestic play entitled *His Real Wife*. Miss Ward was an interesting Rose Avondale; Mr. J. C. Stewart as the blind farmer, Martin Avondale, was a masterly exponent, and shared honours with Mr. Clifford Rean for an able characterisation of Herbert Barton; Mr. Charles Yorke depicted villainy in creditable style; Messrs. Herbert Vere and John Waddington being also successful. Mr. T. Edward Ward provided comedy in an irresistible manner, and Miss Clarrie Yandell as Betty Tuttlebee was well received.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—A programme quite distinct from any of its predecessors is being presented to large audiences at the Hippodrome this week. The first item is provided by Natalea and Diana, a couple of gymnasts whose evolutions are particularly smart; Sam Fry, comedian, sings some good songs; Ethel Ra Leslie is as winsome as she is smart, and her Scotch songs are delightful; a touching little domestic story is unfolded by Mr. Herbert Heath's company in *Mill*; the Five Sidney Girls, picturesquely attired in black and yellow, contribute some catchy songs; and Harry Tate's company get plenty of fun out of a remarkable flying machine. David Poole, ventriloquist, with the assistance of a little messenger, creates roars of laughter; and Pasquali Bros. are two clever equilibrists.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Stanley Smith.—On Wednesday Mr. Finlay Dunn, who won much popularity during the summer season as the entrepreneur of the Pier Hill Bandstand, commenced on Monday a week's engagement with Mr. G. R. Beaumont's motion photos, and provided an instructive and highly entertaining programme. Miss Mora Hersee is the soloist.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*The House of Temperley* was played here on Monday evening. Mr. Stratton Rodney sustains the rôle of Sir Charles Temperley with distinct success; Mr. Murray Carson is to be credited with a capital impersonation of Sir John Hawker; Mr. Claude King is a commendable exponent of Jack Temperley; Tom Spring had a realistic representative in Mr. A. F. Thorne; Miss Claire Pauncefort plays Lady Temperley creditably; Miss Una Venning is good as Ethel Morley; Mr. Blake-Adams submits a praiseworthy representation of Ginger Stubbs; Jakes the bookmaker was capitally portrayed by Mr. Leon M. Lion; whilst Tom Cribb and Lucy were efficiently sustained by Mr. Douglas Munro and Miss Polly Emery respectively.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson. — Mr. Walter Melville's combination appears in *A Girl's Cross Roads* to good houses. Mr. Carl F. Kerso portrays Jack Livingstone in fine style; a good character study of John Meadows is submitted by Mr. Edward Valentine; the heavy parts are capably performed by Mr. Fred Rivers as Cuthbert Lumley and Mr. Leslie Nolan as Luke Ramsden; the Barbara Wade of Miss Nell Oliver is a striking representation; Miss Ada Rothwell as Nellie Meadows and Miss Florrie Lyndon as Constance Cornell are all that can be desired; the comedy element is strongly represented by Mr. Willie Scott as Toby Turvey and Miss Amy Rudd as Tilly Vane.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The premier turn is Anzani, who performs the difficult feat of propelling a motor cycle round a sphere which is whirling in the opposite direction. The real McKays, talented juveniles, sing Scotch duets and dance delightfully; Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, comes in for a good share of approval; Fred Shepherd, comedy vocalist, sings well; Harry Dunco and Louie Langdon submit a comedy and dancing scena entitled *The Railway Porter*; and other good items are the Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette, Russel Brandow, and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—Chiko, the world's equilibrist, has an excellent reception; Geo. Hunter and Bob, acrobatic and eccentric dancers, are also successful, and the animated pictures complete the entertainment.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*The Prodigal Parson* is the attraction here, presented by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company. Mr. W. V. Garrod gives a good delineation of the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Ernest Vaughan makes a capital Enoch Jaggins; Mr. Carthage Coldcleugh is equally successful as Ben Jaggins; and Mr. Owen Redmond as Phil Drive is very humorous. Miss Bertha Kingston as Fern Godley played with much effectiveness; Miss Madge Douglas gave a successful study of Gretcher Van Crans; Miss Amy Shaw as Fraulein Korale was admirable; and Miss Celia Barnard as Myrtle Godley acted well.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager and Operator, Mr. Leslie Talmage.—A capital programme is submitted here. The Royal Diamonds are clever as one-legged equilibrists; Miss Violet Courtney is a popular vocalist; and Miss May Thorne comes in for applause for her favourite songs. Good films are also shown.

ARCADIA. — Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; Manager, Mr. George Cashey.—Will Athlone and Miss Cissie Sinclaire are good in an original drawing-room act; Kydd and Kydd are a couple of successful patter comedians; Daisy and Dot, duettists and dancers, are well received; and Rohde and Roche are pleasing chameleon artists. Pict

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE SCHAUSPIELER DES KAISERS," Drama, in Three Acts, by Karl Wartenberg. Produced at the Neues Theatre, Oct. 29.

De Gaulaincourt ..... Herr Werckmeister
Didier ..... Herr Schwaiger
Maurice ..... Herr Storkel
Bernard ..... Herr Halden
Anatole ..... Herr Becker
Sansnom ..... Herr Bonn
Manon ..... Fraulein Veit
Thibaud ..... Herr Schmidthassler
Claude ..... Herr Parow
Diener ..... Herr Walter

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Nov. 3.—Among an abundance of new plays this week, Wartenberg's drama came also as a novelty, notwithstanding the fact that it was performed for the first time forty years ago. It ran then for a long time with extraordinary success, and has not been given in Berlin since. A good deal of grass has grown over it, but it still interests the average theatre-goer considerably, and the reception at the Neues was more than cordial. Its success, if the truth be told, largely depended upon Herr Bonn again. The play, indeed, contains but two characters to speak of—Urbain Sansnom and the girl he loves, Manon Ballier. Sansnom is, when we first see him, a poor rope-dancer, whose one ambition is to become a great actor. Unhappily, the seeds of consumption are in him; but, nothing daunted, he pursues his studies with the ardour of a fanatic, and he succeeds. The action passes in the reign of Napoleon, in whose company of Court actors at the Théâtre Français Sansnom is taken, and meets Manon, the leading actress. On the night when he makes his début, which is a triumph of art, applauded by the Emperor and the Court, poor Sansnom falls dead at the close of the performance. That Herr Bonn had a rôle to suit him to perfection is apparent to anyone who knows that eminent actor. He was called and re-called before the curtain times innumerable, the audience waxing more enthusiastic every moment. Fräulein Veit, a remarkably clever young actress, came in for her share of applause, and the minor characters were all well sustained. Thanks to Herr Bonn, the piece is certain of a renewed lease of life.

Dr. Ludwig Fulda's new three-act drama, *Herr und Diener*, acted and staged though it was at the Deutsches on Saturday with every possible pains, cannot be called a great success. The house was crowded with a well-disposed audience, who cheered the author feebly, and endeavoured, out of respect and admiration of his former works, to enter into the spirit of the tragic story; but it was very difficult, and at the most tragic parts a sound was heard as of suppressed giggling. The "master" is an enigmatical King of Persia at some distant period; the "servant" is his Grand Vizier. The former's mind is poisoned against the latter by a spiteful woman, wife of the said monarch, who, having tried to gain the ear of the Grand Vizier in vain, determines to ruin him. The King believes her when she tells him his servant is bent upon undermining the Sovereign and supplanting him. The infuriated potentate tries to subdue his enemy by the queerest means: he wrestles with him; he presents a dagger to the Grand Vizieress, makes a little love to her, and advocates that she stab her husband; he also, finally, condemns his chief "servant" to death. But in all these tricks and many others the King is worsted, and the Grand Vizier, like Sir Ernest Shackleton's microbes, always comes up smiling. He offers his wife—the most beautiful woman in the land, we are assured—to his master, and he is fully prepared to go to the scaffold whenever the King wishes, having no intention of begging for his life. Failing in humiliating his servant, the King goes into a frenzy, and when his wife tells him she has been fibbing all the time out of unrequited love, his Majesty has no better use for the dagger he had given to the other lady than to turn it against himself. This is a bare sketch of Dr. Fulda's latest play, which will hardly rival his former works. Herr Walden struggled manfully with the rôle of the very silly King. Herr Bassermann gave a fine reading of the "servant"; Fräulein Durieux and Fräulein Höflich were also excellent as the wives of the King and Vizier respectively.

Caruso had a splendid send-off on Sunday. The great tenor sang the part of Nemorino in Donizetti's charming and too-little-known opera, *L'Elisir d'Amore* (in German, *Liebestrank*). After cheering till they were hoarse and the ladies had waved their handkerchiefs till their arms ached, the packed house let the idol go, cries of "A rividerci" and "Auf Wiedersehen" following him into his dressing-room. The clever scoundrel who forged stall tickets, selling them at 50 marks each, has not yet been discovered.

"SCHERZO."

Dance-poem, in Three Acts, by MM. Hartmann and Huber. Produced at the Deutsches Chamber Plays, on Nov. 4.

Dame ..... Fraulein E. Wiesenthal
Page ..... Fraulein B. Wiesenthal
Duenna ..... Fraulein von Bulow
Don Balthazar ..... Herr Matray
Graf ..... Herr Plitschke
Torero ..... Herr Karchow

BERLIN, Thursday, Nov. 10.—The Sisters Wiesenthal are already known here as charming dancers, the grace and modesty of whom is perhaps unrivalled in this country and certainly not surpassed anywhere. They hail, I believe, from Vienna, but they are international in their art. The novelty, entitled *Scherzo*, is a play without words. Herr Huber is responsible for the plot, and Herr Hartmann has written extremely taking music round it. Altogether, we welcome the pantomime, whose cordial reception augurs well for its career. The plot is symbolical, and may be told in few words. A lovely woman—"die Dame"—has four suitors—a young page, a wealthy count, a strong toreador, and a diabolical, uncanny cavalier. She coquettes in turn with all four, then goes to supper with three of them, and sends the poor page, who is left outside in the cold, a sweetmeat to console him. For the mysterious cavalier we are to understand his Satanic Majesty, the page represents love and passion, the Count personifies wealth, and the toreador physical strength. All these encircle the woman in characteristic and most fascinating dances, and the music is grotesque, tender, and dramatic by turns. It would be hard to say whether Elsa or Berta was the most applauded; both sisters received their due measure, being called and recalled. The remaining parts were satisfactorily rendered, and the mounting was everything that could be desired. Following *Scherzo* came Schreker's "White Waltz," danced by the two pretty sisters, Strauss's "Dorfschwalben," in which Fräulein Elsa Wiesenthal excelled herself, and as the closing number of the delightful evening some Offenbach dances were executed by the two clever artists.

A four-act play, entitled *Der scharfe Junker*, by Georg Engel, was produced with distinct success at the Berliner Theatre last week. It is erroneously styled a drama; in reality, it is more of a comedy. The action passes in Pomerania among the gentlemen farmers of that agricultural district. The hero, the Junker von Bünzelwitz, is generally considered to be a hard-hearted, sharp landowner, with an overweening sense of his own importance, and a woman-hater into the bargain. In reality, of course, he is just the opposite, and the story of his falling in love is told with the author's wonted humour. The acting was very bright, and the piece was effectively staged.

The forthcoming production of Adela Maddison's four-act opera, *Der Talisman*, at the Leipzig Opera House, is being looked forward to with great eagerness both in German and English circles. The libretto is the famous versical drama, by Dr. Ludwig Fulda, which made such a sensation when it was produced at the Deutsches Theatre a number of years ago, and which had an unprecedented run. It has been somewhat curtailed by the composer, but is otherwise the original text. Of the music the best things are reported; the German character has been preserved throughout, despite the fact that Mrs. Maddison has studied many years in Paris and her songs bear visible traces of the French school. *Der Talisman* was accepted by the Leipzig Opera House management at once, and the management has taken the greatest pains with cast and mounting. The fine thirteenth-century costumes have been specially designed by Dr. Steiner-Prag, of the Leipzig Academy of Art. The artists are the best the theatre possesses, which is saying a good deal, and the conductor is Egon Pollak, one of the rising Kapellmeisters of Germany. The manager, by the way, is Dr. Hans Loewenfeld, who made a name for himself in Paris three years ago by his excellent productions of Richard Strauss's *Salome*. Mrs. Maddison organised in Berlin last season a series of French concerts with the assistance of M. Fauré; these were such a great artistic success that the French Government conferred upon her the order of an Officier d'Académie. Theatrical managers and Press men from far and wide will be present at the first performance on the 19th, and various members of the British Embassy at Berlin are going down to Leipsig for the event. The composer is well known in society of several nations, her grandfather having been the famous Lord Chief Justice, Sir Nicolas Tindal, and her father Admiral Tindal, who distinguished himself in the Chinese wars of 1845.

GERMAN NOTES.

The Overcrowded Profession.

As gradually, in the course of decades, popular prejudice against the actor's calling disappeared, so the influx of recruits to the profession increased by leaps and bounds, until it has now gained such unwieldy proportions that the German Actors' Association have seen themselves obliged to give the greatest publicity to the black facts connected with the unfavourable state of the profession, both as regards engagements and salaries. From figures published in the Association's official "Bühnenalmanach" it appears that of the 25,000 names given in that annual, quite 10,000 are those of actors, the rest being singers, choristers, leaders of orchestras, musicians, and technical staff. In the most favourable conditions only one-fifth of these can count upon employment yielding an adequate income; all the rest have to rely on the smaller or on touring theatres, which pay monthly salaries ranging from £4 up to at the most £12 10s., and that only during a six or seven months' season. After deducting travelling expenses, costumes, and agents' commissions, their average annual income is estimated at the alarmingly low figure of £30. In the whole of Germany and Austria there exist about twenty-five large theatrical concerns, the members of which have a regular income all the year round. In such towns as Berlin, Vienna, Munich, Dresden, Hamburg, Leipzig, and Frankfort-on-Main, these large theatres regularly employ about one thousand professionals, to which must be added two hundred regularly engaged actors at ten of the smaller Court theatres, such as those in Schwerin, Karlsruhe, Koburg, &c.

A Suggested Remedy.

In the larger theatres the salaries range from £200 to £750 per annum, which latter figure is rarely exceeded; indeed, the average salary paid, even by the largest concerns, only amounts to £250, and by the smaller Court theatres to £150. Of the 10,000 professionals enumerated by name in the German year-book, a tenth part are entirely without any income; and yet the supply of recruits is quite out of proportion with the vacancies occurring. In Berlin alone there are about twenty theatrical training colleges, in Vienna there are ten, in Dresden half-a-dozen, and two or three each in Leipzig, Düsseldorf, Wiesbaden, Graz, Nürnberg, Munich, &c.—some fifty such institutions in all. Added to this, most—or, at any rate, many—actors augment their income by giving private tuition to aspirants for stage honours, and the number of recruits applying increases annually by about 1,200 to 1,500 youngsters. Since neither these colleges nor the private tutors are under legal control and require no licence, the German Actors' Association has decided to appoint committees of impartial experts in all the principal towns, where aspirants can be gratuitously examined as to their capacities, and obtain sound advice as to their chances of success in an already overcrowded profession.

The Vienna Imperial Opera House.

Director Felix von Weingartner, the successor of Paul Schienther and Gustav Mahler in the management of the Hofoper, after three years' more or less uneventful office, has retired in favour of Director Hans Gregor, late of the Komische Oper in Berlin. His principal innovation, that of producing condensed Wagner operas, met with so much indignant opposition that the scheme was speedily dropped. He intends to retain the management of the Philharmonic Concerts in Vienna, which will necessitate his residence in the Austrian capital from November to March, while during the remaining part of the year he will be domiciled in Paris. On taking up his new duties Director Gregor has found himself face to face with a difficulty which almost borders upon a strike. Owing to the enormously increased cost of living the members of the chorus, and more especially those of the orchestra, are claiming higher salaries, as in the circumstances the present ones do not constitute a living wage. By way of a protest the latter, who also complain that they are overworked—it is stated that on Sunday, after a heavy morning's rehearsal, they had to attend two performances, from 2 to 5, and from 7 to 11.45—played their accompaniment to the ballet in *Lakmé* so *pianissimo* as to be almost inaudible. This gentle hint has had the desired effect, and the authorities have ordered an exhaustive inquiry into the entire system of salaries at the famous old theatre.

An Actors' Association "Ehrenrat."

The Dresden Local Branch of the German Actors' Association has forwarded a proposition for the consideration of the next general meeting of delegates of the Association, suggesting the formation of a so-called "Ehrenrat" (Council of Honour) within each local branch. These councils are to be elected by the branches themselves, only male members of unblemished character and not under thirty years of age being admissible. The names and addresses of the members so chosen must be notified to headquarters. To be valid, a judgment must be by a two-thirds majority out of six members of the council, the proceedings of which must be kept strictly secret. The cases, which are only such as affect the honour of some Association official, can be decided in one of three ways. Either the plaint is dismissed or the accused is relieved of his office.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." How the affairs of a theatre can be most efficiently controlled by the adoption of systems of internal check. By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 5d., post free 3s. 9d. Address: The Publisher, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. LANDON RONALD.

Mr. Landon Ronald, who has succeeded Dr. W. H. Cummings as principal of the Guildhall School of Music, was born in London in 1873. His training was obtained at the Royal College of Music, where he studied with great success, leaving at the age of sixteen and a half. He made his *début* as solo pianist in *L'Enfant Prodigue* in 1890. Soon afterwards he turned his attention to conducting, and was engaged by Mr. William Greet to go to the provinces with various comic operas, thus gaining great experience.

The late Sir Augustus Harris engaged him as second conductor at Covent Garden in 1891. Afterwards he went on tour with Sir Augustus Harris's Italian Opera Company as conductor for two years consecutively, eventually assuming the direction of the English Opera seasons which were given at Drury Lane Theatre. In 1895 he conducted during the grand opera season at Covent Garden Theatre. Previous to that Mme. Melba had recognised his exceptional gifts, and engaged him to go to America in the capacity of conductor on a tour which she had arranged, and in which he visited all the most important cities in the United States.

About this time Sir Paolo Tosti arranged for Mr. Ronald to help him in his duties as accompanist at Court, and from then to the present time he was generally chosen to accompany the State concerts, either at Windsor, Balmoral, or Buckingham Palaces. The year after the death of Sir Augustus Harris Mr. Landon Ronald left Covent Garden and accepted an engagement to conduct musical comedy at the Lyric Theatre.

On the formation of the London Symphony Orchestra, his services became much more in demand for serious work, and he was invited to go to Berlin and conduct the famous Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, when he achieved one of the greatest successes ever gained by a foreigner and never before equalled by a Briton. He gained exceptional success also in Vienna, Amsterdam, Leipsig, and Brenmen, and last Christmas was specially invited by the Academy of Santa Cecilia to conduct one of their concerts at Rome.

As a composer of songs Mr. Landon Ronald is widely popular. He has also written several works for

MR. LANDON RONALD.

orchestra, including a *suite de ballet*, a symphonic poem, a Birthday Overture, two dramatic scenas for voice and orchestra, and two of the most successful ballets ever produced at the Alhambra Theatre—namely, *Britannia's Realm* and *L'Entente Cordiale*. The duties of principal at the Guildhall School will not sever Mr. Ronald's connection with the New Symphony Orchestra or the Sunday concerts at the Royal Albert Hall. In a school having over 3,000 pupils and a large staff of skilled professors, Mr. Ronald will be able to form one of the finest student orchestras in the world, and his great experience as conductor should be invaluable to the young performers. Great attention will also be given to choral and operatic matters, and the good work done by Dr. Cummings in this direction, carried on with increased vigour.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

In the performance of *Tannhäuser* at Covent Garden on Saturday night, Mme. Petzi-Perard doubled the rôles of Venus and Elizabeth. The experiment was interesting in this case, and with such a fine artist as Mme. Petzi-Perard, but the chief element in *Tannhäuser* lies in the opposite nature of these two characters. Venus, being entirely sensual, affords an artistic contrast to the gentle, spiritual nature of Elizabeth. Mme. Perard has before given us a splendid impersonation of Venus, and it was quite a special triumph for the gifted vocalist when she appeared capitally made up as Elizabeth in the second act. The greeting to the Hall of Song and the Prayers were both beautifully sung, and her acting throughout was gracefully expressive. Mr. Clarence Whitehill was excellent as Wolfram, and Herr Forchammer a superb Tannhäuser. In place of Mr. Murray Davey, Mr. Reynolds, said to be a member of the chorus, sang Hermann's music in English, and with most satisfactory results. There was a large audience, and Mr. Cuthbert Hawley again proved himself an able conductor.

Rigoletto was given on Monday, with Mr. Umberto Maenex in the part of the Duke. The newcomer has a pleasing voice when not forced, and he had a very hearty encore in "La donna e mobile." Miss Mignon Nevada was again a charming Gilda, and Signor de Luca once more gave his powerful assumption of the vengeful Jester. Signor Camilieri conducted, and the other characters were undertaken by the same artists as on a previous occasion.

Death and the Duellists.

When Mr. Courtice Pounds was touring in Germany with the D'Oyly Carte company, one of its members offended a gentleman, who afterwards turned out to be a German baron, and who, the next morning, astonished the Englishman by requesting him to name his second for the duel. The actor was at first inclined to laugh at the incident as absurd. He had never handled a pistol in his life, and the affair of the previous evening had seemed altogether too trivial to merit recourse to any such violent means of settlement. On inquiry, however, he found that the challenge was not to be lightly ignored, and naming Mr. Pounds as his second, he visited a local clothes shop and purchased a frock coat and silk hat, in order to be de rigeur according to the German etiquette of duels. When the fateful morning dawned he repaired to the rendezvous with a brave front but a sinking heart, and awaited his adversary's arrival. Presently came a messenger: "My master, Baron von ——, has fainted; will you please wait a few moments until he is fit to meet you?" They waited anxiously. Then came the message: "My master is dead; you must go home."

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

In *Mrs. Skeffington*, at the Queen's Theatre, Miss Gwladys Gaynor wears a very dainty frock of rose-coloured cashmere de soie, in the first act, the corsage with its aluminium embroidery having a little collarless vest of cream lace finished with a minute bow of dull blue satin. The skirt is buttoned right down the back, whilst the front, likewise the sleeves, are adorned with pattes of dull blue and aluminium broderie.

Miss Ellen O'Malley as Mrs. Thynne is first seen in a becoming dress of black ninon. It has a tablier of gold lace cut in peplum form and brought to a point over the bust; this is veiled with the ninon and finished with black velvet and satin buttons. The sleeves are also adorned with the lace and tiny black satin buttons, and finished with a ruche of the ninon. Miss Ellen O'Malley wears another gown of ivory tulle over satin, the corsage being fashioned of ivory and gold lace, supplemented with a wide band of gold lace over chiffon, and another of cream lace, both veiled with rose-pink chiffon. The skirt has a deep hem of this material, which also fashions the picturesque cloak with its very deep hem of satin finished with silk tassels. The costume is completed with a bronze beaver hat lined with black velvet, and trimmed with dull blue ostrich plumes.

Miss Beryl Faber wears two charming gowns, one of soft lemon-tinted charmeuse, with coat of embroidered grey chiffon and a little hat with upcurled brim covered with folded grey and yellow chiffon and trimmed with twists of chaudron-coloured ribbon caught at the side beneath a single rose. Her second and particularly graceful princess gown is of opalescent souple satin on which is painted branches of mauve lilac and pink blossoms. A loose coat of silver lace edged with bugle fringe partially conceals the satin under dress, whilst the chosen head-gear, a hat of lilac silk, is round, cut into points at the side, lined with rich purple velvet, and trimmed with a twist of shot blue and silver net.

Miss Gwladys Gaynor's frock of pale blue satin with its draped over dress of blue chiffon hemmed with white satin and prettily embroidered is a fascinating creation for a *jeune fille*, as is the pretty polichinelle bonnet of satin with its posy of pink roses on one side. It evidently makes a great impression on the two irrepressible subalterns, whose high spirits and witticisms introduce a comic note that is much appreciated.

The dressing of *The Quaker Girl* at the Adelphi is of the sumptuous character which is always associated with the productions of Mr. George Edwardes. One of the beautiful dresses worn by Miss Gertie Millar in the title-rôle is of white chiffon over white satin, with a little silver embroidered bodice and vivid sapphire blue sash, embroidered and fringed with gold. The double skirt is edged with deep silver fringe.

Among the pretty toilettes worn by Miss Elsie Spain is a dress of snow-white chiffon over the softest satin. The chiffon over-dress is edged with silk boules about the size of Morella cherries, and is looped up in front in a kind of square over a short petticoat of dewdrop lace trimmed with bands of crystal bugles in the Greek key pattern. At the back it falls to the hem of the skirt, the sparkle of the diamond dewdrops being seen fitfully through the filmy mesh of chiffon, while the corsage, which is made in kimono form, is scooped out over a vest of transparent chiffon edged with a little rivulet of silver bugles. The charm of the gown lies, however, in the short square tablier which covers part of the corsage and jupe, and which is made of cobweb lace glittering with dewdrops and bordered with the Greek key pattern in crystals. This is repeated at the back, and is caught in at the waist with a band of thick silver ribbon finished in front with a flat bow, while a cluster of pure white heather is tucked into its folds on one side.

Another exquisite gown which Miss Elsie Spain wears is of the softest silk crépon over satin in a rich tone of Cornish cream, veiled again with chiffon to match. The chiffon covers a trimming of pale blue rat-tail and bands of creamy lawn embroidery, while a little apron panel of lawn worked in a broderie Anglaise design falls over the front, and is bordered at the hem with a chain of pale blue satin leaves. The back of the gown is entirely covered with the broderie, which is drawn away on either side of the front in pannier folds. The same rich, deeply-tinted cream broderie provides the corsage and sleeves, while there is a little square bib of the insertion spliced into the front, the corsage being hollowed out round the column of the throat, where it is bordered with a chain of satin leaves in soft sunset blue. A deep, folded belt of blue satin clasps the waist, from which falls a short stole end embroidered in oxidised silver and blue satin.

Miss Legrand is seen in a wonderful design of pale daffodil satin, covered with a filmy chiffon veiling and partially buried under a coat-shaped garment of thick gold lace, patterned with Tudor roses and leaves, and bordered with bands of darned gold pois. The coat is cut into very long panels on either side, hung with mammoth gold bell-pull tassels, while it is cut away in front and a little gathered panel of chiffon edged with gold fringe inserted in its place. Below this panel the jupe is adorned with a chain of satin leaves and soft chiffon bouillonées, which give place to a transparent hem of creamy lace over a deep lace underfrill, likewise worked in a leaf design in shaded daffodil satin and finished with a strip of ermine. The back of the gown is of chiffon, while a heavy gold twisted cable cord encircles the waist, and a huge deep pink water-lily with a gold centre brings the only note of contrasting colour into the corsage.

A lovely gown worn by Mlle. Caumont is of pale mist-grey chiffon over soft satin, the gown being trimmed with thick aluminium lace, into the metal threads of which are woven such subtle shades of colour that the rose and green, blue and mauve, which form part of it, can hardly be distinguished as definite colours at all. The lace forms a heavily-tasselled panel down the front, while a band of the same runs all round the skirt, and the corsage and sleeves are hidden under it. The waist is defined by three rows of thick silver cord, the gown being cut into a little square at the neck, softened with pure white lace, which likewise forms a tiny vest half-hidden under it. With this is worn a coat of pewter-grey chiffon velvet, lined with begonia red satin, the huge, square sailor collar being piped with the same, while the loose kimono sleeves are turned back with wide velvet cuffs. The coat is closed with a twisted knot of aluminium cord.

"Charley's Aunt."

Mr. Brandon Thomas, the author of *Charley's Aunt*, was visiting Bayreuth some years ago, when the Wagner Festival was in progress. It may be mentioned that subscribers for seats at the Festival are allotted rooms in the houses of those burghers who have members of their families singing in the chorus, and the occupier of the house in which Mr. Thomas had apartments showed him round the town. He pointed out the Stadt Theatre—which belongs to the municipality—and remarked scornfully, "Wagner wanted to produce all his operas at that theatre, but the authorities would not hear of it. At last Wagner's beautiful theatre was built there, on the top of that hill by King Ludwig II., and all the world comes to his operas, whilst the poor Stadt is reduced, in order to make money, to the little English farce, *Charley's Aunt*." The author did not disclose his identity, but was naturally much amused.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

VICAR ADVISES CHRISTIANS TO GO TO THE THEATRE.

The Rev. A. J. Waldron, Vicar of Brixton, lectured at Bow Church, Cheapside, on Tuesday, on "Church and Stage," and his remarks were listened to with evident approval by a large crowd of City men. In the course of his address Mr. Waldron said: When I was a boy the question was asked, "Can a Christian go to the theatre?" As a lad I was taught that the theatre was as near hell as anything you could get on this earth; that it was a kind of suburb of the infernal regions. (Laughter.) I am thankful to say that idea has very largely gone. In the Church of England we have got a society called the Actors' Church Union, which does not exist to preach to actors or to patronise them, but to co-operate with them. I venture to suggest that it is the duty of the Christian man and woman to go to the theatre occasionally and support good plays. The tragedy in London, as well as in the provinces, is that some of the best plays fail not because of poor acting, but because they are not patronised as they should be. I witnessed two plays by that fine actor, Forbes Robertson, and they only ran a short time, being complete failures, yet some things which are not worth seeing are packed out. The Church and the Stage must be intimately connected. Some of the biggest moral lessons I have ever heard were taught on the stage. Look at a play like *The Message from Mars*, or that sweet play of Barrie's, *What Every Woman Knows*. Look at the grand lessons you can get from Shakespeare's plays. Can you go and see one of Shakespeare's plays at His Majesty's without being profoundly touched and affected by the art of the thing? We all need recreation, and it is absurd to condemn music halls and theatres when they give us a hearty laugh which makes us forget all our business worries. Speaking for myself, after bearing the responsibilities of a big parish, I am glad enough to go to the theatre and forget everything, and have a good laugh. I say the person who contributes to the joy of this world is engaged in a divine vocation. There are far too many sad faces about. Every actor who can amuse us—without leaving a nasty taste in the mouth—is a servant of the living God. Some good people condemn the Stage because they say its atmosphere is bad and the people connected with it are immoral. One of the weaknesses of the Church has been to overemphasise certain things as immoral. There are deacons and churchwardens who live selfish lives and break the first law of Christianity every day. Every profession has its temptations. The clergy have theirs; they are tempted to play the hypocrite and to preach what they do not believe, and to pose as examples of piety when they know they are not. Working men are tempted to be lazy and thriftless. I do not believe the Stage is any more immoral than other professions. Some of the finest examples of charity come from the Stage, and members of this profession are always ready to help each other. Other good people tell you actors live a false life because they are always acting. It is not true. Hundreds of them are real Christians, and I have seen many attending celebration of the Holy Communion at great sacrifice. When you get a chance to support a good play, I say support it. Do not play the hypocrite, like they do in the provinces. In a town like Plymouth, where I come from, I have known good people who were ashamed to be seen in the local theatre; but such people come up to London, and not only go to the theatre, but often to the worst music halls. If you are ashamed to be seen in the theatre do not go anywhere. Be honest about the thing. If you do go to the theatre and anything offends you, write to the profession about it; they are always most anxious to maintain a high standard. I say there is no profession that gives us more joy and happiness—and happiness is every man's birthright.

Mr. Fred Terry, in speaking of the reception accorded to Miss Neilson and himself on the opening night of their engagement in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, said that he had been advised to prepare a speech, but the idea did not appeal to him, and the burst of applause that came at the end of the third act found him quite unprepared. He was dressing for the next act, and the curtain was kept going up and down until he could get into his clothes. Then he came out, and it seemed to him that he only said about four words. He couldn't think of any more. He was not prepared for any sort of an outburst.

"It has taken me three years to come to that night," Mr. Terry went on. "I have been trying to get to America for that long, and have just succeeded. Do you blame me for being glad the people were so kind to Miss Neilson and me and to the play. And I have 'come on my own' and have travelled all my people over. Counting Miss Neilson and myself and Miss Neilson's companion, there are forty-seven of us. Three is a small number, so we'll say there are fifty. So even if we continue to do good business during the eight weeks we shall be in this country, the trip won't pay financially."

He continued: "When we first spoke of *Sweet Nell* they came to me with persuasions not to attempt it. A 'charade' they called it, and said that the people didn't want to see charades. Well, we borrowed all the money we could on our jewels and our house and our notes, and we put with it every ha'penny of our savings, and we leased a theatre for seven weeks. At the end of the seven weeks we had doubled our capital. So much for the 'charade.'

"When we were rehearsing *The Scarlet Pimpernel* they insisted that the play would never go as it stood. Parts of it must be rewritten, they said. I didn't think so, but finally I agreed to the rewriting of one scene, just to see how it would go. I had a member of the company read my part, and I watched the scene from the front of the house. Then we took the new manuscript, rolled it up very carefully, tied it with a bit of string, sealed the knot, and put it safely away. It hasn't been opened since, and the scene is being played as it was originally written."

"Dramatic and Musical Law." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

G.N.R.

Commencing Sunday Next, Nov. 13, and each Sunday until further notice, a new LUNCHEON CAR EXPRESS will run from King's Cross at 11.45 a.m. to Peterboro', Grantham, Newark, Retford, Doncaster, Selby, York, and the North.

Will stop when required at Finsbury Park to take up passengers for stations north of Doncaster.

THERE WILL BE NO CONNECTION FOR SELBY, YORK, AND STATIONS NORTH THEREOF BY THE 12.0 NOON TRAIN FROM KING'S CROSS ON AND AFTER SUNDAY, 13th NOVEMBER, 1910.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.

MARTIN HARVEY AT MANCHESTER

The Manchester Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre movement held a meeting on the 3rd inst. at the Theatre Royal, at which Mr. Martin Harvey delivered a lecture on the National Theatre. The Lord Mayor (Mr. Charles Behrens) presided.

The LORD MAYOR said it was quite time that England showed in a more practical manner her appreciation of her great national poet. In America there was no city without its Shakespeare Society, and in Germany the text of Shakespeare was even more widely known than that of the Bible. But at last, after all these generations, a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre was to be founded, and Manchester, which always placed art in so high a place, was looked upon to support the movement. It was a step in the right direction, and he looked forward to the day when not only London but every city of England would boast of its Shakespeare Theatre.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY said he came before them in a new part—that of an earnest petitioner and beggar. And he had never taken up a part with more enthusiasm or greater conviction that his view of the part was the right one. He was there to plead for help to rear a noble and monumental institution to our greatest Englishman. It had taken us 300 years to rear a worthy memorial to our great hero of letters, and he wanted everyone in his audience to help. In 1916 it would be 300 years since there died in this country the most amazing giant in the literature of the world—an Englishman. What had we reared to honour him? A trivial and unregarded little figure above a fountain in Leicester-square and a small bust in the Poets' Corner. These were the sole monuments pointed out to the amazed foreigner when he visited the land of Shakespeare's birth and labour. But all that was going to be changed. It had been decided that the expression of the public enthusiasm should take the form of a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. £500,000 had to be raised; £100,000 had to be spent for a suitable site, though there was just a faint hope that the site might be given them; £150,000 to build and equip the theatre, and the remaining £250,000 permanently to endow it. This would yield an income of about £10,000 a year, the same sum, roughly, which the State allowed annually to the famous National Theatre of France—the Comédie Française. They were not far short now of possessing nearly a fifth of the entire amount required.

It must be a noble building, and must occupy a noble position in the heart of London. Its uses would be, firstly, to keep all the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory; secondly, to revive whatever was vital in English classical drama; thirdly, to prevent recent plays of great merit falling into oblivion; fourthly, to produce new plays and to develop the modern drama further; fifthly, to produce translations of representative works of foreign drama, ancient and modern; and, lastly, to stimulate the art of acting. Think of the practice a young actor would get in such a theatre. New parts to play every few days. They would forgive a certain wistful longing that he might share such a young actor's Elysium when he told them that for over 300 nights in succession he appeared in a certain play as "second soldier," with the sole exclamation, "'Tis Valentine! Our comrade Valentine," to appease his hunger for work.

It was said that Shakespeare needed no other monument than his own imperishable works, but Shakespeare wrote for the stage, and if his work alone was to be his monument how would they remember him when there came upon us those periods of vitiated public taste which degraded dramatic representation from time to time, when the true arena of his genius, the stage, was swamped beneath a wave of vulgarity and meretricious triviality? Such periods had come upon us, as every student of the history of our stage knew. Then it was said that the work was already done by private enterprise. We were fortunate in living in a day when it had been done by private enterprise, but it would be most unwise to count upon a continuance of this happy state of things. Long before Sir Henry Irving's later misfortunes deprived him of the theatre which he had single-handed reared into a national institution, he had realised that it was not for one man to bear upon his shoulders such a stupendous burden as the maintenance of a National Theatre. In no other European country was he expected to do it. The State, the municipality, or the wealthy art patron assisted him with his burden. They were not now asking for a State subsidy; they were not asking the State to do what they could do themselves. They were asking only for the subsidy which so many individuals of Shakespeare's race had it in their power to give. How were the provinces to benefit by a theatre which was to be situated in London? In one practical way they would certainly benefit, because it was proposed that at certain periods the company to be associated with the National Theatre would pay its regular visits to provincial centres. The memorial must be an accomplished fact in five years, and therefore there was no time to be lost.

The DEAN OF MANCHESTER (Bishop Welldon) expressed his deep sympathy with the cause of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre.

Sir W. H. BAILEY, as president of the Manchester Shakespeare Society, moved a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for presiding, to Mr. Martin Harvey for his address, and to the proprietors of the Theatre Royal for the use of the building. The resolution was seconded by Mr. T. C. Horsfall, who said that when there was a Shakespeare Theatre in London they would be nearer the time when there would be one also in Manchester.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, in reply to questions by the Lord Mayor, said it was proposed that Manchester should be one of the five great cities of England represented on the Board of Governors of the proposed theatre. It would be considered whether the University of Manchester should not also be given a representative with the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, Edinburgh, Dublin, and Wales.

SPEECH AT CARDIFF.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who is appearing this week at the New Theatre, Cardiff, on Monday afternoon addressed an audience of sympathisers on the Memorial Movement. Professor H. Littledale, D.Litt., presided, and he was supported on the stage by Sir John Duncan, the Rev. Alick Henderson, the Rev. H. A. Coe, Mr. Edward England, and Mr. W. P. James.

Mr. HARVEY, who had a most cordial reception, said he came before them in a new part—the part of an earnest petitioner and beggar. He was there to plead for their help to rear a noble and monumental institution to Shakespeare, their greatest Englishman. It had taken them 300 years to begin to think of rearing a worthy memorial to their great hero of letters, but he did not now despair of playing his part to heedless ears. (Hear, hear.) It had been decided that the expression of the public enthusiasm should take the form of the Shakespeare National Theatre. £500,000 had to be raised, to be spent thus: £100,000 for a suitable site, £150,000 to build and equip the theatre, and the remaining £250,000 to permanently endow it. This would yield an income of about £10,000 a year, the same sum, roughly, which the State allowed annually to the famous national theatre of France—the Comédie Français. Donations began to come in at once, and a splendid stimulus was given to the movement by the princely gift of one generous donor of no less a sum than £70,000. The name of that donor he was not at present at liberty to disclose. Since then the amount had been steadily rising, and they were not far short now of possessing nearly a fifth of the entire amount needed. The National Memorial must be a noble building, planned by the foremost architect of our time, occupying a noble position in the heart of that London in which Shakespeare for the most part lived, laboured, and achieved his triumph. The first of its uses must be to keep the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory—not only the half a dozen Shakespearean plays which poor actor-managers found to be the only remunerative ones—for this National Theatre would be above commercial considerations—but all of them. The other objects would be to revive whatever was vital in English classical drama, to prevent recent plays of great merit falling into oblivion, to produce new plays, and to further develop the modern drama, to produce translations of representative works of foreign drama, ancient and modern, and to stimulate the art of acting. People living in the provinces might say, "How are we to benefit by this Memorial Theatre, which is to be situated in London?" In one practical way they would certainly benefit, for it was proposed that at certain periods the company to be associated with the National Theatre would pay its regular visits to provincial centres, and they would thus reap the advantage of having the great works of our national drama, of the drama of antiquity, and the chosen achievements of living dramatic authors presented in an elaborate and worthy manner by a carefully-chosen company of artists. He earnestly commended the scheme to all because their neglect of Shakespeare was a reproach throughout Europe, and because it would place our national drama upon its rightful pinnacle as the richest in the whole world. The memorial must be an accomplished fact in five years' time.

In the course of his lecture Mr. Martin Harvey made several references to his family associations with Cardiff and its neighbourhood. Remarking that up to the present the city of Hull held the record for the largest collection as the result of his lecture, Mr. Harvey added, "I want Cardiff to beat Hull. I have a great attachment to Hull, but I have the attachment of blood to Cardiff and its neighbourhood. My people on my mother's side—the Gwythers—all came from this neighbourhood originally, and I always feel when I come back to Cardiff that I am, in a measure, at home.

On the motion of the Rev. ALICK HENDERSON, seconded by Sir JOHN DUNCAN, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, to the lecturer, to the members of his company for undertaking the work of collection, and to Mr. Robert Redford for the use of the theatre.

STEDMAN'S STUDENTS AT THE COURT.

The most enjoyable item in the programme of the third performance given by Stedman's Students' Stage Society at the Court Theatre on Wednesday evening was undoubtedly the ballet divertissement *Perdita*, founded on the pastoral scenes from *The Winter's Tale*. It will be remembered that this charming and dainty little ballet, the music of which is composed by Mr. Archibald Benwell, and the dances arranged by Mlle. Lilian Lecffeler, was successfully produced at the students' last performance on Saturday, Oct. 29, and the Misses Dorothy Edward, Edith Mansfield, Violet Denzil, Helen Hope, Hilda Boot, Hilda Munnings, and Phyllis Munro all repeated their former successes in their clever and delightful dances, Messrs. B. Leslie Howard, Chresta Freund, Kenneth Morrison, and Mackenzie Rogan also giving capital support. The charming maypole dance was again particularly admired, the enthusiastic and carefully-trained youngsters evidently taking a keen enjoyment in their work. At the conclusion floral offerings and boxes of chocolates were handed over the footlights to the principals, and Mlle. Leoffeler and all concerned in the pretty and capitally-arranged terpsichorean entertainment received encouraging plaudits.

The farce *Courtship Under Difficulties*, in which considerable hilarity is created by two young lovers shouting at one another, each under the impression the other is very deaf, was fairly well enacted by Mr. Stephen H. Heald, Mr. Charles Deane, and Miss Gladys Vivian; and the Duel scene from *The Corsican Brothers* enabled Mr. Charles Koop as Fabian dei Franchi and Professor Mortlake Mann as Château Renaud to give a clever exposition of fencing, and, incidentally, impressive portrayals. Mr. Stanley Hughes and Mr. S. H. Heald ably supporting. Miss Irene Gantner and Miss Marjorie Oliver, pupils of Mr. Mortlake Mann, also gave attractive and smart exhibitions of fencing. In the concert portion of the programme Miss Eileen Francis was loudly applauded for her admirable rendering of "If no one ever marries me," and for an encore feelingly sang "Two eyes of grey." Mr. G. Righenzi gave "Seven Fine Gallants" in capital style, and was recalled; Mr. Stuart Gantner failed to impress in Albert Chevalier's "A Fallen Star," an impersonation that only a clever and experienced artist can hope to do anything like justice to; Miss Phyllis Munro recited with much point and charm "My Rival"; and Miss Hilda Boot and Mr. H. Ford also vocalised with complete success. Messrs. Goodman, Howard, and Matto (pupils of Mr. Charles Sutton) were down for a step-dancing exhibition. Only two of the young gentlemen, however, faced the footlights, and their promising efforts were loudly acclaimed by the audience—keenly appreciative of the programme as a whole, which was of a most enjoyable and commendably brief nature. In the intervals Mr. Fred Welter's orchestra was responsible for some well chosen and admirably-played selections.

MRS. KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN, the author of *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, one of the most successful plays of the season in New York, and one that is generally referred to as "wholesome," was recently asked if it was her aim "to uplift the drama." She immediately replied that she had a sense of humour and did not regard herself as a Person with a Mission. "If you want to elevate the stage," she said, "don't approach it from some patronising height, I say, but from a humbler, human level; then, in some happy hour, if you chance to have more grace and wisdom than usual, you may be able to give a little push.

"THERE are pitfalls all along the way, however, for the artist must steer between the good and the goody-goody; between sentiment and sentimentality; between delicacy and refinement of treatment and silly juvenility. There is a kind of goodness in certain books and plays which is so colourless and mawkish, and insipid, that instead of appealing, it repels.

"PEOPLE are not going to the theatre for the mere purpose of being 'elevated'; they go for recreation, for entertainment, for delight, and mental refreshment, and they ought to get some of these things, in some degree, or demand their money back at the box office. The book or the play that wields an unconscious influence is the only one that wields any influence at all. The public does not want to be bored by any assumption of superior virtue, it wants a play to love, and when it finds it, it goes to see it, and the manager's problem is solved in the rational way, and in the only way that it ought to be, for a play that cannot earn its own living is never going to 'uplift' the stage, that is very sure.

"UNLESS morality can succeed in being attractive, it might as well resign its commission, for perfunctory, mechanical goodness is not half as interesting as clever, brilliant naughtiness. Deliver us from that stodgy, negative virtue that has no spice of wit in it, no spontaneity, no nonsense, no joy—it never works any miracles, that sort of virtue, and incidentally it bores everybody who is unwillingly exposed to it."

DEATH OF CHARLES E. STEVENS.

It is with regret we announce the death of Charles E. Stevens, a clever and versatile comedian, which occurred in Lambeth Infirmary on Saturday last, the 5th, after a long illness.

Born at Portsmouth in 1854, Mr. Charles E. Stevens was intended at the age of twelve to be brought up as a jockey, but, growing very tall, the idea was abandoned. He was then taught the grocery trade at Winchester, where he sang as a chorister in St. Michael's Church. He came to London in 1873, and found an engagement as prompter on tour with Henry Powell, playing small parts, and riding Black Bess in the play of *Dick Turpin*, he being an expert horseman.

He joined an opera company, *Rose of Canton*, as chorister, and toured for some time, and then played in stock companies at Newcastle, Manchester, and Liverpool, meeting such stars as T. C. King, Barry Sullivan, Miss Wallace, Miss Marriott, and others. He toured again in comic operas with Mme. Soldene, played in over twenty pantomimes in the London and principal provincial theatres, and toured two seasons with Mr. G. Edwardes's *Circus Girl* company, playing Drivelli.

He toured with Mr. Tom B. Davis's company in *The Silver Slipper*, playing the part of Twanks. Successful London engagements were the Uncle, in *The Babes*, at Toole's Theatre; Meridon, *Lily of Leoville*, Comedy Theatre; Pincher, *Claude Duval*, Prince of Wales's Theatre; Bowles, *All Abroad*, Criterion Theatre; Colefax, *The Cuckoo*, Avenue Theatre. The deceased actor, who was fifty-seven years of age, will best be remembered by Londoners in the musical comedy *Florodora*, in which he played the part of Cyrus Gilfain during the whole run of that very successful play.

By music hall goers of middle age and over he will also be remembered, as he, about a quarter of a century ago, was a very familiar figure in those excellent sketches that Mr. William Bailey was continually producing at the Metropolitan Music Hall and elsewhere. Later on, however, he joined Mr. Fred Williams, and later still Mr. Edwin Barwick's sketch company, playing in

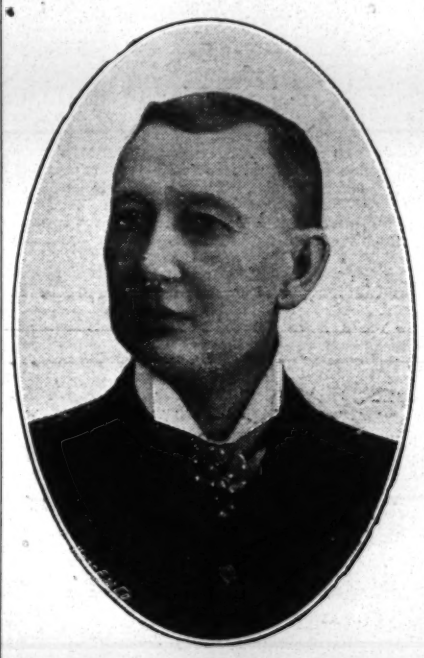

THE LATE MR. CHAS. E. STEVENS.

those well-known music hall successes of fifteen to seventeen years ago *Sweedletop and Tittlemouse, Jossiter's Jubilee*, and *Whittington up to Dick*.

Mr. Stevens was a pantomime artist of no mean repute, and Manchester, Bristol, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Liverpool, and many other principal panto towns could tell of more than one very big success of his.

He was discharged as incurable from the Hospital for Paralysis, Queen-square, W.C., but a few months ago, at a time that his wife—since dead—was dying of consumption, and this, in conjunction with the effects of a rather serious operation he was forced to undergo, undoubtedly hastened his end. His last appearance on the stage was in 1902 at the Savoy Theatre—then under the direction of Miss Kitty Loftus—in a musical piece called *Naughty Nancy*.

THE HOUSE.

By TOM CRAVEN.

I met a man with whom I'd held
  In past days some communion,
He ask'd if I would dine with him
  At "the Hotel de Union."
He promised me a gorgeous time,
  Tho' modest was his station;
And I accepted like a shot
  His genial invitation.
We sauntered up to Hammersmith,
  And pleasant moments filled in,
Until we reach'd a roomy street
  And quite palatial building.
Inside, a bowing porter took
  Our hats and umbrellas,
And we were tended just as if
  We both were titled "fellas."
He led me to a spacious room
  For smoking and for reading;
He rang the bell, and said we both
  A glass of wine were needing.
A liveried attendant brought
  Wine, choice and appetizing,
And cigarettes which really were
  Enchanting and surprising.
Then to a marble cloakroom we,
  Attended by a porter,
Had both our digits manicured
  And washed in perfumed water.
From thence unto the dining hall
  Of elegance and beauty:
Thinks I, "My friend does well his guests,
  As host he knows his duty."
The banquet served was quite superb;
  'Twould tax a king's resources:
The wines all of a costly brand,
  And limitless the courses.
The whole feast was quite worthy of
  An epicure of breeding;
And never had I, in my life,
  Enjoyed such dainty feeding.
The noble wine emboldened me,
  And so I soon inquired,
How was it that my poor friend had
  To such rich fare aspired.
"We have *the best*," my friend replied;
  "Our Guardians don't burke us."
"But *what's* this palace called?" I cried.
  He said, "This is 'The Work'us.'"

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues, published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

THE Theatre Royal, Brighton, one of the oldest established and most popular theatres in the South of England, is to let from the end of next March. A lease may be acquired for a term of seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years. Application should be made to the Managing-Director.

THE MELODRAMATIC SYNDICATE v. FORTESCUE.

VERDICT FOR THE DEFENDANT.

In the King's Bench Division on the 3rd inst., before the Lord Chief Justice and a Special Jury, in the action, The Melodrama Production Syndicate, Ltd., v. Fortescue, the plaintiffs claimed damages for wrongful detention of a bloodhound, and also damages for alleged libel and slander. The defendant denied the allegations, saying that the statements complained of were true, and counter-claimed for damages for wrongful dismissal and breach of contract.

Mr. Elliott explained that plaintiffs conducted provincial tours, and defendant was engaged by them to perform in certain pieces. Under an agreement of Jan. 16, 1909, he was engaged at a salary of £3 10s. a week, the engagement to be terminated, according to the contract, at a fortnight's notice. The action had really been brought owing to the necessity of plaintiffs recovering a bloodhound, named Pedro, which defendant had detained. Defendant had been engaged to play the part of Sexton Blake in the melodrama of that name, and the dog played an important part. The story of Sexton Blake was modelled, to some extent, on that of Sherlock Holmes, plus the bloodhound, which was specially trained. The play drew large audiences, and was extremely popular. The hound, which was plaintiffs' property, had been placed under defendant's care and control, and from Jan. 16, 1909, to May 12 of that year the piece was produced at a very large number of provincial theatres. Although he displayed great gifts in certain parts of the performance, defendant was of an extremely uncertain temper. There was not the least suggestion of anything improper against him, but he did not always get on with the management or the other actors, and his conduct had led the management to think it desirable to terminate his contract.

At Gateshead, where the piece was being performed, defendant was offered £7 in lieu of a fortnight's notice, and another actor, Mr. Murray Yorke, was engaged to take his place. Defendant refused the money, and retained the dog under his control, with the result that Mr. Yorke had to appear without him. This led to a falling off in business, as the miners flocked to see the dog. The company went from Gateshead to Bordesley, and there also defendant kept the dog. At both places he stood outside the theatres, distributing handbills which contained the alleged libels. These stated that defendant had been wrongfully dismissed by plaintiffs for no reason whatever, and stated that he was retaining the bloodhound Pedro, which remained in his charge, for debt. This had the effect, said Mr. Elliott, of inducing people not to witness the performances, and the absence of the dog also militated against its success. Eventually, on May 22, after an application to the courts, defendant returned the dog, which seemed to be half-starved, and it had to be treated by a veterinary.

Evidence was given by William Henry Graham, manager for plaintiffs, who said that the dog belonged to his company. It had been specially trained for eight months before going on the stage. Defendant arranged to look after the dog at 10s. a week. He believed that defendant had one or two little differences with the management, and, acting on instructions, witness went to Gateshead on May 11, to terminate defendant's engagement. Defendant refused to take £7 in lieu of notice, nor would he give up the dog. In the evening witness saw defendant distributing handbills outside the theatre. Another dog, also named Pedro, and belonging to plaintiffs, had to be sent down to take the other animal's place. Defendant returned the first dog on May 22, but it was in very poor condition, looked half-starved, and was unable to go on the stage again until Aug. 5.

Cross-examined: Defendant was a very good actor. Witness knew defendant was ill on the previous Saturday evening, and that, against his doctor's advice, he played his part at the theatre on the Monday and Tuesday evenings. On the Wednesday he was dismissed. Defendant had not been paid for those two evenings' work, in addition to the fortnight's notice.

Witness added that defendant wrote to him on one occasion that he had had a lot of trouble with the dog Pedro, and had missed his train in consequence. He said the dog jumped at a lady with a baby while crossing Putney Bridge, and there was quite a scene. Defendant said that he was put to a great deal of expense in keeping the dog and for his travel, but on the stage the animal was perfect, and cleared the window.

Mr. Leslie Fairfax, business manager of the company, in cross-examination, said that when defendant returned the dog it appeared to be all right, and he gave him a receipt for it. The company was only one night without a bloodhound, as another was obtained. Mr. Fortescue had claimed for some of the travelling expenses for the dog.

Mr. James Marks Brown, principal shareholder of the plaintiff company, said he purchased both the bloodhounds for the syndicate. He had instructed Mr. Graham to go to Gateshead and get rid of Fortescue.

In cross-examination witness said he had had complaints previously that Fortescue had thrown a dresser down the stairs of the theatre a few days before. He had been receiving complaints every day from every member of the company.

William Poole Stevens, the stage carpenter, said at Billeston, on Feb. 8, he saw defendant knock his dresser down the stairs. There was also a row, with high words, between defendant and another actor at Stockport. On one occasion witness had to go to defendant's dressing-room to fetch the dog. Defendant called another man, and they both rushed at witness, who took up a stick and shouted that he would knock down the first man who touched him.

Mr. Henry Nelson, stage manager for the Sexton Blake spring tour, said defendant was continually having quarrels with the members of the company.

For the defence, Mr. Emery submitted that plaintiffs had suffered no damage by the detention of the dog. As to the alleged libel, defendant contended that the statements contained therein were true. It was not suggested that defendant had done anything which, on the face of the agreement, would entitle plaintiffs to dismiss him. On their own showing, he had performed to the best of his skill and ability, and no one suggested that he did not take the part properly.

Defendant gave evidence, and said that a certain amount of the 10s. a week he was to have received for keeping the dog was still due to him. That was the reason he refused to hand the dog over when his agreement was cancelled. Plaintiffs also owed him money for travelling expenses incurred on the dog. He denied that there was anything libellous in the bills he had circulated. He had them printed after consulting a solicitor.

The hearing was adjourned till the 4th inst., when, after hearing further evidence from the defendant, who denied the allegations against him, the jury returned a verdict for Mr. Fortescue, on the question of the detention of the dog, and also on the alleged libel, and gave him also a verdict on the counterclaim for wrongful dismissal, awarding him £35 damages. Judgment was entered accordingly, with costs, a stay of execution being refused.

IN our notice of *The Career of Henry Jones*, at the Court Theatre last week, Miss Rose Moncrieff was erroneously named as playing Mrs. Jones. It should have been Miss Irene Moncrieff.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'HOMME MYSTERIEUX."

Play, in Three Acts, by André de Lorde and Alfred Binet, Produced at Sarah-Bernhardt's on Nov. 3.

Louise	MLLE. ALBANE
Mme. Dubois	MLLE. MEA
Clotilde	MLLE. MAYLIANES
Raymond Bercier	M. JEAN KEMM
Beauchamp	M. CHAMERAY
Le Général	M. DUARD
Lionel Bercier	M. KRAUSS
Le Procureur	M. DARSAY
Le Directeur	M. GUIDE
Dr. Berbard	M. DAMERES
Brindeau	M. DORIAT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Nov. 10.—This gruesome but clever play is a diatribe against the law which allows a man to be placed in an asylum when it is not always sufficiently proved he is a lunatic, and the equally loose way in which a mad person is set free before he is really cured. In France the Procureur de la République—who acts as Lunacy Commissioner—can, against the advice of the doctor, order a person to leave the asylum provided that person's family applies for his discharge and that the Procureur is convinced that the patient is cured. But this conviction is generally based on the fear of keeping a sane man locked up, and the authorities are apt to forget that a lunatic is a "man of mystery," whose thoughts none can read and whose actions nobody can foretell. Raymond Bercier, in partnership with his brother, has suddenly become mad; and Louise, his wife, whom he attempted to strangle, has had him removed to a lunatic asylum, whereupon, according to French law, the money he had invested in the business was taken out and handed to an official trustee. The withdrawal of his brother's money has placed Lionel in serious financial difficulties, and the latter, after a long and painful discussion with his sister-in-law, induces her to apply to the authorities for her husband's release. In the second act we are in the asylum where Raymond is detained, and the Procureur is there to investigate the case. Lionel insists on Raymond being set free. The doctor, however, protests against this. Raymond, he says, is a dangerous lunatic, suffering from the prosecution mania, and, therefore, unfit to be at large. Raymond is then sent for, but he replies so rationally to the doctor's questions, and his sanity is apparently so well established, that the Procureur decides to order his release. The doctor tries hard to dissuade him from taking that course; and we assist at an interesting and exciting discussion between these representatives of Science and Justice. But Science is worsted, and Raymond is allowed to return home. The doctor's prognostications unfortunately come true. Raymond has not long been in the house before he tries to assault his wife. He then vents his rage on his brother, who has rushed to her assistance, and strangles him, unconsciously meting out punishment to the man whose greed has brought about this catastrophe. The pit and gallery sided with the Procureur against the doctor, and applauded vigorously when Raymond was set free. The dénouement, therefore, took them by surprise, and they seemed astounded that Science was right after all. The work was beautifully acted. M. Jean Kemm proved himself a great actor; M. Darsay was convincing in the rôle of the Procureur; and Mlle. Albane gave a pathetic rendering of Louise, the madman's wife.

"L'AVENTURIER."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Alfred Capus, Produced at the Porte-Saint-Martin on Nov. 4.

Geneviève	MLLE. DORZIAT
La Baronne	MLLE. JULIETTE DARCOURT
Marthe	MLLE. DUX
Lucienne	MLLE. DESCLOS
Mme. Sablier	MLLE. DELYS
Juliette	MLLE. CREST
Suzanne Sablier	MLLE. NETTER
Etienne	M. LUCIEN GUITRY
Guéroy	M. JEAN COQUELIN
Jacques	M. SIGNORET
André Varèze	M. PIERRE MAGNIER
Framié	M. MOSNIER

M. Capus is always amusing, but he is not observant. His personages, therefore, although diverting, lack truth; and as the play proceeded we realised more and more that his *dramatis personæ* were the children of his imagination instead of having been taken from life. The story, which lies in a nutshell, describes how a highly respectable family is saved from ruin by one of its members, the "black sheep"—in other words, the "adventurer." The Guéroys, father and son, are at the head of a large factory, but Jacques, the son, has entered upon some hazardous speculations, with the result that the Guéroys are on the brink of ruin. The position of the firm has become desperate, but nobody is aware of this fact except Marthe, Jacques's wife, and Framié, the confidential clerk. Whilst Jacques is trying to extricate himself from these difficulties, Etienne Ranson, one of their relatives, the "black sheep," who some ten years ago left the country under rather awkward circumstances, suddenly makes his appearance. The Guéroys, convinced that Etienne wants to borrow money from them, at first show him the cold shoulder. But they are mistaken. Etienne has made a fortune in the colonies, and starts by repaying Guéroy a sum he borrowed some ten years ago. Etienne thereupon is received with open arms, and Guéroy, senior, who is not aware of the disastrous position of his firm, offers him a partnership in the business. Etienne, however, soon drags the truth out of Jacques. He tells his relatives plainly that he is quite willing to assist them with his money, but on condition that Geneviève, Marthe's sister, to whom he has lost his heart, consents to become his wife. It is his ultimatum, and should Geneviève refuse he will not move a hand to save the Guéroys from bankruptcy. But Geneviève is engaged to André de Varèze, a Deputy, with whom she fancies herself in love, and it is Geneviève herself who acquaints Etienne with this fact. Geneviève refuses to become his wife, and Etienne, having given Jacques to understand that under these conditions he will not advance any money, the latter tells his father that all that remains for him is to commit suicide. Geneviève then tries to mollify Etienne, but the "adventurer," incensed at the girl refusing to accept him, declares that he will leave France the next morning. He happens, however, to overhear a conversation between Jacques and Marthe, wherein Jacques says that he intends to carry out his fatal resolution, whereupon he is so moved that he grasps Jacques' hand and promises to advance him the necessary capital without expecting any reward. For all that, Etienne will have his reward, for Geneviève is so touched with his generosity that she makes up her mind to throw over her Deputy and offer her hand to Etienne, who, from an "adventurer," becomes a respectable member of society. The work, devoid of dramatic interest, contains only two thrilling scenes, but the dialogue is so bright and pleasing that we are apt to overlook the unreality of the personages and the flimsiness of the plot. *L'Aventurier* was admirably interpreted by a first-class cast.

IT was stated that during the performance of *The Rose of Sharon* on Saturday last, at the Alexandra Palace, some of the lamps suspended from the roof broke, "due in all probability to the vibration of the air caused by the organ in the climaxes of the oratorio." That is an error. The trouble was occasioned by a rocket fired outside the grounds in the neighbourhood, which fell on the roof, breaking a pane of glass.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Play entitled
"CAPTAIN KIDD."

In his adaptation of Mr. Richard Harding Davis's comedy, *The Dictator*, Mr. Seymour Hicks has adhered very closely to the original story, the humour of which, allied with Mr. Leslie Stuart's always melodious music both in song and dance, and with the gorgeous and many coloured costumes, and rich scenery make up a very pleasant entertainment. The comedy has the advantage of being admirably interpreted by the very capable performers engaged. As Viscount Albany (alias Captain Kidd) Mr. Roland Bottomley comes to the front as an excellent type of comedian as well as a most capable singer. The principal humour of the play is provided by Mr. Harry Benet, who as the frightened and timid valet Simpson (alias Jim Dodd) simply convulses the house by his amusing acting. The wireless operator, Dick Hyne, is drolly played by Mr. Harold Deacon, who proves himself the possessor of a very pleasing voice. Mr. Lister Morrah as Colonel John T. Bowie, the U.S. Consul, is distinctly good; and Duffy, the Secret Service detective is cleverly caricatured by Mr. Alfred Sandoe. Mr. Sydney Gavin ably personates the Rev. Arthur Bostick; and Mr. Frank Wolsey as Captain Samuel Codman is good. Mr. Harry Hardy makes a commanding figure of General Santos Campos; and Dr. Vasques, the Health Officer, finds a capable performer in Mr. Sydney Oliver. Mr. Dan Robson acts skilfully as Lieut. Perry. Lucy Sheridan is delightfully rendered by Miss Maie Ash, her animated acting, dainty manner, and pleasant singing being much appreciated. Exceedingly well played is the Senorita Juanita Arguilla by Miss Marjorie Maxwell, whose impassioned acting and really good singing win admiration. Miss Helen Holmes in the part of Aggie Shrub is so good that one regrets that she disappears after the first act. Mme. Ducrot is neatly interpreted by Miss Constance Grainger; and Miss Dorothy Eden is an adequate Mrs. John T. Bowie. The numerous minor parts are all in safe hands, and the chorus is of material assistance to the play's welfare. Mr. H. H. Shaw ably directs the augmented orchestra, and Mr. Joseph Harker's scenery is worthy of that gentleman's great reputation.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
"THE SPECKLED BAND."

Mr. J. Murray Herriot, the popular manager of this theatre, has abundant reason to congratulate himself upon this week's engagement. Mr. Arthur Hardy's company are paying a first visit here in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's sensational and successful play *The Speckled Band*, and on Monday the house was packed. The piece is elaborately mounted and is admirably represented by an excellent company. Mr. Lyn Harding's impersonation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott, the murderous physician, is a wonderful performance, and a more forceful, convincing, and clever study of the character it would be hard to conceive. Miss Mary Forbes is admirably equipped for the impersonation of the much-tried Enid Stonor, her enactment being in every respect so well balanced and so pregnant with charm that the sympathy of the audience was enlisted from the start. As the austere and designing housekeeper Mrs. Staunton Miss Grace Edwin supplies an effective portrayal; Mr. F. Asheton Tonge introduces many clever touches into his embodiment of the faithful old butler Rodgers; and Mr. Frank G. Vyvyan is also satisfactory as Ali, the Indian valet to Dr. Rylott. Mr. Herbert Bradford plays with earnestness as Mr. Scott Wilson, and a clever and amusing characterisation is given by Mr. E. H. Brooke as Mr. Armitage, the village grocer. Mr. S. J. Warmington is satisfactory as Mr. Coroner Longbrace, and the same remark applies to Mr. Rupert Lumley as Mr. Brewer, foreman of the jury. Mr. C. P. Heggie has an ease of style which serves him well in the part of Sherlock Holmes, a part calling for the display of cynicism and subtlety. Mr. Talbot Homewood rendered valuable assistance as Dr. Watson, giving an excellent performance throughout. Master C. W. Lowrie is amusing and effective as Billy, the page, and Miss Lilian Rodgers (Mrs. Soames) and Messrs. Arthur Wyndham (Mr. Holt Loaming), Mr. Rupert Lumley (James B. Montague), and S. J. Warmington (Mr. Milverton) clients of Sherlock Holmes, were all powerful factors in the success of the piece. Mr. R. Jukes as inspector Downing and Mr. A. Bransgrove as Coroner's Officer, together with those forming the jury, all deserve credit for good work.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Charley's Aunt has certainly found the elixir of perpetual success, for although many years have elapsed since she made her début, her amusing adventures are as laughable as ever, and at the Shakespeare Theatre this week hosts of admirers have testified to this fact in the most pronounced manner. Mr. Hugh Wakefield appears as Lord Fancourt Babberly, and his assumption of the rôle of Charley's Aunt keeps the audience in a continual state of uproarious merriment. Mr. Robert Burnett and Mr. Richard B. Mason as the two undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham, are capable exponents of their respective parts; and Mr. Arthur Dennis as the college scout Bassett is amusing in a quiet but effective manner. Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart as Col. Sir Francis Chesney is decidedly good; and the pompous Stephen Spettigue has an excellent representative in Mr. Henry Hare, who looks and acts the part capitally. Miss Audrey Stafford is seen to advantage as the real Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, a part which she fills with distinction. Miss Grace Russell as Kitty Verdun, Miss Phyllis Back as Amy Spettigue, and Miss Janet Gillette as Ela Delahay play their respective rôles with charming grace and spirit. The comedy is preceded by a clever little play, *The Lancashire Sailor*, also from the pen of Mr. Thomas, in which Messrs. Hare, Burnett, and Stewart, and the Misses Back and Russell, appear with much success. The plays are presented by the author's London company, for whom Mr. Cecil Barth is general-manager.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Comedy, entitled
"LORD AND LADY ALGY."

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson have hitherto appeared only in classical or romantic plays before Crystal Palace audiences, and the change to the above sporting comedy is much appreciated. Mr. Norman's easy style well suits the part of the Lord Algernon Chetland, his points being made in a quiet manner which greatly adds to their effect. Miss Beatrice Wilson's extremely natural acting, too, is eminently adapted to Lady Algy, the dashing society dame, who bets and smokes and yet is so genuine and generous withal. She appeared in many smart hats and costumes. The actress had numerous recalls. Mr. F. Lock Whittaker gave a finished study of the hypocritical Marquis of Quarmby. As the Duke of Droneborough Mr. Campbell Cargill was good in every way, and Mr. L. Meade made an excellent Hon. Crosby Jethro, the society lounger. Mr. Norman Leslie infused much force into his impersonation of the irascible parvenu Brabazon Tudway, his bursts of passion being most convincing. As his wife Miss Agnes Thornton was intense and effective, and Miss Madge Trenchard was very funny in the part of Mrs. Vokins at the fancy dress ball. Miss Helen Oliver looked and acted well as Lady Pamela Mallinson, and Miss Maisie Stuart was charming as her daughter, Ottiline. Mr. J. A. Snaith as Swepson had a lot to do, and did it well, and Mr. V. B. Glynn as Mawley Jemmet causes much amusement by his stolidity. Mr. R. Taylor made a neat little part out of slender materials as Lieut. Standige, and Mr. A. James as Kinch was efficient. Mr. G. Wynter was distinct in the small part of a newspaper reporter. Mr. Norman also includes *David Garrick* in his répertoire, this play being given on Friday and Saturday.

PAVILION THEATRE, E.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Mr. Frederick Melville's melodrama *Her Road to Ruin* has been playing to capital audiences this week. The cast is a strong one, and the scenery is deserving of praise. Mr. Charles Dickens as the hero embodies the character with much skill and vivacity; Mr. Albert Grenville's impersonation of Tom Wells is an easy one; Mr. Knox Orde is an admirable Philip Hardy; Mr. Dave Clarke played the part of the Bishop with power and dignity; Mr. R. Leigh Ellis's acting of Charles Cholmondeley, a ne'er-do-well, is an excellent example of histrionic art; as Sir John Lewis Mr. Guy Routh creates much hilarity; Miss Gertrude Tate is a fascinating May Willoughby, known as Brookby; Miss Grace Emery's impersonation of Jenny Crackling is creditable; and Miss Dorris Gilham plays Jess Willoughby with care.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Play, by Ward Bailey, entitled
"FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM."

Fulham playgoers have been experiencing the delights of romantic melodrama, as presented by M. H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's London company. Mr. Reginald Fox plays Captain Max with a proper spirit of recklessness and daring; and Mr. Albert Guyon is an admirably suave and diplomatic villain as Baron Breslaw. Mr. F. Sutherland is satisfactory as General von Nestolde. Mr. Charles Gallier makes a fine figure as Sergeant Offenbeck, and with Mr. F. Osmond as Karl Ludhayr is responsible for much laughter. Mr. Lewis Gordon does well as the treacherous innkeeper; Miss Lillian Malvern is good and effective as Esther, the wise woman; Miss Alice Buckland plays smartly as Nita, the lady's maid; and Miss Audrey Canning displays much humour as Ottilie Schwarz, the cook with matrimonial aspirations. Miss Margaret Frame makes the most of the part of the false wife of General von Nestolde; and Miss Hettie Zillwood is a gracious and queenly representative of the Grand Duchess. The piece is well mounted, and the gorgeous uniforms and dresses help to form many fine stage pictures.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
"THE GROTESQUES."

The Grotesques, who have been running with considerable success at the Savoy during the early autumn, commenced their suburban and provincial tour at Kennington Theatre on Monday. The company, which is being toured for Messrs. Chappell and company by Mr. Philip Cunningham, present a varied and attractive programme, which should not fail to draw good houses in the country. The entertainment on Monday consisted largely of burlesques and imitations, and some of these were well done. The impressions of a ballad concert, in which all the members of the company in turn gave extravagant caricatures of familiar types of public entertainers, created a good deal of merriment, and the "Village Concert," with which the programme concluded, was quite a merry burlesque. The male quartette in the "Village Concert" was quite a good number, and the same must be said of the song and dance by the two daughters of the Vicar. Another item which appealed to the audience was the Boy Scout's song. The remainder of the programme consisted of some excellent songs, dances, and concerted numbers. Mr. James Watts, who as an entertainer should go far, deserves the warmest praise for his song and dance, "Mr. Jollyboy," which was very smartly done. His other song, "Skerry Coons," was also finely rendered. Miss Dorothy Doria gave evidence of much talent by her treatment of the song and dance, "The Belle and the Beaux," in which the chorus effects were furnished by the gentlemen of the company. She also sang "I'll be your gal" earlier in the evening with considerable gusto. Mr. Sterndale-Bennett had a couple of songs, "Come with me to the sea" and "My bungalow in Bont-street," the lilting refrains of which appealed immensely to the audience. Miss Kathleen Severn and Mr. Hugh Bayly were very good in the duet "If ever I thought of marrying you"; whilst Miss Elsie English won an encore with her song "Mr. Nightingale." Another catchy song was "Mr. Sun," which was sympathetically treated by Miss Kathleen Severn. Mr. Harry Harmer had a rollicking chorus number, "The Uz-guz-goozle-um"; and Mr. Hugh Bayly should not be overlooked for his song, "Cosmopolitan Wives."

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."

Mr. Walter Howard's military drama is being admirably presented by the author's and Mr. Alfred Paumier's capital company. Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke as the black-hearted Hildred of Sylvania contrives to make this villainous prince quite acceptable by his humorous proclivities. Mr. Lionel Gadsden gives a very fine performance as the hunchback, Prince Michael, enlisting much sympathy for this sorrowing, misshapen creature. Mr. Ernest Cox makes a manly and handsome hero of "bonnie" Prince Olaf; Mr. Hugh Selwyn is a pathetic figure as the dumb servant, Nathan; Mr. J. Chamberlain plays well as the gruff old soldier, Colonel Wellenburg; Mr. Adam Alexander is very impressive as the crafty Bishop of Illyria; Mr. Fred D. Daviss has many opportunities to display his talents as Captain Hector; Mr. Charles V. Sandford raises many hearty laughs as the love-sick Lieut. Karl Stromberg; as the Princess Monica Miss Miriam Pritchett reveals real talent for acting, and is aided by a handsome presence; Miss Jessica Black is a pretty and engaging Viola; and Miss F. Hale Daviss is very successful as the singing beggar girl Camiola. Incidental music is well looked after by the orchestra under Mr. Wm. Stephenson's direction. The Bioscope, with pictures of recent events, is a permanent feature of the entertainment at this theatre.

NEW LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."

This powerful play has been a strong attraction this week at the Lyric. Mr. Kenneth Norbury as Captain Rodney Haynes makes an excellent heavy lead, his acting being strong and effective throughout. Much credit is due to Mr. George B. Daiper for his interpretation of David Engleheart; Mr. Harry Cooke, in the character of Sammy Blythe is irresistibly funny. The striking part of Mark Blackwood is well rendered by Mr. F. G. Kay. Miss Cissie St. Elmo is very good as Hilda Carode and Miss Mabel Scudamore is a charming Queenie Carruthers. Miss Lottie Lonsdale plays the character part of Mrs. Jonesio to perfection, and as Signor Jonesio Mr. Thomas is very good. Mr. Furnaby Fuller stands out well in the hands of Mr. Willis Collins; Miss Ida Lovett makes a very pretty Lelia; Mr. Richard Kirk is a good policeman; Mr. Otto Clayton does well as Stephano Mordicano; Mr. F. C. Pick plays Andrew Service, the bank messenger; Little Dudley is quite charming as Pierrot; Miss Christine Middleton is good as Maudie de Frere; and Mr. C. Clements undertakes the part of the servant Winkles. The members of the circus—Fearless Fernandez, Tumbling Thomas, and Rhoda Reckless—are portrayed by Mr. Fred Walters, Mr. George Paul, and Miss Vera Moncrieff respectively.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Play,
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

A return visit of *The Merry Widow* to the Dalston Theatre is highly appreciated by residents of that part of North London, judging by the good attendance this week. The interesting and mirthful piece is admirably presented by members of Mr. George Edwardes's company, and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Harry Burton, renders the incidental and accompanying music with all requisite effect. Mr. Edward D'Arcy very quickly establishes himself a favourite with the audience by his amusing impersonation of Baron Popoff; Mr. Ripley Evans sings well as Vicomte Camille Jolidon, and his acting is on an equality with his vocalisation; Mr. Fred Fowler causes a good deal of amusement as Nisch; and another actor responsible for much hilarity is Mr. Clifford Selyer, whose eccentric fussiness as General Novikovitch arouses frequent bursts of laughter. Mr. Seyler is at the same time responsible for the stage-management. Mr. Warren Foster is a pronounced success as Prince Danilo, singing with good effect and imparting all the necessary energy to the character. His scenes with Miss Mary Ridley as Sonia are excellent, while Miss Ridley's acting is noteworthy for much vivacity and charm. Miss Ada Thomas scores as Natalie, and the dancing of Miss Kate May is much appreciated. The cast also includes Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. Adrian Beaumont, Mr. William Allison, Mr. H. Gordon Sherry, Miss Heather Featherstone, Miss Francis Midgley, and Miss Lucie Donati.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"RAFFLES."

Mr. Leonard Boyne's return—one might almost say his annual—visit with this popular drama is arousing great enthusiasm. This breezy, genial actor has seldom done anything better than the presentation he gives of the cool, insouciant Raffles. He is in excellent form, and seems to revel in the part. Admirable support is given by Miss Eva Killick, who is delightfully sympathetic and charming as Gwendoline Conran. Mr. Edward Irwin does admirable work as the Yankee ex-detective, Curtis Bedford; Mr. Carlaw Grand is effectively cast as the Earl of Amersteth; and Mr. Stephen Wentworth thoroughly realises the part of Viscount Crowley. "Bunny," the ever-faithful follower of Raffles, is well played by Mr. Harold West, and Mr. Buckstone Clair presents a bold and characteristic portrait of Crawshay. Mr. H. Armstrong is good as Merton; Miss May Brooke does well as the unsympathetic Mrs. Vidal; and Miss Blancka Stewart is good as Lady Melrose. Marie, the French maid, is capitally played by Miss Kathleen Grey, and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is a bright Lady Ethel. *Raffles* was well mounted and staged. Mr. Cecil Price is the genial business-manager for Mr. Leonard Boyne, and Mr. Newman Maurice was well to the fore in caring assiduously for the many patrons of Mr. Fred. Melville.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"A WHITE MAN."

Mr. Herbert Sleath's company is appearing with conspicuous success here in the above popular production, which is well staged and admirably acted. Mr. Frank Petley gives a fine rendering of the title-rôle, firmly holding the sympathy of his audience to the end. Mr. Charles Maunsell as Lord Kerhill gives a good performance of a somewhat thankless part, Mr. Harold Richardson does well as Sir John Applegate, Mr. V. T. Gerald is good as Mr. Chiswick, and the same remark applies to Mr. Wilson Alfred as Bates. Mr. Lewis Sealy plays Mr. Petrie capitally, Mr. Charles A. Foster is an excellent Dean of Trantham, Mr. John M. East as Big Bill gives a genial and enjoyable performance of an excellent part, Mr. Vernon Sansbury supplies a capital character study of Cash Hawkins, Mr. James E. Page is very good as Sheriff Hardy, Miss Nora Nagle is a clever Little Hal, Mr. Oswald Lingard makes a picturesque Tab-y-wana, Miss Enid Sass is a delightful Countess of Kerhill, Miss Dorothy Edwards a sympathetic and pleasing Nat-u-rich, Miss Elsie Buller an attractive Mabel, Miss Beatrice Martin is good as Mrs. Dolittle, and Miss Gertrude Price plays the Dowager Lady Kerth with ease and dignity. Mr. Arthur Bertram is the general-manager for Mr. Herbert Sleath, and Mr. Lewis Sealby the business-manager, while the stage is in the capable hands of Mr. John M. East. Mr. Bertram Iles's presence ensures comfort in front.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
"IL TROVATORE."

This week J. W. Turner's famous grand English Opera Company, now in the twenty-seventh year of its tour, is here on a return visit. On Monday *Il Trovatore* was staged and was received with rapturous applause. Miss Sarah Williams as Leonora and Mr. F. J. Hargrave as Manrico were in fine voice, and their articulation was perfect; Miss Beatrice Hill as Azucena and Mr. Frank Clarke as Count D'Luna gave admirable interpretations. On Tuesday Mr. Turner himself appeared as Don Jose in *Carmen*, and gave a capital representation; Miss Kitty Brownlees, in the title-rôle, had to repeat several numbers; Mr. Tom Griffiths as Escamillo received well-earned plaudits; and Miss Jessie Dennis did well as Mercedes. On Wednesday *The Daughter of the Regiment*; Thursday, *Maritana*; Friday, *Tannhäuser*; Saturday (matinée), *Satanella*, and (evening) *Faust*; are the other operas performed during the week. In addition to the aforementioned artists the following are appearing: Misses Ella Vane, L. Stock, Grace Parrish, and Carrie Rettur; Messrs. William Anderson, Sidney Clifford, Richard Cummings, Chas. Williams, T. Yates, Arthur Fisher, S. Appleby, and M. Le Noir. The chorus is a powerful one. Mr. T. Lawton, the musical director, must be complimented on his work, and the scenery and dresses are in keeping with the excellence of the productions.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"THE OLD HOME."

Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company in *The Old Home* is the attraction here this week, the drama being admirably presented throughout. Mr. Charles Franmore as Daddy Dean, an old fisherman and captain of the lifeboat, acts with force and precision; Miss Violet Ingram as his devil-may-care daughter Hazel is decidedly good; Mr. Evelyn A'Dell makes a strong character study of the part of the village curate, Rev. Eric Armstrong; the villainous Lord of the Manor, Lord Avondale, is effectively portrayed by Mr. Edward Rawlinson; as Timothy Twaddle, the landlord of the Mariner's Rest, Mr. Fred Stone makes a typical publican; and his daughter Polly is capitally enacted by Miss Ethel Ashleigh. Miss Dick Seddon creates much hilarity by his interpretation of Sam Adams, who is continually reminding everyone that he is "the 'ero of Trafalgar." The remaining characters are all satisfactorily enacted. The scenery and properties are good, the oak room set in the third scene being especially worthy of mention.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE SHAUGHRAUN."

This evergreen Irish play has been drawing good houses to the Royal County Theatre. The drama, which has been sent out by Mr. Frank Weatherby, is presented by a strong company, who do it ample justice. Mr. Louis Palgrave makes a bright and breezy Conn; Mr. Frank Tennant a most acceptable Captain Molyneux; and Mr. Herbert Young presents a capital portraiture of Robert Ffoliot. Father Doolan is in the hands of Mr. Hy. W. Monte, who does it ample justice. Honours are also gained by Mr. Fred Terriss as Harvey Duff and by Mr. Edwin Bennett as Corrie Kinchela. Miss Cissie Clarke has won golden opinions by her presentation of the part of Moya; and Miss Mildred Gilbert as Arte O'Neill, Miss Lydia Busch as Clare Ffolliott, and Miss Amy Lorraine as Mrs. O'Kelly are deserving of mention. The play is admirably staged.

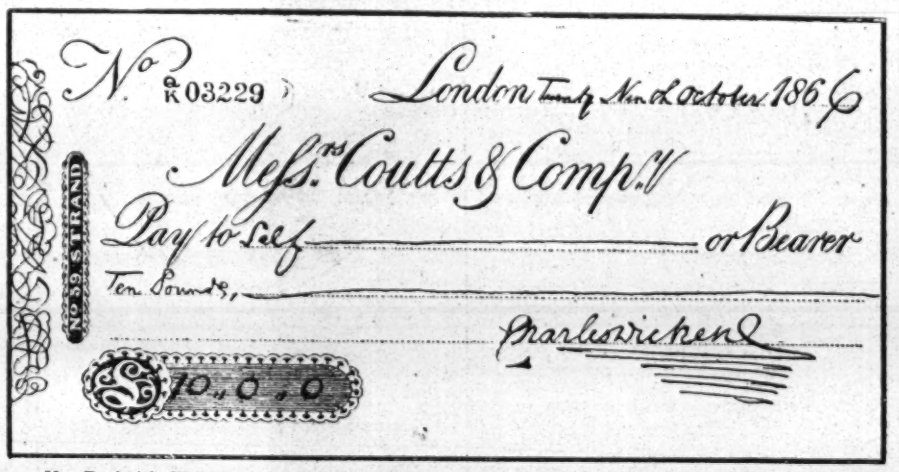

Mr. Frederick Wright, sen., one of our oldest actors, who has played the part of Dr. Manette more than 800 times, received on his last birthday the following letter and cheque from Miss Elaine Dickens, grand-daughter of the late Charles Dickens:—

"Villa des Mouettes, Cogspuer, Belgium.
"Aug. 8.

"Dear Mr. Wright,—I feel I must write and send you birthday wishes, as I see in *The Era* that your birthday is the same day as mine—Aug. 6. Will you accept the enclosed autograph of my grandfather, Charles Dickens? I have so often seen you play the part of Dr. Manette, and have met you several times on the stage after the play. I hope you have had a good holiday, and are well rested. Good luck to you on the coming tour.—Sincerely yours, "Elaine Dickens.

"SWEET SIMPLICITY."

An Opera, in One Act, by Kopski, Produced for the First Time on Any Stage at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Though the audience was not numerous at the matinée at the Royal County Theatre on Saturday when Professor Kopski presented his little opera to the Kingston public, the reception which was given to the effort was of a cordial character. The scene is laid in a forest in England about the period 1500. In this wooded retreat live a hermit and his only daughter, "Sweet Simplicity," who has been so jealously guarded by her aged father that she had never seen the face of any other man. The little girl, who is beautiful, dreams of fairies and echoes. One day a huntsman's horn is heard in the forest, and the huntsman himself appears unexpectedly before her. She takes him for a fairy, and forthwith commences to fall in love with him—the first fairy she had ever seen. Their meeting takes place in the absence of the hermit, and the inevitable result follows, the two plighting their troth just as the aged parent returns and discovers with grief that his simple girl has met her fate. The music is not ambitious. It embraces a pretty song by "Sweet Simplicity" and one or two duets by her and the young huntsman. Miss Pansy Hooper in the title-rôle acquitted herself with charming naïveté. Mr. Ernest Penfold made a most acceptable young huntsman, his vocal efforts being much appreciated. Mr. Owens Claydon played and sang the part of the hermit with great credit. At the close of the performance all were called to the front.

A committee has been formed with the object of instituting in Oxford a library for students of music, which shall contain the complete works (as far as it is possible to procure them) of the composers of all times who have left their mark upon the development of music. The whole of the large and valuable music library of the late President of St. John's College (Dr. Bellamy) has generously been given by his sister, Mrs. Tylden. In addition, the complete works of Palestrina have been given, and the complete works of Orlando di Lasso, which are now being published, and the complete works of Schubert are promised. A sum of at least £300 is needed to complete the works of the great masters and to include many of the most important works up to the present day.

"Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers." By Cuthbert E. Smedley, A.C.A. Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. ASCHE AND THE VAGABONDS.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton were the principal guests last Sunday at the New Vagabond Club's November dinner at the Hotel Cecil. Mr. Arthur Bourchier presided, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh was the hostess. The deputy chairmen were Mr. G. B. Burgin and Mr. Douglas Sladen, and others present were Sir Herbert Beerbohm and Lady Tree, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving, Mr. Laurence Irving, Mrs. G. B. Burgin, Mr. A. R. Ropes, and Mr. Haddon Chambers.

Mr. Bourchier, in proposing the healths of the principal guests, referred to the triumphal progress of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Asche in Australia, the land of Mr. Asche's birth. Vagabonds had no politics, but he believed the new interest of the Mother Country in the Dominions was largely due to the ambassadors of the various countries who exchanged visits—actors and cricketers—and when they could find an envoy such as Mr. Asche, a cricketer as well as an actor, accompanied by his wife, the success of the mission was assured, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies could sleep peacefully in his bed. The German Emperor had remarked, when Herbert Tree made his historic visit to Berlin, that actors were excellent ambassadors, and that their visits to foreign countries did much to cement international friendships. In this country all were for free trade in art, and welcomed the best that foreign neighbours sent us, at the same time giving a due measure of preference to kinsmen from "down under"—to a Melba as to an Oscar Asche, whose art had surely advanced Australia, just as the genius of a Bernhardt had done honour to France in the eyes of the civilised world. It was under his (Mr. Arthur Bourchier's) management that Oscar Asche had his first London chance, which came to him through the courtesy of Sir Herbert Tree, a chance of which he made the most. In the character of Maldonado in Sir Arthur Pinero's *Iris* Oscar Asche made a palpable hit. He has made a good many big hits since those days. Mr. and Mrs. Asche advanced Australia in their recent tour in bringing the people so much in touch with the Shakespeare that they loved.

Mr. Oscar Asche, in reply, said that he and his wife were glad to be back in London. It was two and a half years since they played in London, and it was with no little trepidation that they came back, and it was a great surprise to find that they had not been forgotten. In no walk in life had Australia lagged behind. The independence of thought which characterised Australians made them appreciate Shakespeare notwithstanding previous warnings. In every sport—which interested him more than the drama—to which Australians had applied their brains they had come out successful.

Mrs. Oscar Asche called upon Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, her stage godfather, to reply for her, and Sir Herbert said that he was proud to know that Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Asche were among the many people who had gone forth from the stage-door of His Majesty's Theatre and returned famous.

The health of Mr. H. B. Irving was cordially drunk, and the company wished Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving success in their forthcoming tour in Australia.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Nov. 8. Present:—Mr. Robson Paige (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Misses Mildred Cottell, Rose Cazalet, Vita Spencer, and Beatrice Chester, and Messrs. C. A. Collins, Henry Pettitt, Frederick Annerley, F. J. Arlton, C. Hayden Coffin, Edward Morgan, Murri Moncrieff, and D. Young (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was read from Miss Winifred Mayo, and the secretary was requested to compare the list of members of the Play Actors with the list of membership of the Association, and report at the next council meeting. The secretary read a letter from the Touring Managers' Association, and was instructed as to reply.

The hon. solicitor reported that he had written a letter on behalf of a member, and that he had given advice with reference to a claim. The secretary was instructed to file the letter for future reference.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Morgan, and adopted. Elections:—Trevor Sylvaine and Stanley H. Groome. Nominations:—Gladys A. Barnard, Eileen Guilbert, Edith Pither, and Ruth Heathcote.

The secretary was instructed to send a letter on behalf of the council to Miss Norah Mahone, regretting to hear of her late serious illness, thanking her for all her past work on behalf of the Association, and wishing her speedy convalescence.

Further progress was reported with regard to the "coming-of-age" dinner. As some doubt seems to exist as to the price of the tickets, the council desired it to be clearly stated that the charge is 5s. for members of the Association (every member of the A.A. being permitted to bring *one* guest at 5s.), 7s. 6d. for non-members of the Association, who are members of the profession, and a limited number of 10s. 6d. for the general public. Early application to the secretary for tickets was desired.

A MANAGER-POET.

Mr. Otto C. Culling, the popular General-Manager of the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd., who for a number of years has been a representative on the Bury Town Council, for private reasons did not seek re-election at the recent municipal contest. This has been a matter for regret, not only to his constituents, but also to his late confrères on the Council, as he has been prominent not only through his good work in the town's interests but also for his poetical effusions, which have caused endless amusement and gained for him in the district the title of "The Poetic Councillor." The following is an extract from the local *Times*:—

No more those mild melodious tones
Will rouse the faculties of mirth
By references to rags and bones—
Unless a "Second Time on Earth"
A tale doth tell.

When first he took to rhyming ways,
Providing pressmen pithy pars,
The bearded councillors did gaze
As if a "Messenger from Mars"
Weaved magic spell.

But even Civic dignity
Could not withstand his witty rhyme,
"Otto, the Outcast" now is he
Of his own will, while in his prime.
Culling, Farewell!

Mr. W. Somerset Maugham, who is in America, has said to an interviewer: "I always feel that the best place to begin writing a play is in the midst of an audience representative of the people for whom you are writing. I am sure that here I shall find what, to my mind, is the finest of all theatrical public, and that is one to which things of heart appeal primarily, whose feelings are still flexible, and which has a great zest for living as well as curiosity about life." Before he returns to England, Mr. Maugham will complete for Mr. Frohman a new comedy, the scenario of which has been approved of.

Princess Henry, Prince Leopold, and Prince Alexander of Battenberg witnessed the performance of *Grace* at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday.

"THE OUTCOME OF AGITATION."

Play, in One Act, by James A. Douglas, Produced at the Kingsway on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Alec. Stern .....MR. HERBERT BUNSTON
Harcourt Stern .....MR. GUY CARY
Hickman .....MR. WINDHAM GUISE
Elsie Stern .....MISS CICELY CHARLTON

The purpose of the playlet, which was put on in front of *Company for George* at the Kingsway on Saturday is to emphasise the advantages of emigration. In drawing a sharp distinction between the poverty and misery of the mother country and the prosperity which awaits the prospector in the West the author is entirely successful, but he has failed to point the way to the many thousands eager to try their fortunes beyond the seas but lacking the means to take the first step. Otherwise, the little piece is acceptable, if only from the fact that it introduces us to a benevolent broker's man. That individual, Hickman by name, is quartered in the house of Alec Stern, an honest and hardworking mechanic, who has been thrown out of employment by trade union agitation for increased wages. His brother Harcourt, unexpectedly returning from Canada, learns from Hickman that Alec. and his wife are destitute, and are, in fact, dependent upon the charity of the man in possession for their daily bread. He gives Hickman money to buy food, and retires, leaving Hickman to break the news of his return. This the latter does in a comic scene, during which he produces the provisions and drink purchased with Harcourt's money. Alec. refuses to touch anything until he knows by what means it was obtained, and Hickman accordingly calls in the bountiful brother, who improves the occasion by enlisting them all as recruits for the colonies.

The trifle is rather crudely written, and much of the humour is weak, but it proved very amusing, due chiefly to the efforts of Mr. Windham Guise, who was very droll as the cheery and good-hearted man-in-possession, and secured hearty laughter. Mr. Herbert Bunston strongly depicted the despair and utter hopelessness of Alec. Stern; Mr. Guy Cary thoroughly realized the prosperous air of the well-to-do Canadian; and Miss Cicely Charlton invested the rôle of the faithful wife with dramatic feeling. The author had a hearty call.

Company for George has thoroughly established itself in favour, and seems unlikely to outstay its welcome for many months. A full house on Saturday received it with continual merriment, and repeated applause. Miss Eva Moore as the hospitable Mrs. Birch, Mr. Kenneth Douglas as the indolent but resourceful Claypole, and Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn as the much-harassed George having attained perfection.

"PRISCILLA'S" 150TH NIGHT.

A magnetic influence is exercised by Princess Priscilla, and when she leaves the Haymarket next month, in order to make way for Mr. Herbert Trench's revival of *The Blue Bird*, she is certain to take a numerous train of admirers. The 150th night of *Priscilla Runs Away* was reached on Wednesday, when a crowded house found renewed delight in the exquisite performance of Elizabeth Arnim's clever play, with its skilfully-contrasted pictures of Court magnificence and the quaintness of English rural life. Miss Neilson-Terry continues to hold the hearts of her audience captive throughout as the wayward Princess, ravishing the eye with her beauty and acting with refreshing girlishness and grace. Mr. Charles Maude assumes the elegance of the Prince and the romanticism of the chivalrous lover with equal facility, and his nicely-modulated voice is used to artistic purpose.

The dry drollery of Mr. Charles V. France finds a most acceptable outlet in his assumption of the Grand Duke of Lothen-Kunitz, the process in which the vain autocrat gives way to the doting father furnishing one of the chief delights of the evening. As a picture of the lone and ailing widow Miss Sydney Fairbrother's Mrs. Jones surely is unequalled. Her facial expression and vocal eccentricities are irresistible, and exact a hearty tribute of laughter. Another sterling performance is the Herr Fritzing of Mr. E. Lyall Swete, admirable in his fidelity to the Princess, diverting in his dealings with his debtors, but most impressive in the vigour of the gallant old man's determination to avenge the insult offered to his charge. Mr. Arthur Whitby remains the obsequious Court physician to the life, and the Baron Osterman of Mr. Allan Jeayes is another clearly-defined characterisation.

A true type of English youth is presented by Mr. Donald Calthrop as the impulsive Sir Augustus Shuttleworth, and as his less agreeable companion, Robin Morrison, Mr. Louis Goodrich is buoyant and amusing in all the scenes in which he shares. Miss Frances Ivor as the delightful Lady Shuttleworth adds to the fragrant air of the Cottage scene, and Mrs. Agnes Thomas makes the uncharitableness of the vicar's wife duly hard and unrelenting. Miss Helen Haye is still a regal Grand Duchess, and Miss Amy Lamborn makes the display of irritation by the Princess's maid very becoming. Neat studies from life are the querulous Carpenter of Mr. Laurance Hanray, and perspicacious Plumber of Mr. J. Fisher White, the local tradesman of Mr. Ernest Graham. Miss Victoria Addison is also conspicuous for a capital realisation of the slatternly and snuffling Emma Jones.

The German Theatres.

In Germany there are twenty subsidised Court theatres and nearly 100 theatres subsidised by the municipalities (writes Mr. Frederick Whelen in an interesting and informative article in the *Chronicle*). In many cases the theatre is granted to its director rent free, in others a subsidy is given in addition. In some cases the cost of the orchestra and the scenery and the costumes and the heating and lighting is borne by the town. There is a great variety in method and in degree, but the result is that throughout Germany the art of the drama is officially recognised, and the theatre is regarded as an essential factor in the town's life, with the result that there are splendid theatres giving varied repertories of classical and modern plays throughout the German Empire. But all the German theatres are not State supported or municipally supported. There are long-run theatres, the result of private enterprise, as there are in England; there are theatres for melodrama and musical comedy, and there are privately-supported repertory theatres in Berlin, in Munich, in Dusseldorf, and other towns. One of the most recent of these is a theatre of remarkable activities, the Dusseldorf Schauspielhaus (the Dusseldorf Playhouse) founded five years ago by Frau Dumont. Within two years of its foundation it had acquired a repertory of forty plays, including works by Shakespeare, Schiller, Oscar Wilde, Lessing, Bernard Shaw, Hauptmann, Sudermann, and Stephen Phillips. To-day, after five years of existence, it can point to a repertory representative of the drama of all European countries. I have been looking at the records of the last season. Thirty-three plays were added to the repertory. The modern European drama was represented by Schnitzler, Maeterlinck, Sudermann, Hauptmann, Heijermans, Bjornson, Von Hoffmannsthal, Ibsen, Strindberg, and many others. The English stage was represented by Shakespeare, Marlowe, and four plays by Bernard Shaw—*Candida*, *The Doctor's Dilemma*, *The Showing up of Blanco Posnet*, and *Press Cuttings*. Altogether, with new plays and revivals, fifty-one plays were given on the stage of the theatre during the season. This is achieved by private enterprise in a city of about 300,000 inhabitants which already possesses a subsidised municipal theatre. Its founder is a woman.

MR. H. A. JONES AND MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones has written the following letter to the Home Secretary, in which the dramatist suggests a method of dealing with the Censorship question by the passage of a short, non-contentious Bill legalising the production of plays at music halls.

To the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P.

Sir,—Mr. Robert Harcourt has announced that on the assembling of Parliament he will call your attention to the recent action of the Censor with regard to Mr. Laurence Housman's play, and to the fact that nothing has been done to carry into effect the recommendations of the Censorship Committee, although more than a year has passed since their report was issued. In the present state of public business it is perhaps likely that the question will be again dismissed to a more convenient season.

Legislators are too apt to regard the question of the amusements of the people as one of the smallest importance in our national economy. With due consideration for the time and convenience of Parliament, may I urge that few matters have a deeper social significance and relevancy to our general welfare?

Two or three generations ago every English man and woman, even those living in the largest cities, had an easy access all the year to country air and sports and amusements. To-day, in our huddled civilisation, these healthier open-air amusements are largely out of the reach of the vast majority of our population. The masses of our people are necessarily driven for the greater part of the year to take their relaxation chiefly in theatres, music halls, and kindred indoor resorts. Further, the daily occupations of our people are constantly tending to become more specialised, perfunctory, monotonous, mechanical. The immense majority of us are condemned to toil all day in towns, at engines, at typewriters, in mines, in shops, in warehouses, in offices, at some mere routine task which, instead of quickening the powers of our minds, rather clogs and stupefies and deadens them. Incessantly to shape the head of a pin, or to add up columns of figures, or to quote prices on the Stock Exchange, must surely tend to wither and deaden what, at the risk of provoking a smile or a sneer, I will call our spiritual nature—that power whereby we apprehend eternal things. Yet the vast majority of us spend our daily hours and market of our time in dull, lifeless, mechanical, uninspiring labour. It is only in their two or three evening hours that nine-tenths of our population can be said to live at all. Surely the quality and form of their amusements, of what occupies their evening hours of leisure, must be tremendously operative, not merely in forming their manners and guiding their tastes, but in shaping their views of life, and perhaps moulding their character and conduct. Surely it is a matter of supreme public importance that the amusements of the people shall be wisely and fairly supervised, and efficiently administered. Indeed, outside the great permanent concerns of government, the defence of the country, the guarding of the national finances, the enforcement of law—outside a few such great matters, I cannot see what question has more intrinsic importance, is more closely related, to the building up of a sound and vigorous national character, or could more fittingly engage the attention of our legislators. Compared with a living national drama, if we could but raise it, even the great arts of painting and sculpture, which rightly receive national recognition and honour, would seem to be the mere playthings of dilettanti and connoisseurs. In a dim way we already feel this in the homage we pay to Shakespeare; happily we seem to be preparing to give substantial expression to our feeling in building a National Theatre. Meantime, may I at the beginning of an autumn session that promises to be occupied with far different business, say this word to keep this matter in view of Parliament for its further remembrance and consideration when the time shall be convenient?

THE CENSORSHIP.

It will be asked how far the recent decisions of the Censor affect the general question I have raised. Sir, they have a very definite and lively, though indirect, connection, as I shall be prepared to establish when the occasion is ripe. But as the time of Parliament is mortgaged for the present to more important business, it will be advisable to hold over the discussion of the Censor's action until Parliament can deal with the report of the Censorship Committee. The matter is very intricate and complex, and is by no means to be dismissed by the short dictum that immoral plays must be stopped, and that the Censor is the man to do it. Those who hold this easy notion will find the whole matter exhaustively argued in my pamphlet on the Censorship Muddle.

Meanwhile it is allowed that the Censorship is likely to prove a contentious business, and that in any case the details of the final settlement will demand a somewhat lengthy discussion. Therefore it is obviously wise, if possible, to leave it until the attention of Parliament and the public can be more fully engaged to it. This course will be rendered possible if a short, non-contentious Bill is at once passed through Parliament, rendering legal the production of plays at music halls. Not a quarter of an hour of the time of Parliament need be taken up in passing this most just and necessary measure. It will at once ease the whole situation, and do away with the present disgraceful farcical confusion and law-breaking that attend the production of plays every night in every music hall throughout the country. What that confusion is I will try to describe.

Throughout the kingdom there are, it is estimated, 150,000 illegal performances of stage plays in music halls every year, and this number is rapidly increasing.

Every author, every manager, and every performer is liable to prosecution at the hands of the common informer.

There are thirteen different kinds of licences issued to the theatres and music halls of the United Kingdom, establishing the most galling and unfair differences between managers who should have equal rights to produce plays.

An absurd illegal agreement between the managers of theatres and music halls is enforced, limiting the music halls to the production of plays containing not more than six characters, and not lasting longer than half an hour. Thus, if one of the best London music-hall managers were to produce a fine original play lasting thirty-five minutes, he would be prosecuted, while the theatre-manager who prosecuted him might himself be producing the most witless vulgarity.

In this maddening and whimsical imbroglio there are other useless and harmful restrictions which I have not space to dwell upon; but the main of it is that the present state of the law everywhere tends to foster the production of the cheapest vulgarities and imbecilities, and to hinder the production of popular wholesome drama at music halls.

If it is questioned whether the music halls ought to be trusted with this power, I ask by what conceivable argument is it denied to them? Why should not a music-hall manager give scenes from *Hamlet* or *The School for Scandal*, if he thinks they would be appreciated by his public? That the music halls have shown themselves fit to be so far trusted is shown by the immense improvement in every way that has taken place in them during the past generation—an improvement that cannot be gainsaid, in spite of the gross indelicacies and scarcely veiled obscenities that are sometimes to be found in their entertainments. But the whole tendency is towards a higher level. Indeed, one of the strongest arguments against the Censorship is to be found in the fact that the music halls, without his supervision or interference, are voluntarily purging themselves of their more undesirable features. It is true that Mr. Bluewink, Mr. Leerit, Mr. Smallfilth, and Mr. Bawlrot are still unpleasantly present on our music-hall stage, but they are not quite absent from our regular theatre. And at the best-conducted present-day music halls they are practically banished. A generation or so ago the music-hall programmes were, for the most part, mere dishes of clotted imbecility and slimy feculence.

To show the importance of this question to the drama itself I may instance the Theatre Royal, Dublin. The Lord Chamberlain's licence does not run in Ireland. This lucky state of things enables the manager of the Theatre Royal, Dublin, to turn his house into a music hall or a hippodrome at certain times of the year, and thus to work it so economically and continuously that he is able to give a better season of drama at that time of the year when it is better suited to be a theatre. Thus in many towns the drama itself depends upon the opportunity of giving another kind of entertainment when the public demand it.

The substantial solidarity of the music hall and the theatre is already accomplished in England. Such great actresses as Sarah Bernhardt, to say nothing of our own leading actors and actresses, are appearing on our music-hall stage. Nothing can hinder a still closer *rapprochement* and fusion, though I think that the theatre and the music hall will still continue to provide a different class of entertainment, and, so far as the drama is concerned, a different class of play. But the continuance of the present restrictions on music-halls is most irritating, most senseless, most unjust, most scandalous.

The Censorship Committee in their report recommended "A simple licence for both classes of houses, giving them freedom to produce whatever entertainment may best conform to the tastes of the public which they serve."

Will you not, Sir, with the smallest trespass upon the valuable time of Parliament, immediately carry this recommendation into effect?

You have recently made provision that our prisoners and malefactors shall be cheered and amused at the public expense during the long and weary hours of their confinement. What have our patient, well-behaved, hard-working millions of well-conducted citizens done that they should be thwarted and baffled and denied in seeking legitimate amusement at their own expense?

It is to be noted that this matter can be easily and readily detached from the vexed question of the Censorship. The time of Parliament need not be wasted. Let it at once be made lawful for the music halls to do what they are already doing abundantly every night all over the kingdom, in defiance of the law—that is, to produce stage-plays. And let these stage-plays be of any length, and contain as many characters as may be necessary for their representation. This will relieve the entire situation, and the Censorship may be allowed to slide until such time as it may be carefully and fully considered.

I have, I hope, written temperately and without undue warmth. The mere presentation of the case should be sufficient to carry it through. I am persuaded that you will see your way to grant this reasonable request, backed as it is by the recommendation of the Committee appointed by your own Government, and also by the great majority of those names in literature whose judgment should carry weight. It cannot be wise to keep this thorny little question in a state of constant irritation and festering. It is not for the dignity of the Lord Chamberlain's office that it should be engaged in the continual broils and squabbles which the neglect of the precaution I have advocated will assuredly engender and aggravate.

With due submission to the wisdom it may be confidently expected the present Parliament will show in this matter—I am, your obedient servant,

HENRY ARTHUR JONES.

MISS HENRIETTA HODSON.

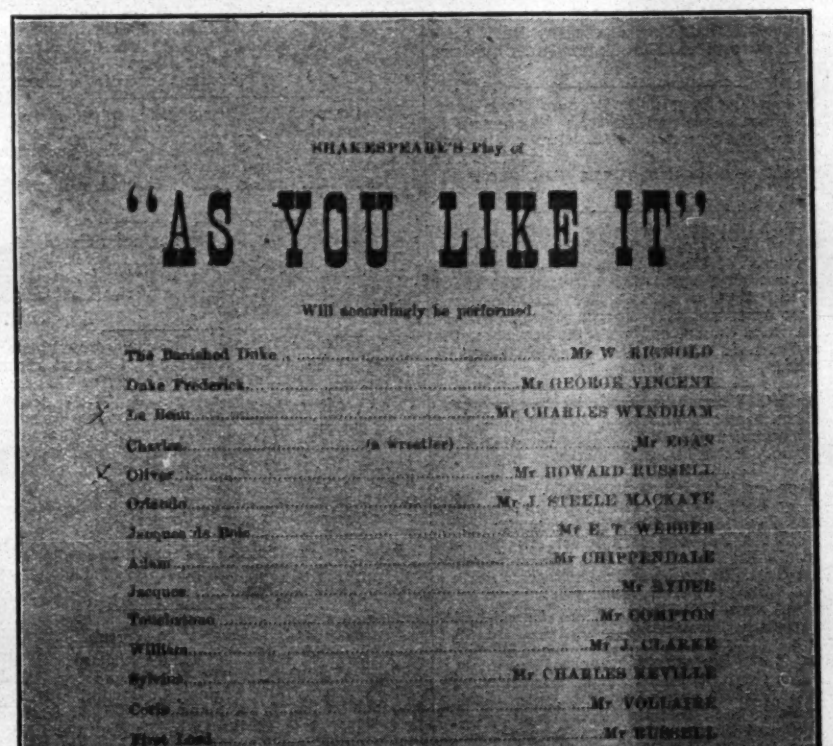

SHAKESPEARE'S Play of

"AS YOU LIKE IT"

Will accordingly be performed.

The Banished Duke ..... Mr W. RIGNOLD
Duke Frederick ..... Mr GEORGE VINCENT
Le Beau ..... Mr CHARLES WYNDHAM
Charles (a wrestler) ..... Mr EDAN
Oliver ..... Mr HOWARD RUSSELL
Orlando ..... Mr J. STEELE MACKAYE
Jaques de Bois ..... Mr E. T. WEBBER
Adam ..... Mr CHIPPENDALE
Jacques ..... Mr RYDER
Touchstone ..... Mr COMPTON
William ..... Mr J. CLARKE
Sylvius ..... Mr CHARLES REVILLE
Corin ..... Mr VOLLAIRE
First Lord ..... Mr RUSSELL
Second Lord ..... Mr DEWHURST
Amiens ..... Mr GEORGE FISHER
(In which character he will sing "Under the Greenwood Tree," and "Blow, blow, thou winter wind.")
Celia ..... Miss HENRIETTA HODSON
Phebe ..... Miss KATE BISHOP
Audrey ..... Miss E. FITZWILLIAM
(All of whom have most kindly given their valuable aid on the occasion.)
Rosalind ..... Miss HELEN FAUCIT

The Directors acknowledge, with sincere thanks, the great kindness of J. BUCKSTONE, F. B. CHATTERTON, J. GUIVER, H. J. MONTAGUE, H. NEVILLE, Miss HENRIETTA HODSON, Miss MARIE LITTON, and Mrs. SEYMOUR.

Stage Manager ..... Mr. CHIPPENDALE

Conductor ..... Mr. S. MAY
Pianiste ..... Mr. CLARKSON
(Who have kindly proffered their assistance)

[illegible] BY E. KIMBELL, 26, STRAND.

Miss Henrietta Hodson, whose biography we have last week, played Celia in a matinée given under the auspices of Miss Helen Faucit for the benefit of the Royal General Theatrical Fund at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday Dec. 20, 1873. There are now only three surviving members of this exceptional cast, namely, Mr. Chas. Wyndham (now Sir Charles), Mr. Howard Russell, and Miss Kate Bishop.

THE GEORGE WEIR FUND.

Mr. Henry Ainley, the hon. secretary of the above fund, has received the following additional subscriptions for the widow and children of the late George Weir:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already subscribed	233	3	0
J. G. and L. M. Earle	2	2	0
Henry Vibart	2	2	0
Robert Courtneidge	2	2	0
Per Mrs. Benson	2	2	0
Anon.	2	2	0
Anon.	2	2	0
Forbes Robertson	2	0	0
O. B. Clarence	2	0	0
Mrs. and Miss Morrogh	2	0	0
S. C. and F. M. C.	1	1	0
H. Athol Forde	1	1	0
J. M. Dent	1	1	0
Harry Farmer	1	0	0
United Bank and Land Club	1	0	0
Miss Hutchins	1	0	0
Miss Chaplin	0	10	6
Miss Dorothy Green	0	10	6
C. M. Lowne	0	10	0
Miss Waller	0	10	0
Arthur Machen	0	10	0
Miss Swanston	0	10	0
J. Roper Spyers	0	10	0
Chris. Walker	0	5	0
Miss Evans	0	5	0
Vincent Holman	0	2	6
Anon.	0	2	6
Miss Parrott	0	2	0
Miss Ednisson	0	1	0
Total	£262	7	0

A MANAGER POET.

Mr. Herbert Trench has written a poem, which has appeared in the *English Review* for November. It is called

"THE HORN OF THE MOON.

"I stood by the oak at the full of the Moon
When all the far country was clear, O!
And the bird of the forest kept singing a tune,
The word I would say to my dear, O!

"And I roofed my roof-tree at the wane of the Moon
That nothing might warp him or burn him,
And I wished a deep wish at the new of the Moon
And sealed him where no man should learn him.

"But she branded my heart at the new of the Moon
And my wound it grew deep beyond measure,
Till I sent her soft gallant, that begged for a boon,
A blade that was red, for his pleasure.

"O bright my love's tresses at full o' the Moon,
And nothing in beauty shone rarer,
Sleeping her fill in the face of the Moon—
Never a footfall to scare her!

"And these hands that slew her at rise of the Moon
Did mix him with night everlasting:
But the bird of the forest keeps singing a tune
That mine is a care there's no casting.

"Hang my powder-horn on the horn o' the Moon!
The deer of the bracken may flout me,
The hunt shall be up at the pale of the Moon
And the lordings go hunting without me!"

Hermann Sudermann and "Die Ehre."

HERMANN SUDERMANN says Ashley Dukes in the *New Age*, arrived at a critical point in the history of the German Theatre. In 1889 the revolutionary Freie Bühne (the Free Stage), discoverer of Hauptmann and pioneer of Ibsen, was established in Berlin. In November of the same year Sudermann's first play, *Die Ehre*, appeared at the Lessing Theater, and was received with an enthusiasm altogether beyond its merits. The early catchwords of Ibsenism and advanced drama had just reached the ears of the general public, and the audience, steeped in the demi-monde sentiment of Dumas and theatricality of Sardou, welcomed Sudermann as the prophet of a new era. He tempered the Scandinavian winds to these shorn lambs of the theatre. He nursed them tenderly, adding a cautious teaspoonful of modernity to their mother's milk in order to flatter their vanity and assist digestion. "Honour" was his theme—the honour of an officer and a gentleman. He attacked the conception with bourgeois bravado. He ridiculed the duel as a vehicle of personal satisfaction. But in place of honour he had nothing to offer but vague and pretentious sentiment, theatricality and falsehood. There is not one glimmer of reality in the whole play, and the hero, a young merchant, is a man of straw upon whose making no artist could conceivably have wasted an hour. All this may have appeared highly revolutionary to a Prussian Junker or an officer in a cavalry regiment, but after Ibsen it contributed less than nothing to drama. The production of *Die Ehre*, in short, was a landmark in theatrical history, but not in the history of the theatre. Sudermann, however, had displeased the military caste, and his next play, *Sodoms Ende*, was condemned as immoral, and suspended for a time by order of the Court. This was unfortunate, for there is nothing which stamps an author as "advanced" so distinctively as a conflict with the censorship, and nothing (in Germany) so likely to gain him popular respect as an artist. Sudermann was instantly classed with his betters, Ibsen, Hauptmann, and Strindberg, although in reality *Sodoms Ende* was as trivial a piece of work as *Die Ehre*.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE has kindly lent His Majesty's Theatre to the Royal College of Music for a performance of Schumann's opera *Genoveva*, to celebrate the centenary of the composer's birth, on Friday afternoon.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT is resuming his kindly efforts on behalf of hospital institutions, and on Dec. 14 next, at the Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone, will tell the story, as arranged by himself from the author's text, of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol," in aid of the Royal Victoria Hospital. The Countess of Radnor will preside.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER will produce Mr. R. C. Carton's new comedy, *Eccentric Lord Comberdene*, on Saturday evening next. Mr. Alexander will be supported by Messrs. Arthur Royston, Stuart Dennison, G. Trevor Roller, Athol Stewart, Fred Lewis, Lyston Lyle, Ashton Pearse, J. H. Barnes, T. Weguelin, E. Vivian Reynolds, Gerald Ames, James Standish, W. Pilling, Frank Rorke, and Frank Arundel, Miss Compton, Miss Rita Jolivet, Miss Ruth Maitland, and Miss Majorie. The play opens in the Lounge of the Imperial Hotel, Shingleford Bay. In the second act we are taken to Room No. 57 of the hotel, and Act III. passes to the Deck of The Morning Star.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES might readily be pardoned for giving himself a short rest. With so many theatres on his hands that, however, is just what he is unable to do. He will go to Vienna next week to see the new musical play, *The Doll Girl*, the libretto of which is by Mr. Victor Leon, and the music by Dr. Leo Fall. Mr. Edwardes obtained an option upon the piece both for England and America some time since.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY to-night concludes a highly successful visit to the New Theatre, Cardiff, where Mr. Redford has been hard pressed to find accommodation for all those who have been desirous of witnessing Mr. Harvey's various performances. *The Only Way*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *Richard III.* have been the plays of the week, and it would be hard to say which has proved most attractive.

THE Prince's Theatre, Bristol, will be the scene of Mr. Harvey's artistic operations next week, and, judging by the advance booking, a highly successful visit is assured. On Monday week Mr. Harvey and his company will be at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, where the popular actor is arranging to repeat his lecture on the subject of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. Mr. Harvey is thoroughly delighted with the interest which is being taken in his various deliveries of this address.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES sailed for New York on Wednesday to superintend rehearsals of his new play, which is to be produced there about Christmas. The principal character is a woman, who is at odds with society, and battles desperately with her fate. Mr. Jones, before leaving England, completed a one-act play, called *Dolly's Little Bills*, founded on the quarrel scene in *Dolly Reforming Herself*. It will be presented at the Hippodrome about Christmas.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING has a heavy cast for his new play, *The Unwritten Law*, which will be produced at the Garrick on Monday. In addition to himself and his clever wife, Miss Mabel Hackney, the list consists of Messrs. Frank Esmond, Rupert Harvey, James Skea, W. Barnett, Wentworth Fane, Charles Seymour, Montague Lane, A. Field Fisher, Dalziel Heron, C. Roberts, A. Dodd, P. Simmonds, J. Woodhouse, Clive Terrance, I. Jones, J. Arnold, and Henry Elmore, and Misses Leonora Oakford, Alice Inman, Mabel Nelson, May Ediss, Doris Vaile, Evie Stuart, Gertrude Bill, Beatrice Smith, and Dorothy Hill.

MISS LENA ASHWELL will sail for New York in December, to appear there in Mr. C. M. S. McLellan's drama *Judith Zaraine*, but will reappear at the Kingsway early in the coming year in a new play by Mr. H. V. Esmond, entitled *The House of Ussher*. It has only five characters and only one scene.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, who arrived in America last week, after an absence of three years, was to begin her ninth American tour at the Hudson Theatre, on the 3rd inst. Miss Terry will remain in America for twenty weeks, giving a series of Shakespearean discourses, with illustrative acting, in the principal cities. Miss Terry told the interviewers that she had come to America to pick up silver dollars to plant in her garden in Kent; that she was a suffragette, but would not march in any parades; and that she was strongly opposed to the movement which well-meaning people had started to keep children off the stage, which she characterised as "a great mistake."

THE distinguished actress carried a tiny pot of white heather, which Mr. Henry Dickens had given her for luck when she sailed. Her first lecture at the Hudson Theatre was devoted to "The Heroines of Shakespeare—Triumphant." This will be followed by another discourse called "The Heroines of Shakespeare—Pathetic." The third and final lecture will be on "The Letters in Shakespeare's Plays."

AT the close of the first lecture Mr. Percy Mackaye was to read the poem of greeting which he had written for the souvenir gift to be presented to Miss Terry. This is a vellum-bound volume containing the signatures of President Taft and of almost every person of prominence in literature and the drama in New York.

THE King and Queen have graciously given their patronage to the benefit concert to Sir Charles Santley, which is being arranged for May 12 next, under the auspices of the Lady Mayoress. Covent Garden has been promised for the occasion, and many famous artists have offered their services. Sir Herbert Tree has undertaken the organisation of the entertainment, and will himself appear in *Julius Cæsar*. Sir Charles Santley will appear in *The Watermen;* and a selection from grand opera will be included in the programme. Sir Homewood Crawford is to be the hon. treasurer.

AT the fancy dress ball at Covent Garden on Saturday morning Mr. Willie Clarkson was successful in obtaining first prize for a lady's domino, entitled "The Dawn of a Bright To-morrow."

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has definitely decided to revive for a season of six weeks Maeterlinck's fairy play, *The Blue Bird*, at the Haymarket, on Dec. 19. Two performances will be given daily, and the cast, with one or two exceptions, will be the same as last year. The new act, which has been specially written by M. Maeterlinck for this revival, is entitled The Palace of Happiness. *Priscilla Runs Away* will be transferred to another theatre.

MR. ARTHUR WILLIAMS has been engaged to take up Mr. Fred Emney's part of Cornelius Scrop in *The Girl in the Train* at the Vaudeville Theatre on the 19th inst. The character should suit Mr. Williams exactly.

IT is sometimes doubted if the romantic accidents which are represented as occurring to racehorses in dramas and novels are founded on fact, but several instances are given in Mr. Alfred E. T. Watson's article on Mr. George Edwardes's racing career, in the *Badminton Magazine*. The writer says of Santoi: "In the Cesarewitch Santoi carried 9st. 7lb., a burden with which, needless to say, the race has never been secured; and then came the Jockey Club Cup, about which I have to write with caution. The colt, usually so full of life, was dull and listless on the morning of the race, and many of those who saw him in the Birdcage would have nothing to do with him. Nevertheless he started at 11 to 8 on, and, in the circumstances, it is strange that he should have done as well as he did, running second to King's Courier, beaten only by a couple of lengths. Mr. Edwardes and his horse were, there can be no doubt, victims of a conspiracy. Someone who had access to Santoi did not wish him to win, and took care that he should not do so. The horse was never quite the same afterwards, though he ran well as a five-year-old." Another instance was that of Fairy Field, who "was probably injured to an extent which cannot be estimated by the iniquitous carelessness of a boy who brought him from Stockton after he had won his second race. This promising youth had won some money on the colt, and when he got to London thought he would enjoy himself. Fairy Field was left in his box at Clapham Junction without food or drink for twenty-four hours."

MR. LYN HARDING, at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, on Monday, reappeared in his masterly characterisation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott in *The Speckled Band*, and aroused remarkable enthusiasm. Mr. Harding continues his performances in this part next week at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, where, the other day, he was playing Sir Walter Ralegh, as companion start with Miss Winifred Emery in Mr. Devereux's drama of the same name.

MME. KATE FLINN gave a reception in the Clarence Rooms of the Brighton Hotel Metropole on Saturday. The programme was carried out (save for the instrumental part) entirely by Mme. Kate Flinn's Brighton and London pupils, who were entirely successful. Miss Gladys Nelson was heard to great advantage in "Heaps of lichens" and "In my garden"; Phyllis Weeks secured commendation in "Ombra mai fu"; Muriel Franlinski, a child prodigy with a voice of remarkable power, gave the Jewel Song and "Nymphs et sylvains."

AMONGST the London pupils Miss Golda Clarke and Miss Ruby Cobbell fully deserved the applause they received. Miss Golda Clarke, a beautiful soprano from Australia, did full justice to Batten's "April morn" and "Al Ballo," by Sconzin, and in response to a hearty recall, she gave "Mifanwy" and "I know a lovely garden." Miss Cobbell also won encores for "Che Farò" and "A lilt of tears," by Lady Garioch. Miss Freda Hogan gave an artistic rendering of "Solvieg's Lied." Miss Dorothy Fitzgerald was encored for her song and dance, "I'm a naughty girl," and Elsie Rowell's recitation, "The Round Tower of J'hansi," and her quaint song and dance gained deserved favour. Maud Violette sang with much grace "Les Belles Manières." The rooms were crowded, and among the guests were Lord and Lady George Loftus, Lady Wheeler, Lady Miéville, Mrs. Holman (Mayoress of Lewes), the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton, Countess de Morel, and Lady Payne.

THE recent change in the directorate of the Guildhall School of Music calls to mind a distinguishing feature of its development. Although the school has been in existence but thirty years, its diplomas during that comparatively short period have reached not only every corner of the British Isles, but the most distant colonies; indeed, in India, Ceylon, Burmah, the Straits Settlements, and the Far East, are to be found an enormous number of its pupils. At the present moment there are 3,000 students studying singing, instrumental playing, and other branches of music, acting, and elocution at the Guildhall. The number constitutes a wonderful record, and is not reached by any other school in the world.

SINCE its inauguration the school has done invaluable work by reviving a number of exceedingly interesting operas, producing them on the stage which forms part of the building. Weber's melodious *Oberon*, which has not been heard in London since 1879, will shortly be given by the pupils of the opera class.

MISS N. DE SILVA (Mrs. Martin Harvey) has sustained a severe bereavement in the death of her mother, which occurred last week at Mr. Harvey's residence at Regent's Park after a long illness. The sympathy of Miss De Silva's many friends and admirers will be readily extended to her in her sad loss.

IT is with the deepest regret we announce the death of Mr. Frank Emery, the beloved father of Miss Pollie Emery, which sad event occurred at Southport on Tuesday. It will be remembered that for a number of years Mr. Emery was lessee and manager of the Amphitheatre and of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, and for some time stage-manager for the late Wilson Barrett upon his American tours. His record was a long and interesting one, and he died in harness. His last engagement was with the original *House of Temperley* company, at the Adelphi and also on tour. In this piece he played the part of George Maddocks, the coster. His death is greatly mourned by his brother and sister artists and by all who knew him, and the deepest sympathy is felt for his clever daughter, Miss Pollie Emery, in her sad bereavement. The funeral took place on Friday.

THE programme of the Actresses' Franchise League and the Women Writers' Suffrage League on Friday next at the Aldwych Theatre, includes the names of many theatrical celebrities. In the "Pageant of Great Women" Miss Lily Brayton will represent Justice, Miss Lillah McCarthy Woman, and Mr. Henry Ainley, Prejudice. Among those who will impersonate the historical characters are Misses Lena Ashwell, Evelyn D'Alroy, Amy Brandon Thomas, Helen Haye, Dora Barton, Eva Moore, Decima Moore, Doris Lytton, Edith Olive, Suzanne Sheldon, and Gertrude Kingston. Other Suffrage societies will also be represented in the persons of Mrs. Despard, Miss Frances Stirling, and Lady Constance Lytton. Two short plays by "George Paston" and Miss Cicely Hamilton respectively will present Miss Marion Terry, Mr. Arthur Chesney, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Agnes Thomas, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother in effective rôles. Special items of the programme will be furnished by Miss Gertie Millar. Miss Evie Greene. Miss Olive Walters, of *The Blue Bird* fame, and many other leading actresses who have never before been actively associated with the Suffrage movement. Programmes will be sold at sixpence, under the direction of Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and tea will be obtainable also at a modest price.

MR. FRANK BERESFORD has been approached by Mr. Leonard Rayne on behalf of Miss Ada Reeve's South African tour, to stage-manage and play lead in sketches.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON, who was unable through indisposition to appear last year at Birkenhead, did not disappoint the New Theatre Royal patrons this time, and opened with his entire London company the production of *Brewster's Millions* to a full house last Monday evening. Judging by his reception at the rise and fall of the curtain there was no doubt with regard to the popularity of his performance as Monty Brewster, in which Mr. Hutchison has scored a great success.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH and his company began an engagement at the Belasco Theatre, Washington, on the 31st ult., presenting *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* for the first time in the United States. President and Mrs. Taft and several members of the Diplomatic Corps attended the performance. Mr. Grossmith and his play were very well received, the applause being frequent and hearty.

MISS KATE WALBRAN concludes a successful eleven months' engagement with the De Jong-Black company in South Africa at the end of November, and after perhaps a few weeks' holiday to visit some of the portions of the country that have not been included in her travels, will return to England. The excursion abroad has whetted Miss Walbran's appetite for fresh fields and pastures new, and she has the intention to attack other foreign managers, particularly American. The number of the parts she has played and the uniform success that she has achieved in all her rôles should augur well for the result of her quest.

AN exhibition of Miss Walbran's resourcefulness is placed on record by a South African paper. While she was playing Lady Dudley there came a slight pause, and another lady ought to have come on. She did not; and a voice from the O.P. side was heard in urgent whisper, "Say something!" And then for what seemed like five minutes—no doubt it was considerably less—to those who were in the know, Miss Walbran gave an exhibition of cool, resourceful gagging, with nothing in tone, matter, or delivery to suggest to those who did not know the piece that there was anything wrong.

THERE was a packed audience at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Thursday evening, the 3rd, when a complimentary benefit was given to Mr. Fred Erown, the acting-manager. The company playing *Can a Woman be Good?* which was last week's attraction, only presented one act, as the variety programme was too lengthy to admit of the whole drama being played. The curtain was raised at 7 p.m., and did not fall until past midnight.

THE following variety artists and many others contributed to the big and varied programme:—Winnie Barr, Jennie Claremont, Brothers Horne, Ruby Zethos, James Bendon, Florrie Brown, Nellie Tate, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Pinky Martini, Young and Evans, Johnny Cecil, Beattie Brothers, and Lottie Lennox.

DURING the evening Mr. Brown was brought forward by Mr. Steve McCarthy, chairman of the benefit committee. Mr. Brown, he said, deserved a successful benefit, as the last he had was seven years ago. He had been at the Pavilion Theatre for thirty-two years. Mr. Brown briefly returned thanks.

MR. AND MRS. NORMAN A. OVERTON (Anna Beaumont) have completed their 200th performance in the drama *Temptation*, Mr. Overton playing Hubert Thorne, the lading heavy part, and Miss Beaumont that of Mrs. Oxon, the comedy old lady.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL'S new play, *The Coastguard's Daughter*, will be given its London production on Monday next at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. This fine, strong naval play was originally called *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*. Such an allegorical title was found to be inappropriate to so stirring a naval drama, and under its new name the success already won by the play will be greatly enhanced.

MR. F. C. WHITNEY has made early arrangement for Christmas, and announces that there will be twelve performances of *The Chocolate Soldier* at the Lyric Theatre in Boxing Week.

A NEW one-act play, entitled *The Menders of Nets*, by Philip Gibbs, will be produced at the Queen's Theatre this (Saturday) evening. The cast will consist of Miss Beryl Faber, Miss Frances Wetherall, Mr. Frederick Worlock, and Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore. It may be added that a very similar title, *A Mender of Nets*, was used for a one-act play by Cosmo Hamilton, produced at the Court Theatre in the December of 1907.

MISS CLAIRE TOWNSHEND, who has been so successful in the part of Mrs. Frank Perry in *Are You a Mason?* has been specially re-engaged by General Productions, Ltd., to play all the leading parts in the Grand Theatre Répertoire Company, which starts a long tour at the Grand Theatre, Scarborough, on Jan. 23, 1911. Miss Townshend will also appear in the West End when General Productions produce their new piece, which will be as soon as a theatre is settled on.

A QUARTET of new plays—one of them in four acts—was produced for copyright purposes at the Assembly Rooms, Balham, on Saturday, by Mr. R. Malcolm Morley's company. The novelties consisted of *Her Father's Wife; or, End It as You Will*, a dramatisation by David and Astrid Kimball, of Maarten Maartens' story; *The Mother or the Son*, a dramatisation by David Kimball, of Prosper Merimée's *Matteo Falcone; The Trial of Jeanne D'Arc*, a play, in four acts, translated by Astrid Kimball, from Emile Moreau; and *The God of His Fathers*, a dramatisation, by David Kimball, of Jack Linden's story.

MISS GRACE DENBEIGH-RUSSELL has been engaged by Mr. Brandon Thomas to play Kitty Verdun in *Charley's Aunt* for three weeks, until she commences rehearsing with Mr. Auguste Van Biene for *The Broken Melody*, in which she is to enact the Duchesse de Vervier.

MR. H. G. DUDLEY-BENNETT has arranged that his fifteenth annual pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre shall be produced by Mr. G. Brydon Phillips. A very strong company has been engaged. Mr. Phillips is also to repeat at the New Theatre, Oxford, for Mr. C. C. Dorrill, the experiment tried last season of producing a pantomime on Boxing Day in the University town, it having proved such an unqualified success.

EVERY possible success should attend Mr. Tom Watt in his next tour of *East Lynne*, which he starts at Christmas. With the aid of a well-known author, the old play will appear with a new lease of life, and from the prospective bookings, it should be a very successful one. Mr. Watt will keep up the high standard of general excellence with the aid of a first-class company of experienced artists, printing, &c. The many resident-managers with whom Mr. Watt has done business in the past, and who cherish a personal regard for his unswerving courtesy and strict business principles, will wish him every success in his venture. Miss Ida Heron will repeat her fine impersonation of Lady Isabel, and Mr. Frank Beresford will appear as Archibald Carlyle. The tour is under the personal direction of Mr. Tom Watt, and the production and stage management will be in the safe hands of Mr. Beresford.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN gave a somewhat novel performance of a selection of scenes from Shakespeare's tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Crystal Palace Theatre, before his special production of *David Garrick*, Miss Beatrice Wilson appearing as Romeo to the Juliet of Miss Kathleen Rind, a former member of Mr. Norman's company, who has now left the stage. The Mercutio was Mr. H. Lock Whittaker; and the Benvolio Mr. Campbell Cargill. Miss Wilson is one of the few actresses who has essayed the part of Romeo.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES closed last Saturday a successful tour of *Miss Tommy* at the Opera House, Blackpool, and resumed her music-hall engagements at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, Nov. 7, where she was greeted with a very flattering reception on her appearance as Mme. Sans Gêne, in her new sketch, *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, which scored a distinct and unqualified success. Miss Hughes is ably supported by Mr. Henry Deas as Napoleon and Mr. Mayne Lynton as Fouché.

ON Monday, Nov. 14, Miss Hughes will produce at Liverpool a new dramatic duologue, which she has acquired absolutely from the author, Mr. W. Douglas Newton, entitled *The Fourth Kiss*. In this Miss Hughes will have the assistance of Mr. Mayne Lynton. Liverpool is followed by Manchester for two weeks with the above-named sketches, and on Dec. 5 Miss Hughes will return to the Syndicate halls, opening at the Metropolitan.

MISS ALICE O'DEA, who recently made such a success as Madge Thomas, in *Strife*, in the provinces, has concluded a tour with Miss Annie Hughes, and has been specially engaged by Miss Horniman to play in *Press Cuttings* in special performances at Manchester and Oxford.

THE "Play Actors" will produce at the Court Theatre on the 20th inst. a new three-act play by Mr. Morley Roberts and "Henry Seton," entitled *False Dawn*. Mr. Hubert Druce will produce it, and in it will appear Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. H. Nye Chart, Miss Marie Linden, Miss Esme Beringer, and Miss Gilian Scaife.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR must withdraw *Behind the Veil* from the Coronet this evening to make room for Mr. George Edwardes's *Merry Widow* company, which includes Miss Louie Pounds and Mr. Basil Foster.

WE regret to announce the death of Mrs. Baines, the mother of Miss Florence Baines, proprietress of the *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, company, which occurred on Nov. 2. The funeral took place last Saturday. Including the number of friends who assembled round the graveside were some old theatrical identities, and all the members of Miss Baines's companies sent some beautiful floral tributes. In another column Miss Baines thanks her many friends for their letters of condolence and floral tributes.

ONE of the numerous presents highly treasured by the late Mr. Lester Collingwood, of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, was a "Queen of Hearts" breast-pin, presented to him by Mr. George Robey. Mr. Collingwood's executors have given this pin to Mr. W. T. Guest, who was the late "Guv'nor's" "spic and span" acting-manager, and who is now working hard at the theatre.

MR. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN will conclude his performances of the part of Pete on Nov. 26, after two successful tours, and with his wife, Miss Marie Florence, will join the Gaiety Theatre company at Manchester under Miss Horniman's management.

MR. WELTON DALE, the popular proprietor of the Tunbridge Wells Opera House, who is better known in private life as Major Eggerton, has just been elected a Town Councillor of this fashionable borough by a big majority.

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON has been correctly described in the Press recently as "the most energetic and enterprising actor-manager in the English provinces to-day." His future plans embrace the lesseeship of other theatres beyond the beautiful Opera House, Southport, the production of *Arsène Lupin* at Blackpool next month, acquiring the entire provincial rights of two recent London successes, and sending on tour early next spring four Hutchison comedies, all produced under his personal supervision.

MISS LILLIAN WILLIAMS has been specially engaged by Mr. Fredk. Mouillot for a tour of *A Message from Mars*.

THE pantomime at the Lyric, Hammersmith, will be *Cinderella*, and will be written by Fred S. Jennings, with music by Ashley Richards. Miss Kittee Rayburn will again be principal boy, Miss Marie Free will be Cinderella, Dandini will be played by Miss Maude Esmond, the Ugly Sisters by the Bros. Obo, the Baron by Mr. Templer Ellis, the Baroness by Miss Marie West, and the Page by Mr. Frank Hemming. A speciality will be supplied by the Monte Video Sextette of acrobatic dancers. The production will be under the personal supervision of Mr. Wentworth Croke.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Morgan on the birth of a daughter. Mr. Morgan is at present playing Captain Caversham in *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*.

MR. CHARLES HARTLEY and Miss Ethel Gordon Paull will start their fourth European tour with their own entertainment on Jan. 2 at Geneva. After visiting the Italian Riviera, they will embark for Egypt, where they will give several performances.

A DUEL with swords was fought at the Parc des Princes, near Paris, on Tuesday, between M. Marnold, a musical critic, and M. Mathot, Press correspondent, who took exception to an allusion to himself which appeared over M. Marnold's signature. Up to the sixth round, after fifty-five minutes of fencing, no advantage was obtained by either side, but then M. Marnold was pinked in the right thigh, and the doctors prevented any further bloodshed. The adversaries were not reconciled.

MR. H. K. AYLIFF, the well-known actor, was on Saturday presented by his wife with a daughter. Hearty congratulations!

THAT "merry and bright" musical absurdity *Chasing Cynthia* was staged at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, last week-end, and it created a very favourable impression. Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. Arthur Poole, and Mr. Mark Lester are well known at this popular seaside resort, and they met with a great reception at the various performances.

THE Theatre Royal, Worthing, which has been rebuilt, and which is now admittedly one of the best theatres on the South Coast, will for the next fortnight be given over to variety entertainments. After that Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, the courteous and obliging manager, has arranged for *The Bad Girl of the Family* to make her début locally. Another short season of variety will then be given, and in the meantime the preparation of the pantomime *Aladdin* will be gone on with. We hear that this year's pantomime, which will be undertaken by Mr. J. D. Hunter, will be on a gorgeous scale and that it is likely to surpass all previous efforts at Worthing.

MR. W. W. KELLY continues to appeal with success to Mersey-side playgoers at his Liverpool and Birkenhead theatres. Throughout the week Mr. Percy Hutchison, in *Brewster's Millions*, has drawn crowds of playgoers, and the engagement of Messrs. T. C. Wray and Austen Hurgon's company, in *The Girls of Gottenberg*, at Mr. Kelly's Liverpool theatre, has been a pronounced success, "Smith" and Miss Dora Langham winning the chief honours with very spirited performances.

AT Kelly's Theatre next week, Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, in *The Silver King*, with Mr. Edward J. George as Jaikes, will be the attraction. The fare at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal will be Mr. Gaston Mayer's company, in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, with Miss Lucy Beaumont as the estimable heroine. Mr. Kelly has engaged Cavalière F. Castellano's company to appear in a round of Italian operas at Kelly's Theatre, commencing Nov. 21.

AT the Grand Theatre, Croydon, the George Edwardes *Dollar Princess* company last week broke all the records this season, the receipts for the seven performances being close on three figures. For Friday and Saturday the seats in the better parts of the house were entirely sold out days previously, and hundreds who 'phoned and called to book were doomed to disappointment. The pit and gallery were crowded out at early doors and hundreds turned away.

DECIDED successes have been made by Miss Gurney Delaporte, Miss Gladys Beech, Miss Adie Boyne, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Arthur Poole, and Mr. Frank Stanmore, in the new musical comedy *Chasing Cynthia*. According to the Hastings press, if the company were to appear in London they would take the town by storm. Never before, it is asserted, have so many genuine stars appeared at the local Gaiety in one company. Last Saturday night, moreover, at Worthing, the house was packed at early doors, hundred being unable to gain admittance.

MRS. CHASE, the mother of Miss Pauline Chase, was buried at Marlow, Bucks, on Thursday. The body of Mrs. Chase, who died in America, was brought from New York for interment.

THE Worshipful Company of Musicians are offering a prize of 50 guineas for a march for full orchestra suitable for performances at festivities held in celebration of the Coronation of King George V. The freedom of the company will also be conferred upon the successful composer. The competition is open only to British subjects, and the adjudicators include such famous musicians as Sir Hubert Parry and Sir Frederick Bridge.

AT the request of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Mr. Brandon Thomas organised a special company to fulfil bookings with *Charley's Aunt* at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, this week, and the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, next week. The Grand Theatre, Hull, and Theatre Royal, Newcastle follow. Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm is playing the title-rôle, and the company also consists of Messrs. C. F. Collings, Sydney Compton, Francis Drake, Cecil Kerr, Edward Christopher, and George Seager. Miss Helen Palgrave, Miss Bertha Northam, Miss Gladys Storey, Miss Ruth Henton, and Miss Nancy Harding. Mr. Cecil Barth is the manager.

MR. WALTER HOWARD'S latest romantic play, *The Boy King*, produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Oct. 3 last, ran twenty-four consecutive nights at the theatre, and all records for Walter Howard's plays were broken. The company is at the Court Theatre, Wigan, next week, with Miss Annie Saker and Mr. Walter Howard in their original parts. Such is the phenomenal success of the production that two companies of equal strength (North and South) will tour at Christmas. Arrangements are now in progress for its appearance at Christmas at a West End theatre.

ANOTHER romance of the stage occurred on the 29th ult., when Mr. Frank Jay Gould, a member of the American family of millionaires, was married at the Sheriff's Court House, Edinburgh, to Miss Edith Kelly, an English actress. The bride was for some time in the chorus at the Gaiety Theatre, and was one of the dancers in *The Girls of Gottenberg* when that piece was produced there in May, 1907. Later on she did more ambitious work in America, for at the Knickerbocker Theatre, when she was with Miss Gertie Millar, she took Miss Olive May's part of the maid in *The Girls of Gottenberg;* while, later, at the Casino, New York, where Mr. Gould first saw her and made her acquaintance, she performed a pretty dance in *Havana*.

THE Crystal Palace Theatre will have an important attraction next week, during which Mr. Leonard Boyne will appear as Raffles in the great West End success of that name. The company supporting will be Messrs. Carlaw Grand, Stephen Wentworth, Edward Irwin, Harold West, Buckstone Clair, Arthur Fitzgerald, Henry Armstrong, and Francis Drake, and Misses Blanka Stewart, Beatrice Fitzgerald, Eva Killick, Kathleen Grey, and May Brooke.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT began her American tour on the 31st ult. at the Studebaker Theatre, Chicago, appearing as L'Aiglon in the play of that name, written especially for her by M. Rostand. The floral tributes were numerous and of extraordinary beauty, some of them being sent from a great distance. There were also telegrams and cablegrams by the score. There was a storm of applause after the first act, and Mme. Bernhardt was evidently delighted with the reception. A Chicago newspaper says that she "smiled as bewitchingly as a girl of twenty."

A MEETING of the Committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held at the Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, on the 4th inst. Present: Mr. Wentworth Croke (in the chair), Mr. H. Ralland, Mr. H. A. Langlois, Mr. G. Brydon-Phillips, Mr. Arthur Bertram, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). A member reported a baggage man who, after receiving his salary, ran away without warning, and it was decided to enter the name in the black list. A cheque was received for fees in a recent arbitration case, and the secretary was instructed to open a special charity account and pay the amount in. A flagrant case of breach of contract by two chorus ladies was brought before the committee by a manager, and it was decided that the penalty in the contract should be duly enforced against them and handed to a theatrical charity, as the breaking of chorus engagements in pantomimes is becoming a very serious question for managers.

A MEETING of the committee of the Managers' Club was held on the 4th inst. Present: Mr. M. V. Leveaux (in the chair), Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. Arthur Bertram, Mr. H. Ralland, Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. M. Martin (secretary). The following gentlemen were duly elected members of the club: Mr. T. V. Walter, Mr. John B. Glover, Mr. W. A. Leishman, Mr. Albert Ward, Mr. Harry A. Spoor, Mr Medley Barrett, Mr. Hamilton Deane, Mr. Merlin Morgan, Mr. A. H. Majilton, Mr. W. F. Crowe, and Mr. William Clark. At a special meeting held on Oct. 7, the following gentlemen were elected: Mr. George Howard, Mr. Nevill Graham, Mr. Harry Barford, Mr. John Hyman, Mr. John Tiller, and Mr. Leslie Hughes.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Miss Terry as a Godmother.

It was Miss Ellen Terry's interest in the cowboy actor, Young Buffalo, which first led him to consider the advisability of visiting England. She was in Toronto when she first saw him play, and for three weeks her tour and his tour coincided. Five times she engaged boxes at matinées to see the production, and it grew upon her. She got to know the Indians and the squaws, as well as the other members of the company, and became the friend of all of them. When a little redskin baby was born she stood as godmother, while Young Buffalo acted as godfather. They named the child Terry Buffalo.

Her Hereditary Instinct.

"You know Mr. Maude has made his money out of things which have been absolutely stupid nonsense," remarked Miss Winifred Emery the other day to a representative of the *Birmingham Daily Mail*. "Of course, he has made it all seem very funny, and the public has enjoyed it; but I could not possibly attempt that sort of cleverness. Some people like to see you sit down and when you get up find your dress is covered with green paint. They will roar with laughter at a thing like that, but I couldn't do it. Perhaps that is due to my early training and to the influence of heredity."

So Very Bad.

"It certainly was a very indifferent melodrama which was being played by a very indifferent company at the Town Hall of Slocombe-on-the-Slush," says Mr. Pélissier in *Tit-Bits*. "As a result, business had been deplorably bad. For the Wednesday matinée several members of a musical comedy company, which was appearing at the Theatre Royal in the same town, came over to see the rival performance. As is generally known, the custom in the theatrical profession is for actors and actresses to be passed into the auditorium free, when possible, on presentation of their cards. That was done on this occasion. The show had been running for half an hour when the box-office man dashed up to the manager, crying, 'Guv'nor, there is a row in front.' 'What's up? Got a rush of patrons?' asked the boss, hoping against hope. 'No,' came the answer; 'one of the pros. says the show's so bad that he wants his card back!'"

The Wrong House.

"I recall an amusing happening which occurred during my first management at the Globe," says Mr. Charles Hawtrey in "My Reminiscences," in the *Strand Magazine*. "One evening a hatless man entered the theatre, explaining that his hat had fallen down from the gallery into the stalls and that the doorkeeper had told him to come to the front and ask for it. One of the attendants was sent down to fetch it, but after some little time, returned, saying that it could not be found. A second search proved equally fruitless, so at last the owner of the hat was asked to come downstairs to show exactly where it had fallen. He pointed out where he had been sitting in the gallery, and another search was made for the hat which, while it disturbed and annoyed several occupants of the stalls, was also unavailing.

"He was becoming very excited at the loss of his hat, when he was asked to show his pass-out check from the gallery, and, on his producing it my acting-manager at once saw that it was not ours. 'What theatre were you in?' he inquired. 'The Opera Comique,' replied the hatless one. 'Well, this is the Globe,' said he, 'so you had better go and look for your hat in the theatre where you dropped it.'

"Those who remember the respective positions of the two theatres will understand how the mistake arose. On being told by the gallery doorkeeper at the Opera Comique to 'go round to the front' he had turned into the front of the first theatre he came to, which was the Globe. The fact that at that time both theatres were upholstered in light blue added to the confusion. Even when told of his mistake he would, at first, hardly believe that he was in the wrong theatre."

Demoralising Drama.

"There was in the theatre," said Mr. Bernard Shaw in a lecture at the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, the other day, "a complete domination of what he described as 'the romantic view of life.' And this led him to contrast the influence of the theatre with the influence of the church. He did not know if they had noticed that people now went to the theatre and did not go to the church. That might not be the case in Glasgow, but it was so in London. There before the doors of the theatre opened you would see long queues of people standing on the pavement. You did not see that outside the doors of churches. People nowadays got their mind formed in the theatre, and they were the more effectually formed because they did not go to the theatre for that purpose. People might go to the church with the greatest regularity on Sunday and spend the rest of the week acting directly contrary to what they had heard in church. On the other hand, you would find people acting in accordance with the standpoint and the sentiments learned in the theatre. The romantic view of life learned in the theatre was evidenced in various ways. It was manifest among the criminal classes in the frequent cases reported of the use of firearms, resulting often in murder. It was noticeable also in international relations such as those between this country and Germany. 'The demoralisation spread by the art of the theatre at the present time is monstrous. You find an Emperor acting like a hero in melodrama.'

"Paying" Drama.

"It was not for lack of a literary drama, the plays were there, but they were not performed. The reason such plays were not performed was because they did not pay. It had been pointed out in an intelligent Glasgow newspaper that any cause that required to be bolstered up—that is this Repertory Theatre did not pay, it had better cease. He instanced a number of civic enterprises, such as the paving and lighting of streets and sanitation, which did not pay in a commercial sense, and yet these were of prime importance. If they were ceased in Glasgow because they did not pay, all the wise people would leave Glasgow, and all the unwise people would soon cease to exist. He argued that the same principle applied to the theatre. At the present time our theatres were run for commercial profit because they paid, and there was an overwhelming supply of crude and superficial drama.

The Court Season.

"He related his own experience at the Court Theatre, London, along with Mr. Granville Barker and Mr. Vedrenne. They produced there great plays (he instanced *The Trojan Women*, by Professor Murray), but it was found that they proved unprofitable, and now and again *You Never Can Tell* (of which he was heartily tired) had to be put on as a draw. They extended the movement to the West End of London, and after spending as much as they could afford the enterprise had to be abandoned. Mr. Charles Frohman, 'the Napoleon of the theatre,' started a repertory theatre, but that enterprise also vanished with startling suddenness. People must absolutely put aside all commercial considerations in order to get into their midst a good theatre, doing the best work possible. The fact that such theatres were not commercially profitable did not alter the fact that they were vitally necessary. They were necessary for the good of our young and for the sake of general culture. Such theatres mere commercial speculation could not possibly supply."

"THE QUAKER GIRL."

Musical Play, in Three Acts, Book by James T. Tanner, Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank, Music by Lionel Monckton, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Captain Charteris	MR. C. HAYDEN COFFIN
Jeremiah	MR. JAMES BLAKELEY
Monsieur Duhamel	MR. HERBERT ROSS
Prince Carlo	MR. G. CARVEY
Monsieur Larose	MR. D. J. WILLIAMS
William	MR. E. H. WYNNE
Nathaniel Pym	MR. HENRY KITTS
Jarge	MR. GEORGE BELLAMY
Tony Chute	MR. JOSEPH COYNE
Phœbe	MISS GRACIE LEIGH
Princess Mathilde	MISS ELSIE SPAIN
Diane	MISS PHYLLYS LE GRAND
Mme. Blum	MLLE. CAUMONT
Mrs. Lukin	MISS LUNA LOVE
Rachel Pym	MISS JENNIE RICHARDS
Toinette	MLLE. GINA PALERME
Gaby	MISS IRENE WARREN
Cleo	MISS KITTY MELROSE
Liane	MISS MABEL DUNCAN
Louise	MISS MARIE WEST
Prudence	MISS GERTIE MILLAR

When such an experienced craftsman as Mr. James T. Tanner prepares the book which is to be set before the patrons of a musical play, the result is sure to be appetising; and when his outline is embellished by the contributions of Messrs. Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank as lyricists, and by the melodious charms of Mr. Lionel Monckton's music, the success of the production can easily be prophesied. Mr. Tanner is too old a hand to waste much pains upon a complicated story. His theme is slight and simple. In old comedy, the Quakers were coarsely misunderstood, and treated with almost brutal ridicule. Their formalism was reckoned downright hypocrisy, and they were derided and reprobated severely. Nowadays, we do not go beyond gently objecting to their opposition to amusement. As the strict Quakers do not go to the theatres, and as the people who go to the theatre know nothing whatever about the modern Quakers, a playwright's hand is left pretty free, and Mr. Tanner has given full play to his fancy in the creation of his heroine. Prudence Pym, a pretty young Quakeress, who is bored and wearied with the restraints laid upon her by her parents and her sect, has quarrelled with them, and wishes to experience all the frivolous delights of freedom. While in this disposition she meets Mme. Blum, of the Maison Blum, Paris, who takes a fancy to Prudence, thinks she sees her way to starting a new Quaker costume craze, and asks the girl to come with her to *la ville lumière*. So Prudence, in the second act of the piece, appears as a mannequin or show-girl at the Blum establishment. Another lady who masquerades in the same way is the Princess Mathilde, an exiled Bonapartist, who, having married Captain Charteris, a King's Messenger, in the first act, is spending her honeymoon in Paris, and is wanted by the Parisian police, and who conceals her identity in the Blum establishment. Monsieur Larose, the Chief of Police, in his search after Mathilde, assumes various disguises. Others mixed up in the plot are Tony Chute, a dashing young American, who is in love with Prudence, and Jeremiah, a Quaker on the mother's side only, who is enamoured of Phœbe, the Princess's lively maid.

In the second act, Prudence, to save the Princess from being identified by the rather dissolute Prince Carlo, who is asked to assist the Chief of Police, consents to go to a ball which the Prince is giving, though much against her will, as she has previously given her promise to Tony Chute not to go. In the end, after many amusing incidents and adventures, the principal characters pair off properly, and the easy-going entertainment ends.

Mr. Lionel Monckton, who knows so well how to catch the ear of a musical play audience, has seldom been more happily inspired than in his score of *The Quaker Girl*, which is more musicianly and coherent than several of his previous achievements. The great musical hit of the piece is a waltz song, which bids fair to create a *furore*, and soon be absolutely familiar in our ears; but a pretty love-song, "Oh, time, time," the charming solo "A Quaker Girl," a delightful duet, "The bad boy and the good girl," a cleverly concerted number "Tip-toe," and an adroitly-set song "Just as father used to do" show that Mr. Monckton's inspiration is as melodious and agreeable as ever. In fact, the score is studded with highly successful items, and the composer may be warmly congratulated upon its excellence.

One of the most successful achievements of the evening was Miss Gracie Leigh's performance as Phœbe. The characterisation was really clever, the rustic accent being most adroitly assumed; and the humour of the creation was undeniable. Miss Leigh must be warmly praised for a representation which did her immense credit, and the audience warmly applauded her performance. Miss Gertie Millar's quaint and peculiar charm was never more vividly displayed than in her embodiment of Prudence Pym. She rendered her musical numbers in her usual original and artistic way, full of individuality and personal quality. There was something elusively fascinating about Miss Millar's rendering of the rôle, and her dancing was delightful. Miss Millar has seldom had a part in which her characteristic charm has appealed more strongly to her admirers. Mr. Joseph Coyne's engaging and very graceful and resourceful performance as the scapegrace lover, Tony Chute, won the hearts of the audience completely, so full was it of vitality, gaiety, and pleasant assurance. Mr. Hayden Coffin's part as Captain Charteris suited him exactly. In appearance, bearing, and manner, he realised the handsome King's Messenger extremely well, and his songs were rendered in the very best and most artistic style. That attractive and steadily-rising artist, Miss Elsie Spain, played the Princess Mathilde with full appreciation of the possibilities of the part, and her frank, free, and effective style, her agreeable appearance, and her excellent vocalism all helped to make her performance a complete success. It can easily be imagined how amusing Mr. James Blakeley was as Jeremiah. It is some time since a character of this class has been seen on the stage, and Mr. Blakeley may be congratulated upon having made the half Quaker a most comic and diverting personage. He evoked peal after peal of laughter, and his clever creation proved immensely popular. His songs, "Just as father used to do" and "Jeremiah, Esquire," were received with rapturous approval. As the typical Parisian dressmaker, Mme. Blum, Mlle. Caumont made a decided hit, acting with a vivacity and smartness which were keenly appreciated by the delighted audience. To Mr. G. Carvey, who played Prince Carlo, the song "Will you come to the ball?" was allotted, and this proved such a tremendous and instantaneous success, that for some time the progress of the performance was arrested, while the audience obstinately demanded an encore. Apart from this triumph, Mr. Carvey, aided by a powerful and pleasing voice, gave a well-considered and clever interpretation of the character. The typical formalist of old comedy was graphically represented by Mr. Henry Kitts, who duly emphasised the gloomy nature of Prudence's parent; and Mr. Herbert Ross, always efficient and painstaking, was quite satisfactory as Monsieur Duhamel, a Minister of State. Mr. D. J. Williams did excellent work as Chief of Police, and was active and alert throughout his enlivening and amusing performance; and Mr. E. H. Wynne deserves great credit for his extremely intelligent performance as William, the waiter; Miss Jennie Richards did exceeding well as Rachel Pym. Mr. George Bellamy contributed a very creditable bit of acting as the village crier, Jarge, and Miss Phyllys le Grand was quite acceptable as Diana, a Parisian actress. As Mrs. Lukin, the landlady of the Chequers Inn, Miss Luna Love supplied a satisfactory embodiment of a familiar type, and Mlle. Gina Palerme, Miss Irene Warren, Miss Kitty Melrose, Miss Mabel Duncan, and Miss Marie West were very handsome and stately employees of the Maison Blum.

The mounting and dressing of the piece were superb, and quite worthy of the beautiful interior of the newly-decorated Adelphi; and Mr. J. A. E. Malone must be warmly praised for the production, which was complete and smooth in every particular. *The Quaker Girl* promises to be as successful as any of Mr. George Edwardes's productions at the Gaiety and Daly's. The piece has all the requisites for success which should be possessed by a piece of its class, and there is no reason why, after its baptism of comic opera—for the piece approaches that *genre* in many ways—the Adelphi should not become a home of light, pretty, frivolous, and dainty entertainment.

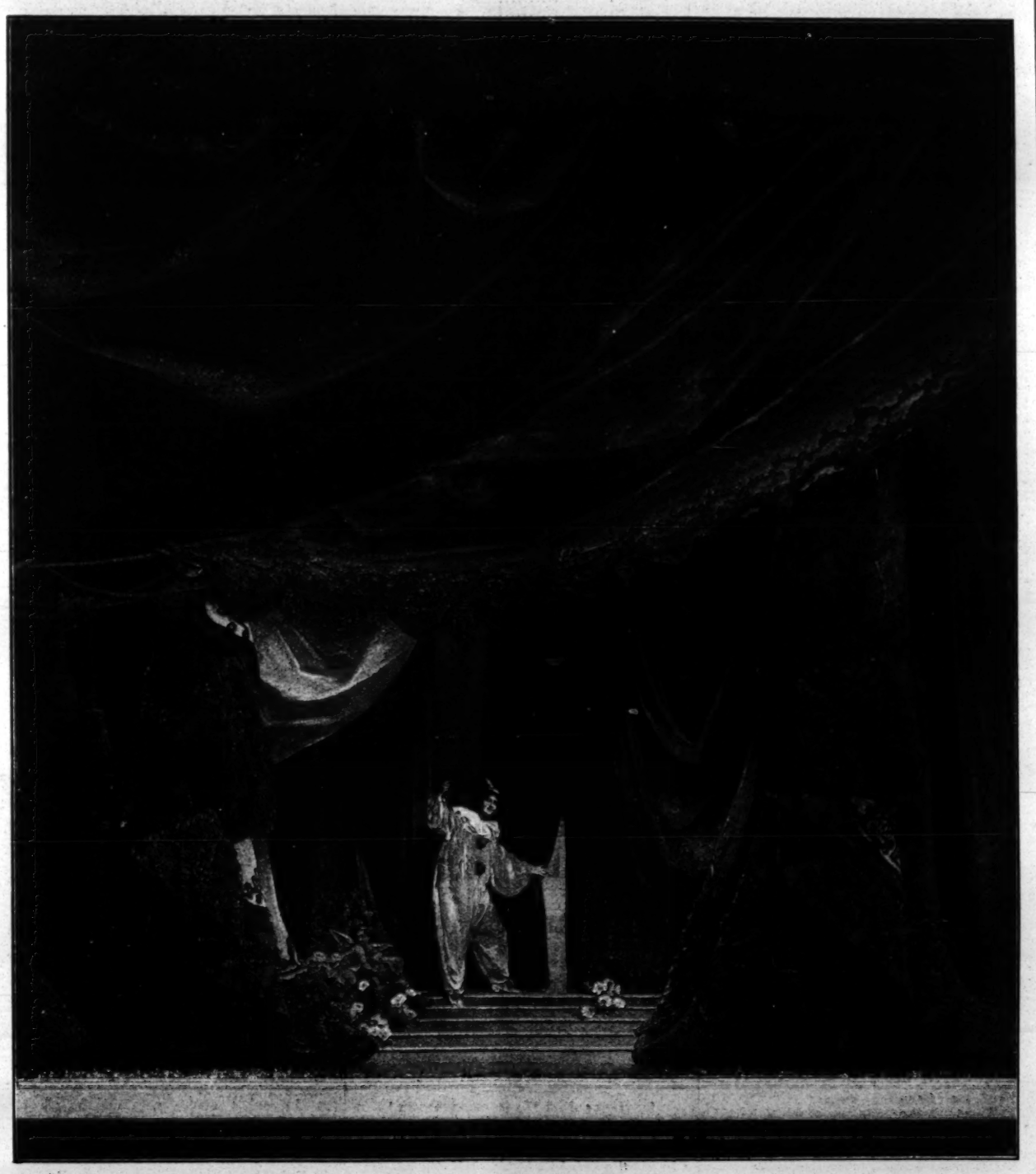

THE ADELPHI DROP CURTAIN. [*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

The above engraving represents the new drop curtain at the Adelphi Theatre, where *The Quaker Girl* was presented on Saturday last, the admirable stage production being under the superintendence of Mr. J. A. E. Malone. The figure in the centre was due to a suggestion by Mr. George Edwardes, and is a great improvement on the original picture.

Miss Marion Terry's Début.

MISS MARION TERRY'S first appearance on the stage was made at Leeds as Ophelia. "The earlier part of the play," she says in the *Sketch*, "went smoothly enough. When I came to the Mad Scene, I was sitting on the floor arranging the flowers which I had brought on in my hands, while I sang the snatches of song. In the middle of the scene my mind became a blank. I had forgotten every single word I had to speak. There was no prompter. That fact I remembered very clearly. There was a pause while I tried to remember what I had to say. I did not get flustered or show that I was put out in any way. I simply went on arranging my flowers just as if it was premeditated business; then I got up, went over to the actor who was playing Laertes, gave him some of the flowers, put my head on his shoulder and whispered, "Tell me what I have got to say next." He gave me the words, and I went back and played the rest of the scene without the least trouble."

Tom Taylor's Opinion.

"TOM TAYLOR was in front, and noticed what had happened. He came round when the curtain had fallen, and patted my head. 'You'll do all right,' he said. 'You have the making of an actress in you.' Then he went on to say that when I crossed over to Laertes he could not think what I was doing, and came to the conclusion that, as I seemed so calm and undisturbed, I had invented some new business for the scene, which I had not had an opportunity of trying at rehearsal."

"A SINGLE MAN."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Hubert Henry Davies, Produced at the Playhouse on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Robin Worthington	MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Henry Worthington	MR. ERNEST MAINWARING
Dicky Cottrell	MR. LYONEL WATTS
Lady Cottrell	MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Maggie Cottrell	MISS DULCIE GREATWICH
Miss Heseltine	MISS HILDA TREVELYAN
Isabella Worthington	MISS MARY JERROLD
Louise Parker	MISS NANCY PRICE
Bertha Sims	MISS DOROTHY DAYNE
The Housekeeper	MISS EMMA CHAMBERS
The Parlourmaid	MISS VERA COBURN
The Nurse	MISS DIANA SELLICK

Roars, and, at times, screams of laughter accompanied the performance of *A Single Man* at the Playhouse on Tuesday last. Mr. Hubert Henry Davies may have written plays in which he has dived more deeply beneath the surface of humanity than he has done in this case; but, judging by its reception, he has never written anything calculated to appeal more strongly to the tastes of an English audience. The Playhouse is the playground of the children of a larger growth who, very properly from their own point of view, refuse to worry themselves about problems, or trouble themselves with tragedies, and are satisfied with sportiveness, sentiment, and even a certain amount of joyful silliness.

The oft-used theme of a middle-aged man fancying himself "still young"—or, at any rate, young enough to marry a girl very much his junior, is dealt with by Mr. Davies in a fresh and original way. Robin Worthington is a clever author, who, in the first act of the play, is so exhilarated by the spring and by the spectacle of the domestic happiness of his sister-in-law, Isabella, and her husband, that he hurries—not to say rushes—into an engagement with a young and lively young lady named Maggie Cottrell. But Mrs. Worthington has in her mind a more suitable match for Robin, and she invites to visit her a spinster of uncertain age named Louise Parker, who comes on the distinct understanding that she is to marry Robin. But before Louise arrives he has become betrothed. Using his quiet, sensible type writer, Miss Heseltine—whom he regards, from habit only, as a helpful assistant—as go-between, he ascertains that the thoughtless, shallow Maggie is ready to marry him; and then the comedy begins. We see Robin trying hard to live up to the pace of Maggie and her friends, to emulate their inexhaustible activity and imitate their childish recklessness. He fails, and is beginning to find his engagement rather a trial, when Miss Parker makes a "dead set" at him. Robin has not the least inclination towards her, and snubs her without hesitation. But he is strangely perturbed when Miss Heseltine announces that she will have to leave his service when he marries. She will not explain why her departure is necessary, but leaves him to imagine the cause, which, unless he is extremely dense, he can hardly fail to do. In the last act he is dining alone, when she enters, having gone without a meal in order to type an important article of his. He insists that she shall share his beefsteak and champagne, and she consents—it is to be her last happy time with him. Then, by degrees, comes their *rapprochment*. Gradually her love for him dawns upon Robin, and he realises that she, and she alone, is the one woman in the world that he should marry. Their embrace is seen by Louise, who at once sniffs an immoral intrigue, and makes a scandal. Robin's friends, when he tries to explain, merely praise his chivalry, but decline to believe him. The difficulty is solved by Maggie, who saves the situation, and straightens things out for Robin, by declaring that she finds him too old for her, and that their engagement must be broken off. And so, happily, as it should, the pretty comedy ends, amidst the applause of an audience which has enjoyed its progress from beginning to end.

Mr. Cyril Maude has the art of making triviality important by his treatment of it. His method is that of developing detail by high finish, and, by agreeable individuality and telling suggestion, fixing a slight sketch on the memory. When Mr. Maude appears on the stage he takes immediate possession of the sympathy of the audience by his personality, and a kind of half-confident, half-pleading tone which never fails to appeal to his "friends in front." He is never more successful than in a part in which he represents a slightly silly but altogether engaging and worthy individual struggling with difficulties created by his own deficiencies; and to this class does the character of Robin Worthington belong. Our respect is secured for the personage by the knowledge that he is a really able and clever man; and we indulgently admire his weakness in becoming engaged to the utterly unsuitable Maggie. To see Mr. Maude as Robin trying, with great goodwill, to keep up with the younger people in their wild sports and pastimes, and finding not that Miss Cottrell is too young for him, but that he is too old for her and her friends, is an entirely delightful spectacle. The tact and finesse which Mr. Maude expends on the part, his quiet, unforced but always effective humour, and the unvarying good taste and fine style of his acting, make his Robin Worthington decidedly one of his successes, the spontaneous impulse which he suggests so well being not the least of the merits of the creation. A delightfully delicate and always appealing impersonation is Miss Hilda Trevelyan's Miss Heseltine. Her facial play—and in this case, facial play and mute expressiveness are of the very essence of the embodiment—is of the most artistic kind; and she takes the audience into her confidence by it even more eloquently than she could by speech. The scenes in which she is pained by her apparently hopeless affection for Robin are treated with a delicacy and appreciative tact which are admirable; and the refined and tender, but never mawkish or absurd sentiment which she infuses into her performance makes it a most winning example of restrained expression and unforced, but undeniable, effect. There is a good deal of quiet subtlety about Mr. Ernest Mainwaring's Henry Worthington, and the characterisation which this able artist employs is marked by a moderation and self-restraint quite in keeping with the nature of the part. That incomparable exponent of old ladies' rôles, Miss Florence Haydon, is once more in her element as Lady Cottrell, and hits off the shrewd, sharp, "snappy" old lady to the life. One of the greatest charms about Miss Haydon's work is her excellent elocution, and her delivery is as crisp and articulate as ever. The exuberant joyousness of Maggie Cottrell is well expressed by Miss Dulcie Greatwich, whose inexhaustible supply of animation and irrepressible activity make her performance a most exhilarating one. Miss Greatwich manages to be riotous without being noisy, and high-spirited without being vulgar. A neat, smooth, and natural representative of the happily-married match-maker, Isabella Worthington, is supplied by Miss Mary Jerrold, whose style is as unimpeachable as her method is sound and satisfactory. Miss Nancy Price has a task in the depiction of Louise Parker which is rather unthankful; but she makes the best of a poor part. Mr. Lyonel Watts is sufficiently bold and boyish as Dicky Cottrell, and Miss Dorothy Dane does excellent work as Bertha Sims. Miss Emma Chambers is efficient as the Housekeeper; Miss Vera Coburn is satisfactory as the Parlourmaid; and Miss Diana Sellick is commendable as the Nurse. Mr. Bruce Smith's scenery supplies a series of tasteful and appropriate backgrounds, and G. E. Jennings's one-act play *Between the Soup and the Savoury* forms an agreeable prelude to the piece of the evening.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—Mr. Kyrle Bellew began an engagement at the Garrick Theatre on the 17th inst., appearing as Maurice Ferioul in *The Scandal*, a play in four acts, by Henri Bataille. Judging from present indications, it is not likely to prove as successful in New York as it did in Paris. Mr. Charles Frohman has produced the play with great care, and Kyrle Bellew is a name that draws the public. Our playgoers take a warm interest in Mr. Bellew's impersonations, distinguished as they are by a polished manner and a graceful utterance. In the present instance this favourite player has been credited with a fine performance of a rôle that seems hardly worthy of him. The play begins in the Casino Garden at Luchon in August. Charlotte Ferrioul, mother of two children, and whose husband is the Mayor of Grasse, has become suddenly infatuated with Artanezzo, a young Spaniard, about whom she knows nothing until he confesses that he is a gambler, and borrows her diamond ring for the professed purpose of winning back his losses. Before she met Artanezzo she was a dutiful wife and mother; but the man has "bewitched" her, and during their stolen interviews she freely confesses her love for him. Act 2 takes place in the sitting-room of Ferioul's villa near Magagnose in October. Charlotte has realised her folly, and is anxious to escape from the influence of Artanezzo, who calls on her unexpectedly, not to extort money, as she at first fears, but to return the incriminating letters which she wrote to him when their love affair was young. Artanezzo is in difficulties, having used her name in order to raise money, and word comes presently that he has been arrested for swindling. Charlotte has hitherto had no difficulty in deceiving her husband, but the visits of Parizot, the town clerk at Grasse, arouse his suspicions, and when Parizot refuses to divulge his business with Mme. Ferioul, her husband chokes him until he tells the whole scandalous story. Charlotte is summoned to appear as a witness at the trial of Artanezzo, and she invents an excuse for her absence. Before she goes Ferioul decides to expose and humiliate her before the entire household, and in his furious anger, after calling the terror-stricken Charlotte, he shouts for his mother, his children, and even the servants, to come and hear what he has to say. But as he looks into his wife's eyes the words die on his lips, and he pretends that he wishes to reprove his son in the presence of the entire family for being expelled from school. Charlotte attends the trial, her husband allowing her to believe that he knows nothing. On her return he has to decide whether to turn her out or forgive her, and when she reads his knowledge of her perfidy in her husband's eyes she grovels at his feet, and beseeches him to end her misery by killing her. But Ferioul relents, and the erring but repentant wife, completely worn out, falls into a deep sleep as Ferioul bends over her, uttering words of forgiveness. Miss Gladys Hanson, who appeared as Charlotte Ferioul, gave a touching portrayal; Mr. Vincent Serrano played with excellent discretion the part of Artanezzo; Mr. Frank Connor as Jeannetier did well; and Mr. Ernest Stallard's Parizot was a clever characterisation. Miss Ffolliott Paget was good as Mme. Ferioul, the mother; and Mr. Frank Westerton, the stage-manager, appeared with success as the Prefect.

"Keeping Up Appearances," a comedy in four acts, by Butler Davenport, was produced at the Comedy Theatre on the 19th inst. The story deals with the efforts of an unhappy family living in the metropolis to preserve an appearance of prosperity and unity. The father, Frederick Lowell, is a lawyer, who is striving for an appointment as a judge. He has practically deserted his family, and is seldom seen in his own household, his affection being centred elsewhere. There is scandalous gossip, and it comes to the wife's ears; but Mrs. Lowell endures the humiliation of the situation in which she finds herself for the sake of her children, as her private means have been exhausted, and she is entirely dependent upon the money her husband allows her. Evelyn, the eldest daughter, thinks only of having "a good time," while her sister Alice is bent on finding a rich husband. Paul, the son, is a young man of estimable character. The father finds the expense of keeping up two establishments too much for him, and proposes to sell his wife's home. She has already consented to three mortgages, from which she has received only a portion of the proceeds, and she now refuses to accede to her husband's wishes. He threatens to withdraw his support, and leaves the house. The son stands by his mother, and, by going into business, manages to keep the wolf from the door. Evelyn marries, and Alice becomes the guest of her wealthy friends in a trip around the world. The third act shows the preparations for Evelyn's wedding. The father has been persuaded to take part in the ceremony for the sake of appearances, but just before starting for the church he receives the news by telephone that his child by the other woman has been instantly killed by falling out of a window. This message he receives in an upper room, but the telephone bell also rings in the living-room downstairs, and the wife puts her ear to the receiver, believing the message to be for her. Thus she accidentally learns what has happened, and understands her husband's agitation. Sinking her feelings as a wife, she sympathises with the other woman as a mother, and sustains her husband in his grief, but tells him that he must attend their daughter's wedding at any cost. Despite his determination to leave, he is at length prevailed upon to accompany the party to the church, and his wife telephones the bereaved mother that Lowell must do what he has undertaken to do. The woman replies that she understands and acquiesces. Neither in this scene nor in the last act, when the two women meet, are there any recriminations. Mrs. Lowell bears herself as one who has long since understood and accepted the inevitable. Whether or not she is an "impossible" woman is an open question; she is certainly the personification of dignity, sweetness, and self-control. These qualities enable her to appreciate the tactful sympathy of her rival in immediately recognising the fact that Lowell's first duty is to attend his daughter's wedding. So when the wife and the mistress meet they face each other as two women who understand and even sympathise with each other. Edith Dalton's reserve and good breeding help considerably in making the situation feasible. Mrs. Lowell takes a philosophical view of her husband's preference for another woman. He is the sort of man, she says, who does not appreciate the qualities of a domesticated wife and mother. So she decides to divorce him. He has obtained the judgeship, thanks to her sacrifice in separing him the exposure his conduct deserved. It is no longer necessary to keep up appearances. The play is well written, the author having handled a difficult theme with admirable discretion. There are only seven characters, and these were represented in a highly intelligent and praiseworthy manner by Messrs. J. Harry Benrimo and A. Hylton Allen; Misses Amelia Gardner, Mabel Moore, Pamela Gaythorne, Zelda Sears, and Gertrude Dallas. Miss Gardner's embodiment of the mother won all hearts; and Mr. Hylton Allen was natural and convincing as the son. Miss Gaythorne, who comes from London, made her American début in this play, and created a distinctly favourable impression.

"The Dollar Princess" has returned to town, and is holding nightly receptions at the New York Theatre. The popularity of this melodious and charming play has been renewed, and it draws as well as ever.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—*The Girl in the Taxi*, a farce in three acts, by Antony Mars, has been well received at the Astor Theatre. The original version has been considerably "toned down" since it was first produced in Chicago, Mr. Stanislaus Stange having adapted the piece for the American stage. The situations remind one of *Pink Dominoes*, *A Trip to Chinatown*, and a dozen other plays in which the various characters dodge each other. Despite their antiquity, however, these situations prove as laughable as ever at the Astor Theatre. It was quite interesting to see an artist so decidely English in her previous characterisations as Miss Jessie Millward in the unaccustomed environment of a "roaring" American farce. And if that were not enough to remind one of the old days at the Adelphi there was Mr. W. L. Abingdon witnessing the performance from a box. One of the newspapers said that Miss Millward had the only "refined" part in the piece, which is about correct, for the other characters were certainly a pretty "swift" lot. It was a far cry from Dora in *The Harbour Lights* to Clara Stewart, a credulous wife and mother, with the sort of husband who is usually described as a "gay old sport" and a son who is following in father's footsteps quite rapidly. Thanks to Miss Millward's art, however, even this lady's inability to see what was going on around her seemed plausible. Moreover, Miss Millward threw herself, heart and soul, in to the fun of the piece, and made everyone feel glad that she had returned to the local stage.

The principal characters are John Stewart, a prominent man, and to all appearances an estimable citizen; his wife Clara, who looks upon her husband as a paragon; their son Bertie, who is clever enough to pass for a model youth until he is found out; and Percy Peters, who is married to Stewart's niece. Another good young man is Percy until his mask wears out. He lives in Philadelphia and has "throat trouble," which compels him to visit New York twice a year in order to see a doctor. Then there is "the girl in the taxi," who is known as Mignon. Six divorces and a seventh husband have failed to tame her. She is as fond of the gay life as ever. Percy has had an adventure with her, and tells Bertie. The latter slips out of the house when everyone is supposed to have retired, and takes Mignon to supper at a Broadway restaurant. Bertie's papa also slips out, and so does Percy. Of course, they all go to the same restaurant, and are enabled to avoid each other up to a certain point by means of numerous exits and entrances. When mutual discovery comes, father and son, and nephew find it expedient to stand by each other, and in the morning, when Bertie's mother calls them, they emerge from their respective bedrooms looking as innocent as lambs.

Mr. Carter De Haven played Bertie cleverly, incidentally singing several songs. Mr. Fred Bond was very good indeed as Bertie's frisky father; and Miss Laura Guerite made the most of her opportunities as Mignon. Mr. John Glendinning, as Frederick Smith, gave an amusing portrayal of Mignon's seventh husband, a mild-mannered perfume manufacturer, who becomes quite ferocious whenever he wears his uniform as an officer in the National Guard.

"The Scandal," by Henri Bataille, having been tried and found wanting, Mr. Kyrle Bellew has revived one of his most popular impersonations—that of the gentleman burglar in *Raffles the Amateur Cracksman*, a play in four acts, by E. W. Hornung and Eugene Presbrey, originally produced at the Princess Theatre, New York, on Oct. 27, 1903. The play scored an instantaneous success and had a long run. Few dramas have a more effective ending that the exit of "Mr. A. J. Raffles" through the tall clock, and his escape to the street. Miss Ethel Matthews was the original Mrs. Vidal, Mr. E. M. Holland played the detective, Captain Bedford, and Mr. Frank Connor appeared as Lord Crowley. The last-named player is a member of Mr. Bellew's present company. With this exception, the new cast is entirely different from the old one, the principal parts now being played by Misses Gladys Hanson, Ffolliott Paget, and Jane May, Messrs. Frank Westerton and Ernest Stallard.

"The Seventh Daughter" is the title of a new four-act play, by Richard Harding Davis, which Messrs. Liebler and Co. will shortly produce in this city. Miss Chrystal Herne, who has been engaged for title-role, will impersonate a spiritualistic medium named Aline. Honest by nature, the young woman has been brought up in an atmosphere of sham and trickery until she is almost incapable of seeing the harmful effects of her impositions. One of the other characters is a District Attorney of the county of New York.

Mr. John Lawson has been appearing at the American Music Hall in his well-known playlet *Only a Jew*. His forceful acting, and the excellent support he received from the members of his company, made this one of the strongest attractions in the bill.

Miss Annie Russell will shortly appear under Mr. Charles Frohman's management in a play called *The Impostor*, by Leonard Merrick, the English novelist, and Michael Morton, the American playwright, who lives in London.

The Manhattan Opera House is likely to be converted into a vaudeville theatre when *Hans the Flute Player*, the current attraction, ends its run there.

"FOR THE LAND WE LOVE."

Drama, In Five Acts, by Hilda Hatton, Produced at the Lyceum, Stafford, on Friday, Nov. 4.

The Rev. Robert Arden ....Mr. Victor Gardom
General Scott .....Mr. Geoffrey Broughton
Captain Stannard .....Mr. A. Gellertt
Captain Hardy .....Mr. Herbert De Ville
Bertie Speffington .....Mr. Alec Finlayson
Durant .....Mr. Victor Norreys
Johnson .....Mr. George Toft
Jean .....Mr. H. Linden Cobb
Captain Chateaubrand ....Mr. Bernard Beere
Doris Moncrief .....Miss Cecily Cardew
Lady Honoria Littleton.Miss Gertrude Vickers
Joan .....Miss Ivy Clarke
Miss Vigora Matchman ....Miss Dora Pancake
Mona Moncrief .....Miss Hilda Hatton

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story of *For the Land We Love* is extremely complicated, and we shall not attempt to follow the thread of the plot through an intricate labyrinth of exciting incidents. Interwoven with an ordinary melodramatic story is a patriotic motive, in which there are transparent allusions to the possibility of the invasion of England by a foreign Power, "Zidonia."

The first act opens in a seaside village in Devonshire. The squire of the place, who calls himself Moncrief, is really an ex-actor of bad character named Leon Dargueville. This man has decoyed away and married a young woman named Mona Moncrief, formerly betrothed to a local clergyman, Robert Arden. Mona has parted from the villain, and comes to the village disguised as a fortune-teller. She meets Moncrief, and recognises him. With a certain Durant and others Moncrief is conspiring in the interests of the "Zidonian" Government, and Arden is wounded by a pistol-shot, fired presumably by the conspirators, from an aeroplane which has been hovering over the village. There is a fight between the reverend gentleman and the villains, and Mona stabs her rascally husband, wounding him dangerously.

In the next scene, in London, Mona is watching the conspirators. Durant, disguised as a newspaper seller, places certain stolen plans of defences in the pocket of one, Captain Stannard, who is arrested on the charge of stealing them by a detective named Johnson, but is ultimately released. Stannard, who has been employed in making plans of important defences, places them in a safe at Arden's house. The conspirators try to secure them, but though they seriously injure the clergyman, they are prevented by Mona from murdering him outright. News arrives that the Prince of Zidonia is about to land on the coast in an airship with a cargo of bombs; and in the last scene the defeat of the conspirators by a contingent of Territorials is depicted. Moncrief meets a well-deserved death, and Mona is wounded, and falls from a cliff into the sea, and dies, as Arden remarks, "For the sake of her country."

Miss Hilda Hatton as Mona Moncrief acted with a depth of feeling and an earnestness of expression which deeply stirred the audience. A very fine performance of the part of the Rev. Robert Arden was given by Mr. Victor Gardom, who enacted the strong and spirited vicar in a manner which made him immensely popular, and much assisted the effect of the production. Mr. Herbert de Ville was effectively villainous as Moncrief, and Mr. A. Gellertt was good as Captain Stannard. Mr. Alec Finlayson gave a capital comedy performance as Bertie Speffington, and Mr. Victor Norreys was quite efficient as Durant. Mr. Geoffrey Broughton was characteristic as General Scott, and Mr. George Toft acted ably as the detective. As Doris Moncrief and Lady Honoria Littleton Miss Cecily Cardew and Miss Gertrude Vickers supplied impersonations of genuine merit. The other personages were well played.

"THE OATH."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Frank Keenan recently appeared at the Fifth-avenue Theatre, New York, in a one-act play, called *The Oath*, by Seumas MacManus. Mr. Keenan gave a highly-effective representation of an old Irishman named Neil O'Donnell, whose father had been killed many years ago on the Orangemen's Day. Again the anniversay comes round, and his son goes to the village to see the celebration, despite his father's pleading. The old man goes to sleep, and dreams that his boy is killed. Suddenly the door bursts open, and a stranger rushes in and begs to be hidden from the police, who are pursuing him. The old man hides him in a back room, and the police appear. They tell O'Donnell that his son has been killed in a tavern brawl, and they are seeking the murderer. "It isn't likely that he would be hidin' the man who has killed his boy," says one of the constables, and they depart. Standing before the picture of his dead wife, the old man turns it to the wall, and swears that it shall stay so until his vengeance is accomplished. Then he takes up the gun that his son loaded just before he left the house, and stamps three times on the floor, to tell the fugitive that the way is clear. When the latter appears and learns the truth, he falls on his knees and begs the old man to shoot. He might as well die now, as he will never again know a moment's peace on earth. But O'Donnell decides to let him go, since that will be punishment enough. He turns the picture back, and falls on his knees, clasping his rosary.

William Gillette in Toronto.

Mr. William Gillette and his company of fifty players recently appeared for a week at the Princess Theatre, Toronto. Mr. Gillette opened his engagement in *Sherlock Holmes*, which he repeated on the Tuesday and Saturday nights. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday matinée he presented *Secret Service*, and on Friday night appeared in that most entertaining of farces, *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Gillette brought to Toronto for this special engagement four carloads of scenery, and there was a complete change of cast for each of the pieces played.

Princess Henry of Battenberg witnessed the performance of *The Girl in the Train* at the Vaudeville Theatre on Thursday evening.

COLONIAL GOSSIP.

Miss Blanche Browne in Sydney.

Miss Blanche Browne, who has been playing the title-rôle in *Our Miss Gibbs* at Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, is one of Mr. George Edwardes' most promising artists. The newcomer has had nine years' stage experience. First making a reputation in the provinces, she came to London and was engaged at the Gaiety, where she had to wait some considerable time for a part. Her chance came in *Our Miss Gibbs*, when Miss Julia James, the Lady Betty, fell ill. Miss Browne was called to play the part, which she did during a two months' absence of the original, and gave entire satisfaction. She was next entrusted with Miss Gertie Millar's part during the temporary absences of that actress from the cast. It was on one of these occasions that Mr. J. C. Williamson saw her, and promptly engaged her for Australia, though it was by special favour of old friendship that Mr. George Edwardes consented to her release. Mr. Robert Courtneidge also wanted Miss Browne for the Shaftesbury, where a three years' contract was held out as an inducement.

The Cheerful Steward.

Mr. Victor Gouriet, who recently returned to Johannesburg for the third time, and has been playing with great success Tweedlepunch in *Florodora* with the Wheeler-Edwards' Gaiety company, thoroughly enjoyed his 3½ years in the Commonwealth and New Zealand, and he is particularly enthusiastic about the stewards on Australian boats. The *Observer* (Johannesburg) says that "once going from Invercargill to Hobart with *The Merry Widow*—she arrived a day late by the way—the beautiful, bounding billows almost sank the crazy craft. Gouriet was lying in his berth holding a special committee meeting with himself and his stomach. In came the cheerful steward, who unburdened his feelings in this wise: 'You've got no hope of opening to-morrow at Hobart, the saloon's wrecked, the piano's broke up, the men's quarters for'ard have been washed out, the weather's getting worse, and the bloke next cabin to you has cut his throat. See you later!'"

Real Acting!

"Mr. Gouriet's serious business in life is finding winners; he only acts for amusement," remarks the *Observer*. "In Melbourne, when Mr. J. C. Williamson's Bluebook ran a dead heat with Aborigine in the Caulfield Cup, the management asked Myles Connell, the jockey who rode Bluebook, to pose for a second on the stage in the course of a song called 'Fame,' which was part of *The Catch of the Season*.' Connell, pallid and extremely nervous, entered Gouriet's dressing-room. A whisky and soda revived the jockey, who, to the astonishment of the comedian, drawled: 'This isn't the first time I've been behind the scenes, but it's the first time I've done any real acting.'"

Mr. Weedon Grossmith's Success in Canada.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith, in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, was quite recently the attraction at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto. Of this finished comedian's performance the *Montreal Gazette* said: "Not for a very long time has a Montreal audience joined in such unbounded mirth over the bubbling cleverness of a farce as the big crowd at the Princess experienced last night when Weedon Grossmith and his company presented *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*. From the opening of the play to the very last line the company held the careful attention of the audience, and the continuity was only broken by the frequent laughter, which so interrupted the progress of the thing that much good matter was lost."

Musical Culture in Melbourne.

Mme Carreno, the distinguished pianist, has a very high opinion of the state of musical culture in Melbourne. She stated that it compares very favourably with what one gets in the old world. The native talent for piano playing, in her opinion, is specially remarkable, so much so that there are very big possibilities in the future, all of which will doubtless be very encouraging to those who aim to follow in the gifted lady's footsteps, and who have been fortunate enough to secure the imprimatur of her approval.

Steele-Payne Handbell Ringers.

This renowned combination of handbell ringers, musicians, and vocalists paid a flying visit to Bombay, at the Empire Theatre, and played to excellent business for a week. The company consisted of Miss Lizzie Payne, violinist, banjoist, and mandolinist; Miss Gloria Gwynne, a rich soprano and an accomplished instrumentalist; and Miss Kate Maher, known as "the Queen of Irish Song." The gentlemen were Mr. Ralph Steele, a fine robust baritone and humorist; Mr. Claude Steele, an all-round musical artist; Mr. J. A. Williams, the eminent basso of the Chapel Royal, Kew; Mr. Jules Henri; pianist and speciality entertainer; Mr. Tom Saunders, a popular Australian comedian; and Mr. Geo. Sharratt, a well-known society entertainer. This was their first visit to India on their tour of the world, and the stage effects were, without doubt, the best Bombay has seen. Considerable sensation was caused by their wonderful solos on the organ chimes, and throughout the week most appreciative audiences greeted every number on the programme with applause, and encores were numerous. In either mandolin, violin, sleigh bells, handbells, songs, &c., they are all equally expert, and we predict an enjoyable and profitable tour for the Steele-Payne combination in India.

Mr. Robert M. Bottomley in Australia.

Amongst the new people engaged by the J. C. Williamson Company for *The Whip* is Mr. Robert M. Bottomley, who plays the jockey, Harry Anson. As a youngster he was a grand opera singer at Covent Garden. Sir Augustus Harris heard him as choir boy at Brompton Oratory, and determined to have him for boy parts. As such Mr. Bottomley appeared with all the great artists of the time—Tamagno, De Reske, Alvarez, Ancona, Patti, Albani, Melba, and Calve (with whom he went to Windsor as the Little Captain in *Carmen*).

Mr. Charles W. Blackall.

Mr. Charles W. Blackall, another member of *The Whip* company, engaged for the rôle of Captain Greville Sartoris, the villain of the piece—a part he has taken during the Drury Lane production—is a grandson of the Governor Blackall who was the vice-regal representative in Queensland during the early years of that State's existence.

"Dollar Princess" in Bombay.

The Bandmann Opera Company has just concluded at the Empire Theatre what has been undoubtedly the most successful season ever experienced by any company in Bombay. The star attraction of the visit was *The Dollar Princess*, which broke all records, even excelling the famous houses seen last year at *The Merry Widow*. It has been, indeed, quite a miniature Gaiety season, and has proved that all Bombay folk want is good rollicking amusement. Most of the artists were old Bombay favourites, and prominent amongst them was our old friend Harry Cole, a comedian who has a large following in this city. He is a tower of strength to the company, and is ably seconded by Dan Clifford. Miss Florence Beech took all the honours, as usual, with the ladies, and Mr. G. V. Arnold ably seconded her efforts in their duets, &c. The whole company is far superior to any we have seen East under the Bandmann regime, and should break all records at Calcutta. They are certain of still bigger houses when they visit us again in the cold season.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albury, Mr. E. H.
Allan-Edwardes, Mr.
Anglo, Mr. Chas.
Ansell, Lady
Arundale, Miss S.
Aspinall, Mr. R. C.
Austin, Mr. Arthur
Barth, Mr. Lonnie
Bayne, Mr. W.
Beecham, Mr. George
Beeley, Mr.
Bell, Mr. G. W.
Boswell, Mr. Sidney
Brammall, Mr. H. E.
Brooks Bros.
Brown, Miss Mamie
Buff-Bill
Bull, Mr. Gordon K.
Bruce, Mr. H. A.
Burrows, Mr. T. W.
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Calvert, Mr. F.
Carr, Mr. Philip
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Cato, Mr. G. P.
Cogan, Miss K.
Coxville, Mr. Bert
Conquest, Mr. Fred
Curran, Mr. Fred
Dagmar, Miss V.
Dalton, Miss F.
Daly, Mr. Brian
De Landes, Mr. R. O.
De Marr, Mr. Harry
Desmond, Miss Nellie
Dewar, Miss Mary
Drew-Gray, Mr. John
Dudman, Mr. J. N.
Dunsten, Mr. J. A.
Durnly, Mr. P. J.
Edwards and Ward
Elder, Miss Nance
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Elliott, Miss Queenie
Elton, Mr. Sam
Enger, Sergt. J.
Erskine, Miss Evie
Evans, Mr. Wash
Eyson, Miss Edith
Fairhurst, Mr. G.
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Field, Mr. Harry
Field, Miss Lila
Forde, Mr. Owen
Foy, Mr. Tom
Fuller, Miss Loie
George, Mr. Chandos
Gilbert, Mr. H. Field
Godwin, Mr. Will
Gordon, Miss Winnie
Gorigund, Miss D.
Grossies, Les
Hamer, Miss F.
Hart, Mr. M.
Hartley, Mr. Chas.
Hine, Mr. Robert
Houghton, Mr.
Humphreys, Mr. J.
Huntley, Mr. Geo.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Ingram, Miss S.
Jackson, Miss B.
Jackson, Miss Ethel
Kettel, Captain
Lawrie, Miss Carrie
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lea, Miss Lillian
Le Blanc, Miss Marie
Leigh, Mr. A.
Lenrose, Mr. James
Lillias, Miss
Lillian, Sisters
Lilly, Mr. A. C.
Luxmore, Miss M.
Maclean, Mr. Billie
Maddison, Mr. H.
McEwen, Mr. Walter
Meads, Mr. Earle F.
Montisole and Macleod
Mooney, Mr. Jim
Moore, Mr. Henry A.
Morgan, Mr. Clifford
Murray, Mr. G. R.
Murray, Mr. T. E.
Nevis, Mr. Ben
Nixon, Mr. W. D.
Norman, Mr. Leonard
Norwood, Miss Bertha
Omar, Mr. A. B.
Palmer, Mr. F. Payne
Paul, Mr. T. M.
Pearson, Mr. H. A.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Pride, Miss Peggy
Reeves, Miss Marie
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rowley, Mr. J. W.
Russell, Mr. W. K.
Sampson, Mr.
Saxonys, The
Sharman, Mr. J.
Shrapnel, Mr. Leonard
Spaulding, Captain
Savidge, Mr. James
Shepperd, Mr. E. G.
Smit and Smit
Smith, Miss Annie
Smith, Mr. Eustace S.
Stedman, Mr. Charles
Steyne, Mr. E. J
Strauss, Miss Rita
Sutherland, Mr. Frank
Thebaud, Miss E. M.
Tracey, Miss Louie
Valazi
Van Biene, Mr. Auguste
Vane, Miss Edith
Vasco, Mr. W.
Vetter, Mr. W. Eugene
Villiers, Mr. John
Vinning, Miss Maude
Ware, Miss Nettie
Whitford, Mr. J.
Whyte, Mr. Robert
Wilson, Mr. Frank
Williams, Mr. Percy
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Wood, Miss Daisie
Wood, Mr. Percy

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT.
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York.
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

"Guide to Selecting Plays," for the use of professionals and amateurs, is again before us in an up-to-date edition, and we have to recognise once more the careful editorial work of Mr. Wentworth Hogg, who has done admirably. A striking feature of this vade mecum of plays is the cleverly condensed plots of pieces from one act to five. There is an excellent index, and in 190 pages we have quite a compendium of the drama.

After an absence of over two years Cardiffians have the pleasure of a return visit from the popular actor, Mr. Martin Harvey, with his London company. *The Only Way* was put forward on Monday and Tuesday, large audiences being attracted by this ever-welcome piece. Mr. Martin Harvey was as brilliant as ever in his original rôle of Sydney Carton, Mr. Charles Glenney's Ernest Defarge is a talented impersonation, Dr. Manette is still in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and Miss N. De Silva as Mimi is accorded a hearty reception; Miss Brenda Gibson as Lucie also doing well. *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance* was billed for Wednesday.

The Great Northern Railway Company will run a new luncheon car express to Peterborough and other important towns en route to York every Sunday until further notice, beginning to-morrow, the 13th. The train leaves King's Cross at 11.45 a.m. (a call being made at Finsbury Park, Hatfield, and Hitchin, when required to take up passengers for stations north of Doncaster), and is due at Peterborough 1.21 p.m., departing thence at 1.25. The following times will be observed:—Grantham, arrive 2.2 p.m., depart 2.6; Newark, arrive 2.24, depart 2.25; Retford, arrive 2.47, depart 2.48; Doncaster, arrive 3.9, depart 3.13; Selby, arrive 3.35, depart 3.40; and York arrive 4.0. There will be no connection for Selby, York, and stations north thereof by the 12.0 noon train from King's Cross on and after Sunday, Nov. 13, 1910.

Last Saturday's performance at the Blackpool Opera House was the last prior to the re-building and entire reconstruction, which will be completed by Easter next. At the fall of the curtain on Saturday night Mr. John R. Huddlestone, the manager, came to the front of the stage and made a brief speech. He thanked the public for their twenty-one years' generous patronage, and said it had been decided by the directors of the Winter Gardens to rebuild the place on the latest and most modern principles. A start would be made on Monday in pulling down the old building. It would be entirely re-erected, with a magnificent grand circle capable of seating over five hundred persons, instead of the present circle, which had accommodation for only ninety. The decorations, the furniture, carpets, &c., would be entirely new. In fact, the whole place would be entirely remodelled. In addition, there would be a magnificent foyer, which would be second to none in any theatre in the country.

These works would take a period of something like six months to complete, and during that time theatrical performances would be given in the Grand Pavilion, which had been reduced in size to make it more cosy and comfortable. Mr. Huddlestone expressed the hope that the new theatre, when erected, would not only continue to enjoy the same patronage it had received from the public in the past, but that they would extend to it that generous measure of support which the enterprise merited. The orchestra then played "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King."

"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE"
AT
STAND No.
300
OLYMPIA
"THE GOODRICH AVERAGE IS A SET OF FIGURES REPRESENTING THE PRESENT LIMIT OF TYRE SCIENCE AND TYRE SERVICE."
WHEN BUYING A NEW CAR
Remember that a "manufacturer's specification" does not infallibly reflect the latest developments in tyre science. You, not he, will pay the piper; you, not he, should call the tune. If you wish to sample "the Goodrich average"—in other words, if you wish your tyres to cost you less in 1911, the only way is to
SPECIFY
Goodrich Tyres
Manufactured by The B. F. GOODRICH CO., Ltd., 7, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 14.

ABBOTT'S REPERTOIRE.—Paisley T., Paisley.
ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Whitley and Lincoln.
ALONE IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
APPLE OF EDEN.—T. R., Smethwick.
ARCADIANS (N.).—T. R., Middlesbrough.
ARCADIANS (S.).—Brighton.
ARE YOU A MASON?—T. R., Horley.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—O. H., Londonderry.
AT CRIPPLE CREEK.—New T., Barry.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Tidworth and Salisbury.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
BENCHAM OPERA Co.—T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Osborne T., Manchester.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—P. G. T., Folkestone.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Chard, Crewkerne.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—T. R., Halifax.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—T. R., Exeter.
BETTER LAND, THE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
BISHOP'S SON, THE.—T. R., Glasgow.
BLUE BIRD.—T. R., Nottingham.
BOY KING.—Court T., Wigan.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
BROKEN HEART.—Mct. T., Glasgow.
CANDIDA.—Grand T., Oldham.
CAPTAIN JACK.—Palace T., Derby.
CAPTAIN KIDD.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
CARL ROSA OPERA Co.—T. R., Manchester.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—T. R., Bristol.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA Co.—O. H., Burnley.
CHALMERS MACKEY AND Co.—Lyceum T., Govan.
CHARLEY'S AUNT (N.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
CHARLEY'S AUNT (S.).—Cambridge and Ipswich.
CHASING CYNTHIA.—T. R., Chatham.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Grand T., Nottingham.
CHORUS LADY.—O. H., Cheltenham.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—Grand T., Falkirk.
CINGALEE.—T. R., Cardiff.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., West Stanley.
COAL KING.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
COAST GUARD'S DAUGHTER.—Elephant and Castle.
COMPTON COMEDY Co.—Dalston T., N.E.
COUNTRY GIRL, A.—T. R., Preston.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—T. R., Yeadon.
COUSIN KATE.—West Pier, Brighton.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—T. R., Ashton.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (N.).—Queen's T., Longton.
DAME NATURE.—Court T., Liverpool.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., South Shields.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—T. R., Batley.
DAWN OF A TO-MORROW.—O. H., Cork.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—T. R., Bath.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (EDWARDES) (N.).—Grand T., Hull.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (S.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
DON.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
D'OYLY CARTE.—P.O.W., Birmingham.
DRAYCOTT, CHAS.—Grand T., Stockton.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—T. R., Aston.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Hippo., Neath.
EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH.—Workington and Whitehaven.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Grand T., Brighton.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Gaiety T., Methil.
FACING THE WORLD ALONE.—T. R., Sheffield
FAST LIFE; A.—New Hall, Bargoed.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Grand T., Chorley.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—Hippodrome, Ilford.
FEMALE DETECTIVE.—Gainsboro' and Worksop.
FIGHTING PRINCE.—Prince's T., Bradford.
FLAG LIEUTENANT.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Lincoln and Widnes.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—T. R., Stratford, E.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Leicester.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE.—T. R., Sheffield.
GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER.—T. R., Woolwich.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—Century T., Motherwell.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Central T., Northwich.
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN.—Crown T., Eccles.
HARVEY, MARTIN.—Prince's T., Bristol.
HAVANA.—Royalty T., Chester.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—T. R., Dewsbury.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Huddersfield.
HER NAMELESS CHILD.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., Leeds.
HER SECRET LOVER.—Palace T., Gloucester.
HIS INDIAN WIFE.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Palace T., Maidstone.
HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY.—T. R., Birmingham.
HOUSE OPPOSITE.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
IRVING, H. B.—T. R., Portsmouth.
IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN.—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Palace T., Bordesley.
KING OF CADONIA.—Broadway T., New Cross.
KING OF THE WILD WEST.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kingston and Crickhowell.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—O. H., St. Helens.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.—H. M. T., Dundee.
LIFE FOR A LIFE.—T. R., Aberdare.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Grand T., Halifax.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
LINGARD-MOREAU REPERTORY.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
LITTLE DAMOZEL.—Grand T., Southampton.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C. and J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Manchester.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Hanley.
LUCKY LIZA.—Gaiety T., Houghton.
MAN TO MAN.—Pavilion, Mile End, E.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Palace T., Porth.
MASTER OF THE MILL.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
MERRY TERRITORIAL, THE.—T. R., Leamington.
MERRY WIDOW (N.).—T. R., Bradford.
MERRY WIDOW (S.).—O. H., Leicester.
MERRY WIDOW (3).—County T., Kingston.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—T. R., Norwich.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Grand T., Walsall.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—T. R., Bolton.
MISS PLASTER OF PARIS.—Grand T., Mansfield.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA Co.—O. H., Northampton.
MOUNTAINEERS, THE.—T. R., Edinburgh.
MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—H. M. T., Barrow.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—T. R., Birkenhead.
NAKED TRUTH.—T. R., Plymouth.
NEW EAST LYNNE.—O. H., Cork.
NEW LADY BANTOCK.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
NICK CARTER.—T. R., Belfast.
NIGHT AND MORNING.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Hippo., Bilston.
OLD HOME.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Burnley.
OLD HEIDELBERG.—Court T., Warrington.
OUR FLAT.—County T., Bedford.
OUR MISS GIBBS (EDWARDES).—Grand T., Leeds.
OUR MISS GIBBS (S.).—T. R., Aldershot.
OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY.—Tivoli T., Pentre.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—New Brighton.
PAVING THE BRICE.—Empire T., Swindon.
POWER OF THE KING.—T. R., Castleford.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGARMAID (N.).—T. R., Rotherham.
PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY.—Gaiety T., Ayr
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Tynemouth.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
PROOF.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
RAYNOR REPERTORY.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
ROB ROY.—Gaiety T., Leith.
ROLLICKING RORY.—Lyceum T., Govan.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
SAPHO.—T. R., North Shields.
SEXTON BLAKE.—P. O. W., Salford.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Star T., Liverpool.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—O. H., Southport.
SIGN OF THE CROSS (BOWES).—Ferndale.
SILVER KING.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
SINNER, THE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
SMITH (N.).—Grand T., Croydon.
SMITH (S.).—O. H., Belfast.
SORROWS OF SATAN.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
SPECKLED BAND.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
STEPMOTHER.—Empire T., Oldham.
STILL ALARM.—T. R., Llanelly.
SUGDEN, MRS. CHAS.—Queen's T., Manchester.
TANTALIZING TOMMY.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
TEMPTATION.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Prince's T., Manchester.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Lyric T., Hammersmith, W.
THIEF, THE.—West Hartlepool.
THOSE TERRIBLE TWINS.—T. R., Stockport.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—Prince's T., Preston.
TWO LANCASHIRE LASSES IN LONDON.—Palace T., Newcastle.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—T. R., Colchester.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Queen's T., Leeds.
WALLER, LEWIS.—New T., Cardiff.
WARNER, GRACE.—Carlton T., Saltley.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Grand T., Doncaster.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Workington.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—King's Lynn.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—King's T., Glasgow.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—T. R., Worcester.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Pavilion T., Abertillery.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—Royalty T., Barrow.
WHITE MAN, A.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
WHO IS SHE?—Palace T., Bordesley.
WHOM GOD HATH JOINED.—T. R., Blyth.
WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?—Prince's T., Accrington.
WILKIE, ALLAN.—O. H., Blackpool.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—T. R., Cardiff.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
WORLD, FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—T. R., York.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Hippodrome, Hoyland.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

AYLIFF.—Nov. 5, at "Kingscot," Ruislip, the wife of H. K. Ayliff, of a daughter.

HEMMING.—On Nov. 9, at St. Cleather, Clacton-on-Sea, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hemming, a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CRAGG—LEWIS.—Nov. 8, by special licence, J. W. Cragg, to Mrs. H. B. Lewis (Amy Hastings).

GOULD—KELLY.—Oct. 29, at Edinburgh, Frank Jay Gould, son of the late Mr. Jay Gould, to Edith Kelly, musical comedy actress.

DEATHS.

BAINES.—Nov. 2, 1910, at her residence, 93, Bloomfield-road, South Shore, Blackpool, Mary Lavina Baines, aged 59, widow of the late Thomas Baines and mother of Florence Baines.

Taken to fond Nature's loving heart,
Oblivious hence to every care and woe.

Miss Baines wishes to thank her numerous friends for their many tokens of sympathy in her sad bereavement, and especially tenders her thanks to the members of her company for their beautiful floral offering.

CURTIS.—Nov. 5, 1910, at 16, Lascelles-road (late Vernon Street), Leeds, after much suffering, Walter Curtis, Entertainer.

EMERY.—Nov. 8, at Southport, Frank Emery, actor, father of Pollie Emery.

SIMMONDS.—On Nov. 3, at 15, Colchester-street, Pimlico, Benjamin Simmonds, musician, beloved father of Marie Dell and the late Selina Dolaro, aged 84. Interred Nov. 6, Jewish Cemetery, Manor Park. R.I.P.

STEVENS.—On Nov. 5, Charles Edward Stevens, after a long and painful illness. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing children.

SUTCLIFFE.—Oct. 27, at Edmonton, suddenly, of heart disease, Mrs. Alfred Sutcliffe, aged 34.

IN MEMORIAM.

COURTNEY.—In loving memory of our darling mother, Margaret E. Courtney, who died in South Africa, Nov. 9, 1905.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Harry Roxbury—Saturday, Nov. 12.
Ogilvy Keith—Saturday, Nov. 12.
Margaret Murch—Saturday, Nov. 12.
May Henderson—Sunday, Nov. 13.
Herbert Standing—Sunday, Nov. 13.
Grace Lester—Monday, Nov. 14.
Emily Spiller—Monday, Nov. 14.
Charles Cruickshanks—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
G. R. Bigwood—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
John Brill—Wednesday, Nov. 16.
Herbert Waring—Thursday, Nov. 17.
Sir W. S. Gilbert—Friday, Nov. 18.
Stanley Brett—Friday, Nov. 18.
Carlotta Levey—Friday, Nov. 18.

THE Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, which, with the Empire and Royal in that town, is under the control of Mr. "Dick" Thornton, has started a two-houses-a-night show.

MR. MARTIN SANDS writes:—"In your issue of Saturday last my name is included in the cast of *Hush Money*, played at the Pavilion Theatre, Abertillery, during the week commencing Monday, Oct. 31. I gave notice of termination of my engagement on Oct. 15, and appeared for the last time on Saturday, Oct. 29."

"MY first engagement was with a variety combination at some Winter Gardens," says Mr. Dan Rolyat in an interview in the *Weekly Scotsman*, "my contributions being imitations of music hall stars and a little skit called 'The Dude on Skates.' In this I proved that without previous rehearsals I could gracefully stand on the naps of my neck. My salary was to be £5 a week for not less than a fortnight. On arriving at the hall the manager told me the whole troupe had to give a full dress cycle parade every forenoon. What a blow to my pride! I really needn't have troubled, for the streets were empty, save for a few half-starved boys leading dyspeptic donkeys. Why, Robinson Crusoe's Island must have been a rollicking place in comparison. For two solid hours we paraded deserted streets in drenching rain, and at seven o'clock opened the hall doors to a big rush—of cold air, several invalids, and a few children. After our orchestra, consisting of a wheezy trombone and a flute, had played the overture, we were just going to ring up the curtain, when the caretaker, a cadaverous-looking person with an aggressively sandy moustache, freezingly remarked 'that no curtain wasn't goin' up till a few preliminary "exs." was paid.' (He had been counting the audience.) Reluctantly the necessary palm oil was applied, and the performance proceeded. For my first week's salary I got 5s., but the second was worse, for on turning up to receive my pay I was greeted with the cheerful information that our worthy (?) manager had done a bolt, carelessly omitting to leave either our salaries or his address. So ended my first bid for fame."

AFTER the close of the performance at the Jersey Opera House on Saturday evening, the entire staff assembled in the foyer and presented Mr. Lindsay Edwards, the retiring manager, with a handsome set of pipes in case, which bore the following inscription: "From the Staff, Opera House, Jersey.—To Mr. Lindsay Edwards, wishing him the best of luck in his new sphere." Mr. A. W. Williams, in charge of the box-office, in a neat speech, asked Mr. Edwards to accept their tribute as a souvenir of the happy time they had had together. Mr. Edwards, in expressing his thanks, referred to the short time he had been amongst them as the most pleasant in his professional career, and he took that opportunity of thanking everyone on the staff for his or her courteous behaviour during the time he had been manager. He could, with every confidence and without any flattery, say that he had had the most courteous staff any manager could wish to meet, and he hoped that they would show the same consideration to his successor (Mr. Draco) as they had done to him.

"THE THUNDERBOLT," by Sir A. W. Pinero, which was produced at the St. James's Theatre on May 9, 1908, was performed for the first time on the other side of the Atlantic at the Princess Theatre, Montreal, on the 27th ult. by the New Theatre company of New York. The performance was attended by a large and fashionable audience, and the event was a notable success. The New York cast is:—James Mortimore, Mr. Louis Calvert; Stephen Mortimore, Mr. Albert Bruning; Thaddeus Mortimore, Mr A. E. Anson; Colonel Ponting, Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk; Helen Thornhill, Miss Olive Wyndham; Rev. George Trist, Mr. Frank Gillmore; Mr. Vallance, Mr. Ben Johnson; Mr. Elkin, Mr. E. M. Holland; Ann, wife of James Mortimore, Mrs. Harriet Otis Dellenbaugh; Louisa, wife of Stephen Mortimore, Mrs. Sol Smith; Phyllis, wife of Thaddeus Mortimore, Miss Thais Lawton.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.		Foreign Subscriptions.	
One Year	£1 6 0	One Year	£1 12 0
Six Months	0 13 0	Six Months	0 15 0
Three Months ..	0 6 6	Three Months ..	0 8 0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

JOHN SCALES.—*We think not; but you could ascertain by writing to Mr. Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre. See notice above.*

MRS. R. PARSONS.—*Old Gaiety Theatre, Sept. 25, 1886; transferred to Prince of Wales's Theatre, Dec., 1886, then to the Lyric, Dec. 17, 1888, on the opening night of that house.*

HILDA HARWOOD (Chislehurst).—*We have made inquiries, and are informed that the play is not published; but you might write to Mr. J. M. Barrie, care of Duke of York's Theatre, enclosing an addressed envelope.*

G. T.—*Prince Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord. Born in Paris, Feb. 13, 1754; died May 20, 1838. From 1832 to 1835 this famous diplomatist and statesman was Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Great Britain. He was educated for the Church, and became in 1788 Bishop of Autun.*

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester, 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "THE ERA" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

MR. W. B. YEATS delivered the second of his series of lectures in the Memorial Hall, Manchester, on Monday, dealing with "The Theatre." Mr. Yeats said he hoped his audience would agree with him in disliking the theatre of commerce; all firm agreements were based upon the things which men disliked in common. When he came to tell them what he liked they would probably disagree. Melodrama was not worth a quarrel, but there was an art of the theatre which was worth quarrelling with, because it was based upon insincerity. Pinero's *His House in Order* might stand for the type; it was written by a man who had considerable mastery of stagecraft and the use of dialogue, but it was a drama of cowardice, appealing to the moral conceptions of the mob. All popular art, where the artist would not give his own vision of the truth, was conceived in cowardice, for fear that society would fall to pieces if the truth were told.

IN *England*, continued the speaker, the insincerity of the theatre of commerce was being assailed by Shaw and Granville Barker, whose work was inspired with a relentless logic, and by the realism of Galsworthy. But human nature was often lost in the logic, and the fullness of life was diminished in a drama which weighed institutions rather than human character. Yet by their sincerity alone these three were united with all that was greatest in art.

REALISM was necessary as a weapon in the struggle with the conventional drama, but it suffered a great limitation in the poverty of the everyday language it employed. Hamlet could tell you little of himself in two hours if he used our daily speech. To give the impression of reality there was need to magnify expression, to heighten words, as the impressionist painter heightened all his colours. Such expression was coming back to our theatre from places where the common speech of daily life was still the exponent of personality, from Sicily and from the West of Ireland. England could only produce an art of the will, the supreme achievement of our civilisation, which gave us the power of doing things that we did not like doing, until each became as a character of Galsworthy. But the "backward places" gave us the art of personality, of impulse unsubdued by will; the expression of a man doing something because he liked to do it.

LOGICAL analysis of the art of the theatre was going on in Europe to-day; men were studying the conditions peculiar to stagecraft, as William Morris had studied the conditions of the handicrafts. And in the art of the stage-picture they were feeling the influence of Mr. Gordon Craig, who achieved decoration by getting away from reality. It would be objected that the essence of drama was the clash of character with character, and that character must have its appropriate surroundings. But passion was the essence of tragic art, not character, and passion could only be expressed by getting rid of character; the infinite energy of the soul, which arose in the defeat of tragedy, required an unmeasured unreality in its surroundings to reveal its infinitude. In all the great masters of drama, except Shakespeare, character faded away; the passionate motive was everything. Comedy was the expression of character, and it was Shakespeare's great achievement that he added comedy to tragedy. He was a tragic comedian, but in all his tragedies character gave way to passion at the end, and we saw the defeat not of a man, but of human nature itself.

MESSRS. ABEL AND WELSH, performers of considerable originality, are rejoicing in the favour of continental audiences, who express in no uncertain terms approval of their act.

MR. WILMOT HASTINGS, in his speciality the musical tramp, has been so successful at the Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, that his engagement was extended from one week to three.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the **Natural** method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,

BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Bearseller, London")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—TAMING OF THE SHREW, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

REAL HAMBURG GROUND

KROPP RAZOR

NEVER REQUIRES GRINDING.

DO NOT BE PUT OFF WITH SUBSTITUTES.

Black Handle .....5s. 6d.		Pair Ivory Handles in Russia Leather Case .....21s. 0d.	
Ivory Handle .....7s. 6d.		Kropp Strop Paste	6d.
Kropp Duplex Strop 7s. 6d.			

Wholesale: OSBORNE, GARRETT, & CO., LONDON, W.

Special terms. Short-date Loans.

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY. £10 to £1,000.

£10, repay £11 5s. £50, repay £56 5s.
£20, repay £22 10s. £100, repay £112 10s.
£30, repay £33 15s. £200, repay £225.

Call or write to the well-known Financier, W. JACKSON.

Head Offices: 70, Plymouth-grove, Manchester.
Or applications can be made at my branch offices: Regent House, Mostyn-street, Llandudno. 215, Piccadilly, London, W. Central Chambers, Crewe; 26, Corporation-street, Manchester; 14, Cromwell-terrace, Leek; 70, Manchester-road, Burnley.

MONEY
£5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone. Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BIRKBECK BANK

ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

WHEN ON TOUR

The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce

INDIGESTION.

A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Established Over Half-a-Century.

Picture Frames & Mouldings
Decorative Mouldings.
THEATRICAL FRAMES A SPECIALITY.
ESTIMATES FREE.
CARVER, GILDER, & MOUNT CUTTER.
Largest Stock in the Kingdom.
SEND FOR PATTERN BOOK.
Jubilee Edition Just Published. Up-to-date Patterns. Many New and Exclusive Designs.
Post Free for 12 penny stamps.

H. MORELL, Manufacturer and Importer.
17 & 18, Gt. Saint Andrew Street, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C
Warehouses:
11, 12, 13, Neal's-yard and Neal-st. (in the rear).
Telegrams, "Rabbitry." 'Phone, 6135 Central.

THEATRICAL ACCOUNTS FOR BUSINESS MANAGERS.

How the Affairs of a Theatre can be most Efficiently Controlled by the Adoption of Systems of Internal Check.

By CUTHBERT E. SMEDLEY, *Chartered Accountant.*

Price, 3/6. Post free, 3/9.

All concerned with the business side of a theatre will find much useful information and many valuable hints in "Theatrical Accounts for Business Managers," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Smedley, published at *The Era* office.—*Referee*, Jan. 31, 1909.

PUBLISHED BY
"THE ERA," LIMITED,
5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.

EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.

"ECCENTRIC LORD COMBERDENE."
By R. C. CARTON.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER. MISS COMPTON.

First performance, Saturday Evening, Nov. 19.
ST. JAMES'S.
Seats can now be booked.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15,
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES' PRODUCTION,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.15.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
IRENE VANBRUGH in "GRACE."
A New Play in 4 Acts by W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"THE MAN FROM BLANKLEY'S."
For dates at the Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address, King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nov. 14, "OUR MISS GIBBS."
Nov. 21, "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Nov. 28,
MISS ETHEL IRVING in "DAME NATURE."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton.

Monday, Nov. 14.
"HOW GIRLS ARE BROUGHT TO RUIN."

Six Nights only.

Monday, Nov. 21.
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"THE MERRY WIDOW."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Nov. 14, Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's Co. in "SMITH."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
POULTRY SHOW.
Ninth Annual International Poultry and Pigeon Show.
Tues., Wed., and Thurs. next.
First day, 2s. 6d. until six, after 1s.
Theatre, "Raffles," 7.45; Mat. Wednesday, 3.
Exhibition Courts, &c.
Saturday next, Grand Violin Recital by Kriesler, at 3.30.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.

Mr. Maskelyne with "Psycho." Mr. Ernest Hastings, "The Scarab." Mr. Owen Clark, Mr. Harry May Hemsley, and Mr. David Devant, with New Illusions, &c.

Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

OXFORD.—Wilkie Bard (10), Phil Ray, Dan Crawley (8.45), Jose Collins Satani, the Mysterious Raffles, the Miles Stavordale Quintette, Idania Troupe, the Whittakers, Jennie Hartley, Doody and Wright, Leonard Teel, Bessie Slaughter, Alick Lauder, Ruffell's Bioscope, the Great Drury Lane Success, "The Price of Peace" (10.30). Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées, at 2.15.

Manager, Mr. BLYTH-PRATT.

TIVOLI.
WILKIE BARD, MARK SHERIDAN,
RINALDO, Phil Ray, VICTORIA MONKS,
Harry Tate, The Three Keltons, Dan Crawley, The O'Gorman Brothers, Gintaro, Venie Clements, Daisy Dormer, May Mars, Queenie Leighton,
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly,
at 6.40 and 9.10.

Arthur Astill,
Dorothy Grahame and Co.,
Syd May, Jack Warman, Arthur Rigby and Co.,
May Mars, Wilkie Bard,
Dick Tubb, Harry Tate and Co., Josie Collins,
Auguste Van Biene, Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea.

Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Percy Honri and Co. in "Concordia," Barney Armstrong and Kelly, Ernie Sivione and Co. in "P.c. Dew's Dream," Dolly Harmer, Poole and Maguire, Frank Maura, Arthur Astill, Madge Allan, Ruffell's Bioscope, Hilda Jacobsen and Co. in "The Cottage on the Moor."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30. Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Fred Karno's Co., in "Wontdetania," Cressie Leonard, Bioscope, Dolly Harmer, W. S. Wyndham, Joe Dale, Arabella Allen, Rosie Lee, Soho Trio, Fred Karno's Co., in "Our Slavey." Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Nov. 14: Will Evans, Mabel Lowe and Co. in "A Soldier's Wife," Reg London, Ray and Maynard, Alec Lawson, Madge Brownie, Ardell and Odell, Three Torontos, Rose Hamilton and Co., Bioscope, La Valti, &c.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter, in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.

"FALL IN, ROOKIES!"
By Henry Arthur Jones.
THE EIGHT SAXONES, THE FOUR HARVEYS, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"THE FAUN," a fantasy by Dora Bright.
Lydia Kyasht, Fred Farren.
GEORGE ROBEY.
Fred Russell, Henry and Tyler, Olga Tcharna, "The Plumbers," Valazzi, La Deodima, Bioscope, &c. Evenings at 8.
Tuesday next, new ballet, "SHIP AHOY!"

Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.

Ben Davies, Lawrence Groesmith and Co. in "A Loose End," the Balloon Mystery, Gregory Troupe, Lawrence Crane, Polnski Brothers, Grill and George, Topical events, &c., on Bioscope.

Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.

Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE; HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY; THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY; HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.

London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE; PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE; TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY; TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY; TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE; PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.

Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."
Business Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, KING'S THEATRE.
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
London Rep., Gordon P. Firmin, The Film House, Gerrard-street, W.

INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.
BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
controls
the only Circuit of Theatres in the East, and can offer attractions a Twelve to Eighteen Months' Consecutive Tour.
Rent! Share! or Certainty!
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, BOMBAY.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and J. F. Karaka. District Manager, F. Mitchell.
The Premier Theatre of Bombay!
This new and magnificent three-tier theatre, now under course of erection, built on the cantilever principle, will be opened early in 1911. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £300. Every modern improvement. Stage capable of any production.
EMPIRE THEATRE, CALCUTTA.
Joint Owners, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
District Manager, J. Bury.
Acknowledged by Press and Public as the Premier Theatre of the East!
Now in its second year of unprecedented success. Holding capacity at ordinary prices £350.
A magnificent four-tier playhouse, built on the cantilever principle, with modern mechanical stage capable of any production.
A play palace.—Vide Press.
At last Calcutta has a theatre where one can both see and hear in.—Vide Press.
A Manager writes:—I have taken more money at the Empire, Calcutta, in one night than in another theatre in Calcutta in one week.
THEATRE ROYAL, CALCUTTA.
Sole Owner, A. Stephen. Joint Lessees, Maurice E. Bandmann and A. Stephen.
Holding capacity at ordinary prices £250.
THE FAR EAST.
District Manager, Roy H. Smith.

Address all communications to District Managers or to London Representative, 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Cables, "Svengali," London. "Svengali," Calcutta. "Svengali," Bombay.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.

THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.

Electric Lighting and Fans.

The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.

Opening will shortly be announced.

For vacant dates apply,

The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.

Cables, "Misquith, Madras."

Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
AUTUMN DRAMATIC SEASON.
Few vacant Spring dates.
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

BIRKENHEAD. — HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly Drama House.
Business excellent.
No. 1 attractions only entertained.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

BIRMINGHAM.

CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.

To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.

Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.

For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
This new magnificent theatre is one of the finest in the Provinces.
Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 13 and March 27.
All communications, Harry Yorke, Man.-Director.

BLACKPOOL. — HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.

NOTICE.
This Theatre now in process of re-building is being entirely re-constructed upon the Latest and Most Modern Principles from designs by Mangnalls and Littlewoods, Architects, Manchester.

ELABORATE MARBLE AND FIBROUS PLASTER DECORATIONS.
FURNISHING AND UPHOLSTERING IN LUXURIOUS STYLE.
MAGNIFICENT FOYER.
FINEST IN THE KINGDOM.
Greatly improved seating accommodation in all parts; holding capacity increased upwards of £100 per performance.

RE OPENS APRIL 10, 1911.

During the reconstruction of Her Majesty's Opera House, Theatrical Performances of Existing and New Contracts will take place in the Pavilion Theatre, which has been re-arranged and made Cosy and Comfortable for the Winter Season.

FIRST-CLASS NO. 1 ATTRACTIONS ONLY.

Applications for dates for Pavilion Theatre and New Theatre to Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. Suitable Christmas productions (first-class only considered) for Dec. 25 (Boxing Day week) and Jan. 2 (New Year week).
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.
The Home of Stars and Class Attractions.
For Vacant Dates Address,
J. F. Elliston,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Unexpectedly vacant through obliging several managers, Jan. 16 to Feb. 1. Dates in full Term.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD. — CORPORATION THEATRE. Recently redecorated, refurnished, and comfortable bars (full licence) added. The best equipped theatre in the district. Spring dates now filling. Apply, Henson and Davis, Lessees and Managers.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Only Vacant Date this year, Nov. 28.
Wanted, Companies.
Now Booking next Spring and Autumn.
Apply R. J. Bell, Manager, or F. Mouillot, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

EPSOM PUBLIC HALL.—TO LET for Theatrical Touring Companies, Variety Entertainments and Concerts. Dressing Rooms, electric light. Tariff on application.
Manager.

EVESHAM.—New PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed,
good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.

1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Julia Neilson, Fred Terry, and New Theatre Co. in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, Lewis Waller, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess" "The Merry Widow," (three visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Conan Doyle's Plays: "The House of Temperley" and "The Speckled Band," Miss Ethel Irving and Co. in "Dame Nature," "The Mountaineers," H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), "The Whip," "A Brass Bottle," F. R. Benson and Co., Bransby Williams in "Kit Careless," Carl Rosa Opera Company, D'Oyly Carte, &c.

Pantomime at Christmas,
"The Babes in the Wood,"
by J. F. Elliston.

Address,
William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dec. 12 (three nights),
several in Jan. and Feb.,
for Important Attractions only.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

LONDON.—Correspondent required to supply occasional reports of the Balham Hippodrome. Apply, Dramaticus, 5, Tavistock-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.

Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant Feb. 20, 27, March 27 (?).

All communications to Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.

Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.

Wanted, strong attraction for Dec. 5. Vacant through obliging a manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.

Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUID'S HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hull,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.

Possibly Vacant
Dec. 5.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The ANNUAL DINNER of the ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND will be Held at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday, Dec. 11.
H. B. IRVING, Esq., in the Chair.
Donations will be most gratefully received by Mr. H. B. Irving and by Mr. C. I. Coltson, the Secretary of the Fund, from whom Dinner Tickets (one guinea) may be obtained.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Mr. J. H. Maunder.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
A.A. Contract, 1910, for sale, 2d. each.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.

Patron, His Majesty the King.
President, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus.Doc.
Hon. Secretary Charles Morley, Esq.

Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from Frank Pownall, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Estd. and Managed by the Cor. of London.
Principal LANDON RONALD, Esq.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half Term commenced Mon., Nov. 7. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M., Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
The Operatic Class meets on Wednesday at 6.30 p.m., and is now rehearsing Cellier's "Dorothy."
Prospectus on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART.
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET, W.C.
President, GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq.
Principals, CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
Autumn Term.
COMPLETE COURSE OF STUDIES comprises Lessons in Singing, Elocution, Stage Dancing, and Deportment; Gesture, Acting, Fencing, Sight Singing, and Rehearsal of Light Opera and Musical Comedy.
AMATEURS COACHED, PRIVATE LESSONS in all subjects.
Pupils can join at any time.
Half Term, Nov 7, 1910.
Prospectus and all particulars on application to the Secretary.
Tel., 4267 Central.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.

Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."

Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era"
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."

Publisher, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austen-Lee, Mr. Cyril	Sept. 24, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barnardo, Mr. Fred	Oct. 1, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Barwick, Mr. Edwin	Sept. 17, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blake, Late Mrs. Harry	Oct 29, 1910
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Bridgen, Mr. Ernest	Nov. 5, 1910
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Burns, Mr. Harry	Oct. 15, 1910
Cagney, Colonel T. G.	Oct. 8, 1910
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 6, 1910
Carter, Mr. Charles J.	Oct. 8, 1910
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Cohen, Late Mr. Isaac	Oct. 8, 1910
Colley, Mr. Herbert	Jan. 22, 1910
Collingwood, Late Mr. Lester	Sept. 24, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Crisps, The Three	Sept. 24, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. B.	Jan. 8, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dance, Mr. George	Oct. 1, 1910
Darien Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Deane, late Mr. Charles	Oct. 22, 1910
Delaine, Miss Josie	Feb. 12, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Elen, Miss Hilda	Sept. 24, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Oct. 29, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Gordon, Miss Celia	Oct. 15, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. G.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Gregory, Mr. Weiner	Jan. 15, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harrington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Jones, Mr. Tom	Oct. 1, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Kitts, Mr. Charles S.	Feb. 12, 1910
Lee, Miss Lola	Nov. 5, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loraine, Mr. Robert	Sept. 17, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague, Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
My Fancy	Sept. 17, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan. 15, 1910
O'Connor, Mr. W. J.	Oct. 29, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Payne-Seddon, Mr. W.	April 16, 1910
Peile, Mr. Kinsey	Sept. 10, 1910
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phasey, Mr. Handel V.	Oct. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Oct. 8, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Road-Night, Mr. Chas.	Sept. 17, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shand, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 22, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred O.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Triggs, Late Mr. A. Standen	Sept. 24, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victoria, Miss Vesta	Sept. 24, 1910
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wallace, Mr. G. Carlton	Sept. 10, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
Wheeler, Mr. Worland S.	Oct. 1, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Woodger, Mr. Ben	Sept. 17, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each, for any issue 1910; other dates double price.

Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL STORES.

Manufacturers and Makers to the Principal London Theatres and Leading Artists.

Every Requisite for the Stage at Moderate Prices.

DANCING SHOES A SPECIALITY.

We stock Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, specially woven for the manufacture of Dancing Shoes.
Select stock of pure and spun silk Tights, worsted and cotton Tights, Opera Hose Stockings, &c.

A special study made of Symmetrical Paddings.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115 to 119, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Telephone, 7978 Central.
Telegrams, "Raynaloo, London."
Also at
49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo.).

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space
in the 1911 issue of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every town in the world where there is a place of amusement. It is therefore the best medium for those who require world-wide publicity.

Scale of Charges
For Professional Advertisements.

FULL PAGE	£4 4 0
HALF PAGE	2 2 0
QUARTER PAGE	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS
at present Vacant.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS.
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1910.

TRAGEDY AND COMEDY.

Mr. and Mrs. OSCAR ASCHE, since their return from Australia, have made interesting contributions to a theory of the drama. Miss BRAYTON, in referring to the avidity with which the Australian public received tragedy as performed by herself and her husband, said that it was a question of climate and happiness. The Australians, being a prosperous, optimistic people, with a sunny and exhilarating climate and very little poverty, enjoyed tragedy; the English, with their depressing fogs and their millions on the verge of starvation, liked comedies, farces, and musical plays. At the O.P. Club dinner on Sunday last Mr. ASCHE confessed that he had tried to produce classical drama in London several times; and, outside SHAKESPEARE, the attempt had always been non-successful; and he reiterated his wife's opinions on the influence of climate and happiness on dramatic taste.

The enjoyment which is undoubtedly created in many people by a tragedy is difficult to understand. Why should we feel pleasure in witnessing the struggles of a good man with adversity and his ultimate failure to cope with circumstance? It may have been a sight fit for the heathen gods; but why should it be agreeable to ordinary mortals? We may explain the puzzle by saying that the enjoyment consists in excitement, in the spectator being "taken out of himself" by his sympathy being excited. It would seem as though the sensation of interest is so pleasurable that it will overpower even the pain of pessimism in a public that is extremely exuberant in vitality. But it is easy to be misled by the fact that SHAKESPEARE'S tragedies are still successfully played. SHAKESPEARE is out of the range of all argument. What we should ask ourselves, if we wish to get to the bottom of the matter, is, Would his tragic stories, if modernised, be popular in spite of their unhappy endings? Would not a drama in which a modern Iago was successful in ruining the lives of the hero and heroine be a decided failure? Would the suicides of a modern Romeo and Juliet be tolerated on the stage? Even in the last century there was a revolt. When TATE, in his version of *King Lear*, made the tale "conclude in a success to the innocent distrest persons" of the play he was only responding to the general feeling of his contemporaries, as was proved by the time during which his "alteration" held possession of the stage.

There is one explanation—a very mean one, however—of the pleasure that is taken in tragedy—*i.e.*, that an audience of happy people, who feel it to be extremely improbable that they will ever have any serious trouble to endure, enjoy seeing their superiors suffering distress. In that case, what a happy, and what a brutal, public the Elizabethans must have been! They revelled in tragedy of the bloodiest and cruelest kind.

Are we to take it, then, that the more full-blooded and exuberantly vital a nation is the more sorrow, anguish, and distress it can bear to witness on the stage? But, on this principle, how extremely happy the French nation must be! The sort of play which we will not have over here at any price is patronised and supported in Paris by the French public at large, not only, as with us, by a select band of enthusiasts. Anyone who formed his ideas of life from the social studies of the modern French dramatists would be inclined, like SHAKESPEARE'S too well-informed boy, to "shut the book and sit him down and die." Many modern French dramas are not problem-plays, but protest-plays. "I wants to make yer flesh creep!" said the fat boy in "Pickwick." "I want to make you despair of life," might be the remark of many a modern French dramatist.

The whole thing is a puzzle, and we should like to see a "symposium" or "correspondence" on the point started by the curious. If we reverse the arguments of Mr. and Mrs. OSCAR ASCHE, the people who patronise amusing plays ought to be unhappy persons in search of an antidote. But in view of the facts which anyone may ascertain by simply glancing round a theatre where a musical comedy or popular farce is being played, this is not the case. The class which makes entertainments of this sort as successful as they are in England is the young, careless, perhaps brainless, but certainly thoughtless, class, with no cares and few responsibilities. Mr. GEORGE MOORE had a theory that really intellectual people, when they are off duty, go and see the silliest entertainment they can think of, just for a change; but there are not enough intellectual people in London to make the success of a single musical play, to say nothing of half a dozen.

As to whether pessimism and fatalism—that is to say, defeated heroes and unhappy endings—are practically beneficial or injurious, there can be no two opinions. It is impossible to say how much happiness or unhappiness there is in this world in the aggregate. But there is nothing gained by making people, by art or philosophy, more miserable than they are already. The more we have to bear, the more we want to be heartened and cheered for the struggle. It is a bad sign when society begins to despair of itself, and to signify the same in its literature and its drama; and as long as there is vitality in a nation it will resent plays that are likely to depress it. The robust intellect of the scholar rebels against them as much as the mind of the youthful Philistine. "I might relate," says JOHNSON, "that I was many years ago so shocked by Cordelia's death that I know not whether I ever endured to read again the last scenes of the play till I undertook to revise them as an editor"; and, as we have already remarked, for the better part of a century the feelings of playgoers were spared by alterations in the acting version of the play. The fatalistic pessimism of *Widowers' Houses* and *Strife* has been the undoing of two works of genius. For, in spite of everything, a virile race will cling to the theory of free will and deny the doctrine of fatalism. And the results are: hearty dramas, successful heroes, and happy endings; comedy, which cheers us with the suggestion that life is a joke, and farce, with its foolish fun and its physical medicine of laughter. And for these, by the great majority, will the theatre always be beloved.

"A WOMAN'S WAY" TRANSFERRED.

The last performance of *A Woman's Way* at the Comedy was given on Friday, the 4th, and on Saturday Thompson Buchanan's piece was installed at the Globe, where it has been doing particularly well during the week. There is much ingenuity in the development of the plot, and the satire which marks the speeches of Mrs. Waldron is often subtly conceived. "Honour us with truth if not with praise," says Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and this is exactly the request of Mrs. Waldron in the first act. Failing to get exactitude of statement concerning her husband's motor escapade with Mrs. Verney—a model of attractive inconstancy—she hits upon a neatly-devised scheme for "getting her own back." The woman who receives the attentions of so many men can be no match for the woman with faith and love as her weapons; and to the duel between the two there can only be one ending.

Miss Alexandra Carlisle is superb as Mrs. Waldron. Here is the wife who is not going to hug her distress of mind in silence and become patient and passive. Miss Carlisle realises in her acting not only the determination that animates the wife, but the fine tact that possesses her. The voice is always beautifully modulated; the manner invitingly confidential. The actress never over-emphasises a home thrust, or gives the slightest clue to her rival that under a fair show of consideration Mrs. Waldron is dissembling her hate. A most interesting performance!

Mr. Charles Quartermaine has to surmount the difficulty of displaying throughout the comedy a sense of chronic irritation, and this he does quite admirably, it is true, but the part is not so grateful as those in which this clever young actor is usually seen. Mr. Charles Bryant, who reminds one so strongly of Sir Charles Wyndham, is better than ever as Clive Hatton, to which he gives a particularly light touch. Mr. Edmund Maurice makes the very most of the slender opportunities afforded General Sir Harry Dundas—quite an ancient Lothario. Mr. Athol Stewart as the family solicitor, Frederick Rowley, adds much to the merriment of the last act by his naïve confession. Mr. Harry Dodd is an excellent Wilson; Mr. Frederick Lloyd is a particularly good Ralph Bienneharsset; and the author may be thanked for not making the Press interviewer a caricature, as is usually the case. Mr. Eric Maturin does good work as Otho Dundas.

Miss Elaine Inescort, by her refinement and style, softens the unprepossessing characteristics of Mrs. Verney, who is so well known to her admirers as "Puss," and gives fascination and distinction to the part. Miss Kate Serjeantson and Miss Helen Rous are excellently contrasted in the parts of Lady Dundas and the Hon. Mrs. Waldron; and the slight parts of Norah Dundas and Margaret Rowley are adequately sustained by Miss Evelyn Beaumont and Miss Madge Murray. The comedy is beautifully staged, and on the night of our visit was played to an accompaniment of laughter. Mr. Oscar Barrett, jun., is the polite business-manager of this pretty house.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT'S production of Mr. John W. de Kay's play, in a prologue, three acts, and an epilogue, on the subject of Judas Iscariot, will take place in New York shortly. The moral resembles that of *Salome*. Love of a woman is the motive which makes Judas betray his Master. The play has been translated into French by Mr. J. C. de Chassaigne.

"VICE VERSA."

Farcical, Fantastic Play, Founded by F. Anstey on his own Novel of the same name, Produced at the Comedy Theatre on Thursday, Nov. 10.

Paul Bultitude	MR. FREDERICK VOLPE
Dick Bultitude	M..R. SPENCER TREVOR
Barbara Bultitude	MISS AGNES GLYNNE
Marmaduke Paradine	MISS C. M. LOWNE
Dr. Grimstone	MR. ARTHUR PLAYFAIR
Dulcie	MISS PHYLLIS EMBURY
Mr. Blinkhorn	MR. LEVESON LANE
Mr. Tinkler	MR. BRIAN EGERTON
Tipping	MR. W. BRISCOE-OWEN
Jolland	MASTER PHILIP TONGE
Chawner	MASTER BOBBIE ANDREWS
Biddlecombe	MASTER JOSEPH VICTOR
Coker	MASTER F. THORNDIKE
Coggs	MASTER JACK HOBBS
Kiffin	MASTER SIDNEY SHERWOOD
Boaler	MR. CLIFFORD BROOKE
Rhoda	MISS MAY TAVERNER
Ellen	MISS JEAN BLOOMFIELD
A Nurse	MISS LILLIAN BRENNARD
Cecily	MISS MARJORIE DANE
Peter	MASTER BURFORD HAMPDEN

It was on April 9, 1883, that Mr. F. Anstey's first version of his amusing novel *Vice Versâ* was played for the first time in London at the Gaiety Theatre at a matinée for the benefit of Mr. W. H. Griffiths. It was described as a dramatic sketch, in three tableaux, the adaptation being done by Mr. E. Rose. Mr. C. H. Hawtrey was Mr. Bultitude's Body, Mr. Edward Rose Dick's Body, and Miss Laura Linden Dulcie. The piece, which was originally performed at the Theatre Royal, Reading, and had a short run at the Opera Comique Theatre, was substantially the same as the adaptation by Mr. Anstey which was produced with absolute and unmistakable success at the Comedy Theatre on Thursday, though some delightful additions and improvements have been made by the author.

Mr. Anstey's version is in three acts. In the first the position of affairs between the irritable and tyrannical Mr. Bultitude and his son, Dick, is stated, and sympathy is created with the boy, who is obviously a good average example of youthful humanity, while his father is much too hard on him. The "bad egg," Marmaduke Paradine, arrives from India, where he has been given by a fakir a certain magic stone which allows its possessor to have two wishes gratified. Bultitude, in a moment of false enthusiasm, wishes that he were Dick, and the transformation immediately takes place, the spirit of the produce-broker inhabiting the body of the boy, and the boy's soul entering the physical frame of his father. Dick is delighted, and completes the effect of the change by wishing that his father should return to school in his—Dick's—stead.

So poor Mr. Bultitude appears, in the second scene of the act, at Crichton House Academy. The boys cannot understand his manner and his opinions, so different from those of Dick as they knew him before the holidays. His attempts to explain what has happened are baffled again and again, and his disloyalties to the code of schoolboy honour and *esprit de corps* are hotly denounced. His schoolmaster, Dr. Grimstone, is completely puzzled, too. The new Dick "takes on" all the responsibilities of the previous one, including a love affair with Dulcie Grimstone, the schoolmaster's daughter, and a flirtation with another young lady, who throws *billets doux* over the wall to him. Mr. Bultitude is too elderly in spirit to cope with the emergencies thus created. He is bored by Dulcie's advances, and refuses to fight for her with Tipping, the "cock" of the school. He "sneaks" of a boy who is sucking peppermints, and in his own playbox is found a store of the odoriferous lozenge. Dick's correspondence with the former young lady is discovered, and the new Dick is on the point of being expelled. This is exactly what he would like, for he would thus be able to return home; but, unfortunately for him, Dulcie intercedes in his favour, and it is settled that he is to be flogged instead. Before this terrible indignity is done to him, however, he escapes from the school with the aid of a good-natured boy, named Jolland, and arrives home to find that in his absence Dick, in Bultitude's body, has fallen into the toils of the unprincipled Paradine, who has almost succeeded in cashing a big cheque on Bultitude's bankers. However, the father arrives in time to stop any serious injury being done to him in his absence; by the use of the magic stone the souls of the father and son resume their original habitations; and, Bultitude *père* having learnt what school life really is, the relations between him and his son become much more humane.

The piece was cast with remarkable judgment and acted with extraordinary completeness, each impersonation being thoroughly satisfactory and convincing. One can hardly imagine a more absolutely adequate portrait of the testy, overbearing, old produce-broker, Paul Bultitude, than was given by Mr. Frederick Volpe. He hit off the type exactly; and his make-up and general appearance were excellently well studied. Mr. Volpe was admirable also in the way in which he displayed the boyish simplicity of Dick's soul when imprisoned in the corpulent figure of his father; and very funny was the result, especially in the last act. Mr. Spencer Trevor was similarly successful in the manner in which he depicted the pompous and unstable spirit of the elderly gentleman warring with the bodily shape of the school boy. The tricks of style of the adult were very cleverly imitated, and the humour of the situation was never exaggerated. A charmingly frank and spirited embodiment of Barbara Bultitude was supplied by Miss Agnes Glynne, who made a brisk and bonnie lassie indeed; and Mr. C. M. Lowne's mellow and unctuous style and absolute ease and authority made him the very man to play the plausible and pleasant Marmaduke Paradine. Mr. Arthur Playfair must have revelled in the impersonation of the stern schoolmaster, Dr. Grimstone. The broad-bearded pedagogue, with his surface trick of scholastic sententiousness and his ready way of saving a situation, was represented by Mr. Playfair with great zest and appreciation, and a keen perception of the humour of the part; and Miss Phyllis Embury enacted Dulcie with just the correct amount of girlish frankness and simplicity. Mr. Leveson Lane contributed a well-considered and careful reading of the rôle of the Senior Assistant-Master, Mr. Blinkhorn, and embellished it with much quiet drollery; and a firm, sharp, and quaint representation of the pretentious Mr. Tinkler was supplied by Mr. Brian Egerton, who was exceedingly amusing. Mr. W. Briscoe-Owen brought out well the pugnacious superiority of Tipping; the "sneakishness" of Chawner was intelligently suggested by Master Bobbie Andrews; the meek, gentle, and spectacled Kiffin, whose character so soon developes under the influence of school experience, had an able exponent in Master Sidney Sherwood; Jolland's good nature was done justice to by Master Philip Tonge; and Biddlecombe, Coker, and Coggs had capable representatives in Master Joseph Victor, Master F. Thorndike, and Master Jack Hobbs. The conscientious and self-respecting Boaler was embodied with rare ability by Mr. Clifford Brooke, who was the faithful, but self-respecting, butler to the life, and acted with much tact and judgment in the last division of the play. The flirtatiously-inclined Rhoda was neatly hit off by Miss May Taverner; and Miss Jean Bloomfield was good as the more sober-minded Ellen, Miss Lillie Brennand being satisfactory as the Nurse and Miss Marjorie Dane impulsively youthful as Cecily, while Master Burford Hampden behaved well as Peter. The scenery, by F. L. Schmitz, was appropriate and adequate. The new version of *Vice Versâ* had a very enthusiastic reception.

"JUST TO GET MARRIED."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, Produced at the Little Theatre, on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Frances Mellishp	MISS DORA BARTON
Mrs. Macartney	MISS MAUD CRESSALL
Georgina Vicary	MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON
Daphne Grayle	MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Tod Grayle	MR. EVERARD VANDERLIP
Lady Catherine Grayle	MISS ROSINA FILIPPI
Sir Theodore Grayle	MR. THOMAS SIDNEY
Adam Lankester	MR. GODFREY TEARLE
Butler	MR. A. C. FOTHERINGHAM LYSONS
Dobbins	MR. ARTHUR FAYNE

Miss Cicely Hamilton has written a book on "Marriage as a Profession," and some of its deductions are embodied in the really interesting and sincere play produced by Miss Gertrude Kingston at the Little Theatre in John-street, Adelphi, on Tuesday evening. The characters are naturally drawn, the interest is well sustained, the conversations are decidedly good, but the last act is weak. It is the tragedy of the undowered poor relation, who looks to marriage to secure her independence. Georgina Vicary, who is nearing her thirtieth birthday, is dependent upon her uncle and aunt, Sir Theodore and Lady Catherine Grayle, and they are naturally anxious to see her settled in life. A very eligible *parti*, Adam Lankester, is a guest in their country house, and it is plain to see that he is very much smitten with Georgina. Though he has been much in her society during his stay, Adam, with the rugged simplicity and shyness born of his experiences in the Wild West, has been unable to pluck up courage to propose. He does so, however, when saying "Good-bye" on the eve of his departure, and is deliriously happy when Georgina says "Yes!" She is not particularly enthusiastic over it, and her cool, prosaic behaviour would have raised doubts of her sincerity in anyone less infatuated than Adam. He had been on the point of "popping the question" several times, but as he naïvely confesses—"Every blessed time I funked it; I hadn't the pluck to speak out."

The prospective bride's friends, delighted at the turn things have taken, offer congratulations; and in the next act everyone is busy preparing for the wedding on the morrow. Georgina is perhaps the least excited. The absence of Adam and his letters—full of passionate adoration—had given her time to reflect; and though we get no inkling of her determination, we are scarcely surprised when, in an outburst of candour, she tells her betrothed, who has brought her a bridal present of pearls, that she has no love for him: that she merely accepted him because she wanted to get married. It was to escape the tragedy of old maidism, the serfdom of the poor relation, that she had snatched at his love and given him hypocrisy for sincerity. "You have taken my life and broken it in your cruel little fingers," retorts Adam, and he goes out.

Of course Aunt Catherine, who had manœuvred so skilfully to get Georgina "off," is furious at the outrageous conduct of that conscientious young lady, and there is an angry scene—admirably written, by the way, and as admirably acted—ending in Georgina's departure in her going-away dress to the railway station. There we find her in the last act, determined to go to London. Adam finds his way there too. Pity and tenderness overtake Georgina as he offers to be her friend whatever happens. The good fellow's splendid devotion touches her. It breaks down all her maidenly reserve. She proposes, is accepted, and the two depart for London to be married privately.

It will be seen that Georgina is constant only to change, and one fears that Lankester's happiness with her is none too sure. Miss Gertrude Kingston, though hardly looking the part, acts it with rare finesse, and the big scene in the second act between the lovers—the man sad and reproachful, the woman distressed and despairing—roused the audience to enthusiasm, so splendidly was it played by Miss Kingston and Mr. Godfrey Tearle, who will add greatly to a fast-growing reputation by his earnestness and sincerity as Adam Lankester. Miss Rosina Filippi was genuinely amusing as Lady Catherine Grayle—a particularly well-sketched character—whom she represented as a suave diplomat in the first act and as a bitterly disappointed woman in the second. Mr. Thomas Sidney made a hit as Sir Theodore Grayle, whose horror of "scenes" and quiet submission to feminine authority are always so quaintly expressed. Miss Dorothy Minto made the most of the part of an outspoken and cheeky schoolgirl; Mr. Everard Vanderlip was a blunt and cubbish Tod Grayle; Miss Dora Barton played the colourless part of Frances Mellishp; and Miss Maud Cressall managed to make the character of Mrs. Macartney fairly interesting. Mr. Arthur Fayne was responsible for a neat sketch of Dobbins, a railway porter; and Mr. A. C. Fotheringham Lysons was an irreproachable butler.

Just to Get Married was followed by a tragedietta, in one act, entitled

"THE MERCIFUL SOUL."

Hugh	MISS VIOLET B. BUCALOSSI
Colomba	MISS ISABEL MERSON
Annet	MISS CHRISTINE JENSON
Fiordelisa	MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Geoffrey	MR. EVERARD VANDERLIP
Richard	MR. JAMES GELDARD
Old Man	MR. A. E. FILMER
Basil of the Iron Hand.	MR. CAVENDISH MORTON

A mournful little play in a mediæval setting. Basil of the Iron Hand has married, *en secondes noces*, Fiordelisa, a young, impressionable girl, left in the care of Colomba, a saintly woman who is the sister of the first Mrs. Basil. Fiordelisa, during the absence of her elderly lord, accepts the kisses of Geoffrey, a young knight, and carries on a clandestine flirtation with him. The time for Basil's return has arrived, but his ship is wrecked, and he is drowned. His disembodied spirit reproaches the false Fiordelisa, and freely forgives her, at the same time extracting a confession of love from the high-souled Colomba. No sooner has the spirit of Basil departed on the long pilgrimage than men-at-arms bring in his body. The fall of the curtain came as a relief to the settled gloom of the piece. Miss Isabel Merson gave a beautiful and touching performance of Colomba; Mr. Everard Vanderlip made a warm and passionate Geoffrey; and Miss Dorothy Minto as the unfaithful Fiordelisa did all that was possible with that character. Mr. Cavendish Morton played the spirit of Basil in the traditional method adopted for ghostly visitants to the nether world of the stage.

MR. E. H. SOTHERN is about to make in New York his first appearance in the rôle of Macbeth. Scenic artists have been employed upon the production for nearly two years. The sets will be twenty in number, and it is Mr. Sothern's intention to emphasise the supernatural and psychological elements of the play. Miss Julia Marlowe will be the Lady Macbeth.

ON the 4th inst., at the Criterion Restaurant, another highly successful "At Home" was held by the Actresses' Franchise League. On this occasion the meeting was included as one of the series being held during "Suffrage Week," in support of the Conciliation Bill. Mrs. J. B. Fagan was in the chair, and the speakers were Lady Constance Lytton, Mrs. Pertwee, Mr. Cecil Chapman, and Mr. H. Campbell Johnstone. Mrs. George Edwardes kindly acted as hostess. The hall was crowded, and the following resolution was carried with only three dissentients:—"That this meeting calls upon the Government to give facilities for the passing into law this Session of the Representation of the People (Women) Bill, 1910."

"JUSTICE" AND THE ACTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The current presentation of Mr. Galsworthy's play in Manchester revives discussion of this remarkable drama, and offers the opportunity of making a needed note on its significance from the technical point of view of the actor.

That its formative influence on the profession of acting is likely to be as potent at least as its pressure upon public morals, play-writing, and other issues of more general interest, has, as far as I am aware, escaped notice, yet inherent in the peculiarity of the play's technique is a force to attract and bring into prominence a school of stage artist hitherto largely of negligible standing. I mean that body of men and women—attracted to the stage, I believe, only of late years, and recruited from the educated ranks—whose impulse is more that of the genuine artist than is the instinct of the actor of tradition, whose activity largely—perhaps chiefly—is towards personal impression and individual power. Egoistic prominence is doubtless the logical and inevitable ambition of specially gifted, strong personalities; but it is to be noted that eminence of this particular kind does not now, as it once did, stand as the "be all and end all" of theatrical aspiration, nor does failure to achieve public and popular distinction mean negation so much to-day as it did yesterday, when it was almost the only achievement honoured with the name of success, not only by the public outside—who are still largely burdened with this tradition—but even in the ranks of the workers of the stage. The hold of this ideal, however, is loosening, and new adjustments towards regeneration are taking place. Among a nucleus there are observable ambitions of the more ancient artistic kind; determinations to resist the attractive unworthy, to seek for the secret causes of vitality and life, and to achieve them at any cost—even in the hard region of personal suppression and renunciation. That the hope of the larger histrionic progress lies in this tendency is not to be doubted, yet there is room for all classes of activity. It is to the point of this note, however, that *Justice* has comparatively little to offer the personal protagonist, who of necessity needs a considerable amplitude of dramatic material in which to display his powers; and the distinction of this play lies in the fact that, inherently, of its own nature, it has drawn together for the first time, and presented in a brilliant setting, a company of those players who stand in the van of the advanced, welcome movement, and it is this fact among others—not, perhaps, sufficiently recognised—that helps to make the play a figure of a new and inspiring time.

In this connection it is noticeable that the actors in *Justice* make comparatively little individual personal impression. The material they use is vital, even showy, but not expensive, or modulated on any telling length gamut. They appear to be figures acutely alive, clear-cut, and sharply relieved; but, though vivid, they are, in a measure, microscopic, because the peculiarity of the technique of this play is that it reveals the story by a series of high-lights, in tragic glimpses at the peaks of crisis, rather than in the slower, fuller, more comprehensive methods to which the stage is accustomed, and which gives the actor more scope. The action, indeed, is ever at breathless pauses, at the faltering utterance, at the moment of catastrophe. There is practically no development of character. The basis of contributory movement and thought which generates the crisis and its mood is, to all intents and purposes, suppressed: the spectacle afforded is, on the whole, chiefly that of the social machine in motion rather than a drama of human generation; and the business of the actor almost entirely consists in appearing at the points when the strain has reached an acute stage and the victim is squeezed to a state of agony. For this reason—and the chief parts most of all—while the characters appear to be in the most prominent projection towards the spectator, they yet seem to lack the impressiveness of breadth and the weight of solid expansion and development. They create comparatively little *personal* impression.

Needless to say, the truly artistic spirit is amply compensated by work of this kind, for though it suffers some egoistic eclipse, it is vivified by dealing in living material and in entering thereby into the domain of universal—as opposed to purely theatrical—art.

If we seek a definition for the particular class of artist a play like *Justice* assembles, we find it, perhaps, most aptly in another branch of work under the denomination of the miniature painters or gravers. Swift and clean strokes of technique at high pressure is alone the manner of portrayal. What benefit *Justice* has conferred on the profession may be gauged when it is remembered how inconspicuous this section of the theatrical community were before its advent, and how hence forward they are likely to represent a definite factor in its midst.

Work of this kind, it scarcely needs pointing, is not in any sense easy or simplified stagecraft, consisting chiefly in the discarding of old, conventional methods of work, but represents rather the super-addition on the stem of effective traditional training of the much-needed qualities of imagination and nervous sensibility. On this ground, therefore, the new drama is no school of probation for the aspirant seeking the elements of stage capacity. These must be acquired still in the robust, positive, well-tried ways of the old régime. Stillness and tensity of demeanour—perhaps the dominant singularity of *Justice* as a new dramatic form—cannot be handled effectively but on a basis of the old-fashioned methods of stage grip and power.

The presentation of crisis, in which *Justice* chiefly consists, by its inherent quality reduces a great deal of the play to an almost static and soundless form, and this manner is its most prophetic element. Inevitably, it is not a chance accident, but represents a quality which the author pressed out of the living tendency of the time. The dramas of modern existence do not run to spectacle or sound, and they are still waiting to be caught by the stage as they show themselves, dimly but magnetically, in the more intangible deeps of human nature. *Justice* is, however, a play of the heart and not of the soul; but its moments are yet those on the borderland of silence, and some unspoken intangibilities have to be conveyed by the actors by means of such technique as is at present at command. To present a state of mental crisis vividly, with nerves and imagination taut and still, may well, however, be experiments on the road to more capacity in the region of the finer and subtler psychology which is characteristic of modern life.

In the slow development of the actor's art the mental, nervous, and imaginative qualities seem at last to have been added to the physical equipment, needing only the right play, like *Justice*, to point their existence. May the time, therefore, need only the appearance of the *practical* plays of further progress for complementary advanced technique on the actor's side also to appear?—Yours faithfully,

BREMBER WILLS.
Actors' Association, Nov. 10.

THE Buckinghamshire Players are the latest village histrions to come before the public, their purpose being the production of plays of local interest. Most of the members are chair-makers, or work on the land, and they have no wish to compete with professional actors, but to remain amateurs. Their first play, *Pot Luck*, will be produced at Naphill on Nov. 19. It is by Miss Gertrude Robins, and deals humorously with a poaching incident.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The London Hippodrome and the London Coliseum will again have to carry on their business without a licence for intoxicants, in spite of Mr. Gill's able appeal to the common sense of the Theatres Committee of the L.C.C. at Clerkenwell yesterday. Last year the Committee approved of the granting of the licenses, but their decision was reversed at the sitting of the whole Council. A report of Friday's licensing proceedings appears in another column.

The application for the licence of the Camden Hippodrome was opposed by Mr. Curtis, but the Committee ruled that his notice was out of order, and recommended that the application should be granted. The house has been closed since Monday, Oct. 31, and all applications in connection with it are to be sent to Messrs. Marler and Marler.

Miss Annie Hughes closed last Saturday a successful tour of *Miss Tommy* at the Opera House, Blackpool, and resumed her music hall engagements at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, Nov. 7, where she was greeted with a very flattering reception on her appearance as Mme. Sans Gêne in her new sketch *Napoleon's Washerwoman*, which scored a distinct and unqualified success. Miss Hughes is ably supported by Mr. Henry Deas as Napoleon and Mr. Mayne Lynton as Fouché.

Miss Hughes will produce at Liverpool, on Monday, Nov. 14, a new dramatic duologue which she has acquired absolutely from the author, Mr. W. Douglas Newton, entitled *The Fourth Kiss;* in this Miss Hughes will have the assistance of Mr. Mayne Lynton. Liverpool is followed by Manchester for two weeks with the above-named sketches, and on Dec. 5 Miss Hughes will return to the Syndicate halls, opening at the Metropolitan.

Mr. John Lawson arrived at Southampton on Wednesday after a nice trip across, and goes to the Hippodrome, Margate, on Monday. During his stay in New York John purchased 25,000 dollars' worth William Morris Inc. stock, following the example of several American actors and vaudeville performers.

Mr. Frank Allen, who, it will be remembered, took up the cause of the old Music Hall Benevolent Fund so warmly, and has always supported music hall charities, has also kindly consented to act as a patron and assist in every way possible the organisation of the charity matinée on the 24th at the Empire, Liverpool, in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. The Mayor of Blackpool (Mr. W. H. Broadhead) has sent a cheque for a large private box, and the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. S. Mason Hutchinson) has granted his patronage.

The box-office is now open, and much local interest is being evinced in this, the first provincial matinée in aid of the variety charities. There is a good demand for seats, the prices for which are as follows:—Orchestra stalls, 5s.; grand circle, 3s.; pit stalls, 2s. 6d. and 2s.; upper circle, 1s.; and gallery, 6d.

The second London benefit in aid of the Benevolent Funds will be held this year, by kind permission of Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, and the directors, at the London Hippodrome, on Tuesday, Dec. 13, when it is hoped to surpass even the grand success of the matinée at the Coliseum last Christmas. It is hoped to be able to arrange a big novelty, which is a secret at present.

"Dolly's Little Bills" is the title of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's one-act play for the Hippodrome at Christmas. It is founded on the quarrel scene in *Dolly Reforming Herself*, in which Miss Ethel Irving played so superbly at the Haymarket Theatre two years ago.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones has written to Mr. Winston Churchill, the Home Secretary, an "open letter," in which he strongly advocates the passage through Parliament of a short, non-contentious Bill rendering legal the production of plays at music halls. Throughout the kingdom there are, it is estimated, 150,000 illegal performances of stage plays in music halls every year, and this number is rapidly increasing.

Pointing out some of the anomalies of the present position, Mr. Jones says:—"An absurd illegal agreement between the managers of theatres and music halls is enforced, limiting the music halls to the production of plays containing not more than six characters, and not lasting longer than half an hour. Thus, if one of the best London music hall managers were to produce a fine original play lasting thirty-five minutes, he would be prosecuted, while the theatre manager who prosecuted him might himself be producing the most witless vulgarity."

Mr. Jones points out that the Censorship Committee recommended a simple licence for both classes of houses, giving them freedom to produce whatever entertainment may best conform to the tastes of the public they serve, and he urges the Home Secretary immediately to carry this recommendation into effect. Mr. Jones omits one important particular. Who is to be the licensing authority? The theatre managers of the West End advocate the retention of the Lord Chamberlain; but the London County Council has a much greater area of jurisdiction.

Mr. Alfred Moul, managing director of the Alhambra, has asked us to correct the statement that the London County Council will be asked to sanction proposals involving the rearrangement of the seating accommodation of the Alhambra Theatre. Mr. Moul adds that the statement was unauthorised and entirely erroneous. All that he has done has been to forward an inquiry to the London County Council asking what their requirements would be in the event of the Alhambra directorate deciding at any future date to alter the seating arrangements of the Leicester-square playhouse.

Mr. Gus Elen must have been delighted with the warm reception accorded to him on his return on Monday to the Coliseum. "The little gee-gee" and "The Mistakes of Nature" were not enough for the admirers of the Cockney caroller, and they insisted on another contribution. Gus gave them his well-known "'Alf a pint o' ale." His admirable distinctness in such a vast house was a fine testimonial to his methods.

The death is announced of Mr. Benjamin Simmonds, violinist, and father of the famous Selina Dolaro, one of the most gifted women of the mid-Victorian era. Selina, like Adah Menken, wrote poetry, and was flattered by admirers, both literary and artistic. At the Philharmonic, in 1871-72, she figured as Genevieve de Brabant in the opera of that name, as Frédégonde in *Chilperic*, and as Clairette in *Madame Angot*. She also played in *La Perichole* at the Royalty, and was at the Alhambra in 1877. But the qualities of her Carmen in Bizet's opera received the greatest praise from the critics. Mr. Simmonds was at one time the first fiddle in the orchestra of the old Trocadero Music Hall, under Mr. Angelo Asher. He died at the ripe age of eighty-four, and was buried in the Jewish Cemetery at Manor Park.

The Matlock Bath Urban District Council are prepared to engage a band to play in the Pleasure Grounds, Matlock Bath, from June 25, 1911, to Sept. 9, 1911. For further particulars apply H. W. P. Carter, Council-chambers, Matlock Bath.

Mrs. Maud Barrasford has recently acquired the commodious property adjoining the Court Theatre, Brighton (formerly for many years occupied by Messrs. Crunden, furniture and antique dealers), with a possible view to enlarging her successful picture house.

The Alhambra, Brighton, which was for some years run under the management of Mr. J. L. Graydon, will be running drama at any rate for a season, and will open on Monday next with *The Bad Girl of the Family*, seemingly a mascot drama both for halls and theatres. A pantomime will be produced at Christmas.

Miss Bertha De Pas resumes on Monday next her Northern tour of return dates, which will extend to the middle of January, when she sails for South Africa for a two months' engagement at Mr. Sydney Hyman's Empire Palace, Johannesburg. We understand that Messrs. Tom Shaw and Co. are booking her well up for 1913.

The Hastings Hippodrome, a variety establishment on which fortune has not smiled, is to become a picture house, and will open as such, under new management, on the 19th inst. The Co-operative Varieties, Ltd., have been supplying the entertainment of late, but have ceased their connection, and will start on Monday at Hastings Pier.

The construction of the new Kursaal at Worthing for Mr. C. Adolf Seebold, the lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal in the town, is now proceeding apace, and it is quite likely that it will be ready for opening early in the new year. It will be the largest building in the town, and accommodation will be provided for over three thousand people.

There is no need to inform our readers that the new Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor W. H. Broadhead, J.P., is the chief of the "Broadhead Tour," which controls about fourteen variety halls in Manchester and other Lancashire districts. Ladies were invited to the mayoral banquet for the first time in the history of the borough. Mr. Broadhead is the father-in-law of Mr. Percy Honri, of concertina and *Concordia* fame.

It is seldom we get the real bushman in England, but there is one of the genuine sort appearing this week at the Empire, Hull. His name is Salt Bush Bill, otherwise William Mills. He weighs 16 stone, is tall, broad, and burly, and cuts a picturesque figure in his cord breeches, top boots, and red shirt. He is the real thing, and a stock-whip expert, who can manipulate a thong 52ft. in length. We hope to see Salt Bush Bill in London.

The distress in Hartlepool caused by the lock-out in the shipbuilding yards shows as yet no signs of abatement. Relief is being contributed through many channels, and on Friday last Mr. Maxted, the genial and popular lessee of the Empress Theatre, placed his building, staff, artists, and services at the disposal of the Distress Committee. In addition to the ordinary programme, local talent contributed to the entertainment, and a considerable balance was handed over.

Extensive preparations are on foot for this season's pantomime at the Grand, Glasgow, to be produced early in December. Moss' Empires have entrusted the production to Mr. Fred Karno, and *Dick Whittington* will be the subject. Included in the cast are these popular artists:—George French, George Ali, Harry Webber, Burley and Burley, Lily Morris, and Maidie Scott. With such a capable and popular crowd success is already guaranteed.

Mr. Wm. Trussell, who for the past five years has been manager of the Palace, Southampton, said "Au revoir" to his friends last (Friday) evening, when two grand gala performances were given. Mr. Trussell has been promoted to the London office of the Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, and his successor at Southampton is Mr. J. R. Badcoe, who returns to scenes of former triumphs, after a successful sojourn at Burnley. Mr. Badcoe is a good sport, and we wish him a long and prosperous reign at the Southampton Palace.

Mr. Lindsay Edwards, who has made himself immensely popular as manager of the Jersey Opera, was the recipient of a present from the staff on his retirement last week, when the management was taken over by Mr. Pan E. Draco. The staff also made a presentation to Mr. Clements, the electrical engineer who manipulates the pictures, on his marriage to Miss Ahier, the fascinating lady who for the last two or three years has had charge of the bar. The presentations were made by Mr. A. Williams, who presides at the box office.

The Sheffield branch of the National Lifeboat Fund has for many years received ready help from the directorate of the local Empire, and the annual matinée on the 3rd inst. on behalf of this noble cause was a great success, thanks to the support of the public, the loyal help of the artists, orchestra, and staff, and the indefatigable exertions of the honorary secretary (Mrs. J. A. Craven) and Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.

The beautiful theatre presented a brilliant appearance, the boxes and stalls being graced by the presence of the Lord and Lady Mayoress (the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam), the Master and Mistress Cutler (Alderman and Mrs. Senior), Sir Joseph and Lady Jonas, the Ladies Elfrida and Joan Fitzwilliam, and the principal notables of the city and district. A fine programme was contributed to by many well-known artists, including the Princess D'Aryaba (the famous dancer), the Grassis, Mr. Tom Costello, Lew Lake's company, Miss Nellie Chisholm, Miss Calladine's troupe in a ballet divertissement, and the orchestra. At the conclusion an enthusiastic vote of thanks was passed to the Moss' Empires Co., the artists, &c., and to Mr. Alan D. Dunbar, the popular and genial manager.

Lew Lake is by way of presenting a tabloid version of *The Great Millionaire*, Mr. Cecil Raleigh's Drury-lane drama, presented on Sept. 19, 1901. The two famous scenes in the piece are the £100-a-guest banquet and the bread riot in the East End. The play will be produced under the personal supervision of the author and Mr. Heaton Grey, who is general-manager of Lew Lake's dramatic companies for the production of similar Raleigh's pieces.

After an expenditure of £500 on alterations and decorations, the Spread Eagle, Lambeth-road, has been transformed into the coziest professional house of call in this neighbourhood. There is a large rehearsal room on the ground floor with separate entrance, which, being let at very moderate terms with piano and use of telephone, will be greatly appreciated by sketch proprietors and others. The proprietor, Mr. Tom Cavill, will be pleased to see all friends at any time.

Mr. Tom Dunville has added "The Railway Station-master" to his gallery of comic stage portraits, and he is giving this at the Hippodrome, Belfast, on Monday next. He returns to town on the 21st.

The latest addition to Mr. Albert Toft's "makers of history" includes the irrespressible and energetic Seymour Hicks. He has certainly helped to make history on the variety stage by a remarkable reproduction of *Richard III.*

Mr. Herbert Shelley writes of "The New Tyranny." In his letter he says: "I read that the rioters at Tonypandy surrounded the Hippodrome, ordering the manager to immediately close down, threatening to take the law into their own hands, and showing, at the same time, a man with bleeding face and battered head as a sample of their intentions.

"As this is by no means the first instance where in an industrial strike the music hall has been ordered to close, I, in all humility, ask why? Surely the majority of music-hall artists do enough in the way of helping the funds and institutions of the workers in times of peace, without being made the unwilling sufferers in times of industrial arguments.

"Truly the situation becomes a tragic paradox if men and women performers are to be asked to give their services for the benefit of the soup kitchen one week, and told to clear out of the theatre the next because of a local dispute. The life of the average music-hall artist is infinitely harder than the artisan's, and as such should command the sympathy of the disputants and not their abandonment."

Miss Decima Moore's one-act farcical comedy, *A Black Mark*, which was produced at the Kilburn Empire the week before last, met with such success there that it is being rapidly booked up, and will be played by her at the opening weeks of the London Palladium.

Mr. Harry Rickards, who is on board the Peninsular and Oriental liner Morea, outward bound, writing from Port Said to Mr. Tom Pacey, says he is having a splendid trip and enjoying a good rest. According to present arrangements, Mr. Rickards will be in England again next May.

Mendel, the blind pianist, who made his first appearance in the West End of London at the Hippodrome, returns there again on the 21st, after a most successful tour in Australia. It is to be hoped that the manager of the house, Mr. Fred Trussell, himself an excellent pianist, will outline a theme on which Mendel can improvise.

The committee of the M.H.A.R.A. held their 683rd meeting on Wednesday, at the offices, Lieut. Albini presiding. There were also present Messrs. F. W. Millis (vice-president), Chas. Cohorn, Jack Straw, Tom Packer, J. W. Cragg, and C. Douglas Stuart. The balloting for the position of vice-chairman resulted in Mr. Harry Blake being re-elected. The weekly statement showed an increase of forty-seven new members, and receipts of £60 9s.

Mr. Edmund de Celle, the son of the popular comedienne, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, who some time since embarked upon his career as an artist, is making rapid progress, and recently secured two prizes for painting at an exhibition given under the auspices of the Camberwell Sketch Club. He also had the distinction of being highly commended by an eminent R.A.

Griff and George, jugglers and acrobats, are to appear at the Palace Theatre on Monday next. Griff has been there before with his whimsical juggling entertainment, accompanied by a running fire of patter. With his new partner he has made an enormous success in the States, and his rentrée to the Palace will mark his reappearance before a metropolitan audience. He is an excellent clown.

The total subscriptions to the George Fuller Golden Benefit are given as 2,538 dollars 57 cents. To this must be added a cheque for £5 5s. (21 dollars), which Mr. Joe Elvin has sent through the Variety Artists' Federation, and which has just been forwarded to America. The benefit performance is to be given at the New York Hippodrome on the 20th inst., so that our readers who wish to help a good cause should send their donations at once to 18, Charing Cross-road.

A daring burglary took place last Saturday evening at Loraine Mansions, Holloway, whilst the occupier was away from home, every room in the house being ransacked. Mr. Bertie Ralland, the manager of the Holloway Empire, having received information of what had happened, and that the gentleman chiefly interested was in the hall, promptly came forward and made an announcement from the stage, and the occupier of the burgled premises thus became aware of what had occurred.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the Crown Hotel, Charing Cross-road, on Wednesday afternoon, when there were present Messrs. Wm. Bailey (in the chair), H. Jennings* (trustee), W. J. Waimatta, A. Drew, S. Whyte, and V. T. Carney. A proposal for a special performance in aid of the management fund, to take place early in the New Year, was discussed, and received the unanimous approval of the members present. The necessary arrangements in regard to the benefit entertainment, which will probably be held on a Sunday evening, will be settled at a future meeting.

With regard to Mr. Oswald Stoll's proposal to erect another music hall in Euston-road, a deputation recently attended before a committee of the St. Pancras Borough Council and urged that, in the interests of morality, it is not desirable that another music hall shall be erected in this locality, since amusement is already provided by the Euston Theatre of Varieties, close by, and at other places within a short distance, and in the opinion of the deputation the erection of another music hall would tend to depreciate further all the property in the locality.

The committee has received another deputation from tradesmen in the locality, who said, on the contrary, that the suggested music hall would provide a higher type of entertainment than is at present obtainable in the district; that it would improve the business of the traders there, purchase from the council a large amount of electric current, and pay in rates a considerable sum per annum. The Borough Committee has recommended that the council take no action in the matter.

Devotees of the driver and the cleek will be interested to learn that definite arrangements have been made with the Honor Oak Club for the affiliation of the Vaudeville Golfing Association with their club. Mr. Gus Garrick asks all those who have promised to join, but have not sent up their subscriptions, kindly to do so at once, as after fifty members have been enrolled the subscription will be raised. Subscriptions should be forwarded to W. H. McCarthy, 98, Charing Cross-road, or to the Secretary, Vaudeville Golfing Society, at the same address. Those who don't golf should learn. The keen eager walk across the links, the varying fortunes of the "shots," the delight of surmounting a "stymie" on the green, all add a zest to the "constitutional," which is a fine preparation for the turn at night.

The first performance of the new nautical divertissement, entitled *Ship Ahoy!* by C. Wilhelm, will take place at the Empire Theatre on Tuesday next.

Every detail of the life on board a great mail steamer has been most carefully studied, and with such a popular theme as a nautical subject, and with such a superb cast, every element of success seems to be assured.

The following important letter is from Mr. John Lawson, who writes from the American Theatre, New York, under date Oct. 25:—

"English artists about to visit New York with acts they have created, and on which they are paying a royalty to the author, will do well to make sure that they have the American rights as well as the English rights secure.

"For five years I have held the vaudeville rights of *The Monkey's Paw*. On my second week at the American Theater litigation is commenced against me by an American manager, who claims the American rights of *The Monkey's Paw*. I am threatened with injunctions, High and Low Courts, bonds, and a thousand other troubles an ordinary man might fall under. Eventually I put up a bond of $250.00, and withdrew *The Monkey's Paw* from the Morris Circuit, pending affidavits and other matters which necessitate a trip to England.

"With a revolver held at my head I was asked to pay $100.00 per week for permission to play a sketch I have a perfect right to, according to my contract. I am now wondering if, when I return to New York next January, anyone will claim the American rights of *Humanity*.

"My advice to brother artists contemplating a trip to America (and it is a great country—the hospitality is overwhelming) is: Be sure your house is in order—otherwise expect trouble. I shall be very pleased to give any information upon my return in the middle of November."

It is proposed to book the Watford Palace—recently acquired by Mr. Joseph Davis—in conjunction with the Syndicate halls.

Millicent Freres, society gymnasts, are back in England, after a most successful tour, and have not yet settled for pantomime.

Miss Vera Saunders's new song, "Herman, you must speak to me in German," will be published by Francis, Day, and Hunter. Vera, who is still in her teens, will be seen at the London Pavilion on Dec. 5.

Miss Lily Langtry, at one time known as the Jersey Lily, and who is the owner of "Mr. Jersey's" racing stable, will, so we are informed, make her variety début at the Pavilion, Glasgow, early next year, to be followed by tours of the Barrasford and De Frece halls. It is to be hoped that her stage name will not clash with the other Lillie Langtry, the sprightly little comedienne, who has "made good" in three continents.

Miss Madge Temple, the charming musical comedy star, is making an absolute hit at the Pavilion, Glasgow, where she is making her first appearance. She immediately established herself a favourite with the audience, who joined heartily in her popular choruses, particularly "On the silvery sands," a number with a most infectious chorus. Her beautiful costumes, too, have been the admiration of the ladies.

Miss Gladys Maxwell has secured the rights of a new dramatic sketch, written by Edward Thane, entitled *Molly Dureen*. She will produce it at Canning Town on Monday next. The sketch is a blend of comedy, pathos, and sensation, which should appeal strongly to music hall audiences. It will be elaborately staged, with every attention to detail, and Miss Maxwell will be supported by a specially selected company.

The chief newcomer to the London Hippodrome next week is Mr. Fred Lindsay, who thus returns to the house at which he made his first appearance in one of the most original acts of modern times. Mr. Lindsay, who is without a rival in the manipulation of the stock whip, will appear on Monday in a new version of his amazing act. A beautiful set, illustrating the charms of backwood life in Australia, has been prepared.

Among the newcomers at the Coliseum next Monday are Miss Kate Cutler, who has played Nan in *Good for Nothing* in the halls, in a duologue, entitled *An Episode*, and Miss Maudie Thornton, who made her début on the variety stage from musical comedy.

Miss Thornton is a particular favourite in the provinces, in Australia, and South Africa. She has taken the leading parts in Mr. George Edwardes's touring companies, namely, Franzi in *The Waltz Dream*, Mitzi in *The Girls of Gottenberg*, Sonia in *The Merry Widow*, Sally in *Miss Hook of Holland*, the name-part in *See See* and *The Girl Behind the Counter*, &c., and has been principal boy in *Cinderella*, *Aladdin*, *Sindbad*, *Dick Whittington*, and *Forty Thieves* pantomimes.

Mr. Charlie Ferrier, who has been long associated with Harry Burns, the popular variety agent, in the management of the latter's provincial agency, has been appointed manager of Mr. Burns's new town offices, which are being opened at Walter House, opposite the Tivoli, in the Strand. On Saturday last, to mark their appreciation of Charlie's genial popularity, a number of professional and lay friends induced him to accept a slight memento in the form of a handsome travelling outfit. In a felicitous speech Mr. Maxted, of the Empress, Hartlepool, handed over the gift. Charlie feelingly responded, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony and conviviality.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar generously gave her services at a concert at the Balham Assembly Rooms on Wednesday in aid of the organ fund of the Church of St. Anselm, Tooting Bec. The popular comedienne received a warm welcome, and afforded the large audience much entertainment with her interlude of song and story, impersonating a café chantant artist singing a Swiss jodelling song, and recounting a number of racy anecdotes in her own diverting fashion. In response to an undeniable encore, Miss Dagmar gave a mock pathetic recitation, called "A Message from the Dead," which provoked much merriment. She was recalled to the platform to receive a bouquet and renewed expressions of goodwill.

In returning thanks to those who had contributed to the success of the evening, Father Donovan, the rector of the mission, singled out Miss Dagmar for special appreciation, emphasising the kindness of the artist, who had come a long distance to oblige, and had afterwards to journey to Poplar, which was the next scene of operations. A number of well-known entertainers also figured in the programme. Miss Rita Gallally displayed her elocutionary skill and versatility in recitations grave and gay; Mr. George O'Hagan's humorous songs proved irresistibly droll; an encore was gained by Miss Mary Jones for her singing of Tosti's "Good-bye"; and similar distinction was conferred upon Miss A. Henesy, a cultivated soprano, who sang "Rose in the bud" to her own accompaniment with considerable taste and expression. Mr. Aloys Hilf presided at the piano efficiently, and won loud applause for an able rendering of Brahms' Scherzo in E Flat Minor.

In its comments on the opposition to Mr. Oswald Stoll's new enterprises, the *Performer* remarks:—"Music hall artists generally will welcome any addition to the existing number of music halls, for the very obvious reason that it will give more chance of employment to a large body of unemployed. The amount of unemployment that exists in the music hall profession to-day—not amongst undesirables or unemployables, but amongst reliable performers—is much greater than is generally known to the outside public."

Mr. Harry Weldon ("Stiffy") duly made his appearance at the Coliseum on Monday afternoon in his droll business as "Turpin," and his humour caught on with the packed house. Unfortunately, he has been unable to work since, owing to a bad attack of bronchitis, but hopes to resume business on Monday at the Gaiety, Birmingham.

Walton and Lester conclude eighteen weeks' London season to-night, and leave town Monday for three weeks, commencing at Palace, Derby, after which they return to London and the Gibbons circuit, and will be seen in pantomime this year at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

A particularly attractive item will be introduced to London at the Tivoli on Monday, when Mlle. Amélie de l'Enclos will make her first appearance in a little scena, entitled *The Little Whistler and His Dog*. This has been specially written for her by the celebrated composer, Mr. Oscar Straus, who is a great admirer of her talent. Mlle. de l'Enclos has a voice of exceptional range.

We referred in our columns last week to the Old Grange estate, Kilburn, which Mr. Stoll has acquired for frontage purposes for his proposed Coliseum, and the greater part of which he is prepared to re-sell to the public as an open space. A petition in favour of the proposed new Coliseum and recreation ground was being most extensively signed there on Saturday evening, and a house-to-house canvass during the week has brought many signatures to the petition from residents.

Staffo, the juggler, on his journey on Monday morning from his apartments to Liverpool-street Station, en route for Hippodrome, Colchester, had a narrow escape. Whilst crossing London Bridge his taxi-cab smashed into a heavy van and broke the wheel off, sending him and his luggage tumbling in the road. He received a severe shaking, and it was with difficulty that he arrived at his destination. Though feeling a little sore, he bucked up and did his performance.

Mr. Will Dalton (Dalton's Agency), of 62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester, is at present lying very ill. He has had periodical attacks since an operation three years ago, and his health of late has been indifferent. This news will no doubt cause surprise to many among his legion of friends and clients, who know so well his hustling propensities and continual energy. He is always on the road, and seldom to be found at home in Manchester amongst his friends.

Miss Lola Lee, who gave in our last issue some interesting facts regarding English and foreign dancing, is this week appearing at the King's Theatre, Southsea, where her dancing is creating an unusual amount of interest. Judging by the enthusiastic applause which is bestowed upon her nightly by a crowded house, it is quite evident that the revival of this most graceful and delightful style of dancing is thoroughly appreciated by the patrons of Mr. Boughton's pretty house.

Orchidée, a dancer trained according to the precepts of Loie Fuller, has been seen at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, and is a performer possessing grace, beauty, and intellectuality. She is a born dancer, and her presentment of poetic and classical dancing at the Coliseum on Monday added immensely to the interest of a great programme. A delightful feature of the pretty Orchidée's show is the dancing and play of a troupe of children, numbering sixteen, who should be immediately secured for the new Palace of Happiness scene in *The Blue Bird* when that fantasy is reproduced at the Haymarket.

Benj. Woodger, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires, on behalf of the committee, to acknowledge with thanks the following contributions:—W. H. Lennon (Empire, Swansea), £1 8s.; Miss Cissie Lawson (Empire, Camberwell), box collection, 7s. 10d.; W. T. Simmons (Palace, Reading), 4s. 6d.; the Borough Market and South London Fruiterers' Charity Sports (per H. Morris, treasurer), £5 5s.; and Harry Rawn, parcel of men's useful clothes. Also to thank Morris Abrahams (Queen's, Poplar) for taking two collecting-boxes for the Home. The next committee meeting will be held at the Three Stags, Kennington, on Thursday next at 12 noon.

The L.C.C. agenda paper for Tuesday's meeting included a report from the Theatres and Music Halls Committee. One of the paragraphs had reference to the Alhambra, the Committee reporting that they had considered drawings, submitted by Mr. W. Cave, showing alterations proposed to be made at the Alhambra Palace of Varieties, Charing Cross-road. The alterations include the abolition of the pit, the extension of the stalls, and the formation of a foyer at the rear of the stalls seating, the rearrangement of the saloon bar, and the abolition of two exits leading into Leicester-square. The Committee recommended the approval of the proposed alterations. This recommendation, however, was omitted when the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Greenwood, moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. Joe Archer and Mr. Syd Crossley were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order upon Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Andie Caine, W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T. The organist was Terrier Arthur Were. Messrs. Harry Alvey (X Rays), Frank Forsyth, Phil Hayes (Barnes and Ascot), Jack Lane, Fred Leon (X Rays), Charles A. Rowcroft (Zettmah), Frank Sylvo, Harry Valdo, James Valdo, and Sam Vincent have successfully passed the ballot. Applications for membership have been received from Messrs. J. W. F. Grant, Dan Thomas, Harry Rogerson, Frank Sauteron, Reg Wentworth, and Len Teel.

The second ladies' concert of the season was held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday last. The chair was taken by Terrier Andie Caine, W.T., supported by the president, Terrier Griff, and Terrier Harry Barnard, who was in the vice-chair. Terrier Bert Marsden acted as musical-director, and Terrier J. Charles Moore was the accompanist. The following artists contributed to an enjoyable programme:—Miss Cooper, song, "Daddy"; the Adeles, thought-reading act; President Terrier Griff, imitations of a child crying during a pianoforte lesson and recital; Terrier Bert Marsden, song, "Oh, dear"; Terrier Tom Packer, song, "Value for money"; Terrier Ernest D'Alessino, song, "Your eyes have told me so"; Terrier Andie Caine, songs, "Dingle, dongle, dell" and "My novelette"; Terrier Harry Brown, song, "Summertime"; Terrier Joe Archer, stories and song "Troubles"; Terrier Walter Norman, song, "The Longshoreman"; Terrier Syd Crossley, song, "Pot-house Politicians"; Terrier George Cooper, song, "Occupations"; Mr. George W. Baker, entertainment at the piano; Mr. Eddie Comet, stories. There was a record attendance at the meeting prior to the concert. Terrier Bert Marsden was W.D. and Terrier Edward A. Rose the Y.B.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MR. HARRY RANDALL'S new humorous song "I'm using Sunday language all the week" is in very great request, the "smoker" world being on it to a man. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and is by the author of many of Mr. Randall's most admired numbers, with music by Maurice Scott.

Two songs of Messrs. Francis and Day's that are advancing in public estimation by leaps and bounds are "Good-bye, everybody's girlie," and "You taught me how to love you, now teach me to forget." Miss Clara Beck sings the latter and Miss Crissie Cross the former, and each with taste and distinction.

HAPPY are the lots of the artists engaged in pantomime, and also of the managers and producers, who have been, and are still, wending their ways toward Messrs. Francis and Day's establishment these last few weeks. To one and all of such, including many who had journeyed up to London post haste and purposely, it has been a comfort and solace to know that everything they required from overture to finale was ready to their hand under the one roof, thus giving them time for themselves and saving fruitless, irritating and aimless wanderings in the byeways of the Metropolis. Others there are, likewise, who have not even taken the trouble to visit the headquarters of the world's best songs, but have selected all their requirements from the two pantomime books issued by the foremost publishers. Messrs. Francis and Day, and by the present look of things is not likely to be omitted from any Christmas annual.

BRISK inquiry for Messrs. Rich and Rich's "We don't want a girl" and that other humorous item, "And just then he fell out of bed" (Miss Ada Reeve's song) continues to be made at Messrs. Francis and Day's, and the appreciations for "Flanagan," "In cherry blossom time in Japan," "Come with me down Regent Street," and "There are nice girls everywhere," are showered into the firm's capacious letter-box by every post.

THE news of the thunderous encores demanded by imperious audiences from Miss Maie Ash when she has finished "Take your girlie where the band is playing" (the words and music of which are by Fred Day, and which has been dropped into the successful musical play, *Captain Kidd*), has been noised abroad, and has indubitably settled what is to be the pantomime march song for the season 1910-11. The song is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THAT sterling and delightful artist, Miss Clarice Mayne, whose "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," has been voted by principal girls one of the finest things in their way this year, will be shortly heard in a new song, entitled "All the little birds have gone to bye-bye," written by Joseph Tabrar and Worton David, and composed by the genial Tabrar. It has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day for publication, along with the fair artist's other new numbers—"By the moon's pale light," written by Louis James and composed by J. W. Tate; "Will you walk into my parlour, Nellie Bly?" by George Arthurs and A. J. Lawrance; and "Nursie! Nursie!" by Worton David and Bert Lee.

MR. GEORGE H. ELLIOTT, the "chocolate coloured coon," must be satiated with ceaseless plaudits. During the week now drawing to a close he has been set down to appear at Croydon twice, at Brixton once, and at Balham twice, and on each occasion he has faced his audiences the applause has been deafening. His "Little Black Cupid in the Moon" and his "Mister Owl"—both published by Messrs. Francis and Day—are booked for pantomimes galore, and are certain at the theatres to obtain a great vogue.

AT the Holborn Empire, where money has had to be turned away during the week, Miss Ella Retford has been cheered to the echo for her vivacious rendering of "Hi! Hi! Mr. McKie." This is one of the pantomime songs of which much will be heard during the forthcoming season, it having been in great demand recently among producers. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

A COMIC song, written and composed by Fred Hastings, is being published by Messrs. Francis and Day, with the title, "Oh! what a rude awakening!" It is being sung by the author-composer, and also by Mr. Fred Weldon.

AT the London Hippodrome during the forthcoming week the fine band of the establishment will play as selection Herbert E. Haines' "Three Woodland Dances," which Messrs. Francis and Day publish. The singing by Miss Elhaline Terriss of the late Walter Slaughter's "Only a penny," in the revised version of *Bluebell* at this house, has given the sale of this pretty and pathetic ballad a decided fillip. This also is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

ONE of the daintiest songs that has seen the light for a decade or more has just been published by Messrs. Francis and Day under the title of "Hush! little babe!" The words and music of the song are by Owen Thompson, M.A.

THAT swellest among swell comedians, Mr. Arthur Woodville, has acquired from C. W. Murphy and Harry Castling a fine new song entitled "I've been out with the Man in the Moon." Mr. David Day's firm has it in the press.

AMONG the new dance music that will shortly be published by Messrs. Francis and Day will be found "Nightingale" waltz and "Agrès Moi" galop, both by that past master of his art, Charles Coote. The distinguished composer has also written a taking march entitled "Pompadour," which will also be published by the same eminent house.

A ROLLICKING song that will be much in request at Christmas gatherings is "Everyone's key fits my street-door," which Miss Minna Green is singing. It will be published forthwith by Messrs. Francis and Day, and is by Percy Edgar, Huntley Trevor, and Henry E. Pether.

KARL F. HOOPER and J. Chas. Moore, of the National Music Publishing Co., 132, Charing Cross-road, hold the real goods in the ballad line. "Why do you wait for to-morrw?" is absolutely the greatest ballad ever written. It will be featured in almost every pantomime of note this year, and we strongly advise artists and managers who have not yet chosen their numbers to secure without delay this sensational ballad. Messrs. Carlisle and Wellmon (who have been featuring the song at London halls during the past few weeks) have been creating quite a furore with this number; in fact, at the Holborn Empire the programme was stopped owing to the enormous popularity of its ear-haunting melody.

THE National Music Publishing Company, 132, Charing Cross-road, are indeed an enterprising firm, besides possessing what looks like being one of the biggest ballad hits of the year. They are exploiting a number of songs which, in the opinion of recognised judges, are sure to "get there."

J. CHAS. MOORE and Fred E. D'Albert have been doing the hat trick again, their latest being a tuneful, catchy, go-ahead comedy chorus song entitled "Sammy in his Tam O'Shanter hat." Pantomime artists should make a point of hearing this number.

"WE ALL WANT TO CANOODLE WITH SOMEBODY" (a companion song to "We all want something to cuddle"), written by J. Chas. Moore and Fred E. Cliffe (the young song-writer who is rapidly coming to the front), is a Dame song with great possibilities. Mr. Geo. Robey has again secured this great number. Mr. Scott Barrie, at the Lyceum Theatre, London, will also make a big feature of "We all want to canoodle with somebody." Comedians playing dame this year should secure this great number at once.

(Continued on page 26.)

RICHARD III. AT THE COLISEUM.

When an actor of parts demanding the lightest touch enters the realms of tragedy, the experiment may be one fraught with some danger to his reputation, but it has a special interest for the public, and, incidentally, the critic. When, therefore, Mr. Seymour Hicks announced some time since in newspaper gossip that he would essay the rôle of Richard the Third, the statement was regarded as a veritable staggerer. That he did so on Monday with a success as gratifying to himself as to his admirers, is due in the first place to his pluck, determination, and earnestness. (Oh, yes! our Seymour, the chartered gaggist of many a musical play, can be tremendously in earnest.) In the second place Mr. Oswald Stoll entered into the project of Shakespearean production at the Coliseum with an enthusiasm every whit as warm as that of Mr. Seymour Hicks. Then there was the artistic aid of Mr. Guy Laking, the King's armourer, to give us a *coup d'œil* of the flower of the *haute noblesse* of the Tudor period in all the pomp and circumstance of a chivalrous time, and lastly, there was the stage management of Frank Parker, a master of spectacle. There are many purists who urge objection to the serving up of excerpts from Shakespeare on the variety stage, but the Coliseum has such wonderful stage facilities that it was surely quite within the province of its director to present a most interesting historical spectacle and to make of it a brave show.

The text of the excerpt is taken from the fourth act, the action commencing in the second scene. The crooked-backed tyrant is crowned, but is uneasy while the young princes live. Their imprisonment and murder in the Tower are shown in a couple of tableaux accompanied by the fine incidental music of Edward German, who conducted on Monday. Richard has reached the stage when he is "in so far in blood that sin will pluck on sin," when "tear-falling pity dwells not in this eye." The craft and subtlety of the throne-seeker have given way to the despair and fatalism of the Monarch. Richard feels that the conscience of England is aroused. The "wretched usurping boar" can but buckle on his armour and rave defiance.

The cast of the play is as follows:—

"KING RICHARD III."

King Richard III. .....MR. SEYMOUR HICKS
Henry, Earl of Richmond ..MR. HUBERT CARTER
Duke of Buckingham ..MR. NORMAN WRIGHTON
Lord Stanley .....MR. CECIL MORTON YORKE
Sir William Catesby .....MR. J. C. BUCKSTONE
Sir James Tyrrel .....MR. J. J. HOOKER

Mr. Seymour Hicks on entering the throne-room, Westminster Palace, commenced somewhat nervously on Monday afternoon, but the deeply-interested house speedily inspired him with confidence, and his speeches to Stanley and Buckingham were full of stern import, in strong contrast to the more persuasive accents when addressing Tyrrel. It was in the tent scene, however, that the actor made the deepest impression. Richard would kneel before the crucifix, but the hypocrisy, so glib-tongued when dealing with men, is dumb before the emblem of Divine mercy. Unhouselled, the King hides his eyes, and comes forth in an attitude of humility. In the battle scenes, where the mere dissembler and wily politician becomes the warrior, Mr. Hicks made it quite evident that Richard was endowed with undaunted courage, and the final combat was a supreme exhibition of baffled hate and deep despair. Mr. Hubert Carter gave spirited expression to Richmond's address to his followers, and was in every way excellent in the part. Mr. J. C. Buckstone made an effective Sir William Catesby; Mr. Norman Wrighton gave due expression to the disappointment of Buckingham; Mr. Cecil Morton Yorke was the Stanley; and Mr. J. J. Hooker the Sir James Tyrrel. The battle of Bosworth Field commenced with a flight of arrows from the bowmen, and the stir and stress of conflict were finely suggested by the clash of pike and halberd. The crowd of armed men did their battling well under Mr. Frank Parker's directions, and the fight at Bosworth made a series of stirring pictures. The headquarters of Richmond's forces are in one of the prettiest of wheatfields, the bit of English pastoral scenery being very finely done by Mr. W. T. Hemsley. Mr. Willie Clarkson wigged not only the nobles of Richard's court and Richard himself, but the phalanxes of fighting men, and what Willie does is always done well.

At the conclusion of the play, in answer to many calls for a speech, Mr. Seymour Hicks acknowledged the kindness of his friends in front, to whom he was deeply grateful, and stated that he had tried to be earnest. Without Mr. Oswald Stoll he should not have had the opportunity of appearing in the character, and he thanked Mr. German for his kindness in lending him the music and for personally conducting it.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PUBLISHERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST SONGS.

LEGITIMATE HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

MY MARY. MISS ZONA VEVEY.

HAIL, SMILING MORN. (WILL YOU SING THIS GLEE WITH ME?) WILKIE BARD.

PUT ON YOUR TAT-TA, LITTLE GIRLIE. MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

FLANAGAN. MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

HI! HI! Mr. McKIE. MISS ELLA RETFORD.

Mr. OWL. G. H. ELLIOTT.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE FRANK CASS.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU

DAVE CARTER.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE. WHIT CUNLIFFE.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND. TOM COSTELLO.

IN CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN. MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

WHY DOES Mrs. FLANAGAN WANT TO GO TO THE ISLE OF MAN? ROWLAND HILL.

TAKE YOUR GIRLIE WHERE THE BAND IS PLAYING. MISS MAIE ASH.

AND THE THREE MOST POPULAR SONGS OF THE SEASON—

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS, TOP O' THE MORNING (Bridget McCue), and DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.

PANTO. BOOKS NOW READY. No. 1 PRINCIPAL BOY & GIRL SONGS. No. 2 COMEDIAN AND DAME SONGS. COST OF DISPATCH, 6d. EACH BOOK.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London. THE PLACE WHERE THE HITS COME FROM.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the college concert on Thursday evening, Nov. 3, the Quartet for Strings in F major (M. Ravel), was played by Miss Winifred Douglas, Mr. Eugene Goossens, Miss Janet Macfie, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe, who were most successful in the third movement, "Très lent." In Bach's unaccompanied violin solo "Chaconne" Mr. Antonia Piedra displayed a fine tone and marked technical ability, well deserving the storm of applause which greeted his very able performance; but better even than the applause and four recalls was the promising future before the talented young violinist. Mendelssohn's C minor Trio, for piano, violin, and violoncello, the last instrumental item in the programme, was ably executed by Miss Jennie Wilson, Miss Florence Hanson, and Mr. John Snowden. Miss Dorothy Broad sang a selection from Brahms with admirable purity of tone. An English translation of Brahms' song was given in the programme. Miss Gladys Hislop gave Schubert's "Wasserfluth," but was most successful in a pleasing song by C. A. Lidgey, "The Wind on the Wold." Miss Constance Stockbridge and Mr. William Murdoch were the accompanists.

THE National Music Publishing Company, 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C., have in the press a new song, entitled "I'm learning the lockstep," being sung with great success by George Formby. This number was written when *The Man from Mexico* was first produced, so the authors (J. Chas. Moore and Fred E. Cliffe) are quite justified in claiming it to be the original lockstep song.

M. PADEREWSKI celebrated his fiftieth birthday on Sunday. The famous pianist was born in Podolia, Russian Poland, on Nov. 6, 1860, and began to play the piano at the age of three.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 25.*)

The present has truly been a red-letter week with the house of Feldman, and "crowded out" is the term that most fittingly describes the condition of the professional department of that huge concern. Callers have been legion; producers and performers have been constantly arriving, eager to sample the luscious wares for Christmas consumption so temptingly spread before them by these astute caterers to the wants of the multitude. The tit-bit of all is, of course, that exquisite ballad "Beautiful Garden of Roses," which, having ravished ears American early in the year, now bids fair to eclipse its own record by becoming the bright particular "star" song of each and every pantomime in the land. From Old Drury downwards this is certain to be the specially "featured" number in Christmas "annuals" everywhere, and principal boys are fixing on it with an avidity that speaks volumes for the seductive charm of both words and music.

Miss Carlotta Levey will open at the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday next, with her latest great success, "Maggie Ryan from London Town," one of the big plums in the Feldman basket this year, and the week following will find her seeking the suffrages of West End audiences at the Oxford with the same racy number. There has been a record demand for "Maggie Ryan" for weeks past for pantomime, and this is already an assured favourite for both principal boys and girls.

Miss Florrie Forde has just scored hugely with a new comedy chorus song, entitled "There's something about a soldier," which gives every indication of being the hit of her répertoire everywhere, and the wide-awake firm of Feldman have acquired the number for publication forthwith. There is a dash and "vim" about both words and music that must irresistibly appeal to all principal boys this year, and this song may safely be predicted to prove a big eleventh-hour "winner" for all who apply for permission to sing it in pantomime.

Mr. Harry Marlow, a vocal comedian who is rapidly coming to the front, produced Feldman's strong comedy number, "We're miles away from home," at Manchester with very great success a week or two ago. He is now singing it on the Gibbons tour, and will specially feature it at Christmas, when he plays Dandini in Mr. Milton Bode's *Cinderella* at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. This is a song that may be specially recommended for light comedians and others engaged in pantomime.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie this week has made a most pronounced success with her really beautiful song-scena, "Connemara," at the Hippodrome, Southend-on-Sea, this week, and many and long have been the plaudits that have been showered upon her for her refined and artistic rendering of this delightful Feldman song. Miss Ra-Leslie is specially "featuring" the great comedy chorus song "Oh, boys, I've seen you there" (also published by Feldman's), in pantomime at Belfast this year.

A telegram recently received at Feldman's runs thus:—"'Lead me towards the girls' great success last night.—Harry Simms." This is one of the most promising comedy chorus songs issued by the famous Arthur-street firm, and, although a trifle late for the present season's pantomimes, in which so many better-known songs of Feldman's will figure, it is certain to loom large in pierrot circles, and doubtless in pantomime also, at a later date.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are issuing a fine instrumental number, "Danse du Paraguay," which is already the rage of Vienna, and should shortly prove the same in this country also. Several musical directors of pantomime have acclaimed this composition most highly, and it is already fixed to figure in a number of the earliest-produced pantomimes in this country. Ere Boxing Day arrives it may pretty safely be predicted that the "Danse du Paraguay" will be a prominent feature in all!

Not only have those delightful young artists the Romps been hugely successful in the West End with Feldman's great march-time chorus song "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," but Mr. Colin Carlisle and Miss May Lilian Levey have also been making phenomenal hits all round the provinces with the same favourite number. This stands out as one of the biggest songs of the season from the principal boy point of view, and daily applications in large numbers are being received at headquarters for permission to use it in pantomime.

That the sons and daughters of Erin can be equally as enthusiastic over the merits of a real good song, well sung, as Metropolitan audiences are has been evidenced at the Empire, Dublin, this week, where dainty Enis Josie Delaine has been duplicating the success she recently achieved at the Oxford and other London houses with that delightful Feldman number, "Little Miss Importance," which has been cheered to the echo in the Irish capital. This is "the" principal girl's song of the year of its class, and many will be its exponents this year when Christmas comes round. It will be specially "featured" in one of the first of the Glasgow pantomimes.

That statuesque and delightfully humorous artist Miss Alexandra Dagmar has just found two numbers after her own heart in "U-li-i-a-tee" and "Silver Bell," both published by Feldman's, and will produce them immediately, making them, in fact, the staple items (apart from her deliciously naïve stories) of a new entertainment. Both of these are being very extensively taken up for pantomime, "Silver Bell" in particular being almost certain to have a very big vogue indeed.

When Miss Gladys Mavius opens at the Holborn Empire on Monday next she purposes producing, for the first time, a new comedy chorus song, published by Feldman and Co., entitled "Do they all go to see the sea?" which good judges confidently predict will be one of the biggest "hits" yet exploited by this clever young singer of popular songs.

Daily on the increase is the demand for Miss Ada Reeve's two great songs, "Foolish questions" and "Nobody knows—nobody cares," for pantomime purposes, the last-named especially appealing to all artists playing Dick Whittington and other pantomime heroes with a vein of sentiment in their parts. On the other hand, "Foolish questions" is one of the biggest laugh-getters of the present season. Both are published by Feldman and Co.

A particularly fine comedy chorus song which most principal boys have already decided upon as an important adjunct to their respective parts is that great George Lashwoodian success, "Mister Pat O'Hare," with which this favourite comedian is simply "storming the castle" at the Palace, Leicester, this week, and no safer card could be played for pantomime than this assured and proven success. Ubiquitous Feldman is again in evidence here as the publisher.

A song of the "Wild and Woolly West" is always necessary in pantomime, and in "Santa Fè," the number with which Miss José Collins won golden opinions at the Tivoli and Oxford and other principal halls recently, Feldman and Co. are offering a gem of the first water for all artists affecting this type of business. Both words and music are far above the average.

FELDMAN'S TRIUMPH for PANTOMIME.

"CARDEN OF ROSES"

The acknowledged Ballad of the Year.

This Song will outrival our former Hits:

"TINY SEED OF LOVE" AND "SOMEWHERE."

NO ARTISTE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THIS. DO NOT BE MISLED! WE STAKE OUR REPUTATION ON THIS SONG! IT WILL POSITIVELY BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL SUCCESS EVER PUBLISHED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHERS OF POPULAR MUSIC.

ARTISTS, REMEMBER! YOUR SUCCESS IS OURS.

OTHER GREAT WINNERS FOR PANTOMIME.

BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON. SUNG BY MISS ELLA RETFORD.

MISTER PAT O'HARE SUNG BY GEORGE LASHWOOD.

BY THE SEA. SUNG BY MARK SHERIDAN.

NOBODY KNOWS—NOBODY CARES. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

YOU WERE COMING THRO' THE CORN, MOLLY DEAR. SUNG BY MISS GERTIE GITANA.

MAGGIE RYAN FROM DUBLIN TOWN. SUNG BY MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY.

WHEN JACK COMES HOME AGAIN. SUNG BY MISS DAISY JAMES.

MARIE LOUISE. SUNG BY MISS VENIE CLEMENTS.

LET'S HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF SUNSHINE. SUNG BY FRED BARNES.

OH, BOYS, I'VE SEEN YOU THERE. SUNG BY THE ROMPS AND MISS MAY LILLIAN LEVEY.

MARY, YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW. SUNG BY ARTHUR ALDRIDGE.

FOOLISH QUESTIONS. SUNG BY MISS ADA REEVE.

LIZA HAD HOLD OF MY HAND. SUNG BY JACK PLEASANTS.

SILVER BELL. SUNG BY MISS MAGGIE CARR.

LONGING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME AND **GEORGIE TOOK ME WALKING** SUNG BY MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW. SUNG BY MISS LILIAN HERLEIN.

THOUGH YEARS GO ROLLING BY. SUNG BY MISS ANNIE SCHUBERTH.

I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE. SUNG BY MISS MABEL GREEN.

SING! SING! SING! SUNG BY DAMERELL & RUTLAND.

SANTA FÈ. SUNG BY MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

THE BARBER'S BALL. SUNG BY THE TWO BOBS.

LITTLE MISS IMPORTANCE. SUNG BY MISS JOSIE DELAINE.

PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST AND **I WAS STANDING AT THE CORNER OF THE STREET.** SUNG BY GEORGE FORMBY.

ANY LITTLE GIRL THAT'S A NICE LITTLE GIRL. SUNG BY JOE O'GORMAN.

WE HAVE THE GREATEST AND MOST VARIED SELECTION OF **PROVEN SUCCESSES for PANTOMIME** EVER OFFERED TO ARTISTS AND PRODUCERS. CALL OR WRITE AT ONCE, STATING PART AND THEATRES.

B. FELDMAN & CO., 2 & 3, Arthur St., New Oxford St., W.C.

Tel. Address: "HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone: 4447 GERRARD.

Messrs. Feldman and Co. have an astonishing array of pantomime songs this year. Really, it will be difficult for artists to decide which are to be their numbers, so great is the variety and so many the plums. The song which promises to become prime favourite with light comedians is one by Glover Kind, entitled "Let's have a little bit of sunshine." Mr. Fred Barnes is the sole singer, and is making this number his big song for the theatre Royal, Portsmouth, pantomime.

Mr. Charles Sheard's firm are daily receiving enquiries from vocalists for Mr. H. W. Petrie's fine but charming soprano or tenor song, "The Roses tell me of you." Letters recently received by them state that Mr. Herbert Aldridge, Mr. F. Barrington Dalby, Mr. Geo. H. Fox, and many others are all delighted with the song, and that they intend singing it at all their engagements.

Kloop and Ramsey are this week repeating their wonted success with "Don't break your loving heart for me," Mr. Marcus Hope's enchanting sequel to this popular song, "I'm wearing my heart away for you." Vocalists on the look-out for a really successful and captivating ballad should at once communicate with Messrs. Sheard and Co.

Some people seek to escape trouble and some meet it half-way, but judging from the demand for copies and the ever-increasing success of Joe Archer's undeniable comedy hit, "T-r-o-u-b-l-e" (Those wedding bells are ringing), we are all in for a good dose this Christmas pantomime season. "Don't you hear dem bells" spelling out the refrain?

"T-r-o-u-b-l-e. Those welling bells are ringing,
You're all gay, they seem to say, but trouble they are bringing.
You take a wife, you take on strife that sticks to you like glue;
It's a lot of silly rot when you tie the wedding knot,
It's a knot that you can't undo."

Several of the pantomime producers have decided to stage this telling number with a chorus of seven, or more, girls, with headgear for the wedding bells effect.

Last Monday's Australian mail brought the glad tidings from Messrs. Sheard's local agents that, so far as the Antipodes are concerned, Messrs. Dempsey and Schmid's two latest songs, "If you must love someone won't you please love me" and "Moonlight in jungleland," are both downright genuine hits, more so in fact than the same composers' much-boomed "Beautiful garden of roses." Don't wait until you hear somebody else score hits with these melodious and dainty songs, but get right in at them yourself at once.

There is evidently a boom coming along in waltzes. The *Evening News* has recently devoted considerable space to the subject in their offer of £100 as a prize in a competition for British-born waltz-writers. Messrs. Sheard have during the past year foreseen the coming evolution in the tastes of patrons of the terpsichorean art, and have issued four new waltzes by Mr. Frederick Hopkins, viz.: "The scent of the jasmine," "Dreams of the past" (Reve d'Autrefois), "The shadow," and "Lilies and thee," Miss Constance White's "My dreamy waltz," Tito Natali's "L'Amour Passionné" (Love's passion), Constantine Baga's "Tristesse d'Amour" (Love's sorrow), and a new waltz entitled "The Empire," dedicated to Mr. Frank Allen, the director and general-manager of Moss' Empires, Ltd., by the genial and well-known variety agent, Fred Higham. Orchestral parts have been published for all these waltzes, and any musical directors who have not already got them are invited to apply for them to Messrs. Sheard.

Miss Iva Voyce, the phenomenal lady bass, tells Messrs. Sheard that having sung their famous song, "Asleep in the deep," 1,698 times, with Stanley Gordon's "When the ebb-tide flows" as a relief, during the past year or more, she is delighted with Mr. Stanley Gordon's unique triumph in the art of writing for bass voices, "Neptune" (Lord of the sea am I), and that she received hearty encouragement to adopt it as the only possible successor to Mr. H. W. Petrie's world-renowned song. Its favourable reception this week at the New Cross Empire she hopes to repeat next week at the Stratford Empire and at Shepherd's Bush the week following, and so on.

Messrs. Sheard have in the press one of the best pantomime dame songs written for years in "I call him my chocolate soldier because he works at Fry's." It is the work of those up-to-date writers, Percy Edgar and Huntley Trevor, and they have produced both as regards words and music one of the cutest skits imaginable.

Mr. Maurice Farkoa has placed his latest society success, "Never give the girls away," written by Mr. Frederick Weatherley, with music by Mr. Noel Johnson, with Mr. Charles Sheard's firm for publication. Mr. Farkoa reports this item as likely to prove one of the most precious gems in his répertoire.

Clifton Bingham and Edward St. Quentin, those well-tried collaborators, have added to their laurels with their new expressive number, "What would my life be without you?" with which Mr. Will Norrie is "hitting them" in South Africa all the time. It is graceful and melodious, so all vocalists looking for an appealing number should certainly call at Messrs. Sheard's and hear this one.

Messrs. Charles Sheard lost no time in securing Edward St. Quentin's tuneful number, with its haunting valse chorus, "Everywhere." Miss Edith Combes is singing it with great success at her engagements, and has chosen it for her star number at the Plymouth pantomime. Those who want a song that "goes with a swing" throughout, with a catchy chorus, will find this "the very thing."

At the Tivoli this week Ernest Shand has been making a tremendous success with his new song "We really had a most delightful evening" (Worton David and George Arthurs), published by the Von Tilzer Music Co. This firm of publishers are also responsible for the two huge successes Sam Mayo is featuring at all his engagements, viz., "Wallah-wallah-wallah-peroo" (Indian song) and "Oh, poor father and mother!"

Von Tilzers have been very busy with Fragson's songs lately. Among their latest issues we note "The old tom cat" (Wimperis and Bertrand David), "It's the English!" (Wimperis, Fragson, and Penso), "Father's safety razor," "On your honeymoon," "The other department, please" (Worton David and Bert Lee), "The old banjo" (Wimperis and Christine), and a charming little sentimental number, entitled "Baby's box of toys" (Worton David and R. Penso), which was a great hit with Hippodrome audiences a week or two ago. Harry Champion, Fred Earle, and Harry Ford also figure on Von Tilzer's new list in their songs "My natty little patch behind," "John! John! John!" (Time's going on), and "What is a——?" respectively.

Miss Vesta Tilley's new song "The girls I've left behind me" (Worton David and R. Penso) bids fair to rival in popularity even the biggest of her many successful songs. It has already proved an immense favourite in the provinces, and will be specially featured by Miss Tilley when she returns to the Palace at Christmas. Von Tilzers are the publishers.

(*Continued on page 27.*)

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 26.*)

As the time for pantomime rehearsals draws nearer the rush to secure the best songs for Christmas productions becomes more emphatic. Managers and artists who had tentatively decided on certain songs have in many cases changed their opinions, and where that has happened it has been greatly to the advantage of the Star Music Co., whose splendid batch of pantomime numbers excel the best even they have ever issued. As matters are now shaping, it would seem that scarcely a pantomime in the United Kingdom will be without their principal winners—"I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" and "Fall in and follow me"—whilst most productions will feature at least half a dozen of the firm's songs.

A. J. MILLS and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" continues to recruit fresh admirers week by week, and wherever it is sung encores and numerous recalls are the result. In spite of the strenuous efforts being made with counter attractions in many directions, this gem of melody and sentiment continues to hold its pride of place as the most popular chorus ballad of the year. The Star Co. issue band parts in keys to suit all voices.

AMONGST other artists who have recorded splendid triumphs with "I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" during the past week, special mention must be made of the following, who have, to use an American phrase, "stopped the programme." Miss Ethel Ra Leslie at the Hippodrome, Southend, Miss Florrie Cooper at the Stratford Empire, Rose and Jeanette at the Palace, Southampton, Miss Marie Santoi at the Pavilion, Liverpool, Miss Maude Mortimer at the Palace, Aberdeen, Miss Marie Blythe at the Hippodrome, Hamilton, and Miss Lily Lonsdale at the Ipswich Hippodrome. Surely a marvellous record of simultaneous success.

PRINCIPAL boys who have already fixed A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's great winner, "Fall in and follow me," for pantomime have been wise in time. The point of this remark will be seen when it is revealed that in numerous cases three and four applications have been received from artists engaged for the same production, all seeking to secure this big hit with which Mr. Charles Whittle is making the success of his career. Whilst regretting the painful duty of disappointing applicants, the Star Music Co. naturally fall back on the old saying of "first come, first served." Therefore, to those who procrastinate one would say, "Hurry up, or you may be too late!"

In addition to the songs mentioned above the Star Music Co. have a big batch of tried and proved successes, so that no pantomime artist need be without a real hit for Christmas. Amongst other excellent songs the following are in great demand by those "in the know": "Cheer up, my Highland lassie," Dorothy Ward's fine march song; May Mars' quaint and pretty Irish ditty, "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" Edna Latonne's big success, "She was a girl in white"; George Lashwood's fine chorus number, "The moonlight promenade"; Whit Cunliffe's latest successes, "Up she goes" and "You can't do without each other"; Phil Parson's big American song hit, "My wife's gone to the country, hooray! hooray!"

HARRY SIMMS, who is just now on the Stoll circuit, reports the splendid success of George Arthurs' and Alf. Lawrence's brilliant comedy song, "It reminds me of home." Light comedians in pantomime would do well to secure a copy of this number from the Star Music Co.

MESSRS. REEDER AND WALSH, of 14, Castle-street, London, W., have just published a number of songs, justly entitled "Sixpenny Musical Marvels." A fine example is "Everybody owes a bit to everybody else," written and composed by Gilbert Wells and Will Terry, and introduced by Miss Flo Burnett. There is an admirable sentiment in the chorus, of which we give an extract:

"There are little deeds of kindness which no money can repay,
And helping hands we never should forget.
There's more in life than money that it's possible to owe,
So everybody's more or less in debt."

OF a somewhat similar character is a pretty song, "When somebody knocks at your door," written and composed by J. F. Lambe and Fred Godfrey, and sung by Miss Ray Raymond. The somebody in this chorus does not mean a handsome young man, but "someone who's shabby and poor." In these two songs excellent portraits of the singers are on the title-page, and one is glad to note they are printed in England, like the rest of the Sixpenny Marvels. In strong contrast to the above songs is Messrs. Reeder and Walsh's highly successful comic song "I didn't let it upset me," written, composed, and sung by Mr. Percy Agutter, which is just the thing for pantomime time.

NOTHING seems to disturb the hero of this ditty, even when his "Sunday" girl is pinched by a pal, or when he opens a tin of potted beef just to let it breathe "And it sang me Love's old song." "When the World has lost its glamour," written by Will A. Bevan and composed by Fred Hall, is a charming song with a graceful refrain in which words and music are admirably blended. Capitally printed, the song is wonderful value, and equal to many four times the price.

FROM the same publishers, Messrs. Reeder and Walsh, comes another song of sentiment, "By the light of your eyes," written and composed by Percy Edgar and John Neat, and sung by Mr. John Budd, whose portrait is on the title-page. The eyes of the lady mentioned in this song must have been bright indeed, as the lover says:

"The path may be long and weary,
Still, I can never stray;
For your eyes will be a beacon
To light me on my way."

IN "Two tiny hands" the subject is dainty and the words, by W. Terry, very appropriate, while the music is by that well-known composer, J. Airlie Dix. Ever since Arditi wrote "Il Bacio" waltz songs have always been popular, and "The Wooing Waltz Song" of H. Lane Wilson, to the words of Miss Hilda Hart, will no doubt be extremely welcome in the drawing-room. The song is in two keys, C and B flat.

"WHAT would be the use of them to me?" written, composed, and sung by Mark Merry, has a kind of moral against wishing for Windsor Castle, the Shah of Persia's diamonds, or a brewery. Sung by Mr. Sam Mayo with great effect is "Incidents and accidents," a lively work by Tom Mellor, J. F. Lambe, and Harry Gifford, one of the incidents being about Jones and his bride, who stay at an hotel where the husband was formerly well known. Jones orders honey for breakfast, and, as the chorus has it:

"Next morning they'd breakfast at eight,
The waiter seemed dreadfully slow.
Said Jones, 'Where's my honey?'
'Your honey,' said he, 'she left here a fortnight ago.'"

MR. LEN TEEL, the perturbed "dame," is scoring a real success at the Oxford and Canterbury in his new song, "I'm looking for a husband," by Will Hyde.

AMERICAN NOTES.

BY AN OBSERVER.

EVERY music hall here gives daily matinées, and as there are about twenty regular halls around it is remarkable where the people come from. Add to this the hundreds of ten-cent and five-cent picture shows, all doing well, and it proves there is plenty of money here in the pockets of entertainment seekers.

To a stranger, New York is a city of contrasts. It never sleeps, yet from the crowds of men standing in groups on Broadway one wonders how they live. The nearest approach to Broadway at home is the Strand, with the addition of Coventry-street to the London Pavilion corner, at the Charing Cross end. From the Knickerbocker Theatre (Wellington-street) to the Columbia Theatre Buildings (Shaftesbury-avenue) is the haunt of the performers and the offices of the managers and agents.

THE most important building (not structurally) is that commonly called the Long Acre Building, and may best be described as the Randvoll House of New York. Herein on the top floor are the offices of the United Booking Office, with waiting rooms for men and "rest" parlours for the ladies. Everybody here who sends his or her name in gets an answer—they are business people, and you know your fate, whether they have work for you or not. If they want to see you they tell you so; if not, they tell you so also.

ON the same floor are situated the Eastern Offices of the Orpheum Circuit. The interior reminds one more of Coutts' Bank than anything else. From the fifth floor downwards are situated all the principal agents—all representing some circuit or other, and all doing business with the folks on the sixth floor.

SOME people call this building the "Heart Breaker" Building, and the name is not inappropriate.

FROM a cursory view of some of the shows in vaudeville here, at the few houses visited, the audiences are good and well-intentioned. They do not get as enthusiastic over an act as do our English audiences, but, on the other hand, they seem far more orderly. The American Music Hall (Morris) is run on the English system, and smoking is allowed. Yesterday, at the opening show the three English acts, I am glad to say, scored the best hits. La Belle Nello, George Newburn (very well indeed), and then John Lawson with his new act *The Open Door*. This turned out to be a version of *The Devil's Sunday*, in which Miss Cissie Lawson made such a hit in England. I am of the opinion, and others share it with me, that if Miss Cissie Lawson had appeared in the act yesterday she would have electrified the town. "John" returns to England next week, and it is quite on the cards that he will return here shortly—that is, if pending negotiations are completed.

THE most curious thing here is the predominance of moving-picture houses and vaudeville shows combined. They start at 1 p.m. and continue till 11.30 p.m., and use about six music hall acts—one half-hour's pictures, and then a turn; more pictures, and then another turn; and so on; and the extraordinary thing is there is always a good audience. The prices range from 5d. to 1s.

NOT content with packing out twice daily, Hammerstein's have turned their roof garden into a continuous vaudeville and picture show. I should reckon this house occupies the place of our London Tivoli. A most objectionable feature, and one which would not be tolerated either by the public or the police in London, is the ticket speculator outside the doors of nearly every theatre and hall with the noticeable exception of the Morris houses. These people make your life a misery in trying to sell a minimum ticket of 25 cents for 50 cents, and even the ordinary non-pleasure-seeking pedestrian has to run the gauntlet of about 100 of these men in passing Hammerstein's alone.

IF the speculators can get a hundred per cent. profit, why doesn't the manager alter the price of his seats and take the extra profit?

THERE are a good many English acts over here, and a stroll down Broadway will often be reminiscent of a stroll down the Strand or round the Cranbourn Mahsions corner.

CHARLIE STEVENS and La Belle Nello are both well in health; the latter has made a big impression, being in her second week at Morris's American, and Charlie looking after the business management.

"SERPENTELLO" is in the real estate business, and looking younger than ever, with a beardless face *à l'Americaine*.

HYMACK is repeating his success on the Percy Williams time in company with Albert Whelan, who has been awarded the palm of merit by "Zit," a well-known local critic.

FRED GINNETT, as happy-go-lucky as ever, is looking forward to his return to England in April next year. "Fred's" répertoire of stories has been greatly increased by his American experiences.

HERBERT CLIFTON opens at Washington this week, and Mason and Bart are doing well on Morris time.

CLIFFE BERZAC was up yesterday, after spending some time on his farm. By the way, they are all buying land and farms here. I fancy there will be a variety kingdom over here soon.

LILY LENA was singing five and six songs last week at Hammerstein's, and adding to her reputation.

I REGRET to announce the death of Mrs. Charles Butler (Brown and Robinson). It was very unexpected.

THE weather here is beautiful, and is much cooler.

FOOD NOTE: When once you know the ropes, living and eating are better and cheaper here than in the dear Homeland.

THE best news heard during the week is that concerning the addition of forty Shubert houses to the Marcus Loew Circuit. These theatres have been playing legitimate fare, but have not received the support necessary to make them paying concerns. Mr. Loew, who has been supplying some of the Shubert houses in New York, the Majestic and Circle to wit, with a music hall and motion picture programme, has undertaken to do the same for about forty houses, which will doubtless be split weeks. The Loew Circuit is bound to rank as a big factor in the vaudeville industry in the near future. Their present houses are in excellent order, both back and front, and from the patronage bestowed on them, the New York public are well pleased with the programmes provided. This addition must of necessity be to the advantage of the performer, as counting each house a split-week house, it means the employment of an extra 120 acts.

THERE are a number of English sketch acts here. Of John Lawson you have already heard. Frank Elliston produced *My Lady Betty* at the Fifth Avenue Theatre last week, but from reports to hand, it appears that Mr. Elliston is about to offer one of his comedy sketches in its place. Without going into details, it were better that English acts intending coming over here should at once register and copyright their acts with the officials at Washington, D.C. It is common knowledge that acts have been brought in good faith by artists over here, from people who are not the beneficial owners, and when the original English act attempts to play his own property, he is immediately stopped by the owner of the American copyright, who has the power of the law on his side. My advice to all and sundry is "copyright" before it is too late.

MISS DIANA HOPE opens in New York on Sunday next with *The Altar of Duty*, which she had copyrighted in the U.S.A. simultaneously with her English copyright.

THE Sunday papers here are mainly devoted to theatrical and vaudeville matters, and the interest shown by the general public in the title table and scandal of "Grease Paint Avenue," to the exclusion of other news, is most marked.

IT is apparent that the Artists' Organisation over here may take a definite attitude with regard to their affiliation with the American Federation of Labour. It is quite on the cards that a sort of alliance will be formed with the Musician and Stage Employees' Unions, and perhaps with the Actors' Union. The three latter Unions are strongly organised, and are part and parcel of the Labour movement of America.

THE Fifth Avenue Theatre has a very good bill, the star act being Nora Bayes and Jack Norworth, whom I liken to our own Bella and Bijou. Their turn, although very acceptable, coming at the end of a long programme, was too long—about forty to forty-five minutes. Howard and North, a very effective double talking act, entitled "They were Happy Days," carrying their own cloth, were one of the hits of the bill.

R. G. KNOWLES is drawing big crowds in Brooklyn with his "travelogues." Jimmy Howard (of Howard and St. Clair) is slowly recovering his health, and is looking forward to the time when his doctors will allow him to get back to work.

JOHN LAWSON is taking a holiday, sight-seeing, previous to returning home. Tim McMahon (McMahon and Chapelle) will most likely be seen over in England before long. I met J. J. Morton at the Vaudeville Comedy Club, and he is still being worried by his agents about his return for England. This club, by the way, is very exclusive, and membership is the hall-mark of some repute. It is very handsomely appointed and most conveniently situated.

THE weather here is excellent, warm and bracing, only the steam-heated atmosphere is not congenial to English lungs, and to the newly-landed a good cold seems to be a sure companion. New York grows on one. It has many things better than London, but oh for a cup of "English" tea.

STAR MUSIC CO.
LTD.

ALL OTHER BALLADS FADE INTO OBLIVION
WHEN YOU HEAR THE REAL HIT OF THE YEAR

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES.

The Song that reaches every heart. Double Encores Positively Guaranteed.

The undisputed Light Comedy Song of the Year—admitted by all.

CHAS. WHITTLE'S PHENOMENAL HIT:

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.

Other Great Winners for Panto. are:—

CHEER UP, MY HIGHLAND LASSIE, WHAT DO YOU SAY, MOLLY MOLLOY?
THE MOONLIGHT PROMENADE, SHE WAS A GIRL IN WHITE,
UP SHE GOES, YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT EACH OTHER,
IT'S MY NIGHT OUT TO-NIGHT, MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY,

Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah, and
Here Comes the Chocolate Major.

Send six stamps for Selection of Panto. Songs. State Theatre and Part.

ORDINARY PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH. CATALOGUE, FREE.

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "Songonia, London." (*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*). 'Phone: 8,446 Gerrard.

"A LOOSE END."

Melodramatic Farce, by Malcolm Watson, Produced at the Palace Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 7.

Capt. Harry Dallas, D.S.O.... MR. L. GROSSMITH
Jim Calhoun ..... MR. LESLIE CARTER
Mike ..... MR. PHILIP KAY
Baker ..... MR. ERIC WARD
Judy ..... MISS MAGGIE NEILL

An interesting melodramatic farce with many improbabilities, several thrills, and an ingenious finish, *A Loose End*, by Malcolm Watson, was favourably received at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening. To the house of Jim Calhoun, a professional and clever blackmailer, is brought Captain Harry Dallas, D.S.O., gagged and handcuffed, by a couple of ruffians—Mike and Baker. Once safely trapped, Calhoun soon explains why the Captain has been so unceremoniously and roughly handled. Dallas is to start for the West Coast of Africa on the morrow on an important expedition, and he has something like £3,000 in the bank. If he will sign a cheque for that amount to Calhoun, who apparently would find no difficulty in cashing it, he may go free; if he refuses he will be kept a prisoner. Quite alive to the seriousness of his position, Dallas will not sign the cheque, hoping to find some way out of his unpleasant dilemma, and Calhoun leaves him to reflect. They all stand out at first, he says, but soon succumb when they find escape impossible. Left alone, Dallas tries the door, but evidently receives a severe electric shock; when he endeavous to open the window, the effect is even more violent, and formidable bars immediately appear to completely block his escape, and the frame of the other window in this veritable "trick" chamber is covered with a blind, with "No Exit" plainly marked thereon. Baulked at every move, Dallas is beginning to despair, when a comely waiting maid brings him some refreshment, and, hinting that he will find her a better job, he gives her a five pound note, and a promise of further remuneration when he is a free man. When she has gone he has another idea. Seizing the poker he rings for Calhoun, meaning to hide behind the door and strike him down on his appearance. But the wily blackmailer is prepared for all eventualities, and thrusting his hand through a movable panel, stays the arm of Dallas. When Dallas would fell him to earth with a chair, Calhoun whips out a revolver, and the abducted one now thoroughly realises the hopelessness of his position. Calhoun also taunts his prisoner with playing it down low by attempting to bribe the maid, and explains that she is his wife. They are all a united family, Mike and Baker included, and he had better sign the cheque. It is his only chance. Eventually Dallas, when again alone, conceives the brilliant idea of hanging himself—or pretending to; it may be fatal, but he will risk it. Accordingly he divests himself of collar and tie, pulls down a convenient bell-rope from the wall, mounts a table, winds the rope round his neck, and hitching it to an electric light bracket, is soon dangling in the air—a gruesome spectacle in the dim green light. When the blackmailers return they are horrified, and speedily cutting the apparently lifeless body down, place it on a couch. Then all rush for brandy and medical assistance, and Dallas makes his escape by the open door in a brace of shakes!

Mr. Laurence Grossmith played the part of the abducted young officer, who is determined at all hazards not to submit to the demands of the blackmailer in a quietly effective and clever manner; Mr. Leslie Carter was a cool and determined Jim Calhoun; Miss Maggie Neill as Judy, Calhoun's wife, supplied an admirable little representation; and the two ruffians, Mike and Baker, were enacted in grimly humorous fashion by Mr. Philip Kay and Mr. Eric Ward.

Another novelty in the host of alluring items at the Palace was "The Balloon Mystery," presented by Mlle. Denarber. The attractive young Parisienne first engagingly sang a couple of French songs; and then, the house being plunged in total darkness, appeared seated in the basket of a small illuminated balloon—the Star—which floated over the stalls. Manœuvring about the auditorium she sang "Come and have a sail in my balloon," and made many amusing remarks in pretty broken English. The "mystery" is certainly a pretty one, and the charm and gaiety of Mlle. Denarber added greatly to its attractiveness. The Palace audience freely bestowed applause on the novelty.

"MY SAILOR BOY."

Playlet, Written by Fred S. Jennings and Produced by Mr. Wentworth Croke's Company at the Hammersmith Palace on Monday, Nov. 7.

William Belton ..... MR. W. H. ROTHERAM
Capt. Godfrey ..... MR. BERT MORLEY
Lieut. Leonard Belton, R.N. MR. BERTRAM BURLEIGH
Isadore Cohen ..... MR. R. OSWALD MARSHALL
Mrs. Belton ..... MRS. H. GASCOIGNE

It is rather a daring act to produce a serious sketch without any love interest therein, but Mr. Wentworth Croke's experiment received a hearty endorsement from a crowded house at the Hammersmith Palace on Monday night. The author is Mr. Fred S. Jennings, Mr. Croke's popular manager at the Lyric, Hammersmith, who is becoming quite renowned as a sketch writer by the successes he has attained with *Vengeance*, *Varna's Revenge*, *The Power of Music* (which Mr. Jan Rudenyi is touring), *The Spirit of Music* (presenting Carl Junor), and also the excellent music hall version of *East Lynne*, which Mr. Croke is touring.

The plot of this sketch makes a pretty little story. Old Wm. Belton has slaved and saved to get enough money to give his son a good chance, and just when the boy obtains his commission in the Navy all the happiness and pride of the parents are destroyed by Isadore Cohen's arrival, with a demand for £1,000, money lent to their son and spent on gaiety. To save his son from public disgrace, Belton decides to sell up everything and start working again in his old age. Capt. Godfrey, an old chum of Belton's, forcibly tells Cohen his opinion of his action, and, pointing to the model of the lifeboat which was presented to Belton when he retired from being Captain thereof, reads out the inscription on it, and amongst the principal wrecks mentioned is that of the s.s. Marmaduke. Cohen's child was rescued from this wreck, and he now finds that the man who rescued his daughter from the sea is the very man whose ruin he was about to cause. In memory of that past act of bravery in saving one so dear to him, Cohen destroys the bill, and so restores happiness to the family once again.

Mr. R. Oswald Marshall, though giving a thoughtful and earnest representation of the Jew moneylender, Cohen, did not completely grasp his opportunities. As the old fisherman, William Belton, Mr. W. H. Rotheram gave one of the best performances of an old salt that has been seen for many a day, and his make-up was excellent. Mr. Bert Morley was a forcible and cheery Capt. Godfrey; Mr. Bertram Burleigh did well in the somewhat priggish part of Lieut. Leonard Belton; Mrs. Belton was ably played by Mrs. H. Gascoigne; and a word of praise must be added for the scenery, which was a decidedly pretty and effective setting for the sketch. Mr. Croke should have no difficulty in securing a long tour for his latest enterprise.

IT is quite on the cards that the Worthing Operatic Society will not produce an opera next spring. The society is in low water financially, and this year a sum of sixty pounds was dropped as the result of the production of *Olivette*, which was not produced at the Theatre Royal.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

Prominent in the current bill at the London Pavilion is placed the name of Zona Vevey, who sings simple ballads amid a scenic setting and with various embellishments. Thus, the refrain of the song "I do love my shepherd boy" is echoed by a piping from the hills and is followed by the appearance of the player clad in appropriate pastoral attire. Subsequently, the vocalist extols the virtues of "Mary," who was never "contrary," and duly there appears a lassie in Highland garb. Recognition should, however, be given of Miss Vevey's accompanist Max Erard, an accomplished pianist, who plays a march of his own composition, and has also invented the musical effects, the song in which chiming bells and church organ are combined with the orchestra being particularly harmonious. Music is also agreeably conspicuous in the entertainment presented by the Seven Bramusas, a company of juvenile instrumentalists, who introduce a brass band extravaganza entitled *Music Afloat*.

The farcical sketch *Half a Dollar* has served Messrs. Haines, Borthwick, and company extremely well, and the fun evolved from the situations in which a cabman gains an entry to a fancy-dress ball, and is there mistaken for a gentleman visitor who goes in the character of a "cabby," is again the cause of laughter frequent and prolonged. Hilarious results, too, come of the efforts of Foreman and Fannan, in their clever cross-talk and their song of "Well, well." The name of Mr. Whit Cunliffe appears in the bill, but on the evening of our visit the popular comedian was indisposed, and had as a deputy Miss Mabel Green, a prepossessing young lady, who sang "Life's a song" and "I wonder if it's true?" with an excellence of expression and cultivation of style that won admiration. Mr. Charles Norton proves himself a faithful mimic of leading comedians—from Joe Elvin to Chirgwin, Sam Mayo to Lauder, and his fidelity to the originals is recognised in repeated recalls.

A vaudeville variation is supplied by Mr. Philip Braham's March Hares, who combine in song and dance, the humour of Mr. Davy Burnaby being especially appreciated. His most amusing selection is "Archibald Vere de Vere," in which the dude is divertingly satirised, including, with the help of the little company, his doings at the stage door of the Gaiety. A pretty duet and dance is also furnished in "Fly away, little butterfly," in which one March Hare joins with a lady companion. A welcome contribution is that of Mr Percy Honri, who renders selections from grand opera on his concertina, which he manipulates as melodiously as ever. The Four Amaranths are a quartet of agile acrobatic dancers, who work with remarkable precision. Miss Emilie Hayes sings with tunefulness and taste; the Brothers Horn present their boxing sketch; and others in the varied programme are Miss Kitty Colyer, the talented and versatile comedienne; Miss Jessie Stuart, vocalist; Miss Gwen Lindon, comedienne; Mr. S. W. Wyndham, comedian; and Mr. Fred Pardoe, impressionist. The fine band at the Pavilion is led with his customary skill by Mr. A. Bond-Sayers, and Mr. Frank Glenister, the esteemed manager, has a thoroughly reliable assistant in Mr. William Cobbett.

COLLINS'S.

There is plenty of amusement of the lighter kind to be obtained here this week. Drama, however, is well represented by Leonard Mortimer and company, who present the detective sketch entitled *The Raven's Toll*. This sketch is a dramatised version of one of a series of stories by T. W. Hanshew concerning the adventures of Hamilton Cleek, a detective, who is also known by the name of the "Man of Forty Faces." Leonard Mortimer, who dramatised the story, takes the part of Hamilton Cleek. The piece is replete with dramatic situations, and holds the audience from start to finish.

Spry and Monti are always an entertaining turn, but some new gag-matter should be introduced. They are a very popular turn in North London, and their miscellaneous comedy, "The Erratic Song-writer," never fails to keep the audience well amused.

Martin Adeson and company present a farcical absurdity, entitled *Dr. Maud's First Patient*. This sketch, dealing as it does with the old theme of cross purposes, is humorous enough, and causes plenty of hilarious merriment. Dolly Harmer, character comedienne, is much appreciated in two songs, her "petticoat" song being especially popular. Courtney and Wilton are responsible for a humorous turn entitled *A Marble Flirtation*. Briefly, a lady's husband falls in love with a statue, and the wife impersonates the statue, and thus regains her husband's affections. Some topical gags and songs are introduced, and the trifle is well applauded. Wylie and Kitz, comedy duo, introduce some amusing patter and fooling into their turn, and May Fayre is heartily applauded for two well-sung songs, Chas. Ulrick, tranka wonder, exhibits some clever balancing with his feet. "Rosemary Dell," a musical scena, and Harry Martell are also billed, but were deputised for on the night of our visit. Manager A. L. Williams is having additional electric light installed, and things will be brightened up accordingly.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Despite counter attractions, huge audiences are enjoying the fare provided at this house over whose destinies Messrs. Laidman and Roberts preside. These popular managers must be congratulated on the strong array of talent which they have secured. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. A. Ross, is one of the best in South London, consisting, as it does, almost wholly of members of the Royal Artillery Band. Heading the bill is Countess De Russe, who is making her first appearance in England. In turn she is a poseuse, a classical dancer, a mystifier, and a protean actress, and practically presents a complete vaudeville programme. She is assisted by Carl Menitz, under whose direction the orchestra plays a unique travesty of overtures. Jenny Alexander, the juvenile comedienne, is a very clever child, and earns unstinted applause in her mimicry of such well-known artists as Gertie Gitana, Victoria Monks, and Harry Lauder. Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are too well-known to need description. The merry antics of one of the trio in hunting costume with immense spurs is very funny. Their turn ends with a football match on wheels.

The Glenroy Troupe are a capital quintet of dancers. Their international dances are executed skilfully and tastefully. The Venetians present a unique speciality embracing sculpture, singing, and painting. Many famous sculptures are shown, during which vocal items are rendered with panoramic views by models in a subdued light, "A Night in Venice" and "Ora Pro Nobis" being most prominent. Joe Archer, the cheerful, chatty chappie, in his latest trifles, "Oh, my friends," and "T-r-o-u-b-l-e," caused roars of laughter. His patter, too, is of the very best—crisp and clean, and no "chestnuts" or cribbed gags, and scores every time off his own bat.

Daisy Stratton is a chic comedienne and dancer, her song "Mary from Tipperary" and its accompanying dance being well received. The Bioscope is showing a new set of films; A Friend in Need, a sympathetic set, and The Wonderful Hat, a comic one, were perhaps the best. Arthur Watson and company, with *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, written by Flo Stanley and music by J. Shanahan, present a most acceptable absurdity. Arthur Watson as Joe Marlinspike, the sailor detective, is ludicrous in the extreme; Miss Flo Stanley is a winsome Polly; Miss B. Hayden as the hot-tempered Lady Teasum is well placed; Mr. Frank Leslie, a manly Admiral Teasum, sings very well; and Mr. H. Neilson is smart as the waiter, Trotter. The Vera Troupe perform some very clever dances, and Pat Rafferty is popular.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

This popular outer metropolitan hall continues to make rapid strides, and its clientèle is not only drawn from all parts of East London, but from many remote corners of Essex. This week's entertainment is delightfully varied in every item. Vesta Victoria, the queen of domestic comedy, is paying a welcome return visit, and her reception is a very hearty one indeed. With her new songs "Uncle Bill" and "Leading the simple life" she literally "brings down the house," and an old favourite, "Skating," has its chorus loudly sung by the audience.

Mr. Herbert Darnley's company, which includes James Guidery in the now popular Spanish musical burlesque *The Brigands of Tarragona*, is really excellent. The piece has a beautiful setting. Rinaldo, the wandering violinist, comes in for a vociferous reception, both for his famous "Rinaldo Rag" and his rendition of the overture "Poet and Peasant." The famous Cragg Family, well to the fore as marvellous acrobats and fun-makers, present their acrobatic comedy sketch *Billy, the New Steward*, and roars of laughter mingled with amazement at the astounding feats are the outcome.

Mr. Henry J. Corner presents the Dandies in his latest musical burletta "Our Audiences," which are very entertaining interpretations, full of humour. Some delightful singing is also given, special mention being deserved by the beautiful duet "If I were King." The comedy skit *A Yacht for Sale* evokes loud roars of laughter, and most applause, his dancing being extremely finished and well-timed.

A laughable song, entitled "Yes, yes, oh! yes," is quaintly chanted by Harry Herbert, who is a capital grotesque comedian. *Jack's Jacket* is a smart comedy duologue, in which Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville shine conspicuously. The dialogue is crisp and piquant, and the piece is enacted in a bright and dashing manner. Alexandre and Hughes are exceptionally capable patterers, and, in addition, display no mean ability as musicians. The well-known tenor from Madrid, Luis Alvarez, sings with much power, his rendering of "Violets" being especially effective. Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust are a pair of Continental artists who exhibit tricky feats in juggling. Their performance concludes in a somewhat startling fashion, and is received with great enthusiasm. A cycling act above the average is submitted by the Westwoods, and a merry Foolshead film is shown upon the bioscope. Mr. Ernest Wighton and Mr. E. Smith respectively control the front of the house and the stage.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

A programme of infinite variety is that which Mr. Pierre Cohen offers to his patrons this week, and the said patrons are not slow to appreciate the good things set before them, both in the matter of well-filled houses and the heartiness of their applause, laughter, and interest. An invigorating send-off is supplied by the overture, "The Hare and the Tortoise," composed by Mr. Kennedy Russell and capitally played by the orchestra under the direction of the talented composer. Miss Edna Latonne, one of the best male impersonators now before the public, with her smart appearance, irreproachable costume, and few bars of one piece alternately, and singing, dancing, and "patter," the two are untiring in their efforts, and the audience seem reluctant to let them quit the stage. If America can send us many turns like the Two Bobs, pleasure-seekers in the Old Country can have little to complain of in this Yankee invasion. Strange to say, the States supplies us with the very next artist on the programme, in the quaint person of Sam Stern, who comes in for as big a reception as his preceding fellow-countrymen. There is a charm about the little comedian that at once makes him a favourite; Harry Nelson is a capital comedian, quite capable of holding his own as a laugh-raiser against all comers. The concluding item of this attractive programme is provided by Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' company in the well-known musical comedy, *The Belle of the Orient*.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

A first-rate entertainment is provided at this fine hall this week, and Mr. Gibbons's enterprise is well rewarded with full houses. Mr. Harry Tate in his well-known piscatorial burlesque, *Fishing*, causes great hilarity. The sketch does not need detailing here; suffice it to say that it improves with age. A good dramatic episode is presented by Fred Maxwell and company, entitled *The Heathen and the Christian*. Mr. Lois Du Cane and Mr. Fred Maxwell play powerfully the chief parts.

Messrs. W. T. Ellwanger and company appear in an American absurdity, *Who Did It?* and the company fully deserve the excellent reception accorded them at the close. Special mention must be made of Messrs. Ellwanger and Arthur Gribben in their respective parts. Miss Ella Shields, the popular comedienne, is heard to great

THIS SPACE IS temporarily dedicated to acquaint you with Harry Burns' new address in London, whereto you are invited to call with (or send) full particulars of your business should you wish him to represent (or hustle for) you.

HARRY BURNS,

Walter House,
418, Strand,
London, W.C.

OPPOSITE THE TIVOLI.

'Phone 1106 City. Wire 'BILLOTOPP."

MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES.

The London County Council Theatres and Music Halls Committee sat at the Clerkenwell Sessions House yesterday (Friday) to hear applications for renewals, transfers, and the granting of new licences for music, music and dancing, and stage plays. There was a strong array of counsel, Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., Mr. George Elliott, K.C., Mr. Travers Humphreys, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Bodkin, and Mr. Symmons being present amongst others.

The applications numbered 468, and of these over ninety were objected to. Most of the objections were at the instance of Mr. C. Pinhorn, secretary of the London United Temperance Council, who asked the London County Council to put a stipulation into the licence refusing facilities for the sale or consumption of intoxicating drink.

The first opposition was made to the application for a music licence for St. James's Hall, Great Portland-street. Mr. Bodkin supported the renewal, which was opposed by Mr. Edward White, L.C.C., on the ground that there was due to the Marylebone Borough Council a sum of £480 in respect of rates. Mr. Bodkin explained that the premises were in the hands of mortgagees, who, not being in beneficial occupation, were exempt from rates. The committee decided to recommend the renewal of the licence.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Mr. Gill, K.C., made an application on behalf of Mr. Oswald Stoll for the removal of the restriction on the licence prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors at the Coliseum. He said the Coliseum was one of the finest theatres of variety in Europe, presenting an exceptional and unique entertainment, and he asked that it should be granted the same privileges as other important West End variety theatres, and that there should be no invidious distinction, Knowing as the committee well knew the concession would not be in any way abused. The only opposition came from Mr. Pinhorn. Mr. Pinhorn agreed that the Coliseum was a splendid building and gave a unique entertainment, but a drink licence was not necessary or desirable.

The Committee, after consulting in private, decided to recommend the licence conditionally that no intoxicants were sold or consumed on the premises.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Mr. Gill, on behalf of Sir Edward Moss, also made an application for the renewal or modification of the restriction that no intoxicating drinks be sold on the premises. He said it was the one instance where an application had been treated with injustice, as they had been given a licence, and through no fault of theirs had it taken away. The licence was granted before a brick was laid. Mr. Gill also referred to the fact that over 5,000 visitors to the Hippodrome had, in a few months, signed a petition approving of the sale of intoxicating liquors—visitors from all parts of the world, including all classes of the community. Mr. T. Miller, in the absence of the Hippodrome manager, Mr. Trussell, supported Mr. Gill's statement with regard to the petition. Mr. Pinhorn again opposed.

The committee recommended that the licence be granted, subject to the condition that no intoxicating drink be served in the auditorium.

After the unopposed cases and transfers had been dealt with,

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES AND SKATING RINKS.

There were a large number of picture theatre and skating rink applications, mostly opposed by Mr. Pinhorn, who withdrew his opposition when it was stated there was no desire to sell intoxicating liquor on the premises. Subject to these conditions the committee recommended licences be granted the following, amongst others:—The Holland Park Rink (in this case permission to sell intoxicants in grill room, as last year); Terry's Theatre; Electric Palace, Clapham; Electric Pavilion, Clapham; Lavender Hill Picture Palace; Central Hall Picture Palace, Lee; Electric Pavilion, Coldharbour-lane; Central Picture Palace, Upper Tooting; Mitcham-lane Picture Palace; Streatham Empire Picture Palace; Premier Electric Theatre, Woolwich; the Sebright, Hackney-road; Old Ford Picture Palace; Clapton Cinematograph Theatre; Hackney Picture Palace; Electric Palace, Hammersmith; King's Hall, Uxbridge-road; Holborn Cinema; Premier Electric Theatre, Highbury-crescent; Electric Palace, Islington; Great Central Picture Palace, Gisson-grove; Electric Empire, Edgware-road; Electric Palace, Mile End-road; Bayswater Cinema Theatre; Electric Alhambra, St. Pancras; Gem Picture Palace, Kentish Town; Gaiety Picture Palace, Tottenham Court-road; National Theatre de Luxe, Tottenham Court-road; Palace Cinematograph Theatre, Mile End-road; Cinema de Paris, Westminster; Cinema House, Oxford-street; Theatre de Luxe, Strand; People's Arcade Skating Rink, Stepney; People's Arcade Cinematograph Theatre, Stepney.

Miss Hetty King, the "dandy" impersonator, is making a welcome return visit to the Empire, Cardiff, where she is adding further laurels to her already enviable reputation.

Miss Beatrice Bonnie and company are playing with enormous success at the Holborn Empire this week. Their dancing novelty "Stariophone" is the only act of the kind, and is patented.

Mr. Sydney Russell's troupes of lady dancers will be seen in pantomime this year at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Dublin, Liverpool, and Glasgow. Mr. Ernest Edelsten has arranged all the bookings.

Mr. Charles D. Hickman's knowledge of the variety stage and its requirements is extensive and peculiar, and therefore his ventriloquial dialogues have been written with an inner knowledge of things. The "dialogues" are published by Samuel French, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., and the price is one shilling.

Mr. George H. Child will, on Monday next, at the Chelsea Palace, produce for Miss Hilda Jacobsen an entirely new dramatic episode, entitled *The Cottage on the Moor*. Mr. Child is able to do this by the kind courtesy of Mr. Van Biene, for whom he is also playing twice nightly at the Metropolitan in *Karl's Luck*.

At Bow-street on Monday afternoon Mr. Marsham was asked to license a little girl to appear on the stage at the Empire. Sub-Divisional Inspector Landow stated that the child had already been licensed to appear at Croydon twice nightly. The girl's father said that was perfectly true. After the first performance at Croydon, where she lived, she would be taken to the Empire in a motor. After the performance there she would be taken back to Croydon in the same way for the second house. During the whole of the three turns she would not be on the stage more than half an hour.

Mr. Marsham said that might be true, but he objected to young people being hurried about in this way. He felt sure it was not good for them, and he would grant a licence for the Empire if the girl's father would promise that she should not appear at Croydon on the same dates. The father said he could not do that, and the application in respect of the Empire was refused.

Mr. James Travis, the advertising manager of the Portsmouth Hippodrome, who is leaving to take up a similar appointment at the Hippodrome, Manchester, was recently honoured with a presentation.

Messrs. E. Danter, bioscope and variety exhibitors, open at Blaenagrw with an attractive lot of pictures and variety turns. Mr. Bendle is an able describer of the various films shown. Mr. S. White is stationed at Pembroke Dock with bioscope, tower, aerial flights, porkers, swings, &c., and reports good business. His magnificent new organ is also a great attraction. Mr. Wm. Haggar, sen., has secured a fine site at Mountain Ash for a new scena theatre; also at Bargoed, where the very best will be put on in pictures and varieties at popular prices.

"THE HORSE THIEF."

Sketch, by Harry M. Vernon, Produced at the Hackney Empire, on Monday, Nov. 7.

John Clare .....MR. WM. F. GRANT
Jim Ryan .....MR. JAMES CARROLL
Ironjacket .....MR. W. J. KENNEDY
Bob Taylor .....MR. FRANK MAYO
Bessie Clare .....MISS MARY ALLESTREE
Dick Hathaway .....MR. HERBERT SLEATH

Mr. Vernon, in the playlet, produced on Monday at this popular hall, has succeeded in producing precisely that kind of dramatic fare which appeals to the patrons of vaudeville. Within the limit of three scenes he presents a succession of incidents which could very easily be spun out to the dimensions of a four-act drama, and in consequence the interest of the audience is sustained at high pressure throughout.

Dick Hathaway, an Englishman, has been for nearly a year on John Clare's ranch at Canyon City, Montana, and has speedily established himself as the smartest cowboy in the district. Prior to his arrival another cowboy named Bob Taylor had been the leading hand on Clare's Ranch. He is discharged for dishonesty shortly after Hathaway's arrival, and the latter gets the position. In addition, Taylor has been in love with Clare's daughter Bessie, but finds that here too he is supplanted by the newcomer. For some time horses have been disappearing, and anger is being expressed on all sides. Taylor, with the assistance of a half-breed, determines, by forged documents, to so manipulate matters as to make it appear that Hathaway is the guilty person, well knowing what scant ceremony or justice a suspected man will secure in that semi-lawless part of America. On the rising of the curtain on the first scene, Taylor has arrived to put the plot into motion, and he works so well on the feelings of the mob, that on Hathaway's arrival he meets with a hostile reception. They decline to listen to him, and he is just on the point of being attacked, when Clare enters, and covering the crowd with his revolver, rescues his man from a dangerous situation. The action then passes to Waterfall Pass, Canyon Mountains, in Indian territory. Hathaway has previously struck gold prospecting, and Will Clare and his men are engaged in securing his claim. Clare has a conversation with Ironjacket, an Indian chief, who is friendly to Hathaway, and learns that Taylor himself is the actual instigator of the trade in stolen horses. Ironjacket further tells him that the half-breed has cruelly wronged his daughter, and for that offence he has sworn to kill him. Taylor and his men enter, and after a heated scene with Hathaway, the former attempts to kill his rival, and wounds another man, and this so incenses the crowd that Taylor is being tied up preparatory to being lynched, when Hathaway begs that he may have at least a semblance of a trial. The last scene is situated in John Clare's ranch, and here soon after the rise of the curtain the Sheriff arrives with Taylor and the other cowboys, and demands that Hathaway be handed over. Clare refuses, and as he and his men have the crowd covered, they have to go without him. Clare's daughter comes out of the house, and Taylor and his confederate attempt to abduct her, when Hathaway rushes out to the rescue, and the Indian Chief also appears and shoots the half-breed. The Sheriff re-enters with the intelligence that they have secured a man making a run with some stolen animals, and he has confessed that Taylor is the guilty ringleader, and the latter is promptly tied up and taken off.

It will be seen that there is no lack of incident in the little drama, and it has the great advantage of being admirably presented by the company. Mr. Herbert Sleath himself is a tower of strength, the part fitting him like the proverbial glove, and when either sustaining the love interest, or the more strenuous phases of the piece, he was alike admirable. The support accorded him is much above the average. Mr. William F. Grant, who plays Clare, gives a capital performance. He has some of the best lines in the playlet, and gets every ounce out of them. Another character study of great merit is that of Mr. Frank Mayo as Bob Taylor. From beginning to end the rôle is written in the most intense vein, but Mr. Mayo easily succeeded in making his impersonation a living embodiment of abandoned vindictiveness. Mr. W. J. Kennedy as Ironjacket, the Indian, was dignified in a small part, and Mr. James Carroll gave a neat study of the Sheriff. Miss Mary Allestree as Bessie Clare was effective in a part of few opportunities, and a large crowd of cowboys, &c., greatly aided the general stage picture. The production is most admirably mounted, the final scene being specially commendable. A crowded house gave the show the heartiest of welcomes, and it is beyond doubt destined to prove a very successful addition to Mr. Sleath's répertoire.

THAT well-known comedian Mr. Charles Lilburn is purporting a visit to the Antipodes, where, doubtless, his attainments as a comedian will stand him in good stead. He will take with him new songs by Fred Murray, Harry Castling, and other well-known writers.

MR. FRANK DANBY, who is now en route for Australia, will produce there a characteristic song from the pen of Huntley Trevor, entitled "Always be a pal to a pal." Both artist and lyricist are fortunate in having the song set to music by Henry E. Pether.

MR. FRED LINDSAY, the famous Australian bushman, reappearing at the London Hippodrome on Monday, is one of those romantic types we read of in Mayne Reid or Fenimore Cooper and very seldom see in real life. He is on the stage purely from a hobby, and, incidentally, is reaping a rich harvest, having just completed a tour of America at £200 weekly.

THERE has always been considerable mystery surrounding his identity, Lindsay being merely a *nom de theatre*. He is in private life well known in society, a member of several leading clubs, a director of a couple of large companies in the City, owner of a large ranch in the North-West of Canada, and extensive concessions in British East Africa. He has explored in several countries, fought in a couple of wars, and is a personal friend of ex-President Roosevelt.

"DAFFODIL TIME," words and music by Percy Edgar, published by Messrs. Reeder and Walsh, of 14, Castle-street, London, W., is a pleasing song in the key of G. A capital song with chorus for the use of our young folks at Christmas-time is "Good-night, Teddy Bear," by Percy Agutter, and a popular song that contains a fine moral is "Judge not," by Gilbert Wells and Will Terry. A spirited Irish song, "Won't you give me a sprig of shamrock?" by J. F. Lambe, and a very pretty vocal waltz, "Love's star," by H. Lane Wilson, to the words of G. Hubi Newcombe, can either be sung or used in the ballroom.

B. BURNETT AND CO., LTD., of 22, Garrick-street, W.C., the well-known house for stage fabrics, hosiery, shoes, &c., have recently placed on the market the "Audallyn" Elastic Belt (Regd.), as worn by the leading classical dancers, &c. The belt allows free movement of the body, reveals an elegant figure to perfection, and possesses other advantages over the ordinary corset. Many ladies prominent in the profession who have tried the "Audallyn" speak very highly in its favour, both for stage and private use. This old-established firm has long been recognised as one of the most reliable for tights, paddings, &c., and supply all the principal theatres, pantomime producers, and costumiers. Every article purchased at Burnett's is of the finest quality obtainable at the prices charged.

PANTOMIME SONGS.

THE STAR MUSIC CO.'S NUMBERS.

What may be called the undercurrent of pantomime is with us, and various managers, producers, musical directors, and—last but not least—artists are reflecting upon the possibilities of the tuneful song, the rousing chorus, and the sentimental lilt. All have their place in the Christmastide productions; all add variety to that hotch-potch of fun and frolic to which we give the name of pantomime. It is a *sine qua non* that the people's songs shall be sung with heart and voice, and the wise conductor of introductory music during the festive season is he who arranges the catchy refrains of the day with much elaboration of orchestration without detracting in any way from their simplicity. The labour of the pantomime producer is one he delights in, and he finds his most effective and practical aiders and abettors among the song publishers. He may be—and is—faced with real difficulties; but, with the aid of the song-writer and publisher, many of them vanish. He can with confidence go for special numbers to the Star Music Publishing Company, whose miraculous rise to popularity has been accomplished in record time. From them he can acquire numbers worthy of special featuring, and the romance and fun of their lyrics promise well for diversity of treatment.

The firm's recent move to magnificently-appointed premises at 51, High-street, New Oxford-street, created quite a stir in professional circles, and we hear rumours that still more surprising developments are being planned by Mr. Bennett Scott, the energetic managing-director. Just now the new offices present an extremely animated appearance. Well-known theatrical managers, musical directors, pantomime producers, and artists continually coming and going, and in every case well satisfied with the result of their interview.

We are taught there is a cause for every effect, and in this case the explanation is plain for all to see. From the inception of the firm to the present day the aim has been to publish only the best material, and having the enormous advantage of the exclusive services of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott (probably the most consistently successful song-writers we have), the company have been able to live up to their ideals.

When our representative called on Mr. Bennett Scott, he discovered that busy gentleman busier than ever, trying to crowd three days' work into a third of that time. Mr. Scott has spent the past fifteen years in the land of songs, and what he does not know on the subject is hardly worth discussing. His views on all sorts of songs would make interesting reading. He believes not only in versatility, but *verse-ability*. But the business of the moment is pantomime numbers, and particularly those issued by the Star Music Co., Ltd. For the coming season Mr. Scott (in conjunction with his talented colleague, Mr. A. J. Mills) has prepared a number of songs suitable for all requirements, but particularly pins his faith to a trio of ditties which all who have heard them agree are likely to stand out as three of the greatest pantomime successes of 1910-11, and certainly three of the best songs ever written by these past-masters in the art of popular song-writing. First and foremost they have written a song sentiment, far above the average, the plaintive, haunting melody of which seems to echo through the brain and heart, long after the singer has vanished. This delightful number is entitled "I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" and is everything a popular ballad can be. Several artists of repute have tested the song in various parts of the

[*Photo by Russell.*

MR. BENNETT SCOTT.

country, and without a solitary exception all have "made good" with it. "I wonder if you miss me sometimes?" is the Star Company's *pièce de résistance*, the song they are prepared to stand or fall by.

Quite another type of song, though equally successful, is the same author's bright comedy chorus number, "Fall in and follow me," which has been sung for the past few months with phenomenal success by Charles Whittle. It has become quite the fashion of recent times, for principal boys and light comedians in pantomime to feature a Charles Whittle song, and in "Fall in and follow me" they have a ready-made hit. Already this number has been definitely settled with practically every principal boy, and one and all are convinced it is a worthy successor to the same author's great winner of last season, "Ship ahoy!"

Somewhat in the nature of an eleventh-hour success is G. H. Elliott's new song by the same versatile writers, "Here comes the chocolate Major." This is a brilliant march number, which proved an instantaneous hit, as sung by the chocolate-coloured coon, and managers with an eye to the possibilities of staging, have eagerly secured advance copies of the song. Mr. Elliott is also featuring with great success another Mills and Scott number, entitled, "Loo Sue Mary Dinah," which is also much in demand.

The abundance of good things the Star Company have to offer, includes the fine song, "Cheer up, my Highland Lassie," which Miss Dorothy Ward has featured with great success; "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" Miss May Mars' big hit; "The moonlight promenade," a song which Mr. George Lashwood has made popular wherever he has appeared; Whit Cunliffe's two successes, "Up she goes" and "You can't do without each other"; Phil Parsons' great American song hit, "My wife's gone to the country, hurray, hurray!" is also being handled by the Star Music Co., in conjunction with the Ted Snyder Co. Other pantomime winners are "She was a dollar princess," "Are you anybody's little girlie in particular?" "Love is like a balloon," "She was a girl in white," "I met Mary Ellen at the Isle of Man," "It's my night out to-night," "Oh, Miss Wilhelmina," &c., &c.

This comprises, without doubt, the best and most comprehensive batch of pantomime songs yet issued by this enterprising firm.

AN IDEAL PRINCIPAL BOY.

A CHAT WITH MISS DOROTHY WARD.

It was the lamented Lester Collingwood, always ready to help a beginner, who may be said to have given the accomplished musical comedy artist and pantomime principal boy, Miss Dorothy Ward, her first real chance in the profession. The persevering young lady, then only fifteen years of age, persuaded him to give her a part in the pantomime of *Blue Beard*, at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, and the youthful artist quickly made a reputation for herself.

Soon after this engagement Miss Ward went into musical comedy with *The Dairymaids*, understudying Miss Carrie Moore (Peggy) in the principal London production, and then went again into pantomime, this time with Mr. Robert Courtneidge, playing second boy in *Cinderella*. At the opening of the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, she under-

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*

MISS DOROTHY WARD.

studied Miss Violet Englefield as principal boy, a character she played with great success nearly the whole of the run. The next Christmas found her engaged for principal boy at Dublin and Belfast, and she was re-engaged by the same management for the following year at the same towns, an eloquent tribute to her popularity and success. On the occasion of her benefit at Dublin she had over fifty bouquets and baskets of flowers. Last year she undertook the principal boy's part at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, where her charming personality and fine voice won her hosts of admirers, the Press being unanimous in their praise of her fitness for the part. With the Birmingham public she was little less than an idol, and on the last night the many bouquets and floral offerings handed her across the footlights occupied half the stage. This year she goes to Newcastle, having been re-engaged by Messrs. Howard and Wyndham to play Jack Horner.

Such is Miss Dorothy Ward's splendid record in pantomime, and for one so young—she first played principal boy when only sixteen years of age—it is certainly one to be proud of. In one of her earliest annuals she won a deal of popularity with the well-known song, "How would you like to spoon with me?" and in this connection she recalls the many spoons given her—silver spoons, wooden spoons, spoons of all shapes and sizes, a curious and unique collection which she greatly prizes. And one might almost say that Miss Ward was one of those few lucky mortals really born with a silver spoon in their mouth, so rapid has been her progress up the ladder of fame.

Whilst singing this number the artist had a rather trying experience. It will be remembered that the singer always invited any venturesome male on to the stage to "spoon" with her. One evening a gentleman in the stalls took her at her word, and making his way on to the stage would not be denied. Discovering that his amorous intentions were of a serious nature, Miss Ward was placed in a bit of a dilemma, especially when she found he was mentally deranged. Eventually the lady managed to "cake walk" him off to the wings, and he was soon safe in the arms of the stage-manager, where doubtless his "spooning" inclinations quickly vanished.

"In the intervals between pantomime," says Miss Ward, "I played Miss Carrie Moore's part in *The Dairymaids* (South) principal company on tour; Miss Zena Dare's part (Victoria Siddons) in *The Gay Gordons*, with Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss; the Princess Helène in *The Waltz Dream* at the Hicks, now the Globe Theatre, and Consuela, Miss Evie Greene's part, in *Havana* for two tours with Mr. George Edwardes." Miss Ward has also acted in revues in Paris and Brussels, and for the last twelve months has been on the variety stage, with the Moss-Stoll, Gibbons, and other prominent managements. She was one of the principal attractions at the opening of the New Empire, Kingston-on-Thames, and was last week starring at the Empire, Belfast, where her great success in pantomime as principal boy ensured her a most enthusiastic welcome. A refined comedienne with a charming personality, excellent voice, and ear-haunting songs, Miss Ward has had no reason to regret forsaking musical comedy for vaudeville, where she speedily "made good."

It will thus be seen that Miss Ward has in her brief career done an immense amount of valuable work, and played parts which scarcely seem credible for one in her teens. But it must be remembered that when a girl the lady always looked older than her years. She recalls with amusement how on one occasion when a youngster of fourteen she entered for a swimming race, and won, the indignant mothers of the other children all came up in a body declaring she was much older than stated. Such a tall and splendidly developed girl must be over fourteen, they protested, and eventually the prize she had won was withheld till she had produced her birth certificate!

Passionately fond of the open-air, Miss Ward scarcely ever rides in a train. The fortunate possessor of a fine motor car, she is enabled to do all her journeys and tours when possible by road. Lavishly gifted by nature, and with youth and an evident enthusiasm for her work, Miss Ward would appear to have an enviable career before her. To be able to sign three-figure contracts when only twenty years of age speaks eloquently of the rapid progress she has made in the profession for which she is so splendidly equipped.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

PETITIONS.

Petitions were presented against the erection of another music hall in the Fulham district.

SKATING RINK AND ELECTRIC THEATRE.

The Council, on Feb. 15 last approved, subject to certain conditions, drawings of a skating rink which it was proposed to erect on the site of the People's Arcade, Back Church-lane, Whitechapel. Drawings have now been submitted, by Messrs. Smith and Churchward, showing an amended proposal, including the erection of a smaller rink and a cinematograph hall on the site. The skating rink will have accommodation for about 780 persons, and the cinematograph hall for 1,000. It is intended to apply for music and dancing licences for the skating rink and for the cinematograph hall, and, subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appeared to the Theatres Committee to be suitable for the purposes for which the licences are desired.

The Committee recommended the Council to grant certificates, provided that the usual conditions were complied with.

PROPOSED FULHAM EMPIRE.

The Theatres Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a music hall proposed to be erected on the site of Nos. 444 and 446, Fulham-road, and to be known as the Fulham Empire. The premises will have accommodation for about 2,700 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, the arrangements shown on the drawings appear to be satisfactory.

The Committee recommended that a certificate be granted, provided the usual conditions be complied with.

PROPOSED NEW THEATRE.

The Theatres Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. G. Billings, Wright, and Co., showing a theatre proposed to be erected at 226, Commercial-road, and to be known as the Oriental Theatre. The premises will have accommodation for about 1,650 persons, and subject to certain conditions being observed, the arrangements shown on the drawings appear to be satisfactory.

The Committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate.

SURREY THEATRE.

The Theatres Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. Kirk and Kirk, showing extensive alterations proposed to be made at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Blackfriars-road. The proposed alterations will constitute practically a reconstruction of the auditorium. The premises, as altered, will have accommodation for 1,970 persons. The arrangements shown on the drawings appear to be satisfactory, subject to certain conditions being complied with, and the Committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate.

All the above recommendations were agreed to.

THE LATE MR. WALTER CURTIS.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Walter Curtis, who passed away at his residence, 16, Lascelles-road, Roundhay-road, Leeds, in the early hours of Saturday last. Mr. Curtis as a well-known entertainer had gained a good reputation not only on the music-hall stage but also on the concert platform. He was engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll to play a leading part in *The Motor Chase*, but owing to heart trouble, following a horse accident some years ago at Harrogate, he was taking a twelve months' rest under doctor's orders. Mr. Curtis was of a jovial temperament,

THE LATE MR. CURTIS.

and had gathered around him a host of friends in and out of the profession.

There was a representative gathering of mourners at the funeral at Woodhouse Cemetery, Leeds, on Tuesday afternoon, many of the company having known the deceased since his school-days. The chief mourners were:—Mrs. Walter Curtis (widow), Mr. William Curtis (brother), Mrs. H. Hepworth (sister), Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thwaites (daughter and son-in-law), Miss M. Spencer (sister-in-law), and the Misses P. and C. Dixon (cousins). The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Scruton, of Leeds.

Among those present at the graveside were:—Mr. J. C. Whiteman (general-manager, Varieties, Leeds), Mr. A. Galley, Mr. T. E. Fox, Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. F. W. Wood, Mr. C. Bush, Mr. G. Almond, Mr. G. O. Cattle, Mr. Walter Cressey, Mr. J. Browning, Mr. A. Armstrong, Mr. J. A. Walker, Mr. G. Cropper, Mr. J. Pennington, Mr. E. T. S. Atkinson, Mr. W. Pickard, Mrs. K. Alnwick (for Mr. R. Alnwick), Mr. S. Walker Mr. A. Hill, Mr. L. Franks, Mr. A. Mahoney, Mr. A. Webster, Mr. Robert Beevers, Mr. S. Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. S. Bottomley, Mr. J. W. Rowley, Mr. G. Walker, Mr. R. H. Lister, Mr. T. Sydney, Mr. J. H. Pickard, Mr. F. W. Charlesworth, Mr. T. Lucas, Mr W. Fletcher, and Mr. E. Rowley.

A large number of beautiful wreaths included those sent from the following:—Mrs. Walter Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thwaites, Mr. Edward Curtis, Mrs. H. Hepworth, Mr. William Curtis, the Misses P. and C. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. J. Whiteman, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Child, Mrs. Thwaites, Mr. and Mrs. G. Drake, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hill, Dr. Friend, Mr. G. O. Cattle, Mr. and Mrs. Pickard (Garforth), Mr. and Master Charles Bush, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mugliston, and "the Pack Horse Boys."

Mr. Edward Curtis, the father of Mr. Walter Curtis, is at present in Egypt.

"WHAT'S the matter with father?" is Mr. Fred Barnes's great song success. It is fast becoming the password of every town he visits, and is, we should imagine, a great song for pantomime comedians. Mr. Bert Feldman is the publisher.

"DON'T be an M.U.G." is the title of Mr. Fred Barnes's great new song. It is, we hear, to be published in the popular sixpenny form. This song is the sole property of Mr. Barnes, written and composed by himself, registered and fully protected.

"PARSON GRAY, V.C.," AT THE METROPOLITAN.

Metropolitan audiences this week are giving an enthusiastic welcome to Mr. George Gray and his company in the elaborately staged dramatic sketch *Parson Gray, V.C.*—a miniature drama packed with thrilling incidents and telling lines that never appeal in vain, the playlet being exactly the thing for a popular audience. This stirring tale of love and bravery, peace and war, is cleverly compressed by Mr. Gray into the limits of a music-hall sketch, and events necessarily move very rapidly. In the opening scene, the Deanery of Porchester—Christmas Eve—Colonel Duncan Gray is welcomed home by his family and friends, the only absentee apparently being the Rev. Thomas Gray, who believes the Colonel to be his father, but who, it is explained, is the natural son of the Rev. James Madden, the Dean of Porchester, the Colonel and the Dean being the only two who know the truth of the matter. One of the many good works of the enthusiastic young cleric is looking after the welfare of homeless and fatherless kiddies in the neighbourhood, and a party of joyous youngsters are seen just previous to their departure for one of the Colonies. Soon after, he questions Madge Gray, whom he believes to be his sister, as to the cause of her depression and seeming indisposition, telling her that she should not mind revealing any trouble she may have to her brother. He asks her if she has had a lovers' tiff with Geoffrey Madden, her fiancé, a question that evidently gives the girl much pain. Eventually we learn that Madden had some time previously seduced Madge under promise of marriage, and sent their little child to South Africa, and the distraught girl admits that she now loathes him. Madden's villainy has not stopped there, for he has stolen some money and letters, the latter revealing the fact that young Gray is not the son of the Colonel. The Colonel is obliged to confess, on being questioned by Gray, that the latter is only his adopted son, and the curtain falls on Gray proclaiming his intention of going out into the world to seek his father.

In the next scene we are shown a chapel in a besieged city in South Africa during the war. Young Gray has joined the army, and has distinguished himself by many deeds of valour; indeed, he is known as the man without fear, and appears to court death. Among the wounded is a little boy whom the Colonel is surprised to hear from Gray is his nameless grandchild, the offspring of Madge and Madden, the latter of whom is likewise on the spot, having been taken prisoner as a spy. In the chapel to which he is captive Madge also comes, and Gray suggests that he shall make her his wife then and there. Although Madge is not at all anxious to wed Madden, for the sake of the child she consents. Madden, however, sneers at the idea; indeed, he absolutely refuses, and says it is impossible. But he forgets that young Gray is a parson—and a fighting one—and when the latter tries the persuasive power of a revolver he reluctantly agrees, and the pair are united. Gray, who has previously befriended the unworthy Madden, risks his life by giving up his horse on which the latter may escape. There is a very exciting scene, where the parson is cruelly illtreated by the Boers, and the subsequent fight with the "raw 'uns," in which he repeatedly downs half a dozen or so of these brutal-looking ruffians, created immense enthusiasm. Then there are many stirring and realistic war scenes, until we reach the concluding picture where the victorious troops return; Gray learns from his own father's mouth the truth as to his parentage, and forgives him the great wrong he has done him; and the curtain finally falls on the prospect of Gray and Madge being wedded, the unspeakable Madden having apparently been killed in the war.

The part of the brave and chivalrous cleric Thomas Gray is undertaken by Mr. George Gray in his usual sincere, vigorous, and convincing fashion, the actor being alike admirable in the quieter episodes of the play—as, for instance, in the first scene, where he learns that the Colonel is not his father, and in the last scene—and also when the fighting parson is called upon to defend himself against the cowardly assault of his enemies. The scene with little Geoffrey is also admirably handled, and the impersonation throughout of an arduous rôle is a virile and effective one. The names of the other players are not given on the programme, but all contribute valuably to the success of the production, which is mounted and dressed in first-class style.

"THE HUMAN TRIANGLE."

A Dramatic Episode, by Jose G. Levy, Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, Nov. 7.

Lydia Moncrieff .....MISS MARIE PERA
Lily Appleton .....MISS CRIGHTON
Victor Carstairs .....MR. GEORGE INGLETON
Marie .....MISS ROSE MARTIN

The Human Triangle has a story at once true and simple, and without artificial colouring, and should have a long and successful run. The story is laid in the flat of Lydia Moncrieff, a prominent and much-admired actress. Lily Appleton, a charming and innocent maid, calls upon Lydia for the purpose of obtaining her autograph and at the same time securing her services for a charity concert. Upon her arrival at the flat Lily finds herself alone for a few moments, and noticing a bouquet of flowers on the table she picks it up, and, to her horror, discovers that it has been sent by Victor Carstairs, her future husband.

Astounded at the apparent perfidy of the man she loves, Lily questions Miss Moncrieff, and the actress, feeling a certain amount of compassion for the young and innocent girl, tells her that there is nothing between them; in fact, the sending of the flowers was but the result of a bet, and is, moreover, an insult. Lily Appleton is at last satisfied that her suspicions have been unfounded, and leaves the house in a contented frame of mind. No sooner has she gone, however, than her lover enters. The actress loves Victor Carstairs with all her heart, but renounces her claim in favour of her younger and more innocent rival.

Miss Marie Pera acts with considerable warmth as Lydia Moncrieff, and plays throughout with much power and skill; Miss Crighton supplies a charming portrayal of Lily Appleton; and Miss Rose Martin is all that can be desired as Marie, the servant. Great praise is due to Mr. George Ingleton for his powerful delineation of Victor Carstairs. The special scenery for the piece has been painted by Messrs. J. and T. Bull; the furniture has been supplied by Mr. J. Lyon; and the effective incidental music written by Mr. Julian Frank.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday last a capital audience assembled in the great central hall at the Alexandra Palace for the performance of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's *Rose of Sharon*, under the enthusiastic conductorship of Mr. Allen Till. The Alexandra Palace choir has made rapid and pronounced success under his careful directorship, and came through with flying colours. As the Sulamite Miss Esta D'Argo displayed her melodious voice and her artistic method of singing to great advantage; Miss Gwladys Roberts deserves praise for the contralto numbers, all rendered with exquisite purity of tone and creating a very favourable impression. Mr. Farrington used his excellent voice very well in the exacting music for Solomon; and Mr. R. Goond capably rendered his numbers, his fine bass voice, coupled with his easy and clear manner of delivery, being greatly appreciated. Mr. Webster Millar, tenor, was loudly applauded for artistic singing.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT).

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Bakewell, on the Midland; Brampton, on the North Eastern; Penrith, on the London and North-Western; Warkworth, on the North-Eastern; St. Colomb, on the Great Western; Andover, on the London and South-Western; Ulverston, on the Furness; Yeovil, on the Great Western, and London and South-Western; Rugby, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Shaftesbury, on the London and South-Western; Govan, on the Glasgow and South-Western and Glasgow and Paisley Joint; Aberystwyth, on the Cambrian, and Manchester and Milford; and Llandovery, on the London and North-Western and Great Western Joint railways.

Rotherham Statutes Fair.

THIS famous fair was held under adverse weather conditions this last week. The principal shows were the cinematograph theatres of Messrs. Farrar and Son, T. Payne, and E. Farrar, Chipperfield's Franco-British Menagerie, Lewis's American serpent jungle, J. Collins's Haunted Castle, Harry Hughes's school of boxers, White's model of a coal mine, and Mr. Hughes' fine art gallery were on the show list. The machine list included John Collins's five sets, the Joy Wheel, the steam yachts, the razzle-dazzle, the cake-walk, and the ever-popular four-abreast galloping horses, P. Collins's two sets (the Teddy bears and the Brooklands motor track—a superb motor machine), Waller Shaw's steam swings, and Gem motor and pony sets by S. Mercer and Mrs. Middlebrook completed a fine aggregation of mechanical novelties.

THERE were toy and fairings bazaars by Messrs. Parkinson, Pullen, and Seeds; pannum stalls by Messrs. G. Wright, J. Wright and Co., Peatman, Pullen, and Mrs. Mulhearne; photo booth by Mr. Gunthorpe; shooting ranges, galleries, and batteries by Messrs. Fossett, Cornwell, Radcliffe, Marsden, Lever, Pullen, Middlebrook, and Hughes and Martin; houp-la circles by Messrs. Ashcroft and Shaw, throwing games, ring and dart boards, bagatelle boards, coker sheets, dolly frames, and varieties by Messrs. Steward, S. Mercer, Turner, T. Burgin, Johnson, Middlebrook, Cornwell, jun., Gandy, Whatmore, Illingworth, Mitchell, Calver, Ling, Fawcett, and Barker.

Guild Benefit at Rotherham.

ALTHOUGH the bad weather meant poor business for the entertainers at Rotherham Statutes, the response to the Guild's request for a benefit met with a hearty and generous response. All the machines and shows took part in the effort, and the other amusements and stalls joined in a subscription list. We give the details of the subscribers to the fund: John Collins's concerns, £7 12s. 8½d.; Patrick Collins's concerns, £4 15s. 6d.; Farrars and Son, 15s. 10d.; Chipperfield's, 16s. 5d.; E. Farrar (No. 2), 14s. 8d.; T. Payne, 10s.; W. Shaw, 5s.; S. Mercer, 5s.; F. Wright and Co., 5s.; H. Gunthorpe, 5s.; Mrs. Mitchell, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Parkinson, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Geo. Wright, 2s. 6d.; Lewis, 2s. 6d.; Parkinson, 2s. 6d.; J. Marsden, 2s.; W. Steward, 2s.; G. Cornwell, 2s.; Pullen, 2s.; T. White, 2s.; Hughes and Martin, 2s.; A. Barker, 1s.; Mrs. Lever, 1s.; Mr. Gandy, 1s.; total, £17 13s. 0½d.

Guild Subscriptions, 1910.

MR. GUNTHORPE, 5s.; Geo. Cornwell, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. John Cornwell, 5s.; Mr. Gandy, 5s.; Mr. Friedman, 5s.; Mrs. Middlebrook, 5s.

Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

AT the Rotherham meeting of the executive of this union a complaint was laid against the Corporation of Hull for having altered the position of the machine of a member of the Union, the material point of the complaint being that the roundabout in question was placed out of the line of the machines, and in such a position that the money loss exceeded £100.

IT will be remembered by our readers that a conference between the Corporation and the showmen was held after Hull Fair, 1909, and a plan was drawn up that gave everyone a fair chance. A copy of the plan was in the possession of both parties. The plan was not adhered to, and the result is seen in the serious loss sustained by a member of the Union. The secretary (Mr. T. Hurst) was instructed to put the matter of the complaint before the Markets and Fairs Committee of the Hull Corporation, and to seek redress for the loss sustained.

Showman's Letter-box.

LETTERS await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. W. Purchase, J. W. Chipperfield, James Henry Chipperfield, and Mrs. C. Birch.

A Most Urgent Case of Need.

WE understand from Mr. Irvin (who is interesting himself as a friend in the matter) that Mr. and Mrs. Chittock are in necessitous circumstances. We have known for some time past that dear old Chittock, as we love to call him, has been in failing health. Mrs. Chittock, with the bravery and perseverance that mark showwomen, has done her best to keep the show going and to maintain the family. The task has been manifestly too much for her. An attempt was made in the summer to sell the show, Mr. Tom Norman, out of sheer kindness, doing his best to dispose of it as a going concern. This well-meant effort failed. Since then the family has made a precarious living on various private pitches in the suburbs of London. In these days of keen competition from permanent picture palaces at every street corner, picture shows on vacant land in back streets make little money. Anyhow, the Chittocks are, through ill-health and continued misfortune, in real distress. Mr. Irvin kindly lent them his traction engine, and gave his personal help to move the show to a new pitch last week, and he informs us that it is a case needing immediate help. We shall be glad to receive subscriptions, however small, and will acknowledge them week by week in *The Era*. Mr. Pedgrift will act as treasurer to the fund, and the Rev. T. Horne will see that the money goes to Mrs. Chittock for their pressing wants.

Rev. T. Horne £1 1 0

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

GUILD CHAPLAIN'S REPORT, 1910.

FIFTH ARTICLE.

The Showmen's Guild and Abingdon.

IN compliance with the kind invitation of the Vicar of Abingdon (the Rev. H. T. Maitland) the Guild Chaplain visited the town from Oct. 8 to 10, in order to open out, if possible, Guild work. Under ordinary conditions, where the shows are compelled to arrive and build up on the Sunday, Guild meetings are impossible. There are two hopeful elements at Abingdon; the first is that St. Nicholas, one of its ancient churches, is actually on the Market-square. It is therefore quite practical and possible to have a service at 7.30 for showpeople. The other hopeful circumstance is that a meeting (with a tea) has been given for many years past by the united Nonconformist bodies of the town. This tea and meeting appeals to some of the showpeople, and they attend it. The vicar arranged for a service at 7.30 in St. Nicholas's, and the Guild Chaplain was the preacher. Prior to this service the Chaplain gave an address to the young people of the parish at St. Helen's Church, his subject being "Shows and Show Life." After the Guild service in St. Nicholas's Church, Mr. Horne was the principal speaker at the meeting in the Corn Exchange. It is these opportunities of the Chaplain speaking to his own people and also to others on their behalf that makes the Guild so powerful a factor in forming an enlightened and more tolerant public opinion of show life. The Vicar of Abingdon has accepted the office of hon. local chaplain of the Guild.

The Showmen's Guild at Hull Fair.

THE following Press opinions of the value of the Guild work will be of interest to our readers. The *Hull Daily Mail* of Monday, Oct. 17, said:—

"THE SHOWMEN'S CHAPLAIN.

"SERMONS IN HULL CHURCHES.

"Although there was not the usual showmen's service on the Fair ground on Sunday, the Hon. Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain had a busy time. He preached twice that day—in the morning at All Saints' Church, Margaret-street, and in the evening at St. Mary's Church, Dairycoates. It is a coincidence that the Rev. H. C. Horne, the curate at the former church, is a son of the showmen's Chaplain, whilst the Rev. W. H. Butler, of Hull, is another honorary local Chaplain of the Guild. It was, of course, a disappointment to many of the public that there was no service on the Fair ground, owing to the fact that the Fair came to an end on Saturday night, and the show people were busy soon after dismantling their shows, and on Sunday morning many of the vans were removed by the traction engines.

"AN INTERESTING CHAT.

"After Communion Service at All Saints' Church, the showmen's chaplain had an interesting little chat with our representative, which showed that the showmen have won their right to citizenship. 'They have proved that class legislation is not necessary for them, and that the ordinary law of the land governing morals and conduct are quite sufficient for the men and women of the fair-ground. It is the showmen's function in the State to minister the medicine of laughter and the joy of life to the worn and weary toilers, whose industry supplies the great trade and commerce upon which the prosperity of the Empire is built.' In a few words, the showman is a craftsman amongst other craftsmen, taking his part, and doing his share to brighten and to uplift humanity.

"TWENTY-ONE YEARS' SERVICE.

"For twenty-one years Mr. Horne has acted as chaplain, our representative gathered from the veteran clergyman, and during the past four years he had devoted his whole energies to the work. 'The work grows to such an extent,' he said, 'that I feel I must give the rest of my life to it.' Like an ordinary parish priest, the chaplain realises that he must work amongst his people, and to do this he travels some thousands of miles a year. His energy is remarkable for one of his years, and to quote an interesting paragraph from the last annual report, 'The chaplain's people have offered again and again to find him a salary, but as he is able to earn his daily bread without a salary from them, he is proud enough to do it.' From the Epistle of the day, the Rev. T. Horne selected the words 'Put on the whole armour of God,' and he preached a helpful sermon to a large congregation at All Saints' Church."

The Church of St. Peter and St. Mary Dairycoates, Hull, was crowded to its utmost capacity at Evensong, the Guild chaplain preaching a harvest festival sermon, taking for his text the words: "The harvest is the end of the world." After dealing with his subject in its wider aspects, he referred to his own work in the Church of God as ministering the Bread of Life to the showpeople on the fairgrounds of the empire.

The crowded congregation were deeply moved by the details he gave of how the Church of God touches the hearts and lives of showpeople. How the fruitage of the Holy Spirit was seen in the uplifting of showlife and the betterment of the people's amusements. "It was," he said, "for all good men to work in God's great harvest field of the world, preparing the soil and sowing the seed, but it is God who gives the increase, and it will be God's Great Harvester who will at the end of time gather in the harvest. So true it is at the end of the world will be the harvest of God."

Alf. Ball Fund.

THE time is rapidly approaching when this fund must be closed. We confidently reiterate our appeal for this extremely deserving case. We readily admit that the response has been generous, particularly from the fairs where the Ball family are well known. It is now the season of the big all-England fairs—Nottingham, Peterborough, Hull, Stratford, Warwick, Rotherham, Wakefield, York, and the great hiring fairs of the North. Efforts, we think, might well be made at these fairs to support the Alf. Ball Fund.

AMOUNT already received and acknowledged in *The Era* £163 15s. 6d.

WE shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions to this truly deserving fund. New subscribers' names will be duly acknowledged in our columns. The treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, is anxious that the help given shall not only be generous but that it shall be immediately available.

COLLECTED by Mr. John Barker at Brightlingsea Fair:—John Barker, 10s.; Mrs. Hall, 2s. 6d.; F. Borsom, 1s.; T. Manning, 5s.; Williams, 1s.; W. Barker, jun., 2s.; W. Summers, 2s.; Miss M. Barker, 1s.; Miss R. Barker, 1s.; J. Bond, jun., 1s.; J. Prestney, 1s.; Miss Prestney, 1s.; C. Duffield, 5s.; J. Jann, 4s.; A. Holmes, 1s.; Miss Holmes, 1s.; A. Summers, 2s.; Miss Duffield, 1s.; John Westrop, 1s.; W. Barker, 5s.; Mrs. R. Bond, 2s. 6d.; G. Summers, 2s.; G. Bugg, 2s.; G. Holmes, 2s.; H. Roberts, 2s.; J. Barker, jun., 1s.; J. Bingham, 2s.; N. Barker, 1s.; C. Duffield, 1s.; Miss Duffield, 1s.; total, £3 5s.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT ROTHERHAM.

BRITISH SHOW LIFE.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Rev. Thomas Horne, the organiser and hon. chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, can always rely upon receiving a hearty reception whenever that reverend gentleman visits Rotherham, and it is now understood that Rotherham Statutes would be incomplete without a visit from our old and estimable friend. To use his own words, the Rev. Thos. Horne is looked upon as "part and parcel of the annual show."

Mr. Horne has a host of admirers in Rotherham and district. Not only is he remembered as the curate of the village of Whiston, but also his splendid work on behalf of the miners during the great coal strike in the year 1893. The sacrifices he then made will live in the memory of Rotherham people for ever. It is not necessary to write at length upon the work Mr. Horne has done in the interests of showmen, as his efforts in that direction have won the appreciation of the thousands of showpeople all over the country. The annual meeting of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain for Yorkshire was held on Sunday last at Rotherham in Messrs. Farrar and Son's show. Considering that the weather was so unpropitious, there was an excellent attendance. The Mayor of Rotherham (Ald. Dan Mullins, J.P.) was to have occupied the chair, but owing to indisposition he was unable to attend. Mr. T. Bartholomew presided, and he was supported by the Rev. Thos. Horne, the Rev. J. H. Poole (Vicar of Northfield), Mr. W. E. Ball, and others.

The Rev. THOS. HORNE, in opening the meeting, said that he had to regret the absence of the Mayor of Rotherham (Ald. D. Mullins), who was to have presided; but owing to a chill his Worship was unable to be present. He therefore proposed that Mr. T. Batholomew take the chair, and this was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said he was pleased to render what assistance he could. He was glad they had the Rev. Thos. Horne amongst them again. They had been interested in what that gentlemen had said upon previous occasions, and they were glad to see him again looking so well. (Applause.)

THE MOVEABLE DWELLINGS BILL.

The Rev. THOS. HORNE, upon rising to address the meeting, had a hearty reception. He said in his opening remarks "that the labourer is worthy of his hire," which meant that he was entitled to get his wages when the job was done. He therefore was a labourer, and to meet his friends there that day were his wages. He said he loved to come to Rotherham Statutes as long as he received the warm appreciation which the people of Rotherham never failed to give him. When he was in the wrong they had always stood by him, and he was quite certain that when he happened to be in the right they would support him. As they said in the pantomime, "Here we are again." Rotherham "Stattis" had come round again. Continuing, he said he believed he was part and parcel of the annual show, and upon that occasion he wished to speak to them on British show life. Before, however, he began his lecture, he said he was glad to tell them that the reason that brought them together year after year—twenty years right straight off the reel—no longer existed. At the last meeting at Rotherham Statutes they had to protest against an iniquitous Bill then before Parliament, which, if passed, would have hampered and penalised, and in the end have killed the show business. They fought against that Bill and killed it. Last year they passed a resolution at the annual meeting of the Guild to the effect that Rotherham people sympathised with the work of the Showmen's Guild, and strongly opposed the Moveable Dwellings Bill. The speaker then outlined the progress of the Bill through the House of Lords, and it had been so dealt with that only a "little bit of mistaken legislation remained."

The Showmen's Guild had absolutely killed the Bill. They had not come to Rotherham again to ask them to pass any resolutions, and with regard to the evil remaining, they were going to take care that when Parliament met that every clause in the Bill would receive the most strenuous opposition from their Trades' Society. He did not intend to move any resolution or make a speech about the Moveable Dwellings Bill, for if it was not already killed, it was in the process of being killed. They intended that not one portion of the Bill, so far as its attack on the industry of the fairground, not one clause, and not even one line of a clause of the Bill should pass into law, which put a hinderance and a penalty on an industry that claimed to be sufficiently well looked after by the ordinary law of the land that it was not necessary that it should require any special legislation. He was glad they had knocked the top and bottom out of the Bill, and he thought with a few more raps they would finish it altogether.

British Show Life.

Dealing with British show life, the reverend gentleman said that he well remembered Rotherham Statutes fifty years ago. In those days they had not got the cinematograph theatres, as the fairs in these days. They had the menageries, such as Wombwell's, William Mander's, or Day's. At this juncture the reverend gentleman told a pathetic story concerning "Bill" Manders and sweet Rosy, his wife, in which he pointed out that life as it was lived in a van had pathos and power to move anyone, as only true life stories could. The reverend gentleman then told a touching and pathetic story concerning an old showman—a Punch and Judy man—which brought out the good characters of the showman. For twenty-one years they had been trying to educate the public to understand what show life really meant. He thought Rotherham people had known that for at least fifteen years, but he was sorry to say there were other towns that had not yet grasped it. Here the speaker related an incident when a police officer was one day watching some showpeople at a certain place arrange their shows, he (the Rev. Thos. Horne) happened to be standing alongside the police officer, and ventured a remark that it was very interesting to see how orderly the showpeople got their places arranged, and, in reply, the intelligent police officer said, "What a lot—gipsies!" In reply to this, he (the speaker) told the police officer that he thought he ought to know that when he saw a yellow van it did not necessarily follow that the people who occupied them were gipsies, and he pointed out that out of the 200 or more vans it would puzzle him to find one gipsy family in the whole of the crowd. It was a pity, after twenty years of work, to come across an intelligent police officer who did not understand that travelling showpeople were not the same as travelling gipsies. He claimed, and he had said it many times before, that showpeople in their trade and business were as honest and industrious and as good citizens as any class of the community. (Applause.) They were also clean morally and a God-fearing set of men and women. He claimed with safety that showpeople's life was conducive to the sanctity of home life, because the showman never was away from his home. In his opinion, home life was a very real thing for the showmen and women. After relating a story of Rotherham "Stattis," he appealed to his listeners to have most kindly thoughts towards showpeople when they visited the town. He realised that there was the super-sensitive person who took objection to the discordant music at fairs. Those people had no charity broad enough to stand a few discordant notes. He hoped they would have kindly sympathies and broad-minded charity towards showpeople. The showman was a minister—he had a mission to fulfil, and he (the speaker) asked them to be charitable towards him whenever he came amongst them. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. H. POOLE (Vicar of Northfield), in proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. Thos. Horne, said his sympathy was with the showpeople, and whenever they came to Rotherham they would always find a friend in him.

Mr. W. E. BALL, in seconding the motion, spoke of the excellent work the Showmen's Guild was doing.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the resolution to the meeting, which was carried with acclamation, said that Rotherham appreciated a man like the Rev. Thos. Horne, and they well remembered the important part he took in the great coal strike of 1893. The part taken by the reverend gentleman at that time was sufficient to warrant the sympathy they extended to him, and he hoped he would be spared for some time to come to champion the cause of the Showmen's Guild.

In the evening a Guild service was held, when the Rev. Thos. Horne preached to an excellent congregation. The orchestra and choir of the St. Michael's Church were in attendance.

The Guild at Rotherham Statutes Fair.

The oldest centre of the Guild's work in Yorkshire is at Rotherham. For twenty years without a break Rotherham Statutes Fair has been marked by a showmen's service. The Guild, founded at Manchester in 1889, had for its first chaplain the Rev. T. Horne, who was at that time Curate of Whiston, Rotherham. At the first fair after the establishment of the Guild, the showpeople in several large waggonettes came out to Whiston from the fairground and more than half-filled Whiston Parish Church. This was a surprise visit, but it turned out to be the actual commencement of the Guild services. The following year a service was held in a show on the fairground, and that has been the plan ever since.

This year's service was held in Farrer and Son's beautiful cinematograph pavilion. Despite the inclement weather the show was crowded, and great interest was taken in the service by the crowded congregation of showpeople and their good friends, the church folk of Rotherham.

The Guild work has always been linked with the parish of St. Michael's, Northfield, for until quite recently the fair was held in that parish. The choir and orchestra of St. Michael's, with the mission workers, have given yeoman service to the Guild work, and with the full acquiescence and blessing of the Vicar of Masbro', in whose parish the fairground is now situated, the Northfield church people continue their valuable work. The Vicar of St. Michael's (the Rev. J. H. Poole) has kindly accepted the office of honorary local chaplain in succession to the Rev. H. Greenway, who, during his arduous vicariate of St. Michael's, always looked after the showpeople at the Statutes Fair.

The Vicar, the choir, the orchestra, and the church workers again took part in the Guild service at the fairground.

The Guild Chaplain associated himself throughout the Sunday with the work at St. Michael's Church. He was Celebrant at the 8 a.m. Eucharist and preacher at the High Celebration at 11. In the evening he read the Lessons. The chaplain's sermon in the show was on the Festival of All Saints', taking as his text the words: "Who hath made us meet to be partakers of the Inheritance of the Saints in Light," from the Epistle of the day.

The musical portion of the service was most heartily rendered by people, choir, and orchestra. At the close of the service, at the request of the organising chaplain, the honorary local chaplain (the Vicar of St. Michael's) spoke a few words to his brother Guildsmen at the fair.

He disclaimed any intention of preaching a second sermon, however short, his only wish was to make the showpeople understand that he, with the assistant clergy of St. Michael's, extended the heartiest possible welcome to them when in Rotherham. He assured them that anything that they could do, whether in the direct ministry of the things of God, or in brotherly fellowship and friendship, the showpeople would find them ready and glad to be of use in the furtherance of the good work of the Showmen's Guild.

Other Workers in the Same Field.

The honorary local chaplain for Preston, Canon H. S. Butler, Vicar of the parish church, with his mission workers, held a successful Showmen's Guild service in Clarke's cinematograph show at the Whitsuntide fair. The Rev. F. S. Sykes, Vicar of Holbeck, Leeds, held a Guild service in Murphy's show pavilion on the feast ground during the local fair.

The Rev. R. St. John Mitchell, of the Exeter Itinerant Mission, has again this year followed the circuit of the West of England Regatta Fairs. This excellent diocesan work has been much blessed with success, the showpeople of the West of England readily assisting in every possible way.

The Rev. Canon Heygate, Vicar of the Parish Church, Boston, held a Guild Service in Aspland's show at Boston Fair with great acceptance. The Rev. J. T. Mumford, the Vicar of East Retford, continued his splendid work of showmen's services at Retford Fair. During the visit of Fossett's circus to Penzance the local Guild Chaplain, the Rev. C. F. Rogers, Vicar of St. Mary's, held a service for the circus people in the tent. The Rev. G. Robinson, Holme-on-Spalding Moor, York, held a service at the village feast. The Rector of Neath, Wales, and the Rev. T. S. Phillips, Neath, held services on the fairground during Neath Fair. Other services in Wales were held at Pontardawe, and at Porth by the Honorary Local Chaplains.

There is also an excellent Diocesan Mission worked by the St. Andrew's Brotherhood of Salisbury; the clergy dealing with showlife at the fairs in the diocese are the Rev. E. Chorley and the Rev. E. W. Legge, both of whom are Honorary Chaplains of the Guild. There have been other services held and other good work attempted; the detailed accounts of this have not reached the Guild Chaplain.

It is extremely gratifying to notice that in increasing numbers the Honorary Local Chaplains are carrying forward the work in the absence of the Organising Chaplain of the Guild, who is thus liberated to open up new centres of work.

Honorary Local Chaplains:—

Rev. W. H. T. Bateman, the Vicarage, Mexborough.
Rev. Canon Butler, the Vicarage, Preston.
Rev. W. H. Butler, Hull.
Rev. E. Chorley, Salisbury.
Rev. T. S. Dennison, St. Stephen's, Birmingham.
Rev. N. J. Devereux, St. Mary's Vicarage, Hoxton, N.
Rev. David Dickson, Christ Church Vicarage, Lowestoft.
Rev. F. L. Donaldson, St. Mark's, Leicester.
Rev. A. P. Evans, Neath, Wales.
Rev. J. D. Evans, Treherbert.
Rev. G. Francis, Porth, Wales.
Rev. S. W. Goldsmith, the Vicarage, Aldeburgh.
Rev. Peter Green, Sacred Trinity, Salford.
Rev. H. Greenway, Horbury.
Rev. J. Vavasour Hammond, Holy Trinity Rectory, Ayr.
Rev. B. W. Hancock, St. Swithin's, Lincoln.
Rev. G. S. Hand, All Saints', King's Lynn.
Rev. J. Harrison, Ponardawe.
Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, the Vicarage, Dewsbury.
Rev. Canon Heygate, the Vicarage, Boston.
Rev. H. Congreve Horne, All Saints', Hull.
Rev. W. N. Howe, Boston.
Rev. A. Huddle, St. Nicholas', King's Lynn.
Rev. E. W. Legg, Salisbury.
Rev. T. Lennie, St. John's Rectory, Greenock.
Rev. J. J. Luce, St. Nicholas', Gloucester.
Rev. T. F. Maddrell, St. John the Baptist's, Penzance.
Rev. G. Martin, Porth, Wales.
Rev. H. T. Maitland, Vicarage, Abingdon.
Rev. F. J. Metcalfe, Killamarsh.
Rev. J. T. Mumford, Vicarage, East Retford.
Rev. H. Norburn, St. Agnes, Birch, Manchester.
Rev. J. F. L. Orton, Dewsbury.
Rev. T. S. Phillips, Neath.
Rev. J. H. Poole, Northfield, Rotherham.
Rev. W. S. Probert, Parish Church, Wrexham.
Rev. G. Robinson, Holme-on-Spalding Moor, Yorks.
Rev. R. Gordon Roe, Leiston.
Rev. C. F. Rogers, the Vicarage, Penzance.
Rev. J. S. Shields, D.D., St. Matthew's, Hammersmith.
Rev. C. E. Sills, St. James's, Islington, N.
Rev. G. Smallpiece, All Saints', King's Lynn.
Rev. Howard Swinstead, Berwick, Salome, Oxford.
Rev. F. S. Sykes, Holbeck, Leeds.
Rev. R. de C. Thelwall, Burbage, Wilts.
Rev. J. Thomas, Brentwood.
Rev. W. Thomas, Porth, Wales.
Rev. T. Tissington, Treorchy, Wales.
Rev. N. J. Walters, St. James's, Islington, N.
Rev. Fenwick Ward, Albert Memorial Church, Manchester.

The Scott Family Appeal.

WE draw our readers' attention to the urgent appeal for help made by the Scott family, of circus celebrity. To the circus world this appeal must come with great force, the Scotts being amongst the most esteemed and best-known of British equestrians. Mr. F. H. Pedgrift most readily consents to receive subscriptions, and to acknowledge them week by week in *The Era*.

Municipal Honours for Hamlyn.

MR. J. D. HAMLYN, the famous naturalist and importer of wild beasts, has been returned at the top of the poll in the recent bye-election for the Tower Ward of Stepney. The official figures were:

Hamlyn	240
Somerfield	93
Braine	39

Our heartiest congratulations to Councillor J. D. Hamlyn.

Pontefract Fair.

TUBY AND SONS show the motors and the gallopers; E. Farrar's show; A. Sedgwick's lion show; T. C. Relph's midget and giant child show; shooters, games, and stalls by Fisher, Brannan, Appleton, Griffiths, Leach, Campfield, Walsall, Shaw, and Testo; and bazaars and toy stalls by local traders.

Lord John Sanger and Son's Circus.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S circus paid a visit to East Molesey on Thursday, and created considerable interest. It is upwards of six years since a previous visit was paid. The menagerie includes four performing elephants, eight camels, and nine cages of wild beasts. The circus arrived in the morning about eight, from Egham, and the huge tents were speedily erected.

Important Sale of Roundabout, &c.

MR. TOM NORMAN, the showmen's auctioneer, announces in our advertising columns the sale of an up-to-date and complete roundabout concern—organ, traction engine, dynamo plant, living-wagon, &c., at Crewe, Wednesday next, Nov. 16. For particulars, see the auctioneer's advertisement.

MILITARY BANDS and ORCHESTRIONS

For SKATING RINKS, HOTELS, CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS, LILLIARD ROOMS, CONCERT HALLS.

Special Models for Roundabouts.

THE NEW POLYPHON SUPPLY CO., LTD.,
2, Newman Street, London, W.
27, Jamaica Street, Glasgow.

Luna Park, In Zoological Gardens, Rome .... Italy. ....

Finest Position possible for big money taker. Limited amount of

SPACE TO LET

FOR

Concessions, Shows, Attractions, Games, &c.

Address Colonel F. T. Cummins, Managing Director. Luna Park, 5, Corso Umberto I°, Rome, Italy; or Registered Office, 135, Wool Exchange, London, E.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

New Cinematograph Halls.

At the meeting on Tuesday of the L.C.C. the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered a drawing, submitted by Messrs. Homer and Lucas, showing a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in Coldharbour-lane, Brixton. The hall will have accommodation for about 770 persons. It is intended to apply for a music licence, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The Committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate on the usual conditions being complied with. Agreed to. With respect to the Electric Palace, Brixton, and the Electric Palace, Lewisham, the Catford Central Picture Palace and Skating Rink, the Committee recommended that the provisional licence for music be confirmed. They also recommended that a certificate be granted in respect of the Gaiety Picture Palace, Tottenham Court-road. These recommendations were carried.

Erection of Glass Shelter Not Consented To.

At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, Nov. 1, the Building Acts Committee recommended the Council not to consent to the erection of an iron and glass shelter in front of a cinematograph theatre on the western side of St. Stephen's-road, Bow, as shown on plans submitted with the application of Messrs. Andrews and Peascod on behalf of J. Manger and Sons, Ltd. Agreed to.

"Henry VIII." on the Screen.

Mr. Horace Sedger and Mr. Edward Laurillard, directors of the Electric Palace Company, have recently been in communication with Sir Herbert Tree with the view of securing from him the right to reproduce scenes from *Henry VIII.* in this way. To their request Sir Herbert has given his conditional assent; the one reservation he makes is that the films shall first be approved of by him. The scenes selected for treatment are Wolsey's entrance, the trial of Queen Katherine, and the Coronation ceremony. If all goes well visitors to the Electric Palace, Marble Arch, will consequently have an early opportunity of studying these in full detail.

Ayr Picture Palace.

With a view to adding to the comfort of their patrons, and at the same time taking advantage of the full floor space at their disposal, the management at the Picture Palace, Ayr, intend carrying out certain alterations which will bring the building thoroughly up to the requirements of modern times. The principal pictures on the programme for this week are: The Animated Chronicle, a review of the world's doings, At the Doors of Italy, Transport in Indo-China, Girl of Triple X., Bewitched Boxing Gloves, &c.

A New Picture Show at Bridlington.

Mr. R. C. Luxton, the manager of the New Spa and Opera House at Bridlington, has just installed a new Gaumont chromo de luxe machine at the theatre, which has already proved a source of great attraction. The pictures are thrown from behind the screen—a very great improvement on the old way of projecting them from the front, and Mr. Geo. Robinson, the electrician and operator, is highly praised for the wonderful steadiness and effect which is attained, the pictures showing with remarkable clearness. Mr. Luxton has also secured a capital little orchestra, under Mr. Victor Medcalf's conductorship, who play appropriate music to the scenes depicted.

Croydon Electric Theatre.

The bill here is still up to high-water mark, as the pictures are of the very latest. Amusing subjects are admirably blended with picturesque scenic effects and pictures of dramatic interest. We were pleased to see Mr. Cousins back at his old duties as manager, as he is certainly a past-master in the art of catering for Croydon amusement-seekers.

B.B. Pictures at Dundee.

District-Manager Mr. Tom Lunn, judging by the packed condition of the houses at each of their three theatres, has gauged the Dundonians' taste in pictures to a nicety. At the Palace Theatre an exceptionally interesting and instructive programme is submitted. A very popular picture depicts the story of St. George and the Dragon, whilst Tennyson's poem "Dora" is another outstanding item, the pathos of the latter being given fine effect to. A Woman's Folly is a picture of great dramatic power, and tells of the downfall of a woman owing to her gambling habits, and the subsequent regaining of her honour through her son's sacrifice. A (K)night in Armour proves a regular "rib-tickler," and the programme includes many other capital films. At the Gaiety Theatre a scientific film, Cuttlefish at Home, is particularly interesting to students of natural history. The Old Sergeant is a capital dramatic subject, others of a dramatic nature being The Rival Barons and The Price of a Sacrifice. The comic pictures include Her Uncle's Will, Love Me, Love My Dog, Pontilini Wants Money, and The Mother of Invention. At the Empire Theatre, Acting-Manager R. W. Austin submits a very excellent assortment of films, Great Train Hold-up and A Big Scoop being the most popular; whilst the singing picture, "Follow Me, Girls," meets with much appreciation.

Dundee Cinema Theatre.

Mr. P. Feathers shows a local picture this week entitled Fife Artillery at Craig Pier, showing the men with their horses and cannon leaving Newport boat en route for Barry. Tragedy is depicted in His Second Wife, Nellie's Farm, and The Gipsy's Jealousy. The Detachable Man and What the Parrot Saw are humorous films; while A Trip to the Mediterranean is a very beautiful picture containing some fine scenic effects.

Opposition to Sunday Opening.

Strong opposition having been raised at Kingston-on-Thames against the opening of the Surrey and Sussex Picture Palace in the borough, Mr. Cecil Frere (the manager) has decided not to again open on the Sabbath. The opposition was voiced by Mr. T. W. Weeding (Clerk of the Peace for Surrey) and the Free Churches in the district. A deputation from the latter waited on Mr. Kendall Robinson, one of the directors, on Monday evening, and fully discussed the Sunday opening with him, and made it clear that they had not a word to say against the character of the pictures shown at the Sunday performances. They simply objected to the opening.

Lichfield Electric Palace.

Mr. Patrick Collins, the well known public caterer, has acquired the Seagrave Hall in the city of Lichfield, where he has installed an up-to-date Electric Theatre with every sign of success. The hall has been prettily decorated, and, moreover, has been fitted with tip-up seats and otherwise most comfortably arranged. The pictures, which are changed twice a week, are of the finest character and are quite up to date. Mr. J. D. Bate is the manager, and Mr. Davies treasurer, and both officials are doing all that is possible towards making Mr. Collins's show an entire success.

Picture Palace, Kilmarnock.

The pictures this week maintain their usual standard of excellence, and the new arrangement of giving a complete change of pictures on Thursday is greatly appreciated. The variety turns include Maggie Fraser, a contralto vocalist, with a nice voice; Horace Horner, who makes a good impression with his speciality dancing; and James Brady, who meets with a capital reception.

Opening at Lichfield.

The well-known pioneer of amusements, Mr. Patrick Collins, has secured Seagrave's Assembly Room, in the centre of Lichfield, and, after extensive alterations and improvements, including tip-up seats and other conveniences, opened on Monday, the 31st ult. The general management is in the hands of Mr. Davis and Mr. J. D. Bate, who are doing everything possible for patrons. The films were all first class, and the entertainment went with verve throughout. Mr. Collins proposes to run his Lichfield Palace for six months certain, and has inaugurated his season with two shows per night, with other fixtures.

Fine Picture Palace for Mountain Ash.

A fine central site has been secured in Oxford-street, Mountain Ash, for the purpose of erecting a cinematograph theatre, which will be one of the most commodious and elaborate theatres in the provinces. The plans have been prepared by Mr. George Kenshole, architect, Bargoed, and the contract has also been let. Building operations will be commenced at once. The front of the building will be constructed of white burmantoft, and the theatre will provide accommodation for over 1,000. The proprietors are the same company which have erected a similar theatre at Bargoed. The syndicate have been very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. William Haggar, senior, the pioneer of cinematographs in South Wales, as managing-director in the venture. This syndicate on Thursday opened the new Picture Palace, Bargoed, one of the prettiest theatres in South Wales. The plans were designed by Mr. George Kenshole, and the building erected by Messrs. Williams and Sons, New Tredegar and Bargoed, and will accommodate 700 people.

Portsmouth's Cinema Shows.

At the Fratton Electric Theatre a capital selection of films adorned the sheet last week, the most interesting being A Champion Boxer, His New Family (capital comic), Girl on Triple X Ranch (sensational), and an instructive picture, Gathering Lemons in Sicily.—The Eastney Electric Theatre screened some good pictures, including Auntie at the Boat Race (comic), Central American Romance (tragic), and Boss of Bar X Ranch, an especially good picture.—Amidst a host of interesting films at the Gosport Theatre, Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, scored a big hit with some excellent songs. A capital picture was The Deputy's Duty; and Glen Alno, comedian and dancer, should not be omitted.

Another Electric Theatre in Swindon.

The old Central Hall in Regent-circus, which was recently acquired by the Sceptre Syndicate, Ltd., was opened on Saturday afternoon last. The Central Electric Theatre, as it is now called, has undergone alterations to meet the requirements of the local authorities, and is under the management of Mr. E. J. Jennings, who is running the theatre on popular lines.

Irish Animated Picture Company.

The Irish Animated Picture Company are at the Theatre Royal, Limerick, for another week, and the beautiful films of the Pathé Frère series attract special attention from very popular houses. The principal pictures exhibited are The Queen of Judah, The Motor Smugglers, The Flag of Company H, and a Trip Through Asia Minor, this latter being very educative and interesting. The company are capably supported by Mons. Ugo, a gifted and astute illusionist and conjurer; whilst that highly talented soprano, Miss Nellie Moore, from Dublin, sings some very agreeable solos and snatches from grand opera. Operator Duggan works off without a hitch, and Manager George is the clever guide and demonstrator.

APPEAL FOR HELP.

TO OUR FELLOW SHOWMEN AND BROTHER ARTISTS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES AND IRELAND.

The several members of the Scott family—sons and daughters of the late Walter Scott, circus proprietor, who was well and favourably known—beg to intimate that we are completely overburdened with trouble at the present time, being in stricken circumstances and in want of money, and can no longer find the necessary funds to defend an action of detinue which has been brought against us by Edward Hanneford, who claims to be entitled to the circus property which was left to us by our late father to enable us to earn a livelihood. The following is a report of the case taken from a local newspaper when it was last before the court on Oct 27:—

HANNEFORD v. SCOTT AND OTHERS.

This was an appeal by the defendants, Robert Scott and others, from an order of Mr. Justice Ross appointing a receiver over the chattels, business, and effects of the circus of the defendants. There was a cross-appeal by the plaintiff, Edward Hanneford, that the order in question, the subject of defendants' appeal, should be amended so as to constitute Mr. Hugh Boyd, of Belfast, manager as well as receiver over the circus. The defendants contended that the plaintiff had no valid claim against the property, and alleged that he had been overpaid to the extent of £400 in respect of money lent to the defendants, and that the appointment of a receiver would prevent the business from being carried on in the ordinary course, and would be detrimental to the defendants' interests. It appeared that the circus had been carried on under the title of Sir Walter Scott and Sons. The plaintiff resided in Strandtown, Belfast. Following the death of Mr. Walter Scott litigation took place between the parties as to their respective rights, and when the matter came before Mr. Justice Ross a receiver was appointed pending the matter.

For the defendants (appellants)—Mr. Healy, K.C., M.P., and Mr. W. H. Brown (instructed by Mr. J. G. Scott, solicitor, Larne).

For the plaintiff—Mr. J. O'Connor, K.C., and Mr. H. M. Thompson (instructed by Mr. James Alexander, solicitor, Belfast).

The Lord Chancellor, in giving judgment, said they would allow matters to remain as they were, having regard to the lateness of the season, and to the fact that the touring of the circus was finished for the season. They would decline to grant the plaintiff's cross-notice of appeal, which sought to appoint the receiver as manager, and they would put the plaintiff under terms to deliver his statement of claim forthwith, and make costs of both parties costs in the cause.

We wish to keep what our father left to us, and we are therefore resisting the claim made by Hanneford, and we look forward with confidence to receiving adequate financial support from our fellow showmen and brother artists who know us well. Funds are urgently required, and we appeal to all our many British, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish friends to come forward at this critical moment and help us to defend the action and have justice done between the parties. The smallest sums will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by the undersigned, to whom all contributions are to be sent.

ROBERT SCOTT,

47, Main-street, Larne, co. Antrim, Ireland.

On behalf of himself and his brothers and sisters, children of the late Walter Scott, who are the defendants in the action.

PEEPS INTO SHOWLAND.

During a brief holiday spent this autumn in the West of England I was attracted by an announcement that on Sunday afternoon the Rev. Thomas Horne, Honorary Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, would deliver an address on "Shows and Showmen." Now, as a boy, like most urchins I was desperately fond of spending time and money in a fair or mop. My memories go back to the time when I must have been very young, for my father took me up in his arms to enable me to see above the heads of a vast crowd a lady attired in Scotch costume, who sang "Write me a letter from home." The notes seem as familiar to me to-day as they were on the night they were articulated. Outside the show the lights were burning brightly, the bandsmen were putting a lot of wind into their instruments, so much so that their swollen cheeks almost obliterated their eyes, and wild beasts inside, growled, roared, and snarled in anticipation of feeding time. "Walk up, walk up, ladies and gentlemen, walk up—now you little boys stand back and let the people with the money come to the front—in this show you see monarchs of the forest, tigers from the jungles of India, polar bears from Arctic regions, monster elephants, dromedaries, camels, wolves, zebras, and giraffes, not forgetting the monkeys." And I do not forget the monkeys there, for much of my time was spent in watching their peculiar antics. Talk about being "as cunning as a monkey," they were a lot of fidgety little creatures, always on the "scratch" and looking out to take part in the scramble for whatever was thrown into their cages. Then we moved on to other caravans, in which were imprisoned specimens of the gorilla tribe. Can I ever forget the composed figure of the coloured, ribbed-nosed mandril, designated as a fierce and powerful African baboon? He was not to be teased.

Next we were introduced to the feather tribe. I dimly recall something said about the propensities of the ancient, as distinguished from the modern, pelicans, as to how they fed their young; but amid such an array of eagle, pheasant, and duck-shaped birds with beautiful plumage, can you wonder that, one not too well versed in objects of natural history, I got a bit mystified? At a tender age it made one shudder to witness the narrow escapes of lion tamers and keepers who ventured to put these ferocious beasts through perilous performances. It was so realistic. The lady who put her head between the lion's jaws for the last time suffered the penalty of such realism. Of my boyhood it was a pathetic story. In the waxworks, as a lad, I jumped with joy as I listened to weird stories of "live lions stuffed with straw and the great wangdoodles from the South of Africa." Here I saw a representation of "Daniel in the lion's den." We were told to carefully observe that "Daniel was distinguished from the lions by the blue cotton umbrella he held in his hand." Of course, I asked my father why Daniel wanted an umbrella, as it was not raining! He said, "We must move on." We did.

Outside in the fair the crush was almost unbearable, and at times in the "rushes" it was difficult to keep on one's feet. Cheap Jacks galore, a very extensive array, were seen promenading the front of their gaily caparisoned cars and appraising the merits of real "Sheffield" goods. Of course, these in the naphtha lights glistened like silver. One vendor said the razor he recommended would cut the wind into "rashers"; also if he showed a pair of scissors to a dress piece it would cut it into every conceivable fashionable shape! Then the swing boats, the high flyers, the cocoa-nut shies, the brandy snap, ginger bread, and sweetmeat stalls. There were also in those days various forms of "fun of the fair." At that time lads and lasses came in from the country sides wearing all kinds of agricultural distinctions. Somewhere near to the pleasure fair was located the Statute fair. If a farmer wanted a cowman, a shepherd, a carter, a boy, a dairymaid, a housekeeper, or a "Mary of all work," there were plenty of facilities offered on both sides to effect these engagements, or "hirings." To-day we do not go to fairs for our servants. Civilisation has impregnated and refined the ranks and feelings of our Sarah Janes and Mary Annes as well as polite members in the higher grades of society. It is true we live in a different age, but we have showmen with us still, and, what is more, they will remain so long as there are men and women on the surface of the globe.

When I was down in the city I made bold to go up to the Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild. He is a very energetic and affable gentleman. Of course he was as pleased to see me as I was to make his acquaintance. I told him that an idea had entered into my head. He put into my hand a little book, entitled "British Shows and Showmen," of which he is the author, and told me I should find it useful. In that little book it is set forth that the modern showman has no need to be ashamed either of his work or his position in the national economy.

To cater for a people natural relaxation involves no slight share of responsibility in the nation's well-being. The strenuous toil of a highly-developed industrial system demands frequent opportunities for recreation and change. Experience has demonstrated more than ever that the most complete provision of this natural demand is the healthy, all-absorbing, and ever-varying amusements of our fairs, feasts, and wakes. A mere casual study of the root conditions of life of the workers will be enough to show the reason for this. With the toilers at the loom, the machine bench, or in the mine, a prime necessity is that they shall not be expected to take too much trouble about the matter of necessary recreation. They cannot make a toil of pleasure. With those whose work is less exacting it may be different. With the worn-out toiler, it is essential that the amusement be brought to his very door. It is also necessary that a healthy, neighbourly tradition of interchange of hospitality—of paying friendly visits and entertaining distant friends and relatives—be maintained. To short-sighted people this surcease from productive industry may seem to be a waste of time and money, but it is not so. There is no sounder principle of true economy than that which is embodied in the old saying, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

People who are inclined to look askance at these popular forms of recreation ought to be reminded that shows and showmen have flourished in all parts of the world. Homer, the poet, was an itinerant bard or minstrel, singing his songs of the people to the people. William Shakespeare has provided mirth for strolling players, and it is on record that at every period of reputable history and in every phase of settled or normal life, showmen and their shows were popular with the masses. The feats originated in the observance of the annual festival or martyr day of the patron saint, in whose honour parish churches had been dedicated. Our forbears on such occasions would join in the festivities with song, dance, and merry joke.

This helps us to conjure up a picture of the evolution of a fair. Quick, change! Behold the strolling players, the gleemen, the mountebanks, the pedlars, the dealers, the astrologers, mummers, tumblers, quack doctors, the clown to make the welkin ring with laughter, the improvised circus ring. See! The tight-rope dancing, posturing, conjuring!

Banks, the showman, was the Barnum of his day. He had a wonderful performing bay horse, shod in silver shoes, called "Morocco." Of Banks it is written: "Whosoever was most famous amongst them could never master or instruct any beast as he did." Banks' horse could "count up figures and indicate the boy who stole the sugar or the lady who kissed her sweetheart." Well, it was all very funny, and quite harmless, but Banks and his horse were burned for witchcraft and black magic! Certainly there were some very eccentric characters in existence, who practised on the credulity of their astonished audiences. We read in the old mumming rhyme the immortalisation of the learned Hildago d'Espanolio from Madrid, who arrived with safe and certain cures for all the ills poor flesh is heir to.

Earliest records reveal evidences of forerunners on a small scale of the American combination of wild beast shows and circus performances. Courts as well as people were absorbed in such pastimes. Bartholomew Fair was patronised by Queen Anne. Hogarth has left us his fine picture of Southwark Fair, depicting the well-known showmen of his time. Later on Philip Astley, who captured a standard at the Battle of Emsdorf, began his career in the open fields between Westminster and Blackfriars as a circus entertainer with two horses—one he had given to him on his discharge from the Army by General Elliott, and another he purchased at Smithfield Market. The feats of horsemanship he introduced included a minuet danced by the two horses, the comic musical interlude entitled *The Awkward Recruit*, and other attractive accessories were an amazing exhibition of dancing dogs. Out of this circus sprung Astley's Amphitheatre in Holborn. Wonderful combinations of their day were organised by Ducrow, Sangers, Henglers, Newsomes, Pablo Fauques, Ginnetts, Myers, Cookes, Fossetts, Ohmys and Alexanders, Pinders, Wombwells, Samwells, Wilds, Thornes, and others.—*The Wellingborough Post*, Nov. 4, 1910.

North Shields Fair.

The ancient ceremony of proclaiming the fair, which has not been performed for the past ten years, was revived at noon yesterday at North Shields. The Duke of Northumberland's agent Mr. F. G. Tuck, accompanied by Mr. J. G. Stroud, and Mr. J. Appleby, from the Duke's office at Newcastle, and Mr. J. Hall, the Duke's piper, assembled at noon at the main entrance to the Northumberland Arms Hotel, and the piper performed on the Northumbrian small pipes "The Lads of Alnwick." The proclamation was then made by the Duke's agent, and the piper afterwards rendered "Chevy Chase." A number of tickets, each valued at 3d., was then thrown among the crowd assembled, and entitled the holders to that amount of refreshment within the hotel.

The Frank C. Bostock's Jungle in Sheffield.

The gaiety of Steelopolis will be considerably increased this winter by the installation of Mr. Frank C. Bostock's world-famous "Jungle." In the centre of the city a large area has recently been cleared of old "slums," and here the great "Animal King" has "reared his tent," or, in plain words, in a well-equipped brick and corrugated iron building, measuring some 500ft. by 100ft., there has been comfortably housed a great menagerie, comprising 100 lions, tigers, bears, &c., and a "Fun City," with the latest mechanical surprises for causing harmless mirth. At one end of the big building a stage, 50ft. square (well lighted and surrounded with high cage railings backed by effective scenery), is provided, and here performances are given afternoon and evening by notable animal trainers and their pupils—savage and otherwise. A parterre of well-raked stalls fronts the stage, but the animal acts can also be comfortably witnessed by the promenaders in the hall and from the fine coign of vantage in the galleries that run round three sides of the building.

The World-famed Animal Experts.

The American contingent includes Mme. Aurora, who presents the equestrian lion D'Artagnan, "the Beau Brummell" of the lion tribe, his associates in the arena being an amusing dog and a highly-trained horse Miss Texa introduces the animal kindergarten, Mr. Miller, America's greatest lion tamer, and young Tallor, the youth in the lions' den. The British experts are Captain Rowley and Captain Taylor, the celebrated lion, bear, and wolf trainers. France, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Russia, and Cuba, each is represented by its own animal experts. The list includes Mme. Morelli, M. Coquelit, Herr Falkendorf, Herr Scholz, Senorita Juanita, Signorita Alicia, M. Garnier, Mlle. Louise, and Senor Marco. The delightful exhibition of skilled training by Mme. Morelli and Signorita Alicia were much applauded. This, of course, is true of all the animal displays in the arena. An excellent idea is the humorous interlude to break the mental strain of the arenic performances, the humorists being Messieurs Henri Rey, eccentric Auguste, and "Phile," and Martino.

All the Fun of the Fair.

These free amusements include a joy wheel, a haunted house, a slippery slope, a children's pedal roundabout, the windy corner of the flat-iron building, turtling the turtles, and other novelties.

As the genial Master Cutler of Sheffield (Ald. George Senior) put it when he addressed the audience from the stage-arena at the private view on the 4th inst., if for nothing else, Mr. Bostock deserves the thanks of the public, not only for providing a delightful resort, where music, fun, and instruction were happily blended, but for brightening up a gloomy region in the heart of the city. In an arid waste, surrounded by high tenement dwellings, individual enterprise has again "brought light into dark places." With a large and courteous staff, a splendid array of continuous entertainments, and no "extra charges," there is no doubt that Mr. Bostock's enterprise will meet with its deserved reward. The Rev. Thomas Horne, the good chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, was present for the opening, and many old friends were glad to welcome him back to his "native heath."

Sedgwick's Menagerie on Tour.

This famous menagerie is touring the Midland Circuit. Last Friday it was located at Redditch, and drew big audiences both afternoon and night.

Ballads of Showland.

The Rev. T. Horne has published a cheap edition, price twopence (post free 3d., from this office), of his "Ballads of Showland." It is a thirty-two page booklet, and has a portrait of the author. The ballads given are: "I Want to See the Clown," "A Crippled Sunbeam," "The Pipes and the Drum," "A Showgirl's Letter from School," "Gregory the Martyr," "To Earn Their Christmas Cake," "The Tumbler of the Lord," "The Tiger and Child, "Billy Mander's Sermon," "Faithful Unto the End," "The Showman's Dying Wish," and "Telling the Tale: An Old Doorman's Memories."

In addition to the ballads there are three recitations—"The Whitby Vikings," "Death Grip Canyon," and "Righting the Wrong." These have no reference to showlife. The author's purpose in issuing the ballads is to give at the lowest possible price a corrective to the misleading "romance" of current literature that showpeople are gipsies, and that their nomadic occupation makes them lower in the scale of social and moral life than the people of the towns and villages wherein they minister wholesome amusement at the time of the fair. The author's cheap edition of his "Stories of Showlife," also issued from *The Era* office, have had great influence in this direction, and the issue at twopence of the ballads is with the same good intention.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Earl's Court Rink.

The opening of the Earl's Court Rink, London's colossal rinking rendezvous, of which Mr. Frank C. Bostock is the director-proprietor, and Mr. John S. Harvey, the manager, was announced to take place last night, at 7.30 p.m. Under an entirely new proprietary and new management, nothing has been left undone to still further enhance the attractions of the rink. Special attention has been given to the splendid skating surface, acknowledged to be the finest and most perfect floor in the world, remarkable for its silence, and irresistible to the skater. As a result of the careful electric machining, the vast floor resembles a glistening expanse of smooth ice. The new lighting and decorations will add considerably to the brilliancy and brightness of the building, giving an effective setting for the animated throng of skaters, whilst an even skating temperature will be zealously guarded. The large staff of instructors of both sexes will be found exceptionally accomplished and capable of imparting a first knowledge of the fascinating and health-giving pastime in a remarkably short space of time. A special attraction is the engagement of Phasey's Military Band.

Hobble Skirt Race.

Only four lady roller skaters (and one of them a little girl) entered for the hobble-skirt race at Holland Park Rink on Thursday, the 3rd. The hems of the skirt were not allowed to exceed 40in. in circumference, but in spite of so serious a handicap the competitors went round two laps of the rink at a speed which could not have been less than ten miles an hour, and there were no falls. The little girl won. The amusing race made it clear that only an expert could overcome the handicap of the hobble.

Carnival at Devonshire Park.

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, who was accompanied by Mr. Manners Sutton and Mr. Roland Burke, attended the carnival at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, on Monday, the 31st ult., when the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Roland Burke. The occasion was the opening of the Canadian rock maple rink. The enlarged Floral Hall presented its most inviting aspect. Coloured electric lights and Chinese lanterns were arrayed about the hall with admirable taste, and huge palms had been placed at the sides of the stage, on which the Municipal Orchestra (under Mr. Hiram Henton) discoursed a programme of sweet music. Mr. A. E. Hedges was in charge of the floor, and was assisted by Messrs. N. Holdsworth and M. Findlay.

Attractive and Original Fancy Dresses.

In the fancy dress classes Miss Pyman as "Merry Widow" secured the first prize, and Miss Trotter as "A Dancer" was second. Mr. Dick Knight captured his sixth consecutive first prize as "Roman General," and Mr. Riddle as "Indian Chief" was second. Miss Brown won the ladies' quaint and original prize as "Spirit of the Fifth," and Miss Tait as "Dame Fashion" secured second prize. Mr. Sidney Hounson had an ingenious contrivance representing "Guy Fawkes," with which he easily secured first prize. The second prize was awarded to Mr. V. S. Campany as "What it may come to." The juvenile prizes were won by Miss B. Forbes and Master Forbes, as an Indian Girl and Indian Boy. Messrs. D. Roberts and E. Mockett caused considerable amusement as Waiters.

Roller Racing at Wandsworth.

At the Central Hall Skating Rink, East Hill, Wandsworth, a one mile open amateur handicap (under N.S.A. laws, and under the auspices of the Wandsworth Roller Skating Club) was announced to take place on Wednesday. The first prize is valued at £5 5s., the second at £3 3s., and the third at £2 2s., gold medals being given to all unplaced competitors in the final.

Actors on the Rink.

At the Alexandra Skating Rink, Swansea, on the afternoon of Thursday, the 3rd, a number of members of *The King of Cadonia* company played a hockey match with the rink team. Some of the actors appeared in theatrical costume, and evoked much amusement by their curious antics during the game. A number of other members of the company, including Mr. Bertram Wallis, were highly interested spectators of the proceedings. The match ended in a win for the rink team by five goals to two.

Guy Fawkes Carnival at Wembley.

Among the many attractions at the grand Guy Fawkes Carnival at Wembley Skating Palace last Monday there was an exhibition of fancy waltzing by Miss Dora Mays and Mr. "Jimmie" Easton (instructors at the Palace), a grand march past of competitors in costumes of characters or subjects connected with the Gunpowder Plot, the Battle of the Guys, and a grand display of fireworks. Herr Adolf Voorzanger's fine band was responsible for the musical portion of the programme, and the saxophone solo by Herr Voorzanger was especially appreciated.

Moritz Clarke and Dainty Lillian.

During last week the Ystradgynlais Skating Rink, South Wales, was well patronised by enthusiastic rinkers and spectators, the proprietors having arranged a series of exhibitions with Professor Moritz Clarke and Dainty Lillian, the well-known exhibition skaters, in their clever and graceful exposition of skating in its highest form, their skilful turn meeting with a very cordial reception. The adroit and daring knife maze and the charming dance movements which followed were heartily applauded.

Croydon on Wheels.

The attendance at Croydon's admirably-conducted rink is steadily increasing with the advancing season, which gives every appearance of being a successful one. The maple floor has been voted perfection, and an excellent and untiring orchestra renders appropriate selections. Mr. A. Telford is a courteous manager, whose efforts are always in the right direction.

Croydon Rink.

The Crystal Palace Engineers' Rink Hockey Club now have their headquarters here. On Tuesday they met the Silverdale R.H.C. in a spirited and well-fought contest, neither side being able to secure a goal. Mr. Alexander Telford's management of this rink deserves every praise.

Ebrington Rink, Plymouth.

Rinking is increasing in popularity in Plymouth, and a fashionable throng patronises all three sessions daily, and fully appreciates the excellent condition of the rink and incidental conveniences.

Costume Carnival at Empress, Nottingham.

The seventh costume carnival of the New Empress Rink, Nottingham, was held on Nov. 2, when over 2,000 persons passed through the turnstiles. The impression produced was that of some continental gymkhana. It was more than a mere exhibition of the beautiful and the grotesque, as a special feature was the display of gowns made exclusively of Nottingham lace. There were a large number of entries in this class. Some of the dresses were exceedingly beautiful, and good taste was displayed in the selection of the modes through which to exhibit the material to the best advantage. There were in addition classes for the portrayal of popular advertisements, some of which were ex-

ceedingly clever, and the whole carnival was a feast of colour, grace, and amusement. Coupled with this were various competitions, and there was indeed almost a surfeit of attractions.

Hockey at Derby Rink.

Hockey matches at Derby Rink are by no means of a tame order, and a recent encounter, Alexandra *v.* Burton Curzon Hall, was no exception to the rule. The teams worked well together, and the second half brought the Alexandra's first goal. Burton played steadily on, and under cover of their opponents' elation managed to equalise before the whistle blew. Well done, both sides.

Newbury Nonagenarian Rinkers.

Newbury boasts two nonagenarian rinkers. One is Alderman Thomas Fidler, who will be ninety-five years of age on Dec. 20, and the other Mr. Richard Freeman, who was ninety-five last February. Alderman Fidler is "father" of the Newbury Corporation, and Mr. Freeman enjoys the title of being the oldest angler in the United Kingdom. Alderman Fidler has been a total abstainer for fifty years, but his friend has not abstained from intoxicants. Both, however, are non-smokers. The veterans recently visited the Newbury Exchange, which has been converted into a skating rink, and were there persuaded to put on the skates.

Paisley's Carnival.

Success attended the grand masquerade and costume carnival at the Paisley Rink on Tuesday evening. The large building, beautifully decorated and lighted in a special manner, was crowded to excess with sightseers, and the number joining in the masquerade carnival on the rink was the biggest that has attended any special gala night since Mr. E. H. Bostock opened his establishment. There were six competitions, for which the proprietor had supplied twenty valuable prizes, the awards being given by the popular vote of the audience. Prizes were awarded for the best historical costumes, the most original costumes, the most comical costumes, the best paper costume, the best advertisement costumes, and the prettiest costumes, with consolation prizes.

Coulson Robertson, Fancy Skater.

Another item on the programme was the trick and fancy skating exhibition of Mr. F. Coulson Robertson, late floor manager. Mr. Jack R Bostock, under whose able managership the skating rink is, was responsible for the arrangements connected therewith, and to him all the honour is due for such successful results as attended the carnival.

Prof. Fritz's Splendid Acrobatic Skating.

At a well-attended carnival held at the Empress Rink, Gloucester, last week, the new floor manager, Prof. Fritz, gave a splendid exhibition of acrobatic skating. He somersaults over a man's back, picks up a handkerchief with his teeth whilst bending backwards, and executes many other difficult tricks, concluding with a series of somersaults through hoops of fire. Prof. Fritz proved a great attraction.

Pavilion Rink, Spennymoor.

This popular rink, recently reopened, is being exceedingly well patronised. Mr. Percy Harrison, late of the Middlesbrough and Darlington Rinks, has been appointed as manager, and weekly novelties are being introduced. The first hockey match of the season took place on the rink with the Spennymoor team, who were opposed by the Redcar team, and a pleasant game resulted in a draw of one goal each.

Grand Hockey Match at Tynemouth.

Much interest was taken in a hockey match on roller skates which was played on the Tynemouth Palace Skating Rink on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., between amateur teams representing Tynemouth and Newcastle (White City). The huge and commodious floor was in perfect condition for the event, and with two teams comprised of expert skaters the large assembly of enthusiastic spectators were kept in intense excitement during the match. The White Cityites met with their first defeat at the hands of the gallant Tynemouth boys, who, after a strenuously fought game deservedly won by three goals to nil. R. Champney, A. G. Young, and S. Dodds were the marksmen, their play individually being exceptionally smart.

Waterford and District Rink Hockey.

A satisfactory meeting was held at the Waterford Rink on Tuesday evening, Nov. 1, of ladies and gentlemen interested in rink hockey, when an association was formed called the Waterford and District Rink Hockey Association, and rules and bye-laws were agreed on, the district to count on fifty miles around Waterford. Practice will be held Mondays and Fridays for gentlemen, and Wednesdays for ladies, and as soon as the various clubs which consist of five players are formed, public matches are expected to be played two evenings each week. These matches will not affect the patrons' time for ordinary skating. It was also mentioned at the meeting that teams are expected to come from Cork, Limerick, and Dublin. There is also to be a club called the Waterford Rink Hockey Club, which members can join who are not members of other clubs. Applications to be made to Mr. J. C. Ferguson, secretary, The Waterford Rink Co. A league will shortly be formed consisting of the various hockey clubs, who will play between themselves for a set of gold medals.

Rinking at Rouen.

Le Grand Skating Rouennais was opened on Friday night, Oct. 28, when a large and influential company assembled to the number of upwards of 4,000. The building is a very handsome one, and the restaurant most elegant and comfortable, and being upon a raised dais a full view of the floor is obtained. Mr. Walter Shepherd (who was so favourably known in connection with the Gourock Skating Pavilion last year) has the appointment of resident manager, and the rink promises to be very successful.

Cape Hill Picture Palace, Smethwick.

Building operations have commenced for an Electric Picture Palace situate on Cape-hill, Smethwick. The building will be erected on the same lines as the Birmingham New-street Electric Theatre, and will seat 1,250 persons. It will be fitted throughout with tip-up chairs, and there will be ample refreshment lounges and waiting-rooms.

New Picture Palace at Ramsgate.

The new King's Electric Theatre at Ramsgate, which was opened to the public on Monday, the 31st ult., is a decided acquisition to the town. Erected on a central site, within one minute of the Market-place, the new building has an imposing front, two broad flights of patent concrete steps leading to the entrance to the main hall. The high-pitched roof gives a fine sense of spaciousness, and the hall will comfortably seat 700 people. All the seats are tip-up, and the stalls are handsomely upholstered in Russian leather. The rake of the floor ensures everyone securing a full view of the stage and pictures. The hall is artistically decorated, a particularly effective scheme of green and gold panelling being used, with an appropriate frieze. The hall is well lighted with electricity, and the ventilating and heating arrangements have been carefully considered, and particular precautions have been taken against fire. There are two shows nightly, with matinées on Thursdays and Saturdays, and the pictures include the pick of the films of Mr. Jury, who is also a director of the King's Theatre. They are interspersed with high-class varieties. The local directors are Messrs. H. Gold, R. Crow, and H. B. Boyland, all well known in the entertainment world.

SECOND LIST OF ANIMATED PICTURE COMPANIES

Registered in the United Kingdom from June 1, 1909, to June 30, 1910.

In August, 1909, we published a first list of above companies representing a capital of £460,000. Added to this amount the undermentioned companies make the total well over £2,700,000.

Name of Company.	Date of Registration.	Nominal Capital.
Electric Empires, Ltd.	11 June, '09	£20,000. 10s. shs.
Exors. E. V. Barr, Ltd.	12 June, '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
New Film Hiring Co., Ltd.	15 June, '09	£3,000. £1 shs.
Electric Entertainment Syndicate, Ltd.	29 June, '09	£1,000. £1 shs.
Automatic Vaudeville Daily Bioscope, Ltd.	1 July, '09	£1,000. £1 shs.
Daylight Pictures, Ltd.	6 July, '09	£10,000. 5,000 ord. shs. £1 and 20,000 def. shs. 5s.
Films Distributors, Ltd.	12 July, '09	£100. £1 shs.
Hammersmith Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	16 July, '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Finsbury Park Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	19 July, '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Hauigh Picture Palace & Skating Rink, Co., Ltd.	20 July, '09	£500. £1 shs.
Casino de Paris, Ltd.	22 July, '09	£2,000. £1 shs. 1,600 pf. ord. and 400 def. ord.
Daylight Cinematographs, Ltd.	31 July, '09	£20,000. 5s. shs.
Park Picture, Co., Ltd.	9 Aug., '09	£500. £1 shs.
Bijou Picture Theatre (Camberwell), Ltd.	27 Aug., '09	£3,000. £1 shs.
Northern Pictures, Ltd.	1 Sept., '09	£500. £1 shs.
Star Novelties Syndicate, Ltd.	4 Sept., '09	£3,000. 2,000 pref. shs. £1 and 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Walham Green Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	21 Sept., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Shepherd's Bush Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	28 Sept., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Manchester Electric Theatres, Ltd.	4 Oct., '09	£20,000. 19,000 ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
World's Biograph Co., Ltd.	11 Oct., '09	£1,000. £1 shs.
Clapham Junction Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	18 Oct., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Arcade Picture Palace (Portsmouth), Ltd.	21 Oct., '09	£2,500. 2,250 ord. shs. £1, and 1,000 def. shs. 5s.
Electric Theatres Bureau, Ltd.	28 Oct., '09	£500. £1 shs.
Walturdaw Film Agency, Ltd.	28 Oct., '09	£3,000. £1 shs.
Luton Electric Theatre, Ltd.	30 Oct., '09	£5,000. £1 shs.
H.M. Animated Picture Co., Ltd.	1 Nov., '09	£400. £1 shs.
Cinematograph Film Hiring Co., Ltd.	8 Nov., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
National Recreations, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	8 Nov., '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
Leytonstone Palace, Ltd.	11 Nov., '09	£1,000. 900 ord. shs. £1 and 2,000 def. shs. 1s.
Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	12 Nov., '09	£100 000. £1 shs.
Picture Palace, Ltd.	12 Nov., '09	£15,000. £1 shs.
Electroscopes, Ltd.	15 Nov., '09	£4,000. £1 shs.
Parisiana, Ltd.	15 Nov., '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
Electric Theatres (Dover), Ltd.	16 Nov., '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
Wood Green Market and Cinematograph Theatre Co., Ltd.	19 Nov., '09	£3,000. £1 shs.
Premier Electric Theatre, Ltd.	24 Nov., '09	£50,000. 49,600 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Alexanders' Animated Picture Co., Ltd.	26 Nov., '09	£250. £1 shs.
Piccadilly Circus Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	27 Nov., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Ealing Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	29 Nov., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Cinema de Paris, Ltd.	1 Dec., '09	£3,000. £1 shs. 2,600 pf. ord. and 400 def. ord.
Gaiety Picture Palaces, Ltd.	3 Dec., '09	£7,500.
London & Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.	3 Dec., '09	£41,000. 80,000 pref. shs. 10s. & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Kinema Theatres, Ltd.	3 Dec., '09	£1,000. £1 shs.
New Electric Varieties, Ltd.	4 Dec., '09	£2,500. £1 shs.
National Theatres de Luxe, Ltd.	6 Dec., '09	£50,000. 99,800 pref. ord. shs. 10s. and 2,000 def. shs. 1s.
London Bioscope Co., Ltd.	10 Dec., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Princes Pavilions, Ltd.	10 Dec., '09	£2,500. £1 shs.
Sheffield Picture Palace, Ltd.	10 Dec., '09	£10,000. £1 shs.
Yorkshire Electric Theatres, Ltd.	13 Dec., '09	£20,000. 19,000 ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Southport Picturedrome, Ltd.	14 Dec., '09	£2,000. 1,900 pref. shs. £1 and 2,000 ord. shs. 1s.
West of Scotland Electric Theatres, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	15 Dec., '09	£20,000. 19,000 ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
British Electric Theatres, Ltd.	16 Dec., '09	£1,000. 100 10% pf. shs. £1 & 18,000 ord. shs. 1s.
Empire Picture Palaces, Ltd.	16 Dec., '09	£3,000. 2,920 shs. £1 and 1,600 shs. 1s.
International Electric Theatres, Ltd.	16 Dec., '09	£6,000. 6,000 pf. ord. shs. £1 and 6,000 df. shs. 1s.
Govan Cross Picture Palace, Ltd. (regd. at Edin.)	16 Dec., '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
Irish Electric Theatres, Ltd.	20 Dec., '09	£400. 394 pf. shs. £1 and 120 ord. shs. 1s.
Northern Palaces, Ltd.	20 Dec., '09	£2,000. £1 shs.
Cinema de Luxe, Ltd.	22 Dec., '09	£5,000. 4,750 "A" shs. £1 & 5,000 "B" shs. 1s.
Cino Corporation, Ltd.	22 Dec., '09	£30,000. £1 shs.
Ayr Picture Palace, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	22 Dec., '09	£200. £1 shs.
Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.	28 Dec., '09	£20,000. 19,000 £1 and 20,000 1s. shs.
Theatres Contract and Finance Co., Ltd.	28 Dec., '09	£1,250. £25 shs.
Tak-kos-kope Co., Ltd.	29 Dec., '09	£69,000. £1 shs.
Electric Coliseums, Ltd.	31 Dec., '09	£3,000. £1 shs.
Cinematograph Co., Ltd.	4 Jan., '10	£1,000. 375 10% pf. shs. £1 & 25,000 ord. shs. 6d.
Universal Picture Theatres, Ltd.	5 Jan., '10	£15,000. 10s. shs. 400 df.
Gosport Electric Theatre, Ltd.	5 Jan., '10	£2,500. 2,450 shs. £1 & 1,000 shs. 1s.
Electric Picture Palaces (Midlands), Ltd.	6 Jan., '10	£50,000. 188,000 pf. ord. shs. 5s. & 60,000 def. shs. 1s.
Midland Palaces Syndicate, Ltd.	6 Jan., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
National Electric Theatres, Ltd.	10 Jan., '10	£50,000. 98,000 ord. shs. 10s. & 20,000 df. shs. 1s.
Gloucester Olympia, Ltd.	11 Jan., '10	£7,500. £1 shs. 7,000 pf. ord. and 500 def. ord.
Entertainment Enterprises, Ltd.	11 Jan., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Northern Biograph Co., Ltd.	13 Jan., '10	£4,000. £100 shs.
Bermondsey Bioscope Co., Ltd.	17 Jan., '10	£500. £1 shs.
Manor Theatre Co., Ltd.	25 Jan., '10	£600. £1 shs.
New Eldorado, Ltd.	25 Jan., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
American Express Film Service, Ltd.	26 Jan., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Sacred & Educational Animated Picture Co., Ltd.	27 Jan., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Chichester Olympia, Ltd.	31 Jan., '10	£4,000. £1 shs.
Olympia (Ferndale) Rink, Ltd.	1 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Staffordshire Cinematograph Co., Ltd.	3 Feb., '10	£25,000. 46,000 pf. shs. 10s. & 20,000 df. shs. 2s.
Hastings and St. Leonards Roller Skating Rinks and Electric Theatre, Ltd.	6 Feb., '10	£8,000. £1 shs.
Northern Cinematograph Co., Ltd.	7 Feb., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Prince's Hall (Hull), Ltd.	7 Feb., '10	£10,000. £1 shs.
New Empire Electric Theatres, Ltd.	8 Feb., '10	£500. £1 shs.
Elephant & Castle Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	10 Feb., '10	£10,000. £1 shs.
Kearton's Photographs, Ltd.	10 Feb., '10	£4,500. £1 shs. 2,000 pf.
Cinematograph Industrial Corporation, Ltd.	11 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Consolidated Cinematograph Co., Ltd.	12 Feb., '10	£47,000. 40,000 10% pf. shs. £1 & 140,000 def. shs. 1s.
Kino Halls, Ltd.	14 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs. 50 def.
Great Harwood Electric Theatre, Ltd.	15 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Picture Films, Ltd.	16 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Anchor Picture Theatres & Amusements Co., Ltd.	16 Feb., '10	£2,000. 1,900 shs. £1 and 2,000 shs. 1s.
Brighton Picture Palaces, Ltd.	18 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Willesden Green Electric Palace, Ltd.	18 Feb., '10	£1 250. 1,000 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 5,000 fndrs. shs. 1s.
United Electric Theatres, Ltd.	21 Feb., '10	£60,000. 10s. shs.
Picture Playhouses, Ltd.	21 Feb., '10	£2,000. 1,980 ord. shs. £1 & 400 fndrs. shs. 1s.
Electric Fun Palaces, Ltd.	22 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Greenwich Cinema de Luxe, Ltd.	24 Feb., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Weisker's Picture Palaces, Ltd.	25 Feb., '10	£50,000. 49,000 pref. part. ord. shs. £1 and 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Eldorado Cinematograph Theatre, Co., Ltd.	26 Feb., '10	£3,090. 2,600 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 9,800 def. ord. shs. 1s.
Palais de Luxe Cinema Co., Ltd.	28 Feb., '10	£10,525. 5,000 pref. shs. £1 & 10 500 df. shs. 1s.
Albert Hall (Cheltenham) Syndicate, Ltd.	1 Mar., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Empress Picture Palaces, Ltd.	1 Mar., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Folkestone Electric Theatres, Ltd.	1 Mar., '10	£2,500. £1 shs.
Pyke's Picture Palaces, Ltd.	1 Mar., '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Surrey and Sussex Picture Palaces, Ltd.	2 Mar., '10	£20,000. 19,000 ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 df. shs. 1s.
Precision Film Co., Ltd.	2 Mar., '10	£3,000. £1 shs.
Up-to-Date Picture Palaces, Ltd.	2 Mar., '10	£500. 5s. shs.
Heaton & Byker People's Hall, Ltd.	3 Mar., '10	£2,200. £1 shs.
Streatham Picture Theatre & Skating Rink, Ltd.	4 Mar., '10	£22,000. 21,700 20% cum. part. pref. shs. £1 and 6,000 def. shs. 1s.
Kilburn Electric Palace, Ltd.	5 Mar., '10	£3,000. 1 shs.
Academy Picture Palaces, Ltd.	8 Mar., '10	£1,575. 1,500 shs. £1 and 1,500 def. shs. 1s.
Fratton Electric Theatre, Ltd.	12 Mar., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Standard Electric Theatres, Ltd.	14 Mar., '10	£50,000. 10,0. shs.
Manchester Picture Palaces, Ltd.	14 Mar., '10	£1,000. £1 shs. 400 pref.
International Amusements, Ltd.	15 Mar., '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
British Bijou Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	16 Mar., '10	£10,000. 9,750 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 5,000 def. shs. 1s.
Wilson's Electric Empires, Ltd.	18 Mar., '10	25,000. £1 shs.
Aston Picture Palace, Ltd.	18 Mar., '10	£1,500. £1 shs.
Palace Electric Theatres, Ltd.	21 Mar., '10	£15,000. 12,250 pref. shs. £1 & 5,500 ord. shs. 10s.
Glasgow Electric Theatre, Ltd. (regd. at Edin.)	21 Mar., '10	£500. £1 shs.
Electric Pavilions, Ltd.	23 Mar., '10	£4,000. £1 shs.
Cinema Picture Palace (Devonport), Ltd.	29 Mar., '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Ashby's New Halls, Ltd.	31 Mar., '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Alhambra Amusements Co. of Florence (Italy), Ld.	7 April, '10	£10,000. £1 shs.
Victoria Picture Theatres, Ltd.	7 April, '10	£100,000. 99,000 pref. ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Holborn Cinema, Ltd.	7 April, '10	£5,250. 5,000 ord. shs. £1 & 5,000 "B" shs. 1s.
Grand Cinema, Ltd.	7 April, '10	£5,250. 5,000 ord. shs. £1 and 5,000 "B" shs. 1s.
Sheffield & District Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	8 April, '10	£50,000. 10s. shs.
Safety Bioscope Entertainments, Ltd.	11 April, '10	£2,000. £1,900 ord. shs. £1 & 2,000 fdrs. shs. 1s.
Lancashire Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	13 April, '10	£50,000. 10s. shs.
Olympia Picture Palace & Aero Exhibition, Ltd.	16 April, '10	£2,500. £1 shs.
Popular Bioscopes Syndicate, Ltd.	16 April, '10	£4,000. £1 shs. 1,125 founders'.
Shirebrook and District Public Halls Co., Ltd.	16 April, '10	£2,000. 1,975 pref. ord. shs. £1 & 500 def. shs. 1s.
St. Albans Alpha Picture Palaces, Ltd.	18 April, '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Aldershot Cinema de Luxe, Ltd.	18 April, '10	£3,000. £1 shs.
Manor Park Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	20 April, '10	£4,725. 4,500 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 4,500 def. ord. shs. 1s.
Burnley Entertainments Co., Ltd.	22 April, '10	£3,000. £1 shs.
Dioptic Kinematograph Co., Ltd.	22 April, '10	£12,500. 10s. shs.
Roundhay Amusements Co., Ltd.	27 April, '10	£2,000. 1,950 ord. shs. £1 and 1,000 def. shs. 1s.
Cinematograph Exchange and Mart, Ltd.	27 April, '10	£100. 6d. shs.
Star Electric Theatres, Ltd.	27 April, '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Associated Electric Theatres, Ltd.	29 April, '10	£51,000. 100,000 part. pf. shs. 10s. and 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Angel Cinema, Ltd.	29 April, '10	£5,250. 5,000 ord. shs. £1 & 5,000 "B" shs. 1s.
Brown's Pictures, Ltd.	29 April, '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Kinemacolour (London District), Ltd.	2 May, '10	£100. £1 shs.
Streatham Amusements, Ltd.	4 May, '10	£7,000. 6,940 20% part. pref. shs. £1 and 1,200 def. shs. 1s.
London and County Electric Theatres, Ltd.	5 May, '10	£50,000. 10s. shs.
Theatre Elite, Ltd.	5 May, '10	£2,000. £1 shs. 35 def.
La Ville Lumière Cinema, Ltd.	6 May, '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Ramsgate & Dist. Popular Amusements Co., Ltd.	13 May, '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
Wingate Empire Electric Theatre, Ltd.	14 May, '10	£3,500. 2s. 6d. shs. 3,000 pref.
Shorefields Syndicate, Ltd.	23 May, '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Grove (Stratford) Picture Theatre, Ltd.	24 May, '10	£5,500. £1 shs. 4,000 pref. ord. and 1,500 def.
Hibbert's Pictures, Ltd.	25 May, '10	£12,000. 10s. shs.
Grand Electric Empires, Ltd.	26 May, '10	£50,000. 10s. shs.
Bournemouth, Exeter, and Plymouth Bioscope Theatre, Ltd.	27 May, '10	£40,000. £1 shs.
"Harper" Electric Piano (1910) Co., Ltd.	27 May, '10	£30,000. 28,000 part. pref. shs. £1 and 20,000 def. shs. 2s.
Electric Theatres (Warwickshire), Ltd.	27 May, '10	£20,000. 19,000 ord. shs. £1 & 20,000 def. shs. 1s.
Cecil Cinematograph Property Investment Co., Ld.	27 May, '10	£3,500. 3,400 pref. shs. £1 & 2,000 def. shs. 1s.
Musical Plays, Ltd.	1 June, '10	£60,000. £1 shs.
Bargoed Electric Theatre Co., Ltd.	4 June, '10	£4,000. £1 shs.
Warrington Picturedrome, Ltd.	4 June, '10	£2,650. 2,500 pref. shs. £1 and 3,000 ord. shs. 1s.
Electric Vaudeville Theatres, Ltd.	6 June, '10	£10,500. 10,000 ord. shs. £1 & 10,000 def. shs. 1s.
Porth Electric Theatre, Ltd.	6 June, '10	£2,000. £1 shs.
White Palaces, Ltd.	7 June, '10	£4,000. £10 shs.
Brixton Cinematograph Theatre, Ltd.	8 June, '10	£12,500. £1 shs.
New Century Film Service, Ltd.	8 June, '10	£15,000. £1 shs.
Premier Electric Theatre (Highbury), Ltd.	8 June, '10	£12,000. 11,900 pref. ord. shs. £1 and 2,000 def. shs. 1s.
Andrew's Pictures, Ltd.	9 June, '10	£50,000. 10s. shs.
Suburban Electric Theatres, Ltd.	9 June, '10	£4,500. £1 shs.
Amalgamated Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.	10 June, '10	£150,000. £1 shs.
Aston Cross Electric Theatre Co., Ltd.	10 June, '10	£400. £1 shs.
Hirst Pavilion, Ltd.	13 June, '10	£4,000. £100 shs.
British Bio-Electric, Ltd.	16 June, '10	£60,000. 2s. shs.
North-East Lancashire Kinematograph Co., Ltd.	16 June, '10	£4,000. £1 shs.
Glasgow Panopticon, Ltd. (regd. at Edinburgh)	17 June, '10	£12,000. £1 shs.
Streatham Empire Picture Palace Co., Ltd.	18 June, '10	£10,000. £1 shs.
Darlaston Entertainments, Ltd.	21 June, '10	£1,000. £1 shs.
Manchester Central Property Co., Ltd.	21 June, '10	£6,000. £1 shs.
Apollo Picture Palaces, Ltd.	23 June, '10	£500. £1 shs.
Clapton Cinematograph Co., Ltd.	27 June, '10	£5,000. £1 shs.
Pantheon Syndicate, Ltd.	28 June, '10	£2,000. 1,975 ord. shs. £1 and 500 def. shs. 1s.
J. B. H. Syndicate, Ltd.	29 June, '10	£3,000. £1 shs.
Picture Coliseums, Ltd.	30 June, '10	£4,000. £1 shs.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, Sept. 27. — Her Majesty's. — Sole Lessees and Managers, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. G. L. Goodman.—The production of *Our Miss Gibbs* on the 24th was on the most lavish scale. Mr. John Gordon, who was responsible for the setting of the second act, has never shown such magnificence of effect, and Mr. Little's setting of Garrod's Store surpassed all previously seen interiors. Brilliant costumes for all the ladies and attractive male attire, all arranged in sixes, kept up continual surprises, and the electrical devices kept us agog from 7.40 till 11.20, and found us still alert for more of the like. There was not one dull or dark moment. The plot is coherent, the fun continuous and clean, and the music sparkling in solo and concerted numbers throughout. A hearty welcome was accorded to Miss Blanche Browne, who established herself as a prospective favourite for her Australasian stoppings. The newcomer is comely, dainty, alert, graceful, and charmingly distinct in every sung or spoken word. Her Mary Gibbs is a most attractive portraiture, and Mr. Bertie Wright, as Mary's cousin "thro' Yorksheer" showed us the best of his best kind of comedy. With a thousand opportunities for exaggeration, nothing but legitimate fun was dealt out by this very excellent comedian. That impossible amateur burglar, the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, had Mr. Langford Kirby on the go the whole night, and he proved most amusing. Mr. Andrew Higginson, always manly and tuneful, made us interested in Lord Eynsford's love affairs, and we liked his song, "My Yorkshire lassie." The sterling worth of Mr. C. R. Banstock's inclusion in any cast was again proved by his acting as the Earl of St. Ives. It was capital. Mr. Fred Leslie made Slithers a most attractive pickpocket, and his theftly success vastly pleased the Sydney playgoers. Mr. D. B. O'Connor hit off the mannerisms of Mr. Toplady as if he had actually been a Sydney shopwalker. Miss Alma Barber, fresh returned from London, was Lady Elizabeth, with a surprisingly subdued manner, new to this actress. Miss Nelly Wilson made a lot out of Mme. Jeanne, the French modiste of Scottish origin. Miss Fitzmaurice Gill, an experienced Australian actress, was a cleverly-placed Duchess of Minster, and Miss Florence Vie was the impecunious social "pusher" to the very life. An amazingly clever dance called "La Danse du Vaurien" was given by Miss Ivy Schilling and Mr. Fred Leslie. It was arranged by him, and evoked thunderous plaudits. Miss Minnie Hooper arranged all the dances. The large, rich-voiced chorus was trained by Mr. Andrew MacCunn, who conducted the orchestra. Mr. Gerard Coventry directed the production, and Mr. Fred Young was stage-manager. The ladies were comp'imented by huge floral tributes at curtain-fall, but, to the relief of all, no speech occurred.

Criterion.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Musgrove; Sub-Lessees, Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell; Business-Manager, Mr. W. Noble.—The last night of *The Arcadians* was a time of wild excitement. The officers of the Dutch men-of-war were present, the house was suffocatingly full, and it seemed as if the company had shaken off the gloom caused by Arthur Edwards' most pitiful end. Miss Maie Sydney and Miss Essie Perrin, who both leave at once for England, were literally smothered in flowers, ribbons, and other presents. The company is now off to New Zealand. Mr. William Anderson's company is filling in the week before the George Willoughby comedy season begins on Oct. 1, by playing *The Chance of a Lifetime*. All the familiar tricks of the horsey fraternity were thoroughly welcomed and enjoyed. A horse who can walk upstairs is a novelty, and the audience was quick to acknowledge the managerial enterprise in providing the sensation. Mr. Conway Wingfield, the owner of Trixie, and Miss Harrie Ireland, the daughter of the trainer (afterwards mistress of Netherby Hall), were in their element, and captured their audience most effectively. Harry Sweeney was the Hon. Bob Lovett, a typical dude, a species which our people are taught to believe pervades the entire British aristocracy. Mr. Frank Gerald is the scoundrel Captain Clinch in veritable earnest. Miss Florence Richter (Mrs. Edgar), Miss Lilian Wiseman (Lady Betty Lovett), and Mr. Harry Douglas (Ben Blower) were all in the best of form. Stirling Whyte and a host of other favourites made up a coterie of conscientious interpreters of the author's intentions.

Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Edward Major.—The Williamson Grand Opera Company returned on the 24th and revived *Carmen*, Bel Sorel being again the impudent coquette. Taken from comic opera and musical comedy, Mr. Reginald Roberts made his first appearance in grand opera here as Don José. This hard-working singer is a good actor, and he made the part of much more value than even a better singer could have done. Mr. Roberts is always tuneful and distinct in his enunciation.

Palace.—Lessees, Messrs. Allan Hamilton and Max Maxwell; Business-Manager, Mr. George Buller.—The new programme is *The Little Breadwinner*. Owing to the illness of Miss Beatrice Holloway, the part of Margaret Daventry was played by Miss Vera Rernee, who acquitted herself most acceptably. The girl Meg gave Miss Queenie Williams a capital chance to show her ability, the result being a decided success. Miss Katie Towers imparted honest humour to the part of Mary O'Rourke, the Irish housekeeper. The sisters Cherry had Misses Mabel Russell and Muriel Dale as their prototypes. Mr. Max Maxwell knew how to play Richard Laurence perfectly; so did Mr. Charles Brown also serve Lord William Dorrington; and with Mr. Richard Bellairs, who was Joseph Prior, the scoundrel, and Mr. Ronald W. Riley, the happy sport Charles Prior, an effective cast was completed.

The Tivoli.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. Harry Rickards; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Leete.—Gracie Grahame returned on the 24th, and again secured popular favour. Tom Dawson is funnier than ever. He has to wait in his songs until the people choose to stop laughing. Cronin is the bright particular star; his turn is a truly marvellous one. An exhibition of what an aeroplane is capable of was given by a young Australian engineer, Mr. Newman, who used a cleverly-made model for his lucid demonstration.

Mr. A. C. Lilly, of *Drummed Out* fame, has secured the sole rights of an original military episode, by Mary Stafford Smith.

The case in which a young girl named May Ayres, aged twenty-one, was charged with stealing money by means of a trick, came up on remand at Bow-street Police-court on Tuesday. Evidence showed that she had made a practice of representing that she had lost her purse in a theatre during a matinée performance. She would tell the manager or his representative that she had come up from the country, and that the purse contained her return ticket and all the money she had with her, and in that way she succeeded in obtaining advances of a few shillings. The prisoner's arrest was brought about by Mr. Frederick King, a clerk at Daly's Theatre, who, after lending her 7s. 6d., saw her attempting to obtain money in a similar manner at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

Two further cases were now gone into, the prosecutors being Mr. Charles Edward Gibbons, a clerk in the box office at the Savoy Theatre, and Mr. Thomas Miller, assistant manager of the London Hippodrome, who had parted with 5s. and 4s. respectively. In one instance the prisoner said she lived at Berkhamsted and in the other at St. Albans. A detective-sergeant stated that there were thirteen other cases of the same nature, extending over a period of about a month.

A letter from the girl's father was handed to the magistrate, and the Court missionary informed him that she had led a respectable life until last April, when she left a situation at Winchester. She then met a man who lent her money, and under whose influence she remained until he went away to Russia a short time ago. Accused, who was crying bitterly, expressed her sorrow, and promised that she would never do anything of the kind again. She was bound over to come up for judgment if called upon.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Empire (15s. paid), 2; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion (5), 2⅞; London Pavilion Pref. (5), 4½; Metropolitan, ⅝; Moss' Empires (5), 4; Oxford (5), 6¾; Palace Theatre (9s. paid), ⅞; Tivoli, New (5), 6.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 13.*)

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Miss Horniman's company is paying a welcome visit here, and on Monday gave a capital representation of Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Candida*. Mr. Ian Maclaren's acting was impressive as the Rev. James Mayor Morell; Miss Louise Holbrook displayed marked ability as Proserpine Garnett; as Eugene Marchbanks Mr. Leonard Mudie was sympathetic; Mr. Edward Landor pleasingly impersonated Mr. Burgess; Mr. Ernest C. Cassel made an excellent Rev. Alexander Mill; and Miss Rosalind Joan was charmingly effective as Candida. *The Troth* preceded. For Wednesday and Friday *Cupid and Commonsense* was billed.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—The Ten Loonies, whose comical antics cause abundant laughter, head a capital all-round company, which includes the Davis and Gledhill Trio in a clever cycle and motor racing exhibition; a popular favourite, Harry Drew, Welsh basso; Charles Wakeman's Five Singing Gypsies, who are most entertaining; Zelda, a capable lady instrumentalist; Wal Owen, comedy juggler, who provokes plenty of mirth; Gertrude Lytton, a pleasing singer of chorus songs; and Michael Madden, an amusing comedian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Haldane Crichton company is here with *The Cingalee*. Miss Isa Bowman makes a delightful Nanoya; Miss Ray Anderson a taking Lady Patricia; Miss Florrie Greensmith a captivating Peggy; Mr. Frank Barclay, as Harry Vereker, sings well, as does also Mr. Herbert Franklin as Bobby Warren; Mr. Hylton Warde is a funny Chambhuddy Ram; Mr. Frank Lennard (as Boobhamba) and Mr. Hellin Le Maistre (as Sir Peter) are capital.

HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stainton. — Merian's wonderful dogs are the leading turn here; Jack Roscoe is a good comedian; Mabel and Hester Reeve are clever harmonising vocalists; Will Hanvarr and Anna Lee are as popular as ever; Norman Leonard Trio take well in a musical act; May De Rowse is a pleasing comedienne; Dankmar Schiller Troupe are clever acrobats and hand balancers; and the Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Wallie Batty. — Miss Nannie Goldman and Mr. William Holles' company is presenting here *The Stepmother*. Miss Nannie Goldman is very good as Danny; Mr. William Holles is a most natural Bob Brixtow; and Miss Patricia Bostock does well as Anna Vickers.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—*The Speckled Band* is here. Mr. C. W. Somerset makes an excellent Dr. Rylott; Mr. E. H. Patterson gives a finished study of Mr. Armitage; Mr. Julian Royer is fittingly imperturbable as Sherlock Holmes; Miss Alice Leigh makes a charming Enid Stonor; Miss Adelaide Grace, a clever Mrs. Staunton; Mr. Bellenden Clarke acts well as Dr. Watson; and Mr. Herbert Vivian is capital as the Butler.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Bernard Mervyn is producing the playlet *The Deadbeat* here this week, supported by a capital company.

PALACE THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—Scott and Whaley are scoring heavily here this week with smart work, including singing and dancing; the Frohmans are presenting a pretty and effective musical turn; and the Croisit Trio execute some clever acrobatic work.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dunn.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here in *The Power of the King*. Miss Y. Conyers Radcliffe adapts herself admirably to the rôle of Lady Annastasia; Miss Doris Williams does well in the juvenile rôle of Phillipe; Mr. Clavering Craig acts throughout in an interesting manner as Captain Landgrave; and as the King of Vallambrosa Mr. Charles Whitlock is equally good. Mr. Roy Craig is a capable Alberta; Mr. Arthur St. John as Prince Oscar proves himself a good exponent of villainy; and is well supported by Miss Florence MacInnes as Lady Florina and Mr. Sprey Palmer as General Stevonic. The humour is in the hands of Miss Mana Stuart and Messrs. Wilton Drury and Fred Mewburn.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Wee Georgie Wood is astonishing and delighting audiences here; the Dayton Family present an exceptionally smart acrobatic mélange; Florence and Rose Shewell, operatic duettists, contribute vocal work that is keenly enjoyed; J. C. Scatter adds to his already high reputation as a dialect comedian; and the same may be said of Elsie Roby, "the slavey at the piano," an old favourite. Cosgrave and Burns are eminently successful in the presentation of their smart act, *The Singing Academy*; and capital entertainment is also provided by the Sisters Jerome and Dan Hendy.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham* opened here on Monday for three nights. Mr. Edmund Kennedy achieved a success as John Durham; Mr. William Calvert made an effective Lord Mountfallon; Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reg. Steighton never fails to amuse; Mr. Vallerton had a good interpretation at the hands of Mr. Charles Wemyss; Arthur Walcombe was well sustained by Mr. Frank Elton; Miss Florence Tressillian gave an admirable portrayal of Helen Vallerton; Miss Frances Wolviston was an excellent Lady Mountfallon; Miss Dorothy Turner was quite natural as the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and an impressive delineation of Mrs. Durham was presented by Miss Nellie Bonser. Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs* is billed for the latter half of the week.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The pictures continue to draw good audiences, and are much appreciated.

TODMORDEN.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richd. Dewhirst.—*The Life of a Showman* is here. As Brien Leader, the circus athlete, Mr. Frank Sante displays great physical strength; Mr. C. W. Bretton ably portrays Sir Noel Hartland; Mr. J. R. C. Hamilton gives a powerful delineation of Hendrick Marais; and able support is given by Miss Dora Price as Agatha Winter. Miss C. Bamford wins all hearts as the faithful wife of Brian Leader, being well seconded by Miss M. Legh as Lynette. Messrs. T. Maynard and Tom Wheeler, together with Miss Kitty Lamber as Tommy Allthere, Ben Tic Tac, and Angelina Mutton respectively supply the humour of the piece; Mr. J. G. Sante as Laurie Grey, the maimed musician, is deservedly encored for his violin playing; Mr. W. A. Armour makes an impression as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; and mention should be made of the clever knockabout work of Messrs. Pickard and West.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Ald. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *The Little Damozel* is deservedly popular. Miss Emilie Polini presents a careful study of the title-rôle, portraying with considerable skill the more emotional scenes of the play; Mr. Alick Chumley as Recklaw Poole gives general satisfaction; the Captain Partington of Mr. George A. Brandram is a capital piece of acting; as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock Mr. Guy Newall provokes much amusement; and Mr. William Matthews is seen to advantage as Mr. Walter Angel. Miss Marion Lockie acts with becoming grace as Sybil Craven; Captain Gambier, Mr. R. S. Ravenscroft, and Mr. Frank Roy are quite satisfactory as Papa Batholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham respectively. The play is preceded by a charming little sketch, *An Englishman's Lie*, in which the principal parts are taken by Mr. George A. Brandram, Miss Marion Lockie, and Miss Maude Rivers, whose interpretation of Theresa Murray is exceedingly good.

TRALEE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Tralee Urban Council.—The Irish Animated Picture Co. had large audiences attending their display of pictures. The Sisters Colley provided the variety entertainments attractively.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Welton Dale; Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company's annual visit is receiving the usual cordial appreciation. The week's répertoire includes *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *King Lear*, *Richard III.*, *Hamlet*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. The principal successes are being scored by Mr. Henry Herbert and Miss Gladys Vanderzee, who are ably supported by the other members of the company. Friday evening's performance of *The Tempest* was under the special patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress.

TYLDESLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. W. Brierley.—*The New Barmaid* is being played by Miss Violet Osmund's company. Mr. Alexander Loftus establishes himself a favourite by his portrayal of Bertie White; Mr. Charles Adeson makes a humorous creation of the Waiter; Miss Madge Prior is seen and heard to advantage in the title-rôle; and others lending acting; as the Hon. Fitzroy Lock Mr. Guy Newall provokes much amusement; and Mr. William Matthews is seen to advantage as Mr. Walter Angel. Miss Marion Lockie acts with becoming grace as Sybil Craven; Captain Gambier, Mr. R. S. Ravenscroft, and Mr. Frank Roy are quite satisfactory as Papa Batholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham respectively. The play is preceded by a charming little sketch, *An Englishman's Lie*, in which the principal parts are taken by Mr. George A. Brandram, Miss Marion Lockie, and Miss Maude Rivers, whose interpretation of Theresa Murray is exceedingly good.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Jack Forlescue and company are here in *Hawkshaw the Detective*, which is well acted. Mr. Tom Lloyd, comedian, is successful with funny songs; Mattie Lord, operatic vocalist, sings delightfully; Mr. Allie Moore gives a clever exhibition of jumping on roller skates; Mr. Renny Ray in a mock ventriloquial turn proves popular; Will R. Haines, character comedian, provides an acceptable act; Stanley and Vandyke, old favourites, are versatile in a comedy act; and Miss Ruby Maybutt, sand dancer, does well.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Capital pictures are exhibited on the Bioscope. The variety turns comprise Bob King, comedian, who merits approbation, and the Armicus, refined musical artists, who give an excellent performance.

WALLSEND. — BOROUGH THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Henry and Tyler, trick cyclists, head the bill this week, and perform some wonderful feats; Beatrice English proves herself to be a sweet and cultured soprano; an entertaining turn is provided by Vandinoff, whirlwind painter, on a welcome return visit; Rose Gower, a dainty and captivating comedienne, is well received; and Briff, Braff, and Broff are successful in their comedy acrobatic tumbling. An additional turn is provided by Harry Levaine, a highly amusing comedian; and the Four Miovskys (comedy acrobatic musical eccentrics), Smith and Johnson (in a singing duo), and the Lynches (in American picture songs) are worthy contributors.

WALSALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Part Management, Moss and Stoll Empires, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company in *Capt'n Jack* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Ernest Owttrim in the title-rôle is all that can be desired; Miss Nina Blake-Adams sustains the rôle of Mary, Jack's wife, in a capable manner; the part of Anthony Cliversedge is cleverly characterised by Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh; Miss Betty Manners makes a charming Winnie Trent; the part of Billy Bowster is well played by Mr. Harry Leamar, and Miss Ada Arnott gives a humorous touch to her part of Ginge; Mrs. R. S. R. Pittard gives an admirable study of the scapegrace Barry Trent, and Mr. Herbert Bentone as Andrew Lee is excellent.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint-Management, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls are bright and pleasing in their song scena; the Hadj Mohammed troupe of acrobats are clever performers; Ferry Corwey, the musical clown, has something new and refreshing; Bert Weston scores as a comedian, as also does the popular Harry Bedford. Lizzie Glenroy is a refined comedienne and dancer; the Soho Trio introduce some good vocal numbers. The Bioscope concludes.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham.—General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader.—Mr. Harold Armitage's company is delighting large houses here this week with *The Greater Love*. As Paul, the martyr, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid displays histrionic abilities of a high order; Mr. Stanley Bedwell scores well as Jack May; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is a typical cleric; and a clever sketch of Constable Drayton is that given by Mr. Wentworth Lawson. Mr. Dennis Bryan makes Andrew Isted a manly personage; Miss Marion Fawcett in the difficult rôle of Mrs. May imparts a depth of feeling which wins the warmest encomiums; and Mary, her daughter, is in the safe hands of Miss Francesca Strickland. Miss Ethel Russell as Sarah Higgs is seen to advantage in a light rôle.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden. —Miss Mary Mayfren's company is here this week in *The Yellow Fang*, in which dramatic episodes of an opium den are fully illustrated, Mr. Gilbert Beckett and Miss Campbell scoring well. Carl and Mary Ohm's Animal Circus is an acceptable turn, and the well-trained ponies, dogs, and monkeys are well received. Reginald Beauchamp is a smart eccentric comedian; Miss Norma Grant scores in an entertainment at the piano; Halma is a smart juggler; Marie and Nellie Hula are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Albert St. Clair has a voice of remarkable range, and his songs are well received; Cissie Thompson is a refined comedienne; the Four Figaros are capital sketch artists, and *Ten Minutes on the Continent* provides capital amusement. The pictures are good.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. John Waters.—Good business is being done here this week. Lindsay and Hart are as big favourites as ever; Charles Rowen's songs are well received; Quennie May charms all with her vocalisation; and Arthur Lloyd, a local illusionist, accomplishes some clever tricks. The pictures are decidedly good.

GRAND. — Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. S. Spencer.—The pictures at this house continue to be of a very high order.

WASHINGTON.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessees, The Alexandra Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Neo Johnson.—*Proof* is being presented here. The part of Pierre Lorance is successfully undertaken by Mr. Francis Roberts; Lazare finds a capable exponent in Mr. George Kingsley; Mr. Thomas R. Marshall is seen to advantage as Chamboran; Mr. Hubert B. Hein is good as Victor; Mr. Alfred Wiltshire does well as Duke D'Aubeterre; Miss Hero Hattaway is an excellent Adrienne; Miss Phena Powell scores as Madame Deprets; Miss Millicent James is a success as Duchesse D'Aubeterre; Miss Nellie Hayes is good as Julie; and Miss Esie Golding is a charming Valentine.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—The popular comedian, Mr. Charles Coborn, is a big attraction here this week, in three old favourites; Jessie Wilton provides a clever turn as a character vocalist; and Percy Hannan proves acceptable in capital tenor solos, Henriette and Selina have a charming entertainment; and Florence Wix, in *chic* songs, is highly diverting. Other turns include a sketch, *Napoleon at Waterloo*; Haig and Hazell, patter comedians and dancers; and the Brennans, the latter in a pleasing dancing act. Ruffell's Bioscope and a tuneful "Watford Palace March," composed by the musical-director, Mr. Augustus Greco, complete the entertainment.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Manager, Mr. Wallie Spinner.—Mr. Will Glaze's company with *No Mother to Guide Her* is here this week. Mr. George Gormley creditably sustains the part of William Saxby; as Felix Campbell, alias Green, Mr. Bernard J. Lieli plays with ability; the Rev. Tom Pelham finds an able exponent in Mr. Wm. Heilbronn; Mr. Frederick Biron is responsible for the performance of Bill Bunce; Bob Coleman is admirably portrayed by Mr. Will Glaze; Mr. Tom Beasley is good as Tim Tiddlebat; Miss Roma Pendrons does well as Millicent Saxby; Julia Pattorson is cleverly depicted by Miss Georgette Thierry; and as Nan Miss Betty Seymour is favourably received.

KING'S HALL.—Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. B. Kennedy.—The appearance of Jack Igo and Vera Cooke, speciality vocalists and dancers, is a huge success; a good turn also is that of Charlie Dixon, eccentric comedian; Miss Marie Clifford, vocalist, makes an excellent impression; the Digbys, trans-Atlantic comedy duo, are warmly appreciated; and the pictures are a special attraction.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — KING'S PALACE.—Fun is being caused by the musical eccentricities of Morelli and Moore; Harley and Hardon are a fine pair of knockabout comedians; George St. Helen scores with "Out in the West," and Gertie Mason is also on the programme.

EMPIRE.—A skit entitled *The Manaphonegram*, by the Three Merry Wags, is funny and well done; La Belle Greta's songs are in the best style; Kitty Arnold is applauded for her dances, and Frank Early causes many a laugh.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn.—Mr. Beaudyn is this week presenting *The Bellringer*. As James Pengar, the bellringer, Mr. Herbert Skardon is seen to great advantage; while Miss Sidney Crowe as Hesba Pengarth gives a delightful study. Mr. Geoff. Sutherland as Ann Chesney is also clever; and the other parts are in capable hands.

NEW HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden.—A strong bill is headed this week with a clever little play, *Australian Bush Boys*, in which appear Miss Lidia Norton, Messrs. Sidney Merrall and Jim Brisbane, and Masters Len Norton, R. Welbourne, and Bob Hartley. Clever turns are also provided by Bert Rayburn, Harley and Milton, Wyllie Fox, Harry Keeble, Gladys Wells, Tessman, and the Three Comedy Chanters.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Conan and Doyle are as brisk and humorous as ever; Cassie Walmer is always welcome; Waul Langtry continues to amuse; Howard and Harris are droll in their American eccentricities; some brisk work is neatly done by the Alex Piccad company of pantomimists; Minna Denvil sings prettily; and Wullie Walker is an amusing Scotch comedian.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—*Was She to Blame?* by Messrs. Kimberley Green and Hinton's company, is the attraction here. In the rôle of William Clark, Mr. Fred L. Conynghame is excellent; and as Capt. Geo. Courtney Mr. Martin B. Pedler is good; Mr. Henry Rutland is a creditable John Norman; whilst as Frank Reselle Mr. George Langdon is entirely satisfactory. Mr. Ken Murray as Timothy and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales are responsible for the comedy element, and keep the house in roars; Miss Margaret Hobart is an attractive Lilian Norman; and as Kate Reselle Miss Georgie de Lasa is all that can be desired.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; Acting-Maanger, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Five Yorkshire Lasses submit a novel vocal and dancing scena; and Flake White, king of lightning painters, and the Miltons, comedy skaters, all give attractive items. Several good pictures are shown, the most effective being Deformed Child, Hero in Peace and War, and the Governor's Daughter.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's *Miss Hook of Holland* company was here on the 3rd and 4th inst., and played to packed houses. Mr. Charles Simms possesses an inexhaustible fund of humour, and as Mr. Hook kept the audience in continual laughter, aided by that excellent comedian Mr. Edward Kipling as Simon Slinks. Mr. Jack Gray used his pleasing voice with effect as Van Vuyt, and Mr. Griffiths Moss made a pompous Captain Paap. Miss Marion Armitage in the character of Mina had to respond to several well-merited encores, and Miss Carda Walker made a fascinating Sally Hook, her singing and dancing being much appreciated. Misses Hazel Alexander and Ella Burke as Freda and Clara Voce were entertaining, as was Miss Frances Walker as Gretchen. The chorus was efficient, and the effects all that could be desired.

WEYMOUTH.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Frank Stanmore's company is here in an amusing farcical comedy, *Chasing Cynthia*. Mr. Frank Stanmore is an amusing Billy Bootle; Miss Gurney Delaporte a sprightly Cynthia Coleman; Mr. Arthur Poole a successful Col. Theobald Chutnee, V.C.; and Mr. Mark Lester an exceedingly funny Dobson. Miss Adie Boyne gives a capital impersonation of Miss Pinch; and Miss Gladys Beech is very successful as Fifi.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Messrs. Albert and Edmund's variety company are engaged here. In addition to the absurdity *The Tower of London* the following artists appear:—Mr. George Lambton, comedian; Walter Purvis and partner, in an amusing duologue, "The Postman"; Harry Morris, comedian; Desmond and Dare; Jean Kram, juggler; the Four Minnims; Vera Elmore, child comedienne; and Messrs. Albert and Edmund.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—A series of Shakespearean and classical plays is being given here by Mr. Alexander Marsh's company. On Monday *David Garrick*, followed by *The Corsican Brothers*, was presented. Mr. Alexander Marsh gives a capital portrayal of David Garrick; Squire Chivy finds an able exponent in Mr. Wilson Gunning; the part of Simon Ingot is in the capable hands of Mr. A. E. Walker; Miss Carrie Baillie proves herself a talented actress as Lilian Ingot; while Miss May Grimshaw as Tabitha Tatlough and Miss Agnes Gagan as Mrs. Bilberry render valuable assistance. The week's programme includes *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Cæsar*, *As You Like It*, *Othello*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Jane Shore*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—A welcome return visit is being paid by H. O. Wills, who is encored for his humorous songs; the Cumberlands are clever acrobatic cyclists; the Harvey Boys, comedians, cause much laughter; Ranckle is a smart character impersonator; Dolly Ross is a soubrette of talent; Gicardo is a smart juggler; Smith and Gibbs give a clever acrobatic performance; Barrie and Wood cause laughter with their entertainment; Ernest Clifford is a good comedian; and Ethel Donna a dainty comedienne and dancer. The pictures conclude.

WISBECH.—SELWYN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. C. Gates.—*Pete* was presented by one of Miss Inez Howard's companies last week-end with complete success. On Thursday of this week Mr. Geo. Dance's company, in *Our Miss Gibbs*, drew a crowded house.

WISHAW, N.B.—PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Nimse. — William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads, in a clever dancing scena, top the bill here. The Three Royal Dreadnoughts give a clever rifle shooting exhibition; Kenneth and Kane, comedy duo, Ida Evilo, a daring trapeze artist, Harriet Rose, a fine singer of chorus songs, the Claymore Trio, in a dancing and club swinging turn, all go well, and the Bioscope concludes.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley. — The perennial popularity of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* seems in no way to diminish, if one may judge by the well-filled house which gave Mr. Charles Harrington's American combination a warm welcome on Monday. Mr. J. H. Boehm repeats his excellent performance as Uncle Tom; and able support is rendered by Mr. Frank Lynne as St. Clair, Mr. Terence Nerrey as Phineas Fletcher, Mr. Tom Bowron as Legree, Mr. Reginald Kloof as Marks, Miss Sylvia Harrington as Eliza Harris, Miss Ethel Vernon as Aunt Ophelia, Miss Annie Watson as Topsy, and Miss Norah Bretton as Little Eva. The play is admirably staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mr. H. P. Selwyn's company in *A 33 to 1 Chance* is the premier attraction here. Eadie and Ramsden again present *Charley's Visit* with undiminished success; Cul-Pitt is a versatile entertainer with a fund of racy humour; Waldo Etoile, in "The Crocodile and the Fairy," proves himself a marvellous contortionist; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist, wins applause; and Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer, and Nora Stockelle, are also in the bill.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Kitto.—Mr. Bulmer's powerful company is here with *The Girl Who Went Astray*. Mr. Evan Roland as Adolphus Boomer was the life of the piece; Mr. Richard Ferris as Captain Julian and Mr. Mortimer as Rupert Murdoch were perfect in their respective parts; Miss Brooks, in the title rôle, represented her character with success; and Miss Masterson and Miss Dalby played delightfully.

CARNEGIE HALL. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto. — The variety turns here include the Misses Henderson, harpists and dancers; and Bernard Cox, the double-voiced vocalist.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcom Spurgin.—This week Messrs. C. and F. Renad are playing *The Merry Territorial* here. A distinctive character is that of Mr. W. S. Stevenson, who plays the rôle of Sergeant Mustard; Mr. Haydon Scott made a good Capt. Carleton; as Corporal Toby Jones Mr. Victor T. Raymond was alive to the demands made upon him; Mr. Sydney Claydon was responsible for a good interpretation of Bertie; and the Augustus Gaybird of Mr. Edward de Vere was equally pleasing. One of the successes of the cast is Miss Lily Beverly, who cleverly played the part of Polly. Miss Irene Atchison was seen to advantage in the rôle of Bertie's wife.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Stewart.—An excellent array of up-to-date films is presented here. Miss Ella Blair and her Bowery Boys and Girls present new vocal and dancing specialities; and Ingram and Irving have an amusing comedy act in *The New Office Boy*. The Cinephone gives illustrated songs.

THE Four Khans, now playing a new and original magical act, will in future be known as the mysterious De Kolzas. The change of name is necessary to prevent proprietors associating the new show with their other act.

MR. ALF. HAMPSON has sent us a long letter explaining his claim to be the founder of the Terriers' Association. "On my return from America in 1890," writes, "I arranged for a meeting to be held in May, 1890, at Mr. Fletcher's, Thayle-street, Kennington. About half a dozen persons attended. After some discussion, a proposition was made by myself that an Association should be formed to be called the 'Terriers.' As one present facetiously remarked, we were 'after the Rats' (a society which had already been formed). I was appointed to draw up some rules, which I did, and at the following meeting they were accepted in their entirety. The idea at first was a membership of twelve, but the number was afterwards increased to twenty-four.

"Now for organisation. Who but myself proposed and carried out the first 'Terriers'' Fête and Gala at Dulwich, from the proceeds of which I handed a cheque for £63 odd to Mr. J. L. Graydon for the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, afterwards followed by the first 'Terriers' Fancy Dress Ball,' held at the Freemason's Tavern, and later on by the 'Music Hall (Trades) Exhibition, which ran two weeks at the Royal Aquarium. Both were organised and carried out by myself, with the assistance of the then secretary and a few other members. All I wish to do is to state real facts, and upon them I am prepared to stand."

JOHN LAWSON.

Extracts from American Criticisms of "THE MONKEY'S PAW."

The NEW YORK AMERICAN, Oct. 5.

"... There is a new dramatic playlet at the American this week that even people who are not steady patrons of vaudeville are going to talk about. They are already discussing a new actor, John Lawson, who is the central character in *The Monkey's Paw*. Lawson is a firm believer in detail. He is like David Belasco in his staging, as found in this playlet from over the sea. Lawson is certainly a performer who understands his art, and is certainly the best character actor we've seen for some time."

The NEW YORK AMERICAN, Oct. 13, 1910.

"... shows no abatement in popularity. John Lawson, in the original dramatic playlet, has already entrenched himself as a favourite, and his appearance in the act is invariably met with loud and sincere applause."

The NEW YORK TIMES, Oct. 4, 1910.

"... the most tense playlet we have ever seen. ... Met with a tremendous reception. ... John Lawson's performance of the old man is wonderful."

The NEW YORK SUN, Oct. 5, 1910.

"... a crowded house was thrilled with this weird playlet. ... Undoubtedly a step in the history of vaudeville. ... John Lawson is undoubtedly a great character actor."

The NEW YORK WORLD, Oct. 4.

"... *The Monkey's Paw*, with the English actor, John Lawson, scored an immediate success. ... It is undoubtedly a gripping piece, and will draw the Town. ... Lawson's acting as the old man is one of the finest bits of character acting seen here."

The NEW YORK STAR, Oct. 24.

"... John Lawson, a big actor in a big act."

The NEW YORK CITY REVIEW, Oct. 8.

"... John Lawson proved himself a great character actor as the old father ... and those who appreciate a high-class sketch, good acting, and a weird story should certainly see it."

The NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS, Oct. 8.

"... it's as tense a little playlet as we have seen. Mr. Lawson has a charm about him that is sure to be appreciated here. He is certainly an actor who knows how to emphasise a dramatist's strong points."

The NEW YORK EVENING MAIL, Oct. 27.

"... John Lawson is one of the best actors appearing in New York at this moment. He enters into his rôles with such intense conviction that you forget he is acting, and is not really living the part. ... It is certainly refreshing to see a human being presented without any resort to artificial and theatric methods."

SAM MCKEE, in the NEW YORK MORNING TELEGRAPH, Oct. 25, says:—

"... That producers of dramatic plays who scoff at vaudeville should have allowed John Lawson to escape them is astounding. Physically he is a small man. From the standpoint of dramatic acting he is the biggest little man this American generation has known."

THE MONKEY'S PAW

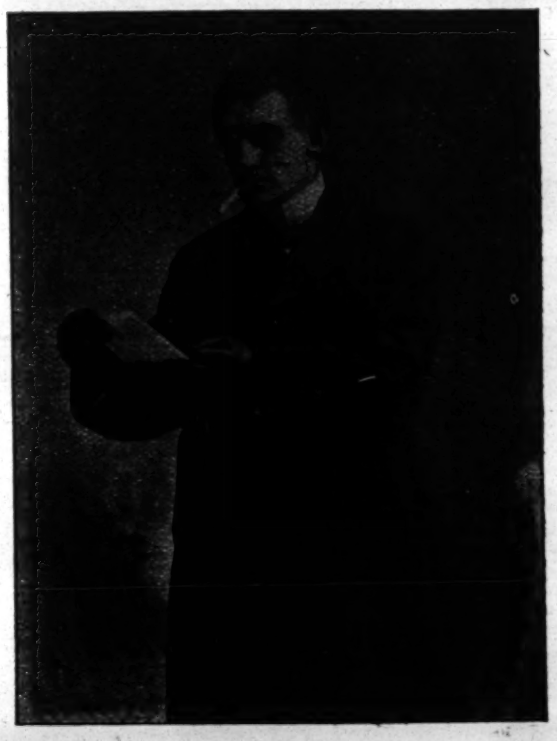

THE MONKEY'S PAW

RE-ENGAGED BY WILLIAM MORRIS TO RETURN JAN. 16, 1911.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
6, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
April 3, May 1, 15, 22, 29, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 20, March 13, 20, April 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Feb. 20, April 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
March 27, April 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Dec. 12, Jan. 2 Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 20, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Dec. 12, Feb. 6, March 6, 20, 27, April 17, 24, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for WOLVERHAMPTON, Jan. 2, Feb. 6.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
April 13 and 15,
April 17 (Easter),
May 11, 12, and 13 (3 nights).
and various dates onwards.
Also one or two season dates still vacant for recent London successes.
May be booked in conjunction with Hastings Pier.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
One of the most charming Theatres in the Provinces. Holds £120 at ordinary prices. Lit throughout by electric light. No other Theatre within radius of thirty miles. Drawing capacity 60,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Nov. 21 (?), 28, Dec. 5,
Jan. 2, 16, 30, on.
All coms. re dates to London Representatives,
Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.
All other coms. direct to W. R. Wallis.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 2, 16, March 13, on.
Wallace Davidson,
22, North Sherwood-street, Nottingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
The New Building, now rapidly nearing completion, will Open in December with a full and capable staff. Holding capacity at prices charged for West-End attractions, £85, exclusive of early doors. Stage capable of taking any Production touring.
Bookings include "The Cingalee," "Brewster's Millions," Mr. P. Hutchison's Company, Mr. Peter Davey's "Cinderella," Mr. F. Storey's "Aladdin," "What the Butler Saw," "The Fatal Wedding," and Castellano's Italian Opera.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and West-End Plays, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, May 8, and on, Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors),
Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, Company, for first vacant date, Jan. 9, onward. Now booking Spring and Summer, 1911. Can also arrange for flying matinées.
C. A. Seebold, as above.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre with a Smart Audience.
Nov. 14, "MR. PREEDY AND THE COUNTESS."
All dates filled this year.

WANTED, Known, Vacant in 1911, Feb. 6 (?), 20, 27, July 31, Aug. 21, 28, Oct. 2, onwards. This Theatre does not advertise in the weekly periodical, the Barrow Herald.
Re dates, apply Calvert Routledge.

HARROGATE AND SCARBOROUGH
GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Dec. 5, 6, 7, Harrogate;
Dec. 8, 9, 10, Scarborough.
Apply,
William Peacock, Harrogate.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dec. 12. Booking Spring, 1911, Feb. 20 and 27,
Open for High-class Companies,
Musical Comedies, or Stars.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Dec. 19, open. Booking Spring, 1911.
Jan. 2, 9, 23; Feb. 20, 27 vacant.
All communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there.
Others to
J. Chas. Imeson, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
for
Nov. 21, London.
Wire, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for March 6 and 13.
Address, Charles Revill,
T. R., Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9,
Feb. 13, 20, April 10.
All twice nightly.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Dec. 12, Jan. 23.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Dec. 12.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, onward with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales Holding capacity over 2,000. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 5, April 10, 17, 24, May 8, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "The Dairymaids," "Silver King," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The premier theatre in the town.—Vide Press
With a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business.
This week, J. A. Campbell's wonderfully successful play, "From Convent to Throne." Future bookings include:—Mr. George Edwardes' own Company in "The Merry Widow" (return), "Where is William?" Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's Company in "Her Love Against the World," Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," William Mollison's Company in "The Chorus Lady," "A Girl's Temptation," J. A. Campbell's "The Hand that Rocks the Cradle," Robert Courtneidge's Company, "The Arcadians," Mr. George Dance's Company, "Our Miss Gibbs," Mr. George Edwardes's "The Dollar Princess," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes for Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2 16, 23, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Dec. 26.
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov 28 (?), Jan. 2, 16, 30, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows or First-class Pantomimes (first in). Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," &c. Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-street, S.W.

Dec. 12, Vacant.
NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Perfectly Appointed, both before and behind the Curtain, and with a Full and Competent Staff.
Can Stage any Production.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, only.
Capacity Business Nearly Every Week.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq.,
Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits), Miss Annie Hughes, C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911.
Dec. 12 vacant, owing to transfer.
Address, Managers.

HARROGATE
and
SCARBOROUGH
GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, the Best of Companies, Dec. 5 and 12, onward, with exceptions. These two theatres can now be booked in conjunction, three nights each town.
Apply, William Peacock,
Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Wanted, Company,
Easter week,
April 17.
Easter week Unexpectedly Vacant.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Nov. 21.
Wires, Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

LINCOLN THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, Musical or Comedy Companies, Nov. 28 (owing to transferring "Our Flat"), Dec. 5 (3 nights), Dec. 19, and Jan. 30 (3 nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, and last three nights of Jan. 23 and 30, March 6, and on.
Bookings for this season include "Arcadians," "Gay Gordons," "Dairymaids" (third visit), "Merry Widow" (third visit), and all the Best Dramas on the Road.

MEMORIAL THEATRE, CHESTERFIELD.
Vacant Jan. 16, April 3, May 8.

W. Payne Seddon, Fahan, Co. Donegal.
Wires, "Seddon, Fahan." Allow two days post.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
Dec. 5, Glasgow;
Dec. 5 and 19, Newcastle;
Dec. 12 and 19, Edinburgh.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.,
SCOTLAND'S
PREMIER DRAMA THEATRE.
WANTED, People's Plays, various 1911-12;
Continued success.
"Outcast of the Family" closed to £100. "A Royal Divorce" played to close on £500 (ordinary doors not opened Saturday); "King and Unknown Woman" beat its previous visit by £60. This week, "Driven from Home" is "driving them all from home" to the Met. (last visit £340).
Arthur Jefferson,
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. Davidson.
Business-Manager, Lloyd Townrow.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is visited by all the Best Companies. No Vacant Dates this year. A few Dates in Spring and Autumn, 1911. First-class Companies only.

WANTED, really First-class Company, Nov. 21, for Royal Court Theatre, Bacup. Will be kept till Wednesday next unless suitable company applies, after which pictures and varieties will be arranged for.
Wire, Walters, Theatre, Bacup.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant, March 13, 27 (?), May 29.
Also Autumn, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant, Jan. 16, Feb. 20 (?), 27(?), March 20 (?) April 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant, April 10, 17 (?), May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant, Dec. 5 (?), Feb. 13 (?), 20, 27, March 13 (?) 20, April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Also Autumn, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Dec. 5 (3 nights with Folkestone), Jan. 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 6, 27, March 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Nov. 28, Dec. 8 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 12, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 27, March 6, 20.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH
Vacant Nov. 28 (?), Jan. 23 (?), Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.
Apply for all above,
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Dates:—
AYR, Dec. 12 and 26.
LEITH, Dec. 19 and 26.
FALKIRK, Dec. 19 (3 nights);
MOTHERWELL, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and 26;
and onwards.
Apply, R. C. Buchanan, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. Marriott Watson.
WANTED, First-class Companies March 27, May 22, June 26, onwards, with exceptions. Re dates address,
C. F. Wright.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, Cameron Burgess.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES,
GAINSBOROUGH.
The New Place.
WANTED, Good Attractions. This Theatre is situated in the heart of the town. Good stage, scenery, dressing-rooms, and fittings, with Circle and Promenade; holds 1,000.
Address all communications, John R. Fox, as above. Telephone No. 70.
Note.—The local people say they like it.

THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
The Largest Theatre in the Town.
Can stage any attraction touring.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North.
WANTED, Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Dec. 5, onward. Bookings and pencillings for 1911 include Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. George Edwardes' Companies, Mr. George Dance's Companies, Mr. James Welch, "The Speckled Band," "The Brass Bottle," The Grotesques, "The Dairymaids," "The Man from Mexico," "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," "Alias Jimmy Valentine," &c., &c.
This most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough can be booked in conjunction with the Grand Opera House, Harrogate.
Mr. J. Gar Kiddie will again produce Pantomime on Dec. 26.
All communications re dates to William Peacock, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
One of the most Charming Theatres in the Provinces. The only Theatre in the Town.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, Easter, Whit Week, and intermediate dates, onwards. Address, Chas. Julian.

WANTED, good Drama, Dec. 19.
A. M. Loader,
Opera House, St. Helens.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager, Charles P. Cooke.
WANTED, Dec. 15, for three nights, big Drama, first in for eight months. Jan. 9, 16, 23 vacant First-class Pantomime.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 (?) and 12. Apply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Companies, Nov. 21 (through breach), also Nov. 28, on; also Musical Attraction for Christmas. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Jan., onward, including Season 1911.
Weatherbee's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
T. R., BOURNEMOUTH, Dec. 12 (?);
G. T., SOUTHAMPTON, Dec. 19;
G. T., SWANSEA, Dec. 12 and 19.
Apply, F. Mouillot,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, Something Real,
Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 12, 19, 26.
Sante, Grand, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions
Dec. 5,
Jan. 9,
Feb. 6, 13, 27.
Now Playing to Phenomenal Business.
Refer G. M. Polini, Esq., Walter Howard, Esq., Walter Melville, Esq., Jack Denton, Esq.
Good shows can safely rely upon big business.
James Bell.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own Scenery and good Printing, Nov. 28, on, twice nightly. Must state lowest, share or certainty. T. Allan Edwardes, Palace T., Derby.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 9, 30, Feb. 6, onward.
Address,
Arthur Talbois, as above.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, and Burlesques, for Clydebank's Only Theatre. Lowest terms,
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Companies, for Dec. 26, 27, and 28.
Gates, Theatre, Wisbech.

THE WHITEHALL THEATRE,
EAST GRINSTEAD.
WANTED, Known. It is the intention of the Management to run One or Two Nights only each week, with an occasional Special Matinée. All letters respecting bookings should be addressed to Cecil Barth,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., London, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies,
for Season dates,
July, Aug., Sept.
July, Aug., Sept.
(Aug. Bank Holiday week vacant).
The Theatre for Big Business.
The Theatre for Big Business.
Write to
Councillor Charles Price,
or, W. Martin, 415, Strand.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19 (3 or 6 nights).
W. E. Potts.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Attractions for Xmas, Jan. 23, 30, for Panto., Feb. 6, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, Jan. 2, 16, on.
Alfred Manners.

WANTED, High-class Companies.
Nov. 28, week, Ipswich.
Nov. 28, week, Folkestone.
Dec. 5, three nights, Eastbourne;
Dec. 8, three nights, Folkestone.
For other dates see Advertisement.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Company for Christmas Play, twice nightly. State lowest certainty.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions
Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, good Attractions, for Feb. 27, March 13 and 20, May 8, 15, 22, and Whit, and certain Autumn dates. Note.—Little Drama is useless.
Sidney Cooper.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Dec. 12.
Address, H. S. Howard.

NEW GRAND PAVILION,
SHANKLIN PIER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Summer Season, 1911.
Musical Comedies, First-class Vaudeville Companies, and Star Artists.
All coms. re dates, terms, &c.,
to
Sole Agent,
Wilson James, 108, Sumatra-rd, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O. Hampstead.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 26, Jan. 23, Feb. 6. Apply, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Dec. 12, 19, 26 (Xmas week); also good Pantos. for Jan. 9 onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Nov. 14, 28.
Wire, Vernon.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only vacant dates, Dec. 5, Feb. 13, on, with exceptions.
Address, Manager, O. H., Kidderminster.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Only fully licensed theatre in the district, which comprises Seacombe, Egremont, Poulton, New Brighton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 7, 8 (three nights), Feb. 13, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17. Apply, James Kiernan.

PAVILION THEATRE,
ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, Company, Dec. 19.

PALACE THEATRE,
EBBW VALE.
Vacant Dec. 12.
Apply, E. Tilney, Abertillery.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE, LTD.
WANTED, High-class Comedy or Musical Pieces (three nights each), Jan. 16 to Feb. 1. Terms dates. Unexpectedly Vacant through obliging several managers. Apply, W. B. Redfern.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 12. Musical Comedy preferred, 19, 26, and Jan. 16. Jos. B. Ormerod.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Nelson, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19; also Dec. 12, for Burnley. Wire, Horner, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, for the Summer of 1911. New to Grimsby preferred.
Feb. 6 possibly vacant, also March 27.
J. H. Curry, as above.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
Henry C. Arnold, Managing-Director.

THE OXFORD HIPPODROME,
COWLEY-ROAD, OXFORD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic and Variety Companies, Nov. 28, on; also First-class Pantomime, for Xmas (four weeks).
Geo. Strange, Resident-Manager.

WANTED, good Companies, three or four nights, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 16, on. Fred Boulton, Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, the Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is expected to Open in January next, and will be most Up-to-date in every respect. Holding capacity 2200. Population of 100,000 within ¾ mile radius. All trams pass the door; also within 5 minutes' walk from the Liverpool and Southport Railway. Full Orchestra. Wanted, Musical Comedy and Other First-class Companies for Autumn, 1911.

WANTED, Something Real, Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. on, Grand, Radcliffe. Also Dec. 12, Jan. 9, on, Grand Chorley.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 9, Feb. 6.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

INSTITUTE, ORMSKIRK.
WANTED, Nov. 15, for five nights, good Fit-up Drama, Musical Comedy, or Variety Combination. Wire, Richards and Montgomery, Institute, Ormskirk.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Dec. 5.
Wire,
R. G. Elder,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WINTER GARDENS, BOOTLE.
MESSRS. ADELER, SUTTON, and ALLANDALE
WANTED, Nov. 28, and onwards, for First-class Farcical or Musical Comedy Companies. Business good, expenses small.
Wire, Charles Boult.

WANTED, by Syndicate building Public Hall, centre of Bristol, seating 1,500, applications from Travelling Companies. Broadleigh, 6, Lynmouth-gr., Weston-s.-Mare.

WANTED, Halls or Theatres, for Pictures and Vaudeville; shares or certainty. M., 49, Gartmoor-gardens, Wimbledon Park-road, S.W.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth). Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. Wilkinson, Whimple-street, Plymouth

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SINS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6, March 6.
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Feb. 6, March 6, for
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, for
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
Walter Melville, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

"BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
"BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."
WANTED, Dec. 5 and '26, Jan. 2, and on.
Frederick Melville, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5.
Address, Frederick Melville, Aldwych T., W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 26. Wires to-day, Douglas Bruce, 20, Wentworth-road, Harborne, Birmingham; next week, T. R., Woolwich.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Can arrange for Vacancies as under:—
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 6, 13, 20, Certainty.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 20. Certainty.
"RED RIDING HOOD," March 13. Certainty.
WANTED, Application for once or twice nightly. J. L. Barry, General-Manager, 12½, Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Established 1891. CHARLES HARRINGTON'S "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, on, big Company, full Chorus, real Negro Specialities, beautiful Scenery, splendid Printing.
Charles Harrington,
P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, March 9 (three nights South).
All communications, J. W. Cordiner,
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, Feb. 20, March 27, and April 3.
Address,
Frank M. Thorne, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, now booking Spring and Autumn, 1911. Apply, John E. Watson, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, for the great money-making Drama, "His Real Wife," Feb. 6, 13, and March. T. E. Ward, Palace, Maidstone.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S PANTO., "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," from Brixton Theatre.
WANTED, Jan. 16, through transfer.
Address, Moncrieff, Brixton.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Company,
in
"ROLLICKING RORY"
and
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
Panto. Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 20.
Address, Chalmers Mackey,
Nov. 14, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Nov. 28, between Oldham and Chesterfield.
Horace Stanley,
to-day, 73, Constitution-hill, Birmingham; next, King's, Gainsborough (3), Worksop (3).

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Xmas Week, Xmas Week, Jan. 2 and 9,
Feb. 6, April 3, June 5.
Letters, Wilson Bingo,
Moorlands, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Known, on Nov. 14 will celebrate her 1,250th Performance.
Dickie Clare, Gaiety, Houghton (R.).

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'
GRAND PRODUCTION,
"RED RIDING HOOD,"
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Theatres, Xmas, and onward.
"Warwick House," 8, Warwick-road, W.C.

"THE BRASS BOTTLE."
Mr. Gaston Mayer's No. 1 Company.
WANTED, April 3, North preferred.
Address, E. H. Bull,
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 27, March 27, April 17.
Haldane Crichton, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Theatre, Xmas Week, Dec. 26, for grand Pantomime "Cinderella," a splendid show. Address, Barrett, Public Hall, Pontardulais, Glamorganshire, South Wales.

C. AND F. RENAD'S
New Musical Comedy,
"THE MERRY TERRITORIAL."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for week of Nov. 28.
Address, C. and F. Renad,
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, Nov. 28 (3 nights) and Dec. 5 (3 or 6) for The Villagers,
Augmented Concert and Vaudeville Company.
Ten London Artists.
Programme will include entirely new Comedy Sketch, "Bouquets for Breakfast," by Lewis Dalrymple, author of "The Will of Allah," "A Lesson in Rinking," &c.

Address, R. Foster, Business Manager,
7, Sydney-street, South Kensington.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.,
PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boy for Aladdin,
Good Comedian for Abanazar,
Principal Boy and Girl,
Dame, Ruffians,
Baron, Demon King, and
Pair Juveniles for Babes.
Also Two First-class Conductors and Producer.
Terms, refs., photos, perm. address, and where can be seen working during next three weeks, to
A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Return Visits Everywhere and
Bigger Business.
Please refer:—
Chas. Bush, Esq., Queen's, Leeds;
Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield;
Harry Esden, Esq., T. R., Sunderland;
Harris Finchery, Esq., Star T., Liverpool;
W. W. Kelly, Esq., T. R., Birkenhead;
J. H. Curry, Esq., P. O. W. T., Grimsby;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Alex. Theatre, Hull;
J. Batty, Esq., Grand T., Stockton-on-Tees;
Stanley Rogers, Esq., T. R., North Shields;
J. Bell, Esq., T. R., Darlington, &c., &c.
WANTED. Wanted, Theatres.
Vacant Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Jan. 2, 9, 16.

Address,
A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool. Wires, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE BETTER LAND."
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE,"
Vacant Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Wanted, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.
"ALADDIN."
Wanted, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.

Address, A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Theatres, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Dec. 26, New Year, also Spring, 1911. BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,800.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT"
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Christmas, on, with Exceptions.
FRED BULMER,
Lyric House, Liverpool.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Theatres, THE DAYTON FAMILY,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in Number,
Supported by First-class Vaudeville Company.
Over twenty-five clever performers.
Splendid display of Lithos. and Printing.
Vacant Jan. 23, and various dates, onwards.

Communications, The Empire, Sunderland.
Booking us means Big Business for you, and no risk, no worry.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dec. 26, March 20, April 17 (?),
June 19, Aug. 7, and on.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
Enthusiastic and profitable visits everywhere.
Fourteen Artists, Three Tons of Scenery.
A healthy, romantic drama.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, T. R., Belfast.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
No. 1 Company,
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS,"
Jan. 16, Feb. 20,
North or Midlands.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE CHRISTIAN," by Hall Caine.
OLD Version.
MR. MARCUS DRAPER'S CO.
(by arrangement with Mr. Wentworth Croke).
WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 13, 20, 1911, and on, with exceptions.

Address, WM. COLLARD, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANIES.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatre,
Nov. 28 (South Co.).
Address, CECIL BARTH, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

"CHASING CYNTHIA."
The New Musical Comedy that is breaking all records.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and few Spring dates.
Apply, CHAS. C. OMMANNEY, Theatre R., Chatham.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
With the New Successful Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates this year, Nov. 24 (3 nights), Nov. 28, and Dec. 26; vacant 1911, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 13, 20, April 10, 17.

All coms.,
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Jan. 2 (to oblige W. Morton, Esq.), Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 and 13.
Everything carried. A superb production. Unique advertising. Refer, refer.

HARRY LYNDON, Grand, Plymouth; next, Prince's, Accrington.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Dec. 5,
Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Playing to record business everywhere.
Kindly refer any manager.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 26.
Once or twice nightly,
Excellent business regularly.
Hot August week, £280, Princess's, Glasgow.
Refer, Mr. Rich. Waldon.
Wire, to-day, LOUIS EDMOND, 14, Crown-st., Bury St. Edmunds; Nov. 14, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, "His Real Wife," the money-maker, vacant for Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13 and March 11. T. E. WARD, Pal., Maidstone.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13.
EDWARD LLOYD, Pavilion T., London, E.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, on Sharing Terms, Nov. 28, between Glasgow and London, for Powerful Variety Combination, including two distinct and separate acts, each topping bills in London. Travelling forty people, and big stock of scenery and effects. Will be the biggest drawing company possible to book.
Address, C. M. COMBINATION,
C/o Mr. Will Collins,
Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
in
Vacant Jan. 16, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Great Money maker.
Vacant.
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This mammoth Money Magnet.
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant Nov. 28, Jan. 9, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Never-failing Success.
Vacant Dec. 25, Jan. 2, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED Wanted, Dates,
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 2, 9, 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company,
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
A Triumph.
Press, Public, and Proprietors enthusiastic.

Vacant Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Mrs. Morton Powell
can accept Commissions to write Plays.
Address,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"EAST LYNNE."
MR. TOM WATT, having failed to arrange terms with the Lessor of the Bullock Version for the future, is now in a position to offer to Managers a SPLENDID UP-TO-DATE VERSION of the above Play, with
ENTIRELY NEW, CLEAN COMEDY SCENES, by a WELL-KNOWN LONDON AUTHOR.
Sparkling with fun and merriment, well calculated to take the place of more ancient material. The copyright portions have been eliminated, and the new scenes are ingeniously interwoven with the actual story, and not tacked on.
Mr. Tom Watt will still continue to personally conduct the Tour, and will maintain the same excellent company which played to £882 at Leeds and Bradford during the last fortnight, and which has
BEATEN RECORDS ALL ALONG THE LINE,
and has been on the road since Jan. 31, 1910.
Nov. 14, Hippodrome, Neath.
Returning to Dublin by special request.
WANTED, Theatres, for the only two Vacant Dates this year,
Nov. 24, 25, 26 (Ireland).
Dec. 25, 26, 26, 26, 26.
Also for Jan. 2, 1911, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire or write,
TOM WATT,
6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, London, W.C.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN

present their No. 1 Co.
in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Jan. 9, 23, 30,
Feb. 20, 27
(3 nights, precede Grantham),
March 6 and 20,
April 24,
Whit, various, onwards.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.

Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
To-day, Lowestoft; Mon., Sutton-in-Ashfield.

KIMBERLEY'S, GREEN, AND HINTON'S
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Christmas, Christmas, Christmas, Jan. 2, 9, for this remarkably Artistic and Financial Success. Without doubt one, if not the finest effort of this most forceful authoress. Magnificently mounted, splendidly played. An undoubted triumph every town visited. Kindly refer ANY management. Re dates, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton. All other communications, GEORGE LANGDON, en route.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
for various Companies,
for this Spring and Autumn, 1911.
Christmas week vacant for Special Attraction.
Vacant Dates:—
Dec. 26,
Jan. 2,
Feb. 6, 13, 20.
Easter,
for various Companies.

Managers needing good Sound Attractions, well mounted and played,
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Dec. 5, through Alex., Belfast, not being completed, also Jan. 16.
GEO. A. DE GRAY,
To-day, Alex., Sheffield; Nov. 14, Hip., Todmorden.

H. ARMITAGE'S COMPANIES.

Associate-Manager, CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.

"LEAH KLESCHNA."
WANTED, for this great Attraction, Dec. 26, Jan. 9 (North), 16.

"GREATER LOVE."
By Vincent Brown.
Dec. 5 (Midlands), Jan. 16, 23.

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
Henry Seton Merriman's Greatest Work.
Aug. Bank Holiday (South), 14, 21.

All coms., CAMPBELL GOLDSMID,

To-day, Court, Warrington;

Next, Opera House, St. Helen's.

"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5,
Jan. 3, 9, 16, 23,
Feb. 13 and March 13.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Palace T., Bordesley.

WANTED, for the Great Oriental Pantomime "Aladdin" (undoubtedly the finest show on the road), Jan. 30 (?), March 6, 13. Wire, best offers (share or certainty) to E. CYRIL-PITT, 11, Sutherland-street, Pimlico, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"

The Era says:—
In "The Ruin of Her Life" Mrs. Morton Powell has written just the type of drama of which the stage stands in need. The story is a strong, heart-moving one; it grips the audience the moment the curtain rises, and that grip is never lost till the final tableau, and we leave the theatre feeling that the night has been all too short, and filled with a strong desire to see it all again. It is a drama which will hold the stage for many years, and given a London production it would make the fortunes of manager and authoress. . . . Mrs. Charles Sugden in this act treats us to a piece of acting which is nothing short of wonderful. The despair of the mother, who feels no love in her heart for the child they call her daughter, her struggle to take Fairy to her arms, her scorn of Devel, her love and gratitude to Sir Philip, her wild outbursts of grief, despair, hope, and fear, follow one another with lightning-like rapidity. She sways her audience with a magic touch, her acting rising to heights seldom seen in melodrama. . . . Here again Mrs. Sugden's marvellous powers were fully revealed. The cough, the slouching gait, the alcoholic, husky voice, were all true to life. It was no stage figure, but an absolute type of London's submerged tenth, which we saw before us. Nothing more striking, vivid, and realistic than this gem of character acting could be imagined. In London it would set the West-End talking.

"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE,"
by
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
MRS. MORTON POWELL.

Produced on Monday, Oct. 31,
at the
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.

Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.
Tremendous Success.

The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.
The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.
The Greatest of Mrs. Powell's Plays.

The Huge Audience
The Huge Audience
Held from the
Held from the
Rise to Fall of Curtain.
Rise to Fall of Curtain.

A CERTAIN FORTUNE.
A CERTAIN FORTUNE.
A CERTAIN FORTUNE.

ANOTHER "SILVER KING."
ANOTHER "SILVER KING."
ANOTHER "SILVER KING."

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
in
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.
MARY MACAIR.

A
Revelation in Acting.
Revelation in Acting.
Revelation in Acting.

A Wonderful Creation.
A Wonderful Creation.
A Wonderful Creation.

The Leicester Daily Mail, Nov. 1, says:—

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

Local lovers of good, wholesome drama who were at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, last night were decidedly fortunate to have the opportunity of witnessing the first performance of "The Ruin of Her Life." . . . and the large audience which filled the auditorium, both in the popular parts and in the circle, showed, by its appreciation, that a really good work has been put on to the boards. "The Ruin of Her Life" possesses to the fullest extent those essential factors without which no drama can possibly hope for a
LONG AND SUCCESSFUL RUN.
The play is from the pen of that well-known writer of drama, Mrs. Morton Powell, who has
ECLIPSED ALL HER PREVIOUS EFFORTS.
It is well balanced, all the scenes are carefully laid, there is no overlapping or a superabundance of material which so often mars the success of a drama; it constitutes a chain of intensely exciting episodes which grip the attention of the audience from
THE RISE TO THE FALL OF THE CURTAIN.
Perhaps the greatest feature of "The Ruin of Her Life" is that all-important fact that it centres round a delightful theme, and points out in a realistic manner much of the seamy side of child-life by exposing the many horrors and dangers which beset juveniles in the hands of unscrupulous people of the Father Fagin type. . . . One can imagine the tremendous possibilities of such a theme, especially when in the hands of a talented company, as that convened by Mrs. Charles Sugden.
THE AUDIENCE ARE HELD SPELLBOUND,
the play was splendidly acted, and everything went off without the slightest hitch. Of course, the premier honours go to Mrs. Sugden in the part of Mary Macair, which was specially written for her by Mrs. Morton Powell. It is a triple rôle, and whether as the ticket-of-leave woman, Lady Selwyn, or a drunken hag, Mrs. Sugden acts with all customary skill. Upon the success of these characters the play hangs, and the heroine of "Zaza" and many other famous plays rises to all the demands placed upon her.

"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
by
MRS. MORTON POWELL.
MRS. MORTON POWELL.

Packing the Theatre to Suffocation.
Packing the Theatre to Suffocation.

Once in twenty years we get a great Drama.
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE"
is such an one.

Will draw the Public.
Will Pack the Theatre,
Will be the
GREATEST SUCCESS OF THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.

Managers cordially invited to witness this Play.

Nov. 14, Queen's, Manchester.
Vacant dates:
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, 23.
Dec. 26, Jan. 3, 16, 23.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26,
Dec. 26,
Jan. 9, 23,
March 20, 27.
Only Vacant Dates till Whit.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Royal, Cardiff.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell).
Now fully established as a Big Money-maker.
Fast filling Autumn, 1911.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6, March 6, and Easter

OSWALD CRAY,
Pavilion Theatre, Abertillery (return).

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
No vacant dates till Spring.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
O. H., Workington (3), T. R., Whitehaven (3).

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, 31, "Sherlock Holmes."
Address, CHAS. E. SUTTON, Star, Liverpool.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "SAPHO."
WANTED, Nov. 21 (North or Midlands) for this sure draw. "The survival of the fittest." Sixth year. "Sapho" can be played, if required, with our répertoire of eight plays. Wire to-day for Nov. 21. ABBOTT, Theatre, Paisley. Next week, T. R., North Shields.

One Long Scream.
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Nov. 28 (?),
Jan. 2, 9, and on.
CHARLES WINDERMERE,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

WANTED, Known Xmas Open, "Inconstant George." MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

"OUR FLAT (Messrs. King and Clark's No. 1 Co.).
WANTED, Easter week, May 8, 15, and Autumn dates.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK,"
No. 2 Co. Wanted, Jan. 16 and 30 (Wales),
Feb. 20 and on (South).

"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Wanted, No. 3 Theatres, Sept. 18, on.

The three Companies may be booked together for one or two nights each in small theatres.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Fahan, Co. Donegal.
Allow two days' post. Telegrams, "Seddon, Fahan."

MR. HENRY BAGGE'S TOUR
of
ONE-ACT PLAYS.
Quadruple Bill.
Special Scenery and Powerful London Company.

"A GOOD SAMARITAN," by Edward Percy.
An East-End of London Drama.

"THE FOREST OF HAPPY DREAMS,"
by Edgar Wallace. A Tale of the Congo.

"THE NIGHT BEFORE," by Edgar Wallace.
A Convict's Last Night on Earth.

"SATURDAY OFF," by Metcalfe Wood.
A Screaming Farce.
WANTED, Dates for the above, Dec. 5 and onwards.

Wire, "Sketchical, London." 'Phone 983 Holborn.
Write, 11, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, E.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at Once, Lady to take Dramatic Part in Dramatic Comedy Sketch; rehearse Monday, 2 p.m. Apply in person at AUTHOR'S BUREAU, 23, Regent-street, 11 a.m., Monday. Must be young and good-looking.

WANTED, Lady, young, pretty, refined, for Part in Successful Comedy Sketch; Comedy experience preferred. Full particulars, lowest terms, photo, if possible. MANAGER, 22, Smith-st., Chelsea.

"LADY OF OSTEND."

WANTED, for Special Week, Nov. 21, Leeds, Ingénue for Milly, and tall (over 6ft.) robust Comedian for Krackitt (prizefighter). Terms and previous experience (photo where unknown) to LAWRENCE BROUGH, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

WANTED, Leads and other Artists, "The Idler" and "Olive Latimer's Husband," Nov. 28, 2 weeks, Brighton. Terms, photos., W. T. ELWORTHY, 27, Rosenau-road, Battersea Park.

WANTED, several Young Ladies, must be smart and attractive, for Small Parts in Music Hall Sketch. Apply, between 3 and 5 (Saturday), HARRY ROGERS, 295, Kennington-road.

WANTED, immediately, smart Amateur Lady, small part, open Monday, 14th, London, genuine opportunity for one with ability. Call to-day, 3-5 o'clock, or Sunday. MANAGER, 453, Fulham-road, near Chelsea Station.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman of Education, culture, and refinement, to play small parts, walk on, and Understudy, &c., in a Recognised and Leading Répertoire Company, on Tour. Full particulars, NEALE, Grand Theatre, Gainsborough.

WANTED, Experienced Gentlemen, to Play in "Don Cæsar de Bazan," "Garrick," and "Tale of Two Cities." Full particulars, GERARD WYNNE, The Square, Retford, Notts.

WANTED, immediately, Messenger, in "A Message from Mars," special week, possibly longer; quick study. TYLER and STUART, New Theatre, Newark.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Sketch, Wages £2, Premium £10.
Returned at end of Engagement.
Genuine.
Write,
MAVERICK, 149, Lake-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Responsible Man, capable Jew and Doctor; assist Acting-Management. Full particulars, KINGSLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Principal Comedian or Leading Man, capable of Comedy Part, Sketch. Rehearse 16th. Photos, terms, ELLISTON, 3 Victoria-st., Bradford.

WANTED, Heavy Man and Responsibles, Lady and Gentlemen, used to stock, dress well on and off. MANAGER, Co-operative Hall, Ashton-in-Makerfield

WANTED, for "Are You a Mason?" Light Comedian for George Fisher (female part); Long Tour; dress well. Full particulars; those near Manchester preferred. WILLIAMS, T. R., Hanley.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman; rehearse Dec. 6, open 12th. Terms, age, height, references, photo, two weeks' address. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Nuneaton

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for London Musical Comedy and Music Halls; also Tenors and Basses, for Chorus. Write for an appointment. DAVIES and ADAMS, 18, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

ARTISTS WANTED.

BERT COOTE'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Smart and Attractive Girls, All-round Dancers, ages 18 to 20. Apply personally, Percy Hall, Percy-st., Tottenham Court-rd., Saturday (to-day), 2 o'clock. Representative, ARTHUR KELLY.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for London, Musical Comedy Sketch; good voices and appearance. Apply, stating lowest terms, with photos. Letters only. LEONARD MORTIMER, 158, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Young Lady Instrumentalist, good appearance, for musical act. State instruments, salary, height. Enclose photo. WILLIAMS, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, an Artistic Young Lady, to join Entertainer (at the piano), for High-class Duo; must be good vocalist, musical, and have good stage presence. Age and particulars, in full confidence, Box 8,449, "The Era."

MAY DOUGLAS'S JUVENILES.
WANTED, Children for the Stage; experience not necessary; must have good voices. Apply, Town Hall, Spennymoor.

Sunderland Dispensary Annual Sacred Concert, at EMPIRE THEATRE, Sunday evening, Jan. 22.
WANTED, applications from Lady or Gentlemen Artists, open for engagement, Vocal or Instrumental Turn. Only those whose fees are strictly moderate need apply to MUSGRAVE, Secretary, Dispensary, Sunderland.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, Amateurs and Beginners, successfully trained for Musical Comedy, Music Halls, and Concerts; Songs written, Band Parts arranged; Specialist in rapid voice production; everything for the Stage supplied. First-class introductions and appearances guaranteed. Write, FRANK DOBELL, 152, Hamlet-gardens, Ravenscourt Park, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nina Hope, the Distinguished Girl Tragedienne; youth, appearance, talent. 20, Henslowe-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Helen Hope, Girl Operatic and Speciality Dancer; youth, appearance, talent. 20, Henslowe-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, Vocalists, Singing Lessons. Is your voice worth training? Professor Louis Cottell has 27 years' experience preparing amateurs for engagements, and only receives pupils he can benefit. Consultation free. Send post card for appointment. 85, St. Paul's-road, Highbury.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Recognised Principal Girl of Repute, for Alice, in "Whittington."
also, Fitzwarren and Demon King.
Address, with terms, references, and full particulars, to JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Principal Girl for Panto, London. Call or write, full particulars, photo., UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL BUREAU, 49, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. (only address).

WANTED, for "Robinson Crusoe," very tall young handsome Soprano, for small part; also tall handsome Chorus Ladies, 5ft. 6in., to rehearse Monday, Nov. 28, Q. P. Hip., Manchester, open Dec. 5. Terms, photos., 16 weeks' run. WILLIAM WATSON, Hippo., Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for "Dick Whittington," including Conductor, Stage Manager, Chorus, and Dancers. Only those who can arrange interview in London need communicate. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford. Will Telford write.

WANTED, all Lines, Squire (Baritone), Neptune (Double C), King, Wishee Washee, Quartette Dancers, tall Chorus. Photos., lowest, GEO. AYTOUN, 25, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E. Letters only.

WANTED, good Pair Knockabout Comedians, for Robbers "Babes"; also Chorus Ladies. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"ROBINSON CRUSOE" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, for the above, two really First-class Comedians, of acknowledged repute, for Captain and Mate; also good Comedian, for Ali Baba. All particulars, WILLIAM MARTIN, DARRELL'S Agency, 415, Strand, W.C.

DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 8in.
References, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

Dancers and Chorus Ladies.
WANTED, for Pantomime.
State experience, age, height, and terms; also enclose Photograph.
JOHN TILLER & Co.,
15 Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, a few Chorus and also Show Ladies, for a Suburban Pantomime.
Age and experience not so important as big figure. Address, with full particulars and measurements, to
Box 8,482, "The Era."

WANTED, for Pantomime, young, pretty, and smart Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 4in. WILLIAM MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Animal Impersonator, to play Donkey in Pantomime. Baker Harlow wire, FRED J. LITTLE'S AGENCY, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, good Ballet Mistress. Lowest terms, age, photograph, names, addresses, last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WILLIAM WATSON'S "ROBINSON CRUSOE" CO.
WANTED, all Artists engaged for the above to Know, Rehearsals start at the Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Nov. 28. All principals to communicate re parts to FRED L. ARTHUR, General-Manager, Grand T., Stonehouse, Plymouth.

Pantomime.
WANTED, Known, Mr. G. Brydon Phillips, finding it quite impossible to reply to the very numerous correspondence from Agents and Artists respecting Engagements for Next Christmas Season, begs to Notify herewith that all Arrangements are Complete, and trusts silence will be accepted as a polite negative.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, through postponement of American Tour, Disengaged for Pantomime, Principal Girl or Special Irish or Lancashire Part. MINNIE CUNNINGHAM, 84, Southgate-road, London, N.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, by Little Enid Hall, Charming Comedienne. Specialty Dutch, Sabot, and Step-dancer; gold medalist. 247, Anlaby-road, Hull.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Jack Bonny, Comedian, Open for Dame, Page, Idle Jack; good Songs and Props. either part. Perm. address, 12, Listowel-street, Brixton.

WANTED, Baron or Similar Part, by Bert Atherton; 2 years Birmingham, Bradford, Newcastle, Nottingham. Address, Nov. 14, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Ello, Dame, Comedian, and Dancer; last five seasons with John Tillar, Esq. This, O. H., Radcliff; Monday, T. R., Colne.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Collins and Moore, the New Firm. Last four years, Robbers. Big experience. 247, Hampstead-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Sandy and Carl, well-known Pantomime Comedians, at Liberty. Thanks for many offers. 58 Chester-road, Tuebrook.

WANTED, Panto. Engagements, by Miss Rosa Walmsley's Star Quartette of Lady Vocalists and all-round Speciality Dancers, graceful and refined, with all own pretty dresses and music. Managers requiring good Quartette cannot do better than secure these girls; splendid refs. All communications to Rosa Simms, Walmsley, this, Grand, Bolton; next, Argyle, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Funny Troupe of Dogs, the most novel Dog Act on the British Stage, Liberty Christmas, for Panto. or Halls. Alhambra Theatre, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Great Speciality for Pantomime, Horace and Olga's great Table Troupe of Dogs and Cats, elaborate electrical fit-up; also four handsome "Cinderella" Ponies, patent harness. Last year Panto., Borough Theatre, Stratford. Brookhouse Farm, Chigwell. Telephone 2 Chigwell.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist to touch up Scenery, quick worker essential.
Two months' work, possibly longer.

Terms, refs., &c., to A. R. Feather, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconi, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910.:—The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernascont, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work Guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase Largest stock in London. Estimates. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, Charles Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Production or Permanency, high-class work only, by
Davies Massey, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Stage Manager; able to Produce Big Pantomime. must have had good experience of big productions.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Gentlemanly Manager required to run Short Turn and Picture Hall. State age, wage, reference, &c., to Box 8,487, "The Era."

WANTED, Acting-Manager, for London Theatre; able to invest £200. Good salary to reliable and capable man. Address, A. M. 78, Deacon's, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

WANTED, for a First-class Suburban Theatre, a good, steady, reliable man for Bill Inspector, to act as Doorsman at night, and make himself generally useful. Must not be less than 5ft. 10in, with loud voice. Particulars, lowest terms and last two refs., to Manager, Box 8,496, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Great Lafayette Show, First-class Stage Carpenter (teetotaler) and Electrician, immediate engagement. Address, Grand Theatre, Bolton, with references enclosed.

WANTED, an experienced Bill Inspector, must have knowledge of Music Hall Stage-Managership, for A. F. Cross, Empire, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Billposter, that understands his business, to act as attendant at night. Apply, Kilburn Picture Palace, Belsize-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, First-class Poster Writers. Apply, Manager, 36, Peter-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, at once, for Pantomime. Apply by letter only, G. Brydon Phillips, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Manager (expert Operator), 18 years' American and English experience, Drama, Vaudeville, and Pictures, used to once and twice nightly, also continuous performances, sound advertising experience, North Country preferred. Macs, 10, Lewis-street, Pembroke Dock.

WANTED, Re-engagement by real live Acting-Manager, thoroughly experienced, Dramatic, Variety, or Pictures; age 29. 1, Miller's-mead, High-street, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Managers requiring a Smart Assistant, competent Shorthand-typist, conversant with Theatrical Office routine, compiling Press Notices, apply Ernest Tetley, Woodbine-st., Ossett, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Man, as Manager or Assistant; Al-fresco, Bioscope, and Rink experience; good refs. Eldon, 8, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Props., Baggage, &c., Res. or Tour, highest refs., five years' first-class exp.; refer Fred Mouillot, Robert Macdonald, &c.; used to Mus. Comedies, Drama, and Var. Bus.; a reliable and industrious worker, abstainer, can join at once, or Panto., and dis. Address, 98, Springfield-road, Southborough.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Carpenter, Practical. First-class reference, resident or tour, G. B. Hughes, 29, Teneriffe-st., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Carpenter, Disengaged, Term of Tour. Bench Hand, own tools; ex. refs. Res. or Tour. This, Clarence, Pontypridd; next, Metropole, Devonport.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO. DE FRECE PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Musical Director for High-class Variety House, South Coast, must possess undeniable testimonial and good library. Send age, photo, and where can be seen working. Also Second Horn, for Hippo., Birmingham; Second Violin, for Hippo., Southampton; Solo Cornet, for Hippo., Southend. Men of only recognised ability write in, Musical Adviser, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, Musical-Director, for Xmas Panto. Call or write full particulars, Universal Theatrical Bureau, 49, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. (only address).

WANTED, for "Robinson Crusoe," Smart Musical Director (Pianist), to open Nov. 28; through releasing Mr. Frank Corrie. Send lowest terms, refs., 16 weeks' run, to William Watson, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

WANTED, Musical Director for Pantomime, Baggage Men, Quartette of Dancers; must state where can be seen working. Fred J. Little's Agency, 4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-st., London.

WANTED, for Pantomime, First-class Conductor.
Apply, with terms, age, and references, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, good sound Leader, to open Nov. 21. Terms and refs. to Geo. Robertshaw, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Violinist, to lead if required, good Soloist; also 'Cellist and Pianist; must be thoroughly experienced in restaurant and Continental style. No stamps. Address, A. L., 60, Haverhill-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Clever Lady Violinist, young, good appearance, for Continental Tour, with my well-known British Orchestra (fourth year present tour). Send recent photo, state age, experience, if soloist. Fare to join paid from London. Hunt, Scotch Orchestra, Dortmunder Kindl, Munster, Westphalia, Germany. Postage 2½d.

WANTED, First Violin, able to lead, well up in Comedies and Opera, permanent. Age, terms, refs., to open Nov. 14, Hugo Franz, Mus.-Dir., T. R., Merthyr.

WANTED, Second Violin, for Exmouth Professional Band. Terms, shares. Address, F. Robbins, Sec., 69, Rosebery-rd., Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, experienced Dramatic and Variety; open Nov. 21. Age, terms, refs., Arthur Cowell, Mus.-Dir., Princess T., Preston.

WANTED, good Second Cornet, open Nov. 14.
Apply, Musical-Director, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, good Cornet and Trombone, for Orchestra and Solo; Concert work; ladies preferred. Write, Madame Oliver, Leigh-on-Sea.

WANTED, smart young man, Cornet or Saxophone, for Musical Act. State salary expected, height, photo., Williams, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, experienced Contra Bass Player, for well-known Small Orchestra. Twice Daily. Sobriety and good appearance essential. Tour fortnightly. Conductor, 14, Harcourt-terrace, Salisbury, until 14th.

WANTED, Trombone Player, New Theatre, Barry. Send photo, age, names, addresses, last two references, lowest terms, Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, competent First Horn, for one week, Nov. 21, "Merry Widow." Conductor, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, a First-class 'Cellist, for Restaurant. State all particulars in the first instance to Box 8,483, "The Era."

WANTED, Flautist, must be competent, permanency. Terms, age, and reference to-H. E. Loseby, Musical-Director, H. M. Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Good Pianist (to Double another Instrument). Lowest terms, age, photo., names, addresses last two references. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pianist, Cinématograph Theatre, Provinces, permanency, experienced in playing to Pictures with effect, and command of suitable music from memory. Beswick, 9, John-street, Adelphi.

WANTED, Young Lady, good Vamper; must be young. Apply, Founder's Arms, Brynmawr, S. Wales.

WANTED, Drummer; must be thoroughly experienced in variety business, open Monday, Nov. 21. Wire, Manager, Empire, Ashton.

WANTED, Good Double Drummer, Lady or Gentleman, rink, two sessions. Terms, age, &c., to Conductress, c/o 9, Bond-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, to complete a Professional Ladies' Balalaika Orchestra, must reside in London; tuition free. Box 8,498, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Orchestral Pianist, abstainer preferred; must be used to Theatre work and Variety business, and be able to play another Instrument. Permanent engagement to a steady and reliable man. State age, married or single, references, photo. if possible, lowest terms, six nights and two matinées weekly, Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, a good String Band of sixteen Musicians, commencing Whitsuntide, for six months' running, five hours' daily playing, 120 miles from London. Only good Bands may apply. Letters, Box 8,484, "The Era."

Bandsman Attendant (French Horn or Viola).
WANTED, at the London County Asylum, Long Grove, Epsom, Surrey; must be unmarried, and not exceeding 35 years of age. Wages £31 per annum, rising (on satisfactory completion of six months' probation) to £33, and then by £1 per annum to £43, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Daily leave, subject to convenience of service, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Weekly leave, 1½ days. Annual leave, first fifteen months (after nine months' service), six days; the following twelve months, 14 days. Applications, stating age and previous occupation, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, Long Grove Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, HANWELL, W.
WANTED, Musician Attendants (Bassoon or Oboe Players). Previous asylum experience not necessary. Wages £31 a year for first six months; then, if satisfactory, rising to £33, and subsequently by £1 annually to £43 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; also special payments for band duty. Attendants are pensionable under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909. Daily leave, subject to the convenience of the service, 8 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.; weekly leave, 1½ days; annual leave, first fifteen months (after nine months' service), 6 days; the following twelve months, 12 days; each successive twelve months, 14 days. Candidates must not be more than 35 years of age. First-class attendants are appointed by promotion from the second class. Apply to the Medical Superintendent at the Asylum.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Second Flute, and Piccolo. Not over 35 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Appointments will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

CARDIFF CITY MENTAL HOSPITAL, WHITCHURCH, NEAR CARDIFF.
WANTED, Bandsman-Attendant (Clarionet player), age 20 to 35.
Apply for particulars to the Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, Conductors and Music Hall Artists to use our "Standard" Band Part Covers, strong dark green cloth, sizes 12½ by 10½, 11½ by 8 7s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. dozen respectively. Instrument names 2d. set, carriage forward. Cash with order. The Standard Press, Blackburn.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Re-engagement by a most thorough and reliable Conductor, Composer, and Arranger; any business; highest credentials. M. D., 122, Twist-lane, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hetty Austin, Violinist and Accompanist. Disengaged. Experienced Leader. Address, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement (per. preferred), First-class Violinist-Conductor; steady, reliable; up-to-date library. W. Hughes, 16, Belgrave-road, Kilburn, London.

WANTED, by Two Brothers, Violinists, engagement, separate or together, as Firsts or Seconds. McGlynns Bros., 7, Sidney-street, Oxford-road Manchester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Lady Violinist, young, good experience, last three years on Continent. Lovell, 313, High-road, Leytonstone, London, E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First Violin and Clarionet, Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra; excellent references. Letters, Box 8,480, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violinist; experienced Variety and all Lines; can open Monday. Violinist, 1, Portland-villas, St. James'-road, Lower Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin; young, experienced; excellent refs. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Primrose Hill, N.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Violinist, first or second, any business, excellent refs. Write Violinist, 29, Northway-rd., Loughborough Junction, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, First or Second; experienced, thoroughly reliable; good refs. H. Foreman, 10, James-st., Newmarket-rd., Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Femmie Schoenthal, Cornet, Disengaged, any business. Perm. address, 59, Miranda-road, Highgate, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet; Brilliant Performer; highest refs.; any bus. Write or wire, Cornet, 65, Clough-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, sober and reliable, just finished two seasons Nov. 5; references. Berry, 4, Worcester-street, Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet, at Liberty, experienced, any business; good refs. Cornettist, 11, Industry-road, Stairfoot, Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, young and reliable. Good references. Ford, Waterside, Carshalton-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trumpet or Cornet (late Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra); first-class refs., any business. A. Whitaker, 22, Edward-street, Hampstead-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet, any business, Theatre or Rink, Orchestra and Military Library. Jas. Woods, 35, Bold-street, Runcorn.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet or to supply small Band, Rink or Circus, excellent refs. Bishop, 27, Third-avenue, Strandtown, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Herr Blome's Principal Clarionet, at Lib. shortly, Concert, Opera, Café. Refs. G. Metcalfe, jun., 74, Cliff-road, Fairfield, Buxton.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement; ex. refs.; Disengaged now; sober and reliable. Clarionet, 242, Millfields-road, Lower Clapton, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Bassoonist any business; steady and reliable. J. Roor, 53, Chevening-rd., East Greenwich.

WANTED, Engagement for E Flat Bass Player, any business; good refs.; steady and reliable. J. Duckett, 6, Dover-street, off Bankhouse-street, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, E flat Bass, in or near London. Reliable, any business. Disengaged Monday next. Excellent refs. Basso, Roseneath, Burgess-road, Sutton.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, now at Liberty; just finished two years' engagement; can join at once. Thrussell, 13, Denery-st., Bedlington, Northumberland.

WANTED, Eng., by Trombone; thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable; Liberty, Theatre, Hall; Touring any bus. Smith, 24, Stanley-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, E Flat Bombardon or Saxhorn, just finishing Tour; best offers. Address, Willie Swift, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon Player seeks Winter Engagement, good references, reliable and steady. F. Walters, 1, Delhaig, Gorgie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist; fully experienced, good reader; Liberty Nov. 14. 'Cello, 69, Henry-road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, any business. Good references. Address, 'Cello, Woods, Newsagents, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, Known, L. Alexandere, A.M.U. Flautist, concluding 2 years with A. A Asher, M.D., Empire, Lower Edmonton. 5, New-road, Lower Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, twelve years' Orchestral experience; good refs. D. Needham, 76, Marlboro'-road, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Flute and Piccolo, any business. Experienced; good refs.; can open at once. Flautist, 174, Wilderspool-road, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, Good Flute and Piccolo (soloist if required), at Lib., experienced, any business, steady, reliable. Flautist, 53, Trowbridge-rd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, or Deputising, any business, or tour. R. Sortin, 65, Torrens-buildings, City-road, London, E.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, by Pianist Conductor, read sight, transpose, and arrange, any business. To Andy Twisse, 109, Inverness-place, Roath, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, by Edward Harold, Nov. 14, on, First-class Pianist, Male Soprano, Bass Vocalist. Refs. Used Pictures, Varieties. Wire, Town Hall, Ashby-Zouch.

WANTED, by Brilliant Picture Pianist, immediate engagement in high-class Picture Theatre. Excellent references, good répertoire. Harold Jones, 4, Wyre-grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, Rink or Variety, Rink preferred, good refs. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Ecclestill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, experienced, shortly Disengaged, requires Position in London Theatre, Music Hall, &c.; good references. Pianist, 55, Shakespeare-road, Gillingham, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Vocalist (Contralto); long experience with pictures. Good references; large répertoire. Box 8,475, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First class Pianist; excellent references. Address, Pianist, 24, Victoria-road, Dorchester, Dorset.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, good accompanist, high-class pictures, concert party, private practices. 39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Double Drummer, with good Kit, at Liberty, young, experienced, Drama, Rink, or Variety; excellent refs. Box 8,492, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform, including Vocalists. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Ladies' Trio, Violin, 'Cello, Piano, one good Vocalist, Hotel, Café, Rink; highest refs.; excellent repertoire. Box 8,488, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for Ladies, Trios or Orchestra. For terms and vacant dates, Madame Silvester, 84, Cavendish-pl., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Dec. Permanent address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. Ladywell Baths, Lewisham, until Nov. 25.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band. Apply to O. H. Carter, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Signor Di Giacomo's Anglo-Italian Band, Orchestra or Military, is at Liberty for next summer season; may be heard in London; picked Soloists, smart uniforms. Répertoire includes the latest English selections. Terms, &c., Sig. U. Di Giacomo, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, by Small Brass Band, 7 or 8, Engagement, Circus, Rink, Menagerie, or any Business; First-class Répertoire of Latest Music. Just terminating 7 years' engagement with Sir Robert Fossett's Circus. Cook, B.M., Tilfield, Northants.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Brighton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WANTED, by a well-known Circus Family, a Boy, from 14 to 16 years, knowledge of Tumbling preferred. Eugene Foot, 173, London-road, Hazel-grove, near Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
For Special Mattings, Mats, Tents, Tents, Canvas and Rope Goods,
for Circus and Theatre use,
write, John B. Champion and Sons,
Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip, Talking Knockabout Clown, with Entrées, also Agouste, at Liberty 21st, on. Address, 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pindar, Bareback Equestrians and Foot Equilibrist, Liberty Boxing Day, with seven good Acts, own Ring, Horse Riding Dog, and Flight of Pigeons. Just finished seven weeks with E. H. Bostock's Zoo Circus, Glasgow. Address, No. 1, Idonia-street, Deptford, London, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. Skivington's Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, immediate and future dates.
Bookings and lowest terms in first instance,
Cavill's Agency,
1, Pratt-street, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Dec. 12, 26, and on, with exceptions, small Theatre. Lowest terms. Manager, Theatre, Gosport, Hants.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, Geo. E. Mudd.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Nov. 21, on. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Monday, 21, onward, Artist, all Lines, Specialities, Singles, playing Doubles; also good Serios, Illustrated Songs, &c. Lowest Lewis, Picture Pavilion, Widnes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists in all Lines,
for several Halls in the North.
Good strong novel and original acts can be placed at once,
Address, Signor Peri, Palace, Darlington.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 14, on. 11, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Palace of Varieties, also Empire, Worcester. No wires.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, November, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. Kennedy, Empire, Smethwick.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK, and PANOPTICON, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above, good sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers.
Lowest terms first letter.
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for Picture Shows; six weeks to good turns. Write lowest, Levitt Agency, Station-chambers, Newcastle.

WANTED, for Scarborough, Nov. 21, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Good Specialities. Particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates, can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Variety Attractions, Big Speciality Acts, Comedy Acts, Nov. 21, onwards. Terms, bookings, Hthos. Big Attractions for Coronation Day, June 22, 1911.
Edgar Stebbings,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 9261 Central.

WANTED, Star Top Line; must be very strong, Nov. 14; also other Acts, various dates. Nothing too big. Manager, Hippodrome, Oxford.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for Nov. 21, 28, all Dec., Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
105 and 106, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Turns; must be new to Peterboro'. Good Vents, Comedy Acts, for week of Dec. 5.
Turns known to us write.
State rock-bottom terms; money sure.
R. Harris, Ten Loonies, Palace, Reading, Nov. 14.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. Refinement Essential.
Hamilton & Hughes, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Acts for immediate and future dates. Nothing too Big. Messrs. Rawes and Clarance, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, the Very Best Acts, for all quarters of the Globe. You never know your luck for Monday. T. D. Cummings, the Reliable Agent, 7, Welcome-street, Exeter.

FRED J. LITTLE'S AGENCY,
4, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London.
WANTED, Big Acts, especially Comedy Acts, suitable for topping bills. Can book first-class Specialities and Top-liners immediate and future dates.
All communications to
Fred J. Little, as above.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
WANTED, Monday next, on, big Star Comedy Acts, Comediennes, Artists of every description, nothing too big or too small, if good. Send full particulars. 'Phone 1672 Argyle.

WANTED, Nov. 21, North, East, South, and West, Variety Acts; Dec. 26, Bristol, Star Specialities. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for Picture Theatre in Lancashire, Acts of all kinds.
Apply, Director, 21, Balmoral-road, Fallowfield, Lancs.

WANTED, Big Acts, Dec. 12, Jan. 16.
Guss Lazenberg send address. Important.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Nov. 28, on. Apply, Lamb.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, really good Specialities, with Novel Stage Settings, for Nov. 21 and Dec. 5; also Big Spectacular Productions, Pantomimical Sketches (with own scenery preferred), and Big Sensational Acts, &c., for Dec. 19, 26, on. State where show can be seen. Lowest terms, samples of pictorials, &c., to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, for O. Maus Dayton's Agency, Big Star Tops and Artists all Lines. Permanent address, full list of bookings, and absolutely lowest imperative.

Artists on my books please keep me posted.
Artists on my books please keep me posted.

Address communications,
12, Tavistock-place, Sunderland; or,
15, Union-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, for Nov. 21, Big Top—only the very best entertained—for First-class Hall. Artists all lines. Percy Victor's Agency, 48, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Big Star Tops, all kinds,
Big Star Tops,
The Biggest Attractions in Existence,
for Hanley, Rochdale, Barnsley,
also for
several towns North,
for all dates, Nov., Dec.

The following Star Tops have recently been booked through my Agency:—
Madame Ella Russell,
Mirza Gollem Troupe, Dandy George the First, Stella Gastelle, The Martinecks, Alex Kendal, Casey's Court, Zeni Family, Marie Santoi, Chas. T. Aldrich,
Jewel St. Leger, Elsie Southgate, Carmen Turia, Bellong Bros., Carl and Mary Ohm, Five Vernons,
Wire for immediate dates,
Cliquot's Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Tops for following dates: Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6 and 13.
J. Tsoz-Smith,
44, Richmond-grove West, Manchester.
Telegrams: "Engagement, Manchester."
'Phone: 60 Rusholme.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ASHBURN'S AGENCY,
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
'Phone, 5467 Central.
Telegrams, "Hippotomy, London."

WANTED, for Nov. 21, onwards, Big Tops. Star attractions only.
Must be Top-liners. Others save stamps.
Those new to Worthing, Kettering, Lynn, Grantham, Nuneaton, Dudley, West Bromwich, Ton-y-Pandy, Mexboro', Chorley, and Radcliffe can have immediate tour or odd dates.
Sharing terms or salary.
Satisfactory business assured to sound attractions. Particulars, full list of bookings, lithos, and absolute lowest terms in first letter imperative.
N.B.—Interviews by appointment only.

HEBDEN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, Artists all Lines. Speciality Acts. Bigger the Better. Comedians, Good Sisters, Combinations, complete, Nov. 21, onwards. Full bookings and permanent address imperative. Terms, HEBDEN'S AGENCY, Withymoor, Station-road, Brierley Hill.

WANTED, Big Tops on sharing terms, &c., nothing too big; also Small Acts of all Descriptions. Send full list of dates and towns worked to KINGSWAY VARIETY AGENCY, 32, Charing Cross, London.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, good strong Top, Nov. 21, also Artists all Lines, for future dates, Barnsley, Leeds, Castleford, Wigan, &c. 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, for Nov. 21, onwards, Tops, Bottoms, Middles, in fact Turns of all Lines, nothing too big; Small Turns also Wanted if good. Turns new to Castleford write. One house nightly, twice Saturdays. Small town, but a fine break between North and South. State lowest in first letter, BEANLAND and EMERSON, as above.

Artists known to us please send full list of bookings and permanent address for our rapidly growing Agency Department.

WANTED, for DALTON'S AGENCY, 62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES. Send immediate
EARLY DATES. Dates, with full
EARLY DATES. list of Bookings.
EARLY DATES. Lowest Price Essential.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.

WANTED, Young Lady for Music Hall Classical Posing. Reply, stating height, terms, with full particulars, to
Box 8,476, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Girl, out of Troupe, to be able to sing and buck dance well, to join Girl partner, and to play Boy parts. Height must be over 5ft. 1in.
Box 8,493, "The Era."

WANTED, good Dancer, young and attractive appearance, to train for Ice Skating, permanent engagement; no previous experience necessary. Applications by letter only, enclosing photograph, to be addressed to the MANAGER, Ice Palace, Derby-street, Cheetham, Manchester.

WANTED, Expert Bicycle Polo Players.
WATSON,
37, Lorn-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, two Operators, that can Operate D.C. and A.C., also understand motor generator. Kilburn Picture Palace, Belsize-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and Dec. 12, between Pontefract and London, Miss Bel Smart, up-to-date Comedienne. Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, Known, Mamie Morris, Vacant Monday, Nov. 14, 21. Wire, Empire, Hull. After Saturday, per. address, Railway Hotel, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Sisters Fantozzi (2), 21st, on, Musical Act (Violin, Piano, 'Cello). 7, Eastdown-park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Nov. 28, onwards, also Christmas, Horace Wheatley.
In great form.
Tivoli, Dublin.

The popularity of the company ensured such great business at both houses last week, the early doors packing the houses, that Mr. Jones was forced to make the now historic remark: "That even if he had Lauder he couldn't find room for another person." This just shows you what a carefully-chosen and well-balanced company can do. The principal attraction was Dublin's premier favourite, Mr. Horace Wheatley, who, after the applause had subsided, gave us in his best style a pretty Irish melody, entitled "The Sprig of Shamrock." It is a good song, and as done by Horace went great. He then told some stories that his old friend MacIntyre is responsible for, following with that good old song, "Magee's Wedding." Here he made an effort to escape, but the Tivoli audience had him back again with cries of "Give us a dance, Horace!" so he let them have another old favourite, "Fitzpatrick John Malone," which he finished with one of his great soft-shoe dances during the execution of which you could hear a pin drop in the packed house. Having finished he had to come before the curtain and give them another few steps to the melody of "Father O'Flynn." I never saw Horace Wheatley better in my life, and I have seen him a few times. The old dog for the hard road, and good luck to him. —Irish Sporting Illustrated, Oct. 8, 1910.
Nov. 14, Palace, Hull.
Nov. 21, Empire, Glasgow.
Vacant Nov. 28, onwards.

WANTED, Dates, by Master Fred Crook, Soprano, 5, Stanley-street, Queen's-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.; or, DAVID HART, Esq.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, by Leslie Clements, Comedian and Banjoist. Next week, wire, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (only), through misunderstanding, by Reginald Jecks, The "Balladmonger." Smart Refined Turn of High-class Vocalism. See Card.

WANTED, by Mark Daly, Comedian, Nov. 14 and 21. This, success, Bijou T., Bexhill. Refer Kinsella and Collard. Next, 82, Brook-st., S.E.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, new songs, Liberty Monday. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Billy Hastings, Dec. 5, Versatile Musical Tramp. A Clever and Funny Act. Encored each night. Theatre Royal, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Monday, on, exceptions, Dan Ashton, Popular Collier Comedian (Original Copyrights), Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures, 26, Wood-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Record Breaker. The Cleanest, Cleverest, and Trickiest Wrestler Touring this country. Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5. Coms., Palace, Widnes; or HARRY BURNS.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Will Mills (Salt Bush Bill), World's Champion Stock Whip Manipulator (Australian). Austral Hall Hotel, London, W.C.

WANTED, Nov. 14 and 28, Jeab Seul, the Indian Mystery.
Wire, Palace, Rushden, Northants.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Theo Mauritus, the Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker, sensational house-packing challenges, packing-case, strait-jacket, lunatic manacles, Siberian chains, &c. This, Palace, Barnstaple; next, Theatre Royal, Sacriston, Durham; Nov. 21, Pavilion, Urmston, where I broke all pay-box records.

WANTED, Monday, also Nov. 21, 28, by Gilbert Payne and Ethyl Errol, in the Original Episode, "3 A.M." A Sure Scream. Wire, The Bedford, Camden Town; or 106, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Clark and Clare, "The Tramp and Girl," Comedy, Harmony, and good Singing, vacant Nov. 21 and 28, and various dates on. This, Alhambra, Belfast; next, T. R., Warrington.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, the Great Comedy Act, Vacant Nov. 21. Wire, this, Palace, Kettering; next, Hippodrome, Exeter. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, by the Roses, in Laughable Comedy Duo, "The Majah," and Single Comedian, two reliable acts. Wire, 31, Melbourne-place, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, vac. Monday. Wire, Grand Theatre, Great Harwood, Lancs.; two Acts if required.

WANTED, by the Great Rohde and Roche, the Chameleon, Artist, and 1T. Big success, Arcadia, Spennymoor. Nov. 14, Hippodrome, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham. Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 1910; also Jan. 2, 1911, onwards.

WANTED, Known.—Who wants us? Two Entirely New Distinct Acts.
BROS. WIX, "The Deuce of Diamonds," in their Original Up-to-date
Nigger Absurdity. Certain winner: audience convulsed with laughter. Carl Cavallé, the World's Premier Post Horn, Bugle, and Cavalry Trumpet Soloist, presenting his New and Original Song, "The Good Old Coaching Days." Managers requiring something attractive, wire or write best offers for either or both of above. Telegraphic and postal address, 24, Camp-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, by Crosby and Walker, the Original Jocular Eton Boys.
All coms., Nov. 14, Empire, York.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Billy Ross and Co., great Comedy and Speciality Boxing Act. Starring Empire, Edmonton. Wire, 22, Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 28, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Speciality Contralto. Wires, 12 Edith-st., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday, 14th, by Albert Ross, the Barrister Ventriloquist, new Novel Act. Wire (all answered), 90, Amberley-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, by Hulbert, ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Known, Spiegler's Great Gipsy Quartet, greatest Attraction Instrumental and Vocal. Top the Bill everywhere, only vacant dates, Dec. 17, 1910, till Jan. 2, 1911. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, by Pollintas, Original Steeplechase Marionettes. Offers Nov. 28, Xmas, and New Year. Splendid fit-up; no encumbrance. P. A., POLLINTAS' Waxworks, Southend.

WANTED, Pauletti, Eccentric Bicycle Acrobat, Last Hippo., Burslem; this, Hippo., Leek; next, T. R., Glossop. No vacancies; Panto. settled.

WANTED, Known, the Cyclinis Trio, Sensational and Comedy Cyclists. Always Successful. Vac. 21, 28, Dec. 12, 19. Next, Pal., Clitheroe.

WANTED, next week, by The Cumberlands, Acrobatic Cyclists.
Wire, Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, by Floria, Phenomenal Equilibrist, Monday next, also Nov. 21. Wire, Hippodrome, Lowestoft; after Sunday, 56, Fletton-avenue, Peterborough.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, by Herman and Evelyn, Sensational Pot-Pourri, Acrobatic Table and Wire Act. This, Alexandra, Pontefract; next, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, by the Famous Attilla Brothers, two Classical Acts; suit any establishment. This, W. G., New Brighton. Wire.

WANTED, Nov. 14, on, with exceptions, Lo-Lo May Trio, Lady Trapeze Artists, electric fit-up; Zeenas, Comedy Bars; Hyatt, Juggler; three good Specialities; three Ladies, two Gentlemen. Wire, Court Theatre, Bacup.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Gaertner and May, Barrel Jumping Act on the Spade. Vac. Dec. 5, 12, between London and Glasgow preferred. Palace, Maesteg.

WANTED, Known, The Three Kels, Chinese Character Gymnasts, the Only Act of its Kind. Far away from the old style. Splendid wardrobe. Full changes nightly. This, Hippo., Greenock; Monday, Palace, Glasgow. Offers invited.

WANTED, Known, The Rennies, Lady and Gentleman, Double Jugglers and Equilibrist, including the Deathspring, are making tremendous success this week at Aquarium, Scarboro'. Managers, Agents, and Proprietors wishing for something new and novel should not miss booking this Act. Offers invited for Nov. 21, Dec. 5.
Perm. address, "The Era," London.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, Jan. 2, 9, 16, and 23, most marvellous electric act on earth, good top or bottom, sure draw.
Next week,
Empire, Merthyr.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Beatrice Bonnie and Co., Great Dancing Novelty, Stairophone. Tremendous success, this week, Holborn Empire; also Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler. Private, 116, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Nov. 28, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, two Acts. Wanted, Youth, Top Mount. Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, The Bouncing Peps. A reliable Top, to Draw and Please. Monday, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, by The Three Brothers Huxter, American Pantomimical and Acrobatic Humorists, in "Languid Energy."
Hippo., Huddersfield; Nov. 14, Regent, Salford. or, SOMERS and WARNER.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tumbler, also Trampoline Tumbler as well, Comedy or Straight; would join Troupe. Wire, 53, Kenning ton-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Comedy Acrobat, Engagement, Second Mounter and Comedy Tumbler, in Troupe, or join Partner. Box 8,481, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Acrobatic Knock-about Comedian, Panto., Partner, experienced performer. BURG, 26, Shireland-road, Smethwick, Birmingham.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, for LEONI CLARKE'S
200 Royal Cats, &c. 200
200 Royal Cats, &c. 200
Always something new.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Share or Certainty.
Monday, Cambridge Hall, Southport.
Posters and lithos by Creaber, of Plymouth.
Posters and lithos by Berry, of Bradford.
Agent, W. SLEY, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show.
Now Touring the Continent,
Vacant all the months of May, June 5, 26, on.
All coms.,
Eden Theater, Turin, Italy.

WANTED, Margaret Doris, with her Comedy, Somersault, Acrobatic, Football, and High-leaping Dogs, in a Newly-planned Modern Performance. Numberless New Features, Delightfully Refreshing. Vacant Nov. 21, 28, and Dec. 5. Wire or write, Grand Hippodrome, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Daisy Graham's Troupe of Educated Birds and Baby Dog; Lib. Jan. 2, on, exceptions. 9, Aldate-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Astley's American Circus, the greatest Comedy Act on the Variety Stage. This big drawing act is vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 5, and 12.
Next week, Hippodrome, Leigh.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cinematograph Operator, Gaumont and Kineto Machines, electric, both currents, London or Provinces. A. M., 97, Brondesbury-villas, Kilburn.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, April, long Tour, well-known Concert Party, clever young Light Comedian, Dance, Sing, play Piano, and capable of Character. Box 8,490, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists for Al-fresco, also for Picture Palaces. Comedians, Light Comedians, Baritones, and Soubrettes. Call Wednesdays, between 1-2, GOODMAN, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions now and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

An Important Sale
by Public Auction.

To Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Travellers in General.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman having been favoured with Instructions from the owner, who is retiring from the Business, to Offer for Sale by Public Auction
on Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m., prompt,
on Market Ground, Crewe,
all that Beautiful Set of Three-abreast Gallopers as a going concern, which are undoubtedly Second to None in this country, Savage's make, comprising 40ft. centre truck, Savage's engine, splendid carved and gilt top centre and droppers, 14 carved and gilded rounding boards, cornice, and droppers, over 5ft. deep; carved and gilded drum; large ornamental mirrors; 36 carved horses, by Spooner; 2 motor cars, altogether carrying 74 persons, twisted brass rods; magnificent Gavioli self-changer, 10 Excello lamps; the whole packs on four loads, road or rail (Savage's trucks). Also 3 h.p. Burrell traction engine and dynamo; 1 14ft. road Pullman living wagon, by Orton.
All the above are in condition as new, and can be seen running on day of sale.
The Proprietor having quite recently spent a very large amount of money on the concern, especially the organ and traction, it is now without doubt absolutely equal to a new concern and worth the consideration of those that require a really smart, up-to-date lot.
For further particulars, cards to view, catalogues, &c.,
apply to TOM NORMAN (Silver King),
Showman's Auctioneer, Valuer, &c.,
Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C.

JOY WHEEL.
The Latest Sensation.

WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device.
The Wheel provided with Silent Driving Mechanism (patents applied for)
Write for full particulars.
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS. & Co., LTD.,
Kingsley Works, Grange-road,
Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Showmen to Read Copy of Testimonial:—
Oct. 15, 1910. Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros.
Sirs,—In reference to the Joy Wheel which you have just supplied me with, I think it is only fair that I should write you a note of appreciation. I am pleased to say it has given great satisfaction, and it not only looks well, but works well, too. Great credit is due to your firm for turning out such a neat and handy lot. Best wishes.—I am, yours respectfully,
(Signed) JOHN WILMOT (E. W.).

JOY WHEEL.
JOY WHEEL.
The latest American Amusement Sensation.
WANTED, Known, Attractive 2-sheet Posters correctly representing the Joy Wheel.
Samples and prices on application.
CREBER, printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and big Attractions, for Edinburgh and Dundee. Terms and particulars to STEWART'S Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Lady Palmist. Best position in London. Terms, share or rental.
MANAGER, 311, Oxford-street, W.

Andrews' Pictures, Limited.
WANTED, good capable All-round Showman, to act as Travelling Inspector for the above Company; must be competent, trustworthy, and have highest references, which will be enquired into. State age, salary, and full particulars, to 90, Charing Cross-road, London. Envelope to be marked "Inspector." Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, for Rowley's Coliseum, Comedian; also Descriptive Vocalist. Those who have travelled with Auction Marts preferred. Comfortable engagement to suitable people. ROWLEY'S Coliseum, Addlestone, Surrey.

WANTED, Man, accustomed to Show Business, able to describe Freaks and Novelties, Fit up Illusions, and arrange Tableaux in Wax. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Britain's Bearded Beauty, Miss Maud Temple, the only Bearded Lady on Exhibition. Terrific Success at Barron's Exhibition, Reading. Vacant for Nov. 21, onwards.
Wire, Barron's Exhibition, King-street, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Freddy Baker, Comedian, Planksman, at Liberty for Auction Mart; experienced; first-class refs. 15, Hunter-st., Northampton.

WANTED, Share in Picture Palace by Showman desiring active part in management.
Particulars to
RICHARDS,
142, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheaper to buy than hire, Pathé and leading makers, used few weeks, as new, 1d. foot. Lists free. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell,
Wax Model Heads.
STIFF, Makers,
18, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Bargains in Slot Machines, Mills' Punch Ball, £5; Electrics, 20s. and 30s.; Loops, 20s.; Golf, 12s. 6d. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Mills' Automatic Punch Bag, 2 Imperial Electrics, 1 Empire Billiard, 1 Loop, 1 Tom-Tom, and 4 others; 1 Studio Camera, lens, slides, and back, complete, and one Electric Engraver; £25 the lot; punch-bag alone cost £21.
Apply, 10, Marine-drive, Margate.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Cornely Handkerchief, Embroidering Machine, good condition and order, 35s.; also Slot Machine, cheap. LESSER, Bijou Hall, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Sale Van and Tent, &c.; tent can build to hold 600 or 800; fitted with scenery, suit pictures, auctioneering. WHITAKER, 14, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, splendid Covered Van, new, 21ft. by 8ft., road or rail, Traction, and two pairs Shafts, carry six tons, large long locker. Absolute lowest £50 for quick sale, a gift, cost £90.
Apply,
NICHOL, Collingwood-terrace, Morpeth.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Electric Arc Lamps, with iron scroll-work brackets, for 230 volt circuit. Price £4 10s. PARKER, 70, Ling-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, for Rifle Range, Animal Running Lot, 80s.; Electric Motor, 50s.; Winchester Rifle, 22s. 6d.; must clear. JACKSON, 457, High-road, Tottenham.

Expiry of Lease.
WANTED, to Sell, Canadian Toboggan. Only one of its kind in this country. Erected 1908 where it now stands, in full working order on the Pleasure Beach, South Shore, Blackpool. All complete with special escalator, 2 20-h.p. motors, centre and side chains, cars, and chairs.
Cheap for quick purchaser.
Want offers to
L. ASPINALL,
8, St. Chad's-terrace, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Handkerchief (name) Embroidery Machine, for Exhibition Work, treadle or motor, must be cheap, and working order. Particulars to Moss, 49, Western-street, Swansea.

EXHIBITION, BRISTOL.
WANTED, to Let,
Wanted, to Let,
Five Vacant Spaces
in High-class Exhibition
at Clifton, Bristol.
Dec. 15 to 24, 1910.
For terms and particulars, apply,
MANAGER,
Exhibition Offices,
The Barton, Bristol.

WANTED, to Let, one or two Spaces in our Exhibition at Lewisham. Apply, SECRETARY, Exhibition, Ladywell Baths, Lewisham.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for all Kinds of Games. Best position in London.
105, Charing Cross-road. See yourself. HURLEY.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors, or will share, exhibitions, &c. Address, MIRRORS, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, the Address of Carl Hartly, the Armless Midget. Important. Mrs. HARTLEY, c/o McKenzie, 9, Ferry-street, Yarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 40.

Coronation of his Most Gracious Majesty King George V.—1911

Phasey's Band
SPECIALLY ENGAGED for the
GREAT EARL'S COURT RINK.
BALHAM RINK
CLAPHAM RD. RINK.

PHASEY'S GREAT CONCERT BAND.

American Tour
WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED IN THIS SPACE.

Phasey and his Band.

MOST ELABORATELY UNIFORMED BAND IN ENGLAND.

Phasey's Band has toured Canada and the United States of America with Great Success.

"A GREAT ORGANIZATION."—He was able to make his forty elaborately uniformed men produce music that aroused the enthusiasm of the audience and made it welcome Bandmaster Phasey and his Band with cordiality.—*New York Sun.*

A SECTION OF THIS GREAT ORGANISATION IS NOW ATTRACTING LARGE AUDIENCES DAILY TO THE SKATING RINK, 143, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W.

Live Musicians—Not Seat Warmers. **Up-to-Date Music.**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, *H. VICTOR PHASEY, Dallas's Music Emporium, 415, Strand, W.C.*

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, NOV. 14, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Co., in "Bluebell," Living Silhouettes, Hovyns, Doroswami, Alexandre and Hughes, Fred Lindsay, Three Merrills, Josephine La Barte, Animated Pictures, Ayoe, Simone de Beryl, Udagawa and Namiko.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Princess D'Arayaba, Stephens and Rennior, Pictures, Thora, Edmund Maurice's "Blind," Cruikshank, France and Stewart, Three Belle Belles, Sutcliffe Family, Jock Whiteford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Adrienne Augarde and Partner, Elise Craven, Bioscope, Bollingars, Harry Fields, Barrett and Knowles, Manchester Mites, Alf. Chester, Ugo Nap, Bensons.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Jen Latona, Witty Watty Walton, Signor Persichini, Staley's Transformation, Winifred Ward, Bros. Ashley, Mike Nono, Bioscope, "Casey Court."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Songs and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Lashwood, Kate Carney and Co., Gladys Hooley, Three Emersons, Maggie Neill and Co., Ray Wallace, Edith Fink, Bioscope, Sammy Shields.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Zena Dare and Co., Kisbey, W. F. Frame, Jack Lane, Bros. Artois, Paxton Troupe, Adey Spencer, George Leyton and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Whit Cunliffe, Geo. Rae, Rawsons, Olga Dore, Boy Scouts, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Ruby and Laws, Kathleen Cogan, Bioscope, Harry Roxbury and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
E. Hill Mitchelson's Co., in "Who is She?"

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Horace Hunter, Woodward's Sea Lions, Lizzie Glenroy, Chas. Vincent, Farabonis, Bowden and Stol, Ellis Barrieton, Wullie Walker, Bioscope, George French.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Eugene Stratton, Fred Poplar, Hans and Lux, La Superbe, Park's Eton Boys, Ruth Davenport, Luigi Salvino, Kitty Wager, Bioscope, Ernie Mayne.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Raymond Phillips' Airship, Ena Compton, Bioscope, Rhoda Paul, Barton and Ashley, Fred Shephard, Dan Fraser, Riogoku Family, Lamberti, Helen Trix.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie George and Co., Larola, Legay Trio, Goodfellow and Gregson, Flying Hanlons, Harry Freeman, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, Arthur Lennard, Blake and Amber.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bella and Bijou, Alice Pierce, Bioscope, Ethel Beech, Royal Scots, Jock Mills, Harry Brown, Little Zola, Haig and Novel, Vagabond Players.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's "G.P.O.," Betty Green, Albert Rees, Hadj-Mohammed Troupe, Tom Costello, Mabel Mignon, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohan, Australian Woodcutters.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Mme. Ella Russell, Chas. Cardow, Bioscope, Walter Wade, Dutch Daly, Mackweys, Katie Butler, King and Queenie, Chanti, George Bastow.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Herbert Sleath and Co., in "The Horse Thief," Ian Colquhoun, Chass Lewis, Crystal and Saville, Mons. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Harry Herbert, Westwoods, Lena Verdi, Bioscope, Quaint Q's.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Frank Curzon's Co., including Bertram Wallis, in "The King of Cadonia."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Songs and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Karno's "Football Match," Chris. Van Bern, Korries, Jack Smiles, Tom E. Finglass, Vincent, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Malcolm Scott, Gustave Fasola.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Seymour Hicks and Co., in "Richard III.," Orchidee, New Macs, Gwllym Evans, Maude Thornton, Footgers, Perezoffs, Bioscope, Kate Cutler, Mabel Sinclair.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fanny Fields, Carl and Carr, Hardini Trio, Roze and Calvert, W. Fullbrook and Co., Tom Parker, Du Gros Trio, Bioscope, Andos Japs.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Hetty King, Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Gus Garrick, Fred Earle, Five Vernons, Little Keeno, Burley and Burley, Lancashire Lasses, Campbell and Barber.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Lilian, Empire Girls, Kirbys, Tom Jones, Johnnie Walker, Bioscope, Onida Macdermott, Griffiths Bros.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
George Formby, Musical McGregors, Duncan's Collies, Hunt and Thomas, Evelyn Stoll, Will Musgrave, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Edith Heron-Brown, Phil Rees' Stable Lads, Drew and Alders, Howard and Harris, Frank Couch, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, Ferry Corwey.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Serene Nord, Tom Foy and Co., Violas, Frank Lynne, Alf. H. West, Maude Edwards, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Sanford and Lyons.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Lew Lake and Co., Daisy Martell, Lordy's Dogs, Horace Wheatley, Grassis, Esta Stella, Will Johnson, Bioscope, Arden and Abel.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Ross Loader, Dacey and Lewis, Bert Harrow, Les Romanis, McConnell Trio, Northern Troupe, Eily Adair, Bioscope, W. J. Churchill.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Harry Randall, Maidie Scott, Bioscope, Florence Cooper, Saxonia Family, Fanny Robina, Lee and Kingston, Jackson Family, Walter King, "Little Stowaway."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Stock Company, Illustrated Songs and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ernest Shand, Mina Denvil, Eisteddfod Sextette, Kitts and Windrum, Ricardo and Salving, Bugler Carr, Bioscope, Dankmar Schillar Troupe, Rosses.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
King and Benson, Elsie Roby, Waul Langtry, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, Dan Hendy, Clown Argo, Pictures, Briff, Braff, and Broff.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Horace Goldin, Bros. Redmond, Lawrence Barclay, "Belles of the Kitchen," Cavalotti Bros., Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, Findens.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Southgate and Coward, Calcotts, Prince Milner Trio, James Stewart, Hersleb Bros., Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Gothams.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Florrie Gallimore, Lola Patey, Ben Albert, King's College Boys, Pictures, Verno and Voyce, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tom Edwards, Harry Simms, Channings, Ford Williams, Chas. Erard, Pictures, Ike and Will Scott, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Cinquevalli, Henriette De Serris, Sybil St. Elmo, Dion Wade, Motramos, Harry Bedford, Chas. Mildare, Beattie and Blanche, Bioscope, Herbert Sleath's "Deputy Sheriff."

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
—— Telegraphic Address ——
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, NOV. 14.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Ted Karno and Co., Reg. Beauchamp, Gus Harris, Eight College Girls, Doris Druce, E. Desborough, Yangar, The Fitzroys, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Jack Fortescue and Co. in "Hawkshaw, the Detective," Beatrice Allen, The Jadoos, Geo. Edmonds, May Terry, Pictures, Sid Penna, The Barriskis.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Chris Baker, Ernest Rees, Sydney Bach, Gwennie Morgan, Newco and Sullo, Lee Frasettis, Karno's "Mumming Birds" and "Skating," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Four Sydney Girls, Musical Silvo, Marriott Edgar, Millie Williams, The De Breams, The Great Raymond, Palace Perfection Pictures, &c.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Edna Barrett, Ferguson and Mack, Henri Cazman, Alfonzo, The Hargreaves Trio, Rita and Roma, "Aunt Matilda," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Yettmah Four Figaros, Brothers Hannaway, Edwin Garth, Will Rennie, Julia Reeve, F. S. Peake and Co., Toch and Tard, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Norman Grant, The Falcons, Halma, Richard Fineberg, "Roots, Chemist" Co., Pete and Juno, Gallimore Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Billy Merson, Brothers Rees, Society Quartette, Woodhouse and Wells, Sisters Hula, Belrose and De Velin, De Bessell, Shirley and Ransome, Russell Wallett, Recco, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
"The Bad Girl of the Family."

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Bruce Green, Jack Hayworth, Pete and Minnie Lee, Bert Woodward, Dorothy Dacey, E. Forrest and Co., Little Sophie, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Cromo and Hamilton, Milner and Storey, Cash and Clair, "Compensation" Sketch, The Three Richardinis, Jack Sheridan, Palace Perfection Pictures, Oakes Duo.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Louie Tracy, Eeduns, Scena Vocas, "Bottom Dog" Co., Sisters Reeve, Five Petleys, Tamamoto, Geo. D'Albert, Martin Adeson and Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Pictures.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Pictures.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Her Nameless Child."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Leo and Roland, Hicks and Hunter, Crown Trio, Walonelis, Tennyson and Wallis, Ethel Donna, Cissie Thompson, Billy Marsden, Pavilion Perfection Pictures.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Forritt, Billie Melia, The Menzies, Dick Tubb, The Bilfords, Josephine Crooke, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane, Maurice Hoffmann and Co., Arnold Bell and Co., Three Diamonds.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Drama Twice Nightly, 6.30, 9.10.
"Man's Enemy."

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"For the Colours."

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Will Douglas and Co., Mack Olive, Edith Chantler, Colbert, Ada Fawn, May Fayre, "Olga's Oath," Jack McKenzie, Wright Girls.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

PRINCIPAL BOYS & PRINCIPAL GIRLS
IN PANTOMIME SHOULD SING THE NEW AND IDEAL SONG

THE WOOING WALTZ

By H. Lane Wilson

(Composer of the Waltz-songs, "CARMENA" and "LOVE'S STAR").

BAND PARTS ONE SHILLING.

KEYS—A flat, (Compass B flat to E flat), B flat, (C to F), C, (D to G).

REEDER & WALSH, 14, CASTLE ST., OXFORD STREET, W.

NOTA BENE.

A Sure Success is
"MY MOON"
(Chorus Ballad for Pantomime).
By H. G. PÉLISSIER,
The "Chief" of "The Follies."

Keys—D Compass (C to D), E Flat, E, and F.
"Pro." Copies 6d. each (with card).
Band Parts in key of F
(in the press).
Arranged by H. Lucas.
1/6 each set (post free).

Dept. 6, JOSEPH WILLIAMS (Ltd.),
32, Great Portland Street, London, W.

TWO CERTAIN HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

JUST PUBLISHED.
"What is the World Without You?"
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Allan Grey.
A pretty Ballad suitable for Principal Boy, Girl, or Fairy Queen.

"My Cartagena Girl."
A SPANISH SERENADE.
Words by Frederick George,
Music by Alexander Herbert.
A Sure Winner for any Principal Boy.

The above songs are already secured for several prominent productions.
SEND FOR PROFESSIONAL COPIES, **3d. each,** Post free.

C. A. RANSOM & CO.,
26, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.
'Phones: 2785 Holborn, 4295 Gerrard.
Exclusive Publishers for CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS' SONGS.

PROFESSIONAL APARTMENTS.

Three Lines, ONE SHILLING.
Thirteen Insertions, TWELVE SHILLINGS.
Address, PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ASTON.—Bed and sitting-room, also Combined; every convenience; near theatre and Hippodrome. Mrs. Martin, 212, Victoria-road.

BELFAST.—Select apartments, leading private street. Every modern requisite. 99, Gt. Victoria-st. (2min. from Op. Ho. and Hippo.).

BIRMINGHAM.—Apartments. Piano, bath, 15 minutes' walk to City; full board, 21s.; lady, 16/-; good cooking. 52 Bristol-road.

BRIGHTON.—Seven Stars, Ship-street, opposite G.P.O. The professional house. Sunday Reunions. Always a hearty welcome. Luncheons, &c., at popular prices. DE COSTA, Proprietor.

BRIGHTON.—Bath Hotel, West-street. Comf. bedrooms, full board, 31s. 6d. per week; liberal table, excellent cooking; no extra charges.

BRIGHTON.—Mrs. Beckett, 5, Hampton-terr., Upper North-st., near theatres, furnished apartments, board residence, bath, piano.

BURNLEY.—Old Sparrow Hawk Hotel. Every comfort and convenience; good table; moderate charges. Recommended by Apollo, Herman Melot, Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery. Telephone 333. Telegrams, "Sparrow, Burnley."

EDINBURGH.—Cathedral Hotel, near Lyceum, Royal, Empire, and King's. Recommended. Personal Supervision. CHARLES GRANT.

EDINBURGH. — Mrs. Watson, 9, Lauriston-gardens, two Sitting, four and five Bedrooms, piano, bath, highly recommended. Cosgrove and Burns, main door.

GLASGOW.—Jenning's Buchanan-street Station Hotel; inclusive terms 30s. weekly. Near Royal, Royalty, Grand, Empire, Pavilion.

HASTINGS. — Sitting-room, bedrooms, also combined bath, piano, near Theatre and Pier. Mrs. Mackie, 74, Milward-road.

LIVERPOOL. — Royal Court Hotel, Queen-square. Open on Sundays for travellers. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. De Silva (Cossie Noel).

LIVERPOOL. — Grove Temperance Hotel, Wallasey, opposite station, near shore and golf links, billiards, and smoke rooms; Liverpool 18 minutes. 'Phone, 328, Liscard.

LONDON, S.E.—Mrs. Dyer. Two large Bed-Sitting Rooms, also Bedrooms for Sunday, 13th, bath, piano. 123, Kennington-road

LONDON, W.—Furnished apartments. Bedrooms, from 10s.; combined ditto, and suites; piano, bath. 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly, Proprietress, Mrs. Oliver.

MANCHESTER.—Hope, 16, Grafton-street, Offerd-road. Dining-room and drawing-room set, Vacant for Panto.; cleanliness and attention. No dogs taken.

NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Till, 2, Chaucer-villas, Chaucer-street, superior apartments, bath (h. and c.), w.c., piano; highly recommended.

PORTSMOUTH.—North's Temp. Hotel. comfortable bedrooms, good cooking and attendance, between both stations; moderate.

WAKEFIELD. — Harewood Arms Hotel. Professional house of call. Close to Empire. All papers taken. WALTER HEWITT.

The Real Pantomime Winner

THERE IS NO ARGUMENT. THIS WILL BE THE HIT OF THE YEAR.

WHY DO YOU WAIT FOR TO-MORROW?

All those other worn-out and worked-to-death Ballads advertised by other Publishers sound like Comic Songs when you hear the one REAL HIT.

WHY DO YOU WAIT FOR TO-MORROW?

And we have a Bundle of other Hits to suit BOY, GIRL, DAME, &c. 'NUFF SAID. Come and Hear them, or write at once.

Professional Copy of the above Song, together with our other Successes, will be sent only to Artistes holding Pantomime Engagements, on receipt of Sixpence for postage. State Theatre and Pantomime.

THE NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.,
132, Charing Cross Road, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—5051 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
MONDAY, Dec. 5, ABERDEEN, 10 a.m.
Everybody engaged for same please send at once their address.
ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THE COVENTRY HOTEL
FOR BACHELORS.
7 and 8, Rupert-street, Coventry-street, W.
Terms moderate. Telephone No. 6269 Gerrard.

NURSING HOME.
On Northern Heights, overlooking London to St. Paul's and Alexandra Palace; comfort and good nursing; all cases received; £4 4s. to £8 8s. weekly. 6, Womersley-rd., N. 'Phone 327 Hornsey.

HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND LITTLE BOYS. Mrs. Rudge, Crowland, 163, Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W. Good house, healthy situation; near Wandsworth Common Station and Balham trams.

MISS ELIZABETH LACEY, A.Q.C., takes the Entire Charge of a few Children. She has had a wide experience in the education and training of children. Fees moderate and inclusive. Satisfactory references given and required. 26, WOOLWICH COMMON, KENT.

MR. TOM CAVILL
begs to announce that he has taken over the Proprietorship of the SPREAD EAGLE, LAMBETH-ROAD, S.E., where he will be pleased to see all friends. Large Ground Floor Rehearsal Room. Separate Entrance. Telephone, 2850 Hop.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.

TO LET.

From 25th March, 1911, on Lease for a term of 7, 14, or 21 years.

The THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON, is one of the oldest-established and most popular Theatres in the South of England.

Applications to be addressed to the Managing Director, Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd., 130, North Street, Brighton, Sussex.

NOW IN PREPARATION,
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED Lady Instructress, capable of giving Exhibition and First-class Lessons. Photo and full particulars to EDWARD KIDD, Limerick.

WANTED, Good Skater, everything supplied, business taught, engagements made, by retiring professional champion. Box 8,497, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager desires change; would like mangement of small rink; holder of N.S.A. certificate (International style); good Exhibition Skater; 4 years' experience on high-class rinks; good refs. Box 8,468, "The Era."

WANTED, by Prof. Gorman, Champion Fancy Skater, position as Floor-Manager or Instructor, excellent testimonials; 5 years' experience. 17, Cambridge-street, Liverpool.

Skating! Skating!! Skating!!!

WORLD'S FAIR, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

WANTED, Known, I am now prepared to Let a Splendid Location, for Skating Rink. Ground ready, size 102ft. by 150ft.

The finest, most central, and accessible Location in London.
Already Lighted and Decorated.
Thousands attend this huge amalgamation of amusements daily.
32nd Consecutive Year of one Continuous Success.

Apply,
T. E. READ, Sole Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, through Illness of Proprietor, to transfer lease of three years. Splendid skating rink, with every convenience. Box 8,489, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,853, "The Era.

WANTED, to Sell, Best Ground Rink Pumice Stone, 20s. per cwt., carriage paid, 56lb. 10s. 6d., 28lb. 5s. 6d. MANAGER, New Blacket-street, Annfield Plain, Co. Durham.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Monologues, Duologues, Sketches, Musical Plays, Comedies, Artists' own ideas embellished, Tragedy, Comedy, History, Pastoral. STAPENHILL-BIRD, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, really Funny, Smart, Comedy Sketches and Duologues, Musical and Farcical. EDWARD MERVYN, 11, The Grove, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to Sell. Production and Rights of Well-known Musical Comedy, London Success. Now on Tour. Price moderate. Apply, Box 6,474, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery and Dresses suitable for "Babes in Wood" or other Pantomimes; also a Quantity of Uniforms, quite new, do for Palace scene. Apply, Box 8,473, "The Era."

Pantomime.

WANTED, to Sell, several Boys' Dresses, up-to-date, splendid condition. Letter for appointment. L. M., 32, Venetian-road, Denmark Hill, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, large quantity Panto. dresses, every description, sets chorus, odds, hundreds tights, uniforms, or exchange fit-up scenery, pros. Palace, cave (Eastern). Letters, MITCHELL, 36 Mark-lane, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Films, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Accessories. Cross's Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

To Cinematograph Proprietors.

WANTED, to Sell, four nearly new Pathé Projector Machines and 4 Dreadnought Projector Machines, in perfect condition. Can be seen any time by appointment. Address, SECRETARY, London and Provincial Electric Theatres, 29A, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, three Funeral of Prince Francis of Teck (Pathé), 275ft., 15s. each; three copies of Funeral (Gaumont), 340ft., 25s. each; three copies Portugal Revolution (Pathé), 215ft., 12s. 6d. each; two copies Revolution (Gaumont), 460ft., 25s. each; two copies Morning Post Airship Disaster, 200ft., 15s. each.
MAGNET FILM CO.,
30, St. Martin's-court, Charing Cross-road, London. Telephone 8492 Gerrard.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, almost new. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, Imperceptible Leg Paddings, Tights, Woven Worsted Trousers, Cats, Dogs, Monkeys, Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, Boots, Shoes, Wigs, &c. MAYERS, Maker, 333, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Symmetricals, for whole figure, imperceptible, suit lady slim figure. Cost £7; accept £1. M., 49, Gartmoor-gardens, Wimbledon Park-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, for Bands, Orchestras, or Stage, loudest ever heard. Other novelties. LISLE, 33, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Funny Props and Novel Instruments; suit Comic Musical Act. FOSTER, Pear Tree Cottage, Crow Hill, Broadstairs.

WANTED, to Sell, Curtain and Programmes.

Lessee Supplies Programmes.

The only Theatre in the Town.

Wire,
NORTON,
Picturedrome, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Offers for 25 Fully-paid £1 shares in the Granville Theatre of Varieties, Walham Green, to close an Estate. Last dividend 10%. T. K. L., c/o Murrells, 31, Acton-lane, Harlesden, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, a really Lively Kicking, Seizing Bucking Mule; this animal is one of the Pluckiest Unrideable Mules Breathing, and able to withstand a dozen riders; not a vicious animal but a worker, and a certain winner for anyone that works unrideable mules; this mule can be seen in Manchester, Nov. 17, onwards; price £25. Stamped envelope will receive my personal attention. F. STEPHENSON, 40, Wellington-square, Hastings.

WANTED, to Sell, Fox-terrier Bitch, Two Years Old, good somersault, hind leg, and waltzing. £3. CRICK, Brookhouse Farm, Chigwell, Essex.

WANTED, to Sell, Wonderful Performing Heifer; can jump hurdles mounted, work on see-saw tub and school passage, worth the attention of Proprietors of Circuses and Performing Shows. Full particulars and photos. on application, LOMER, Badgeworth, Cheltenham.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, a Print in Black Ebony Frame, date 1744, of James Quin, Actor. M., 48, Swaffield-road, Wandsworth.

WANTED, to Sell, "The Era," 1876 to 1882, bound, and several other years, unbound. A. WILLIAMS, 49 Drewstead-road, Streatham, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, "The Era" (complete run of), bound in yearly and half-yearly volumes, from 1879 to end of year 1907. C. J. KLEISER, 22, Parliament-street, York.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, at once, for cash, New Act Drop, height 24ft., width 32ft., must harmonise with colours predominating in theatre, namely, blues and greys, with electric blue box curtains.
Also Wanted.
Good Bright Music Hall Cloths.
Good price paid for good articles.
Address, letters only, A. W. BROWN, 162, Effra-road, Wimbledon, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Buy, Interior Cottage or Kitchen Scene. State full particulars, Box 8,479, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Palace Scene and Cloths, 18 by 24, for repainting. BARRETT, Public Hall, Pontardulais, Glamorganshire, S. Wales.

WANTED, to Purchase, Scenery suitable for "Babes in the Wood," Village Set, Forest Set, Palace Set. Particulars and lowest cash price to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Palace Dress for Principal Boy. Must be white, and in real good condition. State where can be seen, and lowest price. HIND, 34, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, a Green Cloth, to Cover Stage, 10yds. by 7yds.; must be cheap. JOHNSON, 6, Middleton-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Window Lithos. for "What Happened to Jones?" State number and price. COLLINGE, Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Portugal Revolution, also Forty Thieves, Coloured. Wire, PICTURES, 30, Great Georges-street, Belfast.

WANTED, at once, 400 Tip-up Seats, second-hand, must be in good condition, and cheap for cash. Full particulars and lowest prices. Also First-class Bioscope wanted, must be by well-known maker, with latest improvements, in A1 condition. Operators may write in. MANAGER, Skating Palace, Arbroath.

WANTED, to Purchase, Xylophone, with Piano action. Lowest price, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Cinematograph Camera, Prestwich preferred. Cash, or exchange Chrono Bio. GIBSON, Picturedrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, to Purchase, immediately, a powerful Gramophone or Auxtephone; must be in good condition. State price and where it can be heard to Box 8,477, "The Era."

Pushball

WANTED.—Full particulars and lowest price to EDWARD KIDD, 4, George-street, Limerick.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary, New Year Week Vacant.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Nov. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms, suitable for Rehearsals, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Cinema Palace, Gauden-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Known, Large Public Hall, suit Pictures, &c.; seating 1,500; will be to Let early in New Year. Particulars, Box 8,486, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Cardiff, Park Hall, seating 2,000. Vacant dates and special terms for Summer Months. SECRETARY, 3, Park-place, Cardiff.

WANTED, to Let, Railway Arch, two floors, 30 by 30, storage scenery or otherwise, near Elephant. Box 8,478, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Scene-painter's Workshop and Carpenter's Workshop, close to the Angel; recently occupied by Richard Douglas. Apply, Robert Tidey and Son, 3, Pentonville-road, Islington

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances, Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

WANTED, to Let, "The Girl from Japan," a Musical Comedy, by Wilfred Carr; Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Printing ready for piece at moderate terms. Address, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, to Let, Powerful New Romantic Drama, Leading Author whose plays are Touring Best Theatres; Funniest Comedy; cast nine; printing. Nothing safer ever toured. Box 8,491, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, Palace and Village Scenes, and a few Dresses, suitable "Jack the Giant Killer." Box 8,495, "The Era."

WANTED, to Rent or Lease, in Populous District, Good Theatre or Hall. Box 8453, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Hire, Small Hall for Variety Shows in Country. Particulars, terms, &c., HATCH, 21, Thorold-street, Bethnal Green, London.

WANTED, Small Provincial Theatre or Hall; cheap rent; rental, share, or management. 25 years' touring experience. STACEY GAUNT, 22, Johnson-street, Sheffield.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, Comedian, Knockabout, Patter, with own Songs preferred; work double. Particulars, H., 216 Upha'l-road, Ilford, E.

WANTED, Smart Business Man, as Partner, in one of the finest and most successful Music Hall Acts ever produced, invest £250, bookings at big salary practically assured. Every investigation allowed. Principals only dea't with. Address, letters, C. M. COMBINATION, c/o Mr. Will Collins, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, London.

WANTED, by well-known Manager, Partner for Pantomime this Xmas Season. The bookings are at A1 theatres. First-class Company engaged. Every possibility of very big profits.

Box 8,485, "The Era."

£500.

WANTED.—A Lady or Gentleman having this sum at command is offered an Active or Sleeping Partnership in an Established Business having a large Professional Clientèle which can be greatly increased. Net profits are very big. Genuine; no triflers. P.A., Box 8,472, "The Era."

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Partner, for First-class Comedy Company, £250 for half share, Lady or Gentleman. Company includes First-class London Comedian. Apply, ALLEN and DAVEY, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, 2, Gloucester-row, Weymouth.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, who will Invest £50 in Pantomime Tour, amateur not objected to, can join at once. For particulars, address, PANTOMIME, Public Hall, Cross Hands, Carmarthen, S. Wales.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington road, S.E

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2,661 Central.

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Quick Printing, 100 Memos, 1s. 6d.; 50 Cards, 6d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 5s. 6d.; post free. ROCKINGHAM PRINTING WORKS, 15, Rockingham-st., Elephant and Castle, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Palatine Printing Co., Wigan, are the cheapest printers on earth or elsewhere. Customers exclaim "Marvellous!"

WANTED, Known, Gerald Delauney-Fozier, for High-class Orchestrations, Composing, Transposing, Harmonising, Arranging from 5s. Address, 47B, Buckingham Palace-road, London.

WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants', Page Boys', and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT CO., 5, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring the Most Handsome, Durable, and Economical Floor Coverings in the World should get samples of "Monarch" Mattings from JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Makers, also, of Special Gymnasium, Wrestling, Circus, and other Mats and Mattresses.

WANTED, Address of William A. Duncan, Trombonist, late Winter Gardens, Blackpool, and Melrose Skating Rink, Dundee, Scotland. Old Pal. Box 8,494, "The Era."

MELODRAMA SYNDICATE, LTD., v. JACK FORTESCUE.

TO MANAGERS, AGENTS, AND THE PROFESSION AT LARGE.

Extracts from the published reports of the above case:—

The Lord Chief Justice said: "No doubt Mr. Fortescue is an accomplished actor, and the bloodhound, Pedro, had been well trained by him. He had established his case, and was entitled to damages."

George Elliot, Esq., K.C. (opposing counsel), said: "No suggestion is made against Mr. Fortescue's ability or personal honour. Mr. Fortescue is a gentleman and a brilliant and accomplished actor, and he (Mr. Elliot) quite agreed that he was entitled to damages."

Jury's verdict: Jury found for Mr. Fortescue on all points, awarding him damages and costs.

May I extend my sincere thanks to the numerous friends and well-wishers who inundated me with congratulatory letters and telegrams? I am sure that they will realise the difficulty of replying to them individually, and will accept this as my personal thanks.

JACK FORTESCUE.
This week, Empire, Wakefield.
Next, PAVILION, LEICESTER.

CHIMPANZEE.

CHIMPANZEE.

Performing male, castrated, thoroughly acclimatised, and much larger than the celebrated Peter I.

Can be seen any time at HAMLYN'S, 221, St. George's-street, London Docks.

LARGE QUANTITY OF ANIMALS, Suitable for Christmas Amusements, Grottos Bazaars, &c., for sale or hire, 12 Teddy Bears Wolf Cubs, Jackals, Foxes, Deer, Gazelles, Emus, Rheas, Monkeys, Buffaloes, also host of other things. Talking Grey Parrots and Hartz Mountain Canaries always in stock. Cross, Menagerie, Liverpool.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

OAGNEY'S
HIGHEST TOWER SWINGS

& SMALLEST RAILROADS IN THE WORLD.

FOR PARK SUMMER RESORTS, Etc.
Address, 21, ETHELDEN-ROAD LONDON, W., and 74, BROADWAY, N.Y.C., N.Y.

EDINBURGH.

HALL suitable for CINEMATOGRAPH

FOR SALE,

under a Mortgage, in DOWELL'S ROOMS, 18, GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH, on WEDNESDAY, Nov. 30th, at 2 p.m.

Large hall, with gallery, and large room below; three ante-rooms and ample cloakroom and lavatory accommodation; front and back entrance. The hall is on the main thoroughfare through the northern district of the city, which is a populous one, and there are no competing places of entertainment.
No feu duty. Present rent, £ CO.
Reserve Price - - - £1,700.

Further particulars from N. B. CONSTABLE & CO. W.S., 2, Hill-street, Edinburgh.

SEASON BAND, 1911.

THE BOGNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL are prepared to receive OFFERS of

A BAND

for twelve weeks during next Summer Season. For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer, and all applications must reach me not later than Saturday, the 26th Nov., 1910.

HENRY LAYTON STAFFURTH, Clerk.
Council Offices, Bognor, 9th Nov., 1910.

THE MATLOCK BATH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ARE PREPARED TO ENGAGE

A BAND

(10 to 12 PERFORMERS),

TO PLAY

in the PLEASURE GROUNDS, MATLOCK BATH, from June 2?, 1911, to Sept. 9, 1911.

For further particulars, apply
H. W. P. CARTER,
Council Chambers, Matlock Bath.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.

A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.

Price ONE SHILLING.

The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
and the
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.

Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, W.C.

'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic address—"The Era, London."

RUFFELL'S
FILMS
FOR HIRE.

NEW DEPARTMENT FOR HIRERS.

Call or write,
RUFFELL'S
IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT-ST., W.C.
(Opposite Hippodrome.)

Telegrams: "Ruffoscope, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 6695.

NEW CATALOGUE, EXAMPLES OF SEATING AND FURNISHING
Containing Best and Novel Designs
— Post Free on Application. —

THE "EXCELSIOR"

HALF-SOVEREIGN TIP-UP CHAIRS

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES.

Write for GREEN LIST containing Special Leading Lines of Tip-up Chairs, Seating, &c.,
"Champion" Tip-ups, 4/9.

Tele. Address: "Malleable, London."
Telephone: Nine-one-five-three, London Wall.

H. LAZARUS & SON,
THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
21, GREAT EASTERN ST., LONDON, E.C.

THE AUTOMATIC THEATRE CHAIR.

It is a friend to the public. It makes your business grow. It folds automatically, and is revolving, so theatre is all aisles. It is the only sanitary chair. It is a space-saver, life-saver, and money-saver.

The World's Greatest Chair.
Write or Cable.

THE HARDESTY MFG. CO.,
CANAL DOVER, OHIO, U.S.A.

GRAVEN'S Famous HAMPERS.

The World's Strongest and Best, as used by the Elite of the Profession, all of whom speak highly in their praise.

RELIABLE TRAVELLING HAMPER.

Fig. 400.

Sizes and Prices as under:—

Inside Measurements. Long.	Wide.	Deep.	PRICE.	Lining	Tray Bottom	G.P.O. Rollers on
24	14	14	6/10	3/2	3/0	2/0
26	16	16	7/9	3/6	3/0	2/3
28	18	18	8/9	4/0	3/3	2/6
30	20	20	10/8	4/6	3/6	2/6
33	21	21	12/6	5/3	4/0	3/0
36	22	22	14/6	6/0	4/6	3/0

The Largest Theatrical Hamper Establishment in the World.

Illustrated Catalogue T.17 Post Free.

LARGE STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. ORDERS CAN BE DISPATCHED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED. TERMS: NETT CASH.

Quotations for Special Sizes upon request.

T. CRAVEN & SONS
T. Dept. 115 Corporation St., MANCHESTER
Branch—8, Queen St., BELFAST.

SALE BY AUCTION.

Re Rinking, Ltd., in liquidation, and others.
By order of the liquidator, 1,000 pairs of roller skates, a nearly new cinematograph machine, carpets, linoleum, plated goods, chairs, office furniture, desks, tables, typewriters, iron fire-resisting safes, floor-scraper, &c., which will be sold by auction by
Mr. FRANK G. BOWEN,
at his sale rooms, 62a, Aldersgate-st., London, E.C., on Thursday, Nov. 17, 1910, at 1 o'clock.

Catalogues may be had of Messrs. W. B. Keen and Co., chartered accountants, 23, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. and of the auctioneer.

MR. JOE ROWLAND,
P.C. Bullock, "East Lynne." Resting. By arrangement. 164, Finborough-rd., Fulham, S.W.

MR. HARRY ROXBURY,
Exclusively engaged by Moss' Empires until 1913. Nov. 21, London Coliseum.

MR. A. RUSSELL - DAVIS,
Juvenile Lead and S.M., "Beauty and the Barge." Empire Theatre, Swindon.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Walter Melville's "Girl's Cross Roads" Co. Pantomime offers invited 227, Hampstead-road.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Terminating with "Are You a Mason?" Co. Nov. 21, Working ton (3), Whitehaven (3).

MR. FRANCIS SERLE,
Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Season. The New Theatre, W.C., or Manager's Club.

MR. and MRS. ROBIN SHIELLS
and MOLLIE.
"Mrs. Wiggs" Co. R. County Theatre, Kingston.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder), Star Lead.
Nov. 21, Grand, Stockton.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor, Laurence Irving's Co. Future offers invited. Garrick Theatre, London.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING.
Offers invited, Leading and Heavy Business. 53, Lanark-villas, Maida Vale, W.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN,
Mr. Tom H. Taylor's Co. At liberty Dec. 10. Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, N.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (seventeenth year). Royalty Theatre and Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
General-Manager for Mr. Charles Sugden. Theatre Royal, Aston.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD F. SYMONS
(Miss Eva Moss), R. F. S., Lyceum, W.C. E. M., Lead, Standard Theatre, Johannesburg.

MR. A. B. TAPPING,
At Liberty, Parts or Management. 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Starring, "Passing Third Floor Back." Carnarvon and Wrexham.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

MR. EDWARD THANE,
Heavy Lead.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane. Upper Clapton, N.E.

MR. E. W. THOMAS
and MISS AGNES KNIGHTS.
"The Eternal Question." T. R., Edinburgh.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Lord Erskine, "The Bad Girl of the Family." Aldwych Theatre. Disengaged shortly.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Disengaged Nov. 28.
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. and MRS. A. W. TYRER
Artist and Painted Lady, "Passing of Third Floor Back," Mathcson Lang Tour. Australia.

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Miss Ethel Irving's Company.
Nov. 21, P. O. W., Birmingham.

MR. E. VASSALL - VAUGHAN.
Lyceum Theatre;
or, 28, Burstock-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. CHARLES B. VAUGHAN,
Engaged by Mr. Hawtrey.
Prince of Wales' Theatre, W.C.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
Representing Mr. Edward Terry in London during his Autumn Tour. Terry's Theatre, Strand.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Lead. Disengaged.
133, Lavender Sweep, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont), D. V., Palace, Cork.
L. B., County, Kingston. Dis. Dec. 5.

MR. ALBERT WARD.
"A Noble Revenge," by A. W.
Putney and Ealing.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Principal Comedian, Chambhuddy Ram, "Cingalee" Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-rd., Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE.
Disengaged in December.
Eastbourne and Folkestone.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand. 'Phone 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Mr. Hook, Bolton; next, Rochdale.
Christmas, Dame, Prince's, Bristol.

MR. CHARLES WEMYSS,
at Liberty shortly, Character and Aristocratic Old Men. Next week, Elephant and Castle.

MR. HAROLD WEST,
Concluded with Mr. Leonard Boyne. Disengaged. 19, Mornington-avenue, Kensington.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
Managers' Club, or
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
at Liberty, also Christmas, Character Comedy or Stage-Man. 1, Harewood-road, Merton.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). "Naked Truth" Tour. Oxford and Cambridge.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
"Brewster's Millions."
Nov. 21, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. ERIC W. WILLIAMS,
Harrington's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co. P. O. W., Nuneaton; next, Prince's T., Accrington.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Principal Comedian,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
Offers to "The Biorenge," Taunton.

MR. J. HERIBERT WILLIS, Prin.
L. Comedy, "Our Miss Gibbs" Co. Vacant Xmas. Artillery, Woolwich.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
George Munro's Répertoire.
Nov. 21, Spennymoor.

MR. JOHN WILMER.
At liberty for management.
Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. H. BONHOTE WILSON,
Starring with Fredk. Melville. Dis. Dec. 11. 3, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, The London Hippodrome.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON,
Returned from S. Africa. Offers invited for Lead. 52, Parliament-hill, N.W.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD,
Disengaged Xmas, Pantomime, or otherwise. "Sign of the Cross," Queen's T., Manchester.

MR. RAYMOND WOOD,
Disengaged for Heavy Business.
17, Delamere-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

MR. and MRS. GRAHAM WOODS
(Miss Marie Robson). Joint offers invited. Address, T. R., Edmonton.

MR. FRANK WOOLFE, with Mr. Lewis Waller, on Tour. Dis. Dec. 17, Town or Tour. Nov. 21, King's Theatre, Sunderland.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
The F. R. Benson (North) Co.
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Lord Stanton, "Richard III."
London Coliseum.

MR. SIDNEY YOUNG.
Address,
132, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE MISS BELLA TERRY,
Principal Girl, "Blue Bird" Co.
Nov. 21, Opera House, Southport.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS
on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era"
should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

WILTON DAVIS, Original Comedy Chorus Songs. MISS E. WILTON, Accompaniste. 1, Arlington-square, New North-road, N.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Accompaniste,
Society Entertainer, Ladies' Orchestra, for Dances, Receptions, &c. 210, Edgware-road, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS,
Smartest and Brightest of all Concert Parties. Now Booking Easter and Summer Tour, 1911. GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MISS CISSIE HARCOURT, Mezzo. and Soubrette, "Follies," India, Japan and China Tour. 47, Canterbury-road, Brixton, S.W.

MAIE HOEY,
Murray, King, and Clark Panto. Co.
Vacant Spring. Address, c/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Euterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

ADELE LEVEY,
Raconteuse. Vacant Nov. 21, 28.
Address, C/o "The Era" Office.

MISS KATE RICHARDS,
Pianist, Accompanist and Coach, &c.
Address, C/o Brinsmead Studios, Wigmore-st., W

WILKIE, the Human Marionette,
Impersonations. Write for booklet.
11, Sotheby-road, Highbury. 'Phone 4747 City.

44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911

Advertisements
should be forwarded at once to the Office,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

FINANCIAL TIMES, Jan. 24, 1910.
"The Era" Annual, 1910, 1s., 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. As usual, this well-known annual of the theatrical profession contains a complete record of the plays and sketches produced during the year, in this country and abroad, a record, with photographs, of stage celebrities whose deaths have taken place during the period, directories of theatres and music-halls in the United Kingdom and a well-arranged dramatic and musical calendar. The ever-popular series of good stories told by well-known people, and illustrated by the author's photographs and autographs, is led off this time by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, with "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and the reputation this symposium has gained for humour and wit is thoroughly maintained. The Annual will make a strong appeal, not only to members of the profession, but to all theatre lovers.

ESSAYS
ON THE
CURRENT DRAMA
BY
J. H. BARNES

1. THE ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC
2. ON PLAYS AND PLAYWRITING
3. THE DRAMATIC PRESS

PRICE SIXPENCE

Published at the Offices of "The Era," Limited, 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The New Lady Bantock* is presented by a company under the direction of Mr. Horace Lingard and Miss Beatrice Moreau. Mr. Lingard takes the part of the stern and austere butler, and comports himself admirably; Miss Moreau as Fanny puts life and vigour into her acting, and scores a distinct success; Mr. Leon Hastings makes a tactful Dr. Freemantle; Mr. Campbell Fletcher as Lord Bantock is engaging and bright; while Mr. Wilfrid Compton as George Newte is quietly effective.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher. —Edward Crossland's Melody-makers are musical artists of decided ability, and give a spirited rendering of *The Burglar's Dream*; the Elsa Satanella Trio combine successfully comedy and acrobatic skill; Vera de Astra scores prettily in a sketch entitled *A Shepherd's Dream of the Year*; George Clark and Tom Mostol dance and act with captivating power; Fred Dunstone sings well; Cambo and Castelle are musical adepts of no mean order; the Eight Frolics sing and dance with sprightly grace; Miss Annie Schuberth gives a capital rendering of a novel act, *The Deputy; or, A Private Rehearsal*; and the Corsican Brothers display decided skill as instrumentalists.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—D'Arc's Marionettes are decidedly pleasing; the Norman Leonard Trio give a realistic representation of old-time habits in a musical sketch entitled *The Squire's Dance*; the Miltons give a graceful exhibition of skating evolutions; the Janowskys are a troupe of exceptionally clever acrobats; Mr. Gena Manon is a vocalist of tunefulness and power; Julian Ross gives a clever humorous turn; Syd Crossley as "The Long Comic" is droll; the Chunn Trio are versatile performers; and Mr. T. Brown McGill, a local tenor, enhances his reputation by his tasteful singing.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon and company opened here on Monday in *Why Did She Run Away*. Mr. John B. Shinton as the Vicar of Charnley, Norman Helmsley, wins praise for a realistic performance; Mr. Stephen Langton acts in a capable manner as Cecil Whiteley; and Mr. Cyril Craven gives a good interpretation of John Helmsley; Mr. Harry Lyndon proves himself a comedian of ability as Willie Lightning; Mr. Sidney Fiennes acts the part of Sam Fletcher forcibly; and Mr. Frank Foxwell is well suited as the Hon. Percy Choldneley. Miss Iza Lyndon is a charming Sybil Vanbrough; Miss Ada M. Ryder ably sustains the part of Vera Maxwell; and Miss Florrie Johnson is all that could be desired as Jane Ellison. Master Sidney Clarance deserves every commendation for his portrayal of a street arab.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Fred Elton in his entertaining items at the piano is the star turn here; Viviana and company in *The Toy Shop* are well received; and Gibbon and Bell in their acrobatic turn are deservedly popular; Baddow, ventriloquist, convulses the audience with laughter; the Millwards give a capital gymnastic display; J. Cheetham proves himself a clever whistler; Harold Heath, coon singer and dancer, gives a very smart turn; and the Bioscope pictures conclude.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. George Dance's company with *Our Miss Gibbs*. Miss Daisy Wallace plays the part of Mary Gibbs with plenty of go, and she has a pleasing manner, which helps materially to make her impersonation a success; Miss Flo Hylton retains the part of Mrs. Farquhar, a rôle which is admirably suited to her; Miss Dorothy Harris gives a charmingly refreshing personation of Lady Elizabeth, and sings with excellent result; Miss Madge Lucas is good as the Duchess; and Miss Louie Beckmann as the modiste does well; Mr. Vincent Erne as the humorous Yorkshireman Timothy is most amusing; and both he and Miss Wallace are the recipients of hearty re-demands for their specialities in song and dance; Mr. Herbert Willis is another amusing artist, and as Hughie helps to keep the merriment in full swing; Mr. Douglas Phillips gives a capital enactment of Lord Eynsford; and Messrs. Frank Sealey and Gordon Begg repeat former successes here as Toplady and the Earl respectively; whilst Messrs. David Miller (Lawyer) and J. S. Durant (Slithers) also are successful. The musical comedy is well dressed and effectively staged.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. R. Macdonald's company is here with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Marie Rignold makes the utmost of her opportunities as Lady Brudenell; Miss Ethel Callanan as Peggy is prominent, singing and dancing with artistic grace; as Winifred, Miss Marjorie Manners distinguishes herself; as Eliza, Miss Edie Martin is chic; and Miss Sheila Hayes, Rose Edouin, Lily Cameron, Gwenneth Hughes sustain other rôles capitally. In the comic element the lion's share falls to some excellent comedians: Messrs. W. Spray as Lieut. Sam Brudenell, Harry Clark as Lieut. Frank Meredith; James W. Duval as Tim Capers; W. W. Biddlecombe as Lieut. Breston; Robert Caradoc as Todgers; and Mr. Edwin Dodds as Joe Mivens; Mr. Harry Scaddan makes a fine Irish character of Dr. O'Byrne.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—Fred Karno's *The Wow-Wows*, with Syd Chaplin and Jimmy Russell as Archibald Binks and Jimmy Bottles, heads the bill. Mr. Karno's company also appear later in the evening in *Early Birds*. The other artists for the week are May De Rowse, comedienne and eccentric dancer; the ideal couple, Belle and Austin, in *A Fatal Rehearsal*; Dix and Dox, Continental musical grotesques; Three Aza Boys, a trio of refined singers and expert dancers; and Adela Masson, operatic, amusing, and dramatic songstress, in her triple song scena.

ATTERCLIFFE. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manageress, Miss Ethel J. Hope.—A well-selected programme of humorous and dramatic pictures, which are entirely changed twice weekly, is drawing large audiences here. The principal films this week are: The Tax-Gatherer, The First Grey Hair, The Five-pound Note, Majesty of the Law, Mother's Love—all very interesting and dramatic. Italian Switzerland is a pretty travel picture of delightful scenery. Lysando Brothers, clever acrobatic equilibrists, and the Deverkas, amusing comedians, are responsible for well-appreciated variety turns.

PICTURE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Matt. Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King.—The "star" pictures this week are Assassination of President Lincoln and Vengeance of the Dead. A hearty reception is given to Kloof and Ramsay for their bright musical act; and Laurie and Elsy are heard to advantage as vocalists. The augmented Scarlet Band, under the able direction of Mr. W. A. Guest, adds greatly to the success.

AYR.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Messrs. J. E. Watson and C. T. Dee's company is presenting *Priscilla Runs Away*. In the part of Priscilla Miss Beatrice Lindley is charmingly vivacious, and much of the success of the performance is due to her acting; Mr. Leslie Owen as Prince Lucerne acts with power; Mr. Clifton Anderson as the Grand Duke makes the most of his part; as Court Librarian Mr. J. Edward Pearce plays well; and others worthy of mention are Mr. Leslie Ryecroft, Mr. Cyril Bruce, Mrs. Thomas Sydney, Miss Maxine Hinton, and Miss Annie Stalman.

BACUP.—COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Walters.—Haldane Crichton pays a return visit here with *The Cingalee*. Vereker is well played by Mr. Frank Barclay; Mr. Hylton Warde is funny as Chambhuddy; Boobhamba is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Lennard; Mr. Herbert Le Maistre is good as Sir Peter; the part of Lady Patricia is in the capable hands of Miss Ray Anderson; and Miss Isa Bowman plays Nanoya creditably.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—An excellent bill this week is headed by the Three Laurels, who perform some marvellous hand-balancing, &c.; the Fimans, in *The Fire Station*, are heartily applauded; Lieven and Pantzer, in *A Lesson in Physical Culture*, are keenly appreciated; the Goltz Trio submit a clever turn; an excellent mimic is Yorkshire Tom; two good songs are rendered by Vera Mayne; and other artists on the bill are Nellie Peers and Rex and Ford. The Palascope shows two good pictures, The Smith and An Interrupted Honeymoon.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—The Barnsley Shakespearean Society are presenting *King Richard III.* this week.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton. —The Barnstaple Picturedrome Company, under the direction of Messrs. Lionel Prichard and F. A. Osborne, are giving a good show this week. Miss Cissy Trent, who tops the bill, is a protean dancer of exceptional ability; Mr. Wilmot Hastings continues his success, and his musical tramp act meets with approval; Miss Elsie Gorton also appears in illustrated songs. The Bioscope completes a capital programme.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company is here this week in *Where is William?* Mr. Charles Windermere is delightfully humorous as Sir William Gregory, and is ably seconded by Mr. Rule Pyott. Mr. Robert Urquhart is a capital Harry; and Mr. Leslie Norman is good as the testy General Rubbub. Miss Belle Donaldson is a graceful and charming Lady Gregory. A one-act play, *The Clown*, precedes each evening.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The lessees are taking a benefit this week, and Mr. Walter Maxwell's company, in *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, is here. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb proves a talented actor, and makes Mr. Preedy exceedingly funny; and Miss Nella Powys plays the Countess of Rushmere with much charm. Mr. John Nesbitt does well as Bounsall; and Miss Ninon Dudley is clever as Harriett Budgeon.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—Charles Prelle's Bijou Circus is here. An exceedingly clever exposition of animal training is given. Moon and Morris are a pair of excellent entertainers. Their songs and patter are good, and their step dancing is exceptionally smart. Helen Martin has a most captivating voice, and is happy in the selection of her songs; Hinton and Wooton are clever as cycle footballers; the Kebbles are a pleasing turn as duettists and dancers; Wallie Fitzgibbons is good in a musical entertainment. Vernon's Bioscope concludes with some good pictures.

BARRY DOCK.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *At Cripple Creek* is paying a return visit. Mr. Wernham Ryott plays Joe Mayfield with convincing effect; Ben White is skillfully handled by Mr. Harry Benson; Mr. Chas. Calver (Reggie) and Miss Tina Langlois (Maggie Mason) are responsible for a lot of merriment; the heavy characters are well sustained by Messrs. Chas. E. Johnson and J. O. Cuthbertson; Miss Agnes as Dynamite Ann, Miss Norah Dillon as Sarah Lively, and Miss O'Niel as Bell Gordon, play well; Mr. Wilfred Jessop gives a faithful portrayal of Waktekak; and Little Doris scores a well-deserved success as Little Tato.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. Wm. Minto.—Lal and Hal have an attractive musical and ventriloqual scena, and Marquis and Truly contributes an amusing acrobatic and musical act. The pictures are pleasing.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—After being closed for a week the theatre reopened on Monday with Mr. Harry P. Tower's company in *Dear Little Denmark*. Christine and Conrad are well represented by Miss Thelma Raye and Mr. Cameron Carr; the comedy is safe in the hands of Mr. Tom Payne as Hans Hansen and Mr. Edward Thirlby as the Duke, the dancing of the former gentleman being really excellent; Mr. Arthur Ballance sings well; Miss Alice Waldie is applauded for her "goey" rendering of her Copenhagen song; a lady who worked with success was Miss Winifred Volt as Ophelia, her duet with Mr. Payne in the second act being much appreciated; Mr. Frank Lewis did well as the Burgomaster; and Mr. George W. Ruff was duly quaint as Jenson. Miss Nancy Rich and her companions received a recall for their ballet song and dance.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Here this week are Toch and Tard, in their burlesque, acrobatic, and comedy act, and they are immense favourites; the Brothers Hannaway amusingly banter each other; Miss Julia Reeve wins hearty recalls for her original Lady Bill-poster scena; the Four Figaros, in their vocal and dancing turn *Ten Minutes on the Continent*, entertain vastly; the magic act of Yettmah is cleanly worked; Fred S. Peake and Dora Davis invest the Cromwellian episode *The Swashbuckler* with dramatic importance; Willie Rennie dances himself into favour on skates; and Edwin Garth, comedian, is also in the bill.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*Our Flat* is being presented by Messrs. Murray King and Clarke's company this week. Mr. Murray King plays the part of Nathaniel Glover, and his impersonation and make-up create much amusement; Miss Louie Tinsley's portrayal of Bella is also productive of a deal of mirth; Mr. Warburton Gamble puts plenty of spirit and humour into the part of Reginald Sylvester; and Miss Florence Radcliffe is a charming Marjory; Mr. Ardene Linden excels as Mr. McCullum; good work is done by Miss Evelyn Shelley as Mme. Volant, Mr. Walter Brodie as Jeremiah Pinchard, and Mr. Owen Rice as the foreman from the stores.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened here on Monday with *Smith*. In the title-rôle Miss Cicely Stuckey, an accomplished actress, achieved a noteworthy success; Tom Freeman was excellently portrayed by Mr. Robert Minster, his acting throughout being irreproachable; Miss Ethel Hodgkins played Mrs. Dallas-Baker with much skill; and an effective portrayal of Mr. Dallas-Baker was submitted by Mr. F. G. Thurstans; Algey Peppercorn was cleverly sustained by Mr H. Douglas Greet; and Emily Chapman was naturally and convincingly interpreted by Miss Pauline Straus; Miss Ethel Wellesley appeared to advantage as Mrs. Otto Rosenberg; and Mr. George Gamble was a satisfactory Fletcher.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—*Nick Carter* is portrayed by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company. In the title rôle Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gained gratifying approval for his clever impersonation, and great praise is due the talented actress, Miss Helena Walbran for her realistic impersonation of Madeline. The heavy part of Eustace Lee is sustained with no little skill by Mr. Raymond Thomas; and Miss Ella Vane is a satisfactory Stephanie; Mr. William Burgess is well placed as Dave Crowley; and little Hilda Votes deserves praise for her clever portrayal of Cyril Carter; the humorous element is in the capital hands of Miss Nancy Laurence as Bessie; Miss Nellie Shirley as Matilda Timmins, Mr. Harry C. Momber as Theophilus Timmins, and Mr. Will Ellythorne as George Slade, their various impersonations being responsible for much hilarity.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs. —The star here is Mr. T. E. Dunville, the inimitable comedian, who made a hit on Monday. Charlburn's young stars, a troupe of twelve juveniles, have been very successful, and much mirth has been created by those droll comedians Messrs. Palles and Cussick; the equilibristic feats of the Colombias are undoubtedly smart; Mr. Harris Cooney is a clever dancer; Gladys and Alber in their funny funniosities gain much approval; and also here are Miss Leah Arden, vocal comedienne, Mr Harry Bickley, comedian, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Mr. Tom Edwards, the smart ventriloquist; Ike and Will Scott gain a gratifying success with their capital comedy act; the fine baritone voice of Mr. Ford Williams has been heard with pleasure in "The Wolf" and other songs; Mr. Charles Erard, a good pianist, is also a realistic mimic; and the Channings appear to advantage in their vocal and instrumental act; Mr. Harry Simms, comedian; and the Bioscope completes a first-class programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among many attractive films exhibited here may be mentioned Bowker v. Stanley, Burglar Expected, and Convict 796. The vaudeville element is sustained by Sadie and Vone, comedy duo; and Kendrick and Laura in harmony and eccentric dancing act.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—Excellent pictures are shown here. Miss May Hall, dainty comedienne and dancer, appears with marked success.

PRINCESS PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. D. Ryall.—In addition to the pictures, Revel and Raval appear in song, dance, and story.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—*No Mother to Guide Her* just suits the popular taste. Miss Betty Seymour makes a delightful Nan; Miss Roma Pendros is very successful as Millicent Saxby; the Rev. Tom Felham is admirably depicted by Mr. William Heilbronn; Mr. Fred Biron interprets the character of Bill Bunce cleverly; and Julia Paterson has a capable exponent in Miss Georgette Thierry.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris. —Mr. Gaston Mayer's company in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, are fulfilling an initial engagement in this town. The piece is produced by Mr. Kenneth Rivington, and the success of the comedy has been most gratifying. Miss Lucy Beaumont gives a fine performance of Mrs. Wiggs; Miss Annie Grace is equally good as Miss Hazy; Lovey Mary is well represented by Miss Winifred Murray; and Miss Sybil Brooke is an excellent Mrs. Eichorn. Mr. Stubbins is cleverly and humorously played by Mr. Fred Forrest; Hunkerdunkus Jones is made much of by Mr. Harry G. Wright; and the remaining characters in a lengthy cast are, without exception, adequately filled.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Hayman and Franklin, entertaining Hebrew comedians, are a prominent attraction; and Dale and O'Malley, comedians and patterers, also have a host of admirers. Bert Williams is an expert ventriloquist; and G. W. Hunter, a sterling comedian and raconteur, renews previous successes. A fine combination also includes Miss Minnie Mace, comedienne; the Sisters Simms, vocalists and dancers; Billy French, clog dancer; Bert Pemberton, baritone vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Speckled Band* was played at another theatre here a few weeks ago, but the visit this week of a new company in the play is meeting with success. An admirable presentation of Dr. Grimesby Rylott is given by

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

PANTOMIMES.

THIS WORK IS UNDERTAKEN AT COMPETITIVE
— PRICES TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION. —

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS, AND CONTRACTORS TO HIS MAJESTY'S OFFICE OF WORKS.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

From J. A. Harrison Co., Ltd., Theatrical Costumiers, 29, Leicester Square, W.C.
27th October, 1910.

To T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll Street, W.

Dear Mr. Harris,—

I am very pleased with the cleaning of the Pantomime Wardrobe you have just sent back. It may interest you to know that some of the Costumes were made six years ago. They look almost as good as the first time they were used.

Yours truly, J. A. HARRISON,
Managing Director.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1511 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

Mr. Lyn Harding, whose performance necessarily dominates the piece; Mr. O. P. Heggie is excellent as Sherlock Holmes; Miss Mary Forbes as Enid Stonor achieves success; Mr. Talbot Homewood is a convincing Dr. Watson; Mr. Asheton Tonge is responsible for a capital study of the butler; and as the Methodist village grocer Mr. G. H. Brooke is genuinely amusing.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera company are to be heartily congratulated upon their excellent work. The programme arranged for this the second week of its stay consisted of *Yeomen of the Guard*, *Iolanthe*, *Princess Ida*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Mikado*.

ALEXANDRA.—Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—A return visit of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *The Earl and the Girl*, proves that the piece has a complete hold over Birmingham theatregoers. The leading incidental item is a Chantecler scene, in which the principal characters are well sustained. Mr. Edward Lewis as Jim Cheese is the chief humorist, and he is a big favourite; Mr. Herbert St. John is excellent as Dick Wargrave and Miss Lily Gullick (Elphin Haye), Miss Lina Hicks ('Liza Shoddam), and Mr. Lionel Scott (Hon. Crewe Boodle) are also prominent.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*Who is She?* is effectively presented by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson ably sustains the part of Prince Bora, and Miss Ada Champion as the mysterious lady is frequently applauded for good work. As the Countess Ladori Miss Alice Barber is conspicuous; and the other characters are well represented.

METROPOLE.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Shop-Soiled Girl* is enjoying a successful fortnight's stay at this theatre, and is playing to good houses. There are many points of attraction about this new drama, and being well handled by a clever company, it is creating an excellent impression. Miss Georgina Wynter is popular in the title-rôle; Miss Gladys Ford-Howitt makes a charming Vera Thurston; Mr. C. W. Standing carries himself well as Jack Duncan; Mr. H. E. Herbert gives a good portrayal of the man from Lancashire; and other prominent people are Mr. Will Smith, Mr. Tom E. Sinclair, Mr. Harvey Braban, Mr. Wilfred Lyndon, and Miss Winifred Pearson.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* is occupying the boards here. The company is Mr. Morton Powell's, and the piece is admirably presented. The heroine, Ruby Wright, is cleverly portrayed by Miss Maud M. Powell and Miss Marie Robson as Ruth Wright gives a capable representation. Mr. Cecil Mannering makes an ideal stage villain as Lucas List, and Mr. Henry Scathard, Mr. Arthur T. Ellis, and Miss Eva Norman are also prominent in the chief situations. The comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. Fred Yarnold, Mr. Frank C. Lester, Mr. H. Arnold Allen, and Miss Effie Macintosh.

CARLTON THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Scarlet Clue* is proving a great dramatic success this week, presented by Miss Grace Warner and her London company. The story is a powerful one, embodying features of deep child interest, and the characters are all-absorbing. Miss Grace Warner portrays the central figure, Sal Scarlet, with true appreciation of the value of the character, and her acting is always convincing. Mr. George Gordon, as Michael Stanton, is a clever actor; and Mr. Louis Nanton, in the part of Billy the Rotter, is a decided acquisition to the cast; Master Willie Taylor and Little Glad Thorpe are capable juveniles; and other characters are well portrayed by Mr. Frank Esmonde, Mr. Frank Hertie, Miss L. Palmer, and Miss L. Price.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Crowded audiences are enjoying a varied and bright entertainment. Whit Cunliffe gives his latest song successes, and provides a lively turn; comedy of good, wholesome kind is safe in the hands of Harry Roxbury, who as Detective Longfellow, in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, keeps the patrons in merry mood; a capital patriotic sketch is presented by Wallace Selkirk's Boy Scouts; an exceptionally good protean turn is given by Ernest Laws and Margaret Ruby; the Dainton-Shaw Troupe are responsible for clever trick cycling; and others on the bill are the Rawsons, society entertainers; George Rae, a Scotch comedian; Olga Dore, operatic vocalist; and Kathleen Cogan with songs and dances.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Foster.—An exceptionally good sketch, entitled *Under Suspicion*, is admirably performed by Horace Hunter and company. Mr. Hunter as war correspondent, Miss Una Tristrem as the Countess, and Mr. Douglas Vigors are splendid; Captain Fred Woodward's sea lions and seals are as entertaining as ever; George French appears in his mirth-provoking scene, *Who Scored that Goal?*; the Farabonis give a delightful dancing turn; Bowden and Stol, acrobatic eccentrics, are both humorous and clever; Lizzie Glenroy, in Highland costume, is a pleasing dancer. Others who contribute items are Ellis Barrington, vocalist; Wullie Walker, Scotch comedian; and Charles Vincent, comedian.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Miss Ada Reeve is the star here, and crowded houses go into raptures over her latest successes. Her winsome stage presence and delightful dancing never fail to captivate. Harry Weldon, in the character of Stiffy, the goalkeeper, presents an amusing skit on burgling; the Lenfords are smart simultaneous dancers; the Sisters Morgan give a clever exhibition of dancing on skates; the Dancing Duggans are an exceedingly clever trio; Sterling and Love are amusing in a humorous phantasy in two flats; Archie Rover is applauded for acrobatic work; and the Lyric Mummers, vocalists and comedians, and Bert Weston, comedian, provide acceptable humour.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Alan Holt and company present a powerfully dramatic episode, entitled *A Society Woman*. Laughter reigns supreme during the farce *Confusion*, produced by Laurence Brough and company. The situations are most ludicrous, and the players earn hearty applause. La Noedia is a talented impersonator; Nora Stockelle is a graceful dancer; the Whittington Trio are smart acrobats; and Eadie and Ramsden are as popular as ever in their comedy skit. J. J. Mannix, Happy Attwood, Jack Hylton, and Joe and Hetty Waldron also contribute acceptably.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—There are several strong attractions in this week's programme, and crowded houses are enjoying the entertainment. Haley's Juveniles receive a warm welcome upon a return visit to the theatre, and present a delightful series of songs and dances, a quartette of barefoot dancers providing a novelty; Dot and Spot, tiny duettists, have a great reception; the Four Mexican Lasso Wonders are expert with the lariat; Dave Carter is exceedingly popular in Irish songs; the Four Sisters Gilby present a pleasing musical act; Alphonso Sylvano is a daring equilibrist; and other turns are provided by Raie Walters, Walter Stanley, Arthur Harris, and Mamie Irene and Cliff Morton.

CURZON HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Waller Jeffs. — The entertainment arranged by Mr. Jeffs is nothing if not up to date. Events that have been occupying the public mind during the past few days are depicted in a series of excellent photographs, the principal subjects being The Welsh Coal Strike and the Wreck of the Preussen. The programme is by no means lacking in pictures of a romantic and humorous nature, a picturesque item being The Heart of a Cowboy. Elephants are depicted at work in a highly interesting film. The programme is completed by vaudeville items, furnished by Miss Vida Yorke, singer and danseuse; and Renato, banjo performer.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here in *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Sam Lysons depicts Sir Guy de Vere in a delightful manner; Mr. James Macley is an amusing Rev. Peter Pottlebury; Mr. Alec. Forbes (Isaac Isaacson), Mr. C. Gifford (Hon. Charles Widdicombe), Mr. Claude Aymonde (Sir Bryan Ballymore), Mr. Sydney F. Courtenay (Barker), and Mr. Bannister Howard, jun., present their parts in good style. The Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave is tastefully presented by Miss Alice M. Maude, and a charming Lady Millicent is Miss May Ronayne; Miss Elsie Roberts plays Lady Rowena cleverly.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—The Harvey Boys give an amusing turn here; Barnard's Marionettes are good; J. P. Ling, as comedian and mimic, scores a great success; Wyllie, a tramp musician, and Fred Park, comedian, are well appreciated; an entertaining show is provided by Lillie C. Breton, lady gymnast; Marie Reeve, comedienne and dancer, is very smart; and the Hipposcope concludes the programme.

BLACKBURN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Resident Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—*Brewster's Millions* is delighting large audiences here, and Mr. Percy Hutchison as Brewster is the life and soul of the piece, and he is well supported by a strong company. Mr. Robert Forsyth plays well as Mr. Grant; Charlie Harrison is capably presented by Mr. Gordon Ash; Colonel Drew is well placed in the hands of Mr. A. Andrews; Archie Golding, Mr. Henry Hampton; Joseph McLeod, Mr. Aubrey Mather; Frank Bragden, Mr. Arthur Bell; Horace Pettinghill, Mr. Andrew Wight; Tommy Smith, Mr. Otho Hazelwood; Jack Gardner, Mr. U. P. Plinge; Captain Perry, Mr. George Salver; Monsieur Barque, Mr. A. P. Kaye; Rawles, Mr. Frank Hill. Mrs. Dan de Mille is nicely played by Miss Lilias Earle; Miss Marion Ripley is an interesting Janice Armstrong; Miss Dorothy Whittaker is a sympathetic Peggy. The comedy was preceded by *Chalk and Cheese*.

THE PALACE.—Sole Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Billy Merson is topping the bill at the Palace this week, and there is no doubt of his popularity in Blackburn; Reeco is a humorous burlesque acrobat; Harry Shirley and May Ransome present an episode entitled *Jim's Pal* in a clever manner; Woodhouse and Wells repeat their former successes; the Brothers Rees give a military act, entitled *Soldiers at Play*; Russell Wallett, the "lady" in black, is a humorous female impersonator; Marie and Nellie Hula are expert dancers; and Mr. George Bellrose, basso, and Miss Maude de Velin (soprano) are heard in pleasing ducts. De Bissell is a clever clay modeller; the Society Quartette sing topical songs, and introduce some big boot dancing.

THE NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Manageress, Mrs. C. Clarkson.—*Alone in London* is presented here by Mr. Chas. Gibbons' company in a capable manner. Mr. William Macready is a good John Beddlecombe; as Nan Miss Nellie Clyde does well; Mr. Gilbert Elvin is quite at home as Mr. Burnaby; and Miss Ethel Green is a good Tom Chickweed.

BLACKPOOL.—WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R Huddlestone.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week. *The Taming of the Shrew* was the fare provided on Monday, when Mr. Wilkie gave a good account of Petruchio, and Miss F. Hunter Watts successfully portrayed Katharina. *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Twelfth Night* have also found a place in the week's bill. Mr. Wilkie is well supported by Mr. Henry Hargreaves (a promising young actor), Messrs. Philip Gordon, Hal Brough, Rex Barington Houston Meharry, and Misses Hilda Plowright, May Dallas, Mary Lovett, Alice Miller, and Ida Warrington.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A capital evening's entertainment is provided here this week by Alec Kendal, a humorous patter comedian; Adam Tomlinson, a clever dialect comedian; Horace Pollock and company, in Pinero's comedietta *Hester's Mystery*; George Brooks, in comic songs; Ben Lewin, character actor; the Westbrooks, in a dancing scena; Lizzie Daniels, a pleasing comedienne; and Will E. Stoppit, eccentric comedian.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—*Miss Hook of Holland*, presented by Mr. George Dance's principal company, is as popular as ever. Mr. Fred Wellesley repeats his excellent portrayal of Mr. Hook; Mr. Arthur W. Mansey as Captain Adrian Paap sings well; and Mr. Lacey Mills is good in the small part of Lieut. de Coop. Mr. Charles Ross is a breezy Ludwig Schnapps; Mr. Mansell Stringer as Bandmaster Von Vuyt possesses a good voice, which is heard to advantage in the songs allotted to him; the drolleries of Mr. Harry Brayne as Simon Slinks are inimitable; and Miss Nan Stuart well deserves the applause she receives for her clever and winsome presentation of Miss Hook. Much praise is due to Miss Maud Denny for her Nina; Miss May Hardy is a bewitching Gretchen; and Miss May Leslie and Miss Mollie Loraine are well placed as the old market woman and Thelka.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Lafayette pays his first visit to Bolton with his various illusions, Mimetic Travesty Band, and "Mimic War Drama, 1912." An all-round variety company includes the Two Countees, harmonising duettists; Rich Taylor, whistling ventriloquist; Lillie Langtry, comedienne; the St. Johns, musical comedians and duettists; the Avolos, acrobats, &c.; J. A. Wilson, in his smart act, *The Troubles of a Recruiting Sergeant*, assisted by his dog Private Towser, is vastly popular; and the Premier Imperial pictures add to the entertainment.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—The Jewels head the bill here with their clever protean production, *Change; or, the Haunted Castle*. Other items are given by Harry Clark, juvenile comedian and dancer; the Zanonis, jugglers, &c; Augustine and Hartley, barrel jumpers; Waldo and Etoile present a novel act, *The Crocodile and the Fairy*; Tina Florence, lady mimic; Nellie Wallace, eccentric comedienne; H. O. Wills, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

BOOTLE.—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boult.—The successful comic opera *The Queen of the Fair* is being presented here this week by Mr. Basil Horsfall's company. Mr. Arthur Reynolds as Enery and Mr. George Carroll as the Burgomaster are the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Claude Casey sustains the part of the landlord Pierre with excellent judgment; Mr. Albert Chapman is enthusiastically received as Captain Karl; and Miss Maude Fergusson is seen to advantage as Jemima. In the title-rôle, Queen of the Fair, Senora Mercedes Dalmada charms with her clever singing and acting.

MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. D. Adams.—The Muncaster stock company, under the capable direction of Mr. Alfred D. Adams, is presenting the costume play, *Her Kingdom of Love*.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece.—Oswald Williams, the English illusionist, assisted by Winifred La Barte and company, in a lightning magical entertainment, is loudly applauded for his clever performance; Paulton and Dooley, the world's greatest bicycle comedians, receive hearty applause for their clever feats; the Picquays are also successful as extraordinary hand equilibrists; Phil Bransby as a coster comedian receives a hearty welcome; Maud Esmond as a vocal comedian is successful; Hampton and Bauman, the Dark Town entertainers, and Sisters Hall, duettists and dancers, also contribute. Up-to-date Bioscope pictures conclude.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company is drawing large houses at enhanced prices in *The Dollar Princess*. Mr. Fred Leslie as Harry Conder is a great success; Miss Kathleen Courtney makes a fascinating and dignified Dollar Princess; Mr. Horace Mills makes an original and droll Bulger; Mr. Alec Worcester is a faultless Fairfax; Miss Muriel Allen is good as Olga, and Miss Daisy Elliston makes a dainty and attractive Daisy; Mr. Hugh Henson as Dick, Mr. W. Johnstone Douglas as John, and Mr. Jack Bates as the Butler all help to make the piece successful.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*The Merry Widow* is again proving very attractive to Mr. Hart's patrons, and Mr. George Edwardes's company submit the usual delightful performance of the comedy, which is staged with the customary magnificence. Miss Gertrude Lester elicits much applause in her original and charming representation of the title-rôle; Mr. W. L. Bradfield is at his best as Prince Danilo; Mr. Eric Thorne arouses hearty laughter as Baron Popoff; excellence is attained by Mr. W. Tallieur Andrews's Vicomte de Jolidon, Mr. Fred Kaye's General Novakovitch, and Miss Maggie May's Natalie; and the rest of the characters leave nothing to be desired.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Messrs. Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews have provided in *The Fighting Chance* a military drama of sterling interest, and the company engaged on its first representation here on Monday night achieved considerable distinction; Mr. Austen Milroy's Stephen Blanchard is a fine performance, intense and thoroughly convincing; Mr. Sydney Vautier is earnest in his acting as the sorely-tried Jim Blanchard; as the vile Philip Rivers Mr. Arthur Elwyn is effective; Mr. F. J. Wailer gives a good performance of General Blanchard; Mr. James Wilson is good as Colonel Paget; the Larry O'Brien of Mr. Charles Leverton is a breezy effort; Mr. C. B. Bedelle is picturesque and dignified as Izra Mahomet Khan; Miss Lilian Constance as Marjorie Voriand and Miss Marie Duncan as Ethel Hardy command admiration and sympathy; and as Mrs. Mackintosh Miss Annie Barclay is quaint. The drama is very finely staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Happy Fanny Fields, with her natural buoyancy and humorous Dutch songs and patter, is winning hearty laughter; and Roze and Calvert, with their exceedingly funny burlesque *Captain Kettle*, are entertaining. The Hardini Trio give a clever performance as violinists; Carl and Carr are amusing with their comedy and patter; with their knockabout comedy sketch, *Astronomy*, W. Fallbrook and company elicit hearty laughter; Tom Parker's comic songs are rendered acceptably; the Du Gros trio of gymnasts provide a humorous, novel, and clever turn; the Andos Happy Little Japs exhibit remarkable skill and daring in their acrobatic and juggling feats; and the Bioscope pictures are amusing.

THE PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, M. E. Harrison.—Emmie Ames, comedienne, provides a pleasing turn with "Her Christmas-tree"; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, sings with acceptance, and his style is imitated in an open amateur competition; Edna Barrett, comedienne and dancer, is received with favour; with their funny burlesque turn, *The Dimple Sisters*, Ferguson and Mack are very amusing; in his pot-pourri, *Le Café Chantant*, Henri Cazman and company are vastly entertaining and smart; a very clever and expert balancing act by Alfonzo wins applause; the Hargreaves Trio are responsible for original comedy; Rita and Roma are a couple of versatile entertainers; Harry Elliston and company are boisterously funny in their sketch, *Aunt Matilda*; and the Palace Perfection pictures are interesting.

BRIGHOUSE.—ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Martin Manley, sen.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, jun.—After an absence of four years, Messrs. Levy and Cardwell have paid a welcome return visit with *Hop o' My Thumb*, juvenile pantomime. The title-rôle is in the hands of Little George Harris, a clever child comedian; Miss Daisy Wood is a charming Prince Uno; Miss Evelyn Major a delightful Rupert; Mr. Vivian Wakeman an excellent Dame; and Mr. Stanley Annison a very good Jerry.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Will Casey's company is here with *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar achieves distinct success with her skilful treatment of the title-rôle; Mr. Walter A. Chitham gives a clever enactment of the villainous Phillip Blackstone; Miss Ethel Spense acquits herself admirably as Elsie Langham; Mr. L. Ernest's John Hawthorne is well played; Mr. Dennis Renton makes a capital Frank Armstrong; and the humorous element is very effectively presented by Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer, Mr. Dicky Bird as Kit, and Mr. H. Hamerton as Constable Bolt.

ALHAMBRA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. R. Smith.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is attracting good houses here this week with *The Bad Girl of the Family*. Miss Violet Crossley displays finished and convincing acting in her treatment of the title-character; Mr. Alexander R. Bradley is highly successful in his portrayal of the villainous Harry Gordon; Miss Daisie Cook makes a charming Gladys Erskine; Mr. James C. Taylor submits a good character study as Lord Erskine; Mr. Richard Lane is admirably suited as Lieut. Richard Marsh; Mr. Luke Forster is amusing as Barney Gordon; and able support is given by George Belmore as Jerry Holmes, Mr. Tom May, as Sammy Snozzle, and Miss Sadie Southern as Mrs. Moore.

BARRASFORD'S HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—George Graves and company are highly successful in *Koffo of Bond Street*; Mark Leslie is an excellent coon artist and eccentric dancer; the Ausonia Trio are sensational equilibriste; Tom Franks, with his automaton, "Billy," submits a pleasing turn; Smann Sing Hpoo, the miniature man and ring performer, is well received; Sam Thompson is a capital Scotch comedian. Mr. and Mrs. Alaska are effective in their eccentric dancing act; and A. E. Clifford is an able vocal comedian.

WEST PIER.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Miss Vera Leslie and company opened here on Monday with *Cousin Kate*. Miss Leslie gave a charming enactment of the title-part; Mr. Henry Doughty submitted an admirable representation of Heath Desmond; Mr. Philip Lawton was well placed as the Rev. James Bartlett; Miss Maud Stoner made a graceful Amy Spencer; Miss Madge Laverton displayed able acting as Mrs. Spencer; and satisfactory support was rendered by Master Walter Neville (Bobby Spencer) and Miss Myra Selwyn (Jane).

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Martin Harvey commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when *The Only Way* was played. Mr. Harvey scored his accustomed success as Sydney Carton; Miss N. de Silva played Mimi with her usual charm; Miss Brenda Gibson was pleasing as Lucie Manette; Mr. Cowley Wright was decidedly good as Charles Darnay; Mr. Fred Wright, sen., was impressive as Dr. Manette; Mr. Charles Glenney was excellent as Ernest Defarge; and Mr. Percy Foster and Mr. Philip Howland made the most of Mr. Lorry and Mr. Stryver. *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, *An Idyll of Seven Dials*, and *Richard III.* are also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr Henry C. Ahy.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is here with *The Beggar Princess*, the drama being staged in good style and acted well. Mr. Cassidy plays the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh capitally, both his humour and pathos being acceptable; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy presents a fine study of Seaweed (afterwards the Princess Henri of Slavonia); Miss Ada Roscoe displays considerable power as the Countess Olga; and Miss Isabel Hunt makes a smart Tommy Bostock. Mr. Juan D'Alberti acts well and consistently in the unpopular part of the Duke Serglus Rubinoff; Mr. Alfred Boxhall is sufficiently dignified as the King of Slavonia; Mr. Henry Danson does well as Duke Michael; and all the remaining parts are in capable hands. The trained goat introduced into the play is amusing.

PALACE. — Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Fuji Family head the bill and prove excellent acrobats, jugglers, and equilibrists; the Six Ceylons do some smart acrobatic work in *A Dream of an Opium Den*; John S. Leick and Mabel Keith are successful with their musical speciality; Reginald Jecks, "the balladmonger," is appreciated; George Prince amuses with quaint songs; the Floradora Girls sing and dance in good style; Selby and Myers entertain with song, dance, and patter; W. G. Wesley has some amusing patter; and Gladys Re-Vell is a pleasing vocalist. Animated pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Pearce Lucas; Manager, Mr. Sid. Macaire.—The bill is headed by Lelia Roze, who has some pleasing songs, composed by herself, which she renders with her accustomed skill; Ruhart, comedy parodist, presents a succession of burlesque productions in amusing style; Carl and Mary Ohms have a clever animal act with well-trained ponies, monkeys, and dogs; Violet Romaine is a pleasing vocalist; Cameron Matthews and Jessamine Newcombe do well with their dramatic sketch *The Supreme Sacrifice*; Lillian French gives impersonations of well-known artists successfully; Will, Vi, and Luis entertain as harmony and burlesque artists; Sid Bandon, comedian, is appreciated, as also is Archie Pitt, comedian; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*Send Him Victorious* is giving much satisfaction. Mr. Montague Beaudyn plays the hero, Captain Allison; the scheming Countess Cora Von Mechlinberg is well sustained by Miss Irene Munroe; Miss Cora Patey is a charming heroine as Ethel Harding; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt plays the villainous Colonel Kaufman with vigour; and Mr. G. E. Dunstan, Mr. Wm. Melvyn, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. E. Benson, Mr. Ancart, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, and Miss Phyllis Rae give good studies of their various parts.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Music-lovers have a treat in Cavaliere Castellano's Italian Grand Opera Company. The principal artists are of high standard, possessing rich, full voices, which are used to advantage in conjunction with brilliant acting. On Monday *Il Trovatore* was presented to a full house. Signora Defral, who has a voice of delicious purity and power, sings the rôle of Leonora; and Signor Barbato as Manrico achieved a triumph. Signor Vail as the Count displayed a voice of volume and tone; and Mme. Govetta Castellano as the Gipsy scored an artistic success. Signor Vittori was excellent as Fernando. On Tuesday a fine performance was given of *Rigoletto*, and *Faust*, *La Traviata*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and *Carmen* are also in the week's bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Maria Racko and her partner give a wonderful hand-balancing turn; and Jordan and Harvey are a couple of exceedingly funny Hebrew character delineators. The Mackinnon Family are a talented troupe of musicians with good selections; and Harry Drew is a bass singer of considerable merit. J. W. Gallagher, comedian, is a great favourite; and enjoyable items are provided by Polo and Florence, hand balancers; Ben E. Verity, coon comedian; and the Empire Theatrescope, with pictures of lake scenery.

PALACE THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Rentoul.—A strong company is presenting *The Bad Girl of the Family* in place of the usual variety programme. Miss Florrie Kelsie cleverly plays the rôle of Bess; and Miss A. E. Belmore is a sweet and sympathetic Gladys Erskine. Mr. R. M. St. Johns as Lieut. Richard Marsh does excellent emotional work; and Mr. Sydney Lynn is a capable villain as Harry Gordon. An admirable Jew is Barney Gordon as represented by Mr. Barnett Lando; and the comedy business of Miss Nellie James as Sally Smithers and Mr. George H. Aspin as Sammy Snozzles is well conceived and executed. The intervals between acts are pleasantly filled by the Palace pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body.—The attraction here is Mr. Frank Adair's company in *It's Always the Woman*. Miss Louie Adair acts with much charm as Lady Margaret; Miss Lily Prescott as Paula Carlton gives a clever performance; Miss Felicia Firmin is an admirable Nancy; and little Bertha Hanbury is especially good as the child, Marjorie Desmond. Mr. Frank Adair is a great success as the villainous Major Stevington; Mr. Walter Clarke plays Jack Desmond with ability; Mr. Dudley Wynton is successful as Lord Grasmere; and Mr. Herbert Sydney as Mike O'Flynn and Miss Ena Hamilton as the maid, Barker, are responsible for much humour.

BURY (Lancs). — ROYAL. — General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—This house is given over to variety for one week only and a bill of exceptional strength is submitted. *The Touch of the Ch'ld*, presented by William Mollison and his company, is a real dramatic treat. As Colonel James Fullard Mr. Mollison adds to his already high reputation, and he is ably assisted by Mr. Archie W. Chappall, Miss Evelyn McKay, and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald; St. Ruth and Conyers are operatic duettists of distinct merit; Edna Mayne is a particularly clever dancer; lightning paintings are executed by D'Aulby; the Bros. Miller are clever gymnastic comedians and are funny in their burlesque wrestling act; Bennett and Martell are popular comedians; a great local favourite is seen in Jennie Johns, comedienne; and Ottograph pictures complete.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. McPherson.—Pictures continue to attract large audiences, and pleasing variety is added by the Sisters Empson, duettists and dancers; and Eileen Hope, vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—Combining excellent vocalisation and clever comedy, the Columbia comedy Trio are a most popular turn; Amy Anderson and company appear successfully in *The Banana Queen*; Marie Jones is a smart and versatile protean actress, and, assisted by Mr. Ernest Munro, presents a quick-change playlet, *Wanted, the Co-respondent*; some remarkable feats with the whip and lariat are performed by the Codys; Clifford Stuart, comedian; Ariel and Astarte, gymnasts, in pot-pourri act; and Dixie Girls, in a pretty vocal and terpsichorean scena, *The Silver Coon*, make up a most enjoyable show.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Maron.—A variety programme is the attraction here, headed by Charcot and this automatic man. Other turns are Gracie James, serio and dancer; Nancy Lee, the girl ventriloquist; Theo Leslie, comedian; Violet Seymour, chorus singer; and the Wanas, in a clever contortionist display.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*Charley's Aunt* was played here on Monday. Mr. Hugh Wakefield worked hard and successfully as Lord Babs; Messrs. Richard B. Mason and Robert Burnett made their parts very interesting; Mr. Thos. McCausland Stewart, Mr. Henry Hare, and Mr. Arthur Dennis were prominent; and the ladies were charmingly embodied by Miss Mary Stafford, Miss Janet Gillette, Miss Grace Denbiegh-Rupell, and Miss Phyllis Bark.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon.—Mr. Dudley Bennett and Mr. T. C. Wray's company, by arrangement with Mr. George Dance, has been giving entirely successful representations of *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Hook is humorously portrayed by Mr. Edmund Russell; Mr. Vernon Booth makes an ideal Captain Paap, and Mr. Sam Lockridge is highly successful as the Bandmaster; as Simon Slinks Mr. Reginald Hunter is no less successful; while the ladies' parts are without exception, well played, Miss Margaret Paton making a charming Miss Hook and Miss Muff Carewe a chic Mina.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Lewis Waller is here in his latest success, *Bardelys the Magnificent*. Miss Madge Titheradge, in the part of Roxalonne, submits a charming delineation; Mr. William Haviland as Comte de Castelroux displays great ability; Mr. Herbert Jarman gives a faithful rendition of Louis XIII.; Mr. Richard Dane makes the most of his opportunities as Laurent; Vicomte de Laveden has a capable exponent in Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth; and the comicalities of Ganymede are most skilfully brought out by Mr. Alec F. Thompson; Mrs. A. B. Tabbing is successful as Vicomtesse de Laveden.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor.—The great attraction here is the appearance of Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, who have delighted everyone with selections from their extensive operatic répertoire; the Brothers Griffiths, the inimitable eccentric comedians, pay a return visit; the Kirbys cause continuous laughter; Tom Jones, described as the whimsical Welshman, renders a couple of merry songs in irresistible style; Ouida Macdermott commands considerable favour; and the Eight Empire Girls are entertaining in song and dance. Lilian is a cyclist of extraordinary ability; Johnnie Walker is a clever comedian; and the American Bioscope once again concludes the evening's performance.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson; Secretary, Mr. A. E. Perkins, A.C.A.—The mysterious melodrama *A Woman of Two Lives* is presented here by Miss Hilda Beverley's company. Miss Beverley is a powerful and artistic Ogarita and Angela Fenton; Mr. Herbert Pearson is responsible for a manly impersonation of Capt. West; Mr. James Jarrett capably fills the exacting rôle of Garda Khan; Mr. Jack Armitage as Lord Tremaine plays in a bright and easy style; Mr. Arthur Swaine as Colonel Fenton is particularly good; a notable delineation is the Dranpandi Lares of Miss Mary Brammer; Miss Hetty Schuster is pleasant and dignified as Lady Arabella Mountphaton; and Miss Marie E. Robertson (Lottie London) and Mr. E. Hall Eldon (Dick Smarter) are a clever pair of fun-makers.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Man., Mr. Arthur Barton.—On the top here are the Three Michael Richardinis, who achieve success in a particularly refined gymnastic performance; Mr. Richard Flanagan's comedy sketch, entitled *Compensation*, is one of the funniest acts seen for some time. Cash and Clair, Jack Sheridan, the Oakes Duo, Milner and Storey in *A Breach of Promise*, and Cromo and Hamilton are also in the bill.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*A Royal Divorce* is on a return visit here. Miss Edith Cole acts with her accustomed charm of manner as Josephine; Mr. Frank Bradley plays Napoleon effectively; Mr. Geo. Trail handles the part of Talleyrand judiciously; the Marquis de Beaumont is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. Hartopp; and Mr. George Hudson causes roars of laughter as Grimaud. Miss Grace Murielle is all that can be desired as Marie Louise, and Miss Dorothy Garth is dainty and winsome as Stephanie.

THE PALACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager,

Alfonso to perfection; and the Bombito of Mr. Arthur Wingrave is invested with suitable dignity; Miss Edith Barwell is very amusing as Isabellita; Miss Winnie Browne as Anita charms the house with her skilful dancing and effective acting; and Miss Hebe Bliss as Consuelo uses her sweet voice to good effect.

CHYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—Prominent in the bill this week is Ella Dean, the popular chorus comedienne; R. M. Stratmore, comedian and instrumentalist, has an extremely clever performing dog; and Bob Campbell, one-legged comedian and dancer; Will Candlish, negro comedian; Nannie Shaw, vocalist and dancer, and the Bioscope complete an entertaining evening.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Wilson Howard and company, in *Under the Iron Heel*, are here for six nights. Mr. Howard himself gave a fine performance as René; whilst Miss Carlotta Anson as Geraine acted impressively; Mr. Henry Parr made a convincing villain (Otto Marx); whilst his underling Schultz was humorously portrayed by Mr. Carl Vallender; Miss Marie Angus was a pleasing André; whilst a capital impersonation was that of Maman Gouffe by Miss I. Douglas-Hicks; Mr. Dennis Clyde was a painstaking Major Schromberg; and Mr. Austin H. Longford was always popular as Sergt. Bleucher.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King.—Leo Dryden, with popular numbers, is a big attraction here; the Smythson Comedy company, in *The Lie Alarm*, present a humorous novelty; Alice Maydue repeats her previous low-comedy success; Mlle. Sylvesto and Cown Rumbo, in a pot-pourri contortionist act, are very clever; Harry Luck, with his trio of songs, does well; Percy Dalton dances in fine style; Bert Welda and Dorothy Wynne combine juggling and dancing in meritorious style; and the pictures complete.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The Five Tritons top the bill with an electrical musical scena, which is encored; Craig, Roze, and Craig are smart gymnasts; and a good juggling act is presented by Ray, Miles, and Ray; *The Little Colonel*, a very pretty sketch, is submitted by Ernest Montefiore, Belle Vicars, and Little Ivy Laurel.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—A capital programme includes Sisters Gaye, comediennes and dancers; Three Alskarnos, original and amusing comedians; and a series of interesting films.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—Johnny Dwyer is the attraction here, and his jokes and patter keep the house highly amused; Will and Roze present a neat comedy act; and the Dancing Mellas are appreciated. Good pictures are added.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J Bell.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, in *The New East Lynne*, is drawing crowded houses. The play is very popular here, being by Mr. Edward Gurney, a Cork man. Miss Violet Escott gives an artistic rendering of Lady Isabel, her acting being full of tenderness and pathos; Archibald Carlyle is in the excellent hands of Mr. Frederick Victor; and Mr. Paddy Dupres plays Murty O'Flynn with much humour.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The principal turn here is Arthur Aldridge, who possesses a tenor voice of excellent quality; Jack and Evelyn cleverly provide fun; Herbert La Martine, eccentric dancer, arouses great admiration; the Mars Trio do daring gymnastic feats; the Richards Trio of comedy acrobats are extremely entertaining; Madge Beresford, comedienne, contributes catchy songs; Charissie Cross, comedienne and dancer, succeeds in pleasing; and the Palascope pictures are new.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The King's Romance* is presented by Miss Mary Austin, Mr. Vivian Edmonds, and company. The part of Prince Andrea is skilfully played by Mr. Vivian Edmonds, and as Vera Miss Mary Austin proves a very charming actress; Paul is ably sustained by Mr. Wm. H. Dewhurst; Mr. Arthur Estcourt as Baron Cavonia is successful; Miss Ethel Vinroy as Lizette and Miss Bella Power as Madame Pomeroy, act exceedingly well. The piece is well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—Large audiences are being attracted, the chief item on the programme being *Humanity*, by Mr. John Lawson's company; Silvani is played by Mr. R. W. Owen; John Cuthbert by Charles Stafford; Captain Grey by Mr. F. Leveson; Mrs. Grey by Miss Maud Bablington; and Adel by Miss Rosamond Thompson. The Two Anartos provide a fine comedy and musical turn; Harry Friskey is a clever juggler; the Four Rosebuds and Will and Nell are clever dancers. Other artists who do well are Hal Forde, popular singer; Edie Veno, eccentric comedienne; and Lily Black, dainty songstress. The bioscope concludes.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Res.-Manageress, Mrs. Davidson.—We have had drama again here this week, Mr. Morton Powell's company, with *A Girl's Temptation*, being the attraction. The part of Guy Warren was ably undertaken by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Clifton Earle put in a good performance as Mark Klaw; Mr. Charles Herbert was quite at home in the part of Basil Warren; and Mr. Albert Mann was a typical limb of the law in his delineation of Sammy Sniggles. In Kate Stirling Miss Lalla Stanhope had a strong part, and gave proof of her capabilities; Miss Winnie Donovan also did well as the Lady Constance Heathfield; and Miss Blanche Lee also demands notice in the part of Annie Brown.

EMPIRE PICTURE PALACE.—This house opened on Monday night under the patronage of the chairman and members of the Urban Council.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—Visitors to the Grand are receiving genuine pleasure by the visit of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Smith*. In the title-rôle Miss Jessica Thorne acts with all the skill and tact of an accomplished actress; Miss Eileen Atherley deserves congratulations for her portrait of Mrs. Otto Rosenberg; Miss Kathryn Collier is a charming and convincing Emily Chapman; and Miss Eleanor Delaporte fairly eclipses herself in the character of Mrs. Dallas Baker; Mr. Montague Love is quite up to the mark as Tom Freeman; Mr. Vivian Gilbert does exceptionally well as Algie Peppercorn; Mr. Cecil Brooking gives a scholarly rendering of Mr. Dallas Baker, K.C.; and Mr. George Child is adequate as Fletcher; Mr. Ernest Archer is an attentive and admirable assistant manager.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Vesta Victoria keeps the fun at high pressure, and her rendering of quaint character songs would be hard to improve upon; Boden and Bell are untiring dancers; W. T. Ellwanger and company cause laughter in sketch *Who Did It?* Williams and Warden are very droll in Irish vaudeville act, *Mr. Dooley*; Haley's Garden of Girls is exceedingly pretty and entertaining; Ernesto is a smart juggler and musical equilibrist; Tambo and Tambo are clever double tambouring spinners; and return visits are paid by Clark and Hamilton, Belle Braham, Queenie Essex, and Billy Hobbs. The Bioscope pictures are also shown. Mr. Jay is a popular manager.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—Cinquevalli, inimitable juggler, is causing a sensation here; Herbert Sleath's company plays the dramatic sketch *The Deputy-Sheriff* for all it is worth; Harry Bedford is a first-rate comedian and dancer; the Westwoods are expert cyclists; Dion Wade is a humorous comedian; Sybil St. Elmo, operatic vocalist, is applauded; Beattie and Blanche, duettists, have nice voices; Charles Mildare, comedian and whistler, gives a most enjoyable turn; Mdme. Henriette de Serris is great in artistic bas reliefs, tableaux vivants, and statuary; and the American Bioscope concludes.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Louis Meyer's company is here in *The Woman in the Case*. A charming and sympathetic performance is given by Miss Mabel Trevor as Margaret Rolfe; Claire Forster is played in clever manner by Miss Florence Lloyd; Mr. Leonard Pagden as Thompson gives a good reading; Mr. Clayton Greene as Julian Rolfe plays with vigour; F. C. Ross gives a fine rendering of Louis Klauffsky; Mr. Richard Fielding's Jimmy O'Neill is good; and Miss Sophie Lingwood makes a success as Mrs. Hughes. An original monologue, entitled *Yes, Papa*, written and played by Miss Grete Hahn, went well as a curtain-raiser.

PALACE.—The East Coast Varieties, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nichols.—Charles R. Whittle, comedian, is a great draw here; Leo Teli, mimic, is also well received; Austin Tempie, magician, assisted by Miss Irene Vincent, gives a capital show; the Sisters Castelli are good dancers; and other good turns are Sydney Brandon, character actor; Vena Veima, comedienne and dancer; and Mlle. Marjutti, the tissom lady.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Foremost on a good bill this week is John Clempert, who presents his death-defying mysteries, consisting of escapes from handcuffs, Russian punishment, jackets, and even sealed tanks of water, his turn is remarkably clever, and is preceded by Bioscopic illustrations of his sensational high dives from bridges; Clinko, a young London juggler, provides a smart and up-to-date exhibition which is thoroughly appreciated; Leslie and Stevens are refined entertainers who appear to good advantage in an operetta, *Love Levels All*; Minnie Kaufmann, trick cyclist, performs difficult feats in a manner which is heartily applauded; Walton and Lester, the "world's worst wizards," keep the house in roars of laughter with their drolleries; Harcourt Mills, boy actor, is to be commended for his finely portrayed character studies; Monty Walker, Lancashire comedian, has a budget of excellent songs; and Agnes Tina, a charming mimetic vocalist, is eminently successful.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company occupies the boards this week with a successful nautical drama entitled *Capt'n Jack*. In the title-rôle Mr. Ernest Owttrim is in every way acceptable, and gives a manly interpretation of the character; Miss Nina Blake-Adams achieves success with her sympathetic rendering of Mary, the captain's wife; the villain of the play, Anthony Cliveredge, is cleverly impersonated by Mr. H. Ryland-Leigh; Miss Bettie Manners is charming as Winnie Trent; Miss Ada Arnott is a vivacious Ginge, the barmaid; and Billy Bowster is well played by Mr. Harry Leamer. The remaining characters are capably accounted for by Messrs. Herbert Bentone, R. S. R. Pittard, Owen Edwin, F. Fletcher, J. Otterspool, Ray Costello, Eric Booth, and Sam Payne, who work well for the success of the piece.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Hush Money; or, The Disappearance of Sexton Blake*, is eagerly followed by large audiences. The cast includes Pedro, the bloodhound, whose sagacity is remarkable. Mr. S. Leigh Courtney cleverly undertakes the rôle of Sexton Blake; while Mr. Robert Barton plays the aristocratic villain with great credit. Mr. John Shard, a multi-millionaire, is cleverly impersonated by Mr. H Gomer May; Miss Theresa Osborne makes a charming Lady Muriel Montressor. The other principals are Messrs. H. Hartley, John Lowther, F. Hopkins, and Miss Agnes Paulton.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—Crowded houses are attracted here, the star turn being provided by Achmed Ibrahim's Troupe of Bedouin Arab acrobats; Edward Lauri and May Beatty, in their musical comedy *In Her Boudoir*, keep the house in roars of laughter; the Jackey Trio give a refined entertainment; Charles Santon proves himself a first-rate soprano and double-voiced vocalist; Miss Lily Edwardes is a dainty comedienne; Will Cornish is a great success as a musical bell expert; and Mr. Fred Hallam scores as a comedian. Miss Clara Reich and Mr. John Power are very good in their comedy, entitled *The Chambermaid*.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. and Mrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are appearing here to appreciative audiences in *Her Fatal Marriage*, which is presented twice nightly. Mr Jerrold Heather submits a powerful portrayal of Zaco Malleto, and is repeatedly applauded for some excellent acting; Miss Hilda Shirley gives a remarkably fine rendition of the much-abused Myra Malleto; Mr. Ernest R. Allen as the curate, Wilfred Grey, acts with skill and impressiveness; a sympathetic rendering of Lily is presented by Miss Maud Hastings; Mr. P. Morton Wright gives a fine character study of the half-witted Paul; and Mr. William Allan is successful as Detective Smart. The comedy business is well sustained by Mr. Frank Shepherd as Peter Pimple and Miss Elsie Dene as Dolly Dimple. Mr. P. Laurence does well as Sergeant Wiggins. The mounting is admirable.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr Claude Shayler.—During the week the Dewsbury Amateur Operatic Society have given an excellent representation of *Haddon Hall*, the success being due largely to their energetic coach, Mr. W. G. Bedford, of the Savoy Theatre. Packed houses have been the rule, and local charities, in aid of which the performances have been, will greatly benefit.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The Bros. De Hais appear here in a clever and original club-juggling performance; the Four Broadways excel in the art of dancing; Taffie Harris has an excellent baritone voice, which he uses effectively; Dick Goldsard is very amusing; Beatrice Sullivan is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and the pictures are changed twice weekly.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company has made a welcome appearance here in *Was She to Blame?* Mr. Fred L. Conynghame's conception of William Clark, a broken-down actor, is pleasing; Mr. Martin Pedler brings a martial bearing and clever reading to support the rôle of the hero, Captain George Courtney; Mr. Henry Butland makes a venerable Vicar; Frank Roselle is a capital effort on the part of Mr. George Langdon; Mr. Ken Murray as Timothy Jonathan Frederick Swales and Miss Nita Owen as Sarah Swales are irresistibly humorous; the heroine is engaging played by Miss Margaret Hobart; and Miss George de Lara is a refined Mrs. Kate Russalle.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*The Geisha* is meeting with a cordial reception here. Mr. Edward Carlton causes no end of amusement as Wun Hi, and Miss Aimee Grey as O Mimosa San captivates all by her charm and natural style; Mr. Colin Coop gives a clever interpretation of the Marquis Imari; and Miss Adela Crispen sweetly portrays the rôle of Molly Seamour; Mr. Edmund Sherras is distinctly successful as Reginald Fairfax; and O Juliette Diamante has an admirable impersonator in Miss Renee Reel. The remaining parts are well filled, and the staging and scenery excellent. *A Greek Slave* is also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—At the opening of the Hippodrome season here on Monday large audiences were present at both performances. Montgomery and Moore make a tremendous hit in their funny act; Mr. P. T. Selbit presented Dr. Wilmar's spirit paintings which are truly marvellous and entertaining; the Trio Romanos, in their classical fantastic dances, are cordially received; Sados, boy juggler, is exceptionally clever; Miss Gwennie Llewellyn has a delightful voice and enchants the audience with her vocal numbers; Sarkoezi and Monnier secure well merited applause for an excellent musical turn; Fred Russell and Lillian Held are seen to advantage in their singing and dancing act; Valanche's Football Dogs are greatly enjoyed; and the Royal Bioscope with up-to-date films concludes.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company opened here on Monday with *The Love of the Princess*. Mr. Frank Harvey presents with telling effect the rôle of Prince Conrad, and Miss Maisie Hanbury gives a capital portrayal of the Princess Idalia; Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews gives an able rendering of Count Nicholas Danilo, and Miss Josephine Lee makes a good impression as Constantia; Mr. Charles O'Connor is effective as Lieutenant Orlando, and Miss Maud Steeple acts in pleasing style as Lady Irena Ramona; Mr. John Worth submits a good study of Lieutenant Zaroff; and others deserving of mention are Messrs. John Burton, Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, Mr. W. P. Acock, and Mr. Edgar Morgan.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Miss Florrie Gallimore, in all her latest successes, holds premier position here, and fully merits the applause which greets her; Verno and Voyce appear with much success in their musical sketch, *John Bull's Cash Box*; the King's College Boys, in their vocal scena, *The Students*, are loudly applauded; Ross Warren, eccentric comedian, scores; and Lola Patey, character comedienne, gives a capital turn; Sullivan and Edwards, comedians and dancers, are well received; and Violet Mills wins plaudits for her excellent dancing and singing; Ben Albert, a smart vocal comedian, and the Empire pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The O-K-Dians have a refined and original act; *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, presented by Mr. Richardson's company, causes no end of laughter; Lois Audrey, comedienne, renders her numbers pleasingly; and Fred Brick, quaint comedian, scores. Other turns are Rozel, "King of the Air"; Dalvere and Wallace, in laughter and song; Jack Hamilton, comedian; Athelda, champion lady athlete; Harriett Rose, vocal comedienne; and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—A good all-round programme includes George Casey, a laughter-provoking comedian; Miss Genie Elen, a dainty comedienne; Bell and Demey, comedy duettists; Lieutenant Uniquem, a capital ventriloquist; Arthur Green, Irish comedian; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*When London Sleeps* is appealing to Dudley audiences this week. Mr. Kenneth Norbury invests the part of Captain Rodney Haynes with sufficient villainy, and is ably seconded by Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Hilda Carode; Mr. George B. Daiper played the hero, David Englehart, in a convincing style; and the heroine, Queenie Carruthers, found a pathetic representative in Miss Mabel Scudamore. The comedy element was well to the fore in the parts of Sammy Blythe by Mr. Harry Cooke and Carrie Jones by Miss Mabel Tremare. Miss Christine Middleton threw herself with thorough abandon into the part of Maudie de Frere, and her business with the Hon. Bertie Broomhead (Mr. Charles Rogers) was highly amusing.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Colin.—Miss Harriet Vernon, in a beautifully dressed and staged scena, "Emblems," delights everyone here this week. The clever troupe of Tennessee Guards are paying a very welcome return visit; the Lador Troupe of male and female acrobats neatly perform many original tricks, and the Famous Unos give a graceful trapeze act. Mollie Doon, comedienne and dancer, has a sweet voice; Fremel and Fremel, eccentrics, are old favourites; Leslie Race is a good light comedian; and Clifton Hall, versatile vocalist, has a powerful voice. The Empire Pictures complete.

DUMFRIES.—MECHANICS' HALL.—Agents, Messrs. James Hiddleston and Sons.—*The Bondman* was presented here by Mr. Durward Lely and company on Saturday and Monday last. Mr. Durward Lely as Jason played with remarkably fine dramatic emphasis, and his rendering of "The Reaper's Song" was enthusiastically received. As an encore he sang "Corn Riggs.' Mr. J. Clifford Wright as Father Ferrati achieved a noteworthy success; the part of Michael Sunlocks was well interpreted by Mr. Frank Kelland; Miss Georgina V. Clifford as Greeba was admirably suited; Mrs. Durward Lely as Mrs. Fairbrother plays in excellent fashion; Mr. Clive Woods as Adam Fairbrother, Mr. James Finlayson as the Grandfather, Mr. Gerald Poole as Dr. Boni, and Mr. Jack C. Gray as Governor Testa were worthy of special mention.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart's Opera company, in *Les Cloches de Corneville*, has drawn good audiences here this week. As the Marquis de Corneville, Mr. Cyril Thompson acts with ease and finish, his fine voice making an excellent impression; Mr. E. St. Alban in the rôle of Gaspard acts throughout with consummate skill; Mr. Arthur Geary displays his fine singing voice to advantage as Grenicheux; Mr. Fred Dark is unctuous as the Bailie; Mr. Alfred Selby is an amusing Gobo, his eccentric dancing meeting with warm appreciation; Miss Kitty Dale, a pleasing actress and delightful singer, does capitally as Germaine; Miss Dolly Castles makes a chic and vivacious Serpolette; Miss Lucy Kipling submits a clever impersonation of Christophe; and the Village Girls have attractive representatives in Misses Jessie Hamilton, Kitty Rawlinson, Alice Hornsby, and Mabel Ross. The orchestra is under the skilful bâton of Mr. Knight Pearce.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—A good all-round bill is headed by Leonie de Lausanne, lady champion rifle shot of the world, whose performance is both marvellous and interesting; Frank Fenton, in a tabloid version of *David Garrick* gives a finished performance of the title-rôle, and is charmingly supported by Miss Lilian Stennis as Ada Ingot; Frank Seeley's eccentricities are heartily enjoyed. Little Frankie, the Highland laddie, presents an entertaining item; Edie King, in her dancing scena, "Music of Dancing," proves herself a veritable queen of terpsichore; Alice Blandford, billed as the New Zealand Nightingale, possesses a voice of remarkable power; the Three Krakes, in a diverting comedy act, entitled *The Electric Car Conductor*, keep the risible faculties of the audience working at high pressure; Danvers and Rosslyn score in their amusing piano absurdity, *Pantomime Boy*; the Fordyces are expert dancers; Rich and Rich simply bubble over with wit and humour; and Jury's Bioscope completes.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company provides the bill of fare here this week. On Monday *The Mockery of Marriage* was staged. Mr. Arthurs in the dual part of Dick Kenyon and Sir Montague Jephson proves himself full of resource, and is a complete success; Mr. Gerald Ord plays Jack Stanley with much skill, and is equally successful as Ned Stanley; Mr. J. Barker is an excellent Joseph Vernham; Messrs. J. E. McCann and R. A. Armfield as P.C. Augustus Rice and Seth Pearse are responsible for the comical element, and succeed in making the most of their respective parts; Miss Mabel Elliott makes an admirable Adva Kenyon; Miss Ida Lovatt is a good Nellie Kenyon; Miss Molly Richardson a clever Rose Vernham; and Miss Ada Band a highly-amusing Mary Ann Barnicoat.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Ernest Leicester and his company are appearing here in *East Lynne*. A convincing portrayal of Isabel is given by Miss Kathleen Russell; Miss Mary Bronton worthily sustains the comedy work as Cornelia; Miss Lydia Busch is an appealing Barbara; and Misses Dora Levis and Violet Crowe give capital support as Joyce and Susanne. Mr. Ernest Leicester handles the part of Archibald Carlyle with culture and feeling; Mr. Charles Goodhart is an easy Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Harry V. Sanford does praiseworthy work as Sir Francis Levison; Mr. Edwyn Sykes as Justice Hare and Mr. Ernest Spalding as Lawyer Dill help the laughter along; Mr. Ashmore Vincent is a quietly effective Dick Hare; Mr. Harry Bristow is a facetious Postman; and Miss Hermone Lester plays prettily the part of Willie.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. F. Woodward.—Heading the bill here this week are the Five Whiteleys, whose tumbling, balancing, and acrobatic business are as clever and smart as anything seen here for some time; Grogie, the Sussex yokel, is a funny comedian; Mr. Henri Alexander is a skilful foot balancer; Mr. Ned Graydon is both funny and talented as a comedy musician; Miss Marie Goodwin, pretty and dainty, is a charming comedienne and dancer; Cooper and Preston are successful patterers and dancers; Madge and Teddy Coynes have a smart sketch, *Jane and the Kid*; and Mr. Sam Fay as a comedian completes.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is this week in *Happy-go-Lucky O'Lyn*. As Bryan O'Lyn, Mr. John Child acts and sings delightfully; Mr. Reginald Adair as Frank Fentiman proves himself the possessor of a sonorous bass voice; Miss Anna Hickisch as Kathleen O'Lyn acts in a dainty and pleasing manner, whilst her cultured soprano voice is heard in several well-known Irish ballads; Miss Marie Alexander as Aunt Charlotte also sings and acts well; and Mr. S. Lansdale has a capital drinking song to which he does full justice.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry F. Ashton.—The diversions of *Charley's Aunt* are made as entertaining as ever by the author's London company, now touring this world-famous piece. The leading "lady's" part is presented with irrepressible humour by Mr. George A. Seager; while the two undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham, have amusing interpreters in Mr. Francis Drake and Mr. Cecil Kerr. Their ladyloves, Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue, are attractively played by Miss Bertha Northam and Miss Ruth Henton; Miss Helen Palgrave is excellent as Donna Lucia; and Miss Gladys Storey acts nicely in the rôle of Ella Delahay. Mr. C. F. Collings and Mr. Sydney Compton are thoroughly at home in the elderly parts of Colonel Chesney and Stephen Spettigue; and Brasset is made the most of in a quiet way by Mr. E. Christopher. An interesting playlet, also by Mr. Brandon Thomas, and entitled *The Lancashire Sailor*, preceded the comedy. Mr. Drake, Miss Nancy Harding, Mr Collings, Miss Northam, and Mr. Compton rendered this curtain-raiser very enjoyably.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore's company has been providing a veritable feast for Ibsenites at this theatre by giving a selection from the works of the Norwegian dramatist. *Hedda Gabler* was played on Monday evening, the chief honours in an excellent cast being carried off by Miss Kenmore by her finished performance of the title-rôle. It is a difficult part to act, but Miss Kenmore showed herself quite equal to the task, and played throughout with a power which greatly impressed the audience. Mr. Leigh Lovel was an effective Lovborg; and Mr. Frederick Meads, in a clever, well-studied impersonation of Judge Brack, made a distinct hit. Mr. Cland W. Sykes was careful but convincing in his portrait of the absent-minded Tesman; Miss Daisy Race presented a pathetic figure as Mrs. Elvested; and Miss Katherine Maynard and Miss Sylvia Dawson were admirable in the respective parts of Miss Juliana Tesman and Bertha. The programme for the week has comprised *The Master Builder*, *A Doll's House*, *When We Dead Awaken*, and *John Gabriel Borkman*.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Armand Muscard.—Miss Florrie Forde headed this week's programme with an entertaining selection of catchy chorus songs, which hugely delighted her hearers; and the comedienne element was further effectively worked by Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, as well as by Miss Ruth Lytton, both of whom approved themselves popular Scottish vocalists; and Miss Odeyne Spark sang and danced very acceptably. The Brothers Horne furnished considerable amusement with their burlesque boxing sketch; Stacey and Williams contributed some exceedingly diverting patter; the Victor Brothers displayed great skill and dexterity as herculean equilibrists; Fred Barnes was alike successful in songs of sentiment and of humour; Syd Walker created hearty laughter as "the furniture man"; Dan Conroy came out strong in the triple rôle of patter comedian, vocalist, and quaint dancer; and the usual Bioscope exhibition of pictures concluded a pleasant bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—A capital programme here introduces, in the premier position, "Princess" D'Aryaba, a dancer of much grace, who, in an Eastern scene, gives a delightful exhibition of various classical dances. The Princess has the able assistance of M. Barthelemy, a picturesque and exhilarating dancer from the Imperial Opera House, St. Petersburg. Mr. Edmund Maurice's company appears in a strong one-act play, entitled *Blind*, the acting of Mr. Henry Latimer and Miss Laura Hansen being marked by considerable dramatic power; and a pleasant sketch, *The Little Puritan*, is presented by France and Stewart. Of the other turns, an admirable ventriloquist act is provided by Thora, whose work is both clever and amusing; Cruikshank causes great laughter by his humorous songs and stories; and the Sutcliffe Family of Scottish acrobats submit an exceedingly good entertainment of gymnastic feats, pipe music, and dancing. Stephens and Rennoir, comedians; Jock Whiteside, a capable Scottish comedian; the Three Belle Belles, comediennes; and views shown by the American Bioscope add to the attractiveness of the bill.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—J. H. Wakefield has a cordial reception as a coon delineator; Nora Heaton, the lady baritone, possesses a strong voice, and renders her songs in capital style; Arthur Bright pleases immensely as a comedian and Milanese piper; much ability is shown by Clarice Mignon as a banjo soloist; the musical comedy speciality act of Warren and Granville affords great satisfaction. Several interesting and up-to-date animated pictures are thrown upon the screen, including the launch of the great White Star liner Olympic.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. H. P. Towers' company in *The Best People*, is proving a popular attraction. As Lord Emsworth Mr. Henry Renouf gives unmistakable proof of his histrionic talent; Mr. Frederick Sargent as the Hon. Gerald Bayle submits a capital study; and Mr. Claud Haviland as Lord Wynlea is true to life. Mrs. Evelyn Summers makes the most of her opportunities as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle; and Miss Irene Lavington does extremely well as Lady Emsworth. Mr. C. Forester as Jackson and Mr. Edward Nimmo as Jas. Spofforth also deserve commendable notice. *The Last Night* precedes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. Sandy.—The top of the bill is *The Yellow Fang*, powerfully presented by Miss Mary Mayfren's company. Miss Violet Campbell as Judith Beck shows much histrionic ability, and Mr. Frank Annesley as a drunken sport is also very real; and the part of Hung-Kow, the keeper of the den, is well done by Mr. Geo. Pickett. *The Child* and the juvenile actor musicians presented by Mr. Edward Platt are great favourites. Ethel Bourne is a talented contralto vocalist; Master Cliff Diamond, a smart young comedian and dancer, is a popular turn, and so is that of Cestra, the comedy juggler. Mona Garrick is a talented elocutionist; and Field and Lewis give an amusing burlesque.

EXMOUTH.—KING'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint.—Fine business is being done at this popular place of amusement, the two houses nightly being packed with enthusiastic audiences. The programme of pictures is unusually attractive, while the celebrated Four Watsons contribute a musical and comedy act that is greeted with thunders of applause. Comic songs, phono songs, and other items are introduced, the entertainment being of a very attractive nature.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Marcus Draper's company in *The Christian* fills the bill here this week, and has attracted large houses. Mr. Baliol Holloway interprets the character of John Storm with force; Miss Elizabeth Risdon makes an able exponent of Glory Quayle, and Mr. Benson North fulfils the general conception of the evil, blasé, sneering man of the world to a nicety; Mr. N. Burgess Barrett as Horatio Drake, Miss Maisie Richardson as Polly Love, Mr. Aylmer Williams as Archdeacon Wealthy, and Miss Rosa Burgess as Mrs. Callander, also sustain their parts admirably.

FERNDALE.—NEW THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. David Williams; Secretary, Mr. William James.—*The New Frivolity*, including the Original Leopolds, was played here the first three nights of the week with success. Mr. Harry Douglas was really fine as Oliver Buckwheat; Mr. Willie Leopold as Samuel Vermiglio created much merriment; as Daniel Teething Mr. Fred Leopold, jun., was excellent; Mr. Tom Leopold provided a successful interpretation of Jules Vermiglio; Miss Kathleen Kavanagh was seen to advantage in the part of Madame Cobweb; Mr. W. H. Howarth as Mick and Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat were excellent; Miss Winnie Leopold made a typical schoolgirl as Maud; and Mr. R. Valls was a realistic page. The U.S.A. Girls are a clever troupe of dancers, and the acrobatic tricks by the Leopolds are capital. The piece was preceded by *The Houseboat*. *The Sign of the Cross*, by Mr. C. W. Bowes's company, is billed for the last three nights.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Folkestone is favoured this week with a visit of Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company in *The Merchant of Venice*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Richard the Third*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet*. On Tuesday night the company gave an excellent performance of *Richard III.* to a highly appreciative audience, every part being capably portrayed. Mr. Henry Herbert gave his usual finished study in the title-rôle, and Mr. Charles Warburton was exceptionally fine as the ill-fated Duke of Clarence; Mr. Duncan Yarrow was excellent in the double rôle of the luckless King Edward the Fourth and Henry Earl of Richmond; the two young Princes were charmingly acted by Miss Thea Johnson and Miss Celia Lorraine; Miss Hope Trant submitted a brilliant enactment of the aged Duchess of York; and Miss Rosalind Gray fully overcame the difficulties of the part of Lady Anne; as the widowed Queen of Henry VI. Miss Gladys Vanderzee showed real histrionic ability. Mr. Andrew Leigh (Bishop of Ely), Mr. John Cairns (Duke of Buckingham), Mr. H. S. Cohen (Earl of Hastings), Mr. Metcalfe (Duke of Norfolk), and Mr. Wilfred Fletcher (Catesby) were perfect in their respective parts.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Horace Stanley's company appeared here in *The Female Detective*. The title-rôle is effectively represented by Miss Trevoir; Mr. Burden is a typical villain, and Mr. Fore plays well as the hero; the comedy element is safe in the hands of Mr. Stanley.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John R. Fox.—This place of amusement was most successfully opened on Monday night in the presence of a large and fashionable audience by Mr. Norman V. Norman's Répertoire Company with *Lord and Lady Algy*. Previous to the commencement of the comedy Mr. G. W. Smith Neill, Mr. Norman's

films is provided here. Miss Eva Warne (chorus comedienne), Twisty Oliver (character comedian), and Ward and Davis (duettists and dancers) supply the variety.

THE GEM.—Proprietors, the Goodman Entertainment Co.—Manager, Mr. C. Goodman.—The pictures here are quite up to the usual standard, and good items are contributed by Miss Cissie Scott and Leslie Sears (old favourites here), and Lawrence Howard, who possesses a good voice.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—This week The Eternal Question, Ltd., with Mr. G. Ralph Hall Caine as managing-Director, present *The Eternal Question* and *The Bishop's Son*. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine as David Rosse, the turbulent Socialist, in the former play, is strong and vigorous; into the character of Donna Roma Miss Helena Millais brings a winsome personality and sweetness of expression, and her delicacy of treatment adds to the intensity and charm of her performance; as Baron Bonelli Mr. Creagh Henry shows remarkable aptitude; and Mr. Julian Cross give an effective portrayal of Bruno Rocco. Elena has a sympathetic exponent in Miss Agnes Knights. On Thursday and Friday *The Bishop's Son* was presented.

KING'S LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A crowded house on Monday welcomed Mr. James Welch and company in *When Knights were Bold*. The popular comedian was better than ever as the little knight, Sir Guy de Vere, and his amusing sallies were enjoyed immensely; Miss Audrey Ford made a charming Rowena; and Miss Mabel Younge a stately Mrs. Waldegrave; Miss Daisy Cordell as Sarah Isaacson and Miss Annie Chippendale as Alice gave clever renderings of their parts; and the other winsome ladies were attractively played by Misses Maev O'Hea, Hermione Black, and Peggie Kennedy. Mr. Arthur Grenville acted well as the Jew, Isaacson, and Mr. George Desmond was very funny as Charlie Widdicombe; Mr. Guy Lane as the dignified Dean and Mr. Cecil Kinnaird as Sir Brian gave excellent performances; Mr. George F. Tully as Wittle, Mr. Gordon Tomkins as Barker, and Mr. Leopold Profeit as a Herald completed a first-rate cast.

ROYALTY.—Sub-Lessees, the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Wareing; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys.—The Repertory Theatre company is this week reproducing Mr. G. J. Hamlin's comedy *Barbara Grows Up*. The part of Kenneth Morrison was taken by Mr. Campbell Gullan, who plays in easy and finished style; Barbara Morrison has admirable treatment from Miss Muriel Pope; Miss Jean Cadell is an excellent Janet; the Margaret Morrison of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is an interesting study; Mr. Walter Roy makes good use of his opportunities as Andrew Purdie; Miss Winifred Gunn gives a capital character study; and the Barney O'Brian of Mr. Norman M'Keown is very good. The comedy was followed by the National Service League play *The Call*, written by Miss Marianne Stayton.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The chief item on the bill here this week is *The Goose with the Golden Eggs*, in which Mr. Alex Keith keeps the audience in good humour with his impersonation of Turby; Clara is charmingly played by Miss Julia Kent; Mr. Charles Homer is a vigorous Flickster; Mr. Jack Glynn a good Bonser; Mrs. Turby is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Margaret Zaidia; and the Maidservant is well played by Miss Belle Edison.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. George N. Ballinger's company is doing good business with the stirring American play *King of the Wild West*. Young Buffalo's fine romantic portrayal of the title rôle is, of course, the main attraction; as Wild Nell Miss Caroline May Blaney's acting is gay and spontaneous; another pleasing assumption being the Kate Morton of Miss Mary McCarthy. Jack Morton is played with considerable spirit by Mr. Edwin J. Collier; Bluffington is represented with good effect by Mr. George W. Cockburn; and Yellow Face is suitably taken by Mr. Antonine Provost; the part of old Morton being ably filled by Mr. Ernest Foster.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's principal company in *A Broken Heart* is here this week; Mr. John S. Millward as John Barnard, master blacksmith, and Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mary Barnard carry off leading honours; Mr. Denis Hogan as Stephen Railton, assisted by Mr. Vernon Travers as Gash Gills, a social terror, supply the evil influences with marked ability; while Mr. Newton Pearce as Tony Tibbets does full justice to the lighter elements.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey are this week delighting good houses at the Govan Theatre. In the part of Roy O'Donohoe in *Rollicking Rory* he is particularly well suited; Mr. J. P. McBride as Desmond Fitzgerald possesses the convincing style of an accomplished actor; and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey takes the part of Rosaleen with great credit.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Most enjoyable is the programme here this week. Miss Adrienne Augarde, assisted by Mr. Victor G. Huntly, presents an original and entertaining duologue *Dick's Sister*. The pair work capitally together. Little Elise Craven on a return visit appears with Master Bert Clerc. The duologue is Grecian, and the scene laid in a vineyard on the road to Athens. Both artists dance beautifully. The Bensons, in their pleasing comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*, are responsible for much genuine merriment; Barrett and Knowles are welcome; the Bollingers present their unique rag painting act; Ugo Nap appears with a handful of comedy; Harry Fields is a clever mimic; Alf Chester is responsible for a football song, which catches on. The Bioscope closes the programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The absence of Miss Clarice Mayne from the bill here has been a disappointment to many, but it afforded an excellent opportunity for Miss Frances Letty to appear in her new scena, which was such a hit here recently, and is going even better on the present occasion; Maude Mortimer has several new songs this visit, one being a humorous recital of incidents in real life; J. W. Hall's eccentricities tickled the audience immensely, and he had a rousing recall; Hanvaar and Lee once more show their dexterity in their club juggling act as *The Golfer and the Maid;* the Five Poncherrys give one of the best wire-walking turns seen here for a long time, and proved a great success; the Rangers take well in a cycling turn, the gentleman partner being a particularly clever trick cyclist; Mart and Pep, two smart hand balancers, give a first-rate act; Cuthbertson and Pearson, two juvenile dancers, complete a lengthy bill

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—Harry Lemore, comedy entertainer, tops the bill here in a slack-wire display; Daisy Mayer contributes several coon songs; and other turns include Seener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian Troupe of vocalists and dancers; Florence and Rose Showell, popular duettists; Stewart and Morris, versatile comedians and dancers; Fanny Humber, instrumentalist and dancer; A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian; the Three Kels, gymnasts; and the Claymore Trio, club jugglers.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—The top of the bill this week is Miss Jen Latona, appearing for the first time here as a single turn. She gives a most enjoyable musical act, but the audience miss the humorous relief afforded by Frank Latona, who contents himself this time by attending to the "shouts off" in several of the songs. Staley's musical and transformation act is, as before, cleverly worked, and their selections are much enjoyed; Winifred Ward is becoming a great favourite here, and her various male impersonations are extremely clever; Bros. Ashley contribute their famous boxing sketch, *Next please;* Signor Persichini as a mandolinist is a marvel, and he is accorded hearty applause; Witty Watty Walton once more delights with his humorous patter and impersonations of types of all nations; Mike Nono is a dame comedian of much originality and humour and an expert dancer; Calde's company, in their *Casey's Court* sketch, serve to introduce a host of clever youngsters, both as singers and as comedians.

"DERWENT"

GAS-STEAM RADIATORS

For Heating Theatres.

JOBSON & CO.,
Derwent Foundry, DERBY.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—In the variety line here Miss Rollo Cameron earns merited praise for her catchy songs; Randle and Renee submit humorous patter and attractive singing. A feature of the entertainment is the talking and singing pictures of Miss Ella Retford's popular song "Has anyone seen my Chinese man?"

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Rowan and Moore, vocalists and dancers, have a good reception here; J. H. Harris, Scotch comedian, contributes humorous songs; and the other artists include Miss A. G. Davis, descriptive vocalist; Flem Darrock, light comedian; and the Towers, vocalists and dancers.

HENGLER'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Albert Hengler; Manager, Mr. Harry Milne.—This is the last week of the picture season here, as preparations are afoot for the winter circus attractions. Clarke and Cambridge, two clever Glasgow comedians, excel in cross-talk and humorous ditties; Palette and Otto give an enjoyable and smart turn; Max, the wonderfully-trained dog, is seen in various picturesque poses. An excellent and varied selection of films is shown on the Bioscope.

STAR.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—The Lavelle Brothers are amusing comedy acrobats; Chant and Chant keep the house in good humour; and Mona Marion is loudly applauded for her vocal numbers.

ZOO-CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Councillor E. H. Bostock.—A lengthy and varied programme is this week again submitted. The Prairie Girls with their Wild West bronchos, Mocassin and Rattlesnake, are very popular; a like remark applying to Mlle. Chloe Convere with her talented cake-walking horse Kentucky Beau; the Erneste Family are a trio of splendid equestriennes, whose deeds on horseback are thoroughly enjoyed; an amusing comedy bull fight is presented by the Toreadors with their trained donkey; and Harez and Jabez, the musical clowns get through a lot of genuine work, much to the amusement of the juveniles; Rabbit is prime favourite; Jas. Holloway is wonderfully clever on an unsupported ladder; Ida Evilo is daring on a flying trapeze; Captain George introduces his trained elephant and ponies; the Valdo Bros. are seen to advantage; and Frisk, Harry, and Comical Spuds, a trio of clowns, are responsible for much jollity.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The attraction here this week is Mr. William Pardoe's pantomime *Dick Whittington*. Miss Lottie Holland is a dashing Dick; Miss Cissie Lenore makes a bright and lively Alice; Mr. Tom Hulme as Idle Jack is very mirth-provoking; Mr. Tom Griffith is a capable King Rat; Mr. Frank Vant is a comical and amusing Sarah, the cook; M. Pauli is a decided favourite as the cat; Mr. Joe Verona makes an imposing Emperor; Mr. Harold Carlyle as Khan Tellum and Mr. J. Sherwin as Jim are capable; and Miss Cissie Loveday is charming and vivacious as the Fairy Bowbelle. Pauletti, Finetti, and the Edendale Dancing Trio are responsible for some clever specialities.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Messrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting *Her Secret Lover*. Mr. Edward J. Fletcher as Gilbert Seymour gives a manly impersonation, and Mr. Walter H. Wilson shows marked ability as Capt. Darrell Rose; Miss Laura Walker enlists the sympathies of the audience as Ivy Seymour; Miss Lynn Darlington as a comedy servant is good; Billy Burleigh is well enacted by Mr. Fred Russel; Mr. Alfred Stretton is capital as the villain John Strange; Miss Flora Leslie cleverly portrays the part of Alicia Royale; Mr. Alfred James is successful as the Rev. Arthur Holmes, as is Mr. J. Newton Cowling as Jim Jones; Mr. Frank Wheatley is noticeable as Mr. Murfield; and the remainder of the cast is adequate.

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—The animated pictures are supported by a clever concert party in Mr. Carl Fredricks' Les Vivandières. Miss Kitty Woodford continues to entertain with illustrated songs.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—*The Midnight Wedding* is here this week. The principal rôles are filled by Miss Lilian Hallows, a charming Princess Astrea, and Mr. A. E. W. Barnes, a clever Paul Valmar.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. George Gilbert; Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Unthan, the armless wonder, is creating a sensation by his marvellous performance with his feet; Miss Florrie Humel is repeating her success of last week; the Orenius Troupe perform clever and artistic gymnastic feats; the Northcotes render some charming ballads; McCann introduces well-trained Irish terriers; Edie Anderson is a first-rate dancer; Francis O'Flynn, an expert banjoist; and Doodles, assisted by Pimple, is always introducing new drolleries.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Messrs. Glenville and Elliston's company in *The Wicked City* is here. Harold Vereker is well portrayed by Mr. George Glenville; the rascally Paul Desmond is faithfully drawn by Mr. John Manners; Silas Sefton finds a clever exponent in Mr. George M. Manley; Mr. W. G. Clements is a popular Charlie Chance; and Mr. Val Gulley is successful as Dr. Strangways. Miss Muriel Inglis submits a careful study of Doris Grant; Cora Despard, in the hands of Miss Edith Wallis, was forcibly impersonated; and Miss Queenie Millard as Victoria McCleary shows ability.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—George A. Street is successfully presenting his dramatic episode *The Cattle Thief*, being assisted by a talented company; the Foresters do well with their sketch, *A Society Sinner*, and others in the bill include Ryan and Hall, comedy acrobats; Annie Freedman, a youthful comedienne; Diamond and Hart, comedians and dancers; and James Brady, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the B. B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank L. Clayton.—An excellent series of pictures is exhibited here this week. The Adventuress is strongly dramatic; The Coquette's Suitors conveys a pretty love story; The Moths and the Flame is interesting; By the Faith of a Child is powerfully pathetic; and an amusing number is Tontolini Wants Money.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Lessees, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—Imperial Electric Pictures and varieties continue to please at this popular resort. The Sisters Lucretia and Josephine contribute agreeable singing and dancing; Les Henris, eccentric gymnasts, score; and Sabino, the merry musical monarch, makes a hit.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson are giving a round of Shakespearean plays, which includes *The Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night, The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Julius Cæsar,* and *Macbeth*. In the first-named Mr. Benson gives his well-known rendering of Petruchio, and Mrs. Benson adds a fine portrayal of Katherine. Admirable support is given by Messrs. Alfred Brydone, H. O. Nicholson, Harry Caine, and Miss Elinor Aickin. In *Twelfth Night* Mr. Benson is seen to advantage as Malvolio; Mr. M. Carrington gives a fine rendering of Orsino; Sebastian is well played by Mr. A. Wild; Mr. A. Brydone is a good Antonio; Mr. J. M. Johnston and Mr. H. O. Nicholson are excellect as Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek; Festa is well played by Mr. Harry Caine; Miss E. McDowall is a painstaking Olivia; and Miss M. Patterson an excellent Viola.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—*The Life of a Showman* is here. Mr. Edwin Bretton gives a capital rendering of Sir Noel Hartland; Mr. Frank Sante gives a clever exhibition of strength in the part of Brian Leader, an athlete; and Miss Eileen Bamford is an attractive Mrs. Brien Leader.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Yangar is a clever and versatile conjurer and illusionist; Reg. Beauchamp, eccentric comedian, keeps the house in a continuous roar; the Eight College Girls, singers and dancers, give a smart turn; Doris Druce is a clever and refined juvenile mimic; the Fitzroys give a smart gymnastic display; Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator, is well received; and Ernestine Desborough, comedienne; Ted Karno and company, in *Hotel de Quick;* and the Palace pictures complete.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. Frank H. Corbett. Karl Cynski, the Hungarian musician and one-man band, is very clever. The pictures are varied and attractive.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—The sixth and farewell visit of *Lucky Durham* is paid here. In the title-rôle Mr. Edmund Kennedy is again admirable; Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reggie is capital; Mr. Frank Elton sustains the part of Arthur Welcombe with distinct success; as Lord Mountfallen Mr. Wm. Calvert is decidedly good, and Mr. Charles Wemyss plays Mr. Vallerton commendably; Miss Florence Tresillian as Helen Valerton could scarcely be improved upon; Miss D. Turner is a realistic Hon. Margaret Steighton; Miss Nellie Bonser as Mrs. Durham is delightful, and Miss Frances Wolviston as Lady Mountfallen is very good. Business is excellent.

GRAND. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—The Five Posing Ladies presented by Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil top the bill, which also includes Harry Russon, a clever actor-comedian; Curtis Leo, the "hurricane wizard"; Arthur Croxon, the Yorkshire entertainer; Jay Laurier, who stars as a comedian; the Bellong Brothers, extraordinary cycle equilibrists; Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton in *Mixed Pickles;* and Jessie Buckle, a refined and clever comedienne. Pictures complete.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—An excellent programme of pictures and vaudeville is presented. Merry B. Bright sings well and dances excellently.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. H. Armitage's capable company is presenting *Leah Kleschna*. In the title-rôle Miss Marguerite Cellier's talent enables her to make a striking study of the part; Mr. William Clayton as Kleschna plays with passion and intensity; Mr. Graham Pockett makes a pathetic Schram; Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee as Paul Sylvaine is thoroughly qualified to give the part its due dignity; Raoul Berton has a fine exponent in Mr. E. S. Petley; and another who appears in a well-selected cast is Mr. Harry Wren as General Berton.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company are presenting here, for the first time out of London, Perceval Landon's play, in four acts, *The House Opposite*. Miss Amy Sangster brings to the character of the Hon. Mrs. Rivers a passionate energy altogether admirable; Richard Cardyne has a capital exponent in Mr. Harold V. Neilson, and gives a very finished and suggestive study; an intelligent representation of the Right Hon. Henry Rivers is supplied by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde; Miss Dorothy Blackader is well suited to the part of Marie; Miss Effie Leigh Hunt ably impersonates Mrs. Calthorpe.

ST. LEONARDS AMERICAN PALACE PIER.—Resident-Manager, M. Leopold; Piermaster, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Arthur Levien's répertoire company is still here in *East Lynne*. Mr. Arthur Levien in the dual characters of Lord Mountsevern and Archibald Carlyle greatly distinguishes himself; the part of Sir Francis Levison is played with skill by Mr. Edward Vivian; Mr. Vernon Crabtree as the man of law is admirable; Mr. Fred T. Carroll is very amusing as Sherlock Blue; Miss Sylvia Denny well sustains the rôle of Barbara Hare; and Miss Grace Garside is comically emphatic as Cornelia Carlyle. Little Willy has a sympathetic representative in Miss Currio Marlow; Miss Maud Blaze as Joyce is good; and in the character of Lady Isabel Miss Kathleen Yates is sweet and womanly.

HOUGHTON. — PICTURE PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood.—This week the Bioscope Chronicle, dealing with recent events, is proving a great attraction. Other films include A Modern Cinderella, The Altar of Love, An Impudent Bet, and the Winning Punch.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—Mr. Dickie Clave's company is on return visit here in *Lucky 'Liza*. Mr. Clare, in the rôles of Silas Slim and the judge, is capitally assisted by Mr. Lenord Maitland as Paul Pettitoe; the parts of Barnaby Blatherwick, Peter Pittitoe, and William Biffins are ably portrayed by Messrs. Harry George, T. Benson, and J. W. Forest; Miss Rosie Coyne is especially well suited as Virginia; Miss Vesta Browne plays the title-rôle well.

HOYLAND.—HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Firth.—The attraction here is Mr. C. Watson Mills's company in *A Wrecker of Men*. As Risca Mallison Miss Ruth Zillwood shows histrionic ability; Jim Murley, a slogger, is well depicted by Mr. Arthur S. Pitt; and Miss Marie Ault as Vavasole Slopper introduces a rich vein of humour. Mr. James Willoughby is an excellent Guise Strange; Mr. Eddie Vane is very good as Pharosaphus, and as Reggie Verincourt Mr. John Alexander is excellent. In the dual rôle of Ezekiel Isaacs and Knarnaphus, a mummy, Mr. Chas. E. Lovel is seen to advantage. A sweet and sympathetic Doris Melville is found in Miss Winifred Willard, and Miss Cecily Fisher is a good Marion Isaacs.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Accustomed as he is to success, G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, must have been delighted by the cordiality of the reception he has had on his first visit here; his rich singing, tireless acting, and graceful dancing have been most generously appreciated. Other turns are Marlo, juggler; Miss Lillian Warde, comedienne; J. C. Inman, light comedian; the Marzellos, a pair of amusing triple-bar performers; Miss Carrie Laurie and her smart troupe of juveniles; Randall and Everette, in musical sketch; and the pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—A long and well-varied bill includes Henry Bedford and company in a dramatic little one-act play *The Bottom Dog;* the Eeduns and Scena Vocas, in illustrated songs and vocal duets; Misses Mabel and Hester Reeves, comediennes; the Five Petleys, whose daring aerial act is well and smartly done; Tamamoto, a clever Japanese wire-walker; Geo. D'Albert, a light comedian with an infectious laugh; Martin Adeson and Miss Clara Bernard, in a laughable duologue; Miss Louie Tracy, the dapper dandy boy, in smartly-done male impersonations; and the Palace pictures makes up the list.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Very welcome indeed is the return visit of *The Dollar Princess*, which is being played to crowded houses. Miss Nora Barry plays the rôle of Alice with fine effect; Miss Mabel Russell plays the part of Daisy with considerable humour; as the Lion Queen Miss Madeline Seymour does well; as the hero Mr. Leonard Mackay does excellently throughout; Mr. W. H. Rawlings, always funny, was in fine form as Mr. Bulger; the Earl of Quorn was effectively realised by Mr. Paul Plunkett; and not lacking in merit was Mr. Percy Davison as Sir Jas. McGregor.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Sinner* is presented here this week. Miss Dora Olga quickly won the sympathy of the audience; Mr. Ben Carr played the old fisherman with intensity; the wronged man is cleverly suggested by Mr. Louis Lingard; Miss Nancy Roberts plays Vera Ewen with skill; and Miss Mona Gray is admirable as Meg Stanton.

PALACE THEATRE.— Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Lew Lake and company present the laughable *King Nobbler;* Ethel Arden and George Abel elicit hearty applause with their funny comedy sketch; the Grassis, "musical acrobatic pierrots," submit a delightfully entertaining item; Esta Stella was unable to appear on Monday night, and Miss Doris Trevelyn, who appeared in her place, had an enthusiastic reception for her cultured singing; Horace Wheatley, comedian, scores with Irish songs and neat dancing; Maud Lordy's Dogs perform a number of wonderful tricks; Will Johnson, versatile comedian, and Daisy Martell, a popular comedienne, give appreciative items; and the Bioscope pictures are still popular.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley.—Tom Davies' Trio submit their sensational feat "Motoring in Mid-Air"; Irve Haymen and company in *Christmas Eve* receive hearty approval; Clifford Morgan in a pot-pourri of operatic airs provides a pleasing feature; a novelty act, consisting of singing, whistling, and bird imitation, is successfully exploited by Joe Belmont; Henri Bekker, assisted by Miss Maie, presents a neat conjuring act; Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer, Snowden and Rand, in a new and original comedy act, *The Football Intruder*, and Bessie Knight, comedienne, all submit items of acceptance.

PRINCE'S HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morton.—Large and appreciative audiences are being attracted nightly to this cosy hall to witness the Bioscope pictures.

HYDE.—EMPIRE AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee, Mr. W. Stansfield; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Silver.—The place of honour here is accorded Marie Santoi and company in an entertaining musical sketch, *A Night in Japan*. The Coopers are heartily received; Tom Drew is most diverting; and Friscara's juggling is warmly applauded. The Bioscope presents subjects both grave and gay.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres and Cinematograph Co.; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Moore, C.C.; Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Dan Regan gives a pleasing turn as an Irish comedian and dancer; Luna Lisle is a dainty comedienne; Dan and Willie appear successfully in a comedy sketch; Will Capnor and Victoria Steele, character duettists, in song scenes, are much enjoyed; and a good variety of films is shown on the screen.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Kelso's Royal British Pictures and Vaudevilles continue to draw good houses. Jim Max, swell coon, comedian, and dancer, has to respond to numerous encores.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savary.—This house was occupied the first half of the week by Miss Loie Esmond's company in *The Sorrows of Satan*. The Prince Lucio Rimanez of Mr. Edward Neville was a finished performance; Mr. J. Le Fleming made a good Earl of Elton, and Mr. Frank Wheatley a robust Lord Lynton; Mr. E. Astor was amusing as Morris; and Amice had a suitable exponent in Mr. H. Sisto. Miss Loie Esmond as Diana Chesney was extremely good, and Miss Dorothy Dewhurst was a really charming Mavis Clare; as Lady Sybil Elton Miss Rosie Neville made an aristocratic appearance; and Miss Cecil Bryne as Mrs. Grimes was a characteristic lodging-house keeper, Miss May Morne playing the servant well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Austin Rudd heads the bill, and received an ovation for his new songs and business; Arthur Slater, the "Whistling Man in White," is an accomplished silfleur; Patty Yohle is a clever comedienne and dancer; Rose Gower has some very popular chorus songs; Regan and Ryan are excellent comedians; Eileen Douglas is really charming in both song and dance; the Warsaw Brothers are clever and eccentric musical instrumentalists; and the Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Variety is the order here, the programme including Miss Lilian Levey, the clever impersonator; Charles Sewell and Sara Dudley, in a sparklet entitled *The Sun Bath;* James Rich, the popular black comedian; the Herald Comedy Four, in a scena entitled *The Hawkers;* Amandus, clever facial mimic; Dan Daly, comedian; Ess and Hoey, Canadian ski-skaters; Mlle. Rosina, musical expert; and the famous Consul, the almost-man monkey, who scores quite a success.

THE KINO.—Proprietor, Mr. Dixon Scott; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Scott.—This picture hall still continues to draw excellent houses. Dave Sands, comedian and dancer; and the Three Veros, vocalists and speciality dancers, gain favour.

THE PALACE.—Lessees, The Jarrow Palace Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Padden.—Excellent films are being shown here, and variety is supplied by the Sisters Volbecque, in a farcical comedy act; and Probyn and Bates, comedians and dancers.

KEIGHLEY. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. S. Holmes.—*The Girls of Gottenburg* is presented with much completeness by Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's company. An augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Edmund Peterson. "Smith" scores heavily as Max Moddlekopp, his comicalities proving irresistible; Mr. R. N. Cory is excellent as Otto. His voice is nicely modulated, and he sings with a clear enunciation. Mr. J. R. Timms throws himself boldly into the part of Colonel Finkhausen, and his acting is convincing; praise must be awarded to Mr. Eddie Foy for his excellent dancing; Mr. George Gorst carries himself buoyantly as Corporal Smith; and Miss Dora Langham is a bright and gay Mitzi.

KETTERING. — VICTORIA THEATRE.—Managers, Messrs. Bailey and Co.—Varieties are the attraction here this week. Topping the bill is Bosanquet, the human violin; and other clever turns are Leon and Tee, in the "Musical Farm"; the Whitworth Trio, cyclists; Buval; Arthur Milton, comedian; Stuart Paton, character impersonator; Connie Isca, vocalist; and Gilbert's Canine Wonders.

COLISEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackman.—An admirable programme of pictures is presented, sandwiched by enjoyable contributions by the Maximilian Trio; Carrie and Moore, comedians and dancers; Mabel May, comedienne; and Mons. and Grace Leo, contortionists.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The first three nights this week crowded houses welcomed Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in *The Merry Widow*. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter as Baron Popoff is very funny; Mr. Robert Needham as Prince Danilo scores a big success; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy does capitally as Jolidon; Mr. Harry Emeric is seen to advantage as Nisch; the Marquis de Cascada is well played by Mr. Tom H. David; Miss Dorothy Arliss as Sonia is praiseworthy; while Natalie is excellently enacted by Miss Mabel Hope. The mounting and dresses generally are first class. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday this week Mr. John Levey is billed to produce *The Scapegrace*.

KILMARNOCK. — KING'S THEATRE. — Closed Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week. On Thursday and for the remainder of the week the Kilmarnock Society of Musicians were billed to produce *Mrs. Gorringer's Necklace* in aid of local charities.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights this week *What the Butler Saw* was presented. As Pink the Butler Mr. Lionel Rignold showed remarkably clever acting; Mr. Charles Fawcett did well as Jack Barrington; Mr. Pat Alexander made an excellent Professor Shale; and Mr. Raymond Dudley displayed ability as Sir Charles Foden; Miss Zoe Gilfillan was a charming Mrs. Barrington; Miss Marie Daltra was well suited to the part of Miss Foden; and Miss Christine Jensen made a duly modest Nora Wickham.

KIRKCALDY.—CORN EXCHANGE PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Walker.—A capital programme is submitted here this week. G. W. Walker, the ever-popular Scottish baritone, tops the bill; George Arnot, Scottish comedian, does well; the films worthy of notice are A Fight for the Faith, The Fisherman's Lass, Pater's Patient Painter, and The Trickster Tricked.

LANCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Miss Winifred Maude and company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, occupy the boards here in *The Sins of a City* and *The Stowaway*. The former piece was presented on Monday. Miss Winifred Maude appeared with her usual success as Seaweed; Miss Mabel Lane made a capable Mrs. Muggs; Miss Annie Megson did well as Midge; and as Lesbia Miss Gipsy Alexander gave an excellent portrayal; Mr. Victor Du Cane was a droll Isaac Levi; Mr. William Vane a capital Sandy; and the same remark applies to Mr. Harold Heath as Donald McIvor.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company is delighting large audiences with *The Merry Territorial*. Mr. Edward De Vere causes much amusement by his clever impersonation of Augustus Gaybird; Mr. Syd Claydon makes an excellent Bertie Brown; the fiery Sergeant-Major Mustard is ably portrayed by Mr. W. S. Stevenson; and as Corporal Toby Jones, Mr. Victor Raymond is meritorious; Mr. Haydon Scott appears with success in the rôle of Captain Carlton; and Miss Evelyn Robson in the character of Mrs. Gaybird makes much of her opportunities. Miss Ethel

A SHAKESPEARE LONG LOOKED FOR.

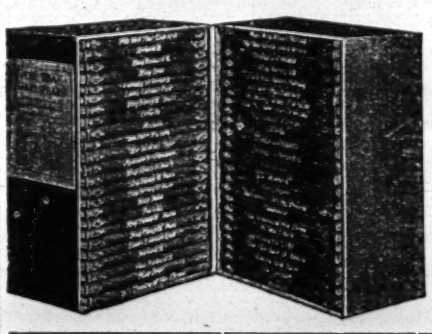

8D. net

Large Type.
Very Low Price.
Very full Annotations.
Pocket Volumes.

8D. net

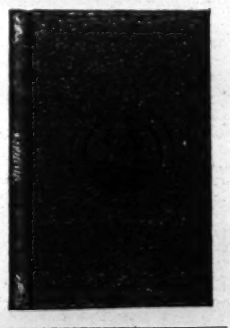

The ERA Shakespeare.

In 42 Cloth-Bound Volumes at 8d. net per Vol.

The Volumes are beautifully set: Binding, Title, and Frontispiece are designed by Joseph Simpson.

Edited by HENRY N. HUDSON, LL.D.

For the Text a careful collation has been made of the various authorities—Collier, Dyce, Delius, Furness, Halliwell, the Cambridge Edition, etc.
The notes at the foot of the pages are those which are necessary to make clear the meaning of the passages. The notes of a more specialised nature are placed at the end of the volumes. The Editor has throughout availed himself of the best thought of the great commentators.

LIST OF VOLUMES.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Merchant of Venice
The Tempest
King Henry the Fifth
Romeo and Juliet
Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
As You Like It
The Merry Wives of Windsor
King Henry the Eighth
Julius Cæsar
Macbeth
Othello
The Taming of the Shrew
Twelfth Night
King Richard the Third
King Lear
Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus
The Comedy of Errors
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Love's Labour's Lost
King Henry IV. Part I.
King Henry IV. Part II.
Cymbeline
All's Well That Ends Well
Much Ado About Nothing
King John
King Richard the Second
Troilus and Cressida
Pericles, Prince of Tyre
Measure for Measure
A Winter's Tale
King Henry VI. Part I.
King Henry VI. Part II.
King Henry VI. Part III.
The Two Noble Kinsmen
Titus Andronicus
Timon of Ath

Royle efficiently sustains the part of the scheming actress, Angelina Vernon; and Bella Brown and Polly Mustard find capable representatives in Miss Irene Atchinson and Miss Lily Beverley. *A Plucky Woman* precedes.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*Her Path of Sorrow* is effectively staged, and all the characters are well played. Miss Maud Warburton is excellent as Pauline Ferrars; Miss Florence Halton, Mr. Frank Liston, Mr. Horatio Sinclair, and Mr. Hubert Lawrence all act with ability.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The second visit of *Our Miss Gibbs* ensured a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Miss Carrie Moore realises capitally the character of Miss Gibbs, and sings and dances in a charming manner; Mr. George Gregory as Timothy is the chief mirth-producer; Mr. Leslie Gaze is smart as the swagger professional crook; and Mr. Frank Hector ably fills the rôle of the amateur thief. Mr. H. V. Crofton as Lord Eynsford meets with due appreciation.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Macleod.—Miss Vesta Tilley, as charming as ever, is singing four songs at each house, and still the audience want more; W. J. Churchill amuses everyone with his droll style; Les Romas give a novel musical act; and other old favourites doing well include McConnell Trio, Great Northern Troupe, Rosa Loader, Bert Harrow, Dacey and Lewis, and Elly Adair.

THE HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Jan Rudenyi's violin solos are greatly applauded; in his sketch, *The Storm*, Signor Torti has to respond to encores; Max Waldon's clever dancing is highly appreciated; and Gilday and Fox make a big hit. Other good turns include Michael Madden, a funny dame; Zenary Brothers, Harmony Boys, and the Three Gerlins.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager,—Mr. Charles Bush.—Longden and Livesay's company is here with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesay as the Blacksmith is a big favourite; and Miss Maggie Edwards ably takes Kate Storm. Mr. Joseph Carter as Captain Lee, and Miss Gladys Brittain also render meritorious service.

THE VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Whiteman.—Will Netta's Singing Jockeys give a capital racing and whistling act; Zeta Grey and company are very amusing in her sketch, *The Lancashire Lass*; Baker and Balfe have a talented musical act; an exceptionally nice singer is Queenie May; and others completing a good programme include Tennis and Laune, George Campbell, and Lenton and Lane.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Mr. Percy Norman's capable company, under the direction of Mr. A. B. Mackay, is appearing here in two dramas, *Trilby* and *Life of an Actress*. The former was presented to a large and appreciative audience on Monday. Miss Lillie Lewis, in her impersonation of Trilby, was excellent; Mr. Graham Hamlyn made a capital Little Billie; Messrs. A. Campbell and Fred Chester as Taffy and the Laird did well; Mr. A. B. Mackay as Svengali gave an admirable reading; and Miss Ida Mackay was successful as Madam Vinard.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is on a return visit here this week, with *The Merry Widow*. Miss Louie Pounds' performance of Sonia is throughout a truly delightful one; Mr. Lionel Victor is an amusing Baron Popoff; Mr. Basil S. Foster as Prince Danilo is to be highly complimented; Mr. Edward McKeown makes a good impression as De Jolidon; and Miss Victoria Sievers as Natalie, Mr. Tom Redmond as Nisch, Miss Gwendoline Brogden as Frou-Frou, and Mr. Somers Bellamy as De Cascada are others who do full justice to their respective parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's No. 1 company, in *For Wife and Kingdom*, is here this week. Mr. Reginald F. Fox is good as Captain Maximilian Lubeck; and Mr. Albert Guyon cleverly enacts the part of Baron Maurice Breslaw. Both Mr. Fred Osmond as Karl Ludhayr and Mr. Charles H. Gallier as Sergeant Offonbeck are provocative of merriment; and Miss Hettie Zillwood as the Grand Duchess Marie of Gotsburg, Mr. Lewis Gordon as Jan, Miss Lillian Malvern as Esther, Miss Audrey Canning as Ottilie Schwartz, and Miss Alice Buckland as Nita Constadt are also prominent with embodiments calling for special praise.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—Topping this week's bill is Eugene Stratton, the ideal coon, who is being accorded a splendid reception. At the other end is Ernie Mayne, who keeps the audience in a continual roar of merriment. Park's Eton Boys, assisted by the Girton Girls, score a success, in *Speech Day at Eton College*; La Superbe is a smart dancer and clever acrobat; Kitty Wager is a dainty chorus comedienne; Ruth Davenport is an excellent light operatic vocalist; and Luigi Salvino, boy instrumentalist, Fred Pollar, comedian, and Hans and Lux, comedians and dancers, also provide entertaining turns. The Bioscope shows The Time is Out of Joint.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Heading an entertaining show this week is Mr. Jack Fortescue, in his latest creation, *Hawkshaw, the Detective*, in which Mr. Fortescue is making a very favourable impression with a clever performance in the name-part, being supported by a capable company. The Jadoos mystify with their clever feats; the Borriskis are mirth-provoking comedians; and Queenie West, comedienne and dancer, Sid Penna, in mimicry at the piano, Geo. Edmonds, the comedian mimic and his piano, and Beatrice Allen, comedienne, also provide capital turns. The Bioscope pictures are The Sheriff and Friscol's Itching Powder.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatre, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—This week's Kinemacolor pictures are beautiful specimens of that art, depicting the River Thames from Westminster to Greenwich and the Review of the British Navy at Spithead. Other fine films are Hunting the Hippopotamus and Light Love.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Company; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—The two outstanding films here this week are The Broken Spell and Through the Darkness. Stave, in mystery, mirth, and music, provides a most entertaining interlude.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gould; General-Manager, Mr. A. F. Beaton.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company, in *Are You a Mason?* received a hearty welcome from a good house on Monday. Mr. William Lockhart is well suited to the rôle of Amos Bloodgood; Frank Perry is excellently enacted by Mr. Howard L. Tracey; Miss Agnes Maude skilfully portrays Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; Miss Claire Townshend makes a charming Mrs. Perry; as George Fisher Mr. Archie Selwyn deserves great praise; much humour is infused into the rôle of Hamilton Travers by Mr. Stanley Arthur; Mr. Edward J. Hinge as John Halton and Mr. Andrews Buck as Ernest Morrison are both excellent. *My Wife's Friend* proves a capital curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—At the head of a good bill we have Reano's famous band, who received a flattering ovation on Monday for their excellent selections; Mike Craig is a smart juggling comedian, a clever turn is provided by the Bros. St. Clair, who play an excellent game of football on bicycles; Rob Wilton is a droll comedian; Astley's American Circus is greatly appreciated; Jack Lytton and Penny Bland provide an interesting dancing scena; Barney Stuart, actor-vocalist, is well received; Beal and Broadway, comedy duo, find much favour; Miss Liona Deering, vocalist, sings in good style; and the Hipposcope pictures complete.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND PICTURE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Barclay.—Up-to-date pictures are provided here. Barney Murphy, comedian, is much appreciated.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Following a successful week with *Jeanie Deans*, Mr. John Clyde has been doing good business here with a meritorious production of *Rob Roy*. Mr. Clyde's impersonation of the picturesque outlaw is a stirring and effective piece of work; and Miss Amy McNeill makes an imposing and spirited Helen Macgregor. The company is fortunate in the inclusion of Mr. J. W. Bowie and Miss Jeannie MacIntyre for the singing parts of Francis and Diana, the rendering of their allotted vocal numbers by both these artists being greatly appreciated. Mr. Fred F. Loyd is quite Irvingesque and consistently villainous as the traitor, Rashleigh; Captain Thornton and Major Galbraith have orthodox representatives in Mr. David Blair and Mr. Malcolm Strachan; Mr. George Hunter and Mr. Andrew Allan keep to sound traditional lines as the Dougal Cratur and Andrew Fairservice; and the Bailie of Mr. R. B. Drysdale is deserving of special commendation as an excellent study of this quaint and pawky character.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. George Victor Fogerty.—The Irish animated picture exhibits are attracting large and appreciative houses. The clever conjurer M. Ure is with us again; Messrs. W. R. Williams, tenor, and John Cahill, baritone, sing good numbers. Miss May O'Connor presides at the piano.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—Mr. Charles Constant's company in *Florodora* was here for the first three evenings of the week. Mr. Johnnie Schofield as Tweedlepunch was soon a huge favourite; Miss Daisy Lake was almost an ideal Dolores; Miss Florence Hersee a charming Angela; Mr. Johnnie Junin's Donegal was smart; and Mr. Junin and Miss Hersee made a great hit with an Apache dance; Miss Kate Leicester was happily cast as Lady Holyrood; and Mr. Stanley White's Gilfain was mirth-provoking.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Pete and Minnie Lee, in an interlude, afford a capital top-of-bill turn here; and a big welcome is given to Bert Woodicat, the steeplechasing cyclist, on a return visit; Little Sophie wins favour for her impersonations; and Edgar Forest and company score in *My Friend the Enemy*; Bruce Green, Jack Heyworth, and Dorothy Dacey also go well.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The leading theatre this week has the honour of a visit from Miss Ethel Irving with the powerful play *Dame Nature*. Rarely has the distinguished artist been seen in a part more suited to her high qualities as an emotional actress, and at times she holds her audience spellbound. Mr. Frank Cooper handles the rôle of Robert Bertram with all the neatness and finish that is to be expected from such a talented actor; Mr. Norman Forbes makes the most of his opportunities with the Prince de Chabran, and presents a convincing study of an old man; a better and more skilful rendering of the seductive Princess could hardly be expected than that supplied by Miss Mabelle Hunt; and very praiseworthy work is also performed by Messrs. Charles Vane (James Ridgway), W. R. Staveley (Paul Garford), Alfred Drayton (Henry Greville), and Charles Hampden (Chaillard), Miss Minnie Terry (Mimi) and Miss Florence Nelson (Mrs. Garford).

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Tantalising Tommy* is presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company, and large audiences are revelling in the amusement with which the cleverly-written comedy is crammed. Miss Nellie Lonnen, in the title-rôle, meets with general favour, and her pranks provoke continuous laughter; Mr. Hastings Lynn shows his acting ability as James Cottenham, a well-drawn character; Mr. Roy Byford stands out prominently as Thomas H. Pepper; Mr. Ambrose Flower fits the part of Harry Killick to a nicety; and among the remainder of a particularly capable cast may be worthily mentioned Messrs. Ernest R. Holloway (Eustace Tathem), Geoffrey Denys (Lord Enderby), and the Misses Margaret Stuart (Elsie Tathem) and Eva Brickwell (Bertha). *The Second Mrs. Grundy* is a curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The attraction here is Mr. J. A. Campbell's *From Convent to Throne*. Mr. Aiden Lovett makes an excellent Lieut. Hapsburg, his acting earning for him much applause; Miss Valerie Crespin plays the Princess with extreme care and delicacy; Mr. William J. Miller proves a powerful Baron Strelsau; and other carefully-sustained characters are the General Hapsburg of Mr. Courtenay Robinson and the Prince Maurice of Mr. A. F. Stuart.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Sherlock Holmes*, presented by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, is doing good business here. In the title-rôle Mr. Stewart shows much histrionic ability, playing the famous detective with a convincing naturalness; Miss May Clare pleases in the part of Alice Faulkner; Mr. W. T. Harris makes a capital Professor Moriarty; Master Thomas Hill as the useful Billy is greatly popular; Mr. Oliver Crombie carefully portrays James Larabee; and others who help are Messrs. Eric Morden (Dr. Watson), Charles A. James (John Forman), and Miss Ethel Trevor Lloyd (Madge Larabee).

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*The Silver King* is playing to big houses, the company being that of Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is a powerful Wilfred Denver, whose wife is charmingly undertaken by Miss Mildred Surrey; Mr. Edward J. George repeats his well-known Jaikes; the Spider is ably presented by Mr. L. St. George Lowther; and others are Messrs. Albert Bernard (Elijah Coombe), Fred May (Cripps), Ralph Leon (Henry Corket), and W. Leslie Ellis (Baxter).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Top of the bill here are Marie George and company, including Herbert Sparling, with a capital comedy of Western life entitled *The Cowboy Girl*, which finds great favour; the popular Arthur Lennard is heartily received for his latest songs; Winfe'd Blake and Maude Amber delight everybody with their taking songs and dances; Goodfellow and Gregson keep their audience in shouts of laughter; as "whirlwind dancers" the Legay Trio astonish; Laro'a makes everybody laugh; and also in the list are Harry Freeman, comedian; the Flying Hanlons, gymnasts; and Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer.

LYRIC.—Lessees, The Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—A capable company, under the direction of Mr. Bulmer, is playing *When Woman Hates* twice nightly. Miss Doris Brookes holds the part of Cora Daintry, which she handles with much effect; Mr. Richard Ferris proves a manly and vigorous Lieut. Rokeby; Mr. Evan Roland is a most amusing Patrick O'Brien; Miss Ada Oakley and Miss Jean Scott please in the respective parts of Marie and Edith; and also in the cast are Messrs. B. H. Davis, Henry Sainsbury, and Miss Mary Dalby.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—In big type here is Karno's *The Bailiff*, with Albert Bruno as Perkins, and the sketch proves as funny as ever. Beatie and Babs, the clever juvenile couple, repeat their *Pavement Rehearsal*; a pair of amusing American comedians are Friend and Downing, who are well received; Spissell Bros. and Mack cause endless laughter with their *Fun in a Café*; Rorke, Rooke and company present a diverting sketch, *The Prince's Love Affair*; Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers, are as funny as ever; Mlle. Medicis has a pretty posing act, introducing her dog Billy; Damerell and Rutland prove themselves to be a couple of smart comedians; and others who contribute are Harry Taft, comedian, and Elton and Elma, gymnasts.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Adrift in London* is being given twice nightly. The principal parts are in the good hands of Messrs. Harry Tresham, Sydney Grant, Miss Lilian Radbourne, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle. Brown's Bioscope shows The Short-sighted Errand Boy.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Things are busy here with Bella and Bijou as an attraction. The clever couple again enjoy a flattering reception. Alice Pierce earns rounds of applause for her impressions of noted players; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is an excellent laugh-provoker; the Four Royal Scots go through a pleasing and accomplished musical act; Jock Mills causes much laughter with his Scotch songs and patter; Harold Montague's Vagabond Players delight everybody by reason of their merry musical turn; Little Zola is as funny as ever; Haig and Novel have an amusing acrobatic turn; and Ethel Beech, comedienne, also appears.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—On Monday evening Miss Annie Hughes presented a new sketch entitled *The Fourth Kiss*, which is noticed in another column. On the following evening *In and Out of a Punt* was put on. Miss Hughes and Mr. Mayne Lynton played the parts of a married couple, rehearsing some of the events of their courting days, one being an accident to a punt in which they were seated. Herbert Lloyd and company caused endless laughter with their burlesques; the able ventriloquial entertainer W. E. Giffin pleased as well as ever; Nightingale and Stignant, with their quarrelling sketch, *Two Sides of a Wall*, scored one of the hits of the evening; the Starley Bros. went through a clever cycling, acrobatic turn; some smart work as equilibrists was done by the Three Warringtons; Dolly Rees sang and danced tastefully; and contributions also came from L. W. Harris, light comedian; and Will Sullivan, comedian. The Bioscope showed Way Out West.

LLANELLY.—HAGGAR'S (LATE ROYALTY) THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Haggar, sen.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Haggar.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here with *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville does exceedingly well as Jack Manley; Mr. Edward Hobart as Willie Manley is very good; as John Bird Mr. Wilton Reed works hard and successfully; Miss Minnie Willett is a charming Elinore Fordham; Miss Lydia Andre a clever Carrie Wilber; and Miss Mavel Venton a very good Mrs. Manley; Messrs. Monty Partridge as Jenkins, Henry C. Gilpin as Dock Wilber, and Gerald Shirley as Joe Jones are all highly capable.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. R. A. Warton.—This week Mr. Herbert Fuller's capable company presents *The Fiends of London* and *A Noble Mother*. In the former piece Mr. Herbert Fuller figured capably as Peter Shark, a rascally lawyer; Laurie Christie, the heroine, is ably portrayed by Miss Eliza Coliser; and all the other rôles in a diversified cast are cleverly filled.

ST. COLUMB'S HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. R. A. P. Williams; Manager, Mr. Dan Derry.—The standard of excellence in the programme presented is well maintained. Mr. J. Daly, who possesses a capital voice, created a good impression; the Dandies are clever entertainers, and gave a diverting turn; Phylis Kempton sings illustrated songs in pleasing manner; and a clever exhibition of clog dancing was given by Mr. White, who was also successful as a comedian.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—A strong programme is presented here. Lieut. Chard's trick and high-leaping dogs are a great attraction; Mint and Mart, in a comedy cyclist and pot-pourri act, are clever; and the Sages, vocalists, dancers, and comedy artists, render a novel turn, which is highly appreciated.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Woisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. S. Evanson.—The artists here are the Maynards, comedy duo, and Frank Buckley, comedian.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Messrs. Cranston and Helsby's company in *The Drama of Life*. A clever impersonation of Harry Beech comes from Mr. Graham Woods; Mr. Archie Helsby is successful as Walter Beech; Mr. Sidney C. Cranston undertakes in a satisfactory manner the part of Sir Dobson Wilde; Mr. Vernon Darly is good as Dave Crane; a clever study of Richard Brenton is presented by Mr. J. Harrell; Miss Dolly Bogue is much appreciated as Master Beech; Miss P. Hastings acts with good judgment the part of Sylvia Beech.

MAIDSTONE.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company attracted good houses for three nights in *His Real Wife*. Mr. Clifford Rean worked successfully in the part of Herbert Barton; Mr. J. O. Stewart did well as the blind and aged Farmer Avondale; Mr. Charles Yorke was an excellent Colombe; Mr. T. Edward Ward was decidedly good as Simon Sletherley; Mr. John Waddington as Mr. Hackett, K.C., was quite satisfactory; and Mr. Harwood Roberts succeeded in the lighter part of Alf. Snickers; Mr. Herbert Vere also doing capitally as Randal Meredith. A pathetic rendering of the part of the much-wronged Rose Avondale was given by Miss Ward; Miss Clarrie Yandell was charming as the village beauty, Betty Tuttlebee; Miss Kate Walfred did well as Lady Sybil; and Miss Grace Rosemond deserves praise for her acting as Mrs. Creele. For the last three nights of the week Messrs. Bennett and Wray's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*, occupied the theatre.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The Royal Carl Rosa week opened here on Monday with a performance of Goldmark's opera *The Queen of Sheba*. Mr. Walter Wheatley as Assad, Miss Doris Woodall as the Queen of Sheba, Mr. Arthur Winckworth as King Solomon, and Miss Annie Van Dyck were all excellent; and no fault could be found with the smaller rôles of Sulamith, the High Priest, and Baal-Hanan, as rendered by Miss Beatrice Miranda, Mr. Alexander Richard, and Mr. George M. Reid. A dance in the third act was finely done; and the opera is produced under the joint direction of Messrs. Eugene Goossens and George Beale.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—One of the daintiest plays in Mr. Edward Terry's répertoire, *The Toymaker of Nuremberg*, was put on here, for the first time in Manchester, on Monday. It provides Mr. Terry with a part in which his gift of depicting a simple and lovable old man—all comedy, simplicity, and pathos—has the fullest opportunities. The simple, sentimental spirit of the play was further expressed in the delightful acting of Miss Christine Rayner as Hester, supplemented by Mr. Percival Madgewick's depiction of David. Mr. Robert Pateman as the Sergeant (a capital impersonation) and Mr. Percy Bell as the Old Actor contributed to the quaint atmosphere of the piece; and Miss Adah Barton as the Mother furnished just the right note of pathos. Among other parts well played were Mr. William Dexter's the Employer; and the long-lost Adolf, by Mr. Templar Powell. *Bardell v. Pickwick* followed; and on Tuesday an enjoyable performance of *Liberty Hall* was given, this being succeeded by *The Magistrate* on Wednesday, and *Sweet Lavender* on Friday.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Walter Melville's attraction *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* is staged here this week.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Dramatic répertoire here is provided by Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy's company, with Miss Henrietta Schrier in principal parts. On Monday *Mr. Barnes of New York* was put on to a good house. Miss Schrier playing Marini Paoli, and Mr. Lodge-Percy the title-part. Among many other clever people in the company, Mr. A. Money is worthily placed in important rôles. *Camille* and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* are in the week's programme.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—A strong attraction here this week is Mrs. Morton Powell's new drama of crime and criminals, *The Ruin of Her Life*, which was produced at Leicester a fortnight ago for the first time. Mrs. Charles Sugden, in the triple rôles of Mary Macaire, Lady Selwyn, and the Duchess, is a powerful factor in the success; but many other parts are capably handled by the members of an all-round clever cast; while the play is elaborately and convincingly staged.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—A strong bill here is headed by Leo Stormont. Nora Brocklebank and company, in an excellent sketch, entitled *Exposure*; Mike S. Whalen, the popular comedian and raconteur; and the Famous Kellinos, in their new risley production *On the Road*; Tom Stuart's dramatic and burlesque impersonations are good; Stevens and Brett, burlesque entertainers, provide amusement; Francis and Alfred, the juggler and his comic assistant, are a strong turn; Athas and Collins, comedy couple, make a decided hit; and other pleasing items are Harry Carsdale, farmyard mimic, and Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A well-varied programme here includes the Scottish Meisters, in their vocal extravaganza; Wallace Whitney, the popular comedian, in latest successes; the Maories, smart acrobatic tumblers; George Hvam, comedian; Nellie Rose, serio and dancer; Geo. French's troupe of clever trick cyclists; the Snow Family of expert skaters; and Beattie Foster, comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital programme here is topped by George Lashwood, who is making a big success by the inclusion of "The railway guard" in his attractive répertoire; Sammy Shields, the Scottish comedian, gives a popular comedy Football act; and a fine brisk show is that of Kate Carney and company, in *The Fun of the Fair*. Ivy Williams and company act well in *What Women Do for Men*, a Scottish drama; and other nice turns are Edith Frink, comedienne; Kay Wallace, in mimicry at the piano; Gladys Hooley, in "Fiddle and I"; and the Three Emersons, in their novel gymnastic act, *The Swimming Pool*.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Seymour Hicks presents Zena Dare by way of the top star turn here, in *The Model and the Man*, in which the popular actress is adequately supported by Frank Wilson and Ivy St. Heller; another star turn is that of George Leyton, who includes "The roll-call" among his latest successes; an amusing turn is given by Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic at the piano; Kisbey, the cash-boy, adds an excellent performance; and other attractive items are W. F. Frame, the Scotch comedian; Adey Spencer, the girl from the hat shop; the Paxton Troupe of skilled acrobats; and the Brothers Artois, in their great comedy bar act.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—May Moore Duprez, the jolly little Dutch girl, and Daisy Jerome, that clever comedienne, top the bill here this week, and receive big receptions; George Elliston, ably assisted by Ernest Percy and Oliph Webb, is highly successful in *That Brute Simmons*; Mark Stuart, comedian, makes a decided hit; and other entertaining items are offered by May Baskerville, soprano vocalist; Marie Loud, comedienne; Memora, the "human encyclopædia"; and Wyndham and Kitty, in sensational wire act. Ruhell's Bioscope pictures are good, as usual. Dec. 7 has been set aside for the thirteen anniversary and benefit of the popular manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Trippett.—No less a comedian that Arthur Roberts, in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, is the star attraction here; and a prominent and effective act is added by the Three Romas. Mima Kello is seen in her charming song-scena; the Five M.P.'s are musical artists of merit; and other pleasing items are furnished by Jock McNeil, the Brothers Curran, and Gracie Lawn.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Merion's dogs top the bill here in a wonderful show of canine intelligence; Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, is popular; Frank Hartley gives his original act with success; the Dancing Paceys are smart in their speciality; Bex and Bex present a comic military burlesque; Luis Hardt, the Sandow boy, gives an elaborate and effective scena; and Ida Dorrie completes with an excellent turn in refined comedy.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—What one may call a "Max Goldberg" répertoire is the attraction here this week. It consists of a series of romantic costume plays by this popular author—namely, *Jane Shore*, *Nell Gwynne*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *The Man in the Iron Mask*, all of them well and effectively written, and presented with attractive staging. The acting is also good, this being headed by Mr. John F. Preston and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Captain C. Clayton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Fred Clayton.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is presenting the musical absurdity *Miss Plaster of Paris*. Mr. Harry Ed. Ray is highly successful in his efforts to make laughter as Alexander; and no less effective is Mr. Johnny McElroy as Numbskull Nubbs. Mr. Herbert Goldin is good as Tom Stubbs; Miss Winifred Chalmers takes the part of Medea Hamilton; Miss Nellie Harcourt is the vivacious Eliza Plaster; and Miss Nubbs is well represented by Mr. Sid Dean. Miss Nellie Harcourt has a pretty skipping-rope dance; and the Sisters English and Sisters Florencie also shine in saltatory efforts.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Mayall.—A smart performance is given this week by the Azuma Family of six Japanese artists, whose sensational act includes native dancing, foot juggling, wire walking, and shoulder balancing; the Wilton Heriot Trio present an amusing comedy sketch, *Following in His Father's Footsteps*; the Paulhan team, in their game of aerial football on bicycles, give a really good show; Marie Wilton, comedienne, sings pleasing chorus songs with success; and Agnes Aldra, comedienne, also contributes to the programme, which concludes with John Lawson and his company in the sketch *The Monkey's Paw*. The Bioscope pictures this week are The Gold-seeker and The Hampered Dragoon.

MATLOCK BATH.—PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. C. Seymour.—The first two nights this week the boards were occupied by Percy Tyler and Dudley Stuart's company in *A Message from Mars*. There were appreciative attendances each night, and a first-class performance was given by a strong company, which included Mr. Dudley Stuart, Mr. Percy Tyler, Mr. G. Berresford Innes, Miss Maud Gill, and Miss Ruth Wingrove.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Sandow Perkins.—An excellent house welcomed *The Gay Gordons* on Monday, when Miss May Yates made a charming and piquant Peggy, being ably seconded by Mr. Alex S. Clunes as Angus Graeme. Mr. W. H. Benson was admirable as Andrew Minton; Mr. Harry Howe as Nervy Nat kept up a continual ripple of laughter; and Mr. W. H. Desmond as the son was very amusing. Speedy was well played by Mr. Alfred Lloyd; Miss Kitty Kirwan ably undertook Charlotte Siddons; Mary McLeod had an able representative in Miss Mavis Clare; and Miss Beatrice was good as Janet.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, the Merthyr Entertainments Co.; Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Great Marconis, electric wonders, head a popular bill, which also includes the Wynfords, champion jumpers; J. H. Ellis, comedian; Harvey and Stanton, in a comedy episode; Bonnetti and Corri, comedy jugglers; Ingram and Irving, in a comedy duo, and pictures.

METHIL.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Messrs. F. Marriott Watson and Jas. Ussher's company is here with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet is exceptionally good; Mr. W. H. Macauly as Le Loup gives a fine display of villainy; Miss Constance Glenabyn as Marie Brisson acts with great feeling; and Peter Pottleberry (Mr. John A. Stimson) and Barbette (Miss Frances Day) supply the lighter vein.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Mr. Carr Loates and company are presenting *A London Outcast*. Mr. Sydney Ernest gives an intelligent interpretation of John Trueman; a powerful rendering of Edgar Hall is supplied by Mr. Carr Loates; Philip Reymond has an able exponent in Mr. W. Leonard; Miss Hazel Dent imparts grace and sympathy to the character of Mabel Reymond; Miss Cissie Milford skilfully enacts the dual rôle of Susan Good and a waif; and Miss Carrie Johnson does well as the child Philip.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Arcadians* meets with the same unqualified approval as on the previous visit. Miss Ethel Erskine as Sombra is most successful; the Mrs. Smith of Miss Veronica Brady commands high commendation; Mr. Walter Passmore is a splendid James Smith, and equally worthy of praise is his Simplicitas; and Mr. Oliver J. Round is a capital Peter Doody, the jockey. Mr. Harold C. Pearce gives entire satisfaction as Jack Meadows.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mrs. Frank Bateman and company present with success the melodrama *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, in which Mrs. Bateman capably sustains the rôle of Arananta Parsons. Miss Emma Rainbow is seen to advantage as Lady Margaret Austinleigh; Mr. Geo. Butler's portrayal of the burglar, Bert Taylor, is appreciated; and Mr. Fred W. Goddard acquits himself well as the Hon. Maurice Masterman.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Jack Pleasants is once more entertaining Tees-side audiences with his droll humour; the Courtiers submit a good musical turn; Livesey and Rosebery present the entertaining playlet *An Amateur Anarchist*; Kenneth and Kaye, comedians; the Darntons, operatic vocalists; Miss Jessie Merrilees, in a pleasing number; Zedini, comedy juggler; and the Empire pictures all go well.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—Miss Edith Tudora's ponies give a capital performance, which is much enjoyed; the Manchester Lads, vocalists and dancers, are well received; the baritone contributions of Fred Leslie are appreciated; and a first-rate picture show meets with approbation. Good houses rule.

MORLEY.—ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Tom Diacoff.—Tiny and Mite, song and dance artists, are a great attraction here; Nobby, another small item of humanity (3ft. 1in.) causes a continual roar of merriment; Johnny Dewar goes well as an eccentric comedian; and Edward Caselli manipulates the banjo in an efficient manner.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wright.—The Glossop-Harris Shakespearean company are appearing here this week, with Miss Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier in the leads.

NEATH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice; Musical-Director, Mr. G. T. Hutchins.—Mr. Tom Watts's company present the Heath-Wilson-Barrett original version of *East Lynne* here this week. As Lady Isabel and Mme. Vine Miss Ada Heron is decidedly clever, and gains much applause; in the rôle of Archibald

dancers; Theo. Carly's troupe of well-trained dogs; Daisy and Dot, two clever dancers; Hazel Glade, comedienne; and the pictures conclude.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. F. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—There is a programme of more than ordinary interest at this popular East End theatre. Lillie le Main, Lilliputian artist and dainty dancer, has a flattering reception; R. C. Note is a comedian of no mean ability; and Peakman and Walsh are two clever comedy jugglers. In addition to the usual show of animated pictures there is an interesting exhibition of natural colour photography.

PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Heaton Assembly Hall Co.; Manager, Mr. G. Graby.—Capital variety turns are provided here by Clifton Reynolds, comedian, and Florence Raynard, lady ventriloquist.

BRINKBURN ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarg; Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Little Alice, the dainty comedienne, is paying a welcome return visit, and is supported by a powerful picture programme.

NORTHAMPTON. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.—"The Cobblers" *v.* Portsmouth, played at Northampton Nov. 12, has great local interest. The illustrated songs "Beloved" and "Ohio" are well sung by Mr. F. Nettleton.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Good films are provided, and Nellie Stevenson's fine soprano voice is heard to advantage.

NORTH SHIELDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company with *Sapho* is proving a big attraction here. As Jean Gaussin Mr. Stephen Crossley makes an excellent impression; and Miss Ada Abbott gives a capital impersonation of Fanny Legrand. Mr. Edwin Keene fills the rôle of Uncle Cesaire with credit; Mr. Henry Earlesmere ably portrays Famant; Mr. Weedon Ross makes the most of the part of Old Legrande; Mr. John Drake scores as Henri Dechelette; and Mr. John Lester is seen to advantage as Caudel. Miss Ethel Tinsley does justice to the rôle of Aunt Divonne; Miss Florence North gives a satisfactory rendition of Lucy; Miss Marjorie Tennant deserves praise as Nichette; and the remaining parts are well sustained.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Cassie Walmer heads the bill here, and maintains her popularity; the Three Comerfords, comedy acrobats and tumblers, get a capital reception; Guest and Newlyn, "the Hebrew and the soubrette," are cordially received; Master Chester proves himself a capital vocalist; Massano, the comedy juggling merchant, is well to the fore; Will Powers, versatile comedian, is entertaining; and the Bioscope Pictures are greatly enjoyed.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss S. Golden.—Miss Olga Audre and company have presented *The Great Awakening*, and have been well patronised. Mr. Herbert Barrs is a capital exponent of James Selby; Mr. Tom Arkinstall does well as Guy Logan; Mr. Arthur Wimpenny is good as Jack Merton; and Mr. Chas. Chandler as Capt. Harry Lambert depicts the character impressively. Mr. Artie Francis as Billy Brass and Miss Dorothy Oswald as Selina Worts cause much merriment; Miss Evie Conway is well suited to the part of Molly Merton; and Miss Olga Audre presents a clever and highly-finished performance as Lola Selby.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company, in *A Message from Mars*, is being well supported. Mr. Barbe-West gives an excellent representation as Horace Parker, and is much appreciated; Mr. William H. Brougham as the Messenger is dignified alike in presence, voice, and acting; Mr. Norman Clarke is most successful as the Tramp; and Mr. Arthur Lugg is very good as Arthur Dicey. Miss Josephine Middleton deserves every praise as Minnie Templar; and Miss Aubrey Ashton is equally commendable as Miss Parker.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Miss Stella Gastelle and company are giving a condensed performance of *La Poupée*, in which Miss Gastelle appears as Alesia, supported by Mr. Leon Simpkin (Hilarious), Mr. Wellington (Lancelot), Miss Rose Lytton (Mme. Hilarious), and Miss Gladys Keats (Henri), proving very attractive; the Martialo troupe are clever equilibrists and balancers; Barry Lupino exhibits some eccentric dancing; Bob Selvidge and Poppy Holland create much laughter in their musical absurdity *A Dotted Crotchet*; Maurice proves a clever mystifier and card manipulator; Lace and Leno, comedians and tangle-foot dancers, are humorous; Rolando Martin is good as a comedian and patterer; and Francesca, the vocal comedian, is well received; while the Hippo Bio pictures are very choice.

NOTTINGHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Blue Bird* has received an enthusiastic welcome from crowded houses. Tyltyl and Mytyl are played by Master Stephen Thomas and Miss Bella Terry with engaging frankness and naturalness; as the Dog Mr. Ernest Hendrie fully deserved the frequent applause accorded him; a faithful study of the Cat by Mr. Norman Page also evoked hearty recognition; Mr. William Farren as Gaffer Tyl plays with excellent effect; and the Granny Tyl of Miss Daisy England is a capital embodiment. A graceful impersonation of Light and the excellent diction of Miss Saba Raleigh as Night call for much praise; Mr. E. A. Warburton gives a sound performance as the Oak and Father Time; Mr. Edward Rigby's drolleries as Bread are thoroughly appreciated; and other parts receive careful attention from Miss Lizzie Webster, Miss Morris, Miss Burgess, and Mr. H. R. Hignett.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Mr. Geo. H. Hazlehurst's company present *A Child of the Streets*. Miss Dot Stephens as Doris Graham does wonders in the way of acting and dancing, and her appearance and singing are at all times charming; Miss Bessie Hazlewood has all the necessary ability to make her acting of the rôle of Gertrude Graham attractive; Mr. John Erroll makes up well, and does good work as the Baronet; and Mr. Leonard Clarke is to be congratulated upon his portrayal of the villainous Craigie, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Yoxa Summer as Lorna Carstairs, Mr. Geo. Keene as Lieutenant Jack Ainsley and Mr. Claude Gravely as Robert Wallace both do good work.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Once again that inimitable comedian Fred Kitchen is delighting his Nottingham friends in Herbert Darnley's sketch *Private Potts*. Mrs. Herbert Darnley makes a charming exponent of the Colonel's daughter, and all the company acquit themselves well; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris evoke the heartiest of laughter by their quaint witticisms; Fred Corwey's musical ability is capitally aided by his "fooling"; a charming turn is given by Edith Heron-Brown in songs at the piano; Phil Rees' stable lads prove a versatile combination; a highly humorous turn by Drew and Alders secures recognition; Frank Couch patters well; and Georgina Leno proves a sprightly comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. W. Austin.—A rousing welcome was given Miss Decima Moore on Monday last, when this charming comedienne appeared in the sketch *A Black Mark*, in which she had the able assistance of Messrs. Percy Francis and Charles Esdale; the Banzai family of Japanese entertainers offer some novel and startling feats; the football match by Mlle. Doris's canine wonders is both amusing and clever; the dancing of Effie White is well conceived and executed; the paper-tearing of Harry Moir is well done; and others who contribute to the enjoyment are the Two Lillies, dancers; Dora Lyric, comedienne; Josh Dixon, a smart comedian; and Walter Wallis, comic.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here this week with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. H. Boehm ably portrays Uncle Tom; Mr. Terrence Nerry acquits himself well as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Frank Lynn is good as Mr. St. Clair; Mr. Eric Williams is excellent as George Harris; Mr. Tom Bowron represents Legree in a forcible manner; Miss May Turner is well suited as Mrs. St. Clair; Miss Sylvia Harrington puts in good work as Eliza Harris; Miss Norah Bretton is a charming Little Eva; Miss Annie Watson is decidedly amusing as Topsy; and the other parts are all well filled.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; General-Manager, Mr. J. F. Elston.—The bill here is topped this week by Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Motoring*, which is productive of much hilarity; Kinnard, in his magical act, is appreciated; Lawson and Odell, smart dancers, are well received; the Loraines, lady brass instrumentalists, do a pleasing turn; and Tom and Neil are exceedingly smart in their comedy boxing and wrestling.

OLDHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—A capital audience witnessed the opening of the week's engagement of Miss Horniman's company on Monday evening in Mr. G. Bernard Shaw's play *Candida*. Mr. Ian MacLaren acted in forceful manner as the Rev. James Mavor Morrell; Miss Rosalind Ivan as Candida gave a delightful portrayal; Miss Muriel Pratt played cleverly as Proserpine Garnett; Mr. Leonard Mudie as Eugene Marchbanks, the dreamer, was excellent; and Mr. Edward Landor made a capital Mr. Burgess; whilst Mr. Ernest C. Cassel as the Rev. Alexander Mill did good work. Preceded by *The Truth, Cupid and Commonsense* is also in the bill.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*The Better Land* is staged here by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Philip Radcliffe acts in a manly fashion, and his rascally brother Hubert is played by Mr. Albert Sinclair forcefully. Miss Hazel Head as Doris is a sympathetic heroine; Miss Madge Trevyllian as Mercedes plays with power; Miss Bella Moody acts in a lively manner as Aunt Jemima; and Miss Gertie Moody as Harry and Miss Florence Trevyllian as Tessa both fill their parts charmingly. Miss Marion Mayne as Polly Perkins and Mr. Sammy Foster as Tom Tadpole causes hearty laughter; and Mr. Paul Milne as Bill Bones is amusing. Mr. Leonard Marshall is good as George Grant; and Mr. E. W. Davis as the detective William White works well.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Miss Nannie Goldman and company are playing *The Stepmother* here. Miss Goldman as Danny acts in a clever manner; Mr. William Hollés as Bob Bristow plays in a breezy style; Miss Lucy Burrows is a charming Amy Bristow; and Miss Patricia Bostock a venomous Anna Vickers. Abraham Wiggins is played by Mr. Chas. Dockwray; Miss Edith Bruce as Johanna Jones is excellent, and along with Mr. Teddy Myles as Timothy Yapp causes considerable amusement. Mr. H. P. Owen is a capital Luke Frizel; and Mr. Herbert J. Walton good as David Blake.

ROYAL THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—In Life's Cycle is a fine dramatic picture, and The Man Who Learned is a dramatic film of great interest. The Warwick Weekly Journal is good; Max Linder as a Cinematograph Artist is amusing; and The Champion Boxer is laughable. Wilson's Wife's Countenance is a novel comedy film. Mr. Leach contributes a good song.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Burt.—From Tyranny to Liberty is an effective Russian drama; Her Mother's Wedding-gown is also good; Pathé's Journal is interesting; Willies Has a Quiet Sleep, Tontoline Pays a Visit, and Bunker's Patent Bellows are among the comedy films.

OSBORNE HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—The Broken Symphony, The Stronger Sex, and The Princess are fine dramatic pictures. Who's Who? Prison Reform, and The Champion Boxer are also included in a good bill. Some capital selections are sung by the Cousinn Quartette.

BROWN'S ASSEMBLY.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—Eternal Triangle is a powerful picture; and Captain Denham is another capital one. Mike O'Grady and A Holiday in the Highlands are also depicted.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas. — Miss Horniman's company, under the direction of Mr. B. Iden Payne, is paying a welcome return visit, and opened to a full house on Monday with *Press Cuttings* and *The Fantasticks*. Both plays were performed in perfect fashion, and met with a flattering reception. In the first play Mr. Esmé Percy was natural and amusing as General Bones; and the Prime Minister was artistically played by Mr. Charles Bibby. Mr. B. Iden Payne gave a droll sketch of the orderly, who preferred his original occupation of barber to being a soldier; Miss Ada King gave a sterling performance as Mrs. Farrell; Miss Alice O'Dea was well suited to the manly Mrs. Banger; and Miss Edyth Goodall was a fascinating and seductive Lady Corinthia. In *The Fantasticks* Miss Hilda Bruce Potter was uncommonly good as Sylvette; and Mr. Esmé Percy a capital Percinet. Bergamin, Pasquin, and Straforel were filled capably by Messrs. C. Bibby, F. Hope, and Iden Payne. On Tuesday *The Critic* drew a good house, and on Wednesday *Justice* was billed for performance.

HIPPODROME (late East Oxford Theatre).—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.—Henceforth there will be two shows nightly, at 7 and 9, at this house, with reduced prices. There were capital houses on Monday night to witness the opening performance provided by the new management, and all concerned may be congratulated on the general excellence of the programme. Amongst many interesting items, the sketch, *Napoleon at Waterloo*, with Scott Alexander in the title-rôle, scored a decided success; Miniola Hurst and her Merry Midgets were very funny; while Freda and Franks, dancing marvels, were good. The Milstead-Bell Trio, in *Two Sharps and a Flat*, caused considerable merriment; Laurence Ivors, the Irish tenor, had a good reception; Ronald George, with musical act, was smart; the Scotties, comedians, won hearty applause. Other successful contributors to the excellent programme were Miss Lena Lewis, comedienne; and Willis and Owen, comedians. The chief feature of the bill was Everhart, the world's greatest hoop-manipulator, who gave a clever exhibition of his unique skill in his particular line.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Harry Tilbury's company is in possession here, the play presented being *His Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. A. G. Fry acquits himself well as Frank Lindon; Neil Lockley is capably enacted by Mr. Fred Owen; Mr. Alex. Alexander gives a powerful rendering of Lord Devant; as Micky Doolan, Mr. Harry Tilbury keeps the audience in fits of merriment; and rôles of minor importance are well played by Mr. George Walkley and others. Miss Belle Tilbury gives a sound representation of Florence Lindon; Miss A. T. George as Alice Harvey is highly successful; Miss Etta Spalding creates a deal of mirth by her humorous portrayal of Araminta Dustpan; and a word of praise is due Little Violet for a cleverly acted child part.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—The management have again made a decided hit by securing Alexandra Dagmar, and the popular comedienne, has been a big success; Addie Dorina, protean artist, with *Dr. Spot's Patients*, in which she presents seven distinct characters herself, each change occupying less than five seconds, is a strong line in the bill; Talberto and Douglas contribute a smart and lively grotesque entertainment; Maud Hughes, soprano vocalist, sings delightfully; a most attractive turn is that furnished by William Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads, a combination of singers and dancers; Louis J. Seymour, light comedy artist, renders several taking songs in a manner that wins loud applause; Miss Hilda Mascot is a pleasing singer and capital dancer; Howard Ward and Louie Davis entertain in their musical comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*; and the Bioscope completes the bill.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Business-Manager, Mr. W. H. Thomas.—The Chas. W. Poole Myriorama and variety entertainment is paying a five-night visit here, commencing on Monday. The show is brought quite up to date, the latest dioramic effect being "A Contest in the Clouds," a forecast of aerial warfare. The variety turns include Amasis, who performs some mysterious conjuring acts; the Ettenas, clever and amusing acrobats, introducing exciting performances on the rolling sphere; the Cairo Trio of gifted musicians, in a refined Oriental musical performance; Inez and Pim, who give extraordinary gymnastic exhibitions; the Jerome Duo, eccentric jugglers, introducing some good novelty business; and U. L. Rowlands, the fun-furnisher. Poole's Imperial Orchestra is under the direction of Mr. F. Mann, and Mr. John R. Poole is a capable guide.

WHITE'S ELECTRIC PICTURE PALACE continue to do good business here, and is devoting the receipts of the performances this week to the benefit of the Pembroke Dock Poor Relief Society.

PETERBOROUGH. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—Leonard Barry and company successfully head the bill with their song-scena, *Ginger's Dream*; Dixie Dee, comedienne, obtains appreciation; Manson and West amuse with their duologue, *Telling the Tale*; Myrtle Grove, child dancer, is applauded; the Days, with their exhibition of thought transmission, are entertaining; and Stallham and Russell, in *Borrowed Plumage*, merit praise. Kenny Kay, ventriloquist, and the Karnoscope complete.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Naked Truth* is winning decided approval. As Bunny Darrell Mr. Stanley Logan gives point to the witticisms of the piece, and acts in finished style; Mr. Townsend Whitling is excellent as the deep-voiced and irascible Indian uncle, James Darrell; Mr. Besley Beltran correctly delineates the rôle of the self-satisfied Mr. Hayter; Mr. Horace Sinclair is original as Teddy Lestrange; and Mr. James Heddon is correctly placed as Prosser. Miss Kathleen Maude is a demure and fascinating Norah Creighton; Miss Ormonde Wynne as Mrs. Darrell is matronly and sedate; Miss Violet Ley gives a clever portrayal of a difficult rôle as Mrs. Hayter; and Miss Violet Temple is an energetic Mrs. Duckett. The curtain-raiser is entitled *Protecting Mrs. Moxon*, the exponents being Miss V. Temple (Mrs. Moxon), Mr. B. Beltran (Capt. Snapps), and Mr. H. Sinclair (the Stranger).

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. Woodward.—*Can a Woman Be Good?* is played here by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Mr. H. C. Robinson scores heavily with some really clever work as Herod Steinberg; Miss Isabel Rose sympathetically presents the rôle of the heroine, a very trying part; Miss Florence Hunt is excellently placed as Naomi; and the amusing business is in the capable hands of Mr. J. R. Tyrell and Miss Winnifred Barton.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Miss Lillie Soutter, the vivacious comedian, is exceedingly popular; the Bouncing Dillons provide an interesting turn at the end of which an amateur competition in bouncing elicits roars of laughter; Bruno Pitrot performs clever but daring feats on a moving horizontal bar; Wilfrid Burnard provides some realistic impersonations; Hubert and Freydo entertain with clever head and hand balancing; Arthur Sutcliffe has a couple of refined songs; and Hurman and Arthur and the Brand Sisters conclude.

PONTEFRACT.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—Mr. H. C. Lovell and company present the musical comedy phantasy *The Queen of Sheba*, which captures the audience from the rise of the curtain. Louie and Wally, burlesque artists, are well received; Stelfane is smart as a lady magician; Doyle and Deane appear as the chic comedy couple; Bee Smart has quite a taking turn; and other items are Phil Terris, comedian; Adela Varcoe, singer of chorus songs; King and Lewis, Jewish comedians; and the Alexandrascope.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—*The Master of the Mill* is being presented here by the Melodramatic Syndicate, Ltd. Mr. John Greenfield is excellent as John Greenfield; Mr. Paul Beckett is good as Tom Bolton; and Mr. E. E. Imeson excels as Julian Croft. Adam Davenport is ably portrayed by Mr. Danell Greene; Mr. D. Ewart Drake is a very capital Braithwaite; Mr. Frank Kingsley and Mr. Frank Ward do well as Dykes and Collins; Miss Enid Edoni is a pleasing Nancy; and Miss Valerie Russell is a "taking" Isabel. Miss Nair Longmans is good as Kate Rigby and Miss F. Russell Spires a capital Mrs. Ray.

PORTH. — PALACE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. W. J. Bynorth.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and his company are here. On Monday *David Garrick* and *The Sleigh Bells* were presented. Garrick was admirably played by Mr. Alex. Marsh; and Mr. Wilson Gunning was effective as Squire Ching. Mr. A. E. Walker made a capital Ingot; and Miss Carrie Baillie as Lilian Ingot was charming. For the remainder of the week *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Jane Shore* were announced.

PORTSMOUTH.—ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird attracted a large audience in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* here on Monday. Mr. Chas. Sugden gave a good character study of Sir Danvers; Utterson was ably impersonated by Mr. Henry Vibart; Mr. Ellie Norwood made an excellent Dr. Lanyon; Mr. Frank Tyar's talents were well employed as Poole; Wellabby was safe in the hands of Mr. J. Patrick Curwen; Miss Dorothea Baird, as Laura Jekyll, touched a sympathetic chord; and an admirable portrayal of Lady Carew was given by Miss Grace Croft. A powerful one-act play, *A Maid of Honour*, preceded, affording opportunities for Mr. Frank Tyars (Oliver Cromwell), Mr. Stanley Howett (Major Bosville), Mr. Arthur Curtis (Capt. Effingham), and Miss Grace Croft in the rôle of Maryleave.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—*A Traitor Prince* is being presented here this week with marked success by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Leonard Mortimer and company introduce a detective sketch, *The Raven's Toll*, here with success; Margit and Lever are humorous acrobats; Tom Golt is a clever comedian; Enzer and Clarice are talented entertainers; Herbert Shelley uses his voice to advantage; Tom Mills creates much mirth in original style; and Billie Burford makes a decided hit.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—An excellent company here is headed by Harry Tate's burlesque on *Flying*, he causes loud laughter; the Boganny's Troupe of Lunatic Bakers are smart acrobats; Marie Kendall is a great favourite, her songs being loudly applauded; an attractive turn is that of Hilman and Russell in their scena, *The Scarecrow and the Star*, their vocalism being above the average; the clever coloured duo, Scott and Whaley, keep the audience highly amused with their funny patter; the Gerlandos give a smart equilibristic performance; the three Cunards dance with precision; Harry Champion maintains his reputation as a quaint comedian; and Violet Nunn, comedienne, pleases all.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Miss Maisie Ellinger opened this week's entertainment with her patriotic song, "Wake up, ye Britishers"; Roelgin's highly trained cockatoos did carefully varied feats; an amusing comedy scena, *Interrupted*, provided opportunity for the Primrose Quartette of male voices; Rosie Lloyd proved very diverting; Bert Errol, the lady impersonator, scored well; Yamamoto and Koyoshi did some thrilling and remarkable equilibristic feats; an interesting turn was that of Miss Marquis and her stud of trained ponies; a dancing act was well executed by Phillips and Barstow; and the Six Brothers Luck evoked merriment with their farcical absurdity. *The Demon of the Cellar*.

GOSPORT ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—Pat Carey, Helena Roberts, Daisy Cordelia, and pictures of The Sheriff's Daughter, and High Treason delight this week's patrons of this popular house.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Messrs. Dudley Bennett and C. F. Wray's company is here with *A Country Girl*. Mr. Percy Carr sings and acts well as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. H. John Hammond as the Rajah is vociferously encored for his topical song; Mr. Percy Everard is a capital Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. C. B. Hargraves good as the vapid son Douglas. Mr. Tom Sheridan is an excellent character-study as Granfer Mummery; Mr. Coningsby Brierley convulses the audience with his drolleries as Barry. Miss May Rawlinson is to be congratulated on her excellent portrayal of Marjorie Joy; Miss Ethel Negretti is also seen to much advantage as Princess Melanah; Miss Hilda Darrell as Sophie wins applause for her duet and dance with Barry. Misses Florence Linton, Sylvia de Lacy, and Vi Small, in their respective parts of Mrs. St. Quintan, Lady Anchester, and Lady Arnot are equally good. Miss Dorothy Craske is an ideal Nan, and acts with much vim, while her songs are excellently rendered.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—*Through the Divorce Court* is being played here this week, and is meeting with a good reception. The company is a good one.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons.—R. A. Roberts tops the bill this week with his marvellous presentation of *Dick Turpin*. His quick changes nonplus the audience, many of whom seem dubious about the characters all being portrayed by Mr. Roberts. He is also presenting *Cruel Coppinger* during the latter part of the week. Kitty Kennedy Allen, comedienne, contributes a capital song and dance; Daisy Taylor is a chic comedienne and dancer; Dolly and Elsie are clever juvenile duettists and dancers; Robb Rossi's sweet tenor voice is heard to much advantage; Cullen and Carthy, with their diminutive assistant Little Chuley, are as popular as ever. Martin Conway also contributes, and Real Prison Reform on the Bioscope concludes.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner, Mr. G. T. Santé; Managing-Director, Mr. James Boothman. — *The Lighthouse Robbery* is being played by Mrs. E. H. Knight's company. Mr. H. G. Ingham as Tom Manley, the fisherman, and Messrs. F. H. Fortescue and P. Beresford, who are responsible for the villainy, act very well; Miss H. Baynton is a graceful heroine; and Baby Freda gives promise of making a fine actress.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Director, Mr. Chas. Evans; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Miss Nora Carton's company have been giving successful performances this week in the interesting drama *Temptation*. Miss Carton makes a fine study of Hilda Dundonald; and Mr. Charles H. Mortimer is admirable as Sir Charles Tremaine. Miss Lilla Wilde is a splendid adventuress as Irva Blight; and the other parts are all filled in an eminently satisfactory manner.

MARINA THEATRE —Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Attack.—At the Marina, it is generally noted, the pictures are this week even better than ever. The Albano Girls, in their "cowboy girls" turn, are thoroughly popular.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hamilton Jackson; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Renshaw. — We have this week Mr. Fred Melville's company in *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson showed ability as George Maddison; as Charles Devereux Mr. W. H. Porter was in every sense a success; Mr. Fred de Vere deserved great praise for the exceedingly clever manner in which he sustained the part of Timothy Tuttutt; Mr. Frank Denis as Sir George Lancaster was most effective; Miss Alice Bowes achieved success as Lucy; Miss Vera Grafton as Lady Lucretia made a fine villainess; and Miss Rita Tomkins was excellent as the Mother Superior.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is appearing this week in *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Neil Oliver acts with power as Barbara Wade; Miss Florrie Lyndon is a charming representative of Constance Cornell; Miss Edah Rothwell is excellent as Nellie Meadows; Mr. Edward Valentine makes a good study of the part of John Meadows, the old farmer; Mr. Cecil F. Kerze as Jack Livingstone, Mr. Fred Rivers as Cuthbert Lumley, Mr. Kendrew Milson as Dr. Weston, Mr. Leslie Nolan as Luke Ramsden, all sustain their parts well; and broad comedy relief is afforded by Miss Amy Rudd as Tilly Vane and Mr. Willie Scott as Toby Turvey.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curtine Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George Kedge; Stage-Manager, Mr. A. Burridge.—The Ten Loonies provide an hilarious turn here this week; the Grovini Sisters, acrobatic trio, give a clever performance; Rose and Wold, as "The Sentry and the Maid," submit an amusing display on the tight wire; Iris Yohe is a good comedienne and dancer; the Haydens are highly amusing in their up-to-date burlesque *Bertie and the Barmaid*; Clara Hubbard is an accomplished elocutionist; Lily Burnand achieves success with her songs; Harry Marte is an acceptable light comedian; and the Palace Bioscope concludes.

ROCHDALE.—ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Mr. Frank Bertram and company are here this week in *The Sailor's Weeding*. Mr. S. Harrison is a smart Gordon Drake; Mr. Cecil Klein an excellent Sir Victor; Mr. A. Fisher an able Count Bellini; and Mr. J. H. Darnley does well as Giovanni Forici.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Jas. Jackson.—Gertie Gitana is starring here this week, and earns all-round applause with her dainty songs; Lockhart's elephants, presented by Captain Taylor, provide a novel and interesting turn; Tom Taylor and company are very amusing in *The Plumbers*; and Miss Katie Moss, A.R.A.M., delights everyone with her musical powers. Cummin and Seaham, in a skit, *The Angler and the Mountebank*, are funny, as also is Robb Gilmour, the queer comedian; and Mr. H. A. Moore, in "Artists on a Yacht," impersonates several well-known comedians.

EMPIRE.—Lessee Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jas. Pringle.—The variety turns here are Leopold Legiere's troupe of acrobats; the Farrows, in a sketch; and Harry Ford, champion ball-puncher.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Boswell's stage circus occupies the premier position here. Tom Child is a well-known Yorkshire tenor; the Four Marsanos are a huge success; and the Ted Curtis Trio, in a vocal and comedy act, introduce some smart dancing. The Holland Bros., a couple of local athletes, make their appearance on the music-hall stage as weight-lifters and scientific hand-balancers, and receive a great ovation; Arthur Aiston is a comedian with original songs; Niagara and Falls present a mirth-provoking comedy acrobatic duo; and Ethel Dove, who is described as "the girl who waited on London Bridge," is responsible for two well-rendered songs. The Gilberts make a return visit in their tight-wire act, *In the Camp*, and are as popular as ever. Two interesting films shown on the Hipposcope complete a good all-round entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—The boards of this house are occupied by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, who meet with a very cordial reception upon a welcome return visit. It is certainly one of the finest dramas staged at Rotherham for some time. The company is a talented one, at the head of which is Mr. Leonard Booker, who as Prince Hildred gives a powerful representation; the rôle of Prince Michael, the hunchback brother, finds a clever exponent in Mr. Victor Rae; whilst the part of Prince Olaf is admirably interpreted by Mr. Henry Hallatt. The central figure in the play, that of the Beggar Maid, is pleasingly and sympathetically portrayed by Miss Violette May. There are a number of subsidiary parts, all excellently sustained; whilst the play is complete with elaborate dresses and gorgeous stage setting.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Under the management of Mr. Edward McLean, who plays the part of Roger Blackburn, *Sexton Blake, Detective*, is a great draw here. Mr. Murray Yorke capably undertakes the title-rôle; Miss Lydia Mannington makes a forcible impression as Philadelphia Kate; Tinker is smartly presented by Mr. Millar Wilson, Mr. Victor C. Rolfe (Farmer Blackburn), Mr. A. J. Harding (Squire Lovell), Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers (Randolph Lovell), Miss Elizabeth Watkins (Marjorie Lovell), Miss Dinah Wright (Euphemia), Miss Ruth Woodhouse (Sally), and Miss Poppy H. Asquin (a homeless woman) give careful studies of their various characters.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—Caryl Wilbur and his company, including Maude Terry, very smartly present the sketch *61, Prospect-street*; J. W. Rickaby keeps the house in roars with his burlesque business; Orpheus is deservedly encored for his clever musical act. Acceptable turns are given by Edwards and Ward, comedy duo; Lilian Rose, charming actress-vocalist; Birkenhead Family of juveniles, in *Her Boy's Birthday*; Lindsay and Harte, in Scotch comedy act; Three Brothers Huxter, in humorous acrobatic sketch; Rowlands and Ford, Welsh and Scotch comedians; and Ambrose Thorne, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—George Gilbey heads a good variety bill, and gets much appreciation; W. B. Raby, comedian, does well. Other smart turns include Carlton, magician; Pichel and Scale, novelty comedy acrobats; Archie Glen, raconteur and dancer; Forbes Guilbert, character portrayer; Lynn and Leslie (Kitty and James), in *The Insurance Agent*; and Cara Magda, lady juggler and gymnast.

OPERA HOUSE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—The Regent Animated Pictures are attractive. Mr. Tom Sherlock secures favour with his singing.

CENTRAL HALL (BLACKFRIARS-ROAD). — Proprietors, Messrs. Matt. Raymond and Co.—The Raymond films are again excellent. Mr. Wensley Russell gives an illustrated song.

SCARBOROUGH. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Martin.—Mr. Sylvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company is presenting *The Walls of Jericho* here. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards gives an excellent portrayal of Jack Frobisher; Miss Gwendoline Hay submits an admirable representation of Lady Alethia Frobisher; Mr. Russell Barry is successful as Hanky Bannister; and Mr. Franc Stoney is good as the Marquis of Steventon. The other characters are all in excellent hands.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench.—A capital programme is provided here, headed by Ruby Dahl and her Merry Mannikins; the Brothers Babusio are expert head-balancers; the Great Powell performs some smart conjuring tricks; and Dorothy Belmore proves a delightful entertainer at the piano. A new musical absurdity, *Inky's Music Lesson*, is provided by Reg Bolton, who is

interested in this admirable version of *The Brass Bottle*, which has been presented here this week to good audiences by Mr. Gaston Meyer's London company, including those experienced artists Miss Mary Brough, Miss Irene Wells, Miss Phyllis Beckitt, Miss Edith Hunter, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Holman Clarke, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. Charles Bennett, and Mr. Percy Marshall, an old "Royal" favourite.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey-Aldred.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. Edward Whitty's company began a return visit on Monday in *The Eyes of the World*. All the characters are acted with dramatic earnestness and the scenery is first-rate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Originally acted for "one night only" here, the excellent comedy-drama, by F. C. Somerfield, *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*, created such a favourable impression that its performance this week by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company has met with the approval of all lovers of sterling English drama. Mr. Wilson Coleman, Mr. Francis Leslie, Mr. Reginald Brown, Mr. Cyril Grier, Mr. Joe Redfern, Mr. Alfred G. Raymond, Mr. W. Annesley, Mr. H. Brookes, Mr. H. Rufus, Miss Leila Drummond, Miss Minnie Goepel, and Miss Kathleen Magee all give satisfactory portrayals.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Tom Foy and his intelligent little donkey, in *The First of April*, are causing great laughter here; and other clever and amusing performers appearing with success are Franco Piper, the banjo expert; Mr. Alfred West, piano soloist; Miss Maud Edwardes, the pretty and talented lady ventriloquist; the Violas, second-sight marvels; Sanford and Lyons, who are selling good low comedy goods; the Sisters Jerome, charming and graceful vocalists and dancers; Mr. Frank Lynne, comic singer; the Bioscope, with artistic films; and the beautiful and shapely diver and tank-performer, Mlle. Serene Nord, in a graceful and elegant act.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. Arthur Prince, the ventriloquist, returned on Monday, and had a royal reception; Miss Beaumont Collins and company thrilled the audience in *The House of Terror*; the Bros. Obo are warm favourites; Miss Topsy Sinden, the famous and skilled exponent of high-class terpsichorean art, delighted all admirers of graceful and poetic movements. Mr. Fred Lyndo, comedian; Miss Mabel Moss, vocalist; the Croissett Trio, athletes, &c.; Bioscope pictures; Miss Adeé Adell, a vivacious vocalist; and the Tiffanos, musical grotesques, make up an attractive programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Variety artists, sketches, and Bioscope pictures are pleasing good audiences this week.

PICTURE PALACE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Shaw.—Some splendid new pictures are projected on the screen this week, including A Trip to the Grottos of Capri, Love and Honour, From Nice to Monte Carlo, The Half-Breed's Defence, The Trans-Continental Express, &c.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—The attraction this week is Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in *The Apple of Eden*. The part of King Ferdinand of Slavenia is in the capable hands of Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Mr. Percy Bullard as Prince Nicola acts effectively; Julian Hanbury is admirably sustained by Mr. Lauderdale Maitland; Mr. J. F. Trynor displays power as General Pavlos; Miss Janet Alexander acts with much dramatic power as Queen Margaret; Miss M. Hayden gives a creditable performance as Lady Hanbury; Mr. Bertie White as Robert Bertram, and Miss Tessa Myers as Winifred Cresson, create much amusement; Miss Mysie Monte is good as the maid Anna; and Messrs. Henry Chalmers, Percy Follis, James Saunders, Francis James, and P. G. Marler acquit themselves well in lesser rôles.

EMPIRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Leslie. — The management has secured a most attractive programme. La-Vie, in a series of living art poses, figures at the head of the bill; and the Musical Melbahs, modern musical eccentrics, are at the bottom. The Vandas, wire artists, acrobats, and jugglers also figure prominently. Other items are presented by Little Cliffe, Leoline, lady shadowgraphist, Marie Clifford, Harry Tomlin, and Charles Bradford.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Monckton Hoffe's delightful play *The Little Damozel* is proving a big draw here. Miss Emilie Polini in the rôle of Julie scores a decided success; Mr. Alick Chumley gives an admirable portrayal of Reclaw Poole; Mr. George Brandram is a convincing Capt. Partington; and Mr. Guy Newall and Mr. William Summers are both seen to advantage in their respective parts. *An Englishman's Lie* is an effective curtain-raiser.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Joe Peterman's extravaganza, *The Belle of the Orient*, with George Ricketts as Ike, creates roars of laughter; Frapcini Olloms and his page contribute a smart turn which is well liked; the Alex. Piccad and company of pantomimists are most hilarious; and Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor charm with their singing and dancing act. Duncan and Godfrey, a quaint couple, Jenny Castelle, and Evelyn Taylor also add their quota to a capital evening's entertainment.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Great Raymond, mystery merchant, tops the list, and creates a perfect furore with his wonderful tricks and illusions; the De Breans are seen in a smart Japanese entertainment; and Marriott Edgar, the man in red, scores in his humorous songs; Little Sunbeam, Musical Silvo, Four Sydney Girls, Ryde and Beeman, and Luella Cross also successfully appear.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Archibald Pareezer.—The engagement for this week of Mr. J. W Turner's English opera company is most popular. On Monday *Faust* was enthusiastically received. Miss Kitty Brownlees made a powerful Marguerite; and the Misses Jessie Dennis as Siebel and Beatrice Mill as Martha were capable exponents. Mr. F. J. Hargrave impersonated the title-rôle in good style; Mr. Tom Griffiths as Mephistopheles was eminently suited; and Mr. Frank Clarke was a pleasing Valentine. On Tuesday *Satanella* was produced.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis De Bargh.—The programme this week is one of the finest ever seen in Southend. Carl Müller is an excellent dancer; Ethel Newman is very good in "Her wedding-day"; Frank Lyndo recites with great reality; Mephisto, the mysterious illusionist works wonders with fire and water; Phillips and Merritt, comedy artists, are well received; Jake Friedman and company, in *Happy Holland*, create roars of laughter. The scene and the quaint costumes of the company are exceedingly attractive. Harry Conlin, comedian, is a good singer; the Wilhelm Trio, acrobatic eccentrics, display marvellous strength.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—A capital all-round interpretation of Mr. Wilson Barrett's famous play, *The Sign of the Cross*, is being presented during the current week by Mr. William Greet's chief company, who are paying a return visit here. Mr. W. Lawson Butt is eminently suited in the rôle of Marcus Superbus, which he depicted in a forceful and convincing manner; the gentle Mercia was earnestly and sympathetically portrayed by Miss Evelyn Hope; Miss Dorothy Lart submits an admirable impersonation of Berenice; Mr. Bernard Elliott acquits himself creditably as Nero; Tigellinus had an able and subtle representative in Mr. Charles Aldred; in the part of Stephanus Miss Winifred Delevanti vividly enacts the agony and heroism of the condemned child; Miss Esmé Lee imparts a natural charm to the part of Dacia; Mr. Frank Wood is to be credited with an amusing and humorous portraiture of Glabrio; the Empress of Rome was well played by Miss Mabel Cooke; Favius and Titus had earnest and impressive representatives in Mr. Walter Ficet and Mr. Henri Raymond respectively; whilst among others who lent ample support were Mr. Harry Jones as Philodemus, Mr. H. Thurston Harris and Mr. Martin Palmer as the two spies, and Mr. Phil Ellis as Viturius.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.— Mr. J. W. Cordingley's company present *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmond gives a charming portrayal of Dorothy; and Ruth is ably depicted by Miss Margaret S. Forbes. Judith is well delineated by Miss Florence Corri; Mr. James Morath makes an effective Capt. Edward Dudley; Mr. Walter Ashley is good as Capt. George Fielding; Mr. James Salter is humorous as Silas Crump; and much merriment is caused by Mr. Geoffrey Borwick as the Dude; Hawkins is ably represented by Mr. Edward Aldworth.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The chief turn is King and Benson, in a new musical burlesque, *Round the Town*, in which they are much appreciated; Briff, Braff, and Broff give an excellent acrobatic display; Waul Langtry receives an ovation for his Tyneside song and clever patter and other humorous songs; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas submit some new and original scenes from Dickens successfully. Other good items are Elsie Robey, the slavey at the piano; Clown Argo, the eccentric farmyard mimic; Dan Hendy, acrobatic comedian; and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—This popular place of entertainment still maintains its high character for films of travel, comedy, drama, &c. Ormonde Penstone submits a good ventriloquial conjuring and card manipulating turn, in which he is assisted by Miss San Go. Another turn is Lang, vocalist, who is also well received.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A welcome return visit is paid here this week of Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's No. 1 company in *Proof*. Mr. Francis Roberts is well applauded for an admirable portrayal of Pierre Lorance; Mr. George Kingsley undertakes Count de Laval ably; as the Duke d'Aubeterre Mr. Alfred Wiltshire comes in for praise; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall makes a good Chamberan; and Mr. Hubert Hine a successful Victor de Langney. Miss Hero Hathaway, in the rôles of Madeleine and Audrienne, gave a capital rendition; Miss Millicent James made a popular Duchess d'Aubeterre; Miss Phena Powell, a good Madame Deprets; and Miss Elsie Goulding, a capable Valentine.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. Leslie Talmage.—Bob Winter, of Crook Durham, is a highly appreciated humorist; whilst the Harrison Brothers come in for much praise of their abilities as duettists and comedians. In addition to these turns, 5,000ft. of the latest star pictures are produced.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; Manager, Mr. George Castrey.—Mr. David Fuller tops a strong bill here, and his songs are all well received; Goodhall and Knox are good as burlesque comedians; Miss Ruby Maybutt, as a comedienne and dancer, delights all; and the engagement of Harry Goodburn, light comedian and actor-vocalist, is appreciated. Good subjects are also shown on the bioscope.

TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vesey and E. H. Dodston; Manager, Mr. Alfred Burrows.—George Payne's Wanderers make themselves extremely popular in their new and original roadside scena. Capital films are also provided.

DEANBANK INSTITUTE.—Lessee, Mr. Randall Williams; Manager, Mr. E. P. S. Whaite.—Considerable interest has been manifested here by the introduction of the famous battle between Johnson and Jeffries, and it is the first time the film has been produced in the county of Durham. Variety turns are successfully given by Dan Pedlar and Tiny Wilmott.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND PICTUREDOME.—Manager, Mr. P. Leckie.—The programme is headed by the British Empire Band, and is drawing large houses. Other good turns are the Gregorys, in their comedy musical sketch; and Dean and Dixon, black and white comedians. The Bioscope shows some very interesting subjects.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—The attraction here is *The Greatest Love*, played by Mr. H. Armitage's company. The character of Paul Penfold, the martyr, is impersonated with marked ability by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid; Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives a praiseworthy delineation of Jack May; as the Rev. Arthur Warren Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is very impressive; and Mr. Dennis Bryan is also excellent as Andrew Isted. Constable Drayton is well portrayed by Mr. Wentworth Lawson; Miss Marion Fawcett's Mrs. May is an admirable piece of work; and Miss Francesca Strickland gives a touching portrayal of Mary.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Queen and Le Brun and company are amusing in the sketch *At the Meet*; Wild, Willie, and West bring down the house with their comicalities; Lilian Love's sweet and powerful voice is pleasing; and Leolin is smart with the clubs. Ralph and Nellie Howard give an excellent display of their musical talent; and A. W. Scotto is a good turn.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Those Terrible Twins* has been here this week. Genuinely funny is the author, Mr. Leedham Bantock, as William; Mr. Cyril Delevanti acts admirably as Charlie Pringle; as the Hon. Harry Scott Mr. Martin Alwyne is pleasing; and Mr. Robert Rivers amusingly fills the character of Samuel Pringle. Mrs. Pringle is impersonated with much ability by Miss Maud Adams; Violet and Lillie are charmingly played by Miss Enid Baird and Miss Norah Walker; and Mrs. Watt Tanner ably portrays the cook Maria.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—An interesting performance is given by La Belle Duchesse, with her performing horses and jumping hounds; and among a capital array of talent appearing are the Martelloni Troupe of lady acrobats, who are exceedingly clever; Karr and Kooney, amusing patter comedians; that pleasing pair Brull and Helmsley, in *Fun in a Music Shop*; Coverdale's nine dainty dots, a troupe of talented juveniles; a smart dancing act by Pat Lynch; Nash and Noel, mirthful comedians and dancers; and the Three Comedy Chanters, harmonious vocalists.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — CASTLE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. James Bell's company is here with *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell appears in the rôle of Flare-Flare with distinction, and is well supported

HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. V. Staimton.—Mr. Bransby Williams gives a number of fine sketches here this week; the Villions are a clever pair of trick cyclists; Flora Macdonald is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Miss Helen Charles is very entertaining at the piano; Stanley and Vandyke take well in a comedy act; the Bros. Weltman are clever whirlwind dancers; Bertha de Pas causes much laughter in a low comedy act; Frank Cass is a popular vocal comedian; and the Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's répertoire company is presenting here this week *The Shaughraun*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *Colleen Bawn*, *The Octoroon*, and *Arrah-na-Pogue*. Good houses rule.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. — THE HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson. Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company present the pleasing and pathetic little drama, entitled *Her Nameless Child*. As the heroine Miss Jean Wigney speedily gains the sympathy of her audience; the heavy part of Lord Woodville is forcibly enacted by Mr. Leonard Aardale, ably seconded by Miss Dora Weber as Lady Sybil-Woodville. The comedy parts find capable exponents in Mr. Larry Clements and Miss Rene Douglas.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Trevanion. —In addition to capital pictures, Miss Minnie Pike contributes several ballads in good style; and Keane Harker is an amusing patterer and comedian.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—The Sunderland Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society are performing throughout this week in *Merry England*. The production is under the supervision of Mr. Arthur M. Cullin, of the Savoy company, and the orchestra under the direction of Mr. Harold Williams.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Bernard Mervyn is presenting *The King of Terrors* here. Mr. Mervyn ably fills the rôle of Jack Ralston, and is well supported by Miss V. Wray-Holmes (Bessie Power) and Miss Ella Balderson (Marion), and Messrs. H. Naylor Grimston (Captain Blackstock) and Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood (Lieutenant Langley). The drama is excellently staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. A. P. Hamilton.—The Oxos are presenting an amusing comedy pantomime entitled *Wrecked* with success; the Derrington Family give a daring cycle turn, and the Two Bees are making a hit with a novel musical number.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Dunn.—Mr. E. Hill Mitcheson's company is here in *The King and the Unknown Woman*. Miss Violet Carlyle acts well in the difficult rôle of Zora; Miss Ella Sennett is admirable as Else; Prudence Ayrton gives much promise as Cascar; Mr. Norman Partridge is a masterly Prince Loris; Mr. W. R. Winning is an excellent General Platz; and Mr. Cyril Harrison is good as Capt. Gara; capital exponents of villainy are Mr. W. T. Clifford and Miss Adeline Raby as Prince Menski and Countess Melvitch, while the humour is well done by Mr. J. J. Dilsen and Miss Auena Walton.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Ernest Shand is heading the bill here and is as usual carrying all before him with his amusing songs and smart patter; the Daukmar-Schiller Troupe of acrobats give an attractive display, demonstrating their remarkable skill; Ricardo and Salving present a difficult equilibristic act entitled *The Human Bridge* with much success. The Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette contribute some fine work; Kitts and Windrum present their sketch *The Cuckoo* in good style; the Rosses give a smart dancing turn; Bugler Carr combines clever equilibrism and music; and Mina Denvil uses her powerful voice with telling effect.

SWANSEA. — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. D. Allen and Sons, Ltd.; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Byrne.—*The House of Temperley* is attracting large audiences. Mr. Lionel Glenister as Capt. Jack Temperley acts with polished ease and military precision; Sir Charles Temperley is well characterised by Mr. Howard Rose; Mr. Fellows Basset makes an effective Sir John Hawker; Jaikes, the bookmaker, is thoroughly realised by Mr. John Detliv; Mr. Charles Cleveland pleases with the buoyant and irresponsible way he enacts the part of the volatile Ginger Stubbs. The feminine interest in the cast is not strong, but such as exists is worthily maintained by Misses Sheila O'More, Madge Devereux, Adria Hill, Nora Watson, and Grace Massey.

SWINDON.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. James Willard's company, in *Paying the Price*, is being presented here this week. Mr. Willard cleverly portrays the dual rôle of Lord Delemere and Paul Hartman; a careful delineation of Captain Dick Clinton is given by Mr. Fred Wilson; Miss Margaret Tueskie is responsible for a powerful study of Nell Fortescue; Miss Lily Lloyd makes a pleasing Doris Delemere; Mr. Frank Hurst does well as Hal Vortoone; and the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple is ably impersonated by Mr. Charlton Morton.

COUNTY ELECTRIC PAVILION.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne.—The films here include The Deputy's Love, The Great Hold-up, Toymaker's Dream, Norway to New York, and Fear of Fire.

TODMORDEN.—THE HIPPODROME.—Geo. A. de Grey and Harry Masterman's company was here in the early part of this week with *The Angel of his Dreams*. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *The Forbidden Fruit* was given.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL.— General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. Bruce Warwick's company is presenting in excellent style *In the Shadow of the Night*. John Allington finds an able exponent in Mr. F. Carrington; Mr. J. Desmond is capitally suited as Gordon Allington; Mr. C. P. Wentworth makes a cool rascal of Clifford York; Mr. C. Taylor does well as Tom Nainby; Mr. F. Luard does good work as Joe Jackson and the Rev. N. Hope; Miss Florrie Hall is a sympathetic Molly Woodstock; and Miss M. Richardson is well suited as Violet Kingston.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Ton-y-Pandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. David Taylor.—Kurio, the mystery, goes well here; the Bros. Western are smart dancers; Douglas and Gordon are well received; as also is Whitty What. Some excellent films are shown.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Arthur Shelton's company in *Beauty and the Barge* is the attraction here. Miss Hilda Vaughan gives a charming portrayal of Ethel Smedley, to whom she gives a delicate touch of frivolity that just suits the part; Miss Gwenllyan Cattell as Lucy Dallas and Miss Mabyn Fay as Mrs. Porter do very well; Mrs. Henry Renouf is quite satisfactory as Mrs. Baldwin; and the Mrs. Smedley of Miss Jane Fay is worthy of mention. Mr. A. Russell-Davis as Lieut. Boyne presents an excellent interpretation; and Mr. Hugh Trevor's characterisation of Tom Codd is amusing. As Major Smedley Mr. A. E. Jackson works hard; whilst Mr Gerald Carter is seen to advantage as Herbert Manners. Mr. Ivor Smith is a droll Augustus; the John Dibbs of Mr. Fred Lake is equally effective; and Mr. Ivor Barnard is a quaint Mr. Porter. Mr. Maitland Marler's easy manner and acting could scarcely be improved upon as Captain Barley.

TREHERBERT.—POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten.—Ella Blair and her Bowery boys and girls sing and dance in accomplished style; the Dunvilles, in "Little Bits of This and That," fully deserve the appreciation bestowed; and pleasing pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

TYNEMOUTH.— PALACE.— Proprietors, Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford is this week presenting *The Private Secretary*. Mr. James Hussey as the Rev. Robert Spalding keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. W. Haigreaves is delightfully humorous as Mr. Cattermole; Douglas Cattermole has an apt exponent in Mr. Arthur Claremont; Mr. Sydney Gibson is excellently represented by Mr. Kendal Chalmers; and Mr. Marsland is ably depicted by Mr. William Carriden. Miss Estelle Despa is well placed as Miss Ashford; and Miss Mary Malhalieu makes a charming Edith Marsland. Mr Horace George gives a good impersonation of Harry Marsland; Miss Cicely Wade is successful as Mrs. Stead; and Miss Elsie Blythe makes the most of her opportunities in the rôle of Eva Webster.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. and Mrs. O. Silverstone and Henry Bright's company is appearing here in *The Nihilist*. The part of Prince Alexander is admirably portrayed by Mr. O. Silverstone; Mr. Cowell Clarke acquits himself well as Karl Orloff; Mr. George Mitchell is a powerful Ivan; Mr. J. Branelle-Harvey acts well as Father Gourko; Mr. C. Newton Buckland is successful as Pierlree Petoff; the humour of the piece is in the hands of Mr. Henry Wright, who was inimitable as Bobbie Smart; Miss Edna Clare acts with much charm and sympathy as Alexina; Miss Annie Hylton gives a merited impersonation as Princess Olga; and Mrs. O. Silverstone acts with lively grace as Katrina.

NEW EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The Ministrel Boys head the bill and provide a capital variety turn of singing, dancing, and patter; N. T. Kioto and C. H. Esa are wonderful equilibrists, and have a great reception; Fred Evans is popular with a novel protean absurdity, entitled *Dreaming*; Will Lindsay, comedian, earns applause with funny songs; Kail Stern, negro comedian, is a smart coon vocalist and dancer; the Four Fedoras, lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are clever; and Mlle. Dalmere introduces a well-trained troupe of performing cats, dogs, rabbits, &c.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The pictures maintain their high standard of excellence

PRICE & REYNOLDS'
PANTOMIME SONGS.

FOLLOW THE TRAM LINES.
I'VE GOT THE TIME—I'VE GOT THE PLACE.
Miss HETTY KING.

I WISH I'D A GIRL LIKE MOLLY.
Miss DAISY DORMER.

PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.
FRED POPLAR.

FATHER STARTED OUT TO WORK.
Miss MAIDIE SCOTT.

SHE SIFTED THISTLES. IN 1999.
CHARLEY HARVEY.

D'YE KEN MR. KENNEDY?
GOOD MORNING, MR. SUNSHINE.
YET! IF I SAID FORGIVE!

PRICE & REYNOLDS, 41, Berners Street, London, W.
Telephone, 2691 Gerrard.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO.'s
PANTOMIME HITS
JOE ARCHER'S

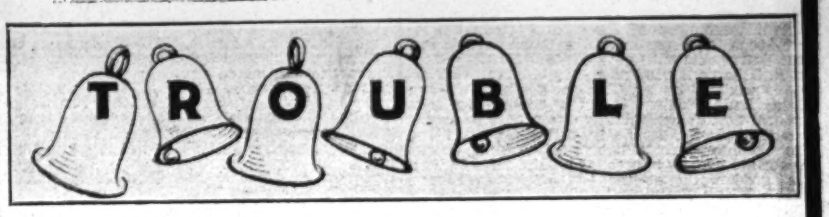

Those Wedding Bells are Ringing
Is the Best Comedy Song of the season. It will certainly be the rage of every town in the Country.
A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

Also the Free Chorus Ballad,
What Would My Life Be Without You?
And we have no hesitation in pronouncing this ear-haunting number as a certain winner for Principal Boys, Principal Girls, etc., for Pantomime.
IT IS RICH IN TENDER SENTIMENT! IT IS A SONG FOR DEEP EXPRESSION!
IT IS VERY EFFECTIVE AND PRESENTS NO VOCAL DIFFICULTY!
Come and hear it and be one of the first to connect your name with this exceptional hit
Professional Copy and Orchestration, 1s. 2d. stamps.

APPLY TO
CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, SHAFTESBURY AV.
Telephone, GERRARD 2193.

VON TILZER MUSIC CO's
WINNERS for PANTOMIME.

PICK ME A NICE ONE.
The PRINCIPAL BOY SONG.

QUEEN OF THE CANNIBAL ISLES.
MISS GERTIE GITANA'S GREAT SUCCESS.

IF YOU SEE HARRY.
MISS ELLA SHIELDS' CHORUS HIT.

SOMELAND.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.

SWEET KATHLEEN
(IN YOUR DRESS OF EM'RALD GREEN)

I NEVER NEVER NEVER SAW SUCH A THING BEFORE.
(SOMETHING NEW IN QUAINT SONGS FOR COMEDIAN.)

The VON TILZER MUSIC CO., Ltd.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON. Telephone—3522 Gerrard.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

THE SENSATION OF THE YEAR!
PARODIES NOT PERMITTED
A PANTOMIME WITHOUT THIS SONG WILL BE LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A RUDDER.
PARODIES NOT PERMITTED.
EQUALLY SUITS BOY, GIRL, FAIRY QUEEN, AND DUETTISTS.
BAND PARTS in Medium and High Keys, 1s. per set. CHORUS SLIDES, 1s. each.
"YOUR EYES" WALTZ, Full Orchestra, 1s.; Septet, 8d.; Piano, 6d. (i.e., half price).
NIGHTINGALE & CO., 20, NASSAU ST., MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. Telephone 3535 Mayfair.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

here, and the varieties comprise Mr. Tom Isherwood, an amusing comedian; and Carlos Menard, in a musical act, who takes well.

WALLSEND.—BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—Sandy McNab and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week in *The Egyptian Mummy*; a good reception is accorded the Brooklyn Comedy Quartette; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard are responsible for much amusement in *Coming Home*; and Ethell Thomas, the Welsh nightingale, proves herself a vocalist of exceptional merit. Henry Hilton is a magician of mystifying dexterity; whilst a capital turn is contributed by the Musical Keiths, instrumentalists. Percy Main, comedian and dancer, and Daisy Morgan, comedienne, are both seen to advantage.

PREMIER ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McDonald.—U. K. Owen, an instrumentalist of more than average ability, is the chief attraction here. An excellent picture programme is also provided, including The Trunk Mystery and Dr. Bryan Pellie.

TYNE PICTURE HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McHarg.—A good variety of pictures is provided here this week, including A Mohawk's Way, The Way to Win, and The Geisha. Vaudeville turns are given by Spiridion, a juggler of exceptional ability, and Tiny Ashton, a talented vocalist.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood; Joint Management, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Horace Goldin heads a first-class programme, and the famous illusionist receives a most enthusiastic reception; Mr. and Mrs. Findon, the popular sketch artists, keep the house in a long laugh, and the same remark applies to the Bros. Redmond, a pair of smart acrobatic comedians; the Belles of the Kitchen are a bevy of juvenile entertainers of considerable merit; the musical act of the Cavalotti Bros. is one of refinement and taste; Lawrence Barclay is very funny in his ballet song; and Mary Ambrose is a violinist and vocalist of talent. The Bioscope concludes.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatre Co.; Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is presenting *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. George Harvard acts powerfully in the rôle of Harry Steyne; Miss Tressie Humphreys is a very capable exponent of Mary Steyne; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman as Leonard Royle is all that can be desired; Miss Mildred Carr's Nancy is distinctly good; and Mr. Fred G. Evison is to be complimented on his performance of Billy Brewer. Messrs. F. S. Stricklane and T. C. Glenville and Miss Jennie Wester fill their respective parts with skill and earnestness.

WASHINGTON.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Joe Turnbull.—*The New Barmaid*, as played by Miss Violet Osmund's company, is excruciatingly funny. Mr. Geo A. Fox causes a good deal of amusement as Captain Loveday, as does Miss M. Stead as Braddy; Mr. W. Henty's assumption of the rôle of Colonel Claymore keeps the house in continual merriment; Mr. Alex. Loftus acts with good effect as Bertie White; Mr. E. Osborne is good as James; admirable assistance is rendered by Mr. Charles Adeson as William White; Lady Moulton is drolly enacted by Miss Barbara Steele; exceedingly well played is the Dora Heather of Miss Beatrice Erle; as Ethel Joy Miss Madge Prior's lively action and dainty manner are greatly appreciated; Miss Dora Carmen does good work as the Old Barmaid (Brenda Louth); Misses Bettee Dalmeny and Murielle Mascot both score in their respective parts of Mary and Mabel Cherryman. Nov. 21, *A Prince's Secret Wedding*.

WATFORD.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—This week's programme is an excellent one, with Launceston Elliott, "the modern Hercules," and Cliff Ryland rivals for the top of the bill. Dainty Daisy Sloan is one of the most delightful artists ever seen at this hall; and Daisy Stratton may be said to run her very close. S. and G. Aner's "jumps and bumps" business is the finest thing in its way, both from the points of view of cleverness and the amusement afforded; Ernest Clifford has some jolly songs and dances; as also have Dollie and Rose. The Royal Delomes, with specialities in the clog-dancing line, and Doone and Donald, in a pot-pourri act, to say nothing of Bioscope pictures and delightful music by Mr. Augustus Greco's orchestra, complete a jolly entertainment, in which there is not a dull moment.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—KING'S PALACE.—A big attraction here this week is the Four Scoreys; Wisper is amusing with his juggling; and Beattie Bloom is also in the programme.

EMPIRE.—A turn that is greatly appreciated is Cline and Clark; Harvey and Jesson are an amusing and clever pair; and Herbert Swan and Sadie Stuart are also successful.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn.—*Under Two Flags* is meeting with the hearty reception it deserves, for the play is excellently staged and mounted, and the company is a most capable one. Miss Sidney Crowe as Cigarette does invaluable work; and Mr. Herbert Skardon as Bertie Cecil provides a fine study. Miss May Dana as Norilda and Miss Irene Stanhope as Princess Venetia Corona are good; and the Colonel Chateauroy of Mr. Geoff Sutherland is clever.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden.—The great attraction here is Miss Harriett Vernon, who exercises much charm in some of her most famous characters. Capital turns are given by Mollie Doon, Clifton Hall, Leslie Race, Fremel and Fremel, Mons. Varl, Manil and Vulcan, Tennessee Guards, Desmond and Dare, and the Carlinos.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. William Maclaren is here with *Claudian*. In the title-rôle Mr. Maclaren displays ability of a high order, and, with Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida, is the recipient of well-deserved applause. Mr. Frank R. Chambers is very good as the Tetrach; and as Agazil Mr. Douglas Erle is most effective. Mr. Weston Hubbard makes a capable Alcares; Mr. Cecil Maynard is a satisfactory Rhamantes; whilst Mr. Chal T. Chaloner as Belos creates much amusement.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Bouncing Peps top the bill here this week, other variety turns being Alice Gilt, contralto and Tyrolean vocalist; and Horace Horner, novelty dancer. Some excellent pictures are shown, notably The Eagle and the Eaglet, Burly Bill, and The Call of the Blood.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company appeared in *Almost His Bride* on Monday. As the Earl of Ullswater Mr. J. O. Stevenson is very successful; Mr. Reginald Barrill as Squire Rowland is excellent; Mr. Morris Maud Pravides is an effectual Philip Rowland; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford is the ideal Jasper Thorne; Mr. Stephen Pritt is screamingly funny as Simon Simson; Miss Cissie Bellamy as Myra Thorne and Miss Kathleen Stewart as Mona Gilchrist are clever; and Miss May Neilson as Emma Bather sustains her rôle with distinction. *East Lynne* was staged, and *A Woman's Passion* has also been given.

WHITEHAVEN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Mr. Harry Newman's company is here for three nights in *What a Man Made Her*. Mr. W. J. Butler is prominent as the Earl of Saxon Royal; and is excellently supported by Mr. Phil Harper (Dr. Haven), Mr. C. H. Francis (Sir Ernest Cavendish), Mr. Harry Ugar (Gunnerstein), Miss Nora Kingsley (Duchess of Saxon Royal), and Miss R. Glendower (Janet McAllister). For the remainder of the week *The Education of Elizabeth* is billed.

WHITLEY BAY.—PLEASURE GARDENS (OLD SPANISH CITY) AND THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penlevé.—Pictures form the chief attraction here, of which there are varied and diversified exhibition.

COLISEUM.—Lessees, Messrs. Imett Bros.; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin de Frece.—This week marks a new departure in the management here, and the event is emphasised by a special programme, including J. N. Milburn, the well-known comedian, in a répertoire budget, with his old favourite, "The old mulberry-tree"; Preston Holmes, musical speciality artist; Surrey and Carlton, in a sketch, *She Would Be An Actress*; and Chita Corri, soprano, in song scena, *Character Types*.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Huzzard.—Although pictures hold sway here—and an excellent exhibition, too—variety is to the fore, the principal contributors being Carmen Watson and Billy McQuire, the amusing comedy couple, in the sketch *Watch the Coat*.

BATHS PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. L. Grice.—This, the oldest picture hall in the district, manages to hold its own against all competitors. The latest films are generally on view, and variety is this week headed by Fred Lindsay, the Tyneside comedian, whose patter in the local vernacular is highly appreciated.

WHITSTABLE.—THEATRE AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. Fred Conway produced *The Sinner that Repenteth* here on Monday evening. As Stephen York Mr. Conway submitted an excellent impersonation, and was well supported by Miss Vivienne Peek as Madge, the old trainer's daughter.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. Gar Kiddie and F. Bray.—*A Woman's Past* was produced here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings by Messrs. Clifford, Hamilton, and Charles Locke's company. Miss Dora Pass was a distinct success as Bessie; and Mr. Percy Dawsone was a manly and impressive David Heath. The other characters were in good hands. For the remaining three nights the popular musical play, *Florodora*, was billed. Mr. Johnnie Schofield headed Mr. Charles Constant's excellent company as the inimitable Tweedlepunch. A feature of the production was the splendid representation of the Apache Dance by Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. Johnnie Junior.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Lessees and Manager, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—Messrs. Tom Kerr and Will Shaw provide principal turns here. Austin and Cowan provide a treat for lovers of vocalism; Billy Elliott is a singer of quaint songs; and Miss Lily Vesta, vocalist, also entertains.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.—*The Boy King* is being presented here by Mr. Walter Howard's company. Mr. Howard has a decided personality and the Ragged Prince finds an able exponent in him; the acting of Miss Annie Saker attains a high level as Camilla; Camillo is in the capable hands of Mr. F. G. Clifton; Mr. Dan Rose is a capital Florian; good acting comes from Mr. Rayce Carlton as Fabion; and Mr. Charles Weir as the Grand Duke of Savernac. The scenery is picturesque.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—A welcome return visit is being paid by L'Incognita, who is vociferously applauded for her selections; the songs of F. V. St. Clair please the audience; the Merions, vocal and instrumental entertainers, are well received; the Cummingers are smart sand dancers; George Madigan has a marvellous troupe of performing dogs; Shenton and Chicks sing and dance themselves into favour; Tony, Hoppit, and Jerry, in *The Coster's Derby Day*, prove clever tumblers; Rell and Butt introduce some smart patter in *Trouble on the Stage*; Fox and Melville, song illustrators, and Bert Bowden, comedian, conclude.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company is paying a first visit here with *Little Phil's Mother*. Mr. Herbert Evelyn as the hero, Frank Towers, plays in a convincing manner, and has an able partner in Miss Maud Russell as Ruth. Mr. David M'Farlane, as Oscar Titherton, makes a good villain; Mr. Dunlop Stewart is well suited as Geoffrey Dyne; Mr. J. P. Marsden, as Donald Taggerty, is responsible for an excellent Scotch character-study; Mr. John E. Tomlinson does well as Bill Briskett; and the comedy element is in the hands of Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Sam Perkels and Miss Leslie Warner as Julia Woodlove. Miss Katie Blair is very dramatic as Elspeth; and Miss Daisy Rochefort evokes sympathy as Phil.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's company is this week presenting a condensed version of Cecil Raleigh's drama *The Flood Tide*. Included also in a lengthy programme are Harry Grey, eccentric comedian; Julian Mack, whose patter is of the best; Hyde and Cody Trio, in their eccentric acrobatic tricks; the Hesseys, in a pleasing musical act; Little Dolly Bell, with a sweet voice; and Olive Armadale, comedienne and dancer.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Macnamara.—Mr. James Welch's company in *When Knights Were Bold* is proving a great attraction, although a comparatively short interval only has elapsed since a former visit. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is irresistible as Sir Guy de Vere; Mr. Charles F. Lloyd is well suited as Isaac Isaacson; as also are Mr. Allan Macdona'd as the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe, Mr. P. L. Julian as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, Mr. Humphrey Warden as Sir Brian Ballymote, Mr. Lawrence Stephenson as Wittle, and Mr. John Cecil as Barker. Miss Violet Noel as Lady Rowena is the central figure in a bevy of charming ladies, comprising Miss Lena Flowerdew (Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave), Miss Lee Lewes (Miss Isaacson), Miss Lola Norman (Lady Millicent), Miss Mabel Hardinge (Lady Marjorie), Miss Juliet Matthoson (Kate Pottlebury), and Miss Elspeth Oliphant (Alice). Mr. Herbert Ranson appears as a Herald, and there is a full chorus.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company were here for three nights, with *The Education of Elizabeth*, which drew good houses. Mr. Norris as Reggie Hankey, Mr. Percy Marmont as Harry, and Mr. Castleman as Mr. Whitby distinguished themselves. Miss Helene Forest as Lucy Middleton, Miss May Norris as Elizabeth Black, Miss McIntyre as Phyllis Dailley, and Miss Spencer as Lily Kerr were delightful.

CARNEGIE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—Professor Evansio, conjuror, and Messrs. Dale and Vale, artistic sepcialists, create much amusement. The pictures are particularly good.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcom Spurgin.—Variety performances are being given here this week, and the departure has proved to be highly popular, judging by the enthusiasm of Monday's audience. At the head of the bill is the amazing mystery *Not To Be Opened*, which is presented by Frederick Lloyd and Cyril Sworden's company. The show is quite unique, and those engaged in its presentation are Mr J. Herbert Beaumont, Mr. Eric Snowden, and Mr. Albert Woodall. The Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats perform some marvellous feats, in addition to singing sweet songs; and Geo. Shurley, comedian, has fairly established himself as a local favourite. Fame and Fortune provoke a deal of mirth with their funny boxing act; and Molly Augarde captures her audience with her latest songs. Ben Jackson is a banjoist of no mean order; and an excellent programme is completed by the Daimlers, comedy artists, and Bessie Vaughan, instrumentalist.

YNYSHIR.—WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessee, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Stewart.—Many highly amusing and instructive films are presented here. Helene and Emilon, Continental gymnasts, present a unique act; and Jules Charmettes, French comedian, is very funny.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Laurence Cowen's company is here in *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*. It is an excellent play, full of realistic situations and impressive lessons. Miss Dora Hammersley as Gertrude Grant is repeatedly applauded for her impersonation; Miss Dorothy Routh is an excellent Beatrice Cuthbert; Mr. Hugh Wildey, a manly Robert Hall; and a large amount of work falls upon Mr. Keith Fraser as the villain, Nicholas Brophy, who is worthy of much praise for his clever acting. Mr. Henry Compton as Rupert Dyke plays with considerable force; Mr. John Brittain and Mrs. Maitland Marler cause much laughter in their character studies as Johnson and Jenkins respectively; the remaining characters are in capable hands, and the scenery is good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—La Milo is one of the principal attractions this week, and large audiences have been the rule. Her poses call forth general praise. The Jacksons are musicians of the first rank, and present a turn as novel and up-to-date as it is popular; Tom Bryce and Miss Maynard in a neat sketch, *The Dude's Wooing*, are particularly smart; John Donald, in Scottish songs and rhyme, is very popular; and Joe Booth is a comedian of whom much more might be seen with advantage; Crosby and Walker introduce amusing patter; the Sisters St. Julian are clever duettists; and Ethel Edwardes contributes a popular item.

DURING the night of Tuesday last a fire broke out in the coach-house of the Waggon and Horses Inn, Banbury, at the back of the Theatre Royal, and most of the personal belongings of *The Arcadians* touring company were destroyed. The coach-house, which was used as a dressing-room, and the rest of the building were burnt out.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, OCT. 11.—Mr. George Willoughby and his English farcical comedy company opened at the Criterion Theatre under the auspices of Sir Rupert Clarke and Mr. Clyde Meynell in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Willoughby has surrounded himself with a perfect cast, amid which he figures as Flambert with ease and success. Mr. David James never exaggerates in his portrayal of Crosbie, and the Sydney democrats enjoy to the utmost his "cheeking" of his master, Mr. Frank Frayne, who has Mr. Hugh C. Buckler as his delineator, a very excellent entrance into our playgoers' favour. Sir Charles Hampshire loses nothing at the hands of Mr. Arthur Cornell. Two handsome women, Miss Mab Paul and Miss Stella Payter, act delightfully as Gipsy Vandelier and Lady Hampshire. Miss Amy Willard retains all the charm with which she won her London successes. Mr. Harry Overton makes the Alderman a capital character study.

PALACE.—The Hamilton and Maxwell company is now playing *Why Men Love Women* to good and interested audiences. Miss Vera Renrèe as the heroine shows considerable advance in her profession, and she will be one of our best before very long. Mr. Max Maxwell as Captain Fitzherbert quite realises the author's intention, and Mr. Charles Brown is an ideal vaudeville manager as Orlando Figgins. Mr. Richard Bellairs made Staniloff stand out like a cameo, and Mr. Ronald W. Riley makes a dignified Maharajah of Balore, and Birdie Summertop is capably portrayed by Miss Mabel Russell.

"OUR MISS GIBBS" is cramming Her Majesty's every night, despite the counter attractions of scores of election meetings where free fun is to be had. The magnificent scene in the second act is a great attraction—nothing finer has been seen here. Miss Blanche Browne and Mr. Bertie Wright have become prime permanent Sydney favourites.

THE ROYAL has alternate grand opera nights, when Bel Sorel and Amy Castles, Reginald Roberts and Frederick Blamey change about in *Madame Butterfly*, *I Pagliacci*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana* to operagoers' satisfaction. The season closes this week, and immediately Miss Katherine Grey and a big company return with drama. Mme. Carreno is giving farewell recitals, and the Besses o' th' Barn Band final band performances. Mr. Walter Kirby announces concerts.

THE TIVOLI has Morris Cronin as star, Morris and West, Nellie Morrison, Olga Monsey, and Gracie Grahame as other attractions.

MELBOURNE, OCT. 5.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.—This evening Mr. Julius Knight will enter upon the last three nights of his season in Australia. As Marcus Superbus in *The Sign of the Cross* he has been attracting large audiences during the present revival of the piece. To-morrow afternoon Mr. Knight is being tendered a benefit by the management. A monster programme has been arranged by all the Melbourne managers, in which most of the leading artists now in Melbourne will take part, so that a bumper house is expected.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.—As strong a favourite as ever, *The Whip* succeeds each evening in winning the appreciation of large audences. With the sporting element so excellently defined throughout, the drama should continue its course of prosperity right over the racing season. A very popular scene is that in which Miss Illington speaks into the telephone concerning the comedian who has been locked into the "Chamber of Horrors" at Madame Tussaud's. The cast is an excellent one, while the staging throughout is on a most elaborate scale.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Clyde Meynell and Rupert Clarke; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Levy.—The Meynell and Clarke production of *Tom Jones* has delighted crowded audiences since its opening night. It has all the elements of tunefulness, brightness, and originality, that go to make a musical play enjoyable. The singing of Miss Winifred O'Connor, the new prima donna, is a notable feature of the performance. This talented artist is supported by a strong company, all of whom do full justice to their various rôles. The scenery and costumes are on a lavish scale.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—*The Winning Ticket* continues to draw crowded houses. Amongst the more sensational effects are the race for the Melbourne Cup and the swinging bridge scene. Last night the production was witnessed by His Excellency Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael, Lady Gibson-Carmichael, and suite. This admirable Australian sporting play is now in its fourth week, and seems certain to enjoy a lengthy run.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—On Saturday evening three new artists made their first appearance, and met with good receptions from a packed house. Miss Lorna Pounds proved herself a clever mimic of actors and actresses well-known to Melbourne playgoers. Mr. Kevin Dunn made his *début* as a singer. He has a trained tenor voice of sympathetic quality, which he used to excellent advantage in the favourite ballad "Sally Horner." Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Meymott have put on a new little one-act comedy sketch which keeps the audience well amused; the Charlenes are established favourites with their clever musical and juggling act; Mr. Fred Bluett and his parody boy scouts seem to have established themselves for a renewed term of popularity; Mr. Pip Powell and Miss Kate Vesey present a laughable absurdity, entitled *Where Are You Going?* while excellent items are presented by Lily Thompson, Johnny Gilmore, the Martin Sisters, Will White, Les Warton, the Donnellys, and a host of others. On Saturday next Mr. Walter C. Kelly, a monologue entertainer, with a great American reputation, will make his first appearance in Australia.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. James Brennan; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Brennan.—A crowded house assembled here on Saturday evening last, when Mr. Brennan's vaudeville company presented an entire change of programme. Among the most popular turns are Hassan and Wills, American equilibrists; Alf. Holt, mimic; McGrath and Page, banjoists; Heath and Lamb; Goldie Collins; Ruby Golder, and many others. Excellent pictures are shown by the Miorama.

MISS MAGGIE KNIGHT, who appeared here recently with such success as Granny in Mr. Matheson Lang's production of *Pete*, has met with great success in the part in Adelaide, where Mr. Lang and Miss Hutin Britton are at present appearing for a brief season. Miss Knight's clever character-sketch is considered a feature of the production.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

THE BEECHAM SEASON.

Il Barbière di Siviglia was given at Covent Garden on Saturday night before a large audience. The chief features of the performance were the charming Rosina of Miss Mignon Nevada and an excellent embodiment of Figaro by Signor De Luca. In the Lesson scene Miss Nevada sang "Couplets du Mysoli," from "La Perle de Bresil," with such delightful ease and finish that the audience insisted on an encore. As Almaviva Mr. Macnez sang and acted with far more success than in his previous performance of the Duke in *Rigoletto*; while Mr. Alfred de Manby displayed considerable humour in the part of Basilio. Bartolo was undertaken by Mr. Paterna; and Bertha by Miss Lena Maitland. Messrs. Arthur Wynn and Charles Knowles completed the cast. Signor Camilieri conducted, and the orchestra gave a spirited account of Rossini's score.

THE ETHICS OF IBSEN.

"Ibsen's purpose in crowning with death so many attempts at defiance of current morality was to signify his final approval of them through a form that he considered the fittest and noblest of all emancipations," wrote Mr. W. Aylott Orton in a recent number of the *Westminster Review*.

"That such was, indeed, his intention seems, however, more than probable, as one tries to grasp the practical drift of his somewhat obscure message. The disciples of the vision of liberty (so, in effect, he tells us), being bound at present thus to defy, not only conventional, but real morality, must be content to accept for wages, not mere bitterness or disappointment, but the moral damnation reserved for those who, in their endeavours to serve humanity in the future, are forced to fight against it in the present. For the liberation of the modern world from those tyrannic idols to which it sacrifices so much of its power and beauty is to be accomplished, not merely by books and plays, but by pioneer dealings with life of an active nature—the deliberate sacrifice of reputation and all traditional honour to the future, and faithful acceptance of all that such sacrifice will bring in its train of scorn and hatred and social ostracism.

"But there is a second type of motivation in these social dramas—that, namely, which comprises the Wild Duck and Hedda Gabler. It is the problem of the aftermath: of the soul that has crossed the border, and stands without direction in the strange new region—a land wherein many of our own day wander disconsolate. 'Believe me' (writes Ibsen at thirty!) 'it is not agreeable to see the world from the October standpoint; and yet there was, strange to say, a time when I wished for nothing better. I had a burning desire for, I almost prayed for, a great sorrow, which might round out my existence and give life meaning. It was foolish, and I have fought my way out of that phase—and yet, the remembrance of it is never effaced.' Never effaced—not even after another thirty years spent in telling the world that what it knows by the name is not life at all, that there are titanic conflicts to be waged ere true life is to be as much as tasted. For the conflicts over, or their issue imminent, the old question as to the meaning of life recurs with new insistence; and no answer being immediately forthcoming—answer of any sort being indeed difficult to produce at short notice—the devil rises to his one really great opportunity, and suggests that there is, after all, no answer possible, that the only justification the struggle has had resides entirely in the excitement it has afforded.

"It is to be confessed that Ibsen had not his *apage Satana* ready promptly enough to prevert, for instance, the explosion of General Gabler's pistols; it is, indeed, a matter he came very near leaving open altogether. Scattered suggestions of an answer are, however, to be discerned up and down his work, though in himself they were probably not conscious, the Zeitgeist having reserved the explicit statement of the matter for a later mind, whence our interest in tracing its primogeniture in Ibsen is largely historical.

"In the first place, it is to be noted that the very thoroughness of Ibsen's tragedy is probably the most optimistic thing about him. What we are accustomed to call tragedy is but crude and cheerful stuff beside the few lucid passages of that master-artist, Fate; and it is the greatest of errors to conceive of despair as in any way barren or final. The amount of unconquered energy that goes into a mood of thorough blackness holds more assurance of ultimate victory than the most sanguine 'perhaps.' Some other final issue than defeat was certainly in store for the temper that, consciously fronted with the damnation of its attempts at social revolution, still through unending disaster persistently fought on; just as for those old Scandinavian gods whom their worshippers pictured as conscious from birth of the doom that was finally to vanquish them, and as fighting it none the less lustily on that account; and for all errant kinsmen of a heathen generation, alike in the Viking age and the nineteenth century, the prophecy is recorded that the chastened spirit of paganism shall survive the protracted götterdämmerung, and crown their questing, on some distant day, with an uncurst success.

"It was surely his intuitive hope of some such consummation that Ibsen embodied in Emperor and Galilean, under the figure of the Third Empire. Its conditions, which must neither fetter the soul nor induce it to rebel against its fate, would seem to be that social law shall have come into line with the dictates of the noble will, so that distinction of soul shall result no longer in fruitless conflict with a necessity that may be base, but in liberty wherein a man may confirm the law through 'willing what he must.' And since all such law depends upon the mental and moral calibre of the people by whom and for whom it is framed, all hope of change for the better must rest ultimately upon what Ibsen called a 'revolution of the spirit of man'—the production, more practically speaking, of a race of freer-thinking, finer-feeling beings, fit to create and enter into an atmosphere of moral liberty that the most advanced spirits of our own day can but pine for. Thus, while Nietzsche was working out the philosophic statement of this idea, Ibsen—perhaps unconscious of the meaning of what he did—was giving it dramatic form; and it is interesting to see how those factors upon which Nietzsche most relied in theory are also dramatically emphasised by Ibsen.

"One is reminded at once of many scenes like that between Solvejg and Peer Gynt, in which the dramatist seems to have suspected the existence of some ultimate felicity attainable in or through the duality of the sexes, that it was for some reason beyond his power more than to suggest. Perhaps it was his strange inability to depict essential woman, in spite of his ability to portray women, that prevented his showing us the realisation of this sexual harmony; yet he frequently makes it the acknowledged goal of a long course of action—as in Peer Gynt, The Lady from the Sea, Little Eyolf, and the tragic figures of Rosmersholm. And although Ibsen does not seem to have realised the extent to which the possibilities of such relationships were to become the ethical keynote of the future, the inestimable preciousness of youth as a motive force, the significance of it as a moral criterion, is, perhaps, the very heart of his own philosophy.

"Just as, years ago in his own adolescence, he had found in the legends of the youth of his country the expression of a psychology that satisfied his instinctive demands, so, in his later diagnosis of individual lives become stagnant or purposeless, it is to the eruptive influence of youth let loose upon the modern world that he most frequently turns for a specific. How often, where no actually youthful personality is brought into the action, do we find the course of things entirely diverted by the sudden intrusion of a figure—such as so often greets one at an unlikely corner or crossing of a busy life—to whom memory has given the power of reaching down, through the wrack and spindrift of many intervening years, to where the hopes and passions of a far distant day lie slumbering in their coffins: of kindling again, by some fateful glance or phrase, these frustrated forces of a forgotten youth; until, winning their way moment by moment nearer the surface of present consciousness, they issue at last in a fresh outburst of fierce energy that may either destroy or recreate the life it enters. Thus, while he is at all times too much in earnest to exhibit merely the æsthetic charm of adolescence, Ibsen has again and again, in its aspect of power unbridled, made it the crucial factor in a situation."

THE "NIBELUNGEN" IN BERLIN.

Mr. Angelo Neumann, in his "Personal Recollections of Wagner," gives an interesting account of the great composer at rehearsal. He says:—

"The Master, with his wife, Countess Schleinitz, and Daniela von Bülow, took their places in the lower left-hand proscenium box. He asked me to sit in the next box beside him that he might criticise the performance as the occasion arose.

"I had ordered the rehearsal to open with the second act of *The Valkyre*, and as Scaria turned to leave the stage after his great scene in that act, Wagner sprang from his seat, flew down the steps, and tore on to the stage at such a frantic pace that I could scarcely follow; shouting, 'Where is he? Where is Scaria? That was glorious! Man alive, where did you get that voice?' and catching the artist about the neck, he hugged him enthusiastically, kissing him and saying, '*But* you did that well—that was well done!'

"From now on he took the direction of the rehearsal himself. He showed Sieglinda how to lay her head on Siegmund's lap and fall asleep. He insisted that Brunhilda, when she comes to announce the doom, must throw her right arm about the horse's neck, holding the shield and spear in her left. The fight between Hunding and Siegmund was not at all to his liking. Scarcely had they begun their sword-play when we all had a fright that made our hearts stop beating! Suddenly, with the agility of an acrobat, Wagner swung himself up on to the railing and ran lightly along the high narrow ledge of the proscenium box, balancing skilfully, but too full of eager impatience to think of reaching the stage by the regular way.

"Here he snatched up Siegmund's sword, and finished the fight with Hunding on the heights at the back of the stage. Then, at the given signal, he fell with a crash close by the edge of a precipice; his head brought clearly into relief by the rise of the hill behind, and his arm hanging limp over the edge of the abyss in full view of the audience. All this with a certainty and a dashing agility that a man of twenty-five might have envied.

"Under his direction the scene between Hunding and Siegmund was repeated over and again until it finally went to please him. Then at length he ordered Wotan to thunder out his deadly 'Go!' breaking it off short and sharp to let the clang of weapons and the crash of Hunding's fall be heard with more distinctness.

"The following rehearsal—*Rhinegold*—Wagner conducted almost entirely. Then in *Siegfried* we had a scene that rivalled the one with Scaria. The Master had recommended his Bayreuth singer Schlosser for the part of Mime; but I had decided to give the rôle to Julius Lieban, an ideal Mime and a member of our Leipsic cast. At the close of the first act Wagner, who had never seen this young singer before, could hardly contain himself. With his characteristic dash he flew on to the stage, and stormed up the steps, passing Lieban, whom he did not recognise, in his hurry. The singer himself, young and inexperienced, was hurrying down the stairs, anxious to hear the Master's verdict. As he passed him by I called to Wagner, 'Master, that is our Lieban,' but not recognising the name he hurried on, still looking for the artist; till I finally cried, 'Master, that is our Mime!' Then he stopped suddenly, wheeled, and rushed at Lieban, who stood there, trembling at the thought of meeting Richard Wagner. The Master threw his arms about him in an ecstasy of enthusiasm, and when he exclaimed, 'You did that wonderfully—it was simply matchless!' the young fellow fairly cried for joy and kissed his hand in reverence and gratitude.

"In the third act we had a most exciting incident. In the duet between Siegfried and Brunhilda we had introduced an effect that Seidl had formerly arranged under Wagner's direction. The latter seemed not to have noticed, until Vogl called his attention to it as something unusual and disturbing. Immediately Wagner began to scold, denouncing the rendering of the scene. Mme. Materna, who felt that Vogl had criticised her conception of the rôle, and considered it an intrigue on his part against her as a rival of his wife, immediately burst into tears. It was a tragi-comic scene. On the stage the weeping prima donna—in the box the angry author. My first efforts were directed toward soothing Wagner, which I did by reminding him that he himself had originated that passage and approved of its introduction years ago. Finally, when that tempest was laid, he in turn helped me restore the injured artist—patting her gently on the back and comforting her with honeyed words of praise.

"That same evening we had ordered the dress rehearsal of *The Valkyre*. It was to begin at six, and in order that everything should be in readiness before the Master came, I myself arrived at five. There I was greeted by Major von Witte, inspector-general of the fire commission, who informed me that the donkey-engine we had set up in the court to furnish our clouds of steam, was contrary to the fire ordinance and would have to be removed. The effect this announcement had upon me may be imagined. The final rehearsal in the presence of the Master was to begin in just an hour; and we had no steam for the fire scene. Nothing I could say or do moved Major von Witte. He was cordial, sympathetic, and deeply interested in the performance, yet, as he said, 'Herr Director, I am a Prussian officer, and my duty comes first of all.'

"In the meantime several of the artists had arrived, among them Heinrich Vogl—the Siegmund of that night. When he saw me coming from the theatre with Major von Witte he came toward us calling out, 'I say, this is a pretty mess. There's no steam, I hear.' Then he added, pointing to the adjacent building, 'I'll tell you what—if you say the word I can fix it for you next door. We'll have all we need in a couple of hours.' 'The devil! Where from?'—'That's a distillery,' he continued, and told us he had one of his own on his estates. 'They've steam enough in there for anything, and all we'll have to do is to get permission to lay a pipe in here and connect it with our stage.' Then Major Witte declared, if we could arrange it with the owners, there would be no further interference from the fire department—and I forthwith flew rather than walked into that distillery and ran up against the son of the proprietor.

"I told him my troubles breathlessly, and he set my mind at rest by saying, 'I'm somewhat of a Wagner enthusiast myself, and if there's anything we can possibly do to help, you may rest assured it shall be done. Only I must speak to my father about it first, though I've not the least doubt that he'll be glad to help you.' After a whole night's work we broke through the wall, laid our pipe, and our troubles were finally over. Indeed I may say I've never seen better or more convincing steam in any other performance of the *Nibelungen*.

"Herr Kahlbaum, the owner of the distillery, would not hear of any reimbursement, and even put his workmen at our disposal for the necessary connections. He asked, however, as a special favour that he might meet Richard Wagner, and the manner of his introduction was truly remarkable. I had told him to come behind the scenes, and he arrived just at the particular moment when Wagner was trying to take me aside to discuss some important technical details. Herr Kahlbaum shyly persisted in following us up, which made Wagner so nervous that he flew at the poor man in a whirl of fury, saying, 'Who the devil are you? Can't we have a moment's peace to ourselves?' Naturally I immediately explained the situation and introduced him as our saviour in the late difficulty; then Wagner soon calmed down."

"THE GAMBLERS."

Drama, in Three Acts, by Charles Klein, Produced at Maxine Elliott's Theatre, New York, Oct. 31.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Once more has the author of *The Lion and the Mouse* written an intensely interesting and powerful play. The action begins at Emerson's residence, where his sister is entertaining her guests at a dancing party. In the midst of the gaiety, James Darwin, the special prosecutor appointed by the Government to obtain a conviction against Emerson and his associates, comes to take his wife away, he having requested her not to attend the party. It becomes evident that Darwin is jealous of Emerson, and the reason of this is that Mrs. Darwin, before her marriage, was beloved by Wilbur Emerson. She feared, however, that he loved her less than money-making, so she rejected him and married Darwin. It also becomes evident that she and her husband are an ill-mated pair. Darwin has a suspicious nature and is "as hard as nails." He is the sort of man who poses as a public benefactor, but is all the time thinking of his own interests. The Emersons are friends of long standing, but Darwin knows no friends when business stands in the way. He has political ambitions, and these ambitions will be furthered by a relentless prosecution of the association of bankers of which Emerson is the head.

Mrs. Darwin, as has been said, has attended the dance in defiance of her husband's wishes, but she denies that her object in coming was to be with Emerson. Darwin demands her dance card. For nearly every dance she is engaged to his rival. She declares that Emerson is not even present, and that the engagements were made by Emerson's sister, who is greatly attached to her. This is really a quibble which serves to increase her husband's suspicions. As a matter of fact, however, Emerson has always acted honourably, and Darwin's suspicions of his wife's fidelity are unfounded. He takes her away, and when Emerson arrives there is a meeting of the bank directors, called together ostensibly for a card party, but in reality for a conference over the desperate situation in which they find themselves. Emerson admits that, acting for them all, he has broken the law; that the facts are known to the Government, and that their arrest is imminent. There is one chance for them. He has the incriminating notes in his possession, and has raised enough money to pay them before the authorities take action. On examining the notes, however, he finds that they are mere copies. The scene that follows is admirably enacted. It shows the terror-stricken directors trying to shift the responsibility. With the exception of Emerson and his aged father, *sauve qui peut* is the attitude of all of them. The copies of the notes are in a familiar handwriting, and Emerson accuses one of his associates, George Cowper, of having betrayed his fellow-directors to the Government. In a powerful scene, Cowper is forced to confess that he has agreed to give State's evidence in order to save himself. He has sent the original notes, together with a detailed statement of facts, which will ensure the bankers' conviction. Before this is discovered, Emerson decides that one of them must go to prison to save the others, and deals the cards. The one who turns up a certain card is to shoulder the entire responsibility and take his punishment. The fateful card falls to Emerson's aged father, but Wilbur Emerson has watched for it, and he snatches it up before the old man gets it. There was a mistake in dealing, he says, and claims the card himself. The elder Emerson, it appears, knew nothing of his son's transactions. He is an exemplary gentleman of the "old school" of banking, when, as he puts it, it was "a gentleman's business, and not a gambler's game." He is not equal to the game as it is played to-day, and has left the conduct of the business to younger men. In his interview with Cowper, Emerson learns that the notes have been sent by a messenger to Darwin's house. Now, as Darwin is to leave for Washington that very night, he has probably not received them, and Emerson makes up his mind to recover them.

The second act takes places in the Darwin library at 11 p.m. Mrs. Darwin retires after turning out the lights. Disguised as a chauffeur Emerson comes to the house and asks for Mr. Darwin. The maid seeks her mistress, and during her absence the visitor secretes himself and slams the outer door to make it appear that he has gone. When all is quiet he makes his way to the library and searches among the papers on the table. He finds what he is looking for, but Mrs. Darwin comes upon him just in time to take it out of his hand. He coaxes and pleads, reminding her of the days when they were lovers, and telling her that his possession of the notes will save his aged father from undeserved disgrace. Mrs. Darwin is firm, although it is plainly a terrible struggle, for she has always loved Emerson, although she has been true to her husband. She will not swerve from her duty as a wife, though, and holds fast to the notes until Emerson threatens to force them from her. He quickly relents, however, and finally she promises to say nothing of his visit. As he is about to leave he is stopped by a detective, who announces that Darwin is coming. Darwin arrives, immediately suspects that there has been an assignation, and ridicules Emerson's story when he confesses that he came to steal the notes. Darwin agrees, however, to believe the story if his wife corroborates it. Emerson is sent downstairs under guard, and Darwin puts his wife through a severe cross-examination. Although her story is substantially the same as Emerson's, her hesitation convinces her husband that she is guilty. Moreover, the maid tells of being disturbed and trying the door. She found it locked, and Mrs. Darwin called out that everything was all right. Darwin orders the detective to take Emerson to the police-station on a charge of burglary, and declares that Mrs. Darwin shall appear against him.

Left alone with his wife, Darwin sneers when she protests her innocence, and threatens to divorce her. And she, in an outburst of emotion, declares that she is willing to be found guilty of anything, no matter how unjust the accusation may be.

In the last act, in which the interest is well sustained, Mrs. Darwin still has the notes, and has decided to give them to Emerson. In the meantime her husband realises that divorce proceedings will prove prejudicial to his political prospects, and offers to condone her offence if she will restore the notes to him. This she refuses to do. She wants her freedom, and will even make a false confession of guilt to obtain it. Darwin has her watched by detectives in an effort to prevent her from giving the notes to Emerson. The latter gets them, however, and destroys them. Then he saves his fellow-directors by assuming entire responsibility for the illegal banking operations, the notes having been the only evidence against them.

Emerson goes to prison, and Mrs. Darwin, in a tearful farewell, tells him that in the hour of his deliverance he will find her waiting for him.

The principal honours of the performance were won by Miss Jane Cowl, whose sincerity and naturalness in the rôle of Catherine Darwin gave verisimilitude to the most important scenes in the play. Mr. George Nash was direct, forceful, and convincing as Wilbur Emerson, and gave a remarkably fine portrayal. Mr. Charles Stevenson depicted the unlovable attributes of James Darwin in a highly effective manner, and Mr. William B. Mack ably delineated the weakness and remorse of George Cowper. Messrs. George Backus, De Witt, C. Jennings, and Cecil Kingstone played prominent parts well.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. HOWARD RUSSELL.

Mr. Howard Russell was born in London on Jan. 7, 1833, and is thus within a few weeks of seventy-eight years. At the age of fifteen he entered the office of Mr. F. F. Hand, solicitor, of 89, Chancery-lane, with whom he remained for five years, and gave up the study of the law for the post of secretary to Admiral Taylor. Mr. Russell's frequent visits to Sadler's Wells and his admiration of Mr. Samuel Phelps and his unexcelled company of players inspired him with the desire to become an actor, and he made his début under the management of Mr. Huntley May, going on for twelve parts a week and working with all the ardour of youth. Mr. Russell's perseverance led to his engagement as leading man at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, where he often played six legitimate and six melodramatic parts a week.

His first appearance in London was at the Victoria Theatre, under the management of Mr. Cave, in *The Sin of a Life*. Eventually Mr. Russell was engaged by the late Mr. F. B. Chatterton, and made his first obeisance to a West-End audience at the Princess's Theatre in February, 1871, as Captain Culpepper in *The King of Scots*, supporting Samuel Phelps. He proceeded to Drury Lane, replacing the Mexican tragedian, Morton Tavares, in a post-pantomime revival of *Amy Robsart*. Returning to the Princess's, he took part in the first performance of Falconer's *Eileen Oge* on June 29, 1871. At this theatre, Easter, 1872, Mr. Russell appeared in Byron's *Haunted Houses*, and later played Claudius to Fechter's Hamlet. Mr. Russell treasures a photographic memorial of an engagement at the Strand in the autumn of 1872 to play Murgatroyd in *Not Such a Fool as He Looks*, in the cast of which were Byron, Edward Terry, Walter Joyce, Ada Swanborough, and Miss Giffard. A season of Shakespeare, supporting Creswick and Phelps at the Princess's, ensued, and at Easter, 1873, Mr. Russell made a notable success as the Wandering Jew at the Adelphi. He returned to Drury Lane to play Eros in a revival of *Antony and Cleopatra*.

At Christmas, 1873, he played Oliver to Miss Helen Faucit's Rosalind in a performance of *As You Like It* at the Haymarket, on behalf of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. Among the members of a truly remarkable cast was Sir (then Mr.) Charles Wyndham, whose stage-manager Mr. Russell eventually became at the Criterion. In the summer of 1874 Mr. Russell played Ulric in *Elizabeth; or, The Exiles of Siberia*, at the Adelphi, and was in the subsequent production, *The Prayer in the Storm*. In December, 1875, Mr. Russell had the honour of playing Henry VIII. to the Wolsey of Samuel Phelps at the Standard, and that was the last time he acted with that great player. He also recalls with pleasure playing Bishop Gardiner to the Elizabeth of Mrs. Rousby at the Standard Theatre, at a time when the biggest of our "stars" did not deem it *infra dig.* to appear there. A very pleasant tour with the late Charles Calvert occurred in 1876, Mr. Russell playing Salamenes in *Sardinapalus*, Shylock, Kent in *King Lear*, King René in *King René's Daughter*, *The Corsican Brothers*, and Joseph Ironsides in *Nine Points of the Law*.

[*Photo by Fradelle and Leach.*

MR. HOWARD RUSSELL.

One of Mr. Russell's remarkable successes was that of Uncle Tom in a revival of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* at the Adelphi. He was a member of the company supporting Barry Sullivan at Drury Lane in 1876, and the following spring supported Creswick in Shakespeare at Drury Lane. Subsequently, at the Princess's, he had the distinction of playing Derrick to the Rip Van Winkle of Joseph Jefferson. He took part as Chandos Bellingham in a revival of *After Dark*; and as Richard, Duke of Glo'ster, supported Miss Heath in *Jane Shore*; also in *Elfinella*. In the autumn of 1878 Charles Dillon appeared at Drury Lane, notably in *A Winter's Tale*, *Cymbeline*, and *Belphegor*, in all of which Mr. Russell supported him. He also appeared for that famous actor's benefit at Drury Lane, playing Lavaranes in *Belphegor*.

In 1878 Mr. Russell was again at the Princess's, where he appeared once more as Richard, Duke of Glo'ster, supporting Miss Heath. At Christmas *It's Never Too Late to Mend* was revived, with Mr. Russell as Mr. Meadows, a character with which he has been much identified. In 1881 Mr. Russell was again at the Adelphi, where he appeared in *Michael Strogoff*, in a revival of *Janet Pride*, and in Charles Reade's *Rachel the Reaper*.

When Irving revived *Romeo and Juliet* at the Lyceum he intrusted the Chorus to Mr. Russell. At the Lyceum, too, he figured as a member of Miss Mary Anderson's company when she made her first appearance in England as Parthenia, Mr. Russell playing the Tymarch. At the end of his engagement with Miss Mary Anderson, Mr. Russell was retained by another American actress, but of a very different type—Miss Lotta to wit—whom as Sampson Brass he supported in *The Old Curiosity Shop*. At the Olympic he had a curious experience of the vicissitudes of plays. *My Partner*, one of the most popular pieces ever produced in America, was a dire failure in London, notwithstanding the care and money lavished on it.

Mr. Russell had a later life experience of the Adelphi under the rule of the Messrs. Gatti, playing in the course of a long and successful series there *The Harbour Lights*, *The Bells of Haslemere*, *The Union Jack*, the revived *Green Bushes*, *The Trumpet Call*, *The White Rose*, *The Lights of Home*, *The Lost Paradise*, *the Black Domino*, and *A Woman's Revenge*.

Incidentally, Mr. Russell has produced twenty-one "legitimate" plays at the Crystal Palace, playing the "heavy" parts therein, for the late Mr. William Terriss. In the summer of 1881 Mr. Russell played at the Crystal Palace Leontes, Dentatus, Julius Cæsar, the Duke Orsini, Jem Dalton, William Tell, and William (in *Black-Ey'd Susan*) in two weeks during the Meiningen company's tenancy of Drury Lane. It has been Mr. Russell's good luck to play important parts in all the Drury Lane dramas (except *The Whip*), under the management of Mr. Arthur Collins, and he has toured the suburbs as Sir John Garnet in *The Great Ruby* and Michael Wain in *Hearts are Trumps*. He has also toured the provinces in the late Henry Neville's part of the Governor-General in *The Prodigal Son*.

MISS ADA BLANCHE.

Miss Ada Blanche is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams, both well known in the profession, the former as a music hall manager and the latter as a popular vocalist under the name of Mme. Cicely Nott. Miss Blanche started her career as a child at the Adelphi, and was the first to sing Clement Scott's celebrated song "Here stands a post." Her next engagement was at Drury Lane, for the Christmas pantomime, after which she appeared as one of the children in Miss Marie Litton's production of *The Vicar of Wakefield* at the Imperial Theatre, and as Little Red Riding Hood in pantomime under the same management. The following Christmas found her again at Drury Lane, in *Mother Goose*, and later on she toured with the late Dion Boucicault, playing Eily, Moya, and Arrah-na-Pogue. Further engagements included a tour with Mme. Soldene, in which she appeared as Fiametta in *Boccaccio*; three tours with Mr. Auguste Van Biene in *Ruy Blas*, playing Miss Nellie Farren's part; and three seasons with Mr. George Edwardes at the Gaiety, playing in *Monte Cristo* (and understudying for Miss Farren), *Miss Esmeralda* and *Joan of Arc*, in which she sustained the title-rôle. Miss Blanche has played principal boy many times in the provinces, her parts consisting of Selim, in *Blue Beard*, at the Tyne, Newcastle; the Prince, in *Cinderella*, at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham; Aladdin, at the Royal, Newcastle; Boy Blue, at the Prince's, Manchester; Prince, in *Cinderella*, at the Grand, Leeds; Sinbad at the Prince's, Bristol; and Dick Whittington at the Prince's, Manchester. Six consecutive years as principal boy at Drury Lane Theatre came afterwards, Miss Blanche thus holding the "record" run of principal boys at the National Theatre.

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

MISS ADA BLANCHE.

For a short time Miss Blanche appeared in the music halls, her first engagement being at the Trocadero, then under the management of her father. Appearances at the Palace, Tivoli, Pavilion, Empire, Holborn, Canterbury, and Paragon followed. In the spring of 1896 she toured the musical comedy *The Telephone Girl*, which had a most successful run of six tours. An engagement as principal boy in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's pantomime of *Sinbad* at the Prince's, Manchester, followed, and in the autumn of that year she was secured by Mr. Chas. Macdona to star in the title-rôle of *The Gay Parisienne*. At Christmas Miss Blanche appeared as Aladdin at the Borough, Stratford, the following year returning to Mr. Courtneidge for principal boy in *The Sleeping Beauty* at the Prince's, Manchester; after which she was engaged by Mr. Tom B. Davis to create the part of Mrs. Habbicombe in *The Medal and the Maid* at the Lyric Theatre. Christmas once more found her in pantomime at Liverpool, under the management of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, playing a strong Irish comedy part, for which she was retained the following year at the Grand, Glasgow.

At the termination of this engagement Miss Blanche entered into partnership and toured for three consecutive years the well-known comedy *What the Butler Saw*, in which she appeared as the vivacious American Kittie Barrington. On her return to town she was again engaged by Mr. Robert Courtneidge to create the part of Mrs. Smith in *The Arcadians*, which is now in the second year of its run at the Shaftesbury.

Miss Blanche's favourite parts are Arrah-na-Pogue, Moya, Ruy Blas, the Prince in *Cinderella*, Kittie Barrington in *What the Butler Saw*, and Mrs. Smith, the rôle she is now playing in *The Arcadians*.

HARRY ROXBURY will produce the pantomime *Mother Goose* at the Bordesley Palace, and his company will include Fred Acton, Walter Dale, Kitty Russell, Bessie Esmond, J. W. Gallagher, the Society Quartette, Leon and Tee, and the Eight Sydney Girls.

FAVOURITE artists will also appear at the Prince of Wales's, where *Jack Horner* will form the attraction. The performers include Hetty King, Carlton, G. H. Elliott, Jay Laurier, George Miller, the Lyric Quartette, Rita Trekelle, Olive Dene, and the Stella Girls.

THIEVES have been paying particular attention lately to the theatres at Aston. A fortnight ago the manager's office at the Aston Hippodrome was entered, and the safe was carried into the passage, but left unopened, and the marauders, who were evidently disturbed, got clear away. On the night of the 11th inst. the Theatre Royal, Aston, was broken into, and a quantity of stock removed from the bar, with a sum of money, the takings from the sale of refreshments. A sequel to the latter case was the appearance before the Aston magistrates on Monday of a man named George Busst, of 11, Drury-lane, Birmingham, charged with breaking and entering the Theatre Royal and stealing four bottles of brandy, two bottles of whisky, seventy cigars, three packets of cigarettes, twenty packets of chocolates, and £15 7s. 3½d. in cash, the property of Charles Barnard, of West Hampstead. It was stated that the prisoner was found helplessly drunk in the bar of the theatre, having consumed a bottle of brandy. He was remanded for a week.

THE LATE FRANK EMERY.

During a career extending over half a century, Mr. Frank Emery, whose death we recorded in our last issue, experienced many and varied vicissitudes and achieved numerous triumphs, both at home and abroad. The veteran actor, who in his strenuous life was to fulfil the rôles of clown, pantomimist, comedian, and manager, enjoyed in his early days a short experience as an actor in the provinces. Later on he joined Huntly May McCarthy at Folkestone. The theatre was a permanently erected wooden structure. "Here," said Mr. Emery, in an interesting memoir he has left behind, "Charles Mathews appeared with us for two nights. We did two nights at Dover, travelling by coach to Canterbury for two nights. This pleasant journey was rendered most enjoyable by Charles Mathews—happy and convivial—relating innumerable interesting stories and anecdotes. In a winter season at Preston with Huntly May McCarthy, we did a pantomime, the opening being the splendid Lyceum burlesque of *Conrad and Medora*. We were visited by several stars, including Dillon and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews. From Preston we went to Sheffield, where Mr. McCarthy had taken both theatres, the Royal and the Alexandra, where he produced a very fine version of *Dred*, with John Coleman in the leading part.

"I joined the late J. P. Weston at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, as comedian, stage-manager, and pantomimist, where the work we got through was simply marvellous. Weston took me to the old theatre at Gravesend for a summer season, where he produced, for the first time out of London, *The Colleen Bawn*, which was then in the height of its popularity at the Adelphi."

Mr. Emery spent a winter season at the famous old Theatre Royal, Leeds, where they played *The Colleen Bawn* for six weeks in the depths of a most severe winter.

"Weston now having taken a lease of the Theatre Royal, Bolton, became permanently domiciled there, taking me with him as his general manager. While here I was engaged by the late John Knowles, of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, to play clown, which I did for three successive pantomimes, viz., *Aladdin*, *The Fair One with the Golden Locks*, and *Gulliver's Travels*."

For a season or two Mr. Emery travelled as general-manager and comedian with Captain Disney Roebuck's United Service Dramatic Company, into which Mr. Emery introduced the professional element, securing among others Miss Lottie Venne, George Giddens, E. W. Royce, and many others. Standard plays and comedies constituted the principal performances. Subsequently Mr. Emery was associated with Mr. L. J. Sefton in performances of Sir (then Mr.) W. S. Gilbert's *Pygmalion and Galatea* and *The Palace of Truth*, Pygmalion being played by "Handsome" George Gordon and Galatea by Miss Rose Leclercq. After an extensive tour the company was disbanded, and Mr. Emery assisted Mr. Sefton to produce the pantomime and play clown in *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

[*Photo by Barnett.*

THE LATE MR. FRANK EMERY.

"It was at this time, having plenty of leisure, that I took out *Withered Leaves*, by Fred Broughton, and commissioned him to write *Ruth's Romance*, which I produced at the Theatre Royal, Bath, with Fred Marshall as Captain Wilton, J. D. Beveridge as Jack Dudley, and Rose Leclercq as Ruth. Both these little plays were veritable triumphs. At Bath I produced also W. S. Gilbert's new play *Broken Hearts*.

"The Prince of Wales' Theatre, Liverpool, which had seen many ups and downs of late years, was in the hands of a Mr. Kittle, from whom I purchased the residue of his lease, and entered into possession on Monday, Oct. 9, 1876. The opening address of seventy lines of clever rhyme was kindly written for me by W. S. Gilbert, and spoken by myself and G. W. Anson, who starred in an original burlesque by J. F. McArdle, *Zampa*.

"At Christmas, 1877, I produced my first pantomime at this house, *The Fair One with the Golden Locks*, which was a triumph. The success of my management from this moment was never in doubt. I got the best stars and best companies, such as Charles Wyndham, Hare, Kendal, and D'Oyly Carte's company, who made a point of playing the Gilbert and Sullivan operas the first time out of London always at the Prince of Wales', Liverpool."

Perhaps the most memorable engagement of Mr. Emery's career was that with Wilson Barrett, whom he accompanied as stage-manager on his American tour. Visits to many of the States were made, seventeen towns being played in three weeks!

On returning to England the company immediately started on a provincial tour of the principal cities, at the conclusion of which Mr. Emery joined Walter Hatton as resident stage-manager and producer at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, for whom he produced three most successful pantomimes, and for the summer season managed a series of promenade concerts which proved prodigiously attractive.

Another important period in Mr. Emery's career came when he accepted a lucrative offer from Mr. Arthur Garner, the famous Australian manager, with whom he had a three years' contract. Mr. Emery had a long stay in Australia, winning success under various notable managements.

His record, as we have said, was a long and interesting one, and he died in harness in his native country, his last engagement being with the original *House of Temperley* company at the Adelphi and on tour.

"THE LAW OF MUSICAL COPYRIGHT." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. Price 1s., post free 1s. 1d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MISS ITALIA CONTI.

Some Press Opinions of Miss Italia Conti's Producing of the Fairy Scenes, and of her Training of the Children in M. Cammaert's play of "The Two Hunchbacks," produced at the Savoy last Monday, Nov. 14; and some Notices of Little Miss Mavis Yorke as the Child Elf, who has been trained under Miss Conti's direction:—

The Daily Telegraph.

A mite of a girl, Miss Mavis Yorke, captured the goodwill of the house by her delightfully fresh and clever acting as the Prince of the Elves.

The Globe.

But the honours of the performance went to Miss Mavis Yorke, a really great little actress, who made the most fascinating of elfin Princes.

The Standard.

It is a charming little idyll, and, as acted by a host of clever children and one more than clever child—Miss Mavis Yorke—it should help to draw both old and young to the Savoy for many days to come.

The Daily Express.

The play was chiefly remarkable for the wonderful acting and dancing of little Mavis Yorke as the little Prince Pit, Prince of the Elves.

The Daily Telegraph.

The scene between Jack and the elves is quite charming, and should serve to make the little play a decided favourite with young folks during the Christmas holidays.

Morning Advertiser.

The little play was capitally acted by a company including Miss Brand, Mr. Vernon Steel, and the wonderful child actress and dancer, little Miss Mavis Yorke, all of whom may be congratulated on having caught exactly the right spirit of M. Cammaert's always fascinating fairy tales.

Daily News.

A charming and admirably-acted fairy tale, and little Miss Mavis Yorke was truly a Prince of Elves.

The Times.

The two scenes in the forest, with the dancing of the elves, are very pretty, and the children who represent them have been excellently trained and act with much spirit. Pit, the King of the Elves (Mr. Guy Griffinhoofe), and Little Pit, his son (Miss Mavis Yorke), are deliciously vivacious. The action of the piece has most wisely left the tunes to be sung by the children's voices without support. There is a charming spontaneity about the whole thing.

The St. James's Gazette.

The scene of the second act, which takes place in a pine wood, is quite delightful in the way it was presented, as well as in the charming group of well-trained and clever children who took part in it. Among these, especial mention must be made of Miss Mavis Yorke, a fascinating child actress, who, as Little Pit, the Prince of the Elves, played her part with conspicuous ability.

The Pall Mall.

Especially successful being the two pine-wood scenes. The numbers of children as elves seemed to enjoy themselves immensely, and they went through all their business, which includes a clever representation of felling a pine tree, with great spirit.

The Star.

The management of the woodland scenes was highly artistic, and the little people acted remarkably well. Far the best of them was Miss Mavis Yorke, who was delightful as the Prince of the Elves.

"THE MELLSTOCK QUIRE."

The Dorchester Debating and Dramatic Society produced at Dorchester on Wednesday, the 16th inst., a new comedy, *The Mellstock Quire*, being a dramatisation of their fellow townsman Mr. Thomas Hardy's famous novel "Under the Greenwood Tree." This society have previously produced two other plays founded on Mr. Hardy's novels, viz., *The Trumpet-Major*, in 1908, and *Far from the Madding Crowd*, in 1909. All three were adapted by Mr. A. H. Evans. Mr. Hardy has manifested a keen interest in the production, having attended several of the rehearsals and helped with many useful suggestions. The townsmen of Dorchester have just shown their appreciation of the honour which he has brought to their town by conferring upon him the freedom of the borough. This ceremony took place in the Guildhall immediately before the performance on Wednesday evening.

The scene of the play is laid in and near Mellstock, a village situate within a couple of miles of Dorchester and identical with the birthplace of the famous novelist. The date is in the early part of the last century. The play is presented in four acts, of which the following is a synopsis:

Act I., Scene.—Mellstock Village upon a Snowy Christmas Eve: The quire are going their rounds, carol singing, visiting the vicarage and the house of the schoolmistress. The Vicar makes an innovation by inviting them to the Vicarage for refreshments, instead of the old custom of taking "a crumb and a drap in the church gallery." Dick eludes his companions and seeks Fancy Day. The act closes with Churchwarden Shinar's reception of the singers, who retaliate by trying to drown his voice by their singing. The carols sung were selected by Mr. Hardy from carols actually sung by choirs at the date in which the play is laid.

Act II., Scene.—Mellstock Village in the Spring of the following year: The members of the quire and other parishioners are discussing the Vicar's intention of dismissing the quire and substituting an organ to be played by Fancy Day; Reuben Dewy undertakes to speak to the Vicar on the matter. The quire line up and "have it out" with the parson. Dick seeks his father's advice on love-making, proposes to Fancy and is accepted. Shinar courts Fancy but is rejected. The village school children come out of school and play.

Act III., Scene.—Fancy Day's Sitting-room: Dick and the Vicar in turn help Fancy to arrange the furniture brought by her father from Yalbury; she fascinates the Vicar, but loves Dick and is willing to marry him; her father however wishes her to accept the more prosperous Shinar. To overcome this difficulty Elizabeth proposes that both Dick and Fancy shall mope with broken hearts and feign sickness nigh unto death.

Act IV., Scene.—Under the Greenwood Tree in Yalbury Wood on Whit-Sunday: Elizabeth's plot proves successful and Geoffrey Day consents to his daughter's engagement to Dick. Fancy plays the organ for the first time in Mellstock Church, and the quire, unable yet to bear the change, forsake the service and visit Geoffrey Day at the keeper's house in Yalbury Wood. The Vicar tells Fancy of his love for her, proposes, and describes the life she would lead as his wife. Fancy accepts the Vicar. Dick, unconscious of what has happened, arrives and casually informs the Vicar of his engagement to Fancy. In the meantime Fancy has reconsidered her acceptance of the Vicar, and returning asks him to release her, which he does. The quire return, and all desire the future wedded happiness of Dick and Fancy.

It will be observed that the plot hangs mainly upon the attractions of Fancy Day, to which Dick Dewy, Farmer Shinar, and even the new Vicar all fall victims; but undoubtedly the chief interest lies in the old quire, who speak the Dorset dialect as to the manner born.

All the characters, except the Parson, Fancy, and possibly the Farmer, are drawn from the typical rustic class which Mr. Hardy loves to depict. The parts are played entirely by amateurs.

The play is to be performed for the benefit of the Society of Dorset Men on Dec. 1 at the Cripplegate Institute.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Farce, entitled
"THE MAN FROM BLANKLEY'S."

There is an abundance of genuine amusement in Mr. Anstey's merry farce, and the company appearing this week at the King's have succeeded to the utmost in creating hearty laughter at the mistakes and complications arising out of the supposed hired guest from Blankley's. The crowded house on Monday evening thoroughly enjoyed the ludicrous situations so tellingly arranged by Mr. Anstey, and the reception bade fair to lead to a successful week. As Lord Strathpeffer, the victim of the mistake in being mistaken for the hired guest, Mr. Clarence Blakiston scored repeatedly, his gentlemanly bearing and easy acting making his impersonation highly popular. The City man, Montague Tidmarsh, was cleverly portrayed by Mr. F. Percival Stevens. Mr. Harry Ashford amusingly rendered Gabriel Gilwattle, and Mr. Toomer was effectively played by Mr. J. Plumpton Wilson. A sufficiently melancholy Jeremiah Ditchwater was Mr. W. Ribton Haines, and Mr. J. W. Macdonald's Mr. Pomfrey created much merriment. Mr. Walter Ringham, with a capital make-up, was a laughable Mr. Nathaniel Bodfish. Dawes, the Butler, found an excellent representative in Mr. Fredk. Moyes. Mrs. Russ Whytal as Mrs. Montague Tidmarsh gave a brilliant representation. That talented actress, Miss Alice Mansfield, was seen to much advantage as Mrs. Gilwattle, and Mrs. Ditchwater enabled Miss Dorothy Fane to score for her exceedingly good make-up and dress. Miss Agnes Imlay was a pleasant Mrs. Bodfish, and Miss Ada Palmer as Mrs. Bugle caused many smiles. Miss Cecilia Flinders was giddily played by Miss Drusilla Wills, and Jane and Hannah were typically personated by Miss R. Migault and Miss Ada Claremont. One of the cleverest little actresses we have seen for some time is Miss Mary Glynne, who, in the character of Gwendoline Tidmarsh, created great interest, and earned a well-deserved reception. In Miss Eily Malyon's hands the part of Marjory Seaton lost nothing of its old effectiveness, and the King's patrons were not backward in welcoming her return to the district. The scenery was admirably painted. The farce was preceded by *The Chain*, a one-act drama, by Mrs. Herbert D. Cohen, in which Mrs. Russ Whytal distinguished herself. A quintuple bill of five plays was given on Thursday evening.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 14,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

The patrons of musical comedy in this and surrounding neighbourhoods were not slow in showing their appreciation of the energy of the management in securing another West End attraction in the shape of Mr. George Dance's company in *Our Miss Gibbs*, which is here this week. This successful Gaiety play has the advantages of an exceptionally talented company. Mr. Hugh Weybrance presents a fine picture of Lord Eynesford. Possessing a well-trained and effective voice, Mr. Weybrance succeeds in moving his audience to genuine enthusiasm with the rendering of his numbers. Miss Jessie Lonnen as Mary Gibbs ("Our Miss Gibbs") sings and plays sweetly and unaffectedly, and, acting with a quiet force of personality, scores an artistic success. Mr. Eustace Burnaby realises exactly the eccentricities of the part of the Hon. Hughie Pierrepoint, the amateur criminal. A large share of the success of the piece is due to the strenuous efforts of Mr. John Leopold, jun., as Slithers and Mr. Ernest Darrell is an admirable exponent of the part of the Earl of St. Ives. The Duchess of Minster has a successful representative in Miss Helen Langton, and the impecunious Mrs. Farquhar has a good representative in Miss Emily Stevens. Miss Ellaline Thorne is characteristically French as Mme. Jeanne, modiste at Garrod's Stores, and Lady Elizabeth Thanet is capably undertaken by Miss Lilian Birtles. Mr. Theodore Leonard as Timothy Gibbs "fra' Yorkshire" has a part brimful of opportunities for provoking laughter, which he uses to the full. His is a performance of distinct merit. Mr. Campbell Brown plays the part of Mr. Toplady, manager of the stores, with gentlemanly assurance, and Mr. Reginald Weighill is good as Mr. Beavis, the solicitor. Mr. Percy Clarbour gives a capital sketch of Mr. Amalfy, and Mr. Albert Cavendish is suitably placed as the taxi cabby. The Misses Nancy Aylwin, Lily Vining, and Nina Terri charmingly acquit themselves in acting, singing, and dancing as Irish Colleens at the White City, and Miss Hilda Hoyes (Lady Connie), Miss Ella Merton (Lady Sybil), Miss Kitty Beyer (Lady Trixie), Miss Mabel Gordon (Lady Angela), Miss Kitty Develin (Lady Muriel), and Miss May Marshall (Lady Gwen), the remaining characters in a lengthy cast, are all well placed. The chorus is well up to Mr. George Dance's usual standard of excellence, and the efficient orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Otto Manns, get through their work with the utmost precision. The play is staged with elaborate detail, and is under the management of Mr. Reginald Weighill, assisted by Mr. Albert Cavendish.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama entitled
"A THIEF IN THE NIGHT."

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace has brought a high-class company. Mr. Alfred Goddard is very good as Alan Escombe, and Mr. Leyton Cancellor scores a great success as Michael Pagani. Miss Beatrice Homer sustains the part of Sonia Cleeve with marked power, and Miss Florence Dalton ably overcomes the difficulties of the rôle of Joan Escombe. Mr. Hugh Wallace leaves nothing to be desired as Lord Romilly, and Lady Romilly is safely put in the hands of Miss Irene Chalmers. Miss Edith Watkins is clever as Susan; and Miss Jennie Halworth skilfully impersonates Happy Xmas. Richard Cleeve is allotted to Mr. Gerald Poole, and the Rev. Chas. Halkett to Mr. Philip Crossley. Mr. C. Alan-Hincson as Crake and Mr. Bert Atherton as Toby are well chosen for the parts; Mr. Robert Merrick is a capable Detective Laxton; Mr. C. Hedger as a constable and Mr. Henry Stanton as a police inspector are good; and Mr. Arthur Moran takes the waiter's part satisfactorily.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, entitled
"THE WHIP."

That wonderful sporting drama, *The Whip*, was presented at Kennington on Monday by Mr. George Dance's company. The two great scenes, The Collision at Manfield Junction and The 2,000 Guineas were quite a triumph of stagecraft. There is a talented and well-balanced company. Miss Gwendoline Wren is a charming Lady Diana Sartoris, investing the part with much sympathy and feeling; Mr. Dallas Cairns is a frank and manly Earl of Brancaster, and the love passages between him and the heroine are very daintily interpreted. Mr. James Lindsay gives a powerful and vivid study of Captain Greville Sartoris, and his victim, the Rev. Verner Haslam, is graphically portrayed by Mr. Frederick Leister. The lighter side of the play is well looked after by Mr. Edwin Brett as Tom Lambert, the trainer, and Miss Simeta Marsden as the Hon. Mrs. Beamish. Mr. Brett's impersonation of Lambert, the trainer, and Miss Simeta Marsden is extremely vivacious. Miss Vera Beringer's representation of Mrs. d'Aquila, the villain's accomplice, is a brilliant piece of acting, and Mr. Eric Hudson gives an excellent delineation of the rôle of Joe Kelly, the bookmaker. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is a stately Marquis of Beverley, and Mr. Colston Mansell is admirably suited to the part of Harry Anson. Miss Dora Lane makes an attractive figure of Myrtle Anson, and Miss Talbot Daniel is well placed as Lady Antrobus. A good deal of fun is caused by Mr. Horace Custins and Miss Ida Mann as Mr. and Mrs. Tomlin respectively. Mr. W. J. Yeldham is well placed as Sir Andrew Beck, and others who deserve mention are Mr. E. Goldham as Tom Foster, Mr. Vincent Lawson as Captain Rayner, Miss Edith Fraser as Mrs. Purley, Miss Aimee Le Gros as Mrs. Pelham, Mr. Victor Boggetti as Emmett, Miss Marguerite Courtier as Lady Middleton, Miss Ellis Hudson as Lady Gore, and Mr. William Sydney as the Carpenter at Tussaud's.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14,
THE GROTESQUES.

The Grotesques, the clever artists who have been delighting London audiences at the Savoy, are on tour, under the direction of Mr. Philip Cuningham, and have been giving Fulham playgoers a taste of their quality. All their work is artistic and refined, and much of it is really humorous. Miss Kathleen Severn and Mr. Hugh Bayly open the individual items with a duet; and Mr. Harry Harmer follows with a weirdly-impressive "bogey" song. Miss Dorothy Doria next contributes a smart song, and shows herself, moreover, to be a most graceful and accomplished dancer. Mr. James Watts, who is a real comedian, gives an amusing coon song. Miss Elsie English, who sings in charming style and with admirable finish, is much applauded for her rendering of "Mister Nightingale." Mr. T. C. Sterndale Bennett contributes some little songs of his own. The melodious music and bright humour of these proved very attractive. The remaining portion of Part I consisted of "Some Impressions of a Ballad Concert," wherein the mannerisms of various types of performers were caricatured with great spirit and humour. Prominent among these were the amusing skit of Miss Margarine Scooper and M. Pullman on the 'cello, while the impersonation of Mme. Von Bellow produced roars of laughter. In Part II. Mr. Sterndale Bennett's song "My Bungalow in Bond-street" was one of the favourites, and some clever impressions of different sorts of music, varied from the delicate artistry of the "Street Cries" to the broad farce of "Operative Music." Finally, there is the inimitable "Village Concert," in which Mr. Cecil Cook gives a delightful caricature of the Vicar, and the other members of the company enact various other concert types, one of the cleverest being the representation of Mrs. Mealy.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, entitled
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Mr. Fred Melville is this week presenting at his own popular theatre one of his latest successful plays, and good audiences are nightly rewarding his efforts. Mr. Fred Melville has well mounted *Her Road to Ruin*, and the realistic London scenes arouse plenty of enthusiasm. Mr. Charles Dickens was in capital form as the Curate, Frank Temple, his virile acting making a marked impression; Miss Doris Gilham was remarkably effective in her representation of Jess; Mr. Knox Orde was at home in the arduous part of Philip Hardy; Mr. Dave Clarke sustained the rôle of the Bishop admirably; Mr. Albert Grenville played with care and carried conviction as Tom Wells; Mr. Chas. H. Brooke was a diverting Billy Boats; Miss Gertrude Tait was well cast as May Willoughby; and Miss Grace Emery was very bright and entertaining as Jenny Crackling. Miss Margaret McClellan, in the rôles of Mary Dawson, Marie de Vaune, and 'Orrible Mary, played with clearness and agility. Miss Leta Scarlett, Miss Jessie Stephens, Miss Mary Halstead, Miss Lucy Bentley, and Miss Violet Cane deserve mention in a large cast, as also do Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. Thomas Henry, Mr. H. C. Stallwood, Mr. Harry Winter, Mr. Louis, Clarke, Mr. Henry Powell, and Mr. R. Leigh Ellis.

SADLER'S WELLS.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, by W. A. Brabner, entitled
"FOR THE COLOURS."

Drama has come into its own again at the Wells, and appears likely to stay, the fare offered week by week by Mr. Frank Macnaghten and his astute general manager, Mr. Frederick Baugh, being of the kind that appeals exactly to the patrons. The admirable all-round Sadler's Wells stock company is this week presenting W. A. Brabner's stirring military drama, *For the Colours*, in which Mr. Wingold Lawrence is seen to particular advantage as Captain Roland Vereker, the soldier-hero, giving throughout a manly and unrestrained portrayal that is very convincing, especially effective being his acting in the scene in the store shed of Van Blumer's, and also in the Defence of the Drift. He was ably seconded by Mr. Douglas Murray as Lieut. Vernice Hansford, a capitally enacted scene being the first, where the timid young officer proposes for the hand of Doris, and in the later episodes Mr. Murray played with appropriate directness and sincerity, the elocution of both players being especially praiseworthy. The traitorous Boer and spy, Van Blumer, was skilfully undertaken by Mr. William Bradford. Umbopola and Scragga were capably portrayed by Mr. A. Grant and Mr. H. West, and Mr. A. Howard, Mr. Fred W. Graham, and Mr. Frank Western all did good work. The comedy relief was quite safe in the hands of Mr. E. Robertson as the irresistible Sprouts and Miss Ada Tilley as the outspoken and volatile Liza, and the many humorous interludes of this happily-associated couple always compelled hearty laughter. Miss Eugene Magnus quickly gained the sympathy of the audience for her natural and refined portrayal of the sorely-tried Mrs. Vereker, very effective being the scene in Van Blumen's store shed, where she saves the life of her husband from the treacherous Boer; and Miss Hebe Barlow was equally deserving of praise for her unaffected portrayal of Doris. The many exciting scenes were admirably staged, and the entire production, under the personal supervision of Mr. Frederick Baugh, was a very creditable one. Some amusing Tantolini and other pictures are shown in the intervals, and altogether the entertainment provided is splendid value for the admission prices charged.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Nov. 14,
"THE KING OF CADONIA."

This charming musical play had an enthusiastic reception on Monday, and the story was followed with interest. The music is pretty and catchy, and had ample justice from all concerned. The scenery is good and appropriate, and the dresses very beautiful. The play is exceedingly well acted, and the orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Julian Rutt. Miss Alice Moffat is a delightful Princess Marie, sympathetic and altogether charming; Miss Queenie Preston is excellent as the Duchess of Alasia; Miss Amy Preston is very pleasing and attractive as Stephanie; Miss Joan Penrose plays Melitza delightfully, and proves herself an artist of more than average ability; Mr. Bertram Wallis is an ideal King of Cadonia, handsome, earnest, and manly, and scores an instant success; Mr. Alfred Clarke is quietly humorous as Bran; General Bonski is capitally enacted by Mr. Robert Selby; Mr. Arthur Staples causes much amusement by his clever rendering of the Duke of Alasia; Mr. Lawrence Robbins is good as Captain Laski; Mr. C. B. Williams is well placed as Laborde; and Mr. Alec Buchanan gives a clever performance as Panix. Mr. Frank Curzon must be congratulated on an excellent production.

THE DALSTON.

Patrons of the Dalston Theatre are experiencing a treat this week in the form of a visit from Mr. Edward Compton and his celebrated comedy company, an organisation of clever actors and actresses which can boast of having been on tour during a perid of thirty years. Mr. Compton has been presenting to audiences during this very welcome return visit *David Garrick, She Stoops to Conquer, A Reformed Rake, The Rivals, The Road to Ruin*, and *The School for Scandal*. All who have seen Mr. Compton enact the part of the celebrated old Drury Lane actor admit that it is a piece of work instinct with life, and on the occasion of this visit to North London he has fully maintained his reputation in the character. As Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer* he is still exceedingly droll, and as Harry Jasper in *A Reformed Rake* his performance elicits much applause. His Bob Acres in *The Rivals* is another success, but perhaps his most complete triumph is as Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal*. Here the keenest appreciation of the true spirit of high-class comedy is seen, and Mr. Compton is frequently called to the front to be the recipient of the most genuine applause. Another character in which Mr. Compton has succeeded to the full is that of Charles Goldfinch in *The Road to Ruin*, a part in which he has appeared over six hundred times, and is as buoyant and vigorous as ever. The popular comedian has been assisted in many of the representations by Miss Nell Compton, who has undertaken several important characters, including Miss Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer* and Joyce Thornton in *A Reformed Rake*. Others appearing to the very best advantage have included Mr. Frank Royde, Mr. Clifford Marquand, Mr. Keith Graham, Mr. Henry Crocker, Mr. Herrick, Mr. Charles R. Stone, Miss Marie Hassell, Miss Rita Sponti, Miss Agnes Williams, and Miss Vivien Marriott.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the German Military Play,
"LIGHTS OUT."

Once again the management of this successful hall has substituted drama for variety, and considering the very high standard of entertainment provided, one need hardly add that audiences remain as large and appreciative as ever. This week, Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis presents twice-nightly the German military play (formerly produced in the West End) entitled *Lights Out*, which deservedly appeals to the house, and is received with demonstrative heartiness. As Klara Volkhardt Miss Sylvia Morris elicits considerable sympathy, and is to be congratulated upon her able portrayal; Mr. Bernard Merlfield is an excellent Lieutenant Von Lauffen, particularly in the court-martial scene; Mr. Sydney Bland is responsible for a careful character study of Sergeant Volkhardt, his performance in the last act being most commendable; the Captain Von B. Bannewitz of Mr. Frank Stuart is extremely lifelike; and Mr. Arthur T. Barugh is effective as Corporal Quiess. Mr. Chas. Western is an impressive Major Pasche, Mr. Alfred Turner an amusing orderly as Private Michael, Mr. George W. Barnes is exceptionally successful, Mr. Robert Sefton is good as Private Speiss, and Mr. Geo. Austin enacts the rôle of Lieutenant Von Howan most capably. The remaining parts are safe in the hands of Mr. Philip Ronough as Corporal Helbeg, Mr. Alfred Clark as Captain Lebdenburg, Mr. Ernest Ralston as Lieutenant Hagermeister, and Mr. Eric Cunliffe as a member of the court martial. Mr. Fred Alexander, in his usual courteous and attentive manner, supervises for Mr. Harry Bawn, and Mr. Angelo A. Asher is the popular musical director.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Play, entitled
"A WHITE MAN."

An extremely cordial reception was given on Monday evening to the production of *A White Man* at the Shakespeare Theatre. This thrilling romance of the American West is presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath, whose powerful company does full justice to the story. Mr. Frank E. Petley gives an admirable and concise rendering of the rôle of Captain Wynnegate, and his acting is marked by force and reality. Mr. Charles Maunsell is successful in his portrayal of the Earl of Kerhill, and Mr. Harold Richardson is interesting and decidedly amusing as Sir John Applegate. Mr. Lewis Sealy as the solicitor, Malcolm Petrie, is very effective, and Mr. Charles A. Forster as the Dean of Trantham does all that is necessary. The phlegmatic nature of Big Bill is cleverly depicted by Mr. John M. East, who contributes a sound performance, and the diverse characters of the three Cowboys, Shorty, Andy, and Grouchy, are amusingly portrayed by Messrs. Walter Bannister, James McWilliam, and Dan Erlston. Mr. Oswald Lingard is excellent as the Indian Chief, Tab-y-wana, and the interpreter, Baco White, is capably sustained by Mr. James Jolley. The desperado, Cash Hawkins, is smartly enacted by Mr. Vernon Sansbury; and Mr. Henry Du Val as the Barkeeper and Mr. James E. Page as the County Sheriff, Bud Hardy, also contribute valuable assistance. Miss Enid Sars is responsible for a charmingly unaffected assumption of the Countess of Kerhill, and her acting throughout is sincere and artistic. Miss Dorothy Edwards is completely successful in her impersonation of the difficult part of the Indian girl, Nat-u-rich, and Miss Gertrude Price was well suited as the Dowager Lady Kerth. Miss Elsie Buller was a vivacious Lady Mabel Wynnegate, and Little Hal was creditably played by Miss Nora Nagle.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Musical Play,
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

Notwithstanding a host of counter attractions in Kingston, the Royal County Theatre has been thronged this week with most appreciative audiences to witness the charming musical play which scored such a long run at Daly's Theatre. The company has been sent out by Mr. George Edwardes, which is synonymous with saying that everything has been done to secure a talented body of artists, and to ensure that the dressing and mounting of the play was all that could be desired. Those who witnessed *The Merry Widow* at Kingston this week were at a loss which to admire most—Franz Lehar's tuneful music, the pretty plots of Messrs. Leon and Stein, or the bewitching costumes. Chief honours amongst the company were carried off by Miss Mary Ridley, who appeared as Sonia, and by Mr. J. Warren-Foster, the Prince Danilo. Miss Ridley acquitted herself with a charm that won all hearts, her dancing and her singing (in which she disclosed the possession of a powerful and sweet contralto voice) being frequently applauded. She was the recipient of many floral tributes at each performance. Mr. Foster gave an admirable picture of the careless, devil-may-care Secretary of Legation, and sang the songs allotted to the part with great acceptance. The Marsovian dance by Sonia and the Prince in the second act quite took the audience by storm, and had to be repeated several times. Little less meritorious were the efforts of Miss Ada Thomas as the dutiful wife, Natalie, and of Mr. Ripley Evans as her illicit lover, the Vicomte de Jolidon. With a pretty and engaging manner, and an equally pleasant presence, Miss Thomas danced and sang herself into the favour of the audience, her song, "The dutiful wife," being loudly applauded for its wholesome sentiment as for the engaging way in which it was sung. Mr. Evans's fine tenor voice was heard to great advantage in the numbers allotted to him. Mr. Edward D'Arcy excelled himself as the facetious Baron Popoff. His whimsicalities were contagious, and laughter was the rule in the house when he was on the stage. In this respect good work was also done by Mr. Fred Fowler as the serving man Nisch, by Mr. William Allison as the Marquis de Cascada, and by Mr. Clifford Seyler as the jealous General Novakovitch. An amusing picture of the Parisian waiter was given by Mr. Adrian Beaumont. Miss Katie May made quite a hit as the Parisian dancer, Frou-Frou, her terpsichorean feats with Nisch fairly "bringing down the house." Mention should also be made of Miss Heather Featherstone as Olga, of Miss Frances Midgley as Sylvanie, and of Miss Lucie Donati as Prascovia, whilst the bevy of Parisian beauties at Maxim's were charmingly represented. The chorus was a numerous one and well trained, and the orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Harry Burton. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. J. A. E. Malone, Mr. Gifford Stacey acting as the general-manager.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the play, entitled
"RAFFLES."

Mr. Leonard Boyne's company has had excellent and well-deserved support here this week, and the thrilling interest of the ingenious play is well sustained throughout. In the title-rôle Mr. Leonard Boyne presents an admirable study of the paradoxical character of a burglar who could at the same time be a gentleman, and is equally successful in the lighter scenes and in the effective description of the Old Bailey scene, which literally brought down the house. Mr. Edward Irwin's embodiment of Curtis Bedford is a forcible one, and does not allow the American accent to be unduly obtrusive. He is impressive without heaviness, and contrives to give quite an original interpretation. Mr. Carlaw Grand is "a fine old English gentleman" as Lord Amerstcth, and Mr. Stephen Wentworth as his son, Viscount Crowley, is breezy and amusing. Mr. Harold West is successful in the difficult part of Harry Manders, and takes care not to overdo the tragic significance of the rôle. As Crawshay, the burglar, Mr. Buckstone Clair is quite an uncompromising ruffian, and Miss Kathleen Grey as Marie, the French maid, was equally good as the unprincipled domestic of the better class. Miss Blanka Stewart as Lady Melrose is refined and distinguished, and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is a sprightly and charming Lady Ethel. Miss Eva Killick is quite equal to the exiguous part of Gwendoline Conran, the heroine, her pathos being natural and her appearance prepossessing. Miss May Brooke as Mrs. Vidal is incisive and convincing, and wears some extremely smart gowns becomingly. Mr. Arthur Fitzgerald as Goldby is a well-trained and high-class footman, and as Merton, Mr. Henry Armstrong is quietly effective and to the point; and Mr. Richard Downes as Barraclough is a true type of the old retainer. The entire production is excellently dressed and staged. Recalls at the end of each act were numerous and hearty.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

This week Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is here with a further edition of "Melvillian" drama, in a condensed form, for the first time in its six years' history. Mr. Chas. Sparrow as Jack England, afterwards Private Johnson, acts with great force and precision. The part of Rose Seymour is ably played by Miss Dorothy Thayer, the scenes between the pair being very good indeed. Miss Lorraine Stevens leaves little to be desired in her interpretation of the misguided Molly Vernon. Mr. Chas. Ashwell as the Rev. Robert Everton is a most able exponent of the character, and looks as well as he plays the part. That of Charles Sutton is well placed in Mr. Walter Kellson's hands. He makes use of every opportunity. Mr. Digby Hayes is a smart Detective Weathersby. Mr. Herbert Morgan's reading of the villainous Captain Caversham is very clever. The rôle of Marion Franklyn could scarcely be in better hands than in those of Miss Letitia Rushforth. The comedy finds clever exponents in Miss Lillian Drake and Mr. Allan Carruthers as Isabella Jones and Dick Punch, and the remaining characters are in safe hands.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Play entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

This week Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's exceptionally strong company is here on a week's return visit. This popular play has already reached its third year of uninterrupted success. It is so characteristically British that its attractiveness seems to be always increasing. The rôle of Dick Lascelles is admirably played by Mr. Loring Fernie, who gives a capital portrayal of the rollicking, careless, chivalrous sailor. Right well does Miss Dorothy Ripley as Lady Hermione Wynne play up to him, and these two excellent artists are immensely popular. Mr. Edward Harrison as the good-hearted Admiral is pleasing, Miss Clarisse Selwynne charms all in her rôle of Mrs. Cameron, the pretty genial, humorous widow, and Mr. A. V. Bramble does well as Major Theisiger. Miss Stella Leigh is very successful as Mrs. Gough-Bogle, and Mr. James Coulsdon is excellent as the Quartermaster. The manner in which Mr. George Percy enacts the naval surgeon is especially worthy of mention. Messrs. Geo. Robinson and A. J. Harris are admirable as the mischievous "middies," Horatio Hood and Edward Dormer Lee. The remaining parts are in capable hands. Perhaps Messrs. L. Isted and John Wheatman should be selected for special praise. The scenery is picturesque, and the dresses and uniforms elaborate.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, by Arthur Conan Doyle,
"THE HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY."

A strong attraction is provided here this week in *The House of Temperley*, played by a company under the direction of Mr Arthur Hardy; and the enthusiastic reception of the piece on Monday augured well for a successful week's business. The piece is splendidly staged, and the pugilistic encounter in the Crawley Down scene is remarkably effective. As the easy-going, casual Sir Charles Temperley Mr. Skelton Rodney plays with fluency and polish; and his brother, Captain Jack Temperley, the hero of the prize-fight, has a manly and buoyant representative in Mr. Claude King. That card sharper and swindler Sir John Hawker is very powerfully enacted by Mr. Murray Carson; a really fine character study as the crafty bookmaker Jakes comes from Mr. Leon M. Lion; and Mr. Blake Adams submits an enjoyable performance as the genial ex-pugilist Ginger Stubbs. Mr. A. S. Homewood is very successful in the dual rôle of Joe Berks and the Duke of Broadwater; Mr. Douglas Munro is admirably suited as Tom Cubb; Mr. Hubert Willis is excellent as Tom Belcher; Mr. Reginald Davis looks and acts the part of the prize-fighter Gloucester Dick very convincingly; and Mr. A. Corney Grain cleverly sketches the old crony Buckhorse. Miss Claire Pauncefort is a natural and dignified Lady Temperley; Miss Una Venning is sweetly pretty and acts effectively as Ethel Morley; Miss Polly Emery is decidedly diverting as the servant Lucy; Mary, the bar-girl, has a chic representative in Miss Joyce Francis; and the slatternly Mrs Barnett is safely entrusted to Miss Joan Blair.

"THE COASTGUARD'S DAUGHTER."

Drama, in Four Acts, by J. A. Campbell, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Elephant Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Post-Captain Henry Drummond ..... Mr. Douglas Tremayne
Lieut. Philip Marchant ..... Mr. Gerald Jordan
Derek Mason ..... Mr. Guy Hastings
Lieut. Arthur Barclay ..... Mr. Stanley Vine
John Melrose ..... Mr. T. Lionel Ellis
Jerry Dale ..... Mr. Finn Doyle
Capt. Hubert Sternroyd ..... Mr. E. H. Clarke
Sir Dennis Jermyn ..... Mr. W. Webb
Nanoya ..... Miss Babs Stuart
Edward Somerville ..... Mr. L. J. Lawrence
Gabrielle D'Armand ..... Miss Janice Deane
Audrey Melrose ..... Miss Gertrude F. Godart

The best criticism that can be offered of *The Coastguard's Daughter*, the latest effort from the prolific pen of Mr. J. A. Campbell, is that of the super who acted one of the marines in a vivid court-martial scene and was so carried away by the excitement on Monday evening that he fainted and had to be led off the stage. Little less sensational was the effect on the audience created by the situation, which forms the central episode in Mr. Campbell's play, and is ingeniously built up. The court-martial is carried out with a remarkable wealth of detail, all the ceremonial being observed. Eloquent speeches are made by prosecution and defence, and elaborate cross-examination is carried out on both sides, the delight of the audience when the villain is cornered, as he constantly is, being unbounded. As its name implies, the piece is a naval one, and for that reason the title *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, under which the play was originally produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on July 25 last, has been changed to the more significant one above named.

The circumstances which lead up to the chief incident are these. Lieut. Philip Marchant, R.N., has secretly married Audrey, the only daughter of John Melrose, a coastguard in His Majesty's service, well knowing that the young girl is heiress to a fortune. Audrey begs to be allowed to acquaint her father of her union, and Philip reluctantly consents, and goes so far as to broach the subject of the marriage to Melrose, when there appears on the scene a foreign lady who claims to be Philip's wife. Audrey's distress does not escape the eyes of her father, and he demands to know the meaning of it; but the girl, anxious to save him the pain her revelation would cause, refuses to speak, and Melrose confides the duty of finding out the cause of his daughter's uneasiness to Derek Mason, a petty officer who serves under Philip on H.M.S. Hercules, and a devoted admirer of Audrey. Derek accordingly visits the lieutenant at his quarters, and in a fine scene calls upon him for an explanation, which the lieutenant, fearful of the damage to his career should his bigamous act become known, declines to give. Thereupon Derek cuffs the lieutenant on the face, and, calling in the guard, gives himself up to be court-martialled for striking his superior officer, his design being to bring the whole matter to light.

The ceremony is duly carried out in the second act. Philip's real wife is called, and, by previous arrangement with Philip, declares she is a single lady, but is confounded by the production of her marriage certificate. Philip also swears falsely as to his relations with Audrey, and the prisoner gives evidence on his own account. But the truth is not reached until the coastguard's daughter is called, and, after a poignant scene, declares that Lieut. Marchant married her under false pretences, and that she is about to become a mother.

The news, as was expected, has a disastrous effect on old Melrose, who, in the fourth act, some months later, is found partially to have lost his reason, and meditates deadly vengeance on Marchant. That individual has been arrested on a charge of bigamy, but breaks his parole and comes to Melrose's house, where Audrey is living with her baby. Pursued by the authorities, he hides behind a door, and, covering Audrey with a revolver, threatens to fire if she reveals his presence. This the intrepid girl does not hesitate to do, and Philip shoots, without, however, any ill effects. He is promptly retaken; Audrey obtains the forgiveness of her father, whose reason has been restored by the excitement of the moment; and Derek arriving, a free man, takes Audrey to his arms.

Mr. Campbell has cast his play unerringly. The exacting rôle of Audrey is played with dramatic skill and emotional ability by Miss Gertrude F. Godart, who overcomes particularly well the arduous demands of the court-martial scene. Mr. Guy Hastings makes a true "blue" of Derek Mason, earnest and sincere, and delivering his speeches with all the desired vehemence. A properly sinister impression is created by Mr. Gerald Jordan, who as Lieut. Philip Marchant adopts a contemptuous tone that is very effective, lies with ease and fluency, and gains the abhorrence of all, thus proving his entire ability for the rôle. John Melrose, the bluff and hearty coastguard, is thoroughly realised by Mr. T. Lionel Ellis, a sound and experienced actor with a rich voice and vigorous method that command admiration. Mr. Douglas Tremayne is a refined and gentlemanly President of the Court, and Mr. L. J. Lawrence makes a distinct and emphatic Judge Advocate. Mr. E. H. Clarke as Captain Sternroyd leaves no question as to the unprincipled nature of the prosecutor, who is in collusion with the unscrupulous Philip, and an agreeable contrast is provided in the Lieut. Barclay of Mr. Stanley Vine, a stylish young actor with a prepossessing presence and a commendable clearness of delivery. Comedy is furnished amply but not obtrusively by Mr. Finn Doyle, who makes a smart sailor of Jerry Dale, and is very humorous in his scenes with Nanoya, a Cingalese girl, prettily played by Miss Babs Stuart. No little humour, too, is afforded by Miss Janice Deane, who as Philip's frivolous wife unintentionally takes a large share in the events which cause his undoing, but continues to preserve a cheerful demeanour, and always makes her exit trilling a popular refrain. The audience at the Elephant were kept engrossed on Monday, and by repeated applause demonstrated their pleasure in the production, which has the advantage of expensive mounting and dressing, the uniforms being correct in every detail.

THE CORONET'S PRODUCTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—One or two paragraphs having appeared suggesting that the plan of producing plays at the Coronet Theatre is not to be persevered in, Mr. Robert Arthur desires to contradict this. *Behind the Veil* had to be suspended at the end of three weeks in order to bring in *The Merry Widow* and Mr. Martin Harvey, both visits having been arranged for early in the year. Subject to the pantomime season, the D'Oyly Carte season, and a few intermediate musical plays, long since booked, it is Mr. Arthur's firm intention to continue to produce new and original plays. As many plays and artists are contracted for and the public already informed, this erroneous rumour is hurtful, and Mr. Arthur would be glad if you would kindly contradict it.—I am, Sir (on behalf of Mr. Robert Arthur),

EADE MONTEFIORE,
General Manager.

Coronet Theatre, Nov. 15, 1910.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

KINGSTON THEATRE CO.

The annual ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Kingston-on-Thames Theatre Co., Ltd., was held at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, on Wednesday afternoon, under the presidency of Mr. William Millwood, chairman of the directors.

In submitting the balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending Sept. 30, 1910, the directors reported:—"The receipts for the period have been £12,507 3s. 2d., and the expenses £11,622 1s. 10d., leaving a balance of £885 1s. 4d. After paying mortgage interest and writing off £100 for depreciation, there remains a sum of £500 1s. 4d., to which must be added £331 15s. 2d., brought forward from last year, making an available balance of £831 16s. 6d. From this amount an interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum to March 31, 1910, has been paid on the preference shares; the directors now recommend the payment of the final dividend, making 6 per cent. for the year on the preference shares, and a dividend of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares, and that the balance, £255 7s. 6d., be carried forward."

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, congratulated the shareholders upon such a satisfactory result as was shown on the report, having regard to the fact that the General Election in January and the death of King Edward later in the year had very seriously interfered with theatrical enterprises. In addition to those drawbacks, the Royal County Theatre had now to contend with two roller skating rinks, three picture palaces, and a new music hall, and it was gratifying to know that, notwithstanding these new attractions in Kingston, their old-established theatre still commanded a great deal of local patronage. It was the aim of the directors, by providing as many high-class entertainments as possible, to maintain the high standard the theatre had hitherto presented, and the arrangements for the coming season were, in this respect, of a most satisfactory character.

Mr. C. E. Nuthall, J.P., seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Chairman then moved that a dividend of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares be paid.

In seconding the motion, Mr. C. E. Nuthall said it was satisfactory to know that the Kingston Theatre was able to pay 3 per cent. to the ordinary shareholders, when many similar ventures in London were paying nothing at all.

The motion was carried.

In moving the re-election of Mr. Nuthall as a director, the Chairman alluded to Mr. Nuthall's long connection with Kingston, of which he had twice been Mayor, and said he was a director of three of the largest industries in the town, and the largest shareholder in the company.

The motion having been carried unanimously,

Mr. Nuthall, in returning thanks, expressed his confidence in the future of the Royal County Theatre, notwithstanding other minor amusements, for it was one of the prettiest and cosiest little playhouses he knew of, and only plays of a healthy moral tone were produced at it.

The Chairman alluded to the services of Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, who, he said, was one of the most zealous, painstaking, and energetic managers any theatre ever had, and these sentiments were borne out by other shareholders present.

Mr. Davey, in reply, said the Royal County Theatre had a large place in his heart, and he had done his best to make it a success. At present, however, everyone must realise that the theatre was going through a critical period of its existence. Within recent times it was hemmed in all round by counter attractions, but notwithstanding these he did not think the shareholders had much to be unhappy about. His aim was to keep the entertainments at the theatre of as high a class as possible. It would cost a little money to do so, but the investment would be a wise one in every way.

Mr. Davey having paid a well-deserved compliment to the staff, some of whom, he said, had been connected with the theatre since it started, a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

LECTURING at the Working Men's College, St. Pancras, on "Shakespeare's Boyhood," on Saturday last, the Rev. R. C. de Courcy Laffan said that it might be doubted whether great dramatic literature had ever developed in the world excepting at a time of intense national feeling, and Shakespeare's birth occurred not only at such a time, but at a time of great national change, and much in the same way as Dickens derived his knowledge and sympathy of the life of the poorer classes in London, so the boyhood of Shakespeare gave him this knowledge of character and ways of a whole stratum of society with which in his prosperous London life he could have had little acquaintance. Although a paradox, it was profoundly true that it was the smallness of his native place to which Shakespeare owed his infinite width of range.

"PLAYS seemed to be currently called literary either in the sense that they were written well or that they were written badly," said Mr. C. E. Montague the other day in a lecture on "The Literary Play" at the second session of the Manchester and South-East Lancashire Branch of the English Association at the Manchester University. "Those condemned as literary might again be subdivided into those that were specially ill-written for stage representation and those that were bookishly ill-written altogether. And, again, the plays that were commended as literary might be sub-divided into those that were felt to be specially well-written for the stage and those that, while they contrived to exist on the stage, also satisfied critics of Traill's way of thinking that they were worthy of a higher life as bound books. So that a 'literary' play might mean a play wholly bad to read and to see, or a play wholly good to read and to see, or a play good to read but bad to see, or even a play bad to read but not quite bad to see. In fact, the distinction between literary and dramatic was one of those distinctions that seemed very real when you thought lazily, but diminished and diminished until they almost vanished when you thought more vigorously. It was in that respect like the distinction between knowing a thing theoretically and knowing it practically; we all used that sort of antithesis and took for granted, in a slipshod way, that theory and practice were a pair of natural opposites, though a careful thinker would tell us that if we knew a thing theoretically but did not know it practically then we really did not know its whole theory, and that if we knew it practically but did not know it theoretically then we did not really know its whole practice. Such, almost exactly, was the distinction between literary and dramatic quality in a play. If one's own conception of literary quality and of dramatic quality were weak and confused, the distinction was a gaping wide one. If by literary quality we meant bookishness and by dramatic quality we meant staginess, the antithesis between them might easily be striking. But in proportion as one examined and defined more exactly one's own conception of literary excellence on one side and of dramatic excellence on the other, one found the assumed contrast to be fading away into nothing. Just as knowledge of the theory of a thing almost ceased to be distinguishable from knowledge of its practice so soon as we began really to mean 'knowledge' when we said it, and not merely 'semi-knowledge,' so literary merit and dramatic merit might cease to seem to us to be in conflict at all if we could only clear our own minds of the last trace of slovenly thinking about them."

A UNIVERSAL COSTUMIER.

A CHAT WITH JOHN HYMAN.

The magnitude of the business done by the well-known theatrical costumiers, John Hyman and Co., of Leicester-square, was recently revealed to a representative of *The Era* in a brief chat with the busy and astute head of the firm, Mr. John Hyman, who from humble beginnings has built up a business with an enviable reputation, and has, at one time or another, supplied costumes to nearly every manager and house of importance in the United Kingdom.

To take the present week as a sample of many which have gone before—and are likely to follow—Mr. Hyman's firm has supplied the well-known manager, Mr. Leonard Rayne for his South African productions with all the costumes and uniforms for *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, *The Boy King*, *Her Love Against the World*, *The Speckled Band*, and *The Midnight Wedding*. For the production of the musical play, *Tom Jones*, at the Court Theatre, 200 costumes have been supplied, and the week's output has included costumes for Lew Lake's production of *The Great Millionaire and the Robbery of the Mail*; E. D. Nicholls' *Detective Dripping*; H. A. Saintsbury's *Strolling Player*; Beresford Whitcomb's *Nihilist and Soldier's Wife*; C. Carlile's *Sexton Blake in America*; Montague Beaudyn's *Send Her Victorious*; Lionel Wallace's *Betsy Baker*; Fred Moule's *Gretna Green*; Brian M'Cullough's *Midnight London Express*; and Miss Decima Moore's sketch. Truly a wonderful record for one week!

"I think I can safely say I received the largest order ever placed in the theatrical business," remarked Mr. Hyman, "and that was for the spectacle, "India," when Mr. Imre Kiralfy opened the Earl's Court Exhibition. For that production I supplied over 2,000 costumes and uniforms. And a remarkable incident occurred in connection with this Exhibition. Just before the opening it was discovered, when the musicians came to the two bandstands, that the uniforms for the men had been quite forgotten. Mr. Kiralfy sent for me, and told me that they must be there by the next day. I replied that it was impossible. Mr. Kiralfy, however, would take no

[Photo by Langfier.

MR. JOHN HYMAN.

refusal, and told me to go and get them made. The men must be in the uniforms by 2 o'clock the next day!" Needless to add, Mr. Hyman managed to get this difficult task executed, and the eighty tunics, trousers, and caps were made in one day. And the same uniforms were used for three years, sufficient evidence that they were made, not "blown together."

Another big order undertaken by the firm was for the Robert Cunningham Opera Company, with Miss Ella Russell as the star, twelve complete operas being furnished with costumes—all new. For a great many years Mr. Hyman was the sole costumier for the Syndicate halls, and amongst the multitude of sketches he dressed may be mentioned Joe Elvin's *Toffee's Trotter*, *Over the Sticks*, *On the Flat*, and *Foresters' Day*; George Leyton's *Henry V.*, *Robin Hood*, and *Claude Duval*; Eugene Stratton's *Coon Drum Major* and *Cake Walk*; and Paul Martinetti's *Night Attack* and *Robert Macaire*. A remarkable incident in connection with the latter sketch, which Mr. Hyman declares is absolutely true, is that when the supers came to his establishment to be fitted, and were asked what they were—meaning, of course, what part they were to play—every man Jack answered "Pheasant!"

Then there were G. H. Macdermott's *Lads in Red* and other playlets; the famous *On Guard*, and other scenes, for Charles Godfrey; all Jenny Hill's productions; A. C. Lilly's *Drummed Out*, for whom Mr. Hyman suggested the regiment of the 17th Lancers, having the costumes in stock; and *Cheer Up* at the Paragon, one of the biggest successes ever staged there, many people going from the West End to see it. It will be remembered that in this sketch the Guards' Band were represented. At the rehearsal a well-known critic remarked in Mr. Hyman's hearing, "Fancy the management going to the expense of engaging the Guards' Band." Mr. Hyman turned round and quietly informed the gentleman that it was not the Guards' Band. Whereupon the critic waxed indignant, and replied, "Don't you think I know the Guards' Band when I see it?" "And don't you think I know it's not the Guards' Band, considering I made the uniforms?" was the answer. In a notice of the sketch, which subsequently appeared, the critic acknowledged that he had been deceived by a clever costumier.

"At the time of the production of *A Run of Luck* at Drury Lane by the late Sir Augustus Harris, I was asked if I could get the management out of a difficulty. They had tried everywhere to get the huntsmen's liveries. These men clear the course at Goodwood, and the liveries were wanted for the Racecourse scene. Of the many they enquired of, not one knew the description of livery wanted. There was only one way to get them—that was to go to the Duke of Richmond's residence at Goodwood. I was asked if I would oblige and go, and, after looking up a time-table I went by the first train and brought back the liveries.

"I dressed *A Night Out* for Sir Charles Wyndham, and for Mr. Forbes Robertson supplied the costumes for two companies in *The Light that Failed* and two companies in *Mice and Men*. After sending along the costumes for one company, Mr. Robertson wrote, saying, 'he was so satisfied with the work done, that he would not mind paying a little more for the next set.'" Surely a unique compliment! For Miss Ada Reeve's *Butterflies* (two companies), the late Mr. George Conquest at the Surrey, and everyone connected with the circus and equestrian business, including Lord George Sanger and the Bostocks, Mr. Hyman has executed many commissions. The O.U.D.C. and most of the well-known amateur dramatic clubs go to the house of Hyman for their costumes, and the production this week at the Court of *Tom Jones*, Mr. Hyam asserts, will be quite equal in the matter of dressing to the original one at the Apollo.

The Whip, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, *Tommy Atkins*, *Human Nature*, *The Second in Command*, three companies of *The Little Minister*, three companies of *The Flag Lieutenant* (the American and African and Mr. Lyn Harding's No. 1) are a few other prominent productions which Mr. Hyman has dressed. And there are others! Eight hundred suits for the Japanese Exhibition and attendants' uniforms in galore for various exhibitions, cinematograph palaces, &c., may also be mentioned.

Owing to a deal of competition, large caterers hiring out costumes, and also toy dealers and bazaars entering the lists of theatrical costumiers, Mr. Hyman has decided to open a Boy Scout outfit department, and the firm supplies hats, shirts, haversacks, belts, knives, jerseys, stockings, breeches, shorts, scarves, and numerous other requisites at the lowest possible prices. This branch has only been started two weeks, and the results are more than satisfactory.

DEATH OF MR. ERNEST COSHAM.

Many of our readers will hear with regret of the death of Mr. Ernest Cosham, who passed away on Saturday at Charing Cross Hospital, to which institution he was removed three weeks since to undergo an operation for peritonitis. The improvement in his condition was not maintained, and a second operation was decided upon. Under the effects of this he gradually sank. He was forty-four years of age.

Beginning his career in 1889, the deceased actor went to the provinces for experience, and after three years he was engaged by Mr. Charles Hawtrey as understudy at the Comedy, remaining with that gentleman for seven years. He played small parts in *Houp-La*, *Husband and Wife*, and *The Grey Mare*. After a stay of a year in Australia Mr. Cosham returned to London to be with Mr. Willie Edouin at the Avenue, and later with Mr. Comyns-Carr at the Comedy, where he played the part of the Bishop in *The Benefit of the Doubt*, produced in 1895, and in *Gossip*, the three-act comedy by Clyde Fitch and Leo Dietrichstein, produced in February, 1896. In the production of *Saucy Sally*, Sir Francis Burnand's adaptation of Hennequin's *La Flamboyante*, at the Comedy on March 10, 1897, Mr. Cosham played the part of Evan Evans; and on Sept. 19 in the same year he was the Sir Charles Trefusis in *The Guinea Stamp*, by Cyril Hallward, revived as a forepiece to *One Summer's Day*. He also fulfilled engagements with Sir John Hare, Mr. Charles Frohman, and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, and his last engagement was with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle at the Adelphi in *The House of Temperley*. He also played Rogers, the old Butler, in *The Speckled Band*. One also remembers his Walter Emerson in George Paston's comedietta, *Tilda's New Hat*, when that little piece was revived at Wyndham's last year in front of *The Little Damozel*. He was the author of the one-act play *The Home Coming*, produced at the Comedy on July 4, 1892, with a distinguished cast, which included the late Robb Harwood as Alan Travers, Mr. Sam Sothern as Charlie Harding, Miss Alice Yorke as Mrs. Musgrave, and Miss Nina Boucicault as Stella. Mr. Cosham always put his heart into his work, and in even the smallest parts his acting was invariably marked by conscientious care. His amiability of disposition had endeared him to many friends, who mourn the loss of an actor always held in high esteem by his fellows.

The deceased actor was buried at East Finchley on Thursday last, many of his fellow-actors being present at the graveside, amongst whom were Henry Ainley, J. J. Bartlett, Kenneth Douglas, Brian Egerton, Loring Fernie, W. Lestocq, Lawrence Leyton, Lennox Pawle, Leon Quartermain, Aubrey Smith, Farren Soutar, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Turnbull, Spencer Trevor, Dr. Honnywill, Mr. Lenn West, &c., &c., the Green Room Club being represented by the secretary. Wreaths were sent by Dr. Honnywill, W. Lenn West, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bowring and Miss May Bowring, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Henry Ainley, Hilda and Brian Egerton, W. W. Keen and A. Hardy, Cyril Maude, Aubrey Smith, Spencer Trevor, Huntley Wright, Stanley and Mrs. Turnbull, Green Room Club, and friends at 10, Great Ormond-street (where deceased had resided for many years).

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Council meeting held on Nov. 15, at 32, Regent-street, Mr. Clarence Derwent was in the chair, and there were present Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Frederick Annerley, C. Hayden Coffin, Cecil A. Collins, Robson Paige, F. J. Arlton, R. A. Greene, Langford Reed, Murri Moncrieff, Henry Pettitt, Henry le Grand, Miss Rose Cazalet, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Beatrice Chester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th inst., which the meeting confirmed, and the Chairman signed same.

The Secretary read a letter from Messrs. Broxholm and Williams, and was instructed to give the necessary information and comply with their request.

The Hon. Solicitor reported on two cases.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester, and on the motion of Mr. Green, adopted.

The House Committee's report was submitted by Mr. Arlton and adopted.

With reference to the dinner, members requiring the five shilling tickets are strongly urged to make immediate application, as the number is limited.

Francis Roberts, J. Wells Knight, Gertrude de Lacy, Susie Nainby, Dorothy Radford, Eily V. Wilson were elected, and Gladys Mason and Alan J. Chester were nominated.

A Near Thing.

MR. LAWRENCE CRANE, the Irish wizard, when he was recently in America, was invited to appear before one of those little gatherings of millionaires of which much are written. For a conjurer it is more favourable to be as far from his audience as possible; but on this occasion Mr. Crane had to work at a small table at the end of the drawing-room with only a chair behind him, on which was laid his box containing the necessary apparatus for his tricks. To use his own words: 'I got down in my entertainment to my disappearing rabbit trick, in which I had to pass a rabbit from my hand into a box held by a young lady in the audience. Of course, there are two rabbits used, one in my hand and one under a false bottom of the box. I passed my rabbit all right into my pocket, when a bright young peach in the audience blurted out, 'I will bet sixty dollars I know where the rabbit went.' Everyone heard him, and I went goosey with fright. I had to make good, and accepted the challenge, kissing the act good-bye. 'Take off your coat,' was the laughing command, and I did so. The young man went through all the pockets, but found no rabbit. I was more surprised than he, and, noticing his predicament, made the best of it, and got him fried to a frazzle in ten seconds. You should have heard the crowd give the guy the laugh. When the show was over I got thinking about my rabbit, and going to the box where they were usually kept, there I found the little bunch of all that was good laying quite comfy like, waiting to go home. It seems that I did not put the rabbit in my pocket at all, but had inadvertently slipped him into the box behind me."

GLOBE-TROTTING ENTERTAINER.

MR. G. H. SNAZELLE.

The above much-travelled and (dare we say?) veteran vocalist, raconteur, author, and lecturer starts to-day on his fourth tour of Great Britain's overseas possessions. Mr. Snazelle is embarking upon the biggest venture he has ever undertaken, and is practically opening new ground with new work. He has six complete programmes, comprising "A London Club Night," a Naval and Military programme, a sacred programme, Dickens's "Christmas Carol," Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," and—this is his *cheval de battaile*—a great lecture on "London."

"This idea," says Mr. Snazelle, "has been in my mind for many years, knowing the colonies as I do. Even the Savage Islands of the South Pacific, Fiji, Tonga, New Guinea, Solomon Islands, &c.—they are all talking of London. So with the help of 'Dick Donovan' (J. E. P. Muddock), I have knocked together a comprehensive entertainment—historical, statistical, anecdotal, musical, and, above all, scenical (for it is illustrated with 400 specially prepared scenes). I want this understood, so that my audiences may not think they are coming to a mere dry hash (Australian term) lecture. It is under the direct patronage of the Lord Mayor of London, and, take note of this, I go out to glorify the 'old smoke.' I have received innumerable letters wishing me great success—from the Right Hon. John Burns, from Mr. G. R. Sims, and from His Majesty the King; for the success of my naval and military programme, from Lord Roberts and Lord Charles Beresford, and for my sacred programme from Lord Kinnaird and clergymen of all denominations."

Mr. Snazelle opens at St. John's, Newfoundland, and goes thence to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, India, China, Japan, Java, Sumatra, South Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Tasmania, Australia, Ceylon, Malta, Gibraltar, and Africa. It must not be omitted to state that the music for the "London" lecture has been specially written by Sir Charle Santley, A. H. Behrend, and W. W. Hedgcock.

"So," said Mr. Snazelle, as he bade us a

[Photo by Bradshaw.

MR. G. H. SNAZELLE.

cheery good-bye, "I really think I may claim some little credit for showing our brothers and cousins in these far-off lands (most of whom can never hope to see London) something of the beauties, the power, the joys, and the pathos of 'the heart of their Empire.'"

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the Belfast branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society was held on Wednesday evening in the Central Hall, Rosemary-street, Belfast, with Professor J. A. Lindsay in the chair. The annual report showed the branch to be on a most satisfactory footing, both as regards membership and income. The report was adopted, on the motion of Mr. H. H. Mayne, seconded by Mr. R. H. Shepperd. Mr. S. Bulloch moved, and Mr. Atkinson seconded, that the Executive Committee be re-elected, with the additional names of Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Moore, and Miss Chipp, and this was passed unanimously. The various officers were also re-elected. Mr. Mayne proposed, and Mr. Mayes seconded, that the programme for the year comprise a reading of *The Merchant of Venice*, a reading by Mr. F. R. Benson and his company, and a lecture. The motion was passed by acclamation. The inaugural reading of the session was then held, the play chosen being *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. All the members who participated in the reading acquitted themselves creditably, and the reading was very enjoyable, the various characters being allotted as follows:—Sir John Falstaff, Mr. S. Bulloch; Fenton and Shallow, Mr. Alfred M. Letcher; Slender, Mr. C. D. Patterson; Ford and Page, Mr. N. E. Atkinson and Mr. A. Newton Anderson; Sir Hugh Evans, Mr. R. H. Shepperd; Dr. Caius, Mr. C. G. Boas; Host of the Garter Inn, Mr. Gordon C. May; Bardolph, Pistol, and Nym, Mr. T. H. Mayes, Mr. C. G. Boas, and Mr. C. D. Patterson; Robin, Mr. T. H. Mayes; Simple, Mr. G. D. May; Rugby, Mr. T. H. Mayes; Mistress Ford, Miss G. Purdon; Mistress Page, Miss Parrott; Anne Page, Miss E. S. Gunning; and Mistress Quickly, Miss May M'Tear. The reading was embellished with some excellent incidental music.

Left Behind.

"THE worst adventure I can remember in America," said Mr. Herbert Sleath in an interview in *Madame* the other day, "was once when I got out of the train to get some coffee for my wife, and they went on without me. I was left in a town that only looked like a smudge on the landscape, no hat or coat even and, what was worst of all, no money. It took me three days to catch up with my company, and I had to persuade the people in the little town to feed me till I could get some money telegraphed to me; but there was no real harm done, as we were not playing at the time. Audiences are very good in America. I remember once when we were doing one-night stands from New York to San Francisco, when we usually got on the train about midnight, travelled till five or so next afternoon, played at seven, then back to the train again. We were travelling through snow-drifts, with the aid of a powerful snow-plough, but could not make Seattle—where we were due to ring up at seven—till half-past eight; but the audience were still waiting, more or less patiently, so we unpacked and got on with the show. Some of the people had ridden fifty miles to see us."

"THE CAPTAIN OF THE SCHOOL."

A Story of School Life, in Three Acts, by Edward A. Parry and Fredk. Mouillot, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Tom Brant ..... MR. LIONEL MACKINDER
Rev. Joseph McIntyre .. MR. CHARLES MACDONA
Martin Leonard ..... MR. EUGENE MAYEUR
George Lister ..... MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Archibald Brant ..... MR. T. GIDEON WARREN
Daniel Corbett ..... MR. CHAS. CONNOUGHT
Morley Murray ..... MR. HARRY E. DUFF
James Thurloe ..... MR. J. EVELYN SWINBURNE
Sergeant O'Flaherty .... MR. ALFRED S. BARBER
The Toastmaster ..... MR. A. J. NICHOLLS
Mrs. Bessie Higgins ..... MRS. MOUILLOT
Mrs. Brown ..... MISS LUCY EDWIN
Rhoda McIntyre ..... MISS DOROTHY PARRY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Captain of the School is amusing and well-written, while the construction is all that could be desired. The piece had a capital start on Monday, when a crowded house accorded it a good-humoured and appreciative reception.

The action opens in the school gardens at Dr. McIntyre's, on the eve of vacation, and, in addition to the usual speech-making and dinner ceremonies, there is to be a performance of *Romeo and Juliet*. In an incident pertaining to the latter circumstance, lies the pivot of the action. Tom Brant, the nineteen-year-old captain of the school, a successful scholar and general favourite, has been cast for Romeo, while Juliet is to be played by Rhoda, the doctor's pretty daughter. Tom has one or two enemies, however, the chief being one of the masters, Leonard, who is jealous of his popularity and opportunities, while another is a boy named Thurloe, known as "Sneaky." Tom and Rhoda have a little rehearsal by themselves, but are spied upon by Sneaky, who watches the rehearsal develop into an actual confession of love, which is, to Tom's delight, reciprocated by Rhoda. Sneaky tells Leonard of this, who carries it to the doctor. The latter does not receive the tale-bearing very warmly, and he is not pleased by what he has heard. In company with his sister, Mrs. Higgins (the widow of a bishop who was eaten by cannibals), he comes upon the couple about to resume their rehearsal. There is a confession, and he follows up his ridicule and condemnation by ordering Tom to see him later on in his study. It happens that a friend of Tom's, known as the "Sleuth-hound," as well as Sneaky, has seen the original incident, and thus Tom learns the cause of this interference. While everybody is on the scene, therefore, Tom publicly accuses Leonard of being a contemptible informer. The latter raises his stick in resentment, but Brant is quick enough to get in a blow, which fells the junior master to the ground. This leads to Tom's expulsion by the Doctor. So far, the episode is complete; but it is carried on through the medium of Mrs. Higgins, who is on a visit to the school in order to meet an old sweetheart, Professor Brant, Tom's uncle, from Cambridge, whom Dr. McIntyre has invited for the purpose. Knowing that his uncle is coming, though ignorant of his connection with Mrs. Higgins, Tom conceives the idea of impersonating the Professor, so that he may remain on the spot, be near Rhoda, and get what amusement out of the notion that may arise. This idea is carried out; Tom has to question the class on mathematics, but much fun lies in the situation, and incidentally he makes comic allusions to the black eye of Leonard, who now has to play Romeo in his place. The deception carries well enough, but Rhoda and Mrs. Higgins find it out, and decide to have some fun with him. Mrs. Higgins, pretending that she takes him for the real Professor, makes love, and presses for an immediate marriage. To keep up the part, he has to make love in return. The arrival of the Professor is, however, impending, and Tom devises with Murray, the "Sleuth-hound" that when he comes he shall be taken secretly to his room (which Tom has to vacate) and kept there while Tom goes in his place to the dinner and the ceremonies. This is done. The Professor's trousers are stolen while he is changing into his dress clothes, and he is also locked in. All goes merrily at the dinner, but, as Tom is replying to the toast of his uncle, that victimised worthy walks in, with his legs wrapped in a bed-quilt. Tom slips under the table, divests himself of his disguise, and reappears, much to the surprise of everyone and the indignation of the Doctor and the Professor. He produces the trousers, however, and the Professor goes off to dress. Afterwards the deception is forgiven; Tom is reinstated; and the whole business ends with his resolve to make his way in the world and come back to marry Rhoda in the end.

Mr. Lionel Mackinder as Tom Brant made a great success, and was especially amusing in his comic impersonation of the Professor. As Rhoda Miss Dorothy Parry (Judge Parry's daughter) played with considerable charm and perfect confidence—this being, by the way, her first professional appearance. Mrs. Mouillot added another delightful performance as Mrs. Bessie Higgins, and a typical piece of characterisation was the Dr. McIntyre of Mr. Charles Macdona. Resourceful impersonations were contributed by Mr. Eugene Mayeur as Martin Leonard; Messrs. Connought, Duff, and Swinburne as Corbett, "the Bishop," Murray, "the Sleuth-hound," and Thurloe, "Sneaky"; and Messrs. Arthur Eldred, T. Gideon Warren, Alfred S. Barber, A. J. Nicholls, and Miss Lucy Edwin did well in the remaining smaller rôles. The scenery was good, and Stedman's Famous School Choir contributed incidental vocalism with effect.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An interesting concert was given by the Guildhall students on Wednesday evening, Miss Ruby Wastell opening the programme with two piano solos, Etude in F sharp (Arensky), and Berger's "Hexentanz" (Witches' Frolic) both being cleverly played. In "The lute player," by Allitsen (an ex-student of the G.S.M.), Mr. J. Packer Ramsey made artistic use of an excellent voice; and Mr. Rowland Hill's violin solo, Second Movement from Wieniawski's Concerto in D, was distinguished by good intonation and careful technique. Miss Lottie Minns was much applauded for her singing of "O love that rulest" (Fallen Fairies), by Ed. German, while Miss Lily White gave a spirited performance of Liszt's showy Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 12, always a popular work with students. A monologue on the subject of "Hats," by Miss Jean Garlick, a clever pupil of Miss Kate Rorke, greatly pleased the audience, and the classic dance to the music of Rubenstein's "Romance" was gracefully carried out by Miss May Curtis, pupil of Mr. B. Soutten. Miss Norah Stollery, who has a really fine voice, did great credit to her professor by an intelligent rendering of "Bergine tutto armor" (Francesco Durande) and Max Reger's "Waldeinsamkeit," and praise must be awarded to Mr. E. H. Thompson for his artistic singing of the "Toreador" song from *Carmen*. To English words this song is no easy task, but Mr. Thompson was most ably supported by Miss Jenny Hyman, the accompanist. Miss Selma Sacke and Miss Vera Wise, two advanced students, were associated in a very creditable performance of Schumann's Sonata for violin and pianoforte in A. Other clever pupils were Miss Maud Jones, who recited "Hullo!" (Foss) and "If we only knew" (Spurr), Miss Grace Steward, and Mr. Eldon Dacre, who was set down for the Prologue from *Pagliacci*.

"DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE, when the run of his very successful revival of *Henry VIII.* is terminated, will present *Macbeth* at His Majesty's, and follow this by other Shakespearean revivals. In *Macbeth* Mr. Bourchier will play Macduff; and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, whose fine performance as Lady Macbeth at the Garrick is familiar to playgoers, will repeat it at His Majesty's. Sir Herbert hopes to induce Mr. Gordon Craig to assist him in the production of the drama.

SIR JOHN HARE, as president of the Irving Memorial Committee, asks us to announce that the unveiling of the statue of the late Sir Henry Irving, at the rear of the National Portrait Gallery, in Charing Cross-road, will take place on Monday, Dec. 5, at 11.30 a.m.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER will give a matinée at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday in aid of Princess Christian's association for supplying spectacles to the elementary schools of London. The performance will include Stephen Phillips's *Paolo and Francesca*, with a full orchestra and chorus, for which Mr. Percy Pitt has written some charming music.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has enjoyed a very pleasant visit to the Prince's, Bristol, this week, and on Monday goes to the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Subsequently Mr. Harvey is to visit Hull, where, on Friday evening, Dec. 2, he will appear in a triple bill, consisting of *Rouget de L'Isle*, *The House of Pierre*, and *The Conspiracy*. Mr. Martin Harvey is to deliver his lecture on the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre scheme in Birmingham next week—probably on Wednesday. The long tour of the Harvey company will conclude at the Coronet Theatre the week commencing Dec. 5.

MISS MURIEL MARTIN HARVEY, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, is to make her first appearance on the professional stage to-night at the St. James's Theatre, where she will "walk on" in Mr. George Alexander's new production, *Eccentric Lord Comberdene*. Miss Muriel Martin Harvey will also understudy the part played by Miss Waterlow. We wish the charming daughter of an accomplished couple an equally brilliant future.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton are doing such big business at the New Theatre with *Count Hannibal* that the season has been indefinitely extended, and Mr. Asche has been compelled, for the time being, to abandon his American tour. Shortly after Christmas he will move to another theatre, as Mr. Fred Terry will return to the New early in 1911.

THE Gaiety Theatre Football Club played a very enjoyable match on Sunday morning last with the Flowerpotonians at Walthamstow—enjoyable to the players, no doubt, for footballers heed not the weather. Despite the fact that the rain came down during the greater part of the time, Gaietys and Flowerpotonians went at it with a will, cheered in their efforts by a crowd of enthusiastic spectators, who braved the elements with an utter disregard for the consequent influenza. The Theatre team lost to the Flowerpotonians to two goals to nil.

SIR HERBERT TREE and his company at His Majesty's Theatre assembled at a suburban studio at ten o'clock on Thursday for the purpose of having the principal scenes from the production of *Henry VIII.* cinematographed. The costumes and properties had been conveyed to the studio, but the dense fog prevented the photographs being taken. The company waited till after lunch, but the light was still so bad that the party, which numbered 190, came away unphotographed.

MR. H. B. IRVING will, on Wednesday, Dec. 14, make his reappearance at the Queen's Theatre after a very successful provincial tour in *The Princess Clementine*, the four-act play which Mr. A. E. W. Mason and Mr. George Pleydell have adapted from Mr. Mason's novel, "Clementine." Mr. Irving has engaged Miss Stella Patrick Campbell to sustain the part of the heroine.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES thinks of closing Daly's Theatre about the end of the second week in December, reopening it early in January with Franz Lehar's musical play *The Count of Luxembourg*, which has been so successful in America and on the Continent.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has entrusted Mr. Cayley Robinson with the difficult task of designing the scenery and costumes for the new act, *The Palace of Happiness*, which M. Maeterlinck has written for the forthcoming revival of *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket Theatre on Dec. 19. Mr. Norman O'Neill will compose special music for the act.

LEADING features of Mr. Arthur Collins's pantomime of *Jack and the Beanstalk* at Drury Lane will be a mechanical hurricane and a giant forty feet high. The cost of the production will be over £20,000. The comedians of the cast will consist of Messrs. George Graves, George Barrett (who makes his first appearance in Drury Lane pantomime), Harry Randall, Johnnie Danvers, Arthur Conquest, Barry Lupino, Downes and Langford, and Bennett and Martell; while the harlequinade is in the hands of the Pender Troupe. The ladies, who are nearly all new to this theatre, include Misses Dolly Castles, Maud Thornton, Victoria Sievers, Anita Edis, Hilda Playfair, Mona Brae, and the Sisters Emson.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH has kindly lent the Haymarket Theatre for a matinée on Thursday and Friday next in aid of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. Mr. George Bernard Shaw's piece, *The Dark Lady of the Sonnets*, will be played for the first time, Mr. Granville Barker appearing as Shakespeare and Miss Mona Limerick as the "Dark Lady."

ANOTHER novelty will be *The Kiss*, by George Paston, in which Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Florence Harwood, Mr. Eric Lewis, and Mr. Guy Standing will appear. Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Slice of Life*, with Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Miss Lena Ashwell in the cast, and George Paston's *Stuffing*, with Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Clare Greet, and Mr. Arthur Chesney, complete the programme.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL, who sailed recently for New York, will appear there early in December in an English version of Henry Bataille's drama *La Vierge Folle*, sustaining the character of Mme. Armaury, originated in Paris by Mme. Berthe Bady.

ALTHOUGH only some nine months has elapsed since the last visit of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company to the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, the advance booking for the second visit of *The Arcadians* this week has been phenomenal. At the closing of the box-office on the Saturday night preceding the visit the total advance booking reached nearly £400. Mr. Lewis Waller will visit the Opera House for a week on the 28th of this month.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD still continues to be a very busy man. In addition to two electric theatres now open, he has three more building, he is also running four pantomimes at Christmas, and this autumn he has been touring *The Earl and the Girl* and *When Knights Were Bold*. It is not Mr. Howard's intention to tour any theatrical companies in the spring, as he will for a time devote his entire energies to electric theatres and a well-earned holiday.

MR. STANISLAUS STANGE, the English librettist of *The Chocolate Soldier*, prior to his departure for America on Wednesday, was presented by the entire company and staff, both before and behind the curtain, at the Lyric Theatre with a handsome gold cigarette box suitably inscribed. Mr. Stange, who will take a six months' holiday after his recent severe illness, attains in *The Chocolate Soldier* his thirty-seventh lyrical production.

MISS MAVIS YORKE, who, as the child elf in *The Two Hunchbacks*, has made such a big hit at the Savoy Theatre, under Miss Brema's management, is one of the youngest actresses on the stage. She appeared once for charity at the Playhouse last year, when too young to be licensed professionally, and the next day there was a long article about her wonderful acting and dancing headed the "Dream Fairy," in which the critic said of her that there was never such a tiny magician seen as this Dream Fairy. "Miss Mavis Yorke—so frail a baby—like a child's soul that has not found its body yet—dancing for the joy of itself and of all things sweet and pure." In *The Two Hunchbacks* little Mavis has only an acting part, but she was an instant success from the moment she appeared, and she is to have an opportunity of showing her wonderful powers as a dancer later on. She has been brought out by Miss Italia Conti.

MISS ITALIA CONTI, who has produced the fairy scenes and trained all the children in M. Emile Cammaert's delightful fairy play, *The Two Hunchbacks*, now being given at the Savoy Theatre under Miss Brema's management on alternate days with *Orpheus*, has been warmly congratulated by Miss Brema and the authors on the success she has achieved. Miss Conti received the following letter from the author after he had been to one of the rehearsals: "Dear Miss Conti,—I feel I did not tell you enough how delighted I was with to-day's rehearsal. You have really worked in the spirit of the thing as if you had lived with it as long as myself. Every business and position is wonderfully thought out, and so living already that it is hard to believe that you could get such a result in so short a time. My wife and myself were simply delighted with the whole thing, and we feel we ought to tell you so again and again.—With best regards from us all, yours very sincerely, EMILE CAMMAERTS."

MISS CONTI feels that to be praised so highly by a management that is responsible for the extraordinarily clever production of Orpheus is praise worth having. She hopes to do a great deal of production work in the near future, as she thinks there is an opening for women in this branch of the profession.

THE thirteenth annual general meeting of the Robert Arthur Theatres Company was held on Monday at the registered offices, 244, Regent-street, S.W., Mr. Robert Arthur (chairman and managing-director) presiding. The following report of the proceedings has been supplied by the company. The statement of accounts submitted showed the net income for the year, including the amount brought forward, to be £18,585 10s. 1d. The sinking fund now stands at £6,500; written off for depreciation of stocks, £4,834 3s. 11d. The directors proposed to declare a dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares. The report and accounts were approved and adopted.

MR. A. M. OGSTON was unanimously re-elected a director, and the meeting confirmed the election of Mr. Morris Richardson as an additional director. The auditors (Messrs. Turquand Youngs and Co.) were re-elected. The Chairman (Mr. Arthur) made a feeling reference to the loss the company had sustained in the death of Mr. Sidney Marler, who, although he only acted as a director for a short period, took a very great interest in the company and moved that the loss be recorded in the minutes of the meeting, which was unanimously agreed to. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

MR. LYN HARDING, who recently resumed his original rôle of Dr. Grimesby Rylott in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's play *The Speckled Band*, will appear in the part throughout next week at the Borough Theatre, Stratford. At Birmingham last week Mr. Harding achieved a remarkable success, highly eulogistic articles being devoted to him in the local Press.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE, who is having a most successful autumn tour, has been approached by two well-known impresarios with proposals for a tour of the Colonies with his Shakespearean Répertoire Company, but as his bookings extend well into 1912 he is unable to consider the matter at present. Mr. Wilkie contemplates, however, undertaking at some future date a world-wide tour with his répertoire of twenty-five plays.

MR. F. C. WHITNEY has decided, owing to the phenomenal success of *The Chocolate Soldier* at the Lyric, not only to give a matinée on each day of the week after Christmas, and on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays afterwards, but to recruit two first-class companies to take the opera on tour, one to the North and the other to the South. This will mean travelling in each case a company of over 120 artists, exclusive of a full orchestra.

MR. ISAAC COHEN, the late managing-director of the Pavilion, Mile End-road, who died on Oct. 1 last, left estate of the gross value of £6,272, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £6,065.

BY the permission of the Reverend Master (the Rev. Gerald Davis) a few members of the Savage Club gave a concert entertainment at Charterhouse on Tuesday evening. The historical "old Gueston Hall," in which the concert took place, was crowded to its utmost capacity by the "Brethren" of Charterhouse, their friends, and the staff; and it would have been difficult to bring together a more enthusiastic or appreciative audience. The vocalists were Messrs. Franklyn Clive, Watkin Mills, Richard Green, Reginald Groome, Laurence Lorge, and Herbert Thorndike; Messrs. Bernard Gribble and John Hassall gave specimens of their art with charcoal and crayon; Messrs. Gurrin, Ian Walsh, and Gordon Parker contributed humorous stories and recitations; Mr. Robert Ganthony sustained his reputation as an entertainer; and Messrs. Gerald Fitzgibbon's songs and Mr. Charles Collette's inimitable patter kept the audience in roars of laughter. Mr. Reginald Groome acted as musical director, and Mr. W. Murdock presided at the piano as soloist and accompanist. The stage is represented at Charterhouse by "Brothers" J. A. Cave and E. J. Odell, both old "Savages."

MR. PERCY HUTCHISON scored his customary huge success with *Brewster's Millions* at the New Theatre Royal, Blackburn, last Monday, his fine performance as Monty Brewster and the wonderful yacht scene causing a remarkable demonstration of enthusiasm. The booking-office and doors throughout the week have been besieged by Blackburn theatregoers.

"CHASING CYNTHIA" proved such a "big draw" last week at Weymouth that Mr. W. R. Wallis, the manager of the Pavilion Theatre, and the local corporation have invited Mr. Stanmore to bring the company back on Dec. 5, as they wish for a special attraction to entertain the American Fleet, and have offered a very substantial guarantee as an inducement. *Chasing Cynthia* will make its first appearance in Brighton next week.

MANY members of the profession will remember subscribing a few years ago to the Fred Locke Fund, on behalf of the family of that clever librettist. It may interest these subscribers to know that the fund has been so administered as to tide the younger members of the family safely over a trying period, and most of them are now earning salaries in the branches of the profession open to juveniles. The two trustees of the fund, Messrs. Rich Waldon and J. G. Crichton, of Glasgow, have for some time been devoting the money to paying the rent of Mrs. Locke's house in Saltcoats, thus relieving her of what is always a serious financial problem. There still remains enough to do this for two years to come, and, in the circumstances, the trustees think this an appropriate time to once again thank those who so kindly responded when the appeal was made in 1906-7.

MR. WILLIAM MORTON, "The Father of the Hull Theatres," recently lectured at Hull to the members of the Fish-street Memorial Church Literary Society on the subject of "Extracts from My Diary." Mr. Morton told of his acquaintance of great people of the theatrical world, past and present, and threw a new light on many famous characters. Of Dickens he told how once he heard him read some of his own works, and the surprise and disappointment he had on that occasion. He had gone expecting to find a modest and retiring man, but the great novelist was dressed in a most dandified fashion, and he (Mr. Morton) thought this was hardly in accord with a man of so great a mind.

MR. MORTON'S life has been one of adventure. He served his apprenticeship as a printer, and passed from that trade to the profession of journalism, which he found too strenuous. Then he became an agent for lecturers and entertainers, and in this connection he has many anecdotes for the interest of those who are lucky enough to hear him lecture. Eventually he started in the theatrical line, and has stuck to that ever since.

IN his lecture he told of his connection with the famous Maskelyne and Cook, and their exposure of spirit rapping and other "fake" spiritualistic devices designed to gull a somewhat childlike and bland public. The lecture was illustrated with water-colour drawings. At the close of the lecture Mr. Morton was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

MISS MARJORIE NAPIER, who figured as one of the pretty girls at the stores in *Our Miss Gibbs*, was married on the 9th inst. to Mr. Rupert Higgins, the younger son of Mr. Henry Higgins, one of the directors of the Covent Garden Opera Syndicate. Mr. Rupert Higgins is a grandson of the eleventh Earl of Winchilsea.

THE success of Nat Gould's great sporting drama, *The Chance of a Lifetime*, in Australia, continues unabated. After concluding a phenomenally successful season in Sydney, the company opened to record business in Newcastle, N.S.W. From there they travelled to Brisbane, opening on Oct. 29. Mr. Frank Gerald, Nat Gould's representative and producer of the play, anticipates an equally satisfactory result in the Queensland capital, and considers that the success of the play in London is certain.

MISS AUGUSTA HAVILAND, after a successful tour in Australia and New Zealand with *The Brass Bottle* company, will arrive home by the s.s. Malwa in December, when she will resume her old part of Aunt Caroline in *Pinkie and the Fairies* in Messrs. Montesole's and McLeod's company. Miss Haviland won high praise from the press of the Antipodes for her presentment of the rôle of the eminently practical Mrs. Futvoye, being described as an example of finished methods in comedy.

MR. GEORGE MARLOW'S new Sydney Theatre, the Adelphi, is making good progress, and is expected to be ready for opening in March, when *The Bad Girl of the Family* will be presented. It is calculated that the Adelphi will hold 400 more people than any other theatre in the Commonwealth. Mr. Arthur Shirley's successful drama *Nick Carter* will be performed for the first time in Australia by one of Mr. Marlow's touring companies at Adelaide on Nov. 26.

LOCAL playgoers with a taste for real drama and romance should not miss seeing *The Prince and the Beggar Maid*, which will occupy the boards at the Crystal Palace Theatre next week. It is being played by Messrs. A. Paumier and Walter Howard's company, and the acting is of a high standard. Mr. Walter Howard has given us of his best in this piece, which has made as great a hit in the provinces as it did at the Lyceum Theatre.

THE Censor has withdrawn his prohibition of Strauss's opera *Salome*, and it will shortly be heard at Covent Garden.

IMPORTANT new powers, relative to the management of employment agencies, have been conferred upon the London County Council, under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1910. Hitherto the Council's powers have been limited to the registration of agencies for the employment of governesses, female domestic servants, or other female persons in any similar capacity, and to concert, theatrical, or music hall employment agencies, where preliminary or registration fees were accepted. The Act of 1910, however, requires that, with few exceptions, all employment agencies, including those for males as well as for females, in the County of London, shall be licensed annually by the Council.

THE first licensing meeting under the new powers will be held at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., on Dec. 2, 1910, and on the following day, if necessary, at 10 a.m., when the Public Control Committee of the Council will sit to consider applications for licences. The last day for making applications for consideration at this meeting is Nov. 22. Objections to the grant of licences may be made by notice in writing to the Clerk of the Council at least ten days before the date of the licensing meeting. Applicants for licences, and persons objecting to the grant of licences, may be heard in person, or by counsel, or by solicitor, and may call witnesses before the Committee. The meeting will be open to the public, but the Committee may conduct their deliberations and consider evidence in private. It is hoped that the exercise of the Council's new powers in this respect will tend effectually to prevent fraud and other irregularities in connection with employment agencies.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN gave a special performance of *David Garrick* at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, the production being received with tremendous enthusiasm, Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson being called over twenty times in front of the curtain during the evening. The play was preceded by a selection of scenes from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, in which Miss Wilson appeared as Romeo, the part of Juliet being played by Miss Kathleen Rind.

THE O.P. Club opened their winter session of Sunday evening gatherings at the Criterion on Sunday, when, under the chairmanship of Mr. T. M'Donald Rendle, a paper was read by Mr. James Mortimer entitled, "Some Casual Remarks Concerning the Press and the Stage."

DISCUSSING the stage as a bit of a playwright himself, and as one who once acted on a real stage as Hamlet—and he confessed that he was absolutely the worst—it was in a club, and he bid seven dollars for Hamlet and got it. They played behind a net, and it was fortunate, because he had flowers thrown at him in plenty—cauliflowers—and the next morning a young man was found dead in the Hudson river with a copy of the programme in his pocket.

THAT was his only effort as an actor. In his opinion musical comedy was an inane and vacuous form of entertainment, which, perhaps, accounted for its popularity. So long as they had plays which were not so bad as others they need not despair. He believed the condition of the British stage was better in the present day than formerly.

MR. LAURENCE HOUSMAN, who recently gave a public reading of his censored play *Pains and Penalties*, has addressed the following letter to the Lord Chamberlain:—"My Lord,—I beg to call your attention to the fact that my historical play *Pains and Penalties*, to which you recently refused a licence, presumably on the grounds that it was offensive to good manners, decorum, or the public peace, has now been publicly read in London, and has received considerable notice from the public Press. Neither at the public reading nor in any Press criticism that has come under my notice has any suggestion been made that the play offends in those particulars to which your Lordship's powers of censorship are statutorily directed. May I ask, therefore, if your Lordship will now be good enough to reconsider an adverse decision, to which the public reception of my play gives no justification; or, as an alternative, to inform me in what respect my play offends against the law which it is your duty to administer?"

IT appears that the licence was refused because the play "dealt with a sad historical episode of comparatively recent date in the life of an unhappy lady." "The 'unhappy lady,'" comments Mr. Housman, "has been dead for ninety years, and for all that period her memory has rested under a cloud. The whole bent of my play goes to correct the unfavourable verdict passed upon her by history. I am now officially informed that this rehabilitation of her character is not to be allowed."

A BENEFIT concert in aid of the funds of the British Musicians' Pension Society will be given at the Queen's Hall on Thursday afternoon, March 30, 1911, by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Richter. Full particulars as to membership, &c., can be had from the Hon. Secretary, at the registered offices of the society, No. 21, Albert-embankment, S.E. Office hours, Mondays and Fridays, three to five p.m. The society is open to all professional musicians in the United Kingdom.

MISS NELLIE DADE is putting on Mr. Fitzroy Gardner's little play, *Good Old Aggie*, on Monday at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington. Miss Katie Yates will appear as Violet, and Miss Dade herself will play Aggie.

MR. HENRY DE SOLLA has been engaged by Mr. C. St. John Denton as producer and general-manager of the Dalston Theatre pantomime.

MR. ARTHUR GROVER, the well-known young English baritone, is making a great success in the title part of *The Chocolate Soldier* on a tour of the chief American cities, including New York, Chicago, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, finishing at San Francisco in June next.

REGINALD PAYNE, one of our youngest and most popular leading men, is fulfilling his second engagement with Mr. Frank Hardie, in whose excellent sketches he is appearing at the Palace, Dover. Mr. Payne has booked Mme. Adah Payne, the Australian prima donna, late of Moody-Manners' principal opera company, at the same hall for this week. She constitutes the bottom of the bill, and made an instantaneous success on Monday with her cultured vocalism.

MISS ADELE ROZE, who made such a success last year at Torquay as principal boy in Mr. J. A. Thomson's pantomime, has been re-engaged by him as principal boy in *Puss in Boots* at Torquay this Christmas.

"FALSE DAWN," which will be produced by the Play Actors at the Court to-morrow (Sunday) evening, is a comedy with serious interest, in three acts. The authors are Mr. Morley Roberts and Mr. Henry Seton, and the production is in charge of Mr. Hubert Druce. The cast will consist of Messrs. Norman Trevor, Nye Chart, and Charles King, and Misses Marie Linden, Esmé Beringer, Gillian Scaife, and Florence Harcourt.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES'S special matinée of *The Dollar Princess* has resulted in Mr. Carl Hentschel, the President of the League of Mercy for the Strand District, being able to hand over £181 2s. 6d. to the funds of the League.

THAT well-known actor Mr. Alfred Goddard has been engaged by Mr. Walter Howard to play the Duke of Savarnac in *The Boy King* on South tour.

COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, who is seriously ill, is the author of the celebrated novel "Resurrection," a version of which, by Henri Bataille and Michael Morton, was produced at His Majesty's Theatre in the February of 1903, with Sir (then Mr.) Herbert Tree in the part of Prince Dimitry Nehludof and Miss Lena Ashwell as Katusha. In his book "What is Art?" Tolstoy attacked very severely what appeared to him to be the deficiencies of Wagnerian production. An adaptation by Louise and Aylmer Maude of Tolstoy's novel "The Power of Darkness" was produced by the Stage Society at the Royalty Theatre on Dec. 18, 1904.

THE Morecambe Royalty Theatre and Opera House has been sold by the mortgagees, the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company, to Messrs. E. and F. Burgess, of Morecambe, and they will enter into possession on March 1. For the past nine years the theatre has been leased to Mr. Julian Malvern, for thirty years a highly-respected and popular actor-manager. During his lesseeship of the Morecambe theare, Mr. Malvern has introduced to that popular seaside resort some of the leading London and provincial actors, and engaged the best companies. We regret that Mr. Malvern, who was formerly at Leith, has recently been suffering from ill-health.

THE Cavaliere Castellano company is booked next week at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, the patrons of which will thus be enabled to enjoy grand opera at cheap prices. On Monday Mr. W. W. Kelly will present a promising new operatic artist. Her name is Miss Miriam Licette, and she is the daughter of a well-known Liverpool captain. Miss Licette, who is stated to possess a soprano voice of excellent quality and wide range, will appear with the Castellano Opera Company as Nedda in *I Pagliacci* and later in the week as Marguerite in *Faust*.

THE Birkenhead Amateur Dramatic Society will occupy the stage all next week at the Birkenhead Theatre Royal, presenting *Trilby*, in which Mr. Harold Smith, the adopted candidate for the Warrington division, will appear as Svengali.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES'S company appears at the Coronet on Monday with *The Merry Widow*, with Miss Louie Pounds as the fascinating Sonia and Mr. Basil S. Foster (of "Fostershire") as the Prince.

MISS EMILIE BURKE, for many years leading lady with the late Henry Talbot's repertory company, organised a production of *Romeo and Juliet* in Glasgow last week, in aid of the Samaritan Hospital for Women. The performances were given on three nights, under distinguished patronage, and realised a handsome sum for this deserving charity.

MR. W. V. GARROD, within two weeks of his acquiring from Mr. G. M. Polini the rights of Wilson Barrett's drama, *The Sledge-Hammer*, has booked the play at twenty-one theatres, including the entire Broadhead Circuit and Alexandra Theatre, Hull, for August Bank Holiday. Bookings already extend to the end of April, 1912. For his own play, *A Wife for a Day*, Mr. Garrod has secured thirty-six theatres, although the tour does not start until February, and not a date is vacant for *The Prodigal Parson* until July.

MRS. J. A. HUTCHISON (*née* V. Ennis Lawson) has been induced by Mr. Melville to fulfil a special engagement with him to play "lead" in his suburban tour of *The Sins of London*. Miss Lawson is the niece of Mr. John Lawson, and left the profession some two years ago when she married Mr. Anderson Hutchison, a wealthy Lancashire manufacturer.

MISS FLORENCE PREDDY, who has lately been on tour with *Old Heidelberg*, and who so successfully undertook the part of Kathie at a few hours' notice at Yarmouth, has been specially engaged by Mr. Stanley Cooke for his forthcoming tour of *A Man from Mexico*.

MR. FRANK POWELL, who has made such a success as Von Haugh in *Old Heidelberg*, has been specially engaged by Mr. Stanley Cooke to play Timothy Cook in his forthcoming tour of *A Man from Mexico*.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING will deliver a lecture, the subject of which has not yet been chosen, to the O.P. Club in the Prince's Room at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, Dec. 4. The chair will be occupied by Miss Mabel Hackney.

AT the Prince of Wales' Theatre on Thursday, in front of *Inconstant George*, a little "dance play," entitled *The Portrait*, written and composed by Miss Dora Bright, will be presented. The cast will include Mr. Gordon Cleather, Mr. Henri Laurent, and Miss Mona Harrison. The scene of the piece is an artist's studio.

MISS FLORENCE IMESON is achieving a veritable triumph as the Merry Widow in South Africa, and on one occasion when she responded to an enthusiastic call at the close of the performance at Johannesburg the members of the company joined with the audience in cheering the clever little lady—a pleasant and unique experience which must have been very gratifying to the artist. To-day (Saturday) Miss Imeson sails from Cape Town for Australia to "star" in Messrs. Rupert Clarke and Clyde Meynell's musical comedy company.

MR. J. W. BOUGHTON, managing-director of the Portsmouth Theatres, has forwarded to the chairman of the Naval Disasters Fund a cheque for £127 11s. 11d. on behalf of the Fund. This handsome donation represents the proceeds from the matinée recently given with such signal success at the King's Theatre, Southsea.

THE autumn tour of *Old Heidelberg* having proved so successful Mr. Ernest Benham has decided to send the piece out again next spring. During this tour Mr. Benham will undertake the part of Lutz, a character which he sustained with great success when Mr. Mouillot first sent the play out. The present tour terminates on Dec. 10 at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway.

"LUCKY DURHAM," the last play written by the late Wilson Barrett, will be played at the Elephant and Castle Theatre every night next week and at a matinée on Thursday. On Monday this play reaches its 1,510th performance by the same company, which includes Mr. Edmund Kennedy in his well-known portrayal of John Durham and Mr. Arthur Leigh as the irrepressible Reggie. Miss Gertrude Robins, who has attained distinction as a dramatist, has been engaged to play Helen Vallerton.

DR. C. W. PEARCE gave an address on the lives and music of Henry Smart and Edward J. Hopkins to the members of the Incorporated Society of Musicians at Hanover-square on Saturday. He stated that musical progress was not wholly wrapped up in the work of the greatest masters of the art, but a great deal depended on some of the lesser composers, and he proceeded to give descriptions of the work of Smart and Hopkins. In this he was assisted by Miss Kate Cherry, Miss Gertrude Geere, Mme. Bessie Grant, Mr. Charles Ellison, Mr. George Stubbs, and Mr. Percy D. Hodsoll, who gave musical illustrations.

DR. PEARCE said Smart was not only a wonderful extemporaneous player of the organ, but his engineering talents enabled him to construct organs which were improvements on others of the day. Excellent examples were the organs in Leeds Town Hall and St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow. The swell-box of the Leeds Town Hall organ was the largest made at the time it was built, and before the organ was put in place Smart suggested that a dinner should be held in the swell-box. This was done, ten people, including Smart, forming the dinner party. Towards the dinner one friend sent salmon, another sent entrées, another a dozen bottles of champagne, and another six bottles of 1834 port.

HOPKINS was an even greater extemporaneous organist than Smart, and one Sunday morning at the Temple Church, when the service was over, he improvised on the organ to play the people out. He became so absorbed in his playing that he continued until an elderly verger appeared in the organ loft and said, "Do please stop, sir. Nobody has left yet. They won't go as long as you keep playing, and we must get the church cleared for the evening service." Hopkins stopped, and the congregation waited for more until they realised by the silence that the organist had vacated his seat. Hopkins was, in fact, the first person to leave the church, which he did by a side exit.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

No Signs of Decay.

SIR HERBERT TREE has told the *Express* that he does not see any sign of decay in the British theatre. "Personally," says Sir Herbert, "I believe in the public. I have had failures, but I have never had failures I could not understand. Plays fail because of their shortcomings, never because of their virtues. I am told by my less intelligent critics that my theatre is crowded because of the pageants. That is absurd. If the public wants pageant only, it can get it done splendidly in the musical comedy theatres, in pantomimes, and in the music halls. My friends come to His Majesty's primarily for the drama and the acting; but I admit that they like to see their drama in a beautiful and appropriate setting. And, pray, why not?

Mr. Maugham in America.

MR. W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM intends to see Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, as well as New York, during his six weeks' stay in America. According to a New York interviewer he means to have a "perfectly corking time," whatever that may be. This authority says of Mr. Maugham that "he gives you the impression of being a man who enjoys everything and can extract the last possible bit of amusement out of an incident, an experience, or a place. In conversation he has the air of seeing the humorous side, even of the things on which he feels most strongly. The superficial impression one gets is that he does not take anything seriously, but that impression almost immediately wears off, and one recognises a man of positive convictions and strong sincerity."

Not Commercialised.

MR. MAUGHAM was asked about the oft-repeated assertion that the stage is being "commercialised." "One hears that everywhere," said Mr. Maugham; "but I don't know what on earth it means. It seems to me to have extremely little sense in it. Once in a hundred times, when a play is a failure, it fails because it is over the heads of the audience. The ninety-nine other times it fails because it is beneath the audience's contempt. But the talk you mention is not confined to America. They raise the same cry in London, in Paris, in Berlin—everywhere. If your American playwrights are restive under this form of abuse they can console themselves by remembering that dramatists are just as much abused everywhere else. The unsuccessful dramatist always abuses successful dramatists. I did," added Mr. Maugham, with his fetching stammer, "until I was successful."

The Coming Drama.

THE "coming drama" was the next subject touched upon, and Mr. Maugham was asked for a prediction. "The coming drama," he replied, "will be the same type of play that has been successful for the last 2,000 years, and will be for the next 2,000—the play that entertains and interests. The drama that is not going to come in the future, just as it hasn't come in the past, is the drama that bores while it pretends to elevate." "You don't believe, then, in the drama of uplift?" "Personally, I don't want to be uplifted, but I dare say there are people who do. The only thing I resent is that they should ask me to uplift them."

The Play with a Purpose.

"Do you think, then, that the play with a purpose is passing away?" "I don't know. The fact is that the first thing needful for a drama is the dramatic instinct. If a man has got that there is no knowing what he can get the public to accept from him. I think the public will take any amount and any kind of preaching if the man who preaches is really a born dramatist and has the dramatic instinct. But the trouble with most of these people who try to give us what they are pleased to call ideas on the stage and want to uplift and elevate and educate us is that they haven't the dramatic instinct and they don't succeed in making what they have to say interesting. Things are often quite interesting in a book, and when you see them acted you are bored to extinction."

The German Drama.

SPEAKING of the Continent, and the popularity of the "problem play," Mr. Maugham said that in Germany they went in for the drama of psychological analysis and for making it as real and true to life as they could. They went further and further until the plays were so lifelike that people couldn't stand seeing them, and these dramas just killed themselves. "When I was in Vienna some time ago I wanted very much to see some German plays. But I couldn't. In all the theatres they were doing translations from the French and English. Last summer I went to Munich and again made a heroic effort to see some German plays; but the only plays they were doing were two by one William Shakespeare and two by another English dramatist—one," he finished, after a pause, "whom modesty forbids me to mention."

The Right Knack.

MR. MAUGHAM expressed the opinion that it was not absolutely necessary to have intellectual ability in order to write a successful play. "You can write a play if you have the knack of getting what you have to say over the footlights. And Heaven only knows what that knack is and how it comes. Fortunately, only a very few have it, and those who have are able to keep the wolf from the door."

A Dreary Business.

THE author of *Lady Frederick* was under the impression that this play had been refused by seventeen people before it was put on as a stop-gap. All of his earlier plays had been refused by every manager in London, including the play that Billie Burke is appearing in now. Success came after a long and weary struggle. If he had known, he would have "stuck to doctoring." "I don't know what it is like here," said Mr Maugham in conclusion, "but in England a man who goes in for play-writing, unless he has a private income, is an awful fool. It is a hard and dreary business."

Shakespeare's Handwriting.

MR. SIDNEY LEE, in his lecture on "Recent Disclosures about Shakespeare," at a recent house dinner of the Authors' Club, at Whitehall Court, spoke of Dr. Wallace's discovery with reference to a suit brought against Christopher Mountjoy by Mountjoy's son-in-law in respect to a marriage portion. Shakespeare had made the acquaintance of the family, apparently as a lodger, and gave evidence on behalf of the claim of the son-in-law. As to the signature to the deposition, Mr. Lee said:—"Shakespeare's hand resembles the old German handwriting—our handwriting to-day is based on Italian models, which superseded the old English style in the seventeenth century. Shakespeare was a conservative in this matter, like a good many literary men in his day, but not all. Men of letters differed in their styles of writing then even more than they do now. Ben Jonson wrote a most beautiful hand on a pattern of his own invention. But in the playhouse, as surviving transcripts of plays amply prove, the ugly sprawling old English hand that Shakespeare affected was the rule. That old style lent itself to pace, and Shakespeare, who, according to the evidence of his fellow-actors, Heming and Condell, wrote with great rapidity, cared only for pace, and nothing at all for neat or pretty effects."

"THE UNWRITTEN LAW."

Play, in Three Acts, Founded by Laurence Irving on Dostoieffski's "Crime and Punishment," Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, Nov. 14.

Kashkin	MR. FRANK ESMOND
Zosimoff	MR. RUPERT HARVEY
Nastasia	MISS BEATRICE SMITH
Rodion Raskolnikoff	MR. LAURENCE IRVING
Sonia Martinova	MISS MABEL HACKNEY
Gromoff	MR. JAMES SKEA
Doonia	MISS LEONORA OAKFORD
Pulcheria	MISS ALICE INMAN
Katya	MISS MABEL NELSON
Ivan	MR. W. BARNETT
Keller	MR. WENTWORTH FANE
Koltzoff	MR. CHARLES SEYMOUR
Dmitri	MR. MONTAGUE LANE
Mikolka	MR. A. FIELD FISHER
Bezak	MR. DALZIEL HERON
Boolitch	MR. C. ROBERTS
Zorn	MR. A. DODD
Platoff	MR. P. SIMMONDS
Levitski	MR. J. WOODHOUSE
Goobchitz	MR. CLIVE TERRANCE
Zimmerman	MISS MAY EDISS
Doordina	MISS DORIS VAILE
Olkina	MISS DREW
Karpova	MISS VERA WALLACE
A Lady	MISS CHARLEYE COURTLAND
Lobko	MR. I. JONES
Policeman	MR. J. ARNOLD
Solski	MR. HENRY ELMORE
Mashenka	MISS DOROTHY HILL

The torture of a criminal on the rack of cross-examination by an examining magistrate has been often used in fiction and the drama. It forms one of the strongest scenes in Balzac's "Grand Homme de Province à Paris"; it is the essence of M. Eugene Brieux's *Robe Rouge*, done in England as *The Arm of the Law;* and it always lends itself effectively to dramatic treatment. Never in our memory, however, has such a terribly intense use of the material been made as in *The Unwritten Law*, which was played for the first time in London at the Garrick Theatre on Monday last. Nothing could have prevented the triumph of this scene; it was certain to succeed, and the drop-curtain, indeed, fell on an audience wrought up to the highest pitch of interest and excitement.

The Unwritten Law, however, is much more than a strong, theatrical drama. It has its philosophic side, and the author handles the social system in a spirit of bitter indignation. The murderer is influenced by such admirable instincts that we hardly know whether to sympathise with him or to desire his detection. Rodion Raskolnikoff, a student who lives in a big block of flats in St. Petersburg, argues verbally and in print against the sanctity of human life; for many lives must be sacrificed, he maintains, in the cause of Progress. From these theories to the murder of the rascally manager of the flats, who tries to extort from a poor girl named Sonia Martinova, one of the lodgers, compliance with his vile desires under penalty of being turned into the street, is a short step. Rodion kills the brute with an axe which has been left in his room by a servant, and suspicion at first falls upon a couple of ignorant workmen, who were at the time of the murder engaged in repairing the building. But an examining magistrate named Bezak, whose speciality is extorting confessions from murderers, suspects Rodion of the crime. The student, in order to save the innocent prisoners, calls on Bezak while the latter is installed in the room next to the one in which the crime was committed. The Examining Magistrate, by "reconstituting" the incidents of the murder and forcing Rodion to repeat his actions up to a certain point, reduces him to the pitch of abject helplessness and confession. At this moment one of the workmen comes in, and in order to save his comrade takes upon himself the guilt of the crime, thus baffling Bezak completely, and permitting Rodion to escape, *pro tem.*, from his torturer's grip. In the last scene, however, by the influence of Sonia and her sister, Raskolnikoff's heart is softened and his religious instincts awakened, and he voluntarily accepts the punishment of his crime—three years in Siberia.

The character of Rodion Raskolnikoff suits Mr. Laurence Irving's personality exactly, and there is probably no actor on the English stage who could have given to the representation of it the nervous morbidity with which Mr. Irving's reading is so effectively imbued. Early in the first act we realise that we have before us a true child of modern Russia—neurotic, highly educated, and bitterly rebellious against existing social conditions. The great merits of Mr. Laurence Irving's creation are its sustained sensitiveness and realistic excitability. We feel from the first that Rodion is too reflective, too susceptible to impressions, and too mercilessly logical to survive in the coarse competition which we call life. As the play progresses, so the character, in Mr. Irving's hands, develops. We see Rodion's first writhing under the pain of his eager and indignant humanity, and later on suffering the slow agony of nervous anxiety and the tortures of anticipation and dread. The exposition is an awful and harrowing one. There are scenes in which the murderer mutters to himself, grimaces, twists and faints in terror. There are other scenes in which his quick wit and ready assurance struggle with the weakness of his nerves till he sinks under the terrible burden he has to bear. So real and so natural is the rendering, so finished and complete is it in every detail, that there are times when the contemplation of so much distress is almost overpowering in its intensity. It must not be imagined, however, that Mr. Irving's performance or the play itself is one long tale of grief and pain. The criminal, though unequal to the struggle with the trained intellect of Bezak, makes a spirited struggle, and is not conquered without the Examining Magistrate exerting the whole of his ingenuity. This part of Bezak, a very important one, is sustained in a wonderfully original and finished style by Mr. Dalziel Heron. Outwardly, the Examining Magistrate is a sleek, smiling, "comfortable," elderly gentleman, with a habit of frequently wiping the glasses of his spectacles and replacing them; mentally, he is a fanatic in the work of detecting homicide, a specialist in extorting confession by cross-examination. The combination is one which will not easily be forgotten, and Mr. Dalziel Heron made a vivid impression on the memories of those who saw his remarkable performance at the Garrick on Monday. Miss Mabel Hackney as Sonia Martinova has to sustain a part which is pitched throughout in the key of suffering and sadness, and she plays the simple but strong character with rare skill and tact, never exaggerating, but being always sufficiently spirited when the situation demands increased energy. Her Sonia is a very clever and consistent creation. By an excellent make-up and a most appropriate manner, Mr. Wentworth Fane suggests, subtly but sufficiently, the nature of the smug hypocrite Keller; and Mr. Frank Esmond is commendably impulsive and spontaneous as the honest and kind-hearted Kashkin. Mr. Rupert Harvey is entirely satisfactory and efficient as the young doctor, Zosimoff; and Miss Beatrice Smith is duly "rough and ready" as the servant girl, Nastasia. An admirably picturesque and quietly powerful performance of the part of Gromoff is given by Mr. James Skea; and Miss Leonora Oakford is frank, dashing, and decided as Raskolnikoff's sister, Doonia, Miss Alice Inman being excellent as the affectionate mother, Pulcheria. Miss Mabel Nelson as Sonia's little sister, Katya, is cleverly quaint and comical; Mr. W. Barnett does good work as Ivan; Mr. Charles Seymour is smart and effective as Koltzoff; and Mr. Montague Lane and Mr. A. Field Fisher supply characteristic embodiments of the two falsely-accused workmen, Dmitri and Mikolka. The merry mob of students and girls is composed of clever people, all of whom attend carefully to requirements; and Mr. I. Jones is satisfactory as Lobko, Mr. J. Arnold being excellent as a policeman. Miss Dorothy Hill must be warmly praised for her admirable reading of the rôle of Mashenka, and Mr. Henry Elmore is commendable as the white-haired clerk, Solski. The scenery, by Schmidt, is effective and artistic, and the music, arranged by Mr. Yearsley, from the works of Tschaikowsky, Glinka, and Scroff, is decidedly helpful to the illusion. *The Unwritten Law* had an enthusiastic reception, the appeal of the strong situations and Mr. Laurence Irving's superb impersonation proving, in combination, irresistible. In a speech at the conclusion of the performance, he explained that he had tried in vain to induce other managers to produce the play, but it had been unanimously rejected, so that he had been obliged to play Rodion himself. Mr. Irving also referred in terms of warm praise to the performances of the company, especially complimenting Mr. Dalziel Heron.

"THE MENDERS OF NETS."

Play, in One Act, by Philip Gibbs, Produced at the Queen's Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Bess	MISS BERYL FABER
Mrs. Tregarth	MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
John	MR. A. HOLMES-GORE
Pete	MR. FREDERIC WORLOCK

The attractiveness of *Mrs. Skeffington* is materially enhanced by contrast with the first piece, *The Menders of Nets*, which was placed in the bill on Saturday. The little play was originally produced under the title of *The Escape of John Merchant* at the Duke of York's on July 10, 1906, when its authorship was attributed to Messrs. Philip Gibbs and Cosmo Hamilton, and afterwards revived as *A Mender of Nets* at the Court on Dec. 31, 1907, with Mr. Cosmo Hamilton figuring alone as author. In the present production Mr. Hamilton has retired, leaving Mr. Gibbs in sole possession of the playwright honours. The play is a gloomy little piece, but with considerable dramatic grip and quite painful intensity. Nothing is gained by the change of title, as no significance exists beyond the fact that the action is laid in a house where the net-mending industry is carried on. Its mistress, Bess, has been married for some two years to the intemperate Pete, who had been the victim of a furious attack by his rival, John Merchant, now languishing in gaol for the offence. John had exacted from Bess a promise to wait for him, but she had yielded to the wooing of Pete, and has ever since been tormented by the prospect of the return of John Merchant. When the boom of a gun announces the escape of a prisoner, Bess instinctively divines that it is John who has got free. Sure enough John makes his appearance while Pete has gone to fetch the doctor for his little son, who lies ill in the adjoining room, and Bess responds to his embraces, afraid to reveal the fact that she is married. After an affecting scene, in which John Merchant draws a picture of their future happiness, Pete returns intoxicated; but Bess keeps up the illusion that she is still single, and bids him leave. Pete has a wholesome fear of John, and decides to obey, but as he will not take his hand, the convict declares that he means to inform on him. He forces Pete into the bedroom, but a startled cry leads John to enter, to find the child dead. John thus learns the bitter truth, but, pitying the grief of the mother, resigns himself to the warders, who have been fetched by Bess's mother, giving a parting warning to Pete to behave better in view of the prisoner's ultimate release.

A profound impression was created by the little piece, which was faultlessly acted. Miss Beryl Faber displayed her dramatic gifts agreeably as Bess, indicating with artistic skill the suppressed emotion of the affrighted young wife. Mr. A. Holmes-Gore acted with grim earnestness as John Merchant, the devotion of the escaped convict being very touching. Miss Frances Wetherall played with the care and finish of an experienced artist as Besss' mother, and Mr. Frederic Worlock was effective as the hulking Pete. This little piece had the distinction of four curtains.

Miss Brayton's Beginnings.

"I REALLY don't know what first made me want to go on the stage, beyond the fact that I was fond of learning poetry and reading Shakespeare," says Miss Lily Brayton in an article in the *Sketch*. "Still, I did want to go on the stage, although I had not seen many plays, for my home was in the little town of Hindley, in Lancashire, where my father had practised for some time as a doctor. For a holiday I was taken to Scarborough, where Mr F. R. Benson was playing an engagement, and I went to see him in *Hamlet*. Curiously enough, that night my husband that was to be, Mr. Asche, was playing the King.

"WHEN I went home I thought more than ever how lovely it would be to go on the stage, so I wrote a letter to Mr. Benson telling him so, and adding a line about my fondness for poetry and Shakespeare. I hardly expected that he would answer, but a day or two afterwards a letter did come from him, asking me to see him at the theatre. Of course, I went, and I recited to him Queen Katherine's big speech before the Court.

"WHEN I had finished Mr. Benson told me I should join the company, but, to my inexpressible regret, he made haste to add that there was no vacancy. Still, he told me that as soon as there was he would send for me. I went away very crestfallen, for when I got his letter I quite expected he would say he would engage me there and then. When I got home I did not say a word to my mother about having written. A few weeks later, however, when my sister and I were working with our governess my mother entered the schoolroom with an open telegram in her hand.

"'CAN you tell me what the meaning of this is?' she asked, as she put the paper into my hand—'Join the company to-morrow at Manchester. Benson.' I had to explain about the letter, my visit to the theatre, and Mr. Benson's promise. The next day I went to Manchester to see Mr. Benson. When I got to the stage-door of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, where Mr. Benson was playing, two actors were standing there. When we were engaged, Mr. Asche told me a remarkable thing—that he was one of them, and that, as soon as I had passed through the door, he turned to his friend and said, 'That is the girl I am going to marry.'"

BEFORE Mr. Lester Collingwood met his death he had engaged practically the whole of his artists for the Alexandra Theatre pantomime, and his arrangements will be faithfully carried out by the executors, Mr. Fred Barnardo (business-manager) and Mr. H. Barnes (chef d'orchestre). The cast includes Marie Reeves, Lily Eyton, Madge Beresford, Little Maudie Olmar, Harry Rogerson, and the Brothers Durrant.

ELLEN TERRY IN AMERICA.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Miss Ellen Terry gave her first discourse on "Shakespeare's Heroines" at the Hudson Theatre, New York, on the 3rd inst. The house was filled to overflowing, despite a gale of wind and a drenching rain. "No one but Ellen Terry," said a leading critic, "could have drawn such an audience in such weather." The discourse was entitled "Shakespeare's Heroines—Triumphant." The audience rose to greet the distinguished actress when she entered, and gave her an ovation that lasted for several minutes. Miss Terry was introduced by Mr. John Erskine Ely. For her heroines she chose Beatrice, Rosalind, and Portia. She recited several of the great scenes with which her name is associated, notably part of the Church scene from *Much Ado About Nothing*, the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, and the scene between the mother and wife of Coriolanus. Miss Terry said she had played Portia in half a dozen different ways. In Germany the part was frequently played in a spirit of low comedy, Portia wearing a lawyer's wig, horn spectacles, and even a moustache. She herself preferred to play Portia as a high-born Italian lady. She pictured Portia before the trial going to Bellario, and consulting with that learned doctor as to what should be done. Bellario, she said, after explaining the law, which seemed to leave no loophole, must have counselled her to appeal to Shylock's sense of mercy, and then to his cupidity.

"Those failing," said Miss Terry, "I imagine the learned lawyer gave it up, and it was then that the womanly intuition of Portia came to the rescue."

Miss Terry admitted that Portia's contention that no blood should be shed with the pound of flesh was purely a trick, but defended it by saying that one must meet such emergencies with heroic measures.

Miss Terry likened the "Quality of Mercy" speech to the Lord's Prayer. "It contains," she said, "the same teaching as the petition 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.'"

After the discourse flowers were thrown upon the stage, and the audience expressed its delight in prolonged applause. Then the Rev. Percy Stickney Grant presented Miss Terry with a book of welcome containing the autographs of many distinguished and dear friends. In doing this, the reverend gentleman delivered this brief address, which had been written by Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin:—

"The names in this book are interlined throughout with radiant memories and happy anticipations, tho' they will be visible to no one but yourself, as they are in sympathetic ink of a peculiarly confidential tint.

"This little volume is a Book of Welcome from certain loyal admirers to that incarnation of poetic harmony we call Ellen Terry—the enchanting, the unapproachable, the imperishable Beloved of the English-speaking stage.

"Since that star danced under which you were born up to this present moment, dear Ellen Terry, each of us could have said, as Portia to Bassanio:

"'One-half of me is yours, the other half yours . . . and so all yours.'"

After the presentation Mr. Percy Mackaye read the following verses, which he had written for the occasion:—

ELLEN TERRY,
On Her Return to America.

How shall we welcome back her image bright,
Who from our hearts has never been away?
They never lived who never loved a play,
Nor ever loved who loved not in delight;
Therefore to her who, in Dull Care's despite,
Long since has taught the world's sad soul to pray
To saints of joy, we bring an homage gay
Of hearts made lighter by her own pure light.
Juliet of love, Miranda of the mind,
Katherine of quips, and beauty's Rosalind,
Truth's Portia, Beatrice, the madcap-merry,
All heroines wrought of the master's heart—
To these we bow, and these bow down to Art,
And Art to Time, and Time—to Ellen Terry.

Then the audience gave vent to its enthusiasm once more, and Miss Terry, made extremely happy by the warmth of her reception, glided across the stage, with her arms filled with flowers, and bowed her thanks repeatedly.

A MUSICAL "CAUSERIE."

At the Little Theatre on Thursday afternoon an audience which included Prince and Princess Bariatinsky, Lady Meyer, the Countess of Gosford, Lady Barnet, Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox, Mrs. George Cornwallis-West, and Mrs. Winston Churchill listened, with every appearance of interest, to a lecture delivered in French by the well-known composer and musical critic, M. Reynaldo Hahn, on "L'Education Musicale de la Femme." M. Hahn, whose elocution was excellent, attacked, very wittily, the system of teaching every young lady to play and sing, whether she had natural aptitude for music or not. He contended that music ought to be taken seriously; and, if a girl were taught to play and sing, she should, at all events, receive the best possible musical teaching, and not be encouraged to treat the art frivolously. The artists, M. Hahn added, always took their work seriously.

M. Hahn delivered his lecture in a darkened auditorium, and at intervals pictures were shown on a sheet to illustrate his discourse. He took his hearers through the whole history of woman's musical education. Women of Early Greece and Pompeii, female figures in old tapestries and on classic urns, reproductions of Fragonard, Metzu, and the old masters, all bearing on the subject; the well-known engraving of Mrs. Sheridan (Miss Lindley) teaching her children to play and sing, an Aubrey Beardsley illustration of modern women at a Wagner concert, and many other interesting illustrations were used by the lecturer, who commented cleverly on each. At the close of the "causerie" the "Chœur de Dames" (pupils of Miss Nelly Rowe), assisted by Mme. Beatrice La Palme and Miss Bingham Hall, sang "Chœur d'Esther" (music by Prince Edmond de Polignac) and "O Fons Bandusiæ" (fragment of an ode of Horace).

M. Reynaldo Hahn, who presided at the piano and conducted the choir, contributed a song by the late Mme. Holmes, the Irish poetess, and rendered it with intense sympathy.

THE pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, will be *Dick Whittington*, written by Mr. J. Hickory Wood. It is to be produced on the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 7. The cast will be as follows:—Dick Whittington, Miss Lily Morris; Alize Fitzwarren, Miss Maidie Scott; Sarah, the Cook, Mr. Fred Emney; Alderman Fitzwarren, Mr. Harry Webber; Jack Idle, Mr. George French; Emperor of Morocco, Mr. Frank A. Wood; Princess Zoe, Miss Ethel Bryant; Captain and Mate, Burley and Burley; Fairy Bluebell, Miss May Rawlinson; Mouser, the Cat, Mr. George Ali; and Roderick, Miss Beryl Somerset.

BIRMINGHAM will have six pantomimes this Christmas—*Aladdin* at the Theatre Royal, *Jack Horner* at the Prince of Wales's, *Dick Whittington* at the Alexandra Theatre, *Mother Goose* at Bordesley Palace, *Cinderella* at the Metropole, and *Babes in the Wood* at the Aston Royal. The cast at the Theatre Royal includes Harry Tate, Tom Foy, Carrie Moore, Barrett and Knowles, Ray Ford, Olive Moore, and Eric Campbell

THE SAVOY.

MISS MARIE BREMA'S SEASON.

On Monday night Miss Marie Brema opened her second season at the Savoy most successfully with an artistic performance of Handel's *Allegro*, arranged as a kind of masque in which chorus and soloists are heard but not seen, the stage being used by the dancers and various other characters who, by appropriate action or grouping, illustrate Handel's cantata on Milton's poems, *Allegro* and *Il Penseroso*. Thus the eye as well as the ear are charmed by beautiful stage pictures accompanied by Handel's fine music. Each verse or recitation has either a single figure on the stage or a number of dancers. Melancholy, Joys, Nymphs, pensive Nun, Mirth, all appear in turn when the name occurs in the poem, and at times there are quite a crowd of Nymphs and Satyrs, quaintly dressed and playing pan pipes on the stage. One of the finest effects was the group of the nine Muses round Jove's Altar, on which weird red flames were burning, and murmurs of admiration arose from the audience at the graceful picture, which is said to be a faithful reproduction of the nine statues of the Vatican group on the same rock. Very pleasing also were the Morris dances, and the shepherds, ploughmen, milkmaids, and mowers, in old English costumes. Falconers, huntsmen leading hounds, and a number of other quaintly-dressed dancers are also introduced.

Handel's music was admirably sung by Miss Evangeline Florence, Mr. Spencer Thomas, and Mr. Francis Braun. Miss Ruby Ginner, who appeared as Mirth, was warmly applauded for her graceful dancing, and Miss Marie Brema, who had designed the costumes and arranged the various groups, was at the close of *Allegro* called before the curtain and given an enthusiastic reception.

Handel's cantata was followed by a Fairy Tale, in three acts, by Emile Cammaerts, translated from the French by Tita Brand, entitled

"THE TWO HUNCHBACKS."

Jack	MR. VERNON STEEL
Marianne	MISS TITA BRAND
Mathurin	MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Trinette	MISS ALICE ARDEN
Richard	MR. H. K. AYLIFF
Julie	MISS MARTHEZE
Elise	MISS PAULINE D'ARCY
Pit	MR. GUY GRIFFINHOOFE
Zit	MISS NONNY LOCK
Little Pit	MISS MAVIS YORKE
Agaric	MR. HERBERT PORTER
Boletus	MR. A. COLLET

The story of M. Cammaerts's little play is simple yet pleasing. Jack, the Hunchback, is in love with Marianne, but on account of his deformity does not declare his passion. Now, Jack is a clever violinist, and passing through a pinewood at night, he meets a number of the Elves, headed by their King and Queen. When he plays to them the Elves are charmed, and as Jack also renders them another service they are full of gratitude, and offer him any reward. Poor Jack does not want riches, but only strength and delivery from his hump, which he thinks beyond their powers. The little folk, however, are quite equal to this task, and Jack finds himself a strong fine man and the hump gone for ever. In the next scene Jack declares his love to Marianne's willing ears. All are surprised at the change in his appearance; but a rich rival to the hand of Marianne hears the strange story of the Elves, and secretly determines to try his luck. Richard, however, does not possess Jack's art of pleasing, and meeting the Elves in the wood at night only irritates the Fairies, who, in revenge, make him a hunchback.

The scene between Jack and the Elves in the pinewood has great charm, and the children who represent the Zits and Pits have been admirably trained by Miss Italia Conti, and enter with spirit into the mystic revels, showing the care and skill of their instructress, who has evidently devoted much care and pains to her work. A charming little lady is Miss Mavis Yorke, who plays the Prince of the Elves, and her graceful action and delightfully clear enunciation were worthy of great praise. Excellent also were the King and Queen of the Elves by Mr. Guy Griffinhoofe and Miss Nonny Lock. Mr. Vernon Steel proved a manly Jack, and Miss Tita Brand made a sympathetic Marianne; while Mr. Michael Sherbrooke was effective as the old father, Mathurin, and Miss Alice Arden showed talent in the humorous part of the mother, Trinette.

Mr. Frank Bridge conducted the orchestra in *Allegro*, and has composed some clever entr'acte music on Belgian folk melodies for *The Two Hunchbacks*. The scene of the play is laid in the Belgian Ardennes. Genuine peasant costumes were used, and Mr. Tom Heslewood's two scenes are well painted and picturesque.

Gluck's *Orpheus* (in English) was revived at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday afternoon with all the care and attention to detail which Miss Marie Brema lavished on its former production. A chorus of over fifty sang Gluck's refined music with perfect intonation. Miss Marie Brema repeated her artistic and dramatic impersonation of Orpheus, while her singing of "Che Faro" was replete with expression and pathos. Miss Gladys Honey, a graceful Eurydice, sang with much intelligence and purity of tone, and a charming Amor was found in Miss Doris Simpson. The scene of the entrance to the Underworld, with its Fairies, Shades, and winged Harpies, lighted by strange red fires, was capitally presented, and the beautiful Elysian Fields of the third act again aroused admiration. The young ladies who represented the Happy Spirits were graceful in their classic attitudes, and the principal dancers, Miss Ruby Ginner, Miss Una Reynolds, and Mr. Allan Glen greatly distinguished themselves. The orchestra was efficient, and Mr. Frank Bridge conducted with considerable ability.

A Large Order.

"IT happened when I was in the stock business," said Mr. Stanley Cooke in an interview in *Madame* the other day. "The landladies in a certain small town we visited had all so often been left unpaid by gentlemen of the profession that it was only with the greatest difficulty we could persuade them to take us into their houses, and they positively declined to provide us with food. We were quite in a fix, for the most anyone of us had was about twopence, and even in those days twopence was not enough to keep a man in food for a week—not even an actor. As spokesman for my fellow-players, I went to the manager of the company and asked for a 'sub,' but he hadn't any money. So there we were. When I went to have a look at the place where we were going to play, I found it was a hall with a large co-operative stores underneath, where they sold provisions of every kind. Then I got an idea. Remember, we were *very* hungry. I managed to draw up an order for about six months' provisioning of the company (we were *very* hungry), and took it to these stores. They took it to be all right, and soon my room was filled with tins of corned beef, tins of salmon, tins of sardines, tins of fruit, tins of biscuits, tins of tea, and tins of everything else eatable or drinkable that is put up in tins, with a few hams and sides of bacon for a change. During that week practically the whole company fed sumptuously in my room. On Saturday, however, the stores sent in a bill to the manager that made his hair stand on end and absorbed nearly the whole funds of the show. It took the whole male strength of the company to hold him back from me, and my engagement ended very abruptly."

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.—Miss Marie Doro is appearing at the Lyceum Theatre in a three-act comedy, by William Gillette, entitled *Electricity*. Miss Doro impersonates Emeline Twimbly, the daughter of a wealthy man. She is given to Socialism, and declares that she will never marry a "pauper," by which she means a man who does not work for his living. Her brother's friend, James Hollenden, has heard of her, and comes to visit the family under a promise not to let her talk to him until she has changed her ideas. Hollenden, however, seizes an opportunity to disguise himself as an electrician and take the place of Bill Brockway, who is repairing wires in the Twimbly residence. Emeline falls in love with the pretended workman, and calls at Brockway's home. Bill's mother knows nothing of the impersonation of her son, and believes the heiress to be in love with him, which upsets her very much, Bill being engaged to a young woman named Jennie Parks, who lives with the Brockways. In the last act Hollenden's identity is disclosed, but, as it is a case of true love on both sides, Emeline forgives him for deceiving her and promises to marry him.

It will be seen that the plot is thinly woven. It goes without saying, however, that the public is keenly interested in anything written by Mr. Gillette, and this means that the play will enjoy a fair measure of success, especially as Miss Doro acts Emeline Twimbly charmingly. The company includes Mr. Oliver Doud Byron, Mr. Edwin Nicander, Mr. Harry Barfoot, Mr. Shelley Hull, Miss Ann Murdoch, and Mrs. Thomas Whiffen.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew's impersonation of Raffles, the "amateur cracksman," is delighting large audiences at the Garrick Theatre. Mr. Bellew's Raffles is an ideal embodiment, and one that enjoys an enduring popularity. Mr. Frank Westerton appears as the quizzical detective, Captain Bedford, and plays the part admirably. Miss Gladys Hanson as Gwendolin Conron, Miss Ffolliott Paget as Lady Melrose, Mr. Frank Connor as "Bunny," and Mr. Frank McCormack as Crawshay, the burglar, deserve much praise for their portrayals.

"The Cub," a farcical satire, in three acts, by Thompson Buchanan, is the current attraction at the Comedy Theatre. Mr. Douglas Fairbanks plays the principal part, appearing as Steve Oldham, a young reporter, who is "new to his job," and is, therefore, in American newspaper jargon, commonly called a "cub." Being called upon to report the exciting incidentals of a Kentucky feud, and being entirely ignorant of the danger he is running into, he invades the territory of the "moonshiners" with all the enthusiasm of youth to fulfil his mission. The adventures in which he becomes involved are depicted in a highly-diverting manner, there being no end of comical situations in the play. The feud springs from a quarrel over a couple of sows, and before it ends twenty-one people are killed. It used to be said that the children in Kentucky cut their teeth on revolvers. However, the feud is finally settled for a dollar and fifty cents. The reporter figures in a love affair, which leads to a fight, and he is condemned to die at sunrise. It is he who settles the feud, however, and he lives to marry the pretty school teacher with whom he has fallen in love. Mr. Fairbanks has an unaffected and hearty manner that is very effective in the title-rôle, and his performance is clever and enjoyable from beginning to end. Miss Millicent Evans is very winning as the school teacher; and the other parts are well played.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I arrived last night from America, and should feel obliged if you would kindly find space for the following.

I held a contract for a six weeks' consecutive engagement at the Colonial and other theatres in New York, under the management of Mr. Percy Williams, and duly commenced my engagement on Sept. 26, proving a great success.

Being of the Jewish persuasion, I naturally wished, like my co-religionists, to observe "The Day of Atonement," Oct. 13, the most important day of our creed, an occasion always respected by our English managers.

I gave ample notice of my intention to Mr. Williams, and in every way courteously requested to be excused from appearing on that holy day, also offering to indemnify him for my non-appearance, and naturally forfeiting my salary for that time.

I did not appear on the day of the Fast, and on the conclusion of same I received a letter from the above-named gentleman cancelling the whole of my engagement in America, meaning a loss to me of several hundred pounds. One would expect a little consideration from managers in New York, as most of them are Jews, and also in fact that quite 50 per cent. of the audience in the theatre where I was then appearing are of the Jewish persuasion.

The purport of this letter is for the benefit of Jewish artists who may visit America, and who, like myself, prefer to look upon their religion as more than "gold."

I might add that after this occurrence I was immediately engaged by Mr. William Morris, with whom I return next year for a tour of thirteen weeks.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE NEWBURN.

36, Carysfort-road, Clissold Park, Nov. 16.

It is quite refreshing to see lights again in the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, where, under the management of Mr. G. Woodward, an experiment has been tried of performing two dramas per evening. From the houses drawn the experiment bids fair to be a great success.

At the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, this (Saturday) afternoon, a performance for the purposes of copyright will be given of a new drama, entitled *Midnight London*, by H. F. Husden. The piece will shortly be produced by Miss Grace Warner and her company, who are presenting *The Scarlet Clue* at the Carlton Theatre this week.

The patience and long-suffering of the average paying patron of the playhouse could not, says the *Westminster Gazette*, be more strikingly illustrated than by the manner in which those who wait in long queues on the pavement for places in pit and gallery suffer a number of lads to "keep places" for others, because of a special payment to themselves. The whole idea is not only antagonistic to the principle that the patrons of pit and gallery are those who cannot afford to pay a higher price for their seats, but to the true idea of "first come, first served," which is the basis of fair-play in matters such as these. It is not to be imagined that this is any novel nuisance which has not had to be dealt with by theatre managers in the past. Just over two hundred years, indeed, have elapsed since it was specially advertised at the Queen's Theatre, in the Haymarket, the far-off progenitor of His Majesty's of to-day, that "No Person is to be admitted to keep Places in the Pit." A century later the *Times* emphatically protested against a revival of the practice of "keeping places" at "our houses of public amusement," which was spreading its baneful influence elsewhere. And it would only need combined action on the part of the managers, coupled with the genial firmness by the attendant police, to ensure that this growing nuisance of the present day was promptly abated.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 14.—The latest production at the Grand Theatre by Manager Van Eysden has been a revival of Maeterlinck's noteworthy play *Monna Vanna*. It is some years since the work was originally presented on this stage under the same management, but the title-rôle is interpreted now, as then, by Mrs. Tartaud, and the impersonation may be considered as one of the best of this sterling artist's repertory. Honours are shared by Mr. Van Der Lugt Melsert, who, as Prinzivalle, is deserving of the warmest praise. Mr. Faassen made a strikingly impressive Marco Colonna, whilst Mr. Tartaud, though painstaking, was not up to the mark as Guido. The mounting and accessories were most effective. *Monna Vanna* is proving a drawing card at the Grand, the theatre being crowded nightly to its utmost capacity.

Impresario De Haan continues favouring our public with first-class attractions. After the series of performances of Mme. Bernhardt, we have had a number of concerts of the incomparable young Russian virtuoso, Mischa Elman, and now the young Canadian violinist, Kathleen Parlow, is here, and is achieving an enormous success. Impresario De Haan has been equally lavish in a dramatic way, for we have had a tour of the celebrated German actress, Agnes Sorma, supported by a division of the company from the Neues Schauspielhaus in Berlin. The performances given by her on "off nights" at the Grand may be recorded as events of the season. The last and farewell bill was *Die Zwillingsschwester* ("The Twin Sister.")

The Neue Wiener Operette has been ushered in under Mr. De Haan's auspices. This organisation, now on tour through Holland, has made its initial bow here at the Tivoli Theatre in the new comic opera *Die Keusche Susanna* ("The Chaste Susannah"), and has scored an unequivocal success. The merry music and spicy dialogue please the audience hugely, and the act of the Moulin Rouge goes with a swing and animation that bring down the house. So decided has been the hit that people were turned away on the second night.

"Schakels" ("Links"), the telling and realistic play of Herman Heycrmans, has been revived by *Het Tooneel* ("The Stage"), under Manager Royaards, and been given repeatedly on "off nights" at the Grand and the Tivoli. It has drawn good houses, and will probably be performed again and again this season. The cast was a very creditable one, special mention being due to Messrs. De Vries and Musch for their vigorous characterisations.

Sheridan's brilliant comedy, *The Rivals*, in Dutch, is announced by "De Hagespelers" (The Players of the Hague), under Manager Verkade. The initial performance has already taken place in Amsterdam, and been most favourably received by Press and public.

A new and original play, by a till now unknown dramatist, A. H. Van der Feen, has been put on in Amsterdam by the Royal Dramatic Co. The title is *Haar Groote Dag* ("Her Great Day"), and the leading character is the woman's part. Mrs. Mann, the Sarah Bernhardt of the Dutch stage, and the sister of the great actor, Louis Bouwmeester, enacts the rôle, making an intense and thrillingly powerful impersonation of it. *Haar Groote Dag* is to be given shortly by the Royal Dramatic Co.

Louis Bouwmeester will soon be in our midst. His tour in the Dutch East Indies was wound up by testimonials and farewells, all of which were bumpers indeed. The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his dramatic career is to be held in Amsterdam, and promises to be a grand affair.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mr. Herbert Dawson's ably-executed organ solo of the Scherzo from Guilmant's Fifth Sonata was the first item in the Students' Concert on Monday. In recit. "I am alone at last" and aria "Far greater in his lowly state" (Gounod) Miss Olga Corrigan was somewhat ambitious, and should defer such an important aria until her voice is more under control. A pianoforte solo of Sterndale Bennett's Toccata was neatly executed by Miss Jenny S. Russell; and another pianist, Miss Beryl Lawrence, gave a graceful rendering of "Le Coucou" (Claude Daquin). Miss Kathleen Lawler, set down for the Valse Song from *Romeo and Juliet*, was unable to appear; but Mr. Leonard van Mentz sang "Kashmire Song" and "Till I wake," by A. Woodforde-Finden, with excellent expression. To give the poetry of Chopin's Nocturne, Op. 48, No. 2, is, of course, as yet beyond the power of Master Richard Johnson, a clever young student of the College, but he played with an earnestness and care that was very promising. Miss Eva K. Sly in "White Sentinels" (Woodforde-Finden) sang well, and with considerable dramatic effect, and having a voice of ample power, should avoid forcing it. The only violin solo in the concert was that of Mr. William Nustadt, who was much applauded in Bach's "Bourrée." Mr. Robert A. Strong was set down for Mallinson's song "Eldorado," and the concert concluded with the duet "La ci darem," from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, sung by Miss Edith Davies, L.T.C.L., and Mr. Eric Catford.

At the Little Theatre on Tuesday next *Payment*, a play in three acts, by Alice Clayton Guise, will be produced for copyright purposes.

This (Saturday) afternoon, Herr Fritz Kreisler will delight music-lovers at the Crystal Palace with a violin recital, giving selections from Bach, Strauss, Brahms, Padre Martini, Louis Couperin, Paganini, Tartini, and Smetana, as well as two very interesting items of his own composition.

Herr Kreisler was born in Vienna in 1875, his father being an eminent physician in that capital. Music was always in the house, so that it was little wonder that as a very small child the great artist should remember scraping on a fiddle. While still very young he was sent to the Conservatoire under Professor Helmesberger, but as a child he was not in love with the violin, and his tutors found great difficulty in getting him to practise. Happily this obstinate frame of mind passed away, and when a little more than twelve years of age he succeeded in carrying away the gold medal and first prize at the Conservatoire. To win the Prix de Rome was an unprecedented feat for a child of twelve years, and this gave his tutors a glimpse of a great future for young Kreisler. From Paris he went on an extensive tour through America with the celebrated Moritz Rosenthal, and then he returned to Vienna to complete his studies, afterwards playing in many countries, both British and foreign.

A man who had been employed to wait in a theatre queue was fined 2s. 6d. at the Marlborough Street Police Court on Thursday for obstruction. "The public are crying out against this practice," said Mr. Denman, the magistrate. "The streets are for the use of those who wish to pass along them, but the authorities use discretion to give facilities to those who find it necessary to stand about a reasonable time for a reasonable purpose. It is unreasonable for persons to form a long queue on the footway unless they have a bona-fide intention of taking their turn to enter a place of amusement and paying for their seats. This employment of deputies causes a great number of idle persons to collect for casual employment. If small fines do not stop the practice, I shall impose larger ones."

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 21.

Alone in London.—T. R., Stockport.
Angel of His Dreams.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Another Man's Wife.—G. T., Halifax.
Apple of Eden.—T. R., Castleford.
Arcadians (N.).—Edinburgh.
Arcadians (S.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T. R., Belfast.
At Cripple Creek.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
At Duty's Call.—Pivoli T., Pentre.
At the World's Mercy.—Court T., Bacup.
Beecham Opera Co.—Grand T., Leeds.
Beggar Girl's Wedding.—Britannia T., Hoxton.
Beggar Princess.—P. T., Gloucester
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Salisbury and Winchester.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—T. R., Bradford.
Best People, The.—Cambridge and Leamington.
Bishop's Son, The.—T. R., Wimbledon.
Black Mask, The.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
Blue Bird, The.—O. H., Southport.
Boy King.—T. R., Bedford. Leigh.
Brass Bottle, The.—Court T., Liverpool.
Brewster's Millions.—Lyceum, Sheffield.
Broken Heart.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Bulmer, Mr.—Lyric, Liverpool.
Candida.—T. R., Bolton.
Captain Jack.—T. R., Norwich.
Captain Kidd.—T. R., Chatham.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Manchester
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Palace T., Gloucester.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Chalmers Mackey and Co.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Charley's Aunt (N.).—Grand T., Hull.
Chasing Cynthia.—Alhambra, Brighton.
Child of the Streets.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Chorus Lady.—O. H., Torquay.
Christian, The (Draper).—Gaiety T., Leith.
Cingalee.—T. R., Hanley.
Claudian.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Coal King.—O. H., Scarboro'.
Coast Guard's Daughter.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Brighton.
Country Girl, A.—O. H., Coventry.
Country Girl in London.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
Cousin Kate.—O. H., Cork.
Criminal's Bride.—T. R., Edmonton, N
Dairymaids, The.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Dairymaids, The (N.).—O. H., Dudley.
Dame Nature.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Hippo., Shrewsbury.
Daughter of the Sea.—T. R., Hyde.
Dawn of a To-morrow.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Dear Little Denmark.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Dollar Princess (Edwardes) (N.).—Marlborough T., N.
Dollar Princess (S.).—G. T., Southampton.
Don.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
D'Oyly Carte.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Draycott, Chas.—Miner's T., Ashington.
Driven from Home.—T. R., Sunderland.
Driving a Girl to Destruction.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
Earl and the Girl.—Grand T., Croydon.
Education of Elizabeth.—W. G., Bootle.
Face at the Window.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Facing the World Alone.—G. T., Brighton.
Fast Life, A.—New Hall, Bargoed.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—E. T., Edmonton.
Female Detective.—Empire T., Oldham.
Fighting Chance.—Court T., Wigan.
Fires of Fate.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Flag Lieutenant.—Bordesley T., Birmingham.
Florodora (Constant).—Grand T., Nottingham.
For Love and the King.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Corporation T., Chesterfield.
From Convent to Throne.—Barnsley.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife.—Macclesfield.
Girl's Cross Roads.—O. H., Leicester.
Girl's Temptation.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
Glossop-Harris, Miss F.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Grotesques, The.—West Pier, Brighton.
Happy-Go-Lucky O'Lyn.—O. H., St. Helens.
Harvey, Martin.—T. R., Birmingham.
Havana.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Her Fatal Marriage.—Gaiety T., Methil.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Leeds.
Her Nameless Child.—Houghton-le-Spring.
Her Path of Sorrow.—T. R., Blyth.
Her Road to Ruin.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Her Secret Lover.—Queen's T., Longton.
His Indian Wife.—Prince's T., Bradford.
His Real Wife.—Alexandra T., Hull.
House of Temperley.—Borough T., Stratford.
House Opposite.—Eastbourne and Folkestone.
Irving, H. B.—T. R., Plymouth.
Isle of Indolence.—Grand T., Oldham.
It's Always the Woman.—T. R., Leicester.
King and the Unknown Woman.—Star T., L'pool.
King of Cadonia.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
King of Diamonds.—Palace T., Ramsgate.
King of the Wild West.—Lyceum T., Govan.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Cinderford and Bicester.
Leah Kleschna.—T. R., Jarrow.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—King's T., Glasgow.
Life for a Life.—Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Life of a Showman.—Grand T., Lancaster.
Life's Revenge.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Lingard-Moreau Repertory.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Little Phil's Mother.—Gainsboro' and Mansfeld.
Lodge-Percy, J. C., and J. Martin's Repertoire.—Glossop.
Love of the Princess.—Todmorden.
Lucky Durham.—Elephant and Castle.
Man to Man.—T. R., Worcester
Marsh, Alexander.—T. R., Bristol.
Master of the Mill.—Met. T., Devonport.
Maude, Winifred.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Merry Territorial, The.—T. R., Smethwick.
Merry Widow (N.).—Prince's T., Manchester.
Merry Widow (S.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Merry Widow (3).—T. R., Aldershot.
Message from Mars.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Midnight Mail.—Palace T., Porth.
Midnight Wedding.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Miss Hook of Holland (Dance).—T. R., Rochdale.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Miss Plaster of Paris.—Lyric T., Dinnington
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Moore, Miss Decima.—P. T., Bristol.
Mountaineers, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Mr. Preedy and the Countess.—New Brighton.
Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.—County T. Kingston.
Munro, George, Repetoire.—Cambridge T., Spenny moor.
New Lady Bantock.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Nick Carter.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Night and Morning.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Nihilist, The.—Alex. T., New Washington.
Noble Mother, A.—T. R., Belfast.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Carlton T., Saltley.
Old Heidelberg.—Grand T., Swansea.
Old Home.—T. R., Rochester.
Our Miss Gibbs (Edwardes).—T. R., Nottingham.
Our Miss Gibbs (N.).—King's T., Hammersmith.
Outcast of the Family.—T. R., Merthyr.
Passing of the Third Floor Back.—Carnarvon.
Power of the King.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Prince and the Beggar Maid.—Crystal Palace T.
Prince and the Beggar Maid (N.).—Chesterfield.
Priscilla Runs Away.—King's T., Greenock.
Private Secretary.—Castle T., Stockton.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Crook.
Proof.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Queen of the Fair.—County T., Bedford.
Raynor Repertory.—Empire T., Stockport.
Rollicking Rory.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Royal Divorce.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Sailor's Wedding.—T. R., Bury.
Sexton Blake.—O. H., Wakefield.
Sherlock Holmes.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Sign of the Cross.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Sign of the Cross (Bowes).—Palace T., Neath.
Silver King.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Sinner, The.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Smith (N.).—O. H., Northampton.
Smith (S.).—O. H., Pert h.
Sorrows of Satan.—G. T., Plymouth.
Still Alarm.—New H., Bargoed.
Sugden, Mrs. Chas.—T. R., Aston.
Suzanne and the Sovereigns.—O. H., Belfast.
Tantalizing Tommy.—T. R., Glasgow.
Temptation.—T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Thief in the Night.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Thief, The.—T. R., Darlington.
Through the Divorce Court.—Prince's, Blackburn.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—Grand, Nelson.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—P. O. W. T., Accrington.
Under the Iron Heel.—Empire T., Southend.
Village Blacksmith.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Waller, Lewis.—King's T., Sunderland.
Was She to Blame?—Gaiety T., Burnley.
What a Man Made Her.—Coatbridge.
When it was Dark.—Osborne T., Manchester.
When Knights Were Bold.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
When Knights Were Bold.—T. R., Bath.
Where is William?—P. T., Tynemouth.
Whip, The.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Who is She?—Star T., Liverpool.
Whom God Hath Joined.—T. R., North Shields.
Why Did She Run Away?—Grand T., Stockton.
Wilkie Allan.—T. R., Lincoln.
Woman in the Case.—T. R., Preston.
Woman of Two Lives.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
Woman's Past.—T. R., Sheffield.
World, Flesh and the Devil.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Wrecker of Men.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.

SHAKESPEARE'S LAST PLAY.

"*The Tempest* was probably Shakespeare's last play—in this sense, at least, that he designed it for his farewell to the stage," writes Mr. Walter Raleigh in his admirable little book on the poet-dramatist. "The thought which occurs at once to almost every reader of the play, that Prospero resembles Shakespeare himself, can hardly have been absent from the mind of the author. By his most potent art he had bedimmed the noontide sun, called forth the mutinous winds, and plucked up the giant trees of the forest. Graves at his command had waked their sleepers, oped, and let them forth. When at last he resolved to break the wand of his incantations and to bury his magic book, he was shaken, as all men in sight of the end are shaken, by the passion of mortality. But there was no bitterness in the leave-taking. He looked into the future, and there was given to him a last vision; not the futile panorama of industrial progress, but a view of the whole world, shifting like a dream, and melting into vapour like a cloud. His own fate and the fate of his book were as nothing against that wide expanse. What was it to him that for a certain term of years men should read what he had written? The old braggart promises of the days of his vanity could not console him now.

"Not marble, nor the gilded monuments
Of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme."

So he had written in the Sonnets. When the end drew near, his care was only to forgive his enemies, and to comfort the young, who are awed and disquieted by the show of grief in their elders. Miranda and Ferdinand watch Prospero, as he struggles in the throes of imagination. Then he comes to himself and speaks:

"'You do look, my son, in a mov'd sort
As if you were dismay'd. Be cheerful, sir;
Our revels now are ended. These our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air;
And like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
And like this insubstantial pageant faded
Leave not a rack behind: we are such stuff
As dreams are made on; and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep."

In all the work of Shakespeare there is nothing more like himself than those quiet words of parting—'Be cheerful, sir; our revels now are ended.'

"Yet they are not ended; and the generations who have come after him, and have read his book, and have loved him with an inalterable personal affection, must each, as they pass the way that he went, pay him their tribute of praise. His living brood have survived him, to be the companions and friends of men and women as yet unborn. His monument is still a feasting presence, full of light. When he was alive he may sometimes have smiled to think that the phantoms dancing in his brain were as real to him as the sights and sounds of the outer world. The population of that delicate shadowland seemed to have but a frail hold on existence. The one was taken, and the other left; this character served for a play, that phrase or sentence fitted a speech; the others died in their cradles, or lived a moment upon the air, and were dissolved. Those that found acceptance were made over to the tender mercies of the players, for a week's entertainment of the populace. But now three centuries have passed since *King Lear* was written; and we begin to rub our eyes, and wonder. 'Change places, and, handy-dandy, which is the ghost, which is the man?' Is the real man to be sought in that fragmentary story of Stratford and London, which, do what we will to revive it, has long ago grown faint as the memory of a last year's carouse? That short and troubled time of his passage, during which he was hurried onward at an ever-increasing pace, blown upon by hopes and fears, cast down and uplifted, has gone like a dream, and has taken him bodily along with it. But his work remains. He wove upon the roaring loom of Time the garment that we see him by; and the earth at Stratford closed over the broken shuttle."

MY BEGGAR.

By Tom Craven.

There's a beggar I know who craves alms,
Tho' he might well ask, too, for legs,
For the two that he hath are of wood,
So he might go the lot when he begs.
He was *born* with these legs—so he swears,
And his head's, too, of timber they say—
He'll tell whoppers
To get your coppers.
And you pay!
Pay!
Pay!

On Monday he'll say that his wife
Is the mother of children—a score—
And on Tuesday he'll swear that she's had
A consignment of three or four more.
On Wednesday he'll sob that "his first"
And only sweet babe's passed away.
Yarns he'll vary,
To the unwary,
And you pay!
Pay!
Pay!

On Thursday he'll tell the old lie,
That he lost both his legs when at sea;
And the Friday will hear him declare,
He has worked in a coal mine since three.
On the "Sat." he will stoutly aver,
As a soldier he's lived every day—
Cake!—you give him it,
He is the *limit*,
And you pay!
Pay!
Pay!

From the "Tom Craven Mixture" of recitations and monologues, published in book form by Samuel French, Ltd., price 1s.

"CHARLES NEVILLE" STILL ALIVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In printing a copy of a playbill in your last issue giving the cast of *As You Like It*, at a matinée under the auspices of the late Helen Faucit at the Haymarket Theatre on Dec. 20, 1873, you say that there are only three surviving members of that exceptional cast, viz., Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Howard Russell, and Miss Kate Bishop. In the cast Sylvius was played by a young gentleman, a Mr. "Charles Neville," who, thank goodness, is still alive in the person of—Yours faithfully, CHARLES SUGDEN.

Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

Mr. Tom Nelson opened on Monday at the Hackney Empire on the Stoll tour as Perkins, in Mr. Fred Karno's *G.P.O.* company, and scored an enthusiastic success.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at *The Era* offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albury, Mr. E. H.
Alexander, Mr. Gerald
Ansell, Lady
Audre, Miss O.
Austin, Mr. Arthur
Barker, Mr. J.
Barth, Mr. Lonnie
Bayne, Mr. W.
Beeley, Mr.
Bell, Mr. Chas.
Brammall, Mr. H. B.
Brooke, Mr. J. Gordon
Brooks Bros.
Bruce, Mr. H. A.
Buff-Bill
Bull, Mr. Gordon K.
Burrows, Mr. T. W.
Calvert, Mr. F.
Campbell, Mr. Eric
Carr, Mr. Philip
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carter, Mr. J.
Carter, Mr. J. C.
Cato, Mr. G. P.
Chantry, Miss Marion
Clifford and Yorke
Cogan, Miss K.
Coville, Mr. Bert
Curran, Mr. Fred
Dagmar, Miss V.
Dashwood, Mr.
Deer Family
De Landes, Mr. R. O.
De Marr, Mr. Harry
Desmond, Miss Nellie
Dewar, Miss Mary
Douglass, Mrs. R.
Dudman, Mr. J. N.
Dunn, Mr. John
Dunsten, Mr. J. A.
Durnly, Mr. P. J.
Earl, Miss F.
Eckert, Miss K.
Edlin, Mr. Harry
Elder, Miss Nance
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Elliott, Miss Queenie
Elton, Mr. Sam
Erskine, Miss Evie
Eyre, Mr. Basil
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Field, Mr. Harry
Field, Miss Lila
Forde, Mr. Owen
Fox, Capt. A.
Foy, Mr. Tom
Franklin, Mr. H.
Frederick, Mr. Teddy
Fuller, Miss Loie
Gates, Mr. Bob
George, Mr. Chandos
Gilbert, Mr. H. Field
Gilbert, Mrs. Fred
Gilling, Mr. Edwin
Gordon, Mr. Archie
Gregory, Mrs. D.
Grossies, Les
Hamer, Miss F.
Hart, Mr. M.
Hatch, Mr. Chas.
Houghton, Mr.
Howard, Mrs. George
Huntley, Mr. Geo.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Ingram, Miss S.
Irving, Mr. K. E.
Jackson, Miss B.
Jewell, Miss Ethel
Kearns, Mr. Sidney
Kettel, Captain
Kopcke, Adolph
Lawrie, Miss Carrie
Lawton, Mr. E.
Lea, Miss Lillian
Le Blanc, Miss Marie
Leigh, Mr. A.
Lenrose, Mr. James
Levante, Mme.
Lilias, Miss
Lillian, Sisters
Lilly, Mr. A. C.
Lindon, Miss Marie
Luxmore, Miss M.
Lytton, Mr. Bert
Maclean, Mr. Billie
Maddison, Mr. H.
Mayne, Miss Vera
Meads, Mr. Earle F.
Montisole and Macleod
Mooney, Mr. Jim
Moore, Miss C.
Moore, Mr. Henry A.
Morgan, Mr. Clifford
Murray, Mr. G. R.
Nixon, Mr. W. D.
Norman, Mr. Leonard
Omar, Mr. A. B.
Paul, Mr. T. M.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Reeves, Miss Marie
Renée, Miss B.
Rolmaz, Mr. J.
Rose, Miss Marie
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rowley, Mr. J. W.
Russell, Mr. W. K.
Salmo, Mr. Juno
Samson, Mr. H. A.
Shelton, Mr.
Shrapnel, Mr. Leonard
Smith, Mr. H.
Somerville, Mr. James
Spaulding, Captain
Savidge, Mr. James
Shepperd, Mr. E. G.
Smit and Smit
Smith, Miss Annie
Smith, Mr. Eustace S.
Stedman, Mr. Charles
Steyne, Mr. E. J
Sutherland, Mr. Frank
Thebaud, Miss E. M.
Trainor, Leo
Van Biene, Mr. Auguste
Vane, Miss Edith
Vasco, Mr. W.
Villiers, Mr. John
Vinning, Miss Maude
Vivian, Miss Ruby
Walmer, Miss C.
Ward, Miss Dorothy
Ware, Miss Nettie
Whitford, Mr. J.
Williams, Mr. Tudor
Wilson, Mr. Frank
Williams, Mr. Percy
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Wood, Mr. Percy

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 8. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT.
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York.
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

A huge audience assembled at the Queen's Hall on Wednesday afternoon for the students' chamber concert. The programme commenced with a special performance by professors and students of Mr. F. Corder's Elegy for twenty-four violins and organ in memory of Miss Mary Burgess, student, sub-professor, and associate, who died July 25, 1910. In César Franck's Prelude, Chorale, and Fugue, for piano, Miss Evie Dawkin was entirely successful, and Miss Lilian G. Rickard gave a sympathetic rendering of Felix Weingartner's song, "Thou art a child." Two novelties were forthcoming at the concert on Wednesday, the first being the Slow Movement from Quartet (M.S.), for two violins, viola, and 'cello, by Mr. Arthur Alexander, a Sterndale Bennett scholar, which was played by Mr. Edwin Quaife, Mr. Willie Davies, Miss Phyllis Mitchell, and Mr. Benno Pitt, and proved cleverly written but somewhat lacking in breadth. The other work was an effective Suite M.S. for violin and pianoforte in three movements, by Miss Ethel E. Bilsland, a Macfarren scholar. The Andante, with its plaintive theme, greatly pleased the audience. Miss Phyllis Parker and Miss Ethel Bilsland were the executants, and the composer had a very hearty reception. Mr. Gordon Yates sang Stanford's "Prospice" with praiseworthy dramatic feeling, and a very clever young student, Mr. Willie Davies, gave a capital violin solo of "Caprice Viennois" (Kreisler). Miss Frances Klein's delicate touch and facile execution were heard to advantage in Glazounow's Variations in F sharp minor for piano, while in "Rossignols Amoureux" (Rameau) Miss Marjorie Walker sang with considerable beauty of tone and executed some shakes with artistic ease and finish, the flute obbligato being admirably played by Miss Edith Penville. The Allegro Larghetto from Mozart's beautiful Quintet in A, for clarinet, two violins, viola, and 'cello, was ably played by Mr. Edward J. Augarde, Mr. Edgar Hawke, Mr. John Spink, Miss Nellie Fulcher, and Miss Phyllis Boulton. It is an excellent plan of the Royal Academy to give one or two characteristic movements from a famous work instead of the entire composition, for in a long programme other talented students can then be heard. Other interesting numbers in the programme were S. Coleridge-Taylor's "Eleonore," sung by Mr. Harry Milner, and a Petite Suite, piano and strings (Ole Olsen), played by Miss Harriet Cohen.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt appeared at the Studebaker Theatre, Chicago, in Rostand's biblical play, *La Samaritaine* on Sunday night, the 6th inst. Cards had been distributed, requesting "the tribute of silence to M. Rostand's play," and the audience did as requested when Mme. Bernhardt appeared singing a love song in the spirit of a woman of the world. The meeting with the Saviour, and the changing of the song into a sacred hymn was, according to a local newspaper, "effected by Mme. Bernhardt with consummate art and impressiveness." The theatre was crowded, so many being turned away that the performance is to be repeated.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1	6	One Year	£1	12
Six Months	0	13	Six Months	0	16
Three Months	0	6	Three Months	0	8

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

ALVANTER.—*Address a letter care of this office.*

GUY E. DUNNING.—*We do not know the publishers, but you could get the book at Denny's, bookseller, Strand, W.C., without any difficulty.*

W. HARTLEY.—*The* New York Clipper *and the* New York Dramatic Mirror; *but though both are influential professional papers, they do not quite represent the theatrical musician.*

J. PARKINSON.—*We do not know the events of Mr. George Formby's early career as a variety comic singer. Write to him, enclosing stamped envelope.*

NOSEY.—*We have lost sight of the two sisters who bore her name. They have presumably retired. The portrait might be obtained from a professional photographer in South London—there are several. You might also try Hana.*

A. C. (Edinburgh).—Peebles, *a comedy specially adapted for Mr. Macintosh, followed* The Parvenu *at the Gaiety, Glasgow, on Aug. 14, 1882. The title-character is that of an old Scotch servant, and is a curious blending of quiet humour and pathos.*

J. G. G. (Manchester).—*(1 and 2)* Eileen Oge; or, Dark's the Hour Before the Dawn *was produced at the Princess's, June 29, 1871. (3) As lessee of Her Majesty's on Nov. 19, 1866, Falconer produced there his* Oonagh, *drama, in five acts, himself playing Fardarougha O'Donovan.*

J. J. W. (Brecon).—*The late Mr. William Terriss was not in the cast of* Sweet Lavender *either at Terry's Theatre or anywhere else. Mr. Edward Terry was the Dick Phenyl, and it is probable that the confusion has arisen through the slight similarity of names. See notice above.*

THE Rev. Canon Masterman last week gave an interesting address to the members of the Leeds Institute in the Albert Hall, Leeds, his subject being "Shakespeare as a Humorist." The speaker said the greatness of the Elizabethan age lay in the fact that men strove to raise the actual up to the level of the ideal, and this striving was reflected in the writing of the time. Shakespeare knew life and looked upon it with a clear, unswerving gaze. He had dramatised his works and had to make the theatre pay, and as he was a man of business he had to make his audience understand him. In that lay the secret of his success as a humorist. Shakespeare's humour lay in the portrayal of this pretentiousness and sentimentality. In his comedies he never pretended to be wholly comic except in *The Merry Wives of Windsor;* his humour was always on the borderline of tragedy. That was where humorists made a mistake; but in the case of Shakespeare his plays were lifelike, because in real life tragedy and humour were always in close contact, and any attempt to isolate them must fail on account of the impossibility. Shakespeare understood this, and in his tragedies he introduced the comic element, and in his comedies the tragic element, and that was where he rose above his contemporaries.

AT the St. George's Hall, Ealing, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Walter Taylor's "Dotted Crotchets" company appeared in an excellently composed programme of mirth and song. Mr. Taylor, who is so well known as the musical director of the Walpole Rink, has gathered a very capable troupe around him, and in his chief comedian, Mr. Herbert Cranch, has certainly discovered a "prize-packet," and Miss Constance Wentworth, soprano, Miss Julia Squire, contralto, and Mr. Bernard Knowles, baritone, add considerably to the strength of the company.

Miss Moore and the Motors.

"WHEN I was playing at Melbourne two years ago," says Miss Carrie Moore in an interview in the *Dublin Evening Telegraph*, "I went motoring one morning, allowing myself plenty of time to get back, the distance being only thirty miles. When we got half-way back we discovered that the petrol-tank had been leaking all the way, and found ourselves at a standstill on a lonely road far from our destination. My friends walked a long way to a house they saw in the distance and asked the occupant of the house would he let them have a vehicle of some kind to drive to the next town and get petrol. When this gentleman heard that an actress wanted it, he refused point blank. 'I don't hold with play-actors,' he growled. You may be sure my friends used strong language, but it was no use talking.

"NIGHT came on, the stars came out, and I was in a terrible state of mind, as you may imagine, with visions of the expectant theatre. I had my little sister with me, and she said, 'Wish hard, Carrie, that a motor-car comes along, and I'll do the same.' We wished hard, and put our heads to the ground to listen if we could hear far off the sound of a coming vehicle. Then suddenly in less than ten minutes we heard a motor-car coming along the lonely, deserted road, and of all things it was going to Melbourne.

"MY friends bundled me into the car. It was driven by a boy and had no light. I'll never forget that journey. I arrived at the stage-door only ten minutes before the curtain was to go up, and found the stage-manager in a panic, and my understudy preparing to go on. I had no time for dinner, of course, and it was a very hungry and tired 'Merry Widow' that appeared that night."

SPEAKING about motors, Miss Carrie Moore mentioned an amusing incident which occurred not long ago in the North of England. During a pantomime engagement she consented to give her services at a police benefit concert. On the way to the concert her motor was stopped by a policeman who declared that the speed-limit was being exceeded. When he learned the destination of the motor and the cause of the hurry, however, he decided that they were justified in exceeding the speed-limit, and dismissed them with his blessing

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

DANIELS—RAGG.—Nov. 9, at Holy Trinity Church, Matlock Bath (special licence), Walt Daniels to Jeanie Ragg.

DEATHS.

BASSETT.—Nov. 13, of double pneumonia, W. S. Bassett, musical director, aged 38.

COSHAM.—Nov. 12, at Charing Cross Hospital, after an operation, Ernest Cosham, actor, aged 44.

FANCOURT.—Nov. 17, after a long and painful illness, Jennie Rubie (Mrs. Tom Fancourt).

IN MEMORIAM.

CASS.—In affectionate remembrance of my father, James Poulton Cass, who died Nov. 11, 1908.—RICHARD CASS.

FISCHER.—In ever loving memory of Harry Fischer, who died Nov. 20, 1908.

ROSIER.—In unchanging memory of my dear, devoted husband, Jack Rosier, who fell asleep on Nov. 21, 1909.

Rest on, dear husband,
Rest from toil and doubt,
Your troubles ended
And your sleep tired out.

WILDE.—In loving memory of Edwin Wilde, who passed away Nov. 24, 1909. Emma Stockley Wilde.

FOR SYMPATHY.

CURTIS.—Mr. Walter Curtis and daughter wish to express their sincere thanks to all friends for the flowers, telegrams, and letters of sympathy received during their recent sad bereavement.

EMERY.—Pollie and Louie Emery would like to thank all friends for their kind letters of sympathy here, letters being too numerous to answer personally.

Mr. W. J. Locke's Methods.

MR. WILLIAM J. LOCKE, on being interviewed the other day in New York, made some interesting "confessions," and shattered a few illusions about his method of work. It was suggested that possibly his writing was both work and recreation, but Mr. Locke denied that most emphatically. He said: "Work can never be a recreation. And I think writing, at least as I have to write, is very hard work. I can't imagine anything harder. I work slowly. If I put down 300 words in an hour I am doing well. If I get 350 done I am amazed. Oh, no, it is hard work."

Every Sentence Thought Over.

THE interviewer was under the impression that the novelist wrote quite spontaneously and easily. To use his own words, Mr. Locke's stories read as if the words "simply flowed from him." "Anything but that," Mr. Locke protested. "Anything but that. Every sentence is thought over and balanced and polished in my head before it goes on paper. Often I write it out on a scrap of paper two or three times before I put it in my manuscript. I am glad the machinery does not show, but my books are certainly not easily written. Sometimes I have to drive myself to work. I sit down and perhaps by good luck I see one of my dogs running over a flower bed. I put down my pen and go out and drive him off, profoundly grateful to him for having given me another ten minutes' respite. That's the way I work."

Made-up Characters.

MR. LOCKE declared that not one of his characters was drawn from life. "They are not composites either," he added, "I just make them up." He confessed that he had "an extremely barren invention." He couldn't write two novels a year if he were paid two million pounds for doing it. In fact, one gathered from his remarks that writing novels was literally "hard labour."

In Dark Despair.

MR. LOCKE then told how he suffered: "I have a frightful time trying to think of something to make my next novel about. My friends say the only time I am really sufferable is when I have just finished a novel. For months before I begin one I am on the verge of suicide because I can't think of anything to write. Then I begin and plunge into dark despair for months because I see nothing but failure before me. When the novel is really completed I begin to smile again until in a month or two the agony begins again."

His Best Book.

THE novelist was asked to settle a dispute between two admirers of his stories as to the respective merits of "Septimus" and "The Beloved Vagabond." "I suppose," he said meditatively "that in some ways 'The Beloved Vagabond' is the best thing I've done. The book I had the most pleasure in writing, however, was 'The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne.' It was a break away from the sort of thing I had been doing. I wrote it for myself without considering whether or not any body else would like it, and it was a pleasure.

Mapping His Work.

"YES, I start out with a very clear idea of what I am going to do. Sometimes, of course, a character that did not promise much turns out to be very interesting, and takes more of the stage than I had at first planned, and again somebody who seemed to be important is shoved out by another who proved himself more fascinating. But in general I map out my work very fully before beginning."

Intellectual Audiences.

ANOTHER question brought forth the answer that the only thing that could be called an interesting movement in English literature to-day was the intellectual drama. "That," said Mr. Locke, "is important and new. I mean Galsworthy and the school of which Galsworthy is perhaps the most prominent figure." "Shaw?"—"Oh, Shaw is—Shaw!" Mr. Locke waved his hand in a will-o'-the-wisp way. "We won't tie Shaw down to any school." "Does the drama of Galsworthy and others make a popular appeal in England, or is it limited to the intellectuals?"—"I think it appeals only to the intellectuals. But they are the people who count, aren't they? Progress comes through their efforts in the last analysis."

IN our last issue we stated that at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, the George Edwardes's *Dollar Princess* company last week broke all the records this season, the receipts for the seven performances being close on three figures. It should have been "four figures."

THE GREAT REMEDY FOR COUGHS and COLDS
Owbridge's
WORLD-FAMOUS LUNG TONIC.
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
Sold everywhere at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. & 11s.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

W. S. Penley—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Daisy Halling—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Alfred Martin—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Jeannie Holmes—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Carter Livesey—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Mrs. J. B. Elliott—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Harry J. Worth—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Wallace Davidson—Monday, Nov. 21.
Geo. H. Arquin—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
C. Blyth-Prait—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
Sir Gilbert Parker—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
Marie Loftus—Thursday, Nov. 24.
Nellie Wilson—Thursday, Nov. 24.
Mabel Scudamore—Thursday, Nov. 24.
G. W. Anson—Friday, Nov. 25.
H. F. Maltby—Friday, Nov. 25.
Wyn Weaver—Friday, Nov. 25.
Witty Watty Walton—Friday, Nov. 25.

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special newspaper express services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—Rugby, 4.30 a.m.; Coventry, 4.54 a.m.; Birmingham, 5.20 a.m.; Crewe, 6.5 a.m.; Manchester, 6.50 a.m.; Liverpool, 7 a.m.; Chester, 9.3 a.m.; Doncaster, 6.10 a.m.; York, 7 a.m.; Hull, 8.20 a.m.; Darlington, 8.58 a.m.; Scarborough, 10.5 a.m.; Newcastle, 10.10 a.m.; Leeds (Central), 6.58 a.m.; Huddersfield, 7.37 a.m.; Bradford (Exchange), 7.47 a.m.; Harrogate, 7.50 a.m.; Halifax, 8.17 a.m.; Burnley, 9.28 a.m.; Leicester 4.36 a.m.; Nottingham, 5.10 a.m.; Derby, 5.35 a.m. "THE ERA" is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London post. Address, THE PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

In the Autumn sudden changes of temperature, drinking impure water, or excessive indulgence in fruit, frequently result in bowel troubles.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE

Will Stop Immediately an Attack of

DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, or CHOLERA.

Everyone should take a sensible precaution. Don't wait until you actually need the Chlorodyne, and may find difficulty in procuring it, but always have a bottle at hand.

To avoid disappointment, insist on having

Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE.

The Original and Only Genuine.

☞ IT ACTS LIKE A CHARM

OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL

Every Toilet Table should possess this—the oil which is nearest to that which Nature provides for the Preservation of the Hair. The want of it causes the hair to become dry and fall off.

It Nourishes, Enriches and Restores the Hair, and Prevents Scurf and Greyness. May be had in a Golden Colour for fair hair.

Sizes, 2/6, 7/-, 10/6.

Sold by Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and ROWLANDS, 67, Hatton Garden, London.

DELICIOUS COFFEE,

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner.

Special terms. Short-date Loans.

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY. £10 to £1,000.

£10, repay £11 5s. £50, repay £56 5s.
£20, repay £22 10s. £100, repay £112 10s.
£30, repay £33 15s. £200, repay £225.

Call or write to the well-known Financier, W. JACKSON.

Head Offices: 70, Plymouth-grove, Manchester. Or applications can be made at my branch offices: Regent House, Mostyn-street, Llandudno. 215, Piccadilly, London, W. Central Chambers, Crewe; 26, Corporation-street Manchester; 14, Cromwell-terrace, Leek; 70, Manchester-road, Burnley.

BIRKBECK BANK

ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

MONEY £5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART, Burton House, 253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W. Telephone 1283 Brixton.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the Natural method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,

BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2310 and 2311 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—TAMING OF THE SHREW, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROSE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

TYPEWRITING.

MRS. MARSHALL, 126, STRAND, W.C. PROMPT BOOKS and ACTORS' PARTS. TRANSLATIONS FROM and INTO ALL LANGUAGES. ADAPTATIONS of FRENCH and GERMAN PLAYS UNDERTAKEN. SHORTHAND DICTATION in FRENCH or ENGLISH. REFERENCES to MANY LEADING AUTHORS and MANAGERS

WHEN ON TOUR

The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce

INDIGESTION.

A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Established Over Half-a-Century.

Picture Frames & Mouldings

Decorative Mouldings.

THEATRICAL FRAMES A SPECIALITY.

ESTIMATES FREE.

CARVER, GILDER, & MOUNT CUTTER.
Largest Stock in the Kingdom.

SEND FOR PATTERN BOOK.

Jubilee Edition Just Published. Up-to-date Patterns. Many New and Exclusive Designs.
Post Free for 12 penny stamps.

H. MORELL, Manufacturer and Importer.
17 & 18, Gt. Saint Andrew Street, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C
Warehouses: 11, 12, 13, Neal's-yard and Neal-st. (in the rear). Telegrams, "Rabbitry." 'Phone, 6135 Central.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS, SICKNESS, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, THIRD PARTY, BURGLARY, GLASS, AND FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO., now incorporated with the NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.,
Capital (fully subscribed), £1,000,000.
Paid up, £200,000. Claims paid, £5,800,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON. A. VIAN, Secretary.

TRADE MARK H.W. No. 214133.

Velvet Grip

REGD. TRADE MARK No. 304904.

Stocking Supporters

The only "GRIP" that "GRIPS" SECURELY without injury to the HOSE

			Single ends	Double ends
ALL THESE HAVE CLIP TOPS.	1¼in. wide,	Plain Cotton Elastic	No. 401 1/-	No. 601 1/-
	1¼in. "	Plain Silk	No. 495 1/6	No. 382 2/-
	1¼in. "	Frilled Art Silk "	No. 607 1/-	No. 606 1/6
	1¼in. "	Frilled Best Silk "	No. 68 1/6	No. 40 2/6

By Post 1d. per pair extra.

If unable to obtain from your draper, write to—

The MANUFACTORY, Hackney Road Works, London, N.E.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
"ECCENTRIC LORD COMBERDENE."
By R. C. CARTON.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER. MISS COMPTON.
FIRST MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT,
Nov. 26, at 2.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES' PRODUCTION,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.15.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
IRENE VANBRUGH in "GRACE."
A New Play in 4 Acts by W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
For dates at the Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre,
address, King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nov. 21, "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
Nov. 28,
MISS ETHEL IRVING in "DAME NATURE."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.
All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton.
Monday, Nov. 21,
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
Six Nights only.
Monday, Nov. 28,
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Nov. 21, Bannister Howard's Co., in
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
with Music Hall Licence,
to be SOLD or LET
on Lease,
either for a term of years
or for a Temporary Christmas Tenancy,
with vacant possession.
Apply, Secretary,
Saunders Theatres, Limited,
57, Moorgate-street, E.C.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
VARIED PROGRAMME.
Theatre, "The Prince and the Beggar Maid," 7.45.
Matinée Wednesday 3.
Varieties, twice daily, Cinematograph, Organ, Bands, &c.
Reopening of Mammoth Skating Rink (three Sessions), Saturday next.
Grand Bohemian Concert by C. P. Orchestral Society, Saturday at 8.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S
MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
Mr. Maskelyne with "Psycho," Mr. Ernest Hastings, "The Scarab," Mr. Owen Clark, Mr. Harry May Hemsley, and Mr. David Devant, with New Illusions, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea.
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Tubby Edlin and Co. in "The Cowboy Millionaire," Bert Shepard, The Sauteron Wonders and Dogs, Dusty Rhodes, May Mars, Allis and Cassati, Ivy Aberdare, Dennis and Morris, Chas. Reekie, Ruffell's Bioscope, Barnes and Ascot, The Athos Troupe.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. Miss Mary Neil presents "Her Luck in London." Tom E. Hughes, La Belle Alva, Gene Morelle, Ruby Roya, Wal Clinton, Ethel Eden, Bioscope, W. T. Ellwanger and Co. present "Who Did It?" James Graham, Lee and Conroy. Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Nov. 21, "Yellow Fang" Co., Chas. Andrews, Beatty Bros., Sisters Florries, Three Delaries, Alice York and Co., Glay, Maxwell, and Co., Rosalio Jacobi, Staffo, Maie Dillon, Bioscope, Laurie and Beatty, Dan Crawley.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

KINGSTON. — NEW EMPIRE.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes.
High-class Varieties Twice Nightly, 6.30 and 8.50.
To-night, Mme. Margaret Cooper and First-class Company.
Nov. 21, and during week.—Arthur Lennard, Three Pirmans, Burns and Bentley, Albano Girls, Lauri Wylie, Mlle. Sylvesto and Rumbo, Ruby and Laws, Sisters Edwardes, Eddie and Ethel, and the Bouncing Dillons.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, at 12.
Telephone, 1212 P.O. Kingston.
Telegrams, Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
Grand Spectacular Ballet,
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
"FALL IN, ROOKIES!"
By Henry Arthur Jones.
THE EIGHT SAXONES, THE FOUR HARVEYS, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"SHIP AHOY!" Nautical Ballet,
Lydia Kyasht, Fred Farren.
GEORGE ROBEY.
"THE FAUN," a fantasy by Dora Bright.
Fred Russell, Henry and Tyler, Olga Tcharna, "The Plumbers," La Deodima, Bioscope, Three Ernests, &c. Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Lawrence Grossmith and Co. in "A Loose End," Mlle. Dengarber and her Balloon, Barclay Gammon, Gregory Troupe, Griff, Lawrence Crane, Poluski Bros., Topical Events, &c., on Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—Wilkie Bard, Phil Ray, Dan Crawley, Jose Collins, McNaughtons, Ernest Rees, Sisters Macarte, Leonard Barry, The Dumonds, Dora Lyric, Carlotta Levey, Duncan and Godfrey, Chas. Reekie, Four Mexican Lariat Throwers, Idania Troupe, Doody and Wright, Bessie Slaughter, Alick Lauder, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées at 2.15.
Water Rats' Matinée Monday next, 1.30.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH-PRATT.

TIVOLI.
WILKIE BARD, MLLE. DE L'ENCLOS, VICTORIA MONKS, PHIL RAY,
Harry Tate, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Aimee Roberts, Clifford Morgan, Marie Courtney, Dusty Rhodes, Hubert and Freyds, Daisy Dormer, May Mars, Queenie Leighton.
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly,
at 6.40 and 9.10.
Dennis and Morris, Eileen Douglas, Sinclair and Whiteford, Burt Shepard, Four Burnells, Colley and Scott, H. Sleath's Co., George Newburn, Three Richardinis, Daisy Dormer, Percy Honri and Co., Pictures.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson,
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."
Business Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES,
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, KING'S THEATRE.
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
London Rep., Gordon P. Firmin, The Film House, Gerrard-street, W.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Opening will shortly be announced.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
AUTUMN DRAMATIC SEASON.
Few vacant Spring dates.
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

BIRKENHEAD. — HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly Drama House.
Vacant Feb. 27, March 20, April 10.
No. 1 attractions only entertained.
Address, E. Dotteridge, Empire, Oldham.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Birch,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
This new magnificent theatre is one of the finest in the Provinces.
Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 13 and March 27.
All communications, Harry Yorke, Man.-Director.

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
Always Vacant Dates for Real Tip-top Attractions, but must actually be First-class.
All communications, address, J. F. Elliston.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL. — HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
NOTICE.
This Theatre now in process of re-building is being entirely re-constructed upon the Latest and Most Modern Principles from designs by Mangnalls and Littlewoods, Architects, Manchester.
ELABORATE MARBLE AND FIBROUS PLASTER DECORATIONS.
FURNISHING AND UPHOLSTERING IN LUXURIOUS STYLE.
MAGNIFICENT FOYER.
FINEST IN THE KINGDOM.
Greatly improved seating accommodation in all parts; holding capacity increased upwards of £100 per performance.
RE-OPENS APRIL 10, 1911.
During the reconstruction of Her Majesty's Opera House, Theatrical Performances of Existing and New Contracts will take place in the Pavilion Theatre, which has been re-arranged and made Cosy and Comfortable for the Winter Season.
FIRST-CLASS NO. 1 ATTRACTIONS ONLY.
Applications for dates for Pavilion Theatre and New Theatre to Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. Suitable Christmas productions (first-class only considered) for Dec. 26 (Boxing Day week) and Jan. 2 (New Year week).
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England —Sunday Times. Unexpectedly vacant Jan. 16, 17, 18, Jan. 23, 24, 25, Jan. 30, 31, and Feb. 1 and Feb. 9.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD. — CORPORATION THEATRE. Redecorated, refurnished, and bars (full licence) added. Best equipped theatre in the district. Spring dates now filling. Henson and Davis, Lessees and Managers.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE
Wanted, Companies, Jan. 30, March 13, and various on.
Apply R. J. Bell, Manager, or F. Mouillot, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1911.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EVESHAM. — New PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed, good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dec. 12 (three nights), several in Jan. and Feb., for Important Attractions only.
Address, E. Dotteridge, Empire, Oldham.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant Feb. 20, 27, March 27 (?), April 3, 10 (?).
All communications to Ernest Dotteridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Wanted, strong attraction for Dec. 5. Vacant through obliging a manager.

PORTSMOUTH. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUID'S HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
First Vacant Date,
Feb. 20.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Frede. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The ANNUAL DINNER of the ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND will be Held at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday, Dec. 11.
H. B. IRVING, Esq., in the Chair.
Donations will be most gratefully received by Mr. H. B. Irving and by Mr. C. I. Coltson, the Secretary of the Fund, from whom Dinner Tickets (one guinea) may be obtained.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Mr. J. H. Maunder.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
A.A. Contract, 1910, for sale, 2d. each.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB and TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.
For particulars of Membership, apply to The Secretary, 5, Wardour-street, W. Telegraphic address, "Playwright, London." Telephone 8458 Gerrard.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron, His Majesty the King.
President, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus.Doc.
Hon. Secretary Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from Frank Pownall, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Estd. and Managed by the Cor. of London.
Principal LANDON RONALD, Esq.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL
TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half Term commenced Mon., Nov. 7. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M., Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Nov. 28, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert.
Prospectus on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

COUNTY OF LONDON.
Licensing of Employment Agencies.
THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL
hereby gives further notice that the Public Control Committee of the Council will, pursuant to Part V. of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1910 sit for the purpose of licensing employment agencies at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., on Friday Dec. 2, 1910, and on the following day, if necessary, at 10 o'clock a.m., and will consider applications for licences in respect of such agencies, and hear all objections to the granting of such licences, and will grant or refuse such licences as they may deem expedient. The last day for receiving applications for the sessions in question is Nov. 22, 1910. Objections to the grant of a licence are to be made by notice in writing to the Clerk of the London County Council at least ten days before the day appointed for hearing the application, and such notice shall state the grounds of objection.
G. L. GOMME,
Clerk of the London County Council.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, The Publisher,
'The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
CHAPTER IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albury, Mr. Eric H.	Feb. 5, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austen-Lee, Mr. Cyril	Sept. 24, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barnardo, Mr. Fred	Oct. 1, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Barwick, Mr. Edwin	Sept. 17, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blake, Late Mrs. Harry	Oct 29, 1910
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Bridgen, Mr. Ernest	Nov. 5, 1910
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Burns, Mr. Harry	Oct. 15, 1910
Cagney, Colonel T. G.	Oct. 8, 1910
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Carter, Mr. Charles J.	Oct. 8, 1910
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Cohen, Late Mr. Isaac	Oct. 8, 1910
Collingwood, Late Mr. Lester	Sept. 24, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Crisps, The Three	Sept. 24, 1910
Cross, Late Mr. A. R.	Jan 8, 1910
Curtis, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 12, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dance, Mr. George	Oct. 1, 1910
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb 5, 1910
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Deane, late Mr. Charles	Oct. 22, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Elen, Miss Hilda	Sept. 24, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Oct. 29, 1910
Fern, Miss Sable	Jan 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Ford, Mr. Herbert	May 7, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5 1910
Gordon, Miss Celia	Oct. 15, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. G.	Jan 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harlington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J	March 5, 1910
Hickman, Mr. Charles D.	April 23, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Jones, Mr. Tom	Oct. 1, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Lee, Miss Lola	Nov. 5, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loraine, Mr. Robert	Sept. 17, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Miss Ida	Feb. 12, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
My Fancy	Sept. 17, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
Nolan, Late Mr. Michael	Jan 15, 1910
O'Connor, Mr. W. J.	Oct. 29, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Peile, Mr. Kinsey	Sept. 10, 1910
Perrette, Mr. W. H.	Jan 22 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phasey, Mr. Handel V.	Oct. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Oct. 8, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Road-Night, Mr. Chas.	Sept. 17, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Nov. 12, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schalkenbach, Late Herr	April 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Nov. 12, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5 1910
Shand, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 22, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan 29, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred O.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stevens, Late Mr. Chas. E.	Nov. 12, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Triggs, Late Mr. A. Standen	Sept. 24, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victoria, Miss Vesta	Sept. 24, 1910
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wallace, Mr. G. Carlton	Sept. 10, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Dorothy	Nov. 12, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
Wheeler, Mr. Worland S.	Oct. 1, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Woodger, Mr. Ben	Sept. 17, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each, for any issue 1910; other dates double price.
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL STORES.

Manufacturers and Makers to the Principal London Theatres and Leading Artists.

Every Requisite for the Stage at Moderate Prices.

DANCING SHOES A SPECIALITY.

We stock Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, specially woven for the manufacture of Dancing Shoes.
Select stock of pure and spun silk Tights, worsted and cotton Tights, Opera Hose Stockings, &c.

A special study made of Symmetrical Paddings.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115 to 119, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Telephone, 7978 Central.
Telegrams, "Raynaloo, London."
Also at
49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo.).

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space
in the 1911 issue of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every town in the world where there is a place of amusement. It is therefore the best medium for those who require world-wide publicity.

Scale of Charges
For Professional Advertisements.

FULL PAGE	£4 4 0
HALF PAGE	2 2 0
QUARTER PAGE	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS
at present Vacant.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1910.

AGAIN THE CENSORSHIP.

The prohibition by the Lord Chamberlain of Mr. LAURENCE HOUSMAN'S play *Pains and Penalties* has revived the question of the Censorship very effectually. Mr. HOUSMAN, in self-defence, adopted the expedient of reading his piece aloud to a select audience and subsequently publishing parts of it in a monthly review. We were thus informed that the dramatist had selected the troubles between Queen CAROLINE and GEORGE IV. as the foundation of his play. We had naturally imagined that the reason of the refusal to license the play was that it was calculated to bring Royalty into contempt. All we have to say is that, if the permanency of the monarchy in England can be weakened by the representation of *Pains and Penalties* the institution must be in a very insecure state—which we do not believe; and we doubt if the Advisory Board which is being reconstituted would prohibit *Pains and Penalties* on the ground now stated by the Censor that of consideration for the memory of a late "unhappy lady." The Lord Chamberlain, the president of the Board, would, of course, support the courtly prohibition; but we fancy Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT and Sir JOHN HARE, who are also members of the Board, would take a less punctilious and more common-sense view of the play. Professor WALTER RALEIGH, as a literary man, would, of course, be for perfect freedom; but Sir EDWARD CARSON, Mr. S. O. BUCKMASTER, and Col. Sir DOUGLAS DAWSON are "dark horses," and it is difficult to say how they would run.

Mr. HOUSMAN himself has another proposition for the reform of the Censorship. His proposal is this: that instead of the Censor, with his present power of veto before production, there should be an Examiner of Plays, whose functions would be somewhat similar to those of a King's Proctor, and whose duty it would be to consider plays from a strictly legal standpoint. To this official a copy of every play, accompanied by a registration fee, should be submitted a reasonable time—say three weeks—before production; and wherever he saw good reason for doing so he should be empowered to issue a warning to the manager stating that, in his opinion, the play contained matter which would render its production liable to prosecution for an offence against the common law. If the Proctor had no objection to put forward, he would enter the play at once upon the official register as having passed its preliminary examination; he would give it, that is to say, a certificate of character which for all practical purposes would amount to a licence, though subject to reconsideration at any time after the play's production, just as is now the case under the Censorship. After the play had been produced, say, for at least a week in any one place, without offence to public decency, the register should receive endorsement to that effect, and the play's position might thenceforth be regarded as fully assured against official interference.

In case the manager or author was prepared, in a given case, to press the matter forward for legal decision, Mr. HOUSMAN proposes that a "technical public performance shall be given for the sole benefit of the King's Proctor or his representative, who shall see the play and form an opinion as to whether it ought to be prosecuted." The objection on the part of the managers to a King's Proctorship would be that it would merely shift the decision as to the decency or indecency of a play from an official to a British jury. Either we must have absolute licence in the matter of play-production, or we must have some man or body of men who can be called upon to say, "In my opinion the public performance of this piece would be injurious to morals." Now in the case of a competent Censor strongly in sympathy with the public opinion of his day it is possible for a manager to make a good guess at what the Censor will prohibit and what he will not permit to be played. But if a manager had to take his chance with a British jury his position would be uncertain and anxious. A jury is a body of twelve men summoned at random from the population without any selection or choice. They may be highly educated or they may be densely ignorant; and one jury may absolutely contradict the verdict brought in by another. "The manager," says Mr. HOUSMAN, "would have clearly before his eyes the risk he ran if he went on to produce the play in spite of official warning." But the amount of the risk would always be an unknown quantity.

The only question we need ask ourselves is: has the present system inflicted any serious injury on "dramatic talent which demands for its development wider scope and freer outlet"? Apparently not. If all the plays which have been prohibited—thirty out of seven thousand—had been produced would the fame of their authors have been increased or the status of the British drama elevated? In our opinion, neither *Waste* nor *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, if played at an ordinary theatre in the ordinary way, would have run for long. Outside the small advanced minority to whom work of this kind appeals, there is no public in England for such works, and their proper place of production is at one of the private performances given by societies. The prohibition of a play is often a much better advertisement for the author than its permitted production would have been. Against any small harm done in this way we have to set a stage which is the cleanest in Europe, which admits of young persons attending the theatre without distinction of playhouses, and can be defended by decent people—which certainly no one could say of that of Paris.

"THE SIREN;
or, THE ACTRESS'S TRIUMPH."

Sketch, by Holman Quin, Produced at the Rehearsal Theatre on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 17.

Madeline de Vigne	MME. DEL SAVINA
Celestine	MISS NINA DOLORES
Philip Harding	MR. ARTHUR HYDE
Edith Harding	MISS PHILLIS SALVADOR
Little Freddy Harding	MASTER R. DEL SAVINA
James	MR. COLIN F. HEATHER

At the little Rehearsal Theatre in Maiden-lane on Thursday afternoon was given an invitation performance of a dramatic sketch, *The Siren*, by Holman Quin, with musical enumerations by Charles Victor, the music from the opera *Carmen* being used by the kind permission of the executors of the late Sir Augustus Harris. The Siren is Madeline de Vigne, a celebrated French actress, who has a lover in Philip Harding. After a little comedy scene between James and Celestine, her footman and French maid, Madeline comes in, and it is evident she expects a visitor—her lover. The maid announces a lady, but the "Siren" is evidently not disposed to see anyone but Philip, and refuses to see her visitor. The lady—Mrs. Harding—enters the apartment, however, and pleads with Madeline to give up her lover. The actress is not inclined to do this, and tells Mrs. Harding so, and also remarks that it is her own fault if her husband has ceased to care for her. She should make herself more attractive in his eyes. The distressed wife again pleads, and mentions their little boy Freddy. At the mention of the child Madeline wavers, and finally promises to give up Philip. And when her precious lover enters she poses as a fickle woman who has tired of him, until at length the enraged and disappointed man denounces her as a wanton, and so forth. Then enter the boy and his mother, and Philip, remarking that it was for a worthless woman he would have deserted home, wife, and child, departs, bearing his offspring in his arms, and his wife meekly following. Then the distraught Madeline breaks down, exclaiming, "This is my triumph!" Interspersed throughout the trifle are selections from *Carmen*, including a duet and the "Torcador" song, pleasingly given by Mme. Del Savina and Mr. Arthur Hyde. Mme. Savina, who frequently forgot her lines, was at her best in the later episodes of the piece. Mr. Arthur Hyde played an unthankful rôle admirably; the sorrowful, subdued Edith Harding was suitably enacted by Miss Phillis Salvador; and the other parts were capably played.

A Transient Condition.

MR. CHARLES KLEIN, the American dramatist, said recently: "The American stage just now is in a transient condition. There is no hard and fast literary point of view to tie to, although contemporary subjects have 'the call.' Our permanent successes are those without great literary value, like *The Old Homestead* and *'Way Down East*. Drama in its best form will combine the appeal to the intellect and the appeal to the emotions. In this, European dramatists surpass us. The French form and method reach the highest mark of neatness and skill, but it is too often vitiated by the unworthy ideas promulgated. For that reason, I am inclined to rate Pinero and Jones as the leading playwrights of the present, and the safest models."

The Author's Ideas.

MR. KLEIN is the president of the Author's Producing Society, whose aim, to quote his own words, "is the exploitation of the author's ideas rather than the manager's. We feel that in the present commercialised condition of the American stage the stress of business absorbs the manager's mind and excludes artistic perfection. We wish to bring the author in closer contact with the public, to promulgate his ideas rather than the producer's experience. While the experience is conventional and imitative, the ideas are prophetic. A separation of art and commerce should work out advantageously to the public. Authorship requires time for introspective placidity, a weighing of inner values. It is to be found as easily in New York as in the remotest corner of the country. The author must internally be insensible to the tide and turmoil outside. He must not be involved in factional disagreements in the commercial world; the less he has to do with business, the better for his work."

MARTIN HARVEY AT BRISTOL.

A lecture was delivered by Mr. Martin Harvey in the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Wednesday afternoon, on "The Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre." The Lord Mayor presided, and there was a large attendance.

The LORD MAYOR said if his duties as chairman of that meeting were confined to the formality of introducing to them the lecturer, those duties could be easily discharged by simply calling upon Mr. Martin Harvey for his lecture, for he imagined it would be superfluous for him to introduce to them a man whose gifts had probably long ago been recognised by nearly every person he saw before him that afternoon. He need not tell them that his name stood for all that was good and pure and ennobling in the work of the theatre—(applause)—nurtured and trained as he was in the great traditions of the English stage which were so lovingly and brilliantly fostered in the Irving School.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, who had a most cordial reception, said he came before them in a new part—the part of an earnest petitioner and beggar. He was there to plead for their help to rear a noble and monumental institution to Shakespeare, their greatest Englishman. It had taken them 300 years to begin to think of rearing a worthy memorial to their great hero of letters, but he did not now despair of playing his part to heedless ears. (Hear, hear.) It had been decided that the expression of the public enthusiasm should take the form of the Shakespeare National Theatre. £500,000 had to be raised, to be spent thus: £100,000 for a suitable site, £150,000 to build and equip the theatre, and the remaining £250,000 to permanently endow it. This would yield an income of about £10,000 a year, the same sum roughly which the State allowed annually to the famous national theatre of France—the Comédie Français. Donations began to come in at once, and a splendid stimulus was given to the movement by the princely gift of one generous donor of no less a sum that £70,000. Since then the amount had been steadily rising, and they were not far short now of possessing nearly a fifth of the entire amount they needed. The National Memorial must be a noble building, planned by the foremost architect of our time, occupying a noble position in the heart of that London in which Shakespeare for the most part lived, laboured, and achieved his triumphs. The first of its uses must be to keep the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory—not only the half a dozen Shakespearean plays which poor actor-managers found to be the only remunerative ones—for this National Theatre would be above commercial considerations—but all of them. The other objects would be to revive whatever was vital in English classical drama, to prevent recent plays of great merit falling into oblivion, to produce new plays and to further translations of representative work of foreign drama, ancient and modern, and to stimulate the art of acting. People living in the provinces might say, "How are we to benefit by this Memorial Theatre, which is to be situated in London?" In one practical way they would certainly benefit, for it was proposed at certain periods the company to be associated with the National Theatre would pay regular visits to provincial centres, and they would thus reap the advantage of having the great works of our national drama, of the drama of antiquity, and the chosen achievements of living dramatic authors presented in an elaborate and worthy manner by a carefully-chosen company of artists. He earnestly commended the scheme to all, because their neglect of Shakespeare was a reproach throughout Europe, and because it would place our drama upon its rightful pinnacle as the richest in the whole world. The memorial must be an accomplished fact in five years' time.

A collection was made on behalf of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre by the young ladies of Mr. Martin Harvey's company.

Mr. NORRIS MATHEWS spoke briefly in appreciation of Mr. Martin Harvey, and urged that the company assembled would fill up the envelopes handed round in support of his object. He would not say that was "the only way"—(laughter)—but it was one way to further the object which the lecturer had at heart. (Applause.)

The SHERIFF said he had to propose a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, to Mr. Martin Harvey, to the management of the Prince's Theatre, and to the ladies of Mr. Martin Harvey's company who assisted in the distribution and collection of the papers. He might say, with respect to Mr. Martin Harvey, that the people of Bristol were not so ignorant as he would have them think, for some years ago, when they thought of giving musically in the city two fine works of Sophocles, he was invited to give the readings, but could not attend. He wished they could give not merely classical dramas, but classical music, so that they could open their concert-rooms and perform fine music without being the losers. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. J. E. KING seconded the resolution, which having been heartily adopted.

The LORD MAYOR responded, and said he was certain the Bristol people wished Mr. Martin Harvey every possible success in the splendid endeavour he was making for a National Theatre.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY also acknowledged the resolution, and said up to now Hull stood first of the towns which had contributed, the amount being £150. He hoped that Bristol would exceed this.

A Sovereign Remedy.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE tells a story of the Bosworth fight in *Richard III.*, when he was appearing in that play some years ago. One night one of the supers got hurt in the mimic battle, and was given half-a-sovereign as a balm for his woes. "He told his fellows of his luck," says Mr. Asche, "and the next presentation of the fight was a massacre. The supers fought as if determined that none of them should leave the stage alive, and I had some narrow escapes. Warmed up to their work, they did their best to render me *hors de combat*, and paid no heed to my remonstrances. I received one or two severe cuts, and the curtain had eventually to be rung down to prevent further mischief. No more supers received half-sovereigns for wounded feelings in that theatre again."

Louis Stevenson as Orsino.

"LOUIS STEVENSON was an actor in our private theatrica's in the 'seventies,'" writes Miss Flora Masson in an article on "Louis Stevenson" in the *Pall Mall Magazine* for this month. "There are people who still remember his Orsino in *Twelfth Night*—the slender figure in the 'splendid Francis I. clothes, heavy with gold and stage jewellery,' and the satisfied languor of his opening words—

> "If music be the food of love, play on.
> Give me excess of it, that, surfeiting,
> The appetite may sicken, and so die.
> That strain again! it had a dying fall."

In one of his own letters of this date he describes the performance with some humility, and the 'thrill of admiration' produced every night by 'me and the clothes.' There was always a 'Servants' night,' and the Heriot Row cook, it seems, had told Mrs. Stevenson that she and the housemaid were 'just prood to be able to say it was oor young gentleman.' But it was not so much the play that Louis Stevenson enjoyed, nor even the 'thrill of admiration' in successive audiences, as 'to sup afterwards, with those clothes on,' amid all the Shakespearean wit and raillery and badinage that circulated about that happy supper table. 'That,' he wrote, 'is something to live for.'"

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MALBROUK S'EN VA-T'-EN GUERRE."
Operetta, in Three Acts, by M. Vaucaire and A. Nessi, Music by R. Leoncavallo, Produced at Apollo on Nov. 16.

Alba	MLLE. CEBRON-NERBENS
Conchita	MLLE. DHERVILLY
Estrella	MLLE. ALICE MILET
Malbrouk	M. CORRADETTI
Apollinaire	M. ARDOT
Renaldo	M. COULOMB
Co'te Garenna	M. SAIDREAU
Le Kalife	M. SERVAIS
Le Messager	M. ISONARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Nov. 17.—This work, we are told, had a tremendous success in Italy. If so, our friends on the other side of the Alps are not difficult to please, although this success may be partly due to the fact that M. Leoncavallo, the composer of *I Pagliacci*, supplied the music to the operetta. Everybody knows the tune of "Malbrouk s'en va-t'-en guerre," twin brother to "For he is a jolly good fellow." The French melody was sung after the battle of Malplaquet, when the great Marlborough defeated the French. But few people know that this melody really dates from the twelfth century, and refers to a French general of the name of Malbrouk, who is the hero in the work produced at the Apollo Theatre. It is the old, old story of a man called to the war on his wedding day. Malbrouk, a kind of king of Lower Navarre, is married to the fascinating Princess Alba, but as he issues from the church with his bride he is ordered to start at once to fight the Moors. With a longing glance at the pretty Alba, he leaves her in charge of his nephew, Rinaldo. He could not have made a worse selection. Rinaldo, in love with his young aunt, tries to win her by fair means, and when these fail he impersonates his uncle, and, taking advantage of the darkness, gains access to the lady's chamber. Scarcely has he left her when Malbrouk turns up unexpectedly; and as the lady does not seem at all surprised at seeing him, and repels his advances, telling him that "enough is as good as a feast," he suspects that he has been tricked, and that someone else has, so to say, stolen a march upon him. He vainly tries to discover the malefactor. Finally he is defeated by the Moors, dethroned, and his place taken by young Rinaldo, who, according to ancient custom, takes possession of the bride. M. Leoncavallo did not supply the farcical music the plot demanded. He forgot he was writing an operetta and not an opera. The old Malbrouk tune is cleverly introduced in the overture, and now and then there are humoristic touches that enliven the work. On the other hand, the Italian master scored in the charming serenade, in the pretty chorus in the second act, and in other melodies, not quite original, but warm and pleasing. There is a funny man and a funny woman. The funny man is the chamberlain, an idiotic creature who makes love to the funny woman, Alba's mother, a lady "with a temperament," a furnace, whose love duet with her elderly admirer is one of the most amusing numbers in the work. M. Corradetti, who impersonated Malbrouk, and who has sung that rôle innumerable times in Italy, had to learn French, so as to be able to make his bow before a Paris audience, and he certainly must be a good linguist to have mastered the language in the manner he did. The other rôles were well sustained by Mlle. Cebron-Nerbens, a charming Alba; Mlle. Dhervilly, who gave a most amusing sketch of the amorous Conchita; and M. Ardot and M. Coulomb.

M. ABEL TARRIDE, the great actor, and his wife, Mlle. Marthe Regnier, have divorced. Their friends have tried all they could to bring about a reconciliation, but in vain. Already in the course of last season Mme. Regnier said that she intended leaving the Renaissance, of which her husband, M. Tarride, is manager. The couple thereupon started together on a tour through South America, and it was hoped that this tour would bring about a rapprochement. But when they returned last month we were informed that the rupture was definite, and that the matter could only be settled in a court of law. Madame reproached her husband with being too irritable and criticising all her actions, whilst the latter argued that the fact of his wife having left her home, refusing to live with him, constitutes a cause for divorce. In the end, the Court said that M. Tarride was right, although some of Mme. Regnier's statements were also true. The father will have the custody of the children, and the mother will have to contribute her share towards their keep, that share amounting to £20 per month.

VAUTHIER is dead. Vauthier at one time was the star at the Porte-Saint-Martin and the Renaissance, where he appeared nightly with Jeanne Granier, Jane Hading, and other well-known artists. He was Lecocq's favourite. In 1874 he created *Girofié-Girofla*, with Alfonsine and Jeanne Granier; and with the latter artist he also sang the leading rôles in *La Marjolaine* (1877), *Le Petit Duc* (1878), and *La Petite Demoiselle* (1879). It was in *Le Petit Duc* that Mlle. Milly Meyer made her début. He created in 1880 *Belle Lurette*, by Offenbach, Léo Delibes superintending the rehearsals. Cooper and Jane Hading were also in the cast. Mme. Hading soon afterwards left the operetta stage to blossom into the great actress we all admire, but Vauthier, as long as he could, stuck to operetta. One of the proudest days in his life was when he was engaged by Lecocq to appear with Mme. Zulma Buffar in the Japanese operetta *Kosoki*, brought out at the Renaissance in 1876. In that rôle he used to handle his fan with great skill, and remarked to M. Lecocq that he wished that the scenes of all operettas might be laid in Japan. "Why?" asked Lecocq. "Because I could keep my fan, and it is always so infernally hot in the theatres!" He attained the zenith of his glory when he sang *le Saïs* at the Renaissance with the then great tenor, Victor Capoul. Vauthier then went over to the Nouveautés and the Filles-Dramatiques, where he created Madame Cartouche; thence to the Gaîté, where he was applauded in *Orphée aux enfers*, *le Bossu*, *la Fille du Tambour-Major*. From there back again to the Nouveautés to play *Madame Favart*. His last appearance in public was at the Variétés, in 1895, in a revival of *Chilpéric*. In that year he withdrew from the stage and returned to Auxerre, his native city, where he owned a fine property. For if Vauthier worked hard, he earned a lot of money and carefully saved it. Being neither a "borrower nor a lender," he died comfortably off, which is more than we can say of the majority of artists.

THE new "Comité de lecture" of the Comédie-Française—composed of M. Jules Claretie, M. Silvain, M. Truffier, de Féraudy, Lambert, Paul Mounet, Georges Berr, M. Siblot, and Mmes. Blanche Pierson and Renée du Minil—met in conclave to listen to the report of MM. Edouard Noël and Marcel Ballot, who had been entrusted with the mission of perusing the forty plays handed in to the Comédie-Française for approbation. The reports of these two gentlemen were anything but favourable to the authors. From what I hear only three or four have been retained, the remainder to be handed back to the authors. When I say that three or four have been retained, it does not mean that they have been "accepted." They are deemed worthy of being "read" to the "Comité de lecture," and, for all I know, even that little balance may be rejected in the end. Pity the thirty-six dramatists whose hopes of being played at the first Théâtre Français are dashed to the ground!

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER NEUE KOMPAGNON."
Farce, in Three Acts, by R. Shrowronnek, Produced at the Berliner Theatre, Nov. 12.

Winkler	HERR MEINHARD
Frau Winkler	FRAULEIN ENGEL
Eva	FRAULEIN GOOD
Mary	FRAULEIN WENDT
Frau Baeseler	FRAULEIN DORN
Von Wettingsdeck	HERR CLEWING
Ben Omar	HERR SADO
Neumann	HERR BERGEN
Röhring	HERR BOTE
Hulda	FRAULEIN WANNOVIUS
Liedtke	HERR BEHREND
Minna	FRAULEIN KARSTEM

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY Nov. 17.—No author is perhaps more popular here than Richard Skrowronnek, and deservedly so. His humour is always fresh and spontaneous, and his characters are as convincing as any farce demands. This time the author has not quite attained the pitch of excellence of some of his former works, but the piece was cordially received, and several of the scenes are capital. There is a spice of irony about the plot, and the troubles of a funny playwright are so graphically depicted that it is evident the author has experienced some of them himself at one portion of his career. Ott-Heinrich Winkler is the unfortunate hero. He is a writer of farces, and has pledged himself to supply his publisher with a new piece within a specified time. The much-plagued man has, however, used up all his ideas; his brain is swept and empty; there is not the shadow of a plot or a "situation," or even a joke, in any crevice. The time is nearly up, and poor Winkler is on the verge of mental and physical bankruptcy. The various phases through which he passes form the main attraction of the play; everything is described with so much humour that the paucity of plot is forgotten. A Prussian lieutenant is the "new partner" of the title. He turns up in the nick of time to save the unhappy Winkler, with one of whose daughters he falls in love. The other daughter loves and is beloved by the dramatic critic who has been the writer of caustic articles over Winkler's plays, so that at first it appears unlikely that the course of the lovers will prove smooth. All ends harmoniously, as is the duty of a farce, and everyone is satisfied, both in the play and in the auditorium. The acting was capital all round, so that the piece should have a successful run. That the author was called before the curtain and warmly applauded is a matter of course.

AT the New Schauspielhaus a novelty for Berlin was produced, with indifferent results—the three-act comedy *Sternenhochzeit*, by MM. Bisson and Thurner. Notwithstanding the very bright acting, the general opinion was not favourable, the piece being, for one thing, far too long for the patience of the audience. As it has already been removed from the bill a further description is superfluous. A very different reception was accorded to a revival of Grillparzer's ever-delightful comedy *Weh dem, der lügt*, a play that would be sure of a welcome in any country notwithstanding its respectable age. The rôle of Leon, the cook boy, was one of the best in the repertory of the late Joseph Kainz, and was this time very well given by Herr Heinz Salfner, while the part of Edrika could certainly not have been played better than it was by the clever young artist Fräulein Ida Wuest. All in all, the evening was a most enjoyable one.

"DER DOPPLEMENSCH," a farce, by MM. Jacoby and Lippschitz, was given, for the first time, at the Modernes last week. There is little to be said about it, the chief thing in its favour being that it affords Herr Harry Bender—one of Berlin's best low comedians—an opportunity for his talents. This artist is, in fact, the only attraction.

PROF. MAX REINHARDT, manager and lessee of the Deutsches, who is so famous for his *mise-en-scene*, has been requested by Dr. Richard Strauss to superintend the mounting of his new opera, *Der Rosencavalier*, at Dresden. Herr Reinhardt has not yet decided whether he will accept the flattering offer.

LIVING PICTURES AT THE COURT.

One of the rare public appearances of Mrs. Kendal was made on Tuesday evening last, when the famous actress assisted at a series of tableaux vivants, organised, under Royal patronage, by the Spanish Circle of the Lyceum Club, in aid of the Queen of Spain's charities. It is not quite correct perhaps to say that Mrs. Kendal made an appearance, for the distinguished actress was only heard, her share of the performance consisting in standing unseen at the wings in semi-darkness and ushering in various tableaux. Thus the chief scenes of Tennyson's poem "The Victim" were illustrated in six sections, Mrs. Kendal declaiming the verses with all the elocutionary power and fluency for which she is renowned. The pictures were beautiful in design and exquisite in colouring, and aroused loud and continued applause. Mrs. Kendal also lent her vocal aid in a series of scenes from *Romeo and Juliet*, rendering with impressive effect brief excerpts from the play, introducing the dance and the balcony scene; while the tragedy of the tomb was illustrated in three scenes. The picture of the balcony scene was especially praiseworthy, though the lighting, generally well managed, was a little at fault. Scenic aid was called in in many of the sets, and the dresses were magnificant. Various other tableaux, brief but brilliant, were represented, the figures being sustained by numerous members of the aristocracy. Amongst the subjects were "Columbus Before Ferdinand and Isabella," realisations of famous paintings of famous artists, "The Institution of the Garter" (in which the Earl and Countess of Clancarty figured), and "Ancient and Modern Mexico."

Agreeable variation was provided by several accomplished vocalists and instrumentalists. M. Leon de Sousa, from Covent Garden, sang to the delight of all; and Mrs. Lillian Mackenzie Fairfax aroused enthusiasm by her artistic singing of a melodious "Ave Maria," composed by Miss Janotha, and with a 'cello obbligato by Señor Rubio. Miss Janotha was also heard in several solos at the piano, in the rendering of which her sterling ability was warmly recognised. One selection was a tuneful mazurka composed by herself, and containing the fanfare played on the silver trumpets and a lullaby which includes a melody composed by H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg. A feature of the evening was the song in praise of the object of the entertainment, vivaciously rendered by little Vera Le Fleming and a number of picturesquely-dressed children, pupils of Miss Egerton Welch. Spanish songs, with guitar accompaniment, by Mme. Natalia de Mexia and Señor Obregon respectively also proved very popular. The theatre appeared to be crowded in every part, at greatly enhanced prices, and the most gratifying results for the charities concerned should be the reward of the untiring labour and expense which had obviously been lavished on the production of the pictures.

"LOVE CONQUERS ALL," a comedy in one act, by C. Edgar May, was produced for copyright purposes at St. Luke's Hall, Hornsey, on Nov. 10.

MISS PAULINE CHASE will shortly leave the cast of *Our Miss Gibbs* in America and come to London to appear in *Peter Pan* at the Duke of York's Theatre. This engagement and one in the provinces will be Miss Chase's farewell to the stage.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Arrangements are proceeding apace with regard to the benefit matinée in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund, which will be held at the Hippodrome on Tuesday, Dec. 13. Several theatrical favourites have generously promised to appear, in addition to nearly all the variety stars then in town.

Our readers in Liverpool are requested not to forget that Thursday afternoon next is the date of the benefit matinée in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund at the local Empire. In addition to the list of thirty-six star artists who are appearing, Mr. Herbert Lloyd, the "Diamond King," has consented to come down from Manchester. The organisers are working very hard to make this, the first provincial matinée, a gigantic success.

The popularity of the grand ballet *Femina* at the Alhambra is emphasised by the fact that this evening it will reach its 150th performance. In celebration of this event Mr. Alfred Moul will present each visitor with a handsome souvenir. Saturday night performances are generally witnessed by over 3,000 people.

Neil Kenyon, writing from New Zealand, says he has had an offer to play principal comedian for forty-two weeks in Mr. J. C. Williamson's pantomimes, which he has not been able to accept, owing to his month's engagement in America in in January. In any case, he is due at the London Pavilion during the first week of March next. We are pleased to state that Neil, as far as health is concerned, is quite his old self.

Miss Kitty Colyer visited the old performers in the Music Hall Home during the week, and presented each with a piece of silver and tobacco. She also has promised to give each of the old men some warm underclothing, for which the inmates are extremely thankful. The matron of the Home would be pleased to receive any men's old clothes. A committee meeting will be held on Thursday next at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, at 12 noon.

The Water Rats matinée at the Oxford on Monday is already sure of immense patronage. The *pièce de résistance* will be a burlesque on *The Bad Girl of the Family*, in which Mr. Wilkie Bard will appear as the lady with the wink. Miss Violet Englefield should see Wilkie. There will be the Quinsey Quintet, who do *not* want to sing in opera, a weird combination of howling "dervishes," and the Slipinski Troupe of Russian dancers will do the Siberian fling and other dances from the Steppes. Seymour Hicks and George Graves will represent the theatres, and every variety star in town will be there. Mr. Blyth-Pratt has the business in hand, and there is promise of a great house.

Important new powers, relative to the management of employment agencies, have been conferred upon the London County Council, under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1910. Hitherto the Council's powers have been limited to the registration of agencies for the employment of governesses, female domestic servants, or other female persons in any similar capacity, and to concert, theatrical, or music hall employment agencies, where preliminary or registration fees were accepted. The Act of 1910, however, requires that, with few exceptions, all employment agencies, including those for males as well as for females, in the County of London, shall be licensed annually by the Council.

The first licensing meeting under the new powers will be held at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., on Dec. 2, 1910, and on the following day, if necessary, at 10 a.m., when the Public Control Committee of the Council will sit to consider applications for licences. The last day for making applications for consideration at this meeting is Nov. 22.

Objections to the grant of licences may be made by notice in writing to the Clerk of the Council at least ten days before the date of the licensing meeting. Applicants for licences, and persons objecting to the grant of licences, may be heard in person, or by counsel, or by solicitor, and may call witnesses before the Committee.

The meeting will be open to the public, but the Committee may conduct their deliberations and consider evidence in private. It is hoped that the exercise of the Council's new powers in this respect will tend effectually to prevent fraud and other irregularities in connection with employment agencies.

Much interest will attach to the bill at the Coliseum next week from the fact that, in addition to Mr. Seymour Hicks in *Richard III.* and a strong variety company, Miss Denise Orme, the musical comedy actress, will make her first appearance there. Miss Orme has appeared both at the Alhambra and Palace Theatres, and is therefore not a débutante on the variety stage. Mr. Bransby Williams returns after a short absence.

Mr. Alfred Northway, who, early in the new year, will produce a spectacular dramatic sketch, entitled *Disarmed*, is an exhibitor at the loan collection of paintings by the Rev. Wm. Peters, R.A. (1742-1814), now being held at Messrs. Graves' Galleries, Pall Mall.

Mr. Northway has an unusually fine collection of pictures, containing, as it does, authenticated examples of J. M. W. Turner, Canaletto, Wouverman, Copley Fielding, Clarkson Stanfield, Sir A. W. Callcott, James Stark, George Vincent, Henry Dawson, two water-colours by Prout (which are of additional interest, in having belonged to the late J. L. Toole), a striking contemporary portrait of David Garrick, and many others.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, manager of the Herne Bay Urban Council amusement enterprises, has resigned his position to open with Mr. Oswald Stoll as manager of the Croydon Hippodrome. In spite of a season distinguished mostly by bad weather, the Herne Bay Council have finished up with a satisfactory balance, and Mr. Barclay is leaving the popular seaside town with every good wish from his late employers and several nice presents. He was for years resident-manager at Walthamstow Palace, and previous to that experience he held the reins at the Granville.

Mr. Seymour Hicks is preparing for Miss Ellaline Terriss an abridged version of Schiller's play dealing with the career of Joan of Arc, and in that Miss Ellaline Terriss will appear shortly after Christmas as the Lucelle of Domrémy. The first scene is laid in the country at night, when Joan is seen driving her sheep across the moorland, and the second at the Court of Charles VII., where Joan relates to the nobles the story of the strange voices which have prompted her to leave her village home. *Joan of Arc* was presented as a monologue at the Oxford in the early nineties, with Miss Harriet Vernon, as the victorious heroine, on horseback, in armour. A prologue was spoken by Mr. Frank Lindo. The late Charles Brighton was responsible for the production.

Will members of the M.H.A.R.A. kindly note that the Liverpool offices will be closed on Thursday next, at two o'clock, in consequence of the benefit matinée to be given that day at the local Empire?

Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds, resident-manager at the Empire, Glasgow, has been engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll for the control of his enterprises in Leicester, and leaves immediately to enter upon his new duties there.

Still another music hall is to be opened in Glasgow. It is to be called the Savoy. It will be erected within the next six months, in close proximity to one of the best theatres, and it is to run two houses nightly.

Helm and Cozens sailed for England on the Cedric on Saturday last after forty-five weeks' tour of America and Canada, and open on Monday at the Empire, Middlesbrough, where they are booked through Sydney Hyman's agency.

Mr. Thomas Hargreaves, at one time one of the trio of Smith, Lee, and Hargreaves running the old Circus, Rochdale, and until recently proprietor of the Rochdale Empire, is responsible for a scheme for the erection of new halls in various towns, beginning with the Palace, Rochdale.

A new sketch, by Mr. Fred S. Jennings, will be produced on Monday next at Willesden Hippodrome, entitled *The Chain of Harmony*, in which the well-known pianist Carl Junor will appear, supported by a new 'cello player, Little Iva Lea, whom we hear is a great find.

Mr. Wm. McGaw, who was for a considerable time assistant manager at the Coliseum, Glasgow, and during this summer successfully managed the Pavilion Skating Rink and Variety Theatre at Rothesay, on the Clyde, has now been appointed manager of the new Electric Theatre at Bridgeton Cross, Glasgow, which opened this week.

The Birmingham Gaiety, an old-established hall, which fifty years ago was known as Holder's concert hall, will in the future be called the Birmingham Coliseum. Mr. Albert Bushell resigns the managership to-day (Saturday), and the new manager appointed is Mr. P. D. Elbourne, who a few months ago left the Birmingham Hippodrome to go to the Empire Palace, Leicester, on the Moss-Stoll circuit.

The changes taking place in the headquarters' staff of Moss' Empires, Ltd., have resulted in Mr. Sam Gething, district manager for Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Newcastle, being transferred to a responsible post at Cranbourn Mansions. Mr. Gething has been a great favourite in Glasgow since he came there years ago to manage the Metropole Theatre for Mr. Weldon Watts, and his many friends will miss him in the North.

Mr. Fred Higham, the well-known variety agent, who belongs to a distinguished musical family in Manchester, has just composed a set of waltzes, with the title of "The Empire Waltzes." He has dedicated them to the popular Mr. Frank Allen, of Moss' Empires, Ltd. The orchestral parts have been arranged by Mr. Peter Conroy, and the number is now in the hands of the publishers, Messrs. Chas. Sheard and Co.

Mr. Will Stone, whose name is a household word in the populous district of mid-Rhondda, was successful on Friday, the 11th inst., in obtaining a full licence for his New Hippodrome, Tonypandy. The opposition to the granting of a licence was extremely strong and comprised the local Free Church Council and the local theatre and hall. The pros and cons of this up-to-date and beautiful building were much discussed, the licence being finally granted without any reservation whatever.

Mr. J. L. Sachs, who for some time has been in London and on the Continent in connection with the new Alhambra Theatre and Winter Gardens, Ltd., Johannesburg, returned to South Africa by the Walmer Castle. All arrangements have now been completed, and it is expected that the new hall will be open by Christmas, 1911. Mr. Sachs expects to return to England about the end of March. The booking for this enterprise has been placed in the hands of Messrs. H. B. Marinelli, Ltd.

Mr. Harris Fineberg, sole owner of the Star Theatre, Liverpool, announces that he is prepared to sell that well-known and valuable theatre property as a going concern. If required, a large part of the purchase money can remain on first mortgage at an easy rate.

In the early 'forties the proprietor of the Star was Jem Ward, who established harmonic evenings there. In 1845 Ward left to take the York Hotel at the corner of Williamson-square and Tarleton-street. He was succeeded in 1847 by Mr. Hamilton, who advertised that admission was free to the concert-room, and that he purveyed chops, steaks, and wines in first-class style.

Emmanuel Braham was proprietor of the Star in the early 'sixties. He was succeeded as proprietor by David Lazarus. In 1866 it was advertised that the Star Concert Hall would close on July 2 for the purpose of erecting the New Star Music Hall. The New Star Music Hall was opened by the proprietors, Messrs. Ambrose, Fineberg, and Lazarus, on Dec. 26, 1866. Messrs. Joe Simmons and Dan Saunders were the joint managers.

The New Star was capable of holding between 1,800 and 2,000 persons, and cost about £22,000. The interior of the house was designed after the old Oxford in London. The scenery was by Telbin, and there were seventeen performers in the orchestra. The opening bill included operatic selections with Madame Tonnelier and a full chorus, a grand ballet, gymnastic entertainments, and comic and serio-comic songs by Mr. J. G. Forde and Mrs. J. F. Brian.

The report of the Palace and Derby Castle, Isle of Man, for the year ended Oct. 31 last, is to be presented to the thirteenth annual general meeting to be held at Derby Castle, Douglas, on Friday next. The revenue account shows a gross profit of £13,121 2s. 7d. After allowing for payment of debenture interest and trustees' fees, depreciation, directors' fees, &c., there remains a balance of profit and loss account amounting to £9,705 6s. 5d. It is proposed to pay a dividend of five per cent. on preference shares (£3,000), and five per cent. on ordinary shares (£3,500), £1,200 will be added to the reserve fund, and £1,049 carried forward. The expenditure for the year on ordinary repairs and renewals amounts to £822 7s. 10d.

A new dress circle, commodious and well furnished, has proved a profitable as well as greatly appreciated addition to Derby Castle Opera House. Plans for new entrance gate and for lock-up shops at Derby Castle are being prepared, and additions to electric plant are contemplated. Messrs. Dursley and Smith are the directors retiring by rotation. Both are eligible and offer themselves for re-election. The auditor, Mr. M. M. Bridson, also offers himself for re-election.

Miss Millie Hylton is getting on nicely after her recent operation for appendicitis, and she has been much cheered by messages of sympathy from friends, whom she will soon be greeting personally

We are given to understand that Mr. S. L. Francis Clare has resigned his position as secretary of the Agents' Association, which came into existence in 1905

The committee of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund desire to thank the directors of the *Encore* newspaper for a donation of £5 5s. in reference to their recent competition at the Victoria Hall.

Mr. Willie Benn presented at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday a brilliant comedy sketch entitled *The New King*. We are given to understand that this act has been booked for a number of weeks.

When Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new sketch, *Dolly's Little Bills*, is produced at the Hippodrome on Monday, Jan. 2, the principal part will be played by Miss Ethel Irving, who will be supported by an excellent company.

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Stanley Brett will appear at the Hippodrome next week in *The Pink of Perfection*, an amusing little comedy by Seymour Hicks, with music by Walter Slaughter. Among the newcomers are the marvellous blind pianist, Mendel, and Mr. Duncan with his clever Scotch collies.

Griff has returned this week to the Palace, after a lapse of years, to find that he is not forgotten His humour, always of excellent quality, has lost nothing of its quaintness during a long absence in America, where he perfected what is practically speaking a new act.

He now brings with him his son George, who possesses the saving grace of humour, as is seen by the way he assists his sire in hoop-rolling Griff has blossomed into a ventriloquist, and is quite successful in voicing his automaton and carrying on a conversation with it while balancing three spinning plates in his mouth. Prodigious!

The proprietors of Collins's have generously granted the use of their well-known hall for a grand benefit matinée on Thursday, Dec. 1, on behalf of the widow and children of the late Charles Deane. Offers of assistance will be gladly received by the deceased's brother, Mr. Joe Deane, 91, Navarino-mansions, Dalston-lane, N.

There will be another Scotchman in Canada to eat his New Year haggis—and a good Scotchman at that. Alick Lauder leaves on Dec. 17, with a company of talented artists hailing from north of the Tweed. Although at present appearing at the Oxford and singing a low comedy song, Alick's forte is character acting, and especially impersonations of types from the works of Robbie Burns.

Mr. Bennett Scott was the surprised and happy recipient on Monday last of a handsome present from Miss Edna Latonne in the shape of a gold sovereign purse and vesta case combined. Miss Latonne has sung several of Mr. Scott's compositions with great success. It is these expressions of goodwill that add to the joy of life, and give equal pleasure to the giver and receiver.

There has been a passage of arms between two anglers, Mr. Gus Elen and Mr. E. H. Harris, mine host of the Prince of Wales' Hotel, Willesden-lane. Brother Angler Harris sent the following lines to Mr. Gus Elen with these remarks:—"Dear Sir,—As a brother angler, I thought perhaps you could inform me if the statements in the enclosed lines are true.—Yours truly, E. H. Harris. 'Behold the Fisherman! He riseth up early in the morning and disturbeth the whole household. Mighty are his preparations. He goeth forth full of hope. When the day is far spent he returneth, smelling of strong drink, and the truth is not in him?'"

To this Mr. Elen sent the following rejoinder:—"Dear Sir,—In reply to yours, I am afraid there is a certain amount of truth in the lines you have enclosed; but there are fishermen *and* fishermen! Don't you think you will have a lot to answer for for supplying such 'orrid beverages to your brother anglers?"

Many of our readers will extend their sympathy to Mr. Tom Fancourt in the loss of his wife, known on the variety stage as Miss Jennie Rubie, who passed away on Thursday, after a long illness most patiently borne. The deceased lady had partnered her husband in sketches, and was a clever burlesque actress, whose experience on the variety stage dated back to her early youth.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A on Wednesday the secretary reported that several members of the committee had ceased to be members of the Association owing to the fact that they had not renewed their cards. In two cases, where the members were abroad and unlikely to return to this country, Messrs. Tom Joy and Damerell (of Damerell and Rutland) were co-opted to fill the vacancies. In the remaining cases the secretary was instructed to write to the members concerned to request their subscriptions or their resignations.

Messrs. Tom Gott, Len Teel, and Harry Rogerson were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Andie Caine, W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T., and Organist Terrier Arthur Were. Messrs. Frank Sauteron and Reg Wentworth have successfully passed the ballot. Applications for membership have been received from Messrs. Charles Henry Wilks (Captain Kettle), George Frederick Tee (Leon and Tee), and Will Dale (Will and Roze). Candidates who fail to pass the ballot are hereby notified that the nomination fee will be returned to their *permanent* address.

The kennel was crowded upon Sunday last. Terrier Bert Marsden was the W.D., and Terrier W. R. Dunkley acted as Y.B. The president (Terrier Griff) received a hearty welcome, his health being toasted with musical honours, and warm greetings were extended to Terriers W. H. Atlas, Dr. Frost (also musical honours), H. Cec Mee, G. H. Smythson, Ernest Powell, Jack Barker, J. Goodin, and Ernest Myers.

Terrier D. M. H. Hoffman was presented with the P.W.T. jewel. A proposal to remove to more commodious premises was considered, and, after a long discussion, it was unanimously resolved that a sub-committee be formed to seek premises suitable for a club and to prepare a scheme for the foundation and maintenance of same.

Mr. Edmond Bosanquet had the misfortune on Wednesday to have a valuable fiddle-bow smashed by some careless person, who trod on it at the wings of the Victoria Theatre, Kettering. In the course of his musical act he breaks a faked bow, and on going to fetch the good one he found it utterly ruined. It was a gold-mounted one, and valued at £15 10s., and was presented by Mr. Joseph Hutchinson to the violinist, who has played with it for fifteen years. Luckily Bosanquet has another bow, a gold-mounted Tubb, presented to him at the Canterbury over twenty years ago by the late Mr. C. S. Crowder.

English artists desirous of booking engagements with the United Booking Offices of America should apply direct to the manager, Mr. E. F. Albee, general-manager, Putnam Buildings, Times-square, New York City.

On the occasion of the benefit matinée in aid of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum at the Alhambra on Thursday, Nov. 24, Mr. E. M. Robson will appear in his sketch *Doing a Kindness*, supported by Miss Dorothy Paget and Miss Mabel Archdall.

Mrs. Langtry (Lady de Bathe) writes us from Regal Lodge, Kentford, Newmarket, under date Nov. 13:—"I think it worth while correcting a paragraph referring to myself in the current issue of your paper. In the first place I have never been described on any bill during my long theatrical career other than as Mrs. Langtry; secondly, my horses are run in my own legal name of Lady de Bathe; and thirdly, I am not engaged to play the de Frece circuit. I shall be obliged if you will publish this letter."

Mr. H. W. Wieland, of the Zæo Agency writes: 'As sole business representative for Mrs. Langtry (Lady de Bathe), I beg to inform you that she is not booked to open at the Pavilion, Glasgow, followed by Barnsford and De Frece halls, but arrangements have been concluded by me this week whereby she is engaged to open with Moss' Empires for a period of twelve weeks, including the Grand, Birmingham; Empire, Glasgow; Empire, Liverpool; Empire, Newcastle; Empire, Sheffield; Empire, Finsbury; London Hippodrome; and Manchester Hippodrome for Mr. Stoll."

Mr. Harry Lucas has resigned his position as assistant-manager of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. Charles Esdale, who has made such a marked success with Miss Decima Moore in *A Black Mark*, is continuing to support her on her tour and for the opening weeks of the London Palladium at Christmas.

Messrs. Williams and Warden have been engaged to play the principal parts in next season's pantomime at the Britannia Theatre with Mr. Geo. Conquest through Messrs. Neiman and Benn's Agency.

The Elliott-Savonas are going from triumph to triumph on the Continent. Like other English artists, they are experiencing great trouble with their luggage in travelling. The railway allows them nothing. They have to pay for every pound of baggage they carry, which makes their journeys expensive.

Mr. H. G. Pelissier, who is writing the book and music, and will produce the forthcoming revue at the Alhambra, has taken into collaboration with him, so far as the book and lyrics of the revue are concerned, Mr. Montague Compton-Mackenzie, a son of Mr. Edward Compton.

The annual general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation will be held on Sunday, Jan. 22, 1911. Nominations of candidates must be received at the head office not later than Jan. 14.

Miss Louie Tracy, the dapper dandy boy, who is a huge success at the Palace, Huddersfield, this week, will (with the exception of one week) continue her pr[illegible] until March 6, 1911, when she is d[illegible] six weeks, including a month at th[illegible]n. Miss Tracy sails for Australia[illegible] contract with Mr. Harry Ricka[illegible]

"The Tatler" of the *Islington Daily Gazette* says: "It was a smart piece of work on the part of Mr. Bertie Ralland, the manager of the Holloway Empire, to inform one of the audience that his house had been burgled, but I am authorised to contradict the rumours that Mr. Ralland informed another gentleman who was placidly enjoying the pictures that his house was on fire, or that an occupant of the circle was told that his wife had run away with the lodger!

Miss Kittee Rayburn will again be delighting Hammersmith audiences at Christmas in the part of the Prince in *Cinderella*, the pantomime from the pen of Mr. Fred S. Jennings. The riparian dwellers in the river suburb have a warm place in their hearts for Kittee, who will be sure to bring along some taking numbers. Miss Maude Esmond will be the Dandini, and the production will be under the personal direction of Mr. Wentworth Croke.

Last Friday evening, Nov. 11, forty-five members of the Park Club, Kennington, visited the South London Palace to pay a compliment to their members, Carr and Rose. The lady was presented with a lovely bouquet and chocolates and the gentleman with a massive 18ct. gold chain from the president, Mr. Savory, and other members. Carr and Rose were scoring a great success in their latest singing sketch, *After a Night Out*.

Mr. Tom McNaughton has been obliged to cancel a full season's tour in America (Orpheum circuit) through the forced dissolution of the partnership formerly existing between him and his brother Fred, who has now joined up with Gus Leclercq, and formed a new partnership under the title of The McNaughtons (Gus and Fred). Tom McNaughton is principal comedian with the Christie MacDonald Opera Co. in the States.

Crippen's place of abode, No. 39, Hilldrop-crescent, has been purchased by Sandy McNab for a London residence. The purchase price was £500, the original cost being £1,000. Sandy journeyed from Leeds last Sunday and slept in the building for the first time, using the cellar as a dark-room to develop some photos that he took of the place. On Monday he returned to Wallsend, where he is playing this week. He will be pleased to show any brother or sister artists over the house if they will write him en route, and he will send photos.

The Casino, Paris, and the Alhambra Theatre, Bordeaux, is to be run by a company, of which the managing-director is Mr. Jack de Frece. In reference to the first house, which will start under the new management on Monday, Dec. 12, arrangements can be made for artists terminating their engagements in London on Saturday evening to open in Paris the following Monday. Special reduced terms have also been arranged with the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Co. High-class novelty acts can apply to the Vaudeville Agency, 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C., The Alhambra, Bordeaux, will open under the new control on New Year's Day.

The nineteenth Bohemian Smoking Concert at the Vaudeville Club on Sunday was under the genial chairmanship of Mr. Ernest Lepard, manager of the Canterbury. Among those who contributed to the revels were Harry Tate, Charles Austin, Sam Stern, Wilkie Bard, Edward L. F. Lloyd, Dave O'Toole, Humphrey Bishop, David Brazell, Joseph H. Bull, Lawrence Crane, Robert Dennant, Ted Honeyman, Donald Keir, Walt Last, Fred Pardoe, Walter Peach, Harry Robinson, George Ross, Captain Spaulding, Jack Stagg, Clay Thomas, Elliston Webb, Frank Wood, and P. Gorton Young. Past King Rat Mr. W. H. Clemart proposed the health of the chairman, who, in responding, presented the club with a life-size oil-painting of the late lamented Dan Leno.

Miss Annie Hughes achieved a conspicuous success at the Pavilion, Glasgow, last week, as Sans-Gêne, in *Napoleon's Washerwoman*. This was Miss Hughes' first appearance on the Glasgow variety stage, but it will not be her last, as the Pavilion management have re-booked her.

This week, at the Pavilion, Liverpool, Miss Hughes has produced *The Fourth Kiss*, by W. Douglas Newton. *The Fourth Kiss* is essentially a "man's play," the woman being quite a subsidiary character. Mr. Mayne Lynton, who plays "the man," has achieved a great success. Miss Hughes is including *Caste* in her répertoire. Polly Eccles should suit her to perfection.

Mr. Eli Hudson, the gentleman flautist of the trio Eli, Olga, and Elgar, is making a good recovery from the injuries he received in his recent serious motor accident, and hopes to resume work in the course of a week or two.

A fire of a serious nature occurred at Wellingborough just about midnight on Wednesday, at the Empire Music Hall, which resulted in the stage and dressing-rooms being burnt to the ground. The building has been erected about twelve months, and is insured with the Royal Insurance Co., but the amount of damage is not known, though it will extend into several hundred pounds. Of course, it is impossible for any performance to take place in the building for some weeks.

The manager, Mr. Montague Franklin, has stated to an interviewer that after the last performance on Wednesday evening he had a meeting of directors and left the building about 11.45. From the time the public departed from the hall at 10.45 to the time he left the main switch was on, and the wires leading to the stage switchboard were alive. It is quite possible, he thinks, that during that time a wire fused, and was smouldering at the time he left the hall.

He usually leaves the hall by the front entrance in Gloucester-place, and at the time he left on Wednesday night the hall was in darkness, and the scenes being down he thought everything was all right and quite safe. It was quite feasible that if one of the wires on the stage switchboard fused it would be by this means that the stage front caught fire. The whole of the stage was completely destroyed, as was the scenery, not one piece of it being left.

He was extremely sorry to say that the majority of the artists' "props" were damaged, but by water only. The dancing mat belonging to Harvey and Jesson was completely destroyed. The management, according to their rules, are not liable to the artists for any loss or damage to their property during an engagement unless caused by any neglect, but they would do their best to compensate them. He considered that the Wellingborough Fire Brigade worked exceedingly well, and their prompt tackling of the danger saved the building from being completely gutted.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., the secretary begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Mr. A. McCallum 2s. 6d., Mr. Scott Alexander 2s. 6d., and Miss Marie Smith 1s. (per Mr. Chas. Coborn), Miss Lottie Albert (collection) 10s., collected by Messrs. Capner and Steele from manager, staff, and artists, Picture Palace, Yeadon, 2s. 6d.; Miss Cora Corina, donation, 1s.

Miss Lottie Albert has become an annual subscriber to the York-road., S.E., Lying-in Hospital, in order to hand all the letters to the Guild—a very thoughtful act, and thanks are due to Miss Irene Rose for ladies' boots; Miss Lottie Albert, useful clothing; Miss Queenie Leighton, basket of gents' clothing; and anonymous, two parcels.

Miss Amelia Trapnell (Trapnell Family) has collected £6 7s. 7d., the largest sum in one year, and won the prize promised, which has been forwarded to her. Will friends kindly remember the Xmas Tree and treat we give to the poor children at Christmas time, and kindly send on gifts and funds for same?

What is practically an all-star programme has been provided for a matinée which takes place at the Alhambra on Thursday next, the entire proceeds of which are to be devoted to the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. The artists who have kindly offered their services include Messrs. Wilkie Bard, Walter Dowling, Mark Sheridan, Harry Tate in *Flying*, the Four Harveys, Miss Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane in *The Girl in the Hobble Skirt*, and Messrs. Fisher White and W. G. Fay in a comedy sketch. Amongst the other turns will be Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's patriotic playlet, *Fall in, Rookies*.

Mr. Tom Woottwell sails to-day per the Union-Castle s.s. Tintagel Castle, leaving Southampton at mid-day for a twelve-weeks' tour in South Africa. This will be Tom's fourth trip, and he is looking forward to it with a special interest, as he will visit places he has not had the opportunity of seeing, such as Buluwayo, Salisbury, &c., in Rhodesia. He hopes to see the wonderful Victoria Falls. He will be with Mr. Leonard Rayne, perhaps the best-known touring theatrical manager in South Africa, who will visit the best theatres with a variety company—quite a new departure in South African amusements.

About eight years ago, whilst Tom was playing for Messrs. Hyman in Johannesburg, Mr. Rayne matched one of his actors to swim against him. The race came off in Rosherville Lake—a dam attached to one of the mines. Modesty will not permit Tom to state the name of the winner. He merely hints that the prestige of the music hall profession was upheld. Miss Emily Lyndale (Mrs. Tom Woottwell) is specially engaged to play a part in Mr. Rayne's sketch, *By Royal Command*. A Merry Christmas to all pals is Tom's message at starting, and he hopes that they will be as merry as he will be hot.

Mr. Ernest Wightman, the manager of the recently-opened Finsbury Park Empire, has adopted stringent measures with regard to noisy individuals of the hooligan order who delight in rendering themselves a nuisance to other members of the audience. No longer are the "gods," who pay their twopences for admission into the top gallery, allowed to turn the house into a bear garden. No longer are the stalls subjected to insult from above; no longer is the pleasure of the pittites and the comfort of the circle upset by a few ill-mannered youths. Every night the manager, the assistant-manager (Mr. H. Bibby), and a uniformed attendant who has spent twenty-five years in North London and knows a good deal about the rough element, go along the queue, and if a familiar face is found, there is a touch on the shoulder, a word, and exit the obstreperous individual. There is not often any inclination on the part of the "spotted" man to argue; he is generally glad to slink out of the limelight, but occasionally there is a show of bravado. They try to brazen the affair out, but invariably come off second best. The evicted "gods" have held indignation meetings, but to no effect; the management do not relent. To do so would mean the collapse of the most successful policy for keeping a music hall orderly.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THE run on a well-known bank is over, but the run on an equally famous and stable house continues unabated. Pantomime producers, managers, *chefs d'orchestre*, and artists daily throng to that Bank of Melody known the world over as Messrs. Francis and Day's, and just as the Birkbeck depositors were made happy with gold so are the others being sent satisfied away laden with notes of sterling worth.

THAT chief among catchy and rollicking chorus songs entitled "Come with me down Regent-street" will take a paramount position in all the chief annuals, as did its great predecessor, "Let's all go down the Strand." Miss Daisy James and Miss Winifred Ward's fine renderings of this number have fired numbers of foremost artists to emulate their efforts, and to have the gratification of knowing they are associated with a certain applause-getter. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

OF the myriad and one items from Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue none are more in favour with artists than are "I've got rings on my fingers," "Top o' the mornin', Bridget McCue," and "Down in Jungletown" for use in pantomime. The legion of knowing ones who believe in the old adage of "playing trumps when in doubt" are, with these three favourite items in their hands, together with the greatest ballad of the time "If I had the world to give you," and that splendid one which double turns in pantomime have not been slow to pounce upon. Miss Ada Reeve's "And just then he fell out of bed" is daily gaining new adherents among lovers of a humorous song. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers of all these ditties.

AN abnormal rise in the number of applications for certain songs for pantomime mentioned below shows unerringly that the barometer of success will be at "set fair" for the whole of the forthcoming pantomime season when their melodies are employed at Yuletide, because, with few exceptions, they have already stood the test of the great theatres of variety. Such numbers as "Flanagan," "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland," "There are nice girls everywhere," "'Tis a faded picture," "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," "My Mary," "Hail, smiling morn (will you sing this glee with me?)," and "Why does Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" are booked, and are being booked, very largely throughout these islands, one and all having earned in many a splendid hippodrome the "thumbs" up of the populace. All are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, "the chocolate-coloured coon," has at the Empire, Huddersfield, been packing the house nightly during the current week, and is here, as elsewhere, a favourite without parallel. His songs "Mister Owl" and "There's a little black cupid in the moon" will grace many a first-class pantomime this approaching season, be Cuthbert Clarke's were correct in their surmises. The accomplished musical director has just published this haunting song with Messrs. Francis and Day. The lyric is by Ralph Roberts.

A WALTZ entitled "Lingmoor," adapted to Charles Coote's "Vivete Danse," by J. Finigan, has just been acquired by Messrs. Francis and Day. The same house have in the press an instrumental piece by John Neat entitled "Will, the Whistler" and a new intermezzo by H. Sullivan Brooke which will be known as "Songe de Nuit."

AMONG other publications of Messrs. Francis and Day just acquired mention may be made of "O'Brien," by C. W. Murphy; "Come back, White Man Jack," by C. W. Murphy and F. W. Leigh; "Tell me, daddy, do dreams come true?" sung by Mr. Arthur Lennard, by E. W. Rogers; "That's nice!" (Charles Lilburn), by Fred Murray and F. W. Leigh; "Hennesey," by T. W. O'Connor and Herman E. Darewski; and "Oh, father! when you married mother!" (Miss Florrie Forde), by Harry Castling and Charles Collins.

HENRY E. PETHER'S new humorous song "Saving twenty pounds a year (Mary Jane! we shan't want her again!)" is in the press, having been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day. It deals with the tribulations of a family who endeavour to "do" for themselves—and very nearly succeed. The verses are by Edgar Bateman.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

"SHIP AHOY!"

A Nautical Divertissement, in One Scene, by C. Wilhelm, Music by Cuthbert Clarke, Produced by Fred Farren at the Empire on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Algy Fanshawe ..... MR. FRED FARREN
Colonel Currie ..... MR. M. GIRARD
Lady Cornelia Currie .... MISS A. COURTLAND
Kathleen ..... MISS UNITY MORE
Fay ..... MISS PHYLLIS BEDELLS
Jhansi ..... MISS BEATRICE COLLIER
Ram-Dass ..... MR. LAURIE HUNTER
Captain Sturdy ..... MR. JAMESON
Jack Handy ..... MISS F. MARTELL
M. Hippolyte ..... M. ZALEVSKY
Leontin L'Etoile ..... MLLE. LYDIA KYASHT

If that well-found liner "The Empire" be not "enthroned a queen upon the sunny fields of ocean" it makes a brave show upon the stage of its theatrical namesake in Leicester-square. We have no "grim broadsides with loud prophetic roar," but a taut craft, spick and span from midships to bows, with a crew of merry-hearted sailors, whose feet twinkle in hornpipes and other cheery dances of the main. There are passengers of course. Colonel Currie, a retired Anglo-Indian officer, is returning to England with his wife and two daughters. They are attended by an ayah, who recognises a ring on the finger of her mistress which has some fateful significance. When one of the Miss Curries falls overboard the ayah takes the ring from the finger of the fainting mother and gives it to a native servant. The theft is soon discovered, and attributed to Mlle. Leontin L'Etoile, a French danseuse, who from the commencement of the voyage has attracted the attention of Algy Fanshawe, coming home on leave. By means of a magic crystal the true culprit is discovered, and all is again harmony.

Crew and passengers give themselves up to the delights of a fancy dress ball, and in a brace of shakes the ship's deck looks like a dream palace of the Arabian nights under the glow of lanterns. The attractive and agile representatives of Great Britain, France, Spain, Russia, and America flaunt in the breeze of popular favour the flags of their several countries, and the evolutions are exceedingly pretty. We have, too, a Hungarian dance from the French danseuse, who is finely played by the fascinating Lydia Kyasht. She is joined by M. Zalevsky, a dancer new to the Empire, who is responsible for a classical solo as well as for some excellent work in support of the Russian prima donna. One of the most popular numbers is a waltz in which Lydia is partnered by Mr. Fred Farren, whose inventive power is seen in the continual movement and brightness of the whole spectacle. Mr. Farren also does a hornpipe, a remarkably neat and deft performance, and the crew of charming ballerine, dressed as handymen, after swabbing drill, let their feet go in the typical sailors' dance. Miss Unity Moore, who returns to the Empire, has a characteristic solo; and Phyllis Bedells, who is growing quite a big girl, scores a hit in a characteristic number. Miss Beatrice Collier has none too much opportunity as the ayah, but in miming the part imparts something of the mystery of the East to her rendering. The coloured lantern dance is one of the prettiest effects of the ocean revels, and Mr. C. Wilhelm's artistic hand is seen everywhere in the costumes. The wigs are again from the atelier Clarkson, who has done well. Mr. Cuthbert Clarke's music is for the most part merry and bright, and always appropriate.

Mr. George Robey as the village blacksmith, who swings a heavy sledge—"the last word"—and deals out topical hits, is a pure joy to the gilded youth at the Empire, and his account of Charles the Second is a valuable lesson in English history. For a few further particulars of the Merry Monarch and the ladies of his court George might do worse than read the lively pages of the "Memoirs of the Comte de Grammont."

The Plumbers is being successfully played by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., Miss Emily Spiller, Mr. Harry Grattan, and Miss Blanche Doris. Valazzi is astonishing everyone with his cannon-ball feats; Mr. Fred Russell's ventriloquial act is ingenious, witty, and interesting; *The Fawn* is a fantasy that gives delight by its musical qualities, its interpretation by Mr. Fred Farren and Miss Lydia Kyasht, and by its beautiful setting; and other turns in Mr. Harry Hitchins' fine bill are Henry and Tyler and Olga Tcharna.

"AN EPISODE."

Comedietta, by Cyril Twyford, Produced at the Coliseum on Monday, Nov. 14.

Victoria Dalrymple ..... MISS KATE CUTLER
Robert Wargrave ..... MR. FRANK TENNANT

On the stage we are getting quite used to lovers and husbands who disguise themselves as burglars to frighten their fiancées or wives, as the case may be; and another variant of the theme, produced on Monday at the Coliseum, is *An Episode*, from the pen of Cyril Twyford. Victoria Dalrymple, an actress, has become engaged to Robert Wargrave, who brings her from the theatre to her flat. There he urges her to hasten the wedding, but she is playing in a successful piece, and will give him no hope until the end of the run. He takes her to task for her carelessness as to her jewels, especially a pearl necklace. She lives, too, on a ground-floor flat by herself, and Robert points out the danger she incurs from the enterprising cracksman. She makes light of his apprehensions, and shows him a toy pistol that she assures him she knows how to use. On his leaving Victoria gets into a *peignoir* and retires to rest. She has scarcely done so when her lover returns in slouch hat and brown coat, carrying a lantern. He at once pockets the toy pistol, and, making a great noise in his clumsiness, alarms Victoria, who returns, and, turning up the lights, soon penetrates Bob's disguise. After fooling him to the top of his bent by a pretence that she has sent for the police, the pair fall into each other's arms. The piece serves its purpose in enabling Miss Kate Cutler to make her rentrée to the London variety stage after her sojourn in America, but she will undoubtedly soon be presenting something more worthy of her abilities. She looks particularly charming in a very pretty dress and also in the daintiest of dressing-gowns. Mr. Frank Tennant did his utmost with the stupid part of the lover-burglar, who does not give much credit for discernment to the smart girl he will one day make his wife.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PUBLISHERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST SONGS.

LEGITIMATE HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

MY MARY.
MISS ZONA VEVEY.

HAIL, SMILING MORN.
(WILL YOU SING THIS GLEE WITH ME?) WILKIE BARD.

PUT ON YOUR TAT-TA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

FLANAGAN.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

HI! HI! Mr. McKIE.
MISS ELLA RETFORD.

Mr. OWL.
G. H. ELLIOTT.

'TIS A FADED PICTURE
FRANK CASS.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU
DAVE CARTER.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE. WHIT CUNLIFFE.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND. TOM COSTELLO.

IN CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME IN JAPAN. MISS JOSÈ COLLINS.

WHY DOES Mrs. FLANAGAN WANT TO GO TO THE ISLE OF MAN? ROWLAND HILL.

TAKE YOUR GIRLIE WHERE THE BAND IS PLAYING. MISS MAIE ASH.

AND THE THREE MOST POPULAR SONGS OF THE SEASON—

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS, TOP O' THE MORNING (Bridget McCue), and DOWN IN JUNGLETOWN.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London. THE PLACE WHERE THE HITS COME FROM.

MARCH-SONG "Take your girlie where the band is playing," in a position to call "Wellington" every time. Messrs. Francis and Day publish all five songs.

"On the silvery sands" will, of its class, be "the only pebble on the beach" this Christmas-tide. Near and far the fame of this tuneful and witty song has been noised abroad, and the verdict of one and all of those best qualified to pronounce judgment is that it is a worthy compeer of that other great song "In the twi-twi-twilight," a song that few pantomimes were without in its year. "On the silvery sands" is being applied for from all points. Messrs. Francis and Day issue it.

THE two pantomime books—No. 1 for principal boy and girl, and No. 2 for comedian and dame—issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, have had, and still are having, a great vogue this season, it being known everywhere that their pages comprise the absolute pick of the pantomime songs for this year. The firm's grand selection of popular melodies, entitled "The best of the bunch," is also known to be up to its title, and the merry budget of melody will form the overture to many annuals on Boxing Night.

KEEN interest is being evinced over that new rollicking song of Percy Edgar and Huntley Trevor's, "Everyone's key fits my street-door," and Henry E. Pether's music, as usual, enhances the merit of a lyric that is being sought after. A like happy fate is befalling Messrs. Rich and Rich's "We don't want a girl," a most laughable item, as is ever the case with their numbers, and it will interest not a few of his multitudinous admirers to learn that both these ditties have been included in the new "Album of G. H. Elliott's Popular Songs" just issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. In addition to "I used to sigh for the silvery moon" and "Mister Owl" the volume also contains "I want to go to Idaho," "Sue, Sue, Sue," "How d'you do, my baby?" "Ma Havana queen," "I'se a-waitin' for yer, Josie," "The lonely bachelor coon," "Baby Lucy," "Good-bye for ever," "Sweetest little pebble on the beach," "'Rastus Brown," "He's my military man," "Maisie, I'm a-waiting," "Caroo," and "Lazy Maisie." The volume contains a critical appreciation and biographical sketch of the artist by Charles Wilmott, and is adorned with a striking portrait of Mr. Elliott in private life.

THE latest additions to Messrs. Francis and Day's series of sixpenny popular editions comprise Mr. Billy Williams' "When father papered the parlour"; the exquisite song, sung by Miss Clara Beck, entitled "You taught me how to love you, now teach me to forget"; Mr. Tom E. Finglass's great number, "My baby"; Mr. George Bastow's "Captain Ginjah, O.T."; "The sylph waltz," a new round dance by H. R. Johnson (composed by Clement Harris); and Mr. Rowland Hill's laughable "Why does Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" The catalogue of Messrs. Francis and Day's sixpenny pops. now consists of no fewer than 664 titles.

VISITORS to the Empire, Leicester-square, recently were much struck and charmed with a pretty song, daintly sung by Miss Sybil Arundale, entitled "The river girl," and those who opined that the melody was tuneful and musicianly enough to

"SCROOGE."

An Adaptation, by Arabella Allen, of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol," produced on Monday, Nov. 14, at the Queen's, Poplar.

Scrooge ..... MISS ARABELLA ALLEN

'Tis Christmas Eve, and the miserly Scrooge is giving vent to his opinion on the wanton waste of time and money common at this time of year. After severely rating his clerk for his impudence in requesting a day's holiday, Scrooge falls asleep and dreams he is visited by the spirit of his late partner, Marley. It tells him it is required of every man that the spirit within him should walk abroad among his fellow-men, the poor and needy, and if that spirit goes not forth in life it is condemned to do so after death; it is doomed to wander through the world witnessing what it cannot share, but might have shared on earth and turned to happiness. It warns Scrooge of the same fate, and the terrible consequences connected therewith. He awakens from his dream in terror a changed man. The lesson it teaches he has learned. Drawing aside the curtains, the light streams in—'tis Christmas morning. He opens his door, calls in all and sundry, bestows presents all round, and gives them all a happy Christmas.

Miss Allen, whose clever impersonation of characters from the novels of Charles Dickens are well known, has surely eclipsed all her previous triumphs in this, her latest. Aided by a clever make-up, and a voice wonderfully disguised, her performance stands as a brilliantly dramatic and effective one. Miss Allen is particularly powerful in the dream scene, her strong character acting drawing forth bursts of applause. The sketch, which is exceptionally well staged, is certain of proving a popular feature in all programmes, and should keep this talented young artist busy for a long time to come.

VISITORS to the Empire, Leicester-square, recently were much struck and charmed with a pretty song, daintly sung by Miss Sybil Arundale, entitled "The river girl," and those who opined that the melody was tuneful and musicianly enough to

TENDERS are invited from concert parties and others for the right to give entertainments upon the beach at Boscombe, west of the pier, during the summer season of 1911. Further particulars may be obtained on application to Mr. Geo. Wm. Bailey, Town Clerk, at the Municipal Offices, Bournemouth.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

In ever-increasing volume, pantomime demands for all the principal vocal gems of the Feldman catalogue keep pouring in at Arthur-street, in a continuous flood. Well might this be; for this go-ahead firm certainly possesses a list of already tried and proven "winners," before which even the records of other successful years fade into insignificance. Last year's great Feldman ballad "Somewhere" literally took the world by storm, and sold in hundreds of thousands of copies; yet, even greater than "Somewhere," a song has arisen on this season's horizon which will eclipse even its wonderful predecessor. We refer to that ubiquitous ballad "Beautiful garden of roses," the song that one hears at every turn, in the homeward 'bus, tram, or tube; the song that every pantomime producer throughout the land is specially featuring. Principal boys are everywhere deciding on it as a *pièce de résistance*.

One of the most loudly applauded items on the splendid current bill at the Oxford is "Beautiful garden of roses," as exquisitely played on the harp and other musical instruments by the Miles Stavordale Quintette; in fact, something like a furore is the nightly reward meted out to them for this most musicianly and altogether delightful offering. Miss Lily Eyton is singing this number on the Gibbons tour nightly with great success, and another talented exponent in London is Miss Alice Tremayne (of Claff and Tremayne).

"He came, was heard, and conquered" is a paraphrase that may fittingly be applied to Mr. Mark Sheridan, in connection with his last and best "seaside" number, "By the sea." At the Tivoli, on Tuesday last, when he for the first time gave the comedy chorus song that is going to figure in over a hundred pantomimes, its West End début, "for five nights only" (the genial Mark being booked for Walthamstow and Tottenham for next week), enthusiasm ran riot. Artists who then had the felicity of hearing Mr. Sheridan's perfect rendering of this perfect song, instantaneously declared it what Messrs. Feldman have all along claimed it to be—the comedy chorus song of the year, *par excellence*. Any principal boy who misses this song is losing the biggest potential winner for pantomime yet exploited on the halls of variety. Mr. Sheridan himself is giving the song a special pantomime production at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, in a scene specially written for the song.

Rumour, which has for the past few weeks asserted that Feldman and Co. had an Irish chorus song likely to outrival their last year's big Hibernian hit, "Molly O'Morgan," has certainly not lied in the case of the song in question, "Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town," for no song for many a long day has been received with such vociferous applause at the Granville, Walham Green, as this has, as rendered by Miss Carlotta Levey this week. It "hit the bull's-eye" of popular approval from the very first line and bar, and the chorus was wholeheartedly taken up by every auditor. Miss Levey, at the Oxford on Monday next, will make "Maggie Ryan" her special offering, and both principal boys and girls should certainly embrace this opportunity of hearing the song that is going to be one of the undoubted "hits" of this year's pantomimes.

The Romps at the Holborn Empire this week are going greater than ever in Feldman's brilliant march-time comedy chorus song "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," which elicits a perfect tornado of applause from all their delighted hearers. This is the ideal dashing principal boy's song of the year, and as such has already been decided upon by all the most astute managers and artists. A visit to the Holborn Empire what time the Romps occupy the stage would effectually decide all waverers to at once make "Oh, boys" their very own for pantomime.

The annals of the Richmond Hippodrome can record no greater hit than that made by Miss Maggie Carr this week with Feldman's beautiful song of the sierras, "Silver Bell." Listened to with rapt attention, which is the meed of both the dainty lyric and delightful music, the termination of the number was the signal for an outburst of applause of the heartiest description. Miss Carr is producing this song in the West End shortly, probably at the London Coliseum, and it may be specially recommended to the notice of all pantomime artists who prefer songs of a romantic tendency, with fine scope for spectacular display and effect.

Miss Josie Collins is now including in her dainty and refined entertainment at the Oxford and other West End houses that charming ballad "Everywhere I go I leave my heart with you," which suits the fair singer like the proverbial glove. Miss Collins will also specially feature Feldman's two big successes, "I wonder if it's true" and "By the light of the silvery moon," in pantomime this year. Both these songs are in great demand among principal girls, and are ideal numbers for dainty parts, such as Alice in *Whittington*, and the like.

The fame of that really fine duet for principal boy and dame or comedian and principal girl, "The barber's ball," is rapidly permeating Pantomimeland, for every post brings the house of Feldman a sheaf of letters asking for permission to introduce this great number in pantomime. If artists have any doubts as to the desirability of this number for pantomime purposes a visit to the London Pavilion, where the Two Bobs are going great guns with this racy item, would show them how a good song, well sung (and danced) goes with an audience keen to appreciate tricky words and excellent music.

That delightful young actress and vocalist Miss Mabel Green, who has done so much with her sweet rendering to popularise Feldman's two splendid songs "I wonder if it's true" and "In the sunny Engadine," will on Monday next produce Feldman's latest acquisition, a most charming number, entitled "In your gown of white and gold." This number is what may be termed a "surprise song," and all who have heard it declare it gives every promise of being one of the hits of the season.

At the Ardwick Empire Mr. George Lashwood is going bigger than ever in that delightful song "Pat O'Hare," which is being eagerly taken up for pantomime all over the country. This number will figure in one of the first pantomimes of the year, and its success as a pantomime medium for principal boys and light comedians playing Dandini and parts of that kind is assured.

At the Walthamstow Palace this week Miss Ella Retford adds triumph to triumph with Feldman's greatest song (next to "Garden of roses"), "By the light of the silvery moon." Many performers must surely have seen Miss Retford in her most finished and artistic interpretation of this song, for the daily number of applicants for pantomime permissions is legion. Every town and city of note booked the song many weeks ago.

Mr. Harry Simms at the Empire, Belfast, this week scores very heavily indeed with Feldman's "goey" chorus song "Lead me towards the girls," and his Hibernian auditors are not slow to appreciate the racy humour contained in the distinctly humorous verses and most effective chorus. Decidedly a hit—a palpable hit!

That dainty number "Little Miss Importance," rendered so popular recently at the Oxford and other West End houses by charming Miss Josie Delaine, will certainly prove of very vital importance to principal girls in a goodly number of this year's pantomimes, for numerous indeed have been the demands for this number at Feldman's during the past few days, and the author and composer of last year's great song hit, "Little girl from nowhere," are to be congratulated on having written so "likely" a successor thereto.

Messrs. C. Sheard and Co. have been inundated with requests for the use of "Aboo Tabah" (the Whistling Sergeant of the Pacha's Guard) for pantomimes with Oriental scenes. This quaint item, probably the only actual Turkish intermezzo at present before the public, will figure in every pantomime of importance having an Eastern setting this Christmas.

That catchy item was featured by the Whitehall Military Band (conductor, Mr. M. Maske) during their lengthy engagement at the Japan-British Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush, creating quite a sensation. So much so that other bandmasters all over the country are awaking to the public requirements in this direction. Messrs. Sheard publish the orchestral and Messrs. Boosey and Co. the military band parts.

"My Lancashire Lass" is another song that the popular Lancashire tenor, Mr. Will Norrie, is popularising on his South African tour. Mr. John Hart has selected it as the song to be featured in his forthcoming pantomime, as well as the "Aboo Tabah" Turkish intermezzo mentioned above.

From every part of the country Messrs. Sheard and Co. continue to receive calls for H. W. Petrie's song, "The roses tell me of you," as well as for St. Quintin's "What would my life be without you?" and Marcus Hope's "Don't break your loving heart for me." No pantomime love-sick hero can afford to miss these delightful songs, each eloquent in the language of Cupid.

Of course, "T.R.O.U.B.L.E." ("Those wedding bells are ringing"), Joe Archer's sure-fire hit, is keeping the Shaftesbury-avenue firm very busy, and humorous pantomime producers are featuring the song with the chorus of "Wedding belles."

Encouraged by the success of "T.R.O.U.B.L.E.," Messrs. Sheard have secured for publication Joe Archer's comedy soldier song, "What would England do without the men like me?" which he reports as "simply storming 'em." Messrs. Harry Castling and Charlie Collins are to be congratulated on finding another big winner for the genial and racy Joe.

Schmid and Dempsey's captivating song "If you must love someone, won't you please love me?" looks certain to get there in pantomime this Christmas. Messrs. Sheard report that Miss Barbara Evangeline, Miss Elsie Forster, and several other charming artists have this week selected it, either as their special pantomime song or to work on the halls. The same writers' other song, "Moonlight in Jungleland," is also being taken up for pantomimes, both on account of its intrinsic merit and the scope it affords for effective staging.

"Asleep in the deep," "When the ebb-tide flows," and those other really great bass ballads "Neptune!" (Lord of the Sea am I) and "The Volcano" are unique in their way, and must not be overlooked by demon kings and others this Christmas. In them, Messrs. Sheard are fortunate to possess the only real bass songs on the market to-day.

"Oh, Miss Malinda" (When evening time comes round) looks like duplicating its huge American success in this country. The coloured couple, Grant and Grant, and Miss Ethel Alberts are this week's recruits to the army of vocalists who are gaining applause and reputation by means of this tuneful number.

"Queen of the Land of Pearl and Gold," J. F. Lambe's and T. W. Thurban's charming and fascinating special pantomime efforts, is going very strong and well. All the principal pantomime managers in the United Kingdom have it under consideration, on account of the £2 2s. requisite permission, but several artists have other already secured it, or are anxious for their various managements to do so for them.

Karl F. Hooper and J. Chas. Moore, of the National Music Publishing Co., 132, Charing Cross-road, W.C., are at present working under exceedingly high pressure, endeavouring to cope with the shoals of letters daily increasing, owing to the increasing popularity of that great ballad, "Why do you wait for to-morrow?" Their morning letter bag has grown to enormous dimensions. A member of the staff was overheard to say the other day "Everybody is going absolutely crazy over the song. I'm worked to death, and if the rush holds on I shall certainly give notice, and look for a situation where the work is lighter and winners less plentiful."

"Why do you wait for to-morrow?" is a ballad par excellence with a chorus once heard never forgotten. We would advise all pantomime artists and managers who have not yet secured this winner, to do so immediately. In the opinion of those who know, the song that will eclipse "Why do you wait for to-morrow" has not been written.

Fred E. Cliffe and J. Chas. Moore have written together an exceedingly funny dame song, entitled "We all want to canoodle with somebody," published by the National Music Publishing Co. Mr. George Robey has already secured it, and intends making it a big feature in his forthcoming pantomime. The patter which Mr. Fred E. Cliffe has specially written for Mr. Robey will be found equally useful to all comedians playing dame who are looking for the real good funny comedy business. This is the same business that made such a hit at the Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, and was also used by Mr. George Robey in last year's Birmingham pantomime.

George Formby has just produced a most laughable song, entitled "I'm learning the lockstep," another perpetration by Fred E. Cliffe and J. Chas. Moore. The authors claim George Formby's lockstep song to be the original, as far as music halls are concerned, considering the fact that it was written and sold to George Formby when *The Man from Mexico* was first produced. We think the authors are quite justified in claiming it to be the first in the field.

"Sammy in his tam o'shanter hat," written by Fred D'Albert, Frank H. Fox, and J. Chas. Moore, also published by the National Music Publishing Co., is being quickly snapped up. This catchy chorus bids fair to outdo everything before it.

(*Continued on page 25.*)

Mr. Arthur Cockerill, London and provincial representative of the Variety Bookings Agency, has been suffering from a severe attack of influenza, which has confined him to the house for the past three weeks. He is now convalescent and back in harness.

FELDMAN'S TRIUMPH for PANTOMIME.

"GARDEN OF ROSES"

The acknowledged Ballad of the Year.

THIS SONG WILL OUTRIVAL OUR FORMER HITS:

"TINY SEED OF LOVE" AND "SOMEWHERE."

NO ARTISTE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THIS. DO NOT BE MISLED! WE STAKE OUR REPUTATION ON THIS SONG! IT WILL POSITIVELY BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL SUCCESS EVER PUBLISHED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHERS OF POPULAR MUSIC.

ARTISTS, REMEMBER! YOUR SUCCESS IS OURS

OTHER GREAT PANTOMIME WINNERS.

HEAR MARK SHERIDAN SING

"BY THE SEA"

AT WALTHAMSTOW & TOTTENHAM, NIGHTLY.

"THE" Principal Boy's Song of the Year.

HEAR ELLA RETFORD SING

"BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON"

The Song that will be Featured In 200 Pantomimes.

HEAR CARLOTTA LEVEY SING

"MAGGIE RYAN"

AT THE OXFORD, NIGHTLY.

The Irish Chorus Song of the Year.

HEAR THE TWO BOBS SING

"THE BARBER'S BALL"

AT THE LONDON PAVILION, NIGHTLY.

The Comedy Duet of the Year.

We have the greatest and most varied selection of PROVEN SUCCESSES for PANTOMIME ever offered to Artists and Producers. Call or write at once, stating Part and Theatres.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR STREET, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.

Tel. Address—"HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone—4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 24.*)

THE accumulated evidence of the past month or two points unerringly to the fact that A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes," will be one of the greatest favourites ever heard in the history of pantomime. Practically every manager and producer in the kingdom have arranged to feature this delightful number in Christmas productions. Principal boys and girls, not forgetting fairy queens, who have decided to sing the song, have a feeling of confidence that only a real "natural hit" can give them. The secret of this great success is that in addition to an ear-haunting melody, the words "ring true"; they are not overdone with sickly sentiment or impossible propositions, yet the passion of the heart is revealed with a master touch. In "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" the Star Music Co. have the greatest winner they have ever yet published.

As among ballads "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" reigns supreme, so in the bright and breezy type of song there is none to compare with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's sparkling number, "Fall in and follow me." To use the words of one of our principal boys, "There is no competition; it is an easy first favourite, with all rivals miles behind." And from the moment King Pantomime starts his reign at Glasgow in the first week of December this amazing fact will be demonstrated beyond all possibility of doubt. Charles Whittle, who is the privileged singer of this phenomenal song on the halls, declares it "easily the best chorus song he has ever exploited," and for an artist with his record of successes this is wonderful indeed. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS DOROTHY WARD, whose lightning-like rise to popularity in the halls is a topic of conversation in professional circles, has been featuring as her principal number A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's brilliant march song, "Cheer up, my Highland lassie." On no occasion has Miss Ward been able to retire after singing this number with less than four recalls. This song is a great favourite with pantomime managers and producers. Amongst others, Mr. Francis Laidler, of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, and Prince's, Bradford, will produce this song on a really gorgeous scale in his forthcoming pantomimes. Naturally Miss Ward will feature the number as her extra special contribution in the pantomime at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

G. H. ELLIOTT, the original chocolate coon, more than satisfied all expectations when last week he produced at his London engagements A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's eleventh hour stormer, "Here comes the chocolate major." Ringing cheers and applause rewarded his efforts, and the audience took up the sparkling chorus with a spontaneity that surprised even such a successful chorus singer as G. H. Elliott himself. This week at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield, he is duplicating his success, only, if possible, "more so." Pantomime artists and managers in doubt as to the dashing march song to feature in forthcoming productions should secure a copy of the song without delay from the Star Music Co., who are also the publishers of the same authors' and artist's delightful number, "Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah." This is acknowledged by experts to be the most original coon number written for many years, and is a great relief after the inevitable "moon" song, which has been so overdone.

MISS MAY MARS returned to London on Monday to the scenes of former triumphs, the Tivoli and Metropolitan. Miss Mars, who is a great favourite at both houses, received a warm welcome, and established herself a greater favourite than ever by her artistic rendering of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's dainty and catchy song, "What d'ye say, Molly Molloy?" This is the kind of number one cannot dismiss from the mind. There is a pretty little trick in the melody that fastens itself on to one's brain cells and will not be expelled, no matter what other melodies one may hear. This is one of the Star Music Co.'s special selections for pantomime.

HAL FORDE, the favourite light comedian, has just returned bronzed and fit from South Africa, where he has made a record success. His biggest hit has been A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's humorous and melodious number, "What's the matter with London?" This song he was compelled to sing at every performance. Hardly less successful was he in that fine comedy number, by J. P. Long, "It's my night out to-night." Mr. Forde is singing both songs with exceptional success on the London halls. The Star Music Co. are the publishers.

MISS EDNA LATONNE, the lady with the voice, who is rapidly ousting all rivals as a male impersonator par excellence, was the recipient of a right royal welcome in the shape of solid applause when her number was put up at the Euston and South London on Monday last. Miss Latonne's two contributions (by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott) were "She was a girl in white," which she has made so exceedingly popular, and the charming descriptive song, "Homeland, goodbye." Miss Latonne dresses in perfect taste, and her phenomenal voice and pleasing manner have made her a warm favourite wherever she has appeared. Both her numbers are published by the Star Music Co.

HARRY CARLTON has just placed two songs with the well-known firm of Keith, Prowse, and Co. One a clever comedy song, entitled "The other pair of shoes," and a beautiful ballad, entitled "My world is a world of sunshine," of which report speaks highly.

MISS LOUIE TRACY, the dapper dandy boy, has secured a fine comedy nautical number from the pen of Harry Carlton (the writer of all her other successes), entitled "There must be something nice about a sailor." Sam Mayo has also secured a new song by the same writer.

A VERY quaint song, being eagerly sought after by pantomime comedians, is "I never, never, never, never saw such a thing before," written and composed by Worton David and Bert Lee. Von Tilzers are receiving applications for the song from all directions, and have already reserved the rights for a number of towns.

MISS GERTIE GITANA has just produced a charming new number entitled "My Indian Maid (Till that moon shall cease from shining"), written by Worton David and composed by R. Penso. The song proved an instantaneous success, and the published rights have been secured by the Von Tilzer Music Co. Miss Gitana's other new song, "When the summer days are o'er, Anna Gray," is earning her much well-deserved applause for her delightful rendering, and provokes repeated encores. We should not be surprised if this ballad eclipses Miss Gitana's two former successes, "In the evening by the moonlight, dear Louise," and "When the harvest moon is shining, sweet Eileen," which have been popular so long.

AMONG the new sixpenny editions shortly to be published by Von Tilzers are to be found a dainty ballad entitled "Someland," which will be specially featured in pantomime in Birmingham by Miss Carrie Moore, and "I shan't go back to Aldershot," one of Miss Ella Shields's recent successes.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE BEDFORD.

A bright and varied entertainment is to be found at this popular hall this week, and Mr. C. J. Scarisbrick, the genial manager, finds business most flourishing. The honours of the evening are divided between Alec Hurley and Will Evans, both excellent in their differing methods. Alec Hurley presents a delightful turn now, working alone and without any of the big company he has had in the past. Three capital songs he brings with him, each very telling; but the favourite perhaps is his last, "I'm nobody in particular," which is sung in a quiet confidential way, and with such point that the singer has to leave his audience clamouring for more.

In a more boisterous fashion, Will Evans, that delicious grotesque, keeps his audience in shrieks of laughter—first by his announcement that he has a chorus but no verse, and asks the audience to supply him with one. This causes endless amusement, and to follow he gives us his screaming burlesque, *The Villain of the Piece*. A smart turn is that of the Three Torontos, who sing and dance in a pleasing manner; the younger of the two ladies is a capital dancer and a pianist of no small merit. Ardell and O'Dell present their eccentric act, *Quarter to Nine*, and give a display of clever acrobatic business. Reg. London, the skating comedian, goes well, and Lily Ray contributes a song with a neat dance to finish, and scores well.

A very artistic dancing scena is presented by La Valti and her bevy of girls. Their first effect, *The Spirits of the Foam*, with the aid of the biograph, which gives a fascinating effect of bathers in a rough sea, is most striking, and the serpentine dances which follow, and conclude with "Father," the second—an exquisitely humorous item—is entitled "If the wind had only blown the other way," and the third, the well-known "Mother is a leader of society." Miss Scott's success is very great, and thoroughly deserved, for she possesses great talent.

Lee and Kingston are responsible for a tabloid musical comedy, entitled *A Resourceful Lover*, an original and uproariously funny item, and Miss Florence Cooper achieves much success as a vocalist. The Doleful One, sometimes known as Walter King, introduces us to one of his melancholy dames, much to our amusement, and the Saxonia Family, Continental musical experts, provide a splendid turn with their playing on various musical instruments.

Miss Fanny Robina proves herself a fine burlesque actress and vocalist, her methods being of a type that are unfortunately rare on the stage nowadays.

One of the best troupes of trick cyclists that we have seen for some time is the Jackson Family, eight in number, who contribute a turn that rouses the audience to great enthusiasm. The troupe includes Leo Jackson, who claims to be the premier trick cyclist of the world, and we should think his claim is justifiable.

Mr. Harry Randall, ever popular, sings two or three songs of the type always associated with him, and with his usual great success. Mr. Randall is to be seen at the Drury Lane pantomime again this year, a fact which it is good to note. The remaining item (with the exception of the Bioscope) is the famous sketch, *The Little Stowaway*. It is a little bit late in the day to say much about Mr. Fred Bowyer's little play, except to remark that the company on this occasion is a particularly good one. The title-rôle is played cleverly by Miss Marjorie Armstrong, Captain Worsley by Mr. John K. Walton, Lieut. Burton by Mr. Geo. Wilson, the Eton boy by Mr. Beven Lorimer, and the widow by Miss Maude Osmond. The sketch is well produced by Mr. Bertie Shelton, and excellently staged and dressed. Mr. Lewis Vincent is the always genial acting-manager, and he has a much more than merely capable assistant in Mr. Herbert Mack.

STAR MUSIC CO.

LTD.

ALL OTHER BALLADS FADE INTO OBLIVION
WHEN YOU HEAR THE REAL HIT OF THE YEAR.

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES.

The Song that reaches every heart. Double Encores Positively Guaranteed.

BAND PARTS, in Three Keys, 1s.

The undisputed Light Comedy Song of the Year—admitted by all.

CHAS. WHITTLE'S PHENOMENAL HIT:

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.

Other Great Winners for Panto. are:—

CHEER UP, MY HIGHLAND LASSIE, WHAT DO YOU SAY, MOLLY MOLLOY?
THE MOONLIGHT PROMENADE, SHE WAS A GIRL IN WHITE,
UP SHE GOES, YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT EACH OTHER,
IT'S MY NIGHT OUT TO-NIGHT, MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY

Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah, and
Here Comes the Chocolate Major.

Send six stamps for Selection of Panto. Songs. State Theatre and Part.

ORDINARY PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH. CATALOGUE, FREE.

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "Songonia, London." (*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*). 'Phone: 8,446 Gerrard.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

An excellent evening's entertainment can always be secured at the above popular hall, for not only are the turns well varied and selected, but the best stars of the variety world can always be found here, brilliantly shining in their own way, and assisting very materially in making the programme what it always is—entertaining and enlivening. Foremost on the bill this week is Mr. George Robey, who, although suffering from a very severe cold, still deals out his humour. His numbers are "Wow, wow" and "Mignon," two extremely funny items. Scholey and Scholey, two male artists, have an amusing skit, in which they appear with conspicuous success.

Miss Alice Yorke and Mr. Tyler score a success in their humorous duologue *A Yacht for Sale*. The piece is a comedy of errors right through, and has an amusing termination. Both artists enact their parts with considerable skill. It is many a long day since we heard a violin player possessing such wonderful ability as Rinaldo who, very fortunately for music lovers, is on the bill here this week. Olive Dene, a pretty comedienne, sings a cowgirl song in excellent style, and afterwards dances with taste. The Smarte Brothers perform some really clever acrobatic feats with wonderful ease, and Devon and Earle show remarkable ability and much agility in their clever wooden shoe dances.

Bert Byrne and lady have an amusing item in *On the Pier*. Their patter is extremely smart, and much laughter is the result of their performance. Mr. Pop Dearly, the dandy coon, has a good chorus song in "She's a lump of love and cuddle," which he makes go with a swing. Miss Aimee Robert scores in her number, "T-e-m-p-t-a-t-i-o-n," and her second song, "Picking daisies in the dell," sung in Lancashire dialect, is highly enlivening. She fully deserves the appreciation shown her. Maddison and Webb are clever song and dance artists, who make much out of a little material.

The thrilling dramatic episode, entitled *Saved by an Ape*, is performed by Mr. Arthur Conquest and company in a manner worthy of warm praise. The sketch contains both pathos and excitement, and the interpretation, staging, and mounting are everything that could be desired. Mr. Arthur Conquest still maintains the great reputation won by his family in his impersonation of the ape.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

A varied and amusing entertainment is presented to the patrons of the above house by Mr. W. Payne this week. Miss Flo Cecil is a dainty comedienne, who meet with a good reception; Miss Molly Wynne is a charming soubrette, singing in a very vivacious manner a catchy number, "On the banks of the Seine"; Miss Mildred Bryan, described on the programme as "the charming Irish mezzo-soprano," appears in a very hobbly-hobble skirt, and sings with a good deal of power "There's a land." An excellent series of child studies, both pathetic and humorous, is given by Mr. Wilson Hallett, and the Five Havannas create some amusement in a rough and tumble act.

Mr. Phil Ray causes much merriment with his quaint patter songs, in which his abbreviations are extremely droll, and the Two Bobs quickly establish themselves in the good opinions of the audience with a clever and diverting entertainment, given for the most part at the piano. Colley and Scott do well in a comedy duologue and dancing act, and Barnes and Ascot literally bring down the house with a really marvellous exhibition of buck-dancing. A distinctly clever and artistic turn is that of Miss Edna Latonne, who in immaculate male attire, sings with much success her two numbers, "What's the matter with London?" and "Homeland." Miss Lottie Lennox, an old favourite here, scored in her two songs, "My home, sweet home" and "Put on your old plaid shawl," the choruses of which were quickly taken up by the entire audience. On Monday evening Miss Lennox introduced a new number which she sang for the first time, "Old pals are best of all," a song with a good chorus, which will doubtless catch on. An interesting series of pictures is shown on Ruffell's Bioscope, and the orchestra is heard in some tuneful selections.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

In a well-varied bill this week Malcolm Scott looms largely, and is decidedly popular. Attired in a "Nell Gwynne" costume, which is very provocative of mirth, he keeps the audience in the best of humour with his unctuous quips and cranks and spontaneous sallies. Stratford will eagerly anticipate another visit from Malcolm Scott. The Korries win a favourable reception for their musical act. Each is a skilled pianist, and, in addition, the lady sings and dances well and the gentleman contributes other instrumental music, their act being spiced with a clever blend of comedy. Chris Van Bern in a miscellaneous entertainment combines mystery and merriment to excellent purpose. His numerous conjuring tricks are adroitly performed, and are additionally enjoyable owing to his comedy interludes.

Jack Smiles, the aptly named one when one watches his expansive countenance, is in great form this week. The chorus of his "tongue-twister" "Fish Sauce" is taxing local audiences mightily in their manful (and girlful) endeavours to repeat it, and a new song in "That'll be all to-day" should stand him excellent service judging by its reception. Metaphorically speaking, Jack's big feat is his concluding dance, which completely justifies the repetition of his catch phrase "I wasn't going," for he is recalled time and again. Fasola, the Indian fakir, submits some remarkable illusions, quite bewildering in their frequency. No sooner have the audience got over their first gasp of astonishment, than wonderment is aroused either at a *petite* lady being produced from an apparently empty box or by the obtention of live birds from a felt hat, or other magical tricks. Perhaps on the night of our visit something extra uncanny was anticipated from him, for Fasola commenced his performance by exhibiting an empty vehicle, then closing the doors and producing therefrom—Jack Smiles! Tom E. Finglass is seen to much advantage in a dramatic coon scena, his singing, dancing, and make-up therein being very meritorious, and the introduction of a young lady assistant adds to its effectiveness. His other number, telling of a new baby which, to the coon's surprise, is black, like its father, is also in high favour, and his turn wins very hearty applause at its conclusion.

Fred Karno's company in *The Football Match* with a new Stiffy, the goalkeeper, in Mr. Will Poluski, jun., is easily repeating its former success here, the many ludicrously funny incidents which occur being received with unlimited laughter. Iva Voyce sings a ballad very acceptably; and Vincent's acrobatic table exposition evokes keen interest. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, an enjoyable item of the current programme; and to early comers pleasure is afforded by the orchestral selection, Rossini's "Tancredi," ably performed under the direction of Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus.Bac. Mr. E. J. Macdermott directs affairs here with urbanity, and he has a courteous lieutenant in Mr. A. E. Barnes.

EALING HIPPODROME.

In a programme including the Great Coram, the Lotto, Lilo, and Otto trick cyclists, and three excellent sketches, Mr. J. A. Molloy and his lieutenant, Mr. H. Wentworth, present a budget of novelties that must satisfy the greed of the most voracious of variety-hunters. On Monday evening Mr. Coram's automaton Jerry—who, with his master, has blossomed out into a full-rigged Territorial—was in the best of forms, and his outbursts, insolent or droll, but all humorous, kept the house, from footlights to topmost gallery-rail, in a continuous roar. The bike-footballing of Lotto, Lilo, and Otto is the *clou* of the entertainment presented by the world's comedy cyclists.

Harold Nuttall's company presents *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, written by W. W. Jacobs and Chas. Rock. In the one and only scene—the Interior of an Old Inn late at night—is assembled a party of gentlemen. Over whiskey and cigars the conversation turns upon ghosts, and a bet is made by a daring spirit that no supernatural visitant shall frighten him. Of course, when the pretended shade of the departed Jerry comes upon the scene there is a frantic *sauve qui peut*, and the devil take the hindermost. Smartly played, the sketch evoked roars of laughter. Into the comedy scena *The Ideal Woman* the Violet Shelley Trio manage to pack fifteen minutes of rollicking fun. Unknown to his wife, an author, under the pseudonym of Allen Clare, has written a work of which the lady strongly disapproves. He also receives a request from the office of a daily paper, whose circulation is the largest in the world, asking for an article upon the ideal woman. As he draws the parts his listening wife, thinking these are really his ideals, determines to realize the situations, and in doing so not only manages to mystify her husband, but also to thoroughly amuse the audience.

In the third sketch-episode, *Barmaids*, written by Harry Lowther, and presented by Messrs. Hodgson and Lowther, there are all the elements of a capital variety interlude, and the producers set a good example in giving the names of all the cast upon the programme. Tadwell Teague (Mr. Chas. James), having dined and wined perhaps too well, has proposed to three barmaids, under the idea that they are all married ladies, but, on the discovery that they are spinsters, matters seem likely to end in the High Court of Justice. A fine character study of the waiter Dixon is given by Mr. Harry Lowther, who is responsible for most of the laughter-making of the comedy.

The Misses Vera Leslie as Cissie Baker and Doris Dale as Flossie Wyndham looked pretty and acted well as the daintily-dressed barmaids; while the comic element in the trio of Hebes was supplied by Miss Rene Howard as Tatter; Miss Hulo Hodgson being the Mrs. Teague. The merry little absurdity ripples with fun. Miss Iris Banfield makes good use of her voice. Jack Lorrimer, with "The wedding-day" and "Wee Scotch Polly"; Maudie Francis, juvenile comedienne; and Sam Poluski, with his coon song "Clo from Ohio" and his dancing *à la Russe*, are other items in a generous bill.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

A programme of exceptional interest is being presented at this cosy hall by Manager Francis, and is proving to be of great drawing power. Many, of course, are attracted by the beauty competition, which for some time past has been assiduously billed around the district. From the competing candidates three are chosen each evening, and these are to take part in the final. The honour of determining the favoured three is left to the discretion of some half a dozen gentlemen, who constitute a sort of committee.

A prominent place in the legitimate programme is taken by Miss Daisy Dormer, who looks just as charming as ever. For her first number she gives "Why don't you go to Lancashire?" which proves to be a capital vehicle for the display of this comedienne's ability. This is followed by that old and tried favourite "I wish I lived next door to you," the chorus of which, needless to say, is readily taken up by the patrons of the "top shelf." Daisy afterwards dances in her own inimitable manner, and on concluding has to bow her acknowledgments many times. Miss Ruby Zethus, a versatile youngster, plays the cornet in a most finished manner, and gives impersonations of well-known music hall artists.

Harry Claff, who has the assistance of a dainty comedienne in Miss Alice Tremayne, submits a capital turn. Miss Tremayne's song "Beautiful garden of roses" is much to the liking of the house, and all through she gives this popular comedian much assistance. Their duet "Love, love" is also excellently rendered. That popular coster comedian Alec Hurley is happily suited in a couple of numbers, viz., "Come along my little 'Liza" and "I love her as my life." The latter number especially appeals to the house. As an encore he gives "I ain't nobody in particular," the music of which is particularly catchy. The Brothers Bright successfully perform difficult feats in a way that makes them appear facile in the extreme, and Carl Lynn gives some fine imitations of birds, animals, &c. Lulu Camplin is heard to advantage in "Don't talk so loud" and "Should have been mine by rights"; and Miss Burley and partner give a clever acrobatic performance in which both work hard.

A comedian with a unique style is S. W. Wyndham, the lucky possessor of three excellent songs, of which he makes the most. On concluding he is most generously rewarded. Some capital female studies are given by Albert Letine, who sings "You must be up to date" and "How do you like my style?" Clever patter and an extraordinary display of the terpsichorean art are responsible for Naughton and Gold being many times called before the curtain, and the singing and dancing of the Sisters Belmoir is greatly admired. Other contributors towards a pleasant evening are Frank Maura and Carson Hicks.

MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES.

In continuation of our last week's report of the licensing proceedings of the Theatres Committee at Clerkenwell on Friday, the 11th, the chairman announced that the licences of the London Hippodrome would be recommended to the Council subject to the same condition which they approved last year, viz., that the sale and consumption of liquors should not be consumed in the auditorium.

FULHAM EMPIRE.

Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., supported the application of Mr. Oswald Stoll for a music and dancing licence for the Fulham Empire, proposed to be erected in Fulham-road, between the Walham Green station of the District Railway and the Stamford Bridge Athletic Ground.

The learned counsel said the site on which it was proposed to erect the building was nearly three acres in extent, which Mr. Stoll had entered into a contract to purchase. This area was more than adequate to the fulfilment of all the ordinary requirements of the committee and of the County Council. He need hardly remind the committee that Mr. Stoll, in this class of business, had an unusual and wide experience. He was managing-director of Moss' Empires, Ltd., who, among other enterprises, owned the London Hippodrome, the New Cross Empire, the Holloway Empire, the Stratford, and the Finsbury Park Empire.

Mr. Stoll was a gentleman to whom the committee had entrusted the conduct of important enterprises of a similar kind. He provided an entertainment of the highest class. Nearly all his halls were run on the two-shows-a-night principle, and they afforded exclusive engagements to the artists who were employed at these places of amusement.

No drink licence was here applied for, and it should be clearly understood that Mr. Stoll was willing to undertake not to ask for any modification of that arrangement. There was a population of 350,000 residents in Fulham and adjacent districts. If the committee resolved that the number of places of entertainment should not be added to, the result would be to give a monopoly to existing places, and he submitted that the policy of the committee had always been in the opposite sense. It was not their duty to afford protection to existing institutions of this kind.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, examined by Mr. Knight, said he was managing-director of the Coliseum, which gave entertainments that satisfied respectable audiences. The same thing applied to similar halls, such as the Hackney Empire and the Finsbury Park Empire. He always endeavoured to cultivate the patronage of the family because they were more numerous than the single individual. Mr. Matcham was his architect, and he was a man of great eminence in theatrical construction. The house would be one of the most up-to-date houses in London, as the experience already gained would be utilised in the building. He considered the structure would be a local improvement of the greatest importance.

Mr. Knight.—Have you any instance of any one of your halls depreciating the value of surrounding property?

Mr. Stoll.—On the contrary; I have found that adjacent property has gone up in price. I know, because I have had occasion to buy it. (Laughter.)

Is it your intention to open this theatre at any time on a Sunday?—No.

Not even for charities?—I do not wish to open it at all on Sundays.

Cross-examined by Mr. George Elliott on behalf of many ratepayers, Mr. Stoll said he had had no request from any body of persons to go to Fulham.

You went there in the interest of Mr. Stoll?—I had no invitation to go there. I am conscious that I have been opposed in every place where I have opened a theatre. I know I am being opposed by some members of the borough council.

Mr. Elliott.—On the ground that it will depreciate property?—I do not think it will.

You are not asking for a drink licence?—No.

He did not believe that the theatre would depreciate property in the neighbourhood. In other places the result had been just the reverse. He simply catered for the public, and where he thought the public required a drink licence he always asked for it.

Was there a difference between the frequenters of the Coliseum and the inhabitants of Fulham?—There are many differences of taste between the people of any large district.

What opportunity have you had of testing the taste of the people of Fulham?—I give my experience generally in running these variety theatres without a drink licence.

Replying to Mr. Duke, K.C., Mr. Stoll said he was at present controlling something like thirty variety theatres, but he was resigning from twenty-one, leaving nine, with the addition of the three now applied for.

He had booked artists for the three new theatres up to 1914, but if the buildings were not completed the contracts with the artists might be postponed.

Have the London music halls increased by 50 per cent. within the last few years?—They have increased. The population has also increased.

Have the expenses of conducting such entertainments largely increased at the same time?—They probably have increased. I do not think the salaries have increased, because the artists are now able to appear twice a night at two different halls.

There are about twenty-five picture palaces in the neighbourhood of this Fulham site?—There may be more.

What are the estimated takings of the proposed Fulham Empire?—Between £500 and £600 a week.

Several witnesses were called in favour of the application.

The application was opposed by Mr. Custance on behalf of the Rev. W. A. Prunell, New King's-road, Fulham, and on behalf of the trustees of the Walham Green Wesleyan Methodist Church, on the following grounds: (1) Depreciation of church property; (2) moral and religious injury; (3) educational; and (4) discomfort; by the Rev. G. H. Vincent, rural dean, St. John's Vicarage, Walham Green, on the grounds that the proposed premises will be adjoining the Walham Green Wesleyan Church and in close proximity to St. James's Church and other places of worship; that the clergy of the Church of England of the borough of Fulham view with grave apprehension the increasing number of places of amusement of the class proposed, as they make the specific objects for which they are working more difficult of attainment; that the clergy of the Church of England of the Borough of Fulham have the greatest possible sympathy with the London County Council in its scheme for continuation classes and technical instruction of young people, and they find from actual experience that there is no greater hindrance in the attainment of the object for which they and the Council are working in common than the counter attraction of such places of amusement as the one proposed, and that there is ample provision in existing places of amusement to meet the demand of that class of the community who desire to be catered for on these lines; and that the clergy of the borough pray that the council will, by refusing the application for a music and dancing licence for the proposed Fulham Empire, prevent there being thrust upon the neighbourhood a place which is unnecessary and in every respect undesirable.

The application was strongly opposed by the Granville Theatre of Varieties, for whom Mr. Duke, K.C., appeared. It was contended that there are already a sufficient number of places of entertainment in the neighbourhood. That the proposed site is about 250 yards from the Granville, and is surrounded by a large number of halls within a short distance, amongst others being the following: Hammersmith Palace, Putney Hippodrome, Chelsea Palace, Battersea Palace, Shepherd's Bush Empire, Grand Theatre, Clapham; Fulham Theatre, King's Theatre, Hammersmith; Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith; and a large number of picture theatres, concert halls, and skating rinks.

Mr. Hale, chairman of the Granville, examined by Mr. Duke, said the building had been opened for twelve years, and cost about £30,000. The prices of admission varied from 3d. to 1s. 6d. The artists who appeared at Mr. Stoll's houses also appeared at the Granville. It was estimated that the new theatre would draw about £40 per week from the Granville takings, and this would wipe off all the shareholders' profits. Last year, when the Hammersmith Variety Theatre was closed for rebuilding, the Granville takings increased, and 10 per cent. dividend was paid; but since the Hammersmith reopened at Christmas last the receipts had diminished. The Hammersmith was a mile and a half away, whereas Mr. Stoll's proposed house was only 230 yards from the Granville.

In cross-examination by Mr. F. E. Smith, the witness said the takings of the Granville were about £250 or £300 a week. His opposition to Mr. Stoll getting his licence was because he thought it would injure the Granville.

Mr. Duke, K.C., apposed the application, on the ground that the proposed theatre was not required, and that the committee should not sanction anything in the nature of a monopoly.

The committee retired at 5.30, and on their return the chairman announced that the committee had decided to recommend the Council to grant the application.

KILBURN COLISEUM.

Mr. Oswald Stoll next applied for a licence for music and dancing for the Kilburn Coliseum, proposed to be erected in High-road, Kilburn.

Mr. Gill, K.C., supported the application, which was originally opposed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of Hampstead, on the ground that the needs of the inhabitants of the immediate neighbourhood, and of the general public, were at present amply provided for, but the learned counsel now stated that this opposition had been withdrawn.

It was also objected to by several influential residents on the grounds that the locality was amply provided with music-halls, picture palaces, and other places of amusement, and was within easy, speedy, and cheap communication by railways, electric trams, and omnibuses with the principal West-End halls, and that the multiplication of music halls in the locality was undesirable in the interests of the public and would greatly depreciate property, cause decrease of rateable value, and injuriously effect the welfare, comfort, and quiet of the inhabitants.

Mr. Bodkin, who opposed the application, called witnesses and presented a petition signed by influential residents against the proposed building.

After a long hearing, the committee retired, and on their return the chairman said they would recommend the Council to grant the application.

At the sitting of the Committee on Saturday Mr. H. J. Greenwood, the chairman, again presided.

EUSTON HIPPODROME.

Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., appeared in support of an application by Mr. Oswald Stoll for a music and dancing licence for a proposed new music-hall, to be called the Euston Hippodrome, to be erected in Euston-road and Chesterfield-street. The application was opposed by by Mr. J. W. Barrett, 313, Gray's Inn-road, on the grounds that the present music-hall known as the Euston meets all the requirements of the locality; that an additional music-hall would most probably have an increased detrimental influence upon young people coming up from provincial centres; and that in view of the fact that the policy of governing authorities tended towards the decrease of licensed premises it was feared that the evil if not checked in time becomes in its uses as great as the existence of too many other licensed premises. It was also opposed by Mr. I. Ibbetson, secretary of and on behalf of the Oxford, Ltd., and the Variety Theatres Consolidated, Ltd., on the ground that the neighbourhood is already well supplied with places of public entertainment, and is within easy access of the West End and other parts of London where numerous other places of public entertainment exist. Mr. J. H. Meurice, Mr. H. F. Willis, and Mr. J. Curry opposed on the ground that the new hall is undesirable in the interests of the inhabitants, and would affect the comfort and welfare of the public, and cause further depreciation of property in the locality. Further objection was offered by several clergymen in the locality, on the ground, among others, that the proposed hall would be opposite a large Wesleyan church in Chesterfield-street.

Mr. F. E. Smith said that after the edification which the proceedings of the previous afternoon had afforded all of them, he proposed that the general evidence given on that occasion should be taken as applying to the present application.

Mr. H. E. Duke, K.C., for the Euston, assented.

The committee retired at 5.30, and on their return the chairman announced that the committee had decided to recommend the Council to grant the application, on the understanding that at the confirmation sessions that evidence should be capable of reference.

The chairman intimated that that would be observed.

Mr. F. E. Smith, describing the locality of the proposed new building, said it would be situate just outside the St. Pancras and King's Cross stations, and would be five doors away from the present Euston Music Hall. It was within the jurisdiction of the St. Pancras Borough Council, who did not oppose. The objections came mainly from private persons. There was no intention to sell intoxicating liquors or to apply for permission to give Sunday entertainments. So far as the clerical opposition was concerned, he would only say that there were others beside Wesleyan clergymen in the district who did not take the same view that they did. The question was whether is was desirable in a matter of this kind to create anything in the nature of a monopoly. The new hall would be an exceptionally fine one, and an ornament to the neighbourhood.

Evidence was then called.

Mr. Goss, a printer, said he got up a meeting of influential tradesmen in support of the application. Their opinion was that 95 per cent. of the tradesmen were in favour of the new hall as being an advantage to the neighbourhood.

Cross-examined by Mr. Elliott (on behalf of the local residents): He lived several miles from the district. (Laughter.)

Mr. Matthews, J.P., late Mayor of St. Pancras, said he was a fruiterer, and he had lived in the neighbourhood for forty years. (Laughter.) The feeling of people of position as to the proposed new hall was that the only hope for Euston-road was to be found in large buildings. (Laughter.) The road was dead as a residential neighbourhood, and the new building would be an advantage in the respect he had indicated.

By Mr. Elliott: Euston-road had been a wreck for years. (Laughter.)

Mr. Elliott: And Mr. Stoll's music-hall will bring it back to life? (Laughter.) Do you suggest that forty more music halls would be a good thing—do you stop at one?—I would consider any application that was made. This is one large building to start with. (Laughter.)

Supposing a large workhouse was erected, would that meet your ideals? (Laughter.)—No, I would prefer a large hotel to that. (Laughter.)

Do you want to see forty music halls or forty Wesleyan chapels?—Neither; I want to see large buildings. Hotels for preference. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: Then you are a moderate man. (Laughter.)

Mr. Stoll, called, said the cost of the new building would be from £30,000 to £55,000. It would be designed by a skilful architect, and quite exceptional in style. The Vicar of St. Jude's (the Rev. A. Newns, whose name was among those opposing) had written approving the idea:—"After a visit to the Coliseum, you have taken away my misconception of what I contemplated a music-hall would be." (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: Since his visit your vicar has found salvation?—Yes. (Laughter.)

Mr. Stoll added that there was no intention to apply for a drink licence.

Cross-examined by Mr. Elliott: Sixpence would be the minimum price charged. The Euston Hall was quite a modern building, and it was only a hundred yards from the proposed site.

Cross-examined by Mr. Duke: It would be a two-show-a-night house. It was proposed to erect the house next to the Euston Palace. He believed it would do the Palace good. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duke: Well, we will not pursue that imaginary advantage. (Laughter.)

Mr. Stoll said the Camden Hall had been closed. It seated 1,900. The seating capacity of his new house would be 2,200.

Mr. Duke: Would you tell the committee what amount of takings you anticipate would make this Hippodrome a paying concern?—I anticipate taking £800 per week, but it would pay at a less figure.

You propose to give the same entertainment as at the Coliseum?—Yes, with a water-power feature. The average of salaries at the Coliseum is about £800 a week.

Mr. Duke was referring to Sunday concerts held at the Euston Hall for charitable purposes under sanction of the County Council, when the chairman said it should be understood that the County Council gave no sanction for Sunday concerts.

Mrs. Jenkens, of Argyll-square, about two minutes from Euston, said she had signed the petition against the hall under a misapprehension. She told the gentleman who called on her that she was in favour of the music-hall. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: And you find that your name appears as against it?—Yes. (Laughter.)

And for all you know the other 5,000 signatures against the hall may have been obtained in the same way?—Yes.

Mr. Smith: And the wonder may be that the signatures are not 50,000. (Laughter.)

The Registrar of South St. Pancras also gave evidence. He was present at the laying of the foundation stone of the Euston, and had not been there since.

Mr. Elliott, K.C.: And you are now looking forward, perhaps, to its death, and the birth of the new hall. (Laughter.)

This was the case for the applicant, and evidence was called for the opposition.

Mr. J. W. Barrett, a caterer, of King's Cross-road, said he thought the new hall would interfere with the social work of the district.

Mr. Smith: Do you know the Rev. Mr. Newns?—Yes.

He is a highly conscientious and religious gentleman?—Well, I don't know about that now. (Laughter.) We had to chastise him on one occasion upon the question of public morality after a deputation to the borough council. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: Not physically, I hope?—No, by word of mouth. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: You have been to the Coliseum, and it has in no way sapped the bulwarks of your morality? (Laughter.)—I am not conscious of the fact. (Laughter.)

The Rev. Thomas Horwood, curate of St. Jude's, Gray's Inn-road, of which the Rev. Mr. Newns is the vicar, said in his judgment there was no demand for this hall. The Euston provided ample accommodation.

Mr. Smith: You have a great respect for the judgment and experience of your vicar?—Yes.

The witness wished to explain that it was arranged that he should represent the vicar at the deputation to the council on this matter, but at the last moment the vicar turned up and spoke himself in an opposite direction. (Laughter.) Since then, however, the vicar admitted that he had been totally duped over the matter. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Smith: You say that you told the vicar that there was going to be an application for drink to be sold at the Coliseum, and that that changed his views?—Yes. It was a characteristic of human nature——

Mr. Smith: I don't want you to anticipate next Sunday's discourse, if you please. (Laughter.)

The Witness: I don't pretend to interpret my vicar's opinion.

Mr. Smith: If an undertaking were given that no drink shall be sold in the new hall, would that alter your opinion?—No. I think the house is not necessary.

Do you know that the vicar has seen the performance at the Coliseum and has thoroughly enjoyed himself? (Laughter.)—Yes.

Do you think the judgment of the vicar, who has seen the performance, is better than your own?—No, I don't, when I know my vicar. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Smith: Do you happen to recall what St. Paul said about "the subordination of curates?" (Much laughter.)

Mr. Joseph Curry also gave evidence in opposition to the new hall. There were, he said, eighty-three places of amusement within two miles of the proposed site.

Mr. H. F. Willis said he was of opinion that the new hall was perfectly unnecessary.

Mr. Smith: I never said the place was necessary. That is not my case.

Mr. Elliott, in addressing the committee for the residents, said far be it for him to forecast what the future relationship between the vicar and curate of St. Jude's might be. (Laughter.) He hoped that, under spiritual environment, it would eventually be found that all was well between them. (Laughter.) He submitted that the opinion of the residents was entitled to consideration.

Mr. Henry Tozer, chairman of the Euston Hall, also gave evidence against the necessity of the new theatre. There were, he said, fifteen variety theatres within a mile and a half of the Euston, besides picture palaces, and the competition had become serious. During the last four years the average profits of the Varieties Consolidated Company, which owned the Euston and other houses, had been 4½ per cent. This year they were paying no dividend at all. Since the opening of the Camden their takings had seriously fallen. The share capital of the Consolidated Company was £130,000. They paid in salaries £16,000 a year at the Euston out of about £17,000, the annual takings. The neighbourhood was sufficiently served.

Mr. Smith: Did you consider when you asked for the licence for the Euston whether you would injure the Holborn Hall?—Yes, we consider those matters.

By Mr. Duke: The entire industry was approaching a crisis, and he thought they might contemplate a financial crash within the next twelve months.

The Chairman: You say the Camden is now closed. What difference has that made to your takings?—Well, it has only been closed a fortnight, and it is difficult to say. It has made a difference, however.

Mr. Lucas, manager of the Bedford, said that the opening of the Camden affected their takings about £60 a week. It had converted what was previously a profitable house into a losing one. He denied that he had ruined the Camden. He had not personally opposed on this occasion, because he had spent about £2,000 on these matters, and he was not having any more of it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duke, in addressing the committee, said the discretion of the committee must be "according to the rules of reason and justice." The question of the character of the Euston-road had nothing to do with the subject; the only consideration was whether there was a public demand for another hall, and he submitted that no such demand was made out. People ought not to be encouraged to be mutually destructive. They had reached the point when they might anticipate something in the nature of a financial crash. Mr. Stoll's scheme must end in a gigantic monopoly. The new hall was to be set up almost at the door of the Euston, and one or other of them must extinguish the other. He asked the committee to consider whether in the interest of free competition and of the public, the time had not arrived when a stop should be put to these gigantic schemes.

The committee, after deliberating in private, decided to grant the licence on the understanding that intoxicating liquors should not be sold on the premises and that no application should be made in future for the holding of Sunday entertainments.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—One of the incredible anomalies of the time is that the modern music hall is governed by the antiquated Disorderly Houses Act of George II., passed in 1751.

Under this Act, no music hall can claim a licence except at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, which are being held this week, notwithstanding that theatres, under the Act of 1843, can obtain a licence for any length of time at any period of the year.

In November, 1907, I inaugurated a movement to abolish this injustice, and to give music halls the same rights as theatres, so that variety houses, like theatres, might obtain a licence at any time during the year.

The London County Council took up and continued my work, and at the end of eighteen months introduced a Bill into Parliament to relieve the modern music hall from the absurd conditions of the Act of 1751.

Unfortunately, no progress could be made with the Bill, and it was dropped before its second reading; and so the work is to be done all over again.

I have again taken the first step necessary to revive the agitation by setting down the following notice of motion on the agenda paper of the L.C.C.: "That, in view of the fact that the Music and Dancing Licences (London) Bill, 1910, which was introduced by the Council with the object of obtaining powers to grant music or music and dancing licences at any time during the year, was dropped before its second reading, it be referred to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee to consider and report as to the necessary steps to be taken at once to re-instate the Bill."

—Yours faithfully, WALTER REYNOLDS.

5, Netherhall-gardens, N.W., Nov. 8.

THIS SPACE IS temporarily dedicated to acquaint you with Harry Burns' new address in London, whereto you are invited to call with (or send) full particulars of your business should you wish him to represent (or hustle for) you.

HARRY BURNS,
Walter House,
418, Strand,
London, W.C.

OPPOSITE THE TIVOLI.

'Phone 1105 City. Wire "BILLOTOPP."

"THE DISPATCH BEARER."

A Dramatic Episode, in Three Scenes, by Miss Florence Reeves, Music by Adolphe Webb, Produced at the Islington Empire on Monday, Nov. 14.

Frederick Ivanoff .....MR. BERT MORLEY
Jack Alderford .....MR. FRANK STONE
Rupert Leticoff .....MR. CHAS. FREEMAN
Jules Lemastria .....MISS FLORRIE ARTHURS
Madeline Lemastria .....MISS ROSABELLE DODD

This little play, by Miss Florence Reeves, which was presented for the first time on Monday last at the Islington Empire, contains most of those features which make for success in vaudeville playlets. It deals with intrigue, both political and moral, and has in addition the necessary human element to assist the progress of the story.

The plot is briefly as follows. General Ivanoff, the Minister of War in a nebulous country in the Near East, is discovered at the rise of the curtain concluding a consultation with his officers regarding some political developments which may lead to war. It is necessary for him to place the whole matter before his sovereign, and to this end he has penned a most important dispatch which he decides to entrust to his step-son to ensure safe delivery. Alderford is betrothed to Madeline Lemastria, the tool of a money-lender named Leticoff, an agent in the secret service of his Government, who is using this love interest as a means whereby he can get hold of the dispatch. The woman herself is a creature of circumstances. She is the cast-off mistress of Ivanoff, by whom she has had an illegitimate child, and after having sunk to utter destitution has been taken out of the gutter by Leticoff, to whom she has to be blindly obedient. Naturally enough her feelings towards the Minister of War are of the bitterest kind, and though she is fond of his step-son, she is quite eager to aid Leticoff, and worms most of the details as to the dispatch out of her infatuated admirer, with the object of ruining Ivanoff. While Ivanoff is walking about his room, considerably worked up by excitement, he notices a small boy hovering near the window. He drags him inside, taking the child for a spy, but discovers that it is in reality his own illegitimate child, whom he cannot publicly acknowledge without scandal.

He determines to send the boy to a sergeant of the guard, so that he may be taken off the streets, and leaves the apartment to write a note. The boy notices figures outside the window, hides, and Madeline and Leticoff enter to secure the dispatch. The latter goes to the safe, and in attempting to open it rings the electric alarm bell. He manages to get off, but Ivanoff intercepts Madeline, and each recognising the other, there is a short scene. She attempts to blackmail him, without success, and getting desperate, attempts to draw her dagger. He closes with her, and Leticoff, entering, stabs him and secures the dispatch. They disappear, thinking that the crime has not been witnessed, being ignorant that the boy was there.

The next scene is A Booking Office at the Railway Station. Here we find Alderford, following them in the hope of again getting possession of the dispatch, and he is being aided by the boy. Madeline and Leticoff appear, and the latter, noticing the boy standing very close, seizes him and half strangles him. Madeline intercedes for him, and after a short scene also recognises the boy as her own.

The final scene is an elaborate affair, showing an express train at full speed, and giving the audience a view of the interiors of the compartments. Alderford is in one, Madeline and Leticoff in another, and the boy is in the goods waggon. Madeline and Leticoff quarrel over the division of the proceeds for the dispatch, and in the ensuing struggle the boy gets hold of the document, which he returns to Alderford. Leticoff is then arrested for the murder of Ivanoff, and in his rage and despair he wrecks the train with a bomb, the explosion killing Madeline.

There is certainly no lack of exciting episodes in the playlet, and the vigorous action of the plot was considerably helped by some excellent acting. Mr. Samuel James, who was at one time the managing-director of this hall, when it was known as the Grand Theatre, is a well-known man locally, and the production has excited interest in the neighbourhood. He has succeeded in securing a well-balanced company to present the trifle.

Mr. Frank Stone, who appears as Alderford, is a popular personality in Islington, having played in the stock companies in the old days. His performance on Monday was vigorous and of that quality that would be expected of him. He is also entitled to congratulations for the efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of producer and stage-manager. As Ivanoff, Mr. Bert Morley submitted a very dignified and eminently satisfactory performance. Mr. Charles Freeman as Leticoff managed to depict the very unpleasant characteristics of that gentleman with complete success. Miss Florrie Arthurs, who is apparently a very young lady, had a very great deal to do as the boy, and is certainly entitled to praise for some excellent work. Miss Rosabelle Dodd as Madeline acted with conviction and force, and possesses in addition an excellent stage appearance. The mounting is exceedingly good, and Mr. Adolphe Webb's incidental music effective. The playlet was listened to with the greatest attention, and received a most cordial greeting from the audience.

EAST HAM PALACE.

An interesting and novel feature of the programme here is the engagement of Ram Bhuj, the necromancer of the Himalayas, whose wonderful presentation of mysticism is quite astounding. Mention must be made of the exquisite scenery of an Oriental description which adds to the weirdness of the performance. Walter Bird's company, in the comedy sketch, *Her Husband*, is excellent, and the sketch teems with droll and funny situations. Mr. Ernie Lotinga as Jimmy Josser, a cowardly burglar, is intensely humorous. The McNaughtons, styled "the new firm," in all the latest up-to-date funniosities, display all the resource of clever and experienced comedians, and keep the audience in continual laughter by their eccentricities.

A classical musical turn is given by Roma and Romani, including excellent duets on numerous instruments. Their rendering of "The Lost Chord" on the saxophone is delightfully tuneful, and evokes the heartiest applause. Bonnie Goodwin has a clever troupe of piccaninnies, and their singing and dancing are of a high standard. A droll comedian is seen in Harry Nelson, whose patter quite appeals to the feminine element in the audience.

Marshall and Parr are seen to distinct advantage in their vocal and comedy act, in which they introduce some pretty harmonising of popular ballads. Sinclair and Whiteford find great favour in their clever vaudeville comedy act, and Elsie Kerry is a dainty and vivacious comedienne. Jack Elliott the cowboy champion broncho buster elicits loud applause for his daring attempt at the broncho two-step, whilst the splendid lassooing of Joe Lynch, the lasso expert, is an additional feature of this novel performance. Dan Whitley, the eccentric comedian, was an "extra turn," his song, "Take no notice," being decidedly funny. Ruffell's Bioscope still remains a pleasing feature of the programme.

OWING to the success Miss Della Ray has made at Yarmouth and Lowestoft Mr. Geo. Gilbert has secured her services for another return date at a big increase.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS JESSIE ALBINI.

Miss Jessie Albini commenced her stage career as a child with Stedman's Choir, at the Gaiety Theatre, London, in *Cinderella Up Too Late*, the last play the late Fred Leslie appeared in. Subsequently she toured two years as a dancer with Mr Victor Stevens's company in *Bonny Boy Blue*. During the waits and between the acts Miss Albini used to amuse the artists with impersonations of the principals, and thus gained an idea for the variety theatre. She secured two songs and opened at the London, Shoreditch, then under the management of Mr. Barnes. She sang her two songs with such effect that she obtained an encore, which she was unable to give, and as the audience was so insistent the matter had to be explained to them. Mr. Barnes immediately booked Miss Albini for three years. During the second engagement at the London she was sent to the Tivoli to deputise for Miss Marie Lloyd, as a result of which she secured three years' contracts for the Tivoli, Oxford, and Pavilion. Miss Albini's first provincial engagement was for the Moss, Thornton, and Stoll tours, and she has just finished her tenth tour for that syndicate. Her first pantomime engagement was at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, as principal girl in *The Forty Thieves*. At the conclusion of the successful run Miss Albini opened at the Tivoli again, where Mr. Foredyke of the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, saw her, and was so anxious to secure her for principal girl in his next production that he wanted Miss Albini there and then to sign a contract which he had written out whilst waiting for her to dress. The contract was eventually signed, and she appeared as Alice in *Dick Whittington*, which ran fifteen weeks. The next year Miss Albini was engaged for principal girl at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, but unfortunately was unable to fulfil the engagement through illness.

About this time Miss Albini was very well

[*Photo by Charles and Russell.*

MISS JESSIE ALBINI.

supplied with good songs, sometimes hard to get. Among her earliest successes were the famous "Not there" and "Right side up, with care," both published by Francis and Day. Again Miss Albini had to give up her pantomime engagement at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, through a severe attack of laryngitis, and acting upon her doctor's advice retired from the stage for some time.

When her voice regained its strength Miss Albini commenced again with a most successful song, entitled "I've got it in my diary," which lent itself to all sorts of topics as occasion demanded. Fearing to strain her voice Miss Albani forsook pantomime and devoted all her time to the halls. Happily her voice is now stronger than ever, and on last New Year's Day, in Glasgow, she put in eight performances without feeling any undue exhaustion. Miss Albini has also a song on the Chantecler craze, entitled "Cock-a-doodle-do," which creates a perfect furore wherever she sings it. So successful has she been in low comedy that she intends to keep to this style, which, moreover, allows scope for the display of her versatility.

A HANDY LIST.

We have received from Joseph Williams, Ltd., the well-known music publishers, Part I. and Part II. of their "Thumb-nail Plots" of operas, operettas, cantatas, sketches, musical plays, plays, and duologues. These little books should be invaluable to amateur societies, and to all who are on the look-out for pieces of the above description. The plot of each work is given in condensed form, and in the case of musical pieces, the compass of voice demanded by each rôle is recorded. The fees required for performance are mentioned, also the prices of the vocal scores and the books of the words. Samuel French, Ltd., are the agents for Messrs. Williams.

MR. B. PEARCE LUCAS'S future policy at the Imperial, Canning Town, is to have alternate weeks of variety and drama.

To the Palace Theatre next Monday will come that breezy entertainer at the piano, Mr. Barclay Gammon, who has since his last visit concocted many witty ideas on the affairs of the day. Having no politics, Mr. Gammon is able to poke fun at all parties in a most unsparing manner, and his remarks on conferences, coalitions, and dictators, together with bright topical songs, should be a feature of Mr. Butt's programme.

IN the Shoreditch County Court on Thursday, before Judge Smyly, K.C., a comedian named Palsford, professionally known as Glen Alva, sought to recover £7 from Messrs. West and Eugene, the managers of the "Alfresco Comedians," in respect of breach of an agreement. Plaintiff's case was that, in April last, the defendants, who were then at Swanage, entered into an agreement with him for a twenty weeks' engagement at that place. The terms were to be equal shares, after one-fifth had been deducted from the gross receipts for the fit-up and other expenses. The plaintiff was also to deposit £5 to cover what were termed initial expenses.

AT the conclusion of the season differences arose as to the exact amount received and the expenses. According to the plaintiff, the receipts for the twenty weeks amounted to £212, and the expenditure to £176, but the defendants' version showed that there was a deficit of nearly £5, instead of a profit of £35, of which plaintiff claimed a fifth. A question also arose as to what were "initial expenses." His Honour adjourned the case, saying that it was pre-eminently one for a friendly settlement.

"MOLLY DUVEEN."

Dramatic Sketch, Produced at the Imperial, Canning Town, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Bill Butcher .....MR. ARTHUR PAGE
Eustace Vayne .....MR. F. PAUL
Annette .....MISS NINA WESTLEIGH
Molly Duveen .....MISS GLADYS MAXWELL

For the first time the curtain rose last Monday evening on Miss Gladys Maxwell's new dramatic sketch, entitled *Molly Duveen*, and if one may judge from the enthusiastic applause which rewarded the efforts of the cast, this cleverly constructed playlet will be acceptable to variety audiences. Eustace Vayne and Bill Butcher, both intent on possessing the jewels of Molly Duveen, an unsuspecting girl, but each ignorant of the other's evil purpose, contrive to gain access to that lady's bedroom, and, as good or bad luck will have it, whichever the point of view, engage in their nefarious business simultaneously. The inevitable quarrel ensues, the upshot being the timely awakening of the owner of the treasures. At the point of a revolver, Molly keeps the unwelcome intruders at bay, compelling one of them to open up communication by telephone with Scotland Yard. At the first opportunity, however, Eustace Vayne seizes a revolver, wounds Molly Duveen, and attempts to make good his escape. But with the noise of the opening window the girl recovers consciousness, and aims at the retreating figure with fatal results.

Such, in brief, is the story of the sketch, and as it is well acted, it commands immediate approval. In the title-part, Miss Gladys Maxwell finds abundant scope for her well-known histrionic talents, and Mr. F. Paul makes an excellent Eustace Vayne. Equally successful is Mr. Arthur Page's impersonation of Bill Butcher. Miss Nina Westleigh, who acts the part of the maid, Annette, is the remaining member of a highly capable cast. Suitable incidental music to the sketch has been arranged by Mr. H. A. Knight, the musical director at this hall.

There are other good turns at the Imperial this week. Mark Melford, the original sketch creator, is there, and is as excruciatingly funny as ever in "My wife won't let me." Miss Grace Lester, supported by a capable company, appears in an intensely thrilling dramatic episode, entitled *A Ruined Life*. This has to deal mainly with an *affaire d'amour*, in which the principals are Dick Hastings, private secretary to his fiancée's father, and Kitty Bellingham. The elder Bellingham orders Dick to leave his house within half an hour, and gives his daughter the alternative of either going penniless with her lover or of turning a deaf ear to his entreaties. The girl elects the former course, but in the end the father is forced to consent to the match by the unlooked-for reappearance of his divorced and unhappy wife, who, visiting the house in beggarly attire, only agrees to conceal her identity from the girl on this condition. Miss Grace Lester plays the part of the ruined wife with much depth of feeling. Mr. Jackson Hayes makes the most of the callous John Bellingham; Miss Stella Farmer is winsome as Kitty Bellingham; and Mr. Robert Savory is all that is to be desired as the lover, Dick Hastings.

Another capital feature of this week's programme is the new comedietta called *The Sleeping-Car*, in which Harold Weston and Maisie Nunn are responsible for a good deal of merriment. The Sisters Florries are vocalists and dancers of no mean ability. Their dancing is particularly neat, and the "turn" generally is among the best received. Charles Merry is a comedian who fully merits the reputation suggested by his name. His contribution "It's not a coon song" goes well. Howe and Ardie show themselves to be clever acrobats in the gymnastic act "Up in a Balloon," and Jack and Willie, who do similar business, are equally interesting. Adams Bros. are comedy trick cyclists of the first order; Luna Ray provides a refined vocal "turn"; and Alexander Mee is an admirable character actor-vocalist. W. H. Downs, the coloured vocalist, is also at the Imperial this week, and some new films on the Bioscope complete a capital programme.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert by the students of the Royal College attracted a large audience on Friday afternoon, Nov. 11. Under the direction of Sir Charles V. Stanford, an excellent performance was given of A. Glazounow's Symphony No. 5 in B flat, Op. 55. The delicate music of the scherzo was ably played, and the young performers gave an attractive rendering of the melodious andante. The somewhat noisy finale of the Russian composer bears little relation to the three preceding movements, and has not equal musical interest. Miss Grace Humphrey, who played the solo instrument in Beethoven's concerto for piano and orchestra, No. 5, in E flat, deserved great praise, and the audience rewarded the talented young pianist with several hearty recalls. In Gounod's song "Far greater in his lowly state" Miss Florence Mellors displayed a fine voice and marked vocal ability, while the orchestra gave intelligent support to the singer. An interesting item on the programme was Purcell's scene for voice and orchestra, "Mad Bess," orchestrated by Sir Charles Stanford, and cleverly sung by Miss Matilda Bodycombe, the fortunate possessor of a rich contralto voice. The concert concluded with Liszt's rhapsody for orchestra, No. 2.

The concert on Wednesday evening opened with Beethoven's Quartet for Strings, in F major Op. 18, No. 1, of which a good account was given by the executants, Mr. Eugene Goossens, Miss Winifred Douglas, Miss Janet Macfie, and Mr. Cedric Sharpe. Miss Helen Beeching, in her 'cello solo of Max Bruch's lovely "Ave Maria," played well, and produced a full rich tone, but the voice gives the fervent devotional spirit of the music better than any stringed instrument. Miss Emmie Gregory and Mr. Philip Levine were associated with excellent results in a performance of Beethoven's Sonata for piano and violin, in G major, and won hearty applause, but the plan adopted at some school's of giving only one or two movements from a classical and well-known work has many advantages in a chamber concert. The chief feature of the programme on Wednesday was the excellence of the vocal items. Miss Lillie D. Chipp, who has a voice of rare beauty, with pure ringing high notes, sang Cesti's fine air "Intorno al idol mio" and the charming "Se tu m'ami" or Pergolesi with marked ability, while Miss Jessie Ross was equally successful in "Mignon's Song" (Goring Thomas). Another clever vocalist, Miss Kathleen Peck, was set down for "Shepherd's cradle song" (A. Somervell) and Brahm's "Vergebliches Ständchen," the last item in the programme being Mr. Harry H. Stubbs's organ solo, "Fantasia and Fugue, in G minor" (Bach). Miss Dorothy Grason and Mr. Herbert Arnold Smith were the accompanists.

MLLE. AMELIE DE L'ENCLOS, a wonderful soprano, opens at the Tivoli on Monday next in a new musical scene entitled *The Origin of the Little Whistler and His Dog*, specially composed for her by Oscar Strauss. Messrs. Hubert and Freydo, expert equilibrists, also make their first appearance on the same date.

MISS CISSIE THOMPSON is proving quite to the liking of the patrons of the Pier Pavilion, Southport, this week. Speaking of her performance, the *Southport Guardian* says: "Cissie Thompson admirably sustains the title of refined comedienne. Possessing a good voice, she is immensely popular in her songs."

DEATH OF MR. W. S. BASSETT.

IT is with deep regret that our correspondent announces the death of Mr. W. Bassett, musical-director of the Palace of Varieties, East Ham, which took place at his residence at Camberwell on Sunday morning. The deceased gentleman became unwell whilst conducting the first performance at the Palace on Wednesday of last week, and after a brief illness he succumbed to an acute attack of pneumonia.

MR. BASSETT was a brother of Mr. Leon Bassett, conductor of the Oxford orchestra, and was widely known throughout the variety world. To the management of the East Ham Palace the loss of so able a conductor is irreparable, and not only professionally but socially will his familiar figure and genial disposition be greatly missed. He was so assiduous in his attention to his musical duties that he was very reluctant to abandon his post on the first evening of his indisposition, and, despite the advice of his colleagues, he returned to his place to conduct the juvenile "turn" known as The Crisps in their dancing scena, "The Deputy," a turn in the success of which he was greatly interested.

THE remains of the deceased conductor were interred on Thursday in Forest Hill Cemetery, the cortège leaving his residence in Coldharbour-lane at 11.30. Among those who immediately followed the coffin, which was covered with choice flowers, were—Messrs. Leon and Richard Bassett (brothers) and other relatives, Makin, Jesse Sparrow, C. Moore, Hill, Davis, F. Kohler, Iddison, Benj. Woodger, E. E. Giles, Charles Moore, W. Caley, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Nutt, Mr. and Mrs. A. Plumb, and Mr. and Mrs. Pearce.

THERE was a large number of wreaths. Floral tributes of sympathy came from the Oxford, Granville, Empire, Croydon, Palace and Empire, Camberwell, East Ham Palace, from relatives, and a large number of friends. The deceased gentleman was a great worker for the Music

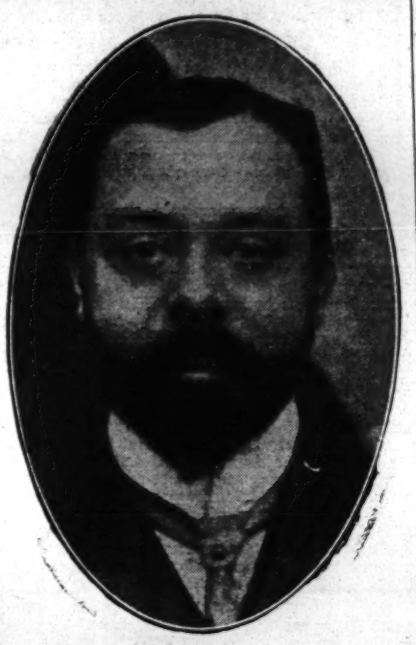

THE LATE MR. W. S. BASSETT.

Hall Home, and out of respect to his memory the meeting of the committee of that charity was not held on Thursday.

MUSICIANS AT LAW.

A claim for £15 for breach of agreement was made at Lambeth County Court on Thursday by Herr Stanislaus Würms, musical-director, of Camden Town, against Anton Peers, a musician, of Royal-road, Kensington. Plaintiff's case was that the defendant signed an agreement to play the piano last summer in an orchestra at Rhyl, and that a fortnight before commencing the season defendant broke the contract and nominated a substitute, who was not quite satisfactory, to take his place, and another man had to be engaged. Defendant's answer was that his wife was so ill at the time that he could not go away to Rhyl and leave her, as she had no friends in London. Plaintiff alleged that the real reason was that defendant got a more lucrative engagement at the Trocadero Restaurant, but Peers denied that, saying the engagement only lasted a short time. Counsel for Herr Würms said he only asked for £7 9s. 10d., which were the actual extra expenses involved by the defendant's act.

Defendant, in the box, admitted that he was informed an action would be brought against him if he broke the agreement. He added that he was not a business man.

Judge Emden: No musical man is a business man.

Eventually an order was made for £3, at 10s. a month, as defendant's employment was irregular.

MR. W. S. BUCCLEUCH, the resident-manager of the Chester Royalty Theatre, has been the recipient of a handsome solid gold medal and chain, the former being suitably inscribed. It was presented on behalf of Mr. Arthur Sturgess, a well-known and respected citizen of Leicester, and the staff of the Leicester Palace, as a token of their esteem and affectionate regard. Mr. Buccleuch was for two years assistant-manager at the Leicester Palace of Varieties, where he made many friends.

MR. FELIX BERTRAND arranged not only the duel between Richard III. and Richmond in the Coliseum production, but also the general fighting. "At the same time," he adds in a letter to us, "my endeavours would not have been successful without Mr. Frank Parker, who has so admirably arranged the whole *mise-en-scène*."

THE annual lifeboat matinée was held at the Bradford Empire on Tuesday last, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor and prominent citizens, when artists from the Leeds and Sheffield Empires assisted their Bradford brethren in a record performance, which realised over £100 for the fund.

AT the Kingston Hotel (late Fleece Hotel), Bloom-street, Manchester, on Saturday, an illuminated address and purse of gold were presented to Mr. Harry Garnham, late advertising and Press manager of the Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire. Mr. Peter Lawton, who occupied the chair, referred to Mr. Garnham's popularity, and Mr. Nelson Barry (manager of the Manchester Hippodrome) expressed his regret at the loss of so able a lieutenant. Mr. R. Roberts, Mr. Strafford, and Mr. Whittle, the secretary of the fund, also spoke.

IN reply, Mr. Garnham said he had not been in Manchester so long without feeling he had made many friends. The purse of gold might vanish, but the illuminated address would always remind him of the happy days he had spent at the Manchester Hippodrome and the Ardwick Empire.

"THE COTTAGE ON THE MOOR."

A Dramatic Sketch, Produced at the Chelsea Palace, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Tom Beaumont .....MR. E. RAYSOM-COUSENS
Alice .....MISS HILDA JACOBSEN
Jim Worthing .....MR. GEO. H. CHILD
Telegraph Messenger .....MR. SAM STEWART

In *The Cottage on the Moor* Miss Hilda Jacobsen has a very interesting little sketch, the plot of which is simple, but effective. Tom Beaumont, cashier of the Stanley Cotton Mills, returns from work, bringing with him £5,000 belonging to the mill, and which is intended to pay the wages. Such a large sum in the house greatly alarms his wife, who is very nervous, and does not like living alone on the moor. Tom endeavours to allay her fears, telling her they are groundless. The reason he gives for bringing such a large sum home is that he was too late to deposit the money in the bank, and he thought it would be safer with him than at the mill. During the conversation Tom incidentally remarks on the difference the money would make to them if only it were theirs. This idea Alice does her best to discourage, telling him that hundreds of workers would be depending on it. The question now arises as to the safest place to deposit the money, which is eventually placed in a desk. A telegram brings news that Tom's friend is dying, and would like to see him once more. Tom complies with the request, leaving Alice very fearful. In order to gain courage she turns to the Bible and reads Psalm xxiii., which has the effect of calming her. At this juncture there is a knock at the door, and a voice asks for shelter. Alice is very frightened, but, after a deal of pleading by the person outside, she opens the door to admit a tramp, who is apparently in the last stage of exhaustion. When he has revived somewhat Alice shows him where he may sleep, but she herself decides to sit up until Tom's return, not being quite satisfied as to her visitor's honesty. Soon after the tramp has retired, a noise is heard as of somebody trying the window and also of the tramp coming downstairs again. Alice, thinking that it is a confederate of the tramp's breaking in, is almost frantic with fright, but the tramp explains that he, too, has heard the noise and has come down to help her.

She hands the man a revolver, but cautions him not to use it unless absolutely necessary. The light is now turned out, and we await developments. A man is seen to enter by the window and make straight for the desk where the money is. The tramp fires, and the burglar, who turns out to be Tom Beaumont, falls dead. Curtain.

Miss Hilda Jacobsen gives a fine performance of Alice Beaumont; and Mr. Geo. H. Child as the tramp, Jim Worthing, deserves a deal of praise. Mr. E. Raysom-Cousens is very good as Tom Beaumont.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The bright and particular star at the Putney Hippodrome this week is that really talented actress, Miss Dolly Elsworthy, who is appearing in an unusually good dramatic sketch, written by Messrs. Herbert Darnley and Fred Kitchen, and entitled *Meg o' the Alley*. In this little play Miss Elsworthy plays the part of a girl of the coster class, with whom the local curate—a young cleric of the athletic, independent, pipe-smoking type—falls in love. The action concerns itself with Meg's doubt as to whether she ought to accept the curate's offer of marriage, and this doubt is increased by the advice of her friends and the attitude of the young fellow's mother; until at last, in a fit of desperation, and in order to bring the affair to an end, she pretends that she is intoxicated. The pretence, however, is quickly explained to the curate by Meg's old neighbour, an Irishman named O'Fee, and the curtain falls on the girl clasped in her lover's arms. Miss Elsworthy plays splendidly as Meg, and whilst not shirking to make her quite a girl of the lower classes, has not the slightest difficulty in making her obviously generous, good-hearted, and, indeed, lovable—a really admirable bit of acting. The rest of the company are excellent, and we were particularly pleased with Mr. Henry Collier's quiet humour and genuine characterisation as O'Fee. Mr. Paul Lovett did well as the Rev. Pohn Power, and others in the company include Miss Johns, Miss Lindsey, and Mr. John Sargeant.

Miss Rosie Gaston contributes an excellent turn with her original character song, "Oranges," and Cribb and Cribb, a couple of cross-talk comedians, cause great amusement. Those well-known comedians on wheels, the Marsumas, are also found thoroughly amusing, and the Brennans appear with much success in a neat and clever dancing act.

Another sketch of a somewhat ambitious type is that presented by Mr. Stuart Alexander, the popular tenor, and entitled *Papa's Consent*. This is by way of being a comedy and operatic item, and the scenery and effects are elaborate. The plot is very slight, but it serves as a peg on which to hang two or three quite musical numbers and humorous business for a company which includes, in addition to Mr. Alexander, the famous Alma (billed as the English Marie Dressler). The names of the three other members of the cast are not on the programme, which is a pity, for their work was good, and deserves recognition. The sketch found much favour, but we would suggest that the soubrette part be elaborated somewhat, for the lady playing it is obviously vivacious, talented, and attractive.

A good ventriloquial item is that provided by Gulliver, whose doll makes a speciality of laughs; and a charming comedienne with a sentimental song appears in the person of Miss Daisy Hurdle. The programme, of course, includes the Bioscope, and for the overture there is a good two-step by Neil Moret entitled "Mary," played excellently by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. E. Beresford Kent.

THE Hon. Everard Feilding was sued in Lambeth County Court on Thursday, before Judge Emden, by Miss Queenie Warden, a teacher of stage-dancing, for £4 10s., wages earned and in lieu of notice.

MR. P. R. GRAHAM, variety agent, said he engaged Miss Warden to teach children who were to form a dancing troupe, and she did do so for nine weeks. Mr. Everard Feilding was at that time running the Palace Music Hall, Greenwich, where this school of dancing was being conducted.

MR. FEILDING did not want his name known in connection with a music hall, and the witness did all the business with Mr. Feilding's valet, a man named Kerr, whom Mr. Feilding had authorized to deal with the witness. Kerr ran this troupe of children, and eventually Kerr gave Miss Warden notice. He and Kerr were at the time (but not now) acting as joint-managers at the Palace. Mr. Feilding, it was stated, is now in India.

THE valet Kerr, examined, said that when he left Mr. Feilding's service Mr. Feilding gave him £600 as a loan with which to start in the music hall business. Mr. Feilding had absolutely no connection with this music hall or with the engagement of the plaintiff. The witness never discharged the plaintiff.

HAVING heard the evidence of Mr. John McNeil Millar, solicitor, who said that Mr. Feilding's sole intention was to give Kerr a chance to make money, his honour gave judgment for the defendant.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT).

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead till the end of the month are: Pickering, on the North-Eastern; Darlington, on the North-Eastern; Dover, on the South-Eastern; Fakenham, on the Great Eastern and Great Northern; Guildford, on the London and South-Western, South-Eastern, and London, Brighton and South Coast; Martin Town; Crowle, on the Great Central; Newark, on the Great Northern and Midland; Richmond (Yorks.), on the North-Eastern; Ripon, on the North-Eastern; York, on the Great Central, London and North-Western, North-Eastern, Great Northern, Great Eastern, and Midland; Chesterfield, on the Midland; Hartlepool, on the North-Eastern; St. Ives (Cornwall), on the Great Western; Frome, on the Great Western; Ilminster, on the Great Western; Ludford, on the Great Northern; Melton Mowbray, on the London and North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern; Milborne St. Andrews, on the Midland, and London and South-Western; Langholme, on the North British; Inverness, on the Highland; Aberystwith, on the Cambrian; and Mountain Ash, on the Great Western and Taff Vale Railways.

The Saving of Another Fair.

We are glad to give the text of the following official letter to the Guild chaplain from the Home Secretary with reference to Haslemere Fairs:—

"The Home Office, Whitehall.
"Nov. 15, 1910.

"Sir,—With reference to your letter of Sept. 21 last, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that, after careful consideration of the circumstances of the case, he does not feel justified in making an order under the Fairs Act, 1871, for the abolition of the fair held annually at Haslemere on May 13 and Sept. 26.

"If, however, at any time the fair is again held in the street and leads to disorder and inconvenience of the public, the Secretary of State will be ready to reconsider his decision.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
"W. P. Byrne.

"The Rev. T. Horne,
"5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C."

Carmarthen.

The great November fair at Carmarthen is being held this week, and, despite the bad weather, is attended by great crowds. In the Corporation Fairground the central position is being taken up, as usual, by Messrs. Hy. Studt and Sons' fine motor-car set. At the top end are Messrs. Wadbrook and Haggar's bioscope shows. In the former Mdlle. Melitia, a most charming and clever dancer, with the equally charming and clever Miss Mary Davis and the Danbys, very smart all-round artists, delight the crowd. Here, too, the veterans Messrs. Glover and Jervis do yeoman service as lecturers. In the latter show the Misses Ida Warne and Katie Poole are still favourites, with Jack Best and another good comedian. The hoop-las, shooters, mollies, and cokernut shies of Messrs. D. Boswell, the Norths, David Evans, W. Odley, James Day, and others are also here.

Rome's £40,000 Zoo

One of the most natural and prettiest zoological gardens in the world is being rapidly completed in Rome from the designs of Herr Carl Hagenbeck, of Hamburg. Already some 1,400 wild beasts and reptiles have taken up their abode in the grounds. By means of ditches, steep rocks, and other cunningly concealed devices, cages and iron bars have been dispensed with, thus enabling the public to gaze at wild beasts with nothing whatever obstructing the view. Lions, tigers, panthers, bears, and hyænas are a few of the creatures now seen in caves and dens and appearing to be at liberty. The zoo is situated in that part of Rome known as the Borghese Villa, a pretty wooded park just outside the old city walls to the north of the town. It comprises twenty-eight acres, and is so designed that fine panoramic views of wild life are obtained from the terraces of the restaurant. Below is the lake for waterfowl, and to the extreme left the enclosure for bears, without cages or bars. Then the sky-line is pierced by hills, on which the ibex, sheep, and goats climb. There is also a series of remarkable dens for the big cats, a cave for lions, another for tigers, a third for panthers and leopards, and a fourth for hyænas. Gulls, seals, and sea lions find a natural home in a pond, while behind them Polar bears spend their time climbing over the imitation ice rocks of their den. The elephant house is built in the old Roman style, and adorned with carvings of animals. The reptiles are in cages lighted from behind, the spectator being in semi-darkness. The zoo is expected to be opened on Jan. 1 next. So far over £40,000 has been spent on it. The value of the animals in the grounds is £10,000.

P. Collins' Manchester Fun City.

We see by our advertisement columns that Mr. Arthur Dashwood, late business agent for Bostock and Wombwell's menageries and Sedgwick's menagerie, has been specially engaged by Mr. P. Collins, the president of the Showmen's Guild, to manage his mammoth fun city fair to be held in Manchester this Christmas season. Mr. Dashwood has had an unlimited experience in the showworld. Born in the business, he has gone through every grade of the profession, and has travelled in almost every country in the world, and is known by ever showman of repute. We confidently anticipate that Mr. Collins will find him a very useful member on his staff, and we wish Mr. Dashwood every success in his new undertaking.

Bostock's Jungle.

"The Jungle," established by Mr. Frank C. Bostock in a spacious building in the centre of Sheffield, is now a firm success, crowds of pleasure and instruction seekers making their way from all parts to the afternoon and night shows. The fine collection of lions, tigers, bears, leopards, elephants, &c., are admired by all, and old and young revel in the innocent gaiety of the Fun City. The genial manager, Mr. Harry Tudor, is "all over the shop" with a ready smile and a joke for all, and, helped by a smart staff, the comfort and general happiness of the countless visitors, big and little, appears to be the one object of his life.

Wakefield Winter Fair.

The principal shows, roundabouts, and other amusements at this fair include Aspland's palace of light, Tuby's coliseum, Chipperfield's menagerie, Collins's haunted house, White's colliery model show, and Griffiths' mystic swing; Aspland's scenic railway, H. Waddington's motor-cars, Redfern's cockerels, Collins's joy wheel and cake-walk machine. Shooting galleries, bazaars, throwing games and stalls by Messrs. G. Cornwell, Jameson, Tuby, jun., Leach, Griffiths, Lewis, Rhodes, Wright, Gledstone, and local caterers.

Showman's Letter-Box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, James Henry Chipperfield, Mrs. C. Birch, Anderton and Rowland, Alf. Ball, J. Biddall, T. Fossett, R. Fossett, and J. Studt.

London's Holiday Fairs.

The Clerk to the London County Council advertises in our columns that the last day for tenders for sites on the Holiday Fairgrounds, under L.C.C. control, is Jan. 1, 1911, and not later than 11 a.m. on that day. We draw the attention of all Metropolitan showmen to this important matter.

TRAVELLING AUCTIONEERS AND THE SHOP HOURS BILL.

We recorded the fact a fortnight ago that a deputation of the executive council of the Travelling Auctioneers' Trade Defence League waited upon the Home Secretary at the Home Office. The object of the deputation was to ask that an exemption might be given to the travelling auctioneers, so that their trade and business menaced by the Shop Hours Bill might be safeguarded. As negotiations were pending between the auctioneers and the Home Office, it was not advisable to give our readers full details of the interview. In a short official communication made to us by the executive committee of the Travelling Auctioneers' League we were able to announce that a satisfactory result of the League's labour was anticipated. Since then, owing to political events, generally well known, the Bill has been postponed.

In order to allay the various interests in trade and business aroused in opposition to the Shop Hours Bill, the Home Secretary issued an extremely important communication, the material points of which we give (so far as they touch the movement for trade defence originated in *The Era*, and now being carried forward by the Travelling Auctioneers' Defence League).

"THE HALF-HOLIDAY.

"1. Serious objection had been taken from numerous quarters on the one hand to the compulsory half-holiday for all shops, and on the other hand from other quarters to the ineffectiveness of the machinery for securing the voluntary closing of shops.

"Mr. Churchill announced that he had decided to withdraw the provision requiring all shops to close on one day of the week for a half-holiday, reserving, however, the right of every shop assistant to a half-holiday; but that, on the other hand, he proposed greatly to strengthen the machinery for securing early closing. His plan was that the Home Office should themselves take the initiative in promoting the adoption of closing Orders by sending down to localities where it might be desired a commissioner to investigate the conditions of the locality, to hear all parties concerned, and to frame a draft Order suited to the needs and wishes of the locality. By this means he hoped to secure that in every locality expression would quickly and readily be given to the desires of the shopkeepers themselves for early closing.

"HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT.

"2. Strong exception has been taken by almost every trade to the provisions of the Bill by which members of the shopkeeper's family dwelling on the premises were exempted from the regulations as to hours of employment of assistants.

"Mr. Churchill announced that he only desired to prevent the application of the Bill to the very small shops which are worked by a man and his wife, or by a man or woman with intermittent help from a member or members of the family. It was not his intention that shops doing a considerable business in which members of the family are regularly employed in the same way as shop assistants and which compete on equal terms with shops employing several assistants should be exempted. He proposed therefore to draw a limit of rateable value, to exempt all shops falling below that limit, and above that limit to exempt only shops employing one member of the family. (The limit is not yet settled, though a figure has been inserted provisionally.)

"OVERTIME.

"3. Numerous representations have been received that the overtime provisions in the Bill were not sufficiently elastic. Mr. Churchill announced that instead of allowing two hours' overtime on thirty days of the year, he proposed to allow sixty hours' overtime for the year to be drawn upon by the shopkeeper in such amounts as the exigencies of his business might require, subject to the condition that overtime should be taken in half-hour periods, and that in no case should a boy under the age of sixteen, or a girl under the age of eighteen, be employed for more than fourteen hours in any day. He also proposed to allow an additional amount of overtime for shopkeepers who give their assistants an annual holiday of not less than a week on full pay, and to provide that separate departments of a shop might be treated as separate shops.

"PERIOD OF LEISURE.

"5. A relaxation of the rule requiring the period of employment of shop assistants to end not later than eight o'clock on three nights in the week was to be allowed in the case of certain trades which are needed for the amusement, refreshment, or convenience of the public after their day's work is done, subject to the condition that the assistant receives instead a period of leisure of not less than three hours in the morning or the afternoon. A similar relaxation was to be allowed in the case of any assistant in any trade not employed for more than forty hours in the week.

"THE DEFINITION OF 'SHOP ASSISTANT.'

"6. In compliance with the many requests received the definition of 'shop assistant' has been made more precise, and was now to read:—

"'Any person mainly employed in a shop in connection with the serving of customers, or the receipt of orders, or the despatch of goods, except a manager not mainly employed in serving customers.'

"Persons mainly employed in canvassing for orders or in delivering goods do not come within the definition."

Minor amendments in other provisions were also announced by Mr. Churchill.

Immediately on the publication of the above forecast of what the Home Secretary is prepared to do to meet the views of the aggrieved traders, the president of the Defence League, Mr. T. Harrison, accompanied by the Rev. T. Horne, chaplain to the League, and Miss Harrison, assistant secretary, waited upon Sir Edward Troup, Permanent Under-Secretary of the Home Department, in order to understand if they were included under the fifth paragraph marked "Period of Leisure" given above. In the absence of Sir Edward Troup the deputation was received by his secretary, and the inquiries of the president were promised consideration. It was after this interview and on account of the political situation that the announcement was made that the Shop Hours Bill, in company with other business, was dropped for the time being. We have not quoted Paragraph 4, which deals with Sunday closing and special exemptions for Jewish shops, because they have no relevance whatever to the questions raised by the travelling auctioneers.

We particularly wish to emphasise the wording of Paragraph 5, "Period of Leisure," wherein a relaxation of the rule was granted to "certain trades which are needed for the convenience of the public after their day's work is done," and again it says "a similar relaxation was to be allowed in the case of any assistant in any trade not employed for more than forty hours in a week." We are sanguine that the very phrasing of this paragraph is a hopeful indication that the objects sought by the deputations to the Home Office are already fruitful in good results.

Our confidence is the more strong on account of the significant fact that the Home Secretary has used the very words of the deputation in both instances, where reference is made to trades needed for the convenience of the public after their day's work is done, and to assistants employed not more than forty hours a week.

The work yet to be done with regard to the Bill.

It will be the duty of the executive committee of the League to consider the actual amendments of the Government when their Bill reaches the Committee stage. If the amendments submitted do not adequately cover and protect the travelling auctioneers' business, then it will be necessary to point out to the Government amendments that will be sufficient for that purpose. Failing the acceptance of these suggestions it will then be the duty of the League to obtain from friendly Members of Parliament consideration of the travelling auctioneers' case before the third reading of the Bill in the Commons, and, if necessary, pursue their object when the Bill is before the Lords.

The satisfactory work already done in organising an effective and influential Trade Defence League and the sympathetic reception of the League's amendment to the Bill by the Home Secretary as indicated in the *précis* of suggested amendments must be of the utmost satisfaction to the leaders in the Trade Defence movement. We congratulate them upon having set their house in order and taken their position as a body of legitimate traders organised and ready at all points to defend their livelihood from mistaken legislation and the possible oppression of rival interests.

PEEPS INTO SHOWLAND.

Travelling menageries were inaugurated in England by George Wombwell. There had been a similar show of a portable character organised by a Mr. Cross, who purchased the Royal collection when the King's menagerie was dispersed. After Wombwell came William Manders, and later on John, William, and George Sanger. Of these George Sanger is still living. He is unique in this respect, that he would have his boots made at Wellingborough, where he formed many interesting friendships. The Bostocks also became famous as showmen, but two descendants went abroad to instruct others how to organise these shows. There were James W. Bostock (America), Frank Charles Bostock (France), and Edward H. Bostock, of the famous Glasgow Zoo and Norwich Hippodrome. Among other well-known names must be mentioned the Purchase and Proctor families.

It was William Sanger who invented the steam roundabout, which stimulated a rapid advancement in the world of shows. There have been numerous inventions in the same direction, and amusing diversifications in contrast to hobby horses, such as racing, jumping, galloping, or kicking horses, Venetian gondolas, ostriches, farmyard sets, racing cockerels, and bicycle and motor tracks. From these mechanical devices it is impossible to separate the vast army of the rank and file of show life. There are in these islands of Great Britain and Ireland at least 70,000 showmen, not to mention the vast army of workers making and handling the goods sold or used upon the fairgrounds of the Empire. Now you understand why the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain exists. It was founded in 1890. Through its agency showmen have vindicated their claim to a place of credit and usefulness in the national life.

The great Western rendezvous known as Barton Fair was in full swing. Sunday was a sort of "lullaby" to showmen, as to myself. In the morning I had listened to the beautiful service at Gloucester Cathedral. At the showmen's service in the afternoon the Mayor and members of the City Corporation had gathered. Mutual congratulations having been exchanged, the "living Word" was spoken by the Chaplain (the Rev. Thomas Horne), who has made a special study of British shows, showmen, and show life. It was not long, as he had seen it stated, that fairs or shows were less popular than they ever were with the people of this country. His information was based on statistics he had tendered in evidence before a Parliamentary Committee. For every fair that had gone down during the past fifty years two or three had sprung into existence, and so long as the population remained in any neighbourhood so long would fairs continue to exist. Fairs and shows provided wholesome open-air amusement for the people. These shows had grown out of theatrical entertainments given in the remotest ages, and the proprietors' names had become embodied in our nation's history and literature. Such men had trod the stage and pronounced the classic lines of Shakespeare. There was the great Richardson, and in that tent that afternoon was a descendant of Johnson, another famous tragedian. From such men had sprung the greatest actors and actresses of our times. These fairs were the training grounds of theatricals; the travelling circus was the school of the great London Hippodrome, whilst the variety shows paved the way for the London Palace and Empire. The need for the travelling show had not diminished, but whilst showmen had carried their show from town to town, the stranger, the rev. gentleman remarked, had built huge pleasure palaces, and appropriated a lot of the showmen's coin. In that respect showmen had missed great opportunities. Recalling some of his earliest recollections, the speaker had wonderful memories of George Wombwell, a gentleman of portly proportions, attired in the garb of a country gentleman, inclined to be horsey. Addressing the public, George would say: "No humbug here; they's all alive." Then the show orator came on the scene. He would say: "It takes fifty horses to convey this menagerie from town to town. We have beasts, birds, and reptiles selected and collected from every part of the habitable globe. The African lion tamer will put the lions through their matchless performance, illustrating the lion hunt, capture, and reconciliation of the mightiest beasts of the forest. They may growl and show their mighty teeth, but they dare not bite, illustrating the power of man over brute creation." That was all changed now. They had the loud-toned organ, and a little dumb show with the hands took the place of the show orator.

Then there followed George Sanger, who in his palmy days could command the people, because his show was as good inside as outside, and he should say that showman alone had done as much as ten other men to help his brother showmen in the struggle for existence and freedom which they had had to carry on during the past ten or twelve years; but he was happy to be able to report that there was nothing now between Parliament and showmen that touched either upon their domestic life, their moral life, or their claim to be regarded as worthy citizens of the Commonwealth. And why should they not claim equal citizenship with all classes in the country? That point had been pressed home in the Amended Moveable Dwellings Bill before a committee of the House of Lords. It was not meant to touch showmen at all, and they would get justice in the future as they had succeeded after hard labour in obtaining it in the past. They had won the banner of freedom and liberty, and it rested with them to keep it flying from the high rock of victory.

This is the fourth year the Rev. T. Horne, organising Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, has given the whole of his time to the important work of direct ministry amongst show-people on the fairgrounds of England, Scotland, and Wales. Although it is but the fourth consecutive year of this special effort, it was twenty years ago that the Chaplain began his ministration amongst the showfolk. Year by year for eighteen years he gave all his spare time, when on holiday or free for a Sunday or two from parish work. It was the ready acceptance of these rare opportunities (never more than four Sundays a year) that brought home to the Chaplain's heart and conscience the duty of surrendering all other work (and all other interests), ultimately to hold himself free to devote himself entirely to a work so manifestly committed to him, and so abundantly blessed of God. It was in 1907 the Chaplain mapped out his first itinerary of British fairs. A great deal of pioneer and necessary organisation work had to be done, for the Chaplain never attempted work in a town without the cordial consent and co-operation of the parochial clergy. It is a gratifying feature of the Guild's enterprise that in no instance has the Chaplain met with either a refusal of permission or with discouragement in the parishes he has visited; but everywhere the most enthusiastic approval and assistance.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

When the Moveable Dwellings Bill (1910) was before a Select Committee of the House of Lords the Showmen's Guild was represented by the Rev. T. Horne (chaplain), Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (treasurer), and Mr. G. W. A. Norton. This is what was sought to be done on behalf of the showmen of the United Kingdom by representatives of the Showmen's Guild. The Moveable Dwellings Bill contained clauses which, if passed into law, would hamper the showmen very seriously, and sweep them into the net which was only intended to catch the irresponsible gipsy. It was, therefore, very necessary that the business of the showmen and their interests should be safeguarded by qualifying clauses calculated to strongly define the line of demarcation separating the showman proper from the gipsy. Therefore, it was necessary to secure that travelling showmen or entertainers shall not be hampered in the exercise of the legitimate business of their calling. We extract from the amended Bill this important saving clause for fairs and markets: "(8) Nothing in this Act shall affect the rights or privileges of any person in respect of any lawful fair or market." Mark the result. "The showmen of England (we quote *The Era*) will recognise and fully acknowledge the splendid work of the Select Committee as shown in the Bill now before us. We have no hesitation in praising it as a fine example of constructive Statesmanship. The provision by County Councils of camping grounds at convenient places will be a great boon to legitimate gipsies, hawkers, and others using moveable dwellings yet not following the fairs. The wise simplification of the sanitary laws by making the county the unit of administration will be a boon to showmen, and save them the constantly recurring irritation of over-inspection and unnecessary official visits. The exemption clause for lawful fairs and markets is a step in the right direction, but it leaves untouched the increasingly important question of private show pitches in the winter and the enterprise of opening up new centres for fairs. These faults in the Bill may be dealt with when it is in Committee of the whole House. It is quite possible that Lord Clifford of Chudleigh may accept amendments on these points when he realises their necessity to make this bill really perfect."—*The Wellingborough Post*, Nov. 11, 1910.

"BALLADS OF SHOWLAND."

The Rev. Thomas Horne, the widely-popular chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, has realised, as he says on the first page, that

"Life as it's lived in a van
Hath power and pathos to move you
As only true life's stories can."

What Mr. Horne does not know about the show business is not worth knowing. The slang of the road is as familiar to him as the language of the pulpit, and he keenly sympathises with all the joys and sorrows of a showman's life. It would seem as if every phase of the "traveller's" existence was dealt with in this clever and interesting little book, and we really find it impossible to say which of the poems we prefer.

The pathos of "A Crippled Sunbeam," the cheery optimism of "The Pipes and the Drum," the thrilling sensation of the versified anecdote entitled "The Tiger and the Child," and the deep religious feeling of "Faithful unto the End," all have their claims, and perhaps its comparative shortness is what commends "The Showman's Dying Wish" to us for quotation. Thus it runs:

"My Son, when I die, let my body be borne
To its last resting-place by the Tractor,
The end of life's drama, my Son, do not mourn
The play nor the part of the Actor.

"Though I come of the breed of the yeoman, my Son,
Of the men that made England's great fame,
I have lived all my life as a Showman, my Son,
And ne'er brought disgrace on the name.

"The Tractor has taken the show on the Road
Like a giant exulting in power,
Through valleys, o'er mountains, forward it strode,
Forward 'midst sunshine and shower.

"Yes, the Engine, my Son, has taken the Show,
With its message of life, joy, and light:
Into many dark corners the Showman must go
With music with merriment bright.

"*In this World, my Son, 'tis the things that we use*
That make up the drama of life;
Though often in anger good things we abuse
And turn them to engines of strife.

"Let the Engine take me, at last, to my home,
For I love every throb of the Tractor;
Grieve not, my Son, to this must we come,
When 'the curtain's rung down' on the Actor."

The little volume costs only twopence, and is published at the office of this paper.

BOYNE'S NEW THEATRE.

Boyne, situated on the outskirts of Durham, is one of the most thickly-populated mining districts in the county, and embraces in its area Brandon, Langley Moor, Littleburn, and other important coal centres. Hitherto there has been practically no recognised place of amusement, and the building of a handsome and commodious new threatre, which will be known as the Royal Hippodrome Electric Theatre, will adequately meet a long-felt want. At considerable cost, Messrs. S. Johnson, T. Scott, and W. H. Barnard have, in an enterprising manner, provided an entirely new theatre, with comfortable seating accommodation for over 1,000 persons.

The new building is about 90yds. long by 40yds. wide, and is built of seasoned wood, encased with corrugated iron. The interior is beautifully decorated, and presents quite a bright and attractive character, artistically-designed decorations adding to the effect. It is fitted throughout with electric radiators. The choicely-upholstered seats are of the tip-up type, and the floor, graduating from the entrance to the foot of the stage, admits of a clear and uninterrupted view from all parts of the house. The plant is entirely new and of an up-to-date character. A Crossley's gas engine, 12½ h.p., has been utilised, and the motor was specially built by Messrs. Holmes, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The building is lighted by electricity. There are four large exits and two emergency exits, and fire-buckets are conveniently placed around the hall in readiness in case of fire.

Mr. J. Bell, E.T.U.S., has been engaged as operator and electrician; and Mr. Herbert Willis, A.V.C.M., is responsible for the orchestral band. In the presence of a large and representative company, the new theatre was opened on Monday night by Mr. S. Johnson, of Whitley Bay.

STATUTES, FAIRS, AND SHOWMEN

Both the Rotherham Press and the Rotherham people are most kindly disposed towards the Showmen's Guild. The extent of this public sympathy is shown in the following extracts, taken from an interview with the Guild chaplain by a representative of the *Rotherham Advertiser*:—

"I suppose that at rock-bottom everyone loves the showman. His sounding heroics, his actings and his posturings, his gorgeous raiment, his stern clutch on all that is left of the romantic, the glare of footlights, the glitter of spangles, his "prave oorts,' and his redoubtable redoubtedness, all touch hidden springs of sympathy because those hidden springs well up in a far-back childhood. With thousands of us showmen and showwomen woke the first dawnings of the notion that the real may-touch the imaginative, and the fairies of dreams took on their first concreteness at the sight of the earliest-seen pantomimic nymphs. The memory of one's first show or theatre visit is always a vivid memory, and the later recognition of the sometimes sordid reality which lies behind histrionic cloudland is no more welcome than the dawning suspicion which banishes a beautifully-illusive and elusive Santa Claus for prosaic parents or relations. I know an aged lady who still says that she remembers her first visit to the pantomime as giving her her first idea of Heaven! There were angels with wings 'ascending and descending,' as Jacob saw them, but without the commonplace ladders; they swam in the air, or in the 'flies,' which is much the same, supported by invisible wires.

"Men and women correct these early impressions, and are very little better for the correction. But even in more mature years there is, at rock-bottom, as I said, a tender spot for the showfolk, and this is why amongst the most popular figures in literature are those of strolling players. From Alfred Jingle to Codlin, from Mrs. Jarley, with her waxworks, to the plump, fascinating 'Fotheringay,' of Pendennis, from Dr Marigold to Mr. Vincent Crummles, who does not recognise that the creators of them loved plays and playfolk through the simple fact that each one is drawn with humanity's best and richest quality—a good-natured love of their fellows?

"Rotherham 'Statti's' and—its showmen; the waxwork and the fat lady, the haunted castle and the marionettes; plump pink-limbed ladies dancing divinely, so the youngsters think; the real drama, at threepence a time, if you will only 'Walk up at once!' joy-wheels, flip-flaps, Teddy bears, shooting galleries! Shades of the Jarleys, the Crummleses, the Codlins, and the Shorts! What scrap of humanity under fourteen would miss any of them, given opportunity?

"But there is a serious side. Modernism has touched the showman on the shoulder and bade him line up with social progress, or—be swept away. The happy, devil-may-care system of older days has gone by. The showman may not wander where he will, may not draw up his caravan and camp where he likes and when he likes, nor may he evade for his family the restrictions which once only concerned themselves with the house-dweller and left the van-dweller alone. The actor was formerly regarded as a vagabond; he could be set in the stocks by any irate justice of the peace; he had no 'rights'; and even good Mrs. Jarley was threatened not only with the stocks, but with the white sheet of penitence, by the angry Miss Montflathers. There still remains with authoritative persons no small portion of this sentiment, and it were interesting to ask where the van-dwellers stand socially to-day. There is a Showmen's Guild. Perhaps the most enthusiastic member of that Guild is its honorary chaplain, the Rev. Thomas Horne, a gentleman once well known in Rotherham. I would see Mr. Horne.

"Something of him I had known earlier. He was then an explosive sort of man—a man with strong human sympathies, impulsive tendencies, a hatred of injustice and tyranny, a theatrical vein in the heart of him that came out in Quixotic extravagance of speech, and did, as many of us recollect well, greatly shock the mealy-mouthed, gig-respectability of many good gentlemen hereabouts when the gigantic coal fight of 1893 was going on.

"'What about this Guild of yours?' I asked, when we had exchanged one or two reminiscences of the 'Great Strike.'

"'The Guild began,' said he, 'with the alarm of a few showmen on account of the Moveable Dwellings Bill, brought in by Mr. George Smith, of Coalville, in 1888 or 1889, which held them up to opprobrium as a danger to public health and to public morals, on account of their caravan life, and would, further, have practically destroyed and ruined them. I consider the attack on them was a vile one. They were said to be bringing their children up in ignorance and under bad and immoral conditions. I was myself, so I considered, a complete example to the contrary. I was born in a caravan belonging to Mander's Menagerie, in 1849, and I thought my life during the then forty years it had lasted was answer enough to the Smith aspersions. I did my best to vindicate the showman from the charges made against him. I demonstrated from a hundred examples his kindness and care as a father and the righteousness of his claim to be a good, honest citizen.

"'In a short time we found a host of friends behind us, and we have been hammering these facts into the public mind ever since, for the danger foreshadowed by the Smith Bill was not over, nor is it over yet.

"'It was plain that if the caravan-dwellers were to justify their existence in the country and to maintain their rights they must organise themselves as other classes had done, and, from my home in Whiston, I set about urging them to do this, so that Rotherham may claim to be the birthplace of the movement.

"'The formation of the Union began. It was not confined to employers, but the employees joined. I was invited to their annual meeting in Manchester, and attended it for seven consecutive years. When the Union grew, and the London meetings were arranged, I followed there. The Guild invited me to be their president. I felt that it would be better for the president to be one of themselves, and suggested they should make me their honorary chaplain. They did so.

"'For eighteen years I gave all my spare time to their cause—my holidays and any free Sunday I had at my disposal.

"'Now I am giving the whole of my time to this great work. It is something to be able to minister to this large nomadic population, and it is a work which, I am thankful to say, has been eminently blessed of God, as its results show.

"'To return to the legal side.

"'We fought the Moveable Dwellings Act, and we killed it by the year 1893. But that was not the end of the matter, as we had hoped. In 1905 or 1907 a Bill was promoted in the House of Lords by Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, who is simply the mouthpiece of the County Councils Association. The object of this Bill was to corner the gipsy. In order to do this, in the fashion the Bill was drawn up, it was necessary to corner all van-dwellers, so that we were threatened again.

"'We didn't object to the cornering of the gipsy, but we didn't want cornering ourselves, so we opposed the Bill. In many cases we felt sure it would be a dead letter in our own case; still, it gave power to an over-officious authority to interfere seriously with us, and, though we felt sure the go-ahead authorities in the North of England and Midlands would not put the Bill in opera-

tion, we were not so sure of the more narrow-minded people of the South, and, as I say, we opposed.

"'The Bill sought to have every van registered—not a serious matter—but also to make every county authority a registration authority. Under this provision any crochety council could have made regulations, and perfectly ridiculous ones, as to air-space, as to right of inspection, and the rest, in such a manner as to have very gravely interfered with us. But the fatal blot on the Bill was a proviso empowering county authorities to prohibit an assembly of vans upon any space within their jurisdiction if they thought such a gathering might be a danger to health or a source of annoyance.

"'The danger to health plea is one that will stand, but the "annoyance" simply meant that the playing of a brass band, if complained of, could rob a hundred people of their legitimate business as showmen.

"'I interviewed the promoters of the Bill. I said to them, "If you like to call this Bill a Gipsy Encampment Bill we will fight it out in the Law Courts as to whether we are gipsies or not, but as it stands it threatens our existence."

"'I laid our people's views before them, and after that I appeared before the Lords' Committee appointed to consider the question. When that committee's report appeared it said this: 'There are two kinds of van-dwellers—gipsies and showmen. As regards showmen, no legislation seems to be required. Further, we are assured by Mr. Horne, their chaplain, that the existing legislation is often used harshly so as to impede and to penalise them in their business. Without going into that part of the question, we are of opinion that showmen are an honest and thriving and obviously well-to-do people.'

"'The Bill as it stood was practically altered beyond recognition. But a new Bill is to be brought forward. We are waiting for it, and if the old obnoxious provisions remain we shall fight it for all it is worth.'

"'You must be an authority on the legal position of showmen by this time, Mr. Horne,' said I.

"'Yes,' he laughed; 'for what I have told you is by no means all the fighting we had, and are having, to do.

"'In '93, when we still had the Moveable Dwellings Bill on our hands, we found out that corporations up and down the country were obtaining prohibitory powers against showmen, both by bylaws and by private Bills.

"'The enemy was marching against us, and I took up the old cudgels. I went up to London and interviewed the Home Office and the Local Government Board. There I was met with this "facer": "Only the ratepayers in the districts where the bylaws or private Bills ran had any *locus standi* as an opposition."

"'This put us out of court at once, unless—and this was our plan for five years—we could get some of the ratepayers of a given district to appeal on our behalf.

"'But we fought away, and our persistence had its reward at last. We were permitted a *locus*, and allowed the right to petition against Bills which threatened our lives. We approach the Local Government Board direct and appear by counsel against Bills we regard as injurious.

"'As an example of what I mean, we may take the case of Rotherham. Some years ago they promoted a Parliamentary Bill, one clause of which demanded a monopoly of fair rights.

"'Now our society stands for Free Trade in amusements. We opposed the Bill. We approached the corporation direct, were able to show them that we had beaten three Bills of an exactly similar nature, and we persuaded them to drop the injurious clauses.

"'The rights to hold fairs exist under old statutes, and it is not competent for local authorities to step in and take away those powers without Parliamentary sanction. How strongly we are intrenched from a legal point of view may be seen in the fact that, though we have fought sixty or seventy Corporation Bills since 1895, we have never lost a case, and we have got costs on two occasions—in Oldham and in Acton.

"'Authorities make bylaws against noise. This is quite right. All we do is to ask for the insertion of a clause saying that this section of the bylaws shall not apply during the recognised fairs, wakes, or public holidays. We get that proviso, and are satisfied.'

"'And what of the other work of the Showmen's Guild?'

"'It stands for the uplifting and the improvement of the showman. We look after the educational side, the spiritual side. We have compelled the schools to open their doors to our children, and have insisted on a recognition of the "occasional scholar." Mr. Acland's "New Code," as it was called years ago, provides for them, and instead of our children being a loss to the schools their attendance increases the grants.

"'In the last twenty years a new habit of life has grown up amongst showmen; they have felt something of the new up-lifting life-forces. They have prospered more than ever they did before, and 90 per cent. of them to-day have homes of their own apart from the van-dwellings.

"'Their children are being properly cared for; they attend school as regularly as any children in the land.

"'Then—I speak what I know—the home-life of the showman is quite as moral as that of any other class. Sociologists are insisting that the bonds of domestic life are loosening. This is not so amongst our people. To the showman his home on wheels is a part of his business life, his wife and family are always with him, home ties are closer, the restrictions on both husband and wife are always present; the very fact of their restricted size of abode makes it incumbent upon them to regard the decencies of life with increased care.

"'In regard to young people a rigorous separation of the sexes is insisted upon, and illegitimacy amongst show-people is less, much less, than in many other walks of life.

"'At this moment I do not know of two cases of men and women living together who are not married, and I know hundreds of families of showfolk. I can tell you more There is rough justice for the man who tries to play the "gay Lothario" in showmen's circles. He pays for it pretty sharply.'

"This was all news to me. I set it down here at length because I feel sure it will be news to hundreds of others, and it seems it is time the house-dwellers did generous justice in this respect to their van-dwelling brothers and sisters."—*The Rotherham Advertiser*, Nov. 12, 1910.

PROBABLY owing to the very inclement weather that prevailed the whole of Wednesday last at Crewe, there was a very small attendance at the sale by auction of roundabouts, &c., conducted by Mr. Tom Norman (showmen's auctioneer), and the slight reserve placed upon the concern not being reached the lots were withdrawn, and can now be treated for privately by applying to Tom Norman, auctioneer, care of *The Era* Office, London, W.C. Among those present we noticed Messrs. H. Wallis (Seaforth), Harold Hibberd (Stockport), David Taylor (Circus, Worcester), A. Dobson (Birmingham), J. Hewitt (Nottingham), G. Wilkie (New Brighton), Wright and Holmes (Manchester), and other well-known showmen. Great praise and thanks are due to the vendor, Mrs. S. A. Gothiemer, for the splendid lunch, also tea and hospitality which was partaken of and greatly appreciated and enjoyed at the Crown Hotel, where, notwithstanding the hurricane of snow and winter outside, a very enjoyable time was spent.

APPEAL FOR HELP.

TO OUR FELLOW SHOWMEN AND BROTHER ARTISTS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES AND IRELAND.

The several members of the Scott family—sons and daughters of the late Walter Scott, circus proprietor, who was well and favourably known—beg to intimate that we are completely overburdened with trouble at the present time, being in stricken circumstances and in want of money, and can no longer find the necessary funds to defend an action of detinue which has been brought against us by Edward Hanneford, who claims to be entitled to the circus property which was left to us by our late father to enable us to earn a livelihood. The following is a report of the case taken from a local newspaper when it was last before the court on Oct. 27:—

HANNEFORD v. SCOTT AND OTHERS.

This was an appeal by the defendants, Robert Scott and others, from an order of Mr. Justice Ross appointing a receiver over the chattels, business, and effects of the circus of the defendants. There was a cross-appeal by the plaintiff, Edward Hanneford, that the order in question, the subject of defendants' appeal, should be amended so as to constitute Mr. Hugh Boyd, of Belfast, manager as well as receiver over the circus. The defendants contended that the plaintiff had no valid claim against the property, and alleged that he had been overpaid to the extent of £400 in respect of money lent to the defendants, and that the appointment of a receiver would prevent the business from being carried on in the ordinary course, and would be detrimental to the defendants' interests. It appeared that the circus had been carried on under the title of Sir Walter Scott and Sons. The plaintiff resided in Strandtown, Belfast. Following the death of Mr. Walter Scott litigation took place between the parties as to their respective rights, and when the matter came before Mr. Justice Ross a receiver was appointed pending the matter.

For the defendants (appellants)—Mr. Healy, K.C., M.P., and Mr. W. H. Brown (instructed by Mr. J. G. Scott, solicitor, Larne).

For the plaintiff—Mr. J. O'Connor, K.C., and Mr. H. M. Thompson (instructed by Mr. James Alexander, solicitor, Belfast).

The Lord Chancellor, in giving judgment, said they would allow matters to remain as they were, having regard to the lateness of the season, and to the fact that the touring of the circus was finished for the season. They would decline to grant the plaintiff's cross-notice of appeal, which sought to appoint the receiver as manager, and they would put the plaintiff under terms to deliver his statement of claim forthwith, and make costs of both parties costs in the cause.

We wish to keep what our father left to us, and we are therefore resisting the claim made by Hanneford, and we look forward with confidence to receiving adequate financial support from our fellow showmen and brother artists who know us well. Funds are urgently required, and we appeal to all our many British, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish friends to come forward at this critical moment and help us to defend the action and have justice done between the parties. The smallest sums will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by the undersigned, to whom all contributions are to be sent.

ROBERT SCOTT,
47, Main-street, Larne, co. Antrim, Ireland.

On behalf of himself and his brothers and sisters, children of the late Walter Scott, who are the defendants in the action.

FILM GOSSIP.

"Henry VIII." on the Screen.

THE Barker Motion Photography, Ltd., have been in negotiation with Sir Herbert Tree, who has signed a contract by which the above company becomes the sole owner of the cinematograph right of Sir Herbert Tree's wonderful representation of *Henry VIII.*, which is now being performed at His Majesty's Theatre with such tremendous success.

Sunday Picture Shows.

BARRY District Council on Monday night decided, after a long discussion, not to grant permission for the holding of Sunday picture shows in the town. These had been offered for the benefit of several objects, including the Welsh National Memorial Fund. Councillor W. R. Lee, J.P. (the chairman), presided. The Rev. Ivor Davies, who headed a deputation of representatives of the churches of all denominations, criticised the offers of charity, inasmuch as only the profits were promised to the various objects, and the principal of Sunday entertainments would be gained, which last year had been refused. Councillor S. R. Jones moved the resolution that the applications be not granted. Councillor Levers, in seconding, said he hoped the Free Churches would fight this question of the sanctity of the Sabbath with clean hands. A series of amendments were proposed and successfully defeated. The resolution was carried.

Picture Chats About Biscuits.

"PICTURE Chats About Biscuits" is the subject of twelve interesting lectures, illustrated by the cinematograph, that are attracting crowds of people to the Temperance Hall, Birmingham. The lectures have been arranged by Messrs. Peak, Frean, & Co., the well-known biscuit manufacturers, and they convey an excellent idea of the interesting processes of the manufacture of biscuits.

Electric Coliseum, Harringay.

THIS handsome picture palace, the latest addition to North London's places of amusement, was formally opened on Wednesday afternoon last. Built on an important site along the Green Lanes, immediately opposite the Salisbury Hotel, it has removed an eyesore to both local residents and constant passers-by. The interior is, without doubt, one of the finest in or around London. A sum of £10,000 has been expended on building and finishing the place, the architect being Mr. O. R. Dawes, of Fore-street, and the builders Messrs. Abrahams, J. Trevor, and others. The theatre will seat about 1,500 people comfortably, tip-up chairs being used throughout, the lounge seats being gilt-framed and covered in crimson plush. The handsome decorations are in cream, green, and gold, and, whilst being elaborate, are not in any way gaudy.

House Packed to the Ceiling.

THE picture screen is the largest yet known, and an excellent series of up-to-date films were exhibited to a house packed to the ceiling, for here, unlike all or most other North London picture theatres, there is a fine balcony, from which an excellent view of the pictures can be obtained. A vocal item is also introduced between the "living" pictures, which proved a distinct advantage to the usual continuous show of pictures. The decorations and furnishing have been carried out by the well-known firm of theatrical furnishers and decorators, Messrs. Fred Wilkins and Bros., of Duke-street, Liverpool, and are in excellent taste. The prices are to be "popular," and with the large surrounding neighbourhood all should go well with this new enterprise.

Kilmarnock Picture Palace.

A CAPITAL programme is again submitted at the Kilmarnock Picture Palace. Lion Hunting in Africa shows to what perils an operator is sometimes exposed, for the last lion was killed within a few feet of the camera. This is a splendid film. The varieties are Marie Kay, a dainty soubrette and a clever dancer, her performance on roller skates being very good indeed. Probyn and Bates are a smart comedy pair, and Mlle. Bartenelli an accomplished and popular contortionist and gymnast.

Wisbech Electric Theatre.

WHAT is now the smartest and most up-to-date place of amusement in Wisbech has recently been erected in the Timber Market, known as the Wisbech Electric Theatre. The building has an imposing appearance, and is exceedingly well built. Inside it is elaborately fitted up, there being accommodation for about 450 persons. The operator's room is situated above the main entrance, and is built in accordance with the L.C.C. regulations. The floor slopes gently towards the sheet, those paying the highest prices being accommodated with plush tip-up chairs on a raised platform at the back of the building.

Crowded House for the Opening.

THE opening took place on Saturday night last, when the place was crowded. Mr. Cooper J. Elm is the proprietor, and he has appointed as his manager Mr. G. F. Allen, late of the Folkestone Town Hall. The building contract was in the hands of Mr. Wilkinson J. Elm, and Messrs. Garrod and Hunt, of London, supplied the electrical apparatus. The theatre is being run on the "twice-nightly" system, the programme containing nothing but pictures. It is expected the management will include "varieties" in their programme, which at present they change Mondays and Thuredays. Among the pictures shown on Saturday evening were The Angel of Dawson's Claim, The Other Johnson, Plucky Lad, and Bob's Escapade. This week's programme includes What the Daisy Said, Flag of the Company, The Poacher, and Henry's New Hat.

Empire Electric Palace, Crook.

A NEW electric theatre, to be known as the Empire Electric Palace, has been built in Crook by Mr. William Shepherd, of North Shields, and was opened on Monday night under the patronage of the chairman and members of the Crook Urban District Council, when the building was packed from floor to ceiling with an enthusiastic audience. The building is an imposing and commodious one, being 70ft. long by 45ft. wide, and is capable of holding 1,000 persons. It is well furnished throughout and electrically lighted. The picture screen is a panel 20ft. long by 20ft. high, and everything seems to have been done to render the place comfortable to those who visit it.

B.B. Pictures at Dundee.

THE B.B. pictures continue to win all along the line at Dundee. District-Manager Mr. Tom Lunn has a fine assortment of films on view at the Palace Theatre, including The Great Train Hold-up, a very thrilling representation of an incident on the Southern Pacific Railroad, and At the Mercy of the Tide, which portrays a romance of intense human interest. By the machinations of the villain the hero is tied to a post driven into the sands, and excitement increases as the incoming tide threatens to engulf him. The heroine arrives just in the nick of time, however, and rescues her lover.

An Excursion in a Dirigible.

AT the Gaiety Theatre a very attractive programme includes An Excursion in a Dirigible, in which the beautiful scenery of Switzerland is viewed from the airship. Comrades, The Emperor's Message, and The Death of Lincoln are fine dramatic items. The Mysterious Bouquet is a clever trick picture, while Jones's Lottery and Baby prove very diverting. In addition to the pictures, Acting-Manager Mr. J. P. Hickey has a strong attraction in the Eckersley Sketch Company in the dramatic sketch *Molly*, the name-part being cleverly undertaken by Miss Dot Robins. At the Empire Theatre Acting-Manager Mr. R. W. Austin has also a brilliant programme, consisting of both grave and gay subjects, which meet with the hearty approval of large audiences, in addition to which "I love a lassie" by the Cinephone goes like hot cakes.

Dundee Cinema Theatre.

MR. P. FEATHERS submits another fine programme at this sumptuous house, a very popular film being The House with Closed Shutters, which tells a tragic story of the American Civil War. Other good pictures are The Good-hearted Neighbour, A Modern Cinderella, The Electric Street Fan, and The Great Medal Competition.

Freemason's Buildings, Richmond.

BY order of the executrix of the late Mr. Henry Dixon, Richmond, Messrs. Breadmore and Webb will sell by auction, at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday, November 23, at 3 o'clock, the highly important property known as Freemason's Buildings, Richmond, situate about 200 yards from the railway station. The premises comprise excellent club accommodation, a fine public hall, another large public room, a prominent corner shop, and set of offices. The building could be admirably adapted for a cinematograph theatre. The shop is let on lease, but the remainder is in hand. Leases about 86 years unexpired; total ground rent £95 per annum. Particulars and conditions may be obtained of the auctioneers, 64, Sheen-road, Richmond; and Railway Station, Kew Gardens.

Lord Haddo and Cinematograph Shows.

LORD HADDO has placed on the agenda paper of the L.C.C. the following motions which he is prepared to move, but when they will be presented is very doubtful, as there are motions on the agenda which were placed there two years ago:—"That in the opinion of the Council the Council should be empowered to require the closing on Sundays of cinematograph halls and other places of entertainment; that the operation of standing order No. 176 be suspended, and that the Theatres and Music Halls Committee do report with a view to application being made to Parliament in the Session of 1911 to secure such power for the Council. That in the opinion of the Council the rapid multiplication of cinematograph halls in London is undesirable; and that it be referred to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee to consider and report as to the steps which should be taken with a view to placing a limit on the number of places of entertainment of this description."

Kensington Picture Theatre.

MANAGER MR. JAMES GRANT is this week screening some capital pictures at this popular and luxurious theatre, including Longlegs the Jumper (Aquila), The Turn of the Balance (Vitagraph), The Electrical Vitaliser (Kineto), Sports in the Indian Army (Pathé), Tilly the Tomboy Buys Linoleum (Hepworth), The Governor's Daughter (Gaumont), Bill and the Missing Key (Lux), and The Gaumont Graphic of all the latest news.

Carnival at Waterford Rink.

THE first fancy-dress carnival at the Waterford Skating Rink was held on Tuesday night, and the event was a decided success, there being a large number of skaters and spectators. The floor was well filled with ladies and gentlemen in all sorts of fancy costumes, many displaying decided originality. The rink band, under the baton of Mr. F. Gleeson, played a number of new and delightful selections. The managing-director, Mr. Kidd, and the secretary, Mr. J. C. Ferguson, and their assistants are all to be complimented on the successful manner in which everything was carried out.

RINKING GOSSIP.

Miss Dollie Mitchell at Bournemouth.

MISS DOLLY MITCHELL, Britain's champion lady roller skater, has recently been a big attraction at the Westover Skating Palace, Bournemouth. There is daintiness and gracefulness in her every movement, while the whole performance is marked by exceptional cleverness. Her heel and toe work is particularly fine, and with her first appearance in Bournemouth she has quite earned the name of the prettiest lady skater in the universe and the idol of the skatorial world.

Advertisement Carnival at Bolton.

THE second annual fancy dress character advertisement carnival in connection with the Olympia Rink, Bolton, was held on Wednesday evening, the 9th, when there was a large crowd of spectators, who derived immense pleasure from the animated scene. A number of skaters took the floor, and their dresses of various hues and descriptions presented a picturesque appearance. Quite a number of local traders and others generously enhanced the event by offering valuable prizes, and for these the competition was decidedly keen. As a consequence the rivals were numerous, and their costumes were delightfully varied. The judging was quite an innovation to Bolton, being accomplished by means of numbers. A pretty sight was afforded by the grand march, the snow dance, and confetti battle. Special music was rendered by the band, under the conductorship of Mr. J. H. Gilberthorpe. The carnival was excellently arranged and carried out, for which warm commendation is due to the manager, Mr. D. J. Robertson, ably seconded by the floor manager, Mr. Hodkinson.

The Awards.

MRS. ROBERTSON and Mrs. Booth distributed the prizes as follows:—*Bolton Chronicle*, T. Fiske; Sharman's Brewery, Frank Edwards; *Answers*, Harry Greenwood; Jeyes' Sanitas, Miss L. Richards; Ross's, E. Johnson; Ellis and Sons, H. Williams; Wolfenden's, J. Rigby; Walter Clegg's, E. L. Hope; Spratts', H. Prince; Nathan Bury's, J. Morris; Whitehead's, Miss E. Rigby; Greenwood's, Miss Freda Townley; Townson and Chadwick's, J. Winter; Collinson's, Ltd., Miss Greenwood; Oxo, Ltd., J. Davies; Saddle Hotel (Johnny Walker), H. Curtiss; Greenhalgh and Bleakley, J. Ball; J. T. Howcroft's, F. Jones and T. Leigh; Hulton's, Ltd., Imps, T. Whitelaw. Rink prizes:—Lady's fancy dress, Miss Greenwood; gentleman's handsome fancy dress, G. Sharples; most humorous costume, T. Wilson.

Royal Patronage for Cheltenham Rink.

THIS popular Cheltenham Winter Garden Roller Rink opened recently for the season, and the prospects are the best that have yet obtained. In addition to a number of private society clubs, members of the Portuguese Royal Family, now staying at Wood Norton, patronise the rink. Teague's Military Band performs at every session, and is a great acquisition.

The Mammoth Crystal Palace Rink.

ON Saturday next, the 26th inst., Mr. Geo. O. Starr, the general-manager of the Crystal Palace, will reopen the mammoth Skating Rink there. This popular rink will be again under the able and genial supervision of Mr. F. G. Stumcke, who is a past master in the art of rinking. The Palace Rink has absolutely the finest surface in existence, and is the largest asphalte rink in the world. Its popularity has been increasing every year, and although this rink has only been open for eleven seasons, it might be mentioned that there has been rinking every season at the Palace for thirty-six years in succession.

Charles Phillips's Unrivalled Exhibition.

FOR Saturday next there will be a special attraction in the person of Mr. Chas. D. Phillips, who is the champion free skater of Great Britain. This artist, who is unrivalled in heel and toe work, fancy and lightning speed skating, will give performances during the afternoon and evening. There will be three sessions daily, viz., 10.30 to 12.30, 2.30 to 5, and 7 to 10 p.m. During the afternoon and evening sessions rinkers will be entertained by a full orchestral band. It should also be mentioned that there is here a special annexe reserved for learners, ladies and children only.

Rinking at Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

THE Chorlton-cum-Hardy Skating Rink, a spacious building, has become popular. There are three sessions daily, and the well-chosen selections of a capital band add considerably to the attractiveness of the invigorating pastime. Mr. M. Woodall is the secretary and manager, and Mr. G. E. Morley (late of the Aldwych Rink, London) ably discharges the duties of floor manager.

Carnival at Kilmarnock.

A FANCY dress and masked carnival was held on Friday, Nov. 11, at the Kilmarnock Skating Rink, in aid of local charities. Mr. Mitchell, the manager, had the hall prettily decorated. About twenty prizes were distributed amongst a large number of competitors. Mr. F. Coulson Robertson gave a splendid exhibition of trick and fancy skating, and was very well received.

Hockey Club Sports at Kirkcaldy.

THURSDAY evening drew a record crowd to the Olympia, Kirkcaldy, the occasion being the Hockey Club's sports. Games and sports of a varied character were partaken in by a large entry of competitors, and the spectators were thoroughly satisfied in every way. Mr. James Hunter, the energetic lessee, officiated as starter and referee, and at the close of the proceedings Mrs. James Hunter gracefully handed over the prizes.

Ebrington Rink, Plymouth.

EVERYTHING is now in full swing, and this year promises to equal if not excel its predecessors. The Rink Hockey Club is a fine attraction, and the matches are thoroughly enjoyed by players and spectators alike. A Cinderella is shortly to be held.

Rinking at Eastbourne.

DRAMATIC performances have now ceased at the Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne, until next spring. The maple floor has been relaid, and on Monday next skating will be commenced.

Rinking Popular at Bath.

RINKING at Bath is as popular as ever. On Thursday a grand fancy dress carnival was held at the Central Rink, when prizes for the prettiest, most original, and most humorous costumes were given, besides a two-step competition, a ladies' balloon and hoop race, and a gentlemen's obstacle race, were competed for. The final heat of the one mile race arranged by the management of the County Rink, Bath, was run off last Saturday before a huge crowd, the winner being Mr. W. G. Martin, whose time was 3min. 57sec.

Carnival at Mansfield Rink.

A WELL-PATRONISED fancy-dress carnival was held at the Mansfield Rink last week. The dresses were pretty and original, and much amusement was caused by the absurdity and novelty of some of the designs in the comic class. The prizes were given to—Ladies: 1, Indian Squaw; 1 (original), April Shower. Gentlemen: 1, Organ Grinder; 2, Old Woman on a Donkey; 1 (historical), Lord Nelson. Children: 1, Cupid. Prizes were also given for waltzing, two-stepping, and graceful skating.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

IT has long become a recognised fact to look for an exceptionally strong bill at the London Coliseum, but a programme which includes Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, Evie Greene, Tom Clare, the Two Bobs, Violet Lorraine, Phil Ray, José Collins, Harry Claff, The Romps, Dutch Daly, Helen Blain, Fred Hastings, the Hon. Eva O'Connor, Charles Pond, the Meister Glee Singers, Fred Weldon, and several others, making a total of thirty turns, is surely a phenomenal programme for even the Coliseum. Yet this is the programme to be given to-morrow at the Coliseum (kindly lent by Mr. Oswald Stoll) on the occasion of the eighth annual concert in aid of the benevolent funds of the National Association of Theatrical Employees.

THIS concert has now become one of the recognised pleasures of the winter season, and all those amusement seekers who intend indulging in an evening with the "stars," should obtain their tickets at the earliest possible moment to avoid the disappointment many experienced last year. Tickets and full information may be obtained at the Coliseum, or from the hon. secretary, Wm. Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

THE arrangements for the concert at the Coliseum to-morrow (Sunday) evening, in aid of the Employés' Benevolent Funds, are completed, and, what is more to the point, every ticket for a seat is sold, and all the twenty-nine boxes are taken. There will be plenty of standing room for those who cannot get seats. This year all previous records will be surpassed, and it speaks well for the zeal of the London members of the N.A.T.E. that all tickets have been sold by their own exertions without the aid of an advertisement in the general Press.

THE additions to the list of patrons are as follows:—Miss Eva Moore (two 5s. seats); Mme. Zelie de Lussan (who, finding that she will not be able to appear, sends a donation of £1); Mr. Sydney Valentine (two 5s. seats); Mr. Cecil Raleigh (takes a box); Mr. J. Martin Harvey, £1 1s.; Mr. Thomas Beecham, £1 1s.; Mr. J. Welch (two 5s. seats); Mr. Percy Honri, £1 1s.; Miss Lilian Braithwaite (£1 1s. box); Mr. James Carew (£1 1s. box); Mr. William Greet (four 5s. seats); Miss Compton, £1 1s.; Miss Irene Vanbrugh (four 5s. seats); Mr. Cyril Maude (four 5s. seats); Dr. Robinson, 5s.; Mr. Frank Glenister, Sir H. B. Tree, and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.

THE following ladies have kindly consented to sell programmes:—Mrs. Rose Phillips, Mrs. C. C. Bartram, Miss C. R. Elkerton, Miss I. Elkerton, Miss Cecilia Macarte, Miss Julia Macarte, Miss Winnie Ashton (of "The Romps"), and the following from the Shaftesbury Theatre:—Miss Louie Lockner, Miss Violet Morine, Miss Violet Walker, Miss Violet Graham, Miss Rosamund Gould, Miss Winnie Wing, Miss Hetty Kelly, Miss Yvonne Fitzroy, Miss Zoe Gordon, Miss Lily Nanton, Miss Cicely Debenham, Miss Queenie Vincent, Miss Nellie Taylor, and Miss Aimee Roberts and Miss Violet Loraine.

AT a meeting of the Cinematograph Operators Committee on Tuesday, Mr. S. B. Blackley, of Chicago, attended, and suggested that the Association should arrange a meeting of operators to witness an exhibition of new appliances introduced by an American firm represented by Mr. Blackley. Mr. Blackley is a member of Branch No. 145 of the American Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employés. The committee decided to arrange a meeting for the purpose of the demonstration and an address by Mr. Blackley, who was also elected an hon. member of the N.A.C.O. and presented with a badge of membership.

MR. A. GEORGE, who held the position of master carpenter at the Lyceum Theatre since the opening of the house by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter, has resigned that position to take up a similar one with Mr. Martin Harvey.

MR. H. G. BROOKE, recently stage-manager at the Finsbury Park Empire, and now holding that position with Miss Maud O'Dell, has had the misfortune to lose his wife, who died on Tuesday, after a long and painful illness.

OPENING OF EARL'S COURT RINK.

Revellers on rollers turned up in full force for the opening of the great Earl's Court Rink on Friday evening, the 11th, and the magnificent floor of the vast arena was quickly sampled by a large and enthusiastic crowd of expert skaters, and voted splendid. As we stated in our last issue, the Earl's Court Rink is now under an entirely new administration, and nothing has been left undone to still further enhance the attractions of London's colossal rinking rendezvous.

The new lighting and decorations add considerably to the brightness of the huge building, giving an effective setting to the animated crowd of rinkers, whilst an even temperature is guarded. Special attention has, of course, been given to the skating surface, which is, perhaps, one of the finest in the world, and the large staff of instructors of both sexes will be found exceptionally accomplished and capable of imparting a first knowledge of the fascinating pastime in a very short space of time.

Evidence of their expertness and alertness was frequently forthcoming on Friday evening, when any rinkers who happened to come a cropper were "spotted" and surrounded in marvellously quick time by the instructors, and gently assisted to a haven of safety. The short-skirted instructresses also looked very smart and attractive, and the ease and grace with which they performed various difficult movements were something to marvel at.

The majority of the rinkers, however, seemed in no need of instruction, and the many becomingly-attired damsels and their attendant swains who careered round the spacious building with such evident delight were the envy of the few unskilled or timid who watched them from the other side of the barrier. Among the spectators we noticed Mr. Fred Neiman, pardonably proud of the experiness and speed of his son Adolf—a fine young skater. No inducement would tempt father to put on the rollers; but there is plenty of time yet for him to visit the rink at an early session, and in the comparative safety and seclusion of the learners' annexe—the "blood pit," as he facetiously termed it—attain proficiency in the invigorating pastime.

Mr. Handel V. Phasey's military band is an attraction that must be mentioned, and the stirring Sousa marches, and other melodious selections of this capital combination of musicians were greatly appreciated by rinkers and spectators alike. Then there is the "skatoboggan," on which the more daring of the rinkers may have a particularly exciting time; and other features are rinking for ladies only, men's races, two-step and barn-dancing waltzes.

Mr. Frank C. Bostock, the enterprising director-proprietor of the rink, and Mr. Harold Hilliard have certainly left nothing undone to make Earl's Court Rink an ideal resort for skaters, and it is very evident that the invigorating and delightful pastime has lost none of its popularity. Mr. John S. Harvey is the courteous and astute general manager, and all concerned with the undoubted success of the opening session should be gratified at the appreciation expressed on all sides for this admirably-equipped and managed rink.

KINEMATOGRAPH COPYRIGHT. The Law Affecting the Same. By William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law. Price 6d. Address, the Publisher *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

"THE HEART OF CARMELA."

Sketch, by John G. Brandon, Produced at the Euston on Monday, Nov. 14.

Felippe .....Mr. John G. Brandon
Pedro .....Senor Zanfretta
Loretta .....Miss Julie Dolaro
Anita .....Miss Rae Gordon
Ramon .....Mr. Richard Norton
Laragna .....Senor Enrique Montez
Carmela .....Senorita Genevre Dexel

Mr. John G. Brandon, the author of those well-known and popular playlets, *The Leaves of Memory* and *The Yellow Fang*, has written a dramatic little sketch in *The Heart of Carmela*, which, picturesquely staged, afforded a very pleasant interlude in this week's programme at the Euston. The scene is the wine-pressing yard of the vineyard, Madre Santa Dolorosa, outside Zerez, at the close of a summer's day, and the workers in the vineyard and the old overseer, Felippe, make merry after their labour, one of their number, Loretta, being persuaded to sing a song of a faithless Toreador. Presently there enters the grape-picker, Carmela, who has been spending the day in the mountains. She is warned by Felippe of the jealousy of her lover, Ramon, but gives him to understand that she loves him best in that mood, and eventually obliges her companions with a Spanish dance, in which she is joined by Laragna, a gipsy horse-dealer. Ramon comes on the scene towards the finish, and, maddened at the sight of Carmela in the arms of another man, draws his knife. There is a short and decisive fight, in which Ramon is killed, and Laragna departs, followed by the crowd, intent on his death. Felippe tells Carmela that she is to blame for the death of Ramon, and bidding the old man depart, she falls on the body of her lover, and apparently goes mad. Senorita Genevre Dexel, whose company of Continental and English artists were responsible for the production, played with intensity and abandon as the handsome Carmela, giving an impressive and attractive performance throughout, her seductive and skilful Spanish dance, in which she has an accomplished partner in Senor Enrique Montez, being keenly appreciated. Mr. John G. Brandon as Felippe and Mr. Richard Norton as the jealous Ramon supplied admirable portrayals, and the other parts were all capitally undertaken, Miss Julie Dolaro's Toreador song being a very pleasing contribution. The playlet was charmingly staged and dressed.

Mr. Harry Tate and his "veri 'ot taterplane" are responsible for the loudest laughter heard during the evening, the clever comedian being screamingly funny as the airman who is so perplexed at some of the questions put to him by the interviewer of the *Daily Talker*. The funny little Scotch secretary, the mechanic who has so little faith in the flying abilities of his master, and the Mayor, who comes with the address of welcome and a distinctly comic brass band, all contribute valuably to the success of this really humorous skit, which is a scream throughout, Mr. Tate's humorous portrayal of the harassed aeronaut being one of his funniest creations—a study that none who appreciate genuine comedy should miss. Mr. Tom Clare, the accomplished entertainer at the piano, amusingly sings of Cynthia, determined to scintillate, and gives a funny "waltz" song, his imitation of the perplexed German at the telephone being a very precious contribution; and early in the evening Miss Edna Latonne, who looks exceptionally well in male attire, sings a capital number, "What's the matter with London?" The clever boy comedian and dancer, Wallace Lupino, proves himself an expert and appreciated exponent of the terpsichorean art; and the O'Gorman Brothers are a couple of neat and skilful dancers, and amuse in cross-talk.

The clever Crisps, in their attractive and smartly-worked little dancing scena *The Little Deputy*, are back again in town and are repeating at the Euston the decided success they made some two months since at the Oxford. The trio are all talented and enthusiastic young workers, and the Apache dance of Jack and his little sister Winnie is executed with much skill and abandon, and is a splendid finish to a most enjoyable and refreshing turn. The marvellous acrobatic feats of the Athos Troupe must be seen to be appreciated at their true worth, and the novel and amazing manipulation of a number of balls is an attractive item in a varied and cleverly-worked show; and the immensely popular "John Bull Girl," Miss Victoria Monks, with "Judgment Day" and "I don't care if I never go home"; Herbert Rule and Dusty Rhodes, comedians with droll styles and laughable material; and Ruffell's Bioscope are all numbers that count in the alluring bill at the Euston—one of the strongest twice-nightly programmes, in our opinion, ever overseered by the watchful and courteous manager, Mr. Fred M'Evoy.

Miss Maude May Murray, the charming electrical dancer, who was to have left England for America next week, has now postponed her tour. As a special attraction for pantomime Miss Murray made a hit last season at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

An application for a licence for Clara Agnes Johnson, twelve years old, to appear in a sketch at the Shoreditch Empire during the coming week was made at the Children's Court at Old-street on the 11th inst. Inspector Relf, on behalf of the Commissioner of Police, had informed the Court that a licence had been granted for the child to perform at Croydon on Monday last, and that on Tuesday Mr. Marsham, at Bow-street, had refused a second application for a licence to enable the child to perform at the London Pavilion on the same evenings. In consequence of this refusal the child had been performing at the Pavilion before nine p.m., not requiring a licence for a performance before that time, and had then been hurried off to Croydon for a further two performances.

The licence was granted for the Shoreditch Empire, subject to an undertaking by Mr. Munro, the manager, that if the child appeared at the London Pavilion he would not allow her to appear at his hall.

Mr. W. H. Westwood, the popular manager and secretary of the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd., will to-day (Nov. 19) celebrate his sixtieth birthday, and also by a singular coincidence, the twenty-fifth year (to the day) of his theatrical management in Walsall. A special benefit matinée has been arranged to take place to-day (Saturday) at Her Majesty's Theatre, to celebrate the occasion, and it is expected there will be a unique gathering of stars from the leading halls in the Midlands, and several will journey specially from London to attend.

Mr. Westwood can rightly claim to be one of the pioneers and promoters of the Walsall Theatres, and under his able guidance the theatregoers of the town have been catered for, both in comfort and amusement, in a manner deserving of the highest confidence of his patrons. Before taking up the duties of promoter and theatre-manager in Walsall twenty-five years ago, Mr. Westwood, it will be remembered, was the popular performer known under the the name of Leonarti, and many of his old friends would hardly credit the energetic and genial manager of the Walsall Theatres with having attained the age of sixty years, his carriage and general bearing being that of a much younger man. We congratulate Mr. Westwood (Leonarti) and wish him a bumper benefit.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

PETITIONS.

Petitions were presented against the proposed Kilburn Coliseum and a cinematograph theatre at King's-road, Peckham.

PICTURE EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered an application for a certificate submitted by Mr. A. R. Westworth, of the Picture Empire, 55, Camberwell-road. The premises have accommodation for about 800 persons. It is intended to apply for a music licence, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The committee recommend the Council to grant a certificate.

NEW KING'S HALL.

The Theatres Committee had also considered an application for a certificate submitted by Mr M. Cohen, of a concert hall to be known as the New King's Hall, in course of erection at 133-139, Commercial-road. It is intended to apply for a music and dancing licence for the hall on the ground floor, which will accommodate about 780 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, the hall appears to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate.

PROPOSED EUSTON HIPPODROME.

The Theatres Committee had considered an application for a certificate submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., of a music hall proposed to be erected in Euston-road, Chesterfield-street, and Belgrave-street, and to be known as the Euston Hippodrome. The premises will accommodate about 2,700 persons, and the arrangements appear to be satisfactory. The committee recommended the Council to grant the certificate, on the usual conditions being observed.

HAMPSTEAD SKATING RINK.

The committee had considered an application for a certificate submitted by Mr. F. C Bostock, of the Hampstead Roller Skating Rink, Cressey-road, Hampstead, it being intended to apply for a music and dancing licence. The site of the rink does not comply with the regulations of the Council relating to places of public entertainment, and recommended that a certificate be not granted.

HIGHGATE HILL ELECTRIC PALACE.

The committee had considered an application for a certificate submitted by Mr. G. W. Booth, of the Electric Palace proposed to be erected at 17, Highgate-hill, it being intended to apply for a music licence. The premises will accommodate about 900 persons, and they appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired. The committee recommended the Council to grant a certificate, on the usual regulations being complied with.

THEATRE DE LUXE.

The committee recommended that a certificate be not granted in respect of the Theatre de Luxe, 211, High-street, Camden Town, as the site of the premises does not comply with the regulations of the Council relative to places to be used for public entertainments.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE, SHOREDITCH.

The committee recommended that a certificate be not granted in respect of the Palais Eden Cinematograph Theatre, 226 and 227, Shoreditch High-street, as the site of the premises does not comply with the regulations of the Council.

All the above recommendations were agreed to without discussion.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

Being a digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing, and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c., with an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the regulations of the London County Council and the Lord Chamberlain, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), solicitor. Third edition.

The Artist's Legal Handbook.—We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" (*The Era* Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly improved and extended Appendix of Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act of 1751 to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference by the re-arrangements that have been made and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong on "Dramatic and Musical Law" may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be proprietor, manager, or artist, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.—*The Performer*, May 12, 1910.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—*The Financier.*

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The late Mr. Isaac Cohen, formerly managing-director of the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, left £6,000. The executors are Mr. Albert Christian, the well-known baritone, and Mr. Joseph Lyons, the English caterer, his son-in-law.

Miss Lillian French, who has been meeting with much success in the provinces, both with her songs and her mimicry of well-known artists, and who has been compelled, owing to her bookings to refuse a lucrative offer for pantomime, has acquired from Percy Edgar a new character number entitled "The lady recruiting sergeant." The talented little lady is still featuring her own pretty ballad from the same pen, "When the summer sun is dying, Rose Marie," which has been published by a leading firm.

Whitehall Rink, Sunderland.

A grand gymkhana was held here on Wednesday night, when the entries for the various costume and obstacle races were numerous. The contests without exception were spirited, and created great excitement. Mr. Sydney Walton's management of this rink is deserving of all praise.

WILD ANIMAL TRAINERS.

"To secure the right man for the training of wild animals is about the most serious problem that the proprietor of an animal exhibition has to solve; very often the problem remains unsolved," says Mr. Frank C. Bostock, himself a trainer of experience, in his book on "The Training of Wild Animals."

"An animal trainer is a complex and unique person in more ways than one. He is not always superlatively endowed with the characteristics that are attributed to him by most casual observers. Curiously enough, the very element that would seem the most essential is scarcely ever reckoned as his chief virtue. Courage is considered by those who know little about it as one of the first requisites, but a man may have physical and moral courage to an unusual degree and still be quite unfit for a trainer.

"The animal trainer may have, and all do have to some extent, the physical courage which is admired, but it is an unconscious courage, and plays such a minor part in a successful performance, that the possession of it is not noted, either by the trainer himself, or by those who know him. There are faculties far higher and far more difficult of cultivation, as well as more rarely possessed, which the animal trainer must have.

"First of all are good personal habits. The finest lion-trainers are men of the most absolute personal integrity, who smoke and drink very little, if at all, and who possess self-control to an unusual degree. It is a fact very little known and somewhat difficult to realise by those who have not studied the matter, that in some curious, incomprehensible way, wild animals know instinctively whether men are addicted to bad habits. It is one of the many problems which are beyond the human understanding. For those who are the least bit inclined to drink, or live a loose life, the wild animal has neither fear nor respect.

"He despises them with all the contempt of his animal nature, and recognises neither their authority nor superiority. Just as men recognise superior minds and strong personalities in other men, so does the wild animal recognise such qualities, and it is wonderful how extremely susceptible animals are to graceful, refined, and pleasing personalities.

"The personality of an animal trainer is one that counts both with the animals and with the audience, and the more magnetic, polished, and accomplished he is, the greater will be his success and the stronger will be his influence, both with the animals with which he comes in contact and with the public which observes him. But if a man has begun to take just a little, or has deviated somewhat from the straight road, the animals will discover it long before his fellowmen.

"From that moment the trainer's life is in danger every time he enters the cage, and the animals keep a keen look-out for the moment when he will either trip a little—always the signal for animals to spring—lose his nerve, or let his thoughts go wandering off to other matters, even for a moment or two. The least carelessness, the least indifference, even a little unusual movement on his part, is quite enough to make the animals spring upon him and get him down.

"Occasionally a trainer who is beginning to take to drink or other bad habits realises that he will soon lose the respect and control of his animals, and is wise enough to drop the training business before too late. But, as a rule, once a man has taken up this profession he is extremely loth to resign, although he may be perfectly well aware that he endangers his life every moment he trusts himself among the animals. There is a peculiar fascination about the life which keeps him at it; and although I have often warned men, they have rarely been induced to give it up until some severe accident has happened which has either disabled them, or given them such a shock that they lost their nerve entirely.

"One of the finest lion-trainers that America ever had has now voluntarily retired, though still in the prime of life; but he is addicted to drink, realised the danger, and so was sensible enough to give it up before too late. He felt it was absolutely unsafe for him to enter the arena night after night, when no matter how little he drank had a numbing effect upon him.

"The climax came one night when, feeling a little more numb than usual, he suddenly noticed in the midst of the performance that his lions were all looking at him curiously. Instantly he knew that they had lost their respect for him; for all trainers can tell, before anything happens, when the moment has come in which they are likely to lose their dominance, if that loss comes, not through accident, but through the paralysis of their own power. He realised at once the pitiful state he was drifting into, and the danger, and was wise and quick enough to get out before they got him.

"But that was the last time he ever entered the cage. From being tractable and docile, the lions from that time had nothing but hatred and contempt for him, and his approach even near their cages was always the signal for savage snarls and vicious leaps at the bars.

"Another essential in animal training is patience. It must be an ingrained attribute of the character, and dominant at all times—a constant, persistent, unwearying patience. Without it the trainer will never make a complete success. Allied with patience must be good judgment, and one who is patient generally has good judgment. This is one of the reasons that, as a rule, Englishmen and Germans, being more phlegmatic, make excellent animal trainers.

"Trainers whose patience is limited never last long. There comes a day when, through hasty temper or a sudden loss of patience, the trainer says or does some foolish thing, which he always has reason to regret, and bitterly, too.

"In one case, one of the animals would not respond to his cue, in spite of being spoken to several times. The trainer kept his patience for some time, but the fact that the audience was getting restless made him nervous, and in a foolish moment he shouted at the lion. The shout was so unusual and so unexpected that every lion in the cage started, and the next moment there was a scene of the wildest confusion.

"The animals roared, jumped from their pedestals, and soon pinned the man to the floor. By a supreme effort he raised himself, and being near the door, the attendants were able to keep the lions back by firing blank cartridges until he could get out. But he was terribly mauled, and it was a long and tedious illness which followed. To show what a disturbing effect that shout had on the lions, it was hours before they could be quieted, and even when they were fed, two hours afterward, they were still restless and excited, and left their meat every few minutes to roar and growl.

"That was the last time the trainer ever entered the cage. He lost his nerve completely. Unless a man has absolute self-control, he can never be sure of what may happen to him as a lion-trainer. This trainer's sudden loss of patience proved that he was unable to control his feelings, in itself a weakness.

"Among other things, physical agility is a prime requisite. It is better if it is the agility of reserve rather than the agility of aggression, for aggression arouses a like quality in the animal, and develops an appreciation of his brute strength, which sooner or later may be used against the trainer. But the equipoise and power existing only in those of good personal habits and judgment give an animal trainer the needed ability to escape an otherwise unavoidable danger."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS. MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,

The Publisher,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
April 3, May 1, 15, 22, 29, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 20, March 13, 20, April 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
April 3, 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
March 27, April 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Dec. 12, Jan. 2 Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 20, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 27, April 17, 24, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
WOLVERHAMPTON, Jan. 2, Feb. 6.
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
April 13 and 15 (2 nights, 1 matinée),
April 17 (Easter),
May 11, 12, and 13 (3 nights),
and various dates onwards.
Also one or two Season Dates still Vacant for recent London Successes.
May be booked in conjunction with Hastings Pier.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26, Jan. 9, 16, onwards.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WEYMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE.

WANTED, First-class Company,
Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred,
for week commencing Nov. 28.
The British and American Fleets
will be stationed at Weymouth during that week, and good business is bound to result.
Address,
Messrs. Jay and Mann, 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly; or Walter R. Wallis, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROOK.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 2, 16, 30.
Wallace Davidson,
89, Goldsmith-street, Nottingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

The New Building, now rapidly nearing completion, will Open in December with a full and capable staff. Holding capacity at prices charged for West-End attractions, £85, exclusive of early doors. Stage capable of taking any Production touring.
Bookings include "The Cingalee," "Brewster's Millions," Mr. P. Hutchison's Company, Mr. Peter Davey's "Cinderella," Mr. F. Storey's "Aladdin," "What the Butler Saw," "The Fatal Wedding," and Castellano's Italian Opera.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and West-End Plays, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, May 8, and on. Mr. J. E. Bull (for the Proprietors), Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.

WANTED, Company, for first vacant date, Jan. 9, onward. Now booking Spring and Summer, 1911. Can also arrange for flying matinées.
C. A. Seebold, as above.

HIS MAJESTY'S T., BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre with a Smart Audience.

Nov. 21, "THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."

All dates filled this year.

WANTED, Known, Vacant in 1911, Feb. 6 (?), 20, 27, July 31, Aug. 21, 28, Oct. 2, onwards. Re dates, apply Calvert Routledge.

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for March 6, 13.
Address, Charles Revill, T. R., Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

WANTED, Good Companies, Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 6. According to returns from round the country Wolverhampton can safely be said one of the best dramatic dates. Only first-class plays entertained. This, "Little Phil's Mother"; next, "Sherlock Holmes"; followed by "The Greater Love," "Sexton Blake," &c. Wire for Dec. 19, to F. G. Kimberley. Contracts wanted for scenery, cheap, or old stuff repainted.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.

WANTED, High-class Companies,
Jan. 16 (?), Feb. 13, 20, 27 (3 or 6).
W. E. Potts.

LINCOLN THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, Musical or Comedy Companies, March 6, 13, and 27; good Dramas, twice nightly, March 6, April 3 and 10.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.

Vacant Jan. 9, 16, and last three nights of Jan. 23 and 30, and March 6, only vacancies this season.
Bookings include: "Merry Widow" (return), "Dairymaids" (return), "Arcadians," "Gay Gordons," F. R. Benson (North), and all the best Companies.

CHESTERFIELD MEMORIAL THEATRE.
Vacant Jan. 16, April 3, May 8.

HAWICK NEW THEATRE.

Vacant Dec. 19, 26, and Jan. 16, twice nightly.
W. Payne Seddon, Fahan, Co. Donegal.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 6, 27, April 10, May 8, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 20, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales. Holding capacity over 2,000. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant Feb. 6, April 10, 17, 24, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "The Dairymaids," "Silver King," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
The premier theatre in the town.—Vide Press.
With a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business.
This week, Charles Windermere's successful Comedy, "Where is William?" Future bookings include:—Mr. George Edwardes' own Company in "The Merry Widow" (return), Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's Company in "Her Love Against the World," Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," William Mollison's Company in "The Chorus Lady," "A Girl's Temptation," J. A. Campbell's "The Coastguard's Daughter," Robert Courtneidge's Company, "The Arcadians," Mr. George Dance's Company, "Our Miss Gibbs," Mr. George Edwardes's "The Dollar Princess," &c., &c.

WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 16, 23, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Dec. 26.
Hugh Robertson,
T. R., Jarrow.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 13, 17, March 13, 20, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Pinkie and the Fairies," "Fires of Fate," "Havana," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

Dec. 12, Vacant.
NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Perfectly Appointed, both before and behind the Curtain, and with a Full and Competent Staff.
Can Stage any Production.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, only. Capacity Business Nearly Every Week.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq.,
Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits), Miss Annie Hughes, C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911.
Dec. 12 vacant, owing to transfer.
Address, Managers.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Jan. 23, Feb. 13, 27, March 6, 13, 20, April 3, 10, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 20.
Morton Powell,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. Marriott Watson.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
March 27, May 22, June 26, onwards, with exceptions. Re dates address,
C. F. Wright.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS,
Dec. 12, Jan. 9,
Feb. 13, 20, April 10.
All twice nightly.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER,
Dec. 12, Jan. 23.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON,
Dec. 12.
Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

WANTED, Known, only Vacant Date this year Dec. 12, for First-class Attraction.
Also Feb. 20 and 27, 1911.
Brilliant success this week of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians" Principal Company (return visit).
CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Only Vacant Date this year Dec. 19, for Big Attraction; Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 20, 27, 1911, Musical Comedy or High-class Productions. Communications re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to J. Chas. Imeson, T. Royal, Middlesbrough.

THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
The Largest Theatre in the Town.
Can stage any attraction touring.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North.

WANTED, Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Dec. 5, onward. Bookings and pencillings for 1911 include Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. George Edwardes' Companies, Mr. George Dance's Companies, Mr. James Welch, "The Speckled Band," "The Brass Bottle," The Grotesques, "The Dairymaids," "The Man from Mexico," "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," "Alias Jimmy Valentine," &c., &c.
This most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough can be booked in conjunction with the Grand Opera House, Harrogate.
Mr. J. Gar Kiddie will again produce Pantomime on Dec. 26.
All communications re dates to William Peacock, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Christmas (three nights only), for Theatre Royal, Canterbury. Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.

WANTED, Companies, for the Summer of 1911.
Now to Grimsby preferred.
Feb. 6 possibly vacant, also March 27.
J. H. Curry, as above.

DOVER PROMENADE PIER.

WANTED, for July, Aug., and Sept., 1911, complete Companies, Musical and otherwise, to undertake weekly engagements. State lowest terms per week, or sharing proceeds. Apply, Secretary, Dover Promenade Pier and Pavilion Co., Ltd.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant Feb. 20, April 24,
and several Autumn Dates, 1911.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant Feb. 20, 27, March 20, April 10,
and several Autumn Dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant Feb. 27, April 10, 17, May 1, 16, 22 29,
June 5, 12, 19, 26,
and several Autumn Dates, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Jan. 30 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27, March 13 (?), 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, and several Autumn Dates, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Dec. 5 (3 nights with Folkestone), Jan. 23, 30 (?), Feb. 9 (3), 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 6 (3), 27, March 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Dec. 8 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 12,
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 (3), 27, March 6, 20.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Vacant Jan. 26 (?), Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 20.

Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
MOTHERWELL, Dec. 12, 19, and 26;
FALKIRK, Dec. 19 (3 nights), 19 (3 nights);
AYR, Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26, 26;
LEITH, Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26,
and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
G. T., SOUTHAMPTON, Dec. 19;
G. T., SWANSEA, Dec. 12 and 19.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
SCOTLAND'S PREMIER DRAMA THEATRE.
WANTED, People's Plays, various, 1911-12.

Following upon a capital five nights, materially "topping" the figures of last visit, Andrew Melville's "Driven from Home." Closed to £106. A. J. thanks A.M. for kindly worded letter expressing his complete satisfaction with the Met. business and general working.
"A BROKEN HEART."
Harry Foxwell's excellent play, and production, is demonstrating that pure homely sentiment which "rings true," still "magnetises the masses."
Coms., ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, Nov. 28.
Wire, SHERWOOD and Co.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES,
GAINSBOROUGH.
The New Place.
WANTED, Good Attractions. This Theatre is situated in the heart of the town. Good stage, scenery, dressing-rooms, and fittings, with Circle and Promenade; holds 1,000.
Address all communications, JOHN R. FOX, as above. Telephone No. 70.
Note.—The local people say they like it.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Only fully licensed theatre in the district, which comprises Seacombe, Egremont, Poulton, New Brighton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 7, 8 (three nights), Feb. 13, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17. Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

HARROGATE and SCARBOROUGH.
Grand Opera Houses.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 5, 6, 7, Scarborough, Dec. 8, 9, 10; Harrogate, also Dec. 12, onward, with exceptions. These two theatres can now be booked in conjunction, three nights each town.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK,
Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book T. R., Inverness. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager, CHARLES T. COOKE.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Dec. 15, 3 nights, and Jan. 9, 6 nights.
First in for eight months.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Nov. 28.
Unexpectedly Vacant.
Wire, J. HUNTLEY

WANTED, Companies for Ireland by Messrs. Lena and Preston, short or long tours.
Must be good, with plenty of printing. Fit-up can be supplied. Mus. Com. do well.
Particulars, TOWN HALL, Lurgan.

GRAND THEATRES,
CHORLEY AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, through breach, Nov. 28, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

BATLEY THEATRE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic or Musical Attraction, Nov. 28, through transfer, also Dec. 5. Letters, J. EDWARD WHITTY, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Jan., onward, including Season 1911.
WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 19,
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Wire or write,
Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Nov. 28 (through company disbanding).
Wires, FALCON, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Company, for Dec. 12.
Apply,
FREDERICKS,
Borough Theatre,
Stratford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions
Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-ON-SEA.
MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.

NEAR NEWBIGGIN-BY-SEA.

Sole Lessee and Manager,
ARTHUR C. MOODY.

Two theatres where business can be done.
Two Progressive Theatres.

Cosy. Comfortable. Well conducted.

ASHINGTON.
WANTED, Very Big Attraction for Dec. 12, 1910;
also
Two First-class Pantomimes
and several Musical Comedies
for
Good Spring Dates.

BLYTH.
Wanted, Sound Dramas
and
Musical Productions
for
Good Spring Dates.

Silence a polite negative.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Company, Nov. 28.
Wire,
MOODY, Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Dec. 5, Gaiety, Hastings;
Dec. 5 to 7, D. P. T., Eastbourne;
Dec. 8 to 10, Folkestone;
Dec. 12 (week), Folkestone and Hastings.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is visited by all the Best Companies. No Vacant Dates this year. A few Dates in Spring and Autumn, 1911. First-class Companies only.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
WANTED, Good Dramatic and Operatic Companies, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2 and 23.
All communications, SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 12.
MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, for New Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank, Strong Drama or Musical Comedy, for Nov. 28. Lowest terms, A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE,
BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Dramas and Musical Comedies, for
Nov. 28,
Dec. 5,
Dec. 12.
Apply, ALFRED SMITH.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, May 27, and Easter.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, for Jan. 30, Feb. 13, Only Vacant Dates.
Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company, Dec. 19, vacant through transferring.
Address, Mrs. T. CULEEN.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 26, Jan. 23, Feb. 6.
A. B. and J. J. WRIGHT.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 12, 19, 26 (Xmas week); also good Pantos, for Jan. 9, onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, for Paisley, Dec. 19 and 26, Feb. 20, March 27, and Perth, Jan. 16 (three nights only).
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Perth Theatre.

PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following Vacant Dates: Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2 (3), 19 (3), 30, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, 27, April 10, 24 (3), May 1, 8, 22.

EWART C. POTTER, Lessee.

WANTED, First-class Company, for three nights, Dec. 12, 13, 14,
for T. R., Leamington.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE, SOUTH WALES.
Sole Lessee, Mr. WILL STONE.
The only theatre playing Drama in the top half of the Rhondda Valley, and catering for a population of over 70,000. Last week, in spite of strike riots, at Ton-y-Pandy, &c., played to enormous business with "From Mill Girl to Millionairess."
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Nov. 28,
Dec. 5, 12, and 19, and several Spring Dates.
All communications to
WILL STONE, New Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

THE HIPPODROME, OXFORD.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Musical Comedy, Panto., Variety, Nov. 28, on. GEO. STRANGE, Resident-Manager.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 5.
Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE,
Longthorpe Lodge, Goldhawk-road, W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 5 and 19.
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Wire or write,
Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, good Attractions, for Feb. 20 (?), 27, March 13 and 20, May 8, 15, 22, and Whit, and certain Autumn dates. Note.—Little Drama is useless. SIDNEY COOPER.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions,
Jan. 16,
Jan. 23.
Jan. 30.
Address, R. G. ELDER.

DRILL HALL, HEREFORD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 26, 27, and 28. LOVESEY, 2, Offa-street, Hereford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, Easter, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Dec. 12, Xmas, Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 13, 20. ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, with own Scenery and good Printing, twice nightly, Dec. 5 and 12, must state lowest share or certainty. T. A. EDWARDES, Palace Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, and on; also Pantomime or Musical Comedy for Xmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

NEW THEATRE, FERNDALE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, through transfer.
Wire, WILLIAMS.

WANTED, Companies, for Chorlton Theatre, Manchester, Nov. 28, 29, 30, Dec. 8, 9, 10, Dec. 12, 19 (weeks), Xmas. A. H. HAIGH, Manager.

WANTED, Refined Entertainment or Dramatic Company, Xmas week. All bookings direct.
BELLERBY, King's Hall, Ilkley.

BEXHILL KURSAAL.
Under new Management.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, three or six nights, Nov. 25, on.
Wire or write, MANAGER.

WANTED for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WILKINSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SINS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6, March 6.
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Feb. 6, March 6,
for
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, for
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, March 6.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, London, E.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Can arrange for Vacancies as under:—
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 20, Certainty.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 20. Certainty.
"RED RIDING HOOD," March 13. Certainty.
WANTED, Application for once or twice nightly. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 96, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Established 1891.
CHARLES HARRINGTON'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
COMPANY.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16, on. Address,
P. O. W. Theatre, Accrington.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, March 9 (3 nights), South.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Shrewsbury (6th visit).

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23 (three nights), Feb. 20, March 27, and April 3.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE.
King's, Gainsborough (3), Grand, Mansfield (3).

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13.
EDWARD LLOYD, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, vacant Xmas, Jan. 23 (South or Midlands), March 20, 27, April 3. Apply, JOHN E. WATSON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
WANTED, Dec. 29, 30, 31 (South-West), Jan. 16 (S. Wales).

"OUR FLAT," including MURRAY KING.
Wanted, Easter Week, May 8 (between Halifax and Southport), May 22, and Whit Week.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Fahan, Co. Donegal.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S
Tour with
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, March 27, April 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, July 10, and onward, with exceptions. Booking Autumn.

Large Hall Wanted for Christmas.

Share or Rental.

J. PITT HARDACRE, Staines, Middlesex.

MR. OSWALD CRAY'S
Magnificent Production of S. Buchanan Rogerson and Guy Thorne's Wonderful Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
(By arrangement with T. Morton Powell).

Now fully established as a Big Money-maker.
Fast filling Autumn, 1911.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6, March 13, and Easter.

OSWALD CRAY,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

The Latest Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Lyric T., Dinnington, Yorks.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dec. 26, March 20, April 17 (?), June 19, Aug. 7, and on.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
Enthusiastic and profitable visits everywhere.
Fourteen Artists, Three Tons of Scenery.
A healthy, romantic drama.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Royalty Th., Barrow.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
No vacant dates till Spring.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Winter Gardens, Bootle.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S PLAYS.
WANTED, all communications re above,
To-day, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth;
next, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 6.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Star T., Liverpool.

"THE BEGGAR PRINCESS."
WANTED, through transferring, to oblige, Jan. 16 and 30.
For reference, please read unsolicited letter from Will Smithson, Esq.
Empire, Barnsley.

Dear Cassidy,
Allow me to congratulate you upon the business you did at the Palace Theatre, Porth. Your piece must be a draw to do such business in the midst of a strike. Military and police parading the streets, nothing but trouble all around. I shall be only too pleased to book you a return; there is no doubt about you doing a big week. Hoping Mrs. Cassidy and yourself are well,
Yours respectfully,
WILL SMITHSON.

Re dates, J. RICE CASSIDY.
Nov. 21, Palace, Gloucester.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.
Vacant Jan. 16, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Great Money maker.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This mammoth Money Magnet.
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant Jan. 16.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Never-failing Success.
Vacant Jan. 30, Feb. 6.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED Wanted, Dates,
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company,
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."

A Triumph.
Press, Public, and Proprietors enthusiastic.

Vacant Jan. 2, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Mrs. Morton Powell
can accept Commissions to write Plays.
Address,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. TOM WATT'S CELEBRATED COMPANY
in
"EAST LYNNE"
has
Beaten Records all along the Line,
and has been on the road since Jan. 31, 1910.
This excellent Company played to £882 at Leeds and Bradford recently, and is paying a quick return visit to Dublin by special request.

WANTED, Theatres, for Dec. 26, 26, 26, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, and onwards, with exceptions.

Wire or write,
TOM WATT,
6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, London, W.C.

MR and MRS. ARTHUR HINTON
and TRAVIS GREEN
present their No. 1 Co. in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Jan. 9 (?), 23, and 30, Feb. 20 (?), March 6 and 20, April 24, May 22, 29, and Whit.

JERROLD HEATHER as ZACO.
HILDA SHIRLEY as MYRA.

Wire, ARTHUR HINTON,
to-day, Sutton-in-Ashfield;
Monday, Prince's, Bradford.

"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
"WAS SHE TO BLAME?"
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Great Play.
WANTED, Theatre, Vacant Christmas Week.
Wanted, Theatre, Vacant Christmas Week.

Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, Midlands.
HORACE STANLEY,
to-day, Worksop;
next, Empire, Oldham.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Xmas Week, Jan. 2 and 9,
Jan. 2 and 9.
Letters, WILSON BENGE,
This, Alex., Hull; next, Metropole, Manchester.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
present the New Successful Drama,
"TEMPTATION."
"TEMPTATION."
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 26, between Warrington and Star, Swansea.
WANTED, Theatres, Spring, 1911, Jan. 23, precede Alexandra, Hull; Feb. 20, precede Met., Devonport; March 13, follow Grand, Brighton, April 10 and 17. All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, T. R., Bury St. Edmunds.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND HIS
COMEDY COMPANY,
Presenting
The Funniest Farce of the Day,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, New Year's Week, Jan. 9, and on.
Now Booking Summer Season Dates.
Vacant July 17 (to follow third return visit to Yarmouth), July 24, Aug. Bank Holiday, and on, with exceptions.
Nov. 21, Palace Theatre, Tynemouth.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Company,
in
"THE WEARIN O' THE GREEN."
and
"ROLLICKING RORY"
Panto. Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Jan. 9 and 16.
Only Vacant Dates next year.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Nov. 21, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and 26.
Once or twice nightly,
Magnificent business at Ipswich.
Refer Management.
Wire to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Lyceum, Ipswich.
Nov. 21, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'
GRAND PRODUCTION,
"RED RIDING HOOD,"
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Theatres, Xmas, and onward.
"Warwick House," 8, Warwick-court, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, Dec. 26,
Jan. 9, 23,
March 20, 27.
Only vacant dates till Whit.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Empire, Fleetwood.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Theatres, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Dec. 26, New Year, also Spring, 1911. BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, 23,
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, on.
FRED BULMER,
Lyric House, Liverpool.

"THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16, 1911. Thanks following Managers for offer of Dec. 5: Cardiff, Pentre, Bargoed, Kidderminster, Barrow, Middlesbrough, Hoyland, Leigh, Gateshead, Fleetwood, Kilmarnock. Date now settled. GEO. A. DE GRAY, Nov. 21, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexborough.

WANTED, for the Great Money-maker, "His Real Wife," Feb. 6, 13, 20, and March. Address, T. E. WARD, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 27, March 27, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

GRAND PANTOMIME, "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Theatre, Xmas Week, Dec. 26, for this beautiful production. Magnificent scenery, gorgeous dresses, big specialities, nearly 40 artists, full chorus, pretty dancers; in fact, a first-class production, and only theatres where we can take big money entertained. Address, PANTOMIME, Oddfellows' Hall, Neyland, Pembrokeshire.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 23, 31. "Sherlock Holmes." Address, CHAS. E. SUTTON, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THE ALLAN WILKIE TOUR.
Unexpectedly Vacant,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 2,
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, between Leicester and Leeds,
Company of Thirty-five Artists
in Shakespeare or Standard Dramas.
Wire, ALLAN WILKIE, to-day, O. H., Blackpool; next week, T. R., Lincoln.

ETHEL VAN PRAAGH AND J. EDWARD WHITTY'S PRINCIPAL COMPANY.
WANTED, for Charles Darrell's Greatest Success, "Facing the World Alone," large theatre, Jan. 2, also Feb. 13 and Feb. 27. Letters, J. EDWARD WHITTY, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO,
ITALIAN OPERA CO.
WANTED, March 6, 13, April 17, 24.
FRANK YEARSLEY, Theatre Royal, Halifax.

"CHASING CYNTHIA."
The New Musical Comedy that is breaking all records.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and few Spring dates. Apply, CHAS. C. OMMANNEY,
Alhambra Theatre, Brighton.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Jan. 2 (to oblige W. Morton, Esq.), Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 and 13.
Everything carried. A superb production. Unique advertising. Refer, refer.

HARRY LYNDON, this week, Prince's, Accrington; next week, Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
No. 1 Company,
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS,"
Jan. 16, Feb. 20,
North or Midlands.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL'S COMPANIES.
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE"
and
"THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION."
By Cecil Newton.
WANTED, for "The Hour of Temptation,"
Vacant Dec. 26,
only vacant date.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
FLORENCE TYRRELL,
Theatre Royal, Preston.

WANTED, Dates for
"Old Heidelberg," Spring, 1911.
Everything carried.
Vacant, at present, March 20, April 3, and 17.
Apply ERNEST BENHAM, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, good bright Young Girl, 16 or 18, to play Our Mary Ellen, Lancashire dialect part, open at once. Wire terms, references, MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Low Comedian, must be short, for Sammy Sniggles, in "Girl's Temptation." Lowest terms, height, age, last three references, MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, for Long Tour, First-class Towns, starting Christmas.
Thoroughly experienced artists of recognised position.
Leading Lady, Young, for bright Comedy Part.
Chambermaid, to understudy Leading Part.
Character Actress, for strong Old Woman.

Leading Man, young, very tall, comedy and strength.
Eccentric Comedian, tall and thin.
Character Actor, tall and good figure.
Stage Manager, to play small part.

Advance Manager, specially for Press work, also to engage and rehearse supers and band.

Carpenter, to play small part.
Baggage-man and Super Master, to play small part.

Replies by postcard preferred to save time. State permanent address and last three engagements, and say when in London, to
M. M., Box 3,973, WILLING'S, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, at once, for Musical Comedy Xmas Tour, Principals, all Lines, Chorus, Pair of Dancers, and Musical Director, rehearse immediately. Photos., age, height, refs., terms, &c., MANAGER, 17, Fawcett-st., Earl's Court, London, S.W.

MISS FLORENCE TYRRELL'S COS.
WANTED, Smart, Young Petite Chambermaid, to rehearse, Margate, Nov. 28. Send photos (essential), references, and lowest terms, to FLORENCE TYRRELL, Theatre Royal, Preston.

WANTED, Robust Gent for Colonel, in Royton Kieth (Sketch). Call to-day at 3, ERNEST VERDI, 12, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, very short Comedian, from 3ft. to 3ft. 6in., must have good voice and figure; long engagement. Reply to Box 8,542, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to Play Small Parts. Full particulars, Norman V. Norman, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

WANTED, Good Top Tenor, for Quartette (booked), good B flat necessary. Apply, Box 8,529, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Dancer, to appear in Dancing Speciality Act, Top-liner; must be prepared to take share and provide some capital for New Apparatus. This is thoroughly genuine, and will be excellent investment for good reliable Artist. Box 8,541, "The Era."

WANTED, all-round Dancers, must be 5ft. 5in., rehearse Manchester; also a few experienced Chorus. 45, Rylance-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, twelve good Lady Dancers, at once, must be young and good appearance, ages 17 to 21, for three months' Contract, First-class establishment in Nice. Girls can be engaged separately to form Troupe required, or good Troupe write.

G. W. Gerald, Impresario, 23, Faubourg St. Denis, Paris, France.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for London Musical Comedy and Music Halls; also Tenors and Basses, for Chorus. Write for an appointment. Davies and Adams, 18, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW. PANTOMIME.

WANTED, a Handsome Show Lady, about 5ft. 6in., to form one of a Beauty Group. Terms, photo. (stamped envelope to return), exact height, to Mr. Waldon.

WANTED, several very Pretty and Stylish Show Ladies; must be very exceptional, or useless; long, steady, and pleasant engagement; London and Touring. Arthur, 78, Clarence-gate-gardens, Regent's Park, London. Call 2 to 3 any day.

WANTED, Pretty Lady for Posing Act, Not less than 5ft. 7in. Fair preferred, but not essential. Must have exceptional figure. Apply between 2 and 4 p.m., Flat X., 27, Langham-street, W.

WANTED, Girls, 14-16, Good Voices. Free tuition. Apply, Friday or Monday morning, with parent, 106, Bridge-road, Battersea.

WANTED, for well-known Juvenile Act, small Girl, over fourteen, good singer, and able to dance; long Engagement. L. N., 57, Lucien-road, Tooting Bec, London, S.W.

WANTED, an Artistic Young Lady, to join Entertainer (at the piano), for High-class Duo; must be good vocalist, musical, and have good stage presence. Age and particulars, in full confidence, Box 8,449, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, capable Turns and Parts, Fit-up Variety, rehearse 28th; also Talented Amateur. Particulars, Gordon, 11, Kimberley Park-rd., Falmouth.

ADAMS' DRAMATIC AGENCY.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines, for Tours and Sketches. Send particulars, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, Amateurs and Beginners, successfully trained for Musical Comedy, Music Halls, and Concerts; Songs written, Band Parts arranged; Specialist in rapid voice production; everything for the Stage supplied. First-class introductions and appearances guaranteed. Write, Frank Dobell, 152, Hamlet-gardens, Ravenscourt Park, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nina Hope, the Distinguished Girl Tragedienne; youth, appearance, talent. 20, Henslowe-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Helen Hope, Girl Operatic and Speciality Dancer; youth, appearance, talent. 20, Henslowe-road, E. Dulwich.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, recognised Principal Girl of Repute, for Alice in "Dick Whittington"; also Comedian, for Fitzwarren. Address, with terms, references, and full particulars, to James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, through illness and releasing, Second Boy, "Whittington," and Fairy Queen, "Cinderella." Fullest particulars, age, refs., salary, experience, photos., to Walle Spinner, General-Manager, Edwin C. Jazon's Pantos., Hippodrome, Wednesbury.

ADAMS' DRAMATIC AGENCY.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, Second Boy, Second Girl, also Lady, capable of playing a small but important dramatic part. Terms., refs., photos, and where working. Broadmead House, Panton-street, London, W.

WANTED, Stage-Manager (to Produce), Pianist-Conductor, Principal Dancer, and Chorus Ladies. Only those who can arrange interview in London need communicate. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY.

WANTED, First-class Producer (tall), to play Emperor, "Aladdin"; good Second Boy, sing and dance; Second Boy and Girl, Dame, Baron, 100 Chorus. 48, Bilston-st., Wolverhampton.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.

WANTED, First-class Principal Girl, must be young, vivacious, with good singing voice. Must be experienced in Pantomime. Send height, age, terms, with photograph, and where can be seen working. Also Good Conductor (piano), must be good with bâton, and used to large orchestra. Send full particulars to J. Gar Kiddie, Victoria-chambers, Widnes.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Chorus, Dancers. Note new address, Maitland and West, 453, Strand, W.C. Telephone, Central 12184.

DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, not less than 5ft. 8in. References, &c., to E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Wanted, Dancer, Chorus Ladies, Chorus Gents. State experience, age, height, and terms, enclose photo, John Tiller and Co., 15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies (tall), for Pantomime, to rehearse Aberdeen Dec. 5. References, photos., &c. Long engagement to suitable artists. Address, E. Dottridge.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES. "CINDERELLA." "DICK WHITTINGTON."

WANTED, Artists engaged for above to send present addresses (so that parts may be forwarded), to Mr. Thos. Swinton, General-Manager for James Kiddie, 4, Birchfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, a thorough capable Wardrobe Mistress, for Pantomime Dresses, open Monday, Stockton. Wire, Curwen, Alhambra, Edinboro'.

WANTED, good Wardrobe Mistress, for Pantomime. References and terms address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, through postponement of American Tour, Disengaged for Pantomime, Principal Girl or Special Irish or Lancashire Part. Minnie Cunningham, 84, Southgate-road, London, N.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Rene Ralph, smart Comedienne and Expert Dancer, Principal Girl, or Second Boy. Offers invited. This week, enormous success Hippo., Rotherhithe; next week, Grand Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Valentine. Disengaged Dec. 12, P.B. or Musical Comedy. Lead in "A Hot Night" Co. Nov. 21, T. R., South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dolly Harmer, vacant for Pantomime, Special Comedy Character Part. Address, Palace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, by Willie Stern, Page, Baron, or Dame; have played 12 Pantos., "Cindcrella" six seasons. Badbrook Hall, Stroud, Glos.

WANTED, Known, the Musical Bronsons (Lady and Gent.), at Liberty for Panto., Refined Sketch Artists, Vocal and Instrumentalists. Olympia, Scarborough.

WANTED, Panto., Walter Purvis, P. Com.; Lily Brammer, P. Girl or Boy; singly or jointly. Perm., 52, Novello-street, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Sandy and Carl thanks for Panto. offers, still vacant. Permanent address, 58, Chester-road, Tuebrook, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Goodall and Knox, in Song, Story, and Acrobatics, at Liberty for Panto., Parts and Speciality. Coms., 8, Adelaide-street, W. Hartlepool; or, Harry Burns, Walter House, Strand.

WANTED, Pantomime, by those New Smart Comedians, Collins and Moore. Terrific Success, this and next week, Palace, Greenwich. All communications, en route.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, by Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Sinclair's Four Diamonds, Sinclair's Four Radium Girls, Singers and Expert Dancers. The Success of these troupes is beyond dispute. Coms., Sinclair, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of Colours, Varnishes, Painting Brushes, and every requisite for Scene Painting and Theatre Decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, at once, genuine good Scenic Artist, several weeks, references, private studio. Walter Sconce and Sons, Church-street, King's Lynn.

WANTED, a Reliable Scenic Artist. Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery, Contracts, Productions, Our Paint Frames, 40 by 34 Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 27-35, Duke-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work Guaranteed. Cecil E. Hicks, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.

WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase Largest stock in London. Estimates. Sharp, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, Charles Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconi, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. From Daily Mail, April 23, 1910: The Tudor Village, Olympia, London. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi, Ltd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, G. Sackmann, Scenic Artist and Contractor, Painting Rooms, Murphy-street, S.E.; N.T., 4282 Hop.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Contract or Engagement, Town or Provinces. 74, Englefield-road, Southgate-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Wm. Davis, Scenic Artist, at Liberty; good Draughtsman, Colourist, also Figure Painter. Terms moderate. Address, c/o "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Stage Manager; able to Produce Big Pantomime. must have had good experience of big productions. Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Persons with capital, to interest themselves in a new Music Hall, to be erected in a splendid town, within easy distance of Manchester, profits unlimited, good opportunity for anyone wishing to learn this most lucrative business either as Manager, Managing-Director, or otherwise. No previous knowledge necessary. Site already secured, and now in treaty with the best English architect, also with well-known Music Hall Managers; none but persons prepared to deposit good capital need apply for this chance of a lifetime. Address, Speculator, Poste Restante, Bolton.

WANTED, for a gigantic Travelling Entertainment, a really First-class Agent in Advance, must be thoroughly conversant with all the large Provincial towns, had practical experience in the show business, must not be afraid of work, and above all must be absolutely reliable.

Successful applicant must have had experience with a large travelling Circus, such as Barnum and Bailey's or other great concern. Preference given to one who has travelled the Colonies or the United States. Good salary paid to the right man.

Apply personally to the Naval and Military Tournament of Empire, 76, Victoria-street, Westminster, London, S.W.

WANTED, experienced Working Manager, for Twice Nightly Music Hall (South). Fullest particulars, age, salary, in confidence, Box 8,535, "The Era."

WANTED, good Business-Manager, used to Music Halls; salary, commission. Address, Mrs. Vernon Cowper, c/o A.A. 32 Regent-st. W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for First-class Touring Pantomimes, on the South Coast, under well-known management, a gentleman desirous of learning the duties of Acting-Management for same. Small premium required, which will be returned in salary. Apply, M. M. H., 2, Hengleton-road, Portslade, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, Manager required for High-class Picture Hall, with short turns. State age, references, salary, Box 8,518, "The Era."

WANTED, Acting-Manager, must possess thorough knowledge of the Picture Business. Phillips, Albion House, New Oxford-street, W.C.

NEW EMPIRE, KINGSTON.

WANTED, Advertising Manager, must be of gentlemanly appearance and thoroughly experienced in Press and first-class Advertising Work generally. Terms and references, Clarence Sounes.

WANTED, Practical Property Man, one who understands making properties, models and papier-maché props. Only thoroughly experienced men need apply. Abrahams, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, smart Doorsman, combine Billing Picture, Palace, Midlands; must be steady, experienced, and not afraid of work. Perm. job to right man. Write particulars, age, height, photo, copies last three refs., Box 8,533, "The Era."

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.

WANTED, for Albert Hall, Swansea, four weeks, commencing Dec. 19, six hustling Billmen, thoroughly experienced in all departments of advertising. Slackers not wanted. J. R. Poole, 146 Westgate-st., Gloucester.

THE "C. W." POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.

WANTED, for Synod Hall, Edinburgh, for five weeks, commencing Dec. 19. 12 Smart Billmen, able to use sticks and be thoroughly efficient. Preference given to men who have worked Edinburgh, Manchester, and Leeds with me before. J. R. Poole, 146, Westgate-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Experienced Wardrobe Mistress, one who can make dresses for Pantomime. Apply, stating references, &c., to Box 8,515, "The Era."

WANTED, Management, by Mr. George Leslie, Lessee and Manager, Rink Theatre, Mussoorie, India, Engagement in England; vast experience. Still running Premier Rink in India. Arrive London early December. Address, c/o "The Era." Terms.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, the popular Manager, whose methods of working ensure success; twenty years' experience all branches. Sandilands, 2, Florence-road, New Cross, London.

WANTED, Known, Gentlemanly Hustling Manager, Disengaged; completing long Successful Management with Andrew's Pictures. Christian, 65, St. Vincent-street, Southsea.

WANTED, Management, Picture or Variety Hall, by smart, energetic man, who knows his business. Address, Manager, 2, Charles-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Advance-Manager, by smart and energetic Young Man; excellent references; good worker, and well recommended. R. Marsh, c/o Mrs. Hubbard, 54, Spring-gardens, Doncaster.

WANTED, by experienced Acting-Manager, Similar Position, Tour or Resident; tactful, all-round man; good refs.; Disengaged. Box 8,509, "The Era."

WANTED, by Gentleman of College Education, superior appearance and dress, Re-engagement as Advance Representative in First-class Company; at Liberty in December. Further particulars, Box 8,500, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, 26, Berth as Assistant Acting-Manager, Disengaged, well up in all branches; would deposit if required, or share. Apply, Box 8,501, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as M.H. Stage Manager and Carpenter, Res.; or Carpenter and Baggage, Tour. Steady, willing. Expert chauffeur. P. Grant, 25, River-street, Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools. Disengaged Dec. 19, term. of tour. Ex. refs. Res. or tour. J. Charlton, New Theatre Royal, Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement as Carpenter, Practical, Resident or Tour. G. B. Hughes, 29, Teneriffe-street, Broughton, Manchester. Best references.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Position in Theatre or Theatrical Office, Shorthand Typist, Good Musician, first-class experience and testimonials. Box 8,532, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Shorthand-Typist, engagement in Music Warehouse or Agency. Good sight pianist (A.L.C.M.). Apply, 27, Mossiea-road, Penge, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Man, age 24, Situation as Companion, or Light Employment. F. Sinclair, 75, Cornwall-road, Westbourne Park, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

ANDREWS' PICTURES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Musical Director; must give complete change of music weekly. Full particulars first letter. Address, 90, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Conductor, who can compose all Music for Pantomime. Apply, stating references, &c., to Box 8,516, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, for Atlantic Liners. Applicants state age, experience, give names and addresses of two references for character, to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

HIPPODROME, NOTTINGHAM.

WANTED, to Open December, thoroughly reliable and competent Variety Leader; permanency to suitable man. None but good players need apply. Latest references and full particulars, Manager.

WANTED, Piano Conductor (with knowledge of Mustel organ preferred), Leader, Second, Bass, Cornet, Clarionet, Drums. Open Dec. 12. State experience and salary required. Manager, New Theatre Royal and Opera House, Windsor.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, 'Cellist, Pianist-Vocalist. Xmas week; thoroughly experienced; lowest terms (live in). Miss Louie Betts, Hawley-square, Margate.

WANTED, First Violin (repetiteur), also Flute, experienced in Musical Comedy and Opera, open Nov. 28 or Dec. 5. Three or four months' comfortable engagement. Apply, with references, to Bert W. Stephens, Musical Director, Paisley Theatre, or J. H. Savile.

WANTED, First-class Violin, three sessions daily, twice Sundays. Open Monday, Nov. 28. Apply, Manager, Pier Rink, Folkestone.

HIPPODROME, EXETER.

WANTED, First Violin and Solo Cornet, both must be first-class, sober, and reliable men; open at once. Apply, with last two refs., to Frederick Sandy, Hippo., Exeter.

WANTED, B Flat and E Flat Cornets, for Rink. Apply, W. G. Blackett, 36, Rue des Stations, Lille France.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, two First-class Cornettists of excellent appearance, for stage purposes, steady engagement. Call 2 to 3 o'clock, Arthur, 78, Clarence Gate-gardens, Baker-street, London.

WANTED, smart young Double Bass Player, for Restaurant. Apply, with photo., Wm. Schottler, Musical-Director, Bath.

WANTED, good Saxhorn, Cornet, Drums, Trombone (other instruments may apply), for Rink in London. State terms. Bandmaster, 53, Philpot-street, London.

WANTED, Young, Experienced Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist, for First-class Hotel Engagement in Jamaica, until April. Audition and excellent references necessary. For conditions apply to Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, open Monday week, Hippo., Norwich; used to Variety. Terms and refs., Musical-Director, Hip., Norwich.

WANTED, Pianist, Bioscope Theatre, Provinces; permanency. State experience and salary required. Address, Manager, Skating Rink, Dorchester, Dorset.

WANTED, Good Pianist, to Double another Instrument. Lowest terms, age, photo., names, addresses last two references, Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Pianist, immediately, Tour Staffs; smalls, Variety Co. Wire, refs., absolute lowest, Manchester. 15a, Oxford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, a Pianist, must read at sight, to travel with Auction Mart; also good Vocalist; men used to the business. Auction Mart, Glyn-Neath, Glam.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL. Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur.

WANTED, Complete Orchestra (with a few exceptions). Apply, with references and copies of recent testimonials, to J. O. Shepherd, Musical Director. No personal applications. No stamps. Silence a negative.

BOSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.

WANTED, for Albert Hall, Swansea, for three weeks, commencing Dec. 26, Full Band. One that has been working Rink preferred. Apply, stating terms, number, refs., J. R. Poole, 146 Westgate-street, Gloucester.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.

WANTED, to open Saturday, Dec. 3, Orchestra of Ten Professional A.M.U.'s, not amateurs. Must have good circus experience. Apply, with at least two references, to Harry Wamba, Leeside, Viewforth-sq., Edinburgh.

STRING PLAYERS.

WANTED, Known, a first-class Infantry Battalion, recently home from abroad, has Vacancies for a few good String Players. Height, age, and all particulars to Bandmaster, The Connaught Rangers, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr. J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, well-known Mus. Director; good references, library, and experience all branches profession. Conductor, 12, King-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by a thorough and most reliable Conductor, any business. Highest credentials. M.-D., 122, Twist-lane, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Music Hall Conductor, used to Lightning Programme; late of Moss's Empires; highest refs. Box 8,502, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin; thoroughly reliable; good refs. H. Foreman, 48, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, London, S.E.

WANTED Engagement, First Violin; young, experienced, good refs. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Primrose Hill, N.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Violinist seeks Re-engagement, Theatre or Music Hall; excellent references. Write F. P., 19, Northway-rd., Loughborough Junction, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, Second Violin, or Viola, any business. Good refs. Write, Shipley, 1, Cobden-grove, Lower Wortley, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced First Violinist. Concluded successful season at the Pleasure Gardens, Whitley Bay. Steady and reliable. R. Johnson, 80, Marshall Wallis-road, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violinist; thoroughly experienced and reliable; can open Monday. Add., Violinist, 1, Portland-villas, St. James's-road, Lower Edmonton.

WANTED, Engagement, Picture Theatre, by reliable Violinist; Leader; completing two years Andrew's Pictures. Murdock, 65, St. Vincent-street, Southsea.

WANTED, Re-engagement, through closing, brilliant first-class Violinist, 15 years' experience, ability, sobriety. Wires, Sutcliffe, Leader, Theatre Royal, Glossop.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First Violin and Clarionet, Duke of Devonshire's Orchestra; excellent refs. Letters, Box 8,480, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin. Experienced. C. Muggleton, 100, Asplin's-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trumpet or Cornet; fully experienced; highest refs. A. Whitaker, 22, Edward-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, any business; experienced in all lines. Dick Wright, 1, Limekiln-street, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, just finished two seasons Palace Rink, Tynemouth, sober and reliable. Berry, 4, Worcester-street, Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet; Brilliant Performer; highest refs.; any bus. Write or wire, Cornet, 65, Clough-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Cornet, any business, sober, reliable. Cornettist, 26, Tyler's-avenue, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionet; any business; excellent references; can join at once. Address, Clarionet, Box 8,517, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, E flat Bass, in or near London. Reliable, any business. Disengaged. Excellent refs. Basso, Rosecnath, Burgess-road, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass or Viola, experienced all branches, at Liberty 28th inst.; good refs. F. J. Lloyd, T. R., Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombone; first-class references. Apply, C. Carver, 101, Maysoule-road, Battersea, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia. Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, any capacity; 15 years' experience; sober, reliable; member Amalgamated Musicians' Union. Watts, 25, Cuthbert-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone, thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable Theatre, Music Hall, Touring, any bus. Smith, 24, Stanley-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Trombone, any business. Apply, with terms, C. Browne, 4, Britannia-street, King's Cross, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone (combine Euphonium), experienced, any business. Good refs. Moore, 16, Kingsdown-rd., Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Bombardon Player, any business. Address, J. T. Smith, 3, Ashton-rd., Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon Player, at Liberty for Winter Engagement; good references; reliable and steady. F. Walters, 1, Delhaig, Gorgie, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, French Horn, at Liberty; 15 years' experience, any business; Theatre preferred; excellent refs. Musician, 5, Richmond Park-road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horns; young; last summer at Colwyn Bay with Mr. W. Forrest-Hague. Bros. Chapman, 6, St. Philips'-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Miss Child, Violoncellist. Address, Miss Child, Brookland, Wearside-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Violoncellist, at Liberty. Address, Box 8,525, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, any Business; first-class references. Address, 'Cello, c/o Woods, newsagents, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, by Flautist (First-class), Engagement, thorough experience, any business competent, reliable, arranger, copyist. Add., Watson, 13, Edington-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flautist, first-class refs. age 31, any business. Louis Ford, 3, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist. A.M.U., any business, excellent references. Flautist, 64, Laxey-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, John Miller, Harpist, at Lib., any Bus.; or would join good Partner. Address, 3, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, by Brilliant Pianist, Extemporiser and Memoriser, engagement in London Picture Hall, or other line. Box 8,522, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Rink or Variety, rink preferred; good refs. Parratt, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Pianist, Bioscope Theatre preferred, Sight-reader and Music from Memory. References. Address, Pianist, 24, Victoria-road, Dorchester.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, experienced, good refs., shortly disengaged. Additional instrument if required. London or Suburbs. Pianist, 55, Shakespeare-road, Gillingham, Kent.

WANTED, by brilliant Pianist, Engagement, Picture Palace, Music Hall; excellent repertoire; young, abstainer. Pianist, 58, Portland-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer, through Rink closing. F. Lake, 150, Robinson-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums or Viola, through reduction in Orchestra. References, J. S. Hougill. Nevill, 26, Holly-road, Westham, Weymouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drummer; own Tympani; steady and reliable. Louis Breuschmidt, 5, Whitley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Tympanist and Double Drummer; young, steady, best refs.; any business. Dundas, 63, Wellington-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform. Including Vocalists. Dorothea A. Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Dec. Permanent address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. Ladywell Baths, Lewisham, until Nov. 25.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Lambeth Military Band, Apply to O. H. Carter, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Signor Di Giacomo's Anglo-Italian Band, Orchestra or Military, is at Liberty for next summer season; may be heard in London; picked Soloists, smart uniforms. Répertoire includes the latest English selections. Terms, &c., Sig. U. Di Giacomo, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Known, Bateson's Orchestra (any number), Dis., suitable Rink or Pictures, Vocalists, Soloists, Up-to-date Répertoire; excellent refs. Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Apply, Thos. Bateson, Bowness-on-Windermere.

BANDS.—CONCERT-DIRECTION.

WANTED, Known, Ernest W. Gilchrist has resumed his Private Auditions on Wednesdays, and is making arrangements for Amers, Bonifacios, Casanos Orchestras, Iffs, Archibald Joyces, Julian Kandts, Kellers, Vorzangers, Willoughbys, Austrian, and Viennese Bands, for Hunt Balls, Dances, At Homes, Weddings, &c. Particulars from Ernest W. Gilchrist, 19, Milner-street, Cadogan-square, S.W. Tele., 2727 Kens.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD. ROYAL HIPPODROME AND MENAGERIE.

WANTED, for Tenting Season 1911, commencing March, a really smart Flying or Throwing Aerial Show, long and comfortable Engagement to suitable Troupe; also a thoroughly competent Musical-Director, for String and Brass Orchestra, to combine Cornet or Clarionet, for street parade. Apply, with full particulars, Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, First-class Tent Master, man able to make own tents, all V's, and brackets, and all proper seating and other equipment necessary for a large travelling show. For terms and particulars apply Naval and Military Tournament of Empire, 76, Victoria-st., Westminster, London, S.W.

WANTED, a thoroughly competent Elephant Trainer and Keeper, also other First-class Animal Men. Letters only to Arthur, 78, Clarence Gate-gardens, Baker-street, London.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to commence at once, a First-class Man, able to produce large Equestrian and other Spectacles. Must be able to train horses for various purposes, and also have had experience with large travelling circuses, or similar enterprises. For terms and particulars apply NAVAL AND MILITARY TOURNAMENT OF EMPIRE, 76, Victoria-street, Westminster, London, S.W.

TO CIRCUS ARTISTS.

WANTED, Known, P. Collins, Walsall, thanks all Circus Artists for their applications in response to his advertisement, but his Companies being complete, no further inquiries need be made.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
For Special Mattings, Mats, Tents, Tents,
Canvas and Rope Goods,
for Circus and Theatre use,
write, JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS,
Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip, Talking Knockabout Clown, with Entrées, also Agouste, at Liberty 21st, on. Address, 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artist, introducing Novel Firework Effects, Nov. 28, for winter season. 5, Devon-st., Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEO. E. MUDD.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Nov. 28, on. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 21, on. 14, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, of every Description, now and on. Send full particulars,
HARRY LEATON'S Agency, 575, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines.
Full bookings and lowest terms,
CAVILL'S Agency,
1, Pratt-street, Lambeth-road, S.E.
Call, "Spread Eagle," Lambeth-road.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Palace of Varieties, also Empire, Worcester. No wires.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, November, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for Midlands, Good Speciality for Nov. 28, also Good Top, for Xmas Week. GEORGE SEYMOUR, Variety Agent, Nuneaton.

PANOPTICON, GLASGOW, AND
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above.
Good Sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedian, Comediennes, Dancers.
Lowest terms first letter,
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Scarborough, Nov. 28, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Good Specialities Particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates.
Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, for Hippodrome, Buxton, Dec. 26, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Variety Attractions, Big Speciality Acts, Comedy Acts, Nov. 28, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos.
Big Attractions for Coronation Day, June 22, 1911.
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 9261 Central.

CADLE'S AGENCY.
CADLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for Nov. 28 and all Dec.,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Star, Top of Bill, open Monday, Exeter, owing illness. Terms, sharing. Wire, "Yokefellow, London." ARTHUR, 28, Charing Cross-road.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
PAVILION THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Proprietor, FRANK MACNAGHTEN.
Manager, JOSEPH LAWRENCE.
WANTED, Turns of all Descriptions, Artists, in all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Applications, from turns that have not worked this Circuit, entertained for a Trial Week. All applications for this theatre to be made to The Manager, JOSEPH LAWRENCE.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED. Big Acts,
Dec. 12,
Dec. 12
Dec. 12,
Jan. 16.
Jan. 16.
Jan. 16.
Everhart and Minola Hurst, Guss Lazenberg please send addresses
JAMES FIONI'S Agency.
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Acts for immediate and future dates. Nothing too Big. Messrs. RAWES and CLARANCE, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Picture Theatre in Lancashire, Acts of all kinds.
Apply,
DIRECTOR, 21, Balmoral-road, Fallowfield, Lancs.

WANTED, First-class Acts for now and on, new to South and North.
Please state if worked all tours.
D. T. CUMMINGS' Agency, 7, Welcome-st., Exeter.

WANTED, Nov. 28, North, East, South, and West, Variety Acts. Full bookings imperative. I can fix you. Dec. 26, for Bristol, Star Specialities, with lithos. and drawing powers GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for Central Hall, Chesterfield, once nightly, Refined Acts, Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6, 13, 20; also for Co. Durham and Cumberland, Jan. 2, on; Talent only required. MCASKILL'S Agency, 126, Roker-avenue, Sunderland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston, Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Brighton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.
Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
WANTED, for Dec. 5, and later, Big Tops.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.

GRAND THEATRE, RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, for Dec. 5, and later, Big Tops.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.

GRAND THEATRE, CHORLEY.
WANTED, for Dec. 12, and later, Big Tops.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.

P. O. W.'S THEATRE, MEXBOROUGH.
WANTED, for Dec. 12, and later, Big Tops.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.

HIPPODROME, TODMORDEN.
WANTED, for Jan 16, and later, Big Tops.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.

HIPPODROMES, KING'S LYNN AND GRANTHAM (in conjunction, three nights each).
WANTED, April 17, onwards, Big Tops. Satisfactory business assured to sound attractions. Particulars full list of bookings, lithos., and absolute lowest terms in first letter imperative.
N.B.—No interviews except by appointment.
ASHBURN'S AGENCY.
295, Kennington-road, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Hippotomy, London."
'Phone, 5467 Central.

WANTED, Big Variety Star Acts, Top Liners, on Shares, Nov. 28, on. Also Combinations and Small Turns. MANAGER, Hippodrome, Oxford.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, Big Attractions and Star Acts, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, 26,
Jan. 2, and later dates;
also for Palace, Gloucester, April 17.
WILL SMITHSON, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
BLACKPOOL,
MORECAMBE,
DOUGLAS,
and other Seaside Towns.
BIG SPECIALITIES, ANIMAL ACTS,
and Comedy Specialities,
for nine days Easter, Whit Week, and Season.
Send dates, terms, lithos, &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only.
STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACES, Kettering, Loughborough, Rugby, Long Eaton, Exmouth, Salisbury, Neath, Barry Dock, Aberavon, Carmarthen, and Llanelly.
WANTED, Big Tops in all Lines for immediate and future Dates; also Smart Turns, for Middles and Bottoms. First visits only. Perman's Teddy Bears and other Animal Shows write in.
Address, ARTHUR BROGDEN, General-Manager, Vint's Hippodrome, Loughborough.

ADAMS'S VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Tops, Stars, with odd weeks, or immediate dates, artists, in all lines.
ADAMS'S Agency,
Broadmead House, Panton-street, London, W.
Tel., "Shrieking, London." 'Phone, Gerrard 2092.

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill,
Big Star Tops,
£50 to £150,
for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19.
Wire quick,
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for DALTON'S AGENCY,
62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES. Send immediate
EARLY DATES. Dates, with full
EARLY DATES. list of Bookings.
EARLY DATES. Lowest Price Essential.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Comedy or Pantomime Sketch, Dec. 26.
Also Artists, all Lines, for Immediate Dates.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, really Smart Juvenile Troupes, Big Specialities, Pantomimical Sketches, and Novelties of every Description, with Big Stage Settings, for Dec. 5, 19, 26, onward. Address, with lowest terms, samples of printing, &c., to MANAGER.

THE "C. W." POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for four weeks and one day, commencing Dec. 24, for Synod Hall, Edinburgh, Troupe of Juveniles; must be smart, bright, and refined. Apply, stating where turn can be seen, J. R. POOLE, 146, Westgate-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, really good Comedian, for week Nov. 28, and good Turns for subsequent dates. All particulars to MANAGER, Queen's Hall, Church, Lancs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Skating Acts, for various Rinks; must be up to date; double or single. Write particulars, with absolute lowest terms, immediately, to Mr. CHAS. EVANS, The Margate Skating Rink.

WANTED, several Stylish Show Ladies, a Male Midget, and two Male Cornettists, also Elephant and Animal Trainer. See advts. of Arthur in other column.

Conjuring Business.
WANTED, Smart Man, at Once, for the Sales. Partial board; sleep out. A. W. GAMAGE, LTD., Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, for Haggar's Picture Palace, Pembroke Dock, a Vocalist to work up Illustrated Songs and Recitations. Comfortable shop to a suitable man. Lowest terms first letter.

WANTED, a Vocalist and Lecturer. State age, refs., and salary required.
W. TURNER, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Minstrels, Experienced Vocalists, Comedians, disengaged, and willing to work on share basis. Lady Vocalists and Instrumentalist. Letters only, MINSTREL, 204, Longbeach-road, Lavender Hill, London.

WANTED, a male Midget, for Comedy Business, in big Variety Production. State experience and particulars, enclose photograph, or call; permanent engagement. ARTHUR, 78, Clarence Gate-gardens, Regent's Park, London.

WANTED, a Young Man,
that can handle Monkeys,
as
Assistant in Animal Act.
Must be experienced, reliable, and sober.
App'y by letter,
Box 8,514,
"The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Boy, to learn to be an Acrobat, age 13½ to 15. State age, weight, height first letter.
JANOWSKY, 228, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, Young Man, not above 9st., to do Back and Forward Somersaults, from throwing out of the hand, or from shoulders. Box 8,527, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Experienced Operator and Manager, with modern outfit, for gas or electric; must understand management and advertising, open Dec. 5. RAY, Cross Hotel, Old Hill, near Birmingham.

ANDREWS' PICTURES, LTD.
WANTED, two First-class Operators; must be used to Motor Generator Plant and Chrono Machines. State age, references, and salary first letter. 90, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Competent Operator,
understands Dynamo and Engine,
POOLE, Empire, Taunton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dec. 11, and onwards, by Claire Hastings, Chorus Vocalist. Many thanks to Hamilton and Hughes for kindly releasing last two nights at Runcorn; also many thanks to the following friends for kindness to me during my trouble: Mrs. R. Colin, Gladys Wells, my sister, Lily Clifford, and staff of Hippo., West Bromwich, for lovely flowers. Resume bus. Dec. 5, Pavilion, Northwich. Address, 14, Edith-street, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday, Nov. 21, 23, by Mamie Morris. Wire, Grand, Sheffield; after Saturday, perm. address, Railway Hotel, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Lilian Harvey, Descriptive and Chorus Vocalist, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19. Per. Add., 11, Gardenwall-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 21, onwards, Babs Lloyd, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, c/o Campbell, 4, Abbotsford-pl., Glasgow. Wire, wire.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, 26, The Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists, Speciality and Fancy Dancers. Com., 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Sisters Terry, a Clever Entertainment in themselves, a great hit everywhere, at Liberty Dec. 5 and 12. Add., Nov. 21, Hippo., Greenock.

WANTED, Dates, by Master Fred Crook, Soprano, 5, Stanley-street, Queen's-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.; or, DAVID HART, Esq.

WANTED, 28th, on, exceptions, 1911, Dan Ashton, Happy-go-lucky Collier Comedian, Original Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. Next, Palace, Moston, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, Percy Curry, Comedian, in New Songs; Liberty Monday. Wire, Albion Hotel, Stockton-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Feb. 6, 13, 20, and on, by the clever One-legged Comedian and Dancer, Jimmy Shields.
Address, Empire Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, exceptions, Will Mills (Salt Bush Bill), World's Champion Stock Whip Manipulator (Australian). Austral Hall Hotel, London, W.C.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, Clown Aggo, greatest Sifflеur and Bird Imitator, two Acts. Wire best offer, Picturedrome, Baths, Swindon.

WANTED, Mon. next, by Wyllie, Tramp Musician, in Act of Mirth and Melody. Sure Success. Wire, WYLLIE, Hippo., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, immediate dates, by Harold Endon, Vocalist, away from all others. Just finished Provincial Tour. 5, Salisbury-house, Brixton Oval, S.W.

WANTED, by Tom Storey, Comedy, Animals, Dancing.
10, Claverton-street, S.W.

WANTED, by Tom Hearne, good Tumbler, is at Liberty to join First-class Troupe or Partner, at once. Address, 68, Fentiman-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, by Mark Daly, Comedian, next week and Dec. 5. This, success, Bijou T., Bexhill; next, 82, Brook-street, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Gus Elton, late Principal Comedian Herbert Lloyd's Co.'s, is relinquishing with Mr. Fred Karno on 19th inst., open for sketch, panto. GUS ELTON, 2 in 32, Mason-st., Walworth, London.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, by Jack Almo, Great Gymnastic Three-Bar Comedian.
A Combination of Cleverness and Fun.
34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Chevalier Ponchery, Monarch of the High Rope, at Liberty for Christmas, also Gala Season, 1911. Agents, W. and J. WILDER, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, still on top and undefeated. The Record Breaker. At Liberty Nov. 5, 12. This, Palace, Widnes; next, Arcadia T., Spennymoor. Coms., direct, or HARRY BURNS.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Palette and Otto. Comedy Musicians, Jugglers, Painters; also Max, the Famous Dog. Monday, King's, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, by Billy Ross and Co., great Comedy, Speciality Boxing Act. Palace, Camberwell. Wire, 22, Geneva-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Rohde and Roche, a Sure Draw, Vacant Dec. 5 also Jan. 2, 9, 16, 1911. Hippo., South Bank, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, Hodgson and Davison, Comedian, Soprano, Sketches, Pianists, advertise, experienced, good refs., Pictures, Panto. P. O., Downton, Salisbury.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, by the Two Le Bruns. Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist, and Edie, the beautiful and incomparable Lady Juggler and Vocalist.
A Great Novelty for Panto.
Next week (return), Gaiety Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, by Donald and Doone, Comedy Acrobatic Couple, Nov. 21 and 28. A Sure Scream. Palace, Watford; or, 15, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-road.

WANTED, Nov. 28, to precede Pontypool, by Will and Roze, Comedy Act, "Le Café Magique." Nov. 21, Pringle's Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, by N. C. Bostock, Nellie Eliene, Nov. 21, 28. Name alone filled Aberdeen, four weeks. 13, Taylor's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, and on, with exceptions, O'Brian and Bury, Cross Talk Comedians, in their Original Laughing Hit, fully protected. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Lancaster; Nov. 28, Onda's Palace, Preston. Good Agent wanted.

WANTED, by the celebrated Nelson Bros., in the only great Humorous Skating Sketch (dumb act), own stage floor. Booking return dates at all places visited. Managers don't hesitate in inquiring. A terrific success. All coms., 83, Smith-street, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Hinton and Wooton, Originators "A Football Match on Bicycles," are vacant Nov. 28, through misunderstanding with Empire, York; only vacancy till July, 1912. Wire or write, Palace, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Spiegler's Great Gipsy Quartet, greatest Attraction, Instrumental and Vocal. Top the Bill everywhere, only vacant dates, Dec. 17, 1910, till Jan. 2, 1911. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Singing Jockeys, Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, between Manchester and London. Wire, C. V., Leeds; or, next week, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes, Nov. 21, also Pantomime Speciality and parts. Miss Tissot, Acrobatic Dancer. Wire, 5, Sutton-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, Nov. 21, 28, Sardou's Illusionists, Mystifiers, Cabinet Seances, 1,000 laughs in 1,000 seconds, big draw. Wire, T. R., Workington.

WANTED, by Rohde and Roche, Dec. 5 Success, Hippo., Chester-le-Street. Nov. 21 Hippo., South Bank, Middlesbrough. Vacant Jan. 2, onward.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16 (North), by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Offers invited. Town Hall, Hcanor, Derbyshire.

WANTED, few Immediate Dates, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Speciality Contralto. Mon., Public Hall Theatre, Runcorn.

WANTED, Known, Three Cyclinis, Comedy and Sensational Cyclists, always a success. Vacant 28th, 12th, 19th. This, Pal., Clitheroe; next, Alex. T., Pontefract.

WANTED, Swift Duo (Lady and Gentleman), Screamingly Funny Cycle Act, Dec. 5, 12. Monday next, Poole's Palace, St. Austell, Cornwall.

WANTED, Nov. 21, on, with Exceptions, Zeenas, Comedy Bars; G. Hyatt, Juggler. This, H., Burs.em. Two distinct Acts.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Jan. 23, follow Birmingham, Harry Hollanda, Comedy Juggling Pot-Pourri; Mlle. Amelia, Cable Act. Coms., 37, Brunswick-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 1 and 8, by the Jerome Trio, in their latest Single and Double Ball-bouncing and Club-juggling Speciality. Touring with tremendous success with the Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama. Something new, novel, and original. Well dressed and mounted, own scenic effects.
This week Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock; next, Poole's Myriorama, Cork.

WANTED, Known, The Ronnies, Lady and Gentleman Double Jugglers and Equilibrist Act, including "The Deathspring," are Vacant Dec. 12 and 19, also a few Dates in Jan. Always a Hit, and Something New. This, Miners' Theatre, Ashington; next, Kettering.

WANTED, next two weeks, Beatrice Bonnie Company, great Dancing Novelty, "Stairaphone," tremendous success last week, Holborn Empire; also Stylo, Expert Hoop Juggler, from London Hippodrome. Address, 116, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Nov. 28, by La Dor Troupe, male and female Novelty Acrobats, two Acts. Wanted, Youth, Top Mount. Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, by Les Supriskis, Charming Lady Gymnasts, Nov. 22 and 29.
Pretty Speciality Act. Vacant Panto.
Perm address, 114, Cowley-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Three Kels, Chinese Gymnasts. After an absence of three weeks from the Zoo, Glasgow, are again this week at the Palace. Next, Tivoli, Aberdeen.

TO MANAGERS OF FIRST-CLASS PIERS, PAVILIONS, &c.

WANTED, Whit, until July 29, 1911, for a very well-known Star Artist (the only turn of its kind), supported by strong combination.
If you require an attraction quite different to all others, send for particulars to
MANAGER, 43, Grange-street, St. Albans.
Only genuine applications from managers of first-class places will be replied to.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, The Flying Orenius's (2 ladies, 2 gentlemen). The most sensational aerial gymnastic act extant. Can fix on small stage. Last week, Crystal Palace; this (bottom), Hippo, Great Yarmouth. Also wanted, North, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, 16, to precede and follow Tivoli, Aberdeen (Jan. 2).
Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Dec. 5, the Great Rohde and Roche, The Artist, Chameleon and IT. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, South Bank, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Walter Roselle, at Liberty as Lecturer, Entertainer, or Assist. Manager (seven seasons with Walter Jeffs' pictures). 18, Farnworth-street, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, 5ft. 7in., smart appearance, age 18, desires situation as Page to Conjuring Act. Apply, 70, Higher Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, for LEONI CLARKE'S
200 Royal Cats, &c. 200
200 Royal Cats, &c. 200
Always something new.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Share or Certainty.
Monday, Cambridge Hall, Southport.
Posters and lithos by Creaber, of Plymouth.
Posters and lithos by Berry, of Bradford.
Agent, W. SLEY, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show,
Now Touring the Continent,
Vacant all the months of May, June 5, 26, on.
All coms.,
Eden Theater, Turin, Italy.

WANTED, Known, Astley's American Circus, the greatest Comedy Act on the Variety Stage.
This big drawing act
is vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 5, and 12.
Wire, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, by Daisy Graham's Troupe of Educated Birds and Baby Dog.
Coms., 9, Aldate-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Margaret Doris, with her Comedy-Somersault, Acrobatic, Football, and High-leaping Dogs. Numberless New Features, Laughter and Applause overwhelming. This, triumphant success, Hippo., Nottingham. Specially engaged Nov. 21, for one month. HENGLER'S Cirque, Glasgow. Pantomime to follow. For vacant dates, address as above.

WANTED, for Captain George, Elephant and Ponies, Two (Only Vacant) Dates, on way to Birmingham, Dec. 12, also 19. The Only Act of its Kind in Great Britain.
Letters, address,
Zoo, Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Performing Irish Terriers and Leaping Dogs, vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 5. Address, 14, Shelly-street, Leeds.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, April, long Tour, well-known Concert Party, clever young Light Comedian, Dance, Sing, play Piano, and capable of Character. Box 8,490, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists for Al-fresco, also for Picture Palaces, Comedians, Light Comedians, Baritones, and Soubrettes. Call Wednesdays, between 1-2, GOODMAN, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

JOY WHEEL.
The Latest Sensation.
WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device.
The Wheel provided with Silent Driving Mechanism (patents applied for)
Write for full particulars.
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS. & CO., LTD.,
Kingsley Works, Grange-road,
Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Showmen to Read Copy of Testimonial:—
Oct. 15, 1910. Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros.
Sirs, — In reference to the Joy Wheel which you have just supplied me with, I think it is only fair that I should write you a note of appreciation. I am pleased to say it has given great satisfaction, and it not only looks well, but works well, too. Great credit is due to your firm for turning out such a neat and handy lot. Best wishes.—I am, yours respectfully,
(Signed) JOHN WILMOT (E. W.).

SCHEMES FOR "JOY WHEELS."
WANTED, Known, Complete Detail, and Working Plans, with price,
for
JOY WHEELS,
supplied for moderate fee.
Plans passed by authorities any district.
Erection also undertaken.
DAVENPORT, c/o Pendleton's, Architects,
16, Brazenose-street, Manchester.

JOY WHEEL.
JOY WHEEL.
The latest American Amusement Sensation.
WANTED, Known, Attractive 2-sheet Posters correctly representing the Joy Wheel.
Samples and prices on application.
CREBER, printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, all Brands, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size cartridge, for the Stage, in stock. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, always, Freaks, Novelties, Sensational Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Wonderland and Variety Theatre, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good and Latest Novelties, Apply,
63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, two Midgets, for the Great Lafayette Co.
Address communications, with photos enclosed, or call.
Mr. W. COLLINS, Broadmead House,
Panton-street, Haymarket, London, W.

WANTED, for Barron's Exhibition, King-street, Reading, good, quick-showing Novelties, with posters, &c., on half shares. Open Monday, for two weeks.

WANTED, at Once, for Barron's Exhibition, 15-16, King-street, Reading, good Lady Palmist. Will Madame Eva Franklin write in if disengaged?

WANTED, for the Xmas Holidays, or longer, Variety Entertainments, on a large Skating Rink in Kent, such as Rifle Range, Lady Palmist, and Side Shows. Quote terms, or on half profit basis. Address,
Box 8,513, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Kahara, the Egyptian Illusionist in Exhibition, Carnival, or Pictures, after Nov. 26.—LADYWELL BATHS, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Ladies, for Exhibition Work.
FORSTER, 49, Atlantic-road, Brixton.

CASINO DE PARIS, PARIS. **ALHAMBRA THEATRE, BORDEAUX.**
Managing Director, Mr. JACK DE FRECE.

WANTED

for December 12, 19, 26, and January,

SENSATIONAL NOVELTIES AND HIGH-CLASS COMEDY ACTS

NEW TO ABOVE.

Arrangements can be made for artists terminating their engagements in London Saturday Evening to open in Paris the following Monday, finishing in Paris Sunday Evening, leaving sufficient time for them to return to London by 3.30 Monday Afternoon.

Special Reduced Terms have also been arranged with the South-Eastern & Chatham Railway Co., viz.: 1st Class Single 34/8, Return 63/-; 2nd Class Single 22/9, Return 37/5.

Please forward immediately full list of bookings, together with lowest terms, lithos, and full particulars to

VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, Ltd.,
178, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & SUBSEQUENT STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated.)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

Capital £2,086,000.

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, NOV. 21, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsome, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Ellaline Terriss and Co., in "The Pink of Perfection," Three Merrills, Alexandre and Hughes, Mendel, Duncan's Collies, Hovyns, Pictures, Ayoe, Living Silhouettes, Simone De Beryl, Mr. Fred Lindsay.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen, in "Private Potts," Elsie Roby, Clown Argo, Eisteddfod Sextette, Rich and Rich, Satanella Trio, Fred Shephard, Pictures, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Zena Dare and Co., Horace Wheatley, Courtiers, Thora, France and Stewart, George Rae, Bioscope, Cruikshank, Riogoku Family.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Herbert Sleath and Co., Florence Cooper, Conn and Conrad, Ben Lewin, Fanny Robina, Dan Hendy, Bioscope, Sammy Shields, Helen Trix.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Tom Foy and Co., Bella and Bijon, Ida Kathrena, Harry Fields, Legay Trio, Bert Williams, Bioscope, Jackson Family, Lottie Lennox, Manchester Mites.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Gertie Gitana, Princess D'Aryaba, Bioscope, Jock Mills, the Gladiators, Royal Scots, Ben Albert, Flying Hanlons, Mina Denvil, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Caryl Wilbur, Saxonia Family, Soho Trio, Howard and Harris, Evelyn Beresford and Co., Paxton Family, Jimmy Shields, Bioscope, Cyril Clensy, Dick Tubb.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Lyn Harding and Sydney Cooper's Co., in "The Flag Lieutenant."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, Alf. H. West, "What Women Do for Men," Lee and Kingston, Edith Fink, Dion Wade, Tambo and Tambo, A. G. Spry, Bioscope, Braatz's Dogs.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

George Formby, Cavalotti Bros., McConnell Trio, Bert Harrow, Ricardo and Salving, Bros. Redmond, Bert Weston, Eily Adair, Bioscope, Laurie's Kindergarten.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Whit Cunliffe, Belle Belles, Harry Freeman, Park's Eton Boys and Girls, Winifred Ward, Villions, Signor Persichini, Lizzie Glenroy, Bioscope, Carter Livesey, and Lillian Rosebery.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Margaret Cooper, Adam Tomlinson, Verno and Voyce, Les Romanis, Three Emersons, King's College Boys, Lola Patey, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Adrienne Augarde.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Houdini, Lawrence Barclay, Orpheus, Kitts and Windrum, Russell Wallett, Francoli Troupe, La Superbe, Little Vi Davis, Bioscope, Jen Latona.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Marie Lloyd, Katie Butler, Ellis Barrieton, John Beauchamp and Co., Bros. Artois, Meier and Mora, Mary Ambrose, Tom E. Conover, Bioscope, Lamberti.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Karno's Co., including Tom Nelson, in "G.P.O.," Australian Woodcutters, Empire Girls, Walter King, Hadj Mohammed Troupe, Tom Costello, Ouida Macdermott, Harry Drew, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. Austin and Co., Rosie Fitzgerald, Bioscope, Walter Wade, Mackways, Dutch Daly, Herbert Dickeson and Co., King and Queenie, Vickey Delmar, Chanti.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

George Dance's Co. in "The Whip."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Reano's Band, Ian Colquhoun, M. and Mme. Agoust, Harry Herbert, Westwoods, Chass Lewis, Lena Verdi, Bioscope, Elise Craven, and Bert Clerc.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Seymour Hicks and Co., in "Richard III.," Orchidee, Bros. Bright, Mezzettis, W. J. Churchill, Anartos, Denise Orme, Lorenz Obermaier, Jennie Hartley, Bioscope, Bransby Williams, George Bastow.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

The Great Lafayette, Alf. Chester, Bioscope, Violas, Maude Edwards, Sanford and Lyons, Franco Piper.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Fanny Moody and Charles Manners, Lilian, Tom Jones, Harry Lawson, Kirbys, Johnny Walker, Bioscope, Bros. Griffiths.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Ethel Beech, Bioscope, Fisher's Vocalesques, Fred Earle, Ernie Mayne, Mabel Sinclair, Williams and Warden, Severus Schaffer.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Hetty King, Gwonnie Hasto, Arthur Astill, Vernons, Burley and Burley, Lancashire Lasses, Little Keeno, Bioscope, Campbell and Barber.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Farabonis, Daunton Shaw Troupe, James Stewart, Horace Pollock and Co., Lily Burnand, Will Musgrave, Bioscope, Gothams, Harry Ford.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Haig and Novel, Luis Alvarez, Rawsons, Corbyn's Dogs, Ferry Corwey, J. C. Scatter, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Jack Lorimer.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Marie George and Co., Georgina Leno, Hardini Trio, Evelyn Bingham, W. Fullbrook and Co., Tom Parker, Du Gros Trio, Bioscope, Roze and Calvert, Harry Brown.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Esta Stella, Grassis, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas, "Belles of the Kitchen," Will Johnson, Harry Roxbury and Co.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—

Malcolm Scott, Karno's "Football Match," Iva Voyce, Korries, Goltz Trio, Tom E. Finglass, Jack Smiles, Chris Van Bern, Bioscope, Gustave Fasola.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

"Casey Court," Kisbey, Carl and Carr, Sutcliffe Family, Adey Spencer, Bioscope, Andos Japs, Rosa Loader.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Darnley's "Brigands of Tarragona," Bill Bert, Little Ella, Witty Watty Walton, Olga Dore, Dan Frazer, Pictures, Bowden and Stol.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Seven Perezoffs, Sybil St. Elmo, Rhoda Paul, Brown and Le Clerq, Willie Gardner, Wullie Walker, Bioscope, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Dankmar Schillar Troupe, Hans and Lux, Bioscope, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Tom Edwards, Harry Simms, Madge Beresford, Chas. Erard, Channinge, Leo Stormont, Pictures, Kail Stern, Blake and Granby.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Dayton Family, Jessie Lee, Little Zola, Sadie Smart, Herbert La Martine, Ugo Nap, Pictures, Barrett and Knowles.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Kate Cutler and Co., Vandinoff, Doroswami, Tom Leamore, Four Vagabonds, Sisters Storm, Bioscope, Daisy Jerome, Tan-Kwai Troupe, Crystal and Saville.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre, Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, NOV. 21.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Sydney Bach, Harry Taylor, Cissie Thompson, Louie Tracy, Tennyson and Wallis, The Tintos, Shirley and Ransome, Billy Merson, Memora, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Dorothy Mullard and Co., Sketch, "Dicky's Mother," May Terry, Hargreaves Trio, Irene May, Harry Desmond, Lazern, De Bessell, Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
"The Bad Girl of the Family."

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Four Figaros, Mabel Thorne, Lizette Troupe, Mollie Augarde, "Compensation" Co., Fuji Family, Elroy, Tom Davies Trio, Gwen Francis, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Ted Karno and Co., Reg Beauchamp, The Wedburns, Toch and Tard, Flo Burnett, Will Rennie, Martin Adeson and Co., Halma, Newco and Sullo, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Cromo and Hamilton, Cash and Clair, Flo Warner, Hurman and Arthur, Ford Williams, Haidee St. George, Jack Sheridan, Satani, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
The Four Maisanos, Gus Harris, Vere and Meldon, Julia Reeve, Syd Crossley, Lucy Lynd, Palace Perfection Pictures, Hugo and Smit.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Florrie Forde, Sam Williams, Will Lindsay, "Little Colonel," Radford and Valentine, Hicks and Hunter, Wittington Trio, Gladys Mavius, The De Breans, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Bruce Green, Achmed Ibrahims, Society Quartette, Donn and Dixie, Sisters Reeve, Carl and Mary Ohm, The Walenells, Martin Conway, "Flood Tide" Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Gwennie Morgan, Coverdale's Dots, Chris Baker, The Fitzroys, Dalmere's Animals, "Roots, Chemist," Palace Perfection Pictures, Oakes Duo.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Yettmah, The Hulls, Arthur Croxon, "Roguery," Russell and Held, Sydney Girls, Jack Hayworth, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Norman Grant, Diamond and Beatrice, Pete and Minnie Lee, The Falcons, Dorothy Dacey, "Our Mary Jane" Co., Belrose and De Velin, Vernem's Poses, "Hawkshaw, Detective," Co., Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Picture Entertainment, Eeduns, Scena Vocas, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Prince and the Beggar Maid."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, HOTTINCHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"A Country Girl in London."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Bros. Rees, Dan Conroy, Rita and Roma, Tamamoto, Chas. Torbay, Venturini, Lizzie Eay, Con Sherry, Gerty McDonald, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Ernestine Desborough.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Ryder Sloane, the Three Langfords, the Three Orleans, Mack Olive, Will Douglas and Co., Arthur Bretton and Co., Jack Warman, "Olga's Oath," Pictures, Ada Fawn.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Drama Twice Nightly, 6.30, 9.10.
"For the Colours."

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Can a Woman be Good?"

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Goggin and Davis, Billie Marsden, Sinclair's Diamonds, Joe Cookson, the Maples, Phillips and Merritt, Marjory Ward the Seven Bramusas, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane, Bros. Clarke, Pictures.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

PRINCIPAL BOYS & PRINCIPAL GIRLS
IN PANTOMIME SHOULD SING THE NEW AND IDEAL SONG

THE WOOING WALTZ

By H. Lane Wilson
(Composer of the Waltz-songs, "CARMENA" and "LOVE'S STAR").

BAND PARTS ONE SHILLING.
KEYS—A flat, (Compass B flat to E flat), B flat, (C to F), C, (D to G).

REEDER & WALSH, 14, CASTLE ST., OXFORD STREET, W.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction,
MEAN SUCCESS.

MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.

The well-known establishment of *THE Hana STUDIOS, Ltd.,* place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.

WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.

We gladly answer any enquiries.

THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

The Real Pantomime Winner

THERE IS NO ARGUMENT. THIS WILL BE THE HIT OF THE YEAR.

WHY DO YOU WAIT FOR TO-MORROW?

All those other worn-out and worked-to-death Ballads advertised by other Publishers sound like Comic Songs when you hear the one REAL HIT.

WHY DO YOU WAIT FOR TO-MORROW?

And we have a Bundle of other Hits to suit BOY, GIRL, DAME, &c. 'NUFF SAID. Come and Hear them, or write at once.

Professional Copy of the above Song, together with our other Successes, will be sent only to Artistes holding Pantomime Engagements, on receipt of Sixpence for postage. State Theatre and Pantomime.

THE NATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.,
132, Charing Cross Road, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone—5051 Gerrard. Telegrams—"Vicmonks," London.

NOTA BENE.

A Sure Success is
"MY MOON"
(Chorus Ballad for Pantomime).
By H. G. PÉLISSIER,
The 'Chief" of "The Follies."

Keys—D Compass (C to D), E Flat, E, and F.
"Pro." Copies 6d. each (with card).
Band Parts in key of F
(in the press).
Arranged by H. Lucas.
1/6 each set (post free).

Dept. 6, JOSEPH WILLIAMS (Ltd.),
32, Great Portland Street, London, W.

CALLS FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S "ROBINSON CRUSOE," ABERDEEN,
Rehearsals Dec. 5th, 10 a.m.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" (A), LONDON,
Rehearsals Dec. 19, 10 a.m.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" (B), LEAMINGTON,
Rehearsals Dec. 19, 10 a.m.

"CINDERELLA," OLDHAM,
Rehearsals, Dec. 12, 10 a.m.

ALL ARTISTS, TROUPES, CHORUS, &c.,
Send at once their addresses to
E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
The Principal Ladies and Gentlemen engaged for the Pantomime will please note that Rehearsals start on Monday, Dec. 5, at 12 o'clock. No excuses.—RICH. WALDON.

CALLS FOR PANTOMIME.
Wanted, all ARTISTS, CHORUS LADIES, and GENTS, in fact EVERYONE ENGAGED by J. F. ELLISTON for the Coming Pantomime Season, to at once communicate to THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.

CALL for Miss Edith St. Clare's Pantomime "Aladdin." Will the ladies and gentlemen engaged please assemble at the Hippodrome, Paisley, Monday, Nov. 28, at 10 a.m. prompt No excuses. WALTER B. MCMILLAN.

To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
HANDSOME ILLUMINATED METAL TABLETS
of
"THE ERA."
PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTO. Printing.
We still lead for Pictorials or Letterpress.
See Catalogues.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom

Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.

NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

PRINTING.

CHEAPEST THEATRICAL PRINTERS
Daybills, 6-Sheets, Memos, Roll Tickets,
Send for Useful Price List. It will pay you,
MEAD & SON, *Room 10,* **SANDY, Beds.**

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOURNEMOUTH.
BOSCOMBE BEACH.

TENDERS ARE INVITED FROM

CONCERT PARTIES

and others for the right to GIVE ENTERTAINMENTS upon the beach at Boscombe, west of the Pier, during the summer season of 1911.
Further particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned, to whom tenders endorsed "Tender for Beach Concert Party, Boscombe," should be sent on or before Dec. 17 next.
GEO. WM. BAILEY, Town Clerk.
Municipal Offices, Bournemouth, Nov. 11, 1910.

THEATRICAL LADIES' CLUB,
3, ST. JOHN'S-PARADE,
(End of St. John-street), MANCHESTER.
Fee for Members, 6d. per annum.
Bright, comfortable rest and refreshment rooms for members of the Stage, where "The Era," &c., are taken.

Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.

TO LET.

From 25th March, 1911, on Lease for a term of 7, 14, or 21 years.

The THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON, is one of the oldest-established and most popular Theatres in the South of England.

Applications to be addressed to the Managing Director, Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd., 130, North Street, Brighton, Sussex.

NOW IN PREPARATION.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

COUNTY OF LONDON.
To Showmen and Others.
Roundabouts, Shows, &c., at Open Spaces.

WANTED, Known, the London County Council invites Tenders for the Privilege of Placing, or Letting on Hire, Roundabouts, Shows, Cocoanut Shies, Swings, Ponies, Asses, and Refreshment Tents at Blackheath, Hampstead Heath, and Wormwood Scrubs, at Bank Holiday times during 1911.

Tenders must be upon official forms, which, together with full particulars of the conditions to be observed, may be obtained by forwarding a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to the Chief Officer of the Parks Department, No. 11, Regent-street, S.W. No tender received after 11 a.m. on Jan. 1, 1911, will be considered.

G. L. GOMME,
Clerk of the London County Council.
County Hall, Spring Gardens,
London, S.W.
Nov. 15, 1910.

WANTED, Man, used to Show Business, to describe Freaks and Novelties, Fit-up Illusions, arrange Wax Tableaux. A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheaper to buy than hire, Pathé and leading makers, used few weeks, as new, 3d. foot. Lists free. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell,
Wax Model Heads.
STIFF, Makers,
18, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, a Suffolk Giant Horse, 19 hands 2in., ton in weight; also Camel Hump Pony, hump 1ft. in height; also Tent Poles complete. H. FOSSETT, JUN., Goose-street, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Expiry of Lease.
WANTED, to Sell, Canadian Toboggan. Only one of its kind in this country. Erected 1908 where it now stands, in full working order on the Pleasure Beach, South Shore, Blackpool. All complete with special escalator, 2 20-h.p. motors, centre and side chains, cars, and chairs.
Cheap for quick purchaser.
Want offers to
L. ASPINALL,
8, St. Chad's-terrace, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Fishpond, good condition, complete, ready to open, bargain for quick sale. MAXIM, General Post Office, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, good Shuttered Boxing Booth, lamps and paintings, front 25ft., length 40ft., suit Picture Show. Ross, 22, Geneva-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Invisible Fortunes, for Gipsy Queens, long readings and different palms, 11s. 6d. 1,000, £5 for 10,000. LESTER Co., 9, Deburgh-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Details and Prices of any Description of Side-shows for South Africa. BUTTERWORTH, Whissendine Oakham.

EXHIBITION, BRISTOL.

WANTED, to Let,
Wanted, to Let,
Five Vacant Spaces
in High-class Exhibition at Clifton, Bristol.
Dec. 15 to 24, 1910.
For terms and particulars, apply,
MANAGER,
Exhibition Offices,
The Barton, Bristol.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c., or will share. Address, MIRRORS, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Mons. Beaute, the Fasting Man, to kindly communicate with Dr. H. Vallus, 18, Long-row, Nottingham. I have something in Nottingham will just suit him. VALLUS.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Resident-Manager (combine floor if possible), for Skating Rink, under Principal, small town, south; must be a live worker, courteous, and study principal's interest thoroughly. Write full details, age, experience, if married, whether skater, and salary expected, to Box 8,539, "The Era" Office.
Skate Mechanic also write.

WANTED, by Floor Manager or Instructor, Engagement, anywhere, well educated, excellent Skater; best references. Apply G. R. L. R., c/o STOCKLEY, South-parade, Oxford.

RINK.
WANTED, to Sell, Large Modern and Up-to-date Skating Rink, Midlands, cost £5,000; can be had, cheap.
Write, first instance,
RINK, Box 8,536, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Skating Rink, South Wales, as going concern, only one in town or district, population of 45,000, full set of skates, fixtures, fittings, all in good order, splendid opening. Box 8,507, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, 600 pair Winslow or Richardson Skates; must be good condition. State lowest price for cash. Box 8,537, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Skating Rink, only one in town, doing good business, rent low, complete, including skates. Box 8,528, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Skates, must be in thorough good order. Write details as to make and sizes, &c., stating lowest price for cash, and where to be seen, to Box 8,538, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings commencing Nov., must be in large towns.
Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,953, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell,
MR. STANLEY TRAVERS
is instructed to Sell the Entire Pantomime, "DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT," as produced last Christmas at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, London.
The Pantomime consists of eleven Scenes and all necessary Scenery, Costumes, Dresses, and Effects.
Stored at Brixton, S.W. Orders to view, and particulars can be obtained on application to
Mr. STANLEY TRAVERS,
21, St. Luke's-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Royalty, two up-to-date Dramas, with printing, and, if required, scenery and dates can be arranged, splendid plants of printing. Good reasons given for disposing. Further particulars from Box 8,530, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Monologues, Duologues, Sketches, Musical Plays, Comedies, Artists' own ideas embellished, Tragedy, Comedy, History, Pastoral. STAPENHILL-BIRD, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, Farcical and Musical Sketches; Music and Band Parts complete. EDWARD MERVYN, 11, The Grove, Hammersmith.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Films, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Accessories. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

WANTED, Quotations for complete Outfit, 3,000 Non-Flam Films, certainty or percentage; excellent position, large city. DIRECTOR, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

To Cinematograph Proprietors.
WANTED, to Sell, four nearly new Pathé Projector Machines and 4 Dreadnought Projector Machines, in perfect condition.
Can be seen any time by appointment.
Address SECRETARY,
London and Provincial Electric Theatres,
29A, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, almost new.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell, magnificent Dresses, for two complete Pantomimes; a bargain (having decided not to produce myself this year). Suit almost any subject, can be seen by appointment with CLARENCE SOUNES, New Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, to Sell, Sensational and New Stage Illusions, and Apparatus, large selection. Von Etta please write, 212, Kennington-rd., London.

WANTED, to Sell, 40 pairs of Union Skates, in excellent condition, £5 gets them; Tricar, De Dion engines, excellent condition; 200 Al Fresco Chairs. WELLS, Pavilion, Cleveleys.

WANTED, to Sell, Turnstiles, iron, registering, little used, tip-up seats, penny slot, closet locks, chairs, whist tables. FRISCO, Shepperton, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, large quantity of good Upholstered Tip-up Seats, also Pit Seating. GATES, 2, Milo-road, Dulwich Rise, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 2 Hampers, 1 American Trunk, and other Travelling Cases. MYERS, 55, New-street, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, set of Tubular Bells, plated, folding stand, splendid tone; bargain, £3 10s. CONDUCTOR, 26, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, for Bands, Orchestras, or Stage. Loudest ever heard. Any style. LISLE, 33, Camberwell New-road.

MUSIC HALL.
WANTED, to Sell, Modern Music Hall (Midlands). Advertiser can purchase same at a most favourable price, owing to exceptionable circumstances. Principals or solicitors only write. HALL, Box 8,534, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell as a Going Concern, a Picture Palace and Skating Rink, permanently built and thoroughly up to date, no other place of amusement within eighteen miles, population of immediate neighbourhood about 6,000. Willing to invest part of purchase-money.
Address,
Box 8,512, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Portrait of Late Sir Henry Irving, 36 by 27, signed.
Wanted, offers.
KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, to Sell, twelve Monkeys, two Lemurs, Raven, two Golden Pheasants, Pigeons, &c., cheap. Terms, apply.
KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Production, also Comedy, with Bookings. State particulars, letters only (must be suitable for lady star), G. WEIL, 151, Strand, London.

WANTED, to Buy, Palace Scene, also Cloths for repainting, 18ft. by 24ft. Particulars, price to PANTOMIME, Oddfellows Hall, Neyland, Pembrokeshire.

WANTED, to Buy Scenery; must be in first-class condition; wings (18 by 6), flats, borders, useful cloths. Address, RALEIGH, Rosewyn House, School Hill, Falmouth.

WANTED, old English Street Back Cloth, size 27ft. by 18ft., must be in good condition, and cheap. Particulars to Cox, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, to Buy, Fat Policeman's Dress, must be in thorough condition. State lowest price and where can be seen. DIRECTEUR, Grand Skating, Rouennais, Rouen.

WANTED, a few Old London Dresses, for Pantomime.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD,
15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, a First-class Orchestrion, suitable for large Roller Rink, must be modern, powerful, and in first-class condition throughout. Particulars, with lowest price, &c., to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, to Buy,
Concertinas (treble),
Baritone and Bass.
Full particulars.
Address, DURHAM,
Poste Restante, Louvain, Belgium.

WANTED, to Buy, 200 Tip-up Seats, also Engine and Dynamo, capable of showing pictures and lighting 4 arcs, also heating apparatus. J. WELLS, Pavilion, Cleveleys.

WANTED, about 200 Cane Chairs, must be cheap for cash. C., 3, Sydney-villas, Fifth Cross-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, to Buy, two Second-hand Travelling Baskets.
NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

WANTED, Skates, must be in thorough good order. Write details as to make and sizes, &c., stating lowest price for cash, and where to be seen, to Box 8,538 "The Era" Office.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, Fountains for Provincial Pantomime. ABRAHAMS,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

VENTRILOQUISM.
WANTED, Small Knee Figure. Lowest terms, &c.,
HUNN,
Paradise Cottage, Soames-lane, Ropley, Hants.

Pushball
WANTED.—Full particulars and lowest price to EDWARD KIDD, 4, George-street, Limerick.

WANTED, a Revolving Table, for Horse or Pony.
Apply, G. CLOWES, 84, Victoria-rd., New Brighton.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.
WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary,

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Nov. and onwards, Hycullah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms, suitable for Rehearsals, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Cinema Palace, Gauden-road, Clapham.

Blue-Eyed Maid, 173, High-street, Boro'.
WANTED, to Let, a Large, Spacious Room, for Rehearsals, with piano. Terms moderate Apply, HARRY NATION.

WANTED, to Let,
Scenic Artist's Studio,
also
spacious, well-lighted, large, dry premises, for storage of Scenery, Furniture, Properties, &c. For particulars, apply, Royal Court Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, to be Let, for Picture Palace, a Fine Hall, about 100ft. by 30ft., in very thickly populated suburb of a large West of England town.
Capital required, not less than £700.
Send letters to Box 8,506, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Darwell-street Rink, Walsall, fully equipped, licensed for music and cinematograph, splendid position, suitable for circus or any form of amusement.
Apply,
SECRETARY, Birch-street Rink, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Selection of latest Topical Films. List on application to HOLLAND, Theatre, Horwich, Lancashire.

WANTED, to Rent,
Theatre or Hall,
in prominent populous position, suitable Cinematograph.
H., c/o GORING, 72, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Large Hall will be to Let March 24, 1911.
Suit Pictures, other entertainments.
Particulars, Box 8,520, "The Era."

WANTED, on Lease or Rental, Large Theatres or Halls, in populous districts.
Full particulars, in confidence, to Box 8,531, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, or Sell, Strong Domestic Drama, Printing, Music, &c. Fullest particulars given. Short cast. Box 8,524, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, splendid new Domestic Drama, strong, thrilling situations, big leading parts; low royalty. Box 8,526, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, New Domestic Crime-mystery Drama, four acts, seven scenes. Sure mover, right out of the rut. Only wants reading. Box 8,523, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall (London). State particulars. Letters only.
G. WEIL, 151, Strand, London.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Gentleman, to undertake the business management of Panto., booked twelve weeks' tour in No. 2 towns, must invest £150, and take half share of profits,
Address, Box 8,503, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, with £150, for big Music Hall Production; already played with enormous success; one who can influence bookings would be an advantage; every enquiry courted.
Box 8,504, "The Era."

WANTED, a Partner,
sleeping or otherwise,
with £700 or £800,
to join in a Picture Show.
Certain to pay 25%.
Send letters to Box 8,505, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, who will invest £50 in Pantomime Tour. Amateur not objected to. Duties taught. For particulars, address PANTOMIME, Oddfellows' Hall, Neyland, Pembrokeshire, South Wales.

WANTED, Gentleman, as Sleeping or Active Partner, to invest £500 in a Novelty, to Tour Fairs, Exhibitions, &c., nothing like it previously put before the public; absolutely genuine.
Provisional patent already taken out.
H. A., 12, Swinburne-street, Hull.

WANTED, by Advertiser, Active Partnership with Picture Palace Company, one operating in South preferred. Coms. first instance, Box 8,510, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, with some capital, wishes to join another in Picture Hall. Box 8,519, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, to Sing in Novel Speciality; protected; must have good voice. Exceptional opportunity for talented artist. Half-share £50.
Address, Box 8,540, "The Era."

WANTED, a Partnership in a really good Sketch or Duologue. Advertiser an actress, tall, slight. Box 8,521, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, to join Gilbert, Strong Man Act, Lady preferred.
8, Oxford-road, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, real good Comedy Man, to assist in "Ruins of Rome" (Dumb Act). Full particulars, FLORIA, 56, Fletton-avenue, Peterborough.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2,621 Central.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry.
Estimates for Storage given on application.
Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 8s., 1000 for 16s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING Co., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Quick Printing, 100 Memos, 1s. 6d.; 50 Cards, 6d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 5s. 6d.; post free. ROCKINGHAM PRINTING WORKS, 15, Rockingham-st., Elephant and Castle, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Palatine Printing Co., Wigan, are the cheapest printers on earth or elsewhere. Customers exclaim "Marvellous!"

TYPEWRITING.

WANTED, Known, Plays, Actors' Parts, Authors' MSS. intelligently copied at moderate prices. MAIBEN, 23, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Gerald Delauney-Fozier, for High-class Orchestrations, Composing, Transposing, Harmonising, Arranging from 5s. Address, 47B, Buckingham Palace-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring the Most Handsome, Durable, and Economical Floor Coverings in the World should get samples of "Monarch" Mattings from JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Makers, also, of Special Gymnasium, Wrestling, Circus, and other Mats and Mattresses.

WANTED, Known, unless the Scenery left by Geoffrey Huntley, of "From Scotland Yard" Co., at the Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, is removed within fourteen days, and all charges on same paid, the Scenery will be sold without further notice. MORTON POWELL.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Will Charles Wittington, of the Wittington Trio, communicate immediately with Messrs. Amery, Parkes, Macklin, and Co., 18, Fleet-street, E.C., when he will hear of something to his advantage.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

FOR SALE,
THEATRE
in Manufacturing Town.
Holding capacity about 2,000.
VERY MODERATE PRICE.
Principals or their solicitors only.
Address, Box 8,508, "The Era."

THEATRE SITE.
EXCELLENT FREEHOLD THEATRE SITE FOR SALE.
having a frontage to Commercial-road East of about 116ft., also frontages to three side streets, and covering an area of about 32,000ft.
For further particulars and plan apply
BRADSHAW, BROWN & CO.,
BILLITER-SQUARE BUILDINGS, E.C.
Tel., Avenue 144.

THE MATLOCK BATH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ARE PREPARED TO ENGAGE
A BAND
(10 to 12 PERFORMERS),
TO PLAY
in the PLEASURE GROUNDS, MATLOCK BATH, from June 25, 1911, to Sept. 9, 1911.
For further particulars, apply
H. W. P. CARTER,
Council Chambers, Matlock Bath.

TO CONCERT PARTIES.
SHOREFIELD GARDENS, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA
The Directors INVITE offers to give
HIGH CLASS ENTERTAINMENTS
during
SUMMER SEASON, 1911.
The rental will include the use of Stage, Electric Light Fittings, Plant, and Seating Accommodation for about 1,200.
Tenders must reach the Managing Director on or before December 5th.

Being desirous of retiring from business,
HARRIS FINEBERG, Sole Owner of the
STAR THEATRE, Liverpool,
is prepared
TO SELL
this well-known successful and valuable Theatre and property as a going concern.
If required, a large part of the purchase money can remain on first mortgage at an easy rate.
Only Principals dealt with personally.
For all particulars apply,
HARRIS FINEBERG, STAR T., LIVERPOOL.

EDINBURGH.
ALL suitable for CINEMATOGRAPH
FOR SALE,
under a Mortgage, in DOWELL'S ROOMS, 18, GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH, on WEDNESDAY, Nov. 30th, at 2 p.m.
Large hall, with gallery, and large room below; three ante-rooms and ample cloakroom and lavatory accommodation; front and back entrance. The hall is on the main thoroughfare through the northern district of the city, which is a populous one, and there are no competing places of entertainment.
No feu duty. Present rent, £200.
Reserve Price - - - £1,700.
Further particulars from N. B. CONSTABLE & CO. W.S., 2, Hill-street, Edinburgh.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTRIX OF THE LATE HENRY DIXON, ESQ., RICHMOND.
To Club Proprietors, Cinematograph Companies, and Others.
Messrs. BREADMORE and WEBB,
WILL SELL BY AUCTION
at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on WEDNESDAY, November 23, 1910, at 3 o'clock precisely, in one Lot, the Highly Important Property, known as
FREEMASON'S BUILDINGS, RICHMOND,
situate about 200yds. from the railway stations. The premises comprise
Excellent Club Accommodation, a fine Public Hall, Another Large Public Room a Prominent Corner Shop, and set of Offices.
The Shop is let on Lease, but the remainder is in hand. Leases about 86 years unexpired; total ground rent £95 per annum.
Particulars and Conditions of the Auctioneers, 64, Sheen-road, Richmond; and Railway Station, Kew Gardens.

INDISPENSABLE!
RAYNE'S
POCKET
DATE BOOK
Price ONE SHILLING.
Five Shillings' worth of information for One Shilling. Purchasers of this work will not only be making a good investment, but will be also adding to the funds of two deserving charities. The above work, got up in a convenient size for the waistcoat pocket, should be in the possession of every Actor, every Music Hall Artist, and every Entertainer, in fact everybody concerned in the Amusement World.

CONTENTS.
Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.
All About Artists' Luggage.
List of Clubs.
All About Stamping Contracts.
Foreign Money Table.
London Music Halls and Theatres with their Telephone Numbers.
Provincial Theatres and Halls.
List of Brougham Proprietors.
List of Photographers.
Size of Theatrical Printing Paper.
Names and Addresses of Theatrical Railway Managers, and other useful information.

RAYNE'S
POCKET
DATE BOOK
will be sold at ONE SHILLING, post free.
The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the Dramatic and Musical Professions, THE
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
AND THE
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.
Send 12 Stamps to the Publisher.
'THE ERA BUILDINGS,"
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, W.C.
'Phones: 4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic Address: "The Era," London.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder), Star Lead.
Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor, Laurence Irving's Co.
Future offers invited. Garrick Theatre, London.

MR. WILL SMITH,
Disengaged now and Xmas. Comedy, Character, or Management. 21, Saltoun-rd., Brixton.

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON
(Miss Evelyn Robson). Arrangements complete. 191, Western-road, Brighton

MR. CHARLES STIRLING.
Offers invited, Leading and Heavy Business.
53, Lanark-villas, Maida Vale, W.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN,
Mr. Tom H. Taylor's Company.
Aston Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (seventeenth year).
Royalty Theatre and Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY-GOFTON,
Disengaged.
Address, 206, High-road, Ilford. 'Phone 738.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Pantomime,
Prince's Theatre, Bradford, Yorks.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD F. SYMONS
(Miss Eva Moss), R. F. S., Lyceum, W.C.
E. M., Lead, Standard Theatre, Johannesburg.

MR. A. B. TAPPING,
At Liberty, Parts or Management.
28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Starring, "Passing Third Floor Back."
Theatre Royal, Grantham.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR,
Business-Manager,
"The Village Blacksmith" Co. T. R., Leicester.

MR. EDWARD THANE,
Heavy Lead.
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS.
(Miss Agnes Knight). Pope Pius XI. and Elena, "The Eternal Question." Broadway Theatre, New Cross. At Lib. Dec. 10.
7, Grafton-square, Clapham.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON, Light Comedy, Disengaged, conclusion of Tour with Lionel Rignold's Co. Bridgen, Bexley, Kent.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Lord Erskine, "The Bad Girl of the Family."
Aldwych Theatre, W.C. Disengaged shortly.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL.
Disengaged. To-night, Tyne T., Newcastle.
Nov. 27, 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD.
Change of Address.
Park Royal, Lancaster Gate, W.

MR. and MRS. A. W. TYRER
Artist and Painted Lady, "Passing of Third Floor Back," Matheson Lang Tour. Australia.

MR. CHARLES VANE,
Miss Ethel Irving's Company.
Nov. 28, Marlborough Theatre, Holloway.

MR. E. VASSALL-VAUGHAN.
Lyceum Theatre;
or, 28, Burstock-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. CHARLES B. VAUGHAN,
Engaged by Mr. Hawtrey.
Prince of Wales' Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. HERBERT VERE
(Kate Walfred). This, Alexandra, Hull; next, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON,
Representing Mr. Edward Terry in London during his Autumn Tour. Terry's Theatre, Strand.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Disengaged.
133, Lavender-sweep, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont), D. V., Regent, Salford.
L. B., T. R., Aldershot. Dis. Dec. 5.

MR. ALBERT WARD.
"A Noble Revenge," by A. W.
Olympia, Shoreditch.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Principal Comedian, Chambhuddy Ram,
"Cingalee" Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-rd., Norwich.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE.
Disengaged in December.
Cambridge.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.
'Phone 3781 Central. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER,
Engaged by Stanley Cooke, Esq., The Figure and Jan. Strand Theatre, W.C.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
Next two weeks,
173, Moorland-road, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. CHARLES WEMYSS,
at Liberty shortly, Character and Aristocratic Old Men. This week, Elephant and Castle.

MR. HAROLD WEST,
Disengaged.
19, Mornington-avenue, Kensington, W.

MR. BERESFORD WHITCOMB,
Managers' Club, or
236, Scott Ellis-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. C. A. WHITE,
at Liberty, also Christmas, Character, Comedy, or Stage-Man. 1, Harewood-road, Merton.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General Manager,
Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING
(Miss Violet Ley). "Naked Truth" Tour.
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. ANDREW WIGHT,
"Brewster's Millions."
Nov. 28, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. ERIC W. WILLIAMS,
Harrington's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co.
Prince's T., Accrington; next, Britannia T., Hoxton.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS.
Principal Comedian,
Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Leading Business.
Offers to "The Bioscope," Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
"The Broken Melody" Tour.
28th, O. H., Scarborough.

MR. JOHN WILMER,
At liberty for Management.
Only address, 43, West End-lane, N.W.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD WINSLOW
(Miss Evelyn Shaw). R. W., Stage-Manager, The London Hippodrome.

MR. HENRY WOLSTON,
Lead,
52, Parliament-hill, N.W.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD,
Disengaged, Dec. 4, Pantomime, or otherwise. Grand T., Oldham ("Sign of the Cross").

MR. RAYMOND WOOD,
Heavy Lead.
T. R., Woolwich (special week).

MR. FRANK WOOLFE, with Mr. Lewis Waller, on Tour.
Nov. 28, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
The F. R. Benson (North) Co.
Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

MR. CECIL MORTON YORK,
Lord Stanley, "Richard III."
London Coliseum.

MR. SIDNEY YOUNG.
Address,
132, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE LUSSANNE,
Child Lead, as Jessie, The Little Mother, "The Fatal Wedding." Alexandra T., Birmingh'm.

MASTER WALTER NEVILLE, Starring with H. Doughty, Esq., Bobbie in "Cousin Kate." This week, Opera House, Cork.

LITTLE MISS BELLA TERRY,
Principal Girl, "Blue Bird" Co.
Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

ENTERTAINERS.

MISS CARRIE FRASER, Accompaniste,
Society Entertainer, Ladies' Orchestra, for Dances, Receptions, &c. 210, Edgware-road, W.

THE GAY GONDOLIERS.
Smartest and Brightest of all Concert Parties.
Now Booking Easter and Summer Tour, 1911. GEO. ROBINS, Woodbine, Salisbury-road, Wimbledon.

MISS CISSIE HARCOURT, Mezzo. and Soubrette, "Follies," India, Japan and China Tour. 47, Canterbury-road, Brixton, S.W.

MAIE HOEY,
Murray, King, and Clark Panto. Co.
Vacant Spring. Address, c/o "The Era."

WILSON JAMES, Humorist.
Proprietor of the Well-known Vaudeville Companies, The Gaieties and The Enterpeans.
Address, 108, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead, N.W.
Telephone, 1222 P.O., Hampstead.

MISS CORA MARRIOTT, Humorous and Dramatic Recitals, Irish Monologues, &c. At Homes, Concerts, &c. Lynbrooke, Urmston, Manchester.

WILKIE, the Human Marionette.
Impersonations. Write for booklet.
11, Sotheby-road, Highbury. 'Phone 4747 City.

44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911

Advertisements
should be forwarded at once to the Office,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, Feb. 2, 1910.

Once more "The Era" Annual justifies its claim to a place which is unique in the theatrical literature of the year. It contains a record of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres and in the provinces during the twelve months ending Nov. 30 last, arranged in two lists, one according to the theatres and the other alphabetically according to titles. Then another carefully compiled section gives the casts concerned in these productions. The principal sketches put on at the London and provincial variety houses are treated in the same thorough-going manner, and lists of the plays produced in Paris, Berlin, and New York complete a remarkably comprehensive survey of the doings of the theatrical year. It will be clearly seen, therefore, that to the "profession," the student, and the theatrical enthusiast "The Era" Annual is indispensable. But the casual reader is also skilfully catered for in the series of articles and stories contributed by many favourites of the stage, including Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley. No conscientious theatre-goer can do without his "Era" Annual.

EVENING NEWS, Feb. 9, 1910.

"The Era" Annual, issued at a shilling, has been complied with care and is replete with interest for all concerned in the personalities and the events of stageland. In addition to the diaries of theatrical productions, there are short stories and reminiscences by well-known actors and actresses. This section is led by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who raises again the disputed site of the old Globe playhouse. The latter part of the book deals with the deaths of the year, with excellent photographs of the artists who have passed away.

SUNDAY TIMES, Jan. 23, 1910.

"The Era" Annual (1s.) continues to swell in bulk. In addition to the dramatic and musical calendar, are alphabetical lists and full casts of the new plays and important revivals produced in London, New York, Paris, and Berlin, and of new sketches in London and the provinces, there is a series of stories by well-known members of the profession with portraits and autographs of the authors. Sir Herbert Tree answers the question, "Where was the old Globe Playhouse?" and other contributors include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. John Le Hay, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Will Clarkson, Miss Louie Freear, and Miss Vesta Tilley.

YORKSHIRE POST, Feb. 2, 1910.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual (*The Era* Office, 1s.) as usual contains stories and short articles by many well-known people of the stage, in addition to a list of London and provincial productions in 1909, and many other items of interest to the theatrical world.

REFEREE, Jan. 30 1910.

About this time of year players and playgoers alike begin to look for the works of theatrical reference to which they are accustomed. Again we welcome that old-established useful shillingsworth, "The Era" Annual, or "Almanac" as it was wont to be called. As of yore, "The Era" Annual contains articles, anecdotes, and pictures galore, Sir Herbert Tree (with portrait) leading off with that new Shakespearean conundrum, "Where was the Old Globe Playhouse?" Among other well-known people contributing are Messrs. Fred Terry, Willie Clarkson, Rutland Barrington, J. H. Barnes, John Le Hay, Harry Nicholls, John Lawson, Charles Collette, Arthur Williams, Alfred Lester, Dan Rolyat, and Henry Neville. The lady story-tellers include Louie Freear, Vesta Tilley, and Miss Edith Cole. The lists of new plays in London and the provinces, Paris, New York, and Berlin, and the catalogue of new sketches (with casts thereof) are admirably compiled.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. J. S. Jackson's Amateur Opera Company occupy the boards of His Majesty's Theatre this week, and right worthily maintain the traditions of the place. The opera produced is *The Emerald Isle*, that composite production which represented the last of Sir Arthur Sullivan's operatic work, and which his premature death left in an unfinished state.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.—"George I.," the entertaining and marvellously human-like chimpanzee, is the star attraction at the Palace this week. Frank Fenton is seen to great advantage as David Garrick in a sketch founded on a French original; Frank Seeley is a humorous entertainer; Harry Cotton sings and acts well; Ryan and Hall are skilful acrobats and wrestlers; Alice Blandford sings charmingly; Athas and Collins are highly original entertainers; Phil Percival is a gifted pianist; and Danvers and Rosslyn give a bright display in *A Pantomime Boy*.

THE TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Messrs. Jordan and Harvey present a highly entertaining Hebrew character sketch; Lennie and Hast produce a romantic musical idyll; Jack Dewson is a pianist of power and ability; Edgard Forrest and company, in a sketch entitled *My Friend the Enemy*, command warm appreciation; Little Sophie is an excellent impersonator; Daisy Morell sings well and acts effectively; the Three Kels are gymnasts of ability; Truro and Bruce are versatile in the sketch, *The Very Extraordinary Turn*; and Miss Meg Mazel proves herself to be a true Australasian comedienne.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Charles Harrington's capital company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is proving a big attraction here this week. Mr. J. H. Boehm played the part of Uncle Tom in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Charles Harrington as Phineas Fletcher acquits himself creditably; and Mr. Frank Lynn is effective as Mr. St. Clair. Mr. Eric Williams submits a capable impersonation of George Harris; Mr. Tom Bowron gives a powerful portrayal of Legree; and Mr. Reginald Kloof makes a mirth-provoking Marks. Miss Sylvia Harrington submits a charming interpretation of Eliza Harris; Miss Hettie Johnson plays with dramatic force as Cassy; and Miss Ethel Vernon is all that could be desired as Aunt Ophelia. Miss Annie Watson is successful as Topsy; Miss May Turner makes the most of her opportunities as Mrs. St. Clair; and Miss J. Green is commendable as Aunt Chloe. As Little Eva Miss Norah Bretton displays ability and acts with delightful grace and charm. Excellent specialities are introduced in the plantation scene.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Accrington Hippodrome Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—Palles and Cussick, knockabout comedians, please immensely in their boxing act; the D'Vorak Family, comedy acrobats and equilibrists, have a gratifying reception; Miss Lilian Lowe contributes two ballads delightfully; the Four Sisters Gilby, in their clever musical act, meet with approbation; Walter Stanley, comedian, scores a big success; and Billy Rhodes proves himself a capital character comedian. The Two Brothers, depicted by the Bioscope, is entertaining.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—A hearty reception has been given to Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Merry Widow*, which is splendidly dressed and effectively staged. Miss Mary Ridley is graceful and fascinating in manner as Sonia, and quite captivates her audience; Mr. J. Warren Foster gives a manly conception of Prince Danilo, and is a rare favourite. Mr. Edward D'Arcy's grotesque make-up and comedy as the Baron are provocative of considerable fun; Mr. Ripley Evans, besides a talented enactment of Jolidon, uses a voice of remarkable clearness in many vocal numbers. As Nisch Mr. Fred Fowler is excruciatingly funny, and Miss Katie May is a smart Frou-Frou. Miss May and Mr. Fowler are recipients of hearty applause for their Apache dance. Miss Ada Thomas is excellent as Natalie.

ASHINGTON.—MINERS' THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. C. Browne.—Mr. Charles Draycott's Répertoire Company opened on Monday with *The Heart of a Hero*, which was done full justice to, the mounting and acting being everything that could be desired. Mr. Draycott repeated his fine performance of Jem Resdale; Mrs. Charles Draycott as the erring sister, Nell Resdale, gave a capital impersonation of the part, her excellent elocution adding much to the success of the assumption. They were well supported by a talented company. *The Octoroon*, *Colleen Bawn*, *A Modern Adventuress*, *Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and *The Shadows of a Great City* are also in the week's bill.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Percy Williams is touring the well-known American melodrama *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery sustains the rôle of Howard Wilson with ability; Miss Ethel Kay as Mabel Wilson acts with quiet power; Jessie, the little mother, is played by the particularly gifted Little Lussanne; Mr. Royce Milton as Curtis is prominent in the plot; and also Messrs. Sam Springson as a French butler, Mr. Cyril Melton as Shwartz, a janitor, and Mr. J. Newton as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford. Miss Leah Marlborough is a sufficiently bold and unprincipled adventuress; and Miss Marie Harcourt is good as Bridget.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Burslem.—The leading item of a good variety programme is Hayman and Franklin's players, who appear in a dramatic sketch entitled *Toplitsky; or, the End of the World*. The others turns of a full programme are Clifford Stuart, Lancashire versatile comedian; the Haytors (Frank, Walter, and Minnie), who frivol in frivolous frivolities; the inimitable humorist, Edwin Garth; the Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters; the Five M.P.'s, musical experts; the Codys, the world's lariat-throwers; and Mr. Geo. French's troupe of trick cyclists.

BARNSLEY.—EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Kenyon.—An excellent bill is headed by Madge Grey, who is heartily encored; the Two Lees, comedy instrumentalists, are a clever turn; David Fuller quickly makes himself a favourite; Della Ray renders an attractive number; a good tumbling duo are Burley and Green; and two excellent pictures are shown on the Bioscope, entitled From Forest to Fireside, and Redwing's Love Story.

PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietors, the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of Barnsley; Lessees, the Royal York Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. G. Johnson.—A capital programme is here this week, interspersed with a good selection of films.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—This week the Barnstaple Picturedrome Company, under the direction of Messrs. Lionel Prichard and Francis A. Osborne, have put on an entirely fresh programme, which includes Frank Stanert in a musical speciality and comedy entertainment, and Miss Elsie Gorton in illustrated songs. The Bioscope introduces several mirth-provoking pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Barnstaple Town Council; Manager Mr. O. J. Kicklin.—Joseph Poole's Myriorama was here for the first three nights this week, all the turns receiving generous approval. The programme included Mr. Herbert G. Berry, a gifted cicerone and vocalist; little Francesca, transformation dancer; Johnny O'Rourke, a comical tourist; the Bros. Graham, comedy acrobats and hand balancers; the Misses Eileen and May in a novel musical and dancing speciality; Wun-hi-lung in Mongolian mysteries; Bert Danson, comedian; the Victas, acrobatic barrel jumpers; Miss Fredrica's terriers and cake-walk pony; and the Four Wartanas in a novel and clever juggling speciality. The entertainment was interspersed by popular items on the Bioscope.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Forbes Knowles and Harry Masterman's company, in *Nick Carter*, is here. The former gives a capital performance as the hero, and Miss Helena Walbran shows skill and ability as Madeline. Little Hilda Tokes is a pleasing Cyril, and Mr. Raymond Thomas is a capable Eustace Lee.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*The Face at the Window* is here. Mr. F. W. Dunscombe is excellent as Paul Goufett, and Mr. W. Haughton McCauley is very clever as "Le Loup." Miss Constance Glenabyn is a charming Marie Brisson, and Henry Brisson is well enacted by Mr. James Weston, and Miss Frances Day and Mr. John A. Stimson provide much humour.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Signor R. Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Wood.—The Ovolos are in the premier position, and their remarkably clever tumbling evokes loud approbation; Sidney Brandon gives clever impersonations of the Tramp and Mathias; Harrigan and Holt are much enjoyed; Sterling and Love sing and play agreeably and humorously; Norah Desmond is entertaining in some illustrated vocal numbers; Josie Delaine is very pleasing in songs and dances; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. and Mrs. C. Routledge.—Fred Newman's picture and variety company is drawing good houses.

BARRY DOCK.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Walter Smyley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Dure.—Mr. Robert Macdonald presents *The Gay Gordons* here this week. Mr. Alec. S. Clunes is seen to advantage as Angus Graeme; Mr. Harry Howe infuses much humour into the part of Nervy Nat; while Mr. W. H. Desmond is quaint as Edmund Siddons; Mr. Chas. Benson makes a typical American millionaire; the dancing of Mr. Alfred J. Gale (McPhrisky) is applauded; Miss May Yates is a piquant Peggy Quainton; a success is scored by Miss Cherry Hamilton in her droll impersonation of Charlotte Siddons; and the singing of Miss Edith Adeson (Victoria Siddons) is appreciated.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Manager, Mr. W. Wm. Minto.—Topping the bill here this week are Dix and Dox, who do well in a clever musical act; Coda and Danton are amusing cross talkers and expert dancers. The pictures are interesting.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*When Knights Were Bold* is paying a third visit to Bath. Sir Guy de Vere is now presented by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce with the happiest result; Miss Violet Noel hits off the romantic mood of Lady Rowena capitally; Miss Lena Flowerdew (Mrs. Waldegrave), Miss Elspeth Oliphant (Alice Barker), Miss Lola Norman (Lady Millicent), Miss Mabel Hardinge (Lady Marjorie), Miss Juliet Mattheson (Kate Pottlebury), and Miss Lee Lewis (Miss Isaacson) do effective work; Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd is effective as the scheming Isaac Isaacson; and Mr. Allan Macdonald is light and hearty as the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe. On the evening of our visit Mr. Frank Withers, the acting-manager of the company, successfully enacted the Rev. Peter Pottlebury; Sir Brian Ballymote is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Humphrey Warden; and two capitally played parts are Wittle and Barker by Mr. Lawrence Stephenson and Mr. John Cecil.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—For several weeks past various illusionists have been seen here, but none better than Satani, the mysterious "Raffles," who baffles all by his disappearing tricks. Some excellent comedy juggling is done by Hurman and Arthur; Cromo and Hamilton have the audience with them in their latest burlesque skit, *The Hobble-skirt;* a delightful vocal interlude is that given by Haidee St. George; Cash and Clair maintain their excellence as simultaneous dancers; Jack Sheridan is a young comedian who evidently models his business upon that of his illustrious sire's; ford Williams essays two well-known bass songs with success; and Flo Warner's voice is displayed to advantage.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter B. Wilson.—During the week Mr. Basil Horsfall has been presenting the comic opera, *The Queen of the Fair*, which abounds with melody, while the plot is a good one. Señora Mercédès Dalmada as Elsa sings beautifully; Mr. Albert Chapman's pleasant tenor voice is heard to advantage in the various love passages he has as Captain Karl; Miss Carlotta Silvano as Rosalie sings and dances daintily; and Mr. Claude Casey gives a clever impersonation of Pierre. Humour is supplied by Mr. Arthur Reynolds, inimitable as 'Enery; Mr. George as the Burgomaster; Miss Janet Reeve as Ermyntrude Higgins; and Miss Maud Fergusson as Mrs. Jellicoe. Mlle. Rose Maie is the première danseuse.

BELFAST.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The Ulster Literary Theatre Company occupy this theatre this week, and on Monday produced the historical extravaganza entitled *Suzanne and the Sovereigns*, by Lewis Purcell and Gerald MacNamara.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Salmond.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company opened here on Monday with *A Noble Mother*. Mr. Stanley Hoban acquitted himself with distinction as William Lingham; the title-rôle was skilfully portrayed by Miss Agnes Collier; Mr. George Gaisford was well cast as Harry Gilbert; Mr. R. Nelsone Graeswell was all that could be desired as Silas Grindstone; and Mr. Edward Foyer made a powerful Jim Darkley. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Miss Emily Lewis, a vivacious Teresa Hobbs; and Messrs. Herbert Fuller, inimitable as Charlie Kelly, an Irish servant, and Mr. Percy St. Clair as Quimbo, a laughing nigger. Miss Florence Delmar was a charming Clarissa; and Miss Lily Fuller an admirable Reggie.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Jack and Evelyn, whose clever comedy act has been most successful; Mr. Nelson Jackson, an accomplished pianist, sings several songs, which afford much enjoyment; and the capital sketch *Ferdie's Main-Law*, staged by Mr. Arnold Richardson and company, has created roars of laughter. Ted Curtis and company appear to advantage in their vocal and comedy act; and the O. K. Dians make a hit in their cleverly rendered songs and skilful dancing. Ralph and Nellie Howard in *Military Mad* are well worthy of praise; and the feats of the Mars Trio, military gymnasts, are extraordinary. Also here are Miss Maudie Ford, comedienne, and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The place of honour here is filled by the Dayton Family, whose remarkable acrobatic feats have been enthusiastically received; Barrett and Knowles are responsible for much merriment with their comedy act, which has the merit of originality; Mr. Herbert La Martine is a good comedian and is also a fine dancer; and Little Zola's mirthful songs have been appreciated. Miss Sadie Stuart is a charming comedienne and dancer; and also appearing are Ugo Nap, comedian; Miss Jessie Lee, vocalist and dancer, who sang "Beautiful garden of roses" with much éclat on Monday; and the Bioscope, with pictures entitled A Daring Performance and Hard to Poison.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Among many interesting pictures presented here may be mentioned Under Western Skies, The Little Mother of the Baby Show, A Family Feud, &c. The variety element is sustained by Mr. George Reeves, a first-class comedian with good songs, and the Boston Twins, comedians and mimics.

BILSTON.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Tunstall.—A popular item this week is the clever duologue, *The Suffragette*, by the Menzies. Others who contributed are Miss Maud Beaumont, Mr. George Bernard, and Miss Millie Milton.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King.—The Birkenhead Dramatic Society, an earnest body of amateurs, are here for a week, appearing in *Trilby*.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating.—Mitchell and Caine, American comedians of undoubted ability, are a leading attraction, and have a hearty reception nightly; Miss Florrie Gallimore, the popular comedienne, is on a welcome return visit, as also is Mr. Fred Curran, a resourceful comedian of genuine humour. A fine company likewise includes Rose and Challoner, who are heartily received in their comedy sketches; Mr. Harry Russon, a talented actor-comedian; Mr. Charles Prelle's miniature circus, a marvel of animal training; the Lyric Mummers (Frank and Lillian), in a vocal and comedy speciality; Phil Bransby, coster comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Will Sley; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston.—F. Marriott Watson and James Usher's company is

On their garments not a blemish,
But fresher than before.—*The Tempest.*

PANTOMIMES.

THIS WORK IS UNDERTAKEN AT COMPETITIVE
— PRICES TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION. —

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

TOURING MANAGERS CAN HAVE THEIR WARDROBES CLEANED BETWEEN SHOWS

by the

CHEMICAL CLEANING & DYEING CO.,

T. HARRIS, Manager.

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS & DYERS, AND CONTRACTORS TO HIS MAJESTY'S OFFICE OF WORKS.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL.

From J. A. Harrison Co., Ltd., Theatrical Costumiers, 29, Leicester Square, W.C.
27th October, 1910.

To T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll Street, W.

Dear Mr. Harris,—

I am very pleased with the cleaning of the Pantomime Wardrobe you have just sent back. It may interest you to know that some of the Costumes were made six years ago. They look almost as good as the first time they were used.

Yours truly, J. A. HARRISON,
Managing Director.

For further particulars apply to

6, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, W.

Telephone: Gerrard 1911 (2 lines). Telegrams: "CLEANING, LONDON."

appearing twice nightly in *The Black Mask* with gratifying success; Miss Florence B. Florence as Nellie and Mr. F. Marriott Watson as Le Noir sustain the leading rôles with great distinction. They are adequately supported by an excellent company, and the piece is liberally staged.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Martin Harvey and his company are making a welcome reappearance here in a capital répertoire. In all of them Mr. Harvey has figured prominently, and has once more demonstrated what a capable actor he is. *The Breed of the Treshams* was produced on Monday and Tuesday. *Richard III.*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *The Only Way* are also in the bill.

Prince of Wales's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Miss Ethel Irving is the leading figure in the delightful play *Dame Nature*, and she has won the hearts of theatregoers by her excellent performance as Lolette. Mr. Frank Cooper gives an artistic presentation of Robert Bertram, the artist husband, and a faithful study of Princess de Chabran is furnished by Miss Mabelle Hunt. Some of the minor parts are well filled, particularly those of Paul Garford (Mr. W. R. Staveley) and his wife (Miss Florence Nelson), Ridgeway (Mr. Charles Vane), and Isadore Lorenz (Miss V. Kemble Cooper).

Alexandra.—Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—A warm welcome is accorded Mrs. Frank Bateman and company in *Where Angels Fear to Tread*. Mrs. Bateman performs excellently, and is the backbone of the play. Others who deserve special mention are Mr. F. W. Goddard, Mr. P. Shaw, Mr. G. Butler, Miss H. Carrington, and Miss E. Blenheim. The piece is elaborately staged.

Bordesley Palace.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*The Flag Lieutenant* is artistically presented by Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company. Dick Lascelles is played with good effect by Mr. Loring Fernie, who is responsible for continuous ripples of laughter; Miss Dorothy Ripley is excellent as Lady Hermione Wynne; and Mr. George Mallett is prominent as Vice-Admiral Berkeley Wynne. Other capable performers are Miss Clarissa Selwynne, Miss Winifred Vallant, Mr. A. V. Bramble, and Mr. George Percy. The play is admirably staged.

Metropole.—Proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville; Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The World, the Flesh, and the Devil* is arousing much interest, and good audiences thoroughly enjoy a well-acted drama. A sensational effect is produced by the vision of Satan, which provides an effective tableau after the principal dramatic situations. The company is Mr. Laurence Cowen's, and the piece is very cleverly handled. Mr. Hugh Wildey is excellent in the part of the hero, Robert Hall, and as Beatrice Cuthbert, his sweetheart, Miss Dorothy Routh is responsible for clever acting. Mr. Keith Fraser ably portrays the heavy character of Nicholas Brophy. Other parts are ably represented by Mr. Hubert Pinder, Mr. Edwin Wilson, Mr. Frederick Jacques, Miss Dora Hammersley, &c.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—*The Ruin of Her Life* is attracting good houses. The performance of Mrs. Charles Sugden, the well-known actress, as the ticket-of-leave woman is the outstanding feature of the piece. The character is a difficult one, but she is equal to every situation. Mr. F. Pennington-Gush is praiseworthy as Dan Devel Macaire, and other capable members of the company are Miss Constance Groves, Mr. Henry C. Ward, Mr. J. E. Stephenson, Mr. Arthur Keand, and Miss Mary Vane.

Carlton.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—A capital attraction has been secured in *No Mother to Guide Her*, which Mr. Will Glaze's capable company is producing.

The Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—An excellent bill is headed by Caryl Wilbur and his company in the strong farcical sketch *61, Prospect Street*, Mr. Wilbur proving himself an exceedingly funny comedian. Cyril Clanoy gives faithful imitations of well-known performers; a thrilling Indian episode, entitled *The Half-Caste*, is well played by Miss Evelyn Beresford and company; the Paxton Troupe of acrobats perform clever and daring feats; a musical treat is provided by the Saxonia Family; the Soho Trio are pleasing singers and dancers; and Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris are quaint American humorists.

The Grand.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. E. Foster.—George Lashwood, as bright and smart as ever, is the premier attraction here, and is presenting a new scena, entitled *The Railway Guard. What Women Do for Men* is the title of a highly sensational sketch presented by Miss Ivy Williams and company. Edith Fink is a winsome comedienne; Dion Wade is popular in original business; Tambo and Tambo are expert tambourine spinners; Braatz's Dogs exhibit remarkable training in a canine sketch; Lee and Kingston are amusing in a tabloid comedy; A. H. West is expert at the piano; and A. G. Spry is a popular comedian.

Gaiety.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. A. Badman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Marshall.—A farcical comedy, entitled *My Friend the Count*, heads a strong bill, and Mr. Ernest Lawson as the bogus Count scores as a comedian of no mean ability. Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklin are big favourites; J. W. Gallagher creates roars of laughter; a pleasing song scena is presented by the Garricks, a quartet of talented dancers and singers; Sidney James and company are pleasing entertainers; Luigo Salvino is a youthful master of musical instruments; Victor and Louis give a humorous skit on golfing; Farr and Farland are bright cross-talk comedians; and Newman and Knight skilful comedy jugglers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben De Frece.—The Six Brothers Luck are scoring successfully in *H.M.S. Perhaps*. The turn is brimful of boisterous fun, and there are many topical features. Little Jack Marks is a clever Hebrew comedian of tender years, and Smann Sing Hpoo is a gymnastic artist of much ability. The female impersonations of Max Waldon create astonishment; and Mlle. Medicis, accompanied by her dog, appears in an effective series of poses. Mr. and Mrs. Alaska are clever dancers in a novel turn, Fred Lyndo and J. H. Ellis are capable comedy artists, and other good contributors are Addie Adell (vocalist) and Cliff Ryland.

Aston Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Wee Georgie Wood, the versatile child artist, is popular at the head of a good bill. A farcical episode, entitled *Poor Beggar*, presented by John Le Hay and company, is thoroughly enjoyed; and *It* is the title of an amusing playlet, produced by Lilian Matthews and Fred Haming, which finds much favour. Leo and Roland are skilful hand balancers; Cosgrove and Burns keep the audience amused in *The Singing Academy*; Wyndham and Kitty are smart wire performers; Leon and Tee are applauded in a musical speciality; Harold Heath is a popular coon singer and dancer; and Leah Arden is a bright comedienne.

King's Hall.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. P. Moore and B. Kennedy.—An excellent programme of new pictures is provided, and good variety turns are given by Charlie Chand, Annie Casey, and Baba Violet.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. William Maclaren's company is on a return visit with *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren gives an artistic portrayal of the title-rôle, and is charmingly assisted by Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida. Mr. Douglas Earle handles the part of Agazil with effect; Thariogalus is commandingly brought out by Mr. Frank Owen Chambers; Mr. Chal. T. Chalomer keeps the house amused as Belos, and a similar remark applies to Miss Maud Garth as Edessa; and Mlle Stello Dorin produces the Cymbal Dance delightfully. The scenery is well staged.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, the Hippodrome (Bishop Auckland), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi.—Capital houses are witnessing an attractive bill. Jack Pleasants is a comedian with talent, and is admirably received; Ella Retford is a clever comedienne and dancer; the Cedrics are effective in their comedy act; and included in the bill are Edie King, Hartley and Melton, Vella, and the Hipposcope.

BLACKBURN.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Manageress, Mrs. C. Clarkson.—*Through the Divorce Court* is being presented by Messrs. Henry Chattell and Jack Denton's company. Mr. Riddell Robinson plays well as Lord Robert Penarth, and he is ably supported by Miss Hettie Chattell as Lady Dolores Penarth; Mr. Henry C. Cooper as Guzmardi Mendoza realises the part capitally; and some excellent comedy is provided by Mr. Jack Denton, Miss Lydia Hart, and Mr. Harry Colbeck.

New Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Resident Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Yorke; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reg. Yorke.—*The Walls of Jericho* is being played here by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Hanworth Browning's company, and is well attended. Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes makes a capital Jack Frobisher; Mr. Russell Barry plays well as Hankey Bannister; Mr. Hanworth Browning gives a convincing study as Harry Dallas; Mr. Franc Stoney makes a very good Marquis of Steventon; Miss Gwendolien Hay, as Lady Alethea, plays well; as also does Miss Nora McDonnell in the part of Lady Lucy. The play is well acted throughout.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Miss Florrie Forde is topping the bill and proves as popular as ever; a clever turn is given by Harry Radford and Mdlle. Valentine; the Wellington trio submit a smart acrobatic turn; Hicks and Hunter are clever dancers on ice skates; *The Little Colonel* is presented by Ernest Montefiore and company, in which Miss Ivy Laurel, a youthful actress, displays much talent; Gladys Mavius (in song and dance), Sam Williams (character comedian), Will Lindsey (a Yorkshire comedian), and the De Breans (clever Japanese jugglers and illusionists) complete the bill.

BLACKPOOL.—Winter Gardens Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The attraction here this week is *A Child of the Streets*, played by Mr. George H. Hazlehurst's company, with Miss Dot Stephens in the title-rôle, and although the part is widely in contrast to Miss Shephens's work in musical comedy, she scores a complete success. The manliness and nobility of Robert Wallace is well brought out by Mr. Claude Gravely; whilst the villainous Lawrence Craigie is capably enacted by Mr. Leonard Clarke. Lieut Ainley is skilfully handled by Mr. Geo. Keene; and other parts are also in experienced hands.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Madge Temple tops here this week, and her songs are warmly appreciated; Julian Mack, the talking comedian, and Frank Lauri, the character comedian, are also favourites; Yamamoto and Koyoshi are excellent equilibrists; Lilly Black is a dainty songstress; Minnie Mace sings nicely; Milner and Storey appear in a smart sketch; the Brothers Lavelle provide an acrobatic turn; and Ray Ford is charming in songs and dances.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—Miss Horniman's company opened here on Monday with Bernard Shaw's *Candida*. Miss Rosaline Ivan in the title-rôle displays rare histrionic ability; Mr. Ian Maclaren contributed an intelligent rendering of the Rev. James Morell; Mr. Edward Landor was conspicuously successful as Mr. Burgess; Mr. Ernest C. Cassel was easy and nautral in the part of the Rev. Alex. Mill; Mr. Leonard Mudie deserved high praise for his clever handling of the part of Eugene Marchbanks; and Miss Muriel Pratt made the most of her character of Prosperine Garnett. *The Troth* preceded, and is well played by Miss Dorothy West-Symes, Mr. Ernest C. Cassel, Mr. Whitford Kane, and Mr. Joseph Keogh. *Cupid and Common Sense* has also been staged on alternate nights.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A good all-round variety company here includes Jean Clermont's burlesque circus; the Four Rio Brothers, in their skilful gymnastic novelty; the Brothers Ford, vocalists and dancers; Shenton and Chicks, in *The Children's Birthday Party*; Fred Barnes, "the black sheep of the family"; the Brothers Webb, novelty eccentrics; Brull and Memsley, in *Fun in a Music Shop*; the Mysterious Mysticus; F. V. St Clair, author and vocalist; and pictures.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. R. Harrison.—Kate Carney and company hold the premier position, with their humorous production *The Fun of the Fair*. Winnie Darrell, comedienne and dancer; Harry Bickley, eccentric comedian; Bi-Bo-Bi, a clever eccentric musician; the Wilton-Heriot Trio, in their comedy sketch *Father's Footsteps*; Damerell and Rutland, comedians; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in a musical incident; Peggy Pryde, low comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures are other attractions.

BOOTLE.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler, Sutton, and Allandale; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Boult.—Mr. Ern. E. Norris and company are here this week with *The Education of Elizabeth*. Mr. Norris is excellent as Reggie Hankey; Mr. Percy Marmont makes the most of his opportunities as Harry Fairfax; Mr. Hugh Peel is amusing as the Waiter; and Mr. Richard Wagner splendid as Parsons. Miss May Norris makes a charming Elizabeth Black, whilst Mr. Fred Castleman as Mr. Whitby, Miss Helene Forest as Lucy Middleton, Miss Phyllis Dailley as Blanche Macintyre, and Miss Maggie Spencer as Lily Kerr all contribute to the general enjoyment of the piece.

Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. Harry Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred D. Adams.—There is an excellent bill of fare for the patrons of the Muncaster Theatre this week. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings *The Factory Lass* is being staged, whilst on Thursday and Friday evenings *East Lynne* will be played. The leading parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, Mr. A. H. Clarke, Mr. Tom Robertson, Mr. Percy Boucher, Miss Nina Vaughton, Miss Louie Heathfield, and Miss Mattie Crawford.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Moutllot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—The return visit of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Arcadians* proves highly popular. Mr. Gus Oxley repeats his excellent impersonations of the dual rôles of Smith and Simplicitas, and his wholesome comedy work meets with unbounded favour; Mr. George Hestor, another genuine comedian, causes much laughter with his quiet and pointed witticisms as Peter Doody; Mr. Mervyn Dene gives a sterling performance of Sir George Paddock, and Mr. H. Nelson Hancock makes a manly and sincere lover of Jack Meadows. Miss Madge Haines looks and acts the genial Mrs. Smith to perfection; Miss Mysie Devine is a dainty and captivating Eileen Kavanagh, and scores both in song and dance; the Arcadians are ably sustained by Miss Beryl Craigie, Mr. Douglas Marrs, Mr. W. Dawson, Miss Phyllis Taylor, and Miss Margaret Swallow. The chorus is highly efficient and works with admirable energy and precision under the capable leadership of Mr. Albert Bartlett.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their clever Shakespearean company gave a fine performance of *The Winter's Tale* to a crowded and very appreciative audience on Monday. The play was beautifully staged, and Mr. Benson won hearty applause for his vigorous impersonation of Leontes; Mrs. Benson was emotional and tender as the wronged Hermione; their son Mamillius was prettily played by Miss Hetty Kenyon; Mr. A. Brydone gave a well-studied performance of Camillo; Polixenes was a finely restrained effort on the part of Mr. Murray Carrington; Miss Violet Farebrother's Paulina won hearty and well-merited applause; as Autolycus Mr. H. O. Nicholson was very diverting; Mr. J. Moffat Johnston brought out the humour of the part of the rustic Clown capitally; Miss Marjorie Patterson sweetly embodied the gentle Perdita; Mr. Eric Moxon was earnest as Florizel; and the other characters left little to be desired. Julius Cæsar was the play on Tuesday evening, with Mr. Murray Carrington in the title-rôle; Mr. Benson as Marcus Antonius; and Mrs. Benson as Portia. During the engagement the Stratford-Avon prize play *The Piper*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* are billed.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. M. Hamilton.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton are presenting *His Indian Wife*. The piece was well received and finely staged. Mr. Hinton scored a success as Herbert Ainsworth, the roving young Englishman who marries Wild Rose, an Indian maiden, represented with force and emotional power by Miss Leila Zilwood; White Eagle, the Indian chief, is cleverly played by Mr. Gerald Byrne; Miss Zana St. George is effective as the scheming Lady Grace Kingsley; the Billy Twiggle of Mr. Ted Squires is a capital performance; and the other parts are in excellent hands.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—Lafayette, with his band and illusions, is here. The Violas are again astonishing the audience with their skill in "thought transmission," or mental telegraphy; Franco Piper's banjo tossing and solos are remarkably clever; Maude Edwards is an excellent lady ventriloquist; the comedians, Sanford and Lyons, are very expert as "simultaneous dancers"; Alf Chester's comic football song is amusing; and the bioscope pictures are excellent.

The Palace.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. E. Harrison.—Toch and Tard, on the trapeze, and with comedy wrestling, provide an entertaining turn; Reg. Beauchamp's comedy is acceptable; Flo Burnett is a fine vocalist; in their sketch, *The Hotel de Quick*, Ted Karno and company are very amusing; and the Wedburns are diverting comedians. Will Rennie is expert in rag-time and roller-skate dancing; Newco and Sullo (the boys in red) are good vocalists and dancers; in a juggling performance Halma displays skill and originality; and in a sketch, *Dr. Maud's First Patient*, Mr. Martin Adeson (who is ably assisted by Miss Clara Bernard) is most amusing. The Palace Perfection pictures are a feature of the evening.

BRIDLINGTON.—Grand Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. K. Scott-Barrie and his talented company of entertainers, "The Chanticleers," are appearing here before delighted audiences. Miss Maude Phillips is a charming vocalist; Miss Ailsa Moorey and Miss Nellie Somers are capital singers and dancers; Mr. Geo. E. Taylor and Mr. P. F. Homley are smart humorous vocalists; Mr. Harold Franklin as a lady impersonator is remarkably clever; Mr. Will Ambro's songs and dances are encored; Mr. Wilmot Fowler's songs at the piano and amusing stories are thoroughly appreciated; Mr. K. Scott-Barrie is most amusing in his songs and dialect poems; and the concerted items and dances by the company meet with applause.

BRIGHOUSE.—Albert Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Martin Manley, sen.; Manager, Mr. Martin Manley, jun.—Sydney Carter's Pictures are the attraction here this week, and opened to a crowded house on Monday, some excellent films being shown, including Convincing Evidence, When the Cat's Away, Black and White, Percy the Cowboy, The Trail, Bootle's Baby, Football Mad, The Fruits of Vengeance, and The Servant.

BRIGHTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Miss Ethel van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is here this week with *The Eyes of the World*. Miss Ethel Van Praagh submits a highly finished portrayal of Hélène de L'Orme; Mr. Guy P. Ellis gives an excellent impersonation of Hector de L'Orme; Miss Flora Hastings skilfully undertakes the difficult part of Esme de Carnac; Mr. Edward Ouston's Octave is finely played; Miss Edith Rutland makes a winsome Avice; Miss Nellie Garside is a vivacious Susanne Pomfleure; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Achille Fanfarade and Mr. R. Wilton Bedford as Paul Rogueville. The play is splendidly staged and dressed.

Alhambra.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Alfred Smith; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. A. Smith.—Mr. Frank Stanmore and company are here this week with *Chasing Cynthia*, and are attracting large audiences. Miss Gurney Delaporte's representation of Cynthia is marked by grace and charm; Mr. Frank Stanmore is dashing and entertaining as the Hon. Billy Bootle; Mr. Arthur Poole is admirable as Colonel Chutnee; Miss Gladys Beech makes a bright and captivating Fifi; Miss Adie Boyne is a capital Miss Pinch; Mr. Mark Lester is highly humorous as Dobson; and the choruses are well sung.

Barrasford's Hippodrome.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—The living art reproductions by the Henriette de Serris combination are warmly appreciated; the Bogannys, "lunatic bakers," provide plenty of acrobatic fun; Montgomery and Moore, American vaudeville entertainers, are well received; C. H. Carlisle and H. M. Wellmon appear with success in a musical act; Florence Esdaile, comedienne, sings charmingly; the Primrose Vocal Quartet acquit themselves admirably in the scena *Interrupted*; the Wilhuhn Trio are acrobatic eccentrics; the Three Cunards dance themselves into favour; Gerard is a capital juggler; and Nora Stockelie is a pleasing comedienne and juggler.

West Pier.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—The Grotesques commenced a week here on Monday, and were warmly received. Vocal selections were contributed by Miss Doris Lind, Miss Kathleen Severn, Mr. Harry Harmer, Mr. James Watts, Mr. Hugh Bayly, and Mr. T. C. Sterndale Bennett. The company proved delightfully entertaining in "Some Impressions of a Ballad Concert." "A Village Concert" kept the house rippling with laughter, Mr. Cecil Cook as the Vicar being irresistibly humorous.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is here for the week. On Monday evening *The Yeomen of the Guard* was performed to a very large audience, which included the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and the High Sheriff and Mrs. George Riseley. The performance was in aid of the funds for the relief of the local Jewish poor. Mr. Henry Lytton gave an excellent exposition of Jack Point; Mr. Fred Billington scored his usual success as Wilfred Shadbolt; Miss Marjorie Stone was pleasing as Elsie Maynard; as also was Miss Beatrice Boarer as Phœbe Meryll. Mr. Stafford Moss was well placed as Colonel Fairfax; and all the remaining parts were well taken. The chorus was strong and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra did excellent work under the bâton of Mr. Francois Cellier. *The Mikado*, *Iolanthe*, *Patience*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Trial by Jury*, and *The Gondoliers* are also billed.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; Manager, Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Mr. Alexander Marsh and company are here for the week. On Monday *David Garrick* was performed, Mr. Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie giving excellent interpretations of David Garrick and Lilian Ingot. Mr. Wilson Gunning was amusing as Squire Chivy; Mr. A. E. Walker did well as Ingot; and the remaining parts were well taken. *The Sleigh Bells* followed, Mr. Alexander Marsh presenting a fine performance of Matthias; Miss Kathleen Clanchy acted prettily as Annette; Miss Agnes Gagan was natural and effective as Catherine; and Mr. Ernest Digges made a smart and painstaking Christian. *Hamlet*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Jane Shore* are also billed.

Palace. — Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Treasurer and Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Decima Moore and company are attracting a large attendance here, they successfully appearing in a farcical comedy, entitled *A Black Mark*. The Paolias present a fine act as modern athletes; the Quality Quartette are pleasing vocalists; Fred Keeton, comedian, is successful; Wilfred Burnaud imitates well-known actors, &c.; Rose Elliott is a pleasing vocalist; Madge Morley and company do well with their *After the Races* episode; Curtis Leo does some smart conjuring; and the Bartholomew Sisters are very pleasing. Animated pictures conclude.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Harry Lauder is packing the house at each performance; he has a very enthusiastic reception, and all his latest successes are warmly applauded. Donaldson Brothers and company amuse with *Sports in a Jungle*; Nightingale and Stigant have a smart comedy duologue, *Two Sides of a Wall*; Brizlee is a clever flute and piccolo player; Brothers Durant are amusing acrobatic comedians; the Kathleen O'Hanlon trio present a pleasing speciality act; Nora Emerald, comedienne, excels both in song and dance; Marie Blythe is heard to much advantage in descriptive songs; and interesting animated pictures conclude.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; General-Manager, Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—*The Poor Must Live* is well acted by the capable company, and a full house appeared to thoroughly enjoy it on Monday. Mr. Montague Beaudyn does well, as usual, as the hero, Donald; Miss Irene Munroe makes an impression as Olga D'Eyncourt; Miss Cora Patey as Dorothy is a charming heroine; Mr. Charles D. Pitt also does well as Clifton Manville; Mr. Wm. Melvyn (Earl of Marswood), Mr. George Overs (Sal Darling), Mr. E. Benson, Mr. G. E. Dunstan, and Miss Gladys E. Morris give good studies; and the comic business is sustained by Mr. A. A Towlin as Hooker Holdsmith and Miss Phyllis Rae as Moya.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. James Bell's company is presenting *The Idol of Paris* attractively. Miss Annie Bell plays the part of Flare Flare with great dramatic force, and Mr. Albert Leinber ably fills the difficult rôle of Philipe d'Esterre. To Mr. Chris. A. Olgar is allotted that of Victor Cashelle, and the remaining characters are in capable hands.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The programme here is drawing good houses. The Three Laurels perform extraordinary acrobatic feats, and the Three Stanwoods are accomplished vocalists; Happy Atwood is back again with bright, breezy fun, and Gladys Hooley plays effectively on the violin; Rell and Butt create much amusement with cross-talk, and Little Spencer receives storms of applause for clog-dancing; Ethel Campbell, comedienne, and the Empire Theatrescope complete the entertainment.

Palace Theatre and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Rintoul.—Top place is given to the excellent dramatic episode, *The Flood Tide*, performed by Mr. Harry P. Selwyn's capital company; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs present a bewildering turn of whirling acrobatics, and Martin Conway is here again with his funny songs and patter; Bruce Green, a talkative "dame," gets plenty of laughs, and the Two Walonells are smart bar performers; Carl and Mary Ohms introduce highly-trained animals, and Mabel and Hester, sisters of Ada Reeve, have very sweet voices. Dona and Dixie, in an artistic musical speciality, and the Society Quartette of vocalists complete the list.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Hague Body.—Mr. T. C. Wray and Mr. Austen Hurgon's company is here with *The Girls of Gottenberg* capitally mounted and dressed. Max Moddelkopf finds a good exponent in Mr. Smith, a capital comedian; Mr. J. N. Carey makes a decided hit as Otto, rendering his songs in good style; Mr. Jack Leyland (Albert), Mr. Eddie Foy (Britti Bottl), Mr. Lionel Yaldwyn (General), and Mr. J. R. Timms (Colonel Finkhausen) are good in their respective parts. Mr. Ralph Forster makes a typical Burgomaster; Mr. Tom Squire is amusing as the Town Clerk; and Mr. Charles Haywood as the German policeman also does well; Miss Grace Desmond (Clementine) proves herself an actress of ability; Katrina is nicely impersonated by Miss Melba Sharrott; and Miss Dora Langham as Mitzi sings sweetly and dances cleverly.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—*Temptation* is presented here by Miss Nora Carlton's company. Mr. Chas. Mortimer plays well as Sir Charles Tremaine; the villainy of Hubert Thorne is effectively portrayed by Mr. Norman Overton; Mr. George Wallace and Mr. Clifton Roysteli are satisfactory as Stephen Rowe and Mr. Blight; Mr. Frank Ayrton is a smart Bob Saunders, sustaining the comedy element in conjunction with Miss Madge Seymour; Nora Blight is powerfully delineated by Miss Lilla Wilde; Agnes Rowe and Mrs. Oxen are adequately enacted by Miss Kathleen Cranston and Miss Anna Beaumont, Miss Nora Carlton appearing as Hilda Dundonald.

CAMBRIDGE.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Harry P. Towers' company, on the opening three nights of this week, presented *The Best People*, which was excellently acted and staged. Mr. Henry Renouf is a clever actor, and as Lora Emsworth he had a part that suited him to perfection. Miss Irene Lavington was also successful as Lady Emsworth; Miss Evelyn Summers was particularly capable as the Hon. Mrs. Bayle; Mr. Frederic Sargent was thoroughly at home as the Hon. Gerald Bayle; and Mr. Claude Haviland faithfully represented Lord Wynlea.

CARDIFF.—New Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—A large audience on Monday greeted *The Geisha*, performed by Mr. F. Mouillot's excellent company. Miss Aimee Grey is O Mimosa San, and her powerful and clear voice is heard to great advantage; Miss Adela Crispin is a sprightly and vivacious Molly Seamour, and won a double encore in the parrot song and dainty dances; Mr. Edward Carlton is irresistible as the Chinese proprietor of the tea-house, Wun-Hi; and Mr. Colin Coop invests the Marquis Imari with quaint humour. Mr. Edmund Sherras as Reginald Fairfax acts well throughout and sings agreeably; the song contributed by Mr. Herbert Uzielli as Captain Katana is well rendered; Mr. Harry Reynolds does all that is desired in the small rôle of Takemine; Miss Renée Reel's delineation of O Juliette Diamante gives nothing but satisfaction; and Miss Edith Jefferies is a dignified Lady Constance Wynne. Mr. Murray Stephen (Dick Cuningham) and Miss Florrie Bond (Tommy Stanley) also deserve mention. The chorus adds materially to the success of the opera.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—An important engagement here is that of Courtice Pounds and company in *Charles, His Friend*, the beautiful vocalism of this favourite artist being fully appreciated. Mr. Pounds is supported by a creditable company, and the sketch proves highly entertaining. Severus Schaffer is a wonderful juggler; Ernie Mayne earns fresh laurels by his latest success "The song of a shirt"; Fred Earle is another popular comedian who "goes down" exceptionally well; Mabel Sinclair displays an admirable command of the ventriloquial art; Williams and Warden entertain with their smart and witty dialogue; Ethel Beech is a dainty soubrette; and Chas. Fisher's Vocalesques are an artistic combination of comedy and harmony. The Bioscope concludes.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. Hamilton Barnes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson; Secretary, Mr. A. E. Perkins.—Ibsen's plays are presented by Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, and company. On Monday *The Master Builder* was staged, Mr. Lovel as Halvard Solness and Miss Kenmore as Hilda Wangel submitting impersonations which aroused the admiration and enthusiasm of the house. Miss Katherine Maynard as Aline Solness creditably acquitted herself of her responsibilities; Mr. Frederick Meads as Ragnar Brovik displayed histrionic ability; and parts were played by Mr. Claud W. Sykes (Dr. Herdal), Mr. Wm. Podmore (Knut Brovik), and Miss Daisy Race (Kaia Fosli). *A Doll's House* and *Hedda Gabler* were also given.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—An interesting playlet, entitled *Roguery*, is presented by Wilfred H. Benson and company, Mr. Benson acting well as Martin Darney, and Miss Mabel Wynn's impersonation of Lady Valda being a clever piece of work. Fred Russell and Lilian Held provide on entertaining number; the Hulls are highly amusing; the conjuring act of Yettmah and the Japanese lady scores; the Four Sydney Girls, in a singing and dancing turn, are really good; and Arthur Croxon is an entertainer of ability. Jack Hayworth, Scotch comedian, and the Bioscope complete.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is on a return visit, and received a warm welcome from a crowded and appreciative house when they opened on Monday night in Oudin's English version of *Samson and Delilah*. The company is again a strong one, and a most interesting and artistic performance was followed with rapt attention throughout. As Samson Mr. Albert Bowyer made a big hit. His physique and personality fitted the part exactly, and his vocal efforts were particularly effective. Miss Bessie Weir was no less successful as Delilah; her histrionic and vocal abilities met every requirement of a difficult rôle, and she was the recipient of enthusiastic applause at the conclusion of all her numbers. Mr. William Farmer's fine baritone voice was used with skill and was always effective; and Mr. Graham Marr made the most of his opportunities in the bass part. Mr. Harry Brindle, Mr. Cassini, Mr. Blande, and Mr. R. Woodland rendered excellent services; and the chorus and orchestra were altogether admirable. *Tannhäuser*, *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *Carmen*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are billed for performance during the week.

The Palace.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—An excellent entertainment is provided here. Chief place is occupied by the Four Maisanos, French musical clowns, who introduce some extraordinary novelties; Gus Harris is a realistic character artist; Syd Crossley keeps his audience vastly amused with a smart burlesque act; as a Lancashire comedienne Lucy Lynd contributes sketches and songs which gain her enthusiastic appreciation; Julia Reeve also does well; and Hugo and Smit give an acrobatic act with unusual ability. The pictures are again a feature.

CASTLEFORD.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P.—This week Mr. G. Carlton Wallace has provided a strong attraction in *The Apple of Eden*. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland and Miss Janet Alexander are powerful in the principal parts; Mr. Percy Ballard offers a vivid delineation of the brutal Prince Nicola; the vigorous personality of General Pavlos is ably emphasised by Mr. John F. Traynor; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan is callous as the wicked and debauched King of Slavonia; and Mr. Bertie White and Miss Jessie Myers are capital as an amusing couple named Robert and Winifred.

Invaluable for the Complexion.—LAIT-LAROLA is delightfully soothing and refreshing after motoring, golfing, cycling, dancing, &c. The daily use of "Lait-Larola" effectually prevents all Roughness, Redness, Chaps, and Irritation, and preserves the delicacy of the skin in changeable weather. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s. and 2s. 6d each, of all chemists and stores.—M. Bertham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

"DERWENT"
GAS-STEAM RADIATORS
For Heating Theatres.
JOBSON & CO.,
Derwent Foundry, DERBY.

QUALITY and COMFORT
Wines Spirits Liqueurs
COAL HOLE
Tea Coffee Cigars
PATRICK and McGREGOR,
Between Savoy & Cecil Hotels, Strand.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson.—Hal Whitby opens the evening with some catchy songs; a popular turn is contributed by Queen, Le Brun, and company, animal impersonators, in a sporting absurdity, *The Cockney Huntsmen*, and they cause roars of laughter; Elmo and Rego are skilful acrobats; Gerald White and Denis Dorome, in a duologue *Proof*, act with much power; Kitty Pearce and Fred Ward are an amusing couple; Fred Herbert, in up-to-date topical songs, is appreciated; Kloof and Ramsey display taste and skill in their selections; Rosa Tilly well deserves the applause accorded to her for her songs.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Mr. Herbert Jay's company is here in *Captain Kidd*. Miss Maie Ash is the Lucy Sheridan, and delights her auditors; Mr. Haddon Cave is a popular Viscount Albany (Captain Kidd); Mr. Harry Benet creates unbounded merriment as the Valet; Miss Marjorie Maxwell is deserving of praise for her interpretation of Señorita Juanita Arguilla, her singing and acting being much appreciated; Miss Helen Holmes makes a lively Aggie Shrubb; Mr. Harold Deacon does well as Dick Hyne; Mr. Alfred Sandoe is suited as Duffy; and the other parts are in good hands. The play is admirably staged.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Geo. Humphries.—Fred Karno's companies are proving most attractive with two sketches, *The New Slavey* and *Wontdetania*, in each of which Mr. Shaun Glenville makes a big hit. The variety company includes Bessie Callow (descriptive vocalist), Harry Zetter (comedian), Wee Mona Vivian (a great favourite), the Two le Bruns (in an excellent juggling scena), and the Four Quaint Q's (amusing vocal comedians).

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*Dear Little Denmark* was introduced on Monday by Mr. Harry P. Tower's company. Mr. Cameron Carr is a fine figure as the hero, Conrad Peterson, with an excellent stage presence and capital voice; Miss Thelma Ray plays Christine with inimitable grace, and her sweet singing is much enjoyed; Mr. Arthur Ballance as Karl uses his excellent baritone voice to advantage; Miss Alice Waldie as 'Xandra is very pleasing; and Mr. Frank Lewis as Simon Jorgenson is really good. Mr. Tom Payne as Hans Hansen is a remarkably good comedian, and he and Miss Winifred Volt as Ophelia sing very agreeably.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessees, Gillsmiths, Ltd.—This popular picture place continues to draw big houses. Mr. Arthur Perry, tenor vocalist, enjoys favour.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Lesses and Managers, Messrs. Poole and Shenton.—Miss Daisy Graham gives a clever show with her performing birds; and the Vivandieres have a humorous musical sketch *The Registry Office*. The pictures are entertaining.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.—The Musical Jees are here with their musical scena, *Gretna Green; or, the Runaway Marriage*. Winifred Norman is pretty and clever as the quaint little Dutch girl; Percy Johnson is a good comedian with an original style; and Miss Ethel Stephenson a rich contralto vocalist, in vocal tit-bits at the piano, scores a great and well-deserved success; Les Atans are exceedingly smart pot-pourri gymnasts, and the Cumberlands skilful and amusing acrobatic cyclists; Walter Barrett is a capable actor-vocalist of the patriotic type; and Harry Kirk is a comedian of merit. Excellent Bioscopic films conclude.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY. — CHORLTON THEATRE. — Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hardy Haigh.—*The Major* is paying a six nights' visit here. The author, Mr. T. C. McQuire, appears to advantage in the title-rôle, and is ably seconded by Mr. Victor Silvernis as George Goodman; Mr. T. W. Groves as Jeremiah Stoney is ludicrously funny, and Mr. Fred Draper makes a laughable Ezekiah; Miss Ada Wallis as Clara O'Neale is decidedly amusing, and Miss Tiddy Edwardes effectively represents Mrs. Gampney; Miss Duleir Maris sings with marked ability. There is a troupe of competent dancers.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Mitchell.—The usual variety entertainment is changed this week to one of dramatic fare, when Harry Tilbury and company have been drawing large crowds with *His Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. Harry Tilbury is the predominating figure in the humorous part of Mickey Doolan, and keeps the audience in amusement; Mr. A. George Fry as the village blacksmith speaks and acts well; Mr. Fred Owen as Neil Lockley, the detective, is convincing; Mr. Alex. Alexander is good as Lord Devant; Mr. George Walkley as Tom Redman and rôles of minor importance are capably filled. Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Lindon gives a sympathetic interpretation of the character; as Alice Harvey Miss A. T. George is highly successful; and Little Violet deserves a word of praise for her performance of Frank Lindon's daughter.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and company are presenting *The Old Home*. Mr. A'Dell takes the part of the Rev. Eric Armstrong in good style; Mr. Chas. Franmore undertakes, with great naturalness, the rôle of Daddy Dean; Miss Violet Ingram carefully depicts the old man's daughter Hazel; and the character of Lord Avondale is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Edward Rawlinson.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Co-operative Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Leo King. — The top-line this week is a dramatic sketch entitled *The Fight in the Lighthouse*, by Mr. B. E. Howard and company—a well acted playlet. Edwin Barwick, in his characteristic studies, is a wonderfully entertaining performer; Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, receive applause for their well-rendered numbers; Dave O'Toole creates amusement in his Spanish song and study; Min Tobin, the versatile girl, is a pleasing artist; Burt Ward, whistler and raconteur, brings back memories of the *Belle;* Dunn and Reano in a comedy trapeze act show undoubted skill; and the film presented makes a capital finale.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Consul, the human ape, tops the bill here. Other good turns are Mlle. Rosina, musical entertainer; Amandus, facial mimic; and Lillian Levey, a smart comedienne and male impersonator. Animated pictures complete.

DALY'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. John Cottrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—The Fimans, in comedy scena, *The Fire Station*, are very funny; Fannie Humber, instrumentalist and dancer, is clever; and two fine pictures are Love and the Law and The Deputy's Duty.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The New Town Hall Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Campbell.—A good programme is provided here, including the Four Watsons, singers, comedians, and musicians; Gulliver, ventriloquist; and T. W.'s Tiny Stars, juvenile dancers, &c. Animated pictures conclude.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Bell.—Miss Vera Leslie and company, in the delightful comedy *Cousin Kate*, opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Maud Stoner as Amy Spencer supplied a convincing and pathetic reading as Heath Desmond; Mr. Henry Doughty spoke his lines with force and manliness; Miss Vera Leslie, in the title-rôle, won golden opinions; as the Rev. Jas. Bartlett Mr. Philip Lawton was successful.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Manager, Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien.—Mr. Horace Hunter and his company do well here in the drama *Under Suspicion*. Mr. Wm. Dever, late of Moody-Manners Opera Company, sings with excellent finish; Miss May Fairclogh is a young dramatic artist whose impersonation of characters from Shakespearean and modern plays are very meritorious; Gilbert Girard is a wonderful mimic of animals; Mastro and Oretta are a clever pair of jugglers; the Three Dixons are a versatile trio; Miss Dorna Morgan and Miss Barry Eldon contribute some pretty songs; and the Palscope pictures are good.

CITY HALL.—Mr. John R. Poole opened a fortnight's engagement here with his 1910 Myriorama and Vaudeville Company. The pictures shown are excellent. The vaudeville side of the entertainment is strong, and includes Mr. L. Rowland, a good comedian; Inez and Pim, clever gymnasts; the Jeromes, comedy jugglers; the Three Ettenas on a revolving sphere; and the Cairo Trio.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The piece selected this week is the musical comedy *A Country Girl*, by Messrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett and T. C. Wray's company. The play is exceedingly well staged. Mr. Coningsby Brierley as Barry is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Percy Carr takes the part of Geoffrey Challoner in a very pleasing manner; Mr. Percy Everard as Sir Joseph Verity is excellent; Mr. St. John Hamund makes a good Rajah of Bhong; Miss Dorothy Craske a charming Nan; Miss May Rawlinson as Margery Joy is also very successful; the character of Sophie is well represented by Miss Darrell; and Miss Ethel Negretti as Princess Melaneh sustains the part well.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—The premier turn this week is a musical burlesque, entitled *Around the Town*, for which King and Benson are responsible. The Great Marconis perform wonders with electricity; the Arthur Gallimore Trio are exceedingly good with their quaint antics; Herbert Sleath's company appears in *The Deputy Sheriff;* Mr. Charles Mildare's whistling performance is clever; and Joyce Barbour (dancer), Lillah Lassah (comedienne and dancer), and Mr. S. W. Wyndham (comedian) are also in the list.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Manageress, Mrs. Davidson.—*The Prodigal Parson* is being played here by Mr. W. V. Garrod's capable company. In the part of the Rev. Tom Godley Mr. Garrod is exceptionally good; Mr. E. Vaughan does well as Enoch Juggins; as Ben Juggins Mr. Coldcleugh shows at once what a good actor he is; the part of Phil Drive is undertaken by Mr. Owen Remonde, a native of Crook, and a born comedian; Mr. Walter Vincent does well as Ned Kettlepin, as also does Mr. Roland Bridge in the character of Markby the Detective; Miss Bertha Kingston displays ability in the leading part of Fern Godley; and Miss Madge Douglas is a charming Gretchen.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Wood; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest Archer.—A welcome return visit is paid by *The Earl and the Girl*, capitally staged by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. Edward Lewis enacts the rôle of Jim Cheese with refreshing humour; Mr. Herbert St. John is very successful as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Lionel Scott is seen to advantage as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and genuine work is put in by Messrs. D. Fisher, jun., Harry Courtin, Jos. R. Tate, and J. Hoddy as Downham, A. Bunker Bliss, Mr. Talk, and Hazel. Miss Flora Gordon makes a charming Virginia Bliss; Miss Edith Blande is effective as Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Blanche Astley is a praiseworthy Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Lina Hicks gives a clever character-sketch of 'Liza Shoddam; and Miss Lily Gullick makes a winsome Elphin Haye. The dresses and scenery are grand, and the chorus is handsome.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Harold Nuttall's company, in *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*, is winning approval here; the Glenroy troupe dance to perfection; Alice Hollander has a fine contralto voice; Jolly Jimmy Walker is a droll comedian; Mrs. John Lawson and company pay another return visit with *Sally in Our Alley;* Walker and Lake introduce new patter; Molly Maguire is a neat comedienne; Vincent is a marvellous acrobat; the Narow Brothers are expert cyclists; T. E. Dunville is a popular comedian; Dorothy Watson, at the piano, deserves a word; and the pictures are also shown.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Barclay.—Miss Kate Cutler and Mr. Frank Tennant in *An Episode* are exhilarating; the Four Vagabonds are first-rate humorous vocalists; Daisy Jerome, comedienne, is a great favourite; Tom Leamore is a droll comedian; the Sisters Storm are skilful dancers; Doroswami is a talented musician; Vandinoff, lightning painter, is applauded; the Tan-Kwai Chinese troupe of acrobats, gymnasts, and equilibrists cause excitement; Crystal and Saville score in comedy duologue, *Jack's Jacket;* and the American Bioscope pictures conclude.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell. — Messrs. Alban and Limpus's company are here with *The Thief*, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander. Miss Diana Cloud in the title-rôle plays admirably; Mr. Bernard Limpus gives a pleasing rendering as Richard Chelford; Mr. F. Morland as Raymond Leyton is good; Mr. Carl W. Lindsey gives a capital representation of Harry Leyton; Mr. W. Somerset is seen to advantage as Mr. Protheroe; and Miss Mary Forrester is a sweet Isabel Leyton. The play is preceded by *Box and Cox*.

PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls.—The bill here this week includes G. H. Elliott, the popular chocolate-coloured coon, who is making a big success; Miss Ella Shields, with her attractive coon songs; Hinton and Wooton, clever in their football match on bicycles; and Arthur F. Ward, smart in his juggling and hoops. Other turns are given by Irve Hayman and company in a pretty episode, *Xmas Eve;* Moon and Morris, dancers; J. C. Inman, comedian; and a series of pictures on the Bioscope.

DARWEN.—ALBERT HALL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Holden; Manager, Mr. J. Morris. — A capital entertainment is being given here this week. Up-to-date films are shown, and Mitchell and Stott prove favourites as tramp gymnasts; as also does Billy Richardson, M.P., stump orator, etc.; Billy Melia, comedian and dancer, gives a good turn.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Miss Stella Gastelle is appearing here in an excerpt from *La Poupee*, in which she finds admirable scope for her vivacity and charm; the Ellesmere Troupe are clever trick cyclists; the Millwards, comedy gymnasts, introduce much that is new; the Flying Winskills are expert on the trapeze; Dorothy Sephton is a pleasing vocalist, with tasteful songs; the Kebbles are breezy comediennes and skilful dancers; Walter Wallis is a popular comedian; and Clarke and Mostol, terpsichorean humorists, would be hard to beat. The Bioscope terminates a capital programme.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Moyes.—The Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne* is being produced here by Mr. Graham Arthurs and company. The dual rôles of Lady Isobel and Mme. Vine are ably undertaken by Miss Mabel Elliott, whose emotional acting is impressive; Mr. Graham Arthurs is eminently suited in the part of Sir Francis Levison; Miss Mildred Eversleigh gives an excellent portrayal of Barbara Hare; Miss Molly Richardson does well as Cornelia Carlyle; and Mr. Gerard Ord capably accounts for Archibald Carlyle.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—Florina Cody, lady rifle expert, presents a wonderful exhibition of backward shooting; Mr. Cade Burnett, actor vocalist, appears with success; and the Hastings submit a refined musical turn. A fine assortment of pictures is presented.

DEVONPORT.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Prance.—The famous Craggs, with their marvellous acrobatic business, again score heavily, their sketch *Territorials* being both clever and amusing; Flora Cromer has a trio of songs, which are excellently rendered; Victor Widdicombe has an enjoyable little sketch, entitled *Her Devonshire Dad*, which is followed with much attention; Cestria again appears in an amusing juggling turn; Tom Gott has a couple of songs, rendered in amusing fashion; and Leick and Keith contribute some first-rate cornet playing. The other turns are provided by Mona Garrick and W. G. Wesley (comedian).

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Large houses have witnessed *The Master of the Mill* here. The piece is well staged and full of excitement from start to finish. Mr. Algernon Syms plays the title-rôle with great skill, and Miss Nair Jonghmans as Kate Rigby is very successful. Mr. Ernest E. Jameson gives a fine interpretation of the villainous Julian Croft, and the other characters are well sustained by Messrs. Paul Beckett, Euart Drake, Valerie Russell, and Miss E. Edoni.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—The attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *The Power of the King*, produced twice nightly. Mr. Clavering Craig in the part of the hero, Capt. Landgrave, is responsible for a good study; the King of Valombrosa is cleverly sustained by Mr. Charles Whitlock; Miss Conyers Radcliffe gives a finished portrayal of Lady Anastasia; Mr. Arthur St. John as the villain, Prince Oscar, is ably assisted in his clever work by Mr. Sprey Palmer as General Stenovic; Miss Florence McInnes is a praiseworthy Lady Florena; Mr. Wilton Drury as Fritz and Miss Maud Stuart as Margot are responsible for good comedy; and Mr. Roy Craig as Alberta and Mr. Fred Newburn as Capella deserve commendation.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Heading a good all-round programme here are the Original Colombias in a series of artistic poses; Maude Elliston's company present *Dobson's Day Off;* Ernesto proves himself to be a skilful juggler; Arthur Aiston is a talented comedian; fun is also caused by the comedy acrobatic work of Niagara and Falls; the Mackinnon Family submit an interesting musical, vocal, and dancing act; Rose D'Aulby, vocalist, meets with success; Conan and Doyle go well; and Ethel Dove, comedienne, also appears.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon; Stage-Manager, Mr. P. Hogg.—Some good variety is introduced here by Hylton and Wallace, in humorous patter and singing; S. Mitchell excels as an actor-vocalist; Marie and Nellie are seen to advantage in their singing and dancing act; and the Two Ludoes submit a clever acrobatic act.

DINNINGTON (Yorks).—LYRIC THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. James England. — *Miss Plaster of Paris* has won favour here, and Miss Winifred Chalmers' company is responsible for a very capable representation of the piece. The title rôle is capably filled by Miss Nelly Harcourt, who has several very catchy songs and executes a clever skipping-rope dance; as Alexander, the waiter, Mr. H. Ed. Ray, is capital; and Numskull Nubbs finds a capital exponent in Mr. John McIlroy; Mr. Herbert Golden as Tom Hubbs sustains an exacting part well; and Mr. Sid Dean scores heavily as Mrs. Nubbs; some clever dancing is done by the Sisters English and the Sisters Florence; Miss Winifred Chalmers fills the part of the Manageress of the Red Lion with dignity. The piece is well staged and well dressed, and there is a very capable chorus.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Amati's Band, comprising thirty soloists, heads the bill here; Sisters Lowson are smart duettists and capital dancers; George Christian, comedian, is humorous; and a refined and popular turn is presented by the Boolon Trio, capable instrumentalists; and Charles Edwards, in character songs, Mons. W. C. Ugo, conjurer, and Delmar and Demay also entertain.

DUBLIN. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Marriott Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Wright.—*The Village Blacksmith* is being played here by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. John Strong is capitally handled by Mr. Sam Livesey; and Miss Gladys Brittain displays much ability as his son Harry. Mr. Joseph Carter successfully enacts the part of Captain Leo; and Miss Maggie Edwards gives a good account of herself as Kate Strong. Mr. J. H. Langford is well placed as Jeremiah Parkins; and his better-half, Sal, has an able representative in Miss Nellie Graham. Lucas Marler is admirably portrayed by Mr. J. Milne Taylor; and Miss Nellie Sinclair is excellent as Martha Mopps. Mr. J. Hodson is highly diverting as Billy Twigg; and Miss Cissie Le Grande is all that could be desired as Ruth Parkins.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frederick Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—Arthur Prince, in his clever ventriloquial entertainment, is the big attraction here, and proves highly successful. Terry and Lambert, in their latest character-studies, are much appreciated; Merian's Dogs give an entertaining performance; Beatie and Babs, in their original scena, gain rounds of applause; Kioto and Esa, in their equilibristic and sensational ladder performance, are deservedly encored; the Martineks, in a novel entertainment, entitled *The Rag Doll*, make a decided hit; Arthur Aldridge is an accomplished vocalist; and the Royal Bioscope completes a well-varied programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Don*, presented by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's capable company, received a cordial welcome here on Monday. In the rôle of Mrs. Bonnington Miss Hutchison is distinctly successful; Mrs. Sinclair has an admirable impersonator in Miss Celia Gordon; Miss Viola Garland makes a fascinating Ann Sinclair; Miss Violet Harley gives a praiseworthy performance of Elizabeth Thompsett; and Miss Dorothy Gordon sustains the part of Fanny with credit. Mr. Arthur Willoughby is well suited as Canon Bonnington; Mr. Gordon Bailey gives a clever impersonation of Stephen Bonnington; and General Sinclair is well played by Mr. Charles Tyrel; and Mr. Charles Harley is commendable as Albert Thompsett. The curtain-raiser *Chalk and Cheese* is well received.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A strong bill here is headed by Mr. Tom Edwards, the "ventriloquial huntsman," who meets with a hearty reception. Gus Blake and Maud Granby, in their comedy duologue *The System*, create roars of laughter; Leo Stormont finds favour for his well-rendered songs; Miss Madge Beresford is a captivating burlesque artist; Mr. Charles Erard, pianist and mimic, is an acceptable turn; Mr. Harry Simms acquits himself well as a comedian; the Frantz Comedy Five are highly amusing in their sketch *Fun in a Schoolroom;* the Channings obtain applause for a pleasing vocal and instrumental act; Kail Stern is a capital comedian; and the Empire pictures conclude.

TIVOLI. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Charburn's "Young Stars," in their refined vocal scena *A Picnic Up the River*, top the bill here, and are well appreciated. Charles M. Daly's company, in their comedy sketch *Men Were Deceivers Ever*, create much amusement; Mme. Adah Payne sings in a well-finished style; the Four Minskys, acrobatic musical eccentrics, submit an excellent turn; and contributions to the programme are also made by the Richards Trio (comedy acrobats), Rosie Bartlett (male impersonator), Sadie and Vone (in music, comedy, and dancing extraordinary), Fred Elton (in his original scena *On Board an Ocean Liner*), the Vedras (comedy act, *Humps and Bumps*), and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, Sprengel Brothers.—The company appearing here includes the Welfares, vocal comedy couple; Phyllis Esmond, chorus vocalist; Tom Swift, vocal comedian; Genie Glen, dainty comedienne; Lieut. Uniquem, ventriloquist; Rell and Denny, comedy duettists; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids* is delighting audiences. Sam Brudenell and Frank Meredith are breezily filled by Messrs. Donald Price-Evans and Algernon W. Lee; Mr. Bernard Vaughan is a humorous Dr. O'Byrne; Mr. Norman Bowyer is a big success as Joe Mivens, A.B.; Miss Nellie Bowman is vivacious and clever as Eliza; Miss Eva Ellis makes a charming and graceful Peggy; Winifred is prettily played by Miss Kathline Sinico; and Miss Margaret Carter gives a dignified rendering of Lady Brudenell. The piece is well put on and the chorus excellent.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Colin.—The following artists are appearing here:—Arthur Albert, light comedian and actor vocalist; the Zeenas, in a comedy bar act; Plant Bros., neat hand-to-hand equilibrists; Sisters Barnett, duettists and dancers; J. Toner, comedian and mimic; J. P. Carroll, vocalist and tambourinist; Ada Clare, comedienne; G. Hyatt, society juggler; and Harry Beasley, the new comedian.

DUMFRIES.—ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, George Hunter; Resident-Manager, W. Hunter.—Miss Ella Gold's singing and dancing is first class; Miss Winnie Warner is well received in her bell performance and Scottish dances; and Mr. Dave Abbot's amusing songs and eccentric dancing are very much appreciated. The principal pictures are The Little Star, A Wireless Romance, Frightened Freddy, and Bumper's Patent Bellows.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Horace Lingard, Miss Beatrice Moreau, and company, had a cordial reception here on Monday in *The New Lady Bantock*. In the name part Miss Beatrice Moreau is delightfully vivacious; Mr. Horace Lingard is an excellent Martin Bennet; Mr. Sydney Bland plays capitally the part of Lord Bantock; Dr. Freemantle is represented with skill and effect by Mr. Lyon Hastings; Mr. Wilfred Compton, as the theatrical manager (George Newte) plays with the necessary energy and tact; as the Aunts, Miss Miriam Holt and Miss Dorothy Clifton win all hearts; and Miss Marie Saville effectively represents the austere housekeeper, Susannah Bennet. For Friday and this evening *Is Marriage a Failure?* is billed.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Moul; Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh.—Rinaldo, violinist, is rapturously applauded; Yangar, the West African wonder worker, submits several cleverly-worked illusions; the Derrington family perform the most daring feats on cycles; Annie Schuberth captivates with her charming singing in her song scena; Martin Henderson, the blind musician, is much appreciated; Corcoran Bros. are particularly entertaining; Tom Joy scores in his amusing parodies; and Jury's pictures are excellent.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—The Muir-Bartlett Comedy Company is appearing here this week in a répertoire of high-class miniature comedies, consisting of *The Collar Stud, When the Cat's Away*, and *The Courage of Charlie*. The company includes the well-known Scotch comedian, Wal Croft, who meets with great success. The other vaudeville artists, who are all equally successful, are Cissie Vernon, ballad vocalist; Henri, ventriloquist; Maisie Coyne, refined comedienne and coon delineator; Heeley and Crawford, society entertainers; Chas. Champney, actor vocalist; and Mrs. Hugh De Beera, the society actress.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and his company appeared here the first three evenings of this week in *The House Opposite*. Miss Amy Sangster gave an earnest and realistic performance of Mrs. Rivers; Miss Elfie Leigh Hunt was an interesting and effective Mrs. Calthorpe; Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn gave entire satisfaction as Lady Wentworth; and Miss Doris Rigby was a quiet and sympathetic Marie. Mr. H. V. Neilson contributed a consistently good performance as Richard Cardyne; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde, easy and polished, did capable duty as Henry Rivers; Mr. Dickson Moffatt gave a clever and amusing character sketch of Sir Edward Harrowby; and Mr. Alfred Hilliard, Mr. A. Stirling, and Mr. A. C. Bute lent capital aid in the smaller parts of Fillerby, Sands, and Parker. Mr. Mark Blow's company is billed to appear in *The Little Damozel* for the latter part of the week.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. F. Woodward.—The Four Leopolds are skilled and daring acrobats; Jenny and Joe sing and dance to the delight of the audience; Mr. Philip Levard is a capital conjurer, and serves up his tricks in novel style; Mr. Sam T. Poluski is a smart comedian and dancer; Jimmy is a most intelligent and obedient dog; Mr. Carson Hicks sings pleasingly and dances well; the Sisters Du Cane are attractive and tuneful singers; and new pictures are shown.

ECCLES.—CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers. — Mr. John F. Preston is here with his répertoire company, opening on Monday night with *Jane Shore*. As Richard, Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Preston thoroughly displayed his histrionic ability; Mr. Alfred Ward as King Edward IV. was all that could be desired; Mr. Walter Morton gave a sound performance as Lord Hastings; as did also Mr. Edwin Morton as Sir William Catesby; Mr. Francis Everard made a capital Matthew Shore; Mr. W. Howard Barlow as Anthony Yeast proved himself a clever character actor; Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Jane Shore acted in a thoroughly satisfactory manner; and was well supported by Miss Lillie Pierce as Elizabeth Woodville and Miss Maud Kynnersley as Alizon Yeast. The play was well mounted. *Nell Gwynne, The Three Musketeers*, and *The Man in the Iron Mask* are also in the bill.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company appeared here in *The Arcadians* on Monday evening. A slight accident which occurred to Mr.

Would you like to make your shoes, handbags, belts, &c., match the colour of your dress?

. . . A shilling tin of "Midas" will do it for you. And it will do it quickly and easily—without mess or trouble—and cheaper than it could be done by any other means.

. . . "Midas" is made in Gold, Silver, and all the favourite colours, but you can order any special colour, if you wish, without extra charge.

. . . Guaranteed to keep true to colour—waterproof—free from acid—"Midas" will not tarnish or crack.

. . . "Midas" can be used for restoring or imparting new colours to almost anything—satin shoes, leather goods, picture frames, woodwork of all kinds, lincrusta, metal ornaments, &c.

It is invaluable for theatrical properties.

Midas
PATENT

Can be obtained from B. BURNET & Co., Ltd., Theatrical Agents, Garrick Street, Covent Garden, W.C., and most Ironmongers, Chemists, Boot Shops, and Stores, price 1/- per tin, any colour. If you cannot obtain, send P.O. direct to "Midas," Ltd., 73, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

BY APPOINTMENT

FOR COUGHS. Owbridge's Lung Tonic FOR COLDS.

Owbridge's
Lung Tonic

The most up-to-date, best known and most successful Remedy in the World for

COUGHS & COLDS

Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.

CAUTION:—Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

This is the Best, Cheapest and Safest way to recovery.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
Established 1874.
Sold everywhere in bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. 4s. 6d. and 11s.
COPYRIGHT

Walter Passmore on preparing to make his first entrance as Simplicitas necessitated Mr. Jack Morrison, his understudy, taking up the part in the early scenes of the piece. Mr. Morrison showed considerable humour. Mr. Passmore afterwards resumed the part, and pluckily went through the other acts, playing with his usual drollery and point. Mr. Oliver J. Round as the melancholy jockey acted with much quaintness and comic force, and his song, "Merry and Bright", was repeatedly encored; Miss Ethel Erskine, charming singer and graceful actress, was seen to advantage in the character of Sombra, and Miss Veronica Brady as Mrs. Smith invested the part with great humour; Mr. Harold E. Pearson as Jack Meadows proved himself an admirable vocalist, and the dancing of Miss Billy Sinclair was brilliantly done.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Hall Caine's revised version of two of his successful plays have been staged here this week. In *The Eternal Question* Mr. Creagh Henry gave an excellent interpretation of the scheming Prime Minister, Baron Bonelli; his distinguished opponent, Pius XI., being well portrayed by Mr. E. W. Thomas; the outstanding rôles of David Rossi and Donna Roma Volonna received fitting rendition at the hands of Mr. Derwent Hall Caine and Miss Helena Millais, both of whom successfully sustained their difficult parts; Mr. Julian Cross made a strikingly effective Bruno Rocco, whose wife and son were represented with much feeling by Miss Agnes Knights and Miss Anna Cuka; and in all its details the cast was a thoroughly capable one. *The Bishop's Son* was also staged during the week, Mr. Derwent Hall Caine, as Daniel Mylrea, bearing the burden of the piece on his shoulders with conspicuous ability, while able support was given by Mr. Creagh Henry, in the part of the Bishop, and by Mr. Julian Cross, who appeared as the Deemster; Miss Millais very admirably filled the rôle of Mona Mylrea, and the remaining characters were in competent hands.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Miss Maud Mortimer, a dashing comedienne with a taking style, is one of the chief attractions at the King's this week, and a strong programme also includes a clever troupe, Seener and Pridkins, Russian singers and dancers; Mr. J. W. Hall, a smart delineator of varied types of character; Mart and Pep, youthful and pleasant performers of hand-balancing feats; Mr. Archie Royer, a daring acrobat, who presents several fresh items; Mr. Dave Carter, the well-known Irish tenor; Mr. Cull Pitt in his sketch, *Merely an Entertainer*; Mr. Reg Bolton, in a humorous turn entitled *Inky's Music Lesson*; Mr. Richard Finberg, an excellent and effective actor, in selections from plays; Miss Dorothy Belmore, a pleasing entertainer at the piano; and Miss Marie Dreams, a young vocalist with a powerful voice

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook.—The attractions this week included a welcome return visit from Mr. Herbert Darnley's company, with that diverting military comedy *Private Potts*, Mr. Fred Kitchen being as breezy and humorous as ever in the name part, and Mr. Harry Lappo hugely helping on the fun in the rôle of the little bugler. In the farcical sketch *Adam the Second*, Barton and Ashley produced considerable merriment; Rich and Rich achieved distinct success as patter comedians; the Eisteddfod Prize Vocal Sextette proved themselves pleasing harmonists; and the Elsa Satanella Trio gave an excellent display of acrobatic dancing. Of the single-handed turns, Elsie Robey did well as the Slavey at the Piano; Clown Argo was successful in his well-known mimicry; and Fred Shephard scored as a comedy vocalist with a budget of popular songs. Some interesting animated pictures were shown by the American Bioscope.

ELLESMERE PORT.—HIPPODROME AND PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Corelli and Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Corelli.—George E. Pelham and company during the week present the following plays: *The Castlemaine Diamonds*, *The Power of Evil*, and *The Judgment*. The principal characters in these plays are ably portrayed by Messrs. George E. Pelham, Lawrence Trevelyan, and Miss Vi Dennis. A very interesting programme is made up by the appearance of Violet Dennis as a comedienne and dancer; Williams and Hayes, in a vocal comedy act; and Nellie Nora as a musical entertainer.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Louie Freear provides a powerful attraction, her character sketches being as smart and full of mirth as ever, and with her burlesque imitations, humorous songs, and "narratives," she immensely pleases the houses. The Gay Gondoliers are also popular; Miss Beatrice Rowe possesses a soprano voice of excellent range and power; Miss Nina Lorenza does some artistic mandoline playing; Mr. Geo. Roberts is a smart vocalist and entertaining mimic; and Mr. Alfred Green deserves praise in the same respect. Mr. Alf Wharton is funny with his eyeglass.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Resident and Acting-Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.—Tom and Marie Motramo, who have pride of place on this week's bill, are a clever pair of musical and comedy artists; Humpsti-Bumsti, presented by Pipifax and Panlo, proves an exceedingly smart acrobatic turn with the right amount of comic relief; Harry Friskey introduces a popular and entertaining juggling item; Will Driscoll, swell comedian, is excellently received; Les Davenports are expert sleight-of-hand artists; Beaty and Blanche have some tuneful songs which they render with good effect; and Fame and Fortune, in a speciality comedy act, cause merriment.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—A return visit is being paid this week by Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier in a round of Shakespearean plays. The plays produced include *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *Richard III.*, in which the principal rôles are assumed by Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier, well and ably supported by the company.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is on a welcome visit here with *The Little Damozel*. In the title-rôle Miss Emilie Polini acted with a pleasant discrimination; Mr. Alick Chumley as Recklaw Poole portrayed the character with great skill; Mr. William Matthews was in every way excellent as Walter Angel; Mr. Guy Newall made an amusing Fitzroy Lock; and Mr. George A. Brandram interpreted the rascally Captain Partington in a manner that reflected credit upon him. Sybil Craven was fittingly sustained by Miss Marion Lockie, and in the minor parts of Papa Batholdy, Franz Pepo, and Abraham, Messrs. Gambier, Ravenscroft, and Frank Roy each displayed ability. *An Englishman's Lie* form an effective curtain-raiser. *The House Opposite* is booked for the latter part of the week.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fredk. J. Reece.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company appeared here on Monday for three nights in *Little Phil's Mother*. The title-rôle and Little Phil, the crippled child, were pathetically played by Miss Maud Russel and Miss Daisy Rochefort; Mr. John E. Tomlinson gave a good character sketch of Bill Brisket, and he was ably supported by Miss Kate Blair as Elspeth; Mr. Herbert Evelyn was a powerful Frank Towers, and the same remark may be applied to Mr. David McFarlyne as Oscar. One of the best played characters was the old musician of Mr. Dunlop Stewart. The comedy element was safe in the hands of Mr. Thorne and Miss Leslie Warner. The rest of the week is occupied by pictures and a variety company.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John R. Fox.—This week we have a variety company on the two shows a night principle. The principal item is Miss Marcelle Eirl and her quartette of juvenile dancers in a pretty production, "A Moon Dream"; Miss Dulcie Moore and her piano are a pleasing turn; Carta and Mirtziana are clever balancers; and the rest of the company consists of Gene Brant, Dan E. Scott (comedian), Flo Beresford, and Kitty Corrie.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman, Mr Alfred Moul; Local Manager and Licensee, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—Mlle. Vera de Astra in a picturesque act, embracing classical posing and superb dancing, heads the list here this week; Rowland Hill is as amusing as ever; Tom Barrasford's Minstrel Boys score with songs and dances; Mr. C. le Gar presents Señor Angel Blanco, the Spanish violinist, in the playlet *Music the Conqueror*, which is warmly praised; Kenneth and Kane form a comedy duo which really merits the adjective original; the Fordyces are an amusing pair of juveniles; and Little Frankie, boy vocalist, and the Kingscope are other attractive items in a strong bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Sole Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's excellent company is appearing here in the drama *Night and Morning*. Mr. Carlton creditably fills the rôle of Richard Sefton; Mr. Bertram Damer is well fitted for the part of Lionel Mildmay; the part of Lucas Hardshore is effectively rendered by Mr. John Crondall; a most amusing comedian is Mr. Willie H. Vernon, who undertakes the rôle of Bob Barleycorn; the part of Alice Welford has an excellent exponent in Miss Rubie Maud; and the highest praise is due to Miss Marion Holly for her low comedy work in the part of Selina.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy O. Humphrys.—This week playgoers here have an opportunity of enjoying the highly-amusing comedy *Tantalizing Tommy*. Messrs. Lyn Harding and Sidney Cooper's company is headed by Miss Nellie Lonnen (Tommy) and Mr. Hastings Lynn (Jimmy), both of whom work with unfailing spirit in keeping the fun going; Harry Killick is undertaken by Mr. Ambrose Flower with much success; the heavy fathers, Thomas H. Pepper and Eustace Tathem, are played most effectively by Mr. Roy Byford and Mr. Ernest R. Hollway respectively; Miss Eva Brickwell gives character to the part of Bertha; Elsie Tathem by Miss Margaret Stuart and the maid by Miss Kate Emerson are also well-filled parts; as Lord Enderby Mr. Geoffrey Denys looks the part admirably; Mr. Olaf Hylten is good as Jennings; the Colonial Office clerks are ably represented by Messrs. Cyril Percy and Frank Creston; and the servant is capably played by Mr. Hubert Lane. *The Second Mrs. Grundy* is played as a curtain-raiser.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* is this week being presented here by Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. John Hart's company. Mr. E. St. Alban supplied a good study of Gaspard, and in the second act distinguished himself by a fine bit of acting; Mr. Cyril Thomson did excellent work as Henri, his vocal efforts calling forth many evidences of appreciation. The part of Germaine finds a graceful exponent in Miss Kitty Dale, and Miss Mabel Ross daintily interprets Serpolette. Mr. Fred Dark's impersonation of the Bailie is very clever, and his business is amusing; Mr. Alfred Selby supplies a humorous study as Gobo; Mr. Arthur Geary made good use of his opportunities as Grenicheux; and Miss Lucy Kipling plays Christophe pleasingly.

GRAND. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Christie Grant.—The stock company here are this week presenting the laughable farce called *Borrowed Plumes*, in which Mr. Alex Keith sustains with great spirit the character of Dick Mizzle, while Mr. Charles Homer acts with energy the part of Captain Flasher; Violet is pleasingly personated by Miss Ann Haughton, and Miss Margaret Zaidia makes a charming Emma; Mr. J. Wingate presents a sedate Mr. Bibbins, and Mr. John Roberts as Ostler Joe completes an effective cast. Miss Norma Russell is the vocalist, and with her telling contralto voice she sings several songs with feeling. Slides showing up-to-date events and several amusing Bioscope films complete the entertainment.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*Driving a Girl to Destruction* occupies the boards here this week, and is proving its drawing powers with well-filled houses. Miss Marie Robson as Ruth is excellent in all her work, and has little to learn as an exponent of melodrama, a like remark applying to Miss Maud M. Powell, whose every action shows her extreme capability in the part of Ruby; Mr. Cecil Mannering makes a capital Lucas List, a character he portrays with excellent realism, while as Octavius Screwe, his cringing catspaw, Mr. Henry Scratchard does admirably; Miss Kate Froude as Mme. de Meral appears in a rôle to which she is excellently suited, and Mr. J. A. Bentham as Robert Ray, the lover of Ruby, is very strong in his arduous part.

METROPOLE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, in *A Girl's Temptation*, comes to the above theatre this week. The leading characters, Miss Zella Stanhope as Kate Stirling, a working girl, and Mr. Frank V. Venn as Guy Warren, son of a millionaire, made an excellent impression, which was shared by Mr. Clifton Earle as Mark Klaw, mill manager; Mr. Charles Herbert as Basile Warren, Guy's father, and Mr. Fred J. Mace as Jim Judd, a ne'er-do-well, acquitted themselves well in minor characters, and the lighter side was well represented by Mr. Albert E. Mann as Sammy Sniggles, a limb of the law, and Miss Amy Corallie as Jennie Jossap, a sprightly working girl. Not the least important characters in the play were Miss Winnie Donovan as Lady Constance and Miss Blanche Lee as Annie Brown, a victim, who acquitted themselves admirably.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. George N. Ballanger this week introduces to the Lyceum patrons his popular and talented American company in *King of the Wild West*. In the title-rôle Young Buffalo distinguishes himself by an excellent portrayal of the rough and ready but honest Scout; as Wild Nell Miss Caroline May Blaney gets ample opportunities for displaying her sterling capabilities; the Jack Morton of Mr. Edwin J. Collins is admirably interpreted; while as Kate Morton Miss Agnes McCarthy is singularly effective. Mr. Ernest Foster makes a creditable appearance as Randolph Morton, the unforgiving father. The sinister parts are ably sustained by Mr. Antoine Provost and Mr. George W. Cockburn as Yellow Face and John Bluffington respectively, while Mr. William Ashmeade does ample justice to the rôle of Pedro, the fiery Mexican. There are several very humorous situations, in which Mr. Edmund Rich as Judge Gritt and Miss Lucy Murray as Mrs. Miles McCarthy are responsible for much merriment. Mr. Bert Martin as Hatchet Face Abe submits two excellent vocal numbers in approved style.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds.—Miss Zena Dare, supported by Mr. Frank Wilson and Miss Ivy St. Helier, is outstanding on the bill, and presents Mr. Seymour Hicks' one-act play, *The Model and the Man*, which is a distinct success. Horace Wheatley, the genial Irish comedian, has still hosts of admirers; the Riogoku Family of unrivalled Japanese acrobats had a hearty reception, and the drolleries of Cruikshank were a treat. The other artists include the Courtiers, vaudeville entertainers; Thora, a "lady" ventriloquist; Geo. Rae, Scotch comedian; and France and Stewart, in *The Little Puritan*.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Ernest R. Foster.—The star here this week is the Comtesse de Rusae, who as poseuse, classical dancer, conjurer, and protean artist provides an excellent turn. She is assisted by Carl Menitz, who gives burlesque imitations of famous conductors. The Columbia Comedy Trio sing well, and their comedy is much enjoyed; Mooney and Holbein are a smart couple of comedians; G. W. Hunter again shows his skill as a raconteur to the audience; D'Arc's Marionettes are an excellent entertainment in themselves, and their imitations of all the well-known variety artists were life-like; Leroux's Monkeys, in their cycling act, show wonderful training; Hal Forde, light comedian, is a favourite in Glasgow; the Sisters Showell sing several duets in attractive style; Alman Correige, a juggler of much merit, is also worthy of mention.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Mike S. Whallen is as fresh and entertaining as ever, his "Irish Wake," as usual, being loudly called for; Drew and Alders, in their coastguard sketch, are given wide scope for their excellent dancing and tumbling work; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard appear in *Coming Home*, which proves exceedingly funny. Quite an interesting dramatic playlet, *A Society Sinner*, is presented by the Forestiers; Frank Hartley is a juggler at the top of his profession; Stacey and Williams are a duo of clever comedians; Angus Strong renders both his numbers in pleasing style; while Bertha Evelyn, contralto, is a dainty lady with a good voice. Frances McNulty puts forward a clever dancing turn, which takes well. The Palacescope films are of the same high class, and the orchestra, under the capable leadership of Mr. Arthur Fellowes, is to be complimented on its work.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. John M. Hay.—Herbert Sleath and company produce here a striking and picturesque play in *The Horse Thief*, and the cleverly-told story interests the large audience from start to finish. Sammy Shields is a strong favourite in Glasgow, and his various songs take well; Helen Trix, the American comedienne, is well received for her eccentric comedy business; Fanny Robina contributes several enjoyable items; and a hearty welcome is extended to Florrie Cooper for her well-rendered songs. Conn and Conrad, Ben Lewin, and Dan Hendy are all responsible for clever items, and the Bioscope brings a bright entertainment to a close.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. J. J. Bennell; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The films screened here are most up to date, and include An Excursion in a Dirigible, Light Loves, Countess Chalwut, Agony Column Romance, The Death of Lincoln, Lieutenant Rose and the Chinese Pirates, and the Gazette, describing the latest national and foreign incidents. There is, in addition, a variety programme, which is well sustained by Charles Ousley, vocalist and speciality dancer; and Sydney Verne, ventriloquist.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—W. H. Smart has clever and amusing songs, and he dances well, and the Gascoynes cause plenty of fun with their sketch *Fitznoodle's Proposal*; the Sisters Sember prove chic comediennes and dancers, and Wallace Muirhead sings descriptive songs in fine style. The Bioscope has an interesting series of pictures, including The Joe Bowker *v.* Digger Stanley Fight, which is much enjoyed.

STAR, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—A remarkably realistic film is The Great Train Hold-up, a dramatic American railroad story; A Personal Matter, a very funny picture, keeps the audience in roars of laughter. In the variety line Les Zelovas are heartily applauded for a clever performance of daring acrobatic feats; Miss Sylvia West is successful in her vocal numbers, while as a dancer she gives an accomplished and graceful display. Special mention must be made of Day and Daly, who excel as comedians.

ZOO AND CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Councillor E. H. Bostock.—An excellent programme is provided at the Zoo this week, no fewer than fifteen turns being given, many of which are surprisingly clever. Messrs. Aerian and Ostara prove a big attraction in a flying trapeze act at a height of 30ft., over a huge net very clever equestrian acts being given by M. Charlerol and Leo Claire; the Torcadors, in an amusing comedy bull fight. Miss Pinder, clever horseback performer; Little Sid, clever clown; Harey and Jabez, the eccentric motor men; and August and September, fun manufacturers, are also worthy of special mention.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy and répertoire company opened on Monday in *Mr. Barnes of New York*. Mr. J. C. Lodge-Percy gave a clever portrayal of Mr. Barnes; Mr. F. D. Howard was subtle as Count Danello; Mr. A. Money was a bluff and hearty Captain George Arthur; Mr. F. A. Morley a good Lieutenant Antonio Paoli; Tomasso and Matteo were in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Whitmee and Mr. Eric Boulé; and Marina Paoli was finely rendered by Miss Henrietta Schrier. On Wednesday and Thursday *Moths* was staged.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company present *The Beggar Princess* here this week. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy plays the Hon. Algernon Fitzhugh in breezy style; whilst Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy enacts the Princess Henri of Slavonia at times powerfully and always charmingly; Mr. Juan D'Alberti is seen to advantage as Duke Sergius Rubinoff; Duke Michael is capitally played by Mr. Henry Danson; Allen Armstrong in the hands of Mr. F. Norburn is praiseworthy; Mr. E. J. Fay is noticeable as Abraham Bolton; and the remaining characters are all capably cast.

KING'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Stewart.—The Firechief's Daughter is an excellent picture, and Pathe's Gazette is interesting. The varieties include Pharos, a clever magician; the Hudson Duo, in singing and patter act; and Miss Kitty Woodford in illustrated songs.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd.—Tunny fishing in Sicily is an attractive picture; London and its Life, too, interests; but, for an agricultural district, no more appropriate picture could be found than that depicting the old-fashioned way of preserving milk, as compared with the new mechanical process.

GREENOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Messrs. J. E. Watson and C. T. Doe's company is here with the interesting comedy *Priscilla Runs Away*. Miss Beatrice Lindley played the part of Priscilla in excellent style; Mr. Leslie Owen acted effectively as the Prince of Lucerne; Mr. Clifton Alderson was sufficiently stern and dignified as the Grand Duke; and Mr. J. Edmund Pearce distinguished himself as Herr Fritzing; Miss Annie Stalman admirably sustained the rôle of Mrs. Morrison; Miss Eva Mansell and Mrs. Rose Hardy as the Duchess of Gerstein and Lady Shuttleworth were praiseworthy, and the rest of the cast lent valuable support.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—George A. Street and company are still here, and this week present a thrilling sketch, entitled *The Bad Man*. The title-rôle is enacted by Mr. Street himself with considerable skill, while the other parts are in capable hands; Ferguson and Mack score in a knockabout absurdity; Stewart and Morris are smart dancers, and other noticeable turns include the Sisters Terry, duettists and dancers, Wee Jock Laird, described as the boy Lauder, and the Six Manchester Lads.

GRIMSBY. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North. — The new edition of *The Dairymaids* is thoroughly pleasing. Miss Ethel Callanan is a winsome Peggy; Miss Marjorie Manners scores special vocal honours as Winifred; Mr. Edwin Dodds brings out the humorous characteristics of Joe Mivens with telling effect; he is ably seconded by Miss Edie Martin, who gives a quaint representation of Eliza; Mr. William Spray contributes an abundance of excellent light comedy as Lieutenant Sam Brudenell; Mr. Harry Clark is excellent as Lieutenant Frank Meredith; and others who may be mentioned are Mr. Harry Scaddan as Dr. O'Byrne, Miss Marie Rignold as Lady Brudenell, and Miss Rose Edouin as Miss Pyechase.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford.—George Mozart is meeting with enthusiastic receptions, and his budget of new comedy, especially his political parodies, are hugely enjoyed; Daisy James is as popular as ever; the Three Delaries, in the Demon Grotto, give a clever gymnastic display; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna are expert sand dancers; the Raymond Trio have an entertaining musical and dancing act; Daisy Hurdle is a comedienne with a pleasing style; and Sim Maree gives an exhibition of remarkable contortionistic feats.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Louis Meyer's company is here with *The Woman in the Case*. As Margaret Rolfe Miss Mabel Trevor plays with intensity and feeling; Miss Florence Lloyd's Claire Foster is a splendid portrayal; Mr. Leonard Pagden is a dignified Thompson; Mr. Clayton Greene makes a manly Julian Rolfe, and Mr. Lambert Plummer, in the small part of Walters, is a conspicuous success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., No. 1 company are playing to good business with *Another Man's Wife*.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. Simpson.—Billy Merson, fun-maker, is having a good reception; Memora, the human encyclopædia, is a popular turn; Miss Louie Tracy, the "Dapper Dandy Boy," is a clever artist; Harry Shirley and May Ransome successfully present *Jim's Pal*; Sydney Bach, the "Welsh Rare-bit" at the piano, is a good turn; the Tintos are a couple of smart acrobats; Miss Cissie Thompson, comedienne; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians; and Harry Taylor, Lancashire comedian, complete the bill.

VICTORIA HALL, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Frank H. Corbett.—Fenton Cross appears here this week, introducing lightning sketches and his new line-shadowgraphy, in which he tries a new experiment—casting the shadow from the operating box—producing a capital effect. The pictures are good. Convict 796 is a fine dramatic film.

HANLEY. — ROYAL. — Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone.—Mr. Haldane Crichton's company in *The Cingalee* is here this week. Miss Isa Bowman as Nanoya, Mr. Hylton Warde as Chambhuddy Ram, Mr. Frank Barclay as Vereker, Mr. Herbert Franklin as Bobby Warren; Mr. Frank Lennard as Boobhamba, Miss F. Greensmith as Peggie, Miss Ray Anderson as Lady Vane, Miss Winnie Stone as Miss Pinkerton, and Mr. Herbert Le Maistre as Sir Peter are one and all highly commendable.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Arthur Rand.—Splendid houses are attracted by a capital programme headed by Chung Ling Soo, whose feats are wonderful; Lloyd Morgan, comedian, is recalled; Fred Bronte sings successfully; Edward Crosland's melody makers are heartily applauded for their musical act; Lecardo Bros., baker acrobats, are clever; Spry and Monti as duettists are good; Helen Martin, soprano vocalist, sings admirably; Lily Esplin is a charming comedienne. The pictures are always entertaining.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—An attractive series of pictures includes Beckwith's Gun, Pathé's Weekly Gazette, In Love with the Cashier, and Paradise Gulch. Alf E. Lindon, comedian, is a favourite.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—The leading attraction here is Rabottini and his Italian Court Band, whose operatic and other selections deserve commendation. Rozel succeeds in startling the audience by his aerial dive, which arouses tremendous applause; the Forsyths are inimitable and droll; Minnie D'Aubyn sings in capital style; Ben Jackson, first-rate banjoist and humorist; Tom Bryce and Miss Maynard give able representations of the smart sketch *The Dude's Wooing*; and Tom Garland is a humorous ventriloquist.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Maxsted.—Robb Wilton, who heads the bill here, is excruciatingly funny. Alice Gill is a contralto and Tyrolean vocalist of talent; and capital films fill in the remainder of the bill.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. F. R. Benson and his Shakespearean

N.D.L. IMPERIAL MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

REDUCED FARES.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEATRICAL PARTIES.

	First Class Single.	Return.	Second Class Single.	Return.
From Southampton	£60	£90	£35	£52 10s.
From Genoa	£56	£84	£33	£49 10s.

(plus 10 per cent. surtax.)

Twin-screw.	Tons.	From Southampton.	From Genoa.
GNEISENAU	8,081	Nov. 28	Dec. 6
BARBAROSSA	10,915	Dec. 26	Jan. 3
GROSSER KURFURST	13,102	Jan. 23	Jan. 31
SEYDLITZ	8,000	Feb. 20	Feb. 28
SCHARNHORST	8,131	Mar. 20	Mar. 28

Large state rooms and cabins for single passengers.

Apply to Keller, Wallis, and Co., 26 and 27, Cockspur-street, S.W., 2, King William-street, E.C., and at Manchester and Southampton, or to the Norddeutscher Lloyd Paris Office, 2, Rue Scribe.

A SHAKESPEARE LONG LOOKED FOR.

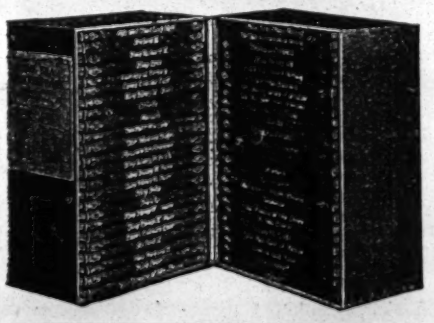

8D. net

Large Type.

Very Low Price.

Very full Annotations.

Pocket Volumes.

8D. net

The ERA Shakespeare.

In 42 Cloth-Bound Volumes at 8d. net per Vol.

The Volumes are beautifully set: Binding, Title, and Frontispiece are designed by Joseph Simpson.

Edited by HENRY N. HUDSON, LL.D.

For the Text a careful collation has been made of the various authorities—Collier, Dyce, Delius, Furness, Halliwell, the Cambridge Edition, etc.
The notes at the foot of the pages are those which are necessary to make clear the meaning of the passages. The notes of a more specialised nature are placed at the end of the volumes. The Editor has throughout availed himself of the best thought of the great commentators.

LIST OF VOLUMES.

A Midsummer Night's Dream	Twelfth Night	King Richard the Second
The Merchant of Venice	King Richard the Third	Troilus and Cressida
The Tempest	King Lear	Pericles, Prince of Tyre
King Henry the Fifth	Antony and Cleopatra	Measure for Measure
Romeo and Juliet	Coriolanus	A Winter's Tale
Hamlet, Prince of Denmark	The Comedy of Errors	King Henry VI. Part I.
As You Like It	The Two Gentlemen of Verona	King Henry VI. Part II.
The Merry Wives of Windsor	Love's Labour's Lost	King Henry VI. Part III.
King Henry the Eighth	King Henry IV. Part I.	The Two Noble Kinsmen
Julius Cæsar	King Henry IV. Part II.	Titus Andronicus
Macbeth	Cymbeline	Timon of Athens
Othello	All's Well That Ends Well	Venus and Adonis, Lucrece
The Taming of the Shrew	Much Ado About Nothing	Sonnets and Minor Poems
	King John	Life of Shakespeare
		Index

A Noble Edition with happy mingle of illustration, explanation, and keen, subtle, sympathetic criticism.—*H. H. Furness, Editor of the great "Variorum" Shakespeare.*
Abundant notes are provided at the bottom of each page; the type is clear; and the introductions are brief and sufficient. Notes on textual matters showing wide knowledge are added at the end.—*Athenæum.*
The type clear and large, the binding and get-up all that could be desired, the editing and annotating most lucid and exhaustive, the price as low as the lowest.—*Daily Chronicle.*

Complete Set in Box, 30s. net.

SINGLE COPIES, 8d. each.

Can be obtained at

"The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

company are appearing here this week in their popular répertoire of Shakespeare's plays. In all the plays Mr. Henry Herbert distinguishes himself in the principal parts. In the delightful tale of woodland life *As You Like It*, Mr. Herbert as Touchstone may be credited with exceptional ability; Mr. Duncan Yarrow in the part of Orlando bears himself gallantly enough; the banished Duke by Mr. Charles Warburton is a finished piece of acting; Mr. Wicksteed as his brother usurper presents a capital character study; a delightful impersonation of Rosalind is shown by Miss Gladys Vanderzee; Miss Rosalind Grey as Celia plays with much skill; and in the part of Audrey Miss Hope Trant creates amusement.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING. — GAIETY. — Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall.—Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company is here in the drama *Her Nameless Child*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Anthony Ford (the blacksmith) gives a realistic performance; Mr. Leonard Aardale is an excellent Lord Woodville; Miss Jean Wigney plays Phylis with conspicuous success; Miss Dora Weber as Lady Woodville and Miss Eileen Davenport as Grayont give capital impersonations; and Miss Beatrice Dover (Sarah) and Miss Rene Belle Douglas (Bessie Brooks) are well received.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill is Harry Lemore, a versatile comedy entertainer. Also included are the Crisps in a smart dancing turn; J. Augustin and Miss Annie Hartley, a pair of clever jumpers; Arthur Slater, the well-known whistling man in white; Lenton and Lane in a musical mixture; Royburn and Dix, comedians; Miss Lily Ray, comedienne; the Two Butterflies, trapeze artists; and the Pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—Crowded houses are attracted by a bill which includes Mlle. Suzanne de Verneuil's posing ladies, who present a series of charming artistic living pictures; Jack Fortescue and company in a dramatic playlet, entitled *Hawkshaw;* Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice, whose playing on the harp and the soprano saxophone is a treat; Miss Dorothy Dacey, comedienne; the Falcons, clever acrobatic comedians; Miss Norman Grant, at the piano; Pete and Minnie Lee in a bright and amusing musical duologue; Belrose and Miss Maude de Velin, duettists; and Miss Florence Smithers and company in a screaming farce, *Our Mary Jane*. Pictures complete.

HULL.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—That ever-verdant lady, *Charley's Aunt*, is paying a visit to Hull. Time has not influenced the hold she has on public affection. The real Dona Lucia is that talented artist Miss Helen Palgrave; Mr. Geo. A. Seager is a complete success as the masquerader; the two undergraduates find excellent representatives in Messrs. Francis Drake and Cecil Kerr, while Mr. Sydney Compton scored well as Stephen Spettigue. The laughter that greeted the efforts of the artists was a constant reminder of the comedy that has its being in this well-known play.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—The play this week is far away above the average, and *His Real Wife* should carry success in its wake where and whenever produced. The plot is closely knit, the dialogue breezy and to the point, the theme has a sense of novelty about it that is commendable. As Rose Avondale Miss Ward gives a most convincing character study, which wins the audience's approval; the Martin Avondale of Mr. J. O. Stewart was an equally effective piece of work; Mr. Chas. Yorke was well cast as Colombe; the Herbert Barton of Mr. Rean was a striking performance; Miss Kate Wilford played Lady Sybil with much force; the remainder of the characters were well sustained.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Excellent audiences are enjoying a bright and varied entertainment here. Miss Marie George and company receive a warm welcome in *The Cowboy Girl;* Harry Brown, the coloured comic, is responsible for hearty laughter; Tom Parker, with new songs, is repeating former successes; an amusing item is contributed by Roze and Calvert; the Hardini Trio give a clever performance as violinists; in a comedy concoction entitled *Astronomy* W. Fulbrook and company give a lively turn; as comedy gymnasts the Du Gros Trio submit a novel and clever act; warm applause greets the efforts of Evelyn Bingham, the factory girl vocalist; and Georgina Leno, comedienne, and Bioscope pictures are also popular.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Slingsby.—There are several strong attractions in this week's bill here, the foremost being Ida Kessanly, with her fox terriers, which provide great fun; Rose and Wold gain hearty applause for their smart acrobatic work; novel and refined is the equilibristic act presented by Sylvene and Mdlle. Florence; Gladys and Alber, a quaint pair, and Dan Rodney, comedian, elicit hearty laughter; Clive Watts is deservedly applauded for his smart dancing; and other items include Vera Mayne, chic comedienne; and Miss Bobbie Laurier, a popular chorus comedienne.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter Bentley. — *Pride of England*, as presented by Nevill Graham and Co., is captivating nightly appreciative audiences; applause loud and long is bestowed upon Ara, Zebra, and Vora for their clever acrobatic tumbling; an amusing skit entitled *The Topside Dog* is presented by N. Graham and Co.; Ess and Hoey are expert Canadian ski, ice, and roller-skate dancers; Vera Rochdale is a delightful soprano singer and dancer; a popular favourite is Charles Normand, a local comedian; Chas. Grantly, the nondescript, and capital Bioscope films conclude.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Midland Electric Theatres and Cinematograph Co.; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Moore, C.C.; Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—The Smalleys, in a laughter-provoking act on the horizontal bar, are well received; Nelly Duval, comedienne, and the Tymes in an original scena, entitled *The Enchanted Clock*, complete the variety list, and there is the usual good display of films.

ILKLEY. — KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, the Urban District Council; Manager, Mr. Wardle S. Bellerby. — Messrs. Tyler and Stuart's company appeared on Monday in *The Message from Mars* to a large and highly appreciative audience; Miss Maud Gill was very effective in the trying part of Minnie Templer; Mr. Percy Tyler as a tramp submitted a fine character study; and Mr. Dudley Stuart essayed the selfish and the benevolent Horace Parker in equally praiseworthy fashion.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—Messrs Kelso continue to provide excellent entertainment in this house, the latest set of pictures being unusually interesting. The Pearl Fisher, a beautiful coloured fantasy, is a striking film. A splendid variety entertainment is also provided, the large attendance each evening testifying to the increasing popularity of pictures and vaudeville.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savery.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company in his own play, *The Bad Girl of the Family*, is here, Miss Violet Crossley admirably playing the difficult part of Bess Moore, and Miss Dulcie O'Mull Coury that of Honour Moore; Miss Daisy Cook is a charming Gladys Erskine; Miss Mona Hungerford is a vivacious Sally Smithers; and Miss Sadie Southern a staid Mrs. Moore; Mr. Richard Lane is a manly Lieut. Richard March; Mr. Alexander Bradley is a skilful exponent of the heavy part of Harry Gordon; Mr. Luke Forster, as Berry Gordon, the wealthy Jew, acts effectively; Mr. James C. Taylor is an aristocratic Lord Erskine; and Mr. Tom May makes the most of the amusing part of Sammy Snozzle. Jerry Holmes is well played by Mr. George Belmore; and Mr. Frank Willing is the Vicar. Elaborate scenery is carried.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Five Petleys, aerial gymnasts, give a marvellous exhibition of skill and daring; Maurice is a clever and amusing manipulator of cards; Lace and Leno are agile dancers; Barry Lupino is very popular with his funny patter songs; Selvidge and Holland have a sketch entitled *The Dotted Crotchet*, in which both singing and acting are good; Francesca has a popular turn in which she sings to illustrated pictures; the Martiolo Trio introduce some balancing feats, which excite the wonder of the audience; and Rolando Martin has some good patter songs.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week we have a return visit from *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Marguerite Cellier makes an ideal Leah Kleschna, while Mr. William Clayton gives an excellent study of Kleschna, Mr. Graham Pockett being well placed as Schram; Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gives a manly performance of Paul Sylvaine, and Mr. E. S. Petley makes the most of the part of Raoul Berton; General Berton is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Wren, and Miss Florence Dulhunty is good as Claire Berton.

THE PALACE.—Lessees, the Jarrow Palace Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Padden.—This picture hall continues to show some excellent pictures, and also introduces variety, Tiny Tot, the wonderful child comedienne, and Walker's Six Geldarts in a novel act.

THE KINO.—Lessee, Mr. Dixon Scott; Manager, Mr. John R. Scott.—Some capital pictures are being shown at this hall, and Miss Mi Narom, in her latest comedy creations, is also well received.

KEIGHLEY. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Keighley Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. S. Holmes, Ltd.—Sandy McNab is here on a return visit, and creates much hilarity in his sketch *The Egyptian Mummy*. Mr. Henry Bedford in his sketch *The Bottom Dog* meets with well-deserved success; Mr. Rob Gilmore's comic songs hit the popular taste; Mr. Allan Hanbury is here in new and interesting songs and patter; Smith and Gibbs are clever equilibrists; and a good turn is contributed by the Morrisons.

KETTERING.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Managers, Messrs. Bailey and Co.—Pleasing varieties are contributed by the Wagners in a musical sketch; Harry Bland (comedian); the Roses (comedy); Eva Charry (comedienne); Harris and Tweed (comedians); the Ronnies (jugglers); and Guy Docraw (vocalist).

COLISEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackman.—The attractions here are Will Cornish in a musical speciality; George St. Helen (vocalist); and Basma (society gymnast). Up to date films are displayed.

KIDWELLY.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The Borough Council; Secretary, Sergeant James.—The Royal Pierrots, under the direction of Miss Eva Travis and Mr. James Makensie are here this week, Miss Travis and Mr. Makensie working hard and successfully as vocalists, dancers, and sketch artists; they also present a clever living marionette turn; Miss Gertie Coleman is a dainty and clever serio and dancer; Miss Florrie Clairmont is successful as a comedienne, top-boot dancer, and sketch artist; Mr. Eugene Macabe is also a prominent member of the company, which is strengthened by the engagement of M. Mazeppa and Madame Zilla, who appear in a smartly worked and clever second-sight act.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer.—For three nights excellent variety entertainments have been presented, including Bosanquet, with his wonderful musical turn; the Daimlers, comedy artists; Stuart Paton, character impersonator; Gilbert's remarkably clever troupe of dogs; Sally Daly, vocalist; Arthur Milton, comedian; the Weimars, in a fine military spectacle; and the Whitworth Trio, in a charming display of trick cycling.

KIRKCALDY.—NEW KING'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. J. Bell.—Palette and Potto, comedy musicians, top the bill, and provide much entertainment; the Lawsons do well in their mimicry turn, and Max, the performing dog, is exceptionally clever; the Danas earn plaudits for their comedy act; Le Warren, ventriloquist, is good; and Miss Lillie Dennis is a smart comedienne; M. Grover, illusionist, Coney Barr, female impersonator, and Will Hawthorne, Scotch comedian, are worthy of praise.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; Manager, Mr. John Halifax.—During the earlier part of this week we had a visit from *Charley's Aunt*, which proved a great draw. Mr. Hugh Wakefield gave a clever impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley, whilst Mr. Richard B. Mason was a typical Charley Wykeham. Jack Cheesney, his chum, was ably interpreted by Mr. Robert Burnett, and as Stephen Spettigue Mr. Henry Hare made much of the character. Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart was excellent as the impecunious Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, and Miss Audrey Stafford was a dignified and graceful Donna Lucia. Spettigue's ward and niece, Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue, were charmingly portrayed by Miss Grace Denbigh Russell and Miss Phyllis Back respectively, whilst Miss Janet Gillette's Ela Delaney was an attractive performance. Brassett, the college scout, was well played by Mr. Arthur Dennis. The piece was preceded each evening by a dramatic episode, *The Lancashire Sailor*. For the latter part of the week *The Best People* was announced.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and W. Howard's company, in *Her Love Against the World*, opened here on Monday. All the members in this military drama work admirably together. As Eric, Earl of Strathmere, Mr. Fred Emery is excellent, and Miss Ellen Snow as the Princess Idalia scores a great success. Mr. W. H. Hallatt makes a capital Prince Othmar. Mr. Roy Fortescue, Mr. Arthur Chisholm, and Miss Blanch Steele all supply good renderings of their parts.

GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The Johann Strauss' comic opera, *A Viennese Masquerade*, is being presented by the Thomas Beecham Opera Comique Company, under the management of Mr. Thomas Quinlan. A trio of very talented performers are the Misses Caroline Hatchard, Kate Anderson, and Gladys Ancrum; Mr. M. R. Morand is diverting as the Governor of the Prison; Mr. Wilson Pembroke ably represents Von Eisenstein. An augmented orchestra of forty performers, under the leadership of Mr. Howard Carr, is a strong feature, and the opera is admirably staged.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Macleod.—Harry Roxbury and company appear in the ever-welcome *Prince of Monte Carlo;* Horace Goldin is another big "draw" in his astonishing illusions; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas depict scenes from "The Old Curiosity Shop" and other works with accurate detail; the Grassis, musical eccentrics, are very smart in a mirror performance; the Belles of the Kitchen, a troupe of clever juvenile performers, are well received; Evelyn Stoll, a piano entertainer, successfully deputises for Esta Stella; Will Johnson and Daisy Martell ably complete.

THE HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—Four capital turns appearing here are Effie White, Marie Santoi and company, Friend and Downing, and Les Trombettas. Jock Whiteford was unable to appear. Rastus and Banks also entertain greatly as dancers; and Albert McKelvin's humour is fully appreciated. Completing are Nobby and Carly's dogs.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—*The Lady of Ostend* is being presented here with much success. Mr. Laurence Brough is excellent as Dick Whortles; Mr. Alfred Hemming as the father-in-law creates a good impression; and Mr. George R. Mountford is successful as a Frenchman. Miss Rita Trickelle gives a fine impersonation of the title-rôle; Mr. Watkin Wynne as the prize-fighter is a capable actor; and Miss Olga Esme also gives a good account of herself.

LEEK.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee and General-Manager, Mr. Barry Bond.—Variety performances are being given here this week, and the departure has proved popular, judging by the enthusiasm of Monday's audience. La Vie, in a series of living art poses, receives a big reception; Bennie Barrow, light comedian, is the possessor of a good baritone voice; the three Eltons, triple horizontal bar comedians, give a smart display; the three Cummings, singers and dancers, provide an excellent turn; and other items are presented by the Dainty Danes, duettists and dancers, and Charlie Bradford, comedian. The pictures are up to the usual high standard.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers.—This week's attraction is provided by Mr. Walter Melville's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, the principal parts of Barbara Wade and Farmer Meadows being interpreted in excellent style by Miss Nell Oliver and Mr. Edward Valentine.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Mr. Frank Adair's No. 1 company is here on a first visit in the interesting play *It's Always the Woman*, in which Miss Louie Adair as Lady Margaret Desmond and Mr. Frank Adair as Major Stevington are capably supported by the other members of the company.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. D. Elbourne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—Topping this week's bill is the droll Lancashire comedian, George Formby, who, as usual, is receiving a most cordial reception. At the other end is Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, introducing a number of well-trained children, who give an entertaining and popular turn; the Bros. Redmond are acrobatic comedians, who keep the house in continual laughter; Ricardo and Salving are clever acrobats; the Cavallotti Bros. are smart in their instrumental act; the McConnell Trio are very good in the musical comedietta, *The Invalid;* Bert Weston raises plenty of merriment as "The Madman"; Bert Harrow is a fun-creator of ability; Eily Adair is a capital Irish comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope completes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—The chief attraction here is Dorothy Mullord and company in the story *Dickey's Mother*, which is meeting with an excellent reception, the various parts being capitally interpreted. Other artists who contribute to the bill are Lazern, a capable sleight-of-hand entertainer; the Hargraves Trio, in their original comedy act; De Bessell, the original clay-modeller; Irene May, vocalist; May Terry, comedienne and dancer; and Harry Desmond, character comedian. The Bioscope throws two good pictures in The Way of the Red Man and Tom Thumb in Love.

EMPIRE.—Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—A full and varied programme of pictures here include The Sins of the Fathers and Indian Blood (the star pictures), Betty and the Fireworks, Bradford's Claim, Foolshead as Chauffeur, Courting the Merry Widow, Hidden in a Mattress, The Shepherd's Dog, False Friars, The Fence on Bar "2" Ranch. Excellent variety is supplied by Jack Crew, who is a comedian, a singer, and a dancer.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Midland Electric Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Eke.—A fine programme here also includes the beautiful Kinemacolor studies In Sorrento and Capri, A Battle of Flowers in Algiers, A Holiday in the Highlands, The Great Secret, The Turn of the Balance, and Views of the Isle of Bornholin in the Baltic.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The London and Provincial Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. W. Reynolds-Benjamin; Resident-Manager, Mr. Kingstone Trollope.—The Animatophone song "A jovial monk am I" is popular here. Among a capital list of films are A Bull Fight in Chili, The Anarchist, Her Diary, Cowboy Stratagem, Sorrows of the Faithful, &c.

LEIGH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Gould; General-Manager, Mr. A. F. Beaton.—Mr. Walter Howard and company are this week occupying the boards here with *The Boy King*, Mr. Walter Howard, who appeared in the rôle of the Ragged Prince, making hosts of friends in every part of the house by his fine portraiture; Mr. F. G. Clifton makes a capital Camillo; Mr. Charles Weir submits a clever and convincing study of the Grand Duke of Severnac; Mr. Robert Noble is well placed as Captain Raymond; Mr. Royce Carleton is a capable Captain Fabion; Miss Annie Saker handles the rôle of Camilla with charm and cleverness; whilst Miss Phillis Grey Logan makes an attractive Elaine. The scenery and dresses are excellent.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—The local Shakespearean Dramatic Society are this week appearing here in *Othello* and *As You Like It*.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Licensee and Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*The Christian* is playing here to good houses. Mr. Baliol Holloway and Miss Elizabeth Risden enact with much nervous force the prominent rôles of John Storm and Glory Quayle; Father Lamplugh and Horatio Drake find excellent representatives in Mr. Edwin Ling and Mr. W. Burgess Barratt; Mrs. Callander, Brother Paul, and Polly Love are suitably characterised by Miss Rosa Burgess, Mr. George F. Weir, and Miss Maisie Richardson. Mr. Benson North and Mr. Aylmer Williams give due effect to the parts of Lord Robert Ure and Archdeacon Wealthy.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager and Proprietor, Mr. G. Victor Fogerty.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's clever company produced on Tuesday night that delightful comedy *Lord and Lady Algy* before a large and appreciative audience. The rôle of the Duke of Droneborough was cleverly enacted by Mr. Campbell Cargill; the Marquis of Quermby was capitally interpreted by Mr. F. Lock Whittaker; Lord Algy was in the hands of that excellent actor Mr. Norman himself; Mr. Norman Leslie played the part of Brabazon Tudway with judgment and ability; Miss Ellen Oliver was an imposing Lady Pamela; and as Attiline Mallinson Miss Maisie Stuart was pretty and effective. Miss Syretta Synett was good as Emily Cardew, and as Mrs. Vokins Miss Madge Trenchard was undoubtedly clever. Miss Agnes Thornton was equally chic and meritorious as Mrs. Tudway. Miss Beatrice Wilson, a delightful Lady Algy, captivated the house.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*The Brass Bottle* is in Liverpool for the first time, and all who have witnessed the particularly amusing production are not at all surprised at its highly successful run in London. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., is Horace Ventimore, a part which he carries along with great success; Mr. Holman Clark presents a Fakrash which is remarkably realistic; as Pringle Mr. Rudge Harding shows high histrionic ability; a delightful Mrs. Rapkin comes from Miss Mary Brough; the fussy Professor Anthony is undertaken in a natural manner by Mr. Percy Marshall; Miss Marjorie Chard pleases with her tactful Sylvia Futvoye; and Miss Edith Hunter is to be commended for her Mrs. Futvoye. Miss Irene Wells as Zobeida dances gracefully and earns warm approval. The remainder of the company, which is controlled by Mr. Gaston Mayer, lends capital support.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wentworth Croke; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Captain of the School* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Lionel Mackinder as Tom Brant, the popular head boy, shows considerable skill and resource in the rôle, as well as that of the pseudo uncle; Mr. Charles Macdona plays the Rev. Joseph McIntyre with true naturalness; Miss Dorothy Parry acts with charm as Rhoda McIntyre; Mrs. Mouillot delights with her Mrs. Higgins; and valuable help also comes from Messrs. Eugene Mayeur (Martin Leonard), Charles Connought (Daniel Corbett), J. Evelyn Swinburne (James Thurloe), and Harry Duff (Morley Murray). *A Queen's Messenger*, in which Mrs. Mouillot and Mr. Arthur Eldred appear, was the curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Greater Love* is being played here this week to appreciative audiences by Mr. H. Armitage's company. That able actor Mr. Campbell Goldsmid repeats his powerful rôle of Paul Penfold; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks makes an admirable Rev. Arthur Warren; Miss Marion Fawcett pleases generally with her Mrs. May; the part of Mary May has a capital exponent in Miss Francesca Strickland; and other supporters are Messrs. Wentworth Lawson (Constable Drayton), Dennis Bryan (Andrew Isted), John B. Murray (Ned Stubbs), and Miss Ethel Russell (Sarah Higgs).

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Who is She?* is being played here by Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's company. In the part of King Vladamir Mr. S. Herbert Humber acts with considerable tact; Mr. Hill-Mitchelson is again seen in the strong rôle of Prince Bora; a capital Captain Arthur Gower is provided by Mr. Stanley W. Healey; Miss Ada Champion as Who is She? acts with much power and discretion; Miss Alice Barber makes an admirable Countess Ladori; Miss Constance Medwyn does excellently as Zeta Noveitch; and Miss Elsie Clarke proves an intelligent little King.

KELLY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—This week an important engagement has been entered into here with Cavaliere F. Castellano's Italian Grand Opera company. On Monday *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* were put forward, among the principals being Signora Defral (Santuzza), a lady of exceptional accomplishments; Signor Barbato (Turiddu), who was in fine voice; Signor Vail (Alfio), Signora Rocco (Lola), and Signora Surdiceca (Lucia). The other works of the week were *Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, Lucia di Lammermoor, Faust, L'Ebrea*, and *Carmen*. The conductors were Signor Wehils and Signor Lietti. It is a pleasure to record that the visit of the fine company was well patronised.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Miss Margaret Cooper, that inimitable artist at the piano, heads the bill here this week, and is delighting audiences with her capital songs; another favourite on a visit is Miss Adrienne Augarde, who, assisted by Mr. Victor G. Huntley, presents a duologue, *Dick's Sister*, which affords general satisfaction; Les Romanis are again heartily welcomed for their excellent musical act; as a character comedienne Lola Patey shows to much advantage; the Three Emersons have a novel gymnastic turn, *The Swimming Pool;* King's College Boys please with their pot-pourri entertainment; that funny couple, Verno and Voyce, cause endless amusement with the *John Bull's Cash-box* scena; and others who contribute are Adam Tomlinson, comedian, and the Sisters Kilner, acrobatic dancers.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Mr. Bulmer's capable company are remaining another six nights, the play selected being *The Girl who Went Astray*. Mr. Richard Ferris as Captain Julian, Mr. Austin Mortimer as Rupert Murdock, Miss Doris Brookes as Madge Harvey, and Mr. Evan Roland as Adolphus Boomer sustain the more important parts, receiving capital assistance from Mr. Henry Sainsbury (Sergeant Harvey), Miss Ada Oakley (Violet Harvey), and Miss Sybil Haughton (Eleanor Merton).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Miss Beaumont Collins and company are very successful in *The House of Terror;* La Noedia, Continental artist, renders several songs in French; the always welcome Topsy Sinden has a flattering reception for her songs and dances; Victor Kelly, assisted by Miss Agnes, keeps his audience in roars of laughter with his eccentricities; the Keppels are excellent operatic vocalists, and earn the cordial applause bestowed upon them; Jack Hylton is as amusing as ever; the Tafanos go through a smart and diverting musical show; much fun is caused by the Three Gerlinis, acrobatic eccentrics; and others who appear are the Brothers Obo, comedians, and Revill Hall, humorist and entertainer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here are this week presenting *The Love of a Life*, from the pens of Eugene Gotere and John B. Shinton. Among the principal artists are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood, Sydney Grant, Harry Tresham, R. Seath-Innes, Tom H. Solly, Leo Montgomery, E. D. Allen, Miss Lilian Radbourne, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle. Brown's Bioscope shows The Secret.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. M. Slater.—Houdini is foremost here this week with his remarkable handcuff tricks; Jen Latona delights at the piano, her comedy songs being rendered with much taste and judgment; Kitts and Windrum have a merry military scena, *The Cuckoo*, which causes a deal of laughter; Russell Wallett, "the lady in black," affords as much satisfaction as ever; La Superbe has an artistic Continental dancing act; the Francoli Troupe of acrobats arouse laughter with their novel sketch, *The Billposter;* Little Vi Davis is a juvenile vocalist of merit; the musical turn submitted by Orpheus is greatly acceptable; and Lawrence Barclay, comedian, pleases.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Top of the bill this week is the able Carl Hertz, whose well-executed illusions cause general wonder; Jennie Johns comes in for a gratifying reception for her character songs; Pichel and Scale are smart comedy acrobats; the Brothers Ashley and company again create endless laughter with their *Next, Please!* Lulu Russell, attired in bewitching costumes, renders charming songs; Ariel and Astarte go through an accomplished pot-pourri act; and Archie Glen, comedian, and Ted Waite, comedian, are also in the bill.

REYNOLDS'S EXHIBITION.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Reynolds.—This old-established institution continues to secure a good measure of public patronage. Recently there has been added a striking tableau of the Crippen trial, and this is drawing money.

LLANELLY.—HAGGAR'S (late ROYALTY) THEATRE. —Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Haggar, Sen.; Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—Some capital new pictures are being shown here this week. The artists appearing are, foremostly, the Countess Beckoffska, the clever lightning flower painter; Sergt. Bertram, who relates his thrilling experiences in the Boer War, illustrated by the Bioscope; the Great Powell, who amuses and mystifies as a conjuror of high merit; and the Hon. St. Vincent Ellesmere, R.A.M., whose high-class singing is greatly admired.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bowmaker.—De Lilo and Metz (comedy juggler and lady bender) give a good display; Shepherd and Granville (comedy boxers), and the Minins (grotesque musicians) are successful in mirth-provoking turns.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Weisker Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. S. Evanson.—Kitty Kearns (comedienne), in a pleasing turn, and Arthur Harris (vocalist), with some good ballads, are appearing this week. The pictures are a fine selection.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. and Mrs. P. Brown's company is here with *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife*. Mr. W. Coleman gives a powerful portrayal of Felix Beverley; as Jack Stirling Mr. R. Brown achieves a notable success; Mr. C. Grier acts with dignity as Colonel Myles; Mr. W. Annesley represents Arthur Bellairs admirably; Mr. J. Redfern, as Thomas, and Mr. A. G. Raymond, as Charles, are amusing; Miss Kathleen Magee, in the title-rôle is effective; Miss Leile Drummond does full justice to the part of the Hon. Mrs. Sands; and Miss Minnie Goepel is a pleasing Sweet Nancy.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The second week's répertoire of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company at this theatre opened with an admirable performance of *Faust* on Monday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The latest visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Merry Widow*, to Manchester took place here on Monday, employing a galaxy of old favourites in the cast. Miss Gertrude Lester as Sonia and Mr. Louis Bradfield as Prince Danilo are again at the head of the story, both most excellent, as usual; Mr. W. Talleur Andrews reappears in his vivacious and accomplished style as the Vicomte de Jolidon; and once more we have all the fun of Mr. Eric Thorne as Baron Popoff. Capital work is added by Miss Maggie May as Natalie and Mr. Fred Kaye as General Novakovitch; while, among many others who add to the brilliance of the performance, Mr. Robert Nainby makes a success of the rôle of Nisch. A packed house welcomed the piece on the opening night.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley.—Mr. Oswald Cray and company appear here in a répertoire of effective dramas, a capital performance of *When It Was Dark* being given on Monday (by arrangement with Mr. T. Morton Powell). To a strong rendering of the Rev. Basil Gortre by Mr. Oswald Cray, Miss Lilian Herries added a striking impersonation of the equally important part of Gertrude Hunt; Mr. C. Wordley Hulse played well as Schwabe, the millionaire; a good idea of Sir Robert Llewellyn was contributed by Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle; Miss Rosalie Notrelle made good use of her chances as Helena Byars; and other notable parts were well rendered by Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Percy Coningsby, Mr. Vivian Charles, and Miss Madeline Grande. Other plays of the week are *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. Wilson Benge presents here the picturesque domestic play *The Sinner*. Mr. Louis Lingard in the part of Monk Stretton does much toward the success; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Edgar Thornhill is also a potent factor; Mr. Charles Digby plays Lord Ewen in good style; Miss Nancy Roberts as Vera Ewen is attractive; and a marked success is added by Miss Emilie Mayhew as Nora Stretton; the whole proving highly acceptable to good houses. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is down for one production during the week.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Pearson.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds are here this week in their new play *The King's Romance*. The parts which are sustained by this accomplished couple—namely, Vera Navairre, the girl who married the King, and Prince Andreas, afterwards the King—are in every way suited and well done; Mr. John Dunbar as Vacquet very capably supplies the evil element; Mr. Arthur Estcourt makes an excellent Baron Cavonia; and Mr. William H. Dowhurst as Paul Navairre gives a convincing rendering. Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as Barto is also conspicuously good; and the play as a whole receives the high appreciation it deserves.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Jones.—An old and well-tried attraction here this week is *The Sign of the Cross*, played by Mr. Wm. Greet's chief company. Mr. H. Lawson Butt as Marcus Superbus acts finely; and a very appealing impersonation of Mercia is given by Miss Evelyn Hope. These are the head of a very capable cast, in which one is glad to find once more Mr. Frank Wood as the amusing Glabrio. Good houses are the rule.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter.—The big turns here are supplied by Fred Karno's company of comedians, in *The Bailiff*, and H. P. Selwyn's sporting episode, *A 33 to 1 Chance*, both of them elaborate and effective shows; the Smarte Bros., acrobatic eccentrics, adds a capital turn; Carl Muller is much applauded for his long-boot dancing; Walton and Lester, the world's worse wizards, give an amusing burlesque act; and other pleasing items are the Hyde and Cody Trio, in acrobatic eccentrics; Harriet Rose, vocalist; Eileen Northe, the singing fisher lass; and Scott and Whaley, coloured entertainers.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A fine programme here is topped by no less a star than Herbert Lloyd, "the king of diamonds," in his variety burlesques; the Ten Dixie Girls, in *The Silver Coon*, give also a prominent act; Marie Jones, in *Wanted, the Co-respondent*, adds an excellent protean performance; Coverdale's jokes are much enjoyed; and other smart turns are Jim Pullin, comedian; Amy Anderson and Co., in *The Banana Queen;* the Three Comedy Chanters, in comic interludes; and Starley Bros., cycle experts.

E

Napoleon's Washerwoman; Lillian Barnes, contralto, charms with several well-rendered songs; Beatrice English, Australian soprano, has a beautiful voice, and is well received; Mayne Lyton's character impressions are well done; some excellent dancing is introduced by the Eight Frolics, presented by W. Paskin; whilst other good turns are those of George Shurley, comedian and dancer; Sandy Lawson, Scotch comedian; Gladys Warren, comedienne and dancer; and Queenie West, comedienne and dancer. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures complete.

King's Theatre, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. James R. Trippett.—Francini Ollams and Page head the bill here in a variety of entertainment, including acrobatics, accompanied by musical performances on the xylophone and concertina; Cullen and Carthy, the popular patter comedians, are also a principal turn, and as successful as ever; the Three Warringtons give an admirable exhibition of equilibristic grace and strength; and other smart turns are added by L. W. Harris, light comedian; Wallace Whitney, comedian; Beattie Foster, comedienne; Dolly Ross, comedienne and dancer; and Will Sullivan, comedian.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—*Change; or, The Haunted Castle*, is an exceedingly smart protean act, well done by Jas. A. and Herbert B. Jewel and company; H. O. Wills, "the water rat," makes his usual hit; W. E. Gillin scores in a unique ventriloquial act; Marcel and Boris are very clever equilibrists; the Beckett-ow Brothers, as the eccentric butler and the dude, are good; Vera Hind is a pleasing comedienne; and Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, deputise for Stanley and Oakfield, who figure on the programme, with success. The Western Pony Express Rider is an interesting film.

Merthyr Tydfil.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Sandow Perkins.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is here with *The Outcast of the Family*. Mr. Jack McGaig is an excellent Harry Thorne; and Miss Elsie Shelton's Ruth is a performance of much merit; Mr. Wybert Clive makes the most of his opportunities as Sir Harry Thorne; and the villainies of Richard Martin are fully exemplified by Mr. Bert Oates. Mr. Tom Roydan presents a powerful rendering of Stephen Barrie; Mr. Edward Cudd is well suited as Abram Wasper; Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd shows ability as Grace Redburn; Joe Bushell is humorously played by Mr. Tom Armitage; and Miss Freda Beckett scores as the milkmaid.

Temperance Hall.—Lessees, Merthyr Entertainments Company; Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Robins and Collier, in an amusing absurdity, *Miss Bacon's Easter Egg*; the Euzer Trio, jugglers, sword experts, and ju-jitsu business; Neville Laudler, in character studies from Dickens; Bros. Esdale, burlesque comedians; Percy and Horace; Bros. Belmont, whistlers and bird mimics, are entertaining here. The pictures are up to a high standard.

Methil. — Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Methil Theatre Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. John C. Burnett.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hinton and Travis Green's company supply the attraction with *Her Fatal Marriage*. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Zaco Malletto gives a grand portrayal of the part; Mr. Ernest R. Allen as Wilfred Grey acts with great feeling; Mr. George Davies is good as Colonel Crichton; Mr. P. Morton Wright as Paul does full justice to the part; Mr. Wm. Allan gives a good rendering of Detective Smart; as Myra Malletto Miss Hilda Shirley is seen to great advantage, very ably supported by Miss Maude Hastings as Lily (the White Angel); comedy relief, supplied by Mr. F. Shepherd (Peter Pimple) and Miss Else Dene (Dolly Dimple), is much appreciated. A crowded house gave the drama a good reception.

Mexborough.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Goodison.—Messrs. Geo. A. de Gray and Hy. Masterman's company is this week presenting *The Forbidden Fruit*. Mr. Geo. A. de Gray gives a good exposition of Gaston Beauvis; Mr. G. E. Hall effectively portrays Silvion Guidel; Mr. Wallace Campbell makes the most of the part of M. Beauvis; and a vigorous rendering of Andre Gessoux is given by Mr. Robert Hall; Miss Amy Dalby is a charming Heloise; and droll comedy is provided by Miss Ella Turner and Mr. Mackintosh Clyde.

Middlesbrough.—Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chabbo.—Under the direction of Mr. Arthur Hardy, a competent company is submitting *The Speckled Band*. Dr. Grimesby Rylott is admirably portrayed by Mr. C. W. Somerset; Miss Alice Leigh plays the timid Enid gracefully; as the unscrupulous housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton, Miss Adelaide Grace is a success; Rogers, the butler, is in the able hands of Mr. Herbert Vyvyan; Mr. E. H. Paterson does well as the village grocer; and Mr. Julian Royce is an ideal Sherlock Holmes.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Imeson.—Mr. Stephen Pritt's company presents *Almost His Bride* to appreciative audiences. Mr. Pritt sustains the part of Simon Simson, the butler detective, in praiseworthy fashion; the Earl of Ullswater is well played by Mr. J. O. Stevenson; Mr. Morris Maud makes a capital Philip Rowland; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford does well as Jasper Thorne; and the part of Myra Thorne is done full justice to by Miss Cissie Bellamy.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Charles R. Whittle keeps the patrons of the Empire in good humour; the Yorkshire comedian, Jack Lane, at the piano, goes well; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon-Wilde, society entertainers; Julius Walther, whose tenor contributions are much enjoyed; Les Frazettis, musical performers; Durazcoe and Ayzelia, speciality artists; Harry Russell and company, in *Binks' Blunder*; and the Empire pictures complete a pleasing programme.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. S. T. Smurthwaite.—The Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats; the Misses Rubio and Renee, vocalists; Morrisey, balancer and musical entertainer; and a capital picture show draw good houses.

Musselburgh.—Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. Hugh Ritchie; Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. W. J. Logan; Stage-Manager, Mr. James J. Dale.—Heading the bill here we have Scotch Kriss, burlesque comedian and ventriloquist. Other turns include Marie Rose (comedienne and dancer) and Miss Carlisle (American illustrated songstress); and Mr. Syd James gives able assistance at the piano.

Neath.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—The company of Mr. G. W. Bowes, in *The Sign of the Cross*, opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Pearla Gardner as Mercia is impressive; Marcus has a vigorous exponent in Mr. Leonard Yorke; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice as Nero gives a traditional reading of the character; and Mr. Donald McAdam is a sufficiently repulsive Glabrio. Berenice is cleverly played by Miss Joan Saville; and as Dacia Miss Marie Vere evidences the possession of ability. Miss Effie Dane as Stephanus is earnest.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Noice.—Hal and Lal, ventriloquists and musicians, provide excellent amusement; Bonnetti and Corrie, comedy juggler and lady speciality, receive an ovation; and pictures are also introduced.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. James Welch and company are here in *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Welch as Sir Guy de Vere excites the hilarity of the audience irresistibly, his amusing sallies and antics being provocative of great merriment; Miss Audrey Ford depicts in capital style the romantic impulses of Lady Rowena Eggington; an artistic embodiment of the Jew, Isaac Isaacson, is contributed by Mr. Arthur Glenville; Mr. George F. TuHy's Wibble is an imperturbable valet; and an effective impersonation of the pompous Dean is contributed by Mr. Guy Lane; as Barker, Mr. Gordon Tomkins is decidedly good; and Mr. George Desmond scores by his crisp performance as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe. Mr. Cecil Kinnaird gives an able representation of Sir Brian Ballymore, infusing considerable energy into the rôle; Mr. Leopold Profeit is an efficient Herald; the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave finds an accomplished exponent in Miss Mabel Yonge; and the Sarah Isaacson of Miss Daisy Cordell is admirable. Miss Annie Chippendale is a pleasing Alice Barker; and the Misses Peggie Kennedy, Macy O'Hea, and Hermione Black also give creditable performances.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—*A Royal Divorce* is paying another visit to this city. Miss Edith Cole gives her usual refined and pathetic impersonation of the sorely-tried Josephine; and an effective Napoleon is found in Mr. Frank Bradley. Marie Louise is played judiciously by Miss Grace Murielle; and Miss Dorothy Garth is a bright and vivacious Stephanie. The part of Talleyrand is enacted most successfully by Mr. George Traill; whilst the Marquis de Beaumont finds an apt exponent in Mr. Charles Hartopp; and Mr. George Hudson causes mirth by his clever impersonation of Grimaud.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. Edwin B. Clark.—*The King and the Unknown Woman* is here this week. Mr. Horace Booth gives a powerful impersonation of Prince Loris; and the Prince Menskt of Mr. Walter T. Clifford could not well be improved upon. Mr. W. R. Winning makes the most of his opportunities as General Platz; Zora is played in excellent style by Miss Violet Carlyle; and Miss Adeline Raby is a delightful Countess Melvitch.

Empire.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour.—Whit Cunliffe, the popular comedian, is paying a return visit in his latest successes; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery make a hit in their clever comedy sketch, *An Amateur Anarchist*; the Villions are trick cyclists and dancers of exceptional ability; Lizzie Glenroy is a smart comedienne and dancer; Winifred Ward, the immaculate boy, is paying a return visit; the Three Belle Belles, in song and dance; Harry Freeman, comedian; Park's Eton Boys, in song-scena; Signor Persichini, mandolinist, and the Pictures conclude.

Pavilion.—Proprietors, The Pavilion Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frank D. Todd.—Vesta Victoria is paying a welcome visit to this popular hall, and her clever comedy creations are received with enthusiasm; Darracq appears in a sensational stage show, in which a motor-car figures largely; Jay Laurier has a budget of good songs; J. W. Rickaby, comedian, receives a hearty reception; the Vigoranto Trio are clever gymnasts; the Elite Harmony Boys, in vocal act, Hanvarr and Lee, in "The Golfer and the Maid," the Hesseys, in musical speciality act, Frank Land, comedian, and the Animated Pictures, complete.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Bolam; General-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—Another excellent programme of pictures is provided here. Variety turns are contributed by the Two Lillies, in unique mirror illusion; Harry Campbell, a clever Scotch comedian; and Lytton and De Silva, operatic duettists.

Brinkburn Electric Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. McHarry; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. T. Edminson.—Marie Scott's Eight Wee Fisher Folk provide a capital juvenile scena. The chief film this week is Ex-hamination Day.

New Brighton.—Winter Gardens.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Jones and Douglass.—*Mr. Preedy and the Countess* is decidedly an entertaining piece of work, and is admirably acted by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company. Mr. A. W. Bascomb as Mr. Preedy is wonderfully good; Miss Nellie Powys is charming as the Countess; Mr. J. Nesbitt and Mr. Shirley-Lea prove themselves actors of experience; and all the other characters are adequately handled.

Newport.—Empire.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Major Gallagher; Assisting-Manager, Mr. Percy Wilde; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Bye.—Miss Hetty King has unfortunately contracted a severe cold, and is unable to fulfil her engagements here, a disappointment which is keenly felt by the patrons. A satisfactory deputy is found in J. C. Piddock's merry little skeich, *Cupid's Arms*; frequent applause testified to the success of the turn, a hearty curtain being accorded. Campbell and Barber, with their very comical antics, amuse greatly, as also do some fine cycling feats. The Six Lancashire Lasses give a very bright and pleasing performance, sing ing some tuneful numbers and doing several neat dances. Arthur Astill, whistling ploughboy, displays wonderful talent. Another turn which is received with much favour is *Fine Feathers*, presented by Rouseley and Rene. Popularity is also won by the Five Vernons, xylophone experts; Gwennie Hasto; and Little Keeno. The bioscope, with a capital film entitled Why Nick Winter Went to the Races, concludes a thoroughly enjoyable programme.

Northampton. — Temperance Hall. — Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Lyndon.—A varied selection of pictures is displayed, and in addition Mr. F. Nettleton contributes entertaining songs.

County Electric Pavilion.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Lyle Edwards.—Supplementary to a series of films Miss Nellie Stevenson is heard to advantage in ballads.

Picture Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. J. F. Bentley; Manager, Mr. J. W. Borrowman.—Miss Alice Oldham, illustrated song singer, is engaged here. Faust, a coloured film, with appropriate music, is the *pièce de résistance*.

North Shields. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Stuart Lomath's company, with *Whom God Hath Joined*, has had a cordial reception here. As Captain Jack Merritt Mr. Lomath furnishes a clever character sketch; Mr. George Edwin Clive gives a highly finished rendition of Major Stevens; Mr. Oswald Douglas displays much ability as Digby Trant; Mr. Frank Orchard is seen to advantage as Richard Manley; Mr. Victor H. Crawford makes a hit as Watty Copper; as Marian Miss Mary Ainslie is to be commended for an excellent impersonation; Miss Amber Wyville successfully enacts Beatrice Trant; and Miss Daisy Stone makes the most of her opportunities as Kitty Crumpett.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Harry Levaine, a clever comedian, holds premier position here, and has made a great hit; Jules Kiaro, one-hand equilibrist and jumper, is smart; McCann's Irish terriers perform some marvellous feats; Norman Selby, double-voiced vocalist, is much appreciated; Mamie Morris is a pleasing comedienne; George Moncrieff, tenor vocalist, with illustrated songs, is a great favourite; Dan Kennedy is a talented comedian; and the pictures conclude.

Norwich.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company is here with the nautical drama, *Captain Jack*. Mr. Ernest Owttrim in the title-rôle is convincing; Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh is a good Anthony Cleveredge; Mr. Herbert Bentone an excellent Andrew Lee; Mr. R. S. R. Pettiard an amusing Harry Trent; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams charmingly acted the part of Mary.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Harry Barford's company, with Frank Lindo, in a sketch, entitled *Cottage or Palace?* is much appreciated; Salt Bush Bill, Australian stock-whip expert, gives a clever exhibition; Richard Wally shows some wonderful juggling; Wana Ma's clever dogs are an interesting item; A. McBride and J. Logie, in their eccentric novelty, "The Canadian Lambermen," are clever acrobats; Horace Horner astonishes with speciality dances; Fred Evans is interesting in his sketch, *Dreams*; and Doris Trevelyan is a pleasing vocalist.

Nottingham.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Our Miss Gibbs* is receiving a warm welcome this week. Miss Carrie Moore is a delightful Mary Gibbs; Miss Olive Moore makes a dainty Lady Elizabeth, and Mme. Jeanne is capitally played by Miss Nancy Hervyn; as Timothy Gibbs Mr. George Gregory keeps the whole house in a continuous roar of laughter; Mr. Frank Hector is another source of humour as the Hon. Hughie; Mr. Leslie Gaze is an entertaining Slithers; Mr. Myles Clifton a clever Earl of St. Ives, and Mr. H. V. Cropton sings pleasantly and plays the lover in artistic fashion. Valuable help is also given by Misses Grace Wixon and Kitty Cavendish, and Messrs. George Gordon, Ellis Holland, and Mons. Ernest Mahar.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—*Florodora* is being well played here by Mr. Charles Constant's company. Miss Daisy Lake makes a piquant and dainty Dolores; Miss Florence Hersee plays Angela with full appreciation of the part; Miss Kate Leicester sings the songs of Lady Holyrood with the necessary point; Mr. Johnnie Schofield is genuinely funny as Tweedlepunch; Mr. Martin Pitts vocalises with fervour as Frank Abercoed; and Mr. Johnnie Junior works hard as Captain Donegal.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Happy Fanny Fields keeps her audiences here in a constant state of hilarity; the songs of Harry Ford are accorded a large measure of applause; James Stewart's pranks at the piano are provocative of enjoyment; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists supply a clever turn; the vivacity of Lily Burnand is thoroughly appreciated; *Hester's Mystery* is well played by Horace Pollock and company; smart dancing by the Farabonis, comic songs by Will Musgrove, and the Gothams complete an excellent programme.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. W. Austin.—The principal attraction here this week is T. Elder Hearn, whose versatility enables him to present a turn of a most interesting character; Arthur Reece, a favourite, always sure of a warm welcome, sings new songs in his usual breezy manner, and Blanche and Powell give a vocal and instrumental interlude which is of a highly entertaining character; the Martelloni family are lady tumblers of merit, and Stewart and Lorraine play popular airs on curious instruments cleverly; the Three Comerfords are expert acrobats, and the singing and dancing of Aggie Nolan and the Sisters Cora are exceptionally good.

Nuneaton.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brown.—Mr. Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company is providing a delightful attraction in *The Arcadians*. Mr. Chas. A. Stevenson as James Smith, afterwards Simplicitas, is a fine comedian; Mr. Alfred Beers as the melancholy Peter Doody plays with a rare fund of humour; Mr. Arthur S. Macdonald ably portrays Jack Meadows; Mr. Horace Nye makes an impressive Time; Miss Gertrude Aylward does exceedingly well as Mrs. Smith; Miss Molly McIntyre makes a charming Eileen Cavanagh; Miss Norah Cameron as Chrysea and Miss Sybil Tancredi as Sombra fill their respective parts with much grace and charm.

Empire.—Proprietors, Theatre and Entertainments Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; General-Manager, Mr. J. F. Elston.—The bill this week includes Davis and Gledhill Trio, roller-skate champions; Eva Carter, lady baritone; Sam Redfern, black-faced comedian; Clown Paulo and his performing pony; the Lynches in illustrated songs; and Gosling and Merrall's Australian Bush Boys.

Oldham.—Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. B. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kilrow.—This week has been set apart for the reproduction of Messrs. Knight and Heywood's light opera, *The Isle of Indolence*, and it has been greatly improved. Miss Decima Troughton as Amorelle sang and acted in a charming manner; Miss Myra Dixon appears as Knowledge, and uses her rich contralto voice with telling effect; Mme. Clare Boardman again demonstrated her artistic ability as a vocalist in the character of Art; and Misses C. Carr, M. Dill, M. James, M. Parker, and Mrs. Scholes sang well in their respective parts. Mr. John Collett as Pensadorus sang capitally, as did Mr. Fowler Burton as Alegron. Mr. Geo. H. Ditchburn as Tonto sang and acted cleverly; Mr. Ben Singleton as Potencios was forcible; and Mr. O. Kenworthy makes an excellent Franqueso. Miss Gladys Paton danced the solo dances, ably assisted by Misses Renee Rogers, Mabel Mason, and Mercia Manners. The production was well placed in the hands of Mr. Ryder Boys, and Mr. R. Knight, F.R.C.O., L.I.S.M., directed the opera, with an augmented orchestra. The scenery was provided by Mr. R. Flanagan, of the Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

Colosseum Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—*Her Road to Ruin* is staged here by Mr. Fred Melville's company. Miss Doris Gilham acted cleverly as Jess Willoughby; Miss Gertrude Tate as May Willoughby is excellent; and Miss M. McClelland does some smart work as Mary Dawson. Mr. Charles Dickens gives a fine portrayal of Frank Temple; and Mr. H. Dobell Lyle as Philip Hardy is well fitted. Mr. Dane Clark makes a pompous Bishop; and Mr. Albert Grenville does well as Tom Wells. Miss Grace Emery as Jenny Crackling and Mr. Chas. H. Brooks as Billy Boots cause laughter; and Mr. R. Leigh Ellis is good as Charles Cholmondely. Mr. Will Wood is a capital Mr. Derwent; and Mr. Henry Powell as Dicky Gerald is also excellently cast.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme. — Mr. Horace Stanley and his company present *The Female Detective* this week. Miss Florence Trevoir as Myra Mayne acts cleverly; Miss Violet Agnew is a sympathetic Nellie Dancers; Miss Ida Fane is amusing as Anastasia Honeybun; Mr. Ernest J. Fane is a manly Tom Heathcote; Basil Vane being played in capital style by Mr. Chas. Burdon. John Good is well enacted by Mr. Cliffe Astley; Miss Kate Kilpack as Emma Toogood and Mr. Horace Stanley as Tubby Philpotts provide excellent comedy; and Mr. Edwin Clarke does admirably as Reggie Lamb. Mr. Fred Seymour as the Mad Doctor contributes an impressive performance.

Royal Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Leach.—Lieut. Rose and the Chinese Pirates is a striking picture; The Deputy's Duty is a good picture of cowboy life; and The Warwick Weekly Journal is interesting. Oldham *v.* Rochdale Hornets, in the Lancashire Cup Tie, is much enjoyed; Willes as a Witness, Electric Vitalizer, and Resourceful Robert are amusing, among others. Mr. Leach sings well.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Burt.—Lost in the Soudan is a well-acted military drama; Willie is a capital tale of the West; Pathé's Journal shows some fine scenery; and the football match, Oldham *v.* Rochdale, is a popular picture. Love Me, Love My Dog, The Statue, and Tontoline and Lea Find Places are laughable. Mr. Barker is the vocalist.

Osborne Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Hughes.—This week Uncle Tom's Cabin is being shown, with special solos and melodies, and good business is the result. Other humorous and sentimental pictures are also screened.

Brown's Assembly.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Brown.—A new series of pictures is provided here, three fine dramatic films being The Wooing O't, An Unselfish Love, and Fruit and Flowers. Pathé's travel pictures are good, and The Herring Harvest is interesting. The New Baby and Jones Absent-minded are among the comedy films. Selections are also given on the Auxeto Grand.

Oxford.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. C. Dorrill; Assistant-Manager, Mr. G. T. Lucas. — Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here this week with *The Naked Truth*. Mr. Stanley Logan scores a marked success as Bunny, and is well supported by Mr. T. Whitling as James Darrell; Mr. B. Beltram as Mr. Hayter; Mr. H. Sinclair as Teddy Lestrange; Mr. L. Arthur as Dr. Masters; and Mr. J. Heddon as Prosser. Miss Kathleen Maude makes an attractive and fascinating Nora Creighton; Miss Violet Ley is admirably suited as Mrs. Hayter; while the parts of Mrs. Darrell, Madam Favre, Mrs. Duckett, and Hammond find capable exponents in the Misses Ormond Wynne, Dora Fellowes, Violet Temple, and Lelia Russell.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, East Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.—Miss Grace Warner and company are here with *The Little Widow* and *The Wages of Sin*. In the first named Miss Grace Warner plays the title-rôle, Mrs. Constance Rattlebrain, with ability and charm; she has able supporters in Mr. George Gordon as Dr. Wilkins Potter, and Mr. Roy Rhind as Dr. Arthur Potter; Mr. Louis Manton gives an effective rendering of Auguste Bonsier; Miss L. Price is quite the type of "new woman" as Mrs. Wilkins Potter; Miss L. Palmer is successful as Emily Randell; and Miss M. Spencer is amusing as Sophonisba.

Paisley.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—There is here this week Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. John S. Millward plays manfully the part of John Barnard; as Stephen Rayiton Mr. Denis Hogan gives a capital impersonation; Mr. Vernon Travers contributes an excellent study of Gash Gills; Mr. Newton Pearce is a humorous Tony Tibbets; and Mr. A. J. Blensdale as the Rev. Mr. Staunton and Mr. George Addison as Shrimp are alike good. A well-acted study of Mary Barnard is supplied by Miss Dorothy Haigh; Miss Mamie Thorpe plays in a sweet manner the part of Grace Fanshaw; and Miss Nancy Mitchell scores in the comedy part of Sally Traynor.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock.—Paul Barnes, the droll American, who heads the bill, is very entertaining; the Warsaw Brothers, musical grotesques, are genuinely funny in their comedy speciality; a delightful turn is executed by Barnard's Mannikins; Marie Pera and company contribute a pleasing comedy duologue in *Two Doors and a Passage*; the Carney Bros., vocal comedians, are capitally received; the smart conjuring exhibition given by Li-Chang-Hi is bewildering; the Victor Bros. as herculean equilibrists contribute a wonderful performance; the Claymore Trio are applauded for their club juggling; and the Bioscope concludes.

Pentre. — Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Will Stone; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Mr. John Geraut's company is here with *At Duty's Call*. Mr. Gerant undertakes the rôle of Harold Alison with marked success; praiseworthy also is Mr. J. Hamilton Page as General Gordon; Mr. Derek Powell as Captain George gives an admirable performance; Mr. Robert Ryder as Hassan, the Egyptian slave, shows skill; Miss Lena Penrose contributes a clever impersonation in Dora Drummond; Miss Hetty Poplin as Nurse Slater is sympathetic; Miss Beryl Fernandez gives a realistic impression of Salema, the slave. Mr. Harry Ives combines the work of stage management with the interpretation of Terry O'Halloran.

Workmen's Hall.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway.—The well-varied programme here attracts crowded houses. The films include The Midnight Cupid, Jake's Daughter, and Bonnie Scotland. The Bohemians, in a clever instrumental and comedy act, provoke applause; eccentric Highland dancing and pleasing harmony are introduced by Scotch and Polly.

Perth.—Perth Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here in *Smith*. Miss Cicely Stuckey is a sweetly demure Smith, Miss Ethel Hodgkins a sufficiently heartless Mrs. Dallas-Baker, Miss Pauline Straus a charming Emily Chapman, and Miss Ethel Wellesley a vivacious Mrs. Otto Rosenberg. Mr. Robert Minster makes a manly Tom Freeman, Algy Peppercorn is cleverly played by Mr. H. Douglas Greet, Mr. F. G. Thurstans is very amusing as Mr. Dallas-Baker, and Fletcher is nicely sketched by Mr. George Gamble.

Peterborough. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is drawing good audiences. *Il Trovatore* was given on Monday, *Faust* on Tuesday, and *Maritana* on Wednesday.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Karno; Manager, Mr. Percy Hart.—La Milo, in her répertoire of classical studies, tops the bill. Other good turns are supplied by Dan Daly, comedian; Edith Brooker, in song and dance; the M M's, in "The Maid and the Mandarin"; Ruby Corbett, mimic and comedienne; the Boriskis, comedians; and Albert Letine, female impersonator.

Plymouth. — Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. H. B. Irving in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is responsible for some wonderful work at Plymouth this week, his conception and delineation of the learned but nerve-distraught physician Dr. Jekyll and the nauseating and repulsive Mr. Hyde being fascinating in the extreme. Tumultuous applause awaited the fall of each curtain. The company supporting Mr. Irving is strong in all departments. Miss Dorothea Baird provides a touching and sympathetic rendering of Dr. Jekyll's blind wife; Miss Grace Croft gives a really clever portrayal of the rôle of the intriguing yet vacillating Lady Carew; Mr. Eille Norwood furnishes a fine, breezy representation of Dr. Lanyon; and Mr. Henry Vibart has a characteristically legal air and style as Mr. Utterson. The play is preceded by *A Maid of Honour*, the chief characters being undertaken by Mr. Tyars (Oliver Cromwell), Miss Grace Croft (Mary Cave), and Mr. Stanley Howett (Major Humphry Bosville).

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. Woodward.—An abridged version of Zola's absorbing work *Nana* furnishes a fine attraction. Miss Rosie Neville in the title-rôle makes full use of her opportunities; Miss Lole Esmond gives a clever rendering of the part of Rose Mignon, the careless and selfish actress; and Miss Nita Imeson also renders material assistance. Mr. Franklyn Bellamy well sustains the rôle of Philippe; Mr. John Mackinley is a success as Fontaine; and Mr. Edward Neville infuses much merriment into the part of Hector.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. J. Field. — Mr. Raymond Phillips's airship provides a novel and highly interesting star attraction for large audiences at the Palace. Maurin's marvellous fountains supply another strong turn; Harry Leybourne is responsible for a really clever drawing-room entertainment; Will and Alice Vokes have a hearty reception on a return visit; the Flora-Dora Girls are attractive vocalists and dancers; Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, score with a first-rate turn; and Gladys Re-Vell (comedienne) and George Prince (comedian) complete a good programme.

Pontefract.—Alexandra Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard. — Mr. H. C. Lovell and company stay another week in the funny sketch *Mademoiselle Pom-Pom*; Mr. G. W. Blythe's vocal scena, "The Toilers," is a most attractive feature; the Cyclinis Trio are expert comedy cyclists; Clarance Turner is a favourite as a Lancashire comedian; the Sisters Ely are refined duettists; Jean Kram, an eccentric juggler, performs some difficult feats; Gus Lindon gains favour as a light comedian and dancer; Layne and Valroy appear in a musical comedy, "Married Life," and the Alexscope shows excellent pictures.

Pontypridd.—Royal Clarence.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Chas. Trenchard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Trenchard.—This week *Hush Money* is being played by the Melodrama Syndicate, Ltd. As Sexton Blake Mr. S. Leigh Courtney is a hit, and Mr. H. Gomer May is a hearty John Shard. Mr. Chas. Kean portrays Lord Mervyn well; Mr. Robert Burton is good as Earl Montressor; Tinker is enacted by Mr. Harry Hartley; and Mr. John Lowther as Nathan Finch and Mr. Fred Hopkins as Jim Tooley are both good.

Perth.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth. — *The Midnight Mail* is presented by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr. Geo. Howards as Harry Steyne is most capable; Mr. H. W. Hatchman as Leonard Royle is forcible; Mr. F. G. Ireson is adequate as Billy Brewer; Mary Steyne is capably acted by Miss Trissie Humphreys; and Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer is distinctly good.

Portsmouth.—Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. A. Horner.—In *The Fires of Fate*, which is being presented here, Colonel Egerton is impersonated in a commanding manner by Mr. Lewis Fielder, who is well aided by Miss Aimée de Burgh (a charming Sadie Adams). Mr. Gilbert Yorke argues effectively as the Rev. Samuel Roden; Mr. Sidney Carlyle takes the part of Abdulla, a dragoman, with much earnestness; and Mrs. Belmont finds a capital counterpart in Miss Dorothy Maude. Mr. George F. Ide cleverly portrays Dr. James Roden, and Mr. Sam Wilkinson affords genuine amusement as Mr. Cecil Brown, the funny young man of the tourist party.

Prince's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Agate.—Miss Florence Baines presents with marked success the comical musical farce, *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.* The part of Mary Ellen Thompson, the laughing Lancashire lass, is taken in a capable manner by Miss Francis Farina; Mr. Arthur Gilroy impersonates Moses Goldberg (an American Jew) with considerable ability; as Harry Higgins, Mr. Bert Gordon makes a hit in original song and dance, being well aided by Mme. Constance Bellamy as Bertha Higgins; Mr. Payne Fletcher as John Henry Thompson and Miss Grace Carew as Mrs. Thompson are typical country folk.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Alfredo Marschadl, the Continental juggler and equilibrist, performs some extraordinary feats of strength; Roma and Romani prove themselves talented musicians; Leslie, Lynn, and Willie infuse plenty of fun into their singing act; the Brothers Hannaway score as "argumentative" comedians; Sam Thomson amuses as a Scotch character comedian; Harry Nelson possesses a remarkable stock of humorous patter; and other turns that please include Dainty Doretta (acrobatic dancer), and the Sisters Herbert (juvenile ducttists and dancers).

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—George Graves and company captivate with a flow of irresistible humour in the sketch, *Koffo, of Bond-street*; Mephisto the Mysterious presents wonderful illusions; and a good knockabout turn is provided by the Alex. Piccad company in *The Burglars of New York*; the Sylvester Trio are a success in their vocal and dancing act; Harry Conlin creates much mirth with his song, "Rinking"; and Maud Wilton, comedienne; Pick, Tholl, and Taylor, in song and dance; and Evelyn Taylor, chorus comedienne, deserve praise.

King's.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Claude Marner.—Miss Serene Nord's display of diving is given here with consummate skill and grace; John Warren, an original Lunionist, presents a clever and mysterious sketch, entitled *The Magic Carpet*; W. T. Thompson and company cause merriment in *Watch the Chalk*; some remarkable feats of strength are performed by the Ansonia Trio; and a humorous acrobatic turn is provided by the Four Paulastos. Susie and Protti are graceful dancers; Hazel Glade is a bright comedienne; and Trevor and Ware score in laughable duologue. A. E. Clifford, baritone, and Ada Parker, soubrette, are deservedly applauded.

Preston.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Executors of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Miss Florence Tyrrell's company, in *The Hour of Temptation*, is awakening keen interest throughout. Miss Florence Tyrrell gives an excellent portrayal of Olive Webb, and Mr. Cecil Newton (the author) gives a clever portrayal of Ernest Allan.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; General-Manageress, Mrs. M. M. Clarkson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—Mr. Harry

Brandon and Coolsen's company in *Naughty Ninette* is here this week. Miss Celestine Brandon as Ninette D'Arville scores a distinct success, and Mr. Frank Cleo as Wraggs is decidedly good, whilst Mr. Edouin Lewis as Professor Moggs keeps the house in roars. The remaining characters are well sustained, Mr. Eric Vane and Mr. Herbert Waller being especially noticeable. The music is bright and catchy, and the lady members of the company are charmingly gowned and vocalise delightfully in their musical numbers. Specialities are introduced by the Godfrey Girls (Continental acrobatic dancers), the Sisters Valero (duettists and dancers), and the Carlsens.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Mr. Fred Melville's own company is here with his sensational drama *Married to the Wrong Woman*. The play is full of stirring incidents and intense dramatic surprises, and is being enthusiastically received by the patrons of the popular parts of the house. Miss Mary Pemberton's acting as the dumb heroine Ruth is exceedingly good; Miss Clara Milvain is a good representative of Rose O'Connor; Mr. Henry Lonsdale finds great favour with the audience by his excellent impersonation of Jack Gladwin; Mr. George Arthur plays the villain's part commendably; Mr. Leonard Thackeray is effective as Jasper Skinner; Mr. Walter Pemberton as Sergeant Manners and Mr. Basil Lynn as Archie Bird are both excellent, and the comic element is well furnished by Mr. Hyland T. O'Shea as Timothy Clinker and Miss May Day as Dolly Fritter.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Howard Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Curline Baldry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Kedge.—Oswald Williams, assisted by Winifred La Barto and company, present a clever magical entertainment, in which some surprising feats are accomplished; Muriel Harding, the Anglo-French impressionist, gives an artistic performance; John Macaulay is a good character actor and vocalist; Holt's Follies, a company of juvenile performers, including Princess Mite, give a smart turn; Marjorie Lawrence is an attractive comedienne; Gladys Earle gives a clever exhibition of step-dancing; Victoria Dagmar and a comic assistant give an artistic acrobatic display; John E. Conan is an amusing comedian, and the Bioscope concludes.

ROCHDALE.—ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. S. Burton.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland* is the attraction here. Mr. Alfred Welleley is irresistible as Mr. Hook; Mr. A. Wood Mansey does well at Capt. Paap; Bandmaster Van Vuyt is ably impersonated by Mr. Mansey Stringer; Mr. Chas. Ross makes a satisfactory Ludwig Schnapps; Mr. Harry Brayne provides an amusing portrayal of Simon Slinks; Gretchen is daintily played by Miss Clara Hardy; Miss Maud Denny admirably sustains the part of Mina; and Miss Hook finds a delightful exponent in Miss Nan Stuart, her vocal efforts being thoroughly appreciated.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Jackson Family; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jas. Jackson.—Harry Weldon is here this week, and keeps his audiences rolling with mirth; Haley's Juveniles provide a pretty and musical scena; the Jackson Family delight everyone with their musical abilities; Zellini is a comedy juggler of exceptional merit; Miss Lillie Langtry, "the lively comedienne," is very popular; Guest and Newlyn are funny in a Hebraic crosstalk act; and the Unites are good comedy acrobats.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. J. Pringle.—A good programme is presented, and the vaudeville turns are the Camworths, in a musical act; Conway Reece, baritone vocalist; and Stuart and Evans, comedians.

ROTHERHAM.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Captain Fred Woodward's wonderfully trained sea lions and seals make a return visit to Rotherham in a number of remarkable tricks; the Croisit Trio of French acrobats have a novel sporting scena; Francis and Hefred are a couple of clever jugglers and jesters; Foiay and Francis are quaint patter comedians; the Four Broadway Boys present an accomplished dancing act; Tiny and Mite are two clever juveniles; and Bert Boyne, starlight comedian, and Madge Osmond, the ideal dandy, complete a good all-round entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, North of England Theatre Corporation, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Picture entertainments, after a fortnight's successful run of drama, are again introduced at this theatre.

RUNCORN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—For this week we are favoured with excellent turns. The St. Johns are aptly described as in the forefront of musical and comedy entertainers; Harry Keeble has a ventriloquial display of a taking nature; Miss Gladys Wells is a pleasing vocalist; and the Three Orros are fine.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Life's Revenge* is produced by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown and their company, who met with a good reception on Monday from a full house. Mr. Percy Brown represented villainy well as Prince Boris Strogoroff, whose accomplice, Marcia Vittoria, was ably sustained by Miss Amy Ellam; the hero, Paul Starovitch, and the heroine, Princess Vanda, were respectively well played by Mr. Edward E. Louis and Miss Millie Ford; much fun was contributed by Mr. Richard Walsh (Nicholas), Mr. Chas. E. Warne (Colonel Tumbleoff), Mr. Arthur Dudley (Clarence Chesterfield), Miss Nellie Hook (Daphne Dashaway), and Miss Holly Hazlewood (Acculina). The piece was well staged.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. R. H. Lee.—The programme is headed by the musical sketch *Paradise Alley*, Wash. W. Evans, Vera Crackles, Tom B. Morris, and a troupe of dancing girls providing much amusement; "A Lesson in Physical Culture" is a very clever strong man and acrobatic act by Lieven and Pantzer; Goodfellow and Gregson cause many laughs. The other acceptable turns include Albert Le Fee, comedian; Kahn and Kahn, conjuring and second sight; Harvey's American Boys and Girls, singers and dancers; R. Dunning, ventriloquist; and Tim Carlisle, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; General-Manager, Mr. H. Winstanley; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Boyle.—Arthur Roberts is very amusing as Fitzawful Smith in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, and received able assistance from Miss Ruby Celeste; McKinnon's Scottish Meisters give a good vocal performance; the Zaid Trio have a very smart acrobatic and contortionist display. The bill also includes the Merrions in their vocal and comedy act; James Davies, dame comedian; S. and G. Auer in novelty business; and Marie Doreen, dainty comedienne and dancer.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—Mr. John Gerant and company gave three performances here of *At Duty's Call* to appreciative audiences. Mr. Gerant gave a powerful representation of Harold Alison, and was well supported by Mr. Derek Powell as Capt. George Alison; Mr. J. Hamilton Paice was very good as General Gordon, his make-up being excellent; Mr. Harry Ives was a comical Terry O'Halloran; Mr. David Phillips undertook the part of Jack Spencer well, and his boxing with Mr. Powell was well done; Mr. F. Scott Kennedy as Abdallah was very good; Miss Lena Penrose as Dora Drummond spoke and acted in a clear and earnest way; as Mary the maid Miss Nora Marion was a general favourite; Miss Beryl Fernandez as Salema was excellent in acting, speaking, and make-up.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Beach.—An excellent programme is provided here, in which the Harlequinaders provide two particularly smart turns. Lynn and Leslie appear in an amusing vaudeville act, *The Insurance Agent*; Le Hurst is a clever ventriloquist; and George Hirste a good Scotch comedian. Some clever balancing feats are performed by the Prince Milner Trio, and the Devonshaws are responsible for a pleasing nautical duologue, "Squalls."

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—*The Coal King* is the attraction here. Mr. A. W. Norman excellently represents the title-rôle, Mr. C. H. Woodhouse that of Tom Roberts, Mr. S. C. Kearns Walter Hartford, Mr. F. Coffrey Jim Williams, Mr. F. Dalton Dick Shirley, Miss Emily Levettiez Mad Ann, Miss Laura O'Neill Araminta Green, and Miss Winifred Love Grace Shirley.

SEACOMBE.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Messrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's juvenile company is here this week with *Hop o' My Thumb*. Little Georgie Harris in the title-rôle proves himself a veritable star pocket comedian, and the fine appearance of Daisy Wood fits her well for Prince U-no. Rupert is well played by Evelyn Major; Vivian Wakeman scores heavily by his humorous performance of Georgina Thumb, and also by his clever mimicry and musical imitations; Jerry is well played by Stanley Harrison; Tommy Cowley and Alf. E. Rick are a clever comic pair as Silversheen and Goldstein; much amusement is caused by Harold Pyott as Tommy, stated to be the smallest man in the world, twenty-three years old, 23in. high, and 24lbs. weight. Marie Lumberg plays and sings nicely as Fairy Moonshine; Giant Blowhard is smartly depicted by J. Ru Allan; Kitty Rafferty presents a charming Princess Meadowsweet; and the villagers, schoolchildren, &c., are a clever little company of performers.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—There is a double bill here this week, Miss Winifred Maude's company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, presenting *The Sins of a City* on the first three nights, and *The Stowaway* for the remainder of the visit. In the first-named play Mr. William Vane made an admirable Sandy Macdonald; Mr. Maurice Jones as Joe and Jasper Woodleigh proved his versatility; a powerful reading of Ralph Blackwater was contributed by Mr. Arthur L. Read; as Isaac Levi Mr. Victor Du Cane left nothing to be desired; Donald McIvor found a capable exponent in Mr. Harold Heath; Miss Winifred Maude was seen to much advantage as the exponent of Seaweed; Midgi was amusingly sketched by Miss Annie Megson; Miss Gipsy Alexander as Lesbia was very good; and the remaining parts were adequately filled.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Monday Sheffield playgoers had the pleasure of seeing the amusing comedy *Brewster's Millions* played for the first time on the local stage by Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company. Mr. Percy Hutchison has developed into a finished light comedian since he last appeared in Sheffield in *Pink Dominos*, and his acting as Brewster was in the true vein; Miss Lilias Earle was a handsome and vivacious representative of Mrs. de Mille, and those who specially distinguished themselves in a splendid all-round cast were Mr. Robert Forsyth as Mr. Grant, Mr. A. Andrews as Col. Drew, Mr. Gordon Ash as Charles Harrison, Mr. Henry Hampton as Archie Golding, Mr. Geo. Salver as Capt. Perry, Mr. A. Mathew as McLeod, Mr. A. P. Kaye as M. Barque, Mr. Arthur Bell as Frank Bragden, Miss Marion Ripley as Janice Armstrong, and Miss Dorothy Whittaker as Peggy. The curtain-raiser was *Chalk and Cheese*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Henfrey Aldred.—*A Woman's Past* is being played here this week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. W. C. Ramsay.—A change of fare is provided this week by Miss Florence Baines, who is appearing in the successful musical farce *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines is very successful as Mary Ellen, and she is well supported by Miss Mary Collier, Miss Maud Locker, Mr. David Donaldson, Mr. Eric Vivian, Mr. H. Shine, Mr. Henry Lloyd, Mr. J. Burley, Mr. Burt Burton, Miss Molly Shine, and that old established local favourite, Mr. Payne Fletcher.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The programme is contributed to this week by the following well-known artists:—Mr. Eugene Stratton, in his new coon impersonation; "The Coloured Millionaire"; Messrs. Haig and Novel, comic acrobats; Ferry Corwey, musical clown; Corbin and his well-trained dogs; Mr. J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer; Miss Stella Stahl, a chic comedienne; Mr. Louis Alvarez, a fine tenor; the Rawsons, society entertainers; the American Bioscope, with Vitagraph films; and Mr. Jack Lorimer, the popular Scotch vocalist and dancer.

THE HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The *pièce de résistance* here is *Happy Holland*, well staged and smartly acted by Mr. Jake Friedman's musical comedy company. Elton and Elma do a clever and funny bar act; Eadie and Ramsden, as the Dude and the Lady, are loudly applauded, and Mr. Michael Madden, Signor Torti, Mr. Alfred Mendis, Miss Mabel Mignor, Mr. Harry Taft, and the talented Spissel Bros. and Mack are all clever in their special lines. The Grand, the Picture Palace, the Surrey, the Central Hall, the Hillsboro' Palace, and the Imperial are all doing well with animated pictures, and Bostock's "Jungle" and Fun City is crowded at every performance.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. J. Baugh.—Mr. J. W. Cordiner's capable company is this week presenting twice nightly the musical novelty *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmonde gives a charming exposition of the title-rôle, her singing being sweet and pleasing; Mr. Walter Ashley gives an excellent delineation of the hero, Captain George Fielding; the unscrupulous Captain Dudley is ably portrayed by Mr. James Morath; Mr. Geoffrey Berwick is responsible for much humour as Featherston Haugh; Mr. Wm. H. Troutbeck is a realistic footman; Mr. Edward Aldworth is very effective as Hawkins; Mr. James Salter is a smart and clever comedian as Silas Crump; Miss Florence Corri is a charming comedienne, and is also the cause of amusement; Miss Margaret S. Forbes performs the part of Ruth Montrose with skill; Miss Madge Delta is deserving of praise as Maud; and the Misses Iris and Lillie Elvido provide a distinctly attractive item in their acrobatic dancing turn.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is on a welcome return visit with *The Dollar Princess*. Mr. Fred Leslie scores as the multimillionaire; Mr. Alec Worcester (Freddy Fairfax) repeats his previous success; Miss Muriel Allen does well as Olga; Mr. Horace Mills keeps the house rocking with laughter as Bulger; Miss Daisy Ellistone sings and dances to perfection; and Miss Kathleen Courtney sings delightfully as Conder's sister.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. Yardley.—Cinquevalli, the incomparable juggler, with his clever assistant provides the star turn here; Harry Champion creates endless mirth; the Gerlandos excel in a sensational equilibristic performance; the Domas Trio do some smart things on the trapeze; Vera Saunders scores as a Dutch vocalist and dancer; and Hampton and Bauman (dark town entertainers), Little Dollie Bell, and the Sisters Hall also entertain.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. R. Badcoe.—The Fuji Japanese Troupe of jugglers and equilibrists are exceedingly clever; the Tom Davies Trio perform a thrilling cycle act; *Compensation* is the title of a sketch cleverly acted by Mr. W. H. Perrette and company; the Pigaros are a smart quartette; and Elroy (the armless wonder), Mabel Thorne, Gwen Francis, and Mollie Augarde successfully contribute.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Archibald Pareezer.—Two plays this week were produced here by Mr. Wilson Howard, when his talented company, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings gave creditable portrayals of *Under the Iron Heel*. Mr. Wilson Howard and Miss Carlotta Anson both gained hearty appreciation for their powerful representations of Réne de Maupassant and Germaine Mirbeau respectively; Mr. Henry Parr was an able exponent of Otto Marx; Miss Mabie Angus as André was eminently suited; Miss Florence M. Daly made a pleasing rôle of Maman Gouffé; and Messrs. G. Mortimer Hancock, R. Garland, Gerrald Smythe, and Austin H. Longford gave successful characterisations. *Under the Czar* commenced a three nights' engagement on Thursday, and in this Mr. Wilson Howard and Miss Carlotta Anson again sustain the principal characters.

THE HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Lewis de Burgh.—An entertainment which for refinement and variety it would be difficult to equal is attracting large audiences at the Hippodrome this week. The Eight College Girls dance well, and their concerted items are delightful; Mabel Maris contributes solos on the glassophone and zylophone and at the same time accompanies herself on the piano, while a piece played by means of her elbows is novel and clever; living statues of eminent statesmen and politicians by "The Maker of History" occupy a prominent position in the programme; *The Touch of the Child* is an interesting story interpreted by Mr. William Mollison and company; some daring evolutions are performed by the Lukushima Troupe; and the other contributors are J. J. Mannex (coon delineator), Marie Wilton (comedienne), and Josh Dixon (comedian and dancer).

LUNA PARK AND PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Hilton; Manager, Mr. T. W. Wright.—An enjoyable entertainment of animated pictures is given twice nightly this week, except on Wednesday and Saturday, when dancing takes the place of the second performance. Drama, comedy, and travel are clearly and well depicted.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE—WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—*The Blue Bird* was presented here on Monday by Mr. Herbert Trench's full Haymarket company. The rôles of Tyltyl and Mytyl are admirably and gracefully depicted by Master Stephen Thomas and Miss Bella Terry respectively; Tylo, the dog, was portrayed with keen fidelity and pathos by Mr. Ernest Hendre; scarcely less prominent is Mr. Norman Page as Tyletle, the cat, of which he presents a faithful study; Mr. Edward Rigby enacts the part of Bread with much humour and cleverness; Miss Enid Rose is to be credited with a graceful and clever impersonation of Light; Miss Lizzie Webster deservedly won favour by her fitting representation of the dual rôles of the Fairy Berylune and Neighbour Berlingot; Miss Saba Raleigh is a commendable and effective impersonator of Night; Mr. E. A. Warburton sustains the parts of the Oak and Time effectively; Gaffer Tyl and Granny Tyl had successful delineators in Mr. William Farren and Miss Daisy England; and the same remark applies to Miss Winifred Rae and Mr. Roy Travers as Mummy Tyl and Daddy Tyl; whilst Fire, Water, Milk, and Sugar had able exponents in Mr. Harry A. Gribbon, Miss Margaret Morris, Miss Gladys Burgess, and Mr. H. R. Hignett.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Coulson.—Mr. Fred Granville's No. 1 Company presents a musical comedy, *A Hot Night*. Mr. H. Val Morgan hits off the bogus professor in good style; the broad humour of the play is well sustained by Mr. Frank Dalemo as William Whiffles, Mr. Jimmie Watson as Mrs. Flutterwig and Miss Mimi Fisher as Lucy. The Granada Girls submit some clever dancing.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—Herbert Darnley's burlesque, *Brigands of Tarragona*, is full of knockabout fun; Bowden and Stol, comedy acrobats, have a good reception; Witty Wally Walton is as funny as ever; Dan Frazer, Scotch comedian, is well liked; Olga Dore, vocalist, sings well; Little Ella, comedienne and impersonator, is clever; and Bill Bert, the boy with the banjo, and the Bioscope complete.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Will Clark.—In addition to the films Renee and Wallis, comedy duo, introduce the devil's dance, and Bert Lytton has a good reception.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, David Collins.—Mr. George Munro and his London company are appearing here with a répertoire of plays. *The Sleigh Bells* was portrayed on the opening night, Mr. Munro successfully appearing as Matthias. Mr. Ernest Griffin as Christian played well, Mr. T. Heston Fields was excellent as the Judge of the Court, and Mr. George Owen created a favourable impression as Clerk of the Court. Mr. Renton Thompson was capital as Hans the gamekeeper. Miss Doris V. Horrocks as Aimette was seen to great advantage, and Miss Gertrude Littlewood as Catherine played admirably. Other pieces down for production are *David Garrick*, *Tale of Two Cities*, *Hamlet*, and *Romeo and Juliet*.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Sleep; Manager, Mr. Leslie Talmage.—Graham and Barron are a couple of comedians who entertain successfully in patter and song; Carlos Menard, novelty musician and trick violinist, is well received, and capital subjects appear on the screen.

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; Mana-

PRICE & REYNOLDS'
PANTOMIME SONGS.

FOLLOW THE TRAM LINES.
I'VE GOT THE TIME—I'VE GOT THE PLACE.
Miss HETTY KING.

I WISH I'D A GIRL LIKE MOLLY.
Miss DAISY DORMER.

PARLIAMENTARY SMOKING CONCERT.
FRED POPLAR.

FATHER STARTED OUT TO WORK.
Miss MAIDIE SCOTT.

SHE SIFTED THISTLES. IN 1999.
CHARLEY HARVEY.

D'YE KEN MR. KENNEDY?
GOOD MORNING, MR. SUNSHINE.
YET! IF I SAID FORGIVE!

PRICE & REYNOLDS, 41, Berners Street, London, W.
Telephone, 2691 Gerrard.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO.'s
PANTOMIME HITS
JOE ARCHER'S

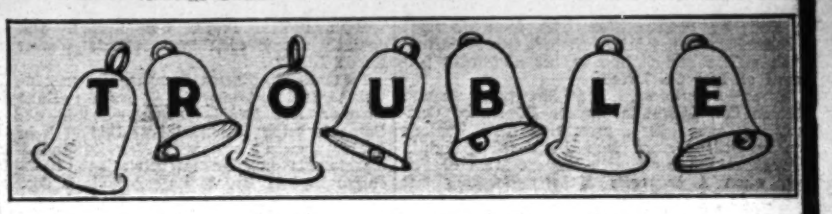

Those Wedding Bells are Ringing
Is the Best Comedy Song of the season. It will certainly be the rage of every town in the Country.
A limited number of Permissions will be granted at Two Guineas each.

Also the Free Chorus Ballad,

What Would My Life Be Without You?
And we have no hesitation in pronouncing this ear-haunting number as a certain winner for Principal Boys, Principal Girls, etc., for Pantomime.
IT IS RICH IN TENDER SENTIMENT! IT IS A SONG FOR DEEP EXPRESSION!
IT IS VERY EFFECTIVE AND PRESENTS NO VOCAL DIFFICULTY!
Come and hear it and be one of the first to connect your name with this exceptional hit
Professional Copy and Orchestration, **1s. 2d.** stamps.

APPLY TO
CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, SHAFTESBURY AV.
Telephone, GERRARD 2193.

VON TILZER MUSIC CO's
WINNERS for PANTOMIME.

PICK ME A NICE ONE.
The PRINCIPAL BOY SONG.

QUEEN OF THE CANNIBAL ISLES.
MISS GERTIE GITANA'S GREAT SUCCESS.

IF YOU SEE HARRY.
MISS ELLA SHIELDS' CHORUS HIT.

SOMELAND.
MISS CARRIE MOORE.

SWEET KATHLEEN
(IN YOUR DRESS OF EMERALD GREEN)

I NEVER NEVER NEVER SAW SUCH A THING BEFORE.
(SOMETHING NEW IN QUAINT SONGS FOR COMEDIAN.)

The VON TILZER MUSIC CO., Ltd.,
100, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON. Telephone—3522 Gerrard.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

THE SENSATION OF THE YEAR!

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED

A PANTOMIME WITHOUT THIS SONG
WILL BE LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A RUDDER.

PARODIES NOT PERMITTED.

EQUALLY SUITS BOY, GIRL, FAIRY QUEEN, AND DUETTISTS.

BAND PARTS in Medium and High Keys, 1s. per set. CHORUS SLIDES, 1s. each.
"YOUR EYES" WALTZ, Full Orchestra, 1s.; Septet, 8d.; Piano, 6d. (i.e., half price).

NIGHTINGALE & CO., 20, NASSAU ST., MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. Telephone 3535 Mayfair.

"YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO"

ger, Mr. George Castray.—The turn of Little Hackenschmidt, the champion bantam-weight wrestler, is greatly appreciated; the Three Veros are smart in their vocal and speciality attractions; Pullo is good as a juggler; and Miss Lilian Harvey is applauded as a descriptive vocalist; Carl Osmond, a cartoonist, is a success, and interesting films are also shown.

Town Hall.—Lessees, Messrs. A. J. Vasey and B. W. Dodshon; Manager, Mr. Alf. Burrows.—Massona, comedy juggler; Dolly Brough, champion wooden-shoe dancer; and Wee Doris, vocalist, are all well received with their excellent efforts. Good pictures are shown.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is appearing here in *Happy-go-Lucky O'Lyn*. Mr. Johns Child as Bryan O'Lyn has some very popular numbers, in which he excels. Mme. Marie Alexander's voice, both powerful and sweet, is heard with pleasure in the part of Aunt Charlotte, and Miss Anna Hickisch, whose acting as Kathleen O'Lyn is much admired, sings sweetly and well; Mr. Reginald Adair plays the gallant Frank Fentiman to perfection, and his musical efforts are appreciated; Mr. Walter B. Nugent makes a capital villain as Donald Dunn; and Miss Josephine Ellis is dainty and graceful as Mollie Murch. The play is well staged.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—Charles T. Aldrich is a man of many parts and accomplishes each part exceedingly well; Tom Geoffreys and Nora Benson's is a merry turn; Joseph Belmont's whistling imitations are truly marvellous; Miss Marie Braymen is a favourite here; Allonso Silvano's balancing act is clever, and Edwin Lambert and Enmie Hands are excellent in vocal scenas.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The familiar drama *Alone in London*, which has been capitally presented here by Mr. Charles Gibbons' company, has not failed to attract the usual large audiences. Mr. Charles Gibbons acts very effectively as Dick Redcliffe; Mr. Wm. Macready presents the character of John Biddlecombe with manly power; Old Jenkinson has an amusing representative in Mr. J. W. McKinson; and Mr. Robert Grey is highly satisfactory as Walter Burnaby. Miss Nellie Clyde acts sympathetically as Nan; as Ruth Clifton Miss Joan Harcourt is charming; whilst Miss Ethel F. Greene infuses much pathos and feeling in her admirable portrayal of Tom Chickweed.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—The Raynor Répertoire Company is again here, presenting Tom Taylor's comedy *Still Waters Run Deep* twice nightly throughout the week, with the exception of Friday, when *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* was given. As John Mildmay Mr. Chas. Brandon acts impressively; Mr. Milton C. Curtis impersonates the character of Captain Hawkesbury with ability; Mr. Potter is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Joseph B. Montague; and Miss Frances Waring ably fills the part of Mrs. Mildmay; whilst Miss Cecilia Dare acts with her usual grace and charm as Mrs. Sternhold.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Castle Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford is presenting *The Private Secretary* here. Mr. W. Hargreaves is entirely natural as Mr. Cattermole; Mr. James Hussey as Rev. Robert Spalding acts with ease and humour; Mr. Kendal Chalmers is very successful as Gibson; Mr. Arthur Claremont as Douglas Cattermole is well suited, as is also Mr. William Carrieden as Mr. Marsland and Mr. Horace George as Harry Marsland; Miss Estelle Despa is an efficient Miss Ashford and Miss Emily Wade is successful as Mrs. Stead; Miss Elsie Blythe as Eva Webster and Miss Mary Mallalieu as Edith Marsland are charming.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stainton.—Lew Lake and his company are presenting *Bloomsbury Burglars* and *My Pal Jerry*, and obtain a big reception; Arthur Boyne is a popular comedian; Pete and Juno are clever duettists and dancers; Bollingers score as rag painters; the Krakes cause much merriment in *The Electric Tram Conductor*; the Buster Browns are very entertaining in an American vaudeville act; Miss Edie Veno is a popular comedienne, and the Bioscope concludes.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Syndon's company is presenting here twice nightly *Why Did She Run Away?* Good houses rule.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in *A Country Girl in London* is the attraction. The piece is well mounted, and the company gave a good representation of the various characters, Miss Elsie Marriott Watson being especially pleasing.

Queen's Palace.—Manager, Mr. Harry Trevanion.—Some fine pictures are again presented, and vaudeville is represented by the topical vocalist T. E. Johnstone.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre, Picture Palace and Variety Hall.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—Etta is a transformation dancer of much skill; the Lashmars create much fun; Rénee Vint is a smart comedienne; Maudie Leslie is a capital chorus songstress; the Sisters Vincent are praiseworthy duettists; Roul is a clever lady juggler; Will White gives a clean comedy turn; Peakman and Walsh as comedy jugglers are popular; and Phelps's Electric Pictures complete a capital show.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. Lewis Waller and company are playing here this week in *Bardelys the Magnificent*. Mr. Lewis Waller in the title-rôle has a character that is peculiarly fitted to him, and he does it ample justice, playing the dashing blade or the emotional lover at will; Mr. Herbert Jarman is fittingly noble and stately as King Louis; Mr. Wm. Haviland as the intriguing Comte de Castleroux is deserving of the highest eulogy for his excellent erformance; Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth does good work as Lavedan; as also does Mr. Cronin Wilson as De Lesperon. Mr. Reginald Dane is highly diverting as St. Armand; Miss Madge Titheradge is splendid in the arduous rôle of Roxalanne de Lavedan; while for the humorous and finished study of the Vicomtesse de Lavedan Mrs. A. B. Tapping is deserving of the highest compliment. Others who distinguished themselves by their efforts were Messrs. Frank Woolfe, Alec. F. Thompson, and Caton Woodville.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Bernard Mervyn is presenting the playlet *The Devil's Elbow* here this week, and is having an appreciable reception. The acting throughout is excellent, and Mr. Mervyn, Miss V. Wray-Holmes, and Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood are all seen to advantage.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—The Royal Banzai Family of acrobats are giving a daring performance here this week, which keeps their audiences spellbound; Henry Bekker excels in conjuring; and May Stylo does some good juggling.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Dunn.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is playing here this week in *Driven from Home*. Miss Violet Forbes shows histrionic ability in the dual rôles of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh; Miss Emily Burnley gives a finished study of Barbara Ashwin; Mr. Geo. P. Beresford gives a capital performance as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Harry Leyton is good as Willie; as also is Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas. Messrs. Felix Pitt and E. St. Clair Forbes as Anthony Raybrook and Godfrey Waring do justice to the villainy; and Miss Susan Beavan (Margaret Bailey) and Mr. Fred C. Imbert (John Anderson) are entrusted with the humour, which is well done.

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—E'sie Southgate, the famous violin virtuoso, assisted by James Coward, organist, are delighting audiences here this week by their finished renderings of many difficult works; Mr. Will Murray and company are very successful in their sketch, *Bank Holiday in Casey Court;* Ando's Happy Little Japs contribute an excellent acrobatic turn; the Sutcliffe Family submit some Scottish dances and acrobatic work; Carl and Carr do some smart work in dancing and also sing well; Bob Winter, comedian, is also extremely popular; Adey Spencer is pleasing in a musical turn; and good work also comes from Kisbey.

SWANSEA.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Byrne.—*Old Heidelberg* occupies the boards. The exacting part of Prince Karl Heinrich is well played by that promising young actor Mr. Owen Naves; Miss Kitty Ricimer as Kathie is fascinating and dainty; the Kellerman of Mr. Ian Ogilvie Will is capitally characterised; Dr. Juttnerr meets with a scholarly interpretation at the hands of Mr. Ernest Bodkin; and Mr. Frank Powell as Von Haugh is effective and natural. The other parts are ably sustained by Messrs. Sydney Hamilton, Alex. Onslow, and Percy Crawford; Miss Hilda Hamilton and Miss J. W. Braithwaite.

Star Theatre.—Mr. James Willard's *Paying the Price* is meeting with flattering success. The author-actor sustains the part of Colonel Lord Delemere with nerve and spirit; Mr. Fred Wilson as Captain Dick Clinton presents an accurate soldier study; as Nell Fortescue Miss Margaret Tueskie acts with animation; Miss Lily Lloyd unfolds the part of Doris Delemere in a pretty, vivacious way; and strong support is given in the minor parts. The mounting, costumes, and uniforms are excellent.

Empire.—Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners are giving selections from operas to packed audiences, backed up by those barons of burlesques the Bros. Griffiths, the whimsical Welshman Tom Jones, the Kirbys, and the quaintly funny comedians Johnnie Walker and Hardy Lawson.

SWINDON.—Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Alfred Manners.—*Beauty and the Barge* is being presented here this week by Mr. Arthur Shelton's company. Mr. Maitland Marler repeats his popular interpretation of Captain James Barley; Mr. A. Russell-Davis is decidedly good as Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N.; Major Smedley has a capital exponent in Mr. A. E. Jackson; Mr. Gerald Carter makes a satisfactory Herbert Manners; Tom Codd and Augustus are ably taken by Messrs. Hugh Trevor and Ivor Barnard; Mr. Frank Lilliput is funny as Mr. Porter; Miss Vittoria Mainwaring gracefully portrays Mrs. Smedley; Miss Hilda Vaughan is a charming Ethel Smedley; Miss Gwenllyan Cattell admirably suits the part of Lucy Dallas; and Mrs. Baldwin is amusingly played by Mrs. Henry Renouf. The comedy is preceded by the playlet *The Last Night.*

TODMORDEN.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. Dewhirst.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here in *The Love of the Princess.* Mr. Frank Harvey as Prince Conrad made an ideal hero, being ably supported by Messrs. Chas. O'Connor and John Worth as Lieut. Orlando and Lieut. Zaroff respectively; Mr. John Burton gave a fine representation of the dissipated King Josef; as Count Danilo Mr. C. H. Matthews acted with power; as Princess Idalia Miss Maisie Hanbury acted charmingly, being well seconded by Miss Maud Steeple as Lady Irene and Miss Josephine Lee as Constantia; and as Duke Scarfe Mr. W. P. Acock supplied the humour, being ably assisted by Mr. C. Morgan as Boris.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company are under engagement here in *The King of Crime, The Two Orphans of Paris,* and other dramas.

Hippodrome.—Lessees, Tonypandy Hippodrome Co.; General-Manager, Mr. D. Taylor.—Billy Ross and company meet with great success, as do Hume and Palmer; the Dunlops are well received; Jessie Starr, Lillian Sivado, King Leo, and Sam Ello provide highly acceptable items. Excellent films are shown.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Wm. Mollison's company is here this week in *The Chorus Lady.* Miss Rita Carlyle creates a favourable impression in the title-rôle; Miss Elsie Vron Neville makes a charming Nora O'Brien, and Miss Josephine Woodward is quite a typical Mrs. O'Brien; Miss Mabel Durrant is well placed as Miss Simpson; Miss Agnese D'Aragon as the wardrobe woman is an amusing character; Mr. John Sims Woolley infuses plenty of the Irish brogue into the part of Dan Mallory; and Mr. Henry Ludlow is admirably suited to the rôle of Dick Crawford; Mr. Thomas Howes does well as Patrick O'Brien and Mr. R. F. Marshall is distinctly humorous as the Shrimp. The play is preceded by *The Drums of Doom*

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Councillor Harold Arnold.—Mr. Charles Windermere's company is here in *Where is William?* Mr. Charles Windermere as Sir William Gregory is very humorous; William Jolly, admirably sustained by Mr. Rule Pyott, is responsible for much hilarity; General Rububb is capitally delineated by Mr. Leslie Norman; and Mr. Robert Urquhart does ample justice to the part of Harry. Miss Belle Donaldson as Lady Gregory gives an artistic rendition; Miss Clare Manifield makes a refined Phyllis Patterson; and Mrs. Alfred Davis as Emily and Miss Zoe Davis as Eliza are worthy of praise. Mr. Fred Archer as Joe Budge (burglar) and Mr. Albert Plant as the policeman are well placed.

WAKEFIELD.—Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*Sexton Blake* is here this week, Mr. Murray Yorke giving a capital representation in the title-rôle. Tinker finds an able exponent in Mr. Millar Wilson; Mr. Paul Barry is successful as the villain, Randolph Lovell; Mr. Stephen Nicholls makes the most of the part of the parson, Rev. Edward Grey; Mr. Victor C. Rolfe is effective as Farmer Blackburn; and Mr. A. J. Harding is satisfactory as Squire Lovell. Miss Lydia Mannington achieves success in a strong rendering as Philadelphia Kate; Miss Elizabeth Watkins is praiseworthy as Marjorie Lovell; Miss Dinah Wright does well as Euphemia; and Miss Ruth Woodhouse as Sally and Miss Poppy H. Asquin as an outcast, merit mention.

New Empire.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The Brooklyn Comedy Four give a clever and amusing turn; Mlle. Leonie de Lausanne gives a thrilling and wonderful performance in rifle-shooting; the Darntons, harmonising duettists, win applause with fine vocalism; Florence Creagh and Dick Cruikshanks, in a sketch *Her Return,* display dramatic ability; Mark Merry, comedian, is droll; Miss Flora Macdonald is a pleasing Scotch vocalist and dancer; and Miss May Fayre, soubrette, sings in good style.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The variety turns, in addition to the excellent pictures, comprise Felix and Fisher, in an excellent gymnastic and dancing act; and Hyam Long, comedian, who has an excellent reception.

WALLSEND.—Borough Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hugh Duffy.—The New Macs, comedians, indulge in some amusing repartee, and are given a hearty reception; Otto and Olga are successful in their comedy musical and burlesque opera act; and an excellent turn is provided by Slippere, blind musician. Waul Langtry, comedian, is amusing; Bonair and Tess score in their drawing-room speciality act; Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats, perform some clever feats; Rita Royne is a dainty singer; and a juggler of more than average ability is to be found in Lestree.

Premier Electric Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. F. McDonald.—An exceptionally good picture programme is presented this week, and a variety turn which is well appreciated is that of Chas. Cattanah, international dancer.

Tyne Picture Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McHarg.—An excellent selection of films is drawing good houses here. The Gilberts, in their tight-wire act, well deserve the applause they receive.

Royal Picture Hall.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. McHarg.—An attractive picture programme is provided this week, comprising films of a dramatic, humorous, and instructive nature, and good houses result.

WALSALL.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Haidane Crichton is this week presenting *The Cingalee.* The part of the Hon. Harry Vereker is sustained by Mr. Frank Barclay in a pleasing manner; a charming Lady Patricia Vane is Miss Patricia Weldon; Miss Ina Bowman sings and acts ably as Nanoya; as Chambhuddy Ram Mr. Hylton Warde is all that could be desired; Mr. Herbert Franklyn makes the most of his opportunities as Bobby Warren; Peggy Sabine is played by Miss Florence Greensmith in breezy fashion; Mr. Frank Lennard gives a capital portrayal of Boombhamba; Mr. Hellier le Maistre gets all the humour possible out of the part of Sir Peter Loftus; and the dancing of Miss Winifred Stone is quite a feature of the performance.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Seven Perezoffs in a very fine juggling sketch, entitled *An Evening in a Parisian Café,* are the "star" turn here; Ray Wallace is always delightful; Willie Gardner, the skate dancer, creates quite a furore; Sybil St. Elmo is a vocalist of merit; Rhoda Paul, a smart male impersonator; Brown and Le Clercq are still playing *Black Justice* effectively; and Wullie Walker, Scotch comedian, has a good style. Pictures complete.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Warburton.—This theatre is occupied by the members of the Warrington Amateur Dramatic Society, and a first-class portrayal of Captain Marshall's play *The Second in Command* has drawn large houses. The proceeds are in aid of local charities.

Palace and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Eric Longdon.—This week *The Bad Girl of the Family* is here. Mr. R. Marius St. John is manly and earnest as Lieut. Richard Marsh; Mr. Sydney Lynn presents a suave and polished Harry Gordon; Mr. Percy Baverstock lends dignity to the unsympathetic rôle of Lord Erskine; Mr. G. H. Asquin as Sammy Snoozle is very humorous; and he is ably assisted in the lighter element by Miss Nellie James as Sally Smithers. Miss Florrie Kelsey as Bess Moore acts with a vigour and abandon that gives unbounded delight to her audience; Mr. Barnett Lando as Barney Gordon scores heavily as the unscrupulous old moneylender; the unthankful part of Honour Moore has an able representative in Miss Edith Evans; and Miss Alice Esther Belmore submits a refined portrayal of Gladys Erskine.

Royal.—Proprietors, The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Jack Waters.—Clifford and White have scored a big success; Ronald Brooks has a sweet tenor voice; the Birkenhead Family are a smart troupe of juveniles; and Lumard and Vereker are clever song illustrators. The pictures are attractive.

Grand.—Proprietors, The Palatine Company; Manager, Mr. Spencer.—An interesting programme of pictures is given here.

WASHINGTON.—Alexandra Theatre.—Secretary, Mr. Joe Turnbull; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Johnson.—*A Prince's Secret Wedding* is being presented here this week by Mr. and Mrs. Silverstone and H. Wright's company. Mr. Silverstone gives a particularly fine rendering of the part of Prince Alexander; Mr. Geo. Mitchell elicits considerable applause by his portrayal of Ivan Nowasky; Mr. Cowell Clarke is responsible for a successful character study of Karl Orloff; Mr. Henry Wright (Bobbie Smart) is a great Washington favourite; Mr. C. Newton Buckland is seen to advantage as Piertree Petoff; Mr. J. Brunille Harvey (Father Gourko) is quite at home in his exacting part; Mr. Morgan Dale submits a good impersonation of Sergeant Markoff; and Mr. S. G. Eugene would be hard to improve upon in the rôle of Adolphus.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn.—The drama founded on the well-known story of *Leah,* the Jewish maiden, is being presented this week by a very capable company of Mr. Beaudyn's, Miss Sidney Crowe appearing with great distinction in the title-rôle. Rudolf is admirably presented by Mr. Herbert Skardon; Mr. Geoff. Sutherland is good as Nathan; and the Abraham of Mr. Wilfred Blair is also an excellent study, the other parts being well sustained. The play is admirably mounted and staged.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Colin; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. Colin, sen.; Secretary, Mr. W. Hebden.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is appearing here in *The Merry Widow.* As Sonia Miss Dorothy Arliss is very charming; Baron Popoff is well represented by Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter; Mr. Ronald Pomeroy as Vicomte Camile de Jolidon, Miss Nan Ainslie as Prascovia, and all the other parts are excellently sustained, and the play is produced in a style worthy of the company and the piece.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—Mr. Harry Burns, the popular variety agent and erstwhile lessee of the Empress Theatre, is presenting his No. 1 vaudeville company, the principal attraction in which is Lieut. Rob-Insen's Band of Legion of Frontiersmen, numbering some thirty performers, who are making a great impression, their clever instrumental selections being heartily encored. Kelly and Gillette, "the tramp with a thirst," appear in a novel and humorous entertainment; the Dankmar-Schiller Troupe of hand balancers and acrobats go through some extraordinary feats; Harry Curwen is an old favourite; Leo Fields keeps his audience in the best of humour; Daisy and Dot are smart dancers; Hans and Lux, patter comedians, are amusing; and Stanley and Vandyke appear in a mirthful sketch.

Palace.—Proprietors, The Brothers Black.—In addition to the "Black Pictures" capital talent is appreciated by good audiences. Ciss and Wall, artistic dancers, are the recipients of unstinted applause; prettily illustrated songs are charmingly rendered by Pattie Burton; and clever and daring feats are neatly performed on the triple bar by the Maro Duo.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Linden.—Mr. Dickie Clare and his company are paying a return visit with *Lucky Liza.* In the triple rôle of Silas Slinn, the Judge, and the French Waiter Mr. Clare seems to have these parts especially his own; Mr. T. W. Benson as Peter Pettitoe is very good; and as Paul Petti toe Mr. Leonard Maitland does well. Miss Vesta Brownie essays the title-rôle with genuine ability; and the Jesmond Quartette are a clever troupe of dancers.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietors, Mr. T. C. Rawes; Lessee, Mr. John Cattrell; General-Manager, Mr. W. D. Murray.—Karl Lynn, a skilful animal mimic, heads an excellent bill, the other turns being Tiny Ashton (boy vocalist) and the Three Askarnos (Risley comedians). A fine collection of animated pictures is shown.

WEYMOUTH.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Murray King's company is here in *Our Flat,* and Mr. Nathaniel Glover is an instant success in Mr. Murray King's hands; Mr. Charles Stuart is smart as Reginald Sylvester; Miss Florence Radclyffe plays Mrs. Sylvester with effect; Miss Louie West is amusing as Bella; Mr. Ardene Linden cleverly portrays the hard-hearted father; and the remainder of the company are all good. A gala performance is announced for Friday night in honour of the visit of the American Fleet, and six hundred men of the United States and English Fleets are to be present as guests of the Mayor and Corporation.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—*The Fighting Chance* is being presented here to crowded audiences. A powerful portrayal of Stephen Blanchard is given by Mr. Austin Milroy; Capt. J. Blanchard finds an able exponent in Mr. Sidney Vautier; Mr. Arthur Elwyn excites hatred as Capt. Philip Rivers; the part of Dr. John Vorland is in the capable hands of Mr. Terence O'Brien; Miss Mary Campbell is interesting as Jean; and Miss Annie Barclay does well as Mrs. Macintosh.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—The Brothers Pasquali prove themselves clever acrobats; Edna Latonne, a popular male impersonator, is encored for her songs; a pathetic sketch, *The Battle of Life,* is given by Wright, Aitkin, and company; an amusing ventriloquial entertainment is furnished by Kenny Kay; Natalia and Diana, in a gymnastic act, are loudly applauded; Margit and Lener deserve special mention for their acrobatic sketch, *Wet Paint;* the Countees cause quite an ovation with their songs; and other interesting items are given by Woods and Walsh, Raby Morgan, and Karr and Kooney, comedians.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. G. Kimberley.—A strong attraction is provided this week by the enterprising lessee in the engagement of Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company with *Sherlock Holmes.* Nothing but the highest praise can be accorded to Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart for his masterly assumption of the title-rôle—his portrayal positively thrilled the audience by its dramatic intensity; Mr. Oliver Crombie made an acceptable James Larabee; Dr. Watson had a capital exponent in Mr. Eric Morden; Mr. Charles A. James was particularly good as John Forman; Mr. W. T. Harris presented a striking study of Professor Moriarty; Mr. Seton Bernard was well suited as Sidney Prince; Master Thomas Hill proved an exceptionally smart Billy; and able support was rendered by Messrs. Frank Moar (Sir Edward Leighton), Henry Littleton (Count Von Stahlburg), and Mr. George Staveley (Jim Cragin). Miss Ethel Trevor Lloyd played with effect as Madge Larabee; Miss Edith Sanscroft did well as Therese; whilst Miss May Clare as Alice Faulkner presented a charming picture of maidenly reserve.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Vivian Evans.—Mr. Harry Tate's company, in his funny burlesque *Flying,* cause plenty of amusement; the Zanonis present an unusually clever juggling scena; the acrobatic act of the Zenary Bros. is well and smartly done; Harry Carsdale's mimicry creates much merriment; Fred Lincoln, comedian, is well received; the Sisters Gerome are entertaining duettists and dancers; and a precocious young comedian is found in Harry Clarke.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Macnamara.—The well-known drama *Man to Man* has been compressed into a two-hour "show," and is admirably presented by Messrs. Lloyd and Brown's company twice nightly. Mr. Arthur Robinson as the hero George Gordon invests the part with continuous interest; Miss Beatrice Hone as Ethel Maythorne is a sympathetic heroine; Richard Ellerton is capitally portrayed by Mr. Charles Stirling; Mr. Edward Lloyd makes the part of the Rev. Philip Ormond a very distinctive one; Mr. Clifford Brown as Bill Burkley is irresistible; and Mr. Bruce Williams as Samuel Plumtree assists in the humorous element. Other parts are commendably undertaken by Misses Frances May, Eleanor Papern, and Phyllis Oakley, and Messrs. Holland and Hudson.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—The first three nights of this week the boards were occupied by *Are You a Mason?* The characters were well sustained, and created much laughter, the audience being a large one. The following three nights Miss Nannie Goldsmith's No. 1 company played *The Step-mother.*

Carnegie Hall.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Kitto.—Large audiences have visited this hall during the week, the pictures being up to the usual high standard. The variety turns, which included The Two Castles and Bert and Faye, were good.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Malcolm Spurgin.—Another popular variety programme is being presented here this week, and at the head of the bill are the Lyons Trio, who are paying a popular return visit with their high-class comedy act; Captain Roberts, the King's trumpeter, and his company go through a wonderful performance, the captain demonstrating the fact that he is the possessor of immense strength; Royston and Bradfield present the sketch *The Bailiff and the Actress,* and this proves an agreeable item; Ascot and Dewey are entertaining with their comedy act *Ballooning;* and Davies and Dean, comedians and simultaneous dancers, find favour; as also Della and Play, with their songs and patter; Jimmie Grant is acceptable as a Scotch comedian; and Maisie Ray is a singer of popular songs. The programme is completed with animated pictures of the Lord Mayor's Show and the Launch of the Olympic, and the latter is one of the best films ever seen in Worthing.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—This week for the annual fair, the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home,* by Frank Lindo, is presented by Miss Marion Wakeford and company. Mr. Leonard Laurence as Stephen Armitage acted with much power; Mr. Tom E. Lewis was an interesting David; Mr. Sydney Dench, a dignified Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Bert Dench imbued the part of the Hon. Percy with genuine comedy; and as Lucas Lyle Mr. Edward Cameron had full scope for his abilities. Miss Marion Wakeford made Joan a sweetly interesting personage; Miss Lisa Coleman as Sybil Fay was a distinct success; and Little Queenie as Dora was heartily applauded.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The appearance of Mr. R. A. Roberts is always a popular event, and on Monday night a crowded house greeted him in his wonderful sketch, *Cruel Coppinger.* Stevens and Brett introduce some smart patter and are clever dancers; Field and Mansell produce some clever oil-paintings; and the songs contributed by Chas. Woodward are deservedly popular. Kitty Kennedy Allen sings a taking song; and the dancing of Tim O'Connor is smart. The Empire Bioscope is appreciated; and the cycle turn contributed by Paulton and Dolly is in its way unique.

"DRAMATIC CRITICISM."

Mr. William Archer delivered an interesting address on "Dramatic Criticism" to the members of the Liverpool Playgoers' Society, in the Yamen Room, Bold-street, last week. There was a large audience, and Prof. Reilly presided.

It was idle to inquire, said Mr. Archer, whether dramatic criticism was of any use, because if it was an evil, it was a necessary evil. They could not help expressing themselves on works of art, and some of them were called upon to make it their business to express themselves as carefully as they could upon them, and that was practically what criticism was. There was a common definition of critics, viz., those who had failed in literature, and whilst there was a great deal in that, he thought that in many cases they had not made the failures that were implied in that remark. They were the people who had wished to become artists, who had been interested in a certain art, and who upon trying it had found they had not the creative gift, but who consequently devoted themselves to studying the principles of it, and to analysing and studying the works of other people. In that sense it was not at all disgraceful to have failed in an art before they had become critics of it. On the other hand, it would be found that artists who had a strong individual gift, were apt to be bad critics, because they always applied their own standards. They were sometimes told there were two sorts of criticism—judicial and scientific criticism—and that scientific criticism was the only right sort; that the critic had no right to attempt judgment, and that his work was classification. He did not say that classification of literature was not of great importance, but judgment must come first. One definition in regard to dramatic criticism was sometimes overlooked, and it was this: When they spoke of a great critic of the drama such as Hazlitt, Leigh Hunt, and Charles Lamb, they were speaking of quite a different art from that which was now practised. Those great critics dealt almost entirely with acting, whereas critics of the present day dealt with drama as distinct from acting. Quoting Hazlitt's criticism on the plays of his time, mentioning that on Edmund Kean's Richard III. Mr. Archer said it was almost impossible to exercise that form of criticism now, as we did not see Shakespearean parts often enough done by different actors. What we now dealt with was whether a play was a faithful representation of life, or whether the ideal it presented was a fine one. As to the question which was often raised, viz., whether the critic ought or ought not to tell the story of a play in writing about it, there was a great deal to be said on both sides. It was often a great injustice to the author to tell his plot, and it was a practice which could only be exercised with great care; but, on the other hand, it was for the author's benefit as well as for the critic's, that the notice should be readable, and a notice which gave some idea of the plot was unquestionably more interesting than the mere evaluation of the play. The fundamental merit of a critic of the drama was keenness of perception, and it was most essential that the critic should know when he was bored. He should also feel, and not conventionally feel, and he should be able to distinguish what was drama from what was not drama. Mr. Archer uttered a warning against what he termed sterilising criticism, of which there was a great deal nowadays. Let the criticism by all means be outspoken, but let it be encouraging rather than deadening and depressing.

Following upon the discussion, Mr. Archer paid a tribute to the Liverpool Playgoers' Society for its work towards bringing about a Repertory Theatre. It would be a discredit to Liverpool if she were left behind in that movement by Manchester and Glasgow. The result of the efforts in those two cities had been that a number of local dramatists of considerable talent had come forward and produced plays which interpreted either Lancashire or Scottish character to the audiences, and that was the most healthy sign in the development of the drama in England. It would be to the credit of this society if it succeeded in establishing a theatre in Liverpool, and if it did not succeed it would show a supiness on the part of the well-to-do and intelligent people of Liverpool which would be greatly to their discredit.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Nov. 22. Present: Mr. Richard A. Greene, in the chair, Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Cecil A. Collins, Chris. Walker, F. J. Arlton, Frederick Annerley, Langford Reed, Murri Moncrieff, Clarence Derwent, Miss Vita Spencer, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Mildred Cottell, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting held on the 15th inst., and the meeting confirmed and the Chairman signed same.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Fred Hudson, requesting the Council to take action on his behalf for the recovery of fees, and on the motion of Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Arlton, the matter was referred to Mr. Mote, the hon. solicitor.

With reference to Mr. Milton Rosmer's letter to Messrs. Mote and Sons, it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Walker, that as he had already been notified, until Mr. Rosmer becomes a member of the Association, the Council cannot do anything with regard to his claim.

The Secretary read letters from Messrs. T. Craven and Sons, Alan J. Chester, and James Berry, and received instructions as to replies.

With reference to Mr. Cecil Raleigh's letter, it was proposed by Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. Annerley, that discussion be deferred upon the subject until the next meeting, and the Secretary was instructed to place the matter on the agenda for that purpose.

In reply to the Rev. Donald Hole's letter, the Secretary was instructed to inform him that the Council had great pleasure in acceding to his request, that the Actors' Church Union Finance Committee might hold their meeting as requested, during the tenure of the office of the present Council, on the motion of Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. Coffin.

Mr. Derwent reported progress on behalf of the Dinner Committee, and mentioned that amongst those who had signified their intention of being present were Messrs. Arthur Bourchier, Henry Ainley, J. D. Beveridge, Robert Courtneidge, M. R. Morand, and C. Hayden Coffin.

A letter was read from Mr. Shiel-Porter relative to his own and his wife's election to membership, and the Secretary received instructions as to reply.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Miss Chester, and on the motion of Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. M. Moncrieff, adopted.

Elected: Gladys Barnard, Eileen Guilbert, Edith Pitcher, and Ruth Heathcote. Reinstated: Alfred Gordon Craig. Nominated: F. Lock Whittaker.

At the King's Palace, Wellingborough, Jean Seul's mysterious performance is a decided novelty and a successful draw. Sig. Trippells is popular. Will Sergeant is appreciated; and Chummie La Mara's songs have a capital reception.

On Monday at the Theatre Royal, Waterford, Mr. Tom Watts's company opened an engagement with the Bullock version of *East Lynne.* Miss Ida Heron is excellent as Lady Isobel; Mr. Frank Beresford gives a good reading of the part of Archibald Carlyle; and the comic element is well sustained by Mr. Walter Dale, who as P.C. Bullock keeps the house in roars of laughter.

EMPLOYEES' ANNUAL CONCERT.

The eighth annual concert organised by the National Association of Theatrical Employés was an unprecedented success last Sunday, a large number of persons being unable to obtain admission. The whole of the tickets for seats were sold before the day. It was a fine sight to see Mr. Oswald Stoll's beautiful theatre packed, and seldom has the Coliseum held a more enthusiastic audience. The following ladies and gentlemen kindly gave their patronage, and either sent a donation to the funds or took tickets for the concert:—

Sir Edward Moss	Mr. Percy Honri
Sir H. Beerbohm Tree	Mr. Henry Arthur Jones
Sir A. W. Pinero	Mme. Zelie de Lussan
Miss Lilian Braithwaite	Miss Marie Lloyd
Mr. Thomas Beecham	Miss Eva Moore
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	Mr. Cyril Maude
Miss Compton	Dr. Robinson
Mr. Frank Curzon	Mr. Henry Tozer
Mr. Arthur Chudleigh	Mr. Cecil Raleigh
Mr. James Carew	Miss Irene Vanbrugh
Mr. Frank Glenister	Mr. Sydney Valentine
Mr. William Greet	Mr. James Welch
Mr. J. Martin Harvey	

The crowded house followed with interest and pleasure the long and varied programme. Owing to the inclement weather and consequent bronchial troubles, there were some few disappointments in the promised appearance of artists, among them being Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. Harry Claff, Mr. Dutch Daly, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Esme Culverdale, the Meister Glee Singers, and Mr. Phil Ray. In spite of the great regret felt caused by those absent, one could not complain either of the lack of quality, quantity, or variety. Mr. Bond Sayers—who again kindly gave his services—conducted the orchestra, whose very satisfactory performances left nothing to be desired. Mr. Bernard Gluck was the accompanist at the piano. Miss Aimee Roberts, although suffering from a severe cold, kindly sang the first song, substituting "Picking daisies in the dell" for "Out of darkness," as announced in the programme. Mr. Walter Williams gave a very pleasing rendering of "The trumpeter." The Hon. Eva O'Connor contributed two songs (accompanied by herself) with much spirit and energy. Mr. Gurney Russell was much applauded for his two songs, especially "Poppy was picking pink poppies." Miss Floyd Ariston sang "Because," also a French song and a coón song, with much natural charm.

Mr. Arthur Melrose's clever "Whistling waiter" was highly appreciated, and junior members of the audience will doubtless spend much time in endeavouring to imitate him. The comedy duologue of Osborne and Brooke was very entertaining, and the drunken husband's gymnastic feats were really clever and funny. Mr. John Phillips gave the ever welcome song of the Toreador from *Carmen* to the manifest pleasure of the audience. Miss Violet Loraine brought down the house with her lively and artistic performance of "All clear out of the park," and as an encore gave a description of a picture show, for which she obtained immense applause. Miss Loraine thoroughly entered into the part, and is evidently a very clever artiste. The Two Bobs were charming in their sketch, and they sang quaintly and distinctively. Miss Helen Blain sang "My dear soul" with her usual refinement and cultivation. Mr. Fred Wildon in "Phonofiddleoddities" was both amusing, and in his rendering of "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" most sympathetic. He almost made his little instrument articulate.

Mr. Fred Hastings's little monologue on "Courtship and marriage" was very entertaining. Mr. Tom Clare with his "Cynthia" and his inimitable imitation of a German at the telephone was altogether most productive of the laughter that is said to add to one's weight.

The Romps gave a very successful little sketch, and the depth of tone shown was quite unusual in the singing of such young girls. Miss José Collins sang "Come, sing to me" and "The sunbeam and the rose," for both of which she secured a flattering reception. Miss Collins had the advantage of being accompanied by Mr. Jack Thompson, the composer.

Mr. Charles Pond in his "Glimpses of life" convulsed the audience with amusement with "The Dogs' Hospital" and "The [illegible] Driver," and was most impressive with his description of the very womanly "Little Missis" and his happy family life.

Miss Florence in "I want to come home to Killarney" exhibited an extremely pleasing and nicely-rounded voice.

The concert was brought to a close with some excellent moving pictures shown by Mr. Bernard Theobald, N.A.C.O., the Coliseum cinematograph operator.

Slides were also shown of Mr. Oswald Stoll and expressing thanks to the supporters of the concert.

The ticket sellers were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
J. Atterton (Vaudeville)	5	18	6
P. Bowmer (Gaiety)	2	18	0
W. G. Butt (Strand)	5	9	6
J. Cullen (St. James's)	3	13	0
C. T. Cory (Vaudeville)	19	1	0
G. H. Dyball (London Pavilion)	40	2	0
G. T. Dalgarno (Empire)	6	14	0
G. Dyer (Drury Lane)	10	11	0
E. Dagnall (Drury Lane)	2	10	6
G. W. Grant (Strand)	1	0	0
A. P. Horne (St. James's)		11	0
F. Hodsoll (Coliseum)	2	7	0
W. Hall (Alhambra)	1	1	0
J. Hutchins (Finsbury Park Empire)		14	0
J. Hunt (Alhambra)	1	5	6
A. Jones (Covent Garden)	2	18	0
C. A. Keeble (Coliseum)	1	10	0
H. J. Kemp (Vaudeville)	1	7	0
A. Malcolm	2	6	0
J. Phelps (Strand)	1	9	0
H. Porter (Criterion)	2	18	0
G. Palmer (Paragon)		16	0
G. Pickering (Duke of York's)	2	8	0
P. Raphael (Lyceum)	4	16	0
E. Stow (Vaudeville)	1	18	0
T. Swift (Alhambra)	1	15	6
P. Sheridan (Strand)	5	17	0
J. Tonkins (Vaudeville)	1	3	6
W. S. Terry (A. J. Pearce) (St. James's)		17	0
P. Thomas (Alhambra)	2	18	0
C. Terry (Lyceum)	1	17	6
B. J. Taylor (Comedy)		13	6
C. Thorogood	2	5	6
W. C. Weaver (Vaudeville)		10	0
	£143	19	6
Sales at office (Wm. Johnson)	25	17	0
	£169	16	6

The following ladies kindly assisted to sell programmes and sweets, and took evident delight in their task, the result of which was of great advantage to the funds:—

Mrs. Rose Phillips, £1 10s. 7d.; Miss Violet Loraine, 18s. 6d.; Mrs. Knight, £2 10s.; Miss Cecilia Macarte, £1 8s. 5d.; Miss Julia Macarte, 12s.; Mrs. C. C. Bartram, £1 11s.; Miss Winnie Ashton, 19s. 10d.; Miss Elkerton, £1 12s. 1d.; Miss I. Ilkerton, £1 0s. 3d.; Miss Louie Lockner, £2 2s. 6d.; Miss Violet Morene, £1 14s.; Miss Cicely Debenham, £1 17s. 10½d.; Miss Queenie Vincent, £1 11s. 6d.; Miss Nellie Taylor, £1 4s. 9d.; Miss Winnie Wing, £1 16s. 10½d.; Miss Zoe Gordon, £2 3s. 1d.; Miss Lily Nanton, 12s. 9d.; others and stewards, £4 17s. 1d.

The members who acted as stewards were Messrs. R. Astley, E. Stow, W. Hall, G. Dyer, J. Phelps, G. T. Dalgarno, H. Finch, E. F. Gamble, H. McDonnel, J. Tonkins, G. W. Grant, G. W. Butt, W. J. Hindley, A. B. Marris, H. Bowmer, H. J. Kemp, J. N. Hunt, C. Thorogood, P. Thomas, John Hutchins, E. H. Mason, E. J. Sly, K. P. Mack, and A. Holmes. Messrs. Phillip Raphael and James Atterton were in charge of programmes and sweets.

The committee have much pleasure in acknowledging the generosity of Mr. Oswald Stoll, who lent the Coliseum, free of charge, for the purpose of the concert; also the kindness of Mr. Dundas Slater (manager of the Coliseum), Mr. Harry Pryme (assistant business-manager), Mr. Henry Crocker (stage-manager), who kindly gave their assistance, and to Mr. S. Robins (master carpenter), Mr. W. Smith (chief electrician), Mr. C. Holley (property master), and other members of the staff for their services.

The committee desire also to acknowledge the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Butt (of the Palace Theatre), Mr. Henry Tozer (of the Tivoli and Syndicate halls), Mr. Frank Glenister (of the London Pavilion), Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, and the Empire Theatre (Leicester-square) directors, who gave permission for artists under contract with them to appear, and the kindness of the Variety Artists' Federation, who cordially gave permission for their members to appear, and waived the 2½ per cent. usually required in such circumstances.

The committee also cordially thank Messrs. Willing, Messrs. David Allen, Messrs. W. T. Haycock and Co., Ltd., Messrs. Partington and Co., Messrs. J. Miles and Co., Ltd., and Mr. R. Astley for valuable assistance, and Mr. A. Tetlow (of Moss' Empires, Ltd.) for the use of the Coliseum cinematograph apparatus and the films shown.

The committee also thank most heartily Mr. Robert Brown, who kindly designed and presented the cover of the programme, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer to the concert committee.

Concert Committee: James Cullen, Chairman (master carpenter, St. James's Theatre), G. H. Dyball, Vice-Chairman (stage-manager, London Pavilion), C. T. Cory (master carpenter, Vaudeville Theatre), W. Pullinger (master carpenter, Garrick Theatre), A. Jones (Royal Opera House), Philip Sheridan (electrician, Strand Theatre), Ed. Stow (Vaudeville Theatre), A. Palmer (master carpenter, Comedy Theatre), A. Malcolm, N.A.C.O., G. Pickering (stage department, Duke of York's Theatre), J. Hunt (Alhambra Theatre), F. B. Fidge (electrician, Lyceum Theatre), Phillip Raphael (advertising manager, Lyceum Theatre), Charles Thorogood, H. Porter (Criterion Theatre), E. J. Sly, T. Lowe, J. Atterton (Vaudeville Theatre), and H. J. Kemp (Vaudeville Theatre).

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. William Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE stage employees who are members of the N.A.T.E. are to be congratulated upon the result of their annual concert. The Concert Committee met on Tuesday and appointed Messrs. Cory and Atterton to audit the accounts, and they met on Thursday to do this. The following is a summary of the audited accounts:—

Receipts.

From sale of tickets for seats	£210	6	0
Standing room	46	0	0
Programmes and sweets	30	17	7
Cloak-room	0	13	11
Donations	13	12	0
Special item	0	8	0
	£301	17	6

Expenditure.

Orchestra (Coliseum)	£15	0	0
Staff, light, and cleaning	25	19	8
Printing and blocks and Press advertisements	18	11	9
Postage, stationery, billing, refreshments, and other items	25	17	3
Balance	216	8	10
	£301	17	6

The balance has been allocated to the following benevolent funds:—

No. 1 Branch	£105	0	0
Heads of Departments' Branch	50	0	0
Cinematograph Operators' Branch	20	0	0
Carpenters' Branch	15	0	0
Provident Association	10	0	0
Open Fund	13	12	0
New Branch Attendants, and such other amounts as come in	2	16	10
	£216	8	10

The amounts allocated to the Open Fund and the Provident Fund would, probably, have been larger had these two funds not had the whole of the proceeds of the Theatrical Sports, amounting to £65, in equal shares

APPLICATIONS to join the new branch for attendants are coming in, and those who intend joining should send their applications without delay to Mr. W. Johnson so that he may be notified of the meeting to be held shortly. Those who have already applied will be communicated with in due course.

AT a meeting of the Cinematograph Operators' Committee, Mr. S. B. Blakeley attended, and proposed that the committee should arrange a meeting of operators to witness a demonstration of the Power Camergraph projector, and permit him to give an address upon the position of the moving-picture operators in America. As Mr. Blakeley is a member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (Branch 145 of the Moving-Picture Operators, Chicago), the committee have made arrangements, and the demonstration will be given in the large hall of the Northampton Institute, Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at eleven o'clock a.m. All operators are cordially invited to attend, and will obtain a card on application to Mr. John Hutchins at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

A POKER PARODY.

Mr. Richard F. Symons, of the Lyceum Theatre, knows his Shakespeare and how to play poker; hence the following parody on Hamlet's soliloquy:

To play or not to play, that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the game to suffer
The slings and arrows of a risky hand
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles
And throw in my cards; to swank, to bluff
Some more, and by that bluff to take
The goodly pool, that better hands
Are heir to—'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To straddle, to raise
To see, perchance to win. Ay, there's the rub,
For in that game of cards what hands may come
When we have shuffled off the second pack
Without a cut; there's the respect
That makes calamity of a good hand.
For who would bear the flush and straights of others,
The oppressor's three aces, the proud man's full house,
The pangs of fours, the straight flush,
The insolence of others, and the spurns
That five aces (with the joker) makes
When he himself might his quietus take
By throwing in his hand? Who would draw to a pair
To groan and swear under a bad hand
But that the hope of something afterwards—
The jack-pot, from whose bourn
The silvery flood returns, puzzles the will
And makes us rather bear the cards we have
Than draw five others that we know not of.
Thus conscience does make cowards of us all,
And hands of great and strong excitement
With this regard, their cards all turn awry
And lose the name of Poker.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. W. H. WESTWOOD.

The complimentary benefit matinée arranged on behalf of Mr. W. H. Westwood, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday and twenty-five years as manager and secretary to the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd., which took place on Saturday, Nov. 19, at Her Majesty's Theatre, bore ample testimony to the popularity which Mr. Westwood deservedly enjoys. The house was packed, and the *élite* of Walsall and its environs were present to show their appreciation of the long and faithful service rendered to the people of Walsall by Mr. Westwood in his present capacity. The Borough Member, R. A. Cooper, Esq., M.P., in a letter of congratulation, expressed great regret that "events in the House" prevented him from being present. The programme was of a varied description, and contained upwards of thirty items, each of which was thoroughly enjoyed by a good-humoured, appreciative audience. The following artists were able to appear:—Whit Cunliffe, the Rawsons, Olga Dore, Harry Roxbury, George Rae, the Daunton-Shaw troupe, Lyle Jeffries (Birmingham Empire), the Farabonis, Bowden and Stol, Ellis Barrieton and Lizzie Glenroy (Grand Theatre, Birmingham), Joe and Hetty Waldron, La Noedia, Eadie and Ramsden (Birmingham Hippodrome), Harry Weldon, Ted and May Hopkins (the Gaiety), Harry Grey, Olive Armidale, the Hesseys (the Empire, Wolverhampton), and the full company of artists at Her Majesty's Theatre also consented to appear.

Mr. Westwood, at one time known all over the world as Leonati, originator of the spiral ascension and descension act on a bicycle, when interviewed by our representative, was very modest as to his early achievements. Asked how he first came to take up trick cycle show business, Mr. Westwood recounting the circumstances, replied: "It was because I liked it. I started when I was about eighteen years old, and afterwards introduced my spiral column act, with which I appeared on the Continent first during the year 1874. It was in the year 1875, through the agency of my dear old friend, H. W. Wieland, that I received my first engagement to appear under the management of Messrs. Poole and Stacy

[*Photo by H. S. Eades.*

MR. W. H. WESTWOOD.

at the Old Surrey Gardens" (long ago built upon). Here Mr. Westwood took an old, well-worn book, showing our representative press cuttings in almost every foreign tongue, and pointing to one, an *Era* cutting, dated June 6, 1875, headed "Exciting Scene at Surrey Gardens," and giving a descriptive report of his perilous performance. About this time Mr. Westwood accepted a long Continental engagement, in which he toured through Spain, Italy, Belgium, Russia, Austria, Hungary, &c. Coming back to England he played twenty-seven weeks at the Royal Aquarium, London, then under the management of Wylbur Robinson. Another short tour completed on the Continent, Leonati worked all the principal towns in the United Kingdom with the late Charles Hengler's Circus, John Henry Cooke, and Alfred Eugene Cooke. In the years 1882, 1883, and 1884 he toured through the United States with the then famous show known as the Great Forepaugh Show. This tour practically saw the retirement of Leonati from the strenuous and dangerous calling of "spiral ascensionist," for in 1885 he came to Walsall, where he bought the old Alexandra Theatre, then in the hands of Mr. Cooke, rechristened it the Gaiety, which later he demolished and built on the site the present Grand Theatre. His last professional engagements as Leonati took place about the year 1887, when he appeared at Dudley Castle on the Whit Week and in the August of the same year. On the Bank Holiday he made his final appearance at Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich. Since that time Mr. Westwood has concentrated his energies on the betterment of theatrical work in Walsall, and it was the astute manager who was mainly instrumental in the building of Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, where, on Saturday last, his birthday celebration and benefit took place with the desired result. Mr. Westwood was the recipient of many presents, including a dressing-case and box of cigars from the committee, a beautiful silver cigar-case from the staff of Her Majesty's Theatre, and a smoker's cabinet from the staff of the Grand Theatre. At a board meeting of the directors on Monday, the 21st, they (the directors) tendered to Mr. W. H. Westwood a very cordial and hearty vote of congratulations, the chairman, in the course of his remarks, stating that his colleagues and himself were fully satisfied that he (Mr. Wedgwood) did all that possibly lay in his power to further the interests of the company. Mr. Westwood, in a few words, expressed his thanks for their confidence, saying if it was required, the words expressed that afternoon would further stimulate him.

THE LATE MISS HENRIETTA HODSON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—My attention has been called to the obituary notice in your paper of a week or two back of the above-named well-known actress, formerly of the old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre. A copy of the programme of *As You Like It*, as played at the Queen's under that lady's management is also published, with reference to which you stated that "of the company mentioned composing the cast, only three are now living, viz., Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Howard Russell, and Miss Kate Bishop." Permit me to inform you that this statement is not correct, inasmuch as both my old colleague—Mr. Dempsey—and myself, who remained in Miss Hodson's service until her retirement, are still alive to tell the tale; and perhaps, therefore, you will do us the justice to make the necessary correction in your next issue.—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN A. RUSSELL.

"A WEAVER'S SHUTTLE."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Anthony Rowley. Produced, for the First time on any Stage, at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, Nov. 21.

Jean	MISS KITTY CLIFFORD
William Cotterill	MR. FRANK COCHRANE
Mary Ronald	MISS JEAN CADELL
Clement Cotterill	MR. PERCEVAL CLARK
Lady Baxter	MISS MADGE MCINTOSH
Robert Cotterill	MR. NORMAN MCKEOWN
Higgins	MR. MARK HANNAM
Hugh Ronald	MR. CAMPBELL GULLAN
Cook	MISS BLANCHE PEARL
Housemaid	MISS RAYNOR
Mackay	MR. WALTER ROY
Murdoch	MR. GEORGE TAWDE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The latest production of the Repertory Theatre at Glasgow deals, like a number of recent plays, with the relations between masters and men, and the subject is handled with the utmost fidelity to truth, while at the same time the lighter and more humorous aspects of this and other subjects are kept in view throughout.

William Cotterill is the proprietor of a factory in Midlothian, who is resolved to manage his own business in his own way, despite the advice of his two sons or his old foreman, Hugh Ronald, and in defiance of any statement of grievances by his workers. In the first act, which takes place in the drawing-room of Cotterill's house, the audience is at once put in touch with the state of affairs. His business, though solvent, is sadly hampered by want of capital, and he has appealed to an old friend for assistance. The friend does not directly respond, but sends his sister down on a visit to the Cotterill's, but later we learn that this lady is really there to investigate matters in a quiet way before granting the financial assistance, and, in fact, Lady Baxter proves the good fairy to all the characters. Cotterill's worries are added to by the fact that his younger son, Clement, is openly making love to the governess, Mary Ronald, who, although a ladylike and well-educated girl, is hardly, as the daughter of the foreman, Hugh Ronald, a suitable partner in the eyes of the ambitious manufacturer. His elder son, Robert, is a widower with a young daughter, Jean, and both reside in the house of old Cotterill, the young girl under the care of the governess. Robert is rather in disfavour with the men at the works, his duties consisting of checking the men's work and allocating fines for faults therein, naturally engendering their resentment. Clement is a favourite, he having worked a lot in the factory, and understanding the men's point of view and the actual grievances they labour under. An excessive spell of late work and an exceptional number of fines have made the men restive, and in the second act, the scene of which is laid in the wareroom of the carpet factory, matters reach a crisis. The men ask that a deputation shall be received by their employer, and are anxious to point out that a special shuttle used in the works is responsible for many of the faults for which they are fined. This shuttle being an invention of the employer's own, he naturally resents any complaints which savour of disparagement of his device, and is furious when it leaks out that his younger son and his foreman have actually experimented on one of the looms with an improvement devised by the foreman, which has at once improved the quality of the work. The scene where the deputation of two workmen interviews the employer is excellent comedy. One of the men is a clever workman, somewhat slow of speech in the presence of his master, while the other is a truculent and cantankerous specimen, with a bitter tongue and an overflowing sense of the grievances under which he labours. The suave and dignified old employer, talking quietly to the men, and ushering them out of his presence without having promised them anything definite, and the two men, forgetting at times their mission to loudly debate their own personal animosities and differences of opinion, were all cleverly and faithfully transcribed from real life. The old foreman, Hugh Ronald, does his best to smooth over the differences, but without avail, and, chancing to overhear a disparaging remark by Cotterill regarding Ronald's daughter Mary, the old man puts on his coat and leaves the factory where he has been for forty years. Clement again tries his hand at smoothing matters a bit, but his father fears he has not succeeded and sinks into his chair. At that moment the rattle and clatter of looms starting is heard from the factory beyond, and at the sound the old manufacturer rises from the chair with a fervent "Thank God!" and on this the act-drop falls. Act III. deals principally with the efforts of Lady Baxter to set things to rights again. She induces Cotterill to adopt the improved shuttle devised by the foreman and to offer the latter a partnership, with the two sons, of the firm, under the style of Cotterill, Sons, and Co., the old head retiring to the position of a sleeping partner. In addition, Lady Baxter persuades Cotterill to apologise to Mary Ronald, and sanction the engagement of the governess and Clement. The workmen are pacified, and the only one left in the cold is the elder son Robert. He had expressed the idea that Lady Baxter would be a charming wife to him and a mother to his daughter Jean, but the fates seem bent on preventing this, and the curtain falls on a pretty and pathetic picture. Robert is lamenting the fact that all the characters have paired off, and left him alone. He murmurs "Where is the little woman I have to marry?" when his young daughter, in her night-dress, comes for her good-night kiss, and overhears the remark. She runs to her father's arms and says, "Marry me, daddy—only me!" and the play ends. Mr. Frank Cochrane as Cotterill had a character that he made absolutely live before the audience; and Mr. Norman McKeown was specially well suited as Robert. In the more light-hearted Clement Mr. Perceval Clark was happily placed; and his sweetheart, Mary Ronald, was charmingly played by Miss Jean Cadell. Miss Madge McIntosh as Lady Baxter played artistically and sympathetically; Mr. Campbell Gullan as the old foreman Ronald made a distinct hit; Mr. Walter Roy as the quieter workman on the deputation acted with excellent effect; and the fiery and uncultivated agitator, Murdoch, as acted by Mr. George Tawde, caught the fancy of the audience at once. Miss Kitty Clifford as Jean was another distinct success. Mr. Mark Hannam as a dignified butler and Misses Raynor and Blanche Pearl as two servants completed the cast. The play was staged with much care and attention to detail, and was produced under the direction of Miss Madge McIntosh.

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, the play was preceded, for the first time on any stage, by a comedietta, by Clark Nicholson, entitled *Between Dances*, the scene of which is laid in a hall at Blythwood-gardens, Kelvinside, Glasgow. The cast was as follows:—

William Marsden	MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
Tommy Forbes	MR. WALTER ROY
Victoria Maclure	MISS MARGARET NYBLOC
Gertrude Brunton	MISS ELAINE SLEDDALL
Miss Betty Grant	MISS WINIFRED GUNN

This proved an enjoyable little play, the fun being caused by the efforts to keep secret an engagement between William Marsden and Gertrude Brunton, known only to Marsden's friend, Tommy Forbes. Marsden makes ardent love to one of the other ladies at the dance, with the result that jealousy arises, and the engagement leaks out. For his misdemeanour Marsden in tried by the ladies and sentenced to various severe punishments, such as to have no kisses from his sweetheart for two weeks, &c., but in the end peace is restored.

"MILES DIXON."

A Play, in Two Acts, by Gilbert Cannan, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Nov. 21.

Miles Dixon	MR. MILTON ROSMER
Ellen Baisbrown	MISS IRENE ROOKE
John Baisbrown	MR. HERBERT LOMAS
Janie Baisbrown	MISS HILDA BRUCE POTTER
Jan Baisbrown	MR. FRANK DARCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Among the many impressive plays which have been produced by Miss Horniman's company at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, Mr. Gilbert Cannan's *Miles Dixon* ranks high. It has a quality which shows the author to be a writer of imagination, influenced, it may be, by the work of J. M. Synge, but individual nevertheless. The story has an atmosphere of folklore. It presents the situation of a man, an unfettered son of Nature, Miles Dixon to wit, beseeching a woman, in the darkness of a farmyard, at one o'clock in the morning, to commune with him. Dixon is compounded of the elemental feelings; he lives on the hills, and sleeps out in the wet and cold, impervious to discomforts, and inspired by the sights and sounds of Nature, the coming of the dawn, and other such things, compared with which the ordinary life, from his spiritual altitude, looks like the "maggotty" creeping of little black things, with their heads bent to the earth. Home has no meaning for him, nor have the conventions of ordinary life any weight. The woman is Ellen Baisbrown, and is married to John Baisbrown, the farmer. There is a feeling more complex in the woman. Acknowledging the allegiance of her soul and body to this man, who comes in the night, tormenting her, and himself, by his memory of the scent of her hair and the touch of her body, she struggles hard and bitterly against him, unable to free herself from the obligations to which she is tied, and from her sense of the man's Pagan irresponsibility and lack of conventional pride. Her resentment of his approaches is strong and merciless; she will have no more of him, and so, with scathing scorn, closes her window. The power of love is great, however; he talks to her from beside the casement; and there has been something between them already to account for her shame and her passion; and she comes, after all, to open her door to this weird lover. But just then John Baisbrown comes softly into the farmyard with a lantern. He knows what is between himself and his wife. He is a great strong fellow, and would remove the difference by the vulgar physical process of breaking every bone in Dixon's body. But Dixon will not step down to him for any such purpose. He castigates Baisbrown with his tongue instead; and the woman is listening behind the door. Finally he descends, when the farmer has promised to withhold his arm, and again he uses his tongue upon the strong man to bitter purpose. Then out comes the woman, and urges her angry but patient husband to put his threats of violence into action. Dixon, vowing to go away for ever, and picturing for them the miserable life they must henceforth live in each other's company, curses both in shocking language, and takes his departure.

Twenty years elapse. In the farmer's kitchen we are introduced to the woman, obviously grown older, and two of the grown-up children of the household. Baisbrown is dead. The girl, Janie, is of her father's type; the youth, Jan, is a replica of Miles Dixon. Miles and his exploits have become a tradition; he is no more than a half-believed tale to Jan, who, however, has the same impulse towards the natural life, to leap the rivers, to run a hundred miles in a day, to wrestle with ten men, and do the many other wonderful things that Miles Dixon used to do: a true son of the wanderer who went into the world to make a fortune twenty years ago. His mother, in a sort of despair, yields to his pleading for money to enable him to go forth as Miles Dixon did; he is the only one she deeply loves. But now Miles Dixon returns, a poor and weary pedlar, with a pack of things, from which he invites the mother to buy. The emotion under the surface of the lovers thus in touch again is finely suggested, and is the more profound by reason of its contrast to the quiet and formal nature of the transaction that takes place. Dixon enters into his experiences of the world in response to Jan's inquiries, and finally makes himself known to the latter. He could leap rivers and the rest of it, but could not conquer the world and its commonplace exactions; in twenty years of trying the world has beaten him and brought him to this. Jan takes the lesson, and lays down his mother's money on the table. To the mother Dixon says, "You're the woman who was so beautiful." She answers, "You're the man who came to me out of the night, so fine and strong." And Dixon responds, "Ah, we're queer cattle," and goes forth, weary and sad, and still a wanderer.

Strong and virile in the first act, Mr. Milton Rosmer invested the rôle of Miles Dixon in the second act with a searching and effective pathos that was most admirably and naturally conveyed. Equally good was Miss Irene Rooke in her impersonation of Ellen Baisbrown. Mr. Herbert Lomas played John Baisbrown with quiet vigour; Miss Hilda Bruce Potter gave a clever sketch of Janie; and Mr. Frank Darch added an intelligent embodiment of the contrasting rôle of Jan. The play was well staged and heartily received.

"ANATHEMA."

A Tragedy in a Prologue, Five Acts, and an Epilogue, by Leonid Andreyev, authorised translation by Herman Bernstein. (The Macmillan company, New York, &c. Price 5s.)

The Jewish hand is traceable in the above-named play, which is written in simple but impressive language, and, without having any revolutionary aims, draws a vivid picture of the squalor and misery of lower class life in a crowded Russian city. The work is readable rather than actable, though some stressful scenes of human passion would well bear realisation on the stage.

A variant of the sinister efforts of the Evil One among mortals is furnished, the chief personage being Anathema, who is depicted making one more attempt to pass the portals of Paradise. The prologue is allegorical, and shows Anathema approaching the celestial regions and trying in vain to get past the keeper of the gates. Determining to gain his purpose by human aid, he seeks out an old Jew named David Leizer, the keeper of a store in a city in the South of Russia, who feels he is about to die, and "goes to the seashore to commune in solitude with God about his fate."

Through poverty David has had to lament the loss of several children, while his remaining son is in a delicate state of health. In the drama proper Anathema brings to David the news that a rich brother has died abroad, leaving him heir to millions of roubles. David establishes a home of luxury, but Anathema, who has become his secretary and adviser, convinces him that his duty is to provide for the poor and helpless. Accordingly Leizer announces his intention to divide his wealth among the needy, and is soon overwhelmed with applicants from all parts of the world. David is extolled not only as a benefactor, but as a supernatural being; the sick come to him for cure, and the people even bring their dead to be restored to life. His riches, however, soon give out, and David, who has resisted all the fiend's temptations to proclaim himself a god, is stoned to death by the disappointed mob. Confident that he has thus proved the futility of doing good, Anathema repairs to the Celestial City, only to learn that David's work has found favour in the sight of the Almighty, and that he has entered Heaven, the Evil One being left to pursue his fruitless quest for salvation.

The translation, which is printed in large, clear type, is dedicated to Nathan Straus, "who so generously saved the lives of thousands of children."

LONDON AND SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

One of the best of the Gaiety series is *Our Miss Gibbs*, and its continued success is well earned by reason of its story, music, and general smartness. The present visit of Mr. George Dance's company at the King's appears to show no loss of popularity, and the King's is crowded nightly, the audience enthusiastically appreciating the beautiful dresses of the bright and animated crowds at Garrod's Stores and the White City Court of Honour. Mr. Theodore Leonard, an exceedingly clever comedian, is cast for Timothy Gibbs, and he keeps the house in roars of laughter at his comical sayings and doings. A humorous Hughie Pierrepoint is Mr. Eustace Burnaby, his amateur criminal tactics being cleverly depicted; the professional "crook," Slithers, is ably impersonated by Mr. John Leopold, jun.; and Mr. Toplady, the manager at Garrod's, is typically played by Mr. Campbell Browne. Mr. Hugh Weybrance acts well and sings pleasantly as Lord Eynsford, and a decidedly effective Earl of St. Ives is Mr. Ernest Darrell. Mr. Reginald Weighill enacts the family solicitor, Mr. Beavis, with skill; Mr. Albert Cavendish is a capable taxi-cab driver; and Mr. Amalfy, the White City director, is well handled by Mr. Percy Clarbour. The title-rôle, Miss Gibbs, falls to the lot of Miss Jessie Lonnen, who does not fail to make herself as popular with the audience as she is at Garrod's Stores. She sings sweetly and distinctly, and dances with much grace. The Lady Elizabeth Thanet is daintily acted by Miss Lilian Birtles, whose singing is pleasant to the ear; Miss Helen Langton is a dignified and matronly Duchess of Minster; and Mrs. Farquhar, the impecunious woman of fashion, is drolly interpreted by Miss Emily Stevens. An extremely fascinating Madame Jeanne, the Scottish modiste at Garrod's, is Miss Ellaline Thorne, whose taking ways and charming appearance at once capture the audience. The Dudes prove themselves of excellent voice, and the ladies of the chorus sing and act energetically, and do justice to the elegant confections provided for them. Mr. Otto Manns ably conducts the orchestra.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."

The latest musical production from Daly's Theatre, *The Dollar Princess*, made its initial bow to Marlburians on Monday night to a packed house. Musical comedy is a sure draw at this theatre, particularly when, as in this instance, it bears the hall-mark of a successful West-End run, and the house was crowded to its fullest capacity. The reception given the play was most enthusiastic, the light and melodious music and the superb mounting and dressing appealing with eloquent force to all those present. Mr. Leonard Mackay is indefatigable in the rôle of Freddy Fairfax, and his easy, natural style at once made him a firm favourite. He sings capitally, all his numbers being received with enthusiasm. Miss Norah Barry shows commendable knowledge of her art, and skilfully treats the many difficult passages with which the part abounds, giving altogether a delightful interpretation of Alice. Mr. Leslie Stiles is eminently suited as Harry P. Conder, and is a huge success in the part. The rôle of Mr. Bulger is undertaken with resource and an adequate conception of all its humorous possibilities by Mr. W. H. Rawlins, whose capital embodiment is marked with many characteristic and mirth-provoking touches. Dick is admirably conceived by Mr. Howard Cridland, and Mr. Paul Plunkett humorously treats the part of Jonn, Earl of Quorn; Mr. Percy Davison as Sir James McGregor and Mr. E. J. Wood as the Duke of Stonehenge perform their rôles with ability; Miss Mabel Russell is a captivating and dainty Daisy, admirably employing an excellent voice and contributing several neat and skilful dances. The character of Olga, the Lion Queen, is cleverly realised by Madeline Seymour, her clear enunciation being an important attribute in her favour. The remaining parts are well cast, and Mr. Fred Seymour is a highly efficient stage-manager. An important element of the production is the consistent energy of the well-chosen chorus, and the Marlborough orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Ernest Irving, also does excellent work.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play, by Arthur Conan Doyle, entitled
"THE SPECKLED BAND."

Members of Mr. Arthur Hardy's Globe Theatre company are at Dalston this week with the sensationally interesting play, founded by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle on one of the adventures of Sherlock Holmes, and entitled *The Speckled Band*. The weird character of Dr. Grimesby Rylott, the retired Anglo-Indian surgeon, whose powerful personality dominates the story, is undertaken by Mr. Bassett Roe, who succeeds in thoroughly retaining the interest of his audiences from his first appearance at the inquest with which the play opens until the final tragic scene. Miss Geraldine Le Sage pleasantly enacts the part of Enid Stonor, the wily doctor's step-daughter. Her assumption of depression and dread at the commencement and close of the play is in good contrast with her vivacity and confidence in certain other parts of the story. The doctor's housekeeper, Mrs. Staunton, has a convincing representative in Miss Gwendoline Floyd, the actress well sustaining the sinister character of the woman. A quietly effective conception of the old butler Rodgers stands to the credit of Mr. A. Corney Grain, and Dr. Rylott's Indian valet Ali is represented subtly by Mr. Wilton Ross. A character which serves as one break in the tragic story is that of Mr. Armitage, the village grocer. The quaint humour of this kind-hearted creature is well portrayed by Mr. Harry Ashford. Mr. J. J. Bartlett is a most business-like and legally dignified coroner. Mr. H. Ainger is coroner's officer, Mr. Geoffrey Hill impersonates Inspector Downing, while Mr. Frank Ridley is foreman of the jury. Mr. Arthur Vezim is Mr. Scott Wilson, engaged to Enid's sister, whose untimely end forms the subject of the coroner's inquest. Mr. Claude King has some busy work to do as Dr. Watson, and does it remarkably well. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury's Sherlock Holmes is a careful study of the character—cool, calculating, and withal courageous. Master W. Weymouth causes amusement as Billy, the detective's page-boy. Some good scenes are also provided by the following, who appear as clients of Mr. Sherlock Holmes: Mr. Moult Loaming (represented by Mr. A. C. Craig), Mrs. Soames (Miss Joyce Francis), Mr. James B. Montague (Mr. A. Corney Grain), and Mr. Milverton (Mr. Frank Ridley).

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama, entitled
"THE COASTGUARD'S DAUGHTER."

Mr. J. A. Campbell's latest play is appealing powerfully to audiences at the Hammersmith Lyric, where it is presented by the author's company. Mr. Gerald Jordan as Lieutenant Marchant handles his part with admirable address; Derek Mason, the juvenile lead, falls to Mr. Guy Hastings, who sustains the part with power; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis as John Melrose gives a fine rendering of the devoted father; Mr. Finn Doyle as Jerry Dale affords great amusement; and Miss Babs Stuart as Nanoya, the Cingalee girl, ably abets him. Mr. Douglas Tremayne is convincing and dignified as the President of the Court-martial; and Mr. L. Lawrence as Judge Advocate is excellent. Lieut. Arthur Barclay, in the hands of Mr. Stanley Vine, appeals to the house; and to Mr. W. Webb is suitably allotted the part of Sir Dennis Jermyn. Mr. E. H. Clarke finds the part of Captain Sternroyd, the prosecutor, full of scope, which he rightly appreciates. The old story of confiding womanhood and innocence betrayed is pathetically and realistically told by Miss Gertrude F. Godart as Audrey Melrose, duped into a bigamous marriage by Lieut. Marchant; and a gay and frivolous Parisienne is realistically portrayed by Miss Janice Deane.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play entitled
"A WHITE MAN."

That thrilling drama of life in Western America *A White Man*, presented by Mr. Herbert Sleath's company, has scored an immediate success. The play is one which gives opportunity for some effective staging and picturesque dressing, and full advantage was taken of this in the production. The Indian scenes in Acts III. and IV. appealed with especial force to the audience, and at their conclusion enthusiastic curtain calls were given. Mr. Sleath has enlisted the services of an exceedingly strong company, and the various characters are enacted with much ability. Mr. Frank Petlen gives a vivid and powerful sketch of Jim Carston; and Miss Dorothy Edwards enacts Nat-u-rich with much naturalness. Mr. Charles Maunsell is an excellent Earl of Kerhill; and Mr. Harold Richardson is amusing as Sir John Applegate. Mr. Vernon Sansbury contributes a graphic portrait of Cash Hawkins; and Mr. Henry Du Val is very good as the Barkeeper. Miss Enid Gass supplies a sympathetic interpretation of the Countess of Kerhill, acting with much grace and charm. Miss Elsie Buller is bright and lively as Lady Mabel Wynnegate; and Little Hal is neatly played by Miss Nora Nagle. Mr. John M. East makes a capital Big Bill; and picturesque cowboys are Messrs. W. W. Bannister, James McWilliam, and Dan Erlston, who infuse considerable humour into their acting. Mr. Lewis Sealy makes a very good Solicitor; and Mr. Charles Forster is well placed as the Dean. The striking part of the Indian Chief is impressively delineated by Mr. Oswald Lingard; and Mr. James Jolly is quite at home as the Interpreter. Mr. James E. Page is a typical American Sheriff; Miss Gertrude Price creditably undertakes the part of the Dowager Lady Kerhill; Mr. Ernest Heaton, Mr. Thomas Sunday, and Mr. Alfred Jagis deserve mention as Captain Wynnegate's brother officers; and other small parts are ably sustained by Messrs. J. Watts, D. Douglas, J. Williams, D. Walters, J. Rogers, A. Davidge, F. Stone, and Miss Beatrice Martin.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play in Four Acts, entitled
"MONTE CRISTO."

Mr. Junius Booth, supported by a competent company, is revisiting Fulham with a new and revised version of this famous romance. Mr. Booth's representation of the hero is as full of spirit and fire as ever, and he "ticks off" his enemies with the same remorseless energy as of yore, nor does he fail to win sympathy for the hero's sufferings. Mr. Millar Anderson gives a most satisfactory rendering of Nortier; he makes the character live, and plays the part with a graceful ease and a nice sense of humour that is very pleasing. Mr. H. Bannister does well as Danglers, and shows his meanness and jealousy effectively. Mr. C. W. Crowe is quite satisfactory as Mondego; and Mr. J. Hawden is the same as Villefort. Mr. Fred Elwin is fresh and bright as the young Morcef; while Mr. F. Martin and Mr. A. E. Henderson do all that is wanted as the Abbe Fara and M. Morel. Mr. J. Sangar plays Caderousse with an effective touch of broad comedy. Miss Alice West shows power in the sinister character of La Coronte; while Miss Lillian Deane is good as Mercedes.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play, by Wilson Barrett, entitled
"LUCKY DURHAM."

A welcome change in a long series of melodramatic plays dealing with all kinds of "girls," "women," and "daughters," is the late Wilson Barrett's last success, *Lucky Durham*, ably presented by a capable company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Leigh. In the name-part of John Durham Mr. Edmund Kennedy is very successful. He adopts a quiet and dignified manner throughout, working up his many strong scenes with an ease and earnestness which is most pleasing to witness. Mr. William Calvert gives a fair representation of Lord Mountfallon, although in appearance his make-up is more like a well-to-do tradesman than a nobleman. Mr. Arthur Leigh is very amusing as the Hon. Reginald Steighton. This "dude" character gives him ample scope to exercise the very keen sense of humour which he possesses. Mr. Chas. Wemyss gives a good impression of the somewhat narrow-minded, yet distinctly straightforward, Mr. Vallerton, and Mr. Frank Elton does well as Arthur Walcombe. Miss Gertrude Robins is a charming lady and also a brilliant actress. Her performance on Monday evening in the character of Helen Vallerton was a natural and effective one, only marred by a slight uncertainty in some of her lines. As the Hon. Margaret Steighton Miss Dorothy Turner was winsome and entertaining, making the most of the few opportunities afforded by the part. Miss Nellie Bonser acted in a sympathetic manner as Mrs. Durham, and Miss Frances Wolviston was quite good as Lady Mountfallon.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, The Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE KING OF CADONIA."

The attraction this week at the Shakespeare Theatre is the great musical success *The King of Cadonia*, which is admirably presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's No. 1 company. The piece, as is customary with all productions sent out by Mr. Curzon, is as elaborately dressed and mounted as a West End production, and has also the advantage of a high-class company, including Mr. Bertram Wallis in his original part of Alexis, King of Cadonia. Mr. Wallis, who met with a hearty reception on Monday, repeated his former success, and his acting and singing evoked considerable applause. Mr. Arthur Staples was very funny as the Duke of Alasia, his humorous antics causing roars of laughter; Mr. Robert Selby is to be commended for a soldierly portrayal of General Bonski, his brusque manner being well in keeping with the rôle; Mr. Lawrence Robbins was very effective as Captain Laski, and Mr. Francis Howard as Lieut. Jules; Mr. Lewis Russell as Lieut. Saloff and Mr. C. H. Hobson as Corpl. Polski were capable representatives of their respective parts; Mr. Alfred Clarke was a decidedly amusing Bran; Mr. Alec Buchanan an eccentric Panix; and Mr. C. B. Williams as Laborde, leader of the Anti-Royalists, was thoroughly satisfactory. Miss Alice Moffat was a charming and winsome Princess Marie; Miss Jean Penrose a smart and vivacious Militza; Miss Queenie Preston a dignified Duchess of Alasia; and Miss Amy Preston did well as Stephanis.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

The melodious and mirthful *Merry Widow*, as expounded by Mr. George Edwardes's capital company, is still an excellent antidote for a "fit of the blues," whether caused by inclement weather, Form IV., election prospects, or any other of the ills that encompass mankind. The piece is dressed, mounted, and staged with all the sumptuousness to which Mr. George Edwardes has accustomed us, and a very first-rate "show" is the result. Miss Louie Pounds can hold her own with the best of her predecessors as Sonia of the title-rôle, in the matter of charm, witchery of manner, and sweet singing, and is quite *au fait* in "The Merry Widow" waltz. She wins all hearts by her taking personality, comeliness, and grace. Mr. Basil S. Foster is equally prominent as Prince Danilo, and acts as to the manner born, with verve, virility, and sincerity, while his dancing is quite a *tour de force*; Mr. Lionel Victor has a quaint and engrossing way as the frivolous-minded Baron Popoff, and his humour is natural and unforced; Mr. Grafton Williams does good work as General Novakovitch; and Mr. Edward McKeown sings remarkably well as the Vicomte Camille de Jolidon. Miss Gwendoline Brogden as Frou-Frou creates quite a sensation by her daring exposition of the calisthenic art in the Apache Dance, and Miss Victoria Sievers as "the dutiful wife" Natalie gains her fair share of the laurels. Mr. Tom Redmond does well in the part of Nisch, and Mr. E. C. St. J. Ronaldson as St. Brioche, and Mr. Bert Edwards as the head waiter at Maxim's are good; whilst a bevy of beauty comprises Misses Ida Stockwell, Phil Smith, Maud Diamond, Claire Latus, Ivy Moore, and Queenie Carlisle.

THE BRITANNIA.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama, entitled
"THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."

Melville drama is again proving very popular at Hoxton, *The Beggar Girl's Wedding* playing to crowded houses. As the villain, Gilbert Lindsay, Mr. William T. Riley is responsible for some excellent acting, and is duly hissed and hooted. Maud Villiers, his partner in crime, is well maintained by Miss Ernestine Walter, who meets with a like reception. As Doctor Millbank Mr. Charles Barclay gives a fine representation of the hunchback doctor. Mr. Norman B. Cannon as Jack Cunningham gives a manly and convincing performance; Mr. Frank McClellan as Norman Marsh is excellent in both humour and pathos; Mr. Herbert Goddard as Robert Grimshaw is an ideal family lawyer; and Mr. B. Elton is all that could be desired as his clerk. Mr. Fred Hodson is very commendable as Dicky Storm, and he soon makes himself popular; Miss Daisy Meynard contributes some refreshing humour in the character of Tina Torkington; the doings of Joe Webster and the Dodger are watched with keen interest, and the parts are capitally characterised by Mr. Wilford Bailey and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle respectively. Miss Muriel Dean, the possessor of much natural grace, gives a charming and sympathetic portrayal of the Beggar Girl; Miss Sybil Hare is very refined and winning as Elsie Cunningham; Mr. George Vernon capably enacts the rôle of P.C. Phillips; and Mr. David Cartwright does well as the Rev. Mr. Melson. Messrs. H. Stone and J. Greene as Frequenters of the Embankment, Mr. C. Brown as Thompson, a Waiter, Miss Linda Riley as Lizzie, and Mrs. Wilson as Old Cloe, all lend valuable assistance. The piece is capitally staged, and the dresses, as usual, are noticeable features. Mr. Frank Howard and Mr. Arthur Rosebery are respectively general-manager and advance-manager for Mr. Walter Melville.

THE FORESTERS'.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama, by W. A. Brabner, entitled
"FOR THE COLOURS."

The principals of this cosy establishment in the East End have dispensed with variety items for the present, and are giving drama instead. Excellent business is being done with the stirring military piece *For the Colours*, with Mr. Wingold Lawrence as Captain Roland Vereker, a character which is portrayed throughout in a perfect manner, specially fine dramatic work being shown in the scene of Van Blumen's Store Shed, and also in the defence of the Drift. Capital acting is furnished by Mr. Douglas Murray as Lieutenant Hansford; the character of the Boer Van Blumen was well cared for by Mr. William Bradford, his many acts of (stage) treachery being carried through in the cool and callous manner demanded; Miss Eugene Magnus as Mrs. Vereker gave a clever study of a rather difficult character; Miss Heba Barlow as Doris was delightful, her easy style and pleasant manner being decidedly entertaining; Mr. A. Howard as Braddon showed to advantage; and Mr. E. Robertson as Sprouts and Miss Ada Tilley as 'Liza are responsible for much hearty laughter. The producer and stage-manager is Mr. H. G. Brandon.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play entitled
"THE PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID."

Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 company, with their very successful Lyceum drama, have been doing good business here this week, for the reputation of the play had preceded it, and the large audiences assembled enjoyed and appreciated the strong situations, the pathos, and the great interest of the story to the full. Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke was a soldier-like martinet as Prince Hildred, and gave his lines with much vigour and point, forming a sharp contrast to the melancholy of the crippled Prince Michael, so intelligently acted by Mr. Lionel Gadsden, who did not spare himself in the clever portrayal of the unhappy hunchback. Mr. Ernest Cox as the handsome Prince Olaf was well suited to the part, his frank diction and gallant bearing gaining him the sympathy of all. Mr. Hugh Selwyn had a difficult task to infuse interest into the character of Nathan, the dumb servant, but in this he succeeded admirably. As Monica Princess of Allyria, Miss Miriam Pritchett scored heavily, and charmed her subjects on the stage; and Miss Jessica Black gave a naïve embodiment of the young girl in love, Viola. Miss F. Hale-Daviss as Camiola, the beggar-maid, sang sweetly and acted earnestly. The Captain Hector of Mr. Fred D. Daviss was excellently played, and the actor has so much to do with the story that he is rarely off the stage. He was ably seconded by Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Lieut. Karl Stromberg, whose comedy and sprightliness contributed much to the "go" of the play. Mr. Adam Alexander as the Bishop of Illyria gave a well-considered portrait of the self-seeking prelate; and Mr. J. Chamberlain as Colonel Wellenberg was a bluff old warrior and a type of the jovial veteran. The play was handsomely and appropriately dressed throughout, and formed another attractive engagement in Mr. J. Bannister Howard's season.

IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Military Drama,
"LIGHTS OUT."

At the elegant Canning Town Palace this week Mr. J. W. Lindsay Ellis's company have been presenting Franz Adam Beyerlein's intense, if somewhat gloomy German military drama, *Lights Out*, which, it will be remembered, was produced by Mr. H. B. Irving at the Waldorf Theatre, on Oct. 25, 1905. Audiences have been deeply impressed by the court-martial scene in the barracks of the Alsace-Lotraine Frontier, where young Corporal Helbig maintains a rigid silence when questioned as to the reason of his assault on Lieutenant Von Lauffen, and also by the excellence of the acting in the concluding scene where that fine old soldier, Sergeant Volkhardt, determined on fighting a duel with Lieutenant Von Lauffen, who has betrayed his daughter Klara, is prevented because he—Volkhardt—is a non-commissioned officer. Rather than let Klara go freely, as she expresses a wish to, to the arms of her lover, the old man shoots her dead, and it is upon this tragic ending that the curtain falls. Mr. Lindsay Ellis's company is an excellent all-round one, and unstinted praise may be accorded to Mr. L. Tessier for his powerful and convincing representation of the elderly sergeant, his grief when it is disclosed that it is his daughter who was in the young lieutenant's rooms being poignantly expressed, and his performance throughout being a very acute and sound one. Mr. B. Maresfield gave an admirable delineation of young Lieutenant Von Lauffen; Mr. George Barnes as the loyal Corporal Helbig was responsible for a quietly impressive representation; Mr. A. T. Barugh as Corporal Queiss, and Mr. George Austin as Lieutenant Von Howen, both contributed capital portrayals; and the foppish Captain Von B. Bannewitz of Mr. Frank Stuart was a mirth-provoking and agreeable performance. Mr. Charles Western was duly severe as the president of the Court-martial, Major Paschke; and Messrs. William Rose, Robert Sefton, Alfred Turner, A. C. Clark, E. Rolston, and Eric Cunliffe, all gave satisfactory support. Miss Sylvia Morris as Klara Volkhardt was a very pathetic figure in the court-martial scene, where she comes forward and admits she was in the Lieutenant's room and the cause of the quarrel between Von Lauffen and Helbig, and in the last act played with a quiet intensity that was very convincing, clearly suggesting her unselfish love for Von Lauffen, for whom she is willing to risk everything. Altogether a charmingly natural and effective portrayal. The play was ably mounted and dressed in first-class style, and keenly interested the audience on the night of our visit. In the intervals and at the conclusion some amusing pictures were screened.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama, by Edward Morris, entitled
"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."

Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is here this week with the latest of Mr. Morris's plays, and is playing to record houses. Mr. Frank Robertson is a smart, manly hero, and deserves every ounce of the applause accorded him for his rendering of Sir Harry Felstead. Austin Deepdale is effectively played by Mr. Annesley Hely; Miss Elizabeth Dundas as Lcoender Loseby gives an altogether admirable portrayal; a capital character study is that of Mr. Herbert Belmore as Giuseppe Canova, as is also that given by Mr. J. Templar Ellis as Detective Mitchell. Excellent light comedy impersonations are Sir Harry's sister Kitty and his friend, Archie Ravenscroft, smartly played by Miss Maud Tremaine and Mr. Harry T. Butler. Humour is also infused into the play by Miss Molly Hackett disguised as a "tiger," and P.C. Dumbleby, funnily played by Mr. Geo. Brentwood. The remaining parts are all well enacted, and the drama is excellently mounted and staged.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"OUR MISS GIBBS."

Mr. Jules Richeux, the enterprising manager here, must be congratulated upon securing Mr. George Dance's principal company in *Our Miss Gibbs*, and right well do the patrons appreciate his efforts in having secured one of the best shows on the road. Miss Daisie Wallace is a distinct success as our Miss Gibbs, her acting and singing being alike admirable, and she is a huge favourite. Her scenes with Mr. Douglas Phillips as Lord Eynsford are a credit to both artists. Miss Dorothy Harris is a dainty Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and is the possessor of an excellent soprano voice, and uses it to the utmost advantage; the Duchess of Minster is ably played by Miss Madge Lucas; Miss Florence Hylton is capital as the scheming impecunious woman of fashion, Mrs. Farquhar; as the amateur criminal, the Hon. Hughie Pierpoint, Mr. J. Heribert Willis is responsible for a god impersonation, and he is ably backed up by Mr. J. S. Durrant as a professional "crook," Slithers. Mr. A. Gordon Begg is a satisfactory Earl of St. Ives, as also is Miss Louie Beckman as Madame Jeanne, the modiste at Garrod's Stores. Very funny is Mr. Vincent Erne as Mary's Yorkshire cousin, Timothy Gibbs. The remaining characters are all capably filled.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play entitled
"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."

Those who visited the Royal County Theatre this week were amply repaid, and many of them tendered their congratulations to Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing-director of the theatre, for giving them another opportunity of renewing acquaintance with one of the most lovable women at present on the English stage. Miss Lucy Beaumont filled the part of the heroine of the cabbage patch most admirably, and was *en rapport* with her hearers from the very beginning of the play till the end. Her impersonation of the part was a triumph of acting, and she was frequently rewarded with well-deserved applause. Equally creditable were the performances of Mr. Fred Forrest as Mr. Stubbins and of Miss Armine Grace as Miss Hazy. The latter, being always impressively ridiculous without being ridiculously impressive, her inanities, though they appealed to the risible faculties, always indicated a strong substratum of human nature. Mr. Forrest was a typical American as Stubbins, and showed a fine appreciation of the part. Miss Winifred Murray gave a touching picture of the runaway, Lovey Mary, and fine character sketches were presented by Miss Sybil Brook as the severe Mrs. Eichorn and by Miss Violet Vivian as the elephantine German lady, Mrs. Schultz. Others in a particularly strong company who may be mentioned are Miss Ethel O'Brien as Miss Lucy, Mr. Robert Nailance as Mr. Bob, and Mr. Ernest Grey as Mr. Wiggs. The mounting and the dressing of the play is all that could be desired.

"THE FULL MOON."

A Comedy in One Act, by Lady Gregory, Produced for the First Time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, Nov. 10.

Bartley Fallon ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Shawn Early ..... Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Hyacinth Halvey ..... Mr. Fred O'Donovan
Mrs. Broderick ..... Miss Sara Allgood
Peter Tannion ..... Mr. Sydney J. Morgan
Miss Joyce ..... Miss Eileen O'Doherty
Cracked Mary ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Davideen ..... Mr. J. M. Kerrigan

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Lady Gregory's cleverness is proved in the above playlet, the scene of which is laid in a shed at an Irish railway station where a number of peasants have assembled. Hyacinth appears as the priest's boy, and endeavours to live up to his reputation. He is waiting to meet the priest at the station, but hearing that there is to be a fair at Caragh on the next day; the desire to be there becomes irresistible. Cracked Mary and Davideen, a crazy pair, are listening to the others talking about a mad dog, and laugh to themselves at the madness of the people who are supposed to be sane. The moon is up, and the peasants are afraid to face it lest it would do them harm; but Cracked Mary and Davideen go out to greet it. Halvey commences then to talk strangely, and the others conclude he is mad, and proceed to tie him up. He hears the whistle of the train, and he commences to bark like a dog. The people are terrified, and fall over each other in their panic, and Halvey dashes off and boards the train for Caragh.

The comedietta is distinguished by some excellent and original humour and clever repartee. Miss Maire O'Neill had an excellent chance to display her clever and versatile abilities in the rôle of Cracked Mary, which she did to perfection. Hyacinth Halvey was admirably played by Mr. Fred O'Donovan. The remaining parts were capably fulfilled.

"FALSE DAWN."

Play in Three Acts, by Morley Roberts and "Henry Seton," Produced by the Play Actors at the Court Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 20.

Hector Durant ..... Mr. Norman Trevor
Dr. Tom Courtney ..... Mr. H. Nye Chart
Matthews ..... Mr. Charles King
Lady Hale ..... Miss Marie Linden
Lady Anne Pulleine ..... Miss Esmé Beringer
Felicia St. John ..... Miss Gillian Scaife
Stent ..... Miss Florence Harcourt

Mr. Morley Roberts and "Henry Seton's" comedy with a serious interest, *False Dawn*, is certainly one of the best pieces given by the Play Actors. It is admirably written, containing many amusing lines, and there are some delightful little comedy scenes and one very dramatic one. Capitally played by every member of the cast as it was on Sunday evening, it gave evident pleasure to a large and enthusiastic audience, and it should be seen again.

Lady Hale, who has recently been left a widow, and her young companion, Felicia St. John, are at the opening of the play engaged in settling up the affairs of her late husband, Sir George. His executors, Hector Durant and Dr. Tom Courtney, are busy in a like manner in another part of the house. The turning out of the contents of a number of drawers provides some amusement, and incidentally we guess that "dear Sir George" was not entirely faithful to Lady Hale. Lady Hale is anxious that Hector Durant, who was her husband's secretary, shall write his biography, which he ultimately consents to do. Dr. Courtney, a genial, plain-spoken man of the world, is in love with Felicia St. John, but that pert young person will not let him see that she returns his affections, although it is soon evident she is jealous of his acquaintance with any other lady. He has a telegram from Lady Anne Pulleine, which he reads and throws into the waste-paper basket; but the watchful Felicia manages to obtain it unseen and peruse it. Lady Anne, it appears, had some years previously come under the influence of Sir George's remarkable personality, and had, we gather, been his mistress. The doctor knows this; Sir George on his deathbed had confessed "that he loved her best of all," and having in a cabinet some letters from her had sent her the key. She must obtain possession of these, and it is with this object that she comes to Lady Hale's house. Lady Hale, of course, has no idea of the liaison between her husband and Lady Anne, and evidently has a great regard for her. On her arrival, the conversation again turns on the biography, and Lady Hale remarks that perhaps Lady Anne, whom she knew was a great friend and admirer of her husband, might be able to relate some anecdote or experience with regard to Sir George that would add interest to the "life."

Lady Anne hereupon faints—or pretends to; the suspicious Felicia notes all, and her treatment of the distressed woman is markedly cool. Asked to be left alone with Lady Anne, when she has recovered, the doctor advises her as to her plan of action. He is called away to an urgent case; she must appear to be indisposed, stay the night, and manage to get the letters from the cabinet. We must here mention that Hector Durant, who had years previously met her abroad, has fallen deeply in love with Lady Anne, and now proposes to her. His affection is reciprocated; but her one false step makes Lady Anne hesitate about accepting. She loves him dearly, however, and eventually admits as much to Hector, promising to become his wife. The significance of the title is here explained, Lady Anne reminding Hector of a ride they had in the desert, in which they came upon what appeared to be the dawn, but was only a false one, the real being reached later on.

In the next act, when all have retired for the night, Lady Anne comes into the room, opens the cabinet, and abstracts the letters—others besides those written by her. Of course, she is disturbed by Felicia, who calls her a thief, and threatens to expose her. But among the letters are also some from Felicia to Sir George, and the angry and jealous girl is eventually forced to admit that she herself was saved from Sir George by Lady Anne. Lady Anne generously gives Felicia her letters, but the treacherous Felicia is even then not satisfied, and obtains possession of Anne's. There is a powerful scene here, in which finally Anne looks like choking Felicia if she will not drop the compromising letters. Then there is another disturbance, and Hector Durant comes in. The two distraught women explain their presence as best they can, and Felicia is allowed to go to her room. Soon Durant's eyes light on the open cabinet, and he sees the letters of Felicia to Sir George on the floor, and reads them, and tells Anne how good it is of her to get them to save Felicia. But Anne finally allows him to see her own letters, and confesses all. She swears she never loved Sir George, but his influence was too much for her! The only man she has ever really loved is Durant. Durant is horrified at what she tells him, and the girl, realising that all is over between them, leaves him, imploring him to read her letters to Sir George. There is, however a happy ending for all in the last act. Durant cannot help loving Lady Anne, and freely forgives her; Felicia, recognising what a little beast she has been, craves the pardon of Lady Anne—ungrudgingly given; and there is also a delicious little proposal scene between the doctor and Felicia. And when Lady Hale asks what was in the locked cabinet, and is told that it was empty, she is quite satisfied.

As we have remarked, the play was admirably performed throughout, Miss Esmé Beringer as Lady Anne Pulleine enacting a difficult rôle with a quiet intensity that was very effective, skilfully indicating the suffering and anguish of the erring woman. The scene in the second act between her and Felicia, and also when she confesses all to her lover, was admirably handled, and altogether Miss Beringer may be congratulated on a distinctly successful and clever creation. As the jealous and spiteful Felicia Miss Gillian Scaife was also responsible for an excellent all-round portrayal, and acted with charming naturalness in the lighter phases of the character, the incident where she begs Lady Anne's forgiveness for her cruel behaviour being acted with real feeling, and the representation all through being an acute and finished one. Miss Marie Linden again gave one of her unimpeachable creations, her enactment of the talkative and amiable widow being a very diverting and artistic one; and Miss Florence Harcourt was amusing as the servant Stent. Mr. Norman Trevor played Hector Durant with a manliness and sincerity that was very effective, particularly powerful being his acting in the second act with Lady Anne; and Mr. H. Nye Chart as the good-natured, tolerant Doctor Courtney played an agreeable part with ease and much quiet humour; Mr. Charles King fulfilling all requirements as Matthews.

"The Thunderbolt," by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, was performed for the first time in New York at the New Theatre on the 12th inst. Mr. Louis Calvert appeared as James Mortimore (the rôle he originated in London), and the masterful nature of the man was faithfully represented. Mr. A. E. Anson's embodiment of Thaddeus Mortimore was sincere and impressive. Helen Thornhill was sweetly and naturally acted by Miss Olive Wyndham, and the part of Phyllis was well played by Miss Thais Lawton. Messrs. E. M. Holland, Ferdinand Gottschalk, Albert Bruning, Frank Gillmore, and Ben Johnson contributed impersonations that were satisfactory in every respect. Recognised as a powerful and vivid drama, it is thought to be too depressing to become widely popular.

AN ACTRESS ON "EMOTION."

Miss Cicely Hamilton, the authoress of *Diana of Dobson's*, gave an interesting lecture to the Sheffield Playgoers' Society last week on "Emotion, and its Place on the Modern Stage."

How far is the art of the theatre bound to be emotional? was the question she first set herself to answer Like every other art, it was very hard to define, but Miss Hamilton gave her definition of it as the effective expression of the memory of emotion. That being her dogma, it was obvious she considered emotion absolutely necessary to art of any kind, and more especially to the art of the theatre. It was commonplace to say that the art of the theatre had to make the widest of all appeals. An artist could paint a picture, and a novelist could write a book for a few, but the numbers had to be multiplied very many times over before a playwright could get success in a theatre in any degree at all. If he could not succeed in attracting the many thousands he would very shortly disappear from the theatre altogether.

He therefore had to find a very broad ground of appeal. He had to appeal to the people in the gallery, and to people in the stalls. He had to find out what were the common feelings of those in the stalls and in the gallery, and work upon them. That was where the difficulty of purely intellectual drama came in. Men's brains varied a very great deal more than their hearts. "You can much more easily appeal to instinct, or roughly what they call the feelings or emotions in a large crowd of people, than you can to their various intelligences. It is to this rather original side of human nature that the drama appeals."

They would say, perhaps, that she had a very low opinion of dramatic art, but the original side could be cultivated just as highly as the intellectual. At any rate, it was shared far more in common.

"We understand each other through our feelings much more than through our reasoning powers, and that is why in the theatre you have somehow or other to work upon the emotions. The idea which underlies a play must be one that is susceptible to emotional treatment. You cannot have just an idea itself. You have in some way to make it become emotional." Any mere fact of life that had to go through the crucible of art had first to be taken to the intelligence, and then by some curious process had to become a living reality through the emotions. Until that was done, art was not a living thing. They could not have a successful comedy of manners unless it were built upon an idea that was essentially emotional.

How far, she asked, did the tendencies of modern drama fall in with that idea? Both in rank melodrama, and in what was called the drama of ideas, there was this fault in common—they were both inclined to minimise the human emotions. "The modern drama, it seems to me, aims towards a faithful representation of life, but of ordinary and rather unemotional life." The human element had retreated into the background. The same tendency could be observed in the use of scenery where the spectacular might be so massive and mighty that it would have the effect of reducing little angry souls to little angry mice.

"To hold the mirror up to nature" did not mean to be the thing. "The idea of being natural on the stage is perfectly ridiculous and impossible. You are presenting life through a peculiar and artificial medium. You can look natural after years of training, but to be natural and true—no." It was impossible to take life as it was and put it on the stage. In so far as modern drama tended to be too realistic, to be too natural, to do away with emotion, and to substitute photographic realism or mechanical effects for emotion, it was absolutely on the wrong track. Miss Hamilton spoke with great interest on the necessity for the individual touch of the dramatist, and in illustrating her argument on the subject of realism she graphically related the unexpected meeting of two women, devoted to each other, who had quarrelled. They suffered intense agony while they remained in the room amongst other people, none of whom except Miss Hamilton knew anything at all about the circumstances.

One sat rather quiet; the other chatted quite freely, until under the stress of the situation she had to find an excuse to leave. They were terrible, dramatic moments. It was a real tragedy of love, devotion, and misunderstanding. But if they tried to get the real truth of that upon the stage, they would have to present it in a way that it never happened.

ASAPHIANS AT WORK.

INSTALLATION MEETING.

The highly-prized honour in Freemasonry, the Worshipful Master's chair, was attained by Mr. A. B. Tapping on Tuesday last, when he was promoted by his Asaphian brethren to reign over them for the ensuing Masonic year. Mr. Tapping is a man of many activities. He is a director of the Royal General Theatrical Fund and an experienced actor, and all who know him testify to his high personal worth.

The installation ceremony and investiture of the officers of the Lodge took place at the Connaught Rooms, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.

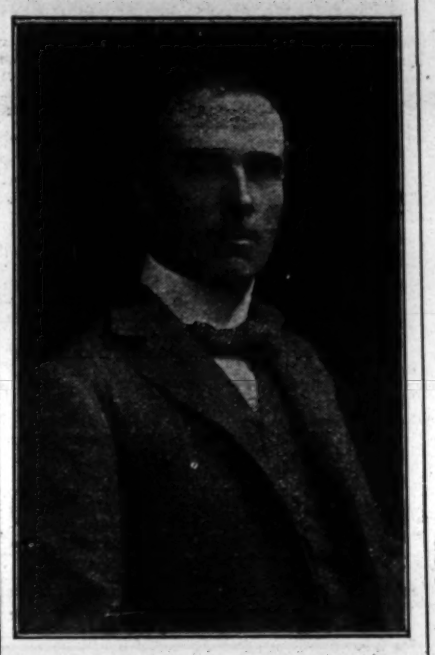

[*Photo by Talma.*

W. BRO. A. B. TAPPING, W.M.
(Asaph Lodge, 1,319).

The duties of installation were most efficiently rendered by Mr. Chris. Hilton, the outgoing Master. The officers who are to assist in carrying out the duties of the lodge during the coming year were appointed and invested by the W.M. They are as follows:—Messrs. Chris. Hilton, I.P.M.; Albert le Fre, S.W.; Frank Lister, J.W.; Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G. Std. B., P.M., Treasurer; James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., P.M., Secretary; Herbert Chenery, P.M., L.R., Assistant Secretary; Charles B. Powell, P.M., D.C.; E. W. Whitmore, P.M., Assist.D.C.; J. E. Hambleton, P.M., L.R., Organist; Antoine Cloetens, Asst. Organist; Rev. W. P. Besley, Chaplain; E. Wesley Woolhouse, S.D.; Tom Clare, J.D.; W. Edwyn Holloway, I.G.; Edward A. Pickering, First Steward; George H. Dyball, Second Steward; R. Douglas Cox, Third Steward; Oscar Grimaldi, Fourth Steward; J. Gilbert, Tyler.

In addition to the duties of installation and investiture, the other business transacted was the presentation to Mr. James E. Hambleton, Organist to the Lodge, of his London Rank clothing. Mr. Hambleton suitably acknowledged the honour. Mr. William Lestocq, an ideal Master of Ceremonies, made an important communication from Grand Lodge in a telling speech and gave valuable advice to the brethren concerning the same.

Asaph, the sweet singer of Israel, is the saint after whom this Lodge is named. The scroll of the Lodge bears the names of worthy devotees of music and the drama, who have at one time or another occupied the Worshipful Master's chair in the Asaph Lodge. It was a pleasing fact to note that one of the founders, W. Bro. James Weaver, and Bro. J. Gilbert (Tyler), who still holds office, were present on this occasion. Since the foundation of the Lodge the Masters have been:—

E. Stanton Jones (founder)	1870
Charles Coote (founder)	1871
John M. Chamberlain (founder)	1872
James Weaver (founder)	1873
Edward Frewin	1874
Charles S. Jekyll	1875
William A. Tinney	1876
Edward Terry	1877
George Buckland (founder)	1878
Edward Swanborough	1879
Charles Wellard	1880
W. Meyer Lutz	1881
John Maclean	1882
Frederick Delevanti	1883
Charles E. Tinney	1884
William J. Kent	1885
Henry J. Tinney	1886
William Lestocq	1887
James D. Beveridge	1889
Tom de Brunnow Holmes	1890
Alfred E. Bishop	1891
William Sydney Penley	1892
James Edward Hambleton	1893
Francis Henry Macklin	1894
Charles Christopher Cruikshanks	1895
Samuel Johnson	1896
William John Holloway	1897
Luigi Lablache	1898
Charles Blount Powell	1899
James W. Mathews	1900
Algernon Syms	1901
Louis Honig	1902
Akerman May	1903
Herbert Leonard	1904
E. W. Whitmore	1905
E. H. Bull	1906
Herbert Chenery	1907
Ernest H. Paterson	1908
Chris Hilton	1909
Alfred Benedict Tapping	1910

After the business of the Lodge the brethren, including the visitors, adjourned to the beautiful Crown Room of the Freemasons' Hall to partake of a splendid repast. On the menu was printed Macbeth's right royal invitation:—

"At first and last,
A hearty welcome."

The members and visitors who sat down to table were:—

MEMBERS.

Messrs. A. B. Tapping, Chris Hilton, James W. Mathews, Charles C. Cruikshanks, James Weaver, W. Lestocq, James D. Beveridge, J. Edward Hambleton, Charles B. Powell, E. W. Whitmore, Herbert Chenery, Rev. W. P. Besley, W. L. Barrett, Edward Humphrey, Charles J. Taylor, Tom Clare, Frank Lister, Wesley Woolhouse, W. E. Holloway, J. F. Carrodus, F. W. Crellin, Harry R. Mathews, Oscar Grimaldi, James C. Hambleton, H. Burrell Saunders, Nicola Coviello, Antoine Cloetens, George H. Dyball, John J. Birch, R. F. Howgill, Harry Locket, Jacques Van Heuvel, Franz Hachenberger, Desider Gottleib, J. J. Dallas, F. G. Hambleton, John Geary, F. H. Pedgrift, R. P. Black, Algernon Rose, and R. Douglas Cox.

VISITORS.

Messrs. W. J. Waterman, W. H. Warner, W. H. Towns, Bedford McNeill, Allen H. Collings, E. Lockwood, Charles Pond, A. H. Kendall, W. J. Harvey, E. Schulz, C. Aubrey Smith, Lewis Sydney, Walter J. Crumplin, George Lestocq, A. Abram, C. H. Smithyes, J. C. Skinner, and Lawson Lambert.

The usual Masonic toasts were proposed, and replied to in happy fashion, Messrs. Weaver, Hambleton, and Beveridge for "The Past Masters," Messrs. McNeill and Aubrey Smith for "The Visitors"; and the toast of "The Officers" was responded to by Messrs. Mathews, Lester, and Cruikshanks.

The Installing Master, Mr. Chris Hilton, received the handsome Past Master's jewel, as a happy tribute from the Lodge to mark the appreciation of his work during his year of office. For the amusement of the brethren an excellent programme was provided. The Rev. W. P. Besley, an excellent tenor, sang "My Mary" in tasteful fashion. Mr. Tom Clare gave a clever sketch at the piano, Mr. J. E. Hambleton, a master of the 'cello, played a Cantabile by Cæsar Cui. A blind pianist, Mr. H. J. Krumpeln, illustrated at the piano "In a cathedral in a storm," the playing of the organ in the cathedral and the rumblings of a storm outside being realistically given. Mr. Lewis Sydney caused hearty laughter by imitating a reciter with an impediment in his speech who thought he could describe "Kissing Cup's Race." Misses Violet Schultz and Florence Venning, a charming soprano and contralto, added to the harmony of the evening by singing well-chosen songs. Mr. Charles Pond, in his inimitable manner, gave no fewer than four of his clever "Glimpses of Life," and cleverly illustrated the veneration and idolatry of the bar frequenter for the "Fully-licensed Man," and contrasted this by showing the vulgar ostentation of the head of the house

W. BRO. CHRIS. HILTON, I.P.M.
(Asaph Lodge, 1,319).

of "Greifenstein." Mr. C. J. Taylor sang a lyric in which in rhyme and song he cleverly described each officer of the Lodge.

[*Photo by Fradelle and Young.*

THE LODGE OF ASAPH BANQUET AT THE CONNAUGHT ROOMS, GREAT QUEEN STREET, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND, 1910.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, OCT. 18.—The return to Sydney of Miss Katharine Grey was signalised by a very fine performance of *Paid in Full*, by Eugene Walter. Miss Katharine Grey's performance as the wife is a triumph of artistic strength; Mr. Cyril Mackay as Brooks earns the hatred of the house; Mr. George Bryant is duly hard, incisive, and genuinely clever as Williams. As "Jimsy" Smith Mr. William Desmond, just from America, captures J. C. Williamson's patrons completely; Miss Susie Vaughan as Mrs. Harris is very funny; and Miss Florence Gleeson as Beth is quaint, and gives an enjoyable impersonation; and Sato is made picturesquely important by Mr. Leslie Victor. Three capital interiors are painted by Messrs. Gordon, Little, and Board. The play is produced by Mr. David J. Burton, and stage-managed by Mr. T. E. Foster.

"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY" at the Criterion and *Our Miss Gibbs* at Her Majesty's are filling both houses' capacity. *Why Men Love Women* at the Palace is fulfilling Allan Hamilton's most sanguine expectations. Mr. Harry Rickards' fine company at the Tivoli is unchanged in its personnel. West's Pictures, Spencer's Theatrescope, the Victoria, King's, Queen's, and a dozen other picture-shows are doing enormous business.

MME. TERESA CARRENO has given farewell recitals, one in conjunction with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and she leaves with one more grateful memory of Sydney.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS ZWEITE LEBEN."

Play, in Three Acts, by Georg Hirschfeld, Produced at the Lessing Theatre Nov. 18.

Dr. Lyde	HERR SAUER
Dr. Pembroke	HERR FROBOSE
Geffry	HERR MARX
Malpighi	HERR MARR
Frau Malpighi	FRAULEIN SUSSIN
Lord Warwick	HERR STIELER
Anna Gray	FRAULEIN HERTERICH
Evelyn Gray	FRAULEIN TRIESCH
Auferstehengsmänn	HERR FUCHS
Zweite Auferstehungsmänn	HERR PAULI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 24.—This play of the talented young author was new to Berlin audiences, although it was given previously at Vienna. Its production at the Lessing had been long anticipated with eagerness, and every seat in the house was disposed of long before the performance. Herr Kirschfeld has drawn his play from an old German magazine serial, and the opening act presents a gruesome spectacle. We are introduced to the dissecting-room of an English anatomist, Dr. Arthur Lyde, to the "resurrection men," and to the beautiful corpse of Anna Gray. The period is the seventeenth century, when we are told the doctors made their researches upon bodies stolen from the graves to which they had just been committed. When the famous surgeon is about to commence his work, the fair subject opens her eyes; she had been in a trance, and was buried alive. Lyde's heart, which had never beaten for a woman before, goes pit-a-pat at the sight of the lovely girl on the dissecting table, who in her former life had been the promised wife of Lord Warwick. The experience she has passed through has robbed her of her memory, which circumstance is used to full advantage by Lyde. Anna Gray returns her lover's affection, and the pair flee to Italy, where, in Florence, they find a home in the house of the renowned physician, Malpighi, a friend of Lyde's. Here, in the course of time, their union is blessed by the birth of a son, but neither Anna nor Lyde is altogether happy. She is troubled by dim recollections of her former life, while his conscience pricks him for stealing another man's bride. Fate wills it that Lord Warwick, with Anna's sister Evelyn, comes to Florence, and cross Anna's path. The melody of an old familiar song does the rest; the girl regains her memory, and a catastrophe appears inevitable. The play at Vienna closed, too, with a tragedy; Lyde commits suicide, and Anna goes into a convent, but Herr Hirschfeld has made a new ending for Berlin. Lord Warwick proves himself a noble-hearted man, and Anna is now at liberty to live her "second life" in peace and happiness. The interpretation was admirable, as was only to be expected at the Lessing. Fräulein Triesch and Herr Sauer in the chief rôles gave splendid renderings, and the mounting was tasteful and correct in every detail.

At the Chamber Plays of the Deutsches Theatre the four-act comedy *Der verwundete Vogel*, by Alfred Capus, German by Julius Elias, proved a complete frost. It lasted four hours, and the impatience of the audience increased from act to act, until at the close the curtain fell to a storm of hisses seldom heard. That the failure was partly due to the slowness of the tempo is more than likely; there are very few theatres in Germany capable of giving French comedies adequately, no matter how excellent in their way the artists may be.

PROF. REINHARDT had, however, another huge success with the performance of Sophocles' *König Eudipus*, for which he engaged Busch's Circus in order to give the requisite effect to the mass scenes. The vast building was crowded in every part, and general hopes are expressed that the performance—which was a single one—may soon be repeated.

THE Royal Opera has reopened after something like a million marks has been spent upon its renovation. We would all have preferred that the money should have gone towards a new building worthy of Berlin, but the Kaiser's will is law, and we must possess our souls in patience. His Majesty ordered all the workmen who had been engaged upon the improvements to be summoned to the foyer half an hour before the opening performance of *Die Meistersinger* commenced. To each and all the Kaiser gave his hand, and expressed his thanks for their share in the work; he also added a medal of the Red Eagle, while the architects and managers received various gifts of jewellery. The Opera House is now patched up again, and will serve for another decade or so; meantime the population is increasing by leaps and bounds, as well as the yearly number of foreign visitors to the city, and tickets for the opera are scarcely to be had for love or money. The building is absurdly small for the demands made upon it, especially when it is remembered that the majority of seats go to persons in the Government and Court service.

"THE PORTRAIT."

A Dance Play, in One Act, Written and Composed by Dora Bright, Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 24.

Claude Duvernoy	MR. GORDON CLEATHER
His Friend	MR. HENRI LAURENT
The Spanish Dancer	MISS MONA HARRISON

A new line in curtain-raisers is exploited in *The Portrait*, which was put on at a matinée at the Prince of Wales's on Thursday in readiness for the evening bill. The title is scarcely a happy one, for not only has it been used several times before, but it gives little indication of the character of the piece, which is a wordless dance play embellished by song. The story shows how a young Parisian artist falls in love with a picture he has painted, and expresses his devotion in a ballad. The portrait lacks one shoe, and the artist prepares to supply it, but is interrupted by the arrival of a friend, who invites him out to dinner. Lighting a cigarette, the painter falls asleep in his armchair, whereupon the figure emerges from the frame, and, like many another fabled heroine in similar circumstances, conceives an affection for the man who created her. She dances before him, and imprints a kiss on his lips, but is startled by the sound of voices, and returns to her gilt environment. Meanwhile the artist has awakened, and, seeing the shoe on the floor, concludes that the vision was a reality, but the shoe is suddenly transported to the picture, and when the artist's friend returns the former tries in vain to convince him that the incident was not a dream, and is himself left in a state of perplexity.

Acted entirely in pantomime, the playlet is distinguished chiefly by the dancing of Miss Mona Harrison, who made a picturesque figure of the Spanish señorita, and executed the dances characteristic of the country with grace and skill. Mr. Gordon Cleather, who was associated with the old English dances recently at the Coliseum, bore himself well as the young artist, and sang with taste and expression; and Mr. Henri Laurent suitably played the part of the friend. The music, which is continuous throughout, is melodious and appropriate, and was artistically rendered by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Robertson Grimston. The little piece was produced by Mr. Fred Farren, and had a gratifying reception, five "curtains" indicating the measure of its success.

"DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (London), Solicitor. Third Edition. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published by *The Era*, Limited, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HERBERT TREE has kindly consented to take the chair at the "coming-of-age" dinner of the Actors' Association, to be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, Dec. 4, supported by Messrs. Arthur Bourchier, Henry Ainley, C. Hayden Coffin, and other prominent members of the profession. The guests of the evening are the founders of the Association, and amongst those who have accepted the Council's invitation are Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, and Mr. M. R. Morand.

MR. W. F. FLADGATE, the hon. secretary of the presentation to Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, informs us that Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's state of health having made it impossible for her to sit for her portrait, she has suggested that the sum subscribed should be devoted to charitable purposes. The committee suggest that the fund should be applied for the benefit of the Children's Convalescent Home of the Victoria Hospital. They have ascertained that it will be sufficient to enable them to have a cot named in perpetuity the "Mrs. D'Oyly Carte Presentation Cot," and they propose that the right of nominating children as the successive occupants of the cot be placed at the disposal of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. This course meets Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's cordial approval.

MR. SYDNEY GRUNDY, whose spine was severely injured some six weeks ago in a street accident, is still disabled, but is now comparatively free from pain, and, as we are glad to hear, no serious consequences are anticipated. The sympathies of all playgoers will be with Mr. Grundy, who has suffered excruciating agony in the course of his illness.

MISS ELLEN TERRY gave her second discourse on Shakespeare's heroines at the Hudson Theatre, New York, on the 10th inst. On this occasion the subject was "Shakespeare's Heroines—Pathetic," and Miss Terry spoke of Juliet, Cordelia, Desdemona, Ophelia, Lady Macbeth, Cleopatra, Viola, Hermione, Imogen, Ann in *Richard III.*, Katharine of Aragon in *Henry VIII.*, Helena, Julia, and Cressida, whom she characterised as Shakespeare's only useless woman. Helena in *All's Well that Ends Well*, and Julia in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Miss Terry said, belong to the doormat tribe of heroines, who seem to enjoy being maltreated and scorned. Miss Terry said it was probably due to Mrs. Siddons that the public had come to think of Lady Macbeth as a woman of brawn, who always wore short sleeves in order to display her muscular development. The audience was most enthusiastic.

SIR JOHN HARE has acquired the English and Colonial rights in Pierre Wolff's four-act play, *Les Marionettes*, which was produced in Paris, at the Comédie Francaise, last month. The English version will be presented in London by Sir John in conjunction with Mr. Charles Frohman.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER gave a dramatic recital, with music, of Mr. Stephen Phillips's *Paolo and Francesca*, at the St. James's Theatre, on Thursday afternoon, in aid of the Association for the Supply of Spectacles in London Elementary Schools. The society supplies spectacles to all children in the schools who require them, but whose parents are too poor to purchase them. The matinée was under the immediate patronage of Princess Christian. Mr. Percy Pitt's music was admirably performed by an orchestra conducted by Mr. William Robins, and students of the Royal College of Music formed the chorus and sang the Marriage Song at the end of the first act behind the scenes. Mr. Alexander, who had rearranged the play for reading purposes, announced at the conclusion of the recital that he was able to hand over to the society considerably over £250.

AMONGST those who will be present at Sir John Hare's unveiling of the Henry Irving statue, at 11.30, on Monday, Dec. 5, on the site in Charing Cross-road, at the back of the National Portrait Gallery, are the Mayor and Aldermen of Westminster. The statue is at present at the foundry in Mayfield, Sussex, where Mr. Brock, the sculptor, has a country house.

MR. J. A. E. MALONE, of the Adelphi, is hopeful as to the influence of the election on theatrical business. "I don't believe," he says in the *Express*, "that it will affect a sixpence where you've got good shows. It can't touch us anyway here, for we've sold out for the next three months. My experience in the business—and it is a long one—points only one way. Give the public a good thing and nothing will hurt the box office—not Christmas, nor a war, nor a general election, nor a cyclone. Of course, it will touch up the middling shows and kill the bad ones. By Dec. 3 the autumn tours are all over in the provinces, and the companies are coming back for 'refitting'—that is to say, getting new dresses, cleaning the old ones, refurbishing the scenery, and so on. So far, then, as the provincial tours go, the election this time starts on the very day when most of the tours are coming back home."

AT the dramatic performance to be given tomorrow evening at His Majesty's Theatre, which has been kindly lent for the occasion by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, in aid of the Playgoers' Club Pantomime Fund for Poor Children, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear in *A Marriage has been Arranged*; Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr. H. Nye Chart in *'Op o' my Thumb*; Mr. Aubrey Smith and Miss Rosina Filippi in *Colonel and Mrs. Henderson*; Mr. Laurence Irving and Miss Mabel Hackney in *The Dog Between*; and Mr. Robert Horton and Miss Amy Ravenscroft in *The Impertinence of the Creature*. Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Sam Walsh, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Miss Florence Wray, Mr. Gwilym Wigley, Mr. Harrison Latimer, Mr. Clifford Morgan, and the Curlos will also contribute to the entertainment.

MR. H. B. IRVING'S return to the Queen's Theatre to produce a new play, has obliged Mr. Vedrenne to end (for the present) the run of *Mrs. Skeffington*. He will, however, revive the play, when opportunity arrives, at another theatre.

MR. HERBERT TRENCH, not being able to make arrangements for the transference of Countess Arnim's charming comedy, *Priscilla Runs Away*, from the Haymarket to another theatre, is compelled to withdraw it for the present from the bill there on Dec. 16, although still in the full tide of its success, in order to make room for the return of *The Blue Bird*, with a new act, on Dec. 19.

MR. R. C. CARTON, the author of *Eccentric Lord Comberdene*, which was produced at the St. James's on Saturday, writes to disclaim any of the "political partisanship" which some of the lines might suggest. "*Eccentric Lord Comberdene*," says Mr. Carton, "is a novelette—a phantasy—and in order to avoid the above accusation I purposely made it abundantly clear that a Conservative Government was in office at the period during which the story passes. The Marchioness of Glenmoray is the wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and his attitude towards the Radical M.P. can leave no possible doubt as to the nature of her husband's political principles. I quite agree that a dramatist should avoid political bias—except in private life."

MR. WALTER PASSMORE sustained a severe shaking and was considerably bruised through an accident last Monday evening at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. Mr. Passmore, as Smith, should have entered by aeroplane in the first act of *The Arcadians*, but the machine appeared without its passenger, and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull, managing-director of the theatre, came upon the stage and announced that Mr. Passmore had slipped and fallen from the rope attached to the aeroplane. Mr. Passmore's understudy went on in the first act, and the genial comedian, notwithstanding his pain, resumed his part in the other acts, and was warmly cheered by the audience.

A FIRE, which was promptly extinguished, broke out in the Drill Hall, Falmouth, on the night of the 17th inst. The Gipsy Maids Choir were appearing at the hall, and the outbreak occurred in one of the dressing-rooms, in which were stored a number of dresses, the property of the artists. The discovery was made by the caretaker (Mr. Angel), who, with a fireman, saved a number of costumes from destruction. The damage is estimated at about £30.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN'S company, including Mr. G. P. Huntley and the members of the cast of *Decorating Clementine*, arrived in England on Monday in the Lusitania, and will open in the piece at the Globe Theatre on Monday.

MISS PHYLLIS NEILSON-TERRY has been re-engaged by Mr. Herbert Trench for the piece which is to follow the revival of *The Blue Bird* at the Haymarket, where Maeterlinck's fairy play will be seen again on Monday, Dec. 19. It will have a run of six weeks, two performances being given daily. The addition, entitled "The Palace of Happiness," will contain three scenes, the characters including Joy, Pleasure, and Self-denial. There will be two ballets, one of them being called the "Ballet of Joys."

MISS MAY PALFREY'S season at the Kingsway Theatre ends this evening, but she has secured a West End theatre, at which she will again present *Company for George* on Boxing Night, performing it twice on the following Tuesday, and again on Wednesday evening. At Thursday's matinée she will put on a triple bill, including a new one-act play by Mr. R. C. Carton, called *In Days to Come*. Miss Palfrey herself will appear, with her husband, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who will then be back from America.

MR. WILLIAM GREET has secured from Miss Margaret Mayo, the authoress of *Baby Mine*, a three-act farce, which has been one of the successes of the season in New York, the English rights in her play, and it will probably be produced in London in the spring.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON will present at the Little Theatre, this evening, a new one-act piece, called *Denton* (*Lab.*). The story told is that of a valet who thinks of becoming an M.P. There are only two parts in the piece, and they will be sustained by Messrs. Thomas Sidney and A. S. Homewood.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, JUN., has written the book of the new piece which will be Mr. George Edwardes's next production at the Gaiety, and Mr. Adrian Ross and Mr. C. H. Bovill have done the lyrics. The music is by Mr. Leslie Stuart.

MR. FRANK MATCHAM, the eminent architect, has been called away to Holland to discuss plans for a new opera house at The Hague.

SPEAKING at a Women's Freedom League "At Home" at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Thursday, Miss Cicely Hamilton said that there were many qualities, good and bad, which the suffrage movement had shown women that she possessed. They had got to tell the men that they had ceased to satisfy woman's entire existence and no longer filled her life. They had to tell someone who had been their little tin god that they no longer worshipped him, and they must do it as politely and as courteously as they could.

THEY had to tell him that even his kindness and chivalry was not of so much account to them as it was, and that they infinitely preferred to do some things for themselves. They must realise how entirely false had been the conception of the relation of woman to man. It had been assumed that no woman's life was complete until she married, but it was a colossal piece of impudence to say that a human being that the Almighty had put into this world was not finished until the Almighty had called in a man to assist.

THE company and staff of Drury Lane Theatre, to commemorate the tremendous success of *The Whip*, will to-night, after the performance, entertain at supper, in the saloon, Mr. Arthur Collins and the authors of the drama, Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton.

MISS DORA PASS, who is playing lead in *A Woman's Past*, reaches her 270th performance today. Miss Pass has been engaged by Messrs. Hamilton and Locke to create the title-rôle in the autumn production of *Bonnie Mary*.

A MEETING will be held on Friday next, Dec. 2, in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, at three o'clock, under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League. Miss May Whitty will preside, and the speakers will be Lady Grove, Mrs. Louis Fagan, Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, and Lord Robert Cecil, K.C. Hostess, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy.

MR. HARRY NICHOLLS sends us, presumably by means of a passing vessel, a postcard with the following:—"S.S. Amerika, Nov. 11, 1910. Five days out en route for America. All well. Splendid trip. Kindest regards."

MR. ROBERT LORAINE is making preparations for an attempt to win the De Forest prize of £4,000 for the longest aeroplane flight from England into France, made by a British pilot, in an all-British machine, before the end of the year. He will pilot a Howard-Wright biplane.

MR. BASSETT ROE, who has been playing Dr. Rylott in *The Speckled Band* with marked success in the suburban company, has been transferred to the Globe Theatre company, with Mr. Claude King, Miss Le Sage, and Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, opening last Monday at the Dalston Theatre.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX, who concludes his engagement as Olaf in *The Prince and the Beggar Maid* next week, is engaged by Mr. George Dance to play Hubert, Earl of Brancaster, in *The Whip*.

MISS FLORENCE IMESON, who has been winning golden opinions for her performances in musical comedy in South Africa, made her last appearance in that colony on Oct. 31, when she played the title-rôle in *Veronique*. Her greatest triumph was secured as the Merry Widow, her impersonation of that delightful personage being irresistible to Johannesburgers, who parted from her with sincere regret. The popular comedienne desires through our columns to wish all her English friends and acquaintances A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

MR. W. W. KELLY'S many friends will learn with regret that the trouble he has lately been having with his eyes last week developed serious symptoms, which became so acute that Mr. Kelly, acting on his doctor's advice, travelled to London and consulted Sir George Anderson Critchett, the famous Harley-street occulist. Unfortunately, the report obtained was not so satisfactory as could have been wished, Mr. Kelly being frankly told that unless he used the utmost care and was persistent in the application of the remedies which Sir George ordered his sight would become impaired. Mr. Kelly has been suffering from an acute form of catarrh of the eyes.

THE subject chosen by Mr. Charles Barnard for his third annual pantomime at the Elephant and Castle Theatre is *Aladdin*, which will be presented on Boxing Day in conjunction with Mr. Wentworth Croke. The cast includes Miss Gracie Grahame as Aladdin, Miss Maudie Ford as the Princess, the Musical Howards, Nash and Noel, Sisters du Cane, Harry Morgan, W. P. Sheen, and La Belle Troupe of Dancers. Mr. Charles Barnard has had prepared a very amusing illustrated booklet on the pantomime, which will be sent post free on application to all children under the age of fifteen years.

MR. ALEXANDER MARSH'S tour, which started on June 27 last, is proving eminently successful, so much so that the Christmas vacation will be limited to one week only. Mr. Marsh has a wonderfully varied répertoire, thirty-four plays in all, and each play is mounted by beautifully-painted scenery, attention to detail being a prominent feature. Mr. Marsh's present bookings extend until September, 1912—almost two years.

MASTER WALTER NEVILLE, whose charmingly natural performance of Danny in *The Bondman* (Mr. Wentworth Croke) company may be remembered, after successfully creating the rôle of Dicky in Miss Mullord's dramatic sketch, *Dicky's Mother*, in London, has been engaged by Mr. Henry Doughty to play Bobbie Spencer in *Cousin Kate*, now on tour.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, Barrow-in-Furness, which has made such rapid strides in popularity during the past few years, was last week crowded nightly with brilliant and representative audiences on the occasion of the complimentary benefit to the enterprising managers—Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge—when *Mr. Preedy and the Countess* was presented by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company. Mr. and Mrs. Routledge, who have made themselves and their pretty playhouse universal favourites in Barrow and the surrounding district, have also just adjudicated the elocution examination at the Barrow Musical Festival for the fourth year in succession. Society plays and comedies are seen to the utmost advantage at His Majesty's, and the management are now booking some recent London productions for next spring and autumn.

MR. FRANK CURZON AND MR. GERALD DU MAURIER have secured for Wyndham's Theatre a new play which has been written by Mr. Haddon Chambers, entitled *Passers-by*. It is in four acts, and is a drama of London life.

MR. VAUGHAN GREY will start a season of French comedy at the Boudoir Theatre, Kensington, in February, in co-operation with M. Leo Claretie and Prof. Victor Spiers. Three matinées and three evening performances will be given weekly, as well as "Causeries." Mme. Jeanne Granier has been already engaged.

THE attraction at the Kingsway Theatre during the Christmas holidays will be called *The Golliwog*, and will be presented there on Dec. 17. Mr. Edward Cadman has written the book and the lyrics, and Mr. Jacques Greebe has composed the music.

MME. MAETERLINCK, who will shortly create the title-part in her husband's latest work, *Mary Magdalen*, in Paris, will deliver at the Little Theatre, on Thursday, a lecture on the subject of "Maeterlinck Intime," and will recite selections from her husband's works.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has sublet the Gaiety for a short season, and *The Captain of the School*, by Judge Parry and Mr. Frederick Mouillot, will be played there for the first time in London some time in the Christmas holidays. The piece was fully noticed by us on its production at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on the 14th inst.

THE many friends of that promising young actress, Miss Eva Stuart, will be grieved to hear that she is at present seriously ill, and has had to cancel all engagements for a time.

THE "radium wedding" has been instituted in Paris, and is intended to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of marriage. The first couple to obtain the honour are M. and Mme. Ferdinand Dugué, whose joint ages are 187 years, the husband being over ninety-five and the wife ninety-two. M. Dugué claims the added distinction of being the oldest dramatic author in the world. The best known of his forty-odd plays are *The Pirates of the Savannah* and *Cartouche*. *The Pirates* has been played more than ten thousand times. His last play—a drama at the bottom of the sea—was produced in 1877, and was revived with success in Paris only a few weeks ago.

THE Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, will, on and after Monday next, be known as the Coliseum, and important changes will be made in the conduct of the house. There will be two performances nightly at people's popular prices instead of the one performance nightly as heretofore. Mr. James Alexander, the lessee and manager of the theatre, will present well-acted dramas worked quickly, Mr. Frank Bateman's company in *Where Angels Fear to Tread* occupying the boards for the opening week. The change is necessitating a considerable outlay in the way of new scenery and appointments.

"POMPEY THE GREAT," a tragedy, in three acts, by John Masefield, will be produced by the Stage Society at the Aldwych Theatre, on Dec. 4. The scenes are laid at Rome, at Dyrrachium, at Pharsalia, and at Pelusium, about fifty years B.C. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams will produce the piece, and the stage-manager will be Mr. Val Cuthbert.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD will play during Dec. 5 week at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, the parts of Pasquin in Rostand's *The Fantasticks*, Dr. Rank in Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, and the First Messenger of the Queen in Maeterlinck's *The Death of Tintagiles*. He is busy rehearsing, and appears meanwhile in *The House Opposite*. Mr. Twyford has arranged to dramatise two books, romantic costume stories, one by Mr. Max Pemberton and the other by Mr. Percy J. Brebner. In these he will have the co-operation of Mr. Alex. Maclean, who has lately been so successfully touring the romantic play, *My Lady Bellamy*.

THE announcement is now made officially that the Lord Chamberlain has definitely sanctioned the performance of *Salome*, and that it will be sung shortly by the Thomas Beecham Opera Company, at Covent Garden. Mme. Aino Ackte, the brilliant actress and operatic artist from the Grand Opera, Paris, who is to appear as Salome, has arrived in London. She was selected by Richard Strauss himself for the rôe, studied it with him for many weeks, and has already played it some twenty times in the principal opera houses of the larger Continental cities.

OWING to the great success of *The Chocolate Soldier* at the Lyric, six matinées of that delightful opera will be given during Boxing week, beginning on Monday, Dec. 26. In the following week there will be four, and thenceforward three matinées weekly. In view of the heavy strain which so many performances would entail on Miss Constance Drever, the management has engaged Miss Evelyn D'Alroy to enact Nadina on the afternoon of Boxing Day and at all subsequent matinées. Miss D'Alroy has made her reputation in dramatic work, and it will come as a surprise to many to learn that she is a singer of fine quality.

MR. OSMAN EDWARDS, lecturing on "Dramatic Chaos" to the Playgoers' Club at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, likened the stage at the present time to a fashionable "At Home," where the hostess smiled on a mob of pushing strangers, and where the old intimacy and security were gone. Among the causes to which Mr. Edwards attributed the failure of certain dramatists to reach the public were the "tyranny of laughter" and the "tyranny of clothes," the love by audiences of mere fun and of display in dress on the stage. He warmly advocated a national endowed theatre.

MRS. MARIE SPURR, widow of the late Mel. B. Spurr, the well-known society entertainer, fell into the fire at her house in Denbigh-street, S.W., on Saturday night last, and died the next morning. An inquest was held on Tuesday.

AT Sadler's Wells Theatre on Monday a new sensational society drama, by Frederic Baugh and Fred Moule, will be produced. The piece has been specially written to meet the needs of the twice-nightly theatre. A tour follows.

MR. BERNARD MEREFIELD, who has been touring with Mr. J. W. Lindsay-Ellis's *Lights Out* company, preceding that play with half an hour's entertainment at the piano, recitations, &c., has now been engaged by Mr. Ellis to sustain the rôle of Lieut. von Lauffen, the part created by Mr. H. B. Irving in the London production of *Lights Out*. Mr. Bernard Merefield was for three years a member of Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company, and has toured the provinces with Miss Dorothy Grimston, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, Mr. Wentworth Croke, and others. The company is presenting *Lights Out* twice nightly.

WEBER'S *Oberon* will be revived at the Guildhall School of Music by the pupils of the opera class on Monday. It is now forty years since *Oberon* was last heard in London.

MR. A. E. W. MASON will deliver a lecture on "Plots and Plays" to the O.P. Club at the Criterion to-morrow. Mr. Carl Hentschel will preside.

H.H. PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, president of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, will distribute the annual essay and elocution prizes for the Society at the theatre of the Guilhall School of Music on Monday afternoon, Dec. 5. The speakers will include Lord Howard de Walden and Mr. Arthur Bourchier. On the same afternoon *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be given as a dramatic reading, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond, with the strong professional cast already announced. Mendelssohn's music will be played by an orchestra of the Guildhall School of Music, conducted by Mr. Joseph Ivimey.

"THE ETERNAL QUESTION," under the direction of R. Hall Caine, will be the attraction at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, next week. The company, which travels the entire Garrick Theatre production, includes Mr. Derwent Hall Caine as David Rossi, a part in which he is seen at his best; Mr. Creagh Henry, the producer, as Baron Bonelli; and that clever young actress, Miss Helena Millais, as Donna Roma Volonna, a part in which she has made a great "personal" success, and in which she follows Miss Tittell Brune.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING will, till further notice, give two matinées of *The Unwritten Law* weekly, on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

WE have to record the death of Mr. Joseph Callaghan, the popular conductor of the orchestra at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. On Wednesday week the curtain had just been rung down on the last act of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, and the band was about to play "God save the King," when he was seen to collapse. Assistance was at once forthcoming. It was found that Mr. Callaghan was suffering from a paralytic stroke, and he was taken home with all speed. Despite the fact that everything was done to ensure his recovery, the deceased never regained consciousness, and he passed away on the following day.

COMPLAINT has often been expressed at the iciness of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, during the winter months, but Mr. J. Langdon Lee, with characteristic thoughtfulness, has arranged a first-rate distribution of electric radiators, which were used for the first time on Monday with most successful results, for, though it was a very "raw" evening, the theatre was extremely cosy.

MISS DORIS DIGBY, who is now enacting Marie in *The House Opposite*, has been engaged by Mr. Harold V. Neilson to play the part of Sylvette in *The Fantasticks*; also Bellangère in Maeterlinck's *Death of Tintagiles* at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, during the week of Dec. 5.

THE Moseley Pantomime Club is the latest theatregoers' association in Birmingham. There is a membership of over 200. Mr. Fred Barnardo (Alexandra Theatre) has accepted an invitation to act as president, and Mr. F. C. Woolley (Victoria Hotel), is vice-president.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE has secured the American rights of Maeterlinck's latest play, *Mary Magdalen*, which will soon be seen in Paris.

MR. FRED C. WHITNEY is in London, in search of a suitable theatre at which to produce a comic opera called *Baron Trenck*, the libretto of which is by Dr. Willner and R. Bodansky, and the music by Felix Albini.

GUSTAVE WORMS, for many years one of the leading sociétaires of the Comédie Française, from which he had retired ten years ago, died suddenly in the early hours of Saturday, the 19th inst. He began life as a printer's devil, then entered the Conservatoire, and was engaged at the Français in 1858, at the age of twenty-one. Seven years afterwards he left for Russia, where he made a name in the Theatre Michel at St. Petersburg. In 1876 he returned to the Français, and remained there till his farewell benefit in January, 1901.

WORMS was not only a famous actor in some of Molière's characters—Alceste, of *Le Misanthrope*, being, for example, one of his triumphs—but he was the ideal interpreter of the modern French comedy of the generation that is going by—what one might call the French comedy of yesterday. He was cut out to act Dumas fils, and the latter once said at a rehearsal of one of his own plays: "Watch Worms working out that passage; you will never hear and see his like in it again." Worms married Mlle. Barretta, also a well-known Comédie Française actress of the generation immediately past, who survives him. His age was seventy-four.

MR. F. R. BENSON, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander, will produce *The Piper* at the St. James's Theatre, at a series of matinées during the Christmas season. *The Piper*, by Miss Josephine Preston Peabody, was, as will be remembered, the winning play in the recent Stratford-on-Avon competition, and secured the prize offered by Mr. Otho Stuart.

"ARE YOU A MASON?" will end its fourteen months' tour on Dec. 5, 1910, and will start on tour again on Jan. 16, 1911, at the Opera House, Harrogate.

MISS DORIS CAMERON, who has been engaged by Mr. Wheeler for the Wheeler-Edwardes' company, to play all the leading singing parts in South Africa, is the daughter of Miss Violet Cameron, and is now appearing in *The Chocolate Soldier*. She has had experience in grand opera in town, and has understudied Miss Isabel Jay at the Prince of Wales. Miss Cameron sails for South Africa on Dec. 17.

THE clever young actress, Miss Yvonne Orchardson, has been engaged by Mr. Walter Howard to play the leading part in the North company in his new production, *The Boy King*, opening at Christmas.

A MOVEMENT is on foot to produce in March of next year at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, the four operas comprising Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung*, viz., *Siegfried*, *The Valkyrie*, *The Rhinegold*, and *The Twilight of the Gods*. Herr Ernst Denhof, who was the moving spirit in the production of the Ring at the King's, Edinburgh, this year, is making all arrangements for the Glasgow performances.

THE Repertory Theatre at Glasgow is arranging for a Christmas production this year. It is in the nature of a fantastic fairy play, founded on a story by George Macdonald, the title being *Colin in Fairyland*. Mr. George J. Hamlen (author of *Barbara Grows Up*) is writing the book, and Mr. Albert Cazabon is composing appropriate music. Miss Ruby Gray, who toured with the Beecham Opera company, will play the part of Colin.

MR. HUGH FLEMINGS'S engagement as advance manager for the autumn tour of *The Whip* terminated on Monday.

MISS KATHERINE JONES, the popular contralto, who is to be married on Dec. 21 to Mr. George Wolfe Murray, is the eldest daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Jones and Mrs. Jones, of Llanbedr House, Crickhowell, and Mr. George Wolfe Murray is the elder son of Lieut.-General Sir James Wolfe Murray, K.C.B., of Cringletie, Peeblesshire, and the late Lady Wolfe Murray. Miss Jones first met Mr. Wolfe Murray when she was visiting South Africa on a concert tour with Mme. Albani. Mr. Wolfe Murray was A.D.C. to Sir Arthur Lawley, who at that time was Governor of the Transvaal, and Miss Katherine Jones was Lady Lawley's guest at Pretoria. Last year Miss Katherine Jones spent several months in India with Lord and Lady Minto, and she sang in Calcutta Cathedral on the occasion of the wedding of Lord Minto's daughter, Lady Violet Elliot. On Tuesday Miss Katherine Jones is to give an afternoon concert at the Æolian Hall.

THE final performance this season of *Elektra* is to be given at Covent Garden this afternoon, when the rôle of Klytemnestra will be sung by Fräulein Marie Goetze, who has made a great reputation in this and other parts in Berlin and elsewhere.

THE Lord Chamberlain would like it to be known that the libretto of the opera *Salome* that he has licensed to be sung in London by the Thomas Beecham Opera company, has been somewhat modified from the original version. Mr. Thomas Beecham and Mr. Alfred Kalisch have collaborated to make the changes deemed necessary.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD, whose recent performances in *Strife*, *The House of Temperley*, and *The Speckled Band* will be remembered, will appear this (Saturday) evening at the Little Theatre as Denton in the new one-act play *Denton* (*Lab.*).

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL'S elaborate production, *The Coastguard's Daughter*, played to immense business at the Elephant and Castle Theatre last week. The Messrs. Barnard were very pleased, and especially complimented Mr. Campbell upon the general excellence of play, company, and staging.

MR. FRANK LASCELLES, whose Pageant of South Africa has played such a prominent part in the success of the Union of that country, arrives in England by the Kenilworth Castle this morning, when he will be welcomed by a deputation from the Festival of Empire, including Sir Melvill Beachcroft, the chairman of the Executive Council, and Sir Godfrey Lagden, the chairman of the Hospitality Committee, who are proceeding to Southampton for the purpose. The Mayor of Southampton will present Mr. Lascelles with an address on behalf of the Corporation of the town.

LORD SALISBURY has joined the Council of the Festival of Empire, and Sir Herbert Tree has consented to become chairman of the Entertainments Committee.

REPERTOIRE is in vogue at the moment. Miss M. Lowe-Dare has been touring with her company since April last in such plays as *Still Waters Run Deep*, *Camille*, *Trilby*, *Caste*, and other modern comedies.

THE hockey team run by the members of Mr. Norman V. Norman's company have played up to the present five matches, but have lost every one of them. The team is much weaker than it has been for years, but is improving with practice. Mr. Norman, who has been a well-known athlete in his day, is convinced that plenty of fresh air and exercise is the finest thing for the actor.

THE pupils of Stedman's Academy figure picturesquely in a series of excellent illustrations around which an interesting article of ten pages, on the training of a stage-dancer, is written in the "Pall-Mall Magazine." Groups of graceful girls are seen in various positions associated with the training for the art of Terpsichore, and a most comprehensive description of the way a girl is prepared for the footlights is given in the letterpress. The early life of a dancer is pictured in progressive stages, and many examples are given of the artistic evolutions of the more advanced pupils. Object lessons in dramatic gesture and acting are also furnished, and parents who aspire to the pleasure of seeing the talents of their daughter exploited on the stage may learn in a most agreeable way the manner in which she is trained for that auspicious event.

MR. THOMAS JEFFERSON, son of the famous impersonator of Rip Van Winkle, is playing the principal part in a new farce, called *The Other Fellow*, at the Bijou Theatre, New York. A young doctor and his friend, a broker, who live together, become interested in theosophy and induce an Indian professor of wonderful powers to disembody their souls and cause them to float in the air. Through a mistake, an exchange of souls is made, with the result that the broker loses his identity, repudiates his wife, and makes love to the doctor's fiancée. In the meantime the doctor falls into a state of coma, and the police think he has been murdered. The complications are very amusing. Mr. Jefferson plays the broker.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Frank Harris's Story.

MR. FRANK HARRIS has been giving the *Daily News* interviewer some good points with regard to Mr. Bernard Shaw. "Fourteen—fifteen years ago," remarks Mr. Harris, "I said to Runciman, 'Shaw is the man we want to do the drama for the *Saturday Review*. He's written all he has to write on music, but he's got the drama. It's what he's meant for. He's an Irish showman; give him the drama. I saw Shaw about it. I said, 'Give up writing on music—you've said it all. Come on to the *Saturday*, and write about drama.' How much would I give him? Whatever he thought it was worth. He asked six pounds.

"WELL, he began writing good stuff. But after a few weeks Shakespeare began to pop up in every article, like King Charles's head. 'Why don't you stop Shaw writing this rot about Shakespeare?' a friend of mine asked me. I read a few of the articles through carefully. Then I wrote to Shaw: 'Your drama is great stuff. But why don't you stop writing about Shakespeare?' 'My dear Harris,' replied Shaw, 'what do you mean? I know more about Shakespeare than anybody living.' 'Come out to lunch with me,' I answered; 'I'll give you vegetarian grub; I'll give you anything you like, and I'll convince you you know nothing about him.'

"I took him out. At the end of about four hours' solid talk he said that if I would write about Shakespeare he would leave off writing about him. So began my articles in the *Saturday Review*, wherein I showed how Hamlet-Macbeth Shakespeare lives behind the masks of the heroes of his plays.

The Fight for Fame.

"THAT was the end of the episode. I drifted off into other things, and Shaw began writing prefaces. But very soon King Charles's head popped up again—this time with very different features. He boldly announced my discovery, and put on his own trade-mark (notably in *Man and Superman*), and all the acknowledgment he gave me was this casual reference: 'All Shakespeare's genuine critics from Jonson to Frank Harris have kept as far on this side idolatry as I.' Oscar Wilde warned me against the crib. I said it didn't matter. If Shaw was big enough man to take my work and carry it on he was welcome to do so. If he wasn't, then sooner or later the credit would come to me, even if the cash had come to him.' Wilde said, 'No; you have to fight for Fame on the doorstep. If you do not take care, you will find yourself robbed of all your credit, and another man wearing your crown.' I said I would take the risk.

The Man Shakespeare.

"SIX or seven years ago I wrote my play, to show in action the Man Shakespeare that I have recovered from the professors' rubbish-heaps. Beerbohm Tree agreed to produce it. Mrs Patrick Campbell was willing to do anything and give anything to act Mary Fitton. But Tree couldn't stomach Shakespeare. 'He is too weak; he subsides,' he told me; 'make him heroic.' 'By heaven, no!' I said; 'I'll take out anything you like, but put in a line that isn't true Shakespeare I won't.'

"So I withdrew the play. Some time afterwards the Vedrenne-Barker people were to do it. Vedrenne liked the play immensely; Barker didn't like himself in the part of Shakespeare. (But would Shakespeare have liked himself in the part of Barker?) I asked for the play back; Vedrenne insisted he would get it through.

Too Sad a Shakespeare.

"THEN I met Shaw in the street, and he said 'I've read your play, Harris; but you make Shakespeare too sad. He never was sad; he was a rollicking fellow. Though at least you've given his genius, and *that's* extraordinary. Nobody else ever did that.'

Too "Indecent."

"LAST year I brought out my book, 'The Man Shakespeare,' and Shaw said it was great. Then why didn't he write a criticism of it? He had done so—forty folios long; but nobody would print it. I gasped. Did he mean to tell me nobody would print forty folios by George Bernard Shaw? Let him give it to me, and I would guarantee to publish it. No, it was too indecent, he averred.

Shaw and the Sonnets.

"THIS year I published in the *English Review* a series of articles on the Women of Shakespeare, ramming home my proof that Mary Fitton was the passion of Shakespeare's whole life. And now Mr. Shaw has written 'The Dark Lady of the Sonnets,' neatly covering himself by confining my lady to the sonnets, but, as appears from the interview in last week's *Observer*, annexing the whole of the theory I have built up during the past fifteen years, and acknowledging the annexation with a contemptuous pat on my head."

A Tell-tale Beam.

"MY first appearance in Bradford," says Mr. Walter Passmore, in an interview in the *Bradford Daily Telegraph*, "was at Pullan's old music hall. I was in pantomime there with Charlie Majilton in *Round the Clock*. I sang two or three songs and also played the clown. They were a fine audience in those days, and although I only got 30s. a week—and that in threepenny bits and sixpences just as it was taken at the doors—I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Old Pullan, I remember, could always tell how much money there was in the house by a beam, which, when the pressure of weight above became too great, would not allow the door to be closed."

Eric Thorne's Equestrian Experience.

MR. ERIC THORNE tells the following story:—"While touring in America with *La Poupée*, the manager at Utah came to me one day and asked if I would go for a ride. I said I was no good at riding, but he and a few others persuaded me on the strength that they would get me a quiet nag, and I accompanied them to the stables. I was placed upon the back of a fearful old hack, an unkempt sort of brute, and together we were pushed through the stable doorway. My steed walked bravely along the road, and I did my best to cheer him up. But not appreciating my efforts, he commenced to buck and jump in a manner that did not add to the dignity of my posture. The brute broke into a wild sort of canter, which gradually increased into a gallop. On he went at terrific speed, and made for a paddock. As we were nearing a tree I saw that my only chance of further life was to part company, so with an effort that nearly cost me a fall I sprang towards a branch under which the animal passed—and I remember seeing the brute's shining heels flashing over the turf, for I lost consciousness, and was picked up for dead."

A Varied Repertory.

"You seem to have a wonderfully varied répertoire?" said a representative of the *Durham Chronicle* to Mr. George Munro, the youngest actor-manager on the stage, who was at the local Assembly Rooms last week. Mr. Munro replied:—"Oh, yes; we have, and that makes it all the more interesting to us. My week's work runs something like this as a rule: On Monday I am an old man—a ghost-haunted Burgomaster; on Tuesday, a young Drury Lane actor; on Wednesday, a Charles Dickens' hero; on Thursday, a drink-sodden robber and venerated citizen of France by turn; on Friday, a Court jester of the 14th century (this is the heaviest rôle I play); and on Saturday my week's impersonations end with Hamlet."

"ECCENTRIC LORD COMBERDENE."

Novelette, in Three Chapters, by R. C. Carton, Produced at the St. James's Theatre, on Saturday, Nov. 19.

The Earl of Comberdene.....MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
Prince Melikoff.....MR. ARTHUR ROYSTON
Lieutenant Corfield.....MR. STUART DENNISON
Lieutenant Armytage.....MR. G. TREVOR ROLLER
Hon. Hugh Chilvers.....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Brook Farlowe, M.P.....MR. FRED LEWIS
Joseph Radburn.....MR. LYSTON LYLE
Rev. Alwyn Pilbrow.....MR. ASHTON PEARSE
Captain Clamp.....MR. J. H. BARNES
Grugger.....MR. T. WEGUELIN
Scoyle.....MR. E. VIVIAN REYNOLDS
Winton.....MR. GERALD AMES
Hotel Clerk.....MR. JAMES STANDISH
Waiters..MESSRS. W. PILLING, FRANK RORKE, and FRANK ARUNDEL
The Marchioness of Glenmoray..MISS COMPTON
The Grand Duchess Ina Drovinski
MISS RITA JOLIVET
Madame Pigache.....MISS RUTH MAITLAND
Daphne Farlowe....MISS MARJORIE WATERLOW

Mr. R. C. Carton's latest play can only be described as "whimsical"; and its failure or its success will depend on the whim and fancy of the public. It cannot accurately be described a satire or a burlesque. There is nothing in it which might not have happened, and stranger things have been reported in the newspapers. It is a comedy of incident and adventure; and we imagine that a large proportion of the audience at the St. James's on Saturday were genuinely concerned for the success of the honest folk and the defeat of the gang of thieves who form such an important part of the *dramatis personæ*. Nor must this attitude be attributed to any special density on the part of the public. It was the natural result of the uncertain, though witty and clever, treatment of the theme by the author.

The gang in question includes a swell mobsman named Radburn, a rogue who wears the cloth of a clergyman as a disguise, and a certain nautical rascal called Captain Clamp. There are two boxes in the play, and it is important to distinguish between them. One is that which contains some important Foreign Office papers, and the other is a box containing £20,000-worth of jewels, which have been stolen from a London shop by one of the thieves' gang. Three of these thieves are staying at the hotel at the seaside resort of Shingleford; and here also comes the Marchioness. She goes under the name of "Mrs. Adair," as she has the delicate diplomatic mission of restoring to her country the Grand Duchess Ina Drovinski, who has been carried off by Nihilists, and is still in dread of them. So Ina pretends to be "Mrs. Adair's" maid. Now the Marchioness and the thieves both wanted to buy a certain yacht, the Morning Star—the thieves in order to get away with the jewels, and the Marchioness in order to convey the Duchess to an ironclad in the "offing." The yacht, however, has been bought by a very rich young man with a strong taste for romantic adventure, the Earl of Comberdene, who is also staying at the hotel; and the thieves induce him to engage Clamp as his captain. Now comes the complication with regard to the two boxes above-mentioned. One of the gang, Scoyle, brings the jewels in a box to the hotel, and hands them over, in mistake, to the Marchioness, who is expecting the other box with the despatches. In the second act the rogues are coming after nightfall to the Marchioness's room to recover the box; but Comberdene first lowers her and the Duchess down from the balcony with the box, and then, when Radburn and Pilbrow have entered the vacant bedroom, locks them in, leaves a written explanation for the night-watchman, and conveys the two ladies on board his yacht. Of course, Clamp and his crew of mercenary ruffians declare themselves when the yacht is at sea; but the indomitable Marchioness runs up a signal of distress, which brings help from a British battleship, and the malefactors are overpowered and arrested. The box is found to contain the jewels—they happen to be the Marchioness's heirlooms—complications are unravelled, and the satisfaction of the audience is complete.

Mr. George Alexander's part of the Earl of Comberdene is well within his scope; indeed, it does not employ his abilities to the uttermost. It must be quite a holiday task for Mr. Alexander to depict this "touch-and-go" peer, and he does so with all the jaunty assurance, the perfect ease and impudence, and the charming courtesy and polish which combine in the character. Light, vivacious, and ever alert, Mr. Alexander's Lord Comberdene is one of his most agreeable impersonations, complete in every detail, and crisp and clean throughout. Great opportunities are given to Mr. Lyston Lyle, whose rôle of Joseph Radburn is a prominent one. On the surface, Radburn is the bumptious "bounder," the "pushing" hotel bore. But this is only the mask of the leading member of a gang of criminals; and Radburn ever and anon drops his disguise, and appears as the energetic, active, and earnest conspirator. All this is very effective, and Mr. Lyston Lyle, by the aid of an excellent make-up, creates a vivid impression on his audience. It is chiefly Radburn who keeps things going in the progress of the piece, and prevents it from dragging by his brisk and bold performance. A highly finished and judiciously-subdued piece of character acting is Mr. Ashton Pearse's Rev. Alwyn Pilbrow. Mr. Pearse has to indicate the smug rogue underneath the "canting" oiliness of the formalist, and this he does very artistically and cleverly. No better representative of the rough but dishonest Captain Clamp could be imagined than Mr. J. H. Barnes, with his deep voice and robust physique. This rascally mariner, with its surface-cloak of blunt stupidity and sincerity, is admirably embodied by Mr. Barnes, who is always strong and steady, and hits off the quaint humour of the character very adroitly. Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds's Scoyle is a capital study of a craven Cockney, highly finished in detail, and almost picturesque in its queer and droll characterisation. The expression of abject anxiety is excellent, and the whole impersonation is quaint, sharp, and realistic. Mr. Fred Lewis's Brook Farlowe is an imposing and self-important personage, with all the urbane fussiness and impressive suavity necessary for the realisation of the rôle; and Mr. Athol Stewart admirably sketches the inane but well-bred youth Chilvers. Miss Compton's aristocratic calmness and drawling deliberation once more find excellent employment in a part probably written for her; and, as the Marchioness of Glenmoray she is as quietly imperative and coolly sarcastic as ever, and again scores a supreme success. A very charming and original representative of the Grand Duchess Ina Drovinski is Miss Rita Jolivet, who is delightfully impulsive and expressive as the royal Russian; and Miss Ruth Maitland as Madame Pigache presents a sharp and telling portrait of the active and able female conspirator, Miss Marjorie Waterlow giving a very bright and pleasing performance as Daphne Farlowe, the daughter of the pompous M.P. Mr. Arthur Royston's Prince Melikoff could hardly be improved upon; and Mr. Stuart Dennison and Mr. G. Trevor Roller are excellent in every way as the two Lieutenants of H.M.S. Irresistible, Mr. T. Weguelin being decidedly good as Grugger, and Mr. Gerald Ames's Winton being irreproachable. The parts of the waiters at the Imperial Hotel have careful exponents in Messrs. W. Pilling, Frank Rorke, and Frank Arundel; and the representatives of the visitors give the proper impression of movement and animation. The scenery, painted by W. Raphael, is elaborately effective, the sets for the first and last acts being fine examples of clever building-up and artistic painting.

SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL MATINEE.

Two new pieces were produced at the matinée given at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday in aid of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. The first of these was based by "George Paston" on Ludwig Huna's *Der Kuss*, and was entitled

"THE KISS."

Catherine Hervey....MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE
Humphrey Wharton.....MR. ERIC LEWIS
The Stranger.....MR. GUY STANDING
Mrs. Budgen.....MISS FLORENCE HARWOOD

The piece is an amusing anecdote. It appears that Bath, in 1777, was much troubled by the larcenous exploits of a certain highwayman named Jake. A lady of fashion called Catherine Hervey has been much annoyed by the persistent attentions of a mysterious gentleman who has followed her everywhere, gazing at her earnestly, and making his infatuation evident and the lady ridiculous. She appeals for protection to a magistrate, Mr. Humphrey Wharton; and while they are in consultation the Stranger who has annoyed her presents himself. He has a long, aquiline nose, and is otherwise ill-favoured. He tells his story with emotion. His unattractiveness—and his nose—have hitherto prevented him from fascinating any woman; and he wagered with a friend that he would kiss any lady who should alight from a coach that was coming into the town. The lady happened to be Miss Hervey; and the Stranger now tells her that his life is to be the forfeit if he lose his bet. When he produces a pistol and threatens to blow his brains out, the lady relents, and lets him press his lips to hers. As he does so he removes her diamond necklace, and, when he has ridden away, leaves a letter thanking her "for what she has given and what he has stolen." The curtain falls on Miss Catherine in hysterics. The piece was very neatly and nicely played. Miss Alexandra Carlisle, looking very bewitching in eighteenth century attire, was daintily feminine as Catherine Hervey; Mr. Eric Lewis gave a highly polished and quaintly humorous performance as Humphrey Wharton; Miss Florence Harwood supplied a characteristic sketch of a sour and sharp middle-aged servant; and Mr. Guy Standing, in the rather difficult part of the Stranger, displayed quite a Cyrano de Bergerac combination of ridiculous appearance and eloquent and expressive demonstration. The little piece was particularly well dressed and mounted.

The other novelty was an interlude in one act, by Bernard Shaw, entitled

"THE DARK LADY OF THE SONNETS."

The Warder.....MR. HUGH B. TABBERER
William Shakespeare..MR. GRANVILLE BARKER
Queen Elizabeth.....MISS SUZANNE SHELDON
Mary Fitton.....MISS MONA LIMERICK

The scene is the Terrace, Whitehall Palace, on a night in midsummer. Shakespeare, who is represented as a cringing personage, and is made up with a chestnut wig, comes to meet Mary Fitton, one of Queen Elizabeth's maids of honour—we need not remind our readers that Mary Fitton is supposed by Mr. Frank Harris to be the "dark lady" of Shakespeare's sonnets. He encounters instead the Queen herself, in all the majesty of attitude and attire which are associated with Elizabeth, who has been walking in her sleep, and suffers remorse for the execution of Mary Queen of Scots. They converse; and Shakespeare, whenever he hears a good phrase spoken, takes it down in his note-book, for use in one of his plays. The dramatist shows himself an adroit courtier, flattering Queen Bess grossly about her beauty; but the Virgin monarch swallows the fulsome praise complacently, and looks on Shakespeare as a dangerously susceptible admirer. Then Mary Fitton, a dark and violent young woman in a red dress, enters and flies into a fury of jealous rage. Elizabeth asserts herself, and talks of "having the heads" of both Mary and Shakespeare; but, in the end, the Queen is appeased by the suave sophistry of the oleaginous bard, who, however, resents angrily the Queen's assertions as to his lowly parentage. The interlude ends with an appeal by him for State support to a theatre for the cultured. He says he has been obliged to write two of his worst plays, *As You Like It*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*, against the grain, and to capture the applause of the groundlings; while some of his best pieces are unpopular, and should therefore be produced at an endowed playhouse. The Queen tells him her treasury will not permit of such expenditure, but hopes that a generation yet to come may establish a National Theatre. Mr. Granville Barker was dry, quaint, and comical as the caricature of Shakespeare; Miss Susanne Sheldon made a magnificent Queen Elizabeth, swelling with "pride of port" and the sense of regal power; and Miss Mona Limerick gave forcible and intense expression to the passionate utterances of Mary Fitton; Mr. Hugh B. Tabberer being excellent as the warder. Other items on the programme were George Paston's play, *Stuffing*, with Mr. Arthur Chesney, Miss Clare Greet, Miss Agnes Thomas, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother in the cast; and Mr. J. M. Barrie's one-act piece, *A Slice of Life*, the characters in which were allotted to Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, and Miss Rosina Filippi.

MR. HOUSMAN'S PROPOSAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your article upon my proposal for the substitution for the Censor of a King's Proctor of Plays entirely ignores the point that under that arrangement managers can—if they wish—be just as safe from interference after production and just as well-informed beforehand of the lines on which objection to a play may be taken as under the present censorship. But my plan leaves them free—if they wish—to adventure further and fare better, or worse, as the case may be. You also make a mistake in supposing that an appeal to the Law Courts necessarily involves trial by jury. I would not preclude such a trial if the defendant asked for it; but our Courts already supply a precedent for trials before Judges alone, even in cases where questions of fact as well as law have to be decided.—Yours faithfully,

LAURENCE HOUSMAN.

Greycott, Swanage, Nov. 20, 1910.

THE lighting of a large building, such as a council chamber or a theatre, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is a task requiring great care. Very considerable illumination is required, with greater intensities of light in certain places. For the stage, footlights, and orchestra, much of the effect is obtained by means of scientific reflection, and it can well be understood what a debt the drama owes to electricity when for a moment one pictures a theatre lit with gas. Leaving aside the heavy death toll that used to be claimed, the effect of gas lighting would now be a most depressing one to a playhouse.

ALL theatre-goers have no doubt been attracted by the brilliant congregation of lights clustered in the centre of the roof. What is needed, and what no doubt will shortly be seen, is an arrangement of a number of high-power metal filament lamps, suspended close to the ceiling. Above these will be reflectors, or distributors, and immediately beneath the lamps a heavy screen, completely obscuring the direct rays of the light. The effect of this screen will be to divert the rays upward on to the reflectors, which in turn will distribute the light vertically downward, thus creating a remarkably diffused illumination, equal in softness to that of the sun, and without the slightest glare.

"DER TALISMAN."

Opera, in Four Acts, by Adela Maddison, Words by Ludwig Fulda, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at Leipzig, Nov. 19.

Astolf, King of Cyprus.....HERR KASE
Berengar.....HERR LUPPERZ
Diomed.....HERR RAPP
Panfilio.....HERR KLINGHAMMER
Ferrante.....HERR SCHOLZ
Maddalena.....FRAU STADTEGGER
Niccola.....HERR MARION
Stefano.....HERR DIABAL
Omar.....HERR SCHROTH
Habakuk.....HERR KUNZE
Rita.....FRAULEIN MERREM
Anselm.....HERR SCHONLEBER
Benedikt.....HERR STAUDENMEYER
Guido.....HERR HERMANY
Balduin.....HERR SCHWERING
Gasparo.....HERR MEHLHORN

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

LEIPZIG, Nov. 21.—The handsome Leipzig Opera House, which seats considerably over 2,000 persons, was filled from floor to ceiling for the first performance of an Englishwoman's opera, composed to the well-known text by Ludwig Fulda. From far and wide critics and managers and agents had come, and the citizens of musical Leipzig were on the *qui vive* to see what a woman could do on a scale of such dimensions. A few words will suffice as a description of the plot, which is familiar to most of your readers. King Astolf, puffed up by self-conceit and his belief in the divine mission of the throne, comes very near to losing it. Omar, the wanderer from the East, undertakes to open Astolf's eyes with the talisman. He declares he can weave Royal robes for the King which shall remain invisible to all who cherish evil thoughts, and can only be seen by the good and true. Omar is a poetically-conceived figure forming a strong contrast to the ambitious and plotting Berengar, Niccola, and others of the Court entourage, who are endeavouring to overthrow the King and gain the kingdom for themselves. Maddelena, Diomed's daughter, is loved by the King; but she spurns his attempts to make her his mistress, and is compelled with her father to exchange places with the basket-maker, Habukuk, and his young daughter, Rita. Habukuk's elevation to Court life forms the humorous side of the story, and makes the running in the play, while in the opera the rôle is subordinate. After the King agrees to test his courtiers and people by wearing the supposed robes, which he, like all his Court, pretends to see, the great dramatic dénouement is caused by the innocent exclamation of Rita: "But the King has nothing on!" Rita and Omar are cast into prison and threatened with immediate execution, which has no terrors for either of them, as they love each other. In the meantime the revolution breaks out, but Berengar, the crafty leader, is slain by Maddalena, and the King's eyes are opened to the truth of many things. He claims Maddalena for his bride, Omar and Rita are pardoned, and the people shout in joyous acclamation. It will be readily admitted that the libretto is rich in effective scenes suitable for an operatic setting, and Mrs. Maddison has devoted nearly four years to the work, bringing the result of her studies in Paris and Berlin to bear upon it. Although she has endeavoured with success to preserve the German character in the music, the traces of the influence of the modern French school are frequently apparent, and this is not a disadvantage, but rather the contrary. The music as a whole is declamatory and recitative in style, and its chief strength lies in the instrumentation, which contains an abundance of light and shade, of dramatic power and delicate sparkling humour such as few modern operas can show. There are no "tunes," yet the effect of the music in its entirety is exceedingly melodious. The work was magnificently staged, scenery and costumes—the latter of great beauty—being new for the occasion, and the interpretation well-nigh faultless. The orchestra performed its arduous duties in splendid manner under the skilful conductorship of Herr Egon Pollak. In a word, the management had carried out everything from the standpoint of a labour of love. After the third act, which is the most dramatic, the composer was enthusiastically called on to the stage, and some half-dozen big wreaths and several baskets of flowers were handed to her. Time after time Mrs. Maddison was compelled to reappear, and the same thing happened over again at the close of the last act. The German criticisms are wonderfully gracious to this work of a foreigner and a woman to boot, and altogether the composer may be satisfied with her success.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The British Empire Society gave a dramatic reading of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock Place, W.C., on Sunday evening before a large audience. A distinguished company of actors and actresses impersonated the various characters, and the part songs and choruses were sung by students of the Guildhall School of Music. The gentlemen who appeared by permission of Sir Herbert Tree were Messrs. Reginald Owen, Acton Bond, and E. Ross Shore; while Mr. Walter Ringham appeared by permission of Mr. Arthur Hardy. Mr. George Fitzgerald by that of Mr. Oscar Asche; Mr. Cassels Cobb and Mr. J. Woodall-Birde by permission of Mr. Herbert Trench; and Mr. Athol Stewart by that of Mr. George Alexander. Other members of the cast were Mr. E. H. G. Pearson, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, and Mr. Walter Russell. Miss Helen Haye and Miss Laura Cowie appeared by permission of Mr. Herbert Trench and Sir Herbert Tree. The other ladies of the cast were the Misses Mary Webb, Eve Tame, Nora Lancaster, Sybil Ruskin, and Dorothy Lemarchand. Miss Frances Hall, of the Guildhall School, was unable to appear, and Miss Evelyn Harrison took her place. The play had been "cut" to bring it within the limits of a reading, and the performance was arranged and rehearsed under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond.

With such a professional company it may be taken for granted that a fine reading of the immortal work was secured, and although the ladies and gentlemen seated on the platform were only in evening dress and there was no scenery, the audience listened with rapt attention to Shakespeare's beautiful lines. Miss Helen Haye, who played Helena, and Miss Laura Cowie (Titania) were alike excellent; while Miss Eve Tame as Hermia, Miss Lancaster (Oberon), and Miss Lemarchand as Puck greatly distinguished themselves. Mr. Acton Bond, who played Bottom, the Weaver, was really funny, a by no means easy task in simple evening dress; and Mr. Ivan Berlyn made quite a hit with his quaint Quince, the Carpenter, and his absurd stage directions. The audience also were greatly amused by the love quarrels of Lysander and Demetrius, so ably acted by Mr. Stewart and Mr. Owen, and a young student of the Guildhall School. Miss Dorothy Dones spoke her lines clearly as Second Fairy. Mendelssohn's music was played by Mrs. Ambrose Parsons, and the stage directions read by Miss Florence Geere; while the Guildhall students rendered useful assistance in the part songs and choruses. Shakespeare's plays are no doubt familiar as household words to a huge number, but at the same time thousands have never heard of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and for them a condensed plot of the various plays would be a welcome addition to the programme. The B.E.S.S. are doing an excellent work by giving these readings, and thanks must be awarded to the talented artists for their assistance in so good a cause.

MARTIN HARVEY IN BIRMINGHAM

The Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre was the subject of a lecture by Mr. Martin Harvey in the Birmingham Theatre Royal, on Tuesday afternoon. There was a large gathering, and in the absence of the Lord Mayor (Alderman W. H. Bowater), Sir Oliver Lodge presided.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY said it had taken them 300 years to rear a worthy memorial to our great hero of letters. To-day he did not despair of playing his part to heedless ears, but it was played by one of the greatest men in his walk of life for many years, to ears that were deaf or unresponsive—he meant Sir Henry Irving. He had, at all events, the joy of seeing his hope crystallise in substantial shape before he died, and into a form which was nearest to his heart—a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. In 1916 it would be 300 years since there died in this country the most amazing giant in the literature of the world—an Englishman. Yet to honour him we had erected only a little figure above a fountain in Leicester-square, and a bust in the Poet's Corner. All this was going to be changed. The idea had been slowly gaining ground for some years past that this shameful neglect of Shakespeare's memory must be put an end to. Two movements emerged from this conviction. One was to erect a worthy monument in the form of a statue to commemorate the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death in 1916, the other, and by far the more powerful movement, was to erect a building which should fulfil the double purpose of being a noble and dignified memorial to him, and at the same time to serve the best interests of that dramatic art which he himself reared to so exalted a pinnacle during his life. It was quickly realised by all concerned in these movements that the second was incomparably the more fitting expression of public feeling. The two movements quickly merged, and it was decided that the expression of the public enthusiasm should take the form of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre.

For the scheme it was necessary to raise £500,000 to be spent thus:—£100,000 for a suitable site, £150,000 to build and equip the theatre, and the remaining £250,000 permanently to endow it. He enumerated the uses of the theatre as six-fold. It was to keep the plays of Shakespeare in its repertory, not only the half-dozen Shakespearean plays which poor actor-managers found the only remunerative ones—for this national theatre would be above commercial considerations—but all of them. It was also to revive whatever was vital in English classical drama; to prevent recent plays of great merit from falling into oblivion; to produce new plays and further develop the modern drama; and to produce translations of representative works of foreign drama, ancient and modern. There were many plays of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries which were now seldom or never seen. They probably could not think of them because they did not know them—neither did he. But they would know them when the national theatre took them down from the dusty shelves, and they would be astonished at their wealth, their ignorance.

Then, too, there was a large number of plays which, though unsuited to the requirements of a manager, contained admirable and sterling qualities, which at present found little or no outlet. Then the theatre was to stimulate the art of acting. That touched home! Let them think of the practice a young actor would get in such a theatre! New parts to play every few days, fresh characters, fresh outlook, fresh authors to interpret; a constant change of environment and inspiration. Those were the surroundings that made an actor, giving him flexibility and power of varied expression, and sooner or later the golden opportunity of a part which would show the public what he was made of.

Mr. Harvey proceeded to deal with the objections offered to the scheme. It was said that Shakespeare needed no other monument than his own imperishable works, but in answer to that he said that Shakespeare wrote for the stage, and if his work alone were to be his monument, how should we remember him when there came upon us those periods of vitiated public taste which degraded dramatic representation from time to time, when the true arena of his genius, namely, the stage, was swamped beneath a wave of vulgarity and meretricious triviality? Such periods had come upon us, as every student of the history of our stage well knew. We need only remind them of the worst period of the Restoration Drama, when the noble works of Shakespeare were considered fit vehicles on which to hang an embroidery of light music and trumpery masque. There was another and more recent lapse. He spoke of a period immediately prior to the advent of Sir Henry Irving, when Matthew Arnold, in brilliant and convincing words, called attention to the need for theatrical organisation.

In reply to the objection that such a sum as was proposed would be better devoted to the cause of medical science, he said it was no flourish of rhetoric, but a sober statement of fact, to say that at present there was no surer way of promoting national health and efficiency than by helping to supply this manifest want in our spiritual equipment. The theatre was literally making the minds of our urban populations to-day. It was a huge factory of sentiment, of character, of points of honour, of conceptions of conduct, of everything that finally determined the destiny of nations. A Shakespeare National Theatre would not only be a much-needed monument of England's pride in her past, but an indispensable instrument towards the shaping of her great future. It would do more permanent good than many hospitals. The third objection was that the work which it was proposed should be done by the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre was already being done by private enterprise. We were fortunate in having lived in a day when it had been done by private enterprise, but it would be most unwise to count upon a continuance of this happy state of things. The individual genius who could by private enterprise maintain the standard upon his own shoulders was a *rara avis*. He must unite in himself the enthusiasm of the artist, the need of the creator to create, together with that capacity for unconscious self-sacrifice which disdained the consequences of financial difficulty which would almost surely result—in the theatrical calling at least—from the pursuit of the highest aims, irrespective of the means and the support. For they must face this fact, that the highest forms of dramatic representation did not as a rule pay. There had been rare instances when they had, but they must take the rule and not the exception.

People living in the provinces might say, "How are we to benefit by this Memorial Theatre which is to be situated in London?" In one practical way they would certainly benefit, for it was proposed that at certain periods the company associated with the National Theatre should pay regular visits to provincial centres, which would thus reap the advantage of having the great works of our national drama, of the drama of antiquity, and the chosen achievements of living dramatic authors presented in an elaborate and worthy manner by a carefully chosen company of artists. It seemed to him that the promoters of this scheme were doing a greater thing than perhaps they realised. They were doing something which would tell upon the life of the future, and it was an idea which, if it were not actually animated by what they should call the moral purpose, would be moral in its effect and ennobling in its effect upon our people.

It was announced that £127 had been subscribed from Birmingham for the scheme.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE CHELTENHAM THEATRE CO.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Cheltenham Theatre and Opera House Company was held on the morning of the 11th inst. in the Town Hall. Mr. J. T. Agg-Gardner, J.P. (chairman of the company) presided. In the annual statement of affairs of the company the directors recorded an income of £8,304 14s., an expenditure of £7,939 16s. 7d., a net profit of £364 17s. 5d., and, with last year's balance, a sum of £597 7s. 4d. available for distribution. The directors proposed to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. free of income-tax (absorbing £300), to place £250 to the reserve fund, and to carry forward £47 7s. 4d.

In proposing the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, the chairman congratulated the shareholders upon the fact that the company was again in a position to declare the satisfactory and substantial dividend of 5 per cent. upon the ordinary shares. Further, it was a matter for congratulation that, by the further reduction of the debentures during the past year, the shareholders were one step nearer acquiring the full possession of the theatre. The debentures had been reduced by £250, which would leave the amount of the debenture capital at £2,450; and there was a prospect of reducing this during the present year by an amount approximating £1,000. The result of that would be that the property valued in the last balance-sheet at £11,000, and for which £13,000 was paid originally, would become, with the exception of the remaining £1,450, the entire possession of the ordinary shareholders, whose capital, was £6,000. He thought there were very few theatres which had been able to reduce their debenture debt with so much rapidity and ease. It would have been noticed by those who had compared the figures that there had been a falling-off in the house receipts to the amount of £2,325; but, of course, there was a proportionate reduction in the amount paid to the theatrical companies. The diminution in the takings had been due to various and exceptional circumstances, with most of which they were all familiar. In the first place, the theatre suffered from the lamentable event which cast a gloom over the country in the early part of the summer—the death of his late Majesty King Edward VII. Naturally the theatre had to be closed, and naturally, for a time, the people abstained from ideas of entertainment to a very large degree. It was a loss which, of course, they lamented on all grounds, and it was one which depressed every form of entertainment throughout the country. Then, too, they had the misfortune during the year of suffering from a general election. To many people a general election was a period of interest, and to all it was a period of excitement; but, whether advantageous or not, it was a serious competitor with places of entertainment. There were strange-minded people who thought that greater amusement was to be derived from attending political meetings than from such entertainments as those provided by the manager of the theatre. That was a question of taste on which he would not adjudicate, and on which perhaps he could not speak with absolute impartiality. According to that morning's papers the country was threatened with a recurrence of these events at an early date. The papers were not always right in their prognostications, and he could only hope, from the standpoint of the theatre, that the threat would not take effect during the ensuing December and January. Another thing the theatre had to contend with had been the introduction of the cinematograph in the form of the "picture palace." They had no complaint to make against the cinematograph; the pictures were entertaining, no doubt, every form of entertainment had a right to exist, and those who were associated with theatres would be the last persons to be jealous. It was a fact that the cinematograph had acted somewhat prejudicially upon the takings of the theatre. He thought, however, that they might regard the taste for cinematograph displays as evanescent, and they need not be under the apprehension that it would in the future seriously affect the theatre. The love of the drama was a very ancient instinct in the British people, one which had existed for centuries, and would, he thought, outlive cinematograph displays. Then they had had a formidable competitor in the skating rink close by, which attracted many people. The falling off in the receipts had been due to the causes and counter-attractions he had named, and in no way to defect of management or to declining interest in the drama. With regard to the management, they felt that Mr. Redford continued to merit the complete confidence they had always reposed in him, and gladly acknowledged that the satisfactory results achieved were due very much to his energy and ability.

HENRY NEVILLE'S WILL.

The late Henry Neville, of Crescent House, Queen's Crescent, Haverstock Hill, N.W., and of The Esplanade, Seaford, late of Sandon House, Ash-street, Southport, actor, proprietor of the George Hotel, Reading, a prominent Freemason, who first appeared on the London stage in 1860, was afterwards for some years lessee and manager of the Old Olympic Theatre, and was author of several plays and books on the stage, who died on June 19 last, left estate of the gross value of £18,671, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £7,724.

Probate of his will, dated Nov. 24, 1903, with codicils dated Dec. 3, 1903, to Dec. 21, 1905, and May 23 last, has been granted to his sons, Mr. Albert George Francis Gartside Neville, Mr. Ernest John Gartside Neville, stock dealers, of 11, Copthall-court, E.C., and Mr. Thos. Willoughby Gartside Neville, stock dealer's manager, Josephine-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

He directed that his burial should take place at Denshaw, Saddleworth. He stated that the amount of his estate would depend principally upon what the George Hotel, Reading, realised. The will proceeds:—

"I regret I have never up till now been able to afford (without violation of our Masonic principles) to qualify as president or patron of all our Masonic charities. If my estate realises satisfactorily, I devise sufficient of the funds to be given to any (or all) of the institutions (girls, boys, old men and women) as shall be required to make my son Albert what I desire to be myself, and according to his (Albert's) wish and desire and selection.

"I should like the Garrick Club to have some substantial souvenir of me, if they will, and care to accept it. I suggest the lion tankard presented by my dear friend Charles Reade, or the American tankard presented to me by my friend Eugene Tompkins, with the testimonial album signed by my Boston friends, but I leave the selection to my son Albert, to whom I have bequeathed all my theatrical curios and articles of interest." He left £20 to the Green Room Club to buy a silver bowl or tankard, £25 to Elizabeth Nash, and £12 10s. to Tom Yates, cellarman, both of the George Hotel, Reading, if still in his service, and £10 to each domestic servant of three years' service.

The first concert of the season of the Crystal Palace Orchestral Society will be given to-night. The selections include Stanford's "Battle of the Baltic," Dear's "Songs of the Open Air," for baritone and chorus, German's "Rhapsody on March Themes," Nicolai's Overture, "Merry Wives of Windsor," and Delibes' beautiful ballet "Coppelia." The solo artists are Miss Ivy Angove, solo violin, and Mr. Josip Stano, solo violoncello. Mr. Robert Carr will be the vocal soloist, he being assisted by the popular Crystal Palace Choir. Mr. Fred W. Holloway will preside at the piano, while the whole of the arrangements will be under the able direction of Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock (musical director of the Crystal Palace), who will also conduct.

"THE YOUNGER GENERATION."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Stanley Houghton, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Nov. 21.

James Henry Kennion....Mr. Stanley Drewitt
Mrs. Kennion.....Miss Ada King
Maggie.....Miss Edyth Goodall
Reggie Kennion.....Mr. J. Vernon Bryant
Grace Kennion.....Miss Isabel Roland
Thomas Kennion.....Mr. Charles Bibby
Mr. Leadbitter.....Mr. Francis Hope
Mr. Fowle.....Mr. Whitford Kane
Arthur Kennion.....Mr. Esmé Percy
Mrs. Hannah Kennion..Miss Louise Holbrook
Clifford Rawson.....Mr. Milton Rosmer

(from our own correspondent.)

In his latest play Mr. Stanley Houghton sets the tendencies of the younger generation at loggerheads with the rigid discipline of Victorian Nonconformity. One might quarrel with the rather commonplace examples of conduct which form the nucleus of his theme; but then, if they are ordinary, there is a certain value in the fact that they are also quite natural—as natural as the small talk with which the play abounds. The action takes place in a suburb of a large town, at the house of James Henry Kennion, who is a Wesleyan of the most serious type. His wife is somewhat less formidably narrow and well-meaning, but, none the less, an irksome influence upon their children, who, by the way, betray no temperamental signs of the parentage to whose training they are opposed. The father's idea is that he is fulfilling a religious duty by supervising every little doing of his children. Reggie, for example, aged nineteen, arriving home at 10.30 from a hockey match at Liverpool, is closely questioned about where he has had tea. Not wishing to admit that he has dined at an hotel with one of his friends, at a joint cost of about 13s. (inclusive of liqueurs and cigars), he tells a lie about it, under protest; and afterwards his father finds the bill. The consequence is parental shock and verbal castigation in the true, stiff, Nonconformist style. Grace, two-and-twenty years of age, is receiving letters from one Clifford Rawson, and the parents, chiefly the father, must pry [illegible] me of these to discover the mystery of the writer. She also, to begin with, tells a lie on the point; but finally allows her father to open the letter and satisfy his religious curiosity. More Nonconformist shock and indignation! Grace, however, is bold enough to fall in with her father's resolution that Clifford Rawson shall come and be talked to on the matter, her idea being not quite the same as the parental one. Then come Mr. Leadbitter and Mr. Fowle, of the Liberal Association, with a request that Mr. Kennion shall allow himself to be nominated for election to the City Council; a somewhat shrewd incidental light upon the theme.

Meanwhile, Kennion's brother Thomas, a man of the world (who has found a prosperous career in Germany, and who is very wide awake to the faults and virtues of James) introduces a broader and breezier element into the situation, and he adds his voice to the chorus of congratulation when the object of Messrs. Leadbitter and Fowle is made known to the household. But, meanwhile, also, there is uneasy wonder as to the whereabouts of Arthur Kennion, aged twenty-one, who has not yet come home, though it is nearly twelve o'clock. A further shock is in store for Kennion, senior. Arthur comes home drunk, and, in sight of everybody, makes a disgraceful attempt to kiss the maid, Maggie, on the threshold of the room. Here, on a single evening, are troubles enough for the father to contend with, and the rest of the play deals with the attitude of the trio of offenders toward the dilemmas in which they find themselves, and the efforts of the father to mould the evil-doers to the discipline of his tongue. Reggie is somewhat easy-going, but has ideas about going to Canada, to get up in the morning there at five o'clock, and lead "a man's life." Grace has simply made up her mind to have her lover to confront her father, and ask outright for consent to their engagement. Arthur, having had enough of Nonconformity, intends to face it out and get drunk again. Meanwhile, when it comes to the point, he refuses point-blank to go to chapel—a fearful and unheard-of misdemeanour. Subsequently, the episode of the evening before is threshed out. Nothing very satisfactory comes of it. Mr. Houghton makes the mistake of commending the idea of a young man's getting drunk occasionally, by way of a relief from the pressure of high spirits. As it happens, too, Kennion, senior, got drunk once in his youth, and is reminded of the fact by his brother Thomas. It is, therefore, an awkward crisis for the father when Reggie puts a direct question to him on this very point. But the father (though he is touched by his conscience afterwards) gets out of it by a lie; all of which tends to support the author's justification of the conduct of the younger generation. As for Grace, her engagement to young Rawson is, after much argument, allowed, and Uncle Tom undertakes to introduce Arthur to a new sphere of life under his control in Germany.

There are many incidentals to this broad outline of the piece, and one other character who is quite pertinently introduced to give colour to the parental side of affairs. This character is that of the grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Kennion. She is the true mother of James (Thomas seems scarcely of the same blood), and her impersonation by Miss Louise Holbrook was an astonishing piece of realism, yet as a character she is merely objectionable. The really strong feature of the production was the acting of Mr. Stanley Drewitt as Kennion, senior, which was a lifelike and convincing embodiment. As Mrs. Kennion Miss Ada King did all that was possible with her limited opportunities. Miss Edyth Goodall as the maid Maggie (who did not object to being kissed by Arthur, nor by anyone else, and would have no apology for it either) played with her usual distinction. Mr. J. Vernon Bryant as Reggie gave an engaging example of his clean, light style; Miss Isabel Roland was brisk and charming as Grace; and Mr. Esmé Percy answered every requirement as the unrepentant Arthur. Mr. Charles Bibby's depiction of the uncle, Thomas Kennion, was a broadly clever piece of work; Mr. Milton Rosmer played lightly and effectively as Clifford Rawson; and Messrs. Francis Hope and Whitford Kane were good as the Liberal deputation, Leadbitter and Fowle. The play proved enjoyable to an audience who appreciated its surface humour to the full, and the author was accorded a gratifying call.

In *Eccentric Lord Comberdene*, at the St. James's Theatre, Miss Compton, as the Marchioness of Glenmoray, appears in the first act in a gown of soft satin in a delicate shade of mauve with a strong suggestion of pink. The corsage is composed of chiffon in the same shade, enriched with much heavy embroidery in tarnished gold. The elbow sleeves are finished with cuffs of chiffon, and the long, sweeping skirt is quite plain, with a panel pleat at the back. Over this gown Miss Compton wears a long coat of cinnamon brown satin, with collar and revers of velvet. Miss Compton's evening dress in the second act is a wonderful confection of dark blue chiffon and satin and old gold embroidery. Miss Ruth Maitland has chosen a delicate dove grey poplin for her gown. The corsage is made with a plastron of velvet of a darker shade, and a deep ceinture of orange chiffon veiled with grey. The elbow sleeves of lace and chiffon are finished with orange cuffs, and the skirt is draped in a very novel fashion. Miss Majorie Waterlow as Daphne Farlowe wears a smart costume of Shantung silk with a narrow red stripe. The bodice is in the Magyar style, with a tiny turned-down collar of red.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

"GENOVEVA."

An Opera, in Four Acts, after Tieck and Hebbel, English Version by Louisa Vance, Composed by Robert Schumann (1810-1856), Revived by the Students of the Royal College of Music at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday Afternoon, Nov. 18.

Genoveva.....Miss Clytie Hine, A.R.C.M.
Margaret.....Miss Matilda Bodycombe
Siegfried.....Mr. George Baker
Golo.....Mr. David Ellis
Hidulphus.....Mr. Claud Mackness
Caspar.....Mr. Percy Thomas
Balthasar.....Mr. David Pugh
Drago.....Mr. B. Gregory Evans

On Friday afternoon, Nov. 18, the students of the Royal College of Music gave a performance of Schumann's opera *Genoveva* at His Majesty's Theatre, by kind permission of Sir Herbert Three. When this opera was first performed by the Royal College at Drury Lane Theatre, in December, 1893, Miss Una H. Bruckshaw was the heroine, Mr. William Green, Golo, and Miss Kirkby Lunn the Witch, Margaret, while Mr. Archdeacon appeared as Siegfried. The libretto relates how Siegfried goes off to fight the Saracens, leaving his faithful wife Genoveva in charge of Golo. In the second act Golo betrays his trust and makes violent love to Genoveva. Being repulsed by her he vows revenge, and induces Drago, the steward, to hide in her ante-room, in order to prove that a love meeting takes place, as Margaret, a witch and Golo's foster-mother, has spread evil reports of Genoveva throughout the castle. In the night a crowd of serving-men, led by Margaret, break into the chamber. Drago is found and killed by Balthasar, a huntsman, and Genoveva is led away to prison. Siegfried lies wounded, after his victory over the Saracens, at Strasburg, when Golo arrives with the news of Genoveva's infidelity. Before ordering her execution Siegfried consults the magic mirror of Margaret, which falsely represents Genoveva and Drago. In a fury Siegfried breaks the mirror and departs, and the third act ends with the ghost of Drago rising and compelling Margaret, under pain of death, to find Siegfried and confess the fraud. The fourth act is short. Genoveva is on the point of being put to death by Balthasar and Caspar, after again refusing Golo's suit, when Seigfried arrives with attendants, and he and Genoveva are united.

The story is badly managed, and the magic mirror episode is almost pantomimic and poor material for an operatic libretto, while the music is undramatic. All admire the great composer's chamber music, songs, and his delightful pianoforte compositions, but it is evident in *Genoveva* that Schumann's talent does not lie in the direction of dramatic opera, in spite of much refined music in the score.

The performance by the Royal College students on Friday afternoon had many excellent features. Miss Clytie Hine, who has a fine voice, although as yet hardly under complete control, made a sympathetic Genoveva, and Miss Matilda Bodycombe displayed no little dramatic intuition in her reading of the Witch, Margaret. Mr. George Baker sang well, and proved a manly Siegfried; and the chief honours of the afternoon fell to these two clever students. To make Golo an interesting character is almost impossible, for he certainly is the weakest villain on the operatic stage; but Mr. Davis Ellis, in spite of a somewhat small voice, did his utmost to make the part convincing, and delivered his lines clearly. In the matter of diction the Drago of Mr. B. Gregory Evans was not entirely satisfactory, but he acted well. The parts of Hidulphus, Caspar, and Balthasar were intelligently filled by Messrs. Claud Mackness, Percy Thomas, and David Pugh. The choruses were finely sung, and under Sir Charles V. Stanford the orchestral students played admirably. Scenery had been very kindly lent by Sir Herbert Tree, and under Mr. Richard Temple's able stage direction all went smoothly. Costumes were by C. and W. May, and wigs by Clarkson, while Mr. Harold Samuel was chorus master. There was a large audience, and the young performers were warmly applauded.

A SOCIALIST SATIRE.

The New Theatre, Cambridge, which Mr. W. B. Redfern so ably directs the year through, was the scene last week of an excellent production, under the auspices of the Footlights' Dramatic Club, the members of which presented for five performances *The Socialist*. This is a clever satire in two acts on the propaganda of the Fabian Society and the doctrines of Mr. Robert Blatchford, and is from the pen of Mr. H. Rottenberg, M.A., a clever coach.

The protagonist of the piece is Professor Cyrus R. Hank, who has been ejected from the planet Mars, and arrives on this nether earth with his two daughters. He, of course, advocates in many witty lines "the putting of things upon a base of absolute equality." Hank, indeed, is an all-round genius, who "by methods occult can not only tell the result" of the present political storm, but can turn out personal pars like Hall Caine.

The first performance took place on the 17th inst., and the success was so great that we are to see *The Socialist* in London when a theatre has been secured. In the Cambridge representation Mr. R. G. Soper, splendidly made up, distinguished himself as Mrs. Berwick; Mr. G. W. Prince looked and acted well as Garvin; Mr. J. B. Hales, in the heavy responsibilities of the part of Cyrus Hank, quite rose to the occasion; Mr. A. K. O. Cochrane sang well; and others who did good work were Messrs. Inglis, Syme Inglis, Douglas-Hamilton, and Gordon-Lennox. There was some capital dancing.

Fortunately, the Footlights' Club had secured the services of Mr. Walter Pearce as stage-producer, and this gentleman, entering upon his duties *con amore*, secured some excellent stage effects and stage business. The chorus, too, he drilled most admirably. The music of some of the lyrics was composed by Messrs. E. M. Besly and C. F. Smyly, but Mr. J. W. Ivimey, who directed the orchestra and chorus, was chiefly responsible for the score. Some of the lyrics are from the pen of Mr. J. L. Crommelin-Brown.

M. Gemier, director of the Antoine Theatre, Paris, is about to go on tour with a procession of vans drawn by eight road locomotives, weighing eighty tons, and containing properties, scenery, stage, and auditorium. The portable theatre will seat 1,500 spectators, and the prices range from tenpence to three shillings. M. Gémier will take with him a company of twenty actors and actresses, and forty carpenters and stage hands. The portable theatre will carry with it its own lighting and heating machinery, and its own fire-extinguishing plant, consisting of an electric rotary engine and a tank on wheels, which will be filled with water before each performance.

A committee of ladies and gentlemen was formed in October last for the purpose of raising a fund by which expression might be given to the satisfaction felt by musical amateurs in the excellent work done by Mr. P. Tas as conductor and musical director of the Duke of Devonshire's orchestra, from its creation three and a half years ago to its disbandment on the 31st of last month. The total amount subscribed was £65 12s., and after all expenses had been paid, a balance of over £61 remained. Of this £32 was expended on the purchase of a gold lever watch, leaving an amount of £30, which has been handed to Mr. Tas in the form of a cheque. The inscription on the gold watch was: "Presented to Mr. P. Tas by some friends and admirers as a token of their appreciation of his services as conductor of the Duke of Devonshire's Eastbourne Orchestra, 1907-10."

"MOODS."

Musical Ballet, Words, Music, and Dances by Lorna Rothney, Produced at the Stanley Hall, Norwood, on Saturday, Nov. 19.

A Gallant Knight.....Mr. T. E. Hanson
Nurse.....Miss Bedford
Moodie.....Miss Lorna Rothney

Moods.

Tears, Sadness: Miss Kitty Woodbridge and Mr. Jack Aris.
Temper: Miss Lorna Rothney and Mr. J. de la Mare Rowley.
Laughter: Miss Daisy Aris and Mr. S. E. Walmisley.
Pride: Miss Lily Tough and Mr. Leslie Thomas.
Love: Miss Silvia Wilton Ainsley.
Romance: Miss Dorothy Meadows.

This musical and dancing play was produced before a large and enthusiastic audience, and may be noted as a distinct success. The music is charming and melodious, and the dances have been cleverly arranged, the production reflecting much credit upon Miss Lorna Rothney and her hard-working assistants. As showing the cordial reception accorded the ballet, we have only to mention that nearly every item was heartily encored. The synopsis is thus quaintly given. The scene is laid in an old world garden in which is seen the Maid Moodie listening to the songs of the old Bards, of which she quickly tires, for Moodie is a maid of many moods, whom gallant knights have wooed in vain. A knight, just returned from the Holy Wars, also comes to woo the beautiful Moodie, although her old nurse gives him no hope. Nevertheless, he stays, and first meets Moodie in her mood of Sadness, and here Sadness dances for the "Cloak of Sunshine." With mid-morn her mood changes to Hate, and the fiends of her Temper appear and join her in a dance. At noon she laughs, and the elfin spirit of her Laughter dances with the Jester of her merry teasing. The Knight presumes on her fun and compliments her, when her smiles turn to haughty indifference, and the spirit of her Pride dances a courtly minuet. The gallant Knight is penitent, and again her mood changes—this time to Love, and the Knight is happy, while Cupid dances. But, alas! Cupid vanishes, and the sylphs of the air call Moodie to the land of Romance (Terpsichore), and while she is lost in her dreamland the gallant Knight sees that he has wooed in vain, and he, too, rides away, leaving Moodie dancing in Terpsichore, where she meets an Arcadian shepherd, and with him executes a dance à la Moscovie. The curtain falls on Moodie still in aerial flights on Fancy's wings.

Mr. T. E. Hanson gave a finished portrayal of a Gallant Knight, and sang his numbers with excellent effect, his fine baritone voice standing him in good stead. Miss Bedford deserves commendation for her rendering of the Nurse. Miss Lorna Rothney sang sweetly, and had ample opportunities of displaying her graceful and untiring terpsichorean abilities. All the dancers representing the various Moods acquitted themselves well, and may be congratulated upon their work. A dance, "Sylphs of the Air," executed by Misses Kitty Woodbridge, Daisy Aris, and Lorna Rothney, is worthy of mention, and praise is due to the accompanists, Mrs. Sherwood and Miss Ethel de la Mare Rowley. The proceeds, without deductions of any kind, were for the benefit of the Croydon District Boy Scouts.

NEW THEATRE AT RUGBY.

The New Palace Theatre, Rugby, which will be opened to-day, will be substantially built of brick, with stone dressings. It will have a handsome frontage of 61ft. to Railway-terrace, and will be carried back along Market-street to a depth of 98ft. Accommodation will be provided for about 800 people. There will be two boxes, with foyers, orchestra stalls, pit stalls, and pit, above which is a circle and behind that a gallery. Five exits will be provided. The staircases will be constructed of fire-resisting materials, and the auditorium floor will be sloping, so that all patrons may get a good view of the performance.

The stage will be larger than some of those in the London theatres, the measurements being 36ft. by 50ft. The curtain will be fire-resisting, and the fittings will include iron contact doors. The flys and grids are to be constructed on the most modern principles, and there will be seven dressing-rooms.

The pit and gallery entrances will be in Market-street, also the stage entrance, and at the main entrance in Railway-terrace there will be provided a crush hall, in addition to managers' and box offices, stores, &c. Internally, the theatre will be treated with fibrous plaster and suitably decorated. The electric light will be installed, and it will be heated with water on the low-pressure system. When completed, no doubt the theatre will be a creditable addition to the buildings of Rugby.

The architects are Messrs. Franklin and Newman, L.R.I.B.A., of Rugby.

The formation is announced of the Worksop Gaiety Theatre Company, by Jordan and Sons, Ltd., 116-117, Chancery-lane, W.C. The capital is £4,000 (1,500 "A" six per cent. preference, and 2,000 "B" seven per cent. preference shares of £1 each, and 2,000 ordinary shares of 5s. each). The object is to acquire the Gaiety Theatre, Bridge-street, Worksop, Nottingham. The office is at 35, Bridge-street, Worksop.

The "Buckinghamshire Players" gave their first performance at Naphill, Buckinghamshire, on Saturday, producing a little piece by Miss Gertrude Robins, entitled *Pot Luck*. William Jenkins, a poacher, brings home a brace of pheasants, though his wife is much opposed to his poaching. Two policemen approach, and Jenkins cannot think where to hide the tell-tale birds. His wife says that if he promises to give up poaching she will conceal them safely. The policemen enter the cottage, and search it thoroughly. They find nothing, and after they have left Mrs. Jenkins shows her spouse the birds, which she has dropped into the saucepan which is on the fire. Jenkins is pleased, and promises to reform.

Jacques Kreuger, an elderly actor, of New York, has died in the Harper Hospital there from injuries sustained under singular circumstances. Kreuger was a member of a company which was appearing in a topical revue at the Detroit Opera House. He had to personify Mr. John D. Rockefeller, and his big scene occurred when in the character of the famous oil magnate he was hoisted into the flies, this "ascension act" being intended to represent Mr. Rockefeller on his way to Heaven. When this part of the performance was reached Kreuger fell from the flies to the stage, and was fatally injured.

An American-Indian play will shortly be produced at the New Theatre, New York. It is called *The Arrow Maker*, and the author is Mrs. Mary Hunter Austin, who has studied and written stories about the red men of the South-west as well as the folk-lore of various nations. The authoress herself will teach the Indian dances that will be introduced in the play and otherwise assist in the presentation of what is expected to be a decided novelty in American theatricals. The production will require the full strength of the New Theatre company, and every character represented will be an Indian. The play is in three acts, but the plot is withheld for the present. All that has been said about the "motive" is that it "demonstrates the unity of human life from beginning to end," and that "the playwright holds that there is no real difference in men, no matter what their lot may be." Mrs. Austin is a native of Illinois and is of French and English descent.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Albini, Miss Jessie
Albury, Mr. E. H.
Alexander, Mr. Gerald
Amasis
Ansell, Lady
Audre, Miss O.
Barker, Mr. John
Barth, Mr. Lonnie
Barton, Miss Adah
Bayne, Mr. W.
Beeley, Mr.
Bell, Mr. Chas.
Bell, Mr. W. G.
Bishop, Mr. George
Brammall, Mr. H. B.
Bristow, Mr. Harry
Brooks Bros.
Bruce, Mr. H. A.
Burrows, Mr. T. W.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Carlton, Miss Cissy
Carr, Mr. Philip
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carter, Mr. J.
Cato, Mr. G. P.
Chantry, Miss Marion
Clifford and Yorke
Cogan, Miss K.
Coleman, Miss Fanny
Dacre, Mr. Henry
Dawson, Mr. Percy
Day and Deen
Deer Family
Dewar, Miss Mary
Diggs, Mr. Ernest
Douglass, Mrs. R.
Dudman, Mr. J. N.
Dunn, Mr. John
Dunsten, Mr. J. A.
Durnly, Mr. P. J.
Earl, Miss F.
Edlin, Mr. Harry
Ellicott, Miss Violet
Elliott, Miss Queenie
Elton, Mr. Sam
Esden, Miss Alice
Eyre, Mr. Basil
Farrah, Mr. Eugene
Field, Mr. Harry
Field, Mrs.
Filmer, Mr. Dan
Forde, Mr. Owen
Foster, Mr. F.
Fox, Capt. A.
Foy, Mr. Tom
Franklin, Mr. H.
Frederick, Mr. Teddy
Gerado, Mr.
Gilbert, Mr. H. Field
Gilbert, Mrs. Fred
Gilling, Mr. Edwin
Gordon, Mr. Archie
Grossies, Les
Gwynne, Miss M.
Hamer, Miss F.
Harley, Mr. Chas.
Hart, Mr. M.
Hatch, Mr. Chas.
Holdsworth, Mrs. L.
Houghton, Mr.
Humphreys, Mr. John
Huntley, Mr. Geo.
Hylton, Mr. A. M.
Ingram, Miss S.
Irving, Mr. K. B.
Jackson, Miss B.
Jewell, Miss Ethel
Kearns, Mr. Sidney
Keith, Mr. Royston
Kopcke, Adolph
Lamont, Mr. Harry
Lee, Mr. S.
Lenrose, Mr. James
Leslie Brothers
Levante, Mme.
Lewis, Mr. James E.
Lillias, Miss
Lillian, Sisters
Lindon, Miss Marie
Mabel Fonda Troupe
Maclaren, Mr. Jas.
Maclean, Mr. Billie
Maisanos, The Four
McIntyre, Miss M.
Mooney, Mr. Jim
Moore, Miss C.
Moore, Miss Nina
Moore, Mr. Henry A.
Murray, Mr. G. R.
Neild, Mrs.
Nixon, Mr. W. D.
Norman, Mr. Leonard
Omar, Mr. A. B.
Owen, Mr. Walter H.
Powell, Mr. A.
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Renée, Miss B.
Roberts, Mr. Arthur
Rolmax, Mr. J.
Salmo, Mr. Juno
Samson, Mr. H. A.
Scraisbrick, Mr.
Shelton, Mr.
Shine, Mr. Wilfred E.
Shrapnel, Mr. Leonard
Skardon, Mr. Herbert
Slone, Mr. Ryder
Smit and Smit
Smith, Mr. H.
Somers, Mr. J. J. P.
Somerville, Mr. James
Stalman, Miss Ethel
Steyne, Mr. E. J
Sundberg, Mr. Paul
Sylvester, Mr. John
Theband, Miss E. M.
Van Biene, Mr. Auguste
Vane, Miss Edith
Vasco, Mr. W.
Villiers, Mr. John
Vinning, Miss Maude
Vivian, Miss Ruby
Vyner, Mr. Leslie
Walmer, Miss C.
Ward, Miss Dorothy
Ward, Mr. Cecil
Ware, Miss Nettie
Whitcombe, Mr. B.
Whitford, Mr. J.
Williams, Mr. Tudor
Wilson, Mr. Frank
Wood, Miss Daisy
Zasma, Mrs. Harry

BLACKMORE'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 11, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.
Under the present management since 1869.
Office hours, 10 to 6. Interviews between 11 and 4.
'Phone 1785 Gerr. Wires, "Dramatique, London."
All descriptions of Theatrical Business negotiated.
Also First-class Music Hall Business.

'Phone 5160 Gerrard. Tel., "Impresario, London."
C. ST. JOHN DENTON,
DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL AGENT,
English representative for Messrs. Clarke and Meynell, T. R., Melbourne, A. de Jong, Tivoli, Cape Town; and Fernandez and Paine, New York.
56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

Mrs. Adela Maddison's four-act opera *Der Talisman*, based on Ludwig Fulda's play of the same name, was produced at Leipzig last Saturday, and had a cordial reception, the composer being called before the curtain at the close of the third act.

The Théâtre de Monsieur, in the Rue des Mathurins, Paris, which is under the direction of Mr. Victor Silvestre, gave its first performance on Tuesday. The new playhouse is like no other in Paris. The delicate scheme of decoration was the admiration of the spectators as soon as they entered. The style of decoration is of the Marie Antoinette period. Lackeys with powdered wigs open the doors. Soubrettes in eighteenth-century costumes present programmes; and the musicians of the orchestra are attired in brown silk coats and flowered waistcoats, with white ruffles and cuffs, knickerbockers, silk stockings, and shoes with silver buckles, and wear brown wigs with pigtails. Three eighteenth-century pieces were performed.

A "RAZOR" THAT IS SAFE.
A SAFETY THAT IS A "RAZOR."

THE
DURHAM-DUPLEX
SAFETY RAZOR.

You, to whom Shaving means so much and the after-condition of the skin is so important, will find this the last word in Razors. You can use it under any circumstances, without thought or hesitancy, right hand or left, directly "up or down," get every stroke (sweeping or fine play), shave
SAFELY, CLEANLY, QUICKLY,
and have a skin polished, not scraped.
BLADES, of remarkable and enduring keenness, lasting efficient unsharpened though used continuously over a long period, stropable any strop, double-edged, hollow-ground, inexpensive.
So perfect an Instrument that the Medical Press recommend it for use professionally. Awarded the Certificate of the Incorporated Institute of Hygiene, for
"HYGIENIC MERIT"
(as a Complete and Efficient Safety Razor).
The Professional's Kit.—Leather Roll-up Case, Silver-plated Set, 6 Six Blades, 21/-
STOCKED in variety & RECOMMENDED BY
C. H. FOX, Ltd.,
WIGMAKERS and COSTUMIERS,
27, Wellington St., Strand, London, W.C.
Free Booklet, and Cardboard Model Razor, on application.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 28.

ALMOST HIS BRIDE.—Empire T., Fleetwood.
ALONE IN LONDON.—T. R., Ashton.
ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.—O. H., Coventry.
APPLE OF EDEN.—Court T., Wigan.
ARCADIANS (N.).—King's T., Glasgow.
ARCADIANS (S.).—Grand T., Southampton.
ARE YOU A MASON?—T. R., Birkenhead.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—T. R., Belfast.
AT CRIPPLE CREEK.—T. R., Bristol.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—Tivoli T., Pentre.
BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY.—T. R., Worthing.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
BEECHAM OPERA CO.—T. R., Nottingham.
BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
BEGINNING AND THE END.—Palace T., Derby.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—T. R., Manchester.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Alton and Godalming.
BEST PEOPLE, THE.—Harrogate and Colchester.
BISHOP'S SON, THE.—Broadway T., New Cross.
BLACK MASK, THE.—Met. T., Birmingham.
BLUE BIRD, THE.—T. R., Birmingham.
BOY KING.—T. R., Blackburn.
BRASS BOTTLE, THE.—Grand T., Leeds.
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS.—Prince's T., Manchester.
BROKEN HEART.—Hippodrome, Todmorden.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Lincoln.
CANDIDA.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
CAPTAIN JACK.—T. R., Stratford, E.
CAPTAIN KIDD.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—O. H., Southport.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—Hippodrome, Neath.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—T. R., Halifax.
CHALMERS MACKEY AND CO.—Met. T., Gateshead.
CHARLEY'S AUNT (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
CHASING CYNTHIA.—Hippodrome, Sheerness.
CHILD OF THE STREETS.—Grand T., Nelson.
CHORUS LADY.—T. R., Bath.
CHRISTIAN, THE (DRAPER).—King's T., Greenock.
CINGALEE.—Grand T., Doncaster.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Jarrow.
COAL KING.—T. R., Chesterfield.
COASTGUARD'S DAUGHTER.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Grand T., Croydon.
COUNTRY GIRL IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Accrington.
CRIMINAL'S BRIDE.—T. R., Woolwich.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE (N.).—T. R., Smethwick.
DAME NATURE.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Lyric T., Liverpool.
DAUGHTER OF THE SEA.—Grand T., Nelson.
DAWN OF A TO-MORROW.—T. R., Bournemouth.
DEAR LITTLE DENMARK.—Grand T., Fulham.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (EDWARDES) (N.).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
DOLLAR PRINCESS (S.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
DON.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
D'OYLY CARTE.—T. R., Brighton.
DRAYCOTT, CHIS.—T. R., Sunderland.
DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION.—Lyceum T., Govan.
EAST LYNNE (WATT).—Queen's T., Dublin.
EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH.—Palace T., Tynemouth.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Grand T., Lancaster.
FACING THE WORLD ALONE.—Grand T., Brighton.
FAST LIFE, A.—T. R., Merthyr.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
FEMALE DETECTIVE.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
FIGHTING CHANCE.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
FLAG LIEUTENANT—Lyceum T., Newport.
FLORODORA (CONSTANT).—Palace T., Bordesley.
FOR LOVE AND THE KING.—Grand T., Mansfield.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T. R., Stockport.
FROM CONVENT TO THRONE.—T. R., Worcester.
GEOFFERY LANGDON'S WIFE.—Regent T., Salford.
GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER.—Ealing.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—King's T., Gainsboro'.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS, MISS F.—Gaiety T., Leek.
GROTESQUES, THE.—New T., Oxford.
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY O'LYN.—King's T., Longsight.
HARVEY, MARTIN.—Grand T., Hull.
HER FATAL MARRIAGE.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—Prince's T., Bradford.
HER NAMELESS CHILD.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—T. R., West Stanley.
HER SECRET LOVER.—Grand T., Leek.
HIS INDIAN WIFE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
HIS REAL WIFE.—Grand T., Stockton.
HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY.—T. R., Chatham.
HOUSE OF TEMPERLEY.—King's T., Hammersmith.
IRVING, H. B.—New T., Cardiff.
IRVING, LAURENCE.—O. H., Northampton.
IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN.—Metropole T., Manchester.
KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN.—Grand T., Nottingham.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—North Shields.
LENA AND PRESTON REPERTORY.—City Hall, Armagh.
LIFE FOR A LIFE.—Albert T., Brighouse.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—T. R., Rochdale.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
LINGARD-MORRAU REPERTORY.—O. H., Blackpool.
LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER.—T. R., Wednesbury.
LODGE-PERCY, J. C., AND J. MARTIN'S REPERTOIRE.—Workington.
LOVE OF THE PRINCESS.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
LUCKY 'LIZA.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
MAN TO MAN.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
MARSH, ALEXANDER.—Osborne T., Manchester.
MASTER OF THE MILL.—T. R., Edmonton, N.
MAUDE, WINIFRED.—T. R., Crook.
MERRY TERRITORIAL, THE.—T. R., Chatham.
MERRY WIDOW (N.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
MERRY WIDOW (S.).—Boro' T., Stratford, E.
MERRY WIDOW (3).—Crystal Palace, S.E.
MESSAGE FROM MARS (A).—Alex. T., Widnes.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Leamington.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
MISS PLAISTER—OF PARIS.—T. R., Leigh.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—Empire T., West Hartlepool.
MOORE, MISS DECIMA.—Plymouth.
MOUNTAINEERS, THE.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
MR. PEEDY AND THE COUNTESS.—O. H., Belfast.
MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH.—T. R., Aldershot.
NEW FRIVOLITY.—O. H., Torquay.
NICK CARTER.—Empire T., Oldham.
NIGHT AND MORNING.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
OLD HOME.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
OUR MISS GIBBS (EDWARDES).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
OUTCAST OF THE FAMILY.—New Hall, Bargoed.
PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK.—Llangollen and Grantham.
POWER OF THE KING.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
PRINCE AND THE BEGGAR MAID.—T. R., Hanley.
PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY.—T. R., Bournemouth.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
PROOF.—T. R., Blyth.
RAYNOR REPERTORY.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
ROLLICKING ROBY.—Met. T., Gateshead.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Edinburgh.
RUIN OF HER LIFE.—Castle T., Stockton.
SCAPEGRACE.—T. R., Macclesfield.
SEXTON BLAKE.—Victoria T., Kettering.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Junc. T., Manchester.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Grand T., Oldham.
SIGN OF THE CROSS (BOWES).—Pavilion, Abertillery.
SILVER KING.—Queen's T., Manchester.
SINNER, THE.—Palace T., Newcastle.
SMITH (N.).—County T., Reading.
SMITH (S.).—Paisley T., Paisley.
SORROWS OF SATAN.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
SPECKLED BAND.—O. H., Leicester.
STILL ALARM.—Palace T., Gloucester.
SUDDEN, MRS. CHAS.—Castle T., Stockton.
TANTALIZING TOMMY.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
TEARLE REPERTORY.—King's T., Sunderland.
TEMPTATION.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
TERRY, EDWARD.—T. R., Bradford.
THIEF IN THE NIGHT.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
THROUGH THE DIVORCE COURT.—T. R., S. Shields.
TURNER'S (J. W.) OPERA.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
TWO LANCASHIRE LASSIES IN LONDON.—Queen's T., Longton.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Britannia T., Hoxton.
UNDER THE IRON HEEL.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Leicester.
WALLER, LEWIS.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
WARNER, GRACE.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
WAS SHE TO BLAME?—Colosseum, Oldham.
WHAT A MAN MADE HER.—Met. T., Glasgow.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Crown T., Eccles.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—Court T., Liverpool.
WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.—Empire T., Swindon.
WHERE IS WILLIAM?—T. R., Colchester.
WHITE MAN, A.—King's T., Hammersmith.
WHO IS SHE?—T. R., Leeds.
WHOM GOD HATH JOINED.—Prince's T., Preston.
WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?—T. R., Castleford.
WILKIE ALLAN.—T. R., Barnsley.
WOMAN IN THE CASE.—T. R., Bolton.
WOMAN OF TWO LIVES.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
WORLD, FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.—O. H., Burnley.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Empire T., Scuthend.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ASHDOWN—MORGAN.—Francis S. Ashdown, of Westleigh, Finchley, to Mary Annie Morgan (of the Sisters, Elsie and Annie Morgan), Cardiff, on Nov. 19, at Edmonton. Reception, Trocadero.

WRIGLEY—SCOTT.—Nov. 11, at St. Patrick's Church, Ballymena, Ireland, Harry Wrigley to Amelia Scott.

DEATHS.

CALLAGHAN.—Nov. 18, following a paralytic seizure, J. Callaghan, for ten years musical director at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, aged thirty-nine.

CADDICK.—Nov. 18, on Showground, Blantyre, N.B., after a short illness, Ben Caddick, Cinematograph Show Proprietor, aged 57.

CHARLES.—Nov. 13, at his home in Marylebone, William Charles, for upwards of twenty years scenic artist at the Britannia.

COUTTS.—Nov. 21, at the London Western Hospital, Fulham, after a brief illness, Henry Coutts, quick-change artist, aged forty-two.

CROSS.—Nov. 17, Mrs. Julian Cross (Sophie). The crowning sorrow after so many. 13, Eg antine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

FOX.—Nov. 15, of pneumonia, at Durham, John Henry Fox (J. B. Fox), youngest son of the late George Fox, aged thirty-five.

SPURR.—Nov. 20, Mrs. Mel. B. Spurr, aged fifty-nine.

TEMPLE.—At the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, Nov. 17, Grace Temple, after being severely burned. Deeply mourned by her loving niece, Violet Temple. Rest, dear one, rest.

IN MEMORIAM.

BASSANO.—In very, very loving memory of Nance (Nancie James), Nov. 21, 1904. God bless you. —ENID and FRANK.

DIDCOTT.—In unchanging memory of Hugh Jay Didcott, who died Nov. 26, 1909.—J. H. and A. C.

HEARNE.—In memory of Caroline Hearne, who passed away Nov. 14, 1901, and her beloved husband, George Hearne, who passed away Nov. 24, 1909. Gone, but not forgotten by their sorrowing children.

HEZLEHURST.—In ever-loving memory of Jack Hezlehurst, who entered into rest Nov. 26, 1900. His end was peace. E. DEAN.

READ.—In ever-loving memory of our dear father, Henry Read, late partner of Messrs. H. and T. Read and F. Bailey, World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, London, who passed away Nov. 21, 1898. More than missed each year by his loving wife and children.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Vesta Victoria—Sat., Nov. 26.
Louie Freear—Sat., Nov. 26.
Jessie Sparrow—Sat., Nov. 26.
John F. Lambe—Sat., Nov. 26.
F. W. Pedgrift—Sun., Nov. 27.
Acton Bond—Mon., Nov. 28.
Lydia Donovan—Tues., Nov. 29.
Sir Francis Burnand—Tues, Nov. 29.
Joe Elvin—Wed., Nov. 30.
H. V. Esmond—Wed., Nov. 30.
Ben Brown—Wed., Nov. 30.
Irene Vanbrugh—Fri., Dec. 2.
F. W. Millis—Fri., Dec. 2.
Hamilton Deane—Fri., Dec. 2.

"THE NIGGER."

The above play, in three acts, by Edward Sheldon, has been published in New York by the Macmillan Company.

Mr. Edward Sheldon should be numbered among the coming American dramatists. He has the instinct of the theatre without being theatrical; he can plumb the depths of passion in his scenes; and his characters are of flesh and blood. His play, *The Nigger*, was produced at the New Theatre, New York, on Dec. 4 last year, and our correspondent, in his notice of the piece, wrote that Mr. Sheldon, a young Harvard graduate, "has wrestled with the negro problem. He has not solved, however, or tried to, but has aimed to present a true picture of the social, political, and economic conditions of the South." Whatever the author started out to do, he has certainly written a striking play. We have not had the advantage of seeing it at the theatre, played by actors and actresses competent to realise its finer shades of character, but without the glamour of the stage, in cold print, the play compels the reader to go on.

We see trouble ahead of Phil Morrow as soon as we hear from Clifton Noyes, his cousin, a shrewd, unscrupulous whiskey trader—out to get dollars by any means—that he has discovered some interesting family history in searching through some old trunks. There is a trace of black blood in Phil. His grandfather had taken his quadroon girl's baby and said it was his wife's. Phil's father, therefore, was an octoroon, and had no claim whatever to the Morrow property. Noyes has some use for Phil, and keeps his knowledge to himself until the latter becomes Governor of the State.

In the second act Morrow has to deal with a race riot, and becomes dead sure that if it weren't for drinking the trouble would never have started. He therefore compulsorily closes every bar saloon in the city, and this order brings him into direct opposition to Cliff Noyes, whose distillery is breaking records. As he says, "people need a heap of whiskey to get them to the stage where they kill every nigger they see." When Noyes realises, however, that Phil's orders for closing bars are not merely temporary, but permanent—when, in short, he learns that the man whom he has helped to make Governor has become a prohibitionist, he threatens to disclose Phil's nigger ancestry.

We may quite appropriately quote Phil's reasons for becoming a prohibitionist :—"I've been givin' the whole thing a good deal o' thought, Clif,' the las' six months, an' I've come to some right definite conclusions. This volcano's helped me along conside'able. We brought the niggahs ovah t' this country, Clif, an' I reckon we're responsible fo' them while theah heah. If we've kept 'em like children, we've got to treat 'em like children. An' we're not in the habit, Clif, o' pourin' liquoh down the throats of our infants. Why, day befo' yeste'day I had a count made an' theah were three thousand four hundred and sixty-seven idle niggahs in the fifty-nine saloons o' the levee district! That was the end, Cliff, an' the long an' the sho't of it is—*we're goin' dry!* I'm goin' to let that Bill pass. This State'll go dry within a week." One can understand the position of Noyes. As he says, if the Bill goes through he "won't have a cent left in the world."

Phil is engaged to a beautiful girl, Georgina Byrd. When he tells her that, according to the conventions of society in the South he is a nigger, though there is scarcely a drop of black blood in his veins, she shrinks from him. Phil has thought love to be the biggest thing on earth. In a fine burst of passion he says to Georgina :—"You poor, shallow little creature, how dare you say the word! My nigger grandmother—that quadroon slave gal!—could have given you points right and left how to play the game! She passed up her child and her life; and her last words to the man that made her do it were, 'I love you!'" But Georgie has a revulsion of feeling, and understands at last the nobility of her lover's character. They are reconciled, and we leave them together. An interesting character in the play is Senator Long, who puts the case for the black race fairly and squarely.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

Home Subscriptions.			Foreign Subscriptions.		
One Year	£1 6	0	One Year	£1 12	0
Six Months	0 13	0	Six Months	0 16	0
Three Months	0 6	6	Three Months	0 8	0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Communications.

Business Communications should be addressed to The MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
8, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

W. MONTAGUE.—*Yes, a licence is required. You should apply to the chief officer of police for the necessary forms of notice.*

F. WISE.—*The lady is quite young, and is not married to anyone. The gentleman you write of has the same name as her father. This fact has probably caused you to make the error.*

LEONARD BRABANT. — *We do not know the lady's exact age, and we are certainly not going to inquire. She commenced her career when very young, and is over forty. See notice above.*

J. MORDECAI.—*You have been grossly misinformed. If you look at the bottom of the first column of the front page of our issue of last week you will discover the lady's name. She has been playing on tour in* The Mountaineers.

F. LANGTON (Knaresborough).—*We have no official particulars of the dimensions or measurements of the houses named. A letter to the master carpenters of both, with stamped, addressed envelope enclosed, would procure you the information.*

W. LEONARD.—*The singing rights for theatres, halls, and concert platforms of popular songs are reserved, whether the words and music are published in weekly newspapers or not. Permissions for pantomime and for performance are arranged only by the publishers, to whom application must be made.*

HECTOR (Birmingham).—*We could not tell you the approximate value of your curio, which is undoubtedly rare. Possibly the secretary of the Garrick or Savage or the Green Room Club could give you some idea of its worth. Write to either, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.*

R. B. GARDNER (Cheshire).—*You may obtain the recitation* The Cry of the Night *from French's, 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., who have it in the* Stockwell Reciter, *which they will be pleased to forward to you post free on receipt of 1s. 2d. We can give you no information concerning the Kipling piece. See notice above.*

DANCER.—*There was a clog-dancing contest in 1906 at Accrington, when Brannan won, but this contest was not under championship rules of twenty steps and a shuffle off. Frank Leon, who died on Oct. 31, 1909, was third in a contest which took place at Glasgow in 1900, Royal being second. In a contest in 1901 George Macintosh was first. We cannot say, however, who is champion at the present moment. It is a subject of greater interest to the Northern folk than the Londoner.*

THE pantomime at the Britannia this year promises to be well up to the standard of excellence always associated with the Christmas attractions at this Hoxton theatre. *The Forty Thieves*, which is the subject chosen, will include flying ballet and trap scenes, a grand transformation scene, and an old-fashioned harlequinade. Mr. Geo. Conquest will repeat former successes by appearing as Cogia Baba.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY AND CO. have been at the King's Theatre, Kilmarnock, this week with a répertoire of Irish plays. On Monday they presented *The Wearin' o' the Green*, a capital play with songs and dances. Mr. Chalmers Mackey as Barney O'Hea was the typical Irish "bhoy," Mr. J. P. McBride made a capital Shamus McDermott, and his singing was very good. Miss May Livesey invested Barney's sweetheart with plenty of "life and go," and her singing and dancing was excellent. Mrs. Chalmers Mackey played Norah well. Miss Jeanette Lyons makes an excellent Mrs. M'Dermott, and Mr. Morley Carroll was an effective villain. *The Shaughraun, Arrah-na-Pogue*, and *Rollicking Rory* are also on the bill.

"THE ARCADIANS'" dance, recently held at the Prince's Galleries, eclipsed even the success of the ones which were so well attended last year. Mr. Courtneidge was unable to be present, but was ably represented by Mr. Lionel Monckton. Over 400 guests sat down to supper, the theatres represented including Daly's, Vaudeville, Lyric, Adelphi, Gaiety, &c. During supper daintily perfumed fans were presented to the ladies, and this led to autographs being sought from Miss Florence Smithson, Dan Rolyat, Alfred Lester, Harry Welchman, Akerman May, Nelson Keys, and others. One of the features of the dance programme was a valse, "Firelight Fancies," specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Harry Welchman, which was a much appreciated item, several encores being demanded. Mr. Alfred H. Majilton, a popular member of Mr. Courtneidge's company, acted as chief steward, and the capable manner in which he carried out the arduous duties of making everyone comfortable deserves great praise. Messrs. George Gordon and Boris Belew, the hon. secretaries, are to be congratulated upon having been instrumental in organising such a successful function. Messrs. Akerman May and Arthur Ashdown rendered good service as M.C.'s.

Reading Rink.

THE Vastern-road Skating Rink has been opened for the season under the management of Mrs. Hawthorne.

New Rinkery for Wallsend.

THE vast rink at Wallsend-on-Tyne, which has been under construction for some time past, was opened on the 16th by Alderman Jas. Allen, under the most favourable auspices, and before a large and fashionable gathering. The rink has been entirely built by the owner, Mr. Wm. Ridley, of Consett. The general decorations are on an elaborate scale, and a large and luxurious balcony runs all around the rink. There is a commodious café where both skaters and spectators can partake of refreshments. On the opening night the floor was in good condition, and over 600 patrons used the Winslow skates. The dimensions of the skating surface are 272ft. by 75ft.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

WHITBREAD'S
BOTTLED BEERS

maintain their popularity because they are brought into condition by

MATURING IN BOTTLE,

the **Natural** method,

without the aid of carbonating or other artificial process.

The Largest Beer Bottlers in the World.

APPLY TO CHIEF OFFICES,

BRITANNIA ST., KING'S CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

(Telephones: Nos. 2510 and 2511 North. Telegraphic Address, "Beerseller, London")

FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

"This is a gift, very grateful."—TAMING OF THE SHREW, Act ii., Scene i.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

For Sustaining the Voice.
Invaluable for ACTORS and SINGERS.
Indispensable for PUBLIC SPEAKERS

GENTLEMEN,—For sudden affections of the Bronchial Organs I use and most cheerfully recommend "Brown's Troches." They are regarded as most eligible, convenient, and indispensable by numerous artists of my acquaintance, BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. They seem to act specially on the organs of the voice, and produce a clear enunciation.—Yours truly (Signed), MARIE ROZE MAPLESON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE AT 1/1½ PER BOX.

DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion. The Safest and most effective Aperient for regular use.

REAL HAMBURG GROUND

KROPP RAZOR

Always Ready for Use.

NEVER REQUIRES GRINDING.

DO NOT BE PUT OFF WITH SUBSTITUTES.

Black Handle .....5s. 6d.	Pair Ivory Handles in Russia Leather Case .....21s. 0d.
Ivory Handle .....7s. 6d.	Kropp Strop Paste 6d.
Kropp Duplex Strop 7s. 6d.	

Wholesale: OSBORNE, GARRETT, & CO., LONDON, W.

Special terms. Short-date Loans.

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY. £10 to £1,000.

£10, repay £11 5s. £50, repay £56 5s.
£20, repay £22 10s. £100, repay £112 10s.
£30, repay £33 15s. £200, repay £225.

Call or write to the well-known Financier, W. JACKSON.

Head Offices: 70, Plymouth-grove, Manchester.
Or applications can be made at my branch offices: Regent House, Mostyn-street, Llandudno.
215, Piccadilly, London, W.
Central Chambers, Crewe; 26, Corporation-street, Manchester; 14, Cromwell-terrace, Leek; 70, Manchester-road, Burnley.

MONEY £5 TO £5000

DON'T BE WITHOUT READY MONEY. I will advance any sum you may require AT ONCE without fuss or formalities, and you can repay by easy instalments to suit your own convenience. Courteous personal attention. Call, write, or 'phone.
Mr. ROSSLYN STUART,
Burton House,
253, Brixton Rd., Brixton, S.W.
Telephone 1285 Brixton.

BIRKBECK BANK

ESTABLISHED 1851.
SOUTHAMPTON-BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.
All general Banking Business transacted.
ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

WHEN ON TOUR

The Irregular Meal-times and strenuous rush often disorganise the whole system and induce

INDIGESTION.

A timely dose of Whelpton's Vegetable Purifying Pills will relieve the symptoms and clear the intellect. Ask for WHELPTON'S Purifying Pills, and don't accept Substitutes, which are *NOT* just as good. The price is 1/1½ per box, but Members of the Profession on tour can have them sent post free for 1/- in stamps.
E. WHELPTON, 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR

Makes your skin soft and smooth.

You can easily have a clear, velvety, healthy complexion if you use

Rowland's Kalydor

"For *Your* Skin."

This world-famous preparation quickly removes freckles, redness, roughness, cutaneous eruptions, and other disorders of the skin. It protects it against the injurious effects of **frost, cold winds**, and hard water, prevents chaps and chilblains and adds the **charm** of **youth** to the complexion, which it will keep in perfect condition all the **year round**. Sold in 2/3 and 4/6 bottles by stores, chemists, and Rowland's, 67, Hatton Garden, London.

Established Over Half-a-Century.

Picture Frames & Mouldings

Decorative Mouldings.

THEATRICAL FRAMES A SPECIALITY

ESTIMATES FREE.

CARVER, GILDER, & MOUNT CUTTER.
Largest Stock in the Kingdom.

SEND FOR PATTERN BOOK.

Jubilee Edition Just Published. Up-to-date Patterns. Many New and Exclusive Designs.
Post Free for 12 penny stamps.

H. MORELL, Manufacturer and Importer,
17 & 18, St. Saint Andrew Street, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C.
Warehouses:
11, 12, 13, Neal's-yard and Neal-st. (in the rear).
Telegrams, "Rabbitry." 'Phone, 6138 Central.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. George Edwardes.
EVERY EVENING at 8,
A Musical Play,
"OUR MISS GIBBS."
Box-Office open daily 10 till 10.

ST. JAMES'S.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
EVERY EVENING at 8.30 punctually.
"ECCENTRIC LORD COMBERDENE."
By R. C. CARTON.
MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER. MISS COMPTON.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES' PRODUCTION,
"THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."
A Musical Play, in Three Acts.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.15.
Box-Office (Mr. H. W. Anderson) open 10 till 10.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Charles Frohman.
Every Evening at 8.30.
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
IRENE VANBRUGH in "GRACE."
A New Play in 4 Acts by W. Somerset Maugham.
Matinée Every Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE, W.
Telephone, 119 HAMMERSMITH.
Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. Mulholland.
Every Evening at 8. Matinée Thursday, 2.30.
"A WHITE MAN."
For dates at the Marlborough, the King's, and the New Wimbledon Theatre, address, King's T., W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. Ernest Stevens and Mr. R. C. Buchanan.
Nov. 28,
MISS ETHEL IRVING in "DAME NATURE."
Address all communications re dates to Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W. All other communications to Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan, Marlborough T., N. 'Phone 131 North.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton.
MONDAY, Nov. 28,
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Six nights, at 7.45.
Saturday Matinée at 2.30.
MONDAY, Dec. 5,
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
Nightly at 7.45. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30.
"THE ARCADIANS."
Mr. PETER DAVEY, Managing-Director.
Telephone, No. 58, Kingston-on-Thames.
Telegrams, "Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames."

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Manager, Mr. Charles Wood. Assistant-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. Ernest Archer.
Nov. 28, EDWARD COMPTON and his celebrated Comedy Co. in Répertoire.
For future bookings, apply to Manager.
Only First-class Companies entertained.
Telephone, 12 Croydon.

CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
CAMDEN THEATRE,
with Music Hall Licence,
to be SOLD or LET
on Lease,
either for a term of years
or for a Temporary Christmas Tenancy,
with vacant possession.
Apply, Secretary,
Saunders Theatres, Limited,
57, Moorgate-street, E.C.

REHEARSAL THEATRE,
MAIDEN-LANE, STRAND, W.C.
Manager, J. HERBERT JAY.
On SUNDAY EVENING, Nov. 27, in aid of the Middlesex Hospital, an Entertainment, under the direction of Dan Beckett and Miss Kate Hardren.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
RINKING.
Mammoth Asphalte Skating Rink,
Three Sessions Daily.
Theatre, "THE MERRY WIDOW," 7.45.
Matinées Wednesday and Saturday, at 3.
Variety Shows twice daily. Cinematograph, &c.
Saturday next, Dulwich Philharmonic Society, in "ELIJAH," 7.30.

MASKELYNE and DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.
St. George's Hall, W.
Daily at 3 and 8.
Mr. Maskelyne with "Psycho," Mr. Ernest Hastings, "The Scarab," Mr. Owen Clark, Mr. Harry May Hemsley, and Mr. David Devant, with New Illusions, &c.
Seats, 1s. to 5s. 'Phone, 1545 Mayfair.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

CHELSEA PALACE,
King's-road, Chelsea,
Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.10.
Ethel Arden and George Abel and Co. in "Three of a Kind," Tom Clare, Dale and O'Malley, Duncan and Godfrey in "A Coster's Courtship," Syd May, The Crisps, Tony Black, Ruby Emmerson, Ruffell's Bioscope, Lottie Lennox, The Harvey Boys in "That Was Me!"

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
POPLAR. Tel. 714 East.
Proprietors, F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
General-Manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams. Twice nightly, 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, 1 o'clock. "The Little Stowaway," Tom Clifford, Dan Thomas, Daisy Yates, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Bioscope Barnes and Ascot, Geo. Elliston and Co. in "That Brute Simmons." &c.
Artists must forward bill matter to above, according to Clause 18.

THE NEW BEDFORD
PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.
Twice Nightly, 6.10 and 9.
Monday, Nov. 28, Lelia Roze, Edward Cranston and Co., Sados, Margery Clarke, Phœbe Mercer and Co., Baby Woolf, Mart and Pep, Bert Errol, The Four Hamlons, Rossi Ashton, Bioscope, Ben Albert, Mark Melford.
Artists are notified that they must send their full Bill Matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock Mondays. All must attend. Artists not complying with the above rules are subject to having their Contracts cancelled at option of Management.

KINGSTON. — NEW EMPIRE.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes.
High-class Varieties Twice Nightly, 6.30 and 8.50.
Nov. 28, and during week: — The Great Fasola, the world-famous Indian Fakir; Daisy Hurdle, Rosie Lee, Sisters Caselli, Charles Leighton, Sibb and Sibb, Six Lancashire Lasses, A. G. Spry, Marie Ogilvie, and The Venetians.
Band Rehearsal, Monday, at 12.
Telephone, 1212 P.O. Kingston.

LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

ALHAMBRA.
"FEMINA."
The Superb Spectacular Ballet.
LEONORA. FAICO. BRITTA.
"FALL IN, ROOKIES!" (last weeks),
By Henry Arthur Jones.
THE EIGHT SAXONES, THE FOUR HARVEYS, Jury's Pictures, "ON THE SANDS."
Managing-Director, ALFRED MOUL.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).
"SHIP AHOY!" Nautical Ballet,
Lydia Kyasht, Fred Farren, &c.
GEORGE ROBEY.
"THE FAUN," a fantasy by Dora Bright.
Henry and Tyler, Olga Tcharna,
La Deodima, Bioscope, Three Ernests, &c.
Evenings at 8.
Manager, Mr. H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.
Laurence Grossmith and Co. in "A Loose End," Fifine De La Cote, Mlle. Denarbèr and her Balloon, Barclay Gammon, Lawrence Crane, Poluski Bros., Dick the Writing Dog, Topical Events on Bioscope.
Evenings at 8.
Matinée, Full Programme, Saturdays, at 2.
Managing-Director, MR. ALFRED BUTT.

OXFORD.—Wilkie Bard, Phil Ray, Dan Crawley, Jose Collins, McNaughtons, Ernest Rees, Sisters Macarte, Arden and Abel in "Town Hall To-night," Farr and Farland, Tony Black, Violet Loraine, Neil Emerald, The Dumonds, Dora Lyric, Carlotta Levey, Duncan and Godfrey, Chas. Reekie, Doody and Wright, Alick Lauder, Ruffell's Bioscope. Open 7.20; Saturday Matinées at 2.15.
Manager, Mr. BLYTH-PRATT.

TIVOLI.
MLLE. DE L'ENCLOS, GEORGE GRAVES, WILKIE BARD, VICTORIA MONKS, Harry Tate, Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, Phil Ray, George Newburn, John Donald, Clifford Morgan, Marie Courtney, Dusty Rhodes, Daisy Dormer, Queenie Leighton, the Bioscope, &c.
Open 7.40. Saturday, Matinées, 2.15.

METROPOLITAN.
Twice nightly,
at 6.40 and 9.10.
Dion Wade, Athos Troupe, Florence Wix, Tom Stuart, Dale and O'Malley, Harvey Boys, Mike S. Walker, Madge Temple, Sable Fern and Co., Violet Loraine, A. C. Lilley and Co., Pictures.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Mr. J. C. Williamson.
Manager of the Leading Australasian Theatres,
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE;
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY;
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY;
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BRISBANE.
London Representative,
J. A. E. Malone, Adelphi Theatre.

AUSTRALIA.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS,
Sole Proprietor and Manager,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
PRINCE OF WALES' HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
PALACE THEATRE AND GARDENS, PERTH.
Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."
Business Manager, John C. Leete.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.
GEORGE MARLOW'S ENTERPRISES.
London Agent,
EDWARD THANE,
15, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

NEW ZEALAND.
FULLER'S AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISES.
Props., JOHN FULLER AND SONS.
AUCKLAND OPERA HOUSE, KING'S THEATRE.
WELLINGTON THEATRE R. (shortly re-building) HIS MAJESTY'S OLYMPIA RINK.
CHRISTCHURCH OPERA H., COLOSSEUM.
DUNEDIN, HIS MAJESTY'S, ALHAMBRA, and PRINCESS THEATRES.
INVERCARGILL. ZEALANDIA HALL.
London Rep., Gordon P. Firmin, The Film House, Gerrard-street, W.

MADRAS.
Fitted and equipped on the latest English lines.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
THE NEW LYRIC THEATRE.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
The finest and most up-to-date Theatre in Southern India.
Opening will shortly be announced.
For vacant dates apply,
The Manager,
New Lyric Theatre,
Mount-road, Madras.
Cables, "Misquith, Madras."
Codes, Reuter and A B C 5th Ed.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.
AUTUMN DRAMATIC SEASON.
Few vacant Spring dates.
Address, Mr. Clarence Sounes, New Empire, Kingston. Telephone, 1212 P.O., Kingston.

BIRKENHEAD. — HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly Drama House.
Vacant Feb. 27, March 20, May 29.
No. 1 attractions only entertained.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

BIRMINGHAM.
CURZON HALL.
Holding capacity about 3000.
To Let
for various dates
during 1910 and 1911.
Suitable for Circus, Diorama, &c.
For particulars apply to
Edmund W. Beech,
Chartered Accountant,
37, Temple-street,
Birmingham.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.
The most magnificent theatre in East Lancashire.
Vacant March 6 (?), 27, April 10, 24,
Now booking Autumn, 1911.
All communications, Harry Yorke, Man.-Director.

BOLTON.—THEATRES ROYAL and GRAND.
Always Vacant Dates for Real Tip-top Attractions, but must actually be First-class.
All communications, address, J. F. Elliston.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BLACKPOOL. — HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.
NOTICE.
This Theatre now in process of re-building is being entirely re-constructed upon the Latest and Most Modern Principles from designs by Mangnalls and Littlewoods, Architects, Manchester.
ELABORATE MARBLE AND FIBROUS PLASTER DECORATIONS.
FURNISHING AND UPHOLSTERING IN LUXURIOUS STYLE.
MAGNIFICENT FOYER.
FINEST IN THE KINGDOM.
Greatly improved seating accommodation in all parts; holding capacity increased upwards of £100 per performance.
RE-OPENS APRIL 10, 1911.
During the reconstruction of Her Majesty's Opera House, Theatrical Performances of Existing and New Contracts will take place in the Pavilion Theatre, which has been re-arranged and made Cosy and Comfortable for the Winter Season.
FIRST-CLASS NO. 1 ATTRACTIONS ONLY.
Applications for dates for Pavilion Theatre and New Theatre to Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL.
GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL,
under the entirely new Proprietorship and Management of the Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Geo. H. Harrop.
Acting-Manager, Percy Harrop.
The Finest, most Popular, and High Record Money-holding Theatre at ordinary prices in the town. Spacious and brilliantly lighted stage. Superior dressing-rooms. Magnificent Orchestra. Applications invited (only First-class Productions are considered) for dates extending from April 3, 1911, to Oct 30, 1911.
All communications, which should be made at once, to Geo. H. Harrop, General-Manager, as above; or, Mr. E. Lockwood, 5, Winterbrook-road, Herne Hill, S.E. Teles., "Tower, Blackpool."

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Man.-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England. —Sunday Times. Unexpectedly vacant Jan. 16, 17, 18, Jan. 23, 24, 25, Jan. 30, 31, and Feb. 1 and Feb. 9.
Now booking Spring of 1911.
Silence a polite negative.

CHESTERFIELD. — CORPORATION THEATRE. Redecorated, refurnished, and bars (full licence) added. Best equipped theatre in the district. Spring dates now filling. Henson and Davis, Lessees and Managers.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.
Wanted, Companies, Jan. 30, March 13, and various on.
Apply R. J. Bell, Manager, or F. Mouillot, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, London.

DOUGLAS. — GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre in the Isle of Man.
A Few Dates Open for the Season of 1911.
First-class Attractions only.
Add., Jas. Buck, Sec., 30, Brown-st., Manchester.

EVESHAM. — New PUBLIC HALL.
Brilliantly lighted, well warmed,
good accommodation; proscenium if required; seats 800; population about 10,000.
Terms, apply, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.
Established 1884.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Open all the Year Round.
Telegraphic add., "Curry, Grimsby." Tel. No. 240.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
The Staffordshire Potteries
for all
Dramatic Purposes
must be considered as one large town.
Accommodation for 3,000 People.
Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to all ends of the District.
Vacant
Feb. 13, onwards.
First-class Attractions only.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HULL. — GRAND THEATRE.
Under the Management of
William Morton.
1909-10 ENGAGEMENTS:—
Julia Neilson, Fred Terry, and New Theatre Co. in "The Scarlet Pimpernel," Martin Harvey, Miss De Silva and Company, Lewis Waller, George Edwardes's Companies in "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow," (three visits), "A Waltz Dream," "Our Miss Gibbs," Percy Hutchison in "Brewster's Millions," James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," Walter Passmore in Robert Courtneidge's "The Arcadians," Weedon Grossmith and Co. in "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," Conan Doyle's Plays: "The House of Temperley" and "The Speckled Band," Miss Ethel Irving and Co. in "Dame Nature," "The Mountaineers," H. G. Pélissier and "The Follies" (one week), "The Whip," "The Brass Bottle," F. R. Benson and Co., Bransby Williams in "Kit Careless," Carl Rosa Opera Company, D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Pantomime at Christmas,
"The Babes in the Wood,"
by J. F. Elliston.
Address,
William Morton.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant Dec. 12 (three nights),
Jan. 5, 6, 7, and 23 (six nights),
for Important Attractions only.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.
Now Booking Autumn.
Weekly Matinées for Country Visitors.
Silence a polite negative.
Fred Morgan, Manager.

OLDHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.
One of the Finest Theatres in the Provinces.
Vacant Feb. 20, 27, March 27, April 10 (?).
All communications to Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. C. C. Dorrill,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.
Vacant Spring Dates, March 6, 20, April 10, 24, and May 1 and onwards.

PORTSMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
DRUID'S HALL.
Population of District, 20,000. Hall Holds 700.
Stage 36ft. by 16ft. Electric light.
Dates and Terms, apply Owen Hill,
Secretary, Public Rooms Co., Ltd., Redruth.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.
Lessee and Manager, Percy Hutchison.
First Vacant Date,
Feb. 20.

A FEW VACANT DATES
for the following
First-class Theatre Circuit:—
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON;
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH;
OPERA HOUSE, CORK;
THE GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA, can be booked in conjunction with the OPERA H., CORK.
Journey via the popular Fishguard-Rosslare route.
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN;
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN;
OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRES AND PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.
Five Lines, TWO AND SIXPENCE.
Thirteen Insertions (Including a Copy of "The Era" Weekly), THIRTY SHILLINGS.
For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
Address, The Publisher,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

FUNDS, &c.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
FOR MEMBERS BECOMING INCAPACITATED EITHER BY OLD AGE OR INFIRMITY.
Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq., J.P.
Subscribers are requested to send notices of alteration of addresses.
Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary,
Savoy House, 115-116, Strand.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
8, ADAM-STREET, STRAND.
C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The ANNUAL DINNER of the ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND will be Held at the Hotel Metropole on Sunday, Dec. 11.
H. B. IRVING, Esq., in the Chair.
Donations will be most gratefully received by Mr. H. B. Irving and by Mr. C. I. Coltson, the Secretary of the Fund, from whom Dinner Tickets (one guinea) may be obtained.
Musical arrangements under the direction of Mr. J. H. Maunder.
MISS RUTH LINCOLN, MR. FRANK WEBSTER, MR. BANTOCK PIERPOINT, MR. CHARLES CAPPER, and THE WESTMINSTER SINGERS will kindly give their services.
Offices: 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
32, REGENT-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Free Medical Advice.
Free Legal Advice.
Agency. Tours Booked.
A.A. Contract, 1910, for sale, 2d. each.
Telegrams, "Actoris, London."
Telephone, 1753 Gerrard.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION DINNER.
A DINNER TO CELEBRATE THE "COMING OF AGE" of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION,
will be held on
SUNDAY, Dec. 4, at 7.30 p.m.,
at the
CRITERION RESTAURANT.
SIR HERBERT TREE
has kindly consented to take the Chair.
Tickets may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly Circus, W.
Price of Tickets for Members of A.A., 5s.; Members' Guest, 5s.; Members of the Profession, 7s. 6d.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
TENTERDEN-STREET, W.
Instituted 1822. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1830.
The Academy offers to Pupils of both sexes an opportunity of receiving a thorough education in Music in all its branches, the Drama, and Dramatic Elocution under the most eminent Professors.
For terms and all other information, apply to
F. W. RENAUT, Secretary.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883).
Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W.
Patron, His Majesty the King.
President, H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G.
Director, Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Bart., C.V.O., D.C.L., M.A., Mus.Doc.
Hon. Secretary Charles Morley, Esq.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from Frank Pownall, Registrar.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
Estd. and Managed by the Cor. of London.
Principal, LANDON RONALD.
The only School in London for
OPERATIC and THEATRICAL TRAINING which possesses a completely equipped theatre. Public Performances periodically given. Stagecraft, Elocution, Fencing, Gesture, Stage Dancing, and Deportment Taught by Eminent Professors. Half Term commenced Mon., Nov. 7. New pupils can enter at any time.
FEES MODERATE. Prospectus on application to H. SAXE-WYNDHAM, Sec., Victoria-embankment, E.C. Tel. No. 1943 Holborn.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC
(Inst. 1872).
Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, M.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: G. E. Bambridge, F.T.C.L., F.R.A.M., Director of Examinations: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D.
Nov. 28, at 5 p.m., Students' Concert.
Prospectus on application.
SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ART.
77, NEW OXFORD-STREET.
President, GEORGE EDWARDES, Esq.
Principals, CAIRNS JAMES, ERNEST D'AUBAN.
Complete course of studies for the Stage.
Amateurs coached. Private lessons in all subjects.
Pupils can join at any time.
For particulars, apply, Secretary.
Telephone 4287 Central.

Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required. — St. James's Gazette.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TO OUR READERS.
A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA."
Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS.
Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London."
Address, The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Albini, Miss Jessie	Nov. 19, 1910
Allan, Mr. Charles	Jan. 22, 1910
Austa, Late Miss Amber	Aug. 13, 1910
Austen-Lee, Mr. Cyril	Sept. 24, 1910
Austin and Cowan	Feb. 5, 1910
Avinal, Mr. Edward	June 11, 1910
Barbour, Late Mr. William	Feb. 19, 1910
Barnardo, Mr. Fred	Oct. 1, 1910
Barrasford, late Mr. Thomas	Feb. 5, 1910
Barth, Late Miss Alice	July 23, 1910
Barwick, Mr. Edwin	Sept. 17, 1910
Bassett, Late Mr. W. S.	Nov. 19, 1910
Beltram, Miss Josie	Jan. 22, 1910
Black, Mr. Stuart	Aug. 6, 1910
Blackmore, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 13, 1910
Blackwood, Miss Nancy	March 12, 1910
Blake, Late Mrs. Harry	Oct 29, 1910
Blanche, Miss Ada	Nov. 19, 1910
Bodie, Mr. Albert Edward	Aug. 20, 1910
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.	April 30, 1910
Brandreth, Mr. H. B.	Aug. 27, 1910
Bridgen, Mr. Ernest	Nov. 5, 1910
Broughton, Mr. W. H.	Jan. 22, 1910
Brown, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
Brown, Mr. Frank	June 11, 1910
Burns, Mr. Harry	Oct. 15, 1910
Cagney, Colonel T. G.	Oct. 8, 1910
Calvert, Mr. Cayley	Feb. 12, 1910
Carpenter, Late Mr. Ernest	Jan. 1, 1910
Carpenter, Mr. F. W.	March 5, 1910
Carr, Mr. James	March 5, 1910
Carter, Mr. Charles J.	Oct. 8, 1910
Chumley, Mr. Alick	July 23, 1910
Clarkson, Mr. W.	July 9, 1910
Clifford, Mr. Julian	June 18, 1910
Clifton, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 12, 1910
Clyffe, Miss Dolly	Jan 22, 1910
Cohen, Late Mr. Isaac	Oct. 8, 1910
Collingwood, Late Mr. Lester	Sept. 24, 1910
Collins, Late Miss Lottie	May 7, 1910
Collins, Mr. Arthur	Feb. 26, 1910
Compton, Miss Viola	June 11, 1910
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	April 23, 1910
Craven, Late Mr. Hawes	July 30, 1910
Crisps, The Three	Sept. 24, 1910
Curtis, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 12, 1910
Dagmar, Miss Alexandra	July 30, 1910
Dance, Mr. George	Oct. 1, 1910
Darien, Mr. Philip	Feb. 5, 1910
Davies, Late Mr. Chas. J.	Jan. 29, 1910
Davis, Mr. Maurice	June 18, 1910
Day, Mr. Harry W.	March 26, 1910
Deane, late Mr. Charles	Oct. 22, 1910
Dodd, Miss Rosabel	Sept. 3, 1910
Earle, Miss Amy Lloyd	Feb. 5, 1910
Edmonds, Mr. E. Vivian	Aug. 20, 1910
Elen, Miss Hilda	Sept. 24, 1910
Ellis, Mr. Walter	June 18, 1910
Emery, Late Mr. Frank	Nov. 19, 1910
Entwistle, Mr. Henry	June 11, 1910
Esdale Brothers	Sept. 3, 1910
Feldman, Mr. Bert	Oct. 29, 1910
Fern, Miss Sabie	Jan. 22, 1910
Ferris, Mr. Edward	March 26, 1910
Forbes, Miss Mary	July 23, 1910
Gibbons, Mr. Walter	Feb. 5, 1910
Gittins, Mr. Ernest Ch.	Feb. 5, 1910
Gordon, Miss Celia	Oct. 15, 1910
Grahame, Miss Dorothy	June 11, 1910
Graydon, Mr. J. G.	Jan. 15, 1910
Green, Mr. Tom	Aug. 6, 1910
Griffiths, Mr. F. R.	May 28, 1910
Gros, Late Mr. Henri	July 30, 1910
Gwyn-Richardson, Mr. F. R.	July 16, 1910
Hargreaves, Mr. W. H.	April 23, 1910
Harlington, Miss Grace	Sept. 10, 1910
Harwood, Late Mr. Robb	Feb. 26, 1910
Hastings Batson, Mr. J.	March 5, 1910
Hill, Mr. Rowland	May 28, 1910
Hughes, Miss Annie	June 18, 1910
Hylton, Miss Millie	Sept. 3, 1910
Hyman, Mr. John	Nov. 19, 1910
Jesson, Mr. C.	June 4, 1910
Jones, Mr. Tom	Oct. 1, 1910
Kenyon, Mr. Neil	Aug. 20, 1910
Lee, Miss Lola	Nov. 5, 1910
Leslie, Mr. George	Sept. 3, 1910
Lindley, Miss Beatrice	Sept. 10, 1910
Lingwood, Miss Sophie	July 2, 1910
Linn and Darius	Aug. 20, 1910
Littlewood, Miss Gertrude	July 16, 1910
Lloyd, Mr. Tom	May 7, 1910
Lonsdale, Mr. T. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Loraine, Mr. Robert	Sept. 17, 1910
Loveday, Late Mr. H. J.	April 2, 1910
Mackay, Mr. A. B.	Feb. 12, 1910
Mapleson, Colonel	April 23, 1910
May, Miss Daisy	April 2, 1910
Meadows, Mr. Lonnen	July 23, 1910
Moller, Madame Annie	Aug. 27, 1910
Montague Little Constance	April 30, 1910
Morgan, Mr. E. P.	Sept. 10, 1910
My Fancy	Sept. 17, 1910
Neiman, Mr. Fred	Sept. 10, 1910
Neville, Late Mr. Henry	June 25, 1910
O'Connor, Mr. W. J.	Oct. 29, 1910
Parker, Mr. Frank	July 2, 1910
Pelle, Mr. Kinsey	Sept. 10, 1910
Petley, Mr. Edward S.	July 2, 1910
Phasey, Mr. Handel V.	Oct. 22, 1910
Phillipini, Madame Jeannette	Feb. 5, 1910
Power, Mr. Oscar	March 12, 1910
Pringle, Mr. William	April 23, 1910
Reade, Mr. Randolfe	Aug. 6, 1910
Reeves, Fred and Horace	Jan. 1, 1910
Reid, Late Mr. Henry Erastus	June 18, 1910
Reynolds, Mr. Walter, L.C.C.	Oct. 8, 1910
Rhodes, Mr. Percy	June 11, 1910
Richardson, Miss Dorothy	Feb. 5, 1910
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 16, 1910
Road-Night, Mr. Chas.	Sept. 17, 1910
Robinson, Mr. Kendall	Aug. 20, 1910
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Nov. 12, 1910
Russell, Mr. Howard	Nov. 19, 1910
Salambos, The	Jan. 8, 1910
Sargent, Mr. Frederic	Feb. 5, 1910
Saunders, Miss Vera	July 16, 1910
Schonberg, Mr. W. Lake	May 28, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Aug. 27, 1910
Scott, Mr. Bennett	Nov. 12, 1910
Selwynne, Miss Clarissa	Feb. 5, 1910
Shand, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 22, 1910
Shaw, Late Mr. Sydney	April 23, 1910
Shelley, Mr. Herbert	July 2, 1910
Smith, Late Mr. Vere	Jan. 29, 1910
Snazelle, Mr. G. H.	Nov. 19, 1910
Somerfield, Late Mr Fred C.	Feb. 26, 1910
Stephenson, Mr. Chas. A.	July 23, 1910
Stevens, Late Mr. Chas. E.	Nov. 12, 1910
Stirling, Mr. Charles	Aug. 6, 1910
St. John, Mr. Herbert	May 28, 1910
Stranack, Mr. Wallace	June 18, 1910
Stretton, Mr. Alfred	March 26, 1910
Stuart, Mr. Dudley	April 2, 1910
Swinerd, Late Mr Henry	Jan. 8, 1910
Taylor, Late Mr. Henry	May 28, 1910
Temple, Miss Madge	July 30, 1910
Tracy, Miss Louie	March 12, 1910
Tracy, Mr. Howard L.	April 30, 1910
Triggs, Late Mr. A. Standen	Sept. 24, 1910
Vernon, Mr. Percy H.	July 2, 1910
Vezin, Late Mr. Hermann	June 18, 1910
Victoria, Miss Vesta	Sept. 24, 1910
Vine, Miss Lily	March 26, 1910
Vint, Mr. Leon	Jan. 8, 1910
Von Brunner, Miss Beatrice	Aug. 20, 1910
Wallace, Mr. G. Carlton	Sept. 10, 1910
Walshe, Late Mr. W. S.	Aug. 20, 1910
Ward, Miss Dorothy	Nov. 12, 1910
Ward, Miss Maud E.	Jan. 8, 1910
Weaver, Mr. Wyn	May 28, 1910
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred	Feb. 5, 1910
Wentworth, Miss Fanny	Feb. 5, 1910
Were, Mr. Arthur	July 2, 1910
Wheeler, Mr. Worland S.	Oct. 1, 1910
White, Mr. Will	Feb. 12, 1910
Whitling, Mr. Townsend	Feb. 12, 1910
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Aug. 13, 1910
Wills, Mr. Brember	June 18, 1910
Woodger, Mr. Ben	Sept. 17, 1910
Young, Miss Rosamond Mayne	July 23, 1910

Copies of "The Era" containing the above can be obtained, price 6d. each, for any issue 1910; other dates double price.
Address, The Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRICAL STORES.

Manufacturers and Makers to the Principal London Theatres and Leading Artists.

Every Requisite for the Stage at Moderate Prices.

DANCING SHOES A SPECIALITY.

We stock Sixty Art Shades of Linen Back Satin, specially woven for the manufacture of Dancing Shoes.
Select stock of pure and spun silk Tights, worsted and cotton Tights, Opera Hose Stockings, &c.

A special study made of Symmetrical Paddings.

H. and M. RAYNE,
115 to 119, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.
(Opposite Electric Tram Terminus).
Telephone, 7978 Central.
Telegrams, "Raynaloo, London."
Also at
49, Charing Cross-road, W.C. (near Hippo.).

1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
EARLY APPLICATION
should be made for space
in the 1911 issue of
"THE ERA" ANNUAL,
which is now in active preparation.
A world-wide circulation, therefore
THE BEST MEDIUM
for Advertisements of every description.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
Circulates in every town in the world where there is a place of amusement. It is therefore the best medium for those who require world-wide publicity.

Scale of Charges
For Professional Advertisements.

FULL PAGE	£4 4 0
HALF PAGE	2 2 0
QUARTER PAGE	1 1 0

A FEW SPECIAL POSITIONS
at present Vacant.
Blocks supplied if required.

Address the Publisher,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

'Phones 4747 and 1433 Central.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1910.

ACTORS' ORGANISATIONS.

It often happens that one is obliged to wait till Time has proved the accuracy of one's expectations in order that they may be acknowledged to be correct; and this has been the case with regard to several "movements" for the benefit of the actor. There were many temptations to us to support and applaud the objects of the defunct Actors' Union. It is easy to win cheap popularity by stirring up strife; and we dare say many of our readers thought us very cold-blooded because we did not advocate a Minimum Wage and admit the practicability of a general strike of actors. We do not deny that many of those who were warmest in their support of the Actors' Union were thoroughly disinterested in their advocacy, though others may have seen in the movement only a means of obtaining notoriety and self-advertisement. In our opinion, it showed more real concern for the interests of the profession to tell them the plain truth than to hold out to them prospects of Utopian allurement, which, in the very nature of things, could never be realised. Enough, however, of the Actors' Union. It was a pathetic waste of misguided energy; and those who read the series of leading articles in which we explained the situation and exposed the unpractical nature of the proposals made by the Union will see that our doubts of its success were well founded.

That excellent institution the Actors' Association, which has now settled down to a state of quiet comfort and practical usefulness, is in a very satisfactory condition, and Mr. DUNCAN YOUNG may be congratulated on the condition of affairs at the convenient and comfortable premises near Piccadilly Circus. The aims of the Association are modest and moderate; but in many ways it is indispensable to the actor and actress, and it wages war perseveringly against the "bogus" manager, and generally supplies a centre to which all grievances may be reported and a means by which, if possible, they may be removed. It promises no revolutionary reforms, nor is it in ardent hostility with the leading London theatrical managers. But what it undertakes to do is done, and done well; and its continued existence proves that it "supplies a want."

Another institution which appears to be permanent is that of Actors' Day. It has been doing its work so quietly that there must be many who have overlooked its existence; but there are many points of interest in connection with it. It was established with the approval and support of the leading London theatrical managers. At a meeting at the St. James's Theatre in the January of 1907, which was presided over by Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT, supported by Sir—then Mr.—BEERBOHM TREE, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, Mr. EDWARD TERRY, Mr. LAURENCE IRVING, Mr. A. E. DRINKWATER, and others, Mr. BOURCHIER proposed that a day in the year should be set apart on which all actors and actresses should subscribe one night's salary to the fund; and £1,469 was thus obtained. There were hopes at this time that Actors' Day would realise the late Sir HENRY IRVING'S original idea of one great charity and Sir HERBERT TREE'S desire to do away with the dinners and public appeals for the different theatrical charities.

It is interesting to study the report of the recent annual general meeting of the Actors' Day Fund, and to observe that, while these anticipations have not been realised, nevertheless good has come of them. The Fund has become a means of insurance against unemployment. The contributions up to Sept. 30 this year were over £260, and against these were "grants and loans, less amounts repaid," above £102. The policy of the Fund has been judiciously indulgent. It only asks that a member shall be on the Fund for six months to entitle him to assistance. As Mr. ACTON BOND remarked at the meeting, the elasticity of the Fund was its great charm, because it was administered by actors, and every case could be safely left to the discretion of the committee. A good deal of this discretion has been required; for instance, in the first years of the Fund's existence one or two people contributed 6s. 8d. and then asked for a £2 loan. But, as the able and attentive hon. secretary, Mr. A. E. DRINKWATER, said at the meeting, there was no need to approach this difficulty with unnecessary timidity. If they made it clearly understood that it was the business of every member to contribute every year, and, if out of an engagement, to communicate with the committee, he did not think they would increase the attractions of the Fund by being in the least lax in that respect. If an actor contributed in 1906 and could not in 1907 he had only to say so; but if he said nothing and then suddenly found himself in want of assistance, it would not be fair to other contributors to render it. That so many of the loans have been repaid is decidedly gratifying; and the fact that the Fund helped nearly 25 per cent. of its subscribers last year alone shows that the principle of self-help appeals strongly to a considerable proportion of the profession. We call attention to Actors' Day because, as Mr. CECIL BARTH said in his admirable letter to us on the subject, there are many members of the profession who apparently know very little of the working of this Fund, in spite of the fact that it has now been established over four years. No doubt, as far as touring companies are concerned, this is owing to the constant travelling and changes week by week. With Mr. BARTH'S statement that it is impossible for the touring actor to keep in touch with the progress of events unless he reads his theatrical paper "religiously" we, of course, heartily concur. Of course, the majority of those needing assistance are dealt with by that unrivalled institution the Actors' Benevolent Fund; but the profession is "justified" of all its organisations, and the continued existence of "Actors' Day" is a proof of its usefulness.

A MANAGER-POET.

Mr. Herbert Trench has contributed the following poem to the *Fortnightly Review* for November:—

REQUIEM OF ARCHANGELS FOR THE WORLD.

Hearts, beat no more! Earth's Sleep has come!
All iron stands her wrinkled Tree,
The streams that sang are stricken dumb,
The snow-flake fades into the sea.

Hearts, throb no more! your time is past!
Thousands of years for this pent field
Ye have done battle. Now at last
The flags may sink, the captains yield.

Sleep, ye great Wars, just or unjust!
Sleep takes the gate and none defends.
Soft on your craters' fire and lust,
Civilisations, Sleep descends!

Time it is, time to cease carouse!
Let the nations and their noise grow dim!
Let the lights wane within the house
And darkness cover, limb by limb!

Across your passes, Alps and plains
A planetary vapour flows,
A last invader, and enchains
The vine, the woman, and the rose.

Sleep, Forests old! Sleep in your beds
Wild-muttering Oceans and dark Wells!
Sleep be upon your shrunken heads,
Blind everlasting Pinnacles!

Sleep now ye great, high-shining Kings,
Your torrent glories snapt in death.
Sleep, simple men—sunk water springs
And all the ground Man laboureth.

Sleep, Heroes, in your mountain walls—
The trumpet shall not sound again;
And ranged on misty pedestals
Sleep now, O sleepless Gods of men,

Nor lift up your unfathomed orbs!
These troubled clans that make and mourn
Some heavy-lidded Cloud absorbs
And the lulling snows of the Unborn.

The Earth lies cold. Thou, stooping Night,
Lay forth the limbs and shroud the scars,
And bid with chanting to the rite
The torches of thy train of stars!

DEATH OF A PROVINCIAL MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. J. Callaghan, for many years conductor of the Theatre Royal orchestra, Birkenhead. The deceased musician was for sixteen years engaged at the New Theatre Royal, and he held the position of musical director for the last ten years. His death took place with painful suddenness on the 18th inst. as the result of a paralytic seizure on the previous Wednesday night. Mr. Callaghan, who was only thirty-nine years of age, leaves a widow and three children.

The funeral took place at Flaybrick-hill Cemetery on Monday. Father Bewley, of St. Werburgh's R.C. Church, conducted the Requiem at the cemetery chapel and the graveside. Four members of the Theatre Royal orchestra acted as bearers.

There was a large attendance at the graveside. The chief mourners included Mrs. J. Callaghan (widow), Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Callaghan (mother and father), Mr. and Mrs. Charles Callaghan (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Keating (sister and brother-in-law), Mr. J. Callaghan (brother), Miss Agnes Callaghan (sister), Mrs. Saville (mother-in-law), Mr. H. Callaghan (nephew), Mrs. Kelly (sister-in-law), Mr. Kelly (brother-in-law), Mr. W. W. Kelly, T.C.; and among those present were Mr. J. A. Gardner (musical director, Kelly's Theatre).

Wreaths were sent by Mother and Children, Mother and Father, Mr. C. Callaghan and Family, Polly and Jack, Mr. W. W. Kelly, T.C., Mr. D. J. Clarke, T.C., Mr. Harold Smith, The Birkenhead Dramatic Society, Mr. R. Grant (Kelly's Theatre), Staff at New Theatre Royal, Orchestra New Theatre Royal, Mr. and Mrs. Poole (New Brighton), Orchestra at the Argyle Theatre, Orchestra at Kelly's Theatre, Patrons of New Brighton Skating Rink, Staff of New Brighton Skating Rink, Orchestra of New Brighton Skating Rink, and many others.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE MATINÉE.

Organised and carried out almost entirely by the fair sex, the unfair being but sparsely represented on each side of the curtain, the matinée given at the Aldwych Theatre on the 18th, arranged by the Joint Committee of the Actresses' Franchise League and the Women Writers' Suffrage League, was a gratifying success for all concerned. The house was packed with a most enthusiastic audience, and the entertainment given a decidedly enjoyable one, two new one-act plays being presented, the first a comedietta by "George Paston," entitled

"STUFFING."

Mr. Pully ..... MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY
Mrs. Pully ..... MISS CLARE GREET
Mrs. Lindus ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
Johnny ..... MISS SYDNEY FAIRBROTHER

Much diversion was created by this amusing little piece, which concerns a domestic squabble resulting from selfish man giving his wife a birthday "present" in which he can share. Mr. Pully, a cabdriver, arriving home, notices a certain coldness on the part of Mrs. Pully, and in her absence enquires the reason of Mrs. Lindus, his sister-in-law, a melancholy widow. It is Mrs. Pully's birthday, and he has forgotten all about it. What shall he buy her? Mrs. Lindus suggests a new jacket or hat, but we learn from her son Johnny that she is not altogether a disinterested person, as she has been promised the left-off one. Pully, however, pooh-poohs any article of wearing apparel. What about a nice plump Aylesbury duck?—his favourite dish. And off he goes to make his purchase. Mrs. Pully, on her return, soon learns what her present is to be, and on her husband's return is not so surprised or elated as he expects her to be. She evidently doesn't think much of his bargain—and where are the giblets, and the onion for stuffing? And then the trouble really begins. Stuffing doesn't agree with Pully, and he won't have it; duck without stuffing doesn't appeal to Mrs. Pully, who is naturally indignant at not being able to do as she likes with her present. Recriminations result in Mrs. Pully putting on her hat and going out; the whining widow wonders if it is possible she might "do away" with herself. Pully laughs at the idea, but eventually getting anxious, departs to search for her. Then Mrs. Pully returns. She has only been to buy an onion for the stuffing! Pully's prolonged absence causes some anxiety to the wife, the comforting Mrs. Lindus suggesting all sorts of horrible things, and Mrs. Pully departs—accompanied by Johnny, to take care of his aunt—in search of her spouse. Mrs. Lindus remaining behind to finish making the stuffing. Left alone with the duck, Mrs. Limpus strikes a brilliant idea. Dismally wailing "Home, Sweet Home," she packs the duck in her basket, generally disarranges things on the table, and when Pully and his wife return, snivels out that a dog has been in the room and stolen it. When it is discovered in her basket she pretends it was all done for a joke, and husband and wife are reconciled, it being agreed to "have the stuffing on a separate plate." This bright little comedy was capitally acted by Miss Clare Greet and Mr. Arthur Chesney as Mr. and Mrs. Pully, the quarrel incident being admirably done; Miss Agnes Thomas as the melancholy but artful widow, Mrs. Lindus; and Miss Sydney Fairbrother, splendid as the dismal Johnny, who is always uttering unfortunate remarks.

The other novelty of the bill was the one-act play by Cicely Hamilton, entitled

"THE HOME-COMING."

Mrs. Daly ..... MISS MAY WHITTY
Mary Fraser ..... MISS AURIOL LEE
Elizabeth ..... MISS MARIANNE CALDWELL

This pathetic and intense little play tells of the return, after a long absence, of Mary Fraser, to her gentle and patient mother, who, at the opening of the action, is wondering what can have happened, as she has not heard from her daughter—who she believes is earning her livelihood in America—for some time. When that daughter comes home it is a pitiable tale she has to tell. Having a good and trustful husband, she had for some time previous to his death loved another man, whom she had subsequently lived with—she admits she would have gone to Hell for him. But it is the old tale. She is not too old to love, but too old to be loved. There are a few grey hairs, and the contemptible cur had abandoned her and married a younger woman. She makes no complaint, and offers no excuse for her conduct. Such was her fascination for the man that she declares that had her mother gone on her knees and implored her to return home she would have refused. But there is no word of reproach from that mother now, who freely forgives her and takes the poor broken woman to her arms and soothes her to sleep. The play was perfectly acted by Miss May Whitty, as the gentle and lovable mother; Miss Auriol Lee, as the daughter, the actress skilfully depicting the anguish and suffering of the erring woman, and giving altogether a splendid portrayal; and Miss Marianne Caldwell as the maidservant, Elizabeth.

Much enthusiasm was aroused by Miss Cicely Hamilton's beautiful and striking *Pageant of Great Women*, especially when Prejudice (Man), finely enacted by Mr. Henry Ainley, "slunk away," completely vanquished by Woman, who eventually demonstrated to everyone's satisfaction that women were men's equals in all walks of life. Miss Lillah McCarthy as Woman delivered her lines with fervour and feeling; Miss Lily Brayton as Justice looked magnificent in shimmering gold; and the Learned Women, the Artistic Women, the Saintly Women, the Heroic Women, the Ruling Women, and the Women Warriors and their attendants were represented as under, the more distinguished actresses being loudly acclaimed on their appearance:—Hypatia, Miss Gertrude Kingston; St. Teresa, Miss De Lana; Lady Jane Grey, Miss Ursula Keene; Madame de Staël, Miss Thyrza Norman; Madame Roland, Miss Helen Haye; Madame de Scudéry, Miss Nora Royston; Jane Austin, Miss Mignon Clifford; Georges Sand, Miss Agnes Thomas; Caroline Herschell, Miss Clare Greet; Madame Curie, Miss Sydney Fairbrother; Graduates: Miss Sydney Keith, Miss Sophie d'Esse, Mrs. Enthoven, Miss Violet Bruce, Miss Gladys Erskine, Miss Josephine Harvey, Miss Hilda Honiss, Miss Elizabeth James, Miss Elstob, Mrs. Nevinson, Miss Margaret Marshall, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Eva Lewis; Sappho, Miss Amy Brandon-Thomas; Vittoria Colonna, Miss Hilda Moore; Angelica Kauffmann, Miss Dorothy Minto; Vigée le Brun, Miss Doris Lytton; Rosa Bonheur, Miss Edith Craig; Margaret Van Eyck, Miss Irene Rose; Mrs. Siddons, Miss Ada Homer; Camargo, Mlle. Dolli; St. Hilda, Mrs. Despard; Elizabeth Fry, Miss Joy Chatwyn; Children, Miss Olive Walter and Miss Naomi Veasey; Elizabeth of Hungary, Miss Mabel Love; Catherine of Siena, Mrs. Nye Chart; Attendants, Miss Eleanor Elder, Miss Margaret Damer; Charlotte Corday, Miss Maude Cressall; Flora Macdonald, Mrs. Anning; Kate Barlass, Miss Gwladys Morris; Grace Darling Miss Evelyn D'Alroy; Queen Elizabeth, Miss Janette Steer; Queen Victoria, Miss Phyllis Embury; Zenobia, Miss Victoria Addison; Attendants, Miss May Taverner, Miss Kitty Marion; Queen Philippa, Miss Agnes Brayton; Attendants, Countess of Salisbury, Miss Daisy Thimm; Fair Maid of Kent, Miss Jane Comfort; Deborah, Miss Edyth Olive; Attendants, Mr. Herbert Grimwood, Mr. Frank Norman; Queen Isabella, Miss Anna Stannard; Attendants, Phillippa Columbus, Miss Dora Barton; Marchioness of Moya, Miss Penelope Wheeler; Maria Theresa, Miss Eva Moore; Attendants, Mrs. Pertwee, Miss Palotta; Catherine of Russia; Miss Suzanne Sheldon; Tzse-Hsi-An (Empress of China), Miss Di Forbes; Attendants, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Mr. Buckley; Joan of Arc, Miss Olive Terry; Boadicea, Miss Elizabeth Kirby; Agnes of Dunbar, Miss Brineta Browne; Emilia Plater, Miss Elsie Chapin; Rance of Jhansi, Miss Adeline Bourne; Maid of Saragossa, Miss Alice Crawford; Christian Davis, Miss Cicely Hamilton; Hannah Snell, Miss Christopher St. John; Mary Anne Talbot, Miss Winifred Mayo; Florence Nightingale, Miss Lena Ashwell. The pageant was admirably produced by Miss Edith Craig.

Miss Gertrude Kingston and Mr. Thomas Sidney (the latter rudely interrupting from a private box) appeared in a scene from *Lysistrata*—an amusing interlude; Mr. Courtice Pounds delighted with his singing of "Songs of Araby"; Mlle. Dolli was responsible for some dainty dancing; and Miss Lena Ashwell's beautiful recital of some Elizabethan love lyrics compelled an insistent encore.

ECCENTRIC CLUB DINNER.

Perennial youth seems to be possessed by the Eccentric Club, which is approaching its twenty-first birthday fresher and more flourishing than ever. The *bons vivants* of the club assembled in full force at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday to celebrate the occasion of their twentieth annual dinner, and that a jovial evening was spent goes without saying. The chair was genially filled by Mr. W. H. White, Mr. Thomas Fraser acted as Vice, and numerous gentlemen associated with the theatrical and variety professions lent support. Among those present were Messrs. George Barrett, Richard Warner, Walter De Frece, Willie Clarkson, Wilkie Bard, Alfred Lester, Harry Tate, Harry Randall, John Le Hay, Dan Rolyat, Wilson Hallett, Fred Bishop, Laurie de Frece, George Spencer Edwards, Clarence Sounes, Tom Honey, Alfred F. Robbins, Fred Baugh, Sam Fredericks, Bannister Howard, W. H. Clemart, and J. A. Harrison (hon. secretary), as well as many popular artists who contributed to the entertainment.

Bonhomie was the watchword of the gathering, and the traditions of the club were worthily upheld. The chorus of chimes was honoured with heartiness, personalities were toasted continuously, and when all the guests at one table rose *en masse* warbled "Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh! you can't sing that top note," and gravely sat down, those at a remote portion of the hall chanted the reply with "Will you love me in December as you do in May?" and just as sedately resumed their seats. The members of the club were out for a jolly time, and the speeches were attuned to the occasion.

The chairman was particularly felicitous in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," to whom he offered the "right hand of fellowship" on behalf of every member of the club. That right hand of fellowship, he added, was extended in New York, where the name of the Eccentric Club was sufficient to gain them such hospitality the impression of which would last them as long as they lived.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Alfred F. Robbins and Mr. F. A. Coleman, both of whom paid a tribute to the cordiality which was the distinguishing feature of the club.

The chairman proposed "Long Life and Prosperity to the Eccentric Club." The club, he said, had existed twenty years, and on the morrow it entered upon its majority stronger than ever. He had been a member of the club since its inception, and he felt as young as he did the day he joined. Age had no terrors for members of the Eccentric Club. (Hear, hear.)

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. J. A. Harrison, who said the Eccentric Club was perfectly all right. They had an excellent membership, were going very strong, had money in the bank, and did not care a dash for anybody. With regard to their charities it was exactly fourteen years that night since their benevolent fund started, and they had distributed in one way and another a very large sum of money, which had been expended without anybody knowing anything about it except the responsible persons. Heart-rending cases had been brought before them, which they had done their best to relieve without ostentation. (Cheers.) He asked members to add their names to the list exhibited in the club, all donations to which would be gratefully accepted and judiciously expended.

The chairman said he had just heard from a very dear friend of theirs, Mr. Louis De Reeder, who was unable to be present through illness. They all hoped he would soon be back among them.

A formidable list of favourite artists had been provided, the various contributors to the programme being announced by Mr. Leon Zeitlin, who had the assistance of Mr. John Le Hay and Mr. George Moore in the direction of the entertainment. Conspicuous among them was a "new turn," called "Richard Warner's Glee Party," which was composed of half-a-dozen of the audience, who, led by the popular agent, sang a well-known ballad with concerted effects, which were all the more remarkable from the fact that they were obviously unrehearsed. They were recalled and overwhelmed with bouquets, so enthusiastic being the audience that they divested the tables of their floral decorations and bestowed them on the singers. Humour and harmony were kept going till long into the night. To the earlier part of the entertainment ladies contributed agreeably, particular admiration being aroused by Miss Mabel Green, who sang the fascinating waltz song, "I love you only," from *The Chocolate Soldier*, with artistic expression. Great interest was taken in Captain Spalding, who demonstrated his absolute imperviousness to heat in several marvellous feats, and the legerdemain of Mr. Laurence Crane, the clever Irish wizard, was watched with the keenest interest; Mr. Percy Honri varied his concertina imitations with merry and much-appreciated jest; the Two Ascots danced with energy and precision; Mr. Arthur Astill did skilful imitations of animals and birds; Mr. Fred Russell exacted many laughs with his ventriloquial performance; and others who contributed were Misses Bessie Bowness, Rosa Dallow, Cora Goffin, Daisy Irving, Rita Leslie, and Violet Lorraine, and Messrs. Rinaldo, Andie Caine, Edgar Favelle, Arthur Helmore, Syd May, Arthur Melrose, Harold Montague, Fred Rome, F. H. Scotland, Sam Stern, Taree, Laurie Wylie, Vivian Foster, and Luigi and Roselli.

"THE WICKED CITY" is presented at the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, by Messrs. Glenville and Ellison. The cast includes Messrs. George Glenville and John Manners and Misses Muriel Inglis and Edith Wallis, who are supported by a capable company.

"WHEN ALL HAS BEEN SAID," a drama founded on Jackson D. Haag's novel, by Bayard Veiller, was produced at the Royal Alexandria Theatre, Toronto, on the 7th inst. The play treats of politics, romance, and intrigue, and the theme of a young wife with a "past" is said to be handled in a novel way. One of the chief characters is a small boy, who insists that he is grown up. The cast includes Miss Emily Stevens, Messrs. Charles Balsar, Joseph Sparks, and George Woodward.

Clothes and the Opera.

AT one time, says the *Bystander*, it was always stated that evening dress was indispensable at the opera. It strikes me it would be well if this notice were again stuck up in the foyer of the opera-house, and also printed on the tickets. I am also inclined to think it would not be a bad thing if it were also notified what constitutes "evening dress." A few nights ago a man was seen in the stalls wearing a cloth cap. Close by was another strange individual with a dinner jacket, double collar, black tie, and crimson and black waistcoat. Another was clad in a grey and black brocaded satin waistcoat. An impossible creature near him wore blacked boots with brown uppers.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE TRAIN DE 8 H. 47."

Military Sketch in Three Acts and Seven Tableaux, by Léon Marchès, Produced at the Ambigu on Nov. 18.

Mascotte ..... MLLE. BLEMONT
Ferhande ..... MLLE. CLASIS
Réséda ..... MLLE. PETIT
Bibiane ..... MLLE. FLORENT
Hurluret ..... M. CHELLES
La Guillaumette ..... M. LORRAIN
Croquebol ..... M. CHABERT
Flick ..... M. ETIEVANT
Le Lieutenant ..... M. MONTEUX
Paquignot ..... M. GOUGET
M. Fleurance ..... M. NARMONT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 24.—Like many other things in this world, the Théâtre de l'Ambigu is also undergoing a transformation. At one time only blood-curdling dramas were produced there, like in the old Adelphi. There was the hideous villain; there was persecuted innocence; and a little before midnight the villain would be made to pay for his misdeeds, whilst innocence, to the cheers of the gallery, married the man of her heart, who turned out to be a millionaire's son. The plot of these plays never varied much; but this the public did not seem to mind; all they wanted was to see virtue triumphant and crime punished. Within the last few years, however, this house no longer follows the old traditions, and has launched out into another direction. The newest departure is marked by the production of *Le Train de 8 H. 47*, and it cannot be said that it was a happy inspiration to dramatise and produce a play founded on Courteline's fantastic story. Courteline, one of the wittiest of French writers, is very observant; and although his works are, without exception, intensely funny, they generally leave a somewhat bitter aftertaste. His book from which the plot is taken is most diverting. Life in barracks is apt to become slow; and we share Courteline's sympathy for the young soldiers, who gladly seize every opportunity to indulge in a "spree." But the book which affords such capital reading cannot be dramatised, and the audience did not show the slightest interest in the mishaps that befall the two soldiers, La Guillaumette and Croquebol, sent by their captain to fetch four horses from Saint-Mihiel. As it happens, they miss the express, and have to wait four hours in Bar-de-Duc for another train that is to bring them back to Commercy. What can they do during these four hours? It is late, but they owe it to their comrades to bring back a fine description of a glorious spree; and during seven tableaux we see these two poor devils in a pelting rain trying to convince themselves that their night out is a great success. Finally they are arrested for being drunk and disorderly, and marched back between two gendarmes to Commercy. Some of the tableaux were represented by a cinematograph, an innovation that did not prove to the taste of the public.

"L'AMOUR DE KESA,"

Japanese Dramatic Legend in Two Tableaux, by Robert d'Humières, Produced at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre on Nov. 19.

Késa ..... MME. SUZANNE DESPRES
Usagamo-San ..... MLLE. GRETA-PROZOR
Endo ..... M. DE MAX
Hiroshima ..... M. LUGNO-POE
Un Prêtre Bouddhiste ..... M. SAVOY
Porteur de Lanterne ..... M. RITMAN

We are told on the highest authority that the legend which M. d'Humières has dramatised for the benefit of the Théâtre de l'Œuvre really hails from Japan. If this be true, it is certain that our friends the Japs also favour that class of "creepy" drama which has found a permanent home in the Grand Guignol. The plot is as simple as it is terrible. Késa is married to Hiroshima; and when the story opens Hiroshima is compelled to go to town on urgent business. Scarcely has he left when Endo makes his appearance. Endo is what the Japanese call a "Ronin," a Bohemian, a man who has seen better days—an outcast. He loves Késa, and tells the terrified woman that unless she follows him he will waylay Hiroshima and murder him. Késa adores her husband. But she is alone in the house; and if she wants to remain faithful to Hiroshima she must have recourse to a ruse. She, therefore, pretends to lend a willing ear to the Ronin's protestations of love, and finally promises to give herself to him the moment he will have murdered her husband. She makes it, however, a condition that the Ronin is to despatch Hiroshima after his return home; and she shows the brigand the exact spot where her husband's bed is placed against the paper wall, so that all he will have to do is to drive his dagger through that wall without being seen. Késa then lies down on her husband's bed, and it is she who is stabbed to death. She dies to save her husband, and the latter, according to Japanese psychology, has not the courage to kill the murderer, because in slaughtering the man who loved Késa he would destroy something of her. And the two men who mourn the same woman follow a Buddhist priest to a monastery, where they will end their days.

IT is with the utmost grief that I have to chronicle the death of Gustave Worms, one of the greatest actors of modern times. Whilst member of the Comédie Française he was one of the glories of the French stage, and when he was appointed professor at the Conservatoire his class was the one which produced more celebrities than all the others combined. Although he had left the house of Molière many years ago his name was constantly before the public, for numberless were those in the profession who sought his advice or came to him for assistance. And nobody asked in vain. Beloved and admired by all, his death comes as a cruel blow to his friends. Born in 1836, he joined the Conservatoire in the class of the well-known Bonvallet, where he secured a second prize in comedy. Engaged at the Comédie Française, he made a brilliant début in *Tartuffe*, and soon took up such an important position in the house that in 1864 he was recommended to be made sociétaire. But, contrary to expectations, the then Fine Art Minister refused to confirm that nomination, whereupon Worms at once left the Comédie Française and emigrated to Russia, where, during eleven years, he was the idol of the public at the Théâtre Michel. Feeling homesick, he returned to Paris, and was at once engaged by Montigny to appear in *La Dame aux Camélias* at the Gymnase. But Alexandre Dumas fils wanted Worms to return to the Comédie Française, and, after some hesitation, he accepted the offer made him, and again made his bow to the audience of that house in *Le Marquis de Villemer*. From that moment his whole life was intimately connected with the fortunes of the Français, and to enumerate the rôles he created would be giving the list of nearly all the new plays produced there. On Jan. 21, 1901, he gave his farewell performance, when he received an ovation that moved him to tears. He was the husband of Mme. Baretta-Worms, the distinguished actress, for many years one of the leading artists at the Comédie Française. His son, Jean Worms, also very talented, promises to walk in his father's footsteps. Gustave Worms was one of the few actors on whom the Cross of the Legion of Honour has been bestowed.

THE "Guide to Selecting Plays," of which we have the latest edition before us, is from the great play-publishing house of Samuel French, Limited, 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C. It is not only a guide, but a concise compendium of the drama. The work of editing this wonderful digest has been admirably carried through by Mr. Wentworth Hogg.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Paul Murray, who two months since resigned his position with Mr. William Morris, of the States, to join H. B. Marinelli, Ltd., has now, by an arrangement carried through in the most friendly manner possible, been able to accept a very flattering offer. A few weeks ago Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter De Frece approached Mr. H. B. Marinelli, and asked him if he had any objection to their making a proposition to Mr. Murray. The reply from the well-known agent was that he had not the slightest desire to stand in the way of Mr. Murray's advancement.

On Thursday afternoon, therefore, Mr. Murray signed an agreement, and on Monday he starts his new duties as general-manager of the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, Ltd. This latest appointment entails the business control and general supervision of practically twenty theatres. Mr. Murray is deeply sensible of the kindness of Mr. Marinelli's action in releasing him from his engagement.

Before his engagement with Marinellis, Mr. Paul Murray was for two years with William Morris, the well-known variety magnate of the States, and his early youth, from 1902-8, was spent in the service of Mr. Oswald Stoll. For the last six months of that engagement he was booking manager of the London Coliseum and London Hippodrome.

The Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd., are opening out in all directions, especially in the provinces. It has therefore been necessary to appoint a provincial manager to look after the company's country interests. This duty will fall upon Mr. W. H. Boardman. His headquarters will be at Brighton.

Miss Ellaline Terriss appeared at the Hippodrome on Monday in a new sketch, entitled *The Pink of Perfection*, the "book" being by the ever-resourceful Mr. Seymour Hicks, the music by Mr. Frank Tours, and the lyrics by Mr. C. H. Bovill. Miss Terriss is supported by an excellent little company, including Mr. Stanley Brett as the Hon. Herbert Fitzallen. The trifle was originally played a year or two since at the London Pavilion under another title.

The scene of the piece is laid in a Highland kitchen, and the hero mistakes the daughter of the house for the cook, who has left at a moment's notice when visitors are expected. The heroine, the charming Ellaline, looks the "pink of perfection," and, as usual, sings and acts delightfully.

"Chicks in the Wood," which will surely be a more artistic reflection of the charm and humour of Rostand's *Chantecler* than a recent music-hall production, is to be given at the Hippodrome, and this Christmas novelty will have the advantage of the support of such popular players as Mr. Walter Passmore and Miss Agnes Fraser, who have both been too long absent from London.

At the Coliseum on Monday Miss Denise Orme, the Lady Elizabeth Thanet of *Our Miss Gibbs* and one of the Little Michus at Daly's, returned to the variety stage, and met with a hearty welcome, after twelve months' absence. She selected for the occasion four songs from her répertoire, accompanying herself on the violin in the case of two, the "Moon Waltz," composed by herself, and Tosti's "Good-bye." The charm of her style made itself felt, not alone in the numbers mentioned, but also in Sterndale Bennett's cycle of "Songs of Childhood."

Mr. Martin Harvey, who is to be the chief attraction of the opening programme at the Palladium, on Monday, settled the details of his programme. For the first fortnight of his engagement the distinguished actor will appear in Messrs. Robert Barr and S. Lewis Ransom's play *The Conspiracy*, which will be given exactly as it was done at the Adelphi Theatre and with the present members of his company. During the second fortnight Mr. Martin will present *Rouget de l'Isle*, by Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge. In this piece Mr. Martin Harvey will be supported by Miss N. de Silva.

Another important engagement at the Palladium is that of Mr. R. G. Knowles, who returns shortly to South Africa under engagement to the Hyman company. Mr. Gibbons will have a call on Mr. Knowles's services at the Palladium during the time of the Coronation.

Among the officials at present engaged at the Co-operative offices, Cranbourn-street, the following will in January next remove to the new Stoll head offices at the London Coliseum:—Messrs. W. S. Gordon Michie (now department superintendent and chief accountant), Bertie Shelton (general stage-director), Llewellyn Johns, Percival Craig, John Christie, Albert Mitchell (now district-manager for South Wales), A. D. Davies, H. Mawby, B. G. Maclachlan, Horace Cox, O. Worth, W. Agnew, R. Walker, and William Ward (publicity department manager).

Remaining with Sir Edward Moss are:—Messrs. Sam Gething (late manager of the Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Newcastle districts), Hatton Wharton (late manager of the Midland district), William Nokes, Thomas Osborne, Albert Mitchell (late of the South Wales district), and Frank Elliott. Mr. Frank Allen and Mr. Dick Thornton are, of course, with Sir Edward.

It is hoped that Mrs. G. H. Smythson's Yuletide appeal will enable the Guild to give a pudding to each of the poor families on the Guild books on Christmas Day. As this lady so sympathetically observes, "it is that pudding which makes it seem a real Christmas to them and those who send will feel they have helped to spread abroad that feeling of good cheer and good will towards those less fortunate than themselves." All gifts will be gratefully acknowledged in *The Era*. Kindly send gifts to Mrs. Smythson, Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C.

Mr. Walter De Frece, in a statement given in his interview in the *Referee* on Sunday, observes: "Seeing that a new hall of mine which is to open at Easter is now threatened with a serious opposition, I have just joined up with Mr. Charles Barnard, Mr. W. J. Grimes, Mr. H. V. D'Esterre, and Mr. Clarence Sounes to be prepared to retaliate in a most retaliatory manner. These gentlemen, forming a syndicate of which I am chairman and managing-director, have also under consideration two sites for variety houses which will have a hundred thousand inhabitants from which to draw."

Mr. Charles Barnard is associated with amusement enterprises at Woolwich, Chatham, and Wolverhampton, and belongs to one of the oldest firms in the business. Mr. W. J. (Billy) Grimes has been connected with the fortunes of the Empress, Brixton, since its birth, and Mr. Clarence Sounes has come into the variety arena by his plucky enterprise at Kingston, where he has built a magnificent new Empire. He has been also for some time in control of the destinies of the Theatre Royal, Aldershot. He was also responsible for the erection of the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, and the Prince's, Poplar.

Miss Winifred Ward, the immaculate boy, who is starring at all the Moss and Stoll Empires, has been specially engaged to play the title-rôle this coming Christmas at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

Lee and Arden have been appointed by the Ardrossan Town Council as providers of the alfresco concerts on the Castle Hill next summer. This will be the second season here of the oldest established alfresco firm in Scotland, they having inaugurated this pitch two years ago. They will work it in conjunction with their other concerns at Leven and Largo.

Mr. Wm. Howgate, assistant-manager at the Glasgow Empire for some years now, and who has a wide and varied experience of all kinds of theatrical affairs, has been appointed interim manager of this handsome theatre. His many friends will wish him success there, and confidently look to see his appointment made permanent before long.

Miss Gwennie Hasto, the original fancy dancer, finishes her six months' Stoll tour, having made a success all round with her quaint and original song "Miss Robinson Jones." She opens on Monday at the King's Theatre, Southsea, returning to town on Jan. 2 for three months, opening at Brixton and Walham Green.

Members of the variety profession will be interested to learn that Mr. J. W. Winton, who has been associated for some time with Wieland's Agency, is returning to Australia from Charing Cross on Wednesday next by the Continental mail at 9 a.m.

Mr. Winton will embark on the s.s. Osterley (Orient Line) at Marseilles on Dec. 1. The professional career of Mr. Winton is extremely interesting. He migrated to Australia sixteen years ago, and appeared under the management of Mr. Harry Rickards at the Tivoli, Sydney. Subsequently he became booking agent and manager to Mr. Rickards.

In the February of this year (owing to ill-health) Mr. Winton was compelled to cancel his contracts, and became associated with Mr. Wieland. It is now his intention to open an agency between the two continents in conjunction with Wieland's Agency. Mr. Winton's address for the time being will be the *Referee* offices, Sydney, but he hopes to return in the early summer to this country to complete all arrangements.

Those who are in the habit of paying a visit on occasion to the Empire Palace, Edinburgh, will learn with regret that Mr. Aynsley Cook, who has been three years manager of that house, intends, shortly to sever his connection with Moss's Empires. Mr. Cook has accepted the management of Mr. Alfred Butt's new theatre in Glasgow, the Alhambra, which is in course of construction, and will be opened in December.

The Alhambra, Glasgow, will be run on the lines of the Palace Theatre, London, there being only one house nightly. The entertainments will be of the highest class and when completed the Alhambra should be one of the most beautiful variety theatres in the Kingdom.

Not many managers have had the adventures and experience of Mr. Aynsley Cook in his profession. The eldest son of Mr. Aynsley Cook, St. George's Chapel Royal, Windsor Castle, he first sprang into prominence as a solo boy, and sang in St. Paul's Cathedral and at the wedding of Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne at St. George's Chapel. He also appeared many times before Royalty privately.

Mr. Cook joined the 1st Royal Dragoons as a private, and rose to the rank of troop sergeant-major. When appointed he was the youngest troop sergeant-major in the British cavalry. In Ireland during the years 1881 to 1885 he acted with the escort attached to the carriage of Lord Frederick Cavendish on the day of the murder in Phœnix Park.

Leaving the Army, the theatrical profession next attracted Mr. Cook, and he became acting-manager to the late T. W. Robertson, of *Caste* fame. After remaining with him for some years he transferred his services to the late Sir Augustus Harris. It is interesting to note also that Mr. Cook played in the *Fair Equestrienne* with Miss Cora Stuart on the opening night of the Edinburgh Empire, in November, 1892.

More recently Mr. Cook was appointed manager of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's Theatre Royal in Glasgow, where he remained for three years. Subsequently he became manager under Moss' Empires, Ltd., taking up engagements at the Sheffield and the Liverpool Palaces. He was five years in Liverpool, and then became secretary to the Formby Golf Club. Two years later he was appointed manager to Mr. Seymour Hicks at the Aldwych Theatre, London, and left that position to take over the Edinburgh Empire management—a trust which he has fulfilled with universal acceptance.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, who is trying to settle the dispute between the Welsh strikers and their employers, needs no introduction to our readers, who admit generally his absolute impartiality in the arbitration proceedings following the strike in 1907. He is undoubtedly the greatest mediator in trades disputes that Britain possesses, says a South Wales paper. His appearance is more suggestive of a soldier than of a lawyer. Keen and searching are the right words to apply to his eyes, but there is also in them a decided glint of humour. His hair is now decidedly grey, but any economy of thatch is more than compensated by the luxuriance of a heavy dark moustache. If any man can find a way out of the difficulty Mr. Askwith is that man.

On Thursday the first provincial matinée in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund was held in the Liverpool Empire, the use of which place of amusement was kindly granted by Mr. Oswald Stoll. There was a crowded audience, and the event was a big success, being under the patronage of the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and the Lady Mayoress (who were present), Lord Derby, Sir Edward Moss, Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., the Mayor of Blackpool (Mr. W. H. Broadhead), Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. Walter de Frece, Mr. Leonard Dunning (head constable), and Mr. W. W. Kelly. There were thirty-six turns, lasting about four hours, among the principal artists being Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Florrie Gallimore, Mr. Carl Hertz, Topsy Sinden, Mr. Ernest Shand, Houdini, and Mr. F. V. St. Clair.

During an interval Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, one of the honorary secretaries, of the Fund, who organised the matinée, thanked the public for their generous response that afternoon, and also expressed his indebtedness to the many artists who had given their services. Apologies were read from artists who had been unable to be present, but had sent donations, among these being Mr. Arthur Roberts, Bella and Bijou, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas. Telegrams wishing the matinée every success were received from Mr. Fred Herbert and Mr. Joe Elvin. It is expected that the event will realise £100.

In the rifle shooting contest at Wigan, between F. V. St. Clair and T. Shenton, the latter won by six points. The author-artist made 69 out of a possible 75, the loser scoring 63.

Mr. Alfred Butt will present, at the Palace Theatre, on Monday evening, a dog which sketches at an easel and will write with pen and ink any word suggested to him by the members of the audience.

By the kindly aid of Mr. Deer, of the Palace, Camberwell, no fewer than 220 of Houdini's books were sold at 1s. each. The result will be added to Mrs. Houdini's collecting card for the Music Hall Home.

Mr. W. F. Frame, better known as "The Man u Know," has been unanimously elected Right Worshipful Master of the Dramatic Lodge of Freemasons, 571, Glasgow, in which town Brother Wullie is very popular.

Miss Hettie Lee has been engaged by G. B. Phillips to play principal girl and to understudy principal boy in his forthcoming pantomime, *Sinbad*, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

Whilst Miss Beattie Bloom was performing at the King's Palace, Wellingborough, last week, an admirer handed her a large Plymouth Rock chicken, weighing over 7lb. Miss Bloom thanked the gentleman, and then asked the laughing audience "to come to dinner to-morrow."

Tom E. O'Neill, the original O'Neill of Maxford and O'Neill, has joined partners with the well-known Scotch comedian Jock West, and produced a new and original patter act which has made a great success in Liverpool this week.

The summons granted against the management of the Coliseum for producing a stage play, *Richard III.*, without a licence, has been withdrawn by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree pending a meeting of all concerned.

Hawley Harvey Crippen expiated his crime on the scaffold on Wednesday morning at Pentonville. His gruesome murder of Belle Elmore, his wife, and his dramatic arrest will make the trial one of the criminal cause celebres of the century.

Mr. Wilkie Bard having promised to give his services at the Alhambra matinée in aid of the Licensed Victualler's Asylum, determined to keep his word, although he had been unable to fulfil his ordinary engagements for a couple of evenings.

Mr. Mark Sheridan, another ready volunteer for the matinée mentioned, was present, but was unable to go on owing to lack of time. Mark, who leaves London after a most successful and long-extended engagement, to open at the Empire, West Hartlepool, will be seen at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, in the part of Ali Baba, the pantomime being one of Mr. Robert Arthur's numerous productions.

Miss Daisy-Dormer, now delighting her admirers in the suburbs as well as at the Tivoli, has been booked specially to star in America by Mr. Percy Williams; but previous to her voyage to the States she is to charm the Yorkshire folk at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, where she will play principal girl in the pantomime produced there this Yuletide by Mr. John Hart.

Sandy McNab and Co., in that screaming absurdity *The Egyptian Mummy*, have been drawing record houses everywhere, and have been specially successful in Lancashire. Sandy's London address for the future is 39, Hilldrop-crescent, N.W., the house associated with the Crippen crime. We referred to his purchase of this desirable residence last week.

Miss Mabelle Morgan, of Australia, sails by the Mauretania, Nov. 30, from New York, after a most brilliant and successful tour of the States, to keep her engagement at the Grand Theatre, Hull, as principal boy—Robin Hood—with Mr. J. F. Elliston. She will be accompanied by her husband, William Le Brun, who is also due in the same pantomime as one of the Robbers.

Mr. Lloyd Morgan, the light comedian, has been engaged for a special part at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, in the forthcoming pantomime, and has also been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll on Monday next, at the Empire, Glasgow. With only one week open in 1911, and the years 1912 and 1913 half-booked, Mr. Lloyd Morgan may be said to have "got right there." Will Oliver is his agent.

Miss Lil Hawthorne had a hearty reception on her return engagement at the Bronx Theatre, New York, the week of Nov. 7. After singing four long songs, appropriately costumed, and set in special scenery, Miss Hawthorne had to sing two more numbers before the audience would let her retire. If she can arrange her English engagements she will remain in America until next spring. Miss Hawthorne speaks in the highest terms of her treatment over the Percy Williams circuit.

Miss Hetty King was prevented from singing at the Empire, Swansea, on Thursday, the 17th, second house, owing to a cold contracted by travelling to and from Cardiff, where she appeared at the King Edward Memorial matinée. Her place was taken at a moment's notice by Miss Ethel Jones, a talented young Swansea soprano, who acquitted herself with honour, and received a very warm reception. It was Miss Jones's first appearance at a music hall.

Following close on the productions of *The Faun* and *Ship Ahoy!* comes yet another novelty at the Empire. Its title is *Widows' Weeds*, and it takes the form of a "real" farcical comedy in one act. It is from the pen of George Arliss, the English actor who has risen to the greatest pre-eminence in America, and who returns there shortly to produce Louis Parker's "Beaconsfield" play. The cast of the play, which will be produced in about ten days' time, includes Miss Millie Legarde, Miss Marjorie Dore, Miss Unity More, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, and Mr. Fred Eastman.

The new act at the London Hippodrome next week includes Edward Abeles and his company in a domestic comedy, by Grant Steward, entitled *He Tried to be Nice*. This clever sketch is to be presented for the first time in England, and, to effect this Mr. Edward Abeles and Miss Charlotte Lander travelled 12,000 miles from San Francisco, a record in journeys for variety's sake. Mr. Abeles is the creator in the States of Monty Brewster in *Brewster's Millions*, and returns to reopen his American tour at San Francisco immediately after his three weeks' engagement at the Hippodrome.

At the meeting of the committee of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund on Wednesday, the 16th inst., Mr. Fred Herbert (chairman) presiding, Mr. Albert le Fre (chairman and treasurer of the sports committee) presented an account of the receipts and payments regarding the athletic sports held last July in aid of the Fund at Stamford Bridge. It showed a profit of £94 4s., with another nearly £20 not yet paid in. The committee accepted the account as submitted, and passed a vote of thanks to Mr. le Fre and his co-workers, Mr. Charles Coborn, Mr. Jack Straw, and Mr. T. C. Callaghan, for their hard work and successful endeavours.

Datas, the memory man, is due to arrive in England to-day per R.M.S. Ormuz. He has travelled over 70,000 miles during his tour, visiting over 300 towns and mining centres, and is loud in his praise of the warm welcome he has received everywhere in the Antipodes.

Datas thinks that Australia has marvellous possibilities. There are sufficient industries to keep an enormous population, and land enough for many millions. Some day a great tide of emigration will make Australia its haven, and Australia—too slowly progressive now—will then become the pivot of the world.

During his world's tour Datas has stored in his brain thousands of additional dates. In fact, as one influential paper stated, his knowledge of the new world's history is so startling and weird as to border on the supernatural. Datas may look forward to a hearty welcome from his thousands of admirers when he arrives once more in the land of his birth.

Mr. Colin Carlisle, the light comedian, is just at present running the Theatre Royal, Sacriston, as a variety house on the twice-nightly system. Last week his programme consisted of nine turns. After Monday night every turn, without exception, was immediately booked for several dates by Mr. Allan McAskell, of McAskell's Travelling Variety Agency.

Mr. Will Dalton, of Dalton's Agency, has been offered a position in the variety world of much importance, concerning which a definite statement may be made shortly. The main question for Mr. Dalton to consider is his leaving Manchester, where his home and business connections are. The offer is a flattering recognition of Mr. Will Dalton's ability, and will come as a "surprise" to many if he accepts it. We are sorry to hear that he is still unable to resume business on account of his recent severe illness.

Messrs. Billy Day and Frank Sauteron were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Andie Caine, W.T., assisted by Terrier Fred A. Hooper, V.T., and Organist Terrier Carl Hamlin. Messrs. Bob Adele, Will Dale, Bert Farland, George Frederick Tee, and Captain Kettle, candidates for membership, have successfully passed the ballot.

Applications for membership of the Association have been received from Messrs. Chris. Baker, Harry Eventio, Arthur Palmer, Herbert Adams Pratt (Cyclamina), George Carney, Harry Howe, and Fred Whittaker. Candidates who fail to pass the ballot will have their nomination fee returned to their permanent address.

Any Terrier who is booked for an engagement in Johannesburg is requested to communicate with the secretary, Arthur Were, 69, Kennington-road, S.E. A committee has been formed to consider the question of starting a club, and Terriers Griff, Andie Caine, Harry Barnard, Fred Neiman, Edward Rose, Tom Packer, W. R. Dunkley, F. W. Fisher, Henry R. Stephens, W. H. Atlas, and C. W. Kloof have been elected to serve on it. Terrier F. J. Bacon will act as honorary secretary.

The Association propose to book a number of 3s. seats at the matinée to be held at the London Hippodrome upon Dec. 13, 1910, in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. Applications for seats, for Terriers and friends, must be forwarded as soon as possible to Terrier Arthur Were, accompanied with postal order for same.

There was a good attendance at the meeting upon Sunday last, the president, Terrier Griff, being present. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Billy Hobbs, Frederick Day, Dan Robans, Harry Luck, Henry Stephens, and George Nyman upon their reappearance in the kennel. Terrier W. R. Dunkley acted as W.D., and Terrier Berry Hope was the Y.B.

Terrier George Ernest Aplin has been appointed musical-director of the ladies' concert to be held at the Three Stags Hotel, Kennington, on Sunday, Dec. 4, at 8.30 p.m.

A banquet of the Terriers' Association will be held on Sunday, Jan. 1, 1911, to celebrate the great success of the Association during the year 1910, the president, Terrier Griff, in the chair. Further particulars will be announced in due course.

Little Effie Grimaldi has been honoured with an audition at the Lyceum Theatre. Mr. Melville was very pleased with the little lady, who gave exhibitions of clever toe dancing and a Salome dance.

That clever troupe of vocalists and expert dancers the Eight Sunrays, which includes the well-known producer of originalities, Miss Kitty Denton, from the Garrick Theatre, have been specially engaged at the Coronet pantomime, *Cinderella*, for ten weeks, after which they open for a long run on the halls.

An important addition was made to the Palace Theatre programme on Thursday night, when Miss Fifine de la Cote, a young soprano of sixteen years of age, of exceptional musical ability, made her first appearance in London. Miss de la Cote, who has already been heard by some of the keenest musical critics of the day, possesses a most extraordinary range and has a voice of exceptional purity, which was heard to advantage in the "Shadow" song from *Dinorah* and in the famous song from Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet."

Some interesting criticisms on the crisis in the variety theatre business were made by Mr. Henry Tozer, chairman of the directors, at the sixth annual meeting of the Variety Theatres Consolidated (Ltd.), held in the newly-renovated South London Palace on Tuesday.

The chairman regretted that the smallness of the net profit did not permit of the payment of a dividend. Commenting on the severe reduction in the takings, the chairman observed that it must have been evident that the music hall business was in danger of becoming over-developed. The mushroom growth of picture shows had accentuated that danger, and he was told that more than 200 separately constructed cinematograph shows had been licensed this year in the metropolis. Music halls also had increased 50 per cent. in the last ten years, and careful inquiries had led him to the opinion that at least one-half of the existing halls were at the present time being conducted at a loss.

It was only reasonable that some measure of protection from reckless competition, destructive alike to assailant and assailed, should be afforded to the shareholders of concerns which had been brought up to the required standard of safety and comfort. The company had taken steps to oppose the grant of a licence to a new building which it was proposed to erect within a few yards of their Euston Theatre, within one and three-quarter miles of which there were already fifteen competing variety theatres. It was hoped that the London County Council would, on the following Friday, decide not to promote chaos and disaster, but to refrain, in the general interests, from granting additional licences. The report and accounts were adopted.

Mr. Darby Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait sailed for Australia yesterday by the s.s. Osterley, and will add to the comicality of the programmes of Harry Rickards's houses down under.

The Rawsons, Maggie and Jack, the versatile entertainers, after a most successful tour of fourteen weeks (Moss and Stoll), return to town on Monday, opening at the Hackney Empire.

Signor and Madame Borelli, in their humorous and cat-chy imitations, opened this week at the Eden Theatre, St. Etienne, with other towns in France to follow.

Some 250 L.C.C. tramcars were held up between seven and eight o'clock on Tuesday morning through a 15-ton iron girder for strengthening the building being swung across the road in front of the Surrey Theatre in the Blackfriars-road, and for over an hour lines of cars were at a standstill in that thoroughfare and in Borough-road, Lambeth-road, London-road, and also in Westminster Bridge and Waterloo roads.

Miss Madge Temple, who is this week appearing at the Palace, Blackpool, where she is topping the bill, and eclipsing her previous successes, returns to London on Monday to commence an eight weeks' engagement in the West End, including the Tivoli.

Miss Temple has now fully established herself a great favourite, and is one of our leading attractions in vaudeville. She has a style absolutely her own, and always strikes an original way in which she renders her songs, which, by the way, always fit her like the proverbial glove. She is the possessor of a fine voice, and her enunciation is perfect.

Miss Temple, who always appears in outdoor costume (also another of her original ideas), always looks the essence of smartness, and she has justly been called "the Lady's Fashion Plate." Her songs are always of the best, and are with a lilting refrain. Her husband, Mr. Hermann E. Darewski, jun., the composer of "In the twi-twi-twilight," "Sue, Sue, Sue," and "I used to sigh for the silvery moon," has this year excelled himself in his song "On the silvery sands," which he has written for Miss Temple, and it is a number that can safely be predicted as the song of the year. That it will be heard in every patomime in England is a foregone conclusion.

So successful has Miss Temple's popular song become that it was the hit in the ballet at Blackpool Winter Gardens. It has also been selected as the *motif* of the ballet at the Alhambra, *On the Sands*. Miss Sybil Arundale, who appeared at the Empire a short while back, had special permission to sing it there, and created a furore. She has taken it out to Australia with her. Mr. Albert Whelan scored a triumph with this song in America on his last visit. A well-known Viennese manager, hearing Miss Temple sing the song at the Oxford, immediately secured it for production in his new opera in Vienna, where it was produced last week, and became an instantaneous hit and the rage of Vienna. It has also been secured for Paris, where an early production is pending. Rarely has a song such universal success as Miss Madge Temple's popular hit "On the silvery sands."

Principal among the newcomers at the Coliseum next week are T. Elder Hearn in his new character, which includes novel quick-change acting; Darracq in whizzing the wheel, a starbling and daring performance; Ray Wallace, the mimic at the piano; Alfred H. West, the English pianist; and Campbell and Barber, comedy cyclists. Mr. Seymour Hicks, in *Richard III.*, and Miss Denise Orme remain on the bill.

"The Chain of Harmony," a musical sketch, from the pen of Mr. Fred S. Jennings, was produced at the Willesden Hippodrome on Monday, and was the means of introducing to the audience a clever girl 'cellist in the person of Little Ivy Lea, seen to much advantage in the part of a daughter who joins her long-separated father and mother. Mr. Carl Junor, a clever pianist, delineated the character of the father.

Mrs. George Smythson has been elected President of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild for the ensuing year. This lady's practical help to the Guild in its administration and her warm sympathy with the woman workers in the profession make the choice an ideal one. Mrs. Smythson appeals for aid in the Christmas dinners and doles which are unhappily needed owing to the very real and widespread distress in the music hall profession. Our readers know it to be an excellent cause, and that every penny will be wisely expended.

On behalf of the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 61, New Oxford-street, W.C., the secretary begs most gratefully to thank the following:—Musical Hall Artists' Railway Association for their generous gift of £40; Miss Fanny Harris (donation), 5s.; Miss Evelyn Mildred (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Dan Godfrey (per Miss Mabel Mavis) (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Malcolm Scott (per Mrs. Cowper) (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Franco Piper (donation), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Herbert Shelley (donation), 5s. 3d.; Miss Eli Deane (Hanley) (donation), 6d.; Mrs. Gintaro (collected), 12s. 6d., as follows, for the Christmas Tree:—Mrs. Wilkie Bard 2s. 6d., Miss Nellie Waring 2s. 6d., Mrs. Kelton 2s. 6d., Mrs. Rinaldo 5s. Miss Irene Rose (collecting), 12s.; Miss Lottie Albert (collecting), 10s.; Mrs. James Horne (collecting for Christmas Tree), £1 4s. 2d.; Mrs. Rita Roma (collecting), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Fred Sinclair (Sinclair and Whiteford) (donation), 5s. 6d.; collected by Capner and Steele at Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, from manager, staff, and artists, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Ernest Collins, four plum puddings and useful clothing.

Mrs. George Smythson and committee desire to thank Mr. Lionel Carson, of the *Stage*, for promise of ten Christmas puddings to be given away with beef at Christmas to our poor pensioners. Will all those who know of the Christmas tree and treat we give to all the poor children of the music hall profession at Christmas time kindly send funds and gifts for same? We have received from Miss Lottie Albert gift of new boots; Mrs. James Horne, gift of new undergarments; Mrs. Cowper, gift of shoes; Miss Roma Shanara, new woollen petticoat; Mrs. George de Gracia (Assam Elephants), new woollen lady's wrap; useful clothing from Mme. Li Chang Hi; Mrs. Earle, cushion.

Friends of the charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock. Funds, boots, and clothing are urgently needed. Will subscribers please make cheques payable to Music Hall Ladies' Guild?

The death of Mr. Henry Coutts, of *Ouidanked* fame, has led to a curious error in an obituary notice of this popular protean artist and Freemason. He has been credited with being one of the founders of the Asaph Lodge, the great musical lodge of London, which was in existence when the deceased gentleman was a toddler. It was Mr. Charles Coutts, the popular composer of dance music, now a hale and hearty octogenarian, who was one of the chief moving spirits in the foundation of the Asaph. Brother Coutts at one time might have legitimately claimed the title of waltz king of London. His melodies were hummed and danced to in every ballroom.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

BUT another few weeks and pantomime will be with us, and the number of those interested in songs for the Christmas annuals who daily flock to Messrs. Francis and Day's chief establishment show no sign of abatement; and one and all are loud in their praises of the magnificent budget of new and seasonable ditties available for their use. Especial delight has been evinced by musical directors also in finding ready to their hand once again so brilliant and vivacious a selection of popular melodies as Warwick Williams' "Best of the Bunch," which will loom large as a pantomime overture at very many houses.

A BIG rush is being made to secure Messrs. Francis and Day's exhilarating and rollicking song "Come with me down Regent-street," a number that in the safe hands of Miss Daisy James, and also of Miss Winifred Ward, has set audiences assisting in singing the chorus everywhere these popular artists have appeared. Pantomime artists who wanted and were longing to obtain a legitimate success to the firm's great song "Let's all go down the Strand" are now satisfied.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE'S "On the silvery sands," in its class, holds easily the position of first favourite in the estimation of most principal boys, and the sales of this popular number promise to equal, if not exceed, those of its famous forerunner "In the Twi-twi-twilight." It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THAT splendid ballad "If I had the world to give you," published in no fewer than three keys by Messrs. Francis and Day, is, as the time grows shorter, more and more in request among pantomime people. The absence of sickly bathos in the lyric and the beauty of the flowing melody have been noted by innumerable artists of discernment, and Mr. Dave Carter has been complimented by many on his sagacity in acquiring this beautiful song so long back.

THAT trinity of songs of popularity unparalleled —"Down in Jungle Town," "Top o' the morning, Bridget McCue," and "I've got rings on my fingers"—are in ever-growing request among pantomime folk, and these assured hits are being sent out in increasing numbers by Messrs. Francis and Day, in response to importunate applicants.

THAT superlative march-time song "Take your girlie where the band is playing," that has been evoking thunderous plaudits when sung by dainty Miss Maie Ash in the production of *Captain Kidd*, will be heard on every hand on Boxing Night, it having been taken up very largely by producers of annuals. A good march song is a *rara avis*, but Messrs. Francis and Day have yet again risen to the occasion, and to hear it was to endeavour to secure it.

AT Darlington, where Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has been delighting his admirers during the current week with his new and choice songs, there has been a brisk enquiry for the "Album of G. H. Elliott's popular songs" recently placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day. This fine artist's noted songs "There's a little Black Cupid in the moon" and "Mister Owl," both of which appear in the volume, will be heard in first-class pantomimes galore.

MR. TOM COSTELLO, who at the Finsbury Park Empire has been meeting with his customary success with his humorous song "I got married to a widow," was on Monday night the recipient of four calls when he had concluded his second number "I don't mind leaving the dear homeland," which haunting refrain was most heartily joined in by a full house. It is published by Messrs. Francis and Day, and is in much request among pantomime artists, especially with those who are cast for heroes such as Dick Whittington.

OF humorous songs Messrs. Francis and Day have ever a gigantic budget of the very latest, and this year a special raid is being made by artists engaged in pantomime for rights of Messrs. Rich and Rich's laughable chant "We don't want a girl," which is eminently suitable for double turns. Miss Ada Reeve's amusing song "And just then he fell out of bed" has many admirers, and is a fine specimen of the handiwork of H. F. Greenfield.

THAT fine "production number" known as "In cherry blossom time in Japan" has been seized upon by many managements for exploitation in pantomime, this charming item especially lending itself to gorgeous lighting effects. The entrancing melody is in H. E. Pether's best vein, and the words, by Leonard Cooke, will enhance that author's reputation. Messrs. Francis and Day are the publishers.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY'S pantomime hits in special and general demand comprise, of course, the ubiquitous "Flanagan" of Miss Florrie Forde, and its equally humorous offshoot "Why does Mrs. Flanagan want to go to the Isle of Man?" of Mr. Rowland Hill. "There are nice girls everywhere" and "Put on your tat-ta, little girlie," grow continuously in estimation, as do also "Hail, smiling morn (will you sing this glee with me?)," "My Mary," "'Tis a faded picture," and "Hi! Hi! Mr. McKie."

THE pantomime books issued by Messrs. Francis and Day for the season 1910-11 have been acclaimed by all those who have applied for copies as one of the greatest boons of the time, artists being enabled thereby to select from the fifty songs comprised in the two volumes all the ditties required by them. The full pianoforte accompaniment to each number added greatly to the value of both the book for principal boy and girl and the book for comedian and dame.

THAT delightful artist Miss Gladys Huxley, whose song "Won't you come to Colombo with me?" published by Messrs. Francis and Day, is a notable addition to the firm's catalogue, is singing the same firm's number "Good-bye, everybody's girlie" on the halls, and will feature the item in pantomime.

THAT charming principal boy Miss Dorothy Ward has secured "Good-bye, everybody's girlie" for a production number at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. In the hands of so dainty an artist as Miss Ward the song is bound to create a great impression, the popular lady being justly considered a prince among principal boys of the time.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE, in addition to singing "On the silvery sands" at the Palace, Blackpool, during the week, has been also working Messrs. Francis and Day's new and delightful ballad, "You taught me how to love you." Miss Clara Beck has been also scoring an immense success with this choice song, as has likewise Miss Dorothy Ward.

MR. TOM E. FINGLASS, at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, has just produced "My pony boy," a song published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The "original cowboy coon" scored an instantaneous success with this dashing item.

MISS CRISSIE LEONARD will feature a number of Messrs. Francis and Day's items in Mr. Robert Arthur's pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, where she will delight all and sundry as principal boy.

HUNTLEY TREVOR and Percy Edgar, who have just entered into partnership as author and composer, have in "Everyone's key fits my street door" a number that pantomime artists in search of an hilarity-raising item are already inquiring after. It has been expedited through the press, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The music in this instance is by Henry E. Pether.

MR. MAURICE SCOTT, the popular composer, has some splendid free songs for pantomime, and those interested would do well to send for a selection at once. Mr. Scott is the composer of the three great hits: "Swing me higher, Obadiah," "Caro-lina Brown," and the present enormous rage, "I've got rings on my fingers."

THOSE prolific and popular writers, Messrs. R. P. Weston, F. J. Barnes, and Maurice Scott, have just placed with Messrs. Francis and Day a really splendid light comedy song, entitled "Where it's shady," the couplets of which are exceptionally clever and humorous. That charming comedienne, Miss Madge Temple, immediately secured same on hearing it, and will put it in her répertoire forthwith.

(*Continued on page 24.*)

MISS RENEE GRAHAME, at the American Music Hall, New York, is meeting with wonderful receptions nightly. The Americans say she is a "diminutive bit of humanity," and the smartest-dressed artist in New York.

MRS. MARIE SPURR, widow of the late Mel B. Spurr, the society entertainer, fell into the fire at her house in Denbigh-street, S.W., on Saturday night and died the next morning. It was stated at the inquest on Tuesday She leaves a daughter inconsolable at the tragic loss of a devoted mother.

IT is understood that Miss Edyth Walker, the American prima donna, a gifted impersonator of Wagnerian rôles and the first Electra heard at Covent Garden, has agreed (so we are informed from Berlin) to sing at the Palladium during January next. Miss Walker denies that she has abandoned opera for the variety stage.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

The cheerless weather outside appeared more cheerless by contrast with the brilliancy and warmth which greeted the frequenters of this popular hall, where Mr. E. W. James greets his patrons with a welcoming and ever genial smile, ably assisted by his capable lieutenant, Mr. Will Horsfield. The programme is an excellent one, opening with a selection from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. Chanti, the modern Proteus, gave a marvellously clever and highly successful performance. It made a great hit and was warmly applauded.

Walter Wade was very quaint and amusing in his new and original monologue entitled "Sandy Macgregor." Mr. Wade was rewarded with considerable applause. Frederick King and Miss Queenie scored heavily in their clever little sketch entitled *The Butler and the Cook*, in which both artists greatly distinguished themselves by their versatility. Vicky Delmar was warmly applauded as a drum soloist and novelty dancer, and the applause was well deserved. The Mackweys presented a clever eccentric wire act, and their smartness and skill were greatly admired. Dutch Daly is a huge favourite here, where he and his concertina are greeted as old friends, and his richly humorous stories, told in his inimitable style, cause much amusement. Charles Austin had an enthusiastic reception in *Parker, P.C.*, which is aptly billed as "A problematical production proficiently portrayed, and pronounced a powerful presentment by acknowledged artists." It is full of rollicking fun, which never flagged until the sketch had finished and been loudly applauded. Miss Rosie Fitzgerald made herself a favourite by her well-rendered songs, accompanied by illustrated song sheets. Herbert Dickeson and company appeared with success in a nautical musical comedy entitled *A Fair Exchange*, in which Mr. Herbert Dickeson distinguished himself as Admiral Blake, R.N., and was ably assisted by Mr. Victor Hunter (a capital Lieutenant Blake), Miss Violet Gwynn Lytton (a charming Molly Marshall), and Miss Lily Lemere (a clever Mrs. Fairfax). American Bioscope pictures concluded a capital bill.

THE GRANVILLE.

Despite the bad weather on the night of our visit here, a very fair house assembled to sample the excellent variety fare provided for their amusement by Mr. R. W. Duce, who clearly seems to know what hits the public taste in Walham Green. Mr. Harry Barford's company tops the bill in a playlet, written by Jose G. Levey, entitled *The Irony of Fate*, and, although it is perhaps at times slightly too tragical in its intensity, it nevertheless is well written, and should win much favour. The acting of the distracted mother and father, especially the latter, calls for the highest praise.

Miss Maud Esmond, the original singer of "Charlie Brown," has a pleasing manner and an excellent stage presence, which she takes the fullest advantage of. In that popular ballad "I wonder if you care" she was repeatedly encored for her meritorious rendering of it. Miss Clara Reid and Mr. John Power are a vivacious comedy couple, with many quaint gags and wheezes, and their reception was most cordial.

Miss Maidie Scott is a clever comedienne, who finds popularity everywhere, and deservedly so. From the moment she stepped on the stage till the time when the house reluctantly let her go she fascinated everybody. Her first number, "Father's started work," was received with the usual applause, but in "If the managers only thought the same as mother" she has an original song which suits her methods admirably. Even the most timorous débutante might take the stage full of confidence with a ditty like this, so what an artist of the calibre of Maidie Scott does with it conveys a lot. Romanoff, the Russian gipsy violinist, handled his instrument with feeling dexterity; and Woolmer Young is an actor-vocalist of decided promise and ability. The Herald Comedy Four have an effective successful scena, called *The Hawkers*, which allows this tuneful quartette plenty of scope to prove their worth.

Mr. Frank Couch is a patter comedian with a loud, penetrating voice and plenty of smart gags and stories, which he delivers with pleasing affability and effect. Others appearing were the Five Bombays, a juvenile troupe, with a smart singing and dancing act, and the Michel Brothers, in some wonderful head and hand balancing feats, which were much applauded. During the evening some particularly clear cinematograph films were screened, and the band, under the skilful direction of Mr. Frank Thomas, considerably added to the brightness of the entertainment.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Amongst the many attractions which are being presented to well-filled houses here this week is Messrs. Joe Peterman and Geo. Ricketts' musical comedy sketch, *The Belle of the Orient*, which is too well known to need any description. Another prominent feature on the programme is Miss Irma Lorraine, assisted by Marjah, the young premiere danseuse, and Mlle. Leoni Berenzi in an artistic act consisting of living pictures and statuary intermingled with classical dances. Amongst the many tableaux presented are Spring and Winter, Literature, The Bath of Psyche, and the Five Senses, each sense having individual representation, the whole forming an exceedingly beautiful and chaste performance.

Dale and O'Malley, the "somewhat different comedians," create a deal of laughter with their amusing cross-talk, and especially with their ludicrous efforts as simultaneous comedians. An excellent juggling turn is provided by Cole and Rags, in which they display considerable dexterity, their comic business being also very good. Mr. Walter Bird's company are presenting a screamingly funny sketch entitled *Her Husband*, in the cast of which appears that inimitable comedian Ernie Lotinga, whose antics as the burglar, Jemmy Josser, send the audience into convulsions of merriment.

Other good features on the bill are Miss Bessie Benson, who sings effectively "I'd rather have your room than your company," and also scores well with her sand dancing, and G. S. Melvin, the versatile Scot, in song and dance. Dan Thomas, who appears as a terrible-looking lady, and sings "I've been married before," is very good, and Harry Cooke is a comedian who sings a song composed of a number of popular song titles. On the screen is shown Pathé's animated Graphic, which gives an interesting review of the world's current events.

IN mentioning the names of those present at the funeral of the late Willie Bassett we omitted to include his old friend Richard Cass.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PUBLISHERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST SONGS.

LEGITIMATE HITS FOR PANTOMIME.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
MISS MADGE TEMPLE.

PUT ON YOUR TAT-TA, LITTLE GIRLIE.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

FLANAGAN.
MISS FLORRIE FORDE.

HI! HI! Mr. McKIE. MISS ELLA RETFORD.

COME WITH ME DOWN REGENT STREET.
MISS DAISY JAMES AND MISS WINIFRED WARD.

IF I HAD THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU
DAVE CARTER.

THERE ARE NICE GIRLS EVERYWHERE.
WHIT CUNLIFFE.

I DON'T MIND LEAVING THE DEAR HOMELAND.
TOM COSTELLO.

TAKE YOUR GIRLIE WHERE THE BAND IS PLAYING.
MISS MAIE ASH.

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS.
MISS ELLALINE TERRISS.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, 142, Charing Cross Rd., London. THE PLACE WHERE THE HITS COME FROM.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(*Continued from page 23.*)

The imminence of King Pantomime has caused the eyes of performers and producers alike to be directed Glasgow-wards, where the first pantomimes of the year will make their appearance, early in December. A considerable number of Feldman songs will figure in all these productions, the Arthur-street firm this year owning so unprecedentedly a lengthy list of tried and proven successes that there are "enough to go round" and to spare, without any vexatious duplication of number. For principal boys, the specially fine numbers are "Beautiful garden of roses," "By the sea," "Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town," "Oh, boys, I've seen you there," "In the sunny Engadines," "By the light of the silvery moon," "Nobody knows—nobody cares," "Mister Pat O'Hare," "You were coming through the corn, Molly dear," "I wonder who's kissing her now," "Santa Fe," and "Any little girl." For principal girls the favourite numbers are "Marie Louise," "Little Miss Importance," "I wonder if it's true," "Foolish questions," "Everywhere I go I leave my heart with you," "Silver Bell," "U-li-i-a-Tee," &c. Several of the songs mentioned for principal boy would suit principal girl also, notably "Maggie Ryan" and "By the light of the silvery moon."

For comedians engaged in pantomime, Feldman and Co. are in a position to offer George Formby's two great songs, "Playing the game in the West" and "I was standing at the corner of the street." Jack Pleasant's hit, "Liza had hold of my hand," and the two great comedy duets, "The Barber's Ball," sung by the Two Bobs, and "Sing, sing, sing," sung by Damerell and Rutland. From such a list as the above, it should surely not be difficult to choose *all* the numbers necessary for any pantomime and satisfy the requirements of the most exacting of producers.

The success that Mr. Mark Sheridan made at the Tivoli, Strand, last week, has been more than duplicated during the current one, both at Walthamstow and Tottenham, where his latest and greatest of all songs relative to the seaside, "By the sea," has been received with the nightly acclaim due to a really great song and singer. The new Sheridan song will be a power in pantomime this year. Already the most important managers, keen to grasp its potentialities, have applied for permission to include it in their productions. It is by the author-composer of Mr. Mark Sheridan's last year's great hit, "I do like to be beside the seaside," Mr. Glover-Kind, and was in fact suggested by the second line of the verse of the latter, which runs thusly: "By the side of the silvery sea." Messrs. Feldman and Co. fully anticipate the new song being as great a pantomime triumph as its famous predecessor, if it does not indeed eclipse its record.

The long-expected West-end production of Feldman's great Irish chorus song, "Maggie Ryan from Dublin Town," duly came off on Monday evening last, when Miss Carlotta Levey achieved one of the greatest triumphs of her successful career with this most fascinating of lilts. Her rendering of the number was simply perfection, and the entire audience literally "rose" to both song and singer. It was the second offering of this talented artist, and at its termination a most vociferous and spontaneous burst of applause greeted her efforts, the singer being forced to again and again bow her acknowledgments, ere her delighted audience would allow her to depart. This song will undoubtedly be featured in all this year's most important pantomimes, being head and shoulders above any other Irish song of the season, and we can confidently predict for "Maggie" a most satisfactory reign in the realms of pantomime. All concerned are to be congratulated on a real "winner" of the first water.

That Feldman's gem of ballads, "Beautiful garden of roses," although it has been pretty extensively sung on the halls of variety, has by no means exhausted its power to charm in the music-halls, has been Miss Lulu Russell's experience this week at the Pavilion, Liverpool, where she has been winning the most golden of opinions for her exquisite rendering of this masterpiece of sentiment and melody. Her reception has been a veritable triumph, and Press and Public alike have vied to do her homage.

There is no daintier exponent or sweeter singer of Feldman's big cowboy number, "Santa Fé," than Miss José Collins, and on Monday last she was acclaimed to the echo for her spirited rendering of this fine song of the "wild and woolly West" at the Oxford. On Tuesday evening Miss Collins produced another Feldman number, "Everywhere I go I leave my heart with you," which was an instantaneous and emphatic success; and she is singing yet a third Feldman number, at Willesden, an old favourite of this delightful singer, "I wonder if it's true," a song that will have an exceptional vogue among principal girls in this year's pantomimes. As a matter of fact, Miss Collins has herself arranged to sing this song in pantomime, in addition to "In the sunny Engadine" and "By the light of the silvery moon," all Feldman publications.

The applications from both principal boys and girls for permission to sing "By the light of the silvery moon" (the song suits either) have been overwhelming in number, at the Feldman offices, during the present week, and this delightful number bids fair to run the song of the year, "Beautiful garden of roses," very close indeed for pantomime honours. No cleverer lyric has ever come from America; while the tune is of that arresting quality that lingers tenaciously in the memory when once heard. Miss Ella Retford has undoubtedly made the success of her career with this fine number in the halls.

That "The Barber's Ball," with which the Two Bobs continue to charm all and sundry at the London Pavilion and their other turns in the metropolis will be the favourite pantomime duet throughout these islands is now a *sine qua non*, the applications for permission for same being legion. No self-respecting pantomime can afford to omit this wonderful success. It is brimful of comedy, and the melody is one of George M. Cohan's irresistible masterpieces. It is the ideal number for comedian and dame, principal boy and dame, or baron and smart principal girl, and for performers who can dance the possibilities of this spirited duet are simply illimitable. Ubiquitous Feldman is the publisher.

A song which several producers and musical directors have wisely decided to include in their pantomimes is Feldman's fascinating and very original number, "Won't there ever be any wedding-bells for me?" This song admits of bell effects, together with novel staging, and should prove a boon to producers in search of a distinct song novelty. Feldman's issue band-parts of this number, as they do of the majority of their this season's plums.

That genial writer and pantomime producer, Mr. George Burton, has just placed with Feldman and Co. a magnificent new number, entitled "My girl's a regular Sheffield blade," which he has already arranged to have featured in a number of productions, up north. By the alteration of the name of the town, the song can easily be localised to suit the particular town, where the pantomime it is included in is being played. Singers engaged in pantomime should lose no time in sending for this number, a certain success in the provinces, and no doubt also in London.

Not only do the Romps continue to win success all along the line, with Feldman's great principal boy number, "Oh, boys, I've seen you there"; but Miss Daisy Mead will specially sing it at the King's, Gateshead, on Monday next, and onwards all round her provincial tour. Mr. Colin Carlisle and Miss May Lillian Levey have also been phenomenally successful with this song in the provinces. It is already booked for many of the principal pantomimes of the year.

Mr. Jack Smiles, at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, has been highly successful with Feldman's "tongue-twister," "Fish Sauce," which has nightly been received with roars of laughter. This is one of the finest songs in the market for pantomime comedians this year, and as such should command a very great vogue indeed. Mr. Smiles will sing this clever song throughout his forthcoming provincial tour, commencing on Monday next.

That rapidly-rising comedian, Mr. Harry Marlow, at the Hippodrome, Ilford, this week, is making a most pronounced success with Feldman's excellent comedy chorus song, "We're miles away from home," and this song will be a special feature in Mr. Marlow's part when he plays Dandini for Mr. Milton Bode at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, at Christmas.

That well-tried veteran, Egbert Roberts, tells Messrs. Sheard and Co. that it is a long time since he has made such an effect with a song of the "Foli" type as with Stanley Gordon's "Neptune." Vigorous, vocal, and stirring, it is a number that "gets there" at once, and, judging from the tremendous success Miss Iva Voyce has been and is making with it, this song is rapidly becoming a second "Asleep in the deep," and a rival to "When the ebb-tide flows."

A love-song eloquent of feeling exactly describes St. Quentin's haunting and expressive number, "Everywhere," which Miss Ediss Coombs has made so popular. The catchy valse refrain is just the thing for the gallery to "take up," and those looking for a number pretty in its sentiment without being maudlin cannot do better than see and secure Messrs. Chas. Sheard's latest. It is being inquired after—well—"Everywhere."

When that versatile writer of songs showed the words of "The Volcano" to that popular composer, Stanley Gordon, the latter literally "jumped at" them. Messrs. Chas. Sheard lost no time in "jumping at" the song, and bass and baritone vocalists are "jumping at" it everywhere. The dramatic vigour of the words is admirably expressed by the well-marked melody of the music. Though easy to sing, it is a "big" number in its opportunity for effect. It is in great demand for "demons" in the coming panto. season.

"A song that haunts one" was the opinion of a favourite pantomime boy this week, when shown by Messrs. Charles Sheard and Co. Clifton Bingham and Edward St. Quentin's latest "hit," "What would my life be without you?" This is exactly what the number is, "haunting." It is tender, expressive, and though effective is essentially easy to sing. The flowing refrain catches the ear at once. The publishers have decidedly secured a success here.

"Pick me a nice one," a new song just produced by Phil Parsons, is a decided hit, and will make a most attractive principal boy song. All panto. artists seeking a catchy, comedy-chorus song, with a good swinging melody and smart words, can obtain a copy of the song from the Von Tilzer Music Co.

George Robey, again showing his knowledge of the public pulse, is scoring well at the Empire with his "Wow-wow" song, and the continued applause this song gains pronounces it to be another of his big successes. The publishing rights have been secured by Von Tilzers, who will have the song ready in their sixpenny edition in the course of the next few days.

Among Von Tilzer's recent comic song publications are Harry Champion's successful song, "My natty little patch behind" (Chas. Collins and E. A. Sheppard), Fred Earle's "John! John! John! (Time's going on)" (Paul Pelham and J. P. Long), and Harry Ford's "What is a ——?" (Worton David and R. Penso).

The firm of Nightingale and Co. includes in its staff a tame poet whose gifts have been utilised in producing a professional circular, which runs as follows:—

Rhyme and Reason.

The greatest song this century can show
Is certainly "Your eyes have told me so."

An easy "Nap" each manager can go
With this trump-card, "Your eyes have told me so."

We're told "Man wants but little here below,"
But that includes "Your eyes have told me so."

"Boy," "Girls," and Fairy Queens a debt will owe
To this one song, "Your eyes have told me so."

If you've a song that's weak, and fails to "go,"
Exchange it for "Your eyes have told me so."

Or if some scene should drag and seem too slow,
Pop in the "cert." "Your eyes have told me so."

It suits all voices, medium, high, or low,
This wondrous song, "Your eyes have told me so."

Like Jack's famed beanstalk, it will grow and grow,
Till nations chant "Your eyes have told me so."

You'll find your audience full of grief and woe,
If you don't sing "Your eyes have told me so."

Pit, balcony, and stalls with rapture glow
When bands strike up "Your eyes have told me so."

A lucky firm is Nightingale and Co.
To own the gem, "Your eyes have told me so."

(*Continued on page 25.*)

Clara Reid and John Power have scored another success with their production entitled *Stories*.

Mr. John Lawson is producing a new sketch on Monday, Dec. 5, at the Camberwell Palace. It is named *The Affinity*, and in it he will play a "master of affectation." It is in two scenes, the second of which is placed "in the mountains."

Mr. Walter Schroder last week concluded an inquiry at Marylebone as to the cause of death of Edward Delamott Stuart, a scene-shifter at the Palace, who died on Nov. 7 in the Middlesex Hospital. A doctor from that institution said that the man was paralysed down the whole of one side, and he attributed death to cerebral hæmorrhage, which was in no way due to an injury alleged to have been caused by a blow from a plank. Dr. Spilsbury, pathologist at St. Mary's Hospital, who had made an examination of the body, said that there had been no serious injury to the skull, and any injury Stuart received did not affect the head internally. Death was due to coma from a ruptured artery in the brain, and he did not think that death was due to any injury received. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

FELDMAN'S TRIUMPH for PANTOMIME.

"CARDEN OF ROSES"

The acknowledged Ballad of the Year.

THIS SONG WILL OUTRIVAL OUR FORMER HITS:

"TINY SEED OF LOVE" AND "SOMEWHERE."

NO ARTISTE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THIS. DO NOT BE MISLED! WE STAKE OUR REPUTATION ON THIS SONG! IT WILL POSITIVELY BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL SUCCESS EVER PUBLISHED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PUBLISHERS OF POPULAR MUSIC.

ARTISTS, REMEMBER! YOUR SUCCESS IS OURS

OTHER GREAT PANTOMIME WINNERS.

HEAR MARK SHERIDAN SING

"BY THE SEA"

"THE" Principal Boy's Song of the Year.

HEAR ELLA RETFORD SING

"BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON"

The Song that will be Featured in 200 Pantomimes.

HEAR CARLOTTA LEVEY SING

"MAGGIE RYAN"

AT THE OXFORD, NIGHTLY.

The Irish Chorus Song of the Year.

HEAR THE TWO BOBS SING

"THE BARBER'S BALL"

AT THE LONDON PAVILION, NIGHTLY.

The Comedy Duet of the Year.

We have the greatest and most varied selection of PROVEN SUCCESSES for PANTOMIME ever offered to Artists and Producers. Call or write at once, stating Part and Theatres.

B. FELDMAN & CO.,

2 & 3, ARTHUR STREET, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.

Tel. Address—"HUMFRIV, LONDON." Telephone—4447 GERRARD.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 24.)

THE sands are rapidly running out, and in something less than a fortnight King Pantomime will have started his reign. At the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, where is produced the first important pantomime of the year, rehearsals are already in full swing. Many managers and producers will be in evidence on the "first night," and will naturally be influenced by the public verdict so far as songs are concerned. Here there will be a fair field and no favour, and what are said to be the two greatest pantomime songs of the year will be put to the test. These are A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's two fine numbers, "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" and "Fall in and follow me." During the past week the Star Music Co.'s new offices have been literally crowded with pantomime artists and producers in quest of these and other songs published by this enterprising firm.

THE latest recruit to fall under the spell of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's beautiful chorus ballad "I wonder if you miss me sometimes" is that sweet singer of pretty songs, Miss Lily Eyton. The dainty little artist, who is appearing at the Olympia, Shoreditch, has made one of the greatest of her successes with this charming number. In her rendering of the song Miss Eyton brings to bear a most artistic appreciation of the author and composer's intention. Her success in pantomime with this popular ballad is a foregone conclusion. Applications for pantomime rights should be addressed to the publishers, the Star Music Co.

NEVER before surely were there so many applicants for a particular song than there has been for A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's brilliant light-comedy number "Fall in and follow me." Not only has practically every principal boy in the kingdom hailed it as the one particular song she "must sing" whatever else goes by the board, but innumerable second boys, light comedians, and even principal girls have sought to secure pantomime rights of this big winner. It so happens that this year there is no competition in this particular type of song. "Fall in and follow me" stands alone and unchallenged. The Star Music Co. have made a minute examination of the map of the British Isles, and have failed to find a single town where pantomimes are played for which this great song has not been secured. In many cases two and three pantomimes in large towns will each feature the song.

ONE of the greatest favourites for forthcoming pantomime is A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's fine march number "Cheer up, my Highland lassie." This is undoubtedly the best song of the kind written since the same authors gave us "Hear the pipers calling, Jenny mine." Judging by the number of sets of band-parts that have been applied for by musical directors, this song will be heard up and down the country on Boxing night.

THE eleventh-hour sensation is without doubt A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's tricky little Irish song "What d'ye say, Molly Molley?" Miss May Mars, who is featuring the song at her London engagements, has created a furore with this catchy number, and will make it one of her principal items in pantomime. The song is suitable for girl or boy parts, and the Star Music Co. have printed band-parts.

G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured one, is duplicating in the provinces the great success he made at the London halls with A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's two new songs, "Here comes the chocolate major" and "Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah." Both are novel items, away from the beaten track, and the former lends itself to fine effects as a production number. The Star Music Co. are granting pantomime rights free.

WHIT CUNLIFFE has seldom been fitted with two finer songs than those he is at present exploiting. As a chorus number "Up she goes," by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, would be hard to beat, and as a genuine comic song Barnes and Weston's "You can't do without each other" is one which no comedian in pantomime should miss. Mr. Cunliffe is featuring both songs on the Moss-Stoll tour, with enormous success. The publishers are the Star Music Co.

GEORGE LASHWOOD is the bright particular star at the Grand, Birmingham, this week, and he is welcomed in his native town in no uncertain manner. His chief contribution is A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's great chorus song "The moonlight promenade," and, needless to say, the genial "Beau Brummel" gets "right home" with it. This is indisputably one of the biggest winners ever exploited by this favourite artist, and principal boys who want the best waltz chorus of the year, with humorous changing couplets, should secure a copy of "The moonlight promenade" from the Star Music Co.

VARIOUS signs indicate that we are on the eve of another surprise hit from America, the land of tall buildings and big songs. Everywhere one hears the opinion that Phil Parsons' great success "My wife's gone to the country, Hooray!" is likely to sweep this country as it did the U.S.A. A series of extra funny verses, by A. J. Mills, are given with professional copies. The song is issued jointly by the Ted Snyder Co. and the Star Music Co., who have printed band-parts in all keys.

MR. ARTHUR REECE is making an enormous hit with a new and quaint number, entitled "The ghost of Lady Jane," it is written by Alfred Ellerton, and has been set to an ear-haunting melody by Maurice Scott. The Star Music Co. have the number in the press.

Two new songs, entitled "My world is a world of sunshine" and "The other pair of shoes," by Harry Carlton and Max Steiner, are in great demand for the coming pantomimes, being ideal songs for principal boy and fairy queen respectively. Permissions may be had from the publishers, Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co.

LITTLE JACK MARKS has a new song in study, by Harry Carlton, entitled "The Sunday morning parade." Frank H. Fox is scoring a big success in his new number, entitled "I'd rather have the moonshine," also written and composed by Harry Carlton.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—*The Financier.*

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—*Referee*, May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, AND CINEMATOGRAPHS.

Yesterday the London County Council sat to hear and determine the recommendations of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee on applications for licences for theatres, stage plays, music and dancing, and music.

Mr. Whitaker Thompson, chairman of the Council, presided.

The Committe submitted the following report:—

"Nov. 11 and 12, 1910.

"In accordance with the resolution of July 26-27, 1910, we attended at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, on Nov. 11 and 12, 1910, for the purpose of hearing applications for, and oppositions to, the granting of licences for music, music and dancing, and stage-plays within the Administrative County of London.

"The total number of applications for licences was as follows:—Stage-plays, north of the Thames, renewals 10, new 0—10; south of the Thames, renewals 5, new 0—5; total 15. Music and dancing or music only: north of the Thames, renewals 232, new 55—287; south of the Thames, renewals 133, new 33—166; total 453. Grand total, 468.

"The number of applications received last year was 412, of which the Council granted 395. The number received this year is 468, and of these applications nine were withdrawn by the applicants, and nineteen are recommended for refusal.

"The chief inspectors of the various divisions of the Metropolitan and City Police attended in Court, as in former years, and gave evidence, when required, as to the premises in respect of which licences were sought and the character of the applicants.

"In applications for new licences in respect of premises which have not yet been erected or where alterations have to be effected to render them satisfactory, and in certain other cases, we have recommended that provisional licences should be granted, in order that the Council may be satisfied, before the premises are opened for public entertainment, as to the way in which the arrangements with respects to exits, seating, &c., are carried out. A provisional licence has no effect until it has been confirmed by the Council, but such confirmation may take place as soon as the outstanding requirements has been satisfactorily completed.

"The number of new licences applied for is eighty-eight. Of these, fifty-five are for places north of the Thames, and thirty-three for places south of the Thames. The premises in respect of which the applications for new licences are made may be classified as follow: cinematograph halls, 55; skating rinks, 8; public-houses, 8; church halls, 5; music halls, 3; restaurants, 3; concert halls, 2; assembly rooms, 2; public baths, 1; football ground, 1."

On the motion of Mr. Greenwood, the report was adopted.

SUNDAY OPENING OF CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES.

Mr. Greenwood stated that up to the present time the Council has not taken any action with regard to the Sunday opening of cinematograph theatres, and he ventured to suggest to the Council that all cases coming under that category should not be dealt with until the appeal had been determined.

LONDON COLISEUM.

The Council proceeded to deal with the application by Mr. Oswald Stoll for a renewal of a licence for music and dancing for the London Coliseum, and for the removal of the restriction on the licence that no intoxicating drinks should be sold or consumed on the premises, at the Clerkenwell Sessions. The application for the removal of the restriction was opposed by Mr. C. Pinhorn, secretary of the London United Temperance Council on the ground that the sale of intoxicating drink is not necessary or desirable in a place of public entertainment. The committee recommended that a licence for music and dancing be granted to Mr. Oswald Stoll for the London Coliseum, subject to an undertaking that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold or consumed on the premises.

It was stated that there was now no opposition to the application, and the recommendation was therefore adopted.

LONDON HIPPODROME.

The Council next considered an application by Sir Horace Edward Moss for a renewal of a licence for music and dancing for the London Hippodrome, and for a removal or modification of the restriction attached to the licence that no intoxicating drinks should be sold or consumed on the premises at the Clerkenwell Sessions. The application for the removal of the restriction was opposed by Mr. C. Pinhorn, secretary of the London United Temperance Council, on the ground that the sale of intoxicating drinks is not necessary or desirable in a place of public entertainment. The committee recommended that a licence for music and dancing be granted to Sir Horace Edward Moss for the London Hippodrome, subject to an undertaking that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold or consumed in the auditorium.

Sir Fredk. Low, who appeared on behalf of Mr. Seddon, the licensee of the Crown Hotel, adjoining the Hippodrome, said that the history of this application went back twelve years. In 1898 a provisional licence was granted to the Hippodrome without restrictions, and in November, 1899, the premises not being completed, it became necessary to renew the provisional licence. On this occasion it was renewed on the terms that intoxicating liquors should not be sold or consumed on the premises. This was in accordance with the policy of the Council which was agreed to in 1899. It was obvious that the value of the Crown Hotel depended upon the condition that no intoxicants were allowed to be sold at the Hippodrome, but, notwithstanding this, the application had been from time to time renewed. He asked the Council not to grant to the proprietors of the Hippodrome a drinking licence, which must materially injure the Crown Hotel.

Mr. George Elliott, K.C., who opposed on behalf of Messrs. Lasker and Rutter, the mortgages of the property, said that they feared that if a drink licence was granted the Hippodrome their security would be very sensibly depreciated. These gentlemen never dreamed that an attempt would be made to establish a rival drinking place next door.

Mr. Pinhorn also opposed on behalf of the London United Temperance Council.

Sir Edward Carson, K.C., on behalf of the applicants, pointed out that for four years the Council's own committee had thought fit to recommend that this licence be granted. His clients had a real grievance, because when the application for a licence was first made it was granted unconditionally. In 1899, the building of the Hippodrome having been delayed through a strike, his clients came again to the Council, which had, however, passed a general standing order that no place of amusement should be licensed for the sale of drink on the premises. The application for a renewal was refused by the Council. He asked the Council, was that fair or unfair to his clients after they had spent their money solely on the faith that the drink licence would be renewed? The case of the Coliseum was, he submitted, quite different from that of the Hippodrome, and was, in fact, an outstanding injustice to the men who had put their money into these premises on the faith of what the Council had already granted. In common justice he asked the Council to remove this injustice. His friend Sir Frederick Low had tried to make out a case, but it was only bluff, and he submitted that the opposition was not based upon facts, and the licensee of the Crown had no real grievance. His clients were not asking to open a public-house next door, they were only asking for permission to sell drink at the bars during the hours of performance only. He asked whether it was likely to promote temperance if people who went to the Hippodrome were told that they would have to go next door to get drink? He need not dwell upon the merits of the Hippodrome. No complaint had ever been made against it, and it was one of the most magnificent theatres in the metropolis. Between April and October 5,200 visitors to the Hippodrome from all parts of the world had signed a petition in favour of a drink licence being granted to the Hippodrome, and he submitted that this was a very fair proportion of the visitors to the building.

Sir Frederick Low, K.C., having replied, and Mr. Pinhorn spoken in opposition, questions were put to counsel by Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Reynolds, and other members of the Council.

The Council then went into committee, and after nearly an hour's discussion, the Council resolved that the licence should be granted only on condition that no intoxicating liquors should be sold in the building. This resolution was carried by 39 votes to 28.

FULHAM EMPIRE.

Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., applied on behalf of Mr. Oswald Stoll for a licence for the Fulham Empire.

Mr. G. Elliott, K.C., who appeared to oppose on behalf of a number of residents, tradespeople, and others. His clients, he said, had no objection to music halls in principle. Their objection was primarily that the requirements of Fulham were more than adequate at the present time, and that in view of the facilities for transit which now existed in the neighbourhood and the large number of places of entertainment already open, it was idle to say that another hall of the kind Mr. Stoll proposed to construct was in any way needed. There was an old house, the Granville Theatre of Varieties. Those whom he represented also desired to suggest to the Council that the time had now come when the inhabitants of a particular district should have some voice in the important question as to the number of places of entertainment to be planted down in their midst, and in the circumstances under which such places were to be limited in number. The commercial test as to whether the house would or would not pay was not, he submitted, a question on which the Council should not speculate. The people whom he represented argued that instead of the proposed hall contributing to the welfare or prosperity of Fulham, it would bring into the neighbourhood a large number of undesirable people from other districts. Mr. Stoll had stated that he decided upon erecting the Fulham Empire because he found the place desolate. Well, whenever Mr. Stoll found a desolate spot, where houses were to be let and the population gone away, was he to be allowed to select it as a site for a new hall to be put in competition with the places of amusement belonging to his neighbours. Mr. Stoll had stated that if he got the three new houses for which he had asked the Council to give licences, and gave up the management of nine, he would still have fourteen left. It was time, then, that the Council placed some limit upon the ambition of persons like Mr. Stoll, and that other people should be given some opportunity of existence. The Granville Theatre, capable of accommodating something like 1,500 people, should at least be permitted some further existance. The Granville had been brought thoroughly up to date, and was it to be allowed that Mr. Stoll, like some Frankenstein, was to roam about all parts of London, dumping down his halls, to the bankruptcy and ruin of existing halls?

Mr. Duke, K.C., opposed for the Granville Theatre of Varieties. The substantial ground of his opposition was that the area upon which Mr. Stoll desired to set up his hall was already occupied. The Granville was built only twelve years ago at a cost of £30,000, and it had been carried on satisfactorily in all respects ever since. At the Granville the class of entertainment provided was of the same class proposed to be given by Mr. Stoll. The Granville had been able to pay only about 4 per cent. dividends, so that it was obvious that if this application was granted it meant either the destruction of the Granville or the failure of the new hall.

Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., appearing for Mr. Oswald Stoll, ridiculed the opposition which had come from the Granville, the Fulham Borough Council, and some religious people living in the neighbourhood. He contended that there was ample room in the neighbourhood for another music hall, and he asked whether those residents who had petitions against the licence were aware that rejection of the licence would involve a loss of £30,000 in expenditure in the Fulham district. In reply to a remark of the learned counsel, who commented on the moral character of the entertainments given by Mr. Stoll, Mr. Elliott, K.C., quoted from last Sunday's performance at the Coliseum, given for a charity, to show that suggestive songs were sung.

Mr. F. E. Smith protested that as an undertaking had been given not to open the Fulham Empire on Sunday, the remarks of the learned counsel could not have any application.

Mr. George Alexander asked whether Mr. Stoll was prepared to give an assurance that he would not produce stage plays at the Fulham Empire.

The recommendation of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee for a licence was not confirmed.

The Council then proceeded to consider other opposed applications.

STAR MUSIC CO.
LTD.

ALL OTHER BALLADS FADE INTO OBLIVION WHEN YOU HEAR THE REAL HIT OF THE YEAR.

I WONDER IF YOU MISS ME SOMETIMES.

The Song that reaches every heart. Double Encores Positively Guaranteed.

BAND PARTS, in Three Keys, 1s.

The undisputed Light Comedy Song of the Year—admitted by all.

CHAS. WHITTLE'S PHENOMENAL HIT:

FALL IN AND FOLLOW ME.

Other Great Winners for Panto. are:—

CHEER UP, MY HIGHLAND LASSIE, WHAT DO YOU SAY, MOLLY MOLLOY?
THE MOONLIGHT PROMENADE, SHE WAS A GIRL IN WHITE,
UP SHE GOES, YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT EACH OTHER,
IT'S MY NIGHT OUT TO-NIGHT, MY WIFE'S GONE TO THE COUNTRY

Loo, Sue, Mary, Dinah, and Here Comes the Chocolate Major.

Send six stamps for Selection of Panto. Songs. State Theatre and Part.

ORDINARY PROFESSIONAL COPIES, 3d. EACH. CATALOGUE, FREE.

51, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.

Wires: "Songonia, London." (*Opposite TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD*). 'Phone: 8,446 Gerrard.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME.

Topping the bill this week at this popular house is Miss Carlotta De Yonson, who reproduces that powerfully-written detective episode, entitled *Sexton Blake in America*, the story and sequel of which is told in four scenes. In the opening scene we were shown the interior of the Station House, Shadow Creek, where information is laid as to the whereabouts of a well-known cattle thief, and in this scene Sexton Blake, his able lieutenant Tinker, and his sagacious assistant, the famous pedigree bloodhound Pedro, were introduced to our notice. Here we find Sexton Blake taking up the trail, which ultimately resolves itself into the capture and complete annihilation of the thief and his associates. The remaining scenes depict the interior of Mother Brady's Drinking Saloon, A Mountain Pass, and The Hawk's Nest. It is in Scenes 2 and 4 that this celebrated company of players put forth their greatest efforts, and each members portrays his or her part in a masterly style, which leaves nothing to be desired. The piece is well staged, and the loud applause given at the close was well merited.

Mr. Dan Thomas is ever a favourite at this house. His "Dame of Dames" called forth shrieks of laughter, his song "Married before" being well received. The Millwall Football Club having changed their venue to this district, Mr. Thomas introduced a song entitled "Play up, Millwall," the chorus of which was speedily taken up by "Ye celestials." In conjunction with the management, competitors are invited to take part in a singing competition, together with an impersonation of Mr. Thomas, in this his latest song. These embryonic "turns" caused additional mirth.

Silvo has a number which is most ingenious and entertaining. His rendering of solos on the musical glasses and silver chimes was so much appreciated that thrice he had to come to the front of the house. Miss Jennie Alexander, juvenile comedienne and mimic, has a good song in "What is the use of knocking at the door?" while her impersonation of Miss Gertie Gitana and Miss Victoria Monks were clever. Mr. Lincoln Taylor takes the audience in his confidence in his song "Just a little something," and received loud applause, as does Miss Mina Green in her latest success, the "Cingalee," and "Everybody's key fits my street door." Nash and Noel received enthusiastic plaudits, their song "We don't care a button if it snows" being pleasing to the audience.

Miss Daisy Yates smartly portrays "The coster comedian" in a manner which brought forth loud and prolonged approbation. In good style and a rich contralto voice she rendered "Au Revoir." Miss Daisy Lee has a special harbour scene while rendering "Idaho." The Bioscope pictures are clear and well reproduced. General-manager Mr. Fred T. Murray is ever busy in the front of the house, and Mr. Anderson follows in his footsteps.

IN reference to a case reported in our last issue, Glen Alva desires it to be known that the verdict was given in his favour, with full costs against defendants, West and Eugene.

AT the Workmen's Hall, Ynyshir, Eugene Gaertner and Lilian May present their smart barrel jumping on the spade, and Lapham and Waller are good comedians and speciality dancers.

IT is the pleasant custom of the delegates to the National Union of Conservative Associations to round off their principal day's proceedings with a smoking concert, and the usual course was followed on the night of the 17th. Upon the conclusion of the two momentous meetings addressed by Mr. Balfour and Lord Charles Beresford, a numerous company assembled in the Empire, Nottingham, where a late performance, commencing at 11.15 p.m., had been arranged. The programme was of a special character, the artists appearing being drawn from Mr. Oswald Stoll's Leicester Theatre, the Palace, as well as from the current "bill" at the Empire.

THE building was crowded in every part, and here as elsewhere the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. The appearance of the Duke of Portland, who was accompanied by Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, Sir John McCraith, and Mr. Percival Hughes, the chief Unionist agent, was the signal for a prolonged outburst of cheering, in response to which his Grace spoke briefly, commending to their earnest consideration the message which Mr. Balfour had that night in another place delivered to them. Sir John McCraith and Mr. Hughes followed upon the same lines, and the programme was then proceeded with.

MISS RUTH DAVENPORT, a dainty singer, had a fine reception for her rendering of one of the most melodious numbers from the opera of *Dorothy*; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls provided an interlude which was greatly enjoyed; and Ferry Corwey, the clever musical clown, gave his smart performance with great effect. La Superbe danced with charming grace; Drew and Alders, the "valiant coastguards," furnished plenty of amusement; Ernie Mayne's humour was drawn upon with mirth-provoking results; and the climax of drollery was reached when Fred Kitchen, the favourite comedian, appeared in the sketch *Private Potts*. Mr. Albert C. Duncan, the Empire manager, was highly complimented on the excellent all-round management.

VARIETY THEATRES CONSOLIDATED.

ALLEGED OVER-COMPETITION.

The sixth annual meeting of the Variety Theatres Consolidated, Ltd., was held on Tuesday, at the South London Palace, London-road, S.E., Mr. Henry Tozer (chairman of the company) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. Ilford Ibbotson, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: The report and accounts which we are met to consider to-day show that the net profit earned for the twelve months ended on Sept. 30 last (after providing for interest on the mortgages, mortgage debentures, and all outgoings) amounts to the sum of £1,283 8s. 7d., the smallness of which does not permit the payment of a dividend. Before dealing further with the report, I may explain that we have asked you to meet here at the "South London" to-day, in order that you may see what has recently been done at this the oldest of the four halls owned by the company. Some five years ago we were served with a very long list of requisitions by the London County Council, and various heavy structural alterations and additions were then commenced, and have since been made, costing up to the present time nearly £7,000. In completion of these demands we have had, within the past few months, to replace the whole of the gallery and grand circle floor with oak, and to entirely reseat those parts of the house, as well as carry out other incidental works. These alterations necessitated redecoration which has just been completed, and I think you will agree that it has been most tastefully, although economically, done. Indeed, the "South London" may now be described as one of the best appointed of variety theatres, especially of the class which gives "two shows a night." In addition to making this theatre more attractive, we have, by the seating arrangements, somewhat increased the earning power, and we have already felt the beneficial effects. Your other three properties—the Euston Theatre, the Chelsea Palace, and the Walthamstow Palace—are in excellent condition; but we have under consideration the question of increasing the building and earning capacity of the Chelsea Palace, and you may be assured that if we decide to carry out such improvement we shall proceed with the utmost caution. The year has been one of great anxiety to your board. Death robbed us of our King in May last, and not only did the loss provoke our keenest sorrow, as citizens of the Empire, but our business for many months suffered materially. Then in July we lost our colleague, Mr. Henri Gros, whom you all knew as a strenuous worker, a keen business man, and a man of active brain and feeling heart. The loss has been a grievous one to us all, and it has cast additional work and responsibility upon the remaining members of the board. With a desire to conduct the business, at the present critical time, with as much economy as possible, we have not filled the vacancy. Mr. Davis has given the necessary extra time and attention, especially to the stage administration, and an increase of duties in this and the other details of the business have been undertaken by Mr. Payne and myself. The cost of the management has thus been reduced, and to that extent will, I am glad to say, be of benefit to the company.

CARRIED ON AT A LOSS.

Now as to the principal reason for the severe reduction in our takings, you must all be aware of the excessive competition that has sprung up in many directions. It must have been evident to most people who have observed the progress of the music-hall industry that it was in danger of becoming over-developed. Of late picture shows have been planted in almost every thoroughfare, and this mushroom growth has accentuated the danger. I am told that at present more than 200 separately-constructed cinematograph shows have been licenced this year in the Metropolis. Not only has this been the case, but music halls have increased 50 per cent. in the last ten years, and all those possessing a knowledge of the industry have recognised that the time had long since arrived when the supply had exceeded the public need. In this I venture to say I am voicing the opinion of nine-tenths of those associated with the control of this industry, and careful inquiries have led me to the opinion that at least one-half of the existing halls are at the present time being conducted at a loss. Our group, which is known as "The Syndicate Halls," with a total capitalisation of rather more than £1,000,0000 (fairly proportioned, and not swollen by heavy promoters' profits), has been for some time content to develop and perfect the halls they possessed, and we have adhered to an understanding come to some years ago that no new hall should be erected outside the West-End district within two miles of one existing. That unwritten law we ourselves have honourably observed, because we felt that unhealthy competition would bring disaster to the industry. Abnormal salaries to a few artists (who, with promises of even higher salaries, seem disposed to drop the bone for the shadow) has been a striking result of the ruinous competition, whilst lesser-paid artists and poorer-paid workers have suffered, and will continue to suffer. The facts I have stated echo and emphasise the general opinion that limit should be placed upon the erection of further variety theatres, and it is being urged that the London County Council should, in the exercise of its discretion, not allow the number to be in excess of public requirements, just as magistrates do with liquor licences, Parliament with railways, waterworks, and similar undertakings. At present it is almost as easy to secure a licence for a new variety theatre or a picture palace as for a dog or a motor-car. On the other hand, some members of the Council have, I believe, expressed the opinion that so long as the buildings are satisfactory the various managers should be allowed to "fight it out," and let the fittest survive. Nowadays, however, the wisely-accepted policy is that while not permitting monopoly—Government, municipal, or otherwise—endeavours should be made to avert industrial warfare, and not to promote it.

PROPOSED RESTRICTION OF LICENCES.

It is ridiculous to suppose or to claim that new halls necessarily mean higher grades of entertainment, or that the progress and improvement which modern managers have long since been identified with are or can, under present conditions, be confined to one proprietor. It has been proved by the closing of several music-halls in the past year that the opening of new halls does not mean, in the aggregate, more work. Onerous conditions in building, stringent precautions in working, structural alterations in existing premises, often involving heavy additional outlay of capital, are insisted on by the Council, and I venture to submit, as a logical proposition, that variety theatres having been brought up to the required standard of safety and comfort, you, whose capital is invested, are entitled to some period of recoupment and the thousands of workers employed in the theatres to some reasonable measure of protection from reckless competition, destructive alike to assailant and assailed. We have taken steps to oppose the grant of a licence for a new building which it is proposed to erect within a few yards of our Euston Theatre, not because we possess, or desire to possess, a monopoly. How could this be said when there are already fifteen competing variety theatres within one and a half mile? We welcome the competition that stimulates, but not competition that destroys. Even if jeopardy to millions of capital be cynically disregarded, it would appear rational that consideration for those employed and for the general public good should lead the London County Council to withhold for a while new licences where no actual public need has been shown to exist, and in the meantime the Theatres and Music Halls Committee might well inquire as fully as possible into the general condition of the industry. That the London County Council has the right to withhold licences for superfluous halls on account of their superfluity is undoubted. That power is given them by the Act of 1751, whence comes their jurisdiction. The preamble conclusively shows that the intention was to prevent, in the public interest, the number of halls from becoming excessive. As I have intimated, it is not our policy to advocate restriction of the free and proper development of any person or company, nor unless forced to do so, to enter upon a campaign of destruction of competing interests; in fact, I may state that my colleagues in this and the other variety companies with which we are associated have always been willing to consider any fair proposition to limit that excessive and disastrous competition which the granting of new licences would only serve to accentuate to a most serious extent. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the London County Council will on Friday, when they meet, decide not to promote chaos and disaster, but to refrain, in the general interests, from granting additional licences which the public neither ask for nor want. I have dwelt at some length upon this general aspect of matters, as the shareholders are, I am sure, desirous of knowing the views of their directors and that the board is taking steps to urge these considerations before the London County Council. With regard to any further information in relation to the report and accounts, I shall be very happy to reply to any questions, and I now beg to move: "That the directors' report and accounts for the year ended Sept. 30, 1910, be, and are hereby, adopted."

Mr. Joseph Davis (managing-director) seconded the resolution.

A shareholder asked if the directors intended to continue the afternoon cinematograph shows at the Euston Theatre.

The Chairman stated that these shows had been tried as an experiment, and he could not say that so far they had been successful. Lately, however, the receipts had increased, and it was a question whether it would not be wise to continue and develop them in face of the opposition of the picture shows which had sprung up in almost every thoroughfare.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. S. Morrison proposed that a copy of the Chairman's speech on the present crisis in the variety industry should be forwarded to each member of the London County Council. He heartily concurred in the Chairman's suggestion that every effort should be made to avert the rash competition which prevailed.

Miss Nellie Wilson seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Messrs. Newson-Smith, Lord, and Mundy were re-appointed auditors, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

Inanda, who presents "Bute," the canine barrel-jumper, has always kept an understudy—the extreme opposite in colour, one being white and the other nearly black. The understudy has been allowed to sit in the wings and look on. Last week she took the liberty of coming on the stage after each feat performed by "Bute," and was so comical that her "business" has become a feature of the act, which is now known as Inanda and "Bute" and "Little Black Ma."

A CLAIM FOR COMMISSION.

In the Westminster County Court on Wednesday, before his Honour, Judge Woodfall, and a jury, a claim was brought against Mr. George Graves, the popular comedian, by Mr. Ernest Pike, an estate agent, of Charing Cross-road, for £90 commission on professional engagements.

The plaintiff's solicitor (Mr. Beyfus) said that Mr. Pike and Mr. Graves were members of the Eccentric Club, Shaftesbury-avenue, and on the evening of Aug. 2 they dined there together. In the course of conversation Mr. Pike asked Mr. Graves if he was working between then and pantomime. He said that he was doing nothing, and Mr. Pike suggested an appearance at the halls, stating that he knew Mr. Butt, the manager at the Palace Theatre, very well. Mr. Pike suggested that he should submit Mr. Graves' name to Mr. Butt, and, as they talked the matter over after dinner, the defendant said that he had a good sketch, which he thought would suit the Palace, and ultimately it was arranged that the plaintiff should submit the defendant's name to Mr. Butt. The defendant agreed to pay the plaintiff commission if he got an engagement. The plaintiff was not a theatrical agent, but an estate agent. He wrote to Mr. Alfred Butt, who replied: "If Mr. George Graves has any definite proposition to make, I shall be delighted to see him, but it must be early next week, as I am probably leaving town for a short holiday on Wednesday." The plaintiff showed that letter to the defendant, and told him to see Mr. Butt. Later, the plaintiff found that the defendant had signed a contract for the Palace, and he wrote him as to his 10 per cent. commission. The defendant wrote in reply: "I have received your impertinent note to-day. Is it meant to be humorous? Mr. Butt, to whom I have shown your letter, equally fails to see the humour of it." He (Mr. Beyfus) quite believed that, and was of opinion that the jury would come to the same conclusion as Mr. Butt. In another letter the defendant wrote: "I regard your attempt to obtain money from me as gross impertinence," and referred the plaintiff to his lawyers. Since this engagement, the defendant had been in the happy position of earning something like £2,400.

Mr. Pike said that from time to time he had made engagements for music-hall artists. At a date prior to the dinner referred to at the club, the defendant called at his office and, referring to a brass plate on the door, said: "You do business with Frank Bostock?" Witness replied: "Yes, and do business with variety halls." When he mentioned commission to the defendant, he replied: "That's all right, old chap. That's all right."

Cross-examined by Mr. G. C. Scott (for the defendant), the plaintiff asserted that he undoubtedly procured the Palace engagement. Mr. Butt said that he was certainly entitled to commission, and advised the defendant to pay him £50 and settle the case. He could not say whether Mr. Butt was to give evidence. He left his case to his solicitor.

Mr. Beyfus (to Mr. Scott): You know you have subpœnaed him.

The plaintiff, in further cross-examination, said that the endorsement on the defendant's contract, "direct," indicated that there was no agent. Mr. Butt said: "Give him £50, George, and cry quits."

His Honour: What was it you did?

Plaintiff: I introduced Mr. George Graves' business to Mr. Butt, and the correspondence supports that.

Further cross-examined, witness said that he did not consider himself a regular theatrical agent, but he had booked turns, and considered this one of the turns he had booked.

Jack Goodson, a variety agent, of Cranbourn-street, W.C., gave evidence that 10 per cent. was the usual commission. There were two awards by Mr. Askwith in disputes. In one between agents and artists the award was made in Feb., 1909.

Mr. Scott: Plaintiff is not a theatrical or variety agent.

Mr. Beyfus: That does not matter.

His Honour: The usual commission is 10 per cent., and if there is an agreement it is sometimes less. Plaintiff is not a theatrical agent, or in the variety business, and it must be left to the jury.

Witness proceeding, stated that he had not a very extensive business. His name did not always appear on contracts he procured. The agent sometimes made out the contract.

His Honour: It has been proved here so many times that I could give evidence myself. Does not the artist sign an agreement to have commission deducted from salary?—Absolutely.

Is it not the invariable practice to have the agent's name on the contract?—The biggest firm in the business, the Moss' Empires, has no space for the name of the agent on the contract.

Mr. Scott: Do you say that is usually the case?—No; as much one way as the other.

His Honour: I think Mr. Goodson is drawing a distinction between writing the name and putting on the agent's stamp.

Witness: Quite so.

His Honour: Then it is immaterial.

Witness stated further that "direct" might not mean direct, but merely that no commission was to be deducted. Sometimes "nett" was put on the contract.

Edward Alfred Pickering, under-manager at the Palace Theatre, said that when the plaintiff called to see Mr. Butt about an engagement, he asked him to call the following Monday.

Cross-examined: He knew nothing about "direct," as it was not in his department.

MR. ALFRED BUTT'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. Alfred Butt, called for the defence, said that he remembered making the contract on Aug. 10, 1910, with the defendant. He gave no instructions to put "direct" on the contract, and imagined that the typist assumed it was a direct contract, as Mr. Graves was present when the matter was arranged. He had known Mr. Graves for some years, and a contract had been arranged with him two years before, but Mr. Graves did not perform. Witness asked the defendant when he was going to keep his promise, and he met him casually at the bank on Aug. 10, when they discussed the matter again. Mr. Graves went back to the office with him, and they fixed up the contract.

Mr. Scott: Did Mr. Pike's intervention cause you to enter into that contract?—It is a very difficult question. If I had not met Mr. Graves at the bank I might not have entered into a contract with him then. It was in my mind that Mr. Pike had written to me about it.

In further evidence witness stated that the plaintiff asked him to deduct 10 per cent. from the salary, and he asked him to arrange that with Mr. Graves. He said that if Mr. Graves had authorised Mr. Pike to come to him (witness), then there was some moral obligation of Mr. Graves to pay Mr. Pike something.

Cross-examined? He also engaged the defendant for Portsmouth and Brighton, but would not say that it was because he liked the sketch so much. He said he did not see any humour about the plaintiff's letter because, in his opinion, it was a plain business letter.

Re-examined: The defendant was not a music-hall artist, but a theatrical artist. He believed that the outcome of his casual meeting at the bank was that Mr. Graves gave him a good Stock Exchange tip. (Laughter.)

His Honour: Was it this letter of Mr. Pike's, of Aug. 4, that led you to engage Mr. Graves?

Mr. Butt: I cannot say. I do not see how I can.

The defendant next went into the box and said he was an actor. He was anxious to explain that he did not break any engagement two years ago.

His Honour: It is not material to this case.

The defendant proceeded to state that he called at the plaintiff's office about a flat, as he was an auctioneer and estate agent. There were many members of the Eccentric Club who wanted to know what one was doing, and he probably told a dozen, the plaintiff included, that he had a good sketch, but he did not employ them as his agents. Various chatting members said: "Why don't you go on the halls?" He did not remember the plaintiff in particular saying it. He was sure he gave the plaintiff no authority to mention him to Mr. Butt. The meeting at the bank was a coincidence, and there was a remark about it being the usual order of things—the manager paying in and the actor drawing out. (Laughter.) Then witness said: "I've got a jolly good little sketch I should like you to read," and they went to Mr. Butt's office, where he read it, and the contract was signed for a date Mr. Butt wanted to fill up. The plaintiff did nothing, so far as witness was concerned, to bring about the engagement.

Cross-examined: He had nothing definite in August until the Drury Lane pantomime, and might have mentioned it to the plaintiff. What the plaintiff said about the brass plate was imagination. Of course, he would not think of going to an auctioneer to take him to Mr. Butt. The plaintiff's boards at his office were all about houses, drains, and things.

His Honour said that the onus of proof was upon the plaintiff, and he had left the calling of Mr. Butt to the defendant. They must consider what effect that had. The plaintiff was not a theatrical agent, and if entitled to succeed it must be decided what was fair remuneration, bearing in mind that the usual commission was 10 per cent., or less by agreement, for regular agents.

The jury found a verdict for the defendant, and judgment was given accordingly, with costs.

THIS SPACE IS temporarily dedicated to acquaint you with Harry Burns' new address in London, whereto you are invited to call with (or send) full particulars of your business should you wish him to represent (or hustle for) you.

HARRY BURNS,
Walter House,
418, Strand,
London, W.C.
Opposite the Tivoli.
'Phone 1106 City. Wire "BILLOTOPP."

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S.

An always unique and pleasingly varied entertainment, in cosily comfortable surroundings, Maskelyne and Devant's Mysteries at St. George's Hall is an attraction that appeals to old and young alike, and a visit always results in real enjoyment. Mr. Maskelyne's famous automaton, Psycho, still remains a prominent attraction in a programme in which every turn is good, and this, the most wonderful and scientific android ever constructed, remains as great a mystery as ever. Its inventor spent many years of labour till he got it to its present perfected state, and for thirty-five years it has remained an unsolved problem. In order to prove that the secret has never been discovered, and that the many trick imitations are spurious, Mr. Maskelyne offers £2,000 for a genuine automaton capable of producing Psycho's movements under like conditions. Psycho, we learn, has been recently indisposed, but is now quite his old self again, rejuvenated in fact, and is more alert, and certainly more astute than ever, having just lately won twenty consecutive games of whist. The calm and easy way the dusky Oriental doll smokes a cigarette and deliberates before playing his card is nothing short of marvellous, and on the night of our visit he played a good game, he and his partner proving victorious. It has been suggested that the figure is worked by wireless telegraphy, but Mr. Maskelyne convincingly demonstrates that this is not the case, and he gives the audience every facility for seeing that there is no dwarfish individual concealed inside the figure, which is placed on a glass cone to prove that it is not worked by wires beneath the stage. Certainly, no more mystifying or clever automaton has ever been exhibited, and this item alone is well worth a visit. Psycho, we learn, will in the near future show that he is capable of imitating the human in many other ways. Prodigious!

Then there are the wonderful illusions and genuine surprises of that famous wizard, Mr. David Devant, including the attractive and neatly-worked Belle Brocade, Little Chantecler, and Mascot Moth mysteries. At the word of command Mr. Devant is also able to make a ball roll up an incline, and suddenly remain stationary, go on, and so forth. Not the least attractive part of the entertainment are the "professor's" genial manner and quietly humorous remarks, and on the evening to which we are referring much amusement was created by his conversation with a youth and maiden who were persuaded to go on the Lily, who were persuaded to go on the stage and "assist" him in his marvellous egg trick. So quickly were the eggs forthcoming, apparently from nowhere, that Wilfred was unable to hold them, and the audience shrieked with laughter as they smashed on the floor. Many other novel and interesting tricks are included in Mr. Devant's répertoire.

The magical problems of that clever conjurer, Mr. Owen Clark, who also has a pleasingly jocular style that increases the value of his interlude, introduces his mystifying candelabra mystery and other original, deftly-worked, and amazing tricks, and produces coins with wonderful ease and cleanness. Mr. Harry May Hemsley, in his novel entertainment, "Skits and Sketches," is very amusing in his rapidly-drawn and humorous pictures, "Simon the Cellarer" and "Watching for Pa," and his mimicry of children is particularly realistic and funny. The change from his natural deep bass into the childish treble is admirably shown in the laughable mimicry of a youngster struggling with the twice-times table, and a child's description of a visit to the Zoo is another amusing contribution in a very agreeable "turn."

Humour and music at the piano has an accomplished exponent in Mr. Ernest Hastings, a fine pianist. There is real drollery in his imitation of the proud beginner who has just mastered the scales, and is allowed to torture the "company" with her first tune, and the love songs of a past day and the present ditties are cleverly burlesqued, "Swearing oh so gently" being very quaint. Four different improvisations of "The Vicar of Bray," after the style of a Bach fugue, as Mendelssohn might have written it, as Handel would have composed it in burlesque imitation of "The Hallelujah Chorus," and as the march king, John Philip Sousa, might have given it to an appreciative public, also proved his cleverness and versatility, both as a pianist and humorist. Mr. Hastings was enthusiastically recalled at the conclusion, and his interesting and diverting performance evidently gave keen pleasure to all.

To conclude, there is the mirthful magical farce, *The Scarab*, noticed previously in these columns, and admirably acted by Messrs. W. Mayne, E. Arnold Mussett, E. Morehen, Charles Glenrose, and A. Booth, and Miss Ida de Varrell, the many mystifying and laughable quick-changes that are brought about by the possessor of the wonderful jewel which will enable its owner to have anything he may wish for "being executed in a remarkably clever and rapid manner." Mr. F. Cremer's admirable little band plays artistically during the evening, and the selection in the interval is always greatly appreciated.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

CHARITY AT THE ALHAMBRA.

To take care of the old people who have fallen by the way, and to give them comfort in pleasant surroundings, is the object of that great charity—the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. To the large number of gentlemen associated with the Trade the institution is a household word, and year after year its necessities are met by constant loyalty and special effort. The directors of the Alhambra were prevailed upon to lend their magnificent house on Thursday afternoon for a special matinée, and a generous entertainment was forthcoming, the variety profession showing its customary alacrity in coming forward to do something to assist a good cause. The theatrical profession were by no means behindhand.

In the early part of the afternoon Mr. E. M. Robson and company appeared in a lively and droll comedy sketch, *Doing a Kindness*, in which plot and counterplot are provocative of some droll misunderstandings. The trifle went very merrily; and Mr. E. M. Robson, an admirable comedian, caused hilarity by his whimsical outbursts of fierce jealousy. He was well supported by Mr. Douglas Munro, Miss Dorothy Paget, and Miss Mabel Archdall.

An entirely new sketch, from the pen of Arthur Eckersley, author of *A Boy's Proposal*, was also presented. It is entitled

"OUR MUTUAL WIFE."

Sir Mervyn Jenkins, Bart. ..... MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Bland ..... MR. FREDERICK JAMES
Mr. Hutton ..... MR. W. G. FAY
Jones ..... MR. PATRICK DIGAN
Flash Sall ..... MISS HELEN HAYE

The *clou* of the sketch is a specially ingenious form of fraud, arranged by a female thief known as "Flash Sall," in conjunction with one Bland, the butler to Sir Mervyn Jenkins, a mental specialist. The woman has gone the evening before to the shop of Rice and Hutton, diamond merchants, representing herself as Lady Jenkins, and asking that a quantity of gems shall be brought to the doctor's house on the following morning, so that "her husband" may select a present for her. She herself, a few moments before the time appointed, arrives at the house, and being shown by her confederate into the consulting-room, there poses to the doctor as the wife of a gentleman labouring under mental delusions—namely, that he is a diamond merchant. She explains that her poor husband has with him her own jewels in a case, and might sell them at any moment. She, therefore, wishes Sir Mervyn to pretend to buy them and allow her—the *soi-disant* Mrs. Hutton—to remove the gems while he detains the "patient." The plan apparently works excellently, the Huttons being ignorant of the fact that all the time Sir Mervyn, the doctor, is only playing with them. He has overheard Bland, the lesser villain, imitating his voice over the 'phone, in answer to a request for confirmation by the jewellers. Without betraying his knowledge, he then makes his own plans, these including the presence of a detective, who is waiting for Lady Jenkins, alias Mrs. Hutton, when she makes what she believes to be her triumphant exit with the booty. Then, having fooled the butler to the top of his bent, he suddenly covers him with a revolver, and requests the bewildered jeweller to open an inner door, through which the detective leads in the chief accomplice handcuffed, the curtain coming down upon Sir Mervyn ironically presenting her to the diamond merchant as "Our Mutual Wife."

The little piece was remarkable for the fine acting of Miss Helen Haye as Flash Sal and Mr. Fisher White as Sir Mervyn Jenkins. It was wholly admirable; and a good word should be given to Mr. Frederick James as Bland. The sketch should soon be snapped up as an attraction for the halls.

Fall in, Rookies! had an excellent reception; Mr. Wilkie Bard confided to the special audience his desire to sing in opera; Mr. Phil Ray abbreviated as he only dares; Miss Edres Coombes, Mr. Harry Leslie, and Miss Carrie Lanceley sang well as balladists; Miss Yolande Noble enlarged on the inconvenience of being made love to by a bird-imitator; the Four Harveys were responsible for an interesting wire-walking show; and other turns included Dare Austin, Franklin Dyall, Walter Dowling (a capital jester), Miss Violet Lloyd and Mr. Horace Lane in their original burlesque *The Girl in the Hobble Skirt*, the Russian Balalaika players and singers, Burton Shepherd (the whip wonder), Arthur Tranton, and others.

During the interval Mr. H. B. Hartnell (chairman of the asylum), the trustees, and committee came upon the stage, and Mr. Hartnell thanked Mr. Moul and the directors for placing that beautiful building at their disposal in aid of a charity the importance of which could not be overstated. There were 240 residents in the asylum, while fifty others received non-resident allowances, the total expenditure for the year being nearly £10,000. He also thanked the artists who had so kindly given their services, many of them at great personal inconvenience. He had always found them willing to assist in any good work.

Mr. Hartnell also tendered his best thanks to Mr. H. Woodford, the genial business-manager and secretary; Mr. G. W. Byng, the musical-director; Mr. Clarence Hunt, the stage-manager; and Mr. A. E. Corrick, the treasurer, and the whole of the staff, for the efficient services they had rendered, and wished them all a happy and prosperous future.

THE TERRIERS.

A special general meeting of the Terriers' Association will be held at the Three Stags Hotel, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 6.30 p.m.

AGENDA.

To amend the following rules on and after Jan. 1, 1911.

RULE XII.

1. To raise the entrance fee of active members from £2 2s. to £3 3s.

2. To raise the entrance fee of honorary members from 10s. 6d. to £1 1s.

3. To empower the medical officer of the Association to make a stricter medical examination of candidates for membership.

4. To reduce the age limit of active members at admission. First benefit, from 40 years of age to 35; second benefits, from 45 years of age to 40.

RULE XIII.

5. To raise the weekly subscription of active members who join on and after Jan. 1, 1911, from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week.

6. To raise the annual subscription of honorary members who join on and after Jan. 1, 1911, from 10s. 6d. to £1 1s. per annum.

RULE XIV.

7. To inflict a fine of 1s. per month upon active members whose subscriptions are over thirteen weeks in arrears, the fine to fall due on the first day of the fourteenth week.

8. To inflict a fine of 2s. 6d. upon honorary members whose subscription is over six months in arrears.

RULE XV.

9. To abolish grants from the benefit fund.

At the Empire, Smethwick, the Dolorosas in their intrepid drapeze act, and also as the La Dor Troupe of acrobats, are clever and entertaining. Messrs. Poole and Poole, the Yorkshire comedy couple, are very good; D. W. Watson, with cornet, post horn, and song is well received; and Master Clifton (juvenile vocalist), Tom Bates (eccentric comedian), Marie Clifford (vocalist), and Will Pena (funny comedian) complete the vaudeville portion of the programme.

"NOT THE GIRL'S FAULT."

A Dramatic Episode, by George Bellamy, Produced at the Bedford on Monday, Nov. 21.

Mr. Hawkins ..... MR. FRED PAUL
Mrs. Hawkins ..... MISS NINA WESTERLEIGH
Matthews ..... MR. ARTHUR PAGE
Guidro ..... MR. GEORGE AUSTIN
Cecile Matthews ..... MISS GLADYS MAXWELL

Miss Maxwell is becoming a most prolific sketch-producer, and her latest, which is from the pen of Mr. George Bellamy, made a successful début on Monday last. The scene is laid in the Hawkins' flat, where Mrs. Hawkins, an actress, has just returned unexpectedly from America, and learns from Matthews, a faithful old servant, that in her absence her husband has brought Cecile, his daughter, to the flat to do the house-keeping, but he suspects other motives. Hawkins, it seems, has ruined the girl, and is now endeavouring, with the aid of Guidro, another scoundrel, to get rid of her. Mrs. Hawkins discovers the truth and the plot, and Cecile bravely takes means to bring Hawkins and Guidro to justice. Guidro attempts to escape, but is caught by the police, and when confronted with Hawkins shoots him. The story is dramatically told, and when the necessary compression has taken place, which is probable before these lines are in print, it should meet with success. Miss Gladys Maxwell plays Cecile in a capital manner, and thoroughly realizes the requirements of the character; Mr. Fred Paul plays Mr. Hawkins in a forcible fashion; while Mrs. Hawkins is ably embodied by Miss Westerleigh. Guidro is safe in the hands of Mr. Geo. Austin; and Mr. Arthur Page is good as Matthews.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY COUTTS.

The news of the death of Mr. Henry Coutts, the clever protean artist, at the early age of forty-two, will be received with general regret by the scores of professionals whom he numbered among his friends, and more especially by his Masonic brothers. He passed away on Monday at the Western Hospital, Fulham, whither he was removed on the Friday. The deceased artist was a prominent Freemason, and was initiated into the Earl's Court Lodge. With several members of that lodge he founded the Chelsea Lodge. Mr. Coutts became the Worshipful Master of this lodge, which is so exceedingly popular with members of the music hall profession. At the time of his death Brother Coutts was the reigning M.E.Z. of the Chelsea Chapter and I.P.M. of the Proscenium Lodge, of which he was also a founder.

His patriotism, too, was well known. It was not of the theoretical sort; and he took a prominent part in the raising of the Legion of Frontiersmen. He had been working up to three weeks ago, his last engagement being at the New Cross Empire. Some sixteen years since, he married Miss Dot Kemp, whose loyal and artistic help was of considerable advantage to his act. This was originally entitled *Fun-on-Furlough*, when the happily-associated pair were known as

[*Photo by W. Muntz, Southport.*

HENRY COUTTS,
W.M. Chelsea Lodge (3,098).

Baroni and Kemp. His latest contribution to variety was entitled *Outflanked*.

He was an Australian by birth, but his travels all over the globe had made of him a cosmopolitan, and a talk with him revealed the fact that he had the healthy freedom of judgment and broad outlook of men who learn their philosophy by constant contact with all sorts and conditions of people. To his bereaved widow and son we offer our sincere condolences.

The funeral will leave 36, Navarino-mansions, Dalston, on Tuesday next at 1.30, arriving at Chingford Mount Cemetery at 2.30.

THE NEW METROPOLE, BOOTLE.

The above theatre, which is to be opened in the early part of the New Year, promises to be one of the handsomest and most comfortable in the provinces, and should fill a long-felt want in the locality. The site which has been selected is in the centre of a large and thickly-populated district, being in the Stanley-road—the main road to Liverpool—and close to the local Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway and the Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport lines, thus tapping a very large district.

The elevation will be very imposing and ornate, with a frontage of 82ft. The entrances, with the exception of that to the gallery, will be grouped together in front of the building under an ornamental verandah. Two wide arched entrances, with elaborate mahogany vestibule doors, will give access to the main hall, which will have a tasteful tessellated pavement and tiled dados, from which two imposing staircases will lead to the foyer above. The mezzanine floor will contain the circle refreshment buffet, and gentlemen's cloak-room. From the foyer, which is handsomely fitted with wide folding doors, access is gained to the dress circle and the ladies' cloak-rooms will be immediately adjoining.

The safety of patrons has been made a feature, there being two special exits from the circle, the gallery and pit being also provided with two additional exits. The stage, which is 75ft. by 27ft., will be entirely cut off from the rest of the building by strong walls and a fireproof curtain, and all doors communicating with the same will be of iron. The proscenium opening will be 36ft. by 30ft., and the whole building will be fitted up with fire-extinguishing apparatus of the most modern type, with self-adjusting joints. The theatre, the property of the Pennington Estate Company, Ltd., will accommodate about 2,200 people. The contractors are Messrs. J. and G. Chappel, of Walton, and the architects Messrs. Havelock, Sutton, and Son, both Liverpool firms.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MADGE TEMPLE

TOP OF BILL
THIS WEEK
PALACE, BLACKPOOL.

Enormous Success.

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
THE Song of the Year.

IMITATION may be the sincerest form of flattery, but there is no flattery in plagiarism.

DON'T BE MISLED BY PALTRY PARAPHRASES.

It is a regrettable sign of weakness when Authors and Publishers (aided and abetted by thoughtless Artists who do not stop to consider the unpardonable injustice they are doing their brother and sister performers) have to borrow from the Originalities of others and then bolster up their inferior and slavish imitations with **BLUFF** and **BLUSTER.**

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.
THE Song of the Year.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

PRINCIPAL BOYS AND GIRLS.—Before being persuaded to sing Imitations, **Read, Mark, and Learn THIS,** the Chorus of the

ORIGINAL

and Enormously Popular Song

ON THE SILVERY SANDS.

SUNG BY MADGE TEMPLE.
PUBLISHED BY FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER

CHORUS.

On the Sands, on the Sands,
On the Silvery, Silvery Sands,
If the game of love you'd teach,
Take the dear little girl for a walk on the beach,
Then sit down for a while
And gently squeeze her hands,
With her head on your chest, she will hope for the best,
On the Silvery, Silvery, Silvery Sands.

THE ARTIST. SONG. PUBLISHERS.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

In again earnestly appealing for contributions to *The Era* Shilling Fund for that admirably administered and most deserving charity the Music Hall Home, we have great pleasure in announcing that Miss Vesta Tilley, whose kindness of heart is proverbial, has once more graciously consented to act as its fairy godmother, and has promised to do all in her power to collect an even larger amount than she was responsible for this year. The handsome sum of £100, it will be remembered, was gathered in as a result of her efforts for the last Shilling Fund—a record which she hopes to beat in the coming year; but she distinctly wishes it understood that should she be successful in heading the list she will decline to accept the medal presented by *The Era* to the collector of the largest amount. That is to be passed on to the one responsible for the next highest collection.

Miss Kitty Colyer, another popular lady who accomplished such splendid results in the last collection—£63 13s. being the result of her efforts—and who has the interests of the Home so much at heart, has likewise expressed her intention of using her best endeavours to collect a larger sum if possible. But, like Miss Tilley, being already

[*Photo by Bacon.*

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

the possessor of *The Era* gold medal for the largest collection, Miss Colyer also refuses to accept one should she head the list, and wishes it to be passed on to the next highest collector. Mrs. Harry Houdini is another kind lady who has promised to interest herself in the good work, and has already sent along £13 odd for the Home; and the generous contribution by Mrs. O'Brien of two pictures by Stanley Berkeley, "Atbara" and "Omdurman," to be disposed of for the benefit of the Home, promises to realise a substantial sum. And there are many others whose kindness in the past has been so invaluable in helping to keep the Home going who may again be relied upon to give generous support.

The outlook for 1910 is, therefore, a very promising one, and in expressing the hope that we may be enabled to beat our last record—£372 14s. 6d.—we earnestly ask the assistance of all our readers and members of the profession. Collecting cards may be obtained of the indefatigable secretary of the Home, Mr. Ben Woodger, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell. Kindly put a little shilling on a card as often as you can. It may be "hard to part," but it will seldom be missed, and it means such a lot to those who have fallen by the way and are without a home or friends.

The objects of the Home are to afford comfort-

[*Photo by Campbell Gray.*

MISS KITTY COLYER.

able shelter to aged deserving members of the variety profession who have been stricken with poverty or illness in their declining years, or who have in other ways fallen on evil times. The Home has for several years been largely supported by those who contribute to *The Era* Shilling Fund, which is organised and carried on by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*. Thanks to the generosity of its supporters, the financial position of the Home is a satisfactory one, and it is hoped that through the liberality of donors its good work may be extended.

The Home just at present houses some eight thoroughly deserving cases, and a surprise visit one damp afternoon this week found the majority comfortably seated round a big fire; some enjoying the solace of a pipe, others finding their recreation in reading, an abundance and variety of literature being on hand. Expressions of gratitude were freely forthcoming for all the kindness extended them by the profession in general, and words failed them in speaking of the thoughtfulness and generosity of Miss Kitty Colyer, who had just recently paid a visit to the Home and given each of the old performers a piece of silver and some tobacco, and had since sent twelve sets of warm woollen underclothing, with a promise of more if needed. Parcels of clothing, books, fruit, tobacco, and other gifts are frequently being sent along by other gifts are frequently being sent by the generously inclined, and are always acceptable.

The secretary conducted us all over the well-ordered and spotlessly clean house, which is certainly a credit to the hard-working and kind matron, Mrs. Fruin. The restrictions are not at all severe; the men are each allotted light tasks daily, and are then free to do as they please. A small sum is allowed them weekly for pocket money, and the dissipation of a visit to a music hall is occasionally indulged in, many managers gladly passing them in "for old times' sake." And there is a large garden, all sorts of "games" and other recreations in this haven of rest for those who have fallen out of the ranks.

Mr. Walter De Frece, the popular president; Mr. Harry Barnard, who has rendered such valuable assistance as chairman and treasurer; and the hard-working and alert committee, who give their valuable time and assistance in looking after the affairs of the Home, exercise the utmost economy in distributing the funds entrusted to their care, and to them the present satisfactory state of affairs is largely due.

Aided by the generosity of a profession that is always ready to alleviate the distress of the poor in any walk of life, they hope to accomplish greater things in the future. And all can help in the good work in some way or another.

All sums contributed to *The Era* Shilling Fund will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged in the columns of *The Era*. They should be sent to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, at *The Era* office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE WATER RATS' MATINEE.

The fund that is set apart by the Grand Order of Water Rats for cases of distress among brother and sister artists receives a very sensible addition from the annual matinée, which this year was given at the Oxford. Many members of the distinguished order offer their services gratuitously for all sorts of appeals to the benevolent, and when, therefore, they ask the public to help them with their own charity they are certainly well within their rights. That the public think so was evidenced on Monday by the immense crowd that packed every corner of the Oxford. There were many special features. Among the most popular were the *features*—subtly disguised—of some of the stars in the characters assigned them in a droll skit on

"THE BAD GIRL OF THE FAMILY."

The Bad Girl of the Family ..MR. WILKIE BARD
The Bad Lord Helpuss ..... MR. HARRY TATE
The Bad Villain (a Melvillan) MR. CHAS. AUSTIN
The Hero (Je ne pense pas)..MR. WILL POLUSKI
The Bad Burglar ..... MR. PERCY HONRI
The Good Moneylender ..... MR. DAVE O'TOOLE
The Good Heroine ..... MR. DEANE TRIBUNE
The Butler ..... MR. SEYMOUR HICKS

It was a distinctly precious thing to see Mr. Wilkie Bard, in a wonderful make-up as a bride, make his entrance, munching an apple. He was for the nonce the pride of Aldwych, the girl with a blush—a shilling the small stick—and a smile and a wink. Mr. Charles Austin, who had disguised himself as a frock-coated villain, never to be thwarted, had an aide-de-camp in his nefarious doings in Mr. Harry Tate, as the Bad Lord Helpuss, the heavy father. The special mission of Will Poluski, the naval-military hero, seemed to be to console the good heroine (bobble-skirted) by continued embraces; and Percy Honri, on burglarious intent, had his path made easy by the disposition of the treasure in the baronial hall. Mr. Seymour Hicks, having possibly a lively recollection of a sketch prosecution, played a silent butler, who walked on and displayed cards bearing the words Act I. and Act II. Mr. Deane Tribune was decidedly funny as the good heroine, and was the chief scorer in another amusing item of the special bill, the Quinsey Quintet. The performance by this impromptu lot, cleverly made up, was introduced by the comedian named, who stated that the "singers" had come all the way from Australia. "What, as frozen meat?" interrupted Mr. Harry Blake, from the stalls. There was a show of gentle indignation on the part of Tribune when Mr. Blake suggested the word "quisby" as the proper word for the quintet, and the "spoof" business was well sustained until the whole thing was spoilt by the introduction of the supposed wives of the quintet with dummy babies.

The Slipinsky Troupe of Russian Dancers from Shoreditch had been well trained by Mr. Gus Garrick, who figured as Paulina Paulovsky, the peach of Peckham, a lady with a well-defined *past*, who footed it in right merry fashion, "her" companion being a bearded gentleman who could not conceal the fact that he was a good dancer. The fun of this genuine burlesque was much assisted by the working of dummies by the stage hands.

The entertainment opened with a specially compiled selection from the pen of Mr. Leon Bassett, the popular orchestral chief, entitled "The Rats' Parade." Mr. Dusty Rhodes, a capital ballad singer, in his serious moments, rang Daisy McKeogh's "Two eyes of grey" with feeling and taste; Mr. Sydney James, without his company of strollers, may be unreservedly complimented, not only on his enthusiasm in a good cause, but on his burlesque impersonations. Mr. Marriott Edgar, the man in red, did well in two songs; and the Maples made things lively in their burlesque and in their dancing.

It is the unexpected that happens at a Water Rats' Matinée, and Miss Violet Englefield, from the Aldwych Theatre, found a place in a droll piece of burlesque concocted by Arthur Godfrey and Charles Austin. This piece of fun might have been called *The Wrong House*. It immensely tickled the house. Chirgwin, one of the boys of the old brigade, looked in to give of his best and to keep the house amused with his impromptus and his parody of "As'eep on the deep." Mr. Burton Shephard presented his clever act with the stock-whip; O'Malley and Brown once more gave us a riot of burlesque by their favourite skit on *The Corsican Brothers*; Miss Mabel Green and Miss Bessie Slaughter were among the successful ballad singers; Miss Gwen Lindon gave her sister's well-known and successful number, "The angel of my dreams"; Jack Collinson and a lady were responsible for a domestic interlude; Millie Payne roused the house to laughter when she sang of her little tiddler; Victoria Monks gave "Judgment Day"; Sam Stern, a clever comedian from the other side, did some capital character studies; the Two Bobs again demonstrated their well-deserved popularity; Percy Honri played some accordion selections; Mr. Frank Fort also entertained with a lecture on love and its victims.

Miss Marie Loftus, in the stalls, was looking particularly well after her long illness; Miss Marie Lloyd and party occupied a box; Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Frank Allen were the guests of Mr. Tom Shaw in another box; and other boxes were occupied by Mr. Harry Tate and party, Mr. Percy Honri and party, and Mr. Wilkie Bard and party. The Sisters Macarte, of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, sold programmes, for which there was a great demand, and other fair workers in the cause of charity sold chocolates and buttonholes. The untiring energy and tact of Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt, who had the business-management of the whole affair, were rewarded with a splendid house; and the loyal help of the assistant-manager, Mr. F. C. Upton, must not be overlooked. The services of Mr. George Womack, the stage-manager, and of Mr. Parry, in the box office, must also have their meed of praise.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT).

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR DECEMBER.

ENGLAND.

9. Reigate (26,000)
10. Boston (15,677)
10. Cobham (3,902)
10. Ringwood (4,629)
12. Liskeard (4,011)
13. Leighton Buzzard (6,331)
15. Lowestoft (29,842)
20. Rugeley (4,447)
21. Bilston (24,031)
24. Birkenhead (110,929)
24. Bristol (328,480)
24. Cheltenham (49,429)
24. Clevedon (5,898)
24. Deptford (110,122)
24. Garston (17,284)
24. Hendon (22,450)
24. Ilkley (7,755)
24. Jarrow-on-Tyne (34,294)
24. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,600)
24. Middlesbrough (91,300)
24. Morecambe (11,798)
24. New Brighton (10,961
24. Newcastle-on-Tyne (264,511)
24. Northampton (87,000)
24. North Shields (50,000)
24. Norwich (111,728)
24. Portsmouth (189,160)
24. Preston (113,030)
24. Rowthorne (67)
24. Rushden (12,500)
24. Ryde (11,000)
24. Salford (Trinity Market) (220,560)
24. Salford (Trafford Road)
24. Southampton (104,911)
24. Southport (48,087)
24. South Shields (97,300)
24. Stafford (20,894)
24. World's Fair (Islington)
24. Wellington (6,273)
26. Sheffield (380,717)
27. Uttoxeter (5,132)
28. Nantwich (7,700)
28. Sandbach (5,556)
29. Lancaster (40,300)
29. Newport (Salop) (3,200)
31. Bacup (22,505)
31. Bolton (168,206)
31. Woburn (1,036)

SCOTLAND.

19. Govan (111,000)
21. Glasgow (760,468)
22. Leith (77,385)
23. Motherwell (30,418)
24. Edinburgh (316,522)
31. Aberdeen (153,108)
31. Ayr (28,624)
31. Biggar (1,925)
31. Dundee (160,878)
31. Govan (111,000)
31. Kirkcaldy (34,063)
31. Renfrew (10,000)
31. Stirling (14,355)

WALES.

22. Caerphilly (15,835)
23. Morriston (15,025)
22. Pontypridd (14,000)
22. Swansea (94,514)
24. Cardiff (154,240)
24. Merthyr Tydfil (69,227)
24. Mold (4,263)
24. Newport (Mon.) (70,000)

The Moveable Dwellings Bill, 1910.

The present political deadlock between the two Houses of Parliament affects a number of Bills that must be either lost or carried over to the next Sessions. We do not know in which category the much-debated and much-amended Moveable Dwellings Bill will be found. It is hardly likely that after spending so much time and labour upon it that the House of Lords will permit it to drop out of existence.

The Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild, through its Parliamentary agent, has been duly notified that in the event of there being no dissolution on Monday next, that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee will come on for further consideration.

The Guild's Amendments.

The Bill as it left the Select Committee and was duly reported to the House of Lords before the adjournment of Parliament, had the following title and preamble:—

"A Bill (as amended by the Select Committee) intituled an Act to provide for the regulation of Moveable Dwellings.

"Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—"

The Guild would thus amend and extend it:—"An Act to provide for the regulation of (insanitary) moveable dwellings, and for County Council camping-grounds for gipsies and other campers and squatters on common and waste lands."

Whereas, a Select Committee of the House of Lords having reported that with regard to gipsies and squatters on common and waste lands "real public grievances" (dangerous to public health) "arise, and that a case for further legislation regulating moveable dwellings" (used by this class), "has been made out." Further, the Committee having reported with reference to other users of moveable dwellings: "As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required," and that "no grievances arise against them":

"Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Amendment to Clause 1.

"1. Where it appears to any County Council that the presence of moveable dwellings on any specified place or places within the county would be dangerous to the public health, the Council may by bye-law prohibit any moveable dwelling from being on such specified place or places."

To add the following words:—"All such proposed bye-laws to be duly notified in the *London Gazette* before confirmation by the Secretary of State."

Amendment to Clause 7.

As this clause now stands it reads as follows:—

"7. Nothing in this Act shall apply to any moveable dwelling used by any portion of his Majesty's naval or military forces, or to any encampment which may be certified as under proper supervision by the Territorial Force Association of a county."

The Guild Executive Council propose to add the following:—"Nor to the assembling for the purposes of their trade and business of moveable dwellings used by showpeople on any place or places for the holding of a Fair, Feast, Wake, Fête, Holiday Festival, or Carnival."

The Importance of Clear Definitions.

In the report of the Select Committee, commenting on the case for the travelling showman as against the original Bill, it is said that "apart from a small number of persons who use moveable dwellings as a pastime, van-dwellers are divided into two classes—the showman class and the gipsy class. As regards the showman class no legislation appears to be required. Mr. Horne, the Chaplain of their Guild, told the Committee that there were some 4,000 showmen's vans travelling the country, and carrying a population of something like 12,000 souls. The trade is perfectly honest and respectable and its members are well-to-do, and in some cases even thriving. No grievances arise against them, *and it was represented to us that not only is no legislation necessary, but that existing legal restrictions occasionally involve a grievance upon their side. In certain cases it is said local bodies avail themselves of these restrictions, not with a view to prevent breaches of the law, but in order within the area of their jurisdiction altogether to put an end to the Fairs where the showmen gain their living. Any further powers to make regulations, it is contended, would intensify this grievance.* Without pronouncing as to whether there may not be a reasonable answer to these allegations, the Committee are certainly of opinion that so far as the showmen are concerned no legislation on the lines of this Bill is called for."

The Justice of the Showmen's Claim.

The italics are our own, and used to point out the justice of the showmen's demand for clear definition in legislation giving local authorities further powers to deal with van-dwellers. The Showmen's Guild came into existence for the very purpose of defending showpeople and their avocation in life from the mistaken energies of fanatics, faddists, and local busybodies (in office or out), anxious and ready to persecute showpeople and to deprive the common people of innocent and popular amusement. The record of the Guild's work is the continual story of struggle in the work of trade defence and the vindication of the showman's character. Prior to 1893, when the Guild first gave its serious attention to local bye-laws penalising the show business, and later on in 1898, when the Parliamentary work began, Corporations led by the fanatic and the puritanical zealot did seek powers to kill the people's Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes. Since the Guild, taught by sad experience, has set to work to oppose all such mistaken legislation, a great change has come over the country at large and Parliament in particular with regard to the showman's claim for full citizenship. He is no longer regarded as a fit subject for repressive class legislation.

The reason why is not far to seek. The showman, through his trade society, has met his enemies fairly and squarely in the open, in Parliament and in public debate, and has proved his manhood and his rightful claim for equal treatment with all other classes of workers and traders in the country, under the same laws and the same moral safeguards and sanctions as all the other subjects of the Crown.

Parliamentary Defence Work, 1910.

At the opening of the sessions of Parliament there were but two Bills promoted by public bodies seeking additional powers to restrict and to prohibit the show business. Despite the fact that in the previous sessions of Parliament, 1909, the Borough of Oldham had been refused prohibitory powers, the important suburb of Handsworth, Birmingham, attempted to obtain the same powers Parliament had refused to Oldham and other towns.

These extraordinary powers were set out in Clauses 125 and 126.

"THE HANDSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ADDITIONAL POWERS BILL.

"Bye-laws as to Shows, Roundabouts, Steam-organs, &c.

"125. The Council may make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes (that is to say):

"For prescribing the hours within which during any fair or at any other time any show, booth, caravan, circus, or menagerie may be kept open, and for preserving order therein.

"For preventing the use of whirligigs, roundabouts, steam-organs, or other similar contrivances, so as to be a source of danger or annoyance to residents or the public.

"Prohibitions as to Vans, Tents, &c.

"126. (1) The Council may by resolution, passed at a meeting of the Council, prohibit any vans tents, sheds, or similar structures being erected or placed on any lands in the district where their use for human habitation is, in the opinion of the Council, likely to cause the pollution or fouling of any streams or ditches, and any person who shall be guilty of any act or omission in contravention of any such resolution, and the owner or occupier of any lands on which any such van, tent, or other similar structure shall be so erected or placed in contravention of any such resolution, and who may have knowingly permitted the same, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5, and to a daily penalty not exceeding 20s.

"(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to any tent, van, shed, or structure erected or used by any portion of His Majesty's naval or military forces.

"(3) The Council shall cause notice of any resolution under this section to be published once in some newspaper circulating in the district, and to be served on the owners and occupiers of any lands affected thereby."

The Successful Work of the Guild.

Negotiations were at once opened with the Handsworth District Council, and every effort was made by the officials of the Guild to prevent if possible the costly proceedings of appeal against the Bill by petition. Not receiving satisfactory replies, a petition was duly lodged, signed by the president, secretary, and the chaplain, setting out that it had been the settled practice of Parliament ever since the Guild took up its trade defence work, to reject the extraordinary powers sought in the Handsworth Bill.

Having thus safeguarded the interests of showmen, negotiations were again opened between the Corporation and the Guild. Here it must be noted that not until it had been clearly demonstrated that the showmen were in earnest and had behind them a powerful trade organisation did the District Council give any evidence of being amenable to argument. The result of the labours of the Guild officials was a triumphantly successful conclusion of the dispute between the Corporation and the Guild, as the following official communication from the Handsworth District Council's Parliamentary Agent to the Showmen's Guild Parliamentary Agent evidences:—

"Referring to the petition which you have deposited against the Bill promoted by the Handsworth District Council, we now write to inform you that the promoters will not proceed with Clauses 125 and 126 of the Bill. You may take this letter as our undertaking to delete these clauses in Committee of the House of Lords.

"Please withdraw the petition of the Showmen and Van-dwellers' Association.

"Yours faithfully,

"(Signed) Sherwood and Co.,

"Parliamentary Agents."

The Guild and Public Opinion.

The close of the Parliamentary session, 1910, marks a great forward advance in the active propaganda work of the Guild and the support accorded to the organised showmen both by the Press and the public. Evidence of this growth of popular appreciation of the showman and his work and life was immediately seen when the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Moveable Dwellings Bill was issued. With complete unanimity the British Press identified itself with the exoneration of show life contained in that Report and set out in full above.

Great municipalities accorded the Guild cordial civic recognition. This was notably so at King's Lynn, Gloucester, Hull, and Rotherham. In these great centres, either directly at the Guild's public meetings, or by consultation with the Guild, in matters affecting the show business, the co-operation of the showmen with the local authorities was a marked evidence of the upward trend of showlife and the recognition of the status of the showman.

There were other gratifying and most satisfactory indications of popular appreciation. For example, at Mitcham two candidates specially pledged to the defence of the people's Fair rights were returned to the Parish Council. At Ayr, in Scotland, the opening night of the fair, when the entire proceeds of all the concerns were given to the Guild funds, the people of Ayr came out to Newton Park, where the fair is held, and patronised the shows and other amusements in order to support the benefit organised by the showpeople themselves. A similar result was seen at Rotherham, when the annual benefit performances were given the last night of the fair.

The point we wish to emphasise is that the show-loving public recognises that the work of the Guild is of national importance, and where benefits are organised most heartily supports the showmen's endeavour to help themselves. These are signs of the times that must be of the utmost encouragement to the president, the executive officials, the committee, and the general members of the society.

The Middleton Corporation Bill.

The extraordinary powers sought by Corporations when promoting Improvement Bills was seen in the demand of the Middleton Corporation for a cinematograph act of their own. They proposed in Clause 117 of their Bill that they should have power to make bye-laws for the purpose of controlling and regulating cinematograph entertainments within their borough, and that they might by such bye-laws prescribe the precautions against fire and other safeguards and conditions to be adopted and observed by persons holding such entertainments, and might prohibit the holding of such entertainments on any premises except such as were licensed by the Corporation for the purpose, and might provide for the granting of such licences.

This claim in Private Bill legislation to cover the same ground as an Act already in existence was bound to be rejected. This, of course, was the only result that could be expected. It is almost incredible that a public authority should be so ignorant of an existing Act of Parliament giving them all reasonable control over cinematograph exhibitions. Yet so it was, and this daring attempt of the Middleton Corporation to override the powers of the Home Secretary met with the fate it so richly deserved.

York's Historic Fair.

The capital of the Northern Province maintains its ancient fair at Martinmas with great gusto. Two market squares are fully occupied by the shows and other amusements. Prominent amongst these were Mander's menagerie, Ben Howden and Son's picture palace and motor-car set, Tuby and Son's coliseum and galloping horses, J. Collins's joy-wheel, haunted castle, cake-walk, and yachts; juvenile roundabouts and swings by A. Smith, C. Relph's tiny people, Casey's freak show, Testo's mystic swings, Cornwell's shooting saloons, and games and stalls by Messrs. Stewart, Bliss, Duck, Mitchell, Wright, Samuel, Lees, and other caterers.

Midland Show News.

Our Midland correspondent writes:—At Lowsomford and Tamworth we have had Herbert's roundabout, park swings, shooting saloons, houp la, &c. Jennings's portable theatre is now at Bromsgrove. No circus has visited Astwood Bank for some time.

Notes from Wales.

Stones thrown by colliery strikers on Wednesday evening at a train between Mountain Ash and Aberaman seriously injured a well-known showman named John Scarrott. He was struck on the head by a large stone, and had to be taken to a surgery to have some glass extracted from his left eye.

Mr. John Studt's electric motor-cars and zoological roundabouts are doing roaring business at the Pavilion Fairgrounds, Mountain Ash, this week. He is accompanied by Mr. Scarrot's assault-at-arms exhibition, Mrs. Scott's houp-las, Wayman's shoting galleries, and last, but not least, Studt's magnificent cinematograph exhibition, which is a fair by itself.

Haverford West Town Council have been refused a bye-law by the Local Government Board to prohibit shows passing through the town on Sundays.

Death of Showman's Daughter at Mountain Ash.

Jane Scott (thirteen), the daughter of a well known showman, was found dead in bed in a caravan at the fair ground, Mountain Ash. She retired about 10 p.m., and was found dead by her sister two hours later. Police-Constable Henebery and a doctor were summoned. It is stated that the deceased ate a somewhat hearty meal during the evening, and the only theory advanced is that she partook of something of a poisonous nature.

Showman's Letter-Box.

Letters await the following at *The Era* office: Messrs. J. W. Chipperfield, James Henry Chipperfield, Mrs. C. Birth, Anderton and Rowland, Alf. Ball, T. Fossett, and R. Fossett.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.

PRESIDENT: PATRICK COLLINS.

OBJECTS OF THE GUILD.

1. To conserve the business interests of all open-air amusement caterers and entertainers, whether menaced by faddist legislation or by public bodies.

2. To vindicate the character and the avocation in life of the showman whenever unjustly maligned or attacked.

3. To defend the fairs and holidays of the people wherever threatened, and to encourage all wise efforts to improve the entertainments of the people.

SECOND LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ayr Fair Benefit	£89	11	3
Mitcham Fair Defence Fund	48	13	0
Rotherham Fair Benefit	17	13	0½
Proceeds of Bolton Ball	9	0	0
Part proceeds of band performance at Wisbech Fair	1	10	4
Small subscriptions at Greenock Fair Meeting	1	10	0
Small subscriptions at various meetings	1	1	6
Mr. R. Chipperfield	0	10	6
Mr. Harry Hughes	0	10	6
Mr. F. Wilson	0	10	6
Mr. J. Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. T. Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. C. Andrews	0	10	6
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	6
Mr. John Brown	0	10	6
Mr. Harry Cox	0	10	6
Mr. J. Irvin	0	10	6
Mr. C. Ives	0	10	6
Mr. P. Shippobottom	0	10	6
Mr. C. Presland	0	10	6
Mr. C. Cain	0	10	6
Mr. E. Hanneford	0	10	6
Mr. C. Hyalt	0	10	6
Mr. F. W. Savage	0	10	6
Messrs. F. A. Glover and Co.	0	10	6
Mr. J. Thomas	0	10	6
Mr. John Proctor	0	10	6
Mr. J. W. Burgin	0	10	6
Mr. John Fossett	0	10	6
Mr. James Whayman	0	10	6
Mr. Henry Whayman	0	10	6
Mr. Gilbert Chadwick	0	10	6
Mr. D. Gorman	0	10	6
Mr. E. Clarke	0	10	6
Mr. R. Anderson	0	10	6
Mr. G. H. Cornwell	0	10	6
Mr. John Scarrott	0	10	6
Mr. J. Kinder	0	10	6
Mr. W. Davies	0	10	6
Mr. Sol Reader	0	10	6
Mr. J. Amos	0	10	6
Mr. J. Doubtfire	0	10	6
Mr. W. H. Doubtfire	0	10	6
Mr. G. A. Howden	0	10	6
Mr. S. Mercer	0	10	6
Mr. T. Holcroft (hon. mem.)	0	10	6
Mrs. Thornley (hon. mem.)	0	10	6
Mr. H. Butterworth	0	10	6
Mr. F. Rawlins	0	10	6
Mr. A. Bunn	0	10	6
Mr. R. Williams	0	10	6
Mr. A. Parkins	0	10	6
Mr. H. Westrop	0	10	6
Mr. F. Gray	0	10	6
Mr. R. Lewis	0	10	6
Mr. A. Morley	0	10	6
Mr. Charles Summers	0	10	6
Mr. W. Westrop	0	10	6
Mr. J. H. Norman	0	10	6
Mr. W. J. Barker	0	10	6
Mr. W. H. Freeman	0	10	6
Mr. James Ravenscroft	0	10	6
Mr. James Quest	0	10	6
Mr. William Mitchell	0	10	6
Mr. B. Mitchell	0	10	6
Mr. J. H. Geoghegan	0	10	6
Mr. E. Geoghegan	0	10	6
Mr. Fred M. Barber	0	10	6
Mr. Isaac Richards	0	10	6
Mr. Tom Paulo	0	10	0
Messrs. Irvin and Son	0	10	0
Messrs. Macintosh and Son	0	10	0
Mr. J. H. Chipperfield	0	10	0
Mr. C. Miller	0	10	0
Mrs. Biddall	0	10	0
Mr. A. Crighton	0	10	0
Mr. W. Moore	0	10	0
Mr. P. Tann	0	10	0
Messrs. Abbott and Sons	0	10	0
Mr. T. Bolesworth	0	10	0
Mr. W. Stackwood	0	10	0
Mr. J. Flanagan	0	10	0
Mr. S. Elliott	0	10	0
Mr. T. Andrews	0	10	0
Mr. H. Brett	0	10	0
Mr. J. McIndoe	0	10	0
Mr. John Hawkey	0	10	0
Mr. John Boss	0	10	0
Mr. W. Kitson	0	10	0
Mr. F. Sowden	0	10	0
Mr. T. Rowland	0	10	0
Mr. T. Teague	0	10	0
Mr. Cordwell	0	10	0
Mr. James Turner	0	10	0
Mr. C. Simpson	0	10	0
Mr. H. Taylor	0	10	0
Mr. T. Robinson	0	10	0
Mr. E. Andrews and Sons	0	10	0
Mr. W. H. Marshall	0	10	0
Mr. Marshall Hill	0	10	0
Mr. Camplin	0	10	0
Messrs. Monte Williams	0	10	0
Mr. James Blackledge (hon. mem.)	0	10	0

The above list of subscriptions of 10s. and upwards is subject to addition and correction.

Any omissions or corrections will be at once put right on communication with the Guild Secretary at *The Era* Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Other lists to follow.

APPEAL FOR HELP.

TO OUR FELLOW SHOWMEN AND BROTHER ARTISTS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES AND IRELAND.

The several members of the Scott family—sons and daughters of the late Walter Scott, circus proprietor, who was well and favourably known—beg to intimate that we are completely overburdened with trouble at the present time, being in stricken circumstances and in want of money, and can no longer find the necessary funds to defend an action of detinue which has been brought against us by Edward Hanneford, who claims to be entitled to the circus property which was left to us by our late father to enable us to earn a livelihood. The following is a report of the case taken from a local newspaper when it was last before the court on Oct. 27:—

HANNEFORD v. SCOTT AND OTHERS.

This was an appeal by the defendants, Robert Scott and others, from an order of Mr. Justice Ross appointing a receiver over the chattels, business, and effects of the circus of the defendants. There was a cross-appeal by the plaintiff, Edward Hanneford, that the order in question, the subject of defendants' appeal, should be amended so as to constitute Mr. Hugh Boyd, of Belfast, manager as well as receiver over the circus. The defendants contended that the plaintiff had no valid claim against the property, and alleged that he had been overpaid to the extent of £400 in respect of money lent to the defendants, and that the appointment of a receiver would prevent the business from being carried on in the ordinary course, and would be detrimental to the defendants' interests. It appeared that the circus had been carried on under the title of Sir Walter Scott and Sons. The plaintiff resided in Strandtown, Belfast. Following the death of Mr. Walter Scott litigation took place between the parties as to their respective rights, and when the matter came before Mr. Justice Ross a receiver was appointed pending the matter.

For the defendants (appellants)—Mr. Healy, K.C., M.P., and Mr. W. H. Brown (instructed by Mr. J. G. Scott, solicitor, Larne).

For the plaintiff—Mr. J. O'Connor, K.C., and Mr. H. M. Thompson (instructed by Mr. James Alexander, solicitor, Belfast).

The Lord Chancellor, in giving judgment, said they would allow matters to remain as they were, having regard to the lateness of the season, and to the fact that the touring of the circus was finished for the season. They would decline to grant the plaintiff's cross-notice of appeal, which sought to appoint the receiver as manager, and they would put the plaintiff under terms to deliver his statement of claim forthwith, and make costs of both parties costs in the cause.

We wish to keep what our father left to us, and we are therefore resisting the claim made by Hanneford, and we look forward with confidence to receiving adequate financial support from our fellow showmen and brother artists who know us well. Funds are urgently required, and we appeal to all our many British, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish friends to come forward at this critical moment and help us to defend the action and have justice done between the parties. The smallest sums will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by the undersigned, to whom all contributions are to be sent.

ROBERT SCOTT,

47, Main-street, Larne, co. Antrim, Ireland.

On behalf of himself and his brothers and sisters, children of the late Walter Scott, who are the defendants in the action.

THE TRAVELLING AUCTIONEER AND THE HOME OFFICE.

Immediately on receipt of the amended Shop Hours Bill the London officials of the Auctioneers' Trade Defence League held a meeting at *The Era* office. The Bill was thoroughly studied, and the amendments, so far as they embody concessions to the trade, were warmly welcomed. It was resolved that the executive officials seek another interview with the Home Office in order to reaffirm the claim for an exemption, and to clear up some doubtful points in the interpretation of the machinery of appeal against closing orders, so far as they touch traders in a possible minority. When these questions have been dealt with, the committee of the League will summon a general meeting of members at Manchester and decide upon future action.

No useful purpose will be served by any public agitation until the new Parliament is elected and has the Bill before it.

Mr. Frank Bostock's great success in Sheffield is now an accepted fact, testified to with enthusiasm by the big crowds that flock to the mammoth building every day to see and enjoy the lions, tigers, bears, monkeys, camels, &c., the all-nation troupe of famous trainers, performers, and clowns, and the screaming fun of the American fair. The Jungle is a familiar topic in every household in town and district, and the most popular gag in local pantomime this season will undoubtedly be, "Have you been to the Jungle?" A great factor in the general success is the genial bonhomie of Mr. Harry Tudor, who varies his duties as the typical hustling American manager, and the cute advertiser, by acting as a kind of clean-shaven Santa Claus to the children, and seeing that a'l the children at his happy gathering have a "real good time." "There is only one fault to find with the establishment," remarked a notable citizen the other evening, "and that is the name. It should be called Bostock's Palace of Delight!"

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

EARL'S COURT, London

'MAGIC CITY,' Paris

'WHITE CITY,' Manchester

The World's Premier Amusement Parks.

SHOWMEN ::: EXHIBITORS ::: CONCESSIONAIRES

ALLOTMENTS OF CONCESSIONS AND SPACE at these three noted Amusement Parks now being made for **Season 1911. Early applications (imperative)** should be made **immediately** to **Concessions Manager, Earl's Court, Ltd., London.**

FILM GOSSIP.

The Status of the Cinematograph Theatre.

MR. MONTAGUE A. PYKE, the pioneer of the high-class cinematograph theatre, in an interesting article in the *Pall Mall Magazine* says: "The evolution of the general principles of cinematography as applied to the production of animated pictures in places of entertainment has taken place mainly during the last decade. Like many other scientific discoveries, it suffered somewhat in the past by being exploited by showmen in a vulgar, unscientific, inartistic, and inadequate manner, but owing to its intrinsic merits and far-reaching possibilities it has emerged triumphant from its former surroundings, and is now taking its legitimate place as an institution potent for good in many and varied directions.

Picture Houses of Palatial Splendour.

"WE are a conservative people with whom prejudice dies hard, and it is only now that the living picture is housed in homes of palatial splendour that modern cinematography has become dissociated from the gaff and penny peep-show. Now that its achievements and amenities have secured recognition society has begun to realise that the high-class picture theatre is one of the most delightful adjuncts of daily life. It enlightens, instructs, and amuses. It is so readily susceptible to change that one is never bored by it. Apart from its lighter aspects, presenting fiction in the form of farce, comedy, or drama, it brings the realities and actualities of the world's happenings before our eyes.

Cinematograph Camera Carried on all Important Expeditions.

"PRESENT facilities for cinematograph film production enable us to have visual conception of events, acts, and matters which have taken place in distant quarters of the globe practically inaccessible to the average man, woman, and child. The cinematograph camera now accompanies all important expeditions, and millions of feet of film are being exposed in the production of pictures, which will have a vital interest not only to ourselves but to posterity.

Highly Beneficial and Deeply Interesting.

"THE merely theatrical side of the cinematographic industry does not by any means exhaust the possibilities of the class of picture theatres in which I desire to interest my readers. I would even agree that too much of such might prove demoralising, but when the events of the day are illustrated, the stories of men and women, dynasties and nations depicted, and the flora, fauna, geography, and history of many lands brought before our eyes, I submit the traffic of the picture theatre, where such obtains, is highly beneficial and deeply interesting."

Election Cartoons at the Alhambra.

THE two most striking cartoons published in the papers of the day will be reproduced and shown on the screen during the evening performances at the Alhambra. This addition to the programme will be continued until the General Election is over.

Glasgow's New Electric Theatre.

THE new electric theatre which has been built at Bridgeton Cross was opened on the 18th. Large audiences packed the house, and the management may congratulate themselves upon the heartiness and spontaneity of the welcome extended to their enterprise. In the course of the afternoon a number of invited guests were privileged to inspect the theatre and witness a typical performance. The building, which has been designed by Mr. George A. Boswell, architect, Glasgow, is a neat little affair. It is seated for about 700 persons, and so cleverly are the seats arranged that everybody is ensured an uninterrupted view of the stage-screen. The latter has been specially constructed by Mr. Boswell, and the result is very happy indeed, the pictures being viewed as if they were set in a frame.

Splendid Picture Outfit.

REGARDING the cinematograph outfit, it is apparent that no expense has been spared, and such excellent and interesting films as the one shown of the building of the Olympic, the world's largest vessel—from the laying of the keel-blocks to the triumph of her launch—are well-nigh perfect. The lighting of the theatre is electric, and this, combined with electrically-driven fans, ensures a pure atmosphere, a desideratum that adds considerably to the comforts of this admirably constructed house. A waiting-room and lounge for ladies and gentlemen also constitutes an agreeable feature in the arrangements for the comfort of the audience.

Living Pictures of Royalty.

AN interesting series of royal cinematograph pictures will be shown at a ball to be given at Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Friday next in connection with the visit of about 120 of the principal Austrian hotel proprietors and managers. The pictures, which are being brought specially from Vienna, where they were on view at the recent Sports Exhibition, show the King and the late King Edward pheasant shooting at Sandringham, the Kaiser hunting in Germany, and the Emperor Francis Joseph hunting chamois at Ischl, Austria.

Goldston-street Picture Palace.

THE Goldston-street Variety and Picture Palace, Aldgate, E.C., a large building, has recently been opened by Mr. Frank Stebbings, with Mr. Walter Mappin as acting manager. In addition to a splendid picture programme, variety turns are given which evidently please the large audiences. Two matinées are given on Friday and Saturday.

Theatre de Luxe, Norwich.

THE business is still good here, and the pictures are entertaining. This week they include The New Teacher, A Mohawk's Way, A Big Scoop, Hunting the Hippototamus, The Imperial Parks of Potsdam, *&c.*

B.B. Pictures at Dundee.

DISTRICT MANAGER MR. TOM LUNN has another fine assortment of films on view at the Palace Theatre, the star picture being The Anarchist, a powerful dramatic item. Dumb Comrades is another capital picture which appeals to all lovers of dumb animals. His Indian Bride proves a film of absorbing interest, and the programme further includes You Stole My Purse, The New Baby, Bunker's Patent Spyopticon, The Turn of the Balance, and The Pathé Gazette. At the Gaiety Theatre Acting-Manager Mr. J. Hickey has also an attractive programme, which includes dramatic films such as In Friendship's Name, The Fox Burrow, and The Homeless Boy, while the humorous items are The House Party and Beware of the Bomb. An additional attraction is found in the Eckersley Sketch Company in a smartly worked sketch entitled *Turning the Tables*, which meets with much appreciation. At the Empire Theatre bumper houses continue to gladden the managerial heart of Mr. R. W. Austin, whose star pictures are Under the Old Apple Tree and Turn of the Balance, while an extra popular item is "Flanagan" on the cinephone.

Dundee Cinema Theatre.

GOOD business continues to be done at Mr. P. Feathers' comfortable house, the programme this week including the following excellent films: A Summer Idyll, A Wireless Romance, Rock Climbing in the Black Forest, Love Me, Love My Dog, The Enthusiastic Handball Player, and Longlegs, Jumper.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Whitaker Thompson (chairman) presiding.

PETITIONS.

Mr. A. Taylor presented a petition signed by 3952 tradesmen and residents against a music and dancing licence for the Fulham Empire. Mr. Easton presented a similar petition, containing 10,000 signatures. Mr. Dickson Pender presented a petition, signed by 6,000 persons, against the licensing of the proposed Euston Hippodrome. Mr. E. Smallwood presented a petition against the granting of a music and dancing licence for the proposed Electric Theatre, 2, Highbury-place, Islington. This was signed on behalf of thirty Evangelistic churches in East Islington.

FOREST HILL PICTURE PLAYHOUSE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported with reference to the Forest Hill Picture Playhouse, Dartmouth-road, Forest Hill. Drawings have also been submitted showing certain alterations proposed to be made to the hall at the rear of the premises. The cinematograph theatre has already been dealt with under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, but the certificate is required with a view to a music licence being obtained. The committee considered that the hall at the rear of the premises was unsuitable for public entertainments, and recommended that a certificate be sealed, subject to a condition that the hall at the rear of the premises shall not be used while the cinematograph theatre is open to the public, and that the certificate be issued as soon as the premises shall have been satisfactorily completed.

QUEEN'S HALL, DULWICH.

The committee reported that they had considered an application for a certificate, accompanied by drawings, submitted by Mr. G. P. Pratt, of a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected at Grove-vale, East Dulwich, and to be known as the Queen's Hall. It is intended to apply for a music licence for the hall. The premises will accommodate about 360 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, they appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired.

The committee accordingly recommended the Council to grant a certificate.

PICTURE PALACE, LISSON GROVE.

The committee had considered an application for a certificate, accompanied by drawings, submitted by Mr. E. J. Rawkins, showing certain alterations proposed to be made at the Great Central Picture Palace, 44, Lisson-grove, Marylebone. The premises have been dealt with under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, but the certificate is required with a view to obtaining a licence for music and dancing. Subject to certain conditions being complied with, the premises appear to be suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired.

The committee recommended that a certificate be granted.

BAYSWATER CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.

The committee had considered an application for a certificate, accompanied by drawings, submitted by Mr. H. F. Phillips, of the Bayswater Cinematograph Theatre and Tea Rooms, Queen's-road, Bayswater, it being intended to apply for a music licence. The premises consist of a hall on the ground flood and tea rooms on the first floor. The tea rooms are provided with only one exit, viz., a staircase 3ft. 4in. wide, and the committee did not consider them suitable to be licensed for public music. The cinematograph hall on the ground floor will accommodate about 350 persons, and, subject to certain conditions being observed, the arrangements of this hall appear to be satisfactory.

The committee recommended that a certificate be granted.

STREATHAM EMPIRE PICTURE PALACE.

The Council, on Nov. 8, decided not to grant a certificate in respect of the Streatham Empire Picture Palace, Streatham High-road. The Theatres Committee reported that a drawing has now been submitted by Messrs. Taperell and Haase, showing the provision of an additional exit from the northern end of the hall by means of a passageway leading to Streatham High-road. The premises have already been approved under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, but the certificate is desired with a view to obtaining a music licence for the premises. The additional exit will render the premises suitable for the purpose for which the licence is desired, and the committee recommended that a certificate be sealed and issued as soon as the premises shall have been satisfactorily completed.

All the above recommendations were agreed to without discussion.

Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

THE picture season at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, has been suspended until Monday, Dec. 5, owing to the hall being engaged for other purposes.

Cinematograph Musicales at Eastbourne.

A NEW departure has been made by the management at the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, who have arranged the Pavilion for holding cinematograph musicales. All the latest interesting and entertaining pictures are shown twice daily (except Saturday), a tea matinée being held from 4 to 6 p.m.

Johnson v. Jeffries Fight at Dundee.

A NEW and commodious picture theatre, the title of which is the People's Picture House, was auspiciously opened last Saturday. The new theatre, which is situated in Logie-street, Lochee, is seated for about 1,200 persons, and is exceedingly comfortable. The theatre is run on the two houses a night principle. The star pictures this week are The Boxer, which is full of amusing incidents, including a unique boxing match on roller skates, the sorry figure they cut at the twentieth round appealing with irresistible force to the audience, and The Story of the Siege, which portrays scenes of great historic and dramatic interest. Many other excellent films are included in the programme, and the cinephone provides an agreeable variation. On Wednesday and Thursday the much-discussed fight film, Johnson v. Jeffries, was exhibited, and drew enormous houses, the various incidents, which are very clearly depicted, being followed with much interest.

Kilmarnock Picture Palace.

THE feature of the programme this week at the Picture Palace, Kilmarnock, is a magnificent film by the Edison Co. illustrating a big scoop in a newspaper office. There are other good films, including The Virgin of Babylon, and an interesting society drama, *The Turn of the Balance*. The varieties include Rossini, a clever performer on the high trapeze; Williams and Parker, a Welsh couple with pleasing voices and good music; and J. K. Macfarlane, a popular Scotch comedian.

The Cinema Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lynne.

THIS, one of the coziest and most attractive of the ring of Cinema Theatres in this district, is becoming daily more popular and better patronised under the astute management of Mr. H. Goddard. It fills a much-needed gap in the amusement line in this town. Prominent in the programme of films depicted is a fine domestic film, The Examination Day. The Count of Montraver is an excellent dramatic picture. The Cinema Theatres will soon form a ring around the district, Palaces having been opened at Tunstall, Burslem, and one in Longton will shortly be completed.

RINKING GOSSIP.

The Great Monohan in Bristol.

THE Great Monohan delighted large audiences at the Coliseum, Bristol, last week, with his wonderful exhibitions of skating. The charm of the exhibitions lies in the novelty of the tricks he performs and in his versatility. Monohan claims that he is the originator of all the tricks he performs, his figure-skating including complicated brackets, double turns, &c., executed rapidly, but always with grace and apparent ease. Rolling the barrel is probably one of the hardest tricks that he performs, and the fairy maze, in which Monohan threads his way in and out in all conceivable directions, between rows of lighted candles, is a feat originated by him that became so popular that many other exhibition skaters have adopted it.

Monohan's Mode of Adjusting His Skates.

MONOHAN mystifies many people by the way he puts on his skates, which he changes several times on the rink. He simply places the skates—the ordinary pattern Richardson—on the floor, steps on to them, and commences to skate. Hundreds of people have inquired as to how this is done, but Monohan keeps the secret to himself.

Mr. Fred Wardle's New Appointment.

MR. FRED WARDLE has resigned his position with the Stratford-on-Avon Rink, and has been engaged by the Victoria Piers Syndicate, Ltd., of Folkestone, as floor manager in charge of the Pier Rink, Dover. Business here is very good, and the directors are arranging several grand carnivals for Christmas. A Roller Skating Club has been formed, and a large number have already joined. Music is supplied at each session by a newly-engaged band, under the leadership of Mr. Swingler, of long experience. The floor is the smoothest and best in the district, and the rink is to be entirely redecorated and several additions made.

Dainty Dolly Mitchell at Reading.

MANY are the attractions provided by the management at the Central Rink, Reading, and by securing the return of Dainty Dolly Mitchell they have excelled any previous engagement. Miss Mitchell, who excels in fancy and figure skating, presents an act of the highest character, executing many difficult gyrations in perfect fashion. Her popularity is surely sustained, as this is her third engagement at the above rink, and she was recently the recipient of a handsome bouquet from a few admirers.

Olympia Skating Club.

THE Olympia Skating Club, of which Viscount Crichton, M.V.O., D.S.O., is again president, will commence its season on Dec. 4. The subscriptions this year will include the use of the rink on weekdays, and special provision is being made for members and their friends desiring to lunch and dine at Olympia.

Rinking Popular in Bath.

BOTH rinks at Bath are going strong at present, and the managements vie with each other in the way of arranging attractions and competitions of every conceivable sort, the public supporting the fixtures with the utmost enthusiasm.

Carnival at Central Rink, Bath.

No greater rinking success than the carnival held at the Central Rink, Bath, last Thursday week, can be imagined, and Manager Mr. E. C. Mansel deserves all the praise possible for the admirable way the whole arrangements were carried through. The prize for the most original lady's costume was won by Miss May Fortune, who had designed a dress illustrating Form IV. This rink is now engaged on Monday afternoons for a ladies' rinking club. At the head of the committee is the name of Lady de Blaquiere, who has associated with her several ladies of county houses around Bath.

Rinking at the Crystal Palace.

THE Crystal Palace mammoth skating rink will reopen for the season to-day (Saturday). This rink is the most popular in the neighbourhood, and it has absolutely the finest and largest asphalte surface in the world, it being a special preparation which renders it peculiarly suitable for all branches of rinking both for amateurs and professionals. The rink will open to-day at 3 p.m., when skating will be ad lib until 5 p.m. At 5.15 there will be a special session lasting until 6.45, the last session for the day being from 7 to 10 p.m..

Champion Free Skater of Great Britain.

DURING the afternoon Mr. Chas. D. Phillips, who is the champion free skater of Great Britain, will entertain all by some exhibitions of his skill on skates. For the rest of the season the sessions will be 10.30 to 12.30, 2.30 to 5, and 7 to 10 p.m., with an extra session on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 5.15 to 6.45. There will be an efficient staff of instructors in attendance; and—this for the learners—a special annexe is reserved solely for the ladies and children who are desirous of becoming proficient in the art before venturing on the great rink in the Northern Transept of the Palace. In the afternoon and evening a full orchestral band will play, thus adding to the enjoyment of rinkers and audience alike. Mr. F. G. Stumcke is again appointed rink manager.

Sports Night at Croydon Rink.

ANOTHER of Mr. Telford's Popular Sports nights was well patronised on Thursday, the entries for the various events being numerous. Excitement was caused by the obstacle race and barrel race for gentlemen, and the backward race and hoop race for ladies. A ball and spoon race for ladies and gentlemen partners was also a novel feature. There were no entrance fees for the events, but handsome prizes were awarded. Competitors were handicapped, and this was well and fairly done.

Little Yorks at Derby.

THE Little Yorks, charming exponents of a graceful art, are delighting audiences at the Alexandra Rink, Derby, this week. Their programme includes various difficult movements, all cleverly performed. The accomplished youngsters are a big success.

Roller Skating on Eastbourne Pier.

THE Pavilion Rink, Eastbourne, with its excellent rock maple floor, was opened on Saturday, when a large number of skaters assembled at the afternoon and evening sessions. The admirable arrangements of last year have again been made for the comfort of patrons. The stage forms a cosy lounge for skaters and spectators, and here teas and light refreshments are served, while the balconies are also open to the public, the admission to this part of the house being free at all ordinary sessions. Professor and Miss Percy (Mr. and Mrs. Swann) are again in charge of the floor, and these expert instructors are available for the teaching of all kinds of fancy skating and to help beginners. The Pier Orchestra provides the music at each session.

The Leicester Empress Rink.

THE first grand fancy and evening dress carnival of the season took place on Thursday, the 17th inst., when there was an exceptionally large attendance. The rink presented a most brilliant spectacle, for the costumes were of every colour and description. There were about 130 competitors, and the judges, Mr. J. B. Healey, Mr. E. J. Jackett, and Mr. F. H. Ross, had an exceedingly difficult task to decide to whom they should award prizes. However, twenty ladies and gentlemen received rewards for their tasteful costumes, and very expensive and valuable prizes they were, too. Skating commenced at 7.30, and continued, with intervals, of course, for judging and competitions, until midnight. Mr. E. A. Knight, who has succeeded Mr. A. E. Court as manager, has done exceedingly well in his first venture.

The Noble Shield at Leicester.

THERE was an immense assemblage at the Boulevard Rink, Leicester, last Saturday evening, when the final race for the Noble Shield, which is open to amateur skaters of all England, took place. Five competitors went to the starting point—T. A. Dunn, P. Robinson, and C. Burdett, of the Leicester Boulevard Rink, D. M. Swain (the holder), of the Lava Club, and E. W. Bussey (fastest loser), of Brixton. The race is a scratch mile, of fourteen laps, and from the firing of the pistol, Swain, the holder, dashed to the fore, closely followed by Bussey and the Leicester men.

Fine Skating by Swain.

THIS order was, generally speaking, maintained until the finish. Burdett soon retired, and Robinson, after making one or two plucky efforts to pass Bussey, also withdrew. Only three were, therefore, left in the race. Swain skated with great strength and freedom, and, gradually increasing his lead, he gained the shield for the second time, and a gold medal. He broke the tape twelve yards in front of Bussey, in the excellent time of 3min. 22sec. Bussey also received a gold medal, his time being 3min. 23 2-5sec. Dunn, who was a yard behind, seemed to leave his final effort too late, although he could never have caught the winner. He received a silver medal, his time being 3min. 24sec. The officials were: Judges, Mr. Frank Snow and Mr. E. Preston; starter, Mr. W. Jesson; handicapper, Mr. Charles Knight.

Fancy Dress Carnival at Kirkcaldy.

AN enthusiastic crowd of skaters gathered together on Wednesday night at the Olympia, Kirkcaldy, to partake in the above, and the elite of the town were present in large numbers witnessing the gorgeous display. A grand hockey match and speed race punctuated the evening's proceedings, and at the close Mr. Hunter was publicly congratulated on achieving such a gratifying revival of the rinking craze.

Carnival at Limerick.

THE rink carnival at Limerick came off on Tuesday night in the presence of a very attractive bevy of spectators. The Countess of Limerick set the "wheels" going at eight o'clock precisely, and Mr. Jemmie Delmege was "out and about" in circumlocution, assisted by Messrs. Kidd and Ledger, making the visitors comfortable and happy. The march past at 9.45 p.m. was a spectacle worthy of the management and the carnivalists, and the costumes were pretty and becoming. Simplicity was much in evidence on this occasion, and the fair women and brave men looked not only themselves, but set an excellent example to those "yonkers" who would, if they could, undo a pretty and a pleasant pastime. The tea-tables were well patronised, and the support given to the masquerade by the county gentlewomen was as brilliant as it was delightful. Photographs were taken especially by Limerick's own artist, Mr. Dick Gibson, and the music was supplied by the splendid bands of the Black Watch and Fusiliers.

The Rinkeries, Rose-lane, Norwich.

AN interesting competition took place on Thursday, the 17th inst., between Messrs. Nicholls and Emms for the one mile amateur championship of Norfolk. There was a capital attendance of spectators, who evinced the keenest interest in the event. In the course of the race Emms, who was the favourite, fell twice, the last time just at the last lap, when it seemed he inevitably must win. However, his last fall put him out of the race, and Nicholls came in for easy honours. Time, 3min. 15½sec. Much sympathy was expressed for Emms in his mishaps. Mr. Hubbard, the courteous floor-manager, admirably carried out the duties of starter, &c. The management have made alterations in their prices of admission much to the advantage of the ladies. They have also reduced the price for the use of skates.

Sporting Night at Olympia, Pentre.

A GRAND sporting night was held at Olympia, Pentre, Rhondda, on Monday last, the chief event of the evening being the final heat for the half mile championship of the Rhondda Valleys, which was won after a close finish by Mr. H. A. Baker, who defended his title from last year. Valuable prizes were given for waltzing, two-step, tug-of-war, obstacle, musical chairs, and ladies' hoop race. During the evening an exhibition of trick and fancy skating was given by Prof. Tom Butterworth and the Boy Wonder (Master Eric), with high jumping as a special feature. The performance may truthfully be described as wonderful, and so gracefully and neatly were all the tricks executed that they appeared from a spectator's point of view to be less difficult than they really were.

Ebringdon Rink, Plymouth, Attracts Amateurs.

AMATEURS seem to be greatly attracted to the Ebringdon Rink, Plymouth, doubtless owing to the excellent condition of the floor and the easy running rollers provided. Their efforts appear to be a source of great amusement to skaters and spectators alike, though they soon become expert.

Juvenile Carnival at Ramsgate.

COMTESSE D'ABONOIR distributed the prizes won in a juvenile skating carnival at the Ramsgate County Rink on Saturday afternoon. There was keen competition, and the youngsters were prettily dressed. The Countess made a happy little speech.

Grand Carnival at Sheffield.

THE first grand fancy dress carnival of the season took place at the magnificently redecorated Olympia Rink, Sheffield, last week. There was a crowded attendance of spectators, and over five hundred skaters took part. The building was artistically festooned with banners, flowers, and Chinese lanterns, and the gay scene viewed from the balcony was a feast of sartorial splendour as the richly-attired skaters glided past to the strains of very popular dance music played by the augmented orchestra. It was generally agreed that the Olympia management had surpassed all their former triumphs, and had, indeed, "done themselves proud."

Marcus Superbus Flirts with Mary Stuart.

ALL periods and nationalities were represented, and many persons adopted costumes of distinctly original design. Marcus Superbus flirted gaily with Mary Stuart, and the gulf of the centuries was easily bridged by Joan of Arc, who waltzed divinely with a gentleman fearfully and wonderfully disguised as Poster Advertisements. Prizes were awarded to Mr. H. Ryves for his novel attire; Miss Haywood, a pretty and vivacious lady, who appeared as the Malapropos Girl; Miss Hilda Hawksley, who successfully represented the Rinking Coquette; Mr. Schoefield; Mrs. Harold Gill, a bewitching Spanish Gipsy Queen, and others.

Sports at Sunderland Rink.

THE last sports night at this rink was such a great success that Mr. Walton has been induced to repeat this form of amusement on Friday night. Entries for the various races are coming in very satisfactorily, and a successful and enjoyable evening is being eagerly anticipated. The rink is at present in full swing, and Mr. Walton is ever to the front with novel diversions for his patrons.

THE EAST LONDON PALACE.

The enterprising and energetic Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland, Whitechapel, who caters so admirably for the entertainment generally of East Enders, has earned the gratitude of the large number of Hebrew dwellers in the neighbourhood by the establishment of a Jewish variety house—the only Yiddish music hall in London. That his undertaking is keenly appreciated is evidenced by the large number of patrons who pay a weekly visit, the hall being packed nearly every night. And very enthusiastic and well-ordered audiences they are, and also very discriminating.

An immensely enjoyed item in this week's programme is the dramatic sketch given by Mr. Scherman, the well-known Jewish actor, and his company, entitled, we were informed, *The Wild Hannah*. The programme is printed in Hebrew, and not having the slightest knowledge of the Yiddish language, the kindly services of an interpreter were placed at our disposal. From him we gathered that the quarrel between Mariana and Nicolai, the children of Hannah and Count Marinesen, which occurred soon after the rising of the curtain, was the outcome of each defending the religion of father and mother—one of the Jewish and the other of the Christian faith. The entry of Hannah soon stops all argument, and she evidently thinks fit to chastise her son. There is a pathetic scene where Hannah's aged father, Israel Wilner, from whom she has been estranged for years, visits the house and tells her of the death of her mother. The Count Marinesen, her husband, does little to support the family, and Hannah has to work to help keep the home going, having apparently, however, a good friend and adviser in her cousin, Yolke, who certainly has all the funny lines in the sketch, judging by the hearty laughter his remarks frequently evoked. Marinesen brings home a friend, the Count Stura, as a suitor for his daughter's hand, and another visitor is the Countess Marinesen, the wealthy mother of the Count, who implores her son to leave home and children and be true to the Christian faith. If he will do this he may share her money. Marinesen apparently wavers, but in a pathetic and intense scene, in which Hannah is stricken blind, finally declines to desert the wife who has been his helpmate for nineteen years. In the last scene, some considerable time having elapsed, we see the lonely and blind Hannah comforted by the good-natured Yolke, who proposes to read to her. Then enters her son, who is nearly starving, and soon after her daughter, Mariana, who has also evidently been absent from home for some time. She has been ruined by Count Stura, and eventually poisons herself. The sightless Hannah at first thinks she is only sleeping, but discovering that she is dead, the frenzied mother plunges a knife into the breast of her daughter's betrayer, and afterwards kills herself. To appreciate or describe the sketch at all adequately, one must, of course, understand the language, but *The Wild Hannah* evidently greatly impressed the audience, its reception being very enthusiastic. In its representation Mr. Scherman as the humorous and kind-hearted Yolke, Mr. Goldsmith as Israel Wilner, the aged father of Hannah, a quietly impressive portrayal, and Miss Jenny Kayner as the distraught wife, Hannah, all did effective work, Mr. Hamburger, Miss Blacker, Master Berngarten, Miss Zelnicker, and Mr. Berngarten giving able support.

Mr. Woolf, who has a keen eye for discovering talent, has unearthed a juvenile violinist of much promise in Master Morris Becker, a little genius of whom great things may be expected in the future. Master Becker played a couple of difficult selections with much skill and feeling on the night of our visit, and was loudly acclaimed by the audience. An engagement of an alluring nature is also that of Mme. Czernovskava, Mr. Klodnizky, and Mr. Czigancig, accomplished Russian singers and dancers, the lady first delighting with a tuneful selection, and afterwards joining in what was evidently a love duet with a male partner, judging by the coy glances of the lady and the caressing attitude of the man. The third contribution was an exhilarating and clever dance by another male member of the troupe, his wonderful pirouetting and other adroit and attractive movements calling forth loud plaudits, the trio being rapturously recalled, and contributing another skilful dance. A comic sketch and other varied numbers figure on a programme that none can cavil at, and there is a hard-working and capable little band, directed by Ferdinand Staub.

The casual visitor is struck by the way all the ladies in the audience at once remove their hats, an example which might be followed with advantage at halls further West. On a crowded night the place looks like a huge milliner's shop, all sorts and sizes of befeathered and flowered feminine head adornment being pinned on to walls, seats, or wherever available. But none disturb the line of vision, an admirable tribute to Mr. Woolf's managerial diplomacy.

Studying the tastes for every class of the community he caters for, enthusiasts of the "noble art" may see some of the finest boxing contests ever held at Wonderland; and at other times the huge hall is used for cinematograph shows, for which it is splendidly adapted. Two very interesting films, The Heart of an Outlaw and The Fire Chief's Daughter, were screened in a brief visit we paid the hall the other evening. The East London Palace adjoins Wonderland, and when tired of the pictures, or the boxing is over, many make their way to the Yiddish music hall, where they may always be certain to find entertainment.

P. Collins's Christmas Enterprises.

THE Napoleon of British showland—Mr. P. Collins—is providing great equestrian attractions at his two circuses—the Anglo-American combination at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, and his No. 2 circus at the Exhibition Hall, Manchester. These well-equipped circuses will doubtless draw the people of both great cities. Some of the best known stars of the arena are engaged. Mr. Collins deserves all success for his ceaseless enterprise.

Payne's Theatre at Wigston.

MR. FRANK PAYNE'S portable theatre, which has just received a renewed licence, which of itself is a testimonial to the excellent manner in which it is conducted, is now situated on the Leicester-road, Wigston. Mr. Payne has left no stone unturned to look after the comfort of his patrons this winter, radiators having been installed, and the entire building having been made as cosy as possible. This theatre is unquestionably the best of its kind that has toured Leicestershire. This week's programme includes The Maid of the Mill; The Lost Ship, or, Nailed to the Mast; The Little Stowaway, or, Cast Adrift; Brought to Justice; The Derby Winner, or, the Way of the World; The Boots at the Swan; The Steeplechase; or, Lytton in the Pigskin; and Robinson Crusoe and His Man Friday. Mr. Payne has an excellent company, and the "show" deserves the patronage that is bestowed.

South Wigston Rink.

MR. TOM MOODY, the energetic manager of this rink, is untiring in his efforts to secure variety for his patrons. A big event is announced to take place on Thursday, Dec. 1, in the shape of a White Carnival, for which handsome prizes are to be offered. To-day (Saturday) Miss Elsie Coleman (of the Rothley Rink), the girl marvel, aged ten, is making her appearance in a trick skating programme of twenty items. In the evening she races Miss Hackett (girl champion speed skater of Leicester) a half-mile race.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith came back to us last week after an absence of eight years. On Oct. 6, 1902, he opened the new Princess Theatre (since demolished), on Broadway, near Twenty-ninth-street, with *The Night of the Party*, and scored an unmistakable success. It is safe to say that many theatre-goers remembered him after that as one of the most naturally funny comedians they had ever seen, and that a goodly contingent of these same theatre-goers was present at Nazimova's Thirty-ninth-street Theatre on the 7th inst. to give Mr. Grossmith a cordial welcome on his return to New York. Thanks to his new offering, *Mr. Preedy and the Countess*, his old friends laughed quite as much as they expected, and the new ones he made as the performance proceeded "joined in" most heartily. In other words, the audience enjoyed the play and Mr. Grossmith's impersonation of Hamilton Preedy immensely. The demonstrations of approval at the end of the second act were so pronounced that Mr. Grossmith was obliged to express his appreciation in a capital little speech. Miss Charlotte Granville was splendid as the Countess, her fine presence and easy manner affording an effective contrast to the awkward bashfulness of little Preedy. Mr. John Clulow as Preedy's pompous partner, John Bounsall; Mr. Herbert Maule as Mr. Sidgrave; Mr. E. Bonfield as the Hon. Robert Jennerway; and Mr. Cyril Ashford as Reginald Saunders were all very good in their respective rôles. Miss Sheila Heseltine played Emma Sidgrave charmingly; Miss Lydia Rachel did very well indeed as Mrs. Sidgrave; Miss Lynn Fontanne as Harriet Budgeon made a small part stand out well; and Miss Constance Kirkham was capital as a pretty little French milliner.

"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR," with which the regular company of the New Theatre opened its season there on the 7th inst., had not been performed in this city since 1898. In that year it was revived at Daly's Theatre with George Clarke as Falstaff, Miss Ada Rehan as Mistress Ford, and Mrs. Gilbert as Dame Quickly. In the Shakespearean productions of the late Augustin Daly the scenes were often transposed and the dialogue was "edited." The present revival at the New Theatre adheres as closely as possible to the original, the outspoken language of the play necessitating some omissions. It was announced that the piece would be performed purely as a farce, and one remembered that when *The Taming of the Shrew* was performed at one of our leading theatres a few years ago the action was much too boisterous. But with such excellent players as Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Rose Coghland, and Mr. Theodore Roberts in the cast as Mistress Ford, Mistress Page, and Sir John Falstaff respectively, there was little danger that the farcical scenes showing the fat knight's discomfiture would be 'overdone." These, in fact, were played in the right key, and in the other passages of the play the best of light comedy methods prevailed. The company as a whole gave the piece an excellent interpretation, and the *mise-en-scène* aroused no little admiration, the final picture of Windsor Park being particularly effective.

Mr. Louis Calvert appeared for a few nights as Falstaff, but was forced to relinquish the part through illness, and his place was filled by Mr. Theodore Roberts. It is not on record that Mr. Roberts had played Falstaff before, but despite the drawback of a hasty rehearsal he gave a remarkably fine performance. Miss Edith Wynne Matthison's Mistress Ford was a most engaging portrayal, and as Mistress Page that experienced artist, Miss Rose Coghlan, was certainly at her best. Mr. A. E. Anson was conspicuously good as Mr. Ford; Mr. Lee Baker did well as Mr. Page; Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk contributed an excellent embodiment of Slender; and Miss Helen Reimer's impersonation of Mistress Quickly was particularly praiseworthy. Other representations that deserve honourable mention were Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter's Anne Page, Mr. Frank Gillmore's Fenton, Mr. Ben Johnson's Shallow, Mr. Albert Bruning's Sir Hugh Evans, Mr. E. W. Morrison's Dr. Caius, Mr. William McVay's Host of the Garter Inn, and Mr. Pedro de Cordoba's Pistol.

MISS ADELINE GENEE made her reappearance in New York at the Globe Theatre on the 7th inst., and received an enthusiastic welcome from a large and fashionable audience. Her dances were the principal feature of Harry B. Smith and Raymond Hubbell's musical comedy *The Bachelor Belles*, which has already been described. How much pleasure the audience derived from watching her graceful movements may be judged from the fact that she was literally deluged with flowers, and had to respond to so many encores that one lost count of them. Miss Genée was assisted in her dances by Mr. Sherer Bekefi, a clever performer, who well deserved the applause he received. Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger have produced the piece in a gorgeous manner, and there is plenty of fun, thanks to Mr. Frank Lawlor and Miss Josie Sadler.

MISS MAY IRWIN, an unrivalled entertainer in her own particular line, and one of the best singers of "coon" songs that America has produced, has made a success at Wallack's Theatre, in Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson's farcical comedy, *Getting a Polish*. Yellow Dog, Montana, is the opening scene of the play, and the fun starts when gold is discovered in a mine owned by Mrs. Jim (Miss Irwin), who "runs" a boarding-house, and John Blake. Mrs. Jim, with a nephew and niece, starts at once for Paris to "get a polish," but she is victimised by an Italian prince and a pair of designing Americans. The result of her experiences is that she is glad to return with John Blake to Montana. There are no end of amusing situations, and Miss Irwin may always be trusted not to miss a single opportunity for making the audience laugh. Incidentally, she revives a funny old song, with a swinging chorus, called "Learning McFadden to waltz," and it proves quite as enjoyable as if it had never been sung by every Irish comedian in the land twenty years ago. Mr. George Fawcett is always at his best as a rugged Westerner, and his John Blake is a capital portrayal. Miss Rosalind Coghlan appears as Mrs. Jim's niece, Georgiana, and plays the part attractively.

MISS GRACE GEORGE is appearing in a new comedy, called *Sauce for the Goose*, by Geraldine Bonner. The scenes are laid in New York, and the story deals with the efforts of a resourceful wife to revive the waning interest of her husband, first by arousing his jealousy and then by making his own actions seem absurd to him. The theme of the play is the much-discussed question of whether the wife has the same privilege as the husband to violate the conventions. Miss George impersonates the wife, Kitty Constable, and is said to have added a delightful comedy rôle to her répertoire. Mr. Frank Worthing appears as John Constable, the husband.

MR. PERCY FRENCH and Dr. Houston Collisson gave an excellent entertainment at Mendelssohn Hall on the 8th inst. "Humours of Art and Music" it was called, and it was original and amusing. Mr. French drew crayon pictures and told stories, while Dr. Collisson played the piano and sang some capital songs. His imitation of a music-hall vocalist singing "A sailor was saying good-bye to his mother" was extremely funny. The programme was full of good things, and a large audience enjoyed them immensely. Britishers in New York know Mendelssohn Hall pretty well, as Mr. George Grossmith, sen., used to fulfil his New York engagements there. The building will soon be demolished.

PANTOMIME CALLS.

MILTON BODE'S PANTOMIME CALLS.

FIRST REHEARSAL.
"ALADDIN."
NEW THEATRE, CARDIFF, MONDAY, Dec. 12, at 11 a.m.
"RED RIDING HOOD."
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH, MONDAY, Dec. 12, at 11 a.m.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON, MONDAY, Dec. 12, at 11 a.m.
"CINDERELLA."
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14, at 11 a.m.

Special accommodation will be provided from London at three-quarter fare. Trains leaving as below:
Paddington to Cardiff, Sunday, Dec. 11, at 12.45 p.m.
Paddington to Plymouth, Sunday, Dec. 11, at 2.45 p.m.
Paddington to Wolverhampton, Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 2.35 p.m.
Victoria to Brighton, Sunday, Dec. 11, at 12.15 p.m.
All Artists wishing to avail themselves please write MILTON BODE, COUNTY T., READING.

CALLS FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE AND LONGDEN'S
"ROBINSON CRUSOE," ABERDEEN,
Rehearsals Dec. 5th, 10 a.m.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" (A), LONDON,
Rehearsals Dec. 19, 10 a.m.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" (B), LEAMINGTON,
Rehearsals Dec. 19, 10 a.m.

"CINDERELLA," OLDHAM,
Rehearsals, Dec. 12, 10 a.m.

ALL ARTISTS, TROUPES, CHORUS, &c., Send at once their addresses to E. DOTTRIDGE, EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S PANTOMIME CALLS.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," GRAND TH., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. Dec. 12. 11 o'clock prompt.
"ALADDIN," EMPIRE, WORCESTER. Dec. 12. 11 o'clock prompt.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," TH. ROYAL, ASTON, BIRMINGHAM. Dec. 12. 11 o'clock prompt.
No Excuses. Any artists not having received Parts communicate Theatre, Worcester, immediately.

LEVY and CARDWELL'S
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
"DICKORY DOCK,"
MONDAY, Dec. 12.
EVERYBODY engaged for same please send address.
H. B. LEVY, this, King's T., Seacombe;
Next, CORPORATION T., CHESTERFIELD.
Leo Trainor please communicate at once.

CALL.
ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsals for "THE FORTY THIEVES" will commence on MONDAY, Dec. 12, on the stage of the above theatre, when ALL CONCERNED are requested to be present at 11 a.m.
No excuses.
ROBERT ARTHUR.

CALL.
KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.
The first rehearsal for "ALADDIN" will take place on MONDAY, Dec. 12, 1910, at 11 a.m., on the stage of the above theatre, when ALL CONCERNED must attend.
No excuses.
ROBERT ARTHUR.

CALL.
THEATRE ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsals for the "QUEEN OF HEARTS" Pantomime will commence on MONDAY, Dec. 12, 1910, on the stage of the above theatre, at 11 a.m., when ALL CONCERNED must attend.
No excuses.
ROBERT ARTHUR.

WILLIAM WATSON'S
"ROBINSON CRUSOE" COMPANY.
CALL.
EVERYBODY CONCERNED, on the Stage of the Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester, 11 a.m., MONDAY, Nov. 28; no excuses.
FRED L. ARTHUR, General-Manager.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS and HIPPODROME, EDINBURGH.
Opening date, Dec. 3, 1910.
CALL FOR FULL REHEARSAL.
Eleven o'clock prompt. No excuse.
ALL ARTISTS ENGAGED MUST ATTEND, or Contract Cancelled.

"THE SCARECROW AND THE STAR."

Comedy Scena, by George Gibson, Produced at the Putney Hippodrome on Monday, Nov. 21.
The Scarecrow .....MR. MAURICE RUSSELL
The Star .....MISS MAUDIE HILLMAN

Of legitimate story there is but little in this charming little scena, the object of the author being evidently to employ the vocal abilities of Miss Maudie Hillman and at the same time to provide an entertainment full of genuine humour. This has certainly been accomplished.

The Scarecrow, in weary mood, sings to himself. The Star comes out to listen, and, in response to the Scarecrow's invitation, vacates the heavens and visits terra firma. Everything is strange to the Star, and in most amusing fashion the Scarecrow proceeds to explain matters in as lucid a manner as possible. The Star sings to him and he to the Star in turn, for they have become fast friends. The dialogue is bright and crisp, and contains many capital lines. As the Star Miss Maudie Hillman scores an artistic success, and finds ample scope for her powerful and cultivated voice. On the evening of our visit Miss Hillman was the recipient of a handsome bouquet. She is ably supported by Mr. Maurice Russell. Judging from the manner in which it was received, the sketch should last these talented artists for some time to come.

AT the Smethwick Theatre Royal, *The Merry Territorials*, produced by the Brothers Renad, of *Swiss Express* fame, received a cordial welcome on its initial appearance here on Monday. It is staged in unimpeachable style. Mr. Edward Vere as Old Gaybird is responsible for much of the merriment; Mr. Syd Claydon is droll as Mr. Brown; Mr. Haydyn Scott acts and sings well as Captain Carlton; Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Sergeant-Major Mustard and Mr. Victor T. Raymond as Corporal Jones are also amusing; Miss Lily Beverley is seen to advantage as Polly; and Miss Ethel Royale acts well as Angelina. Miss Evelyn Robson as Mrs. Gaybird, and Miss Irene Atkinson as Bella Brown are also good. The musical comedy is preceded each evening by a dramatic episode in one scene, *A Plucky Woman*.

THE White Rats of America and the Actors' National Union have consolidated, and the combined organisations have become affiliated with the American Federation of Labour. The new organisation formed by this consolidation will be known as the White Rats Actors' Union of America.

"THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER." By Albert A. Strong, LL.B. (Lond.). Price 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d. Published at *The Era* Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Line (Six Words or less), Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

	UNITED KINGDOM.	FOREIGN
One Quarter	6s. 6d.	8s.
Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

The Offices of "The Era" are
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

NO STAMPS.

Advertisers and subscribers are politely requested to forward Cheques or Postal Orders in payment of their Advertisements and Subscriptions, crossed "Lloyd's Bank, Ltd." Remittances should be made payable to "The Era," Limited, and addressed,
THE PUBLISHER,
The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Feb. 6, 13, March 13, 20.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
April 3, May 1, 15, 22, 29, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 20, March 13, 20, April 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
April 3, 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
March 27, April 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Dec. 12, Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 20, March 6, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 27, April 17, 24, May 8, 15, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
Vacant Feb. 6 and 13.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 13 and 15 (2 nights, 1 matinée), April 17 (Easter), May 11, 12, and 13 (3 nights), and various dates onwards.
Also one or two Season Dates still Vacant for recent London Successes.
May be booked in conjunction with Hastings Pier.
Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9, 23, Feb. 6, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, 30, Feb. 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, 23, onwards.
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WEYMOUTH.—NEW THEATRE.
The most charming Theatre on the South Coast. Seating capacity over 1,000.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 2 and 16, 1910, three or six nights.
The British Fleet of twenty Battleships will be at Weymouth during the month of Jan.
Write, JAY and MANN, 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly; or WALTER R. WALLIS, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
The New Building, now rapidly nearing completion, will Open in December with a full and capable staff. Holding capacity at prices charged for West-End attractions, £35, exclusive of early doors. Stage capable of taking any Production touring.
Bookings include "The Cingalee," "Brewster's Millions," Mr. P. Hutchison's Company, Mr. Peter Davey's "Cinderella," Mr. F. Storey's "Aladdin," "What the Butler Saw," "The Fatal Wedding," and Castellano's Italian Opera.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Comedy, and West-End Plays, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, May 8, and on. Mr J. E. BULL (for the Proprietors), Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
Rebuilt and enlarged, holding £100.
WANTED, Company, for first vacant date, Jan. 9, onward. Now booking Spring and Summer, 1911. Can also arrange for flying matinées.
C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Barrow's Leading Theatre.
The Smart Theatre that Draws the Smart Audience.
WANTED, Known, Only Vacant Dates, Feb. 6 (?), 20 (?), 27, Aug. 21, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, onwards, for First-class London Attractions.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 20, April 10, All twice nightly.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Dec. 12, Jan. 23.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, Dec. 12.
STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:
Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Various 1911 dates, March 27, onwards.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON.
Wanted, First-class Companies, for this cosy and comfortable Theatre,
Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Various 1911 dates, March 13, onwards.
Apply, ARTHUR C. MOODY, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Good Company, Dec. 26. Lowest certainty, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 16 (?), Feb. 13, 20, 27 (3 or 6).
W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, First-class Dramas, for Jan. 30, Feb. 13, Only Vacant Dates.
Address, MANAGER, O. H., Kidderminster.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
Under the Management of Percy Hutchison.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 9, 30, March 20, onwards. Bookings, 1911: "Chocolate Soldier," "Girl in the Train," "Merry Widow," "Dollar Princess," "Brewster's Millions," "Arsène Lupin," Carl Rosa, "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs." Wire, PERCY HUTCHISON, Lyceum, Sheffield; next, Prince's, Manchester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Wanted, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 6, 27 (?), April 10, May 8, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 16 (?), 30, onward, with exceptions.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Undoubtedly one of the finest theatres in Wales Holding capacity over 2,000. Equipped with every modern stage contrivance. This Theatre caters for a very large population, standing right in the centre of the populous towns of Cadoxton, Barry Dock, Barry, and Barry Island.
Vacant Feb. 6, April 10, 17, 24, May 8, onward with exceptions.

Bookings already include "The Dairymaids," "Silver King," "Florodora," "Miss Hook of Holland," "Merry Widow," "When Knights were Bold," "Gay Gordons," &c., &c.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.

All communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
The premier theatre in the town.—Vide Press.
With a holding capacity greatly in excess of any other Theatre in the Town.
Now playing to record business.
Future bookings include:—Mr. George Edwardes's own Company in "The Merry Widow" (return), Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's Company in "Her Love Against the World," Walter Howard's latest play, "The Boy King," William Mollison's Company in "The Chorus Lady," "A Girl's Temptation," J. A. Campbell's "The Coastguard's Daughter," Robert Courteidge's Company, "The Arcadians," Mr. George Dance's Company, "Our Miss Gibbs," Mr. George Edwardes's "The Dollar Princess," J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Company (sixth visit), "The Chocolate Soldier," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class London Successes, for Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 16, 23, on, with exceptions.
All applications re dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 13, 17, March 13, 20, onwards, with exceptions, for Big Musical Shows. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, Moody-Manners, and Turner's Operas, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Dairymaids," "Gay Gordons," "Miss Hook," "Cingalee," "Country Girl," "Flag Lieutenant," "Pinkie and the Fairies," "Fires of Fate," "Havana," &c.
Re dates, JAY and MANN, 10-11, Jermyn-st., S.W.

NEW BRIGHTON.—WINTER GARDENS.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
Can stage any Production.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
Refer to—
Edward Terry, Esq. (two visits),
Laurence Irving, Esq., Lionel Rignold, Esq.,
Silvanus Dauncey, Esq. (two visits), Miss Annie Hughes, C. H. Williams, Esq. (four visits).
Certainty or Share.
NOW BOOKING FOR 1911. Few dates only left.
Address, MANAGERS.

THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE, SCARBOROUGH.
Open all the year round.
The Largest Theatre in the Town.
Can stage any attraction touring.
The Theatre de Luxe of the North.
WANTED, Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Dec. 5, onward. Bookings and pencillings for 1911 include Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. George Edwardes' Companies, Mr. George Dance's Companies, Mr. James Welch, "The Speckled Band," "The Brass Bottle," The Grotesques, "The Dairymaids," "The Man from Mexico," "Mr. Preedy and the Countess," "Alias Jimmy Valentine," &c., &c.
This most popular place of entertainment in Scarborough can be booked in conjunction with the Grand Opera House, Harrogate.
Mr. J. Car Riddle will again produce Pantomime on Dec. 26.
All communications re dates to WILLIAM PEACOCK, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

HARROGATE and SCARBOROUGH.
Grand Opera Houses.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 5, 6, 7, Scarborough, Dec. 8, 9, 10; Harrogate, also Dec. 12, onward, with exceptions. These two theatres can now be booked in conjunction, three nights each town.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Jan. 23, Feb. 13, 27, March 6, 13, 20.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 12 and 19.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Jan., onward, including Season 1911.
WEATHERBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies for March 6 and 13.
Address,
CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Known, Dec. 12 Vacant, for Musical Comedy or High-class Attraction, April 3, 10, May 1, 1911, onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, STOCKTON.
Dec. 12 Vacant (through obliging), Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 20, 27, 1911.
All coms. re Grand Opera House to be addressed there; others to
J. CHAS. IMESON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Good Pantomime, Dec. 19. Twice Nightly. Share or Certainty.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Vacant Dec. 5, 19, and April 10.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Wanted Good Dramas, Dec. 19 and 26.
Twice Nightly.

New Year open Galashiels and Dumfries.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Fahan, Co. Donegal.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Dec. 26, Jan. 2 and 9, three nights. A. D. VERNON.

GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Jan. 23, 30, to follow and precede Pantomime.
Address, R. G. ELDER, Metropole T., Gateshead.

COMPANIES WANTED.

Booked by
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED.
BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
and
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or very Special Attractions.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS
Vacant March 6, April 10, 24, May 22, June 5 (?), Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 9, 16, Nov. 13, 20, Dec. 4, 11.

BORDESLEY PALACE THEATRE.
Vacant March 20, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, Several Autumn Dates, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Vacant March 13, April 3, 10 (?), 17 (?), May 29, June 5.
Several Autumn Dates, 1911.

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Vacant several dates Spring, 1911.

GRAND THEATRE, WALSALL.
Vacant Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 20, 27, April 10, 24, May 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5.
Several Autumn Dates, 1911.

Address, with full particulars, terms, &c., where can be seen, to
MOSS' EMPIRES, LIMITED,
Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Theatres."

FOUR PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE,
The Premier Theatre, open all the year.
Dec. 5 (3 nights with Folkestone), Jan. 23, 30 (?), Feb. 9 (3), 13, 20, 27, March 9 (3), 20.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 6 (3), 27, March 6 (3).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Dec. 8 (3 nights with Eastbourne), 12, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 (3), 27, March 6, 20.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH
Vacant Jan. 26 (3), Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13 (3), 20.

Apply for all above,
H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—
MOTHERWELL, Dec. 12, 19, and 26;
FALKIRK, Dec. 19 (3 nights), 19 (3 nights);
AYR, Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26, 26;
LEITH, Dec. 26, 26, 26, 26, 26, and onwards.
Apply, R. C. BUCHANAN, 6, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, DUBLIN, LTD.
Managing-Director, F. W. MARRIOTT WATSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, March 27, May 22, June 26, onwards, with exceptions. Re dates address,
C. F. WRIGHT.

GRAND THEATRE AND VARIETIES, GAINSBOROUGH.
The New Place.
WANTED, Good Attractions. This Theatre is situated in the heart of the town. Good stage, scenery, dressing-rooms, and fittings, with Circle and Promenade; holds 1,000.
Address all communications, JOHN R. FOX, as above. Telephone No. 70.
Note.—The local people say they like it.

KING'S THEATRE, SEACOMBE. Only fully licensed theatre in the district, which comprises Seacombe, Egremont, Poulton, New Brighton.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Dec. 12, Feb. 6, 7, 8 (three nights), Feb. 13, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17. Apply, JAMES KIERNAN.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, good Attractions, for Feb. 20 (?), 27, March 13 and 20, May 8, 15, 22, and Whit, and certain Autumn dates. Note.—Little Drama is useless. SIDNEY COOPER.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, Easter, on. Also Variety Combinations, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Garrison T., Tidworth. Dec. 12; Xmas, Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 13, 20. ALFRED MANNERS.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Strong Drama or Musical Comedy, for Dec. 5, and onwards, with exceptions. Lowest terms.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

HEREFORD, KEMBLE THEATRE.
Opening Feb., 1911. Finest Site in the City. Large Stage, for accommodating any Production. Complete Electric Light. Holding capacity £120. Spacious Dressing Rooms.
WANTED, First-class Bookings.
E. STANTON JONES, Sec., and Manager.

LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Share or Certainty.
All must play twice nightly.
HENRY C. ARNOLD, Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Feb. 6, March 20, April 10, 24, onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Company, for T. R., York, Musical preferred, for Dec. 5, 12.
Apply, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Lessee and Manager, S. F. DAVIDSON.
Business-Manager, LLOYD TOWNROW.
WANTED, Known, this Theatre is visited by all the Best Companies. No Vacant Dates this year. A few Dates in Spring and Autumn, 1911. First-class Companies only.

KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, good Dramatic Company or good Combination, Dec. 5 and 12.
Wire, ARTHUR TALBOYS.

GRAND THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Dec. 8, 9, 10, and onwards; also big Show, to open Dec. 26, Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred. All communications, JOHN R. FOX. Telephone 70.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Dec. 5, Gaiety, Hastings (Election over). Dec. 5 to 7, D. P. T., Eastbourne; Dec. 8 to 10, Folkestone; Dec. 12 (week), Folkestone and Hastings.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, Companies, Dec. 5 (through breach), Dec. 12, and on. Christmas Vacant for Big Attraction. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

THE OXFORD HIPPODROME.
Cowley-road, Oxford. 'Phone 302.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Dec. 5, on, Musical Comedy, Variety, Pantomime. Twice Nightly, 6.50 and 9. GEO. STRANGE, Resident-Man.

METROPOLE THEATRE, BOOTLE.
Proprietors, The Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Known, this New Theatre will open in Dec. next, and will be one of the most up-to-date. Holding 2,500. Population of 100,000 within three-quarter-mile radius; all trams pass the door; also within five minutes' walk from the Liverpool, Waterloo, and Southport Line. Full Orchestra. Now open to book First-class Attractions for Autumn, 1911, and onwards.

WANTED, something good, Dec. 5, Dec. 24 (seven nights), Jan. 16, on, Grand, Radcliffe; also Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 6, on, Grand, Chorley.
Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Proprietors, F. and E. BURGESS.
Manager, Mr. E. BURGESS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, the above Theatre will be open on March 20, 1911, under entirely new Management.

Wanted, for above date,
First-class Attraction,
First-class Attraction,
First-class Attraction,
First-class Attraction,
Musical Comedy preferred.
Also First-rate Companies to follow.

N.B.—Companies holding Contracts for above Theatre kindly communicate at once.

E. BURGESS, Manager,
Queen's-square, Morecambe.

PAVILION THEATRE,
ABERTILLERY.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 27, March 6, 13, 20, April 3, 10.

PALACE THEATRE,
EBBW VALE.

Vacant Feb. 6, 13 (?), 20, 27 (?), March 6, 13 (?), 20, 27 (?), April 3, 10, 17.

For First-class Attractions only.

Now Booking 1912.

Apply, E. TILNEY, Abertillery.

TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE, SOUTH WALES.
TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE, SOUTH WALES.
TIVOLI THEATRE, PENTRE, SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Powerful Attractions for Dec. 5, 12, and 19.

Wire immediately to
WILL STONE,
New Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Dec. 19,
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.

WANTED, Company, Dec. 5, unexpectedly Vacant. STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., N. Shields.

QUEEN'S ROOMS THEATRE, BERWICK-ON-TWEED.

WANTED, Good Company, for Jan. 2, 3, and 4. Apply, FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., Wednesbury.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 5, Must be First-class. Wire, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 2 (New Year's week), and onwards, with exceptions. Write, J. GAR KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

THE WHITEHALL THEATRE,
EAST GRINSTEAD.
Proprietors, Messrs. LETHEBY and CHRISTOPHER.

WANTED, First-class Companies only, playing Comedy, Musical Comedy, or Opera. It is the intention of the Management to run One or Two Nights only each week, with an occasional Special Matinée. Perfectly fitted Stage; take any Scenery; Auditorium holds over £100. All letters respecting bookings should be addressed to CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., London, W.

WANTED, for the P. O. W. T., Salford, First-class Cos. for Dec. 26 (Xmas week), Jan. 9, 16, 30, and onwards. E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Good Companies for Dec. 26, 27, 28. Vacant through disappointment. GATES, Theatre, Wisbech.

WANTED, for "Pretoria," Okehampton (main line Exeter-Plymouth), Companies, two nights. Hall holds 300; scenery. E. WHATSON, Whimple-street, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SINS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6, March 6.

WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Feb. 6, March 6, for "THE BEGGAR GIRL'S WEDDING."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, for "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WALTER MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13, March 20. Communicate. FREDK. MELVILLE, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13, March 20. Communicate. FREDK. MELVILLE, Aldwych Theatre, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 23, March 6.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Hippodrome, Ealing, W.

ANDIE CAINE'S PANTOMIMES.
Can arrange for Vacancies as under:—
"CINDERELLA," Feb. 20, Certainty.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," Feb. 20. Certainty.
"RED RIDING HOOD," March 13. Certainty.
WANTED, Application for once or twice nightly. J. L. BARRY, General-Manager, 96, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Phenomenal Success, weeks of
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.
Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.

Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Established 1891.
CHARLES HARRINGTON'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
COMPANY.

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, on. Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, London.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Nov. 28, The Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

"LITTLE PHIL'S MOTHER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23 (three nights), Feb. 20, March 27, and April 3.
Address, FRANK M. THORNE,
T. R., Wednesbury.

CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO,
ITALIAN OPERA CO.
WANTED, March 6, 13, between Plymouth and London.
FRANK YEARSLEY, Opera House, Leicester.

WANTED, for "Old Heidelberg," Spring, 1911, Easter Week.
High-class Attraction for Holiday Date.
Entire Production carried.
Apply,
ERNEST BENHAM, St. James's Theatre, London, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
THE BETTER LAND."
"ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE."
Return visits everywhere, and bigger business.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Jan. 2, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
PANTOMIMES:
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Vacant Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13.
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
Vacant Jan. 23, Feb. 13.
"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6.
Address, A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Pagoda, Liverpool."

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Theatres, for this Wonderful Moneymaker, Dec. 26, New Year, also Spring, 1911. BISHOPSDALE, Biddenden, Kent.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
The Drama that is averaging £200 a week.
Three weeks' receipts exceed £1,000.
Vacant Jan. 16, London District.
Vacant Jan. 16, London District.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
(By arrangement with Miss Marie Dagmar.)
Miss Marie Dagmar as Tisbe.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, on.
FRED BULMER.
First 3, K. T., Gainsboro'; Second 3, T. R., Lincoln.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Dec. 26, March 20, April 17 (?), June 19, Aug. 7, and on.
A Great Play with a Known Title.
Enthusiastic and profitable visits everywhere.
Fourteen Artists, Three Tons of Scenery.
A healthy, romantic drama.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Empire T., Oldham.

MR. TOM WATT'S CELEBRATED COMPANY
in
"EAST LYNNE"
has
Beaten Records all along the Line,
and has been on the road since Jan. 31, 1910.
This excellent Company played to £882 at Leeds and Bradford recently, and is paying a quick return visit to the
Queen's Theatre, Dublin,
week commencing Nov. 28.
WANTED, Theatres, for Dec. 26, 26, 26, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, 13, and onwards, with exceptions.
Managers requiring this sure money-maker
Wire or write,
TOM WATT,
6, Adelphi-chambers, John-street, W.C.

CHARLES WINDERMERE
Presenting the Three-Act Farce,
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
350th Performance.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 23, North, and on. Now Booking Summer Season Dates. Vacant July 17, 31, and August Bank Holiday.

Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'
GRAND PRODUCTION,
"RED RIDING HOOD,"
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, Theatres, Xmas, and onward. "Warwick House," 8, Warwick-court, W.C.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Theatre for BARNES' VAUDEVILLE CO.
First-class Company of recognised London Artists. Well dressed, well staged.
Splendid display of Lithos and Printing.
Apply, S. BARNES, 429, Mile End-road, Bow, E.
Peakman and Walsh please write m.

"PRISCILLA RUNS AWAY."
Direct from the Haymarket Theatre.
By arrangement with Herbert Trench.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, vacant Xmas, Jan. 23 (South or Midlands), March 20, 27, April 3. Apply, JOHN E. WATSON, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.C.

GLENVILLE AND OSMONDS COMPANY.

WANTED, Jan. 9 (South), Wanted, Jan. 9 (South), Wanted, Jan. 9 (South), for
"ALADDIN."

Address,
Theatre Royal, Stockport.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.
WANTED, Feb. 13, through extending Tour, J. Gar Kiddie's "Babes in the Wood."
Twice Nightly Only.
Share or Certainty.
Write, J. GAR KIDDIE, Alexandra T., Widnes.

WANTED, for "The Cingalee," Dec. 12, March 27, April 17, June 5, 19.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

MISS NORA CARTON'S CO.
One of the Strongest Dramatic Casts on the Road.
"TEMPTATION."
By Russell Vaun.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Dec. 26.
WANTED, Spring, 1911, Jan. 23, precede Alex. Theatre, Hull; Feb. 13 and 20, precede Met., Devonport; March 13, follow Grand, Brighton; April 10 and 17. Only Vacant Date this Year, Christmas Week, Share or Certainty. All comms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

"THE FEMALE DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Dec. 12, Jan. 23, 30.
HORACE STANLEY,
Empire, Oldham;
next, T. R., Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Xmas, Wanted, Xmas
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."
MAITLAND MARLER as CAPT. BARLEY.
Entire Production travelled.

Vacant Xmas, to follow
Howard and Wyndham's Theatre.

ARTHUR SHELTON, Lyceum, Sheffield.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
WANTED, Xmas, Dec. 26, First-class Co. All Scenery, Properties, Curtains, &c., carried. Refer Managers. Fine plant of printing. T. R., Birkenhead.

F. MARRIOTT WATSON and JAMES USSHER'S TOURS. "THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Jan. 2. Apply this week, H. M. Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness; next, Grand Theatre, Lancaster.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 5, on, for Miss M. Lowe-Dare in répertoire of Modern Plays. "Still Waters Run Deep," "Trilby," "Camille," and "Caste." M. LOWE-DARE, 86, Canterbury-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, Xmas week, for "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" and "The Thief," South or Wales.
Easter week, May 22 and 29, "Our Flat."
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Fahan, Co. Donegal.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN'S PLAYS.
WANTED, all communications re above. To-day, T. R., Stratford, E.; next, Opera House, Burton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS,"
By Mrs. Morton Powell.

Sensational Success.
Sensational Success.

Vacant Jan. 16, May 1, Aug. 7, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Great Money maker.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 20, April 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
This mammoth Money Magnet.
Refer, please, refer.
Vacant Jan. 16, Dec. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
The Never-failing Success.
Vacant Jan. 30, Feb. 6.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

New Play
by Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED Wanted, Dates,
Production settled.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 16 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. CHARLES SUGDEN
and Her Own Company,
in
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."
By Mrs. Morton Powell.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE RUIN OF HER LIFE."

A Triumph.
Press, Public, and Proprietors enthusiastic.

Vacant Jan. 2, 16, 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL'S PLAYS.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Mrs. Morton Powell
can accept Commissions to write Plays.
Address,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for Various Attractions, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, through transfer.
Also,
Jan. 2, 9, 16,
Feb. 6, 13, 20,
March 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR HINTON AND TRAVIS GREEN.
Present their No. 1 Company, in
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 23, Feb. 20,
March 6 and 20,
April 24,
various on.
Jerrold Heather as Zaco.
Hilda Shirley as Myra.
Mr. ARTHUR HINTON,
Prince's, Bradford; Monday, Alexandra, Hull.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Jan. 2 (to oblige W. Morton, Esq.), Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, everything carried. Messrs. J. and W. Batty, Grand, Stockton, say: The prettiest, finest mounted, played, and dressed show they've ever had in the theatre.

HARRY LYNDON,
Grand, Stockton; next, Royal, Castleford.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
"THE SINNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Xmas Week, Jan. 2 and 9, Jan. 2 and 9.
Letters, WILSON BENGE,
Moorlands, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

"THE EDUCATION OF ELIZABETH."
No vacant dates till Spring.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
ERNEST E. NORRIS,
Palace Theatre, Tynemouth.

"THE KING AND THE UNKNOWN WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, and March 6.
E. HALL-MITCHELSON, T. R., Leeds.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Supported by
Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and Powerful Company,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
and
"ROLLICKING RORY"
Panto. Business Everywhere.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Jan. 16,
only vacant date till 1912.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Now fully established as a certain money-maker.

A few Vacant Dates only in Autumn, 1911.

WANTED, March 13, and Easter.

OSWALD CRAY,
Crown Theatre, Eccles (return).

"A DAUGHTER OF THE SEA" CO.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, to follow Lyric, Hammersmith.
Wire Wire Wire.
Dec. 26,
Dec. 26,
Dec. 26,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 2,
Vacant through misunderstanding.
Only Vacant Dates till May.
Wire, LEWIS GILBERT, to-day, T.R., Hyde.
Next week, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA. THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, Dec. 12 and 26, various on, Once or twice nightly
Owing to the phenomenal success of "The Sorrows of Satan" at Ipswich, Nov. 14, Specially Rebooked Nov. 28
to play "Nana" and "Sapho."
Usual excellent business at Plymouth with "Nana." For either or all plays,
Wire, LOIE ESMOND, to-day, Grand T., Plymouth. Nov. 28, Lyceum T., Ipswich.

THEATRES WANTED.

MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
in
"A WOMAN OF TWO LIVES."
by Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Dec. 19, Dec. 25, Jan. 9, 23, March 27.
Only vacant dates till Whit.
Miss HILDA BEVERLEY, Gaiety, Burnley.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S
Tour with
"EAST LYNNE."

A company specially selected to fill every part in accordance with the novelist's ideas.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres for only Vacant Dates till Autumn. Feb. 6, 20 (through cancelling Windsor), 27, March 27, April 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, July 10, on, excepting Oct. 16 (T. R., Sheffield, second visit in one year) and 20.

Large Hall wanted for Xmas Share or Rental.

All communications to Staines, Middlesex.

J. PITT HARDACRE'S TOUR.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13.
EDWARD LLOYD, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

The Latest Musical Comedy Success,
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13, 20 (South Wales preferred).
HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., Leigh, Lancs.

"CHASING CYNTHIA."
The New Musical Comedy that is breaking all records.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and few Spring dates. Apply, CHAS. C. OMMANNEY, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 6, 13, 20, for the Great Moneymaker, "His Real Wife." Address, T. E. WARD, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 6 next, for Miss Edith St. Clare's Record-breaking Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
The cast includes Misses Edith St. Clair, Lily Lonsdale, Geo. Belrose, and Develin, Bob King, Walker and Lake, Sisters Volbecque, Georgie Hawkins, Harry Shaw, Marie Louise, Alice Payne, Irene Velma, and specially selected company of nearly fifty artists. Produce
Dec. 5, Hippo., Paisley.
Dec. 12, Hippo., Hamilton.
Dec. 19, T. R., Coatbridge.
Dec. 26, Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool.
Jan. 2, " " "
Jan. 9, " " "
Jan. 16, Opera House and Empire, York.
Jan. 23, T. R., Darlington.
Jan. 30, Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees.
Feb. 6, Vacant.
Feb. 13, Hippo., Norwich.
Feb. 20, Hippo., Ipswich.
Can play either once or twice nightly.
Magnificent Scenery and Dresses. The Finest Company Touring.
Apply Hippo., Paisley.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists for Touring Engagements, starting Dec. 26. Rehearse prior in London. State lowest terms and address. W. E. MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, London, W.C.

"MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH."
WANTED, Artists, for Spring Tour in Scotland, Fit-ups and Theatres, commencing Dec. 26. Apply by letter only, stating age, height, photos., references, and lowest terms, to NICOLL, RIVINGTON, and HOWARD, 139, Marylebone-road, N.W.
Interviews only by appointment. No callers.

WANTED, Young Ingénue Actress, for Nora, in "The Chorus Lady," to look seventeen, and must not be more than 5ft. 3in. in height, capable of comedy and pathos. Photo., lowest terms for long tour, and full particulars, NEVILLE, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman, to play Small Parts, Understudy, &c.
NORMAN V. NORMAN,
Opera House, Cork.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, for Musical Comedy, London, experience unnecessary. Write for interview, FRANK DOBELL, 152, Hamlet-gardens, Hammersmith.

WANTED, a tall gentleman, for small Irish part in new Sketch, brogue must be perfect. Interview between 2.30 and 3.30, or letters, JOHN LAWSON, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, for Sketch Production (London), Juv. Lady, ditto Gent, Char. Gent (big), others about 5ft. 8in. and 5ft. 5in. respectively; good appearance, strong voices. Full particulars to T. R. T., Box 8,559, "The Era."

WANTED, tall Juvenile Gentleman, to open Xmas; also Acting-Manager. Terms, height, references. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Comedian, for Character Jew in "The Thief Catcher," and Low Comedy part in "Whom God Hath Joined." Also Chambermaid (joint preferred). Rehearse Warrington, Dec. 5. Particulars, photos, lowest, LOMATH, P. T., Preston.

WANTED, a tall, thin Comedian, for Marks, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," one who can play the banjo. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Britannia T., London.

WANTED, good Responsible Gent, capable of lines; also Property Man. Write, with references (portable), JAMES, Theatre, Winchcombe, Glos.

WANTED, Artists for small parts, in big production, by important management, touring first-class towns, excellent opening; small premium required, which will be returned in salary. Box 8,552, "The Era."

STAGE.
WANTED, for West End Production, twenty-four Gentlemanly Boys, 14-16.

Apply immediately, STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-st., W.

WANTED, Wanted, Boys, 12-14 years of age, with good voices, West End Theatre.
Apply, STEDMAN'S, 58, Berners-street, W.

WANTED, an Artistic Young Lady, to join Entertainer (at the piano), for High-class Duo; must be good vocalist, musical, and have good stage presence. Age and particulars, in full confidence, Box 8,449, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dancing taught, three lessons 2s.; Songs written, 7s. 6d.; Double Acts, 2s. 6d. COMEDIAN, 19, Cruden-street, Islington.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Comedian, for Vizier and Emperor.
Apply,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS, LTD.
PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Principal Boy for "Aladdin," Principal Boy and Girl,
Dame, Baron, Demon King,
Tall Comedian for Ruffian,
Clever Juvenile for Boy Babe.
Two First-class Conductors, and Producer.
Terms, refs., photos, perm. address, and where can be seen working during next two weeks, to
A. R. FEATHER,
The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dashing Principal Boy, Fairy Queen, Demon King, Pianist-Conductor, and Chorus Ladies. Interview in London. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Principal Boy, for Pantomime Fit-up and Theatre Tour. Photo, lowest terms. Chorus Ladies write. TRAVIS, Queen's Theatre, Pembroke Dock.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Comedian, for Fitzwarren in "Whittington."
Send terms, references, to
JAMES KIDDIE,
Alexandra Theatre, Widnes

WANTED, good Irish Low Comedian, gag and sing, star part; Pair of Sisters; and Troupe of Dancers; rehearse Dec. 19. Mr. Hugh Brady write. HENRY OSMOND, T. R., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for "Dick Whittington," Fit-up. Particulars first letter, HARRY BRITTON, Tanner's Hotel, Union-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Quartette, Dancers, and sixty Chorus Ladies. Lowest, photos. and particulars, letters only, GEORGE AITOUN, 25, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, through Breach of Contracts, Producer "Whittington" Panto.,
Seven Chorus Ladies, Musical Conductor.
All must open Nov. 28.
Wire, SHARPE, Poste Restante, Workington.
Harry Starr wire.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies (tall), for Pantomime, to rehearse Aberdeen Dec. 5. References, photos., &c. Long engagement to suitable artists.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, Wanted, Dancers, Chorus Ladies, Chorus Gents. Tenors.
State experience, age, height, and terms, enclose photo,
JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

CHORUS.
WANTED, for Pantomime, Ladies with good voices and smart appearance. Apply Saturday, between 12 and 1 o'clock, Stage Door, The Hippodrome, Crouch End, with song if possible.

WANTED, Young, Pretty Chorus Ladies, to Tour. Call,
WEATHERSBY'S Agency, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Dancers. Rehearse at once.
SYDNEY RUSSELL,
9, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Clever Boys and Girls, over 16 years, live in. Also Chorus Ladies. Photos, height, age, particulars, or useless writing.
TRAVIS,
Queen's Theatre, Pembroke Dock, South Wales.

WANTED, First-class Wardrobe Mistress, must make and fit Pantomime Dresses well.
Lowest terms and references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Eileen Guilbert, Vocalist, Comedienne, just returned from successful S. African Tour, Panto, Musical Comedy, or Sketches. Address, 6, Albert-mansions, South Lambeth-road.

WANTED, Known, through postponement of American Tour, Disengaged for Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl, or Special Dutch part. Perm. address, MARIE ELSIE, Star Hotel, Dale End, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, vacant for Panto., Marjorie Fraser, with own songs by F. V. St. Clair, Singing Part (Boy or Girl), good appearance, voice, &c., speciality at piano with own songs. 2, Coldstream-terrace, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Mysterious Mysticus, Merry Magical Marvel, an ideal Abanazar or Baron. Offers invited first-class Panto. See him, 28th, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, Panto., by smart young Sisters, "Babes" or "R.R.H.," and good Speciality, offers. SISTERS, 10, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Ello, Dame Comedian and Dancer; last five seasons with John Tiller, Esq. 10, Naylor-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Known, Mysterious Mysticus, Merry Magical Marvel, an ideal Abanazar or Baron. Offers invited first-class Panto. See him, 28th, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, Panto., by Dan Lawley, the smart Low Comedy Merchant, Principal Comedy, Dame preferred; thoroughly experienced. Offers invited. Permanent address, 34, Barr-street, St. George's, Birmingham.

WANTED, Panto., Harry Kirk, Comedian, Dame or Baron. Special Parts Drury Lane Theatre; Shakespeare, Liverpool; Will Atkins, J. F. Elliston, Esq. This, Royalty, Chester; next, Woodbine Cottage, Wroughton, Swindon.

WANTED, Known, Mysterious Mysticus, Merry Magical Marvel, an ideal Abanazar or Baron. Offers invited first-class Panto. See him, 28th, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, by Sandy and Carl, Pantomime Comedy Parts and Speciality. Sure success. Address, 58, Chester-rd., Tue Brook, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Four Cameos, Panto. Parts, Animals and Speciality. Big Success last year in "Aladdin." Adress, 8, Fenwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Pantomimist, Animal or Comedy Parts, leaps, speak lines, speciality, first-class references, unexpectedly at Liberty. Box 8,577, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mysterious Mysticus, Merry Magical Marvel, an ideal Abanazar or Baron. Offers invited first-class Panto. See him, 28th, Regent, Salford.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

SCENERY OR PROPERTIES.
WANTED, Contracts, Hire or Purchase. Largest stock in London. Estimates. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road. Tel., 497 Hop.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Effective Work at reasonable prices. Large Studio and Workshop. Address, CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Artists and Decorators, Bernasconi, Ltd., 41, Gore-street, Liverpool. Tel., "Scenery." 'Phone, 732 Royal. Daily Mail, April 23, 1910: The Tudor Village, Olympia. The quaint old buildings, so permanent in appearance, were erected by Bernasconi.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, G. Sackmann, Scenic Artist and Contractor, Painting Rooms, Murphy-street, S.E.; N.T., 4282 Hop.

WANTED, Known, for Scenery and Props of all kinds, bright, effective work at lowest prices, ROBERTS & Co., Studio, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery. First-class Work Guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting Room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contract, for Production or Permanency; best quick work. CHARLES G. COOKE, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram concluded Empire, Nuneaton; re-engaged by J. Bell, Esq., to paint the Scenery, new production, Theatre, Darlington.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Stage Manager; able to Produce Big Pantomime. must have had good experience of big productions.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Agent, for Pantomime.
Apply.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Experienced Manager, to control two Picture Halls in London; no salary will be given, but commission on actual receipts; a lucrative position to the right man. Write, stating experience, &c., to SECRETARY, 709, Salisbury-house, London Wall, E.C.

WANTED, experienced Working Manager, for Twice Nightly Music Hall (South). Fullest particulars, age, salary, in confidence. Box 8,535, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, reliable Manager, with booking influence, to handle Big Complete Novelty Act. Good thing to right party. Box 8,544, "The Era."

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Man (8 years touring), Capital for Original Musical Comedy. Great Success on Trial Tour. Big Money-maker; small cast, for Theatres and Twice-nightly Music Halls. Full particulars and London interview. Write Box 8,574, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gent, who will invest £50 in Pantomime as Secretary; Management and Duties taught. Amateur not objected to. Can arrange to Open at Once. Splendid chance. TRAVIS, Queen's Theatre, Pembroke Dock, South Wales.

WANTED, a thoroughly practical Electrician, must have excellent refs. Write full particulars, &c., WESTON, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

ROSWELL'S STAGE CIRCUS.
WANTED, for Albert Hall, Swansea, four weeks, commencing Dec. 19, six hustling Billmen, thoroughly experienced in all departments of advertising. Slackers not wanted. J. R. POOLE, 146 Westgate-st., Gloucester.

THE "C. W." POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for Synod Hall, Edinburgh, for five weeks, commencing Dec. 19. 12 Smart Billmen, able to use sticks and be thoroughly efficient. Preference given to men who have worked Edinburgh, Manchester, and Leeds with me before. J. R. POOLE, 146, Westgate-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, smart Doorsman, combine Billing Picture, Palace, Midlands; must be steady, experienced, and not afraid of work. Perm. job to right man. Write particulars, age, height, and copies last three refs.,
Box 8,533, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Doorsman, combine Billing, steady, experienced, not afraid of work. Particulars, age, height, copies of last three refs., with photo., to GRIFFIN, Palace, Northampton.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
Colston Large Hall, Bristol. Xmas Season, 1910-11.
WANTED, twelve First-class High Window-Billers, must be steady and reliable men, join Dec. 12. Terms and references to J. WOLSELEY, Poole, Alexandra Hall, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, good Ballet Mistress, used to arranging, and a few Chorus and Ballets, good Dancers. Apply, JOHN WALTERS, 34, Northumberland-avenue, Gwyn Estate, Blackpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, by a Gentleman of large and varied experience in the Music Hall and Entertainment World, a prominent and successful Entertainer, and who desires to retire from Provincial Touring work, a position of trust and responsibility in a Syndicate or Company, a man of ideas, and a good organiser, twenty years' experience as Manager, Proprietor, Agent, Author, and Performer; had exceptional experience, which should be of great value in any similar business; age 39, tall, of good appearance and social standing.
Apply,
Box 8,555 "The Era."

WANTED, Management, by Mr. George Leslie, Lessee and Manager, Rink Theatre, Mussoorie, India, Engagement in England; vast experience. Still running Premier Rink in India. Arrive London early December. Address, c/o "The Era." Terms.

WANTED, Engagement, Props, Res. or Tour, ex. refs.; three years with Robt. Macdonald and two tours Fred Mouillot; abstainer. HOLDEN, 93, Springfield-road, Southborough, Kent.

WANTED, Known, A. G. Sandilands, at Lib. as Manager, Picture Halls and Amusements, London preferred. 2, Florence-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Known, George Beverley, Producer, Disengaged, latest productions, "Babes," "Cinderella," "Bo-Peep," "Forty Thieves." Address, 21, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Advance Manager, Agent, or Management of Picture Palace, &c. Over 20 years' experience with Poole's Myriorama and Hamilton's Excursions, Steady, Reliable. Cash security if required. J. ALMO, 13, Westfield-terr., Sheffield.

WANTED, by well-educated Young Man, Situation as A.A.M., resident (Newcastle district). Good refs., both business and theatrical. Box 8,551, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Carpenter, Practical, Resident or Tour. G. B. HUGHES, 29, Tenerife-street, Broughton, Manchester. Best references.

WANTED, Engagement, Jim Morgan, Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools, Resident or Tour; strictly steady, and a worker; good refs. Wire or write, to-day, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne; next, Alexandra T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, smart Bill Inspector, hard worker, understanding Pictures, effects, assist Operator, tall Doorsman. Mr. ARTHUR, General Post Office, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by good Dressmaker, Situation with Professional Lady, as Dresser and Travel; middle age; small salary. MILLARD, 260, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Position, as Housekeeper at a Theatre, for a thoroughly efficient person who has some knowledge of the requirements of such a post and who is most highly recommended by her present employer (the advertiser) for any position of trust. Address, Miss CASELLA, 1, Wetherby-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Position in Theatre or Theatrical Office, Shorthand Typist, Good Musician, first-class experience and testimonials. Box 8,532, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, position in Theatre or Theatrical Office. Shorthand-typist, good musician. First-class experience and references. Touring, or abroad not objected to.
Box 8,567, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD.
ROYAL HIPPODROME AND MENAGERIE.
WANTED, for Tenting, Season 1911, commencing March, a thoroughly competent Musical-Director, for String and Brass Orchestra, to combine Cornet or Clarionet, for Street Parade.
Apply, with full particulars,
Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Violinist-Conductor, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic and Variety. Age, terms, and last two references, ARTHUR TALBOYS, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Piano Conductor (with knowledge of Mustel organ preferred), Leader, Second, Bass, Cornet, Clarionet, Drums. Open Dec. 19. State experience and salary required. MANAGER, New Theatre Royal and Opera House, Windsor.

WANTED, Leader, to commence Monday, Dec. 5. Apply, stating experience and salary required, D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre of Varieties, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First Violin, to combine with Second Cornet, also First Violin, to combine with Third Clarionet, for fourteen weeks' engagement at Seaside, commencing Dec. 26, 1910. Must be first-class on strings. Only London men need apply. Address full particulars to MUSICIAN, c/o Messrs. Spiers and Pond, Ltd., Advertising Agents, 35, New Bridge-street, E.C.

WANTED, First Violin, Double Bass, Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, Drums, for the New Pavilion, Northwich, open Dec. 5, 1910. Mus. Dir. settled.
State lowest in first letter to
HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, firm First Violin, Cornet, and Drums, &c., used Variety. Lowest terms, refs. FRANCIS FULLER, Musical-Director, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Immediately, Clever Young Lady Violinist for my well-known Orchestra, now in fourth year of Continental Tour. Good technique, tone, sight reader, temperament essential. Long engagement. Fare paid to join. Send recent photo, state age, experience, if soloist. HUNT, Scotch Orchestra, Dortmunder Kindl, Munster, Westphalin, Germany.

WANTED, First-class Violinist; must be well up in Variety. Apply, with references, BAKER, Acting-Manager, Hippodrome, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, Solo Cornet (young), absolutely good performer, rink. Terms 35s. Commence Dec. 1. GREENHEAD, 10, Cavendish-rd., Herne Bay.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, 35s.; and Double Drums, 32s. 6d. Two performances daily. Open Dec. 5.
Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cornettist, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic and Variety. Age, terms, and last two references, ARTHUR TALBOYS, King's T., Kilmarnock.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Good, Reliable Clarionet, First-class Varieties.
Age, references, and lowest terms, to
GEO. MUNDELL, M.D.

WANTED, Solo Trombone and good Cornet; only sober Artists considered; height 5ft. 5in.; for Musical Act. Apply by letter to SICHER, 123, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open at once, permanency, must be First-class Musician. Apply, stating terms and experience, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Gen.-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, pretty Young Lady, must be good Oboe Player.
Box 8,573, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, to combine Violin; permanency to suitable man. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Pianist, to play off Stage, in new production. Letters only, JOHN LAWSON, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Pianist, to commence Dec. 5, and First Violin, Dec. 12.
SYKES, Musical-Director, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, for the Great Lafayette Show, expert Tympanist, must play by sight and ear.
Apply by letter, with references enclosed,
Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Lady Musicians to fill a few Vacancies in Ladies' Professional Balalaika Orchestra. Tuition free. Address, Box 8,566, "The Era."

WANTED, for Proposed New Combination, Baritone and Bass; both able to play Instrument and Sing at same time. 'Cello-Vocalist particularly wanted. Full particulars, lowest salary, &c., to Box 8,578, "The Era."

STRING PLAYERS.
WANTED, Known, a first-class Infantry Battalion, recently home from abroad, has Vacancies for a few good String Players. Height, age, and all particulars to BANDMASTER, The Connaught Rangers, Curragh, Ireland.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting Engagements in Scotland, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow; Mr J. Cameron, 20, Hazelbank-terrace, Edinburgh; or Mr. A. Fraser, 58, Victoria-road, Dundee.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement in good Theatre or Music Hall, can invest up to £200; experienced. Box 8,546, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mus.Bac., Disengaged, as Musical Director, or accompany Concert Party. Organist, Pianist. MUS.BAC., 46, Lochrin-buildings, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by Mus-Dir., Piano and Violin, Engagement, resident, reliable; refs. MUS.-DIR., 4, St. Michael's-pl., Chester-rd., Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Conductor, London experience and Provinces, compose and arrange, theatre or varieties. CONDUCTOR, 12, King-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Re-engagement by a thorough and most reliable Conductor, Composer, and Arranger. Highest credentials. Box 8,560, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin; thoroughly experienced all Lines; good refs.; abstainer. Add., 13, St. James'-road, Lower Edmonton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical-Director (Piano), Composer, and Arranger, Experienced all lines. Box 8,565, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Violinist, good experience in solo and orchestral playing. Four and a half years' Continental experience. DREWE, 11, Elms-road, Dulwich Village, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist, can combine Saxhorn or Second Cornet; excellent refs. Write, VIOLINIST, 29, Northway-road, Loughboro' Junction, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Lady Violinist, good appearance, young, three years in last engagement. LOVELL, 313, High-road, Leytonstone, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, four years Leader Tivoli, London, any business, highest references. Apply, VIOLINIST, 10, Summers-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ida Angless, Solo and Orchestral Cornet, Disengaged. Address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornet, fully experienced, highest refs. WHITAKER, 20, Edward-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, young, sober, and reliable; excellent refs.
HAROLD COPESTICK, 31, London-road, Dover.

WANTED Engagement, local, within six miles, Cornettist, any business, good refs.; sober and reliable. CORNETTIST, 5, Cedar-st., Woodlands, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Engagement, good Cornet, any Business; experienced, sober, reliable. CORNETTIST, 26, Tyler's-avenue, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionet, any business; join at once; excellent references. Address, Box 8,517, "The Era."

WANTED, by Powerful Dramatic Baritone, good actor and excellent stage presence, immediate engagement in concert, variety, or panto. Add., V. N., 27, Cowley-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, First-class, highest refs., experienced, now in perm. shop, Ireland, change, Theatre, Military, Rink; strict T.T. Address, Box 8,553, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet.
H. WARD,
5, Horbury-road, Ossett, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionet, any Business; excellent reference; join at once. C. VALENTINE, 183, Corporation-buildings, Farringdon-road, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, experienced all lines, any business, good refs.
H. HART, 78, Grasmere-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoonist or Double Bass, any business, competent and steady. LANCASTER, 5, Mount-pleasant, Ilkley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, any business, at Liberty Nov. 28. Address, W. GOTT, 47, Spring-bank, Avondale-road, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass or Viola, London preferred, experienced all branches; good refs. LLOYD, 41, Alma-st., Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Trombone. Any business. Send offers to
4, Middle-street, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, thoroughly experienced, steady, and reliable. Liberty theatre, hall, touring, any business. S. SMITH, 24, Stanley-street, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, by First-class Trombonist, good Engagement, any business, fine soloist; excellent refs. A. BIDMEAD, 9, Eaton-avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, E Flat Bombardon or Saxhorn, at Liberty Nov. 28. Best offers. Address, W. SWIFT, 63, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, age 18, Saxophone Soloist (Alto and Tenor), experienced, Solo and Orchestral; tall, good appearance; join Musical Act or Orchestra. MDLLE EDYTH, Grand T., Birmingham.

WANTED, by French Hornist, Engagement, experienced Symphony, Oratorio, Grand and Comic Opera, Panto. MUSICIAN, 5, Richmond Park-road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced French Horn; combine Viola; any Bus.; steady and reliable. MUSICIAN, 409, Evelyn-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Engagements, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, any business; reliable.
IDA RAWTON, 119, Parkinson-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, by reliable 'Cello, Engagement in Music Hall; abstainer; excellent references. Box 8,549, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class 'Cellist, at Liberty.
Address, Box 8,561, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class well-known 'Cellist, at Liberty shortly. Address, 'CELLIST, 17, Pepys-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, first-class references, any business. Address, 'CELLO, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flautist, first-class refs. age 31, any business. LOUIS FORD, 3, Upper Berkeley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, L. Alexander, Flautist, Disengaged, thoroughly experienced, just finished two years with A. Asher at Edmonton Empire, equipped with R. Carte's Flat and Sharp instruments. 5, New-road, Lower Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, permanency, Theatre, Music Hall, long London experience, every business. RELIABLE, 20, Alkham-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, A.M.U., any business, excellent references. FLAUTIST, 64, Laxey-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by George Neilson, late Principal Bass Moody-Manners Opera Co., Engagement as Demon King or Character Part in First-class Panto. Add., 27, Cowley-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, experienced and reliable Flautist, at Lib., any Bus.; live musician. FLAUTIST, 53, Trowbridge-road, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboe or Double Bass. Any business. Long experience.
J. CRABTREE, 35, Clinton-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Brilliant Picture Pianist, immediate engagement in high-class Picture Theatre. Excellent refs.; good répertoire. H. JONES, 4, Wyre-grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Rink or Variety, good refs. W. PARRATT, 17, Woodhall-dene, Moorside-road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, by Pianist, one week's Engagement, any business, Manchester District. Wire, Theatre Stafford, 16, Dalton-street, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, immediately, by Pianist-Conductor, any Business. Wire, ANDY TWISSE, 25, Brunswick-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Celebrated Ladies' Poppy Orchestras and Singers, from Brighton, Ramsgate Piers, White City, Olympia, Scarlet costume. 19, Bedford-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Tympanist, Drums, &c.; young, steady; any business; best refs.; open at once. DUNDAS, 63, Wellington-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestra; smart uniform, including Vocalists. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham. 'Phone 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame Angless's Orchestra of Ladies, vacant Dec. Permanent address, 61, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. Ladywell Baths, Lewisham, until Nov. 25.

WANTED, Known, Ladies' Trio (Piano, Violin, 'Cello), one vocalist, good rép., hotel, hydro, tea rooms. L., 17, St. George's-sq., Regent's Park, London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagements, for Ladies' Trio or Orchestra; 'Cellist write. Xmas week. Madam SILVESTER, 84, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Bateson's Orchestra (any number), Dis., suitable Rink or Pictures, Vocalists, Soloists, Up-to-date Répertoire; excellent refs. Musical-Directress, Miss Maude Trainer. Apply, THOS. BATESON, Bowness-on-Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trio, Violin, Pianist, and Cornet, open immediately, any business, highest references, extensive library. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 6, Dood's-rd., Reigate.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Small Band, Military or String. Rink, Pictures, &c. Refs. Good library. Scarlet uniforms. BANDMASTER, 11, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Guy's Celebrated Yeomanry Bands, Summer Engagements, Exhibitions, Seasides, Gardens, Piers and Rinks.; Fine music, live musicians, smart uniforms. For particulars, AMERICAN RINK, Merton, S.W. Phone 163 Nat.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD.
ROYAL HIPPODROME AND MENAGERIE.
WANTED, for Tenting Season 1911, commencing March, a really smart Flying or Throwing Aerial Show, long and comfortable Engagement to suitable Troupe. Apply, with full particulars, Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Equestriennes, Lady and Gentlemen Riders, Gymnasts, Clowns, Spectacle, and Artists of any description, two weeks, open Dec. 26. Terms and full particulars, EDWARD EMERSON, Circus, Hull.

WANTED, to open at once, one or two First-class Ground Acts, Artists that can vault preferred.
Will Charles Sivardo communicate at once?
Mr. E. HANNAFORD, Circus,
17, Woolf-street, Newtownards-road, Belfast.

WANTED, good Animal Man, capable of Training Two Small Elephants and assist with other Animals.
Address,
E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, The Ten Racehorses, with machines, complete, now being used in "The Whip" at T. R., Drury-lane. Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, For Special Mattings, Mats, Tents, Tents, Canvas and Rope Goods, for Circus and Theatre use, write, JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nimble Nip, Talking Knockabout Clown and Agouste, at Liberty Nov. 28, onwards. Address, 267, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artist, introducing Novel Firework Effects, now at Liberty. Address, 5, Devon-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

THE ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLY BUREAU,
General-Manager, Mr. WM. TRUSSELL.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Trussell will be happy to receive applications from Artists in all Lines desiring to place their business in his hands. He may be seen by appointment Tuesday and Wednesday next, from 11 till 4. Artists will kindly call with their date sheets, samples of printing, and with all necessary particulars for the transaction of business.
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London, W.C.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 28, on. 1a, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton. 'Phone 15 Brixton.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEO. E. MUDD.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Dec. 5, on. 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send full list of bookings. Always Vacancies for Suitable Acts. SKIVINGTON'S Agency, 41, Ardgowan-street, Greenock. Wires, "Contracts."

WANTED, Artists, of every Description, now and on. Send full particulars,
HARRY LEATON'S Agency, 575, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday, onwards, absolute lowest for Dec. 5, small halls. FRED CLARENCE, Agent, Empire, Merthyr.

B. H. WARD, VARIETY AGENT,
1, Park-mansions, Vauxhall, S.W.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, big Tops, for London and Midlands.
Annetta and Leona, Will Godwin communicate, Contracts await them.

WANTED, Artists, Double Turns doing Singles, two weeks, commencing Dec. 26. MANAGER, World's Fair Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, all December. Good Producer ("Aladdin"), tall, to play Emperor. PERCY VICTOR'S Agency, 48 Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for immediate and future dates, Artists in all Lines, Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Star Comedy Acts, anything new and novel (Acts known to me write in). Send full list of bookings and lowest terms, H. G. GRIFFIN, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Flying Trapeze, all kinds of Aerial and Acrobatic Performances, suitable for Gala Season, 1911, dates April 17, June 5 and 19, July 3, 10, and Aug. 7.
Sample lithos. and all particulars to
WILDER BROS.,
Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Palace of Varieties, also Empire, Worcester. No wires.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, also Specialities, November, onwards, Smethwick, Wednesbury, Tipton, Burton. Lowest, B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

PANOPTICON and
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Known, Variety Artists coming North can have two weeks at the above. Good sound Specialities, Double Acts, Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers.
Lowest terms first letter.
A. E. PICKARD, Panopticon, Glasgow.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, nothing too big, for Dec. 1, 2, 3, three nights, Harrogate. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, big Tops and Bottoms, send terms, lithos. Write, LEE, 155, Lauderdale-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, for Scarborough, Dec. 5, onwards, Variety Artists, all Lines, Good Specialities. Particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

VARIETY BOOKINGS AGENCY.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists in all Lines. Send full particulars, terms, and dates. Nothing too Big.
For immediate dates,
can place good Specialities.
12, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
'Phone Gerrard 7623.
Tel., "Twopence, London."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Comedy Acts, big Specialities,
Dec. 5, onwards. Terms, Bookings, &c.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for immediate and future dates.
WILDMAN, Winter Carnival, Carnarvon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, Dec. 5, onwards, Big Stars, Specialty Artists, Comedians, and turns in all lines, with drawing powers for the above. Specially big acts can have sharing terms. Castleford is a fine break between north and south. Beanland and Emerson's Agency Department going stronger than ever
Wanted, for Immediate Dates, the best turns in the market known to us.
Send full list of bookings with permanent address and lowest terms. We can fix you.
BEANLAND AND EMERSON.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines.
Big Troupe of Acrobats.
Write for Jan. 16.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Northwich, Runcorn, and Widnes, good Legitimate Talent in all Lines, refinement essential, to follow J. W. Hall, Scottish Meisters, Quality Quartette, Dainty Dots, Huxley's Juveniles, &c.
Opening of the New Pavilion, Northwich, Dec. 5, 1910.
J. A. Wilson, Leotard Brothers, Jack Hylton, Clara Hastings and Co. as called.
All communications re above
to HAMILTON and HUGHES, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Very Best of Talent, in all Lines, for Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich.
Refinement Essential.
HAMILTON & HUGHES, Co-Op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, Star Acts, Combinations, and others with immediate Vacant Dates. Can arrange sharing terms, for one of the best buildings in a popular Lancashire Town, by applying to
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR, General-Manager,
Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

CENTRAL VARIETY AGENCY,
WANTED, First-class Acts for immediate and future dates. Nothing too Big. Messrs. RAWES and CLARANCE, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Picture Theatre in Lancashire, Acts of all kinds.
Write full particulars. No interviews.
DIRECTOR, 21, Balmoral-road, Fallowfield, Lancs.

WANTED, Dec. 5, North, East, South, and West, Variety Acts. Full bookings imperative. I can fix you. Dec. 26, for Bristol, Star Specialities, with lithos and drawing powers. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

ADAMS' VARIETY AGENCY.
WANTED, Comedy Acts, for Dec. 26 and Jan. 2;
also big Stars with odd weeks.
Broadmead House, Panton-street, London, W.
Tel., "Shrieking, London." 'Phone Gerrard 2092.

WANTED, Acts all Kinds, February and March, new to Cumberland, suitable to picture shows. MCASKELL'S AGENCY, 126, Roker-avenue, Sunderland.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE, STATION ROAD, ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Dec. 5, on. Apply, LAMB.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.
WANTED, the Biggest Top-liners in the Business, immediate and future dates. Can always place acts with drawing powers.

WANTED, Star Variety Top Liners, on shares, or Big Combinations; also useful acts.
MANAGER, Hippo., Oxford. 'Phone, 302 Oxford.

EGBERT'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Top Liners and Artists, all Lines, for Manchester and District. Send full list bookings, terms, &c., EGBERT'S AGENCY, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dec. 5, Star Top Liners, also Artists all Lines, for future dates, for Barnsley, Wigan, Leeds, York, Manchester.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

WANTED, Big Tops of Bill, Big Star Tops, £50 to £150, for Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Wire quick,
CLIQUOT'S Agency,
9, Monton-street, Denmark-road, Manchester.

PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Tops and Bottoms of Bills, several dates this and next year. Letters only. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 12, Buckingham-st., W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (on main line).
WANTED, Startling Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for BLACKPOOL, MORECAMBE, DOUGLAS, and other Seaside Towns.
BIG SPECIALITIES, ANIMAL ACTS, and Comedy Specialities, for nine days Easter, Whit Week, and Season.
Send dates, terms, lithos, &c., to
WILL SLEY, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists in all Lines,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
Star Comedy Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel, for Liverpool, Leeds, St. Helens, Accrington, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Bishop Auckland, Barrow, Derby, Nottingham, Manchester, Blackpool Aston, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Rotherham, Southford, Stockport, Northampton, Bolton, Oldham, Southampton, Boscombe, Southend, Margate, Portsmouth, Coventry, Grimsby, Wolverhampton, Preston Norwich, Ipswich, Chester, Bradford, Halifax, Southport, Leicester, Lincoln, Cardiff, Bath, Huddersfield, Darlington, Doncaster, Brighton, Paisley, Wishaw, Hull, &c., &c.
Artists having immediate dates Liberty let me know quick, and always give house address.

Send full list of bookings and lowest terms,
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
'Phone 9144 Central.

WANTED, a First-class Sister Act or Lady trio, exclusive; must be good Singers and Dancers, and good appearance. Apply by letter only, with photo and programmes, D. MCCARTHY, 105, Bedford-court-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, Nov. 28, and onwards, Top and Bottom Specialities. Nothing too big. Any Speciality which can be done on Rink. WILDMAN, Winter Carnival, Carnarvon.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, Greatest Acts in the Profession, immediate and future dates. Full bookings, terms, lithos., WILLIAM AINSWORTH, 135, Abingdon-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for DALTON'S AGENCY, 62, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES. Send immediate
EARLY DATES. Dates, with full
EARLY DATES. list of Bookings.
EARLY DATES. Lowest Price Essential.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.
EARLY DATES.

WANTED, Skating Acts, for various Rinks; must be up to date; double or single. Write particulars, with absolute lowest terms, immediately, to Mr. CHAS. EVANS, The Margate Skating Rink.

ORIGINAL NOVEL ACTS.
WANTED, Known, Advertiser is open to finance and introduce same if suitable.
Full particulars,
Box 8,554, "The Era."

PICTUREDROME, BRADFORD.
WANTED, smart Juvenile Troupes, big Specialities, and Novelties of every description, for Dec. 26, onwards. Address, with lowest terms, &c., to MANAGER.

WANTED, Good Lady Artist or Sisters for Dec. 12. Also other artists, Dec. 26, onwards, with exceptions. MANAGER, Theatre, Gosport.

WANTED, Good Tenor or Baritone, for Illustrated Songs, one in or near Manchester preferred, comence Dec. 12. ALPHA, Churchgate House, Stockport.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers, smart girls, young, height 5ft. 3in. PAULINE RIVERS, 14, Featherstone-buildings, Holborn, or The Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, for W. J. Churchill Minstrels, Comedians, Vocalists, and Musicians; all must black. Steady and reliable people only need apply. All letters to W. J. CHURCHILL, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, for First-class Nigger Troupe, Vocalists, Corner Men, &c. Send terms and particulars to ETHIOPIAN, 18, Barmerton-road, Catford.

WANTED, a good Basso, for Chorus, Music Halls.
ROSE, 79, Arbuthnot-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, a Singer, male or female, to sing comic or sentimental between spools of pictures, winter shop for suitable. JOHNSON'S SHOW, High Spen, Co. Durham.

WANTED, really good Comedian, for week Nov. 28, and good Turns for subsequent dates. All particulars to MANAGER, Queen's Hall, Church, Lancs.

WANTED, Gentleman or Lady Trick Cyclist, to augment Troupe. State salary, particulars, list of tricks, &c. Box 8,548, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Trick Cyclist, must be First-class; no Amateurs. Particulars, HENRY, 59, Wood-lane, London, W.

WANTED, a smart young Juggler, for Troupe. State tricks and age, height.
Address, Box 8,547, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Boy, to learn to be an Acrobat, age 13½ to 15. State age, weight, height first letter.
JANOWSKY, 228, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, smart Boy, for well-known Acrobatic Troupe, willing to learn, age 14 to 15, good home. Apply, 5 House, 6 Flat, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton.

WANTED, Operator, with own complete outfit, machine must be new and up to date. Reply, with absolutely lowest terms, and full particulars, CECIL BARRINGTON, Fair View, Greenbank, Falmouth.

WANTED, at Once, Smart Operator, with Own Machine, &c., to travel; also Pianist, used to Pictures. MANAGER, 8, St. George-road, Lower Edmonton, London.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dec. 12, between Coventry and Portsmouth (London preferred); Smart Songs, Smart Costumes. BEE SMART, Comedienne, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, by the Sisters Terry, a Clever Entertainment in themselves, a great hit everywhere, at Liberty Dec. 5 and 12. Add., Nov. 28, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dates, by Master Fred Crook, Soprano, 5, Stanley-street, Queen's-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.; or, DAVID HART, Esq.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, Unusual Comedian. Vacant Dec. 5. Can Top or Bottom. Midlands or North. Wire, Empire, Belfast.

WANTED, Dec. 5 and 12, by Wilmot Hastings, Funny Musical Tramp Act. Great hit this week at Poole's, Camborne; Nov. 28, Poole's, St. Austel, Cornwall.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, Charles R. Bray, smart Vocal Comedian and Actor Vocalist. Wire, 35, St. Paul's-street, Huddersfield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, Robb Gilmore, a Queer Comedian, with the Most Comical Antics it is possible to perform. Wire, Hippo., Keighley.

WANTED, by Mark Daly, Comedian, Dec. 5, to follow Scarborough and precede Manchester. This, big success, Town Hall, Staines. Next, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, on, Dan Ashton, Popular Collier Comedian. Original Songs, Sketches, Colliery Pictures. Encored nightly Palace, Moston. After, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, by Bennie Barrow, Baritone and Light Comedian, Feb. 6 and 20, North. This, Hippo., Leek, and booked return for May. Pavilion, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, by Mark Merry, Comedian, Monday next, Nov. 28, also Dec. 5, 12. This, Empire, Wakefield, six songs nightly. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Comedian and Champion All-round Dancer, Liberty Mon., 28th. Good offers invited. Wire, 17, Newcastle-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, Unusual Comedian, vacant Dec. 5. Always successful. Midlands or North. Wire, Empire, Belfast; Monday next, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, Dec. 5 and 12, by Pharos, the Egyptian Magician, a reliable Top Liner. This, Topping King's Theatre, Gloucester; next, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler. Still undefeated. Drawing packed houses on return visit Arcadia, Spennymoor. All coms., 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool,; or HENRY BURNS.

WANTED, next week, Stylo, World's Lightning Hoop Juggler, from the London Hippodrome. Wire, Palace, Sunderland; or 116, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Wisper, Comedy Kid, Juggler; Beattie Bloom, Star Comedienne; through altering Hippo., Shildon, date. Wire offers, Palace, Rushden, Northants. Dec. 5, Hippo., Peterborough; Dec. 12, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, 16, by Rohde and Roche, the Artist Chameleon and IT, a Dreadnought Act. Central Palace, Brandon, co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Gladys and Alber, in their famous Comedy Singing, Dancing and Tumbling Act.
Vacant Dec. 5 and 26, through halls closing.
Next week, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, by Howard and Leslie, Dec. 12. High-class Lady Operatic Duettists. Thanks J. Wood and Von Etta for offers and contracts. Monday, 28th, Hippo., Oxford.

WANTED, Mon. next, also Dec. 5, Capner and Steele (Will and Victoria), Character Duettists, also Singles. Wire, 20, St. James'-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Davies and Udall, in the Gem of Domestic Comedy Duologues, "The Grumbler." COLEMAN DAVIES, Pardoe's T., Middleton.

WANTED, by the Spadonis (Madge and Sylvia), Duettists and Speciality Dancers, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 and 9. 50, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, by Crosby and Walker, the Original Jocular Eton Boys, Monday, also Dec. 5, to precede Panto, T. R., Bristol. 10, Sydney-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comediars and Dancers. Can introduce Concertinas. Dec. 5 and 12. Mon., Palace, Chesterfield. Wire.

WANTED, by the celebrated Nelson Bros., in the only great Humorous Skating Sketch (dumb act), own stage floor. Booking return dates at all places visited. Managers don't hesitate in inquiring. All coms., 83, Smith-street, Nelson.

WANTED, Known, Spiegler's Great Gipsy Quartet, greatest Attraction, Instrumental and Vocal. Top the Bill everywhere, only vacant dates, Dec. 17, 1910, till Jan. 2, 1911. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Three Whites, American Juveniles, Ball Punching and Comedy Act, Lib. Nov. 28, Dec. 5. 'Phone, 816 Parkstone.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Chevalier Ponchery, Monarch of the High Rope, at Liberty for Christmas, also Gala Season, 1911. Agents, W. and J. WILDER, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, Contralto. Wires, 2, Peel-street, Runcorn.

WANTED, by Madame and M. Darbey, Second Sight performance, also single turn, Vent. and Conjuring, Monday next. Wire best offer. 13, Bon Lea-terrace, Thornaby-on-Tees.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Vent. and Conj., Dec. 19. This, O. H., Harrogate. "Tom Garland, the ventriloquist, is one of the best we have had." Next, Carnegie Hall, Workington.

WANTED, Dec. 5, by Rich Taylor
The Whistling Ventriloquist.
A Terrific Success Everywhere.
Don't miss this turn.
Letters or Wires to Low Moor, Clitheroe; or W. EDELSTEN, Esq., 209, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Nov. 28, by Grieve, Versatile Ventriloquist in Kilts. Funny Show, Good Singing. Wire, THURSTON'S Pictures, Huntingdon.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, by Gulliver and the Doll with the Laugh, to follow Greenock strong Comedy number. Booked Gibbons and Syndicate Tours till 1912. Address, New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

WANTED, Monday, by Albert Ross, the Great Vent. Act. A guaranteed draw. Secure a winner. Wire, Town Hall, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, Monday next, also 12th, 19th, Cyclinis Trio, Sensational Comedy Cyclists and Football on Wheels. Always a success. Wire, Alex. T., Pontefract.

WANTED, by Swift Duo, Lady and Gent, Screamingly Funny Cycle Act, Dec. 5, 12, and 19. Monday, Palace, Rushden. Wire.

WANTED, Monday; also Dec. 5, for the Marathon Cycle Racing Novelty.
V. WAGNA, Hippo., Oxford. Ring up 302, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cyclists; Lillian Sivado, Gymnast. Vacant Dec. 26, two acts. This, Hip., Ton-y-Pandy; next, Poole's Palace, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, L'Etoile, the Artist's Model, a Classic Posing Act, and
Meux's Marionettes, Miniature Music Hall,
at Lib. Dec. 5, onward, with exceptions.
All Coms., Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Monday, the Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, Electric Miniature Theatre, elaborate and novel show. Second visit, Hippodrome, Oakengates.

WANTED, by Pollintas, Steeplechase, Boxing Kangaroo, Marionettes, Dec. 5, onwards, pretty fit-up, funny turn. Offers. POLLINTAS, Waxworks, Southend.

WANTED, Known, The Ronnies, Double Jugglers and Equilibristic Act, including the Deathspring. This, Victoria Theatre, Ketteringg; next, Empire, Smethwick. Offers invited for Dec. 12 and 19, also a few dates in Jan.

WANTED, Monday next, also Dec. 5, by the Two Le Bruns (Edgar, Quaint Comedy Equilibrist, and Edie, the Beautiful and Incomparable Lady Juggler and Vocalist), a Unique Novelty. Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 3 and 10, by the Jerome Trio, in their latest Single and Double Ball-bouncing and Club-juggling Speciality. Touring with tremendous success with the Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama. Something new, novel, and original. Well dressed and mounted, own scenic effects.
This week Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock; next, Poole's Myriorama, Cork.

WANTED, Nov. 23, Dec. 5, 12, The Flying Oreniuscs (two ladies, two gentlemen), the Climax of the Gymnastic Art. Last week, Hippo., Yarmouth. Can fix on small Stage. 44, Cranbourn-street, W.C. Wire for Monday.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, we, the Four Zolas, Society Herculean and Comedy Acrobats, Novelty Trapeze, Gymnasts, and Tumblers, finished second comfortable tour with Sir R. Fossett and Sons, and wish to thank Lady and Sir R. Fossett for handsome presents and engagement for next season; also R. Fossett, jun., for handsome presents. We wish them every success.
Panto. settled; first vacant date Nov., 1911.
Next, Liverpool; Manchester to follow.

WANTED, by the Bouncing Peps, Dec. 19, 26. Can top, draw, and please. Special for Panto. Monday, Coliseum, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, Jan. 2, 9 16, and 23. Most marvellous electric act on earth. Good top or bottom. Sure draw.
This, Hippodrome, Coventry;
next, Hippodrome, Rotherham.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, for Frantz's Comedy Five.
This, Enormous Success, Empire, Dublin; Dec. 5, Palace, Northampton.
P. A., 15, Richmond-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, by LEONI CLARKE'S
200 Royal Cats, &c., 200.
Always something new.
Vacant Dec. 5, Jan. 2, and 16.
Share or certainty.
Many thanks to the following proprietors and managers for kind offers: J. H. Haigh, Esq., Choriton Theatre, Manchester; T. P. Starke, Esq., Central Hall, Lincoln; Ashburn's Agency for five weeks; R. Dewhurst, Esq., Hippo., Todmorden; J. Elphinstone, Esq., Lyceum Theatre, Stafford; G. Santé, Esq., Theatre, Chorley; D. Williams, Esq., Theatre, Ferndale; D. Askham, Esq., Hippo., Cambridge; A. Scottie, Esq., Hippo., Oxford; A. Douglass, Esq., Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Monday, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe.
New Posters and Lithos by Berry, Printers, Bradford. New Posters and Lithos by Creaber, Printers, Plymouth.
Agent, W. SLEY, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Shanara's Great Troupe Deer, Goats, Great Novelty, the only Known Act of this kind; refined, up-to-date; something out of the usual, Stage Set and Costumes A1. Wanted, Nov. 28, on. Open for Pantomime. Com., 3, Victoria-place, Lancaster-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Captain George, Elephant and Ponies, Two (Only Vacant) Dates, on way to Birmingham, Dec. 12, also 19. The Only Act of its Kind in Great Britain.
Letters, address,
Zoo, Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Inandra and Bute, the Marvellous Canine Wonder, and Little Black Me, the only Canine Performing the Barrel Act; Clever, Refined Speciality. Big Success Everywhere. Manager wanting a Novelty, address, 7, Eckstein-road, Clapham Junction.
Free for Monday and Xmas.

WANTED, Known, McCann's Irish Terriers and Leaping Dogs, fourteen in number, Vacant Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, North preferred. Address, 14, Shelley-st., Leeds.

WANTED, Dec. 5 (South), Jan. 23, 30, by Mlle. Sarema's Great Comedy Animal Act, comprising the Cleverest Monkeys, Bull, Cats, Dogs, Birds, &c. Starring everywhere.
Write or wire,
This, Opera House, Jersey; next, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey.

WANTED, Dec. 5, the Greatest and most up-to-date Dog Act in the World. Grand Panto. Speciality. CHARD, Palace, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Engagement, by all-round Acrobat and Tumbler, with troupe, or partner with act. 11, Edenhurst-avenue, Hurlingham. S.W.

WANTED, Known, good All-round Tumbler wishes to join good Troupe or Barrel Jumping Act. Address, WALTER GROGANS, 122, Naburn-street, S.S., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, 5ft. 7in., smart appearance, age 18, desires situation as Page to Conjuring Act. Apply, 70, Higher Ardwick, Manchester.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WHITLEY PLEASURE GARDENS,
SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.
Season 1911.
WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Concert Parties, April 17, Aug. 7, onwards till end Sept. Apply, with vacant dates and lowest terms for one, two, and four weeks, to
AUGUSTE A. PEULEVE, General-Manager.

WANTED, Artists for Al-fresco, also for Picture Palaces, Comedians, Light Comedians, Baritones, and Soubrettes. Call Wednesdays, between 1-2, GOODMAN, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane.

SPA PAVILION, FELIXSTOWE.
WANTED, First-class Touring Concert Parties to forward Vacant Dates and Full Particulars for Season commencing June 5, 1911.
SYDNEY CHURCHER, Manager,
Spa, Felixstowe.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Artists, June 5, onwards. Age, photos., terms, CHARLEY HARVEY, 31, Alma-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Amateur Pierrettes, Pierrots, and Pianist, for Amateur Troupe. Apply, EDWIN PEARL, 58, Blockhouse-street, Old Kent-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Known, Baritone, tall, powerful, well trained voice, open to join first-class Concert Party, 1911 season. T. O. D., 62, Clarendon-gardens, Ilford.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO AMUSEMENT CATERERS, SHOWMEN, and OTHERS.
PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF SALE BY AUCTION.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Norman, having received instructions from the owners, will offer for sale by public auction at an early date two splendid up-to-date Katzenjammer, or Haunted Castles, which have been working with terrific success during the last season at the White City, Manchester, and at Southport respectively, together with a first-class Taylor and Plinston's Cake-Walk, which has also been one of the rages of the White City; also several self-registering nearly new turnstiles; likewise eight h.p. motors and valuable speed motors (variable), &c., &c. Each of the above may be seen built up in working order at their respective positions, full particulars of which, also place and date of sale, will be advertised in next week's issue of this paper. For cards to view, &c., apply to the AUCTIONEER, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, London, W.C.

JOY WHEEL.
The Latest Sensation.
WANTED, Showmen, to note that we are makers of the above device.
The Wheel provided with Silent Driving Mechanism (patents applied for)
Write for full particulars.
TAYLOR, PLINSTON BROS. & CO., LTD.,
Kingsley Works, Grange-road,
Willesden Green, London, W.

WANTED, Showmen to Read
Copy of Testimonial:—
Oct. 15, 1910. Messrs. Taylor, Plinston Bros.
Sirs, — In reference to the Joy Wheel which you have just supplied me with, I think it is only fair that I should write you a note of appreciation. I am pleased to say it has given great satisfaction, and it not only looks well, but works well, too. Great credit is due to your firm for turning out such a neat and handy lot. Best wishes.—I am, yours respectfully,
(Signed) JOHN WILMOT (E. W.).

JOY WHEEL.
JOY WHEEL.
The latest American Amusement Sensation.
WANTED, Known, Attractive 2-sheet Posters correctly representing the Joy Wheel.
Samples and prices on application.
CREBER, printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Cartridges, Winchester Repeaters, Glass Globes, Water Balls, Targets, and every size Cartridge for the Stage and Fair. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, now and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, always, good Freaks, Attractive Lithos, also Attractions, with good drawing powers. CROUCH'S Old-established Waxworks, Wonderland, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Shows, Exhibitions, Entertainments; suitable for shop buildings, for Cardiff and South Wales. Letters, Prof. PHILLIPS, 26, Caroline-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Bloom's No. 1 Mart will reopen in early spring, real live staff will be wanted. Bloom, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, for Ireland, a Smart Lady Palmist, shares or salary. Apply, AMERICAN GEM PHOTO. COMPANY, 5 and 6, The Mall, Tralee, Ireland.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of Specially-prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description (including the marvellous Guess Your Weight Weighing Machine). WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheaper to buy than hire, Pathé and leading makers, used few weeks, as new, 1d. foot. Lists free. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Brass Loops, Straight Puncher, Lifter, Phonograph, Electric, three Ball, other Check Machines. Letters, Box 8,560, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, American Fairy Floss Candy Manufacturing Machine, in perfect condition, Utensils and Switchboard complete, worked by electricity. 95% profits. MILLER, 20, Cockburn-st, Edinburgh.

FOR CONTINUATION OF "WANTED" ADVTS. SEE PAGE 36.

CASINO DE PARIS, PARIS. ALHAMBRA THEATRE BORDEAUX.
Managing Director, Mr. JACK DE FRECE.

WANTED

for December 12, 19, 26, and January,

SENSATIONAL NOVELTIES AND HIGH-CLASS COMEDY ACTS

NEW TO ABOVE.

Arrangements can be made for artists terminating their engagements in London Saturday Evening to open in Paris the following Monday, finishing in Paris Sunday Evening, leaving sufficient time for them to return to London by 3.30 Monday Afternoon.

Special Reduced Terms have also been arranged with the South-Eastern & Chatham Railway Co., viz.: 1st Class Single 34/8, Return 63/-; 2nd Class Single 22/9. Return 37/5.

Please forward immediately full list of bookings, together with lowest terms, lithos, and full particulars to

VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, Ltd.,
178, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

Coronation of his Most Gracious Majesty King George V.—1911

Phasey's Band
SPECIALLY ENGAGED for the
GREAT EARL'S COURT RINK.
BALHAM RINK
CLAPHAM RD. RINK.

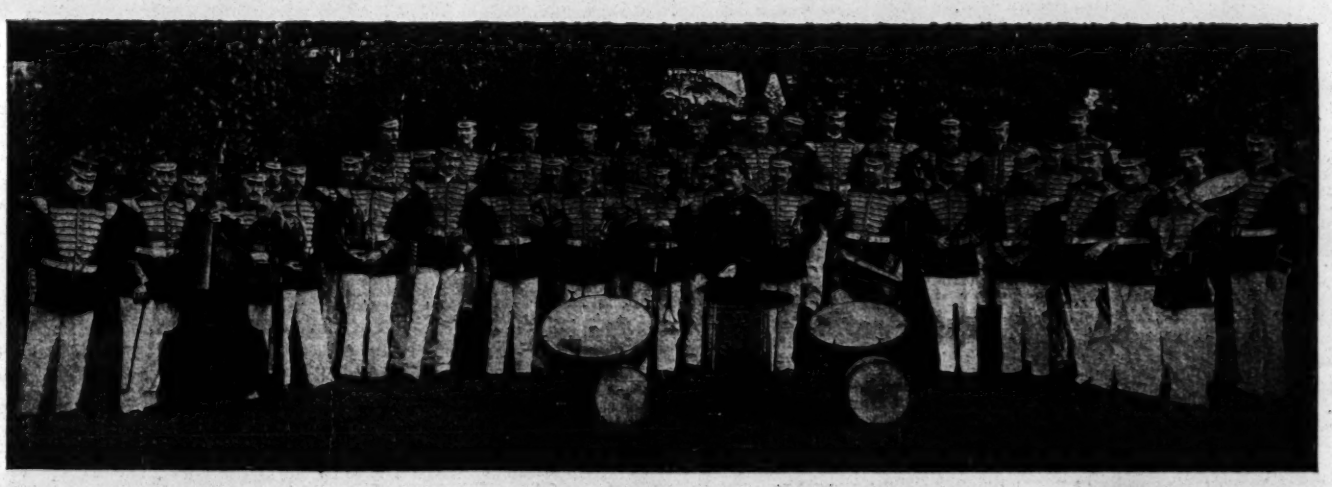

PHASEY'S GREAT CONCERT BAND.

American Tour
WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED IN THIS SPACE.

Phasey and his Band.

MOST ELABORATELY UNIFORMED BAND IN ENGLAND.

Phasey's Band has toured Canada and the United States of America with Great Success.

"WILLOW GROVE GIVES WELCOME TO FINE MUSICAL ORGANISATION."—It was after the second number had been rendered, however, that it became apparent that the organisation was composed of well-trained musicians who responded to every move of the leader's baton. This number was the overture, Wallace's "Maritana," and the intonation was perfect, the music at times seeming to be played by one huge brass instrument. Philadelphia.—*The Ledger*.

A SECTION OF THIS GREAT ORGANISATION IS NOW ATTRACTING LARGE AUDIENCES DAILY TO THE SKATING RINK, 143, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W.

Live Musicians—Not Seat Warmers. **Up-to-Date Music.**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, ***H. VICTOR PHASEY, Dallas's Music Emporium, 415, Strand, W.C.***

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD & STOLL COMPANIES SUBSEQUENT

(Moss, Stoll, Thornton & Allen Theatres, Amalgamated)

Chairman: SIR EDWARD MOSS

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION

(Including Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd.)

Chairman OSWALD STOLL.

Capital £2,086,000.

Managing Director: **OSWALD STOLL**

Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: **FRANK ALLEN.**

Department Superintendent and Chief Accountant: W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

Co-Operative Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, NOV. 28, 1910.

Telephone: 1050 and 1051 Gerrard.
Wires: Moss' Empires and Associated Properties, "Twigsoma, London."

THE LONDON HIPPODROME

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Ellaline Terriss and Co. in "The Pink of Perfection," Duncan's Collies, Alexandre and Hughes, Mendel, Three Merrills, Hovyns, Phil Parsons, Pictures, Mlle. Osca Marah, Edward Abeles and Co., Simone de Beryl, Mr. Fred Lindsay.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for :—

Whit Cunliffe, Lamberti, Fanny Robina, Dan Hendy, Harry Merrilees, Villions, Florence Cooper, Pictures, Riogoku Family, Caryl Wilbur.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Darnley's Co., including Fred Kitchen in "Private Potts," Fred Shephard, Blake and Amber, Lloyd Morgan, Ida Kathrena, Carl and Carr, Clown Argo, Bioscope, Sarkoezi and Monnier.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Jack Lorimer, Arthur Stacey, Crystal and Saville, Maud Lordy's Dogs, Three Emersons, Carl Lynn, Eisteddfod Sextette, Stella Stahl, Bioscope, Lew Lake and Co.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

ARDWICK THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Houdini, Saxonia Family, Jack Smiles, Francoli Troupe, Russell Wallett, Harry Claff, Maude Edwards, Lola Patey, Bioscope, Courtiers, Wullie Walker.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Herbert Sleath and Co. in "The Horse Thief," Bioscope, King's College Boys, Verno and Voyce, La Superbe, Cruikshank, Tom E. Conover, Wheeler and Berkeley, Olive Lenton, Chas. T. Aldrich.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Vesta Tilley, Will Johnson, Harry Fields, Celestas, Kitts and Windrum, Hersleb Bros., Arthur Lewis, Sisters Kilner, Bioscope, Leslie Harris.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Chas. Constant's Company in "Florodora."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Marie George and Co., Signorita Carmen Turia, Korries, Legay Trio, Herbert Dickeson and Co., Willie Gardner, Will Musgrave, Daisy Martell, Bioscope, Gothams.

PALACE, LEICESTER.

Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for :—

Horace Goldin, Rosa Loader, Grassis, Lyons Trio, Quaint Q's, Chas. Mildare, Sybil St. Elmo, Bioscope, Ivy Williams and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Eugene Stratton, Elsie Roby, Rich and Rich, Lee and Kingston, Olga Dore, Bioscope, Bugler Carr, W. F. Frame, Moran and Wiser.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Bransby Williams, Tom Edwards, Hans and Lux, Mina Denvil, Sammy Shields, Conn and Conrad, Harry Simms, Bioscope, Nelson Jackson, Will o' the Wisps.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Lashwood, George Rae, Bioscope, Paxton Troupe, Channings, Dick Tubb, Edith Fink, Bros. Miller, Helen Trix.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Six Bros. Luck, Mena Brae, Rawsons, Josh Dixon, Emil Solbrig's "Automatus," McConnell Trio, Harry Drew, Eily Adair, Bioscope, De Serris' Statuary.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Marie Lloyd, Tom Bryce, Signor Persichini, Gus Garrick, Bros. Artois, Meier and Mora, Mary Ambrose, Bioscope, John Beauchamp and Co., Rachel Lowe.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Autralian Tree-fellers, Gus Elen, Katie Butler, Ellis Barrieton, Tom Costello, Hadj-Mohammed Troupe, Arthur Leslie, Betty Green, Bioscope, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

"The Eternal Question" Company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song, and Pictures.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Jen Latona, Kate Cutler, Walter Wade, Mackweys, Dutch Daly, King and Queenie, Vickey Delmar, Bioscope, Herbert Sleath's "Third Degree," Daisy Jerome.

THE LONDON COLISEUM

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for :—

Seymour Hicks and Co., T. Elder Hearn, Alfred H. West, Ray Wallace, Campbell and Barber, Miss Denise Orme, Ayoe, Ben Albert, Bioscope, Darracq, Chanti.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Tom Foy and Co., Alfred Inman, Edie Gray and Boys, Harry Ford, Haig and Novel, J. C. Scatter, Harry Brown, Bioscope, Seven Perezoffs.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Courtice Pounds and Co., Ethel Beech, Mabel Sinclair, Fisher's Vocalesques, André, Arthur Astill, Bioscope, Ernie Mayne, Ted and May Hopkins.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Terry and Lambert, Karno's "Football Match," Bert Weston, Strolling Players, Piccad Troupe, Little Keeno, Ricardo and Salving, Bioscope, Ella Retford.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for :—

Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Bros. Griffiths, Hal Forde, Ouida Macdermott, Empire Girls, Lillian, Johnnie Walker, Bioscope, Coverdale, Rosie Fitzgerald.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

George Formby, Gertie Gitana, Iva Voyce, Chris Van Bern, Mona Garrick, Bert Harrow, Tambo and Tambo, Chas. Vincent, Bioscope, Laurie's Kindergarten.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners, Alf Chester, Jock Mills, Mezzettis, Winifred Ward, Sutcliffe Family, Daisy Taylor, Georgina Leno, Bioscope, King and Benson.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

The Great Lafayette, Dacey and Lewis, Bioscope, Violas, "Belles of the Kitchen," Franco Piper, Sanford and Lyons.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Happy Fanny Fields, Tom Parker, Hardini Trio, Nina Wood, Roze and Calvert, W. Fullbrook and Co., Bellonini, Du Gros Trio, Bioscope, Howard and Harris.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for :—

Joe Peterman's "Chanteclair," Lena Verdi, Bioscope, Chass Lewis, M. and Mme. Alf. Agoust, Les Romanis, Westwoods, Ian Colquhoun, Sam Mayo.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Stock Company, Illustrated Song and Pictures.

The following are Booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Doraswami, Cavallotti Bros., Harry Bedford, Soho Trio, Drew and Alders, Bioscope, Bert Williams, Kelly and Gillette, Farrabonis.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for :—

Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, Park's Boys and Girls, Zellini, Luigi Salvino, Chas. Coborn, Vasey and Ramsey, Pictures, Johnson and De Vere.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Jack Pleasants, James Curwell, Matthews and Cowper, Luis Alvarez, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope, Severus Schaffer.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for :—

Moody-Manners Opera Co. in répertoire.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Dayton Family, Sadie Stuart, Little Zola, Ugo Nap, Four Netherlands, Herbert la Martine, Charley and Connor, Jessie Lee, Pictures, Barrett and Knowles.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for :—

Madge Beresford, George Prince, Three Comedy Chanters, Harry Maynard, Vera Rochdale, Pictures, Blake and Granby, &c.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Company as Booked.

CROYDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for :—

Karno's Co., including Tom Nelson, in "G.P.O.," Wilson and Waring, Harry Herbert, Arthur Kenny, Gertie Grace, Little Freddie Hackin, Harry Conlin, Bioscope, Ferry Corwey.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS.

Special provision has been made at each theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artistes are requested to supply these to the Manager on reaching the theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. Artists employing agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents. New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our Districts Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow :—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, and DISTRICT.—MR. S. GETHING, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, and DISTRICT.—MR. PERCIVAL CRAIG, Empire Theatre, Bradford.
BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HATTON WHARTON, Empire Theatre, Nottingham.
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, and DISTRICT.—MR. HORACE COLE, The Empire, Liverpool.
SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.—MR. ALBERT MITCHELL, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.
LONDON DISTRICT.—MR. J. CHRISTIE, Empire Theatre. Shepherd's Bush, W.
TOURS COMMITTEE.—LLEWELLYN JOHNS and DISTRICT MANAGERS.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artists and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North, should apply to the Manager, as Matinées are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. OSWALD STOLL or MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously. Artists and Agents are requested to note that the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, and the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, come within the areas absolutely barred by us. Artists and Agents are also requested to note that the Hippodrome, Aston, Birmingham, comes within the area absolutely barred by the Grand Theatre and Empire Palace, Birmingham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.—Artists must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled. It is important that separate bill matter, blocks, pictorials, &c., for Dublin, Belfast, and South Shields, be sent direct to Mr. Frank Allen at the Co-operative Offices. IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Co-operative Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Co-operative Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

The Greatest Aggregation of Variety Theatres in the World

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

LONDON OFFICES:
— OAKLEY HOUSE, —
Bloomsbury St., W.C.,
where please address all communications in regard to the Professional and Publicity Departments of the PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT to Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.
— Telegraphic Address —
"CIRVAUMAC LONDON."
Telephone—No. 9167 GERRARD.

Director-General:
Mr. FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

Secretary: **Miss AMY ROBINSON.**

General Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.

Provincial District and Booking Manager:
Mr. SYDNEY ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD OFFICES:
KING'S CHAMBERS,
Angel St., Sheffield,
where please address all communications in regard to FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, and GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS.
— Telegraphic Address —
"MACNAGHTEN, SHEFFIELD."
Telephone—No. 3449.

CALLS FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, NOV. 28.

PROVINCIAL HOUSES.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Dorothy Dacey, Newco and Sullo, "Aunt Matilda" Co., Florence and Rose Showell, The Wedburns, Castani, Bruce Green, Gene Morelle, Chas. R. Whittle, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Maurice Hoffman and Co., Harry Taylor, Flo Burnett, The Hastings, The Lomas Duo, Wilton and Williams, Morelli and Moore, Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.
Billy Merson, Society Quartette, Rita and Roma, Tamamoto, Beatrice Allen, Julia Reeve, "Olga's Oath" Co., Doris Druce, Hargreaves Trio, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Albert St. Clair, Cromo and Hamilton, Tennyson and Wallis Arthur F. Ward, Atlas and Vulcana, Gladys Mavius, The Haytors, Fred Moule's Co. in "Gretna Green," Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Lillie Langtry, Flo Warner, The Falcons, Will Lindsay, F. S. Peake and Co., Scottish Meisters, Memora, Gus Harris, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Elroy, Mabel Thorne, David Fuller, "Dicky's Mother" Co., Captain Spaulding, Gwen Francis, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Ted Waite, Alfonzo, Donn and Dixie, Will Rennie, Melody Makers, Jack Pardoe, Daisy Sloan, Violet Rivers, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Drum and Major, The Two Walonells, W. J. Churchill, The Keppels, "Compensation" Co., Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Derrington Family, Palace Perfection Pictures, Douglas Kingsley.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.
Ted Karno and Co., Edna Barrett, Ferguson and Mack, Sydney Bach, Ando's Japs, Shirley and Ransome, Cash and Clair, Reg. Beauchamp, Des Desborough, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Gallimore Trio, Hicks and Hunter, De Bessell, Musical Marvels, Mr. and Mrs. Wilde, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, CARDIFF.
Cissie Thompson, Hurman and Arthur, Lizzette Troupe, Molly Augarde, Satani, Fuji Troupe, Colley and Scott, Cyclumina, Palace Perfection Pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, HUDDERSFIELD.
Frank Cass, Walter Barrett, Toch and Tard, Charles Torbay, The Seven Bramusas, Irene May, Milner and Storey, "Wrong 'Uns" Co., Bros. Rees, Palace Perfection Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Eeduns, Scena Vocas, Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Coal King."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
"Great Wakening."

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
Yettmah, Eileen Hall, Harry Moore, Rowland Hill, Armiens, Pete and Minnie Lee, Barrie and Wood, Pavilion Perfection Pictures, Charles Wilson.

LONDON HOUSES.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
Pictures, Maples, Gracie Hunt, The Lannons, "Preparing the Panto." Phillips Merritt, Venturini, Joe Cookson, Louie Hurman, Goggin and Davis.

FORESTERS'.
Matinées Monday and Thursday, at 2.30.
Drama Twice Nightly, 6.30, 9.10.
"The Fatal Hour."

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30.
"Worst Girl of All."

PALACE, BATTERSEA.
Matinée every Monday, at 2.30
Pictures, Three Orleans, Ryder Sloan, Jack Warman, Josephine Crook, Norman, Leonie Dixon, Snowden and Rand, Tiny Arnold, M. D. Waxman and Co.

London District and Booking Manager: **Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.**

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Artists engaged will please note that Rehearsals at ALL Halls take place at 12 o'clock noon each Monday. No excuses whatever for non-attendance will be entertained. All billing matter and notification of appearance accompanied by samples of pictorial printing must be IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL HALLS SENT TO OAKLEY HOUSE, BLOOMSBURY STREET, W.C.; AND IN THE CASE OF THE LONDON HALLS TO THE FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E., fourteen clear days prior to opening, or Contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management. Artists wishing to negotiate Engagements for the London Houses of the Circuit will please apply to Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH, Booking Manager for London, at the FORESTERS' THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, E. Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London." Telephone 5954 Avenue.

Artists wishing to negotiate provincial engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen at Oakley House by appointment only.

All applications for dates at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, and Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, to be addressed to Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, London.

PRINCIPAL BOYS & PRINCIPAL GIRLS
IN PANTOMIME SHOULD SING THE NEW AND IDEAL SONG

THE WOOING WALTZ

By H. Lane Wilson
(Composer of the Waltz-songs, "CARMENA" and "LOVE'S STAR").

BAND PARTS ONE SHILLING.
KEYS—A flat, (Compass B flat to E flat), B flat, (C to F), C, (D to G).

REEDER & WALSH, 14, CASTLE ST., OXFORD STREET, W.

NOTA BENE.
A Sure Success is
"MY MOON"
(Chorus Ballad for Pantomime).
By H. G. PÉLISSIER,
The "Chief" of "The Follies."

Keys—D Compass (C to D), E Flat, E, and F.
"Pro." Copies 6d. each (with card).
Band Parts in key of F *(in the press).*
Arranged by H. Lucas.
1/6 each set (post free).

Dept. 6, **JOSEPH WILLIAMS** (Ltd.),
32, Great Portland Street, London, W.

METZLER'S PANTOMIME SONGS
FOR PRINCIPAL BOY.

I FEEL SO LONELY.
Written and Composed by BERT LEE.
RIGHTS RESERVED by Mr. J. Bannister Howard for Grand Theatre, Croydon, Crystal Palace, Cheltenham, Cork, Swansea, Bath, Yarmouth, Norwich, Lowestoft; also by Mr. John Hart for Manchester, Leeds, Bradford, and Sheffield; also by Mr. H. J. Corner for Brighton. Other towns now booking.

JUST PUBLISHED BY THE SAME COMPOSER.
NO MORE STOPPING OUT LATE.

Sung by GEORGE GROSSMITH, Jun.
ANGELINA.
Words by GEORGE GROSSMITH, jun., and ADRIAN ROSS.
Free for Pantomime if by arrangement with the French Society.
ANGELINA (Two-Step) Band Parts now ready.

METZLER & CO. (1909), Ltd., 42, Gt. Marlborough St., W.

LATEST FOR EVERYBODY.
MAURICE SCOTT,
the Popular Lyric Author and Composer of "I've Got Rings on My Fingers,"
"Carolina Brown," and
"Swing Me Higher, Obadiah," Fame.
BRILLIANT MELODIES
Composed to anyone's Lyrics, &c.
Panto. Managers, Producers, Boys, Girls, and Comedians, send at once for
SPECIAL SELECTION OF FREE NUMBERS.
Artists enclose three stamps.
Smart Lyric Authors communicate.
51, High-street, New Oxford-street, W.C.

THE ZOO CIRCUS, GLASGOW.
WE, the Undersigned Artists, beg to tender our best thanks to Mr. E. H. Bostock for salaries paid for the extra short performance given in connection with Johnson-Jeffries Fight Pictures on Saturday last, Nov. 19:—Leicester Alfred Cooke, James Holloway, Valdo Bros., "Spuds," "Rabbit," Chloe Convere, The Toreadors, Erneste Family, Funny Frisk, Harry and Jabez, Pinder's Elephant and Ponies, Ida Evilo, Helga Yensen.

Fireproof your canvas, cloths, draperies, &c., with
BORAM.
Boram readily passes all regulations of Municipal Authorities.
Price 1s. 6d. per packet (gallon).
Discount for quantities.
TIMBER FIREPROOFING CO., LTD.,
Townmead-road, Fulham, London, S.W.

TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

For the convenience of Advertisers and Members of the Amusement Professions a

PUBLIC TELEPHONE CALL OFFICE

is installed at

"THE ERA" OFFICES,
5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

PHOTOS
with individuality, with Style, and with distinction.
MEAN SUCCESS.
MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK FOR ARTISTES.
The well-known establishment of *THE* Hana STUDIOS, Ltd., place at your service a thorough knowledge and experience of artistes' requirements.
WE CAN PLEASE YOU, AND OUR PRICES WILL SATISFY YOU TOO.
We gladly answer any enquiries.
THE HANA STUDIOS, Ltd.,
22, Bedford-street, Strand

? ? ? ? ? ? ?
There are lots of queries arising if you don't write to the right firm.
NOTE FOR POSTERS
THE RIGHT PRINTERS.
STAFFORD & CO., Ltd., Netherfield, Notts.

WILLSON'S
Supply Streamer Letters.
The Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom.
Mammoth Posters, Daybills, and the general Run of Show Printing at our usual Low Rates.
Roll Tickets and Railway Tickets a Speciality.
NEW WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER

MOODY BROS., Theatrical Printers, Birmingham, for Pictorials. Machinery to print 60 by 40. Write for new catalogue, which contains Mackenzie's and Hollingshurst's Illustrations; also Culliford's Catalogue for Bargains. Contracts for New Work solicited. 'Phone One-two-o-six Central. Tel., "Moody's, Bmgham."

THEATRICAL LADIES' CLUB,
3, ST. JOHN'S-PARADE,
(End of St. John-street), MANCHESTER.
Fee for Members, 6d. per annum.
Bright, comfortable rest and refreshment rooms for members of the Stage, where "The Era," &c., are taken.
Open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

THEATRE SITE.
EXCELLENT FREEHOLD THEATRE SITE FOR SALE.
having a frontage to Commercial-road East of about 116ft., also frontages to three side streets, and covering an area of about 32,000ft.
For further particulars and plan apply
BRADSHAW, BROWN & CO.,
BILLITER-SQUARE BUILDINGS, E.C.
Tel., Avenue 144.

"THE ERA" IN SOUTH AFRICA.
THE
CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.
Apply or Address,
The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Ltd.,
Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban
Bloemfontein, &c., &c.

NOW IN PREPARATION.
44th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
A World-wide Circulation, therefore an Excellent Medium for Advertisers.
1911—THE ERA ANNUAL—1911
Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Secondhand, Card Delivery, Mother Shiptons, marvellous money-takers, New Catalogue. MEURICE, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X Rays. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Edison's Phonograph, £3 15s. each; Mills' Punch Ball, £6, brass back loops. H. M., 311, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, to Sell, La Morte, Illusion, with Show Front, Photos, &c., £7 10s. Ideal City working model, year 2000. Has no equal; bargain. 34, Marine-parade, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, or on Working Commission, the Patent Rights of a New and Original Device, suitable for Exhibitions, Seaside Resorts, &c. Should prove an Enormous Money-taker.

Box 8,545, "The Era."

Expiry of Lease.

WANTED, to Sell, Canadian Toboggan. Only one of its kind in this country. Erected 1908 where it now stands, in full working order on the Pleasure Beach, South Shore, Blackpool. All complete with special escalator, 2 20-h.p. motors, centre and side chains, cars, and chairs. Cheap for quick purchaser. Want offers to L. ASPINALL, 8, St. Chad's-terrace, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Grandest Auction Mart, travelling three loads, road or rail. Cash, or easy terms. Particulars, Box 8,564, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Sale, Freehold Premises, extensive ground floor, frontage 32ft., 56ft. long, central position, manufacturing town; suitable for Entertainment Hall, Picturedrome, &c. Apply, MADDOCK, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

WANTED, to Buy, Large Distorting Mirrors; must be in good condition, for cash. Address, A. MILTON, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Purchase, Midget Pony on Miniature Brougham. Must be cheap. HARVEY, Earl's Court Rink, London, W.

WANTED, a Performing Dog, for Dog Toby in Punch and Judy Show, no fancy price. DEE, 56, Burnett-avenue, Bradford.

WINTER CARNIVAL, GLASGOW

WANTED, to Let, Good Spaces in Gallery of Scottish Zoo, 200ft. long by 18ft. deep, for Hoop-las or any suitable Amusement; or would Let entire gallery to any respectable person. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Brooklyn Cake Walk, complete with motor and organ. JUSTIN, 23, Severn-avenue, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Let, Bloom's Fair Ground, best position in the North, centre of 100,000 people, all in work. STACEY, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, to Let, for Side Shows, Spaces, at Fun Palace, Birmingham. Apply, CHARLES, Richard and Gooding's Buildings, Steelhouse-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Let, The Ten Racehorses, with machines, complete, now being used in "The Whip" at T. R., Drury-lane. Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

SKATING WANTEDS.

WANTED, Manager, for Skating Rink, must thoroughly understand the duties, and be absolutely A1 at advertising. Apply, with lowest terms (salary and commission), references, &c., to MILTON-BONE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, a thoroughly up-to-date experienced Manager, for Skating Rink, in the S.W. district of London; only those who can show good results, and have up-to-date ideas need apply; guarantee bond for £100 required. Full particulars, age, with photo. if convenient, to SIGMA, c/o Ainsworth's, 34, Norfolk-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Rink Manager, one who thoroughly knows his business. State full particulars and lowest terms to MCGURK, P. O., Cavan.

WANTED, Known, Floor Manager and Lady Instructress, at present on London Rink, desire change. Expert Figure and Fancy Skaters. Continental experience. Good uniforms. Box 8,568, "The Era."

WANTED, by Instructress, Engagement at once, 16 months' experience, good references, expert skater. Address, S., 50, Greenford-avenue, Hanwell, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, Eighty Pairs of Skates, Centaurs and Bramptons, 6s. per pair. HICKS, 75, Winstanley-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, to Sell, 260 pairs of Roller Skates, various sizes, in good condition. Apply JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Purchase, for cash, Lithos. and Printed Matter of every description, in connection with Skating Rinks. Samples and lowest prices to MCGURK, P.O., Cavan.

WANTED, Skates, must be in thorough good order. Write details as to make and sizes, &c., stating lowest price for cash, and where to be seen, to Box 8,538, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, 600 pair Winslow or Richardson Skates; must be good condition. State lowest price for cash. Box 8,537, "The Era."

WANTED, Skating Rink Buildings commencing Nov., must be in large towns. Apply, with particulars, to Box 7,883, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Fine Panto. Productions; or would Let on a Percentage of the Receipts. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Monologues, Duologues, Sketches, Musical Plays, Comedies, Artists' own ideas embellished, Tragedy, Comedy, History, Pastoral. STAPENHILL-BIRD, Castle Bromwich.

WANTED, to Sell, smart Duologues, Sketches, and Musical Pieces. EDWARD MERVYN, 11, The Grove, Hammersmith.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Known, to Producers of Pantomime, Musical Comedies, Sketches, Costumes, &c., to be sold absolutely without reserve. Two costly magnificent productions—costumes, scenery, elaborate electrollers, properties, including dresses by Redfern, Paris. Costumes and accessories, to be sold by auction, Dec. 1, 1910, at Messrs. Debenham and Storr's Auction Rooms, No. 26, King-street, Covent Garden, London. Included in scenery two elaborate sets eminently suitable for grand scena in Panto; one production painted by Harker. Scenery, electrollers, and properties will be divided to suit purchasers and sold at sacrifice owing to owner (Miss Ada Reeve) having lengthy engagements abroad. Can be seen by appointment, 106, Brookgreen, Hammersmith, London.

PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Known—Make your Part a Certainty on the Opening Night. Original Interlude, "UNCLE'S LEGACY," written by Charles Baldwin; suitable for Baron, Fitzwarren, &c. Immediately secured on reading by John Humphries, Shakespeare, Liverpool; Will Evans, Marlborough Theatre; Tom B. Davis, Royal Theatre, Birmingham. Few selected towns left. Apply, AUTHOR, Exmouth House, Kellett-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Sell, Dance and Miscellaneous Music, 80 pieces (Piano and Septet), new and old. What offer? CONSTABLE, Magrath-avenue, Cambridge.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap and Films for Hire, up-to-date. THE BENDON TRADING CO., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Films, from 15s. per 1,000ft. per week. Send for new lists. Accessories. CROSS'S Imperial Pictures, 12, Macclesfield-st., W. Ger. 9844.

To Cinematograph Proprietors.

WANTED, to Sell, four nearly new Pathé Projector Machines and 4 Dreadnought Projector Machines, in perfect condition. Can be seen any time by appointment. Address SECRETARY, London and Provincial Electric Theatres, 29A, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

"ALADDIN."

WANTED, to Sell, magnificent Exterior Full Set Garden, cheap, painted by Joseph Harker. Apply, DANCE, 48, Leicester-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Set New Scenery, fit any stage, 4 wings, 3 borders, backcloth with centre opening (floral and wisteria design). Box 8,543, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Dresses, and Uniforms, in good condition. Price moderate. Apply, Box 8,543, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, some excellent Principal Boys' Costumes, the property of a well-known Music Hall Artist. Can be seen by appointment. Address, Box 8,556, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Tights, nine pairs Fleshings, worn once, cost 10s. 6d. a pair, price 7s. 6d. a pair. Box 8,557, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent White Satin and Gold Dress, also Court train, Cinderella's Ball, £5. SMITH, 8, Verulam-place, Bournemouth.

WANTED, to Sell, a handsome State Coach, formerly the property of Napoleon III., in good preservation; photo supplied; £60, or offer. A bargain. P. NEWNS, 9, Academy-st., Warrington.

WANTED, to Sell, 200 Tip-up Chairs, with arms, cheap for cash. Apply, LEWIS and DEAKIN, Cleveland-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, to Sell, the Magnet Tip-up Seats, covered in pegamoid leather or plush, iron standards, in gilt or silvered, made in our own workshops, any quantity delivered at a few days' notice. Price 6s. 6d. The finest Tip-up Seats in England. THE MAGNET FILM CO. LTD., 30, St. Martin's-court, Charing Cross-rd., London, W. Telephone 5492 Gerrard.

WANTED, Known, a lady has a magnificent French Seal Set, extra wide, long Stole, large pillow muff, latest stripe workings, originally cost £10 10s., a sacrifice £3 3s. FLORENCE, Edgeley-road, Clapham.

WANTED, to Sell, Tubular Bells, plated stand, 5ft. 6in. high, powerful tone. Bargain, £3 10s. CONDUCTOR, 26, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Resonated Xylophones, any style, loudest ever heard, Marimbas, Glockenspiels, Organ Chimes, Rattles, Tubular Bells. Also original Musical Act, complete. LISLE, 33, Camberwell New-road.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Light Plant, almost new. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Electric Theatre, ready for opening, latest machine, holding capacity 1,000. County town, 40,000 inhabitants. Only one small Picture Hall and one Theatre in the town. Pictures and Variety would coin money. Box 8,571, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, New Building, suit Pictures, or could be converted easily into a Music Hall. No Variety in the town. Holding capacity about 2,000. Population of town and district, 60,000. Further particulars, Box 8,572, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL.

WANTED, to Sell, Modern Music Hall (Midlands). Advertiser can purchase same at a most favourable price, owing to exceptionable circumstances. Principals or solicitors only write. HALL, Box 8,534, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, the Foxhounds now being used in "The Whip" at Theatre Royal, Drury-lane. Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

WANTED, to Sell, Piebald Pony, 32in.; pairs, Browns and Blacks, 33in. to 40in., beautiful specimens. GRAHAM CLARK, Ashbank, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Fox Terrier Bitch, good somersault, hind leg, and waltzing, two years old. Price £3. CRICK, Brookhouse Farm, Chigwell, Essex.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, really Strong Original Dramatic Sketch. Full particulars in confidence, Box 8,563, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Script of "The Unknown," and any other Dramas for Stock. WEBB, 8, Blackwater-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, to Purchase, Original Dramatic Sketches, with good strong Situations, and scope for Spectacular Effect. Letters only, MABEL LOWE, 236, Scott Ellis gardens, St. John's Wood.

WANTED, Sketch, introducing Violinist, two to three people. Only first-class replies to H. G., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, to Purchase, Scenery suitable for "Babes in the Wood," Village Set, Forest Set, Palace Set. Particulars and lowest cash price to A. R. FEATHER, The Depository, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Buy, Pretty Cottage Interior Fireplace, long lattice window at back. With ceiling preferred. Where seen in London. Price, Box 8,569, "The Era."

WANTED, Fit-up Scenery, mostly Cloths 12 by 16. Apply, JACK WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, to Buy, Props. suitable for a Garden Scene. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, 100 Tip-up Chairs, also Upholstered Forms, for seating 200 persons; also Plain Forms, to seat 300. State terms for hire, with a view to purchase, CARNEY, 30, Ney-street, Greenroad, Leeds.

WANTED, Dancing Sabots, good condition, size fives-sixes; also Irish Dancing Dress, fit girl 14, smart; also Dutch ditto, if cheap. Box 8,575, "The Era."

WANTED, Life-size Figure (lady). State particulars and price. For Sale, Starting New Trunk Illusion. Bargain. 15, Heathfield North, Twickenham.

WANTED, Fat Man's Suit, as used in Water Carnivals. Address, description, and price, BROOKING, Cable Works, Warrington.

Pushball

WANTED.—Full particulars and lowest price to EDWARD KIDD, 4, George-street, Limerick.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

GOTHENBURG HALL, BOWHILL, CARDENDEN, FIFE. Seating Capacity 900.

WANTED, Known, for vacant dates, terms, &c., apply to Mr. ANDREW B. SIMPSON, Secretary.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in Dec. and onwards, Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield, any kind entertainment, Scenery, Electric Lighting. MANAGER.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms, suitable for Rehearsals, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Cinema Palace, Gauden-road, Clapham.

WANTED, to Let for Rehearsals, &c., Large Room, 45ft. by 30ft., smoothpine floor; good piano, accommodation, and ventilation, 1s. 6d. per hour with electric light, 1s. without; two entrances, Bay Malton Hotel, 160, Great Portland-street, W. 'Phone 2948 Mayfair.

Blue-Eyed Maid, 173, High-street, Boro'.

WANTED, to Let, a Large, Spacious Room, for Rehearsals, with piano. Terms moderate. Apply, HARRY NATION.

WANTED, to Let, Scenic Artist's Studio, also spacious, well-lighted, large, dry premises, for storage of Scenery, Furniture, Properties, &c. For particulars, apply, Royal Court Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, Electric Cinematograph Premises, best position, 107ft. by 41ft. For particulars apply E., 16, Charles-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Theatre in Provinces; will either rent, or purchase Freehold. Please write full particulars, OSWALD GODARD, 32, Hova-villas, Hove.

WANTED, on Rental, Lease, Theatre, with large holding capacity. Full particulars, Box 8,562, "The Era."

WANTED, to Lease, or Sell, Land, best position in North, for Picture Hall, over £12,000 fortnight paid at Colliery alone. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Let, THE TEN RACEHORSES, with machines, complete, now being used in "The Whip" at Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, Apply, HALES, 76, The Drive, Hove.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by expert Instrumentalist and Comedian, to join Partner, responsible only, lady or gentleman. LUIGI, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Lady Partner, used to Comedy; good Pianist, Memorise. Share expenses. Letters only. LEONARD, 62A, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Partner, capital £70, for Picture and Variety Hall, in the Midlands, now a going concern, Holding capacity over 2,000. Box 8,558, "The Era."

WANTED, Partner, for Tour of London Success, active or sleeping partnership could be arranged, exceptional opportunity to learn business under the best auspices; advertiser theatrical manager of experience, play a genuine money-maker, capital required £350. Box 8,570, "The Era."

WANTED, by a well-known Provincial Manager, Partnership with a Lady or Gentleman with moderate capital to Produce and Tour a New Romantic Drama of Intense Interest by a Successful Author. Address, M. T., 7, Moyser-road, Streatham Park, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Acting-Manager, thoroughly experienced in Theatres, Music Halls, and No. 1 Touring Companies, Partnership or Financial Interest in good Tour, Variety Hall, or Picture Palace. Address, Box 8,576, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wright's Gymnasium for Practice, suitable for any Act; new floor; strictly private; 5s. per week. 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-sq., Kennington-rd., S.E. Large Hall for Practice.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, H. Boxall, maker of Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Animal Dresses, &c. 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 2,621 Central.

WANTED, Known, Fred Karno's Theatrical Factory and Cartage Stores, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties, Costumes, and Electrical Effects made and supplied; Sketches and Models free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized Paint-Frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. The Scenic Stores are large, lofty, and dry. Estimates for Storage given on application. Every Description of Theatrical Cartage (day or night) on most reasonable terms. Omnibuses, Broughams, Lorries, and Motors on Hire. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams "Karno, Camberwell, London."

WANTED, Artists to write for free samples. Memos from 1s. 100, two colours; Cards, Envelopes, &c. Mention paper. ARTISTIC PRINTING CO., Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Quick Printing, 100 Memos, 1s. 6d.; 50 Cards, 6d.; Photo Block and 100 Memos, 5s. 6d.; post free. ROCKINGHAM PRINTING WORKS, 15, Rockingham-st., Elephant and Castle, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Palatine Printing Co., Wigan, are the cheapest printers on earth or elsewhere. Customers exclaim "Marvellous!"

WANTED, Known, Pictorial Postcards, reproduced from your own Photograph, 250 for 7s., 1000 for 15s. SENIOR & Co., Cotham-hill, Bristol.

TYPEWRITING.

WANTED, Known, Plays, Actors' Parts, Authors' MSS., intelligently copied at moderate prices. MAIDEN and Co., 23, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Gerald Delauney-Fozier, for High-class Orchestrations, Composing, Transposing, Harmonising, Arranging from 5s. Address, 47B, Buckingham Palace-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Managers requiring the Most Handsome, Durable, and Economical Floor Coverings in the World should get samples of "Monarch" Mattings from JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Makers, also, of Special Gymnasium, Wrestling, Circus, and other Mats and Mattresses.

WANTED, by experienced reliable man, Situation as Animal Groom or Horsekeeper; excellent references, abstainer; Disengaged. DAVIDSON, 19, Temple-street, Brighton.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."

WANTED, Known, unless the Scenery stored at the Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, be removed within seven days from this date, and all charges paid, it will be sold without further notice. MORTON POWELL, Nov. 24, 1910.

LEOLYN HART CO.
SCENIC ARTISTS
to the Principal London, Provincial, and Continental Theatres, Exhibitions, &c.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF SCENERY IN THE KINGDOM
ON HIRE
for Special Productions, Matinees, Sketches &c.
LATONA-ROAD, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
Telephone 1544 Hop.

INDISPENSABLE.

RAYNE'S
POCKET DATE BOOK.
A NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION.
Price ONE SHILLING.
The proceeds from the Sale will be divided equally amongst the
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
and the
MUSIC HALL HOME FUND.
Send 13 Stamps to the Publisher, "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, W.C.
'Phones—4747 and 1433 Central.
Telegraphic address—"The Era, London."

The Entertainment Supply Bureau
General Manager Mr. Wm TRUSSELL
Oakley House Bloomsbury Street W.C.
WANTED,
Every kind of attraction in the Entertainment and Amusement World to know that this Bureau opens for business Monday next
Open time for Drawing Turns for many Towns.
This Bureau will handle, boom, and advertise acts, and do all possible to further the interests of both Artists and Management.
Our Business is Pleasure.
Our Pleasure is Business.
The Firm's Representatives cross the Atlantic weekly.
Expert advice readily accorded all Clients.
On Entertainment matters ask Mr. TRUSSELL—he probably knows.
WANTED.
Acts with new ideas. Acts with no ideas.
ESB

P. Collins' Anglo-American Circus.
CURZON HALL, BIRMINGHAM.
GRAND OPENING,
BOXING DAY, DEC. 26, 1910.
By kind permission of the Proprietors of Curzon Hall, I am able to announce that
Rehearsals
will be held on
Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, before Boxing Day,
at which the following Artists are requested to attend:—
The Ernest Trio,
Misses Convere & Yensen,
Mdlle. Luba de Sarema,
Thos. Fossett,
The Altons,
The Ronnies,
Robt. Fossett,
La Dor Troupe,
Capt. George,
Mona & Douglas Connor,
Brothers Austin.
REHEARSAL AT 10 a.m. PROMPT.

P. Collins' Circus
EXHIBITION HALL, MANCHESTER.
GRAND OPENING,
BOXING DAY, DEC. 26, 1910.
P. COLLINS begs to announce that
Rehearsals
have been fixed for
Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, before Boxing Day,
AT 10 a.m. PROMPT.
at which the following Artists are requested to attend:—
H. Fossett,
F. Stephenson,
R. Yelding,
Le Blond & Ol Dare,
Miss Ida Evilo;
Laran Lorenzo,
Beemin Bros.
Automati.